



Smoking guns on beyond GR physics *gravitational phase transitions*

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Approaches in testing strong gravity

Model independent (e.g. PPN formalism)

- Much simpler
- No prior knowledge of the modified gravity theory is needed
- Mapping to a modified gravity models is not straightforward
- Performing dynamics is not possible

Model dependent (bounded to a given modified gravity theory)

- Observational implications predicted self consistently from a modified theory
- Gives intuition about what is physically relevant
- Much more involved

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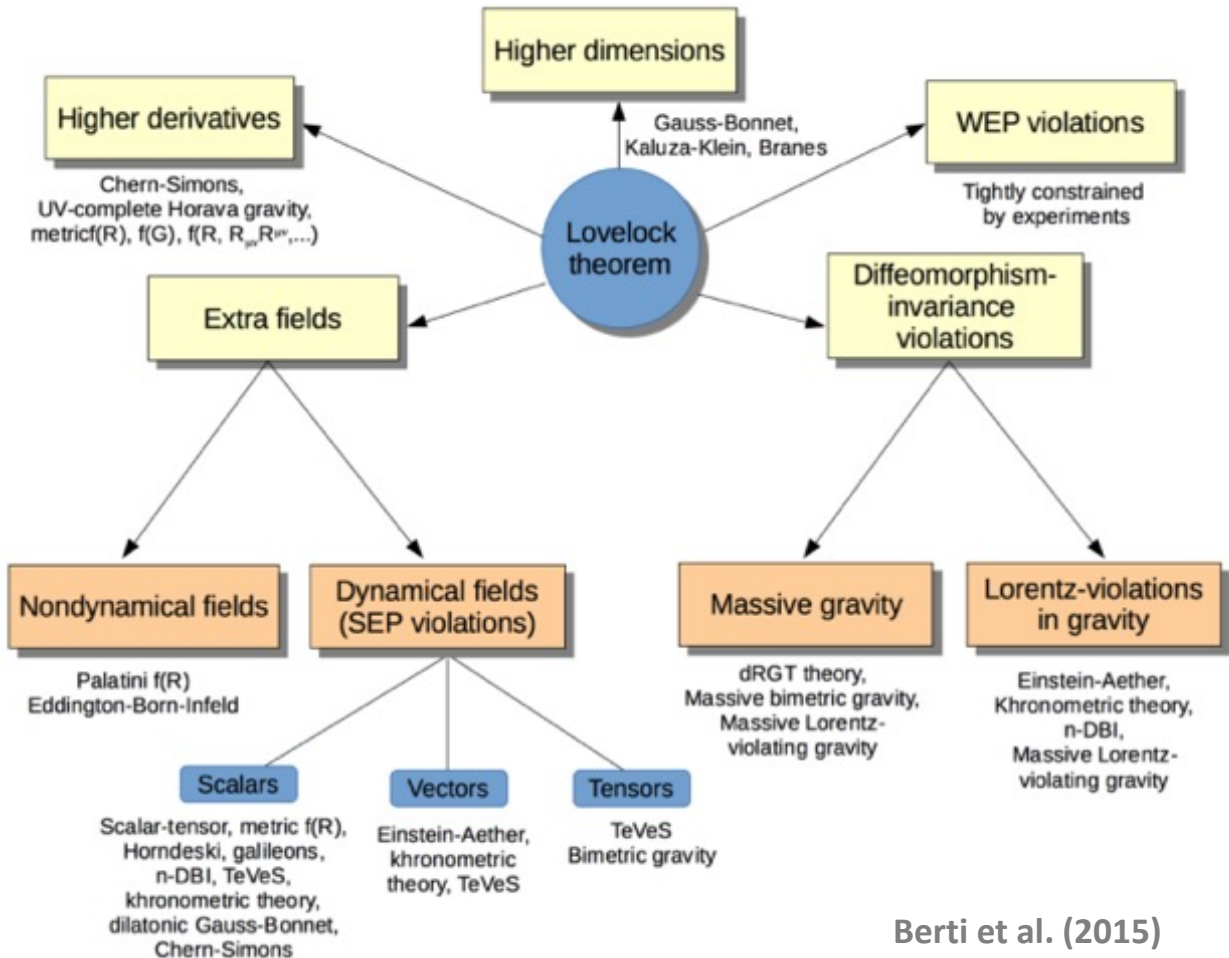
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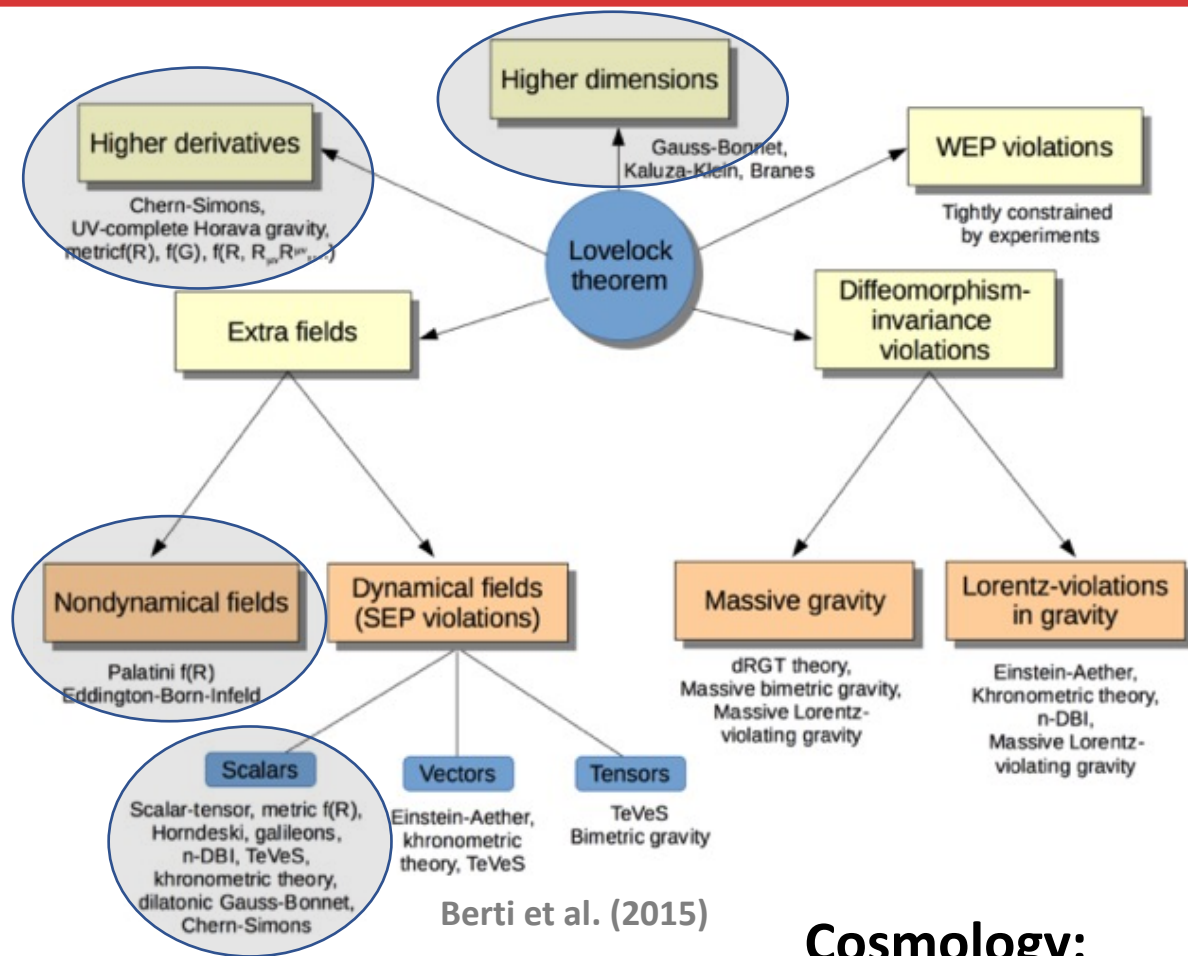
Lovelock's theorem

Einstein's field equations are **unique** if:

- ✓ we are working in **four dimensions**
- ✓ **diffeomorphism invariance** is respected
- ✓ the **metric** is the **only field** mediating gravity
- ✓ the equations are **second-order differential equations**.



Extra scalar field(s)



Quantum gravity motivated:

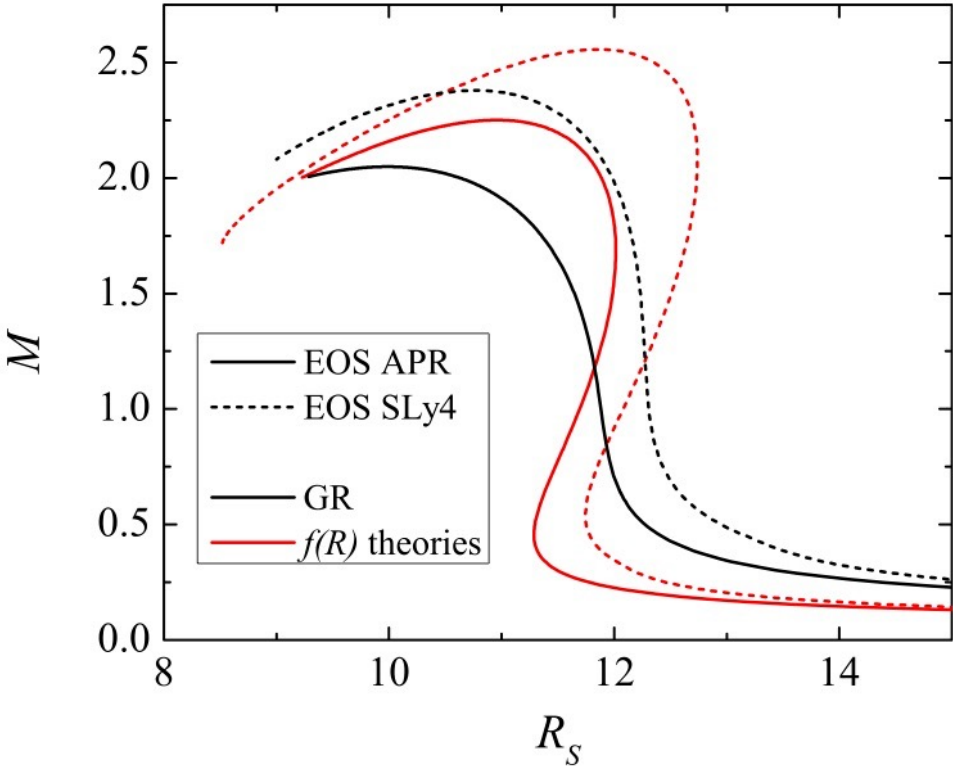
- Gauss-Bonnet gravity
- Chern-Simons gravity

Cosmology:

- Ultralight axion dark matter
- Inflation scalar field
- $f(R)$, Horndeski gravity

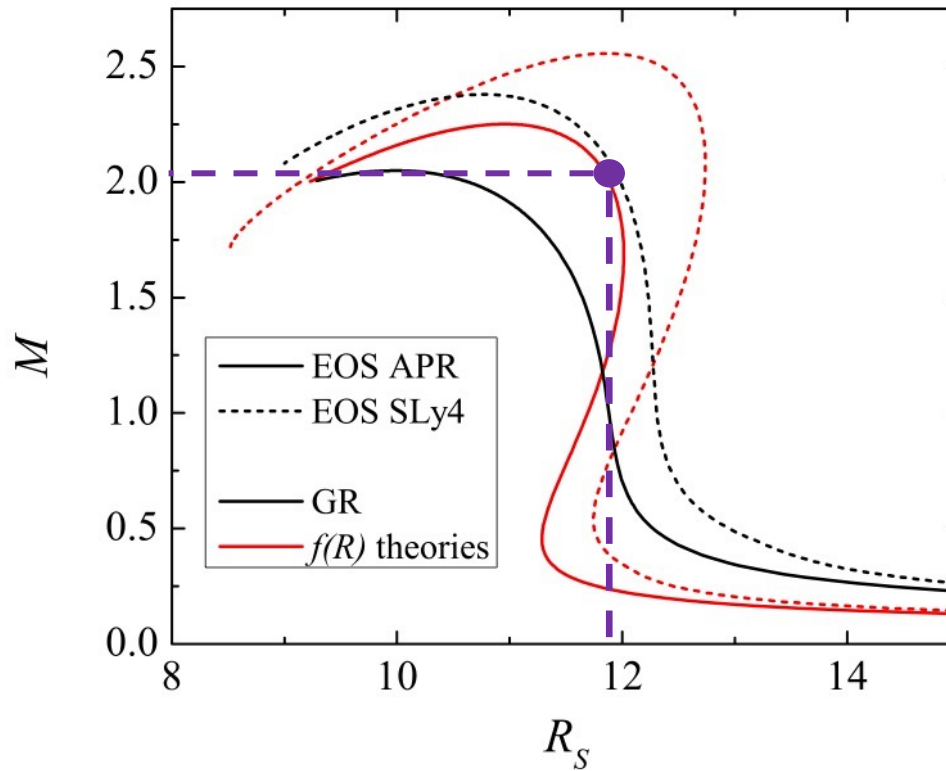
Quantitative vs. Qualitative

Quantitative changes



Modifying the theory of gravity \Leftrightarrow EOS uncertainty

Quantitative changes



Modifying the theory of gravity \Leftrightarrow EOS uncertainty

Quantitative vs. Qualitative

Jumps in GW emission during merger

Gauss-Bonnet gravity - Scalarization

- **Gauss-Bonnet gravity** – the equations are of second order

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[R - 2\nabla_\mu \varphi \nabla^\mu \varphi - V(\varphi) + \lambda^2 f(\varphi) \mathcal{R}_{GB}^2 \right].$$

Gauss-Bonnet invariant:

$$\mathcal{R}_{GB}^2 = R^2 - 4R_{\mu\nu}R^{\mu\nu} + R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}R^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}$$

- With a proper choice of $f(\varphi)$:
 - ✓ **Perturbatively equivalent to GR in the weak field**
 - ✓ **Nonlinear effects for strong fields – scalarization**

Gauss-Bonnet gravity - Scalarization

- **Scalar field equation :**

$$\nabla_\alpha \nabla^\alpha \varphi = \frac{1}{4} \frac{dV(\varphi)}{d\varphi} - \frac{\lambda^2}{4} \frac{df(\varphi)}{d\varphi} \mathcal{R}_{GB}^2,$$

- **Conditions for the existence** of scalarized solutions

$$(\square - \mu_{\text{eff}}^2) \delta\varphi = 0 \text{ with } \mu_{\text{eff}}^2 = -\frac{\lambda^2}{4} \frac{d^2 f}{d\varphi^2}(\varphi) \mathcal{R}_{GB}^2 < 0$$

- If $\mu_{\text{eff}}^2 < 0$ a **tachyonic instability** is present leading to development of the scalar field. DD, Yazadjiev PRL (2018), Antoniou et al. PRL (2018), Silva et al. PRL (2018)

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- Expand $f(\varphi)$ in series around $\varphi = 0$:

$$f(\varphi) = f_0 + f_1\varphi + f_2\varphi^2 + f_3\varphi^3 + f_4\varphi^4 + O(\varphi^5)$$

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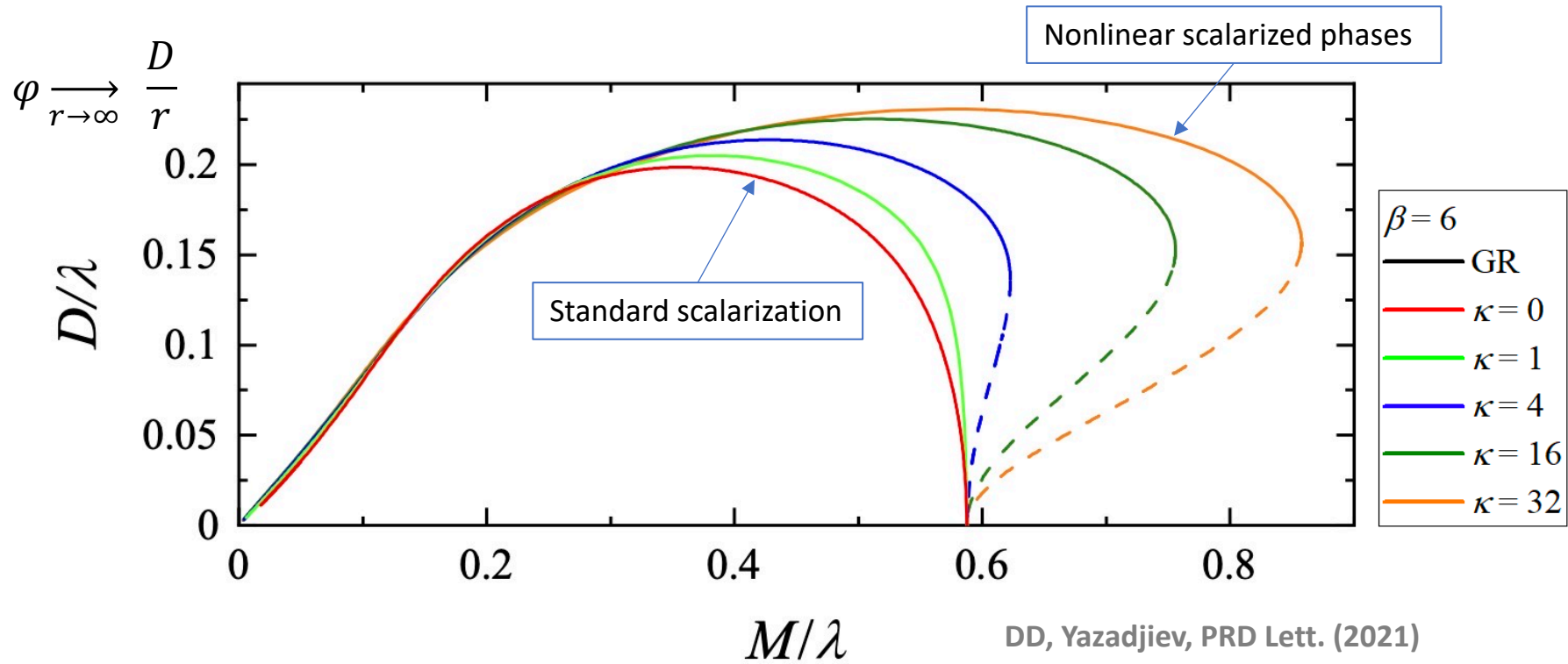
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For scalarization $\frac{d^2 f}{d\varphi^2} \neq 0$

(De)scalarization with a jump during merger

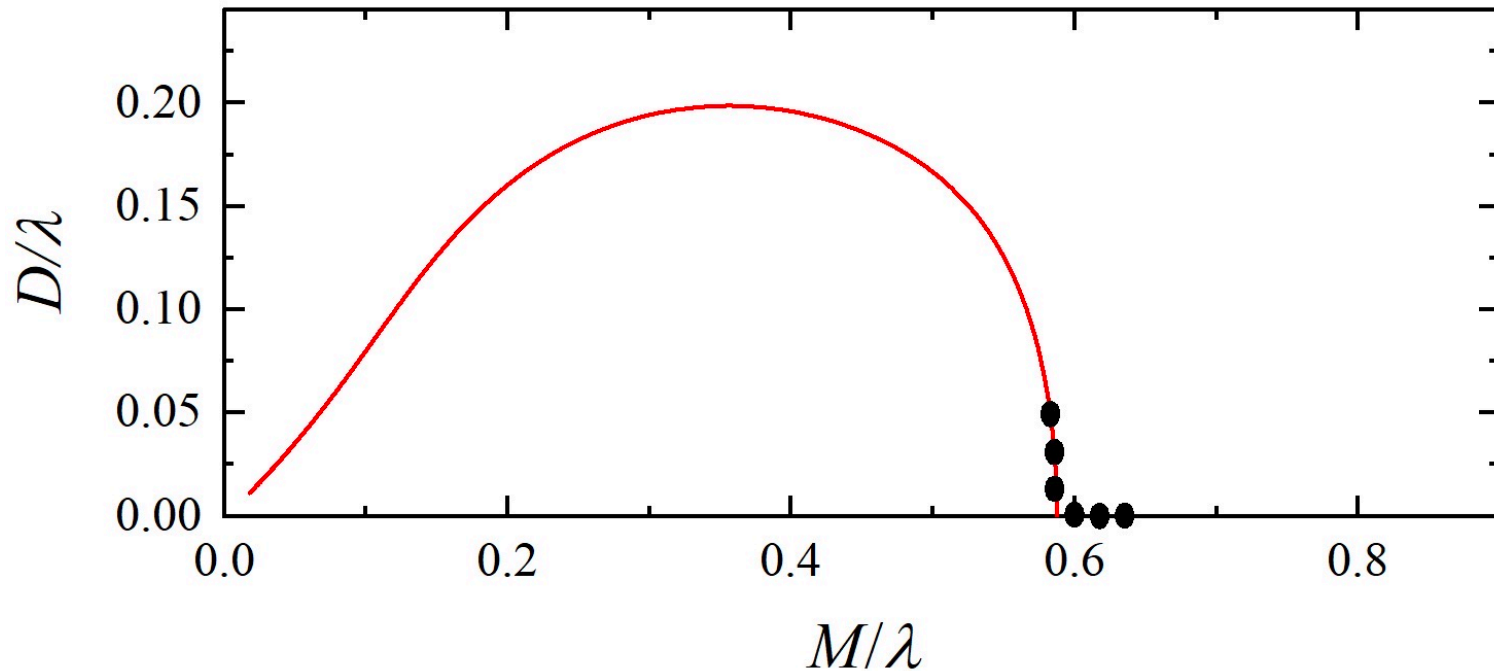
$$f(\varphi) = \frac{1}{2\beta} (1 - e^{-\beta(\varphi^2 + \kappa\varphi^4)})$$



- Transition from **stable scalarized to GR** happens with a **jump**
- For a similar effect for charged BH see Blázquez-Salcedo et al. PLB (2020)

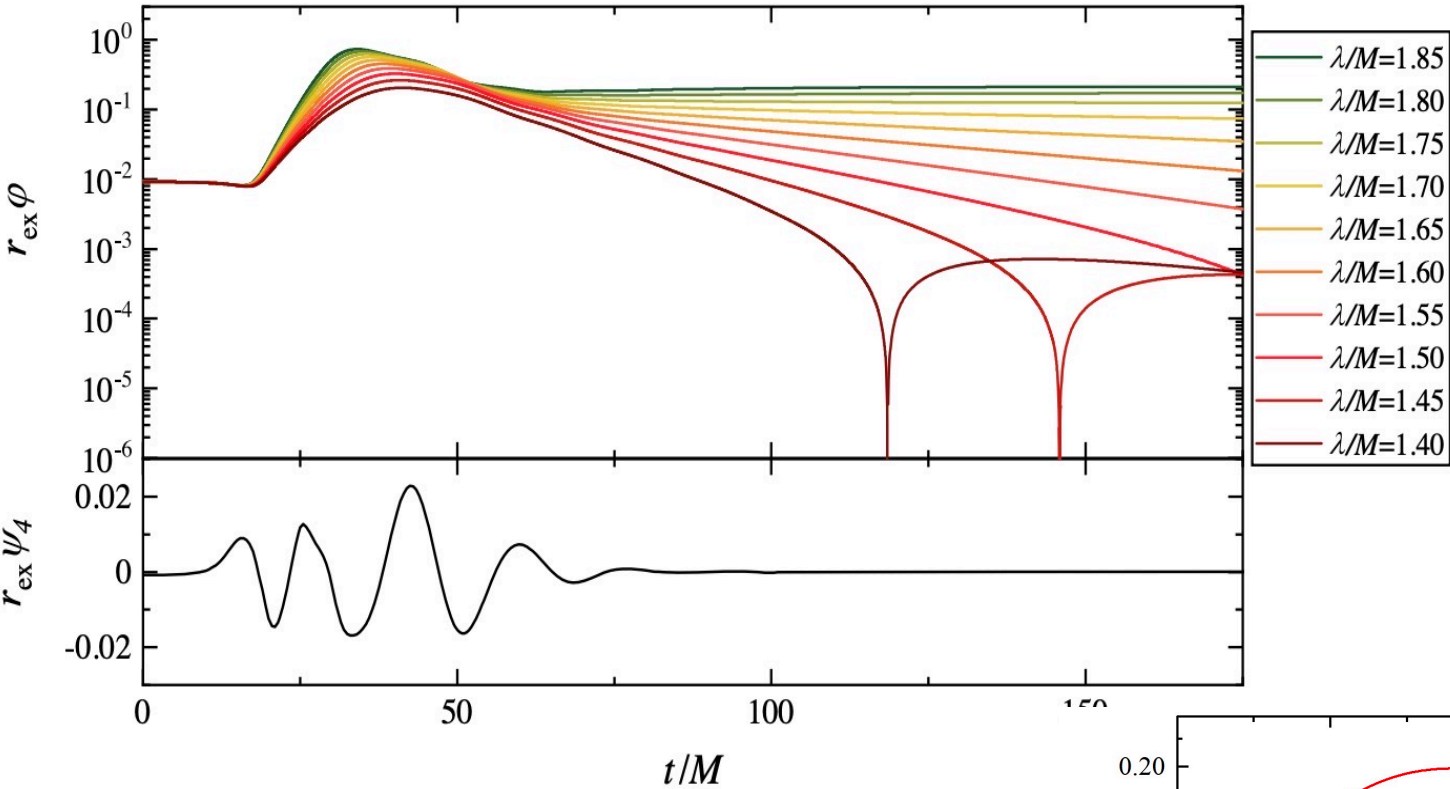
(De)scalarization WITHOUT a jump during merger

$$f(\varphi) = \frac{1}{12} (1 - e^{-6\varphi^2}) \quad (\beta = 6, \kappa = 0)$$

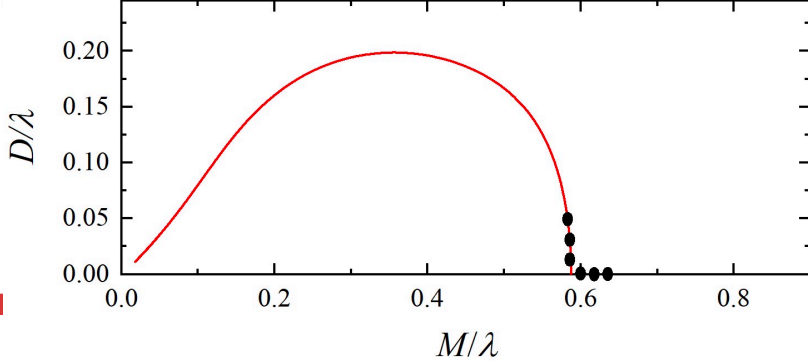


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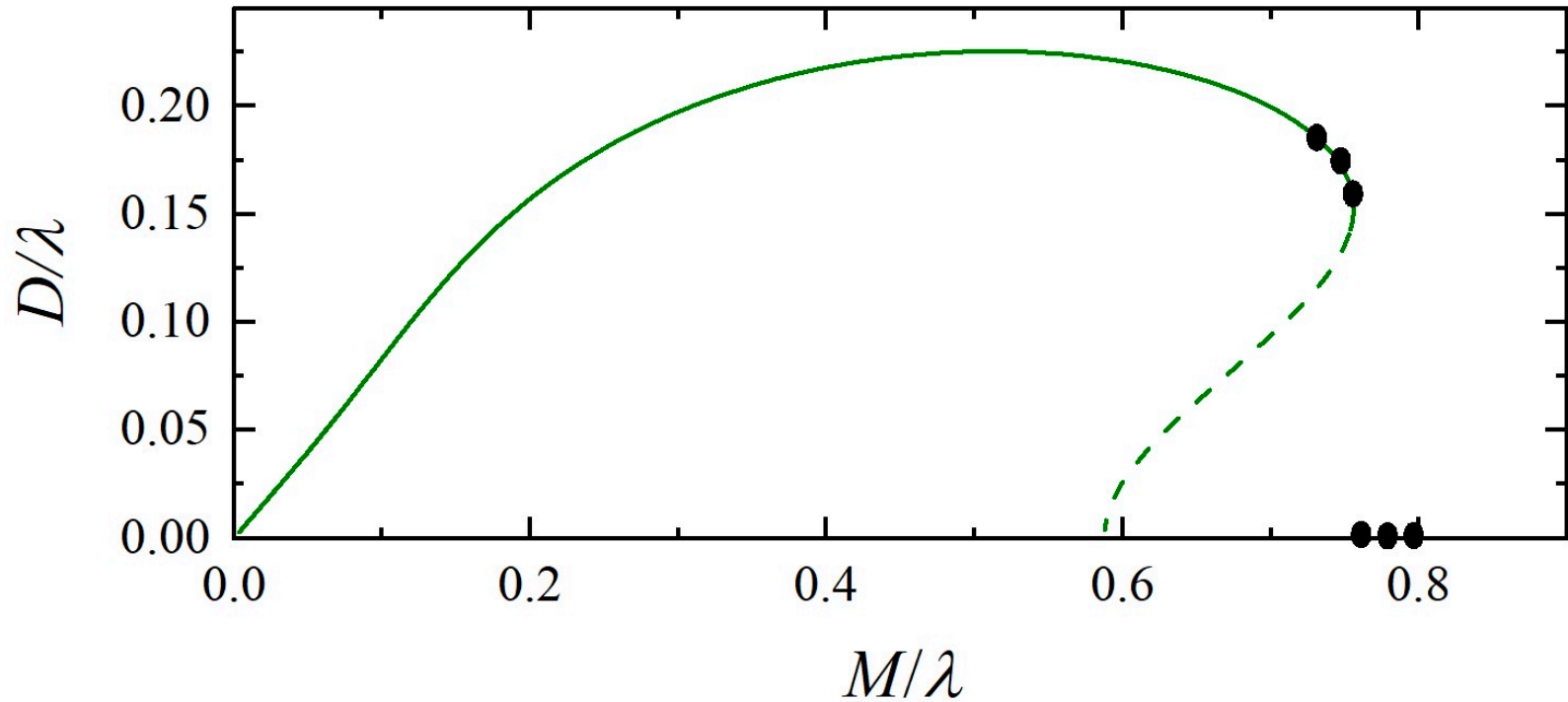


DD, Vano-Vinuales, Yazadjiev PRD (2022)



(De)scalarization WITH a jump during merger

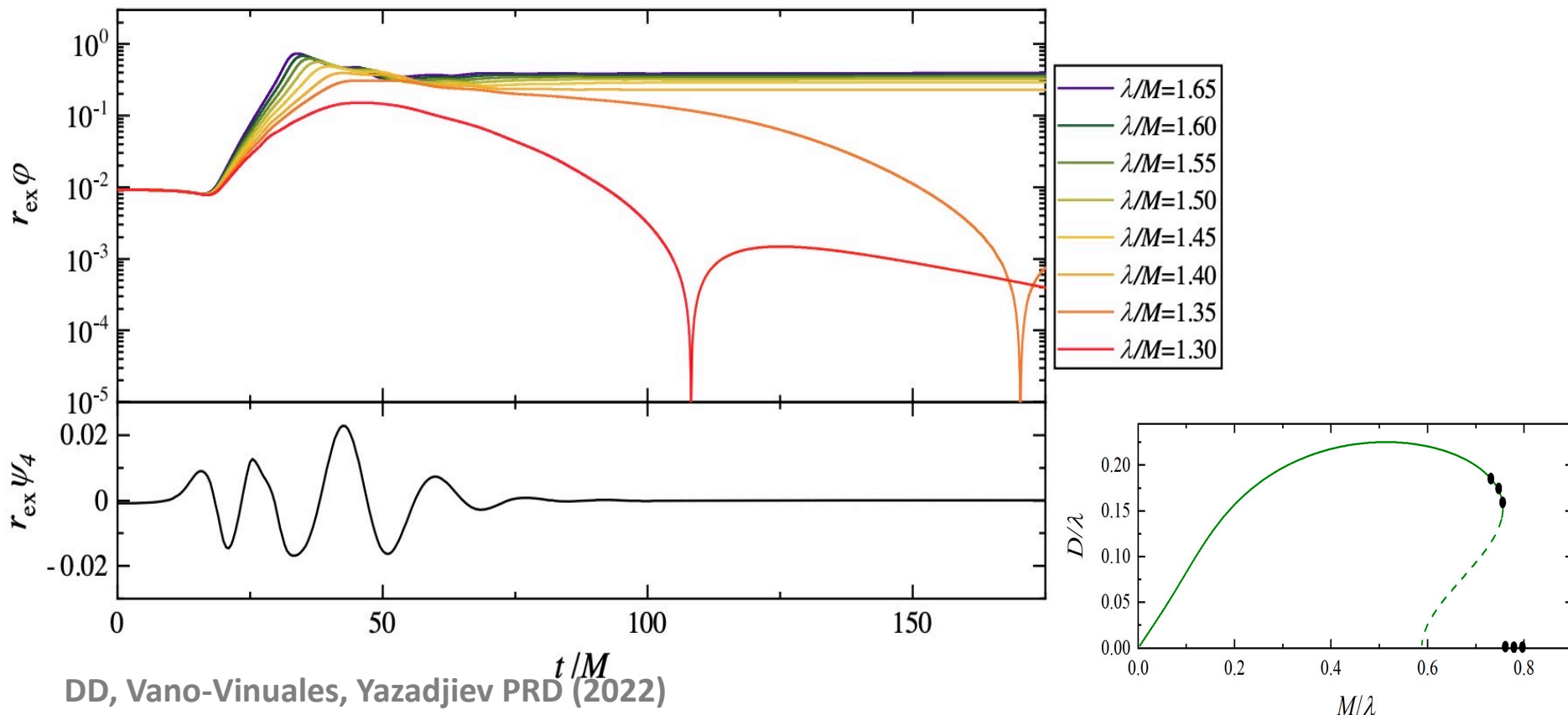
$$f(\varphi) = \frac{1}{12} \left(1 - e^{-6(\varphi^2 + 16\varphi^4)} \right) \quad (\beta = 6, \kappa = 16)$$



DD, Vano-Vinuales, Yazadjiev PRD (2022)

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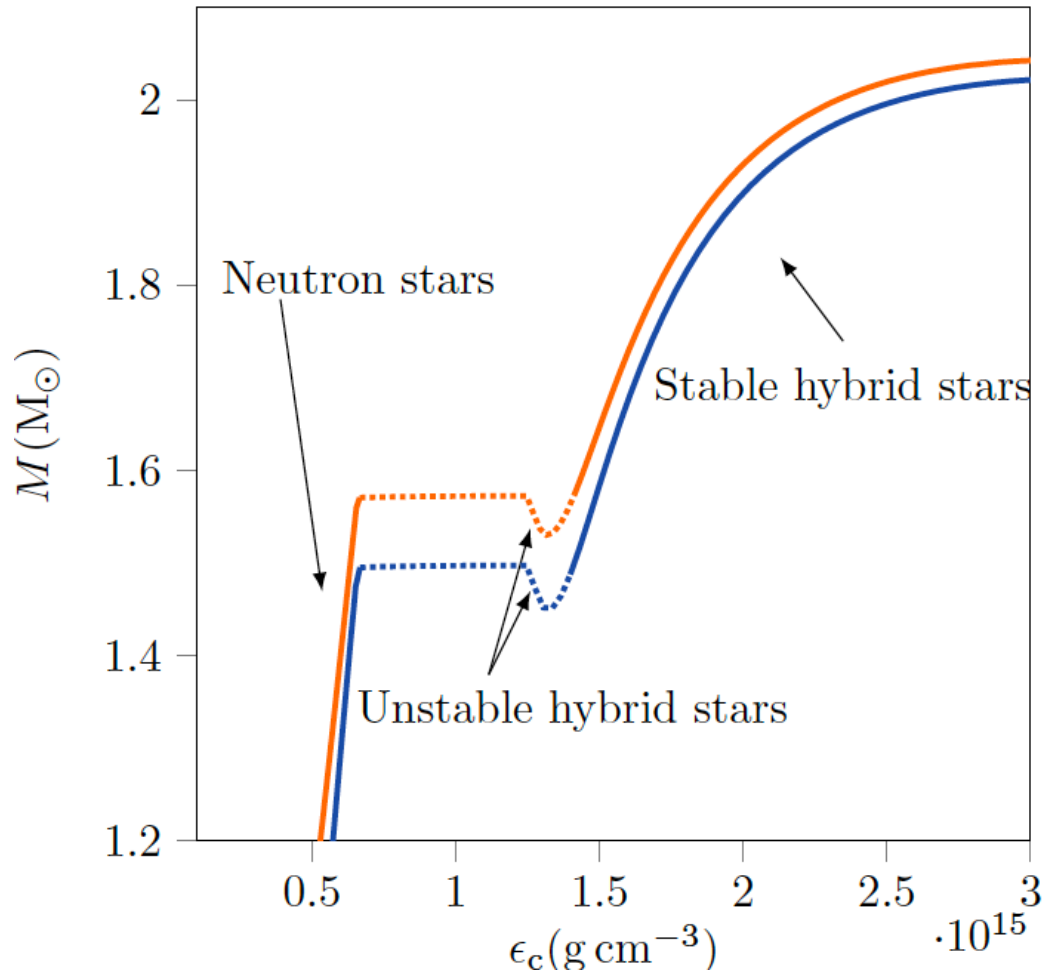
DD, Vano-Vinuales, Yazadjiev PRD (2022)

- **Similarities** with the **matter phase transitions** during neutron star binary mergers Most et al. PRL (2019), Bauswein et al. PRL (2019), Weih et al. (2020).

Gravitational Phase Transitions

Matter phase transitions in GR: Twin Stars

- Matter phase transitions from nuclear matter to deconfined quark matter



Espino, Paschalidis (2021)

Scalarized neutron stars – DEF model

- **Scalarization of neutron stars** Damour&Esposito-Farese PRL (1993) due to a **nonzero trace** of the energy momentum tensor. **Energetically more favorable** over the GR solutions.

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G_*} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} [R - \underbrace{2g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \varphi \partial_\nu \varphi}_{\text{Kinetic term}} - \cancel{4V(\varphi)}] + S_m[\psi_m, \underbrace{A^2(\varphi)}_{\text{Coupling term}} g_{\mu\nu}]$$

- **Coupling function** – polynomial expansion in φ

$$\alpha(\varphi) = \frac{d \ln(A(\varphi))}{d\varphi} = \alpha_0 + \beta_0 \varphi$$

- Scalar field equation: $\square\varphi = -4\pi G_* \alpha(\varphi) T$

(reminder in sGB gravity $\square\varphi = -\frac{\lambda^2}{4} \frac{df(\varphi)}{d\varphi} R_{GB}^2$)

Scalarized neutron stars – DEF model

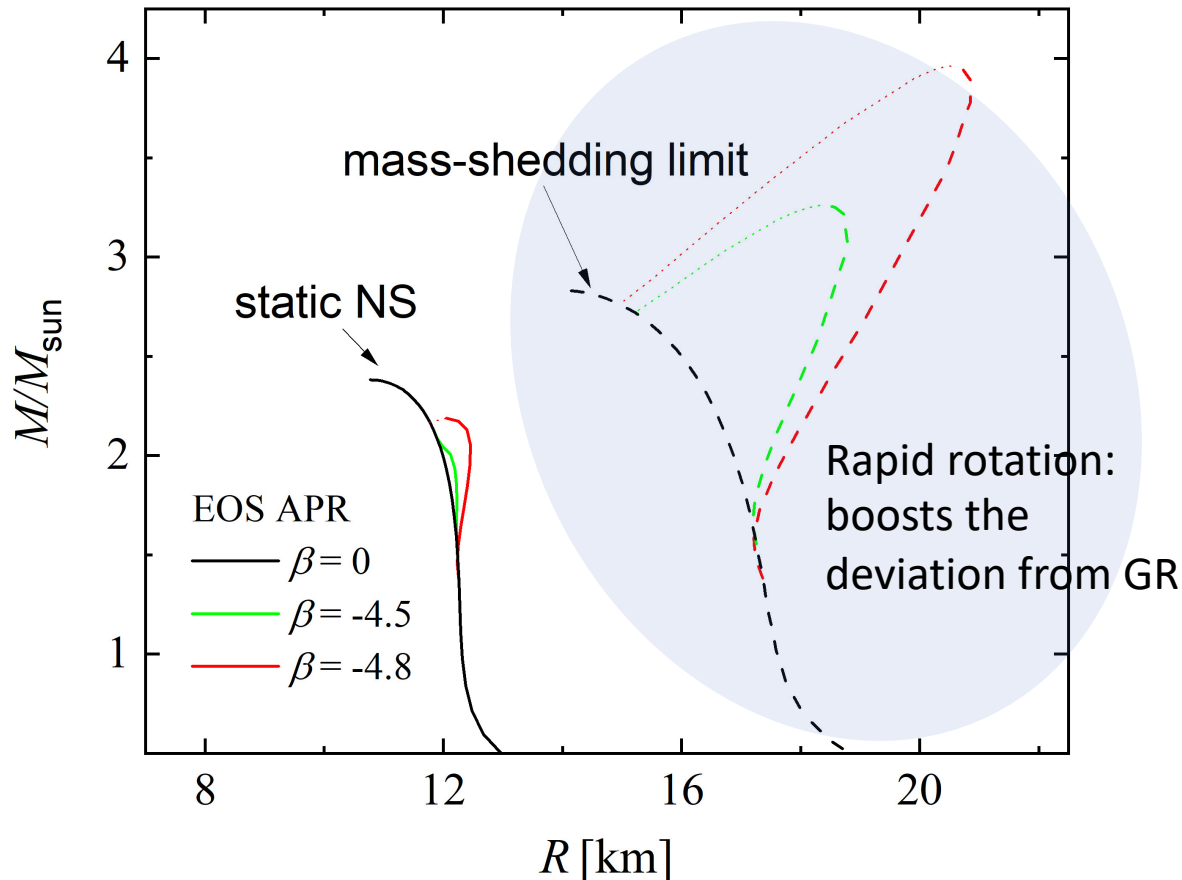
$$\alpha(\varphi) = \alpha_0 + \beta \varphi$$

- **Brans-Dicke theory** – $\varphi = 0$ NOT a solutions, **ruled out** by weak field observations

Scalarized neutron stars – DEF model

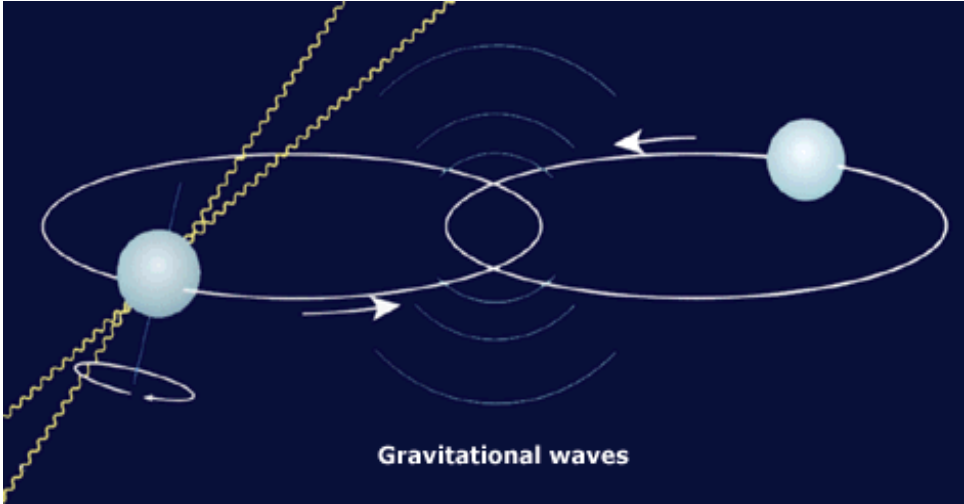
$$\alpha(\varphi) = \cancel{\alpha_0} + \beta_0 \varphi \quad (\text{reminder } \mu_{\text{eff}}^2 = \left. \frac{d\alpha}{d\varphi} \right|_{\varphi=0} 4\pi G_\star T < 0)$$

- Original DEF model Damour&Esposito-Farese (1993)

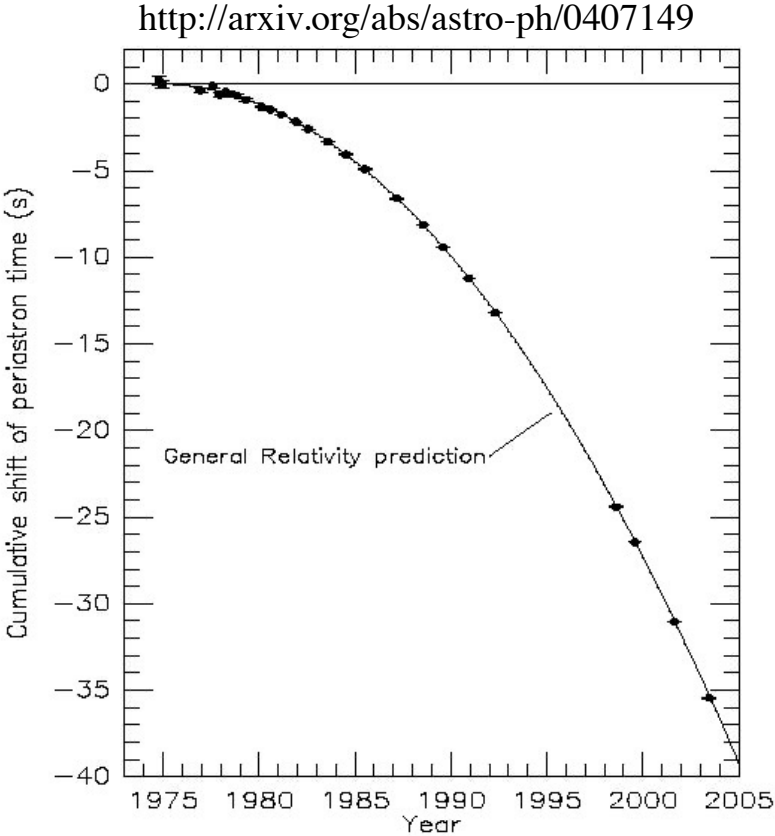


DD, Yazadjiev, Stergioulas, Kokkotas (2013,2014)

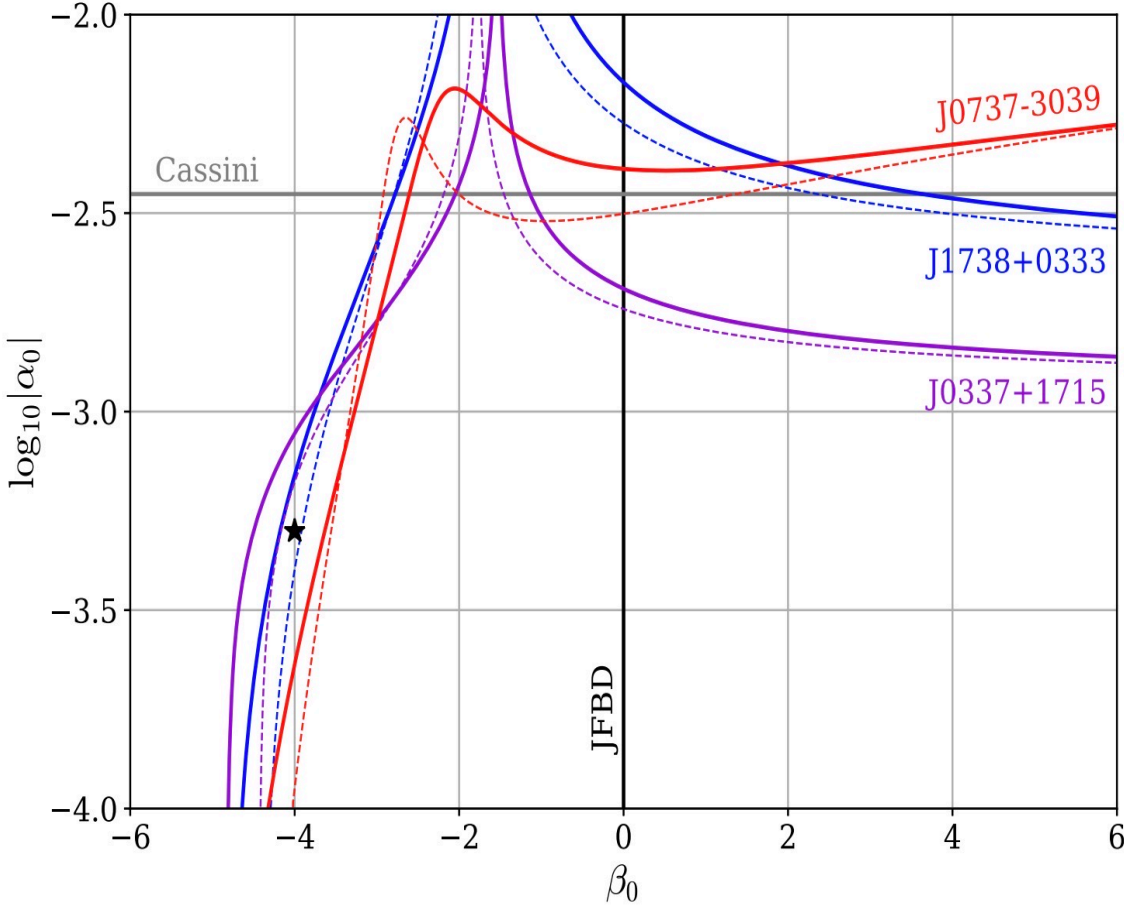
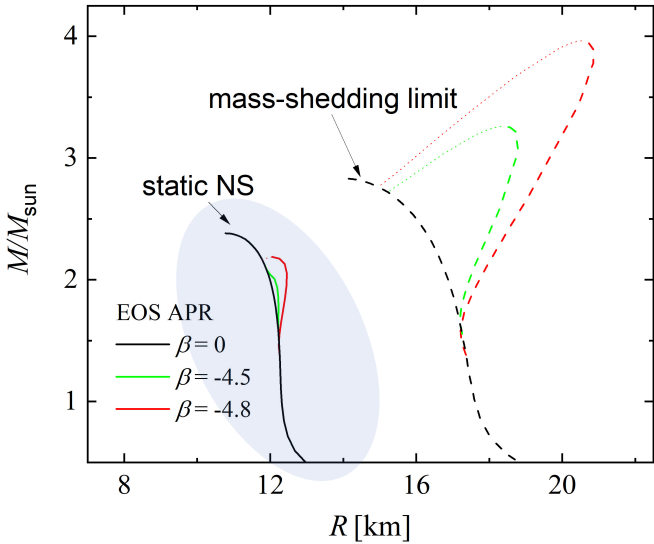
Observational constraints – binary pulsars



$$\frac{\dot{P}_{b,corrected}}{\dot{P}_{b,GR}} = 1.0013 \pm 0.0021$$



Original DEF model – Ruled out!



Kramer et al (2021), Zhao et al. (2022)

Evading the constraints – massive scalar field

Scalar field potential

$$V(\varphi) = \frac{1}{2} m_\varphi^2 \varphi^2 + \lambda \varphi^4$$

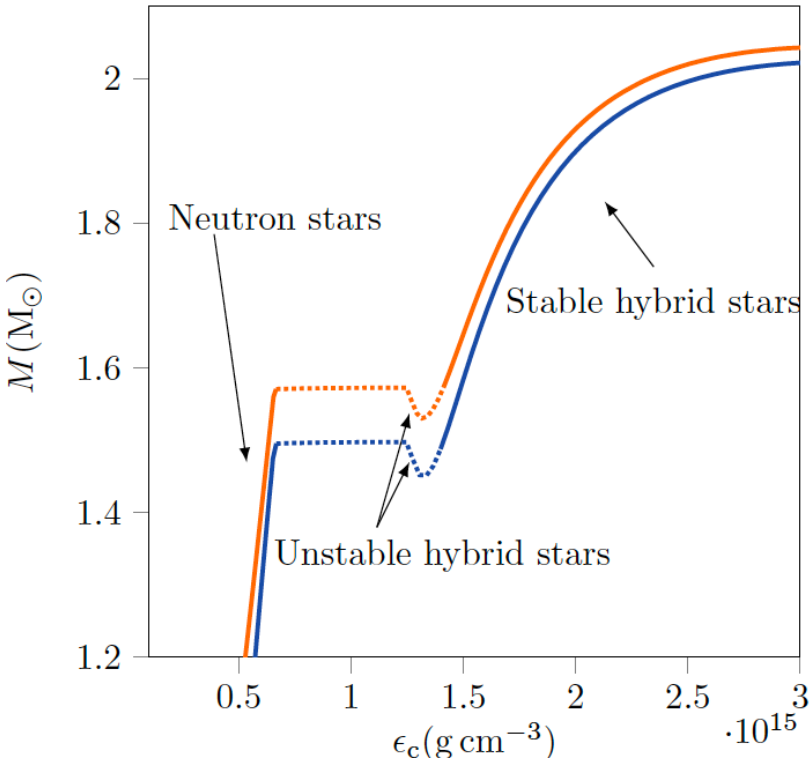
Scalar field mass

Self-interaction term

- Introduces an **effective range of the scalar field** connected to its **Compton wavelength** $\lambda_\varphi = \frac{2\pi}{m_\varphi}$
- For $r \gg \lambda_\varphi$ the scalar field drops exponentially.
- For $m_\varphi \gg 10^{-16}$ eV : **not constraints on β_0** Ramazanoglu,Pretorius(2016), Yazadjiev,DD(2016), Rosca-Mead et al. (2020)

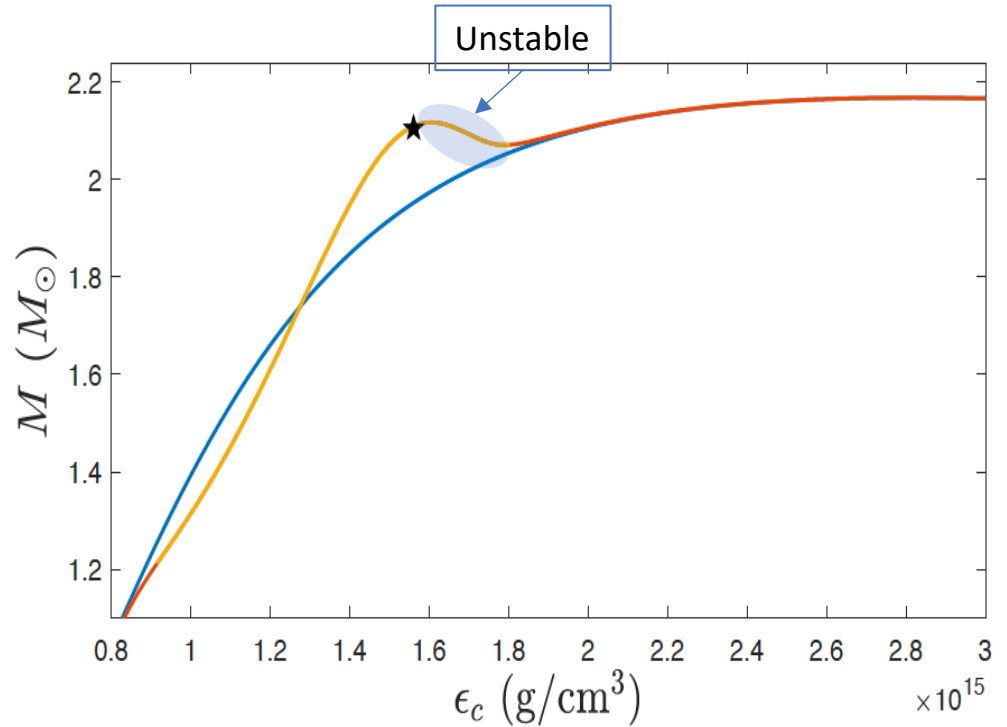
Twin Stars vs. Scalarization

Twin stars



Espino, Paschalidis (2021)

Gravitationally induced phase transition



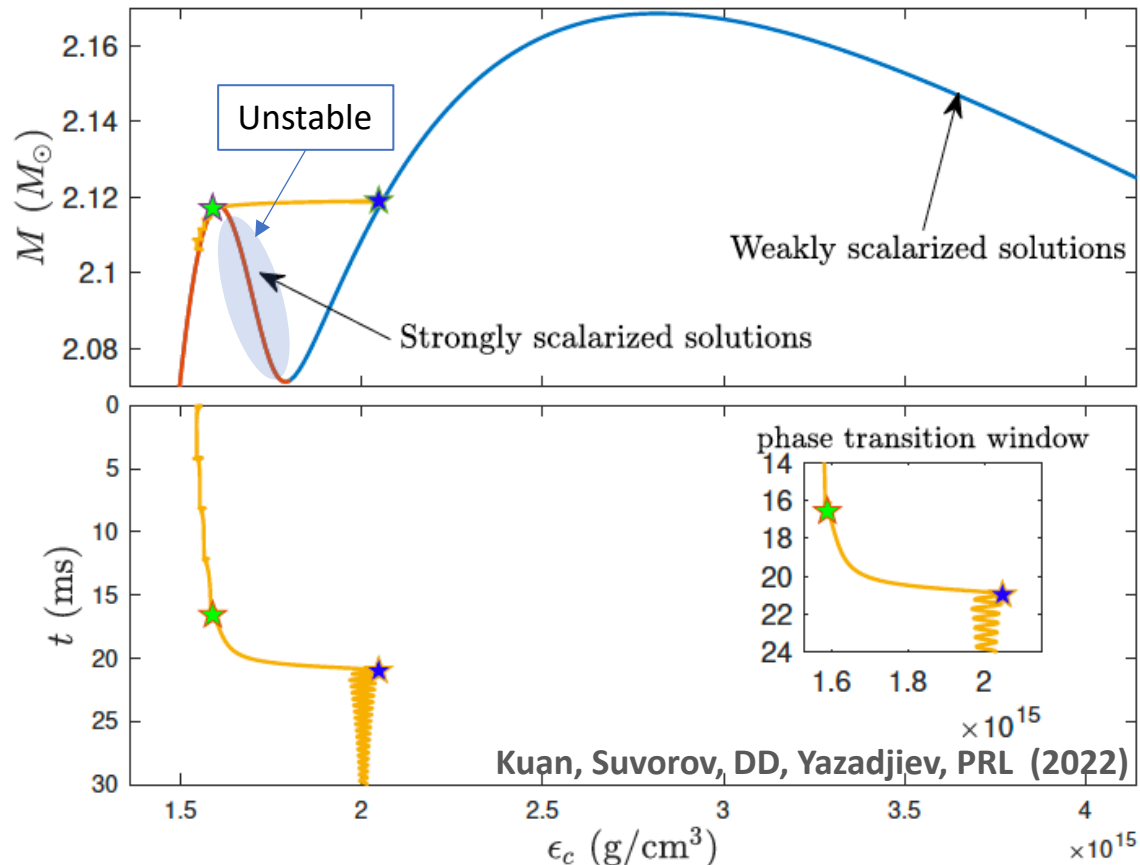
Kuan, Suvorov, DD, Yazadjiev, PRL (2022)

Gravitational phase transition

- DEF model with a massive scalar field

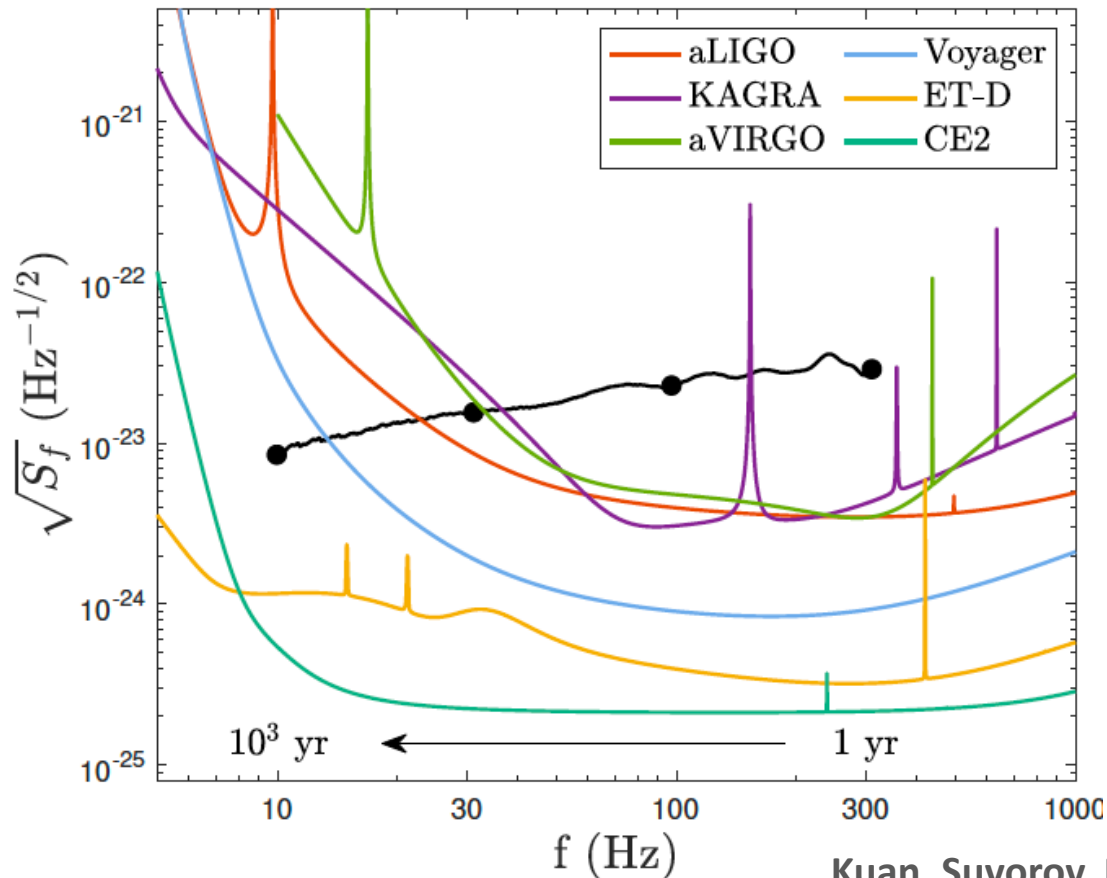
$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G_*} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} [R - 2g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \varphi \partial_\nu \varphi - 4V(\varphi)] + S_m[\psi_m, A^2(\varphi)g_{\mu\nu}]$$

- $V(\varphi) \neq 0$ in order to **avoid binary pulsar constraints** Zhao et al. (2022)



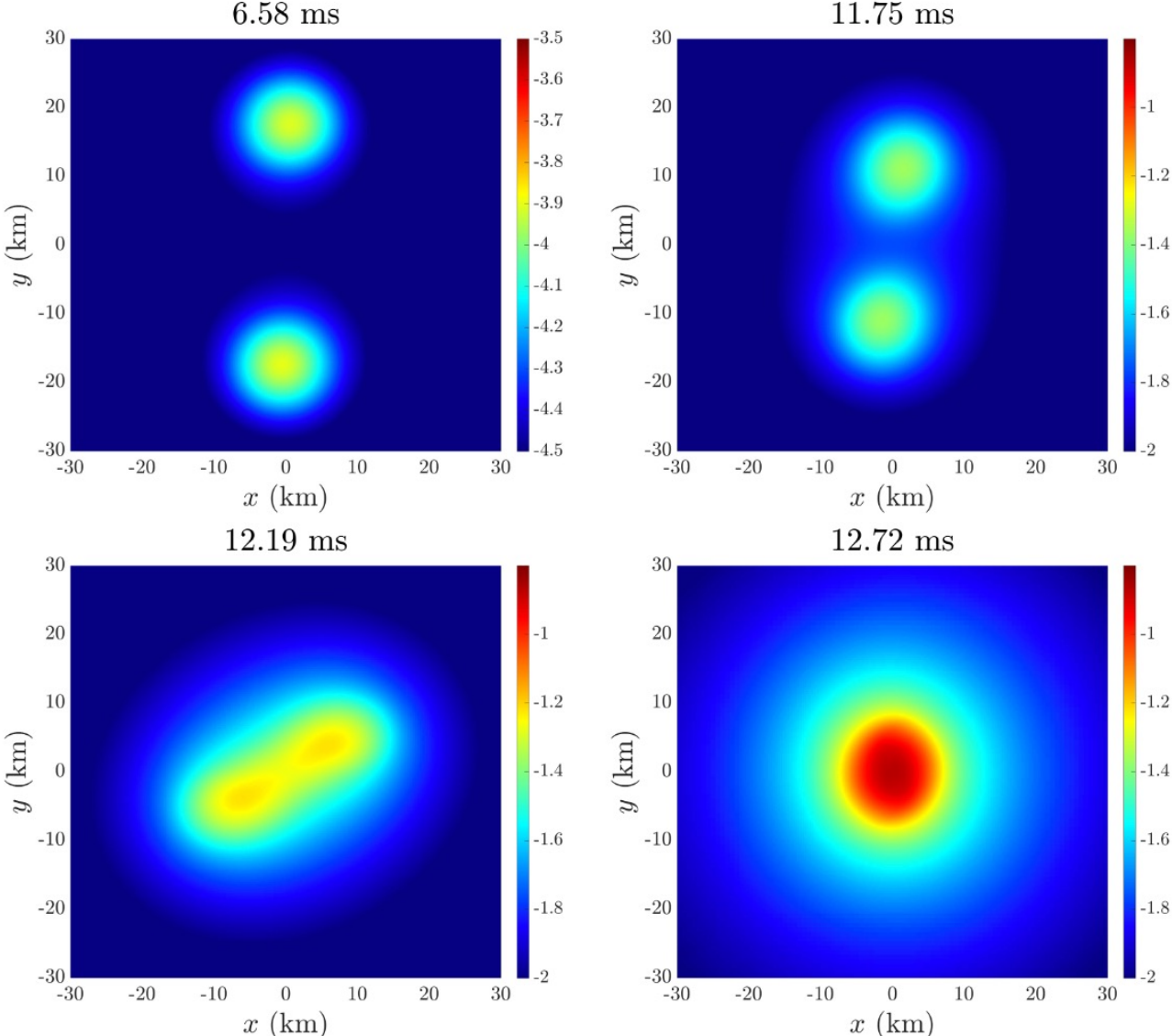
Effective power-spectral density

- Spherically symmetric perturbations \Rightarrow emission of **breathing modes**
- Observational period 2 months, distance 10kpc



Kuan, Suvorov, DD, Yazadjiev, PRL (2022)

Binary neutron star mergers

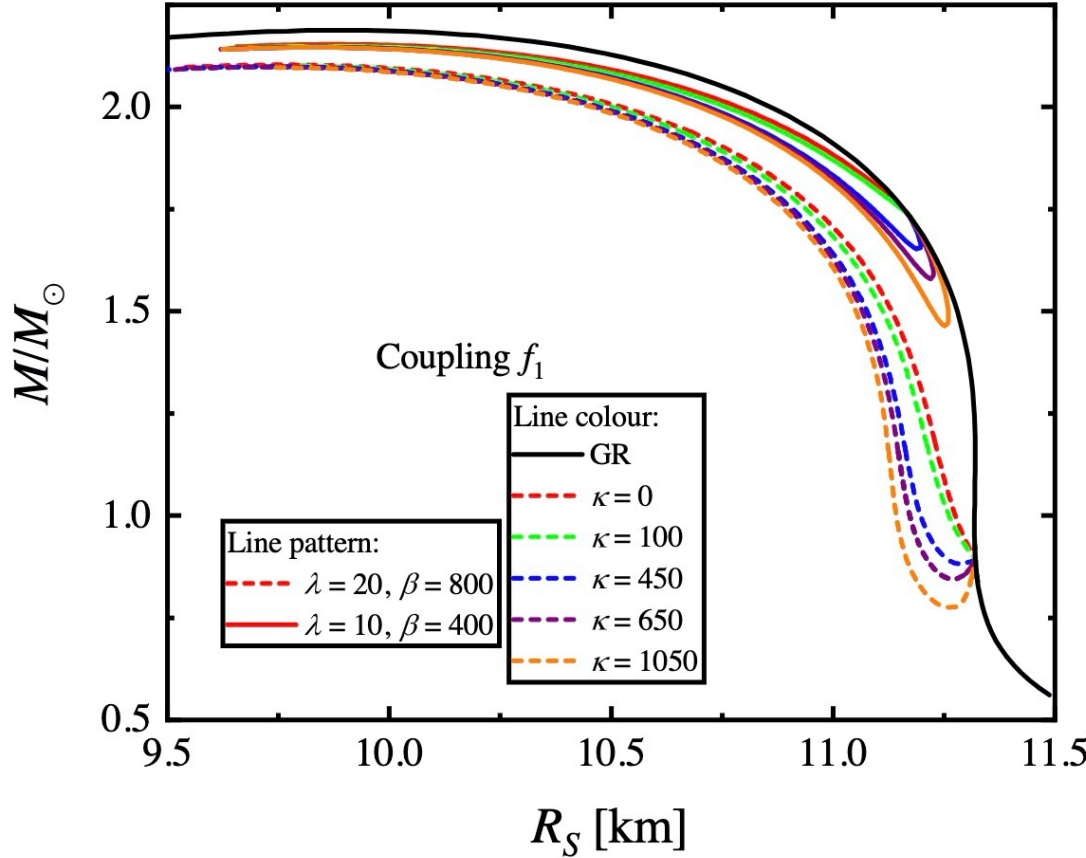


Kuan, Lam, DD, Yazadjiev, Shibata, Kiuchi (2023)

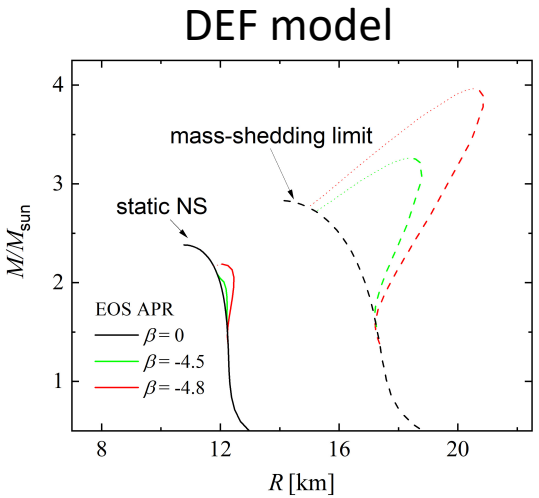
NS scalarization in Gauss-Bonnet gravity

- Scalar field triggered by the curvate itself through R_{GB}^2

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[R - 2\nabla_\mu \phi \nabla^\mu \phi + \lambda^2 f(\phi) \mathcal{R}_{GB}^2 \right] + S_{\text{matter}}(g_{\mu\nu}, \chi)$$



$$f_1(\phi) = \frac{1}{2\beta} (1 - e^{-\beta(\phi^2 + \kappa\phi^4)})$$



DD, Yazadjiev JCAP (2019), Staykov et al (in prep.)

EMRIs - inverse chirp signal

Supermassive black holes beyond GR

Kerr black holes with scalar hair

- A minimally coupled **complex massive scalar field** Φ

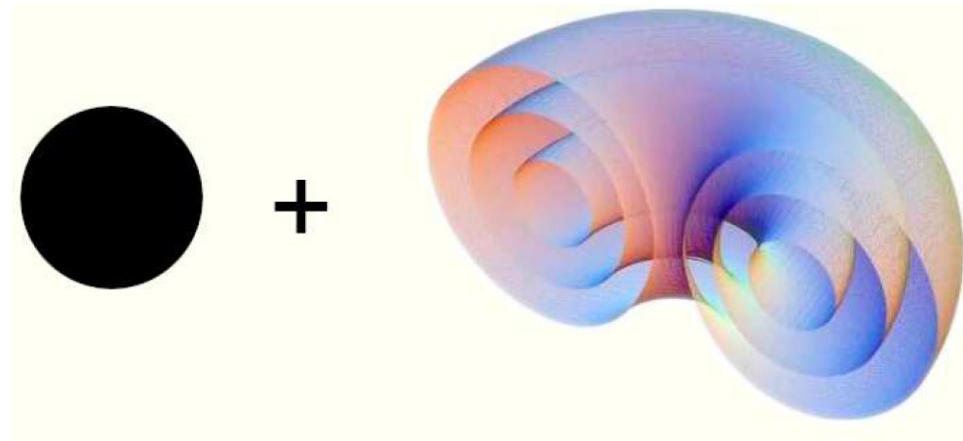
$$S = \int \left[\frac{R}{2} - g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \Phi^* \partial_\nu \Phi - 2U(\Phi) \right] \sqrt{-g} d^4x, \quad \text{with} \quad U = \frac{1}{2} \mu^2 |\Phi|^2$$

- Scalar field **NOT** stationary and axisymmetric (similar to boson star)

$$\Phi = \phi(r, \theta) e^{i(\omega t + m\varphi)}$$

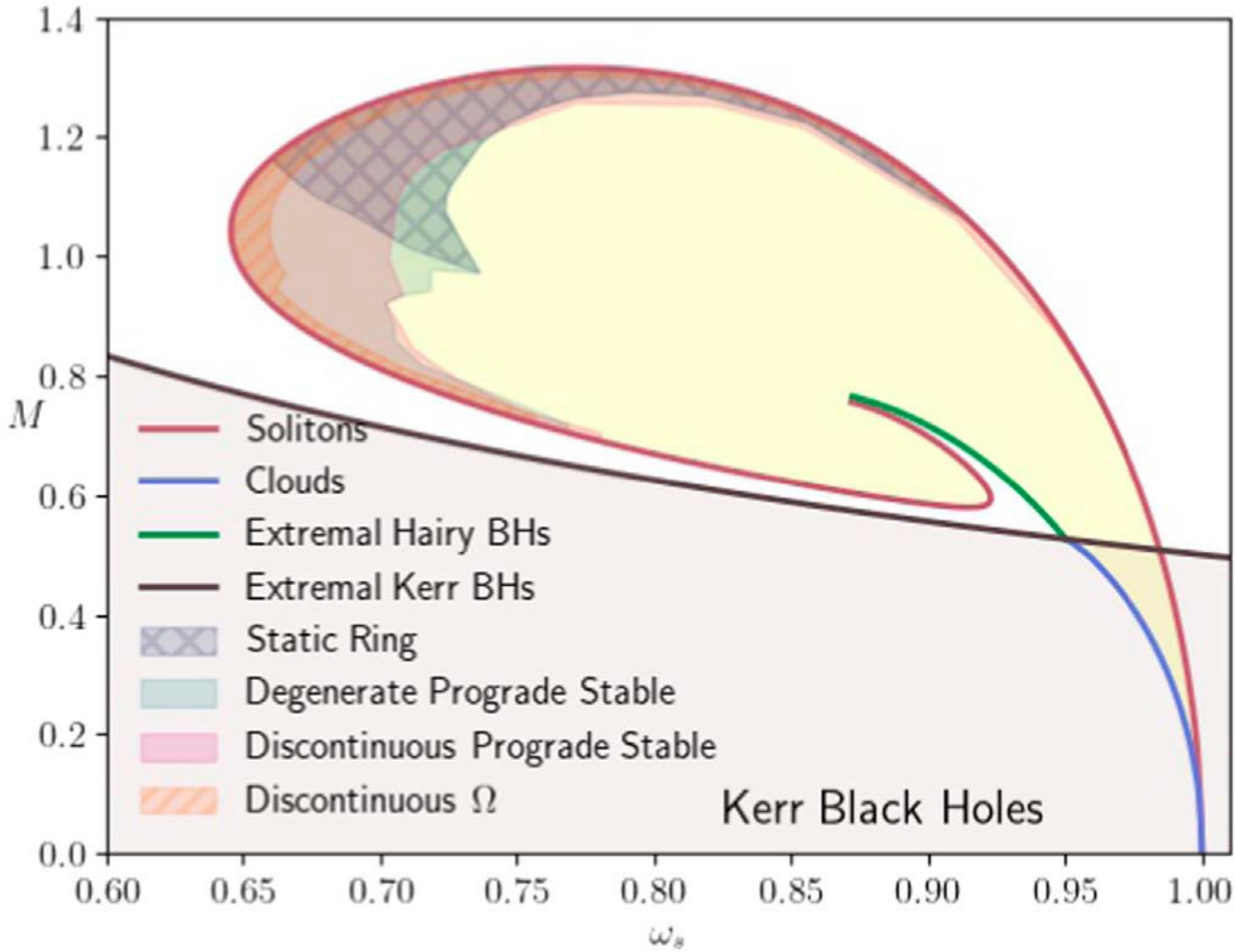
- The **Noether charge** \rightarrow number of particles.

- The scalar field forms a **torus**
(similar to rotating boson stars)



Herdeiro, Radu PRL (2015)

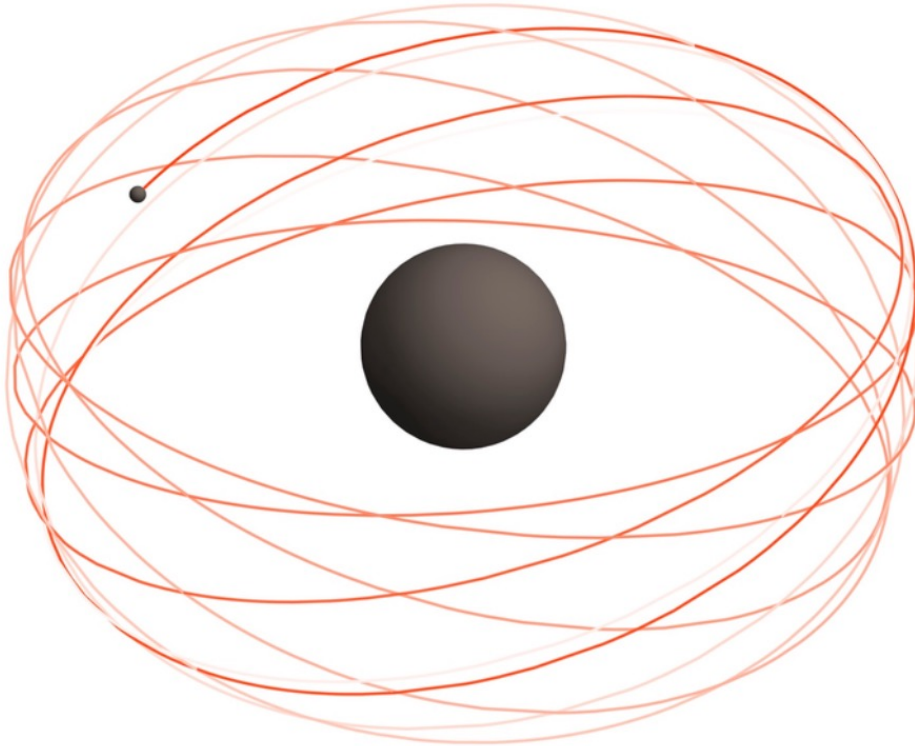
Circular orbits structure



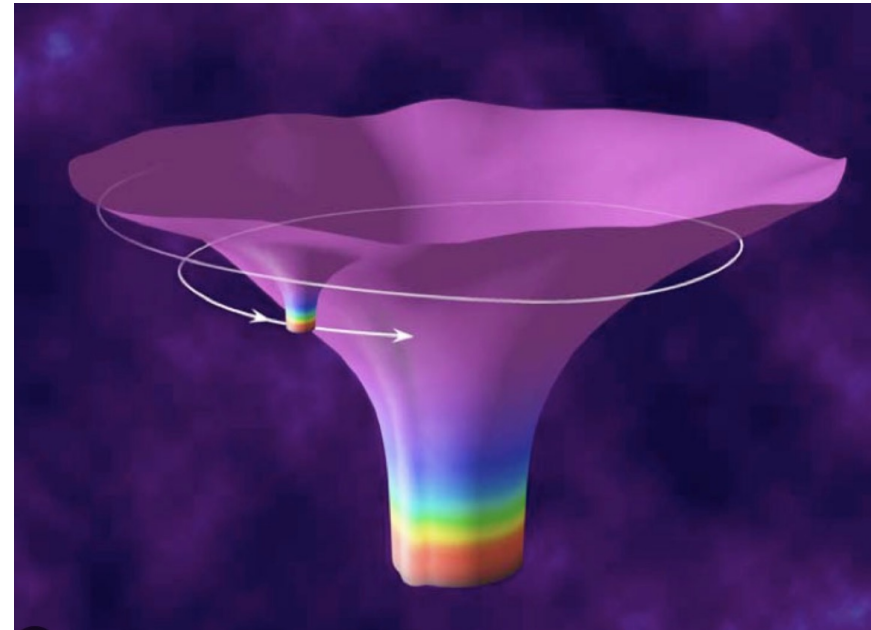
Collodel, DD, Yazadjiev PRD (2021, 2022)

Extreme mass-ratio inspiral

- A small object (e.g. a black hole) orbiting a massive black
- Can be observed with LISA
- A perfect way to “feel” the geometry of spacetime

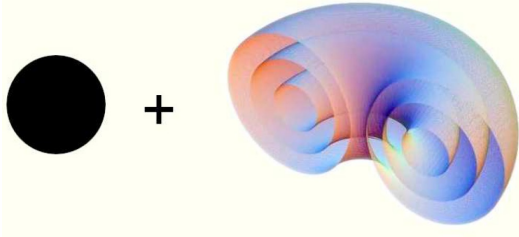


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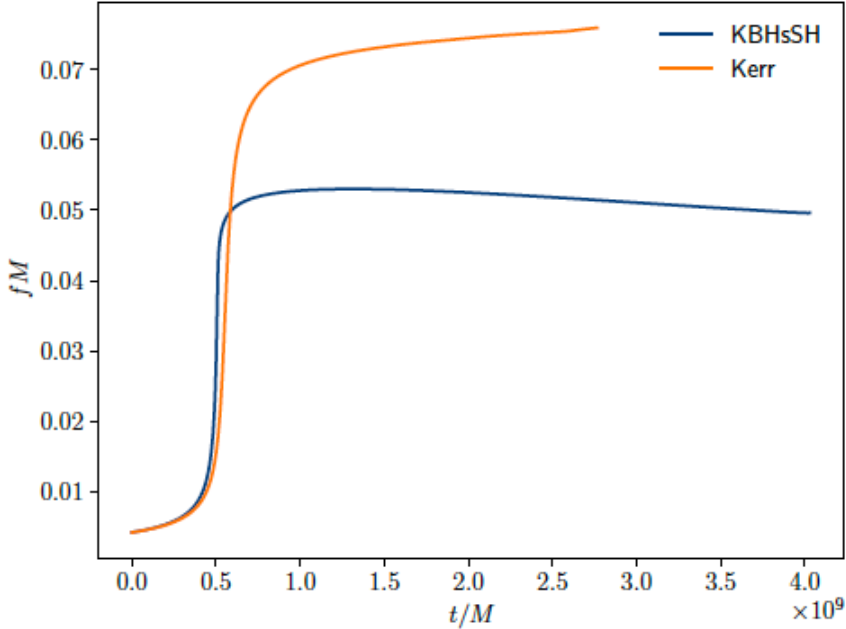
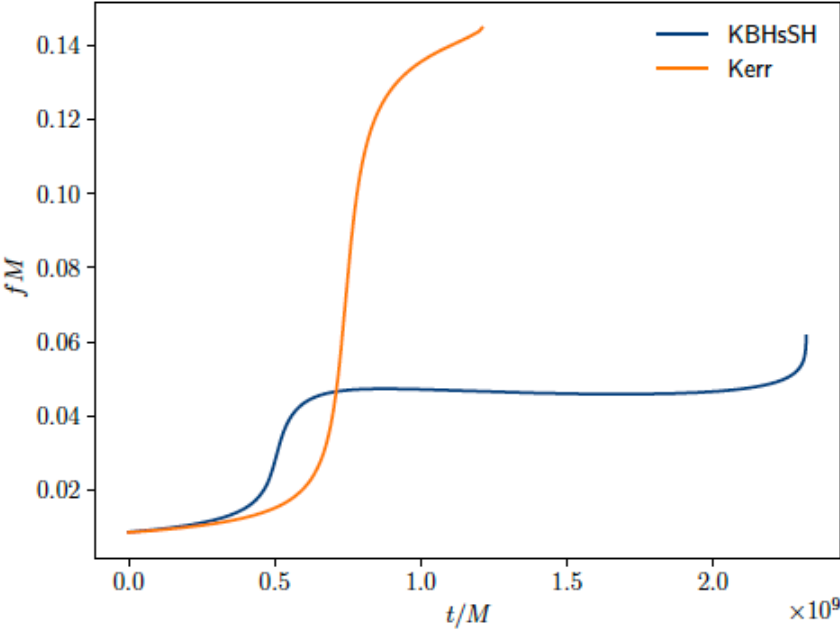


Extreme mass-ratio inspiral

Kerr BH + Rotating Boson Star



Herdeiro&Radu, RPL (2014)



Collodel, DD, Yazadjiev PRD(2021)

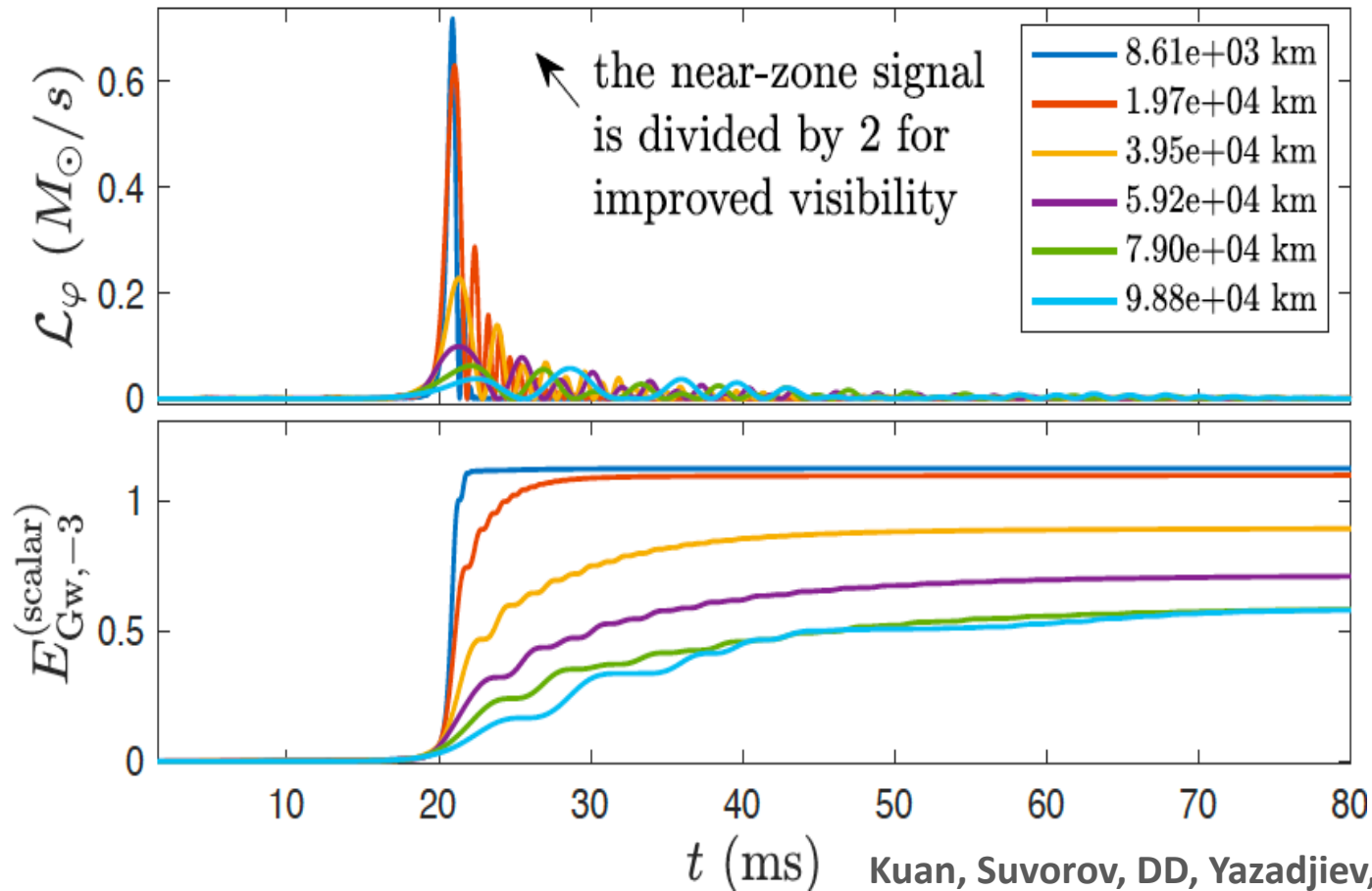
Conclusions

- GWs are among the ultimate tools to test beyond-GR physics
- **Quantitative vs. Qualitative** – tracing the smoking guns
- **Jumps (Gravitational phase transitions)** in the equilibrium properties \Rightarrow specifics in the GW signal
- **Final goal:** understand which exotics are physically motivated and constrain them via GWs.

THANK YOU!

Scalar radiation

- **Massive scalar field:** Modes with distinct frequencies propagate at **different subluminal velocities**
- A dispersively stretched burst



Kuan, Suvorov, DD, Yazadjiev, PRL (2022)