Neutrinos

in Astrophysics and Cosmology

Neutrinos and the Stars 1

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Neutrinos and the Stars





- Strongest local neutrino flux
- Long history of detailed measurements
- Crucial for flavor oscillation physics
- Resolve solar metal abundance problem in future?
- Use Sun as source for other particles (especially axions)
- Neutrino energy loss crucial in stellar evolution theory
- Backreaction on stars provides limits, e.g. neutrino magnetic dipole moments



- Collapsing stars most powerful neutrino sources
- Once observed from SN 1987A
- Provides well-established particle-physics constraints
- Next galactic supernova: learn about astrophyiscs of core collapse
- Diffuse Supernova Neutrino Background (DSNB) is detectable

Basics of Stellar Evolution

Equations of Stellar Structure

Assume spherical symmetry and static structure (neglect kinetic energy) Excludes: Rotation, convection, magnetic fields, supernova-dynamics, ...

Hydrostatic equilibrium

$$\frac{dP}{dr} = -\frac{G_N M_r \rho}{r^2}$$

Energy conservation

$$\frac{dL_r}{dr} = 4\pi r^2 \epsilon \rho$$

Energy transfer

$$L_r = \frac{4\pi r^2}{3\kappa\rho} \frac{d(aT^4)}{dr}$$

Literature

- Clayton: Principles of stellar evolution and nucleosynthesis (Univ. Chicago Press 1968)
- Kippenhahn & Weigert: Stellar structure and evolution (Springer 1990)

- r Radius from center
- P Pressure
- G_N Newton's constant
- ρ Mass density
- M_r Integrated mass up to r
- L_r Luminosity (energy flux)
- ϵ Local rate of energy generation [erg g⁻¹s⁻¹]

$$\epsilon = \epsilon_{\rm nuc} + \epsilon_{\rm grav} - \epsilon_{\nu}$$

- κ Opacity $κ^{-1} = κ_{ν}^{-1} + κ_{c}^{-1}$
- κ_{γ} Radiative opacity

$$\kappa_{\gamma}\rho = \langle \lambda_{\gamma} \rangle_{\text{Rosseland}}^{-1}$$

 κ_c Electron conduction

Convection in Main-Sequence Stars



Fig. 22.7. The mass values m from centre to surface are plotted against the stellar mass M for the same zero-age main-sequence models as in Fig. 22.1. "Cloudy" areas indicate the extension of convective zones inside the models. Two solid lines give the m values at which r is 1/4 and 1/2 of the total radius R. The dashed lines show the mass elements inside which 50% and 90% of the total luminosity L are produced

Kippenhahn & Weigert, Stellar Structure and Evolution

Virial Theorem and Hydrostatic Equilibrium

Hydrostatic equilibrium

Integrate both sides

L.h.s. partial integration with P = 0 at surface R

Monatomic gas: $P = \frac{2}{3}U$ (U density of internal energy)

Average energy of single "atoms" of the gas

$$\frac{dP}{dr} = \frac{G_N M_r \rho}{r^2}$$
$$\int_0^R dr \, 4\pi r^3 P' = -\int_0^R dr \, 4\pi r^3 \frac{G_N M_r \rho}{r^2}$$

$$-3\int_0^R dr \,4\pi r^2 P = E_{\rm grav}^{\rm tot}$$

$$U^{\text{tot}} = -\frac{1}{2}E_{\text{grav}}^{\text{tot}}$$

$$\langle E_{\rm kin} \rangle = -\frac{1}{2} \langle E_{\rm grav} \rangle$$

Virial Theorem: Most important tool to study self-gravitating systems

Dark Matter in Galaxy Clusters



A gravitationally bound system of many particles obeys the virial theorem

$$2\langle E_{\rm kin} \rangle = -\langle E_{\rm grav} \rangle$$
$$2\left\langle \frac{mv^2}{2} \right\rangle = \left\langle \frac{G_N M_r m}{r} \right\rangle$$
$$\langle v^2 \rangle \approx G_N M_r \langle r^{-1} \rangle$$

Velocity dispersion from Doppler shifts and geometric size

Total Mass

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Dark Matter in Galaxy Clusters

Fritz Zwicky: Die Rotverschiebung von Extragalaktischen Nebeln (The redshift of extragalactic nebulae) Helv. Phys. Acta 6 (1933) 110



In order to obtain the observed average Doppler effect of 1000 km/s or more, the average density of the Coma cluster would have to be at least 400 times larger than what is found from observations of the luminous matter. Should this be confirmed one would find the surprising result that dark matter is far more abundant than luminous matter.

Virial Theorem Applied to the Sun

Virial Theorem
$$\langle E_{\rm kin} \rangle = -\frac{1}{2} \langle E_{\rm grav} \rangle$$

Approximate Sun as a homogeneous sphere with

 $\begin{array}{ll} {\rm Mass} & M_{\rm sun} = 1.99 \times 10^{33} {\rm g} \\ {\rm Radius} & R_{\rm sun} = 6.96 \times 10^{10} {\rm cm} \\ {\rm Gravitational\ potential\ energy\ of\ a} \\ {\rm proton\ near\ center\ of\ the\ sphere} \end{array}$

$$\langle E_{\text{grav}} \rangle = -\frac{3}{2} \frac{G_N M_{\text{sun}} m_p}{R_{\text{sun}}} = -3.2 \text{ keV}$$

Thermal velocity distribution

$$\langle E_{\rm kin} \rangle = \frac{3}{2} k_{\rm B} T = -\frac{1}{2} \langle E_{\rm grav} \rangle$$

Estimated temperature

T = 1.1 keV



Central temperature from standard solar models $T_{\rm c} = 1.56 \times 10^7 {\rm K} = 1.34 {\rm keV}$

Nuclear Binding Energy



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Hydrogen Burning



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Thermonuclear Reactions and Gamow Peak

q

[MeV

S

Coulomb repulsion prevents nuclear reactions, except for Gamow tunneling

Tunneling probability

$$p \propto E^{-1/2} e^{-2\pi\eta}$$

where the Sommerfeld parameter is

$$\eta = \left(\frac{m}{2E}\right)^{1/2} Z_1 Z_2 e^2$$

Parameterize cross section with astrophysical S-factor

$$S(E) = \sigma(E) E e^{2\pi\eta(E)}$$



LUNA Collaboration, nucl-ex/9902004

Main Nuclear Burning Stages

Hydrogen burning $4p + 2e^- \rightarrow {}^4\text{He} + 2\nu_e$

- Proceeds by pp chains and CNO cycle
- No higher elements are formed because no stable isotope with mass number 8
- Neutrinos from $p \rightarrow n$ conversion
- Typical temperatures: 10⁷ K (~1 keV)

Helium burning

 ${}^{4}\text{He} + {}^{4}\text{He} + {}^{4}\text{He} \leftrightarrow {}^{8}\text{Be} + {}^{4}\text{He} \rightarrow {}^{12}\text{C}$

"Triple alpha reaction" because $^8{\rm Be}$ unstable, builds up with concentration $\sim 10^{-9}$

$$^{12}C + {}^{4}He \rightarrow {}^{16}O$$

 $^{16}O + {}^{4}He \rightarrow {}^{20}Ne$

Typical temperatures: 10⁸ K (~10 keV)

Carbon burning

Many reactions, for example ${}^{12}C + {}^{12}C \rightarrow {}^{23}Na + p \text{ or } {}^{20}Ne + {}^{4}He \text{ etc}$ Typical temperatures: 10⁹ K (~100 keV)

- Each type of burning occurs at a very different T but a broad range of densities
- Never co-exist in the same location



Hydrogen Exhaustion



Burning Phases of a 15 Solar-Mass Star

Lγ				[10 ⁴ L _{sun}]			
Burning Phase		Dominant Process	T _c [keV]	ρ _c [g/cm ³]		$L_{ m V}/L_{ m \gamma}$	Duration [years]
	Hydrogen	$H \rightarrow He$	3	5.9	2.1	_	1.2×10 ⁷
	Helium	$He \rightarrow C, O$	14	1.3×10 ³	6.0	1.7×10 ⁻⁵	1.3×10 ⁶
	Carbon	$C \rightarrow Ne, Mg$	53	1.7×10 ⁵	8.6	1.0	6.3×10 ³
	Neon	$Ne \rightarrow 0, Mg$	110	1.6×10 ⁷	9.6	1.8×10 ³	7.0
	Oxygen	$0 \rightarrow Si$	160	9.7×10 ⁷	9.6	2.1×10 ⁴	1.7
	Silicon	Si \rightarrow Fe, Ni	270	2.3×10 ⁸	9.6	9.2×10 ⁵	6 days

Neutrinos from Thermal Processes



Effective Neutrino Neutral-Current Couplings



$$H_{\text{int}} = \frac{G_{\text{F}}}{\sqrt{2}} \overline{\Psi}_{f} \gamma_{\mu} (C_{\text{V}} - C_{\text{A}} \gamma_{5}) \Psi_{f} \overline{\Psi}_{\nu} \gamma^{\mu} (1 - \gamma_{5}) \Psi_{\nu}$$

Neutrino	Fermion	C _V	C _A
ν _e	Electron	$+\frac{1}{2}+2\sin^2\Theta_W \approx 1$	$+\frac{1}{2}$
$ u_{\mu} v_{ au}$	Electron	$-\frac{1}{2} + 2\sin^2\Theta_{\rm W} \approx 0$	$-\frac{1}{2}$
	Proton	$+\frac{1}{2}-2\sin^2\Theta_W \approx 0$	$+\frac{1.26}{2}$
νε νμ ντ	Neutron	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1.26}{2}$

Fermi constant $G_{\rm F}$ 1.166 × 10⁻⁵GeV⁻²

Weak mixing angle $\sin^2 \Theta_W = 0.231$

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ASTROPHYSICAL DETERMINATION OF THE COUPLING CONSTANT FOR THE ELECTRON-NEUTRINO WEAK INTERACTION

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> The existence of the $(\overline{e}\nu_e)(\overline{\nu}_e e)$ weak interaction is confirmed by the results of nine astrophysical tests. The value of the coupling constant is equal to, or close to, the coupling constant of beta decay, namely, $g^2 = 10^{0 \pm 2} g_{\beta}^2$.

Of all the astrophysical tests applied so far for the inference of a direct electron-neutrino interaction in nature, none has unambiguously provided a useful upper limit on the coupling constant, which in the V-A theory of Feynman and Gell-Mann¹ is taken to be equal to the "universal" weak-interaction coupling constant measured from beta decays (called $g_{\mathbf{B}}$ hereafter). However, it is important to point out that these tests. made by the author and his colleagues during the past eight years, do provide a nonzero lower limit, and therefore establish at least the existence of the $(\bar{e}\nu_e)(\bar{\nu}_e e)$ interaction. It should be emphasized, nonetheless, that all of these tests rely on the validity of various stellar model calculations. These models, while not subject to scrutiny in the same sense as a laboratory experiment, are based on reasonable physical assumptions, so that the input physics is presumed

relative theoretical lifetimes, calculated with and without the inclusion of neutrino emission. In this Letter, the unmodified term "luminosity" will mean the photon luminosity L radiated by the star. The "neutrino luminosity" will be designated L_{ν} . Quantities referring to the sun are subscripted with an encircled dot.

The most accurate available data on white dwarfs are those collected by Eggen⁷ for the two clusters Hyades and Pleiades and for the nearby general field. Of chief interest here are the hot white dwarfs, for which the observational data^{7,8} have been reduced following the procedure of Van Horn.⁹ The resulting luminosities are estimated to have a statistical accuracy of ± 0.1 in $\log(L/L_{\odot})$, which is adequate here.

Models of cooling white dwarfs have been constructed in great detail by a large number of authors. Fortunately, the stellar structure is

Neutrinos from Thermal Processes



Plasmon Decay in Neutrinos



Particle Dispersion in Media

Plasmon Decay vs. Cherenkov Effect

Photon dispersion in	"Time-like"	"Space-like"	
a medium can be	$\omega^2 - k^2 > 0$	$\omega^2 - k^2 < 0$	
Refractive index n (k = n ω)	n < 1	n > 1	
Example	 Ionized plasma Normal matter for large photon energies 	Water (n ≈ 1.3), air, glass for visible frequencies	
Allowed process that is forbidden in vacuum	Plasmon decay to neutrinos $\gamma \rightarrow \nu \overline{\nu}$	Cherenkov effect $e \rightarrow e + \gamma$	

Particle Dispersion in Media

Vacuum	Most general Lorentz-invariant dispersion relation $\omega^2 - k^2 = m^2$ ω = frequency, k = wave number, m = mass Gauge invariance implies $m = 0$ for photons and gravitons
Medium	Particle interaction with medium breaks Lorentz invariance so that $\omega^2 - k^2 = \pi(\omega, k)$ Implies a relationship between ω and k (dispersion relation) Often written in terms of • Refractive index n $k = n \omega$ • Effective mass (note that m_{eff} can be negative) $\omega^2 - k^2 = m_{eff}^2$ • Effective potential (natural for neutrinos with m the vacuum mass) $(\omega - V)^2 - k^2 = m^2$ Which form to use depends on convenience

Refraction and Forward Scattering

Plane wave in vacuum	$\Phi(\boldsymbol{r},t) \propto e^{-i\omega t + i\boldsymbol{k}\cdot\boldsymbol{r}}$			
With scattering centers	$\Phi(\mathbf{r},t) \propto e^{-i\omega t} \left[e^{ik \cdot r} + f(\omega,\theta) \frac{e^{ik \cdot r}}{r} \right]$			
In forward direction, adds coherently to a plane wave with modified wave number	$k = n_{\text{refr}}\omega$ $n_{\text{refr}} = 1 + \frac{2\pi}{\omega^2} N f(\omega, 0)$ $N = \text{number density of scattering centers}$ $f(\omega, 0) = \text{forward scattering amplitude}$			

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Electromagnetic Polarization Tensor

Klein-Gordon-Equation in Fourier space		$(-K^2 g^{\mu\nu} + K^{\mu} K^{\nu} + \Pi^{\mu\nu}) A_{\nu} = 0$			
Polarization tensor (self-energy of photon)		ϵ_{μ}			
Gauge invariance and current conservation		$\Pi^{\mu\nu}K_{\mu} = \Pi^{\mu\nu}K_{\nu} = 0 \qquad \begin{array}{l} \text{Vacuum: } \Pi^{\mu\nu} = ag^{\mu\nu} + bK^{\mu}K^{\nu} \\ \rightarrow a = b = 0 \text{(photon massless)} \end{array}$ Medium: Four-velocity U available to construct Π			
QED Plasma	$\Pi^{\mu\nu}(K) = 16\pi\alpha \int \frac{d^3p}{2E(2\pi)^3} f_e(p) \frac{(PK)^2 g^{\mu\nu} + K^2 P^{\mu} K^{\nu} - PK(P^{\mu} K^{\nu} + K^{\mu} P^{\nu})}{(PK)^2 - \frac{1}{4} (K^2)^2}$ Photon: $K = (\omega, \mathbf{k})$ Electron/positron: $P = (E, p)$ with $E = \sqrt{p^2 + m_e^2}$ Electron/positron phase-space distribution with chemical potential μ_e $f_e(p) = \frac{1}{e^{\frac{E-\mu_e}{T}} + 1} + \frac{1}{e^{\frac{E+\mu_e}{T}} + 1}$				

Neutrino-Photon-Coupling in a Plasma

$$\Lambda_{V}^{\mu\nu}(K) = 4eC_{V} \int \frac{d^{3}\mathbf{p}}{2E(2\pi)^{3}} [f_{e}(\mathbf{p}) + f_{\overline{e}}(\mathbf{p})] \frac{(PK)^{2}g^{\mu\nu} + K^{2}P^{\mu}P^{\nu} - PK(P^{\mu}K^{\nu} + K^{\mu}P^{\nu})}{(PK)^{2} - \frac{1}{4}(K^{2})^{2}}$$
$$= \frac{C_{V}}{e} \Pi_{V}^{\mu\nu}(K)$$
$$\Lambda_{A}^{\mu\nu}(K) = 2ieC_{A}\epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \int \frac{d^{3}\mathbf{p}}{2E(2\pi)^{3}} [f_{e}(\mathbf{p}) - f_{\overline{e}}(\mathbf{p})] \frac{K^{2}P_{\alpha}K_{\beta}}{(PK)^{2} - \frac{1}{4}(K^{2})^{2}} \qquad \text{Usually}$$
negligible

Transverse and Longitudinal "Plasmons"



Electron (Positron) Dispersion Relation



FIG. 1.—Ultrarelativistic dispersion relations for the electron or positron $[\omega_+(k)]$ and for the electron plasmino or positron plasmino $[\omega_-(k)]$.

E. Braaten, Neutrino emissivity of an ultrarelativistic plasma from positron and plasmino annihilation, Astrophys. J. 392 (1992) 70

Neutrino oscillations in matter

L. Wolfenstein

3700 citations Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213 (Received 6 October 1977; revised manuscript received 5 December 1977)

The effect of coherent forward scattering must be taken into account when considering the oscillations of neutrinos traveling through matter. In particular, for the case of massless neutrinos for which vacuum oscillations cannot occur, oscillations can occur in matter if the neutral current has an off-diagonal piece connecting different neutrino types. Applications discussed are solar neutrinos and a proposed experiment involving transmission of neutrinos through 1000 km of rock.



Lincoln Wolfenstein



Citations of Wolfenstein's Paper on Matter Effects

inSPIRE: 3700 citations of Wolfenstein, Phys. Rev. D17 (1978) 2369



Generic Types of Stars

Self-Regulated Nuclear Burning



Virial Theorem: $\langle E_{kin} \rangle = -\frac{1}{2} \langle E_{grav} \rangle$

Small Contraction

- \rightarrow Heating
- \rightarrow Increased nuclear burning
- \rightarrow Increased pressure
- \rightarrow Expansion

Additional energy loss ("cooling")

- \rightarrow Loss of pressure
- \rightarrow Contraction
- \rightarrow Heating
- \rightarrow Increased nuclear burning

Hydrogen burning at nearly fixed T

- \rightarrow Gravitational potential nearly fixed: $G_N M/R \sim \text{constant}$
- $\rightarrow R \propto M$ (More massive stars bigger)

Modified Stellar Properties by Particle Emission

Assume that some small perturbation (e.g. axion emission) leads to a "homologous" modification: Every point is mapped to a new position r' = yr

Requires power-law relations for constitutive relations

- Nuclear burning rate $\epsilon \propto \rho^n T^m$
- Mean opacity $\kappa \propto \rho^s T^t$

Implications for other quantities

- Density $\rho'(r') = y^{-3}\rho(r)$
- Pressure $p'(r') = y^{-4}p(r)$
- Temperature gradient $dT'(r')/dr' = y^{-2} dT(r)/dr$

Impact of small novel energy loss

- Modified nuclear burning rate $\epsilon = (1 \delta_x) \epsilon_{nuc}$
- Assume Kramers opacity law s = 1 and t = -3.5
- Hydrogen burning n = 1 and m = 4-6
- Star contracts, heats, and shines brighter in photons:

$$\frac{\delta R}{R} = -\frac{2\delta_x}{2m+5} \qquad \frac{\delta T}{T} = \frac{\delta_x}{2m+5} \qquad \frac{\delta L_\gamma}{L_\gamma} = \frac{\delta_x}{2m+5}$$

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Degenerate Stars ("White Dwarfs")

Assume temperature very small

- \rightarrow No thermal pressure
- \rightarrow Electron degeneracy is pressure source
- Pressure ~ Momentum density × Velocity
- Electron density $n_e = p_F^3/(3\pi^3)$
- Momentum $p_{
 m F}$ (Fermi momentum)
- Velocity $v \propto p_{\rm F}/m_e$
- Pressure $P \propto p_{\rm F}^5 \propto \rho^{5/3} \propto M^{5/3} R^{-5}$
- Density $\rho \propto MR^{-3}$

Hydrostatic equilibrium

$$\frac{dP}{dr} = -\frac{G_N M_r \rho}{r^2}$$
With $dP/dr \sim -P/R$ we have
$$P \propto G_N M \rho R^{-1} \propto G_N M^2 R^{-4}$$
Inverse mass radius relationship
$$R \propto M^{-1/3}$$

 $R = 10,500 \text{ km} \left(\frac{0.6 M_{\odot}}{M}\right)$

$$(2Y_e)^{5/3}$$

(Y_e electrons per nucleon)

For sufficiently large stellar mass M, electrons become relativistic

Velocity = speed of light

• Pressure

$$P \propto p_{\rm F}^4 \propto \rho^{4/3} \propto M^{4/3} R^{-4}$$

No stable configuration

Chandrasekhar mass limit $M_{\rm Ch} = 1.457 \ M_{\odot} \ (2Y_e)^2$

Degenerate Stars ("White Dwarfs")



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Giant Stars

Main-sequence star $1M_{\odot}$ (Hydrogen burning)

H

Helium-burning star $1 { m M}_{\odot}$



 $\epsilon_{
m nuc}({
m H})$ depends on $T \propto \Phi_{
m grav} \propto M/R$ of entire star

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Galactic Globular Cluster M55



Color-Magnitude Diagram for Globular Clusters



globular clusters



Color-magnitude diagram synthesized from several low-metallicity globular clusters and compared with theoretical isochrones (W.Harris, 2000)

Color-Magnitude Diagram for Globular Clusters



Color-magnitude diagram synthesized from several low-metallicity globular clusters and compared with theoretical isochrones (W.Harris, 2000)

Planetary Nebulae

Hour Glass Nebula

> Planetary Nebula IC 418

Eskimo Nebula

Planetary Nebula NGC 3132

Evolution of Stars

M < 0.08 M _{sun}	M < 0.08 M _{sun} Never ignites hydrogen ("hydrogen white dwa		Brown dwarf
0.08 < M ≲ 0.8 M _{sun}	Hydrogen burning not completed in Hubble time		Low-mass main-squence star
0.8 ≲ M ≲ 2 M _{sun}	Degenerate helium core after hydrogen exhaustion		 Carbon-oxygen white dwarf
$2 \lesssim M \lesssim 5-8 M_{sun}$	Helium ignition non-de	 Planetary nebula 	
8 M _{sun} ≲ M < ???	All burning cycles → Onion skin structure with degenerate iron core	Core collapse supernova	 Neutron star (often pulsar) Sometimes black hole? Supernova remnant (SNR), e.g. crab nebula