

Image of the disk's far side

The black hole's gravitational field alters the path of light from the far side of the disk, producing this part of the image.

Photon ring

A ring of light composed of multiple distorted images of the disk. The light making up these images has orbited the black hole two, three or even more times before escaping to us. They become thinner and fainter closer to the black hole.

Black hole shadow

This is an area roughly twice the size of the event horizon — the black hole's point of no return — that is formed by its gravitational lensing and capture of light rays.

Doppler beaming

Light from glowing gas in the accretion disk is brighter on the side where material is moving toward us, fainter on the side where it's moving away from us.

Accretion disk

The hot, thin, rotating disk formed by matter slowly spiraling toward the black hole.

Image of the disk's underside

Light rays from beneath the far side of the disk are gravitationally "lensed" to produce this part of the image.

Interacting Binary Stars

- many stars are found in binary systems
- close binaries generally have circular orbits
- compact binaries are extremely important to astrophysics

Interacting Binary Stars

- acceleration at P due to M_1

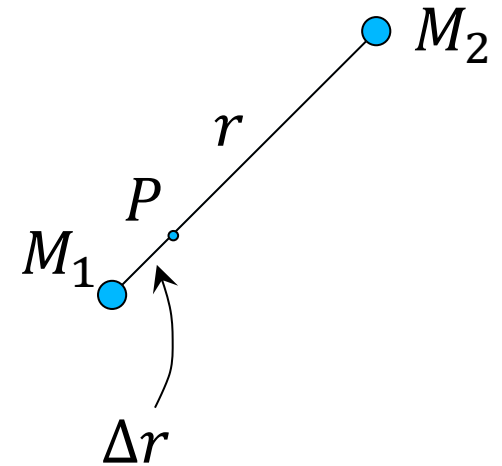
$$a_{grav} = \frac{GM_1}{(\Delta r)^2}$$

- differential (tidal) acceleration of P relative to M_1 due to M_2

$$a_{tide} = GM_2 \left(\frac{1}{(r-\Delta r)^2} - \frac{1}{r^2} \right)$$
$$\approx \frac{2GM_2\Delta r}{r^3}$$

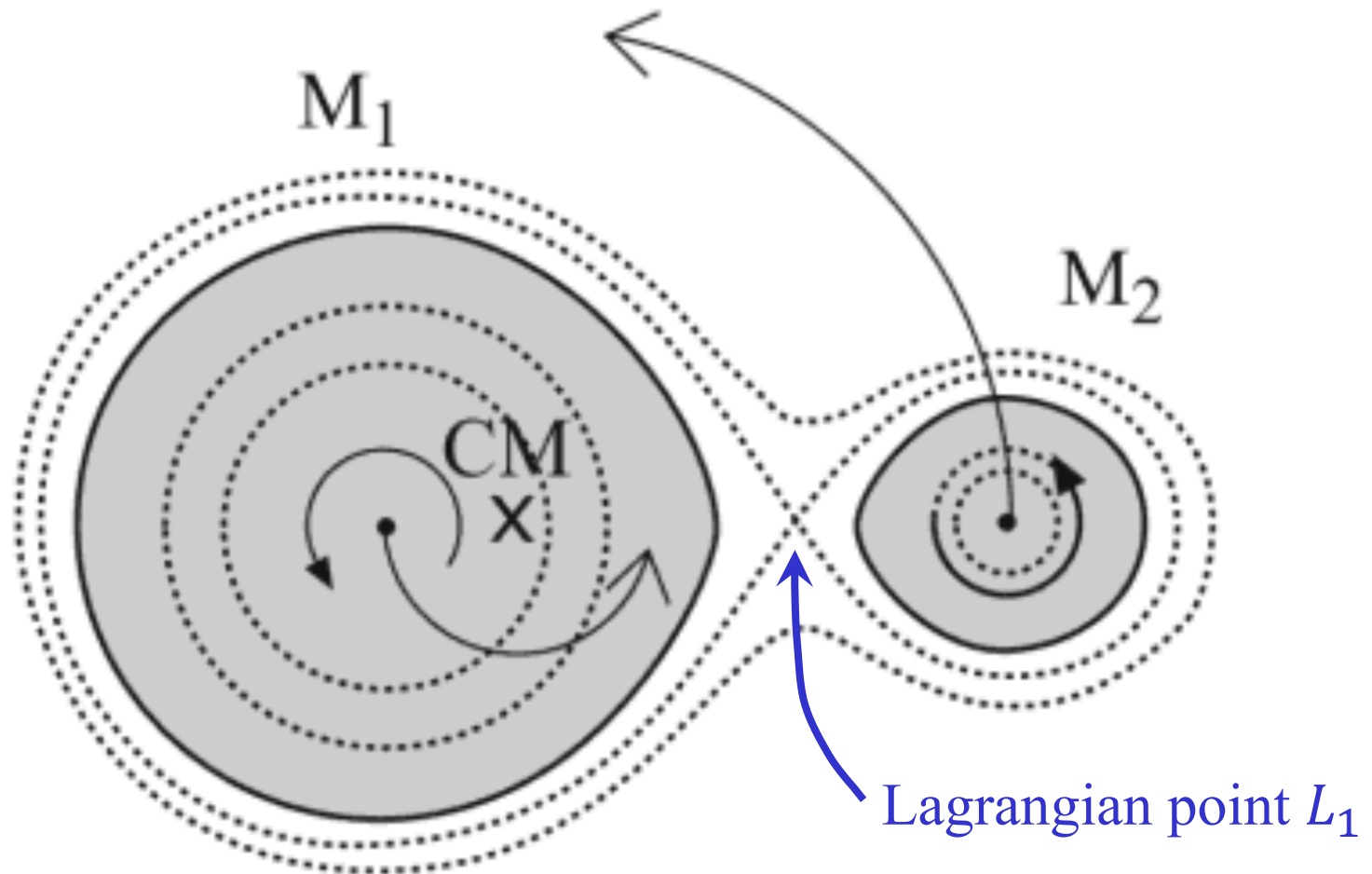
- ratio

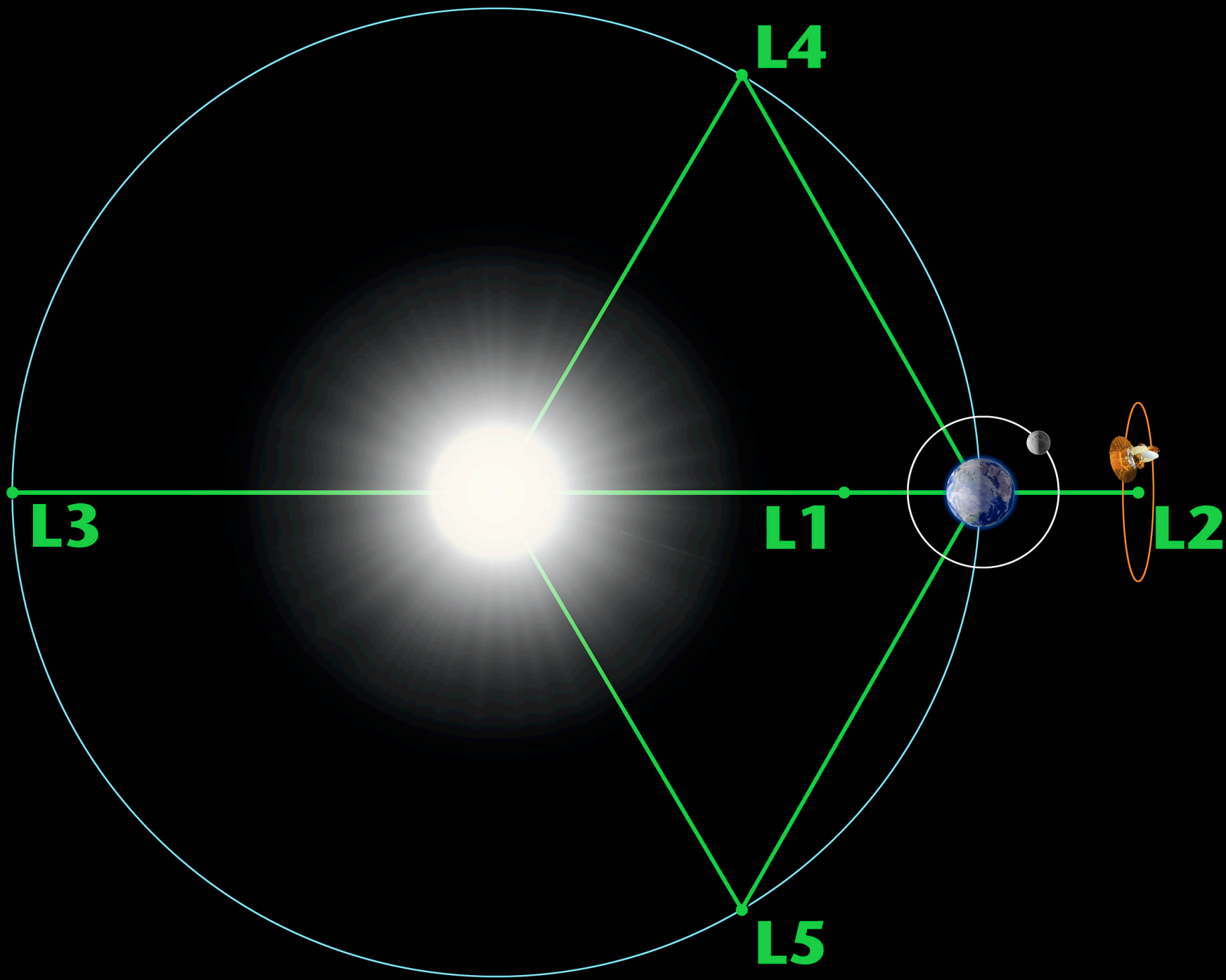
$$\left| \frac{a_{tide}}{a_{grav}} \right| = \frac{2M_2}{M_1} \left(\frac{\Delta r}{r} \right)^3$$

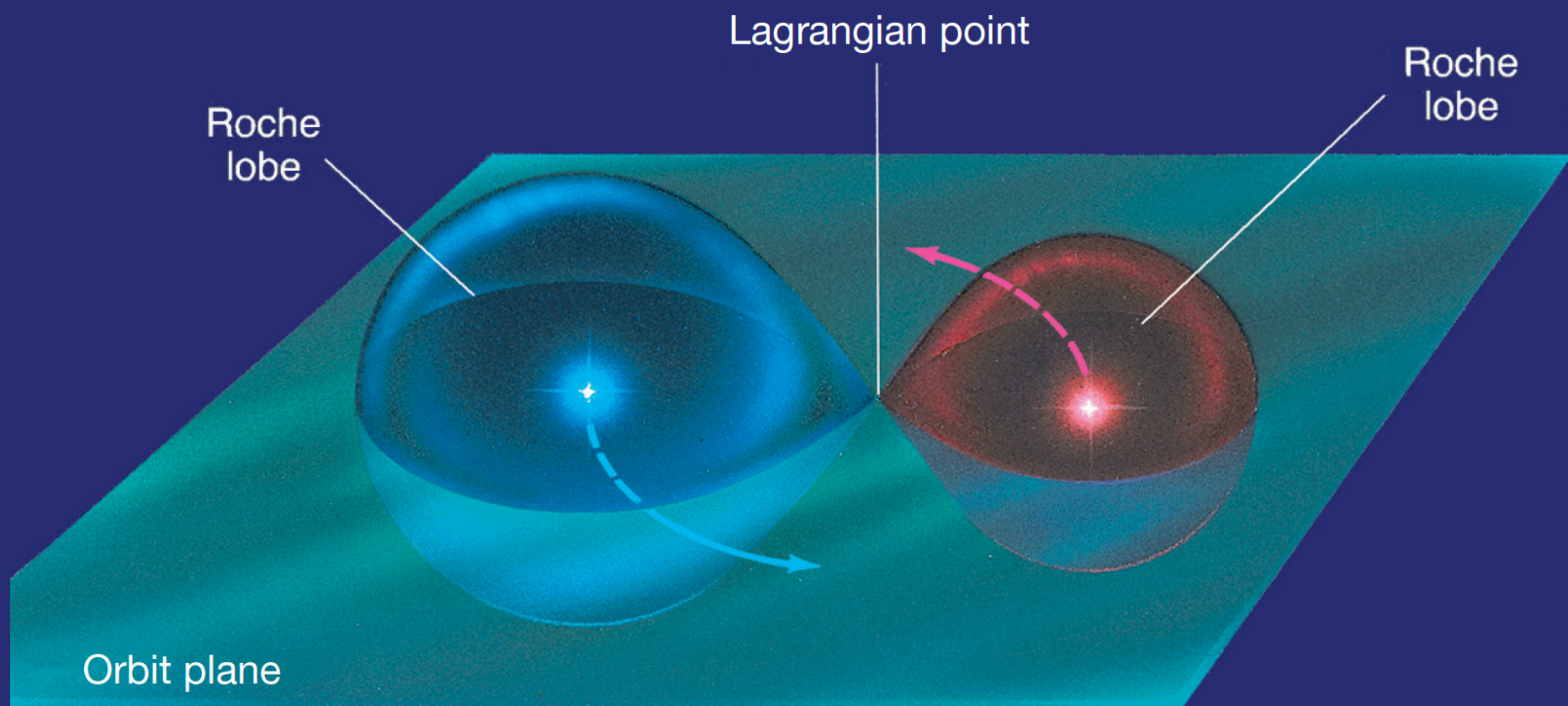


Interacting Binary Stars

- equipotentials in co-orbital frame

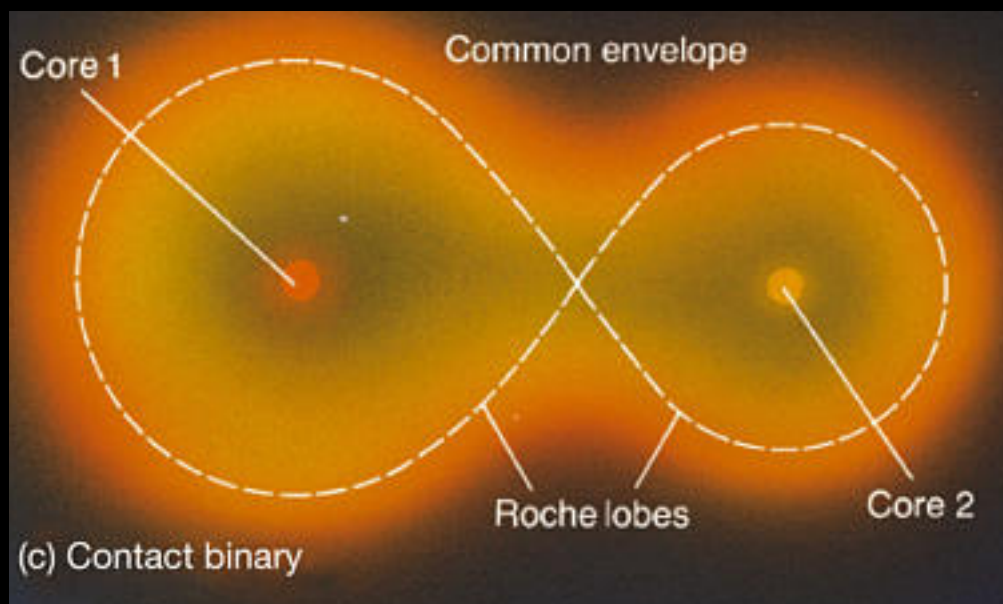
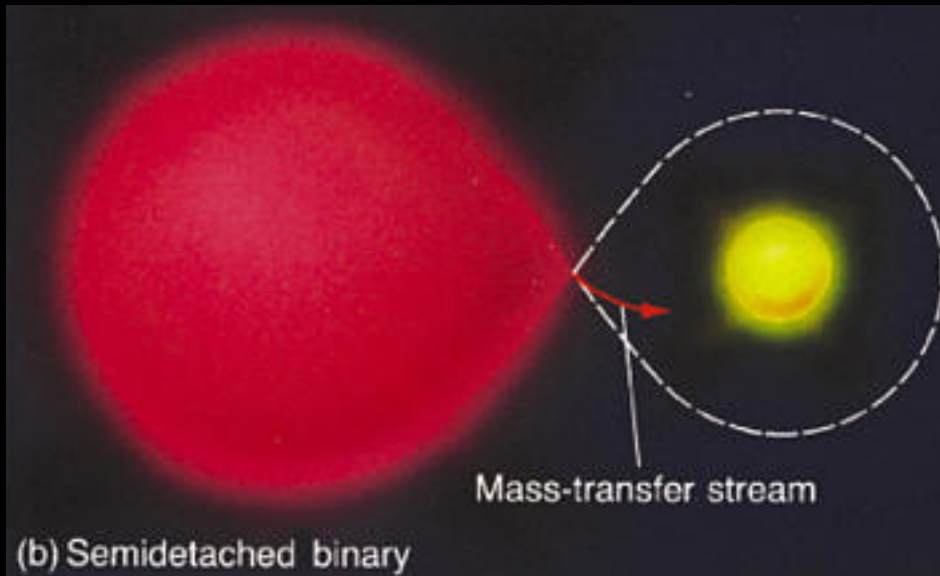
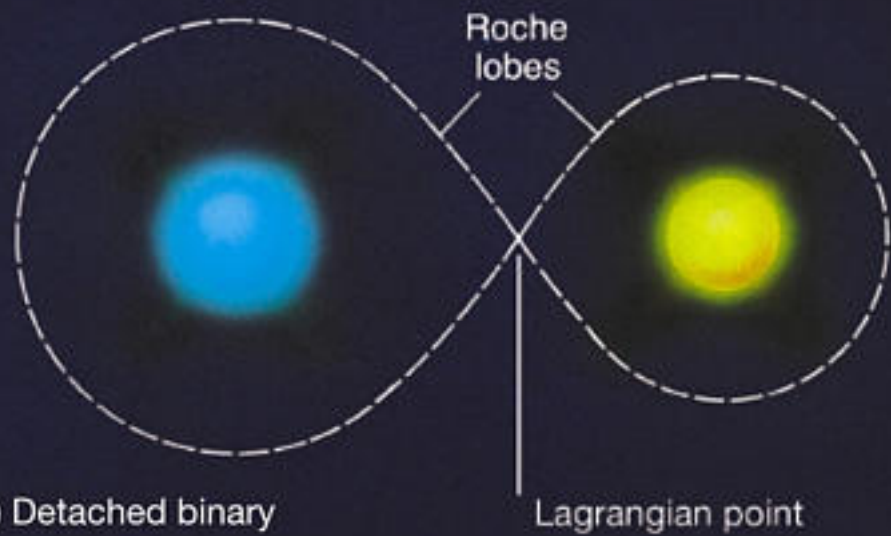






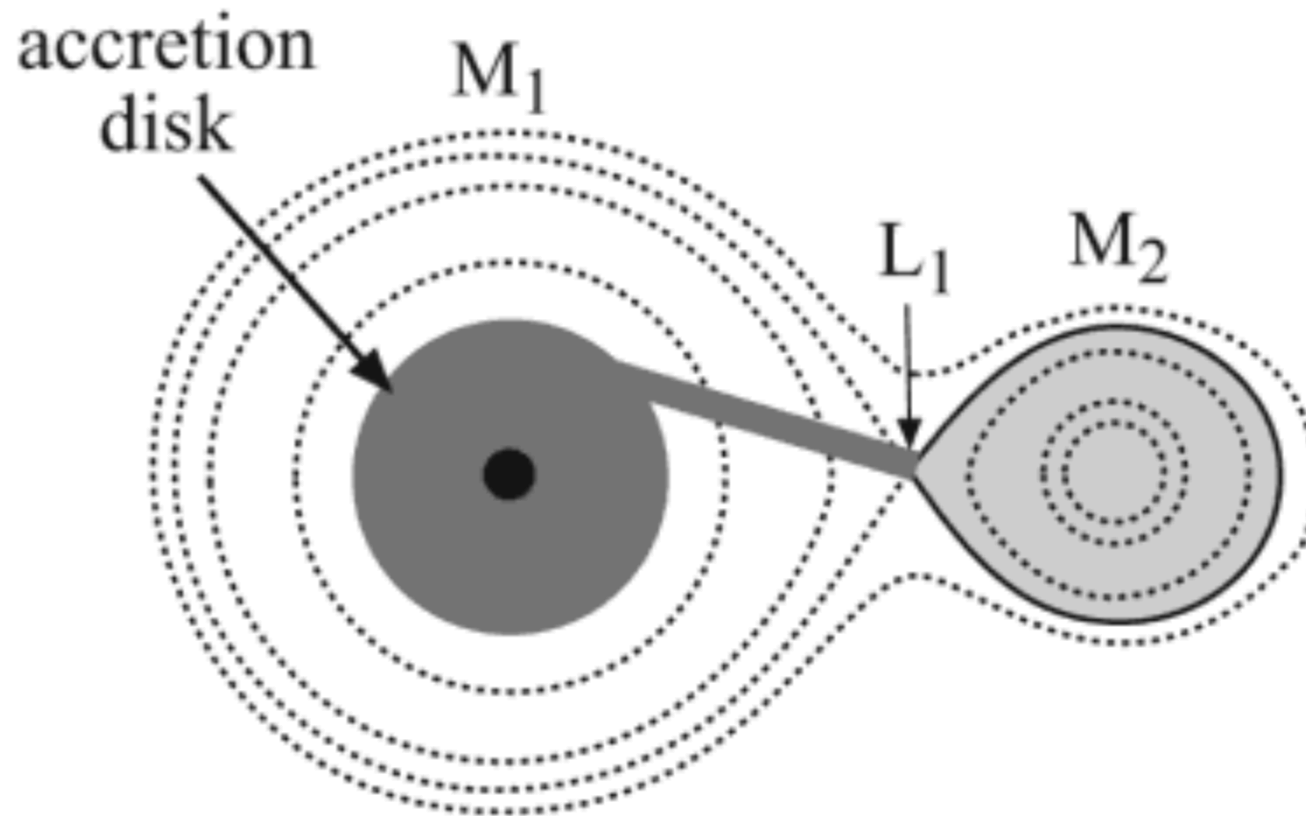
Interacting Binary Stars

- classification
 - detached
 - both stars lie within their Roche lobes
 - semidetached
 - one star fills its Roche lobe
 - contact/common envelope
 - both stars overflow their Roche lobes

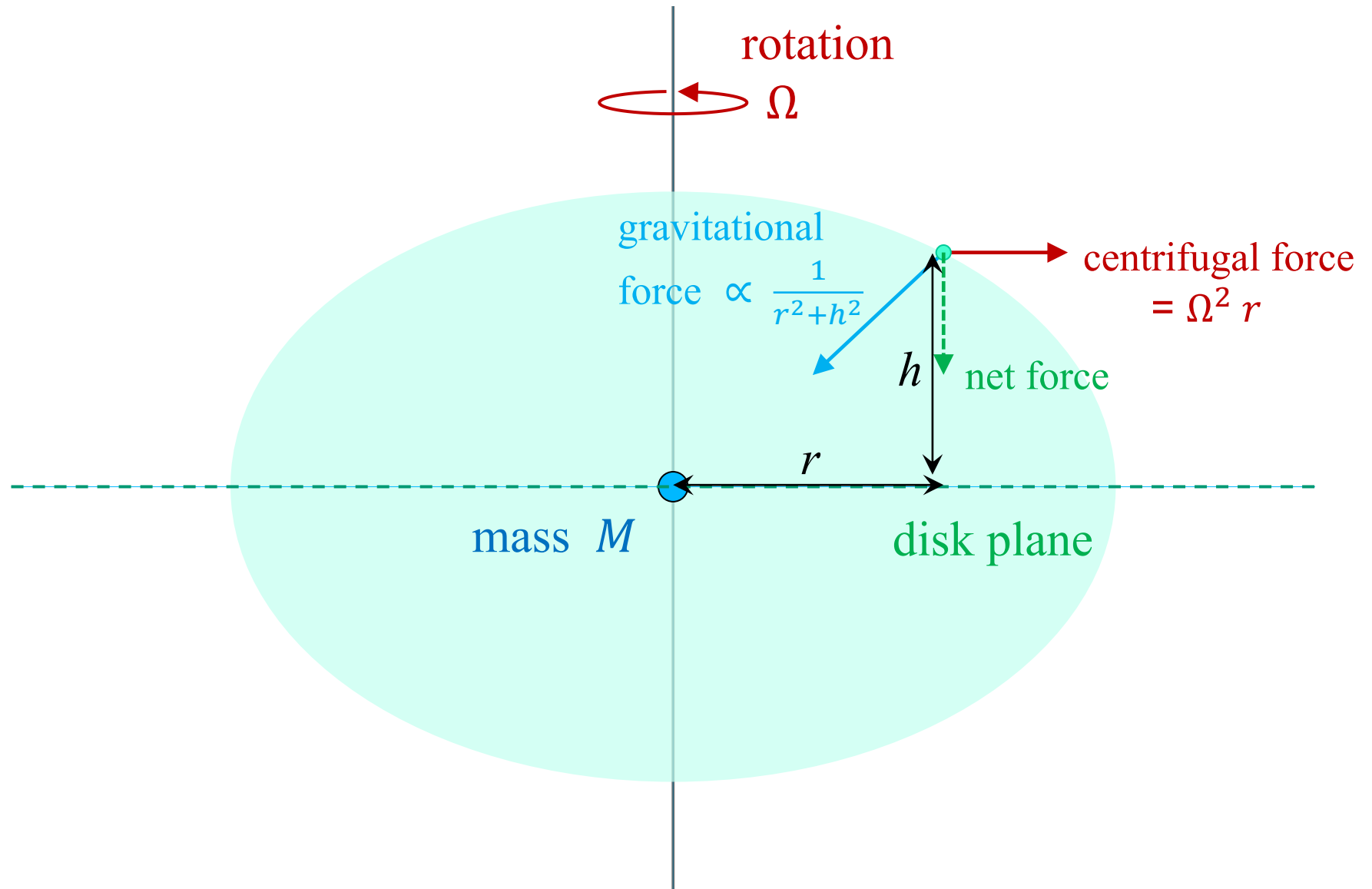


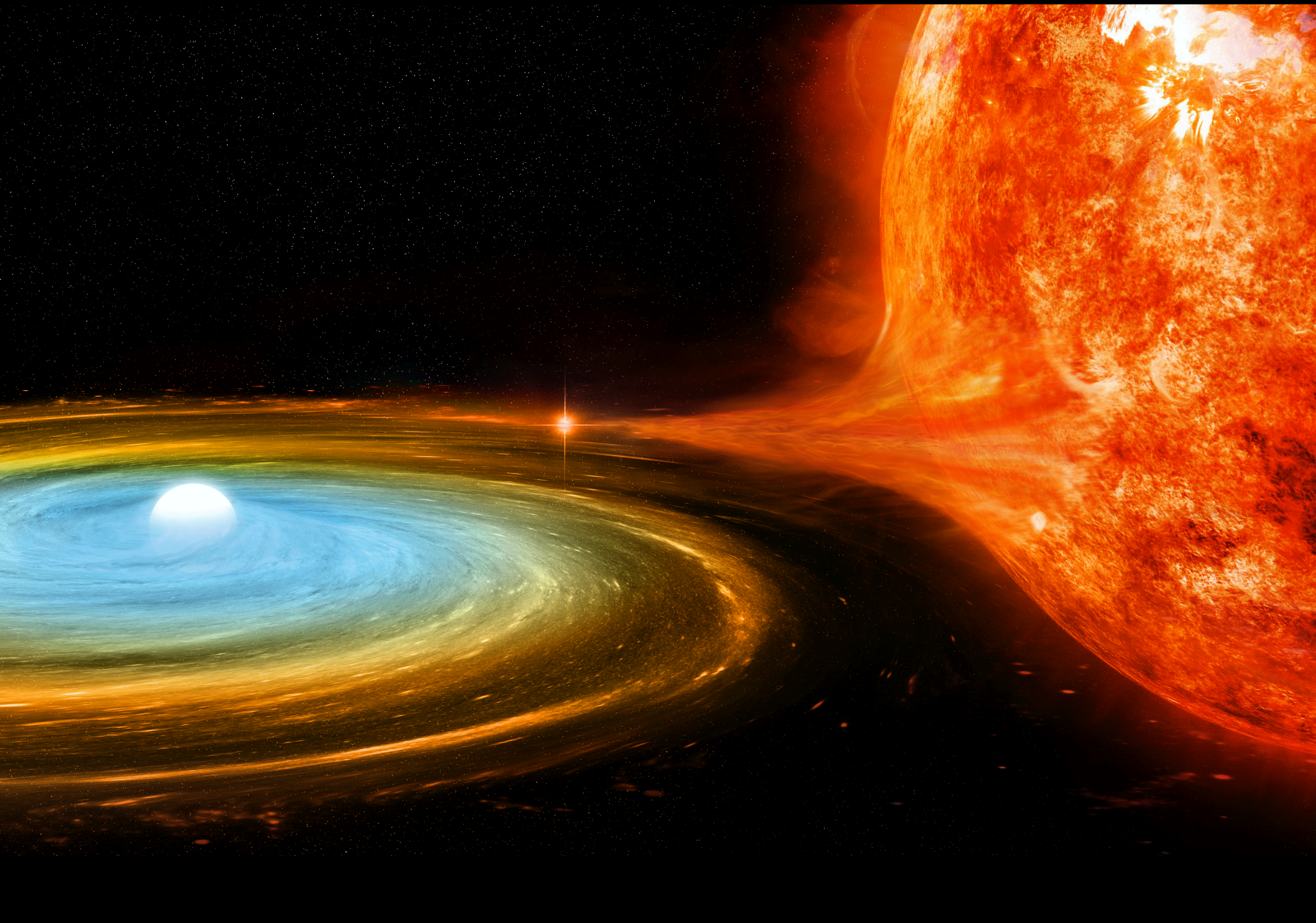
Interacting Binary Stars

- mass transfer in semidetached system



$$\Omega \propto r^{-2} \text{ (conservation of angular momentum)}$$





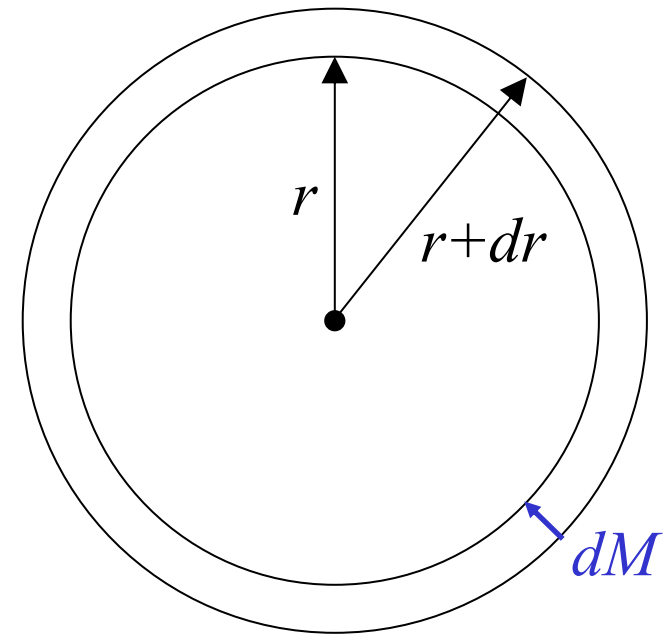
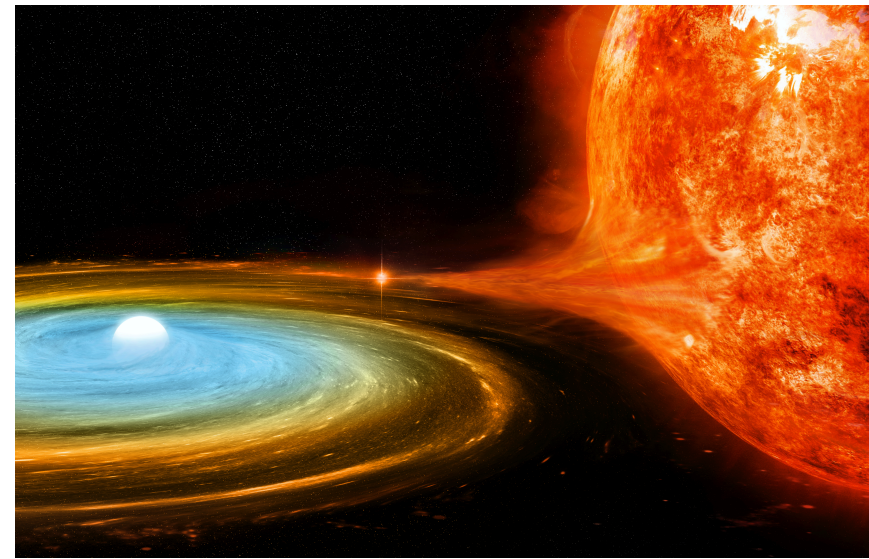
Accretion Disk

- gas sinks from $r+dr$ to r

$$dE_{th} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{GMdM}{r} - \frac{GMdM}{r+dr} \right)$$

- radiates excess energy away

$$\begin{aligned} dL &= \frac{dE_{th}}{dt} = \frac{GM}{2} \frac{dM}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{r+dr} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} GM \dot{M} \frac{dr}{r^2} \\ &= 2(2\pi r) dr \sigma T^4 \\ \Rightarrow T(r) &= \left(\frac{GM \dot{M}}{8\pi\sigma} \right)^{1/4} r^{-3/4} \end{aligned}$$



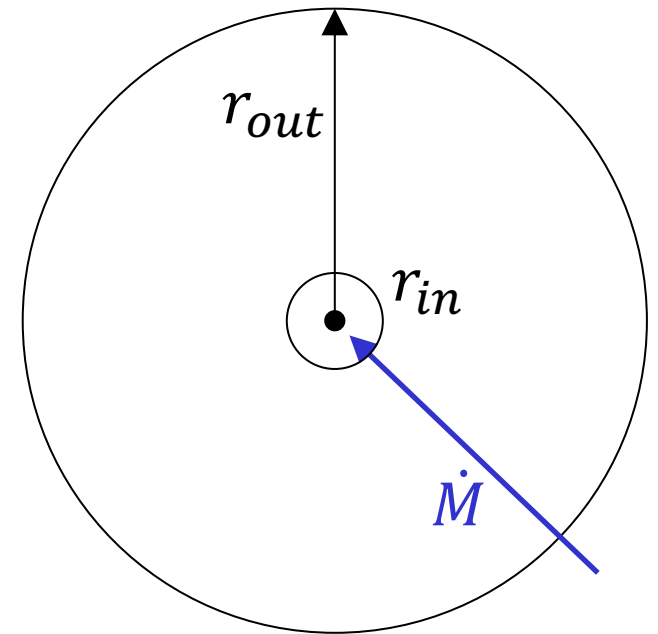
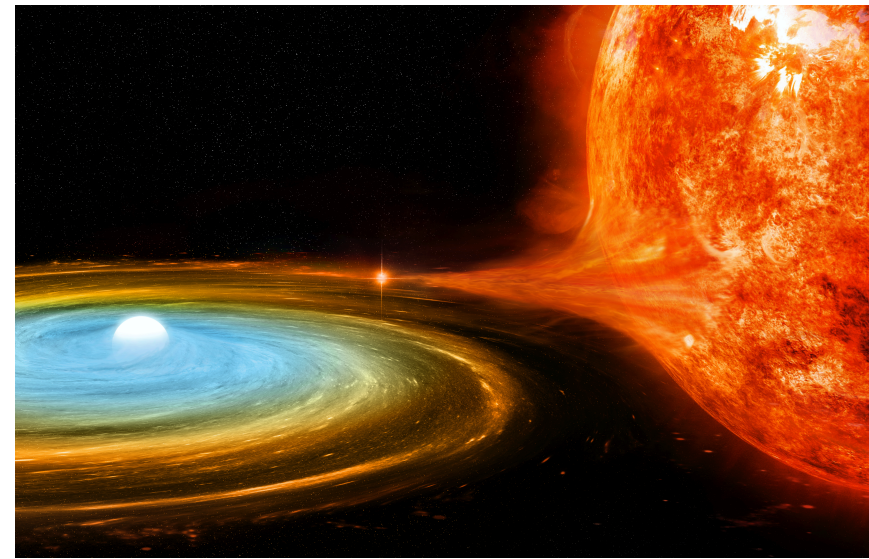
Accretion Disk

- total luminosity

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \int_{r_{in}}^{r_{out}} 2(2\pi r) \sigma T(r)^4 dr \\ &= \frac{1}{2} GM \dot{M} \left(\frac{1}{r_{in}} - \frac{1}{r_{out}} \right) \\ &\approx \frac{1}{2} \frac{GM \dot{M}}{r_{in}} \end{aligned}$$

- efficiency

$$\eta = \frac{L}{\dot{M} c^2} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{GM}{c^2 r_{in}}$$



Accretion Efficiency

- neutron star

$$M = 1.4 M_{\odot}$$

$$R = 10 \text{ km}$$

$$r_{in} \approx R$$

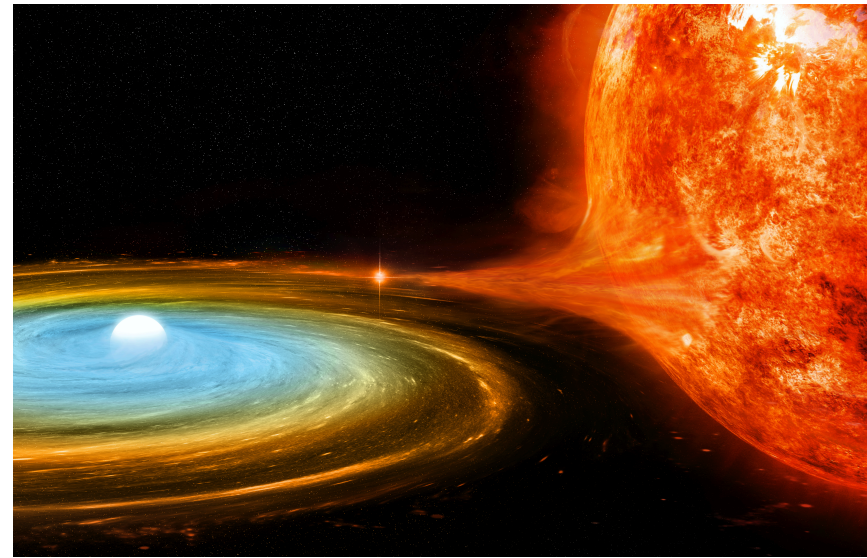
$$\Rightarrow \eta \approx 0.10$$

- black hole

$$M = 10 M_{\odot}$$

$$r_{in} \approx 3r_s = 90 \text{ km}$$

$$\Rightarrow \eta \approx 0.08$$



$$\eta_{pp} = 0.007$$

Accretion Luminosity

- white dwarf

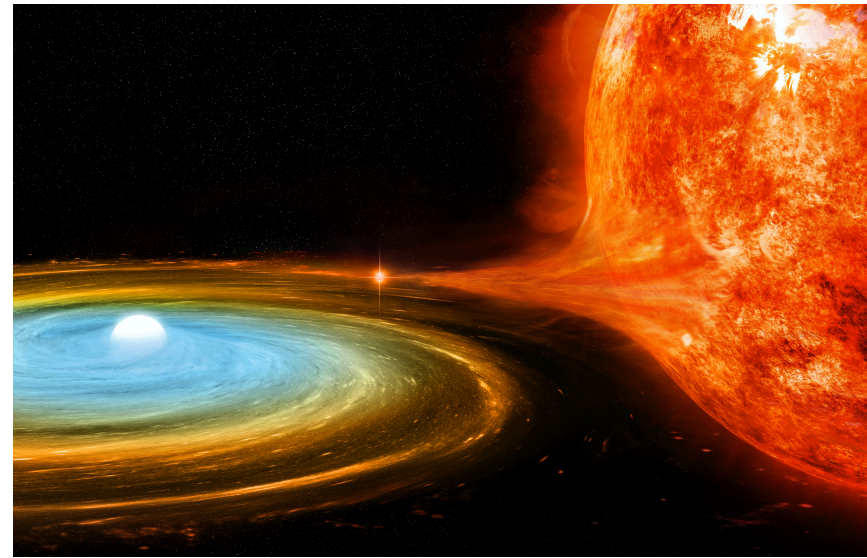
$$M = M_{\odot}$$

$$r_{in} \approx 10^4 \text{ km}$$

$$\dot{M} \approx 10^{-9} M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$$

$$\Rightarrow L \approx 4 \times 10^{30} \text{ W} \approx L_{\odot}$$

$$T \approx 5 \times 10^4 \text{ K} \quad \text{ultraviolet}$$



Accretion Luminosity

- neutron star

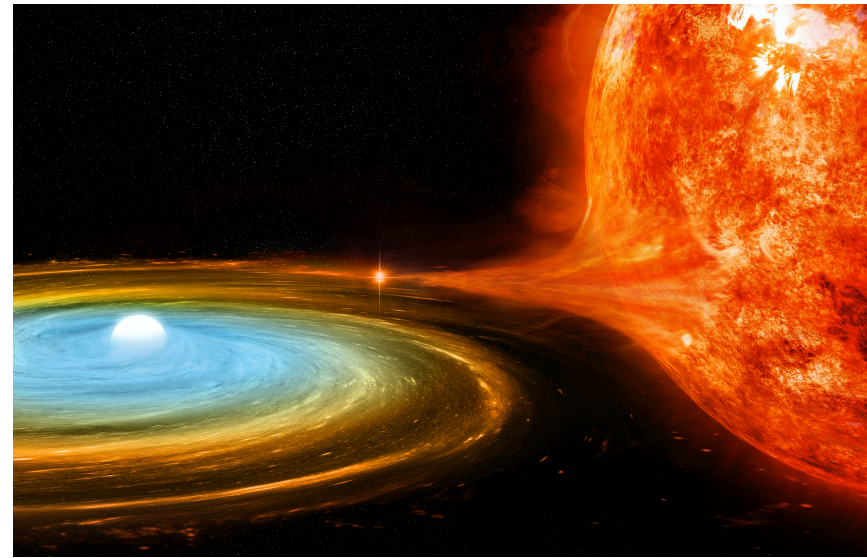
$$M = 1.4 M_{\odot}$$

$$r_{\text{in}} \approx 10 \text{ km}$$

$$\dot{M} \approx 10^{-9} M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$$

$$\Rightarrow L \approx 10^{34} \text{ W} \approx 1000 L_{\odot}$$

$$T \approx 10^7 \text{ K} \quad \text{X-ray}$$



Eddington Luminosity

- luminosity L_ν , spherical geometry
- photon flux

$$n_{ph} = \frac{L_\nu}{4\pi r^2 c h \nu}$$

- Thomson scattering rate on electron

$$R_{scat} = n_{ph} \sigma_T c$$

- radiative force

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = R_{scat} \frac{h\nu}{c} = \frac{L_\nu \sigma_T}{4\pi r^2 c} \rightarrow \frac{L \sigma_T}{4\pi r^2 c} \text{ total}$$

Eddington Luminosity

- total radiative force

$$F_{\text{rad}} = \frac{L\sigma_T}{4\pi r^2 c}$$

- total gravitational force

$$F_{\text{grav}} = \frac{GMm_p}{r^2}$$

- force balance when

$$\frac{L\sigma_T}{4\pi r^2 c} = \frac{GMm_p}{r^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow L = L_E = \frac{4\pi cGMm_p}{\sigma_T}$$

$$= 3.3 \times 10^4 L_{\odot} \left(\frac{M}{M_{\odot}} \right)$$

Eddington
luminosity

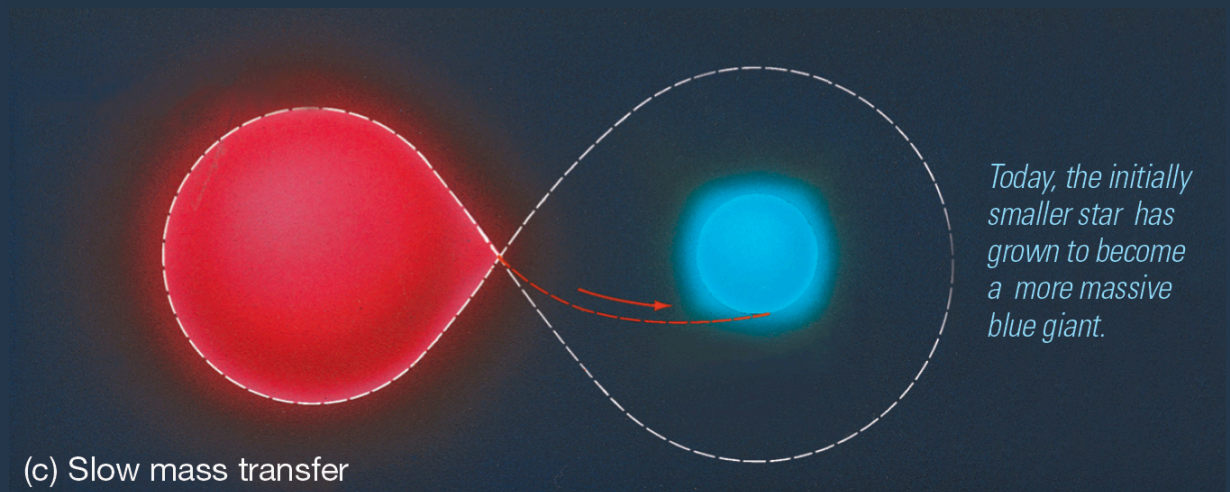
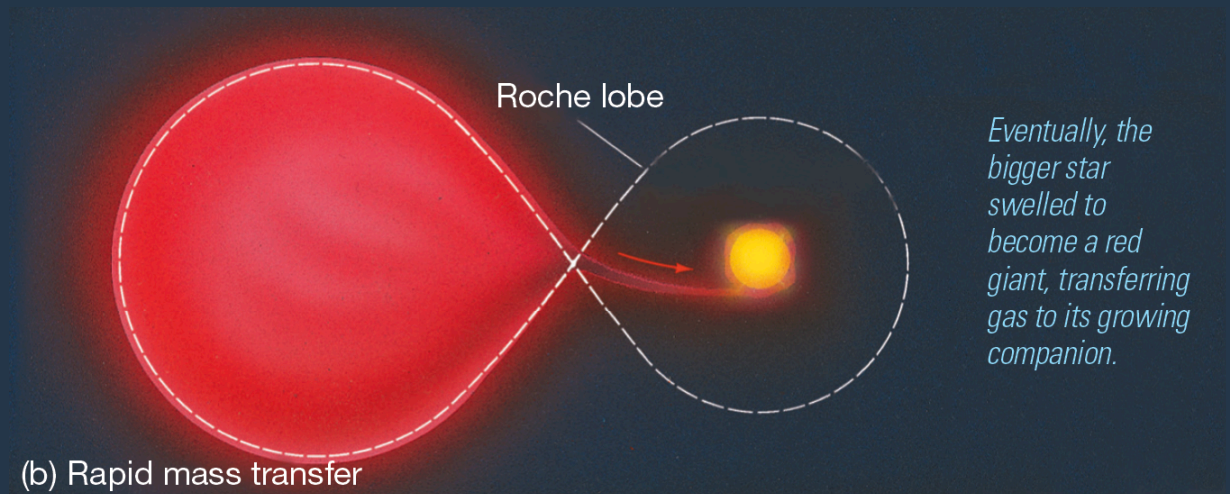
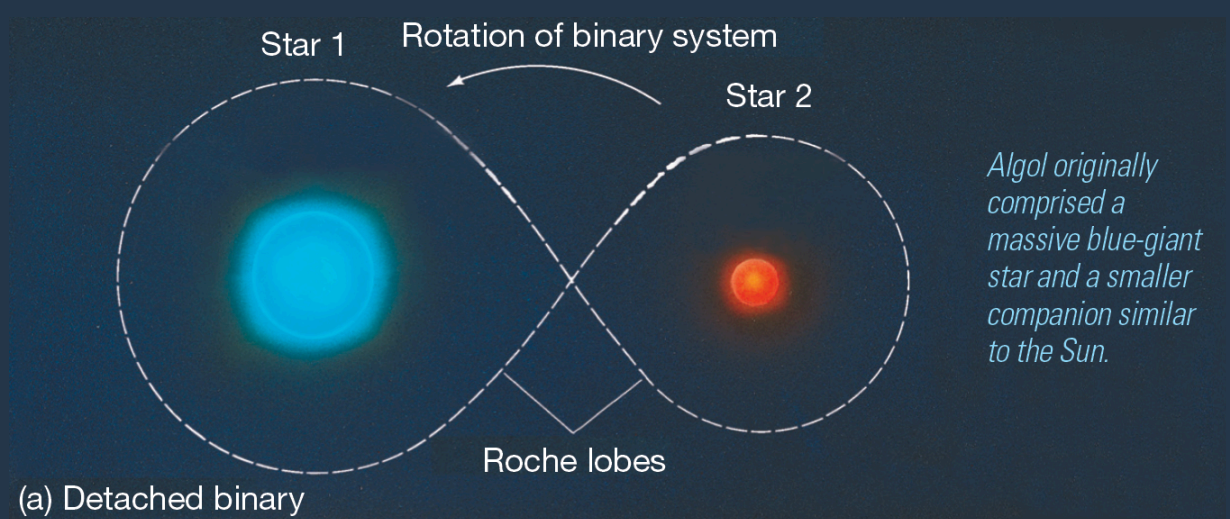
Orbital Evolution

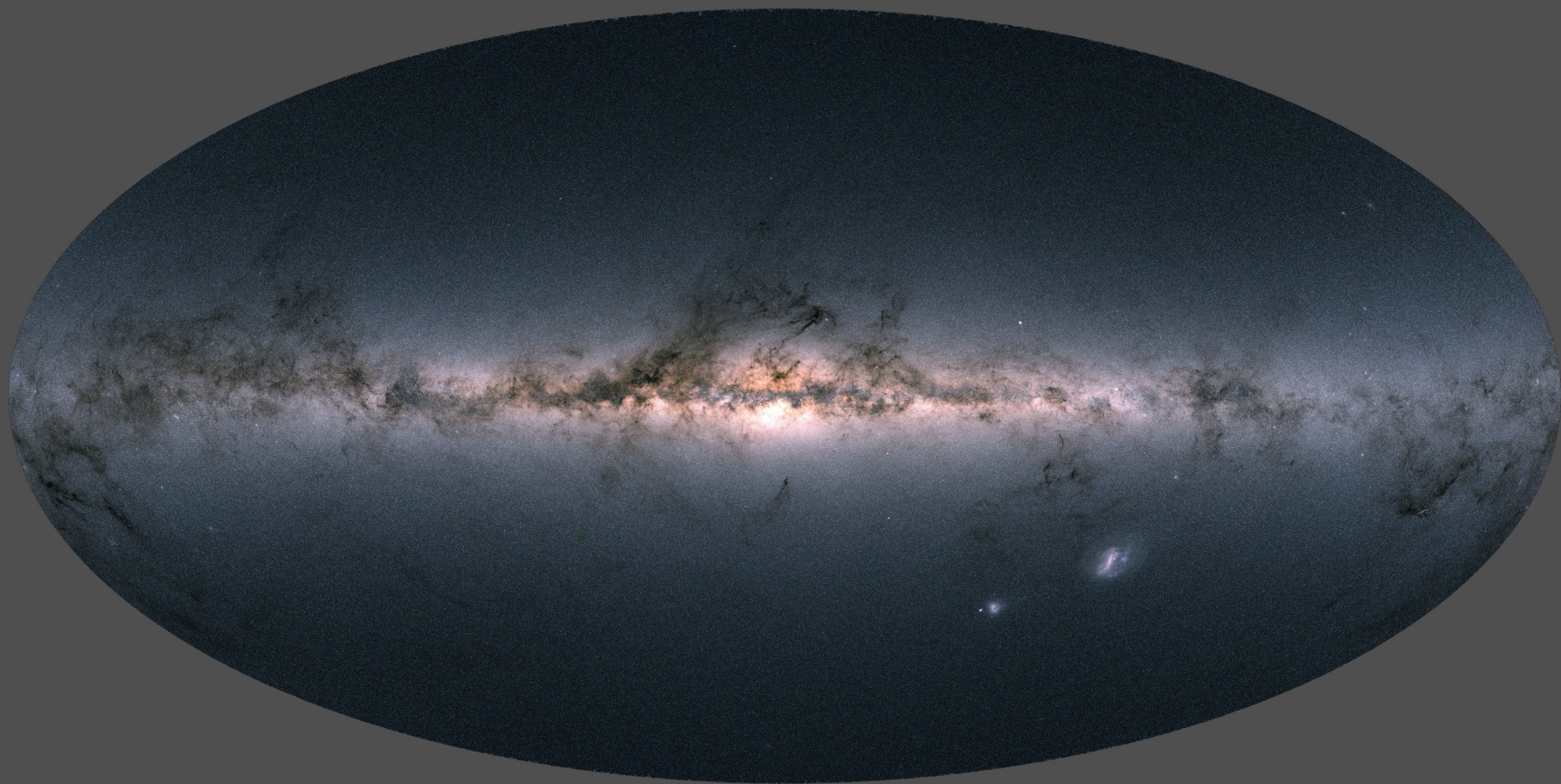
- mass transfer changes the binary separation

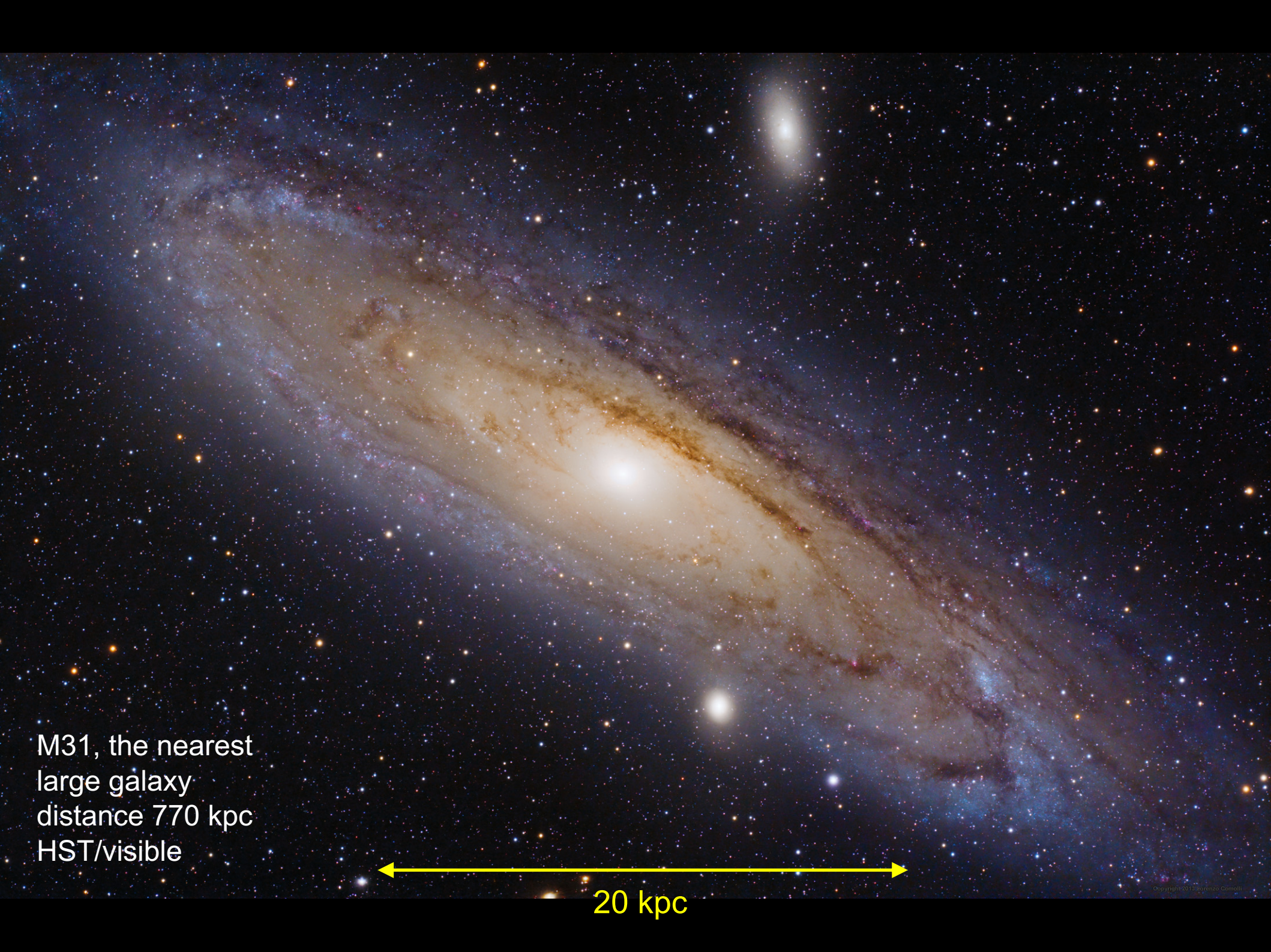
$$\frac{1}{a} \frac{da}{dt} = 2\dot{M}_1 \frac{M_1 - M_2}{M_1 M_2}$$

- e.g. $M_1 > M_2$, mass transfer $1 \rightarrow 2 \Rightarrow \frac{da}{dt} < 0$
- binary evolution can lead to outcomes inaccessible by normal stellar evolution channels

Algol System





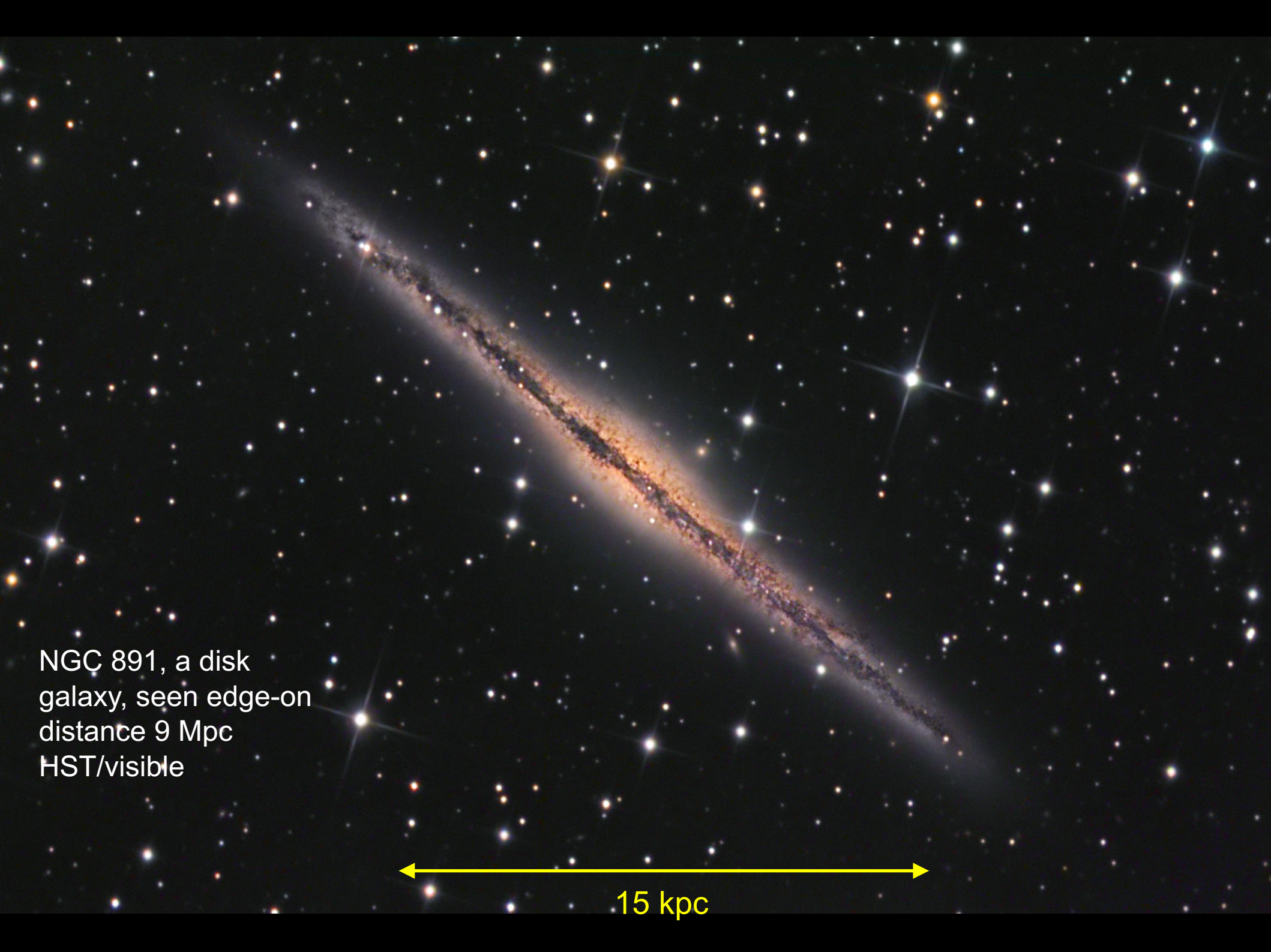


M31, the nearest
large galaxy
distance 770 kpc
HST/visible

20 kpc



25 kpc

A deep-space photograph showing the edge-on view of the NGC 891 galaxy. The galaxy's disk is a prominent, glowing, yellowish-brown band stretching diagonally from the upper left towards the lower right. It is surrounded by a vast field of stars of various colors (white, yellow, orange) against a black background. The galaxy's structure shows a bright central region and a diffuse, elongated disk. A yellow double-headed arrow at the bottom indicates a scale of 15 kpc.

NGC 891, a disk
galaxy, seen edge-on
distance 9 Mpc
HST/visible

15 kpc