

# Challenges of measuring the Neutron-Star equation of state using gravitational wave observations

Hung Tan

Syracuse University

Collaborators:

Travis Dore (Universität Bielefeld),

Veronica Dexheimer (Kent State University),

Jacquelyn Noronha-Hostler (UIUC, ICASU),

Nicolás Yunes (UIUC, ICASU)

[PhysRevLett.125.261104](#)

[PhysRevD.105.023018](#)

[PhysRevLett.128.161101](#)

INT: EOS Measurements with Next-Generation GW Detectors

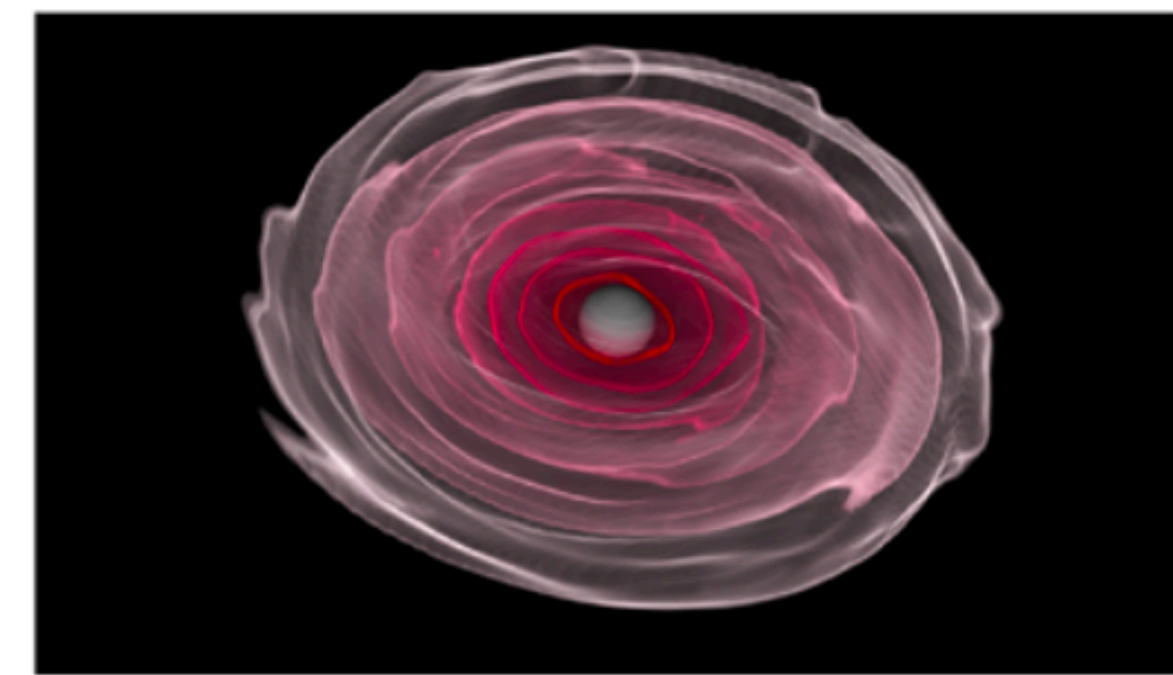
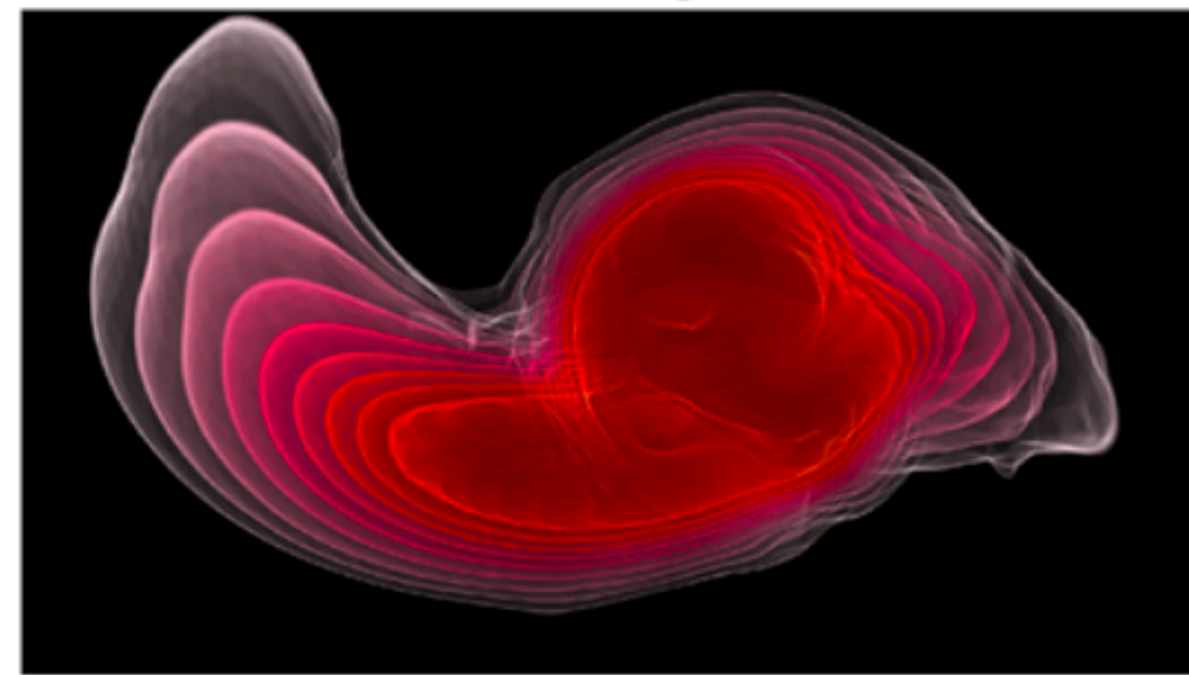
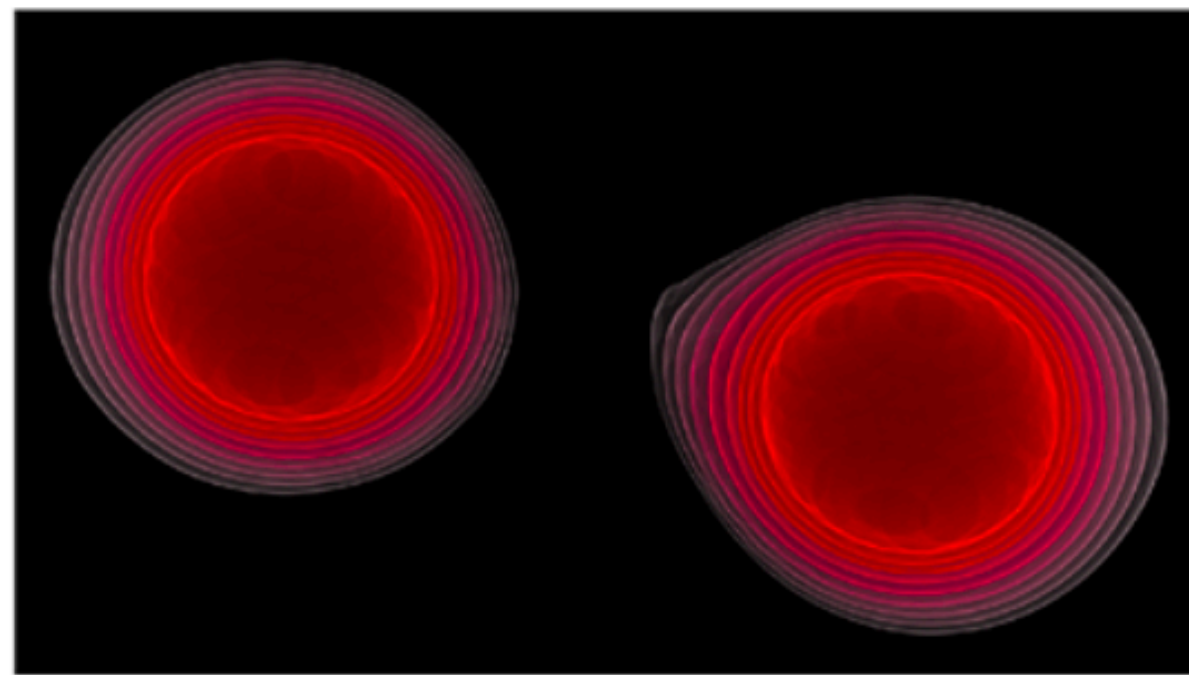
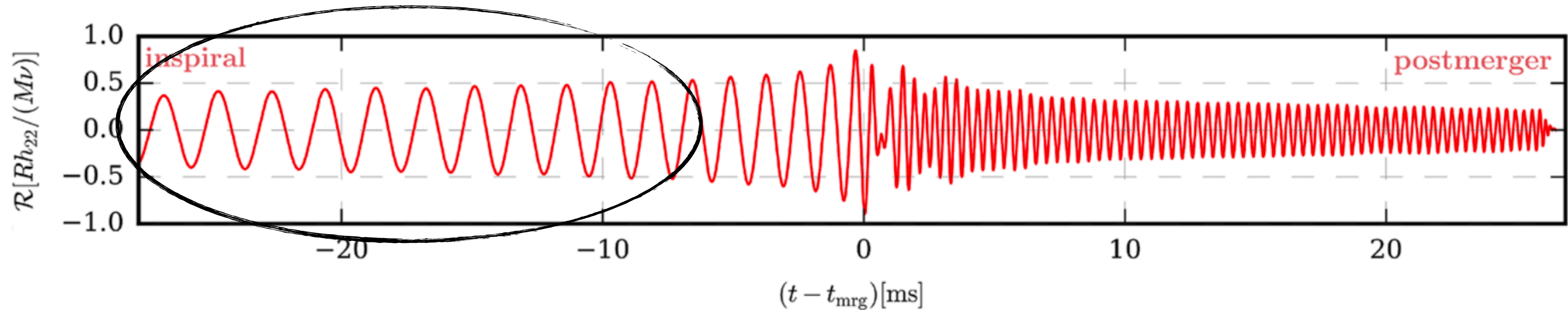
Sep. 5th 2024



# Cold Dense Matter in a Neutron Star Core

How GW signals reveal properties of cold dense matter?

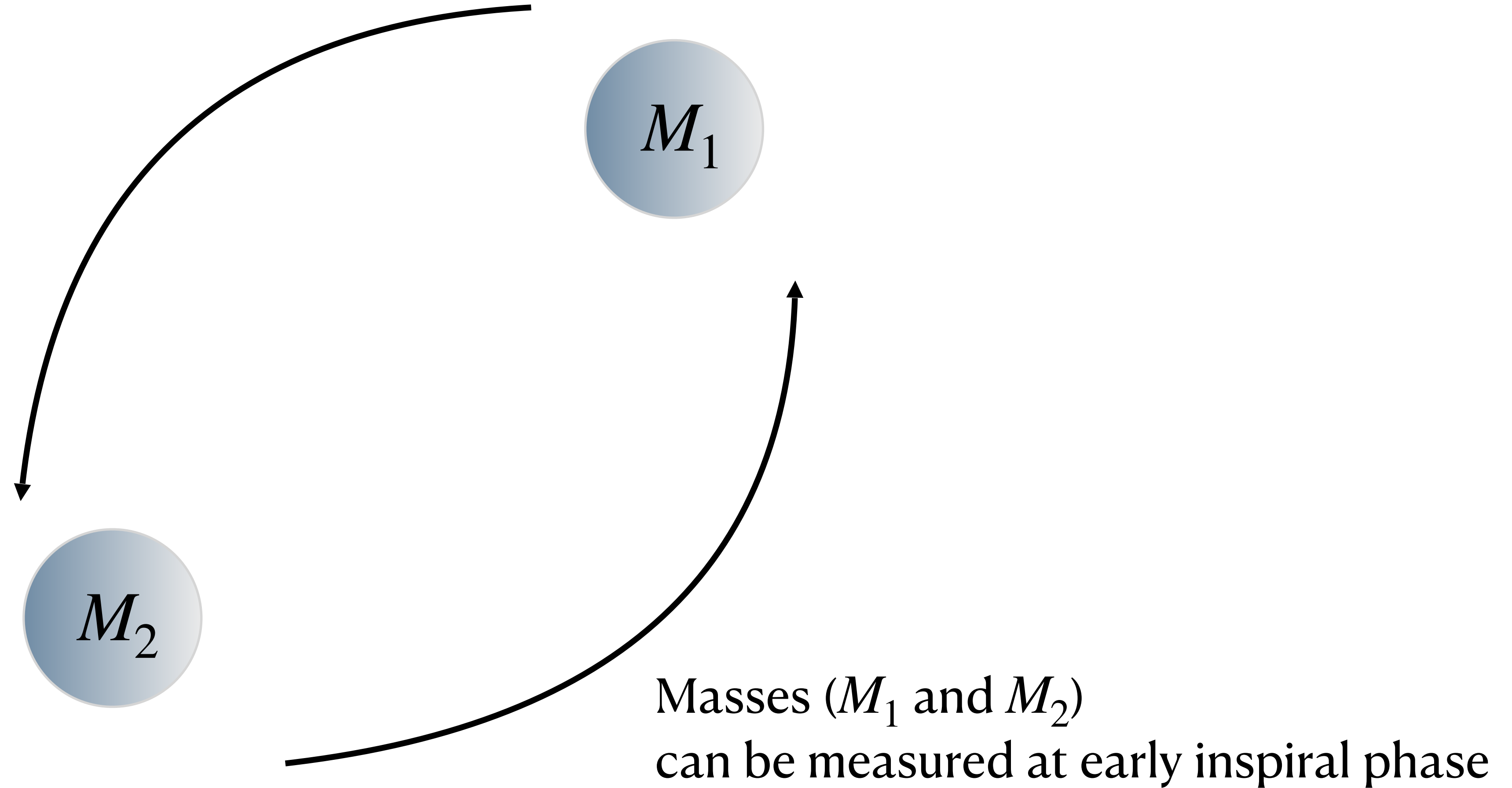
Detection GW170817



Dietrich et al. 2021

# Cold Dense Matter in a Neutron Star Core

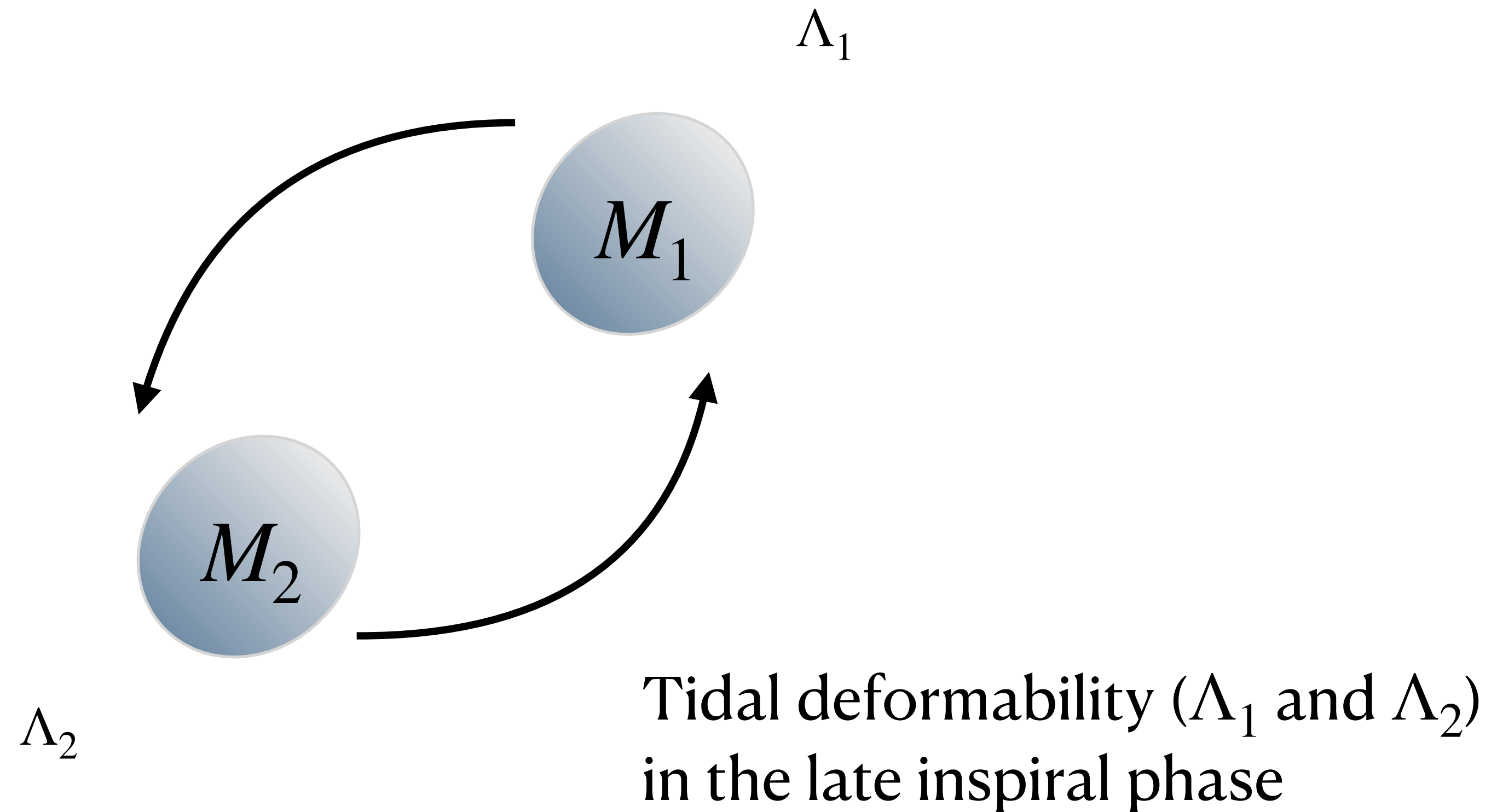
How inspiral-phase signals reveal properties of cold dense matter?



# Cold Dense Matter in a Neutron Star Core

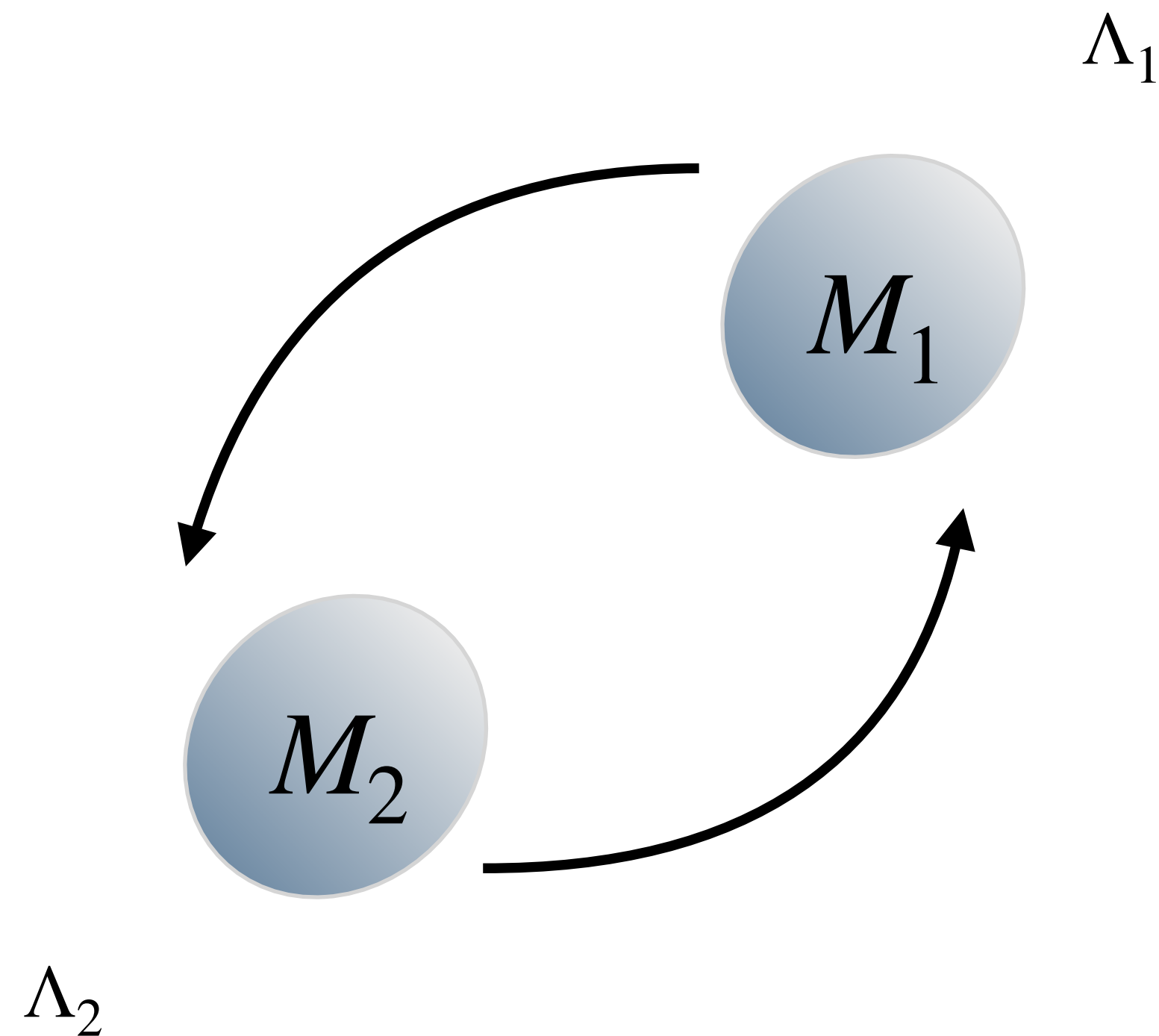
How inspiral-phase signals reveal properties of cold dense matter?

**Tidal deformability!**



# Problems

## Degeneracy in GW inference



- Early inspiral phase:  $M_1, M_2$   
(Assuming no spin)

- Late inspiral phase:

$$\tilde{\Lambda} = \frac{16}{13} \eta_1^4 (12 - 11\eta_1) \Lambda_1 + \frac{16}{13} \eta_2^4 (12 - 11\eta_2) \Lambda_2$$

$$\eta_i = M_i / (M_1 + M_2)$$

# Outline

- How gravitational wave (GW) observations constrain equation of state (EoS)?
- Spectral Parametrization
  - What's the challenge?
- EoS insensitive relations
  - What's the challenge?
- Future Work

# Spectral Parametrization

## Parametrizing EoSs

$$\Gamma \equiv \frac{\epsilon + p}{p} \frac{dp}{d\epsilon}$$

↓  
Adiabatic index

$$\ln \Gamma = \sum_k \gamma_k x^k$$

# Spectral Parametrization

## Parametrizing adiabatic index

$$\Gamma \equiv \frac{\epsilon + p \frac{dp}{d\epsilon}}{p} = \exp \left( \sum_k \gamma_k x^k \right)$$

Adiabatic index

Free parameters:  
Spectral coefficient

$$x = \ln \frac{p}{p_0}$$

Pressure at saturation density ( $n_{sat}$ ), fixed

$$\ln \Gamma = \sum_k \gamma_k x^k$$

A spectral EoS is represented by  $(\gamma_0, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3, \dots)$

Lindblom 2010



# Spectral Parametrization

## An Example

$$\Gamma \equiv \frac{\epsilon + p}{p} \frac{dp}{d\epsilon} = \exp \left( \sum_k \gamma_k x^k \right)$$

Example:

$$(\gamma_0, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3) = (0.982, 0.128, -0.039, 0.003)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\epsilon + p}{p} \frac{dp}{d\epsilon} \\ = \exp (0.982 + 0.128x - 0.039x^2 + 0.003x^3) \end{aligned}$$

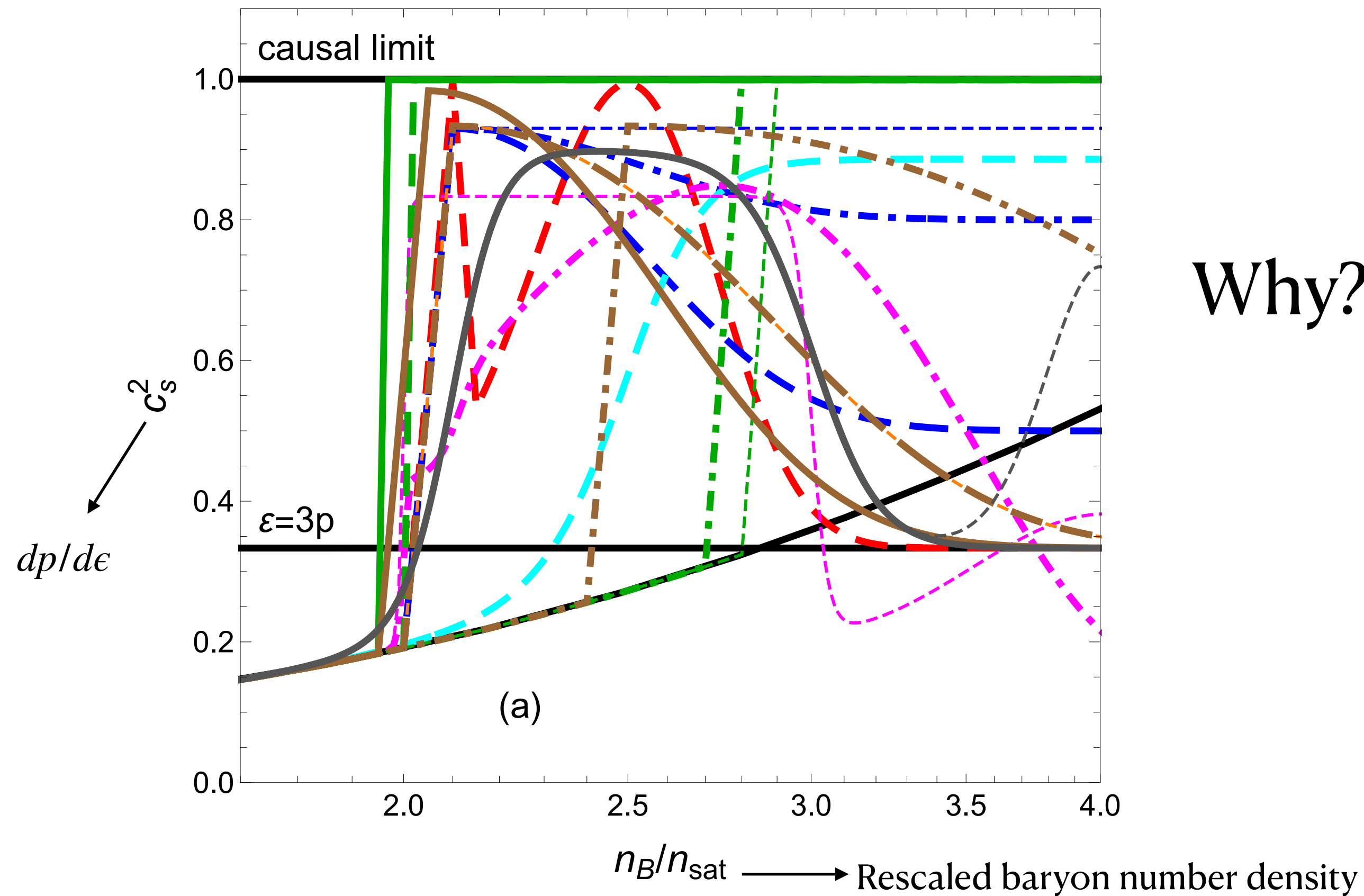
- Gravitational waveform template  $h(t; M_i, \Lambda_i)$  can be calculated for a given spectral EoS
- If waveform template  $\approx$  observed GW signal, try another set of  $\gamma$
- After finding the best fit of  $\gamma$ , we find the best fit EoS
- $M, R, \Lambda$  can be calculated using that EoS, which avoids the degeneracy problem and constrains the radius

# Spectral Parametrization

Challenges: what if the true EoS cannot be well approximated?

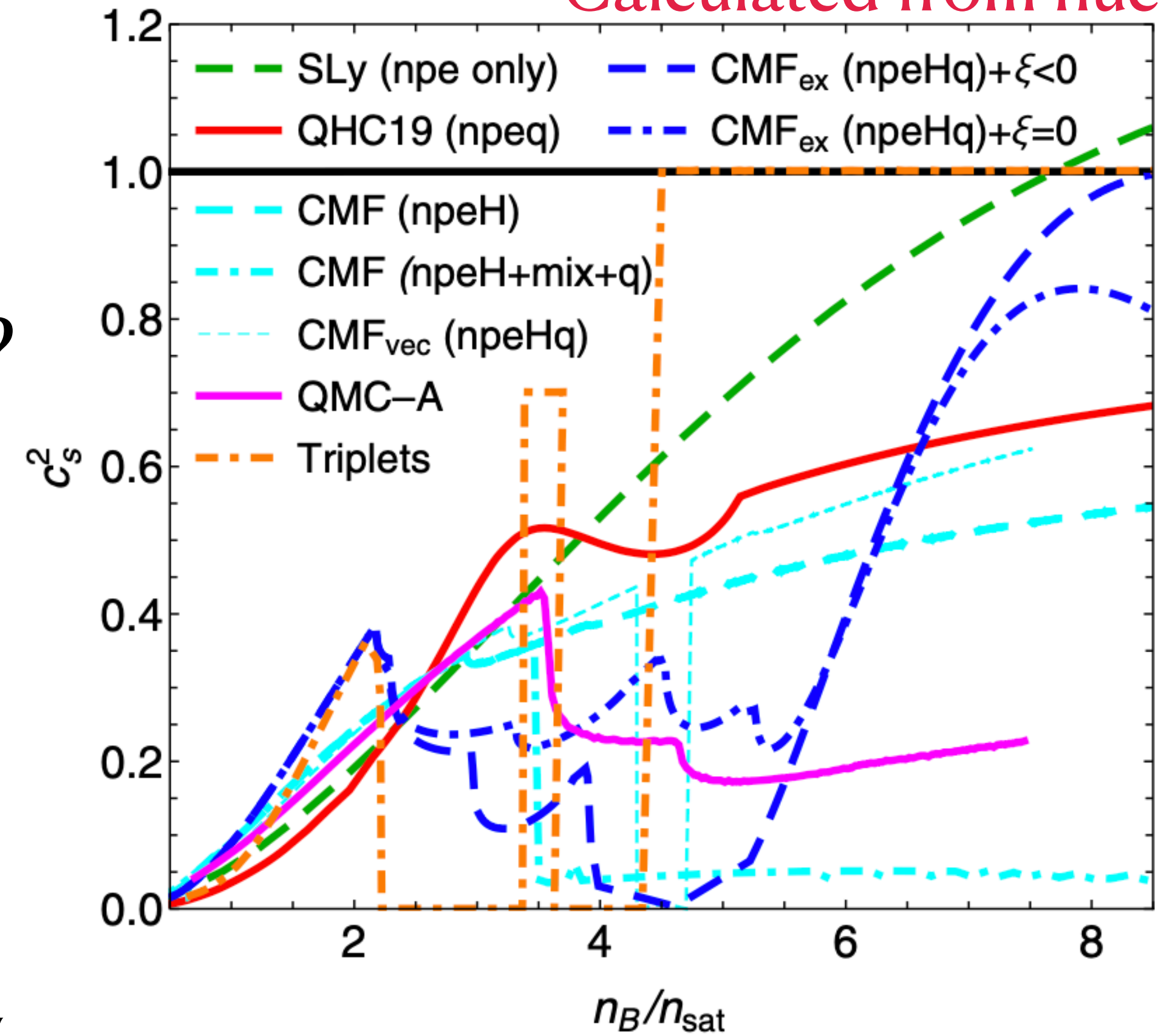
“Toy” EoSs

Calculated from nuclear model



Tan et al. PRL (2020)

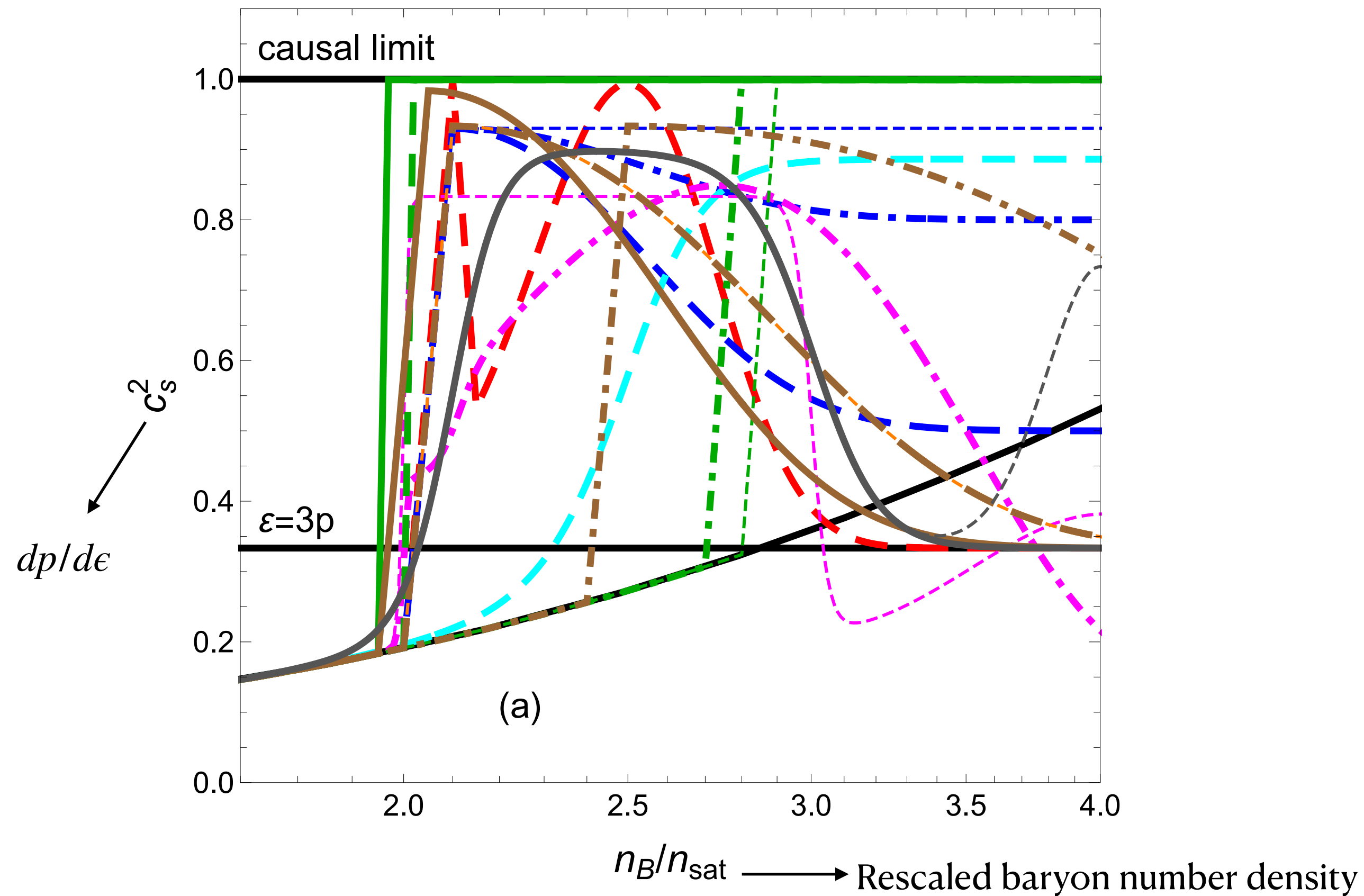
Why?



Tan et al. PRD (2022)

# Spectral Parametrization

Challenges: what if the EoS is not that smooth



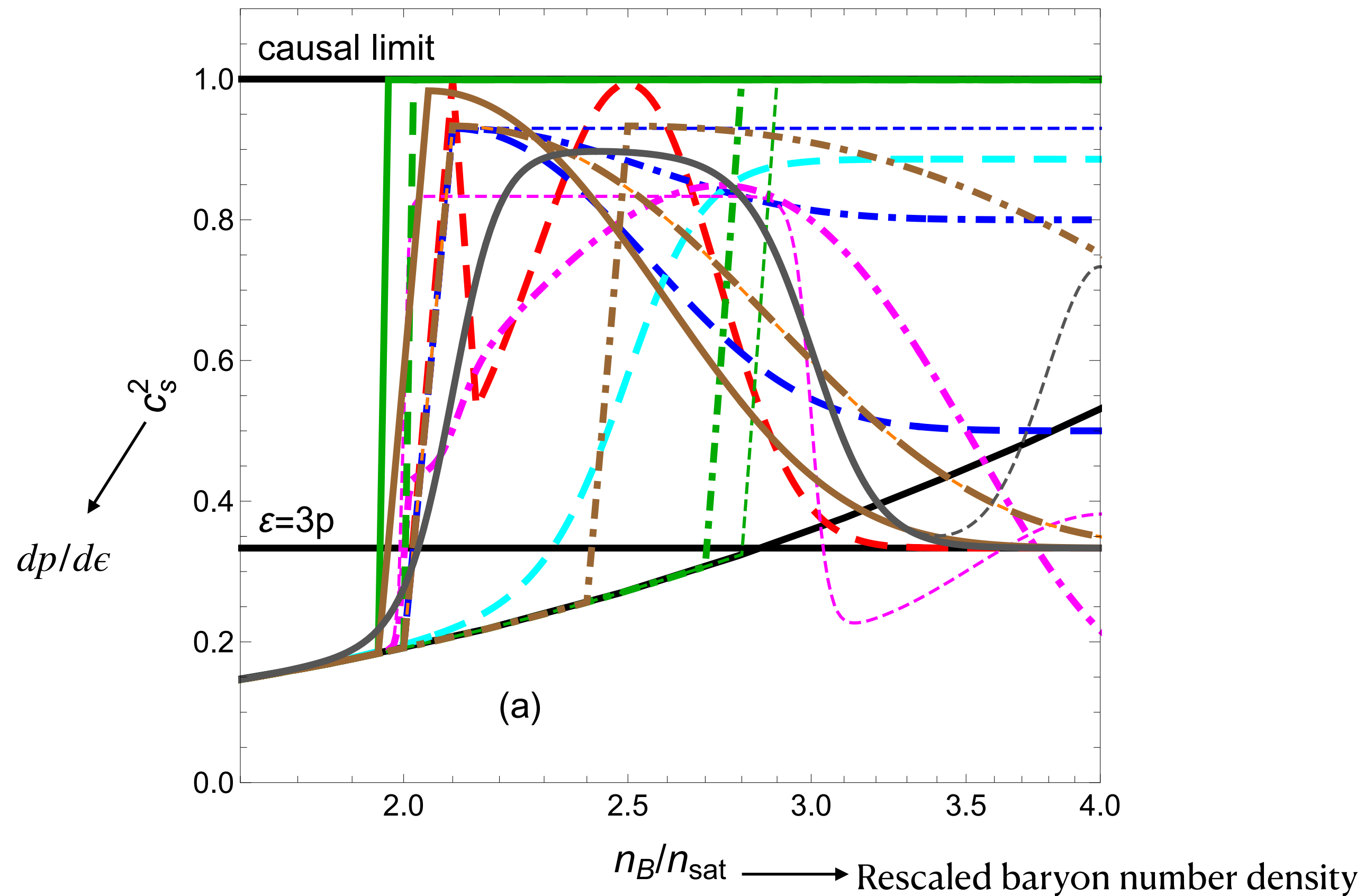
Tan et al. PRL (2020)

- Phase transition (PT)

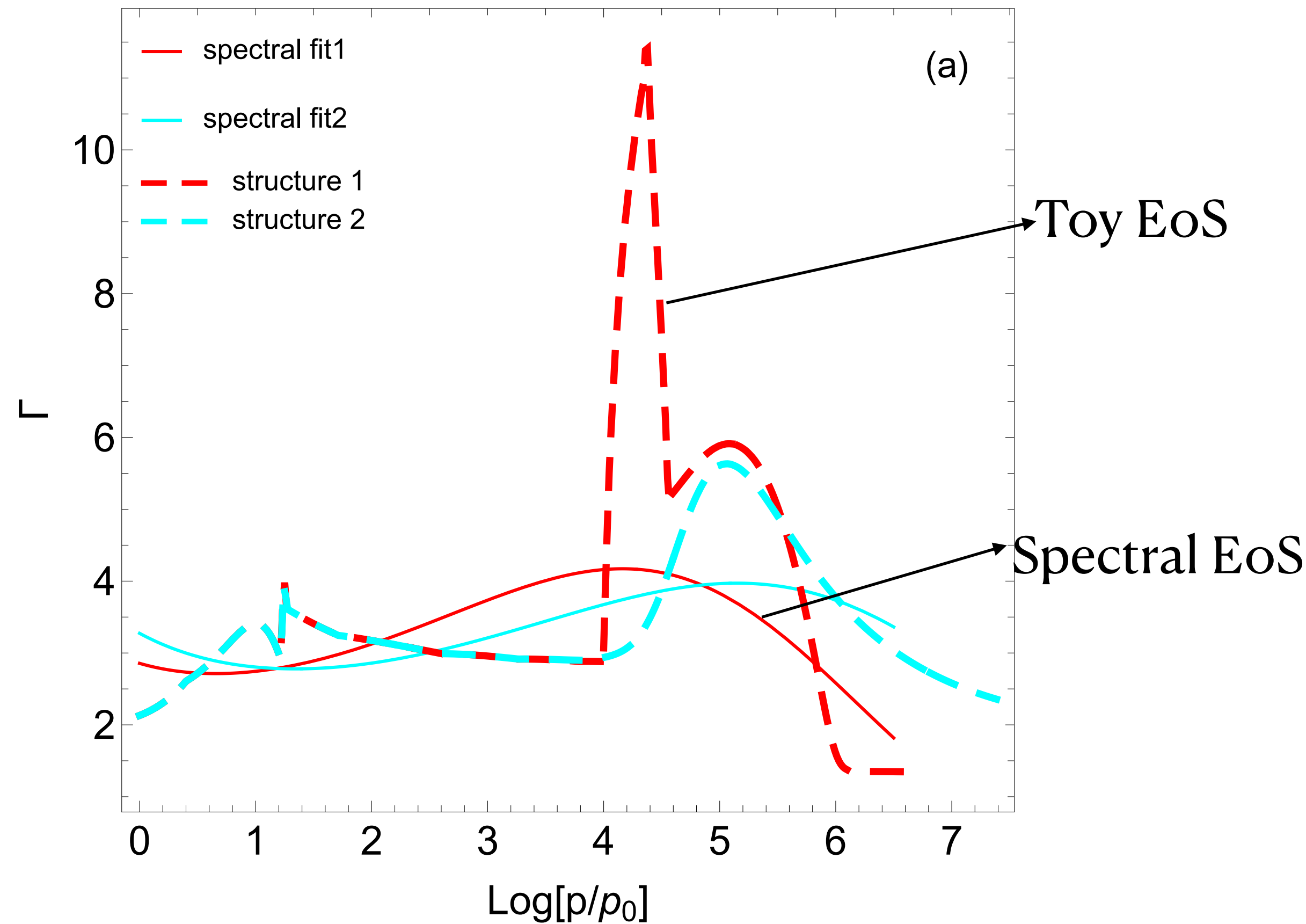
- $\Gamma \equiv \frac{\epsilon + p}{p} \frac{dp}{d\epsilon} = \exp \left( \sum_k \gamma_k x^k \right)$

# Spectral Parametrization

Challenges: what if the EoS is not smooth



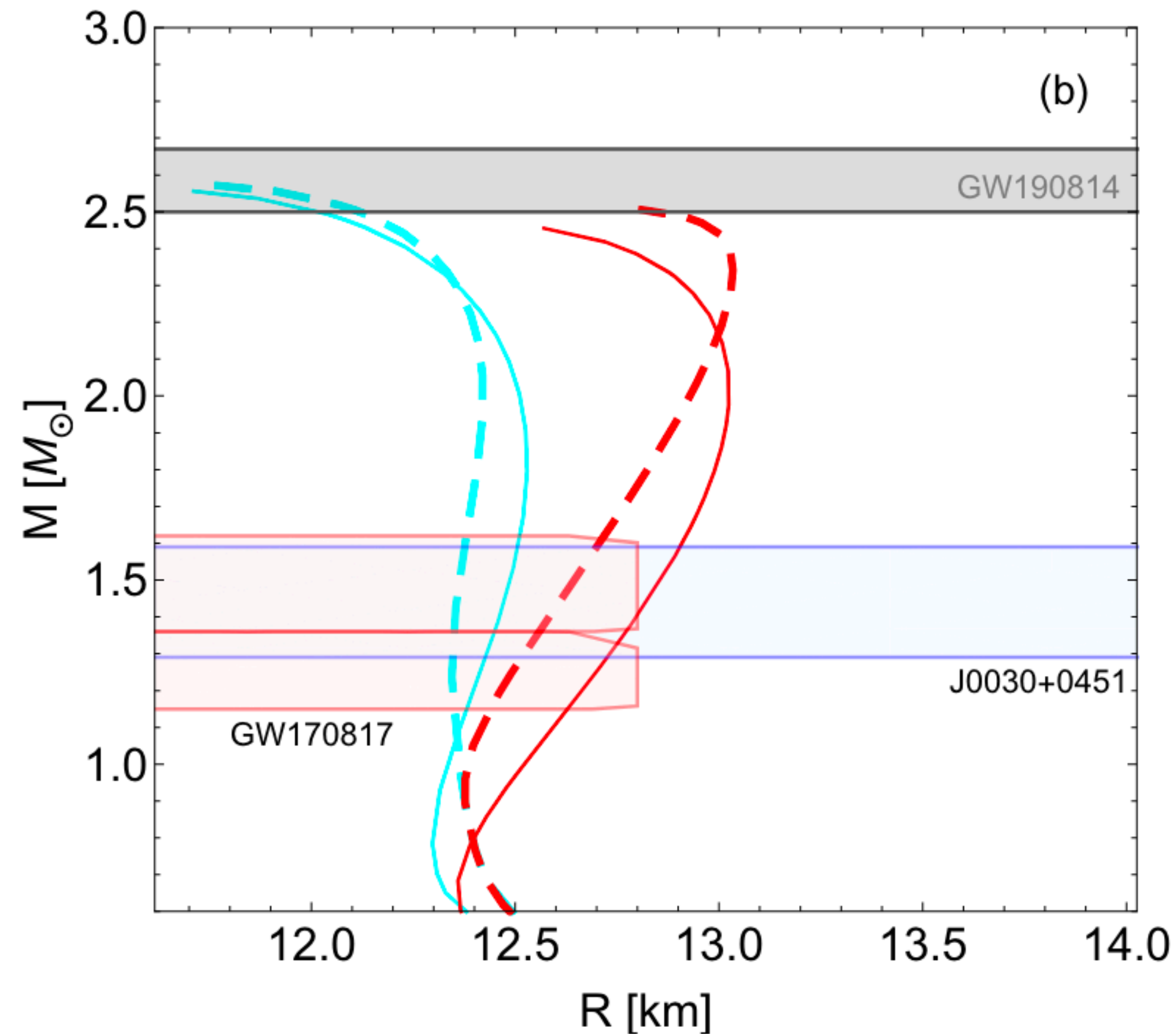
Tan et al. PRL (2020)



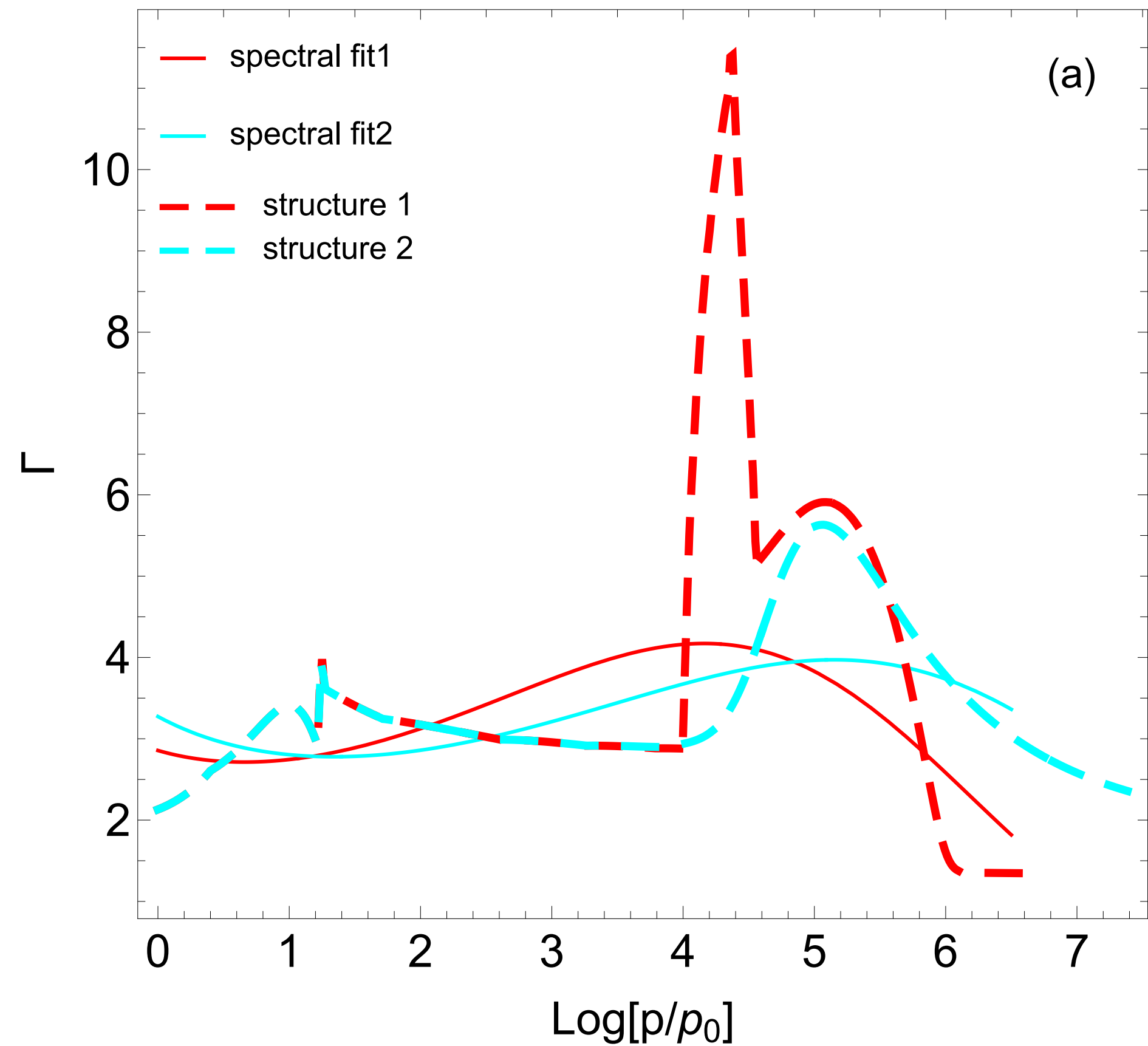
Tan et al. PRL (2020)

# Spectral Parametrization

Challenges: what if the EoS is not smooth



Tan et al. PRL (2020)



Tan et al. PRL (2020)

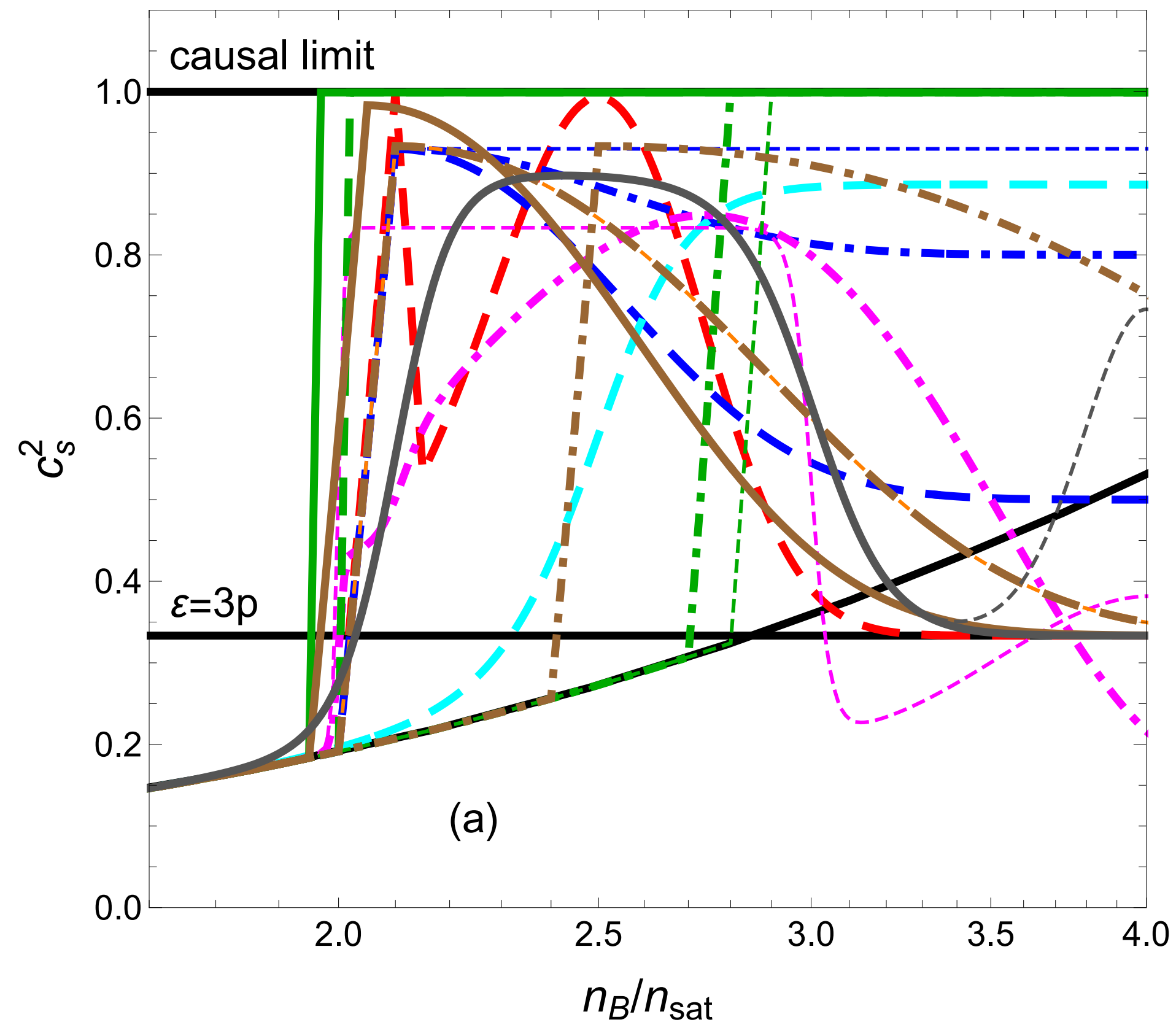
# Spectral Parametrization

GW190814: A NS or a BH

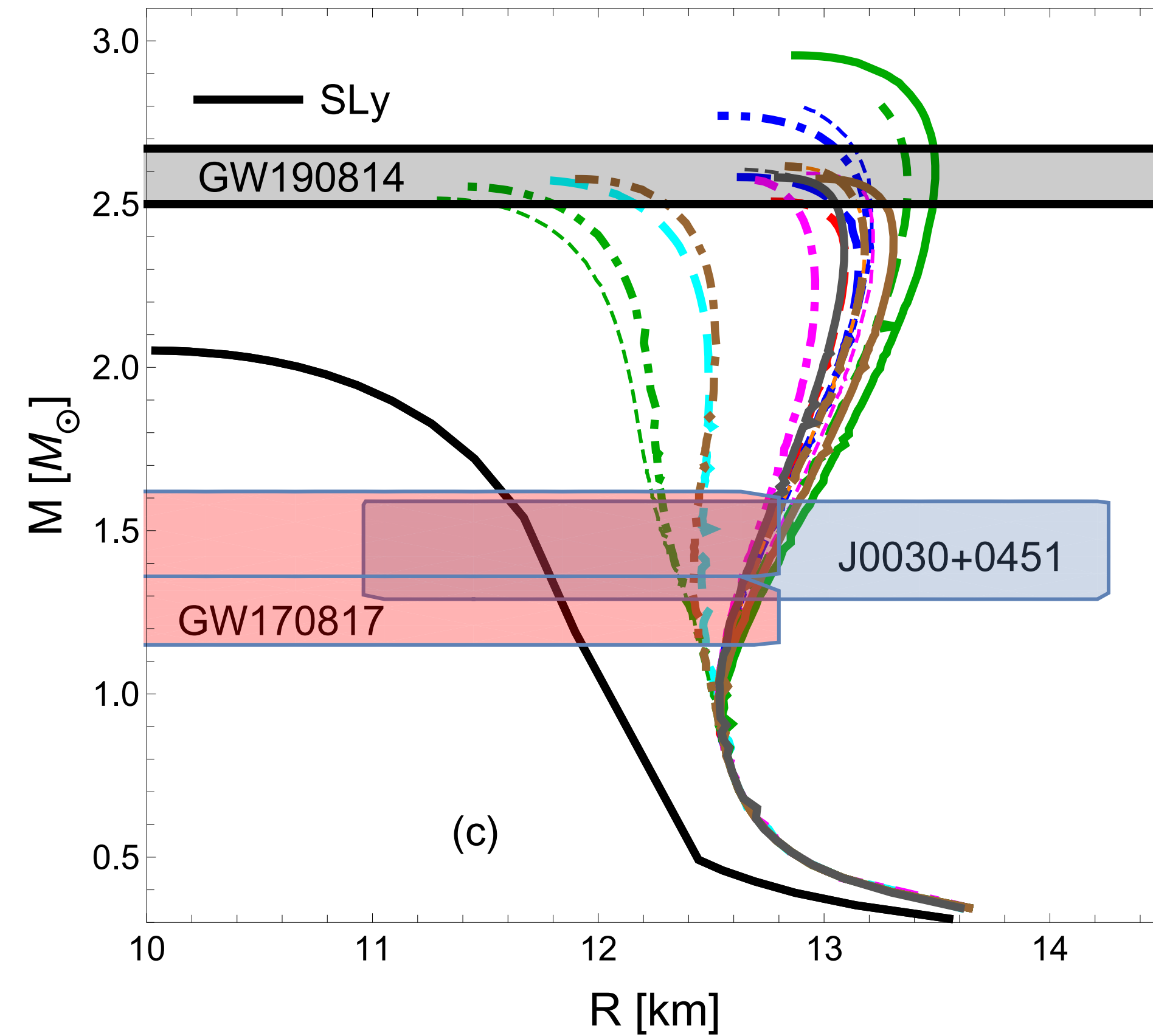
$M \approx 2.6M_{\odot}$  (GW190814)  $\longleftrightarrow$  Spectral EoS constraint  
 $M_{max} \lesssim 2.43M_{\odot}$  (90%)  
GW170817, LVC 2018

# Spectral Parametrization

## GW190814: A NS or a BH



Tan et al. PRL (2020)



Tan et al. PRL (2020)

# Spectral Parametrization

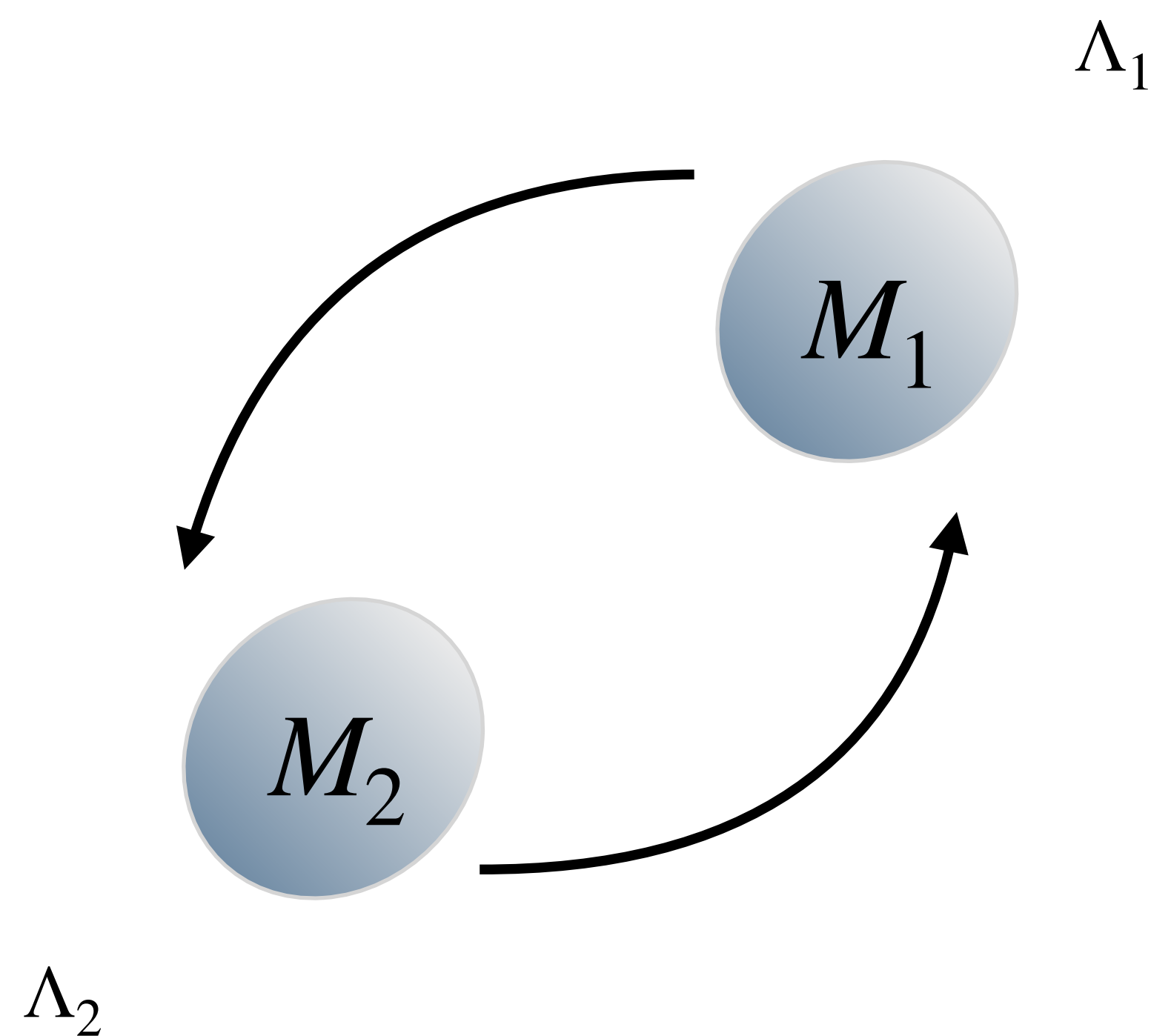
## Summary

- EoSs with a phase transition are not well approximated by spectral EoS
- We can miss the opportunity to detect a phase transition



# EoS-insensitive relations

## Introducing chirp deformability



- Early phase of the inspiral:  $M_1, M_2$   
(Assuming no spin)

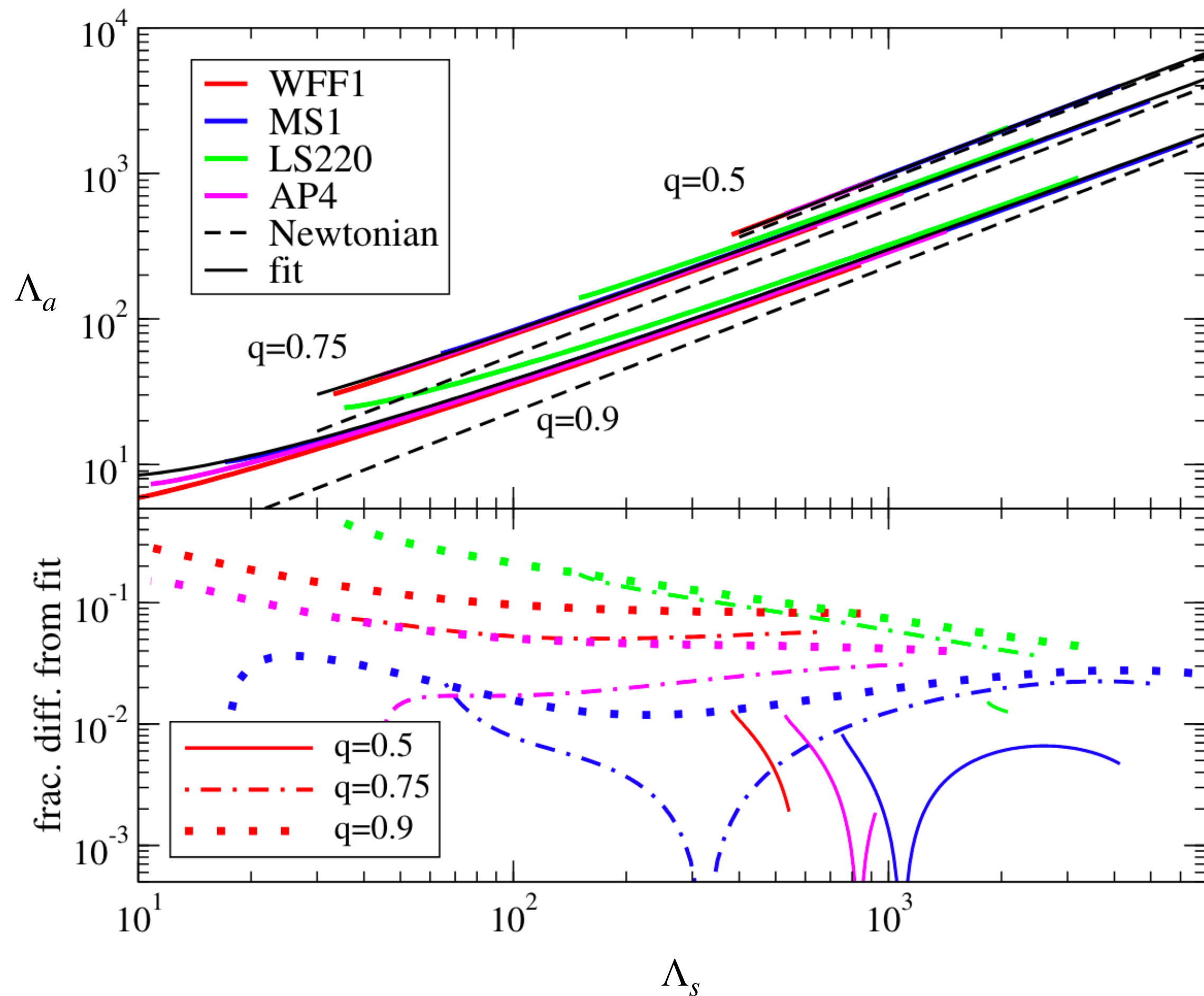
- Late inspiral phase:

$$\tilde{\Lambda} = \frac{16}{13} (\eta_1^4 (12 - 11\eta_1) \Lambda_1 + \eta_2^4 (12 - 11\eta_2) \Lambda_2)$$

$$\eta_i = M_i / (M_1 + M_2)$$

# EoS-insensitive relations

Binary Love relation:  $\Lambda_a(\Lambda_s)$



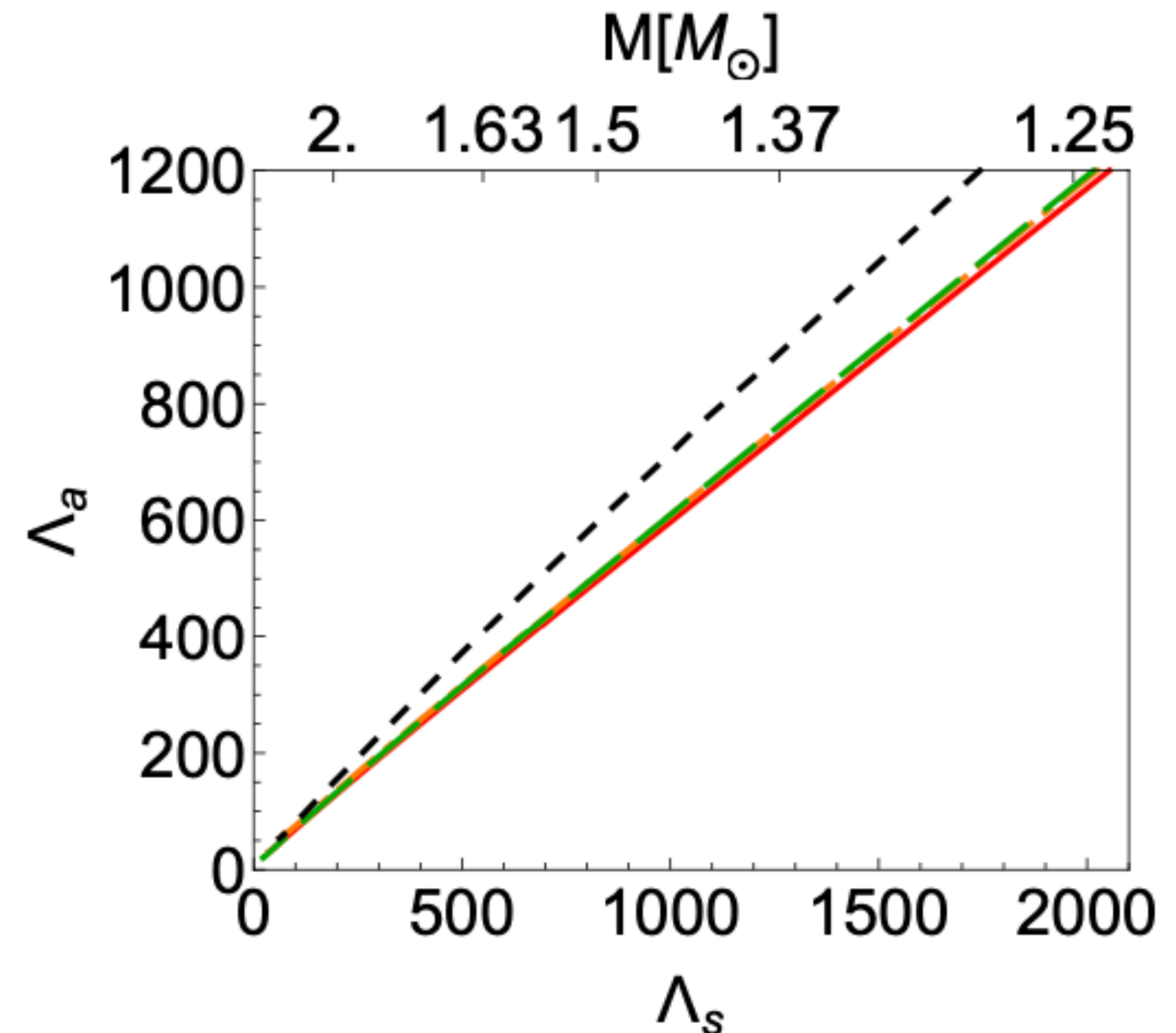
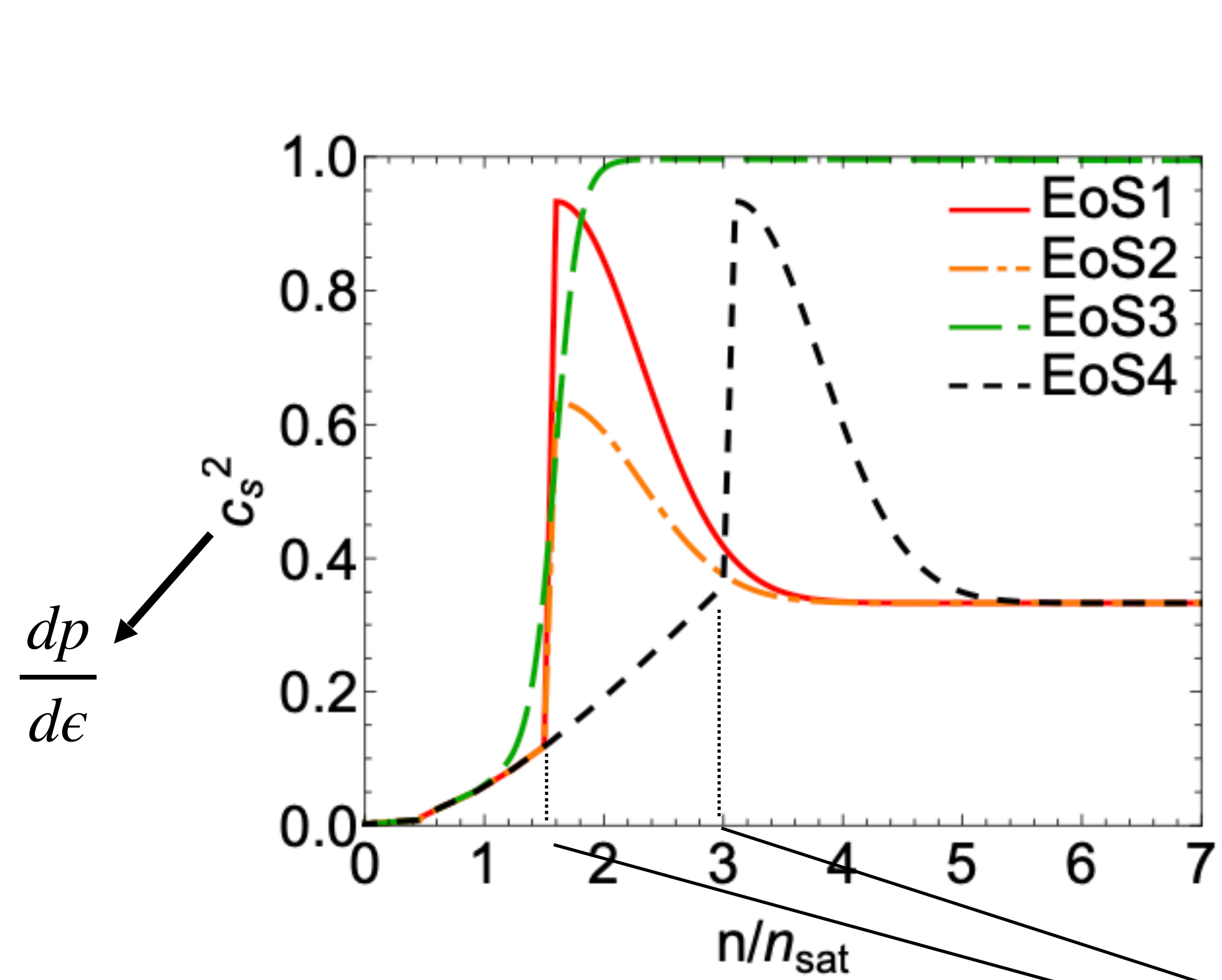
- Symbols
  - $\Lambda_a = (\Lambda_1 - \Lambda_2)/2$
  - $\Lambda_s = (\Lambda_1 + \Lambda_2)/2$
  - $q = M_1/M_2$
- $\mathcal{O}(10\%)$  error to the fit
- Break degeneracy with the fitted  $\Lambda_a(\Lambda_s)$  and  $\tilde{\Lambda}(\Lambda_1, \Lambda_2)$

# EoS-insensitive relations

What will happen if we consider phase transitions?

# EoS-insensitive relations

Binary Love relation:  $\Lambda_a(\Lambda_s)$



Seems we can tune the slope with  $n_{PT}$

Tan et al. (2021)

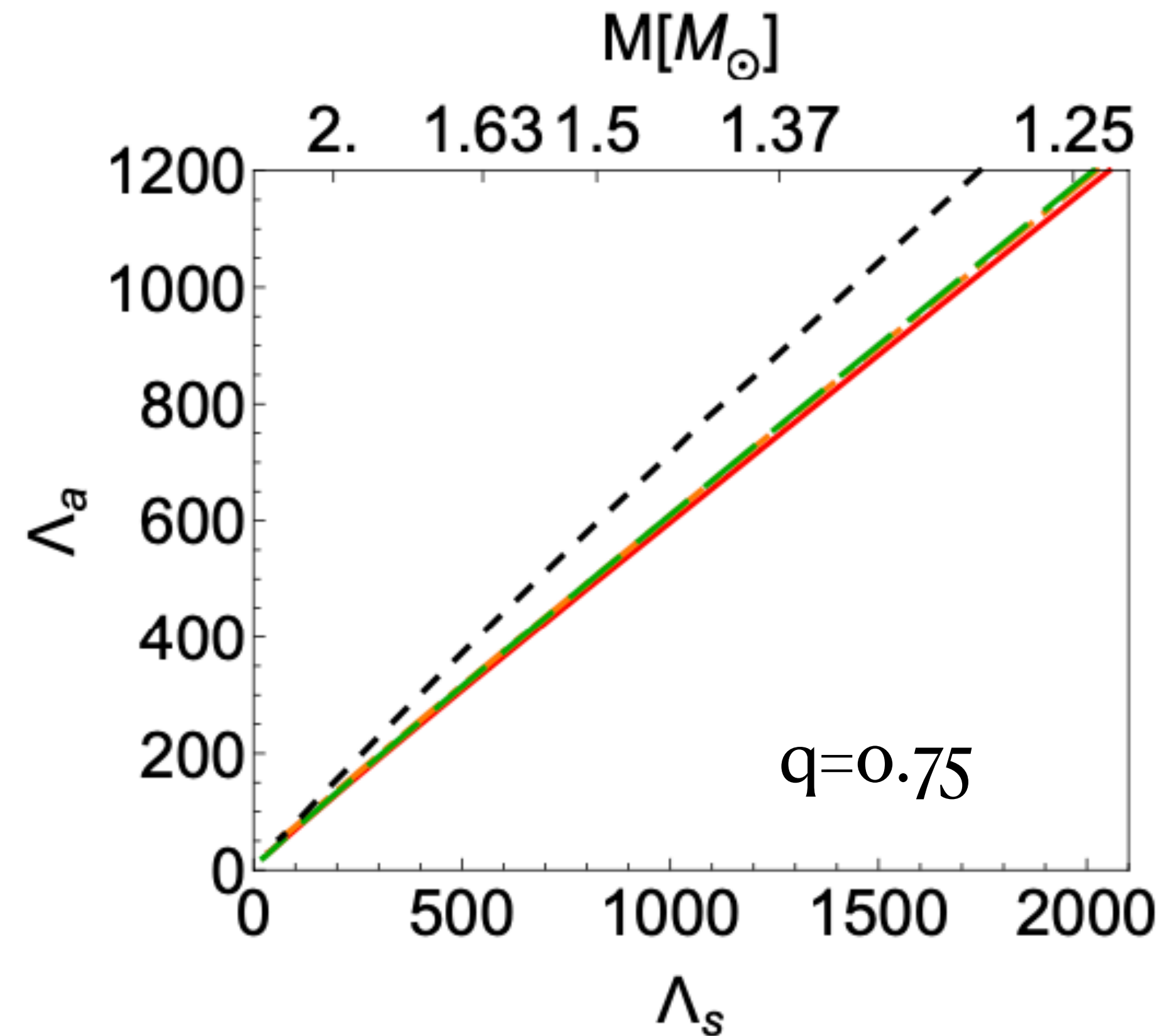
Tan et al. (2021)

# EoS-insensitive relations

## Slope of binary Love relation

$$\frac{\Lambda_a}{\Lambda_s} = \frac{1 - q^5}{1 + q^5} - 10C_1 \left( \frac{1}{dM_1/dR_1} \right) \frac{q^4(q-1)}{(q^5+1)^5} + \mathcal{O}(C_1^2)$$

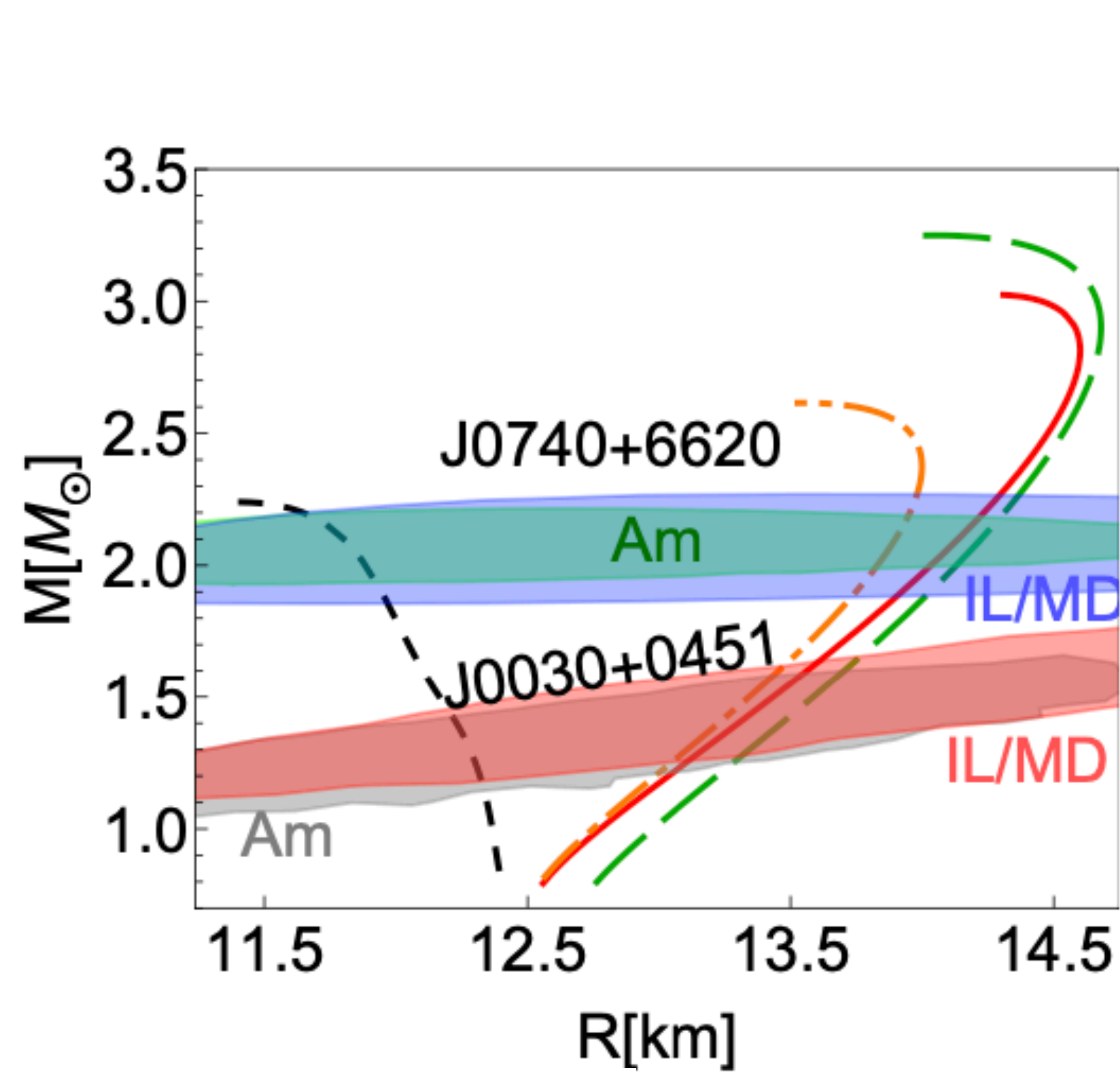
$M_1/M_2$  (pointing to  $q$ )  
 $M_1/R_1$  (pointing to  $C_1$ )  
 $dM_1/dR_1$  (circled in red)  
 EoS independent (pointing to  $\frac{1 - q^5}{1 + q^5}$ )  
 EoS dependent (pointing to the  $C_1$  term)



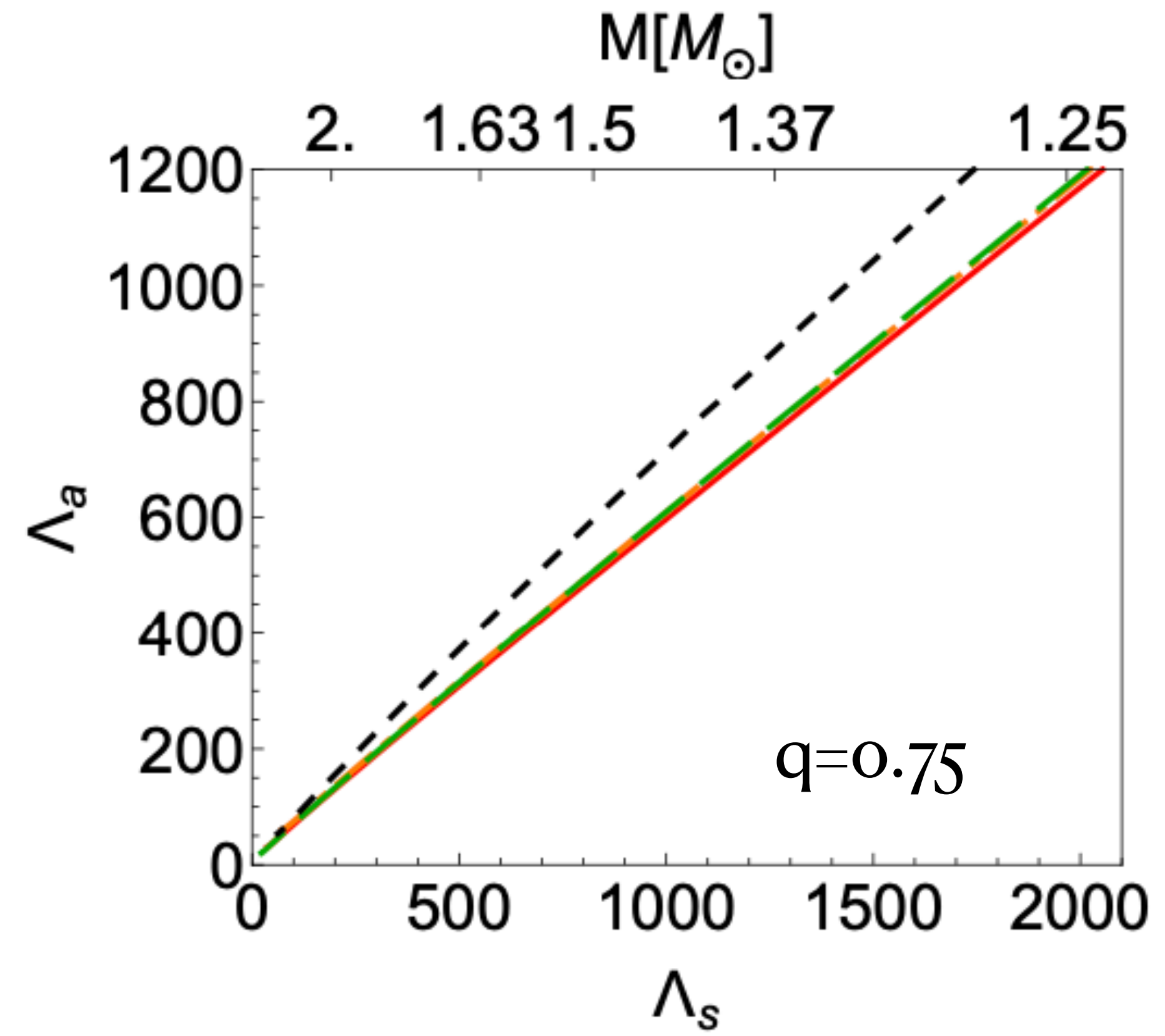
Tan et al. (2021)

# EoS-insensitive relations

## Slope of binary Love relation



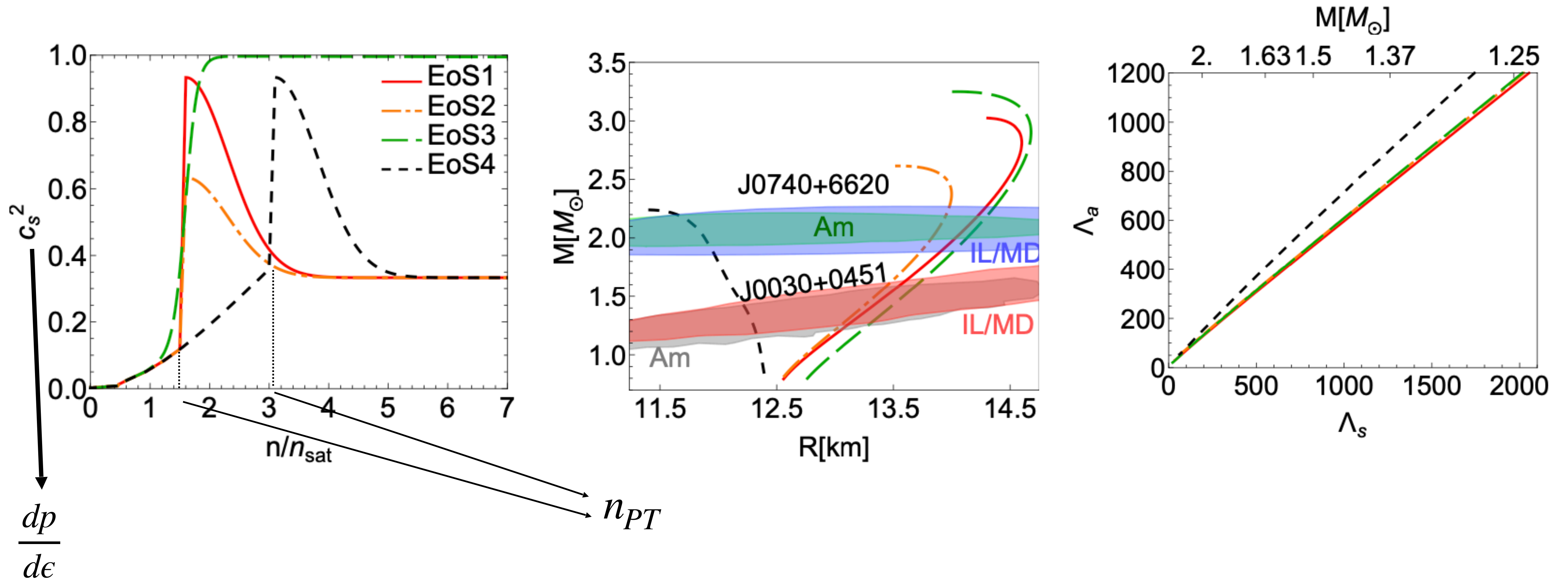
Tan et al. (2021)



Tan et al. (2021)

# EoS-insensitive relations

Why does  $n_{rise}$  change the slope of M-R curve?



# EoS-insensitive relations

## Summary

- Binary Love relations contain information of phase transitions, do not assume the relation is universal and use it blindly.



# Future Work

- Parametrizing EoS: What if the true EoS cannot be well represented?
- EoS insensitive relation: more problems

# Future Work

## Next generation detector

$$5\text{PN: } \tilde{\Lambda} = \frac{16}{13} (\eta_1^4(12 - 11\eta_1)\Lambda_1 + \eta_2^4(12 - 11\eta_2)\Lambda_2)$$

$$6\text{PN: } \delta\Lambda = \eta_1^4 \left( -\frac{15895}{28} + \frac{4595}{28}\eta_1 + \frac{5715}{14}\eta_1^2 - \frac{325}{7}\eta_1^3 \right) \Lambda_1 + (1 \leftrightarrow 2)$$