

# Black Hole-Neutron Star and Neutron Star Binaries as Progenitors of sGRBs

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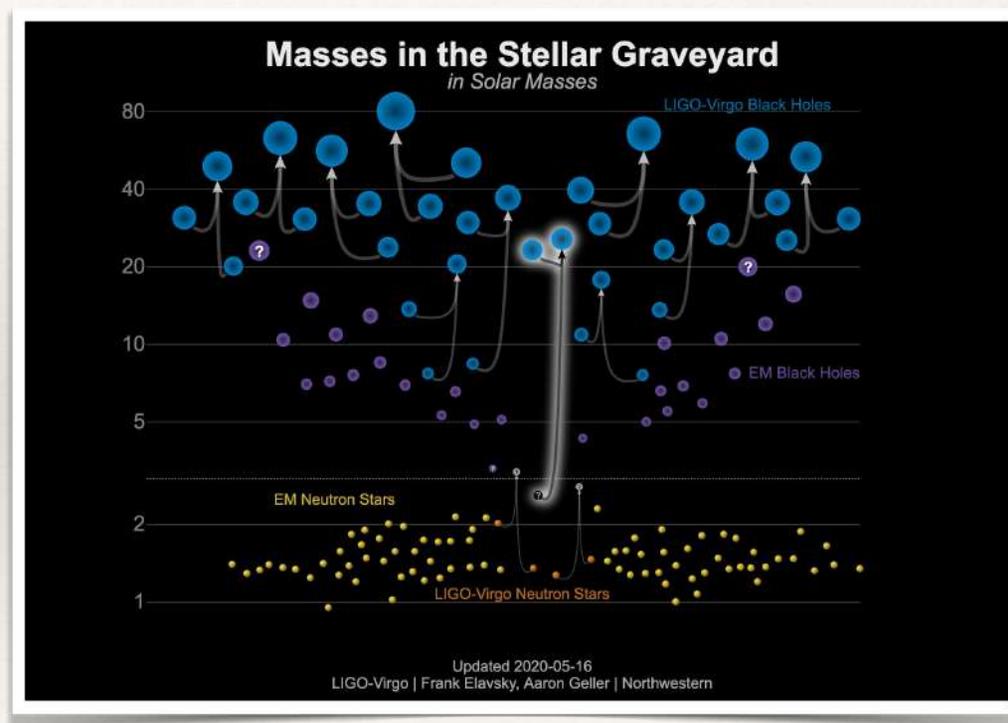
*TCAN on Binary Neutron Stars Workshop*  
*July 9, 2020*

# LIGO/Virgo GWs and EM Counterparts

## → Events:

- ❖ GW170817 + EM counterpart GRB 170817A: classified as a BNS
- ❖ GW190425 + “GRB190425”: classified as a BNS
- ❖ S190426c: 52% chance to be a BHNS, 13% to be BNS
- ❖ S190923y: 67% chance to be a BHNS
- ❖ .....

See A. Corsi’s talk for a summary



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Merging BHNSs and BNSs are the most popular candidate progenitors of sGRBs: Eichler et al. '89, Narayan et al. '92, Mochkovitch et al. '93.

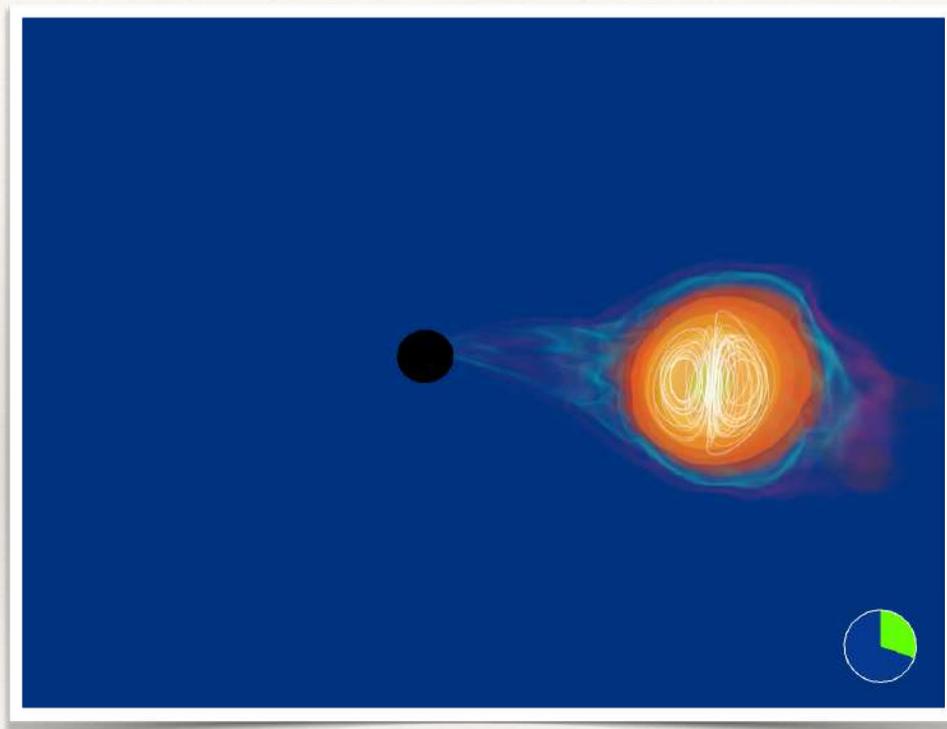
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Our numerical results

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# Compact mergers: Magnetized BHNSs

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Etienne et al, '12

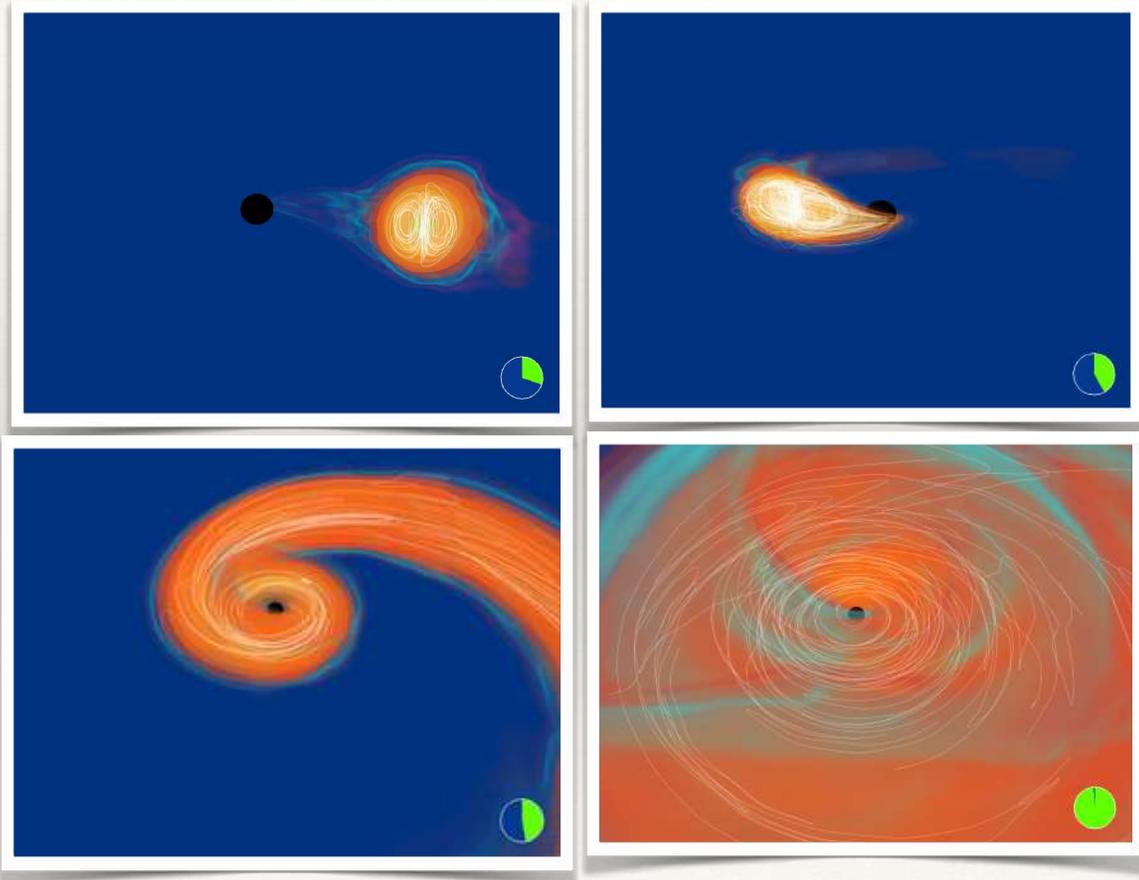
# Magnetized BHNS Mergers I

Etienne et al, '12: Following the BHNS merger, the B-field lines are wound into an almost purely toroidal configuration

$$\text{BHNS: mas ratio } q = M_{BH}/M_{NS} = 3$$
$$\chi_{BH} = 0.75$$

Evolution: Illinois GRMHD code  
See Etienne-Werneck's talk

No jets



# Magnetized BHNS Mergers II

Beckwith et al. 08: BH + disk can launch a jet if the disk has a strong poloidal B-field component.

Right conditions: Pulsar-like B-field

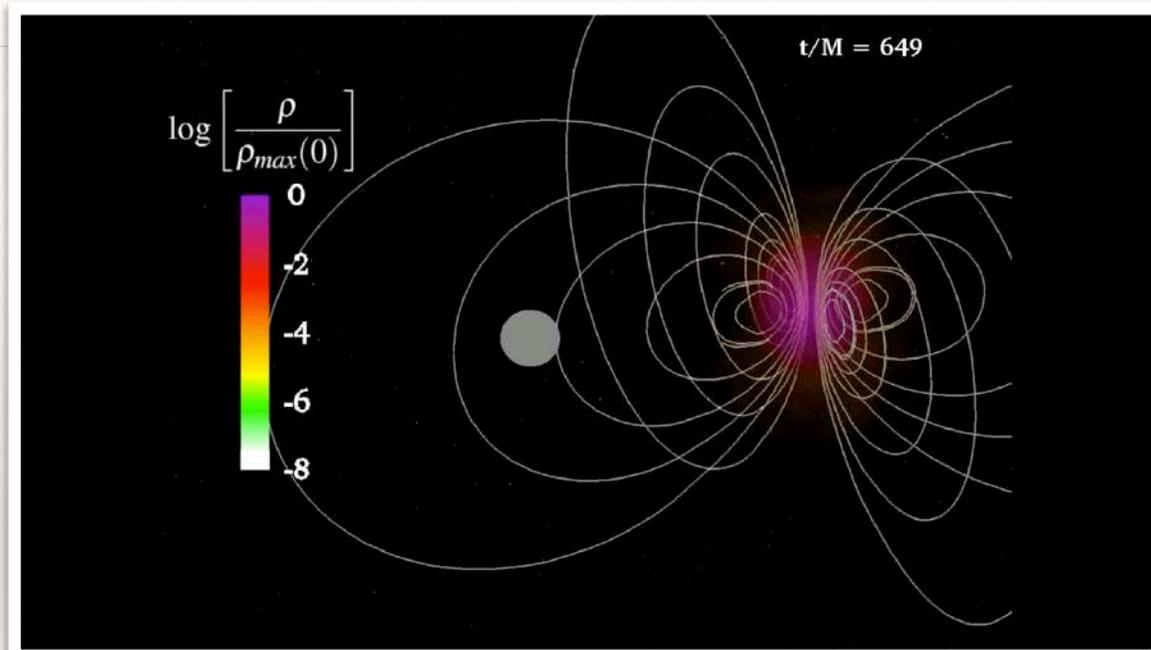


**Problem:** Evolution of external B-field where  $\rho_0 \approx 0$

**Solution:** External & variable atmosphere where exterior gas-to-magnetic-pressure ratio is

$$\beta_0 = \text{const.} \ll 1 \longrightarrow$$

Magnetic-pressure dominance, but **not** magnetic-energy density dominance.



Paschalidis, MR, Shapiro, '14

# BHNS as Progenitors of sGRBs

✓ Disk lifetime:

$$\Delta t \sim M_{\text{disk}}/\dot{M} \sim 0.1 \text{ s}$$

consistent with sGRB T90

✓ Max. magnetization in the outflow:

$$\sim \frac{b^2}{2\rho_0} = \frac{B^2}{8\pi\rho_0} \sim 100$$

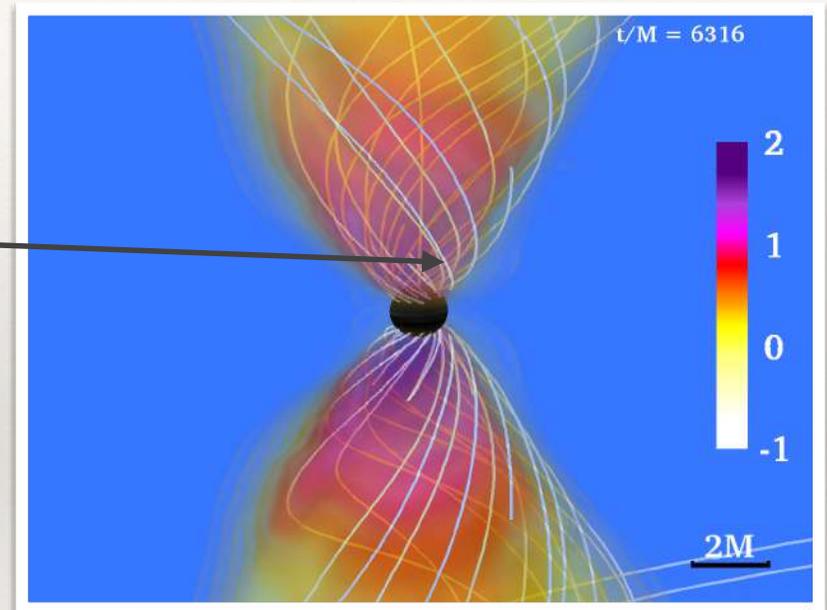
Vlahakis et al, '03: Terminal  $\Gamma$  in the jet equals  $b^2/2\rho_0$

✓ Poynting Luminosity:

$$L_{EM} = 10^{51} \text{ erg/s}$$

Consistent with Blandford-Znajek mechanism

$$L_{EM} \sim 10^{51} (a/m)^2 (m/5.6M_{\odot})^2 (B/10^{15} \text{ G})^2 \text{ erg s}^{-1}$$



Paschalidis, MR, Shapiro, '14

# BHNS as Progenitors of sGRBs

Population synthesis studies: most likely mass-ratio  $q = M_{BH}/M_{NS}$  is  $\approx 7$

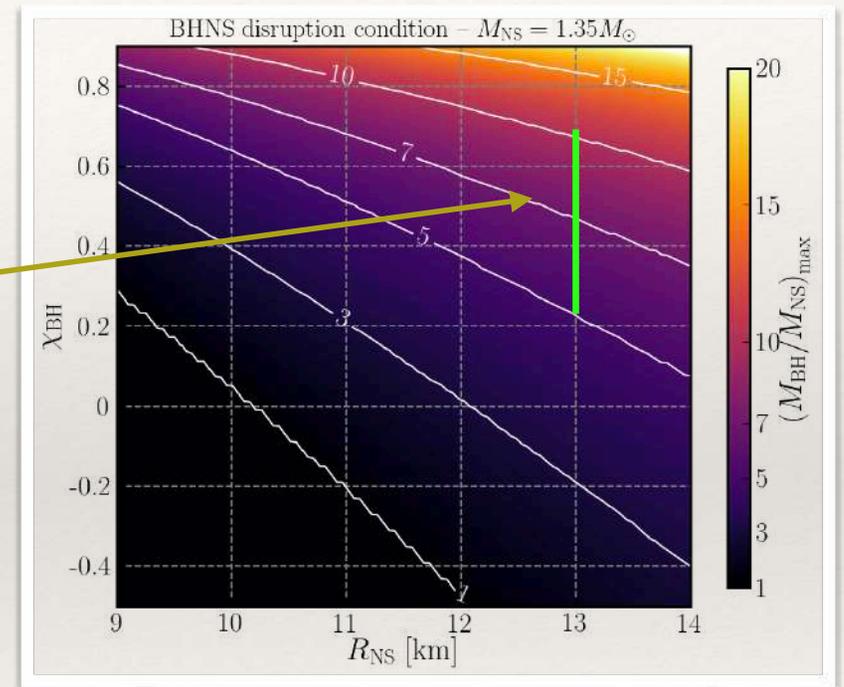
NS disruption requires  $\chi_{BH} \approx 0.2-0.7$

LIGO/Virgo BBH detections: high mass-ratio and/or low-spin



Strong constraint!

Unlikely to observe sGRBs from BHNS



Foucart '20

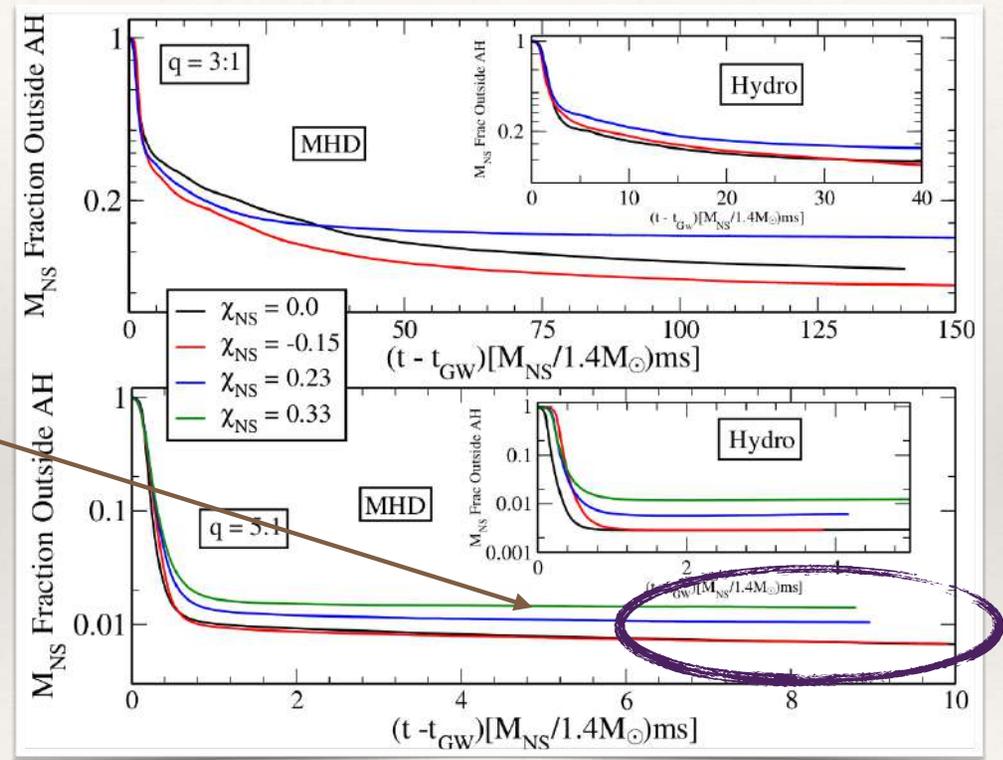
# BHNS as Progenitors of sGRBs

What about other EM counterparts?

BHNS with a spinning NS: More ejecta

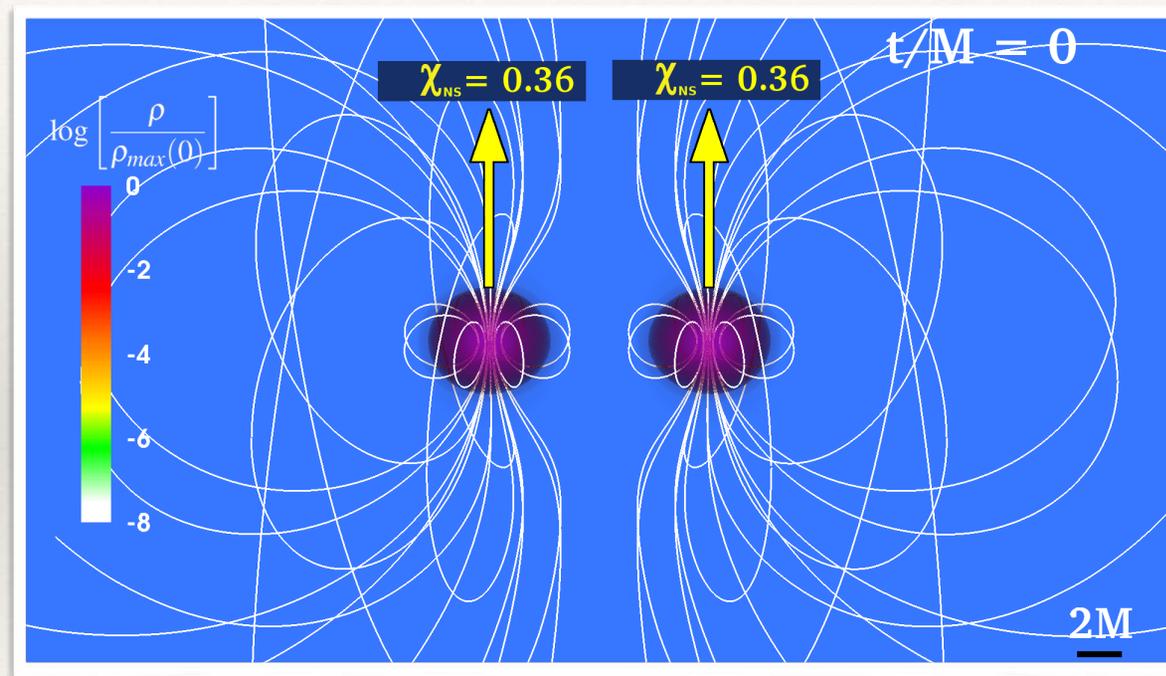


May lead to an observable kilonova



MR et al. (in prep.)

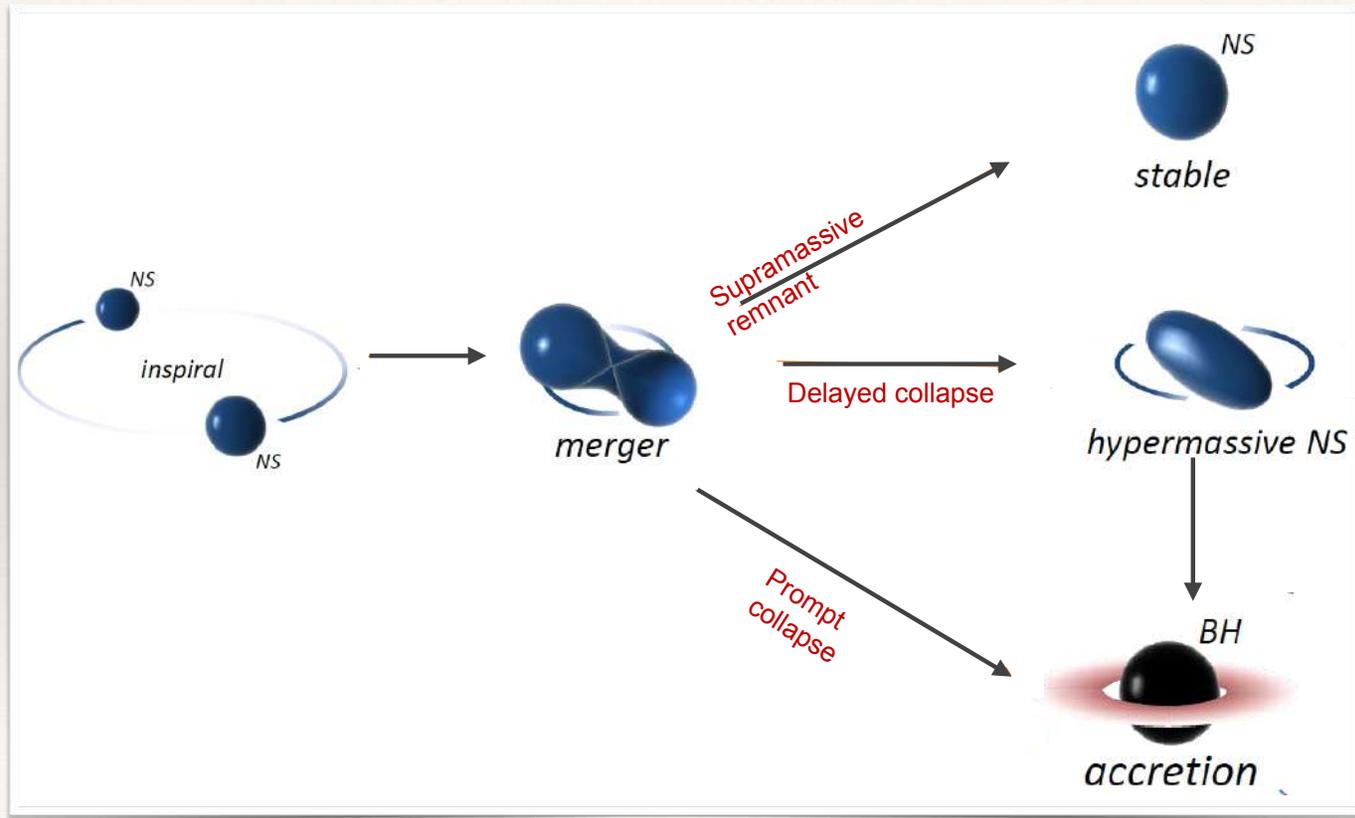
# Compact mergers: Magnetized BNSs



MR et al. '16

# BNS Scenario

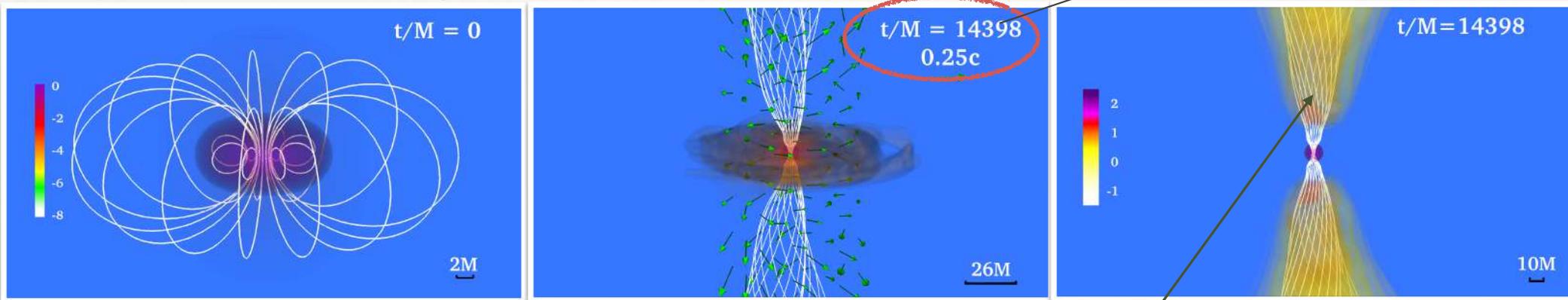
At least **three** possible scenarios:



Bartos et al. '12

# BNS Scenario: Stable Remnant I

Assumption: Remnant of a BNS merger



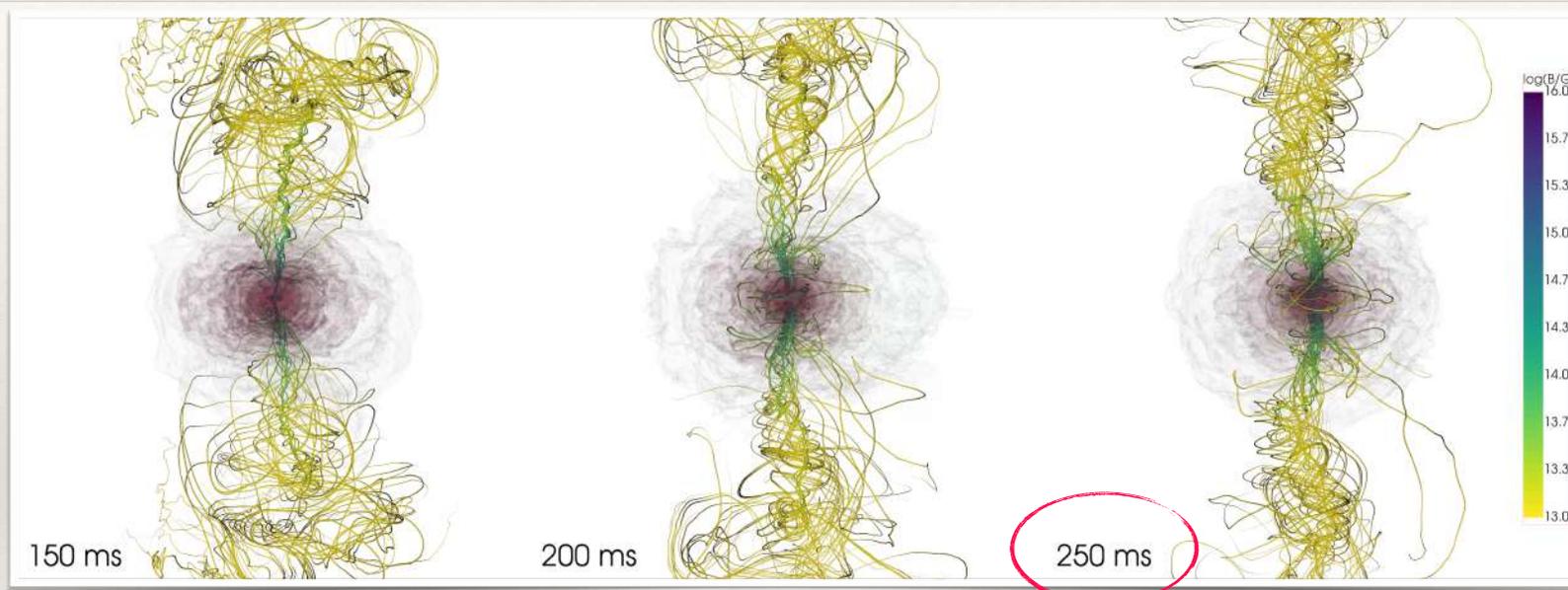
MR et al. '17

- B-field collimation
- Outflow:  $\Gamma = 1.01 - 1.03$
- Pulsar-like luminosity  $\sim 10^{43} \text{ erg/s}$

~~$$\sim \frac{b^2}{2\rho_0} = \frac{B^2}{8\pi\rho_0} \sim 100$$~~

Inconsistent with sGRBs

# BNS Scenario: Stable Remnant II



- B-field collimation
- Outflow  $\Gamma \lesssim 1.05$

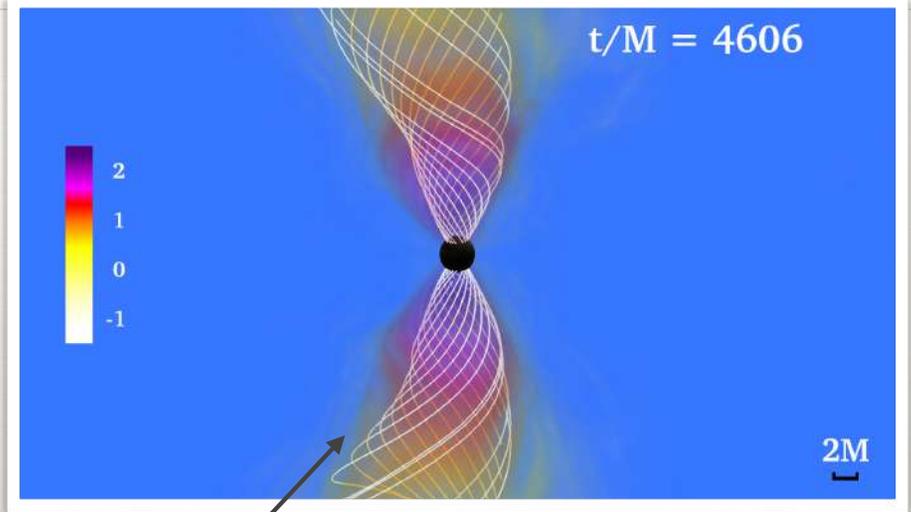
Inconsistent with sGRBs

Mösta et al. '20 : magnetized  
Long-lived HMNS  
+ neutrinos

See Radice's talk

Less baryon pollution than  
terminal  $\Gamma \approx 5$

# BNS Scenario: Delayed Collapse



MR et al. '16-19

☑ Disk lifetime:  $\Delta t \sim M_{\text{disk}}/\dot{M} \sim 0.1 \text{ s}$   
consistent with sGRB T90

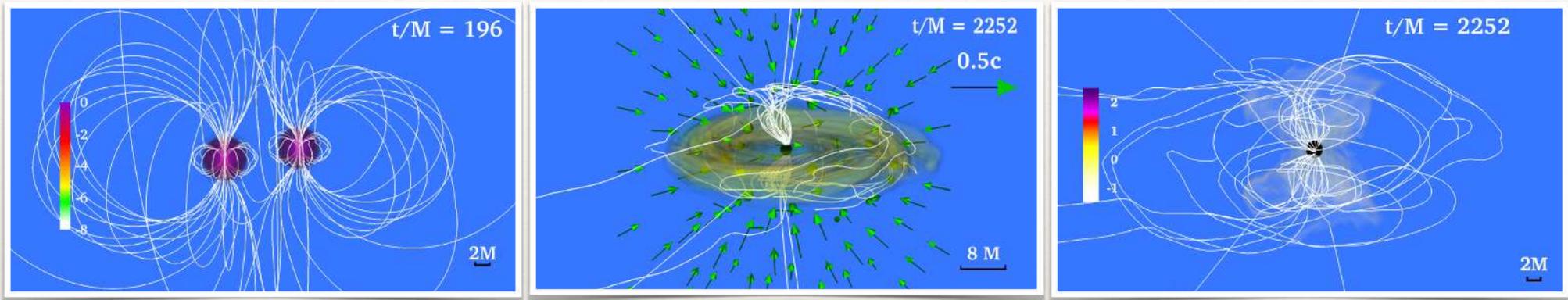
☑ Max. magnetization in the outflow:  $\sim \frac{b^2}{2\rho_0} = \Gamma_L(\text{asym}) \sim 100$

☑ Blandford-Znajek effect

$$L_{EM} \sim 10^{51} (a/m)^2 (m/5.6M_{\odot})^2 (B/10^{15} \text{ G})^2 \text{ erg s}^{-1}$$

Simulations:  $L_{EM} \sim 10^{51.5 \pm 1} \text{ erg/s}$

# BNS Scenario: Prompt Collapse



MR & Shapiro '17

- No B-field collimation
- No outflow
- Really small accretion disk



No jet

EM counterpart before merger: see e.g. Lehner et al. '12

Progenitors of fast radio bursts: see e.g. Totani '13, ...

# GW170817, GRMHD and the NS maximum mass

$$M_{\max}^{\text{sph}} \leq M \leq M_{\max}^{\text{sup}}$$

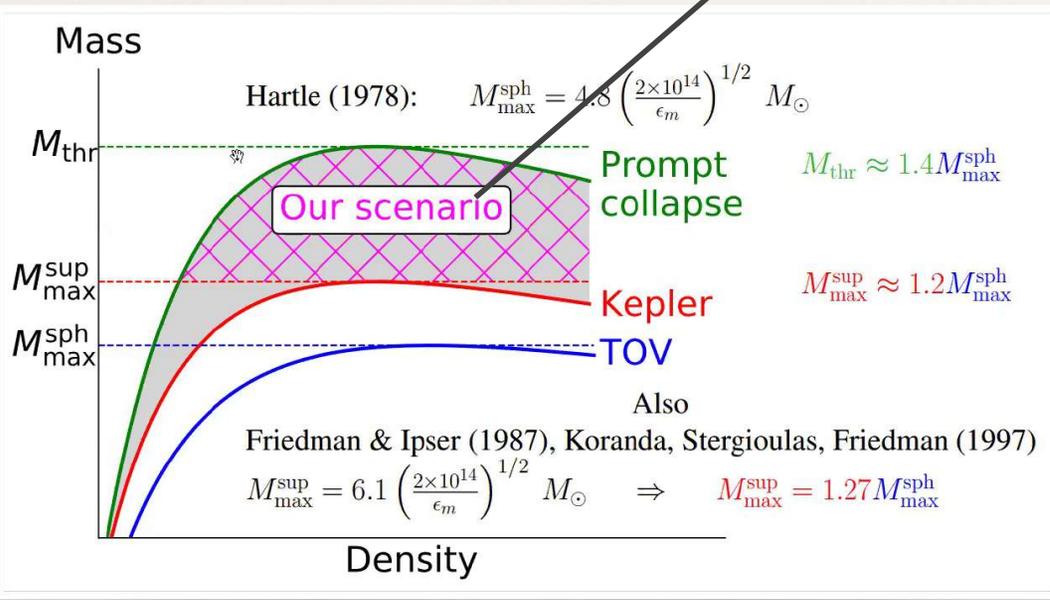
Supramassive

$$M_{\max}^{\text{sup}} \leq M \leq M_{\text{thr}}$$

Delayed collapse  
Consistent with sGRBs

$$M_{\text{thr}} \leq M$$

Prompt collapse



$$\beta M_{\max}^{\text{sph}} \approx M_{\max}^{\text{sup}} \lesssim 2.74 \lesssim M_{\text{thr}} \approx \alpha M_{\max}^{\text{sph}}.$$

$$2.74/\alpha \lesssim M_{\max}^{\text{sph}} \lesssim 2.74/\beta$$

Typically

$$\beta \approx 1.2 \Rightarrow M_{\max}^{\text{sph}} \lesssim 2.28$$

Using Hartle's causal argument:

$$\beta \approx 1.27 \Rightarrow M_{\max}^{\text{sph}} \lesssim 2.16$$

MR et al. '17

Consistent with Margali et al., Rezzolla et al., Shibata et al.

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# Ergostars

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**Ergoregions** are associated with two astrophysical processes which are both related to the extraction of energy from a spinning BH:

- ❖ Penrose process
- ❖ Powering of relativistic jets through the Blandford-Znajek process

key ingredient:  
BH Horizon



**Membrane paradigm:**

Energy and angular momentum are extracted along B-field lines threading from the horizon

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**Membrane paradigm:**

Energy and angular momentum are extracted along B-field lines threading from the **horizon**

key ingredient:  
Ergoregion



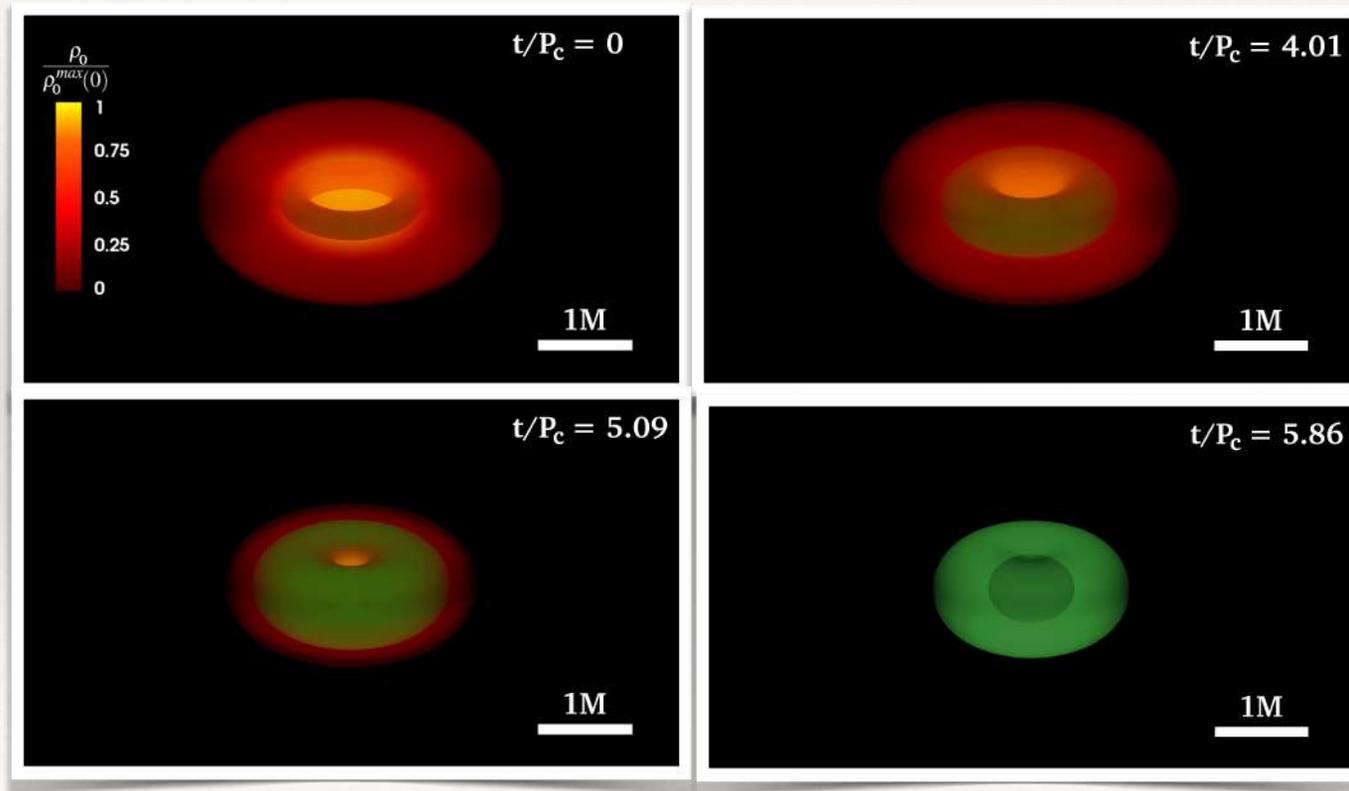
**Komissarov '04-'05:**

Energy and angular momentum are extracted along B-field lines threading the **ergoregion**

Preliminary results using Force-Free evolutions + Cowling approx. seem to confirm this claim: MR et al. '12

# Ergostars: Dinamically Unstable

Differentially rotating  $\Gamma = 3$  polytropes:



Komatsu et al. '89

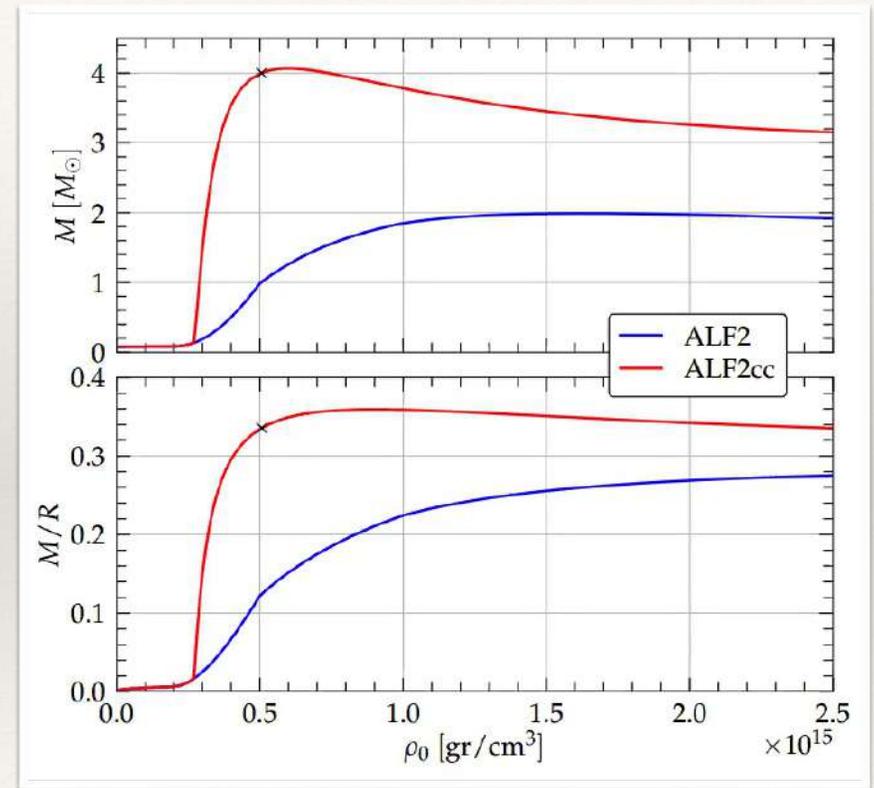
# Ergostars

Following Hartle, we took the ALF2 EOS and **replace**  $\rho_0 > \rho_{0s}$  with a compressible EOS

$$P = (\rho - \rho_s) + P_s$$

maximum possible stiffness

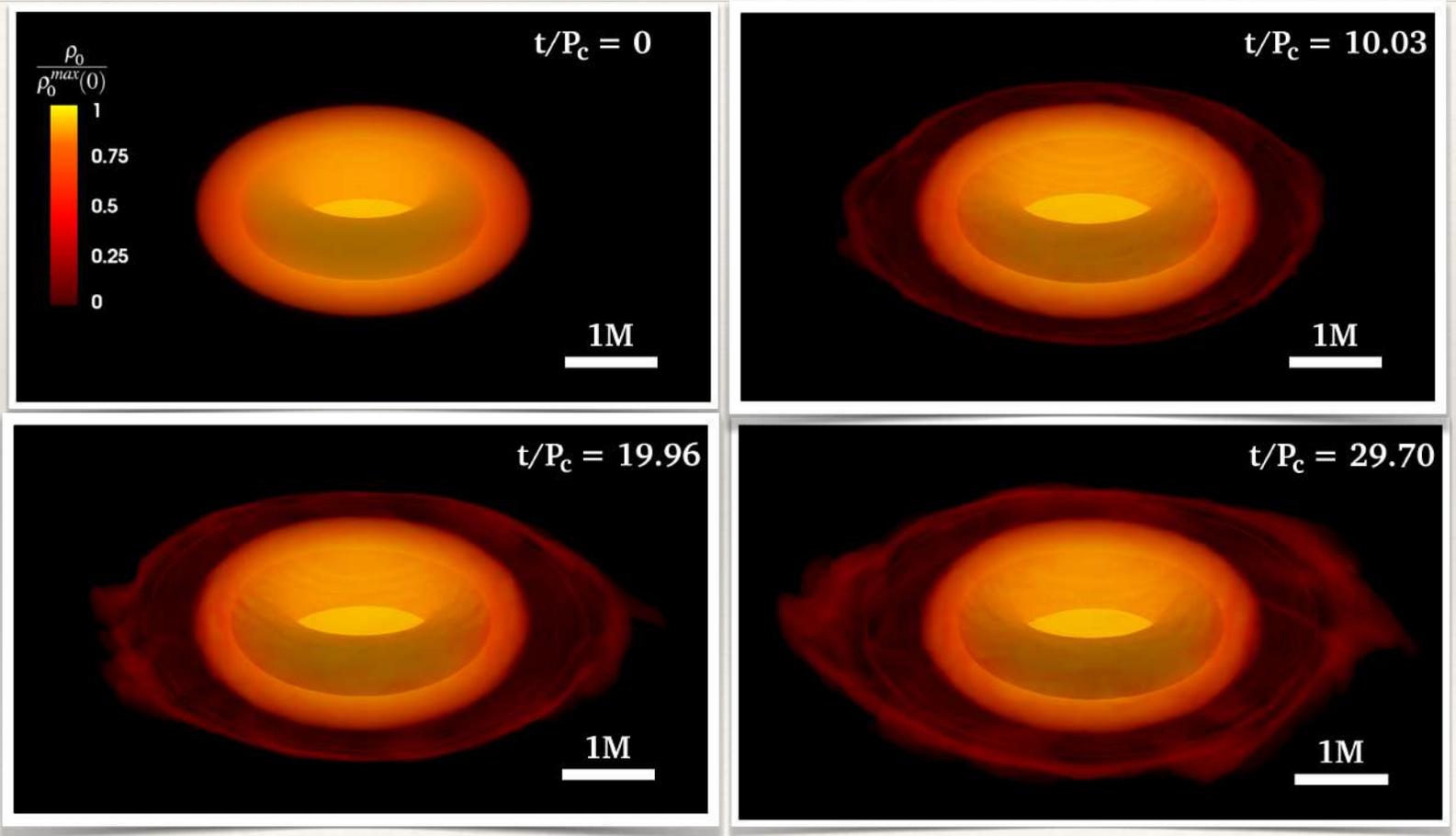
Here, we take  $\rho_{0s} = 2.7 \times 10^{14} \text{ gr/cm}^3$



Tsokaros, MR et al. '20

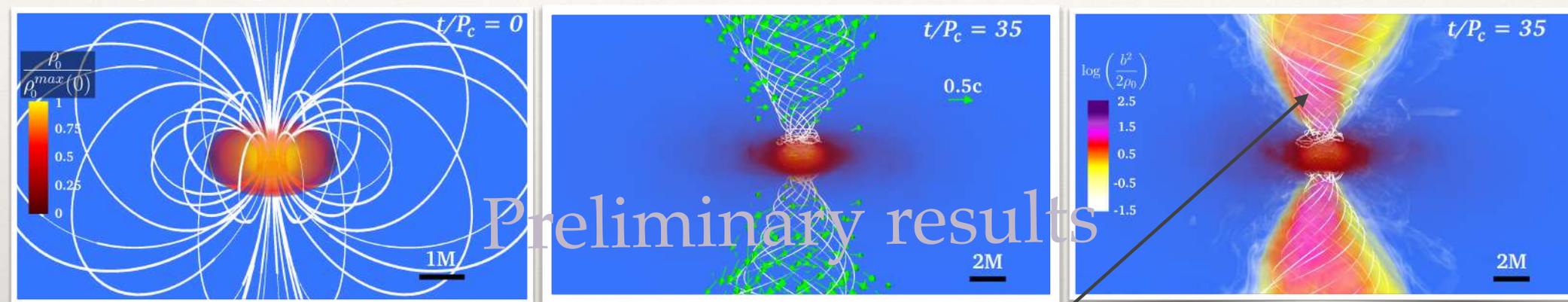
# Ergostars: Dinamically Stable

Differentially rotating NS with the ALF2cc EOS



# Ergostars: Magnetized Evolutions

Assumption: Ergostars are BNS remnants



MR in prep.

✓ Max. magnetization in the outflow:

$$\sim \frac{b^2}{2\rho_0} = \Gamma_L(asymp) \sim 100$$

✓ Blandford-Znajek effect

$$L_{\text{jet}} \sim 10^{51.2} - 10^{51.6}$$

Neutrino effects are ignored

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# Conclusions

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We are in a golden era where we can test our theory / models against observations and numerical simulations. We can do now:

**Multimessenger astronomy**  
Discover new physical effects,  
Use simulations to constraints EoSs,  
Constraint theory beyond GR

Computational astrophysics allows to explain some of the LIGO/Virgo GW detections. However, **more detailed microphysics + magnetic field** are both needed.