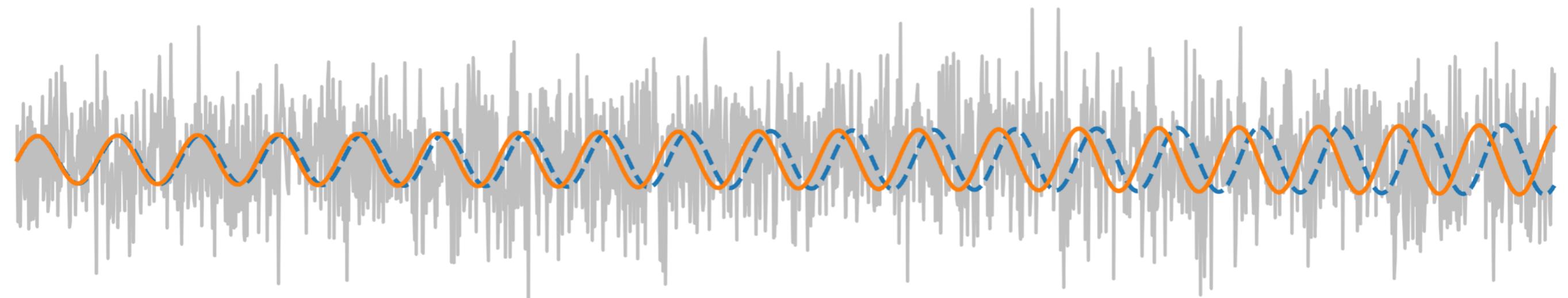


# Detecting Dark Matter in the LISA era: Gravitational Waves from Intermediate Mass Ratio Inspirals



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GRAPPA, University of Amsterdam

SLAP2019, 27th September 2019

*Preliminary work in collaboration with:*



David Nichols  
[University of Virginia,  
formerly GRAPPA]



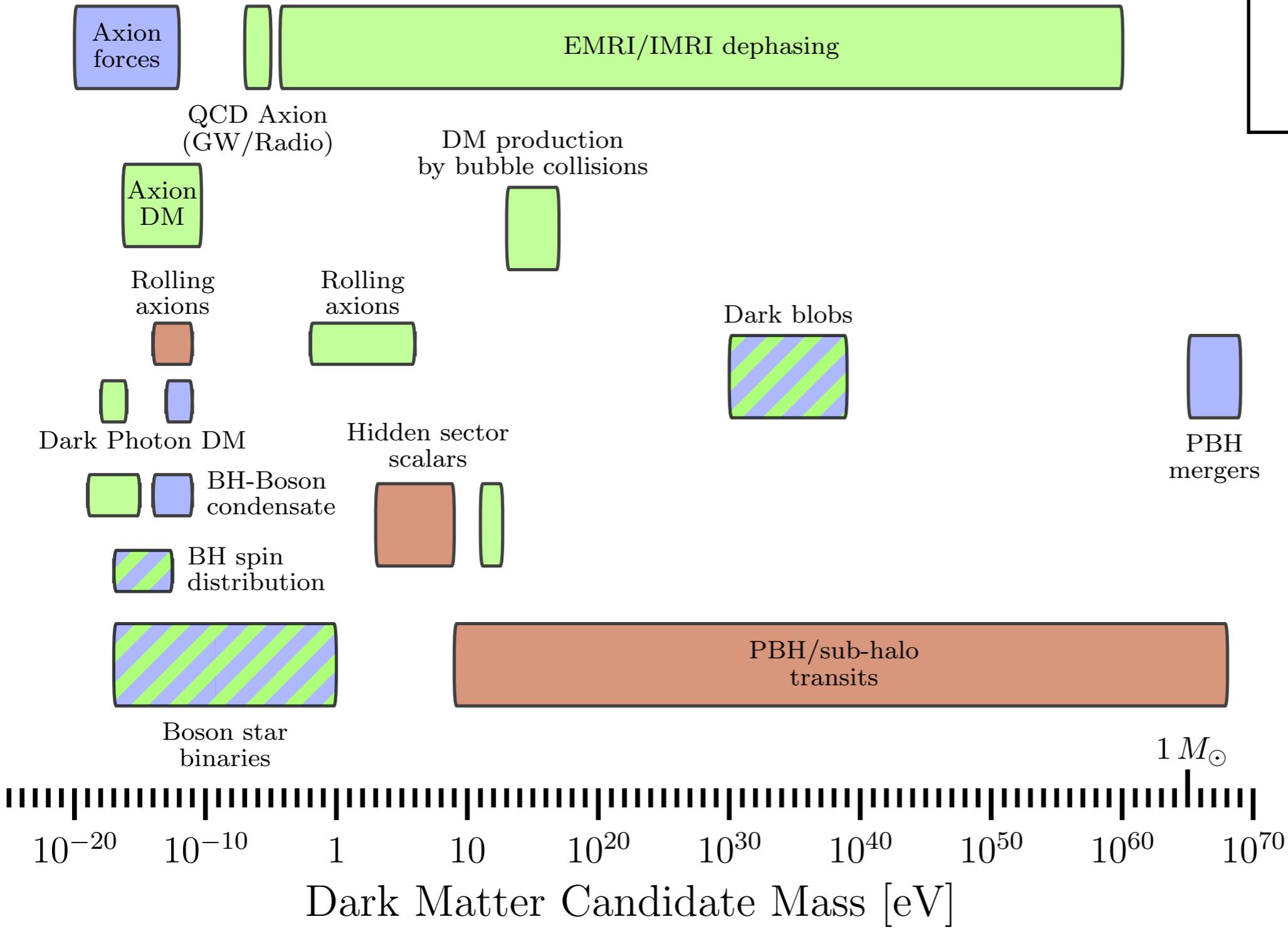
Gianfranco Bertone  
[GRAPPA]



Daniele Gaggero  
[IFT Madrid,  
formerly GRAPPA]

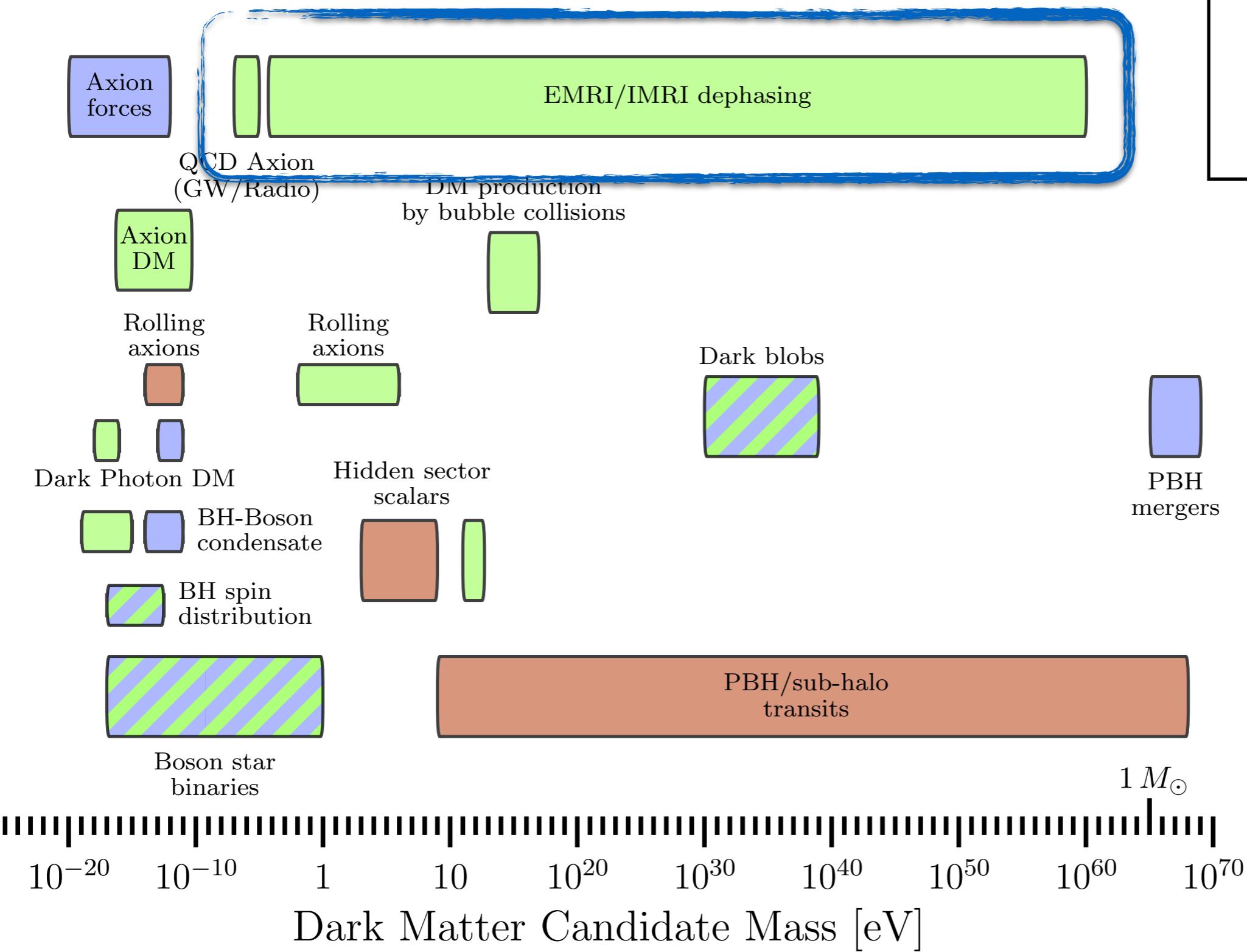
but working closely with everyone at GRAPPA.

# GW probes of DM



[1907.10610]

# GW probes of DM

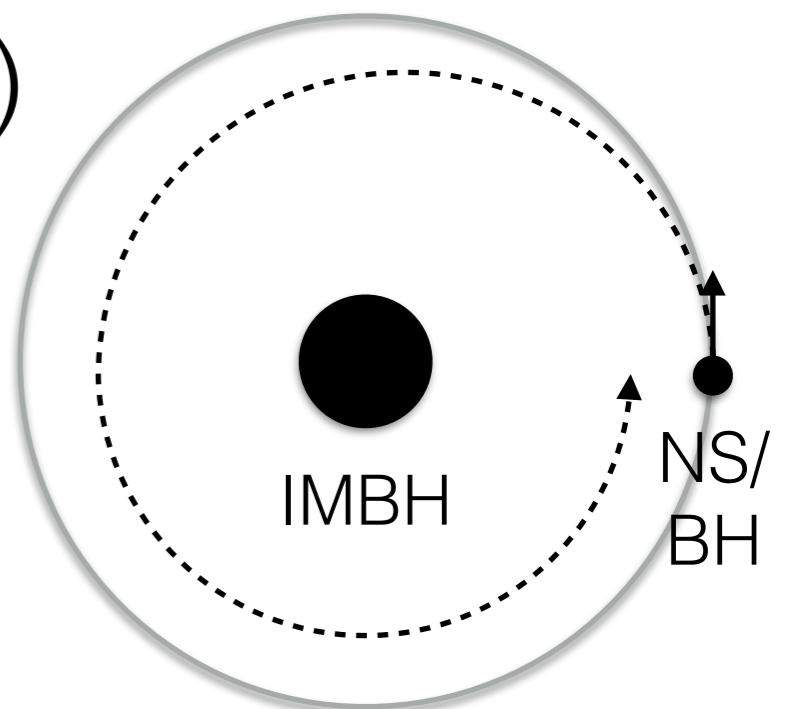


[1907.10610]

# Intermediate Mass Ratio Inspiral (IMRI)

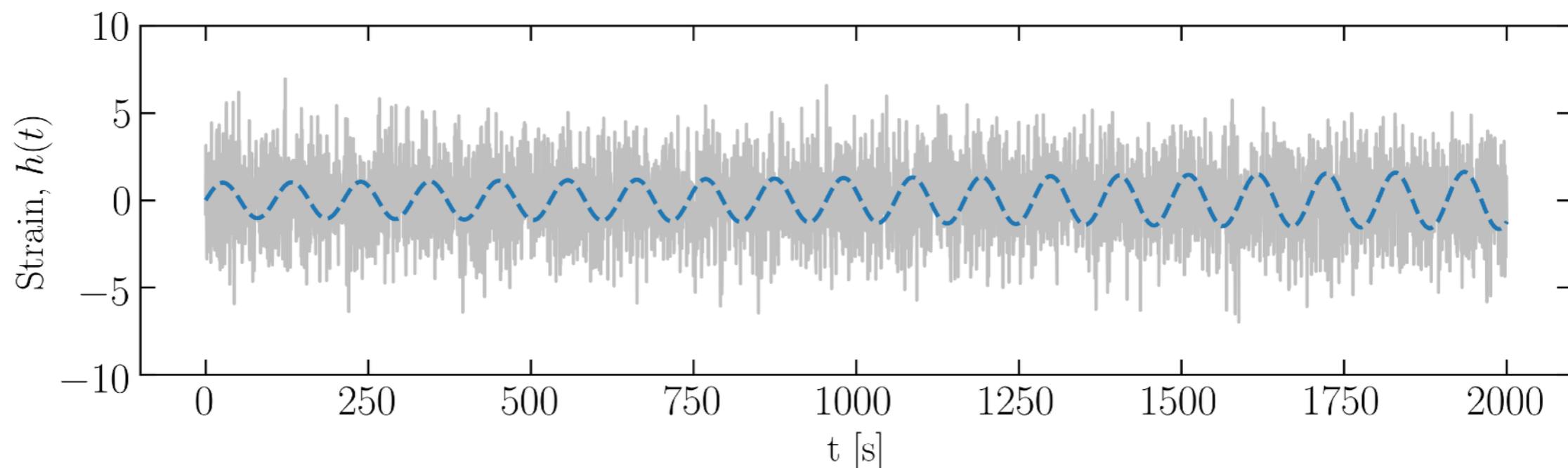
Stellar mass compact object (NS/BH) inspirals towards intermediate mass black hole (IMBH)

$$M_{\text{IMBH}} \sim 10^3 - 10^5 M_\odot$$



GW emission causes long, slow inspiral:

$$\dot{E}_{\text{GW}} \approx \frac{32G^4}{5c^5} \frac{M_{\text{IMBH}}^3 M_{\text{NS}}^2}{r^5} \propto (f_{\text{GW}})^{10/3}$$



LISA should detect  $\sim 3 - 10$  IMRIs per year

[1711.00483]

# Dark Matter ‘Mini-spikes’

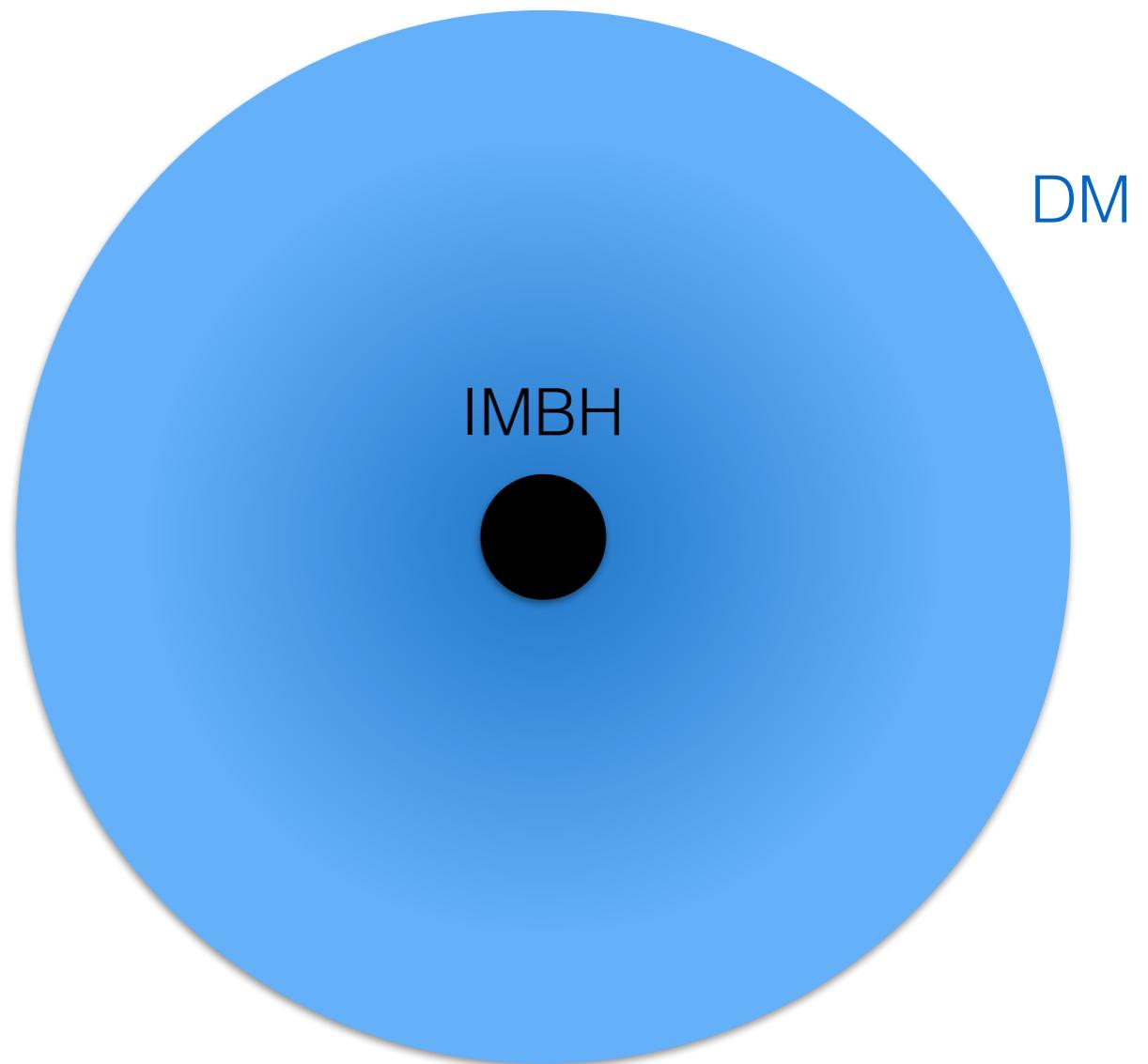
Depending on the formation mechanism of the IMBH,  
expect an over-density of DM:

$$\rho_{\text{DM}}(r) = \rho_{\text{sp}} \left( \frac{r_{\text{sp}}}{r} \right)^{\gamma_{\text{sp}}}$$

For BH forming in an NFW halo,  
from adiabatic growth expect:

$$\gamma_{\text{sp}} = 7/3$$

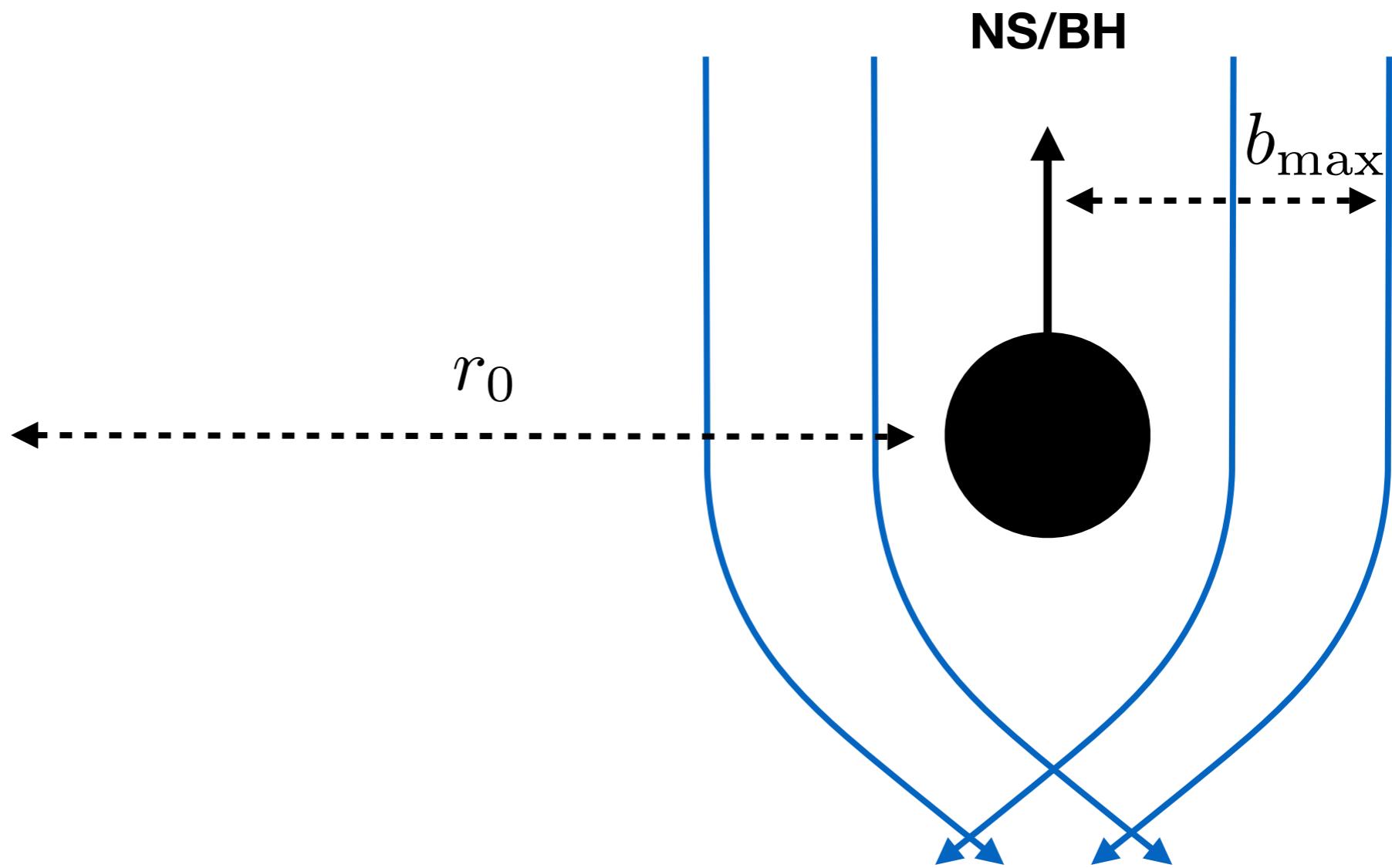
Density can reach  $\rho \sim 10^{24} M_{\odot} \text{ pc}^{-3}$   
( $\sim 10^{24}$  times larger than local density)



[astro-ph/9906391, astro-ph/0501555, astro-ph/0501625, astro-ph/0509565, 0902.3665, 1305.2619]

# Dynamical Friction

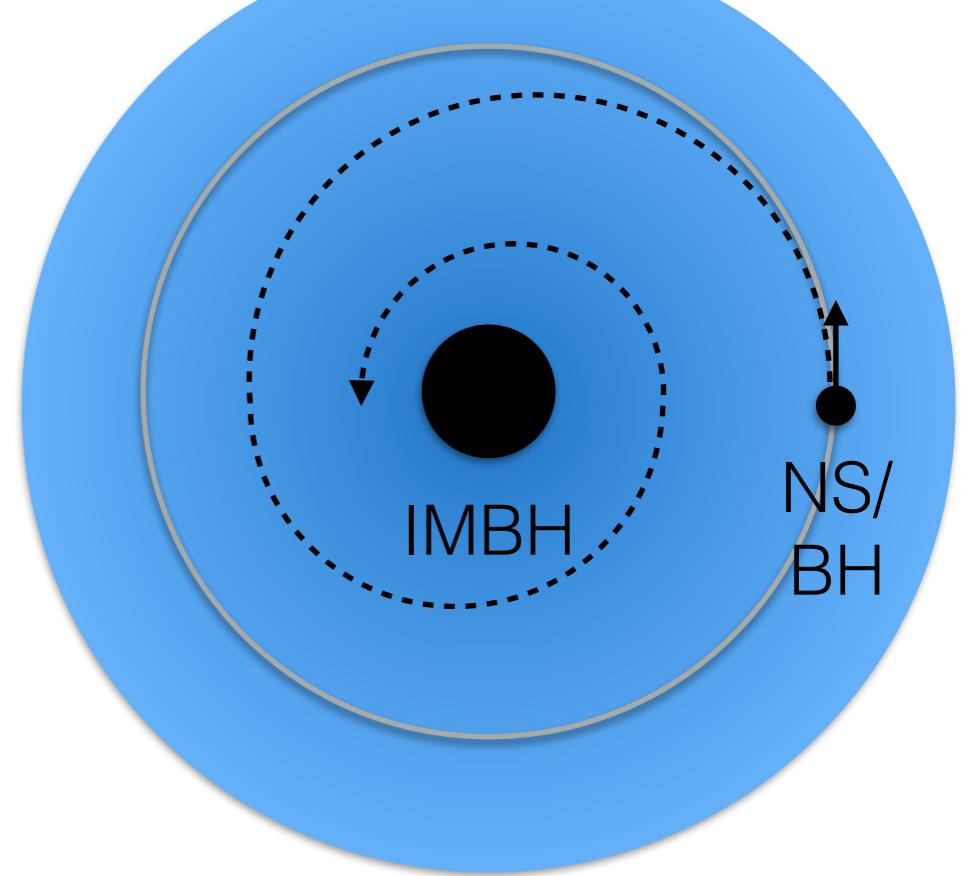
[Chandrasekhar, 1943]



$$\dot{E}_{\text{DF}} \sim \frac{4\pi G_N^2 M_{\text{NS}}^2 \rho_{\text{DM}}(r)}{v_{\text{NS}}} \ln \Lambda \propto (f_{\text{GW}})^{\frac{2}{3}\gamma - 3}$$

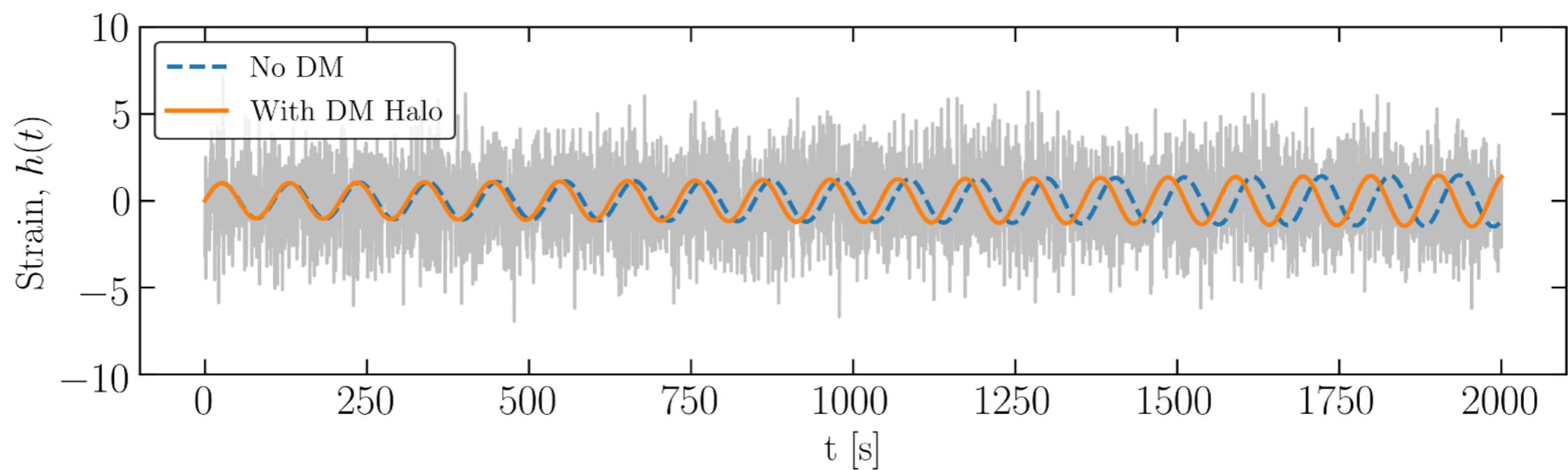
# IMRI + Dark Matter

DM makes the compact object spiral in faster,  
primarily due to *dynamical friction*



This can be seen in the rate at which the GW signal accumulates phase

→ ‘De-phasing’



# 'De-phasing' signal

Benchmark:

$$M_{\text{IMBH}} = 10^3 M_{\odot}$$

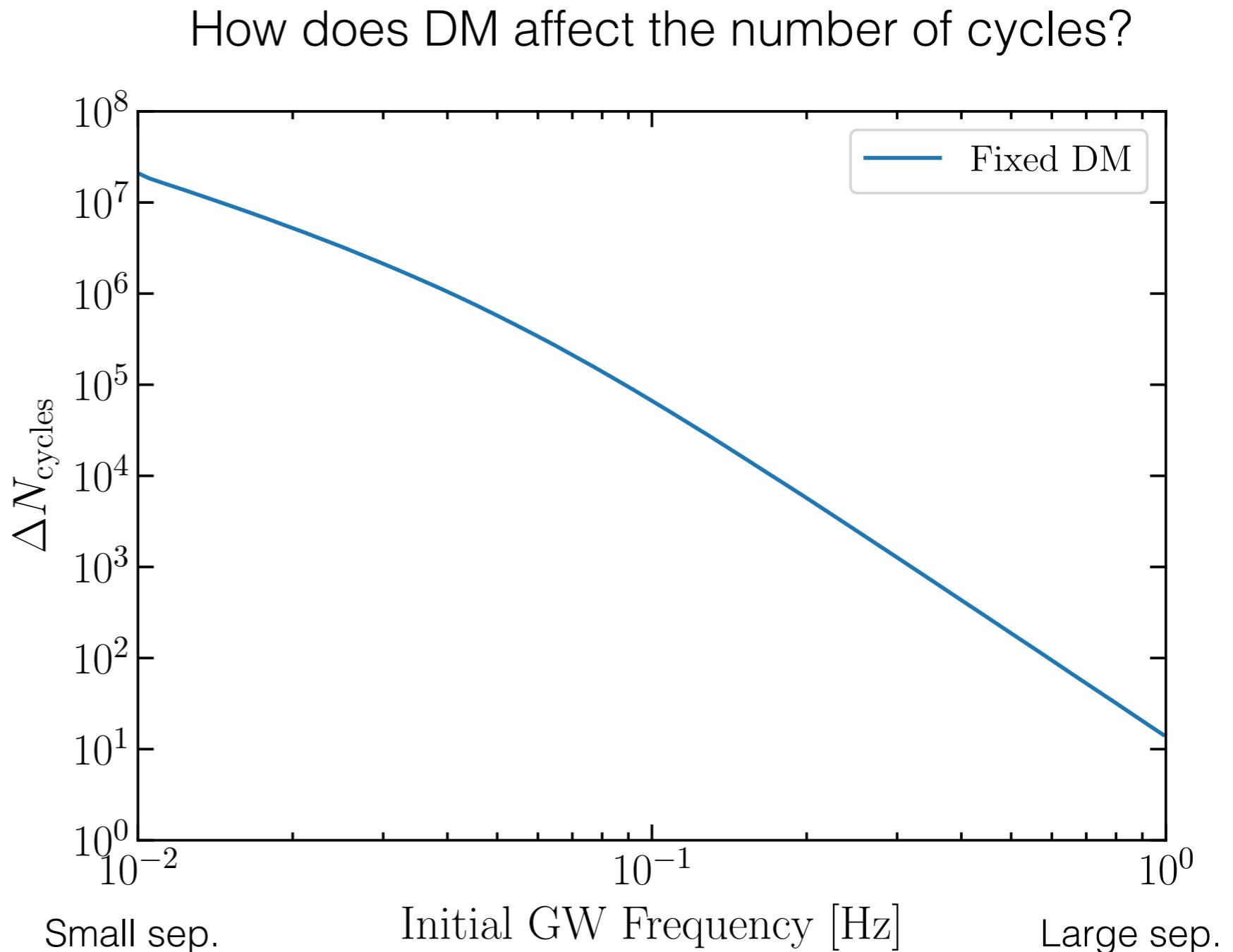
$$M_{\text{NS}} = 1 M_{\odot}$$

$$r_{\text{ini}} \sim 10^{-8} \text{ pc}$$



$$t_{\text{merge}} \sim 5 \text{ yr}$$

$$N_{\text{cycles}}^{\text{vacuum}} \sim 2 \times 10^7$$



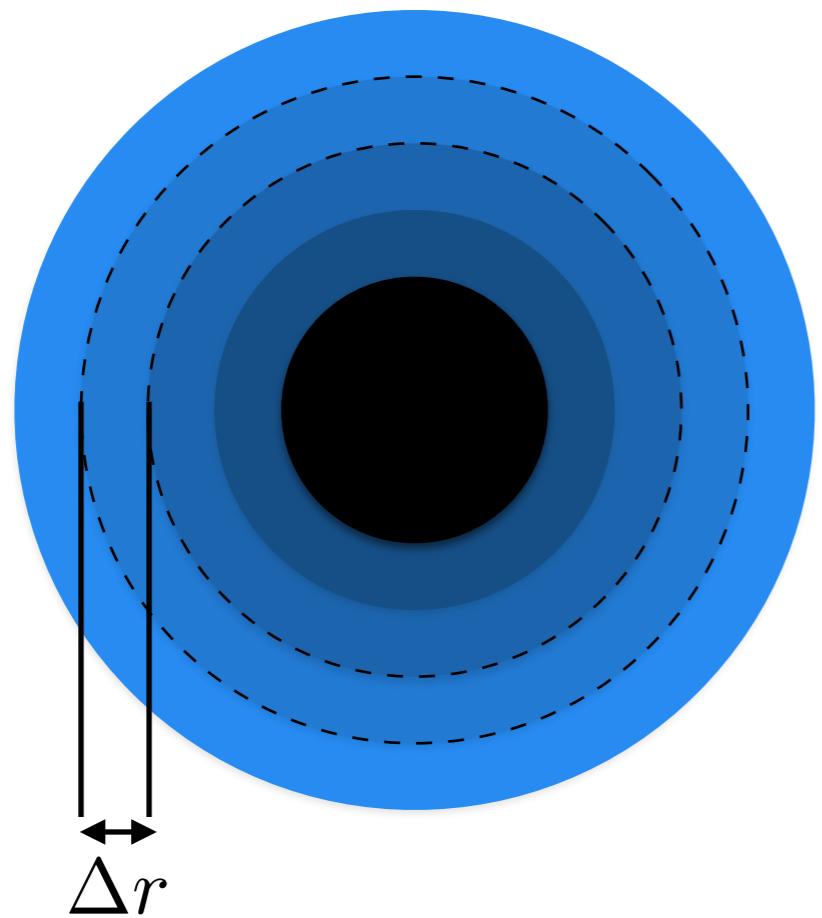
*Need to know the signal to better  
than  $\sim 1$  part in  $10^6$ !*

[Eda et al. 1301.5971, 1408.3534]

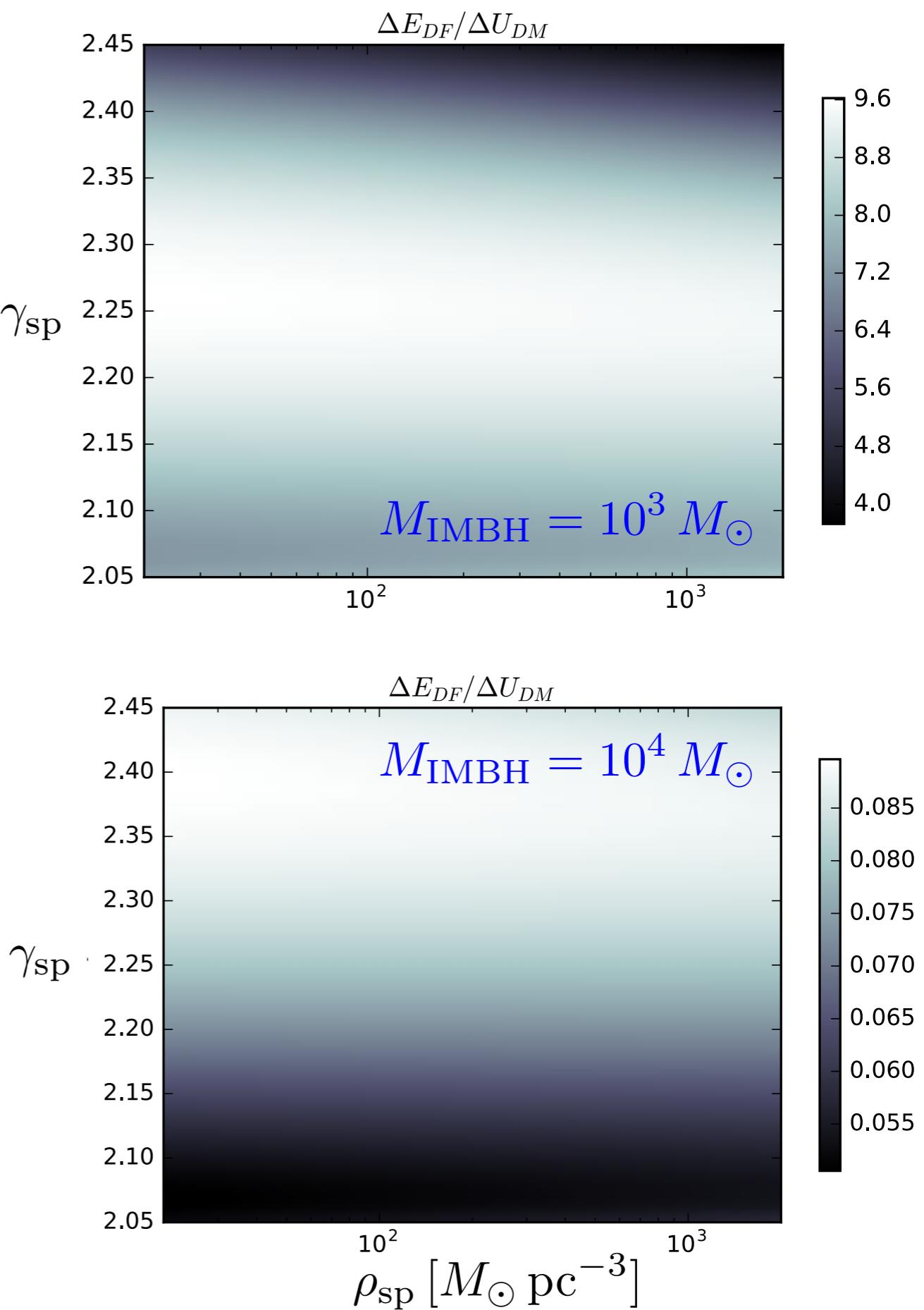
[See also 1302.2646, 1404.7140, 1404.7149]

# Energy Budget

Q: How much energy is *available* for dynamical friction?

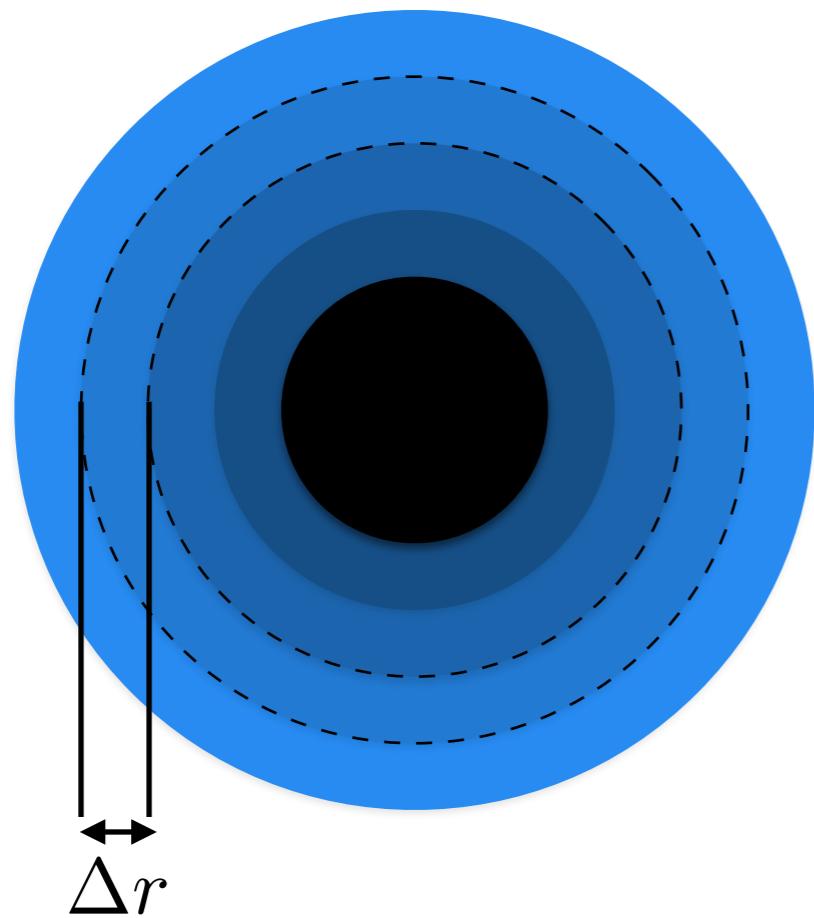


A: Binding energy of DM  $\Delta U_{\text{DM}}$  over radius  $\Delta r$



# Energy Budget

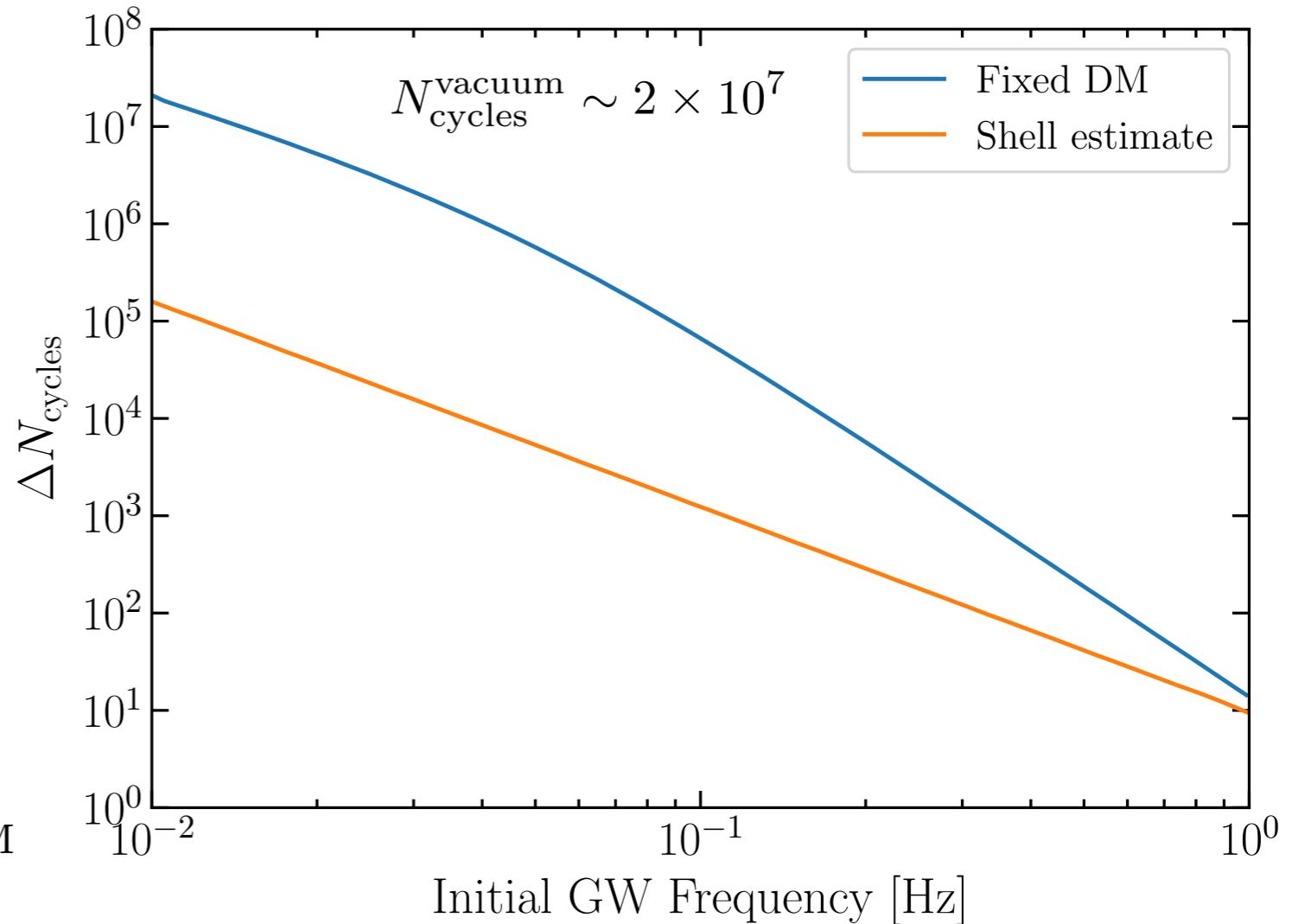
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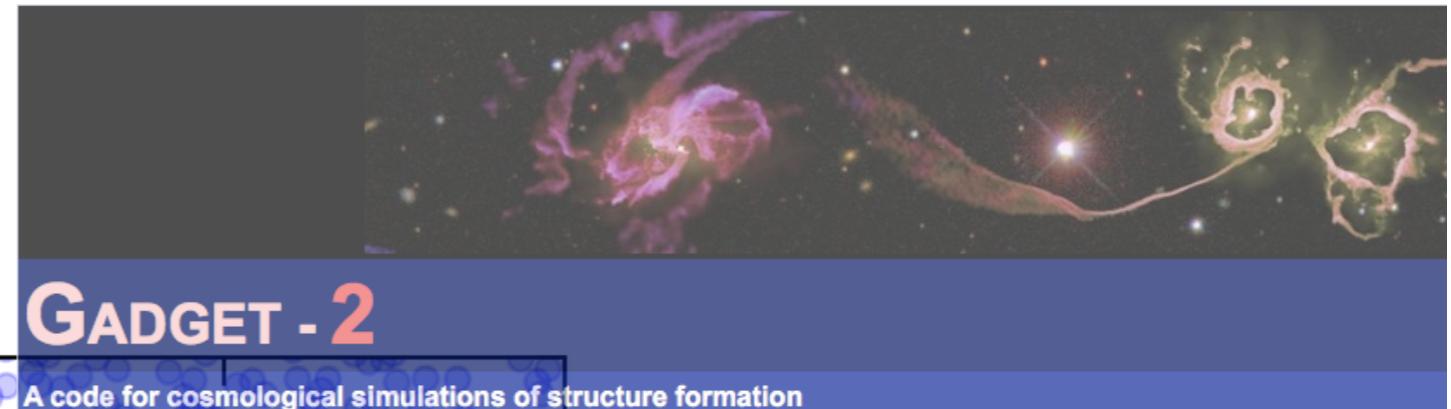
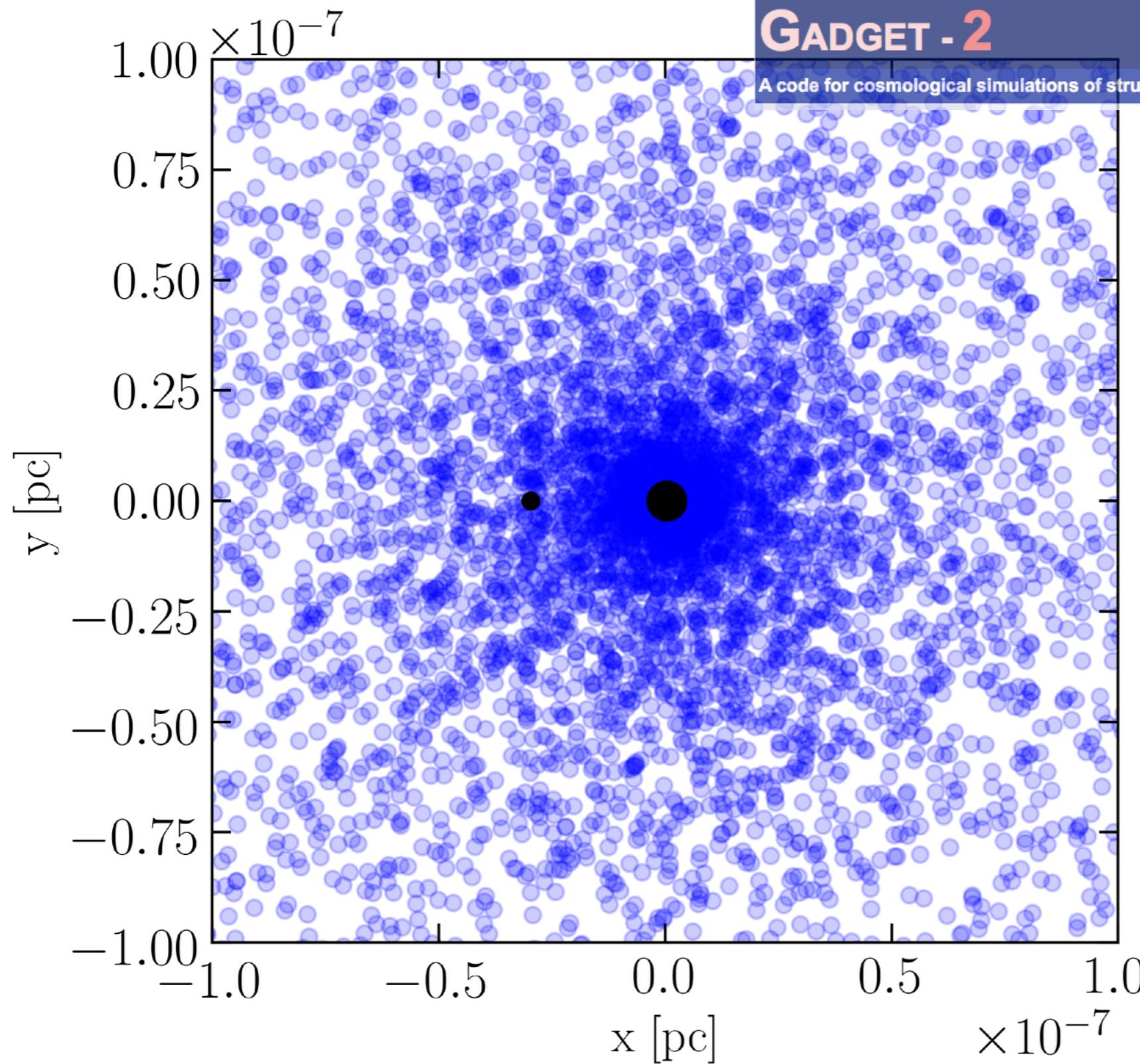
A: Binding energy of DM  $\Delta U_{\text{DM}}$  over radius  $\Delta r$

Evolve the system by fixing the dynamical friction force to extract *all* binding energy from a shell at a given radius:

$$\dot{E}_{\text{DF}} = \dot{r} \frac{dU_{\text{DM}}}{dr}$$



# N-body simulations



[astro-ph/0505010]

# High precision N-body sims

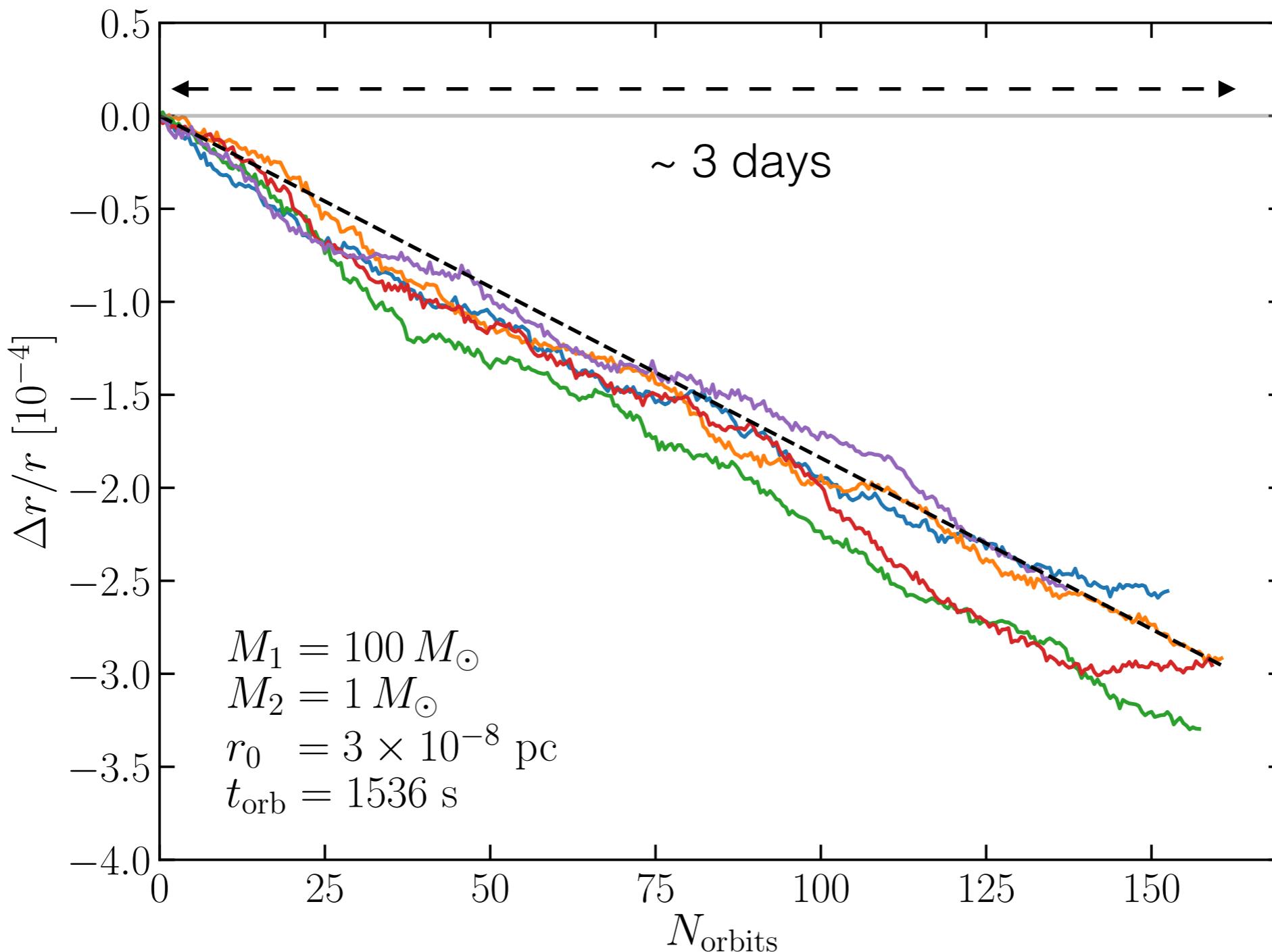
Gadget-II code:

```
58
59  /* Some physical constants in cgs units */
60
61 #define GRAVITY      6.672e-8    /*!< Gravitational constant (in cgs units) */
62 #define SOLAR_MASS   1.989e33
63 #define SOLAR_LUM    3.826e33
64 #define RAD_CONST    7.565e-15
65 #define AVOGADRO    6.0222e23
66 #define BOLTZMANN   1.3806e-16
67 #define GAS_CONST   8.31425e7
68 #define C           2.9979e10
69 #define PLANCK      6.6262e-27
70 #define CM_PER_MPC  3.085678e24
71 #define PROTONMASS  1.6726e-24
72 #define ELECTRONMASS 9.10953e-28
73 #define THOMPSON    6.65245e-25
74 #define ELECTRONCHARGE 4.8032e-10
75 #define HUBBLE     3.2407789e-18    /* in h/sec */
76
```

The Universe:

$$G_N = 6.674 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^3 \text{ g}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2}$$

# N-body simulations



Allows us to check assumptions and fix normalisation of DF force ( $\ln \Lambda$ ),  
but can't simulate the whole 5 year inspiral!

# Self-consistent evolution

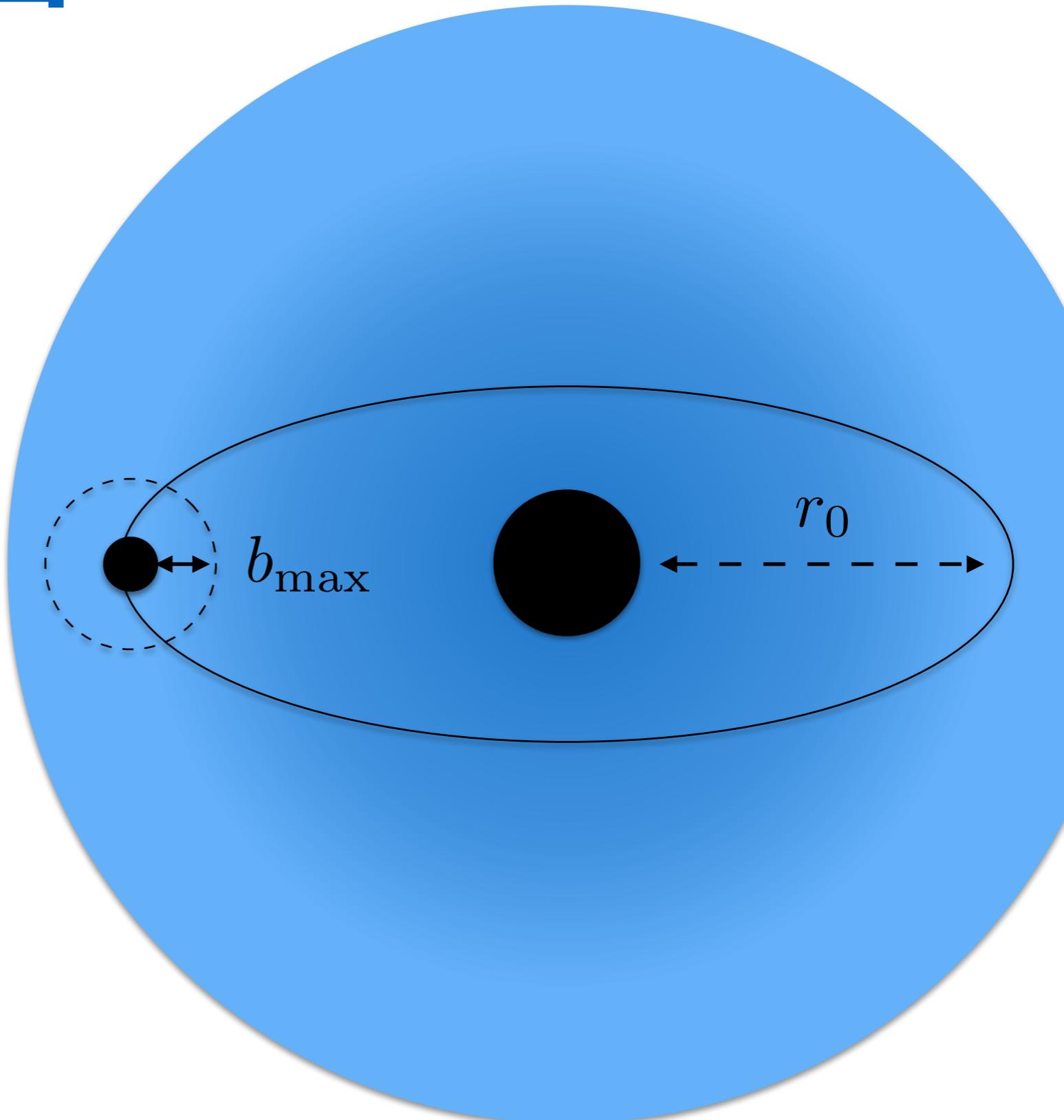
Phase space of DM described by distribution function  $f(\mathcal{E})$  where

$$\mathcal{E} = \Psi(r) - \frac{1}{2}v^2$$

Compact object scatters with all DM particles within ‘torus’ of influence over one orbit

Each particle receives a ‘kick’ of typical size  $\Delta\mathcal{E}$  through gravitational scattering:

$$\mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E} + \Delta\mathcal{E}$$



# Self-consistent evolution

---

Assuming orbit evolves slowly compared to the orbital period:

$$T_{\text{orb}} \frac{df(\mathcal{E})}{dt} = -f(\mathcal{E})P_{\text{scatter}}(r_0, \mathcal{E}) + \left( \frac{\mathcal{E}}{\mathcal{E} + \Delta\mathcal{E}} \right)^{5/2} f(\mathcal{E} - \Delta\mathcal{E})P_{\text{scatter}}(r_0, \mathcal{E} - \Delta\mathcal{E})$$

$P_{\text{scatter}}(r_0, \mathcal{E})$  - roughly the fraction of DM particles with energy  $\mathcal{E}$  which lie within a distance  $b_{\max}$  from the NS orbit

Density profile (and therefore dynamical friction force) can then be determined self-consistently from the distribution function

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 $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E} + \Delta\mathcal{E}$

$$+ \left( \frac{\mathcal{E}}{\mathcal{E} + \Delta\mathcal{E}} \right)^{5/2} f(\mathcal{E} - \Delta\mathcal{E}) P_{\text{scatter}}(r_0, \mathcal{E} - \Delta\mathcal{E})$$

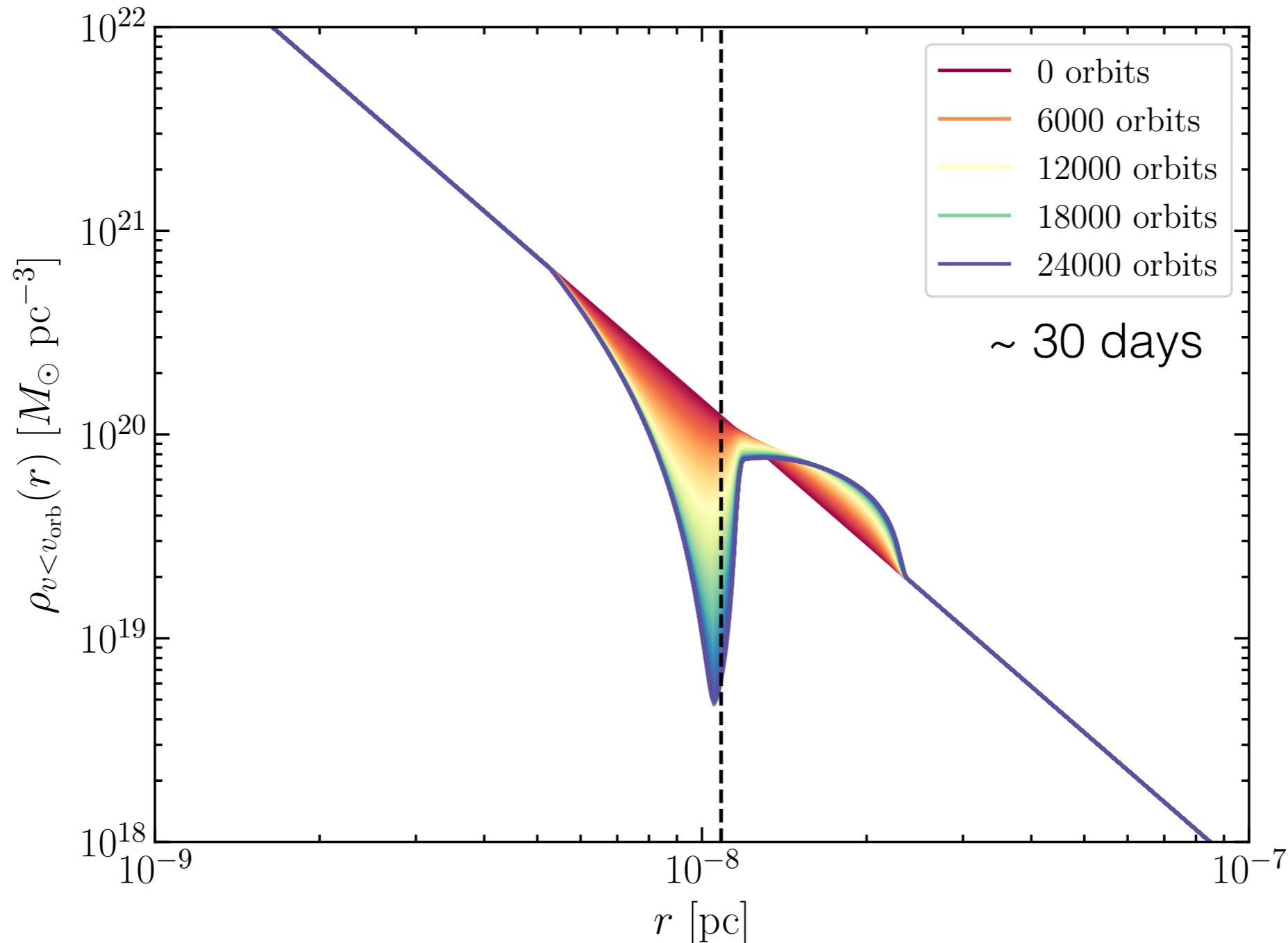
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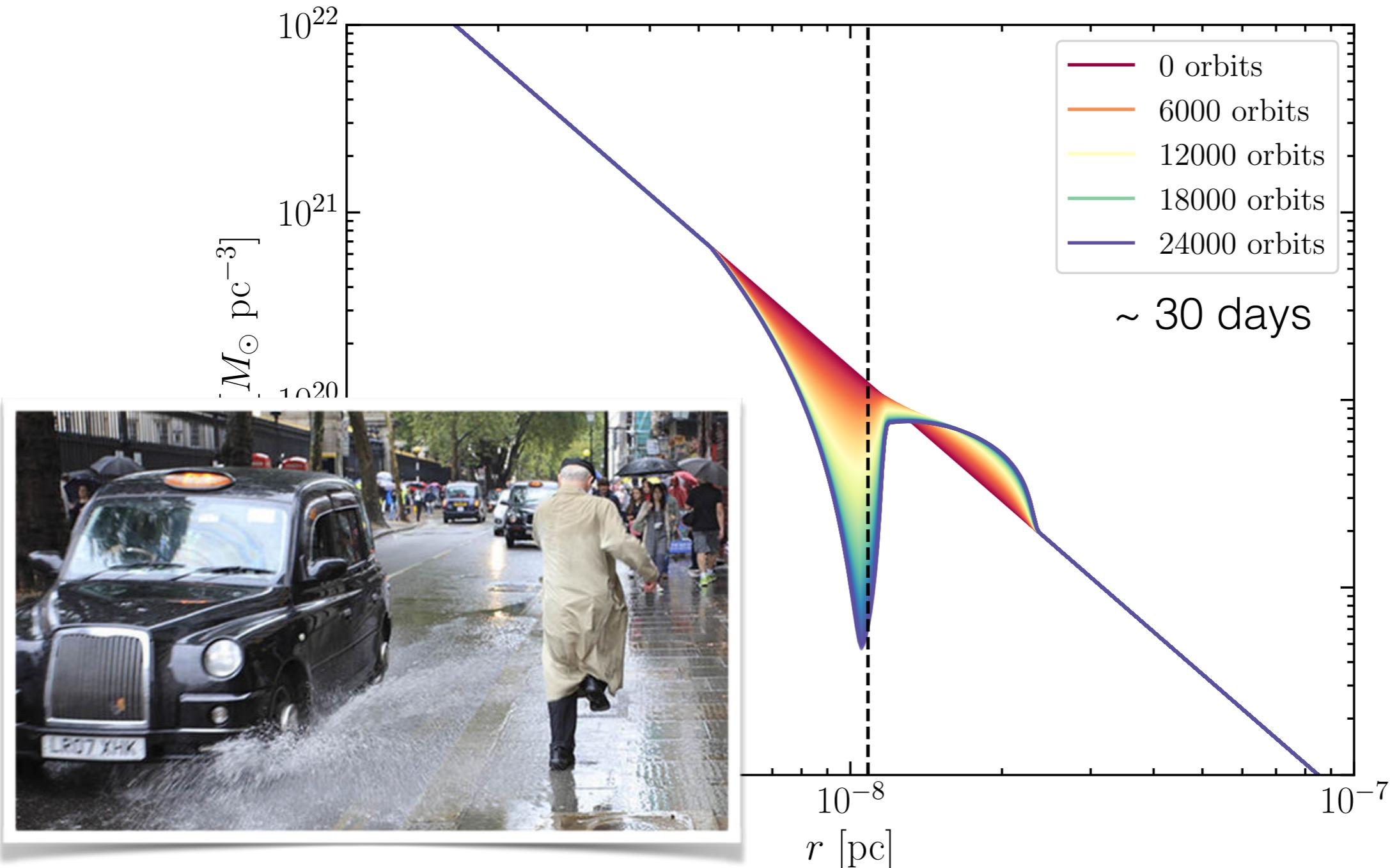
# Evolution of density profile

As a ‘test’, keep the NS fixed at a given radius and see how the DM halo reacts to its orbit:



# Evolution of density profile

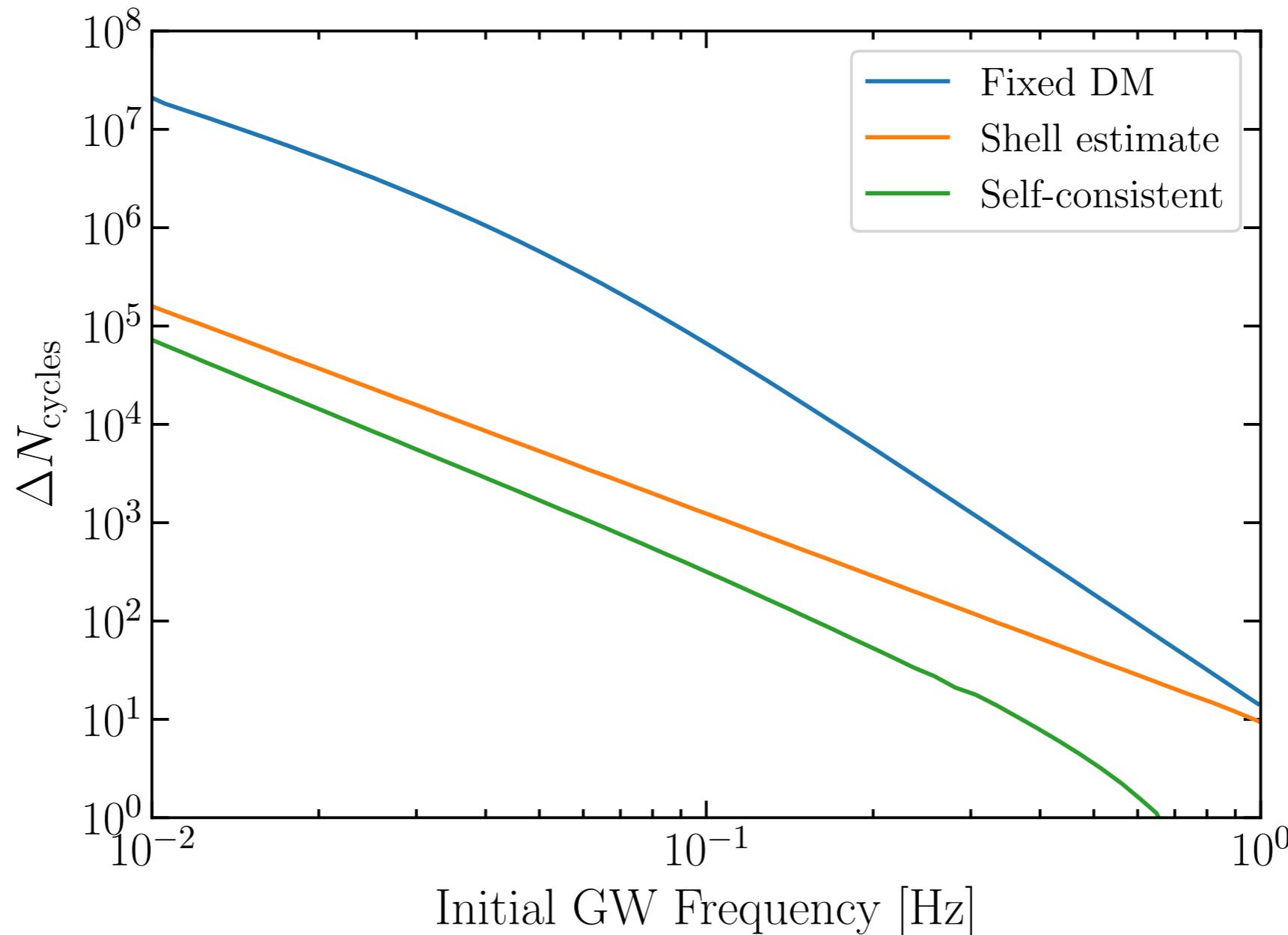
As a ‘test’, keep the NS fixed at a given radius and see how the DM halo reacts to its orbit:



# Impact on de-phasing

$$N_{\text{cycles}}^{\text{vacuum}} \sim 2 \times 10^7$$

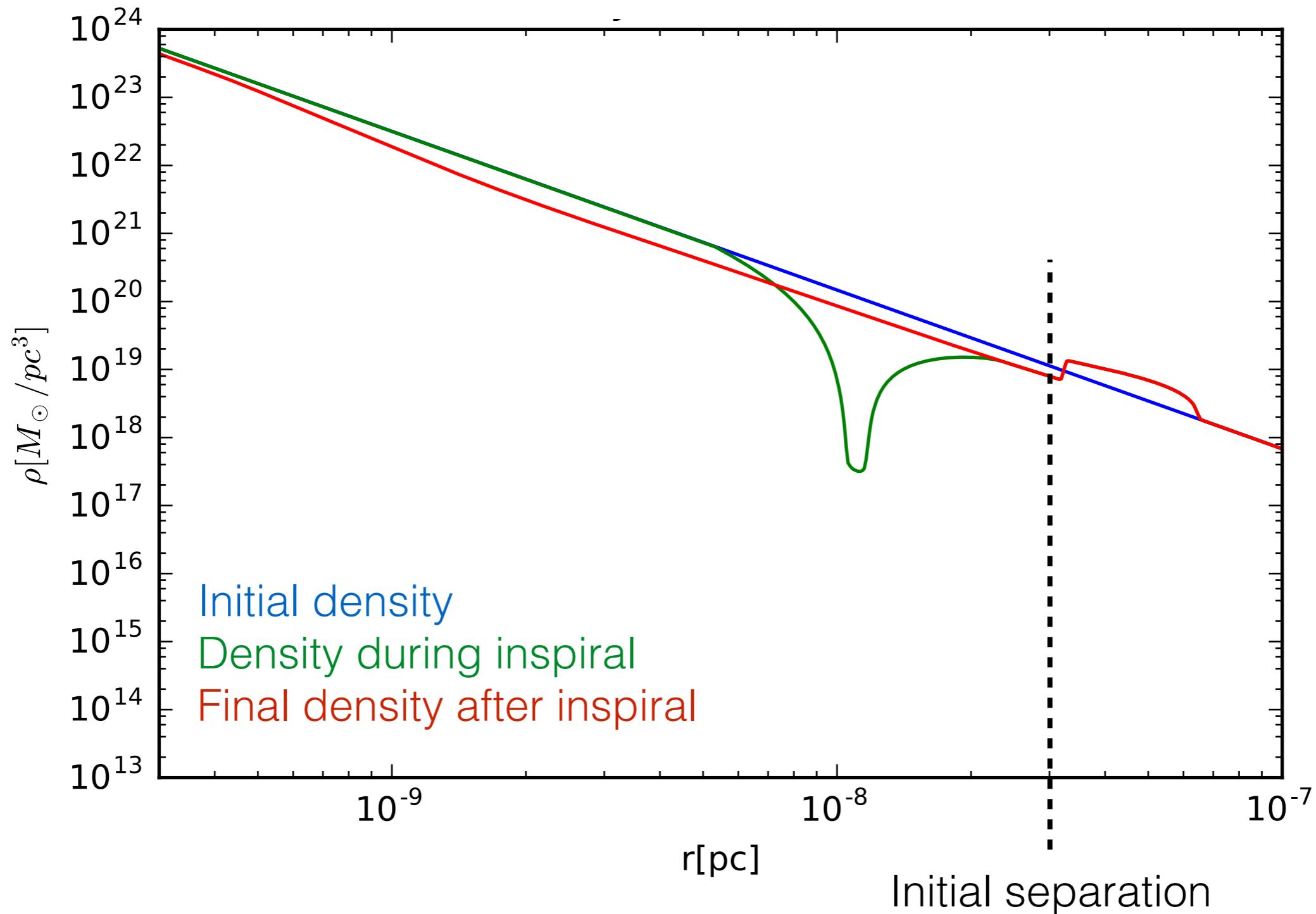
How much shorter is the inspiral compared  
to the ‘vacuum’ case (with no DM?)



De-phasing drastically reduced - *but still detectable!*

# Survival of density profile

How does the density profile evolve during and after the inspiral?



# Prospects for the future

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So far we're in the early stages of exploring these effects:

- ▶ For which binary parameters does this effect matter?
- ▶ What if we go beyond circular orbits in the Newtonian regime?
- ▶ How common are these DM halos around astrophysical BHs?

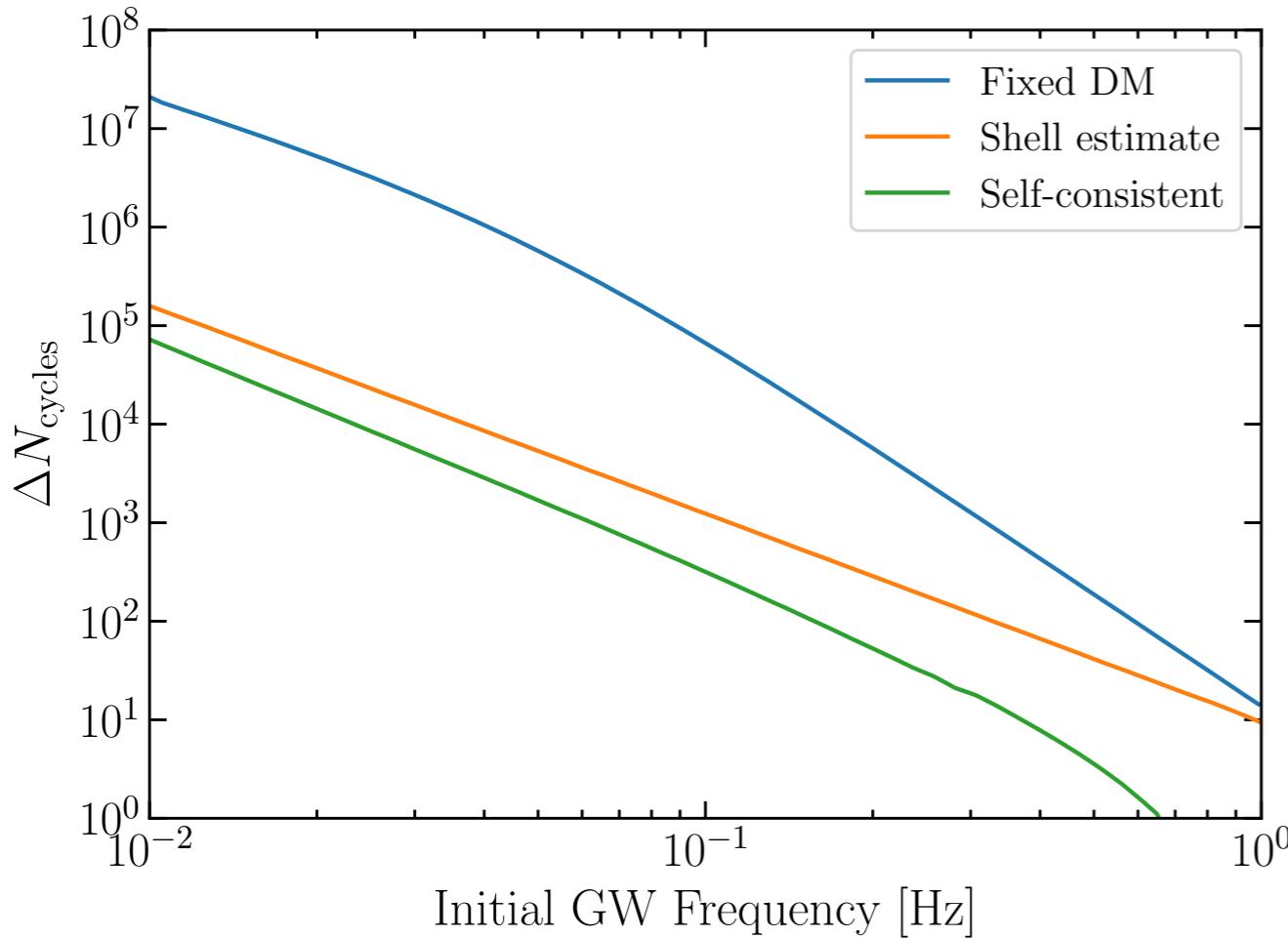
These signals are only detectable with dedicated templates,  
so careful signal modelling is needed.



Ultimately, aim to develop IMRI+DM template banks and  
study parameter reconstruction.

# Conclusions

Gravitational Wave signatures of Dark Matter in intermediate mass ratio inspirals are more subtle and less pronounced than previously believed - *but should still be detectable with LISA.*

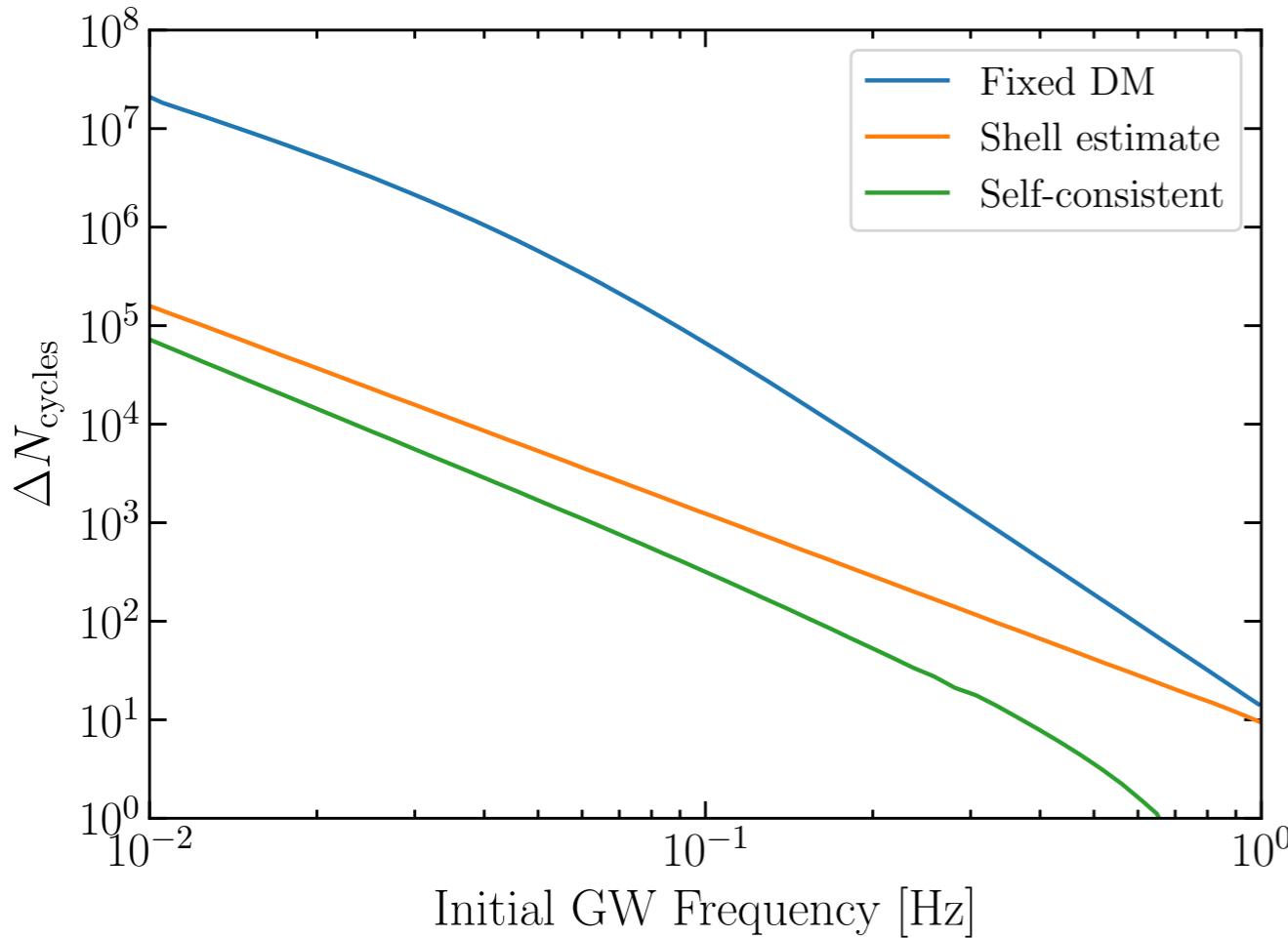


Important consequences for:

- ▶ the survival of DM spikes  
[See talk by Adam Coogan, 1905.01238]
- ▶ joint EM + GW signals  
[See talk by Marco Chianese, 1905.04686]
- ▶ fermionic DM  
[See talk by Kenny Ng, 1906.11845]
- ▶ detection of a broad range of DM candidates in the LISA era

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**Thank you!**

# Backup Slides

# Assumptions

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- ▶ Spherical symmetry and isotropy of the DM halo
- ▶ DM particles only scatter within an impact parameter

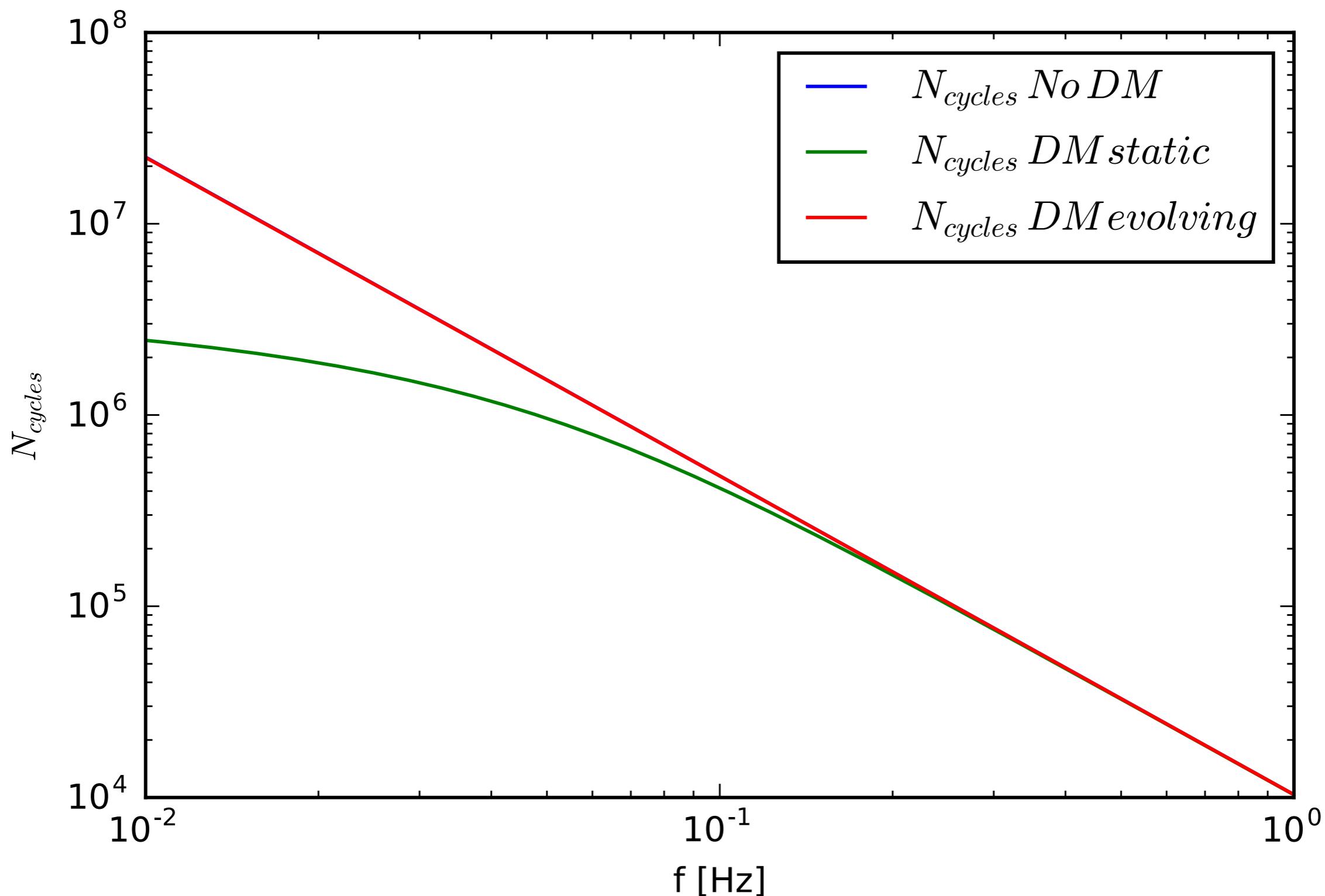
$$b < b_{\max} = \Lambda \times G_N M_{\text{NS}} / v_{\text{NS}}^2$$

- ▶ DM distribution is ‘locally’ uniform

$$b_{\max} \ll r_0$$

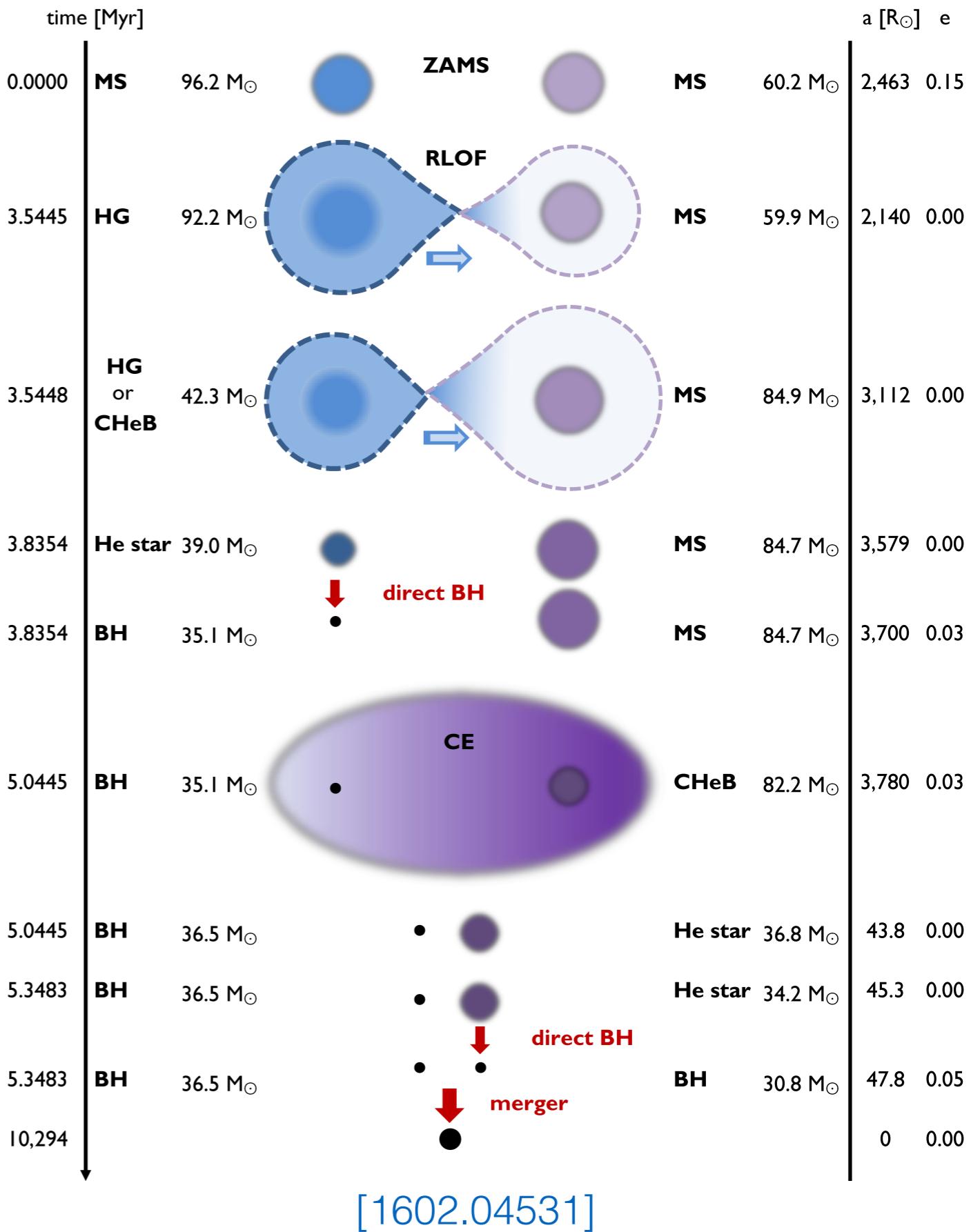
- ▶ Halo ‘relaxation’ is instantaneous
- ▶ Orbital properties evolve slowly compared to the orbital period

# Total number of cycles



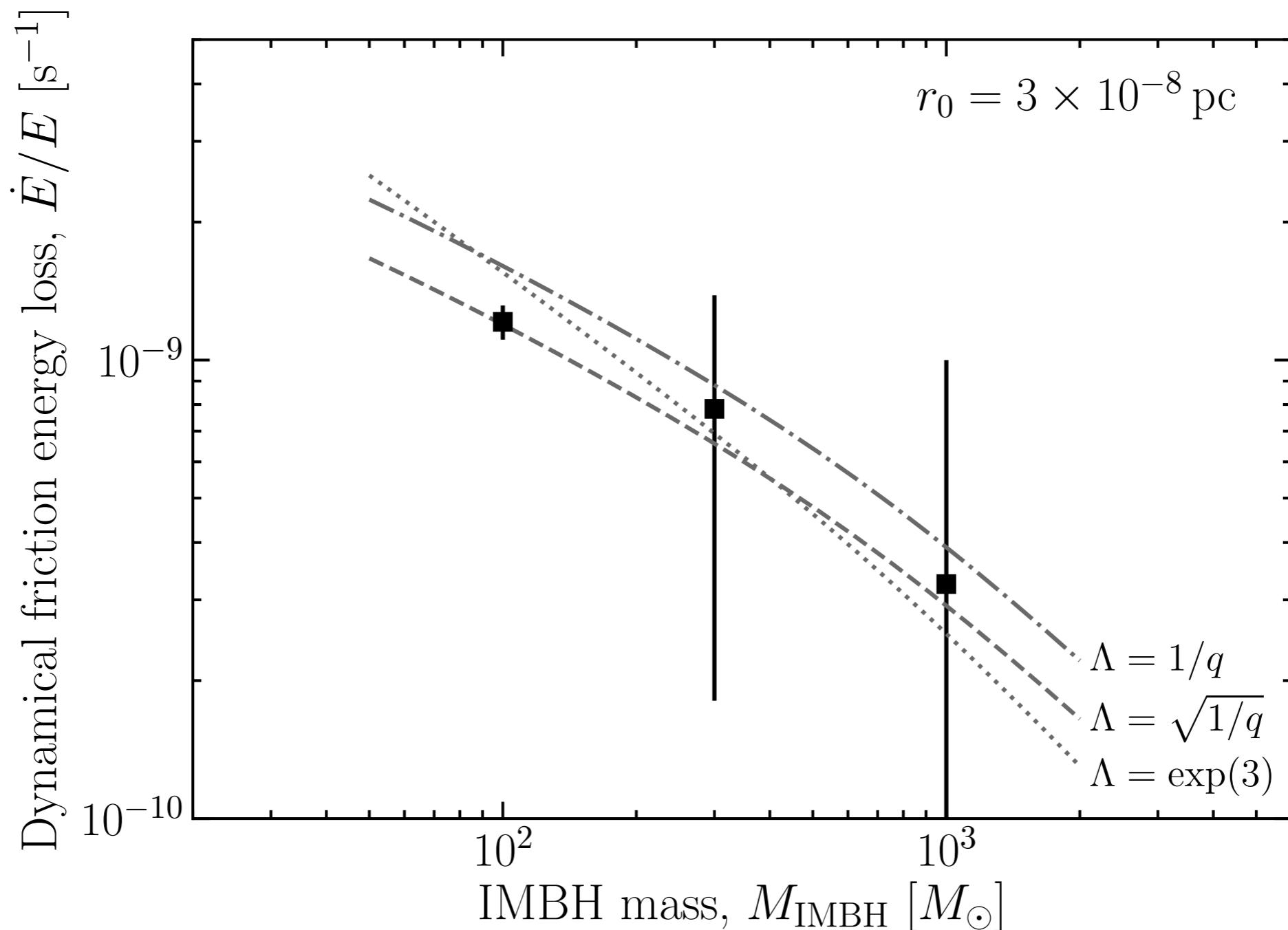
# Astrophysical BH binaries

Astrophysical BH binaries could be formed dynamically, or through e.g. common envelope evolution:



[Banerjee, 1611.09357,  
LIGO-Virgo, 1602.03846,  
Elbert et al., 1703.02551,  
Stevenson et al., 1704.01352,  
and many others...]

# N-body results



NS only scatters with particles where its gravity dominates over the IMBH's

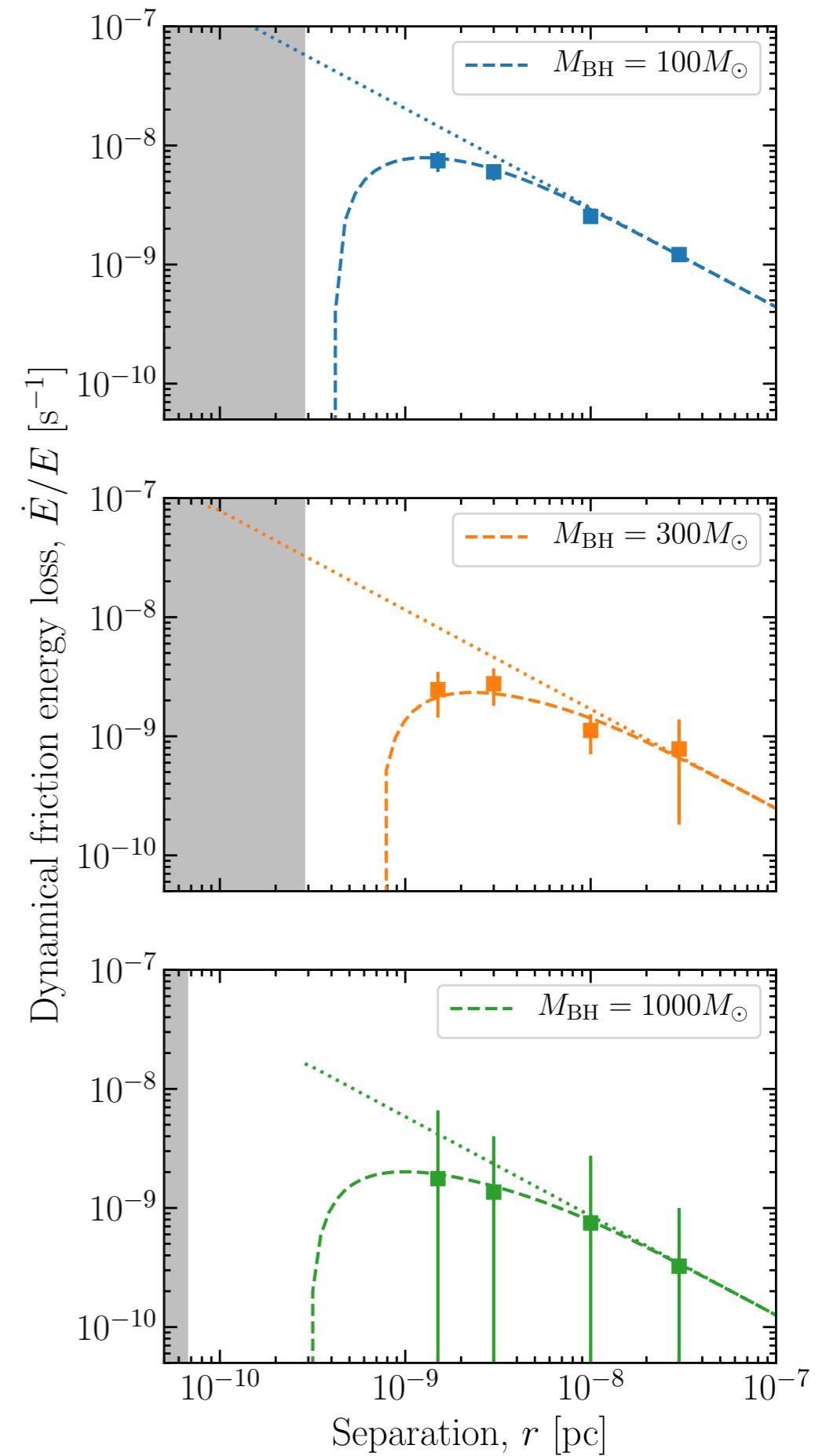
Fix 'Coulomb factor':  $\Lambda = \sqrt{M_{\text{IMBH}}/M_{\text{NS}}} \sim 20 - 60$

# N-body results

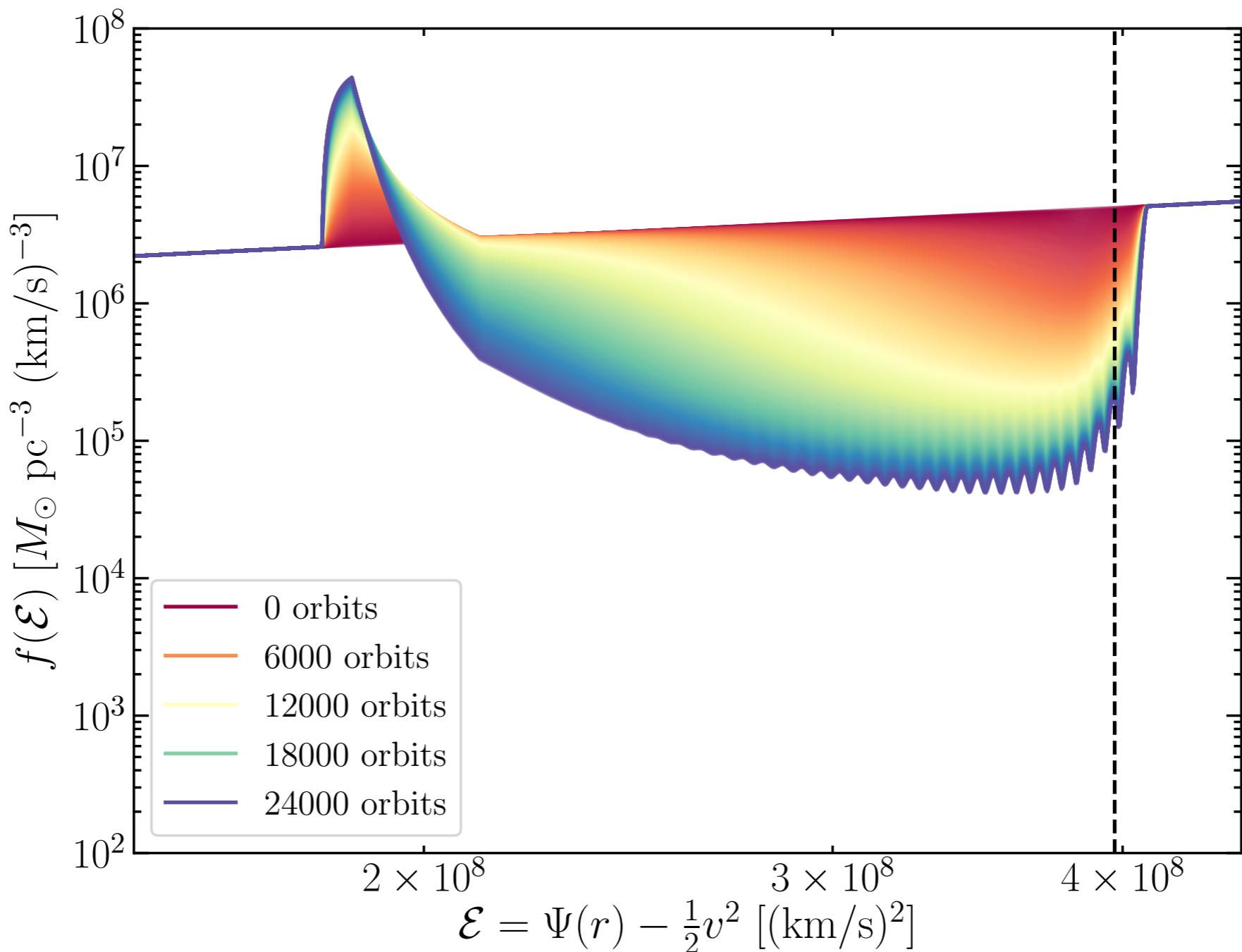
Dependence of dynamical friction force on mass and separation matches expectations

Dynamical friction traces local DM density (to better than 1%)

Drop off in DF force at small separations due to softening of simulations



# Distribution function

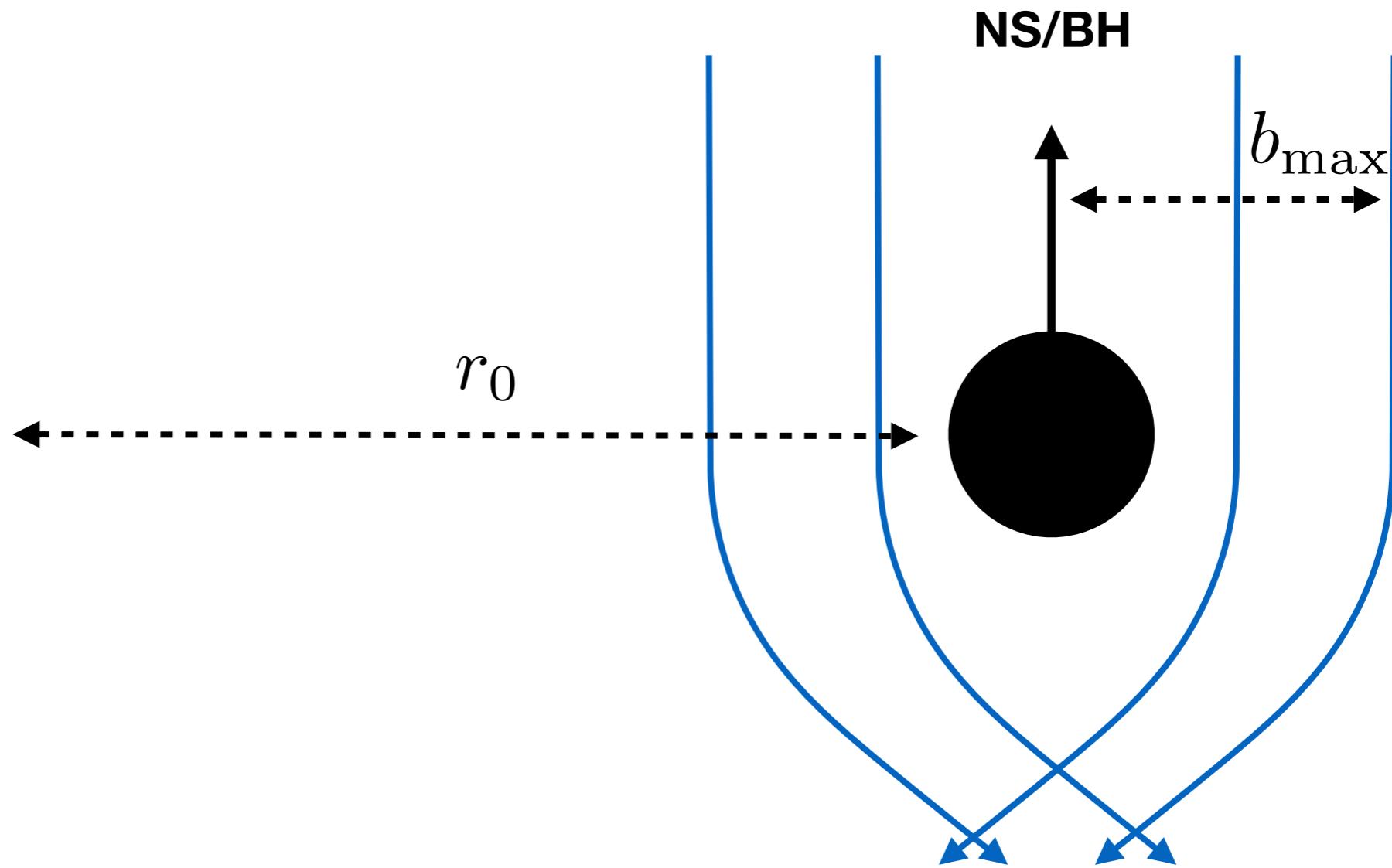


Self-consistently reconstruct density from distribution function:

$$\rho(r) = 4\pi \int_0^{v_{\max}(r)} v^2 f(\mathcal{E}) dv$$

# Dynamical Friction

[Chandrasekhar, 1943]



$$\dot{E}_{\text{DF}} = \frac{4\pi G_N^2 M_{\text{NS}}^2 \rho_{\text{DM}}(r)}{v_{\text{NS}}} \ln \Lambda \int_0^v f(v') dv'$$

# Relaxation of the Halo

