Probing String-Modified Gravity in Neutron Stars

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Collaborators:

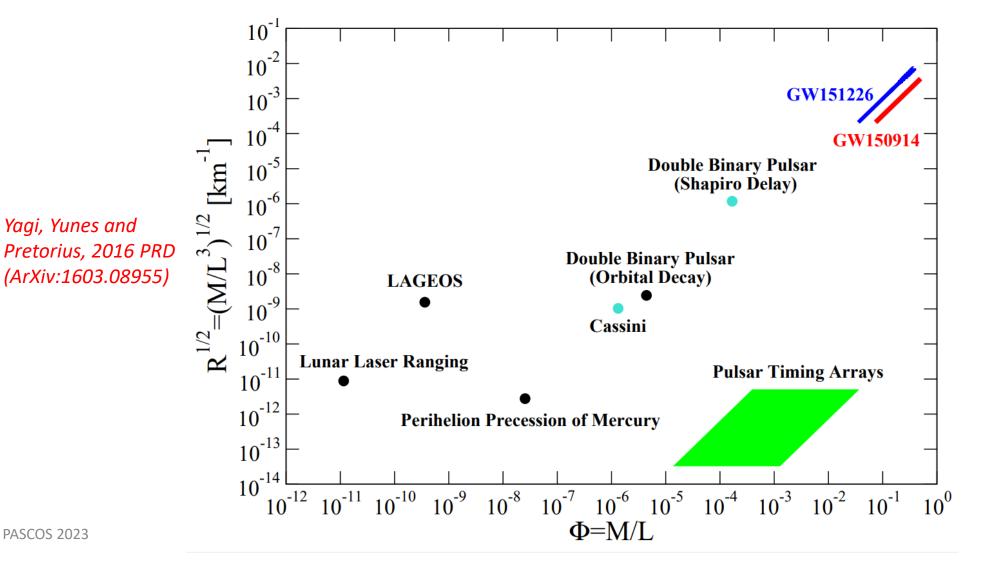
Prof. Stephon Alexander, Brown University
Prof. Kent Yagi, University of Virginia



OUTLINE

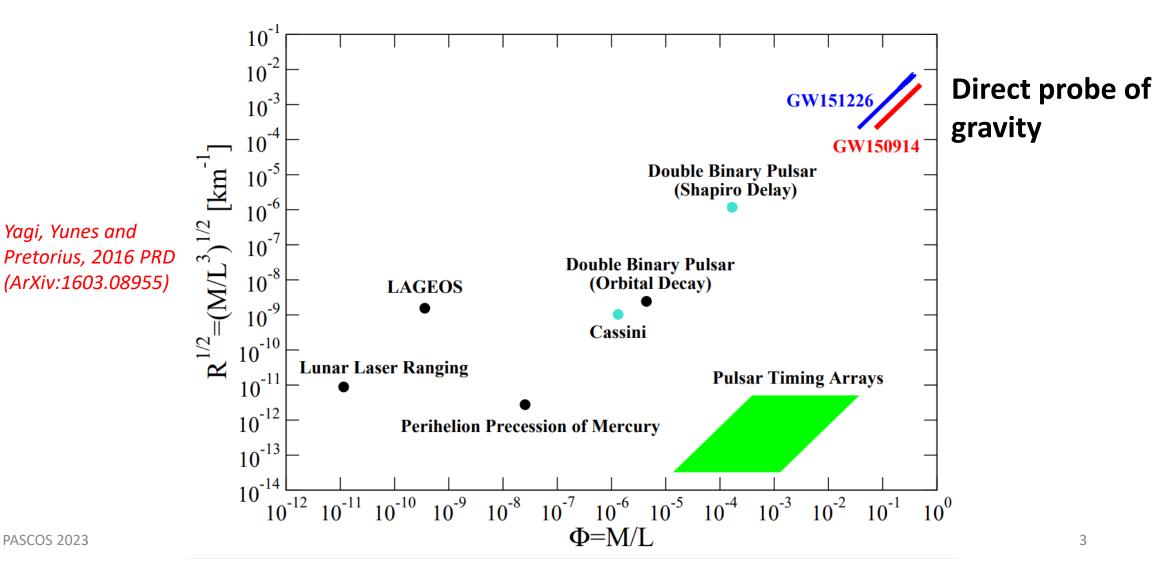
- Background
 - Strong gravity regime
 - Binary NS systems
 - TOV equations
- Scalar-tensor theories
- Field Equations
- Ongoing work
- Summary

STRONG GRAVITY REGIME

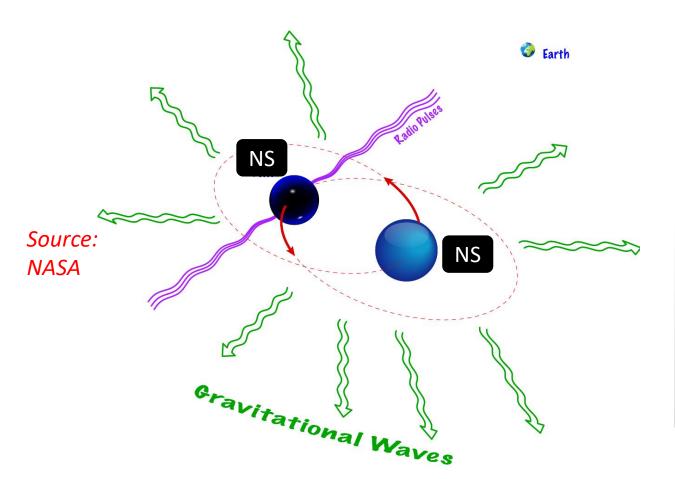


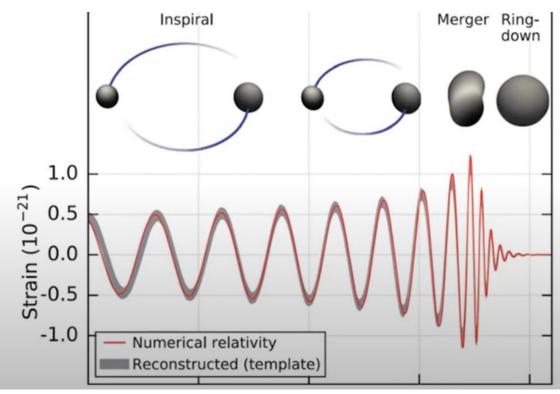
STRONG GRAVITY REGIME

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BINARY NS SYSTEMS



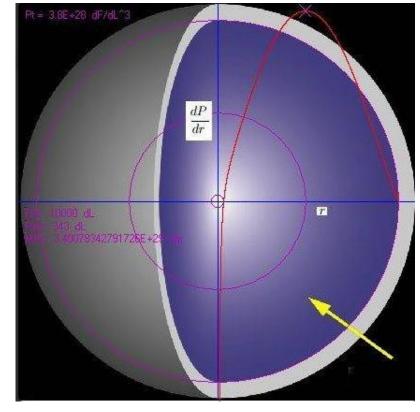


Source: Kent Yagi (U. Virginia)

TOV EQUATIONS

• Describes gravitational pressure of a spherically symmetric compact

object in equilibrium



Source: Physics Forums

TOV EQUATIONS

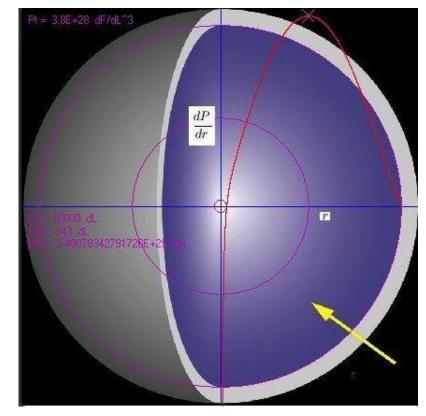
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General form of NS metric:

$$ds^{2} = -e^{\nu(r)}dt^{2} + e^{\lambda(r)}dr^{2} + r^{2}(d\theta^{2} + \sin^{2}\theta d\phi^{2}),$$

where
$$e^{-\lambda(r)} = 1 - \frac{2m(r)}{r}$$



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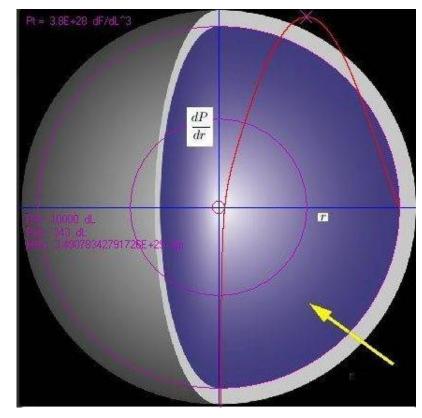
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- Will be modified if corrections to GR
 - → Can be used to probe new physics (via GWs)



Source: Physics Forums

 New: Dynamical Chern-Simons gravity (dCS) and Einstein-dilaton-Gauss-Bonnet gravity (EdGB)

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$$+ S_{\text{mat}} \left[\psi, e^{\phi} g_{\mu\nu} \right].$$
EdGB dCS

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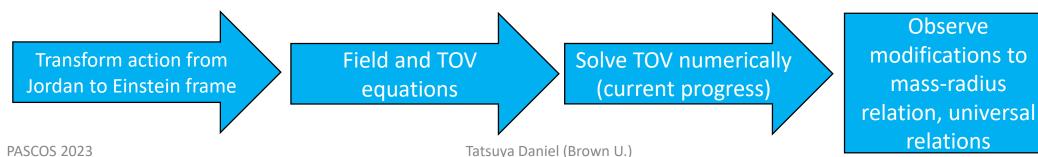
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EdGB dCS

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FIELD EQUATIONS

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$$\nabla^2 \phi = e^{2\phi} (\partial \varphi)^2 - \frac{\alpha'}{8} e^{-\phi} \mathcal{X}_4 - 8\pi T,$$

$$\nabla_{\mu} (e^{2\phi} \nabla^{\mu} \varphi) = -\frac{\alpha'}{8} R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \tilde{R}^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma},$$

$$G_{\mu\nu} + \frac{\alpha'}{8} \left(D_{\mu\nu}^{(\phi)} + 2C_{\mu\nu} \right) = 8\pi \left(T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{mat}} + T_{\mu\nu}^{(\phi)} + T_{\mu\nu}^{(\varphi)} \right),$$

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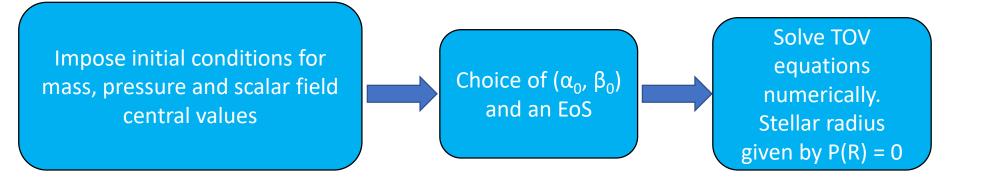
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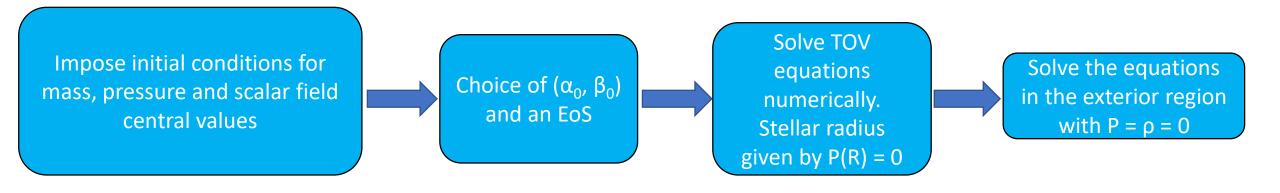
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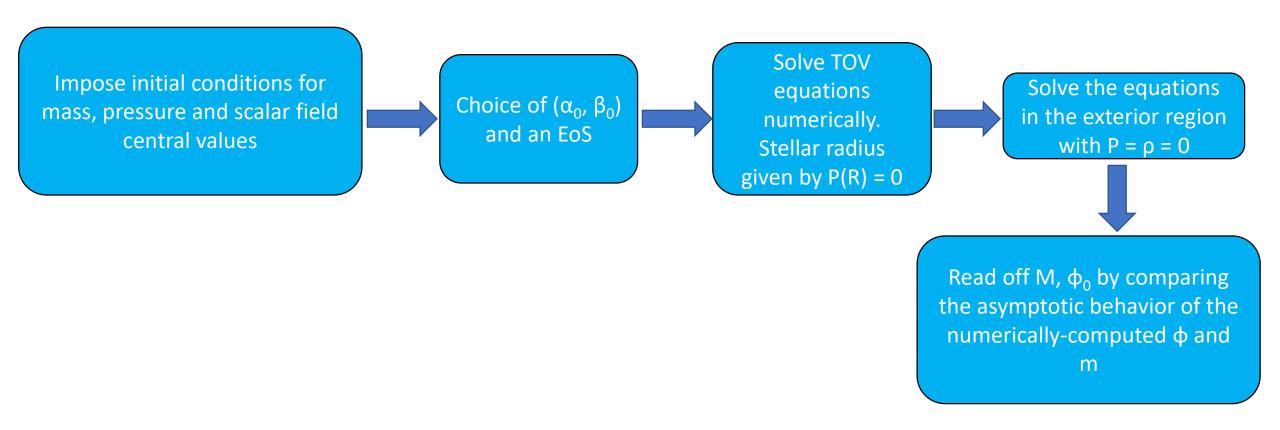
$$T_{\mu\nu}^{(\varphi)}=e^{2\phi}\nabla_{\mu}\varphi\nabla_{\nu}\varphi-\frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}e^{2\phi}\nabla_{a}\varphi\nabla^{a}\varphi,$$
 where
$$T_{\mu\nu}^{\rm mat}=e^{2\phi}\biggl[(\rho+P)u_{\mu}u_{\nu}+g_{\mu\nu}P\biggr],$$

$$T\equiv g^{\mu\nu}T_{\mu\nu}^{\rm mat}.$$

Impose initial conditions for mass, pressure and scalar field central values











Solve TOV
equations
numerically.
Stellar radius
given by P(R) = 0

Solve the equations in the exterior region with $P = \rho = 0$

 $\left(\frac{r-2m}{r}\right) \left[\phi'' + \frac{m}{r(r-2m)}\phi' - \frac{4\pi r^2 \rho}{r-2m}\phi' - \frac{1}{2}r\phi'^3 + \frac{1}{2}\nu'\phi'\right] + \frac{2(r-2m)}{r^2}\phi'$

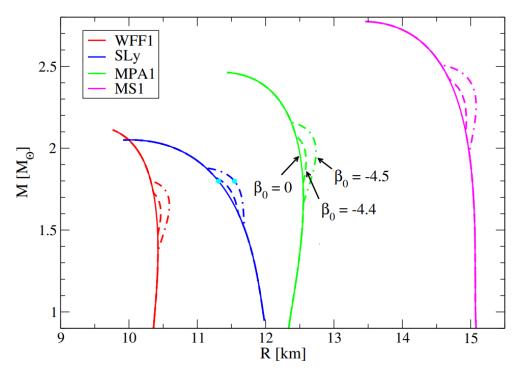
$$= e^{2\phi}\varphi'^2 - \frac{\alpha'}{8}e^{-\phi}\mathcal{X}_4 - 8\pi e^{2\phi}(-\rho + 3P),$$

Read off M, ϕ_0 by comparing the asymptotic behavior of the numerically-computed ϕ and ϕ

Solve TOV equations numerically by end of summer

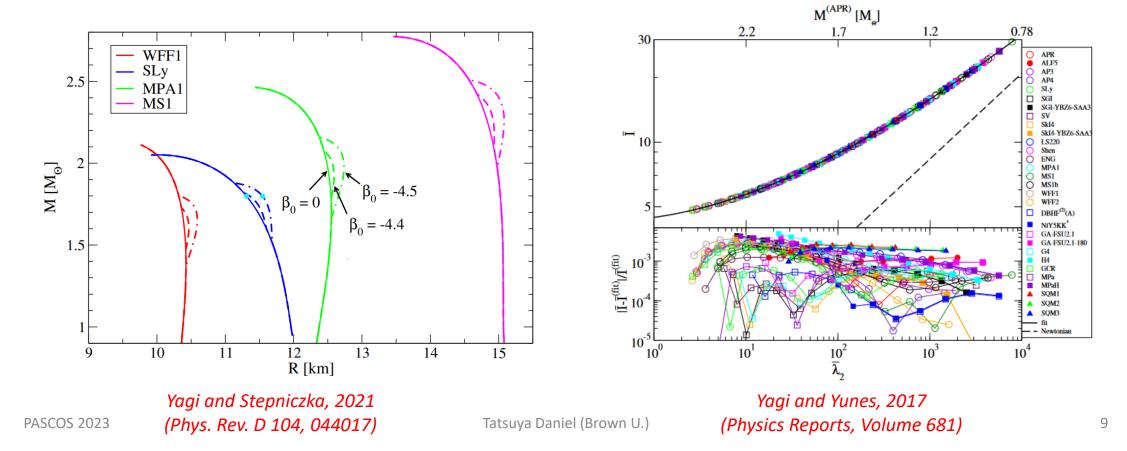
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- Observational constraints placed on scalar-tensor theories from weak gravity tests, but not strong gravity
- Considering two ST theories (Chern-Simons and Gauss-Bonnet), which are well-motivated from string theory, to probe strong gravity using binary NS systems
- GW deviations from GR would be an interesting hint that GR needs modifications in strong gravity regime

BACKUP SLIDES

SCALAR-TENSOR THEORIES

• Introduce scalar fields into action

SCALAR-TENSOR THEORIES

- Introduce scalar fields into action
- A benchmark theory (Damour and Esposito-Varèse, 1996 PRD):

$$S = \int d^4x \frac{\sqrt{-g}}{16\pi} \left(R - 2g^{\mu\nu}\partial_{\mu}\varphi\partial_{\nu}\varphi\right) + S_{\mathrm{mat}} \left[\psi, A^2(\varphi)g_{\mu\nu}\right]$$
 "Coupling function"

FIELD EQUATIONS OF ST THEORIES

$$R_{\mu\nu} = 2\partial_{\mu}\varphi\partial_{\nu}\varphi + 8\pi \left(T_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}T\right) ,$$

$$\Box \varphi = -4\pi\alpha(\varphi)T ,$$

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$$\beta_0 \equiv \frac{\partial^2 \ln A(\varphi_0)}{\partial \varphi_0^2}$$

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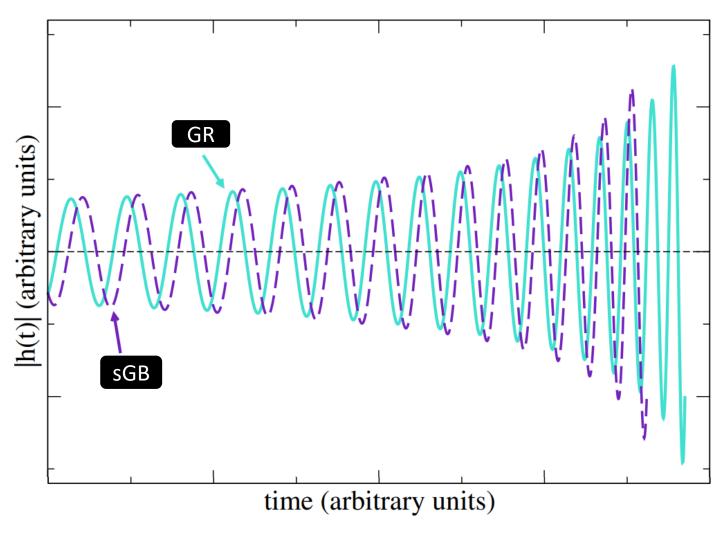
Damour and Esposito-Varèse (1996, PRD):

$$A(\varphi) = \exp\left(rac{eta_0}{2}arphi^2
ight) \qquad lpha_0 \equiv lpha(arphi_0) = eta_0 arphi_0$$

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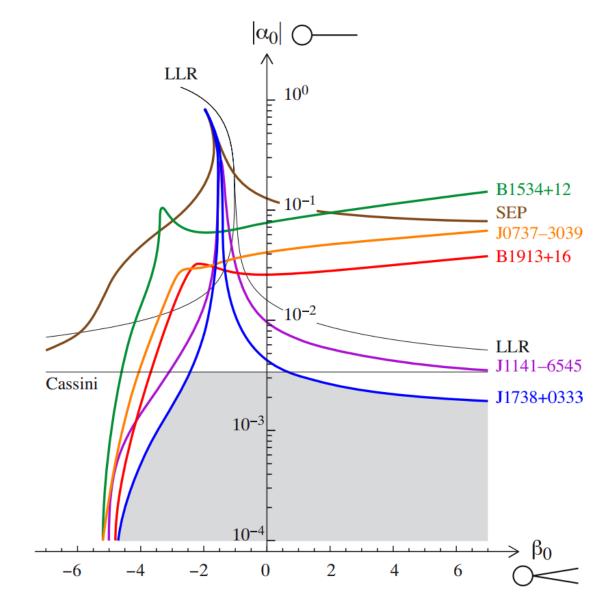
SPONTANEOUS SCALARIZATION

- When β is sufficiently negative,
 NSs can have nontrivial scalar field distribution profile
 - Parametrized by (α_0, β_0)
- NSs undergoing tachyonic instability



Carson, 2020 (ArXiv:2010.04745)

OBSERVABLE CONSTRAINTS ON ST THEORIES



Freire et al. 2012, ArXiv:1205.1450

$$m' = 4\pi r^{2} \left[e^{2\phi} \rho + \frac{1}{2} \left(\phi'^{2} + e^{2\phi} \varphi'^{2} \right) \right] - \frac{\alpha'}{16} \left(8m\nu' - 4m' + \frac{4m}{r} - 2r\nu' - 2r^{2}\nu'^{2} + 4m'\nu'r - 4r^{2}\nu'' + 4mr\nu' - 8m + 4mr^{2}\nu'^{2} + 8mr^{2}\nu'' + 8m'r - r^{3}\nu'^{2} + 2r^{2}m'\nu' - 2r^{3}\nu'' + \frac{16m^{2}}{r} + 4m^{2}\nu' - 4m^{2}r\nu'^{2} - 8m^{2}r\nu'' - 16m'm - 4rmm'\nu' \right) \phi'',$$

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$$2\phi' e^{2\phi} \varphi' + e^{2\phi} \left(\frac{r - 2m}{r}\right) \left[\varphi'' - \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{r^2}{r - 2m}\right) \varphi' \phi'^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{r^2}{r - 2m}\right) e^{2\phi} \varphi'^3 + \frac{\alpha' m'}{4r\sqrt{-g}(r - 2m)} \phi' \varphi' e^{-\phi} - \frac{3m\alpha'}{4r^2\sqrt{-g}(r - 2m)} \phi' \varphi' e^{-\phi} + \frac{m\alpha'}{4r\sqrt{-g}(r - 2m)} \phi'' \varphi' e^{-\phi} - \frac{m\alpha'}{4r\sqrt{-g}(r - 2m)} \phi'^2 \varphi' - \frac{4\pi r^2 e^{2\phi} \rho}{r - 2m} \varphi' + \frac{m}{r(r - 2m)} \varphi'\right] + \frac{1}{2} e^{2\phi} \left(\frac{r - 2m}{r}\right) \nu' \varphi' + e^{2\phi} \left(\frac{r - 2m}{r^2}\right) \varphi' + e^{2\phi} \left(\frac{r - 2m}{r^2}\right) \varphi' = 0.$$

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$$(\rho + P)\nu' + 4P\phi' + 2P' = (-\rho + 3P)\phi'.$$

$$\left(\frac{r-2m}{r}\right) \left[\phi'' + \frac{m}{r(r-2m)}\phi' - \frac{4\pi r^2 \rho}{r-2m}\phi' - \frac{1}{2}r\phi'^3 + \frac{1}{2}\nu'\phi'\right] + \frac{2(r-2m)}{r^2}\phi'$$

$$= e^{2\phi}\varphi'^2 - \frac{\alpha'}{8}e^{-\phi}\mathcal{X}_4 - 8\pi e^{2\phi}(-\rho + 3P),$$

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$$\nu' = \frac{2m}{r(r-2m)} + 8\pi r \left\{ e^{2\phi} \left(\frac{r}{r-2m} \right) P + \frac{r-4m}{2(r-2m)} \phi'^2 + e^{2\phi} \frac{r-4m}{2(r-2m)} \varphi'^2 \right\} - \frac{\alpha'}{8r^2} \left(\frac{4mr^3\nu' - 12m^2\nu' - 8mr^2\nu'' + 16m^2r\nu'' + 24m'm - 4rm\nu' - 2r^2m\nu'^2 + 4m^2r\nu'^2 + 4m'mr\nu' - 24m^2}{r-2m} \right) \phi''.$$

$$\left(\frac{r-2m}{r}\right)\left[\phi'' + \frac{m}{r(r-2m)}\phi' - \frac{4\pi r^2\rho}{r-2m}\phi' - \frac{1}{2}r\phi'^3 + \frac{1}{2}\nu'\phi'\right] + \frac{2(r-2m)}{r^2}\phi' \\
= e^{2\phi}\varphi'^2 - \frac{\alpha'}{8}e^{-\phi}\mathcal{X}_4 - 8\pi e^{2\phi}(-\rho + 3P),$$

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{X}_4 &= \frac{6m^2}{r^2} \nu'^4 - \frac{6m^2}{r^3} \nu'^3 + \frac{2m'm}{r^2} \nu'^3 - \frac{m}{r} \nu'^4 + \frac{20m^2}{r^2} \nu'' \nu'^2 - \frac{4m}{r} \nu'' \nu'^2 + \frac{5m^2}{r^4} \nu'^2 - \frac{2m'm}{r^3} \nu'^2 \\ &+ \frac{m}{r^2} \nu'^3 - \frac{4m^2}{r^3} \nu'' \nu' + \frac{2m}{r^2} \nu'' \nu' + \frac{m'^2}{r^3} \nu'^2 - \frac{m'}{r} \nu'^3 + \frac{4m'm}{r^2} \nu'' \nu' - \frac{2m'}{r} \nu'' \nu' + \frac{1}{4} \nu'^4 + \nu'' \nu'^2 \\ &- \frac{4m}{r} \nu''^2 + \frac{4m^2}{r^2} \nu''^2 + \nu''^2 - \frac{4m^3}{r^3} \nu'^4 + \frac{8m^3}{r^3} \nu'^3 - \frac{8m'm^2}{r^3} \nu'^3 - \frac{16m^3}{r^3} \nu'' \nu'^2 - \frac{4m^3}{r^5} \nu'^2 \\ &+ \frac{8m'm^2}{r^4} \nu'^2 + \frac{16m^3}{r^4} \nu'' \nu' - \frac{16m^2}{r^3} \nu'' \nu' - \frac{4m'm}{r^4} \nu'^2 + \frac{4m'm}{r^2} \nu'^3 - \frac{16m'm^2}{r^3} \nu'' \nu' \\ &+ \frac{8m'm^2}{r^2} \nu'' \nu' - \frac{m}{r} \nu'^4 - \frac{4m}{r} \nu'' \nu'^2 + \frac{16m^2}{r^2} \nu''^2 - \frac{16m^3}{r^3} \nu''^2 - \frac{4m}{r} \nu''^2 + \frac{4m^4}{r^4} \nu'^4 - \frac{8m^4}{r^5} \nu'^3 \\ &+ \frac{8m'm^3}{r^4} \nu'^3 - \frac{4m^3}{r^3} \nu'^4 + \frac{16m^4}{r^4} \nu'' \nu'^2 - \frac{16m^3}{r^3} \nu'' \nu'^2 + \frac{4m^4}{r^6} \nu'^2 - \frac{8m'm^3}{r^5} \nu'^2 + \frac{4m^3}{r^4} \nu'^3 \\ &- \frac{16m^4}{r^5} \nu'' \nu' + \frac{32m^3}{r^4} \nu'' \nu' + \frac{4m'^2m^2}{r^5} \nu'^2 - \frac{4m'm^2}{r^3} \nu''^3 + \frac{16m'm^3}{r^4} \nu'' \nu' - \frac{8m'm^2}{r^3} \nu'' \nu' \\ &+ \frac{4m^2}{r^5} \nu'' \nu'^2 - \frac{16m^3}{r^3} \nu''^2 + \frac{16m^4}{r^4} \nu''^2 + \frac{8m^2}{r^3} \nu''^2 - 144m^2 \nu'^2 - 96m^2 r \nu'^3 + 192m r \nu'^2 \\ &+ 112m r^2 \nu'^3 - 96m' m r \nu'^2 + 224m r^2 \nu' \nu'' - 192m^2 r \nu' \nu'' - 16m^2 r^2 \nu'^4 + 16m r^3 \nu'^4 \\ &- 32m' m r^2 \nu'^3 + 64m r^3 \nu'' \nu'^2 - 32m^2 r^2 \nu'' \nu'^2 - 64r^2 \nu'^2 - 32r^3 \nu'^3 + 64m' r^2 \nu'^2 - 64r^3 \nu'' \nu' \\ &+ 16m' r^3 \nu'^3 - 16r^4 \nu'' \nu'^2 - 16m'^2 r^2 \nu'^2 - \frac{8m'm}{r^4} \nu' + \frac{8m^2}{r^5} \nu' + \frac{6m}{r^3} \nu'^2 + \frac{8m'm}{r^3} \nu'' - \frac{8m'm}{r^3} \nu''^2 \\ &- 32m^2 r^2 \nu'^2 \nu'' + 32m r^3 \nu''^2 - 64m^2 r^2 \nu''^2 - \frac{8m'm}{r^4} \nu' + \frac{8m^2}{r^5} \nu' + \frac{6m}{r^3} \nu'^2 + \frac{8m'm}{r^3} \nu'' - \frac{8m'm}{r^3} \nu'' - \frac{8m'm}{r^3} \nu'' - \frac{8m'm}{r^3} \nu'' - \frac{4m^2}{r^4} \nu'' + \frac{4m^2}{r^5} \nu' + \frac{6m}{r^3} \nu'^2 + \frac{8m'm}{r^3} \nu'' - \frac{8m'm}{r^3}$$

$$\nu' = \frac{2m}{r(r-2m)} + 8\pi r \left\{ e^{2\phi} \left(\frac{r}{r-2m} \right) P + \frac{r-4m}{2(r-2m)} \phi'^2 + e^{2\phi} \frac{r-4m}{2(r-2m)} \varphi'^2 \right\} - \frac{\alpha'}{8r^2} \left(\frac{4mr^3\nu' - 12m^2\nu' - 8mr^2\nu'' + 16m^2r\nu'' + 24m'm - 4rm\nu' - 2r^2m\nu'^2 + 4m^2r\nu'^2 + 4m'mr\nu' - 24m^2}{r-2m} \right) \phi''.$$

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