

# Neutron Star Heating: WIMP DM vs Others

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# WIMP dark matter heating in NS

It has been discussed that the signature of WIMP DM may be detected via the **neutron star (NS) temperature observations.**

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **77**, 023006 (2008)

## WIMP annihilation and cooling of neutron stars

Chris Kouvaris\*

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University of Southern Denmark, Campusvej 55, DK-5230 Odense, Denmark  
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(Received 27 August 2007; published 28 January 2008)

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **81**, 123521 (2010)

## Neutron stars as dark matter probes

Arnaud de Lavallaz\* and Malcolm Fairbairn†

*Physics, King's College London, Strand, London WC2R 2LS, United Kingdom*  
(Received 6 April 2010; published 18 June 2010)

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **82**, 063531 (2010)

## Can neutron stars constrain dark matter?

Chris Kouvaris\* and Peter Tinyakov†

*Service de Physique Théorique, Université Libre de Bruxelles, 1050 Brussels, Belgium*  
(Received 29 May 2010; published 28 September 2010)

PRL **119**, 131801 (2017)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
29 SEPTEMBER 2017

## Dark Kinetic Heating of Neutron Stars and an Infrared Window on WIMPs, SIMPs, and Pure Higgsinos

Masha Baryakhtar,<sup>1</sup> Joseph Bramante,<sup>1</sup> Shirley Weishi Li,<sup>2</sup> Tim Linden,<sup>2</sup> and Nirmal Raj<sup>3</sup>  
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(Received 10 April 2017; revised manuscript received 20 July 2017; published 26 September 2017)

## Mechanism

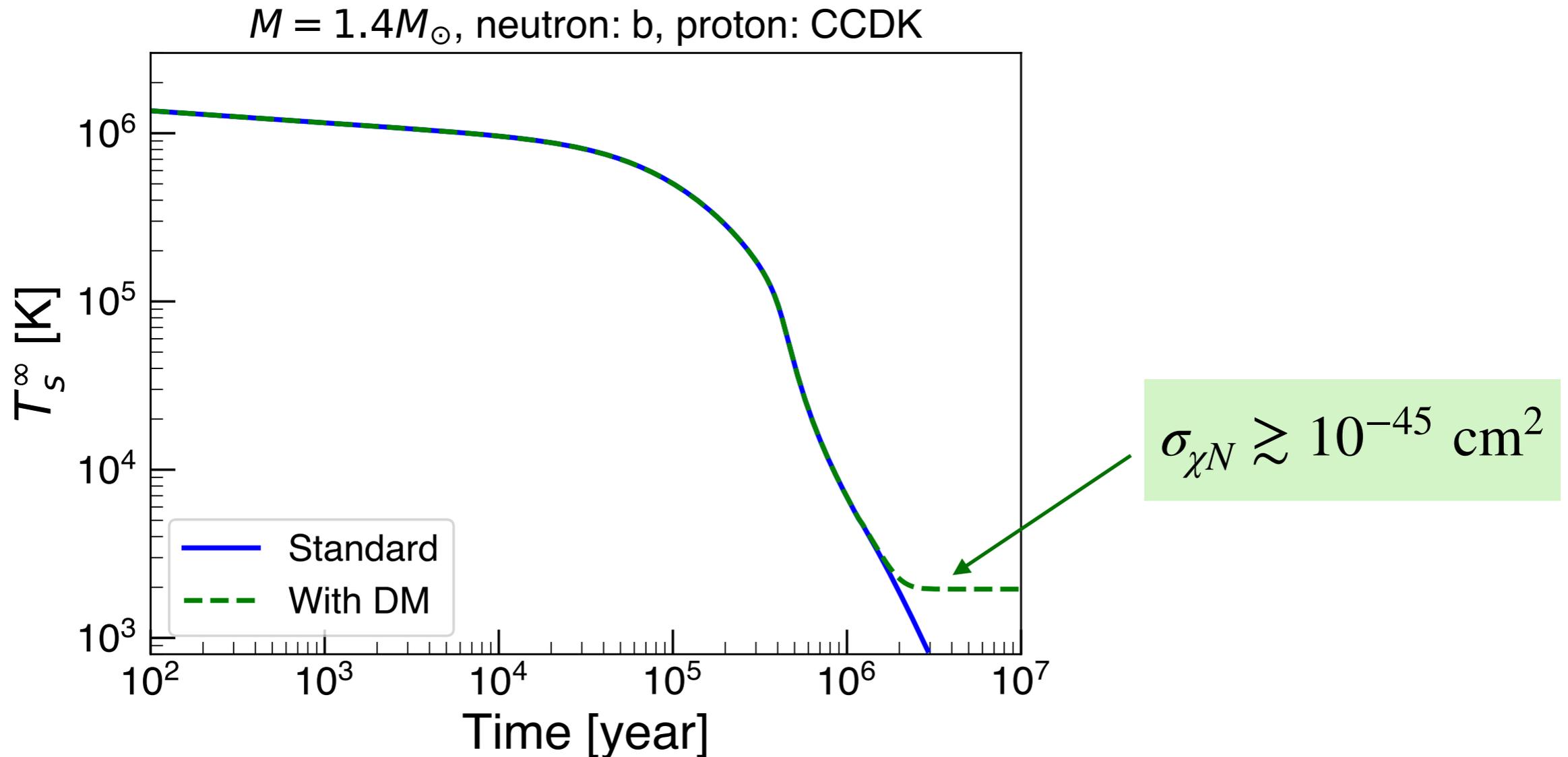
WIMP DM accretes on a neutron star.



Annihilation of WIMPs in the NS core causes **heating effect.**

# WIMP dark matter heating in NS

Dark matter heating effect may be observed in **old NSs**.



- In the standard cooling scenario, temperature becomes very low for  $t > 10^7$  years.
- With DM heating effect,  $T_s^{\infty} \rightarrow \sim 2 \times 10^3$  K at later times.

# Other heating sources?

If there are other heating sources in NSs, DM heating effect may be concealed.

- ▶ There is no heating source in **Standard NS cooling theory**.
- ▶ Is it possible to have extra heating sources?

Or, even motivated?

# Old warm neutron stars?

Recently, “old but warm neutron stars” have been observed.

## Milli-second pulsars

▶ J0437-4715:  $t_{\text{sd}} = (6.7 \pm 0.2) \times 10^9$  years,  $T_s^\infty = (1.25 - 3.5) \times 10^5$  K

O. Kargaltsev, G. G. Pavlov, and R. W. Romani, *Astrophys. J.* **602**, 327 (2004);  
M. Durant, *et al.*, *Astrophys. J.* **746**, 6 (2012).

▶ J2124-3358:  $t_{\text{sd}} = 11_{-3}^{+6} \times 10^9$  years,  $T_s^\infty = (0.5 - 2.1) \times 10^5$  K

B. Rangelov, *et al.*, *Astrophys. J.* **835**, 264 (2017).

## Ordinary pulsars

▶ J0108-1431:  $t_{\text{sd}} = 2.0 \times 10^8$  years,  $T_s^\infty = (2.7 - 5.5) \times 10^4$  K

V. Abramkin, Y. Shibano, R. P. Mignani, and G. G. Pavlov, *Astrophys. J.* **911**, 1 (2021).

▶ B0950+08:  $t_{\text{sd}} = 1.75 \times 10^7$  years,  $T_s^\infty = (6 - 12) \times 10^4$  K

V. Abramkin, G. G. Pavlov, Y. Shibano, and O. Kargaltsev, *Astrophys. J.* **924**, 128 (2022).

These observations **cannot** be explained in the standard cooling.

# Topics of this talk

- We need an extra **heating** source to explain those observations.

## Candidates for the heating mechanism

- ▶ Non-equilibrium beta processes
  - ▶ Friction caused by vortex creep
- 
- Can we still observe the DM heating effect in the presence of this extra heating effect??

# Outline of this talk

- Introduction
- Standard Cooling Theory
- Non-equilibrium  $\beta$  processes
- Vortex creep heating
- Conclusion

# Standard Cooling Theory

# Standard Cooling of NS

D. Page, J. M. Lattimer, M. Prakash, A. W. Steiner, *Astrophys. J. Suppl.* **155**, 623 (2004);  
M. E. Gusakov, A. D. Kaminker, D. G. Yakovlev, O. Y. Gnedin, *Astron. Astrophys.* **423**, 1063 (2004).

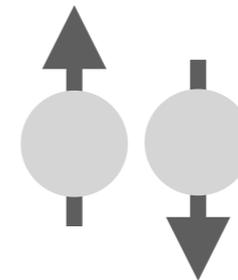
Consider a NS composed of

▶ Neutrons

▶ Protons

▶ Leptons (e,  $\mu$ )

Form Cooper pairs



- Supposed to be in the  $\beta$  equilibrium.
- In Fermi degenerate states.

Equation for temperature evolution

$$C(T) \frac{dT}{dt} = -L_\nu - L_\gamma$$

$C(T)$ : Stellar heat capacity

$L_\nu$ : Luminosity of neutrino emission

$L_\gamma$ : Luminosity of photon emission

# Cooling sources

Two cooling sources:

- Photon emission (from surface)

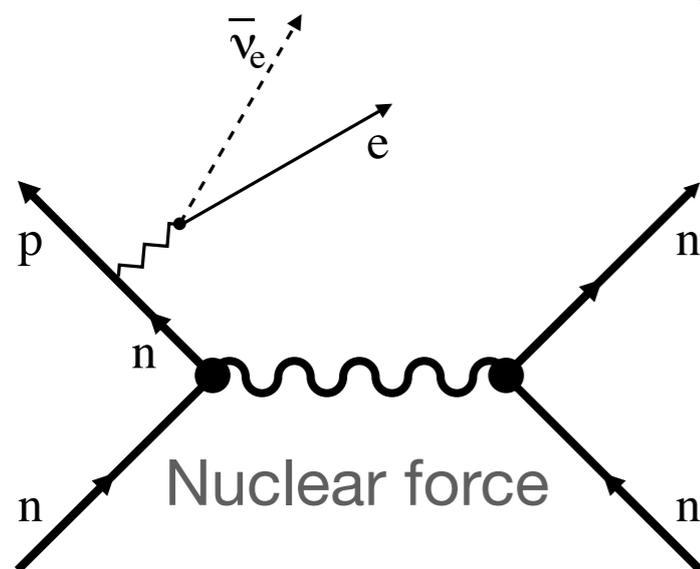
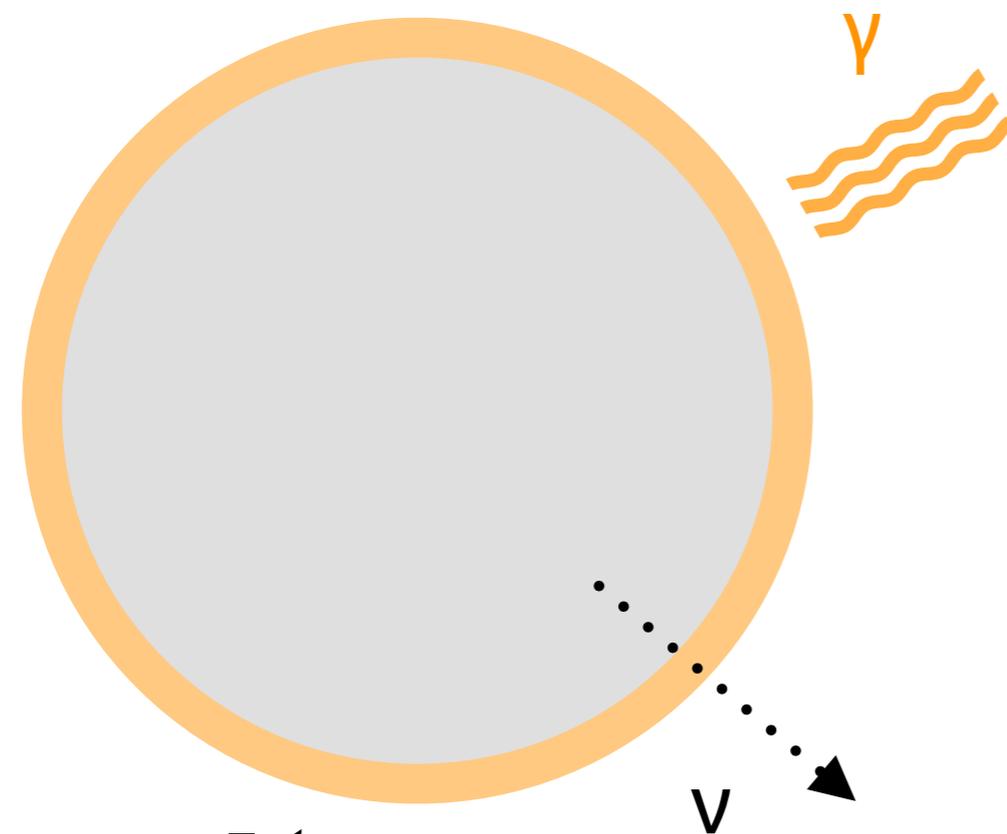
$$L_\gamma = 4\pi R^2 \sigma_{\text{SB}} T_s^4$$

Dominant for  $t \gtrsim 10^5$  years

- Neutrino emission (from core)

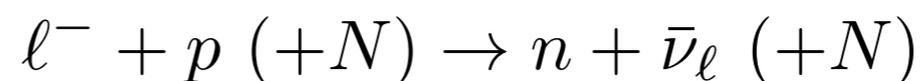
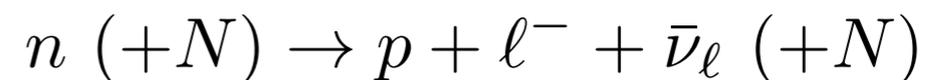
Dominant for  $t \lesssim 10^5$  years

This process keeps the system in the  **$\beta$  equilibrium**.

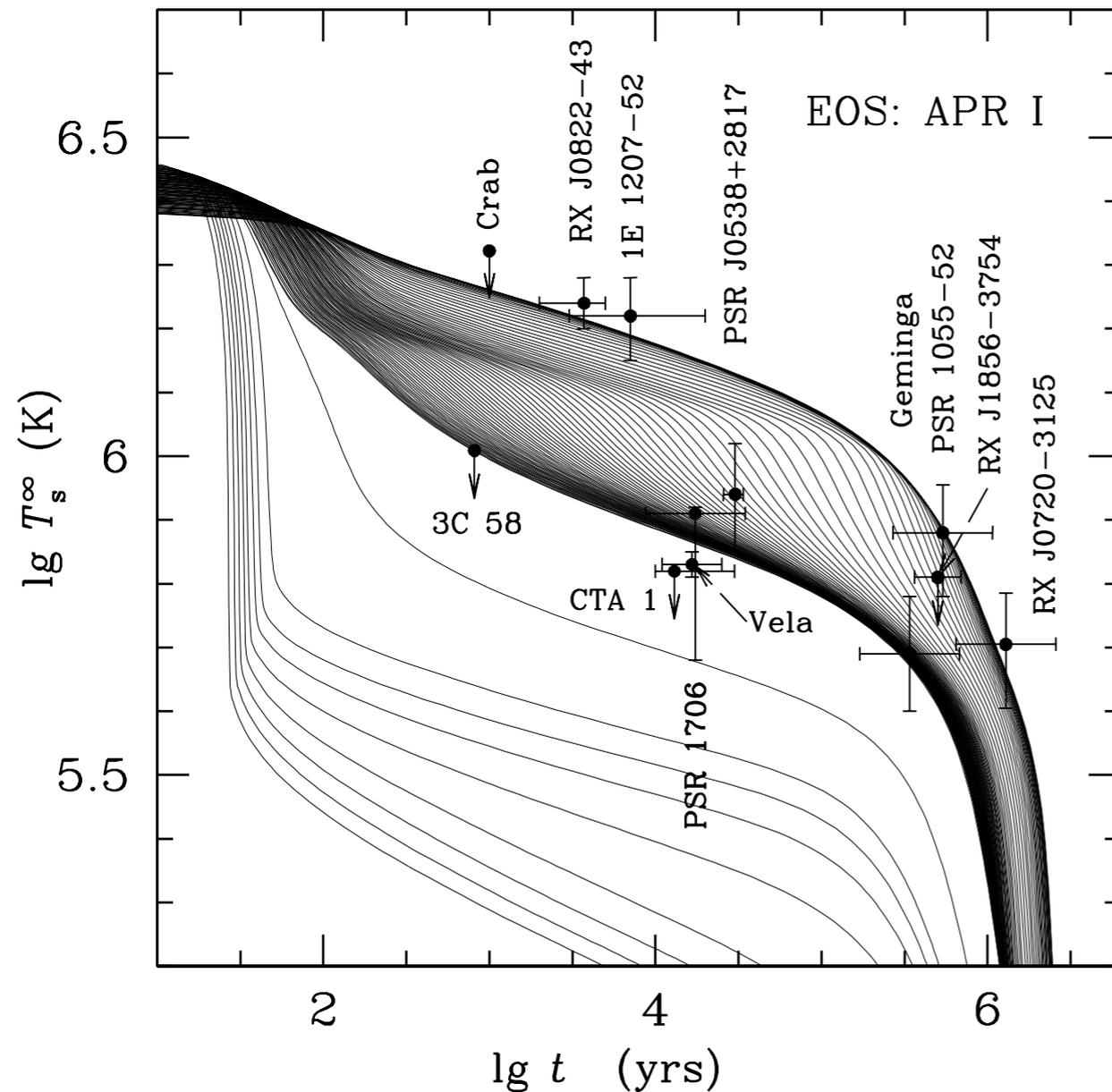


Modified Urca

$$\mu_n = \mu_p + \mu_\ell$$



# Success of Standard Cooling



$$M = (1.01 - 1.92)M_{\odot}$$

O. Y. Gnedin, M. Gusakov, A. Kaminker, D. G. Yakovlev,  
Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc. **363**, 555 (2005).

- Temperature gets very low for  $t \gtrsim 10^6$  years.
- Consistent with the observations for  $t < 10^6$  years. ~ 50 NSs listed.

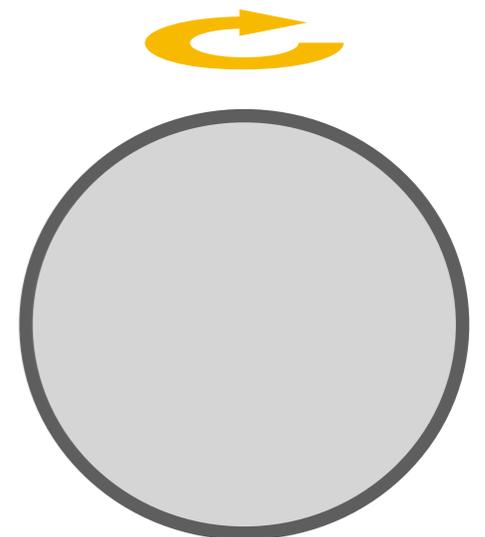
For the latest data, see <http://www.ioffe.ru/astro/NSG/thermal/cooldat.html>

# Heating mechanism?

In old NSs, the following heating mechanisms due to the **slowdown of NS rotation** may operate:

- ▶ Non-equilibrium beta processes
- ▶ Friction caused by vortex creep

Let us discuss these two mechanisms, and see their implications for the detection of the DM heating mechanism.

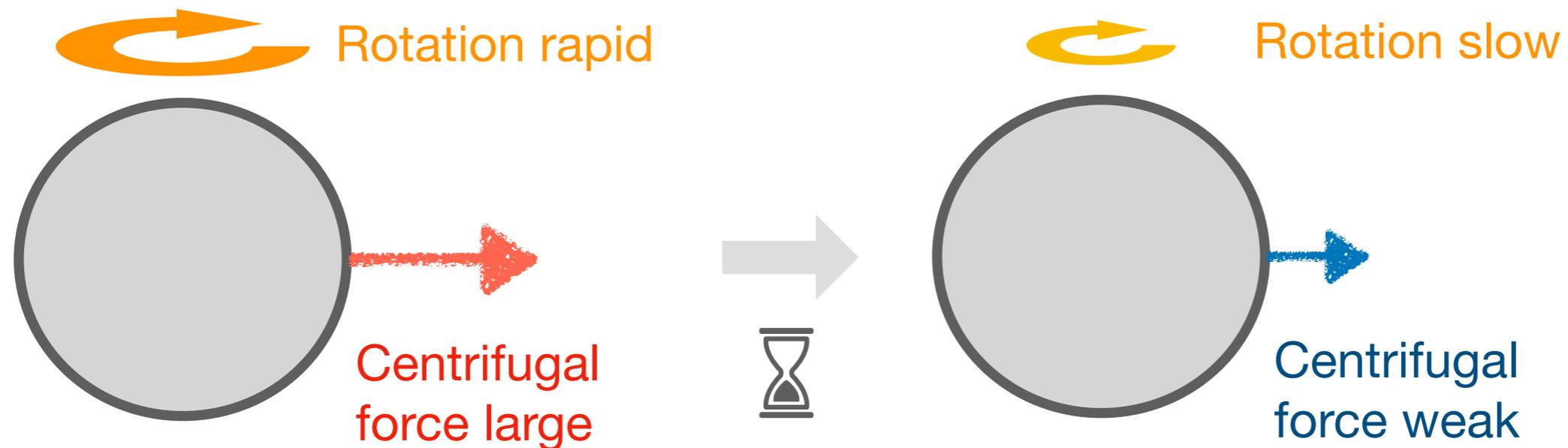


# Non-equilibrium $\beta$ processes

# Loop hole in standard cooling

In the standard cooling,  $\beta$  equilibrium is assumed.

In a real pulsar

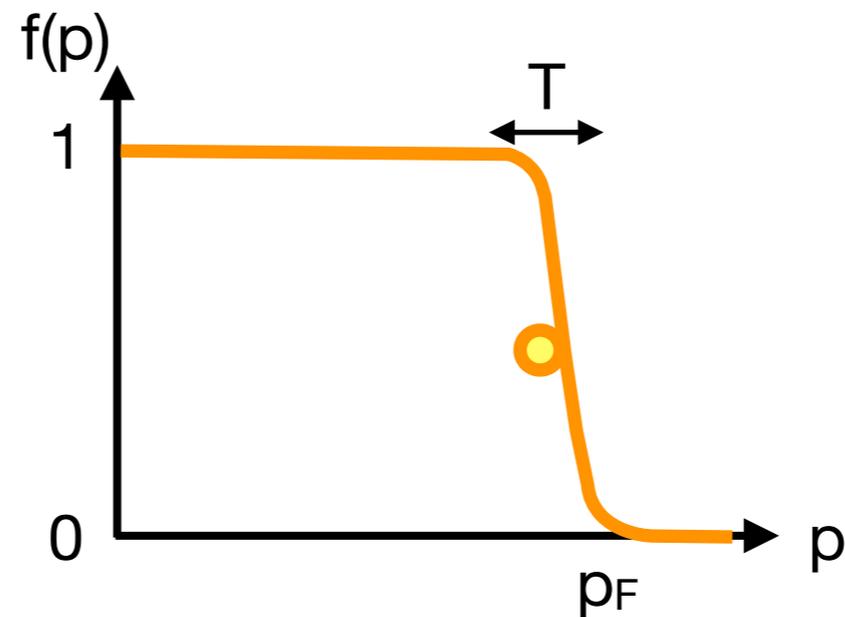
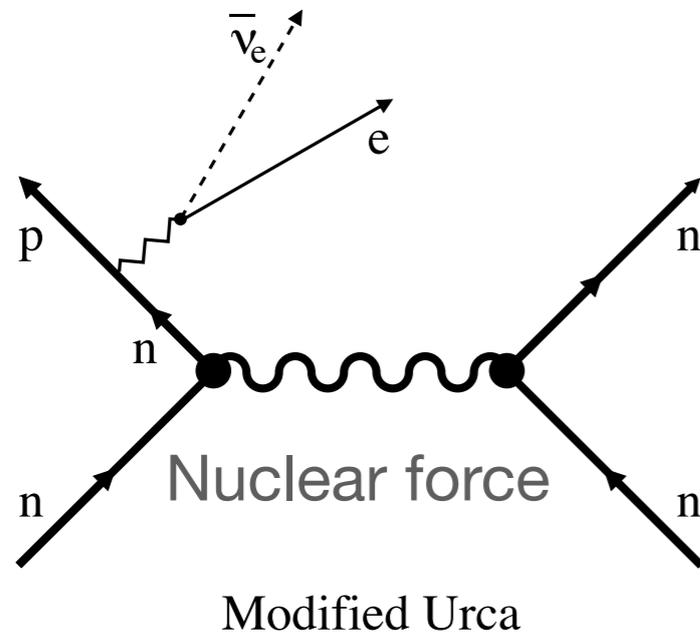


Local pressure changes. **Chemical equilibrium condition changes.**

If the beta processes are rapid enough, the system can follow the change in the equilibrium condition. But...

# Neutrino emission

The beta processes are highly suppressed at later times, i.e., for low temperatures.



Only the particles near the Fermi surface can participate in the processes.

➔ **Deviation from  $\beta$  equilibrium**

A. Reisenegger, *Astrophys. J.* **442**, 749 (1995).

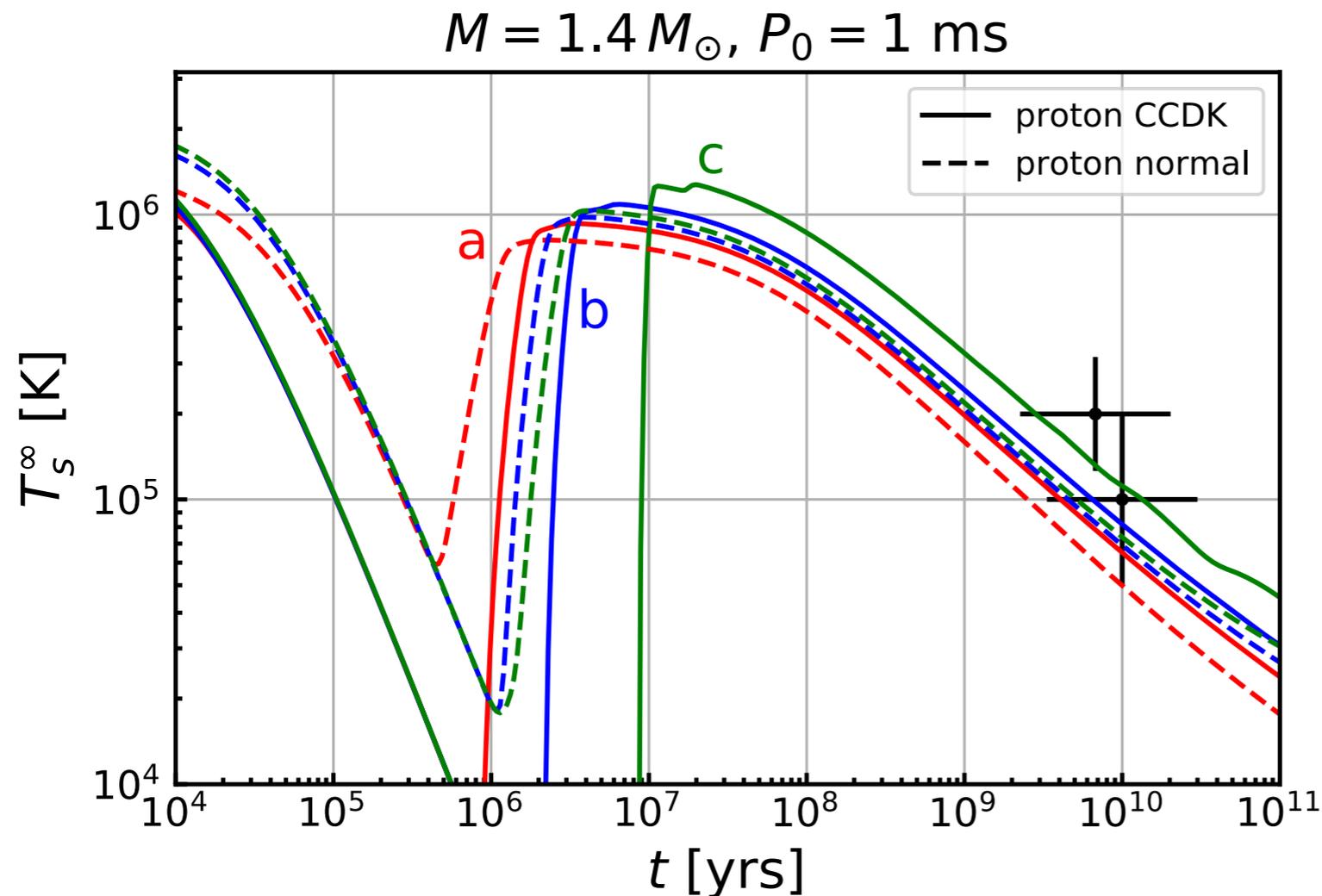
The imbalance in chemical potentials is dissipated as heat.

➔ **Rotochemical heating**

R. Fernandez and A. Reisenegger, *Astrophys. J.* **625**, 291 (2005);  
C. Petrovich, A. Reisenegger, *Astron. Astrophys.* **521**, A77 (2010).

# Millisecond pulsars

We take account of the effect of **non-equilibrium  $\beta$  processes**.

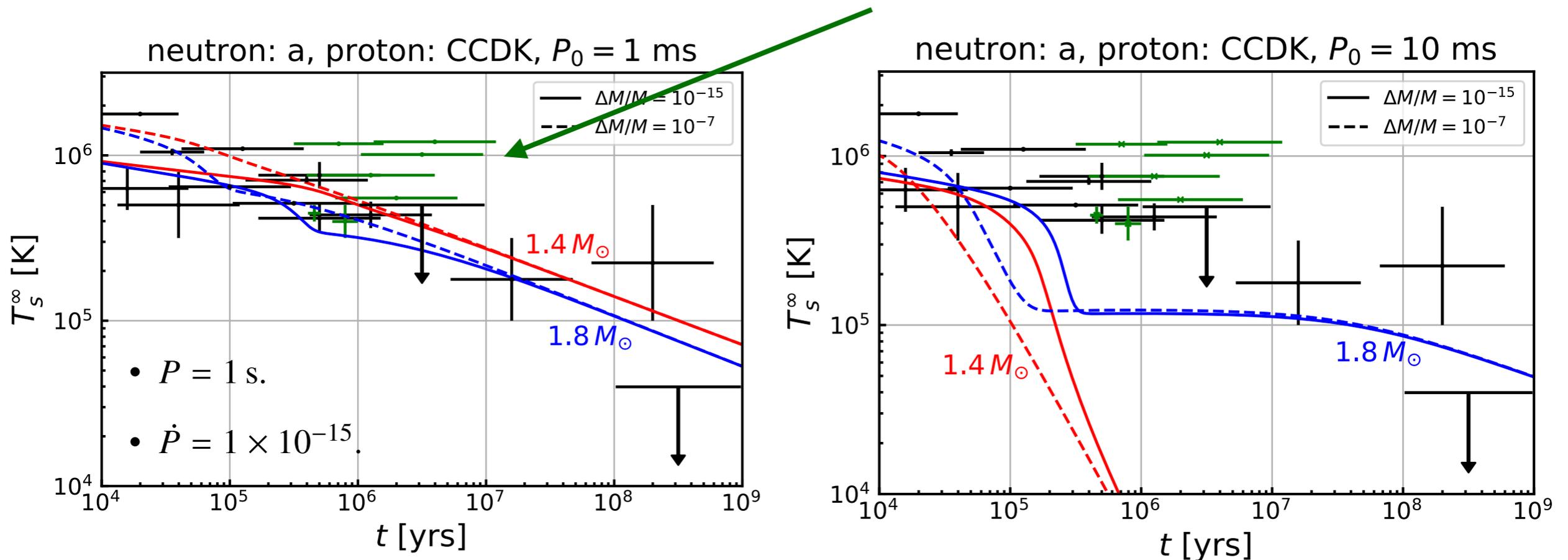


- $M = 1.4 M_{\odot}$ .
- $P = 5.8 \text{ ms}$ .
- $\dot{P} = 5.7 \times 10^{-20}$ .

- Rotochemical heating always occurs in MSPs.
- We can explain the observations.

# Ordinary pulsars

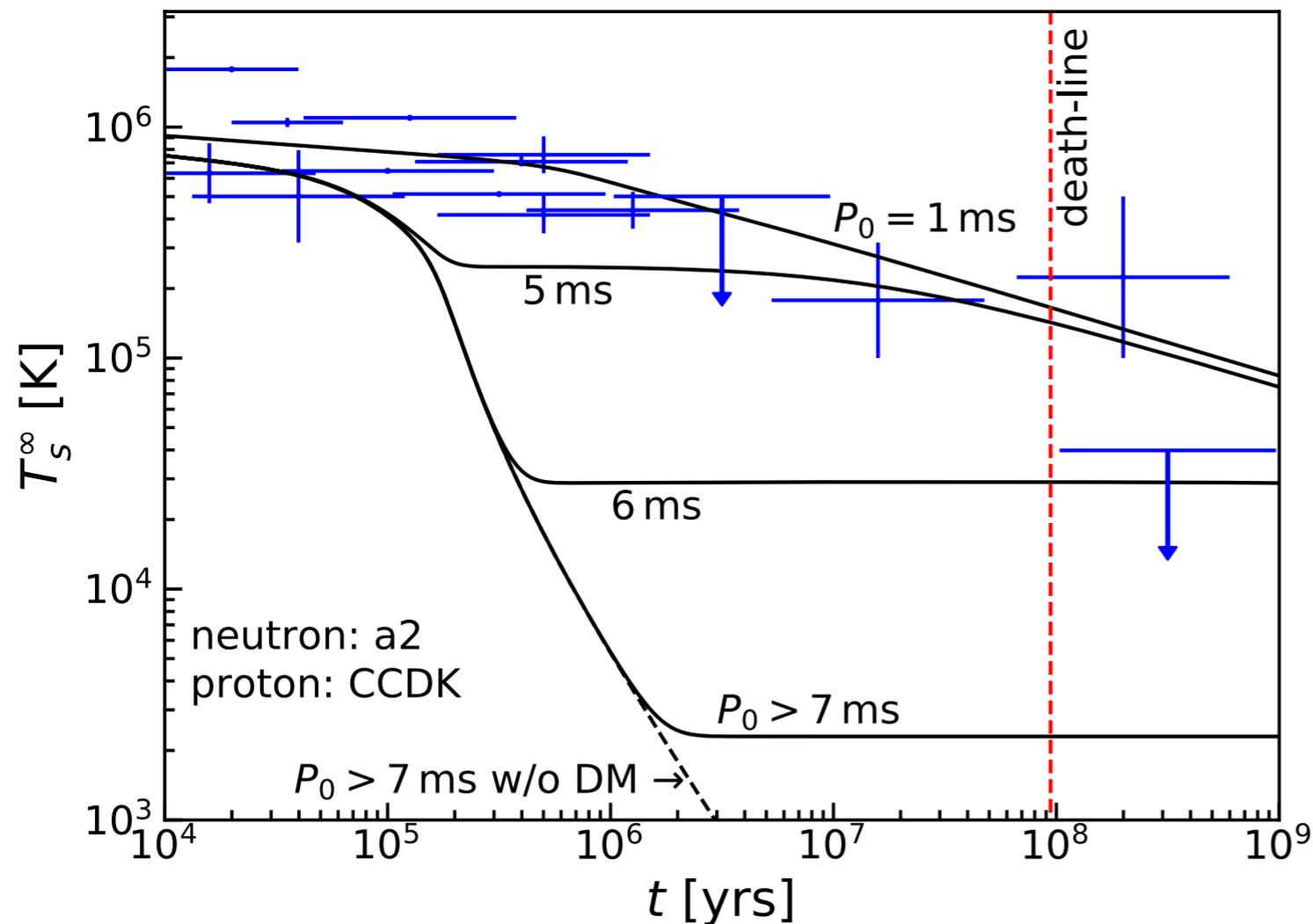
Heating due to magnetic field decay may occur.



- The temperature evolution highly depends on the **initial period  $P_0$**  of pulsars.
- We can explain all of the observations.
  - ▶ Cool star: large initial period  $\rightarrow$  no rotochemical heating.
  - ▶ Warm star: small initial period  $\rightarrow$  rotochemical heating effective.

# Rotochemical heating vs DM heating

Now we include both the **DM** and **rotochemical** heating effects.



Simulations show that  $P_0$  can be as large as  $O(100)$  ms.

See, e.g., 1811.05483.

- If  $P_0$  is large enough, DM heating effect can be observed.
- It is always concealed in millisecond pulsars.

# Vortex Creep Heating

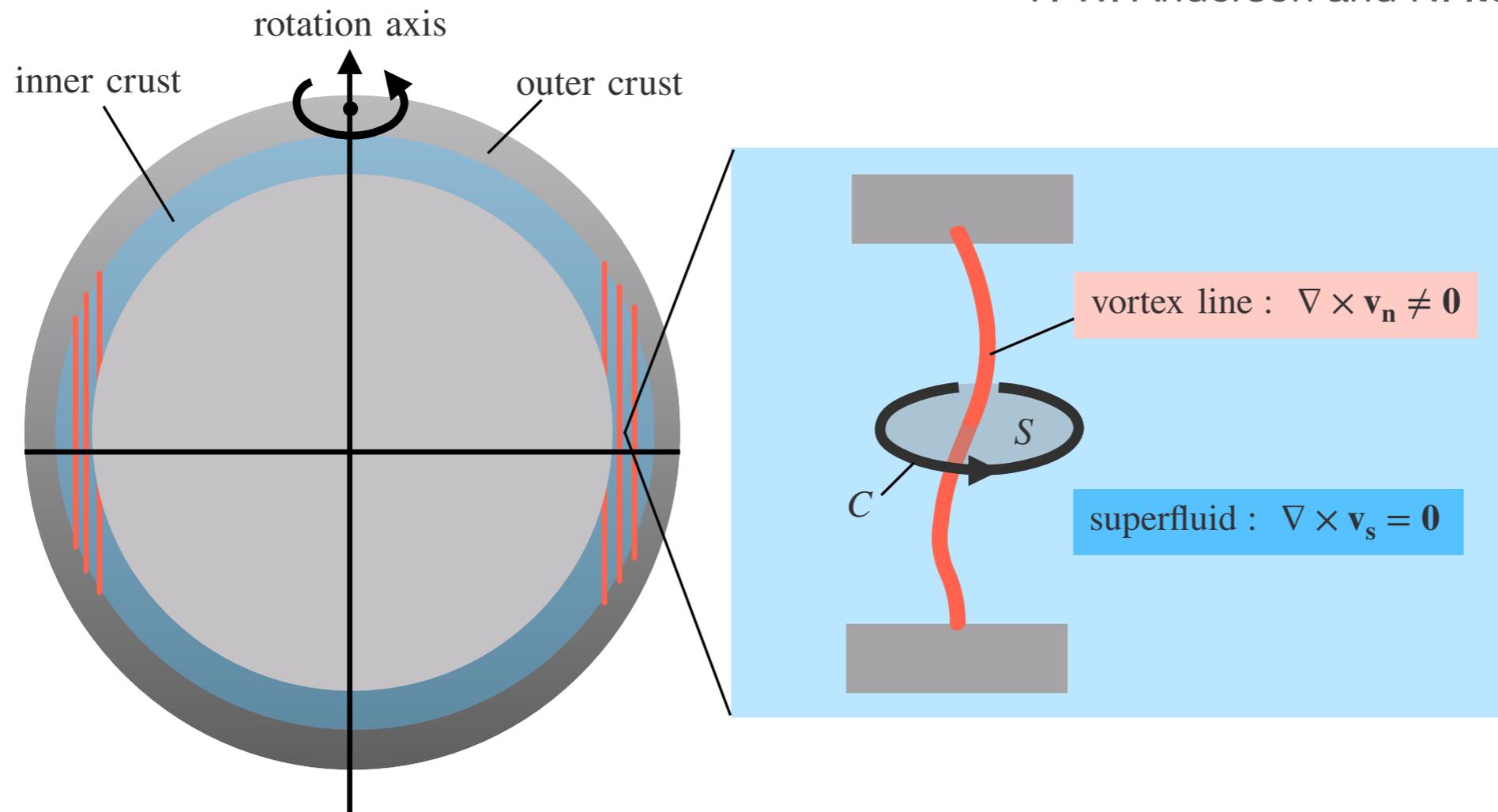
# Neutron superfluid vortex lines

Neutrons form **Cooper pairs** in NSs.  $\rightarrow$  Neutron superfluidity

In a rotating NS, superfluid **vortex lines** are formed.

The vortex lines are fixed to the crust by nuclear interactions.

P. W. Anderson and N. Itoh, Nature **256**, 25 (1975).



# Vortex creep

Due to the pulsar radiation, the **crust component** slows down.

But the **superfluid component** does not.

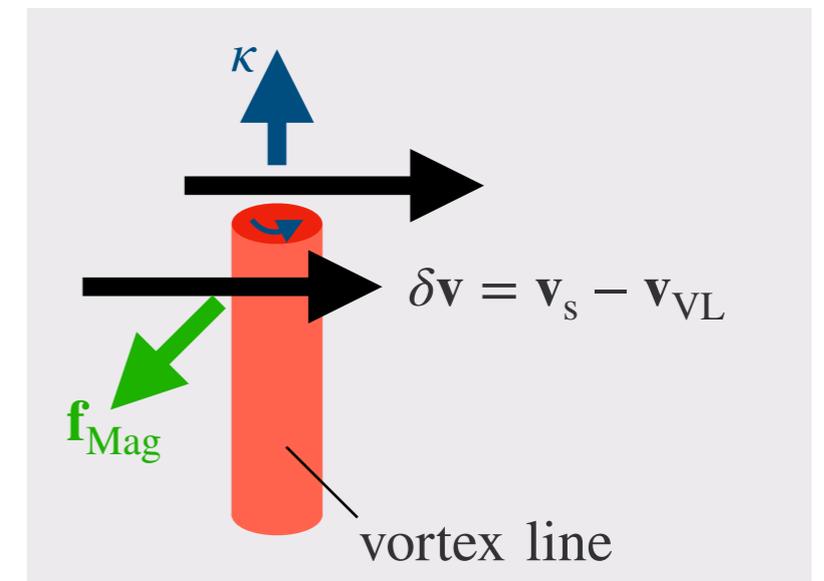
→ The rotational speed difference developed.

This induces **Magnus force**.

When it gets large enough, vortex lines start to move outwards.

Vortex creep

→ Speed difference decreases.



The vortex creep keeps the speed difference constant.

$$\Omega_{SF} - \Omega_{crust} = \text{const.}$$

Determined by the pinning force.

# Vortex creep heating

M. A. Alpar, et.al., *Astrophys. J.* **276**, 325 (1984);  
M. Shibazaki and F. K. Lamb, *Astrophys. J.* **346**, 808 (1989).

The rotational energy stored in the superfluid component is dissipated as **heat**:

$$L_H = \int \underbrace{dI_{\text{crust}}}_{\text{Moment of inertia}} (\underbrace{\Omega_{\text{SF}} - \Omega_{\text{crust}}}_{\text{Determined by the pinning force}}) |\dot{\Omega}| \equiv J |\dot{\Omega}|$$

Moment of inertia

Determined by the pinning force.

All NSs have similar values of J.

In old NSs, this heating balances with the **photon cooling**:

$$L_H = L_\gamma = 4\pi R^2 \sigma_{\text{SB}} T_s^4$$

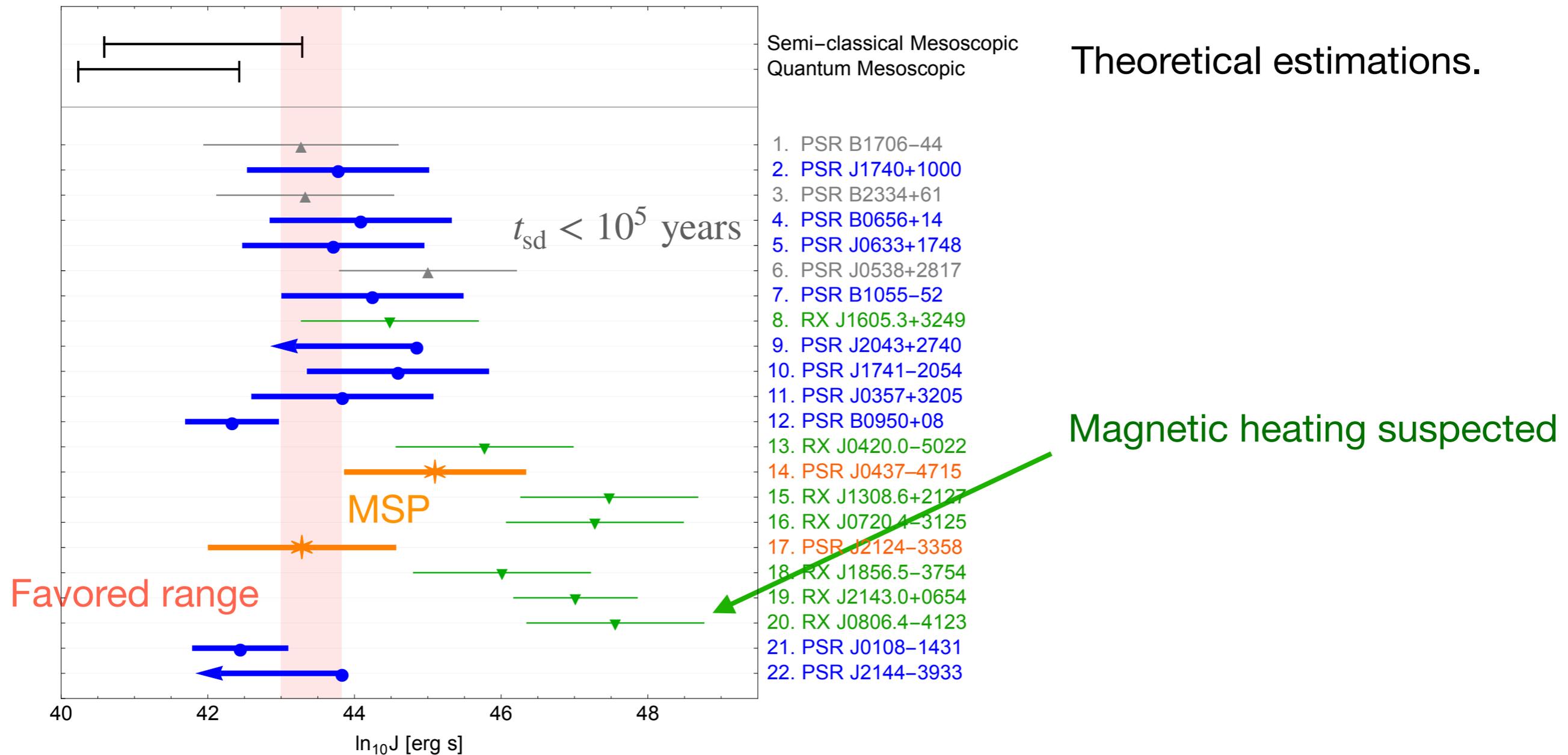


$$J_{\text{obs}} = 4\pi R^2 \sigma_{\text{SB}} T_s^4 / |\dot{\Omega}|$$

Can be determined by observation.

The vortex heating mechanism predicts this to be almost universal.

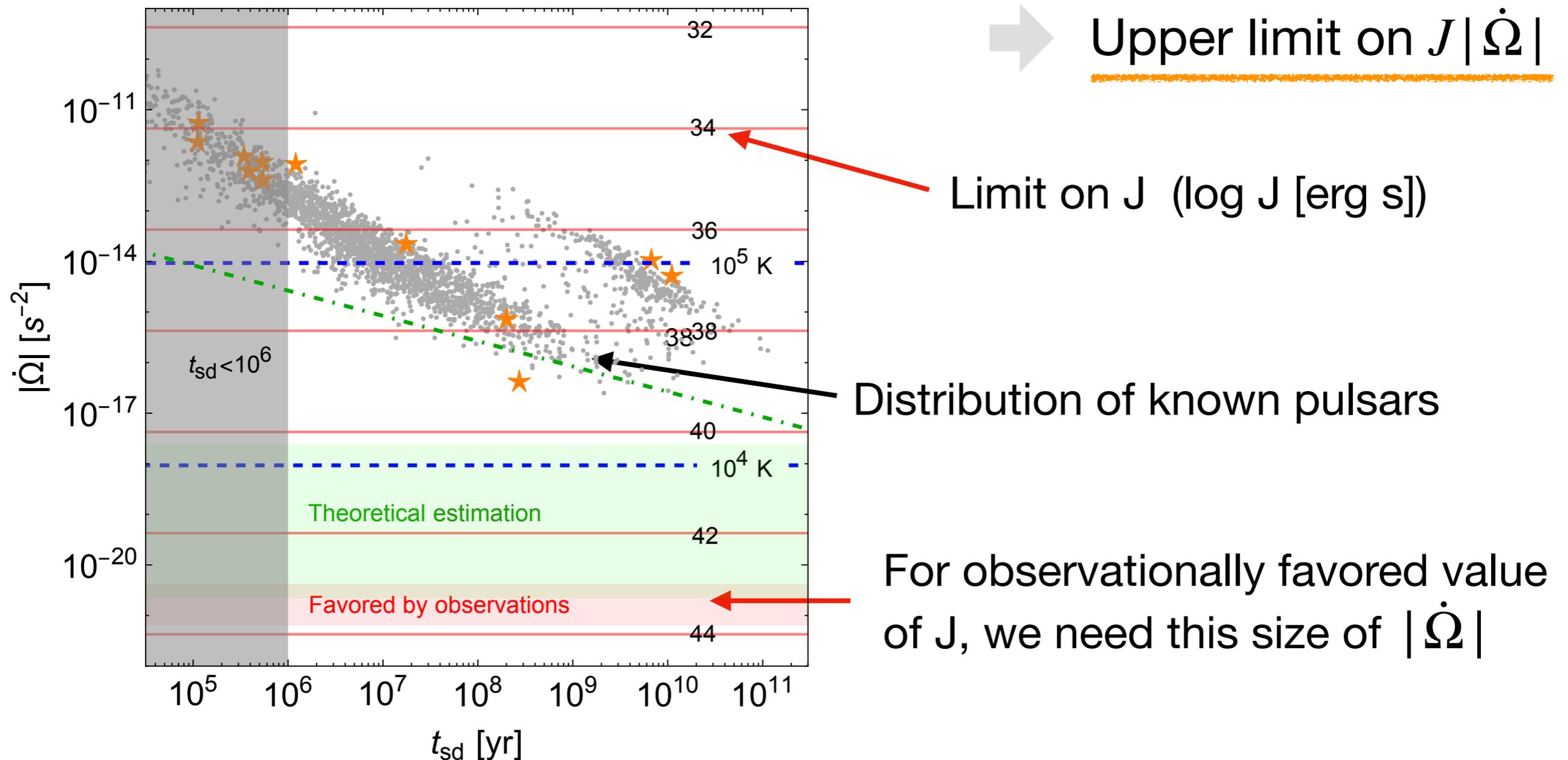
# Vortex creep heating vs observations



- Observations find similar values of J.
- Theoretical calculations are in the same ballpark.

# Vortex creep heating vs DM heating

To see the DM heating effect, we want  $L_{\text{vortex}} < L_{\text{DM}}$ .



Vortex-creep heating seems to dominate DM heating...

# Conclusion

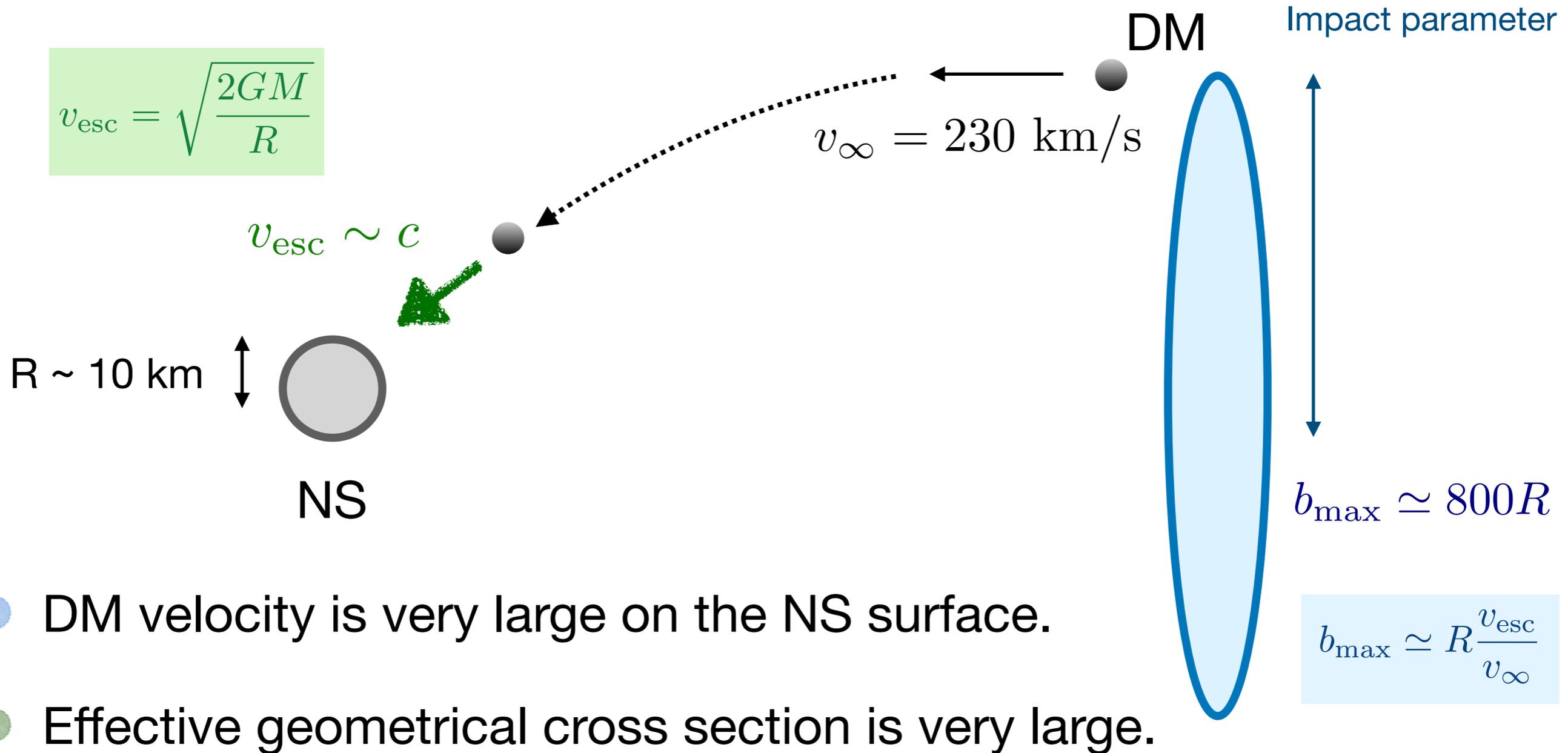
# Conclusion

- We studied potential heating mechanisms in NSs.
- Non-equilibrium  $\beta$  processes.
  - ▶ For **ordinary pulsars**, DM heating effect can be observed if their initial period is relatively large.
  - ▶ For **millisecond pulsars**, DM heating effect is always hidden by the rotochemical heating.
- Vortex creep heating

This heating effect seems to dominate the DM heating.

**Backup**

# Dark matter accretion in NS



DM accretion rate is

$$\dot{N} \simeq \pi b_{\text{max}}^2 v_{\infty} \cdot \frac{\rho_{\text{DM}}}{m_{\text{DM}}}$$

DM number density

# Dark matter accretion in NS

It is found that

- One scattering is enough for WIMPs to be captured.

Energy transfer  $\sim 100 \text{ MeV} - 1 \text{ GeV}$ .

- At least one scattering occurs if  $\sigma_N \gtrsim 10^{-45} \text{ cm}^2$ .

For old NSs, we have

Accretion rate

=

Annihilation rate

equilibrium

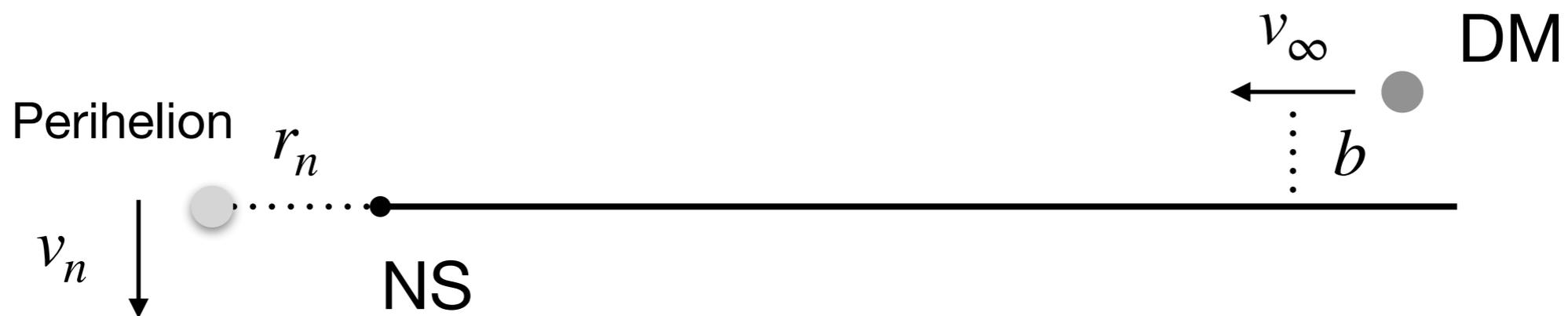


$$L_H \simeq m_{\text{DM}} \dot{N} \simeq 2\pi G M R \rho_{\text{DM}} / v_\infty$$

Independent of DM mass.

# Dark matter accretion in NS

Consider a WIMP with mass  $m_{\text{DM}}$ , incoming from infinity with speed  $v_{\infty}$  and impact parameter  $b$ .



Energy

$$\frac{m_{\text{DM}}v_{\infty}^2}{2} = \frac{m_{\text{DM}}v_n^2}{2} - \frac{Gm_{\text{DM}}M}{r_n}$$

Angular momentum

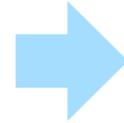
$$m_{\text{DM}}v_{\infty}b = m_{\text{DM}}v_n r_n$$



$$r_n = \frac{GM}{v_{\infty}^2} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{v_{\infty}^4 b^2}{G^2 M^2}} - 1 \right]$$

# Dark matter accretion in NS

For a WIMP to be captured by a NS,  $r_n \leq R$  is required.


$$b \leq R \left[ 1 + \frac{v_{\text{esc}}^2}{v_{\infty}^2} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$v_{\infty} \simeq 230 \text{ km/s}$$

## Escape velocity

$$v_{\text{esc}} = \sqrt{\frac{2GM}{R}} \simeq 2 \times 10^8 \times \left( \frac{M}{1.4M_{\odot}} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{R}{10 \text{ km}} \right)^{-1/2} \text{ m/s}$$

Close to the speed of light!

## Maximum impact parameter

$$b_{\text{max}} \simeq R \frac{v_{\text{esc}}}{v_{\infty}} \simeq 0.8 \times 10^7 \times \left( \frac{M}{1.4M_{\odot}} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{R}{10 \text{ km}} \right)^{1/2} \text{ m}$$

Much larger than the NS radius.

# Recoil energy

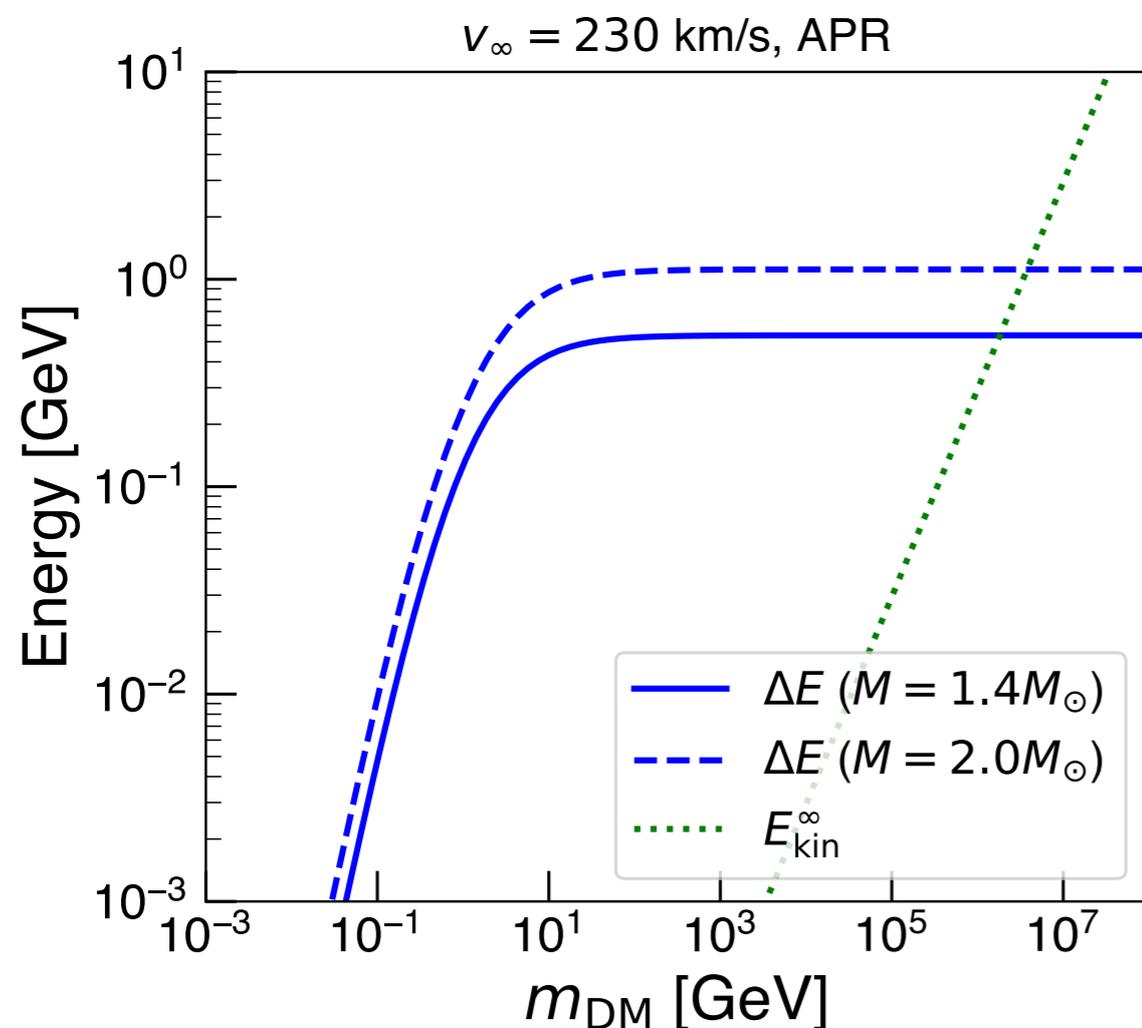
For each DM-nucleon scattering, WIMPs lose energy by

$$\Delta E = \frac{m_N m_{\text{DM}}^2 \gamma_{\text{esc}}^2 v_{\text{esc}}^2}{m_N^2 + m_{\text{DM}}^2 + 2\gamma_{\text{esc}} m_{\text{DM}} m_N} (1 - \cos \theta_c)$$

$\theta_c$  : scattering angle  
in the CM frame.

$$\gamma_{\text{esc}} \equiv (1 - v_{\text{esc}}^2)^{-1/2}$$

Let us compare this with the **initial kinetic energy**:  $E_{\text{kin}}^\infty = m_{\text{DM}} v_\infty^2 / 2$



- ▶ **One scattering** is sufficient for WIMPs to lose the initial kinetic energy.
- ▶ Energy transfer can be as large as **O(100) MeV**.

# One scattering in NS

WIMP-nucleon scattering occurs **at least once** if

$$\text{Mean Free Path} \sim (\sigma_N n)^{-1} \sim \frac{m_N R^3}{M \sigma_N} \lesssim R \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sigma_N \gtrsim 10^{-45} \text{ cm}^2$$

$\sigma_N$  : DM-nucleon scattering cross section

If this is satisfied, then **all of the accreted WIMPs are captured.**

If not, capture rate is **suppressed** by  $\sigma_N / \sigma_{\text{th}}$ .

Captured WIMPs eventually **annihilate** inside the NS core.

For old NSs, we have

Accretion rate

=

Annihilation rate

equilibrium

# NS temperature with DM heating

At later times, the **DM heating** balances with the **cooling** by photon emission.

$$L_H = L_\gamma$$

$$L_H \simeq m_{\text{DM}} \dot{N} \simeq 2\pi G M R \rho_{\text{DM}} / v_\infty$$

Independent of DM mass.



$$2\pi G M R \rho_{\text{DM}} / v_\infty \simeq 4\pi R^2 \sigma_{\text{SB}} T_s^4$$

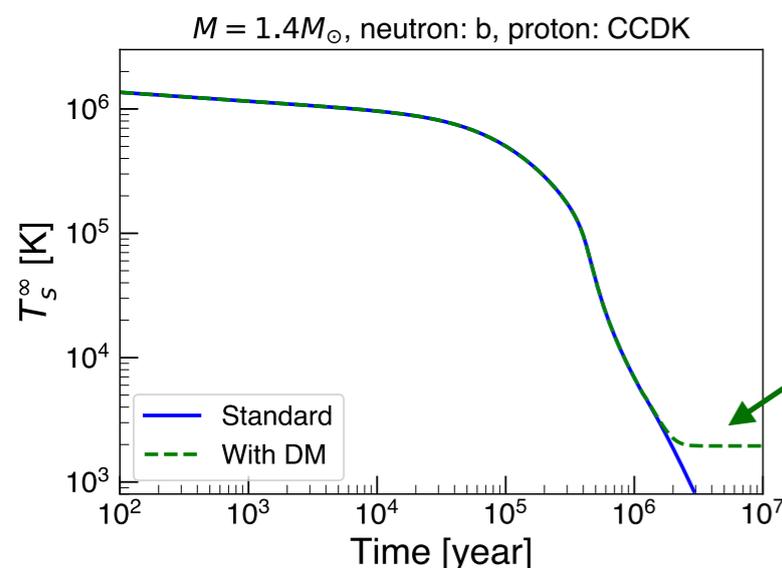
(for  $\sigma > \sigma_{\text{th}}$ )



$$T_s \simeq 2500 \text{ K}$$

Robust, smoking-gun prediction of DM heating.

Can we observe this??



# Electroweak multiplet DM

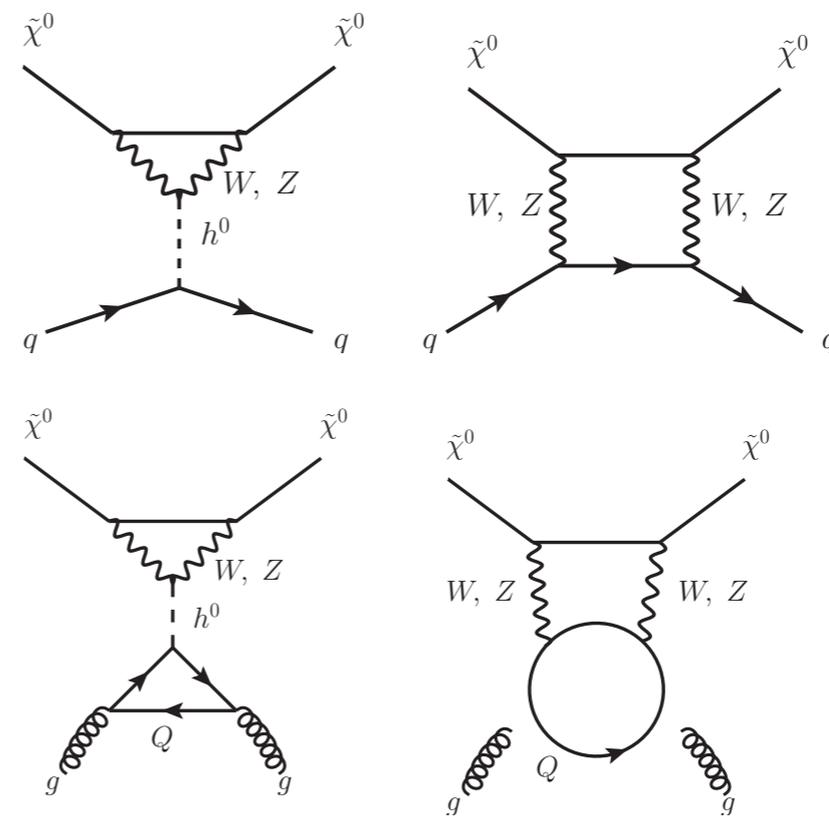
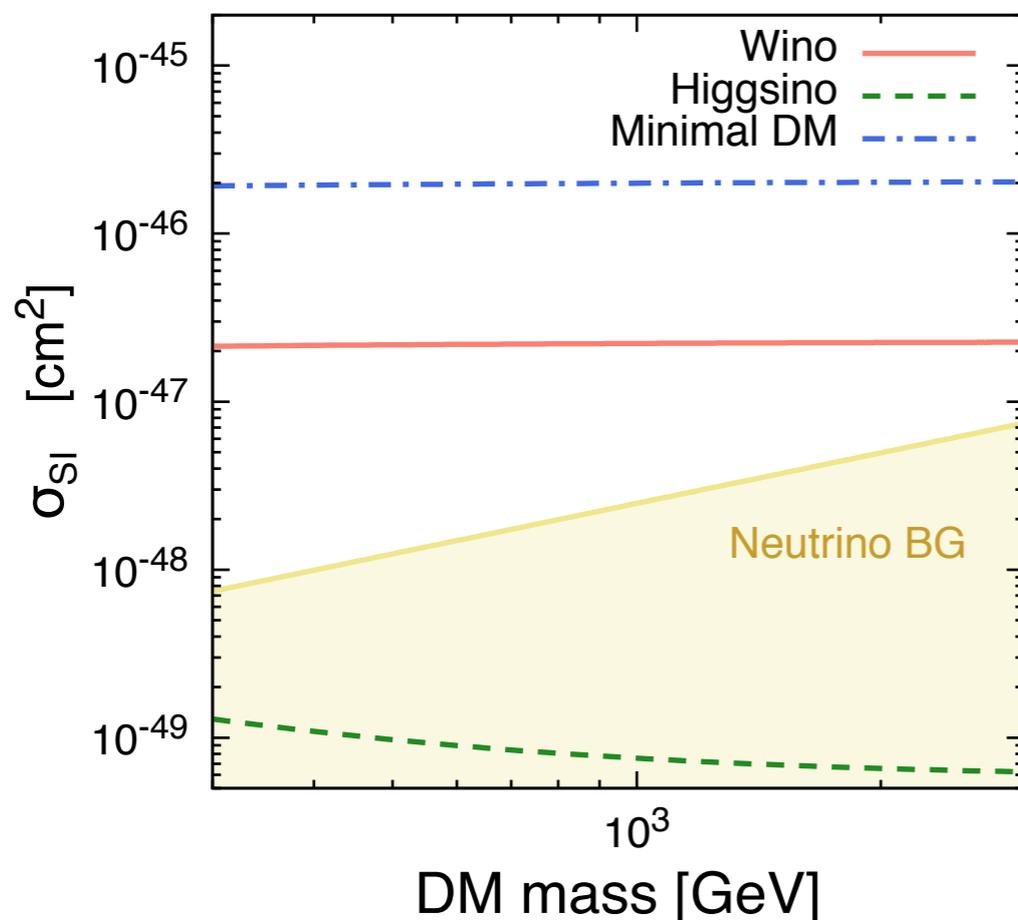
DM is **electrically neutral**. But, this does not fully determine its electroweak charges.



$$SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y : (\mathbf{1}, 0), (\mathbf{2}, \pm 1/2), (\mathbf{3}, 0), (\mathbf{3}, \pm 1), \dots$$

Electroweak multiplet DM

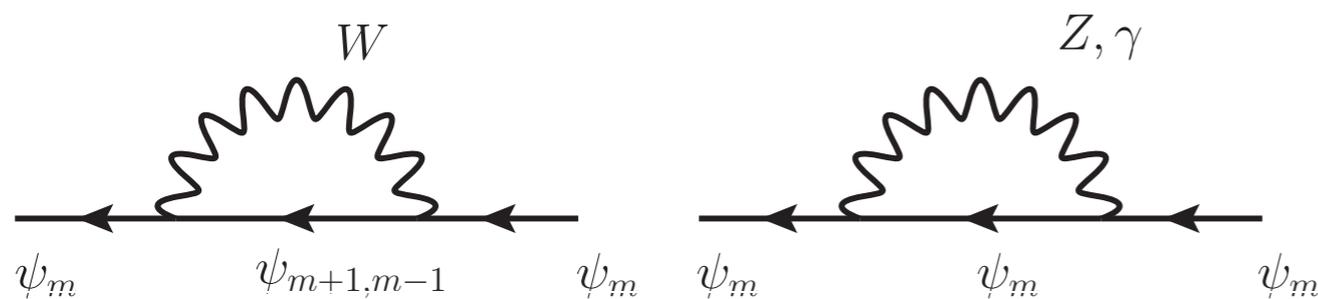
This class of DM has small DM-nucleon scattering cross section.



# Electroweak multiplet DM

Electroweak multiplet DM is accompanied by **charged particles**, which are **degenerate in mass**.

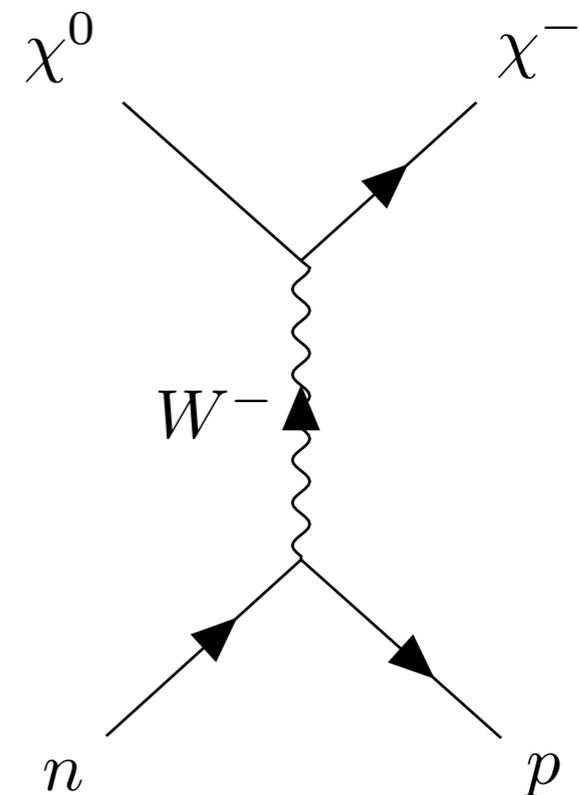
## Mass splitting



$$\Delta M \simeq \alpha_2 m_W \sin^2 \frac{\theta_W}{2} + \alpha_2 Y m_W \left( \frac{1}{\cos \theta_W} - 1 \right)$$

**O(100) MeV**

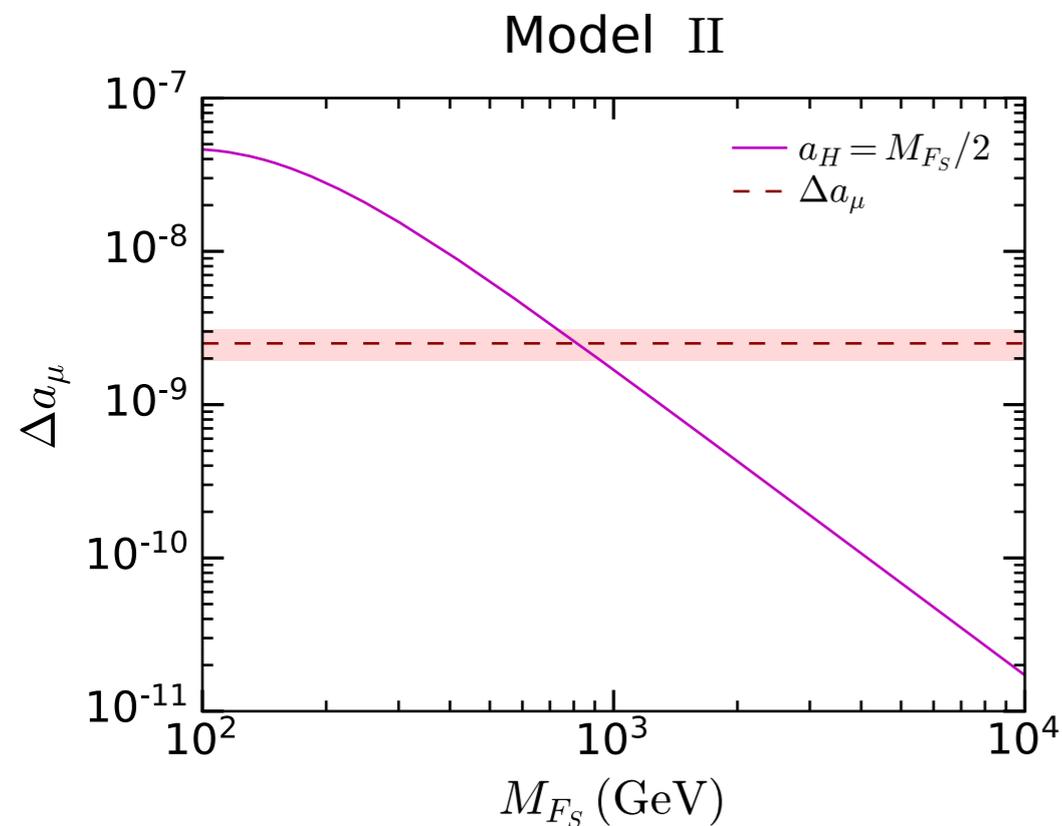
- **Inelastic scattering** can occur.
- Cross section is large enough for such a DM to be captured in NS.
- NS can be a promising probe for this class of DM candidates.



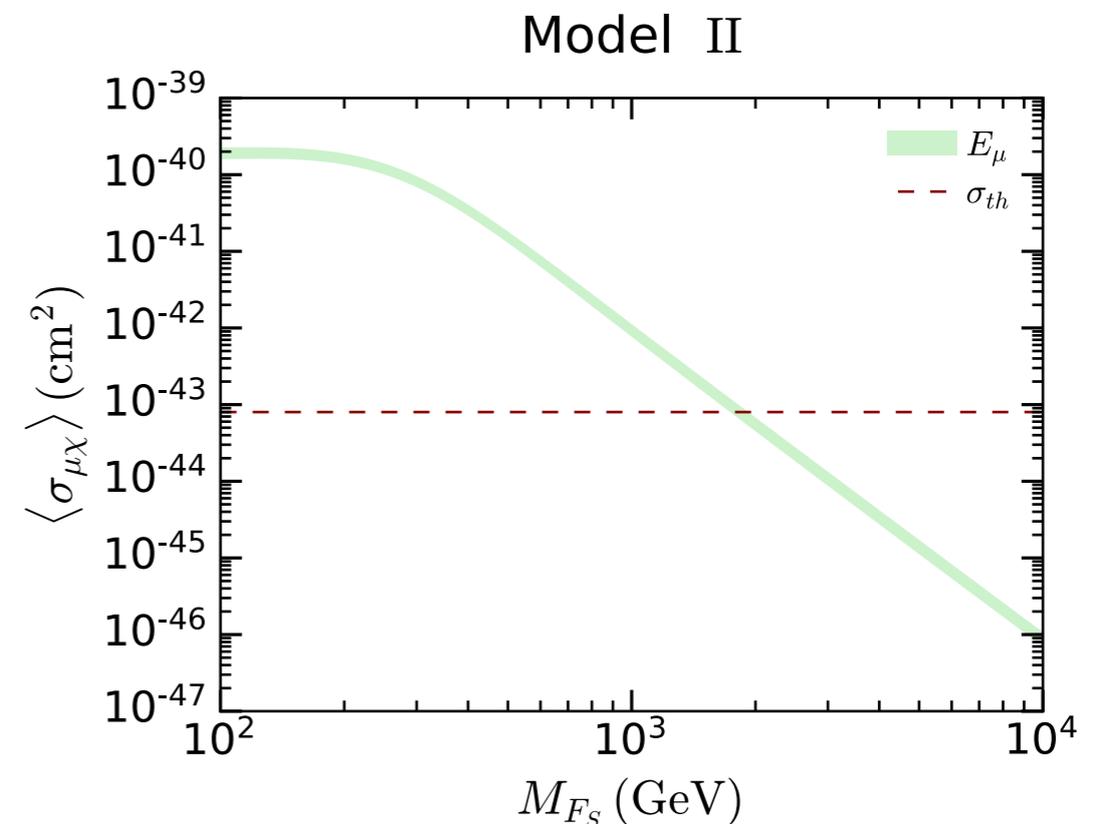
# Muon $g-2$ and DM

NS heating can occur for DM models that couple only to leptons.

## Muon $g-2$

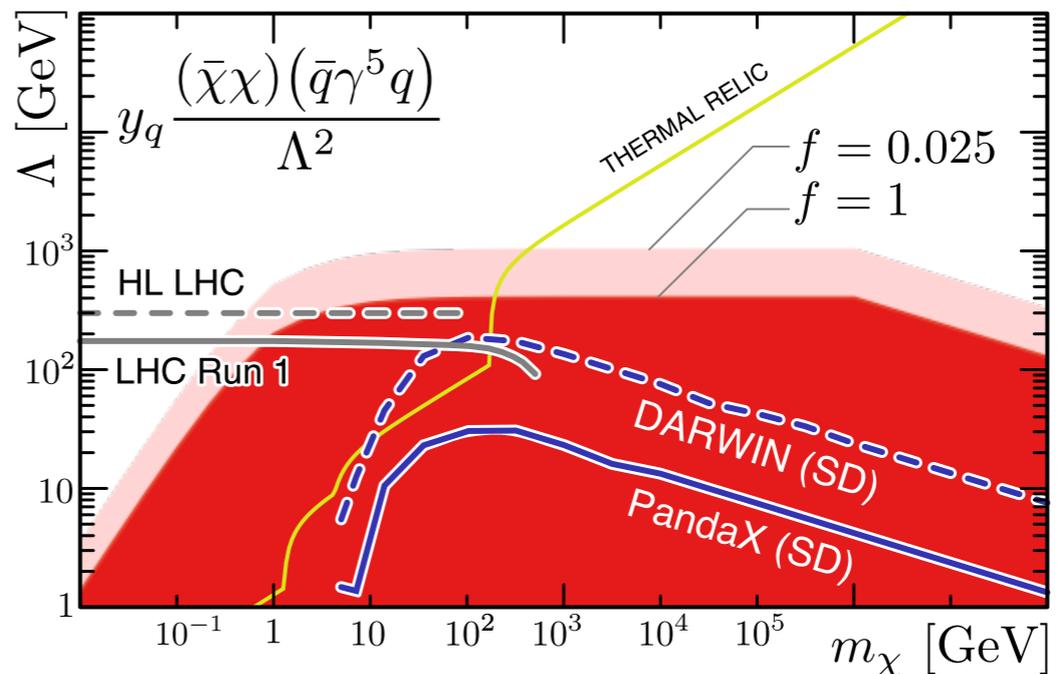
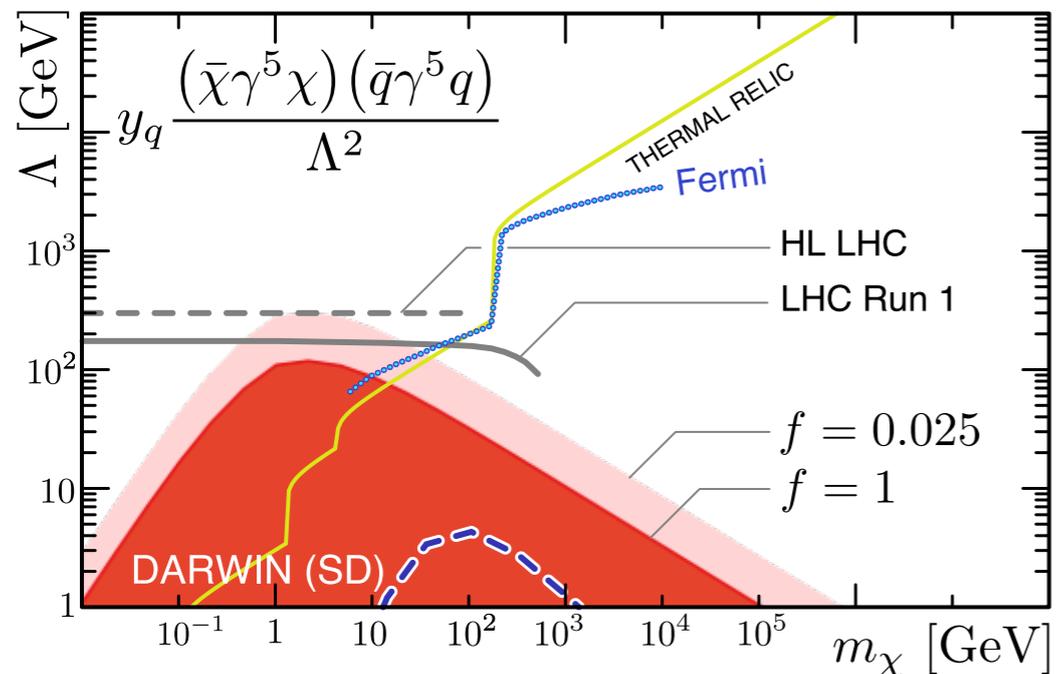
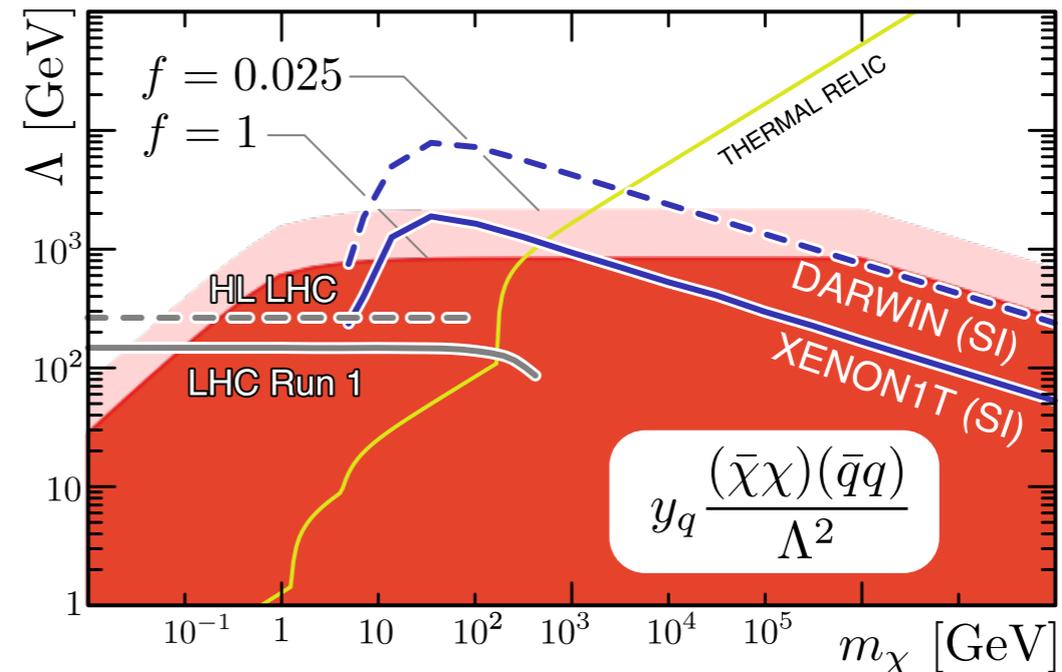
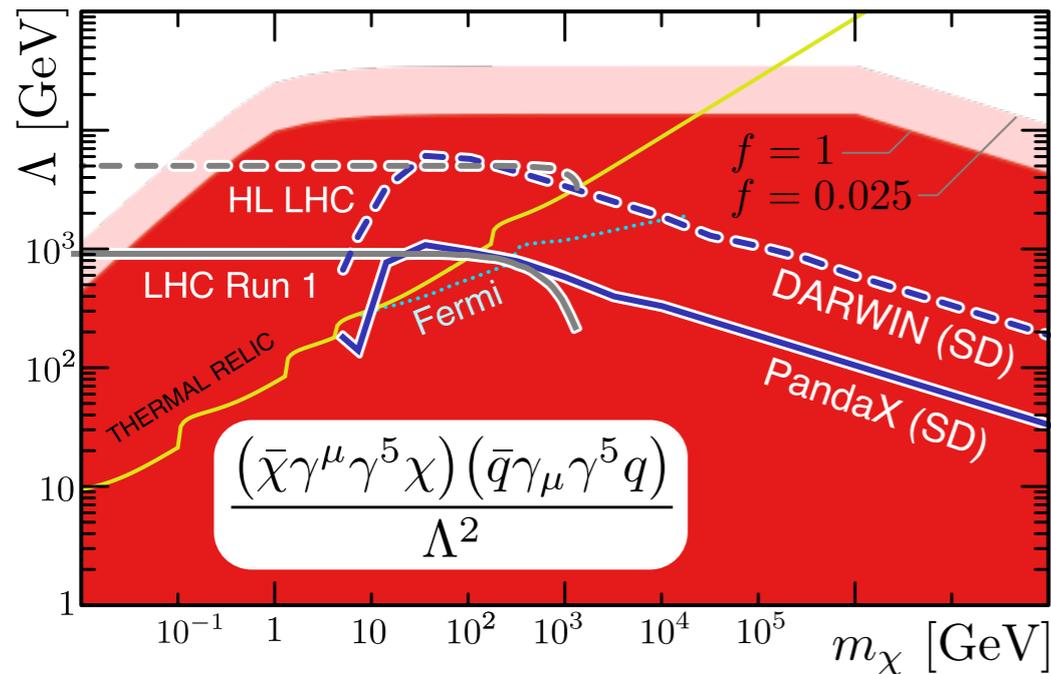


## DM-muon scattering cross section

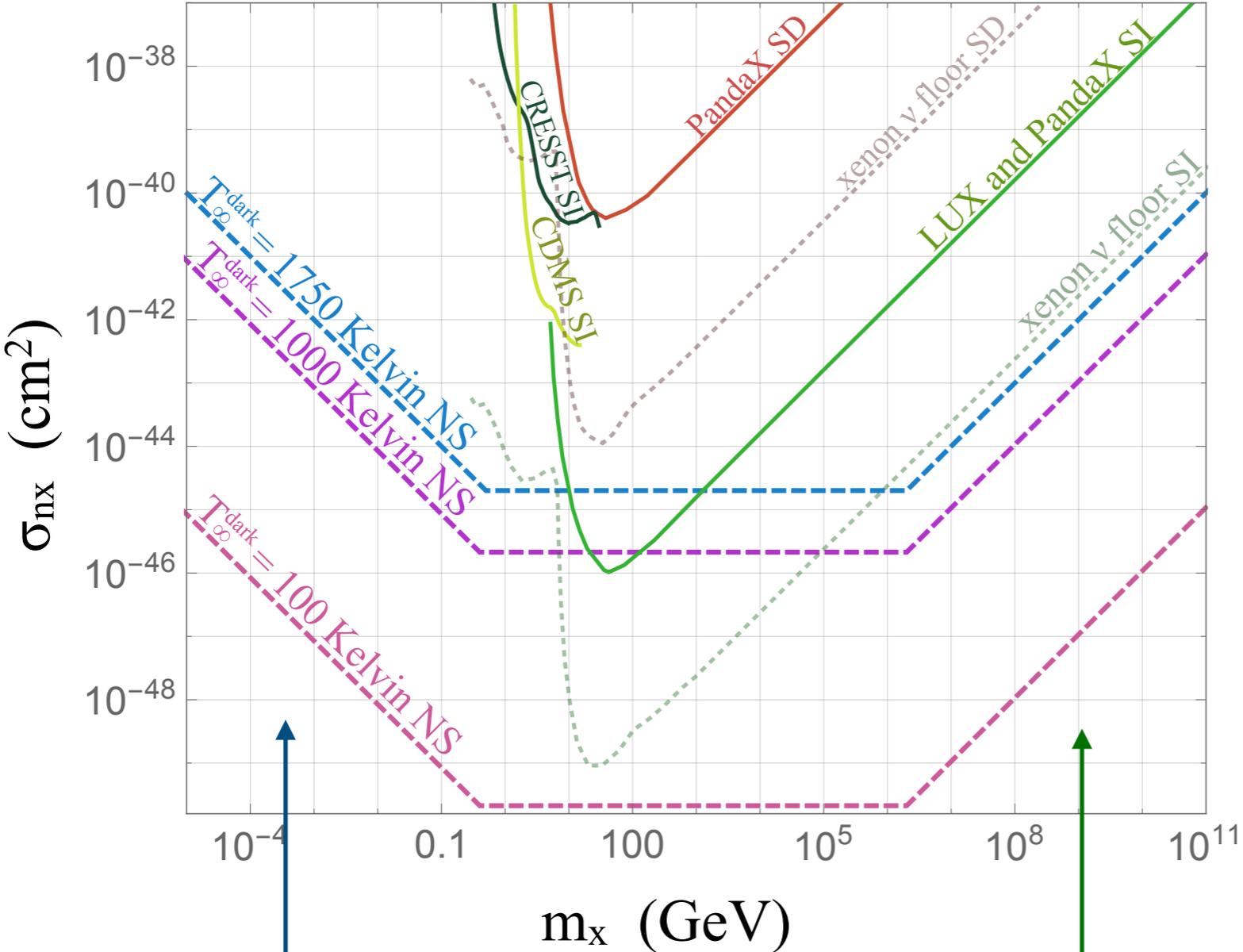


In the parameter regions where the **muon  $g-2$  anomaly** is explained, DM-muon scattering is sufficiently large.

# Effective operator analysis



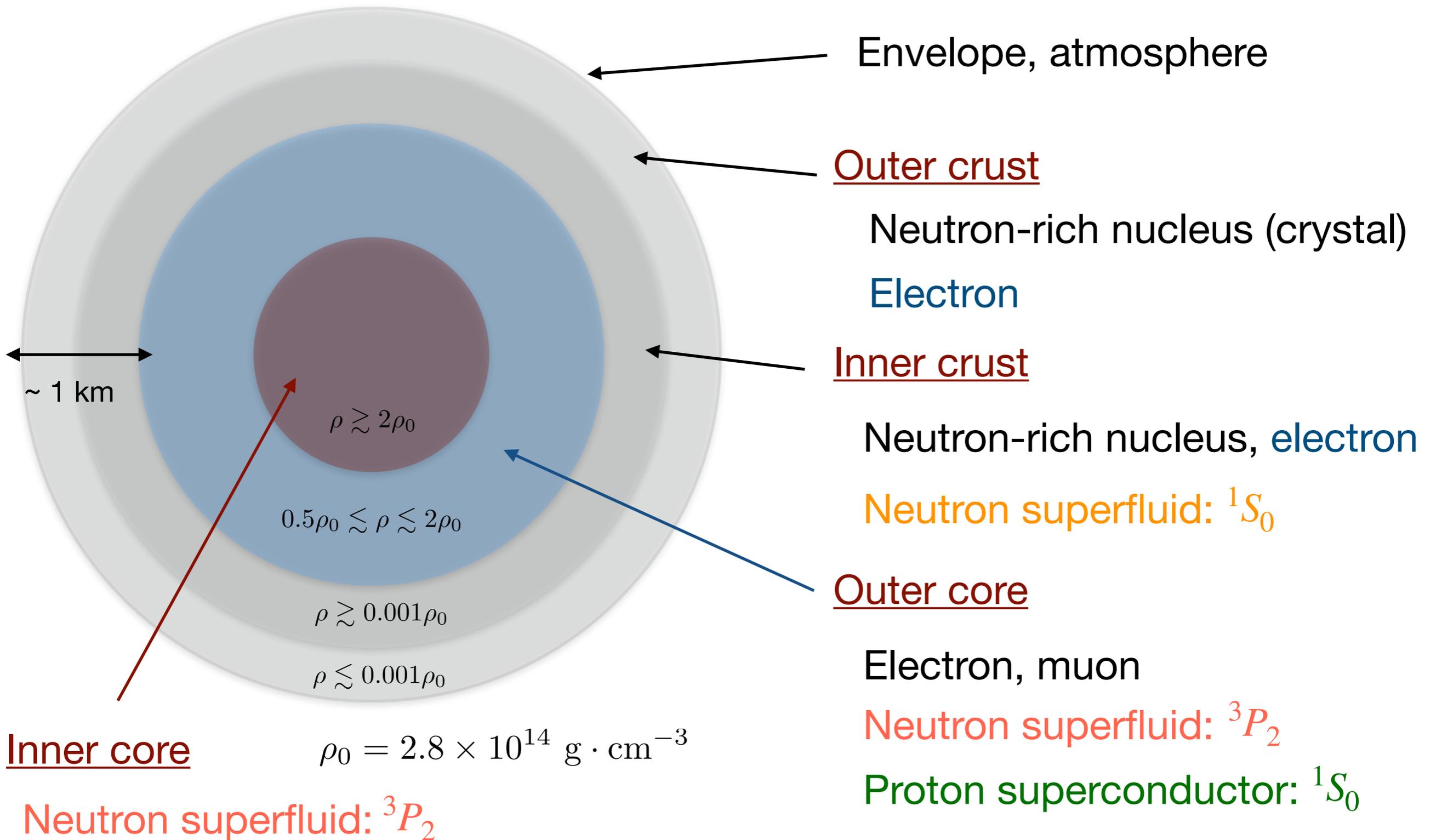
# Dark kinetic heating



Effect of Pauli blocking

Multiple scattering required

# Neutron star structure

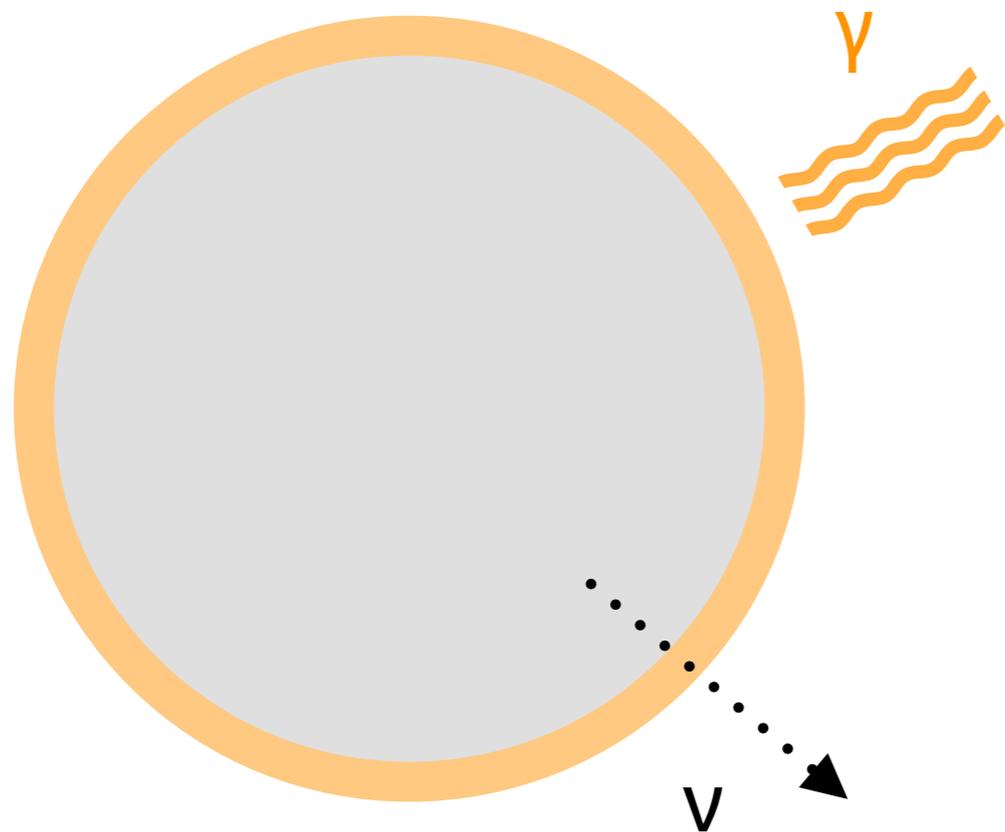


~~Hyperons,  $\pi$ /K condensation, quarks (?)~~

We do not consider them in this talk.

# Cooling sources

Two cooling sources:



Dominant for  $t \lesssim 10^5$  years

## Photon emission (from surface)

$$L_{\gamma} = 4\pi R^2 \sigma_{\text{SB}} T_s^4$$

Dominant for  $t \gtrsim 10^5$  years

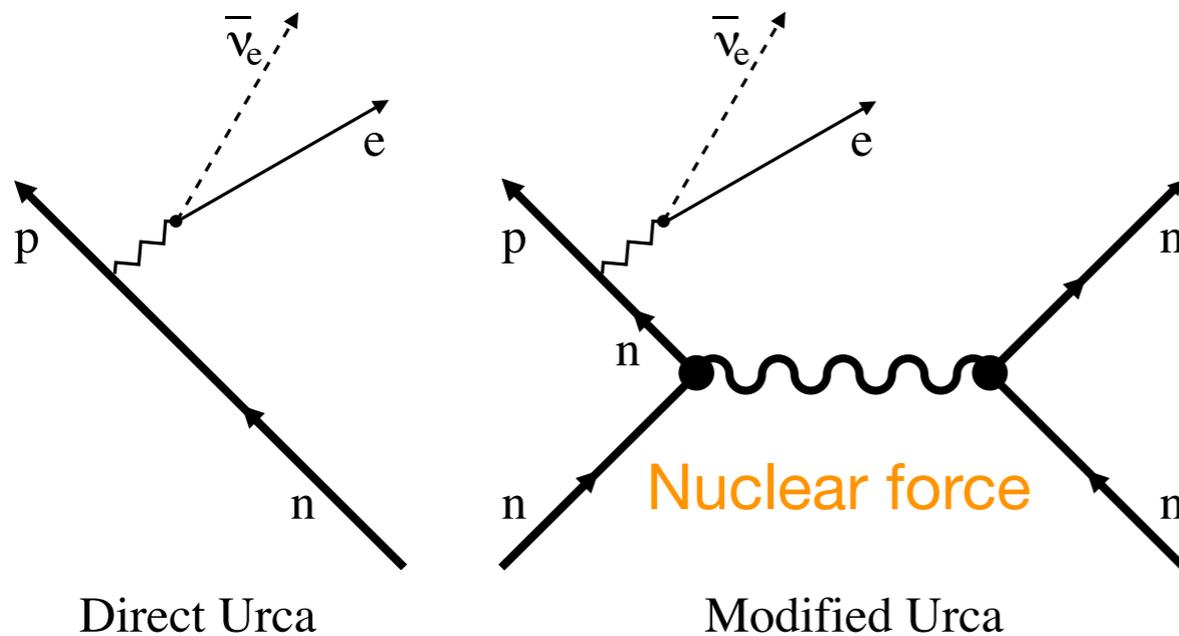
## Neutrino emission (from core)

- ▶ Direct Urca process (DURca)
- ▶ Modified Urca process (MURca)
- ▶ Bremsstrahlung
- ▶ PBF process

Occurs when nucleon pairings are formed.

# Urca processes

Urca processes keep NSs into  $\beta$  equilibrium:



Chemical equilibrium

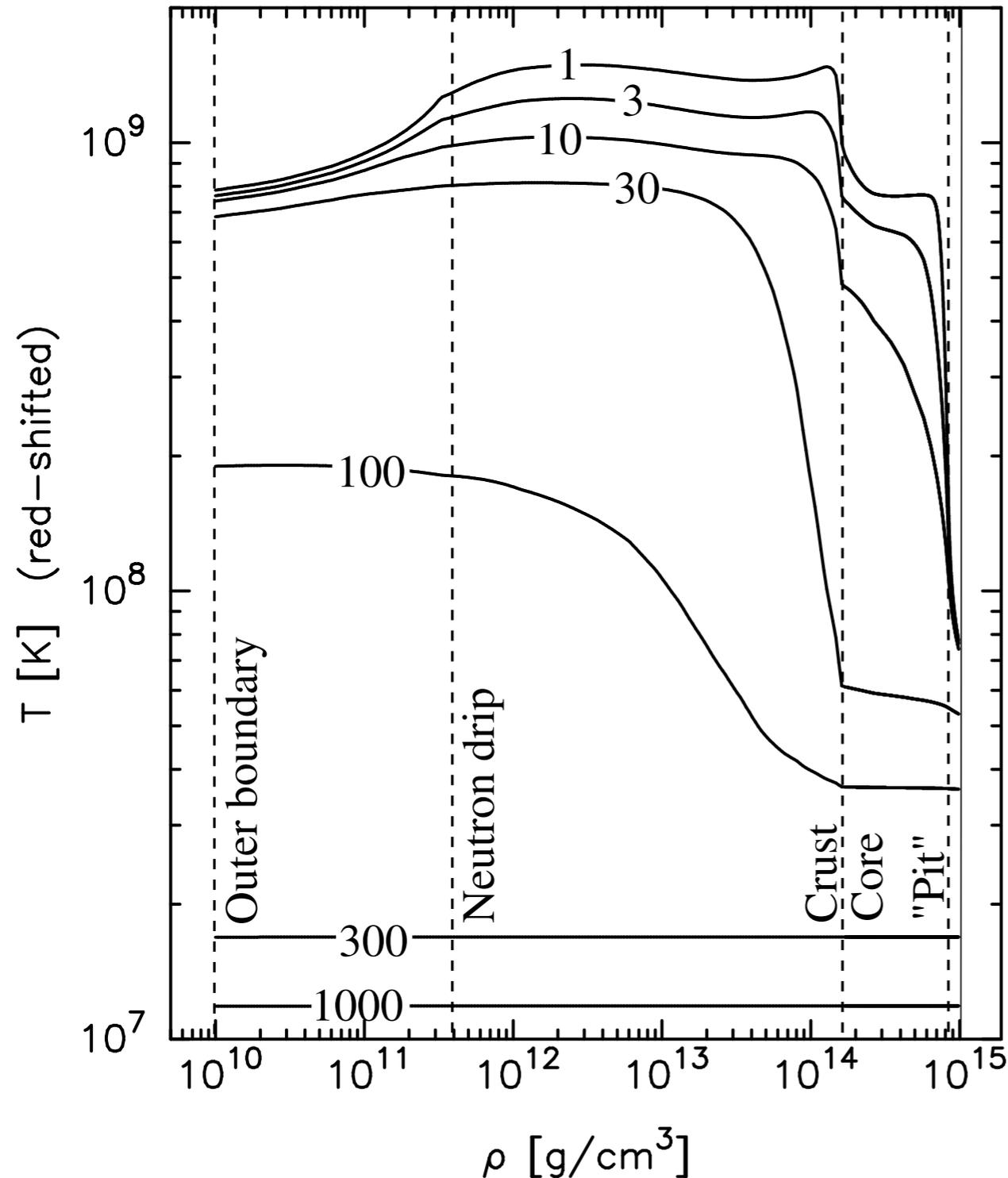
$$\mu_n = \mu_p + \mu_e$$



Rapid **Direct Urca** process can occur only in **heavy stars**.

For the APR equation of state,  $M \gtrsim 1.97M_\odot$

# Temperature distribution



Relaxation in the Core  
done in  $\sim 100$  years.

# Name: Urca

APRIL 1, 1941

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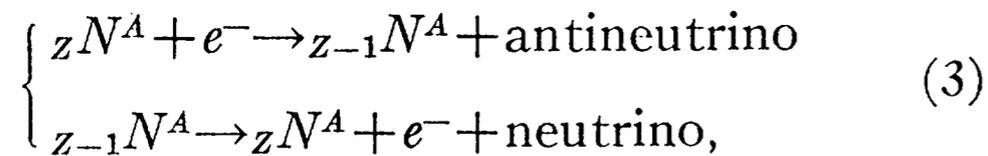
## Neutrino Theory of Stellar Collapse

G. GAMOW, *George Washington University, Washington, D. C.*

M. SCHOENBERG,\* *University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil*

(Received February 6, 1941)

of  $\beta$ -particles. In fact, when the temperature and density in the interior of a contracting star reach certain values depending on the kind of nuclei involved, we should expect processes of the type



which we shall call, for brevity, “urca-processes.”

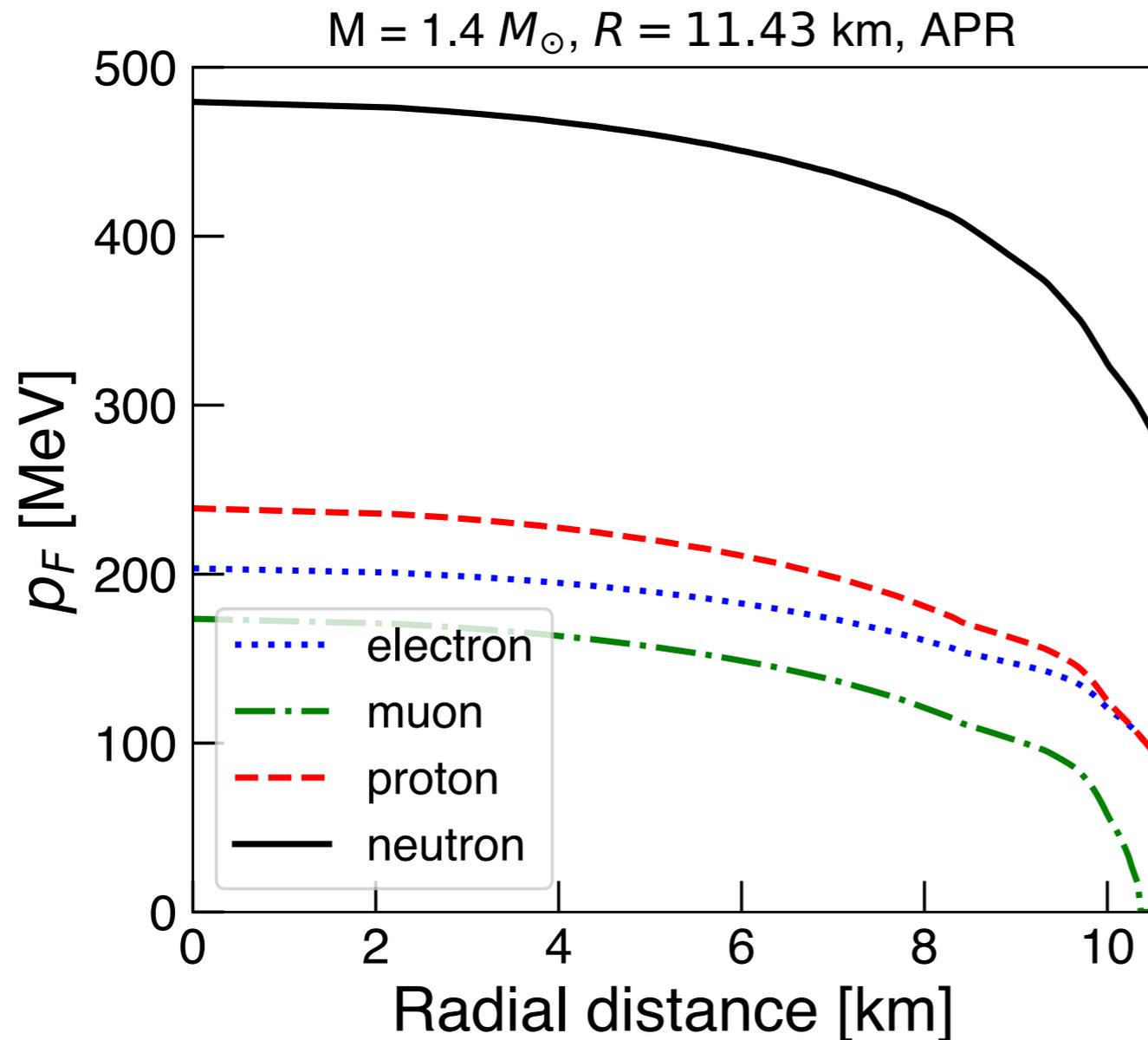
Named after a casino in  
Rio de Janeiro:

Cassino da Urca

- ▶ To commemorate the casino where they first met.
- ▶ Rapid disappearance of energy (money) of a star (gambler).
- ▶ **UnRecordable Cooling Agent.**
- ▶ “Urca” means “thief” in Russian.

# Fermi momenta

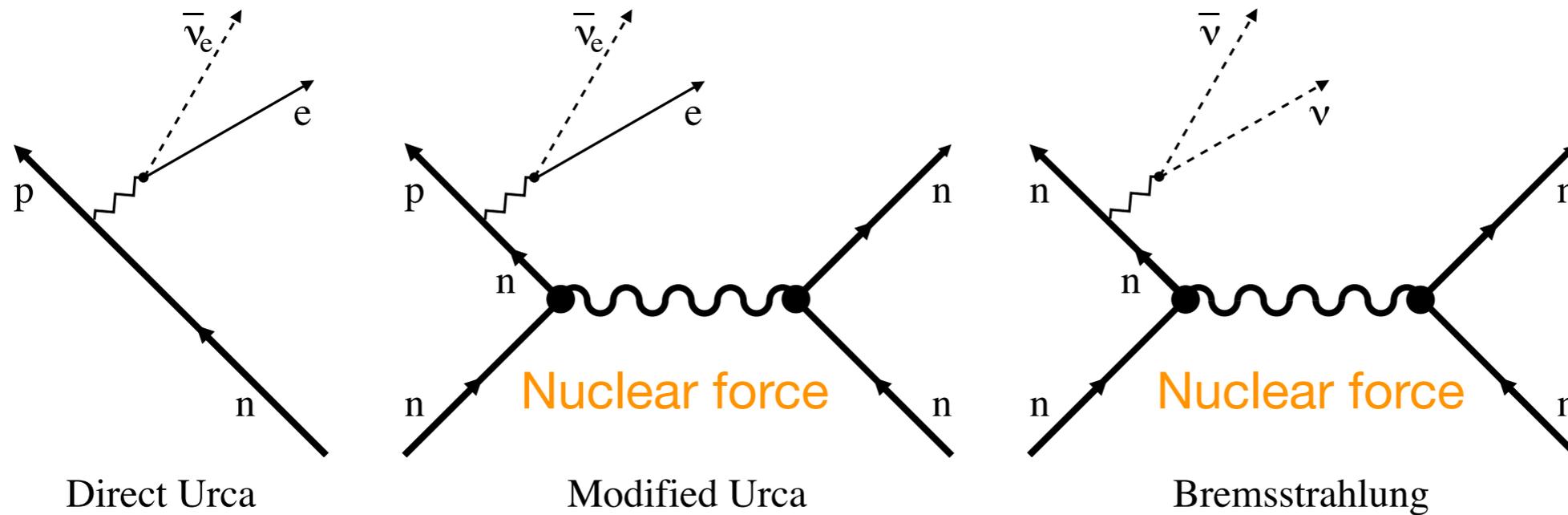
## Fermi momenta in neutron star



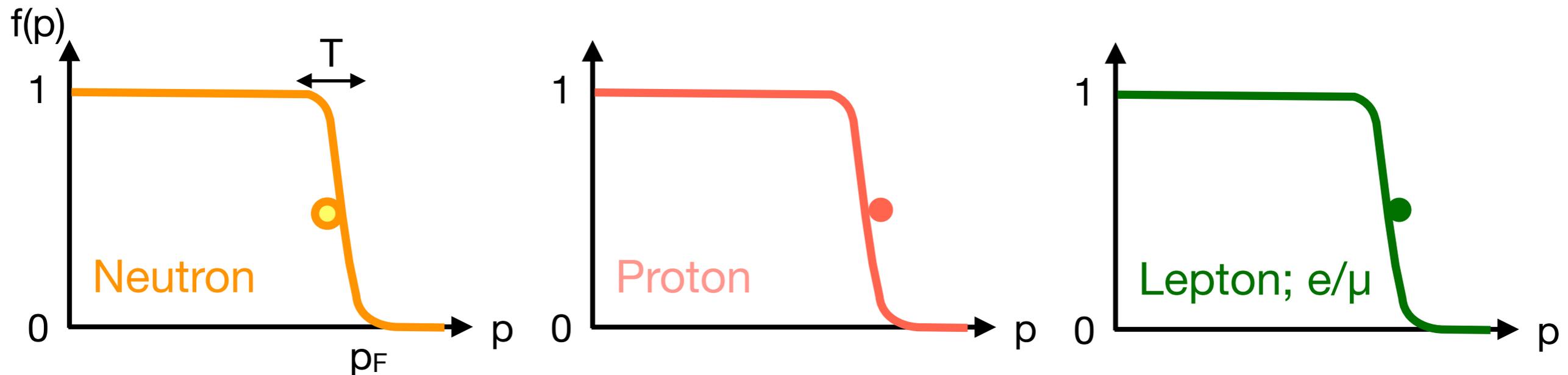
- Fermi momentum of neutron is large: 300–500 MeV
- **Muons** also appear in the region where  $\mu_e > m_{\mu}$ .

# Neutrino emission

First we consider the processes that occur without superfluidity.



These processes occur only near the **Fermi surface**.



# $\beta$ equilibrium

Inside neutron stars,  $\beta$  equilibrium is achieved via the direct/modified Urca reactions

## Chemical equilibrium

$$\mu_e + \mu_p = \mu_n$$

Chemical potential of neutrino is zero since it can escape from neutron star.

## Charge neutrality

$$n_p = n_e$$

Muons also appear in the region where  $\mu_e > m_\mu$ .

## Chemical equilibrium

$$\mu_e = \mu_\mu \quad (\mu_\mu + \mu_p = \mu_n)$$

## Charge neutrality

$$n_p = n_e + n_\mu$$

# Direct Urca

Emissivity  $\equiv$  energy loss per volume per time.

of the direct Urca process is given by

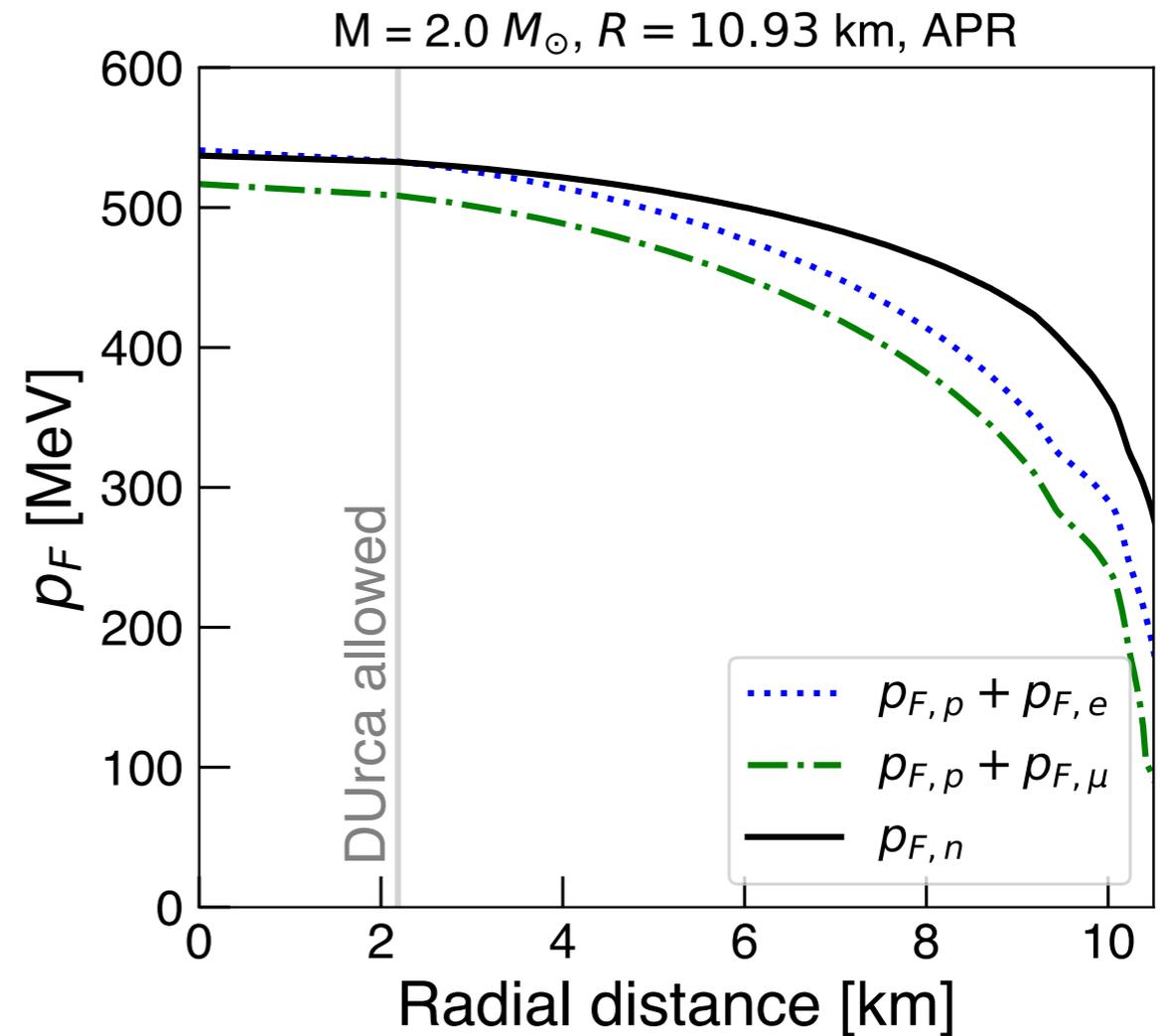
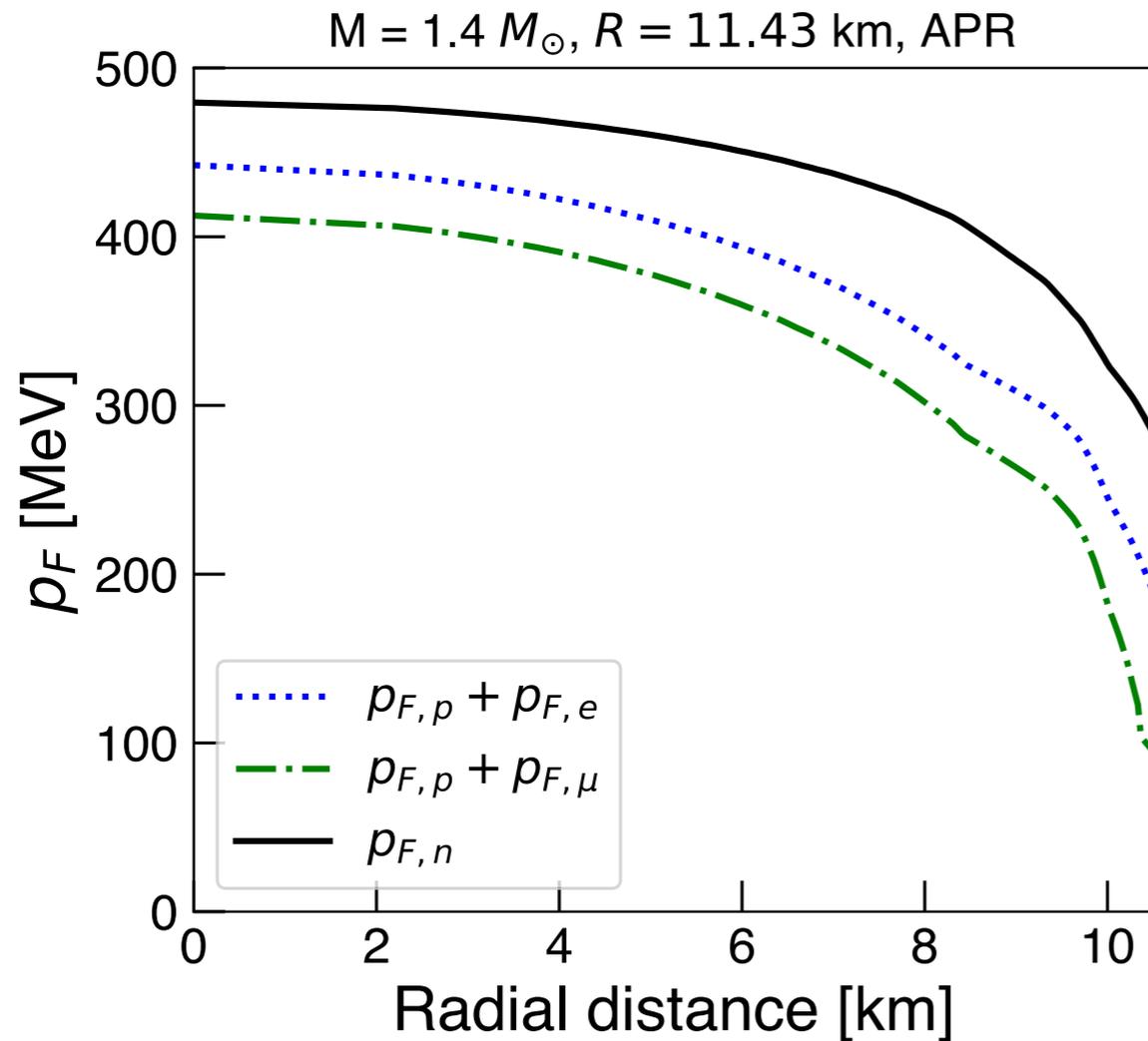
$$Q_D = \frac{457\pi}{10080} G_F^2 V_{ud}^2 (1 + 3g_A^2) m_{*,n} m_{*,p} m_{*,e} T^6 \Theta(p_{F,p} + p_{F,e} - p_{F,n})$$
$$\simeq 4 \times 10^{27} \times \left( \frac{T}{10^9 \text{ K}} \right)^6 \Theta(p_{F,p} + p_{F,e} - p_{F,n}) \text{ erg} \cdot \text{cm}^{-3} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$$

- The step function comes from the **momentum conservation**.

$$p_{F,p} + p_{F,e} > p_{F,n}$$

- Direct Urca is the dominant process, **if it occurs**.

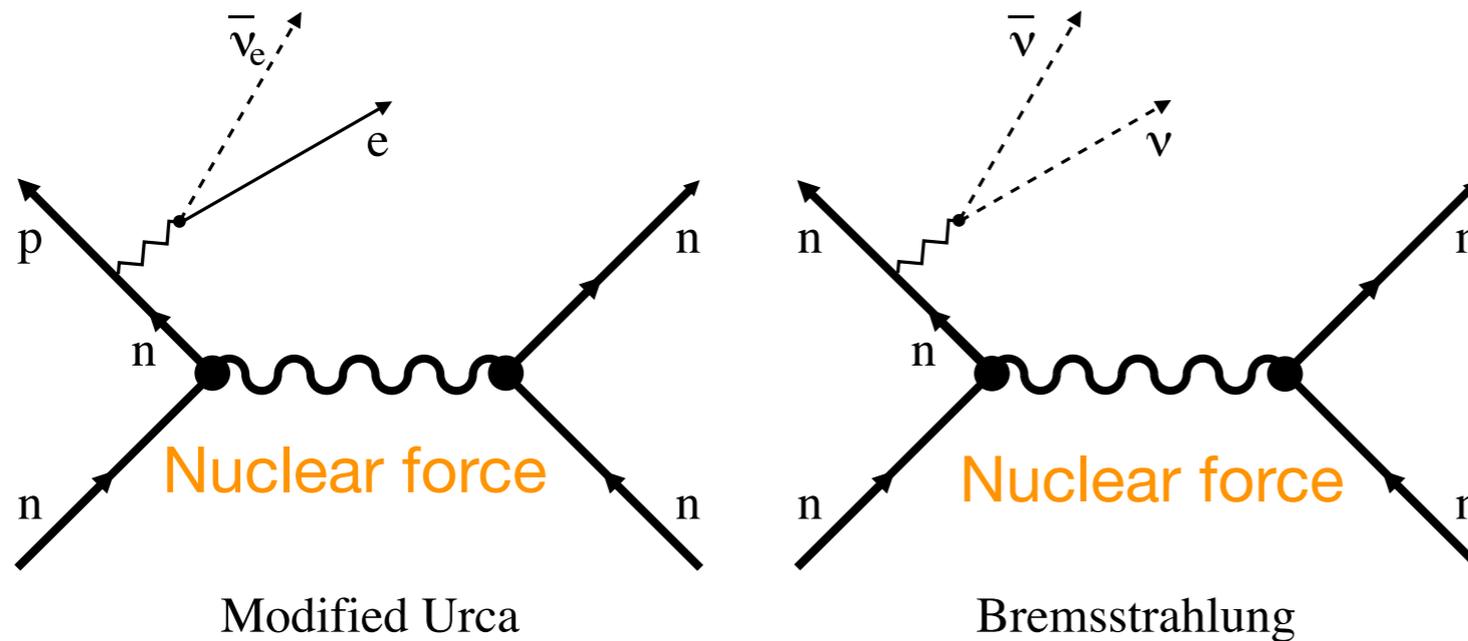
# Direct Urca condition



- Direct Urca can occur only in the **high density region**.
- It can occur only in relatively heavy stars.

For the APR equation of state,  $M \gtrsim 1.97 M_{\odot}$

# Modified Urca/bremsstrahlung



If Direct Urca does not operate, **Modified Urca/bremsstrahlung processes** become dominant.

**Momentum exchange with a spectator** allows these processes to satisfy the momentum conservation.

# Effects of nucleon pairings

Nucleons in a NS form **Cooper pairings**.

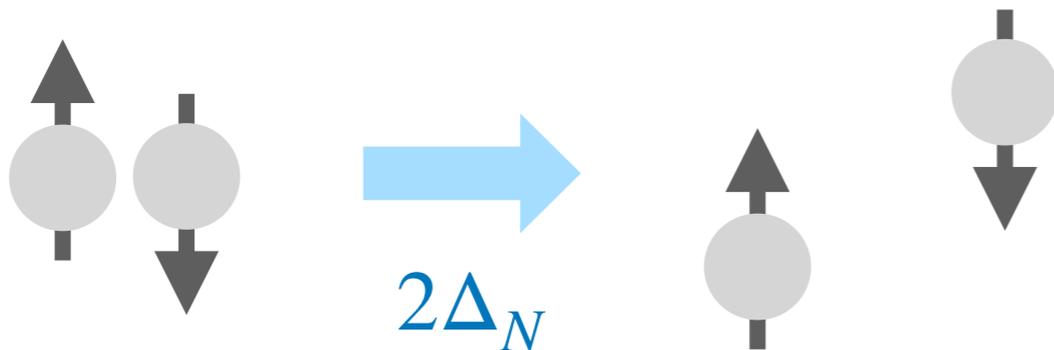
## Energy spectrum

$$\epsilon_N(\mathbf{p}) \simeq \sqrt{\Delta_N^2 + v_{F,N}^2 (\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}_{F,N})^2}$$

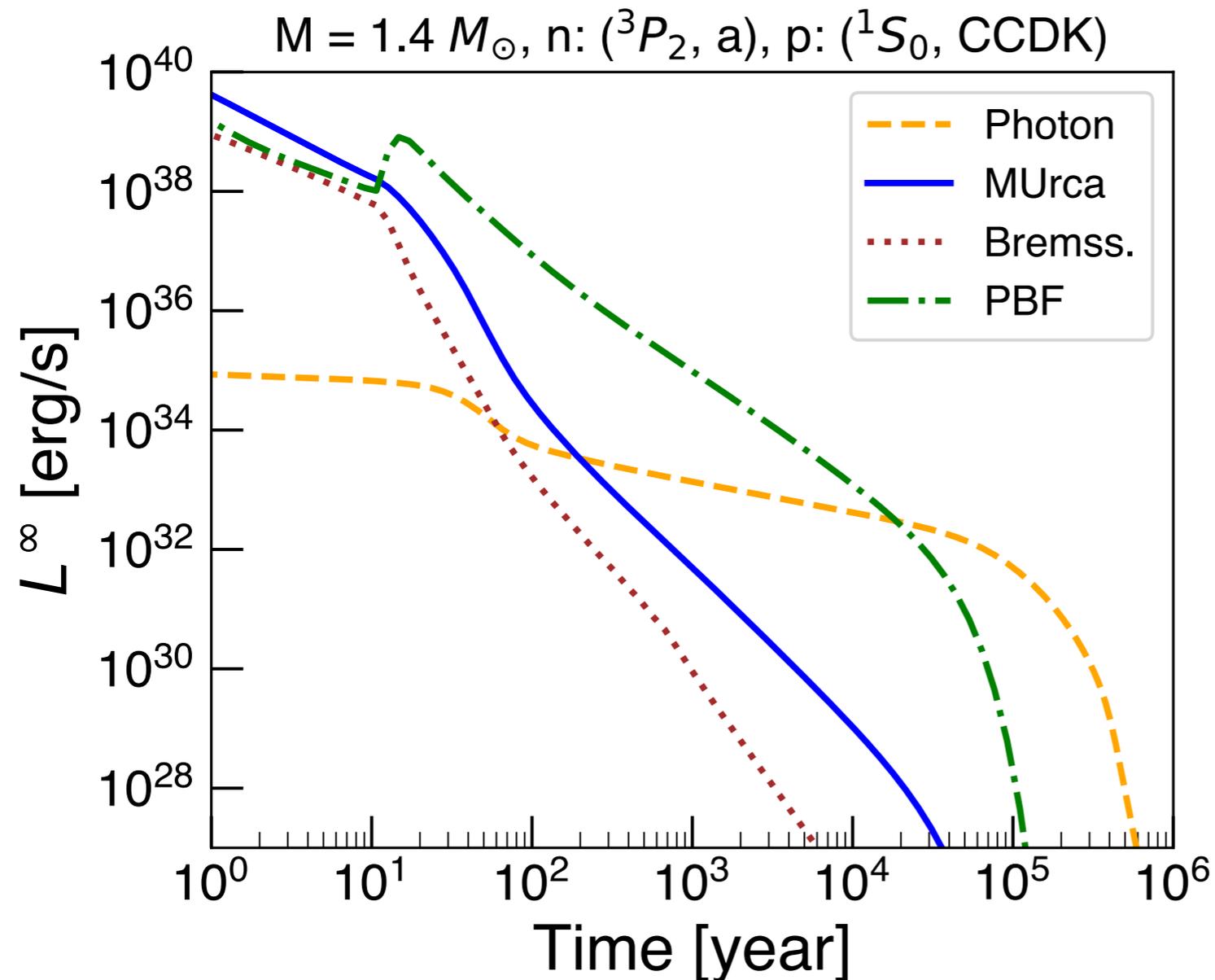
$\Delta_N$ : pairing gap

This pairing energy gap strongly **suppresses the neutrino emission** at low temperatures.

$$\propto e^{-\frac{\Delta_N}{T}}$$



# Luminosity



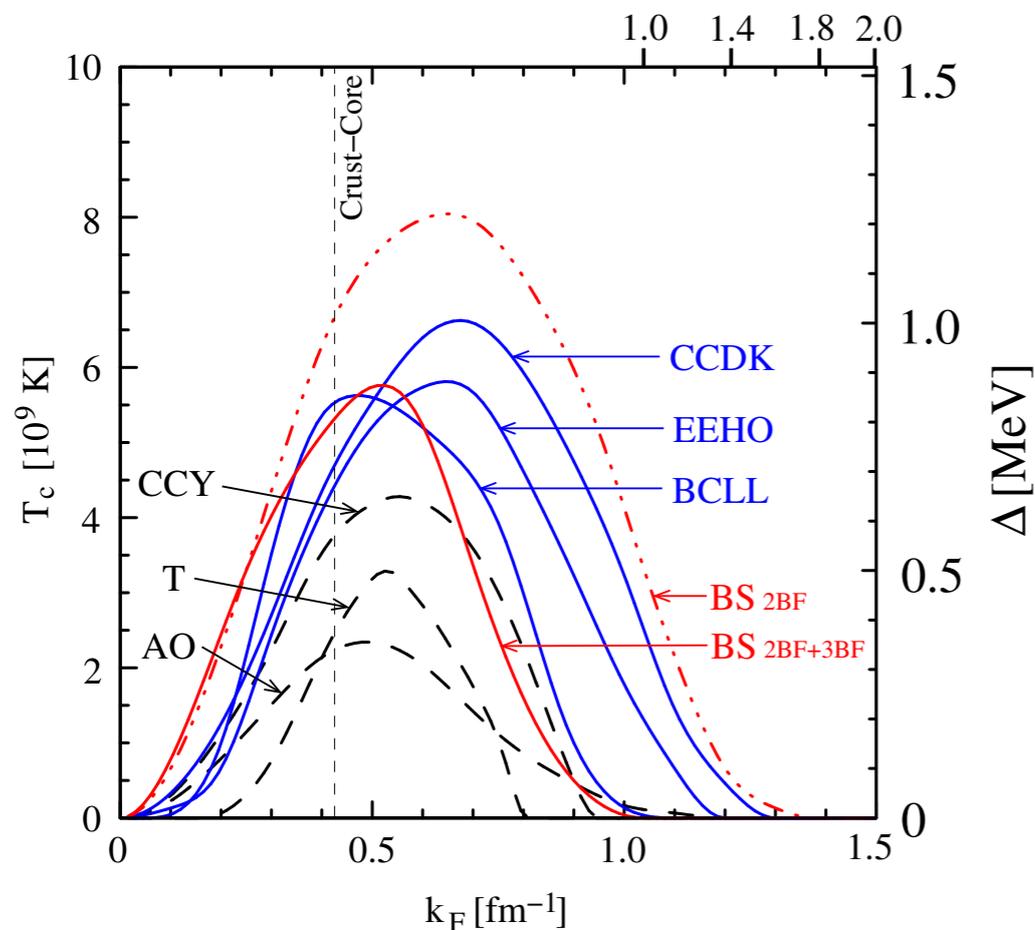
- Photon emission becomes dominant after  $\sim 10^5$  years.
- Urca process is extremely suppressed at later times.

# Nucleon pairing

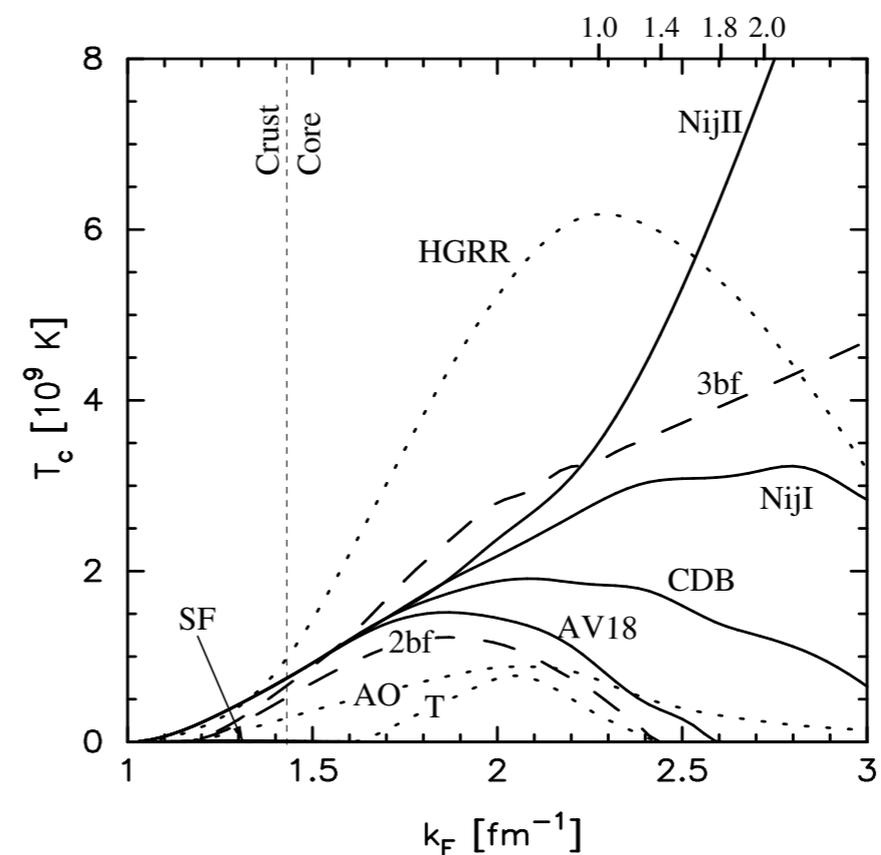
Nucleons in a NS form pairings below their critical temperatures:

- ▶ Neutron singlet  $^1S_0$  ← Only in the crust. Less important.
- ▶ Proton singlet  $^1S_0$  } ← Form in the core. Important.
- ▶ Neutron triplet  $^3P_2$  }

## Proton singlet pairing gap



## Neutron triplet pairing gap



# Effects of nucleon pairings

Nucleons in a NS form **Cooper pairings**.

## Energy spectrum

$$\epsilon_N(\mathbf{p}) \simeq \sqrt{\Delta_N^2 + v_{F,N}^2 (p - p_{F,N})^2}$$

$\Delta_N$ : pairing gap

The **pairing gap** introduces a suppression factor to

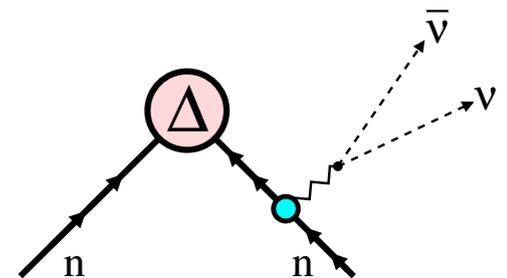
▶ **Neutrino emission processes**

▶ **Heat capacity**

$$\propto e^{-\frac{\Delta_N}{T}}$$

In addition, a new neutrino emission process is turned on:

▶ **Pair-breaking and formation (PBF) process**



# PBF process

Thermal disturbance induces the **breaking** of nucleon pairs.

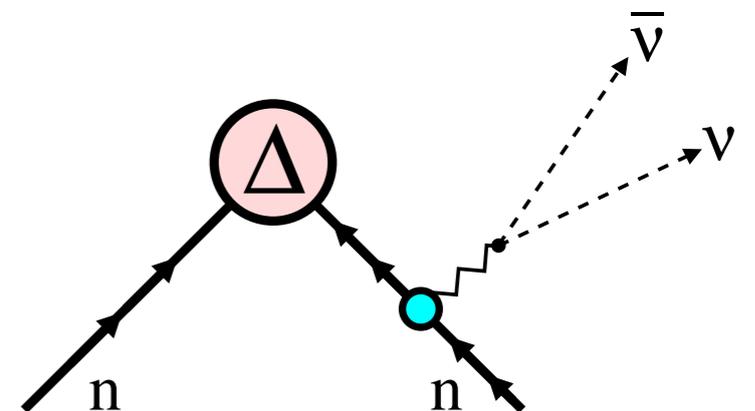


During the **reformation** of cooper pairs, the **gap energy** is released via **neutrino emission**.

This process significantly **enhances** the neutrino emission only when

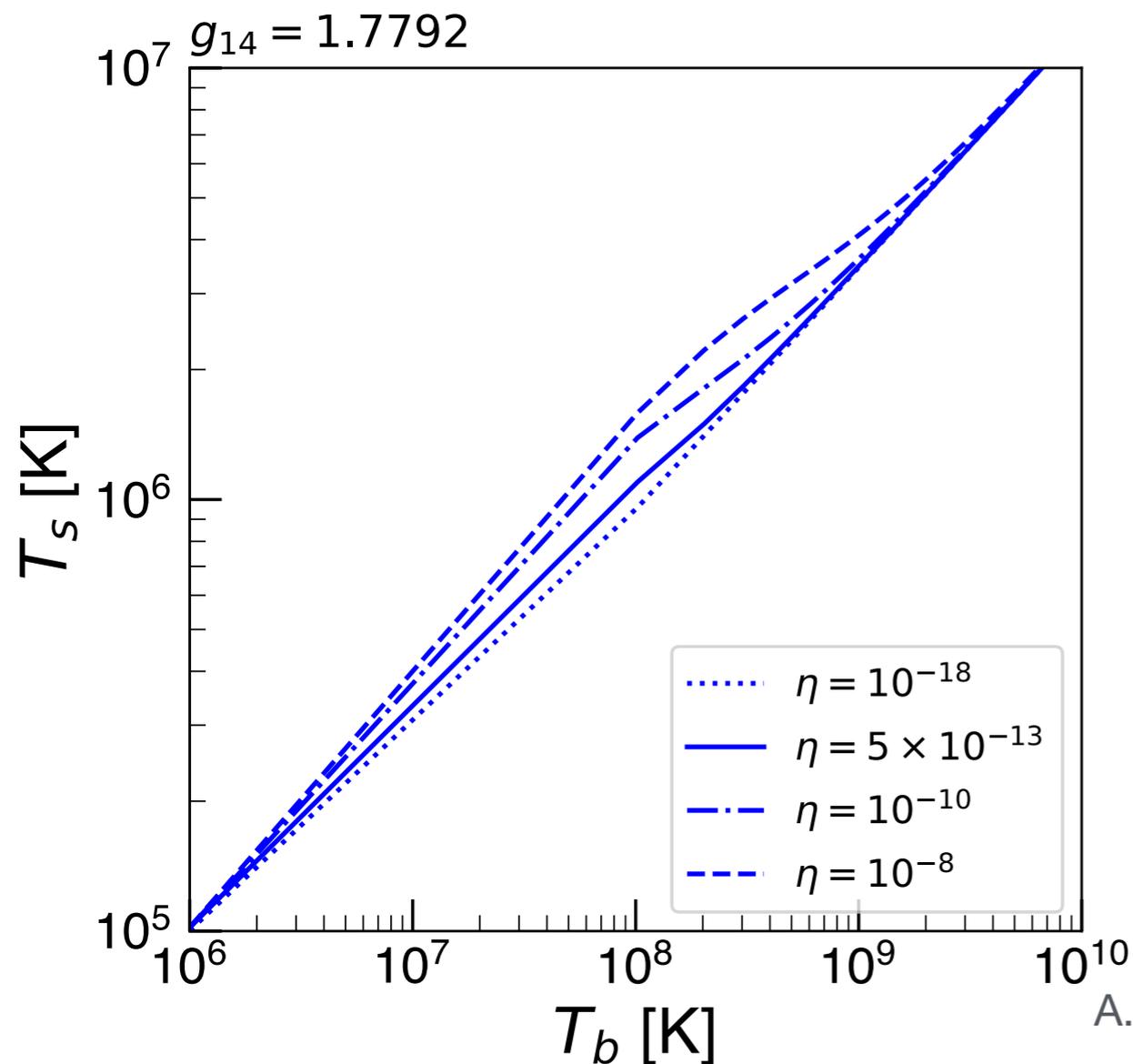
$$T \lesssim T_C$$

- If  $T > T_C$ , this process does not occur.
- If  $T \ll T_C$ , pair breaking rarely occurs.



# Surface temperature

It is the **surface temperature** that we observe, so we need to relate it to the **internal temperature**.



This relation depends on the amount of **light elements** in the envelope.

$$\eta \equiv g_{14}^2 \Delta M / M$$

$g_{14}$ : surface gravity in units of  $10^{14} \text{ cm s}^{-2}$ .  
 $\Delta M$ : mass of light elements.

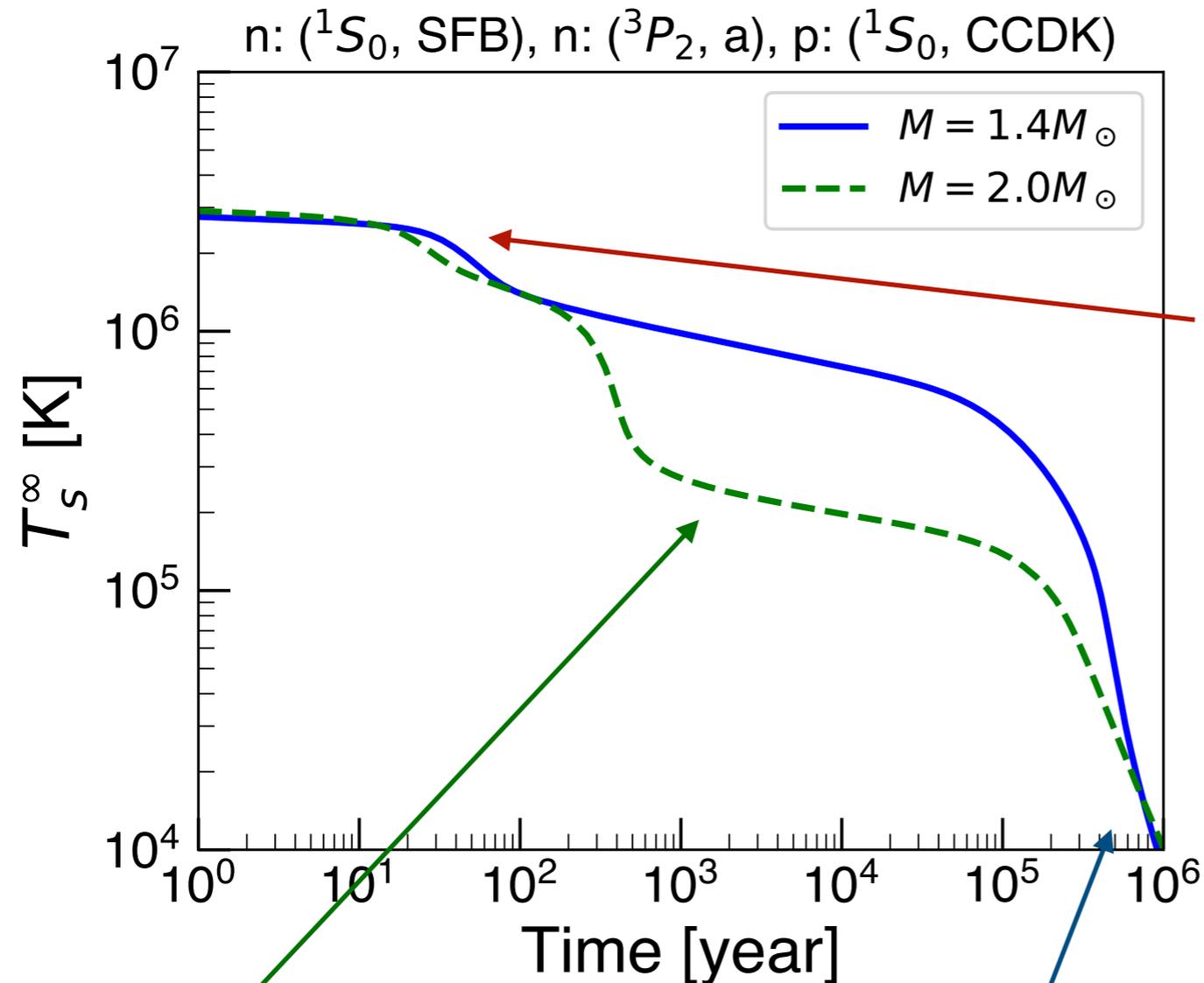
A. Y. Potekhin, G. Chabrier, and D. G. Yakovlev, A&A **323**, 415 (1997).

As the amount of light elements gets increased, the surface temperature becomes larger.

Light elements have large thermal conductivities.

# Temperature evolution

We can now solve the equation for temperature evolution:



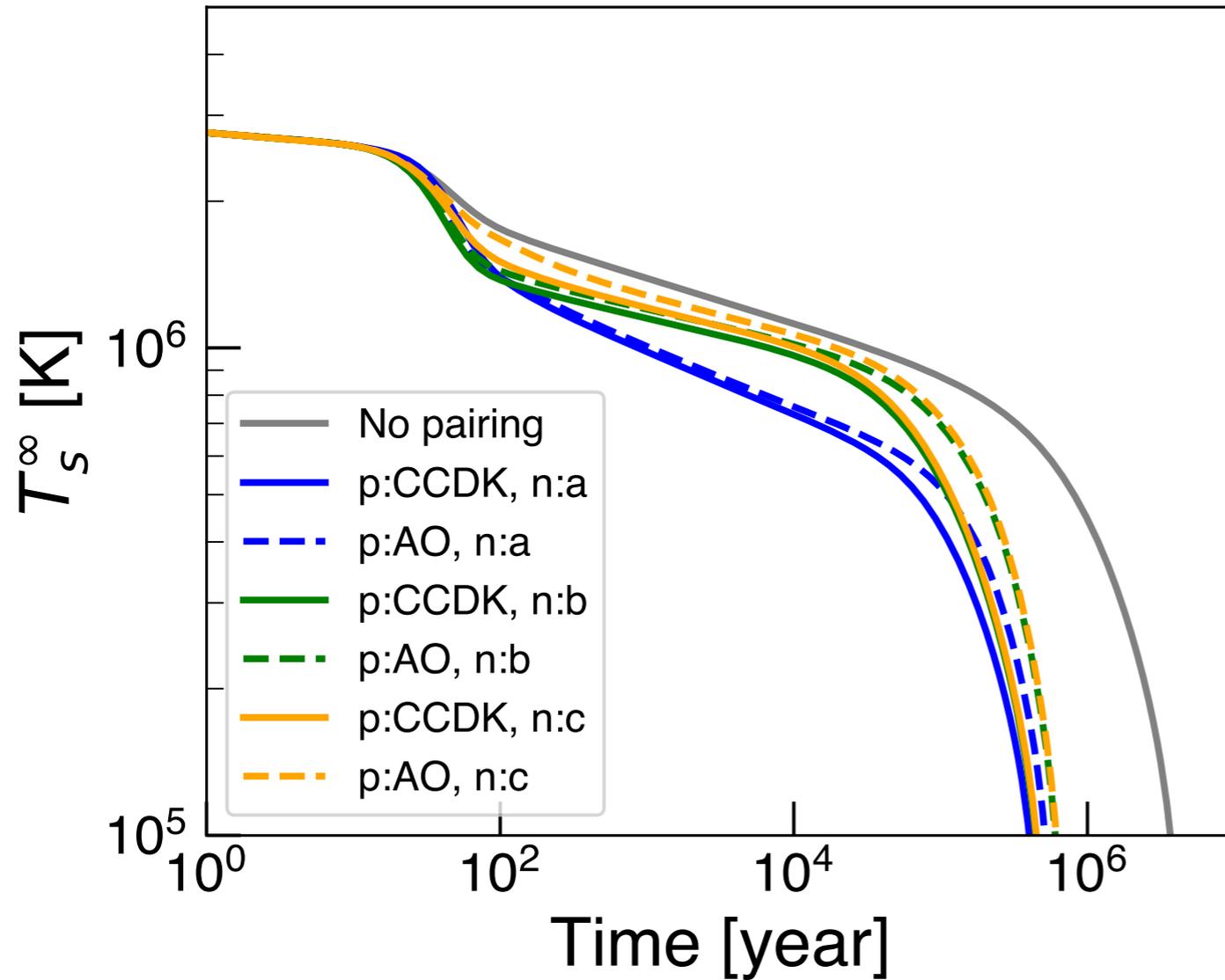
Before the thermal relaxation completed, the surface temperature does not follow the internal temperature.

If **Direct Urca occurs**, the neutron star cools down rapidly.

Temperature of NSs (older than  **$10^6$  years**) is very low.

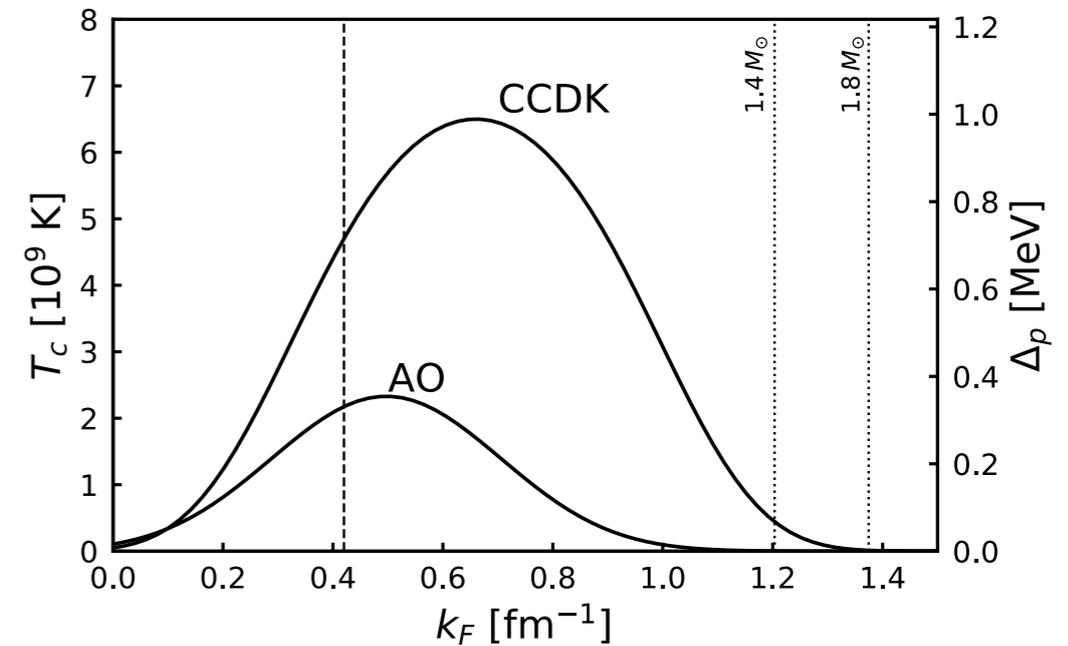
# Temperature evolution (gap dependence)

$M = 1.4M_{\odot}$

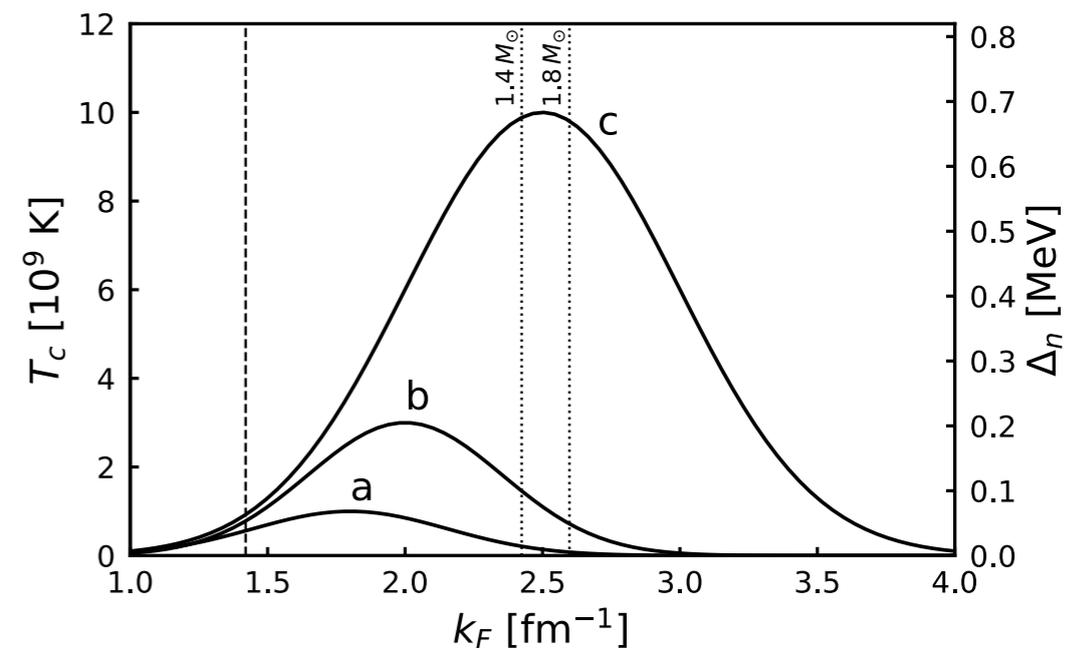


Uncertainty in nucleon gap models lead to the theoretical errors in the cooling calculation.

## Proton singlet gap



## Neutron triplet gap



# Challenge for standard cooling

On the other hand, there is an example of **old cool neutron star**.

▶ J2144-3933:  $t_{\text{sd}} = 3.33 \times 10^8$  years,  $T_s^\infty < 4.2 \times 10^4$  K

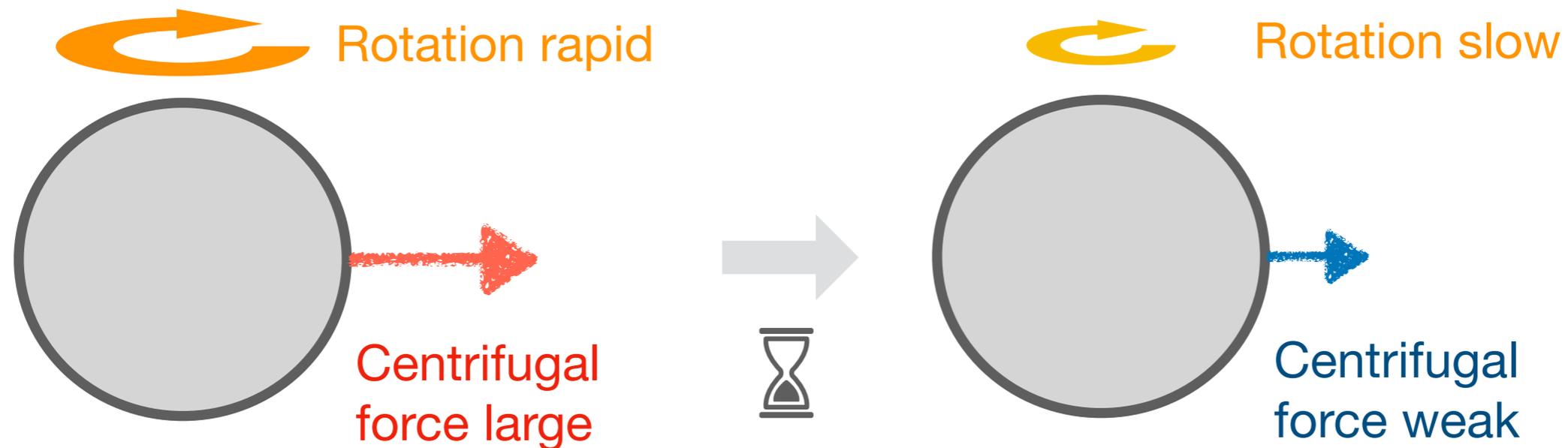
S. Guillot, *et al.*, *Astrophys. J.* **874**, 175 (2019).

Is there any theory that can explain these observations on the equal footing??

# Loop hole in standard cooling

In the standard cooling,  $\beta$  equilibrium is assumed.

In a real pulsar



Local pressure changes. Chemical equilibrium condition changes.

At low temperatures, the rate of Urca process is highly suppressed.

➔ Deviation from  $\beta$  equilibrium

# Out of $\beta$ equilibrium

Deviation from  $\beta$  equilibrium is quantified by

$$\eta_\ell \equiv \mu_n - \mu_p - \mu_\ell \quad (\ell = e, \mu)$$

## At early times

Urca processes are rapid.

➔ NS can follow the change in the equilibrium condition.

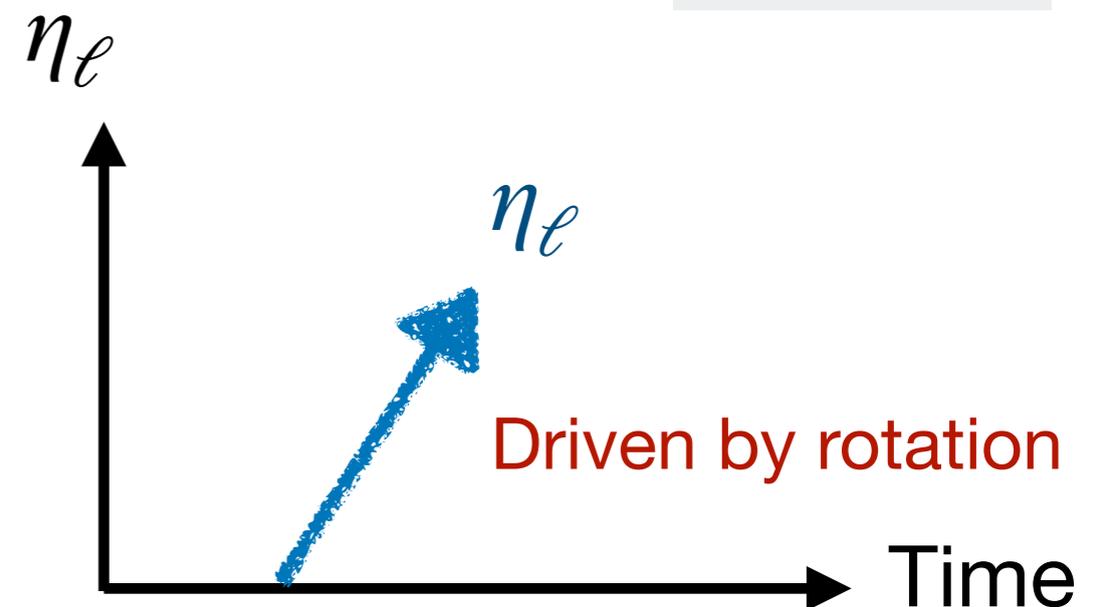
## At later times

Urca processes are too slow.

➔ Deviation from  $\beta$  equilibrium

➔  $\eta_\ell$  increases!

$$\eta_\ell = 0$$



# Rotochemical heating

R. Fernandez and A. Reisenegger, *Astrophys. J.* **625**, 291 (2005);  
C. Petrovich, A. Reisenegger, *Astron. Astrophys.* **521**, A77 (2010).

Once  $\eta_\ell$  exceeds a **threshold**  $\Delta_{\text{th}}$  determined by nucleon gaps,

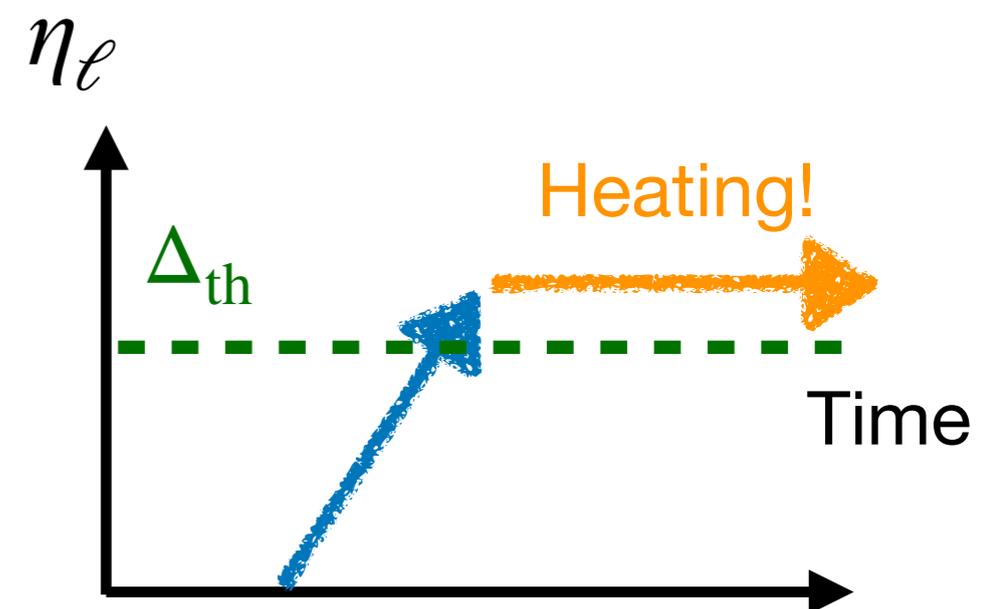
$$\Delta_{\text{th}} = \min \{ 3\Delta_n + \Delta_p, \Delta_n + 3\Delta_p \}$$

- ▶ Urca processes are **enhanced**.
- ▶ Generation of **heat**

Called the **rotochemical heating**.

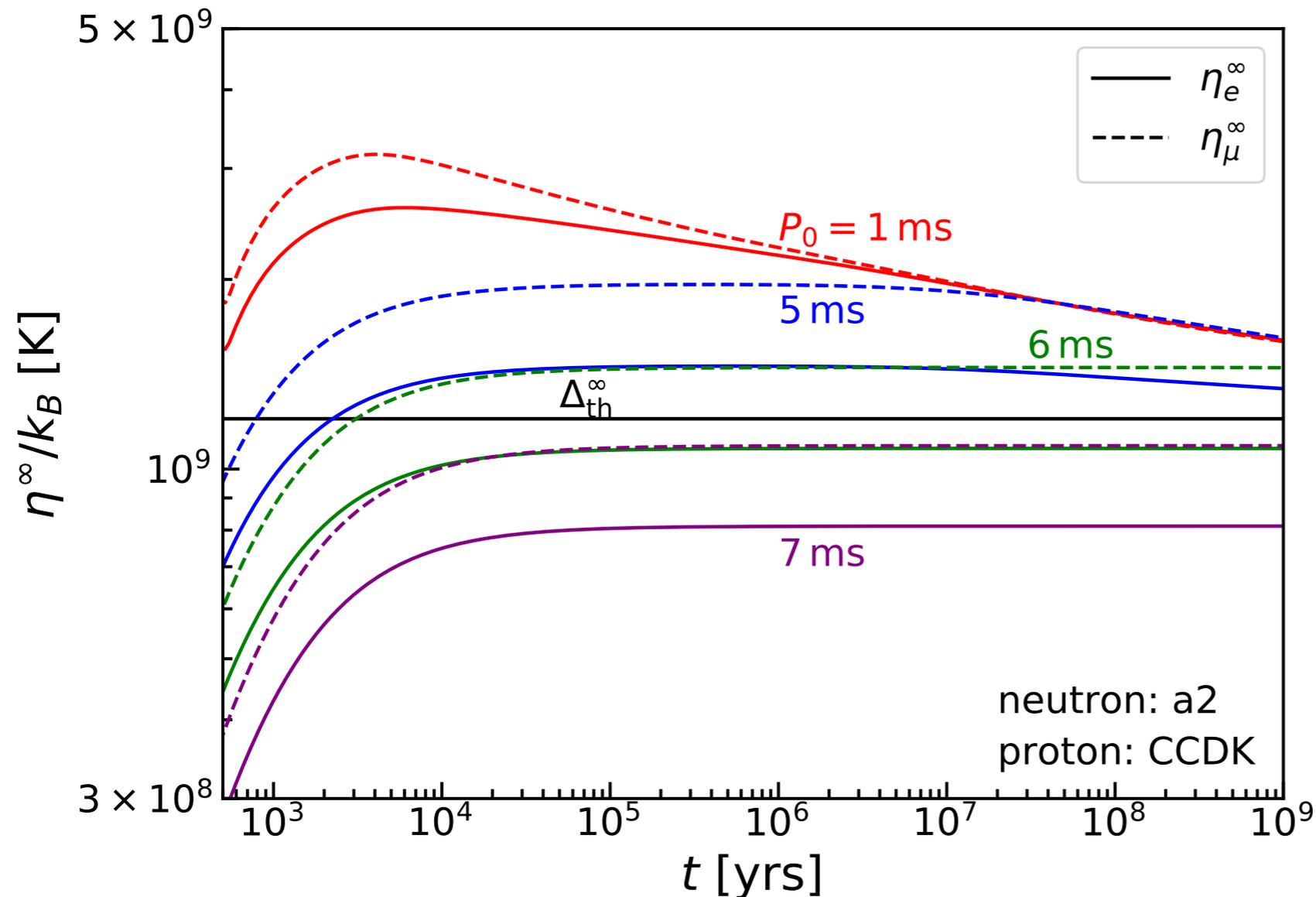
It occurs in the **same setup** as the standard cooling.

- No exotic physics needed.
- This effect should have been included from the beginning...



# Evolution of chemical imbalance

Since the deviation from equilibrium is driven by rotation, it strongly depends on the value of **initial period**.



$$M = 1.4M_{\odot}$$

$$P = 1 \text{ s}$$

$$\dot{P} = 10^{-15}$$

Magnetic dipole radiation

$$\dot{\Omega} = -k\Omega^3$$

Rotochemical heating occurs if the initial period  $P_0$  is small enough.

# Out of $\beta$ equilibrium

The excess of energy is dissipated by

► Increase of **neutrino emission**

► Generation of **heat**

P. Haensel, *Astron. Astrophys.* **262**, 131 (1992);  
A. Reisenegger, *Astrophys. J.* **442**, 749 (1995).

Deviation from  $\beta$  equilibrium is quantified by

$$\eta_\ell \equiv \mu_n - \mu_p - \mu_\ell \quad (\ell = e, \mu)$$

## Heating luminosity

$$L_H = \sum_{\ell=e,\mu} \sum_{N=n,p} \int dV \eta_\ell \cdot \Delta\Gamma_{M,N\ell}$$

where

$$\Delta\Gamma_{M,N\ell} \equiv \Gamma(n + N \rightarrow p + N + \ell + \bar{\nu}_\ell) - \Gamma(p + N + \ell \rightarrow n + N + \nu_\ell)$$

# Evolution of chemical imbalance

The time evolution of  $\eta_\ell$  is determined by

$$\frac{d\eta_e}{dt} = - \sum_{N=n,p} \int dV (Z_{npe} \Delta\Gamma_{M,Ne} + Z_{np} \Delta\Gamma_{M,N\mu}) + 2W_{npe} \Omega \dot{\Omega}$$

Bring the system back to equilibrium.

Drive the system out of equilibrium.

$W < 0, Z > 0$ : coefficients which depend on NS structure.

R. Fernandez and A. Reisenegger, *Astrophys. J.* **625**, 291 (2005).

Once the second term wins, the imbalance increases.

## Magnetic dipole radiation

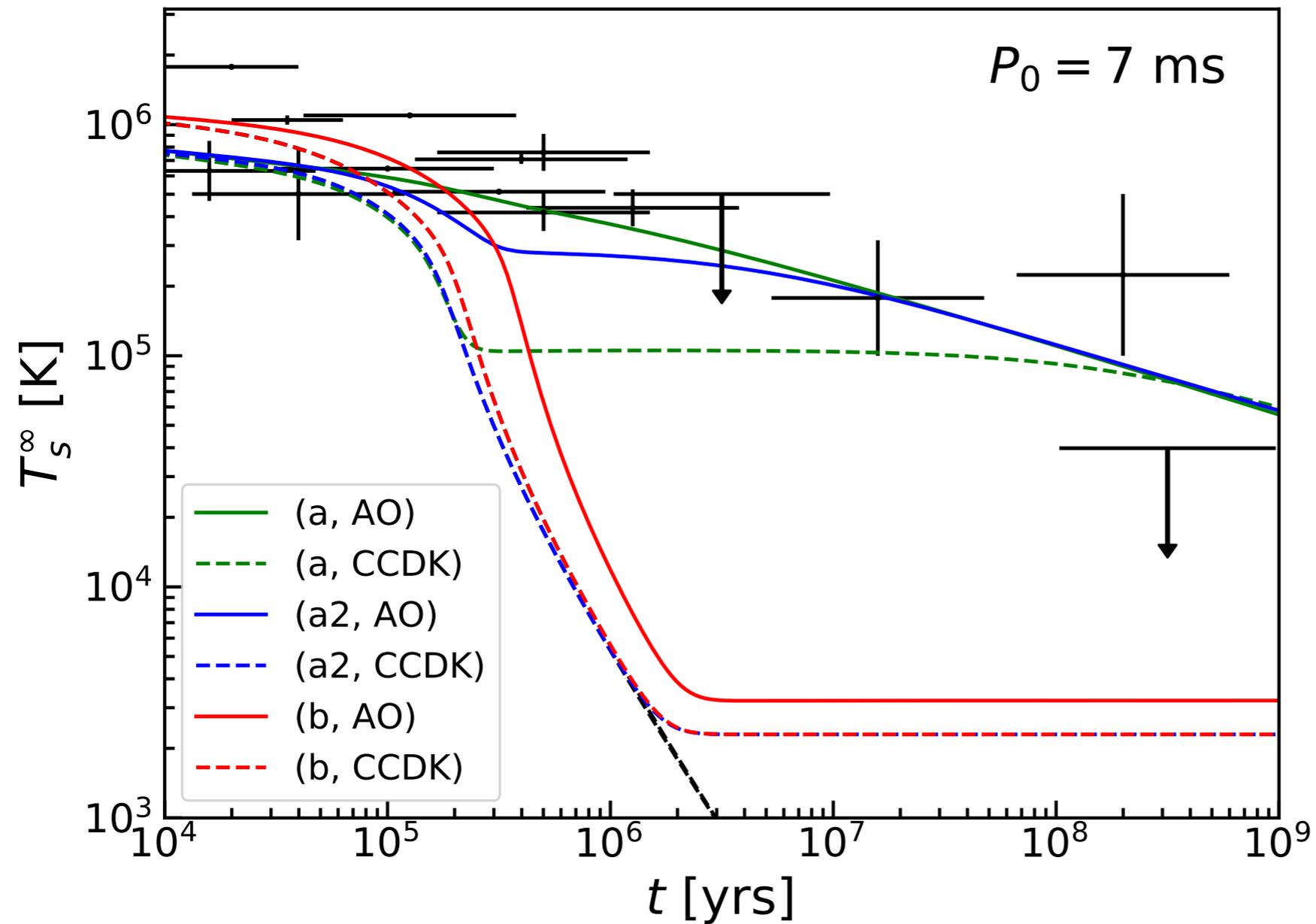
$$\dot{\Omega} = -k\Omega^3$$



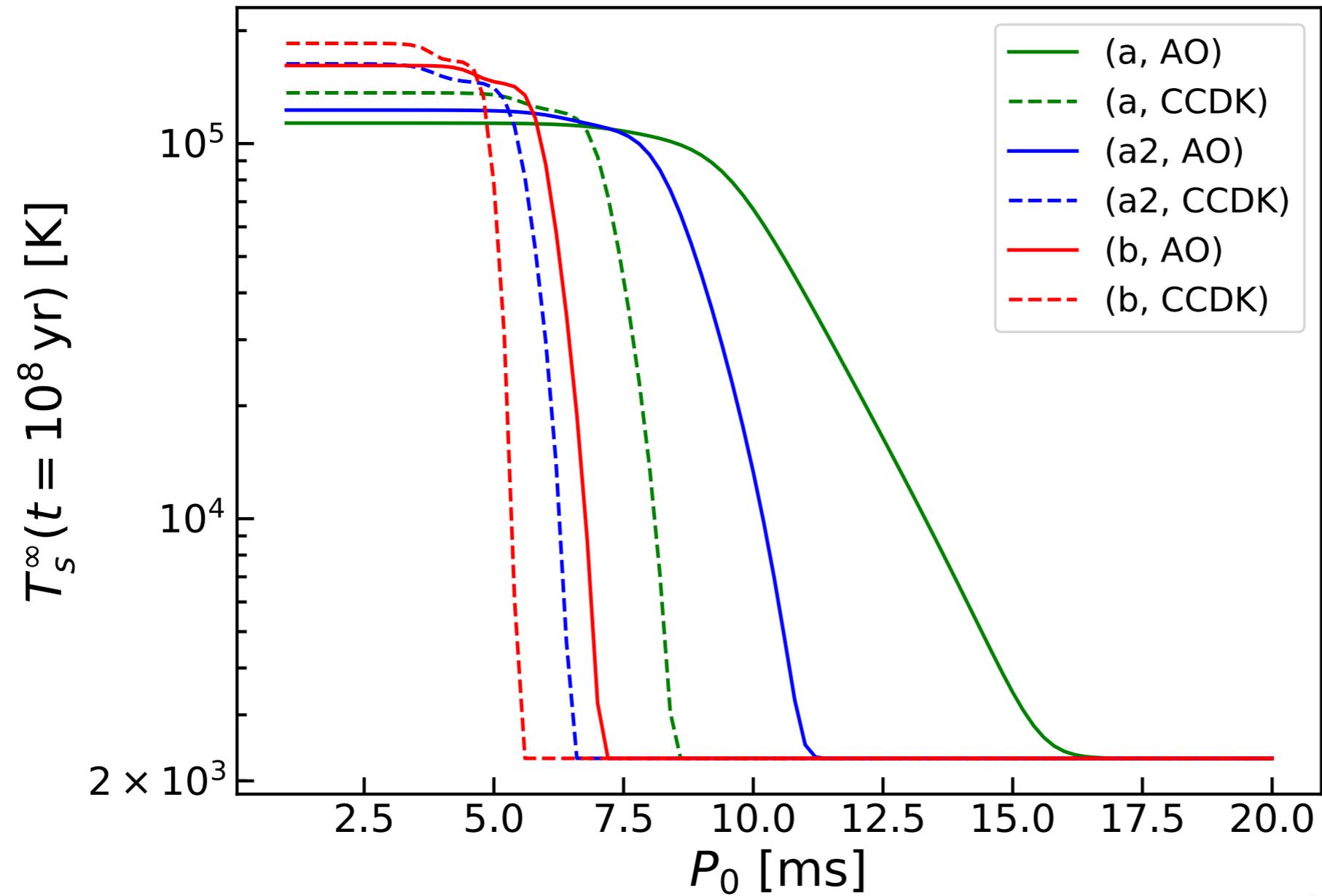
$$\Omega \dot{\Omega} = - \frac{4\pi^2 P_{\text{now}} \dot{P}_{\text{now}}}{(P_0^2 + 2P_{\text{now}} \dot{P}_{\text{now}} t)^2}$$

( $P_0$ : initial period)

# Gap dependence



# Gap dependence



Courtesy of K. Yanagi.

# Spin-down age

For magnetic dipole radiation,

$$\dot{\Omega} = -k\Omega^3 \quad k = \frac{2B_s^2 \sin^2 \alpha R^6}{3c^3 I} = -\frac{\dot{\Omega}_{\text{now}}}{\Omega_{\text{now}}^3} = \frac{P_{\text{now}} \dot{P}_{\text{now}}}{4\pi^2}$$

By solving this, we have

$$P(t) = \sqrt{P_0^2 + 2P_{\text{now}} \dot{P}_{\text{now}} t}$$

( $P_0$ : initial period)

In particular, for  $P_0 \ll P_{\text{now}}$ , we can estimate the **neutron star age**

$$t_{\text{sd}} = \frac{P_{\text{now}}}{2\dot{P}_{\text{now}}}$$

$t_{\text{sd}}$  is called **spin-down age** or **characteristic age**.

# Pulsar age

Let us compare the spin-down age with the actual age in the case of the **Crab pulsar**.

## Actual age

It was born in **1054**, so its age is **967 years** old.

## Spin-down age

$$P = 0.033392 \text{ s}, \quad \dot{P} = 4.21 \times 10^{-13}$$



$$t_{\text{sd}} = \frac{P}{2\dot{P}} = 1.26 \times 10^3 \text{ yrs}$$

Agrees within **~ 30%**.

