Pre-supernova outbursts via wave heating in massive stars – II. Hydrogen-poor stars

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ABSTRACT

Pre-supernova (SN) outbursts from massive stars may be driven by hydrodynamical wave energy emerging from the core of the progenitor star during late nuclear-burning phases. Here, we examine the effects of wave heating in stars containing little or no hydrogen, i.e. progenitors of Type IIb/Ib SNe. Because there is no massive hydrogen envelope, wave energy is thermalized near the stellar surface where the overlying atmospheric mass is small but the optical depth is large. Wave energy can thus unbind this material, driving an optically thick, super-Eddington wind. Using 1D hydrodynamic \textsc{mesa} simulations of $\sim 5\,M_\odot$ He stars, we find that wave heating can drive pre-SN outbursts composed of a dense wind whose mass-loss rate can exceed $\sim 0.1\,M_\odot\,\text{yr}^{-1}$. The wind terminal velocities are a few $100\,\text{km}\,\text{s}^{-1}$, and outburst luminosities can reach $\sim 10^6\,L_\odot$. Wave-driven outbursts may be linked with observed or inferred pre-SN outbursts of Type Ibn/transitional/transformational SNe, and pre-SN wave-driven mass loss is a good candidate to produce these types of SNe. However, we also show that non-linear wave breaking in the core of the star may prevent such outbursts in stars with thick convective helium-burning shells. Hence, only a limited subset of SN progenitors is likely to experience wave-driven pre-SN outbursts.

Key words: circumstellar matter – stars: massive – stars: mass-loss – stars: oscillations – supernovae: general – stars: winds, outflows.

1 INTRODUCTION

The heterogeneity of core-collapse supernovae (SNe) reveals the great diversity of massive star SN progenitors approaching death. Much of this diversity has been theoretically anticipated: different progenitor masses, metallicities, and rotation rates produce substantial diversity. More importantly, binary interactions can drastically alter the stellar structure at death, as the majority of hydrogen-poor SNe (Types IIb, Ib, Ic, etc.) are widely considered to be the result of hydrogen envelope stripping by a companion star.

Despite the theoretically expected diversity of core-collapse SNe, many aspects of this diversity are unexpected even in binary stellar evolution models. Of particular interest are the growing number of hydrogen-poor SNe that exhibit evidence of enhanced pre-SN mass loss or outbursts, such as Type Ibn SNe (Pastorello et al. 2008a, 2016; Hosseinzadeh et al. 2017) that show interaction with He-rich material ejected soon before core collapse. Specific examples of Type Ibn SNe include SN 2006jc (which had a pre-SN outburst; Pastorello et al. 2007), SN 2015G (Shivvers et al. 2016), and SN 2015U, (Shivvers et al. 2016). PTF11qcj was as Type Ic SN (Corsi et al. 2014) that may have also exhibited a pre-SN outburst and enhanced mass loss.

Some SNe also show evidence for small amounts of hydrogen ($\lesssim 1\,M_\odot$) ejected in the years or decades prior to the SNe. Examples include transitional Type Ibn/Ibn SNe such as SN 2005Jb (Pastorello et al. 2008) and SN 2011lw (Smith et al. 2012). The transformational SN 2014C appeared as a relatively normal Type Ib SNe, until it transitioned into a Type IIn SNe when its ejecta ran into H-rich circumstellar medium (CSM) ejected $\sim$decades before explosion (Milisavljevic et al. 2015; Margutti et al. 2017). Early spectra of Type Ib SN 2013cu reveal emission lines from a flash-ionized wind (Gal-Yam et al. 2014) with inferred mass-loss rates over $10^{-3}\,M_\odot\,\text{yr}^{-1}$ (Groh 2014), and total CSM mass of at least 0.3\,$M_\odot$ (Gräfener & Vink 2016).

In a previous paper (Fuller 2017), we examined the possibility of pre-SN outbursts in hydrogen-rich red supergiants (RSGs). In that work, we investigated the role of energy transported by convectively excited hydrodynamic waves during late stage nuclear burning in the stellar core, an idea originally proposed by Quataert & Shiode (2012), with follow-up work in Shiode & Quataert (2014). We found wave energy transport could transport $\sim 10^7\,L_\odot$ of power from the...
core to the envelope during core Ne/O burning, enough to power a pre-SN outburst and enhanced mass loss. In RSGs with thick hydrogen envelopes, waves thermalize their energy just outside the helium core at the base of the hydrogen envelope. The hydrogen envelope is too massive to be totally ejected, and it prevents most wave heat from diffusing outward, such that the observed pre-SN outburst is fairly mild.

Here, we examine the effects of wave energy transport in stars lacking thick hydrogen envelopes, which greatly alters the effects of wave heating. In hydrogen-poor progenitor stars, we find that waves thermalize much closer to the stellar surface, such that the binding energy of the overlying atmosphere is much smaller than the wave energy budget. The wave heat can thus power a dense, super-Eddington wind as discussed in Quataert et al. (2016), Shen, Nakar & Piran (2016), and Owocki, Townsend & Quataert (2017). Although the emergent radiative luminosity of this wind is super-Eddington and is larger than in the RSG case, most of the wave energy is used to unbind mass and accelerate it above the escape velocity, with only a small fraction escaping as radiation.

2 BASIC IDEA

The evolution of massive stars is complex, especially near the end of their lives when evolutionary time-scales become short. Here we review the end stages of massive star evolution (see Woosley, Heger & Weaver 2002), and discuss why wave energy transport is likely to be important as proposed by Quataert & Shiode (2012).

By the onset of core carbon burning, core temperatures and densities are high enough that neutrino cooling (rather than convection or radiative diffusion) carries away most of the energy generated by nuclear reactions. While neutrino cooling is strongly sensitive to temperature (roughly \( \epsilon_{\nu_{\text{cool}}} \propto T^8 \)), late-stage nuclear burning has even stronger dependence (roughly \( \epsilon_{\text{nuc}} \propto T^{16} \)). Nuclear burning outweighs neutrino cooling at the centre of the star where the temperatures are highest, and the strong temperature gradient generates convection. At the outer edge of the convection zones, neutrino cooling outweighs nuclear burning, eventually carrying away most of the generated energy. Nonetheless, convection persists below and locally carries nearly all the generated nuclear energy. Because neutrino cooling allows the core to cool quickly, nuclear burning proceeds on neutrino cooling time-scales, and core convective luminosities may exceed the surface luminosity of the star by several orders of magnitude.

The key insight of Quataert & Shiode (2012) is that convection always excites internal gravity waves (IGW) at the interface with a radiative zone, as verified by numerous simulations (Dessart et al. 2006; Meakin & Arnett 2006, 2007a,b; Rogers et al. 2013; Alvan, Brun & Mathis 2014; Alvan et al. 2015; Lecoanet et al. 2015; Cristini et al. 2017; Rogers & McElwaine 2017). Although only a small fraction of the convective flux is converted into IGW, the extreme convective luminosities of late-stage nuclear burning can excite IGW carrying \( \sim 10^7 L_{\odot} \), much more power than the star’s surface luminosity. The IGW transport their energy on wave crossing time-scales, which are comparable to dynamical time-scales. In the absence of dissipative effects, the wave action is conserved, and waves can potentially carry their energy over great distances before depositing it where they damp.

The effects of the wave energy transport thus depend on where IGW eventually damp. The IGW redistribute little energy (\( E_{\text{IGW,rel}} \sim 10^{65} \text{erg} \)) relative to the helium core binding energy. If they dissipate within the core, their energetic effect on the star’s evolution will be negligible (additionally, wave energy thermalized in the core will be lost through neutrino cooling). However, the wave luminosity can exceed both the surface luminosity and the Eddington luminosity, while their total energy can be much larger than the envelope binding energy. Consequently, if the waves can dissipate their energy in the star’s envelope, their effect can be dramatic. As we show below, wave energy thermalized in the envelopes of hydrogen-poor stars will drive an optically thick super-Eddington outflow. This outflow could be detected as a pre-SN outburst, and interaction between the SN ejecta and the pre-SN outflow can alter the appearance of the SN, evidenced by the observations discussed above. Fig. 1 illustrates the basic process of wave energy transport.

3 IMPLEMENTING WAVE ENERGY TRANSPORT IN STELLAR MODELS

3.1 Stellar models

Our implementation of wave energy transport closely follows the methods of Fuller (2017), using the stellar evolution code MESA (Paxton et al. 2011, 2013, 2015). The first step is to create hydrogen-poor stellar models. We use the same 15 M\(_{\odot}\) stellar model of Fuller (2017), however, once the star completes core helium burning, we simulate binary mass loss by stripping off nearly the entire hydrogen envelope (details in Appendix). This leaves a nearly hydrogen-free star with a helium core mass of \( M_{\text{He}} \simeq 5.3 M_{\odot} \). We remove the hydrogen envelope after core He burning (mimicking case C mass transfer) so that the helium core mass is nearly the same as the model of Fuller (2017). This results in nearly identical subsequent core evolution and wave energetics, for easier comparison with the hydrogen-rich models of Fuller (2017).

In this paper, we examine two stellar models. The first is completely hydrogen free, and likely represents a fairly typical Type Ib SN progenitor formed via binary interaction. At the onset of
carbon burning, it has a radius of $R \sim 4 R_\odot$ and surface temperature $T_{\text{eff}} \sim 5 \times 10^3$ K. The second model contains a light but inflated hydrogen envelope of $M_{\text{H}} \sim 3 \times 10^{-2} M_\odot$. At the start of carbon burning, it has a radius of $R \sim 450 R_\odot$ and surface temperature of $T_{\text{eff}} \sim 5000$ K. It likely represents a fairly typical (perhaps more extended and cooler than average) Type IIb SN progenitor.

Although our stellar models are not perfect, several lines suggest they capture the correct basic stellar structure. First, stellar evolution models of moderate-mass $M \lesssim 20 M_\odot$ stars are generally successful at predicting basic stellar evolution and stellar structure (as verified by asteroseismic and countless other observations). Second, while different massive stellar evolution codes (e.g. MESA, KEPLER, and GENEA) differ somewhat in their treatment of mixing and mass loss, they all agree on the basic core structure and evolutionary sequence of moderate-mass SN progenitors (Woosley et al. 2002; Meakin, Sukhbold & Arnett 2016). It is this core structure, such as the luminosity and extent of convective C/O/Ne-burning zones, that is important here. Finally, multidimensional simulations of late-stage burning in massive stars (Meakin & Arnett 2006, 2007a; Couch & Ott 2015; Lecoanet et al. 2016; Müller et al. 2016; Cristini et al. 2017; Jones et al. 2017) do not exhibit core structure or evolution drastically different from one-dimensional models. Even in the final years of a massive star’s life, evolutionary time-scales are much longer than the core dynamical time-scale (hydrostatic equilibrium is maintained), convective speeds remain highly subsonic, and one-dimensional models are a reasonable approximation of the basic structure. Table 1 compares remaining lifetimes, dynamical times, thermal times, and convective turnover times for our models during a few different burning stages.

At the beginning of carbon burning, we include wave heating effects as described below. Additionally, we utilize MESA’s one-dimensional implicit hydrodynamics capability to capture the wave-driven wind (see Appendix). Our outer boundary is placed at an optical depth of $10^{-2}$, at which point outflowing material is removed from the grid, and our mass-loss rates are defined as the mass flux through this outer boundary.

### 3.2 Wave generation

We add wave energy transport to our models in almost the same way as Fuller (2017). At each time step, we compute the wave energy flux generated by the innermost convective zone of the star via

$$L_{\text{wave}} \sim L_{\text{con}} v_{\text{con}},$$

with $L_{\text{con}}$ is the convective luminosity, $M_{\text{con}} = v_{\text{con}}/c_s$ is the mixing length theory (MLT) convective Mach number, and $c_s$ is sound speed. The MLT convective velocity and turnover frequencies are calculated via

$$v_{\text{con}} = \left( \frac{L_{\text{con}}}{4 \pi \rho c_s^2} \right)^{1/3}$$

and

$$\omega_{\text{con}} = \frac{2 \pi v_{\text{con}}}{2 \pi \omega_{\text{MLT}} H}.$$

with $\omega_{\text{MLT}} H$ the mixing length (see discussion on convection in Meakin & Arnett 2007a; Alvan et al. 2014; Couch & Ott 2015; Lecoanet et al. 2016; Cristini et al. 2017; Jones et al. 2017). As in Fuller (2017), we assume dipolar ($l = 1$) waves with angular frequency

$$\omega_{\text{wave}} = \omega_{\text{con, max}}.$$

where $\omega_{\text{con, max}}$ is the maximum value obtained within a convective zone (for core convection, we find $\omega_{\text{con}}$ does not vary much within a convective zone). Our implementation of waves is a drastic simplification (see simulations of e.g. Rogers et al. 2013; Alvan et al. 2014, 2015; Rogers 2015), as discussed in Fuller (2017), but represents a first step in implementing wave energy transport into a stellar evolution code.

### 3.3 Wave propagation

If waves remain linear, their propagation through a star can be very accurately calculated, as demonstrated by the remarkable successes of asteroseismology and helioseismology. Linear wave propagation can be understood from the wave dispersion relation

$$k^2 = \frac{(N^2 - \omega_{\text{wave}}^2)}{c_{\text{wave}}^2} \left( L_{\ell}^2 - \omega_{\text{wave}}^2 \right),$$

where $k_\ell$ is the radial wavenumber, $N^2$ is the Brunt–Väisälä frequency squared, and $L_{\ell}^2 = \ell (\ell + 1) c_s^2/r^2$ is the Lamb frequency squared. In the limit that $\omega_{\text{wave}} \ll N, L_\ell$, the dispersion relation reduces to that of IGW,

$$k_{\ell, \text{IGW}}^2 \approx \frac{\ell (\ell + 1) N^2}{\omega_{\text{wave}}^2 c_s^2},$$

whose group velocity is $v_{\text{IGW}} \approx \omega_{\text{wave}}^2 c_s r/\sqrt{\ell (\ell + 1)} N^2$. In the limit that $\omega_{\text{wave}} \gg N, L_\ell$, the dispersion relation reduces to that of acoustic waves,

$$k_{\ell, \text{ac}}^2 \approx \frac{\omega_{\text{wave}}^2}{c_s^2},$$

whose group velocity is $v_\ell \approx c_s$. In regions of the star where one of these two criteria is satisfied, waves propagate freely, conserving their energy apart from weak damping effects.

In the limit that $N > \omega_{\text{wave}} > L_\ell$ or $L_\ell > \omega_{\text{wave}} > N$, the radial wavenumber is imaginary. The waves become evanescent in these regions of the star, with the wave amplitude exponentially decreasing over a skin depth $l_\ell = |k_\ell|^{-1} \approx r/\sqrt{\ell (\ell + 1)}$ in the latter case. This does not mean the waves are damped, but rather that they are reflected from surfaces where $\omega_{\text{wave}} = N$ or $\omega_{\text{wave}} = L_\ell$. However, a fraction of wave energy will tunnel through this evanescent barrier, with the fraction of transmitted wave energy given by

$$T^2 = \exp \left(-2 \int_{r_0}^{r_1} \frac{dr}{T} \right) \approx \left( \frac{r_0}{r_1} \right)^{2 \pi / (\ell (\ell + 1))}.$$
which mixed acoustic-gravity modes tunnel through an evanescent layer separating the radiative core from the convective envelope. There is no reason to suspect the process will operate differently in massive stars, unless the waves are very non-linear or the core’s structure is very different than predicted by models.

Fig. 2 shows a wave propagation diagram for our hydrogen-free model during core oxygen burning. Waves excited at convective turnover frequencies $\omega_{\text{con}} \sim 5 \times 10^5 \text{s}^{-1}$ that propagate as gravity waves between the oxygen-burning core and the helium-burning shell. They tunnel into acoustic waves above the helium-burning shell and damp in the helium envelope at $\sim 2 R_\odot$. Above this region, the envelope consists of an optically thick outflowing wind.

3.4 Wave dissipation via weak shocks

Waves that manage to tunnel into the envelope as acoustic waves will then propagate towards the stellar surface where they become strongly damped. Ro & Matzner (2017) showed that acoustic waves carrying more energy than the background radiation field will generally steepen into shocks before dissipating by radiative diffusion. Here we describe how we account for shock formation and entropy generation in our models. The full implementation is discussed below, but typically we find that waves damp just below the point where their energy flux $L_{\text{waves}}$ approaches the maximum possible wave flux (in the linear regime):

$$L_{\text{max}} = 2\pi^2 \rho c_s^3.$$  (10)

The first step is to calculate the wave amplitude based on the wave energy flux. In the envelope of the star where the waves are acoustic waves and have not yet damped or shocked, their local amplitude can be calculated from Wentzel–Kramers–Brillouin (WKB) scaling relations

$$L_{\text{waves}} \simeq 2\pi^2 \rho c_s u^2 \simeq \text{constant},$$  (11)

where $u$ is the radial velocity amplitude of the wave. We then use equation 7 of Ro & Matzner (2017) to calculate the radial coordinate $r_S$ at which the waves form shocks:

$$\left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} \right) \int_{r_i}^{r_S} \frac{\gamma + 1}{2c_s} \left( \frac{L_{\text{max}}(r)}{L_{\text{max}}} \right)^{1/2} = 1$$

$$\simeq \frac{\omega u(r_i)}{c_s(r_i)} \int_{r_i}^{r_S} \frac{\gamma + 1}{2c_s} \left( \frac{L_{\text{max}}(r)}{L_{\text{max}}} \right)^{1/2} = 1.$$  (12)

Here, we have used the WKB dispersion relation for sound waves, $k_r \equiv \omega/c_s$, and $\gamma$ is the adiabatic index. The integral in equation (12) is taken from the radius $r_i$ at which acoustic waves are formed, and the shock formation radius $r_S$ is defined by the radial coordinate at which the left-hand side of equation (12) evaluates to 1. We evaluate $r_S$ by finding the deepest point in the star where $\omega > L_i, N$ such that the waves behave as acoustic waves. In practice, the value of $r_i$ is not important because the integral of equation (12) is dominated by the scale height below $r_S$ where $L_{\text{max}}(r)$ and $c_s$ become small and the integrand becomes large.

At the shock radius $r_S$, the waves steepen into a train of weak shocks. In our implementation below, we assume the waves instantly behave as ‘mature shocks’ (see discussion in Ro & Matzner 2017), in reality, this occurs at a slightly larger damping radius $r_D$. Ro & Matzner (2017) estimate the maximum shock maturation radius (equation 29) by approximating the post-shock state to match the wave peak. A train of shocks or an ‘N’ wave, which interests us here, propagates slower due to the inward-travelling rarified wave. While this is a seemingly benign point as weak shocks are practically sonic, the relative difference of these speeds gives rise to interesting results. From this knowledge, we derive a conservative bound on the maturation condition

$$1 \lesssim \int_{r_S}^{r_i} \frac{4\pi}{\gamma - 2} \frac{\gamma + 1}{2} \left( \frac{L_{\text{wave}}}{L_{\text{max}}} \right) \omega dr \lesssim 2.$$  (13)

That is, as it is maturing, the wave propagates a distance through the star,

$$r_h = r_S \sim \frac{c_s}{\omega} \left[ \frac{2\pi(\gamma + 1)}{\pi - 2} \left( \frac{L_{\text{wave}}}{L_{\text{max}}} \right) \right]^{-1},$$  (14)

where the bracket is the time average along the wave. This distance can be large if the shock forms when $L_{\text{wave}} \ll L_{\text{max}}$. In our models,
however, the waves shock where \( L_{\text{wave}} \sim L_{\text{max}} \), the maturation length is shorter than a scale height, and our neglect of this process is warranted.

Above the point of shock maturation, the shock amplitude changes due to competing effects: energy dissipation at the shock front that decreases the shock amplitude, and shock steepening as the waves propagate into lower density material. Mihalas & Mihalas (1984) assume each segment of an N-wave is dynamically similar to that of a single shock with twice the amplitude. This is both incorrect, as discussed previously, and an unnecessary assumption when they model the energy dissipation rate for a shock train. The dissipation rate can be written in terms of the shock strength \( x = (P_2 - P_1)/P_1 \) (note a missing factor of \( \gamma + 1 \) from equation 56.56 of Mihalas & Mihalas 1984):

\[
\frac{dE}{dm} = \frac{(\gamma + 1)P}{12\gamma^2 \rho} X^3,
\]

(15)

where \( P_1 \) and \( P_2 \) are the pre- and post-shocked pressures and the background indicated with no subscript. Assuming the shocks remain self-similar in shape, which is valid for weak, planar shocks (Landau & Lifshitz 1959; Ulmschneider 1970), then the wave strength is a function of the wave energy

\[
x \simeq 2\frac{P_2 - P_1}{P_1} \simeq 2\sqrt{\frac{L_{\text{wave}}}{L_{\text{max}}}}.
\]

(16)

which is no longer constant due to shock dissipation. Additionally, the change in energy flux per unit mass traversed by the N-wave packet is simply equation (15) multiplied by the linear wave frequency \( \omega/(2\pi) \). The reduction in wave luminosity per unit mass due to shock dissipation is thus

\[
\frac{dL_{\text{wave}}}{dm} = \frac{\gamma + 1}{3\pi} \omega c_s^3 \left( \frac{L_{\text{wave}}}{L_{\text{max}}} \right)^{3/2}.
\]

(17)

This expression (up to factors of unity) has been employed for the solar coronal heating problem (see Ulmschneider 1970 for an extensive list).

Equation (17) can be recast as an effective damping mass, \( M_{\text{damp}} = L_{\text{wave}}/(dL_{\text{wave}}/dm)^{-1} \), yielding

\[
M_{\text{damp, shock}} = \frac{3\pi}{\gamma + 1} \frac{L_{\text{max}}}{\omega c_s^3} \left( \frac{L_{\text{max}}}{L_{\text{wave}}} \right)^{1/2}.
\]

(18)

This can be compared with the damping mass due to radiative diffusion,

\[
M_{\text{damp, rad}} = \frac{2L_{\text{max}}}{\alpha^2 K},
\]

(19)

with \( K \) the local thermal diffusivity (see Fuller 2017). In our MESA evolutions, we include both forms of damping, such that the energy deposited per unit mass per unit time in each cell is

\[
\epsilon_{\text{wave}} = \frac{dL_{\text{wave}}}{dm} = \frac{L_{\text{wave}}}{M_{\text{damp, shock}}} + \frac{L_{\text{wave}}}{M_{\text{damp, rad}}}.
\]

(20)

### 3.4.1 Accounting for background flows

Near and above the wave heating region, material is accelerated upward by the pressure gradient resulting from wave heat. Consequently, the waves may propagate into regions where the background flow velocities are large or even supersonic. Hence, we must include the effects of these background flows on acoustic wave propagation.

For acoustic waves in the WKB limit, it can be shown that radial background flows simply alter the wave dispersion relation to

\[
k_r \simeq \pm \frac{\omega}{c_s \pm v_r}.
\]

(21)

where \( \omega \) is the inertial frame wave frequency, \( v_r \) is the background flow velocity, and the plus and minus refer to outwardly and inwardly propagating waves, respectively. For the outwardly propagating waves of interest, we can see that their wave numbers are decreased in the presence of an outward background flow, which is essentially just a Doppler shift. The outward flows generally lengthen the wave damping region due to the reduction in wavenumber. For supersonic inward flows there is a critical point where \( v_r = -c_s \), at which point the wavenumber diverges such that the waves will be absorbed. The wave group velocity (in the inertial frame) is simply \( v_g = c_s + v_r \).

In the presence of flows, the wave action (rather than wave energy flux) is conserved in the absence of damping. The wave action is

\[
L_{\text{ac}} = 2\pi r^2 \rho c_s u_r (1 + v_r/c_s) \simeq \text{constant}.
\]

(22)

Incorporating the effects of background flows, the damping masses become

\[
M_{\text{damp, shock}} = \frac{3\pi}{\gamma + 1} \frac{L_{\text{max}}}{\omega c_s^3} \left( \frac{L_{\text{max}}}{L_{\text{wave}}} \right)^{1/2}
\]

(23)

and

\[
M_{\text{damp, rad}} = \frac{2L_{\text{max}} (1 + v_r/c_s)^2}{\alpha^2 K},
\]

(24)

with net wave dissipation rate

\[
\epsilon_{\text{wave}} = \frac{L_{\text{ac}}}{M_{\text{damp, shock}}} + \frac{L_{\text{ac}}}{M_{\text{damp, rad}}}.
\]

(25)

The effective damping mass is

\[
M_{\text{damp}} = \left[ M_{\text{damp, shock}}^{-1} + M_{\text{damp, rad}}^{-1} \right]^{-1}.
\]

(26)

Equation (25) is the wave heating rate implemented in our models.

### 3.5 Summary of model physics

Here we summarize the implementation wave heating into our models. We begin adding wave heat and using hydrodynamics just before the envelope as described in Section 3.3. We perform the following steps.

1. Calculate the IGW luminosity \( L_{\text{wave}} \) and characteristic wave frequency generated by core convection, as described in Section 3.2.
2. Calculate the fraction of wave energy \( f_{\text{esc}} \) that propagates into the envelope as described in Section 3.3.
3. Calculate the envelope wave heating rate at each cell in the envelope (above the point where IGW transform to acoustic waves) as described in Section 3.4.
4. Add the wave heat in each cell of the stellar model. This is the only effect of the waves that we add to the models.
5. Evolve the model to the next time step.

### 4 WAVE-DRIVEN OUTFLOWS

It is important to discuss the physics of the super-Eddington outflows that arise in our stellar models. More detailed discussion of such outflows are presented in Quataert et al. (2016), Shen et al. (2016), and Owocki et al. (2017), here we discuss those results in the context of super-Eddington outbursts driven by wave heating.
The important characteristics of the wave heating in our models are that it occurs close enough to the stellar surface that the wave energy deposition exceeds the binding energy of overlying material, yet deep enough within the star that overlying material is very optically thick. Under these conditions, the wave heat will drive a dense, super-Eddington wind as discussed by Quataert et al. (2016). Fig. 3 shows profiles of density, binding energy, wave energy flux, and various time-scales within the star. Time-scales are defined in Fuller (2017), with the addition of an advective time-scale,

\[ t_{\text{adv}} = \frac{H}{v}, \]  

(27)

where \( H = P/(\rho g) \) is the scale height and \( v \) is the local outflow velocity. In contrast to hydrogen-rich stars, we find in our hydrogen-free model that waves typically damp near the stellar surface where the overlying mass is of order \( M_{\text{ext}} \sim 10^{-3} M_{\odot} \), and the overlying binding energy is only \( E_{\text{bind, ext}} \sim 10^{55} \) erg. However, the optical depth is still quite large, of order \( \tau \sim 10^{4} \), so wave heat cannot immediately diffuse outward. At the wave heating location, \( t_{\text{heat}} < t_{\text{therm}} \), so material heats up faster than it cools, and its pressure increases. The heated material drives an outflow that is accelerated by the gradient in radiation pressure between the hot wave heating region and the cooler expanding material above. In equilibrium, the outflow is accelerated such that \( t_{\text{heat}} \sim t_{\text{adv}} \), in the heating region, i.e. wave heat is advected up by the outflow at the same rate that it is deposited. The outflow sonic point occurs where \( t_{\text{adv}} = t_{\text{therm}} \). For wave heating rates of \( \sim 10^{-1} L_{\odot} \) sustained for periods of \( \sim 1 \) yr, the waves deposit more than enough energy to unbind the overlying envelope and the heating is highly super-Eddington. Hence, the waves drive an optically thick super-Eddington wind that is accelerated in and above the wave heating region.

These sorts of very optically thick, very super-Eddington winds behave much differently from optically thin or near-Eddington winds (see discussion in Owoki et al. 2017), such as line-driven winds from stars or star-forming regions. A key difference is that photons are trapped within the outflowing gas, both in regions near the sonic point \( r_{S} \) and the point where the outflow exceeds the escape speed \( v_{\text{esc}} \). The gas can be treated as a single fluid and is not subject to two-fluid instabilities. The photons’ momentum is unimportant for expelling material, instead, it is the gradient in radiation pressure between the hot wave heating region and the cooler expanding material above. In equilibrium, the outflow is accelerated such that \( t_{\text{heat}} \sim t_{\text{adv}} \), in the heating region, i.e. wave heat is advected up by the outflow at the same rate that it is deposited. The outflow sonic point occurs where \( t_{\text{adv}} = t_{\text{therm}} \). For wave heating rates of \( \sim 10^{-1} L_{\odot} \) sustained for periods of \( \sim 1 \) yr, the waves deposit more than enough energy to unbind the overlying envelope and the heating is highly super-Eddington. Hence, the waves drive an optically thick super-Eddington wind that is accelerated in and above the wave heating region.
dynamics simplify, radiative diffusion is a good approximation, and multidimensional radiative instabilities are unlikely to be important in the wind-launching region. Such instabilities are expected to grow on a time-scale $t \sim r/v_{\text{diff}}$, which is much larger than the outflow time-scale $r/v$, so our estimates of wind speeds, mass-loss rates, and kinetic energy flux are realistic. Multidimensional hydrodynamical instabilities (e.g. convection) are also unlikely to be important as shown by the simulations presented in Quataert et al. (2016).

Fig. 4 shows that during intense wave heating episodes such as during core oxygen burning, most of the wave energy is converted into gravitational potential energy. During oxygen burning, roughly 85 per cent of the wave energy is used to lift mass out of the gravitational well of the star and expel it to infinity. Roughly 10 per cent of the energy escapes to infinity in the advective energy flux of the wind, which we define as

$$L_{\text{adv}} = 4\pi r^2 \rho v_r \left( c_s^2 + v_r^2 / 2 \right).$$

At infinity, the wind is highly supersonic and the advective flux is essentially the kinetic energy flux of the wind. Note that at $r_5$ and $r_{\text{esc}}$, the wave kinetic energy flux is well above the Eddington luminosity $L_{\text{Edd}}$. This again proves the outflow is nearly adiabatic (Quataert et al. 2016), such that photon diffusion is negligible in regions where the outflow is launched. Finally, roughly 5 per cent of the wave energy is radiated in photons. The emergent photon luminosity is super-Eddington (for electron scattering opacity), but only by a factor of a few. We computed radiative luminosity (based on the diffusion approximation) is also likely to be realistic because the model luminosity is nearly constant where $v_{\text{diff}} \sim v$. Near the photosphere, of course, the adiabatic approximation breaks down, and it may be possible that our 1D models incorrectly predict the effective temperature of the outflow. However, the photosphere occurs near the drop in opacity caused by H or He recombination ($r \sim 150 R_\odot$ in Fig. 4), like it does in many SNe. Therefore, the effective temperature is mostly determined by the recombination temperature, and not by the dynamics of the outflow, and our estimates are probably reasonable.

It is instructive to compare our numerical results on super-Eddington mass loss with analytic expectations. During oxygen burning in our hydrogen-free model, there is a nearly steady-state super-Eddington wind. Following the formalism of Quataert et al. (2016), our model wind is driven by a heating rate $E \sim 10^7 L_\odot$, deposited at a radius $r_5 \sim 2 R_\odot$, with overlying mass $M_{\text{env}} \sim 10^{-3} M_\odot$ and interior mass $M \sim 5 M_\odot$. Our model thus has $\nu_{\text{crit}} \sim 300$ km s$^{-1}$, $v_{\text{esc}}(r_5) \sim 1000$ km s$^{-1}$, and $f \sim 1$, and lies in the mass-loaded Regime 2 of Quataert et al. (2016), where most of the wave energy is used to lift material out of the star’s gravitational potential well, as discussed in Section 5.1. The analytics of Quataert et al. (2016) predict a mass-loss rate $M \sim 0.1 M_\odot$ yr$^{-1}$, terminal wind speed $v_\infty \sim 300$ km s$^{-1}$, and wind kinetic energy flux $E_{\text{wind}}/E \sim 0.06$, which are very close to the values discussed in Section 5.1 and shown in Figs 4 and 7. Additionally, the Eddington luminosity of this model is $L_{\text{Edd}} \sim 2 \times 10^7 L_\odot$, and the predicted photon luminosity of the wind is $L_{\text{phot}} \sim 7 \times 10^7 L_\odot$, similar to that shown in Fig. 5. In the language of Woocki et al. (2017), our model is somewhat photon tired, with $m \sim 0.8$, but still can maintain a strong stable outflow because of the greatly super-Eddington heating rate such that $m L_{\odot} \gg 1$. For hydrogen-rich models like the RSG models in Fuller (2017), a steady-state wind is not produced, and these analytic predictions are not applicable. The hydrogen-poor model of Section 5.2 is an intermediate case, nearly reaching a steady state at the end of core oxygen burning, but not early on when the hydrogen envelope is still being ejected.

As overlying material is blown off by the wind, it is replaced by upwelling material from deeper in the star. Hence, the wave heating digs deeper into the star, moving to smaller mass coordinates as material is blown off in the wind. The outer core (above the wave generation region, but below the wave heating region) expands adiabatically in response to this mass loss. The inner core evolution is essentially unaffected since it is determined primarily by the mass of the carbon core, which is not affected by the wave-induced mass loss.

### 5 EFFECT ON PRE-SN EVOLUTION

#### 5.1 Type Ib progenitor

Here we examine the observable surface properties of our model containing no hydrogen. Fig. 5 shows the core nuclear energy generation rate, the wave heating rate of the stellar envelope, and the surface luminosity of our stellar model. Before neon burning, the wave heating rate remains below the star’s radiative luminosity, and the effect of wave heating is minor. When neon burning begins $\sim 2$ yr before explosion, wave heating rates exceed $10^6 L_\odot$, and they become both super-Eddington and larger than the background energy flux (i.e. the stellar luminosity without including wave energy transport). The wave heat drives a dense wind from the surface of the star, such that the photosphere lies within this wind, typically both above the wind sonic point and above the point where the wind velocity exceeds the escape velocity.

Fig. 5 shows that the photospheric luminosity is much smaller than the wave heating rate during these late burning phases. Most of the wave energy is used to unbind mass, and most of the remaining energy is put into the kinetic energy of the wind. Our models predict that the radiated luminosity remains below $\sim 10^6 L_\odot$. Nevertheless, stars undergoing wave-driven outbursts may increase their...
is shown in Fig. 8. Before wave heating, the star has log (torb) < log (L/Leff) < log (l/Leff) ≈ 4.0 and log (L/L⊙) ≈ 5.7. When burning phases turn off and on, and during low-amplitude outbursts (e.g. during carbon shell burning at ∼1.2 yr before explosion), the star is highly variable, moving erratically in the HR diagram. In the models, this variability typically occurs when the wave heating rate is only moderately super-Eddington, and the wave-driven outflows are not efficiently driven above the escape velocity. The outflow becomes unstable, frequently stagnating and forming fallback shocks that make the mass-loss rate becomes very large during wave-driven outbursts (Fig. 7). During quiescence, our model is essentially a low-luminosity Wolf–Rayet star, with an effective temperature of T_eff ∼ 5 × 10^4 K, and photospheric radius of R ∼ 5 R⊙. However, during outbursts, the photosphere moves far out into the optically thick wind driven by the wave heating. The photosphere is actually much cooler during outburst, with T_eff ∼ 10^3 K. However, the change in photospheric radius more than compensates for the decrease in temperature, increasing by a factor of ∼50 to radii of ∼250 R⊙. As discussed above, the bolometric luminosity increases by a factor of ∼5, but the V-band luminosity will increase by a substantially larger factor due to the changing temperature, with the Wien peak moving from ∼60 nm during quiescence to ∼300 nm during outburst. Generally, the star is in a ‘low hard’ state during quiescence, and a ‘high soft’ state during outburst.

The mass-loss rate becomes very large during wave-driven outbursts (Fig. 7). During quiescence, our model is essentially a low-luminosity Wolf–Rayet star, with an effective temperature of T_eff ∼ 5 × 10^4 K, and photospheric radius of R ∼ 5 R⊙. However, during outbursts, the photosphere moves far out into the optically thick wind driven by the wave heating. The photosphere is actually much cooler during outburst, with T_eff ∼ 10^3 K. However, the change in photospheric radius more than compensates for the decrease in temperature, increasing by a factor of ∼50 to radii of ∼250 R⊙. As discussed above, the bolometric luminosity increases by a factor of ∼5, but the V-band luminosity will increase by a substantially larger factor due to the changing temperature, with the Wien peak moving from ∼60 nm during quiescence to ∼300 nm during outburst. Generally, the star is in a ‘low hard’ state during quiescence, and a ‘high soft’ state during outburst.

Fig. 6. Effective temperature and photospheric radius of our hydrogen-free model as a function of time before core collapse, t_core. Before the onset of neon burning at t_core, the star is a hot and compact Wolf–Rayet-like star in its ‘low hard’ state. During strong wave heating episodes, the photosphere moves out into the optically thick wind, greatly increasing its radius and decreasing its temperature, creating a ‘high soft’ state.

Fig. 7. Top: mass-loss rate ˙M and photospheric velocity v_surf of our hydrogen-free model as a function of time until core collapse. During outbursts, the photospheric velocity is nearly equal to the wind terminal velocity. Bottom: integrated mass lost due to wave-driven outbursts.

Fig. 8. Evolution of our hydrogen-free model in the HR diagram during its final years before core collapse. It spends most of its time in a ‘low hard’ quiescent state at log T ∼ 4.65, log L ∼ 5.1, or in a ‘high soft’ outbursting state at log T ∼ 4.0, log L ∼ 5.7. Erratic evolution between these states occurs due to stagnating outflows and fallback shocks that are subject to non-radial instabilities that could alter the results.

4.7 and log (L/L⊙) ≈ 5.1 while it is in its low hard state. During wave-driven outbursts, the star moves to its high soft state with log (T_surf/K) ∼ 4.0 and log (L/L⊙) ≈ 5.7. When burning phases turn off and on, and during low-amplitude outbursts (e.g. during carbon shell burning at ∼1.2 yr before explosion), the star is highly variable, moving erratically in the HR diagram. In the models, this variability typically occurs when the wave heating rate is only moderately super-Eddington, and the wave-driven outflows are not efficiently driven above the escape velocity. The outflow becomes unstable, frequently stagnating and forming fallback shocks that make the...
photospheric luminosity highly variable. We do not trust our results during these phases, as these stagnating outflows are susceptible to multidimensional instabilities that will alter the dynamics and luminosity (Owocki 2015).

The excursion to low luminosity in Fig. 8 (i.e. ‘the legs of the horse’) occurs during the very brief quiescent interval between oxygen core burning and neon shell burning. At this time, wave heating ceases and the optically thick wind disappears, exposing the small and hot Wolf–Rayet-like core. While this feature is prominent in Fig. 8, it is only a very small segment of the total light curve (corresponding to the dip at $\sim 0.07$ yr in Fig. 5), and it may be difficult to observe in practice.

5.2 Type IIb progenitor

The model containing a small amount of hydrogen undergoes similar but distinctly different evolution from the hydrogen-free model. Fig. 9 shows the wave heating rates and surface luminosity of our model with hydrogen. We note that the core evolution, wave heating rate, and integrated wave heat are similar but not identical to the hydrogen-free model. The difference reflects the sensitivity of core evolution to its structure, in addition to some dependence on the spatial/temporal numerical resolution of the models. Our model with hydrogen has a slightly larger helium core mass and a slightly shorter and more energetic oxygen-burning phase, leading to a slightly larger wave heating rate and net wave heat deposited in the envelope.

Compared to the hydrogen-free model, the model with hydrogen has a smaller surface luminosity during the core neon burning. We note that the core evolution, wave heating rate, and integrated wave heat are similar but not identical to the hydrogen-free model. The difference reflects the sensitivity of core evolution to its structure, in addition to some dependence on the spatial/temporal numerical resolution of the models. Our model with hydrogen has a slightly larger helium core mass and a slightly shorter and more energetic oxygen-burning phase, leading to a slightly larger wave heating rate and net wave heat deposited in the envelope.

Figure 9. Same as Fig. 5 for our hydrogen-poor model.

Despite similar energetics, the photospheric radius and temperature of the model with hydrogen are significantly different (Fig. 10). In general, the presence of hydrogen leads to larger opacity per unit mass, and hence larger photospheric radii and cooler effective temperatures than the hydrogen-free model. For instance, during oxygen burning when most of the hydrogen-rich envelope has already been ejected, a small amount of hydrogen lingers in the remaining helium-rich layers, and the typical photospheric radius is 2–3 times larger in the model with hydrogen. Correspondingly, the effective temperature of the model with hydrogen in the range $5 \times 10^3 < T_{\text{eff}} < 12 \times 10^3$ K, whereas the hydrogen-free model in the range $9 \times 10^3 < T_{\text{eff}} < 50 \times 10^3$ K.

Figure 10. Same as Fig. 6 for our hydrogen-poor model. The presence of hydrogen keeps this star cooler and more extended, though it becomes slightly hotter and more inflated during outburst.

During core neon burning, essentially all of the extended hydrogen-rich material is ejected by wave-driven outbursts.

Figure 11. Same as Fig. 7, but for our hydrogen-poor model. The entire hydrogen-rich envelope is ejected by wave-driven outbursts.
becomes much smaller in radius during the quiescent phase before oxygen burning (see Fig. 10 at \( \sim 1 \) yr before core collapse). The surface layers become mostly helium, but they still contain a small fraction of hydrogen, and they are still much more extended than the hydrogen-free model. Hence, the mass-loss rate during oxygen burning remains quite large, and the model loses a total of more than \( 0.1 \, M_\odot \) by the time of core collapse, essentially all of the hydrogen has been ejected in the super-Eddington wind, and less than \( 3 \times 10^{-5} \, M_\odot \) of hydrogen remain.

The HR diagram evolution of our model with hydrogen is shown in Fig. 12. Similar to the hydrogen-free model, the model with hydrogen exhibits both a ‘low hard’ state during quiescence and a ‘high soft’ state during wave-driven outbursts, each with a similar bolometric luminosity to the corresponding state of the hydrogen-free model. However, both of these states have significantly lower effective temperatures in the model with hydrogen. We thus expect both quiescent and outbursting progenitors with hydrogen to be redder (though with similar bolometric luminosity) than hydrogen-free progenitors. Like the hydrogen-free model, the model with hydrogen is highly variable in between outburst and quiescence, although we are not confident in the details of this variability, as discussed in Section 5.1.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 Implications for subsequent supernovae

6.1.1 Hydrogen-free progenitors

Wave-driven outbursts from hydrogen-free SN progenitors would significantly affect the subsequent SNe. Our hydrogen-free model has a typical mass-loss rate in the last months of life of \( \sim 10^{-3} \, M_\odot \, \text{yr}^{-1} \), and the total mass lost is \( \Delta M \sim 4 \times 10^{-2} \, M_\odot \). Wind speeds are \( v \sim 400 \, \text{km s}^{-1} \), and strong mass loss begins \( \sim 2 \) yr before core collapse. We thus expect helium-rich wind material to extend \( \sim 3 \times 10^{16} \, \text{cm} \) away from the progenitor. At larger radii, we predict the CSM density will fall sharply, as wave-driven outbursts are negligible during prior phases of evolution. In these models, wave-driven mass loss continues until \( \sim 0.07 \) yr before core collapse, and we expect the inner boundary of dense CSM to extend inward to \( \sim 10^{12} \, \text{cm} \). Hence, for SN ejecta velocities of \( \sim 10^4 \, \text{km s}^{-1} \), we expect CSM interaction to begin early (within the first \( \sim 1 \) day after explosion), and to last for roughly 1 month.

Because the wave-driven mass loss is not steady, but occurs over multiple distinct outbursts, we do not expect the CSM density profile to have a constant mass-loss density profile of \( \rho \propto r^{-2} \). There may be multiple dense shells of CSM ejected during different wave-driven outbursts associated with different burning phases (e.g. core neon burning, core oxygen burning, carbon/neon/oxygen shell burning). However, some of these shells may be thick and exhibit a nearly wind-like density profile within their radial extent. In the hydrogen-free model, most of the CSM is ejected at somewhat constant mass-loss rate and terminal velocity during core oxygen burning. This material will likely dominate the observed SN–CSM interaction near the SN peak during the first \( \sim 15 \) d after explosion. Thus, the early time CSM interaction may appear consistent with a steady wind density profile, while CSM density would drop sharply after \( \sim 1 \) month. We note these interaction time-scales are specific to this progenitor model and could be markedly different for lower/higher mass stars, an issue that we hope to explore in future work.

The characteristics of wave-driven mass loss in our model are broadly consistent with those of observed Type Ibn SNe. Our model mass-loss rates are similar to the mass-loss rates of \( 0.2 \leq \dot{M} \leq 1 \, M_\odot \, \text{yr}^{-1} \) inferred for SN 2015U (Shivvers et al. 2016). The wind speeds are also similar, with our terminal velocities of \( \sim 500 \, \text{km s}^{-1} \) in the range (though perhaps on the low end) of observed narrow P-Cygni velocities (\( 200 \lesssim v \lesssim 2000 \, \text{km s}^{-1} \)) in Type Ibn SNe (Pastorello et al. 2016). We predict dense CSM that is confined to small distances (\( \lesssim 10^{16} \, \text{cm} \)) from the progenitor, similar to what has been inferred from the short-lived CSM interaction in most Type Ibn SNe (Hosseinzadeh et al. 2017; Moriya et al. 2017; Shivvers et al. 2017). The confined CSM creates a fast rise, bright peak, and fast decline in the light curve. It also causes narrow P-Cygni profiles to be observed at early times and disappear at late times after the CSM has been swept up by the SN ejecta, as is frequently observed in Type Ibn SNe (Shivvers et al. 2016; Hosseinzadeh et al. 2017). Finally, the confined CSM prevents the observation of late-time radio emission like that frequently seen in Type IIn SNe (Shivvers et al. 2017).

6.1.2 Hydrogen-poor progenitors

Our model containing hydrogen also expels dense CSM that will affect the SN light curve and spectra. The most notable difference, of course, is the presence of small amounts of hydrogen, which will likely be observable in SNe spectra, at least at early times. In our model, the wave-driven outbursts expel more than \( 0.1 \, M_\odot \) of H/He-rich material into the CSM, hence its subsequent SN may be observed as an interacting Type Ibn/IIn SN similar to the transitional SNe discussed in Pastorello et al. (2016) and Hosseinzadeh et al. (2017). We also note that the wind speeds of this model are markedly slower, with \( 100 \lesssim v_{\text{wind}} \lesssim 300 \, \text{km s}^{-1} \). This appears to be consistent with the slower CSM measured in transitional SNe.

The slower wind speeds of our model with hydrogen also imply the CSM will be limited to even smaller distances around the progenitor. We find \( v_{\text{wind}} \lesssim 100 \, \text{km s}^{-1} \) during the neon-burning outburst roughly \( 2 \) yr before explosion, implying the CSM is confined to radii of \( R_{\text{CSM}} \lesssim 6 \times 10^{12} \, \text{cm} \). Hence, we would expect the dense CSM to be swept up within \( \sim 7 \) d after explosion, and the interaction
signatures may only be recognized in SNe with sufficiently early spectra. This may prevent some of these SNe from being classified as transitional Type Ibn/In SNe. They may instead be classified as Type Ibb SNe if spectra are obtained after the hydrogen-rich material has been swept up, but before the photosphere has receded below hydrogen-rich layers. If only late-time spectra are available, the SN may be classified as a Type Ib SN. Hence, these events may be more common than the seemingly rare transitional Type Ibn/In SNe identified in the literature to date.

Wave-driven outbursts may also be able to create transformational SNe like SN 2014C (Milisavljevic et al. 2015; Margutti et al. 2017), which transformed from a Type Ib SN to a Type In SNe after several months. However, the hydrogen-rich material in SN 2014C has somewhat different properties from the ejecta of our model with hydrogen: the observed CSM is estimated to be significantly more massive \( M_{\text{CSM}} \sim 1 \text{ M}_\odot \), it extends to much larger radii \( R_{\text{CSM}} \sim 6 \times 10^{16} \text{ cm} \), and it must have been ejected longer (at least 20 yr) before explosion. Hence, the model in this paper cannot reproduce SN 2014C. However, it might be possible that some lower mass stars, which undergo longer carbon/neutral/oxygen-burning phases, can create transformational SNe like SN 2014C.

Wave-driven mass loss will also affect the shock breakout (SBO) signal of stripped envelope SNe, potentially causing it to occur within the wave-driven wind. The only SBO detected for a hydrogen-poor SN is the Swift detection of the SBO of Type Ib SN 2008D (Soderberg et al. 2008). Interestingly, the duration of the high energy emission is significantly longer than predicted from standard stellar models. Svirski & Nakar (2014) show that the observed SBO of SN 2008D can be produced by a dense stellar wind, requiring enhanced mass loss in the final weeks before the SN. Wave-driven pre-SN mass loss can potentially produce this sort of density structure, though we note that aspherical SBO (Couch et al. 2011; Matzner, Levin & Ro 2013) is also a possibility.

### 6.2 Comparison with progenitor observations

Very few progenitor or outburst detections exist for hydrogen-poor SNe. The most famous example is SN 2006jc, which exhibited a bright outburst \( (M_K \approx -14.1, L_K \sim 4 \times 10^3) \) roughly 2 yr before it exploded as a Type Ibn SN (Foley et al. 2007; Pastorello et al. 2007). This time-scale is similar to the wave-driven outburst during neon burning of our model. However, the progenitor outburst of SN 2006jc was much more luminous than the outbursts in our models. From the lack of broad helium lines in the spectrum of SN 2006jc was much more luminous than the outbursts in our models.

Five apparently quiescent progenitors of hydrogen-poor SNe have currently been detected in pre-explosion imaging by the Hubble Space Telescope (HST). These include the Type Ibb progenitors of SN 2008ax (Crockett et al. 2008; Folatelli et al. 2015), SN 2011dh (Maund et al. 2011; Van Dyk et al. 2011), SN 2013df (Van Dyk et al. 2014), SN 2016gkg (Kilpatrick et al. 2017; Tartaglia et al. 2017), and the Type Ib progenitor of iPTF13bvn (Cao et al. 2013; Eldridge & Maund 2016). All of these had luminosities \( L \lesssim 2 \times 10^3 \text{ L}_\odot \) at the time of pre-explosion imaging, and they were likely not outbursting. However, we note that the pre-explosion HST imaging occurred more than 6 yr before each of these SNe, prior to the onset of wave-driven outbursts in our models. Thus, we would not necessarily expect any of those progenitors to have appeared abnormal.

Constraints on progenitor variability for hydrogen-poor SNe are also provided from ground-based data. From Palomar Transient Factory (PTF) data, there is little evidence for luminous outbursts from Type Ibb progenitors (Strojohann et al. 2015), though in most cases our predicted outburst luminosities are below detection thresholds of \( \lesssim 10^3 \text{ L}_\odot \). SN 2012cs may have had an outburst of luminosity \( \sim 2 \times 10^4 \text{ L}_\odot \) roughly 680 d before an explosion (Strojohann et al. 2015), which is similar to (though still slightly brighter than) our predicted outbursts. In contrast, hydrogen-rich Type Ibn SNe are known to frequently exhibit luminous pre-SN outbursts (Gal-Yam & Leonard 2009; Ofek et al. 2013, 2014), similar to outbursts of luminous blue variables. While the timing of these outbursts suggests they could be driven by wave heating, their larger quiescent outburst luminosities suggest these outbursts arise from different types of progenitors (likely more massive) than those studied in this paper. Examining wave heating effects in more massive stars, and stars that have undergone a stellar merger (Smith, Mauerhan & Prieto 2014), will be needed to determine whether wave heating can contribute to outbursts preceding Type Ibn SNe.

### 6.3 Wind and binary interactions

One shortcoming of our method is that it does not track expelled material, instead letting it flow off the edge of our computational grid. Hence, any additional observable effects produced by expelled material will be lost. In particular, we have not accounted for collisions between different shells of material ejected by wave heating during successive outbursts. For instance, in our hydrogen-poor progenitor shown in Fig. 11, there are two major phases of mass loss: one during core neon burning, and one during core oxygen burning, each of which eject \( \sim 0.05 \text{ M}_\odot \). However, typical ejection speeds are \( \sim 50 \text{ km s}^{-1} \) during neon burning, and \( \sim 250 \text{ km s}^{-1} \) during oxygen burning. Hence, the shell of material ejected during oxygen burning will catch up with the previously ejected material and collide at a relative velocity of \( \sim 200 \text{ km s}^{-1} \). The collision of these shells will convert \( \sim 10^{39} \text{ erg} \) of kinetic energy to thermal energy. Spread out over the oxygen-burning phase, this will thermalize of order \( 10^{39} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \approx 3 \times 10^4 \text{ L}_\odot \). A significant fraction of this energy may be radiated in optical bands, similar to interaction powered SNe, and could significantly increase the luminosity of pre-SN outbursts relative to our predictions. Accounting for these shell–shell collisions will be necessary for more reliable predictions of pre-SN outburst luminosities.

Additionally, we have neglected the possible influence of a binary companion, which is likely to be present in the majority of stripped envelope SNe. For orbital periods of hours–weeks, the
orbital velocity of the companion will be of order hundreds of km s\(^{-1}\), of similar magnitude to our predicted wind velocities. Hence, the interaction between the companion and the wind may be strong, causing some of the wind to accrete on to the companion (Mcley & Soker 2014) or be deflected to form internal shocks. Modelling these effects is beyond the scope of this work, but we speculate that they could significantly increase the radiative luminosity of the wave-driven outbursts.

7 WAVE NON-LINEARITY

Wave-driven outbursts may only occur in some progenitors because of non-linear damping of gravity waves in the radiative outer core. After being excited at the interface between the convective core and the radiative outer core, gravity waves propagate outward until they encounter an evanescent region, usually created by the convective helium-burning shell (see Fig. 2). In order to escape the core as acoustic waves that heat the envelope, they must tunnel through this evanescent region, throughout which their amplitude is attenuated by a factor \(\sim (r_{\text{in}}/r_{\text{out}})^{\alpha_{\text{core}}+1}\), where \(\alpha\) is the angular wavenumber and \(r_{\text{in}}/r_{\text{out}}\) are the radial coordinates of the inner/outer boundaries of the evanescent region. In our models, the helium-burning shell is thick, with \(r_{\text{out}}/r_{\text{in}} \sim 5\) for typical wave frequencies \(\omega_{\text{core}}\). Consequently, waves are efficiently reflected at the convective boundary, and only a small fraction of their energy tunnels through. Gravity wave energy must build up in the outer core before the energy leakage rate \(L_{\text{leak}}\) is equal to the energy input rate by convection. This requires large, potentially non-linear wave amplitudes.

We generally expect waves to become non-linear in the stellar envelope, because the falling density requires wave amplitudes to become large to carry the same energy flux. In the absence of background flows, the wave energy flux is

\[
L_{\text{wave}} = 2\rho_r^2 v_g^2 |\xi|^2, \tag{30}
\]

where \(\xi\) is the displacement vector and \(v_g\) is the radial component of the wave group velocity. Thus, in order to carry a given energy flux, the wave displacement scales as

\[
|\xi| = \left(\frac{L_{\text{wave}}}{2\rho_r^2 v_g^2}\right)^{1/2}. \tag{31}
\]

A useful measure of the non-linearity of the waves is the product of radial wavenumber and radial wave displacement, \(|k_r \xi_r|\). Where \(|k_r \xi_r| \ll 1\), the waves are nearly linear, while \(|k_r \xi_r| \geq 1\) implies very non-linear waves. Using the dispersion relations in Section 3.3, we find

\[
|k_r \xi_r| \sim \left(\frac{L_{\text{wave}}}{{kr}^3 N}\right)^{1/2}, \tag{32}
\]

while for acoustic waves,

\[
|k_r \xi_r| \sim \left(\frac{L_{\text{wave}}}{{2\rho_r^2 v_g^2}}\right)^{1/2}. \tag{33}
\]

Equations (32) and (33) are the wave amplitudes given a pure outward going wave. They are lower limits to the required wave amplitude because reflection adds a standing wave component in addition to the travelling wave component. Fig. 13 shows a plot of the minimum wave non-linearity required to carry \(L_{\text{wave}} = 10^7 L_\odot\) within our model, given a wave frequency \(\omega = \omega_{\text{core}}\). We plot equation (32) within g-mode cavities and equation (33) in evanescent/acoustic cavities. IGW within the core are in principle able to carry \(\sim 10^7 L_\odot\) without becoming strongly non-linear, if they are not reflected and prevented from propagating outward. Note this statement is dependent on the wave frequency \(\omega\), and higher frequency IGW can carry more energy. In contrast, the low envelope density causes acoustic waves carrying the same flux to become non-linear as they propagate towards the surface. Hence, in the absence of wave reflection (i.e. no thick intervening evanescent zones), convectively excited IGW can carry large amounts of energy outward, but after tunnelling into acoustic waves they become non-linear and steepen into shocks in the stellar envelope.

In real stars, however, evanescent zones cause waves to reflect on their journey outward, bottling up their energy and increasing the wave amplitude within the core. To calculate realistic wave amplitudes for our models, we solve the linear, forced wave equations within our stellar model shown in Fig. 2. We employ an outgoing acoustic wave boundary condition at \(r = 3 R_\odot\), and we add a forced inner boundary condition to excite waves. We then normalize the wavefunction so that the outgoing energy flux is equal to the wave heating rate of \(L_{\text{heat}} \approx 10^7 L_\odot\) calculated for that model. Fig. 13 shows the wavefunction of the radial wave displacement, \(\xi_r\), as a function of radius within our model. We see two wave cavities: the gravity wave cavity in between the convective oxygen-burning core and the convective helium-burning shell, and the acoustic wave cavity above the helium-burning shell. The waves are evanescent in most of the intervening helium-burning shell. Because of the thick evanescent region, the waves are mostly reflected at the gravity wave cavity boundaries, producing a standing gravity wave (i.e. a gravity mode) in the outer core. In the acoustic cavity, the waves are nearly pure outgoing waves.
The bottom panel of Fig. 13 shows the corresponding wave non-linearity, $|k | \xi |$. We see that our computed wavefunction is highly non-linear in both the acoustic and gravity wave cavities. In the acoustic cavity, non-linearity leads to formation of shocks that dissipates wave energy, which is accounted for as discussed in Section 3.4. In the gravity wave cavity, non-linearity likely leads to a turbulent cascade that damps wave energy, which is not accounted for in our models. Hence, in stars containing thick helium-burning shells that hinder wave energy from escaping to the envelope, non-linear dissipation within the outer core may damp the majority of wave energy in the core before it can escape to the envelope. More rigorous studies of non-linear coupling such as Weinberg & Quataert (2008) and Kumar & Goodman (1996) will be needed to determine the wave saturation amplitude in the core and resultant heating of the envelope, but non-linear saturation could cap core g-mode amplitudes at least one order of magnitude smaller than our estimates, such that $|k | \xi | \lesssim 1$. This could reduce the envelope heating rate by large factors, two orders of magnitude or more, compared to the predictions of our models that neglect non-linear damping. Hence, we infer that non-linear gravity wave damping will prevent large wave-driven outbursts in many stars, especially those with thick evanescent regions created by thick convective helium-burning shells.

As mentioned in Section 6.2, only a subset of progenitors is observed/inferred to produce pre-SN outbursts. Non-linear gravity wave damping may be the reason that many progenitors do not exhibit pre-SN outbursts. However, the models of this paper and Fuller (2017) have only investigated relatively ‘normal’ progenitor models derived from $M_{\text{ZAMS}} = 15 M_\odot$ primaries. The core structure and evolution can be markedly different for stars of different mass (especially low-mass $\sim 10 M_\odot$ primaries; Woosley & Heger 2015), or stars that have undergone binary mergers (Justham, Podsadiłowski & Vink 2014). In future work, we plan to explore wave heating in a more diverse set of progenitor stars, to see which have core structures that allow wave energy to escape into the envelope to drive pre-SN outbursts.

8 CONCLUSIONS

We have investigated the effects of energy transport by gravity/acoustic waves excited during late nuclear-burning phases of hydrogen-poor, stripped-envelope SN progenitors. We have investigated two stellar models composed of a $\sim 5 M_\odot$ helium core evolved from a $15 M_\odot$ progenitor stripped of its hydrogen envelope. At the onset of core carbon burning, our hydrogen-free model is a hot and compact helium star and likely represents a typical Type Ib SN progenitor, while our hydrogen-poor model is a yellow supergiant similar to Type IIn progenitors. We have used the MESA stellar evolution code to calculate wave heating rates of the stellar envelope and perform 1D hydrodynamic simulations of the progenitors from carbon burning to core collapse.

Similar to the $15 M_\odot$ RSG model investigated by Fuller (2017), we find that energy transport during core neon and oxygen burning can have a profound effect on the subsequent evolution and appearance of the star. Convectively excited gravity waves tunnel into acoustic waves that carry $\sim 10^7 L_\odot$ of power into the envelope and damp via weak shock formation fairly close to the surface of the star (though still at large optical depth), depositing enough energy to unbind the overlying material. Wave heating thus drives a dense, super-Eddington wind with mass-loss rates of $\sim 0.1 M_\odot$ yr$^{-1}$ during core neon and oxygen burning. The progenitor has bolometric luminosities of nearly $10^9 L_\odot$ during these wave-driven outbursts, though most of the wave energy is used to unbind material and accelerate the wind.

Our hydrogen-free and hydrogen-poor models behave similarly but exhibit key differences. As a result of being more extended, the hydrogen-poor model suffers more mass loss, losing a total of 0.13 $M_\odot$ compared to the 0.04 $M_\odot$ lost from the hydrogen-free model. Wind speeds are $\sim 250$ km s$^{-1}$ in the hydrogen-poor model compared to $\sim 450$ km s$^{-1}$ in the hydrogen-free model. As a result of its larger opacity per unit mass, the hydrogen-poor model is cooler at all times, staying in the range $5000 \lesssim T_{\text{eff}} \lesssim 10000$ K. In contrast, the hydrogen-free model is hot ($T_{\text{eff}} \sim 45000$ K) and compact during quiescence, but during outburst its photosphere moves out into the optically thick wind, with an effective temperature $T_{\text{eff}} \approx 10000$ K. So, despite similar luminosities in optical bands during outburst, the change in visual band luminosity will be larger for the hydrogen-free model because it radiates primarily in the ultraviolet during quiescence. In both cases, outbursts should be detectable for sufficiently close progenitors like those monitored by the LBT survey (Kochanek et al. 2008), but our models do not reach the $\sim 10^7 L_\odot$ luminosities of pre-SN outbursts like those of SN 2009ip.

However, by explicitly calculating a hydrodynamic wave form at the estimated wave heating rates, we have shown that gravity waves in the core of the star can become highly non-linear. The non-linearity occurs if the gravity waves are trapped by a thick overlying convective helium-burning shell, such that their energy builds up in the outer core before the waves can tunnel into the envelope as acoustic waves. The likely consequence is that the majority of wave energy will damp via non-linear instabilities in the outer radiative core, where the wave energy is insufficient to drive an outburst or enhanced mass loss. Hence, wave-driven outbursts are probably quenched by non-linear instabilities in many SN progenitors (similar to the non-linear quenching described in Weinberg & Quataert 2008), and we suspect this is the reason some SN progenitors, like that of SN 2011dh (Szczepien et al. 2012), did not exhibit pre-SN outbursts.

Nonetheless, pre-SN outbursts do occur in some SN progenitors, and we have shown that the mass-loss rates, wind speeds, and outburst durations of our models are approximately what is needed to produce Type Ibn SNe (for hydrogen-free progenitors), and transitional Type IIb/IIn SNe (for hydrogen-poor progenitors). Although our model outburst luminosities are somewhat below those that have been detected, shock heating from wind–wind or wind–binary collisions may increase outburst luminosities. Additionally, the convectively excited wave frequency spectrum and multidimensional effects may affect the results, which we plan to explore in future work.

The question that must now be answered is: Which SN progenitors have structures and evolution amenable to wave-driven outbursts, and why? We suspect part of the solution relates to the presence or absence of a convective helium-burning shell: a thick convective shell will insulate the envelope from waves excited in the core, so stars without convective shells overlying the core may be more prone to wave-driven outbursts. Thus far, we have only modelled a few stellar models derived from $15 M_\odot$ progenitors. A more extensive survey of the diverse population of SN progenitors will be needed to determine when wave-driven outbursts have their most profound effects on the death throes of massive stars.

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APPENDIX: MASSIVE STAR MODELS WITH MESA

The models in this paper are constructed in a similar fashion to those in Fuller (2017), with a few important differences. We use MESA (Paxton et al. 2011, 2013, 2015) version 9575 for all models in this paper. For evolution through core helium burning, we use the following inlist:

```
!------------------------------------ MAIN
initial_mass = 15.
initial_z = 0.02
use_Type2_opacities = .true.
Zbase = 0.02
!------------------------------------ OTHER
use_other_energy = .true.
!------------------------------------ MESH
mesh_delta_coeff = 0.6
varcontrol_target = 3d-4
logQ_min_limit = -20d0
mesh_delta_coeff_for_highT = 1.7
dX_div_X_limit_min_X = 1d-5
```
dX_div_X_limit = 1d-1
dX_nuc_drop_min_X_limit = 3d-5
dX_nuc_drop_limit = 3d-3
delta_HR_limit = 0.05
delta_HR_hard_limit = 0.1

!----------------------------------------- WIND

hot_wind_scheme = 'Dutch'
cool_wind_RGB_scheme = 'Dutch'
cool_wind_AGB_scheme = 'Dutch'
RGB_to_AGB_wind_switch = 1d-4
Dutch_scaling_factor = 0.8

!---------------------------------------- MIXING

overshoot_f_above_nonburn_core = 0.025
overshoot_f0_above_nonburn_nonburn_core = 0.01
overshoot_f_above_nonburn_shell = 0.025
overshoot_f0_above_nonburn_nonburn_shell = 0.01
overshoot_f_below_nonburn_shell = 0.025
overshoot_f0_below_nonburn_nonburn_shell = 0.01
overshoot_f_above_burn_h_core = 0.025
overshoot_f0_above_burn_h_core = 0.01
overshoot_f_above_burn_h_shell = 0.025
overshoot_f0_above_burn_h_shell = 0.01
overshoot_f_below_burn_h_shell = 0.025
overshoot_f0_below_burn_h_shell = 0.01
overshoot_f_above_burn_he_core = 0.025
overshoot_f0_above_burn_he_core = 0.01
overshoot_f_above_burn_he_shell = 0.025
overshoot_f0_above_burn_he_shell = 0.01
overshoot_f_below_burn_he_shell = 0.025
overshoot_f0_below_burn_he_shell = 0.01
overshoot_f_above_nonburn_core = 0.025
overshoot_f0_above_nonburn_nonburn_core = 0.01
overshoot_f_above_nonburn_shell = 0.025
overshoot_f0_above_nonburn_nonburn_shell = 0.01
overshoot_f_below_nonburn_shell = 0.025
overshoot_f0_below_nonburn_nonburn_shell = 0.01

!Defining a minimum diffusive mixing
set_min_D_mix = .true.
min_D_mix = 1d2

/ ! end of controls namelist

After the end of core helium burning, but before carbon burning or helium shell burning, we strip off the hydrogen envelope of the hydrogen-free model by adding the following commands to the inlist:
remove_H_wind_mdot = 1d-1
remove_H_wind_H_mass_limit = 1d-10

For the hydrogen-poor model, we set
remove_H_wind_H_mass_limit = 3d-2

In both cases, we also turn-off the Dutch wind mass loss used during prior evolution. This allows us to control the hydrogen mass remaining at core collapse, and to avoid confusion between prescribed mass loss and wave-driven mass loss. For the hydrogen-poor model, we change
mixing_length_alpha = 4
to increase the run speed, as lower mixing lengths lead to density inversions near the surface that cause MESA to run slowly. Increasing the mixing length causes the model to be slightly hotter and more compact than it would be otherwise.

Just before carbon burning, we prepare for our hydrodynamical models including wave-driven mass loss. First, we move the surface boundary to a low optical depth with

&star_job
relax_initial_tau_factor=.true.
relax_to_this_tau_factor=1d-2
dlogtau_factor=.1

Next, just before the start of core carbon burning we set the maximum time step to 1 yr and evolve for 25–50 time steps to make sure the models are very close to hydrostatic equilibrium. We then remove the restriction on time step and turn on hydrodynamics with

&star_job
change_initial_v_flag = .true.
change_v_flag = .true.
new_v_flag = .true.
remove_surface_by_optical_depth = 7d-3
repeat_remove_surface_for_each_step = .true.

/ ! end of star_job namelist
&controls

!---------------------------------------- HYDRO

mlt_accel_g_theta = 1
max_v_div_cs_for_convection = 1d-1
min_T_for_acceleration_limited_conv_velocity=0d0
max_T_for_acceleration_limited_conv_velocity=1d1
max_conv_vel_div_csound = 1d0
okay_to_remesh = .true.
use_ODE_var_eqn_pairing=.true.
use_dvdt_form_of_momentum_eqn=true.
use_compression_outer_BC=true.
log_tau_function_weight=50
log_kap_function_weight=50
R_function3_weight = 50
okay_to_remesh = .true.
Newton_iterations_limit=9
iter_for_resid_tol2=6
tol_residual_norm=1d-8
tol_max_residual=1d-7
tiny_corr_coeff_limit=999999
newton_itermin_until_reduce_min_corr_coeff =999999

Our models experience a very small transient when hydrodynamics are turned on, but it is much smaller than subsequent variability induced by wave heating. We note two important features of the hydrodynamics. First, we limit the acceleration of the MLT convective instabilities that occur when the outflow sonic point is located in a
convective region. We do not believe it strongly affects the outflow mass-loss rate or terminal velocity, since convection is unlikely to affect the wind dynamics as discussed in Quataert et al. (2016). Additionally, trial runs without this restriction behave qualitatively similarly, but are numerically less stable due to artificial density perturbations generated at the sonic point that steepen into shocks as they propagate outward.

In most cases, we try to run our models without the use of artificial viscosity. However, when strong shocks approach the photosphere, \textsc{MESA} is forced to take very small time steps and will sometimes crash. When this occurs, we will sometimes backtrack and restart with the addition of artificial viscosity using

\begin{equation}
\text{shock\_spread\_quadratic} = 1d-2
\end{equation}

and we note that the use of \text{shock\_spread\_linear} tends to cause more problems than it resolves. This artificial viscosity may affect the dynamics of shocks near the photosphere that typically occur near the beginning and end of wave-driven outbursts, so we caution that our results in these regimes (especially at the end of outbursts when multiple fallback shocks occur) are less reliable.

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