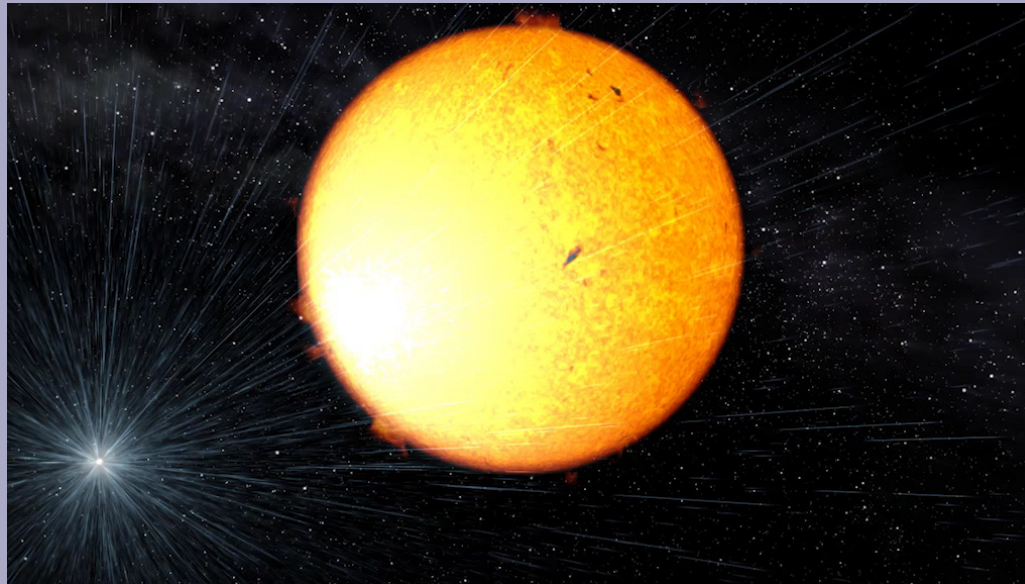


# A 2.3 Solar-mass Neutron Star



IAC/Perez-Diaz

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Tariq Shahbaz, Jorge Casares (IAC, Tenerife)



Co-funded by the  
Horizon 2020 programme  
of the European Union



UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA  
DE CATALUNYA  
BARCELONATECH

# WHAT IS THE MAXIMUM MASS OF A NEUTRON STAR?

**Nuclear physics:** Set by EoS in the core, where  $\rho_{\text{core}} > \rho_{\text{nuc}} (\sim 2 \times 10^{14} \text{ g/cm}^3)$

**Astronomy:** Neutron star mass measurements (binary pulsars)

# Neutron Star Mass

## Mass Distribution

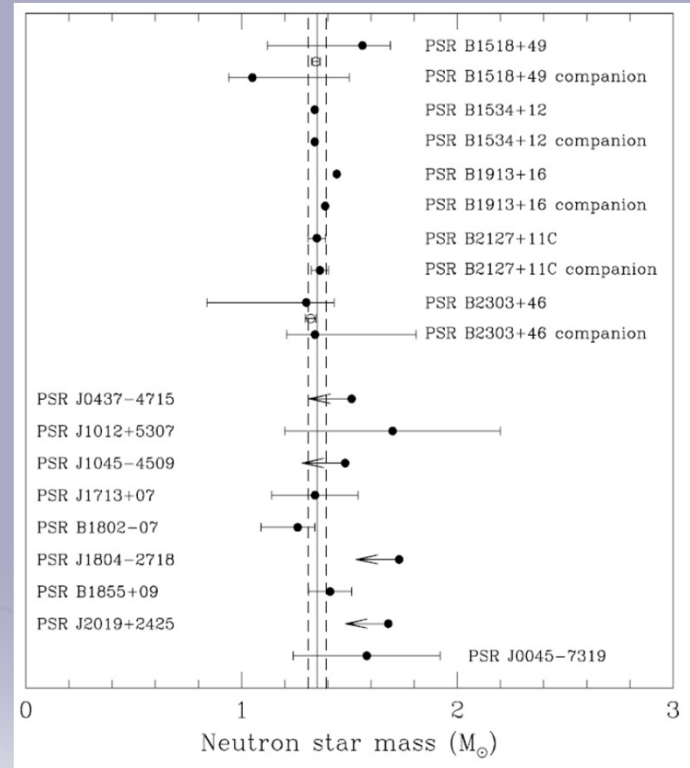
Demorest/Fonseca 2010-16:

→ 1.93 +/- 0.02 Msun  
(J1614-2230, WD, P<sub>orb</sub>=8.7 d)

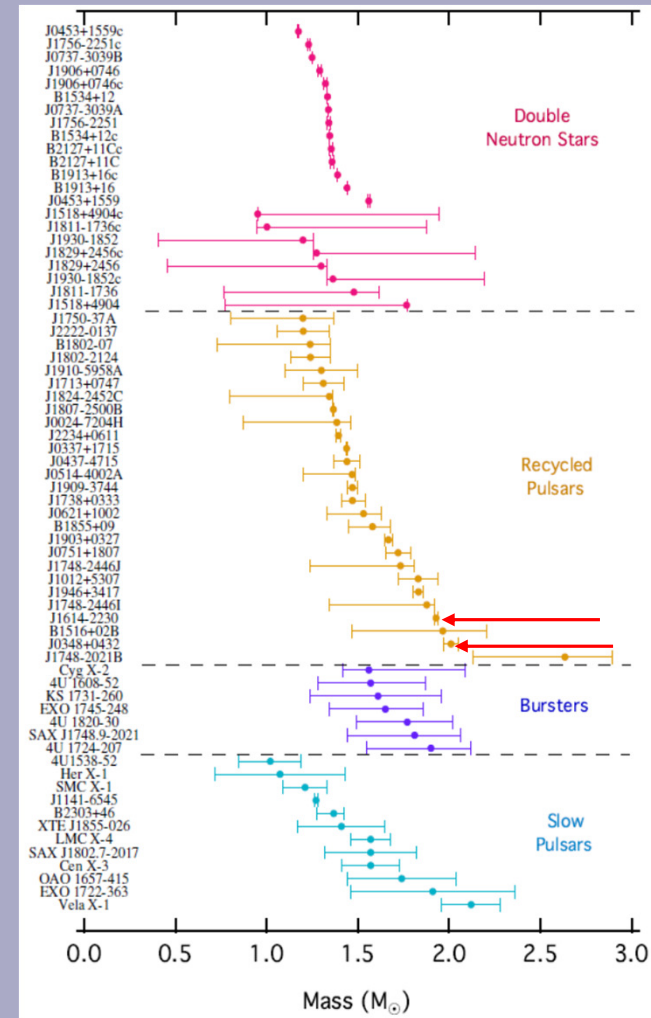
● Antoniadis+ 2013:

→ 2.01 +/- 0.04 Msun  
(J0348+0432, WD, P<sub>orb</sub>=2.46 hr)

● van Kerkwijk+ 2011:  
2.40 +/- 0.12 Msun  
(B1957+20, BW, P<sub>orb</sub>=9.2 hr)



Thorsett & Chakrabarty (1999, ApJ)  
21+5 radio PSRs: 1.35 +/- 0.04 Msun



Özel & Freire (2016, ARAA)  
35-68 NSs in the 1.2-2.0 Msun range

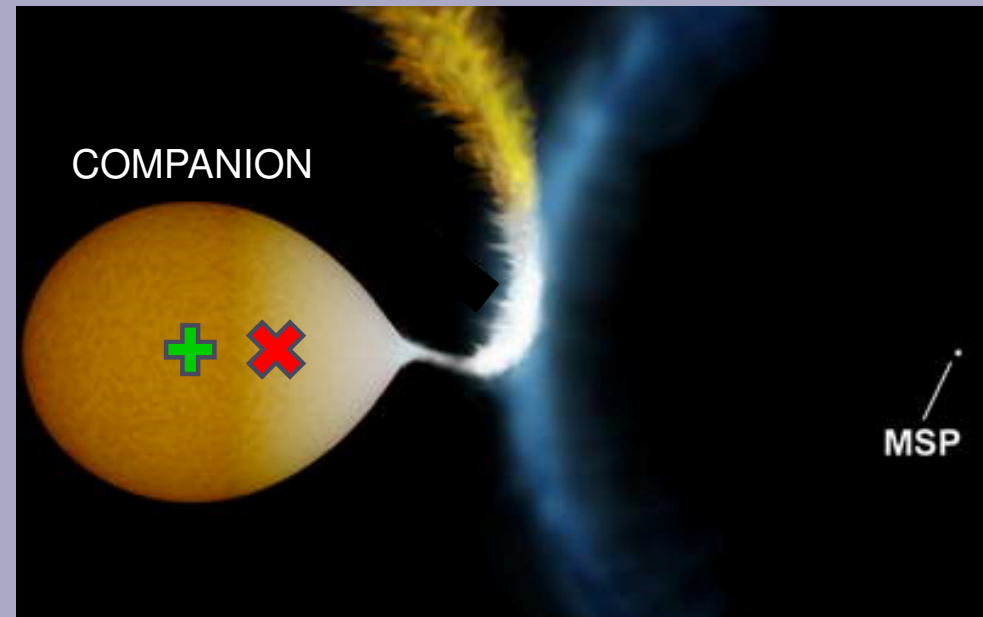
# Neutron stars in binaries

*What is the maximum neutron star mass?*

Bogdanov

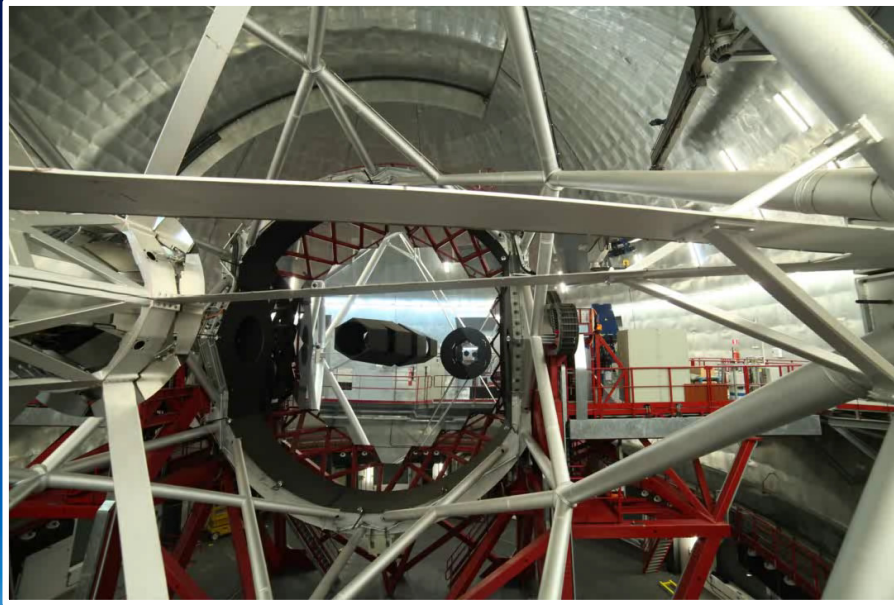
Compact binary millisecond pulsars  
(blackwidows, BWs; redbacks, RBs):

- Rotation-powered MSP, wind, gamma-rays  
(spin-down luminosity:  $10^{34}$ - $10^{35}$  erg/s)
- Non/semi-degenerate companion star  
(low/very-low mass, RBs/BWs:  $\sim 0.01$ - $0.5 M_{\text{Sun}}$ )
- Compact orbit  
( $P_{\text{orb}} < \sim 1$  day)



•ACCRETING PAST: INCREASED MASS  
(Alpar+ 1982; van Keerkwijk+ 2011, Kaplan+ 2013)

•CLEAN VIEW OF (IRRADIATED) COMPANION  
(measure mass: must account for irradiation)



**PSR J2215+5135:**  
**4.14 hr orbit**  
**Irradiated MS companion**  
**Massive NS?**

**Breton+'13**  
**Schroeder&Halpern'14**  
**Romani+'15,16**



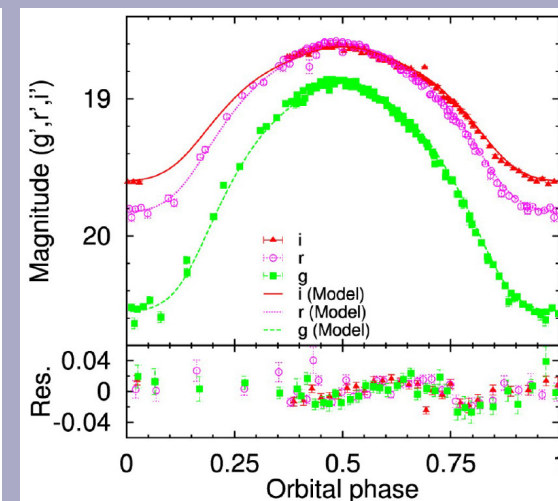
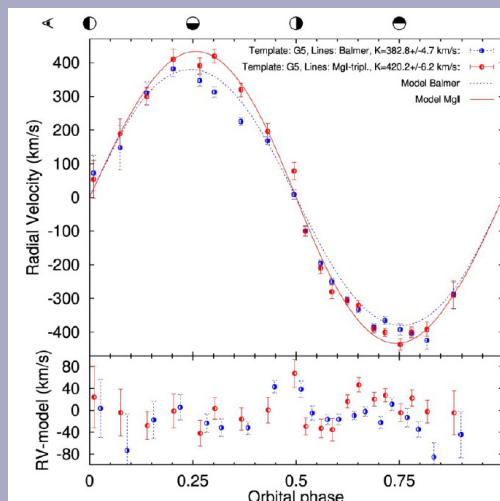
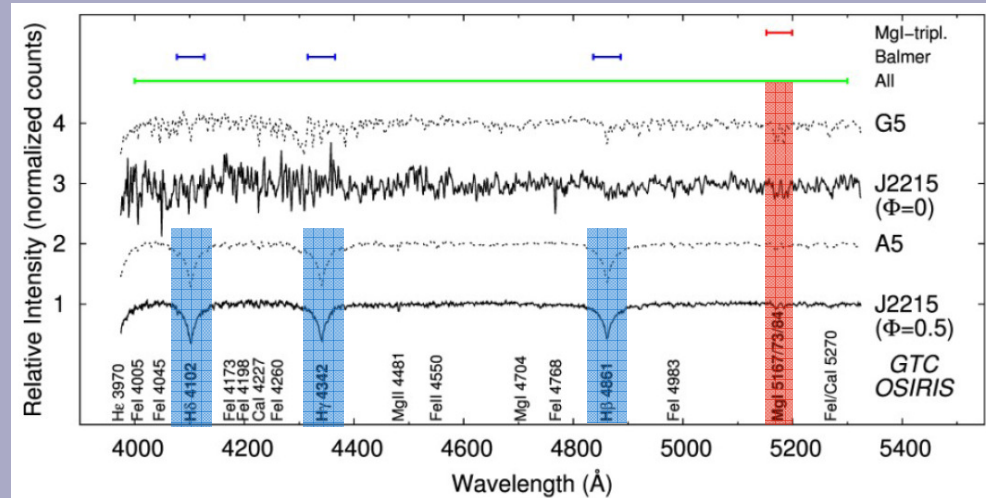
**Gran Telescopio CANARIAS (10.4 m)**  
**+WHT, IAC80**

IAC/Rosenberg



# A Massive Neutron Star

*Dynamical Studies with Irradiation: PSR J2215+5135*



$T_N = 5660 \pm 320 \text{ K}$   
 $T_D = 8080 \pm 375 \text{ K}$

1) Extreme heating by pulsar wind: from G5 (cold/night side) to A5 (hot/day side)!

$K_{\text{Balmer}} = 382.8 \pm 4.7 \text{ km/s}$   
 $K_{\text{Mg}} = 420.2 \pm 6.2 \text{ km/s}$   
 $K_2 = 412.3 \pm 5.0 \text{ km/s}$

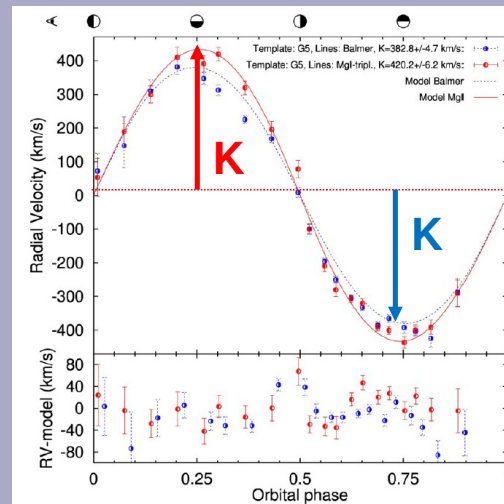
2) Trace the velocity of both sides using different absorption lines (H vs Mg)

$M_{\text{NS}} = 2.27 \pm 0.16 M_{\text{Sun}}$   
 $M_2 = 0.33 \pm 0.03 M_{\text{Sun}}$   
 $i = 63.9^\circ \pm 2.5^\circ$

3) Physical model to find inclination and masses (incl. constr. on  $T_D$ ,  $T_N$  and  $q = M_2/M_1 = K_2 P_{\text{orb}} / 2\pi x_1 c$ )

# A Massive Neutron Star

*Peering into the dark side of the companion*



**A NEW METHOD TO  
MEASURE MASS:**

**‘Empirical’ K correction,  
bracket center of mass!**

$$K_{\text{Balmer}} = 382.8 \pm 4.7 \text{ km/s}$$

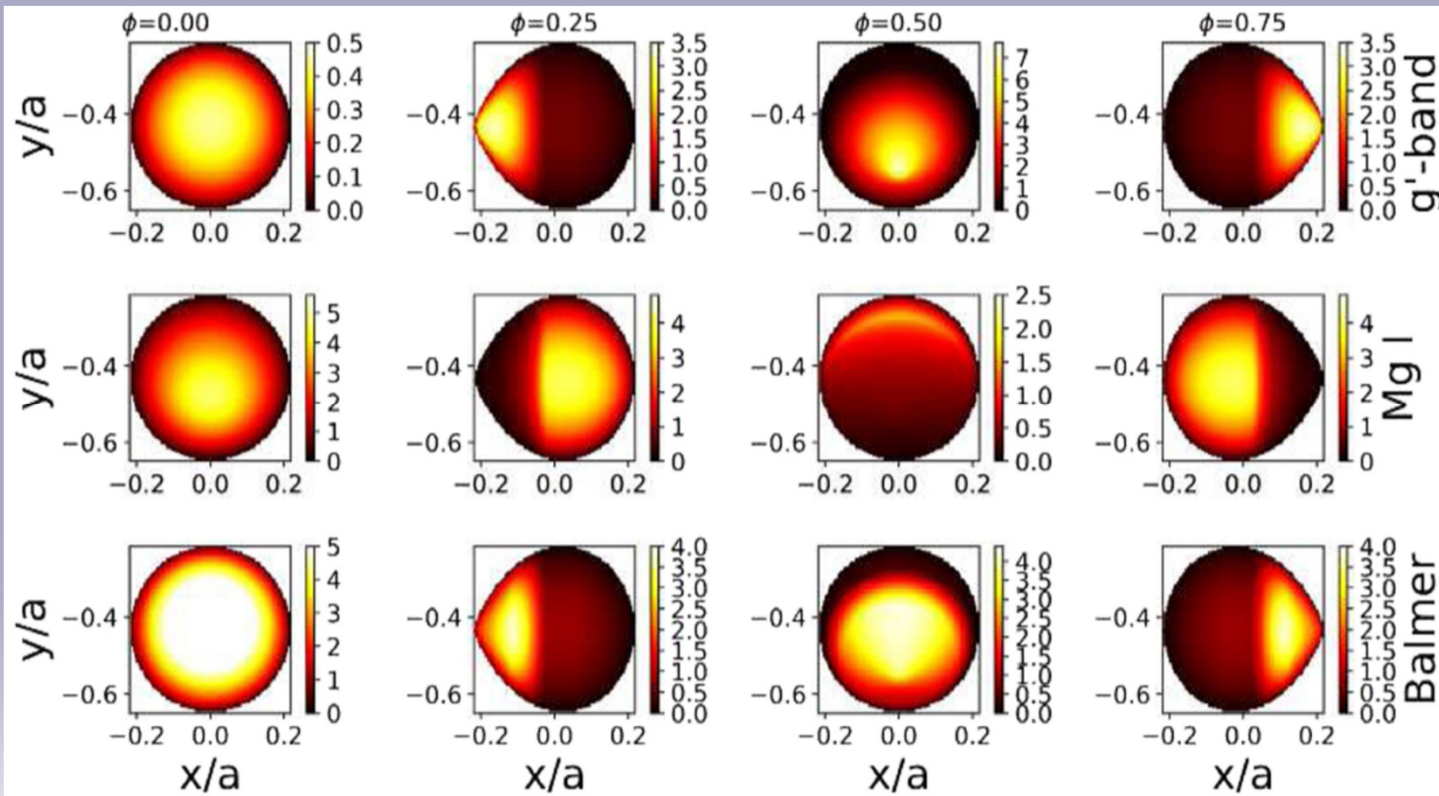
$$K_{\text{Mg}} = 420.2 \pm 6.2 \text{ km/s}$$

$$K_2 = 412.3 \pm 5.0 \text{ km/s}$$

**2) Trace the velocity of  
both sides using  
different absorption lines  
(H vs Mg)**

# A Massive Neutron Star

*Peering into the dark side of the companion*



**COLD SIDE**  
inferior  
conjunction

**ASCENDING**  
**NODE**  
quadrature

**HOT SIDE**  
superior  
conjunction

**DESCENDING**  
**NODE**  
quadrature

**A NEW METHOD TO  
MEASURE MASS:**

Looking at the irradiated  
companion star with  
new eyes.

Magnesium and  
hydrogen radial  
velocities carefully  
modelled, taking into  
account varying line  
strength

$K_{Mg}$

$K_{Balmer}$

# A Massive Neutron Star

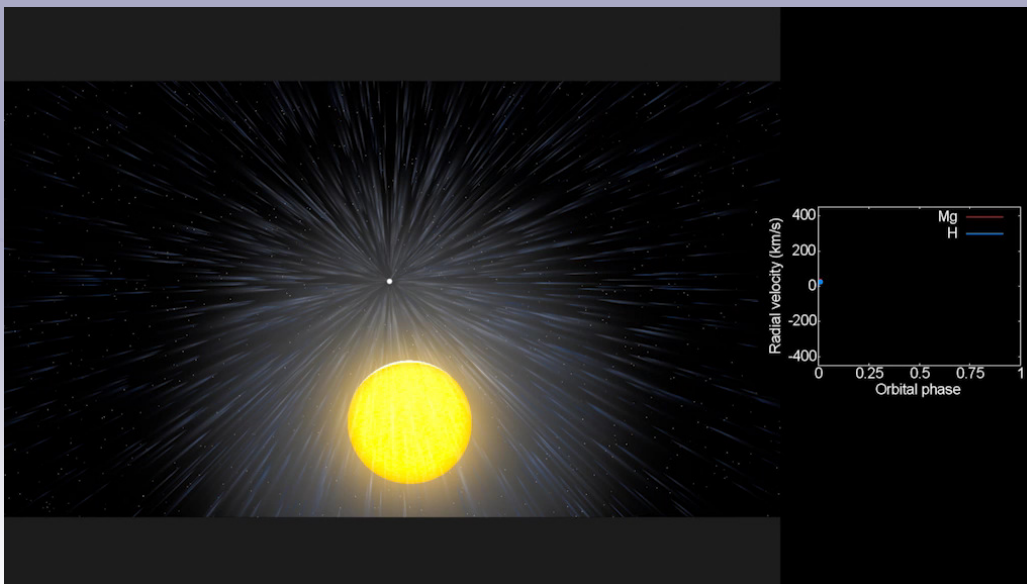
A 2.3 Solar-mass neutron star in PSR J2215+5135

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 859:54 (14pp), 2018 May 20  
© 2018. The American Astronomical Society. All rights reserved. <https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/aabde6>

## Peering into the Dark Side: Magnesium Lines Establish a Massive Neutron Star in PSR J2215+5135

M. Linares<sup>1,2</sup>, T. Shahbaz<sup>2,3</sup>, and J. Casares<sup>2,3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias, c/ Vía Láctea s/n, E-38205 La Laguna, Tenerife, Spain  
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Received 2018 January 9; revised 2018 April 6; accepted 2018 April 10; published 2018 May 23



IAC/Perez-Diaz, Hynes

→ A 2.27 [+0.17-0.15]  $M_{\text{sun}}$  Neutron Star!  
(Linares, Shahbaz & Casares 2018, ApJ, 859, 54)

SPACE

### Massive Neutron Star Is the Definition of Extreme

By George Dvorsky on 30 May 2018 at 7:00PM

Using a new technique, astronomers have documented one of the heaviest neutron stars

NEWS IN BRIEF ASTRONOMY, PARTICLE PHYSICS

### Two-faced star reveals a pulsar's surprising bulk

An ultramassive pulsar is frying its stellar companion

BY LISA GROSSMAN 9:00AM, MAY 31, 2018

SHARE ARTICLE

PICK A SIDE A pulsar (starburst illustrated in lower right) heats just one side of its companion star in this binary system called PSR J2215+5135. The duality helped astronomers weigh the pulsar, and showed it's one of the most massive ever seen.

Next:

- Independent & tighter inclination measurements
- Find more (massive?) pulsars (in edge-on orbits?)

# Neutron Star Mass

## Mass Distribution

Demorest/Fonseca 2010-16:

1.93 +/- 0.02 Msun

(J1614-2230, WD, P<sub>orb</sub>=8.7 d)

- Antoniadis+ 2013:

2.01 +/- 0.04 Msun

(J0348+0432, WD, P<sub>orb</sub>=2.46 hr)

- van Kerkwijk+ 2011:

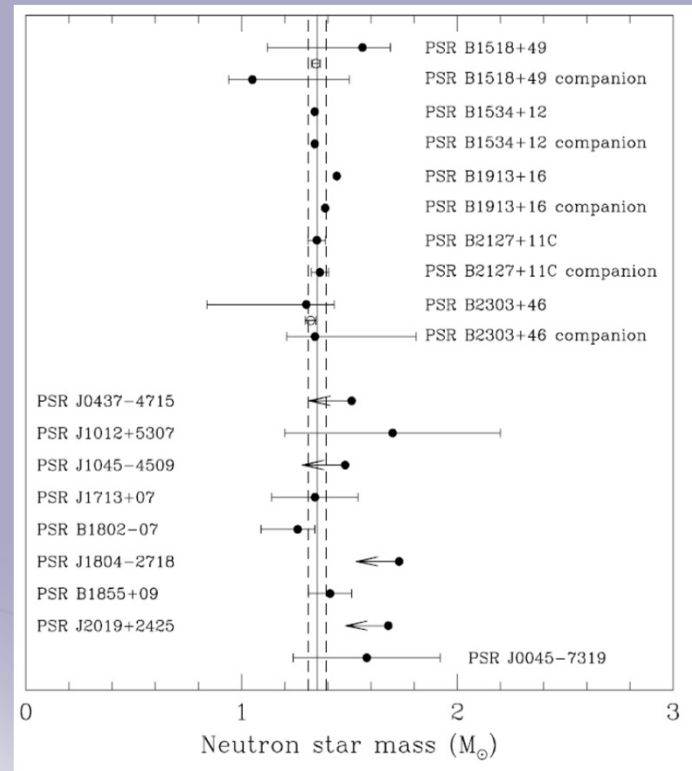
2.40 +/- 0.12 Msun

(B1957+20, BW, P<sub>orb</sub>=9.2 hr)

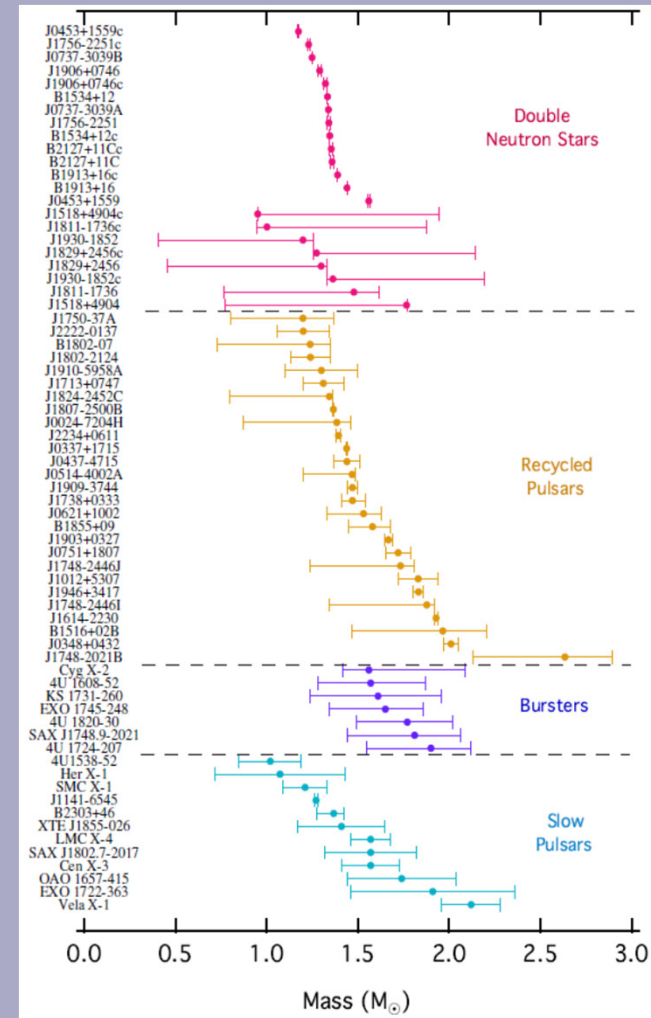
- Linares+ 2018:

2.27 +/- 0.16 Msun

(J2215+5135, RB, P<sub>orb</sub>=4.1 hr)



Thorsett & Chakrabarty (1999, ApJ)  
21+5 radio PSRs: 1.35 +/- 0.04 Msun

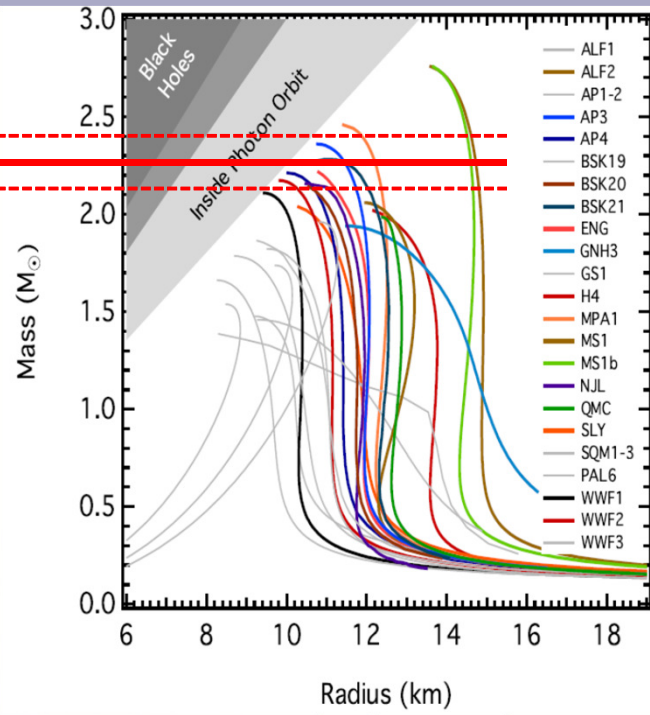


Özel & Freire (2016, ARAA)

35-68 NSs in the 1.2-2.0 Msun range

# A Massive Neutron Star

Impact on nuclear physics and GW astronomy



Özel & Freire (2016)

## EQUATION OF STATE:

Only a 'stiff' EoS can support 2.3 Msun  
(hyperons or deconfined quarks don't seem able to)

## NS MERGERS:

Can they lead to a massive neutron star?  
(immediate remnant and e.m. emission sensitive to  $M_{total} / M_{max}$ ; e.g.  $2.74/2.27 = 1.2$ )

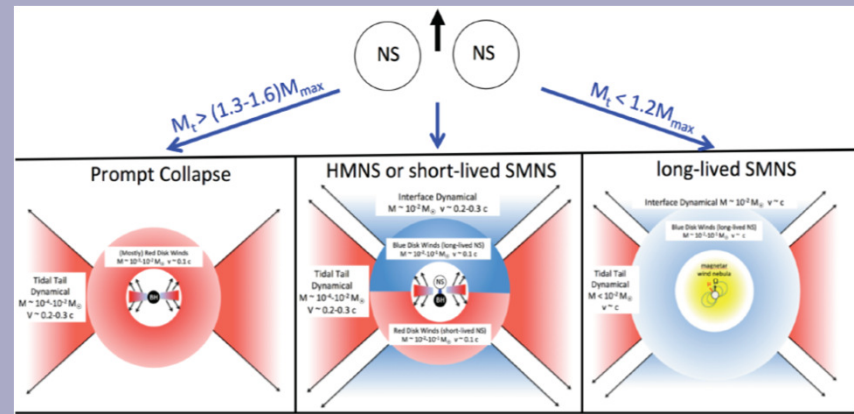
e.g.  $M_{max} < 2.17$  (90%)  
Margalit & Metzger (2017)

## Properties of the binary neutron star merger GW170817

The LIGO Scientific Collaboration, the Virgo Collaboration, B. P. Abbott, R. Abbott, T. D. Abbott, F. Acernese, K. Ackley, C. Adams, T. Adams, P. Addesso, R. X. Adhikari, V. B. Adya, C. Affeldt, B. Agarwal, M. Agathos, K. Agatsuma, N. Aggarwal, O. D. Aguiar, L. Aiello, A. Ain, P. Ajith, B. Allen, G. Allen, A. Allocca, M. A. Aloy, P. A. Altin, A. Amato, A. Ananyeva, S. B. Anderson, W. G. Anderson, S. V. Angelova, S. Antier, S. Appert, K. Arai, M. C. Araya, J. S. Areeda, M. Ar'ene, N. Arnaud, K. G. Arun, S. Ascenzi, G. Ashton, M. Ast, S. M. Aston, P. Aston, D. V. Atallah, F. Aubin, P. Aufmuth, C. Aubert, K. AultO'Neal, C. Austin, A. Avila-Alvarez, S. Babak, P. Bacon, F. Badaracco, M. K. M. Bader, S. Bae, P. T. Baker, F. Baldacci, G. Ballardin, S. W. Ballmer, S. Banagiri, J. C. Barayoga, et al. (1088 additional authors not shown)

(Submitted on 29 May 2016)

On August 17, 2017, the Advanced LIGO and Advanced Virgo gravitational-wave detectors observed a low-mass compact binary inspiral. The initial sky localization of the source of the gravitational-wave signal, GW170817, allowed electromagnetic observatories to identify NGC 4993 as the host galaxy. In this work we improve initial estimates of the binary's properties, including component masses, spins, and tidal parameters, using the known source location, improved modeling, and re-calibrated Virgo data. We extend the range of gravitational-wave frequencies considered down to 23 Hz, compared to 30 Hz in the initial analysis. We also compare results inferred using several signal models, which are more accurate and incorporate additional physical effects as compared to the initial analysis. We improve the localization of the gravitational-wave source to a 90% credible region of  $16 \text{ deg}^2$ . We find tighter constraints on the masses, spins, and tidal parameters, and continue to find no evidence for non-zero component spins. The component masses are inferred to lie between  $1.00$  and  $1.89 M_{\odot}$  when allowing for large component spins, and to lie between  $1.16$  and  $1.60 M_{\odot}$  (with a total mass  $2.73^{+0.04}_{-0.01} M_{\odot}$ ) when the spins are restricted to be within the range observed in Galactic binary neutron stars. Under minimal assumptions about the nature of the compact objects, our constraints for the tidal deformability parameter  $\bar{\lambda}$  are  $(0, 630)$  when we allow for large component spins, and  $300^{+420}_{-230}$  (using a 90% highest posterior density interval) when restricting the magnitude of the component spins, ruling out several equation of state models at the 90% credible level. Finally, with LIGO and GEO600 data, we use a Bayesian analysis to place upper limits on the amplitude and spectral energy density of a possible post-merger signal. (Abridged)

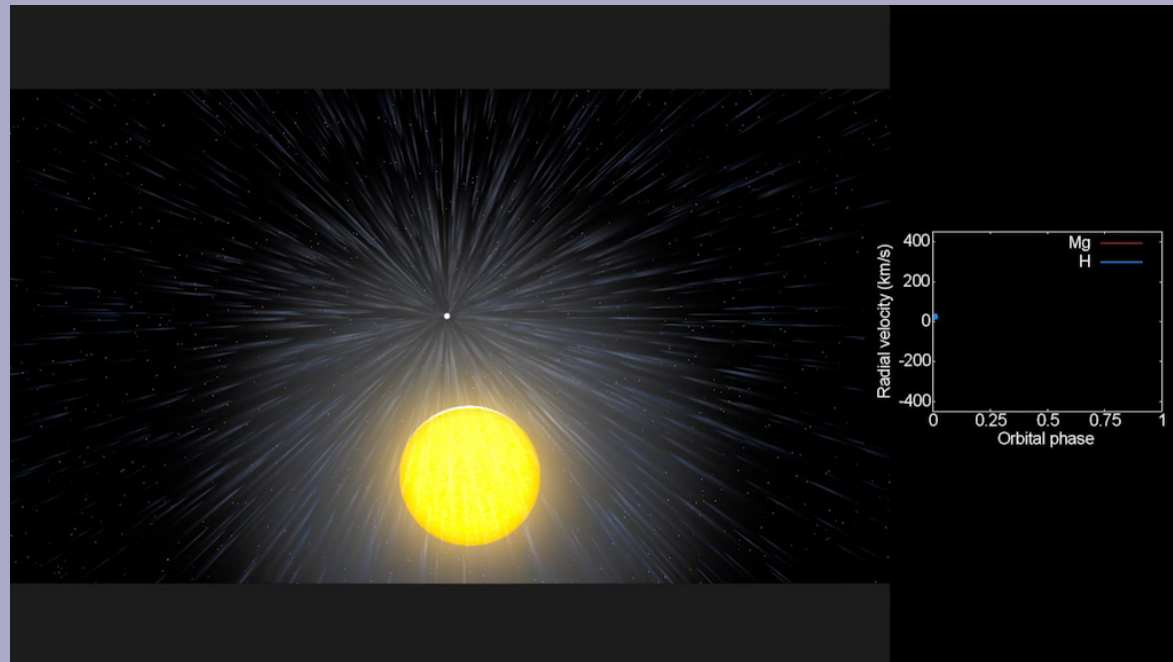


Margalit & Metzger (2017)

# Summary

## A 2.3 Solar-mass neutron star

- WHERE: PSR J2215+5135
- HOW: GTC, WHT, IAC80, MODELS
- KEY: IRRADIATION
- NEW: EMPIRICAL K CORRECTION
- IMPACT: EoS, GW NS+NS, ...
- FUTURE: INDEPENDENT INCLINATION
- FUTURE: MORE (irradiated) SYSTEMS



**NS+NS MERGERS:**

**Can they lead to a long-lived massive neutron star?**