

Zjazd CAMK

Sprawozdanie za 2023 rok

Leszek Zdunik

CAMK
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NS crust

- Nuclei - outer crust - up to density $\rho \sim 10^{11}$ g/cm³, pressure $P \sim 10^{29}$ erg/cm³ - experimentally available (measured).
Mass $\Delta M < 10^{-5} M_{\odot}$, thickness $\Delta R \sim 400$ m.
- NS -inner part of the outer crust, inner crust, core - based on the theory of dense matter and extrapolation of nuclear properties measurements
- Catalyzed crust - global minimum of energy, all reactions leading to a lower energy of the system allowed
- Accreted crust - temperature too low to reach global equilibrium (thermonuclear reactions blocked) local equilibrium at fixed number of nuclei - local energy minimum (additional constraints in thermodynamic equilibrium)

Compression of the crust

- Minimising of energy - assuming very fast reactions
- At any moment matter is in (local) equilibrium.
- Single nucleus approximation



- Reaction layer defined by
 - macroscopic processes (accretion, compression)
 - microscopic processes (reaction rate)
- How large is reaction layer ?

Layers of electron captures in the crust of accreting neutron stars

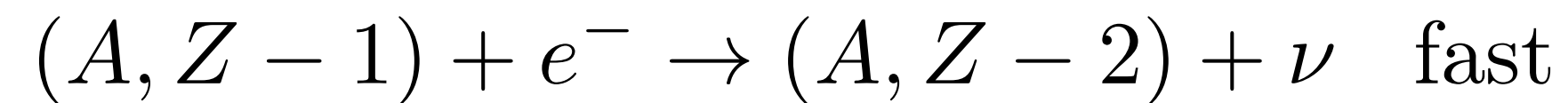
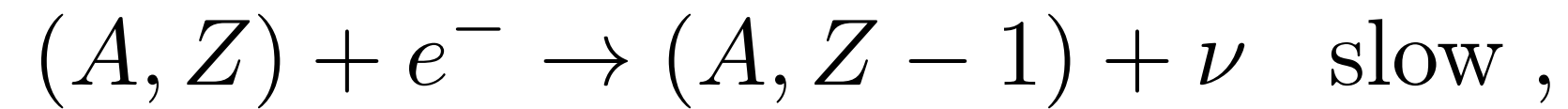
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Reaction layer



Continuity equation

$$\partial_\tau(nX) + \partial_z(vnX) = -nX\mathcal{R}_{ec} .$$

τ_{acc} the accretion timescale

$$\tau_{\text{acc}}(t) = \frac{4\pi R^4 P_{\text{th}}}{GM\dot{M}(t)} ;$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \ln(nX) + \frac{1}{\tau_{\text{acc}}(t)} \frac{\partial \ln X}{\partial \tilde{P}} = -\mathcal{R}_{ec}$$

Mixture of two nuclides (isobars)

Parent nuclei N_0 (A, Z)

Grand-daughter nuclei N_2 ($A, Z - 2$)

$$X = \frac{N_0}{N_0 + N_2}$$

Linear mixing rule:

$$P_{\text{lat}} = -0.3 \left(\frac{4\pi}{3} \right)^{1/3} n_e^{4/3} e^2 \mathcal{F}(X)$$

$$\mathcal{F}(X) = \frac{(Z_0 - 2)^{5/3} + X[Z_0^{5/3} - (Z_0 - 2)^{5/3}]}{Z_0 + 2(X - 1)}$$

$$n(P, X) = \frac{n_e(P, X) A}{XZ_0 + (1 - X)(Z_0 - 2)}$$

Evolution of the reaction layer

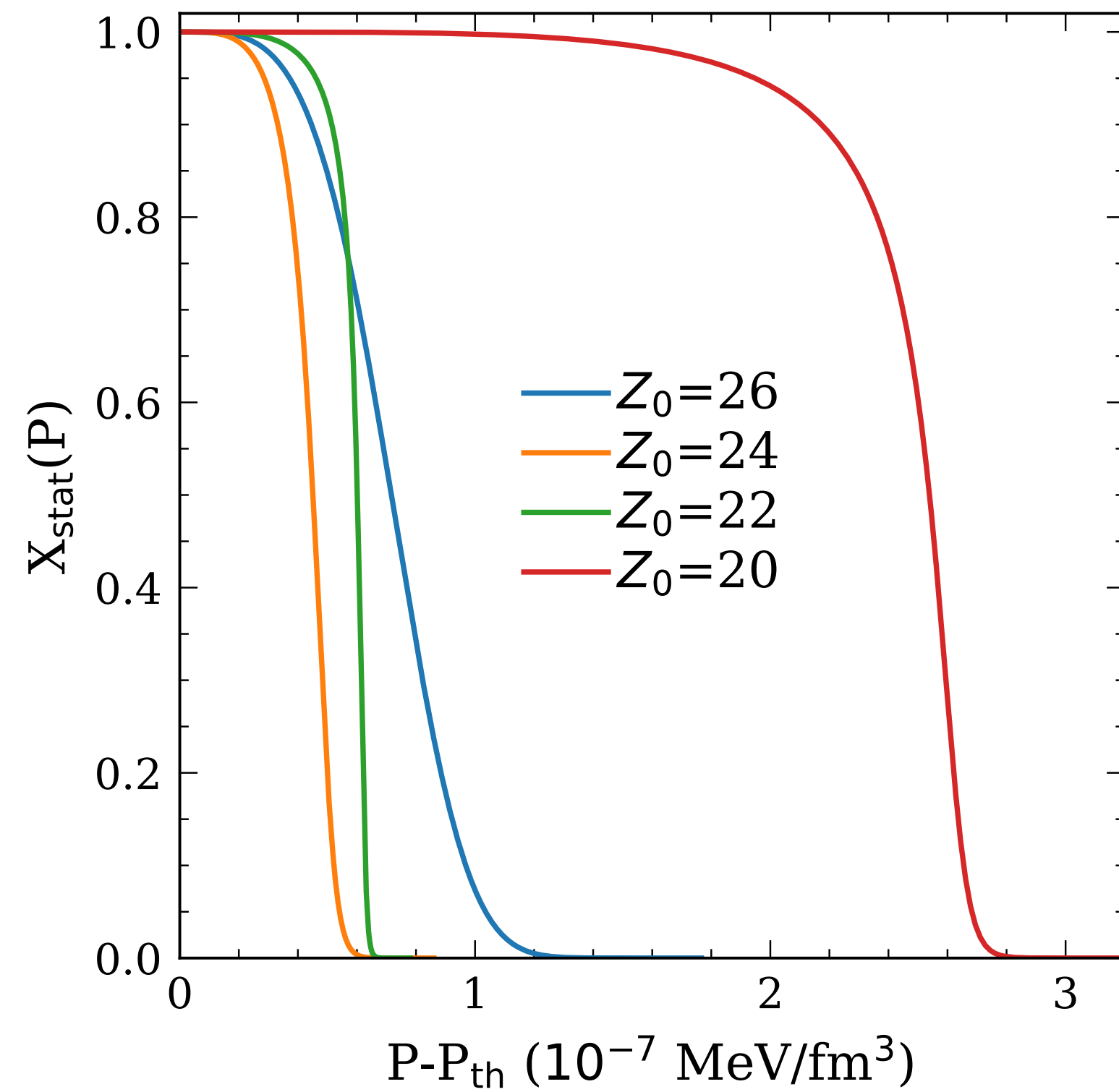
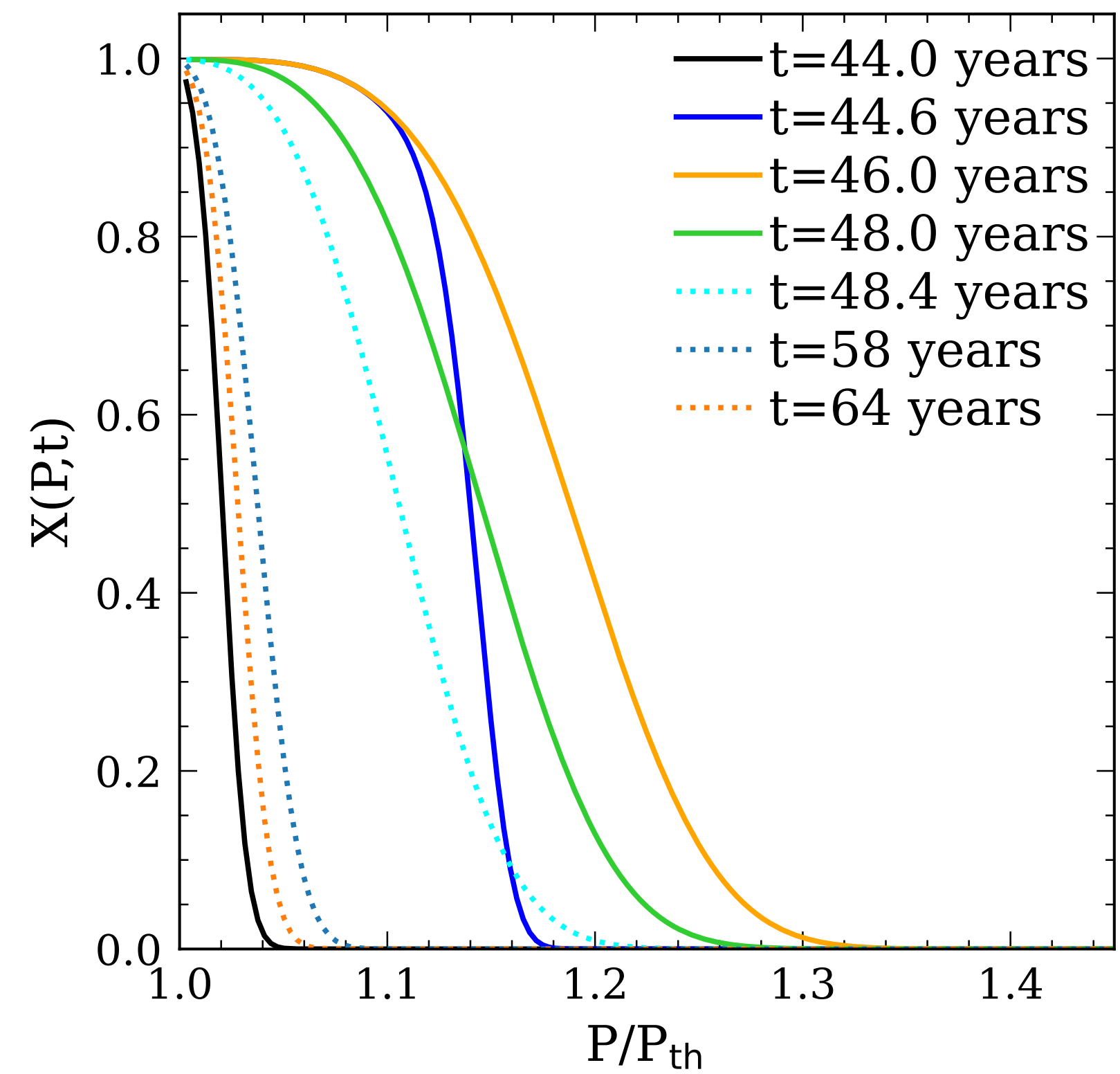


Fig. 1: Stationary solution for the parent nucleus abundance X as a function of the pressure for the four reactions in the outer crust.



(a) $\dot{M}_{\text{max}} = 10^{-8} M_{\odot}$ per year.

Reaction layer

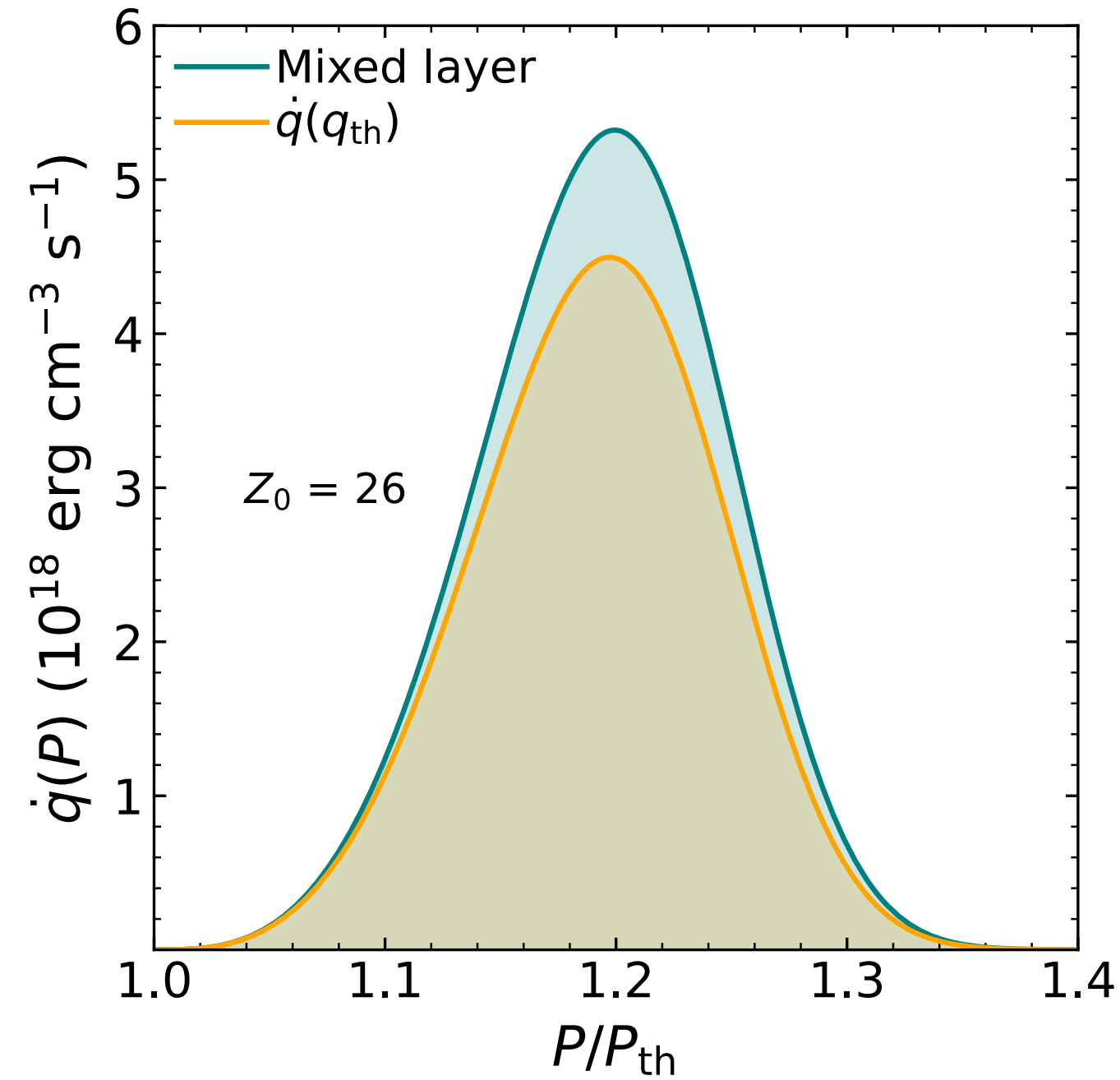


Fig. 3: Heating rate per unit volume \dot{q} in the shell with proton number $Z_0 = 26$ as a function of the pressure during active accretion. This quantity is given for the mixed layer approach in blue, and compared to the quasi-instantaneous approach in orange.

- The size of the reaction layer much smaller than the size of the shell below
- Thickness of the reaction layers:
 $\delta P = 10^{-7} \text{ MeV/fm}^3$
- Shell thickness (between reaction layers)
 $\Delta P \sim 10^{-5} - 10^{-4} \text{ MeV/fm}^3$
- Energy release larger than in the case of instantaneous reaction (by $\sim 20\%$)