

Universal description of a Neutron Star's Surface and it's key global properties using machine learning

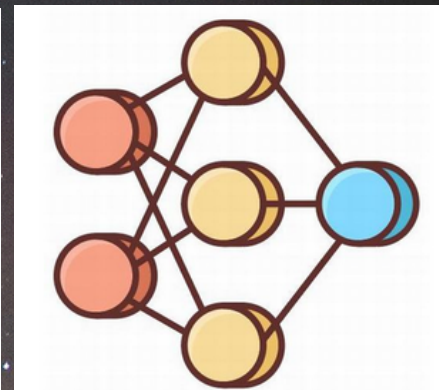
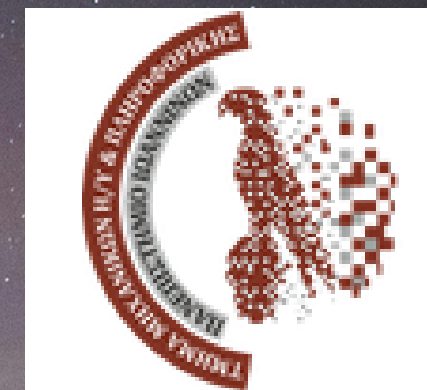
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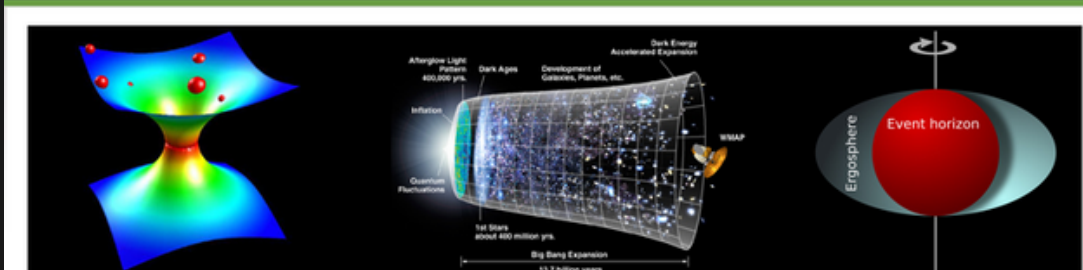
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University of Ioannina*



*NEB-21 conference in the series "Recent Developments in Gravity"
Corfu, 2025*

Hellenic Society on Relativity, Gravitation and Cosmology
"imagination is more important than knowledge" Albert Einstein



Plan of the presentation

- Rotating Neutron Stars
- *Equation of state models*
- *RNS code-Numerical setup*

Universal relations

- *Analytical fits*
- *ANN models*

Main target: To describe some of the star's key surface properties in a way that does not depend on the EoS (universal description)

Rotating Neutron Star & EoS models

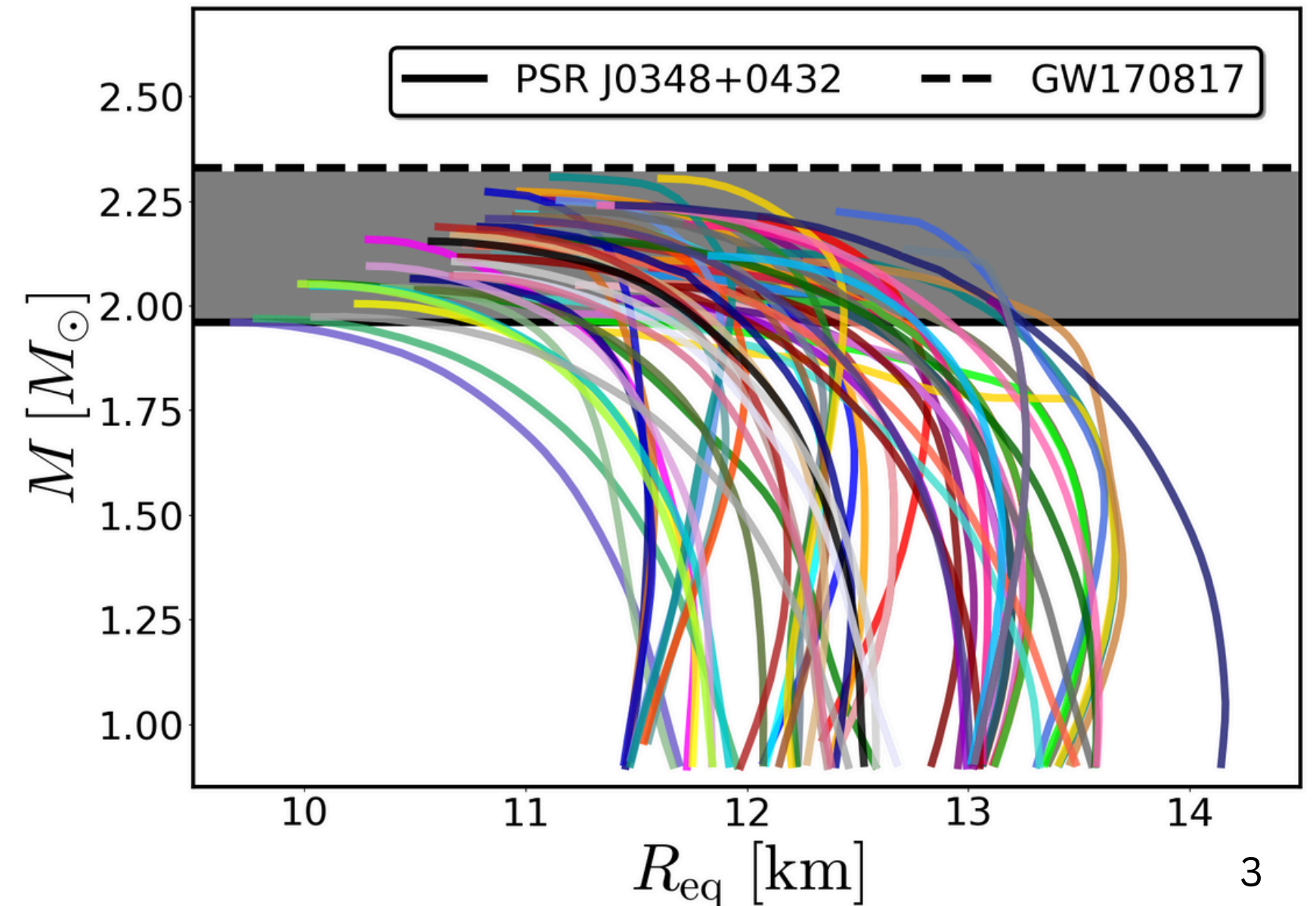
- A rotating compact object is characterized by its mass M and its angular momentum J .
- *Stationary and axisymmetric spacetime in equilibrium:*

$$ds^2 = -e^{(\gamma+\rho)} dt^2 + e^{(\gamma-\rho)} r^2 \sin^2 \theta (d\phi - \omega dt)^2 + e^{2a} (dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2)$$

- Interior: perfect fluid matter in hydrostationary equilibrium
- *Barotropic EoS* $\epsilon = \epsilon(P)$ that correlates the thermodynamic variables $\epsilon(r)$ and $P(r)$
- We have used *70* tabulated EoSs of cold, dense matter from **comPOSE** database

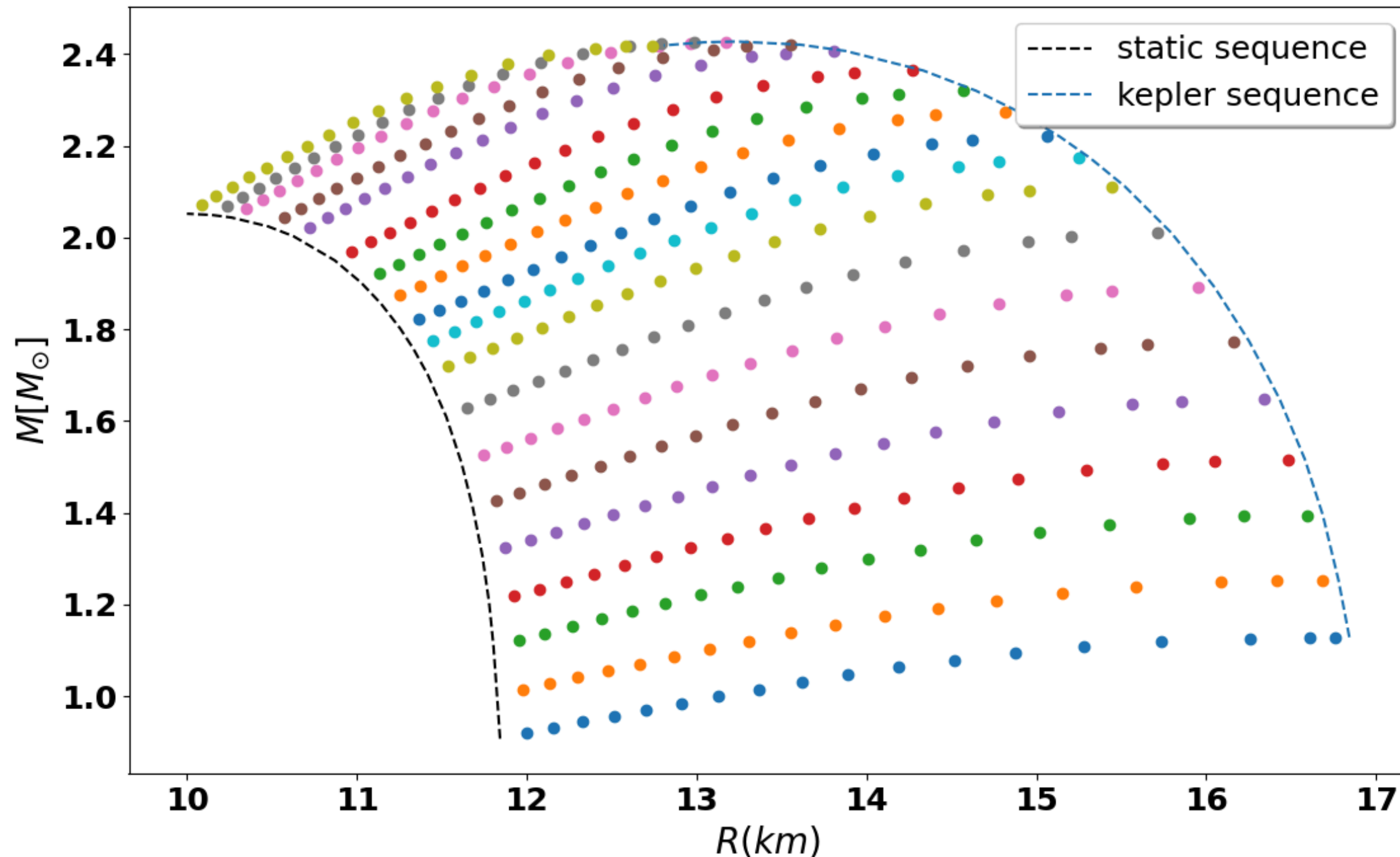
Hadronic ($[n, p, e^-, \mu^-]$), *Hyperonic* ($[n, p, e^-, H]$)
and *Hybrid: Quark+Hadron+H* ($[n, p, e^-, H, q]$)
models

- Constraints based on physical acceptability conditions
- Multimessenger constraints



RNS code - numerical setup

- *RNS code*: Is used to construct NS equilibrium model sequences <https://github.com/cgca/rns>
- Indicative stellar model-sequences representation for EoS *SLy4*



- Extended ensemble of 42694 NS models static and rotating with ϵ_c ($3.928 \times 10^{14} - 3.029 \times 10^{15}$) gr/cm³ and masses starting from $0.9M_\odot$ and up to the star's M_{max} .

- Uniformly rotating** NSs: $\Omega = \text{const}$, $f \in [0.190, 1.871]$ kHz

- Stellar parameters:

$$C = M/R_{eq}, \quad \sigma = \Omega^2 R_{eq}^3 / GM$$

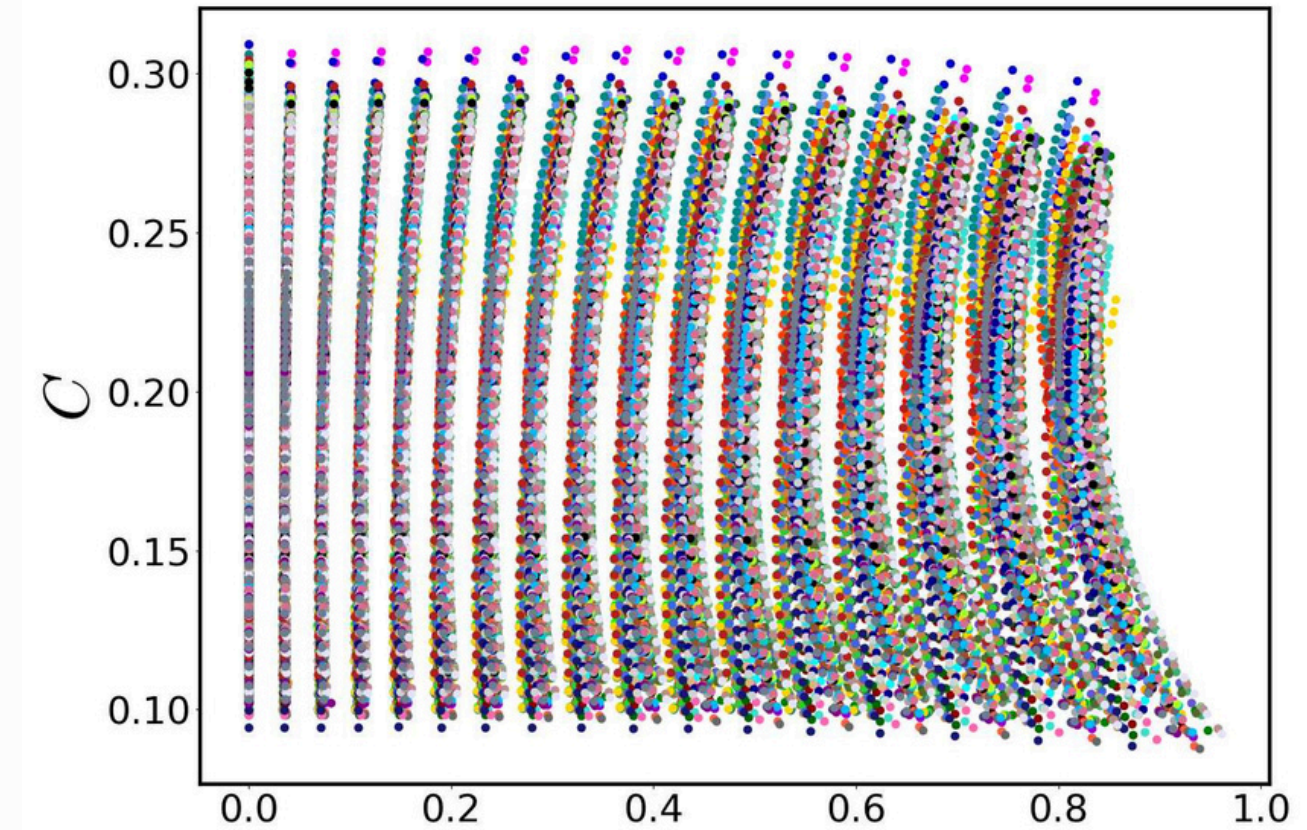
Locating the star's surface

- The **oblate shape** of the star depends on the EoS and the rotation frequency ^{σ}
- Enthalpy method**: numerical solution of the $\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{P}) = \mathbf{0} \rightarrow$ **star's surface** $R(\mu)$, $\mu \in [0, 1]$
- Additional parameters: $R_* = R_{pole}/R_{eq}$, eccentricity $e = (1 - R_*^2)^{1/2}$

- Deviation from sphericity** of the star's surface

$$\left[\frac{d \log R(\mu)}{d\theta} \right]_{\mu=0} = \left[\frac{d \log R(\mu)}{d\theta} \right]_{\mu=1} = 0$$

$$\frac{d \log R(\mu)}{d\theta} = -(1 - \mu^2)^{1/2} \frac{1}{R(\mu)} \frac{dR(\mu)}{d\mu}$$



crucial role in computing the beaming angle, α_e , for a photon emitted at the surface of the NS

Effective gravity at surface

- 3-velocity of a fluid element as measured by a ZAMO:

$$V = (\Omega - \omega)r \sin(\theta) e^{-\rho}$$

- For the utilized metric:

$$a_\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial(\rho + \gamma)}{\partial x^\alpha} - \frac{V}{1 - V^2} \frac{\partial V}{\partial x^\alpha}$$

- Effective acceleration due to gravity:

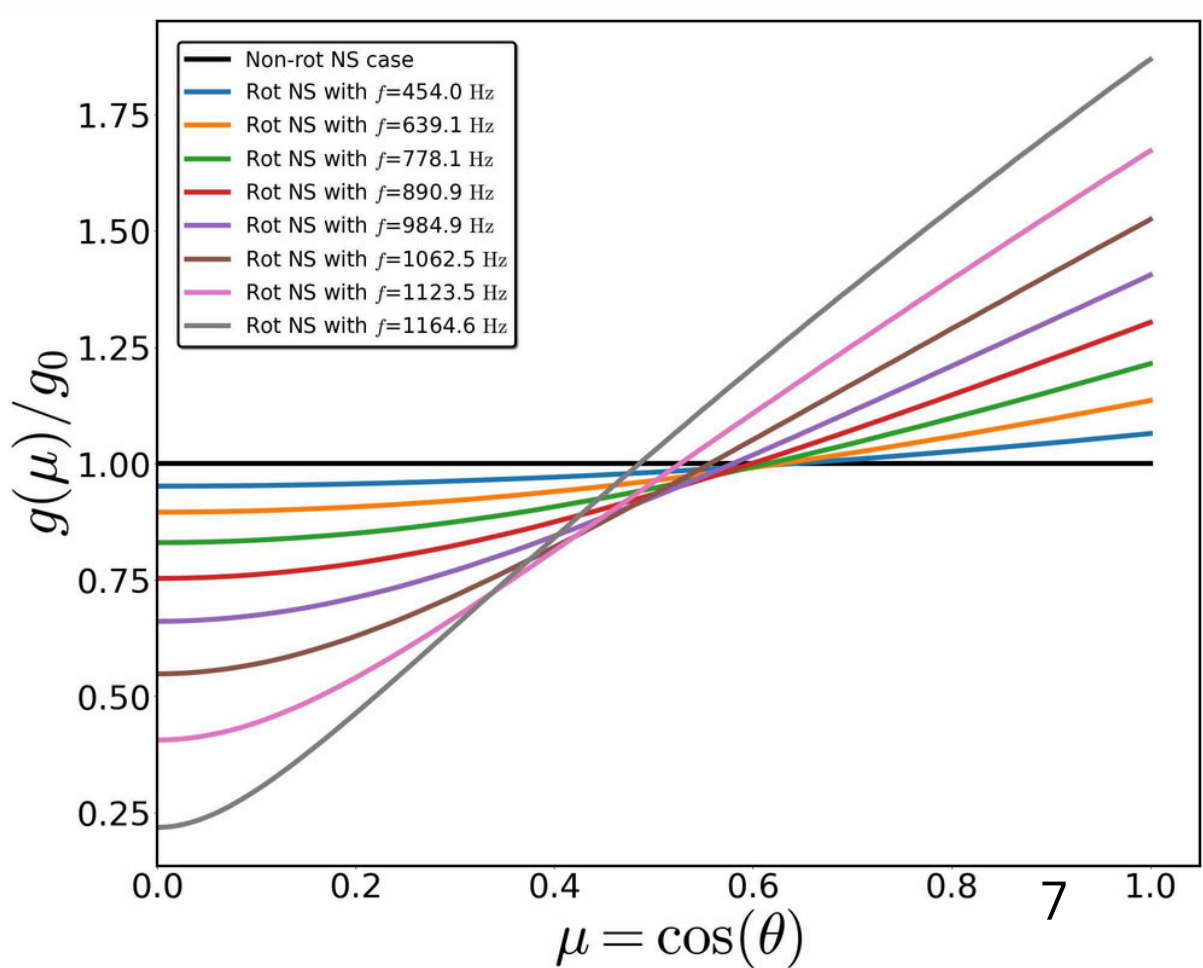
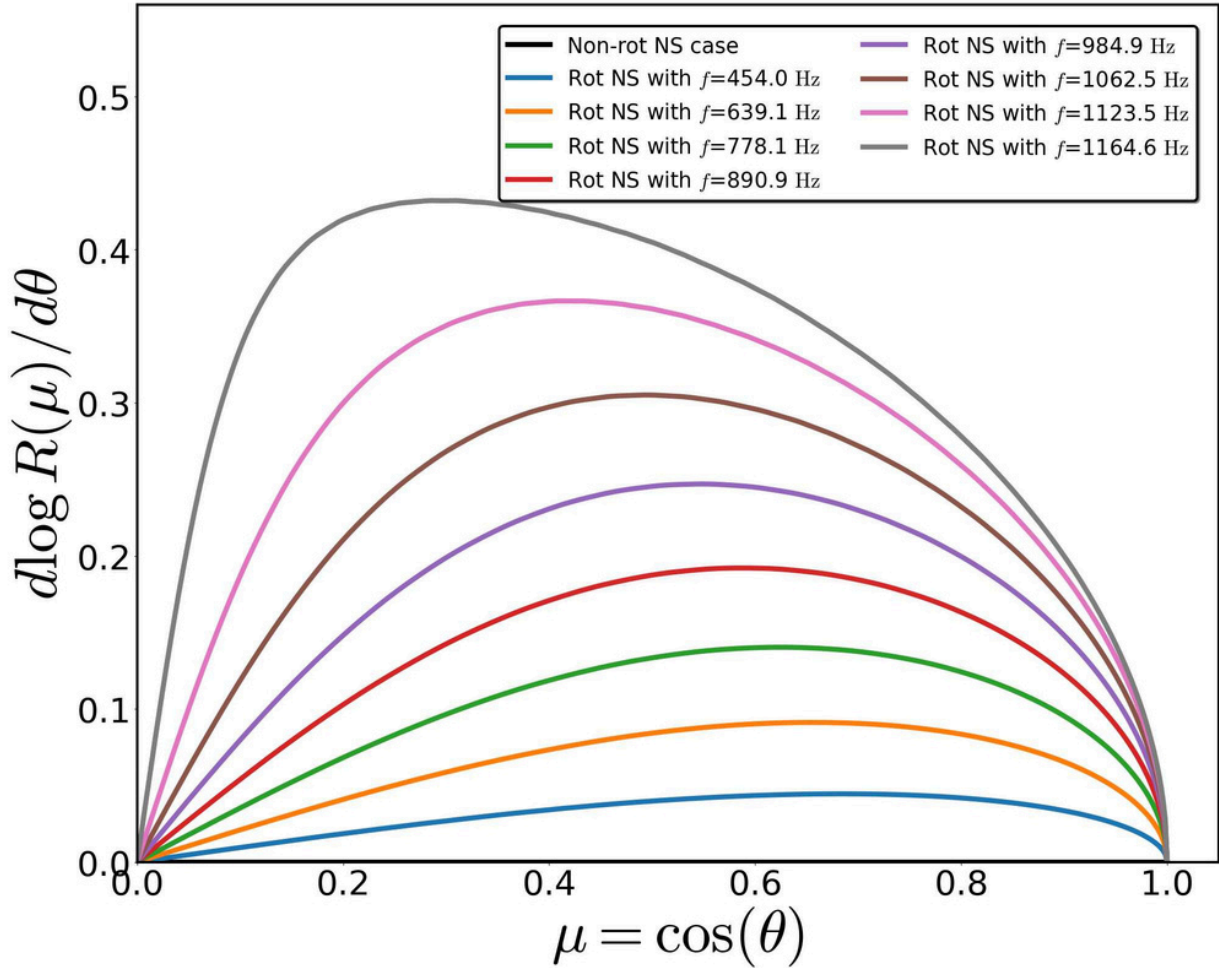
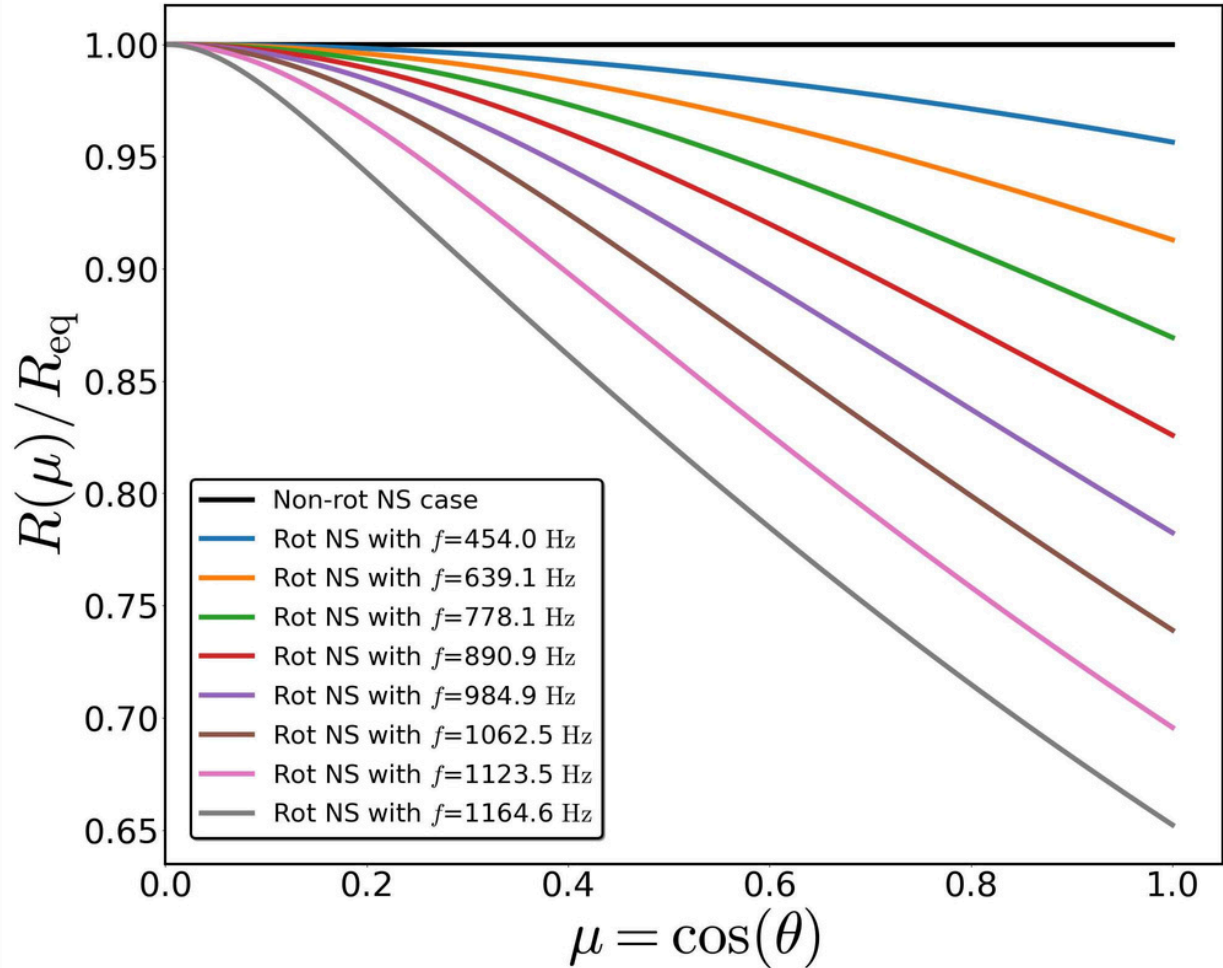
$$g = a = \left(g^{\alpha\beta} a_\alpha a_\beta \right)^{1/2} \longrightarrow g = e^{-a} \left(\alpha_r^2 + \left(\frac{\alpha_\theta}{r} \right)^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

- scaling factor:

$$g_0 = \frac{M}{R^2} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{R} \right)^{-1/2}$$

Indicative NS models and their properties

Model	$M (M_{\odot})$	R_{eq} (km)	R_{pole} (km)	C [–]	$\tilde{r}_{\text{pole}}/\tilde{r}_{\text{eq}}$	f (Hz)	σ [–]	e [–]	g_{eq}/g_0	g_{pole}/g_0
1	1.404	11.688	11.688	0.1773	1.000	0.0	0.000	0.000	1.000	1.000
2	1.439	11.963	11.442	0.1774	0.950	454.0	0.073	0.292	0.952	1.065
3	1.476	12.269	11.201	0.1775	0.900	639.1	0.152	0.408	0.896	1.136
4	1.518	12.613	10.965	0.1775	0.850	778.1	0.238	0.494	0.830	1.215
5	1.563	13.002	10.738	0.1773	0.800	890.9	0.332	0.564	0.753	1.303
6	1.612	13.449	10.524	0.1768	0.750	984.9	0.436	0.623	0.661	1.405
7	1.663	13.973	10.327	0.1756	0.700	1062.5	0.551	0.674	0.548	1.525
8	1.713	14.601	10.158	0.1731	0.650	1123.5	0.683	0.718	0.406	1.672
9	1.753	15.386	10.036	0.1681	0.600	1164.6	0.839	0.758	0.218	1.868



Surface Universal Relations I: Analytical fits

Universal relations for the global properties of the star's surface

- Description of parameters in a way that does not depend on the internal structure \longrightarrow EoS

% Fract Difference \longrightarrow Better than:

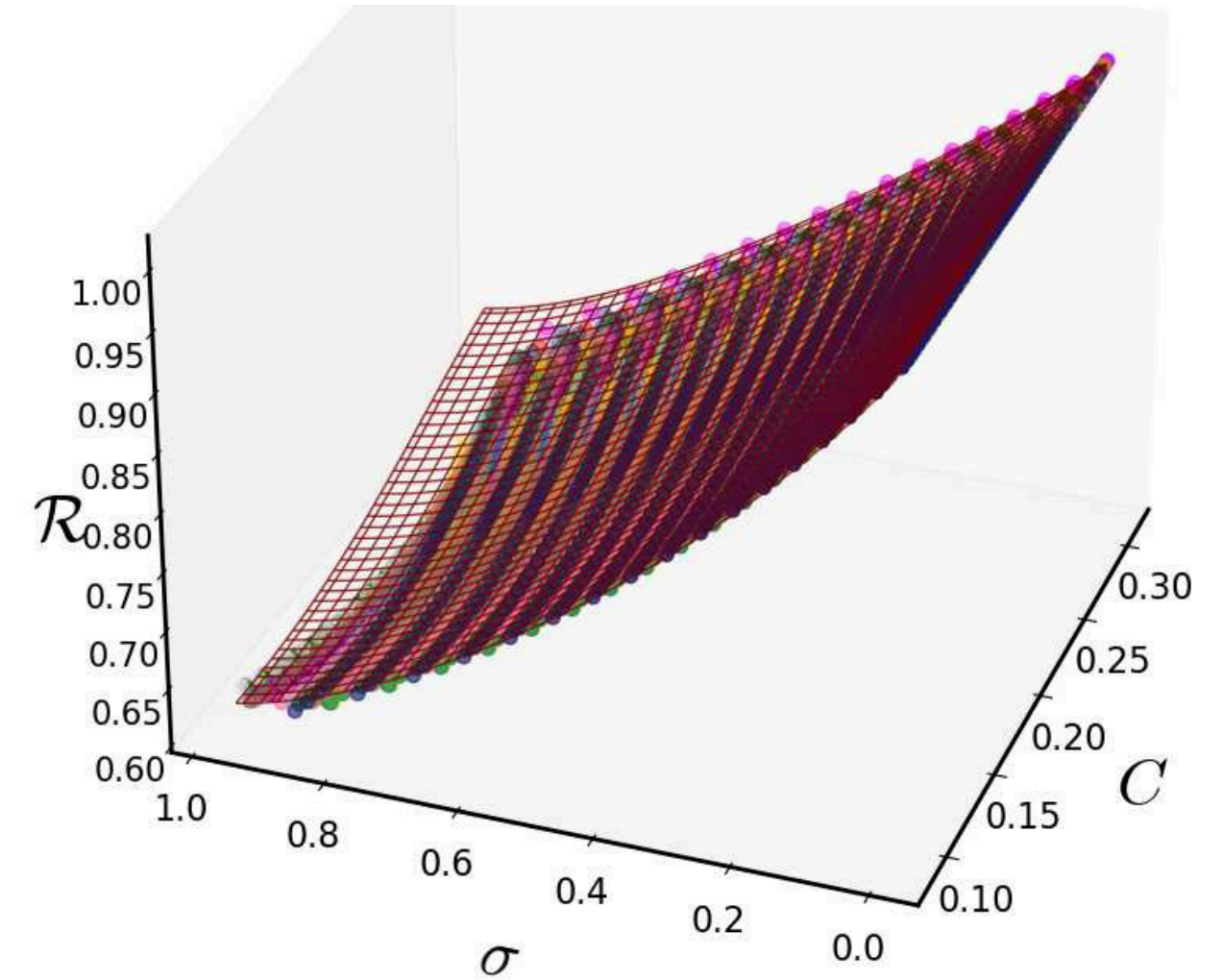
$$\mathcal{R}(C, \sigma) = \sum_{n=0}^4 \sum_{m=0}^{4-n} \hat{A}_{nm} C^n \sigma^m \quad \sim 2.79 \%$$

$$e(C, \sigma) = \sum_{n=0}^5 \sum_{m=0}^{5-n} \hat{B}_{nm} C^n \sigma^m \quad \sim 4.57 \%$$

$$\left(\frac{d \log R(\mu)}{d\theta} \right)_{\max} = \sum_{n=0}^3 \sum_{m=0}^{3-n} \sum_{q=0}^{3-(n+m)} \hat{C}_{nmq} C^n \sigma^m \mathcal{R}^q. \quad \sim 3.21 \%$$

$$g_{\text{pole}}(C, \sigma) = g_0 \sum_{n=0}^4 \sum_{m=0}^{4-n} \hat{D}_{nm} C^n \sigma^m \quad \sim 3.07 \%$$

$$g_{\text{eq}}(C, \sigma, e) = g_0 \sum_{n=0}^3 \sum_{m=0}^{3-n} \sum_{q=0}^{3-(n+m)} \hat{E}_{nmq} C^n \sigma^m e^q \quad \sim 4.26 \%$$



Leave-One-Out validation process is applied to identify the best-fitting function used to describe the data.

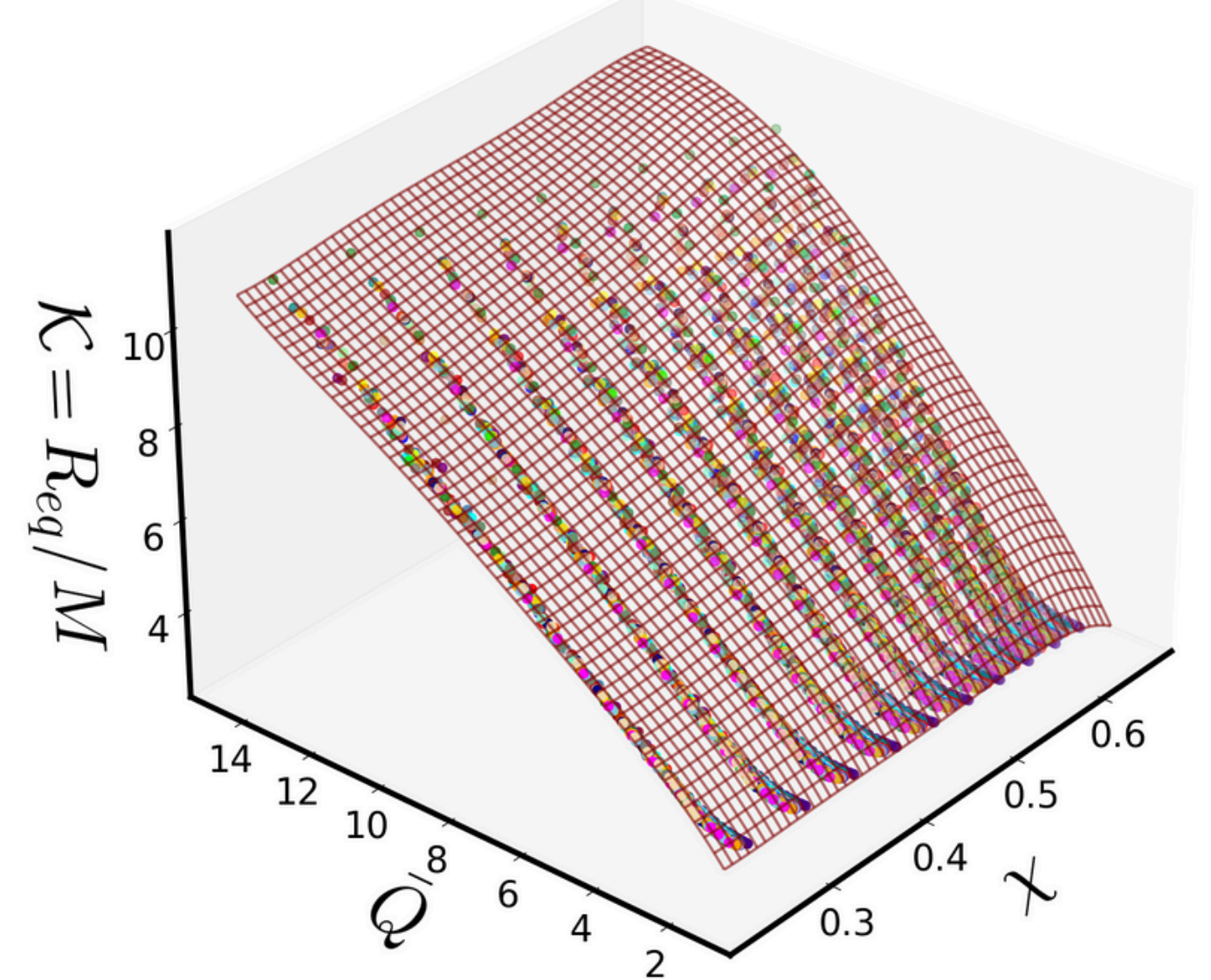
Universal relations for R_{eq}

% Fract Difference \longrightarrow Better than:

$$\frac{R_{eq}}{M} = \sum_{n=0}^5 \sum_{m=0}^{5-n} \hat{b}_{nm} \chi^n \bar{Q}^m$$

$\sim 6.44 \%$

Phys. Rev. D 107, 103050, (2023)



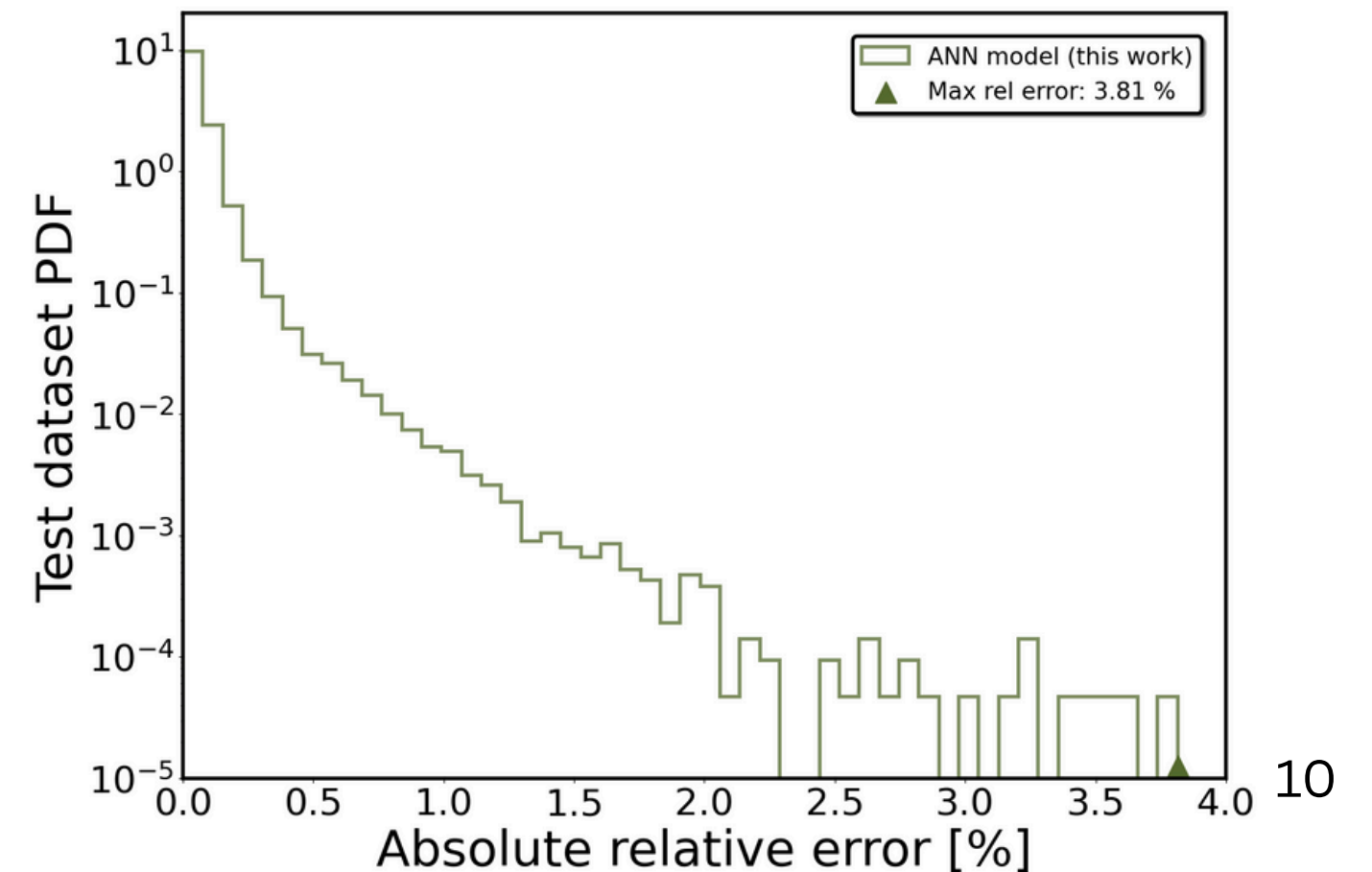
$$\bar{\mathcal{R}}_{\text{model}} = \hat{\mathcal{R}}_{\theta_{\star}}(\bar{M}, \chi, \bar{Q}, \bar{S}_3)$$

$\sim 3.81 \%$

Only 0.15% of the test
data exhibit relative deviations > 1%

arXiv:2508.05850

submitted, under review



Surface Universal Relations II: ANN models

Global inference of the star's surface using an ANN

- Along a given sequence of data points associated with the star's surface

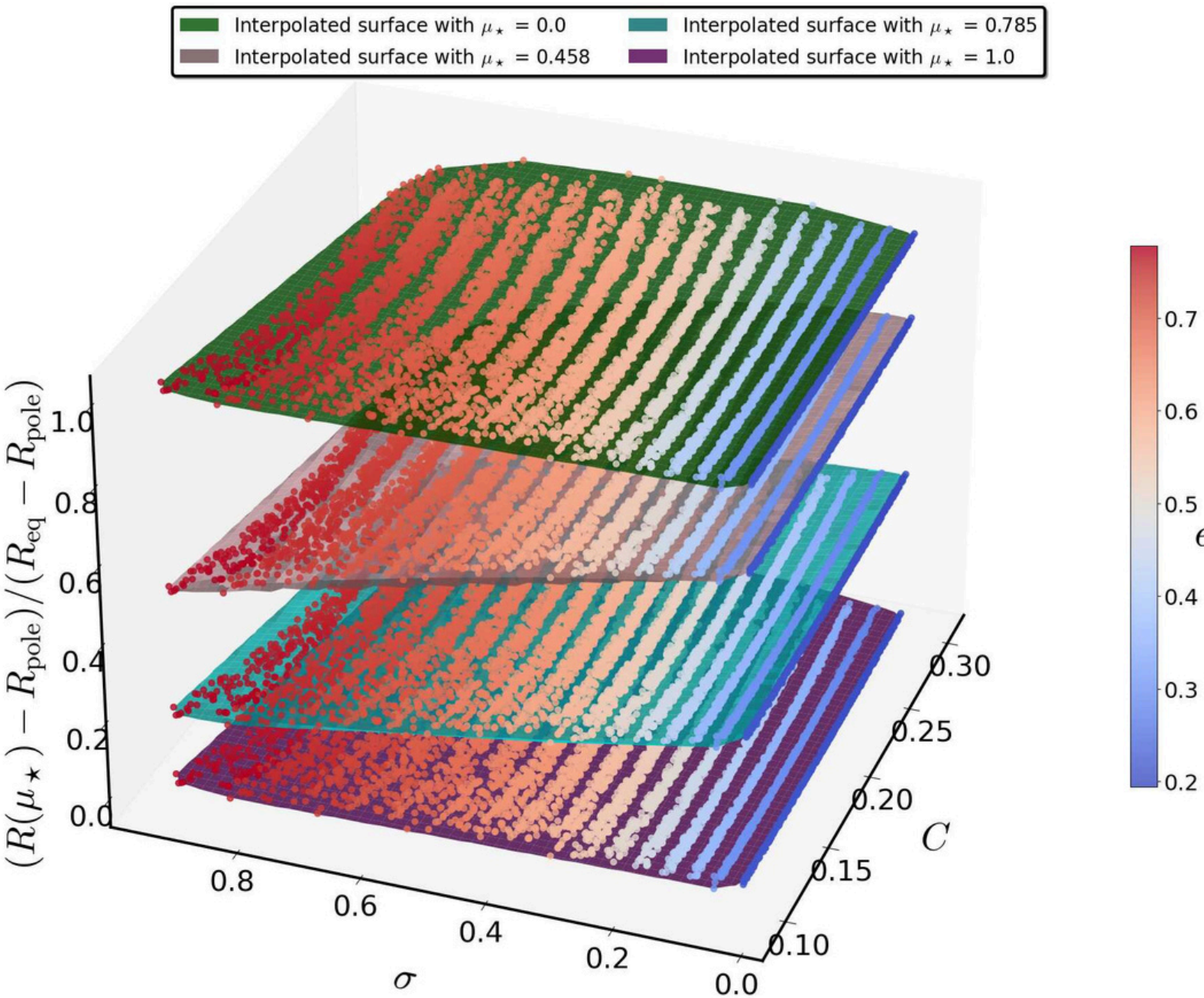
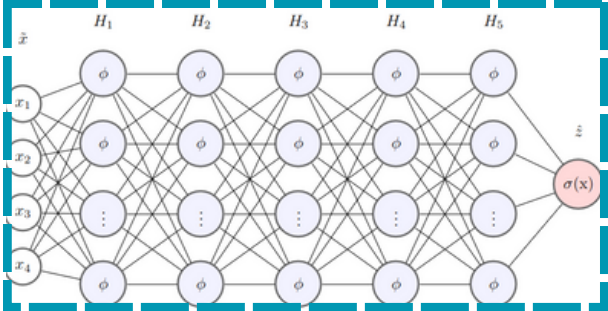
$$\hat{z}_1 = \begin{cases} \frac{R(\mu) - R_{\text{pole}}}{R_{\text{eq}} - R_{\text{pole}}}, & \sigma \neq 0 \\ \frac{R(\mu)}{R_{\text{eq}}}, & \sigma = 0. \end{cases}$$

- Universal plane for each specific value of the colatitude θ

ANN training properties

- Goal: To accurately predict the universal hyperstructure
- Model: A feed forward neural network (ANN)

Hidden layer	No. neurons	Activation function
H_1	200	$\phi = \text{LeakyReLU}(x; \beta)$
H_2	100	$\phi = \text{LeakyReLU}(x; \beta)$
H_3	50	$\phi = \text{LeakyReLU}(x; \beta)$
H_4	25	$\phi = \text{LeakyReLU}(x; \beta)$
H_5	10	$\phi = \text{LeakyReLU}(x; \beta)$



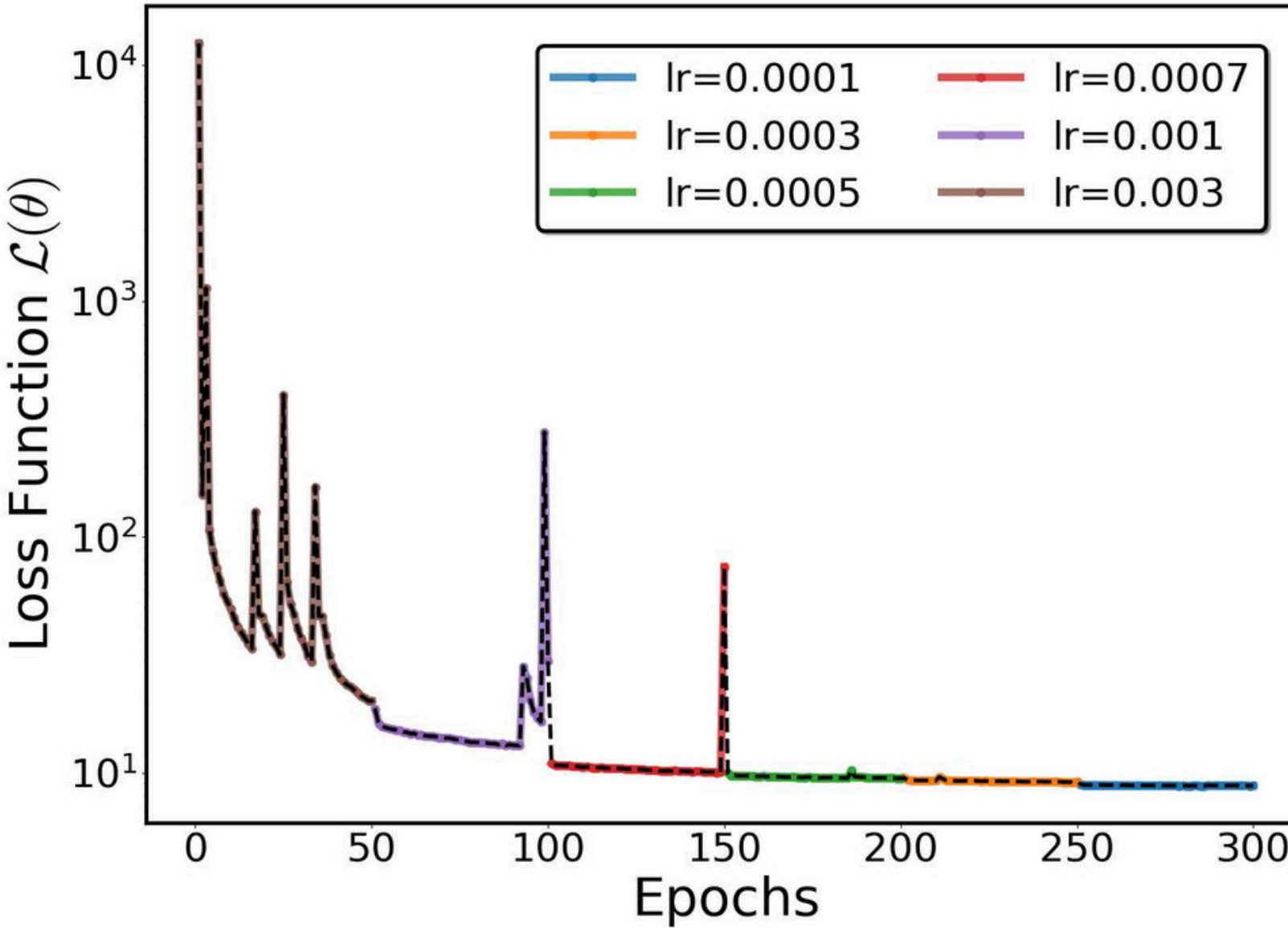
- *Model's input layer parameters:* $|\mu|$, C , σ , e

min-max scaling was employed to map the values of each input feature within the interval $[0, 1]$

- *80:20 train/test ratio*
- *Final layer:* Seigmoid Activation function

Optimization process

- *Typical MSE loss as the objective function*
- *Optimizer: Adamax*
- *Effective learning rate strategy* →



Training epochs	Learning rate
1–50	$\eta_1 = 3 \times 10^{-3}$
51–100	$\eta_2 = 1 \times 10^{-3}$
101–150	$\eta_3 = 7 \times 10^{-4}$
151–200	$\eta_4 = 5 \times 10^{-4}$
201–250	$\eta_5 = 3 \times 10^{-4}$
251–300	$\eta_6 = 1 \times 10^{-4}$

- **Proposed Surface Regression model**

$$R(\mu) = R_{\text{pole}} + (R_{\text{eq}} - R_{\text{pole}}) \hat{F}_{\theta^*}(|\mu|, C, \sigma, e).$$

- Two extra parameters (R_{pole}, e) compared to the already established analytical methods:

Morsink et al. fit
Astrophys. J. 663, 1244,
 (2007)

$$\frac{R(\mu)}{R_{\text{eq}}} = 1 + \sum_{n=0}^2 a_{2n}(C, \sigma) P_{2n}(\mu)$$

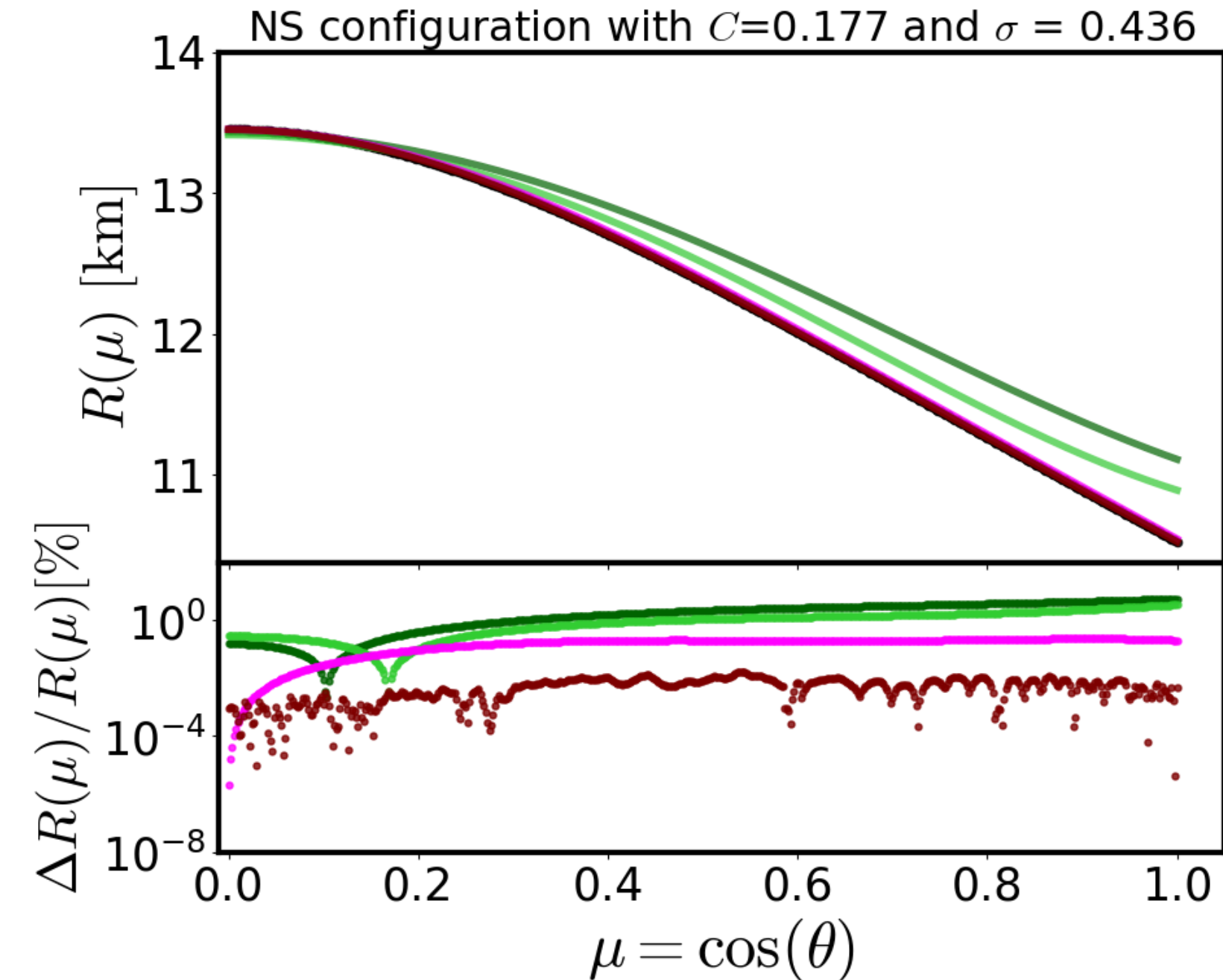
AlGendy and Morsnik fit
Astrophys. J. 791, 78 (2014)

$$\frac{R(\mu)}{R_{\text{eq}}} = 1 + a_2(C, \sigma) \mu^2$$

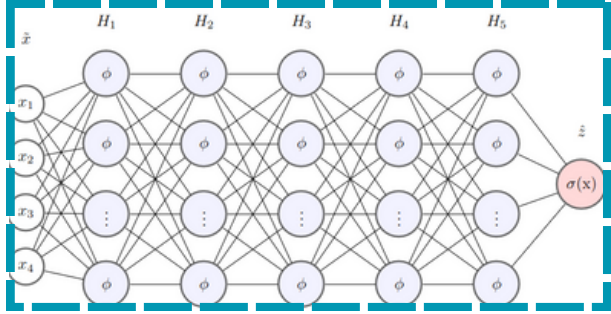
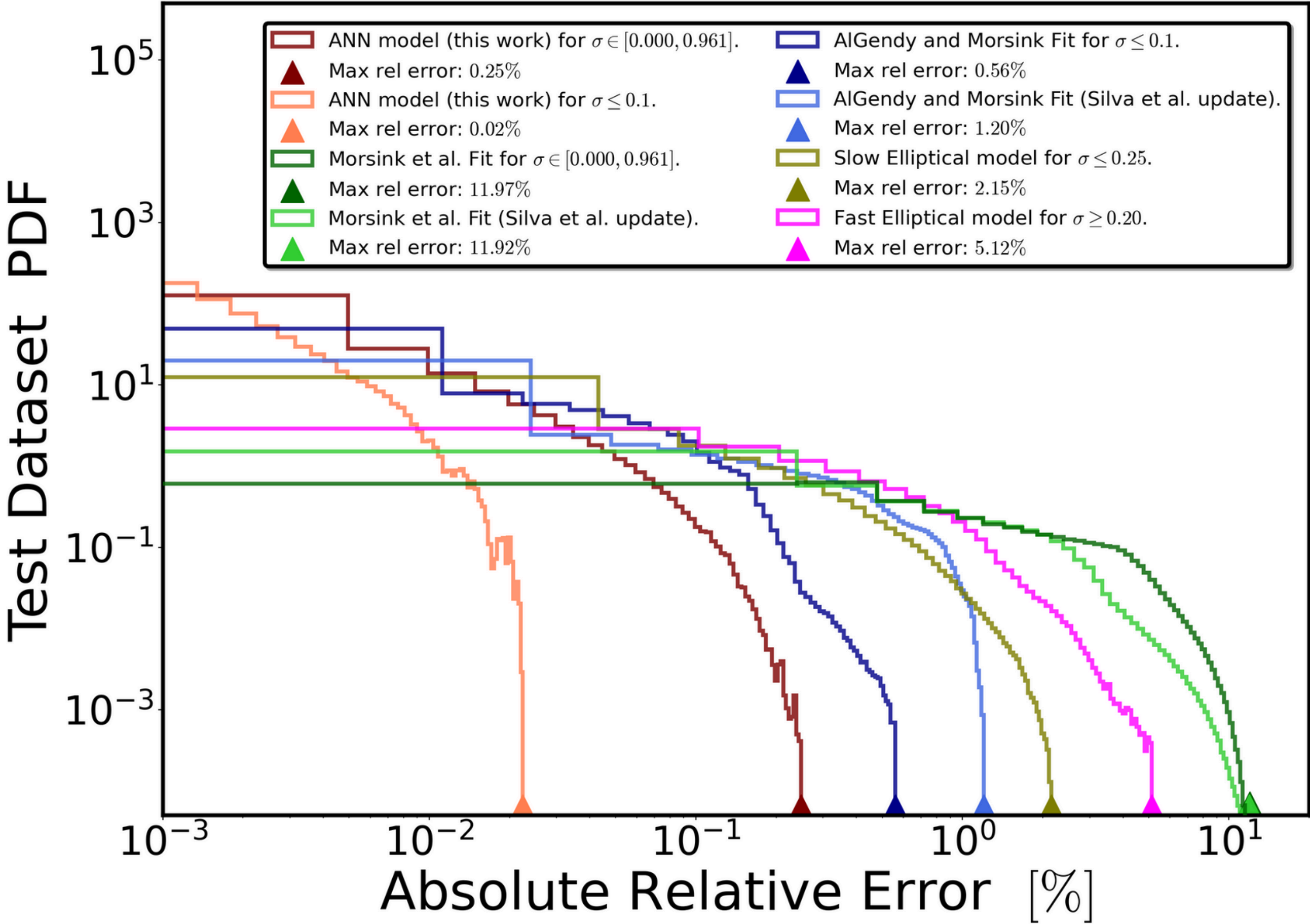
Elliptical formula (Silva et al. fit)
 slow ($\sigma < 0.25$) & fast ($\sigma > 0.20$)
Phys. Rev. D 103, 063038 (2021)

$$\frac{R(\mu)}{R_{\text{eq}}} = \sqrt{\frac{1 - e^2}{1 - e^2 g(\mu, C, \sigma)}}$$

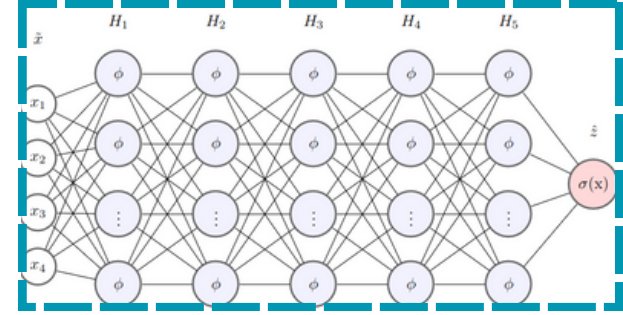
Note: Silva et al. also gave updated coefficients for the Morsink et al. and AlGendy and Morsink analytical fits



Distribution of model's relative errors



Logarithmic Derivative and Effective gravity fits



$$\left(\frac{d \log R(\mu)}{d\theta} \right) = \left(\frac{d \log R(\mu)}{d\theta} \right)_{\max} \hat{\mathcal{F}}_{\theta^*}(\mu, C, \sigma, \mathcal{R}).$$

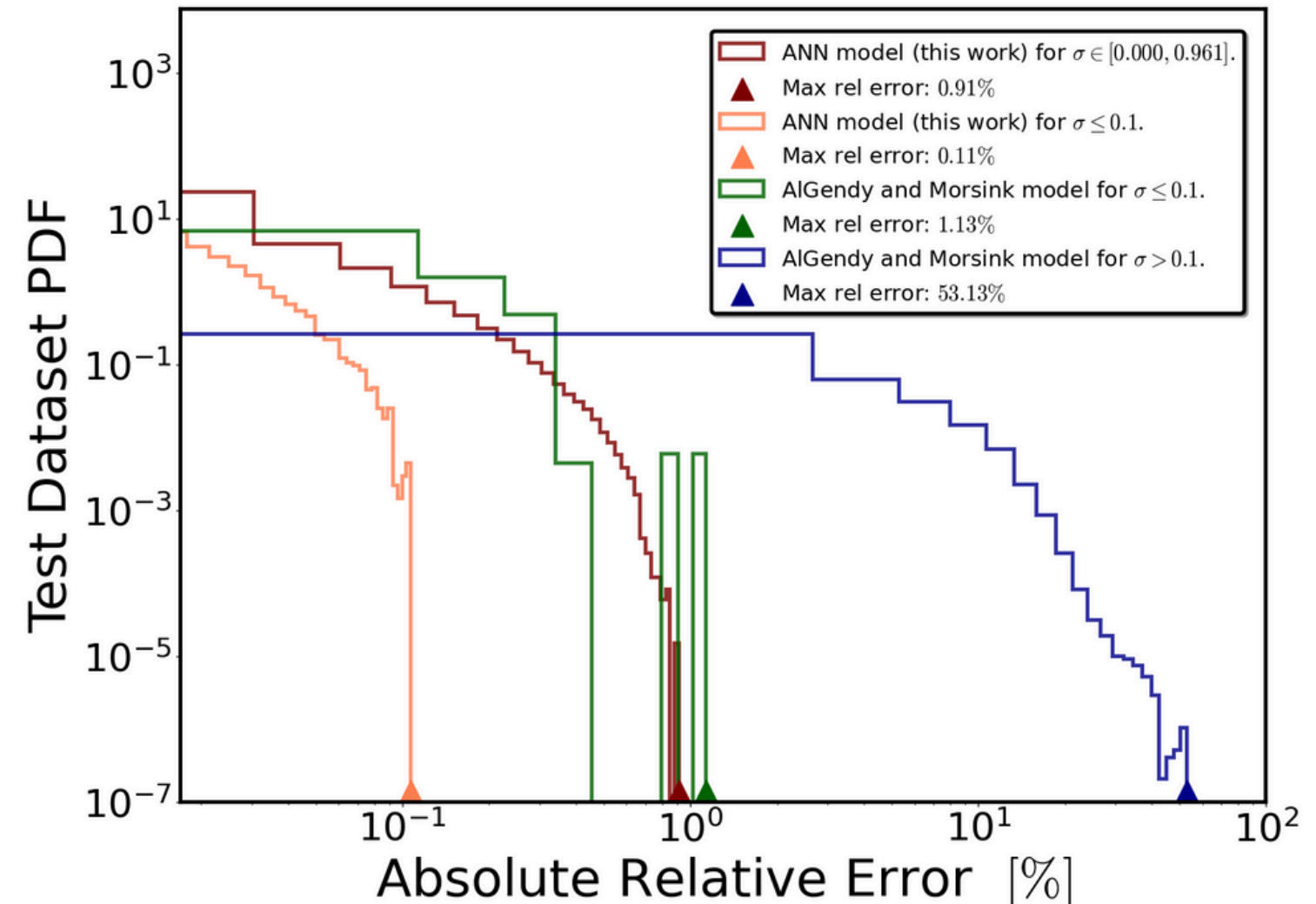
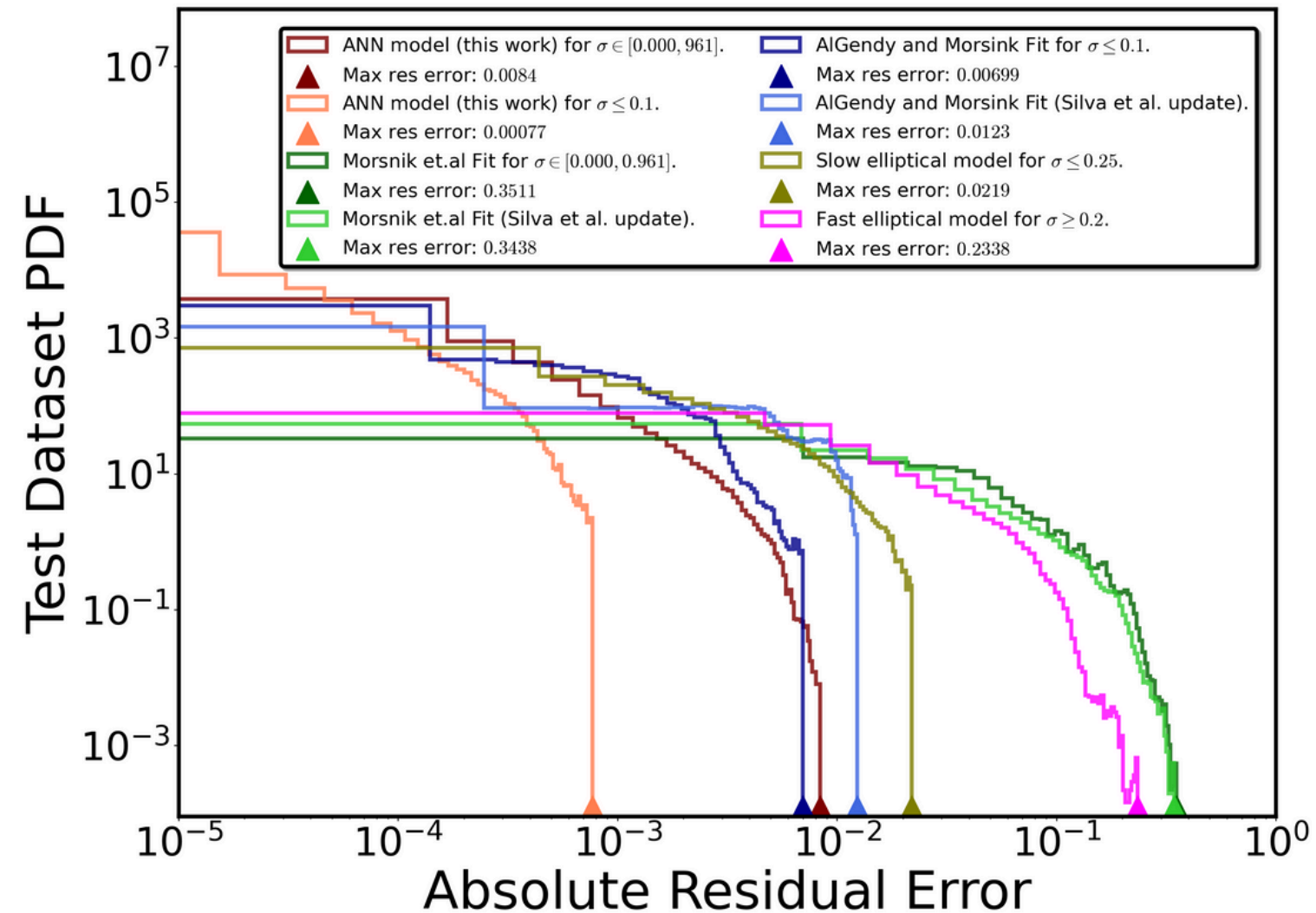
~ data verification: better than 8.360×10^{-3}

- crucial to model X-ray pulsations that are emitted from the star's surface

$$g(\mu) = g_{\text{pole}} + (g_{\text{eq}} - g_{\text{pole}}) \hat{\mathbb{F}}_{\theta^*}(|\mu|, C, \sigma, e).$$

~ data verification: better than 0.91 %

- crucial to better model Hydrogen atmospheres which depend on the local effective gravity



Recap: EoS-insensitive Relations suggested

Universal relation	Parameters and their respective ranges	Equation	Max % error
$e(C, \sigma)$	$C \in [0.0876, 0.3075], \sigma \in [0.0328, 0.9612]$	Improved Fit Eq. (25)	4.57
$g_{\text{pole}}(C, \sigma)$	$C \in [0.0876, 0.3095], \sigma \in [0.0000, 0.9612]$	Improved Fit Eq. (27)	3.07
$\mathcal{R}(C, \sigma)$	$C \in [0.0876, 0.3095], \sigma \in [0.0000, 0.9612]$	New Fit Eq. (24)	2.79
$(d\log R(\mu)/d\theta)_{\text{max}}(C, \sigma, \mathcal{R})$	$C \in [0.0876, 0.3075], \sigma \in [0.0328, 0.9612], \mathcal{R} \in [0.626, 0.981]$	New Fit Eq. (26)	3.21
$g_{\text{eq}}(C, \sigma, e)$	$C \in [0.0876, 0.3095], \sigma \in [0.0000, 0.9612], e \in [0.000, 0.780]$	New Fit Eq. (28)	4.26
$R(\mu; R_{\text{pole}}, R_{\text{eq}}, C, \sigma, e)$	$R_{\text{pole}} \in [8.618, 14.161] \text{ km}, R_{\text{eq}} \in [9.683, 19.413] \text{ km},$ $C \in [0.0876, 0.3095], \sigma \in [0.0000, 0.9612], e \in [0.000, 0.780]$	New Fit Eq. (30)	0.25
$g(\mu; g_{\text{pole}}, g_{\text{eq}}, C, \sigma, e)$	$g_{\text{pole}}/g_0 \in [0.987, 2.107], g_{\text{eq}}/g_0 \in [0.069, 1.000],$ $C \in [0.0876, 0.3095], \sigma \in [0.0000, 0.9612], e \in [0.000, 0.780]$	New Fit Eq. (35)	0.91
$(\frac{d\log R(\mu)}{d\theta})(\mu; (d\log R(\mu)/d\theta)_{\text{max}}, C, \sigma, \mathcal{R})$	$(d\log R(\mu)/d\theta)_{\text{max}} \in [0.019, 0.503], C \in [0.0876, 0.3075],$ $\sigma \in [0.0328, 0.9612], \mathcal{R} \in [0.626, 0.981]$	New Fit Eq. (33)	8.36×10^{-3}

- For more information: DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.111.083056>

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Universal description of a neutron star’s surface and its key global properties: A machine learning approach for nonrotating and rapidly rotating stellar models

Grigorios Papigkiotis^{1,*}, Georgios Vardakas^{2,†}, Aristidis Likas^{2,‡}, and Nikolaos Stergioulas^{1,§}

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Github repository

- github.com/gregoryPapi/Universal-description-of-the-NS-surface-using-ML

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cdd3d73 · 4 months ago

84 Commits

.ipynb_checkpoints	update	5 months ago
Experimental Results	perc_error_star for effective gravity was added	5 months ago
Figures	readme update	6 months ago
LOOCV_results	update	6 months ago
Model	Demo basic data folders inserted	9 months ago
NS_data_for_each_EoS	update	5 months ago
Surface models for Hadronic EOS/SLY4	sly4 ns models were added	5 months ago
Surface models for Hybrid EOS/KBH(QHC21...	notebooks and data loaded	5 months ago
Surface models for Hyperonic EOS/DNS	notebooks and data loaded	5 months ago
__pycache__	utils update and data loaded	5 months ago

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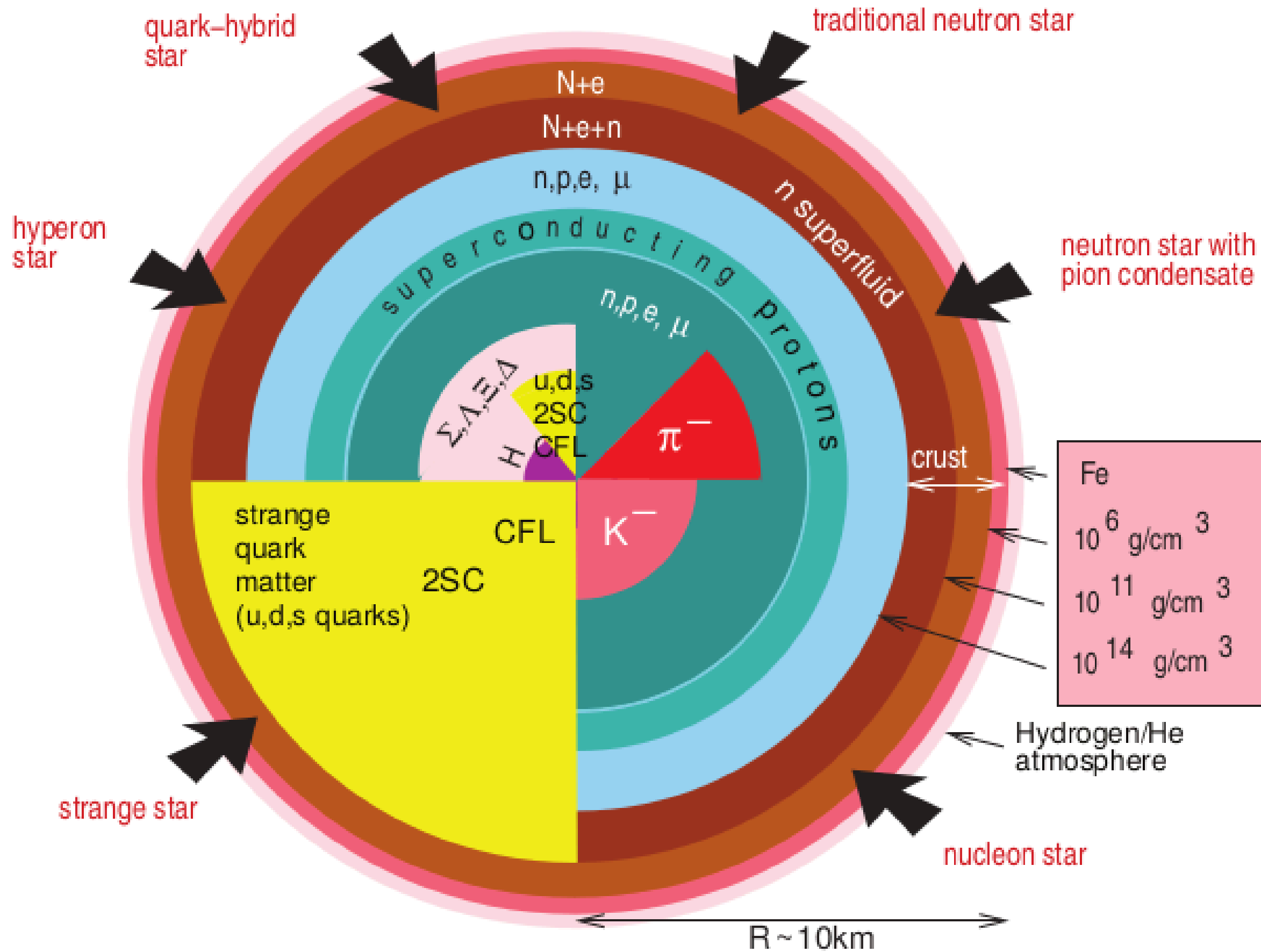


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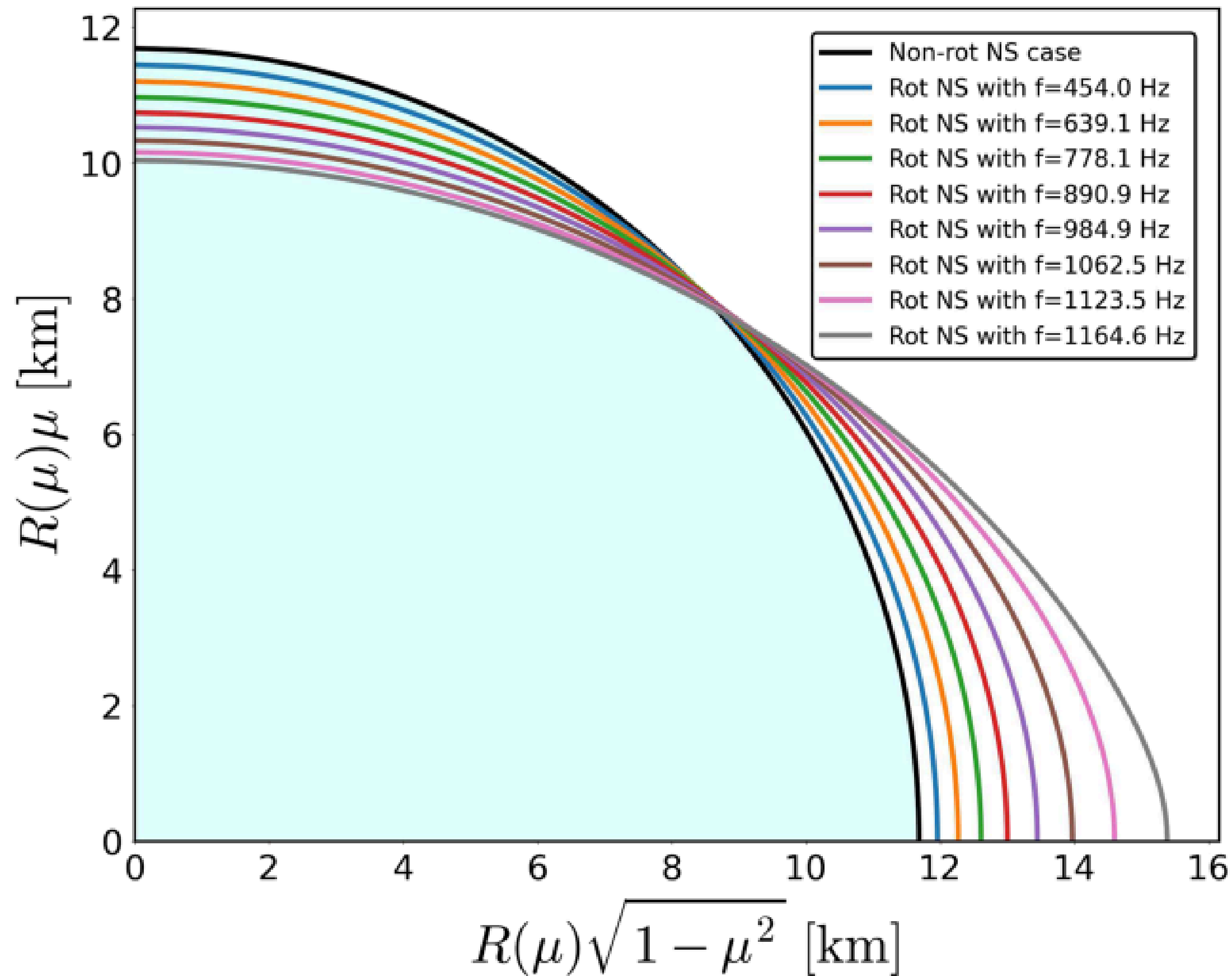


Backup Slides

Star's Cross Section



EoS SLy4: Benchmark models and their surface representations



Physical acceptability conditions

Each EoS satisfies physical acceptability conditions, which ensure β - equilibrium

- *first law of thermodynamics* $d\epsilon/d\rho = (\epsilon+P)/\rho$, where ρ is the baryon mass density,
- *dominant energy condition* $\epsilon c^2 > P$
- *microscopic stability* $c_s^2 = dP/d\epsilon \geq 0$ and *causality* $c_s^2 = dP/d\epsilon \leq c^2$, which ensures that the speed of sound c_s in the dense matter should not exceed the speed of light
- *Harrison-Zeldovich-Novikov stability condition* $dM/d\epsilon_c \geq 0$, i.e., considering the $M - \epsilon_c$ curve, stars with $\epsilon_c > \epsilon_c(M_{max})$ have $dM/d\epsilon_c < 0$ and are unstable, thus not astrophysically relevant. Therefore, a NS with the maximum possible mass should have the maximum possible central energy density ϵ_c .

Constraints based on observational (E/M signals)

- Radio pulsar: PSR J0348+0432: $M = 2.01 \pm 0.04 M_\odot$

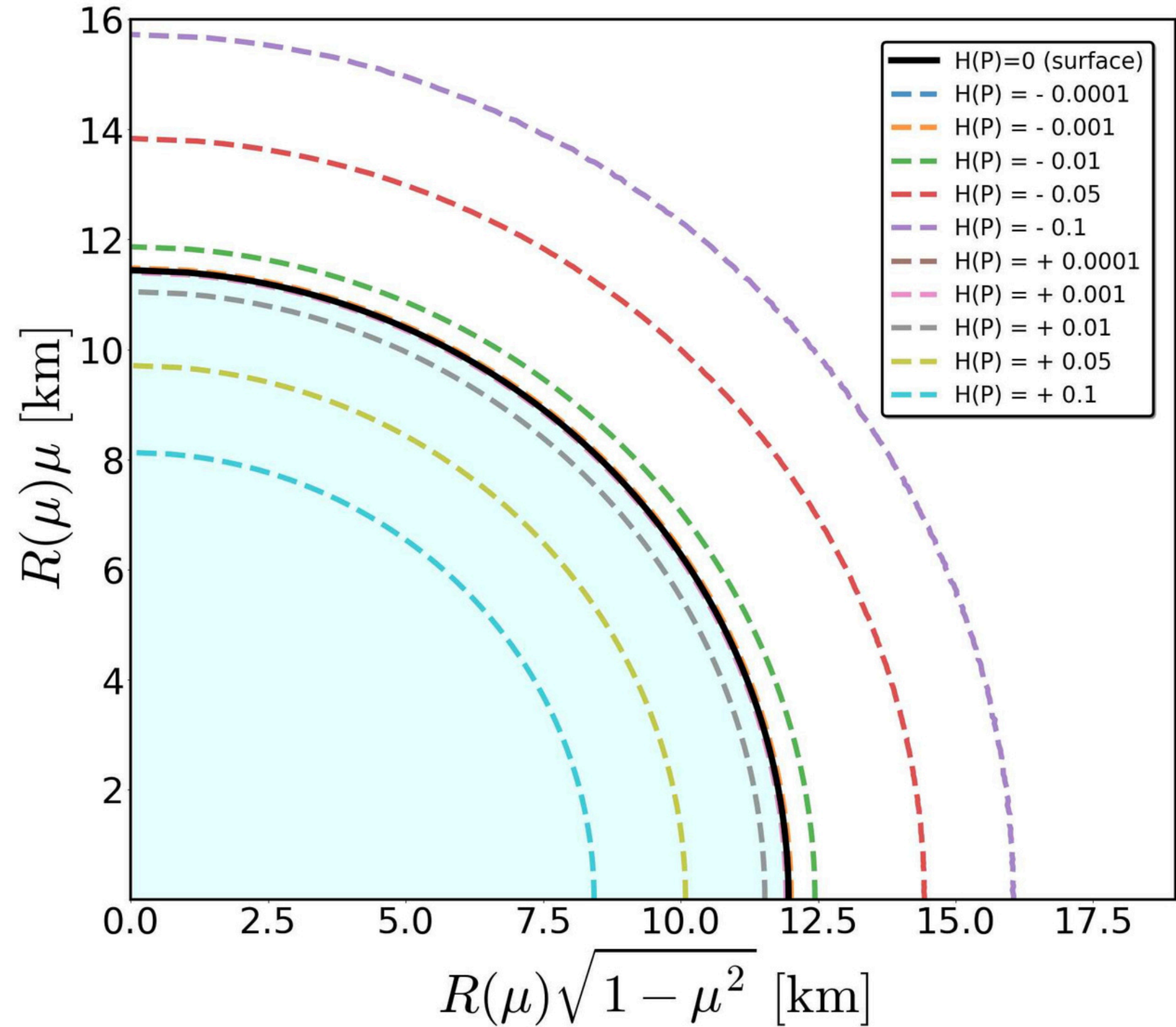
Constraints based on GWs:

- ★ GW170817: NS-NS merger analysis: $R_{Mmax} \geq 9.60^{+0.14}_{-0.03} \text{ km}$

- ★ GW170817: $M_{max} = 2.32 M_\odot$, (2σ) bound, assuming that the final remnant was a BH.

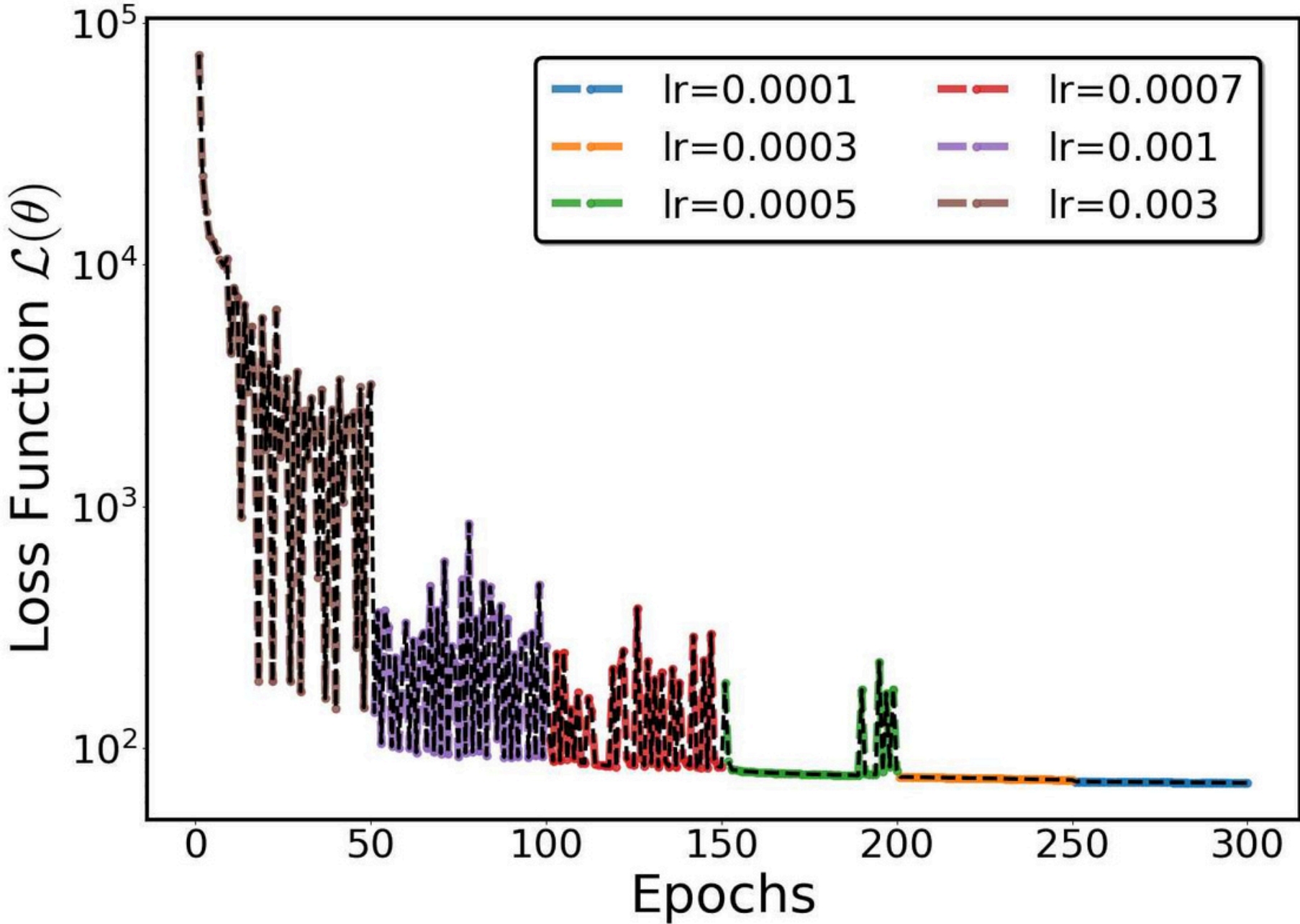
Enthalpy contours

- *Star's interior: $H(p) > 0$*
- *Star's exterior: $H(p) < 0$*
- *Star's surface: $H(p) = 0$*

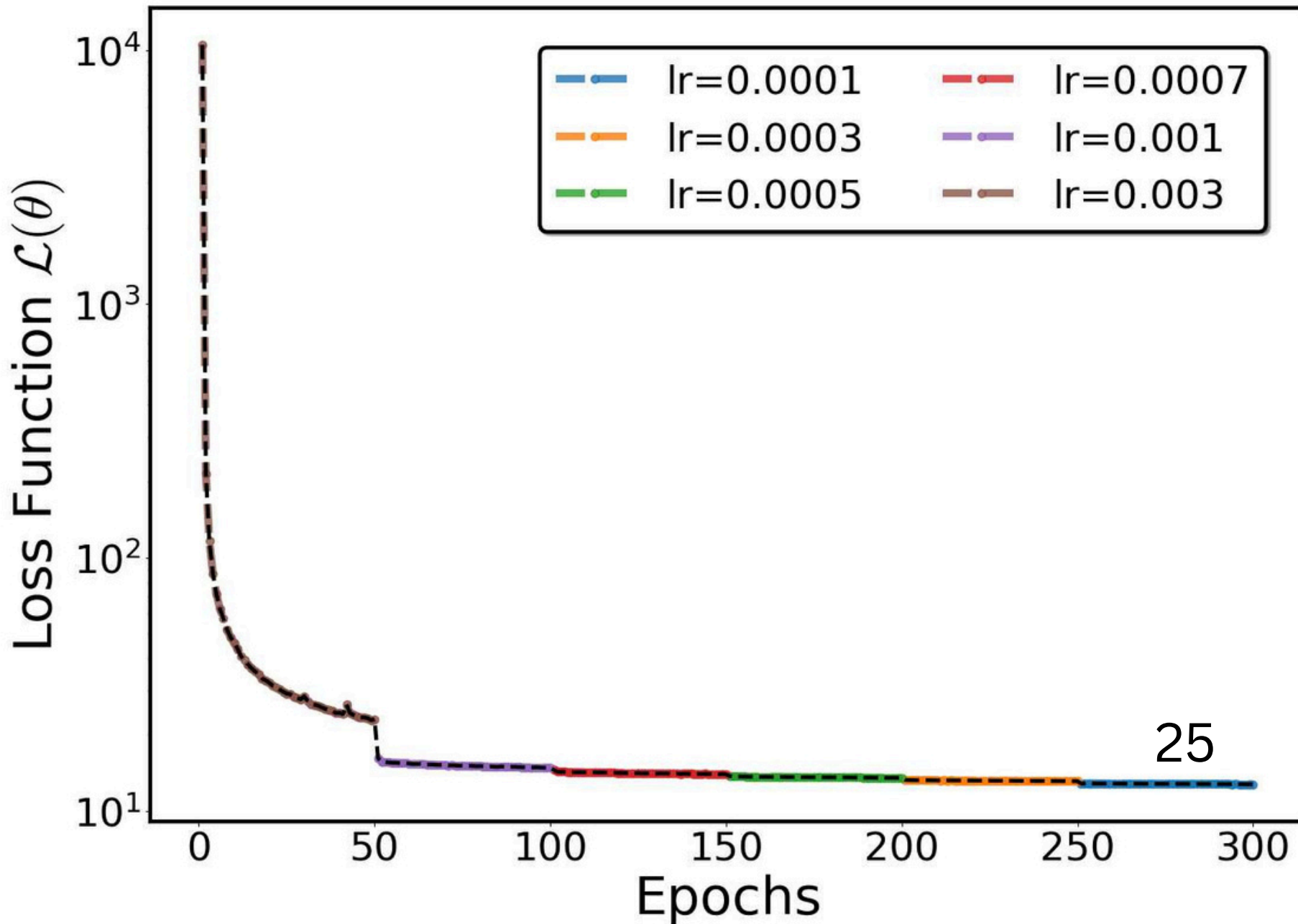


ANNs optimization process

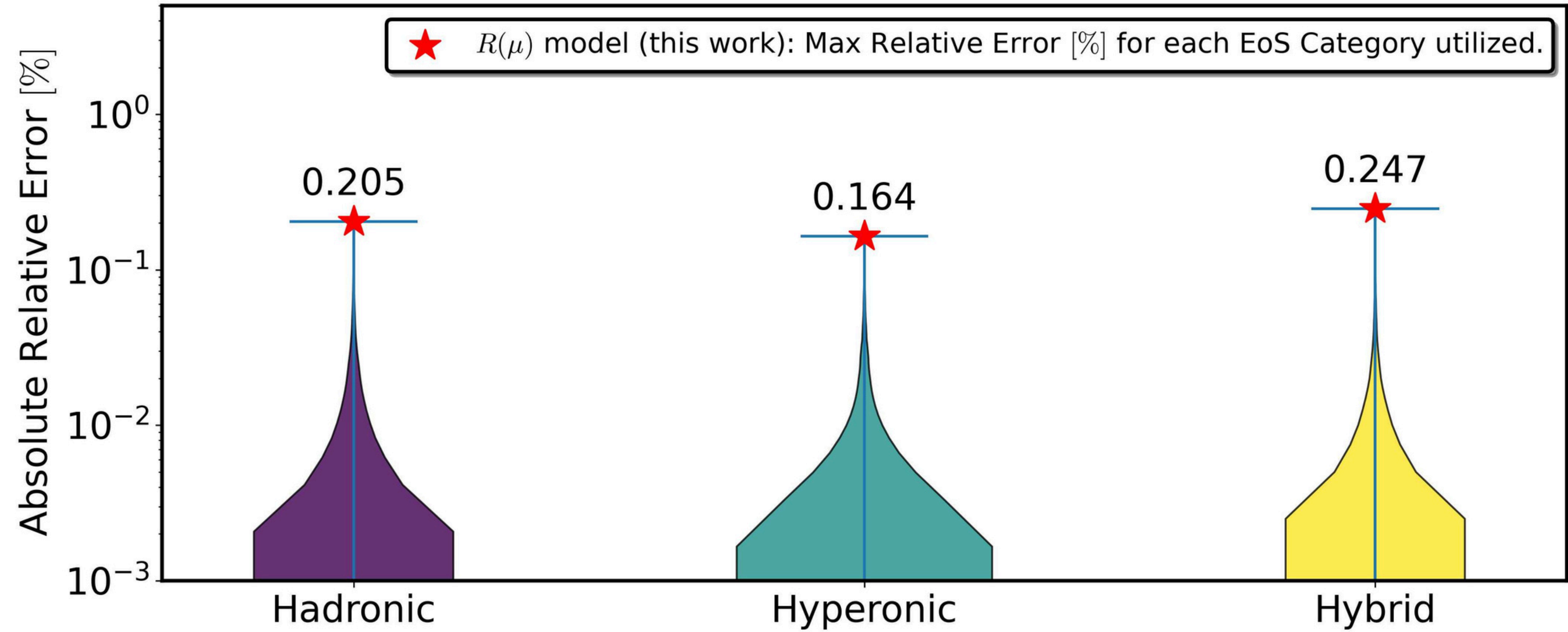
Logarithmic Derivative



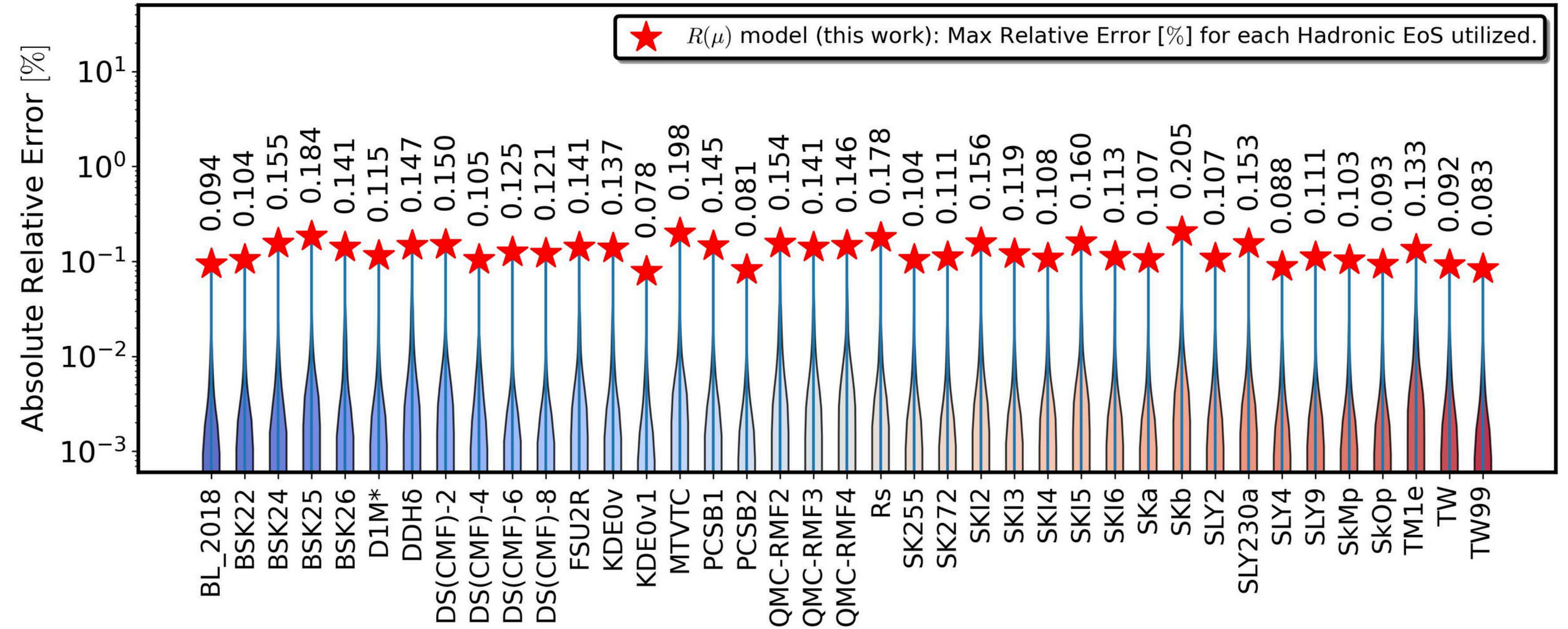
$g(\mu)$: Effective gravity



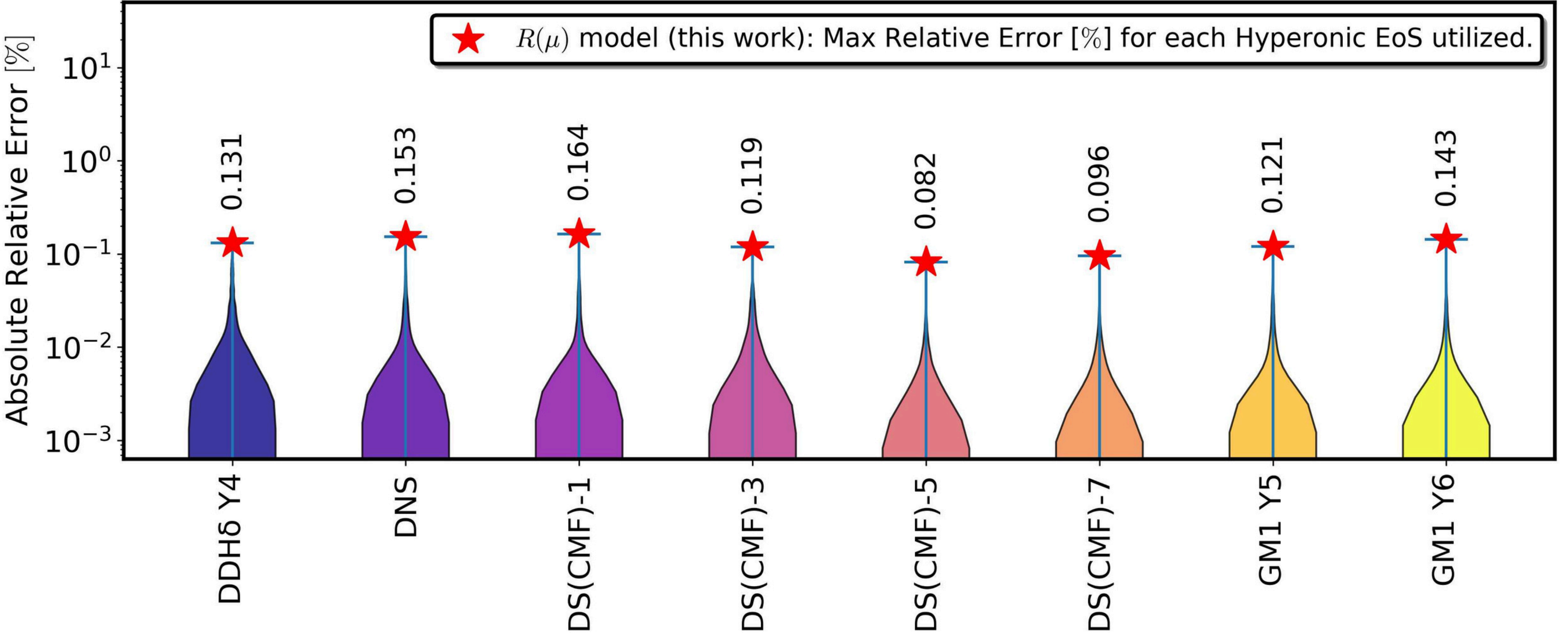
$R(\mu)$: Variance of relative errors across EoS categories



$R(\mu)$: relative errors for the hadronic EoSs



$R(\mu)$: relative errors for the hyperonic EoSs



$R(\mu)$: relative errors for the hybrid EoSs

