

# Aspects of Dark Matter Axion Clumps

Mark Hertzberg

Tufts University

IDM Brown University, July 26 2018

# QCD-Axion

$$\Delta\mathcal{L}_{qcd} \sim \theta G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}$$

$$|\theta| \lesssim 10^{-10}$$

# QCD-Axion

$$\Delta\mathcal{L}_{qcd} \sim \theta G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu} \quad |\theta| \lesssim 10^{-10}$$

(Peccei-Quinn, Weinberg, Wilczek)

$$\Delta\mathcal{L}_a \sim \frac{\phi}{f_a} G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 - V(\phi)$$

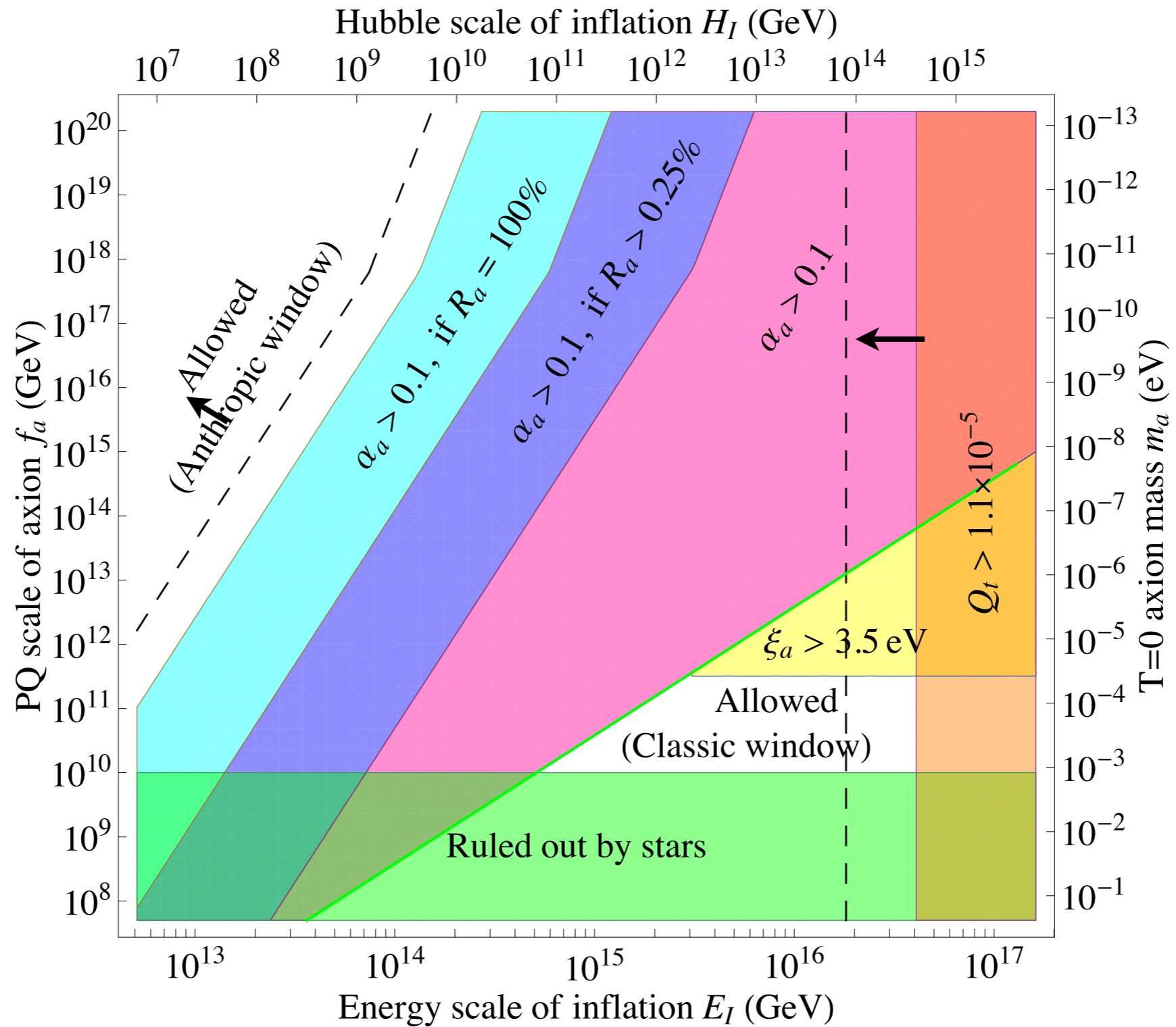
Periodic Potential; Expanded:

$$V(\phi) = \frac{1}{2}m^2\phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4!}\phi^4 + \dots$$

Axion mass:  $m_a \sim \frac{\Lambda_{qcd}^2}{f_a}$

(Attractive) Self-Coupling:  $\lambda \sim -\frac{\Lambda_{qcd}^4}{f_a^4}$

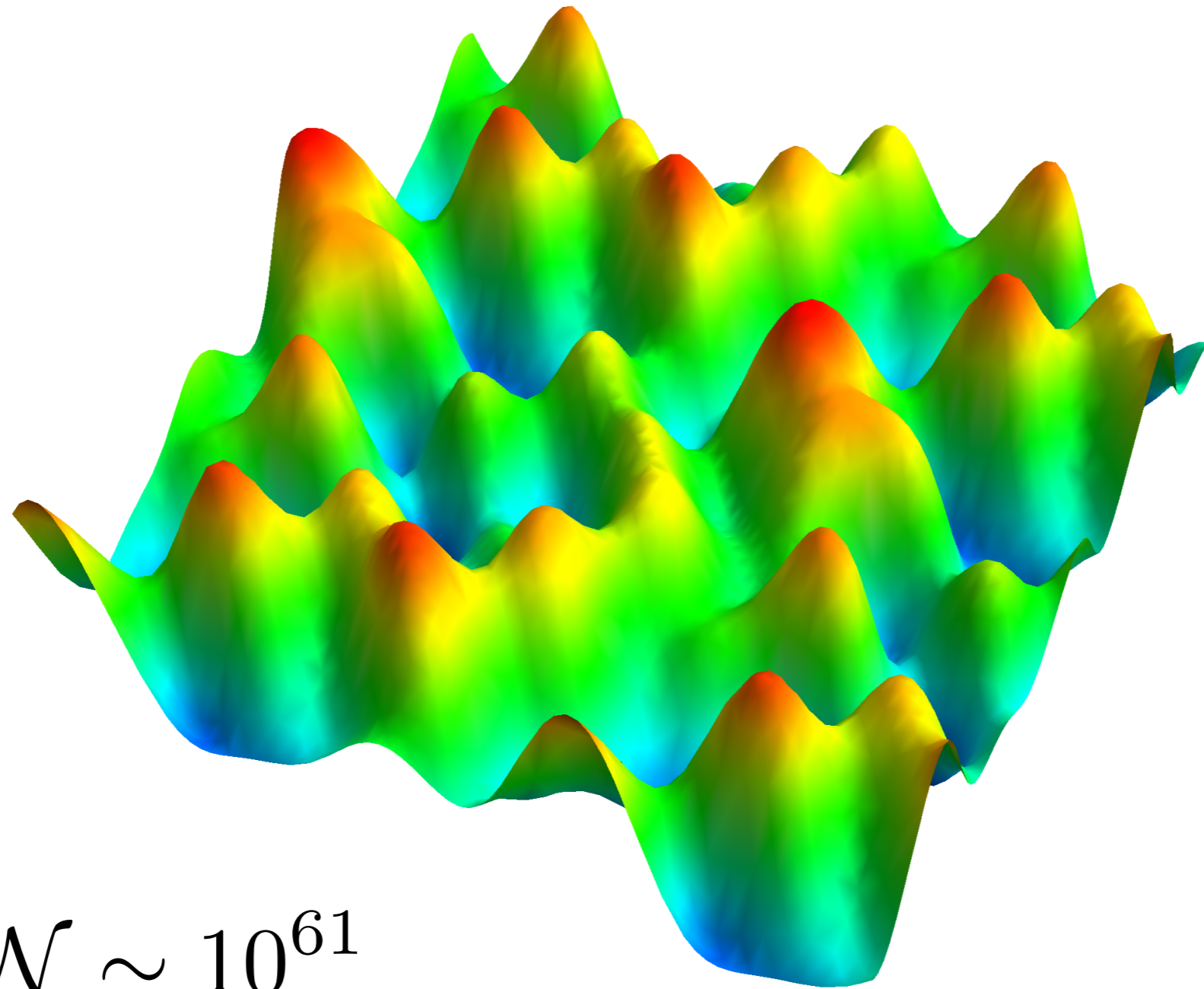
# QCD-Axion Allowed Windows



Hertzberg, Tegmark, Wilczek 0807.1726

Focus on Classic Window

# In Classic Window; Axion Initial Distribution



$$\mathcal{N} \sim 10^{61}$$

# Consider Non-Relativistic Behavior $\phi \rightarrow \psi$

## Hamiltonian

$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_{\text{kin}} + \hat{H}_{\text{int}} + \hat{H}_{\text{grav}}$$

$$\hat{H}_{\text{kin}} = \int d^3x \frac{1}{2m} \nabla \hat{\psi}^\dagger \cdot \nabla \hat{\psi}$$

$$\hat{H}_{\text{int}} = \int d^3x \frac{\lambda}{16m^2} \hat{\psi}^\dagger \hat{\psi}^\dagger \hat{\psi} \hat{\psi}$$

$$\hat{H}_{\text{grav}} = -\frac{Gm^2}{2} \int d^3x \int d^3x' \frac{\hat{\psi}^\dagger(\mathbf{x}) \hat{\psi}^\dagger(\mathbf{x}') \hat{\psi}(\mathbf{x}) \hat{\psi}(\mathbf{x}')}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|}$$

## Number Density

$$\hat{n}(\mathbf{x}) = \hat{\psi}^\dagger(\mathbf{x}) \hat{\psi}(\mathbf{x})$$

(For rigorous treatment: Namjoo, Guth, Kaiser 2017)

# Gravitational Thermalization?

## Equation of Motion

$$i \dot{\psi} = -\frac{1}{2m} \nabla^2 \psi + \frac{\lambda}{8m^2} |\psi|^2 \psi - Gm^2 \psi \int d^3 x' \frac{|\psi(\mathbf{x}')|^2}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|}$$



# Gravitational Thermalization?

## Equation of Motion

$$i \dot{\psi} = -\frac{1}{2m} \nabla^2 \psi + \frac{\lambda}{8m^2} |\psi|^2 \psi - Gm^2 \psi \int d^3 x' \frac{|\psi(\mathbf{x}')|^2}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|}$$

## Interaction Rate of Modes

$$\Gamma_k \sim \frac{8\pi G m^2 n_{ave}}{k^2}$$

## Collective rate from coherent Bosons

Much greater than dilute bosons

$$\Gamma \sim \frac{G^2 m^2 n_{ave}}{v^3}$$

- Sikivie, Yang (2009), Erken, Sikivie, Tam, Yang (2011)

# Gravitational Thermalization?

## Equation of Motion

$$i \dot{\psi} = -\frac{1}{2m} \nabla^2 \psi + \frac{\lambda}{8m^2} |\psi|^2 \psi - Gm^2 \psi \int d^3 x' \frac{|\psi(\mathbf{x}')|^2}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|}$$

## Interaction Rate of Modes

$$\Gamma_k \sim \frac{8\pi G m^2 n_{\text{ave}}}{k^2}$$

## Collective rate from coherent Bosons

Thermalization  $\Gamma_k > H$  at late times (BEC)

- Sikivie, Yang (2009), Erken, Sikivie, Tam, Yang (2011)

# Axion BEC Literature

- Sikivie, Yang (2009)
- Erken, Sikivie, Tam, Yang (2011)
- Chavanis (2012)
- Banik, Sikivie (2013)
- Davidson, Elmer (2013)
- Nouri, Saikawa, Sato, Yamaguchi (2014)
- Vega, Sanchez (2014)
- Li, Rindler-Daller, Shapiro (2014)
- Berges, Haeckel (2014)
- Banik, Christopherson, Sikivie, Todarello (2015)
- Davidson (2015)
- .....

# Classical Description of BEC Phase Transition

Free Theory

$$F[\psi] = \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} \left[ \frac{k^2}{2m} - \mu(T) \right] |\psi_k|^2$$

Number

$$\langle N \rangle = \frac{\int \mathcal{D}\psi N[\psi] \exp(-F[\psi]/T)}{\int \mathcal{D}\psi \exp(-F[\psi]/T)}$$

Density

$$n_{\text{th}} = \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{T}{\frac{k^2}{2m} - \mu(T)}$$

Critical Temperature

$$T_{\text{crit}} = \frac{\pi^2 n_{\text{tot}}}{m k_{\text{UV}}^2}$$

# Classical Description of BEC Phase Transition

While BEC is a very quantum phenomenon from the PARTICLE point of view

BEC is a very classical phenomenon from the FIELD point of view

# Classical vs Quantum with Interactions

# What About Interactions?

Fundamental claim of Sikivie, Todarello, 1607.00949

On time scales  $t > \tau = 1/\Gamma$  the classical description breaks down, requiring the full quantum theory, which is the only way to see thermalization

# Toy Model

## Second Quantized Language

$$\hat{H} = \sum_i \omega_i \hat{a}_i^\dagger \hat{a}_i + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{ijkl} \Lambda_{ij}^{kl} \hat{a}_i^\dagger \hat{a}_j^\dagger \hat{a}_k \hat{a}_l,$$

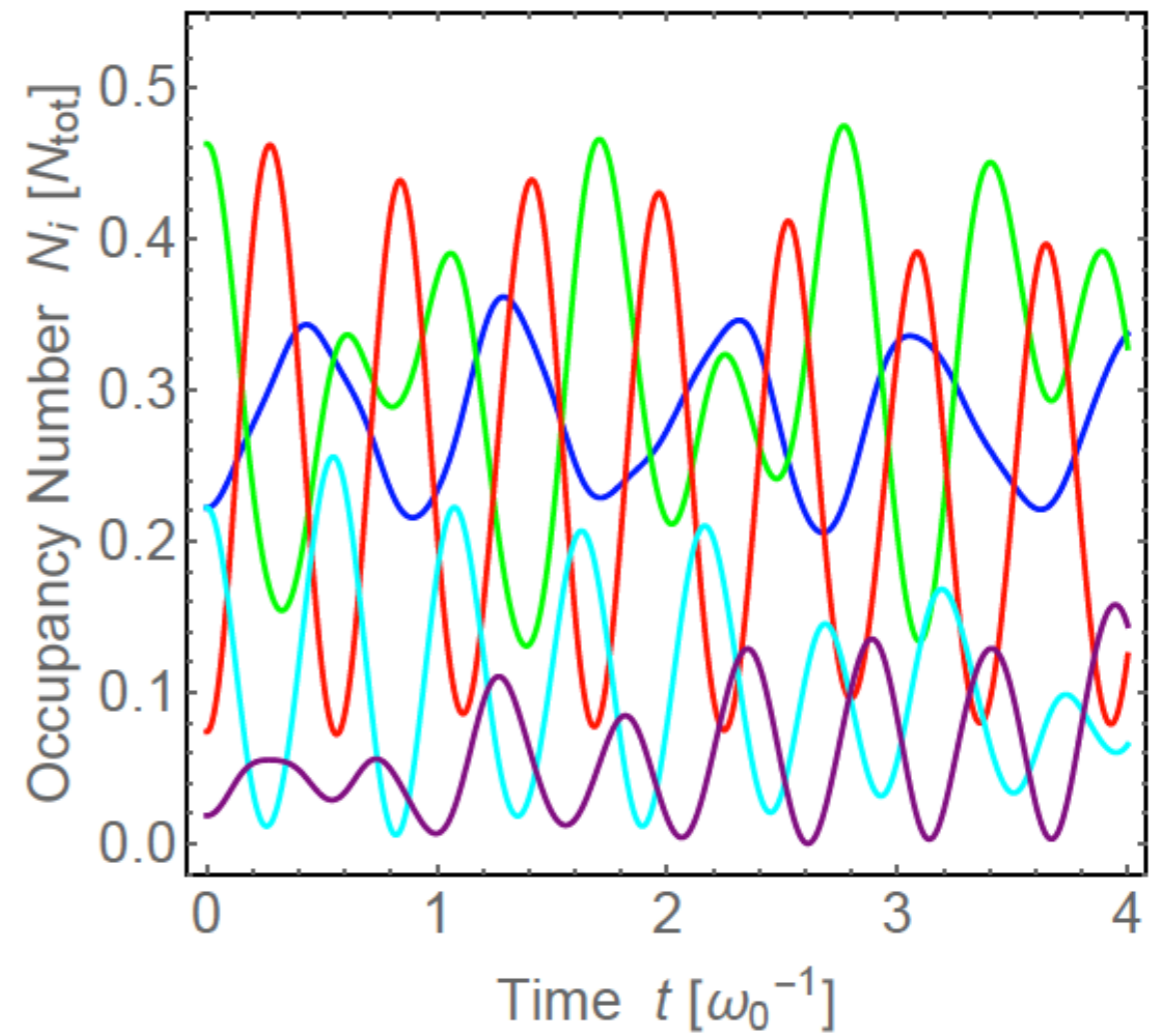
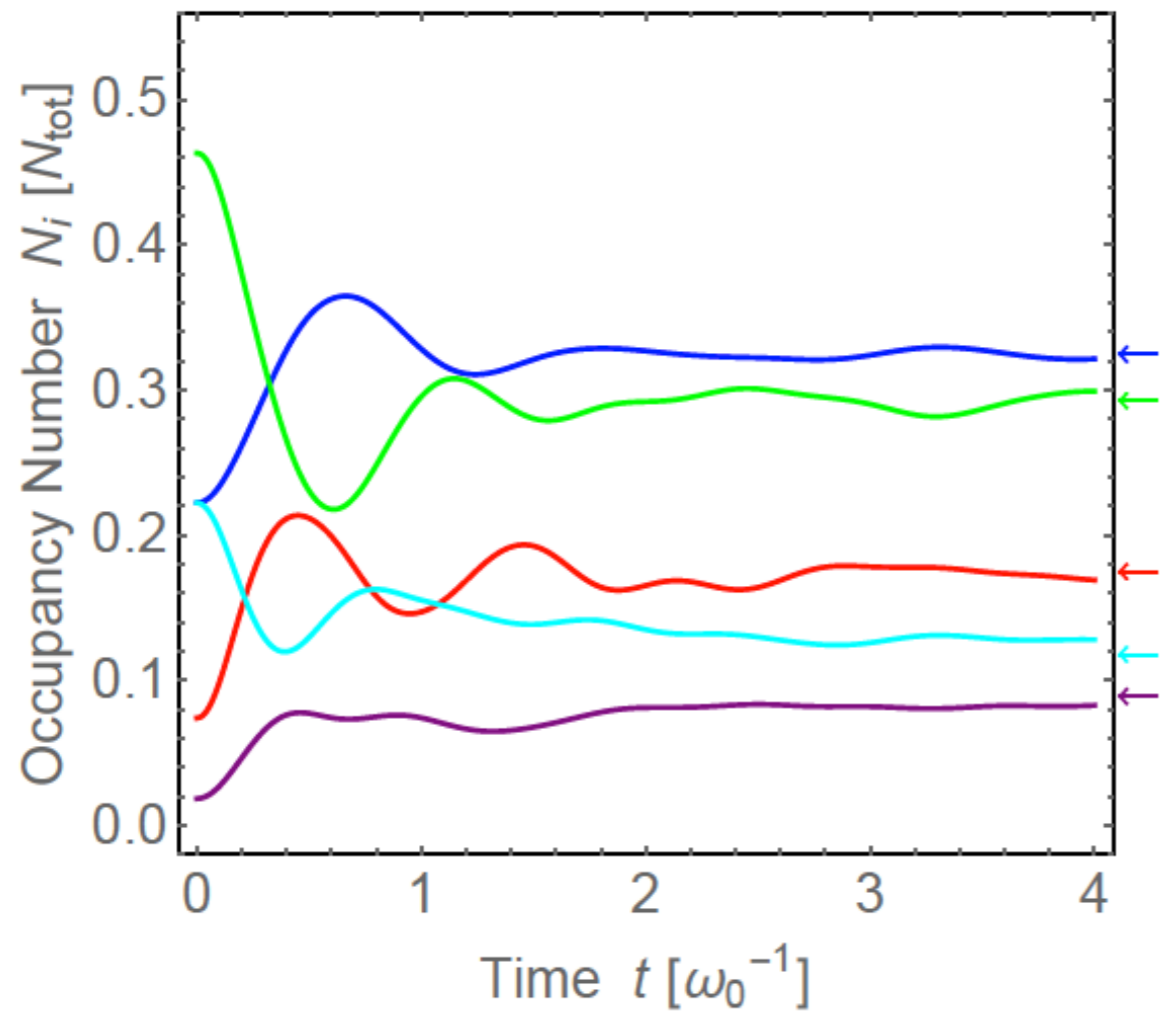
Consider just 5 oscillators for simplicity

Initial quantum state  $|\{N_i\}\rangle = |12, 25, 4, 12, 1\rangle$

Initial classical state  $a_i = \sqrt{N_i}$



# Quantum vs Classical??



Sikivie, Todarello, 1607.00949

# Correct Classical Treatment

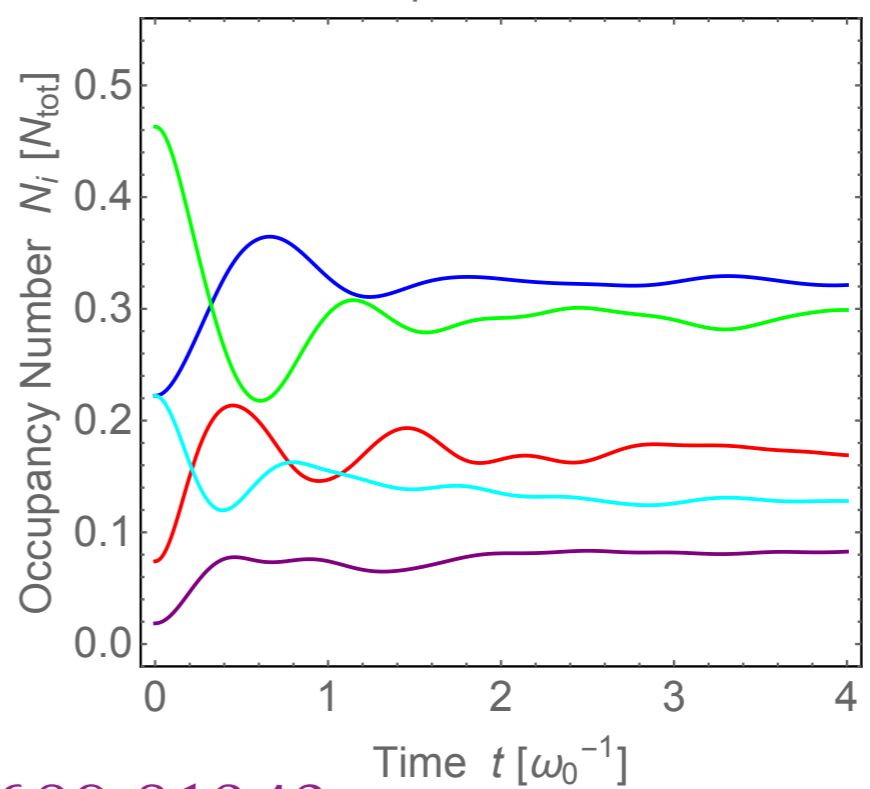
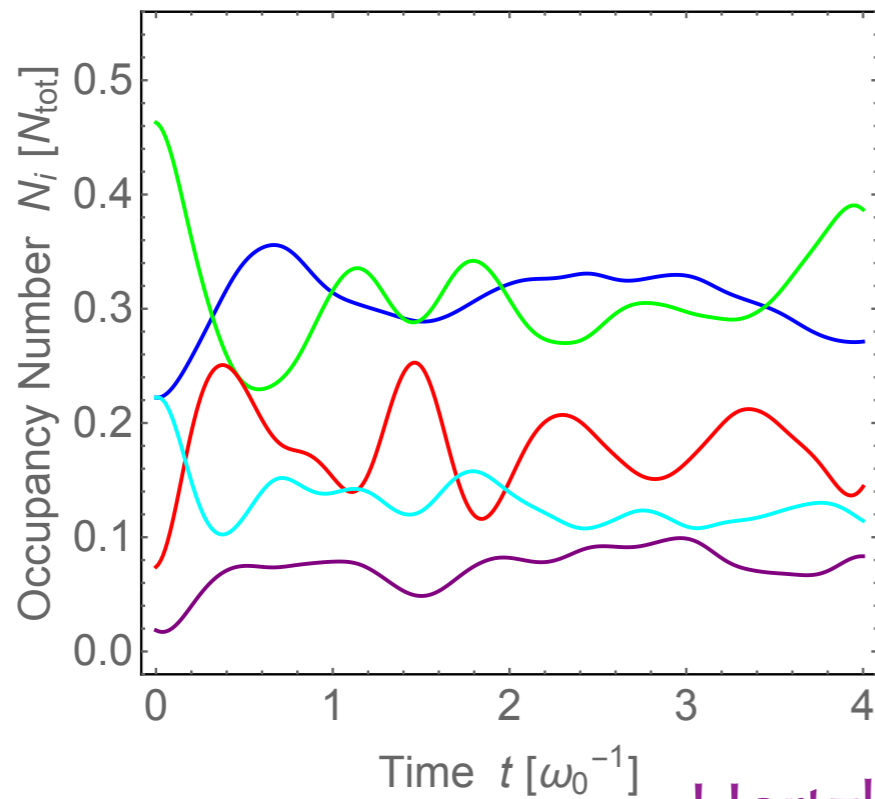
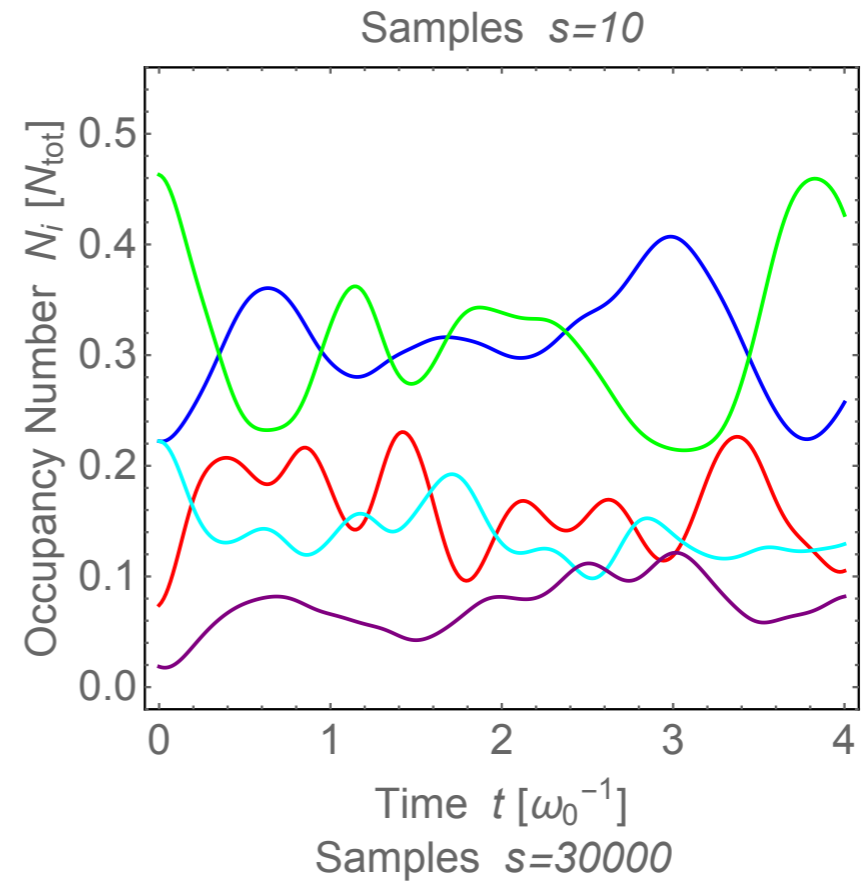
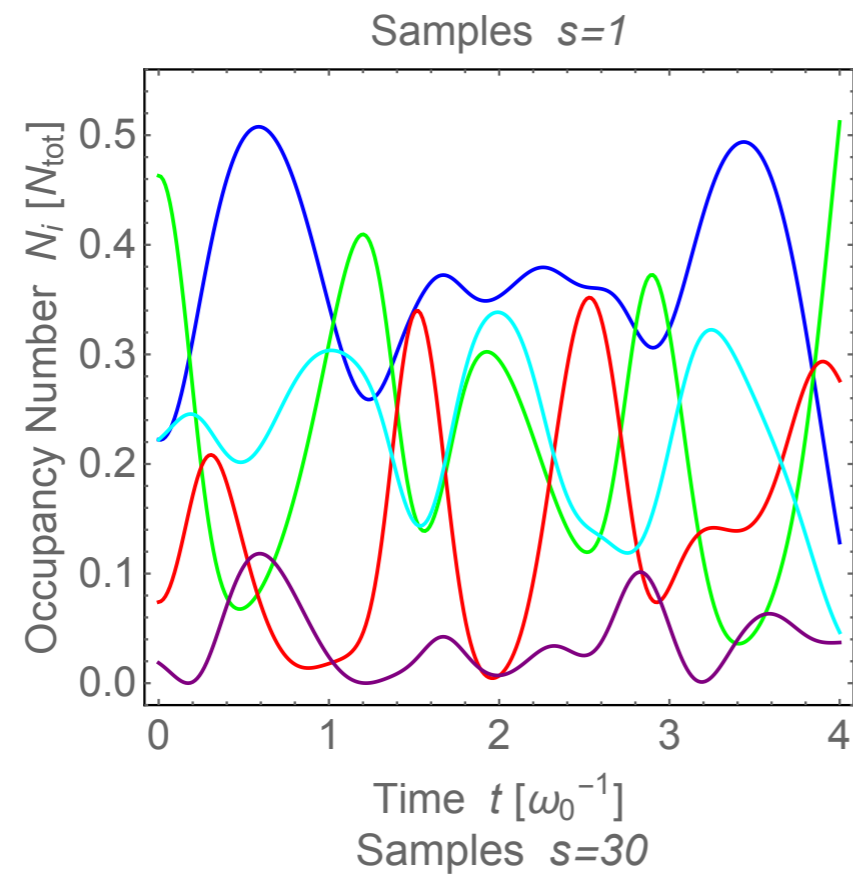
Initial classical state  $a_i = \sqrt{N_i} e^{I\theta_i}, \quad \theta_i \in [0, 2\pi)$

Ensemble average over random initial phases

Meaningful comparison

Connects to uncertainty in branch of wavefunction

# Correct Classical Treatment



Hertzberg 1609.01342

# Implication for Correlation Functions

# Implication for Correlation Functions

At high occupancy

$$\langle \{N_i\} | \hat{\psi}^\dagger(\mathbf{x}, t) \hat{\psi}(\mathbf{y}, t) | \{N_i\} \rangle \approx \langle \psi^*(\mathbf{x}, t) \psi(\mathbf{y}, t) \rangle_{ens}$$

Ergodic theorem

$$\langle \psi^*(\mathbf{x}, t) \psi(\mathbf{y}, t) \rangle_{ens} = \frac{1}{V} \int_V d^3 z \psi_\mu^*(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{z}, t) \psi_\mu(\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{z}, t)$$

# Implication for Correlation Functions

Correlation functions of quantum and classical micro-states agree at high occupancy, despite the spread of the quantum wave-function in these chaotic systems

(Note: this is not some trivial consequence of Ehrenfest theorem; more akin to billiard balls which exhibit chaos)

# Implication for Axion Dark Matter

Statistically, axions are well described by classical field theory, after all

What is the BEC?

# Implication for Axion Dark Matter

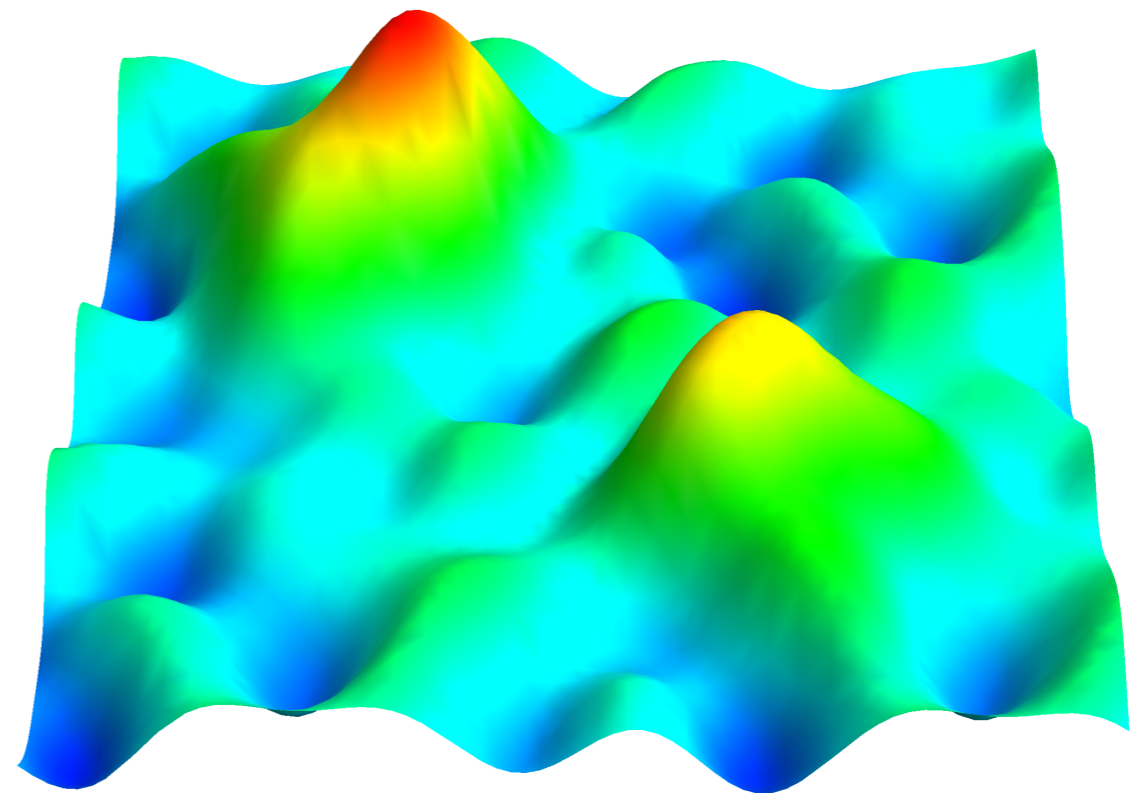
Statistically, axions are well described by classical field theory, after all

What is the BEC?

Small clumps

that may populate the galaxy

(Simulations: Safdi talk today)





# Axion Clumps in Detail

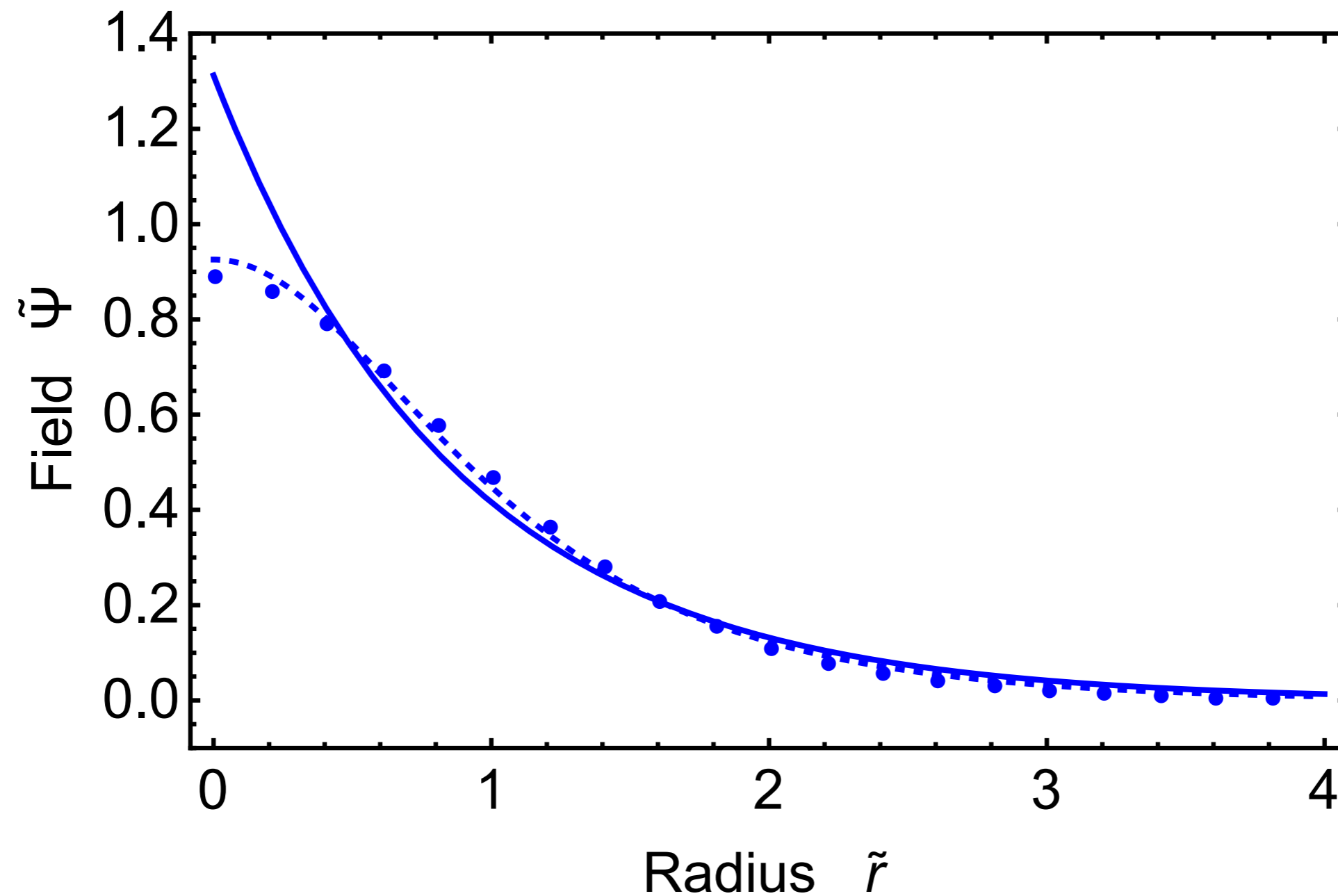
# Return to Non-Relativistic Classical Field Theory

## Equation of Motion

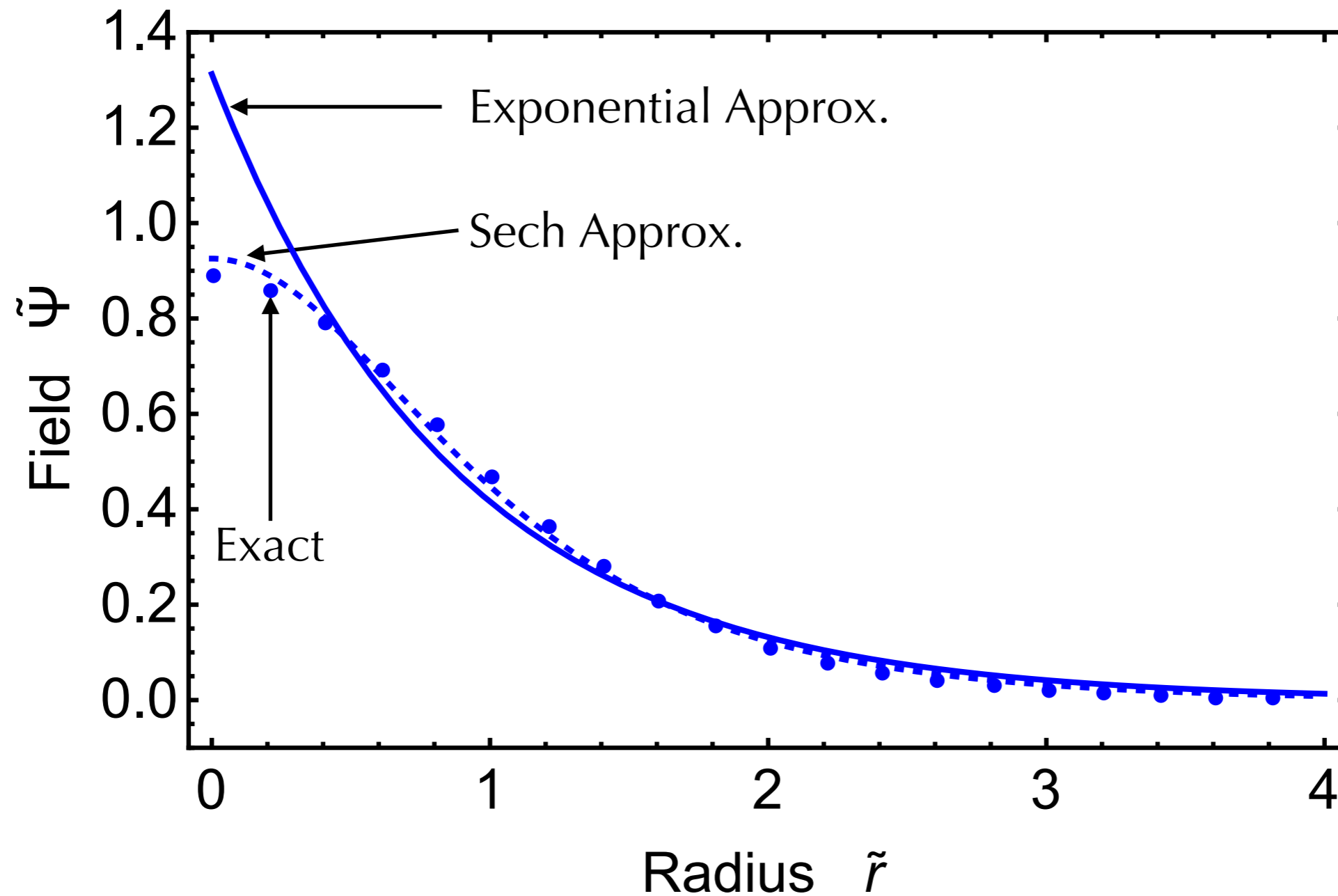
$$i \dot{\psi} = -\frac{1}{2m} \nabla^2 \psi + \frac{\lambda}{8m^2} |\psi|^2 \psi - Gm^2 \psi \int d^3x' \frac{|\psi(\mathbf{x}')|^2}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|}$$

$$(\lambda < 0)$$

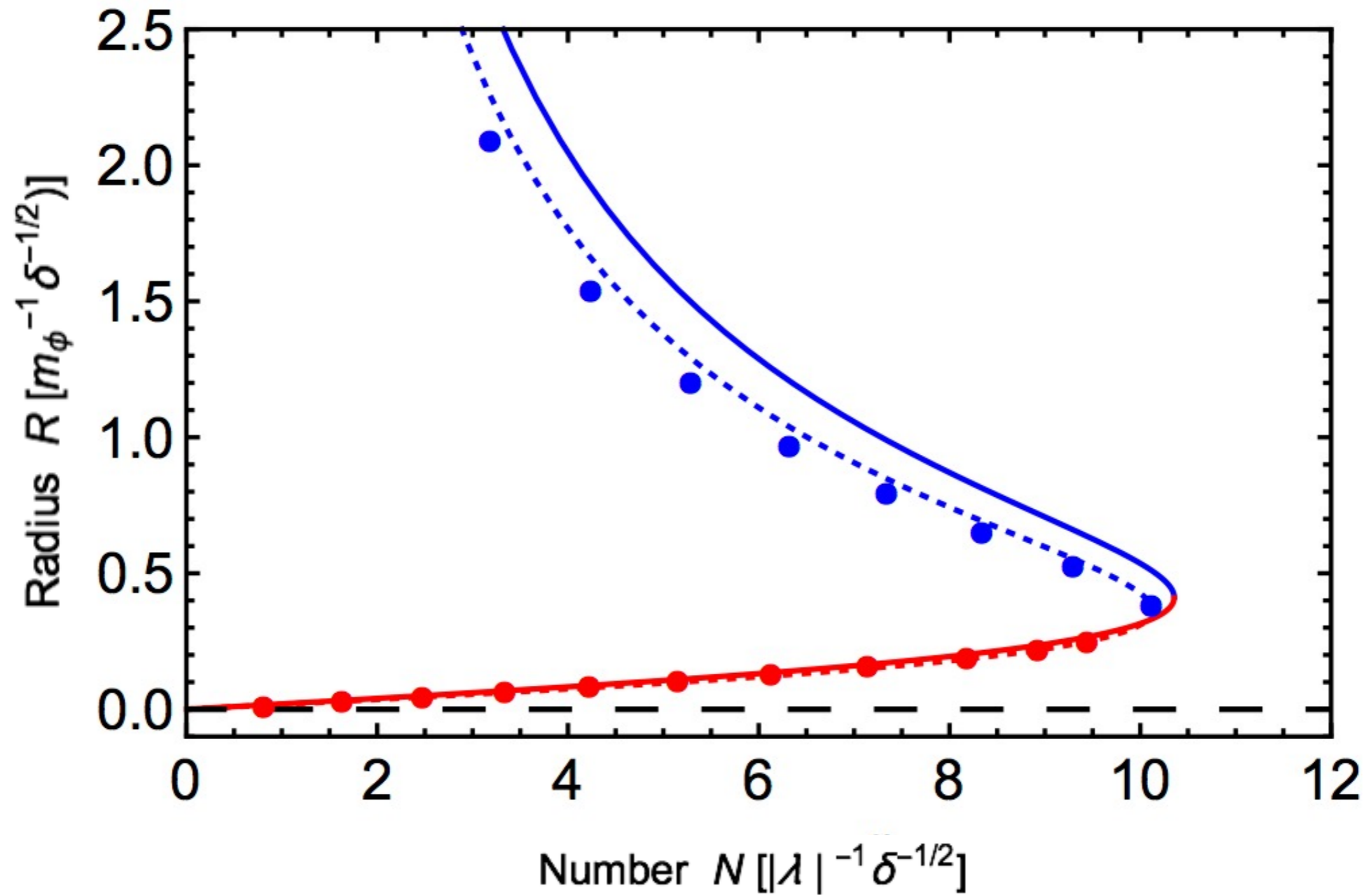
# Clump Solutions (BEC) at fixed N



# Clump Solutions (BEC) at fixed N

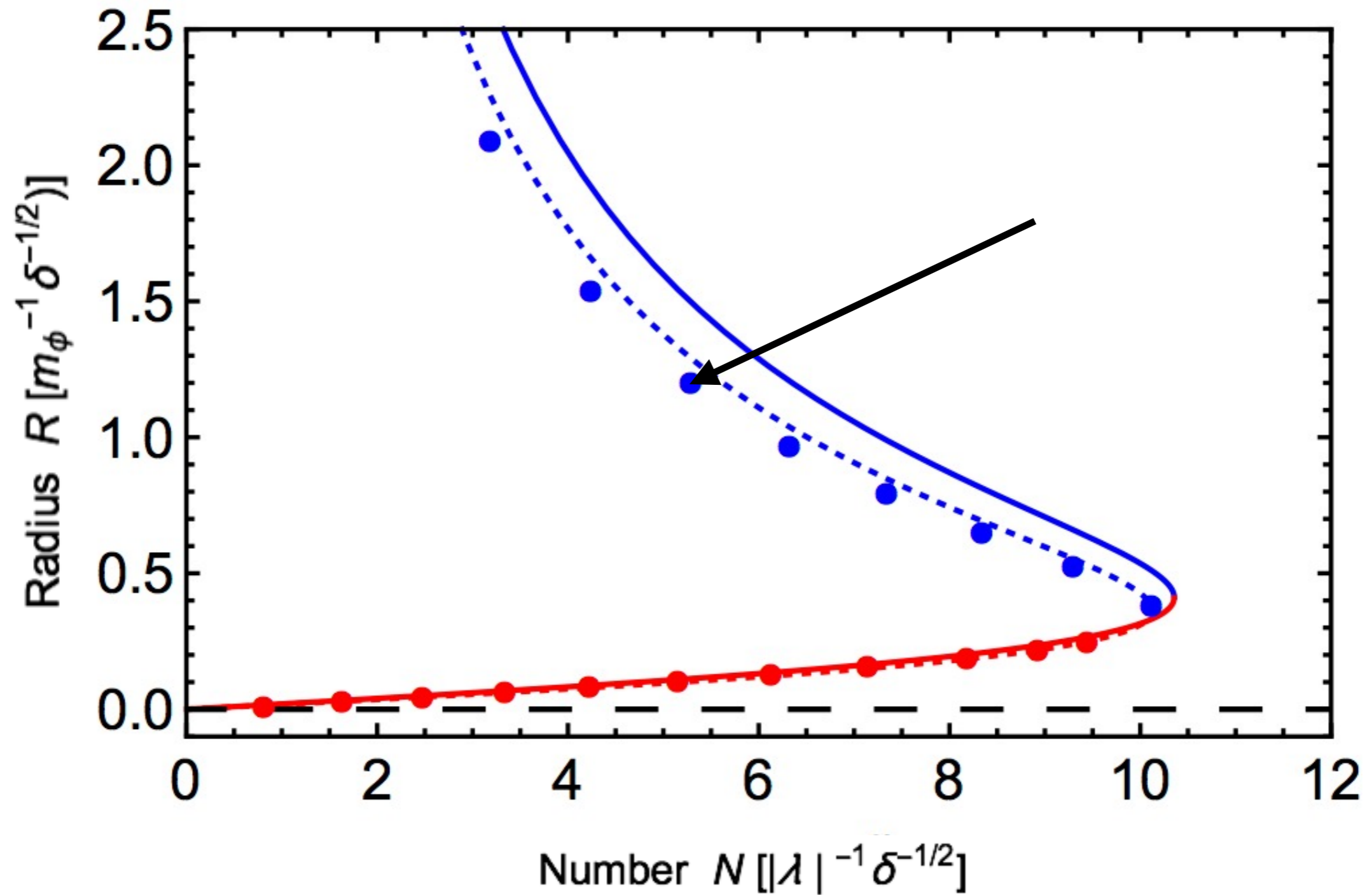


# Two Branches of Solutions



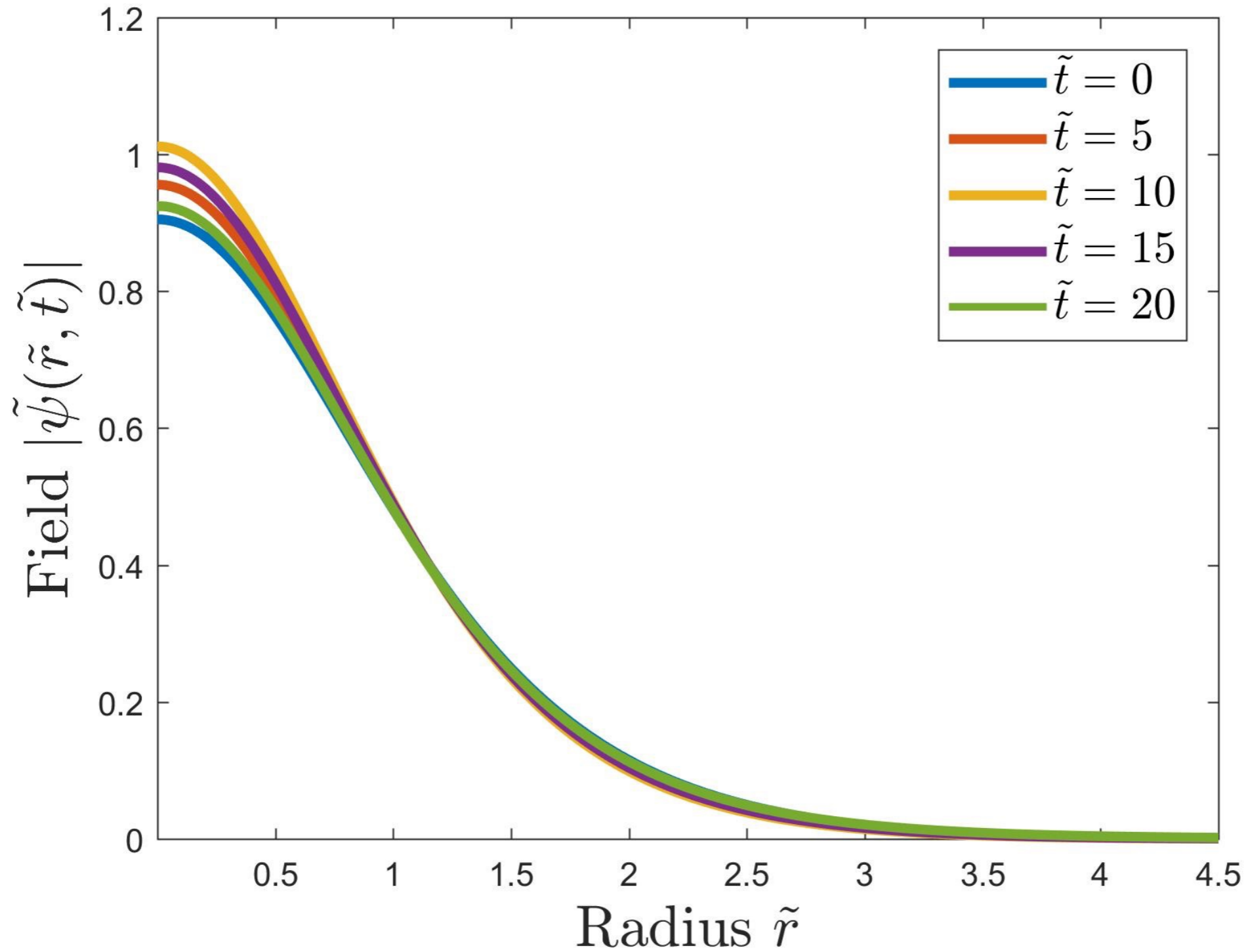
Schiappacasse, Hertzberg 1710.04729

# Two Branches of Solutions



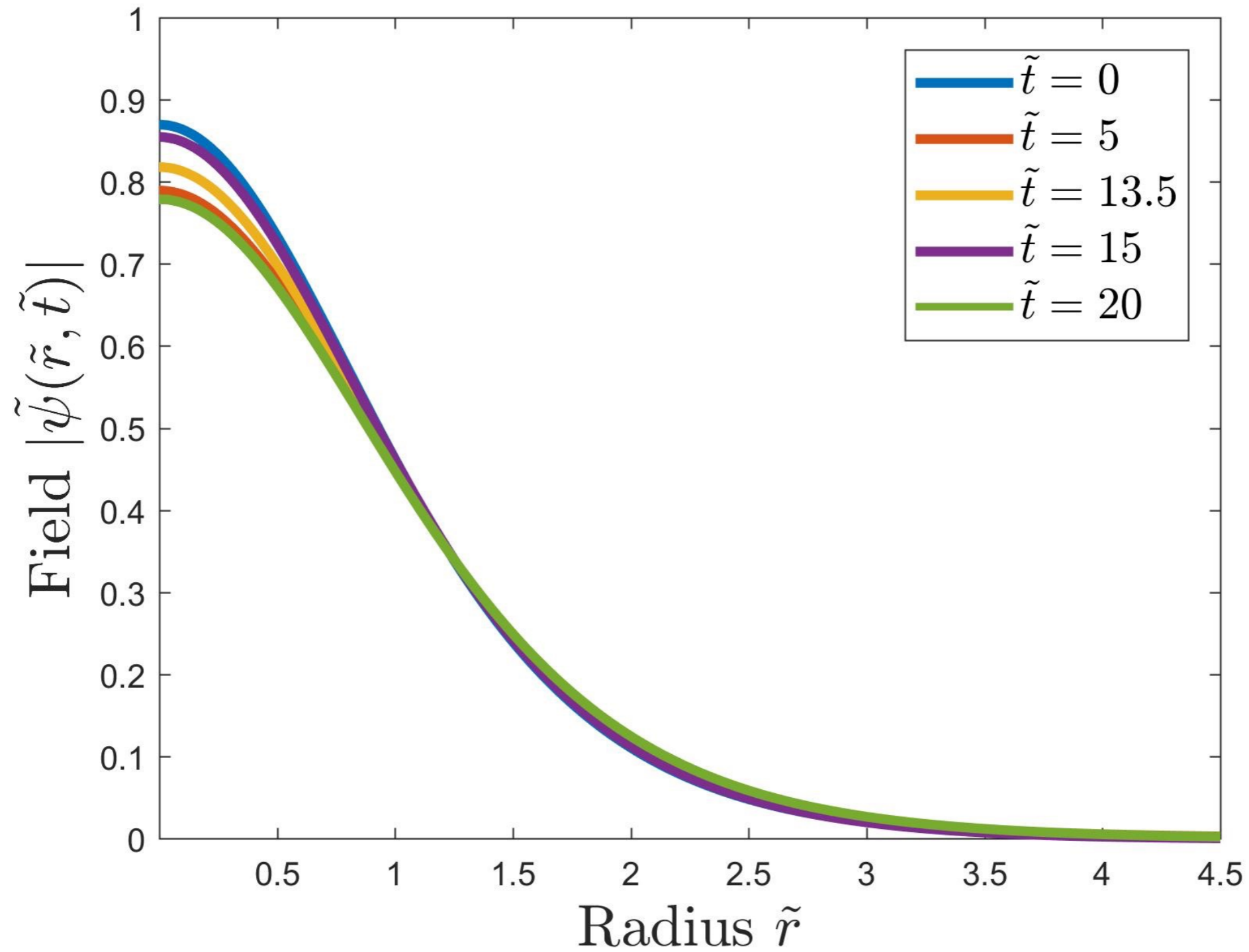
Schiappacasse, Hertzberg 1710.04729

# Perturbing Upper Branch



Schiappacasse, Hertzberg 1710.04729

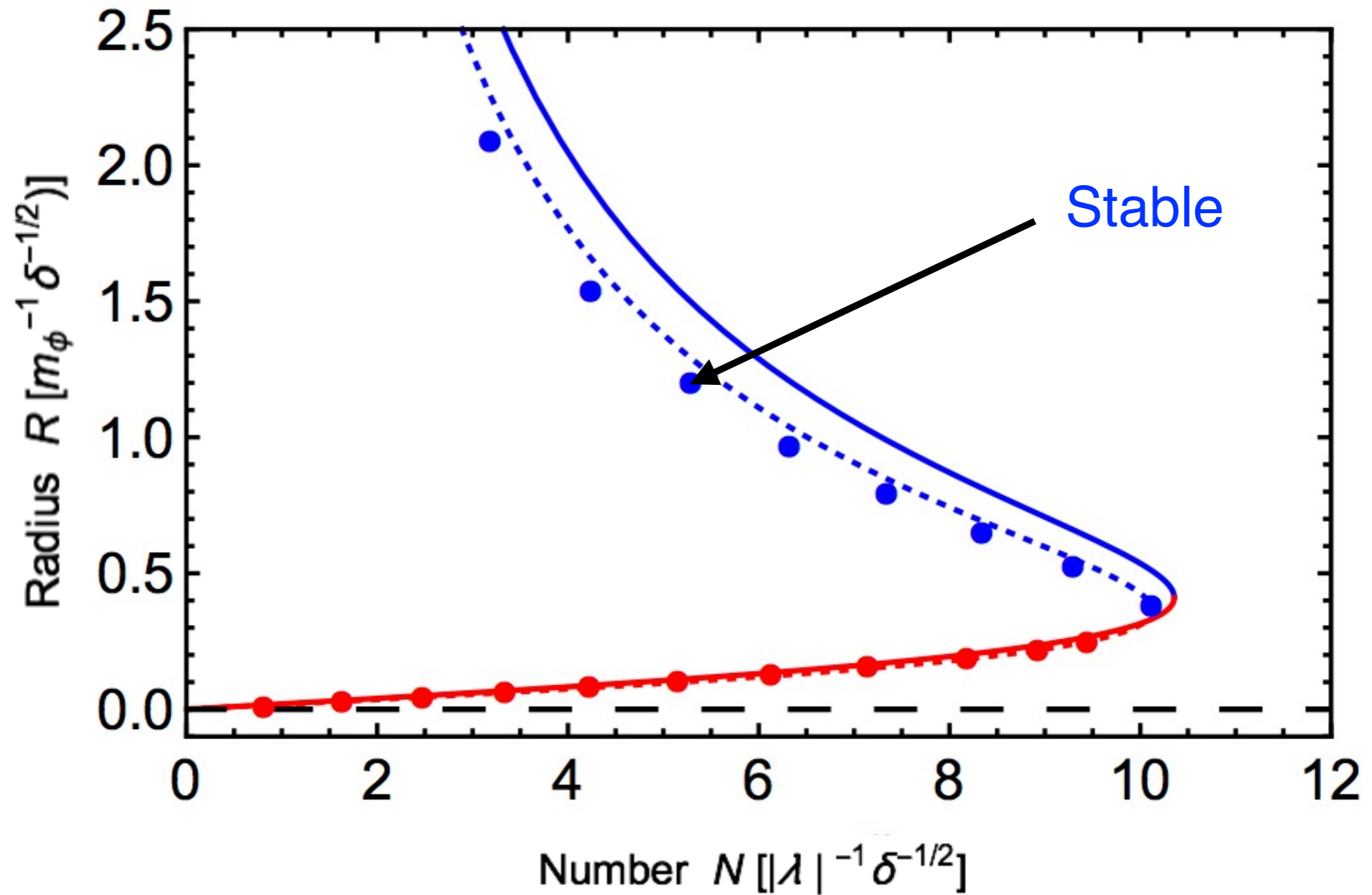
# Perturbing Upper Branch



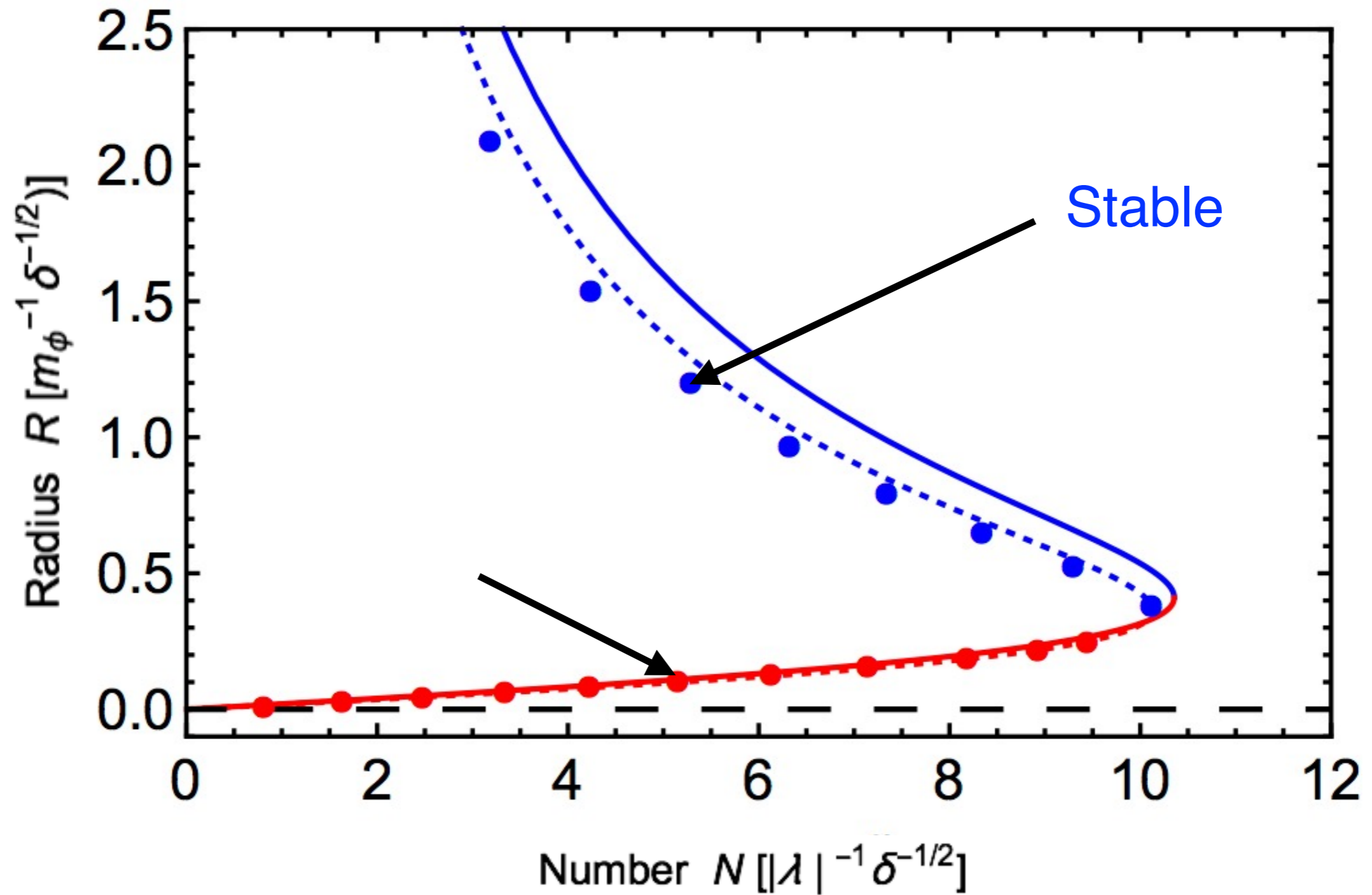
Schiappacasse, Hertzberg 1710.04729



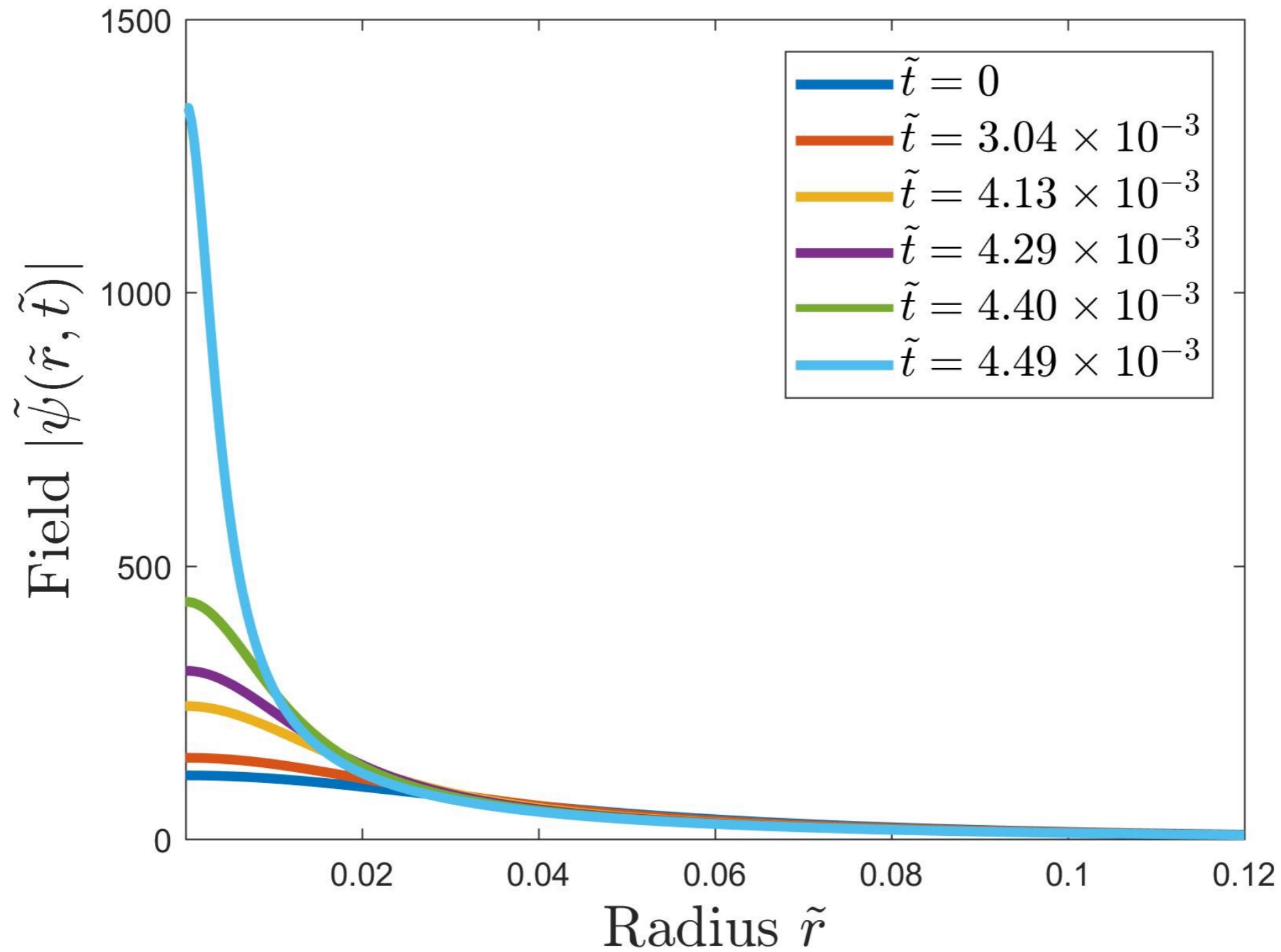
# Two Branches of Solutions



# Two Branches of Solutions

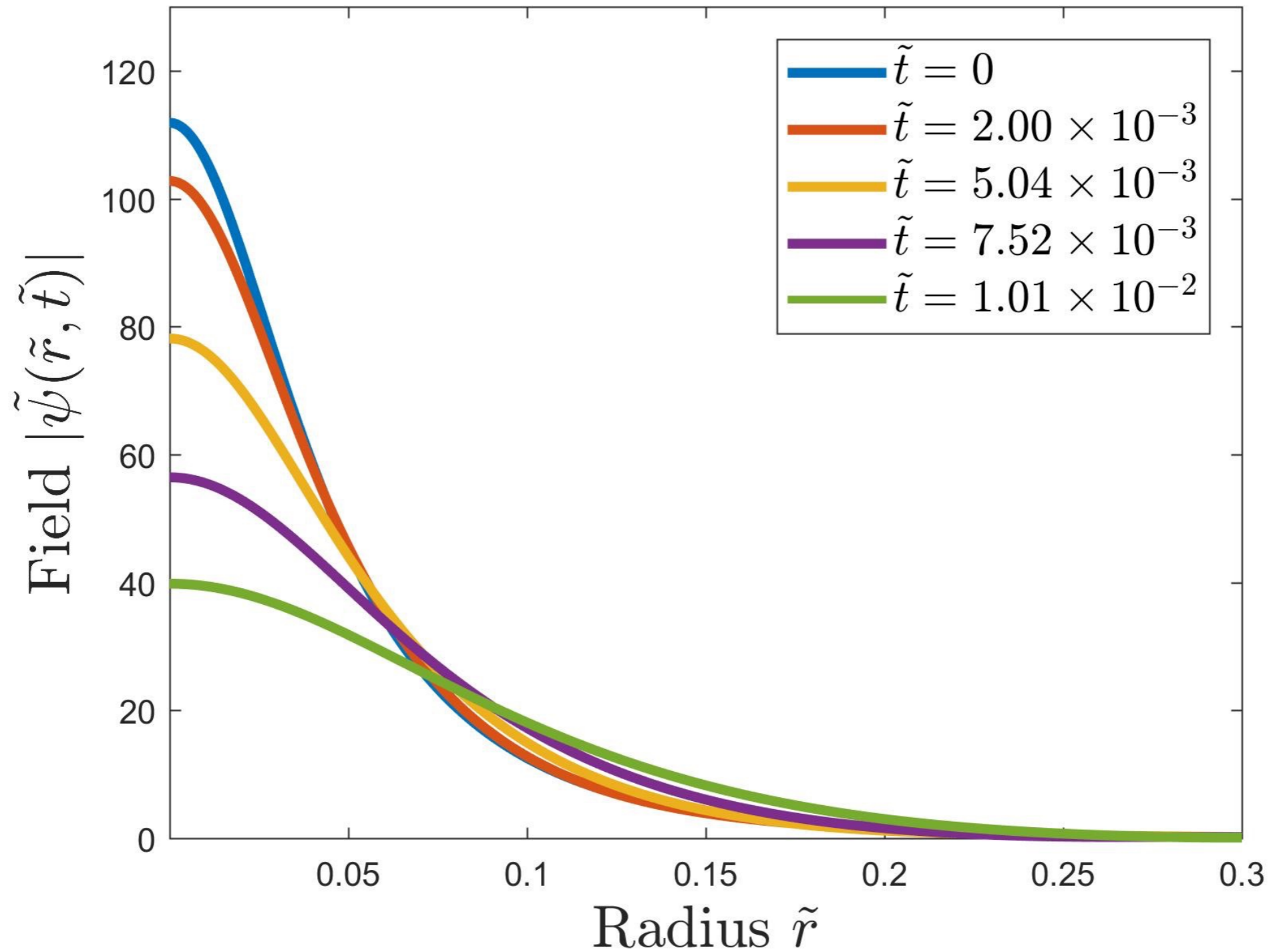


# Perturbing Lower Branch



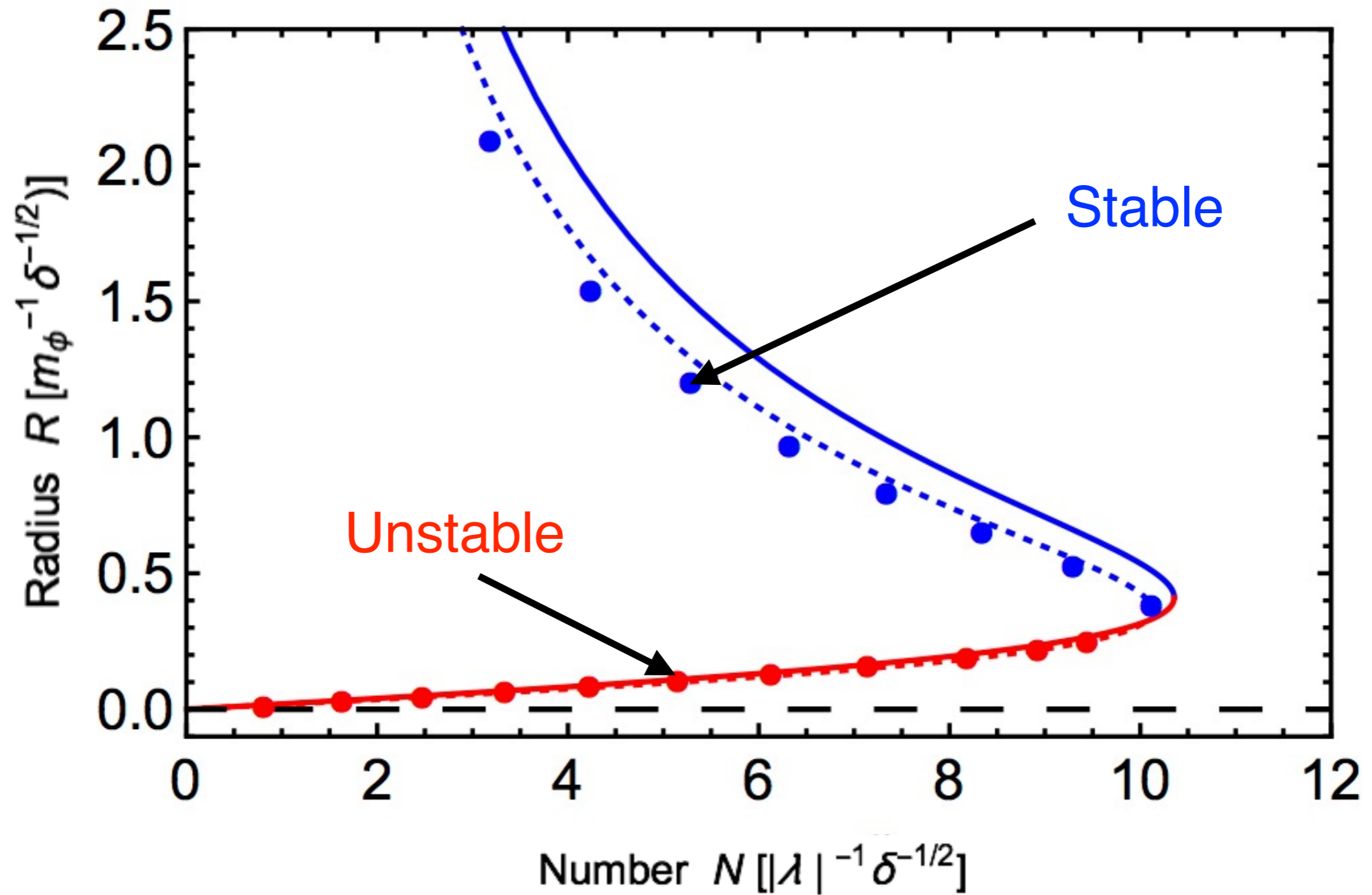
Schiappacasse, Hertzberg 1710.04729

# Perturbing Lower Branch



Schiappacasse, Hertzberg 1710.04729

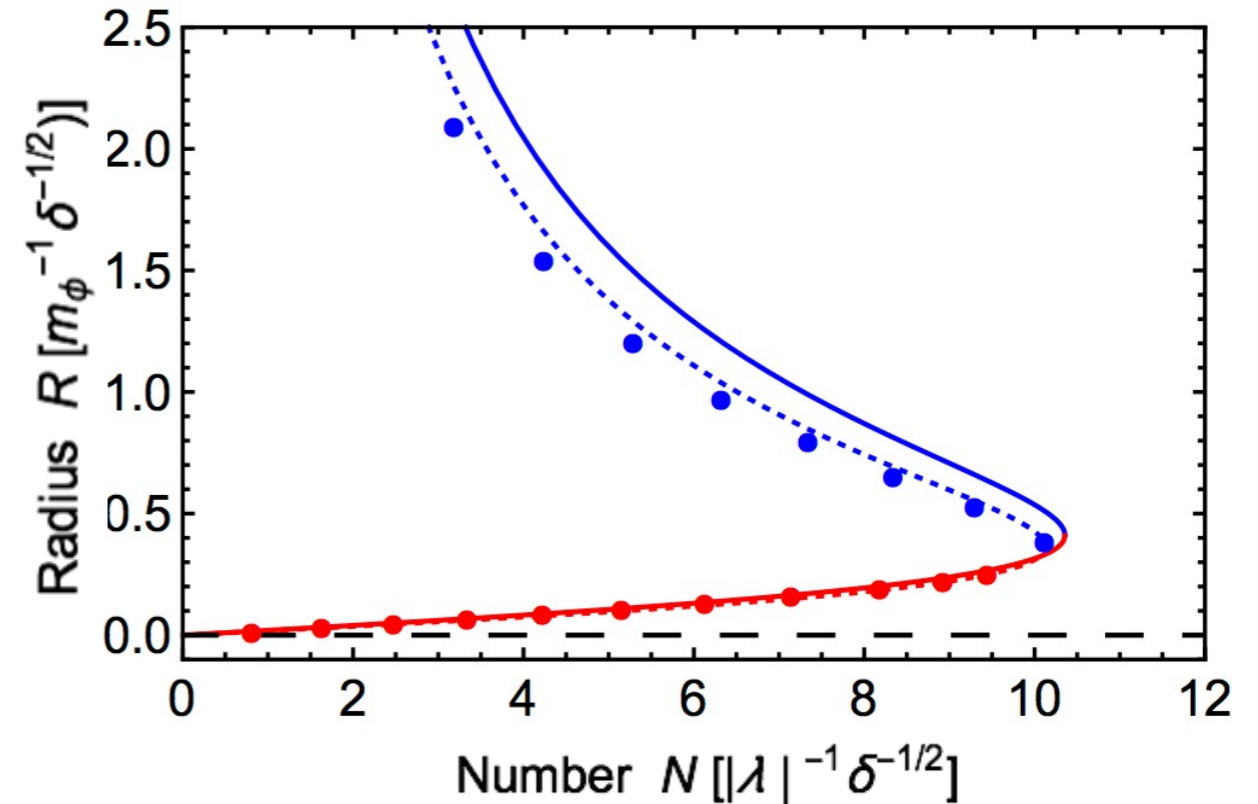
# Two Branches of Solutions



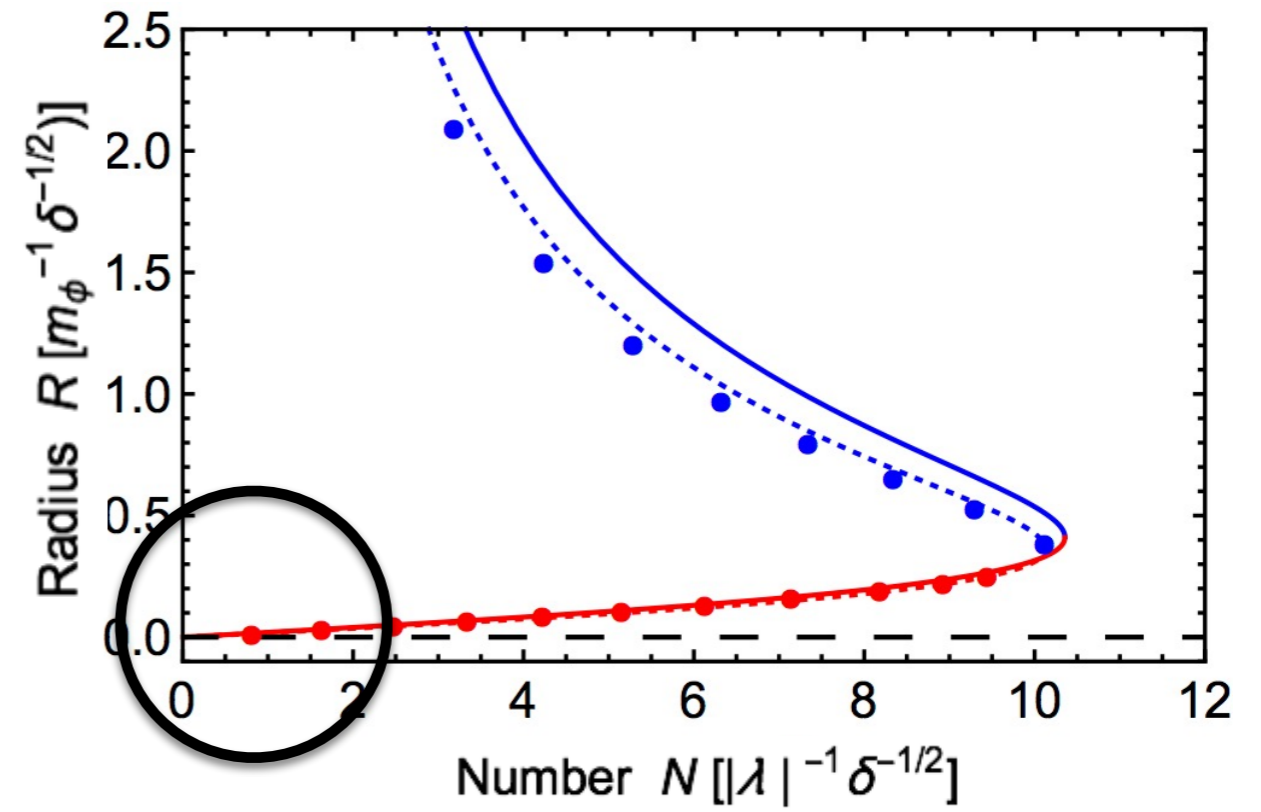
# Two Branches of Solutions

$$\begin{aligned}
 N_{max} &= \frac{f_a}{m^2 \sqrt{G}} \tilde{N}_{max} \sim 8 \times 10^{59} (\tilde{m}^{-2} \tilde{f}_a), \\
 M_{max} &= N_{max} m \sim 1.4 \times 10^{19} \text{ kg} (\tilde{m}^{-1} \tilde{f}_a), \\
 R_{90,min} &= \frac{a (\tilde{R}_{90}/\tilde{R})}{b N_{max} G m^3} \sim 130 \text{ km} (\tilde{m}^{-1} \tilde{f}_a^{-1}),
 \end{aligned}$$

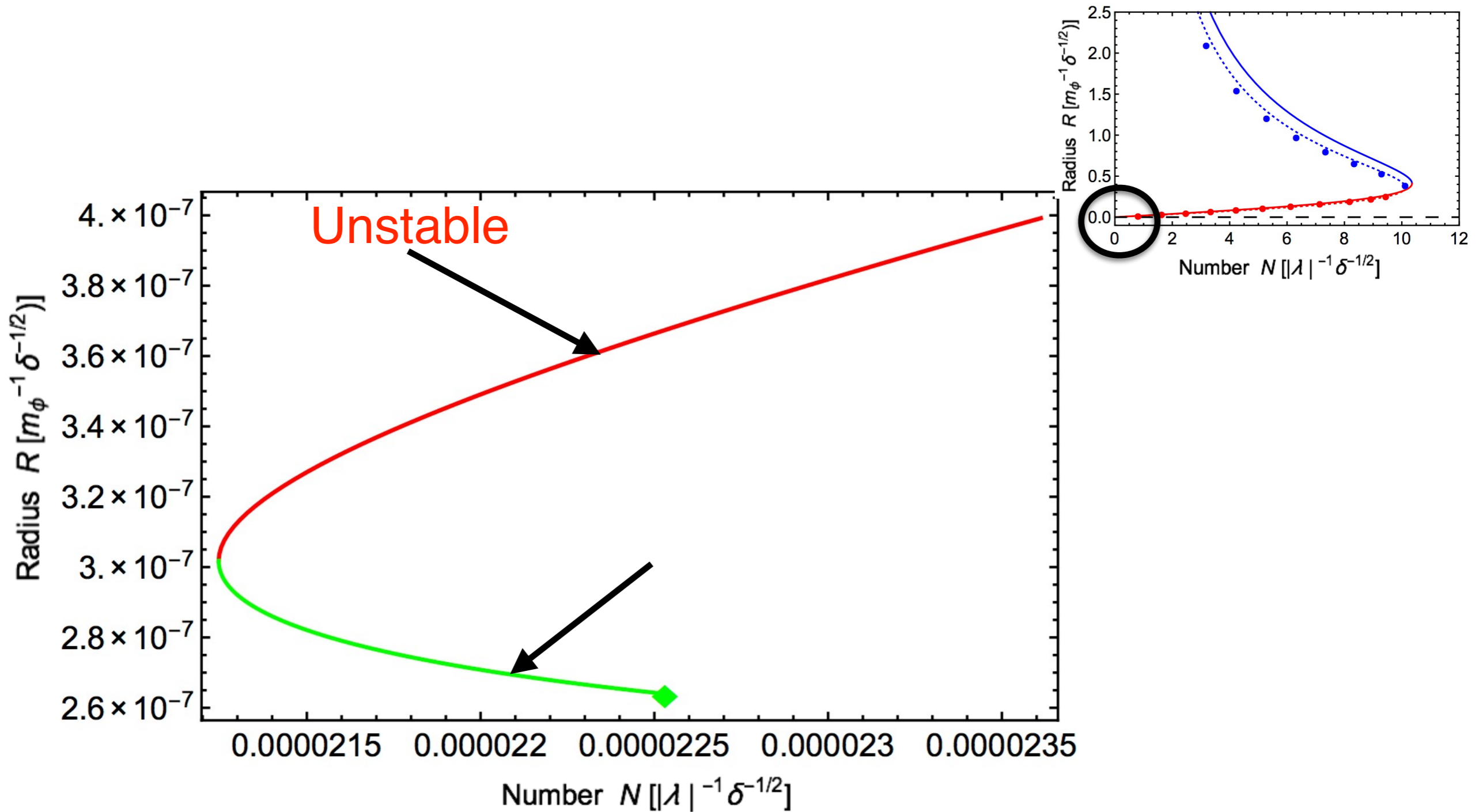
where  $\tilde{f}_a \equiv f_a / (6 \times 10^{11} \text{ GeV})$  and  $\tilde{m} \equiv m / (10^{-5} \text{ eV})$ .



# Relativistic Branch (Axiton)



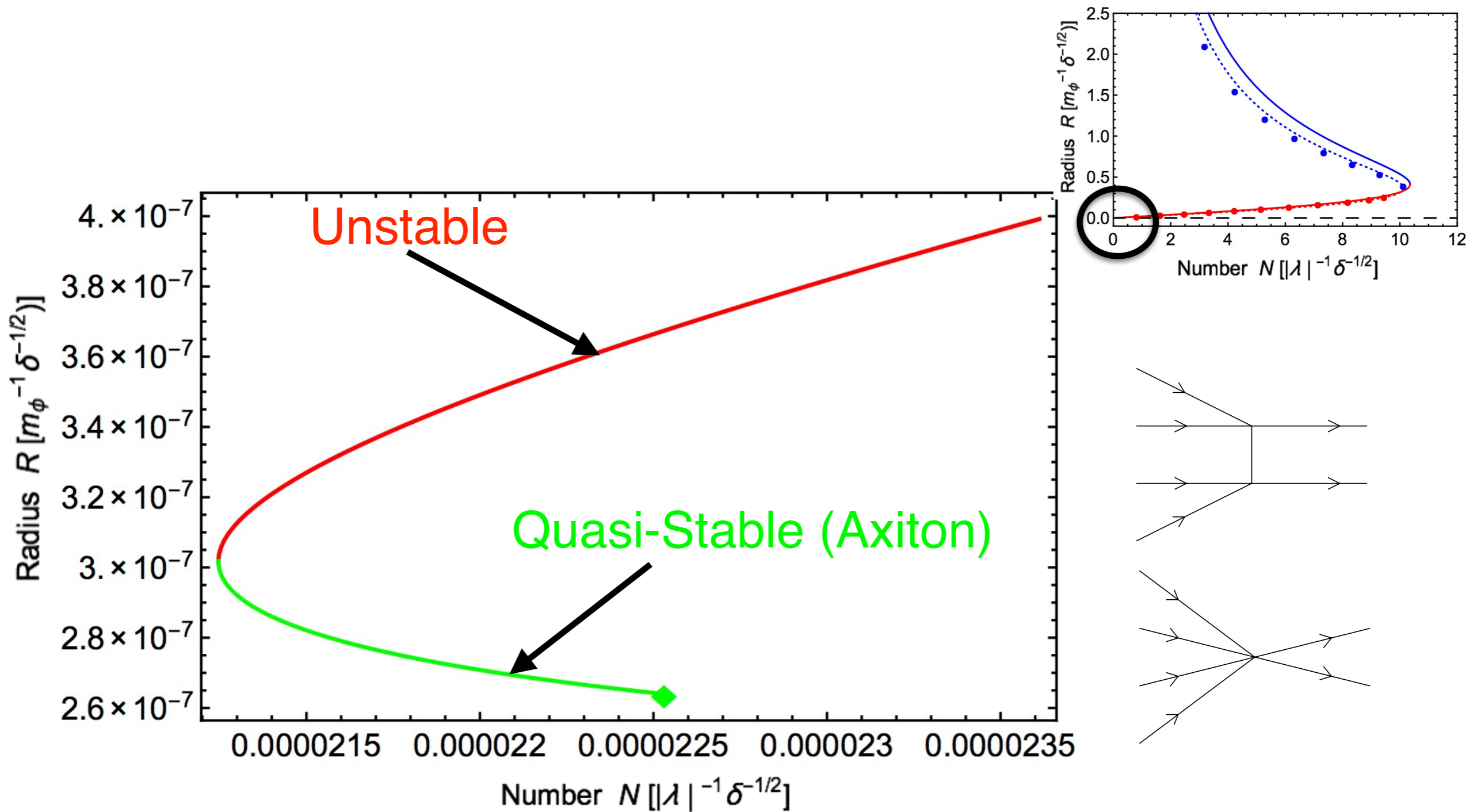
# Relativistic Branch (Axiton)



Kolb, Tkachev astro-ph/9311037, Schiappacasse, Hertzberg 1710.04729,  
Visinelli, Baum, Redondo, Freese, Wilczek 1710.08910



# Relativistic Branch (Axiton)

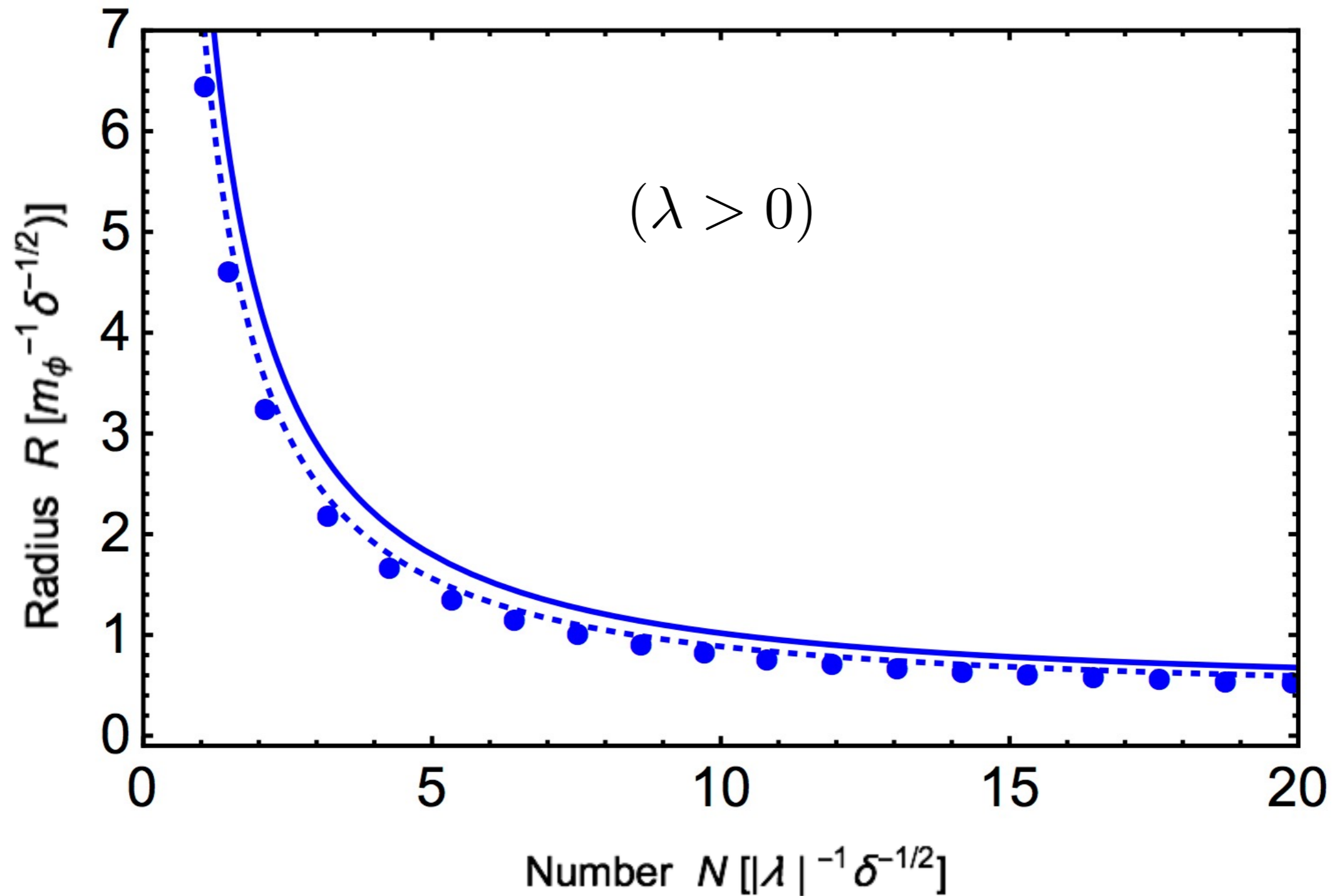


Kolb, Tkachev astro-ph/9311037, Schiappacasse, Hertzberg 1710.04729,  
Visinelli, Baum, Redondo, Freese, Wilczek 1710.08910

# Repulsive Self Interactions

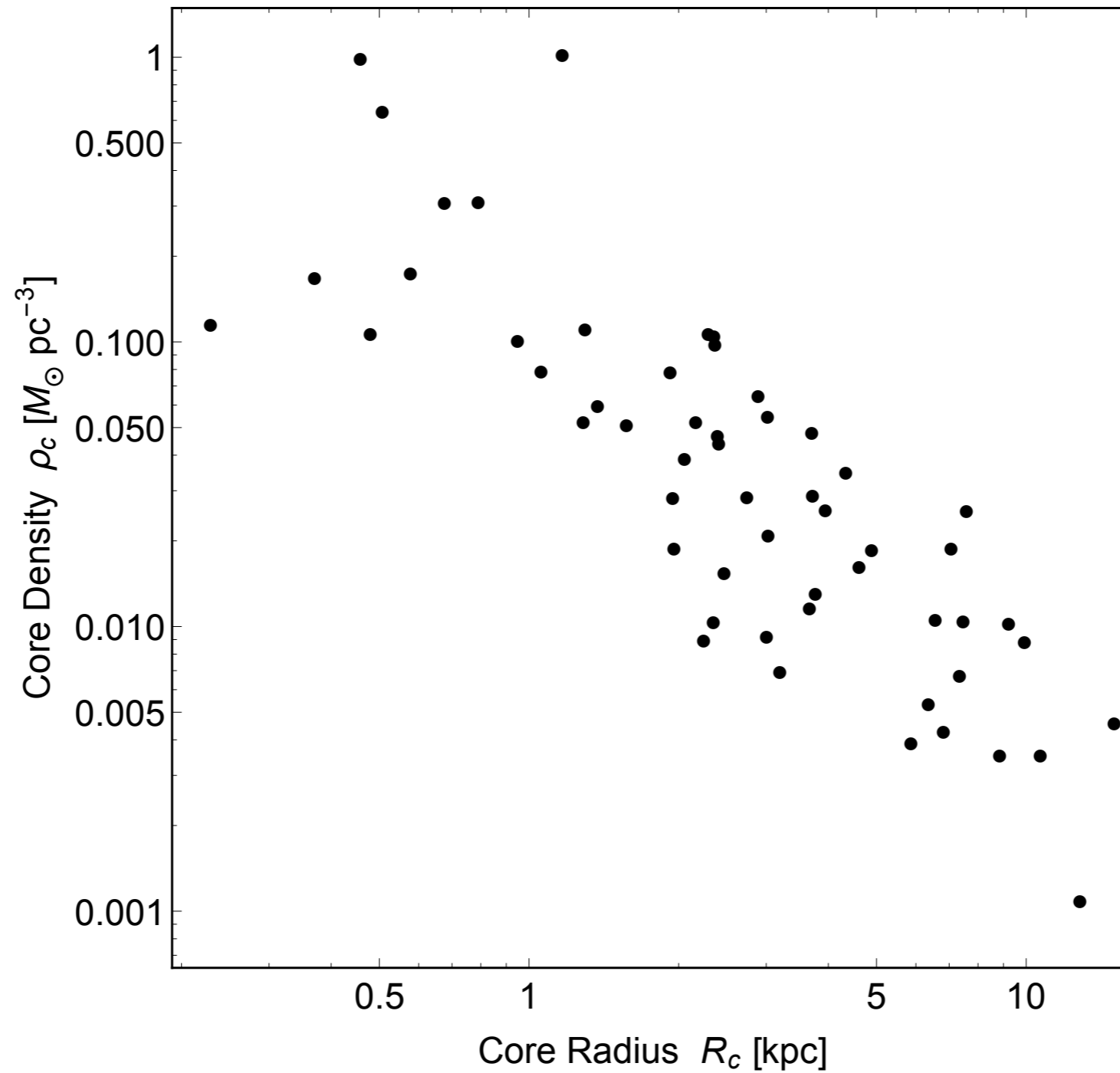
(see; Fan 2016)

# Repulsive Self Interaction (Axion-Like Particle)



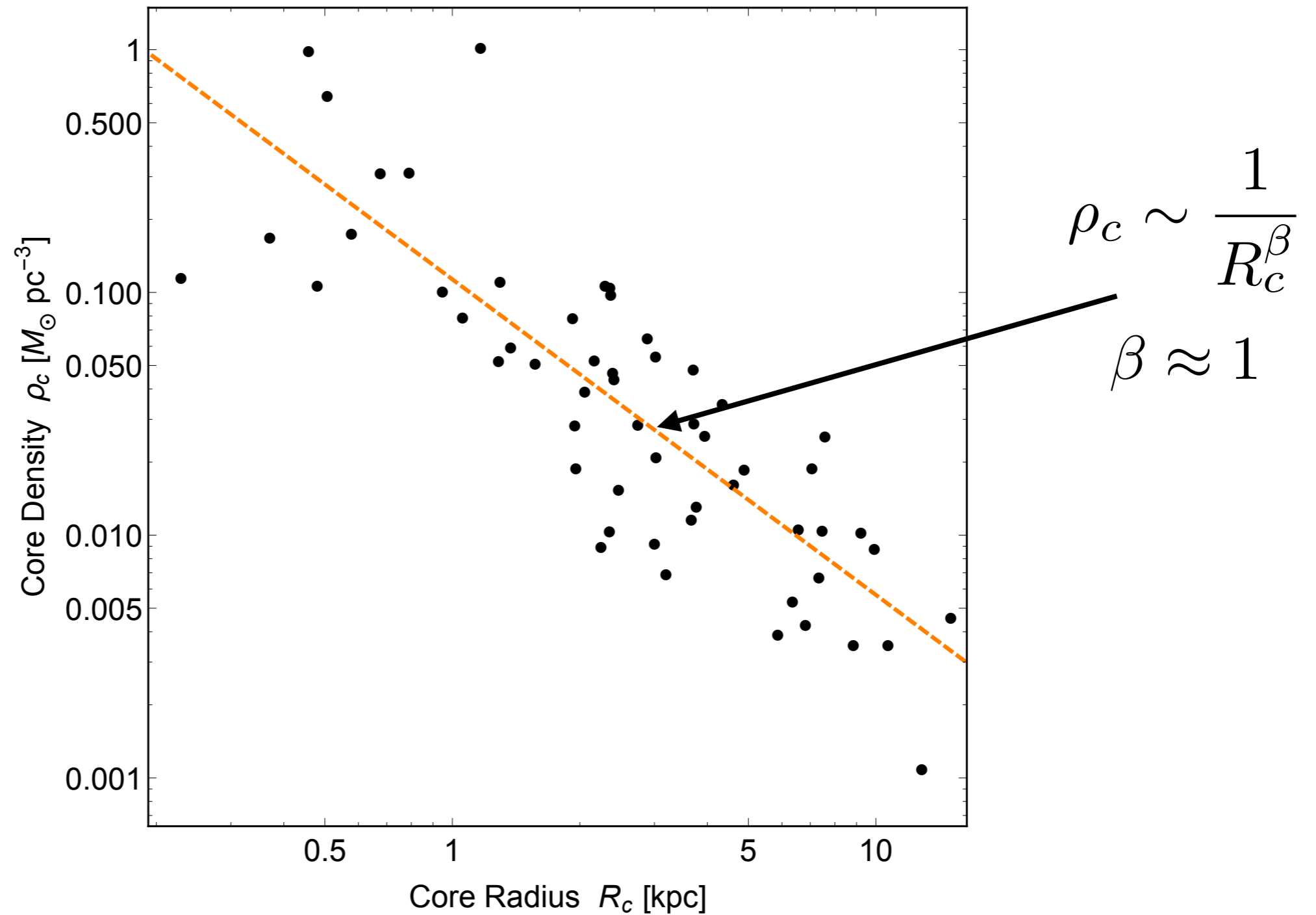
# Implications for Fuzzy Dark Matter

# Core Density Vs Core Radius (Data)



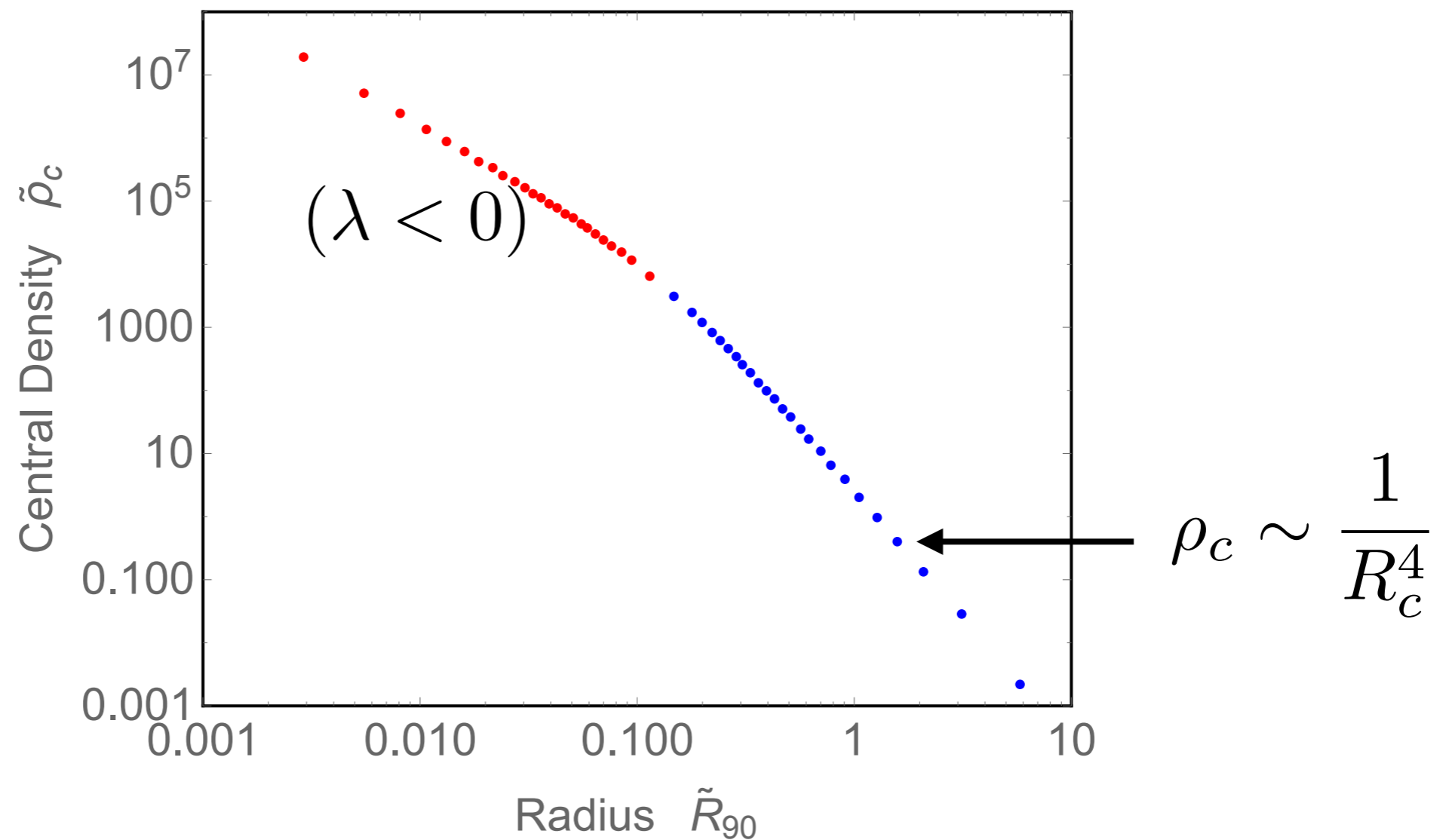
e.g., see Rodriguez et al 1701.02698

# Core Density Vs Core Radius (Data)

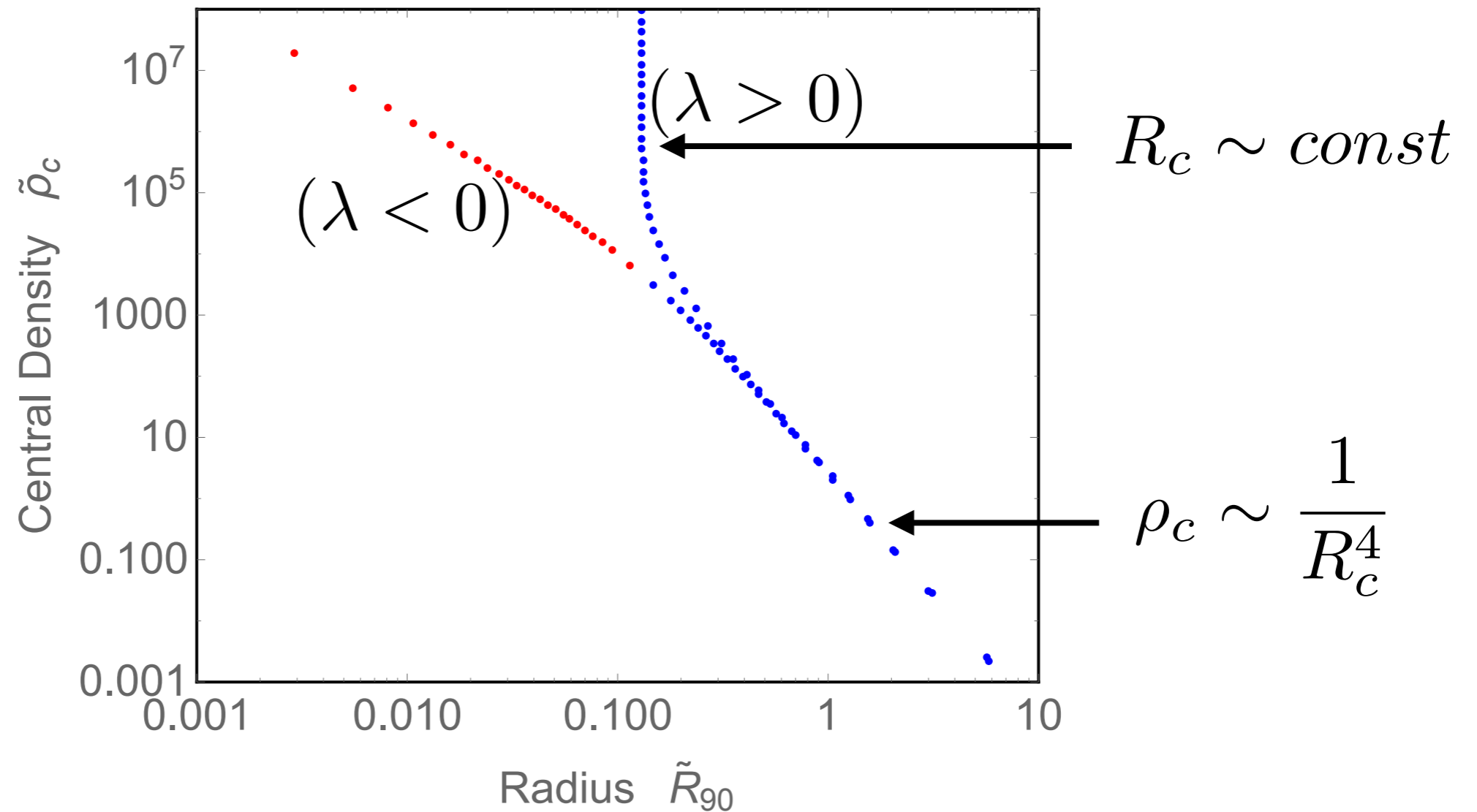


e.g., see Rodriguez et al 1701.02698

# Core Density Vs Core Radius (Light Scalar in BEC)



# Core Density Vs Core Radius (Light Scalar in BEC)



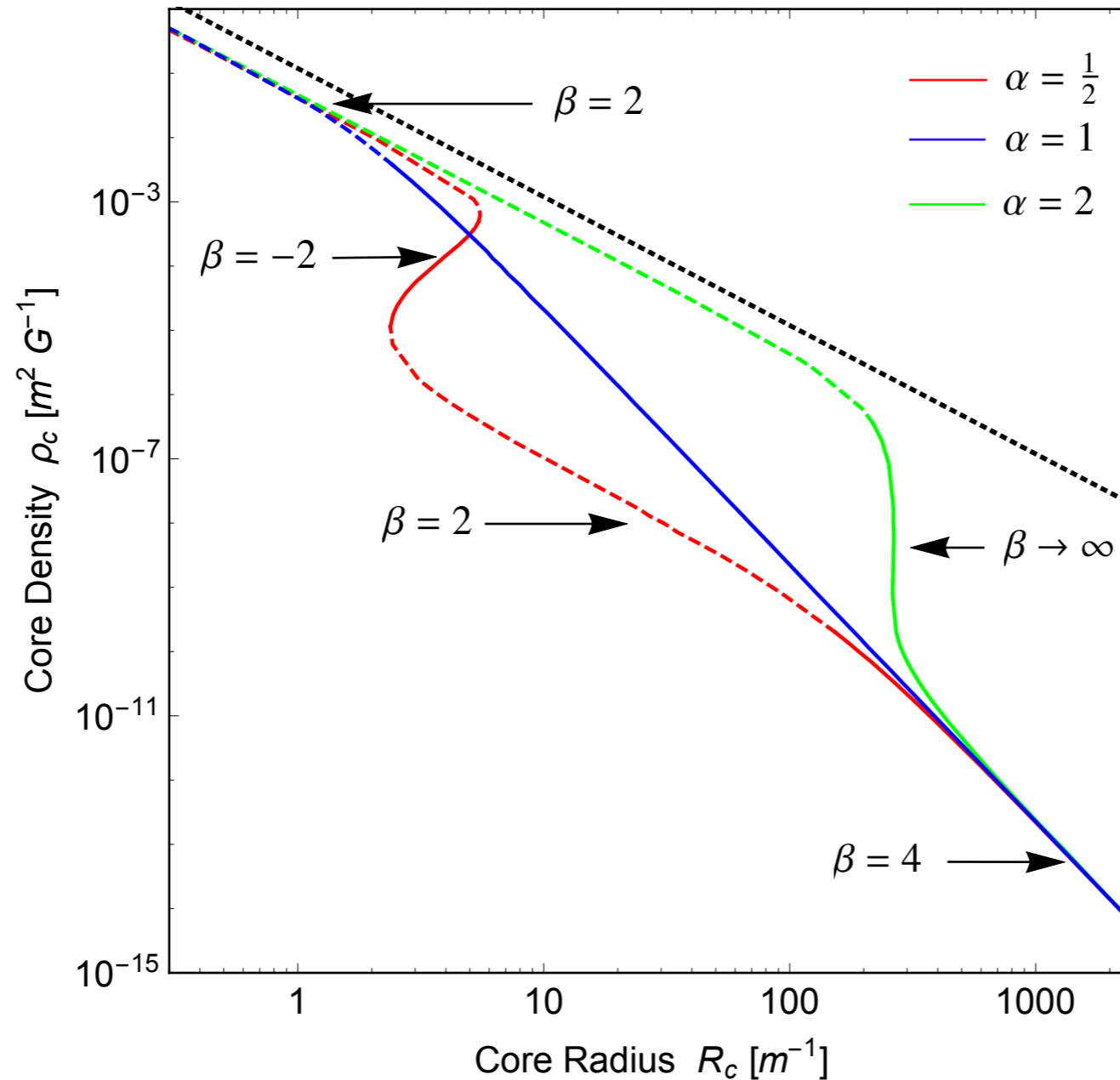


# Core Density Vs Core Radius (Light Scalar in BEC)

Extension to general potentials,  
polytropes, full relativistic

$$V(\phi) \propto ((1 + \phi^2/F^2)^\alpha - 1)$$

Solid = Stable  
Dashed = Unstable



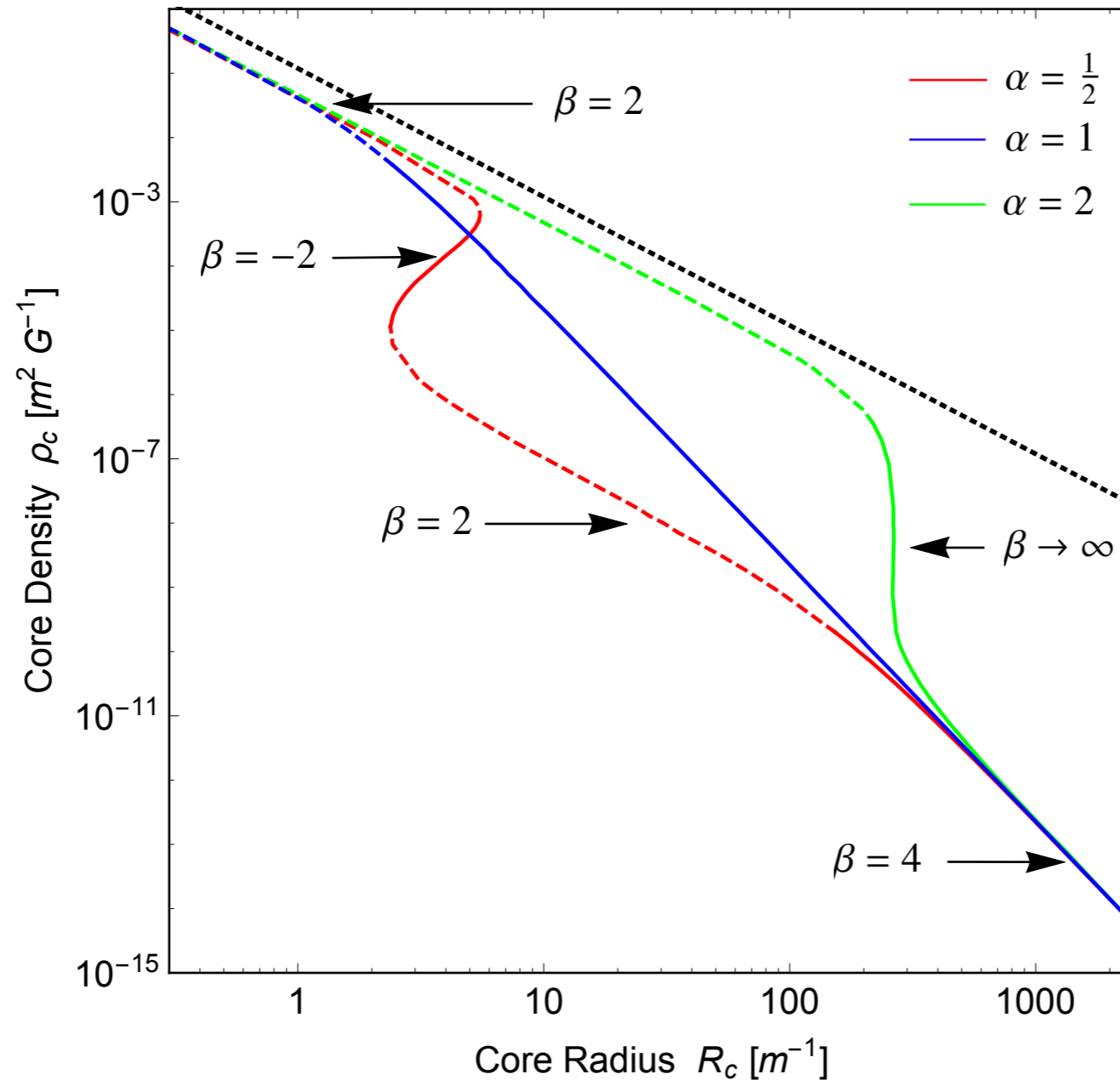
$$\rho_c \sim \frac{1}{R_c^\beta}$$

# Core Density Vs Core Radius (Light Scalar in BEC)

Extension to general potentials,  
polytropes, full relativistic

$$V(\phi) \propto ((1 + \phi^2/F^2)^\alpha - 1)$$

Solid = Stable  
Dashed = Unstable



$$\rho_c \sim \frac{1}{R_c^\beta}$$

Never obtain  $\beta \sim 1$   
and stable

# Axion Clump Resonance into Photons

# Consider Axion to Photon Coupling

Photon Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{g_{a\gamma}}{4}\phi F_{\mu\nu}\tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

Equation of motion

$$\ddot{\mathbf{A}} - \nabla^2 \mathbf{A} + g_{a\gamma} \partial_t \phi \nabla \times \mathbf{A} = 0$$

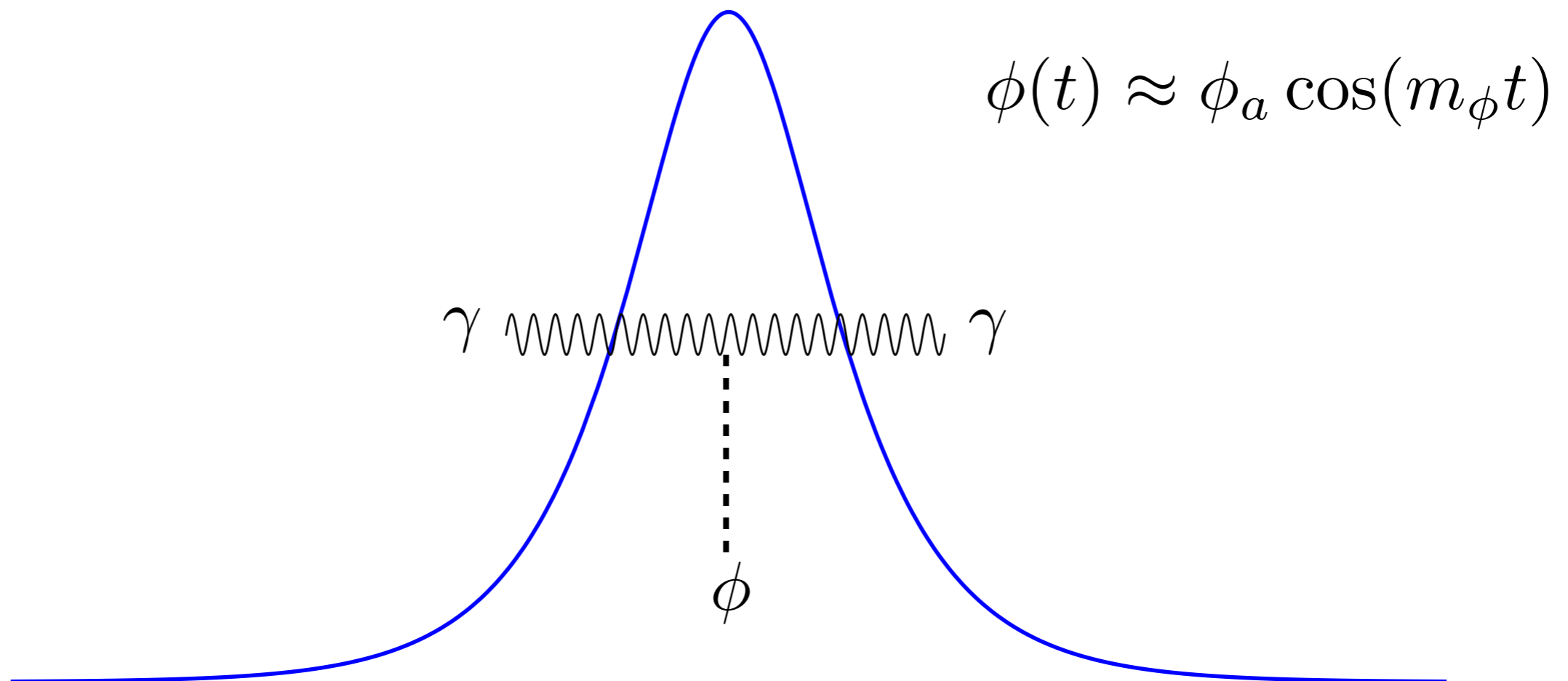
# Consider Axion to Photon Coupling

Photon Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{g_{a\gamma}}{4}\phi F_{\mu\nu}\tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

Equation of motion

$$\ddot{\mathbf{A}} - \nabla^2 \mathbf{A} + g_{a\gamma} \partial_t \phi \nabla \times \mathbf{A} = 0$$



# Homogeneous Axion Field

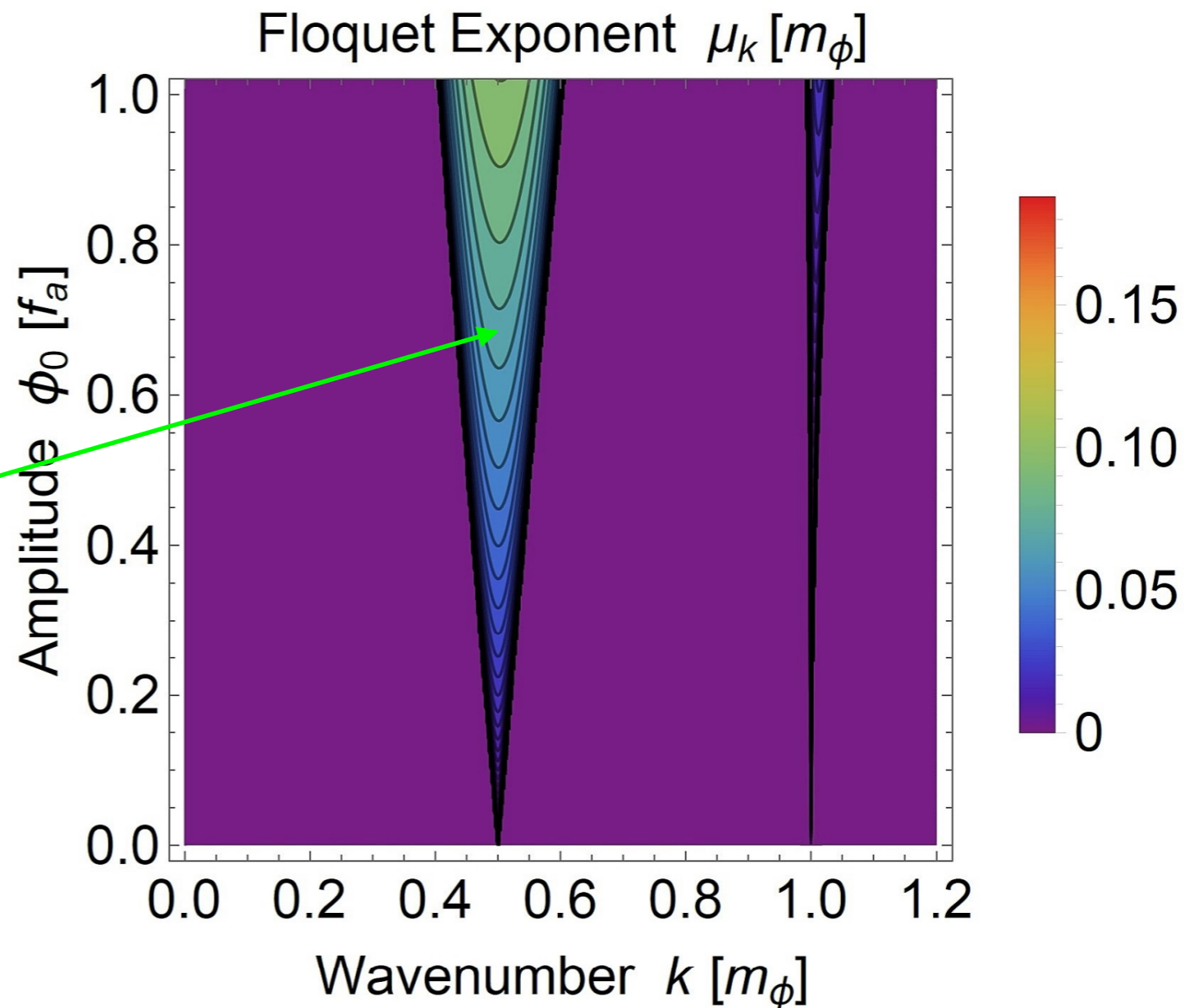
Mathieu Equation

$$\ddot{\mathbf{A}}_{\mathbf{k}}^T + k^2 \mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{k}}^T + g_{a\gamma} k \partial_t \phi(t) \mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{k}}^T = 0$$

Parametric resonance  
always present

$$k \approx \frac{m_a}{2}$$

$$\mu_H^* \approx \frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma} m_\phi \phi_a$$



e.g., Yoshimura 1996

# Comment on Photon Plasma Mass

In plasma, the photon acquires an effective mass  $\omega_p^2 = \frac{4\pi\alpha n_e}{m_e}$

In early universe, this is huge; preventing resonance

# Comment on Photon Plasma Mass

In plasma, the photon acquires an effective mass  $\omega_p^2 = \frac{4\pi\alpha n_e}{m_e}$

In early universe, this is huge; preventing resonance

Clumps in halo:  $\omega_p^2 \approx \frac{n_e}{0.03 \text{ cm}^{-3}} (6 \times 10^{-12} \text{ eV})^2$

Negligibly small; allowing for resonance



# Inhomogeneous (Spherical) Axion Clump

Decomposition into vector spherical harmonics

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \sum_{lm} \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} [a_{lm}(k, t) \mathbf{N}_{lm}(k, \mathbf{r}) + b_{lm}(k, t) \mathbf{M}_{lm}(k, \mathbf{r})]$$

where

$$\mathbf{M}_{lm}(k, \mathbf{r}) = i \frac{j_l(kr)}{\sqrt{l(l+1)}} \nabla \times [Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi) \mathbf{r}]$$

$$\mathbf{N}_{lm}(k, \mathbf{r}) = \frac{i}{k} \nabla \times \mathbf{M}_{lm}$$

# Inhomogeneous (Spherical) Axion Clump

Instability channel

$$l = 1, m = 0, \quad b_{10} = -i a_{10}$$

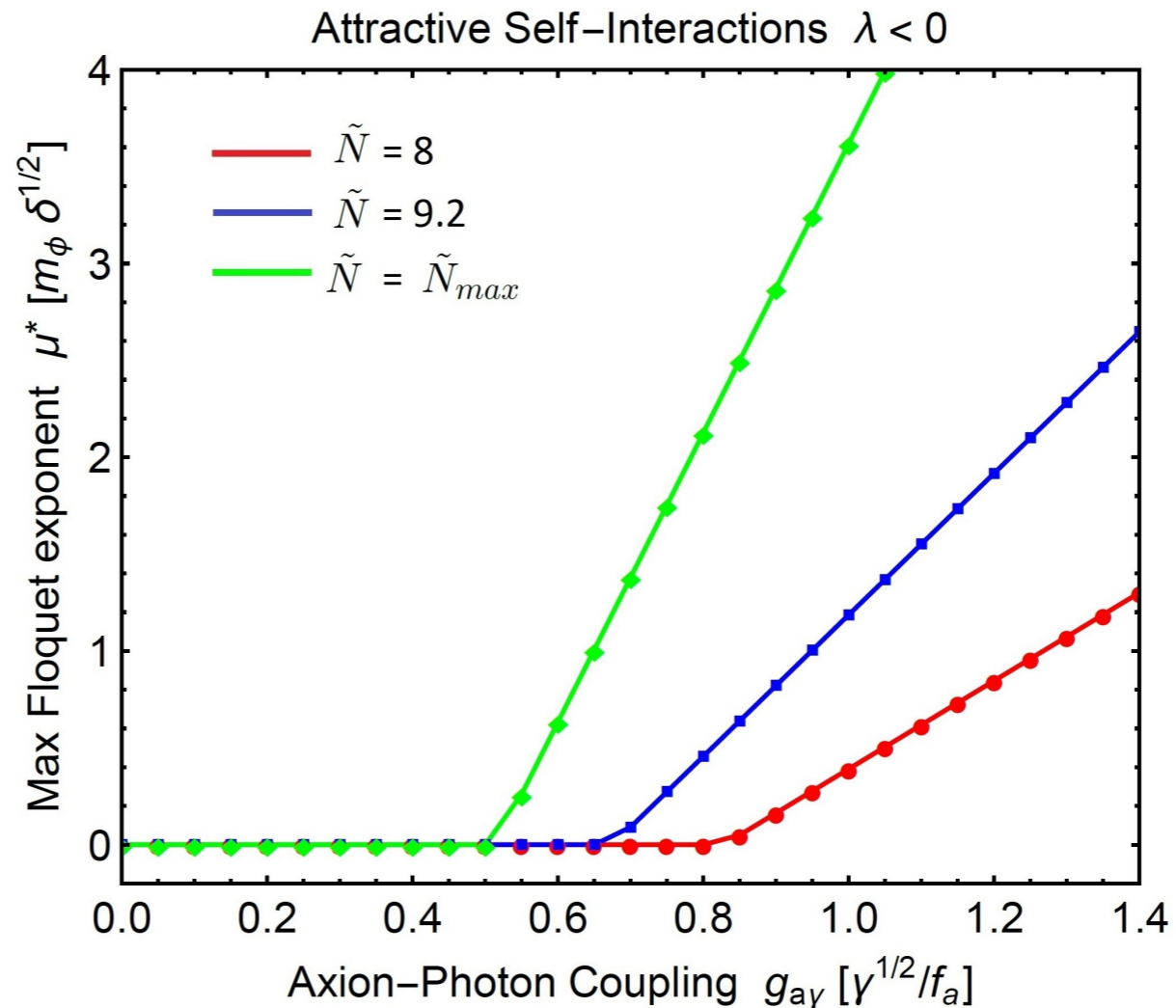
$$\ddot{a}_{10}(k, t) + k^2 a_{10}(k, t) + g_{a\gamma} k \int \frac{dk'}{(2\pi)} \partial_t \tilde{\phi}(k - k') a_{10}(k', t) = 0$$

# Inhomogeneous (Spherical) Axion Clump

Instability channel

$$l = 1, m = 0, \quad b_{10} = -i a_{10}$$

$$\ddot{a}_{10}(k, t) + k^2 a_{10}(k, t) + g_{a\gamma} k \int \frac{dk'}{(2\pi)} \partial_t \tilde{\phi}(k - k') a_{10}(k', t) = 0$$



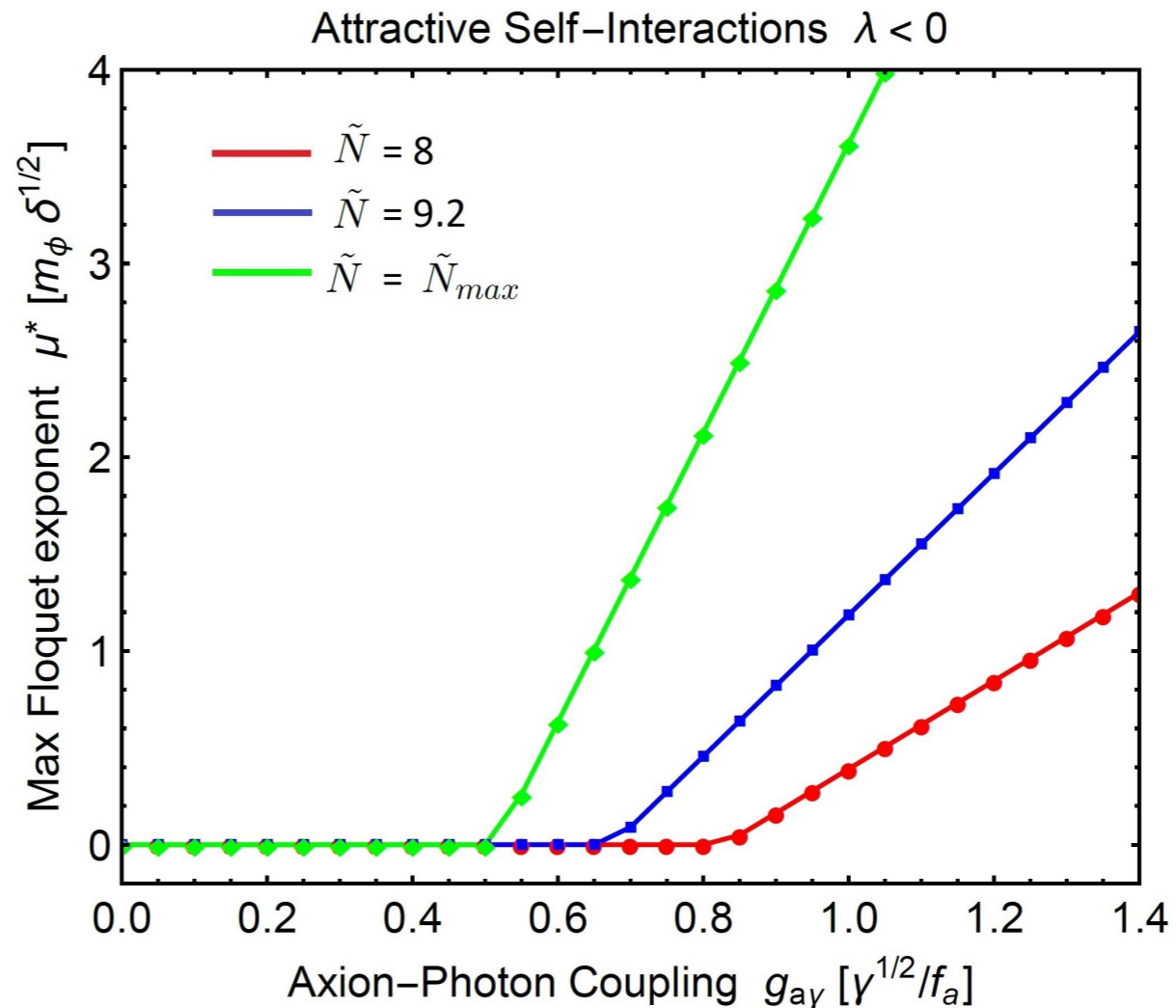
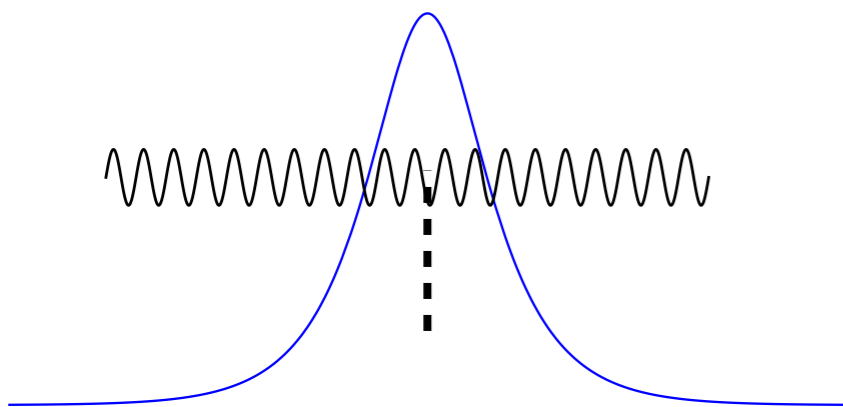
# Inhomogeneous (Spherical) Axion Clump

Instability channel

$$l = 1, m = 0, \quad b_{10} = -i a_{10}$$

$$\ddot{a}_{10}(k, t) + k^2 a_{10}(k, t) + g_{a\gamma} k \int \frac{dk'}{(2\pi)} \partial_t \tilde{\phi}(k - k') a_{10}(k', t) = 0$$

$$\mu_{hom} > \mu_{esc}$$



# Resonance Condition (Spherical) Axion Clump

$$g_{a\gamma} > \frac{0.3}{f_a}$$

$$(\lambda < 0)$$

No resonance for standard QCD axion-photon coupling

$$g_{a\gamma} \sim \frac{\alpha}{f_a}$$

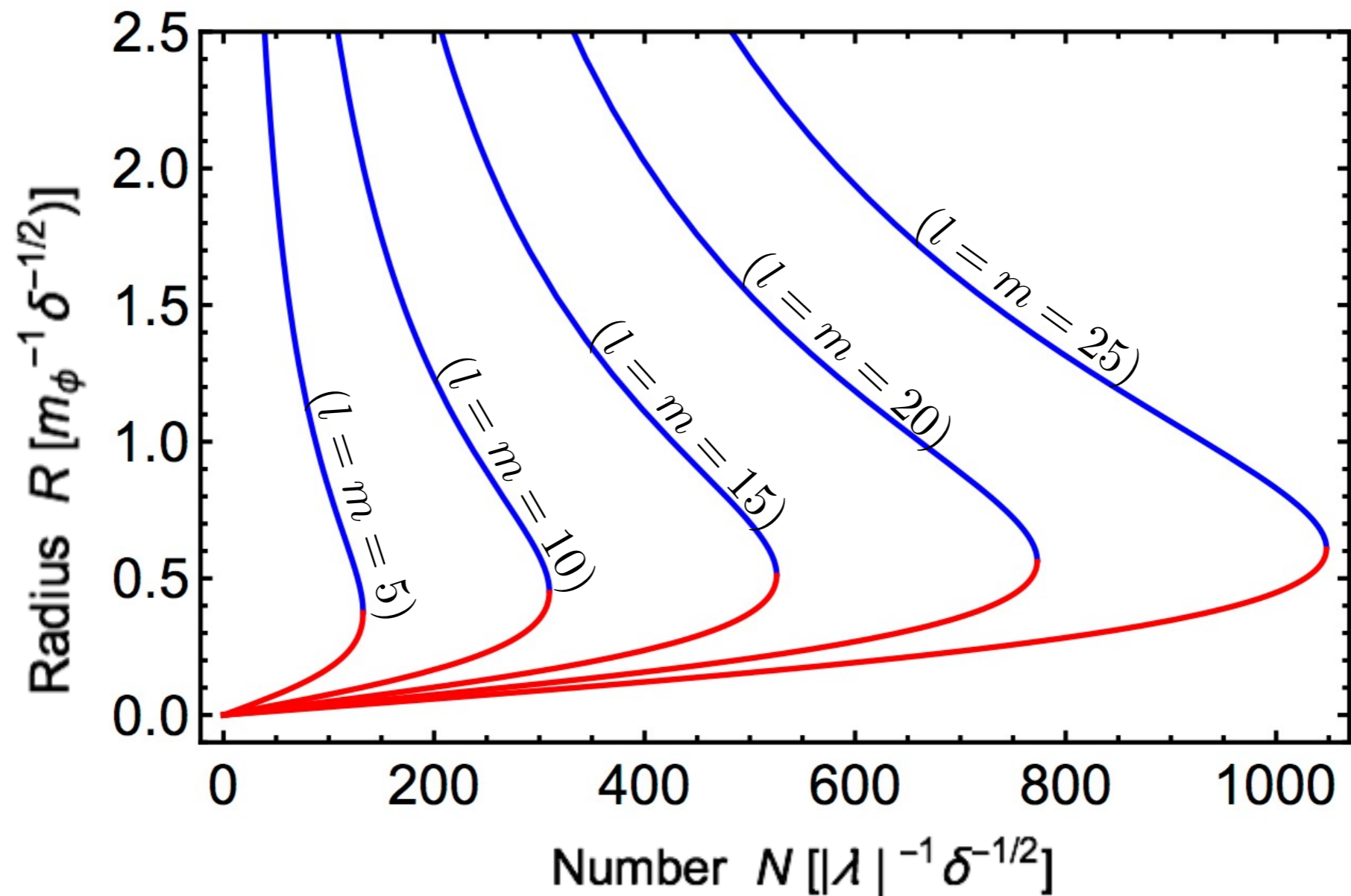
Allowed for models with enhanced couplings, decay to hidden sectors,  
or repulsive interactions

↓  
(see; Fan 2016)

↓  
(see; Daido, Takahashi, Yokozaki 2018)

Including Angular Momentum

# Two Branches of Solutions (with Angular Momentum)



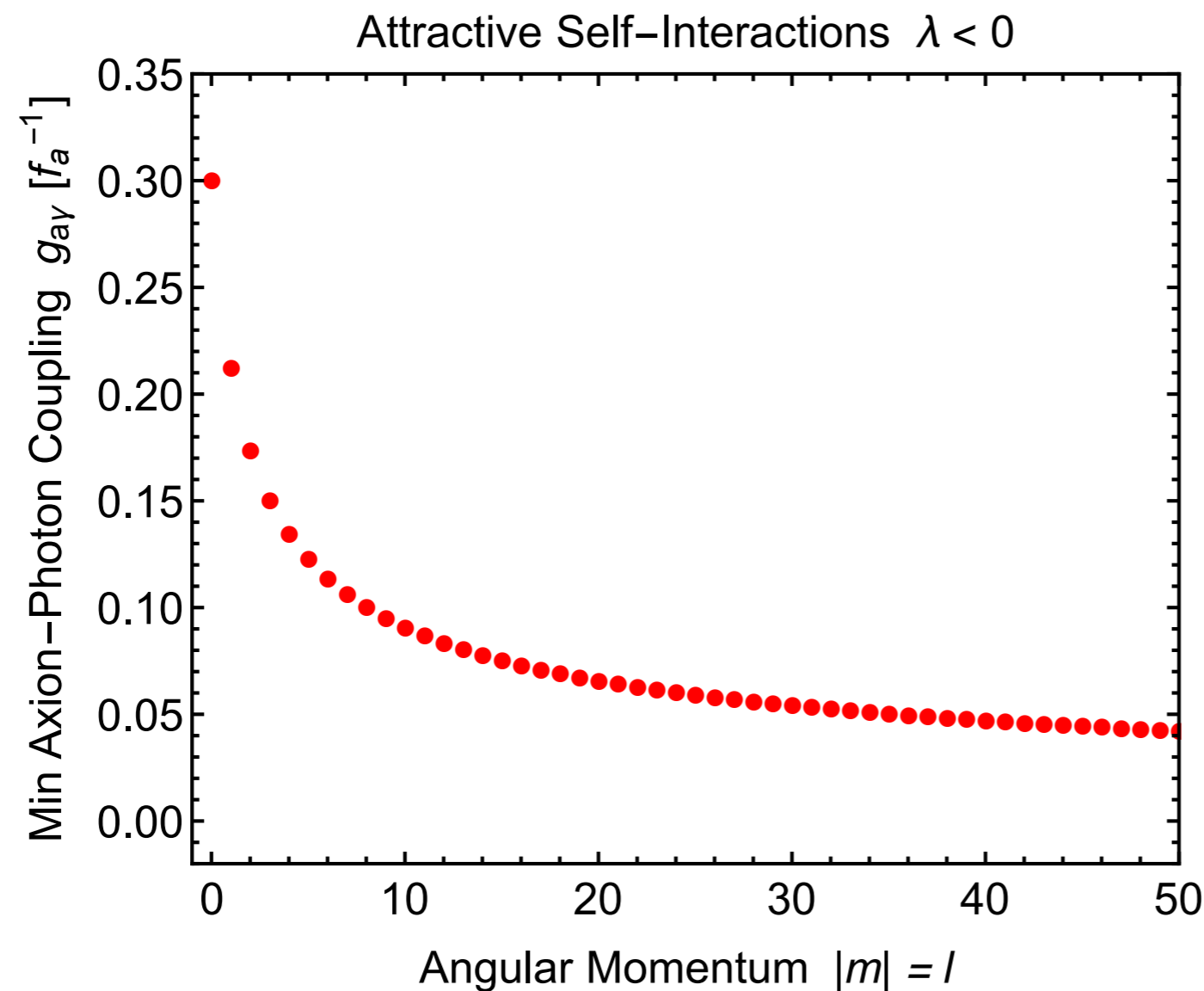
High angular momentum allows higher amplitude at core,  
which helps for resonance into photons

Hertzberg, Schiappacasse 1804.07255

# Resonance Condition (Non-Spherical) Axion Clump

$$g_{a\gamma} > \frac{0.3}{f_a \sqrt{l+1}}$$

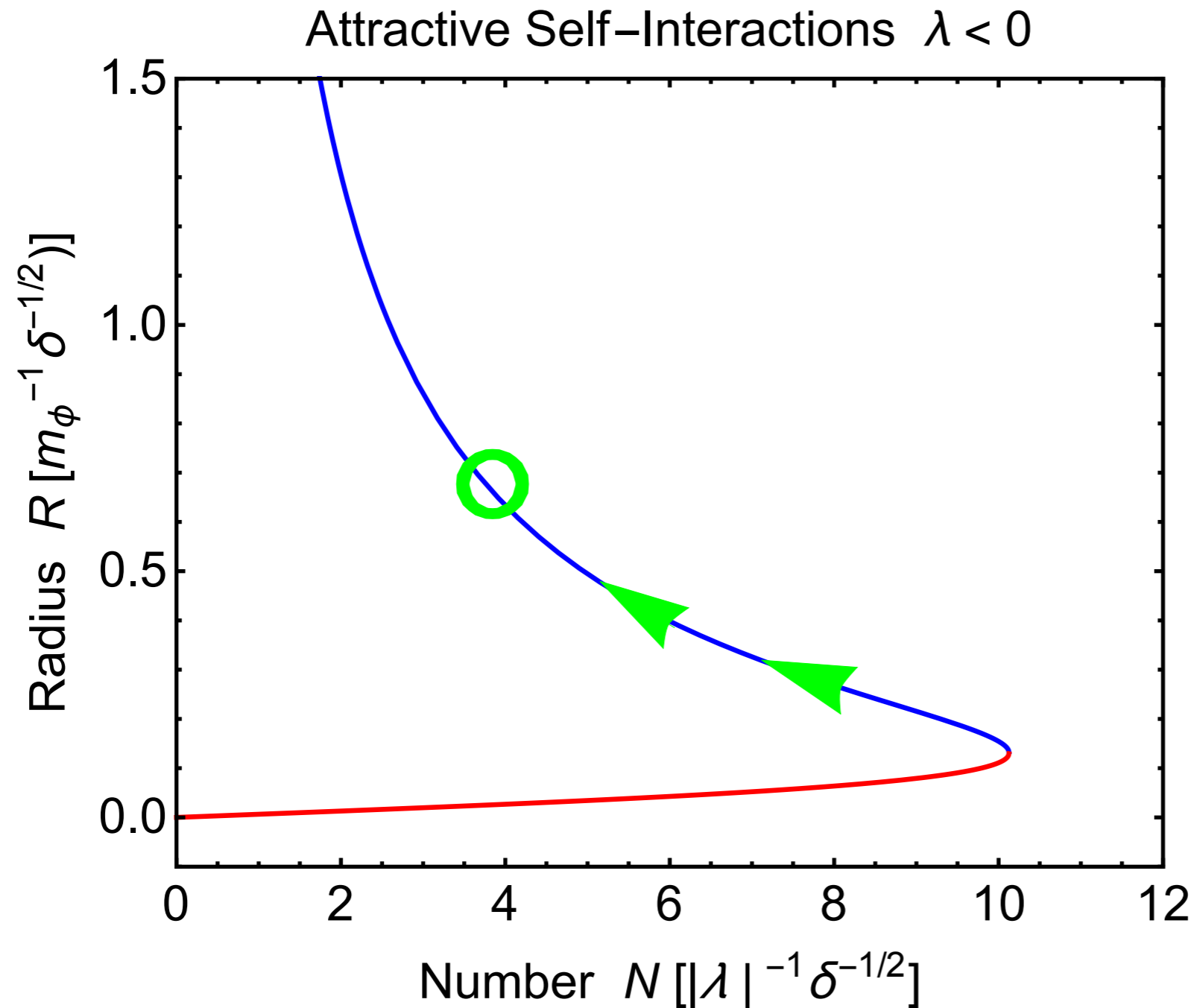
$$(\lambda < 0)$$



Resonance allowed for standard QCD axion-photon couplings, with high angular momentum



# Astrophysical Consequences



(i) Mass Pile Up

(ii) Late Time Mergers;  
Radio-wave Bursts

$$\lambda_{EM} = \frac{2\pi}{k} \approx \frac{4\pi}{m_a}$$

$$= \mathcal{O}(1) \text{ meters}$$

Thank you