

Free falling with a pulsar in a triple system

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With :

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arXiv:2005.01388

What is the equivalence principle ?

- Galileo :
 - Weak equivalence principle

- Newton :

$$m^{(I)} \vec{a} = m^{(G)} \vec{g} \quad m^{(I)} = m^{(G)}$$

- Einstein:
 - Weak equivalence principle
 - Local Lorentz invariance
 - Local position invariance



Luigi Catani, Copyright Museo Galileo

Einstein Equivalence Principle

- Shiff's conjecture : WEP \Leftrightarrow EEP

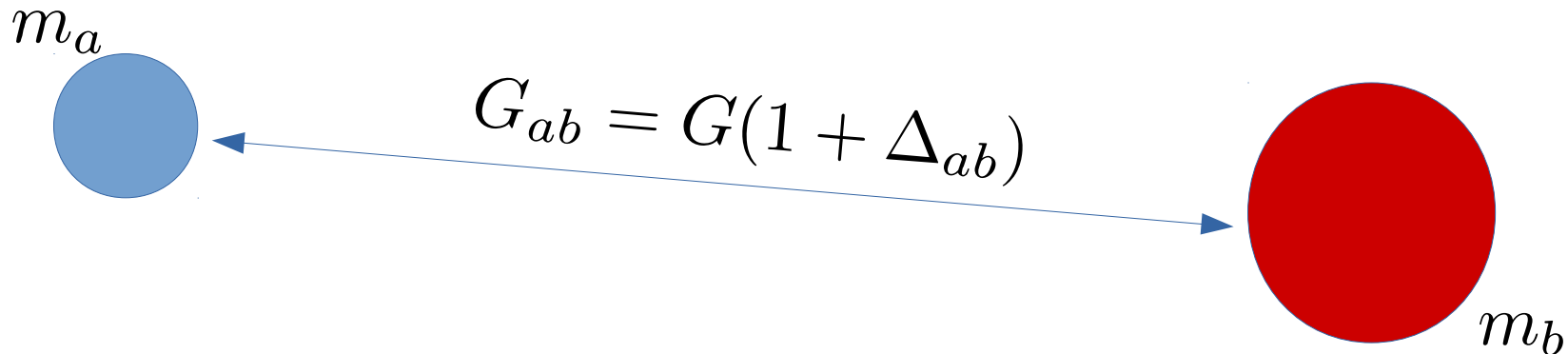
In Newtonian formalism

A violation of the equivalence principle means the gravitational constant depends on the pair of objects in interaction :

$$m_a^{(I)} \vec{a}_a = -m_a^{(G)} G m_b^{(G)} \frac{\vec{r}_{ab}}{|r_{ab}|^3} \Rightarrow \vec{a}_a = G_{ab} m_b \frac{\vec{r}_{ab}}{|r_{ab}|^3}$$

with

$$G_{ab} = G \frac{m_a^{(G)}}{m_a^{(I)}} \frac{m_b^{(G)}}{m_b^{(I)}} = \boxed{G(1 + \Delta_{ab})}$$



Today's Pisa tower: MICROSCOPE

Altitude: 710km

Launch: 04/2016

End: 10/2018

Two test masses:

Titanium

Platinum

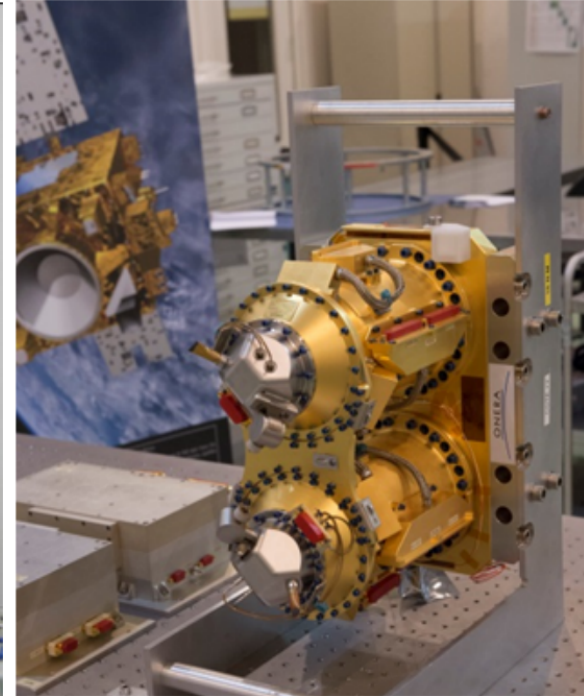
1

2

$G_{1\odot}$

$G_{2\odot}$

Earth



Touboul+ 2019

Eötvös parameter:

$$|\Delta_{1\odot} - \Delta_{2\odot}| = [-1 \pm 9(\text{stat}) \pm 9(\text{syst})] \times 10^{-15}$$

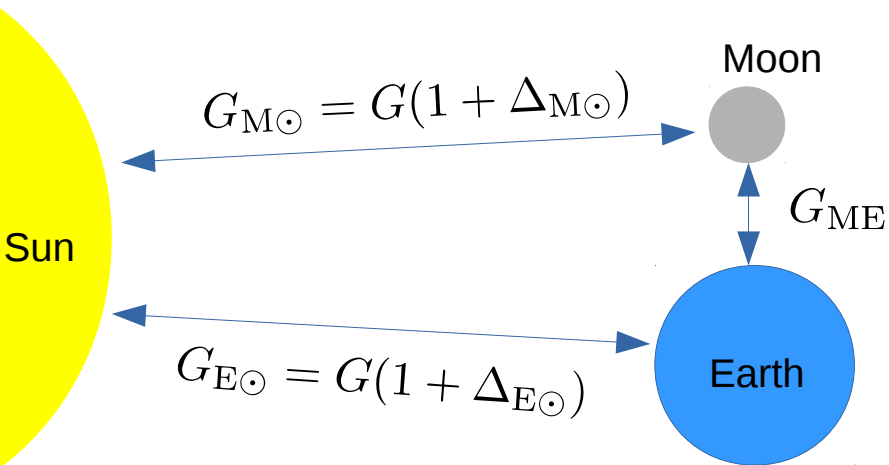
(1 σ confidence interval)

Touboul+ 2019 ⁴

Lunar laser ranging (LLR)

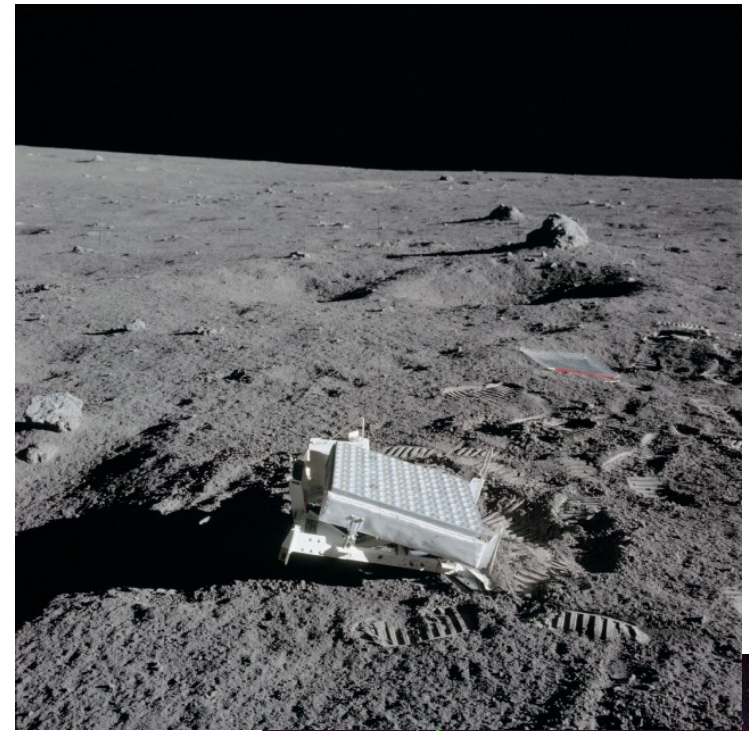
Test masses 1 and 2 → Earth and Moon

Earth → Sun

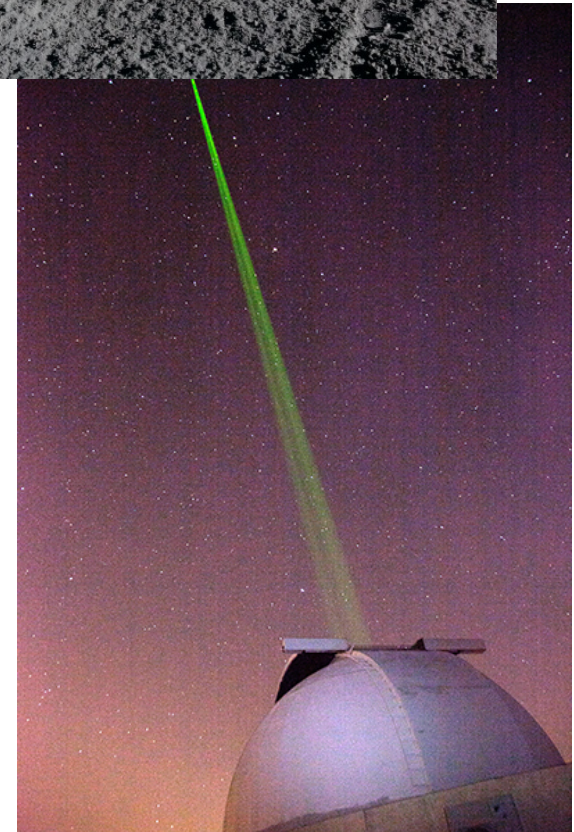


$$\Delta_{E\odot} - \Delta_{M\odot} = (-3 \pm 5) \times 10^{-14}$$

Hofmann and Müller 2018



Apollo 14 Retroreflector,
(NASA)



OCA's laser ranging station (Hervé de Brus)

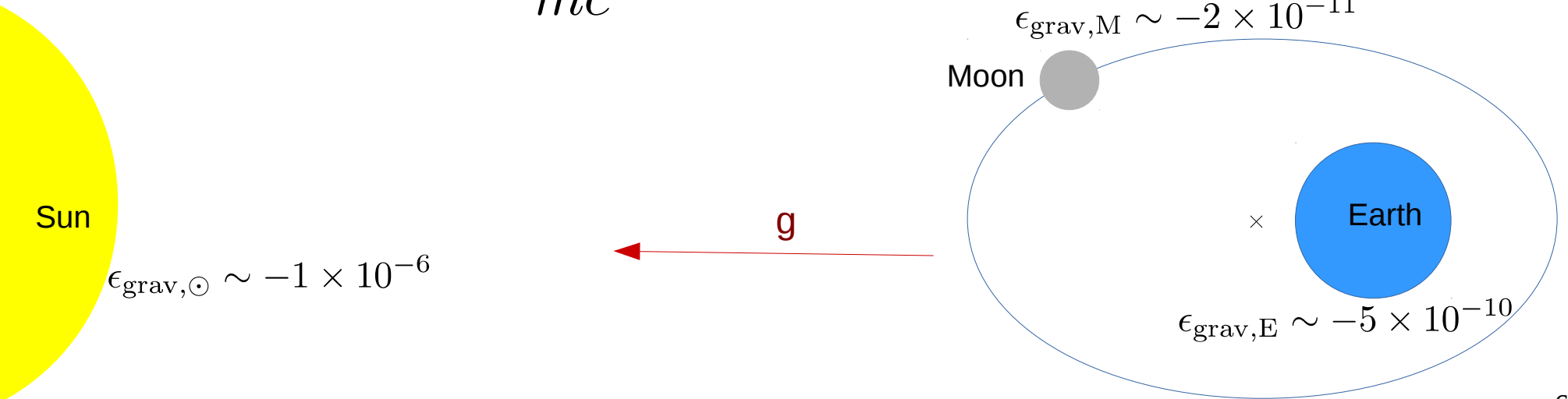
Strong equivalence principle

- Extension of EEP to gravitational energy:

- Grav. weak equivalence principle
- Grav. Local Lorentz invariance
- Grav. Local position invariance

Strong equivalence principle
(SEP)

$$\epsilon_{\text{grav}} = \frac{E_{\text{grav}}}{mc^2}$$



SEP can be tested with LLR

Nordtvedt parameter (Nordtvedt 1968)

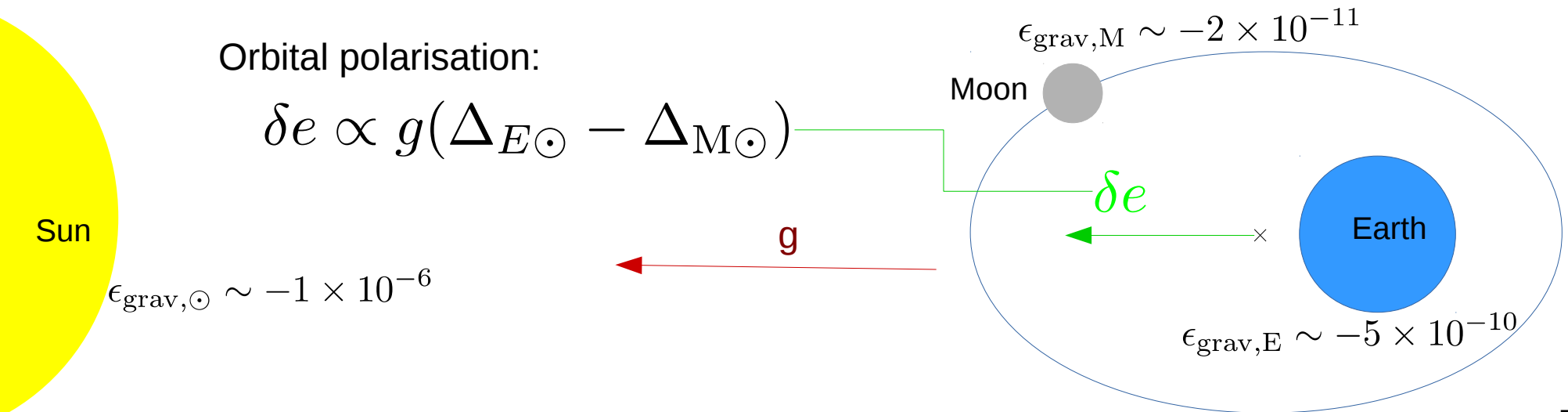
$$\Delta_{ab} \simeq \eta_a \epsilon_{\text{grav},a} + \eta_b \epsilon_{\text{grav},b}$$

$$\eta = (-0.2 \pm 1.1) \times 10^{-4}$$

Hofmann and Müller 2018

Orbital polarisation:

$$\delta e \propto g(\Delta_{E\odot} - \Delta_{M\odot})$$

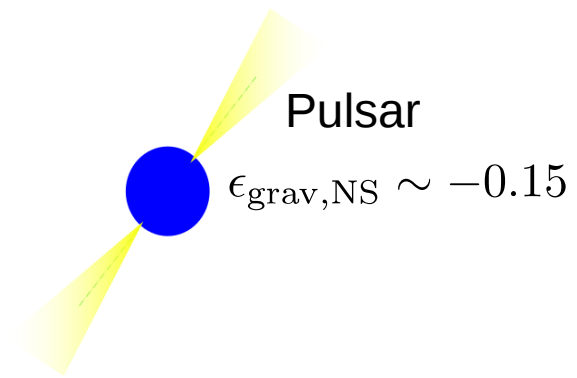


We need a compact object !

Neutron star

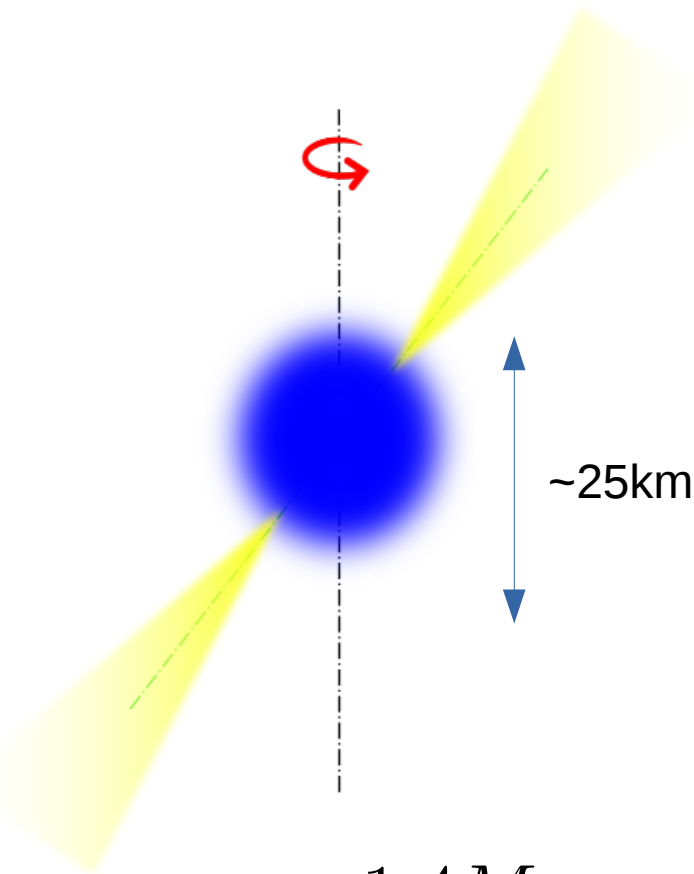


$$\epsilon_{\text{grav,NS}} \sim -0.15$$



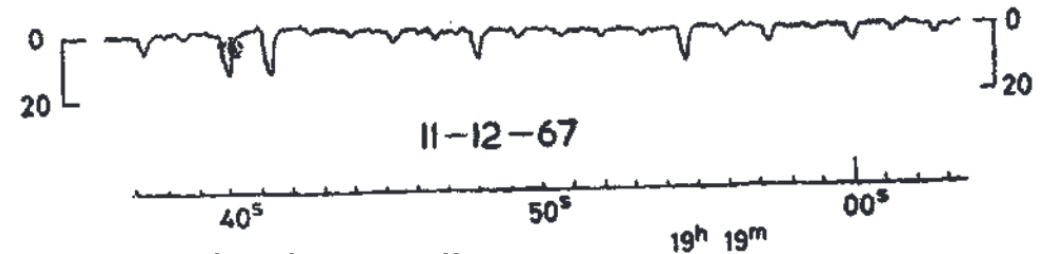
What is a pulsar ?

Highly magnetised rotating neutron star:



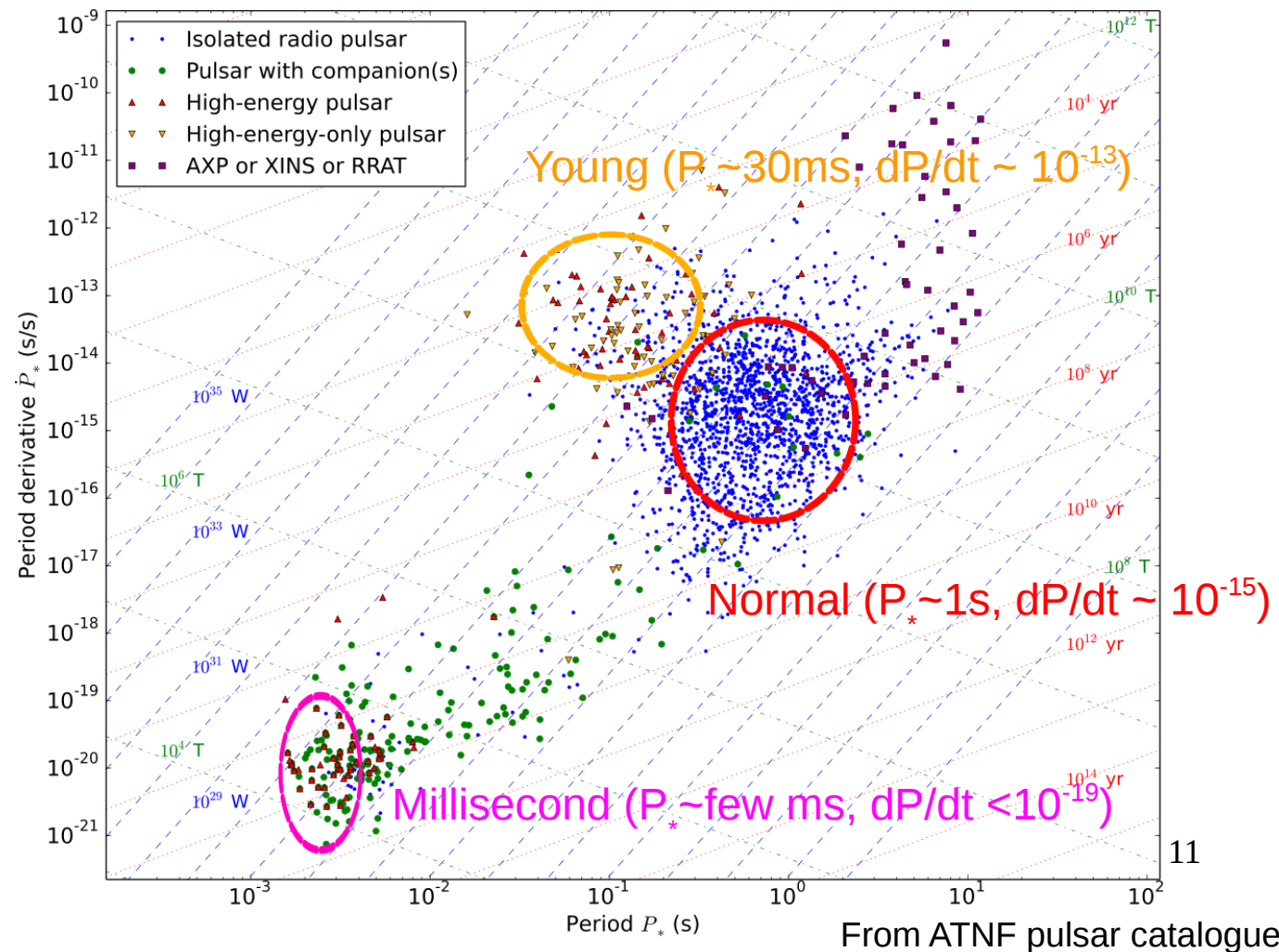
$$m_p \sim 1.4M_{\odot}$$

$$B \sim 10^4 - 10^9 T$$

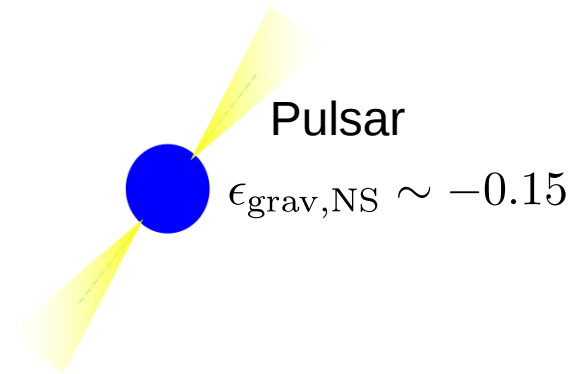


Pulsating Radio source

Hewish and Bell 1968



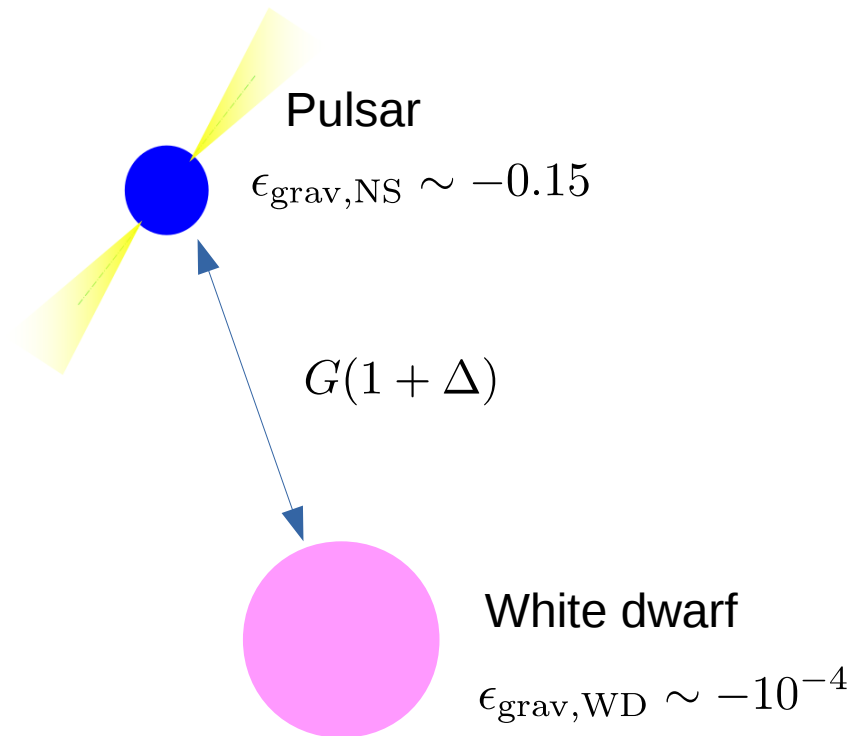
$$\vec{a}_{NS} = 0$$



Violation of SEP is not different from rescaling masses !

$$\vec{a}_{NS} = -G(1 + \Delta)m_{WD} \frac{\vec{r}}{|\vec{r}|^3}$$

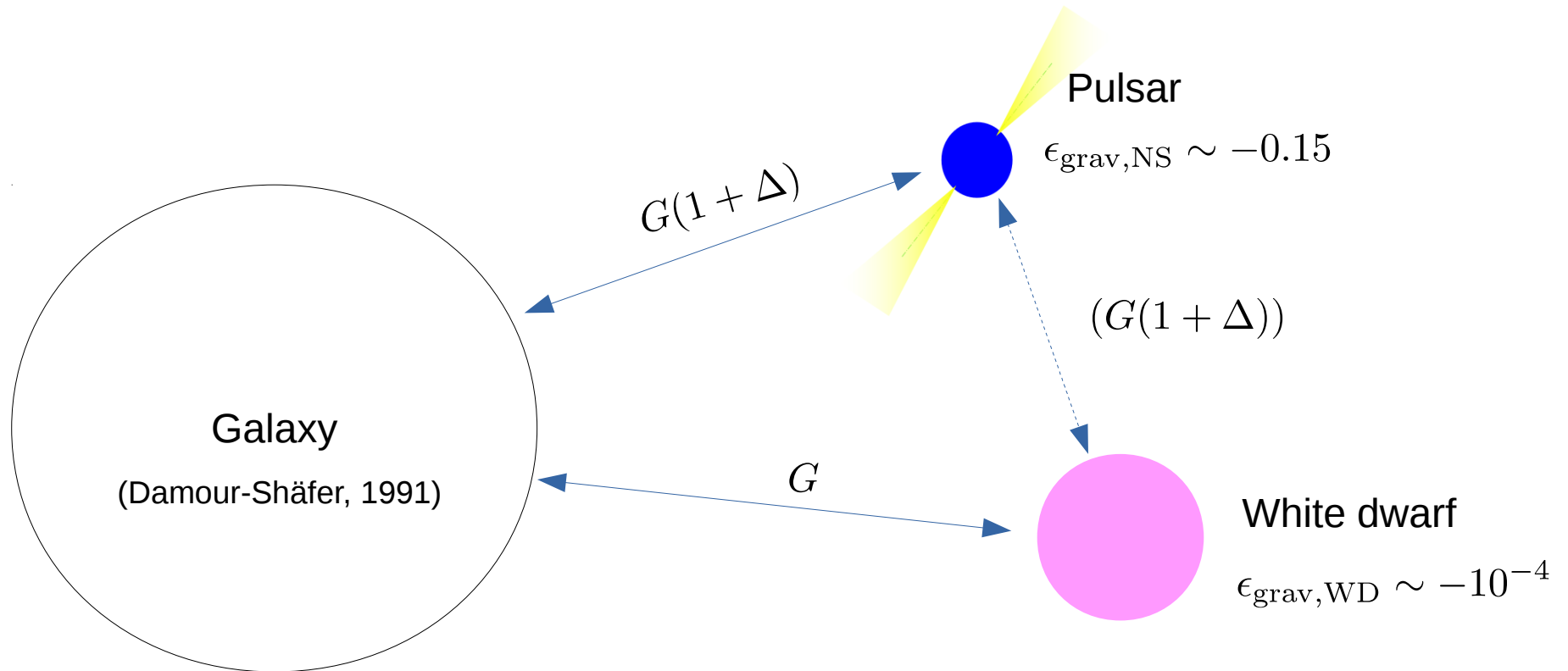
$$\vec{a}_{WD} = -G(1 + \Delta)m_{NS} \frac{\vec{r}}{|\vec{r}|^3}$$



With three bodies, we can make a test :

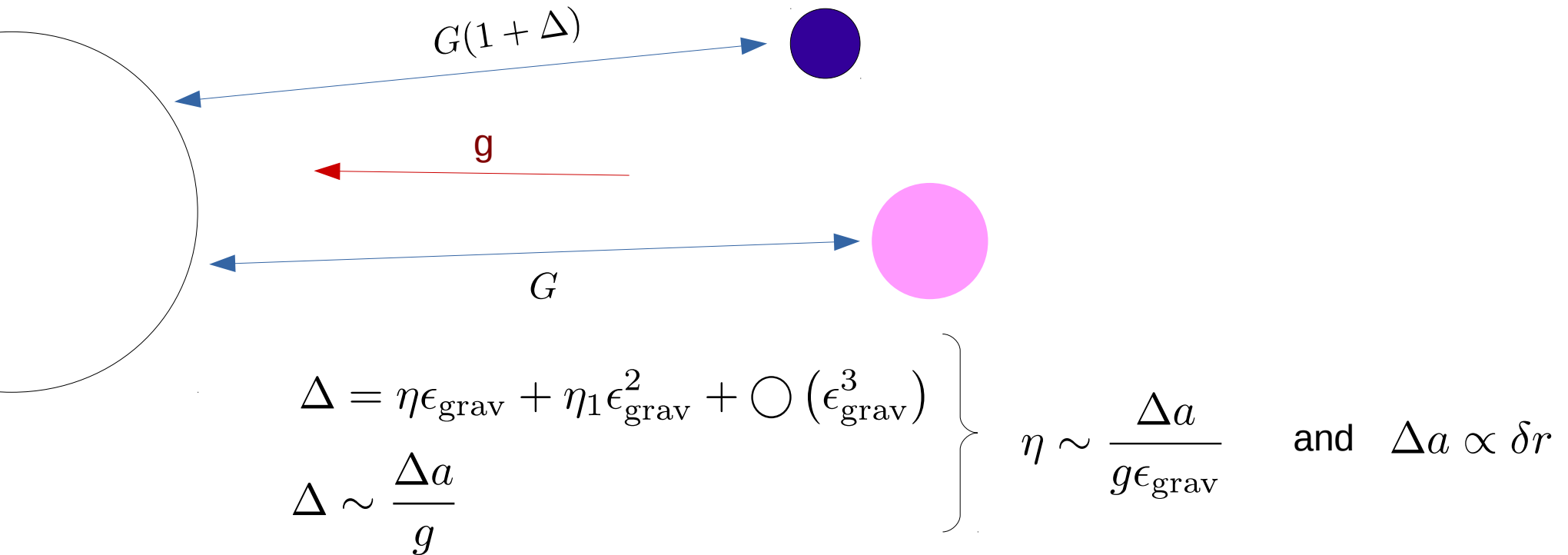
$$|\Delta| < 2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ (95\% confidence) (Zhu et al 2019)}$$

Nordtvedt parameter: $\eta \lesssim 0.01$ (but not very meaningful in strong-field regime!)



Note: NS strongly self-gravitating so interpretation in terms of initial and gravitational masses no longer holds. One needs to think in terms of effective gravitational constant.

Let's summarise:



Lunar Laser Ranging

$$\delta r \sim 1 \text{ mm}$$

$$g \sim 6 \times 10^{-3} \text{ ms}^{-2}$$

$$\epsilon_{\text{grav},E} \sim -5 \times 10^{-10}$$

$$\eta \lesssim 10^{-4} \quad (\text{Hofmann and Müller 2018})$$

$$\Delta \lesssim 10^{-14}$$

Damour and Schäfer test with pulsar timing

$$\delta r \sim 100 \text{ m}$$

$$g \sim 2 \times 10^{-10} \text{ ms}^{-2}$$

$$\epsilon_{\text{grav},NS} \sim -0.15$$

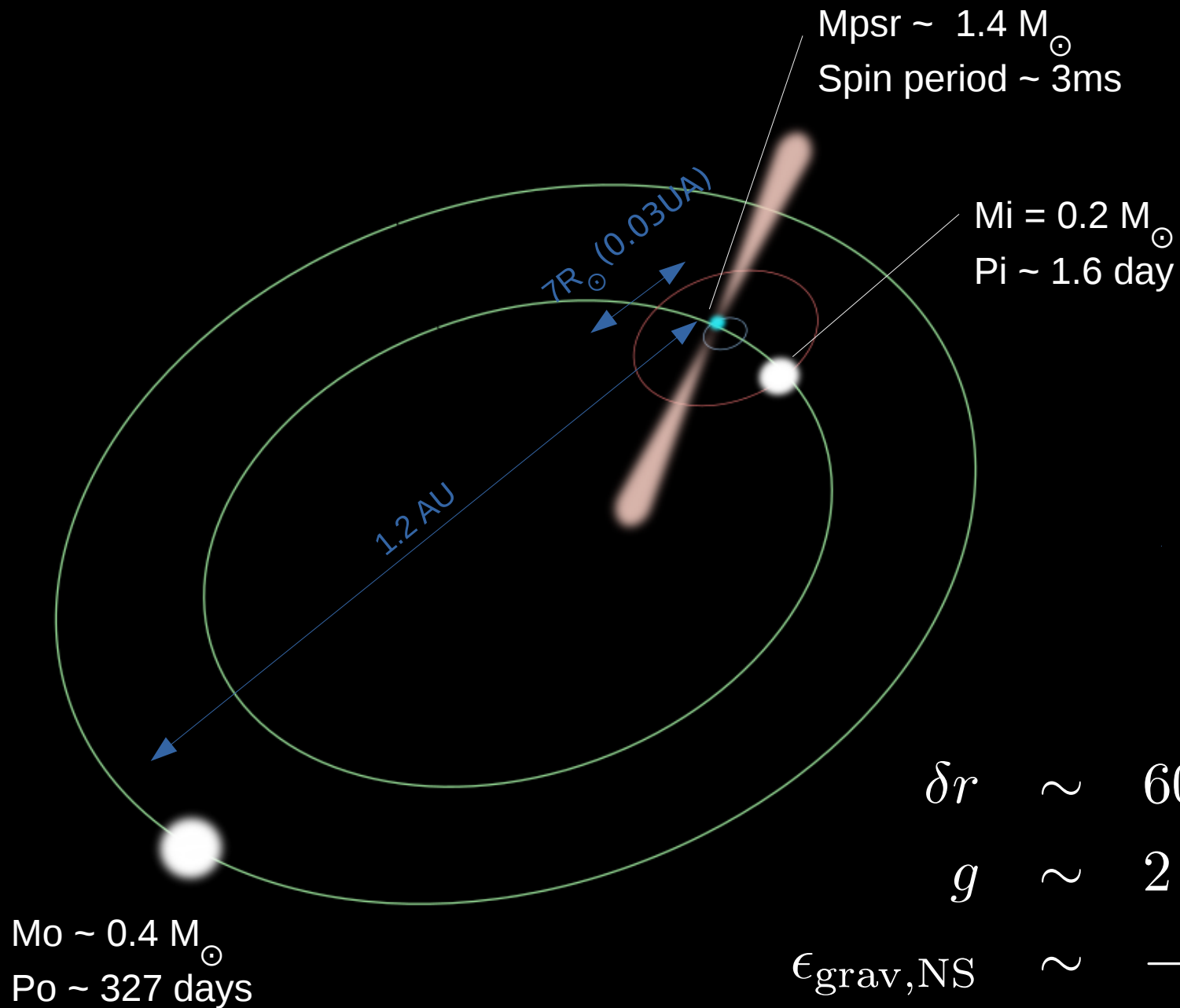
$$(\eta \lesssim 10^{-2}) \quad (\text{Zhu 2019})$$

$$\Delta \lesssim 2 \times 10^{-3}$$

A millisecond pulsar in a stellar triple system

S. M. Ransom¹, I. H. Stairs², A. M. Archibald^{3,4}, J. W. T. Hessels^{3,5}, D. L. Kaplan^{6,7}, M. H. van Kerkwijk⁸, J. Boyles^{9,10}, A. T. Deller³, S. Chatterjee¹¹, A. Schechtman-Rook⁷, A. Berndsen², R. S. Lynch⁴, D. R. Lorimer⁹, C. Karako-Argaman⁴, V. M. Kaspi⁴, V. I. Kondratiev^{3,12}, M. A. McLaughlin⁹, J. van Leeuwen^{3,5}, R. Rosen^{1,9}, M. S. E. Roberts^{13,14} & K. Stovall^{15,16}

PSR J0337+1715



$$\delta r \sim 600 \text{ m}$$

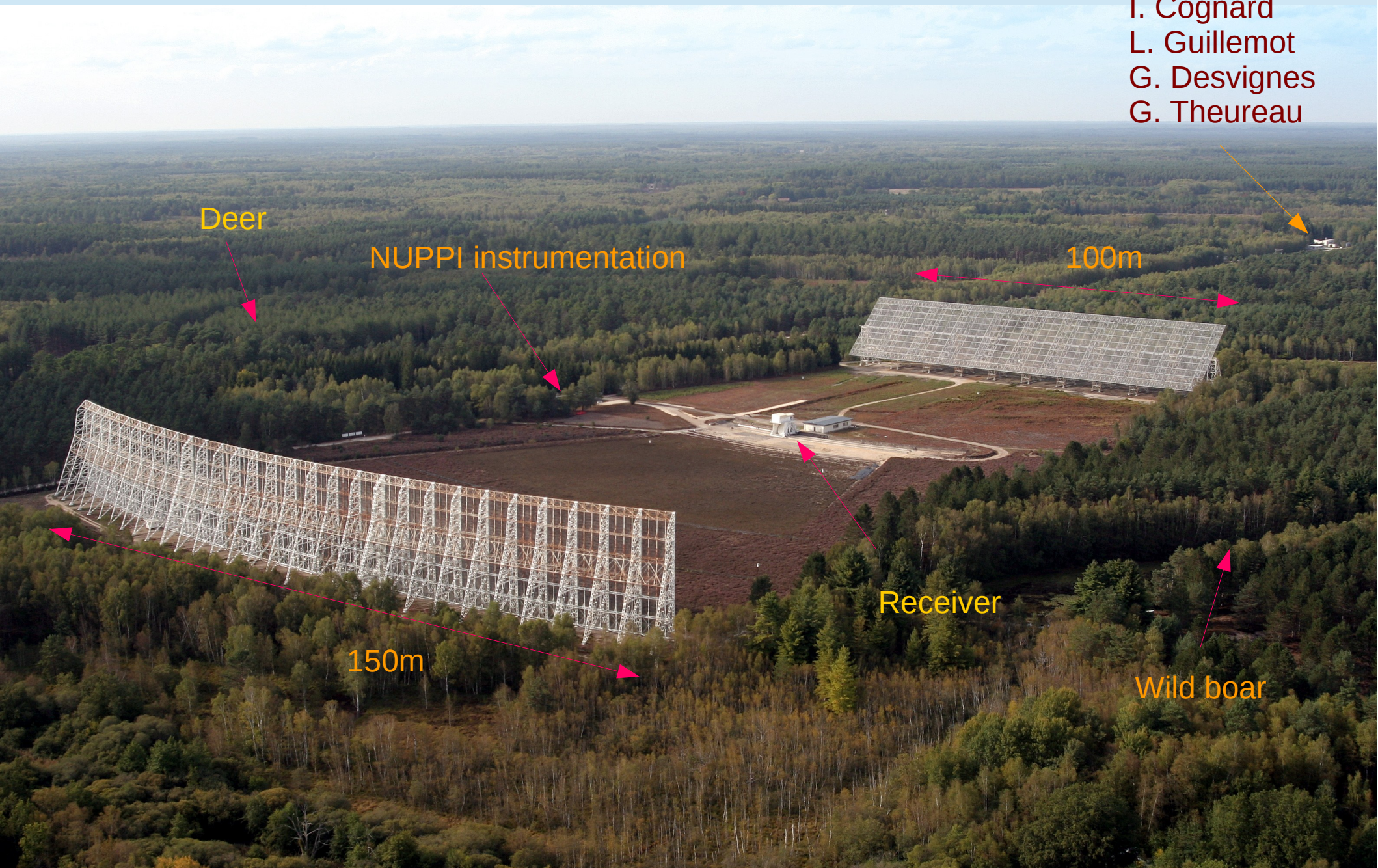
$$g \sim 2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ ms}^{-2}$$

$$\epsilon_{\text{grav,NS}} \sim -0.15$$

$$\Delta \lesssim ??$$

Welcome to Nançay !

I. Cognard
L. Guillemot
G. Desvignes
G. Theureau



Deer

NUPPI instrumentation

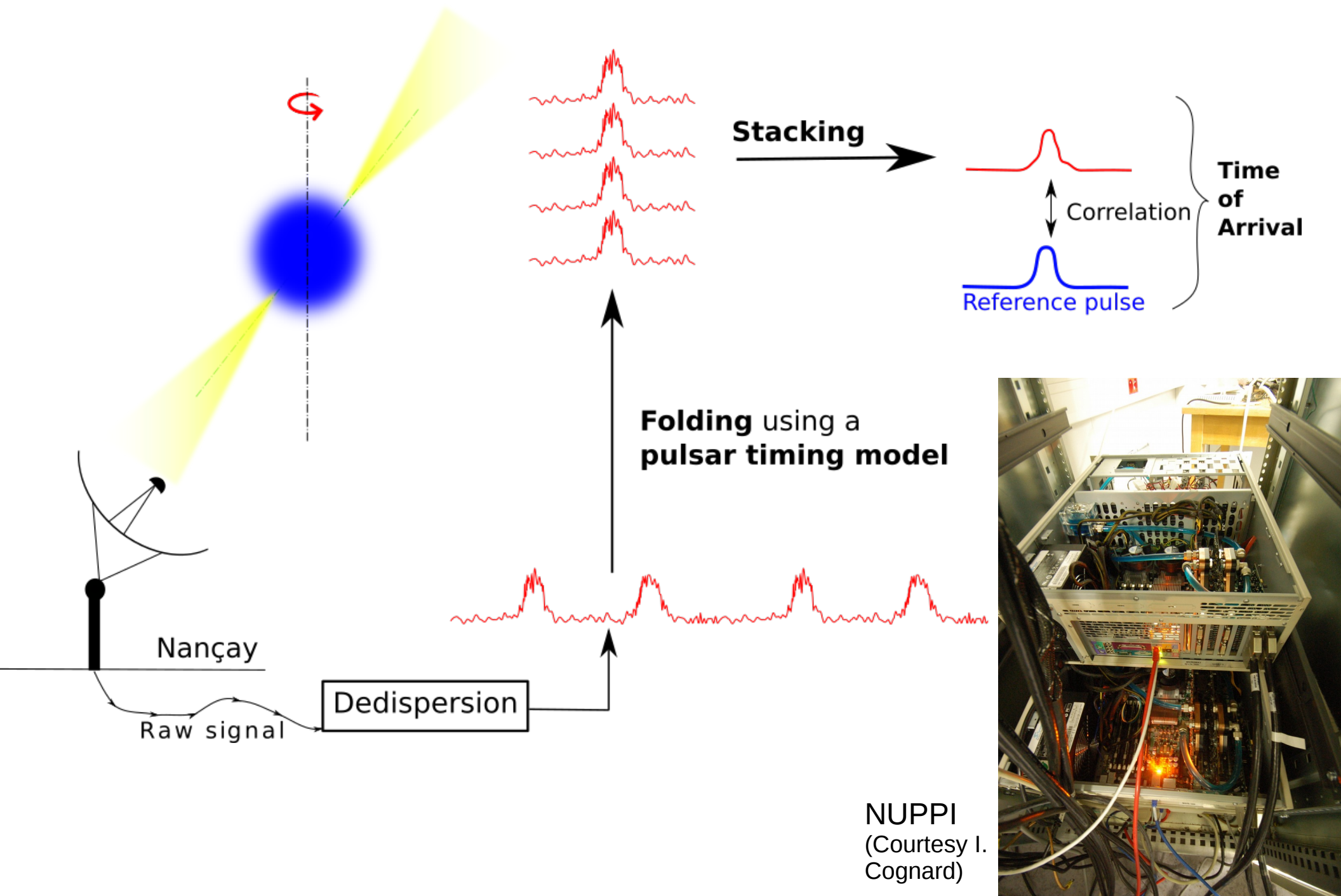
100m

150m

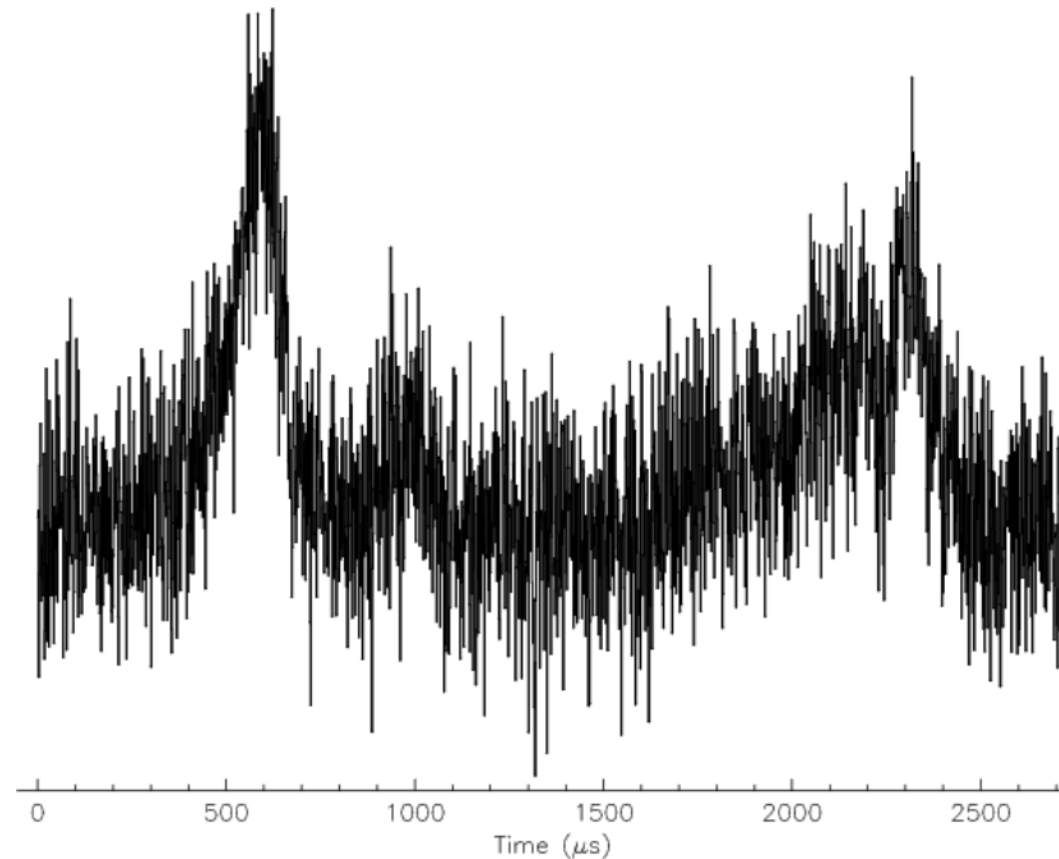
Receiver

Wild boar

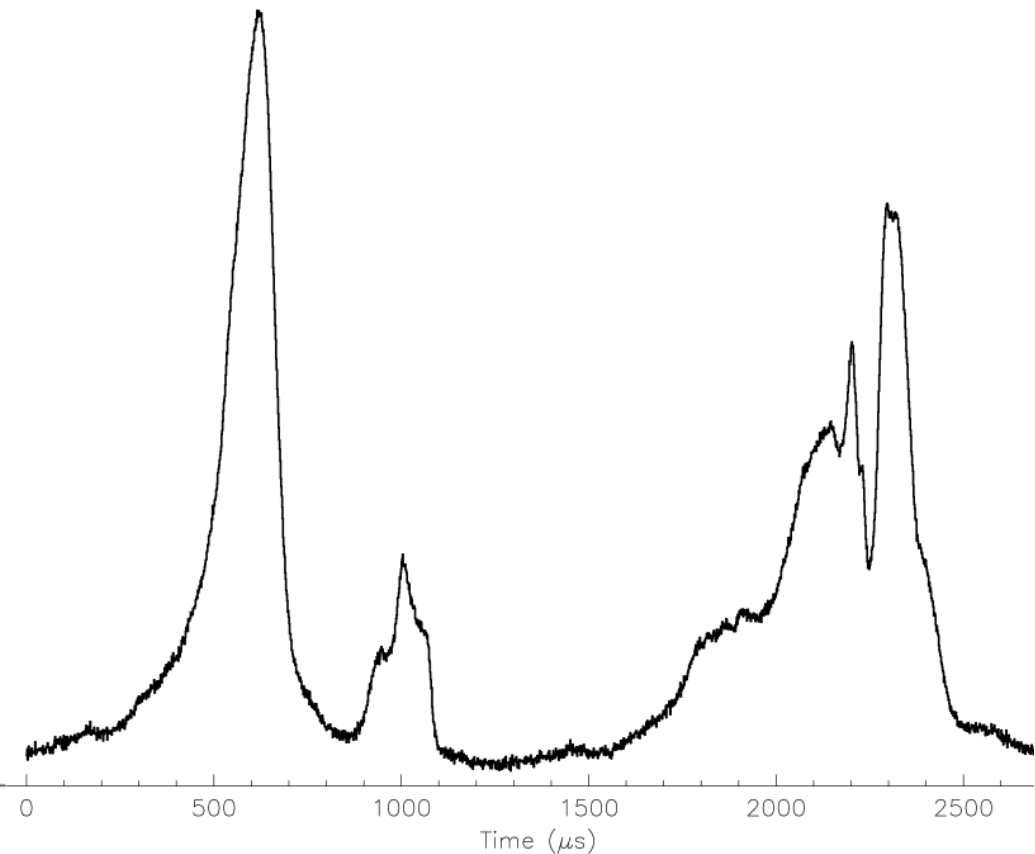
Pulsar timing (Pulsar radio ranging)



And here is PSR J0337+1715 !

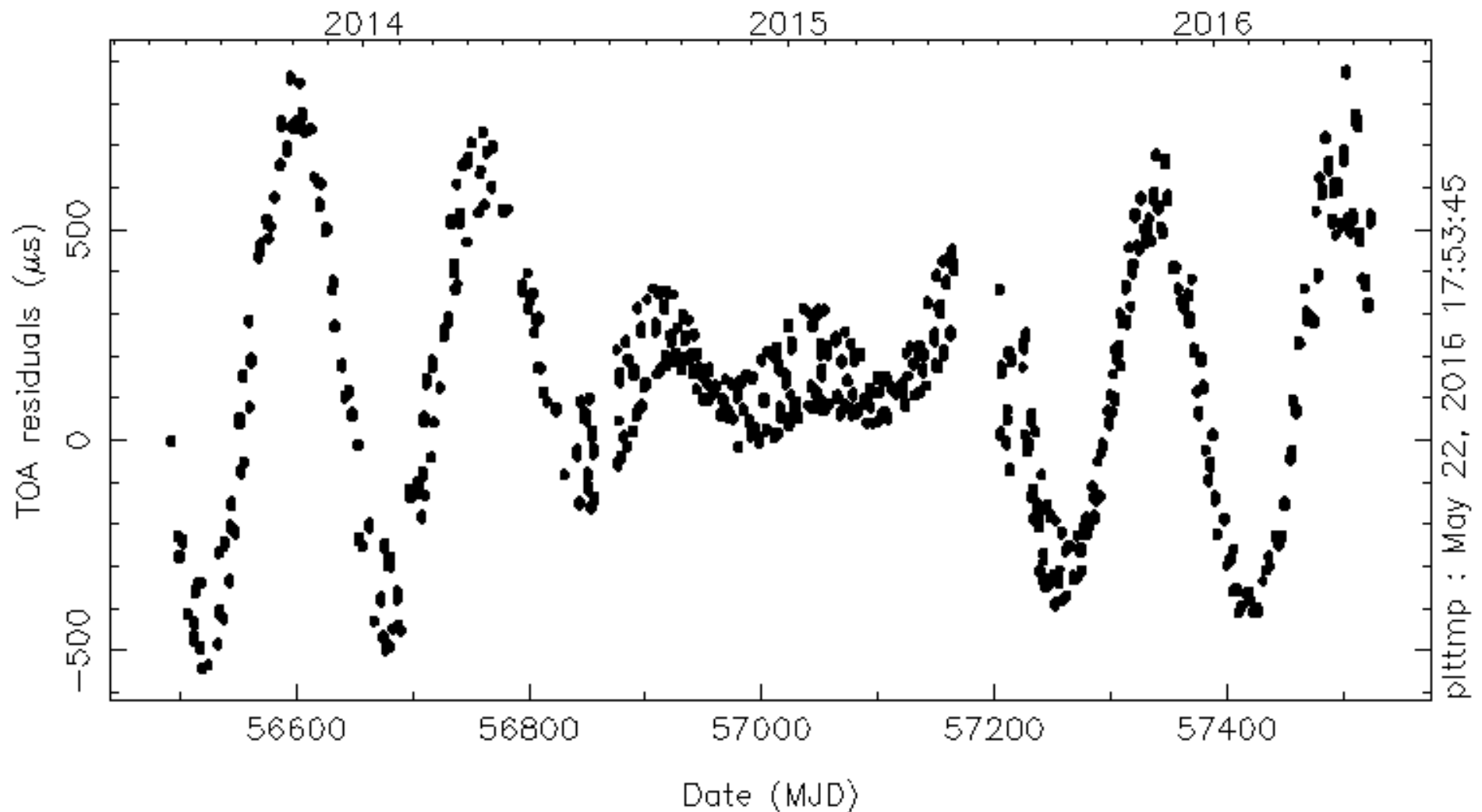


“Good” single pulse, October 4th 2014

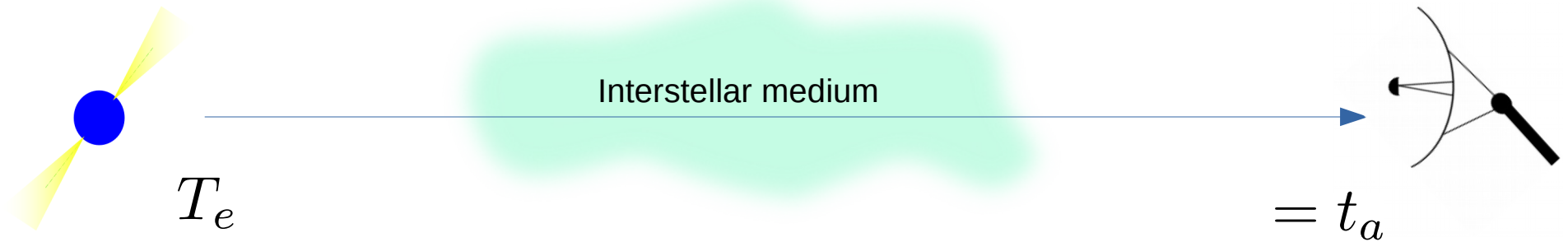


Template pulse profile
(450h of observation, 1230-1742MHz)

Problem: there is no model to predict accurate times of arrival



What is in a pulsar timing model ?



Pulsar system delays:

- Geometric (Roemer, Kopeikin..)
- Shapiro (light propagation)
- Einstein (time dilation)
- Aberration

Interstellar propagation delays:

- Dispersion measure

Solar system delays:

- Geometric
- Shapiro
- Einstein
- Astrometry...

Nutimo (Voisin 2017, Voisin+2020)
(**NU**merical **T**iming **MO**del)

Tempo 2 (Edwards+ 2006, Hobbs+ 2006)

Number of turns

Spin frequency and derivative

$$N = fT_e + \frac{1}{2}f'T_e^2$$

Emission time
in the pulsar frame

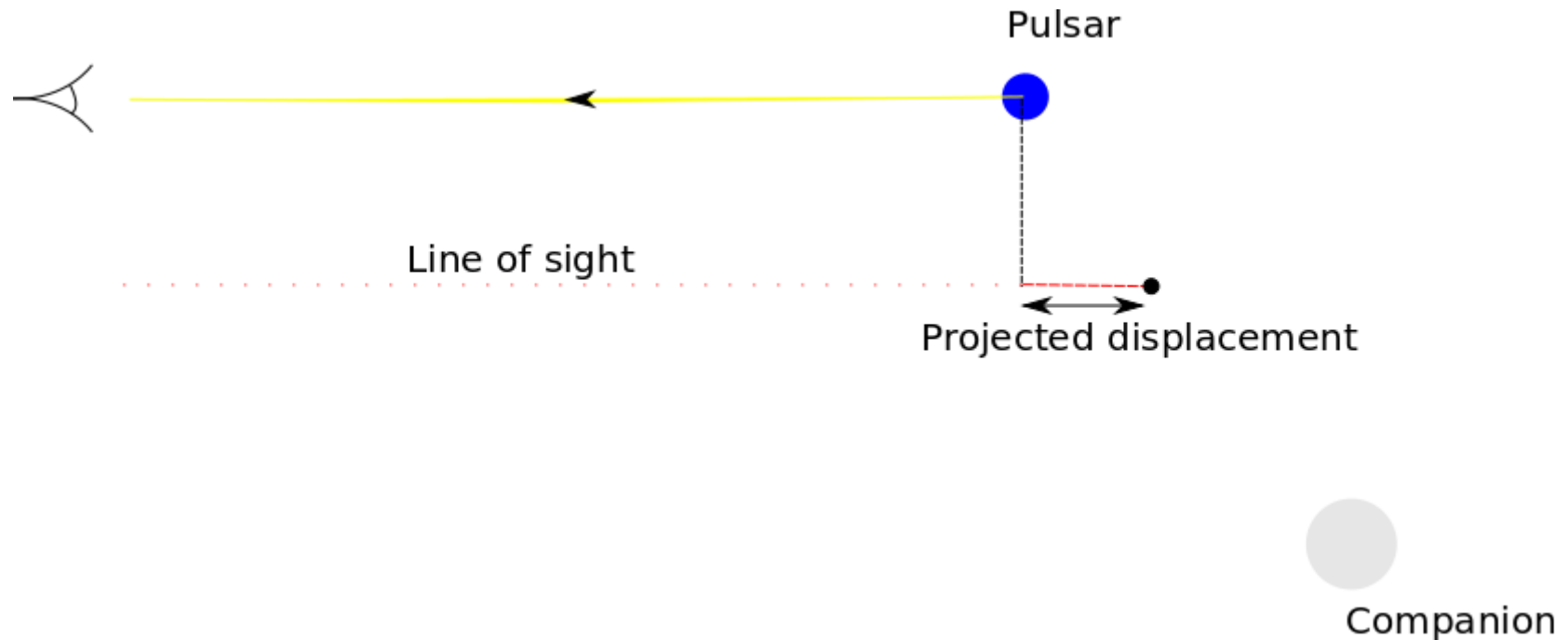
$$T_e = t_a - \sum \Delta T_i$$

Arrival time in observer's frame

Delays

Geometric delay

Displacement of 300m \leftrightarrow 1microsec delay



Relativistic delays

Einstein: Apparent spin frequency of the pulsar depends on gravitational field of companions

Shapiro: Light travel time delayed by companion's gravitational field



We need to solve the 3-body orbital motion at 1PN

Newtonian terms with body-dependent interaction constant

Target accuracy: 1 ns \leftrightarrow 3m

$$\ddot{\mathbf{x}}_a = \sum_{b \neq a} \boxed{\frac{G_{ab} m_b}{r_{ab}^2} \mathbf{n}_{ab}} \left[1 - \frac{1}{c^2} \left(4\mathbf{v}_a \cdot \mathbf{v}_b - \mathbf{v}_a^2 - 2\mathbf{v}_b^2 \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + \frac{3}{2}(\mathbf{v}_b \cdot \mathbf{n}_{ab})^2 - \bar{\gamma}_{ab} (\mathbf{v}_a - \mathbf{v}_b)^2 \right) \right] \\ + \sum_{b \neq a} \frac{G_{ab} m_b}{r_{ab}^2 c^2} (\mathbf{v}_b - \mathbf{v}_a) [\mathbf{n}_{ab} \cdot (4\mathbf{v}_a - 3\mathbf{v}_b - 2\bar{\gamma}_{ab}(\mathbf{v}_b - \mathbf{v}_a))] \\ + \sum_{b \neq a} \sum_{c \neq b} \frac{G_{ab} G_{bc} m_b m_c}{r_{ab} r_{bc} c^2} \left[\frac{1}{r_{bc}} \left(\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{n}_{ab} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{bc}) \mathbf{n}_{ab} + \frac{7}{2} \mathbf{n}_{bc} \right) \right. \\ \left. - \frac{\mathbf{n}_{ab}}{r_{ab}} + 2\bar{\gamma}_{ab} \frac{\mathbf{n}_{bc}}{r_{bc}} - 2\bar{\beta}_{ca}^b \frac{\mathbf{n}_{ab}}{r_{ab}} \right] \\ - \sum_{b \neq a} \sum_{c \neq a} \frac{G_{ab} G_{ac} m_b m_c}{r_{ab}^2 r_{ac} c^2} \mathbf{n}_{ab} \left[4 + \underline{2\bar{\gamma}_{ac}} + \underline{2\bar{\beta}_{bc}^a} \right]. \quad (\text{A.2})$$

First order (1PN)
relativistic corrections:

$$\frac{v^2}{c^2} \sim 10^{-6}$$

Strong-field generalisation of Eddington PPN parameters
→ **Set to general relativity values**

Additional constraints

Other deviations from GR at 1PN order:

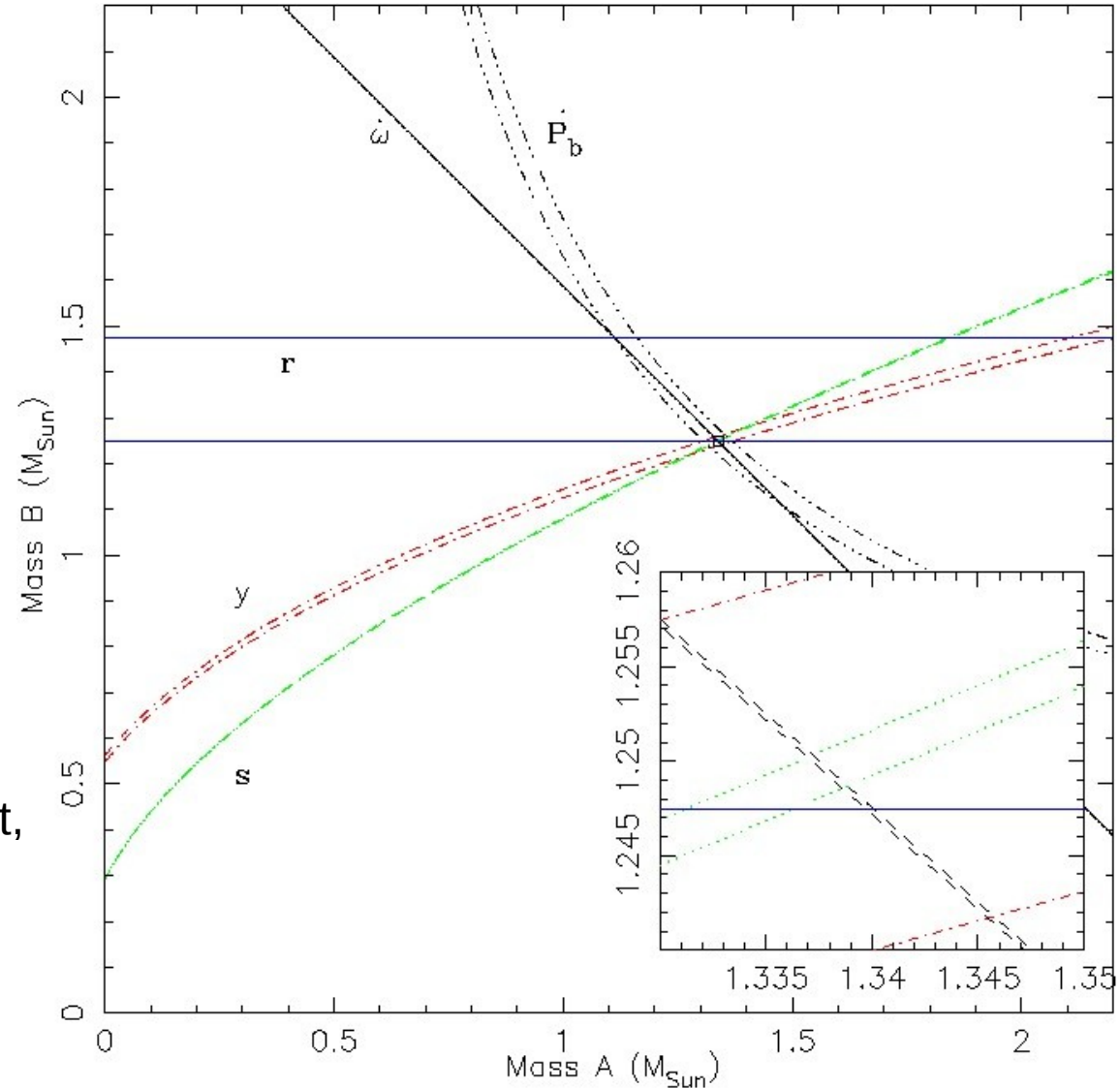
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & \sum_{a=1}^n \left(-m_a c^2 + m_a \frac{v_a^2}{2} + m_a \frac{v_a^4}{8c^2} \right) \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a=1}^n \sum_{b \neq a}^n \left\{ \frac{G_{ab} m_a m_b}{r_{ab}} \left[1 - \frac{(\mathbf{v}_a \cdot \mathbf{n}_{ab})(\mathbf{v}_b \cdot \mathbf{n}_{ab})}{2c^2} \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. - \frac{7}{2} \frac{\mathbf{v}_a \cdot \mathbf{v}_b}{c^2} + \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{v_a^2}{c^2} + \frac{v_b^2}{c^2} \right) + \bar{\gamma}_{ab} \frac{(\mathbf{v}_a - \mathbf{v}_b)^2}{c^2} \right] \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \sum_{c \neq a}^n \frac{G_{ab} G_{ac} m_a m_b m_c}{c^2 r_{ab} r_{ac}} (1 + 2\bar{\beta}_{bc}^a) \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

(Damour and Taylor 1992; Will 1993)

We assume:

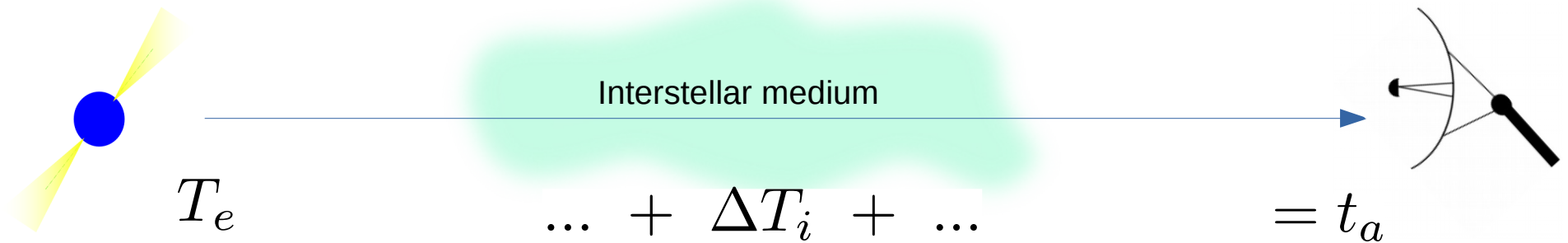
$$\bar{\beta}_{ab}^c = \bar{\gamma}_{ab} = 0 = \text{GR}$$

Thanks to other observational constraint, particularly limits on dipolar gravitational waves from binary pulsars, and Solar system WEP tests.



PSR J0737-3039A, (Courtesy I.Cognard, G. Desvignes)

In summary, Nutimo does...



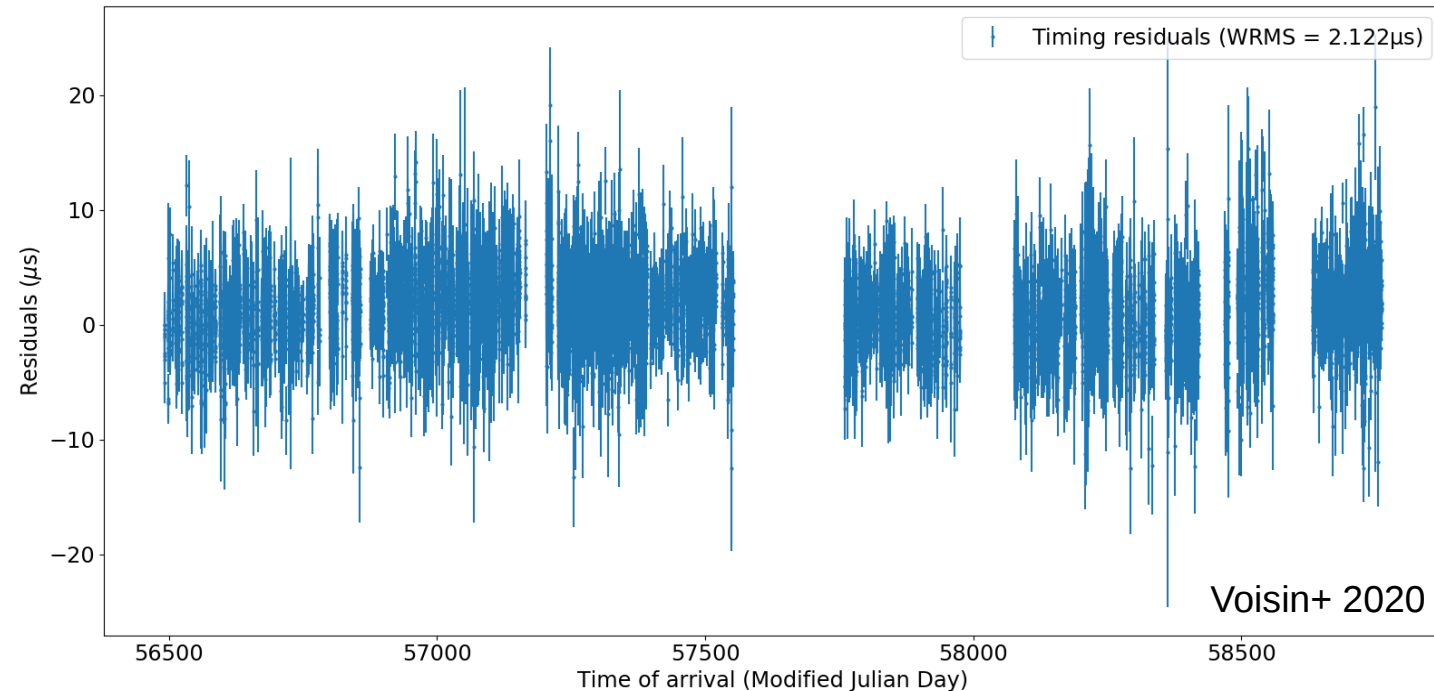
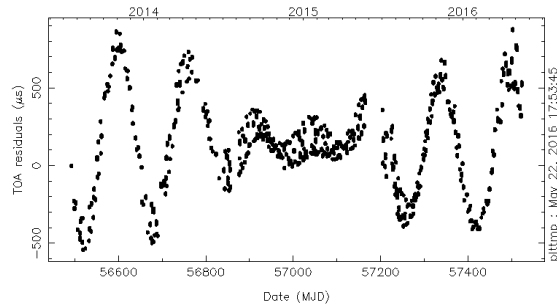
- **Solve motion numerically** at 1PN to meter accuracy
- **Calculate delays:** geometric, relativistic and propagation
- **Invert timing formula** to obtain times of arrival t_a from spin phase N

Let's fit the model to the data !

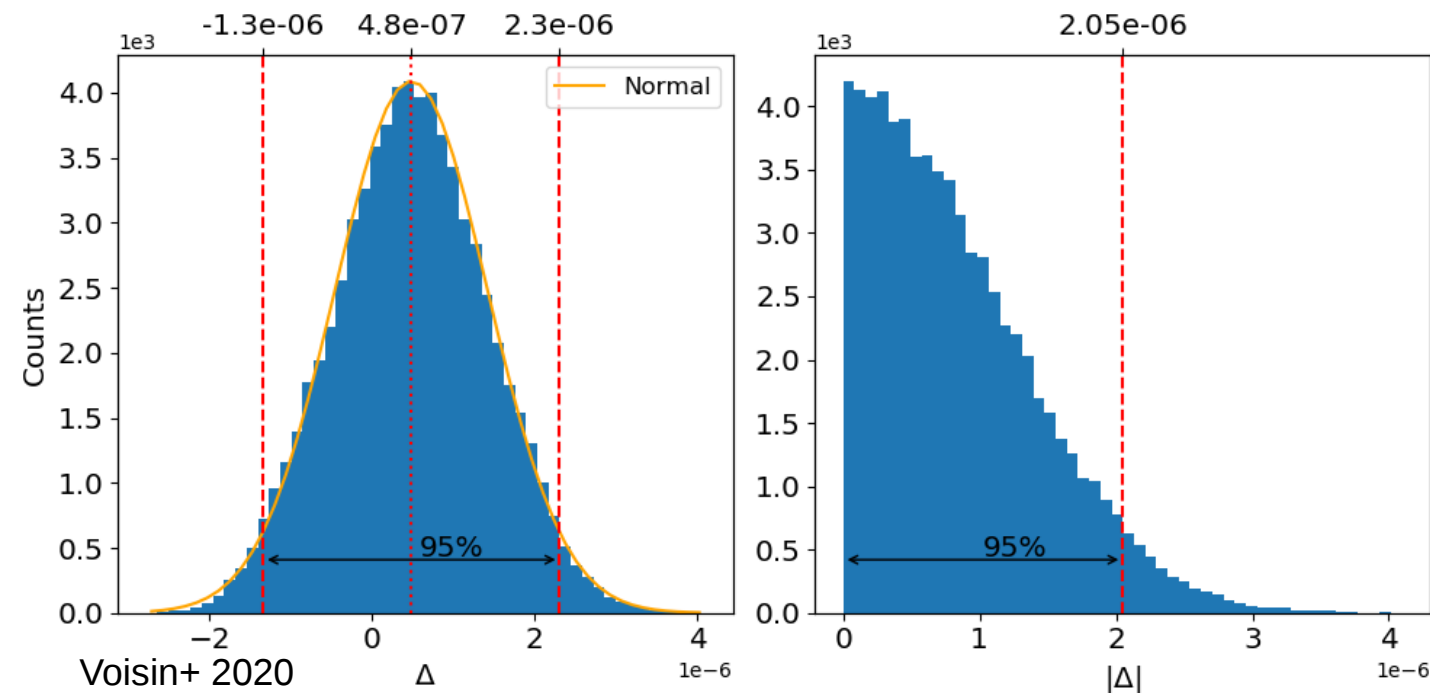
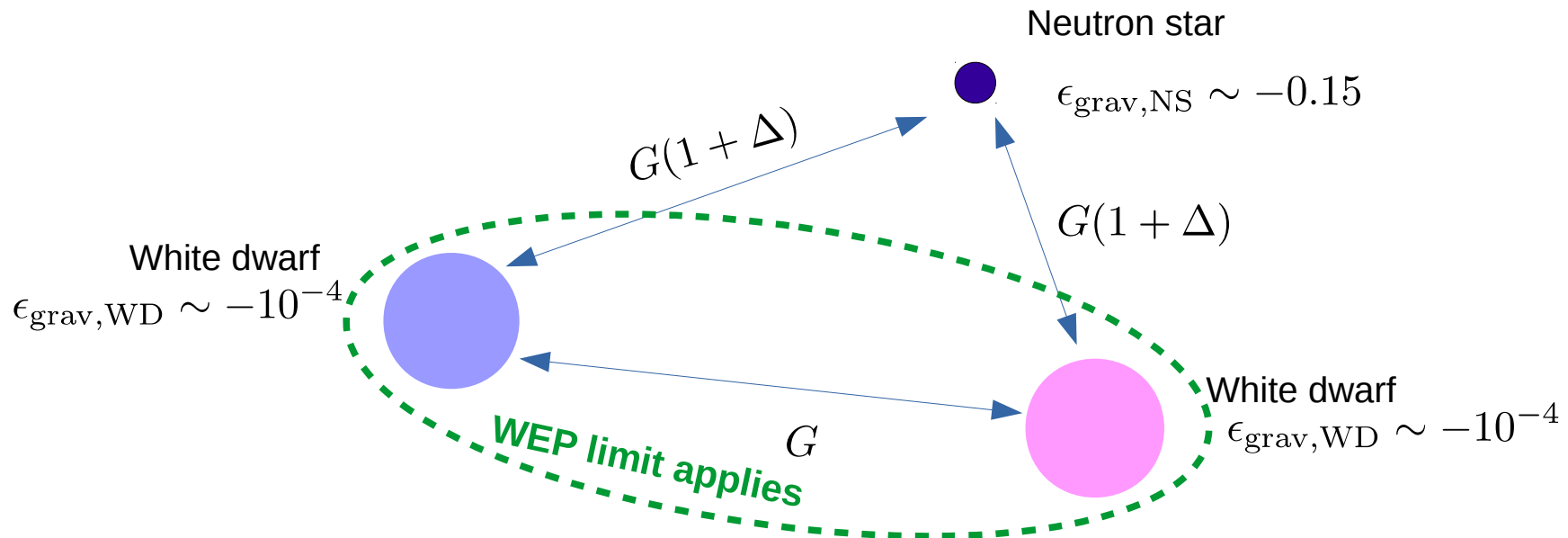
More easily said than done:

- 27 model parameters :
 - 2 pulsar spin
 - 2x6 orbital
 - 6 astrometric
 - 2 radio propagation (DM)
 - 1 SEP violation parameter
- 10 sec to calculate a single model
- Need reliable posterior distribution function on each parameter → **MCMC**

100,000 CPU hours on MESOPSL cluster



What about the SEP ?



$$\Delta = (0.5 \pm 1.8) \times 10^{-6}$$

$$|\Delta| < 2.05 \times 10^{-6}$$

95% confidence

Comparison to Archibald+2018

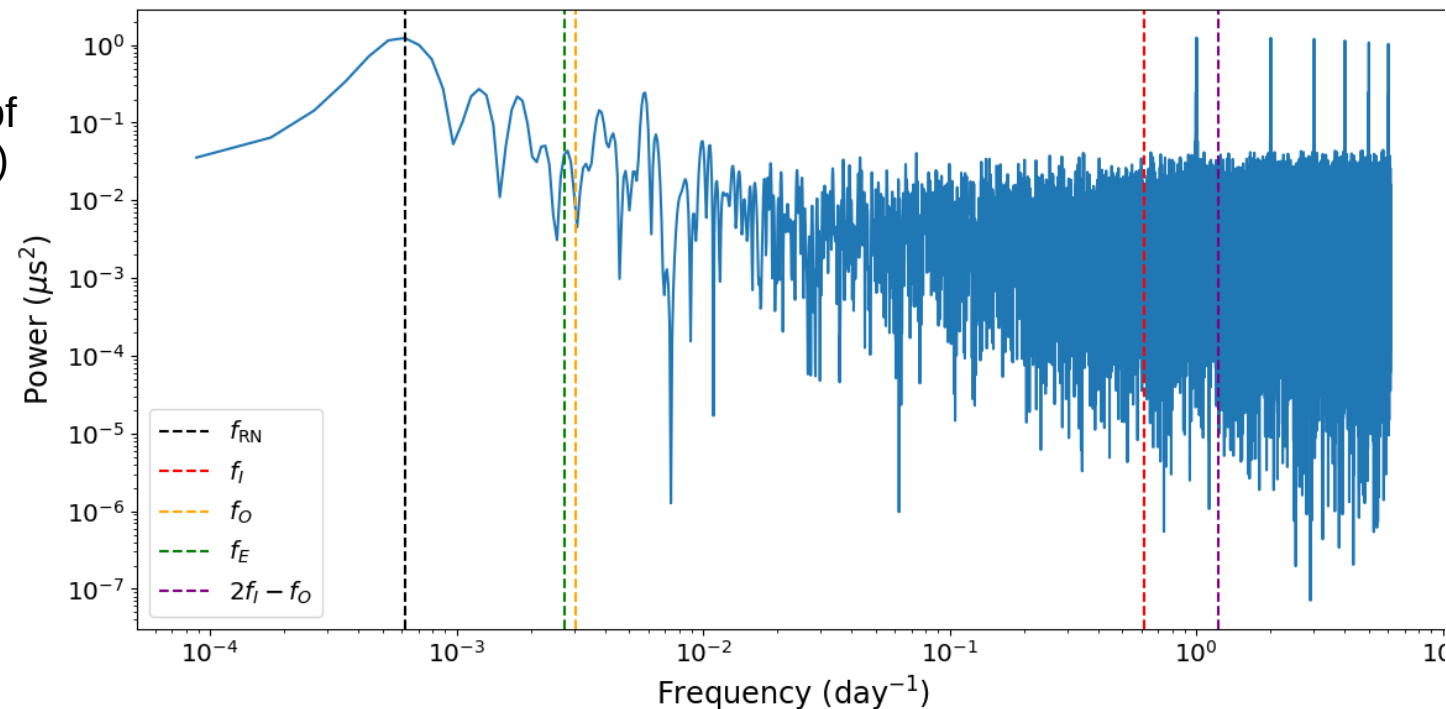
→ Archibald+ 2018: $|\Delta| < 2.8 \times 10^{-6}$ (95% confidence)
Uncertainty mostly systematic

→ Voisin+ 2020: $|\Delta| < 2.05 \times 10^{-6}$ (95% confidence)
Uncertainty fully statistical

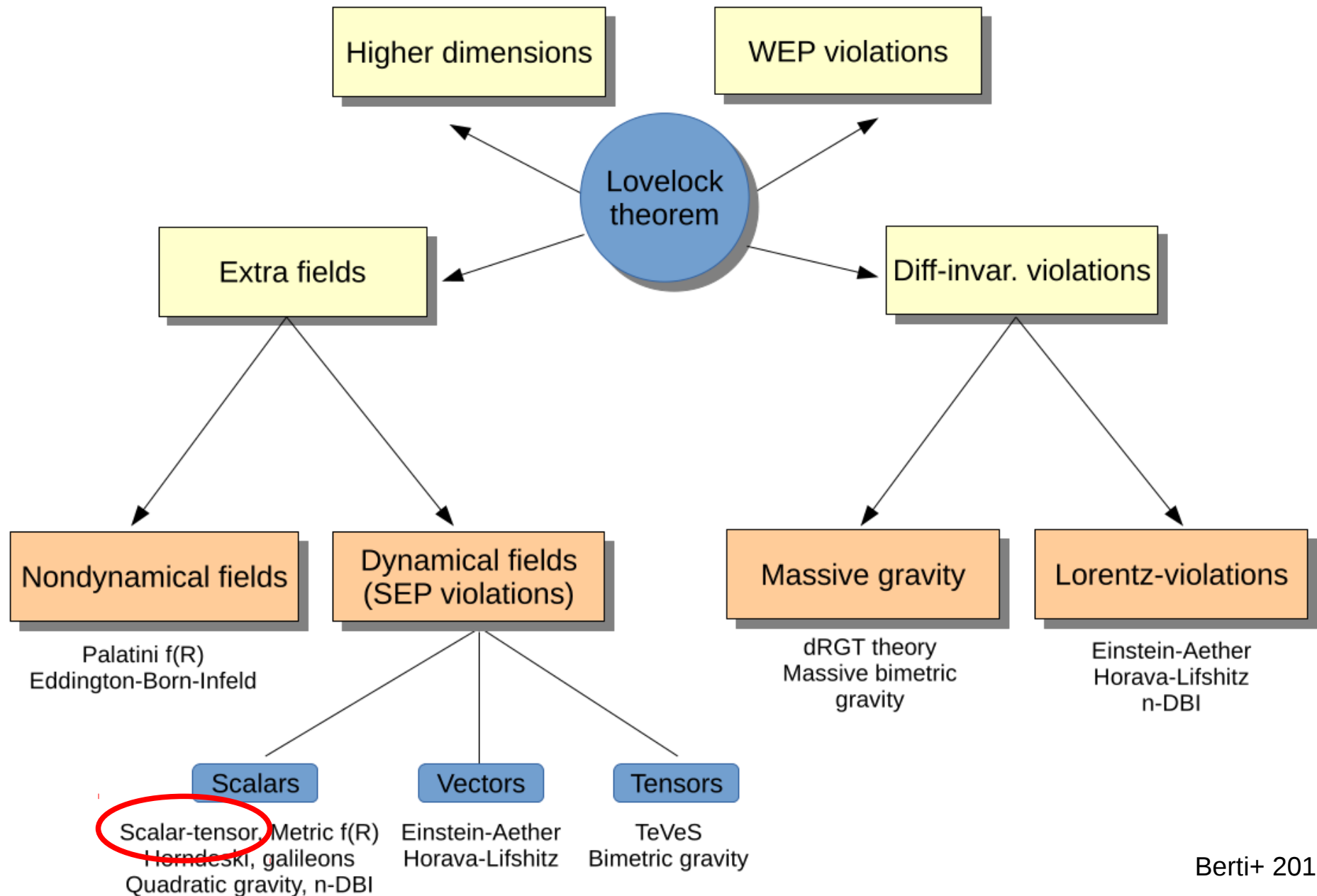
- Independent data
- Independent analysis software
- Additional effects in timing model (Kopeikin delay)

Other differences:

- 1st measurement of longitude of ascending node (Voisin+ 2020)
- 2.5 sigma tension in masses



Beyond General Relativity



Bergmann-Wagonner theories

Bergmann 1968, Wagonner 1970

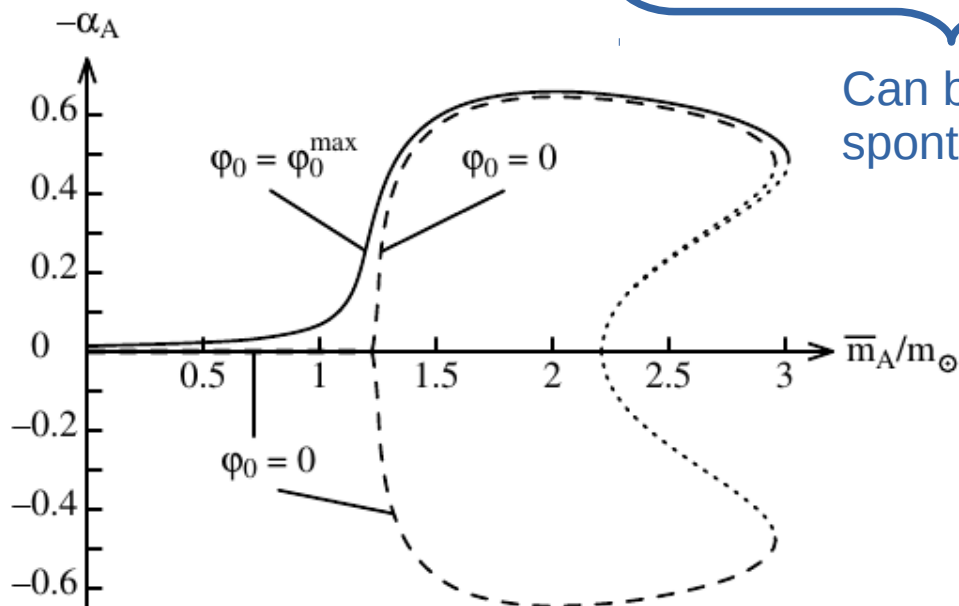
$$S_{\text{GR}} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_0} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} R + S_{\text{mat}}$$

Coupling function

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G_0} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left(R\phi - \frac{\omega(\phi)}{\phi} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi - U(\phi) \right) + S_{\text{mat}}$$

Scalar potential

$$\Delta = -2\zeta s_p \text{ with } s_p = \left. \frac{d \ln m_p(\phi)}{d \ln \phi} \right|_{\phi_0} \text{ and } \zeta = \frac{1}{2\omega(\phi_0) + 4}$$



Can become arbitrarily large in case of spontaneous scalarisation !

Spontaneous scalarisation (Damour and Esposito-Farèse 1996)

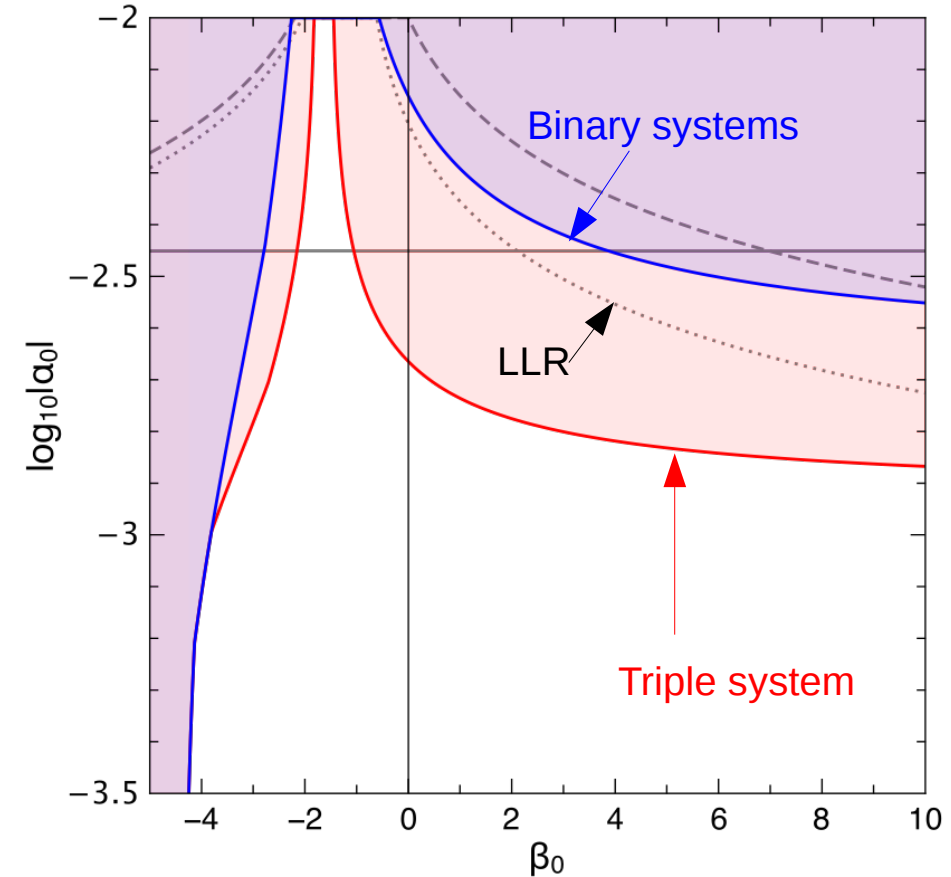
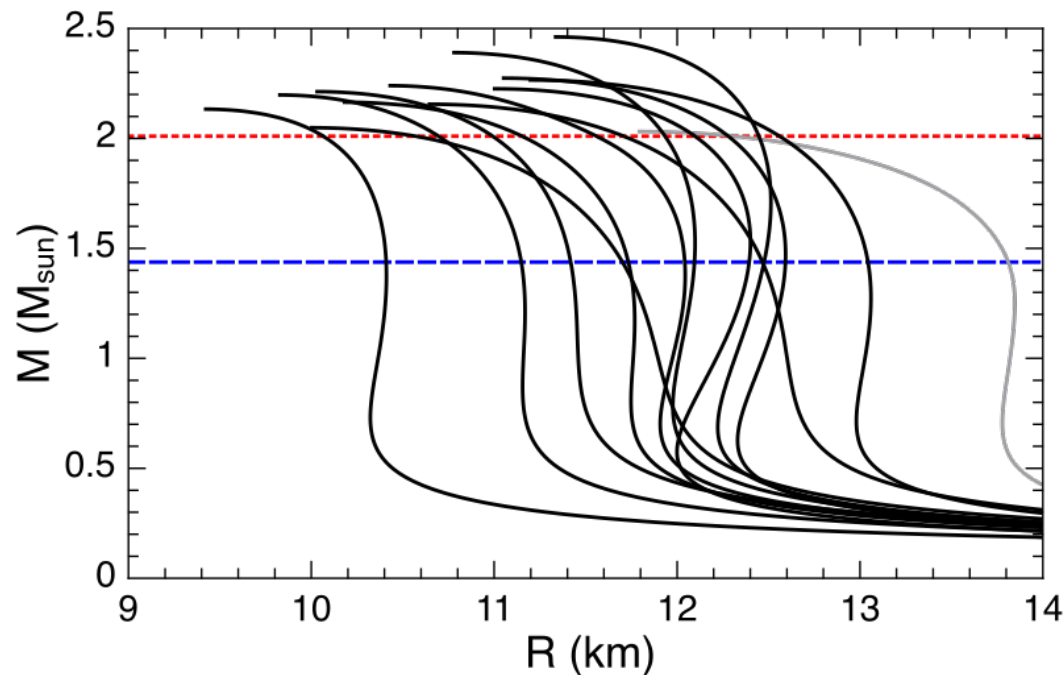
Damour-Esposito-Farèse theory

$$\omega(\phi) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\alpha_0^2 - \beta_0 \ln \phi} - 3 \right)$$

$$\zeta = \frac{\alpha_0^2}{1 + \alpha_0^2}$$

NS Sensitivity: S_p

depends on the equation of state



Voisin+ 2020



Thank you !

