

Recent Advances in the Modeling of Type I X-Ray Bursts and Nova Outbursts



Jordi José

Dept. Physics, Technical University of Catalonia (UPC)
& Institute of Space Studies of Catalonia (IEEC), Barcelona

Classical Novae and X-Ray Bursts in a Nutshell

Classical Novae

Moderate **rise times** ($<1 - 2$ days)

$$L_{\text{Peak}} \sim 10^4 - 10^5 L_{\odot}$$

$$E_{\text{output}} \sim 10^{45} \text{ ergs}$$

Mass ejected: $10^{-7} - 10^{-4} M_{\odot}$

$$(\sim 10^3 \text{ km s}^{-1})$$

Recurrence: $\sim 10^4 - 10^5$ yr

Frequency: $\sim 50 \text{ yr}^{-1}$

[Obs. $\sim 10 \text{ yr}^{-1}$]

X-Ray Bursts (Type I)

Fast **rise times** ($<1 - 10$ s)

$$L_{\text{Peak}} \sim 10^4 - 10^5 L_{\odot}$$

$$E_{\text{output}} \sim 10^{39-40} \text{ ergs [in 10- 100 s]}$$

Mass ejected?

Recurrence: \sim hrs – days

Sources detected: ~ 100

Novae are XRBs in slow motion...

...XRBs are novae in fast forward

Novae vs. X-Ray Bursts



WD + MS (often, K-M dwarfs)

NS + MS

but sometimes more evolved companions (e.g., RG)

Type Ia (or thermonuclear) **Supernovae** [SN Ia] } WD
Classical Nova Outbursts [CN]

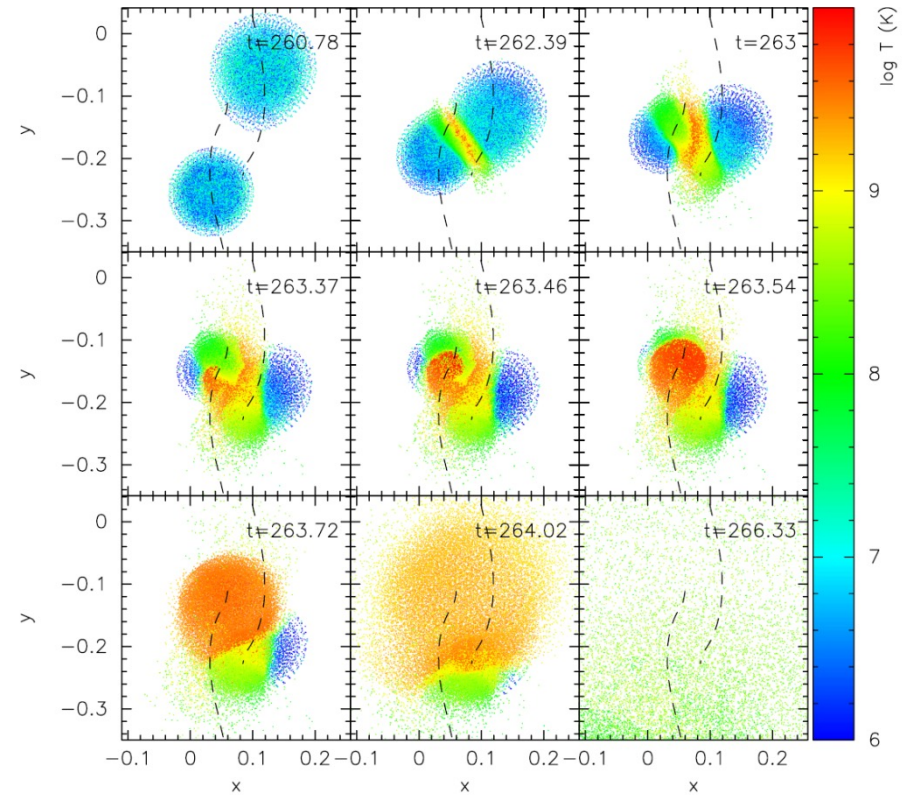
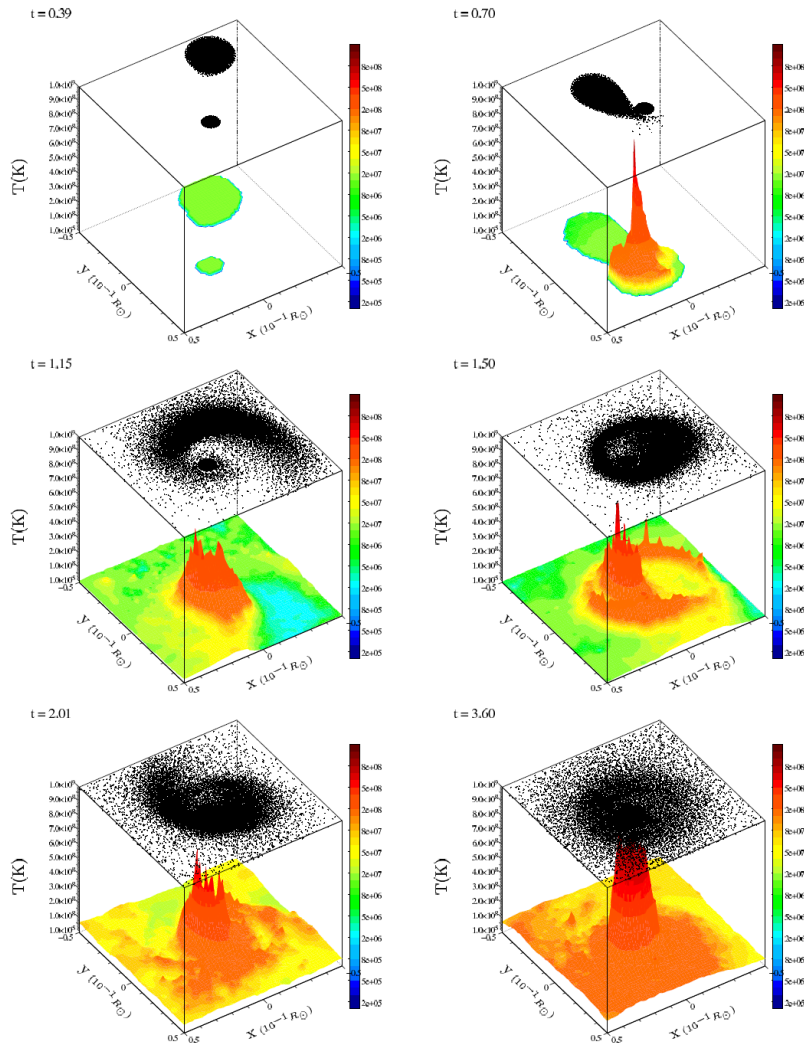
X-Ray Bursts [XRBs]: NS

... but not only!

HARDY



Stellar Mergers and Collisions



Detonations in WD dynamic interactions
Aznar-Siguán, García-Berro, Lorén-Aguilar, JJ & Isern, MNRAS (2013)

Guerrero, García-Berro & Isern, A&A (2004)

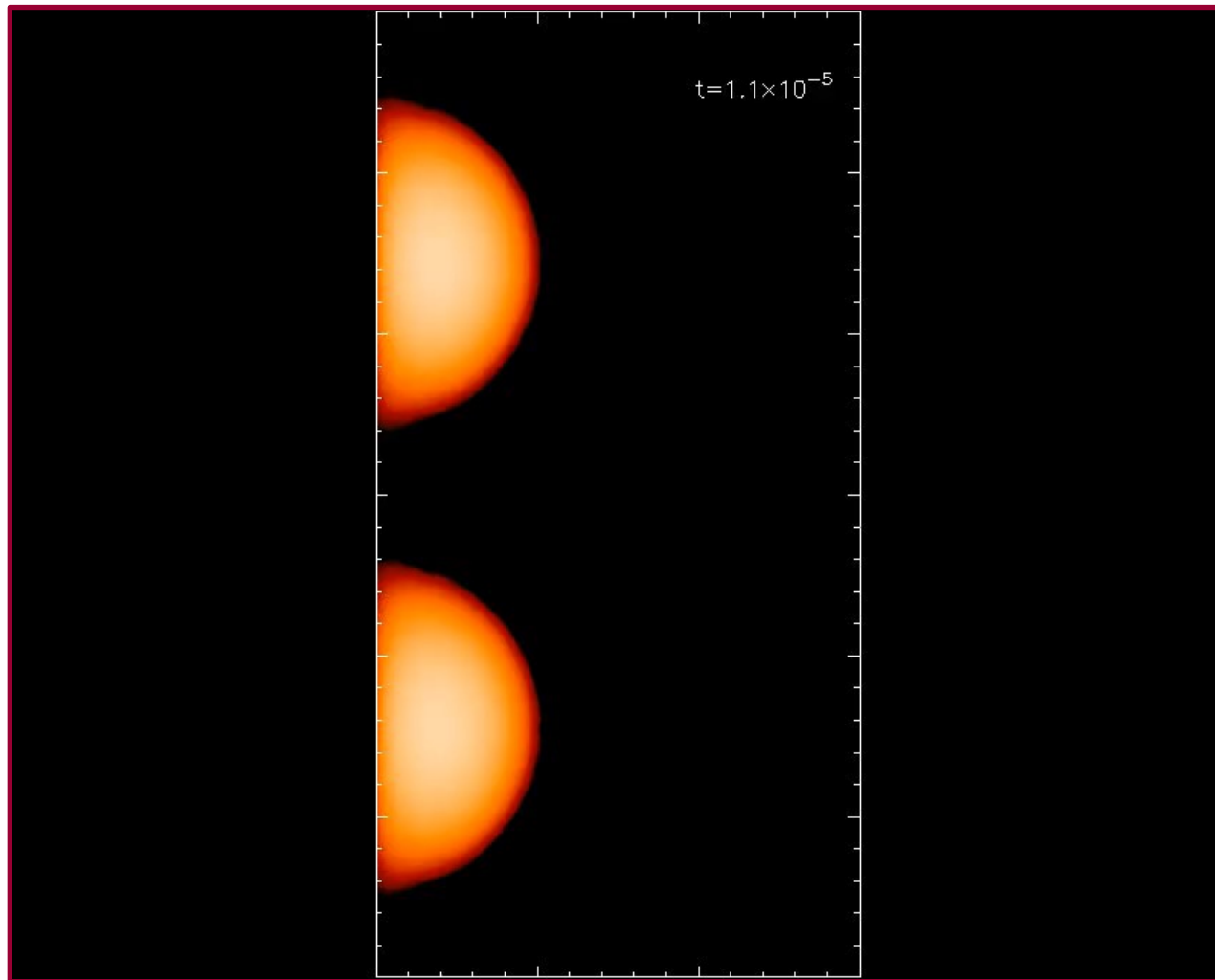
frequency $\sim f(\text{type Ia SNe})$

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Introduction || Classical Novae || X-Ray Bursts



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Head-on collision of two neutron stars
(R. Cabezón, D. García-Senz et al., UPC Barcelona)

3D Hydrodynamic Simulations of White Dwarf-Main-Sequence Star Collisions

I. Head-on Collisions

C. J. T. van der Merwe^{1,2}, S. S. Mohamed^{1,2,3,4}, J. Jose^{5,6}, M. M. Shara⁸, and T. Kaminski⁷

¹ Department of Astronomy, University of Cape Town, Private Bag X3, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa.

² South African Astronomical Observatory, P.O Box 9, Observatory, 7935, Cape Town, South Africa.

³ Department of Astronomy, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22904, USA.

⁴ NITheCS National Institute for Theoretical and Computational Sciences, South Africa.

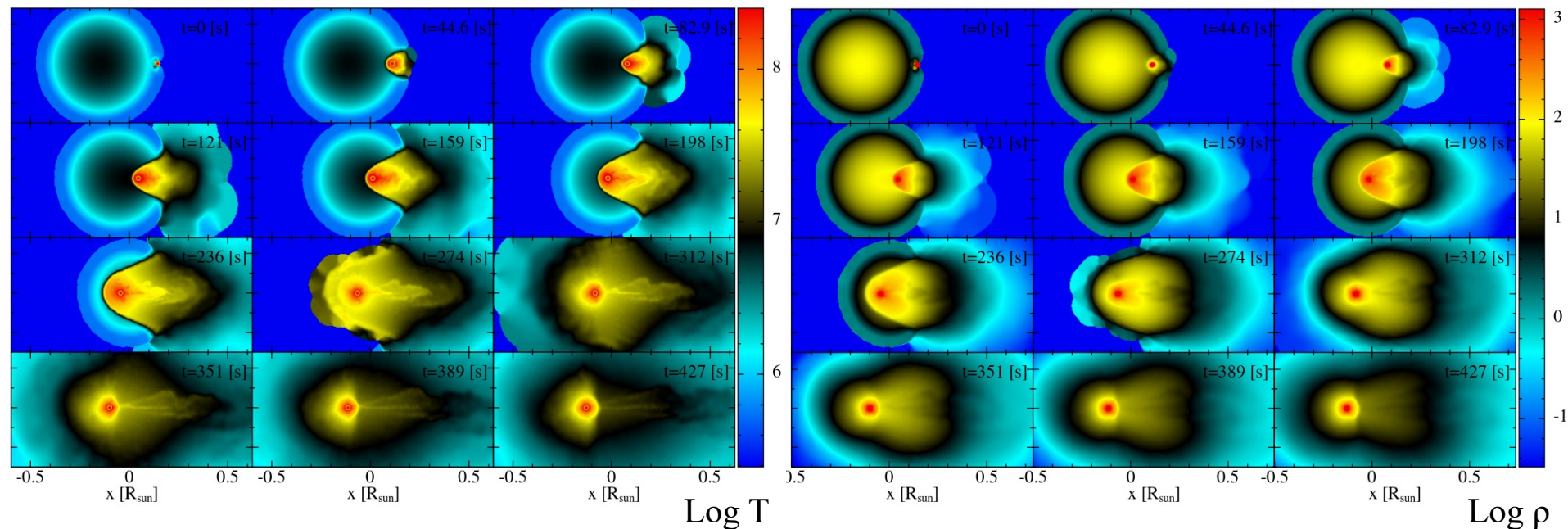
⁵ Departament de Física, EEBE, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, c/Eduard Maristany 16, 08019 Barcelona, Spain.

⁶ Institut d'Estudis Espacials de Catalunya, c/Estev Terradas 1, 08860 Castelldefels, Spain

⁷ Nicolaus Copernicus Astronomical Center, Polish Academy of Sciences, Rabiańska 8, 87-100 Toruń, Poland.

⁸ Department of Astrophysics, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th Street, New York, NY 10024, USA

A&A, submitted

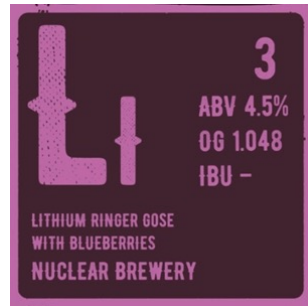


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Li **3**
ABV 4.5%
OG 1.048
IBU -

LITHIUM RINGER GOSE
WITH BLUEBERRIES
NUCLEAR BREWERY



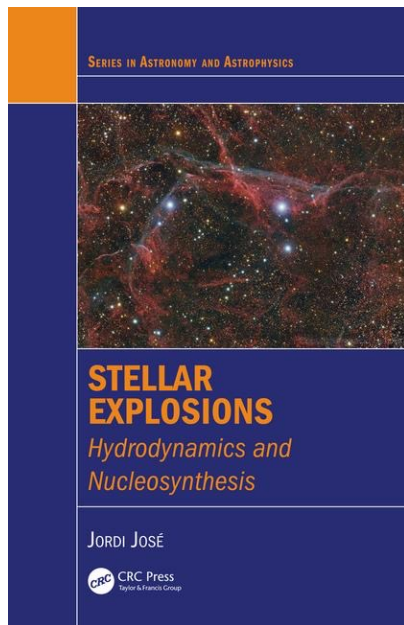
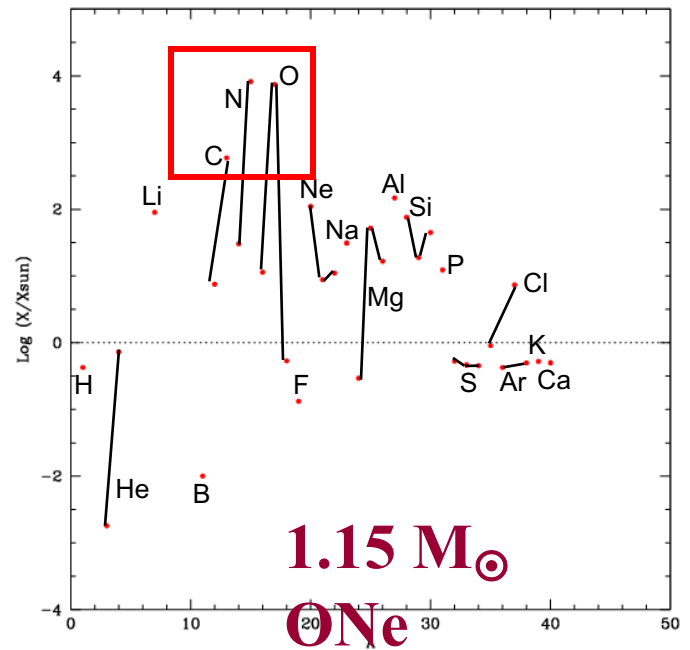
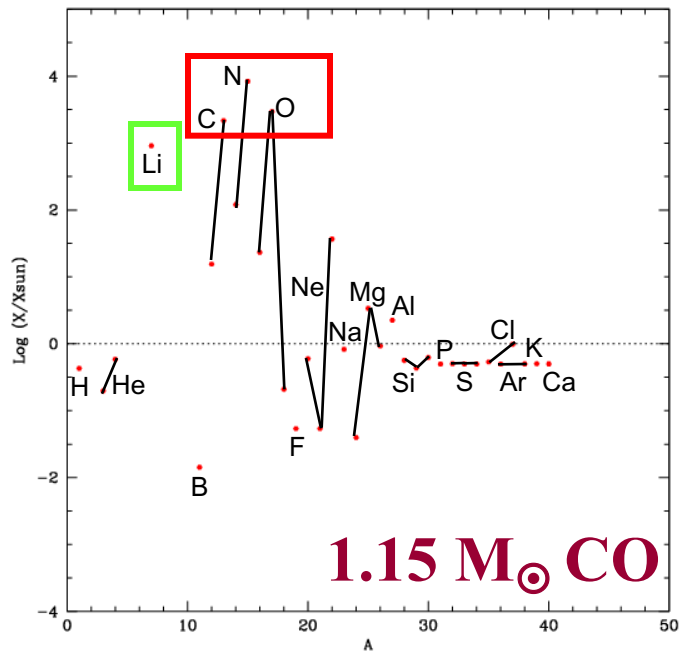
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Introduction || Classical Novae || X-Ray Bursts

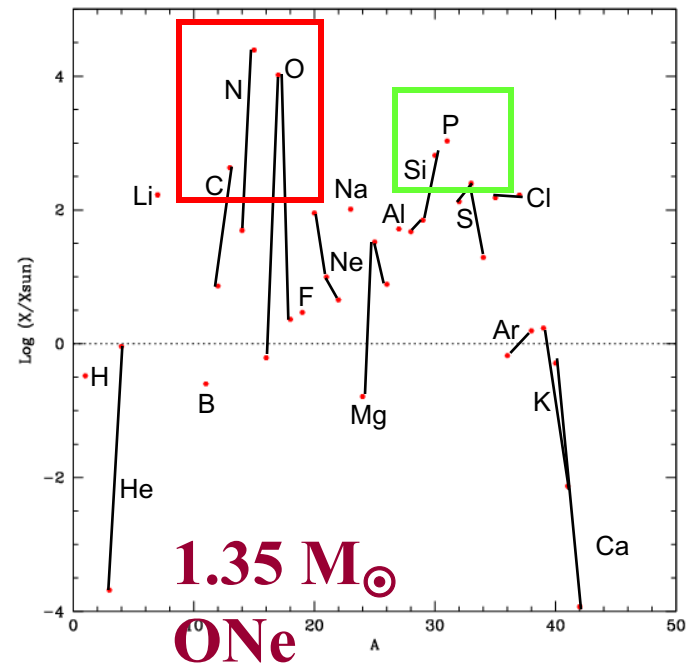


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JJ (2016)



1D have been **successful** in reproducing the *gross* observational features that characterize classical novae (e.g., **light curves**, **nucleosynthesis...**), but the assumption of **spherical symmetry** excludes an entire sequence of events → **Multidimensional models**

* The **long-term evolution** of a nova involves the **interaction** between the **ejecta**, the **disk**, and the **stellar companion**



J. Figueira (PhD thesis 2023)

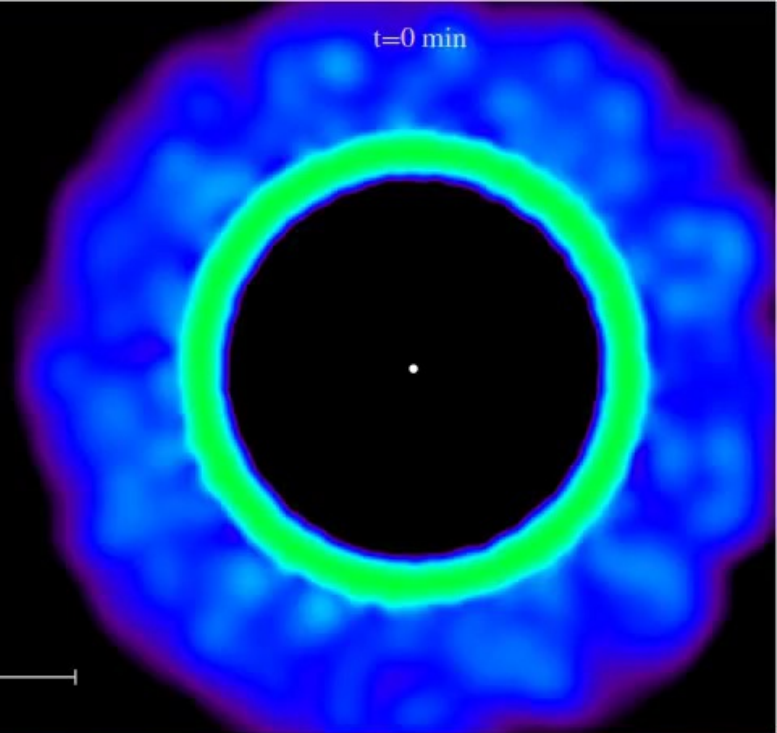
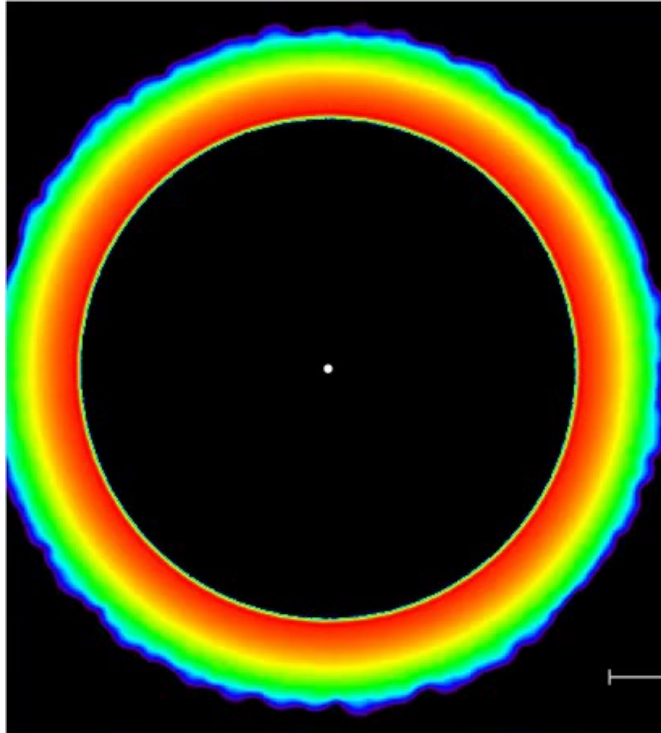
A&A 613, A8 (2018)
<https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/201731545>
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Three-dimensional simulations of the interaction between the nova ejecta, accretion disk, and companion star★

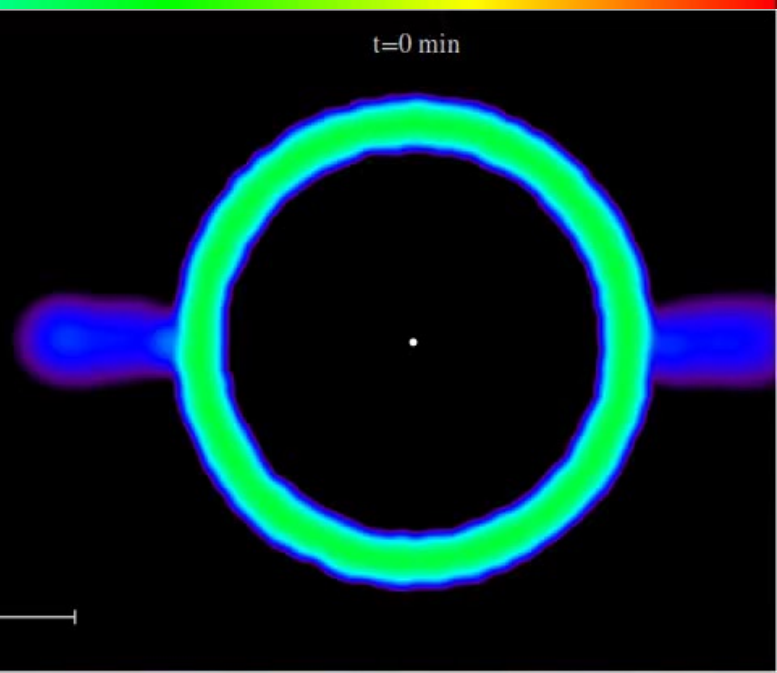
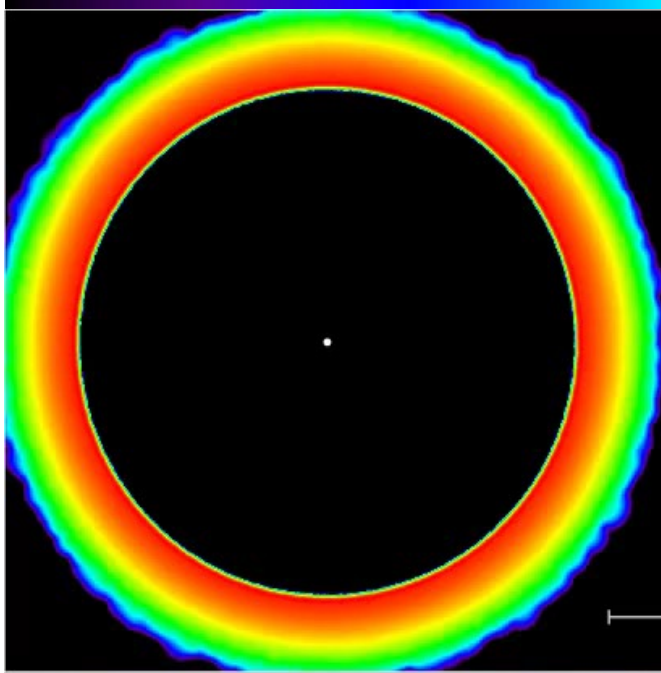
Joana Figueira^{1,2}, Jordi José^{1,2}, Enrique García-Berro^{2,3}, Simon W. Campbell^{4,5,6}, Domingo García-Senz^{1,2}, and Shazrene Mohamed^{7,8,9}

XY
Plane



$P_{\text{orb}} \sim 9$ hr

YZ
Plane





The Recurrent Nova ID Card

- **long period binaries**: very homogeneous class (WD + RG)
ex: **RS Oph**
- **short period binaries**: heterogeneous class (WD + MS)
→ Subclasses: **U Sco**, **CI Aql**, **T Pyx** [**Anupama 2007**]
Recurrence time: 1 – 100 yr

NOT all the accreted material is ejected → **SN Ia progenitors**



Recurrence time: 1 – 100 yr →

$$M_{\text{acc}} \sim 10^{-7} - 10^{-8} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

M_{WD} close to Chandrasekhar limit

High initial L_{WD}

Hydrodynamic Simulations of the Recurrent Nova T Coronae Borealis (T CrB)

Jordi José^{1,2} and Margarita Hernanz^{2,3}

¹ Departament de Física, EEBE, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC), c/Eduard Maristany 16, E-08019 Barcelona, Spain

² Institut d'Estudis Espacials de Catalunya (IEEC), c/Estève Terradas 1, E-08860 Castelldefels, Spain

³ Institut de Ciències de l'Espai (ICE-CSIC), Campus UAB, Camí de Can Magrans s/n, E-08193 Bellaterra, Spain

e-mail: jordi.jose@upc.edu

May 8, 2024

A&A, in prep.

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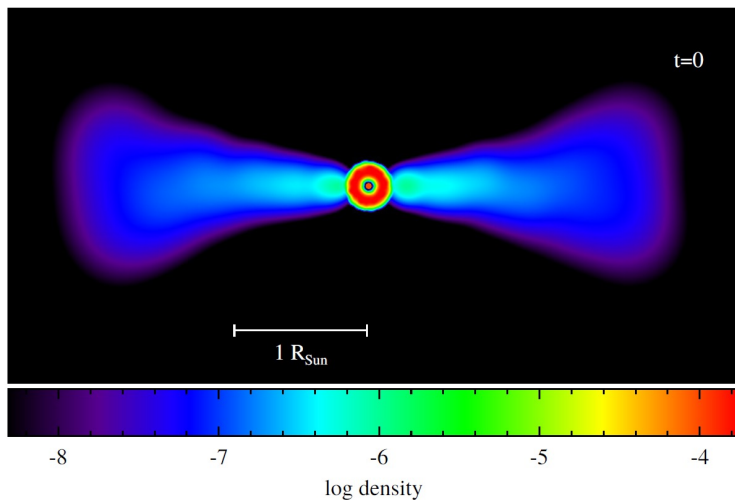
Interaction Between the Ejecta, the Accretion Disk, and the Secondary Star in the Recurrent Nova System U Sco

Joana Figueira^{1,2}, Jordi José^{1,2}, Rubén Cabezón³, and Domingo García-Senz^{1,2}

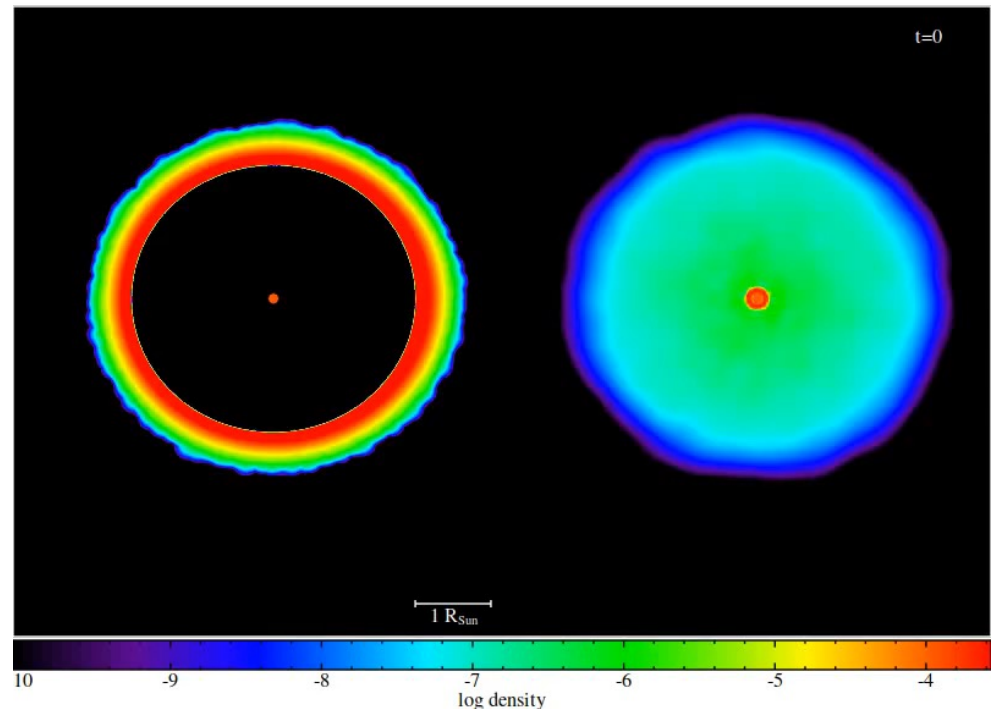
A&A, submitted

12000 ± 2000 pc from Earth

Seen in outburst in 1863, 1906, 1936, 1945?, 1969?, 1979, 1987, 1999, 2010... and **June 6, 2022**



9.77×10^6 SPH particles
(disk ~ 2000 p.; ejecta ~ 3900 p.)

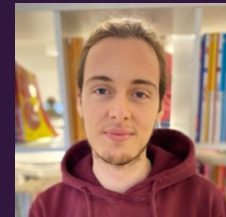
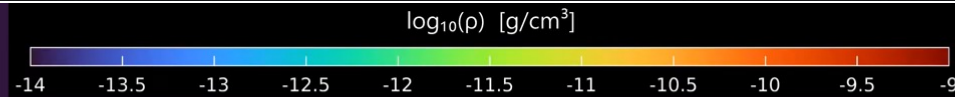


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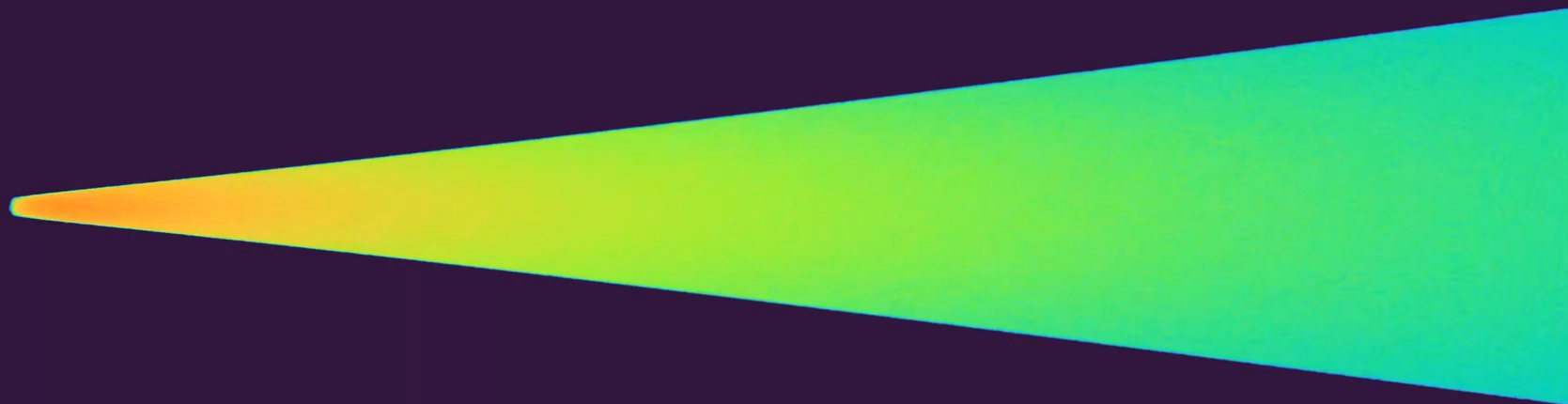
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A. Sanz (PhD thesis)



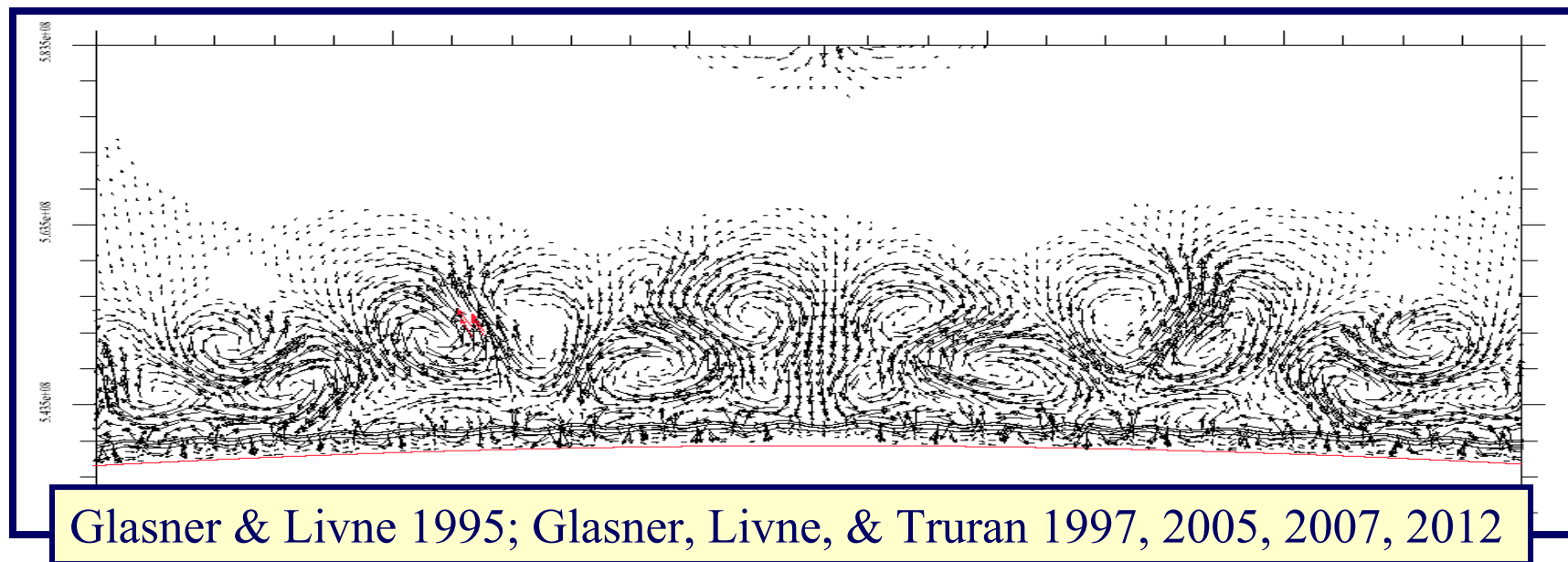
Day 1 00:00

Sanz, García-Senz & JJ (2024, in preparation)

10^6 SPH particles (2D axisym.) \rightarrow 10^9 particles (3D)



* Ignition and Front Propagation



Glasner & Livne 1995; Glasner, Livne, & Truran 1997, 2005, 2007, 2012

The build-up of **convective eddies** at the envelope's base (2-D) causes **shear flow** at the core/envelope interface [**Kelvin-Helmholtz instability**]: pure “solar-like” accreted material can be **enriched** at the late stages of the TNR by some sort of **convective overshoot** (Woosley 1986), leading to a powerful nova event!



Kelvin-Helmholtz instabilities

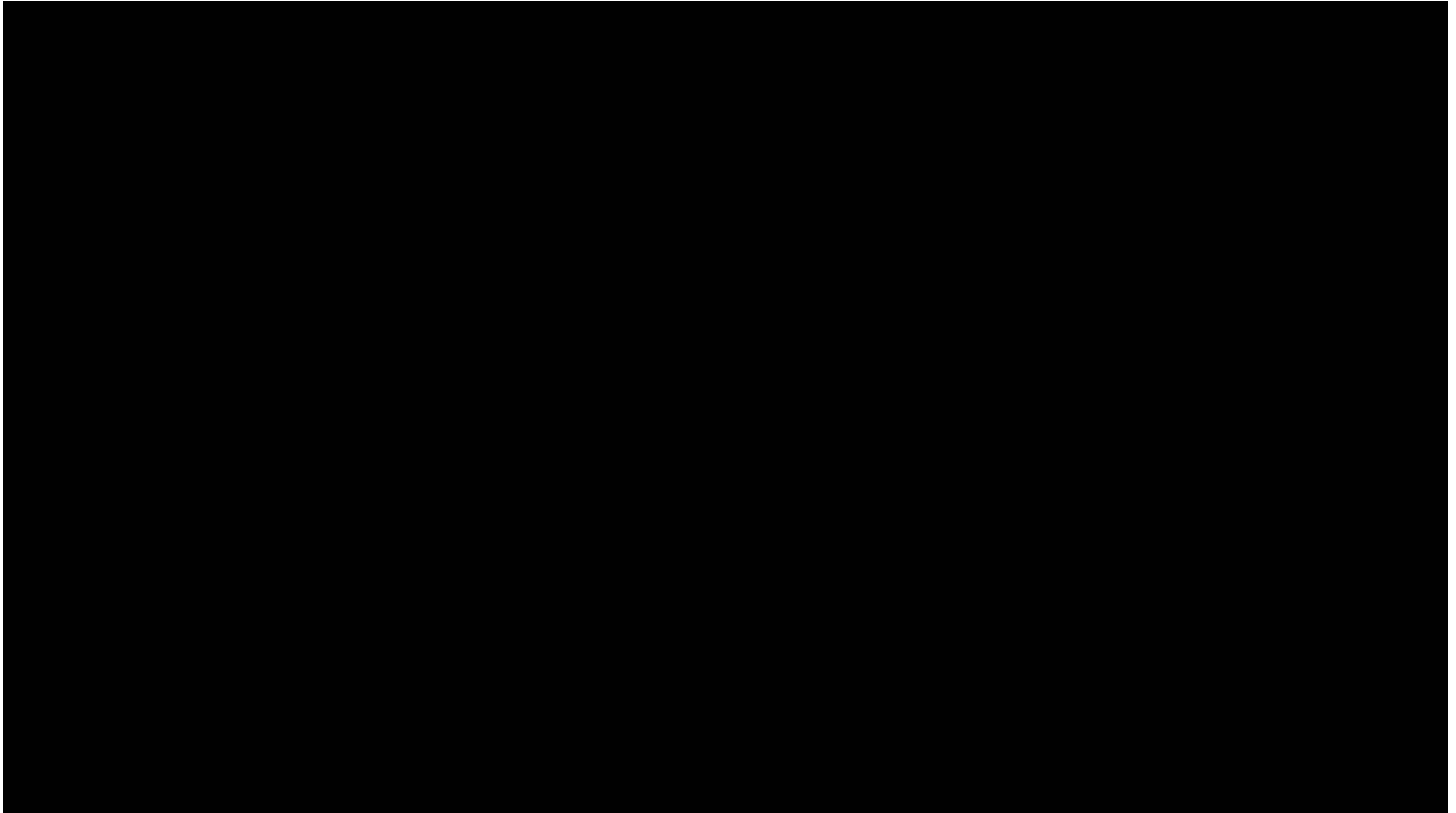


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Casanova, JJ, García-Berro, Shore & Calder (2011), Nature



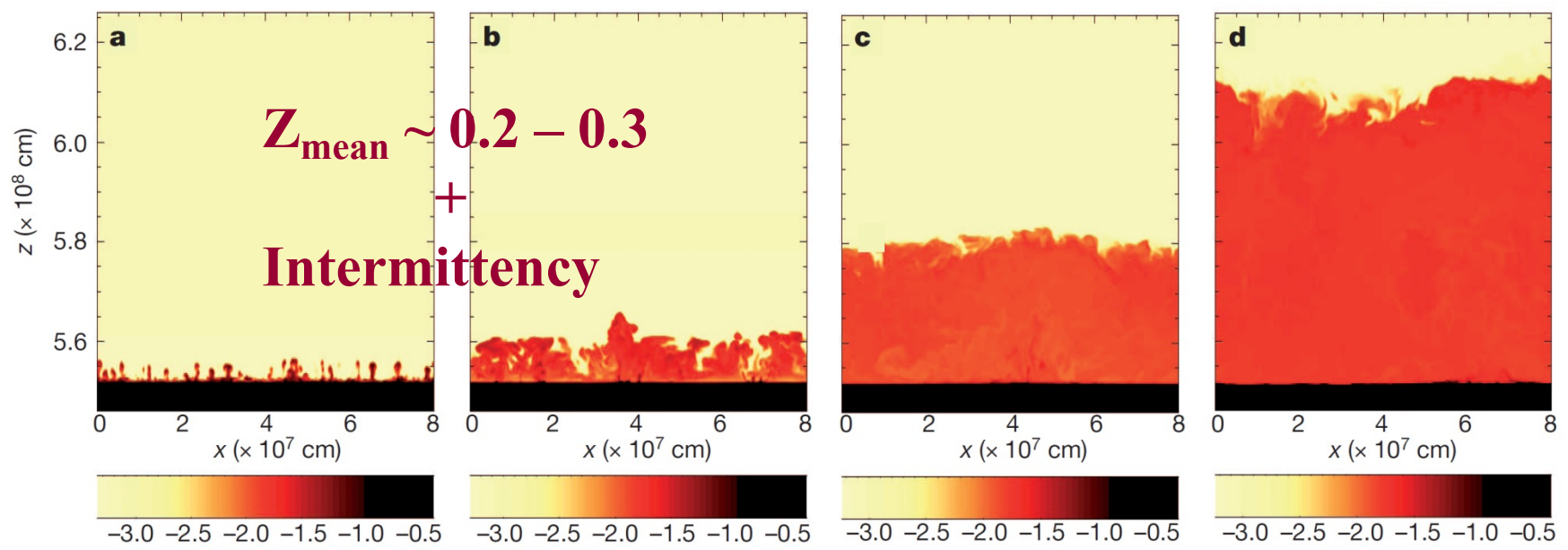
LETTER

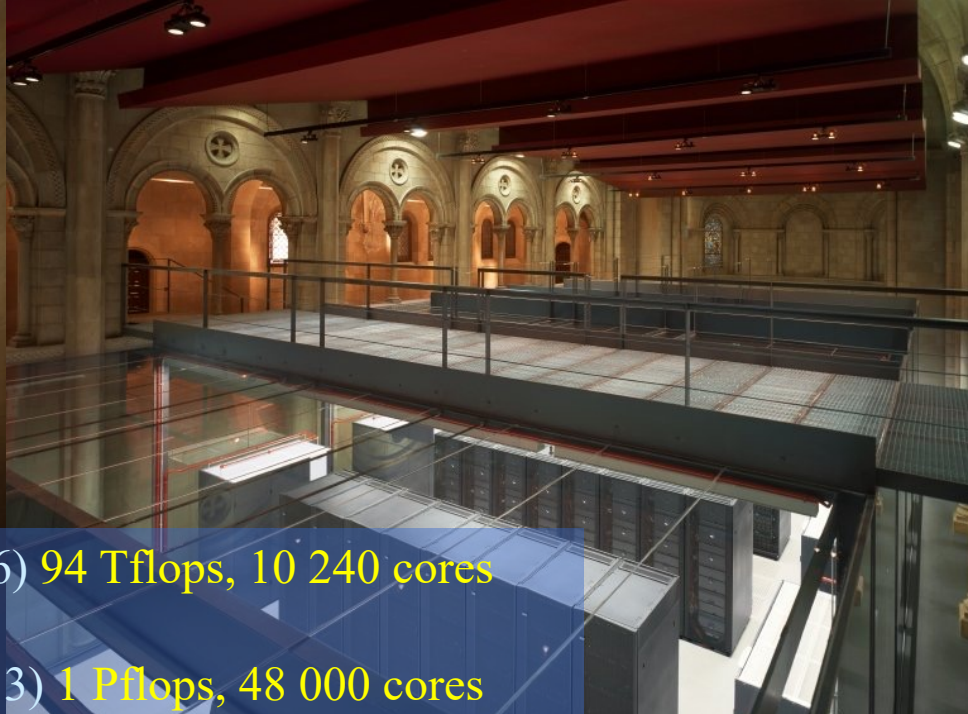
3D Models of Mixing

doi:10.1038/nature10520

Kelvin–Helmholtz instabilities as the source of inhomogeneous mixing in nova explosions

Jordi Casanova^{1,2}, Jordi José^{1,2}, Enrique García-Berro^{3,2}, Steven N. Shore⁴ & Alan C. Calder⁵





MareNostrum II (BSC, 2006) 94 Tflops, 10 240 cores

MareNostrum III (BSC, 2013) 1 Pflops, 48 000 cores

MareNostrum IV (BSC, 2017) 14 Pflops, 165 888 cores

MareNostrum V (BSC, 2023) 314 Pflops, 680 960 cores

[Pre-exascale HPC; 8th in the TOP500 Supercomputers]





12321 Models

A&A 634, A5 (2020)

<https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/201936893>

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123–321 models of classical novae

Jordi José^{1,2}, Steven N. Shore³, and Jordi Casanova²

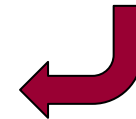
¹ Departament de Física, EEBE, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, c/Eduard Maristany 10, 08930 Barcelona, Spain
e-mail: jordi.jose@upc.edu

² Institut d'Estudis Espacials de Catalunya, c/Gran Capità 2-4, Ed. Nexus-201, 08034 Barcelona, Spain

³ Dipartimento di Fisica “Enrico Fermi”, Università di Pisa and INFN, Sezione di Pisa, Largo B. Pontecorvo 3, 56127 Pisa, Italy

Received 11 October 2019 / Accepted 17 December 2019

When mixing is treated “the best we can”,
the **WD mass decreases**



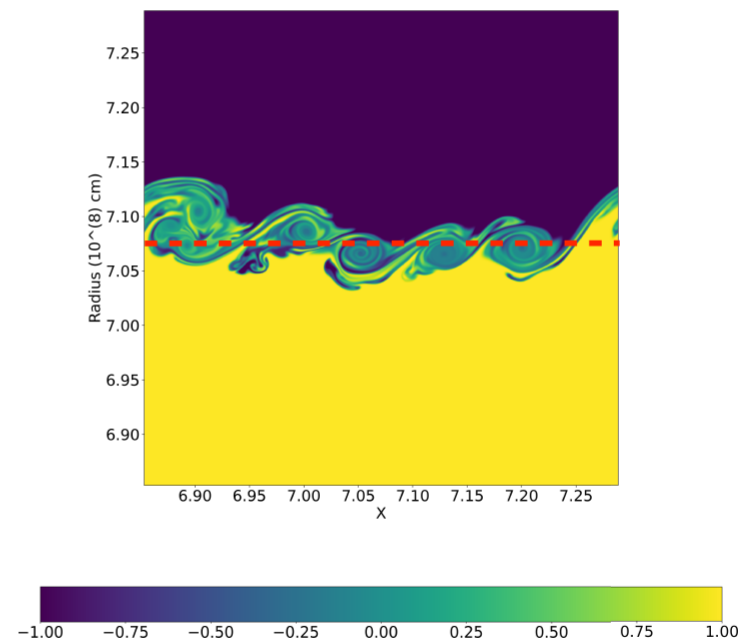
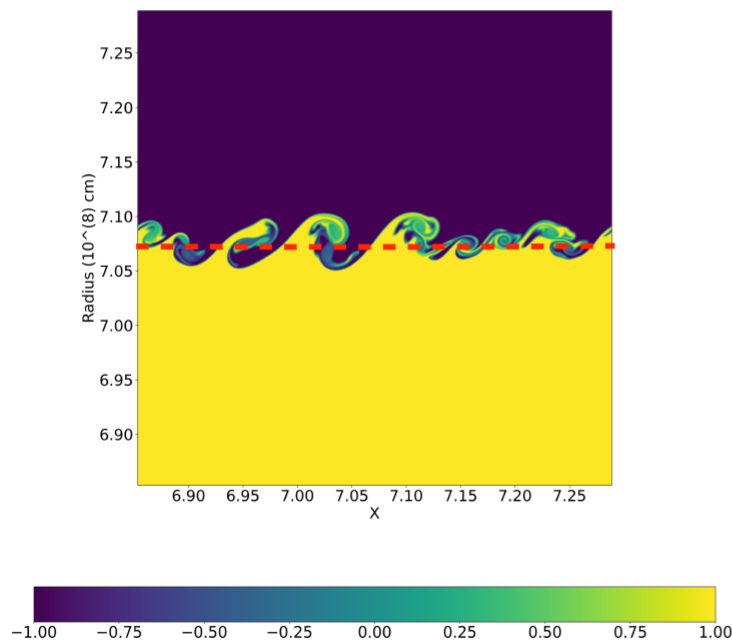


Hydrodynamical shear mixing in subsonic boundary layers and its role in the thermonuclear explosion of classical novae

Marco Bellomo^{1,2}, Steven N. Shore^{2,3}, and Jordi José⁴

A&A, submitted

^{12}C





Micronovae [e.g., TV Columbae, EI Ursae Majoris, ASASSN-19bh]

S. Scaringi's
talk

→ Accretion flow **funneled** by the magnetic field of the white dwarf (localized TNR)

Article

Nature | Vol 604 | 21 April 2022 | 447

Localized thermonuclear bursts from accreting magnetic white dwarfs

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-022-04495-6>

Received: 4 October 2021

Accepted: 1 February 2022

Published online: 20 April 2022

S. Scaringi^{1✉}, P. J. Groot^{2,3,4}, C. Knigge⁵, A. J. Bird⁵, E. Breedt⁶, D. A. H. Buckley^{3,4,7}, Y. Cavecchi⁸, N. D. Degenaar⁹, D. de Martino¹⁰, C. Done¹, M. Fratta¹, K. Itkiewicz¹, E. Koering², J.-P. Lasota^{11,12}, C. Littlefield^{13,14}, C. F. Manara¹⁵, M. O'Brien¹, P. Szkody¹⁴ & F. X. Timmes^{16,17}

Nova explosions are caused by global thermonuclear runaways triggered in the

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Mass Ejection

The potential impact of XRB nucleosynthesis on **Galactic abundances** is still a matter of debate:

Ejection from a NS **unlikely** because of its large **gravitational potential** (ejection from the surface a NS of mass M and radius R requires $GMm_p/R \sim 200$ MeV/nucleon, whereas only a few MeV/nucleon are released from **thermonuclear fusion**)

$$\text{NS} \rightarrow M_{\text{NS}} \sim 1.4 M_{\odot}, R_{\text{NS}} \sim 10 \text{ km} \rightarrow v_{\text{esc}} = \sqrt{2GM_{\text{NS}}/R_{\text{NS}}} \sim \mathbf{190\,000 \text{ km s}^{-1}}$$

$$[\text{WD} \rightarrow M_{\text{WD}} \sim 1 M_{\odot}, R_{\text{WD}} \sim 6000 \text{ km} \rightarrow v_{\text{esc}} \sim \mathbf{7000 \text{ km s}^{-1}}]$$

➡ XRBs halted by fuel consumption (due to efficient CNO–breakout) rather than by expansion **→ nearly constant pressure** at ignition depth

HYDRODYNAMIC MODELS OF TYPE I X-RAY BURSTS: METALLICITY EFFECTS

JORDI JOSÉ^{1,2}, FERMÍN MORENO¹, ANUJ PARIKH³, AND CHRISTIAN ILIADIS^{4,5}

¹ Departament de Física i Enginyeria Nuclear, EUETIB, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, C./ Comte d'Urgell 187, E-08036 Barcelona, Spain; jordi.jose@upc.edu, moreno@ieec.fcr.es

² Institut d'Estudis Espacials de Catalunya (IEEC), Ed. Nexus-201, C/ Gran Capità 2-4, E-08034 Barcelona, Spain

³ Physik Department E12, Technische Universität München, James-Franck-Strasse, D-85748 Garching, Germany; anuj.parikh@ph.tum.de

⁴ Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3255, USA; iliadis@unc.edu

⁵ Triangle Universities Nuclear Laboratory, Durham, NC 27708-0308, USA

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Mass-loss and composition of wind ejecta in type I X-ray bursts

Y. Herrera^{1,2,3} , G. Sala^{1,2} , and J. José^{1,2} 

¹ Departament de Física, EEBE, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, c/Eduard Maristany 16, 08019 Barcelona, Spain

² Institut d'Estudis Espacials de Catalunya, c/Gran Capità 2-4, Ed. Nexus-201, 08034 Barcelona, Spain

³ Institute of Space Sciences, c/Can Magrans, 08193 Cerdanyola del Vallès, Barcelona, Spain
e-mail: herrera@ice.csic.es

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**Y. Herrera's
talk**

XRB Model with $1.4 M_{\text{sun}}$, 13.1 km NS; $Z_{\text{acc}} = 0.02$, and $M_{\text{acc}} = 1.75 \times 10^{-9} M_{\text{sun}} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ $\rightarrow M_{\text{ejec}} = 3.1 \times 10^{-14} M_{\text{sun}}!$

0.1% of the envelope is ejected per burst (^{60}Ni , ^{64}Zn , [^{68}Ge], & ^{58}Ni)



Type I XRB Models with Rotation

First models with rotation!

Study of the effect of (**shellular**) **rotation** on type I X-ray burst properties

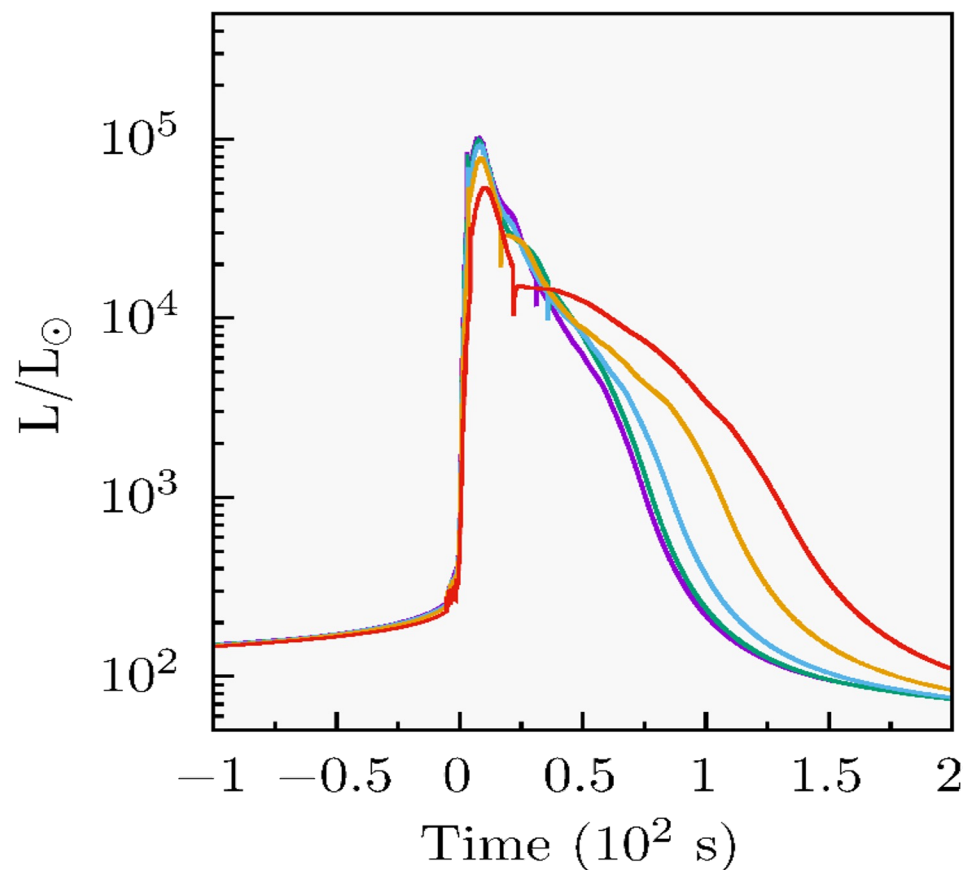


D. Martin
(PhD Thesis 2023)

- **Pressure-lifting effect** caused by rotation: maximum density and pressure at the base of the envelope decrease as the angular velocity of the envelope increases
- The **size** of the **envelope shows a significant growth** with the increase of the angular velocity (up to 66% for the fastest rotation model considered)
- Bursts with **higher angular velocities have smaller recurrence times**



Brightest bursts are those with **smallest angular velocity Ω_0** (bursts with **high rotation rates** have **long decays** [increase up to **45%**] and **broad light curves**)



$$P_{crit} = \frac{G M_{NS}}{4\pi R_{NS}^4} \Delta M_{acc}$$

Martin & JJ, in prep.



NUCLEI IN THE COSMOS XVIII
Barcelona/Girona, June 2025



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- Yuri Cavecchi (UPC)
- Margarita Hernanz (ICE-CSIC, IEEC)
- Jordi Isern (RACAB, ICE-CSIC, IEEC)
- Jordi José (UPC, IEEC), **Chair**
- Jordi Llorca (UPC)
- Kelsey Lund (NCSSU, LANL)
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- Arnau Rios (UB, ICC-UB)
- Glòria Sala (UPC, IEEC)
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**Thank you for your
attention!**

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The X-Ray Mysteries of Neutron Stars and White Dwarfs, ESAC, June 5 – 7, 2024