



# **Pulsars spin-up: a semi-analytical approach**

Cecilia Sgalletta  
SISSA

PoD workshop

# Neutron stars



**Figure 1:** NASA/CXC/SAO; Optical: NASA/STScI; Infrared: NASA-JPL-Caltech

A **Neutron star** is a dense core left behind after a massive star goes supernova and explodes.

- ▶ Radius  $\sim 10\text{km}$
- ▶ Mass  $\sim (1.3 - 3)M_{\odot}$
- ▶ High densities  $\sim 10^{15}\text{g/cm}^3$

# Neutron stars

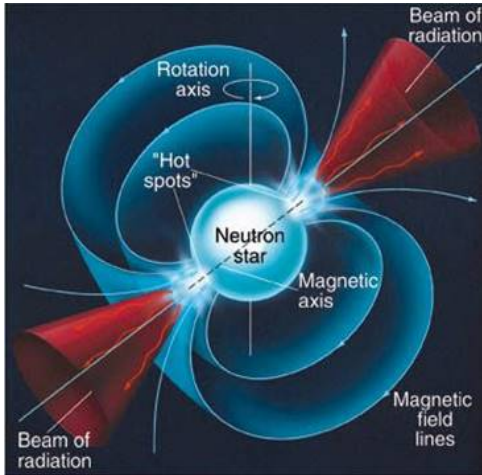


Figure 2: Illustration of a neutron star

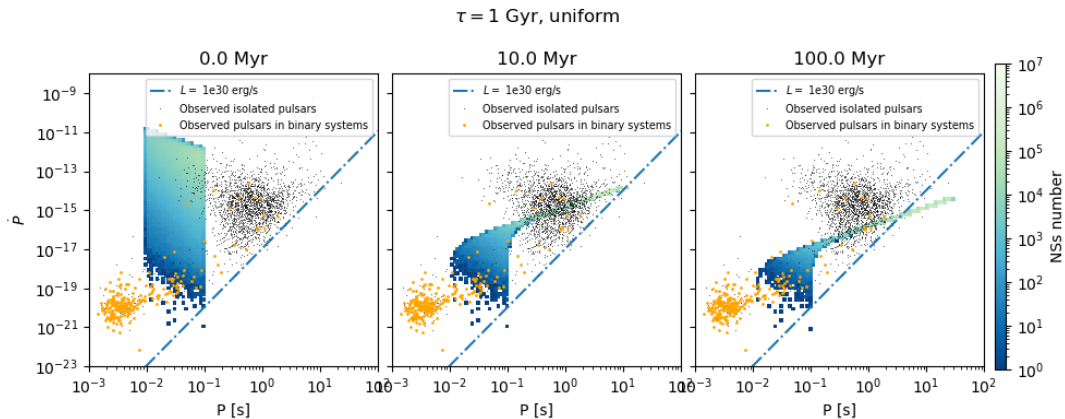
As the neutron star rotates, it **spins down** due to emission of electromagnetic radiation.

**Dipole model emission:**

$$\dot{\Omega} \propto B^2 \Omega^3$$

$$B \propto e^{-\Delta t / \tau}$$

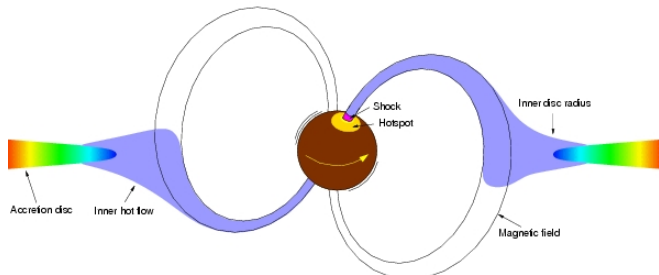
# Spin-down



**Figure 3: Pulsars spin-down**

Observed pulsars from the ATNF catalog [[Manchester et al., 2005](#)]

# Spin-up



During Roche lobe overflow (RLO) the infalling matter carries angular momentum that can **spin-up** the pulsar.

$$\dot{J} = V_{diff} R_A^2 \dot{M}_{NS}$$

$$V_{diff} = \Omega_K - \Omega_{NS}$$

$$B \propto e^{-\Delta M_{NS}/\Delta M_d}$$



# Stellar EVolution N-body

Population synthesis code written in C++

## Stellar evolution

interpolation of precomputed  
stellar tracks

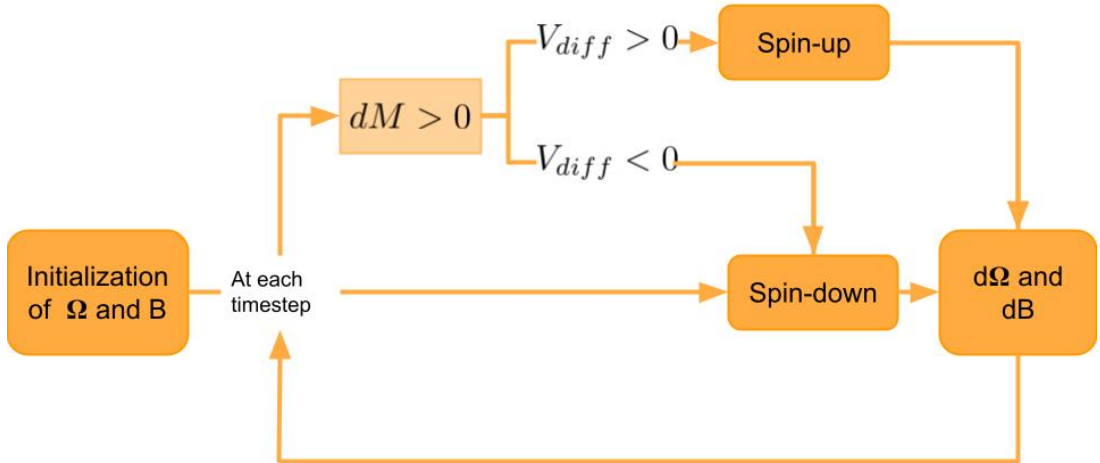


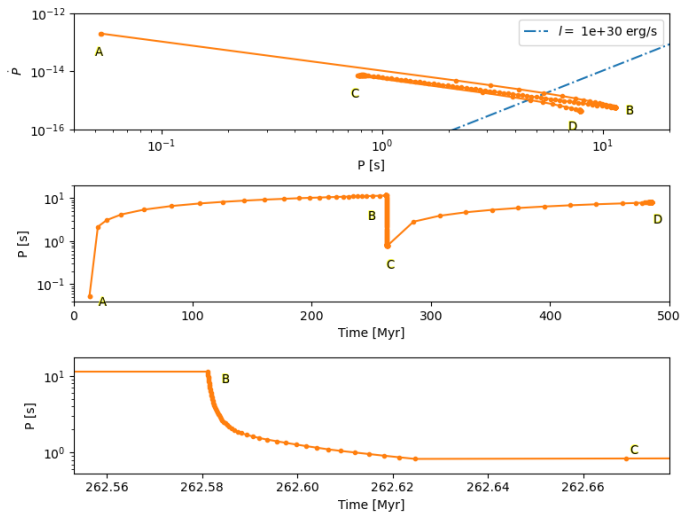
## Binary processes

analytical and semi-analytical  
models

[[Mapelli et al., 2020](#), [Spera and Mapelli, 2017](#), [Spera et al., 2019](#)]

# Spin evolution implementation in SEVN

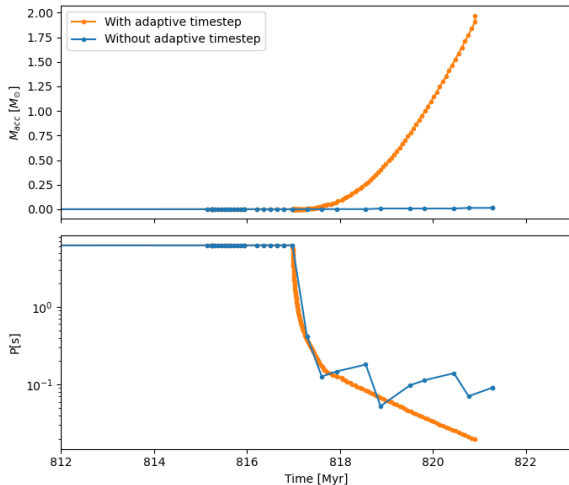




- ▶ **A.** Formation of the first Neutron Star
- ▶ **B.** Roche Lobe Overflow event
- ▶ **C.** End of Roche Lobe Overflow
- ▶ **D.** Formation of the second compact object



# Adaptive timestep

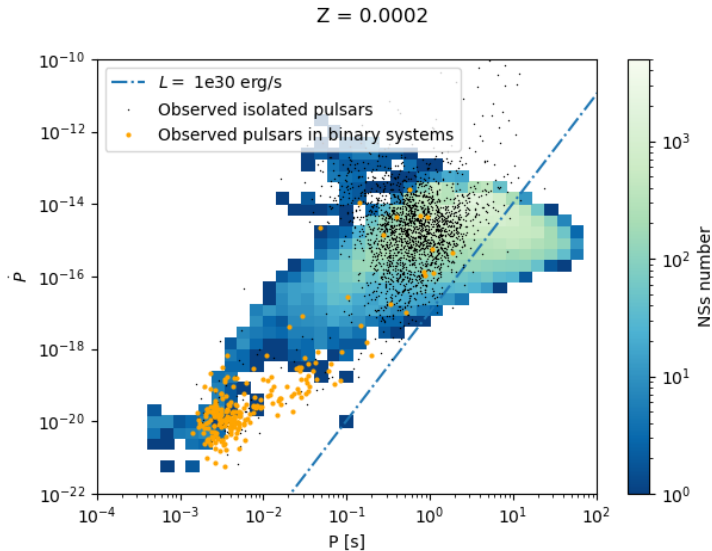


## Adaptive timestep

→ timestep is set such that  $\Omega_{NS}$  varies  $< 5\%$

Without adaptive timestep:

- ▶ Unstable solution
- ▶ Propeller effect halt accretion



- Spin-up allows to populate the region of the **millisecond pulsars**
- **Adaptive timestep** to guarantee convergence

**Figure 4:** Observed pulsars from the ATNF catalog  
 [Manchester et al., 2005]

The background consists of two large, overlapping geometric shapes. A teal-colored shape is in the upper-left corner, and a light gray shape is in the lower-left corner. They meet at a diagonal line that runs from the top-left towards the bottom-right. The rest of the background is white.

Backup

## Spin-down

$$\dot{\Omega} = \frac{8\pi B^2 R^6 \sin^2(\alpha) \Omega^3}{3\mu_0 c^3 I} \quad (1)$$

$$B = (B_0 - B_{min})e^{-\Delta t/\tau} + B_{min} \quad (2)$$

## Spin-up

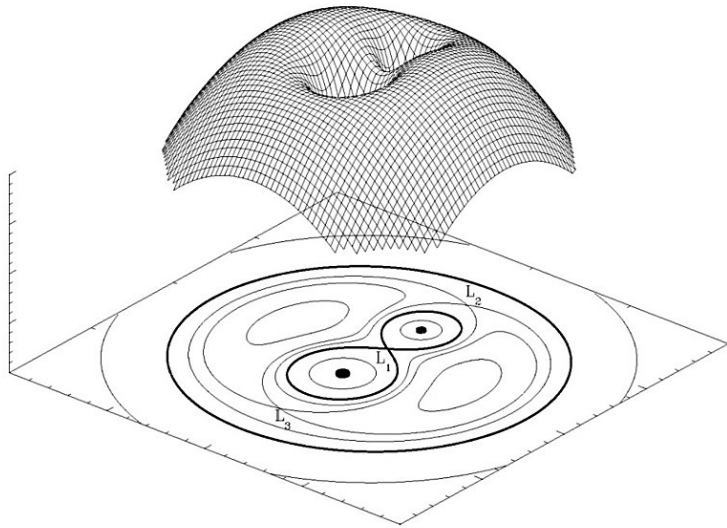
$$\dot{J} = V_{diff} R_A^2 \dot{M}_{NS} \quad (3)$$

$$V_{diff} = \Omega_K - \Omega_{NS} \quad (4)$$

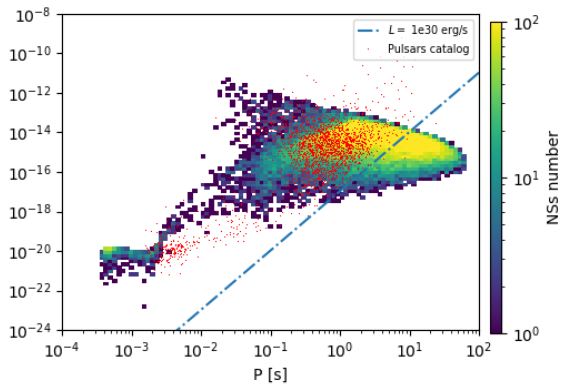
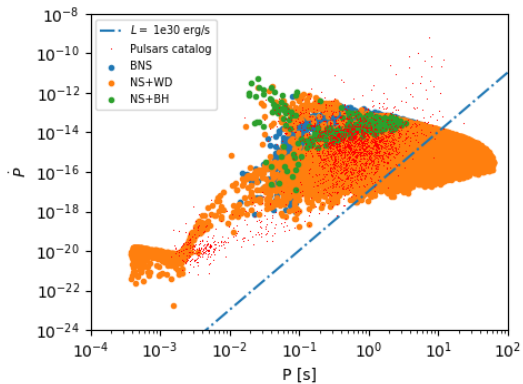
$$B = (B_0 - B_{min})e^{-\Delta M_{NS}/\Delta M_d} + B_{min} \quad (5)$$

$$R_{Alfven} = \left( \frac{2\pi^2}{G\mu_0^2} \right)^{1/7} \left( \frac{R^6}{\dot{M}_{NS} M_{NS}^{1/2}} \right)^{1/7} B^{4/7} \quad (6)$$

# Roche-Lobe potential



$Z = 0.02$



The background of the slide is composed of three geometric sections. A teal-colored triangle is in the top-left corner. A light gray triangle is in the bottom-left corner. The remaining area is a white trapezoid. The word "References" is centered within the white area.

## References

- R. N. Manchester, G. B. Hobbs, A. Teoh, and M. Hobbs. The Australia Telescope National Facility Pulsar Catalogue. , 129(4):1993–2006, Apr. 2005. doi: 10.1086/428488.
- M. Mapelli, M. Spera, E. Montanari, M. Limongi, A. Chieffi, N. Giacobbo, A. Bressan, and  Y. Bouffanais. Impact of the Rotation and Compactness of Progenitors on the Mass of Black Holes. , 888(2):76, Jan. 2020. doi: 10.3847/1538-4357/ab584d.
- M. Spera and M. Mapelli. Very massive stars, pair-instability supernovae and intermediate-mass black holes with the sevn code. *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, 470(4):4739–4749, 06 2017. ISSN 0035-8711. doi: 10.1093/mnras/stx1576. URL <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stx1576>.
- M. Spera, M. Mapelli, N. Giacobbo, A. A. Trani, A. Bressan, and G. Costa. Merging black hole binaries with the SEVN code. *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, 485(1): 889–907, 02 2019. ISSN 0035-8711. doi: 10.1093/mnras/stz359. URL <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stz359>.