

# Collective neutrino oscillations: from symmetry to simulation

Zewei Xiong  
GSI Helmholtzzentrum für Schwerionenforschung GmbH

Focus workshop on collective oscillations and chiral transport of neutrinos  
March 14, 2023



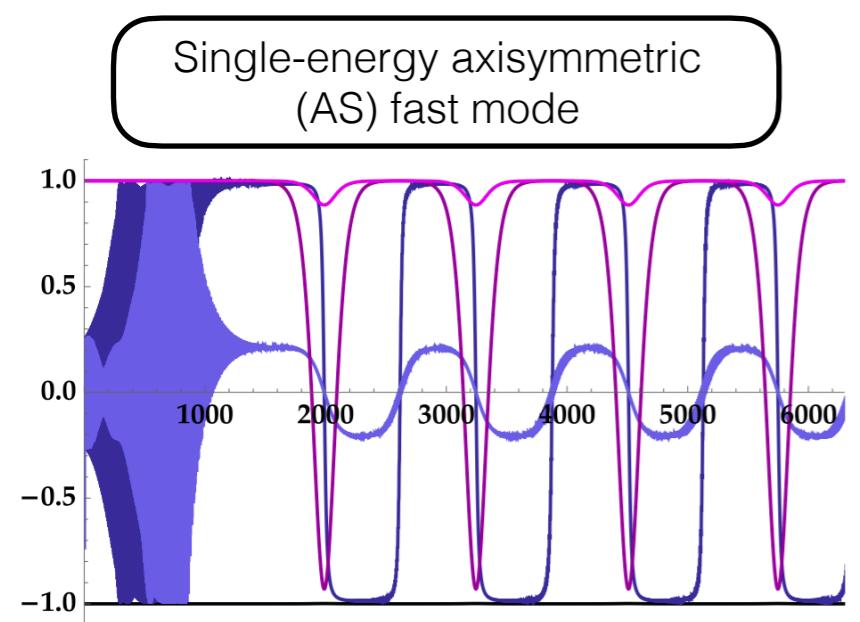
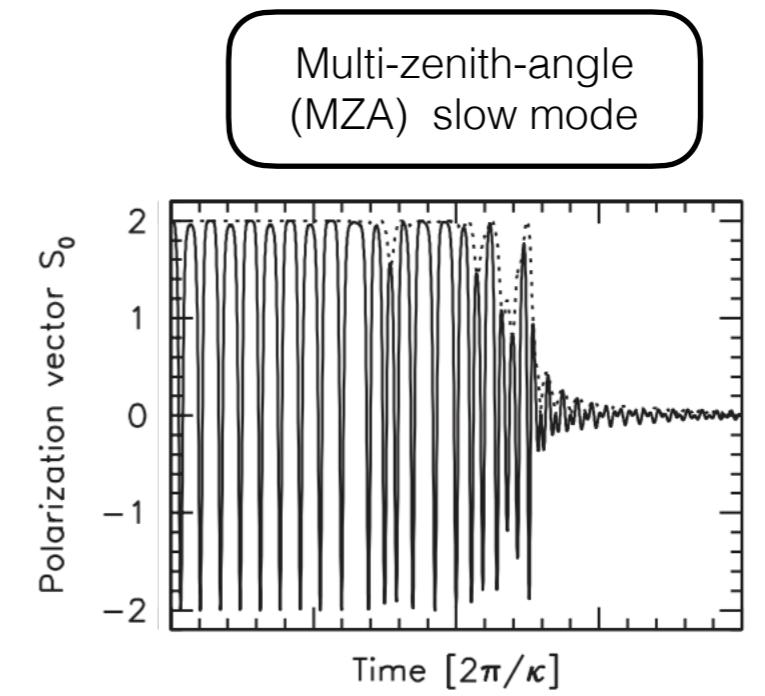
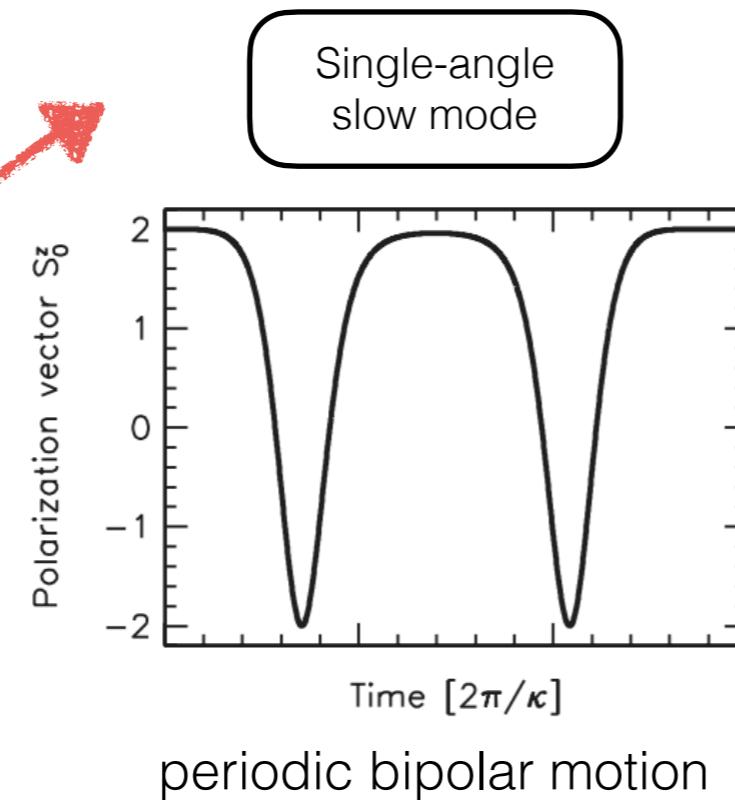
# Collective neutrino oscillations: a challenging problem

- Many-body entanglements and correlations
- Three-flavor nature of oscillations
- Advection in an inhomogeneous environment
- Non-forward scatterings (collisions)

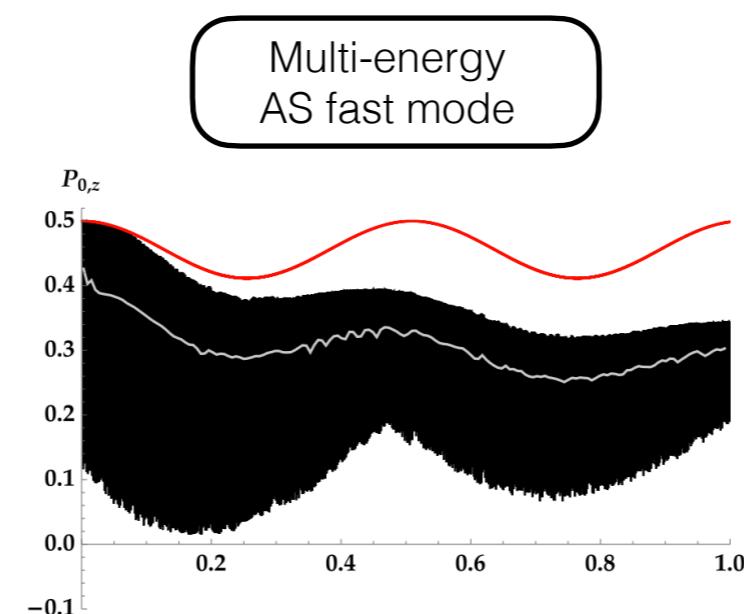
# Various behaviors in homogeneous model

Similarity in terms of  
gyroscopic pendulum or  
Gaudin invariants

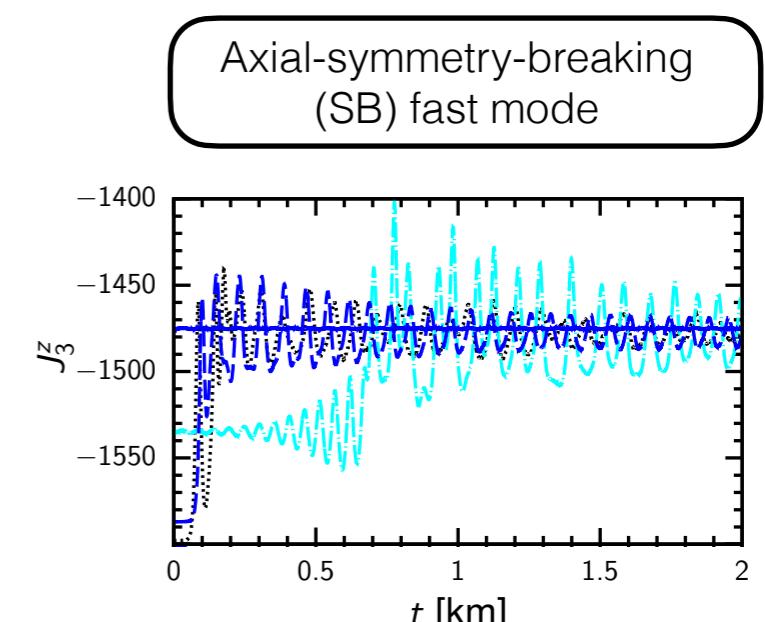
[I. Padilla-Gay, I. Tamborra,  
G. G. Raffelt, 2022],  
[D. F. G. Fiorillo, G. G. Raffelt, 2023]



periodic bipolar motion



relaxation and cascade



oscillations around stationary state

# Geometric symmetry in bipolar flavor evolution

[[ZX, M.-R. Wu, Y.-Z. Qian, arXiv: 2303.05906](#)]

# Collective neutrino oscillations

- Flavor evolution equation:

$$\partial_t \mathbf{P}(\omega, \vec{v}) = \mathbf{H}(\omega, \vec{v}) \times \mathbf{P}(\omega, \vec{v})$$

neutrinos  $\pm \frac{\delta m^2}{2E}$     Hamiltonian vector    polarization vector  
antineutrinos  $\frac{\vec{q}}{|\vec{q}|}$

$$\mathbf{H}(\omega, \vec{v}) = \omega \mathbf{B} + v_\rho(\vec{v})(\lambda^\rho \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 + \mu \mathbf{J}^\rho)$$

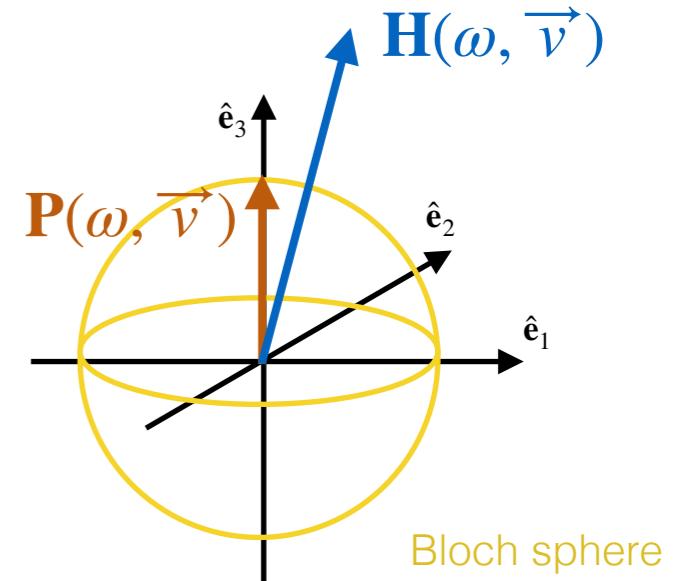
vacuum term    matter term    self-induced term    polarization current  
(negligible mixing angle)

- Decomposed for vertical component,  $P_3$ , and horizontal component expressed as a complex function,  $\mathbf{P}_\perp \equiv P_1 - iP_2$ , with  $\mathbf{H}_\perp \equiv H_1 - iH_2$

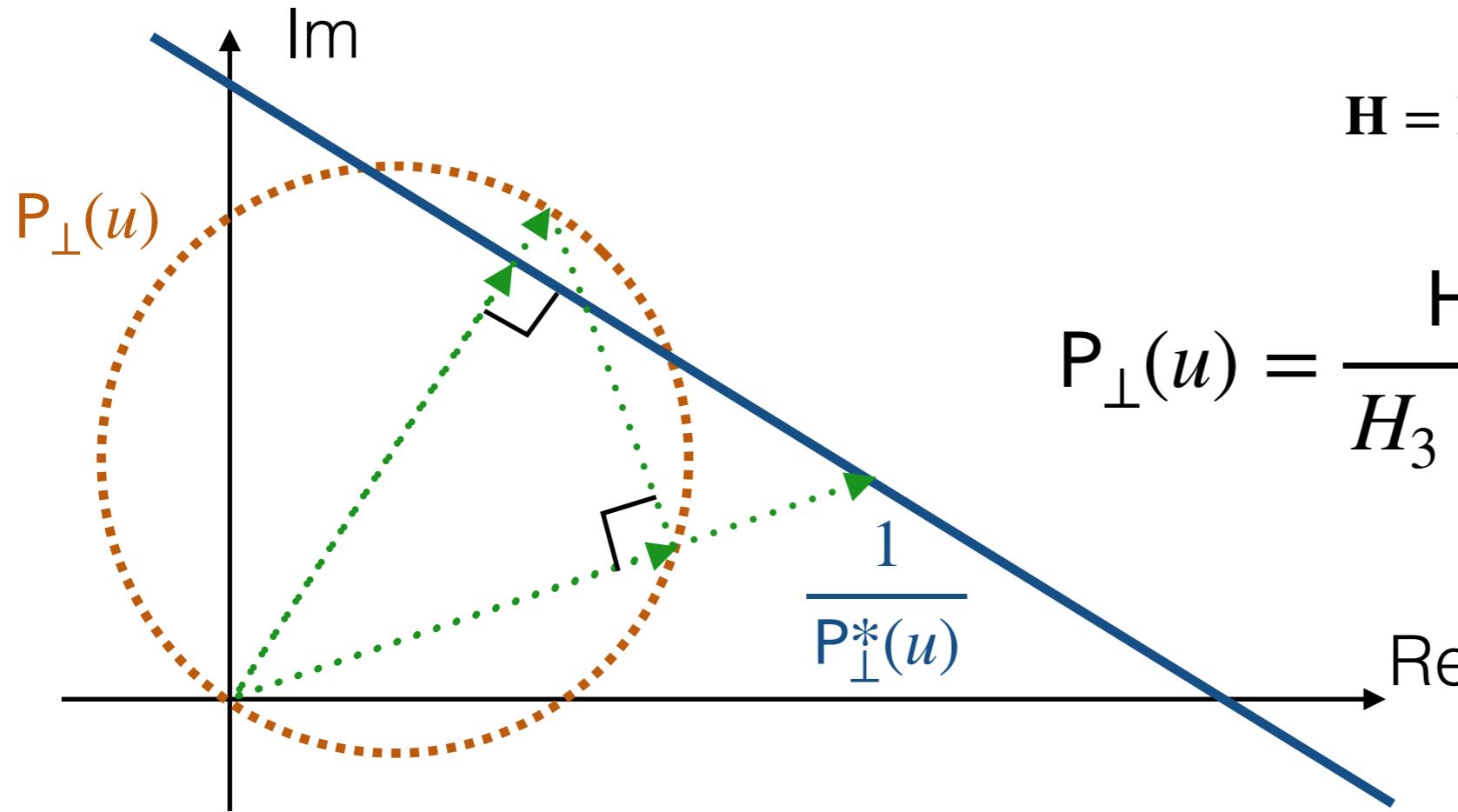
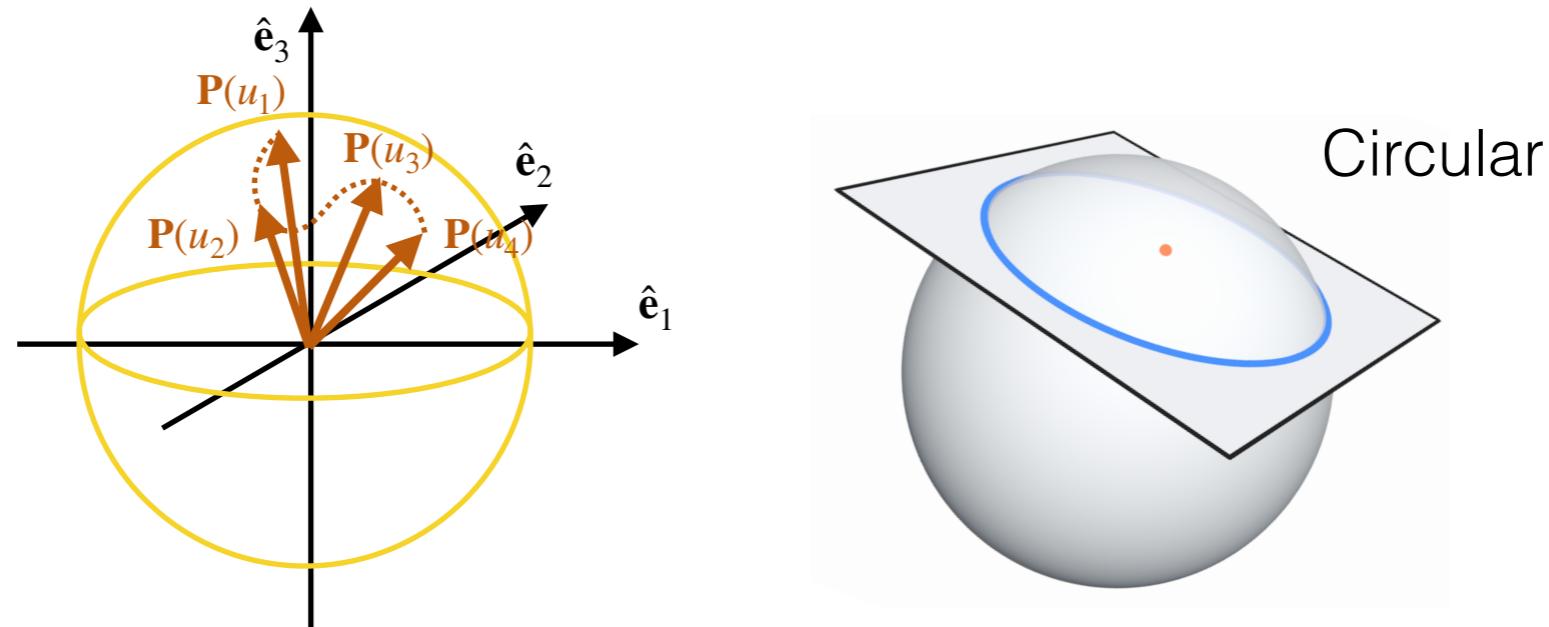
$$i\partial_t \mathbf{P}_\perp = H_3 \mathbf{P}_\perp - P_3 \mathbf{H}_\perp, \quad \partial_t P_3 = \text{Im}(\mathbf{H}_\perp \mathbf{P}_\perp^*)$$

- Linear stability analysis ( $|\mathbf{P}_\perp| \ll P_3 \approx 1$ ):  
Assuming  $\mathbf{P}_\perp(t) = Q e^{-i\Omega t}$ , we have

$$\mathbf{P}_\perp = \frac{\mathbf{H}_\perp}{H_3 - \Omega}$$



# Circular configuration in linear regime



$$\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{X} + u\mathbf{Y} \quad \begin{cases} \mathbf{H}_{\text{slow}} = \mu \mathbf{J}^t + \omega \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{H}_{\text{AS fast}} = \mu \mathbf{J}^t - v^z \mu \mathbf{J}^z \end{cases}$$

$$P_\perp(u) = \frac{H_\perp}{H_3 - \Omega} = \frac{X_\perp + Y_\perp u}{X_3 - \Omega + Y_3 u}$$

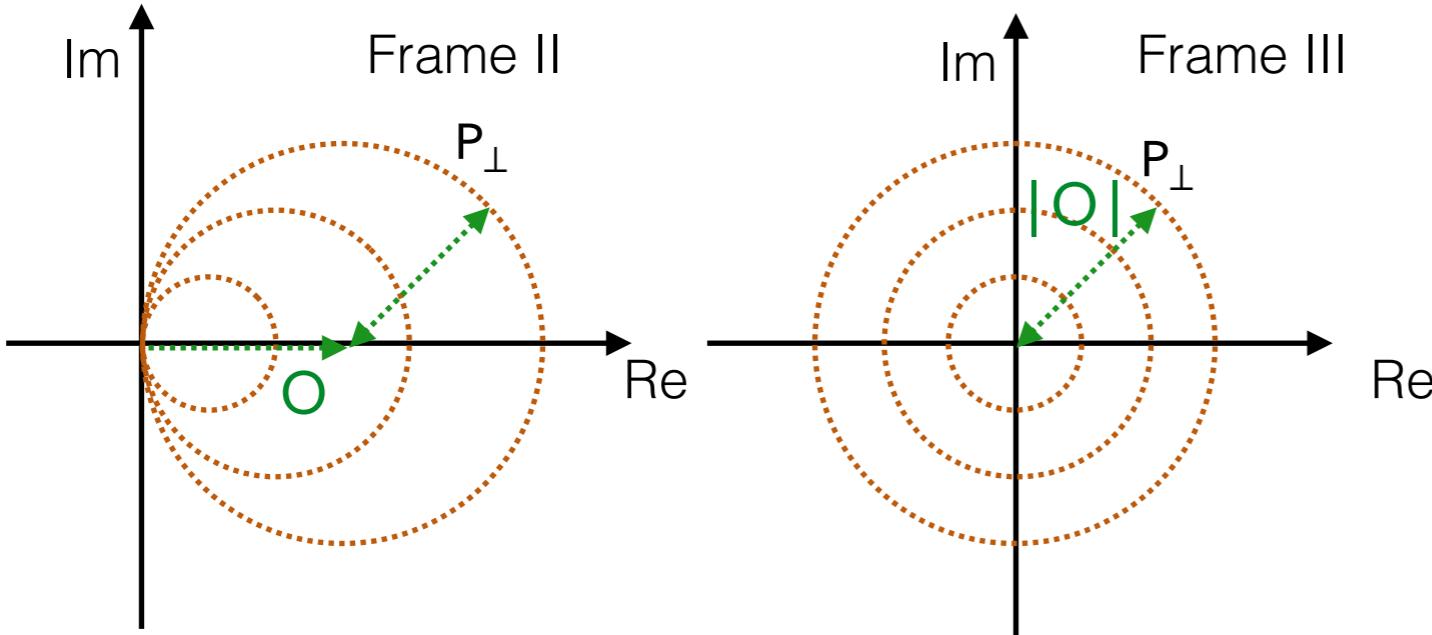
The circular configuration passes through the origin if  $\text{Im}(X_\perp Y^*) = 0$ .

# Geometric symmetry

$$e^{i\Omega t}$$

$$\Omega = \Omega_r + i\Omega_i$$

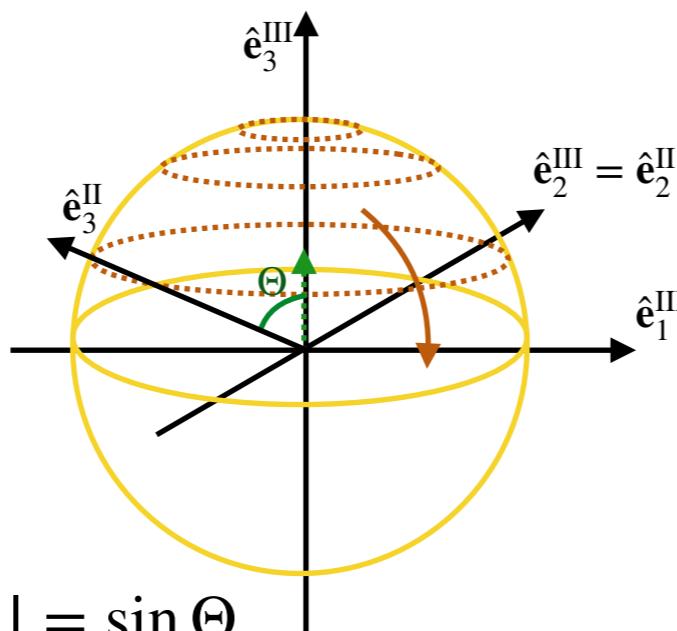
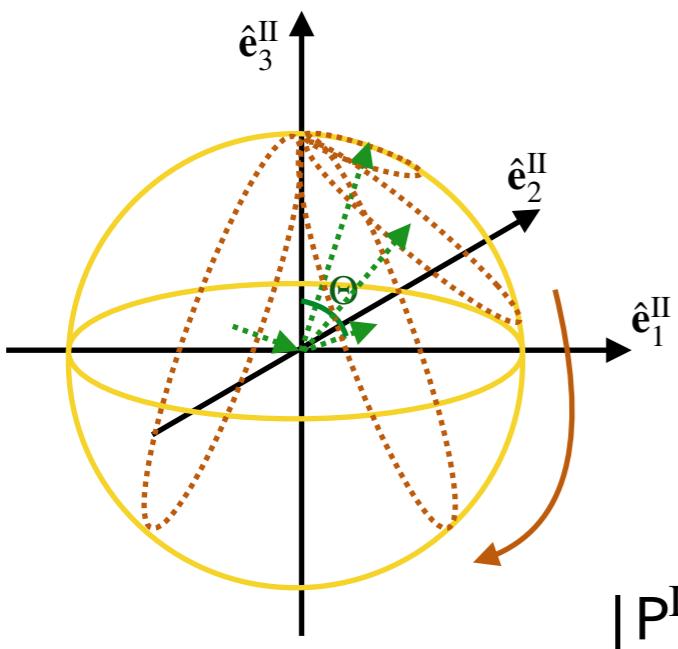
$$i\partial_t P_\perp = H_3 P_\perp - P_3 H_\perp$$



$$H^{\text{II}} = X^{\text{II}} + uY^{\text{II}} - \Omega_r \hat{e}_3^{\text{II}}$$

$$H^{\text{III}} = X^{\text{III}} + uY^{\text{III}} - \Omega_r \cos \Theta \hat{e}_3^{\text{III}} \\ + \Omega_r \sin \Theta \hat{e}_1^{\text{III}} - (\partial_t \Theta) \hat{e}_2^{\text{III}}$$

$$\partial_t \Theta = \Omega_i \sin \Theta$$



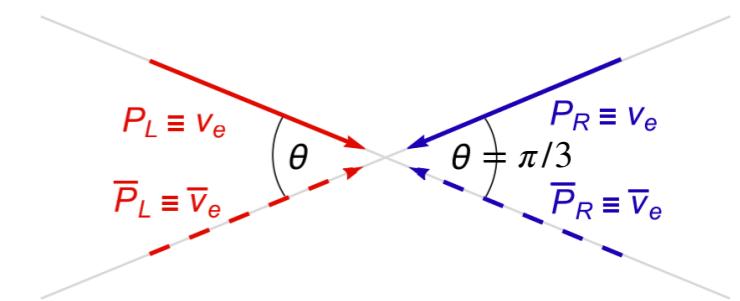
$$i\partial_t P_\perp^{\text{III}} = (X_3^{\text{III}} + uY_3^{\text{III}} - \Omega_r \cos \Theta) P_\perp^{\text{III}} \\ - P_3^{\text{III}} (X_\perp + uY_\perp + \Omega \sin \Theta) \\ \sim \cos \Theta \quad \sim \cos \Theta \quad \sim \sin \Theta \\ \sim \cos \Theta \sim \sin \Theta \sim \sin \Theta \\ = i\Omega_i P_\perp^{\text{III}} \cos \Theta$$

# Eight representative models

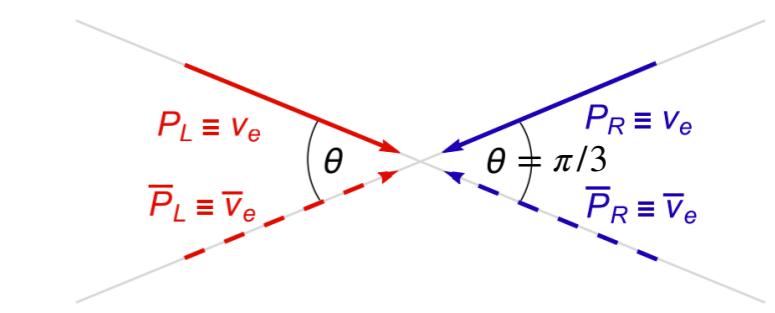
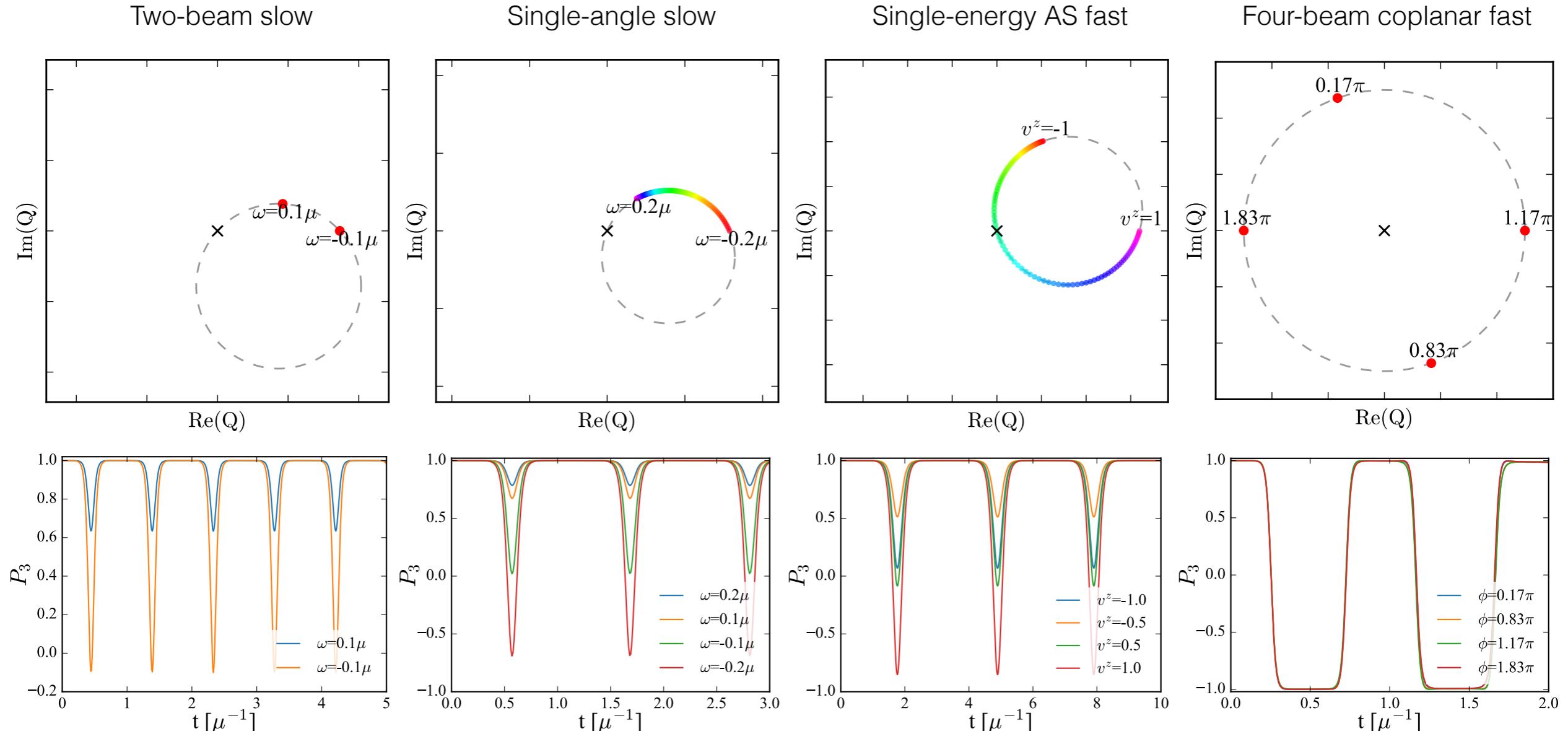
If  $H_{\text{mat}}$  is included we take  $\lambda^\rho = (\mu, 0, 0, 0.5\mu)$ . For cases where  $H_{\text{vac}}$  is included, the neutrino mass ordering is taken to be inverted ordering. ( $\mathbf{B} \approx \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3$ )

model	$N_{\text{beam}}$	$H_{\text{vac}}$	$H_{\text{mat}}$	discretization schemes	$F_{\omega, \vec{v}}$
Two-beam slow	2	✓	–	$v^x = v^y = v^z = 0$ effectively; $\omega$ is either $0.1\mu$ or $-0.1\mu$	$F_\omega = \text{sgn}(\omega) + 0.5$
Single-angle slow	10000	✓	–	$v^x = v^y = v^z = 0$ effectively; 10000 bins for $-0.2\mu < \omega < 0.2\mu$	$F_\omega = \text{sgn}(\omega) + 0.5$
Single-energy AS fast	10000	–	–	$v^x = v^y = 0$ effectively; 10000 bins for $-1 < v^z < 1$	$F_{v^z} = g(v^z, 0.9)$
Four-beam coplanar fast [B. Dasgupta+, 2018]	4	–	–	$v^z = 0$ ; $\phi$ takes $\pi/6, 5\pi/6, 7\pi/6$ , and $11\pi/6$ respectively	$F_{v^x, v^y} = \text{sgn}(v^y)$
Eight-beam coplanar fast	8	–	–	$v^z = 0$ ; 8 bins for $0 < \phi < 2\pi$	$F_{v^x, v^y} = \text{sgn}(v^y)$
AS fast with non-zero matter bulk velocity [I. Padilla-Gay+, 2021]	10000	–	✓	$v^x = v^y = 0$ effectively; 10000 bins for $-1 < v^z < 1$	$F_{v^z} = g(v^z, 0.9)$
MZA slow	40000	✓	–	$v^x = v^y = 0$ effectively; 200 bins for $-0.2\mu < \omega < 0.2\mu$ ; 200 bins for $-1 < v^z < 1$	$F_{\omega, v^z} = [\text{sgn}(\omega) + 0.5] \times (1 + 0.5v^z)$
SB fast	38400	–	–	300 bins for $-1 < v^z < 1$ ; 128 bins for $0 < \phi < 2\pi$	$F_{v^x, v^y, v^z} = g(v^z, 1.1)$

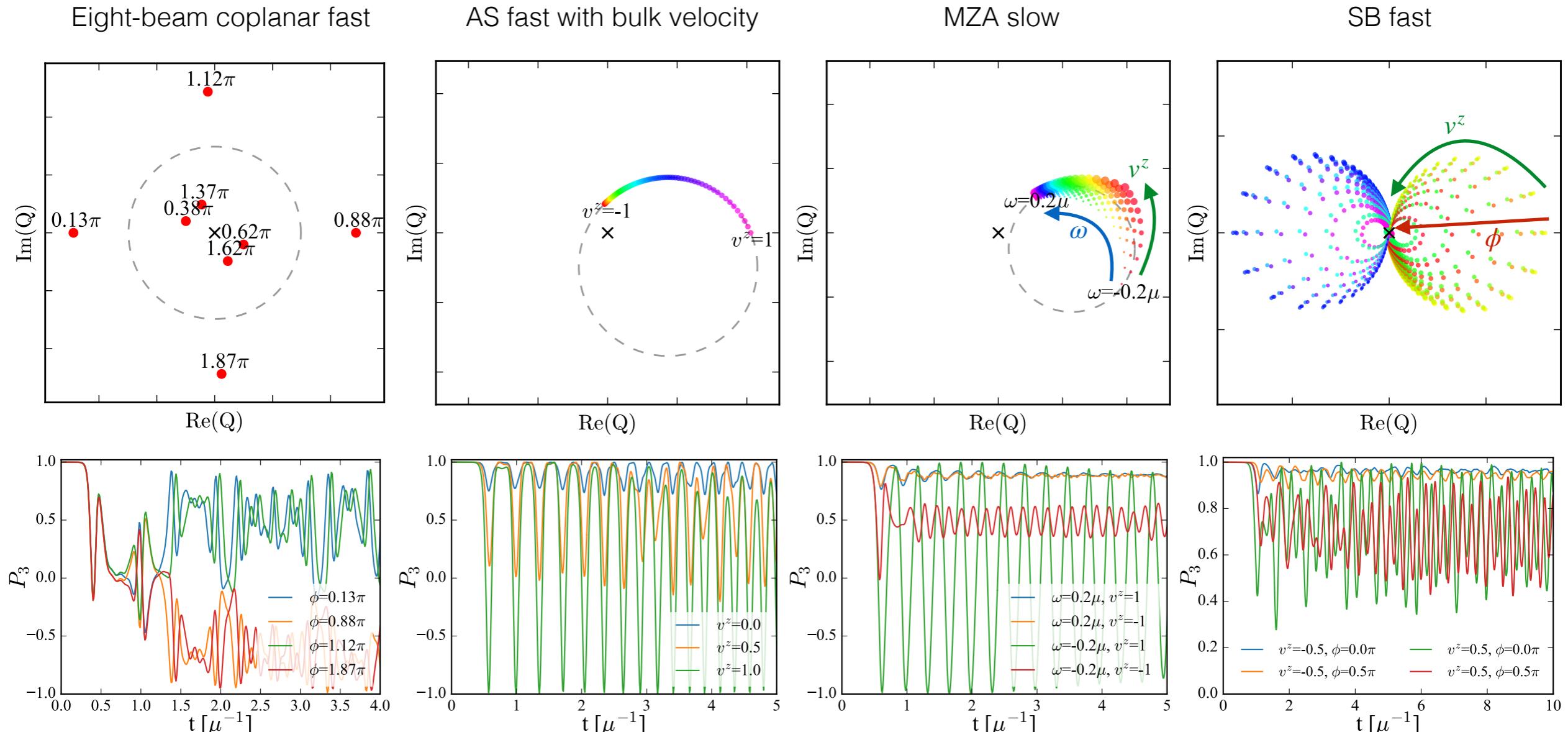
$$g(v^z, \alpha) = \frac{20}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left[ \sigma_\nu^{-1} e^{-(\frac{1-v^z}{\sigma_\nu})^2} - \alpha \sigma_{\bar{\nu}}^{-1} e^{-(\frac{1-v^z}{\sigma_{\bar{\nu}}})^2} \right] \text{ with } \sigma_\nu = 0.6\sqrt{2} \text{ and } \sigma_{\bar{\nu}} = 0.5\sqrt{2}.$$



# Periodic bipolar flavor evolution

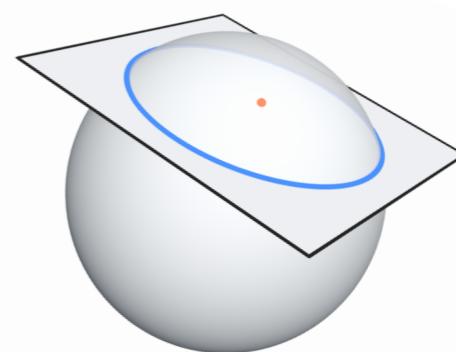


# Breaking-down of bipolar evolution



$$\partial_t \mathbf{J}^t = \lambda^t \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 \times \mathbf{J}^t - \lambda^z \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 \times \mathbf{J}^z$$

$$\text{Im}(\mathbf{J}_\perp^t \mathbf{J}_\perp^{z*}) \approx 0$$

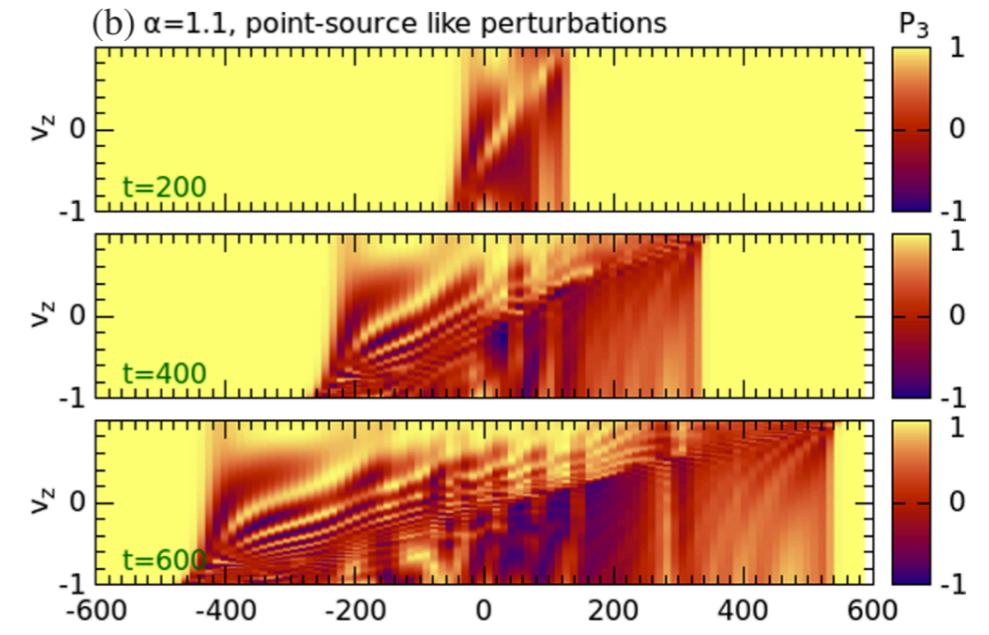


# Inhomogeneous neutrino gas

- Equation of motion:

$$\nu^\rho \partial_\rho \mathbf{P} = \partial_t \mathbf{P} + \nu^z \partial_z \mathbf{P} = \mathbf{H} \times \mathbf{P}$$

- Even if only allow one K mode to develop from linear regime to non-linear regime [ $P_\perp(z) \propto e^{iK^z z}$ ]



[M.-R. Wu, M. George, C.-Y. Lin, ZX, 2021]

$$\partial_t \mathbf{P} - \nu^z K^z \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 \times \mathbf{P} = \mathbf{H} \times \mathbf{P} = \lambda^t \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 \times \mathbf{P}$$

$$\partial_t \mathbf{J}^t = \lambda^t \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 \times \mathbf{J}^t + K^z \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 \times \mathbf{J}^z$$

$$\text{Im}(\mathbf{J}_\perp^t \mathbf{J}_\perp^{z*}) \approx 0$$

- This symmetry relies on the geometry of two-flavor Bloch sphere. Three flavors? Incoherent collisions?

# Collisional flavor instability simulated in spherically symmetric supernova model

[[ZX, M.-R. Wu, G. Martínez-Pinedo, T. Fischer, M. George, C.-Y. Lin, L. Johns, arXiv: 2210.08254](#)]

# Collisional flavor instability in quantum kinetic equation

- Flavor evolution equation with advection in spherically symmetric supernova model and incoherent collisions:

$$(\partial_t + \nu_r \partial_r + \frac{1 - \nu_r^2}{r} \partial_{\nu_r}) \varrho(E, \nu_r) = -i[\mathcal{H}(E, \nu_r), \varrho(E, \nu_r)] + \mathcal{C}\{\varrho(E, \nu_r)\}$$

<b>EA</b>	Emission and absorption	$\nu_e + n \rightleftharpoons p + e^-$ $\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightleftharpoons n + e^+$ $\bar{\nu}_e + p + e^- \rightleftharpoons n$
<b>NNS</b>	Neutrino-nucleon scattering	$\nu + N \rightleftharpoons \nu + N$ $\bar{\nu} + N \rightleftharpoons \bar{\nu} + N$
<b>NES</b>	Neutrino-electron scattering	$\nu + e^\pm \rightleftharpoons \nu + e^\pm$
<b>NPR</b>	Neutrino pair reactions	$\nu + \bar{\nu} \rightleftharpoons e^- + e^+$ $\nu + \bar{\nu} + N + N \rightleftharpoons N + N$

Classical neutrino transport:

$$\frac{df_{\nu_e}}{dt} = j_e(1 - f_{\nu_e}) - \chi_e f_{\nu_e}$$

emissivity      opacity

Quantum kinetic equation:

[A. Vlasenko, G. Fuller, V. Cirigliano, 2014;  
D.N. Blaschke, V. Cirigliano, 2016; ....]

$$\mathcal{C}_{EA} \sim \begin{pmatrix} j_e(1 - \varrho_{ee}) - \chi_e \varrho_{ee} & -(j_e + \chi_e) \varrho_{e\mu}/2 \\ -(j_e + \chi_e) \varrho_{e\mu}^*/2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Collisional flavor instability

[Lucas Johns, 2021]

# Models with advection

$$(\partial_t + v_r \partial_r + \frac{1 - v_r^2}{r} \partial_{v_r}) \varrho = - i [ \color{red} a_{\nu\nu} \mathcal{H}_{\nu\nu}, \varrho ] + \color{orange} \mathcal{C}(\varrho)$$

- Iso-energetic NNS:

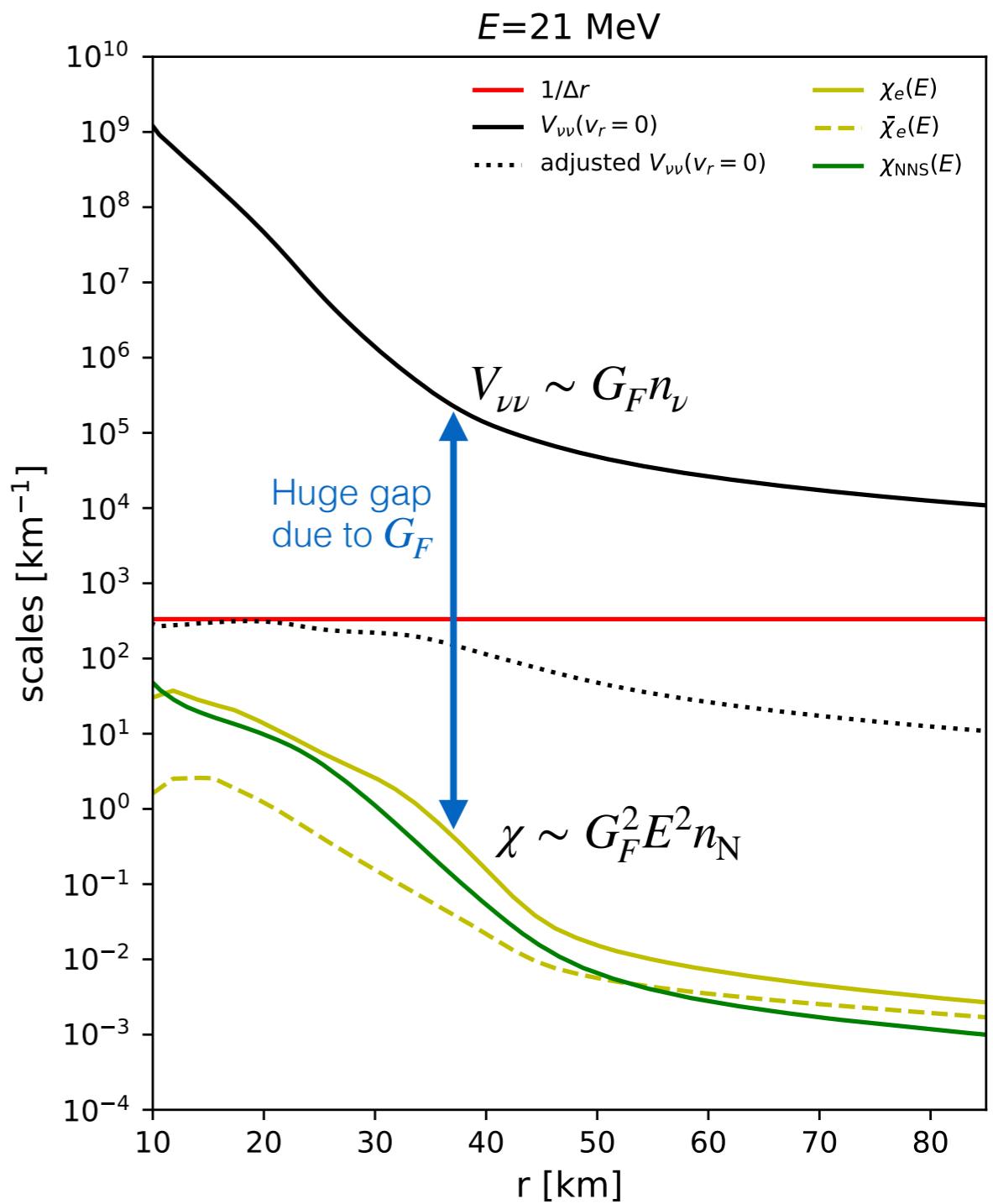
$$\mathcal{C}_{\text{NNS}} = \int dv'_r R_{\text{NNS}}(E, v_r, v'_r) [\varrho(E, v'_r) - \varrho(E, v_r)]$$

with the opacity

$$\chi_{\text{NNS}}(E) = \int dv'_r R_{\text{NNS}}(E, v_r, v'_r).$$

- Attenuation factor

$$\color{red} a_{\nu\nu}(r) = \frac{a_1}{1 + e^{(a_2 - r)/a_3}}$$



# Models with advection

- Use background profiles from 1-D CCSN simulations (AGILE – BOLTZTRAN) with an  $18M_{\odot}$  progenitor at the post-bouncing time  $t_{\text{pb}} \approx 250\text{ms}$

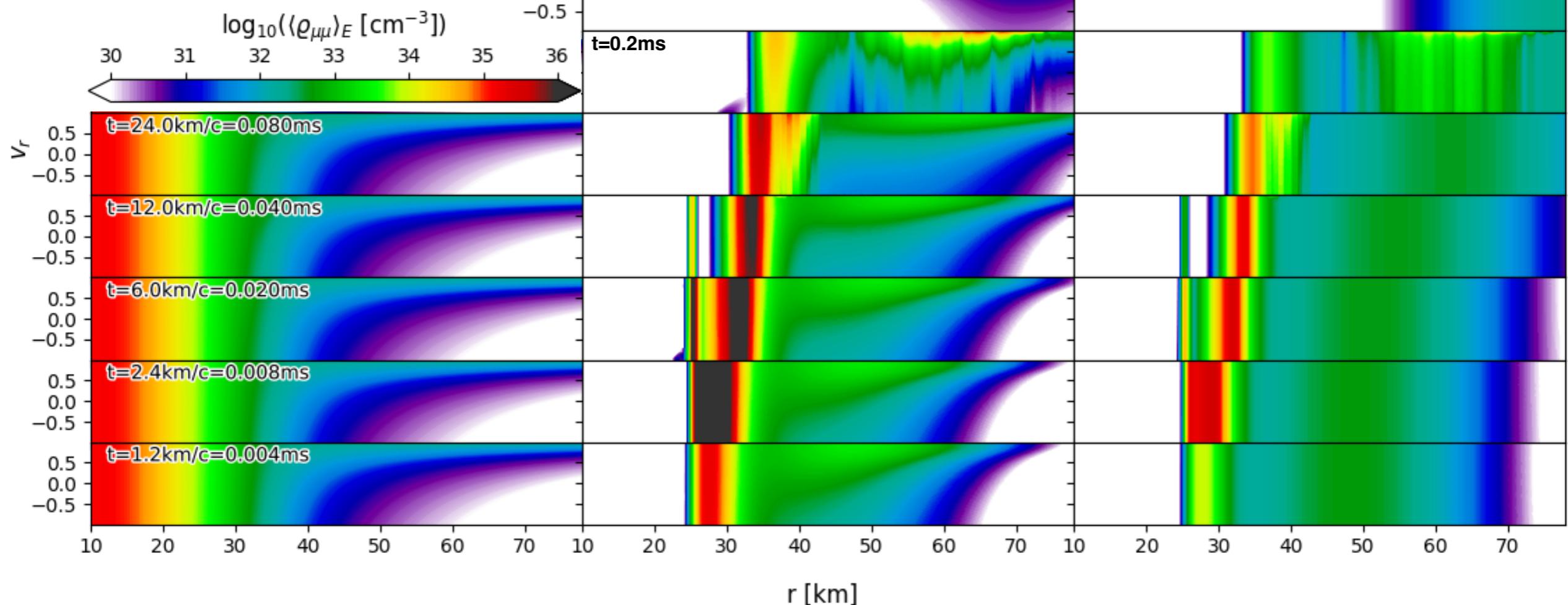
- solve the neutrino flavor evolution equation

$$(\partial_t + v_r \partial_r + \frac{1 - v_r^2}{r} \partial_{v_r}) Q(E, v_r) = -i[a_{\nu\nu} \mathcal{H}_{\nu\nu}, Q(E, v_r)] + \mathcal{C}_{\text{EA}} + \mathcal{C}_{\text{NNS}}$$

- in COSE $\nu$  for two flavors  $\nu_e$  and  $\nu_{\mu}$  up to  $\sim 1$  ms
- study the collisional flavor instability in the absence of fast flavor instability
- NES and NPR are more computationally expensive because of  $R_{\text{NES/NPR}}(E, E', v_r, v'_r)$
- Boundary conditions:
  - Inner boundary: neutrinos in thermal equilibrium with matter between 10 and 16 km to mimic NPR
  - Outer boundary: freely stream out at 85 km
- Initial perturbation (flavor mixing seed): radial-dependent Gaussian function

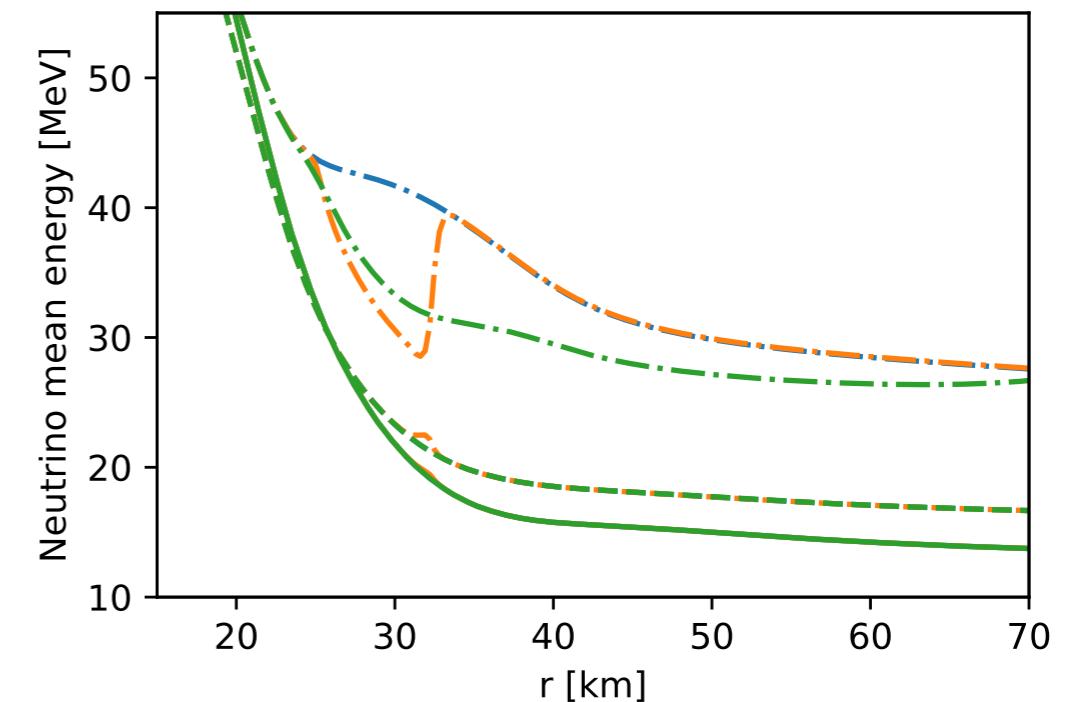
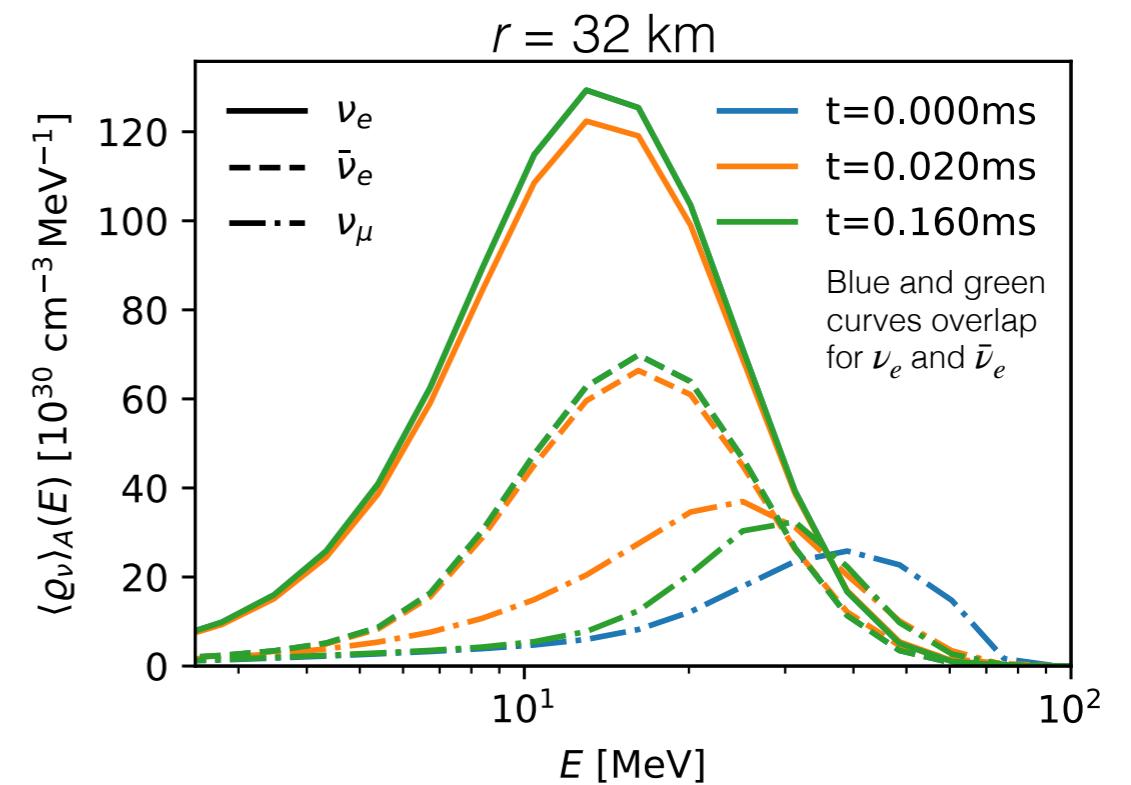
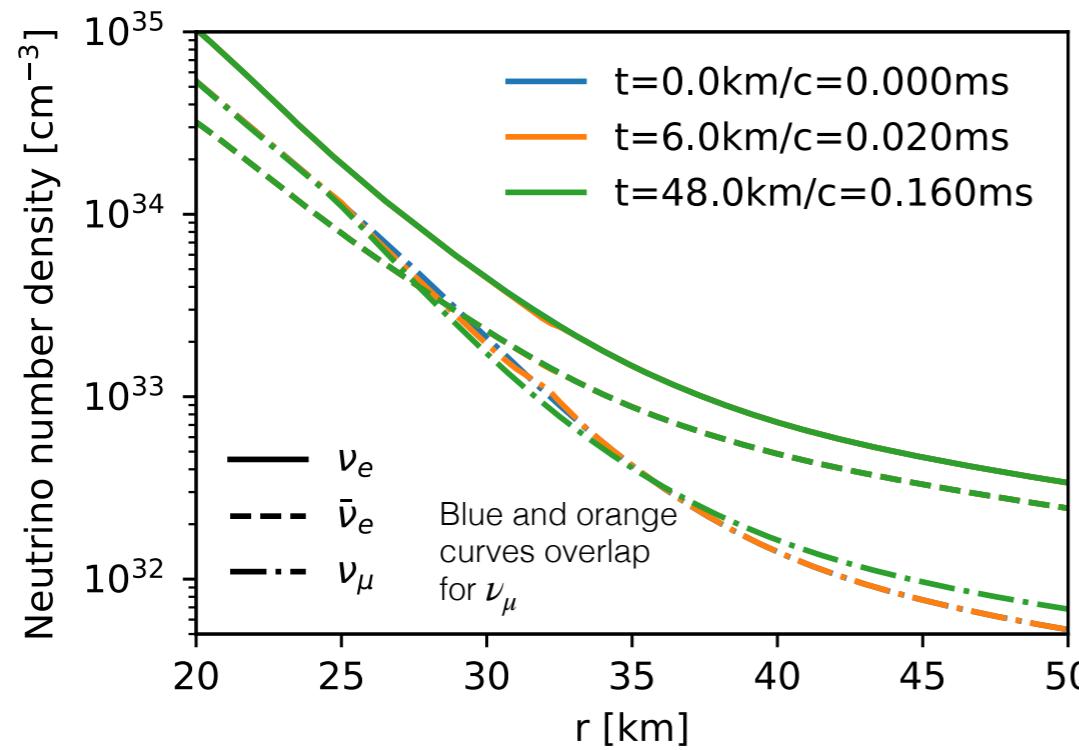
# Evolution of collisional flavor instability

$$\langle \varrho \rangle_E(v_r) = \int dE \varrho(E, v_r),$$
$$\langle \varrho \rangle_A(E) = \int dv_r \varrho(E, v_r),$$
$$s_{e\mu} = \frac{|\langle \varrho_{e\mu} \rangle_E|}{|\langle \varrho_{ee} \rangle_E - \langle \varrho_{\mu\mu} \rangle_E|}$$

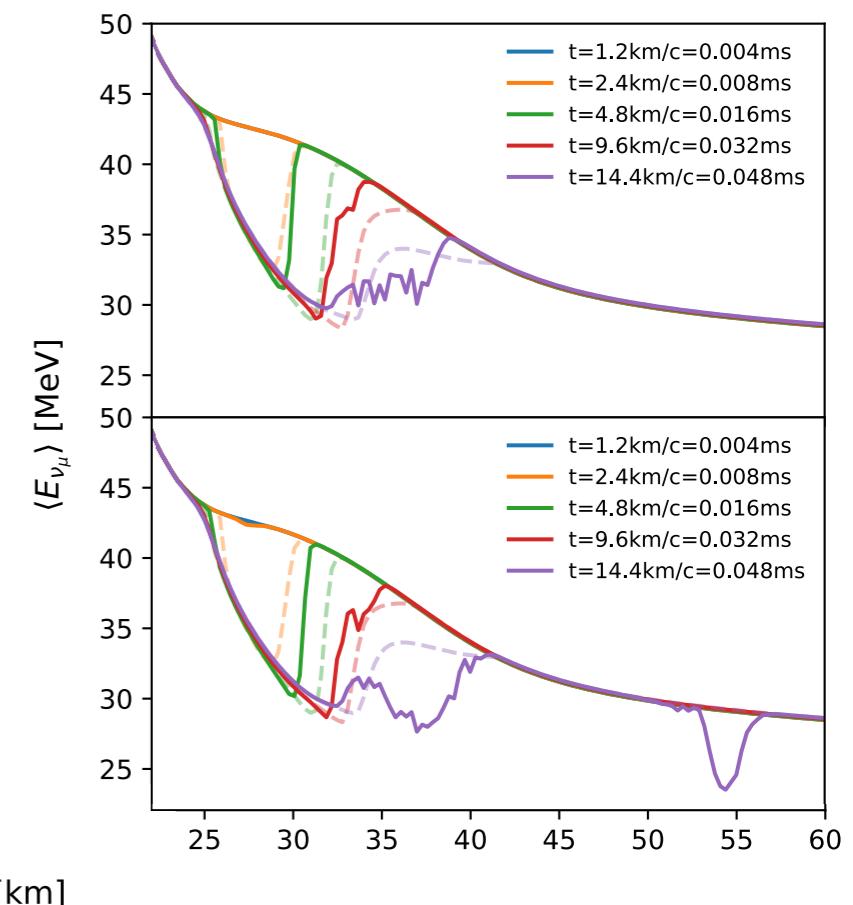
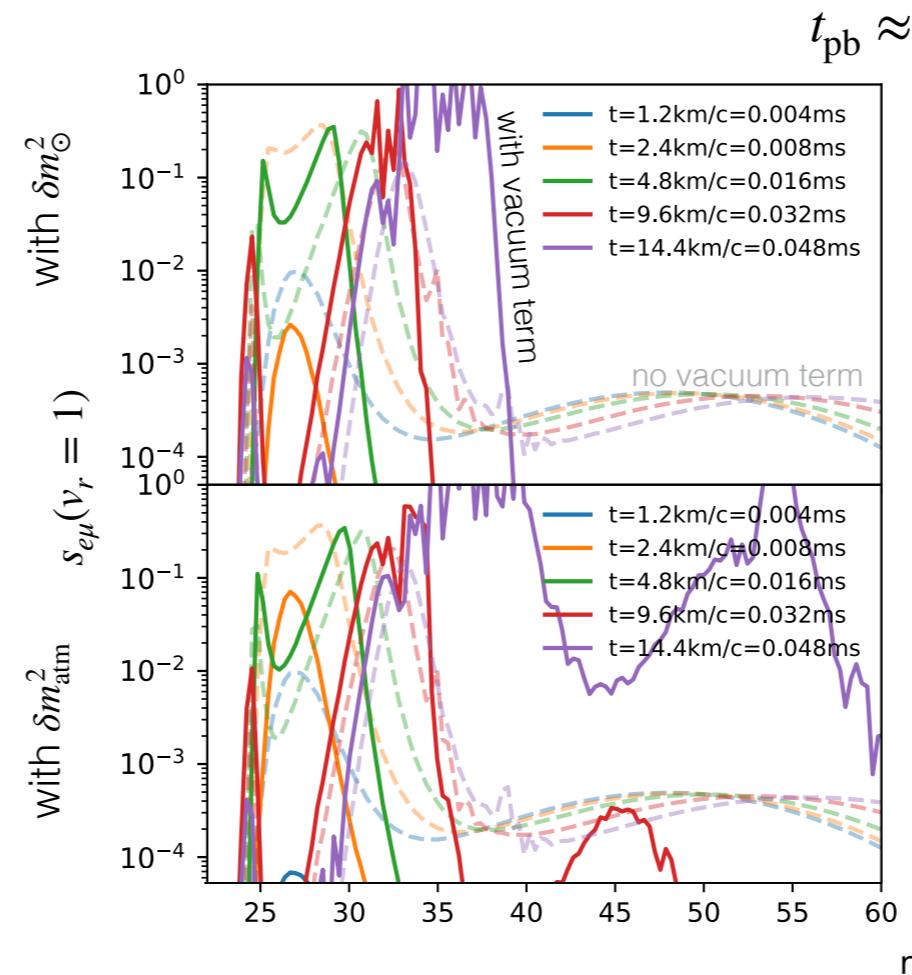
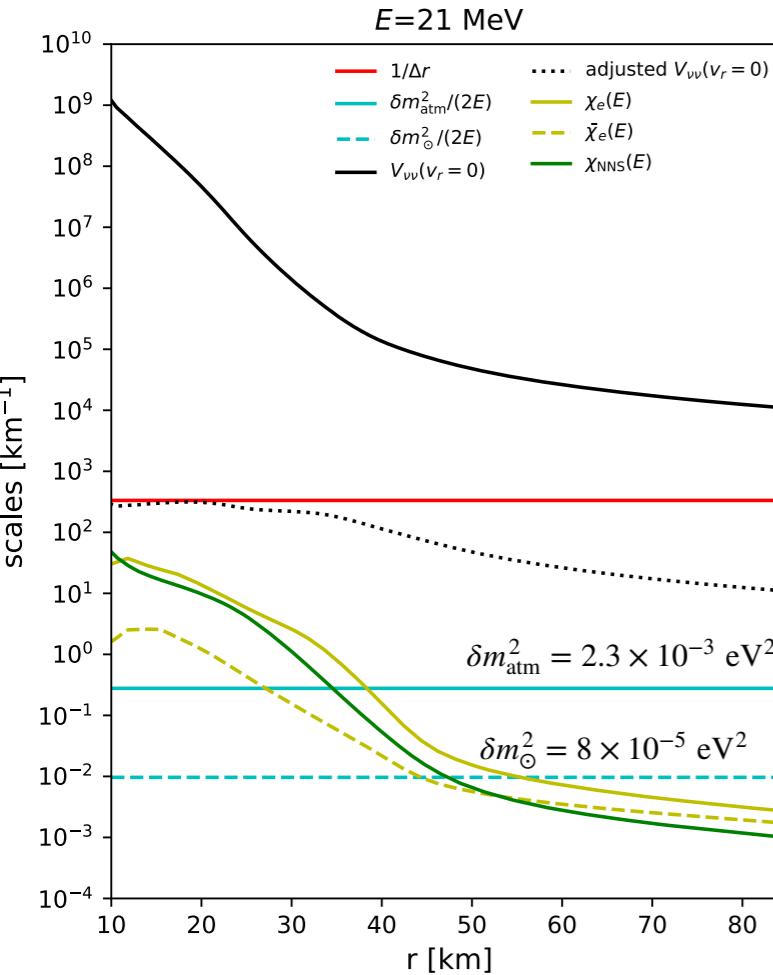


# Evolution of collisional flavor instability

- distributions of  $\nu_e$  and  $\bar{\nu}_e$  are affected at the onset of the flavor conversion, but quickly restored by large EA rates
- leave imprints in the spectra of heavy-lepton (anti)neutrinos at the free-streaming regime



# Effects of vacuum term

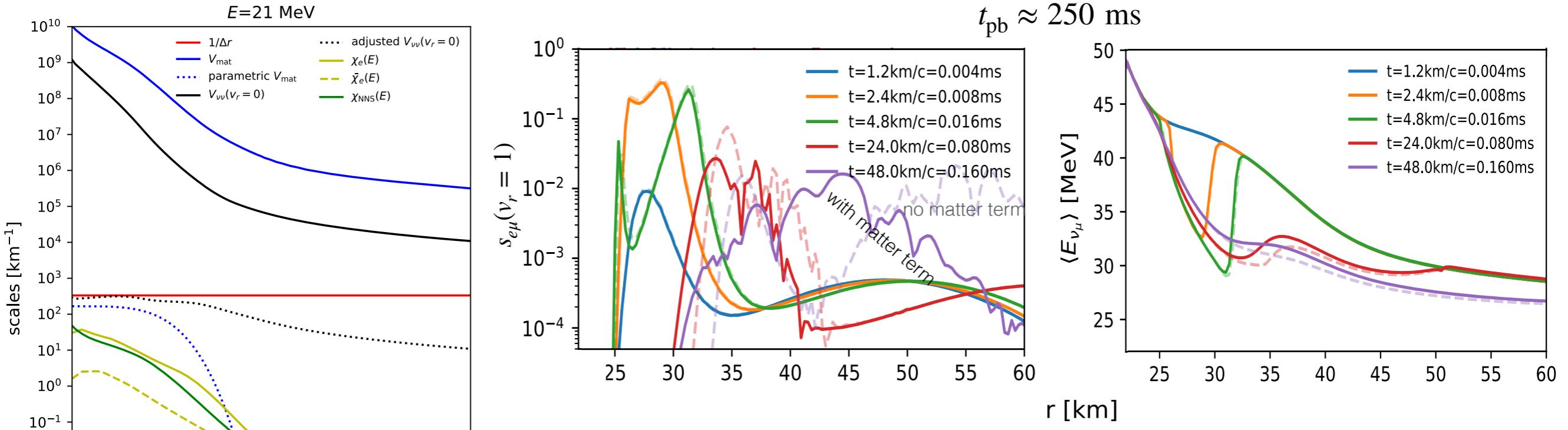


$$\mathbf{H}_{\text{vac}} = \frac{\delta m^2}{4E} \begin{pmatrix} -\cos 2\theta_V & \sin 2\theta_V \\ \sin 2\theta_V & \cos 2\theta_V \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $\theta_V = 10^{-6}$  and assuming normal mass hierarchy

- amplify flavor mixing at  $\sim 35 \text{ km}$
- more reduction of neutrino mean energy
- artificial slow flavor instability appears at  $\sim 45 \text{ km}$  for the case with  $\delta m_{\text{atm}}^2$

# Effects of matter term



- This parametric function mainly varies between 20 km and 50 km where the collisional instability occurs.
- does not affect the initial evolution of flavor instability for  $t \leq 0.016$  ms
- affect the later transport of flavor mixing by mainly reducing the group velocity
- affect the reduced amount of neutrino mean energy

Use parametric function instead:

$$V_{\text{mat}} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2\Delta r} \exp \left[ -\left( \frac{r \text{ [km]} - 10}{18} \right)^4 \right]$$

# Summary and outlook

- We identify a geometric symmetry
  - to understand the periodic bipolar flavor evolution.
  - We show in numerical examples absence of this symmetry leads to kinematic decoherence.
  - Periodic bipolar evolution is special.
- We implement a multi-energy and multi-angle simulator
  - including advection on a global scale in a spherically symmetric model
  - with realistic EA & NNS collisional rates
  - to study collisional flavor instability.
  - Collisional instability leads to flavor conversions of heavy lepton neutrinos near decoupling region.
  - Artificial attenuation? include NES & NPR? matter feedback? GR effect?

