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# Magnetic field effects on neutrino emission in dense quark matter

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Workshop on recent developments  
from QCD to nuclear matter



# Neutron Stars and Cooling

-Extremely dense remnants of massive stars after supernova explosions.

- Key Properties:**

- Radius:  $\sim 10$  km
- Mass: 1.4–2.2 solar masses
- Density  $\sim 10^{17}$  kg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Strong magnetic fields in core**  
( $\sim 10^{14}$  G –  $10^{17}$  G)

- Significance:**

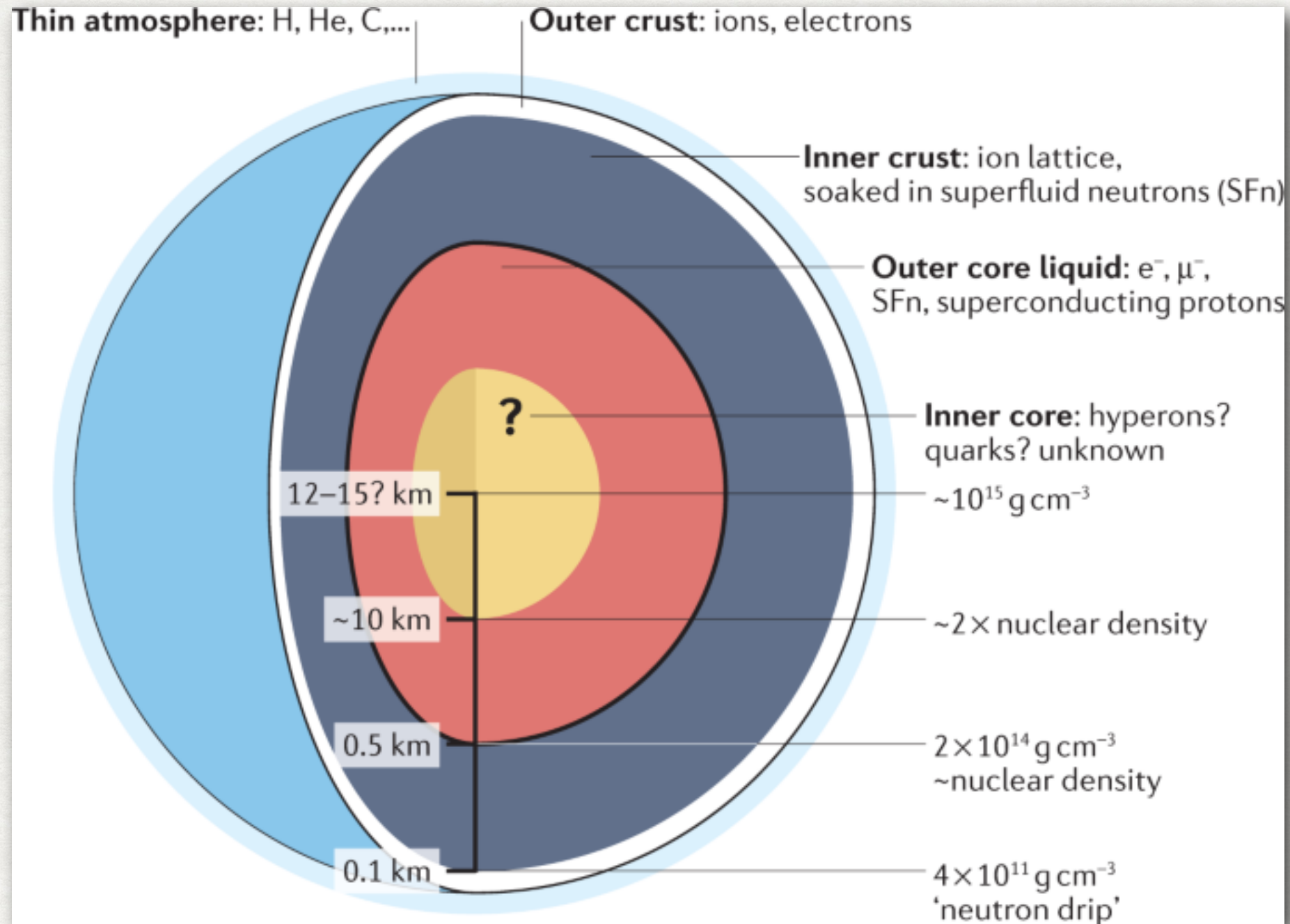
Laboratories for testing physics under extreme conditions (e.g., strong gravity, high densities).

[G. Baym, et. al, 1707.04966 [astro-ph.HE]]

[N. Iwamoto, PRL. 44, 1637 (1980)]

[M. Alford et. al, 2409.09423 [nucl-th]]





QUARKS (?)

E. Annala et al,  
Nature Commun. 14  
(2023) 8451

[Nature Reviews Physics volume 4, 237–246 \(2022\)](#)



# COOLING OF COMPACT STARS

- Energy Loss Mechanisms in quark matter:

- Neutrino Emission:

direct URCA processes  $\propto R^3 T^6$

Modified URCA processes  $\propto R^3 T^8$

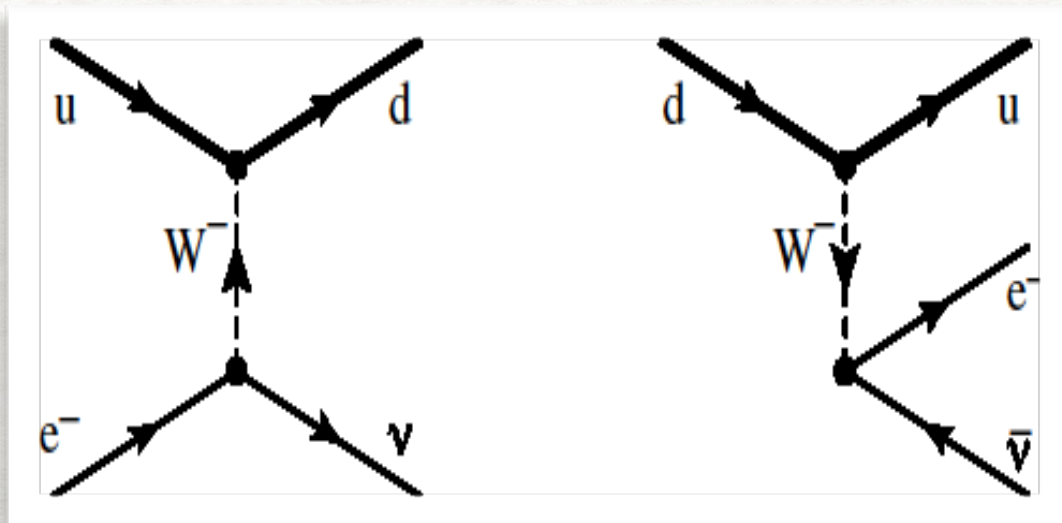
- Photon Emission: Come only from the star's surface.  
 $\propto R^2 T^4$

How do magnetic fields influence cooling?

[Ghosh, Shovkovy, *JHEP* 04 (2025) 110]



## $\nu(\bar{\nu})$ emission



Fermi theory of weak interactions

$\beta$ -equilibrium

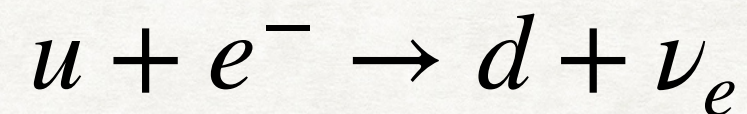
$$\mu_d = \mu_u + \mu_e$$

- Assumption: quark matter temperature is below the threshold for neutrino trapping

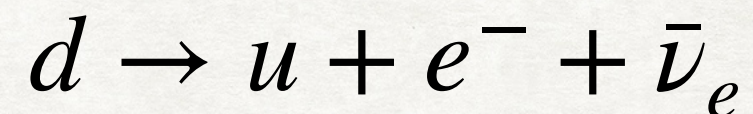
$$\mu_\nu = 0$$

## direct Urca processes

- electron capture by an up quark, producing down quark and an electron neutrino



- decay of a down quark





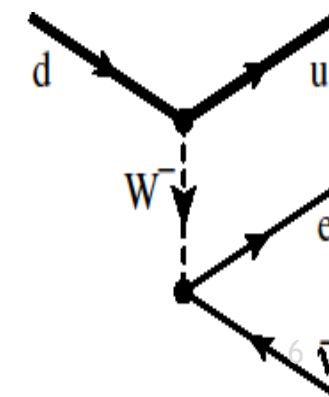
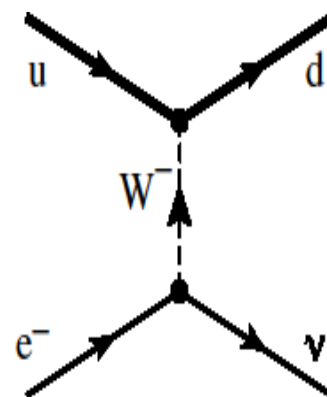
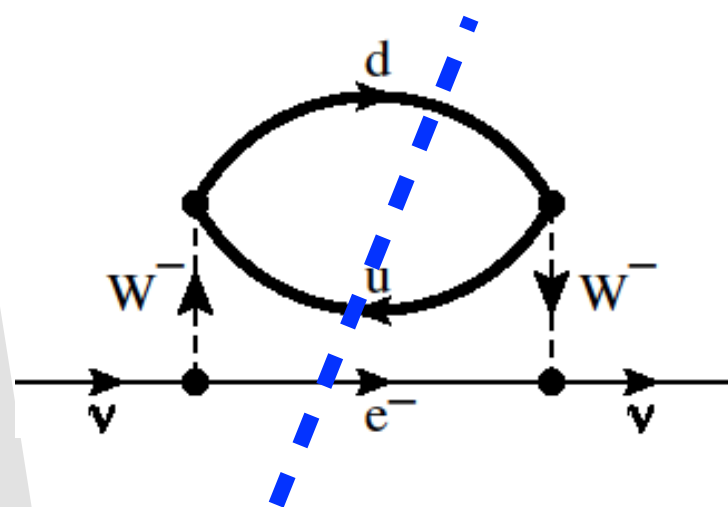
# \* Neutrino emission From Star

Use Kadanoff-Baym transport equation for neutrinos

$$i\partial_t \text{Tr}[\gamma^0 G_\nu^<(t, P_\nu)] = -\text{Tr}[G_\nu^>(t, P_\nu) \Sigma_\nu^<(t, P_\nu) - \Sigma_\nu^>(t, P_\nu) G_\nu^<(t, P_\nu)].$$

Neutrino-number production rate:

$$\frac{\partial f_\nu(t, \mathbf{p}_\nu)}{\partial t} = \underbrace{\frac{G_F^2 \cos^2 \theta_C}{2}}_{\text{Fermi coupling}} \sum_{\lambda=\pm} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}_e e^{-p_{e,\perp}^2 \ell^2}}{(2\pi)^3 p_\nu E_{e,n}} n_F(E_{e,n} - \mu_e) n_B(p_\nu + \mu_e - E_{e,n}) L_{n,\lambda}^{\delta\sigma}(\mathbf{p}_e, \mathbf{p}_\nu) \Im [\Pi_{\delta\sigma}^R(Q)]$$



imaginary (absorptive) part of  $W^-$  self-energy



## Assumptions:

- **Chemical potentials:**  
 $\mu_f$  (where  $f = u, d$ )  $\sim 300$  MeV,  $\mu_e \sim 50$  MeV  
-Landau quantization of electron state
- **Temperature:**  $T \lesssim 5$  MeV
- **Magnetic field :**  $|eB| < 10^{17}$  G ( $\sqrt{|eB|} < 25$  MeV)

Energy emission rate:  $\dot{\mathcal{E}}_\nu = 2 \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}_\nu}{(2\pi)^3} p_{\nu,0} \frac{\partial f_\nu(t, \mathbf{p}_\nu)}{\partial t},$

Momentum emission rate:  $\dot{\mathcal{P}}_{\nu,z} = 2 \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}_\nu}{(2\pi)^3} p_{\nu,z} \frac{\partial f_\nu(t, \mathbf{p}_\nu)}{\partial t}.$

↙ indicates that neutrinos are emitted asymmetrically relative to the magnetic field

$$B = 0$$

$$\dot{\mathcal{E}}_\nu^{(\text{Iwamoto})} \simeq \frac{457}{630} \alpha_s G_F^2 \cos^2 \theta_C \mu_u \mu_d \mu_e T^6 + O\left(\alpha_s^2, \frac{\mu_e}{\mu_u}\right)$$

[Iwamoto, Phys. Rev. Lett. 44 (1980) 1637], [Iwamoto, Annals Phys. 141 (1982) 1]

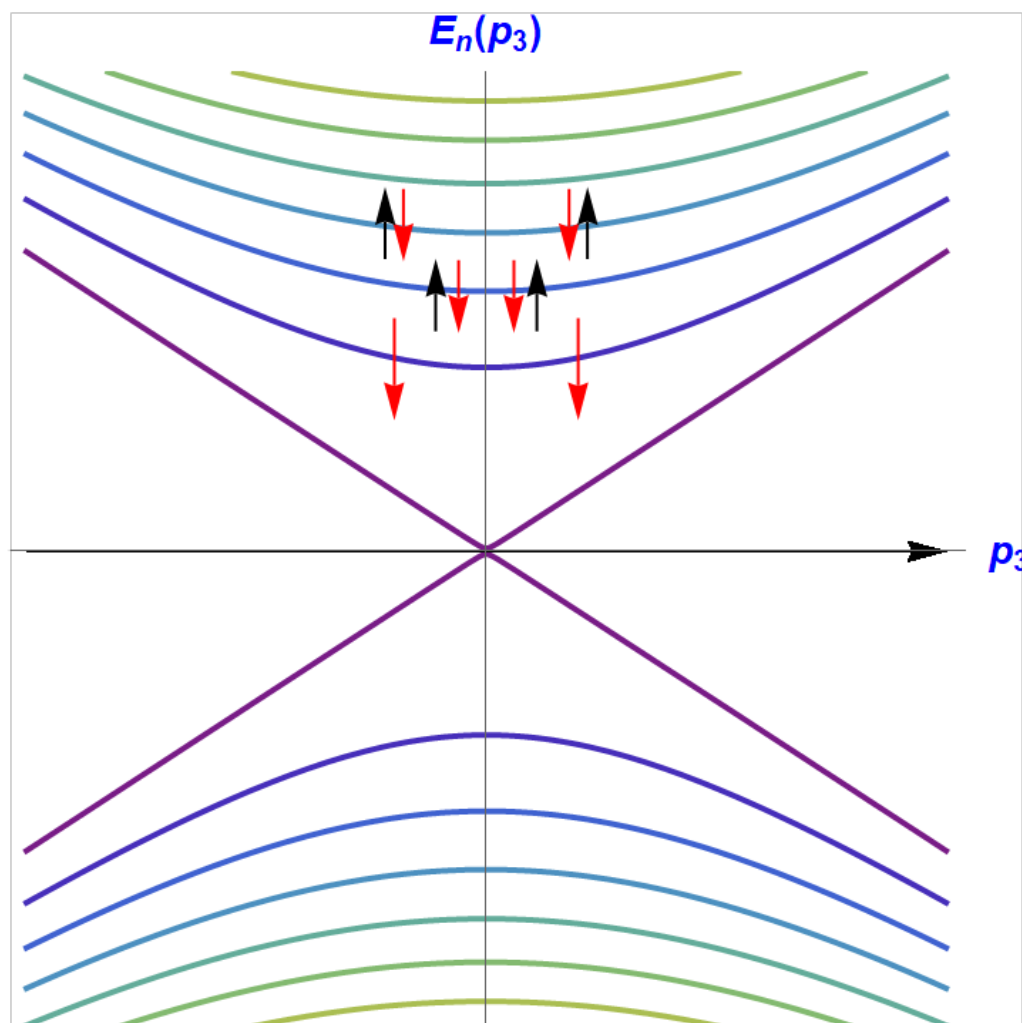


# Landau Levels

Relativistic:

$$E_{kin} \geq E_{rest}$$

$$v \sim c$$



## Dirac Equation

$$\left\{ i\gamma^0 \partial_0 - i\vec{\gamma} \cdot (\nabla - iq\vec{A}) \right\} \Psi = 0$$

Energy spectrum:

$$E_n(p_3) = \pm \sqrt{p_3^2 + 2n|eB| + m^2}$$

$$n = s + \underbrace{k + \frac{1}{2}}_{\text{Orbital}}$$

Spin quantum  
number:  $s = \pm 1/2$

Orbital:  
 $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

[Miranski & Shovkovy,  
Phys.Rept. 576 (2015) 1-209]



## EXPRESSION FOR ENERGY EMISSION @ $B \neq 0$

$$\dot{\mathcal{E}}_\nu = \frac{12N_c G_F^2 \cos^2 \theta_C T^5}{\pi^5} v_F \mu_u \mu_d \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{\ell^2} \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \frac{\Theta(u, v) du dv}{\sqrt{u} \sqrt{u+v}} \frac{e^{-v}}{e^{\epsilon_n^u} + 1} \left( \text{Li}_5(e^{\epsilon_n^u}) - \frac{\epsilon_n^u}{4} \text{Li}_4(e^{\epsilon_n^u}) \right) \\ \times [L_n(2v) - L_{n-1}(2v)] \left[ 1 + \frac{\sqrt{2n+u}}{2\ell\mu_u} \left( 1 - \frac{v_F^2 \mu_e (\mu_d + \mu_u) \ell^2}{u+v} \right) \right]$$

$$T \ll |eB|/\mu_e \quad (\text{Low temperature approximation}) \quad u_n \equiv \mu_e^2 \ell^2 - 2n \quad \ell = 1/\sqrt{|eB|}$$

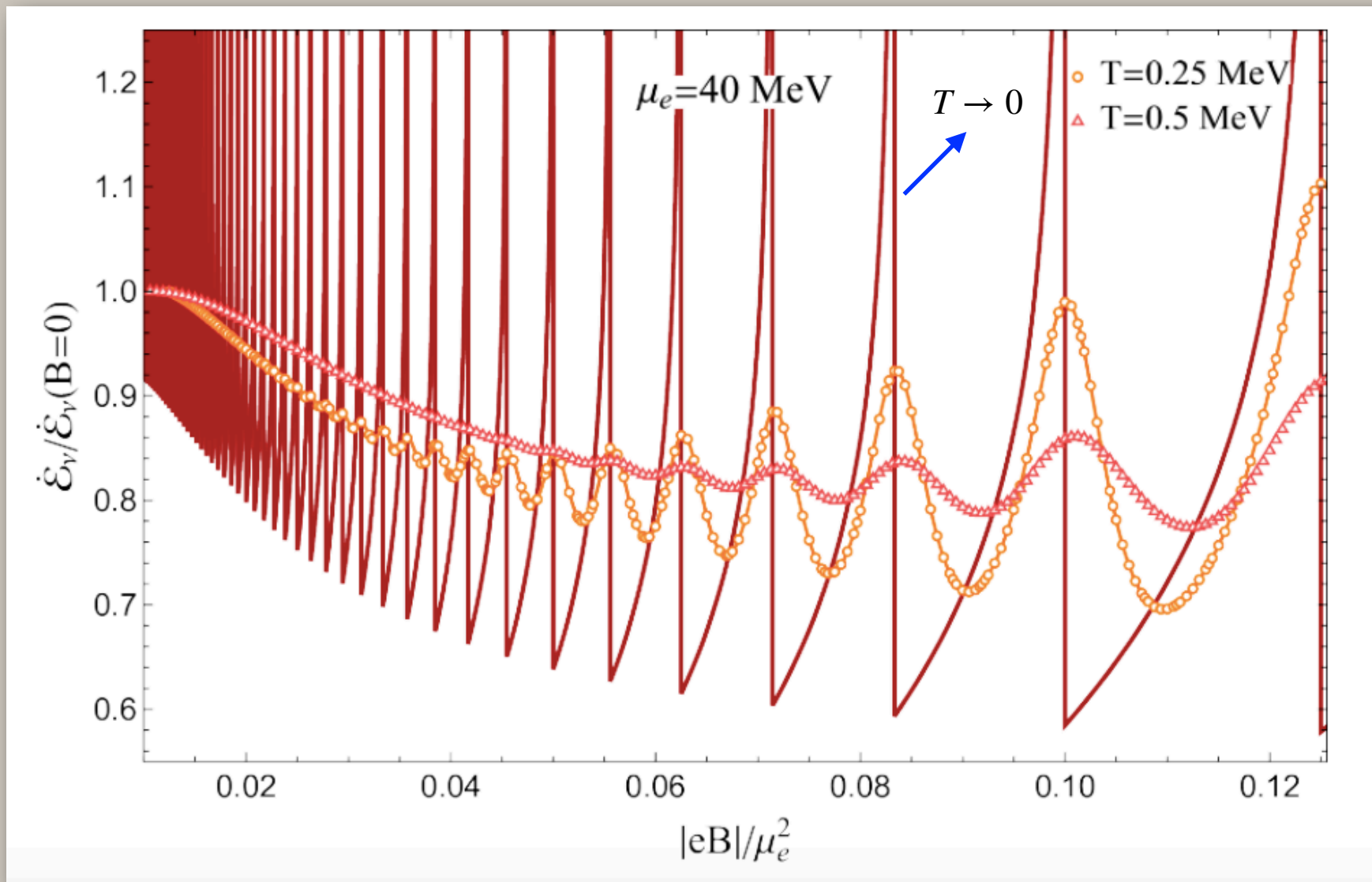
$$\dot{\mathcal{E}}_\nu^{(0)} = \frac{457\pi N_c G_F^2 \cos^2 \theta_C}{5040} v_F \mu_u \mu_d \mu_e T^6 \left( 1 + \frac{\mu_e}{2\mu_u} \right) \\ \times \sum_{n=0}^{n_{\max}} \frac{(-1)^n}{\sqrt{u_n}} \int \frac{\Theta(u_n, v) e^{-v} dv}{\sqrt{u_n + v}} \left( 1 - \frac{v_F^2 \mu_e^2 \ell^2}{u_n + v} \right) [L_n(2v) - L_{n-1}(2v)]$$

LLL approximation

$$\dot{\mathcal{E}}_\nu^{(\text{LLL})} \simeq \frac{457\pi^{3/2} N_c G_F^2 \cos^2 \theta_C}{5040\ell} v_F \mu_u \mu_d T^6 \left( 1 + \frac{\mu_e}{2\mu_u} \right) \left( \left( 1 + 2v_F^2 \mu_e^2 \ell^2 \right) e^{\mu_e^2 \ell^2} \text{erfc}(\mu_e \ell) - \frac{2v_F^2 \mu_e \ell}{\sqrt{\pi}} \right)$$



# Energy emission $T \ll |eB|/\mu_e$



$$B = 1.69 \times 10^{14} \frac{|eB|}{\text{MeV}^2} \text{ G.}$$

- Divergences as  $T \rightarrow 0$

$$|eB|/\mu_e^2 = \frac{1}{2n}$$

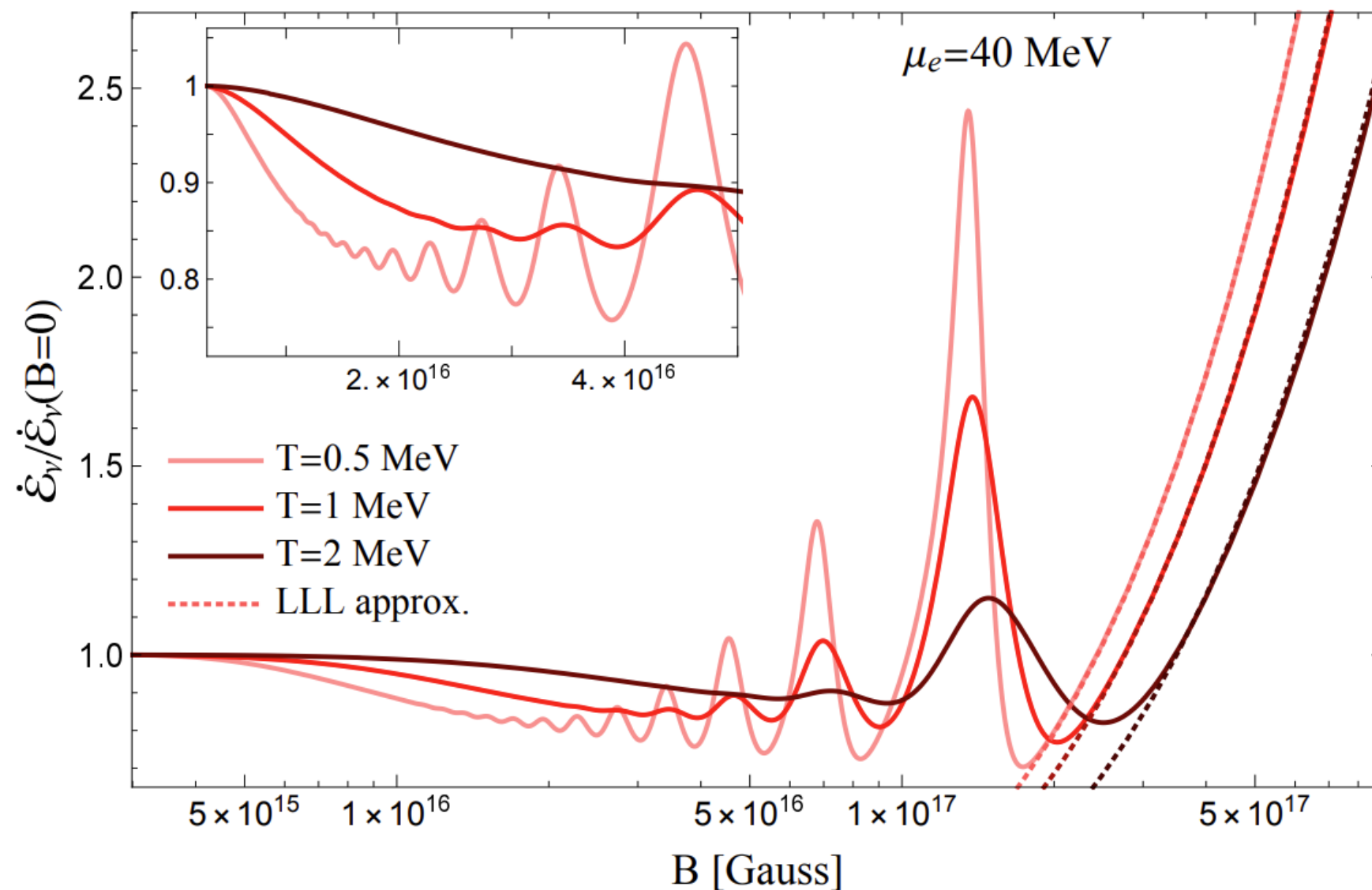
- As  $T \rightarrow 0$ , the energy emission rate exhibits a characteristic sawtooth behavior as a function of  $|eB|/\mu$ , with sharp features appearing at Landau-level thresholds.
- Thermal effects wash out the oscillations, leading to a smoother dependence on the magnetic field



# Energy emission

[Ghosh, Shovkovy, J. High Energy Phys. 04 (2025) 110]

$$\dot{\mathcal{E}}_\nu = 2 \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}_\nu}{(2\pi)^3} p_{\nu,0} \frac{\partial f_\nu(t, \mathbf{p}_\nu)}{\partial t}$$



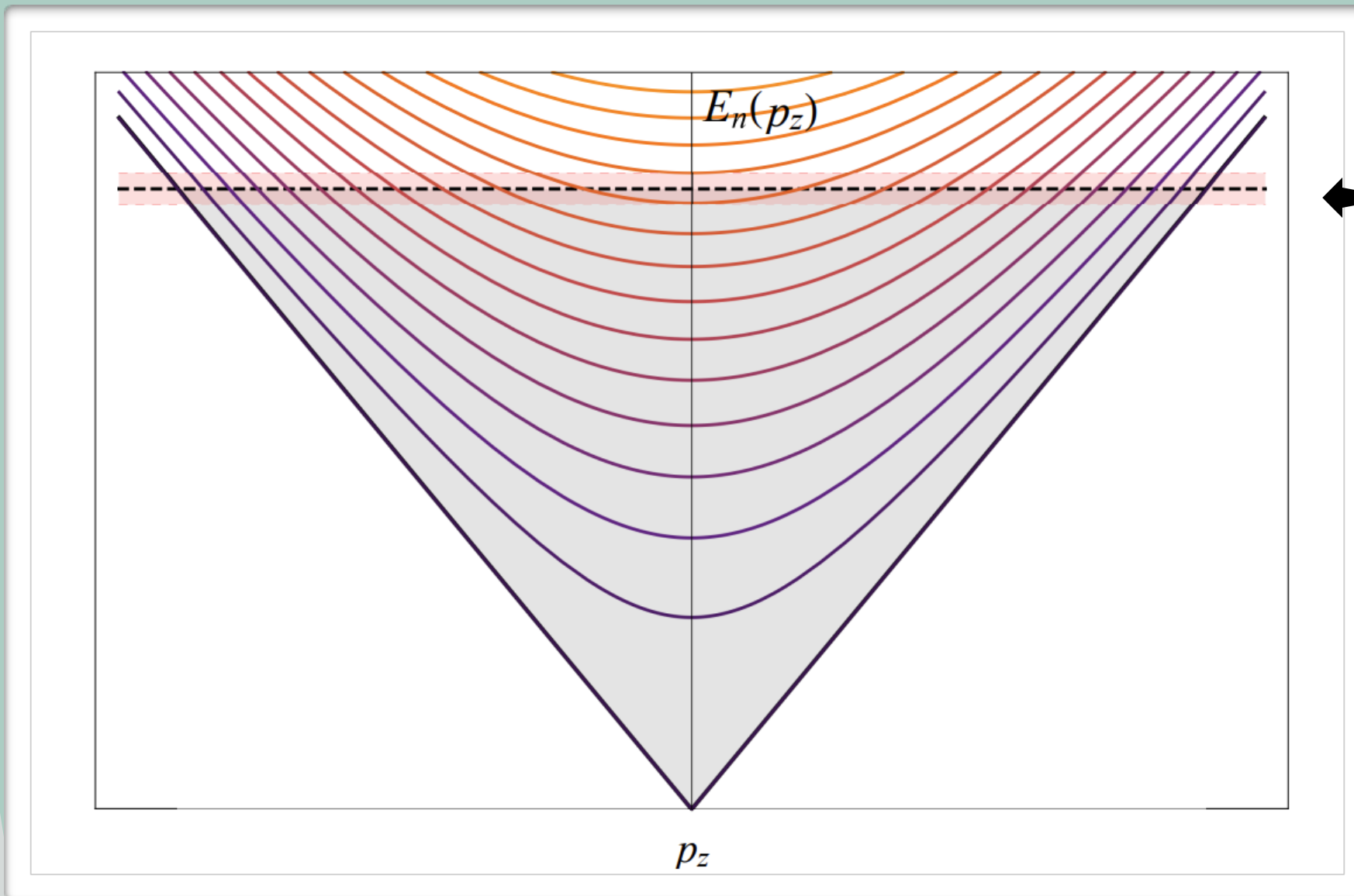
local peaks  
occur around  
the threshold  
values:

$$|eB| = \mu_e^2 / (2n)$$



## ELECTRON'S LANDAU-LEVEL SPECTRUM:

- Fermi surface states associated with the LLL ( $n = 0$ )  $\rightarrow$  electron longitudinal momenta are largest in magnitude  $|p_{e,z}| \simeq \mu_e$
- LL index increases  $\rightarrow$  Fermi surface states move towards  $p_{e,z} \simeq 0$



← Fermi level

$$|eB| = \mu_e^2 / (2n)$$

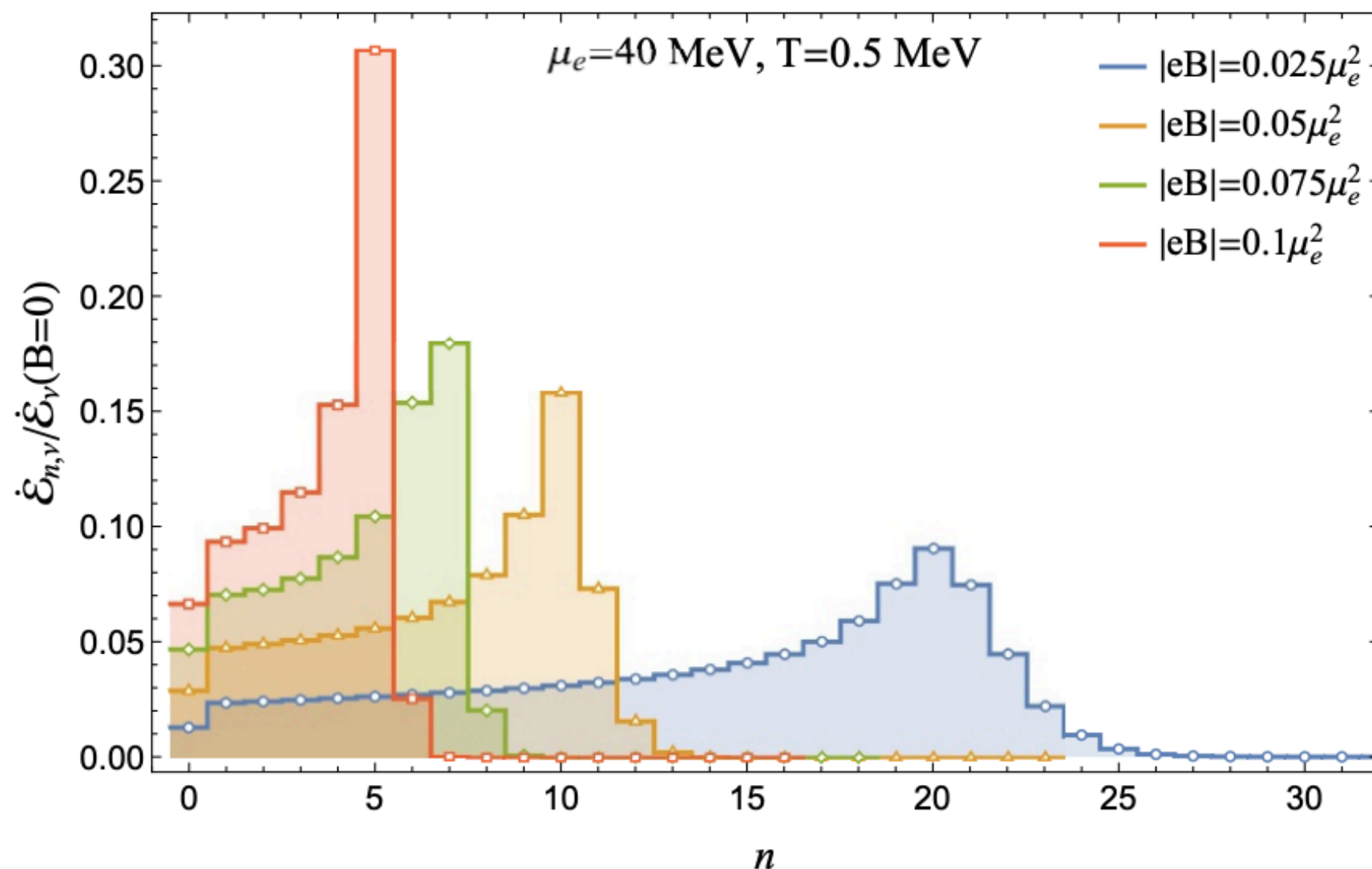
12

$$E_{e,n} = \sqrt{2n|eB| + p_{e,z}^2 + m_e^2}$$



# LANDAU LEVEL CONTRIBUTIONS TO $\dot{\mathcal{E}}_\nu$

- largest partial contributions originate from electron states at the Fermi surface with the smallest values of  $|p_F|$ .  
 → states are associated with the Landau level whose energy minimum lies closest to the chemical potential.

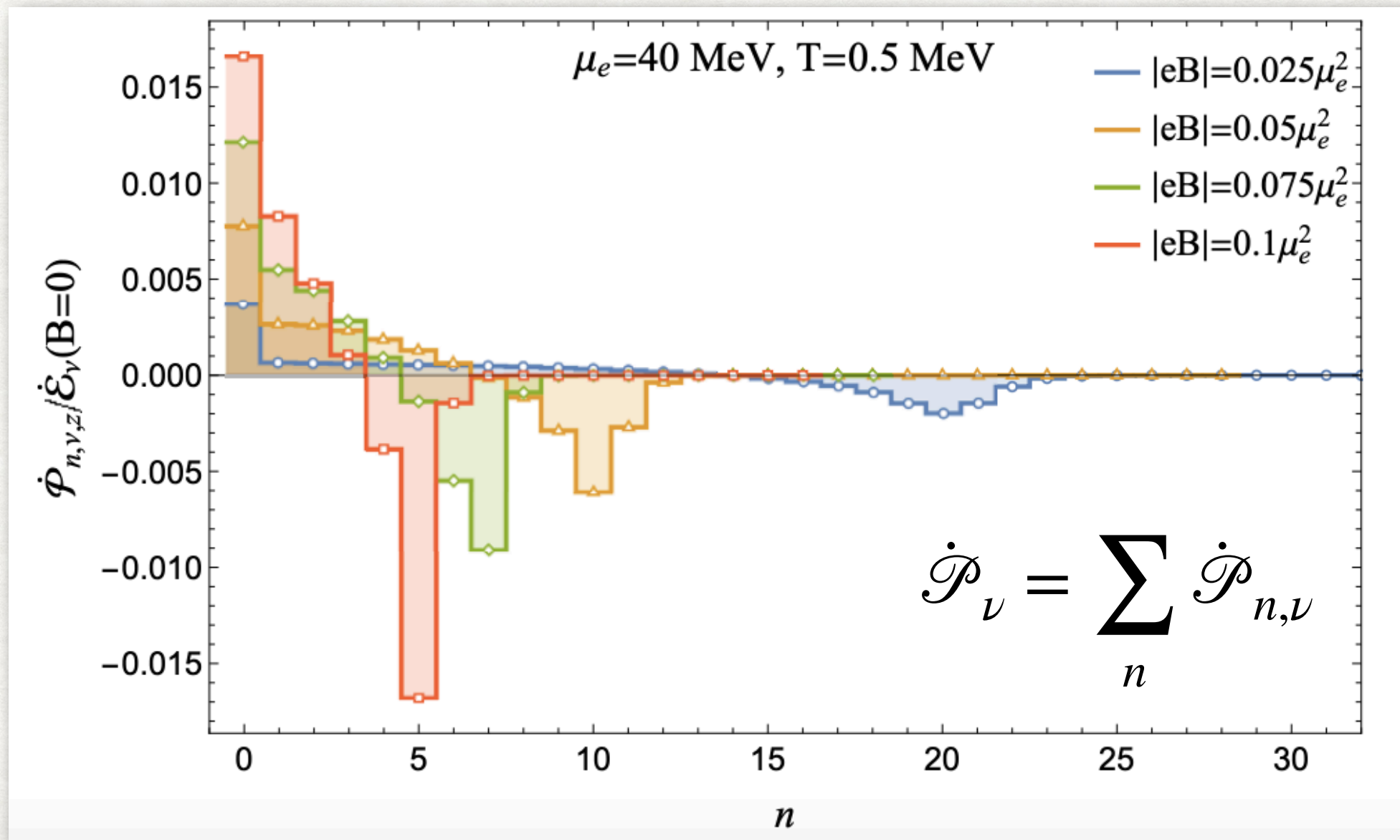


$$\dot{\mathcal{E}}_\nu = \sum_n \dot{\mathcal{E}}_{n,\nu}$$



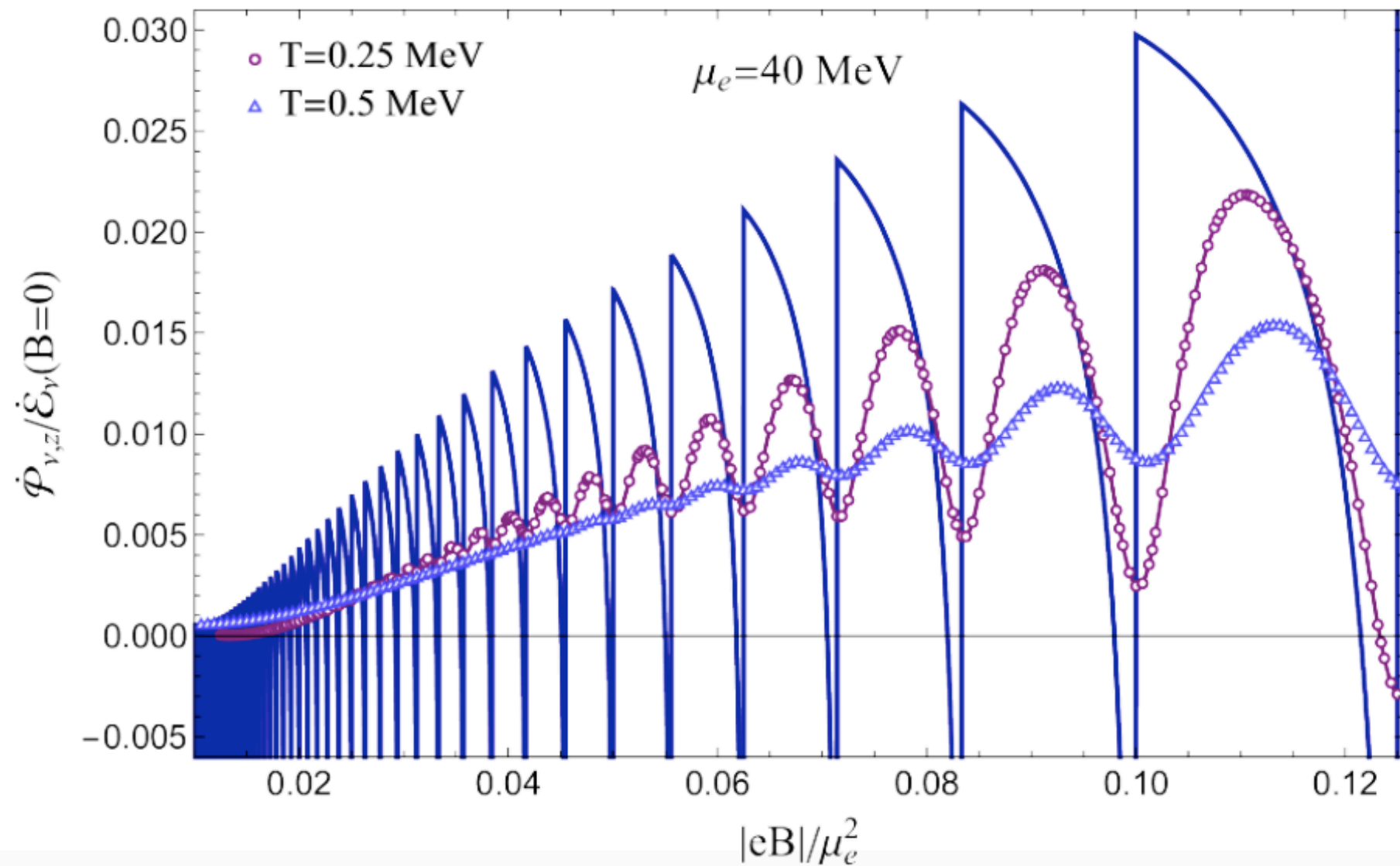
# LANDAU LEVEL CONTRIBUTIONS TO $\dot{\mathcal{P}}_\nu$

- Spin-down polarization of  $n=0$  states  $\rightarrow$  correlates with the emission of nonzero net momentum in B-direction
- higher Landau levels, states with opposite spins drive neutrino emissions with opposing net momenta





# Momentum emission $T \ll |eB|/\mu_e$



- Divergences as  $T \rightarrow 0$

$$|eB|/\mu_e^2 = \frac{1}{2n}$$

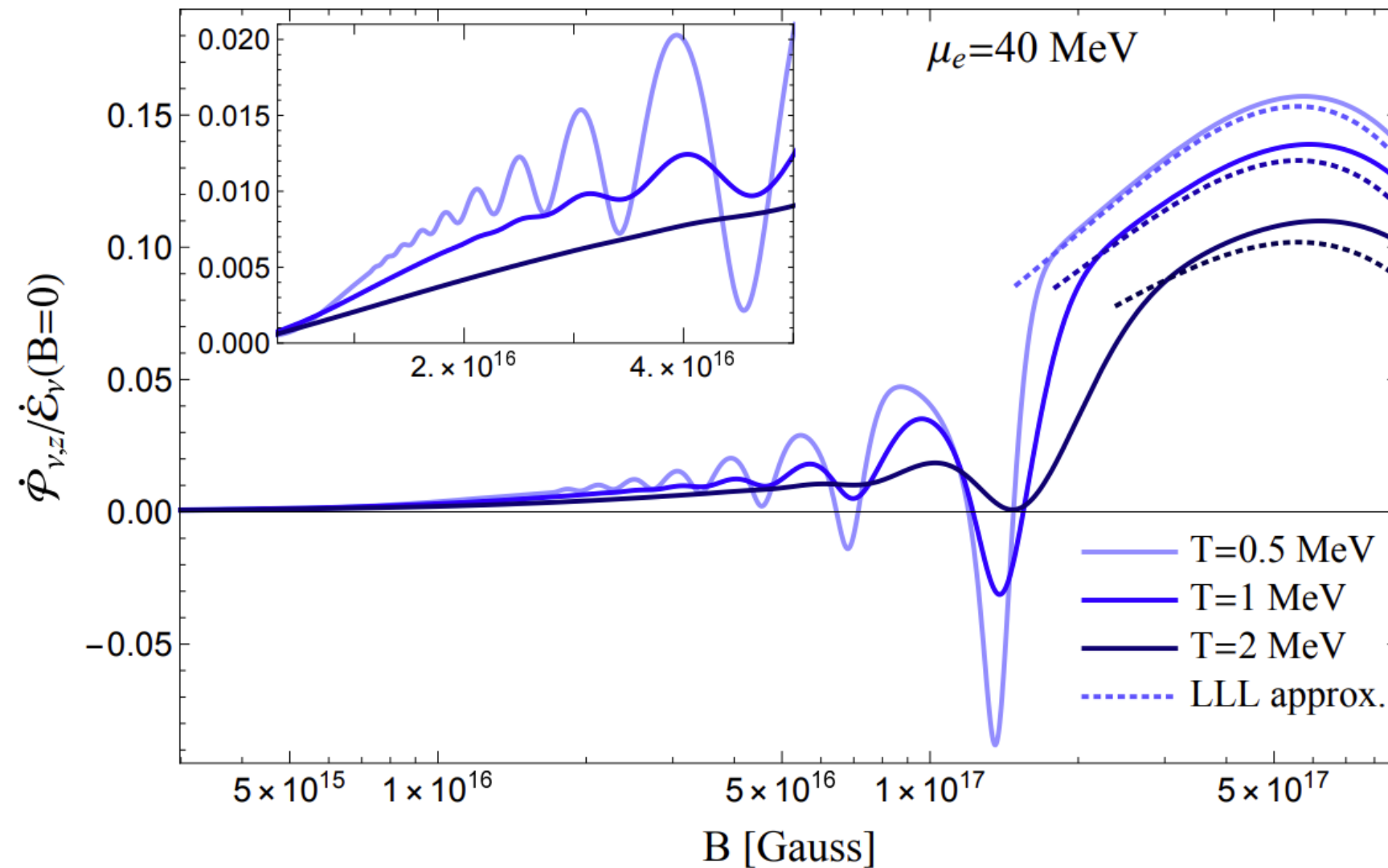
- momentum emission rate does not have a definite sign

$$\dot{\mathcal{P}}_{\nu,z} = 2 \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}_\nu}{(2\pi)^3} p_{\nu,z} \frac{\partial f_\nu(t, \mathbf{p}_\nu)}{\partial t}$$



# Momentum Rate

- \* indicates that neutrinos are emitted asymmetrically relative to the magnetic field



Can be negative

- the thermal effects tend to completely wash away oscillations



# FERMI-LIQUID CORRECTION

Iwamoto (1980)

Energy–momentum conservation:

$$B = 0$$

$$\vec{k}_d = \vec{k}_u + \vec{k}_e + \vec{k}_{\bar{\nu}}$$

$$k_d \approx v_F \mu_d \quad k_u \approx v_F \mu_u \quad k_e \approx \mu_e \quad k_{\bar{\nu}} \approx T$$

$$T \ll \mu_e \quad \mu_e \ll \mu_u \lesssim \mu_d$$

- Three momenta  $\vec{k}_u, \vec{k}_d, \vec{k}_e$  will be collinear without Fermi-liquid correction

FERMI-LIQUID CORRECTION

$$E_f = \mu_f + v_F(p - p_F)$$

$$\text{With Fermi velocity } v_F = 1 - 2\alpha_s/(3\pi)$$

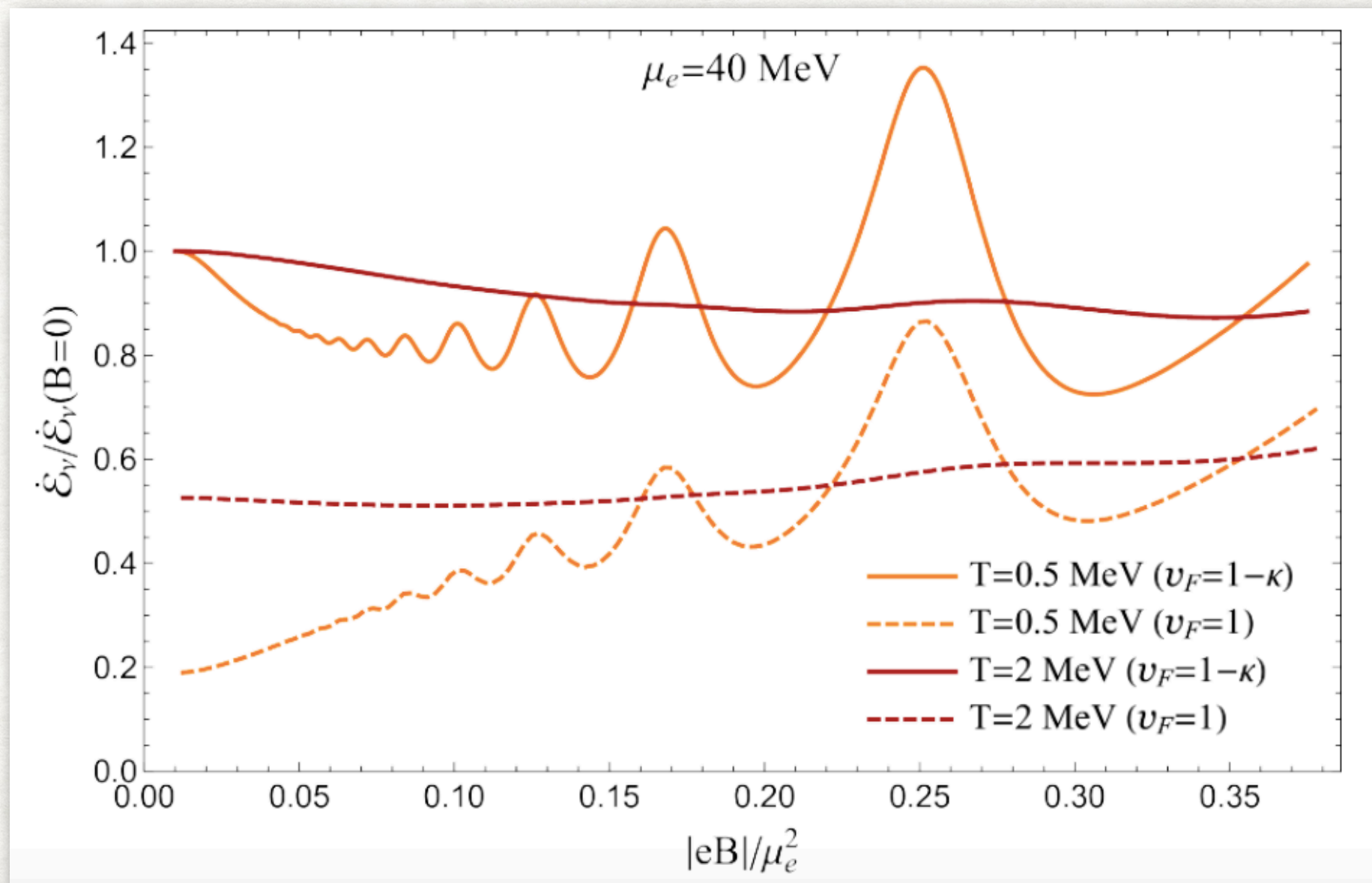
[Iwamoto, Phys. Rev. Lett. 44 (1980) 1637], [Iwamoto, Annals Phys. 141 (1982) 1]



# Interplay of B vs Fermi liquid corrections to $\dot{\mathcal{E}}_\nu$

- Weak field  $\rightarrow \dot{\mathcal{E}}_\nu$  smaller when Fermi-liquid corrections are omitted
- magnetic field naturally resolves the phase space restriction even without the inclusion of the Fermi-liquid corrections.

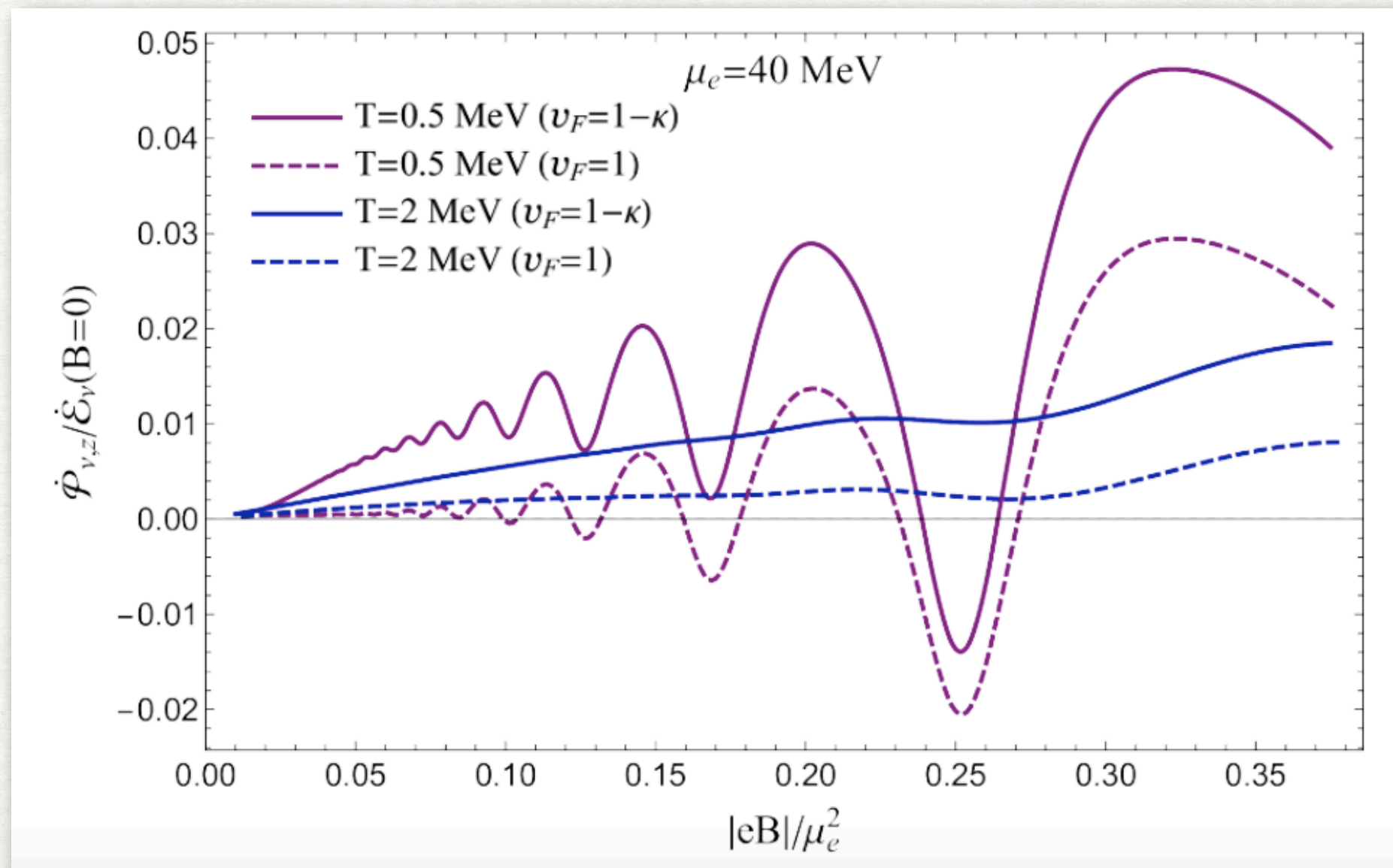
the transverse components of the electron momentum are not conserved quantum numbers any longer





# Interplay of B vs Fermi liquid corrections to $\dot{\mathcal{P}}_\nu$

- When the quark Fermi-liquid effects are excluded  $\dot{\mathcal{P}}_\nu \rightarrow 0$





# PULSAR KICK

- \* Net non-zero longitudinal momentum emission leads to pulsar kick

- \* Estimated pulsar kick velocity:

$$v_k = \frac{4\pi R_c^3}{3M} \int \dot{\mathcal{P}}_{\nu,z} dt = \frac{4\pi R_c^3}{3M} \int \eta \dot{\mathcal{E}}_{\nu} dt,$$

asymmetry in momentum emission

$$\eta \equiv \frac{\dot{\mathcal{P}}_{\nu,z}}{\dot{\mathcal{E}}_{\nu}} \sim 2 \times 10^{-3} \frac{|eB|}{\mu_e T}.$$

- \* This results in

$$v_k \simeq 1.9 \text{ km/s} \left( \frac{B}{10^{16} \text{ G}} \right) \left( \frac{M_{\odot}}{M} \right) \left( \frac{R_c}{10 \text{ km}} \right)^3 \left( \frac{40 \text{ MeV}}{\mu_e} \right) \left( \frac{\mu_f}{300 \text{ MeV}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\Delta T}{10 \text{ MeV}} \right)$$





# SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

- Neutrino emission from dense quark matter is calculated for a plasma in a strong magnetic field from first principles field theoretical method.
- The Landau-level discretization of electron states at the Fermi surface leads to an oscillatory dependence of the neutrino emission rate on the magnetic field strength.
- Pulsar kick velocity is estimated.
- Future direction:
  - color superconducting phases or other phase?
  - other processes?





THANK YOU

