

apastron flare?

$L_X \sim 10^{36} - 10^{37}$ erg/s

$P_{\text{spin}} \sim 685^{\text{s}}$

New findings on GX 301-2

$1.8 M_{\text{sun}}$

$10^{-5} M_{\text{sun}}/\text{yr}$ @ 300 km/s

$P_{\text{orb}} = 41.5^{\text{d}}$

$40 - 60 M_{\text{sun}}$

Wray 977

1.8-5.3 kpc

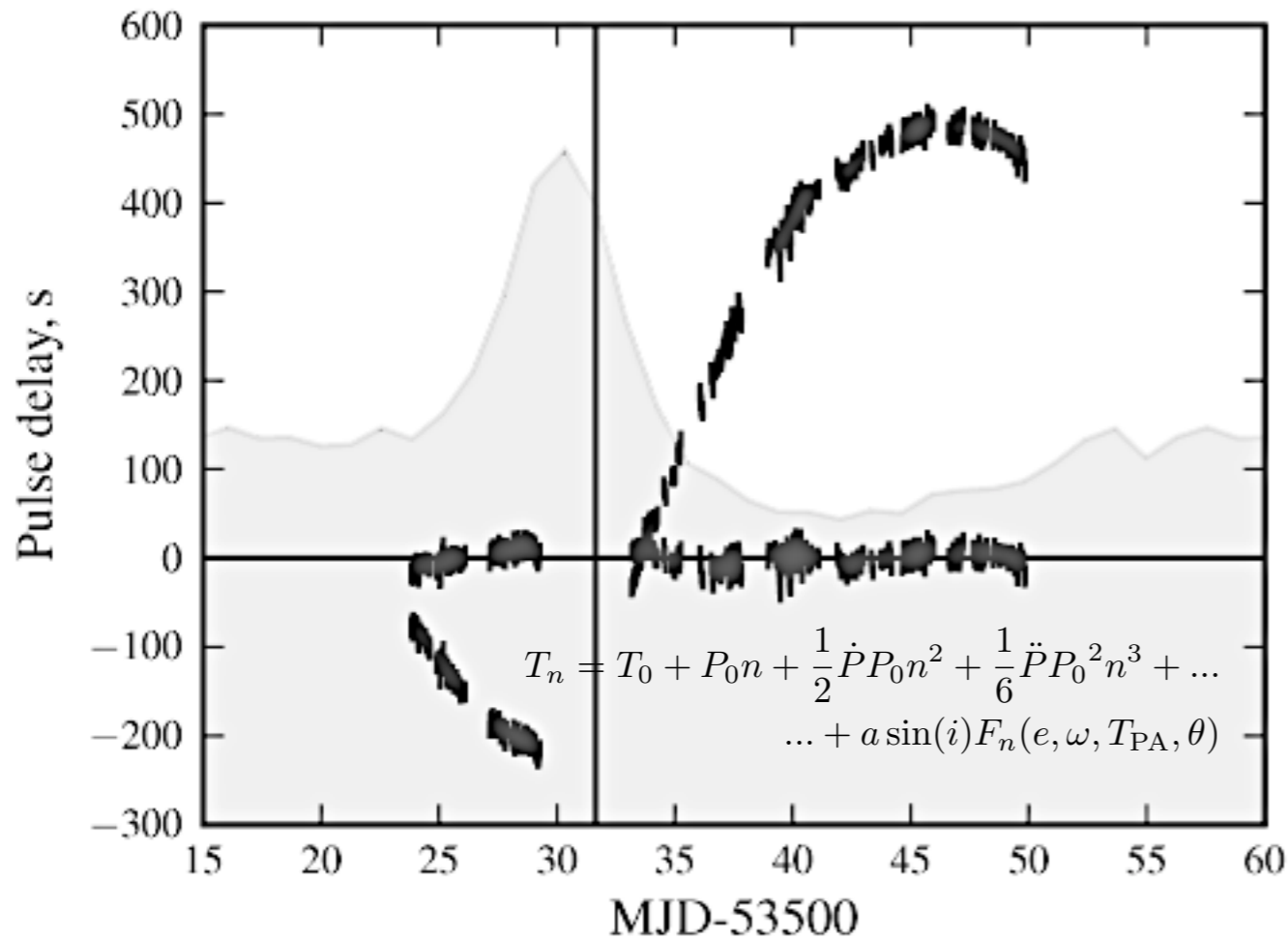


IAAT, Tübingen.
29/03/2010

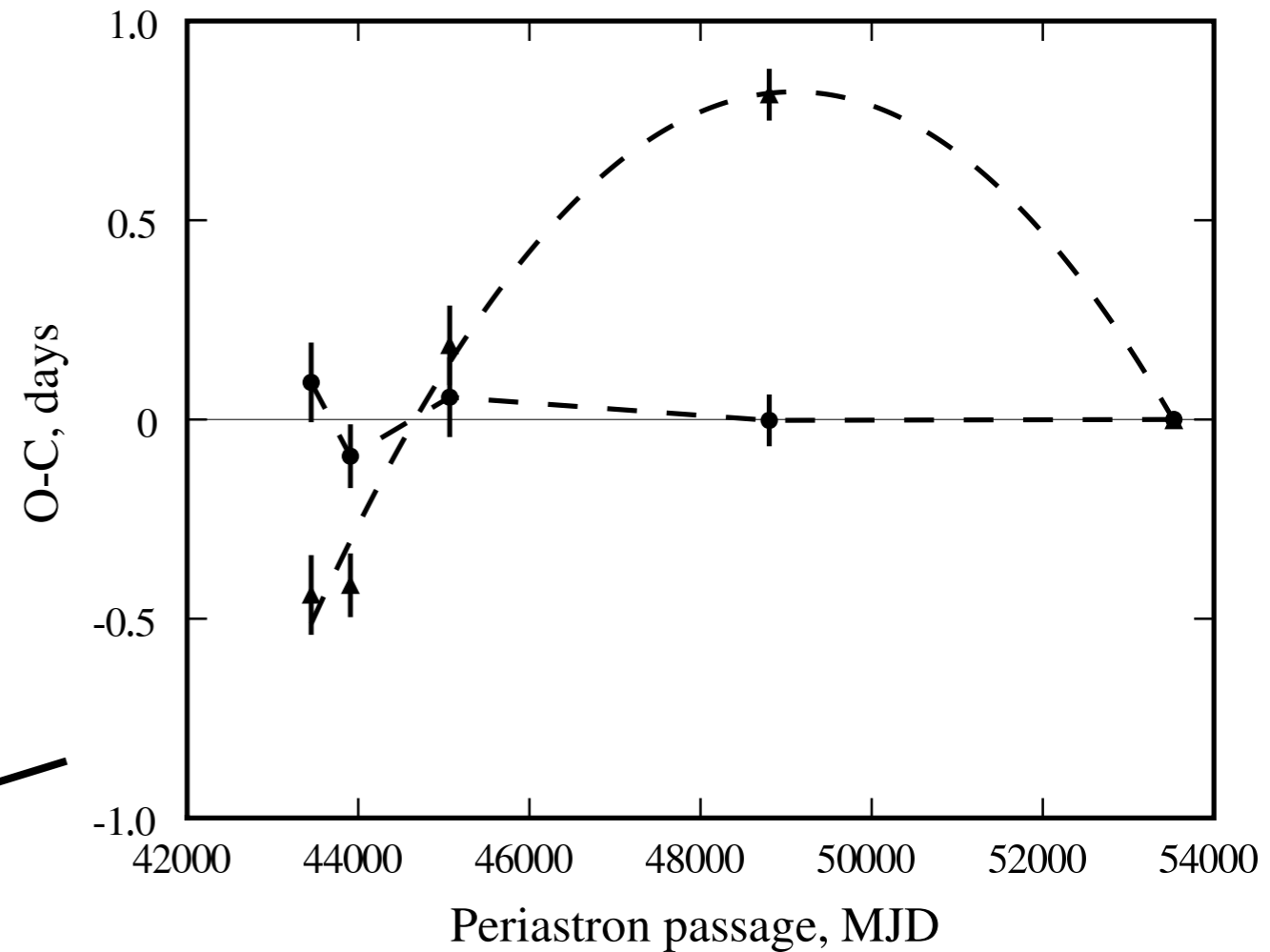
Pre-periastron flare

Measurement of the secular change of the orbital period.

Find periastron passage time via coherent pulse timing



Compare with historical values



$P_{\text{orb}} = 41.506 \text{ d}$,
 $\dot{P}_{\text{orb}} = -3.7 \times 10^{-6} \text{ d d}^{-1}$
@MJD 43906.06

Largest \dot{P} so far, and measured for the first time in a system like GX 301-2, but may be in part due to apsidal motion

Old stuff with new details: pulse period and torques acting on the NS

$$I \frac{d\omega}{dt} = K_+(\dot{M}) + K_-(\omega, B, \dot{M})$$

$$K_- = -\dot{M} \frac{\omega^2 R_H^{7/2}}{4\sqrt{2GM}}$$

$$K_+ = \dot{M} k_w R_A^2 \Omega_{\text{orb}}$$

Davies et al, 1979

$$K_- = -\dot{M} k \frac{\xi}{2\pi} R_H^2 \omega$$

Illarionov-Kompaneec, 1990

$$R_H = \left(\frac{B^2 R^6}{2\dot{M}\sqrt{2GM}} \right)^{2/7}, R_A = \frac{2GM}{\omega^2}$$

Assuming torque equivalence:

$$B \approx 3 \times 10^{14} \text{ G} \left(\frac{k_w}{0.25} \right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{\dot{M}_{\text{eq}}}{10^{17} \text{ g/s}} \right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{w}{400 \text{ km/s}} \right)^{-2} \\ \times \left(\frac{P}{680 \text{ s}} \right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{P_{\text{orb}}}{41.5 \text{ d}} \right)^{-1/2} \left(\frac{M}{1.4 M_{\odot}} \right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{R}{10^6 \text{ cm}} \right)^{-3}$$

Davidson, Ostriker 1973

$$B \approx 2 \times 10^{14} \text{ G} \left(\frac{k_w}{0.25} \right)^{7/8} \left(\frac{k}{2/3} \right)^{-7/8} \left(\frac{\xi}{0.87} \right)^{-7/8} \left(\frac{\dot{M}_{\text{eq}}}{10^{17} \text{ g/s}} \right)^{1/2} \\ \left(\frac{w}{400 \text{ km/s}} \right)^{-7/2} \left(\frac{P}{680 \text{ s}} \right)^{7/8} \left(\frac{P_{\text{orb}}}{41.5 \text{ d}} \right)^{-7/8} \left(\frac{M}{1.4 M_{\odot}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{R}{10^6 \text{ cm}} \right)^{-3}$$

Illarionov, Kompaneets, 1990

Disk accretion (Ghosh-Lamb, Lovelace) requires even stronger field.

Pulse period and torques acting on the NS

$$I \frac{d\omega}{dt} = K_+(\dot{M}) + K_-(\omega, B, \dot{M})$$

$$K_+ = \dot{M} k_w R_A^2 \Omega_{\text{orb}} \quad K_- = -\dot{M} \frac{\omega^2 R_H^{7/2}}{4\sqrt{2GM}}$$

Davies et al, 1979

$$K_- = -\dot{M} k \frac{\xi}{2\pi} R_H^2 \omega$$

Illarionov-Kompaneec, 1990

$$R_H = \left(\frac{B^2 R^6}{2\dot{M}\sqrt{2GM}} \right)^{2/7}, \quad R_A = \frac{2GM}{\omega^2}$$

**GX 301-2 has a VERY long pulse period for given luminosity!!!
(so STRONG magnetic field is required)**

Lets clarify the situation...

$$I \frac{d\omega}{dt} = K_+(\dot{M}) + K_-(\omega, B, \dot{M})$$

$$K_- = -\dot{M} \frac{\omega^2 R_H^{7/2}}{4\sqrt{2GM}}$$

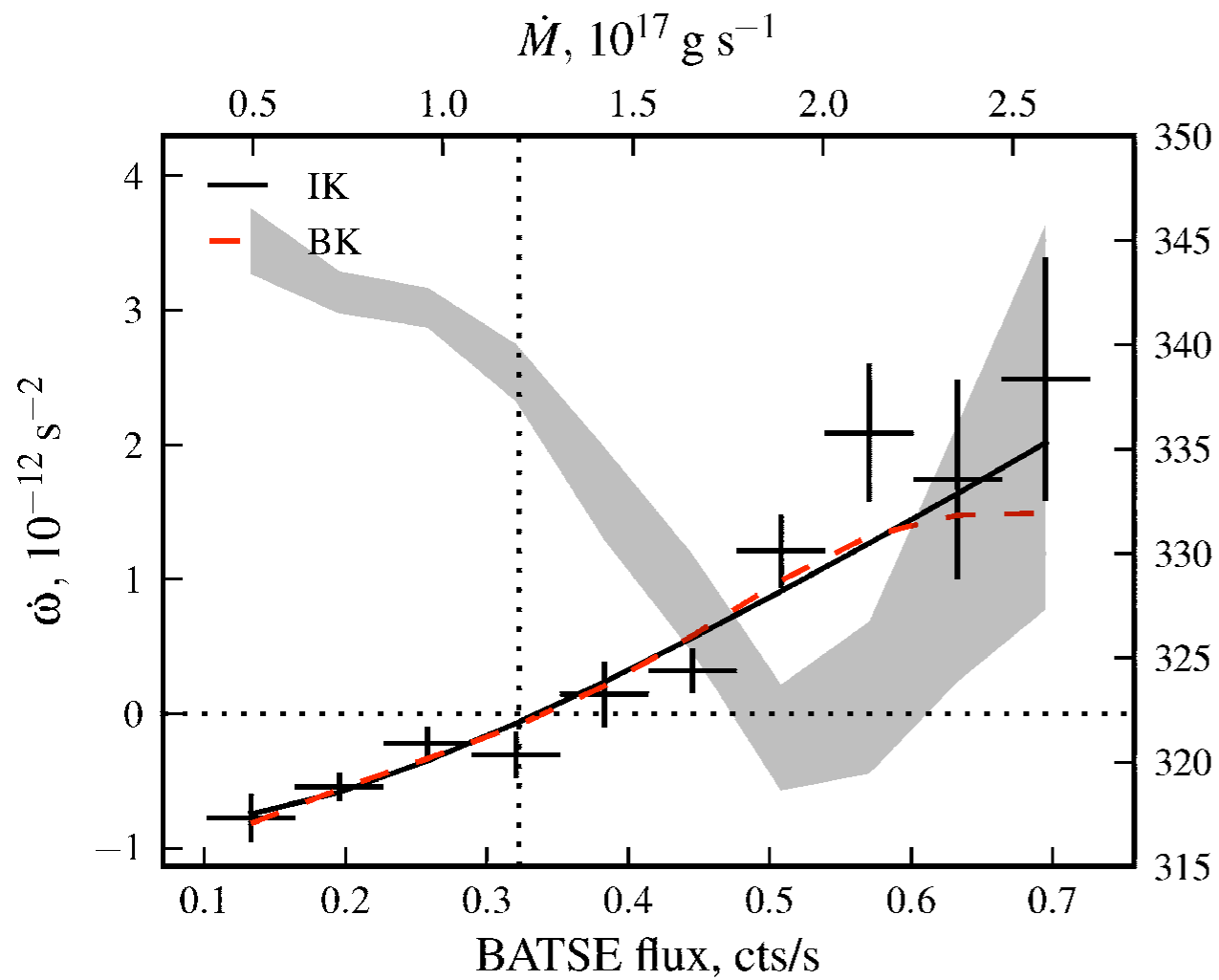
$$K_+ = \dot{M} k_w R_A^2 \Omega_{\text{orb}}$$

Davies et al, 1979

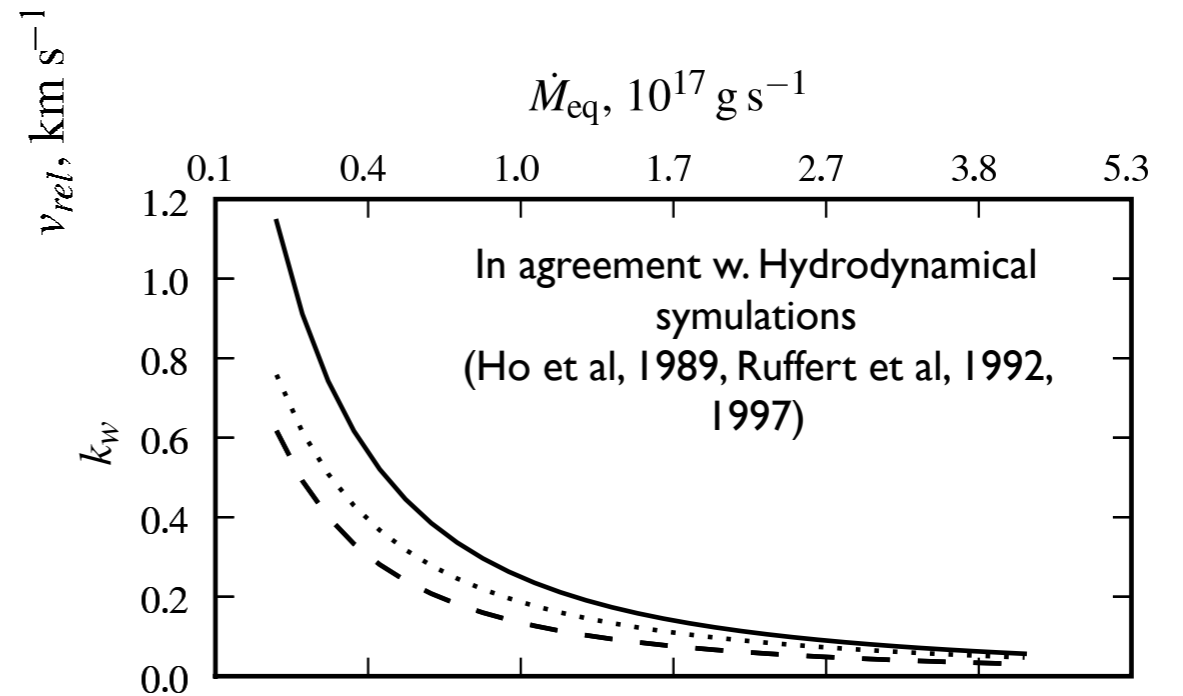
$$K_- = -\dot{M} k \frac{\xi}{2\pi} R_H^2 \omega$$

Illarionov-Kompaneec, 1990

$$R_H = \left(\frac{B^2 R^6}{2\dot{M}\sqrt{2GM}} \right)^{2/7}, R_A = \frac{2GM}{\omega^2}$$



CGRO BATSE-DISCLA data (Bildsten et al, Koh et al 1997)



$$I \frac{d\omega}{dt} = K_+(\dot{M}) + K_-(\omega, B, \dot{M})$$

$$K_- = -\dot{M} \frac{\omega^2 R_H^{7/2}}{4\sqrt{2GM}}$$

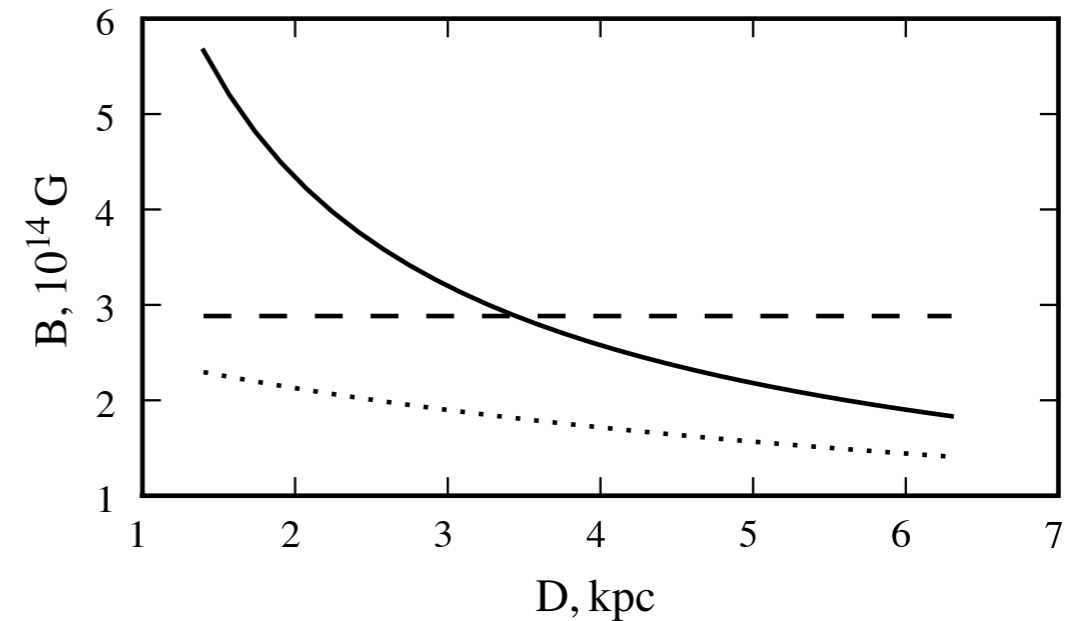
$$K_+ = \dot{M} k_w R_A^2 \Omega_{\text{orb}}$$

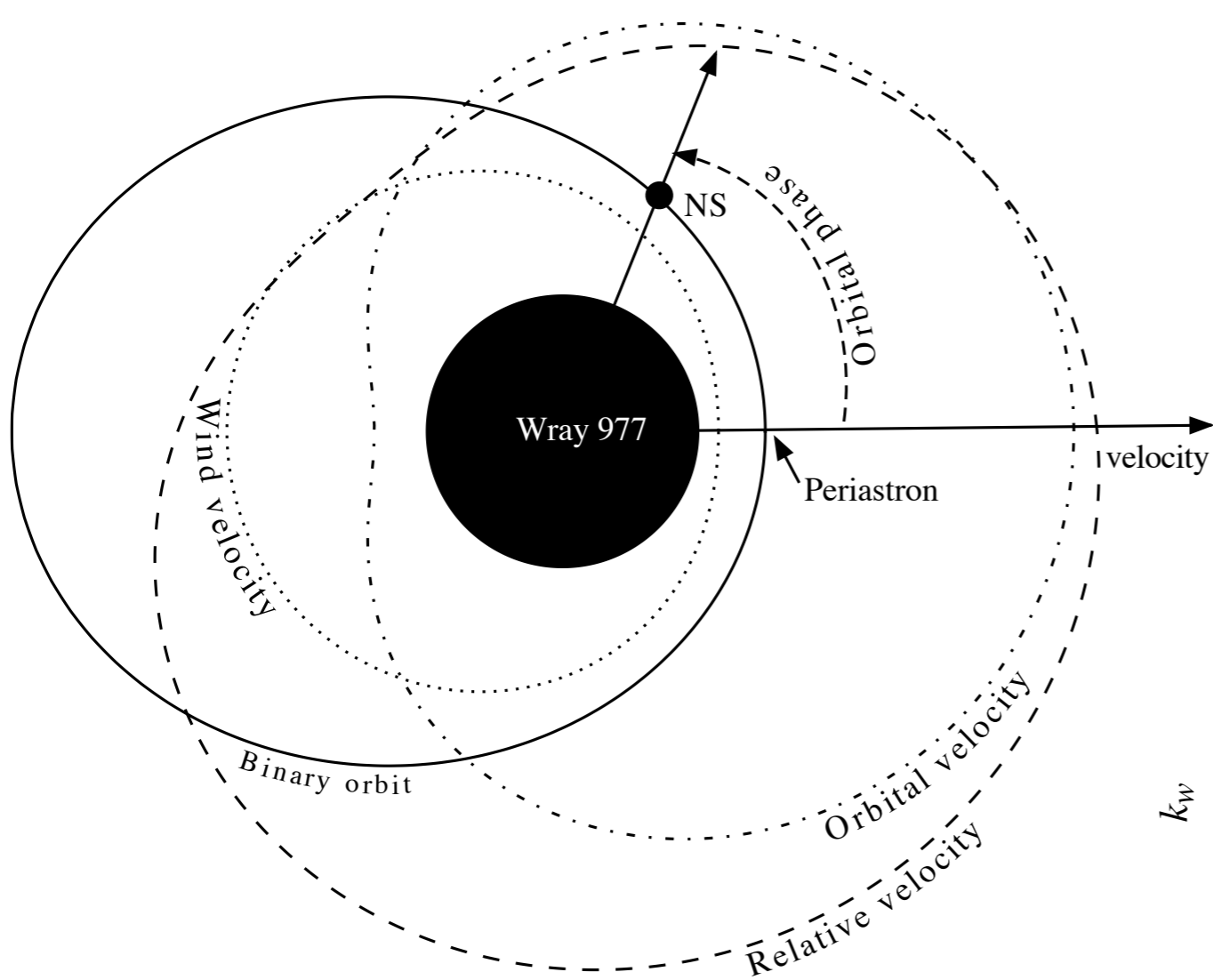
Davies et al, 1979

$$K_- = -\dot{M} k \frac{\xi}{2\pi} R_H^2 \omega$$

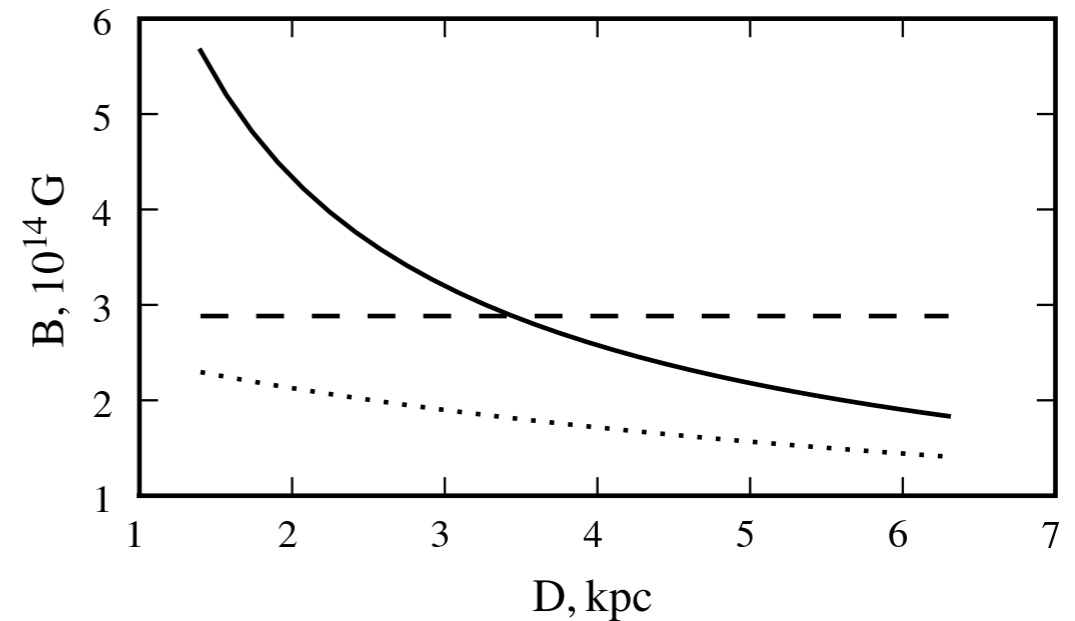
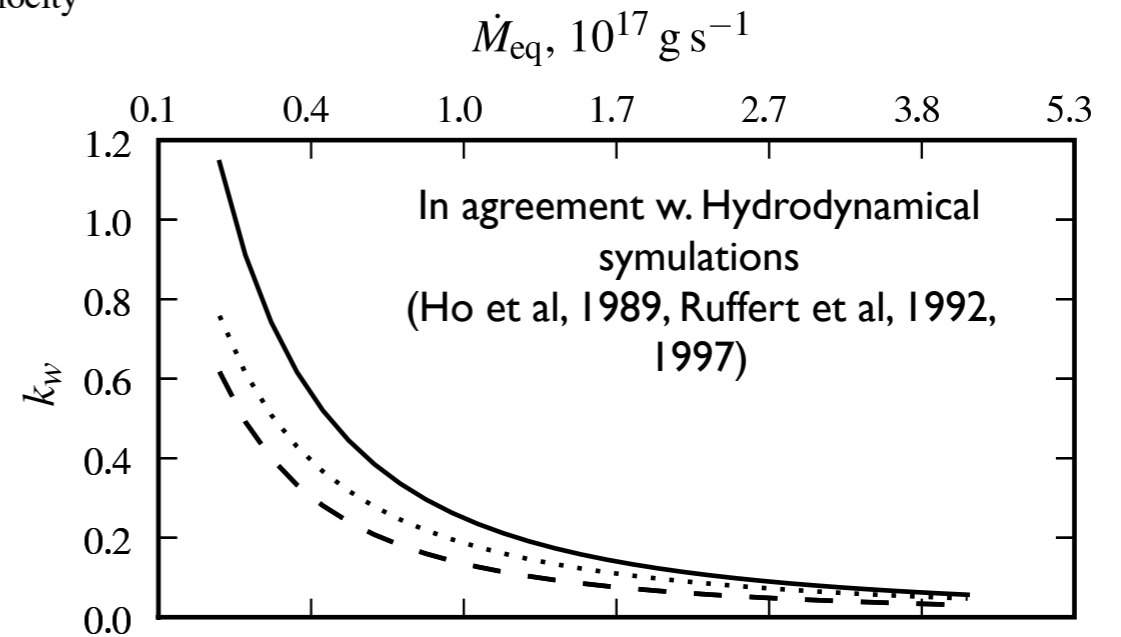
Illarionov-Kompaneec, 1990

$$R_H = \left(\frac{B^2 R^6}{2\dot{M}\sqrt{2GM}} \right)^{2/7}, R_A = \frac{2GM}{\omega^2}$$





CGRO BATSE-DISCLA data (Bildsten et al, Koh et al 1997)



$$I \frac{d\omega}{dt} = K_+(\dot{M}) + K_-(\omega, B, \dot{M})$$

$$K_- = -\dot{M} \frac{\omega^2 R_H^{7/2}}{4\sqrt{2GM}}$$

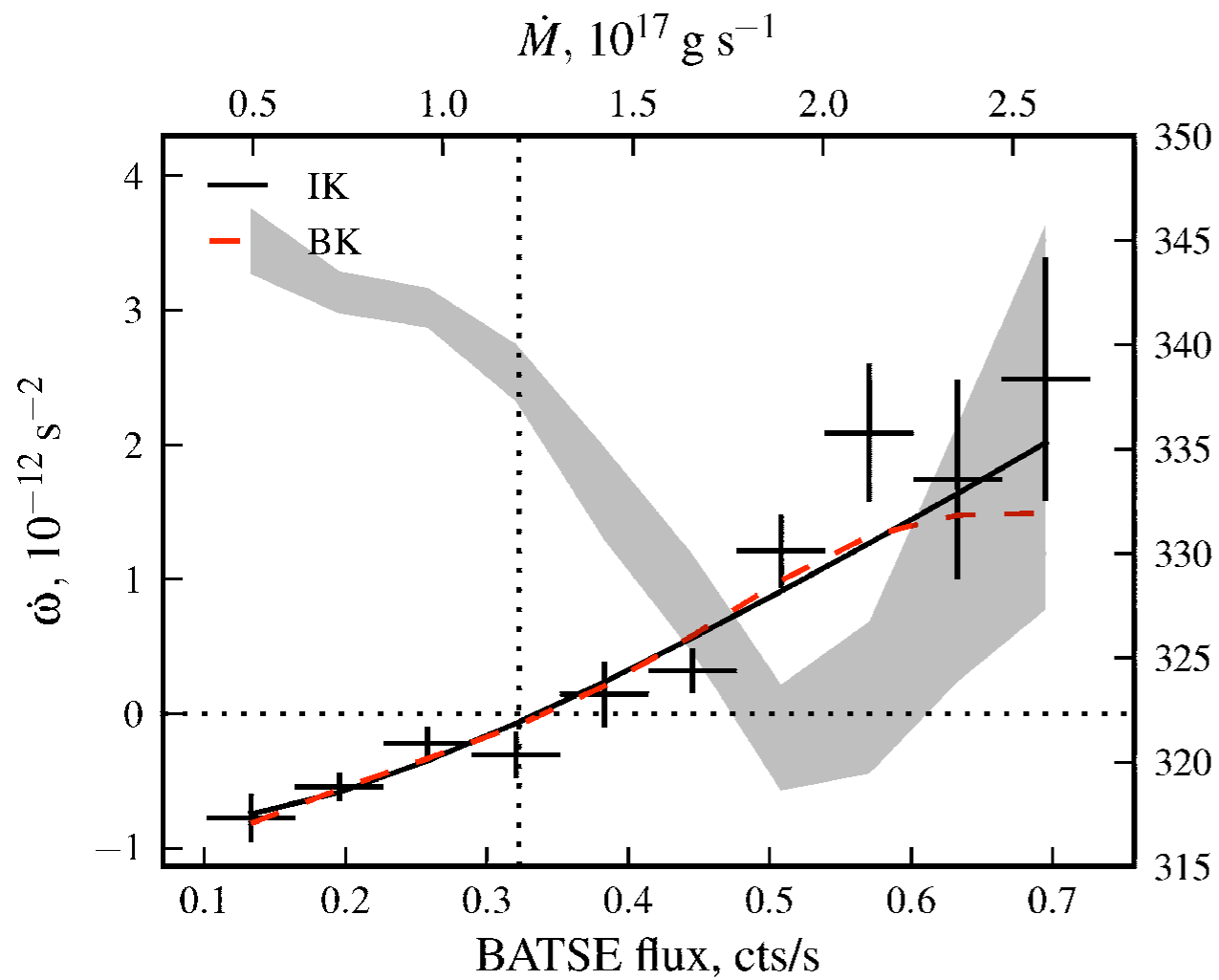
$$K_+ = \dot{M} k_w R_A^2 \Omega_{\text{orb}}$$

Davies et al, 1979

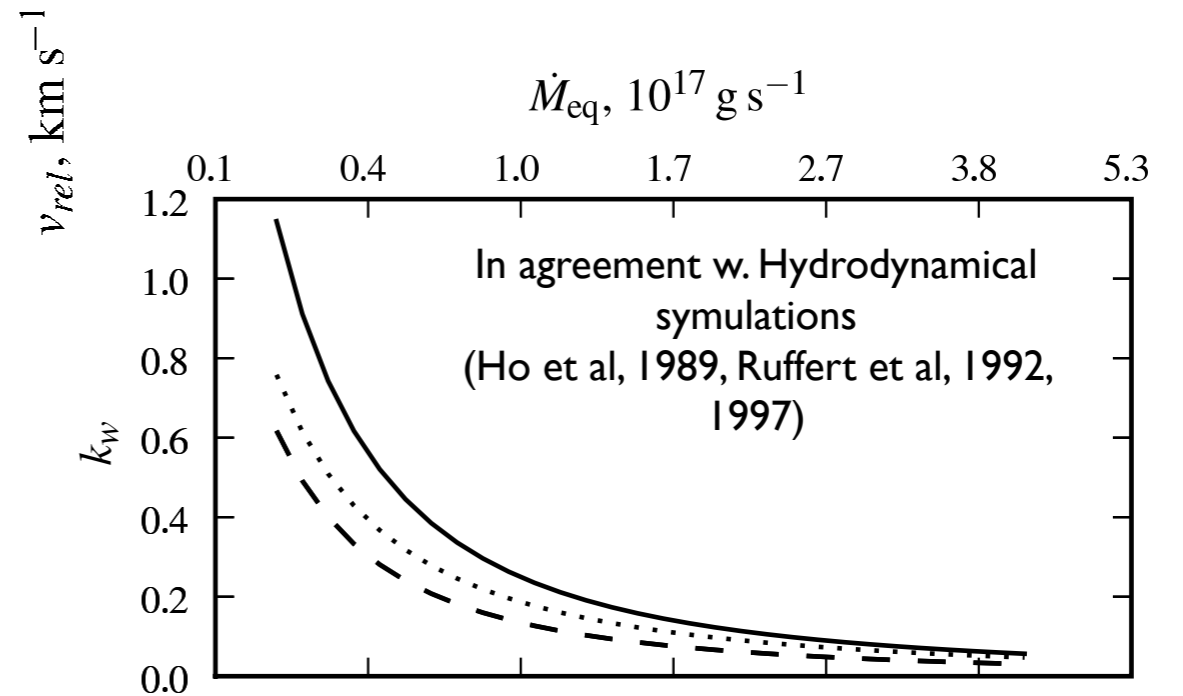
$$K_- = -\dot{M} k \frac{\xi}{2\pi} R_H^2 \omega$$

Illarionov-Kompaneec, 1990

$$R_H = \left(\frac{B^2 R^6}{2\dot{M}\sqrt{2GM}} \right)^{2/7}, R_A = \frac{2GM}{\omega^2}$$



CGRO BATSE-DISCLA data (Bildsten et al, Koh et al 1997)



$$I \frac{d\omega}{dt} = K_+(\dot{M}) + K_-(\omega, B, \dot{M})$$

$$K_- = -\dot{M} \frac{\omega^2 R_H^{7/2}}{4\sqrt{2GM}}$$

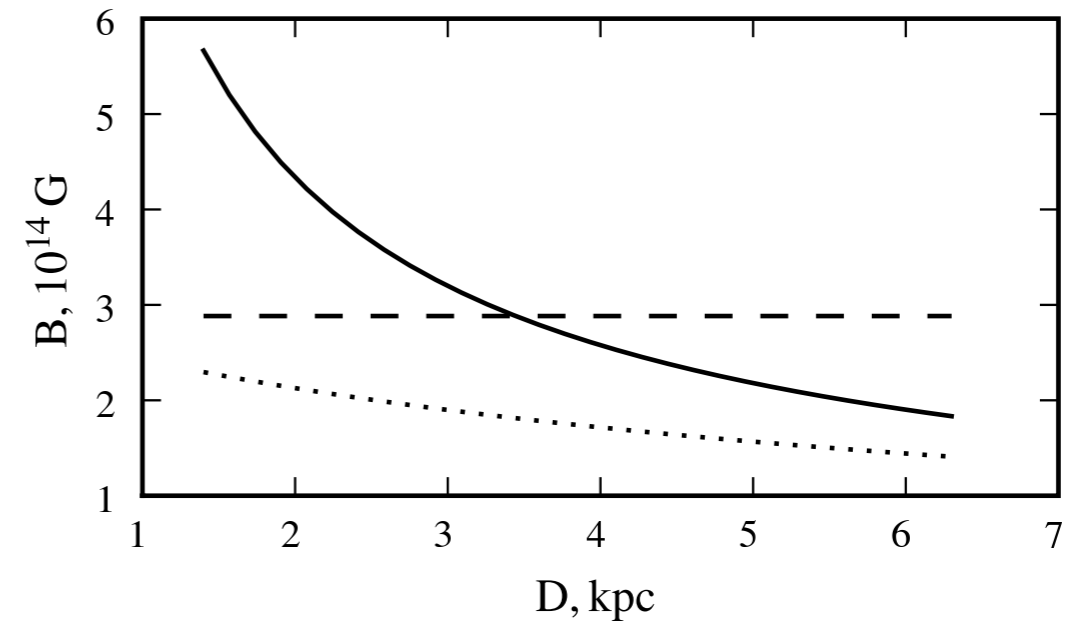
$$K_+ = \dot{M} k_w R_A^2 \Omega_{\text{orb}}$$

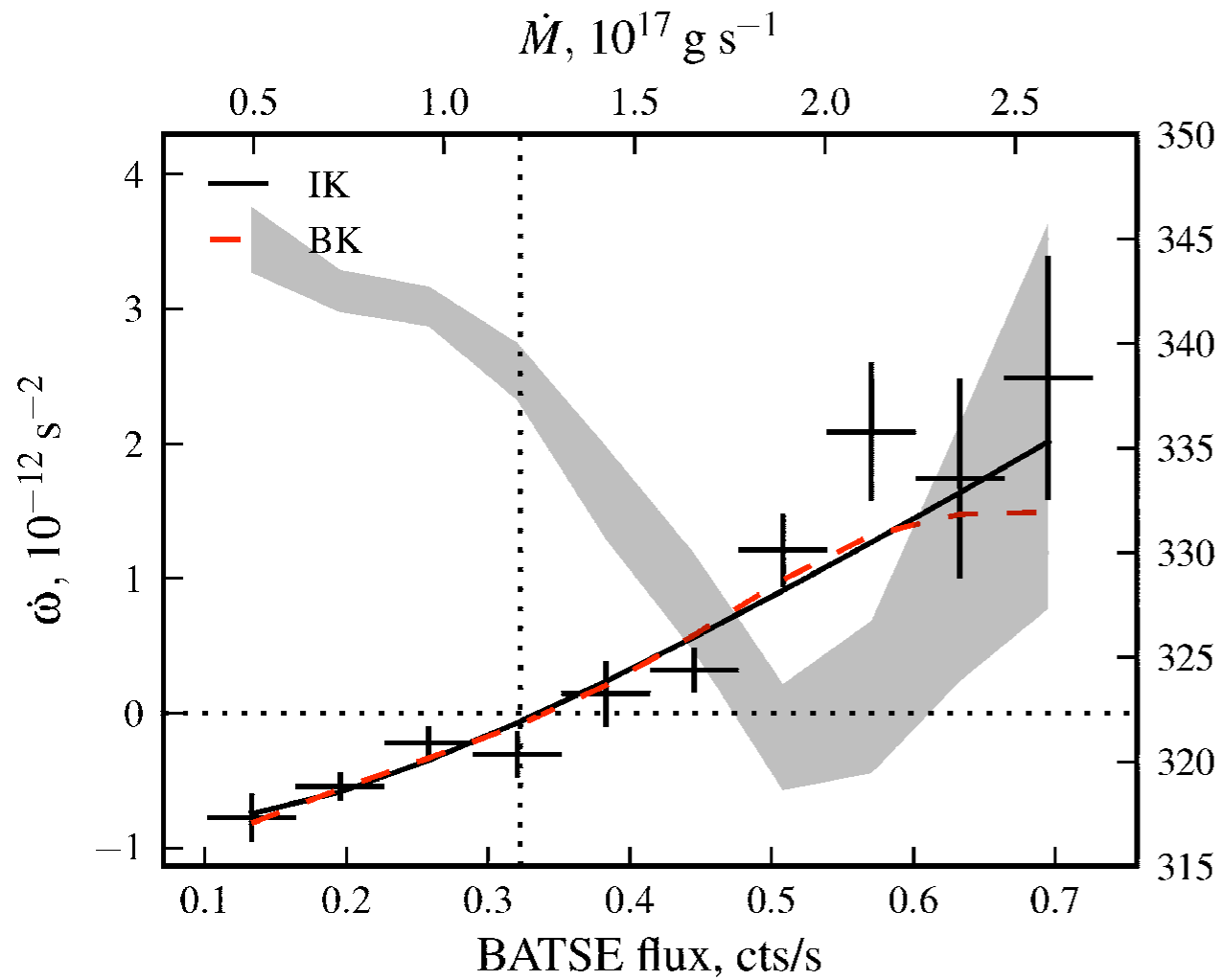
Davies et al, 1979

$$K_- = -\dot{M} k \frac{\xi}{2\pi} R_H^2 \omega$$

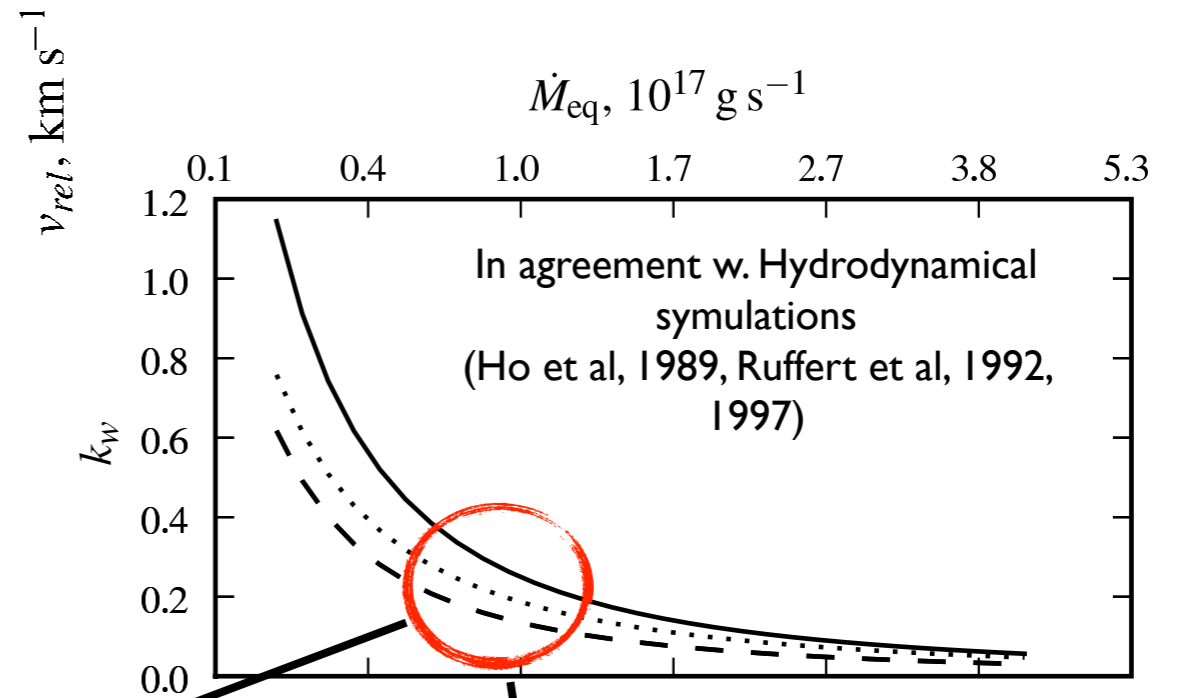
Illarionov-Kompaneec, 1990

$$R_H = \left(\frac{B^2 R^6}{2\dot{M}\sqrt{2GM}} \right)^{2/7}, R_A = \frac{2GM}{\omega^2}$$





CGRO BATSE-DISCLA data (Bildsten et al, Koh et al 1997)



$$I \frac{d\omega}{dt} = K_+(\dot{M}) + K_-(\omega, B, \dot{M})$$

$$K_+ = Mk_w R_A^2 \Omega_{orb}$$

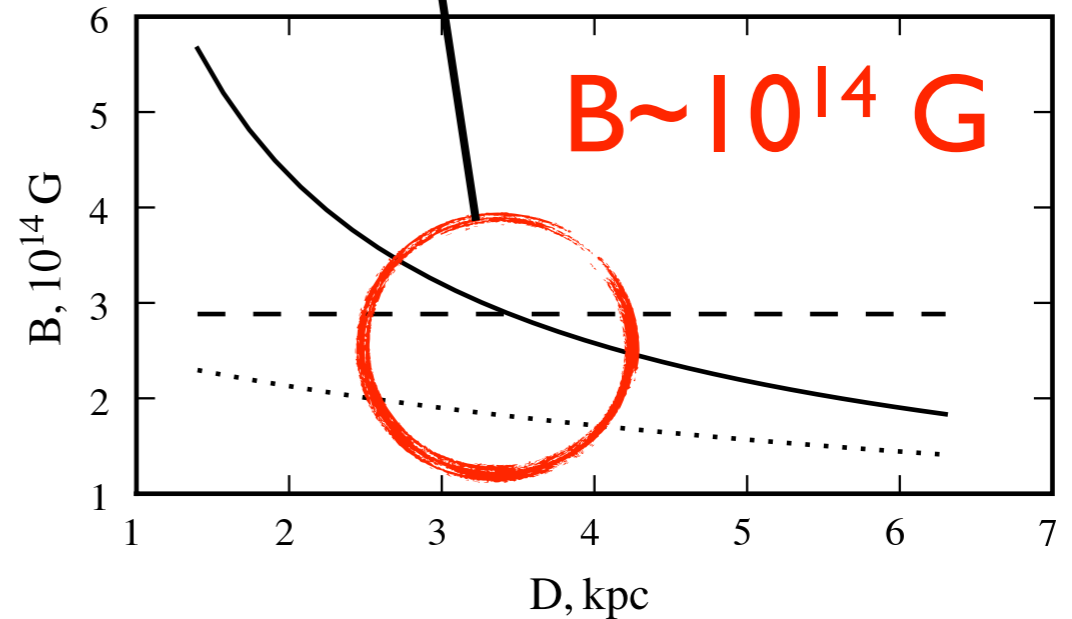
$$K_- = -\dot{M} \frac{\omega^2 R_H^{7/2}}{4\sqrt{2GM}}$$

Davies et al, 1979

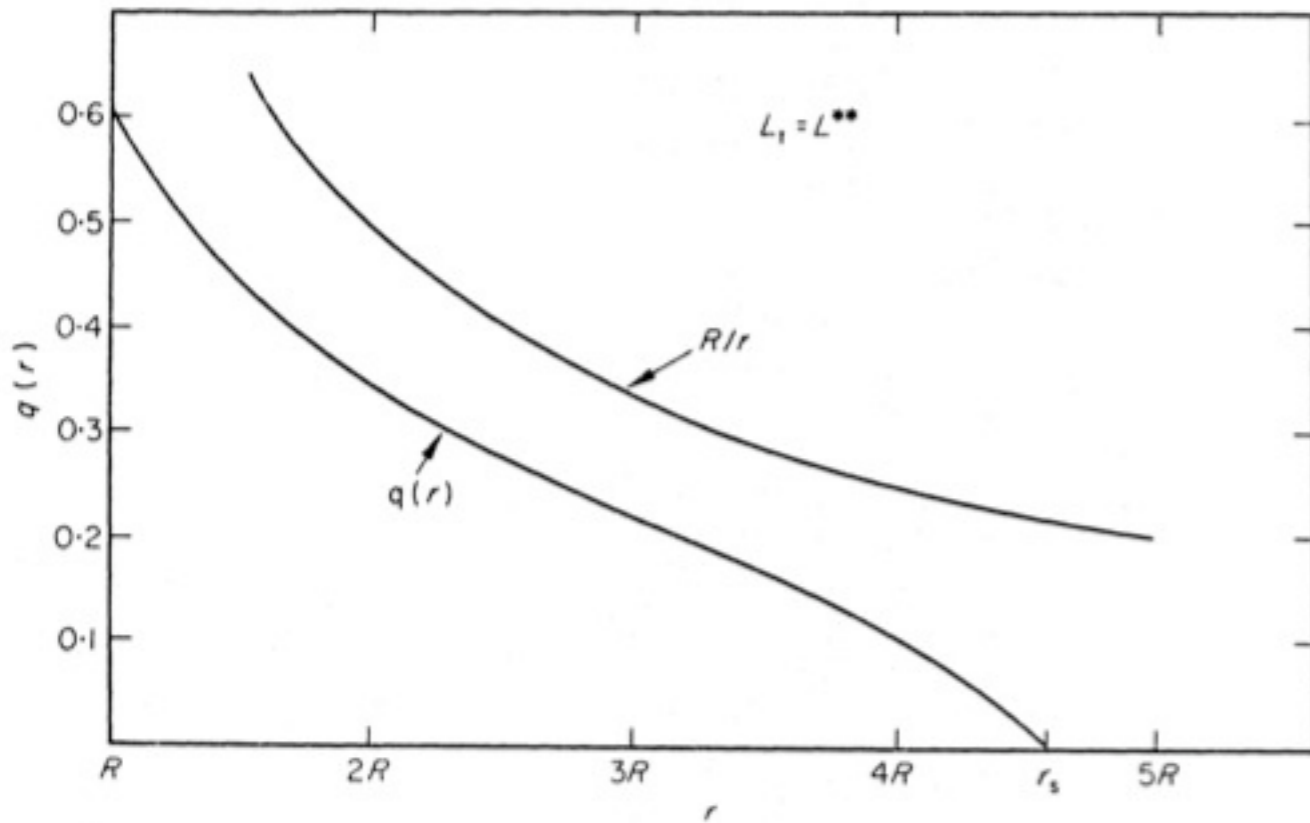
$$K_- = -\dot{M} k \frac{\xi}{2\pi} R_H^2 \omega$$

Illarionov-Kompaneec, 1990

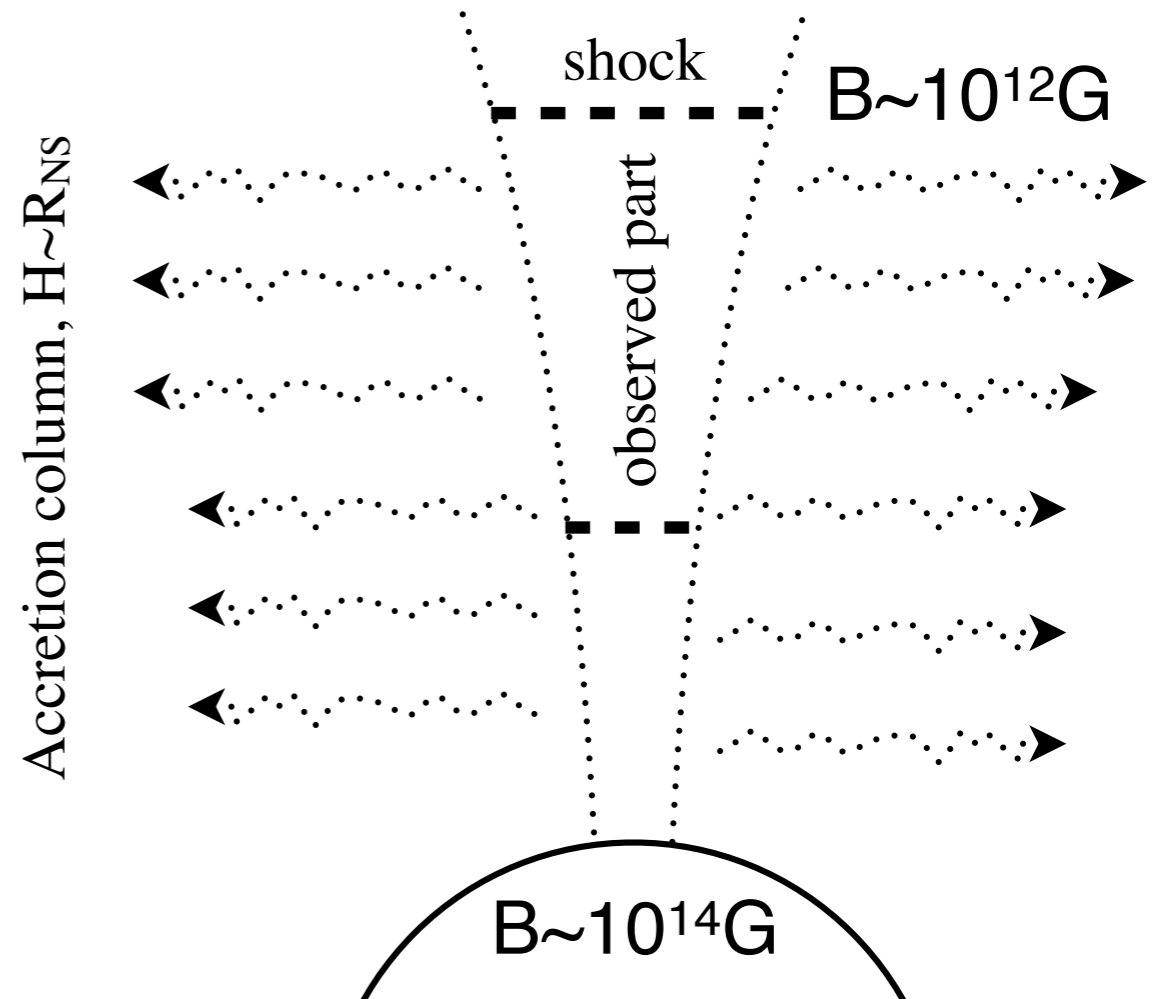
$$R_H = \left(\frac{B^2 R^6}{2\dot{M}\sqrt{2GM}} \right)^{2/7}, R_A = \frac{2GM}{\omega^2}$$



What's about the CRSF?



Basko, Sunyaev, 1976

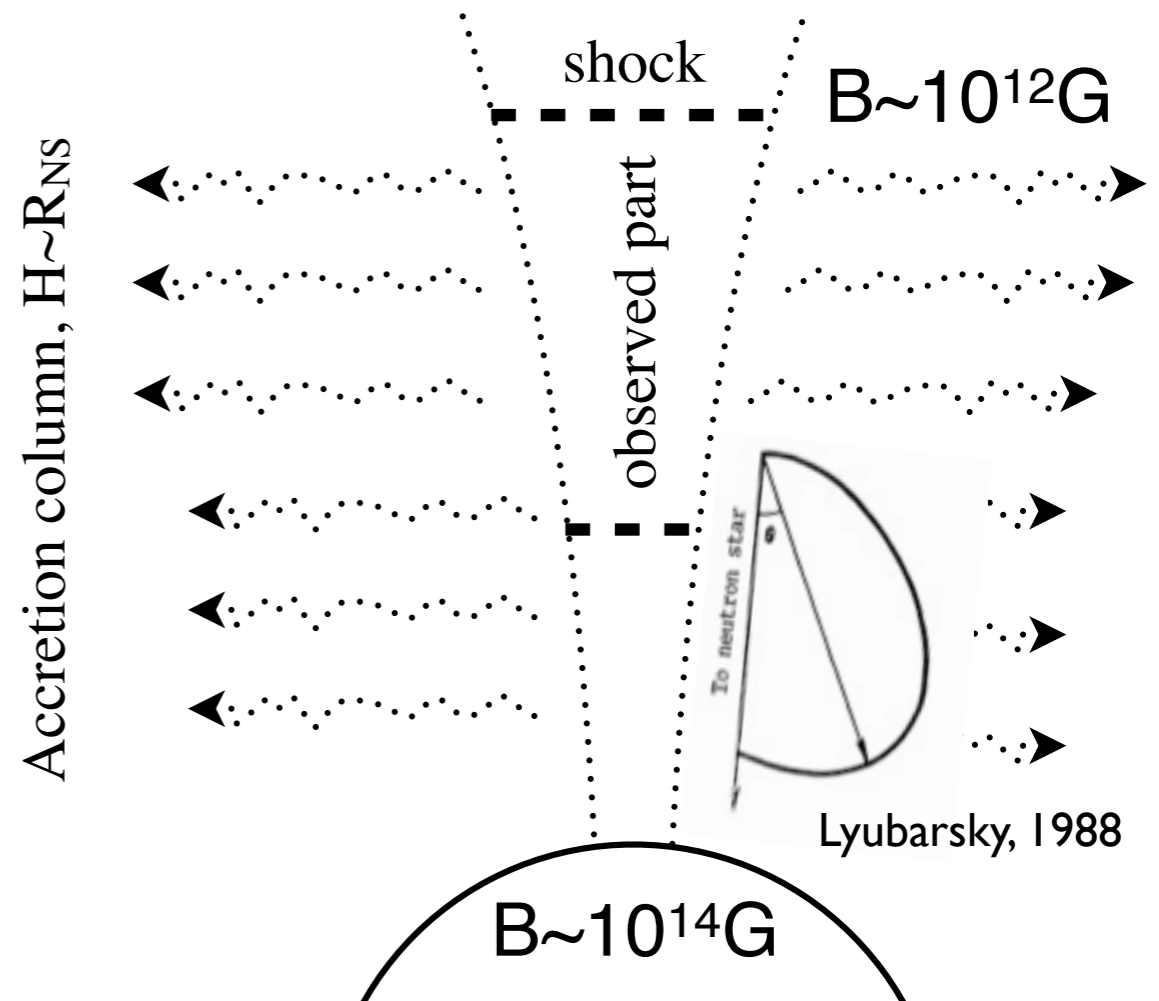
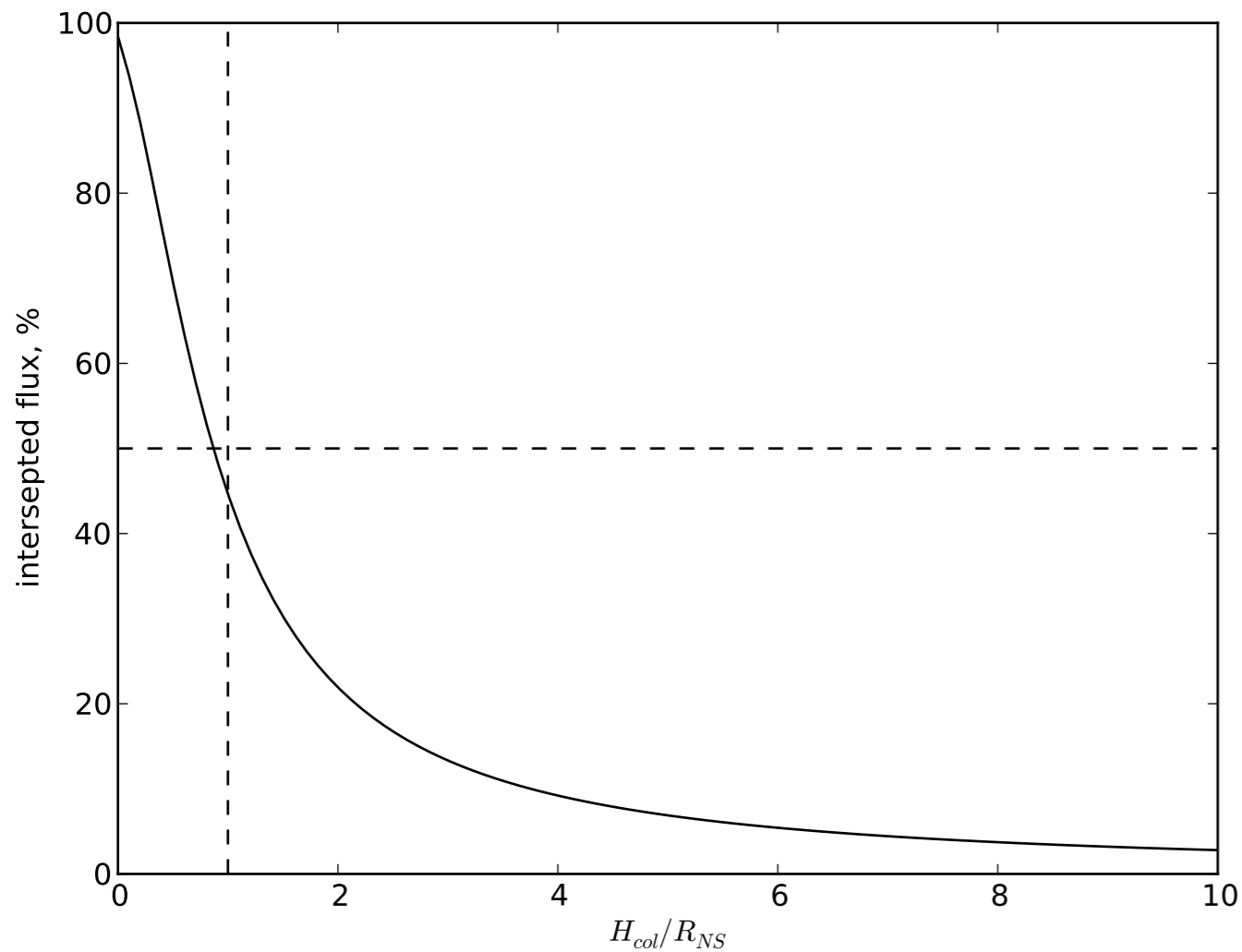


$$R \sin \theta \approx R(R/R_H)^{1/2} \approx 100 - 200 \text{ m}$$

$$L \approx 2 \sigma_{\text{SB}} T_{\text{Edd}}^4 2\pi R \sin \theta H \Rightarrow H \sim 10 - 30 \text{ km}$$

$$(R/R_*)^3 \sim (0.25 - 0.5)^3 \sim B/B_* \Rightarrow B \approx 3 - 25 \times 10^{12} \text{ G}$$

What's about the CRSF?

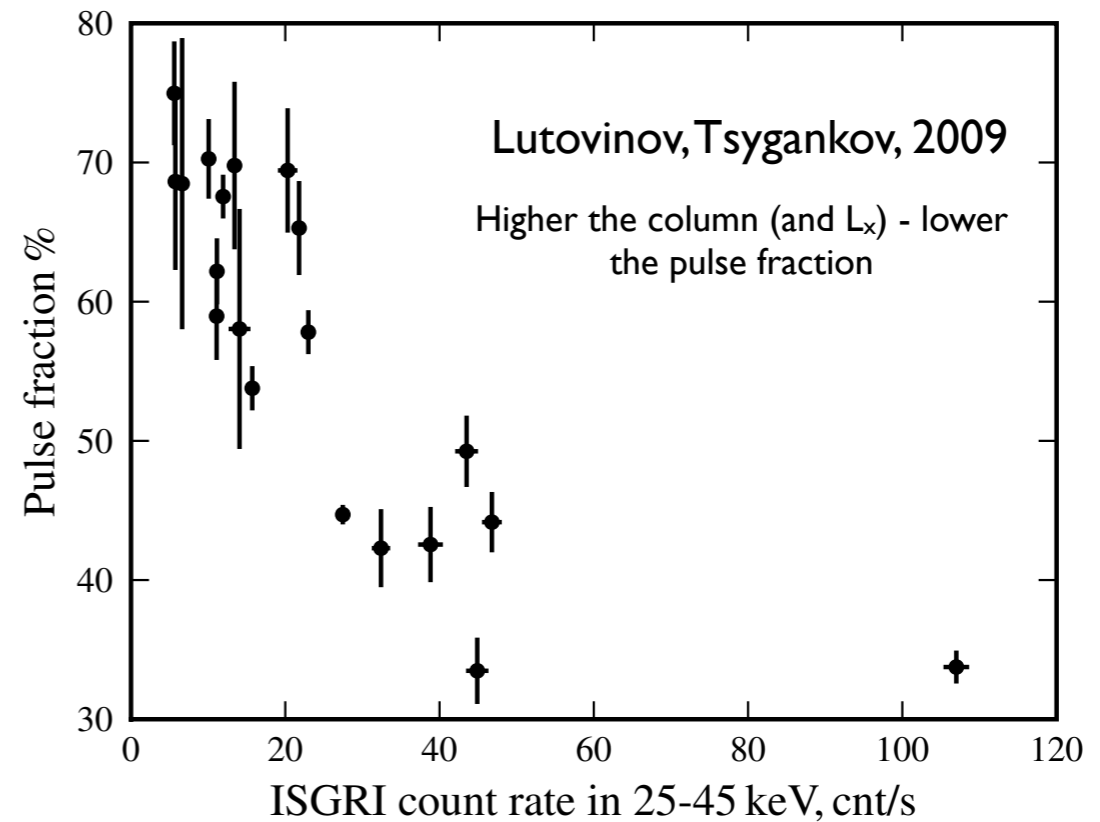
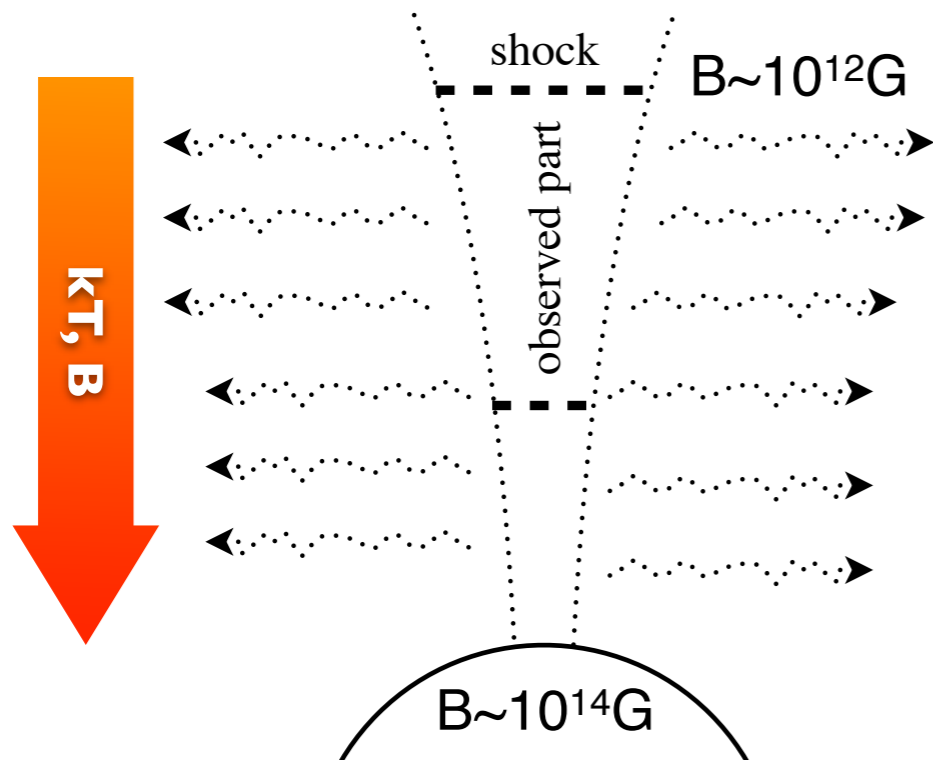


$$R \sin \theta \approx R(R/R_H)^{1/2} \approx 100 - 200 \text{ m}$$

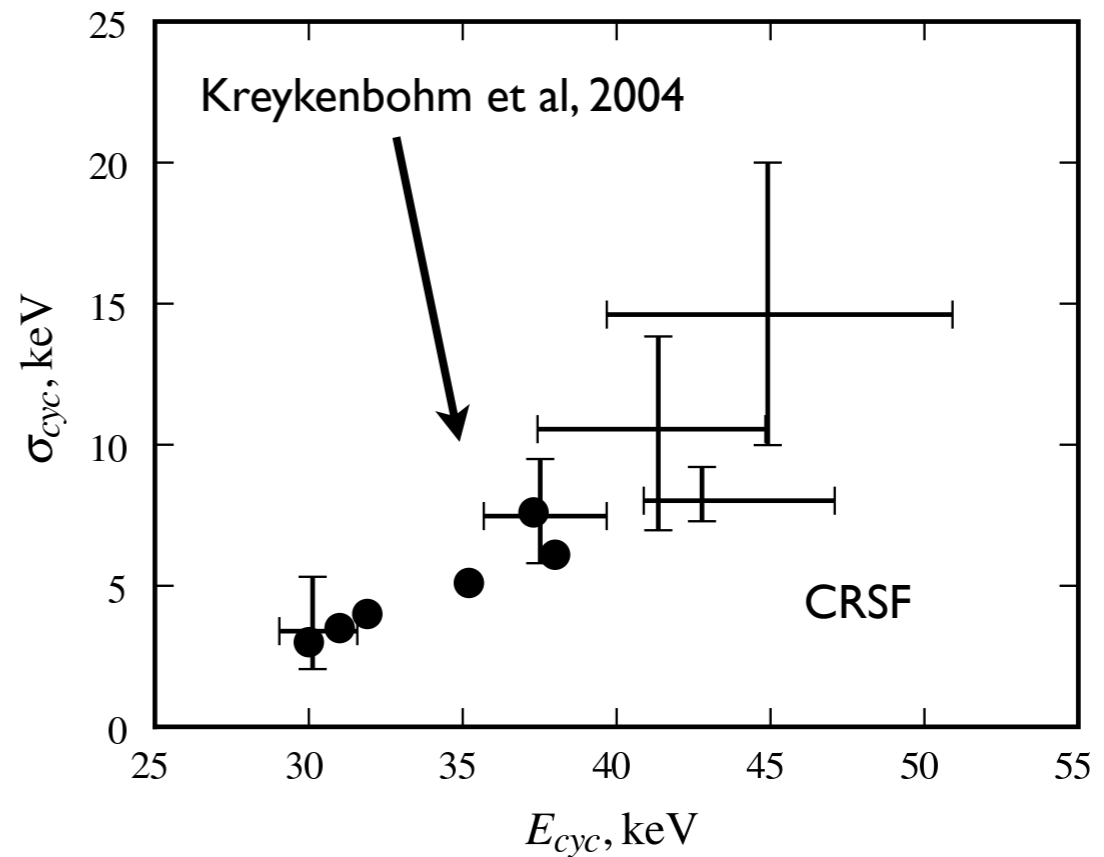
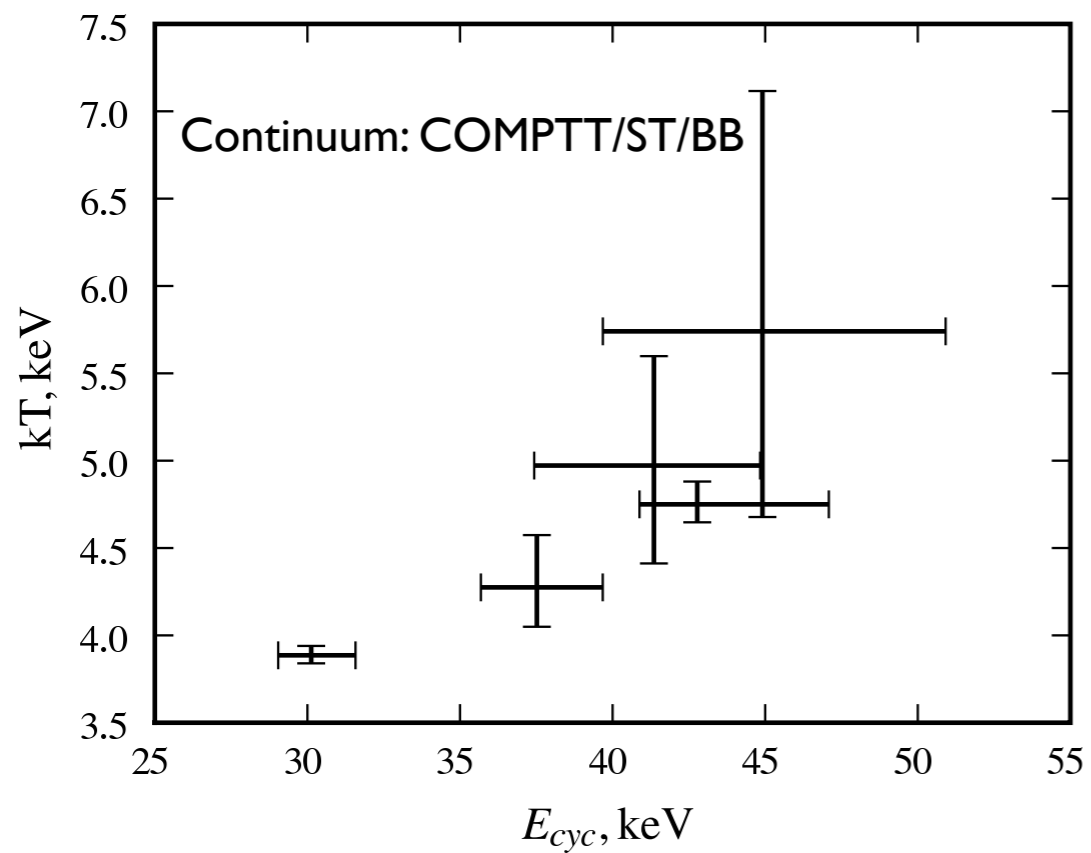
$$L \approx 2 \sigma_{\text{SB}} T_{\text{Edd}}^4 2\pi R \sin \theta H \Rightarrow H \sim 10 - 30 \text{ km}$$

$$(R/R_*)^3 \sim (0.25 - 0.5)^3 \sim B/B_* \Rightarrow B \approx 3 - 25 \times 10^{12} \text{ G}$$

Is it possible at all? Don't know...



Phase dependence of the spectrum?



Safe to say (conclusions)

- It is more difficult (if possible) to explain the observed timing properties of GX 301-2 if the field is weaker than $B \sim 10^{14} \text{G}$.
- It is more difficult (if possible) to explain the observed L_x and pulse profile energy dependence of GX 301-2 (and many other pulsars) if there is no tall accretion column.
- If the column exists, we can not ignore contribution of the upper parts of the accretion column to the observed CRSF (geometry + beaming + we can't see contribution of lower parts to the CRSF at all due to instrumentation/spectral limitations).
- We do not really know, how the observed CRSF is formed in the accreting pulsars with an accretion columns (and halo), what implications does the geometry, advection- and gravitation-beaming have for the line formation process.
- The implications may be dominant, so this complex problem must be solved as a whole: “low-level” physics + geometry + relativistic effects (and this applies not only to GX 301-2, but for majority of pulsars with CRSF).