TWO-DIMENSIONAL MULTICOLLECTIVE NEUTRINO RADIATION-HYDRODYNAMIC SIMULATIONS OF POSTBounce SUPERNOVA CORES

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Received 2008 March 31; accepted 2008 June 24

ABSTRACT

We perform axisymmetric (2D) multigroup, multigroup neutrino radiation-hydrodynamic calculations of the post-bounce phase of core-collapse supernovae using a genuinely 2D discrete-ordinate ($S_n$) method. We follow the long-term postbounce evolution of the cores of one nonrotating and one rapidly rotating 20 $M_\odot$ stellar model for ~400 milliseconds from 160 to ~550 ms after bounce. We present a multidimensional analysis of the multigroup neutrino radiation fields and compare in detail with counterpart simulations carried out in the 2D multigroup flux-limited diffusion (MGFLD) approximation to neutrino transport. We find that 2D multigroup transport is superior in capturing the global and local radiation-field variations associated with rotation-induced and SASI-induced aspherical hydrodynamic configurations. In the rotating model, multigroup transport predicts much larger asymptotic neutrino flux asymmetries with pole-to-equator ratios of up to ~2.5, while MGFLD tends to spherize the radiation fields already in the optically semi-transparent postshock regions. Along the poles, the multigroup transport calculation predicts a dramatic enhancement of the neutrino heating by up to a factor of 3, which alters the postbounce evolution and results in greater polar shock radii and an earlier onset of the initially rotationally weakened SASI. In the nonrotating model, differences between multigroup and MGFLD calculations remain small at early times when the postshock region does not depart significantly from spherical symmetry. At later times, however, the growing SASI leads to large-scale asymmetries and the multigroup calculation predicts up to 30% higher average integral neutrino energy deposition rates than MGFLD.

Subject headings: hydrodynamics — neutrinos — radiative transfer — stars: evolution — stars: neutron — supernovae: general

1. INTRODUCTION

Four decades after the first pioneering neutrino radiation-hydrodynamic calculations of stellar collapse (Colgate & White 1966; Arnett 1966; LeBlanc & Wilson 1970; Wilson 1971), the details of the core-collapse supernova explosion mechanism remain obscure. However, certain essentials are clear. The collapse of the evolved stellar core to a proto-neutron star (PNS) and its evolution to a compact cold neutron star provides a gigantic reservoir of gravitational energy, ~$3 \times 10^{51}$ erg, a mass-energy equivalent of ~0.17 $M_\odot$. Any core-collapse supernova mechanism must tap this energy and convert the fraction needed to match Type II supernova observations (~$10^{51}$ erg $\equiv 1$ bethe [B]) into kinetic and internal energy of the exploding stellar envelope.

There is general agreement that the prompt hydrodynamic explosion mechanism does not work and that the bounce shock always stalls, falling short of blowing up the star (e.g., Bethe 1990; Janka et al. 2007), and must be reenergized to lead to a supernova. However, there is no agreement on the detailed mechanism that revives and endows the shock with sufficient energy to make a canonical ~1 $B$ supernova. For decades, the “neutrino driven” mechanism, first proposed in its direct form by Colgate & White (1966) and in its delayed form by Wilson (1985) and Bethe & Wilson (1985), seemed compelling. It relies on a subtle imbalance of neutrino heating and cooling that leads to a net energy deposition behind the stalled shock, sufficient to revive it and drive the explosion on a timescale of hundreds of milliseconds. While appealing, it has been shown to fail for regular massive stars in spherical symmetry (1D) when the best neutrino physics and transport are used (Rampp & Janka 2000; Liebendörfer et al. 2001, 2005; Thompson et al. 2003). Yet, weak explosions may be obtained in 1D for the lowest mass progenitors, O-Ne-Mg cores (Kitaura et al. 2006; Burrows et al. 2007a).

It is now almost certain that the canonical explosion mechanism must be multidimensional (2D/3D) in nature. The multi-D dynamics associated with convective overturn in the postshock region (e.g., Herant et al. 1994; Burrows et al. 1995; Janka & Müller 1996; Buras et al. 2006a) and the recently identified standing accretion shock instability (SASI; e.g., Foglizzo & Tagger 2000; Foglizzo et al. 2007; Scheck et al. 2008; Blondin et al. 2003; Burrows et al. 2007c; Iwakami et al. 2008) lead to a dwelling time of accreting outer core material in the postshock region that is larger on average than in the 1D case. This results in a greater neutrino energy deposition efficiency behind the shock and, thus, creates more favorable conditions for explosion (Burrows & Goshy 1993; Janka 2001; Thompson et al. 2005; Marek & Janka 2007).

The first generation of multi-D supernova calculations, still employing gray flux-limited diffusion (or yet simpler schemes) for neutrino transport, indeed found that neutrino-driven convective overturn in the region between the stalled shock and the PNS sufficiently increased the neutrino energy deposition rate to lead to a delayed explosion (Herant et al. 1994; Burrows et al. 1995; Janka & Müller 1996; Fryer & Heger 2000; Fryer & Warren 2002, 2004). The more sophisticated studies that followed changed this picture. Recent long-term axisymmetric (2D) supernova calculations with multigroup, multispecies neutrino physics and transport find it difficult to explode garden-variety massive stars via the neutrino mechanism. Buras et al. (2006a) report explosion only for the low-mass (11.2 $M_\odot$) progenitor of Woosley et al.
(2002) while Marek & Janka (2007) report the onset of explosion in a 15 \( M_\odot \) model of Woosley & Weaver (1995) given moderately fast rotation and the use of the Lattimer-Swesty equation of state (EOS; Lattimer & Swesty 1991) with a nuclear compressibility modulus \( K_0 \) of 180 MeV, which is significantly softer than the current best experimental values (\( K_0 = 240 \pm 20 \) MeV; Shlomo et al. 2006). On the other hand, Bruenn et al. (2006) obtain explosions for 11 and 15 \( M_\odot \) progenitors from Woosley & Weaver (1995) only when they take silicon and oxygen burning into account and due to a synergy between nuclear burning, the SASI, and neutrino heating.

Burrows et al. (2006, 2007c) do not obtain neutrino-driven explosions (except in the case of O-Ne-Mg cores and accretion-induced collapse; Dessart et al. 2006b), but observe the excitation of PNS core g-modes. In their calculations, the PNS core oscillations reach nonlinear amplitudes and damp via the emission of strong sound waves that propagate through the postshock region and efficiently deposit energy into the shock, eventually leading to late explosions at ~1 s after bounce. This _acoustic_ mechanism appears to be robust enough to blow up even the most massive and extended progenitors (Burrows et al. 2007c; Ott et al. 2006a), but remains controversial and needs to be confirmed by other groups (see, e.g., Yoshida et al. 2007; Weinberg & Quataert 2008).

In the context of rapid progenitor rotation, Burrows et al. (2007b), Dessart et al. (2008), and Dessart et al. (2007) (the latter for the accretion-induced collapse scenario) have shown that energetic MHD-driven explosions may be obtained if field amplification by the magnetorotational instability (Balbus & Hawley 1991) is as efficient in the core-collapse context as suggested (Akiyama et al. 2003). Whether rotation alone and without strong magnetic fields favors or disfavors a neutrino-driven explosion remains to be seen (Walder et al. 2005; Dessart et al. 2006b; Ott et al. 2006b), but rapid rotation has been shown to damp convective (Fryer & Heger 2000) and weaken the SASI in 2D (Burrows et al. 2007b).

### 1.1. Core-Collapse Supernova Theory and Neutrino Radiation Transport

Neutrinos, their creation, propagation, and interactions with supernova matter, are of paramount importance to the core-collapse supernova problem. They carry away ~99% of the final neutron star’s gravitational binding energy and ~1% of this energy would be sufficient to blow up the star. Depending on progenitor characteristics that set the postbounce rate of mass accretion onto the PNS, a successful supernova explosion should occur within ~1–1.5 s after bounce to match observational and theoretical neutron star upper mass limits around ~2–2.5 \( M_\odot \) (Lattimer & Prakash 2007 and references therein). Consequently, the explosion mechanism must deliver canonical 1 B explosions on this timescale and, if the explosion is neutrino driven, the neutrino heating efficiency \(^5\) must be on the order of 10% to yield an explosion that achieves an energy of 1 B within ~1 s.

The neutrinos traveling through the postshock region in a postbounce supernova core are not in thermal equilibrium with the baryonic matter. They should ideally be treated with full kinetic theory, describing the neutrino distributions and their temporal distribution with the Boltzmann equation (Mihalas & Mihalas 1984). Boltzmann transport is in its most general form a 7-dimensional problem: the 6D neutrino phase space (usually split up into 3D spatial coordinates, neutrino energy, and 2 angular degrees of freedom) and time. In addition, there are up to six neutrino types (three particle species, and their antiparticles) to deal with. Spherically symmetric Boltzmann transport schemes have been devised and implemented in the core-collapse context (Mezzacappa & Bruenn 1993a; Messer et al. 1998; Burrows et al. 2000; Yamada et al. 1999; Mezzacappa & Messer 1999; Rampp & Janka 2002; Liebendorfer et al. 2004; Hubeny & Burrows 2007), but general Boltzmann transport in multiple spatial dimensions is computationally challenging and will remain so in the intermediate term. Hence, approximations must be made in devising computationally tractable neutrino transport schemes for multi-D simulations.

A highly sophisticated approximation that arguably comes close to full Boltzmann transport in the context of quasi-spherical configurations in 2D is that presented in Buras et al. (2006b) and based on earlier work by Rampp & Janka (2002). These authors solve equations for the zeroth and first angular moments of spherically symmetric radiation fields along multiple radial rays (ray-by-ray approach; Burrows et al. 1995) and perform a variable Eddington factor closure (Mihalas & Mihalas 1984) via a single spherically symmetric Boltzmann solution on an averaged 1D profile of the 2D hydrodynamics data. Neighboring rays are coupled to provide for limited treatment of latitudinal transport. Their multi-group (multienergy and multineutrino species) scheme includes inelastic neutrino-electron scattering, aberration, gravitational redshift, and frame effects to \( O(v/c) \).

Livne et al. (2004) implemented a genuinely 2D direct solution of a reduced Boltzmann equation via the method of discrete ordinates \( (S_n) \); see, e.g., Yueh & Buchler 1977; Mezzacappa & Bruenn 1993a; Adams & Larsen 2002; Castor 2004 and references therein) in the code VULCAN/2D, neglecting energy redistribution and fluid-velocity dependence.

A common, more approximate way to handle neutrino transport that has a long pedigree in 1D core-collapse studies is multi-group (energy/neutrino species) nonequilibrium flux-limited diffusion (MGFLD; Mihalas & Mihalas 1984, Arnett 1966, Bowers & Wilson 1982, Bruenn 1985, Myra et al. 1987; Myra & Burrows 1990; Baron et al. 1989; Cooperstein & Baron 1992). FLD schemes solve a diffusion equation for the mean radiation intensity, the zeroth angular moment of the specific radiation intensity. Hence, they drop all local angular dependence of the radiation field, while, in the MGFLD case, retaining the spectral neutrino distribution. MGFLD accurately describes the radiation field at high optical depth where the diffusion approximation is exact. In the free-streaming limit, the flux must be limited to maintain causality and an interpolation must be performed between diffusion and free-streaming regimes by an ad hoc prescription (using a flux limiter).

Two-dimensional FLD schemes were pioneered in the core-collapse context by LeBlanc & Wilson (1970) and modern MGFLD implementations can be found in Swesty & Myra (2006) and in Burrows et al. (2007c). It is not a priori clear whether MGFLD is an accurate enough prescription to yield postbounce supernova dynamics in qualitative and quantitative agreement with a more accurate multigrid treatment. Since net energy deposition by neutrinos is favored only in the semitransparent gain layer, the quality of a MGFLD scheme may sensitively depend on the flux limiter chosen (Burrows et al. 2000). The fact that 2D gray FLD schemes have in the past led to neutrino-driven explosions (Herant et al. 1994; Burrows et al. 1995; Fryer & Heger 2000; Fryer & Warren 2002, 2004), while MGFLD schemes appear not to (Walder et al. 2005; Burrows et al. 2006, 2007c), emphasizes the importance of a spectral treatment of neutrino transport.

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\(^5\) We define the heating efficiency as the ratio of the energy deposition rate to the summed electron-neutrino and antielectron-neutrino luminosities. The \( \mu \) and \( \tau \) neutrinos and their antiparticles do not contribute much to the heating.
In 1D, MGFLD and Boltzmann neutrino transport were compared on static hydrodynamic postbounce backgrounds by Janka (1992), Yamada et al. (1999), Messer et al. (1998), and Burrows et al. (2000). Also in 1D, Mezzacappa & Bruenn (1993b) compared Boltzmann transport and MGFLD evolutions in the collapse phase, while Liebendörfer et al. (2004) performed the only comparison to date of 1D long-term Boltzmann and MGFLD supernova evolutions. The static studies all agree that Boltzmann transport yields larger instantaneous neutrino heating rates in the gain region, mostly because of a more slowly decreasing inverse flux factor ($c$ over the ratio of flux to neutrino energy density), a quantity that can be related to the rate of energy absorption. On the other hand, Liebendörfer et al. (2004) find no significant dynamical differences between MGFLD and Boltzmann transport evolutions in their long-term comparison study with the 13 $M_\odot$ progenitor model of Nomoto & Hashimoto (1988).

In this paper, we present 2D multiangle, multigroup neutrino transport supernova calculations using the Newtonian axisymmetric VULCAN/2D code (Livne 1993; Livne et al. 2004; Burrows et al. 2007c). Comparing multi-D Boltzmann and MGFLD treatments, we perform postbounce simulations with VULCAN/2D and compare 2D steady-state snapshots, as well as fully coupled dynamical 2D radiation-hydrodynamics evolutions, for non- and rapidly rotating 20 $M_\odot$ models whose precollapse profiles are taken from Woosley et al. (2002). We analyze our angle-dependent neutrino radiation fields and provide for the first time local 2D map projections of the specific intensity $I_\nu$.

In §2 we describe our hydrodynamic and radiation-transport schemes and the microphysics that we use in this postbounce core-collapse supernova study. In §3 we introduce the presupernova models and the postbounce configurations, the setup, and the methodology of our Boltzmann transport–MGFLD comparisons. In §4 we present results of snapshot Boltzmann transport calculations and compare them with their MGFLD counterparts. In §5 we then discuss time-dependent calculations, the dynamical differences between Boltzmann transport and MGFLD runs, and the consequences for postbounce supernova model evolution. We wrap up in §6 with a summary and critical discussion of the work presented in this paper.

2. METHODS

2.1. Hydrodynamics

We employ the arbitrary Lagrangian-Eulerian (ALE, with second-order total-variation-diminishing [TVD] remap) radiation-hydrodynamics code VULCAN/2D. The hydrodynamics module was first described by Livne (1993).\(^6\) The 2D time-explicit hydrodynamics scheme is second-order accurate (in smooth parts of the flow), unsplit, and implements a finite-difference representation of the Newtonian Euler equations with artificial viscosity on arbitrarily structured grids and in cylindrical coordinates. The computational grid employed here is set up to resemble a spherically-polar grid at radii greater than 20 km and gradually transitions to a Cartesian structure at smaller radii (Ott et al. 2004). This (1) avoids hydrodynamic time step restrictions due to focusing of angular grid lines and (2) liberates the PNS core, thus allowing mass motion along the axis of symmetry.

Self-gravity is implemented via direct grid-based solution of the Newtonian Poisson equation, as described in Burrows et al. (2007c), and we employ the finite-temperature nuclear equation of state of Shen et al. (1998a, 1998b). The calculations are run with 230 logarithmically spaced radial and 120 angular zones (including the inner, quasi-Cartesian region). The grid encompasses a radial extent of 4000 km and the full 180° of the axisymmetric domain.

2.2. Neutrino Transport and Microphysics

VULCAN/2D contains two multigroup, multispecies neutrino radiation-transport options. As we discuss below (§3), both modules are used in this study. The module implementing 2D transport in the MGFLD approximation, evolving the zeroth moment of the radiation field, is discussed in Burrows et al. (2007c). The angle-dependent transport module that evolves the specific neutrino radiation intensity, $I(r, \omega, \epsilon_\nu, \text{species}, t)$, via the method of discrete ordinates ($S_n$), was first discussed by Livne et al. (2004) (see also Morel et al. 1996; Adams & Larsen 2002; Castor 2004).

For convenience and future reference, we define the zeroth, first, and second moments of the radiation field,

$$J_\nu \equiv \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d\Omega I_\nu, \quad (1)$$

$$H_\nu \equiv \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d\Omega \mathbf{n} I_\nu, \quad (2)$$

$$K_\nu \equiv \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d\Omega \mathbf{n} \mathbf{n} I_\nu. \quad (3)$$

Note the vector and tensor natures of $H_\nu$ and $K_\nu$, respectively. Here $\mathbf{n}$ is the radiation field unit vector whose coordinate-dependent components are given in Hubeny & Burrows (2007) for various common coordinate systems. Here we employ cylindrical coordinates (see Fig. 1). The radiation-pressure tensor $\mathbf{K}_\nu$ obeys the trace condition $J_\nu = \text{Tr}(\mathbf{K}_\nu)$ (Mihalas & Mihalas 1984). The spectral neutrino flux is defined as $F_\nu = 4\pi H_\nu$.

As explained in Livne et al. (2004) the time-implicit $S_n$ solver in VULCAN/2D updates the specific intensity in the laboratory
frame via the Boltzmann transport equation (Castor 1972) without fluid-velocity dependence,

\[
\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} + n \cdot \nabla I + \sigma I = S, \tag{4}
\]

where we have dropped the neutrino group index \(\nu\). Here \(\sigma = \sigma^a + \sigma^s\), where \(\sigma^a(r, \varepsilon, \nu, \text{species})\) is the inverse absorption mean free path and \(\sigma^s(r, \varepsilon, \text{species})\) is the inverse scattering mean free path (both equivalent to the corresponding cross section multiplied by the number density). We assume scattering to be isotropic and employ the transport cross section \(\sigma^s = (1 - \langle \cos \theta \rangle)\sigma^s_{\text{S}}\) instead of the total scattering cross section \(\sigma^s_{\text{T}}\). This approach has been shown to work well in spherically symmetric core-collapse supernova calculations (Burrows et al. 2000; Thompson et al. 2003). The right-hand side source term \(S\) equals \(S_{\text{em}}(r, \varepsilon, \text{species}) + \sigma^s J\), where \(S_{\text{em}}\) is the emissivity. The transport grid is identical to the hydrodynamics grid. The specific intensity and its moments are defined at cell centers, facilitating spatially consistent coupling with the scalar hydrodynamics variables, as discussed in Livne et al. (2004). Radiation stress at cell corners is computed via linear interpolation employing cell-centered values of the radiation flux.

As a consequence of the neglect of \(O(\nu/c)\) terms in our transport formulation, neutrino advection, Doppler shifts, and aberration effects are not considered. This greatly limits the computational complexity of the problem, but its impact on the transport solution depends on the particular choice of reference frame and was examined in Hubeny & Burrows (2007). It is clear that around core bounce and neutrino breakout, during the nonlinear phase of the SASI hundreds of milliseconds after bounce, and in the case of rapid rotation, including \(O(\nu/c)\) terms is advisable. We leave them out here in order to make long-term multiangle radiation-hydrodynamics simulations feasible and allow direct comparison with the MGFLD variant of VULCAN/2D. Full \(O(\nu/c)\) Boltzmann transport with energy redistribution will be addressed using the code BETHE currently under development by a subset of our group (Hubeny & Burrows 2007; Murphy & Burrows 2008).

We discretize the angular radiation distribution evenly in \(\cos \theta\) from \(-1\) to 1 and in \(\varphi\) evenly from \(0\) to \(\pi\) (treating only one hemisphere because of axial symmetry). We make the number of \(\varphi\)-bins a function of \(\cos \theta\) to tile the hemisphere more or less uniformly in solid angle. In our time-dependent runs we employ 8 \(\cos \theta\) bins, resulting in a total of 40 angular zones. Steady-state radiation fields are computed with 8 \(\cos \theta\) bins, 12 \(\cos \varphi\) bins (92 total angular zones), and 16 \(\cos \varphi\) bins (162 total angular zones) at each spatial grid point.

The standard set of neutrino-matter interactions listed in Thompson et al. (2003) is included and all computations are performed with 16 discrete neutrino energy bins, approximately logarithmically spaced from 2.5 to 220 MeV. Electron neutrinos \(\overline{\nu}_e\) and electron antineutrinos \((\overline{\nu}_e)\) are treated independently while we lump together the heavy-lepton \(\mu\), \(\tau\), and \(\overline{\nu}\) neutrinos into one group (“\(\overline{\nu}_\mu\)”). The code is very efficiently parallelized via MPI in energy groups and species. As an additional simplification, we do not include energy redistribution by inelastic neutrino-electron scattering. Such energy redistribution and scattering are of modest (~10%) relevance for the trapped electron fraction \((Y_e)\) and entropy of the inner core at core bounce, but otherwise arguably quite subdominant (Thompson et al. 2003).

2.3. A Hybrid Approach: Combining \(S_n\) and MGFLD Neutrino Transport

The time-implicit \(S_n\) scheme in VULCAN/2D is iterative and suffers convergence problems in regions where the transport problem is scattering-dominated and the optical depth is high \((\tau \approx 5)\). As a consequence, Livne et al. (2004) limited the time step at post-bounce times to \(\sim 0.1–0.3 \mu s\) to ensure accuracy and stability. In the present study, we take a different approach and introduce a hybrid \(S_n\)-MGFLD transport scheme that treats the quasi-isotropic transport problem in the optically thick PNS interior in the diffusion approximation and transitions to full multangle \(S_n\) transport in a region of moderate optical depth \((\tau \approx 2)\), but that is still significantly interior to the neutrinospheres \((\tau \sim \frac{1}{2})\), where the neutrinos decouple from matter and begin to stream.

We chose a radius of 20 km in our calculations for the transition from MGFLD to \(S_n\). This is a sensible choice, (1) because the neutrinosphere radii of all groups (energies/species) remain larger than 20 km throughout the postbounce period our simulations cover and, (2) because 20 km also marks the radius at which the transition from the inner irregular quasi-Cartesian grid to the outer regular grid is complete. This boundary is smooth and the \(S_n\)-MGFLD transition does not suffer from Cartesian cornerstone effects.

The transition is implemented by setting up for each energy group and species an approximate specific intensity \(I_0\) at the centers of the zones below the \(S_n\)-MGFLD interface using the information available from MGFLD. This approximate \(I_0\) is obtained via its angular expansion to first order in \(n\) (the Eddington approximation):

\[
I_0 = I_0 + 3(n \cdot H). \tag{5}
\]

Here \(I_0 = F_{\text{MGFLD}}\) and \(H = F_{\text{MGFLD}}/4\pi\), where \(F_{\text{MGFLD}}\) is the flux and \(H\) is the first moment of \(I_0\). In MGFLD, \(F_{\text{MGFLD}}\) is computed via

\[
F_{\text{MGFLD}} = -\text{FL}(D) \nabla J, \tag{6}
\]

where

\[
D = \frac{1}{3\sigma}, \tag{7}
\]

with Bruenn’s flux limiter\(^7\) (Bruenn 1985)

\[
\text{FL}(D) = \frac{D}{1 + D|\nabla J|/J}. \tag{8}
\]

The first angular moment of equation (5), \(F_{\text{SG}} = \int n I d\Omega\), is then equal\(^8\) to \(F_{\text{MGFLD}}\) and the \(S_n\)-MGFLD matching is consistent and provides a representation of the specific intensity \(I\) that is accurate to first order in \(n\). Given the essentially isotropic neutrino radiation field deep inside the PNS, this approximation yields excellent results. We note that the scheme makes the implicit assumption that the radial gradient of the mean intensity at the transition radius is always negative or zero. This condition is generally fulfilled in PNSs.

3. INITIAL MODELS AND SETUP

We employ the spherically symmetric solar-metallicity 20 \(M_\odot\) (at ZAMS) model s20.0 from the stellar evolutionary study of

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\(^7\) We use Bruenn’s flux limiter in VULCAN/2D, because Burrows et al. (2000) found it to perform best in their comparison of flux limiters with angle-dependent transport.

\(^8\) Given the limited number of angular zones of \(I\) and the fact that we are not using Gaussian-quadrature-type angular zoning, the integrals of \(I\) are only accurate to \(\sim 5\%\) when eight \(\theta\)-zones are used and accurate to \(\sim 1\%\) when 12 or more \(\theta\)-zones are employed. To ensure conservation of energy in the \(S_n\)-MGFLD matching, we employ purely geometrical and temporally constant correction factors to enforce \(F_{\text{SG}} = F_{\text{MGFLD}}\) at the interface.
Woosley et al. (2002) who evolved it to the onset of core collapse. At that moment, its iron core mass is \( \sim 1.46 M_\odot \) and its central density has reached \( \sim 8.4 \times 10^{15} \text{ g cm}^{-3} \). A graph of the progenitor’s pre-collapse density stratification as a function of enclosed mass can be found in Figure 1 of Burrows et al. (2007c). Note that in the study of Woosley et al. (2002) iron core mass and extent vary non-monotonically in the 10–20 \( M_\odot \) ZAMS mass range and that their solar-metallicity 20 \( M_\odot \) model has, in fact, a more compact central configuration than the corresponding 15 \( M_\odot \) model. Stellar evolution theory of massive stars has yet to converge and studies by different groups do not presently yield the same presupernova structures.

We set up two initial models in VULCAN/2D: s20.nr and s20.\( \pi \). Both models are mapped from 1D onto our 2D hydrodynamic grid under the assumption of spherical symmetry. Model s20.nr is kept nonrotating, while we impose an initial angular velocity profile in model s20.\( \pi \) according to the rotation law

\[
\Omega(\varpi) = \frac{\Omega_0}{1 + (\varpi/A)^2},
\]

where \( \varpi \) is the distance from the rotation axis and \( A \) is a parameter governing pre-collapse differential rotation. This rotation law enforces constant angular velocity on cylindrical shells and, for sensible choices of \( A \), reproduces qualitatively (Ott et al. 2006b) predictions from presupernova models that include rotation in a 1D fashion (Heger et al. 2000, 2005). Since the computational complexity of this study inhibits us from performing a sweep of the \( \Omega_0-A \) parameter space, we chose \( A = 1000 \text{ km} \) and \( \Omega_0 = \pi \text{ rad s}^{-1} \). Hence, the initial central period is 2 s; this is an identical rotational setup to the fiducial model in Burrows et al. (2007b).

As discussed in Ott et al. (2006b), 2 s is rather short, leads to a rapidly rotating postbounce configuration with a milliseconds-period PNS, and, unless significant postbounce spin-down (e.g., via MHD torques) occurs, is inconsistent with average pulsar birth spin estimates. We chose such rapid rotation simply because we wish to study a postbounce supernova core with significant rotationally induced asymmetry. Key model parameters and characteristics are summarized in Table 1.

We collapse both models with the MGFLD variant of VULCAN/2D and evolve them to \( \sim 160 \text{ ms} \) after core bounce. Then, we transition to \( S_N \) Boltzmann transport and solve for the stationary neutrino radiation field based on the artificially frozen hydrodynamics data at this postbounce time. Once we have obtained a converged angle-dependent radiation field, we activate neutrino-matter coupling and hydrodynamics and evolve in time the coupled radiation-hydrodynamics equations. For direct comparison, we also continue the MGFLD simulations to later times. All steady-state snapshots are computed in three momentum-space angular resolutions, \( S_{16}, S_{12}, \) and \( S_8 \), while the long-term evolution calculations could only be performed with \( S_8 \), due to computational constraints.

In Figure 2 we show entropy color maps of both models at 160 ms after bounce. Fluid velocity vectors are superposed, providing a snapshot of the flow. By 160 ms after bounce, in the non-rotating model s20.nr convection in the high-entropy \([10^{10} \text{ K}] \) baryon gain layer has developed fully. The shock sits at \( \sim 175 \text{ km} \) and is slightly deformed by the onset of the SASI. Not visible on the scale of this figure is the lepton-gradient-driven convective region deep inside the PNS, which was extensively discussed in Dessart et al. (2006a).

Determined by the discontinuity in the electron fraction, \( Y_e \), at the outer edge of the iron core where \( Y_e \sim 0.5 \).

The PNS in the rapidly rotating model s20.\( \pi \) is rotationally flattened, with unshocked low-entropy inner-core pole-equator asymmetry ratios below \( \sim 0.5 \). The shock is slightly prolate and has attained an average radius of \( \sim 230 \text{ km} \). The moment-of-inertia-weighted mean period of the unshocked (specific entropy \( s \leq 3k_B \)) inner core is \( \sim 2.0 \text{ ms} \). Differential rotation between \( \sim 20 \) and \( 200 \text{ km} \) is very large, with the angular velocity \( \Omega \) dropping from \( \sim 1600 \text{ rad s}^{-1} \) to a mere \( \sim 15 \text{ rad s}^{-1} \) over this radial equatorial interval. Yet, the specific angular momentum \( J \) is still monotonically and rapidly increasing. It flattens, but does not decrease, only at radii greater than \( \sim 100 \text{ km} \). This positive gradient in \( J \) stabilizes the postbounce core against convective instability at low latitudes (Fryer & Heger 2000), confining overturn to the polar regions and large equatorial radii where the \( J \) gradient is less steep.

### 4. RESULTS: SNAPSHOTS

In this section, we present our \( S_N \) multiangle transport results for steady-state model snapshots at 160 ms after core bounce. We diagnose the angle-dependent neutrino radiation fields and carry out a comparison between multiangle and MGFLD transport results based on local and global radiation-field variables.

#### 4.1. Angular Distributions

The quintessential problem in treating neutrino radiation transport in core-collapse supernova cores is the fact that the neutrino transport mean free path, the average distance a neutrino can travel without experiencing scattering or absorption, changes by orders of magnitude from inside to outside. Moreover, the neutrino transport mean free path \( \lambda_\nu \) varies locally strongly with neutrino energy \( (\propto \varepsilon_\nu^2) \) and matter density. As a consequence, gray transport schemes are problematic, since neutrino-energy averages can be defined only locally and the mean neutrino energy varies significantly throughout the supernova core.

From a more geometric point of view, the radiation field in momentum space goes from being completely isotropic (net flux \( \sim \text{zero} \)) to being focused into the radial direction (“forward-peaked”) in the free-streaming regime. In the MGFLD approximation, the mean intensity \( J_\nu \) is evolved in time and the angular information, in particular the information on the degree of forward-peaking, is captured only by computing spatial gradients in \( J_\nu \) and employing a flux limiter to interpolate between diffusion and free streaming.

The \( S_N \) Boltzmann solver in VULCAN/2D is able to self-consistently handle the transition from isotropic to forward-peaked radiation. Figure 3 depicts the angular distribution in the azimuthal angle \( \varphi \) (see Fig. 1) of the normalized specific spectral neutrino intensity \( I_\nu \) for electron neutrinos at 12.6 MeV. In Figure 3 the polar angle \( \theta \) is set equal to \( \pi/2 \) and the \( \varphi \)-distribution is given at various radii in the equatorial plane of model s20.nr. At 30 km from the center, the radiation field of \( t_{\nu 8} \) at \( \varepsilon_\nu = 12.6 \text{ MeV} \),
is nearly isotropic, which corresponds to a circle in Figure 3. With increasing radius (and, of course, decreasing matter density) the transport mean free path at fixed $\langle C_i'^2 \rangle$ increases and the radiation field gradually departs from isotropy and becomes more and more forward-peaked. We define the neutrinosphere as the surface at which the optical depth $\langle \tau_\nu \rangle$ given by

$$\langle \tau_\nu \rangle = \int_0^\infty \frac{dr}{\lambda_\nu},$$

is equal to $\frac{1}{3}$. At around this $\tau_\nu$, the neutrinos decouple from matter and begin to stream freely. At 160 ms after bounce in model s20.nr, the 12.6 MeV $\nu_e$ neutrinosphere is located at $r = 55$ km.

As is obvious from Figure 3, the radiation field at the neutrinosphere is not yet dramatically forward-peaked, but becomes so with increasing radius. However, complete forward-peaking only obtains at radii $r \geq 250$–300 km, beyond which the angular resolution of our $S_n$ scheme becomes suboptimal, even with $n = 16$. However, calculations with varying number of angles reveal that the transition from isotropy to moderate and large anisotropy is adequately reproduced at small and intermediate radii (out to $r \approx 200$ km) even in the case of $S_8$.

For the purpose of displaying and studying the local neutrino radiation field, we provide equal-area Hammer-type map projections (Hammer 1892). Such map projections are new to the field of neutrino radiation transport and beautifully reveal the multi-D angular dependence of the radiation field. In Figure 4 we present such Hammer projections on the equator for $\nu_e$ at selected equatorial radii, and for $\nu_\tau$ neutrinos at $\varepsilon_\nu = 12.6$ MeV. At each radius, we normalize the specific intensity by its local maximum. Shown is the variation with $\varphi$ at fixed $\theta = \pi/2$. The graphs are based on a $S_{16}$ calculation. At $r = 30$ km, the radiation field is practically isotropic, but is already appreciably forward-peaked at the neutrinosphere ($r_n = 55$ km, optical depth $\tau = \frac{1}{3}$) and thereafter smoothly transitions over $\sim 200$–300 km to the free-streaming limit.

Fig. 2.—Entropy color maps of the nonrotating model s20.nr (left) and the rotating model s20.$\pi$ (right) at 160 ms into their postbounce evolution computed with MGFLD. Velocity vectors are superposed with vector lengths saturated at $1.0 \times 10^9$ cm s$^{-1}$. Model s20.nr has a practically spherical PNS and shows features of violent overturn in the convectively unstable postshock region. The shock radius in this model is $\sim 175$ km at this point and the onset of the SASI is apparent from the slightly deformed shock. Model s20.$\pi$, on the other hand, has a strongly rotationally flattened PNS and convective overturn is confined to polar regions. These regions exhibit the globally highest entropies and greatest entropy gradients, since the polar velocity divergence at the shock is the highest. The shock radius at this time in model s20.$\pi$ is $\sim 230$ km and no SASI features are visible.

Fig. 3.—Polar plot of the normalized specific intensity $I_k(r, \theta, \varphi)$ at 160 ms after core bounce, at selected equatorial radii, and for $\nu_e$ neutrinos at $\varepsilon_\nu = 12.6$ MeV. At each radius, we normalize the specific intensity by its local maximum. Shown is the variation with $\varphi$ at fixed $\theta = \pi/2$. The graphs are based on a $S_{16}$ calculation. At $r = 30$ km, the radiation field is practically isotropic, but is already appreciably forward-peaked at the neutrinosphere ($r_n = 55$ km, optical depth $\tau = \frac{1}{3}$) and thereafter smoothly transitions over $\sim 200$–300 km to the free-streaming limit.

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have regions on the sphere with high intensity appear red and regions of low intensity appear black.

For neutrinos on the equator, the momentum-space forward direction is ($\theta = 90^\circ, \varphi = 0$). Electron neutrinos generally have the shortest transport mean free path of all species in the core-collapse context and decouple from matter at the lowest densities. The Hammer projection in the top left corner of Figure 4 of the $\varepsilon_\nu = 12.6$ MeV equatorial radiation field at 60 km corresponds roughly to the blue line graph in Figure 3, which portrays only its variation with $\varphi$. At fixed neutrino energy group $\varepsilon_\nu$, electron antineutrinos and $\nu_\mu$ neutrinos decouple at smaller radii. Hence, as Figure 4 shows, at 60 km, they already manifest greater local anisotropy than the $\nu_e$-s. This trend continues at all considered radii in Figure 4.

In Figure 5 we again present Hammer projections of the normalized specific intensity, but this time consider only $\nu_e$-s, keep the radius fixed at 150 km, and vary the neutrino energy and the angular position on the grid. The bottom row of Figure 5 shows the normalized $I_s$ at the equator ($\theta = 90^\circ$) and for the 12.6 and 35.7 MeV $\nu_e$ energy groups. The center and top rows show the same groups at $\theta = 45^\circ$ and at $\theta = 0^\circ$, respectively. From the discussion of Figure 4, we are already familiar with the overall radiation field geometry. The transport mean free path scales roughly inversely with $\varepsilon_\nu^2$. Hence, at any given position in the postbounce supernova core, more energetic neutrinos should be locally more isotropically distributed in momentum space than less energetic ones. The less forward-peaked angular $I_s$ distribution of the higher energy neutrinos reflects this.

The degree of forward-peaking in $\theta$ and $\varphi$ of the radiation field in the quasi-spherically symmetric nonrotating model s20.nr is essentially independent of the angular position on the grid and the radiation fields at any given radius can be transformed into one another by simple rotation. Because of the aspherical and oblate distribution of matter in the rotating model s20.\pi, the forward-peaking is also a function of polar angle. Due to its PNS’s oblateness (see Fig. 2), the neutrinos generally decouple at significantly smaller radii near the pole than near the equator, in turn leading to more strongly forward-peaked radiation fields in the polar than in the equatorial regions (Janka & Mönchmeyer 1989a, 1989b; Walder et al. 2005; Dessart et al. 2006b, 2007).

\subsection*{4.2. Eddington Factors}

The radiation-pressure tensor $K_\nu$, also known as the Eddington tensor, represents the second angular moment of the specific intensity and is defined by equation (3). In the following, we use its normalized variant $k_\nu = K_\nu / I_s$.

In spherical symmetry, $k_\nu$ is diagonal and has a single independent component, the Eddington factor $k_\nu$. For isotropic radiation, $k_\nu = \frac{1}{4}$ and $k_\nu = \text{diag}(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4})$, while in the streaming regime, $k_\nu = 1$ and $k_\nu = \text{diag}(1, 0, 0)$. In the transition from isotropy to free streaming, $k_\nu$ generally varies from $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1, but in special cases, e.g., enhanced radiation perpendicular to the radial direction, may assume values below $\frac{1}{4}$. Note that one of the common assumptions of MGFLD is the Eddington closure, setting $k_\nu = \frac{1}{4}$ everywhere.

In axisymmetry and ignoring velocity-dependent terms, the Eddington tensor has four independent components whose individual meaning depends on the coordinates chosen.\footnote{Off-diagonal components of the Eddington tensor can be related to radiation shear viscosity (Mihalas & Mihalas 1984), which we do not consider here.} We assume
and transform to spherical coordinates for our discussion, since they make the interpretation of the components most straightforward. In Figure 6 we present radial profiles of normalized Eddington tensor components at selected electron-neutrino energies $\varepsilon_\nu$ in models s20.nr and s20.$\pi$. The nonrotating model can be considered nearly spherically symmetric, and, hence, should and does exhibit the expected Eddington-factor systematics. At small radii and high densities, where neutrinos and matter are in equilibrium, $k_{rr} = k_{\varphi\varphi} = k_{\varphi\varphi} = 1$ and with increasing radius, $k_{rr} \rightarrow 1$ and $\{k_{\varphi\varphi}, k_{\varphi\varphi}\} \rightarrow 0$. As expected from the basic decoupling hierarchy, the value of the Eddington tensor components is a strong function of $\varepsilon_\nu$. Lower $\varepsilon_\nu$ neutrinos decouple at higher densities, and, hence, have Eddington tensor components which depart from $1$ at smaller radii than $\varepsilon_\nu$'s of higher energy. This systematics applies, of course, to $\nu_s$ and $\nu_{\bar{s}}$'s as well. The off-diagonal component $k_{\varphi\varphi}$ is zero in the isotropic region, does not exhibit clear systematics, and stays an order of magnitude smaller than the diagonal components for all $\varepsilon_\nu$ and species.

**Fig. 5.**—Hammer map projections of the interpolated (smoothed) normalized specific intensity $I_\nu(\theta, \varphi)/I_\nu$ at 160 ms postbounce in model s20.nr. The projections are set up in identical fashion to Fig. 4. Shown here is the variation of the angular distribution with energy group (columns) and angular position (rows) for electron neutrinos. The radius is fixed to 150 km. As expected in the coordinates used for the $S_n$ transport in VULCAN/2D (see Fig. 1), $I_\nu$ becomes forward-peaked into $\theta = 0^\circ$ and degenerate in $\varphi$ along the pole ($\theta = 0^\circ$), forward-peaked into $\theta = 45^\circ$, $\varphi = 0^\circ$ on the diagonal ($\theta = 45^\circ$), and forward-peaked $\theta = 90^\circ$, $\varphi = 0^\circ$ on the equator ($\theta = 90^\circ$). The degree of the radiation anisotropy and its variation from forward-peaked at $\varepsilon_\nu = 12.6$ MeV to less forward-peaked at $\varepsilon_\nu = 37.5$ MeV is apparent.

**Fig. 6.**—Normalized Eddington tensor $k$ components in spherical coordinates as a function of neutrino energy $\varepsilon_\nu$ and spherical radius $r$. Left: Angular-averaged $k_{rr}$ and $k_{\varphi\varphi}$ for electron neutrinos in model s20.nr. Here $k_{\varphi\varphi}$ is not shown, but has essentially identical behavior to $k_{\varphi\varphi}$. The diagonal components start out with $\frac{1}{2}$ at small radii, as expected for the prevailing isotropic radiation fields. With increasing radius (and decreasing density), the local radiation field becomes more anisotropic and forward-peaked. This occurs at progressively larger radii with increasing $\varepsilon_\nu$ and is reflected by the increasing $k_{rr}$ and the decreasing $k_{\varphi\varphi}$ in the plot. The off-diagonal component $k_{\varphi\varphi}$ is not shown, does not exhibit clear systematics, and is generally a factor of $10–100$ smaller than the diagonal components. Middle: Same as left, but showing profiles extracted from regions near the pole in the rapidly rotating model s20.$\pi$. Interior to $\sim 100$ km, $k_{rr}$ and $k_{\varphi\varphi}$ show the same systematics with $\varepsilon_\nu$ as in the nonrotating model. However, at larger radii they are reversed, $k_{rr}$ and $k_{\varphi\varphi}$ exhibiting greater isotropy for lower $\varepsilon_\nu$. See text for discussion. Right: Equatorial profiles of $k_{rr}$, $k_{\varphi\varphi}$, and $k_{\varphi\varphi}$ for electron neutrinos in model s20.nr. Due to rotational flattening of the PNS, the transition to free streaming occurs over a much larger range of radii near the equator. Here $k_{\varphi\varphi}$ shows a significantly larger variation as a function of energy than $k_{\varphi\varphi}$.
The rotating model s20.π has a postshock configuration that is far from spherically symmetric (Fig. 2). We present in Figure 6 separate plots for its Eddington tensor components in regions near the pole and near the equator. In the polar regions and at small radii \((r \lesssim 100 \text{ km})\), the Eddington tensor components show the same qualitative behavior as in model s20.nr. At larger radii, however, the systematics are reversed and lower \(\varepsilon_\nu\) electron neutrinos have more isotropic radiation fields (smaller \(k_{\nu\nu}\)) than their higher \(\varepsilon_\nu\) counterparts. Analyzing their radiation fields and matter coupling in detail, we find that this surprising feature is a consequence of electron capture and the polar compactness (large density gradient due to rotation) of the supernova core. Electron capture near the shock leads to isotropic neutrino emission that can locally isotropize the radiation field in semitransparent regions. With decreasing density and temperature, the mean energy of neutrinos emitted by capture processes shifts to lower \(\varepsilon_\nu\). This leads to greater local isotropization of lower \(\varepsilon_\nu\) neutrinos, which in turn is reflected in the more slowly increasing \(k_{\nu\nu}\) of these neutrinos. This interpretation is confirmed by the fact that we do not find any such feature in the Eddington tensor components of the \(\nu_\mu\) neutrinos that are not produced in capture processes. We also do not observe significant isotropization in the \(\bar{\nu}_e\) radiation fields, since the emission of \(\bar{\nu}_e\)s by positron capture on neutrons is weaker due to the lower positron abundance.

In regions of model s20.π near the equator where the PNS is most extended, the neutrino radiation fields stay isotropic to large radii and decouple from matter only slowly with radius. Since the matter densities in the equatorial plane stay roughly a factor of 4 larger than in the polar regions, the crossover feature in matter densities in the equatorial plane stay roughly a factor of

4.3. Global Radiation Field Diagnostics: Luminosities, Spectra, Flux Factors, and Neutrino Energy Deposition

So far we have studied aspects of neutrino transport inaccessible to MGFLD. We now go on to discuss radiation field diagnostics that facilitate a \(S_\nu\)-MGFLD comparison. For further reference and comparison with previous studies (Janka 1992; Messer et al. 1998; Burrows et al. 2000), we define the neutrino luminosity per species \(L_{\nu_i}\) at spherical radius \(r\),

\[
L_{\nu_i}(r) = \int d\omega \int d\varepsilon_\nu F_\nu(r, \varepsilon_\nu, \nu_i) r^2,
\]

where \(F_\nu\) is the spectral radial neutrino flux in species \(\nu_i\) at energy \(\varepsilon_\nu\). Here \(d\omega\) is the spatial solid-angle element, \(d\omega = 2\pi \sin \theta d\theta d\phi\) in axisymmetry. Furthermore, we define the mean inverse flux factor <\(1/F_\nu\)>,

\[
\left< \frac{1}{F_\nu} \right> = \frac{\int d\varepsilon_\nu E_{\nu_i}(\varepsilon_\nu, \nu_i) \int d\varepsilon_\nu F_\nu(r, \varepsilon_\nu, \nu_i)}{\int d\varepsilon_\nu E_{\nu_i}(\varepsilon_\nu)}.
\]

where \(E(\varepsilon_\nu, \nu_i) = 4\pi^{-1} j(\varepsilon_\nu, \nu_i)\) is the spectral neutrino energy density, and the neutrino rms energies are

\[
E_{\text{rms, } \nu_i} = \sqrt{\int d\varepsilon_\nu \varepsilon_\nu^2 j(\varepsilon_\nu)}.
\]

The above three quantities are particularly useful diagnostics, since the \(\varepsilon_\nu\)-averaged energy deposition rate by charged-current absorption of \(\nu_e\) and \(\bar{\nu}_e\) on neutrons and protons scales linearly with their product (Messer et al. 1998).

4.3.1. Model s20.nr

In Figure 7 we plot neutrino luminosities \(L_{\nu_i}\), angle-averaged mean inverse flux factors, and the angle-averaged \(E_{\text{rms}}\) for the
but MGFLD is overestimating slightly the total asymptotic luminosity (cf. Fig. 7). Intermediate-time postbounce supernova calculations (e.g., Thompson et al. 2003) with the “ν_e” neutrinos peaking at the highest energies, since they decouple from the fluid at the smallest radii. MGFLD and S_ν spectra agree closely in shape, but MGFLD is overestimating slightly the total asymptotic luminosity (cf. Fig. 7).

The middle panel of Figure 7 shows the ε-averaged inverse flux factors for the three neutrino species in the MGFLD and S_ν steady-state calculations of model s20.nr. For isotropic radiation ⟨1/F_ν⟩ tends to infinity, while it approaches 1 when the radiation field becomes forward-peaked at low optical depth. Focusing on the gain region between r_gain and the shock position, we find that MGFLD yields mean inverse flux factors that are up to ~5% larger for ν_e than for ν_μ and ν_τ (less for the other species) in the inner gain region. At radii ≥ 150 km, the MGFLD ⟨1/F_ν⟩ quickly drops to 1 (free streaming), becoming up to 8% lower than the S_ν values in the outer gain region. We note that “ν_μ” interact only via neutral-current weak interactions, hence, decouple from matter at higher densities and temperatures. Next in the decoupling hierarchy are electron antineutrinos followed by electron neutrinos. Both S_ν and MGFLD realize this hierarchy at radii below ~150 km, beyond which MGFLD rapidly transitions to free streaming irrespective of neutrino species.

Postbounce snapshot at 160 ms of the nonrotating model s20.nr. The asymptotic total luminosity at this time is ~150 B s⁻¹ and is already dominated by the thermally produced “ν_e” that cool the PNS, but contribute little to the heating in the gain region, since they cannot take part in charged-current absorption processes. In this quasi-spherically symmetric model, we define a spherical gain radius r_gain as the radial position beyond which net neutrino energy deposition occurs. At 160 ms after bounce, r_gain ~ 90 km and the gain region extends almost out to the shock at ~175 km. The MGFLD luminosities in Figure 7 are systematically lower by ~5% for ν_e, ~3.5% for ν_μ, and ~4% for ν_τ, but qualitatively resemble the S_ν luminosity profiles in the gain region. At around the shock position, all MGFLD luminosities increase by ~5%. This is a due to the combination of the artificially spread-out shock that cool the PNS, but contribute little to the heating in the gain region, since they cannot take part in charged-current absorption processes. In this quasi-spherically symmetric model, we define a spherical gain radius r_gain as the radial position beyond which net neutrino energy deposition occurs. At 160 ms after bounce, r_gain ~ 90 km and the gain region extends almost out to the shock at ~175 km. The MGFLD luminosities in Figure 7 are systematically lower by ~5% for ν_e, ~3.5% for ν_μ, and ~4% for ν_τ, but qualitatively resemble the S_ν luminosity profiles in the gain region. At around the shock position, all MGFLD luminosities increase by ~5%. This is due to the combination of the artificially spread-out shock that cool the PNS, but contribute little to the heating in the gain region, since they cannot take part in charged-current absorption processes.

The behavior we observe with radius of the luminosity and mean inverse flux factor agrees with the general findings of Messer et al. (1998). In particular, we agree with their assessment that the artificially accelerated transition to free streaming in MGFLD occurs not at the neutrinospheres (which are generally below the gain region), but at relatively large radii within which most of the neutrino source is enclosed.

In the bottom panel of Figure 7 we present profiles of the rms neutrino energy for all species in MGFLD and S_ν snapshots of model s20.nr. The corresponding luminosity spectra (extracted at 500 km) are shown in Figure 8. Both MGFLD and S_ν capture the energy systematics that is set essentially by the matter temperature in the decoupling region. Neutrino species that decouple at smaller radii (higher densities and temperatures) have higher rms energies and harder spectra than neutrinos decoupling at larger radii. Quantitative differences in rms energies and in the spectra between MGFLD and S_ν are small, the slightly higher MGFLD spectral luminosities being mostly a result of the artificially enhanced MGFLD luminosities near and beyond the shock.

We now conclude our discussion of the 160 ms postbounce snapshot of model s20.nr by considering the instantaneous neutrino energy deposition rates. Figure 9 depicts angle-averaged radial profiles of the specific neutrino heating/cooling rates in units of erg (g s)⁻¹. The region of net gain extends from ~90 km to the shock radius and the chief contribution to the heating comes from charged-current ν_e-capture processes on protons, exceeding the θ-angle averaged ν_e-capture on neutrons by a factor of 2 and more in the narrow radial interval from 145 to 175 km. MGFLD underestimates the specific net gain in the angle-averaged radial profile by at most 10% locally and by ~5% on average.

The total integral net gain predicted by S_0 is 2.13 B s⁻¹. This is only 3% larger than the MGFLD value of 2.07 B s⁻¹. We note in passing that S_0 overestimates the integrated gain rate by at most ~1.6% while S_5 agrees with S_0 to better than ~0.3%.

Figure 10 depicts the 2D distribution of neutrino heating and cooling in the snapshot of model s20.nr considered here. Regions of net gain range from green to red, cooling regions are blue to

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**Fig. 8.** Neutrino luminosity spectra extracted at a radius of 500 km for ν_e, ν_μ, and ν_τ neutrinos at 160 ms after bounce in model s20.nr. Solid lines correspond to S_ν results, while dashed lines are obtained using MGFLD. The spectra have the canonical shape and the quantitative behavior found in nonrotating intermediate-time postbounce supernova calculations (e.g., Thompson et al. 2003) with the “ν_e” neutrinos peaking at the highest energies, since they decouple from the fluid at the smallest radii. MGFLD and S_ν spectra agree closely in shape, but MGFLD is overestimating slightly the total asymptotic luminosity (cf. Fig. 7).

**Fig. 9.** Angle-averaged specific neutrino net gain profile in the s20.nr model at 160 ms after core bounce. Shown are the MGFLD results, as well as results from steady-state S_ν calculations with 8, 12, and 16 θ-angles, corresponding to a total number of angular zones of 40, 92, and 162. The gain region extends from ~90 km to the shock position at ~175 km. The three different S_ν resolutions yield net gain profiles that agree very well (relative differences below 1% even for S_0). The MGFLD calculation underestimates the total net gain in the outer gain region by at most 10% locally and ≤5% on average.
The radiation fields are oblate in the PNS core and deform to a prolate shape farther out. Note that bounce. Isoenergy density contours (4\(\pi J/c\) in erg \(\text{cm}^{-2} \text{MeV}^{-1}\)) at a representative \(\varepsilon_\nu\) of 12.6 MeV and for all species. Numbers for both \(S_v\) and MGFLD are compared side by side. The global radiation-field anisotropy systematics are qualitatively similar to what was found in the previous MGFLD rotating core-collapse study of Walder et al. (2005). At small radii, the radiation field (energy density) follows the density distribution and is oblate, but in the snapshot at 160 ms after bounce shown in Figure 11 has a pole-to-equator ratio of only 1:2. This ratio increases as the PNS cools and contracts. The polar compactness of the PNS core leads to a decoupling of matter and neutrinos at smaller radii in regions near the pole, resulting there in greater spectral fluxes and in a prolate distribution of neutrino fluxes and isoenergy-density contours.

The most striking difference between the \(S_v\) and MGFLD radiation fields presented in Figure 11 is the former’s much greater prolateness at large radii for all species (and all energies, although we show only \(\varepsilon_\nu = 12.6 \text{ MeV}\)). With the MGFLD prescription, the prolateness of the flux is muted and does not extend to large radii. Although the radiation fields are smoothed out at radii \(\gtrsim 150 \text{ km}\) by MGFLD, the \(S_v\) fluxes and energy densities remain prolate through the entire postshock region and beyond. At radii outside \(\sim 200 \text{ km}\), the typical striping pattern of \(S_v\) (Castor 2004) becomes visible, although not yet dominant.

In Figure 12 we plot line profiles of the polar and equatorial “luminosities” \((4\pi J/c)\) of each neutrino species. Profiles obtained with \(S_v\) and MGFLD are shown. The asymptotic luminosities obtained with \(S_v\) have pole-to-equator ratios of 2.2 (\(\nu_e\)), 1.8 (\(\bar{\nu}_e\)), and 2.4 (“\(\nu_x\)”). MGFLD smooths out these large asymmetries, yielding higher equatorial and significantly lower polar luminosities at radii greater than \(\sim 100 \text{ km}\). This is consistent with the more qualitative findings based on Figure 11. We note that the MGFLD variant of VULCAN/2D still conserves total flux and energy. For the \(S_v\) calculation, we find total asymptotic luminosities of 21.1 B s\(^{-1}\) for \(\nu_e\) neutrinos (MGFLD: 22.7 B s\(^{-1}\)), 22.7 B s\(^{-1}\) for \(\bar{\nu}_e\) neutrinos (MGFLD: 22.6 B s\(^{-1}\)), and 53.0 B s\(^{-1}\) for “\(\nu_x\)” neutrinos (MGFLD: 52.3 B s\(^{-1}\)). Hence, \(S_v\) and MGFLD total luminosities per species agree very well (and differ at most by \(\sim 3.5\%\) in the \(\nu_e\) case), while their flux distributions disagree significantly.

Fig. 10.—Two-dimensional color map of the specific (per gram) net gain distribution in model s20.nr at 160 ms after bounce. The left half of the plot depicts the MGFLD result; \(S_v\) is shown on the right. The differences between \(S_v\) and MGFLD are marginal at this time in this model and are practically indiscernible by eye. As a consequence of convection in the gain region and the onset of the SASI, even this nonrotating model exhibits significant angular and radial variations in neutrino energy deposition not captured by the average profiles in Fig. 9.

4.3.2. Model s20.\(\pi\)

As we discussed in the context of the Eddington tensor in § 4.2 and as may be guessed from the significant rotational deformation of the core in model s20.\(\pi\) (Fig. 2), the radiation field in this model exhibits a strong rotationally induced asymmetry between pole and equator. In Figure 11 we present 2D color maps of the radial spectral flux component (in erg \(\text{s}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{MeV}^{-1}\)) and isoenergy-density contours (4\(\pi J/c\) in erg \(\text{cm}^{-2} \text{MeV}^{-1}\)) at a representative \(\varepsilon_\nu\) of 12.6 MeV and for all species. Numbers for both \(S_v\) and MGFLD are compared side by side. The global radiation-field anisotropy systematics are qualitatively similar to what was found in the previous MGFLD rotating core-collapse study of Walder et al. (2005). At small radii, the radiation field (energy density) follows the density distribution and is oblate, but in the snapshot at 160 ms after bounce shown in Figure 11 has a pole-to-equator ratio of only 1:2. This ratio increases as the PNS cools and contracts. The polar compactness of the PNS core leads to a decoupling of matter and neutrinos at smaller radii in regions near the pole, resulting there in greater spectral fluxes and in a prolate distribution of neutrino fluxes and isoenergy-density contours.

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Fig. 11.—Color maps of the radial spectral flux at \(\varepsilon_\nu = 12.6 \text{ MeV}\) of \(\nu_e\) (left), \(\bar{\nu}_e\) (middle), and “\(\nu_x\)” (right) neutrinos in the rapidly rotating model s20.\(\pi\) at 160 ms after bounce. Isoenergy density contours \((4\pi J/c)\) (vertical color legend) are superposed. The left half of each panel displays the MGFLD result; \(S_v\) is shown in the right half. The radiation fields are oblate in the PNS core and deform to a prolate shape farther out. Note that \(S_v\) predicts a prolateness of the radiation field to much greater radii than MGFLD does. The latter leads to nearly spherically symmetric radiation fields at radii greater than \(\gtrsim 150–200 \text{ km}\) independent of neutrino species.
Figure 13, depicting polar and equatorial luminosity spectra $[4\pi r^2F_{\nu_e}]$ reveals that in the $S_n$ calculation (polar, black graphs; equatorial, red graphs) the neutrino radiation emerging from the PNS and postshock environments through the polar region not only has greater fluence, but also a significantly different and—in the $\nu_e$ case—a significantly harder spectrum. The $\nu_e$ decouple at the largest radii. Their luminosity spectrum observed by a polar observer peaks at $\sim 10^9$ eV. While for an observer near the equator it peaks at $\sim 7.5$ MeV. Both $\nu_e$ and $\nu_e$ neutrinos (which decouple farther in) exhibit a smaller variation in peak energy from pole to equator. The MGFLD calculation, on the other hand, shows much smaller variations in neutrino energy and flux between pole and equator (green and blue graphs, respectively). We note in passing that the emerging neutrino spectra of model s20. are systematically softer by up to $\sim 10\%$ in each species than those of the nonrotating model s20.nr presented in Figure 8. This is a direct consequence of the rotationally induced lower overall compactness of the PNS in model s20.π.

The rms neutrino energies in model s20.π show the same overall qualitative behavior and decoupling hierarchy discussed in the context of model s20.nr. Hence, we do not show them here, but rather state quantitative results. They do, of course, trace the strong pole-equator asymmetry that we observe in the radiation field. The $\nu_e$ spectra have solid lines, $\nu_e$ spectra are shown in dashed lines, and $\nu_e$'s have dash-dotted spectra. The spectra are taken from an $S_{16}$ calculation at a radius of 300 km at 160 ms after core bounce. Bottom: Luminosity spectra seen by equatorial observers.

In Figure 14 we plot polar and equatorial mean inverse flux factor profiles for $\nu_e$ and $\bar{\nu}_e$ neutrinos in our steady-state snapshot for model s20.π. Results from MGFLD and $S_{16}$ runs are shown. A free-streaming radiation field has an inverse flux factor of 1. Due to the steeper density gradient in polar regions, neutrinos decouple from matter at smaller radii than at the equator. While MGFLD must handle the decoupling and increased forward-peaking of the radiation field via the flux limiter, $S_n$ can track it self-consistently. For $\nu_e$ neutrinos and along the poles, $S_n$ predicts significantly greater mean inverse flux factors with shallower slopes than MGFLD, indicating a more gradual transition to free streaming than predicted by the flux limiter. In the radial interval of $\sim 60–100$ km, the relative difference is $\sim 12\%–19\%$, decreasing...
to $\sim 6\%$--$12\%$ out to 200 km. In equatorial regions, the $\nu_e$ radiation field is somewhat more forward-peaked in the $S_p$ calculation at radii below $\sim 120$ km, beyond which MGFLD transitions quickly to free streaming while $S_p$ approaches it more gradually, exhibiting $\sim 6\%$--$8\%$ larger mean inverse flux factors in the outer postshock region. For $\bar{\nu}_e$ neutrinos, the behavior of the mean inverse flux factors in polar regions essentially mirrors that observed for the $\nu_e$s. In equatorial regions, the $S_p$ mean inverse flux factor of the $\bar{\nu}_e$s stays below that using MGFLD out to 165 km, beyond which both calculations transition to free streaming. At 180 km, the MGFLD $\bar{\nu}_e$ mean inverse flux factor is $\sim 1\%$ smaller than that predicted by $S_p$. At 220 km, this difference has grown to $\sim 5\%$.

Having established the overall neutrino radiation-field characteristics in the 160 ms postbounce snapshot of model s20.$\pi$, we now turn our focus to the neutrino cooling and heating rates in this model. We have found little difference in the net neutrino heating between $S_p$ and MGFLD variants in the 160 ms postbounce snapshot of the nonrotating model s20.$\pi$nr. However, based on the differences between $S_p$ and MGFLD in neutrino fluxes, rms energies, and flux factors we have highlighted in this section, we may expect to find significant differences in the neutrino heating rates for model s20.$\pi$.

Figure 15 depicts 2D color maps of the neutrino energy gain and loss rates in the rotating model s20.$\pi$ at 160 ms after core bounce (in units of erg s$^{-1}$ g$^{-1}$). The left section of the plot depicts the MGFLD result and the right shows the result of the $S_p$ calculation. Note the distinctly different gain regions and greater specific gain of the $S_p$ result compared to the MGFLD calculation. This is in part a consequence of the larger polar neutrino fluxes and overall greater flux asymmetry in the $S_p$ model (see Fig. 11). A feature prevalent in both $S_p$ and MGFLD versions of this rapidly rotating core is an extended loss region between the shock and the small gain region at low latitudes (cf. Fig. 16). The material in the loss region is still proton rich ($Y > 0.4$) and efficiently captures electrons as it advects in, radiating away a significant flux of neutrinos (e.g., the increase in the equatorial luminosity between 120 and 150 km in the $S_p$ variant of this model, visible in the top panel of Fig. 12). Note that both MGFLD and $S_p$ exhibit a very small artifact (lower gain/loss) at the symmetry axis associated with imperfect numerics/regularization.

Figure 14.—Mean inverse flux factors in model s20.$\pi$ at 160 ms after bounce in polar regions (solid lines) and equatorial regions (dashed lines). Shown are profiles for $\nu_e$ neutrinos obtained with $S_p$ (red) and MGFLD (black), as well as profiles for $\bar{\nu}_e$ neutrinos ($S_p$, blue; MGFLD, green). $S_p$ and MGFLD graphs agree well inside $\sim 50$ km at the pole and inside $\sim 80$ km in equatorial regions. For $\nu_e$ neutrinos, $S_p$ yields systematically larger mean inverse flux factors in polar and equatorial regions. For $\bar{\nu}_e$, however, $S_p$ predicts larger mean inverse flux factors in polar regions, yet transitions slightly faster than MGFLD to free streaming in equatorial regions.

![Figure 14](image_url)

![Figure 15](image_url)
MGFLD calculation. Given the above discussion, the reader may be surprised by these numbers. The explanation consists of two factors. Owing to rotation, the amount of mass per unit volume (i.e., the rest-mass density) is higher at any given equatorial radius than at the same radius in the polar direction. Plotting the neutrino gain/loss rate per unit volume instead of per unit gram, the right panel of Figure 16 clearly shows the rotation-induced enhancement of the energy deposition (per unit volume) near the equator and the larger gain rate per unit volume predicted by MGFLD at small to intermediate radii. The second factor is the simple fact that the volume of the equatorial gain regions is much larger than that of the polar gain regions.

As we shall discuss in the following section, the large local differences in neutrino heating between the \( S_n \) and MGFLD snapshots have a dynamical consequence for the rapidly rotating model and lead to a significant polar expansion of the shock in the \( S_n \) postbounce evolution calculation.

5. RESULTS: EVOLUTION CALCULATIONS

In order to study differences between \( S_n \) and MGFLD in a time-dependent postbounce setting, we follow our relaxed 160 ms \( S_n \) models in fully coupled radiation-hydrodynamics fashion for \( \sim 340 \) ms (model s20.nr) and 390 ms (model s20.\( \pi \)) of postbounce time. In parallel with the \( S_n \) runs, we continue their MGFLD counterparts for the same time span.

5.1. Model s20.\( \pi \)

Since we begin the MGFLD and \( S_n \) calculations from an identical hydrodynamic configuration at 160 ms after bounce, any qualitative or quantitative differences in their evolutions must ultimately be due to differences in the neutrino heating and cooling between \( S_n \) and MGFLD.

In the left panel of Figure 17, we display the time evolution of the integral neutrino energy deposition (net gain) in the gain region of model s20.nr. The net gain systematically declines at early postbounce times, due (1) to the declining neutrino luminosity and (2) to the rapid settling of accreting material into the net loss region near the PNS core (cf. Fig. 7 of Marek & Janka 2007). At later times, SASI-modulated convection increases the dwell time of accreting outer core material in the gain layer and the slope of the net gain evolution flattens. Both \( S_n \) and MGFLD track these systematics without qualitative difference. The \( S_n \) calculation predicts on average \( \sim 5\% - 10\% \) higher net gain in the postbounce interval from \( \sim 160 \) to \( \sim 220 \) ms. Between \( \sim 220 \) and \( \sim 280 \) ms, MGFLD and \( S_n \) net gain rates agree to within a few percent. Toward the end of this interval, the net gain of the \( S_n \) calculation grows and settles at values that are on average 20\%–30\% higher than those of the MGFLD run. This trend is confirmed by the right panel of Figure 17, which portrays the heating efficiency, defined as the ratio of net gain to the sum of \( \nu_e \) and \( \bar{\nu}_e \) luminosities.

The left panel of Figure 18 depicts the temporal evolution of the \( \nu_e \) “luminosities” \((4\pi r^2 F_e)\) as seen by observers situated at 250 km along the north pole and south pole as well as in the equatorial plane of models s20.nr and s20.\( \pi \). Here we focus on model s20.nr and note for the \( S_n \) variant that north pole (\textit{thin solid black lines}) and south pole (\textit{thin solid green lines}) luminosities agree (on average) in magnitude, but exhibit oscillations about their temporal average that are roughly out of phase by half a cycle. The MGFLD calculation (\textit{thin dashed lines}), on the other hand, does exhibit some short-period luminosity variations, yet shows no appreciable difference between poles and equator.

The time at which \( S_n \) begins to yield systematically larger neutrino heating rates (Fig. 17) coincides with the growth of the SASI-related shock excursions to large amplitudes (Fig. 19). This suggests that the increased heating is related at least in part to the \( S_n \) variant’s ability to better capture radiation field asymmetries (see also the discussion in § 4.3.2), induced at late times by the rapidly varying shock and postshock hydrodynamics in this model. Other factors that contribute to the increased heating in the \( S_n \)
calculation are the higher rms neutrino energies (by \( \sim 5\% \); shown in the right panel of Fig. 18) and the more gradual transition of the \( \text{Sn} \) neutrino radiation field to free streaming in the postshock region (see § 4.3.1).

Figure 20 contrasts \( \text{Sn} \) and MGFLD simulations of model s20.nr by means of color maps depicting the specific entropy distributions in the two variants. To visualize the hydrodynamic flow, we superpose fluid velocity vectors. Each panel of this figure corresponds to a specific postbounce time and each panel’s left-hand side depicts the state of the MGFLD calculation, while the right-hand side depicts the corresponding \( \text{Sn} \) calculation. The figure covers a postbounce interval from 160 ms (top left) to 500 ms (bottom right). At the beginning of the runs, the SASI-driven deviation from sphericity of the stalled shock is mild,
Fig. 19.—Left: Average shock radii as a function of postbounce time in $S_\alpha$ (red) and MGFLD (black) variants of the nonrotating model s20.nr. Also shown are the overall average shock radius, the average of south-pole and north-pole shock radii, and the equatorial shock radius for the rapidly spinning model s20.\pi, again for $S_\alpha$ (blue) and MGFLD (green). In model s20.nr, MGFLD and $S_\alpha$ show little quantitative deviation from each other. In the s20.\pi evolution, however, a significant increase in the various shock radii is noticeable right at the beginning of the time-dependent $S_\alpha$ calculation. At later times MGFLD catches up and the average shock radii approach each other. The $S_\alpha$ variant exhibits larger variations, indicating stronger SASI-like shock excursions.

Right: Evolution of the north-pole (positive) and south-pole (negative) shock radii for the $S_\alpha$ and MGFLD variants of the two models. Since the lowest order and dominant mode of the 2D SASI is the $\ell = 1$ polar sloshing mode, the polar shock radii are good indicators of its strength and periodicity. Note the initial suppression, but late-time development of SASI-like polar shock excursions in the rotating model.

Fig. 20.—Two-dimensional entropy color maps portraying the postbounce evolution of model s20.nr between 160 ms (top left) and 500 ms (bottom right) after core bounce. Fluid-velocity vectors are superposed to provide an impression of the flow. Each panel’s left-hand side corresponds to the MGFLD calculation and each panel’s right-hand side shows the $S_\alpha$ result. The sequence of panels portrays the canonical development of the SASI in the nonrotating axisymmetric context. $S_\alpha$ and MGFLD evolution agree very well in the early SASI phases, but deviate in detail at later times, while still exhibiting the same overall SASI dynamics.
but grows with time, showing \( \ell = 1 \) excursions now generally recognized as characteristic of the SASI\(^{11} \) (Scheck et al. 2008; Marek & Janka 2007; Bruenn et al. 2006; Burrows et al. 2007c).

As expected from the discussion of the s20.nr 160 ms post-bounce steady-state snapshot in \( x_4 \), \( S_n \) and MGFLD variants of this model do not differ significantly in the early SASI phase. However, at later SASI stages, in particular at postbounce times \( \gtrsim 300-350 \) ms, the simulations diverge, showing different local qualitative and quantitative behavior within the overall SASI theme. This is also reflected in Figure 19, which depicts the evolution of the average shock radius, as well as the shock radii along north pole and south pole. The shock positions in the \( S_n \) and MGFLD simulations remain close and the SASI stays practically in phase (right panel of Fig. 19) until \( \sim 350 \) ms after bounce. Only then do they begin to show significant departures from each other. The SASI in the \( S_n \) calculation appears more pronounced at later times, exhibiting larger local (in time) shock excursions. Yet, quite surprisingly, given the significant increase in neutrino energy deposition, the \( S_n \) calculation does not exhibit any increase in the average shock radius, nor does it appear to be any closer to explosion than its MGFLD counterpart.

5.2. Model s20.\( \pi \)

The diagnosis of the radiation-hydrodynamic evolution of the rapidly spinning model s20.\( \pi \) is less straightforward than for the nonrotating model s20.nr. As discussed in \( \S \) 4.3.2, rotation creates a global pole-equator asymmetry in the hydrodynamics of this model. MGFLD and \( S_n \) track the effect of globally asymmetric matter distributions on the neutrino radiation field to different degrees. In the steady-state snapshot at 160 ms, \( S_n \) predicts stronger neutrino heating in polar regions, yet weaker heating in the higher density, larger volume equatorial regions.

The polar, equatorial, and angle-averaged shock positions portrayed by Figure 19 show that the hydrodynamics responds immediately to the increased polar heating in the \( S_n \) calculation by a pronounced expansion of the shock along the poles. This expansion lasts for \( \sim 40 \) ms, after which the shock has expanded by \( \sim 20\% \) from \( \sim 230 \) to \( \sim 275 \) km on both poles. It stagnates at this radius and subsequently contracts again when feedback of the hydrodynamics to the neutrino microphysics leads to increased cooling (cf. the increased polar neutrino emission shown in Fig. 18). The increased postshock volume also results in a larger gain region and increased (compared to MGFLD) total neutrino

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\(^{11}\) At least in detailed 2D models. Iwakami et al. (2008) carried out an exploratory 3D numerical study with nonrotating progenitors that suggests that in the 3D case the \( \ell = 1 \) dominance still obtains, yet reaches smaller relative amplitudes, since not only higher \( \ell \) modes, but also \( m \) modes, may now contain power. However, Yamasaki & Foglizzo (2008), who performed a perturbative study without symmetry constraints, argued that in the 3D case with rotation, a dominant \( m = 1 \) (\( m = 2 \)) mode is likely to emerge in the case of slow (rapid) rotation.
energy deposition and heating efficiency. However, this increased heating is not able to sustain the large postshock volume. The shock slowly recontracts in the postbounce interval from ~250 to ~380 ms and eventually settles at radii similar to those obtained by the MGFLD shock.

In Figure 21 we present a sequence of 2D entropy color maps with superposed velocity vectors, portraying the postbounce evolution of model s20.π from 160 ms on. The rapid rotation in this model not only partially stabilizes convection, but also weakens and delays the growth of the characteristic \( \ell = 1 \) SASI. Since larger shock radii are associated with an increased growth rate of the SASI (e.g., Foglizzo et al. 2007; Scheck et al. 2008), the \( S_\nu \) variant begins to develop periodic shock excursions along the symmetry axis at much earlier times than the MGFLD simulation (Fig. 19). However, at times later than ~400 ms, the MGFLD model picks up the large-amplitude SASI as well and both calculations exhibit large-scale radial shock excursions beyond ~400 km along the pole (Fig. 19). The average shock radius increases in both calculations in this late postbounce phase. We observe neither such large shock excursions nor a systematic late-time increase of the average shock radius in the nonrotating model. The observed behavior is most likely due to the rapid rotation and the resulting rarefaction of the polar regions that reduces, in particular at late times, the ram pressure of accretion and allows for the more pronounced SASI.

In the left panel of Figure 18, we contrast the \( \nu_\gamma \) “luminosities” \((4\pi r^2 F_\nu)\) seen by observers located at a radius of 250 km above the north pole, the south pole, and in the equatorial plane of model s20.π. The MGFLD variant predicts a pole-equator flux asymmetry of \( \leq 10\% \) that is roughly constant with time. The \( S_\nu \) calculation yields a very different picture. Poles and equatorial luminosities at 250 km (i.e., near the shock) are vastly different (cf. § 4.3.2). Over time, the equatorial luminosity decreases while the luminosity along the poles is enhanced. At ~200 ms, polar and equatorial luminosities differ by a factor of ~3. By ~500 ms, this factor has grown to 4. In addition, the \( S_\nu \) simulation shows SASI-induced variations in north- and south-pole luminosities that grow to ~3%–5% at late times and are not tracked in the MGFLD variant. These variations are akin to those reported for the nonrotating model s20.nr yet have longer periods, since the large shock excursions in model s20.π occur on longer timescales.

As in the nonrotating model, we also find in model s20.π that \( S_\nu \) yields systematically higher rms neutrino energies for all species and at all times. However, as shown in the right panel of Figure 18, the angle-averaged rms energies do not exhibit a significant increase in the time interval covered by our simulations. This, again, is due to rapid rotation which slows down the PNS’s contraction. Not shown in Figure 18, but present in the \( S_\nu \) variant throughout its postbounce evolution, are ~10%–20% (roughly constant in time and independent of species) higher rms energies for neutrinos emitted from polar regions compared to those emitted from the PNS equator. This is consistent with our analysis of the neutrino spectra and rms neutrino energies for the 160 ms postbounce steady-state snapshot presented in § 4.3.2.

We end our postbounce simulations of model s20.π with \( S_\nu \) and MGFLD at 550 ms after bounce. Although within roughly the same qualitative picture, the two approaches to neutrino transport yield appreciable differences in the postbounce radiation-hydrodynamics evolutions. Importantly, and in contrast to our findings for the nonrotating model, \( S_\nu \) in model s20.π does not lead to systematically higher integral neutrino energy deposition, and at late postbounce times shows a volume-integrated heating rate that is even ~30% lower (on average) than in its MGFLD counterpart.

6. SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION

Using the code VULCAN/2D (Livne et al. 2004, 2007; Burrows et al. 2007c), we perform long-term full-2D multigroup neutrino radiation-hydrodynamic calculations in the core-collapse supernova context. Based on postbounce hydrodynamic configurations from MGFLD simulations, we first compute 2D angle-dependent \((S_\nu)\) steady-state solutions for models without pre-collapse rotation and with rapid rotation \((\Omega_0 = \pi \text{ rad s}^{-1})\). From these snapshots, we numerically follow the radiation-hydrodynamics evolution with \( S_\nu \) neutrino transport, tracking the nonrotating model to 500 ms and the rotating model to 550 ms after bounce.

Done for the first time in 2D, we investigate in detail the angle-dependent specific intensities and neutrino radiation fields. We compute angular moments of the specific intensity, including the Eddington tensor, and introduce Hammer-type map projections to visualize the angle dependence of the specific intensity. These we employ to demonstrate the decoupling systematics of the neutrinos and the gradual transition to free streaming of the radiation fields with decreasing optical depth.

We compare our \( S_\nu \) simulations with MGFLD counterparts. We find for both models and at all times that the \( S_\nu \) specific intensity distributions transition less rapidly from isotropy to free streaming in the semitransparent outer postshock regions. \( S_\nu \) yields mean inverse flux factors and rms neutrino energies in these regions that are ~10% larger than those obtained with MGFLD. In the context of the neutrino mechanism of core-collapse supernova explosions, differences in the net neutrino energy deposition rates between MGFLD and multigroup neutrino radiation-hydrodynamic calculations in the context of the neutrino mechanism of core-collapse supernova explosions, differences in the net neutrino energy deposition rates between MGFLD and multigroup neutrino radiation-hydrodynamic calculations in the core-collapse supernova context. Based on postbounce hydrodynamic configurations from MGFLD simulations, we first compute 2D angle-dependent \((S_\nu)\) steady-state solutions for models without pre-collapse rotation and with rapid rotation \((\Omega_0 = \pi \text{ rad s}^{-1})\). From these snapshots, we numerically follow the radiation-hydrodynamics evolution with \( S_\nu \) neutrino transport, tracking the nonrotating model to 500 ms and the rotating model to 550 ms after bounce.

Convection on small and intermediate scales and SASI on large scales are the key agents of the breaking of spherical symmetry in nonrotating (or slowly rotating) core-collapse supernovae. While we observe no large qualitative differences in the growth and dynamical evolutions of convection and SASI between nonrotating \( S_\nu \) and MGFLD models, we find that the imprint of the asymmetric hydrodynamics on the neutrino radiation fields is captured with greater detail by the multigroup transport scheme. For the late-time, heavily SASI-distorted postbounce core, \( S_\nu \) predicts asymptotic neutrino fluxes that have variations with time and angle of ~5%–10% in magnitude. MGFLD is able to capture the temporal variations of the neutrino luminosity, but smooths out the angular flux variations at large radii/low optical depths.

Rapid rotation leads to large deviations from spherical symmetry and a rotationally deformed PNS, seen by von Zeipel’s law of gravity darkening, a greater neutrino flux along its rotational axis than through its equatorial regions (Janka & Mönchmeyer 1989a, 1989b; Kotake et al. 2003; Walder et al. 2005; Buras et al. 2006a; Dessart et al. 2006b). We find that both 2D MGFLD and \( S_\nu \) yield similar radiation fields and pole-equator flux ratios at radii smaller than ~100 km. At larger radii, the MGFLD radiation fields sphericize and show little pole-equator asymmetry in their
asymptotic variables. $S_\nu$, on the other hand, captures large pole-
equator flux ratios of up to 4:1 at late times and predicts polar
neutrino spectra that are harder in peak energy (rms energy)
than on the equator by up to 30% (10%–15%) for $\nu_e$ neutrinos,
and somewhat less for the other species. All this results in a neu-
trino energy deposition rate per unit mass in polar regions that is
locally up to ~2.5–3 times higher when multiangle transport is
used. This increased polar neutrino heating has a dynamical effect
on the postbounce evolution, leading to rapid shock expansion in
the polar regions and an earlier onset of the (initially) rotationally
weakened SASI. However, at late times, the SASI in the MGFLD
calculation catches up and yields shock excursions of a similar
magnitude.

In summary, our results show that 2D multiangle neutrino trans-
port manifests interesting differences with 2D MGFLD when ad-
ressing local and global radiation field asymmetries associated
with rapid rotation and the nonlinear SASI at late postbounce
times. In addition, multiangle transport results in enhanced neu-
trino energy deposition. The latter is most significant in the polar
regions of rapidly rotating postbounce configurations and affects
dynamically the postbounce evolution, including the growth of
the SASI. However, in the large postbounce interval covered by
our simulations, the local and global differences between multi-
angle transport and MGFLD calculations do not appear large
enough to alter the overall simulation outcome. Importantly, the
multiangle models do not appear to be closer to explosion than
their MGFLD counterparts.

Although we neglect velocity-dependent transport terms and
coupling of neutrino energy bins, we do not expect our conclusions
to be altered by their inclusion, since they are not likely to affect
significantly the differences between multiangle transport and
MGFLD. Further significant limitations of our present study are
the neglect of general relativistic and MHD effects, the restriction
to only one finite-temperature nuclear EOS, the limited resolution
in momentum space imposed by the computational cost of multi-
angle calculations, and the use of two spatial dimensions, plus ro-
tation. In the future, we will investigate the dependence of our
results (e.g., heating rates, radiation-field asymmetries, etc.) on
the choice of flux limiter and will consider different progenitor models.

The core-collapse supernova problem is one of many feed-
backs. Larger heating rates and heating efficiencies than found in
our models appear to be necessary to break the feedback cycle
between neutrino radiation fields and hydrodynamics, revive the
stalled shock, and unbind the supernova envelope—if the neu-
trino mechanism is to obtain in the way presently envisioned.
Future work will have to go beyond the limitation of axisym-
metry and must address in detail the entire ensemble of possible
factors relevant in the supernova problem, including, but not
limited to, 3D dynamics, multiangle neutrino transport with ve-
locity dependence and inelastic $\nu_e-e^-$ scattering, progenitor struc-
ture, rotational configuration, magnetohydrodynamics, convection,
the SASI, PNS $g$-modes, general relativity, the nuclear EOS, and
neutrino-matter interactions.

We acknowledge helpful discussions with and input from Jeremiah Murphy, Ivan Hubeny, Casey Meakin, Jim Lattimer, Alan Calder, Stan Woosley, Ed Seidel, Harry Dimmelmeier, H.-Thomas Janka, Kei Kotake, Thierry Fogliizzo, Ewald Müller, Bernhard Müller, Martin Obergaulinger, Benjamin D. Oppenheimer, Thomas Marquart, and Erik Schnetter. This work was partially supported by the Scientific Discovery through Advanced Computing (SciDAC) program of the US Department of Energy under grants DE-FC02-01ER41184 and DE-FC02-06ER41452. C. D. O. acknowledges support through a Joint Institute for Nuclear Astrophysics postdoctoral fellowship, sub-
award 61-5292UA of NAFS award 86-6004791. E. L. acknowl-
dges support by the Israel Science Foundation (grant 805/04).
The computations were performed at the local Arizona Beowulf
cluster, on the Columbia SGI Altix machine at the Ames center of
the NASA High End Computing Program, at the National Center
for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) under Teragrid com-
puter time grant TG-MCA02N014, at the Center for Computation
and Technology at Louisiana State University, and at the National
Energy Research Scientific Computing Center (NERSC), which
is supported by the Office of Science of the US Department of
Energy under contract DE-AC03-76SF00098.

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