

Binary Neutron Stars I: bulk dynamics and gravitational waves

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Blended Intensive Programme (BIP):

Relativistic Fluid Dynamics

Plan of the talk I

- The richness of merging binary neutron stars
- EOS from GW spectroscopy
- Signatures of quark-hadron phase transitions
- Listening to the long ringdown

The two-body problem in GR

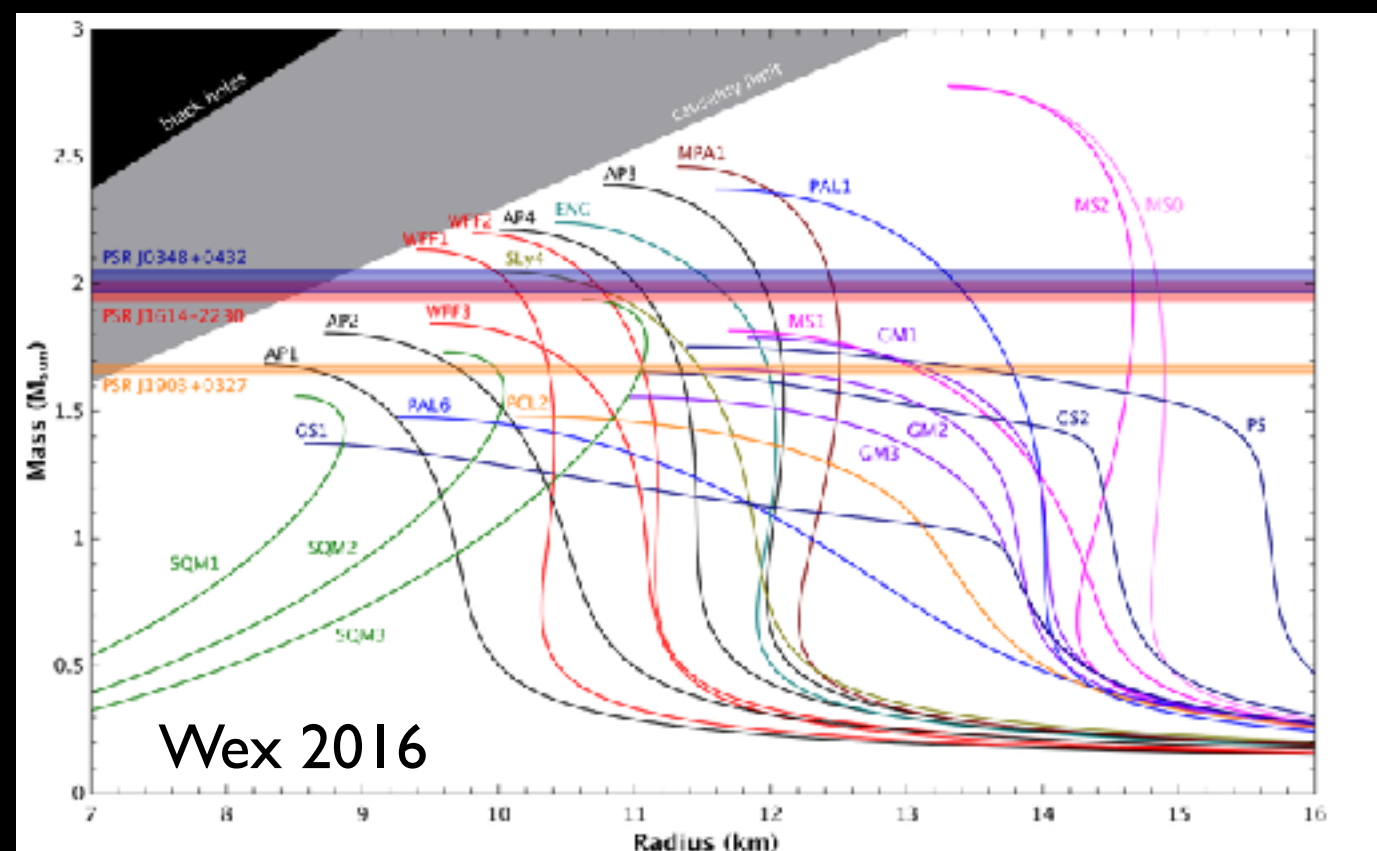
- For black holes the process is very **simple**:

$$\text{BH} + \text{BH} \longrightarrow \text{BH} + \text{GWs}$$

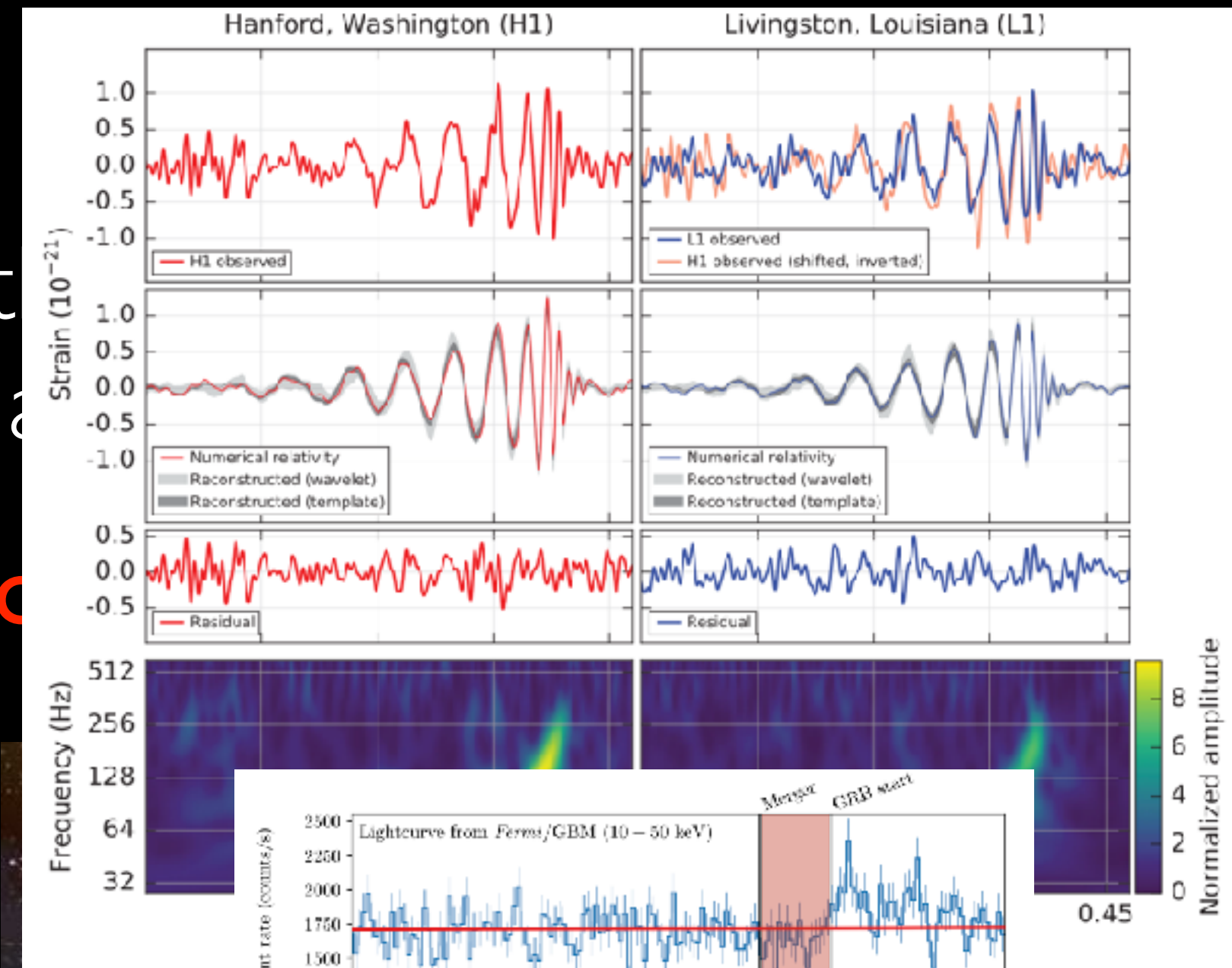
- For NSs the question is more **subtle**: the formation of a hyper-massive neutron star (HMNS), i.e. a

$$\text{NS} + \text{NS} \longrightarrow \text{HMNS} + \dots? \longrightarrow \text{BH} + \text{torus}$$

- **HMNS** phase can provide clear information on **EOS**

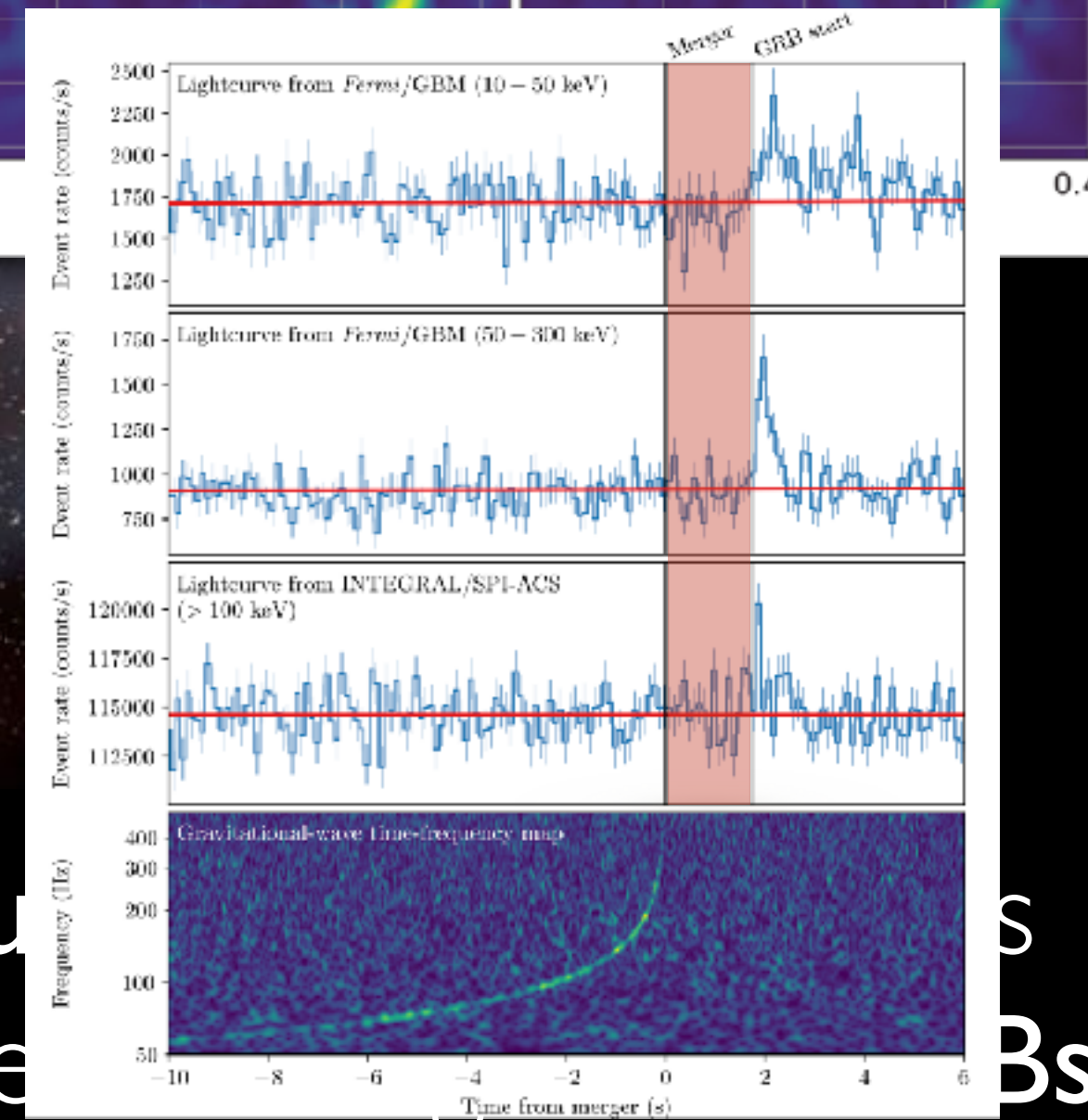


GW150914



- **BH+torus**

GW170817



NS
Bs

The two-body problem in GR

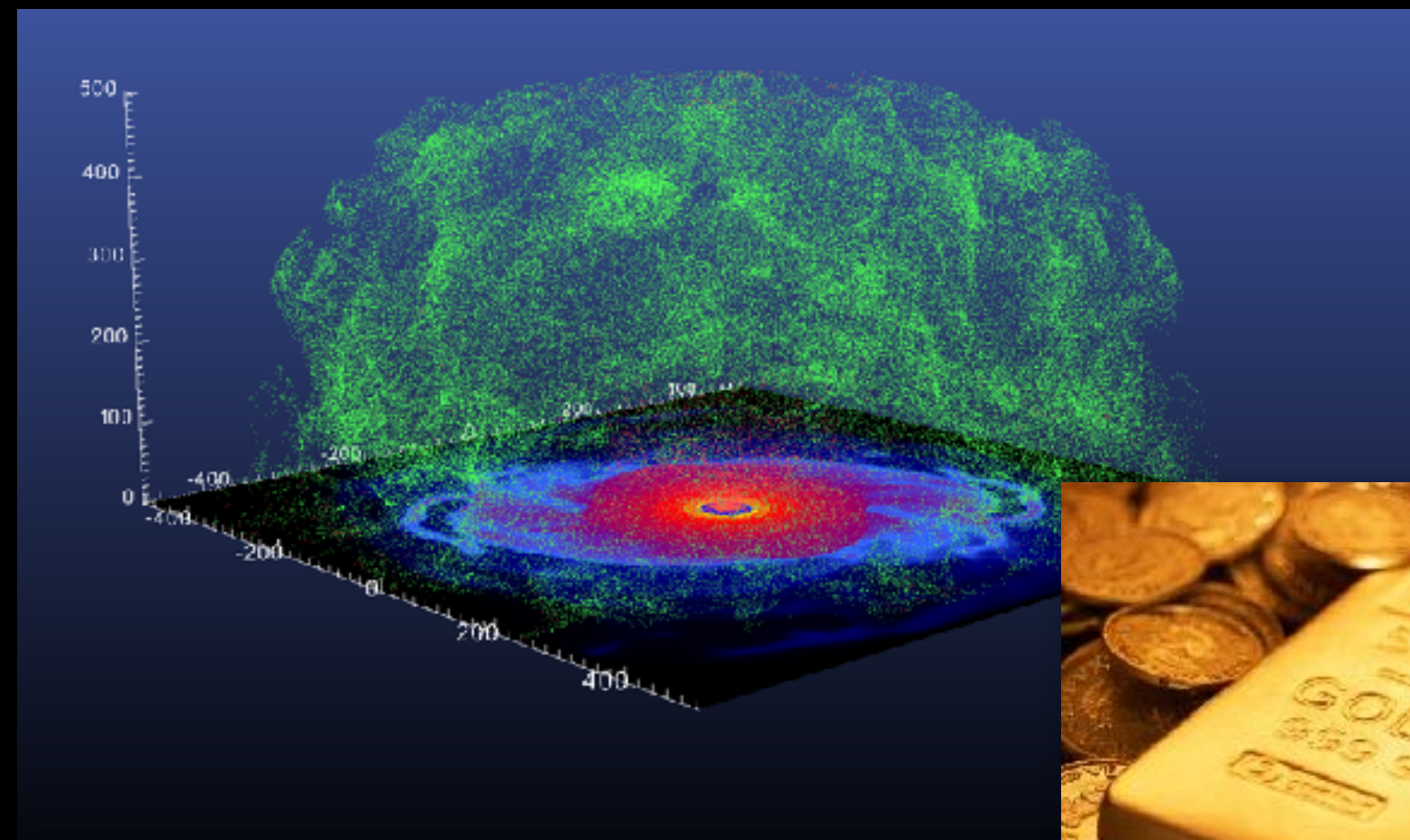
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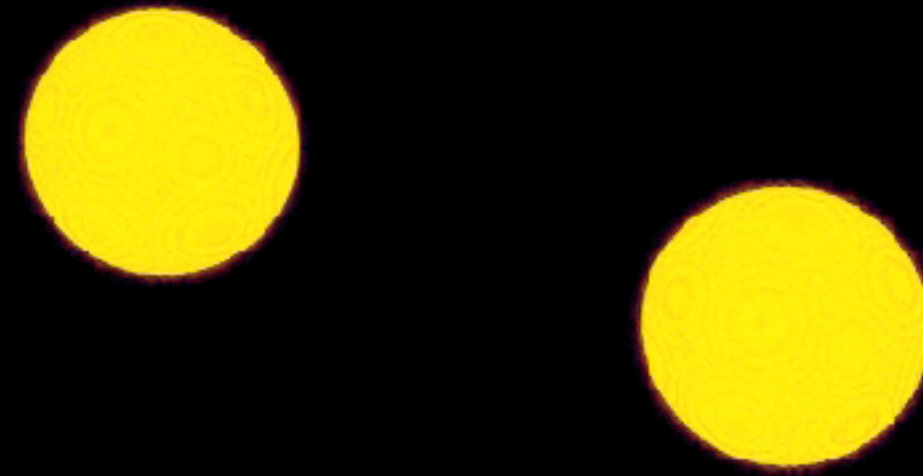
- For NSs the question is more **subtle**: the merger leads to an hyper-massive neutron star (HMNS), ie a metastable equilibrium:



- **ejected matter** undergoes nucleosynthesis of heavy elements



A prototypical simulation with possibly
the best code looks like this...



merger \longrightarrow HMNS \longrightarrow BH + torus
 $M = 2 \times 1.35 M_{\odot}$

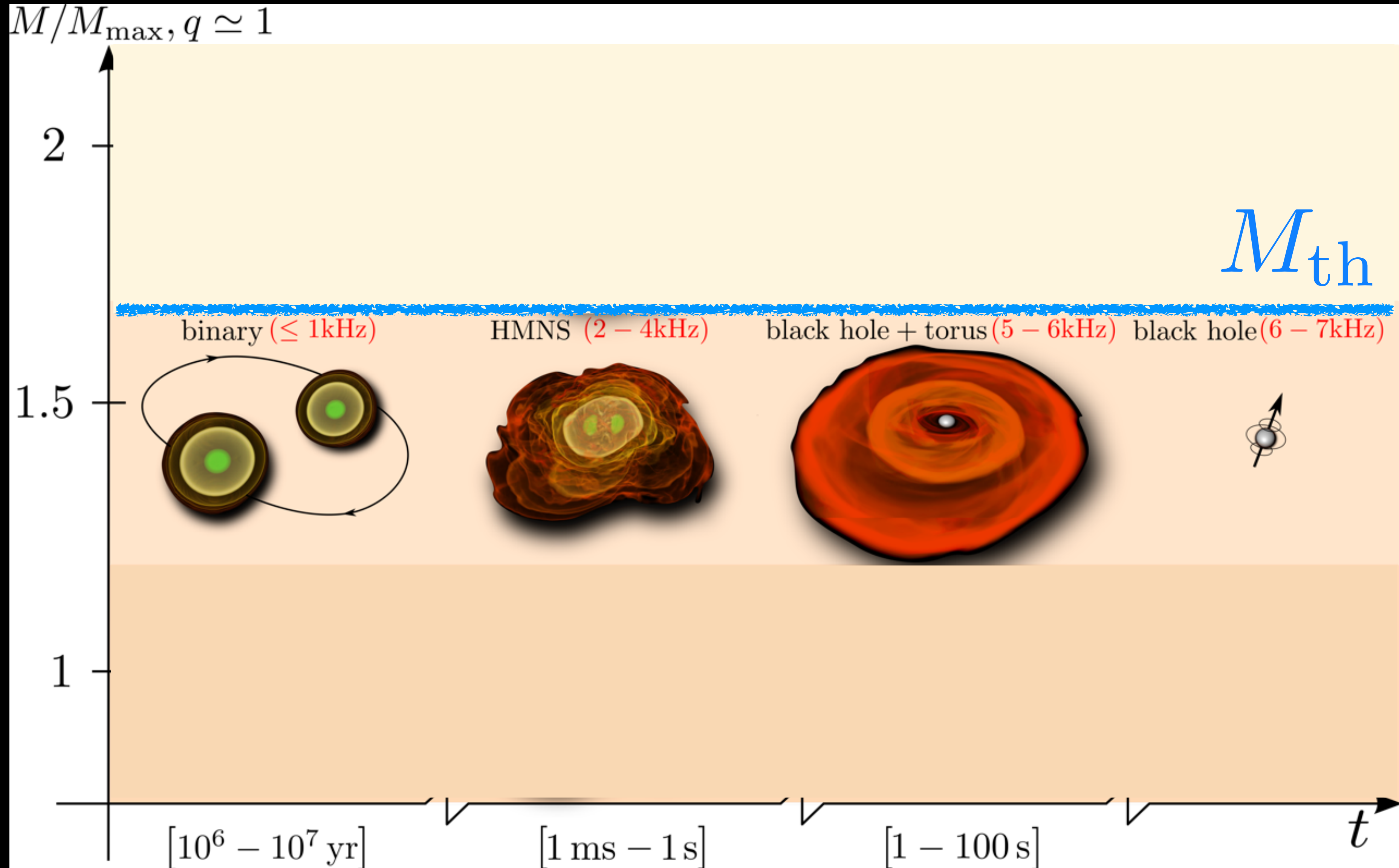
timescale for all this is 0.01 - 1 sec
EOS

merger → HMNS → BH + torus

Quantitative differences are produced by:

- **total mass** (prompt vs delayed collapse)

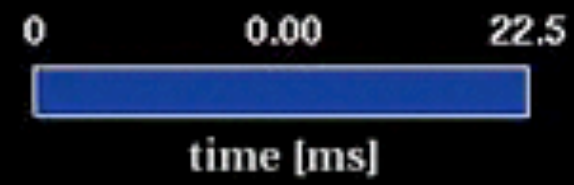
Threshold mass



merger → HMNS → BH + torus

Quantitative differences are produced by:

- total **mass** (prompt vs delayed collapse)
- mass **asymmetries** (HMNS and torus)



Animations: Giacomazzo, Koppitz, LR

Total mass : $3.37 M_{\odot}$; mass ratio :0.80;



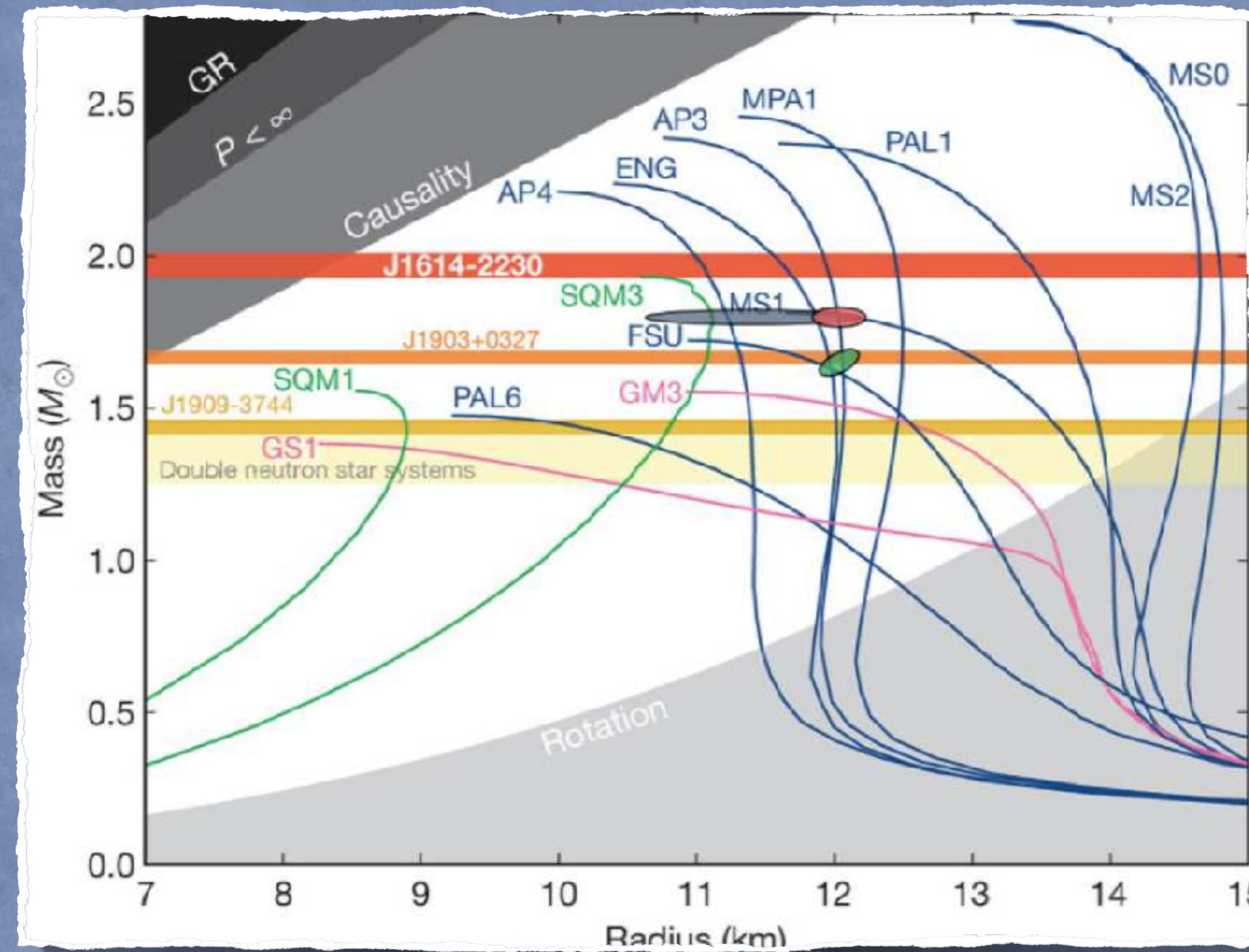
Qualitatively, this is what normally happens:

merger \longrightarrow HMNS \longrightarrow BH + torus

Quantitatively, differences are produced by:

- total **mass** (collapse and maximum mass)
- mass **asymmetries** (HMNS and torus)
- soft/stiff **EOS** (inspiral and post-merger, PT)
- **magnetic fields** (equil. and EM emission)
- **radiative** losses (equil. and nucleosynthesis)

GW spectroscopy: EOS from frequencies



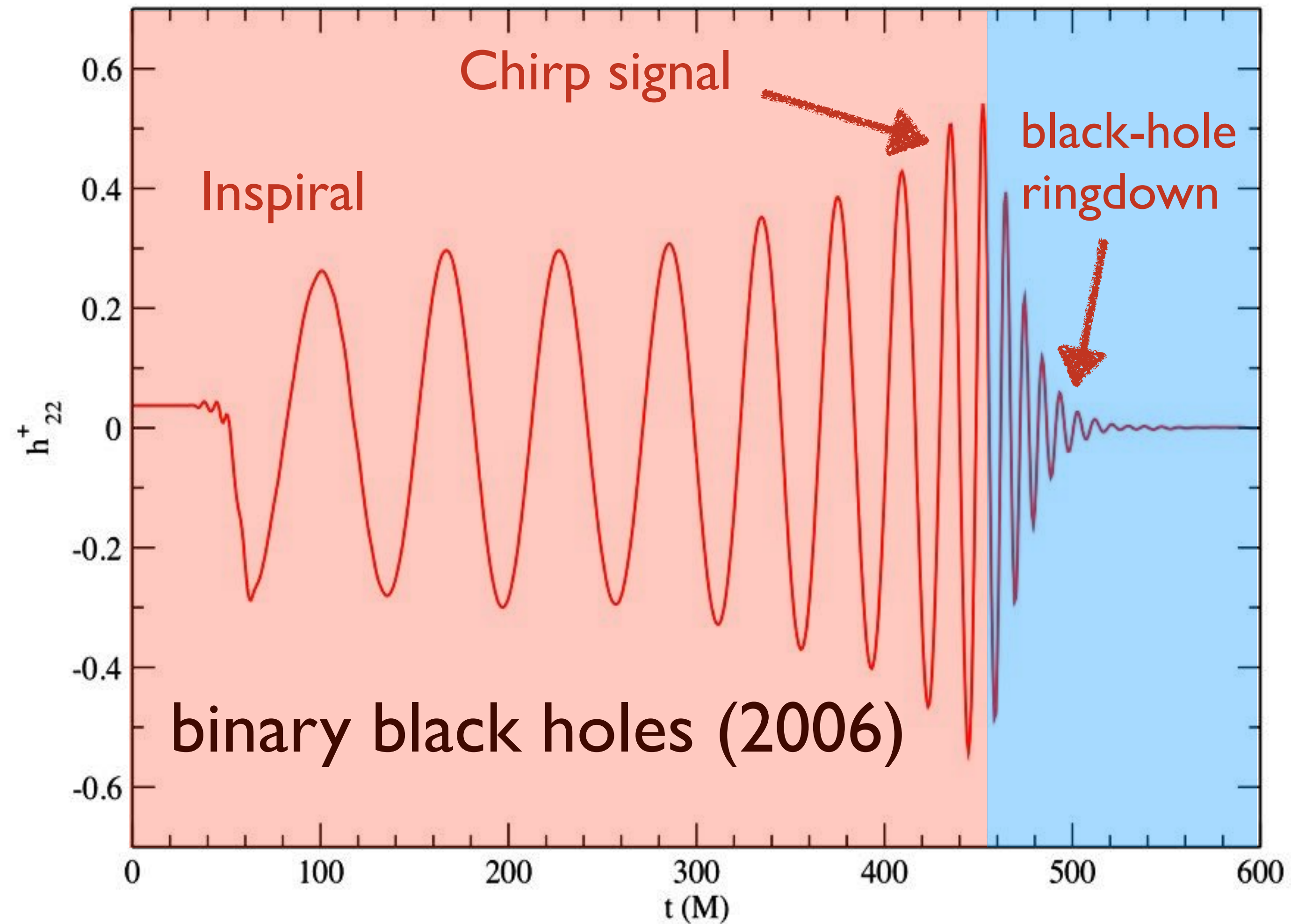
Reviews:

Baiotti & LR (2017)

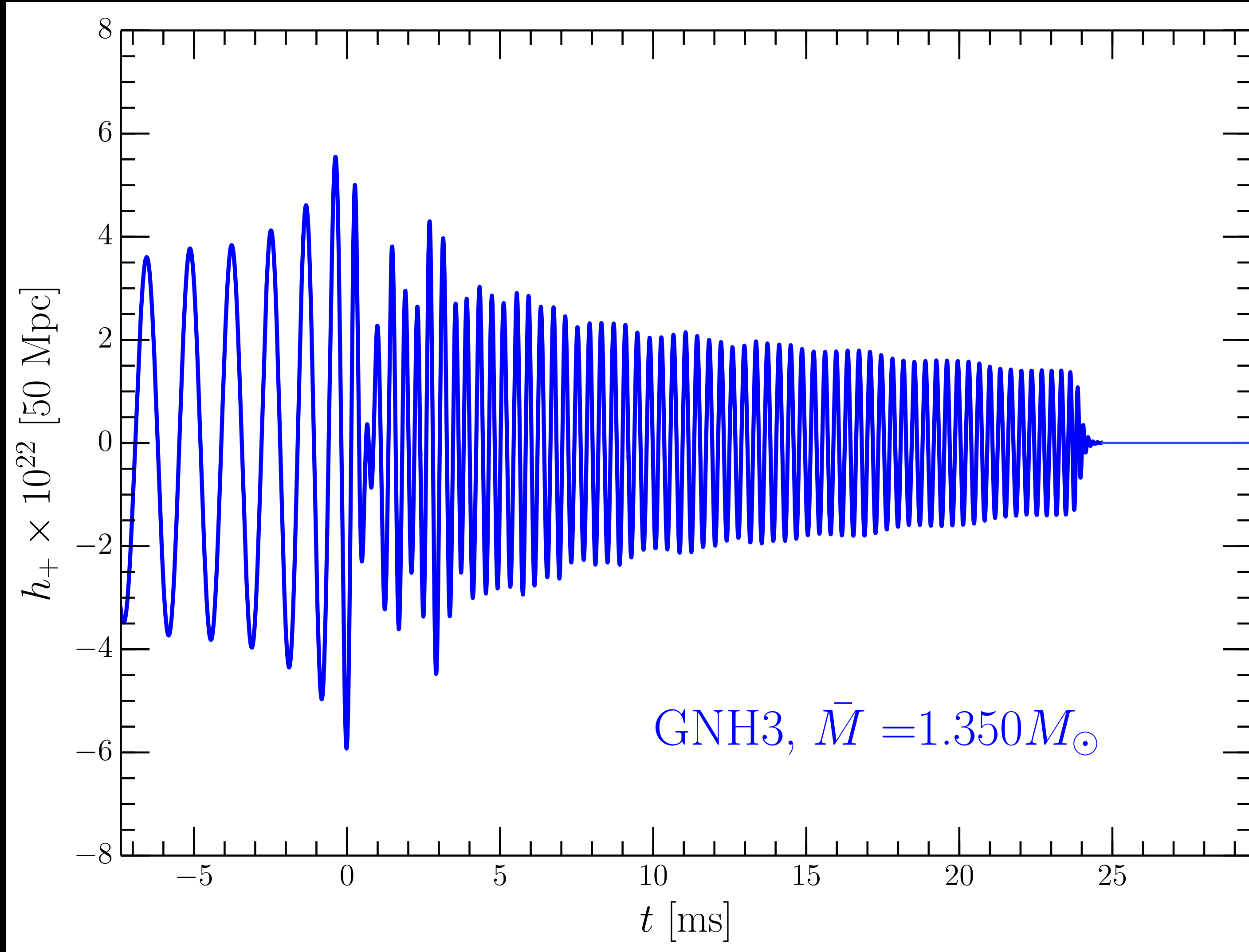
Paschalidis (2018)

Radice, Bernuzzi, Perego (2022)

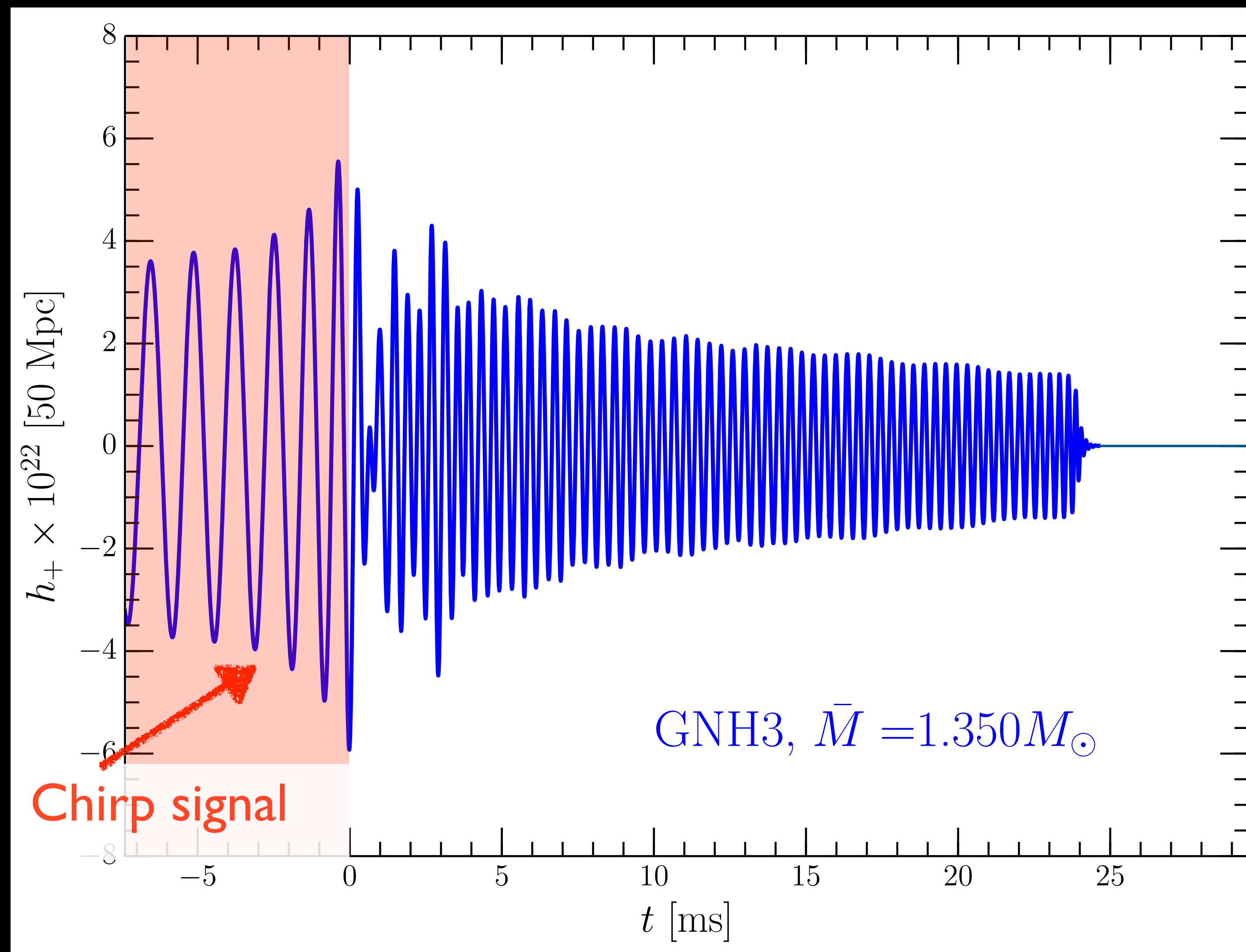
Anatomy of the GW signal



Anatomy of the GW signal

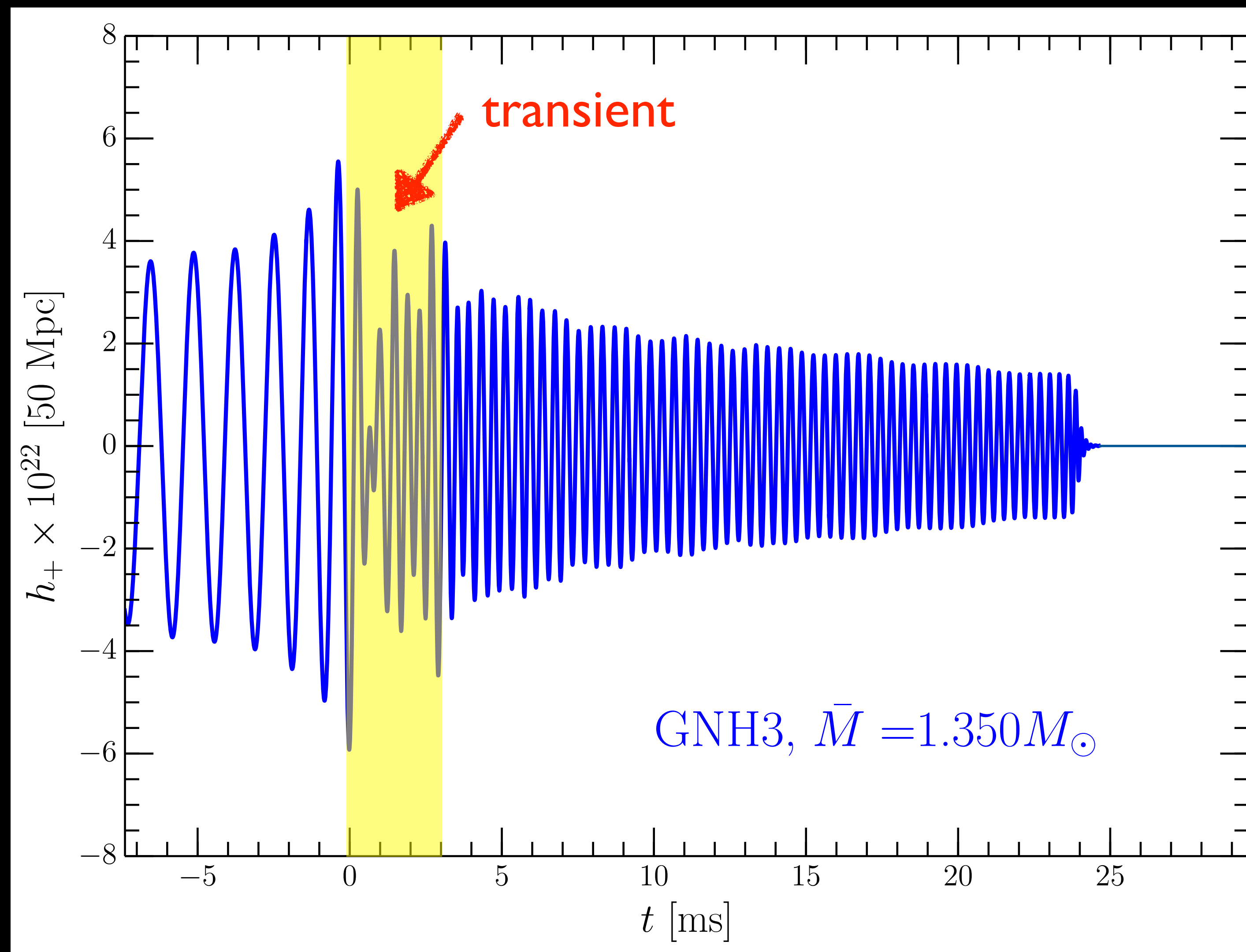


Anatomy of the GW signal



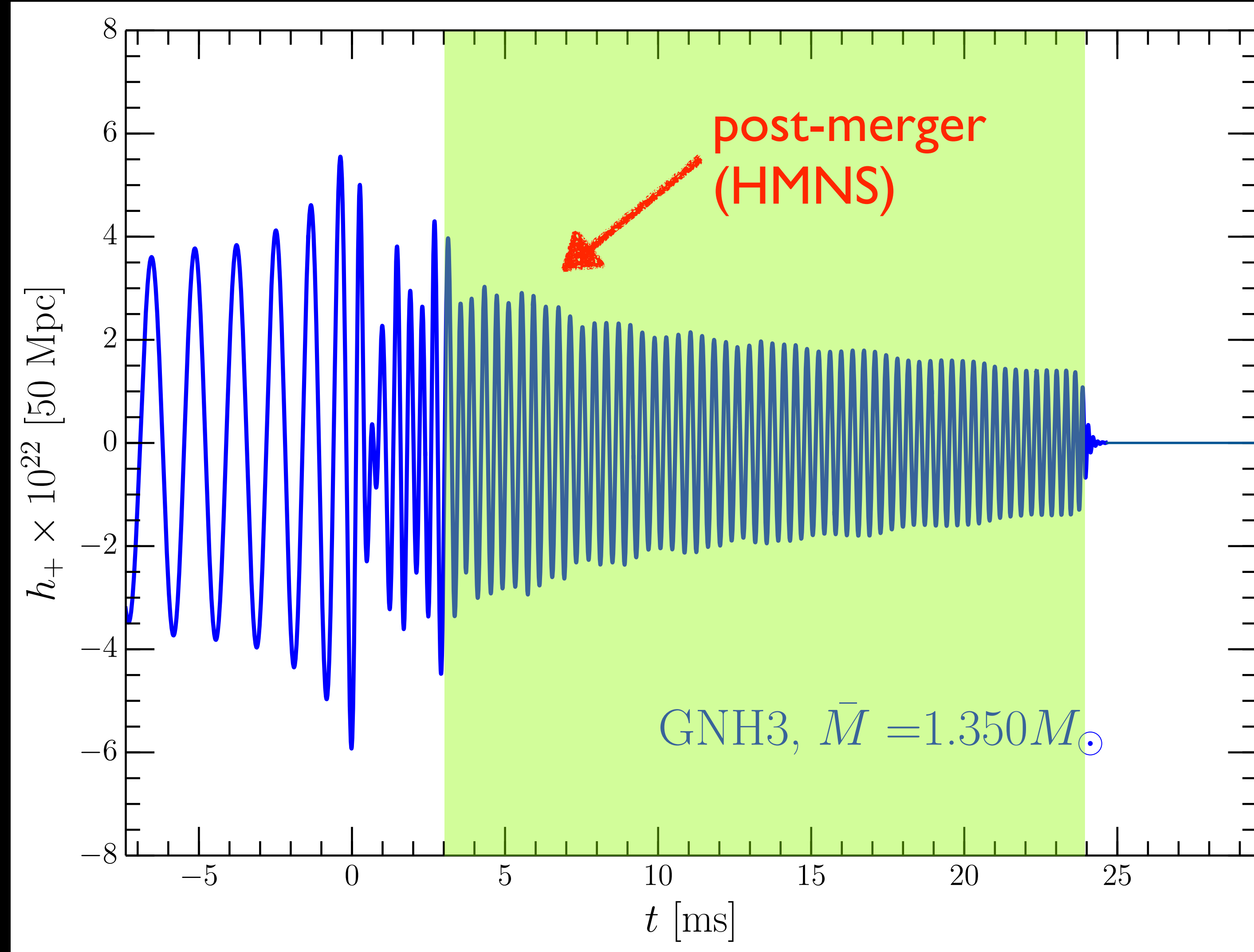
Inspiral: well approximated by PN/EOB; tidal effects important

Anatomy of the GW signal



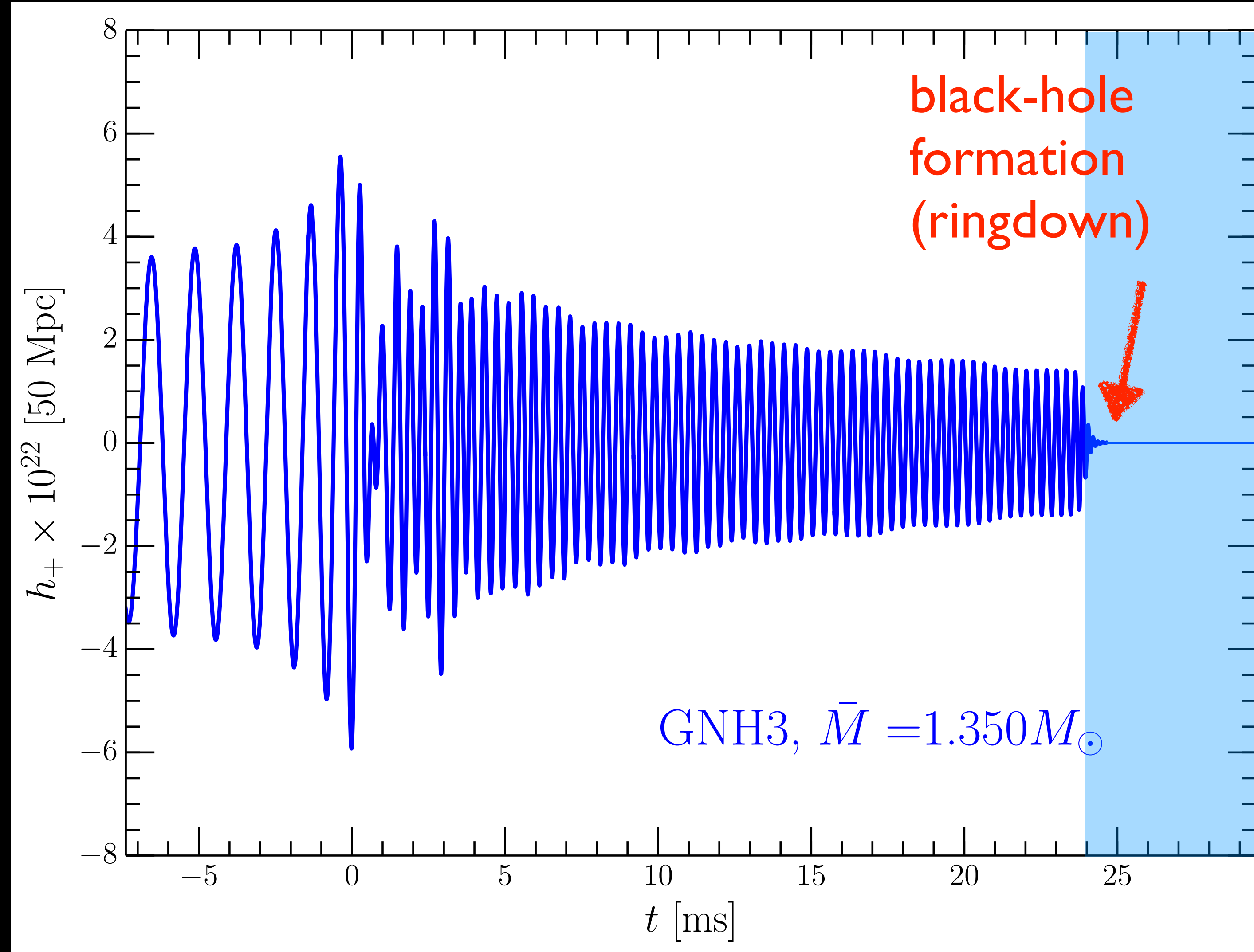
Merger: highly nonlinear but analytic description possible

Anatomy of the GW signal



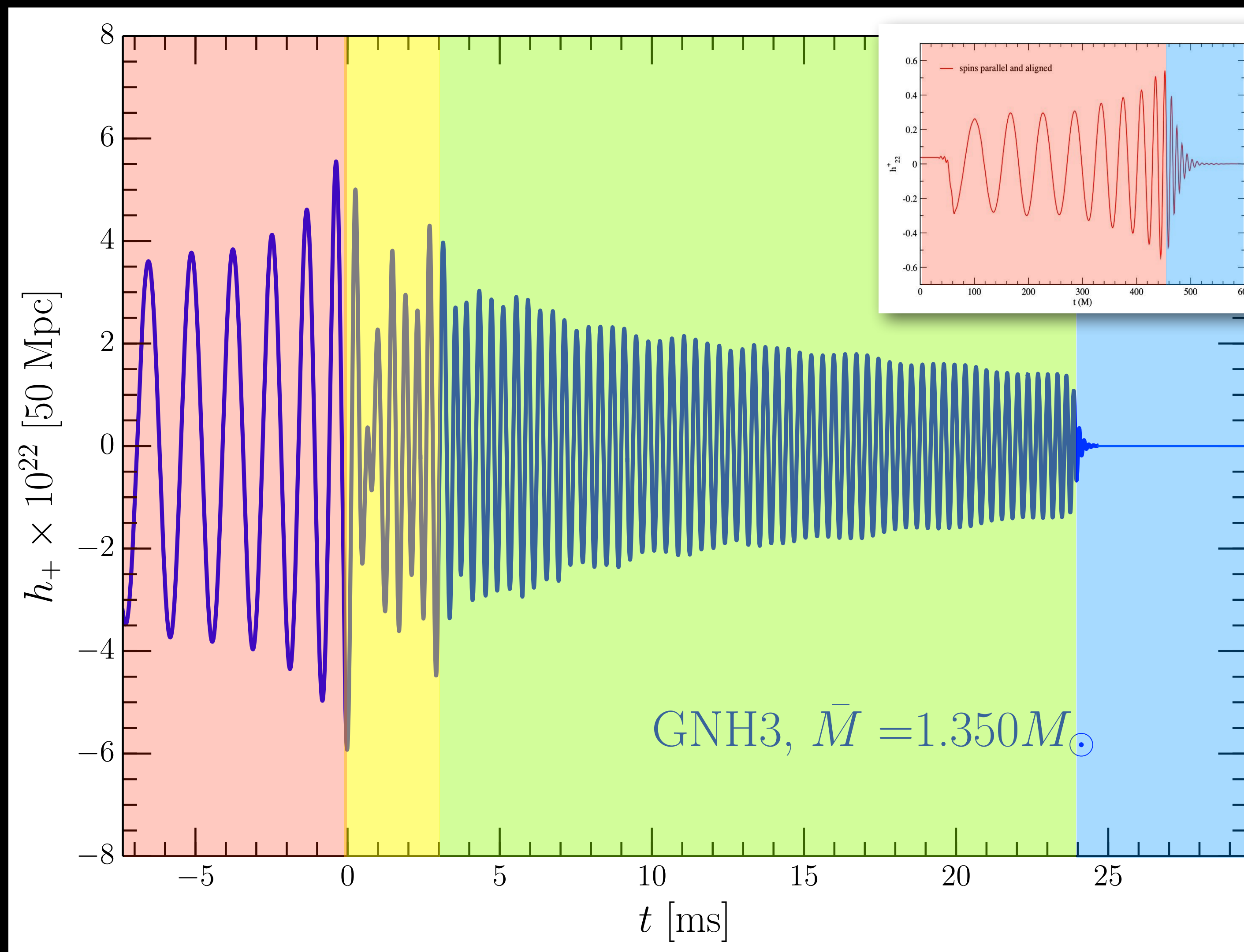
post-merger: quasi-periodic emission of bar-deformed HMNS

Anatomy of the GW signal



Collapse-ringdown: signal essentially shuts off

Anatomy of the GW signal

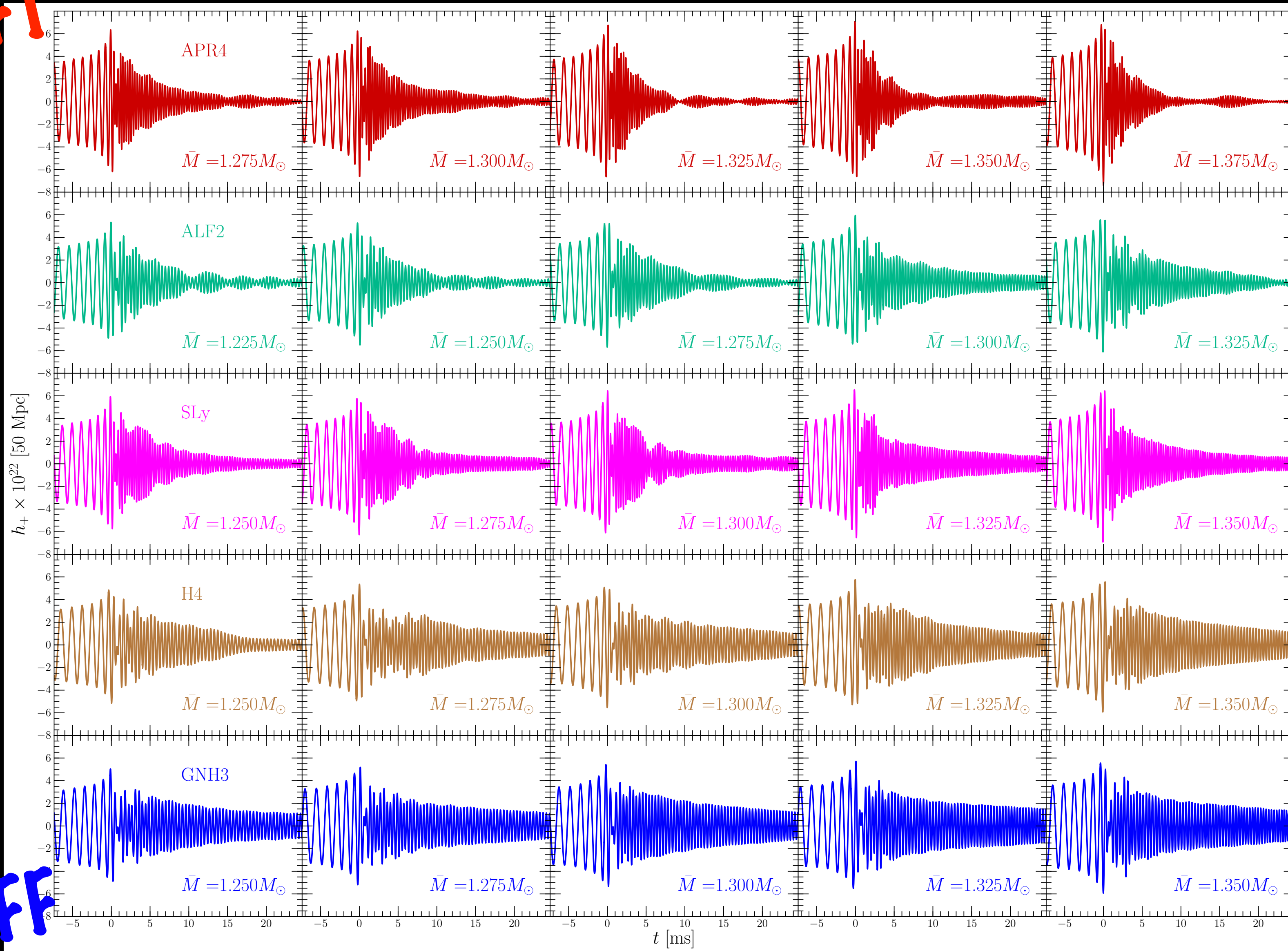


Postmerger signal: peculiar of binary NSs

What we can do nowadays

Takami, LR, Baiotti (2014, 2015), LR+ (2016)

SOFT

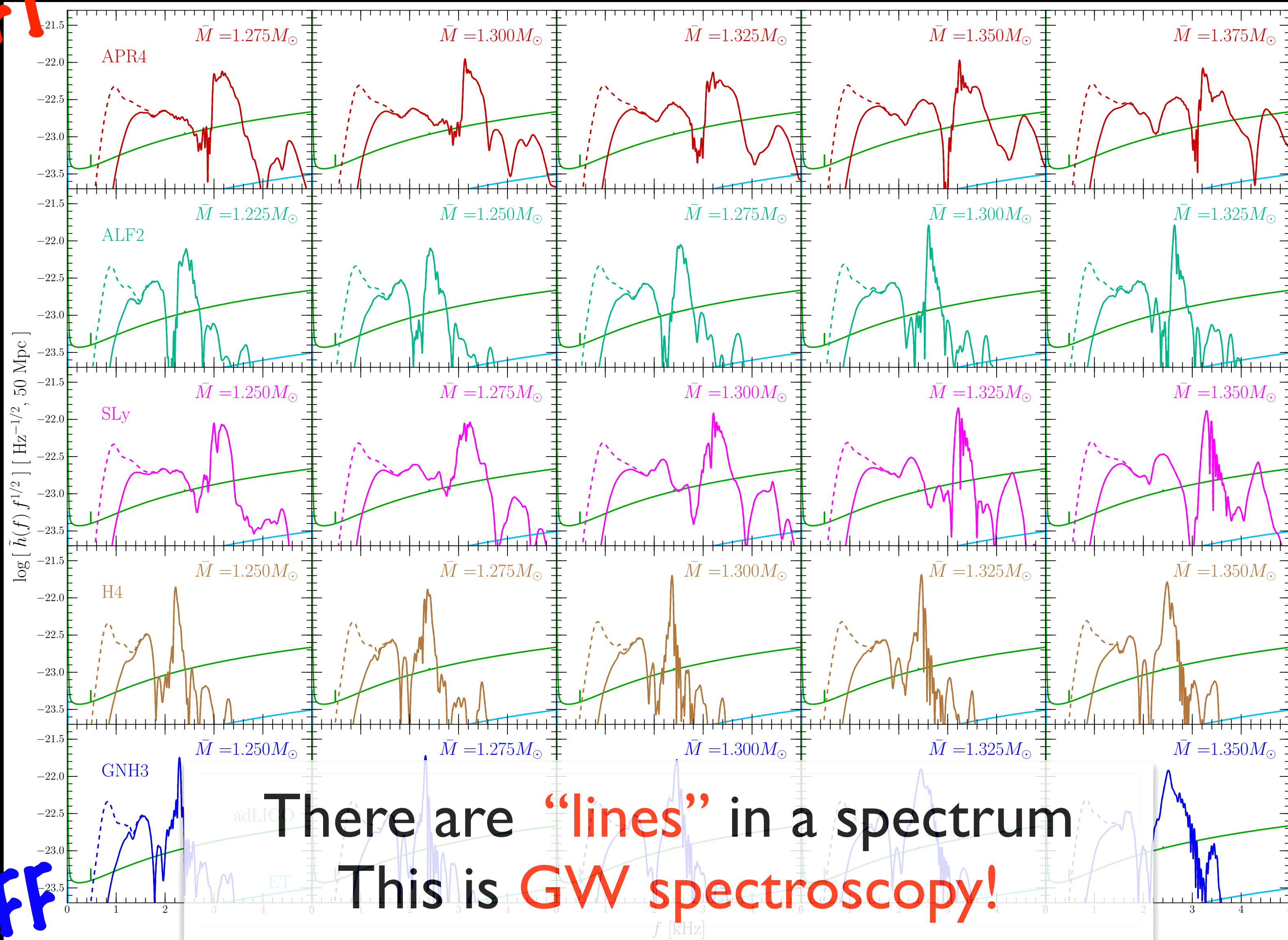


STIFF

Extracting information from the EOS

Takami, LR, Baiotti (2014, 2015), LR+ (2016)

SOFT

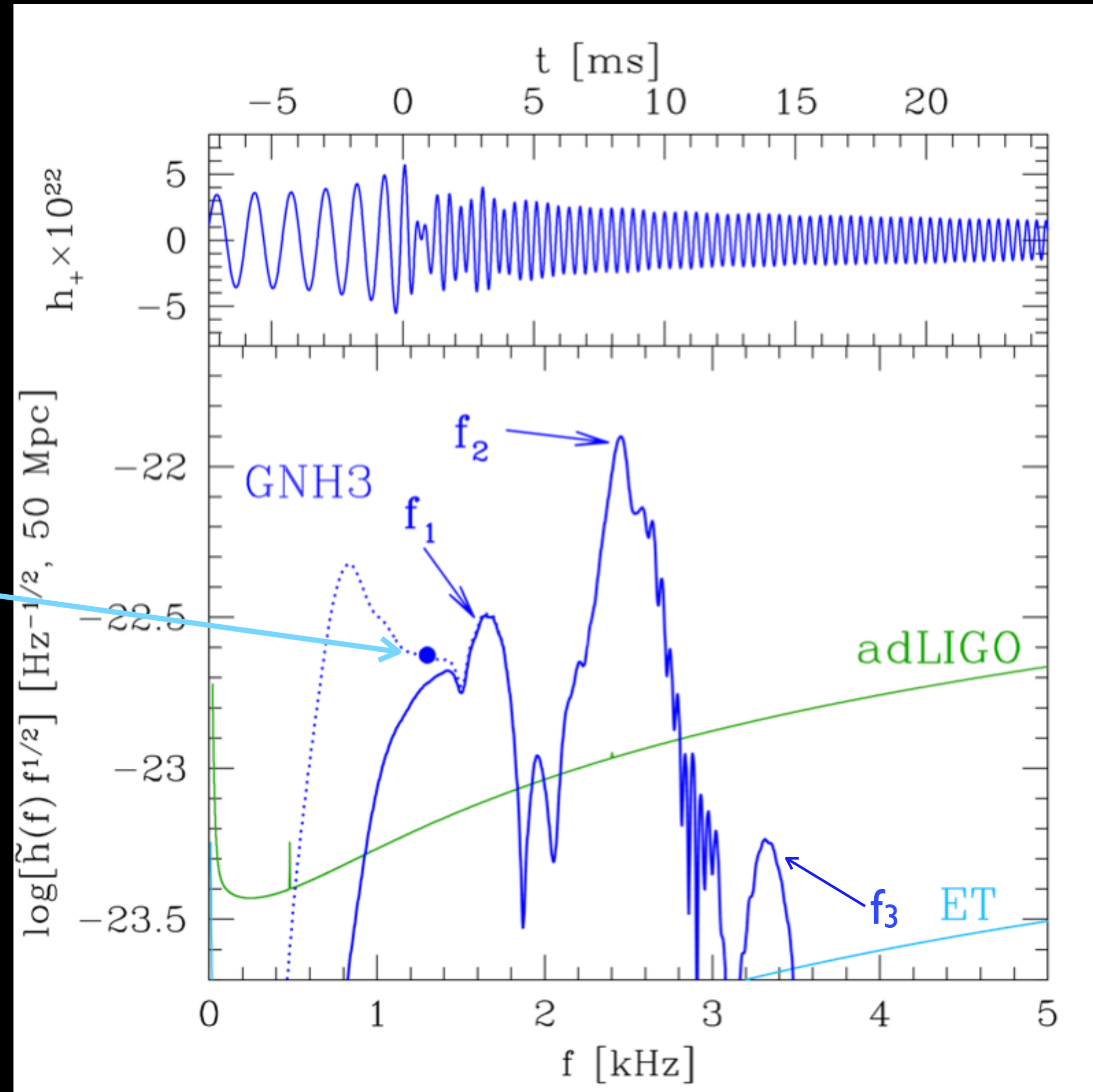


STIFF

A spectroscopic approach to the EOS

Oechslin+2007, Baiotti+2008, Bauswein+ 2011, 2012, Stergioulas+ 2011, Hotokezaka+ 2013, Takami 2014, 2015, Bernuzzi 2014, 2015, Bauswein+ 2015, Clark+ 2016, LR+2016, de Pietri+ 2016, Feo+ 2017, Bose+ 2017 ...

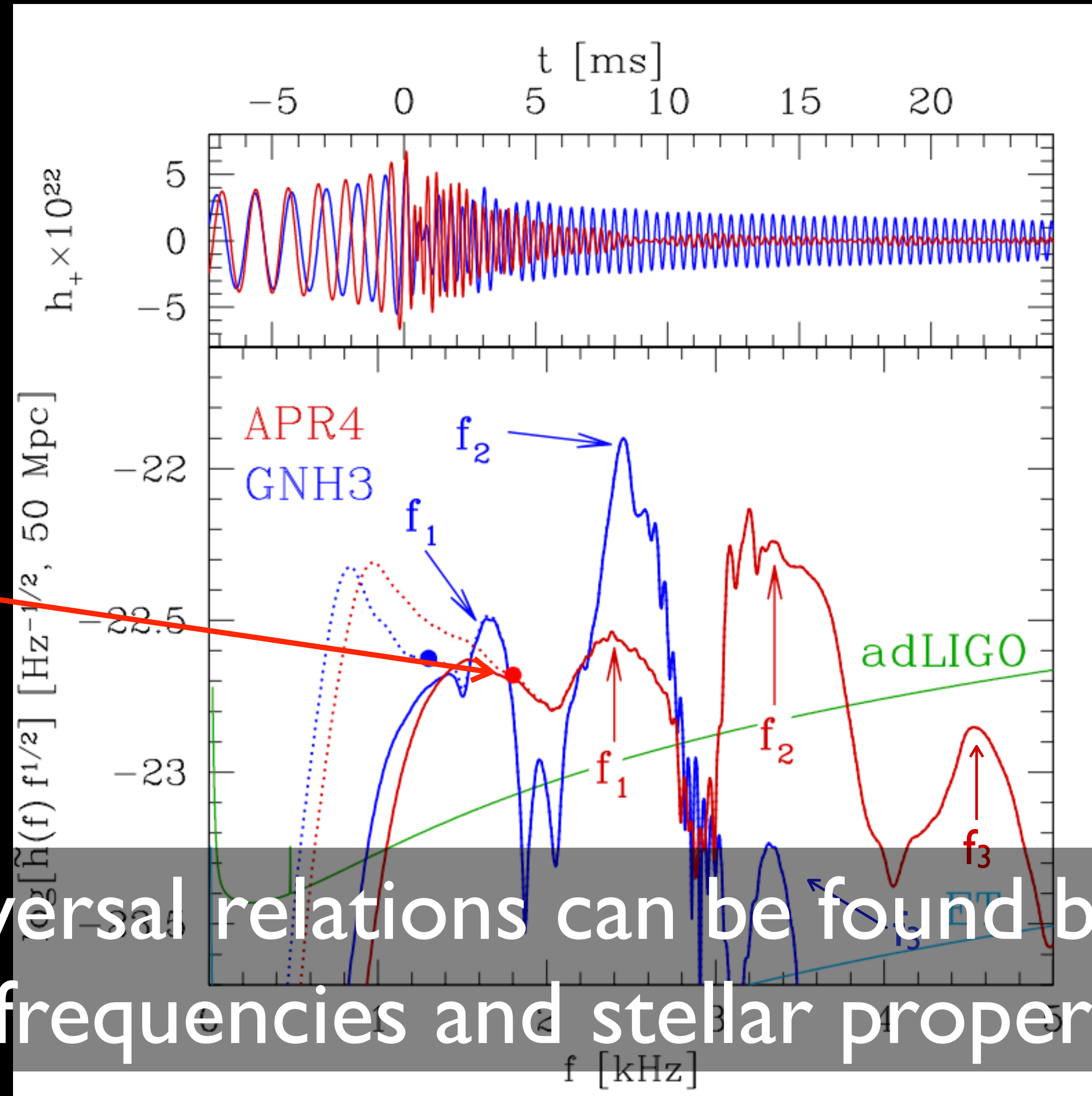
merger
frequency



A spectroscopic approach to the EOS

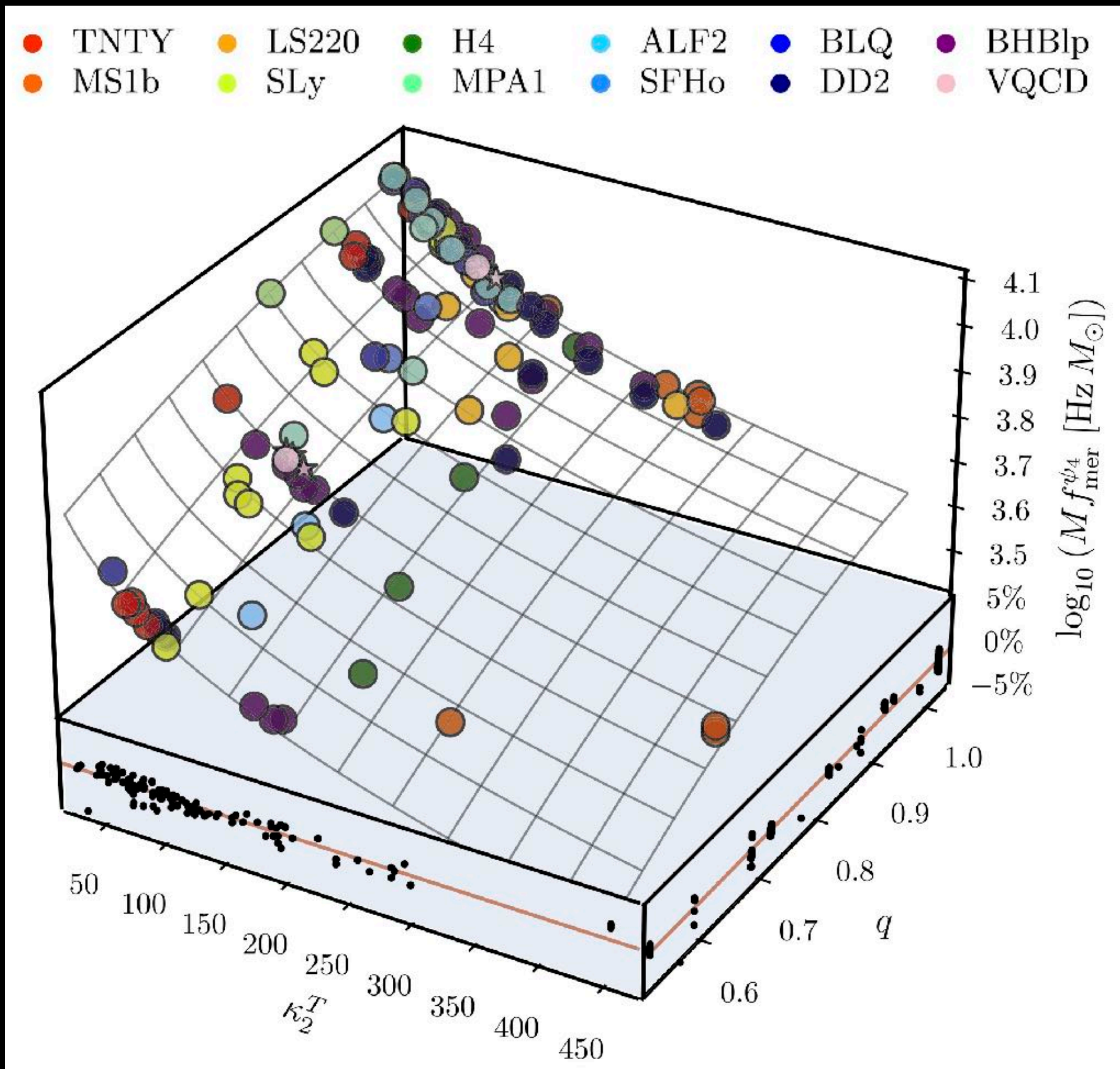
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merger
frequency



Universal relations can be found between frequencies and stellar properties

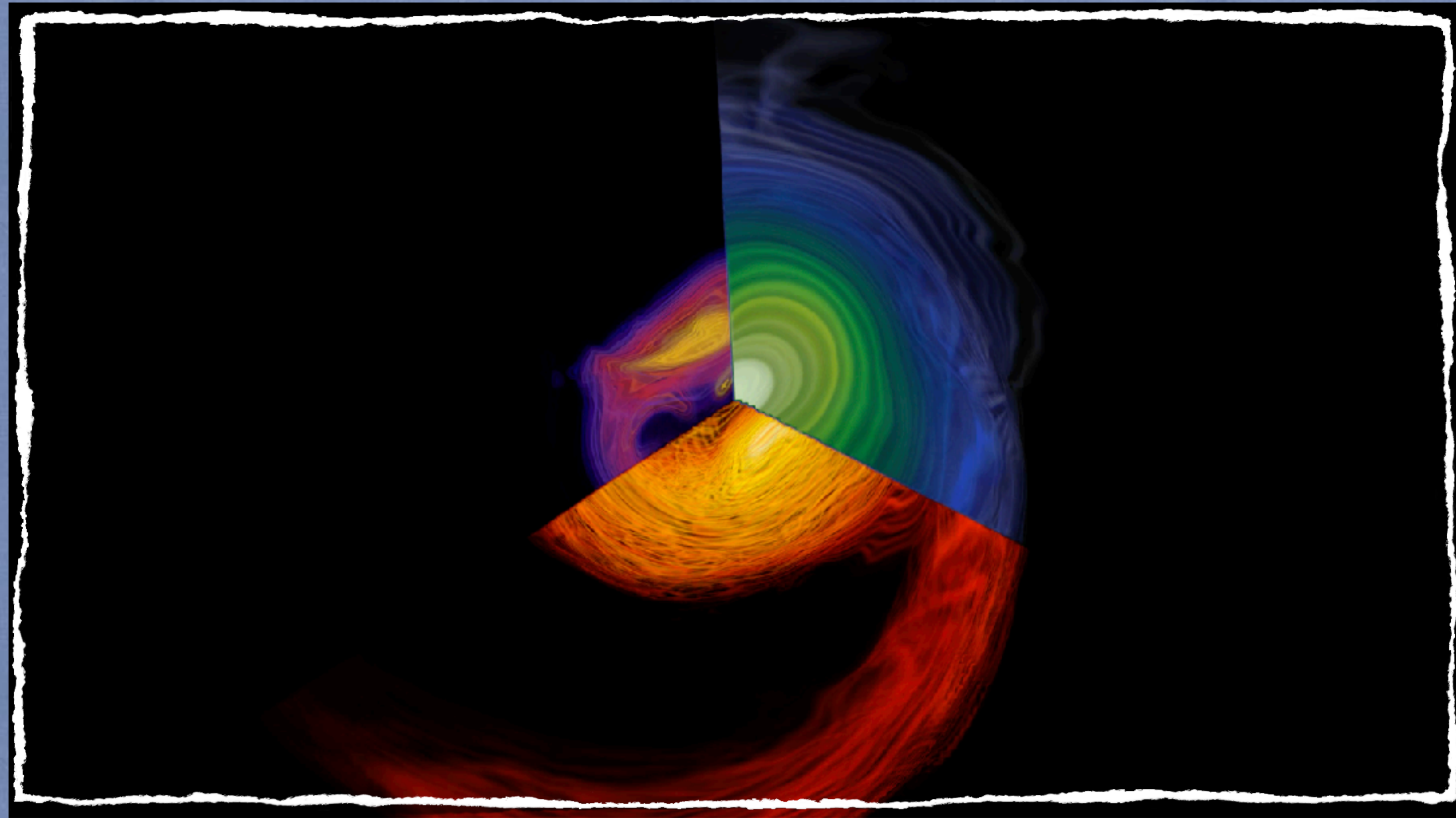
Example of quasi-universal behaviour: f_{max}



Quasi-universal behaviour of GW frequency at amplitude peak (Baiotti, LR 2016, Radice+2022 for reviews)

In other words, once f_{mer} is measured, so is the tidal deformability but also $I, Q, M/R \dots$

Signatures of HQ phase transitions

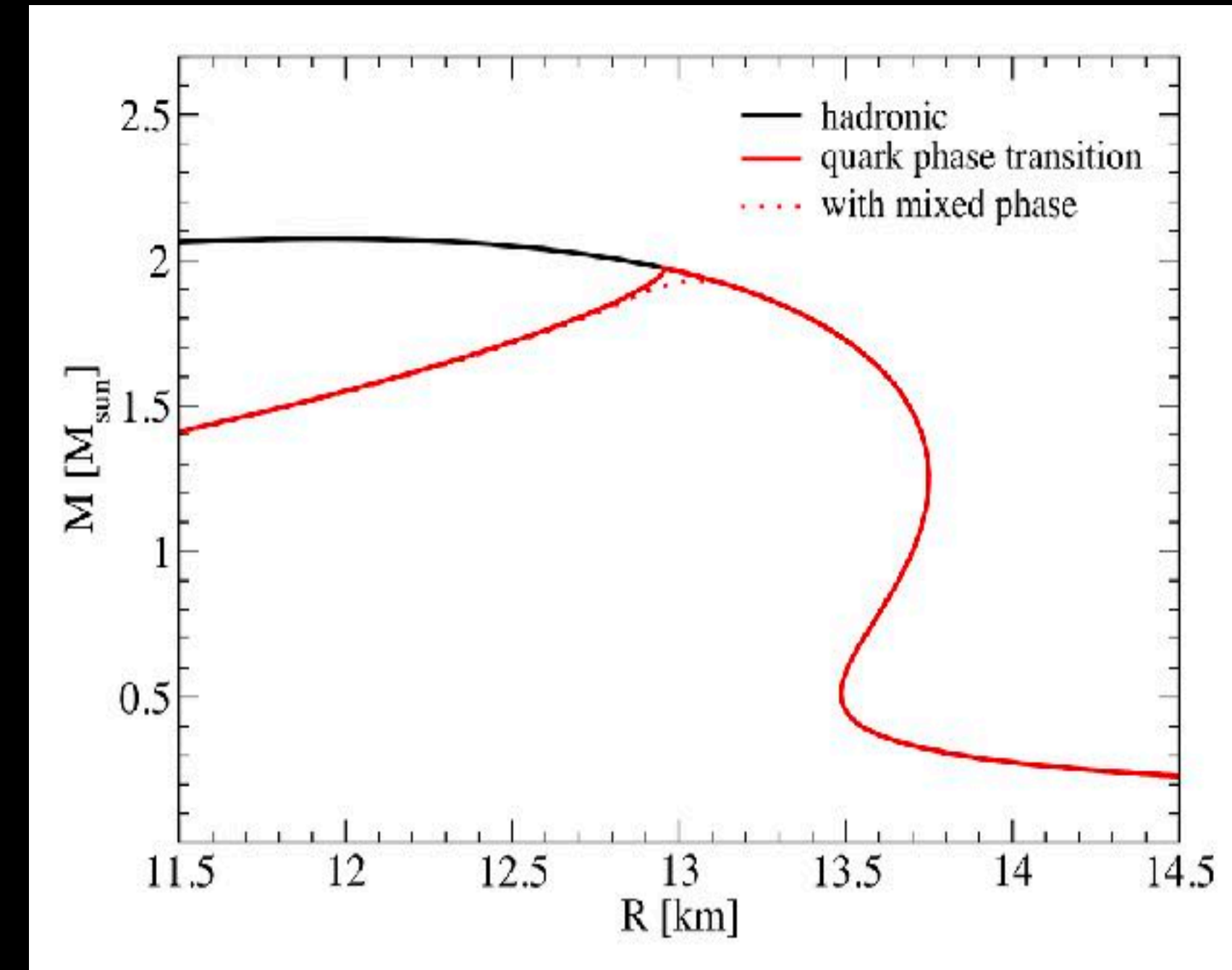
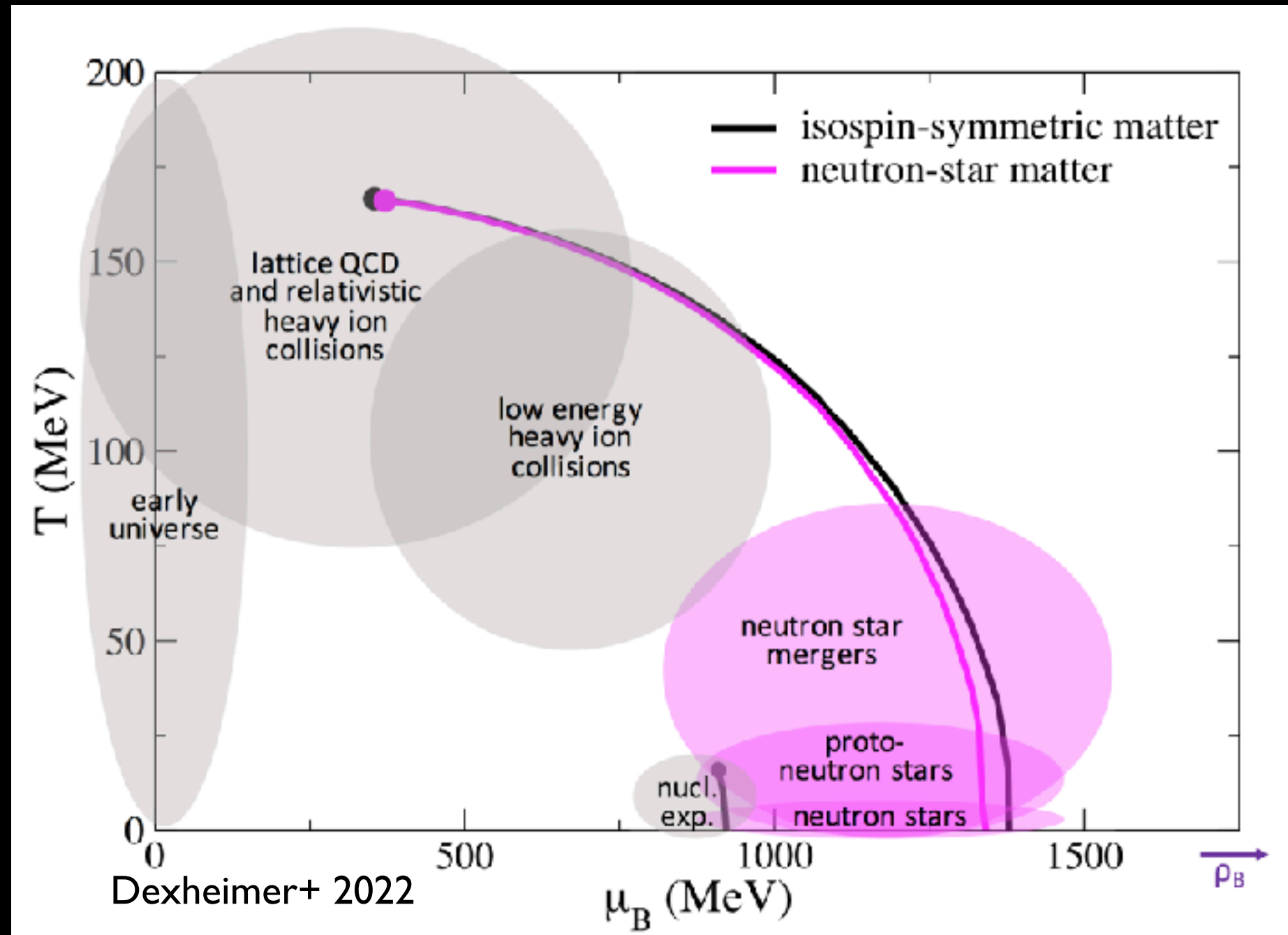


Most, Papenfort, Dexheimer, Hanauske, Schramm, Stoecker, LR (2019)

Weih, Hanauske, LR (2020)

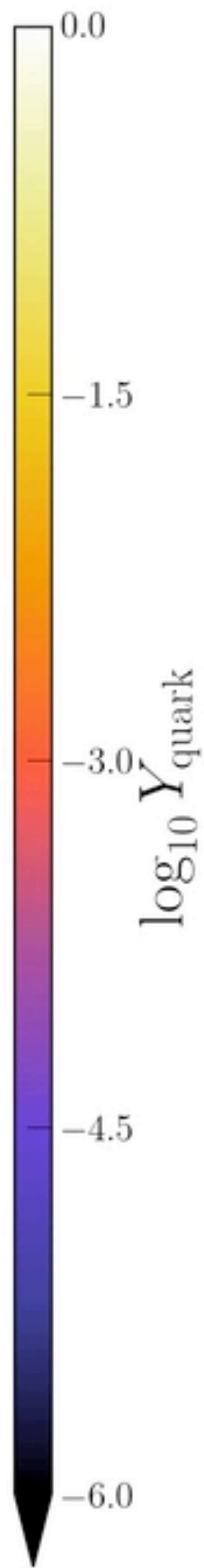
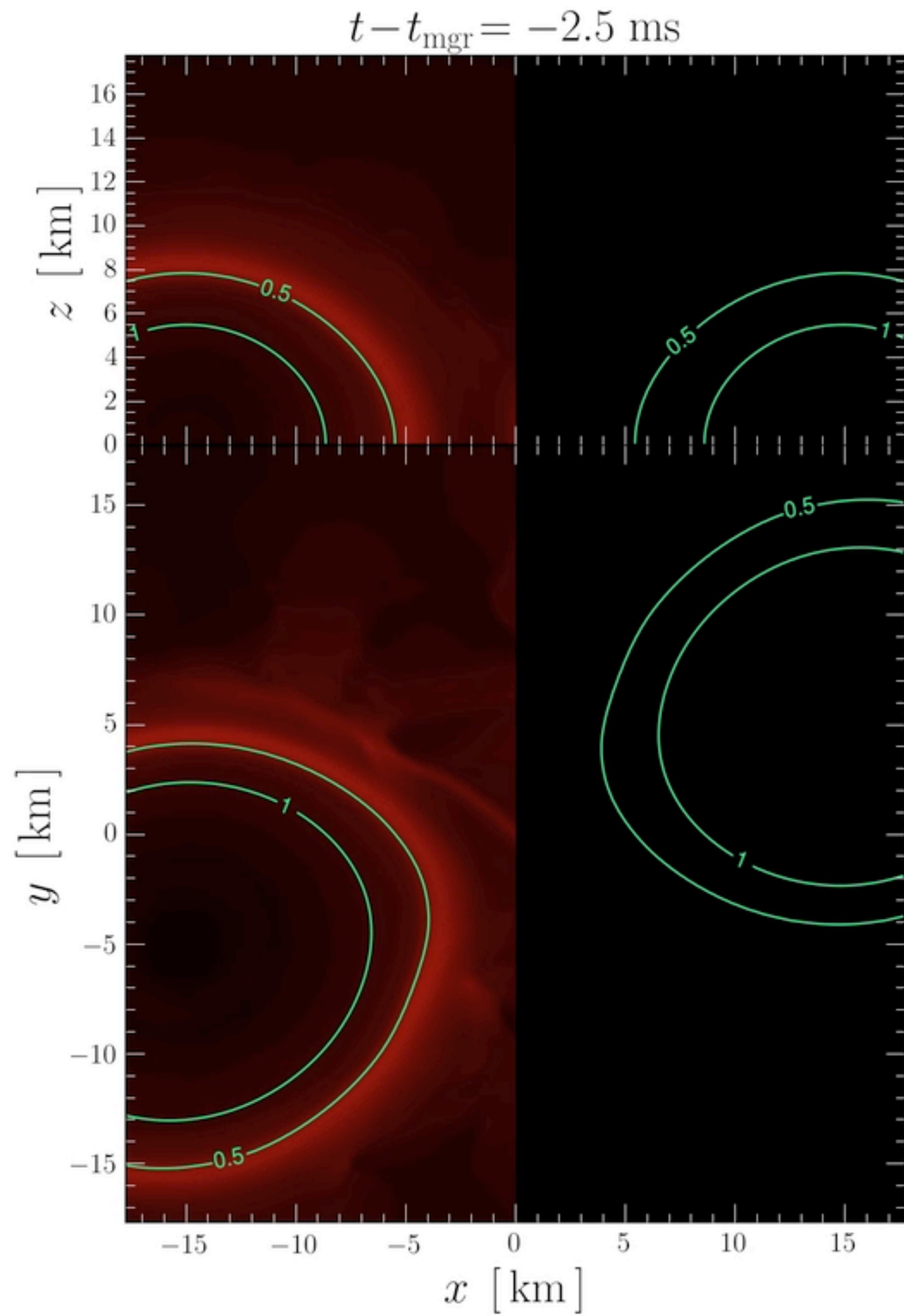
Tootle, Ecker, Topolski, Demircik, Järvinen, LR (2022)

- Neutron-star **binary** mergers reach temperatures up to **80 MeV** and probe regions complementary to accelerator experiments

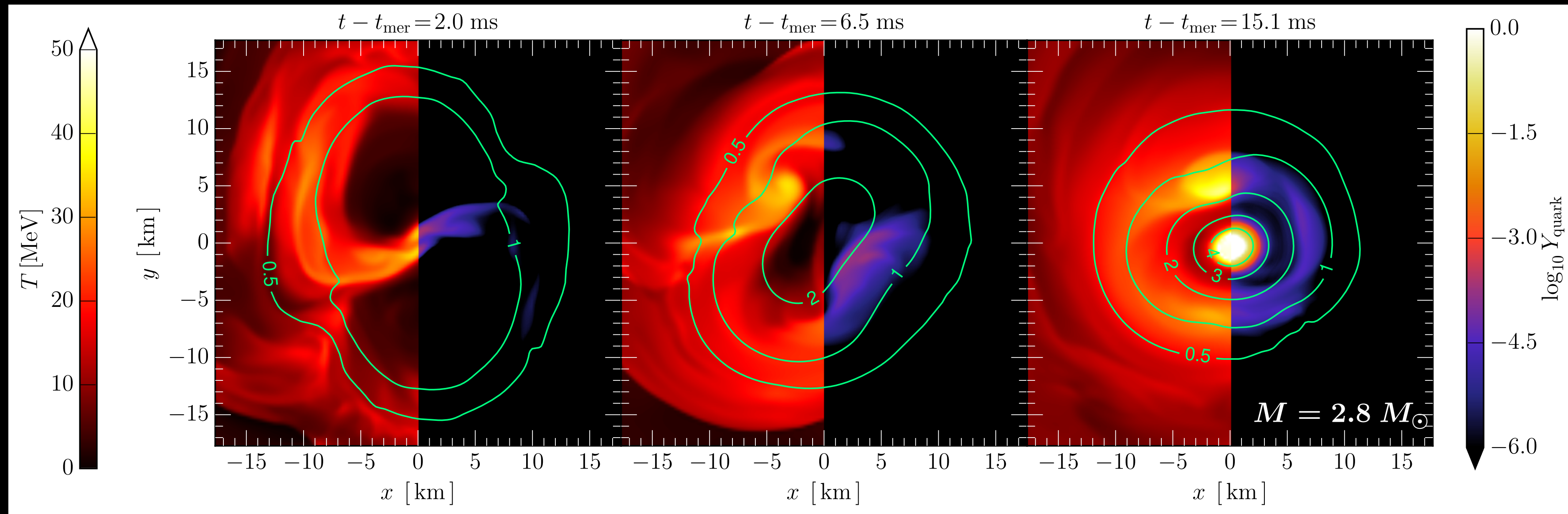


- Considered EOS based on Chiral Mean Field (CMF) model, based on a nonlinear SU(3) sigma model.

Temperature



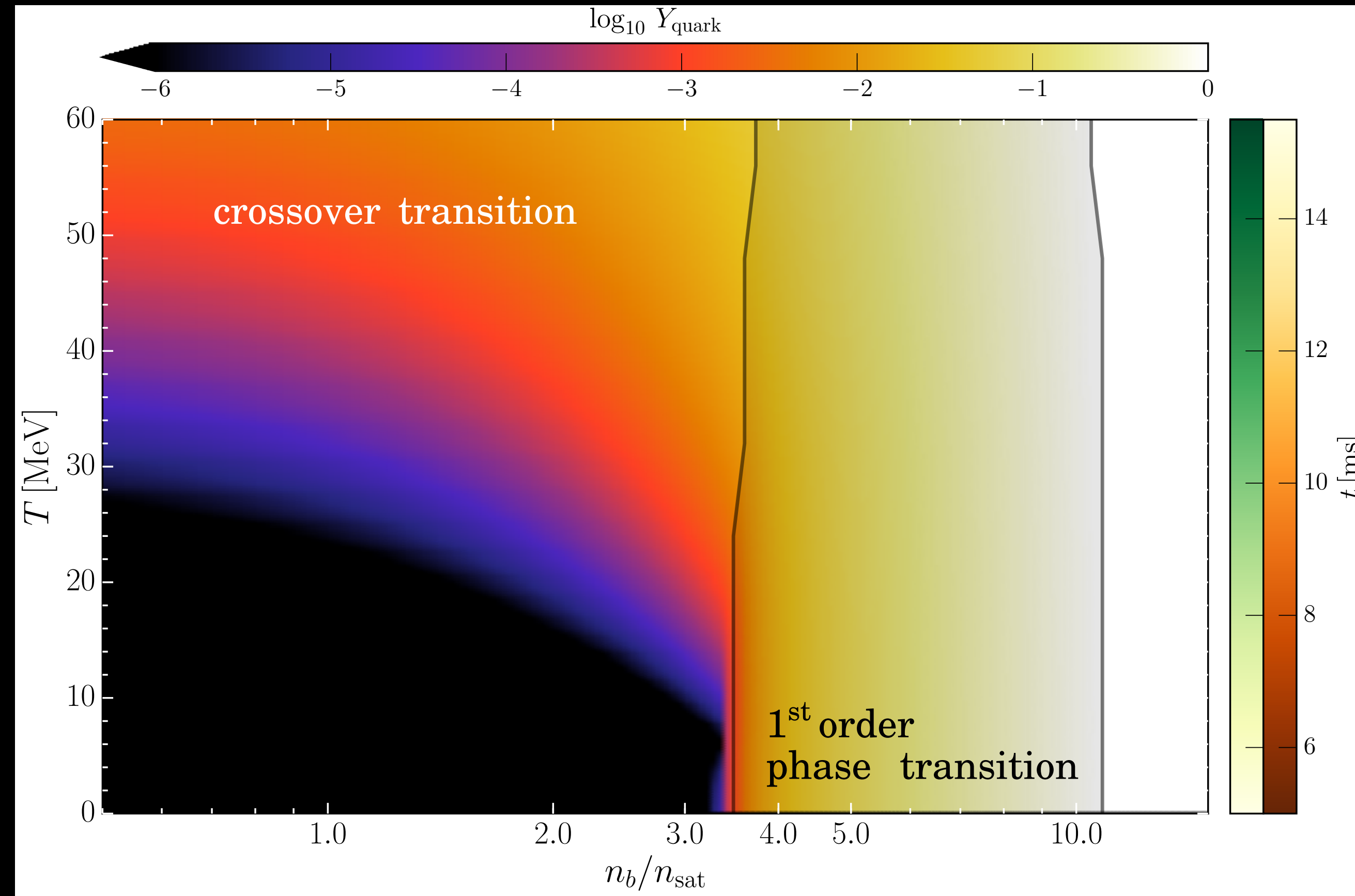
Quark fraction



Quarks appear at sufficiently large **temperatures** and **densities**.

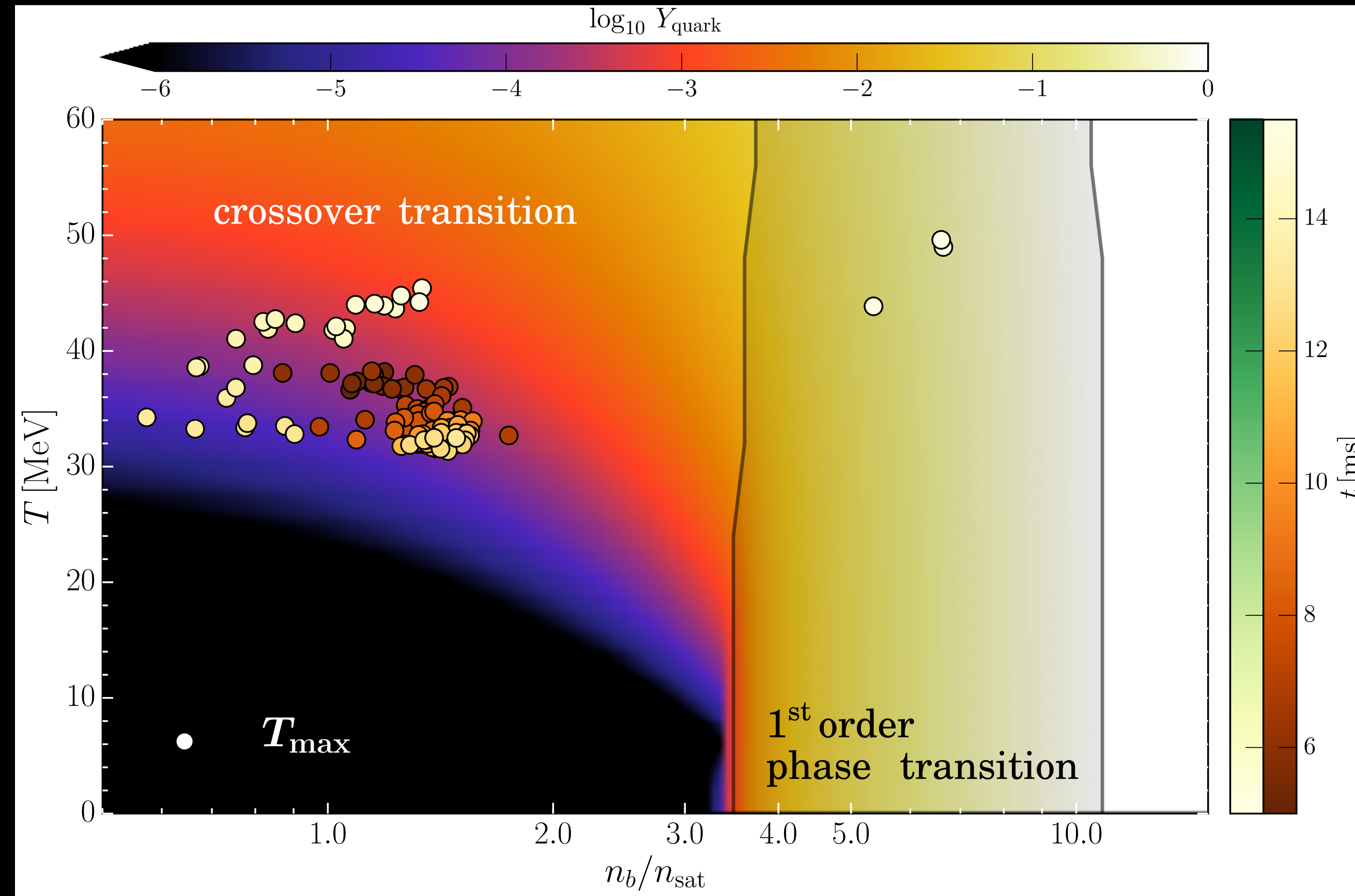
When this happens the **EOS** is considerably **softened** and a BH produced.

Comparing with the phase diagram



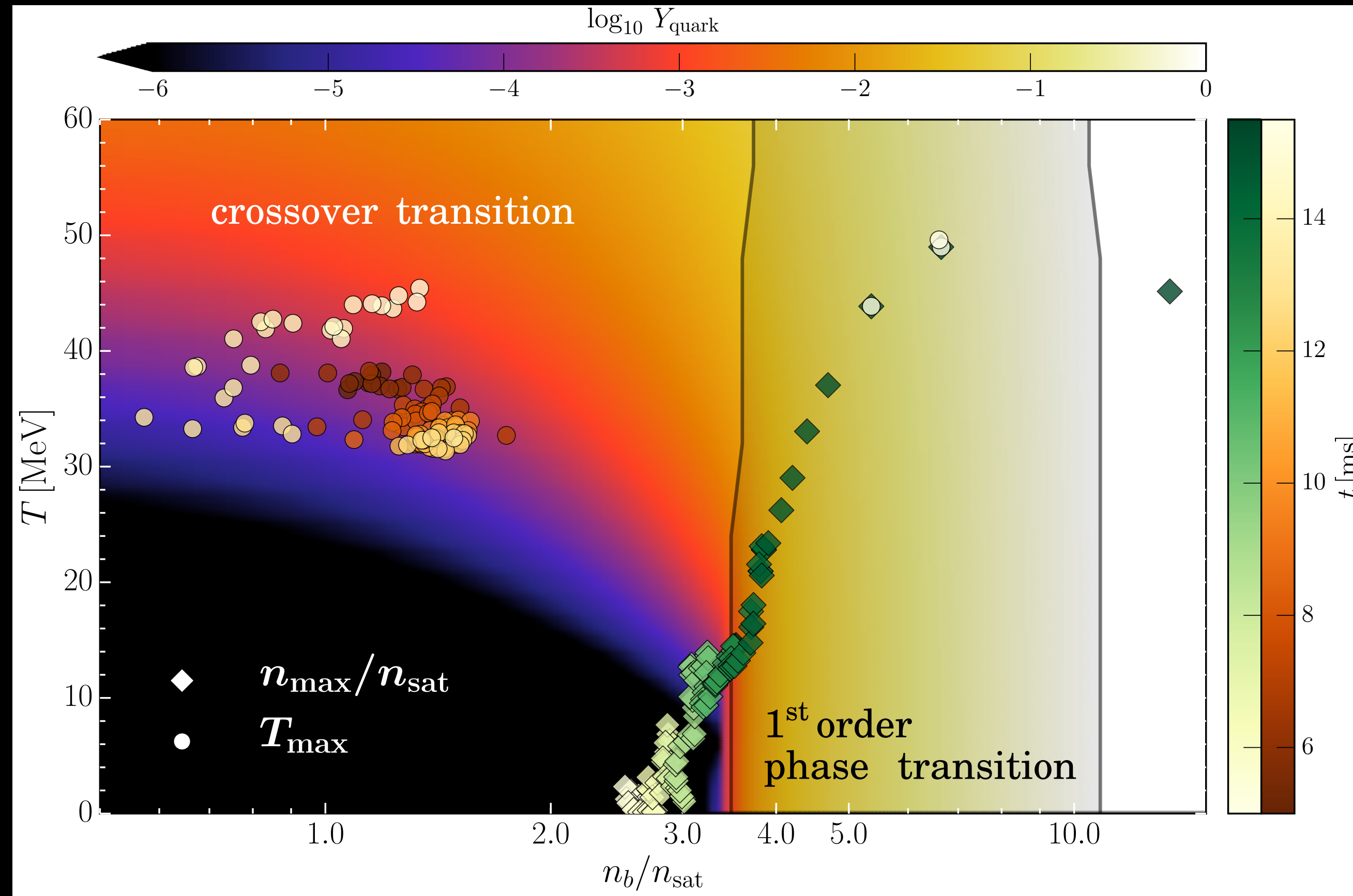
- Phase diagram with quark fraction

Comparing with the phase diagram



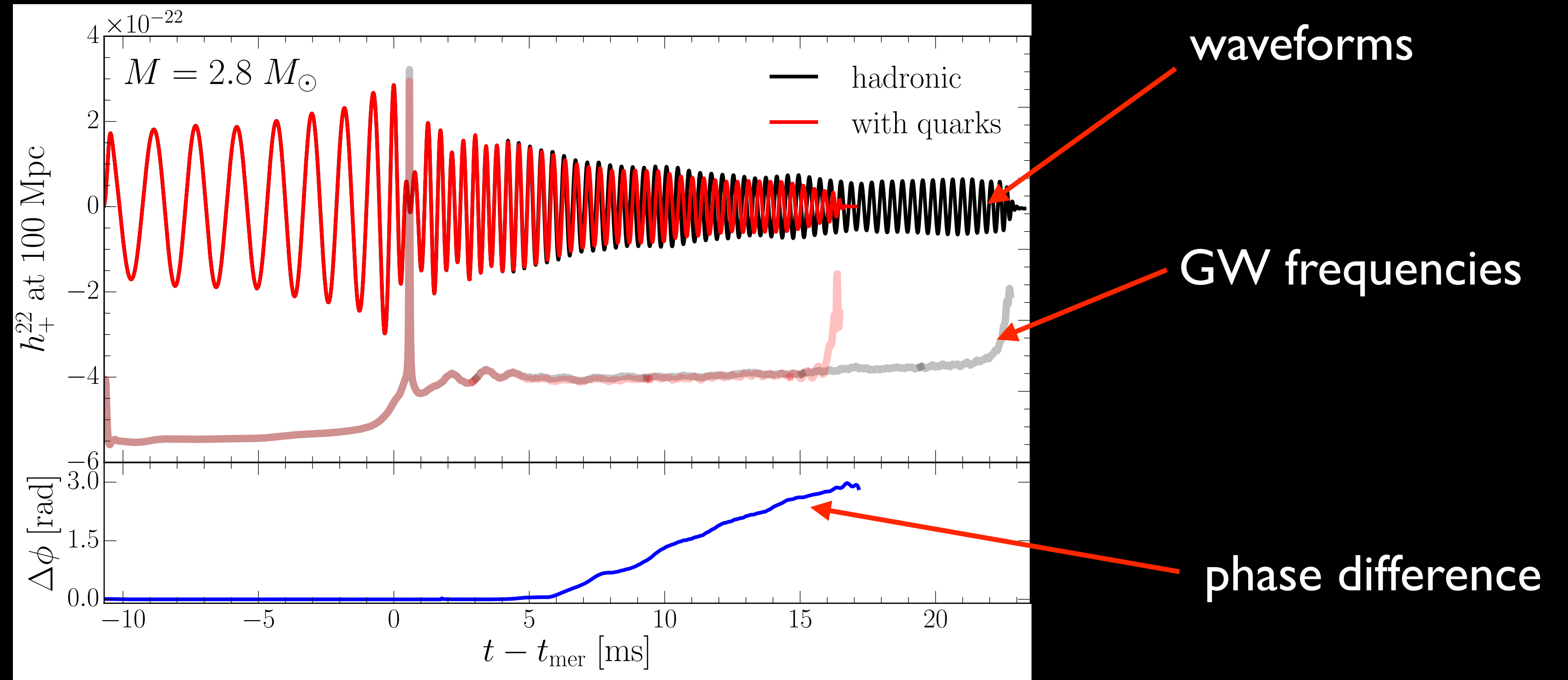
- Phase diagram with quark fraction
- Circles show the position in the diagram of the maximum temperature as a function of time

Comparing with the phase diagram



- Reported are the evolution of the max. temperature and density.
- Quarks appear already early on, but only in small fractions.
- Once sufficient density is reached, a full phase transition takes place.

Gravitational-wave emission

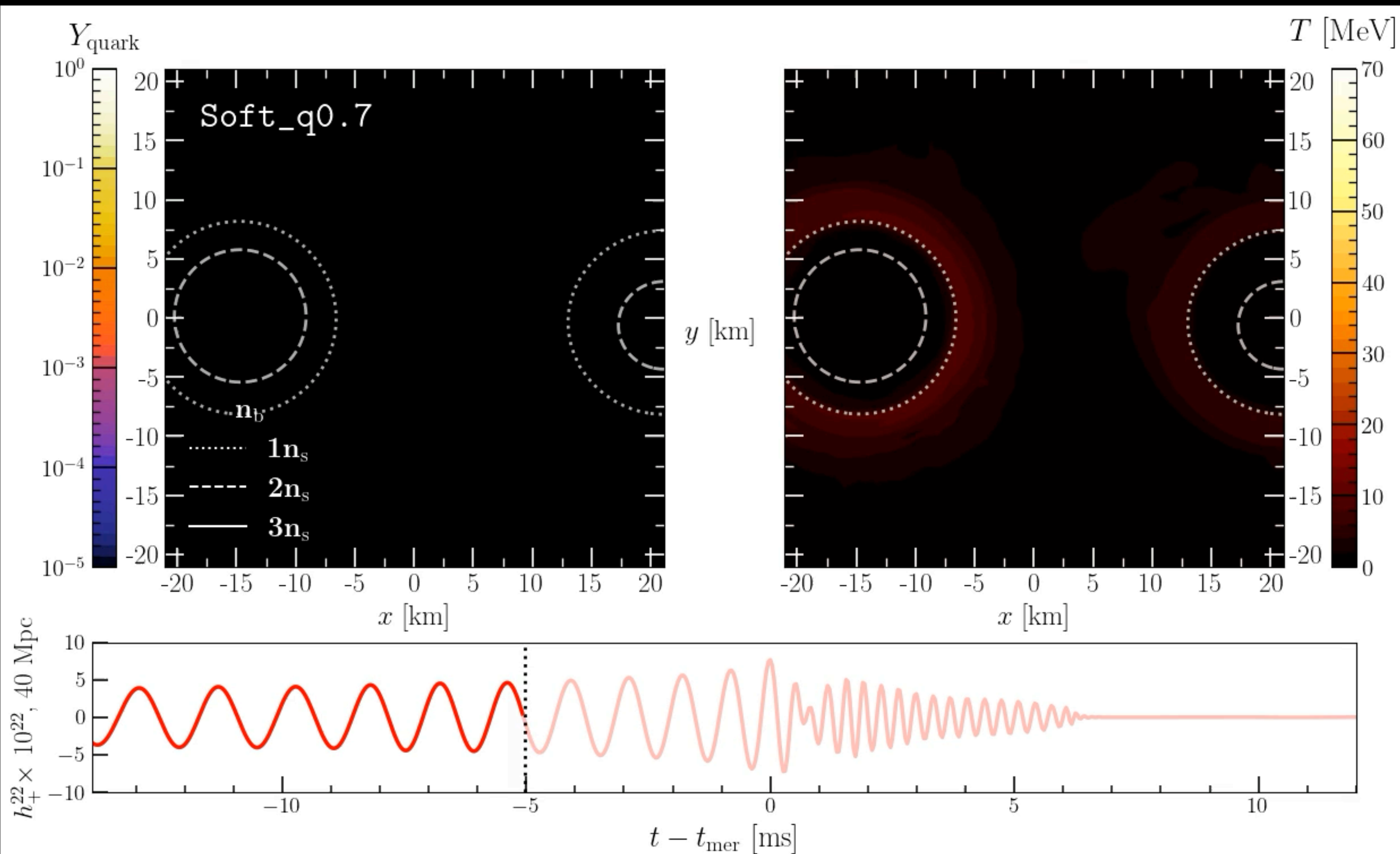


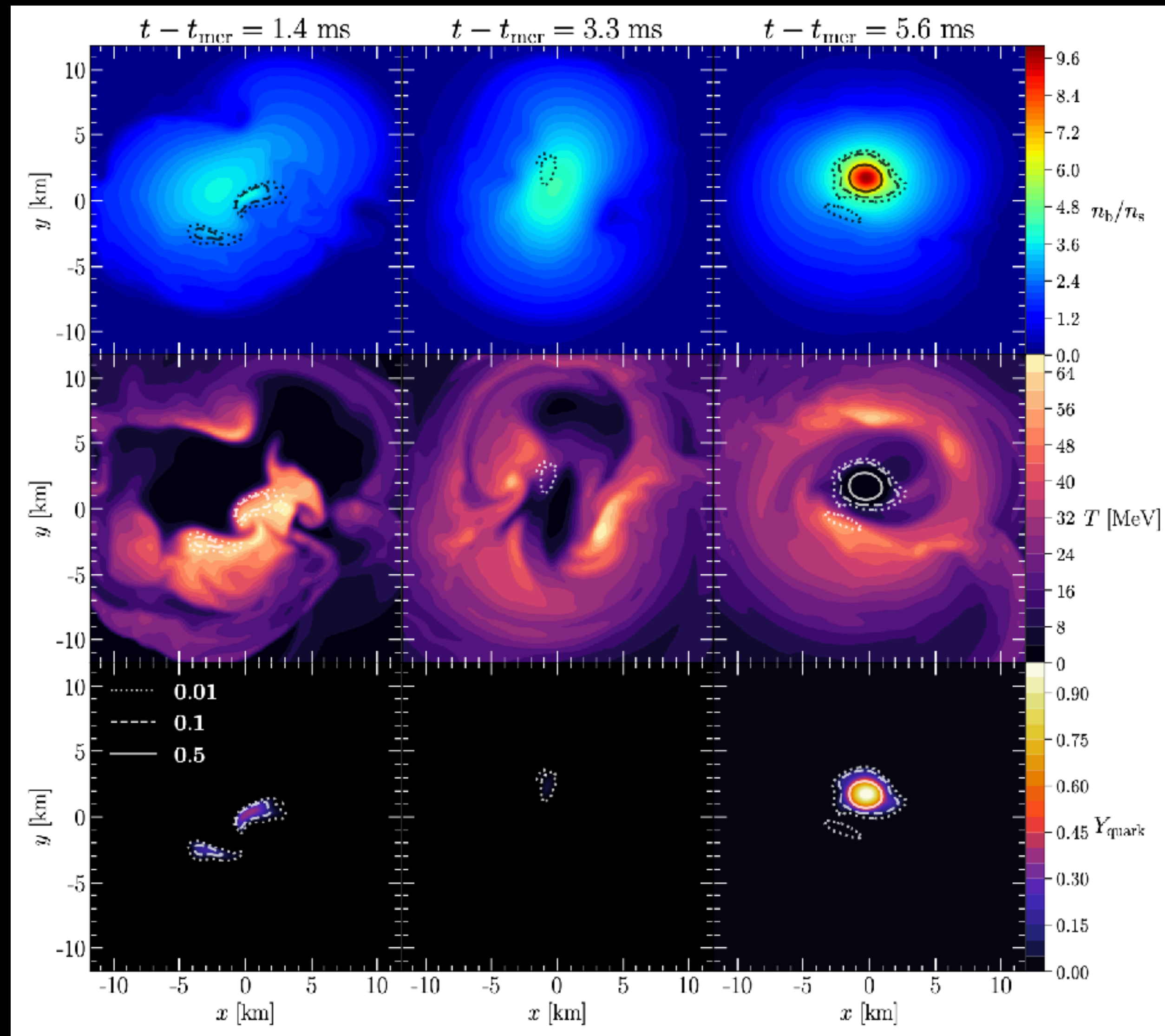
- After ~ 5 ms, quark fraction large enough to yield differences in GWs
- Softening of PT leads to collapse and **different** phase evolution.

Observing mismatch between **inspiral** (fully hadronic) and **post-merger** (phase transition): clear **signature** of a **PT**

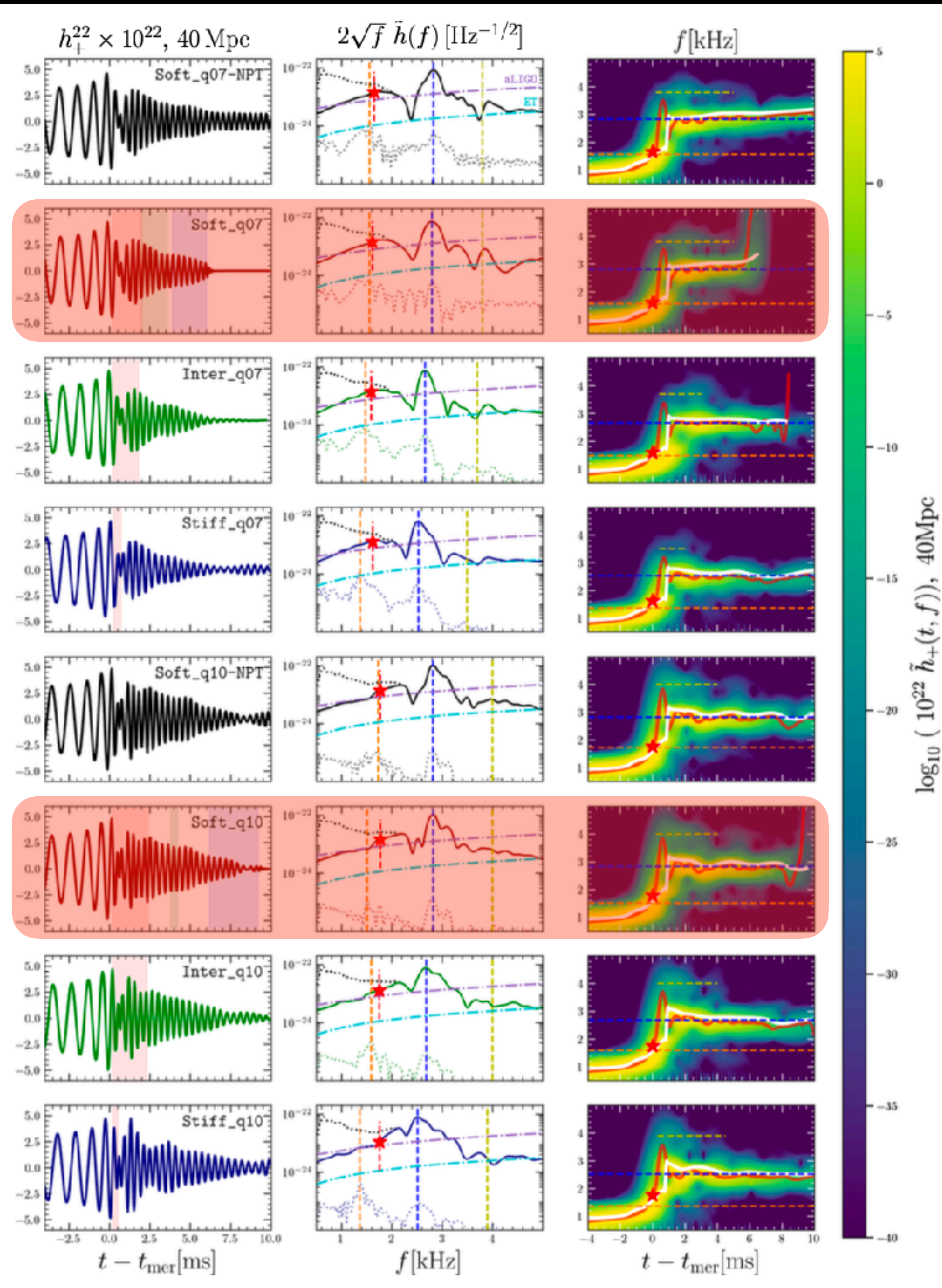
More consistent microphysics: V-QCD

Tootle, Ecker, Topolski, Demircik, Järvinen, LR (2022)





The dynamics is very similar to previous simplified thermal treatment: as soon as the PT takes place, **softening induces a rapid collapse.**



From GWs to the phase diagram

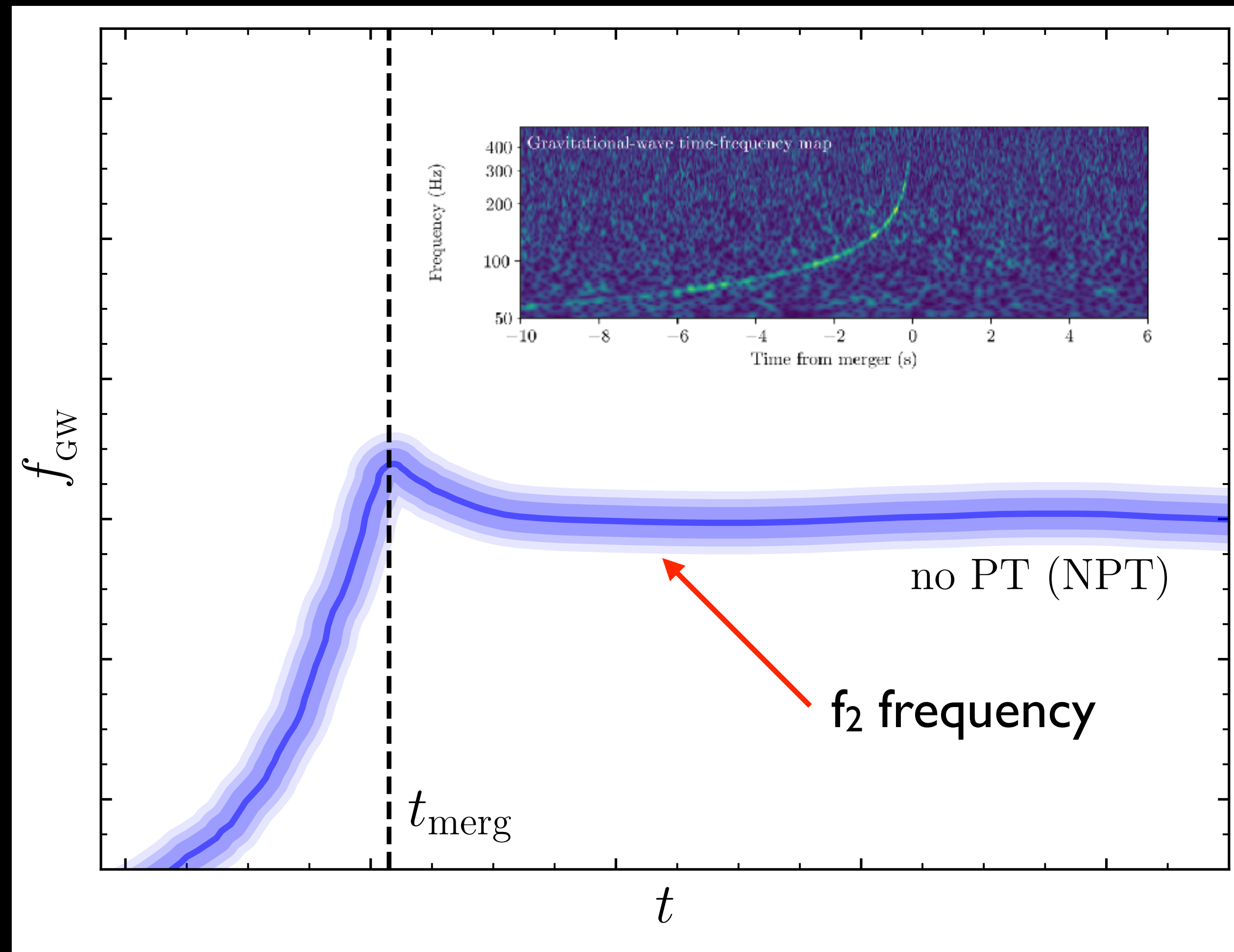
Soft version of V-QCD ruled out by **GW170817**: collapse too early.

Expectation is the collapse has been after 0.9 s.

Example that GW events can **constrain** appearance of **QCD PT**.

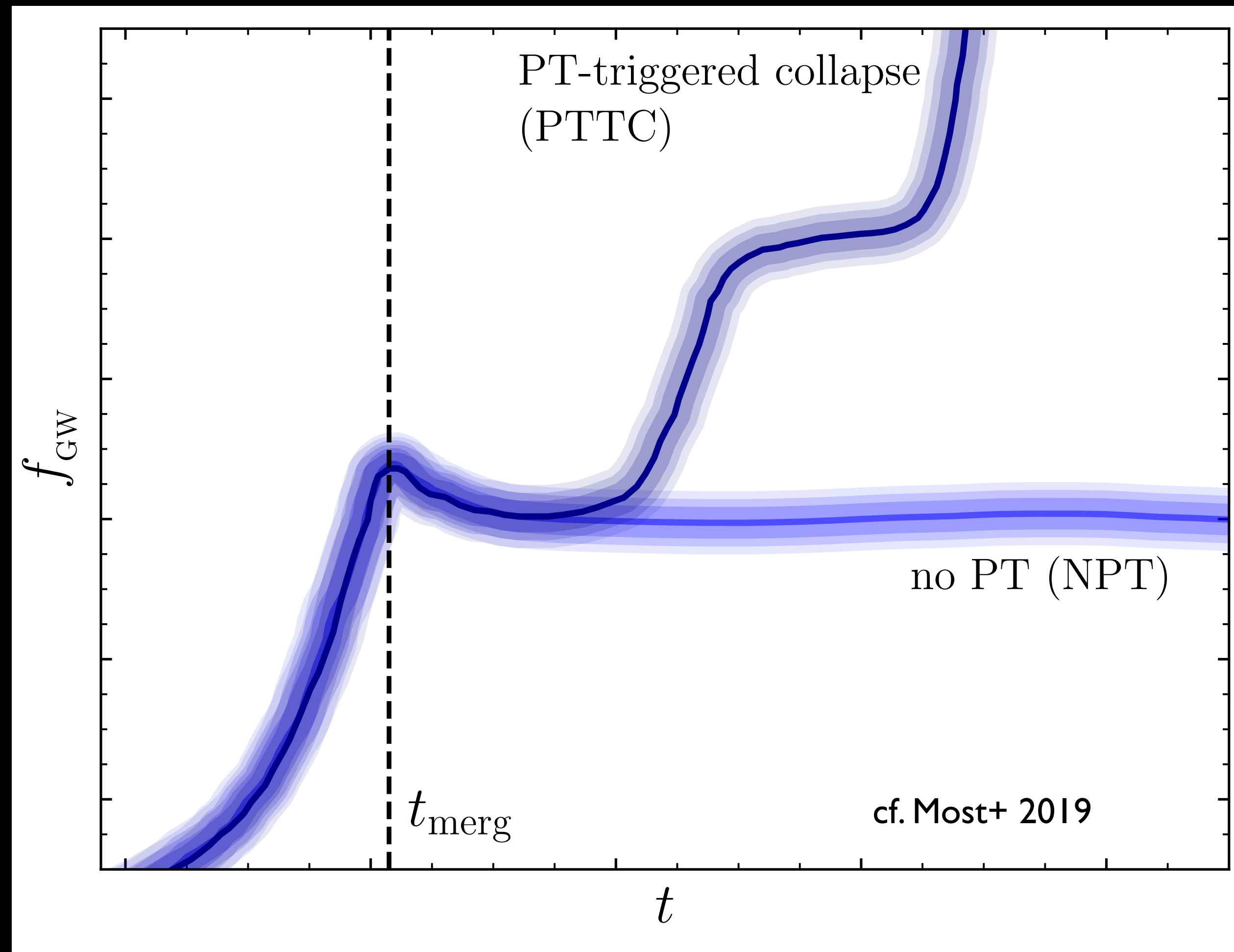
A zoology of possible behaviours

The occurrence of a PT can take place in a number of different ways. What shown is only **one**. Here are the **other possibilities**:



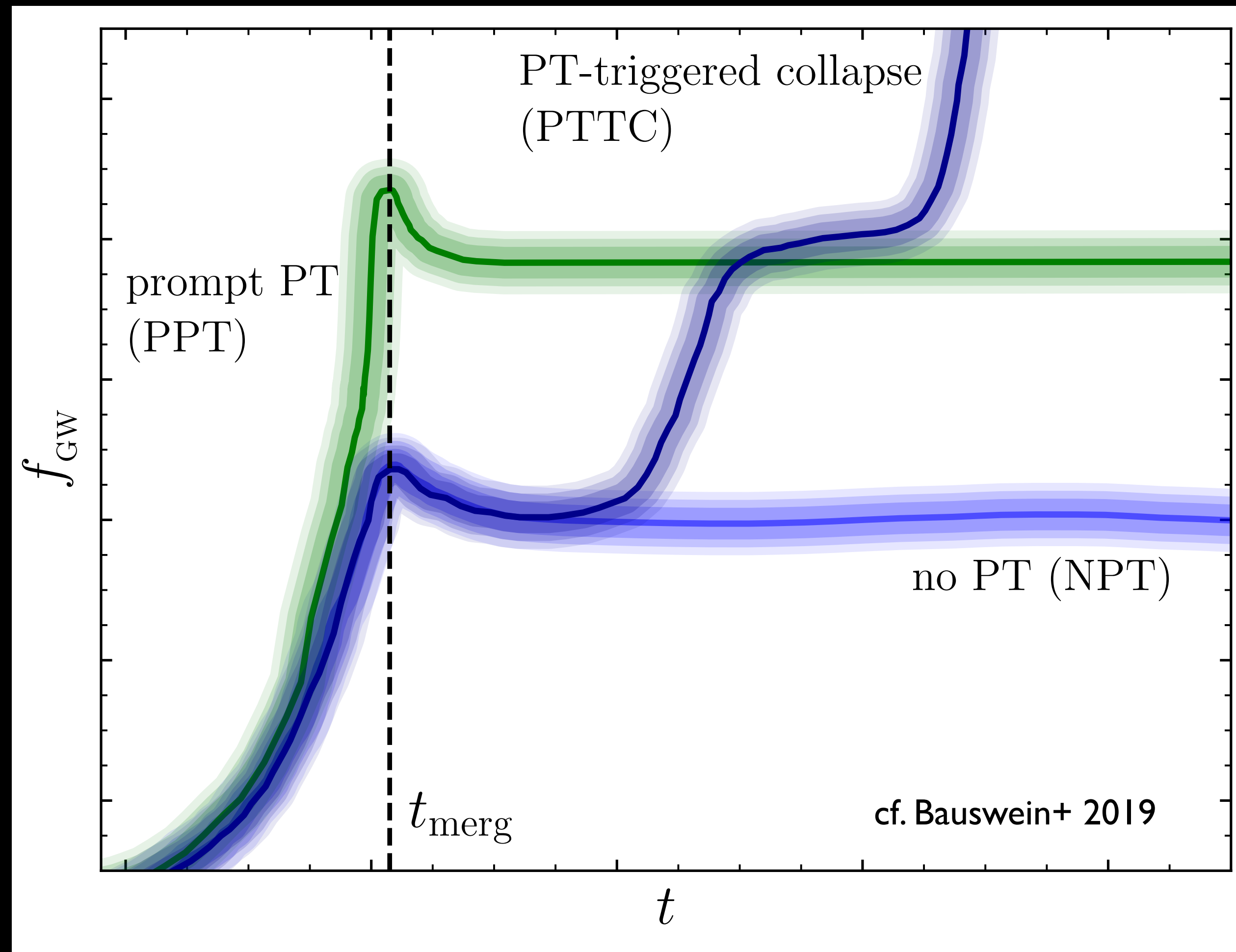
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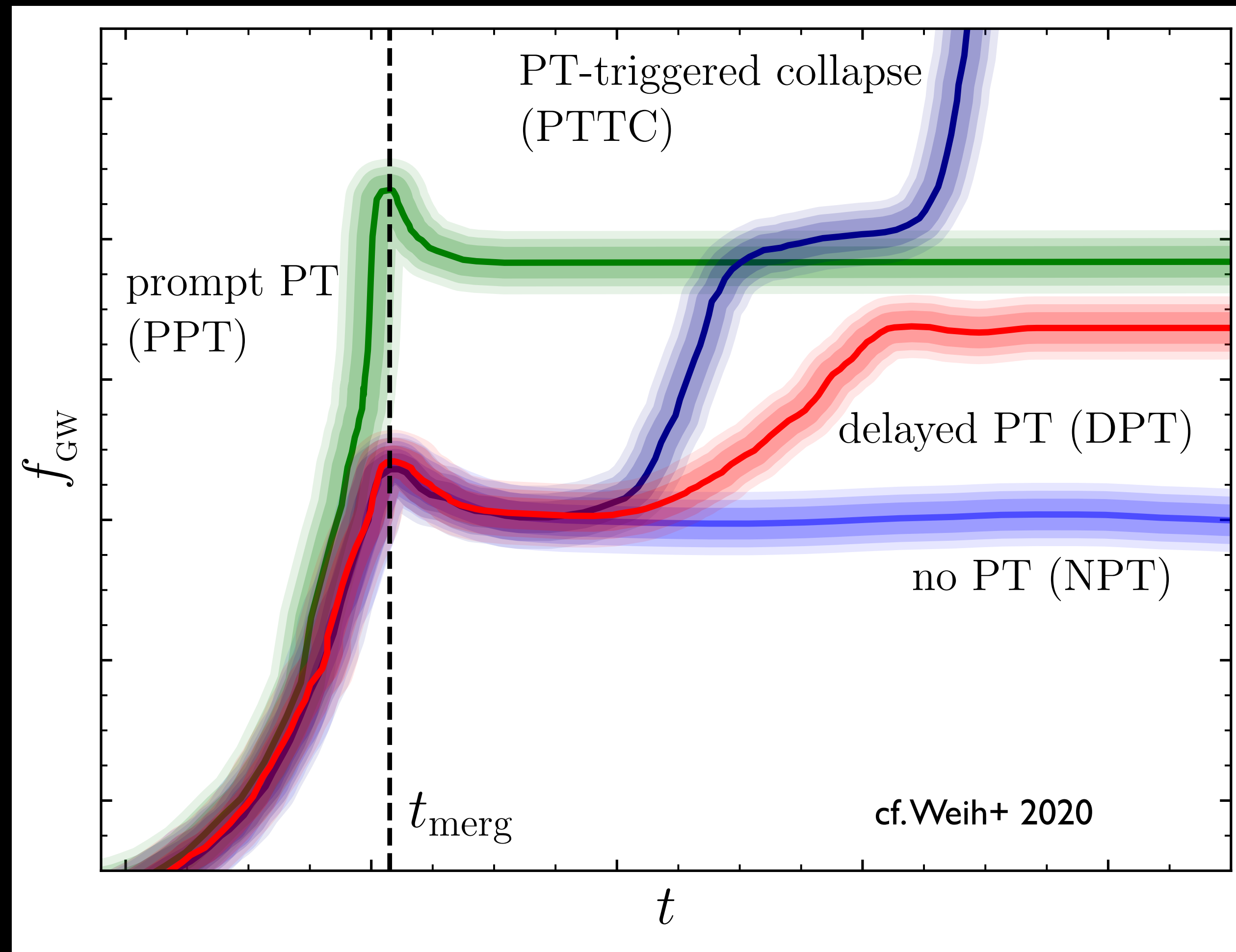
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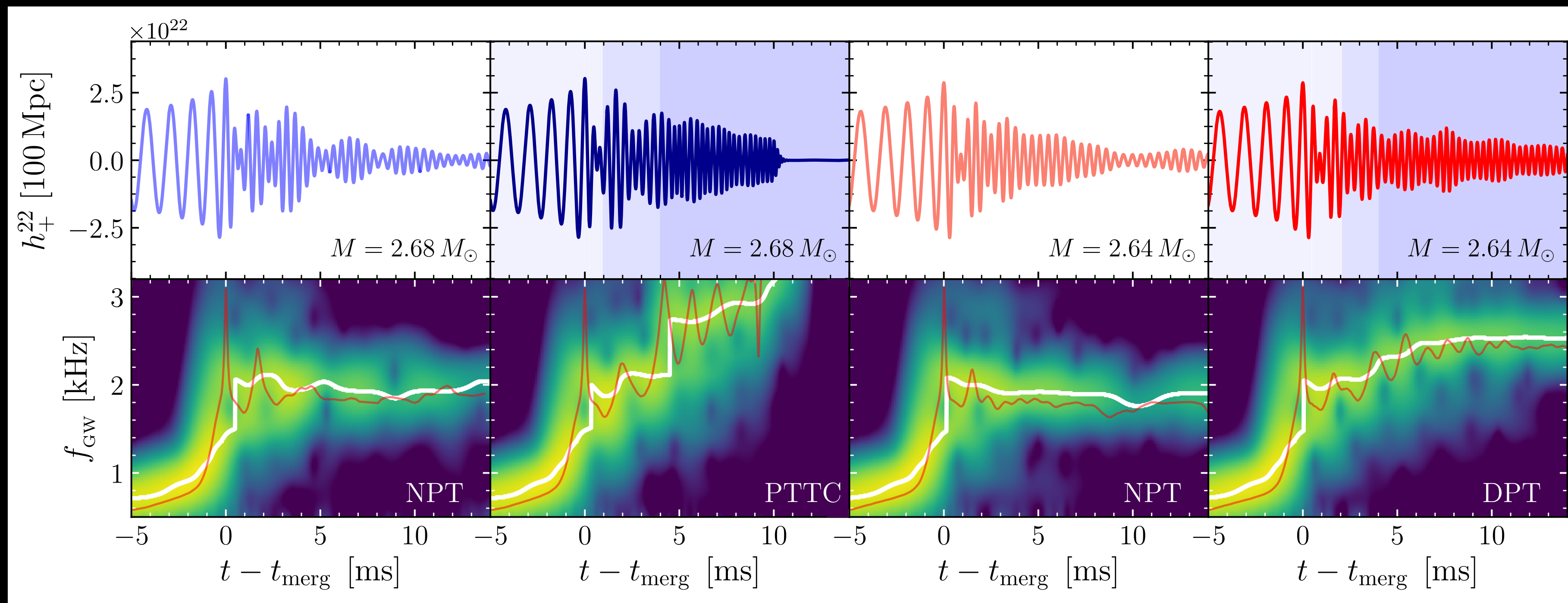
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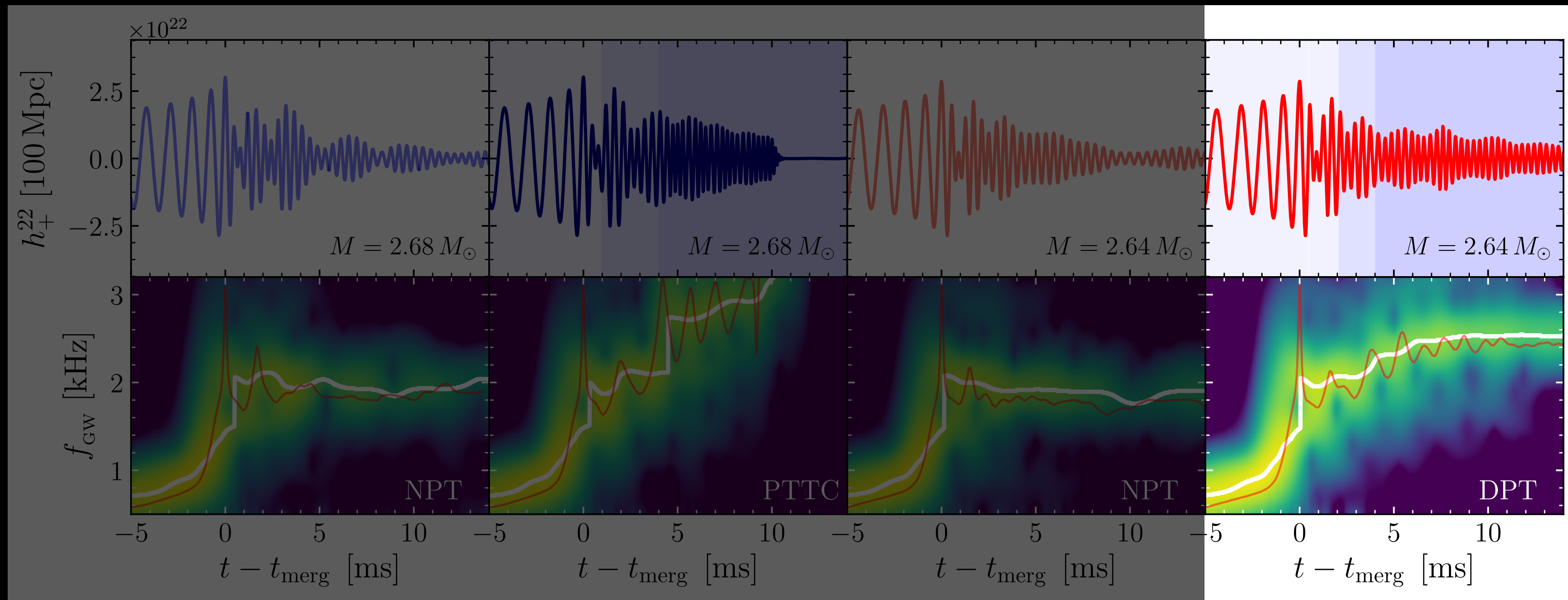
A more comprehensive picture

Zoology discussed above can be recognised when shown in terms of the gravitational waves and their spectrograms.



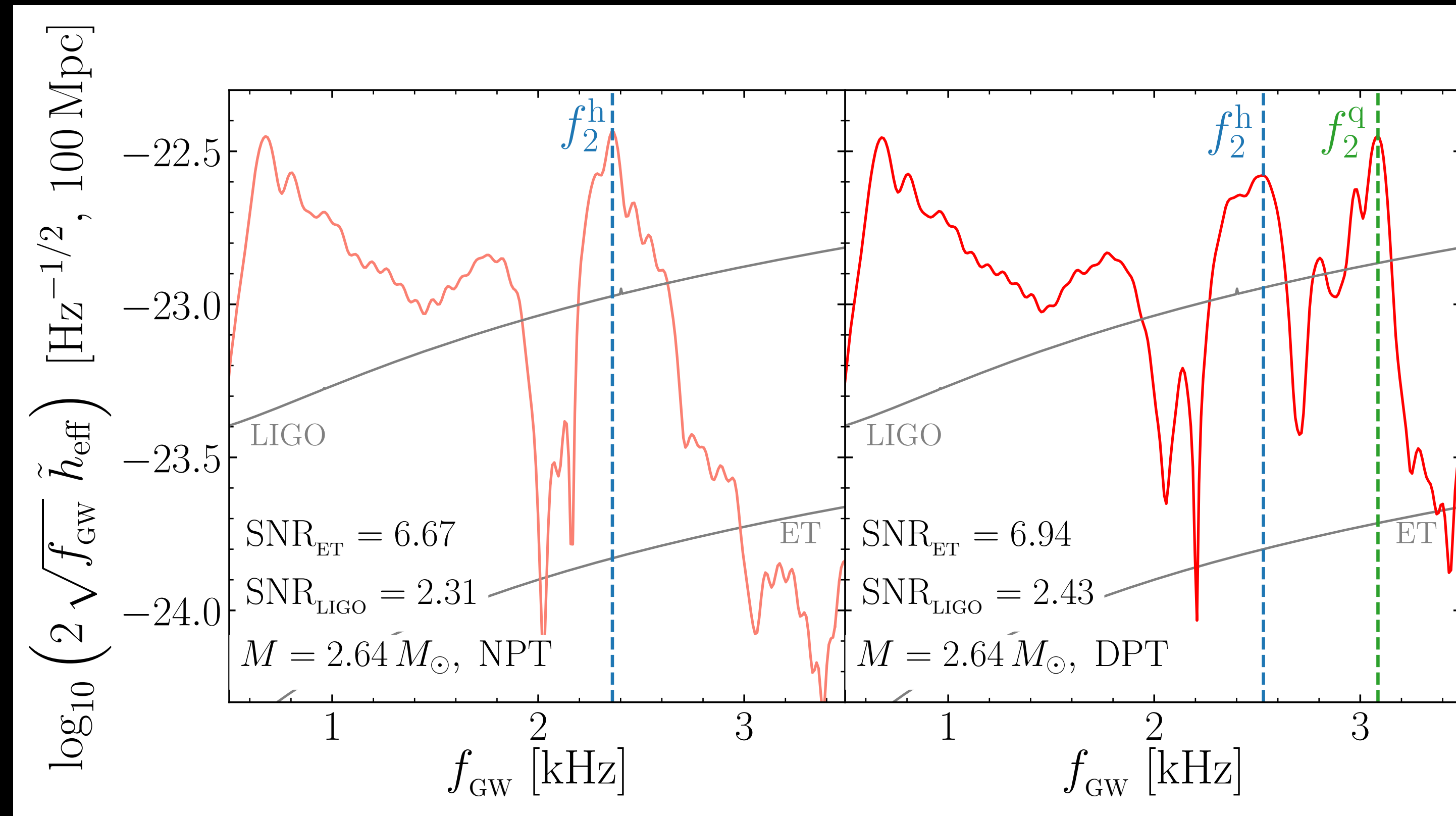
A more comprehensive picture

Zoology discussed above can be recognised when shown in terms of the gravitational waves and their spectrograms.



Importance of **DPT** is that it leads to **two** different “stable” f_2 **frequencies** that are easily distinguishable in the PSD

Why DPT is the most interesting case

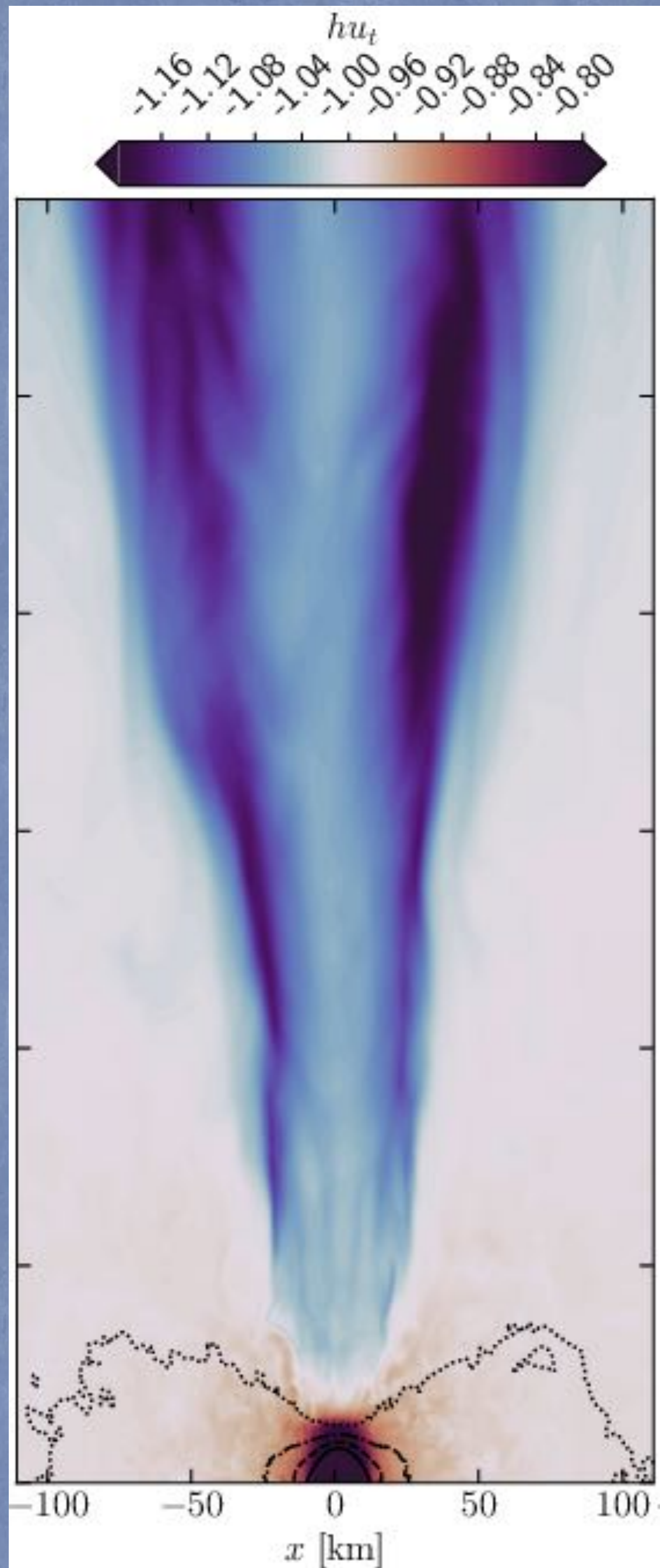


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Conclusions

- Spectra of post-merger shows peaks, some "quasi-universal".
- When used together with tens of observations, they will set tight constraints on EOS: radius known with ~ 1 km precision.
- A **phase transition** after a BNS merger leaves GW **signatures** and opens a gate to access quark matter beyond accelerators.

EXTRAS



HMNS-powered jets?

HMNS powering jets

The idea that an HMNS could power jets is old and appealing.

Pros

- HMNS naturally produced in BNS mergers and lifetime can be long: $\gtrsim 1$ s (Gill+ 2019, Murguia-Bertier+2021 for GW170817).
- Plenty of (rotational) energy in the HMNS.
- Plenty of magnetic fields and emission easy to model.

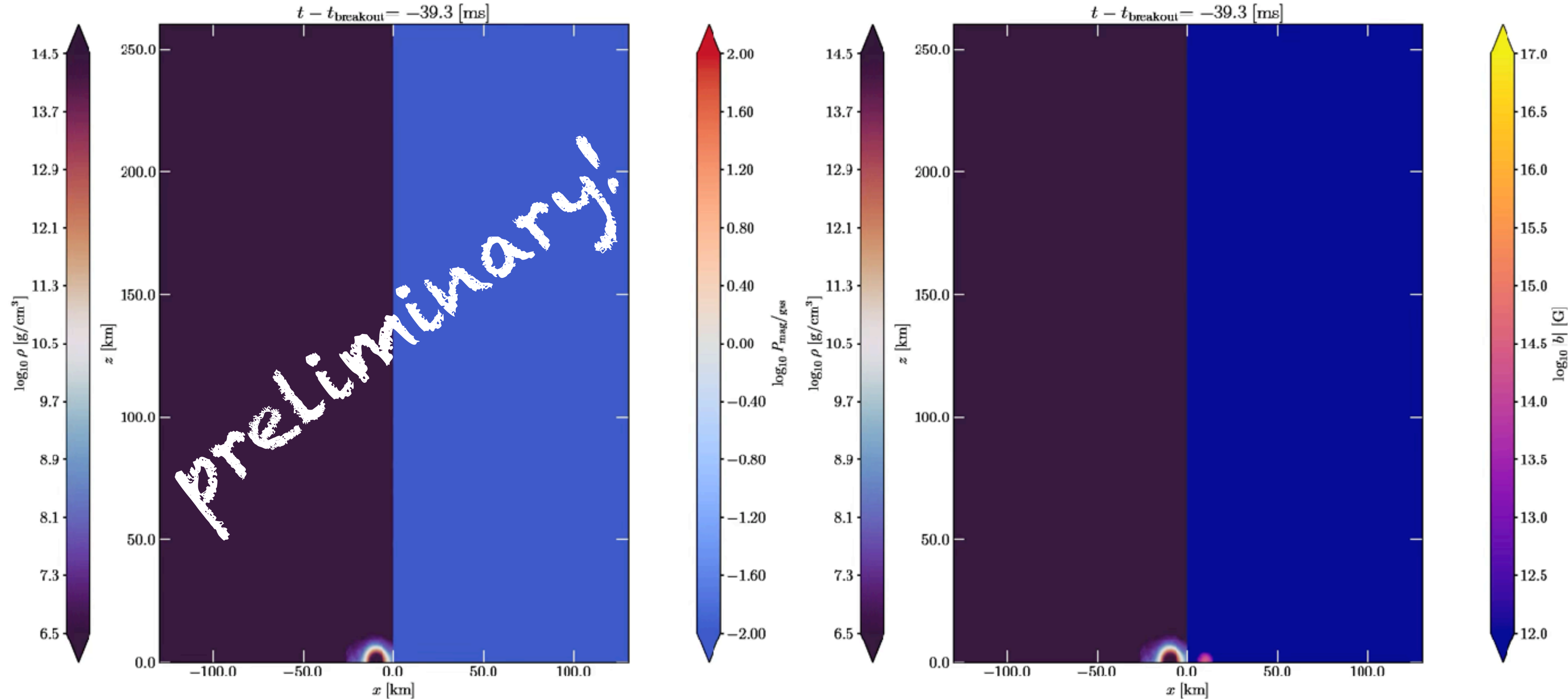
Cons

- HMNS naturally produce baryon polluted environments.
- Short simulations showed no evidence of jets.
- Long simulations show evidence of outflows (!) but with a number of approximations (no neutrinos, no B-fields)

HMNS powering jets

We have carried out long-term, high-resolution, GRMHD simulations with neutrino transfer (MI).

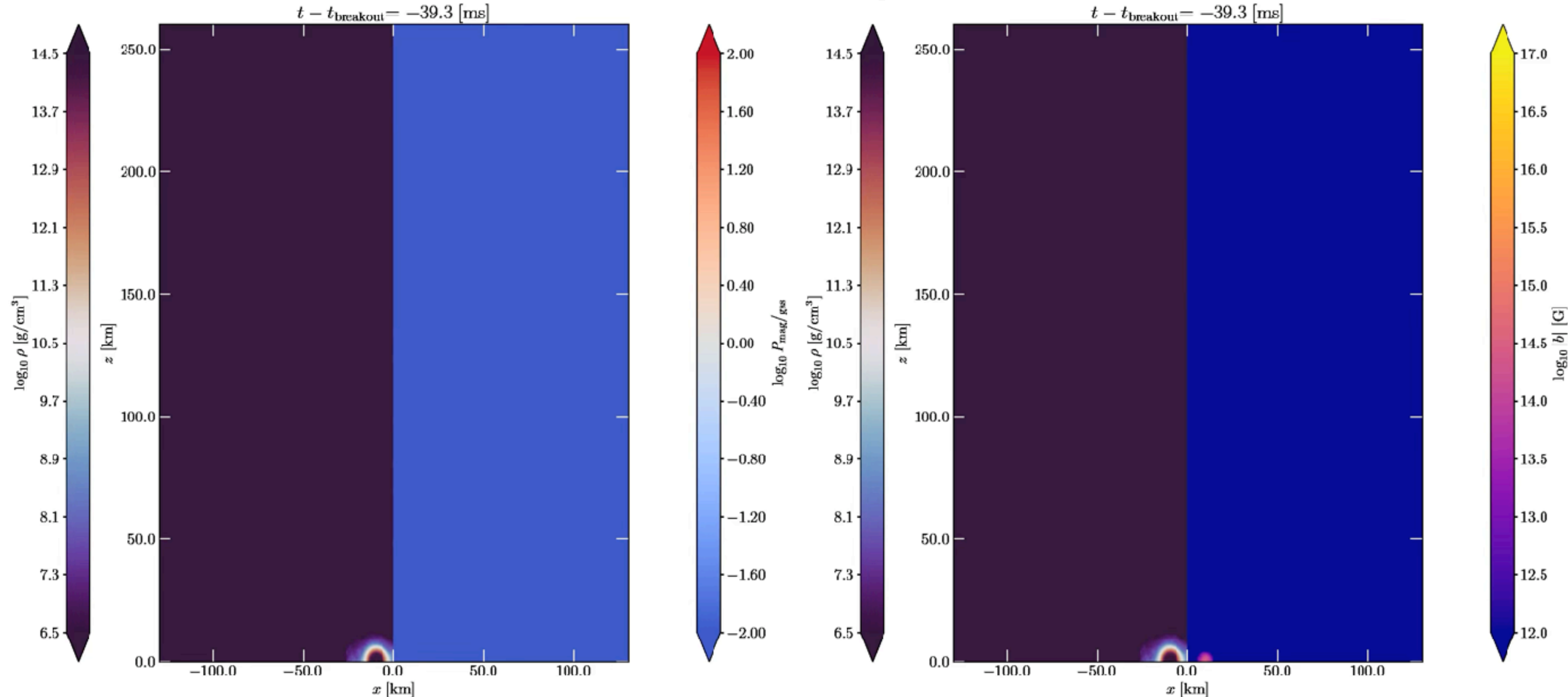
this was typical timescale for evolutions: ~ 40 ms

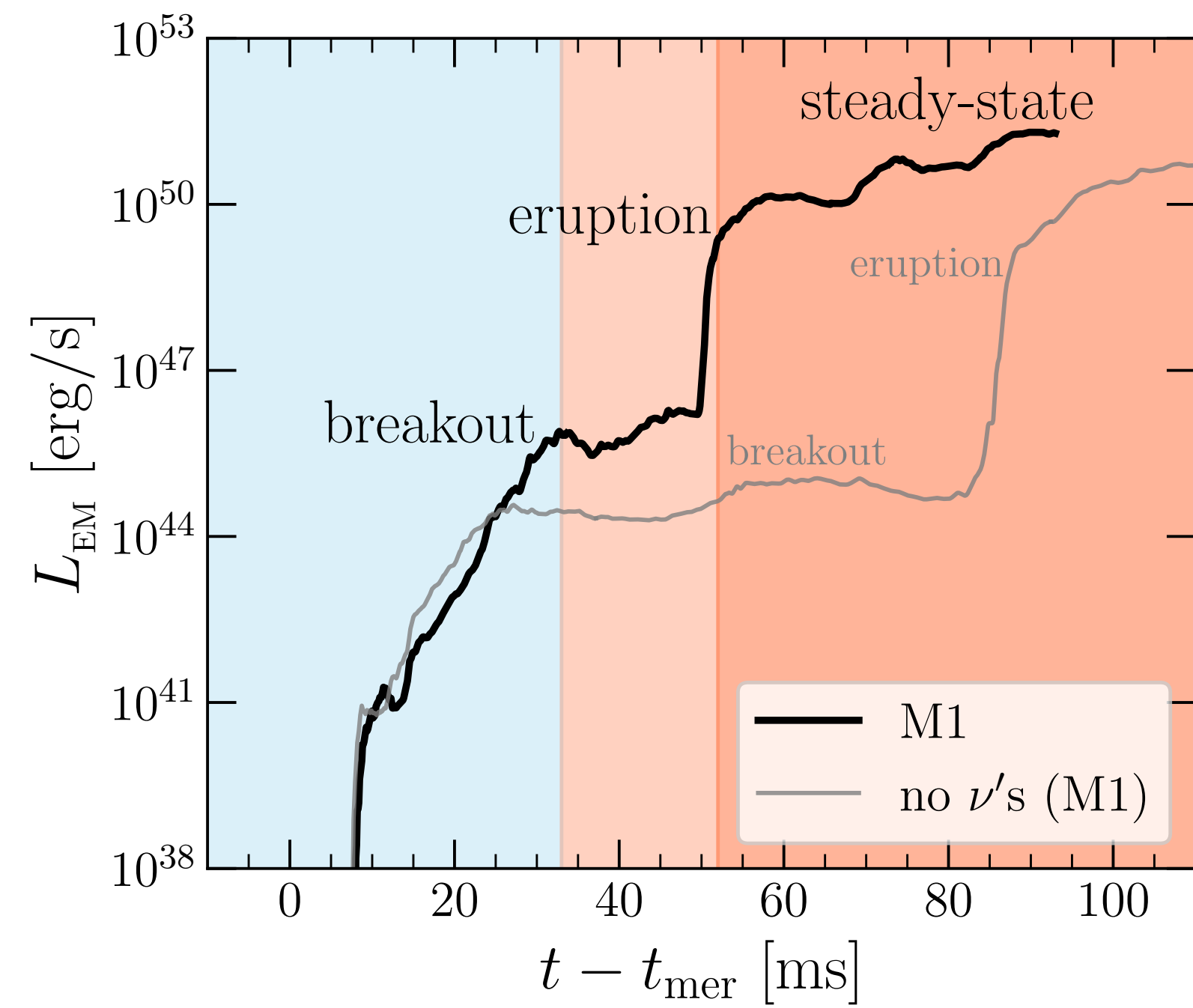
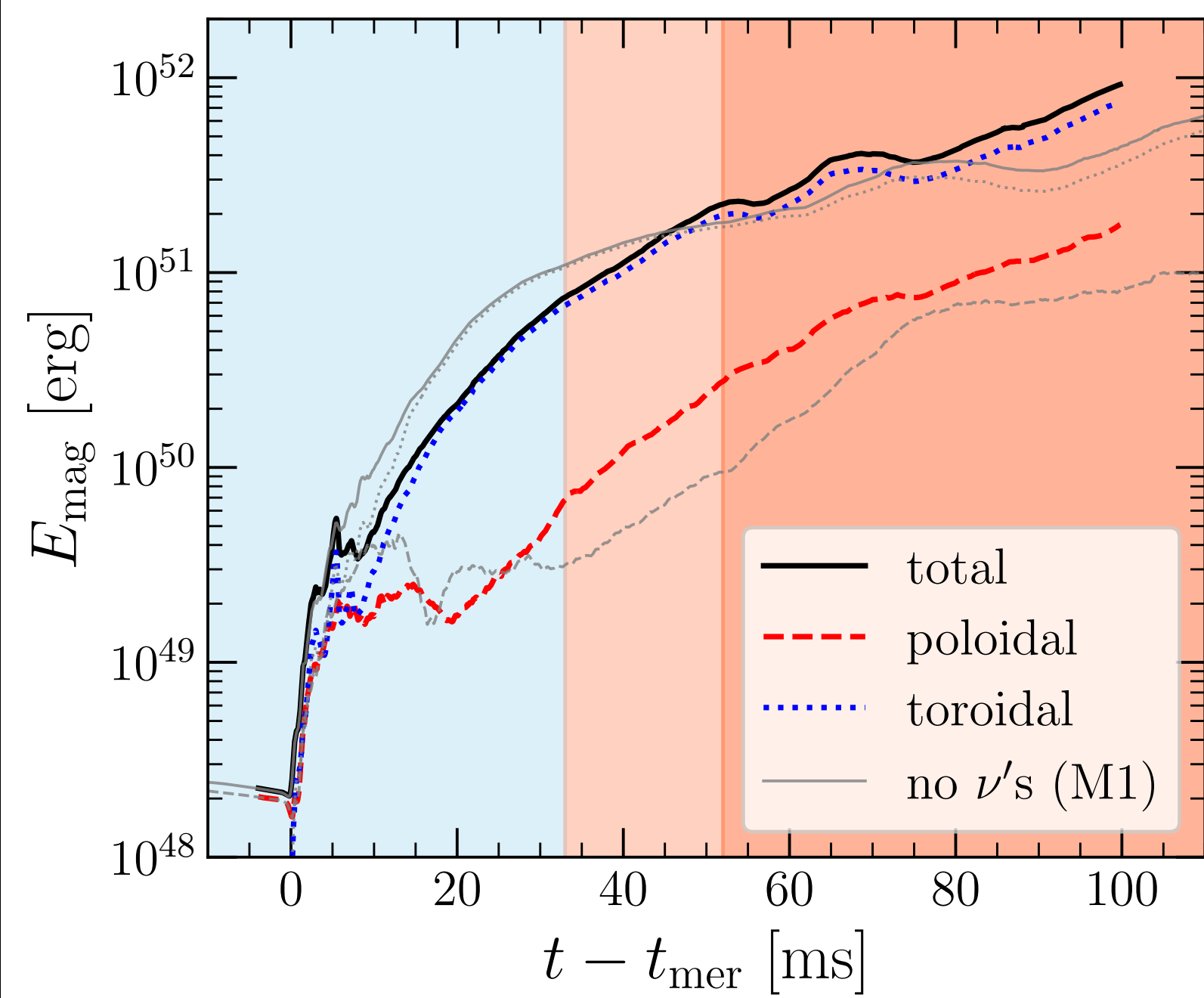


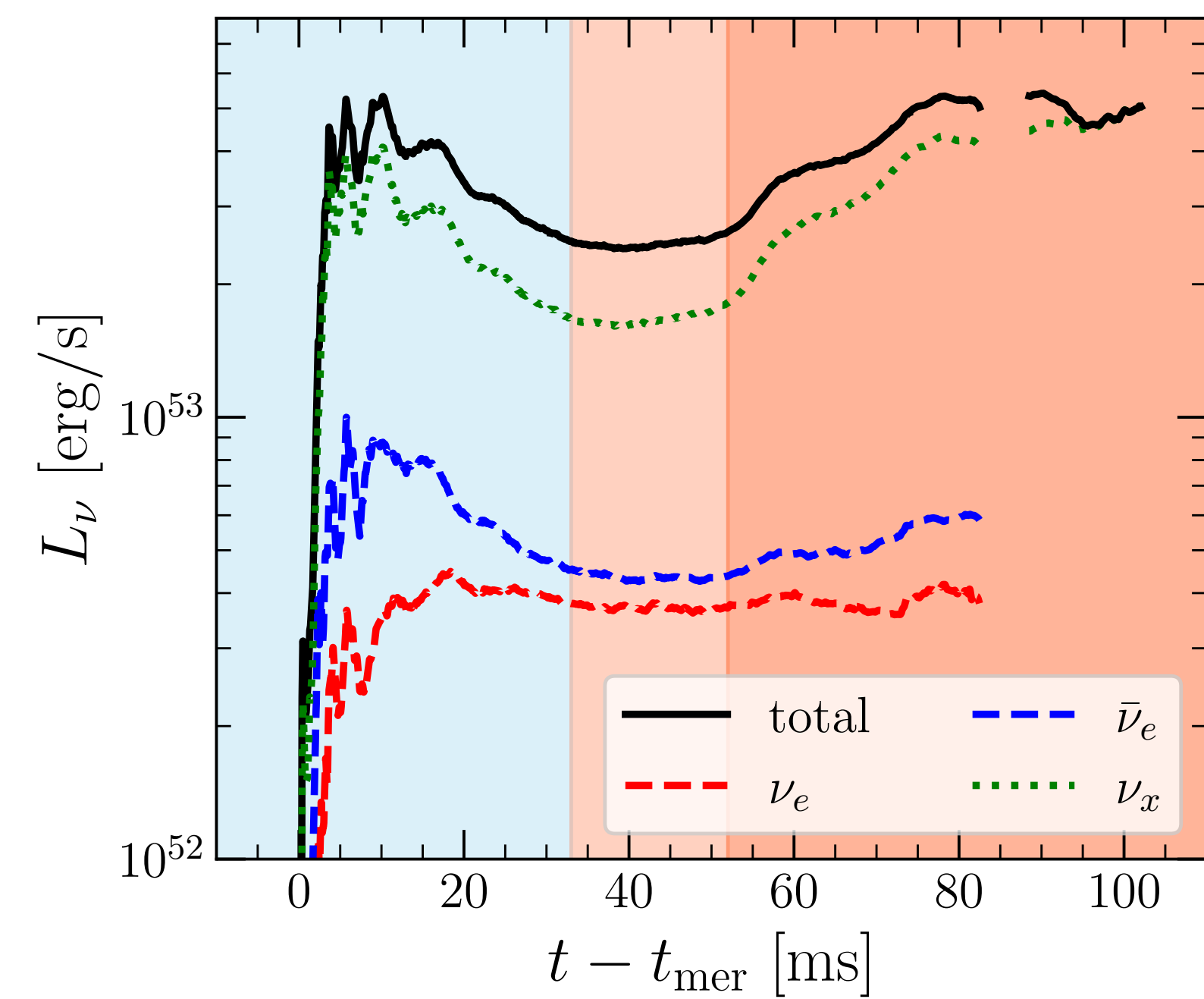
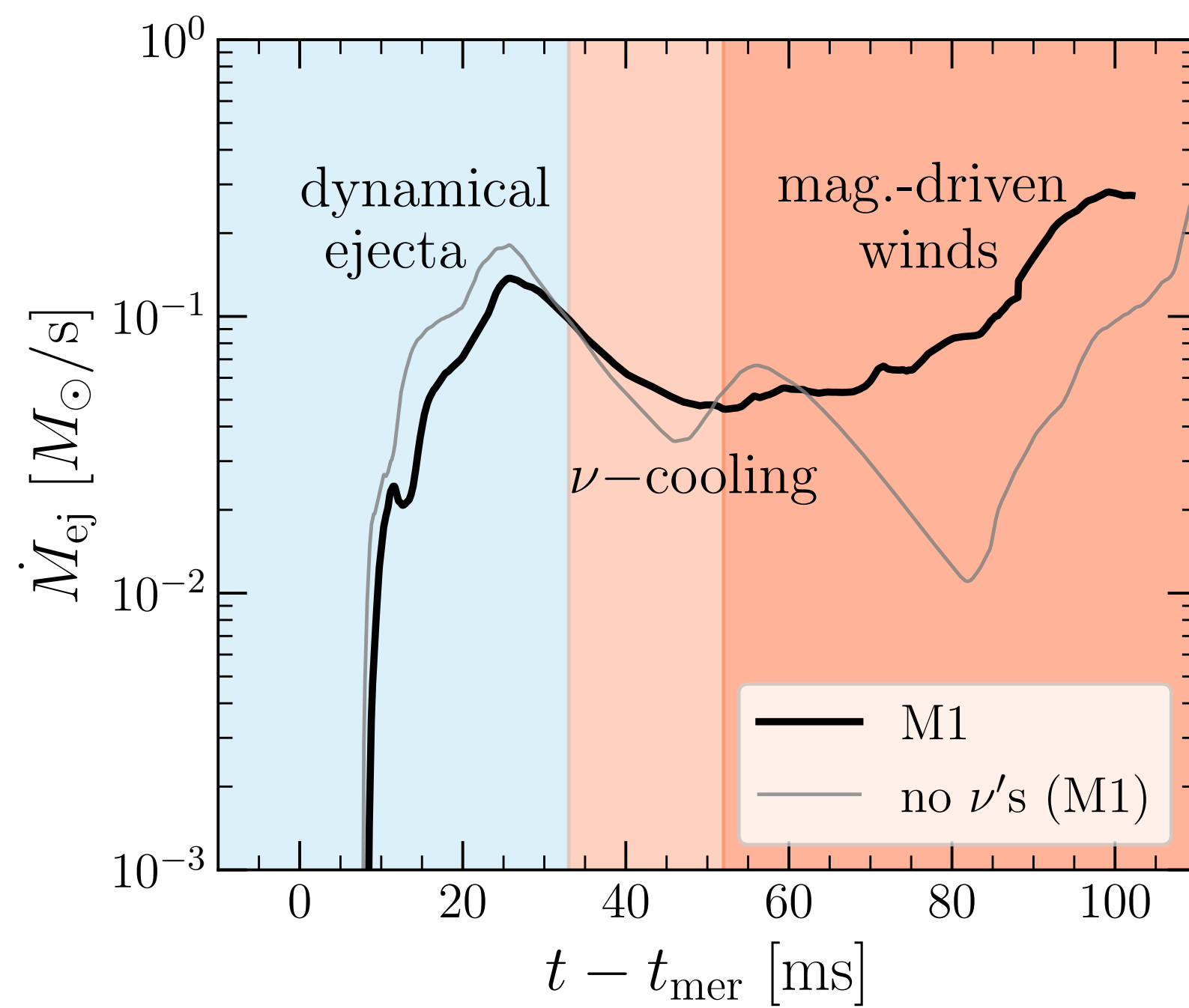
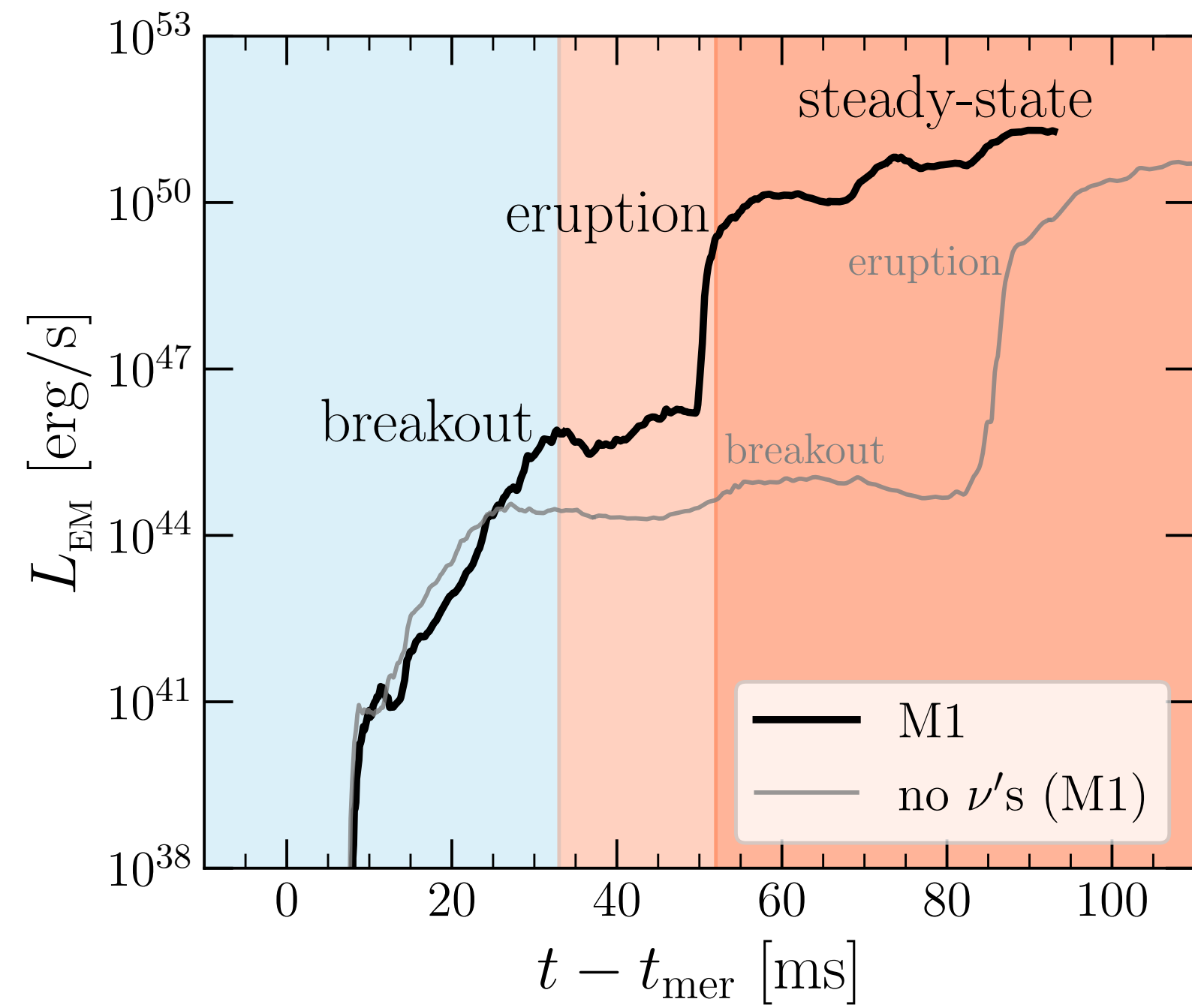
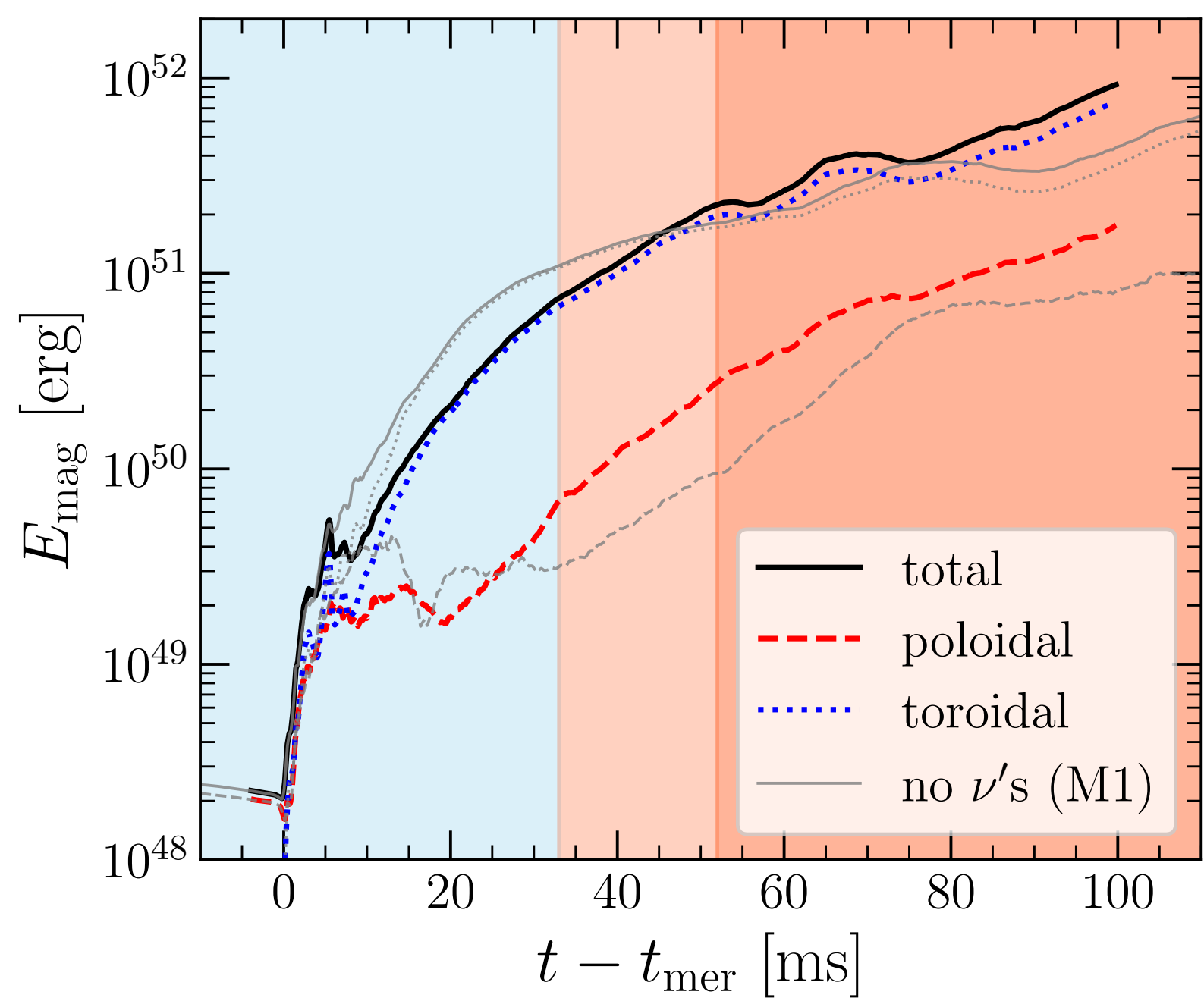
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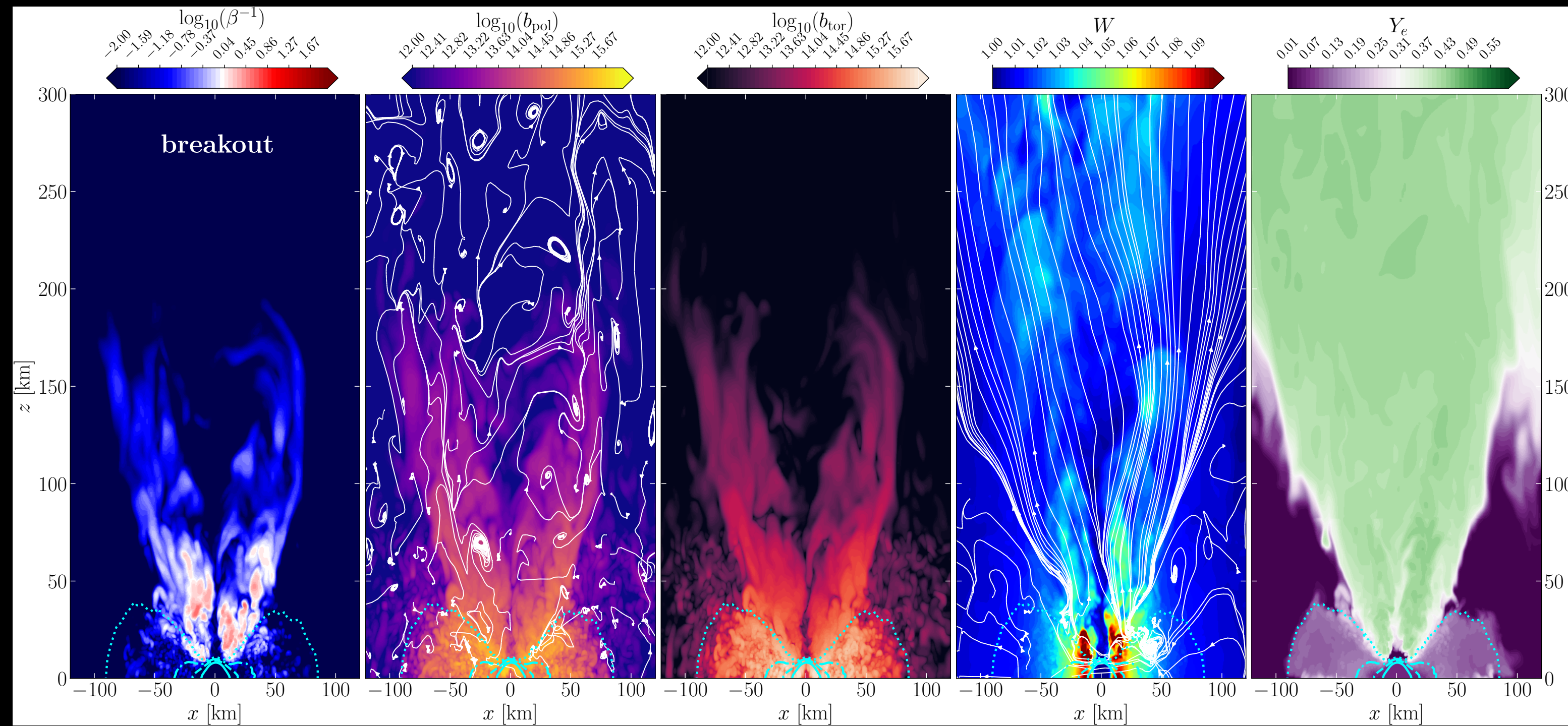
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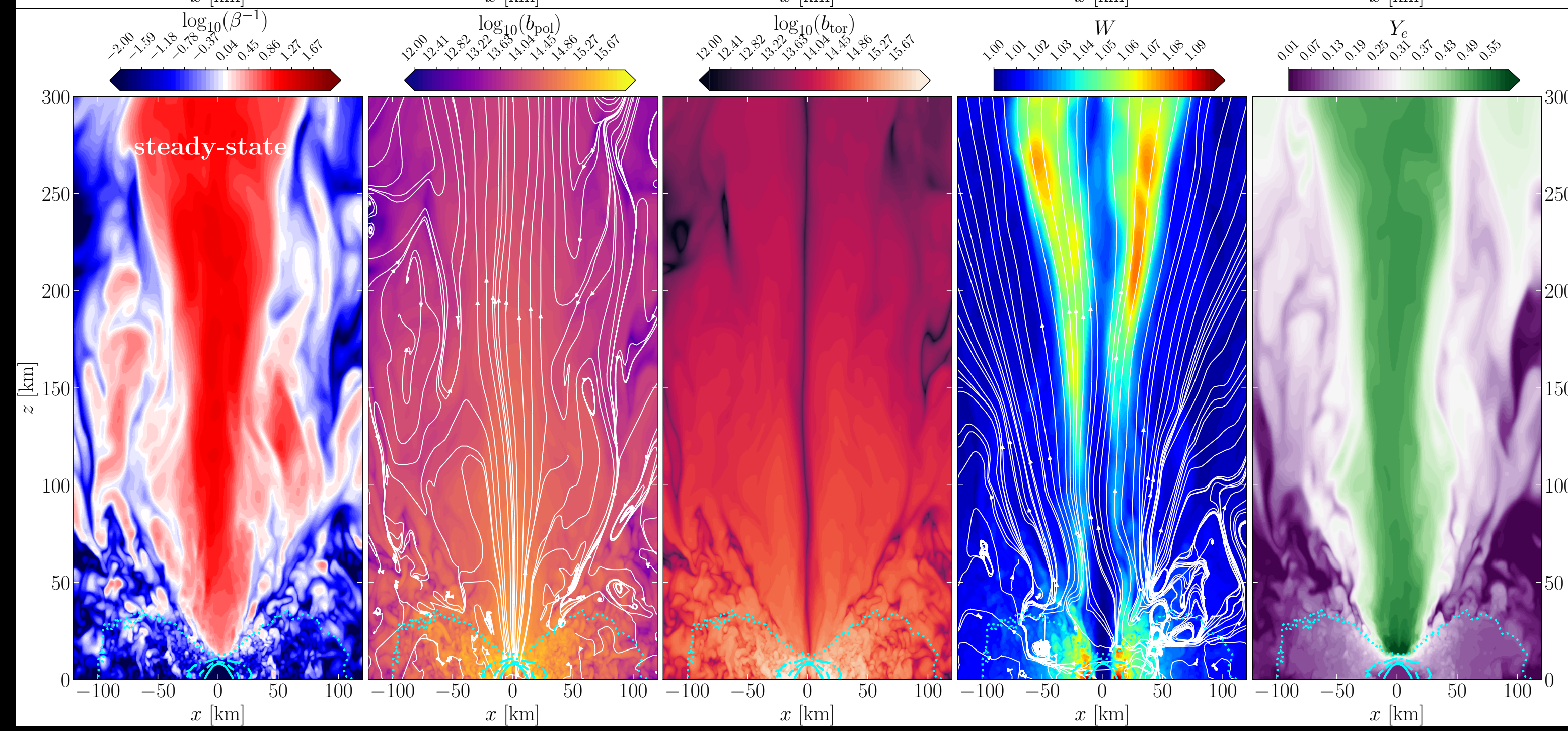
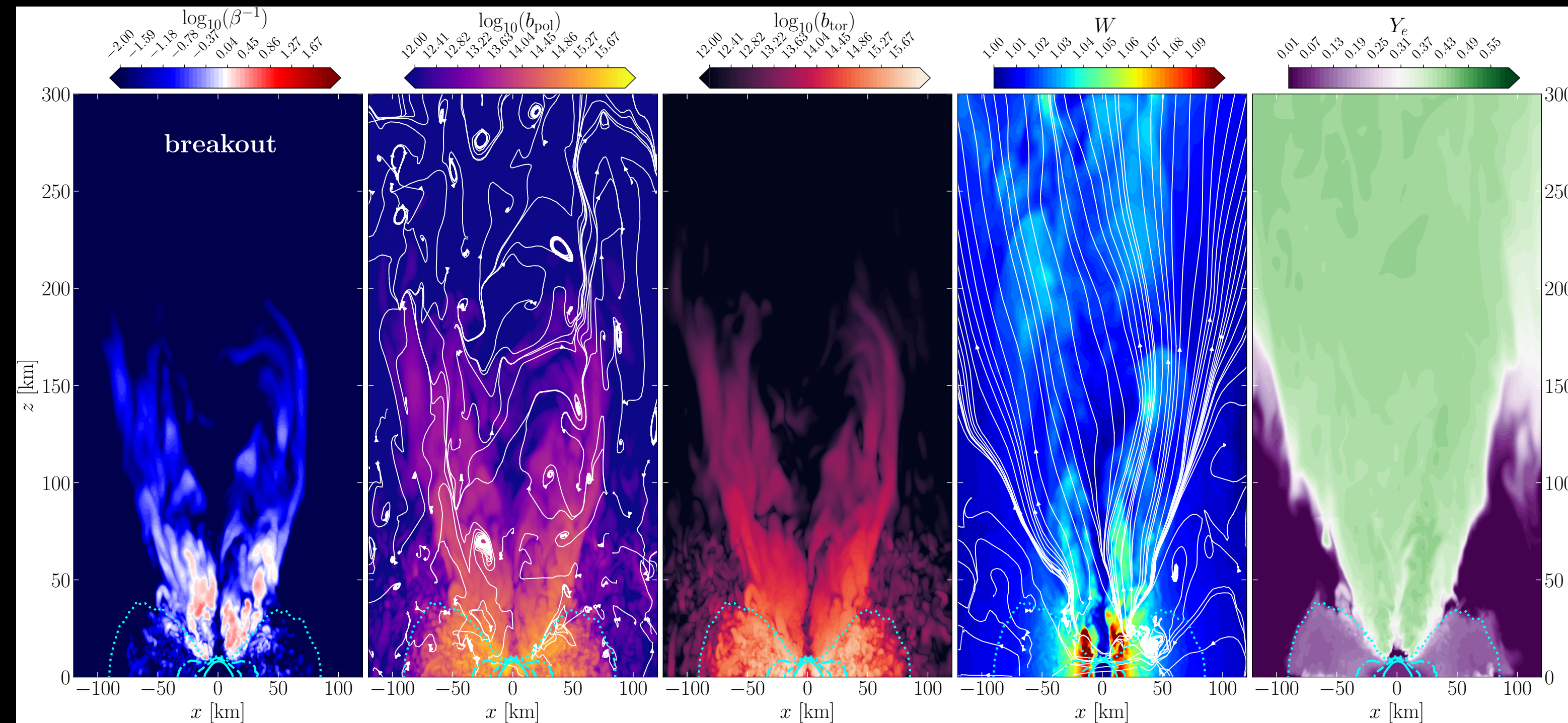
we have extended this by a factor of three

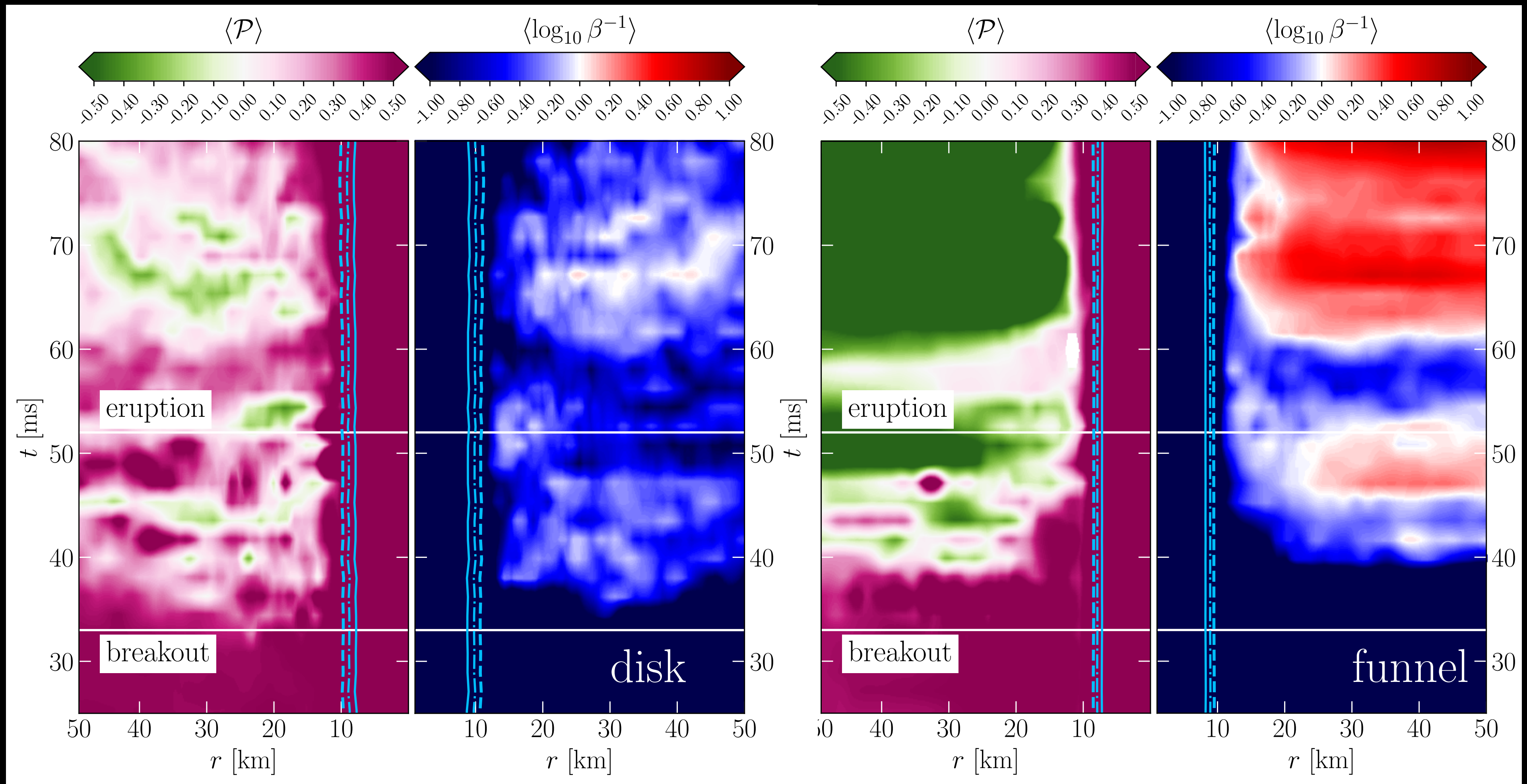


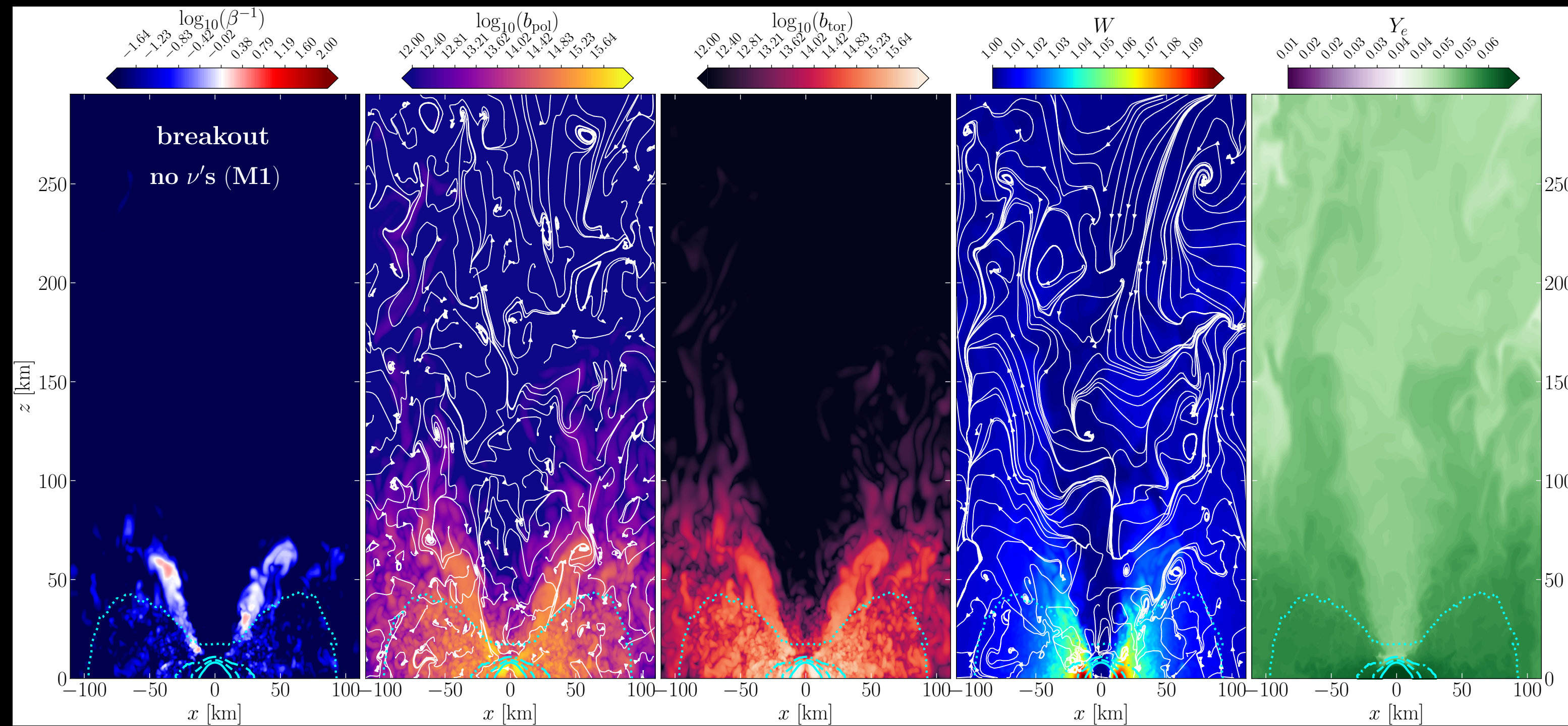


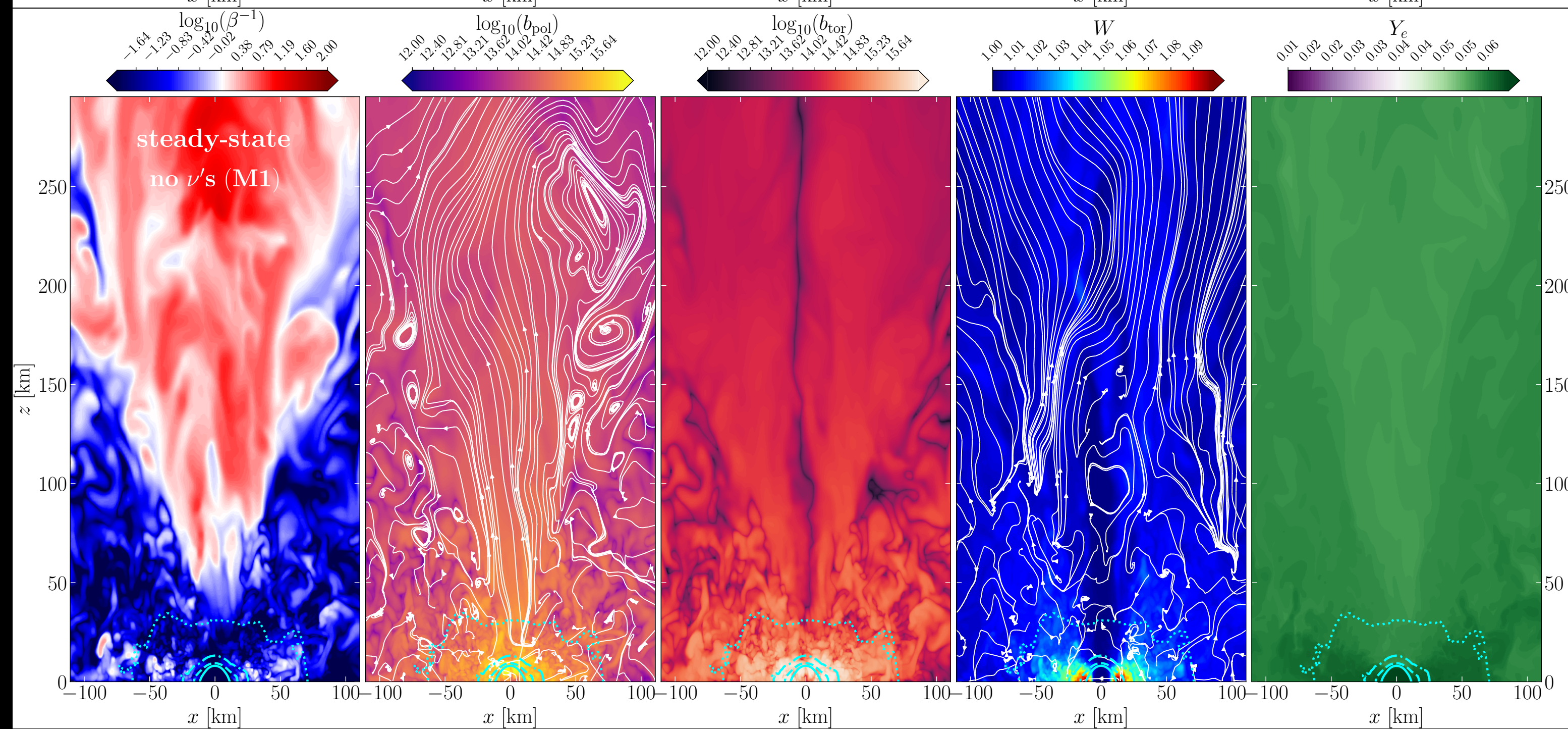
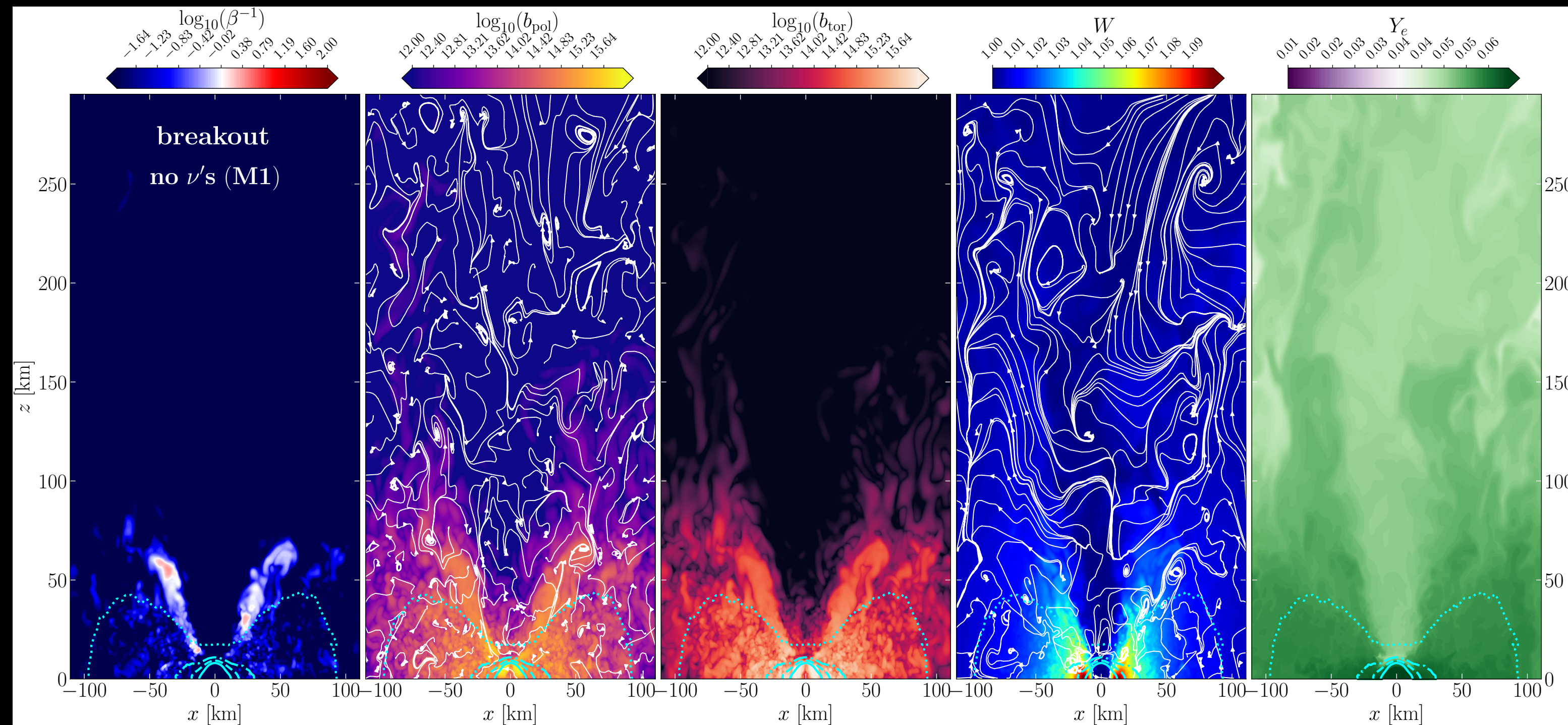


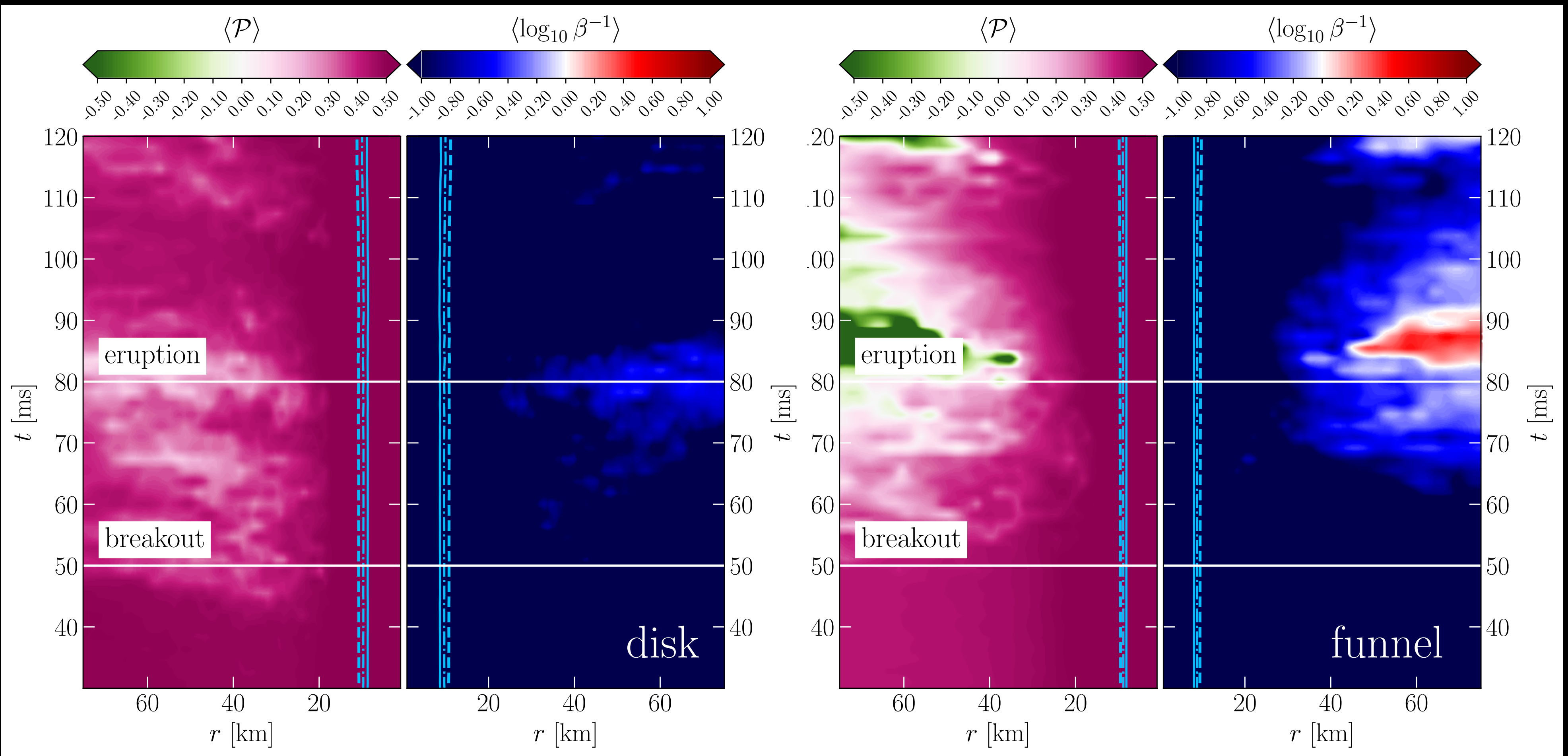


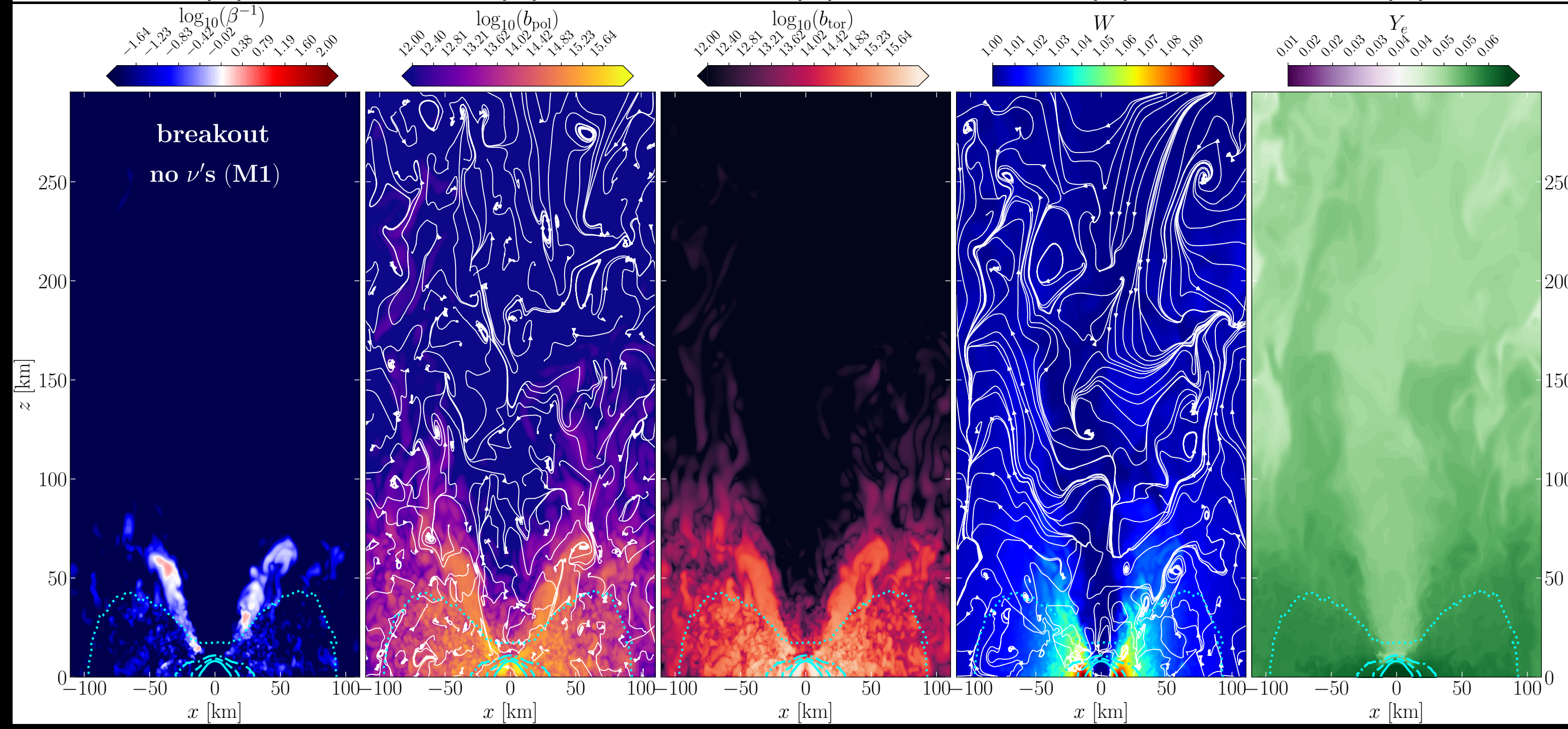
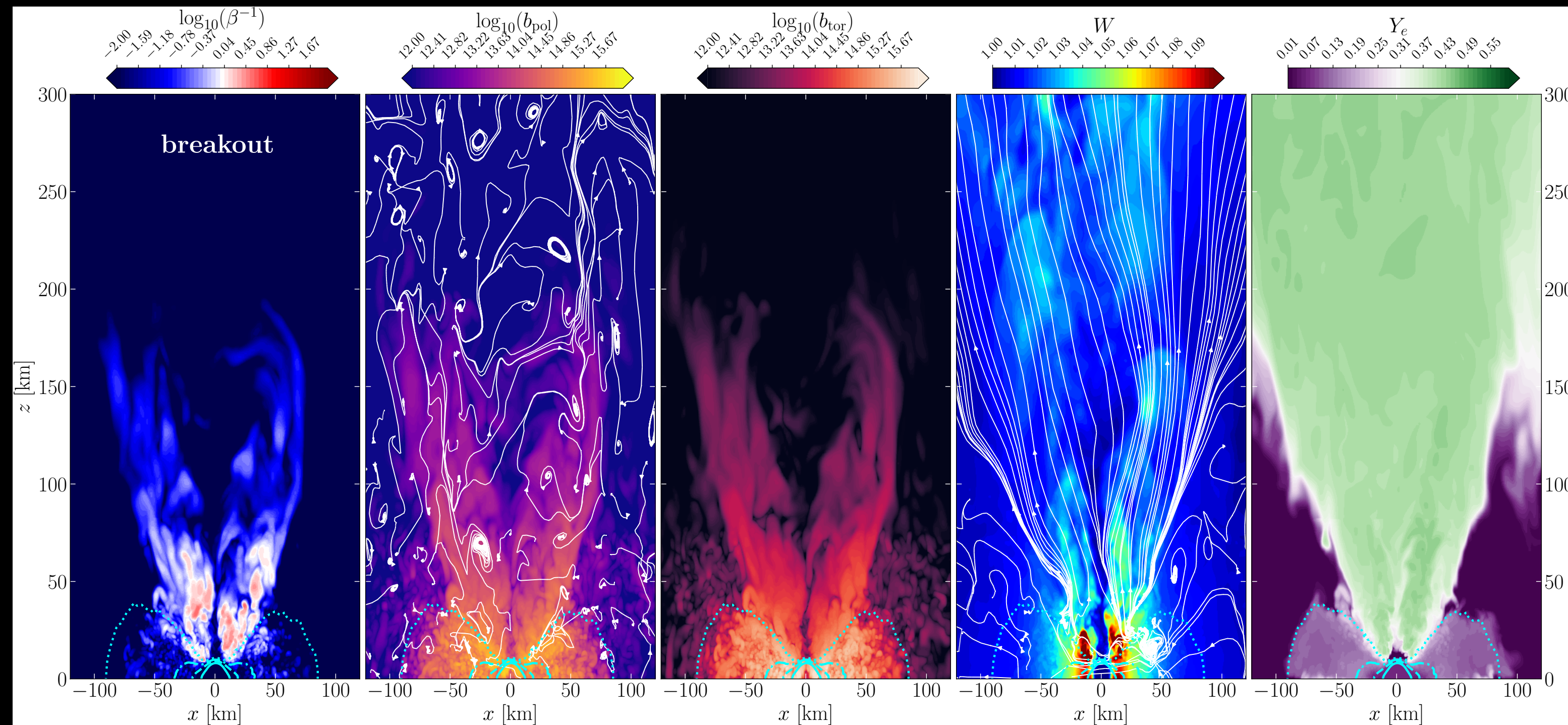


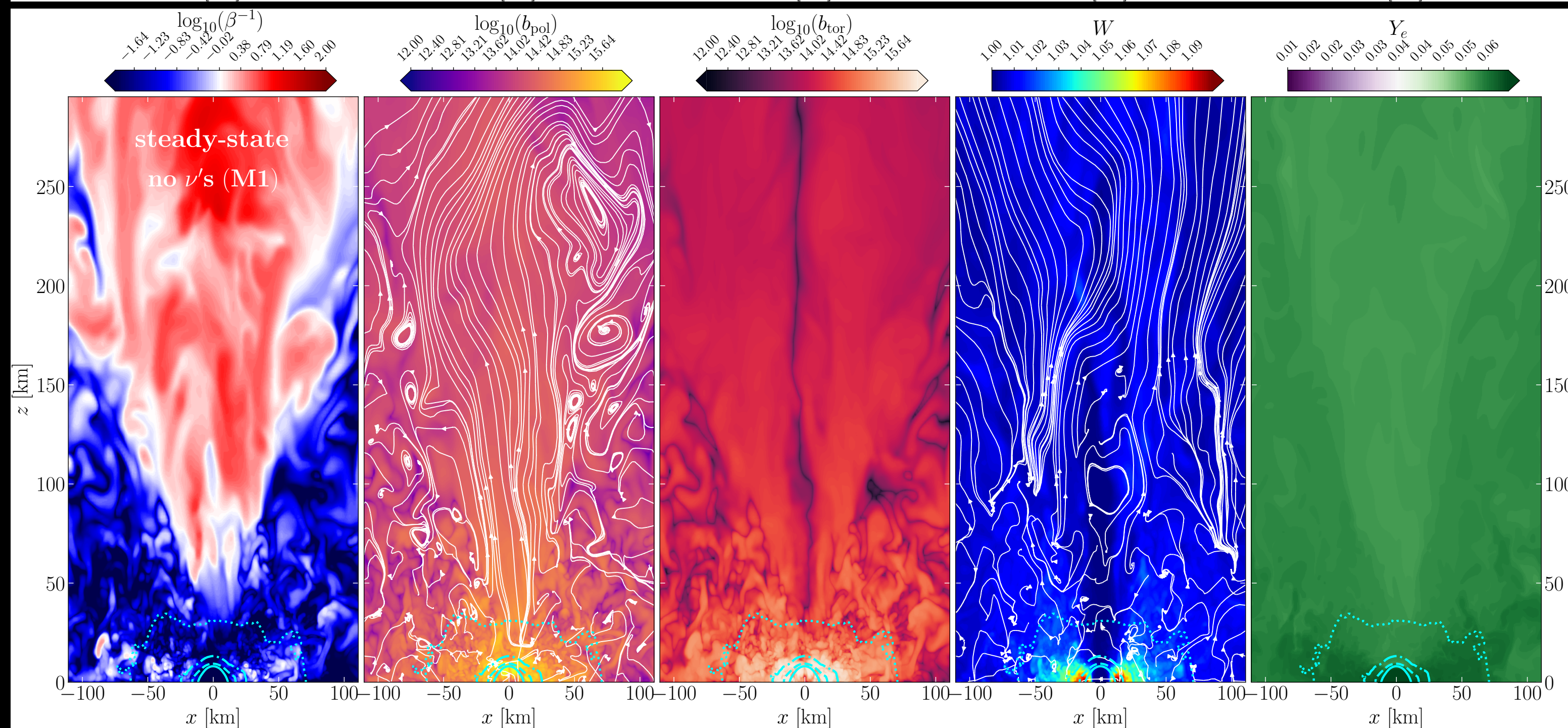
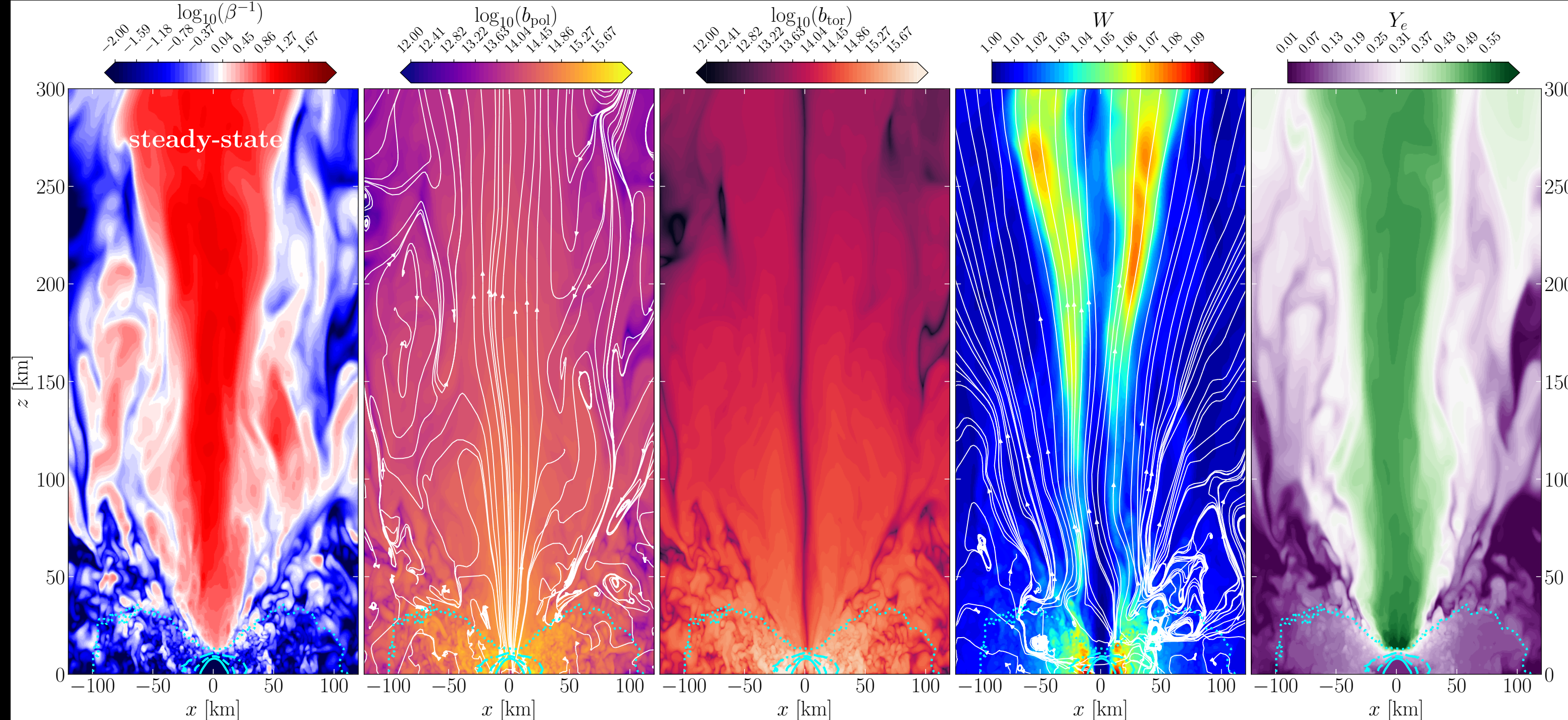








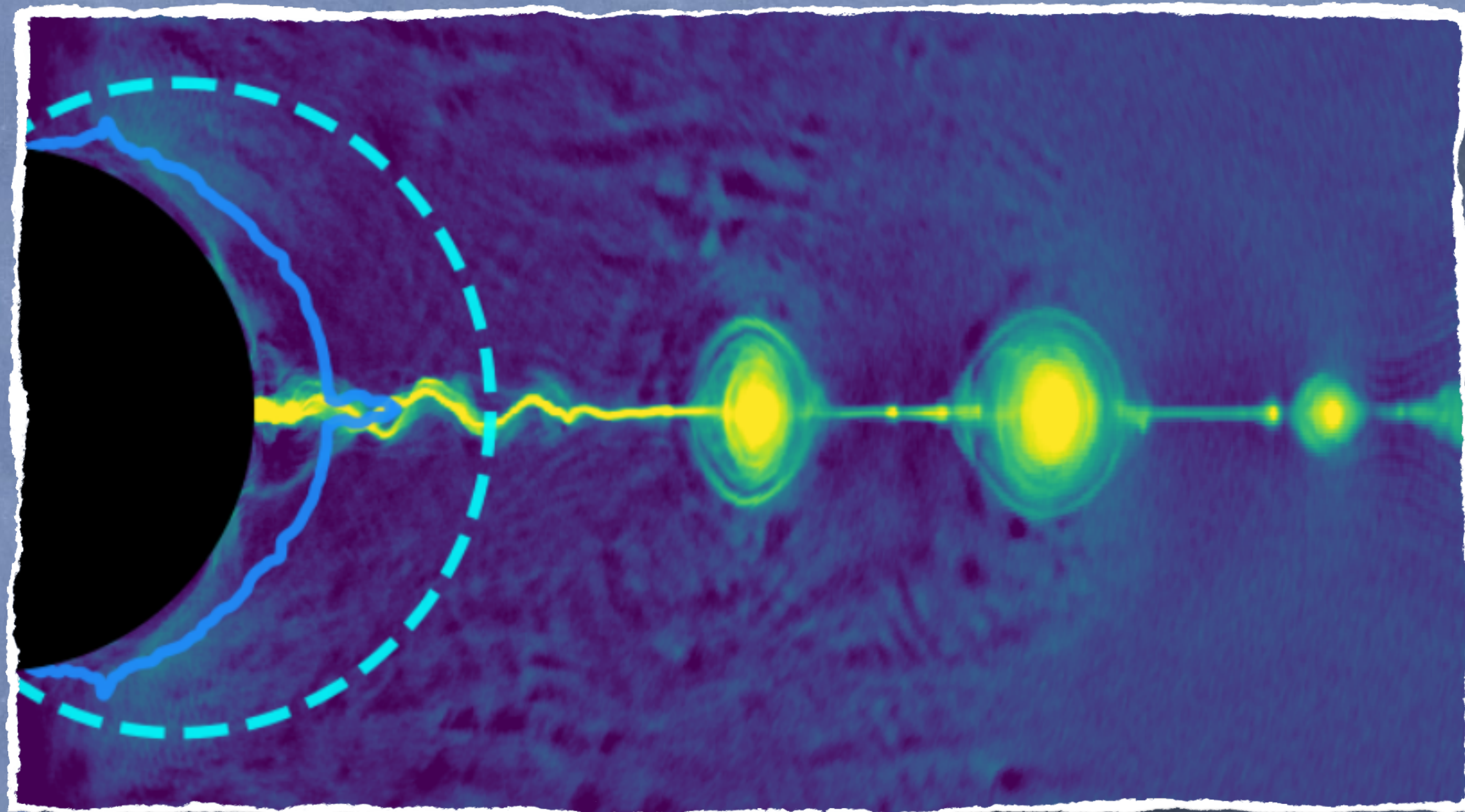




In essence:

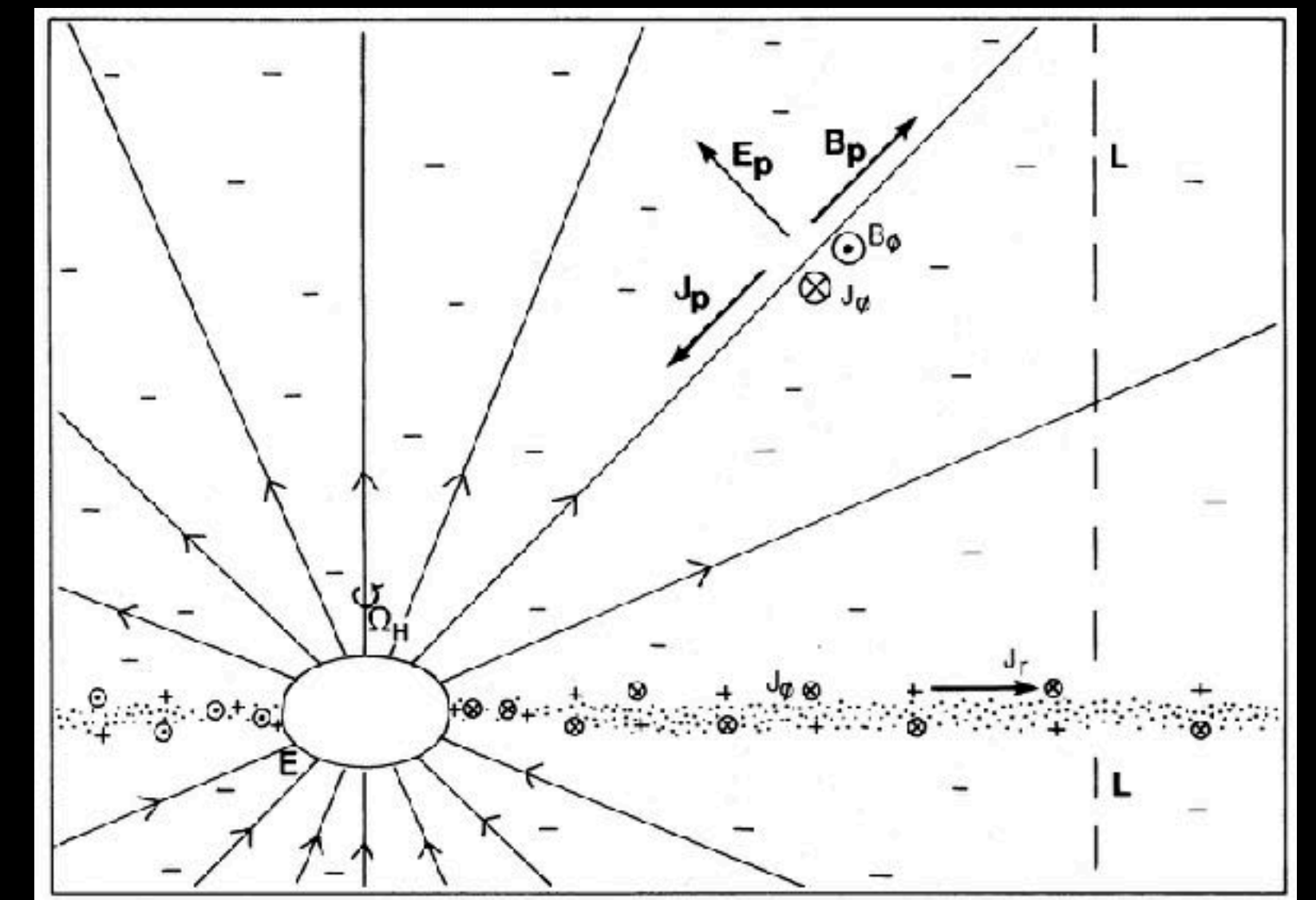
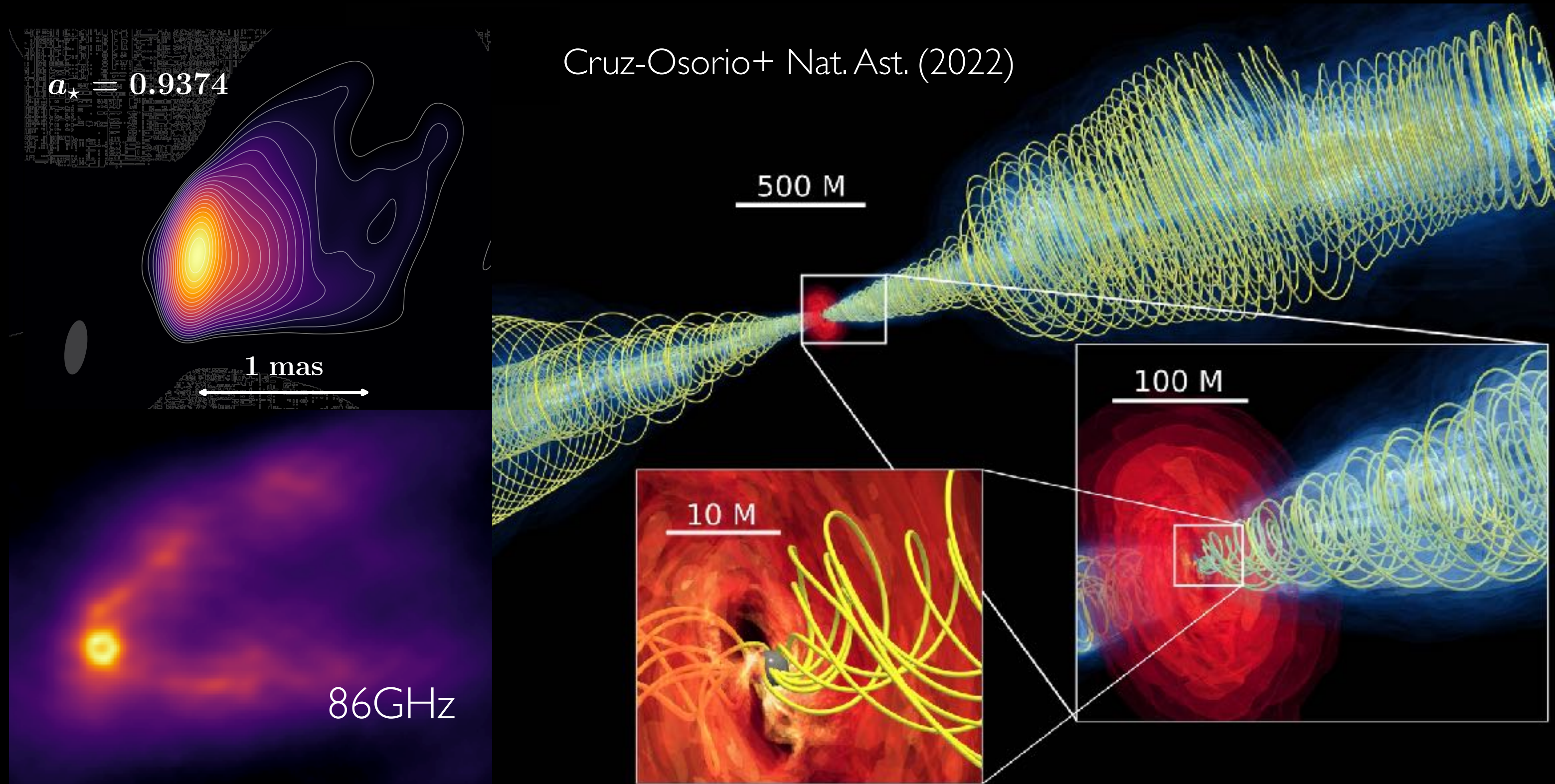
- there is an **outflow** but not a **relativistic jet** ($\Gamma \lesssim 2$).
- Parker instability responsible for breakout at surface of torus and not core HMNS.
- Poynting flux jumps at breakout from 10^{43} to 10^{50} erg/s and is ~ 2 orders of magnitude too small

Energy extraction from rotating BHs



A collisional description on BH scales: GRMHD simulations

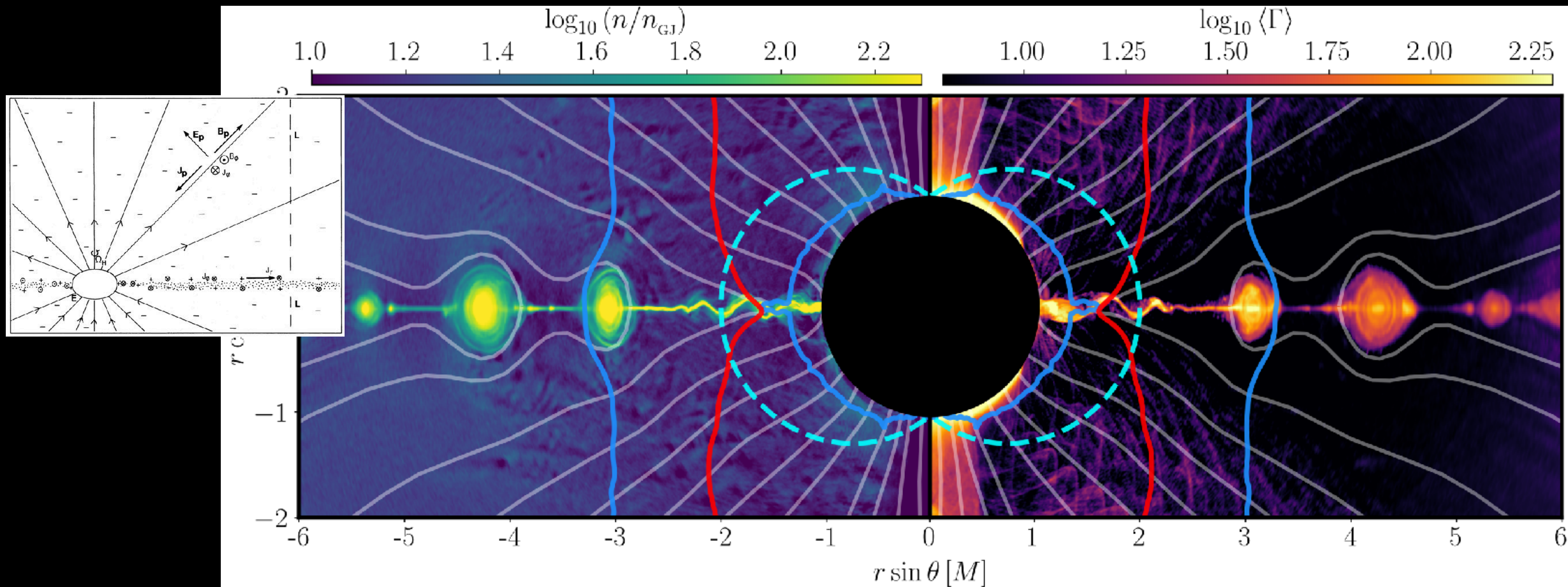
- GRMHD simulations of accretion onto supermassive BHs have reached high level of sophistication and are able to reproduce morphology and energy spectrum of M87 jet
- The Blandford-Znajek (BZ) mechanism offers most natural route to extract the rotational energy from rotating BHs and power relativistic jets. However, it assumes a FF regime



Blandford and Znajek MNRAS (1977)

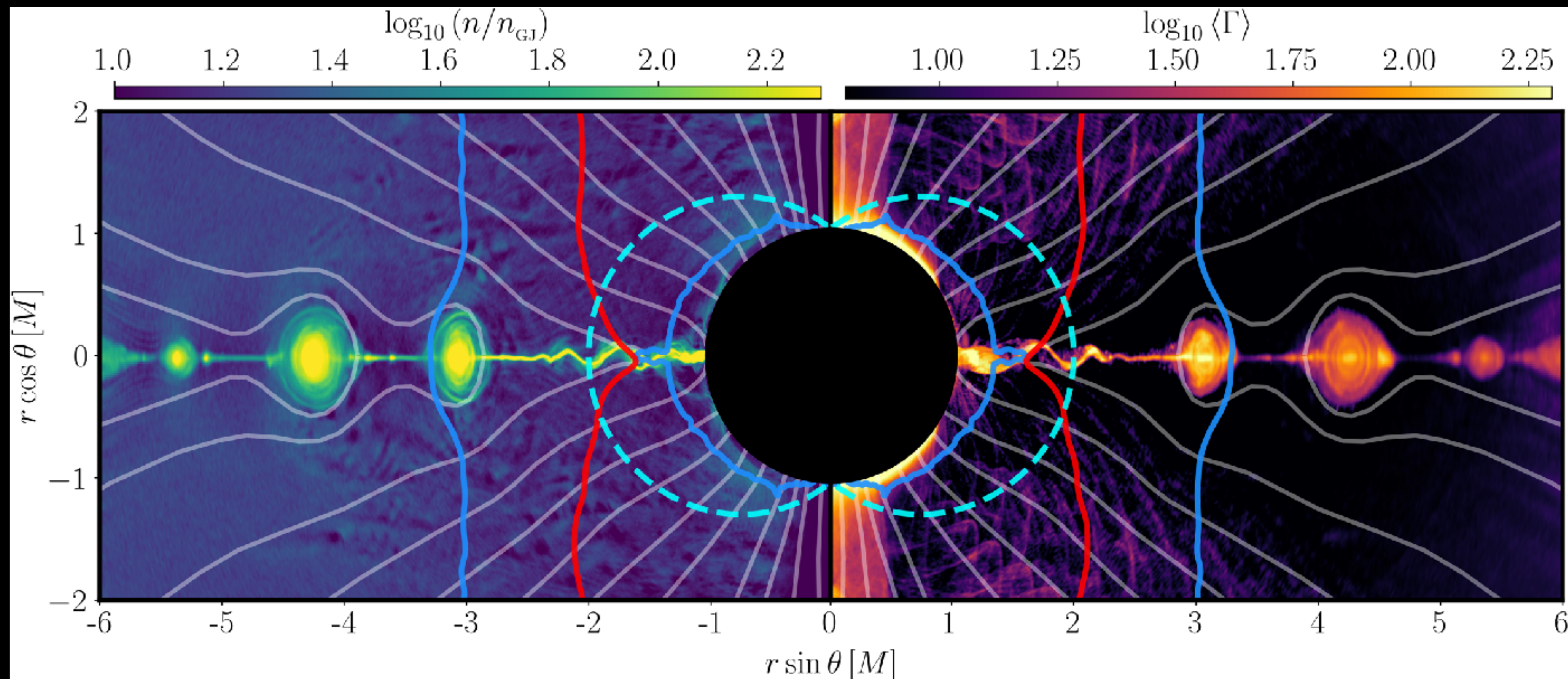
A collisionless description on BH scales: PIC simulations

- Particle-in-cell simulations provide ab-initio description of FF conditions near BH
- Extension to GR not easy but provides first-principle dynamics near BHs
- Carried out extensive campaign of e_+/e_- pair plasma in 2D with new code **FPIC** and “classic” split-monopole of BZ solution



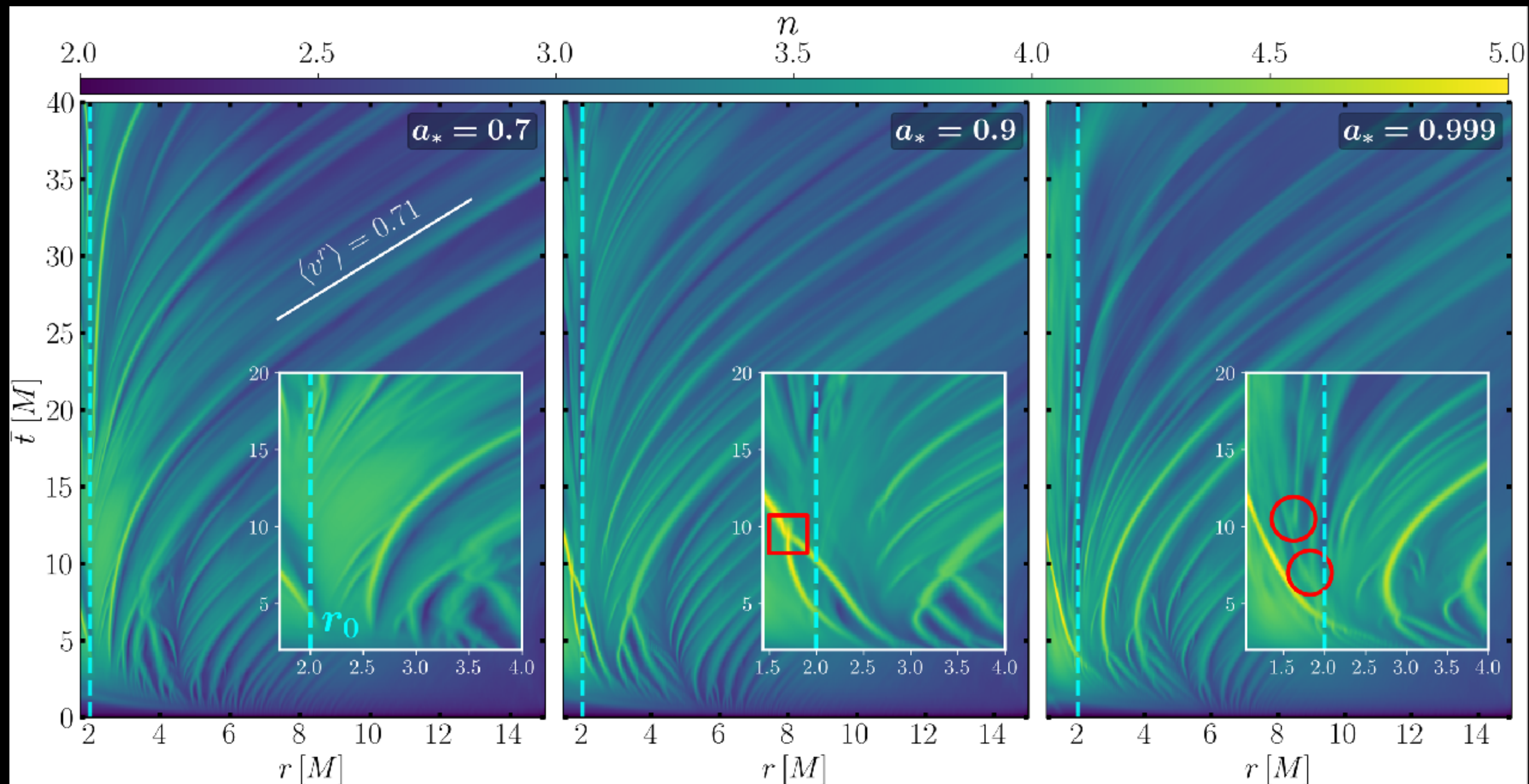
Microphysics on BH scales

- SR-PIC simulations provide important input for large-scale jet emission
- Extension to GR not easy but provides first-principle dynamics near BHs
- Carried out extensive campaign of e_+/e_- pair plasma in 2D with new code and “classic” split-monopole of Blandford-Znajek (BZ) solution



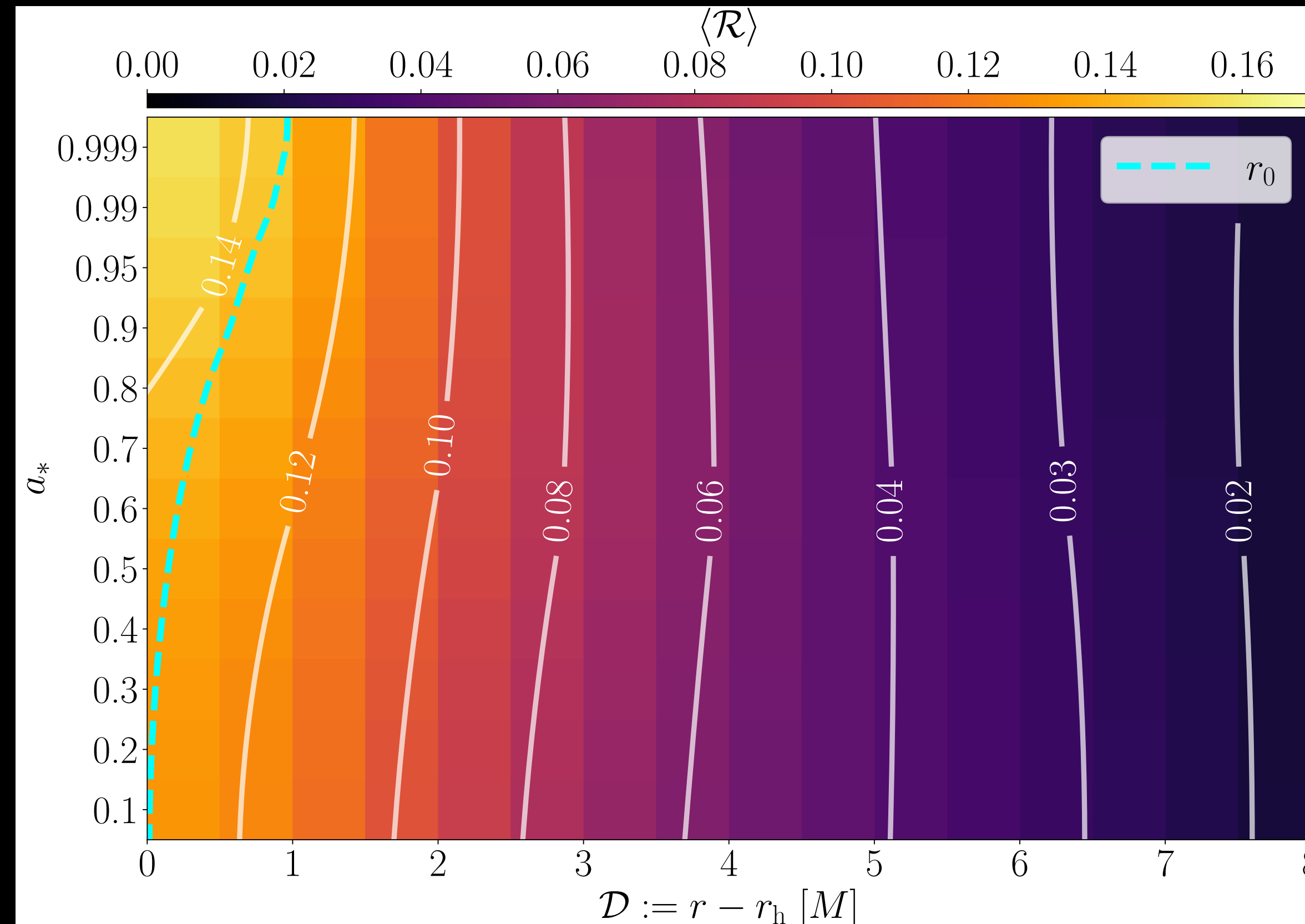
Among the new results...

- evidence plasmoids can **collide** and **merge** inside and outside **ergosphere**
- evidence plasmoids can also **split** inside **ergosphere** and reach **infinity**
- outgoing plasmoids have radial velocity $v \simeq 0.7$ independent of BH spin



Reconnection rate

- reconnection rate \mathcal{R} essential for all considerations of EM emission
- simulations allow to compute $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}(r, a_*)$
- reconnection grows with BH spin and reaches maximum $\mathcal{R} \simeq 0.14$ inside ergosphere of maximally rotating BH



Blandford-Znajek luminosity

The BZ luminosity can be expressed very generically as

$$P_{\text{BZ}} = \frac{\kappa}{4\pi} \Phi_h^2 F(\Omega_h)$$

where (Camilloni+ JCAP 2022)

κ depends uniquely on the B-field topology ($\kappa_{sm} = 1/(6\pi)$ for split monopole)

Φ_h is the magnetic flux across the event horizon

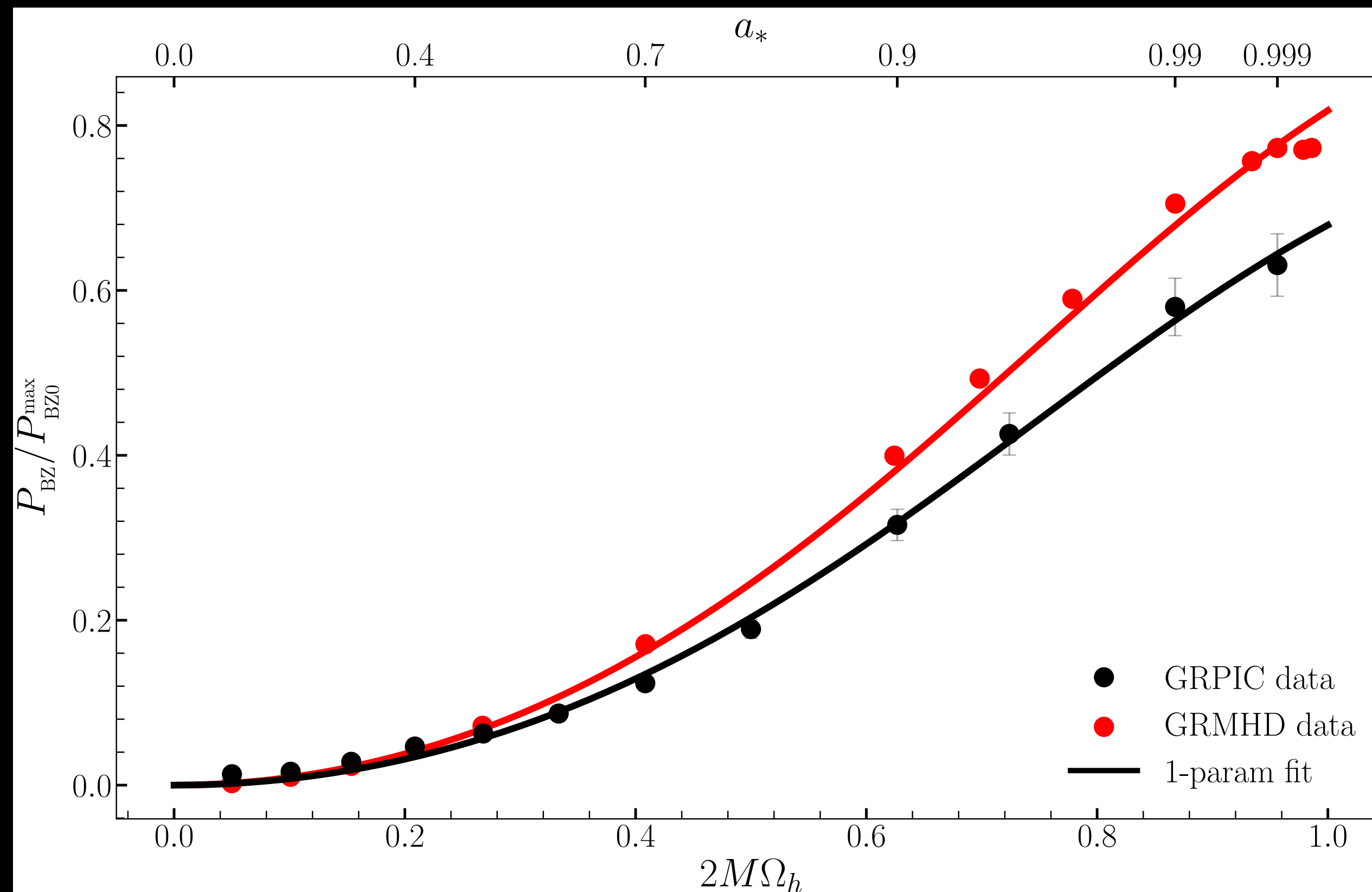
$F_{\text{an}}(\Omega_h)$ is a nonlinear function of the event-horizon velocity Ω_h :

$$F_{\text{an}}(\Omega_h) = \Omega_h^2 \left[1 + \tilde{\alpha}(M\Omega_h)^2 + \tilde{\beta}(M\Omega_h)^4 + \tilde{\gamma}|M\Omega_h|^5 + (\tilde{\delta} + \tilde{\epsilon} \log |M\Omega_h|)(M\Omega_h)^6 \right]$$

Blandford-Znajek luminosity

The BZ can be measured from the simulations

$$P_{\text{BZ}} = \frac{\kappa}{4\pi} \Phi_h^2 F(\Omega_h)$$

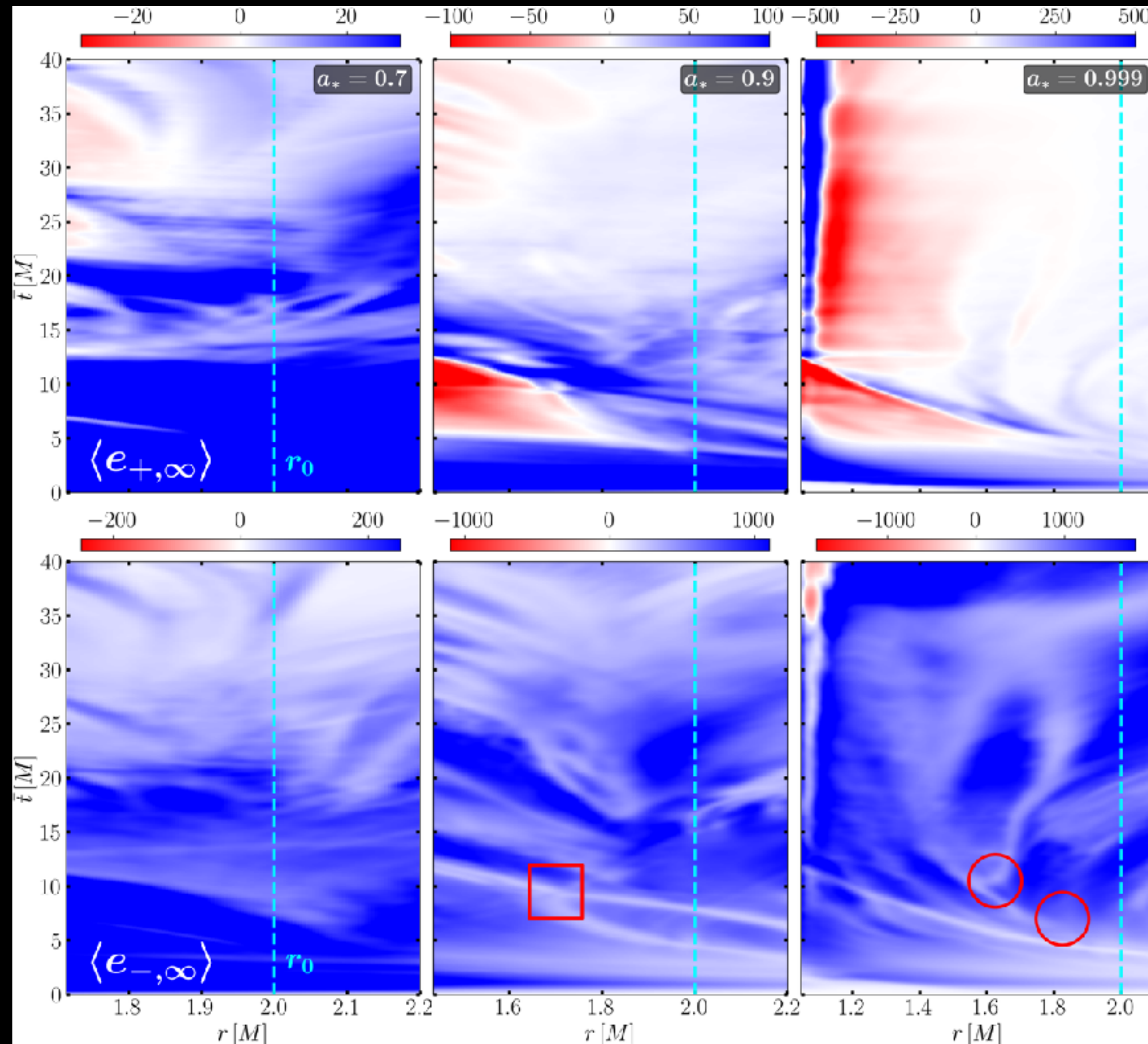


The measured BZ power matches very well analytic expression at $\mathcal{O}(\Omega_h^8)$

Good match is present also for GRMHD simulations; only difference is value of κ

Behaviour for extremal BHs can be captured with fit of quartic term

Evidence of Penrose process (PP)



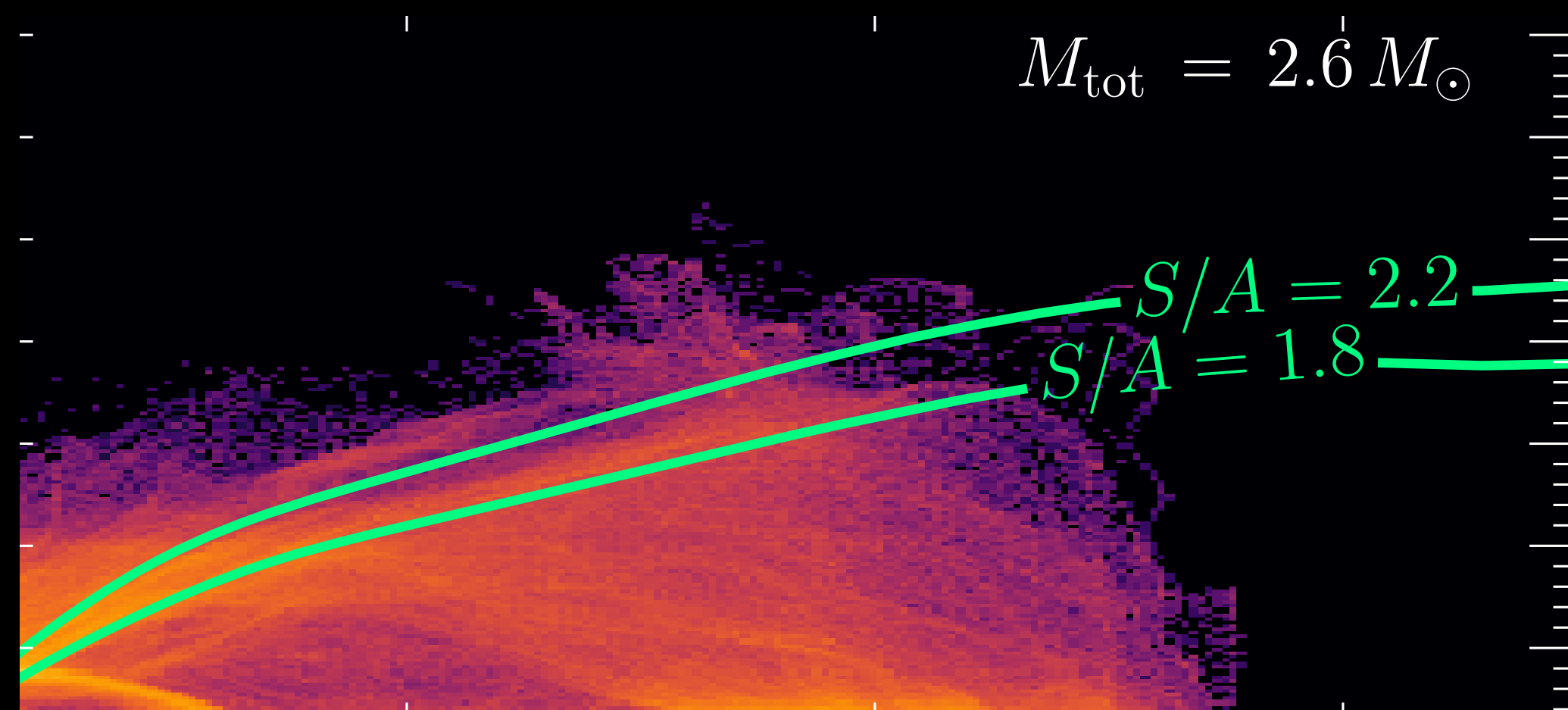
Evidence of negative-energy positrons inside ergosphere and accreting

Process is not steady and accretion rate increases with BH spin

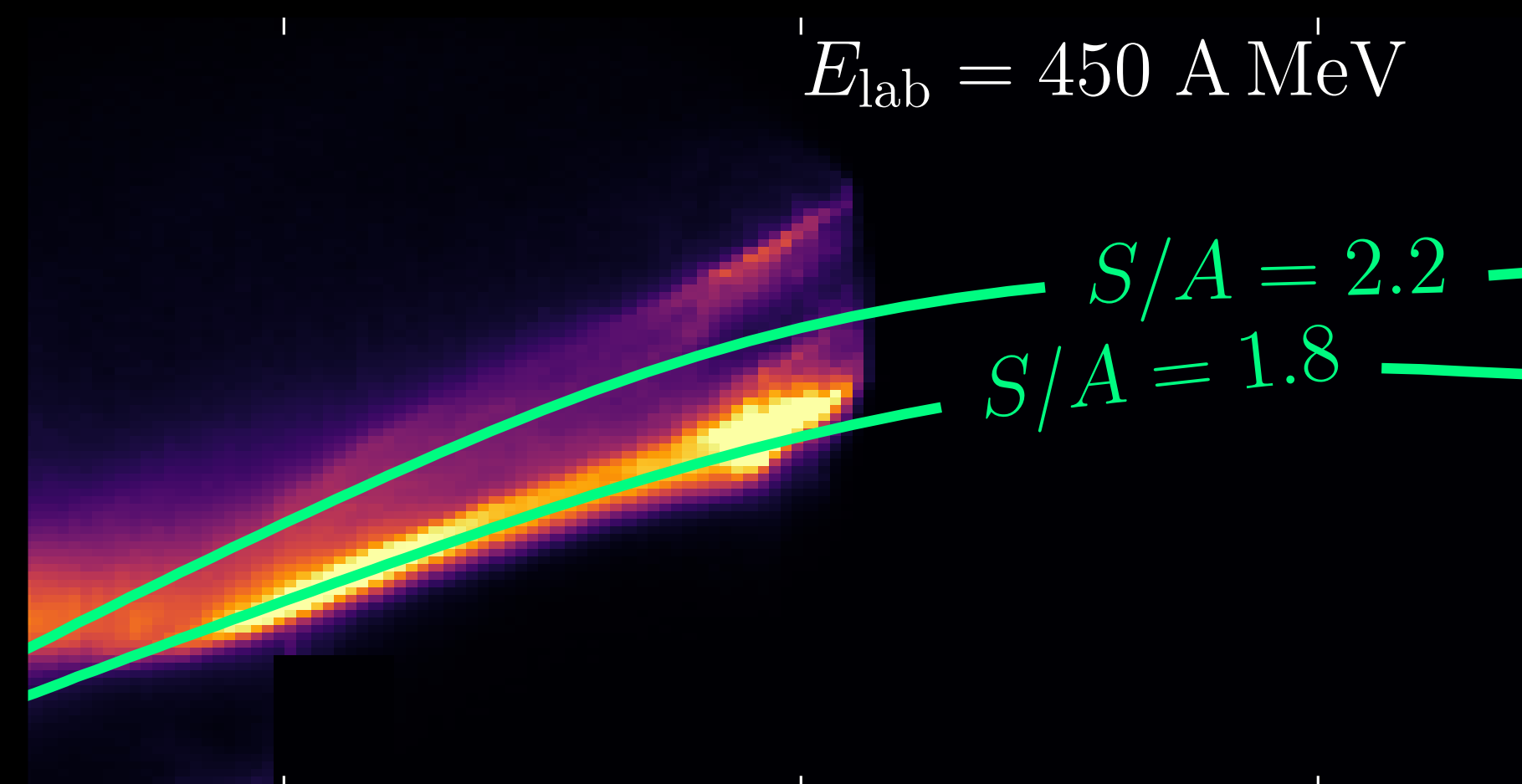
Accretion of negative-energy particles also for electrons but with smaller rates

Results suggest that **both BZ and PP** are present in force-free magnetospheres of rotating BHs: extraction is combination of effects.

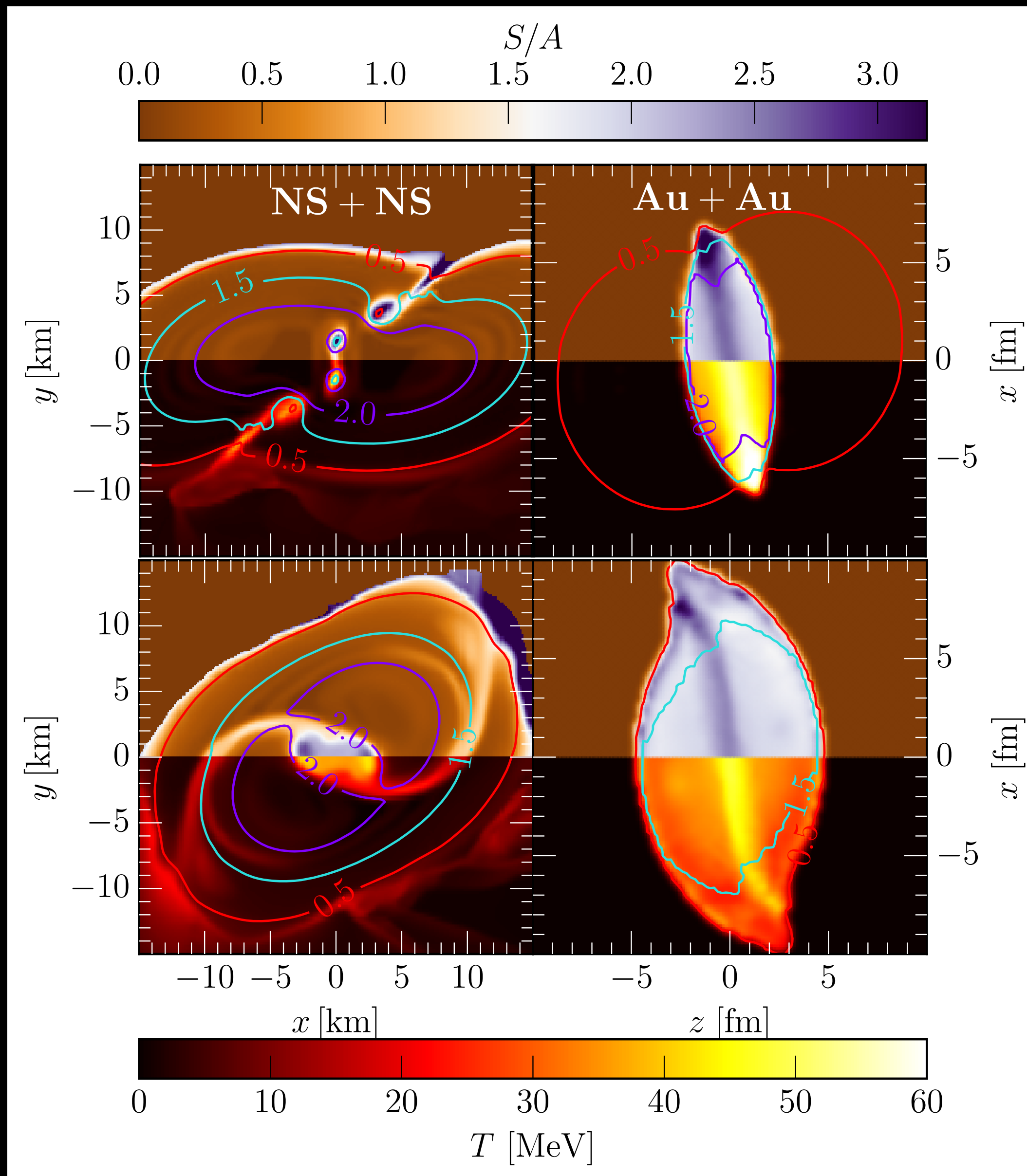
Probing neutron-star matter in the lab



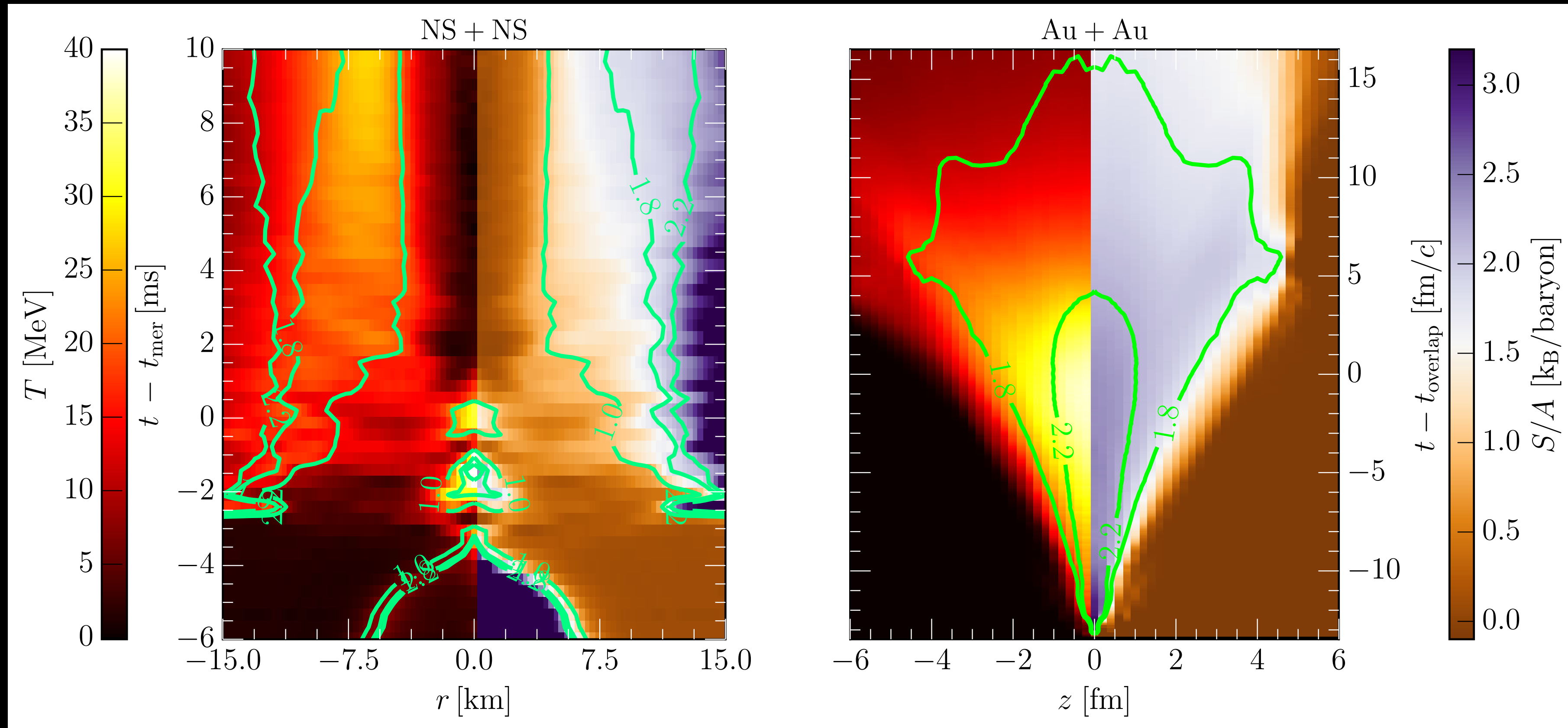
freeze - out



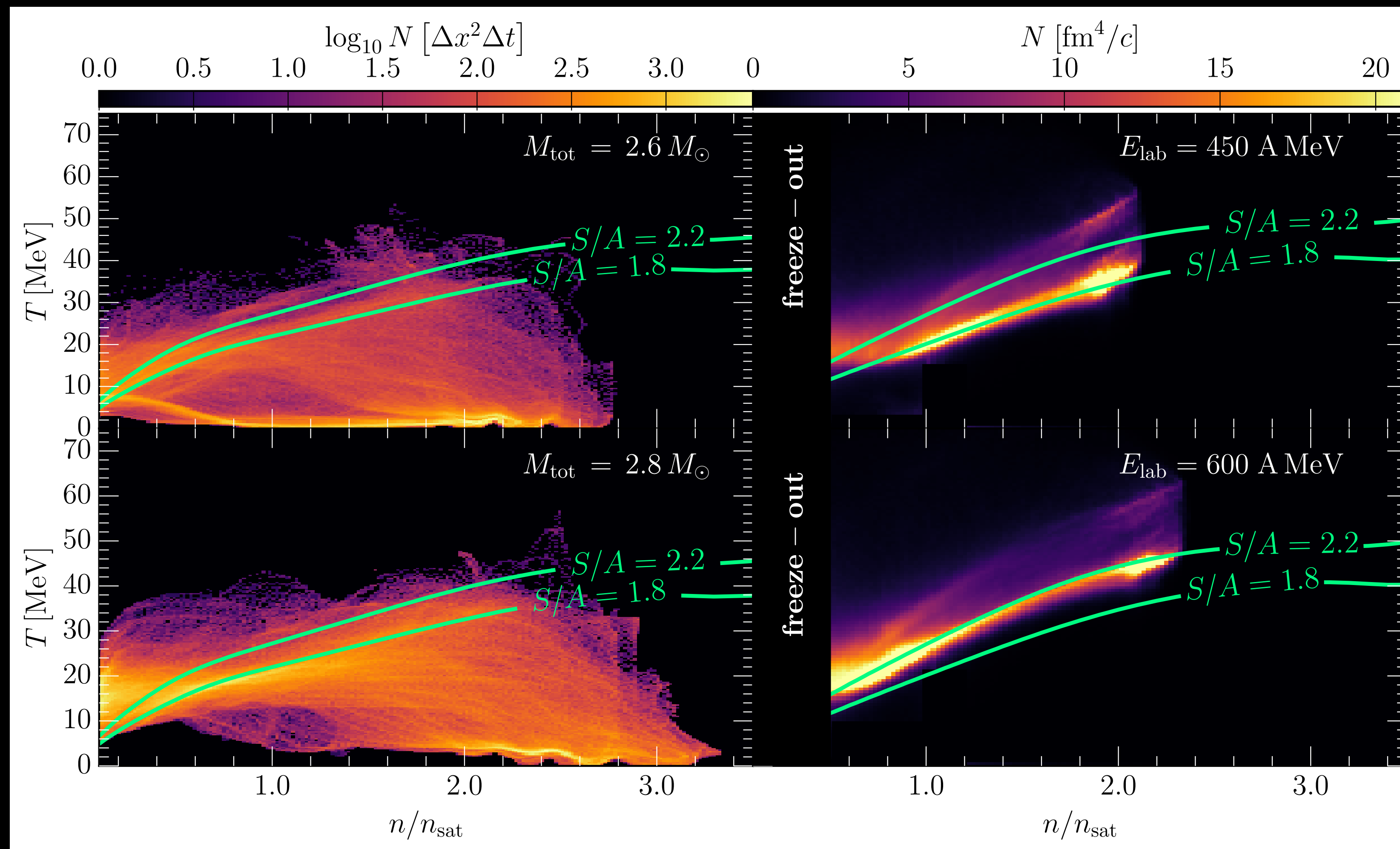
BNS mergers vs HICs



- We have explored the dynamics of BNS mergers and HIC using the same EOS.
- Chiral Mean Field model, based on the three-flavor chiral Lagrangian for hadronic matter.
- Crossover transition for deconfinement occurs at both, finite and zero temperature

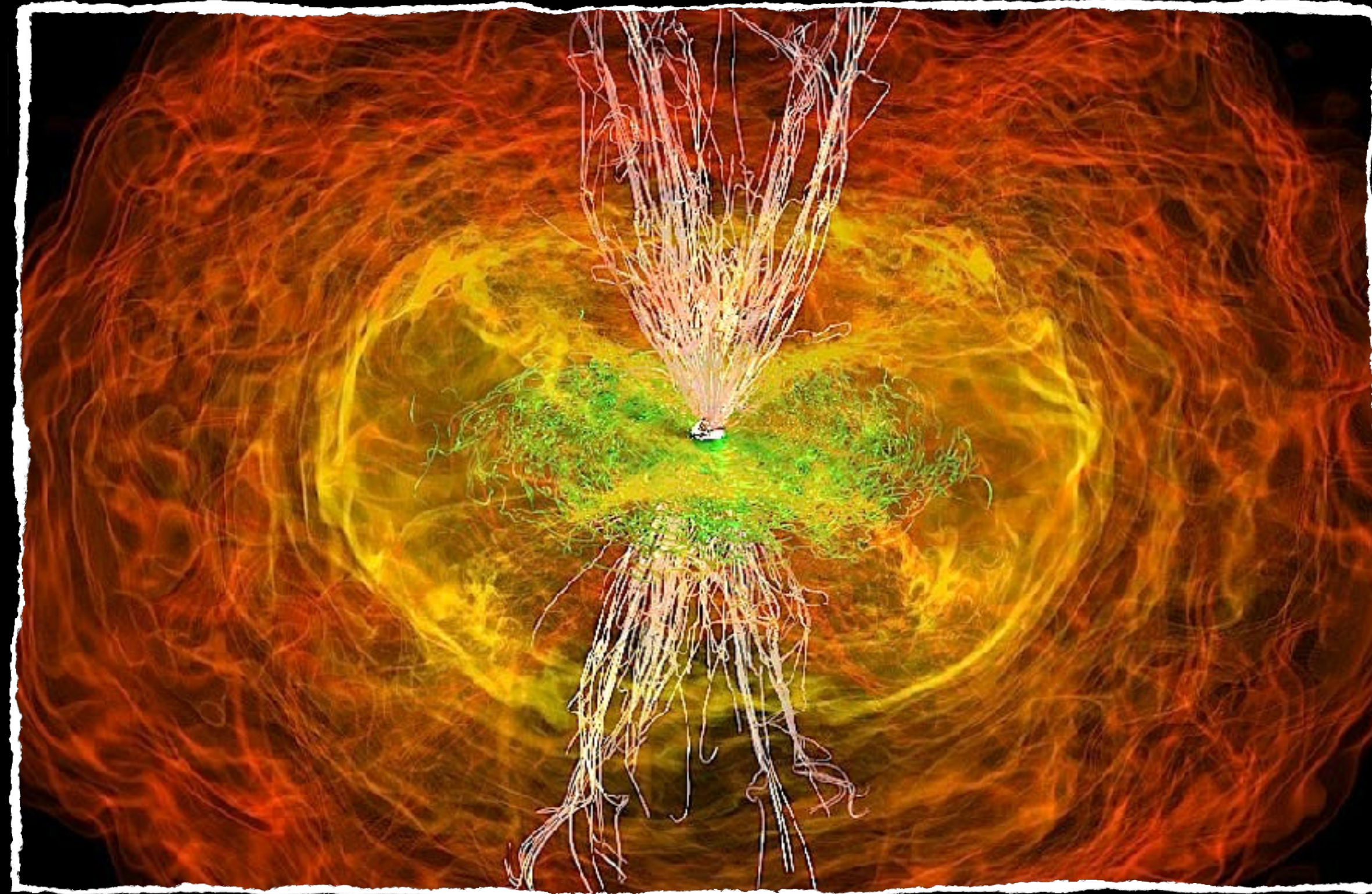


- **BNSs:** core is hot and with high entropy; hot and high entropy ring is formed. Remnant is gravitationally bound.
- **HICs:** collision product is hot and with high entropy but expands rapidly cooling isentropically.



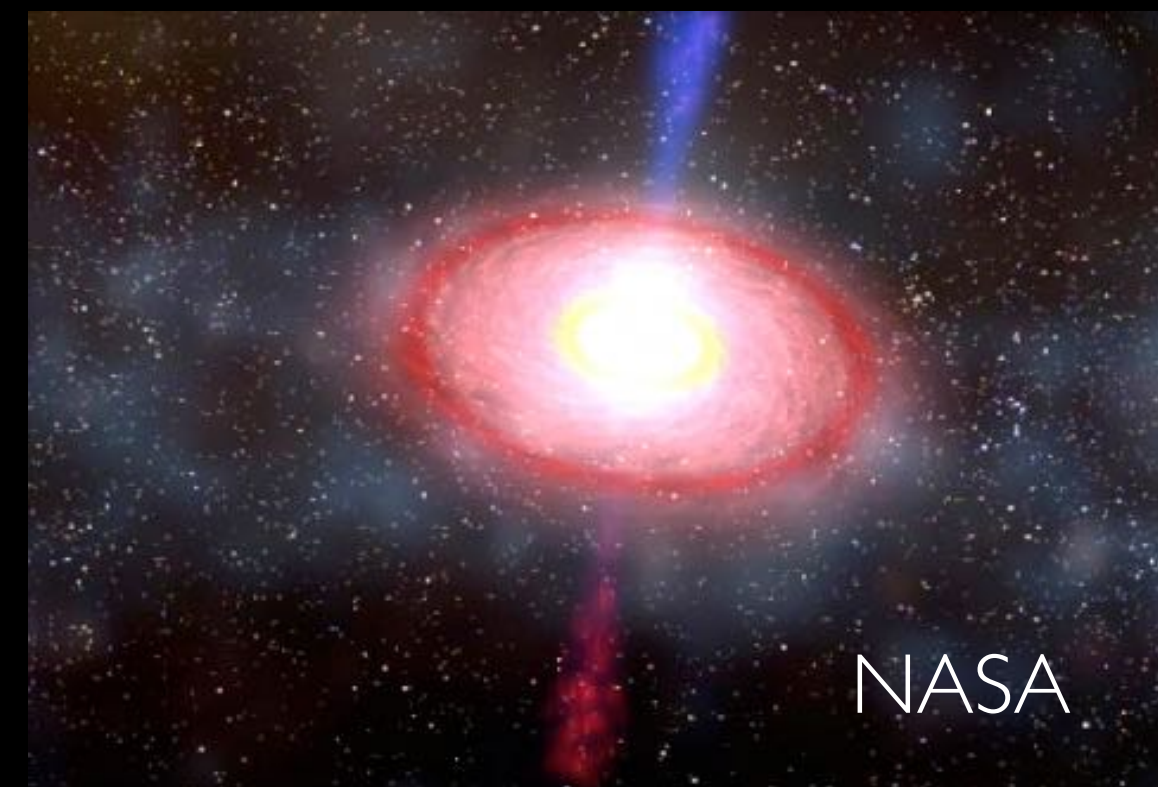
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- **HICs**: collision product is hot and with high entropy but expands rapidly cooling isentropically.

Electromagnetic counterparts



Electromagnetic counterparts

- Since 70's observed flashes of gamma rays observed with energies 10^{50-53} erg: **gamma-ray bursts (GRBs)**
- Two families of GRBs: “**long**” and “**short**”
- **Long**: last **tens-hundreds** of **seconds**; likely due to the collapse of very massive stars
- **Short**: last less than a second; due to NS mergers
- All GRBs show **jets** but how do you produce a jet from a binary merger?



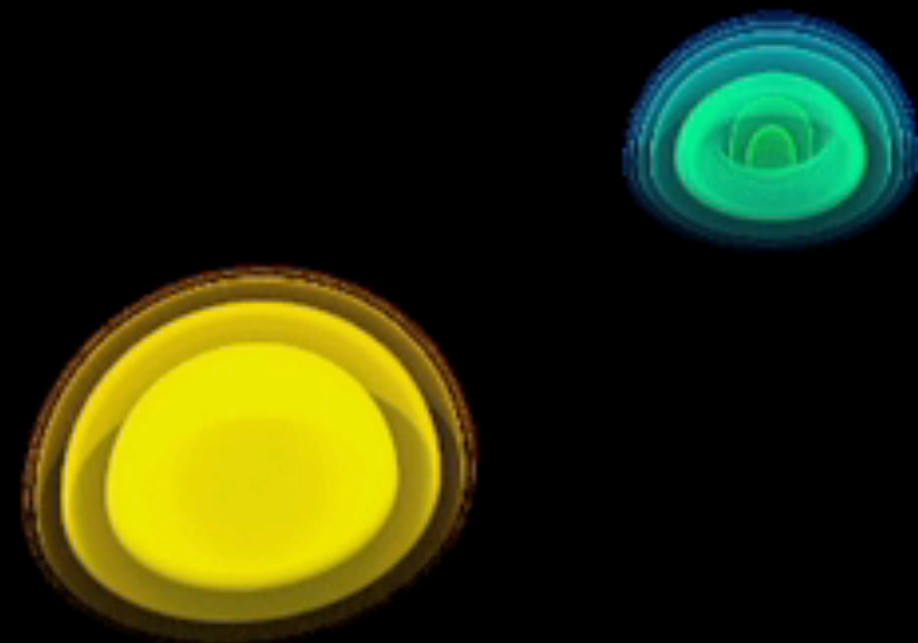
Electromagnetic counterparts

We have now evidence that gamma-ray bursts are associated with neutron star mergers

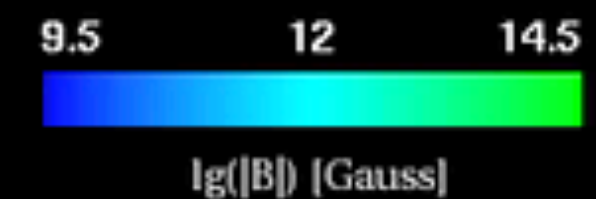
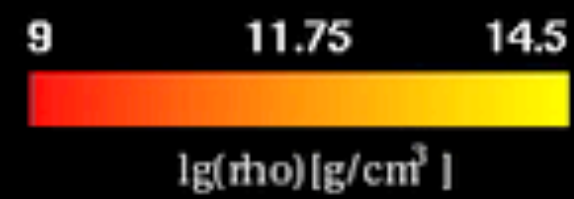
Presence of jets in gamma-ray bursts implies presence of large-scale magnetic fields

What happens when magnetised stars collide?

Need to solve equations of magnetohydrodynamics in addition to the Einstein equations

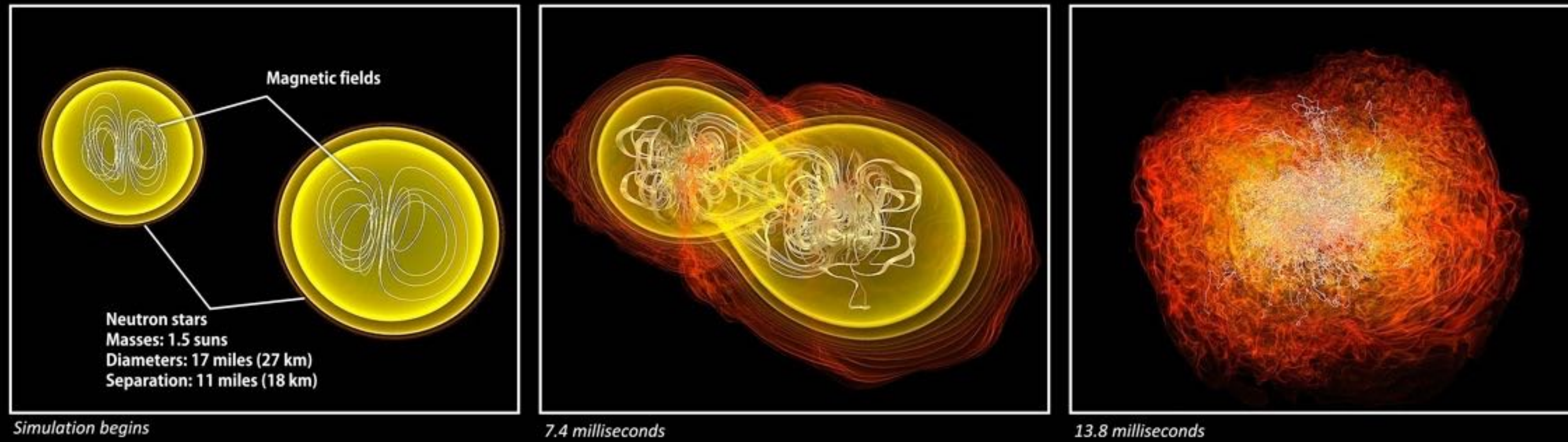


$$M = 1.5 M_{\odot}, B_0 = 10^{12} \text{ G}$$

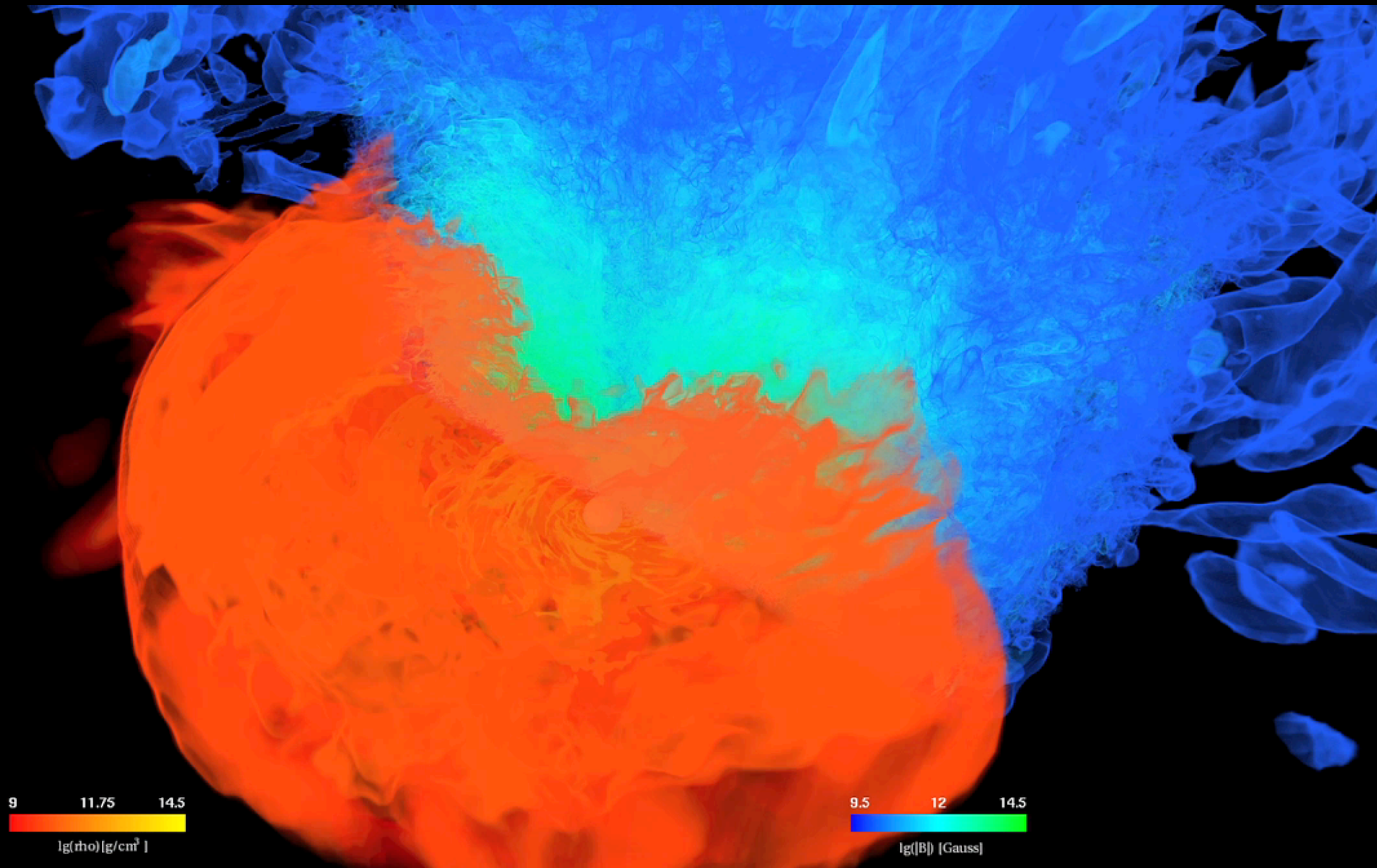


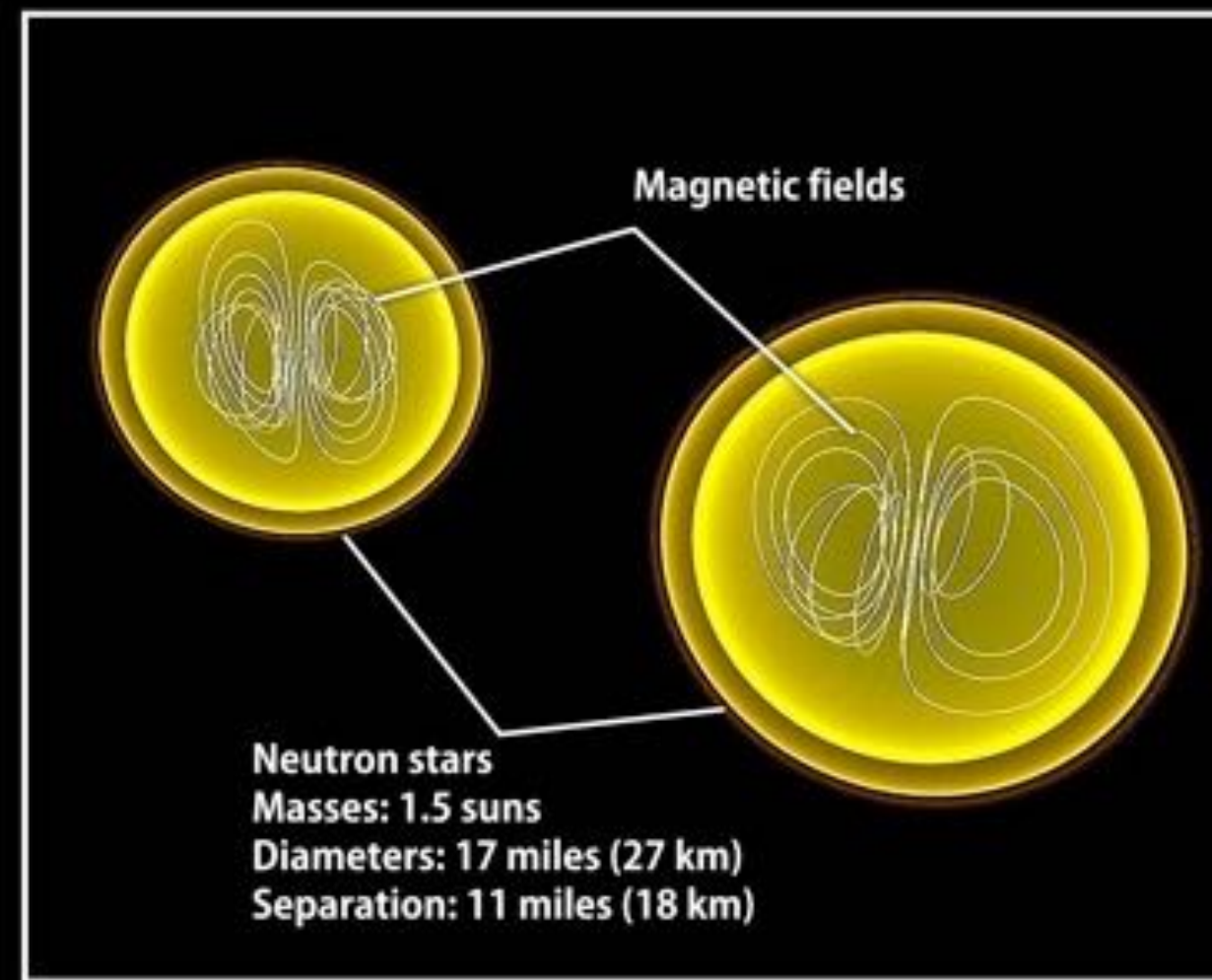
Animations:, LR, Koppitz

What happens when magnetised stars collide?

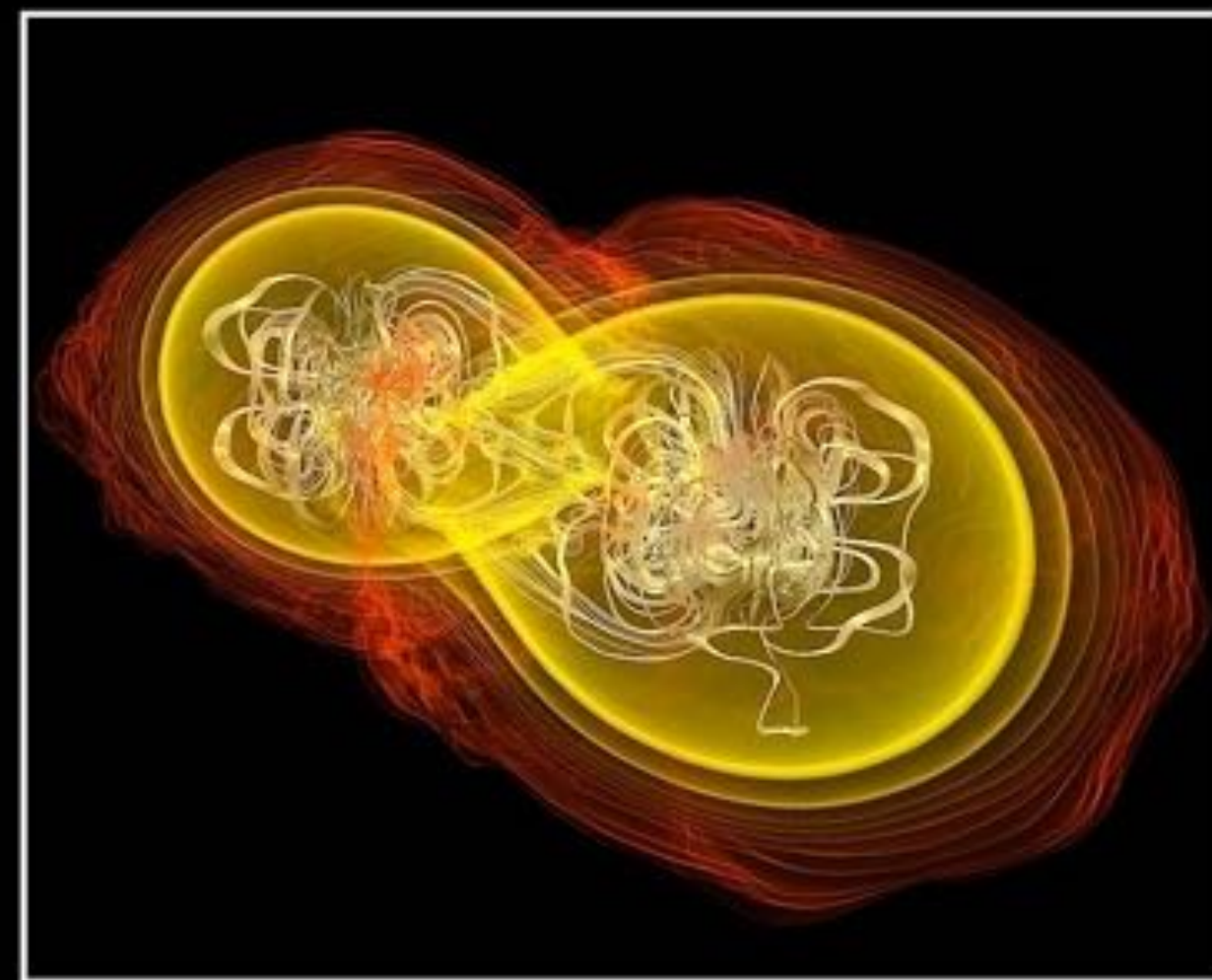


Magnetic fields in the HMNS have complex topology: dipolar fields are destroyed.

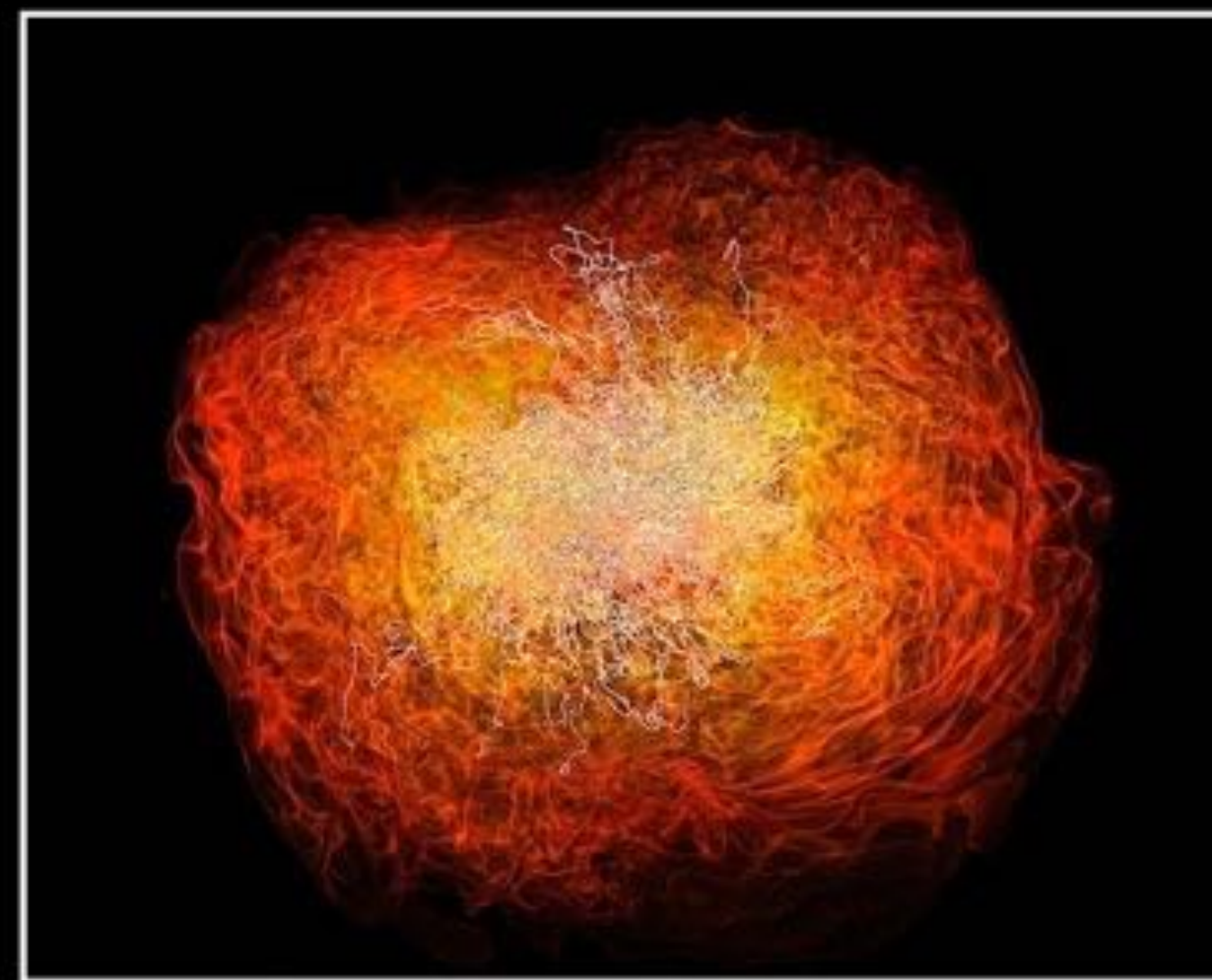




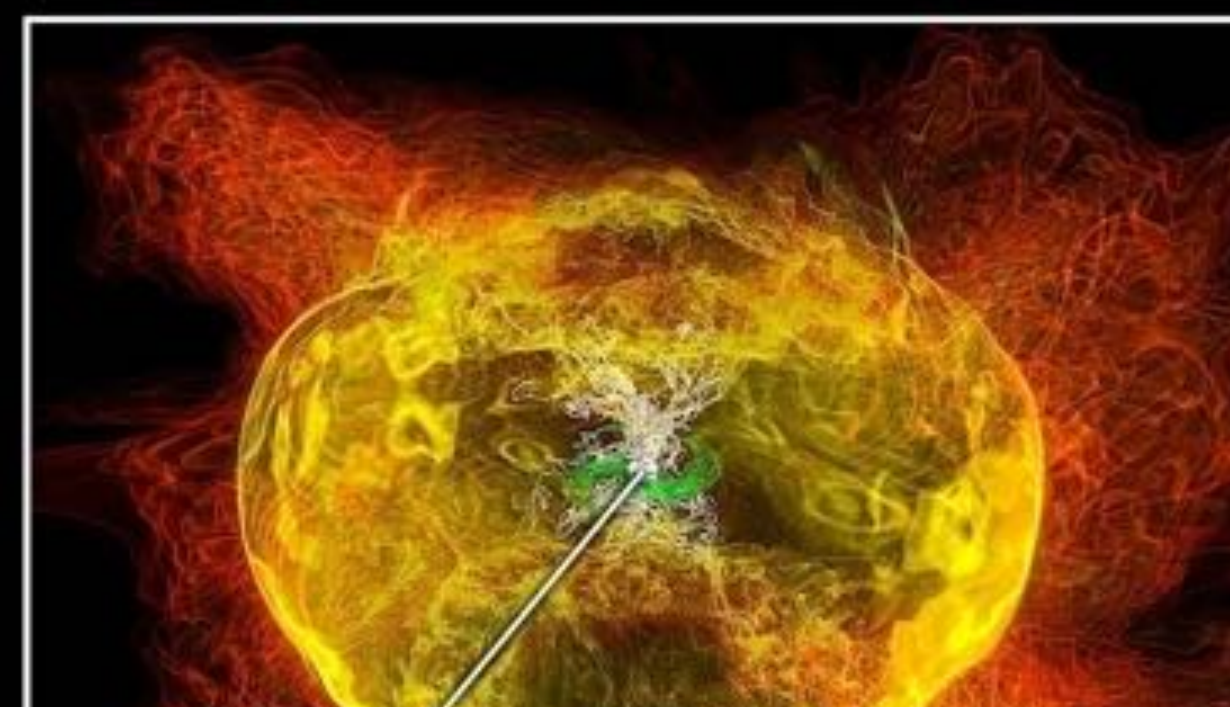
Simulation begins



7.4 milliseconds



13.8 milliseconds



15.3 milliseconds

Black hole forms
Mass: 2.9 suns
Horizon diameter: 5.6 miles (9 km)



21.2 milliseconds



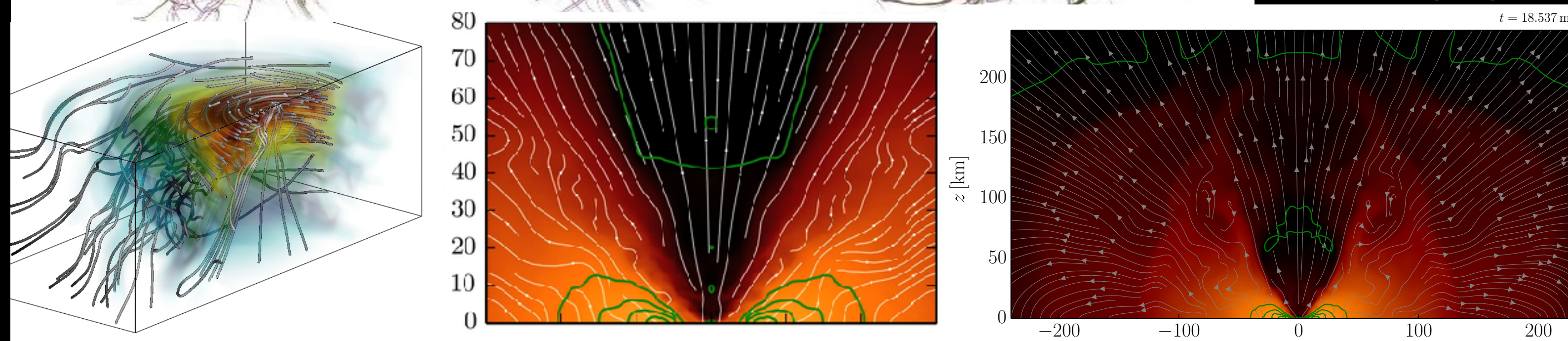
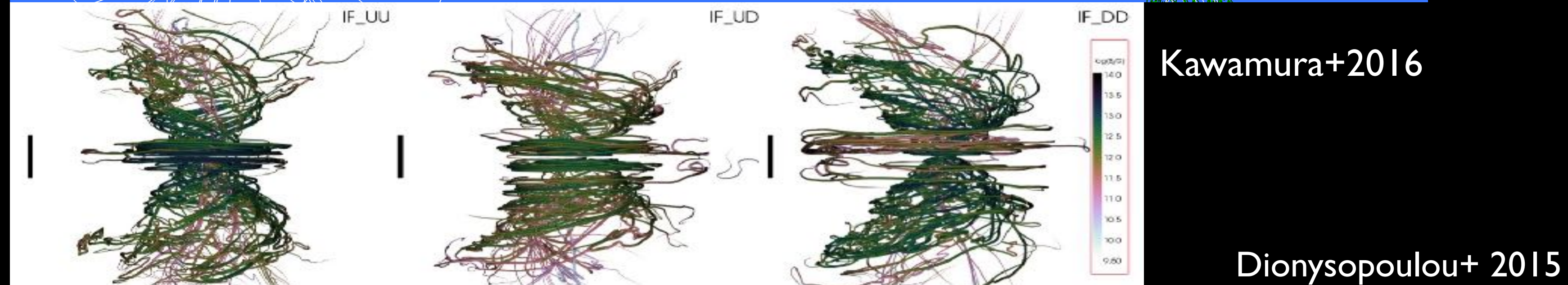
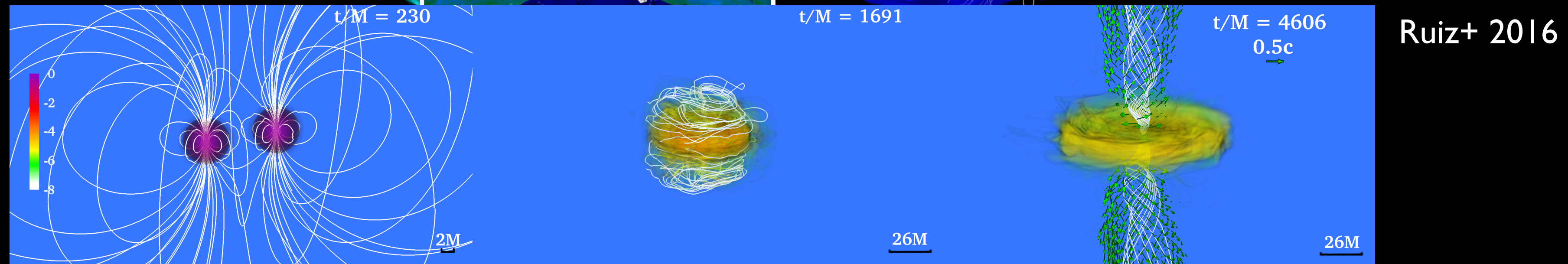
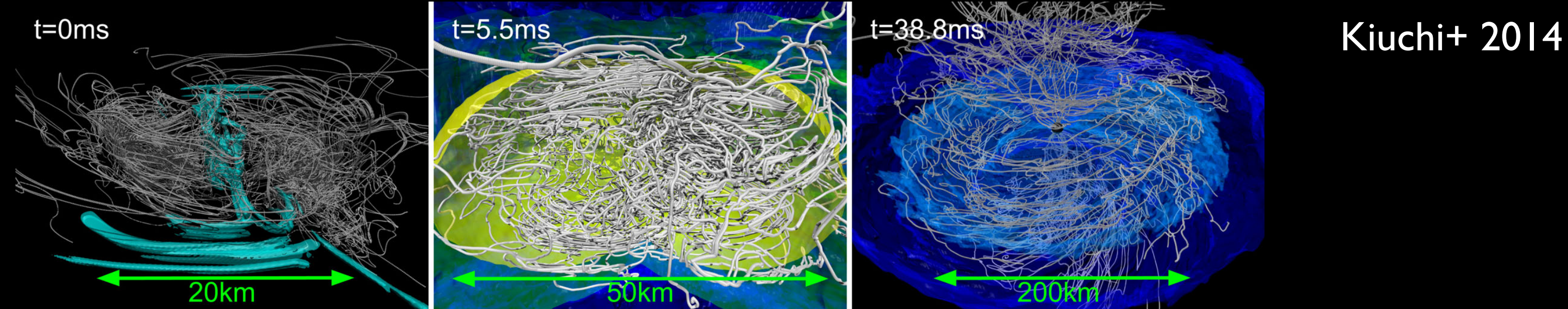
26.5 milliseconds

These simulations have shown that the merger of a magnetised binary has all the basic features behind SGRBs

$$J/M^2 = 0.83 \quad M_{\text{tor}} = 0.063 M_{\odot} \quad t_{\text{accr}} \simeq M_{\text{tor}}/\dot{M} \simeq 0.3 \text{ s}$$

Credit: NASA/AEI/ZIB/M. Koppitz and L. Rezzolla

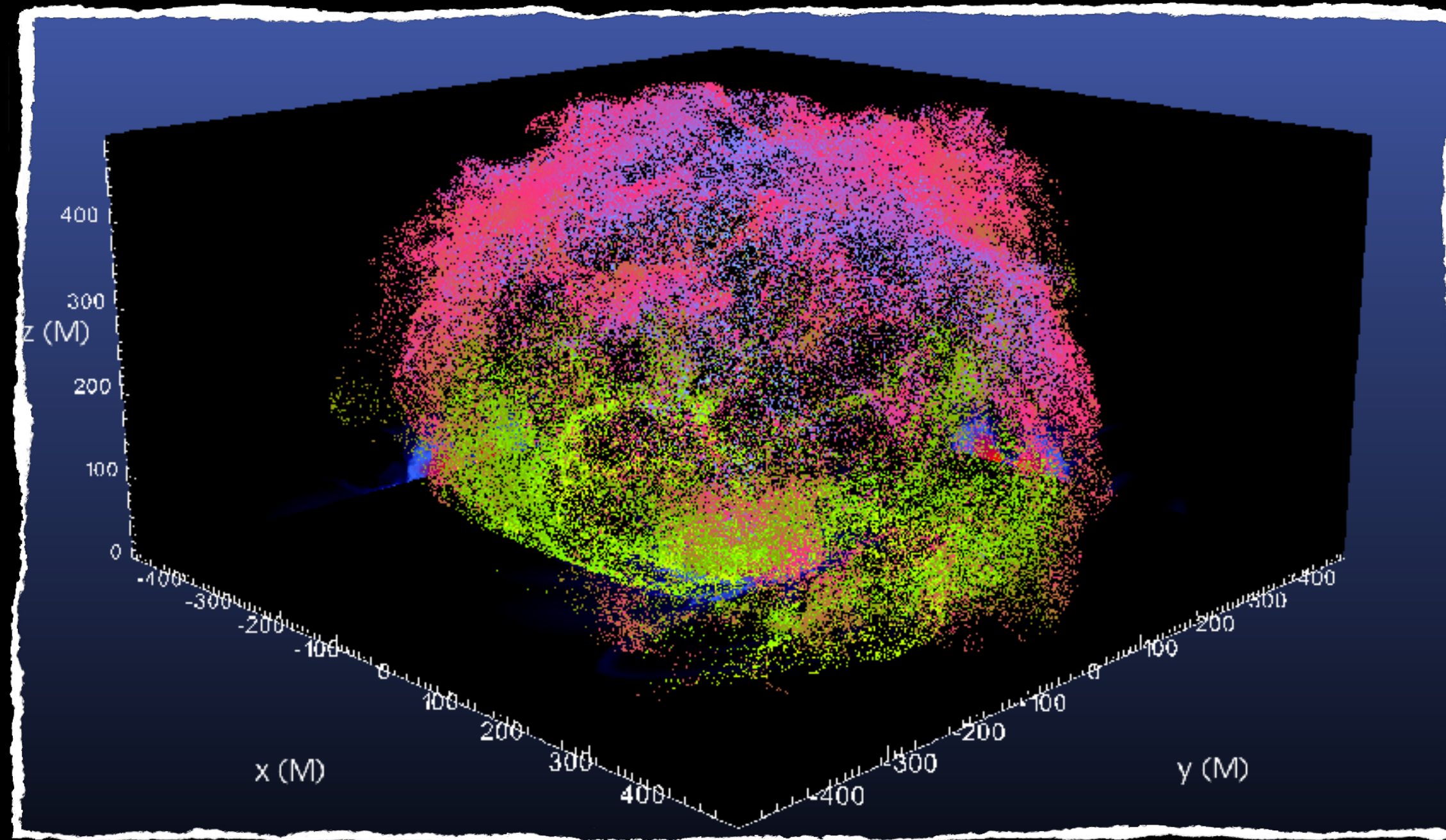
With due differences, other groups confirm this picture



RMHD

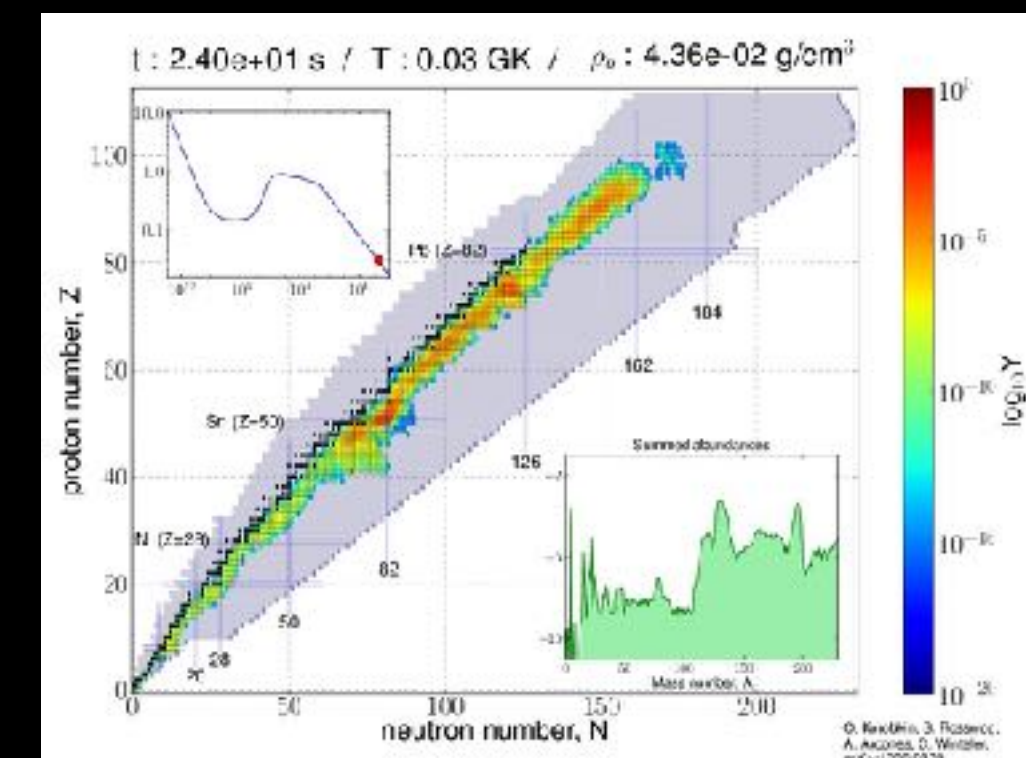
Ejected matter and nucleosynthesis

Bovard+ (2017)

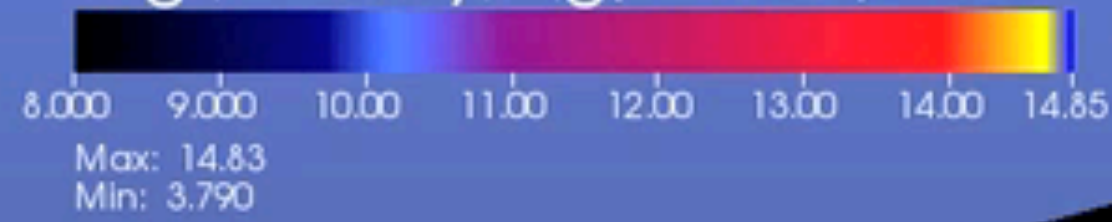


Nucleosynthesis

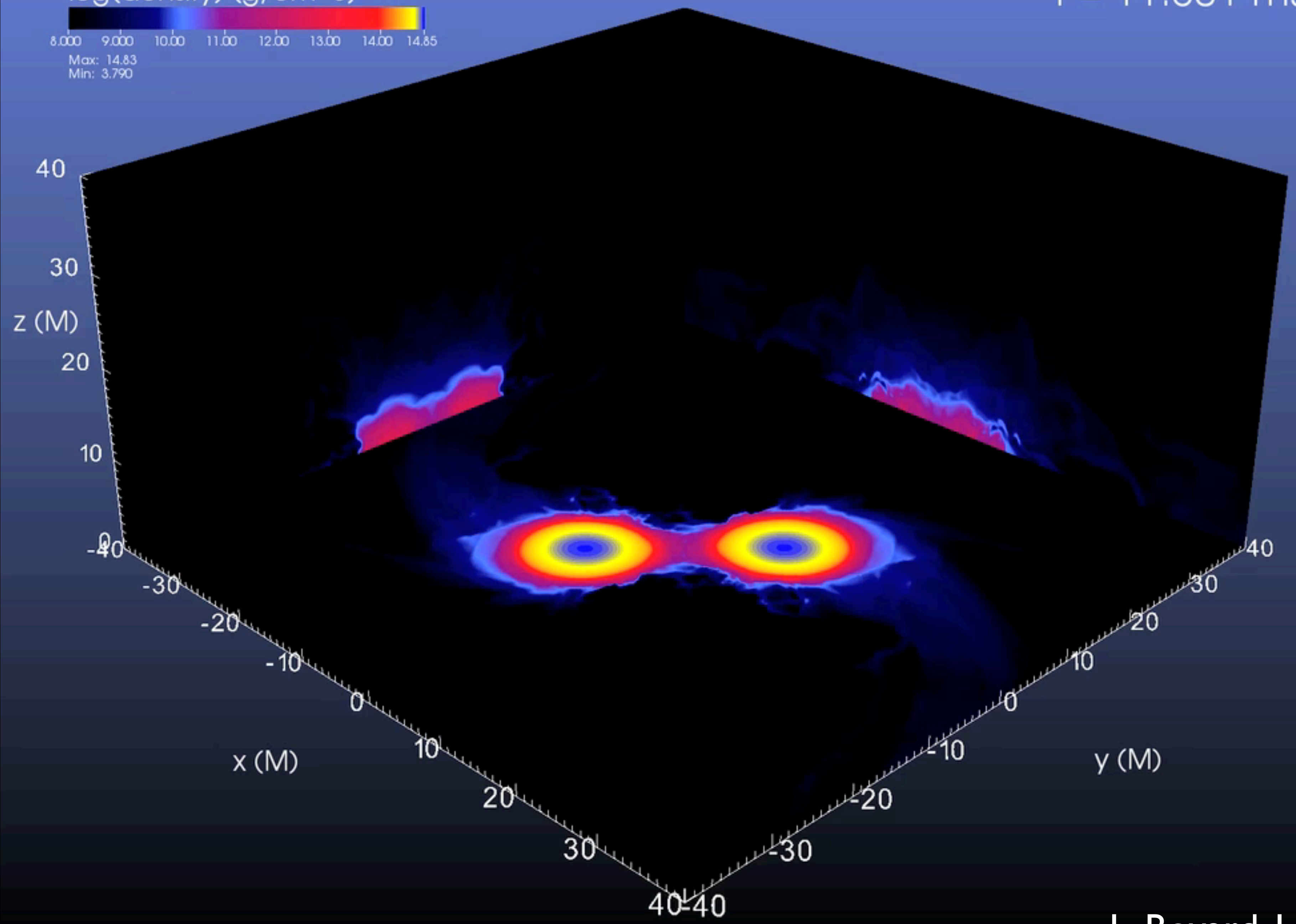
- Already in the 50's, nuclear physicists had tracked the production of elements in stars via nuclear fusion.
- **Heavy elements** ($A > 56$) cannot be produced in stellar interiors but can be synthesised during a **supernova**.
- SN simulations have shown that temperatures/energies not enough to produce “**very heavy**” elements ($A > 120$).
- To produce such elements very high temperatures and “**neutron-rich**” material is needed.
- **Neutron-star mergers** seem perfect candidates for this process!



log(density) (g/cm³)



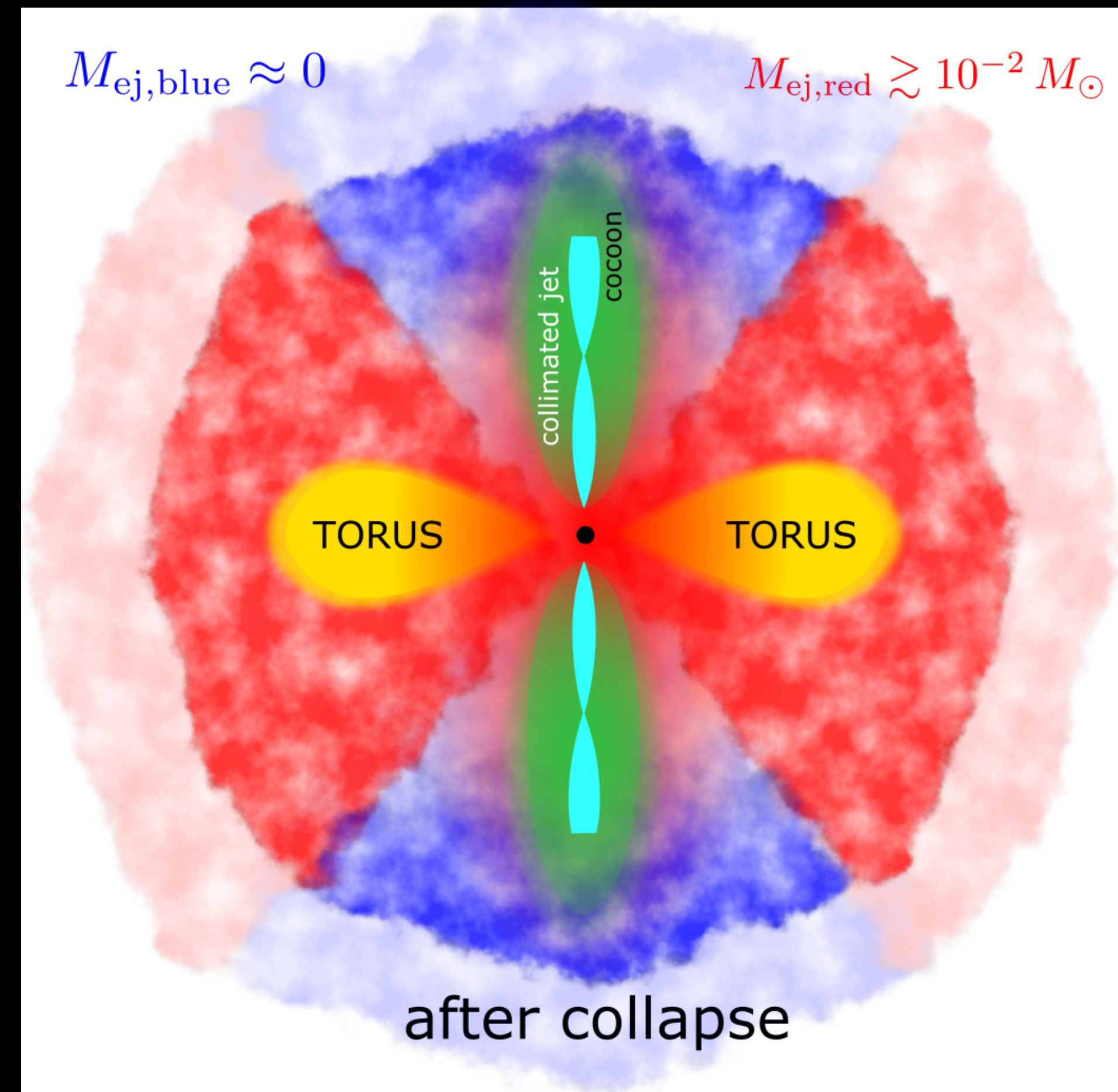
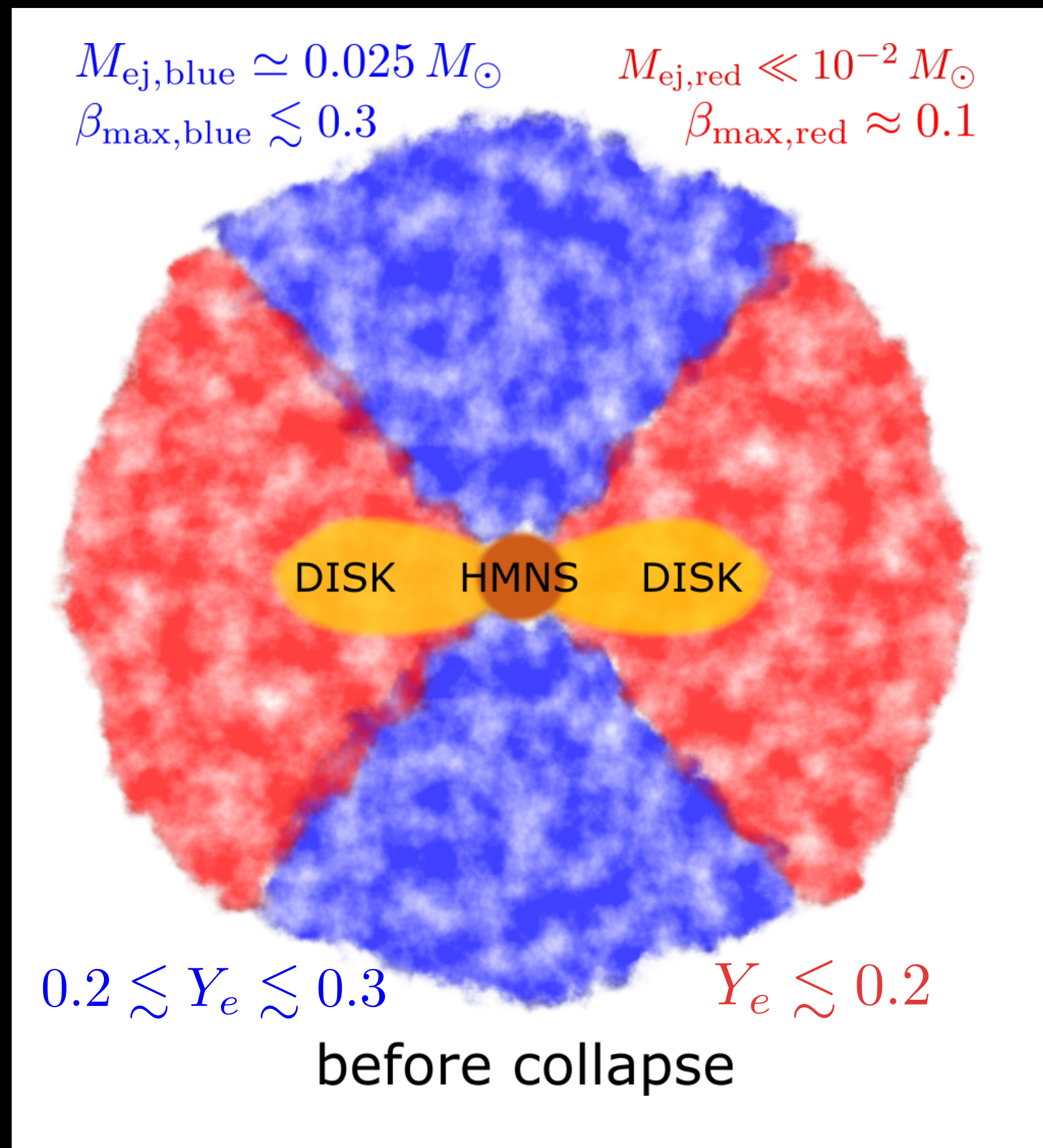
$t = 11.801$ ms



L. Bovard, LR

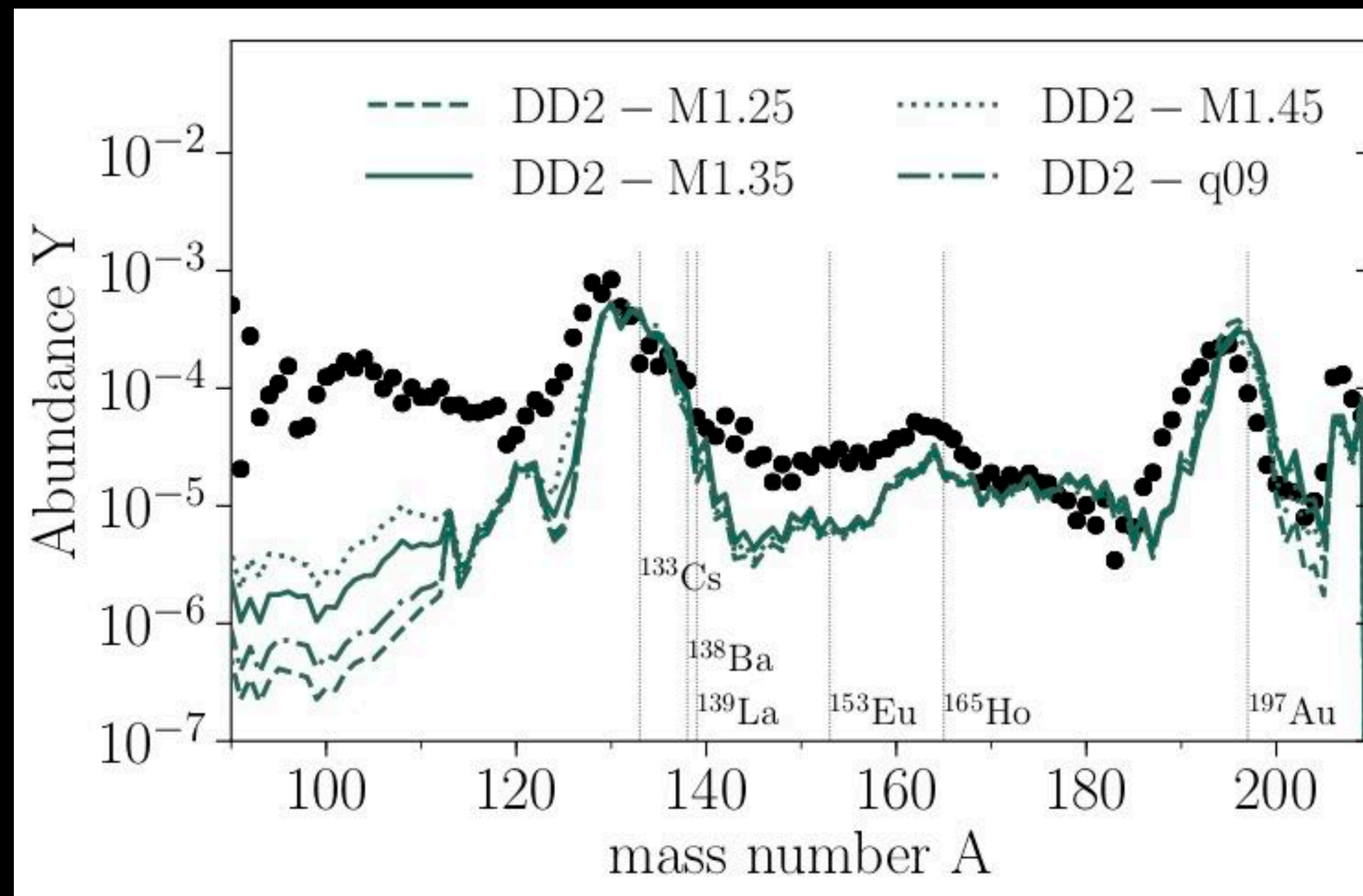
Ejection of mass

- After merger mass is lost in many different **channels** (shock heating, neutrino or magnetic-driven winds) and on very different **timescales** (**dynamical** and **secular**).



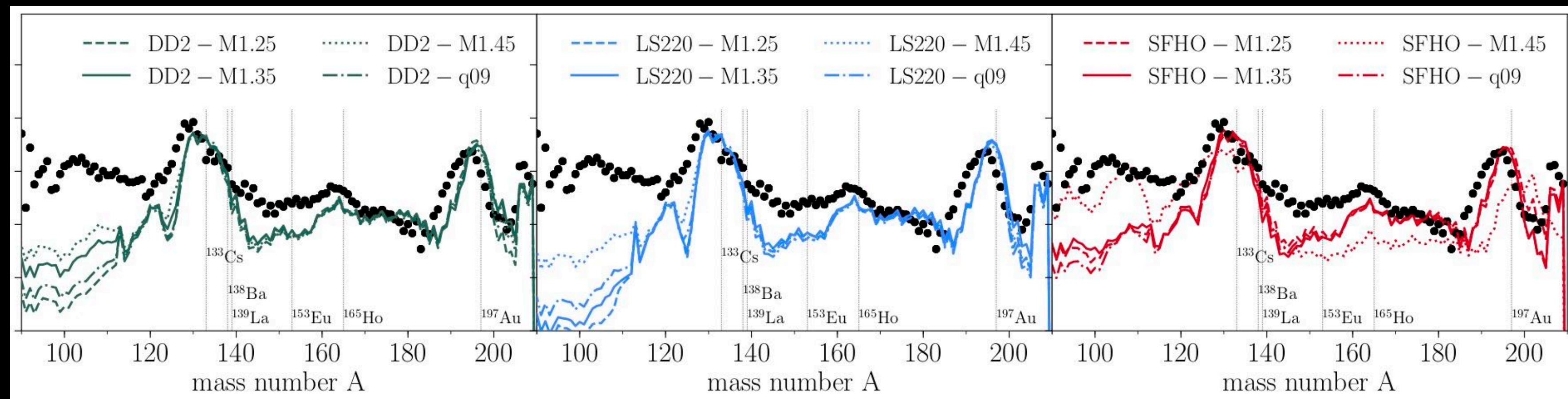
Relative abundances

- Mass ejection can either be **dynamical** (shocks; 100 ms) or **secular** (magnetic or neutrino-driven winds; 1-10 s).
- Even **tiny amounts** of ejected matter ($0.01 M_{\odot}$) sufficient to explain observed abundances.
- Abundances for $A > 120$ good agreement with solar. **robust** for different **EOSs, masses, nuclear reactions and merger type**



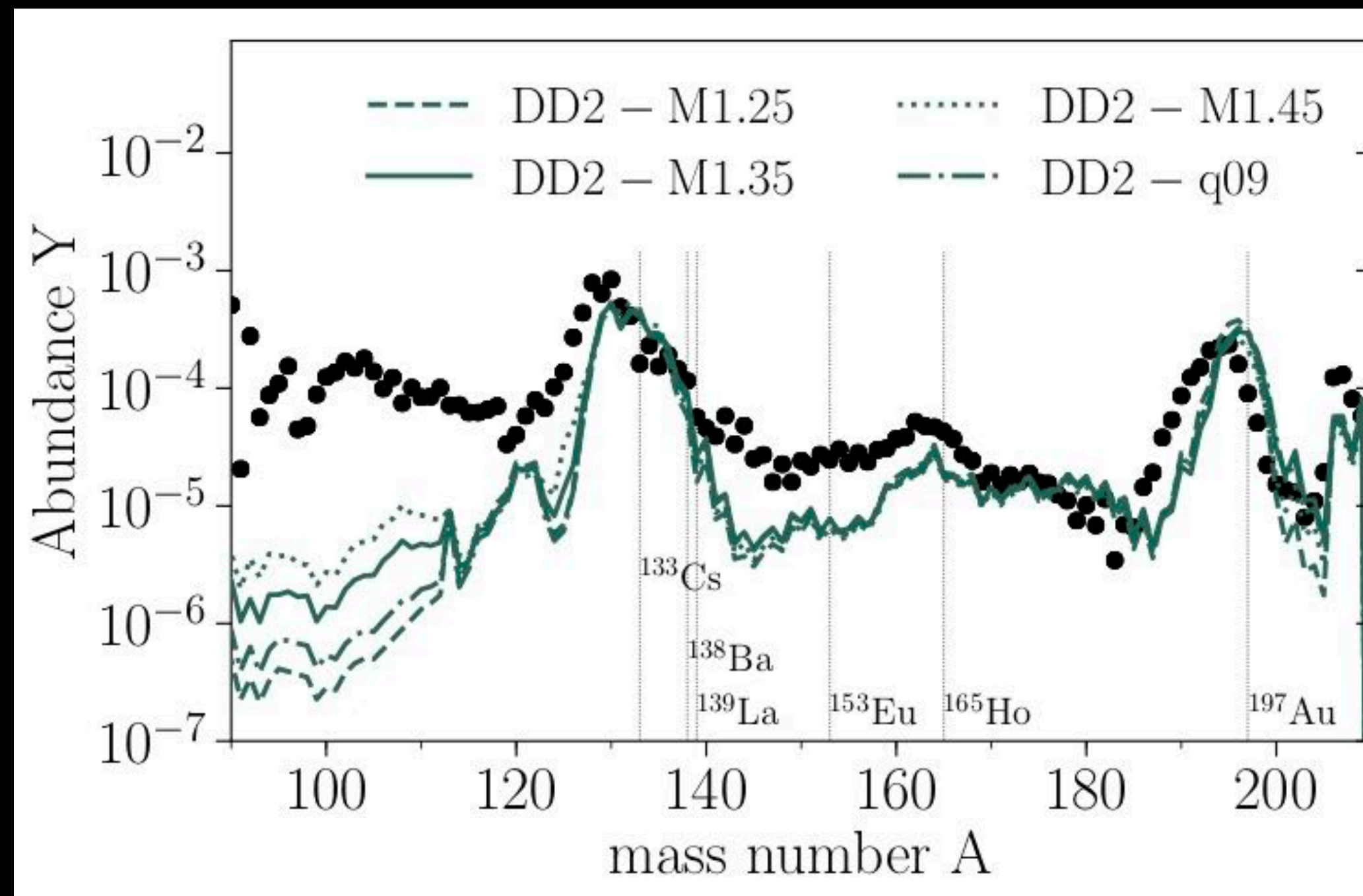
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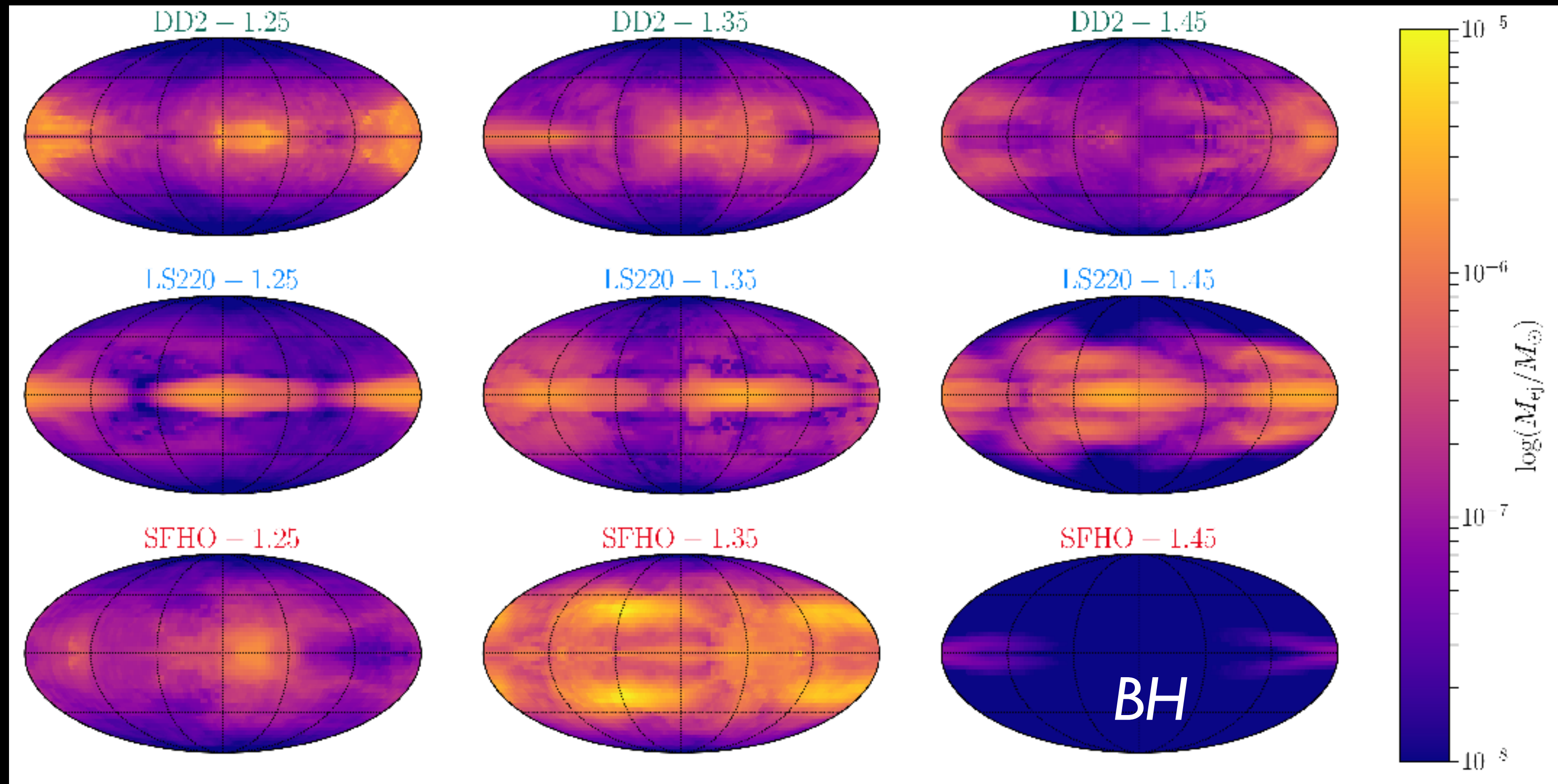
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- GW170817 produced total of **16,000** times the mass of the Earth in heavy elements (**10** Earth masses in **gold/platinum**)
- We are not only **stellar dust** but also **neutron-star dust!**

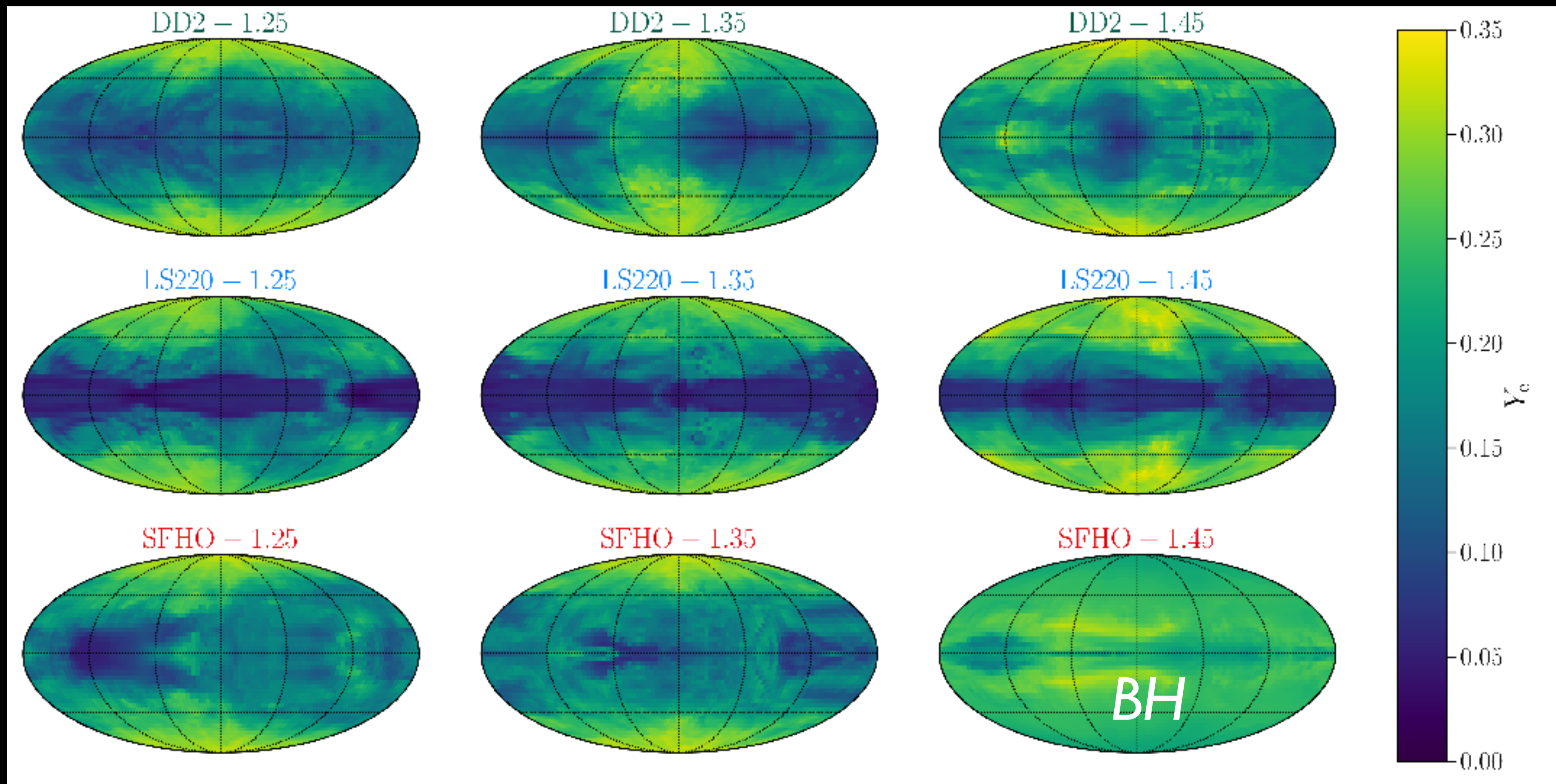
Spatial distributions: M_{ej} Bovard+ 17



Spatial distribution of M_{ej} impacts detectability of EM counterpart:

- ★ most of M_{ej} lost at low latitudes;
- ★ depending on EOS/mass, contamination also in polar regions

Spatial distributions: Y_e



Spatial distribution of Y_e impacts detectability of EM counterpart:

- ★ **high Y_e in polar regions: blue** (optical) macronova
- ★ **low Y_e in equatorial regions: red** (FIR) macronova