

Graviton mass and Yukawa-like nonlinear correction to the gravitational potential: constraints from stellar orbits around the Galactic Center

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Outline of the talk

- Motivation: addressing the unclear situation with graviton mass
- Massive gravity and overview of the observational constraints on:
 - Compton wavelength and mass of graviton
 - Speed of gravity
- $f(R)$ gravity and Yukawa-like correction to the gravitational potential
- Observed stellar orbits around Sgr A* at Galactic Center
- Our results: constraining the graviton mass by analysis of the observed stellar orbits in Yukawa gravity
- The results are obtained in collaboration with:
 - Vesna Borka Jovanović and Duško Borka (Serbia)
 - Alexander F. Zakharov (Russia)
 - Salvatore Capozziello (Italy)
- Conclusions

Graviton: gauge boson of gravitational interaction

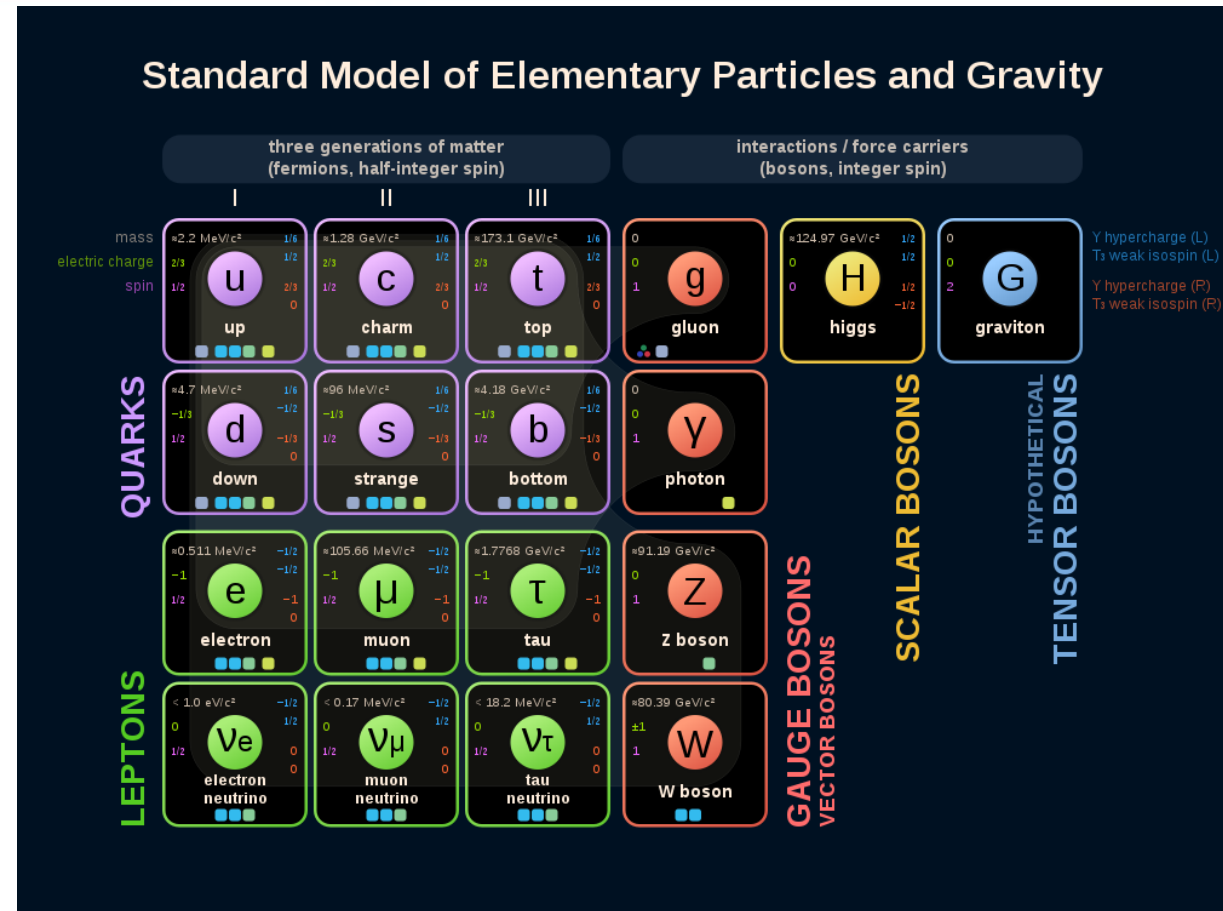
- Spin: 2 (tensor boson)
- Electric charge: 0 (neutral)
- General Relativity (GR): graviton is massless and travels along null geodesics (like photon), i.e. at the speed of light c
- Theories of massive gravity (introduced by Fierz & Pauli, 1939, RSPSA, 173, 211): gravitation is propagated by a massive field (i.e. by graviton with small, nonzero mass m_g)
- Important predictions (Will, 1998, PRD, 57, 206):

1) The effective Newtonian potential has a Yukawa form: $\propto r^{-1} \exp(-r/\lambda_g)$, where $\lambda_g = h/(m_g c)$ is the Compton wavelength of graviton

2) Massive graviton propagates at an energy (or frequency) dependent speed

- Modified dispersion relation: $E^2 = p^2 c^2 + m_g^2 c^4 \quad \wedge \quad v_g^2/c^2 \equiv c^2 p^2 / E^2 \quad \Rightarrow$

$$v_g^2/c^2 = 1 - m_g^2 c^4 / E^2 = 1 - h^2 c^2 / (\lambda_g^2 E^2) = 1 - c^2 / (f \lambda_g)^2$$



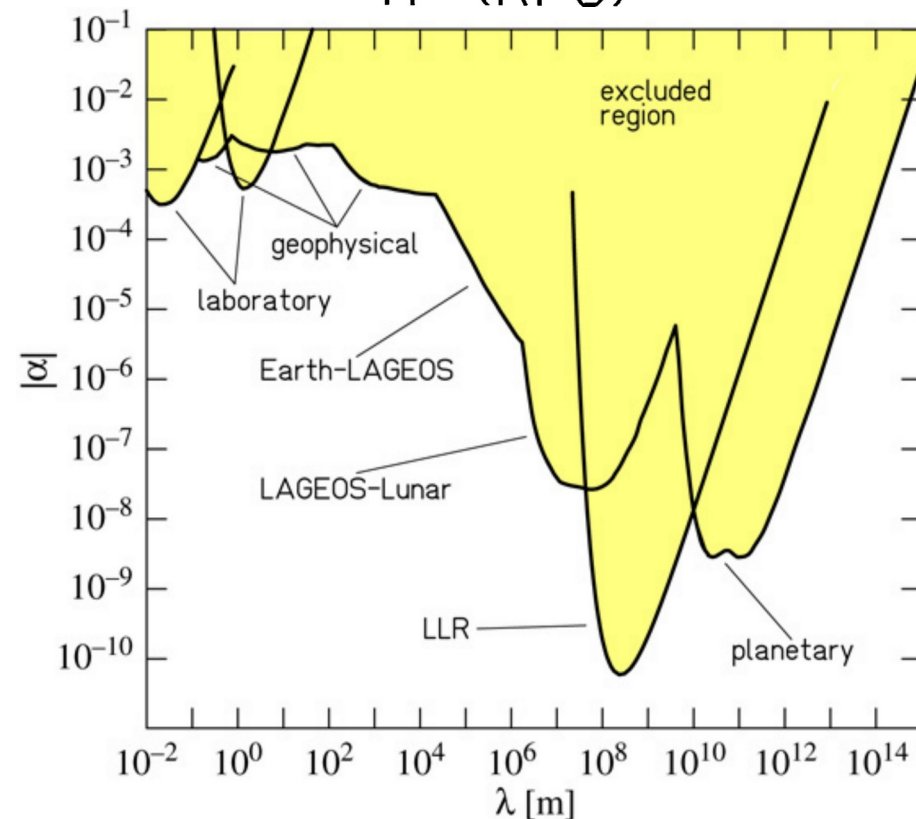
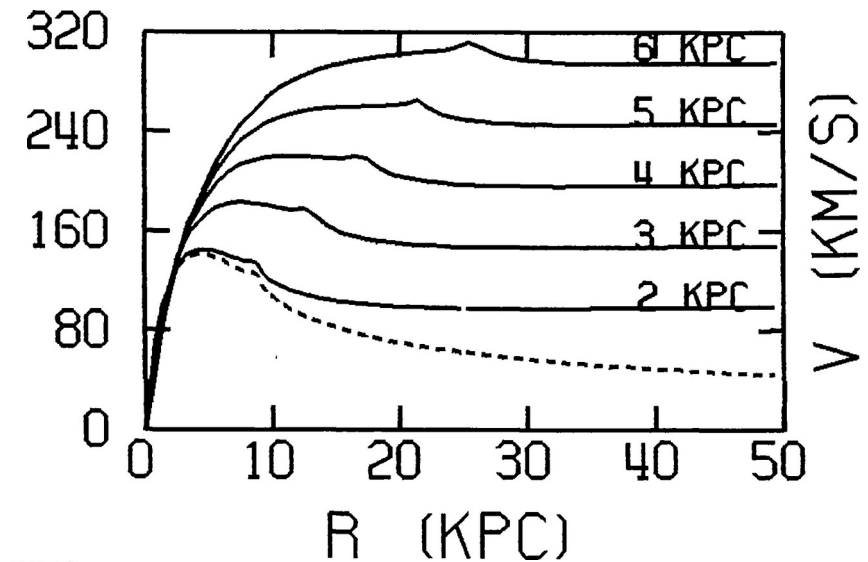
Constraints on Yukawa-like correction I

- Yukawa-like potential of the form (Sanders, 1984, A&A, 136, L21):

$$U(r) = \frac{G_\infty M}{r} \left(1 + \alpha e^{-r/r_0} \right), \quad r_0 = \frac{h}{m_0 c}$$
- Gravitational constant measured locally (G_0) and at infinity (G_∞): $G_0 = G_\infty (1 + \alpha)$
- If r_0 corresponds to graviton mass m_0 then flat rotation curves could be accounted for $\alpha \sim -1$
- Additional repulsive (anti-gravity) force

- Experimental constraints on additional Yukawa gravitational interaction between masses m_1 and m_2 (Adelberger et al. 2009, PrPNP, 62, 102):

$$V(r) = -G_N \frac{m_1 m_2}{r} \left(1 + \alpha e^{-r/\lambda} \right)$$



Constraints on Yukawa-like correction II

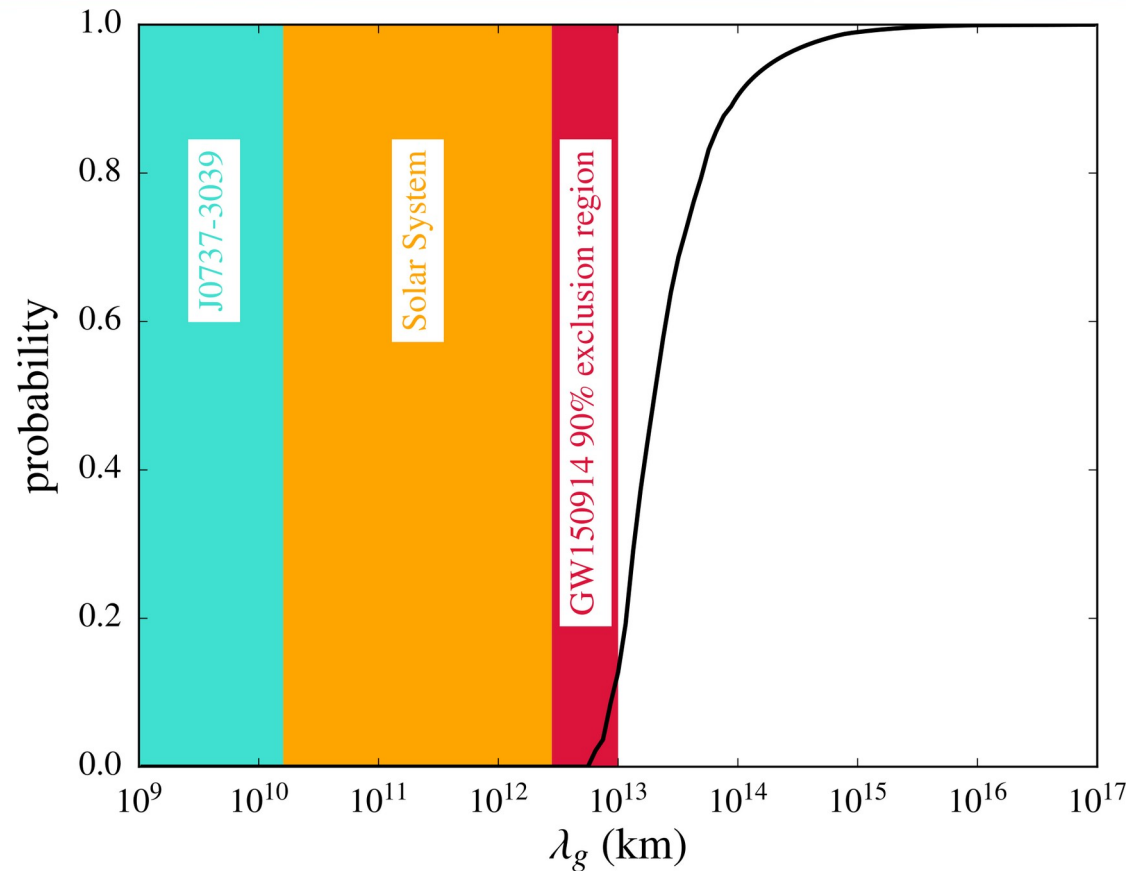
- Probability distribution and exclusion regions for the graviton Compton wavelength λ_g (Abbott et al., LIGO Scientific and Virgo Collaborations, 2016, PRL, 116, 221101)

- Yukawa type correction with characteristic length scale λ_g :

$$\varphi(r) = \frac{GM}{r} \left(1 - e^{-r/\lambda_g}\right)$$

- LIGO bound from GW150914:

$$\lambda_g > 1.6 \times 10^{13} \text{ km}; \quad m_g \leq 1.2 \times 10^{-22} \text{ eV}/c^2$$



- Expected detection limit for a future pulsar timing array with 300 pulsars, observed for 10 years (Lee et al. 2010, ApJ, 722, 1589): $m_g = 5 \times 10^{-23} \text{ eV}$
- Weak lensing bounds (Rana et al. 2018, PLB, 781, 220):
 $\lambda_g > 6.82 \text{ Mpc}; \quad m_g < 6 \times 10^{-30} \text{ eV}$

Constraints on speed of gravity

- Constraints from the time difference Δt between a GW and an EW from the same event at a distance D (Will, 2014, LRR, 17, 4):

$$1 - \frac{v_g}{c} = 5 \times 10^{-17} \left(\frac{200 \text{ Mpc}}{D} \right) \left(\frac{\Delta t}{1 \text{ s}} \right)$$

- Arrival and emission time differences Δt_a and Δt_e : $\Delta t \equiv \Delta t_a - (1 + z)\Delta t_e$

- For a massive graviton:

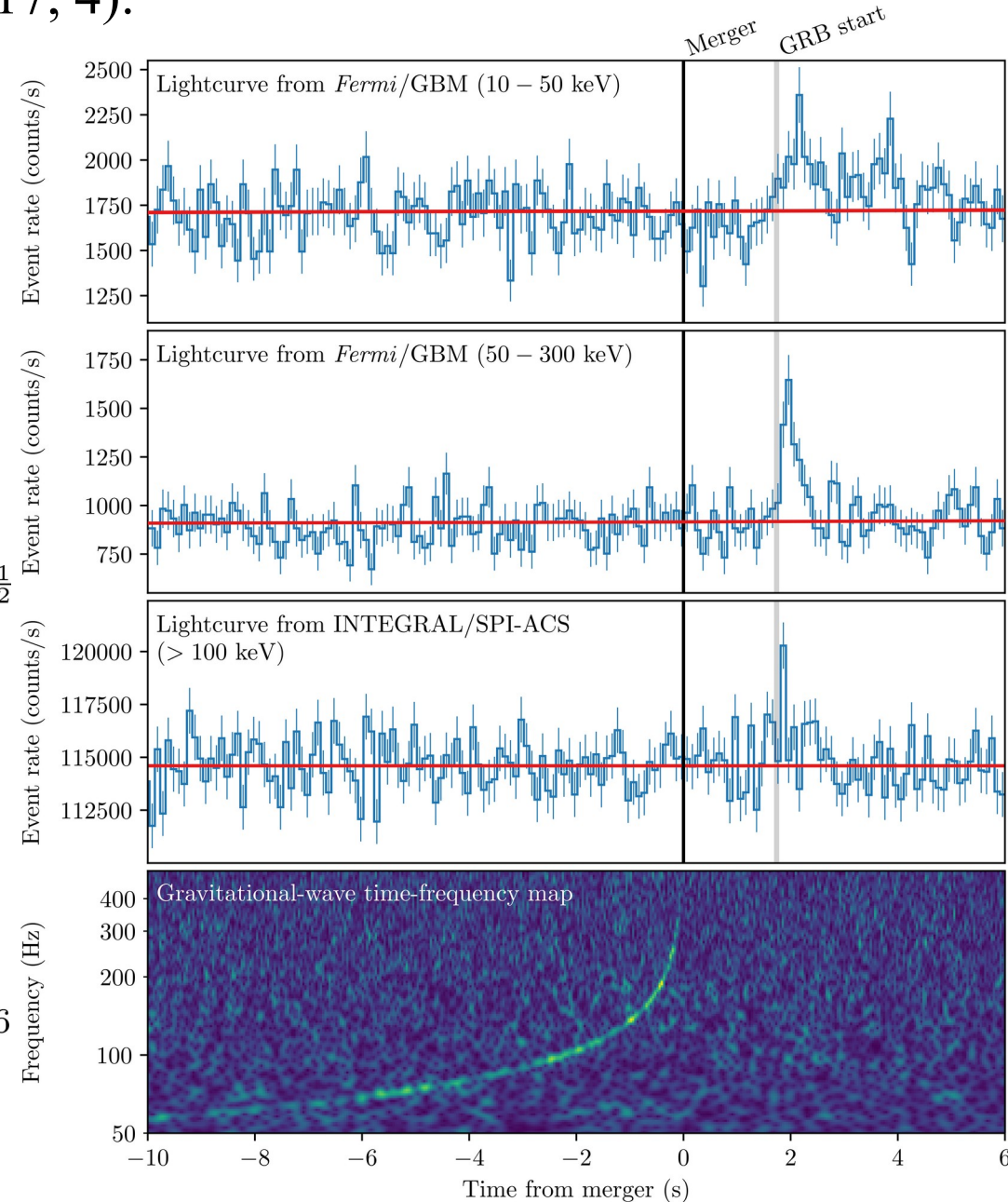
$$\frac{v_g}{c} \approx 1 - \frac{c^2}{2(\lambda_g f)^2} \Rightarrow$$

$$\lambda_g > 3 \times 10^{12} \text{ km} \left(\frac{D}{200 \text{ Mpc}} \frac{100 \text{ Hz}}{f} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\frac{1}{f \Delta t} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

- GW and γ -rays from a binary neutron star merger in the galaxy NGC 4993 at $z \approx 0.01$ and $D = 26 \text{ Mpc}$ (Abbott et al. 2017, ApJL, 848, L13):

$$\Delta t = \Delta t_a = 1.74 \text{ s} \Rightarrow \frac{v_g}{c} - 1 \leq +7 \times 10^{-16}$$

$$\Delta t = 10 \text{ s} \Rightarrow \frac{v_g}{c} - 1 \geq -3 \times 10^{-15}$$



$f(R)$ gravity and Yukawa-like nonlinear correction to the gravitational potential

- Gravitational potential with a Yukawa correction can be obtained in the Newtonian limit of any analytic $f(R)$ gravity model (Capozziello et al. 2014, PRD, 90, 044052)
 - Action for $f(R)$ gravity: $\mathcal{S} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} [f(R) + \mathcal{X} \mathcal{L}_m]$, $\mathcal{X} = \frac{16\pi G}{c^4}$
 - 4th-order field equations: $f'(R)R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}f(R)g_{\mu\nu} - f'(R)_{;\mu\nu} + g_{\mu\nu}\square f'(R) = \frac{\mathcal{X}}{2}T_{\mu\nu}$
 - Trace: $3\square f'(R) + f'(R)R - 2f(R) = \frac{\mathcal{X}}{2}T$
 - Analytic Taylor expandable function $f(R)$:

$$f(R) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!} R^n = f_0 + f_1 R + \frac{f_2}{2} R^2 + \dots \Rightarrow$$
 - Metric: $ds^2 = \left[1 + \frac{2\Phi(r)}{c^2}\right] c^2 dt^2 - \left[1 - \frac{2\Psi(r)}{c^2}\right] dr^2 - r^2 d\Omega^2$
 - Yukawa-like nonlinear correction** to the grav. potential in the weak field limit:

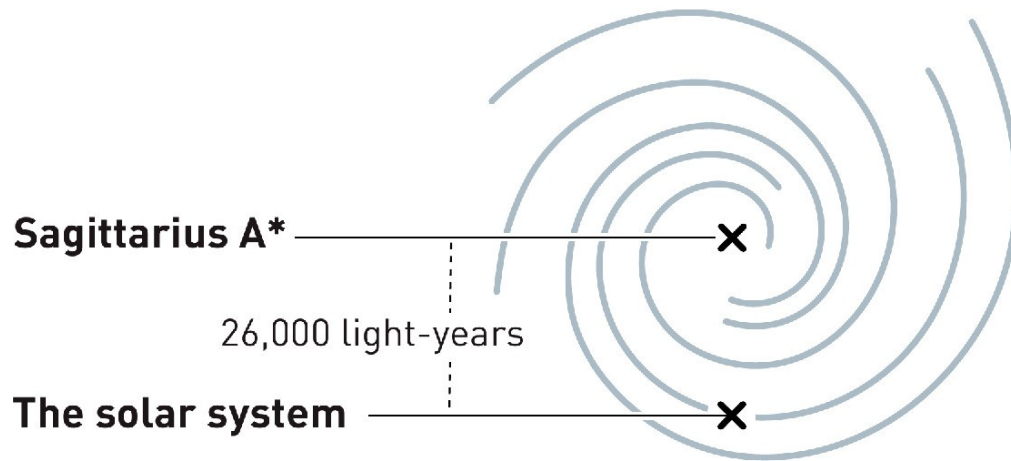
$$\Phi(r) = -\frac{GM}{(1+\delta)r} \left(1 + \delta e^{-\frac{r}{\Lambda}}\right)$$

$$\Psi(r) = \frac{GM}{(1+\delta)r} \left[\left(1 + \frac{r}{\Lambda}\right) \delta e^{-\frac{r}{\Lambda}} - 1\right]$$

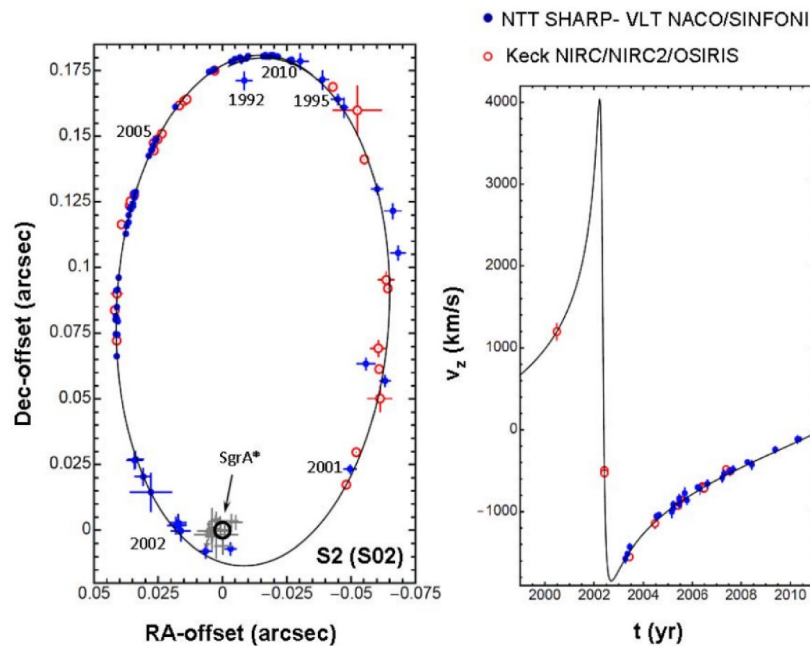
 - Λ - range of Yukawa interaction
 - δ - universal constant
- $\Lambda^2 = -f_1/f_2 \quad \wedge \quad \delta = f_1 - 1$

Stellar orbits around Sgr A*

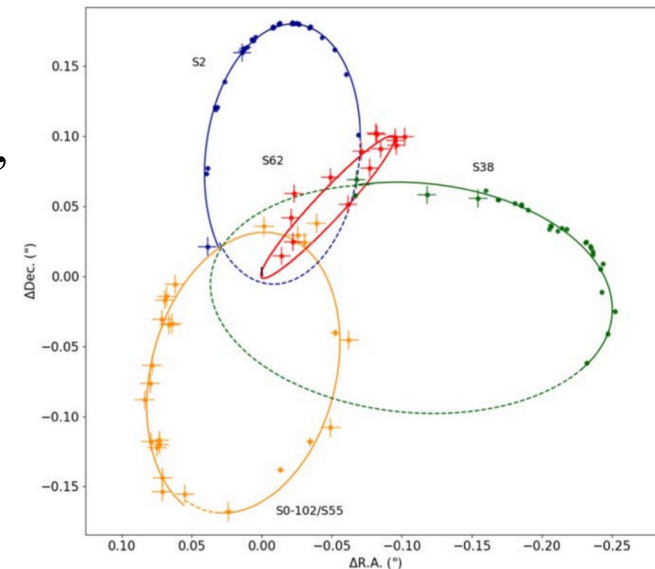
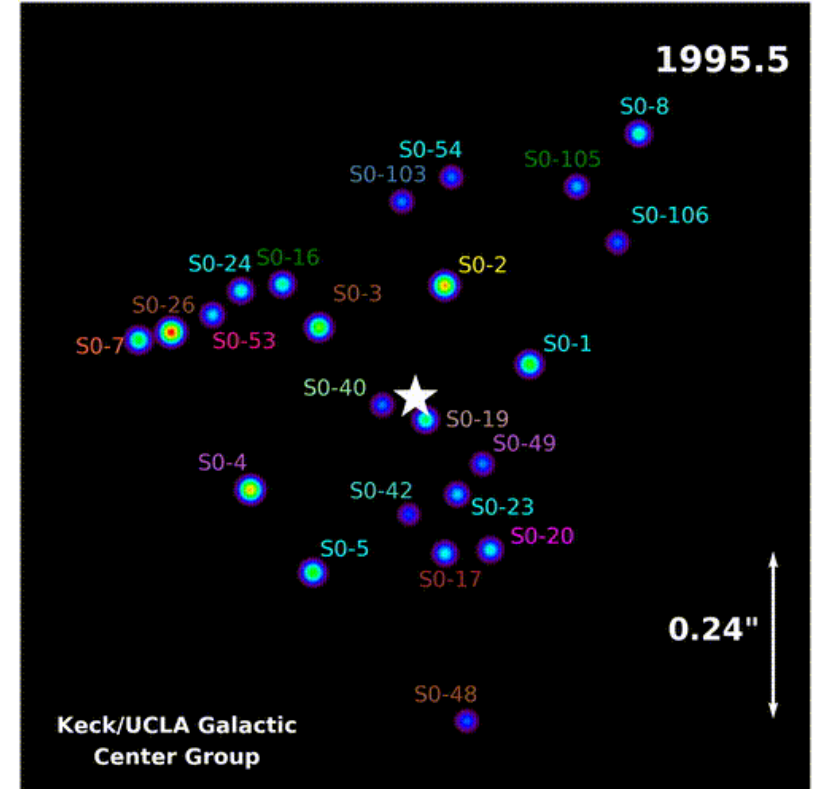
The Milky Way



- Observations of S2 star by NTT/VLT and Keck:
 - Gillessen et al. 2009, ApJ, 692, 1075
 - Ghez et al. 2008, ApJ, 689, 1044



- New observations:
 - Gillessen et al. 2017, ApJ, 837, 30
 - GRAVITY, 2018, A&A, 615, L15
 - Peißker et al. 2020, ApJ, 889, 61 (right)



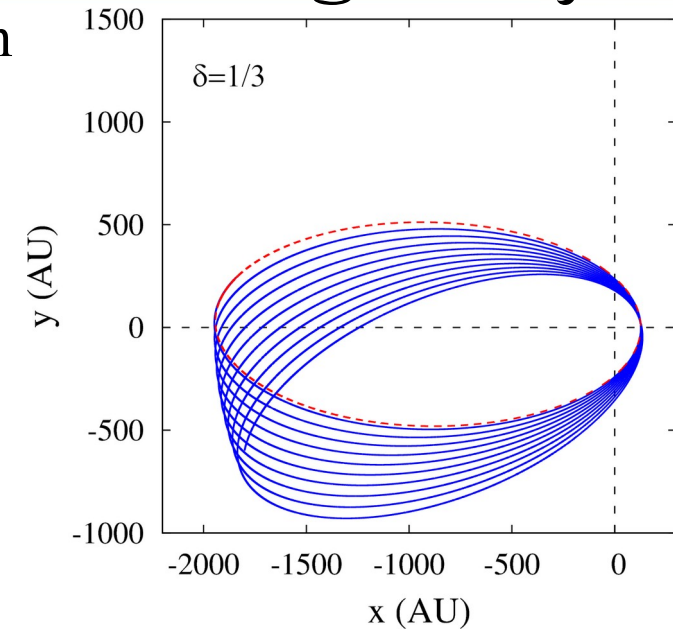
Simulated orbits of S2 star in Yukawa gravity

- Numerical integration of differential equations of motion (Borka, Jovanović, Borka Jovanović, Zakharov, 2013, JCAP, 2013, No. 11, 050): $\dot{\mathbf{r}} = \mathbf{v}$, $\mu\ddot{\mathbf{r}} = -\nabla\Phi(\mathbf{r})$

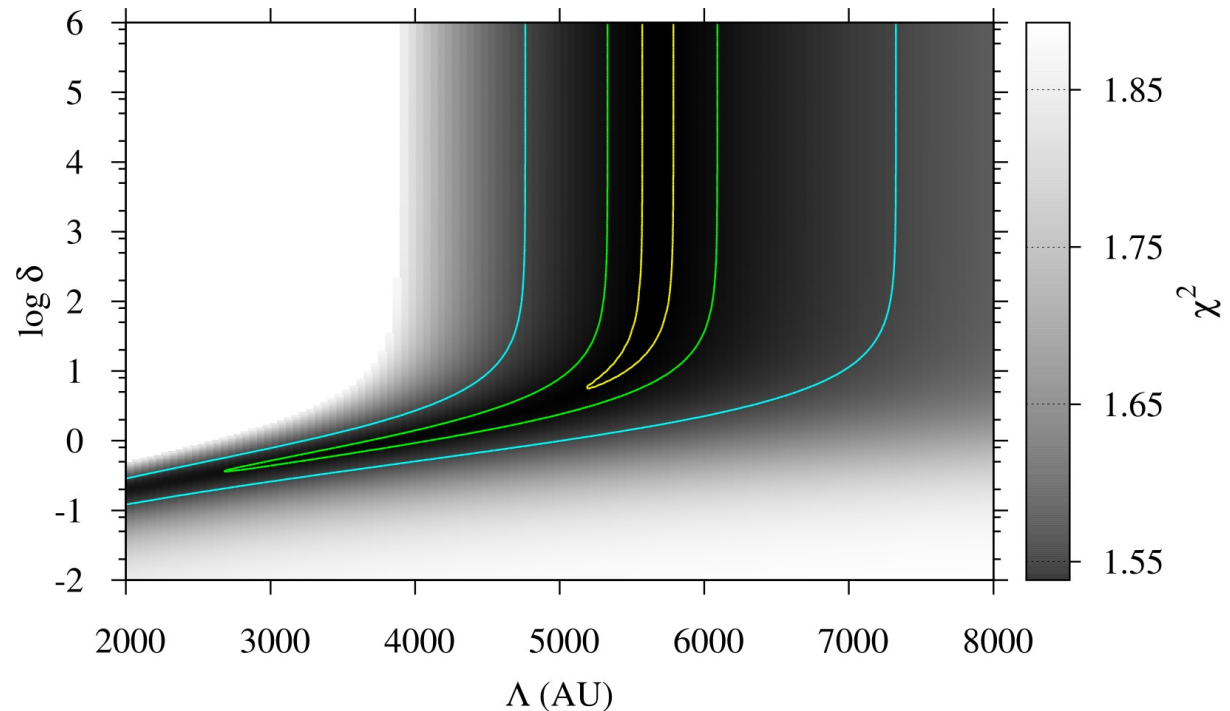
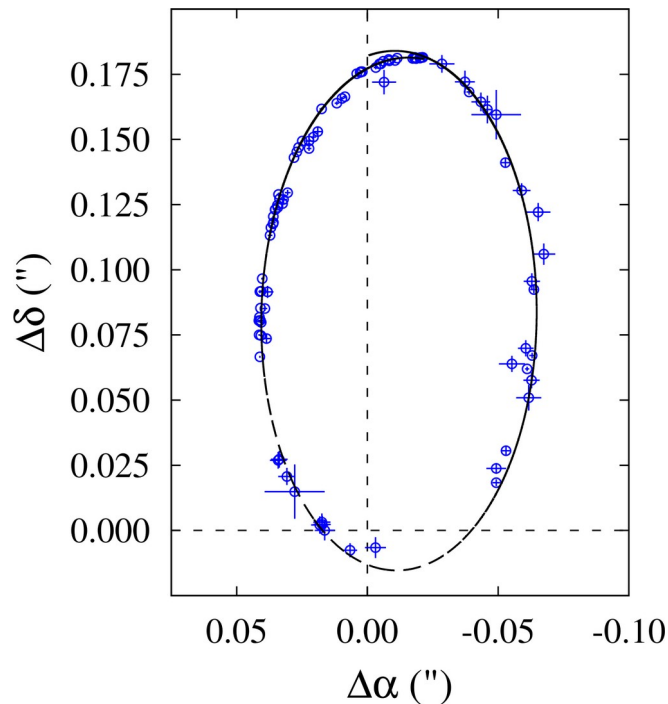
$$\Phi(r) = -\frac{GM}{(1+\delta)r} \left(1 + \delta e^{-\frac{r}{\Lambda}}\right) \Rightarrow \text{nonlinear equation}$$

of motion:

$$\ddot{\vec{r}} = -\frac{G(M+m)}{1+\delta} \left[1 + \delta \left(1 + \frac{r}{\Lambda}\right) e^{-\frac{r}{\Lambda}}\right] \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3}$$



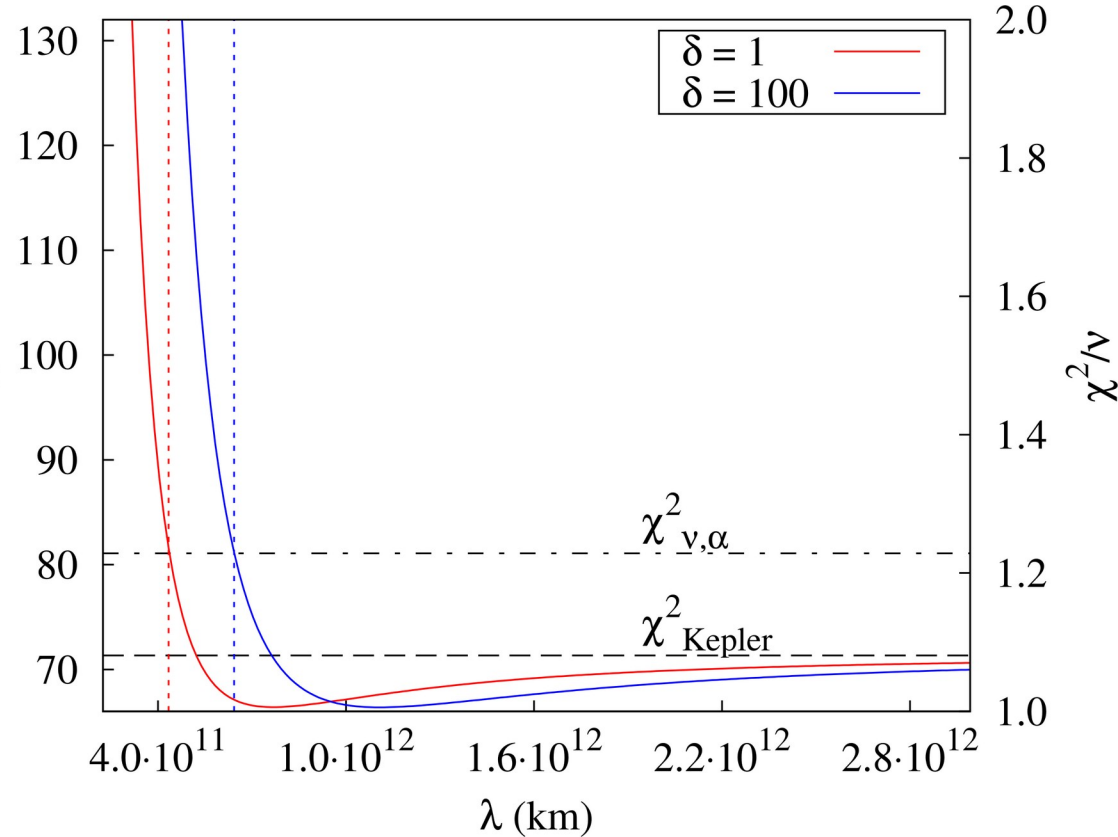
- Simulated orbits were then fitted to the astrometric observations of S2 star



Our estimates for graviton mass upper bound

- χ^2 test of goodness of the S2 star orbit fits by Yukawa potential
- Test statistic:

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[\frac{(x_i^o - x_i^c)^2}{\sigma_{xi}^2 + \sigma_{int}^2} + \frac{(y_i^o - y_i^c)^2}{\sigma_{yi}^2 + \sigma_{int}^2} \right] \sim \chi^2_\nu$$
- Intrinsic dispersion of the data due to their mutually inconsistent uncertainties: $\sigma_{int} = 1.13$ mas
- NDOF: $\nu = 66$
- Significance level: $\alpha = 0.1$
- Critical value for χ^2 : $\chi^2_{\nu, \alpha} = 81.08$
- Regions $\lambda < \lambda_x$ where $\chi^2 > \chi^2_{\nu, \alpha}$ can be excluded with $1 - \alpha = 90\%$ probability
- For $\delta = 1$: $\lambda_x = 2900 \pm 50$ AU $\approx 4.3 \times 10^{11}$ km
- For $\delta = 100$: $\lambda_x = 4300 \pm 50$ AU $\approx 6.4 \times 10^{11}$ km
- Corresponding upper bounds for graviton mass (Zakharov, Jovanović, Borka, Borka Jovanović, 2016, JCAP, 2016, No. 05, 045):



$$m_g = h c / \lambda_x \Rightarrow \boxed{m_g = 2.9 \times 10^{-21} \text{ eV} \quad \wedge \quad m_g = 1.9 \times 10^{-21} \text{ eV}}$$

Our estimates for graviton mass accepted by PDG

1014

Gauge & Higgs Boson Particle Listings

$\gamma, g, \text{graviton}, W$

graviton

$J = 2$

graviton MASS

VALUE (eV)	DOCUMENT ID	TECN	COMMENT
<6 × 10⁻³²	¹ CHOUDHURY 04	YUKA	Weak gravitational lensing
• • • We do not use the following data for averages, fits, limits, etc. • • •			
<6.8 × 10 ⁻²³	BERNUS 19	YUKA	Planetary ephemeris INPOP17b
<1.4 × 10 ⁻²⁹	² DESAI 18	YUKA	Gal cluster Abell 1689
<5 × 10 ⁻³⁰	³ GUPTA 18	YUKA	SPT-SZ
<3 × 10 ⁻³⁰	³ GUPTA 18	YUKA	Planck all-sky SZ
<1.3 × 10 ⁻²⁹	³ GUPTA 18	YUKA	redMaPPer SDSS-DR8
<6 × 10 ⁻³⁰	⁴ RANA 18	YUKA	Weak lensing in massive clusters
<8 × 10 ⁻³⁰	⁵ RANA 18	YUKA	SZ effect in massive clusters
<7 × 10 ⁻²³	⁶ ABBOTT 17	DISP	Combined dispersion limit from three BH mergers
<1.2 × 10 ⁻²²	⁶ ABBOTT 16	DISP	Combined dispersion limit from two BH mergers
<2.9 × 10⁻²¹	⁷ ZAKHAROV 16	YUKA	S2 star orbit
<5 × 10 ⁻²³	⁸ BRITO 13		Spinning black holes bounds
<4 × 10 ⁻²⁵	⁹ BASKARAN 08		Graviton phase velocity fluctuations
<6 × 10 ⁻³²	¹⁰ GRUZINOV 05	YUKA	Solar System observations
<9.0 × 10 ⁻³⁴	¹¹ GERSHTEIN 04		From Ω_{tot} value assuming RTG
>6 × 10 ⁻³⁴	¹² DVALI 03		Horizon scales
<8 × 10 ⁻²⁰	^{13,14} FINN 02	DISP	Binary pulsar orbital period decrease
	^{14,15} DAMOUR 91		Binary pulsar PSR 1913+16
<7 × 10 ⁻²³	TALMADGE 88	YUKA	Solar system planetary astrometric data
<2 × 10 ⁻²⁹ h_0^{-1}	GOLDHABER 74		Rich clusters
<7 × 10 ⁻²⁸	HARE 73		Galaxy
<8 × 10 ⁴	HARE 73		2 γ decay

graviton REFERENCES

ABBOTT 16	PRL 116 061102	B.P. Abbott et al.	(LIGO and Virgo Collabs.)
ZAKHAROV 16	JCAP 1605 045	A.F. Zakharov et al.	
BRITO 13	PR D88 023514	R. Brito, V. Cardoso, P. Pani	(LISB, MISS, HSCA+)

PTEP

Progress of
Theoretical and
Experimental Physics

Review of Particle Physics

P.A. Zyla et al. (Particle Data Group), Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. 2020, 083C01 (2020)

PDG
particle data group



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Possible improvements by future observations I

- Expected bounds for graviton mass if the GR predictions for orbital precession:

$$\Delta\varphi_{GR}^{rad} \approx \frac{6\pi GM}{c^2 a(1-e^2)} \quad \text{will be confirmed by the future observations}$$

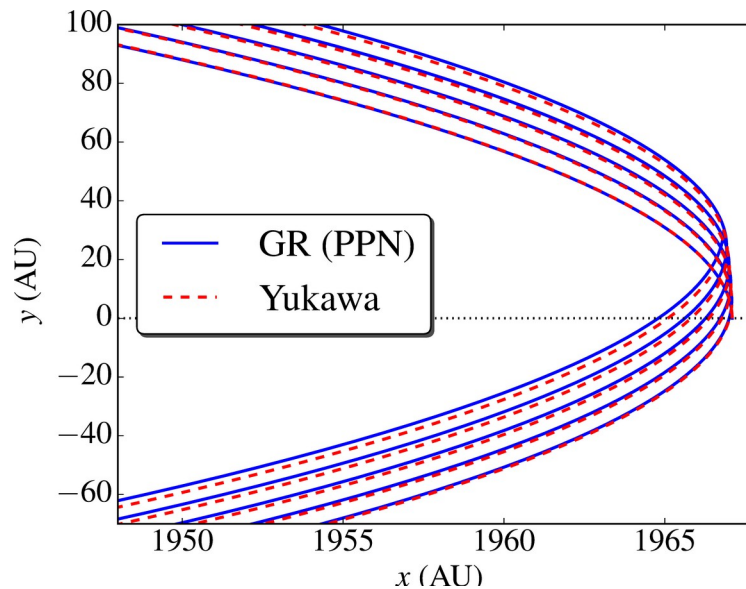
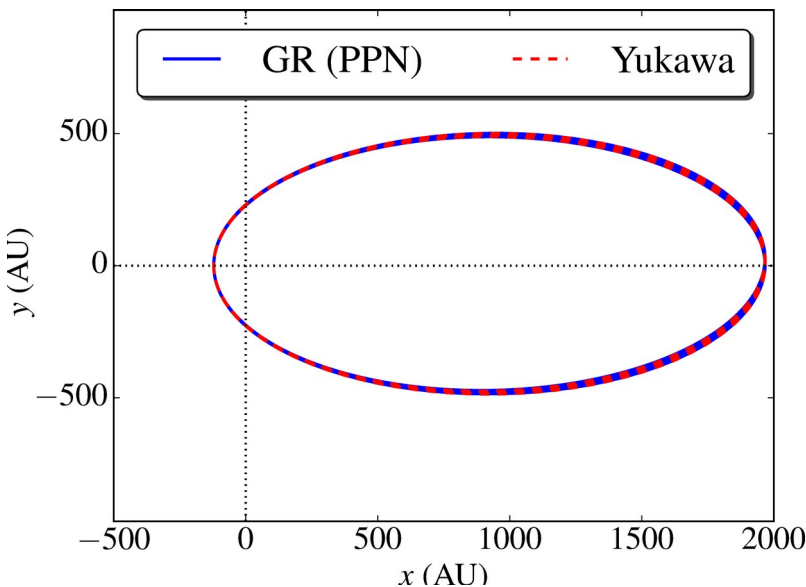
- Orbital precession in Yukawa gravity: $\Delta\varphi_Y^{rad} \approx \frac{\pi\delta\sqrt{1-e^2}}{1+\delta} \frac{a^2}{\Lambda^2}, \quad a \ll \Lambda$

$$\Delta\varphi_Y = \Delta\varphi_{GR} \xrightarrow{\delta=1} \boxed{\Lambda \approx \frac{c}{2} \sqrt{\frac{(a\sqrt{1-e^2})^3}{3GM}} \approx \sqrt{\frac{(a\sqrt{1-e^2})^3}{6R_S}} \approx \frac{T}{T_0} \sqrt{\frac{(a_0\sqrt{1-e^2})^3}{6R_S}},}$$

where T_0 and a_0 correspond to a selected orbit (e.g. of S2 star)

- Orbits in GR were simulated using PPN equation of motion for two-body problem:

$$\ddot{\vec{r}} = -G(M+m)\frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} + \frac{GM}{c^2 r^3} \left\{ \left[2(\beta + \gamma) \frac{GM}{r} - \gamma (\vec{r} \cdot \vec{r}) \right] \vec{r} + 2(1 + \gamma) (\vec{r} \cdot \vec{r}) \vec{\dot{r}} \right\}$$



(Zakharov,
Jovanović, Borka,
Borka Jovanović,
2018, JCAP, 2018,
No. 04, 050)

Possible improvements by future observations II

- Relative errors: $\frac{\Delta\Lambda}{\Lambda} = \frac{\Delta m_g}{m_g} \approx \pm \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{|\Delta a|}{a} + \frac{e |\Delta e|}{1 - e^2} + \frac{1}{3} \frac{|\Delta M|}{M} \right)$

Star name	T_{Kep} (yr)	$\Delta\varphi$ (")	Δs (mas)	$\Lambda \pm \Delta\Lambda$ (AU)	$m_g \pm \Delta m_g$ (10^{-24} eV)	R.E. (%)	Star name	T_{Kep} (yr)	$\Delta\varphi$ (")	Δs (mas)	$\Lambda \pm \Delta\Lambda$ (AU)	$m_g \pm \Delta m_g$ (10^{-24} eV)	R.E. (%)
S1	168.4	48.2	0.22	369952.9 $\pm$ 43820.4	22.4 $\pm$ 2.7	11.8	S39	82.6	364.5	1.26	56824.5 $\pm$ 6638.4	145.8 $\pm$ 17.0	11.7
S2	16.3	722.1	0.83	15125.5 $\pm$ 884.7	547.9 $\pm$ 32.0	5.8	S42	339.7	30.8	0.22	736342.1 $\pm$ 312551.0	11.3 $\pm$ 4.8	42.4
S4	78.2	65.5	0.16	200418.3 $\pm$ 11191.1	41.4 $\pm$ 2.3	5.6	S54	482.2	81.5	0.90	422181.5 $\pm$ 692183.8	19.6 $\pm$ 32.2	164.0
S6	195.5	102.4	0.60	226607.6 $\pm$ 8807.8	36.6 $\pm$ 1.4	3.9	S55	13.0	382.8	0.34	21721.6 $\pm$ 1465.5	381.5 $\pm$ 25.7	6.7
S8	94.4	138.0	0.49	125957.9 $\pm$ 8420.6	65.8 $\pm$ 4.4	6.7	S60	88.6	105.5	0.34	149149.2 $\pm$ 11131.0	55.6 $\pm$ 4.1	7.5
S9	52.2	124.3	0.27	101193.1 $\pm$ 9289.8	81.9 $\pm$ 7.5	9.2	S66	675.3	13.4	0.11	1933974.1 $\pm$ 269754.5	4.3 $\pm$ 0.6	13.9
S12	59.9	314.6	0.86	54047.1 $\pm$ 3026.3	153.3 $\pm$ 8.6	5.6	S67	438.3	19.3	0.14	1188222.1 $\pm$ 116748.7	7.0 $\pm$ 0.7	9.8
S13	49.8	91.6	0.17	124334.4 $\pm$ 5855.1	66.7 $\pm$ 3.1	4.7	S71	352.1	106.2	0.95	295890.2 $\pm$ 56006.2	28.0 $\pm$ 5.3	18.9
S14	56.2	1465.9	4.02	16508.7 $\pm$ 2802.9	502.0 $\pm$ 85.2	17.0	S83	667.2	15.3	0.15	1737943.9 $\pm$ 477698.2	4.8 $\pm$ 1.3	27.5
S17	77.9	66.1	0.16	198588.4 $\pm$ 16771.2	41.7 $\pm$ 3.5	8.4	S85	3619.1	11.0	0.44	5195117.0 $\pm$ 8106789.5	1.6 $\pm$ 2.5	156.0
S18	42.6	107.1	0.18	102263.2 $\pm$ 5784.8	81.0 $\pm$ 4.6	5.7	S87	1663.8	7.6	0.12	4641782.4 $\pm$ 619016.2	1.8 $\pm$ 0.2	13.3
S19	137.6	87.1	0.38	214568.1 $\pm$ 89676.6	38.6 $\pm$ 16.1	41.8	S89	412.3	31.0	0.27	806547.1 $\pm$ 140413.3	10.3 $\pm$ 1.8	17.4
S21	37.6	217.4	0.41	56500.3 $\pm$ 4881.5	146.7 $\pm$ 12.7	8.6	S91	973.6	11.4	0.14	2626592.1 $\pm$ 322729.8	3.2 $\pm$ 0.4	12.3
S22	550.0	19.0	0.17	1347095.9 $\pm$ 580678.1	6.2 $\pm$ 2.7	43.1	S96	673.2	13.6	0.12	1907722.2 $\pm$ 189196.9	4.3 $\pm$ 0.4	9.9
S23	46.7	114.1	0.22	102079.9 $\pm$ 28448.6	81.2 $\pm$ 22.6	27.9	S97	1296.3	9.7	0.15	3407955.4 $\pm$ 1361276.1	2.4 $\pm$ 1.0	39.9
S24	336.5	107.5	0.93	286723.3 $\pm$ 41927.1	28.9 $\pm$ 4.2	14.6	S145	434.8	23.6	0.19	1016130.7 $\pm$ 535791.9	8.2 $\pm$ 4.3	52.7
S29	102.7	98.5	0.35	169074.0 $\pm$ 37807.8	49.0 $\pm$ 11.0	22.4	S175	97.7	1812.0	7.23	18570.1 $\pm$ 5168.9	446.3 $\pm$ 124.2	27.8
S31	110.4	63.3	0.21	244347.7 $\pm$ 17733.9	33.9 $\pm$ 2.5	7.3	R34	893.3	18.6	0.27	1741793.7 $\pm$ 558192.6	4.8 $\pm$ 1.5	32.0
S33	195.3	47.9	0.25	400731.7 $\pm$ 75407.3	20.7 $\pm$ 3.9	18.8	R44	2825.3	5.5	0.13	7740489.4 $\pm$ 5361256.0	1.1 $\pm$ 0.7	69.3
S38	19.5	427.5	0.53	24533.9 $\pm$ 1005.0	337.8 $\pm$ 13.8	4.1							

- Due to linear dependence of Λ on orbital period T , monitoring of a bright star with $T \approx 50$ yr and small eccentricity e could provide a constraint of: $m_g < 5 \times 10^{-23}$ eV
- In the case of S2 star, this estimate could reach: $m_g \approx 5.48 \times 10^{-22}$ eV
- Bounds from measured orbital precession of the Solar System planets (Will, 2018, CQG, 35, 17LT01): $m_g < 1 \times 10^{-23}$ eV

Influence of bulk distribution of matter

- Orbital precession of S2 star in Yukawa gravity for different mass densities of bulk distribution of matter which describes stellar cluster, interstellar gas and dark matter, contained within some radius r around SMBH: $M(r) = M_{BH} + M_{ext}(r)$

- Double power-law mass density profile (where $r_0 = 10'' \wedge \alpha = 1.4$ for S2 star):

$$\rho(r) = \rho_0 \left(\frac{r}{r_0} \right)^{-\alpha}, \quad \alpha = \begin{cases} 2.0 \pm 0.1, & r \geq r_0 \\ 1.4 \pm 0.1, & r < r_0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow M_{ext}(r) = \frac{4\pi\rho_0 r_0^\alpha}{3-\alpha} r^{3-\alpha}$$

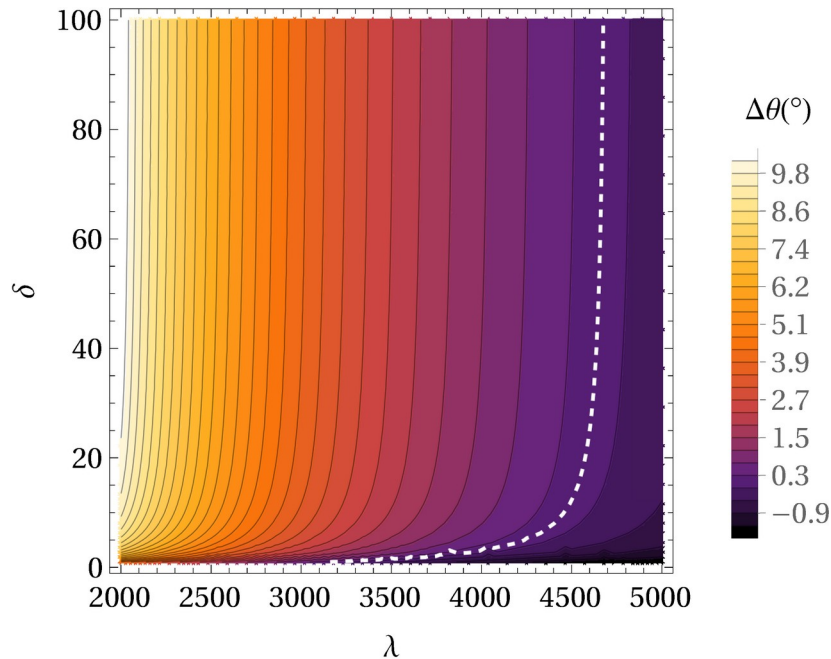


Table 1 The values of parameter λ (in AU) for different combinations of 3 values of parameter δ the 5 values of the mass density distribution of extended matter ρ_0

	ρ_0 (in $10^8 M_\odot \text{pc}^{-3}$)				
	0	2	4	6	8
$\delta=1$	15125	3130	2080	1597	1302
$\delta=10$	20395	4425	3015	2370	1978
$\delta=100$	21285	4640	3175	2500	2090

Table 2 The graviton mass (m_g) estimates corresponding to all mass density distributions presented in Table 1, in the case when Yukawa gravity parameter $\delta = 1$

ρ_0 (in $10^8 M_\odot \text{pc}^{-3}$)	0	2	4	6	8
m_g (in 10^{-21} eV)	0.5	2.6	4.0	5.2	6.4

- S2 star precession per orbital period in (λ, δ) parameter space for mass density of extended matter: $\rho_0 = 2 \times 10^8 M_\odot \text{pc}^{-3}$
- White dashed line: the case when the precession is the same as in GR (0.18)

(Jovanović, Borka, Borka Jovanović,
Zakharov, 2021, EPJD, 75, 145)

Conclusions

- Analysis of the stellar orbits around Sgr A* in the frame of a massive gravity with Yukawa-like nonlinear correction to the gravitational potential represents a powerful tool for constraining the graviton mass and testing the GR predictions
- Fitting the simulated stellar orbits in Yukawa potential to the observed orbit of S2 star showed that the range of Yukawa interaction Λ is on the order of several thousand astronomical units (AU)
- Assuming that Λ corresponds to the Compton wavelength of graviton λ_g , we estimated the upper bound for its mass to: $m_g \leq 2.9 \times 10^{-21}$ eV
- Our estimate for graviton mass upper bound is consistent with the LIGO results, but obtained in an independent way, and since 2019. it is included in the *Gauge and Higgs Boson Particle Listings* published by PDG
- Range of Yukawa gravity Λ can be constrained in such a way to induce the same orbital precession of stellar orbits as in GR
- Monitoring of a bright S-star with orbital period of ≈ 50 years and small eccentricity by the future telescopes could provide an opportunity to constrain the upper bound for graviton mass to: $m_g < 5 \times 10^{-23}$ eV
- Estimates for graviton mass may be slightly larger for larger mass density distributions of the extended matter, but are still in the expected interval



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**Thank you for your
attention!**