

# **Pions near condensation under compact star conditions**

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**Phys. Rev. D 95, 096013 (2017)**

## Outline

- Motivation
- Pion decay width and metastability
- Pion-lepton chemical equilibrium
- Neutrino emission
- Conclusions and outlook

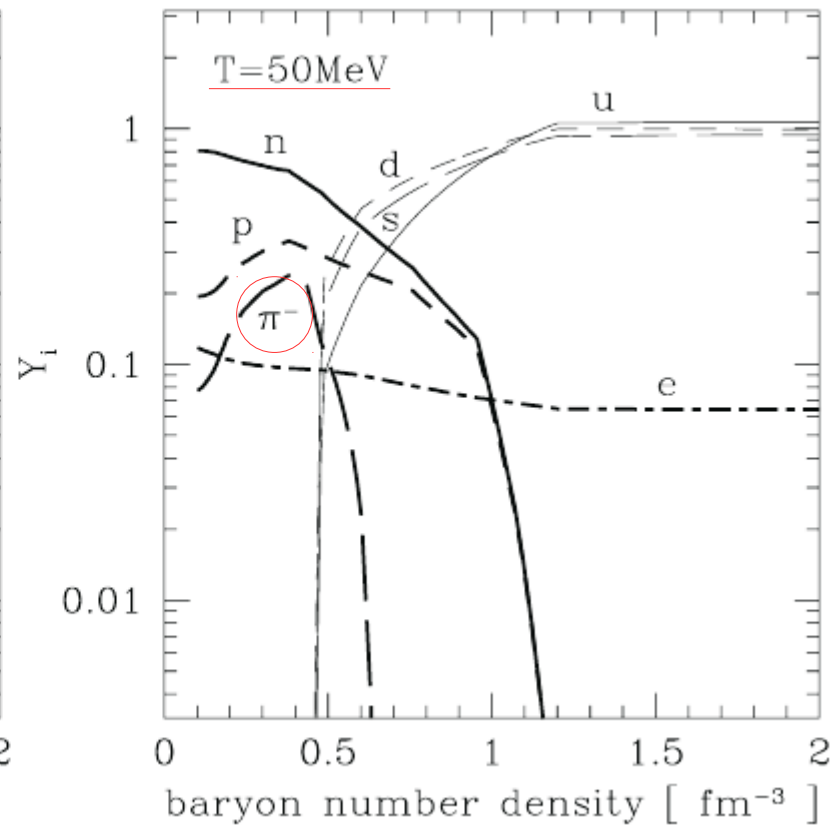
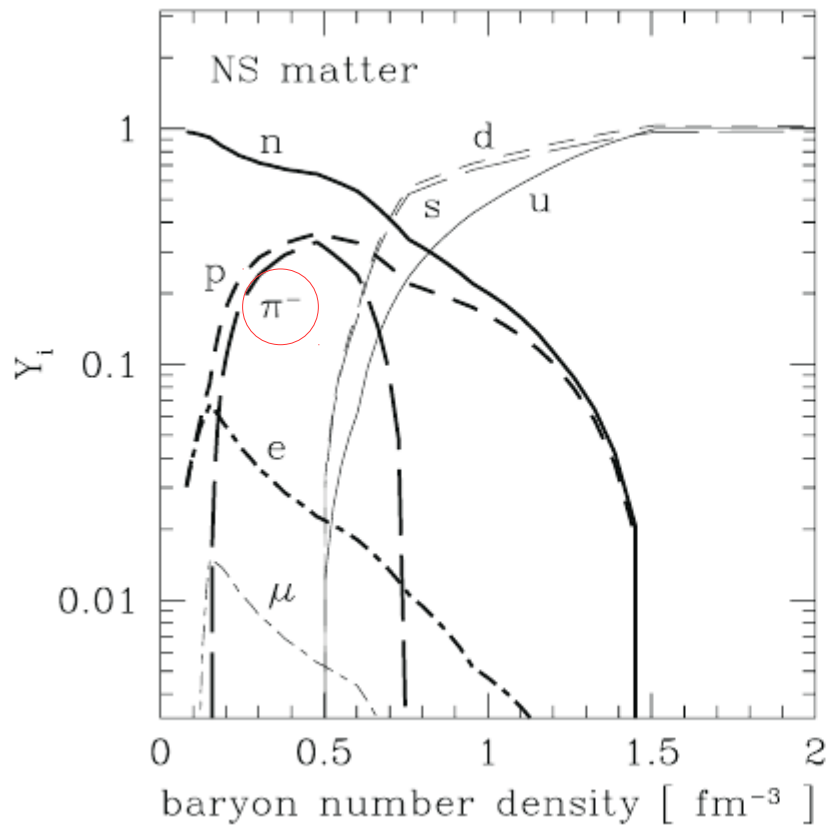
# Motivation

## The role of pions in compact stars

Pion condensation → direct influence in NS cooling process

- pion-nucleon s-wave repulsive interaction increases pion mass.
- But p-wave is attractive
- Hyperon formation reduces electron chemical potential
- Kaon condensation is more favorable to condense

Pions in normal phase?



K. Nakazato, K. Sumiyoshi, S. Yamada, Phys. Rev. D **77**, 103006 (2008)

## Pions in normal phase (without condensate)

- Number temperature depends on temperature

$$\rho_i \sim (m_\pi T)^{3/2} e^{-(m_\pi - \mu_\pi)/T}$$

- Short lifetime

$$\tau \approx 2.6 \times 10^{-8} \text{ s}$$

- production mechanism (low)

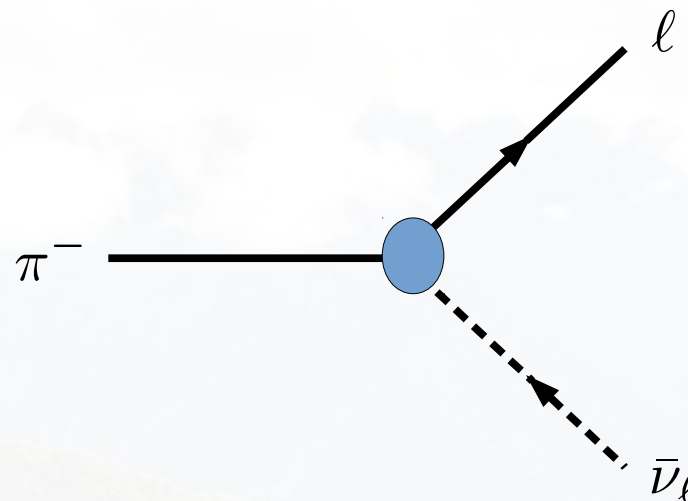


**Decay rate reduction?**

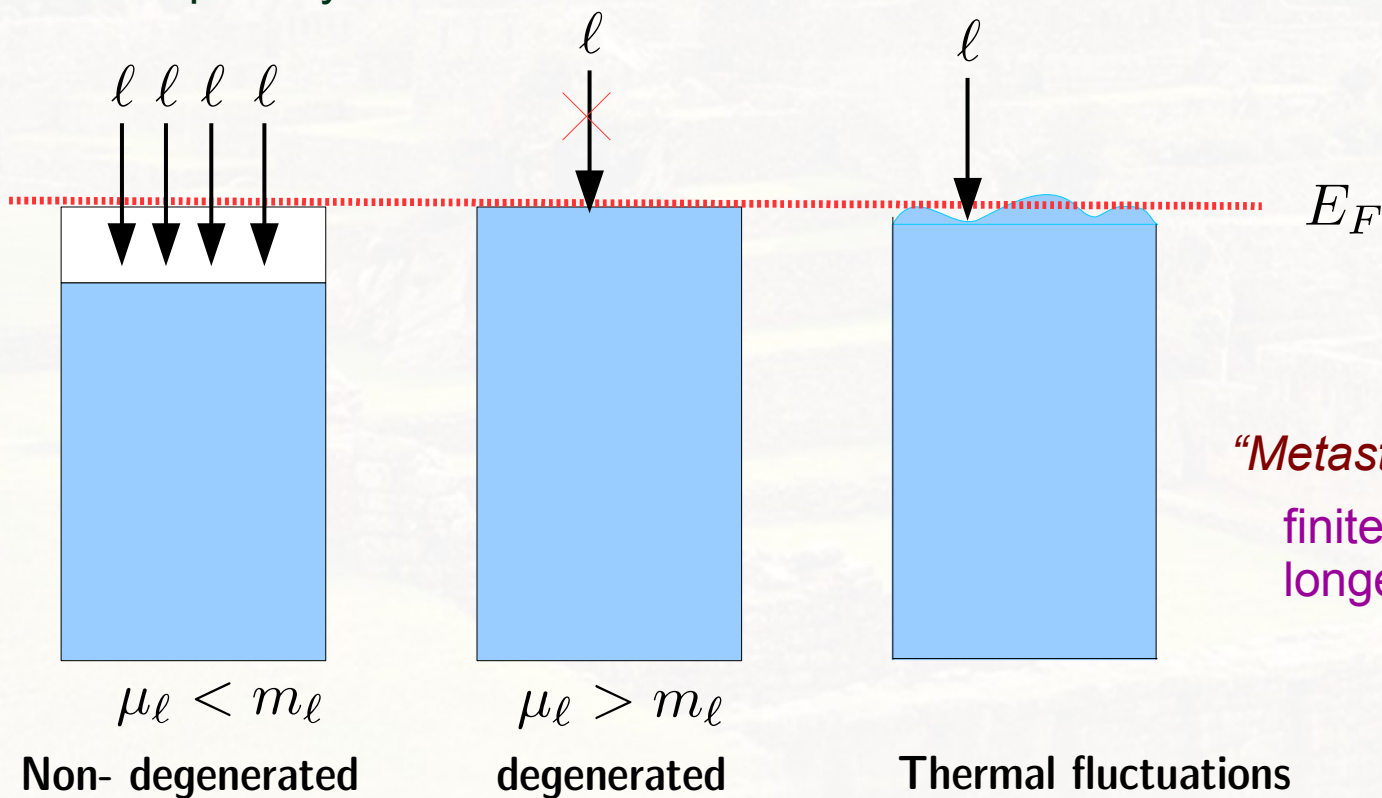
# Leptonic weak decay of negative pions

$$\pi^- \rightarrow \mu + \bar{\nu}_\mu \quad \sim 99.99\%$$

$$\pi^- \rightarrow e + \bar{\nu}_e \quad < 0.001\%$$



## Dense lepton system



*“Metastable” (in nuclear physics):*  
finite lifetime but considerably longer than usual

A background image of the ancient Inca city of Machu Picchu, showing stone terraces and buildings built on a mountain slope. A large, jagged mountain peak is visible in the distance under a cloudy sky.

# Pion decay width

$$\Gamma = 1/\tau$$

# Model

## Free particles

$$\mathcal{L}_\pi = (D\pi^+) \cdot (D\pi^-) - m_\pi^2(\rho_B) \pi^+ \pi^-$$

$$\mathcal{L}_e = \bar{\psi}_e [i\cancel{D} + \mu_e \gamma_0 - m_e] \psi_e$$

$$D\pi^\pm = (\partial_0 \pm i\mu_\pi, \nabla) \pi^\pm$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\nu_e} = \bar{\psi}_{\nu_e} [i\cancel{D} + \mu_{\nu_e} \gamma_0] \psi_{\nu_e}$$

## The interacting model

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi\ell} = f_\pi(\rho_B) G_F [\bar{\psi}_{\nu_e} \cancel{D} \pi^+ (1 - \gamma_5) \psi_e + \bar{\psi}_e \cancel{D} \pi^- (1 - \gamma_5) \psi_{\nu_e}]$$

## Chemical equilibrium

$$\mu_\mu - \mu_{\nu_\mu} = \mu_e - \mu_{\nu_e}$$

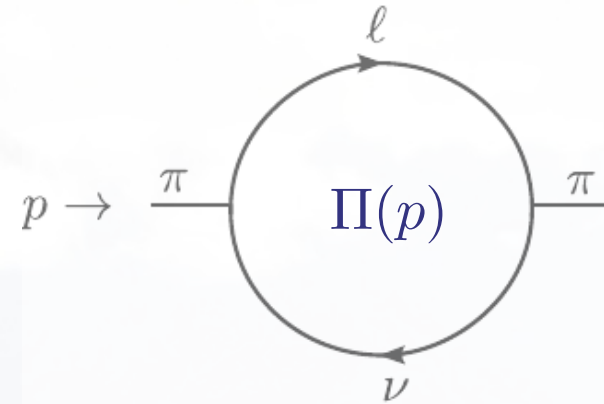
leptonic

$$\mu_\pi = \mu_\ell - \mu_{\nu_\ell}$$

beta



## Retarded propagator and decay rate



$$D_{\pi^-}^{\text{ret}}(p) = \frac{i}{(p_0 + \mu_\pi)^2 - E_\pi^2 - \Pi(p)} \Big|_{p_0 \rightarrow p_0 + i\epsilon}$$

$$\approx \frac{i}{(p_0 + \mu_\pi)^2 - E_\pi^2 + iE_\pi \Gamma_{\pi^-}}$$

$$\Gamma_{\pi^-} = -\frac{1}{E_\pi} \text{Im} \Pi(E_\pi - \mu_\pi + i\epsilon, \mathbf{p})$$

Non-relativistic  
Breit-Wigner distribution

➡ At  $T=0$  is the decay rate

meaning of the imaginary part of the thermal self-energy  
→ **Particles slightly out of thermal equilibrium**

Bosons

$$f_B(E) = n_B(E) + c(E)e^{-\Gamma(E)t}$$

$$\Gamma = \Gamma_d - \Gamma_i$$

$$\Gamma_d = (1 + n_B)\Gamma$$

$$\Gamma_i = n_B\Gamma$$

Fermions

$$f_F(E) = n_F(E) + c(E)e^{-\Gamma(E)t}$$

$$\Gamma = \Gamma_d + \Gamma_i$$

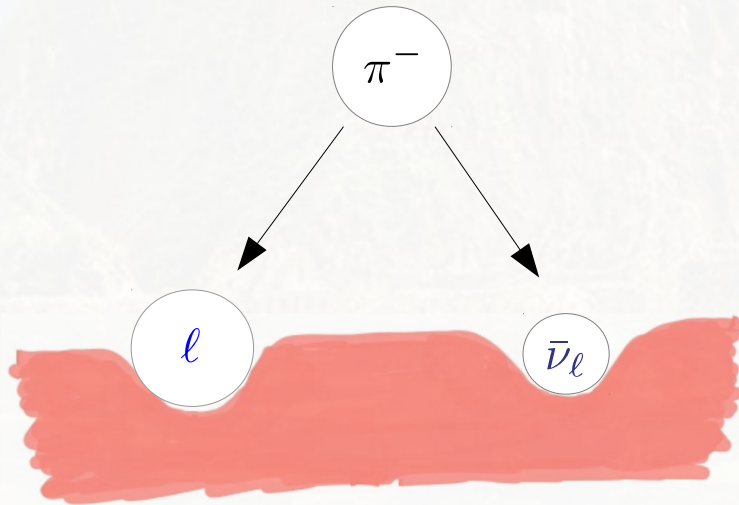
$$\Gamma_d = (1 - n_F)\Gamma$$

$$\Gamma_i = n_F\Gamma$$



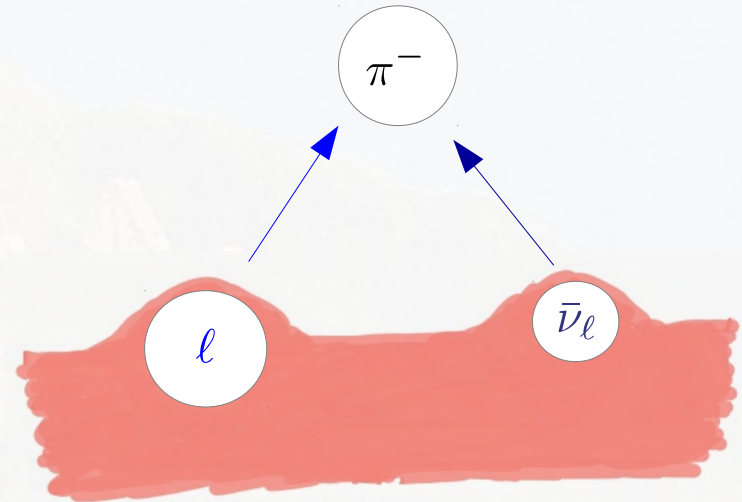
H.A. Weldon, Phys.Rev. D **28**, 2007 (1982)

$$\Gamma_{\pi^-} \sim \int \underbrace{[(1 - n_\ell)(1 - n_{\bar{\nu}_\ell})]}_{\Gamma_d} - \underbrace{n_\ell n_{\bar{\nu}_\ell}}_{\Gamma_i} = \int [1 - n_\ell - n_{\bar{\nu}_\ell}]$$



direct

$$\Gamma_d = (1 + n_{\pi^-})\Gamma_{\pi^-}$$



inverse

$$\Gamma_i = n_{\pi^-}\Gamma_{\pi^-}$$

$$n_\ell = n_F(E_\ell - \mu_\ell), \quad n_{\bar{\nu}_\ell} = n_F(E_{\nu_\ell} + \mu_{\nu_\ell}), \quad n_{\pi^-} = n_B(E_\pi - \mu_\pi)$$

Considering chemical equilibrium  $\mu_\pi = \mu_\ell - \mu_\nu$

$$\Gamma_{\pi^-} = \bar{\Gamma}_{\pi\ell} \frac{m_\pi}{E_\pi} \left[ 1 + \frac{T}{2a_\ell |\mathbf{p}|} \ln \left( \frac{1 + e^{-(E_\ell^+ - \mu_\ell)/T}}{1 + e^{-(E_\ell^- - \mu_\ell)/T}} \right) + \frac{T}{2a_\ell |\mathbf{p}|} \ln \left( \frac{1 + e^{-(E_{\nu_\ell}^+ + \mu_{\nu_\ell})/T}}{1 + e^{-(E_{\nu_\ell}^- + \mu_{\nu_\ell})/T}} \right) \right]$$

$$E_\ell^\pm = (1 - a_\ell) E_\pi \pm a_\ell |\mathbf{p}|$$

$$a_\ell = \frac{m_\pi^2 - m_\ell^2}{2m_\pi^2}$$

$$E_{\nu_\ell}^\pm = a_\ell (E_\pi \pm |\mathbf{p}|)$$

$$E_\pi = \sqrt{\mathbf{p}^2 + m_\pi^2}$$

$\bar{\Gamma}_{\pi\ell}$  Is the decay width at  $T = \mu = 0$

In rest frame

$$\Gamma_{\pi^-} = \bar{\Gamma}_{\pi\ell} \left[ 1 - n_F \left( \frac{m_\pi^2 + m_\ell^2}{2m_\pi} - \mu_\ell \right) - n_F \left( \frac{m_\pi^2 - m_\ell^2}{2m_\pi} + \mu_{\nu_\ell} \right) \right]$$

At zero temperature

$$\Gamma_{\pi^-} = \bar{\Gamma}_{\pi\ell} \theta \left( \frac{m_\pi^2 + m_\ell^2}{2m_\pi} - \mu_\ell \right)$$

Vanishes for  $\mu_\ell > \frac{m_\pi^2 + m_\ell^2}{2m_\pi} \approx 109.74 \text{ MeV}$

(considering  $m_\pi = 139.5 \text{ MeV}$   
and  $m_\ell = m_\mu = 105.66 \text{ MeV}$ )

# Metastability condition at chemical equilibrium

$$\Gamma_{\pi^-} = \Gamma_0 + \delta\Gamma(T)$$

$$\delta\Gamma \ll \bar{\Gamma}_{\pi\ell}$$

$$\Gamma_0 = \bar{\Gamma}_{\pi\ell} \frac{m_\pi}{E_\pi} \left[ 1 + \frac{\mu_\ell - E_\ell^+}{2a_\ell |\mathbf{p}|} \theta(\mu_\ell - E_\ell^+) - \frac{\mu_\ell - E_\ell^-}{2a_\ell |\mathbf{p}|} \theta(\mu_\ell - E_\ell^-) \right]$$

$$\Gamma_0 = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$|\mathbf{p}| < \frac{m_\pi^2 + m_\ell^2}{2m_\ell^2} q_F - \frac{m_\pi^2 - m_\ell^2}{2m_\ell^2} \mu_\ell \equiv p_c$$

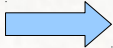
and

$$\mu_\pi > \frac{m_\pi^2 + m_\ell^2}{2m_\pi} \equiv \mu_c$$

$$q_F \equiv \sqrt{\mu_\ell^2 - m_\ell^2}$$

Other interesting phenomena:

$$\text{if } \mu_{\nu\ell} > \frac{m_\pi^2 - m_\ell^2}{2m_\pi} \approx 29.9 \text{ MeV} \quad (\text{for } m_\pi = 139.5 \text{ MeV})$$

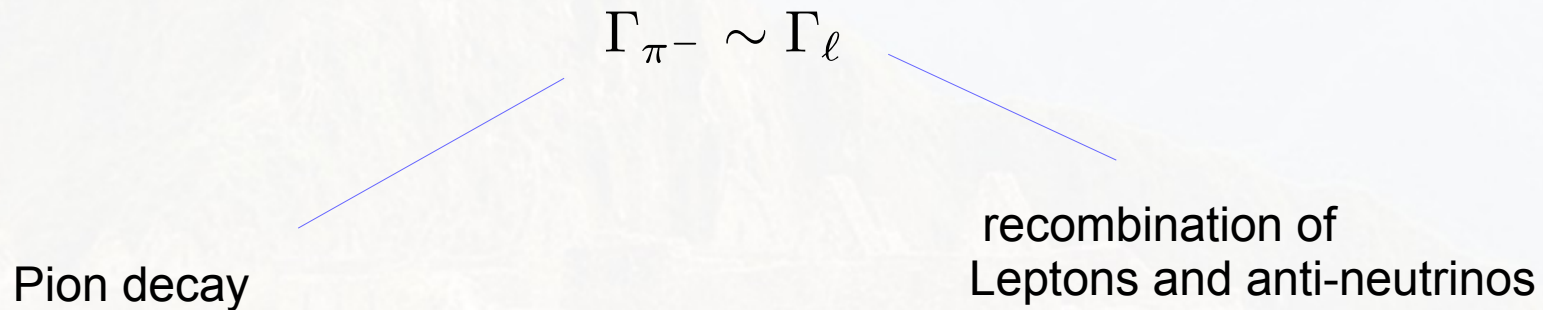
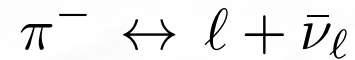
  $\pi^+$  turns metastable

A photograph of the ancient Inca city of Machu Picchu, showing stone terraces, buildings, and a large mountain peak in the background under a cloudy sky.

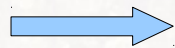
# Chemical equilibrium



## Chemical equilibrium

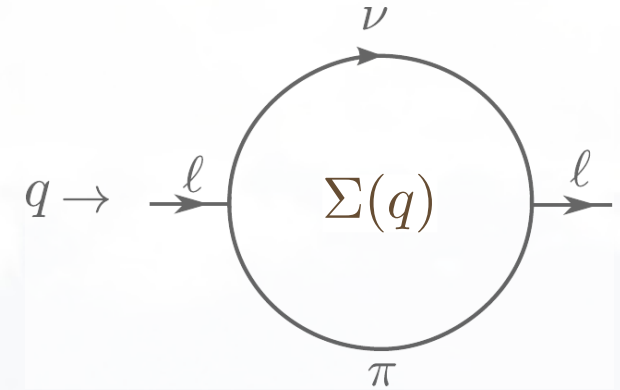


The slightly out of equilibrium system of particles equilibrates at the same time



$$\mu_\pi = \mu_\ell - \mu_\nu$$

## Lepton decay rate: recombination

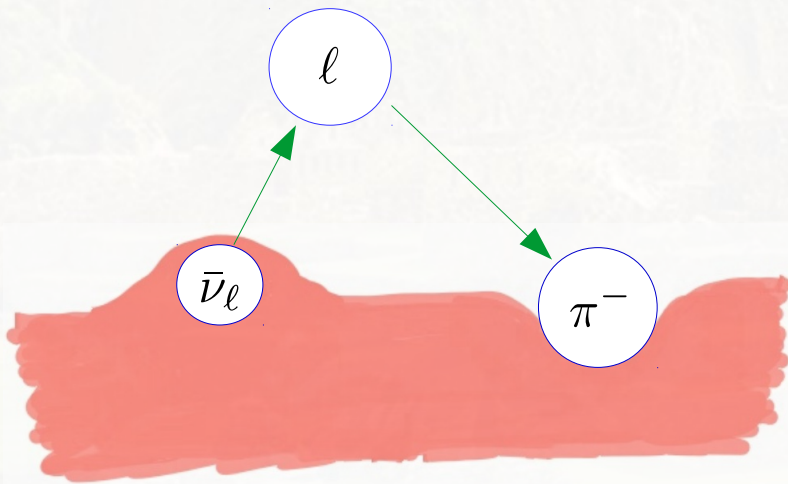


$$\begin{aligned}
 S_\ell^{\text{ret}}(q) &= \frac{i}{\not{q} + \mu_\ell \gamma_0 - m_\ell - \Sigma(q)} \Big|_{q_0 \rightarrow q_0 + i\epsilon} \\
 &= (\not{q} + \mu_\ell \gamma_0 + m_\ell - \Sigma(q)) \left[ \frac{\mathcal{P}_+}{(q_0 + \mu_\ell)^2 - E_\ell^2 - \Pi_+} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{\mathcal{P}_-}{(q_0 + \mu_\ell)^2 - E_\ell^2 - \Pi_-} \right] \Big|_{q_0 \rightarrow q_0 + i\epsilon}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Gamma_\pm = -\frac{1}{E_\ell} \text{Im} \Pi_\pm(E_\ell - \mu_\ell + i\epsilon, \mathbf{q})$$

$$\Gamma_\ell = \Gamma_+ + \Gamma_-$$

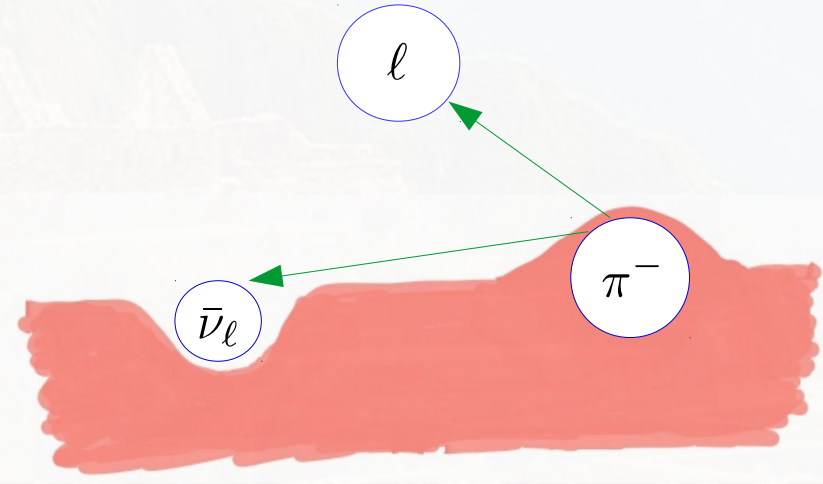
$$\Gamma_\ell = \Gamma_d + \Gamma_i \sim \int \underbrace{[n_{\bar{\nu}_\ell}(1 + n_{\pi^-})]}_{\Gamma_d} + \underbrace{[(1 - n_{\bar{\nu}_\ell})n_{\pi^-}]}_{\Gamma_i} = \int [n_{\bar{\nu}_\ell} + n_{\pi^-}]$$



direct

$$\Gamma_d = (1 - n_\ell)\Gamma_\ell$$

+



inverse

$$\Gamma_i = n_\ell \Gamma_\ell$$

## lepton decay rate in chemical equilibrium

$$\Gamma_\ell = \bar{\Gamma}_{\pi\ell} \left( \frac{m_\pi}{2m_\ell} \right)^3 \frac{m_\ell}{E_\ell} \frac{T}{2b_\ell |\mathbf{q}|} \left[ \ln \left( \frac{1 - e^{-(E_\pi^+ - \mu_\pi)/T}}{1 - e^{-(E_\pi^- - \mu_\pi)/T}} \right) - \ln \left( \frac{1 + e^{-(\tilde{E}_{\nu_\ell}^+ + \mu_{\nu_\ell})/T}}{1 + e^{-(\tilde{E}_{\nu_\ell}^- + \mu_{\nu_\ell})/T}} \right) \right]$$

$$E_\pi^\pm = (1 + b_\ell)E_\ell \pm b_\ell |\mathbf{q}|$$

$$b_\ell = \frac{m_\pi^2 - m_\ell^2}{2m_\ell^2}$$

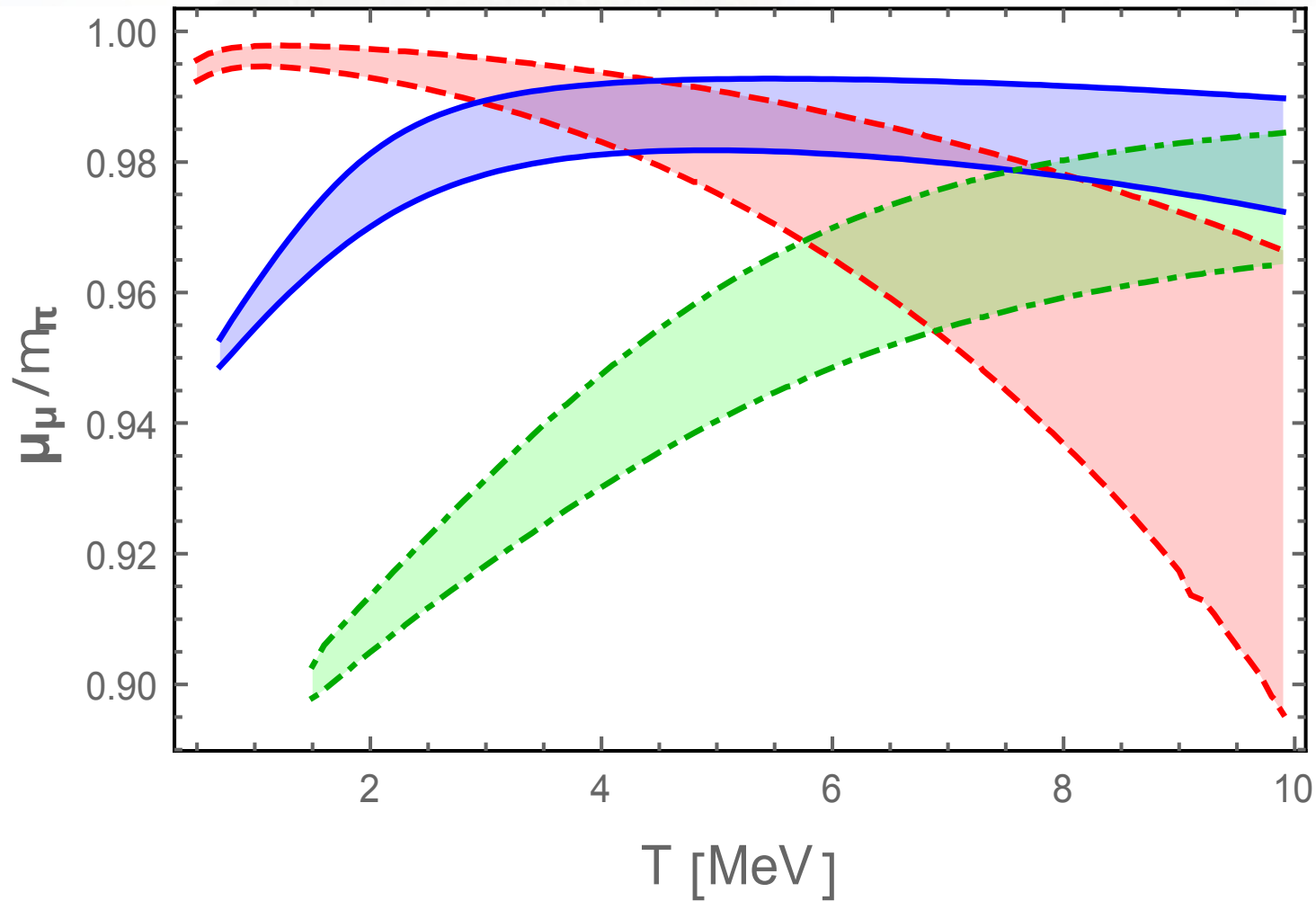
$$\tilde{E}_{\nu_\ell}^\pm = b_\ell E_\pi \pm b_\ell |\mathbf{q}|$$

$$E_\ell = \sqrt{\mathbf{q}^2 + m_\ell^2}$$

On the Fermi surface:

$$\Gamma_\ell = \bar{\Gamma}_{\pi\ell} \left( \frac{m_\pi}{2m_\ell} \right)^3 \frac{m_\ell}{\mu_\ell} \frac{T}{2b_\ell q_F} \ln \left( \frac{\sinh[(b_\ell \mu_\ell + \mu_{\nu_\ell})/T] + \sinh[b_\ell q_F/T]}{\sinh[(b_\ell \mu_\ell + \mu_{\nu_\ell})/T] - \sinh[b_\ell q_F/T]} \right)$$

$$\Gamma_{\pi^-}(|\mathbf{p}| = 0) \sim \Gamma_{\ell}(|\mathbf{q}| = q_F)$$



$m_\pi = 115$  MeV

$m_\pi = 140$  MeV

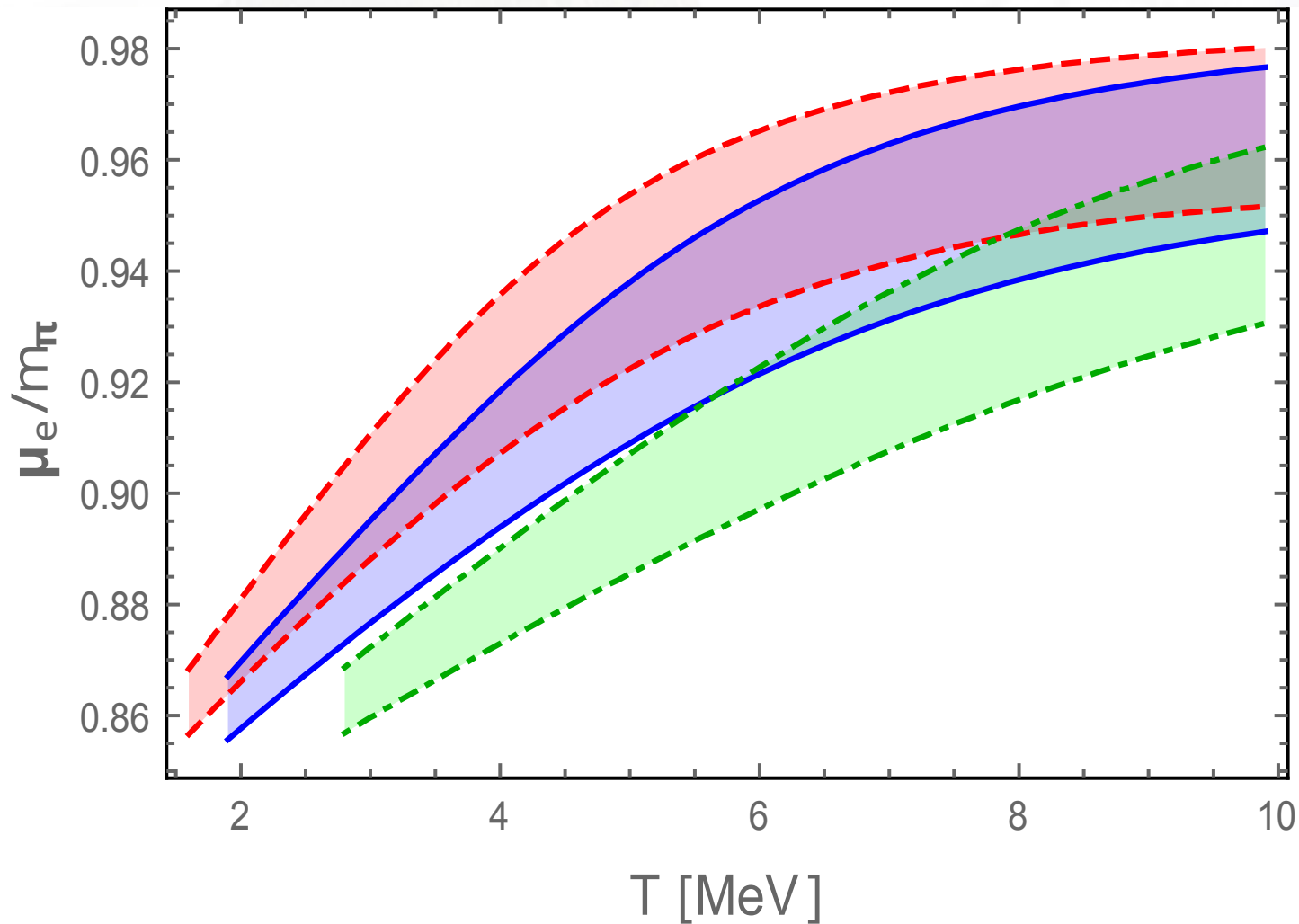
$m_\pi = 200$  MeV

$\mu_c = 0.91m_\pi$

$\mu_c = 0.78m_\pi$

$\mu_c = 0.64m_\pi$

$$\Gamma_{\pi^-}(|\mathbf{p}| = 0) \sim \Gamma_{\ell}(|\mathbf{q}| = q_F)$$




$m_\pi = 115$  MeV

$m_\pi = 140$  MeV

$m_\pi = 200$  MeV

$\mu_c \approx 0.5m_\pi$

A photograph of the ancient Inca city of Machu Picchu, showing stone terraces, buildings, and a prominent mountain peak in the background under a cloudy sky.

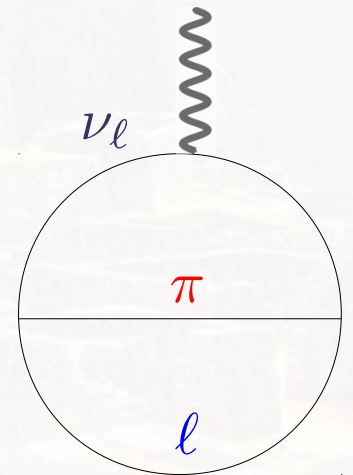
# Neutrino emission

## Neutrino emissivity

$$\epsilon_\pi = \int \bar{d}p \bar{d}q \bar{d}k \sum_{\text{spin}} |\mathcal{M}|^2 k_0 n_B(p_0) [1 - n_F(q_0)] (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p - q - k)$$

$$\bar{d}p = \frac{d^4p}{(2\pi)^3} \theta(p_0 + \mu) \delta^4((p_0 + \mu)^2 - E^2)$$

$$\langle \ell \bar{\nu} | \int d^4x \mathcal{L}_{\pi\ell} | \pi^- \rangle = i\mathcal{M} (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p - q - k).$$





for  $p_c > T$

$$\epsilon_\pi \approx \bar{\Gamma}_{\pi l} m_\pi^4 g(\mu_l) \left( \frac{T}{2\pi m_\pi} \right)^2 e^{-(E_c - \mu_\pi)/T}$$

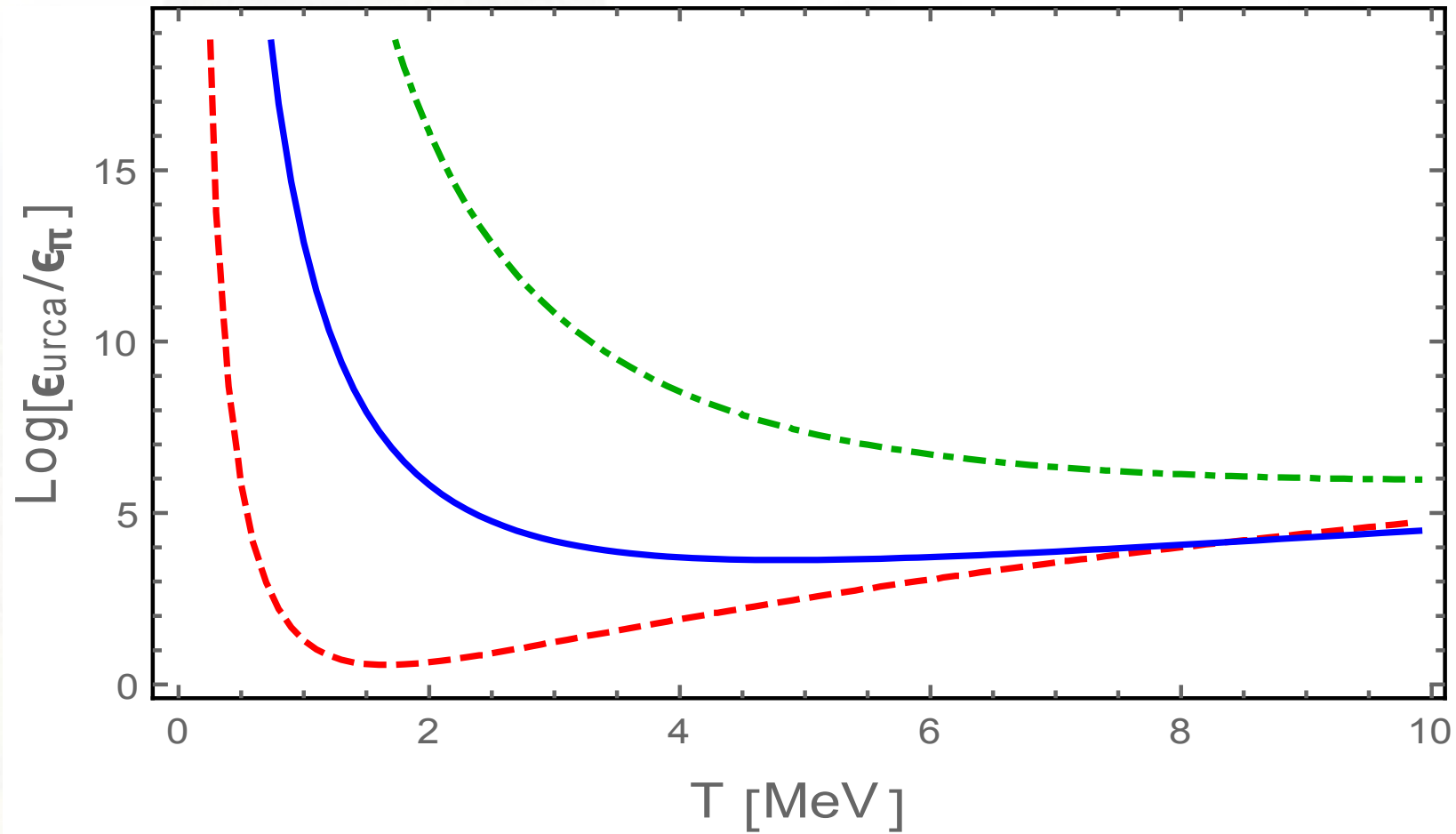
with  $E_c = \sqrt{p_c^2 + m_\pi^2}$

Simple pion gas  $\epsilon_\pi \approx \bar{\Gamma}_{\pi l} m_\pi^4 \left( \frac{T}{2\pi m_\pi} \right)^{3/2} e^{-(m_\pi - \mu_\pi)/T}$

URCA

$$\epsilon_{\text{URCA}} \sim T^6$$

$\bar{\nu}_\mu$  emission



$m_\pi = 115$  MeV

$m_\pi = 140$  MeV

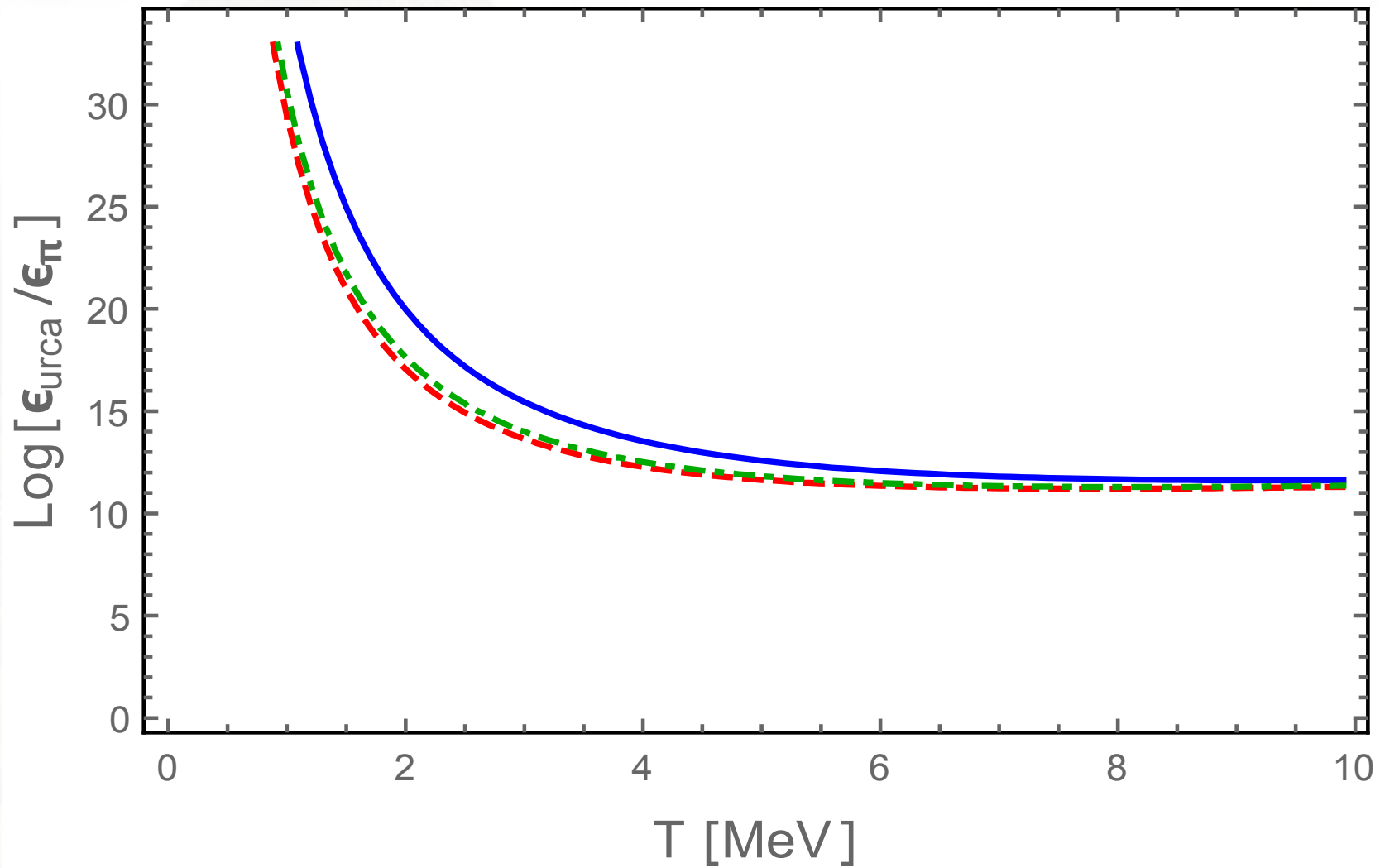
$m_\pi = 200$  MeV

$\mu_\ell = 0.95m_\pi$

$f_\pi^* = 0.8f_\pi$

$m_N^* \approx 0.8m_N$

$\bar{\nu}_e$  emission



$m_{\pi} = 115 \text{ MeV}$

$m_{\pi} = 140 \text{ MeV}$

$m_{\pi} = 200 \text{ MeV}$

$\mu_{\ell} = 0.95 m_{\pi}$

$f_{\pi}^* \approx 0.8 f_{\pi}$

$m_N^* \approx 0.8 m_N$

## Conclusions

- Metastable pion is a possible relevant state in proto neutron stars
- Acceptable window in parameter space for pion-lepton chemical equilibrium
- Source of neutrino emission in the NS initial stages.

## Outlook

- abundance considering metastable pions
- Metastable Kaons
- Trapped neutrinos

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- abundance considering metastable pions
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**THANKS!**