

# Probing Extreme Physics with Compact Objects

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IV Workshop Challenges of New Physics in Space  
Camps do Jordao - SP, Dec.11-16, 2011



## “Extremes” in Astrophysics:

- Most energetic particles:  $10^{20}$  eV
- Most energetic photons:  $10^{14}$  eV
- Highest temperature: Big Bang
- Highest density: neutron stars
- Strongest magnet: magnetars
- Strongest gravity: black holes
- 
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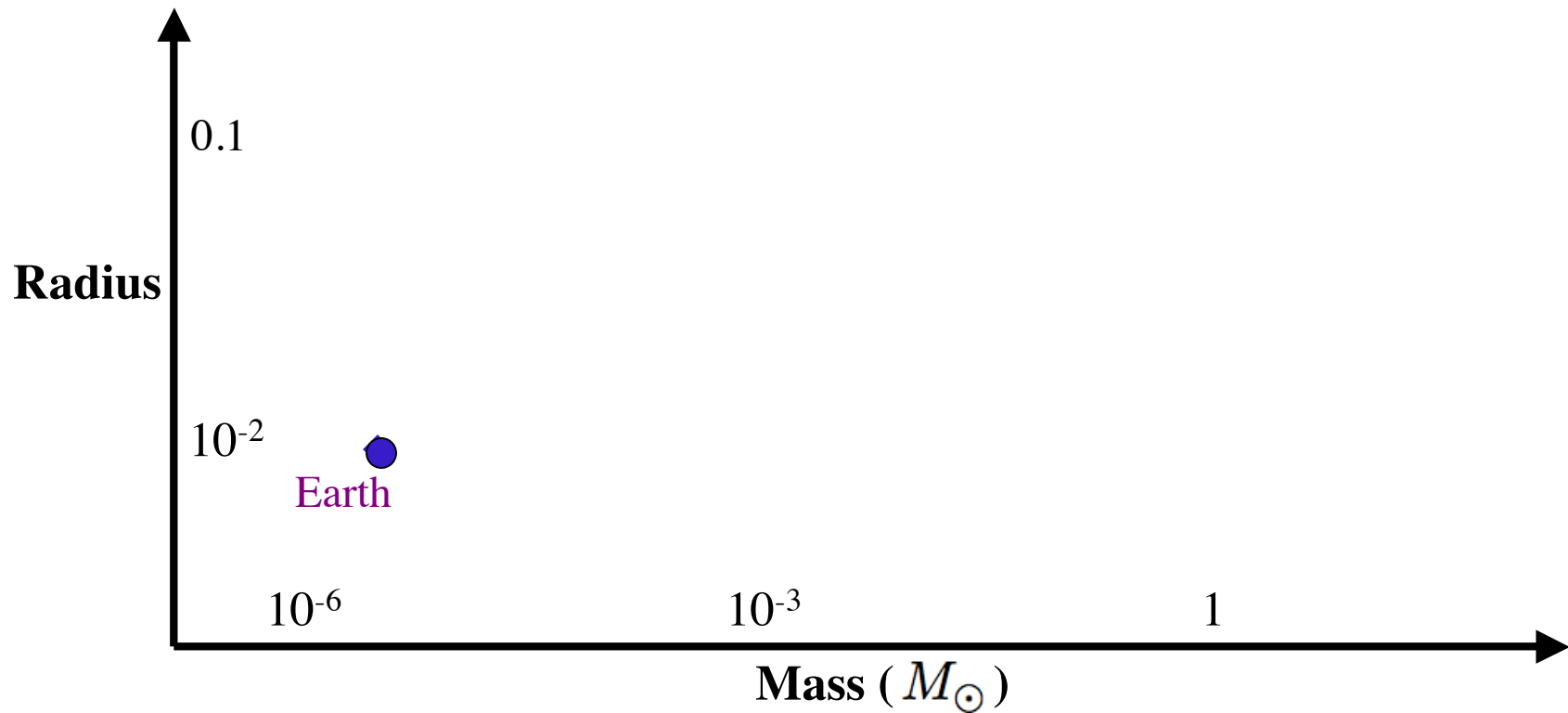
## **“Extremes” in Astrophysics:**

- Most energetic particles:  $10^{20}$  eV
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### **Focus of my lectures:**

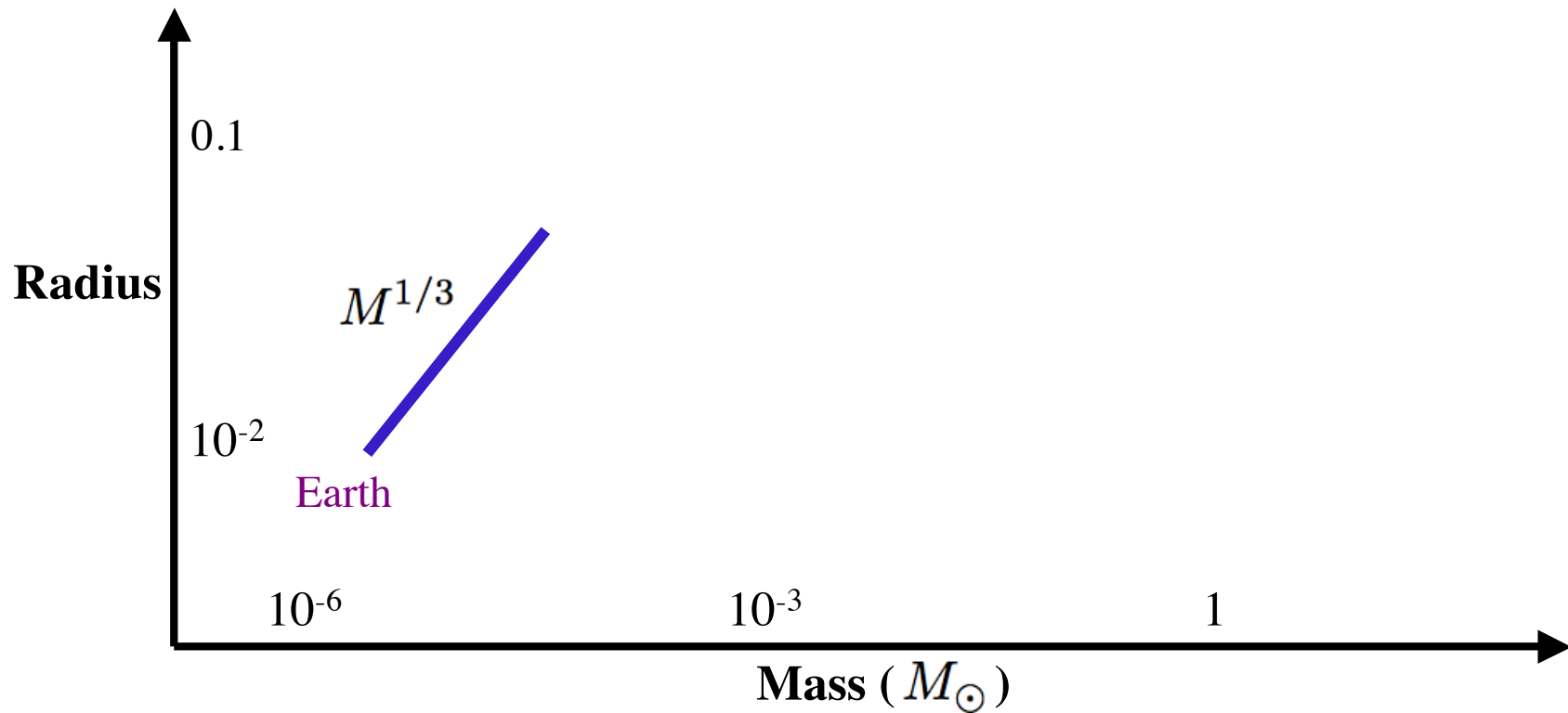
**Compact Objects (White Dwarfs, Neutron Stars and Black Holes)**

## A thought experiment: Adding mass (slowly) to Earth ...

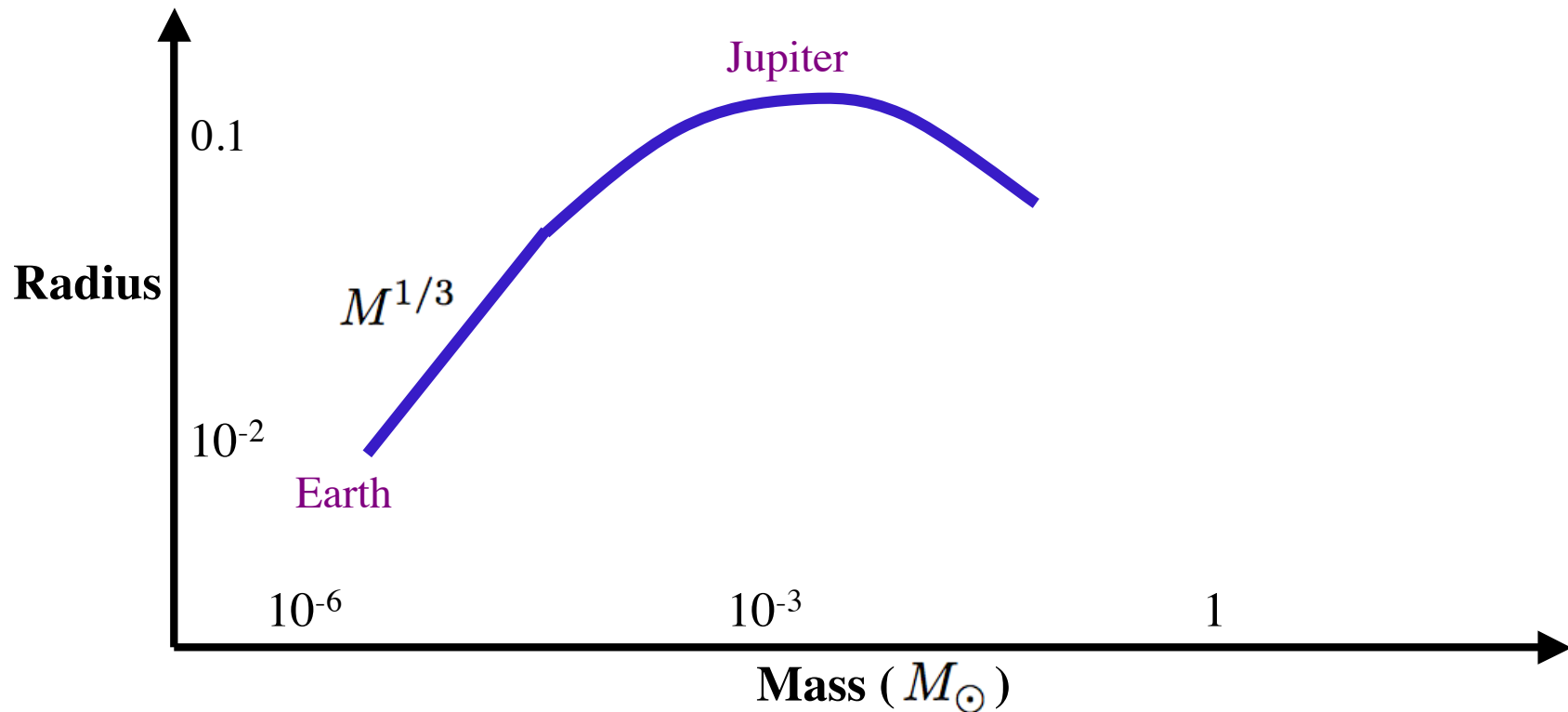




## A thought experiment: Adding mass (slowly) to Earth ...

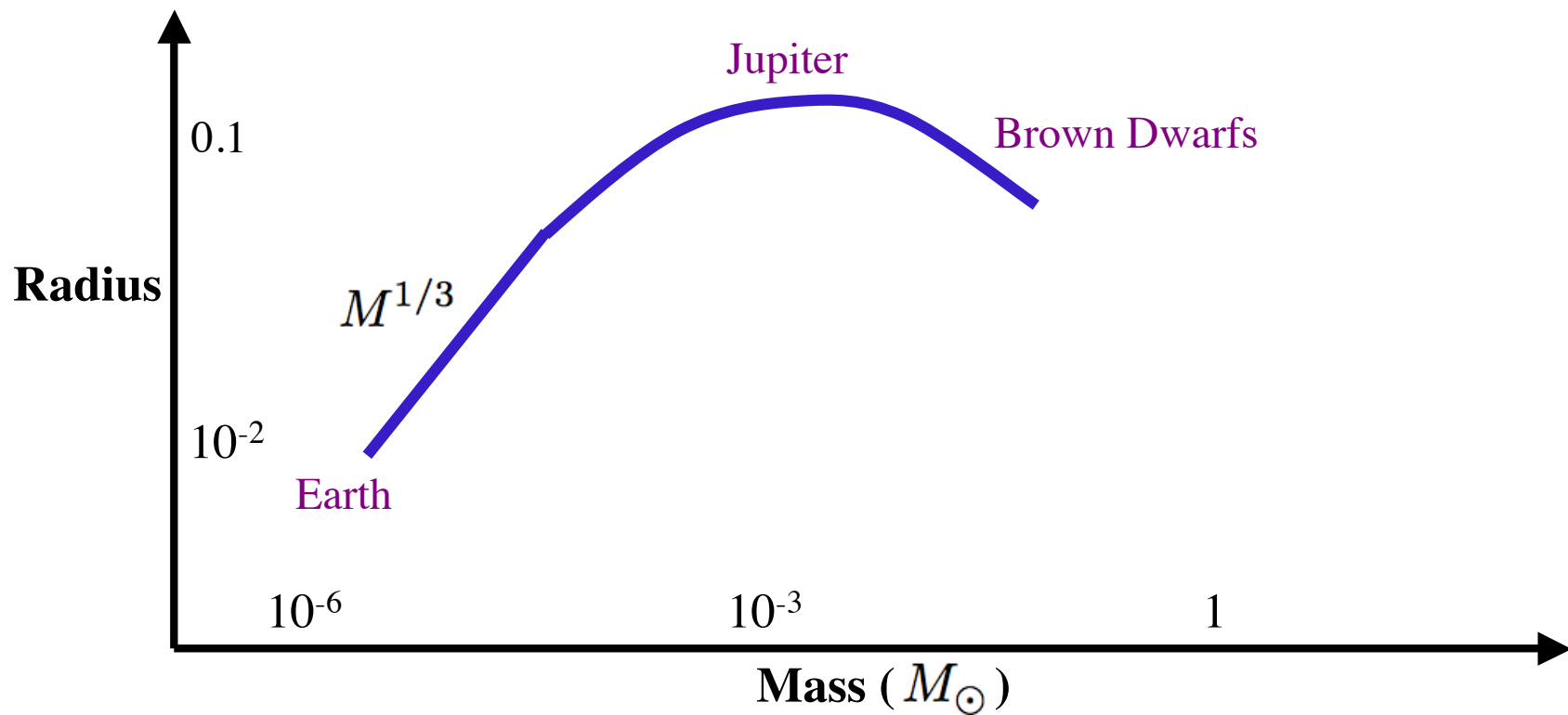


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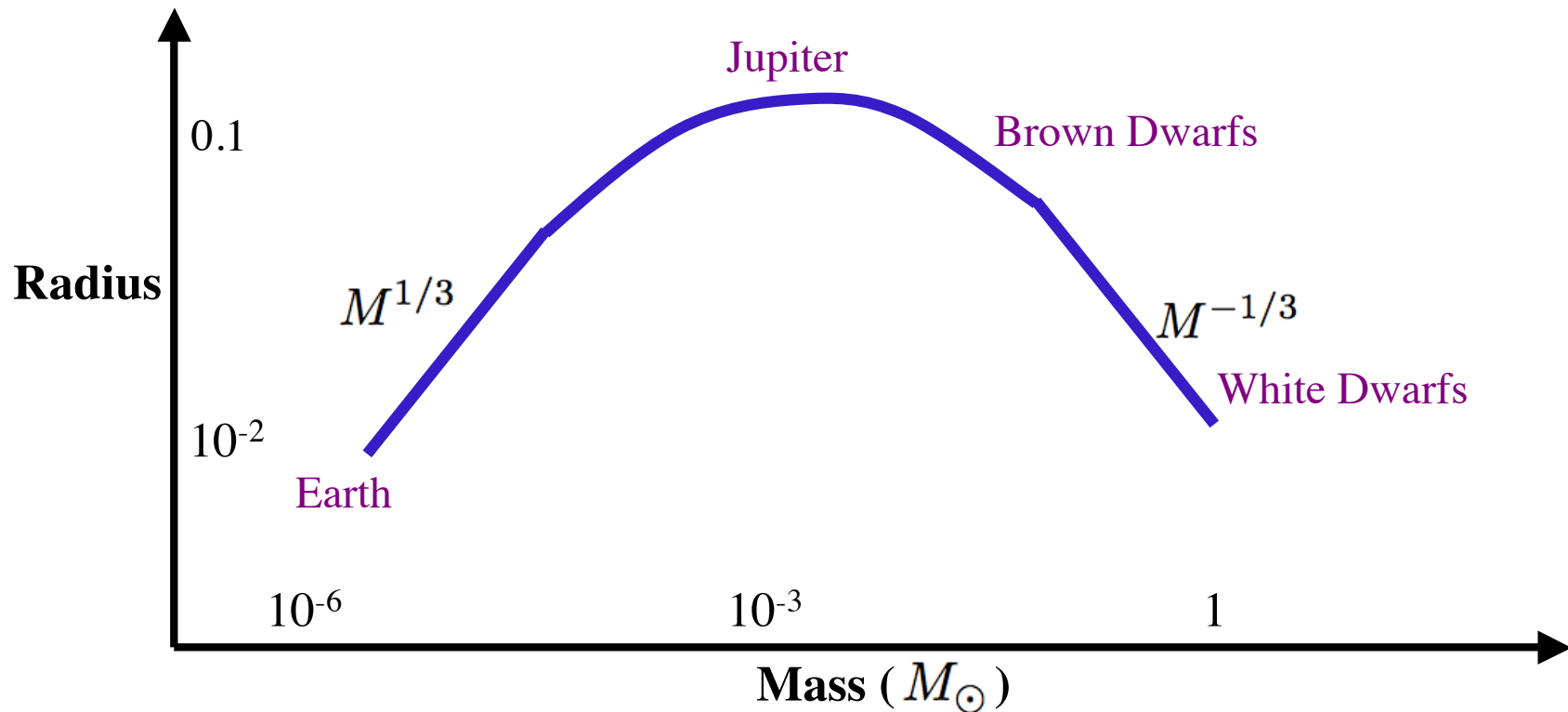


$$\frac{GMm_p}{R} \sim \frac{e^2}{r_i}, \quad R \sim \left(\frac{M}{m_p}\right)^{1/3} r_i \quad \Rightarrow \quad M_J \sim \left(\frac{e^2}{Gm_p^2}\right)^{3/2} m_p \simeq 10^{-3} M_{\odot}$$

## A thought experiment: Adding mass (slowly) to Earth ...

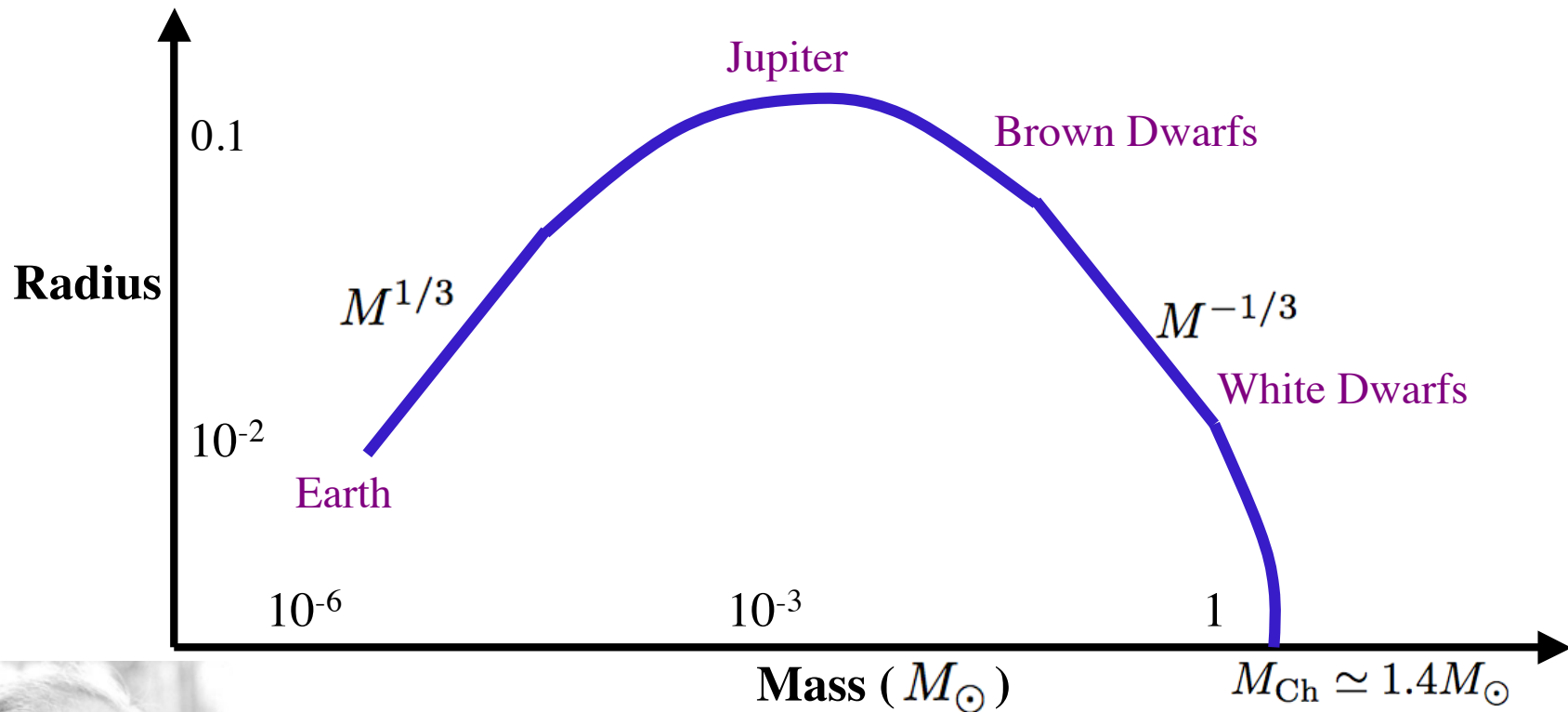


# A thought experiment: Adding mass (slowly) to Earth ...



$$p \sim \frac{\hbar}{r_i}, \quad \frac{p^2}{2m_e} \sim \frac{GMm_p}{R}, \quad R \sim \left( \frac{M}{m_p} \right)^{1/3} r_i \quad \Rightarrow \quad R \propto M^{-1/3}$$

# A thought experiment: Adding mass (slowly) to Earth ...



Chandrasekhar mass:

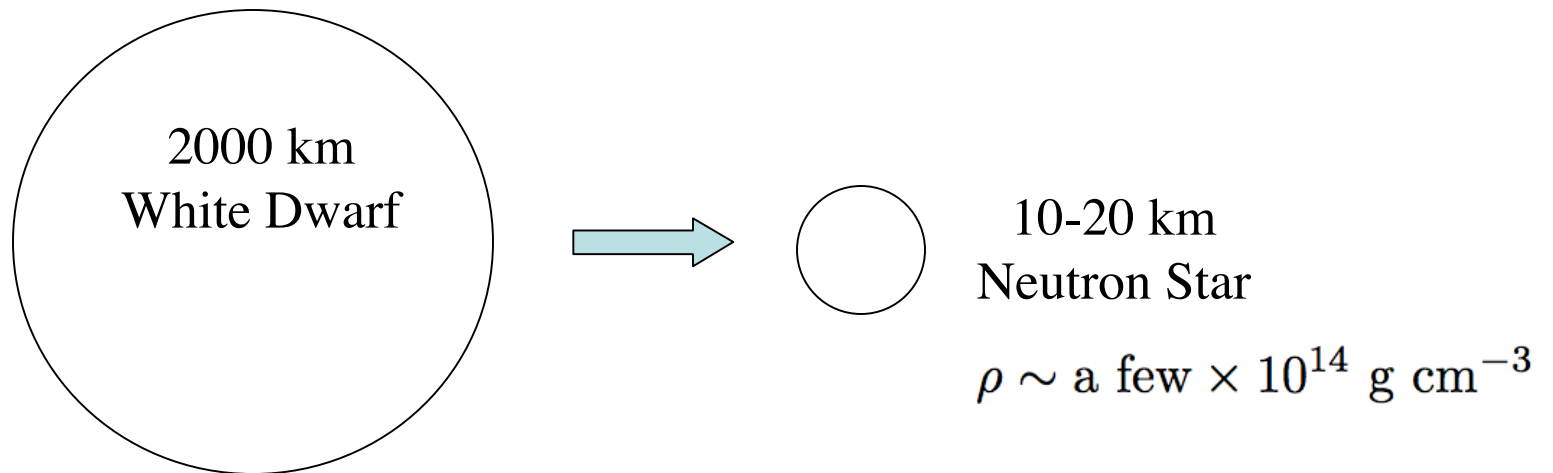
$$p \sim \frac{\hbar}{r_i}, \quad pc \sim \frac{GMm_p}{R}, \quad R \sim \left(\frac{M}{m_p}\right)^{1/3} r_i \quad \Rightarrow \quad M_{\text{Ch}} \sim \left(\frac{Gm_p}{\hbar c}\right)^{-3/2} m_p$$

$\simeq 1.4 M_{\odot}$  for C, O, Fe

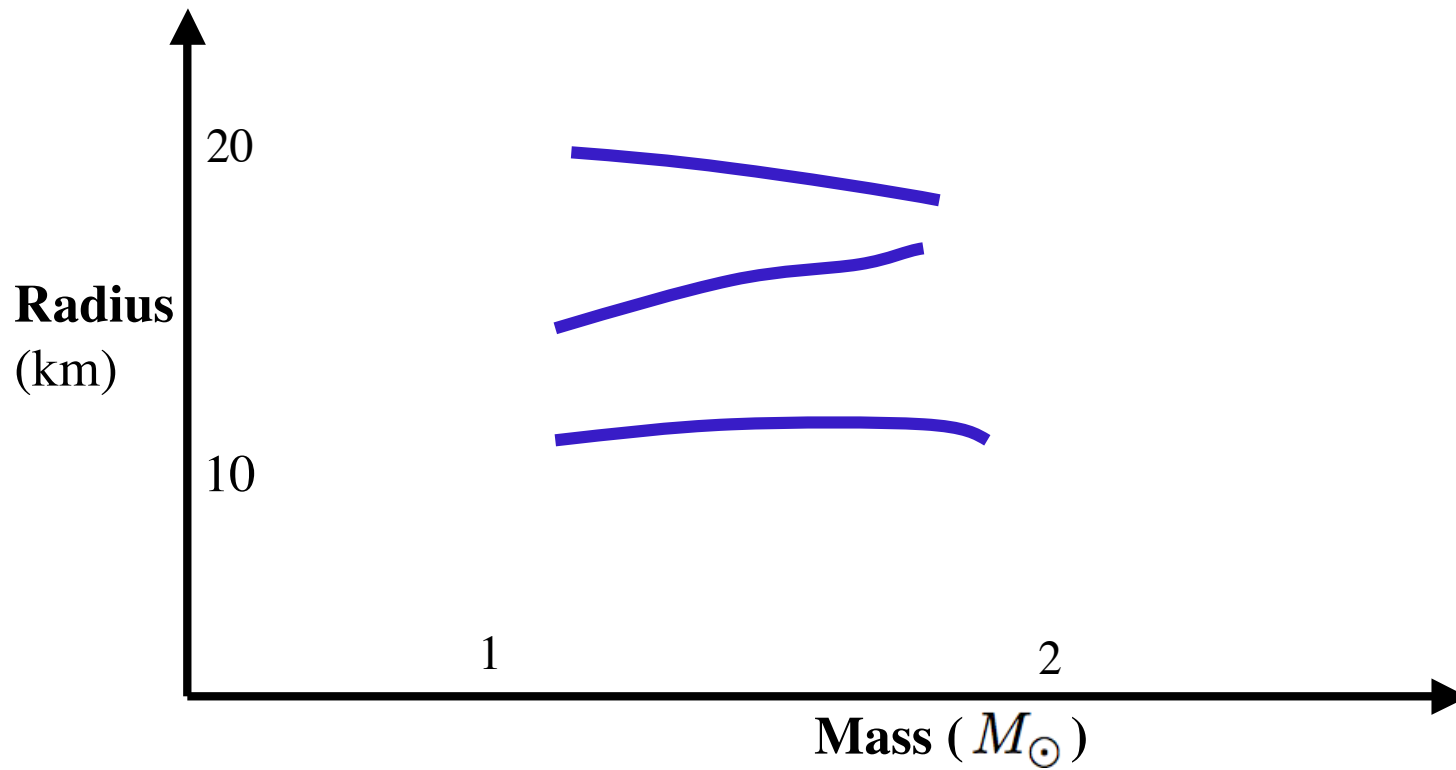
(1910-1995)

**Adding mass to a white dwarf:**

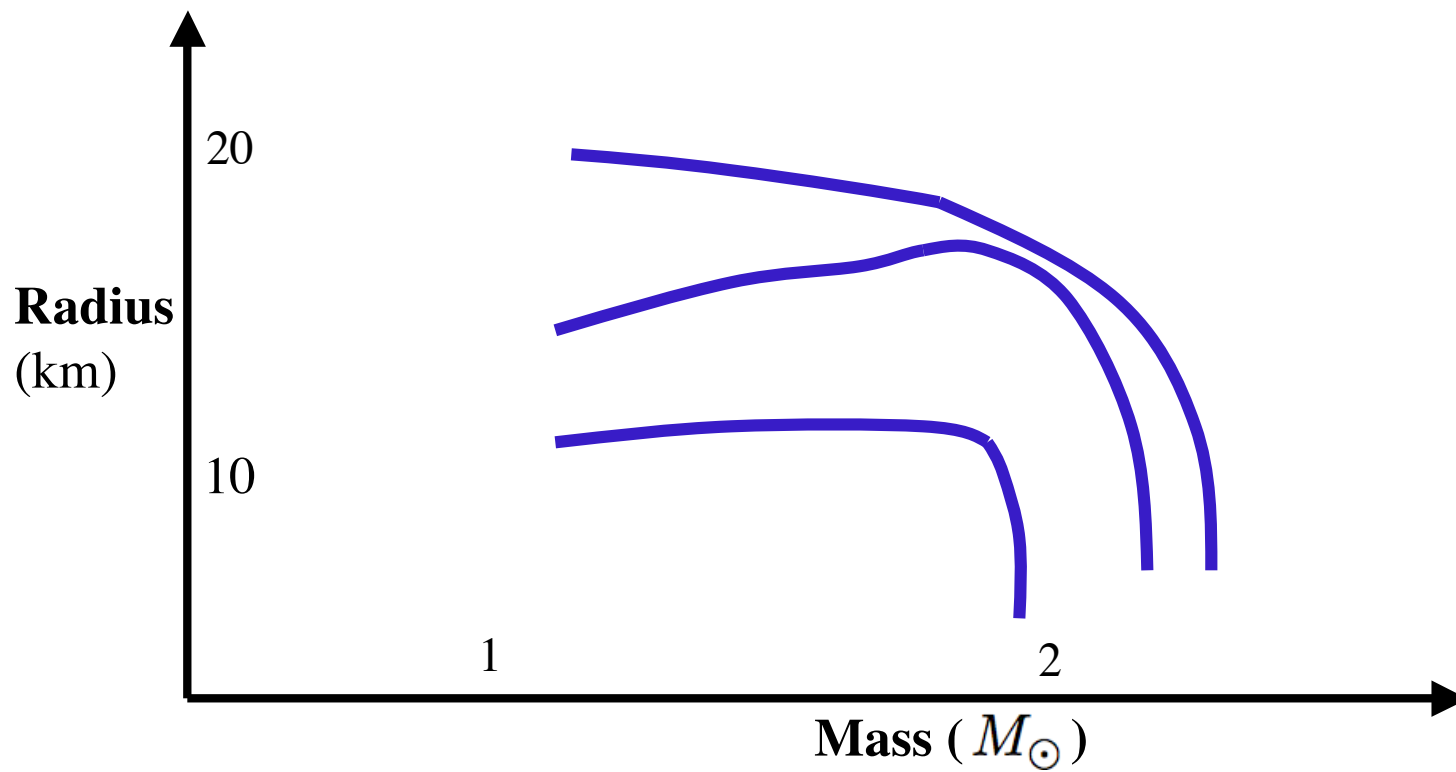
**What happens when its mass exceeds the Chandrasekhar limit?**



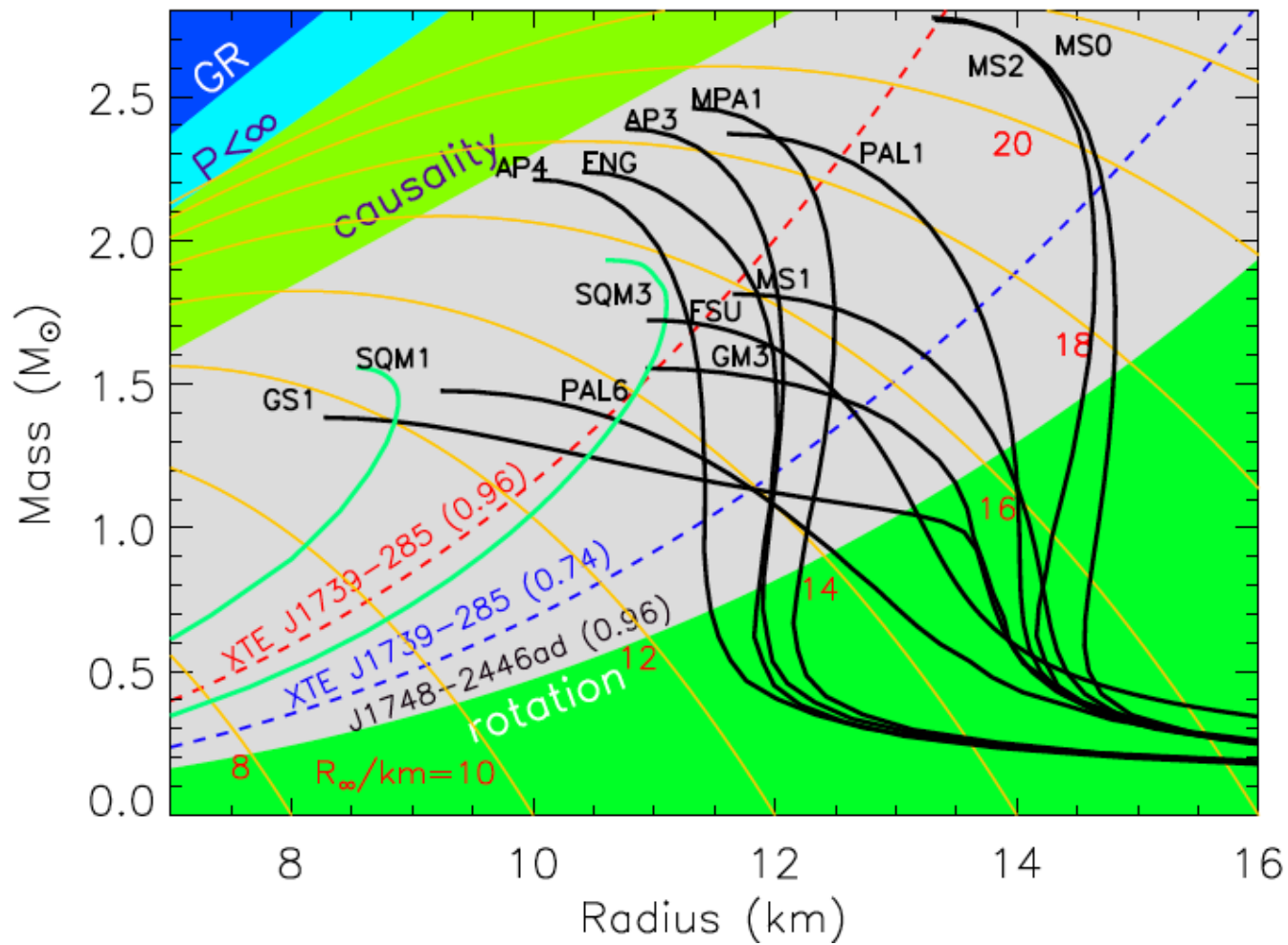
## Adding mass to a Neutron Star ...



## Adding mass to a Neutron Star ...







Lattimer & Parkash 06

Observed  $M_{\text{max}} = (1.97 \pm 0.04)M_{\odot}$  (PSR J1914-2230)

(Demorest et al. 2010)

# Why is there a maximum mass for neutron stars?

Force balance in a star:  
(Newtonian)

**Pressure** balances **Gravity** <-- **M**

# Why is there a maximum mass for neutron stars?

Force balance in a star:  
(General relativity)

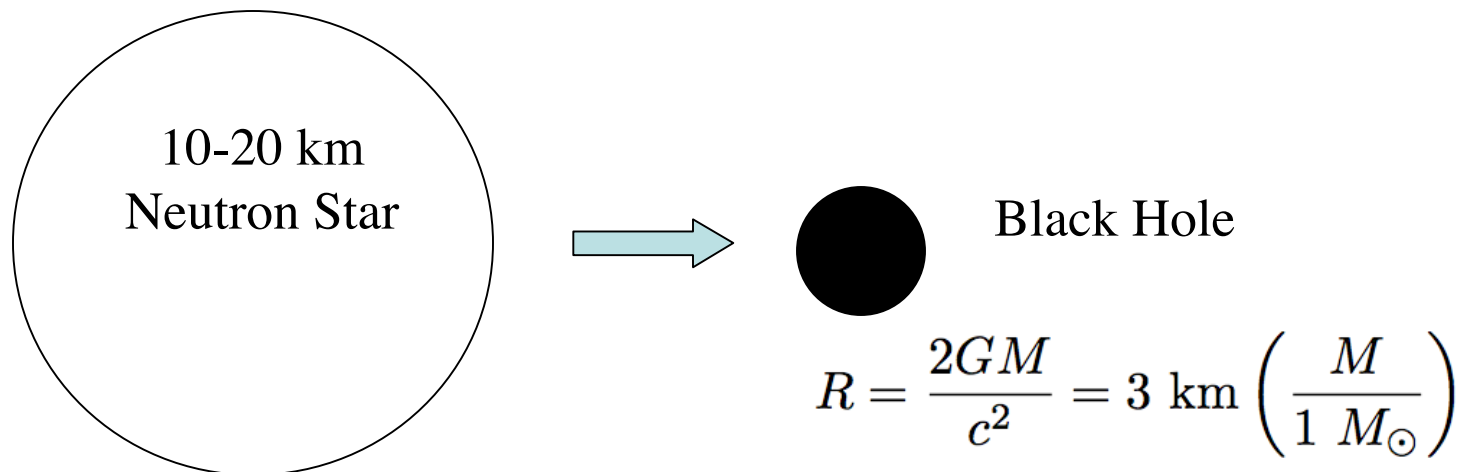
Pressure balances Gravity <-- M, Pressure

==> Tolman-Oppenheimer-Volkoff Limit

Tolman-Oppenheimer-Volkoff Equation:

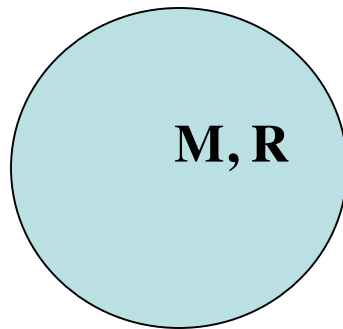
$$\frac{dP(r)}{dr} = -\frac{Gm(r)\rho(r)}{r^2} \left[ \frac{(1 + P/\rho c^2) (1 + 4\pi r^2 P/mc^2)}{(1 - 2Gm/rc^2)} \right]$$

**Keep adding mass to a neutron star:  
What happens when its mass exceeds the maximum mass?**




First demonstrated by  
Oppenheimer & Snyder (1939)

**“Dark Star” Concept:** John Michell (1783) Pierre Laplace (1795)



Escape velocity:  $v_{\text{esc}} = \left( \frac{2GM}{R} \right)^{1/2}$

$v_{\text{esc}} = c$  

$$R = \frac{2GM}{c^2} = 3 \text{ km} \left( \frac{M}{1 M_{\odot}} \right)$$

- Although “correct” answer, derivation and interpretation are wrong.

## “Black Hole” Concept:

- **Einstein (1915): General Relativity**

Gravity is not a force, but rather it manifests as curvature of spacetime caused by matter and energy

Einstein field equation:  $G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi T_{\mu\nu}$

- **Karl Schwarzschild (1916):**

The first exact solution to Einstein field equation

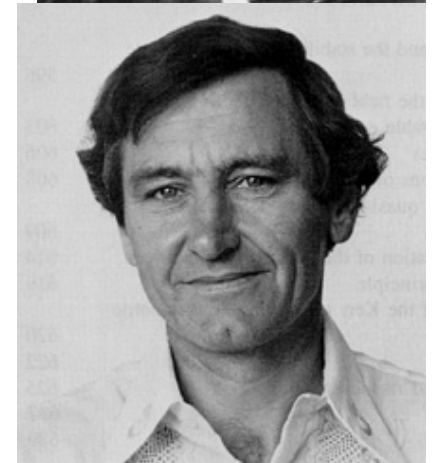
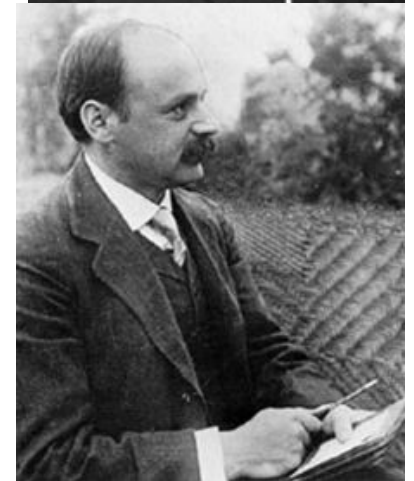
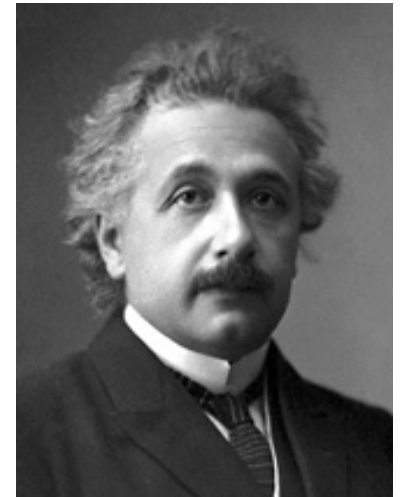
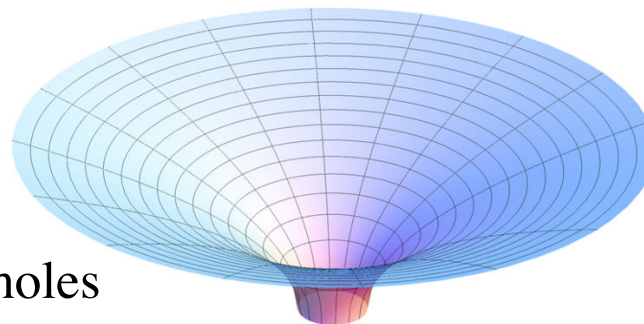
$$ds^2 = \left(1 - \frac{R_S}{r}\right) c^2 dt^2 - \frac{dr^2}{1 - \frac{R_S}{r}} - r^2 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2\theta d\varphi^2)$$

The horizon radius (Schwarzschild radius):

$$R_S = \frac{2GM}{c^2}$$

- **Roy Kerr (1963):**

Solution for spinning black holes



# Formation of Compact Objects in Astrophysics

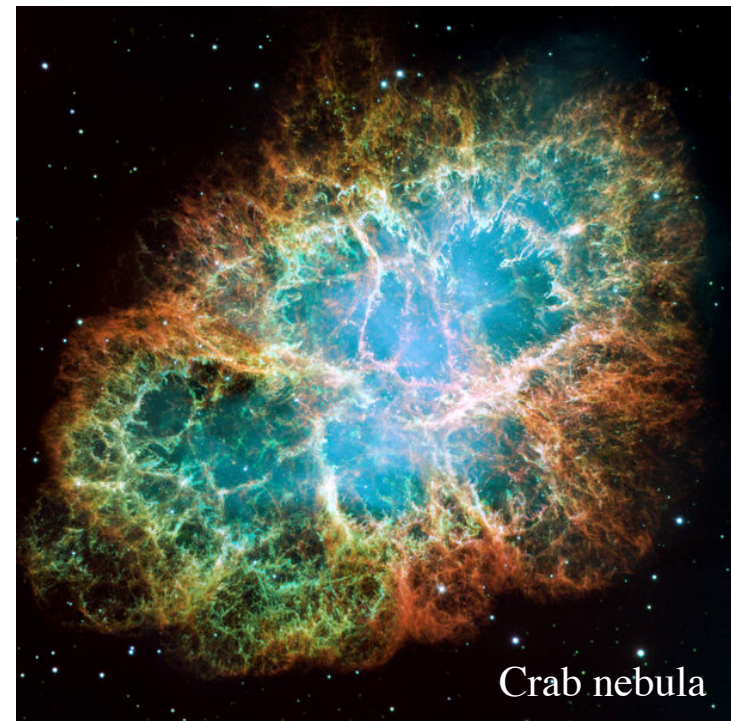
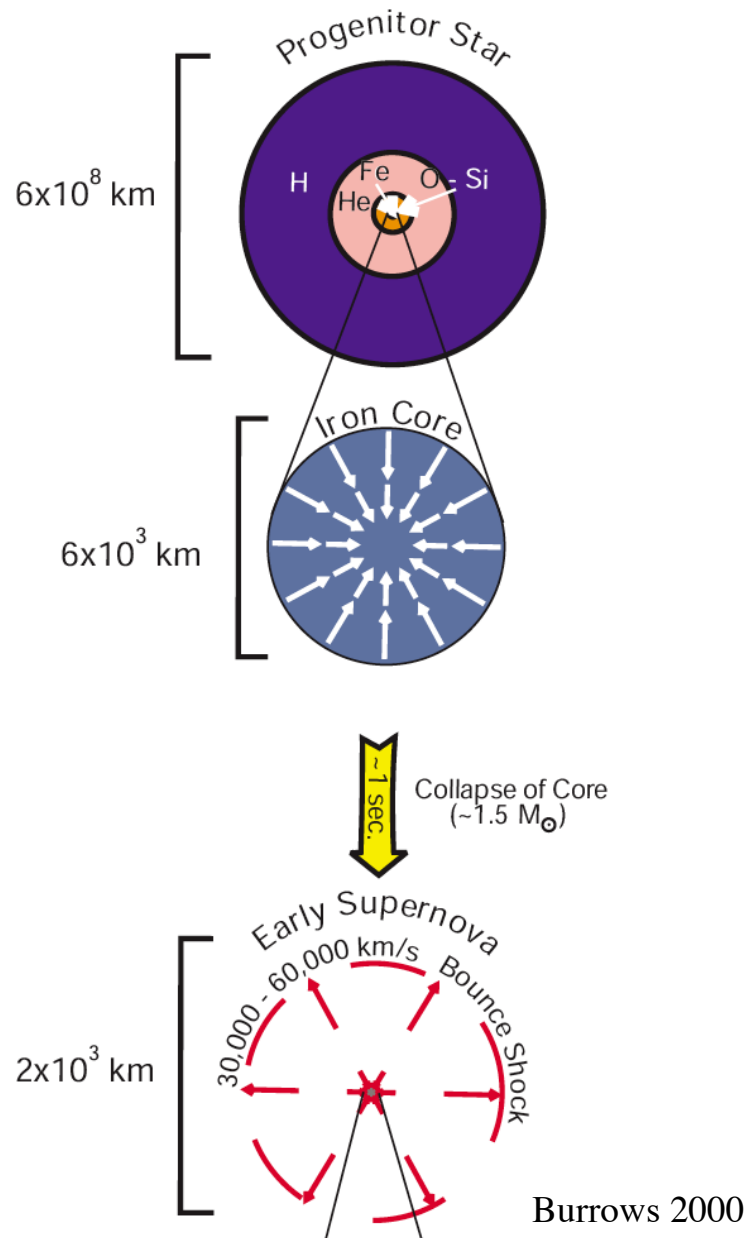
**White dwarfs evolve from stars with  $M \lesssim 8$  Sun ...**



NGC 2392, the Eskimo Nebula (HST)



## Neutron stars evolve from stars with $M \gtrsim 8$ Sun ...

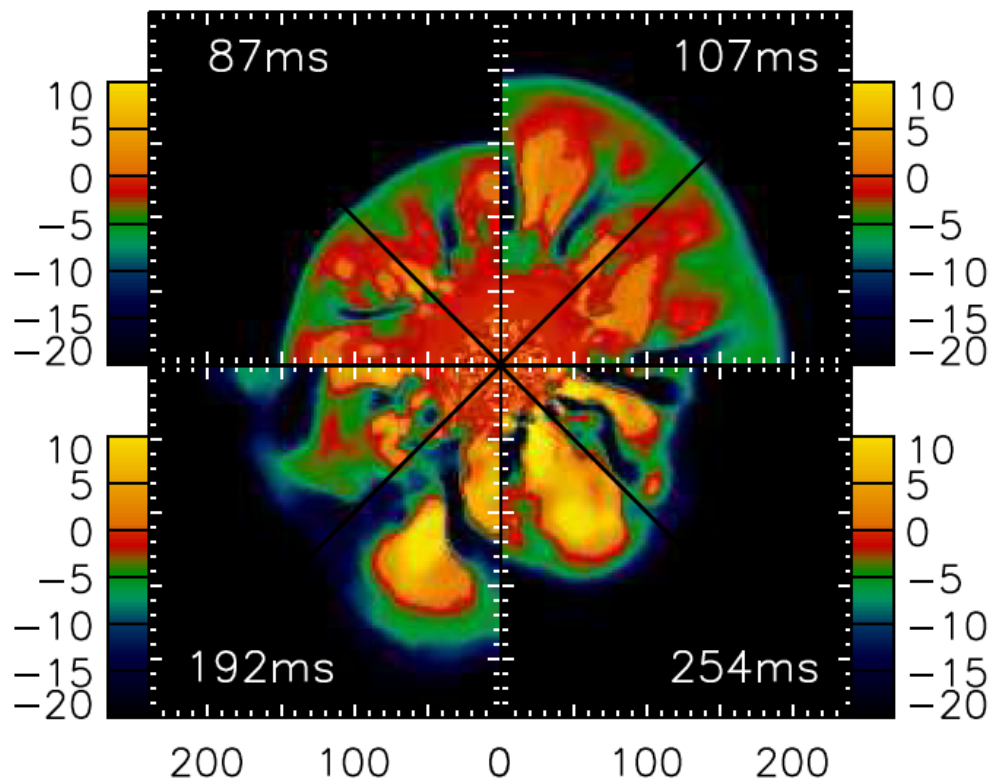


## Black Holes evolve from stars with $M \gtrsim 30$ (?) Sun ...

Failed bounce/explosion

==> Fall back of stellar material

==> BH formation



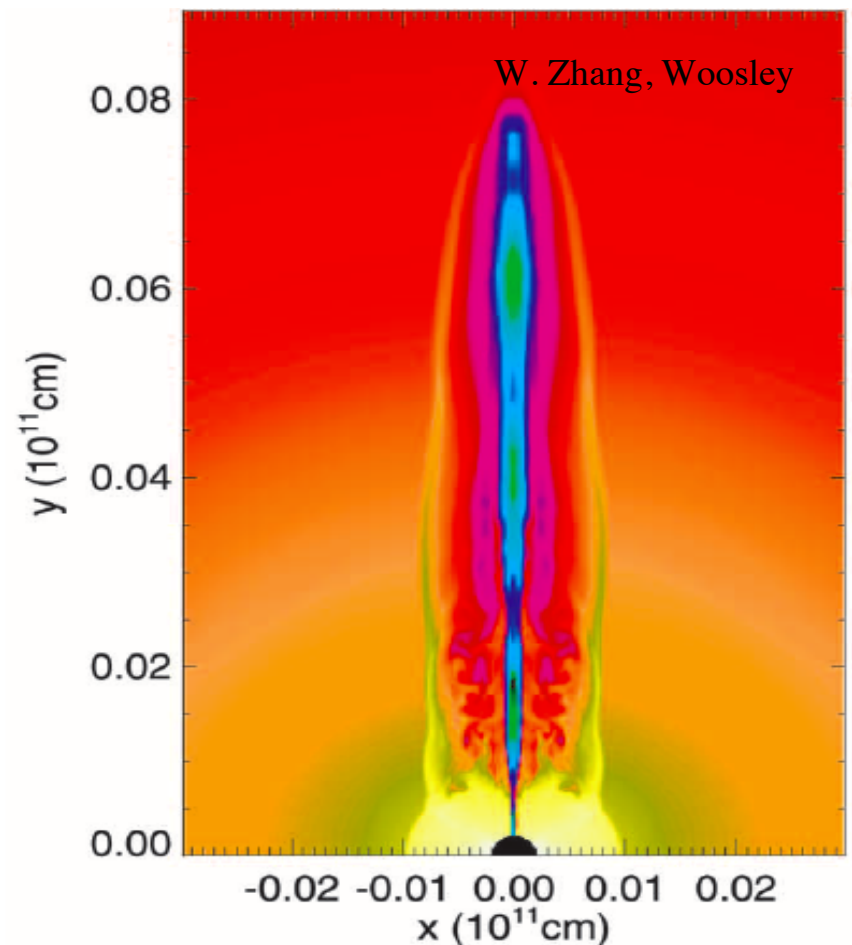
H-T Janka;  
See O'Connor & Ott 2011

Collapse of rotating star

==> spinning BH + disk

==> Relativistic jet (?)

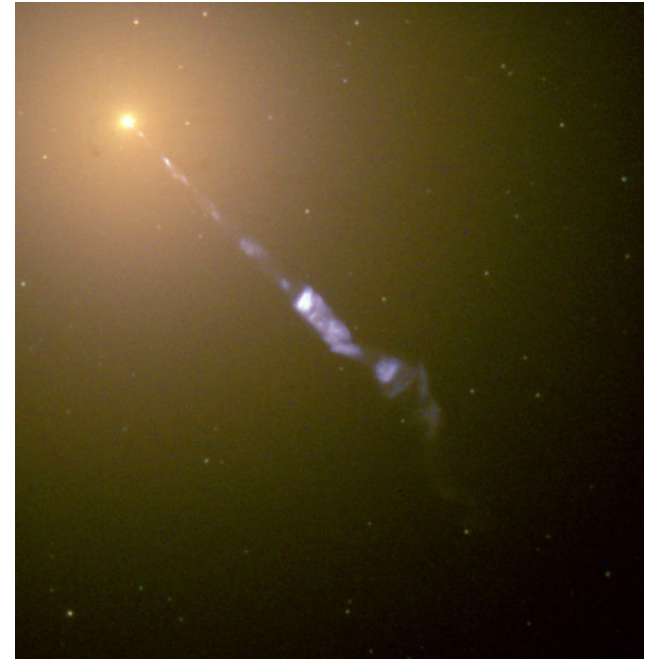
==> (Long) Gamma-ray bursts



## Supermassive Black Holes ( $10^6$ - $10^{10}$ Sun)

- Have been found at the center of most galaxies.  
Responsible for violent activities associated with AGNs and Quasars (e.g., relativistic jets)
- Not really compact: mean density with the horizon  $\sim 1 \text{ g/cm}^3$  for  $M=10^8$  Sun

- How do supermassive BHs form?
  - Merger of smaller black holes in galaxy merger
  - Collapse of supermassive stars followed by gas accretion



## Intermediate-Mass BHs ( $\sim 10^2$ - $10^4$ sun) ?

Tentative evidence : Ultra-Luminous X-ray Sources

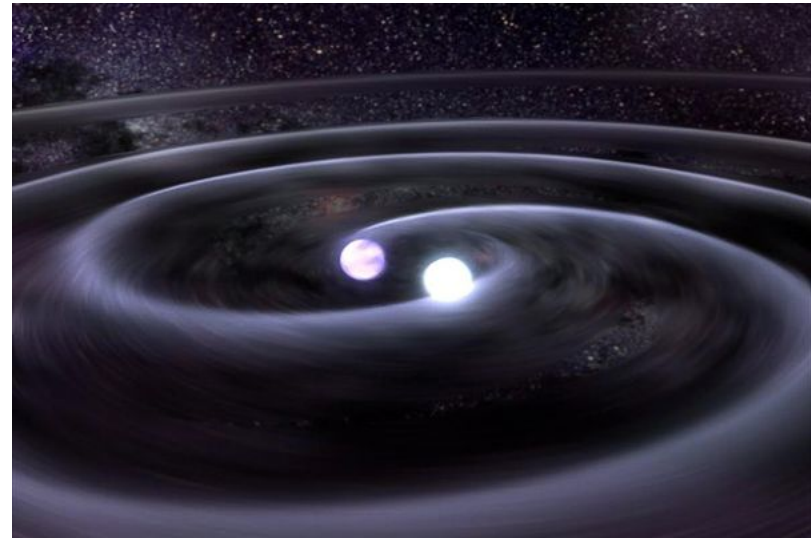
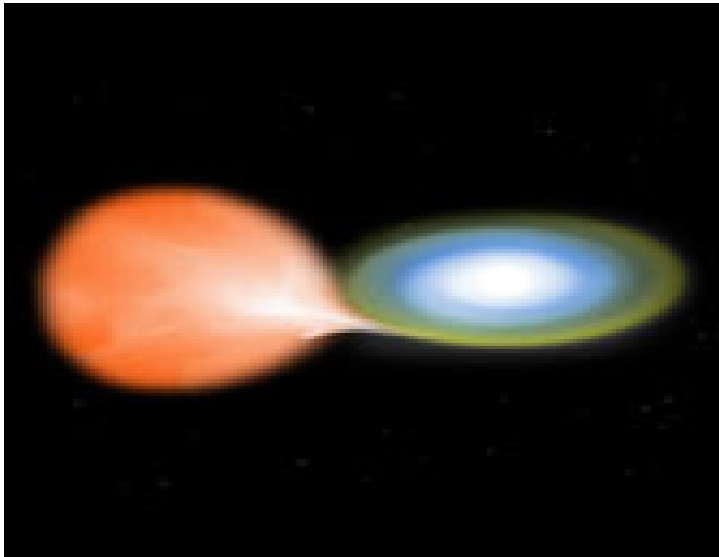
## Compact Objects Research Today...

- Have become a “routine” subject of research
- Associated with extreme phenomena in the universe (e.g. SNe, GRBs)
- Interested in not just the objects themselves, but also how they interact/influence their surroundings
- Used as
  - an astronomy tool (e.g., expansion rate of the Universe, GWs)
  - a tool to probe physics under extreme conditions



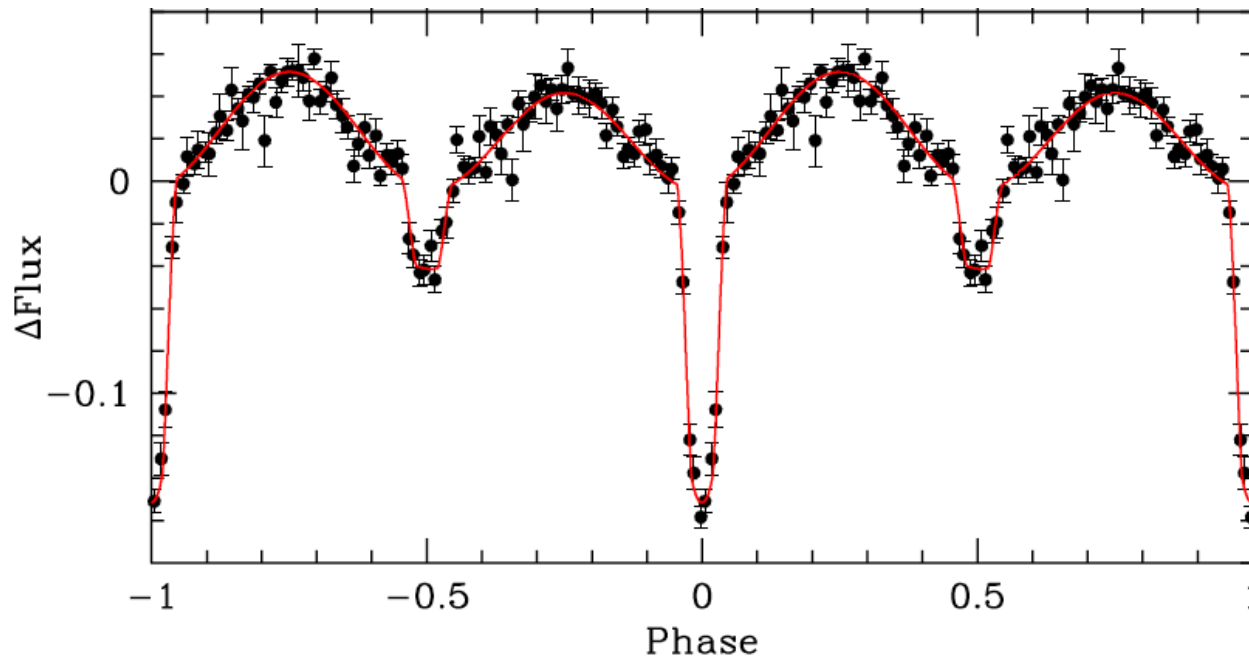
# White Dwarfs

## A “Challenge” Problem: Fate of Accreting and Merging WD Binaries



- may lead to various outcomes: SN Ia, transients, AICs, etc
- SN Ia: single vs double-WDs ? Sub-Chandra Mass ?  
explosion mechanism ?

## 12 min orbital period double WD eclipsing binary



Primary & secondary  
eclipses  
Ellipsoidal (tidal) distortion  
Doppler boosting

Brown et al. 2011

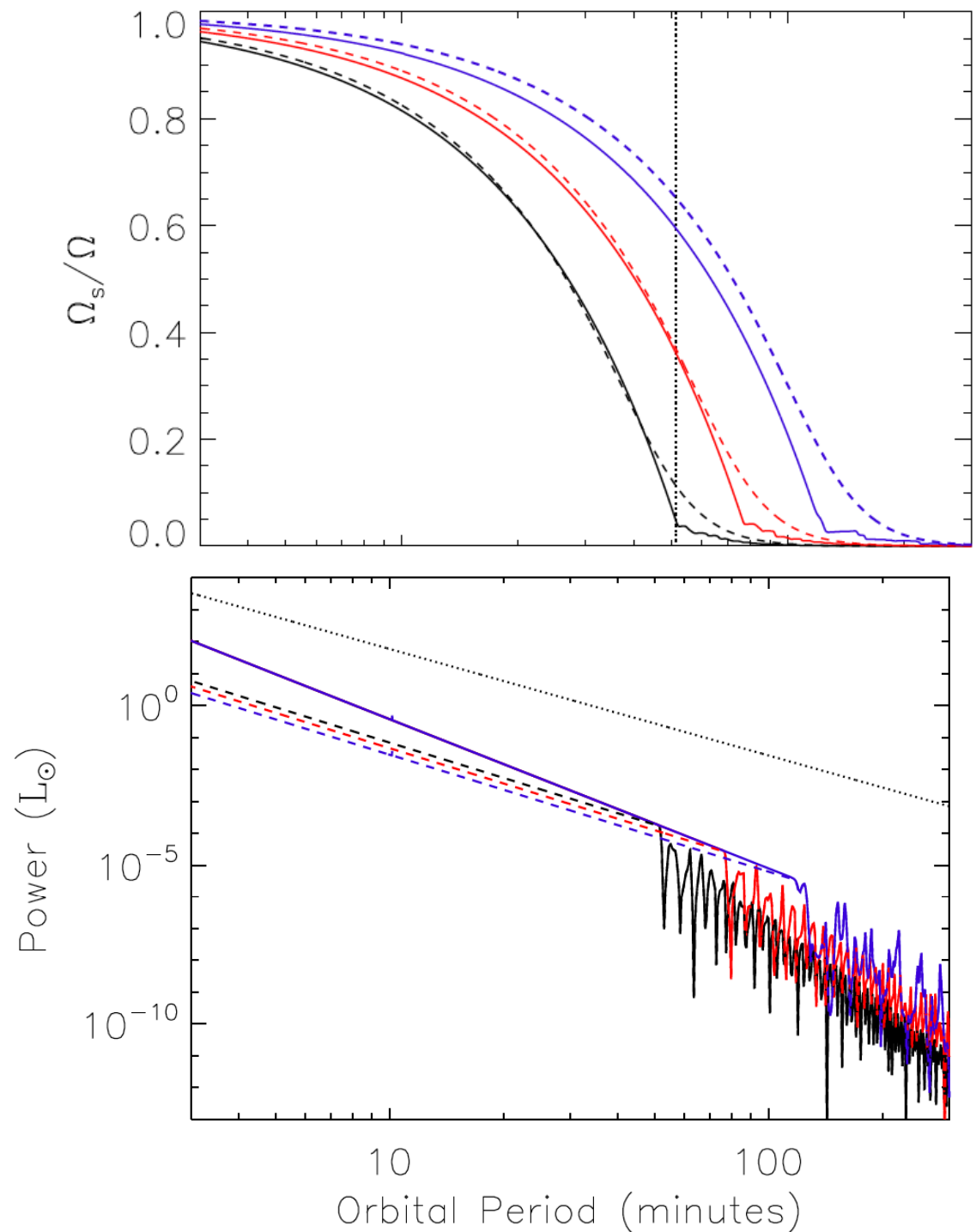
- will merge in 0.9 Myr
- large GW strain ==> LISA
- orbital decay measurable from eclipse timing

# Dynamical Tides in Merging WD Binary

Jim Fuller & DL 2011

-- Spin-orbit synchronization

-- Tidal heating







# Neutron Stars:

## Different Observational Manifestations

- Isolated NSs
- Accreting NSs
- Merging NSs

# Isolated Neutron Stars

**Radio pulsars:**  $P, \dot{P} \Rightarrow$

Most pulsars :  $B \sim 10^{12-13}$  G

Millisecond pulsars :  $B \sim 10^{8-9}$  G

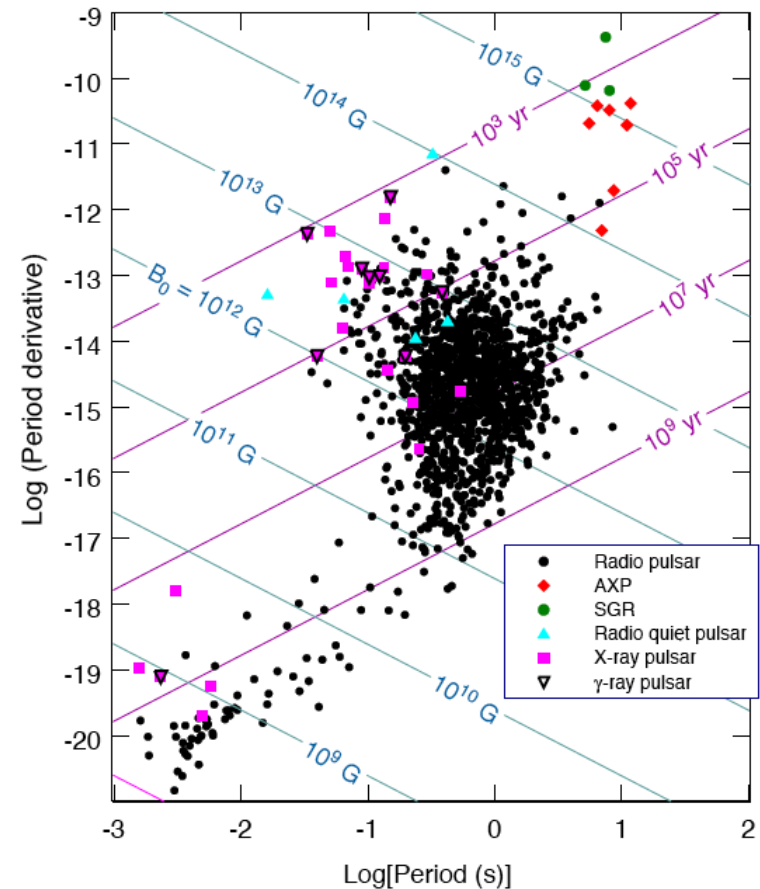
High – B radio pulsars :  $B \sim 10^{14}$  G

Radiation at all wavelengths:

radio, IR, optical, X-rays, Gamma-rays

New Odd Behaviors:

- **RRATs (rotating radio transients)**  
radio bursts (2-30 ms), quiescence (min-hrs);  
period  $\sim$  sec
- **Intermittent Pulsars (“Sometimes a pulsar”)**  
e.g. PSR B1931+24: “on” for  $\sim$  a week,  
“off” for  $\sim$  a month



# Magnetars

Neutron stars powered by superstrong magnetic fields ( $B > 10^{14} \text{G}$ )

Soft Gamma-Ray Repeaters (SGRs) (7+4 systems)

Anomalous X-ray Pulsars (AXPs) (9+3 systems)

Even in quiescence,  $L \sim 10^{34-36} \text{erg s}^{-1} \gg I\Omega\dot{\Omega}$

$T \sim 0.5 \text{ keV}$ , but significant emission up to  $\sim 100 \text{ keV}$  (e.g. Kuiper et al.) => **Magnetar corona**

AXP/SGR bursts/flares (e.g. Kaspi, Gavriil, Kouveliotou, Woods, etc)

Giant flares in 3 SGRs

12/04 flare of SGR1806-20 has  $E > 10^{46} \text{erg}$

QPOs during giant flares (e.g. Israel, Strohmayer, Watts, etc)

Magnetars do not show persistent radio emission

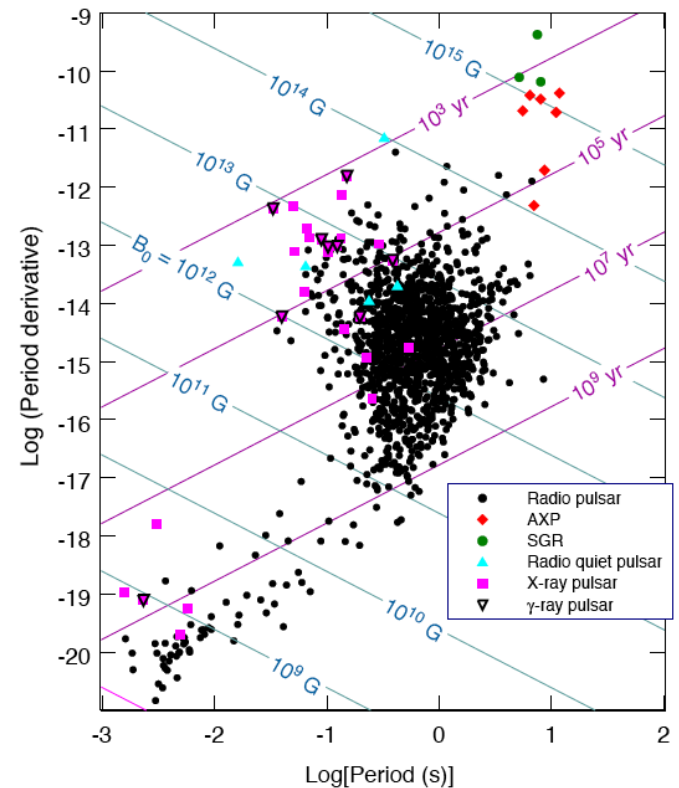
Connection with high-B radio pulsars?

Note:

-- Transient magnetars: Radio emission triggered by X-ray outbursts

XTE J1810-197, 1E 1547.0-5408 (Camilo et al. 2007)

-- PSR J1622-4950 has  $B \sim 3 \cdot 10^{14} \text{G}$ , but  $L_x \sim L_{sd}/4$  (Levin et al 2010)



# Thermally Emitting Isolated NSs

“Perfect” X-ray blackbody:

RX J1856.5-3754

Spectral lines detected:

(e.g., van Kerkwijk & Kaplan 06; Haberl 06)

RXJ1308+2127 (0.2-0.3 keV)

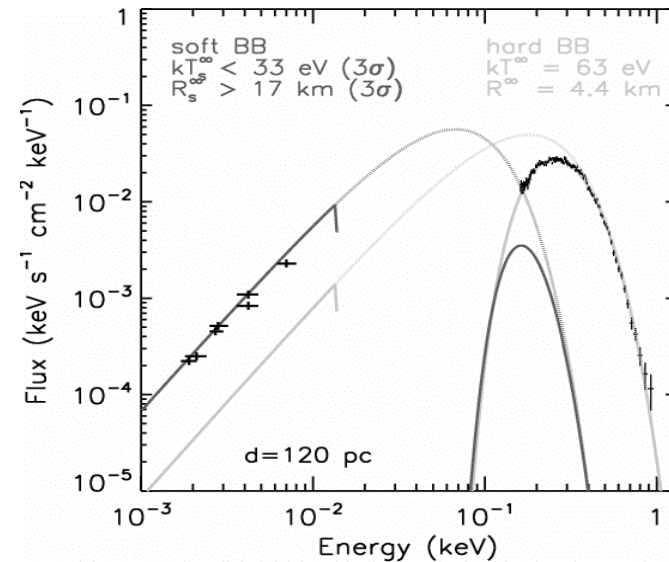
RXJ1605+3249 (~0.45 keV)

RXJ0720-3125 (~0.3 keV)

RXJ0420-5022 (~0.3 keV)?

RXJ0806-4123 (~0.5 keV)?

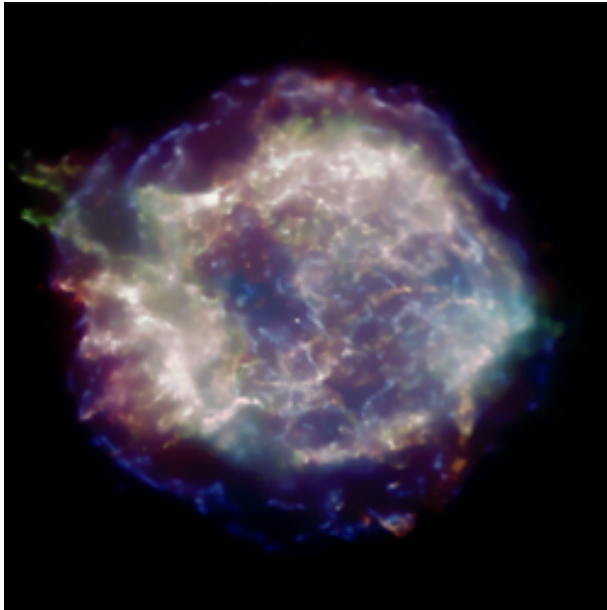
RBS 1774 (~0.7 keV)?



Burwitz et al. (2003)

$\Rightarrow B \sim 10^{13-14} \text{ G? magnetar descendant \& off-beam radio pulsar?}$

# Central Compact Objects (CCOs) in SNRs



CCO	SNR	Age (kyr)	$d$ (kpc)	$P$ (s)	$f_p^a$ (%)	$B_s$ ( $10^{11}$ G)
RX J0822.0 – 4300	Puppis A	3.7	2.2	0.112	11	<9.8
CXOU J085201.4 – 461753	G266.1 – 1.2	1	1	...	<7	...
1E 1207.4 – 5209	PKS 1209 – 51/52	7	2.2	0.424	9	<3.3
CXOU J160103.1 – 513353	G330.2 + 1.0	$\gtrsim 3$	5	...	<40	...
1WGA J1713.4 – 3949	G347.3 – 0.5	1.6	1.3	...	<7	...
CXOU J185238.6 + 004020	Kes 79	7	7	0.105	64	0.31
CXOU J232327.9 + 584842	Cas A	0.33	3.4	...	<12	...

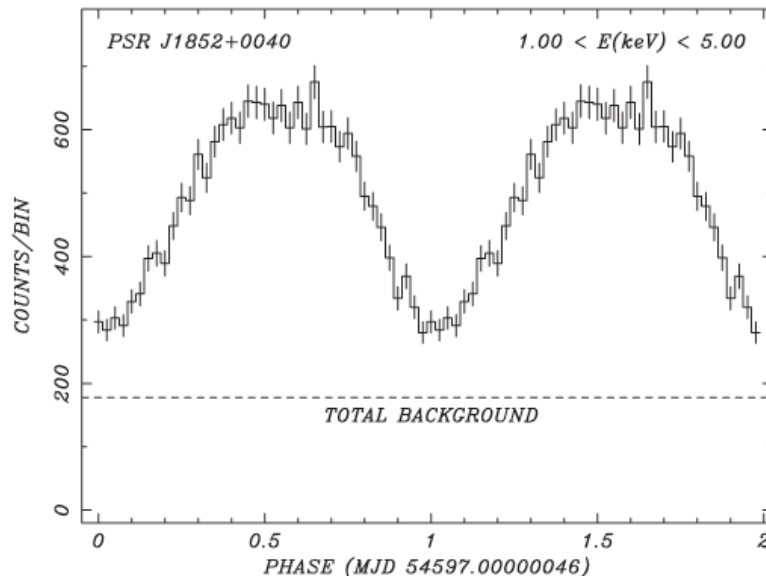
Halpern & Gotthelf 2010

Small surface dipole field ... (are they “anti-magnetars”?)

# Hidden Magnetic Fields of Neutron Stars

- NS in Kes 79 SNR has  $B_{\text{dipole}} \simeq 3 \times 10^{10}$  G, but large pulse fraction 60%

(Halpern & Gotthelf 2010)



$$\Rightarrow B_{\text{crust}} \sim \text{a few} \times 10^{14} \text{ G}$$

(Natalia Shabaltas & DL 2011)

- SGR 0418+5729, with  $B_{\text{dipole}} \simeq 4 \times 10^{12}$  G (Rea et al. 2010)

$\Rightarrow$  Internal field is much larger (Turolla et al 2011)

# Isolated Neutron Stars

## Radio pulsars

Normal/millisecond pulsars, high-B pulsars  
Gamma-ray pulsars, Radio bursters, RRATs etc

## Magnetars

AXPs and SGRs

## Thermally emitting Isolated NSs

## Central Compact Objects in SNRs

## Goals of NS Astrophysics:

- Understand the evolutionary connections (B field origin & evolution?)
- Probe physics under extreme conditions



# Highlight #1:

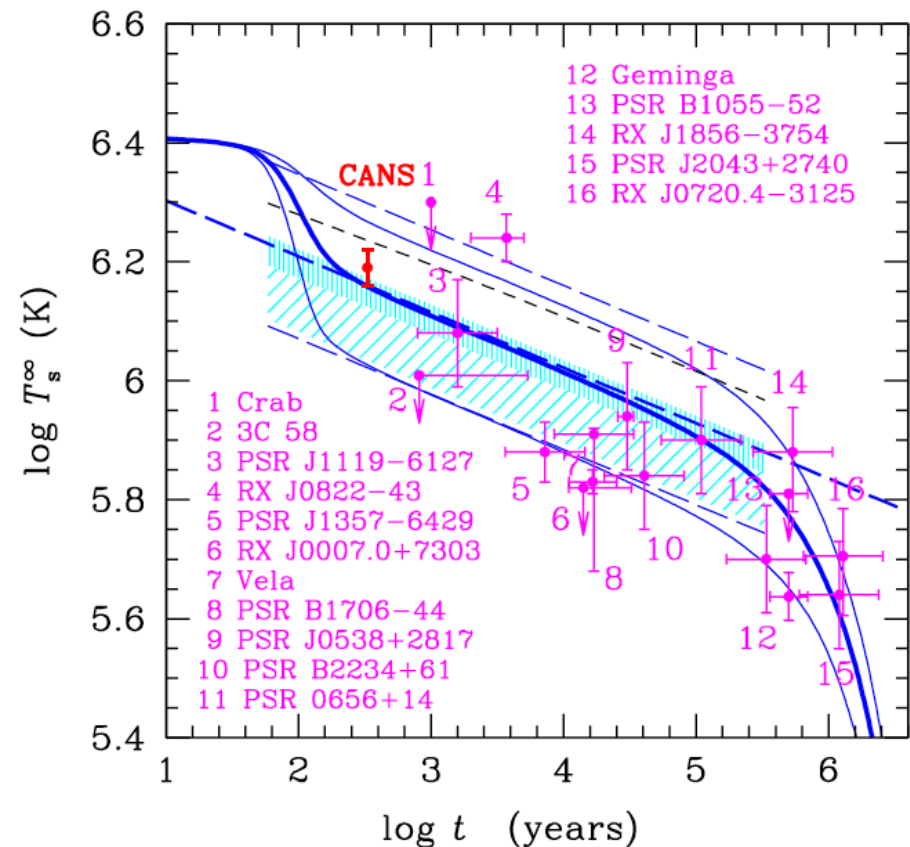
## Constrain NS Interior physics by Cooling

Surface emission has been  
Detected in  $\sim 20$  NSs

Probe the interior of NS  
(EOS, exotic processes)

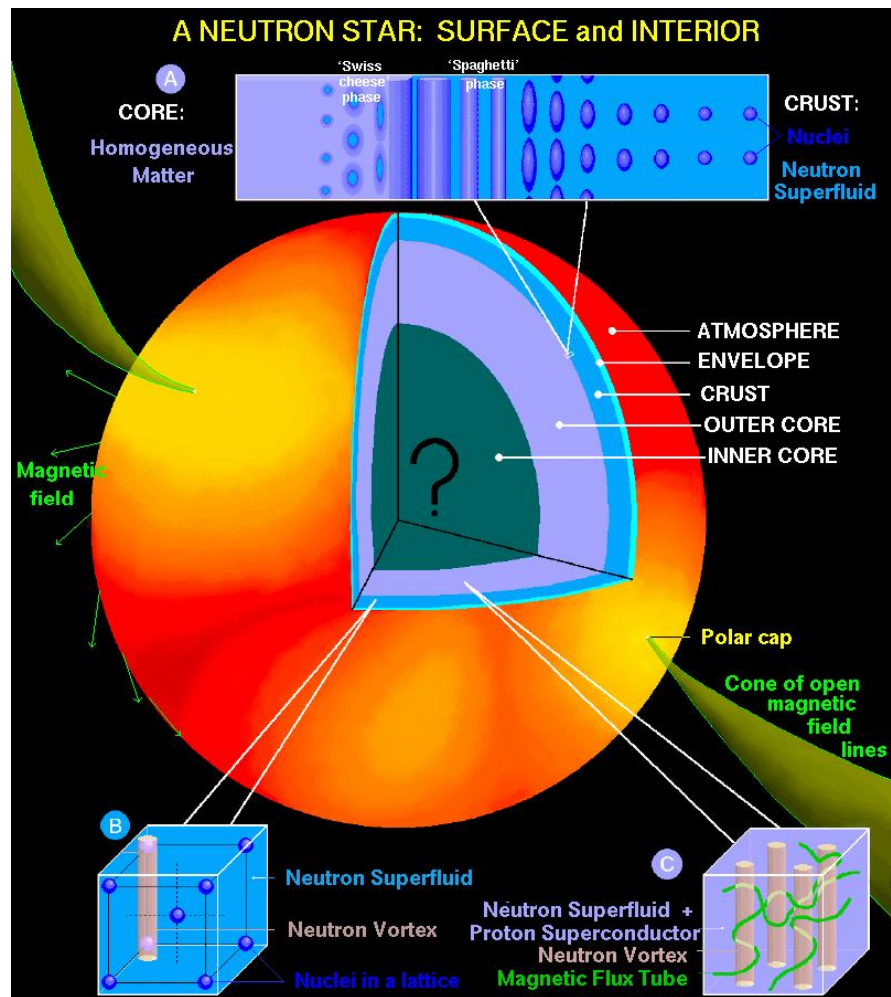
### Difficulties:

Many parameters and theoretical  
Models/processes...



Yakovlev et al. 2011

# Neutron Star Structure



# Highlight #1:

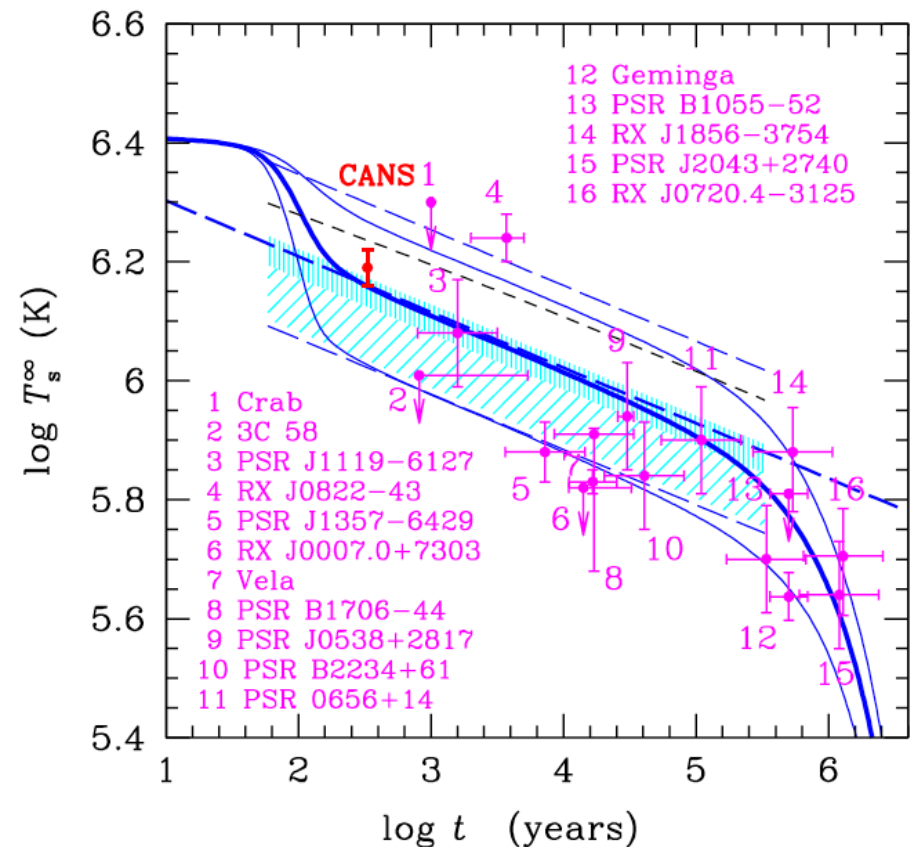
## Constrain NS Interior physics by Cooling

Surface emission has been  
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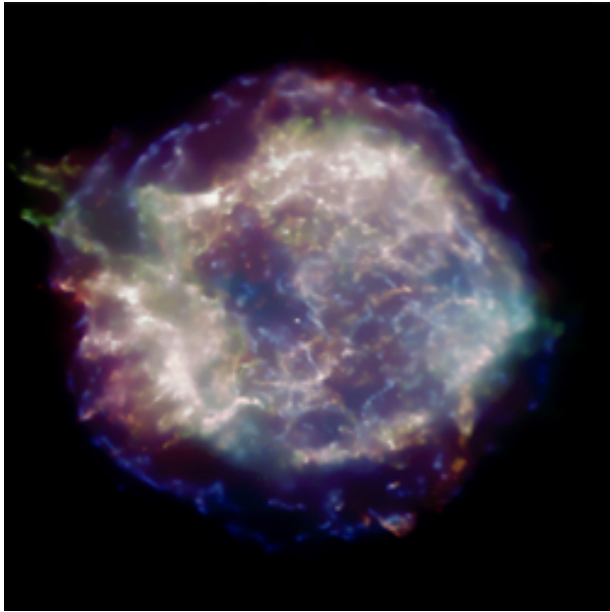
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Yakovlev et al. 2011

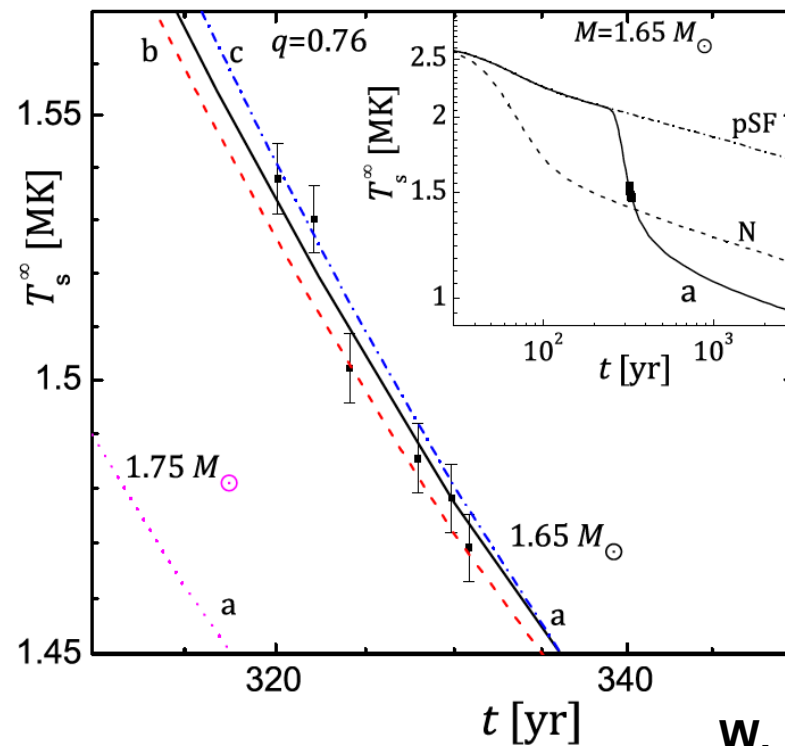
# NS in Cas A SNR: Evidence of Superfluidity



Cas A SNR: age 330 yrs

CCO (NS) first discovered in 1999

Many observations since then...



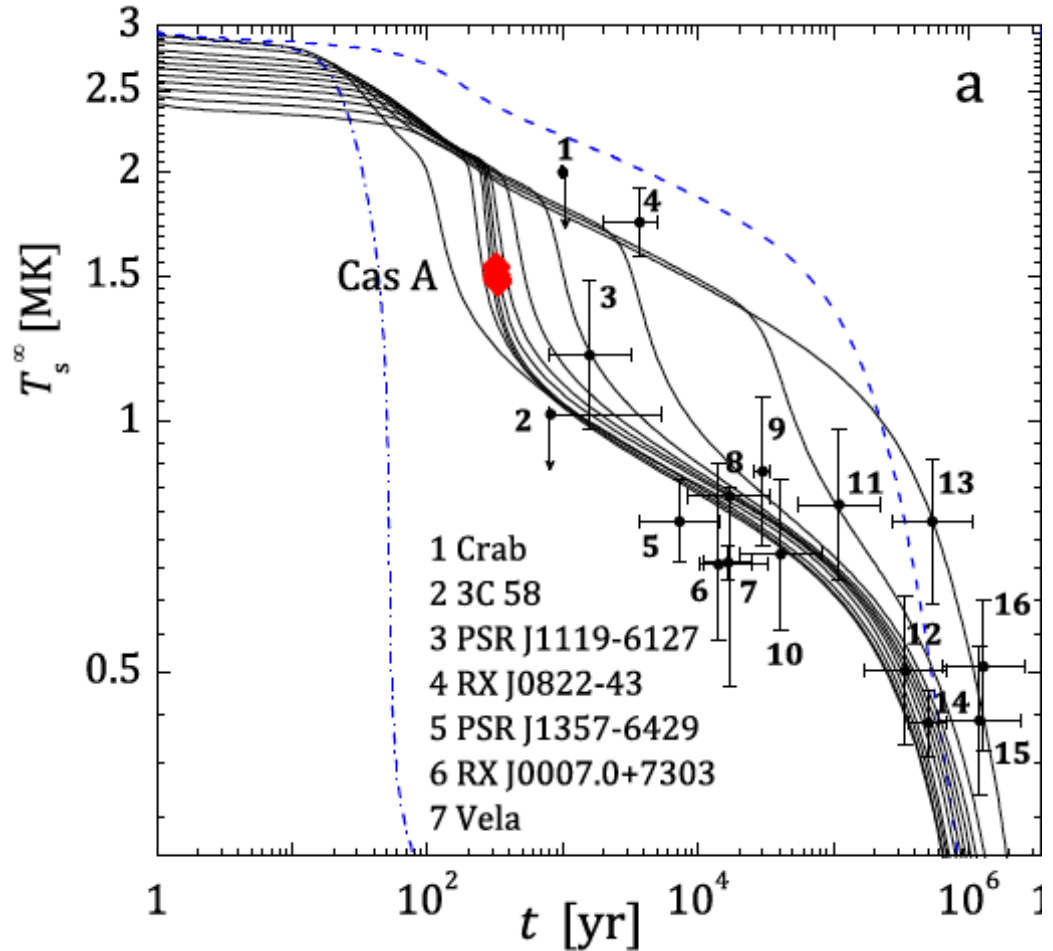
W. Ho & Heinke 2010

Shternin et al. 2011

## NS in Cas A SNR: Evidence for Superfluidity

Decline in  $T$  is quite large for  $t \sim 300$  yrs.

**Solution:** Internal  $T$  drops below  $T_{\text{crit}}$  at 300 yrs  $\Rightarrow$  neutrons become superfluid at 300 yrs, leading to sudden Cooling.



**Strongest evidence of neutron superfluidity in NS core.**

(Shternin et al. 2011; Page et al 2011)

## Highlight #2: Probing QED Processes in Superstrong B Fields

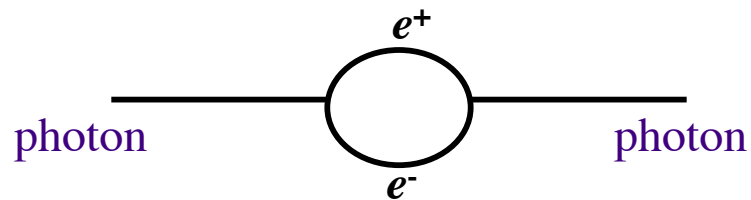
- One photon pair production:

$$\gamma \longrightarrow e^+ + e^-$$

- Photon splitting:

$$\gamma \longrightarrow \gamma + \gamma$$

- **Vacuum birefringence:**  
(photon propagation affected by B field)



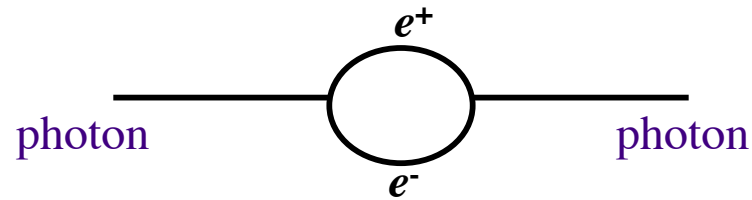
## **Context:**

### **Modeling Radiation from Magnetic NS Atmospheres**

#### **NS Atmospheres:**

- Outermost ~cm of the star
- Density  $0.1\text{-}10^3 \text{ g/cm}^3$ : nonideal, partially ionized, magnetic plasma
- **Effect of QED: Vacuum polarization**

# Vacuum Polarization in Strong B



Heisenberg & Euler,  
Weisskopf, Schwinger,  
Adler...

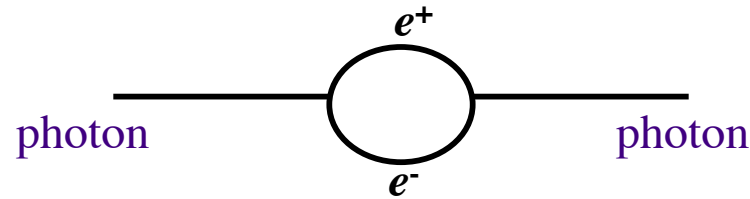
Important when B is of order or larger than

$$B_Q = 4.4 \times 10^{13} \text{ G}$$

at which  $\hbar\omega_{ce} = \hbar \frac{eB}{m_e c} = m_e c^2$



# Vacuum Polarization in Strong B



Heisenberg & Euler,  
Weisskopf, Schwinger,  
Adler...

Dielectric tensor:  $\epsilon = \mathbf{I} + \Delta\epsilon_{\text{vac}}$

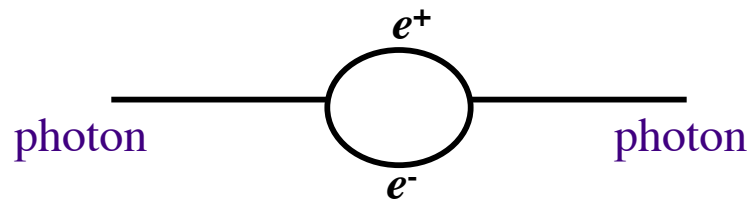
$$|\Delta\epsilon_{\text{vac}}| \sim 10^{-4} (B/B_Q)^2, \text{ with } B_Q = 4.4 \times 10^{13} \text{ G}$$

Two photon modes:

Ordinary mode ( $//$ )

Extraordinary mode ( $\perp$ )

# Vacuum Polarization in Strong B



Heisenberg & Euler,  
Weisskopf, Schwinger,  
Adler...

Dielectric tensor:  $\epsilon = \mathbf{I} + \Delta\epsilon_{\text{vac}}$

$$|\Delta\epsilon_{\text{vac}}| \sim 10^{-4} (B/B_Q)^2, \text{ with } B_Q = 4.4 \times 10^{13} \text{ G}$$

Two photon modes:

Ordinary mode (//)

Extraordinary mode ( $\perp$ )

On the other hand...

Magnetic Plasma by itself (without QED) is birefringent:

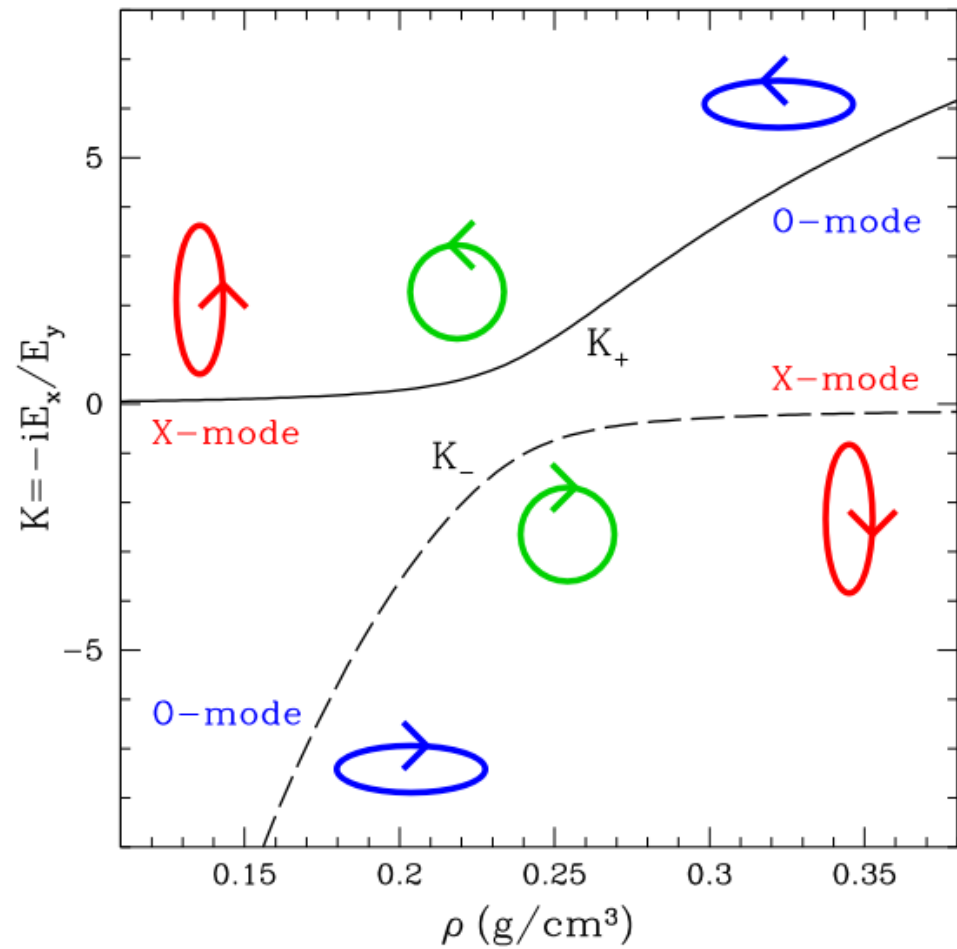
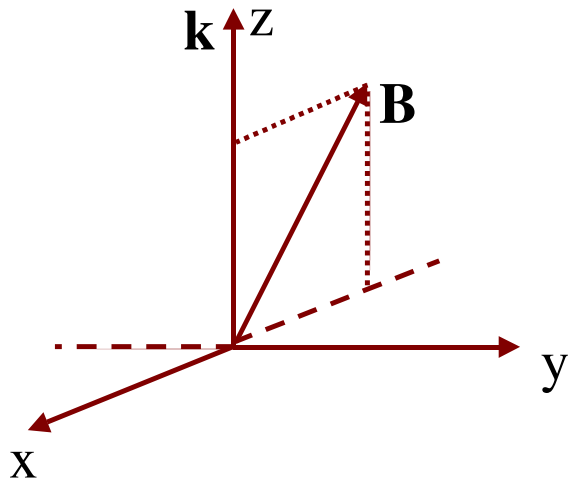
Ordinary mode



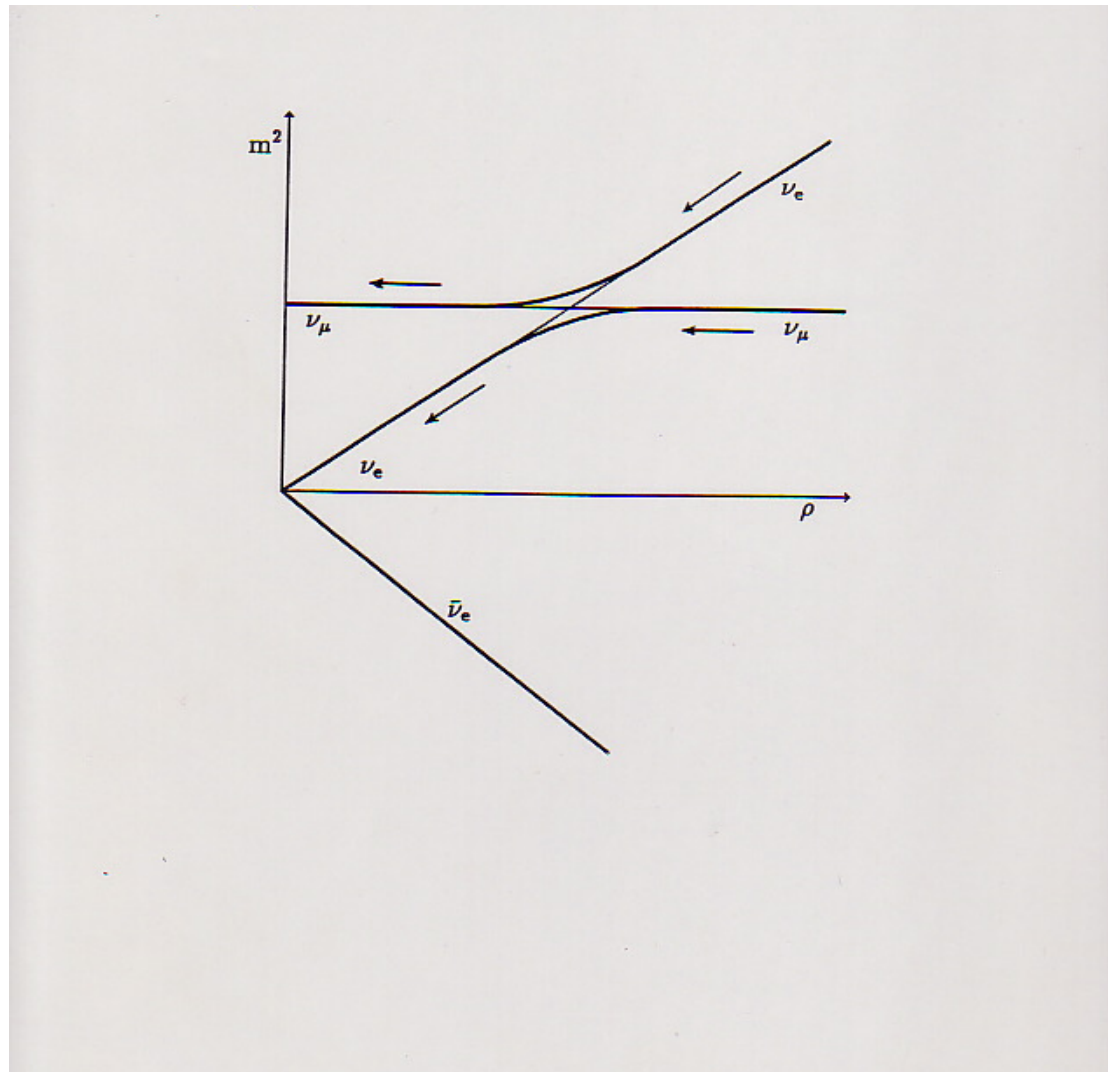
Extraordinary mode



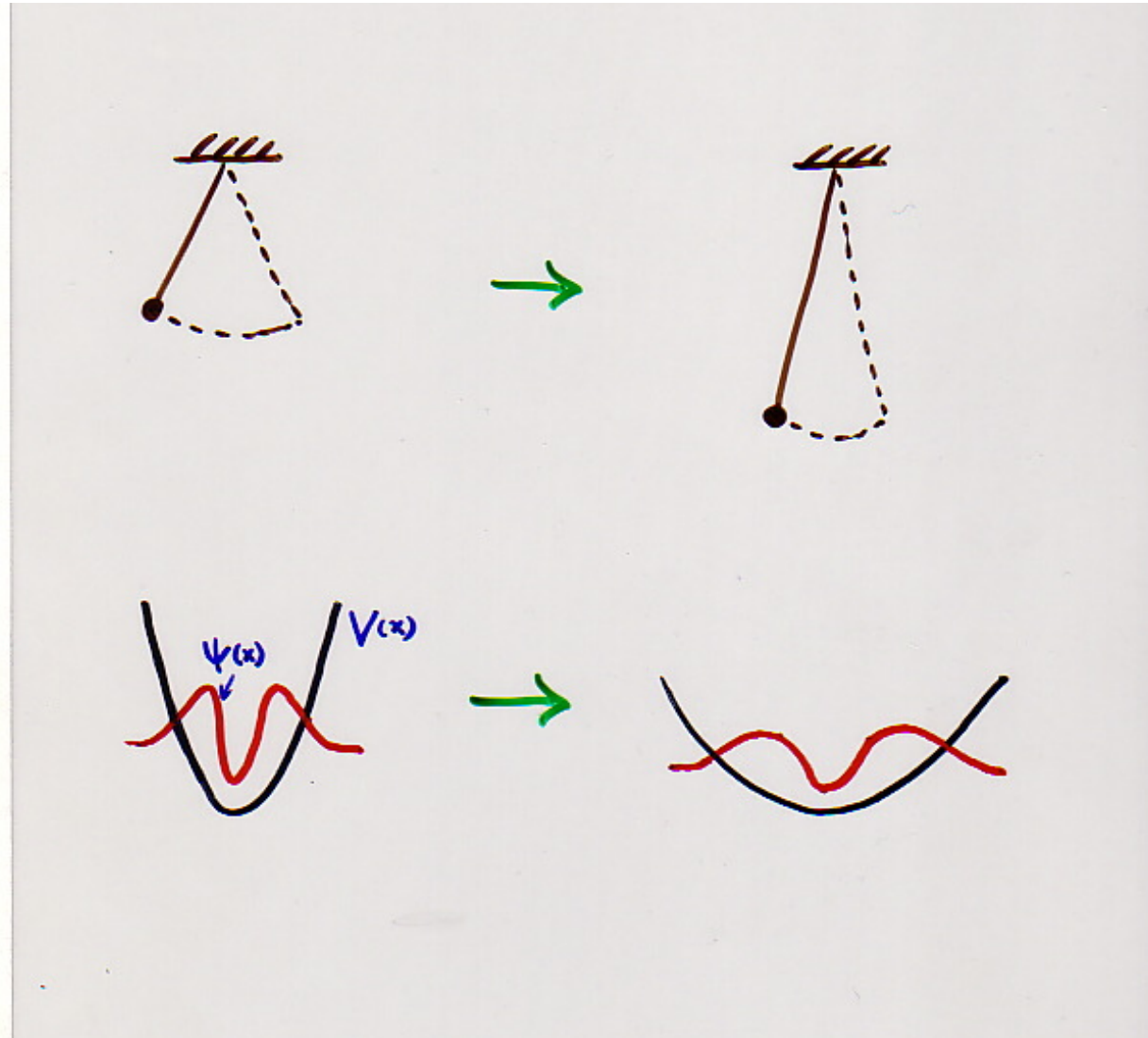
“Plasma+Vacuum” ==> Vacuum resonance



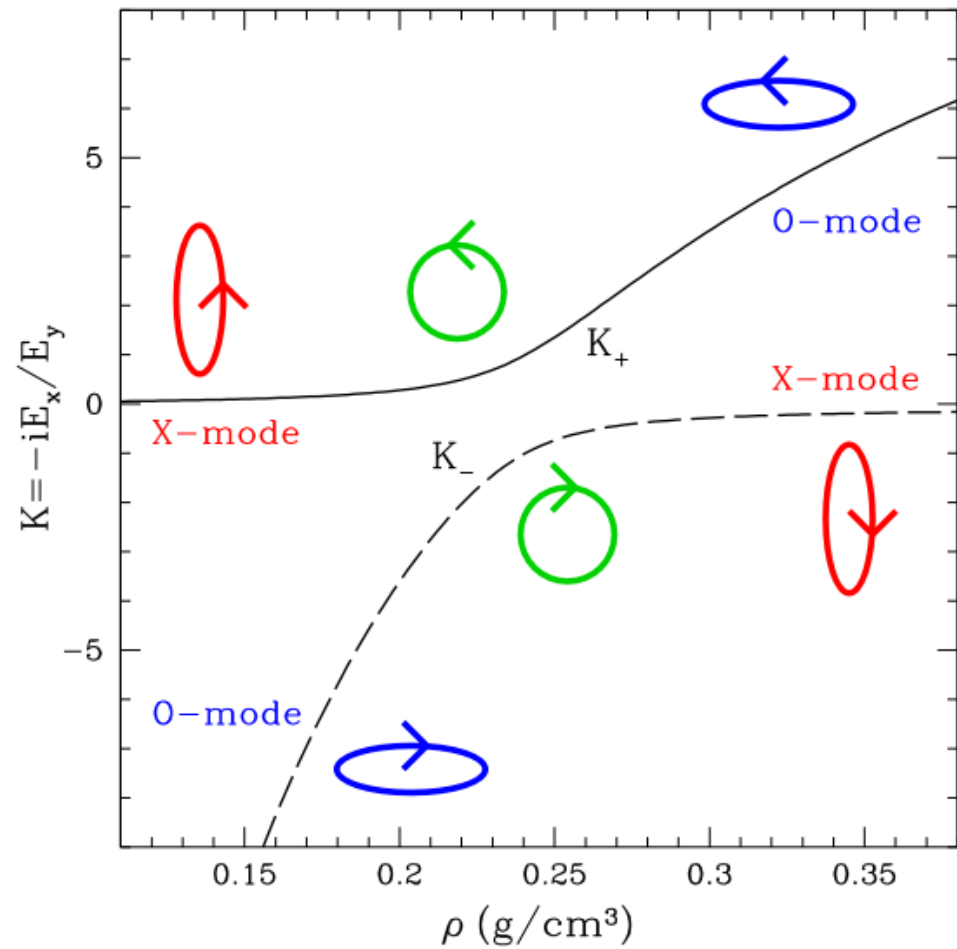
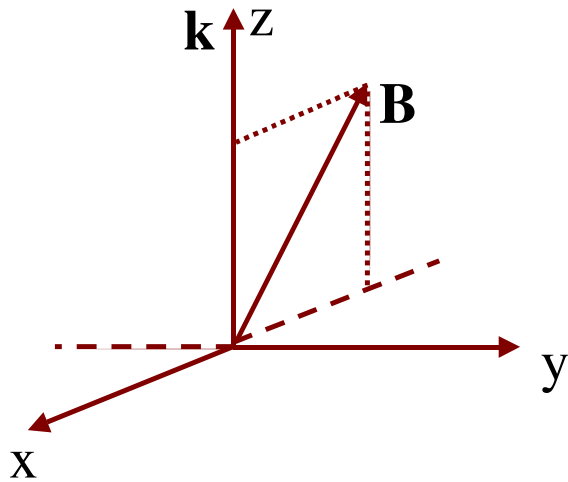
# Mikheyev-Smirnov-Wolfenstein (MSW) Neutrino Oscillation



# Adiabatic Evolution of a Quantum State



“Plasma+Vacuum” ==> Vacuum resonance



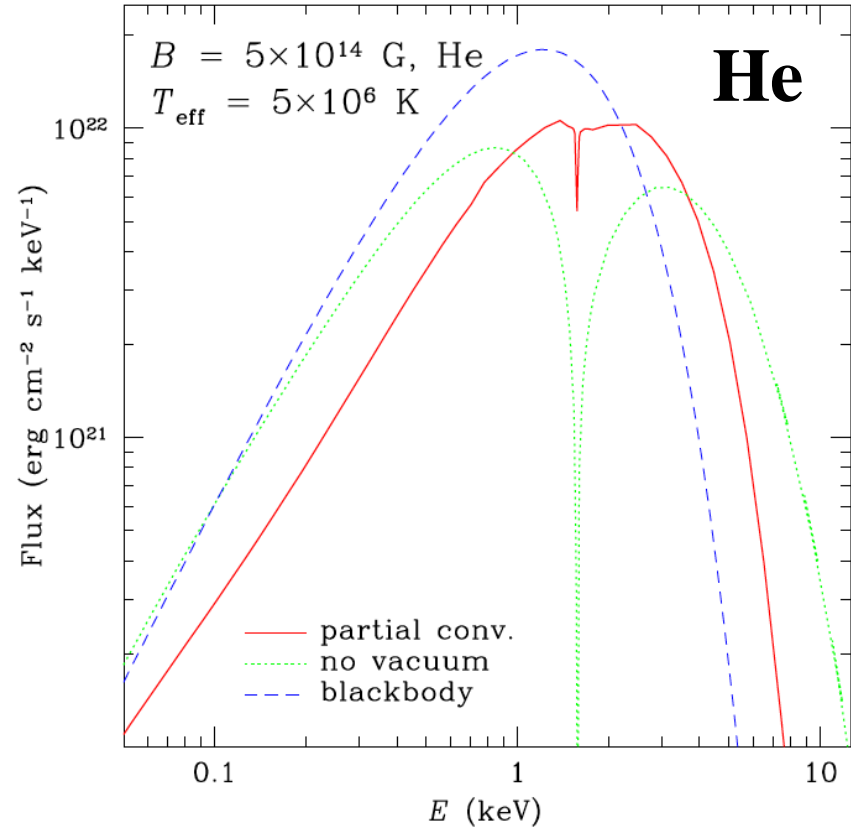
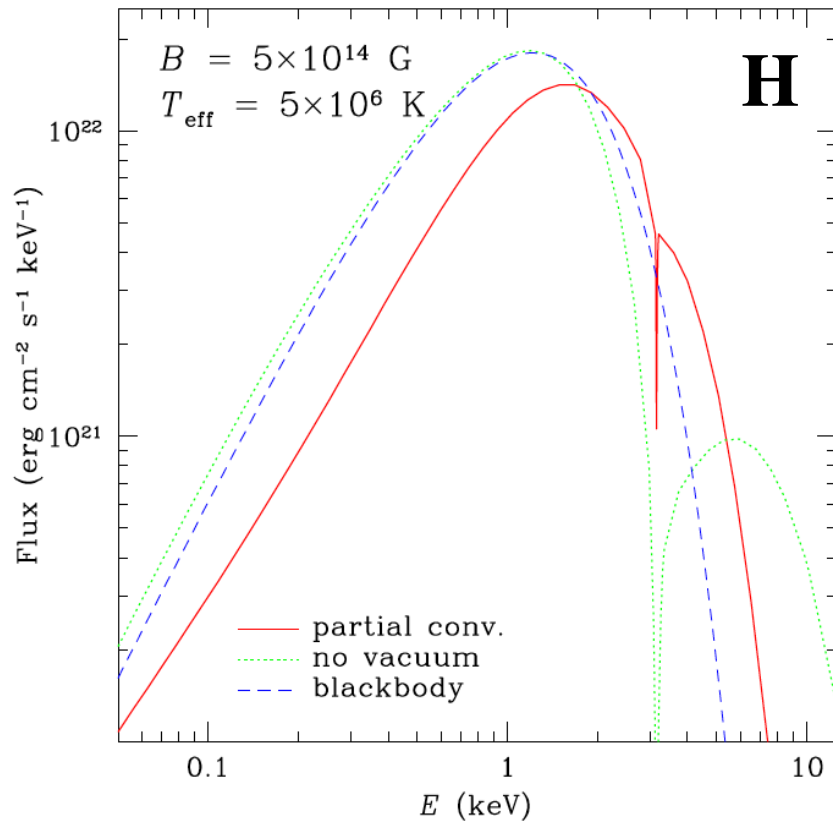
## Why do we care?

The two photon modes have very different opacities

=> Mode conversion can affect radiative transfer significantly

=> Spectrum and polarization signal from the NS

**For  $B > 10^{14}$  G, vacuum polarization strongly affects spectrum**



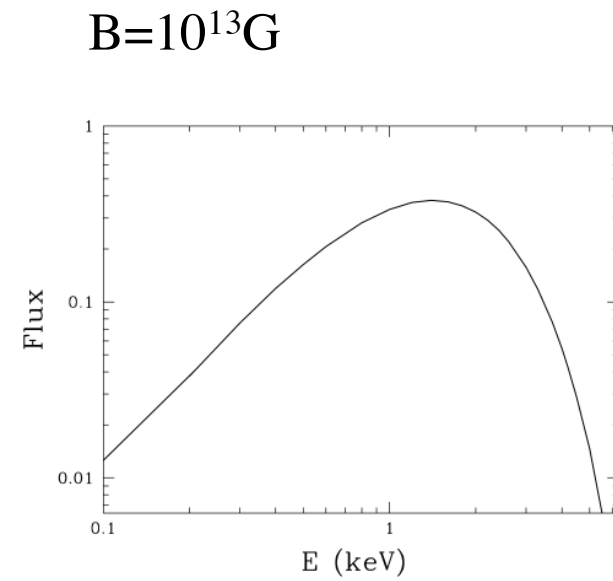
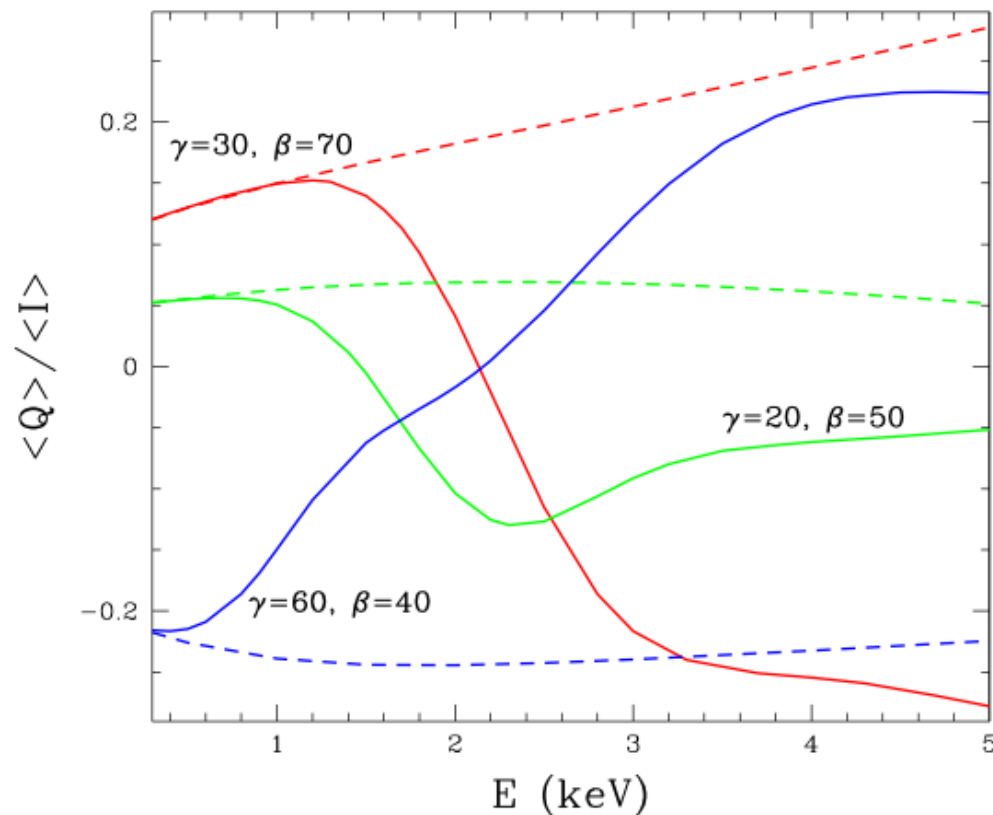
**Matt Van Adelsberg & DL 2006**

**$\Rightarrow$  Magnetars do not show absorption features in thermal emission**

**QED at work!**

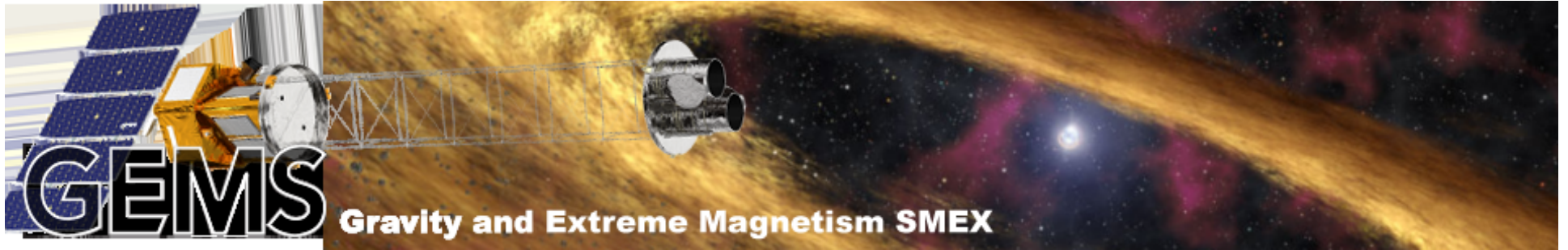


## Even for modest B's, vacuum resonance produces unique polarization signals

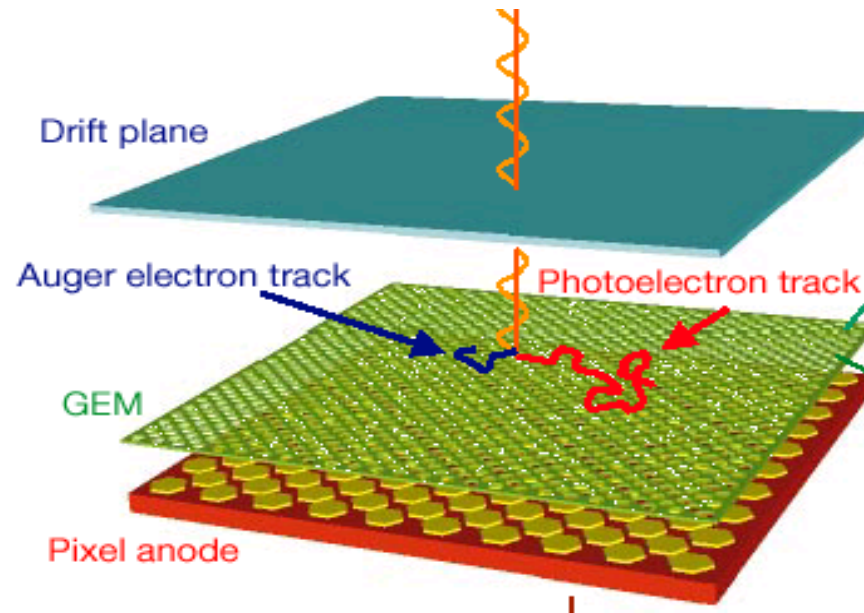


“boring” spectrum & lightcurve,  
but interesting/nontrivial polarization spectrum!

**$\Rightarrow$  X-ray polarimeters**



X-ray polarization  
Measurement:



**GEMS: J. Swank, GSFC (PI); launch 2013-2014**

## Technical slides:

# QED Effect in NS Atmosphere

Dielectric tensor of magnetized plasma including vacuum polarization

$$\boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \mathbf{I} + \Delta\boldsymbol{\epsilon}^{(\text{plasma})} + \Delta\boldsymbol{\epsilon}^{(\text{vac})}$$

where  $\Delta\boldsymbol{\epsilon}^{(\text{vac})} \sim 10^{-4} (B/B_Q)^2 f(B)$ , with  $B_Q = 4.4 \times 10^{13} \text{G}$ ,  $f(B) \sim 1$

cf. Gnedin, Pavlov & Shibano 1978;  
Meszaros & Ventura 1978, etc

## Vacuum resonance:

$$\Delta\boldsymbol{\epsilon}^{(\text{plasma})} + \Delta\boldsymbol{\epsilon}^{(\text{vac})} \sim 0$$

depends on  $-(\omega_p/\omega)^2 \propto \rho/E^2$

$$\Rightarrow \rho_{\text{vac}} = 1.0 B_{14}^2 f(B)^{-1} (E/1 \text{ keV})^2 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$$

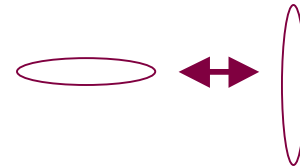
At resonance, X-mode and O-mode are “similar”

## Adiabatic Condition:

$$|n_1 - n_2| \gtrsim (\dots) |d\rho/dr|$$

$$\longrightarrow E \gtrsim E_{\text{ad}} = 2.5 (\tan \theta_B)^{2/3} \left( \frac{1 \text{ cm}}{H} \right)^{1/3} \text{ keV}$$

Photons with  $E > 2 \text{ keV}$ , mode conversion



Photons with  $E < 2 \text{ keV}$ , no mode conversion

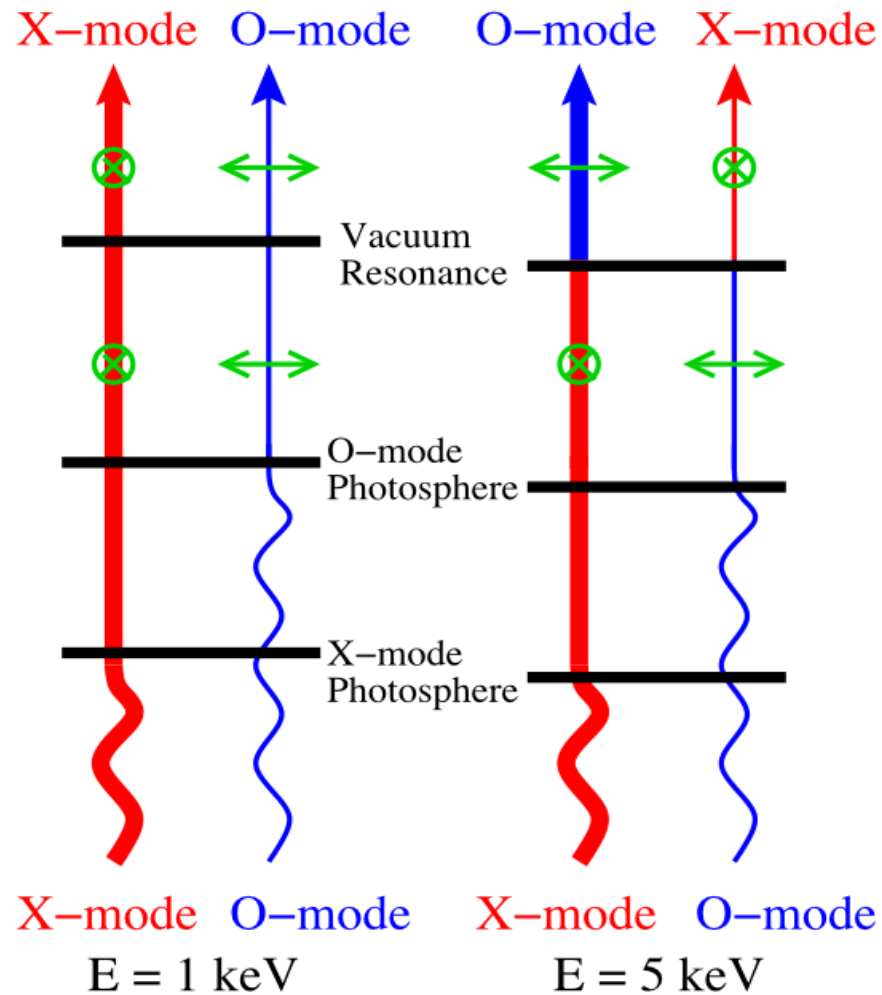
In general, nonadiabatic “jump” probability

$$P_{\text{jump}} = \exp [ - (\pi/2) (E/E_{\text{ad}})^3 ]$$

(Landau-Zener formula)

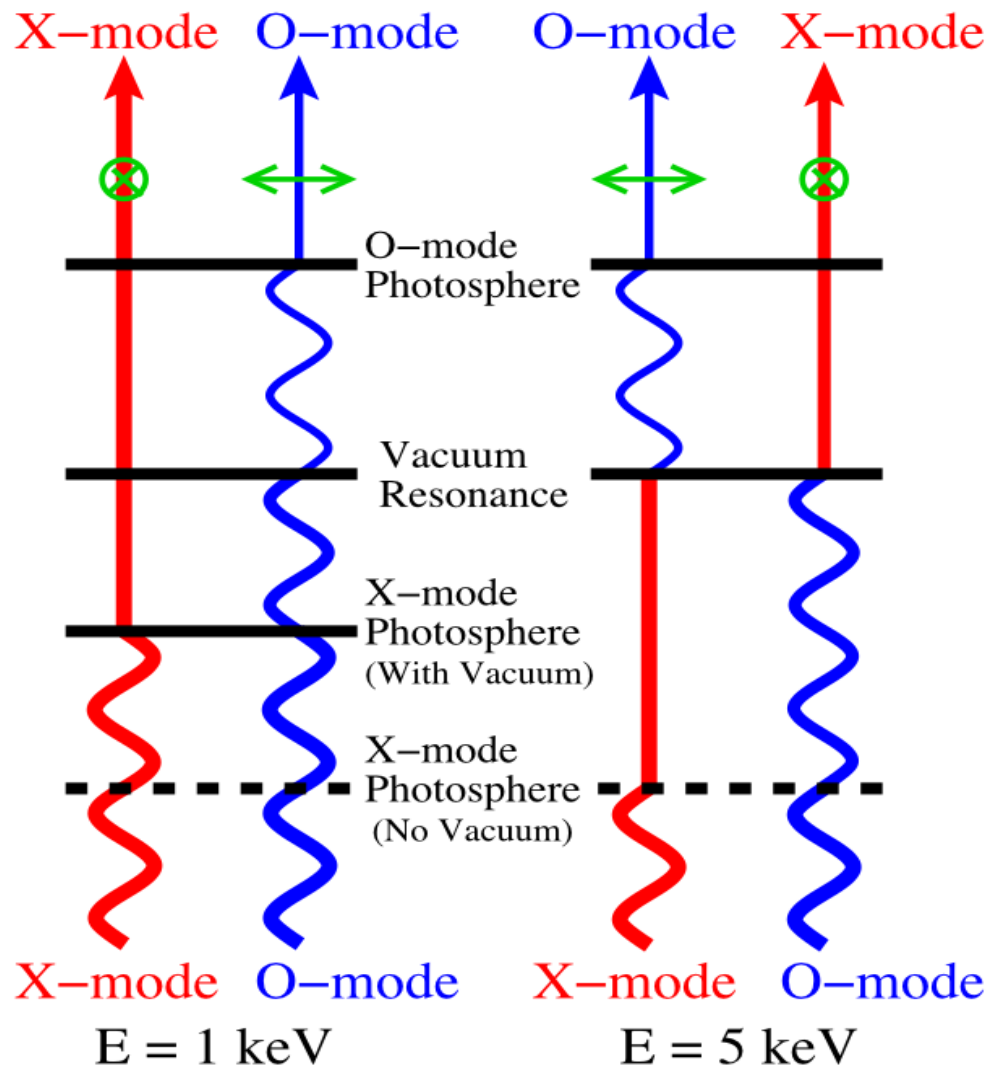
For  $B < 7 \times 10^{13} T_6^{-1/8} E_1^{-1/4} \text{ G}$ :

Vacuum resonance lies outside both photospheres



For  $B > 7 \times 10^{13} T_6^{-1/8} E_1^{-1/4} \text{ G}$ :

Vacuum resonance lies between the two photospheres



## Highlight #3: Matter in Strong Magnetic Fields

Critical Field:

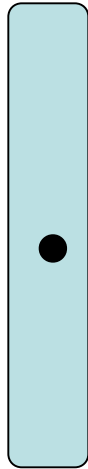
$$\hbar\omega_{ce} = \hbar \frac{eB}{m_e c} = \frac{e^2}{a_0} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad B = B_0 = 2.35 \times 10^9 \text{ G}$$

Strong field:  $B \gg B_0$

Property of matter is very different from zero-field

## Atoms and Molecules

Strong B field significantly increases the binding energy of atoms



$$\text{For } b = \frac{B}{B_0} \gg 1, \quad B_0 = 2.35 \times 10^9 \text{ G}$$

$$|E| \propto (\ln b)^2$$

$$\text{E.g. } |E| = 160 \text{ eV} \quad \text{at } 10^{12} \text{ G}$$

$$|E| = 540 \text{ eV} \quad \text{at } 10^{14} \text{ G}$$

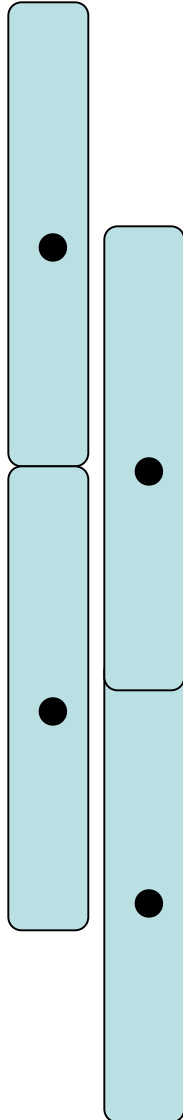
Atoms combine to form molecular chains:

$$\text{E.g. } \text{H}_2, \text{H}_3, \text{H}_4, \dots$$



## Condensed Matter

Chain-chain interactions lead to formation of 3D condensed matter



Binding energy per cell  $|E| \propto Z^{9/5} B^{2/5}$

Zero-pressure density  
 $\simeq 10^3 A Z^{3/5} B_{12}^{6/5} \text{ g cm}^{-3}$

# Cohesive energy of condensed matter:

- Strong B field increases the binding energy of atoms and condensed matter

$$\text{For } b = \frac{B}{B_0} \gg 1, \quad B_0 = 2.35 \times 10^9 \text{ G}$$

Energy of atom:  $\sim (\ln b)^2$

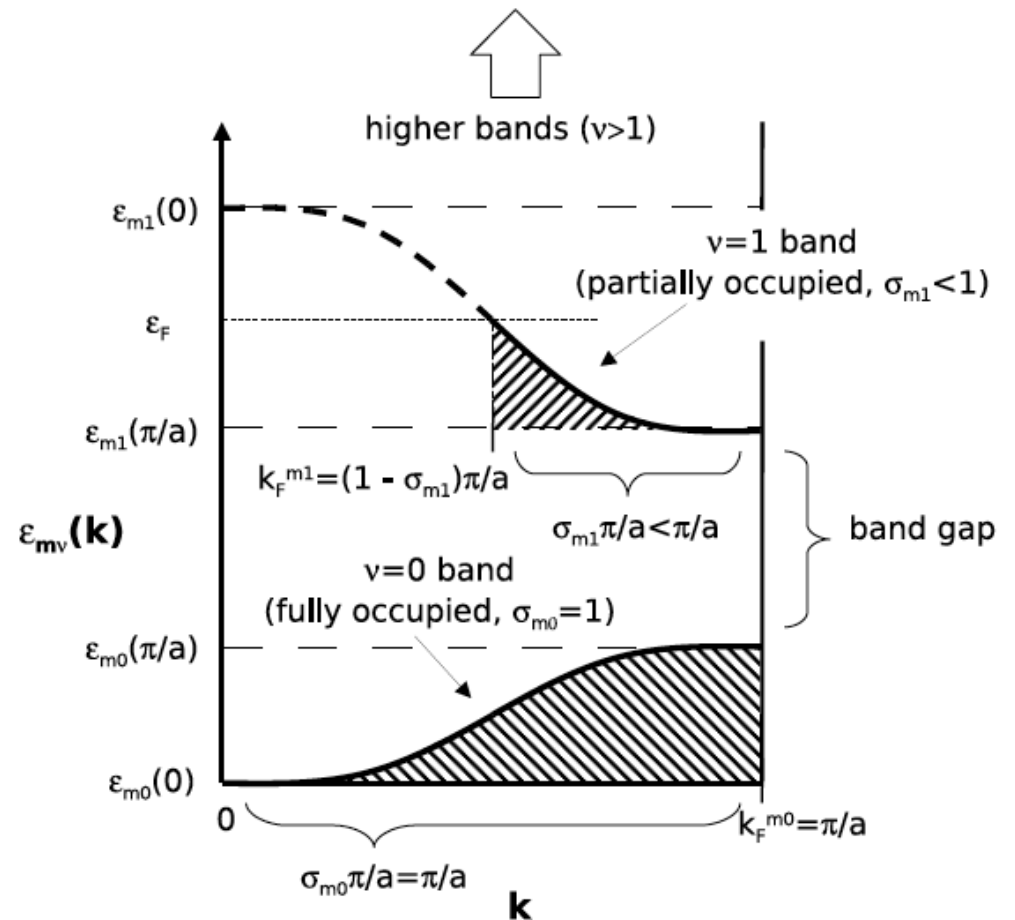
Energy of zero-pressure solid:  $\sim b^{0.4}$

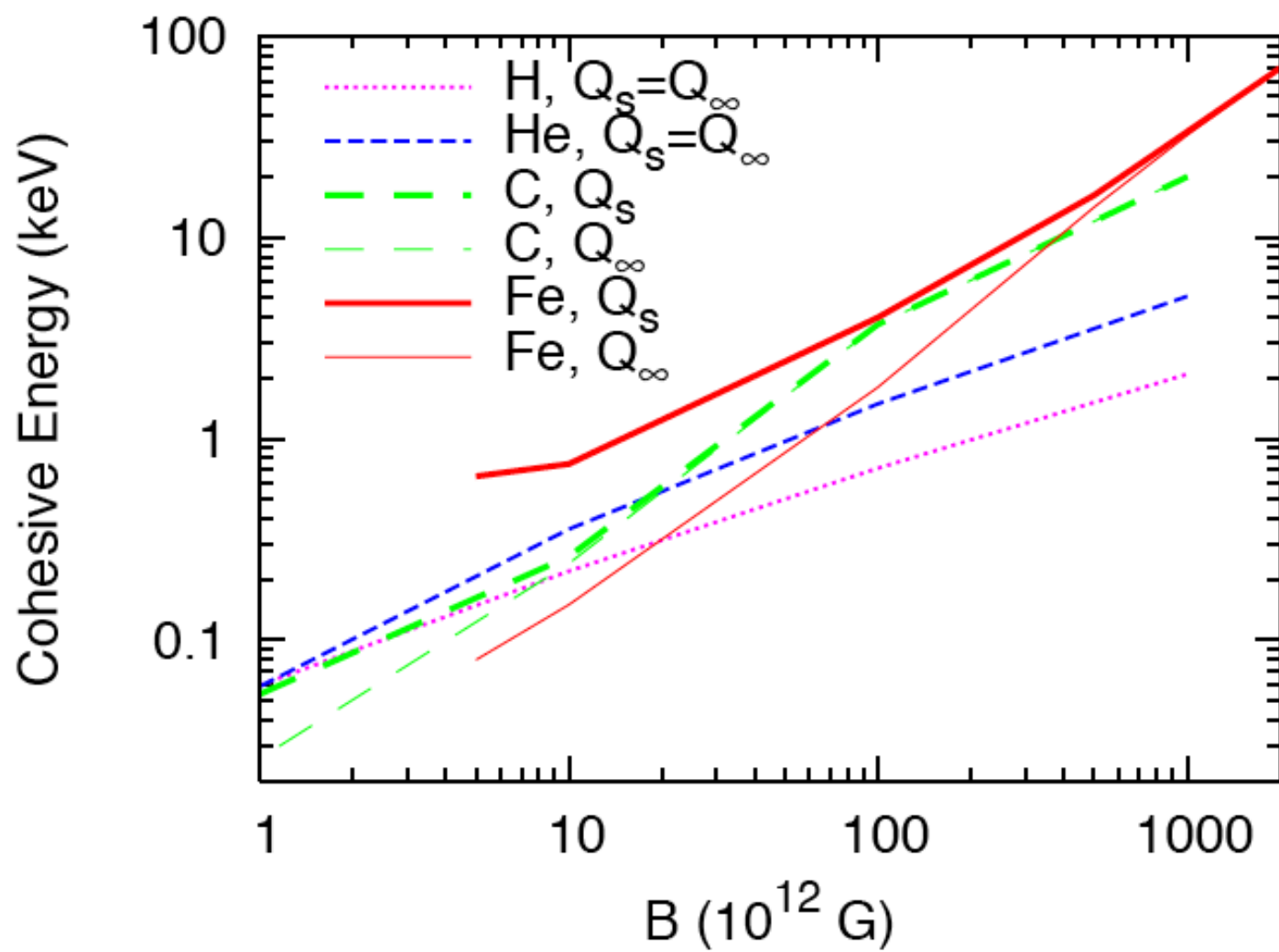
**==> Expect condensed solid to have large cohesive energy**

- Quantitative Calculations are needed ...

## New calculations (Zach Medin & DL 2007)

- Density functional theory
- Accurate exchange-correlation energy
- Accurate treatment of band structure
- Extend to  $\sim 10^{15}G$



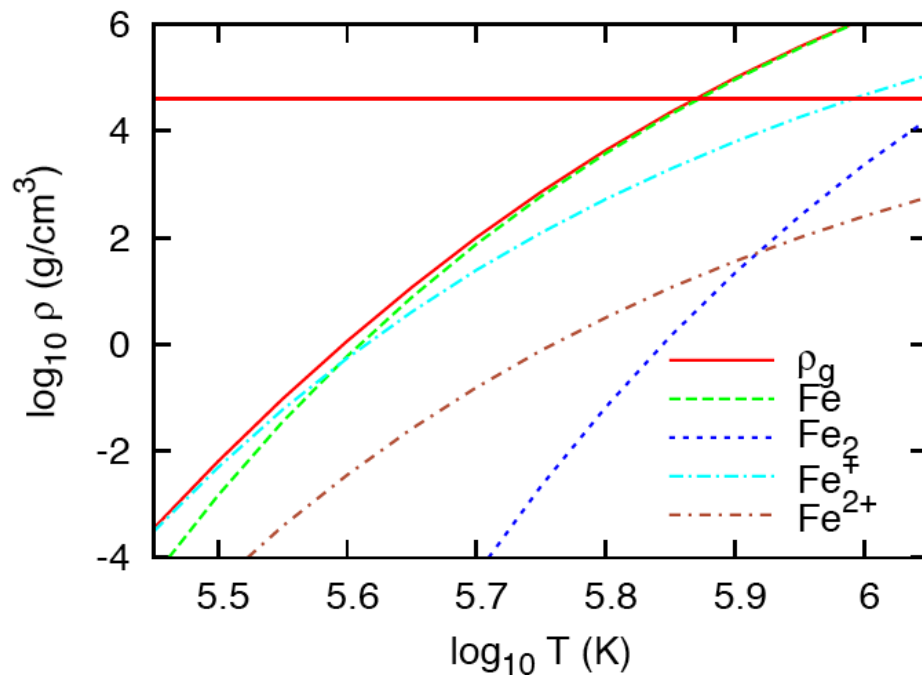


**Implications...**

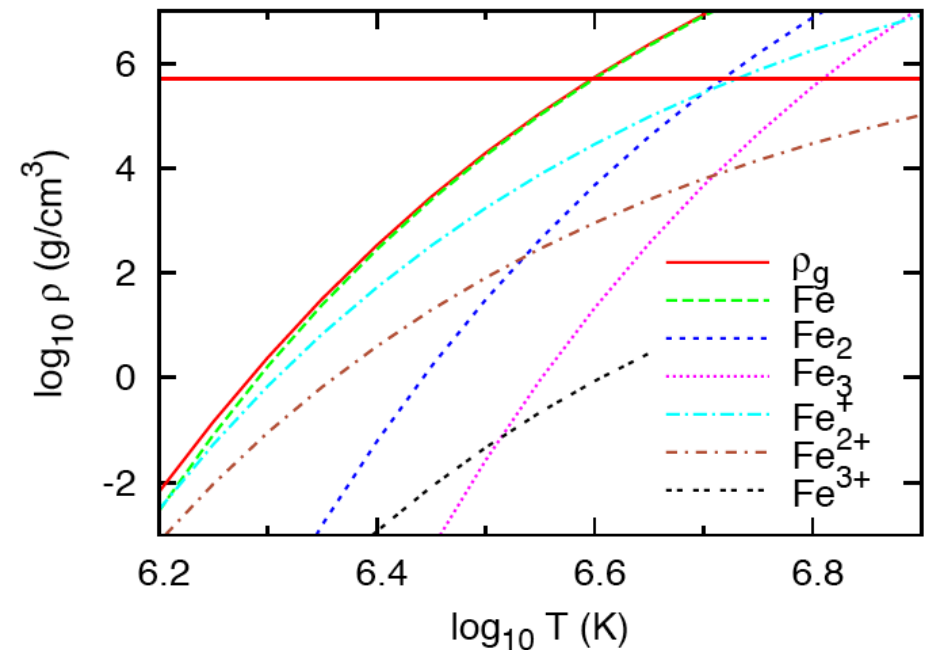
# Surface condensation of isolated NSs

Saturated Vapor of Condensed NS Surface:

Fe at  $10^{13}\text{G}$



Fe at  $10^{14}\text{G}$



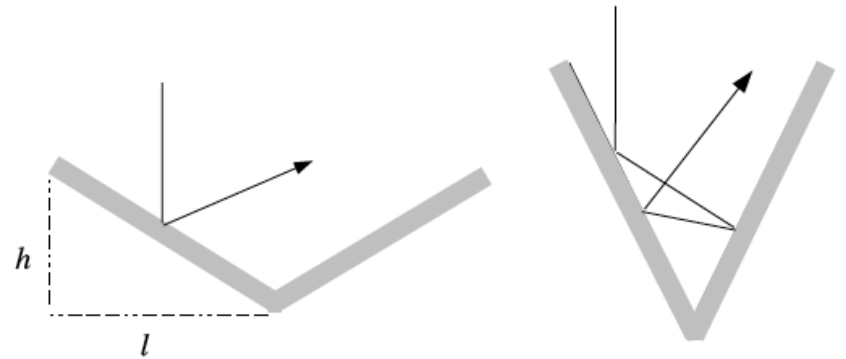
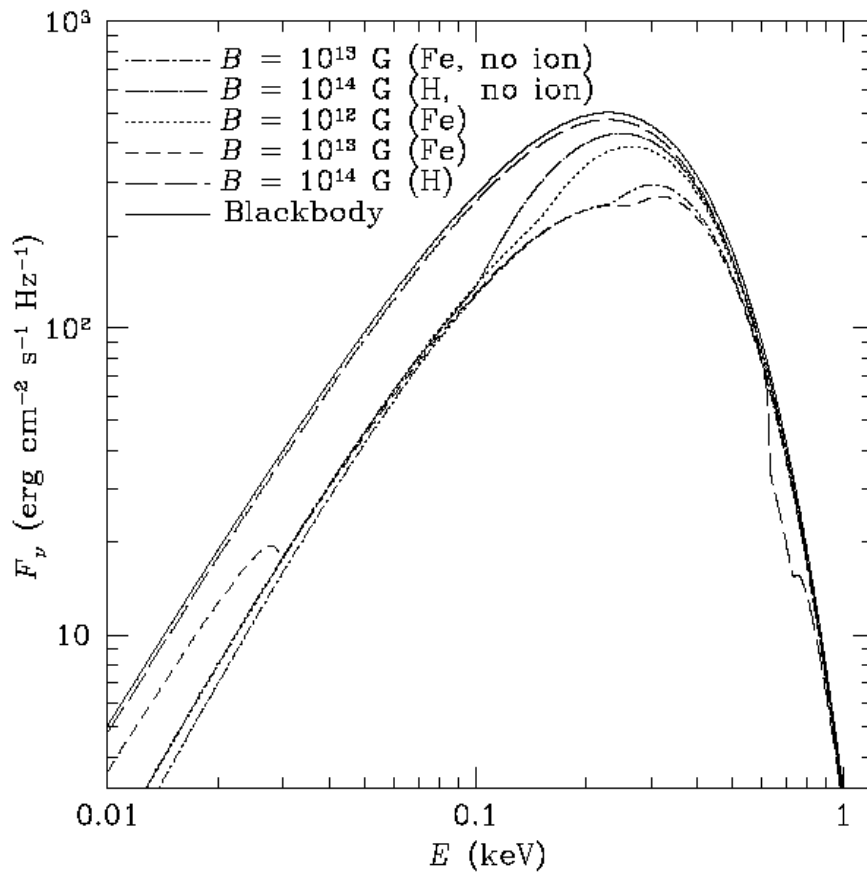
Zach Medin & DL 2007

**For a given  $B$ , below  $T_{\text{crit}}(B)$ ,  
NS surface is in condensed form (with little vapor above)**

# Emission from condensed NS surface resembles a featureless blackbody

Reflectivity  $R_E$

Emission  $I_E = (1 - R_E) B_E(T)$

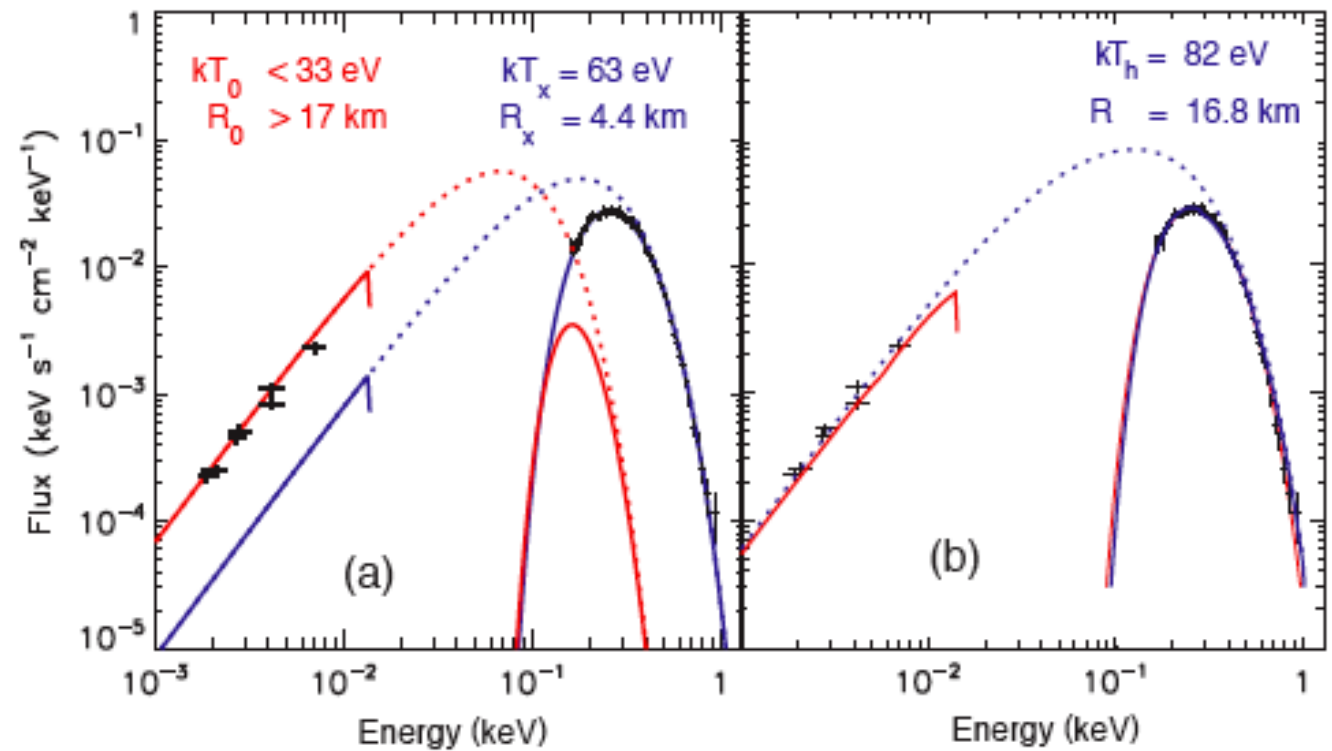


# Thermally Emitting Isolated NSs

“Perfect” X-ray blackbody:

RX J1856.5-3754

( $T \sim 60$  eV)



Burwitz et al. 03, Trumper et al 04

May be explained by emission from condensed surface

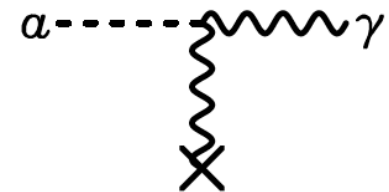


## Highlight #4: Probing Axions with Magnetic NSs

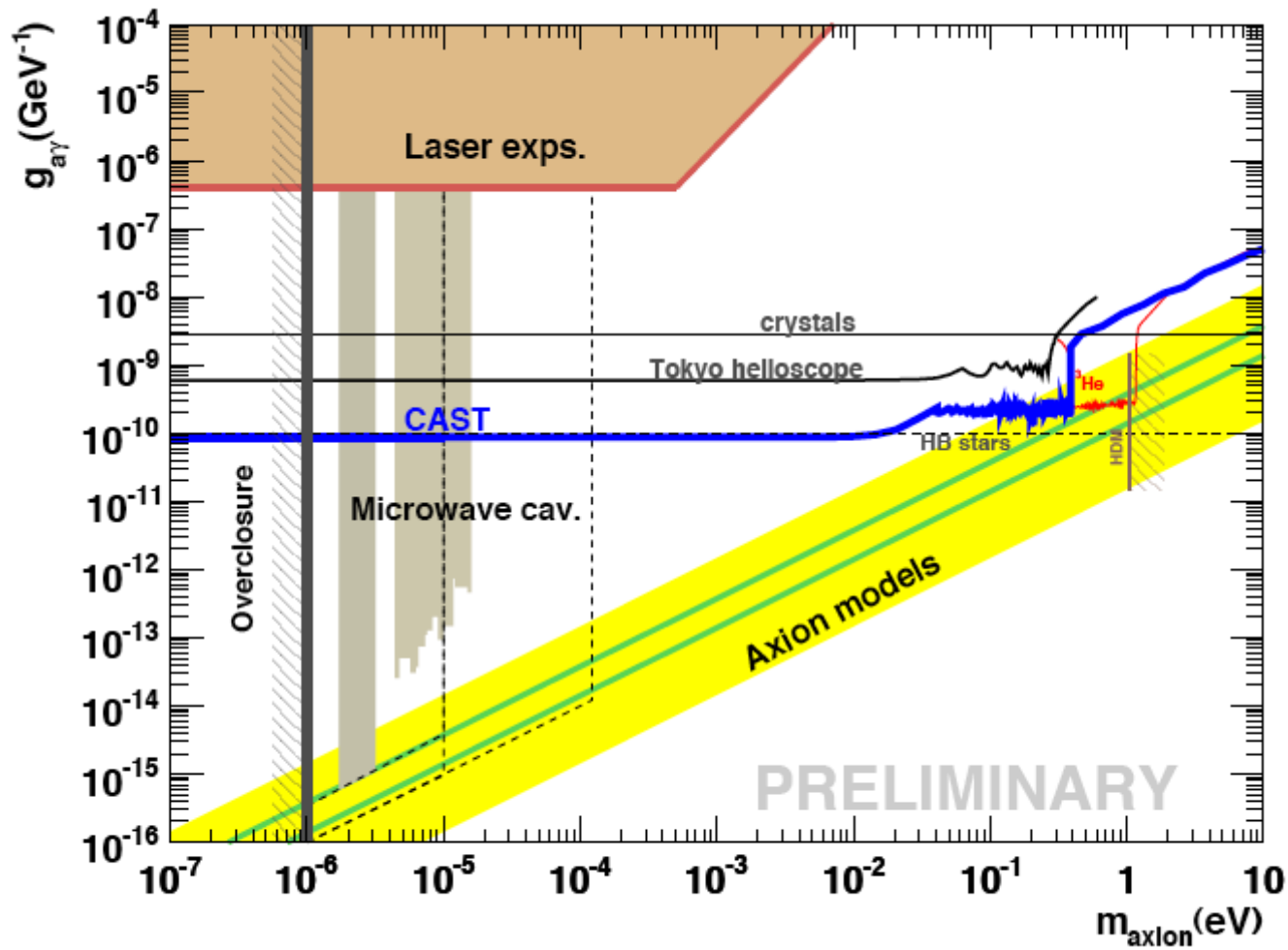
**Axions:** pseudoscalar particles, arise in the Peccei-Quinn solution of the strong CP problem; could be dark matter candidates

Can be produced or detected through the **Primakoff process**:

$$\mathcal{L}_{a\gamma} = -\frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} a = g_{a\gamma} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} a$$



## Current constraints on axion mass and coupling parameter



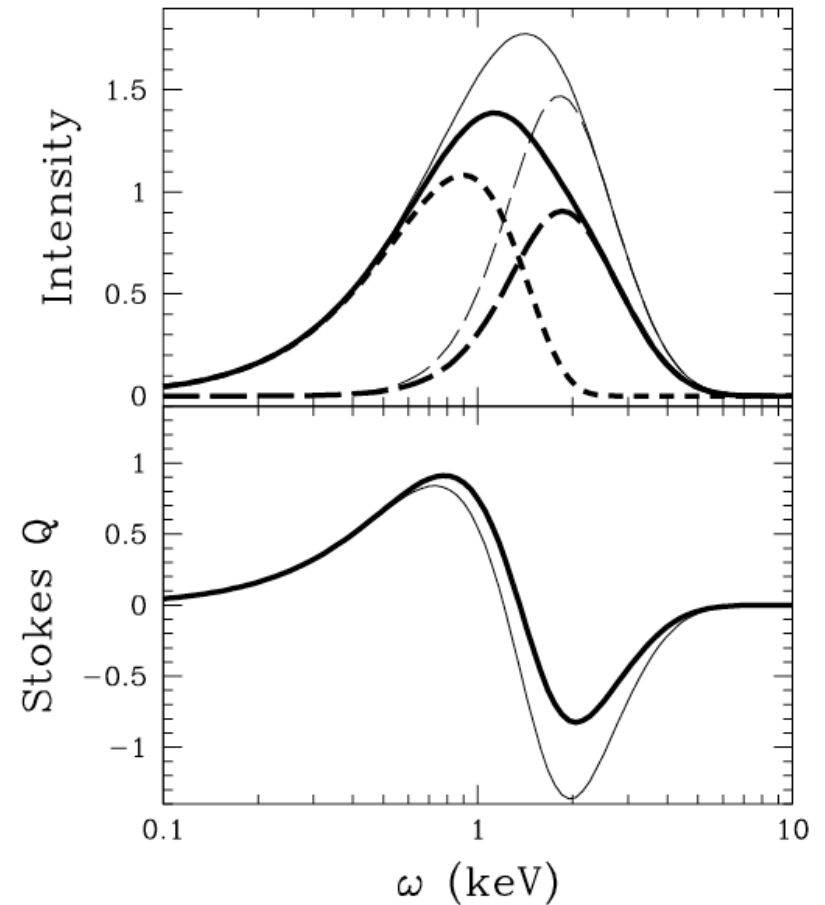
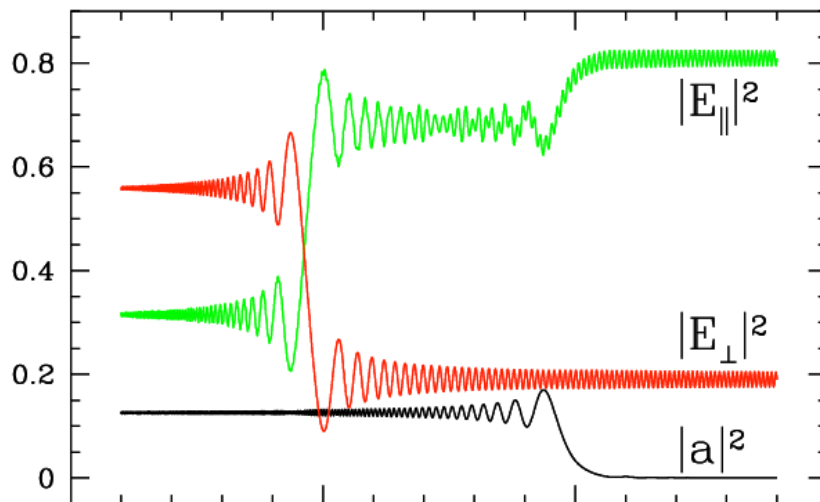
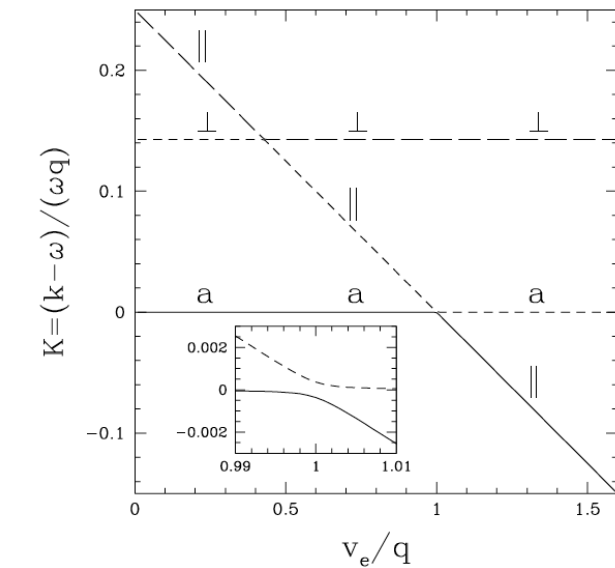
arXiv:0810.1874 (CAST collaboration)

# Photon-Axion Conversion in Magnetic Neutron Stars

In the magnetized plasma of NSs, photons ( $\parallel$ -polarization component) can convert (resonantly a la MSW) into axions

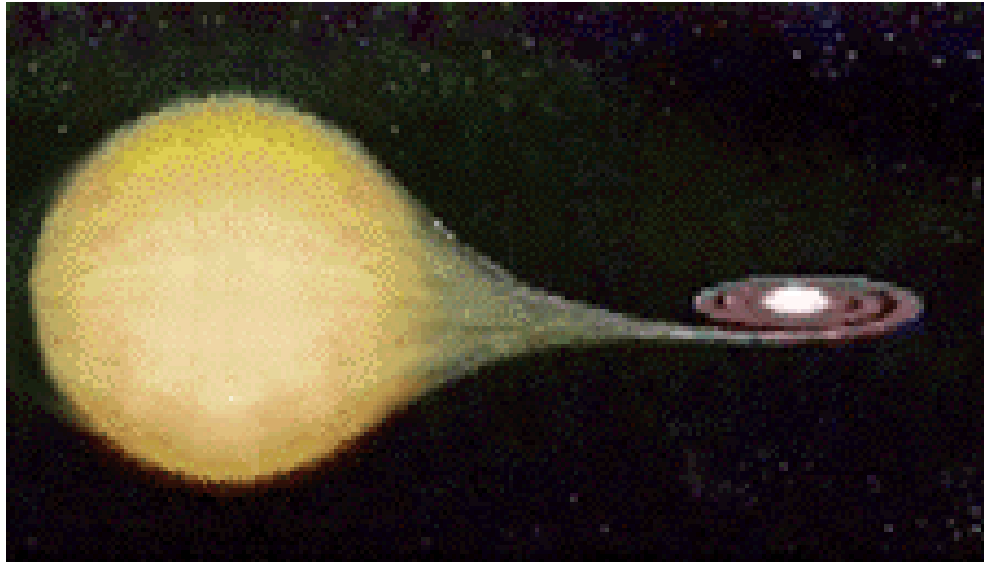
**==> modify radiation spectra and polarization signals**

DL & Heyl 2007; Perna et al. 2011





# Accreting Neutron Stars

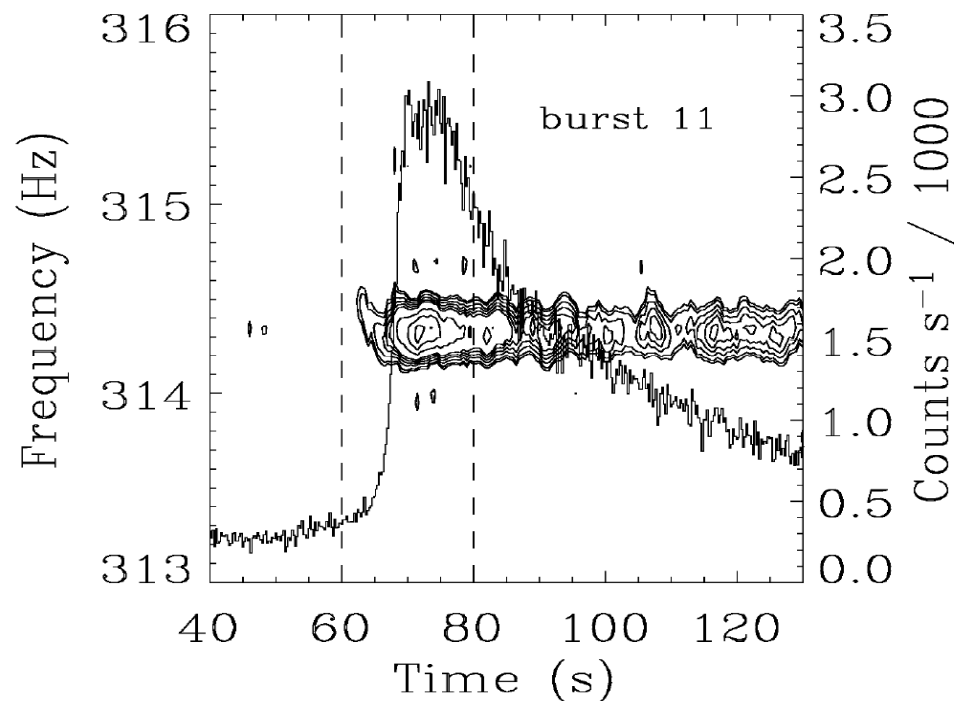


- Non- or weakly magnetized NSs (LMXBs)
- Highly magnetized NSs (HMXBs)

# Accretion onto non- or weakly magnetized NSs

Unstable surface nuclear burning ==> X-ray bursters

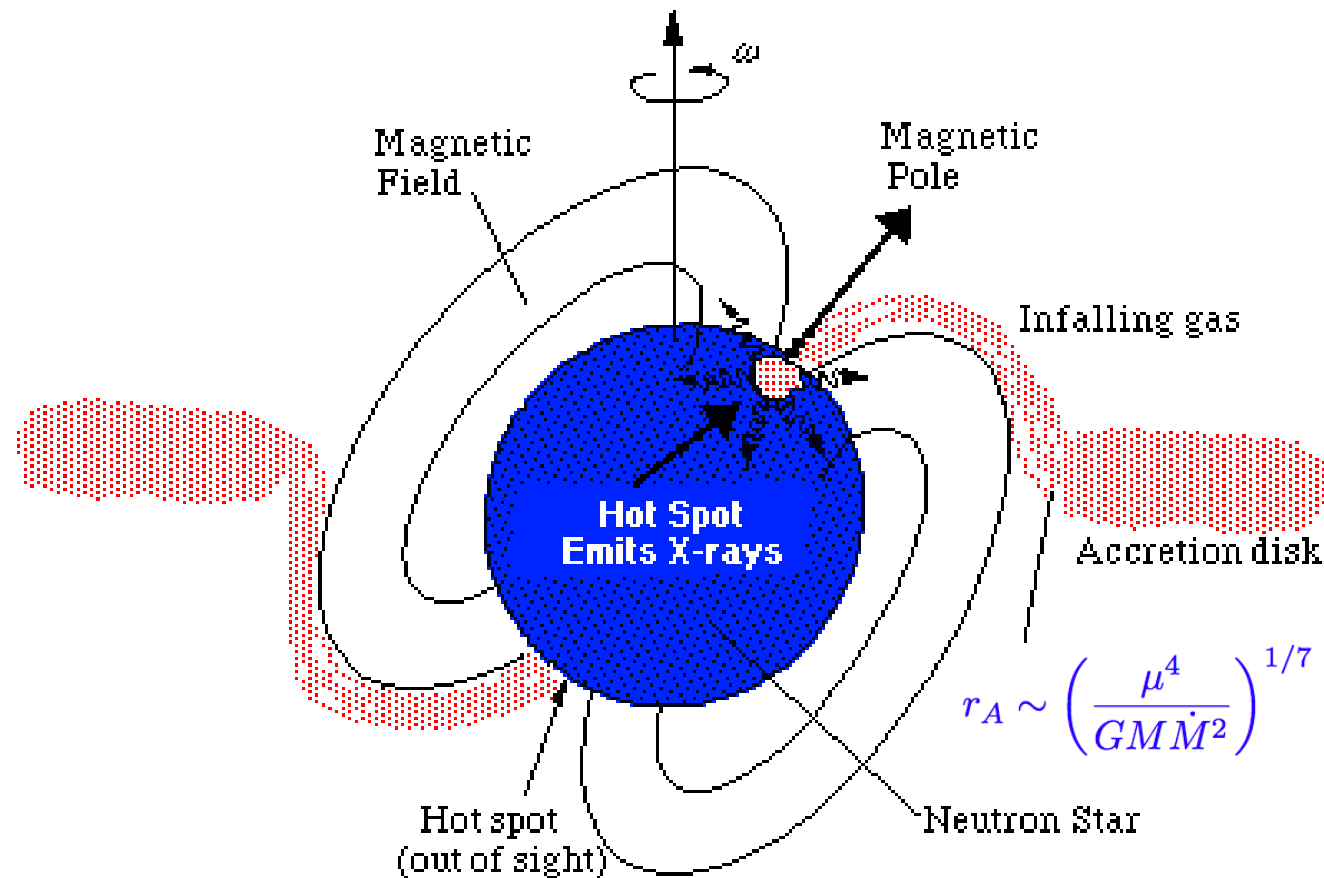
Burst oscillations (due to rotating hot spot)



Strohmayer et al 2003

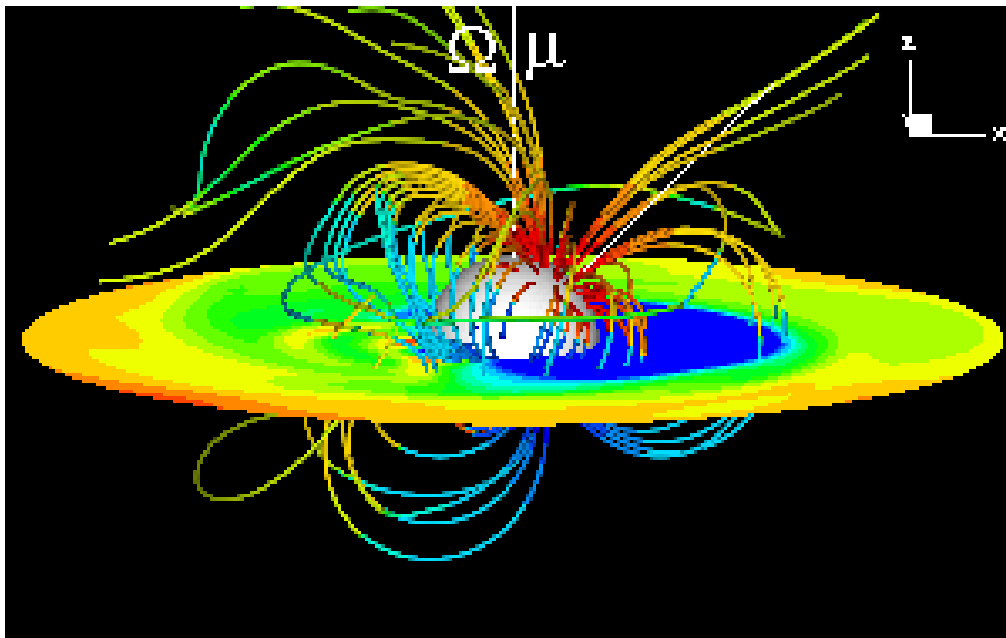
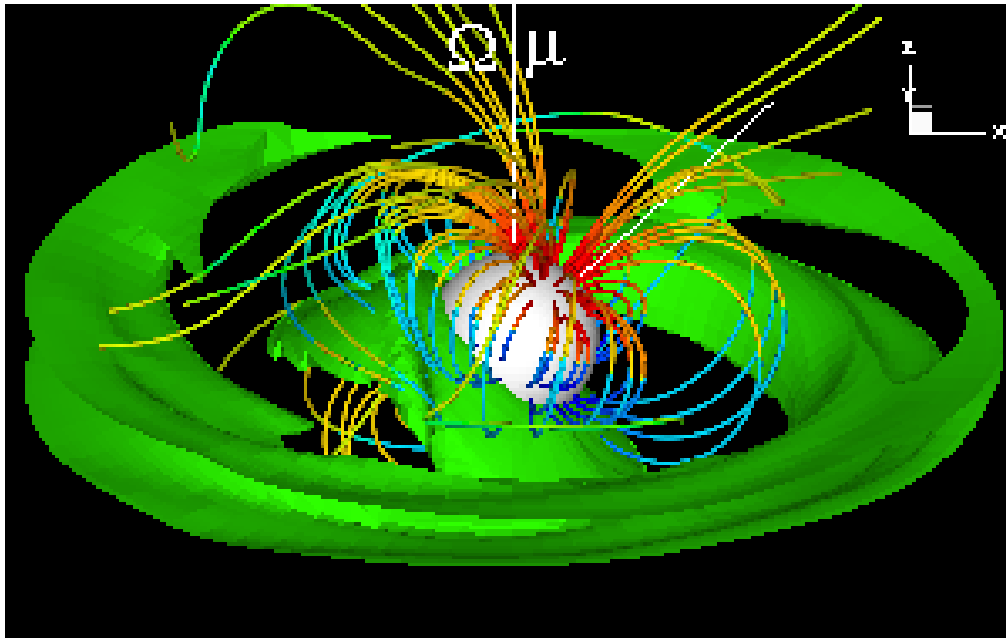
Modeling burst lightcurve can constrain  $M/R$  (self-lensing by NS)

# Accretion onto Magnetic NSs



NASA

**Similar physics as accreting protostars...**

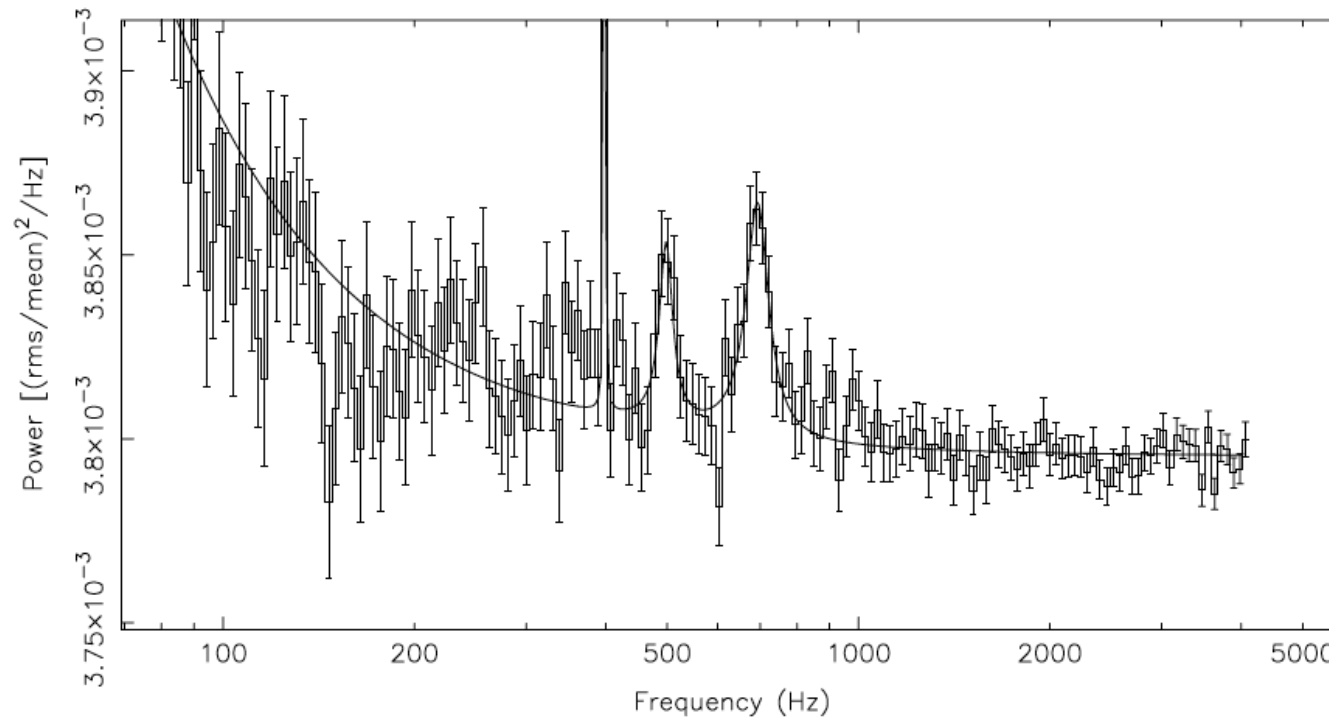


Simulations by Cornell group:  
M. Romanova, Lovelace, etc



## Quasi-Periodic Oscillations (QPOs)

Power density spectrum of x-ray flux variations of accreting millisecond pulsars



Van der Klis 2005

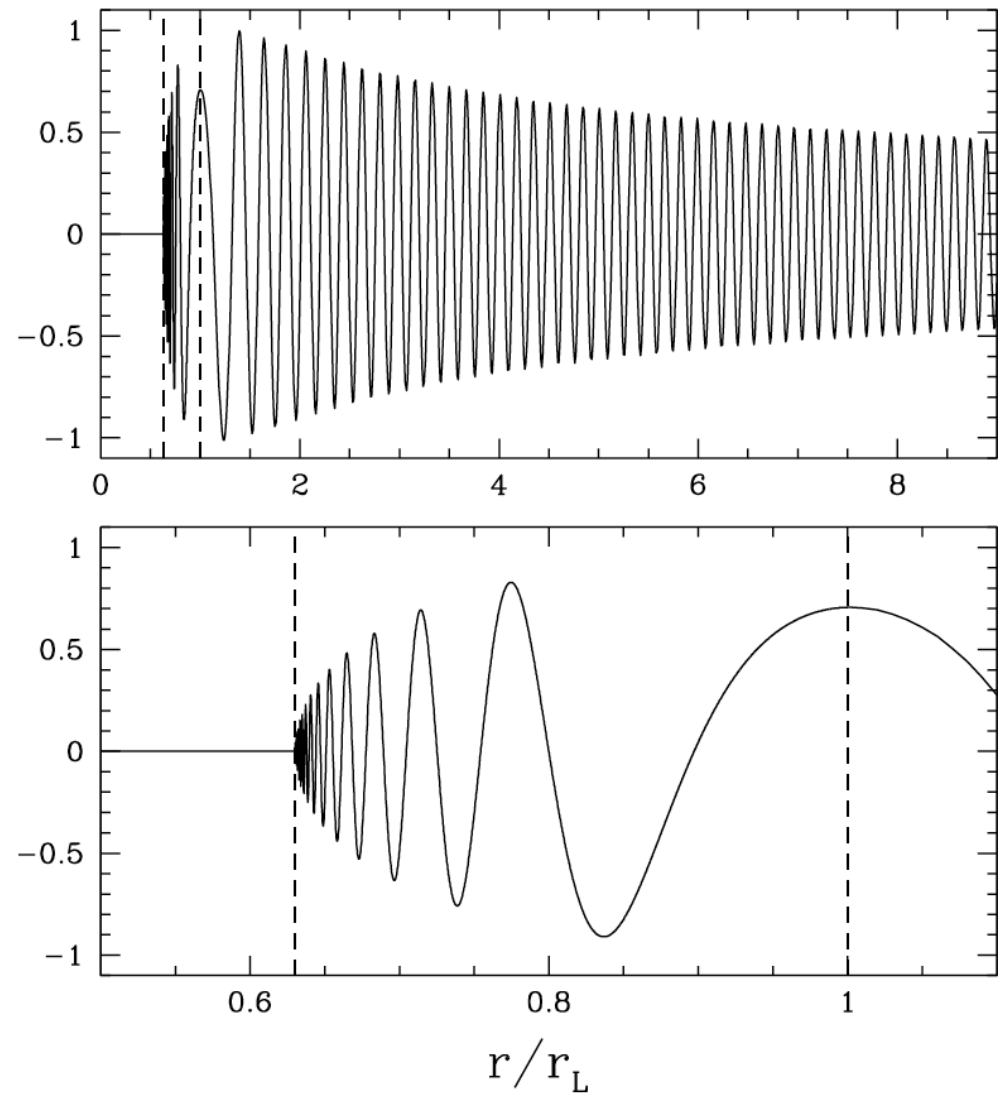
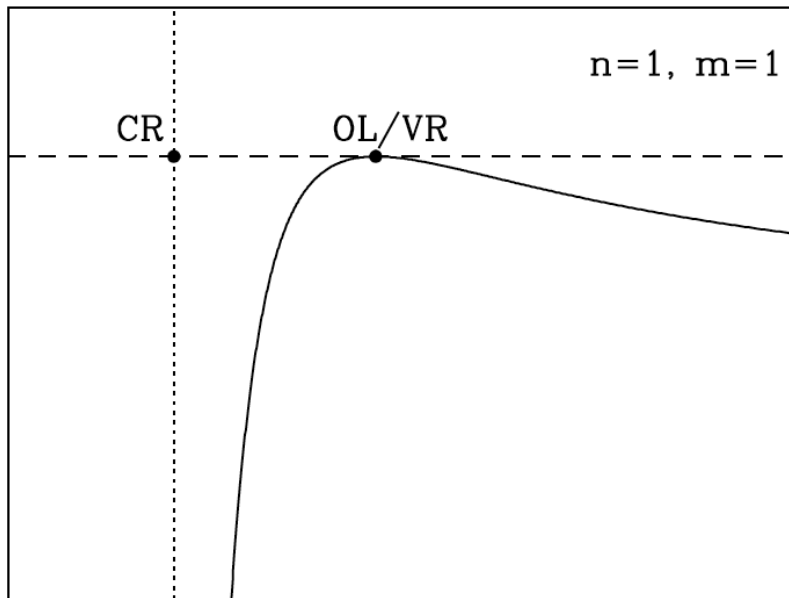
SAX J1808.4-3658:  $\nu_s = 401$  Hz,  $\nu_h - \nu_l \simeq \nu_s/2$  ( $\pm$ a few Hz)

XTE J1807.4-294:  $\nu_s = 191$  Hz,  $\nu_h - \nu_l \simeq \nu_s$

## **A possible (promising) model:**

A misaligned rotating dipole magnetic field can excite bending waves in disk, which can modulate X-ray flux.

## Excitation of bending wave by magnetic force:



Lindblad/Vertical Resonance:

$$\omega - \Omega = \Omega_{\perp} \simeq \Omega$$

$$\implies \omega \simeq 2\Omega(r_L)$$

## Details: Magnetically Driven Bending Waves in Disks

- Perturbations most “visible” at Lindblad/Vertical Resonance

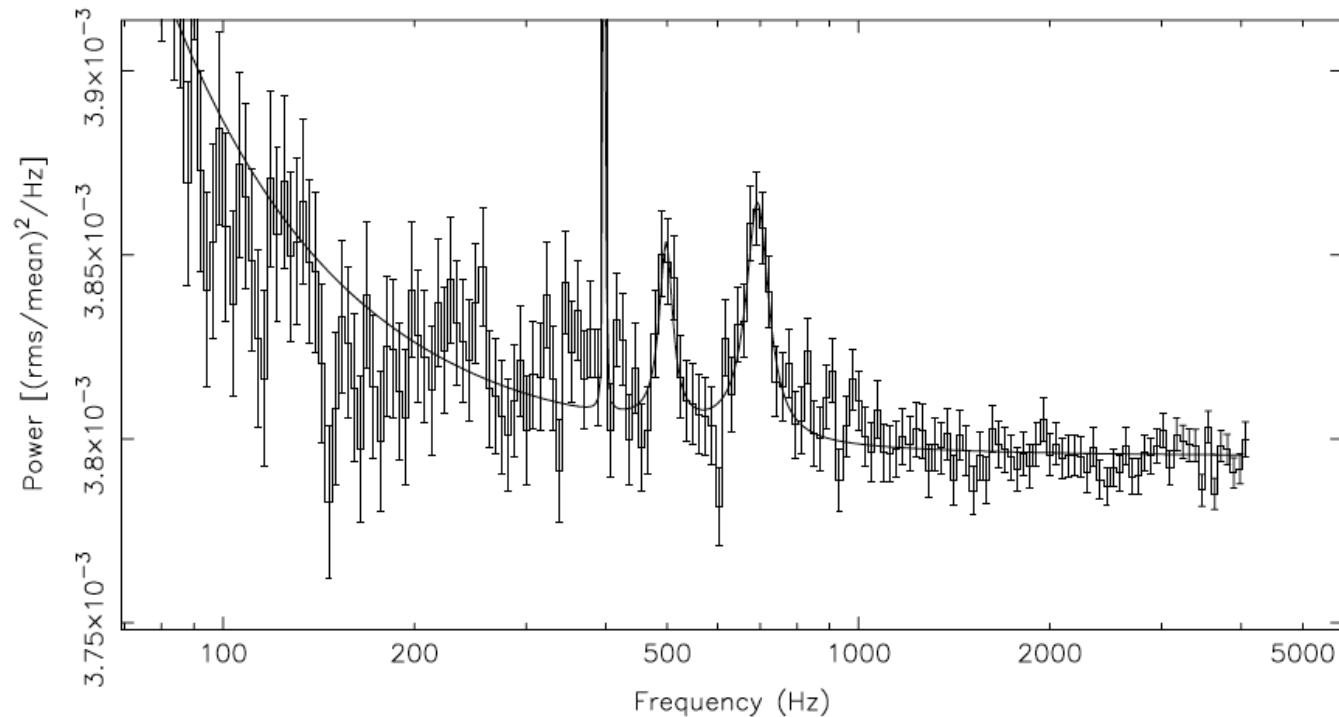
$$\omega - \Omega = \Omega_{\perp} \simeq \Omega$$

$$\implies \Omega(r_L) = \frac{1}{2}\omega = \frac{\omega_s}{2}, \quad \omega_s$$

- Dimensionless perturbation amplitude reaches a few %
- Beating of high-freq. QPO with perturbed fluid at L/VR produces low-freq. QPO?

## Quasi-Periodic Oscillations (QPOs)

Power density spectrum of x-ray flux variations of accreting millisecond pulsars



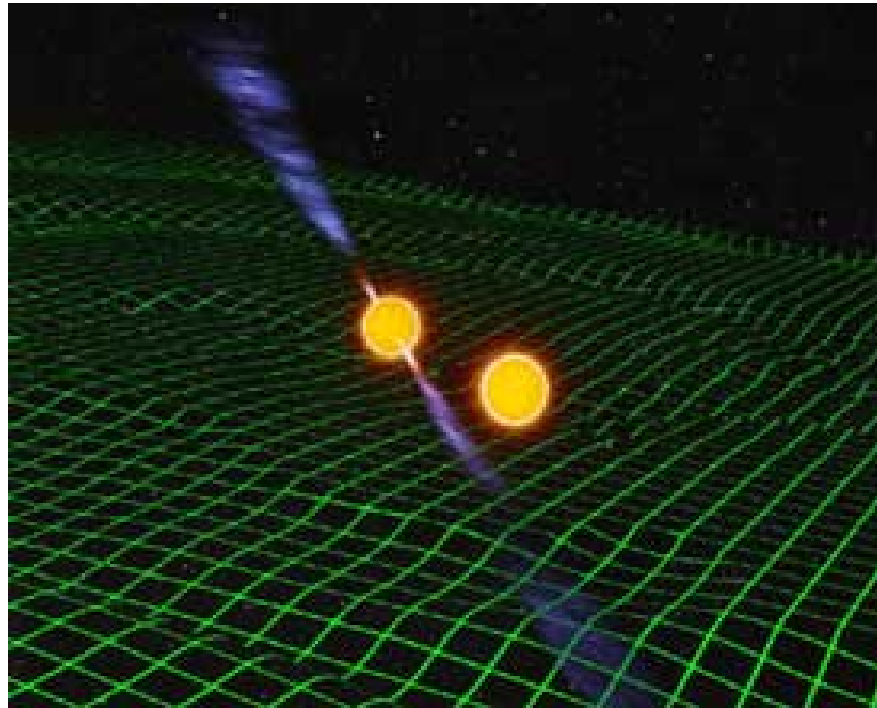
Van der Klis 2005

SAX J1808.4-3658:  $\nu_s = 401$  Hz,  $\nu_h - \nu_l \simeq \nu_s/2$  ( $\pm$ a few Hz)

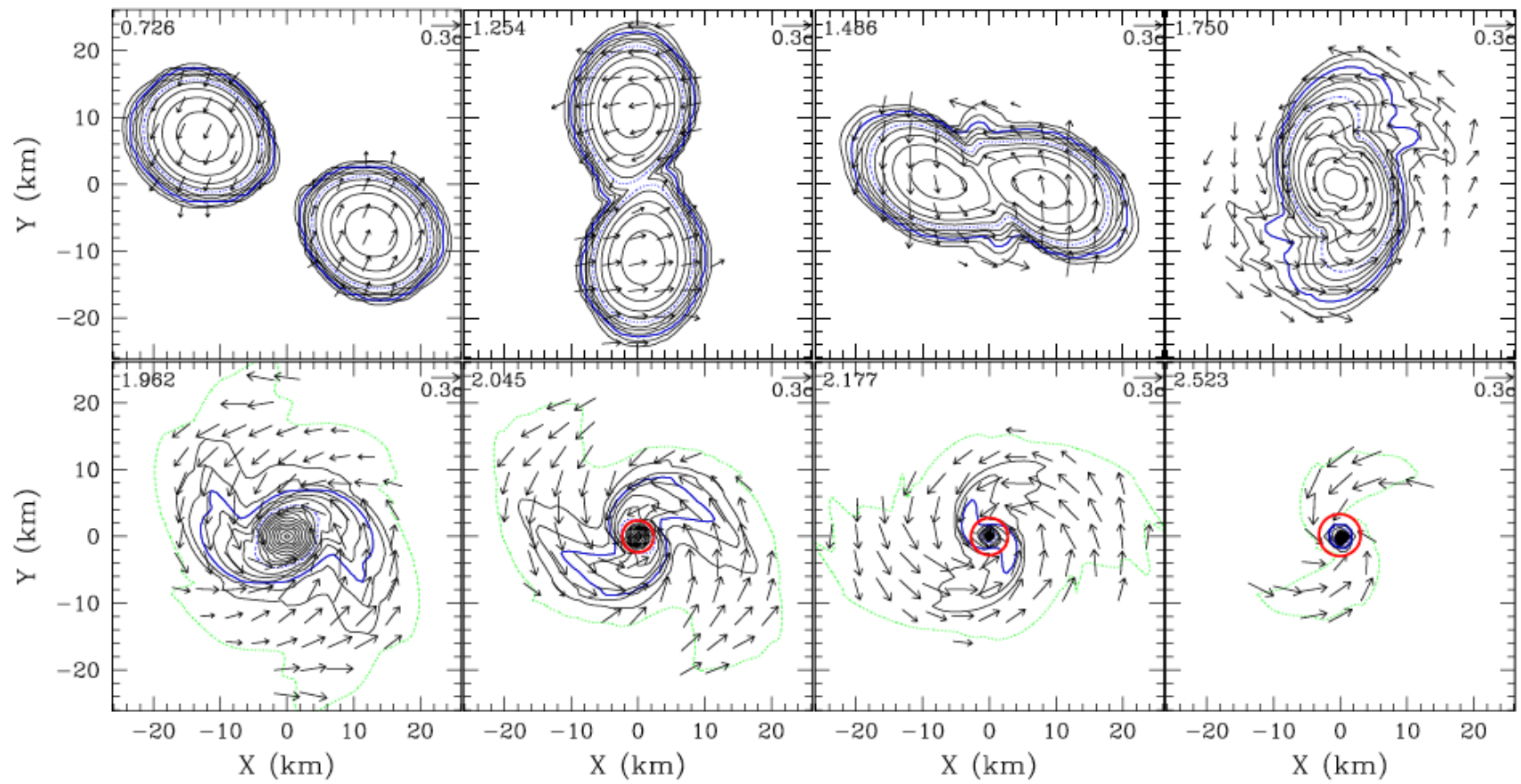
XTE J1807.4-294:  $\nu_s = 191$  Hz,  $\nu_h - \nu_l \simeq \nu_s$



# Merging Neutron Stars

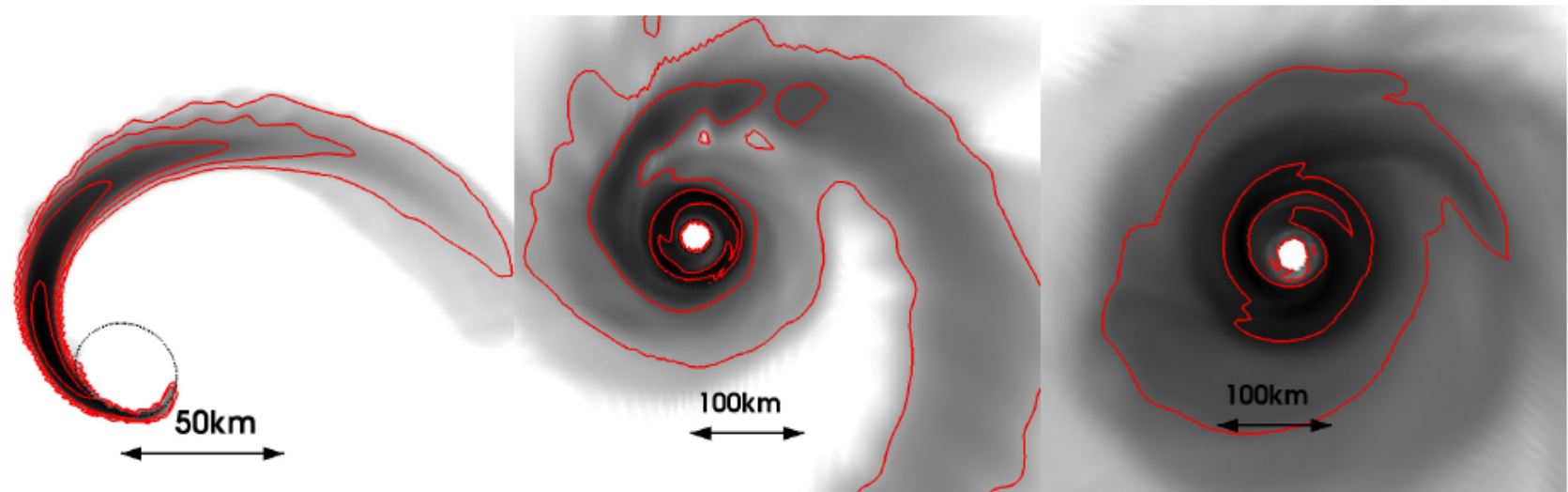


Binary pulsars



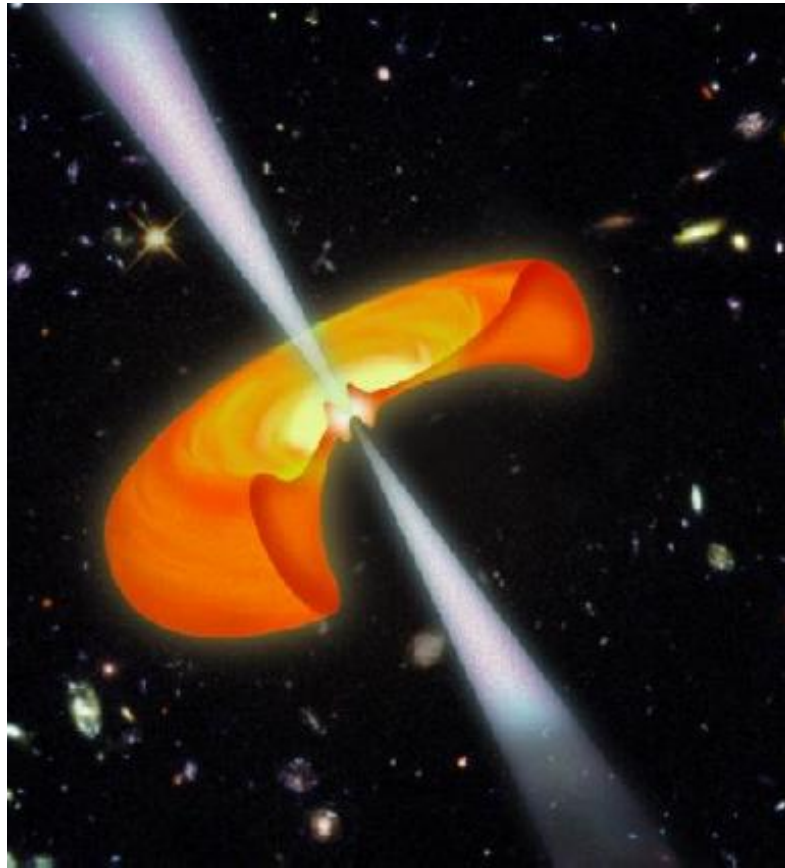
Shibata et al. 2006



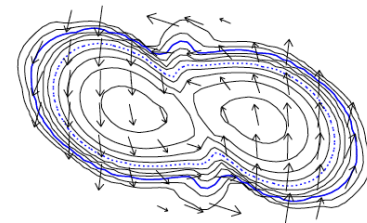
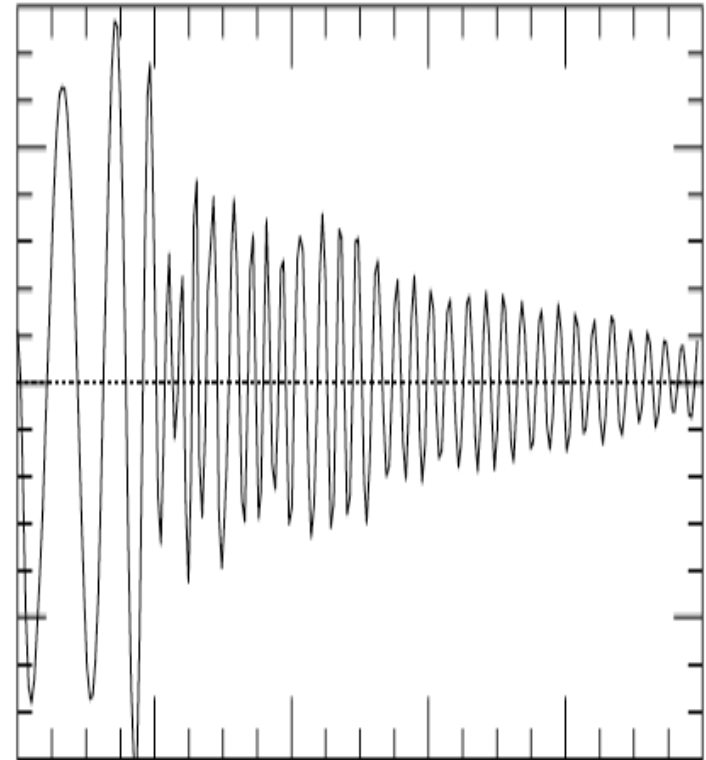
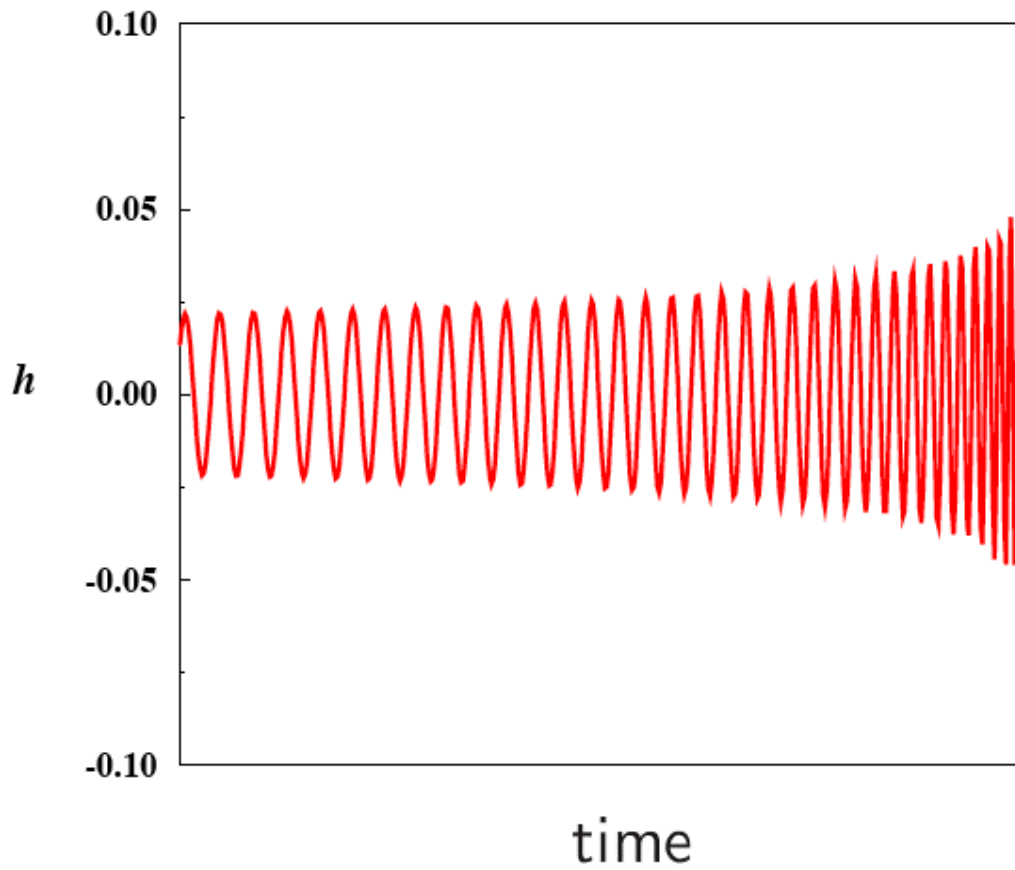


F. Foucart et al (Cornell) 2011

## Merging NSs (NS/BH or NS/NS) as Central Engine of (short/hard) GRBs



## The last three minutes: Gravitational Waveform

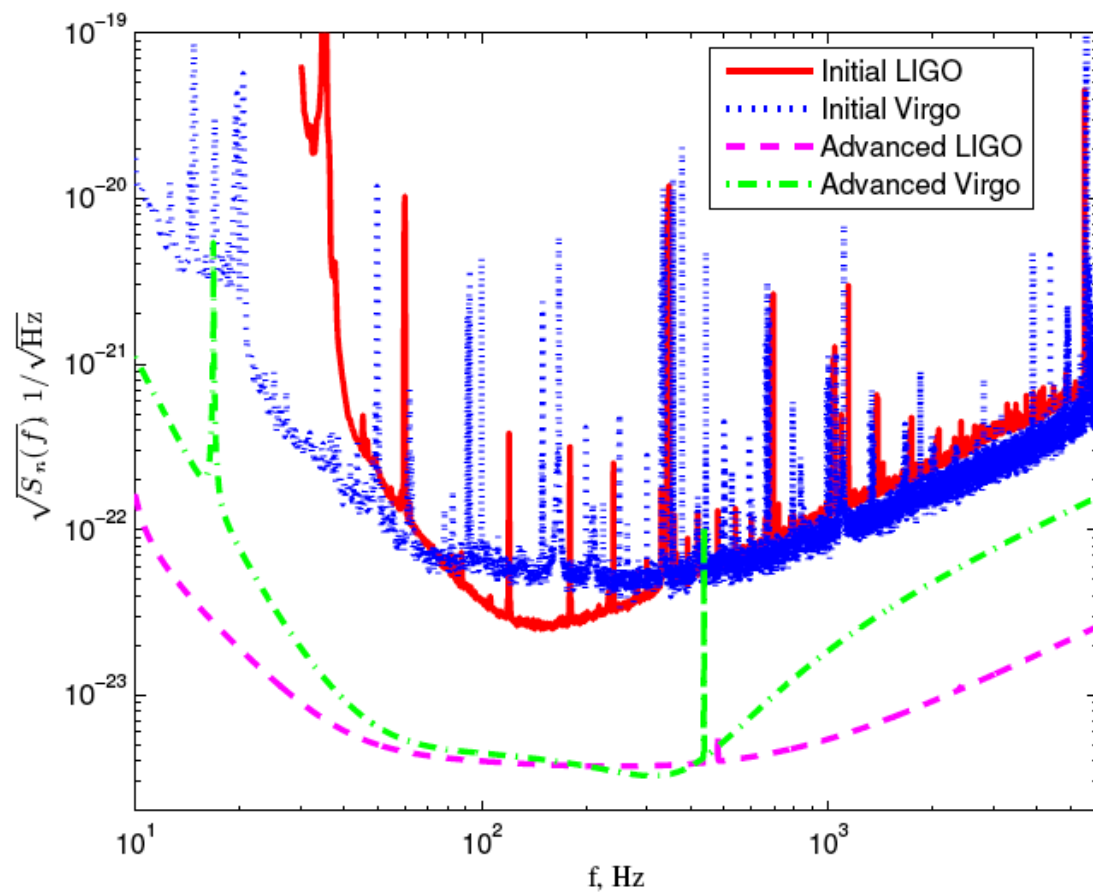




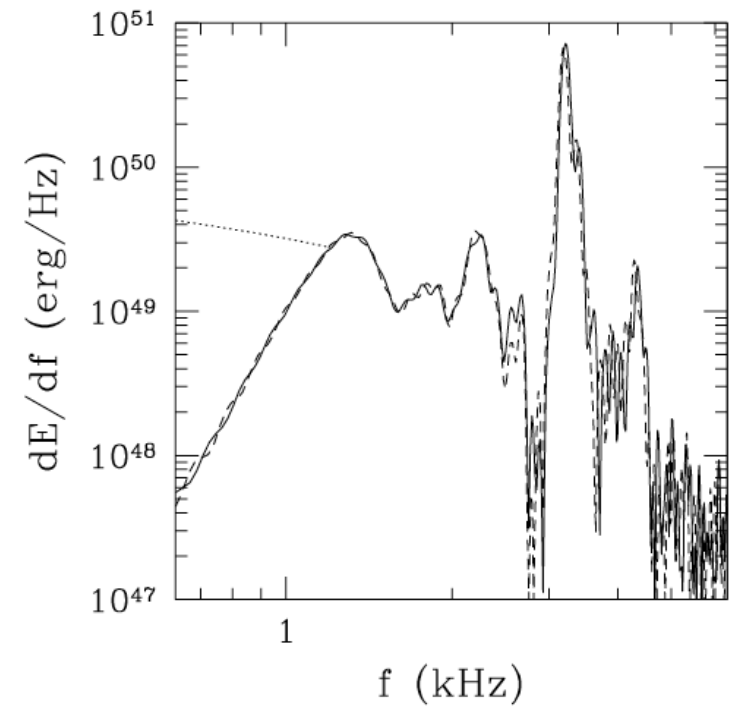
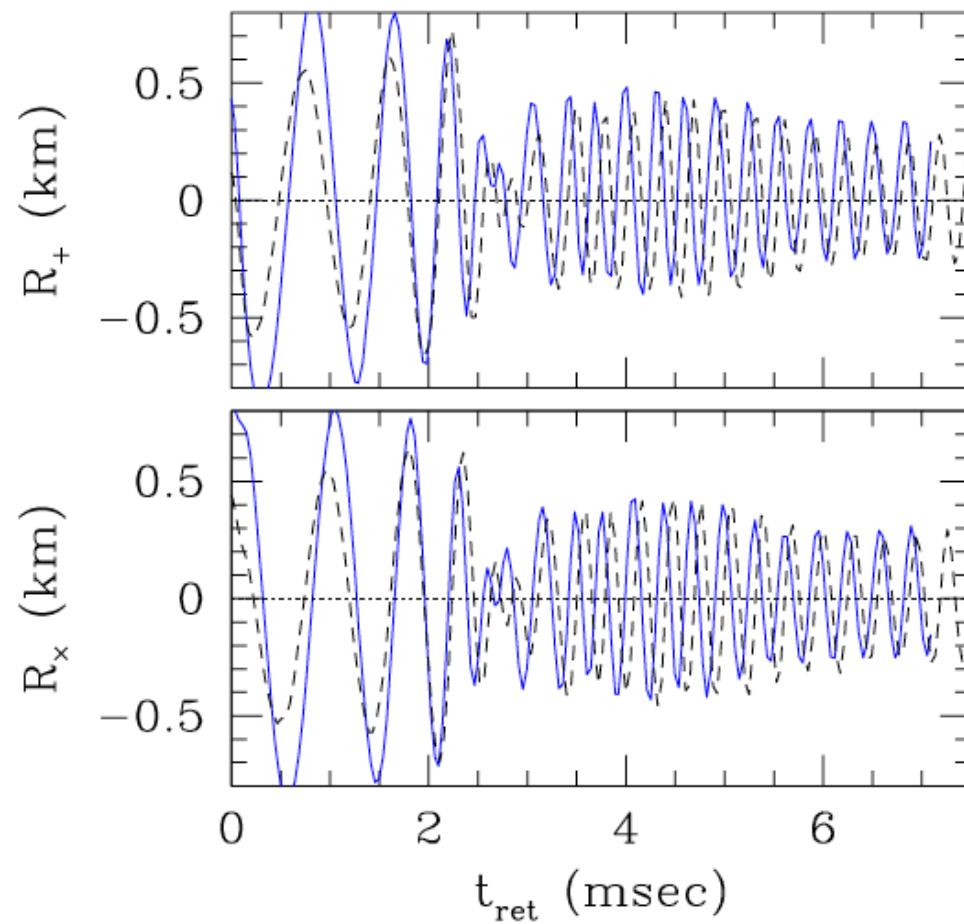
Hanford Washington



Livingston,  
Louisiana

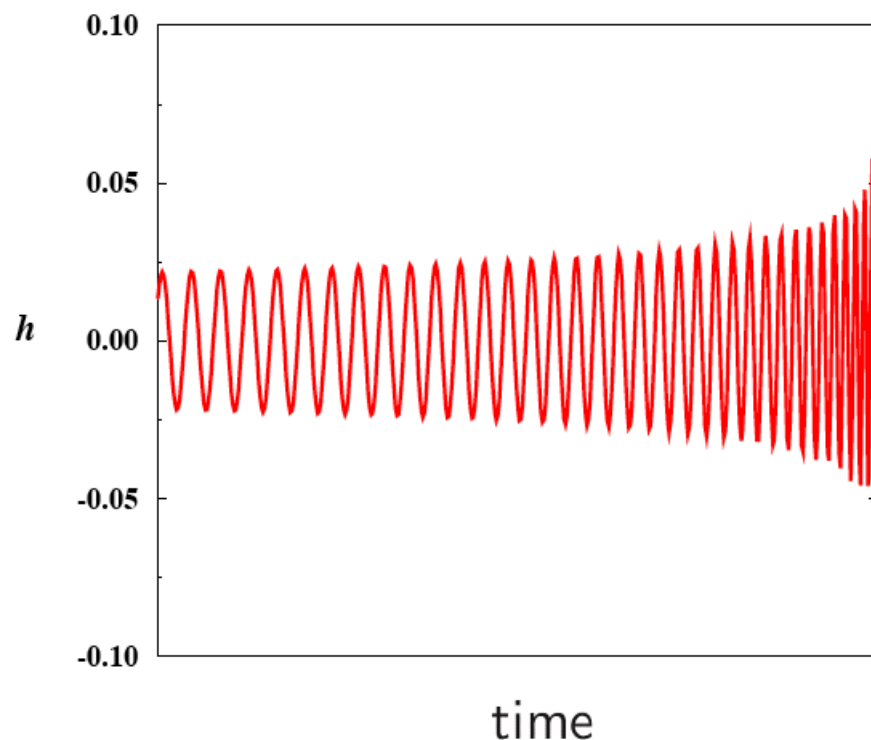


# Final merger wave form probes NS EOS



**Shibata et al 2006**

# Probe NS EOS using Inspiral Waveform



## Idea:

- For point masses, the number of GW cycles is known exactly
- Resonant tidal excitations of NS oscillation modes during inspiral  
==> transfer orbital energy to NS  
==> **Missing GW cycles**





# Resonant Excitations of NS Modes During Binary Inspiral

## Non-rotating NS:

G-mode (Reisenegger & Goldreich 1994; DL 1994)

## Rotating NS:

G-mode, F-mode, R-mode (Wynn Ho & DL 1999)

Inertial modes (DL & Yanqin Wu 2006)

R-mode (excited by gravitomagnetic force; Racine & Flanagan 2006)

## Results:

- For  $R=10$  km NS, the number of missing cycles  $< 0.1$ , unlikely measurable (unless NS is rapidly rotating)
- Number of missing cycles  $\Delta N \propto R^4$  (g mode) or  $R^{3.5}$  (r mode)  
Important for larger NS
- Crustal modes: important? Could shatter crust, pre-cursor of short GRB (D. Tsang et al. 2011)

# Summary

- **Compact Objects present a rich set of astrophysics/physics problems:**  
Ideal laboratory for probing physics under extreme conditions
- **Diverse observational manifestations:**
  - \* **Binary WDs**
  - \* **Isolated NSs** (powered by rotation, magnetic fields, or internal heats)  
Effects of magnetic fields: crust, surface, matter in strong B, magnetosphere processes
  - \* **Accreting NSs** (powered from outside): QPOs, disk warping, precession, wave excitations
  - \* **Merging NSs:** Possible central engine of short GRBs; primary sources of gravitational waves; tidal effect; probe of NS EOS



