

Challenges for numerical relativity and gravitational-wave source modeling

Emanuele Berti, Johns Hopkins University

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JOHNS HOPKINS
UNIVERSITY

Focus of this talk: what improvements in numerical relativity do we need to test GR with binary black hole mergers?

“The binary black hole problem has been **solved** 15 years ago”

In general relativity, for
comparable-mass
nonspinning
nonprecessing
noneccentric
binaries

(and I won't talk about neutron stars...)

What keeps me up at night:

Systematic errors in GR: not good enough for LISA/CE/ET

spectroscopy tests

sky localization

Identifying “best” beyond-GR theories:

specific theories vs. parametrization

Punchline: NR may guide theoretical work

Group



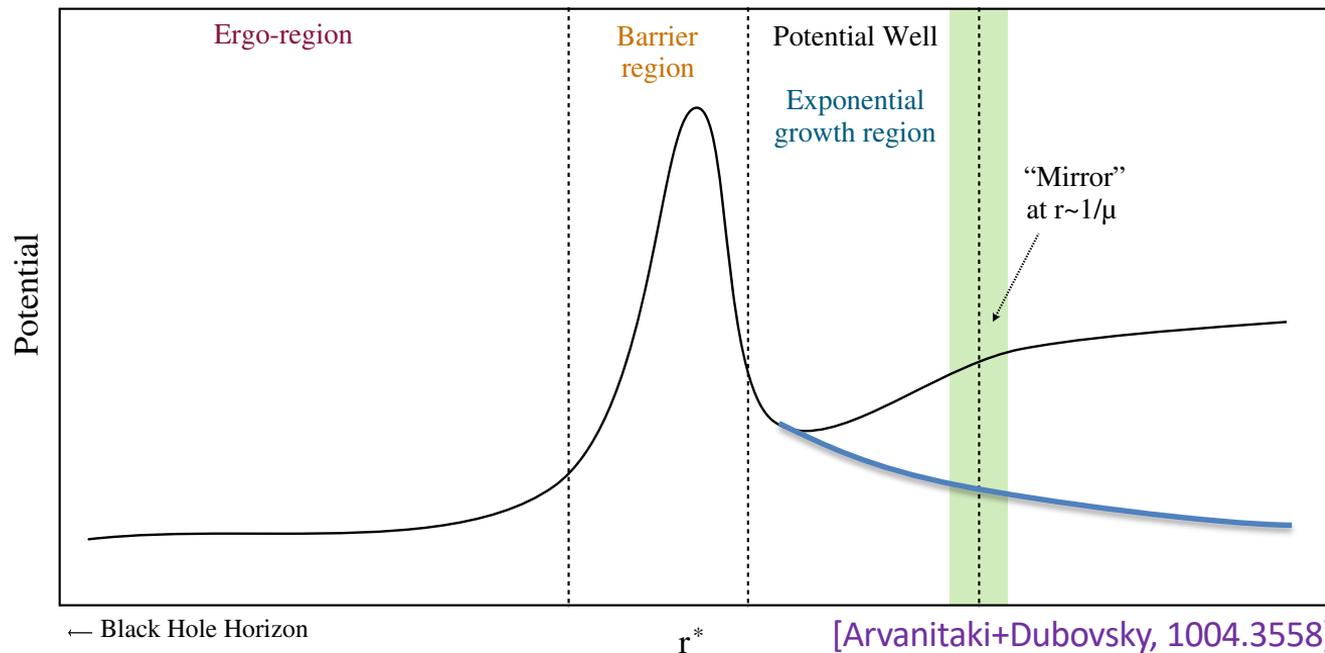
GWIC prize 2016

GWIC prize 2017

Black hole spectroscopy: a null test

Quasinormal (and superradiant) modes

$$\left(\frac{d^2}{dr_*^2} + \omega^2 \right) \Phi = V \Phi$$



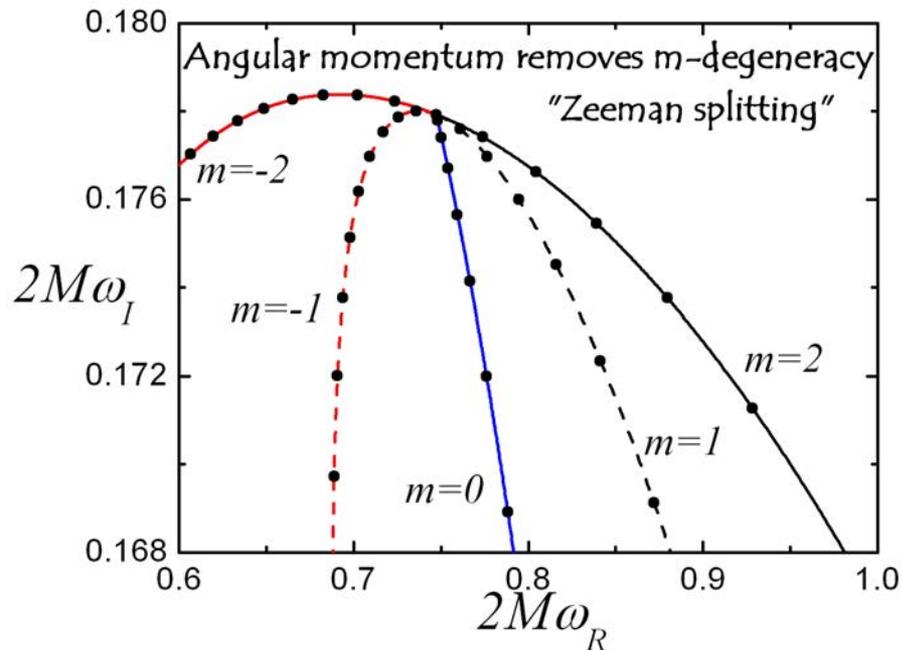
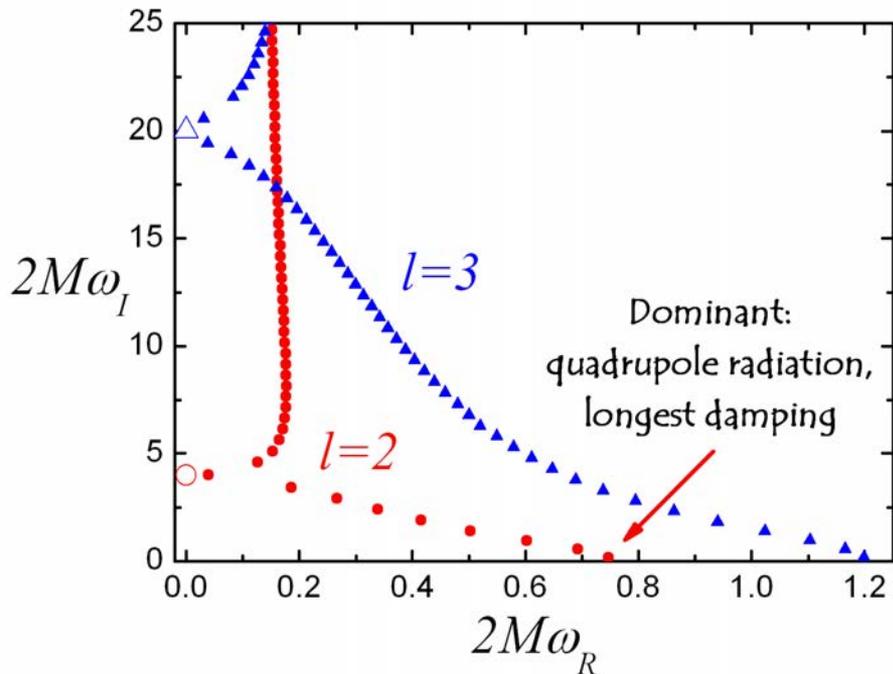
Quasinormal modes:

- Ingoing waves at the horizon, outgoing waves at infinity
- Spectrum of **damped** modes ("ringdown") [EB+, 0905.2975]

Massive scalar field:

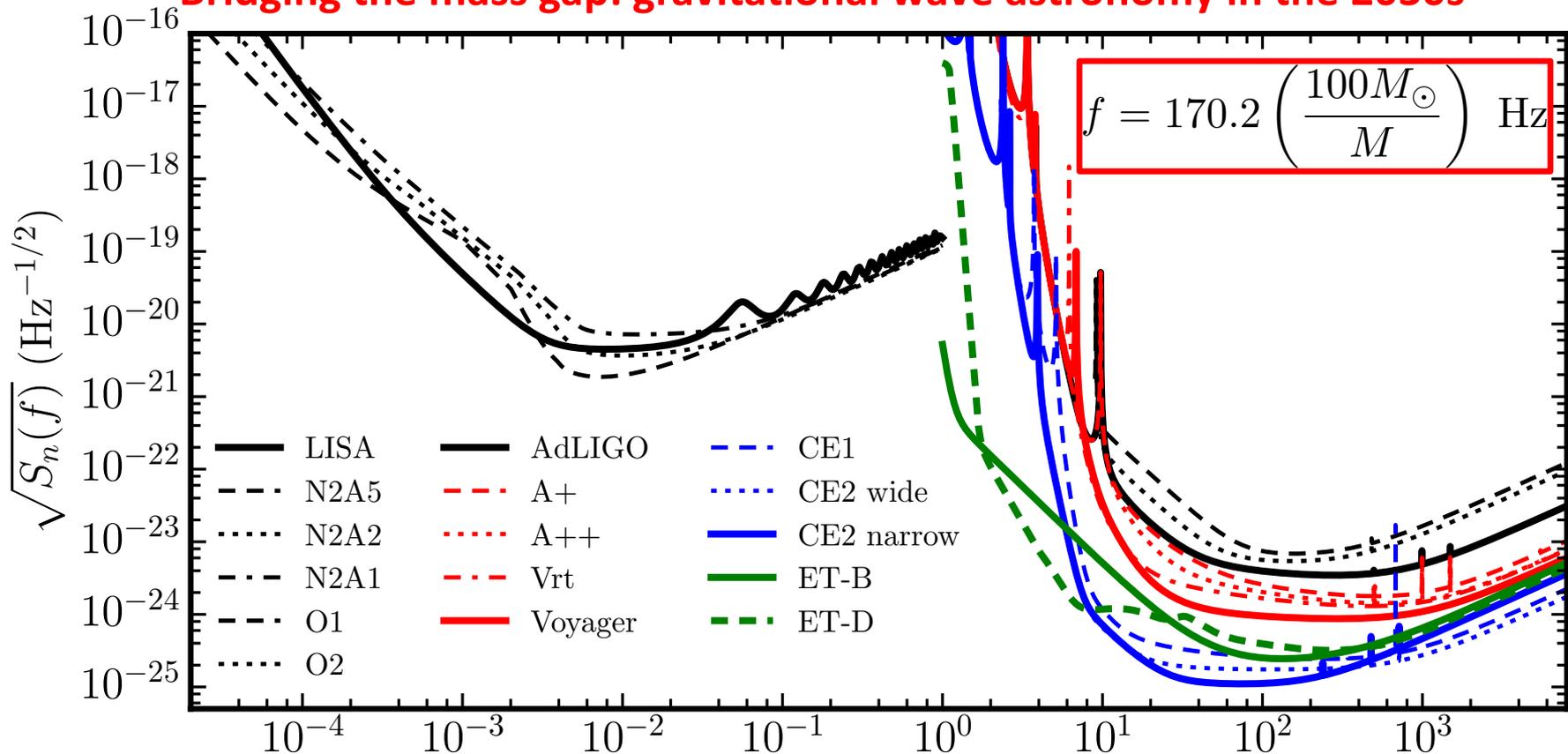
- Superradiance: black hole bomb when $0 < \omega < m\Omega_H$ [Press-Teukolsky 1972]
- Hydrogen-like, **unstable** bound states [Detweiler 1980, Zouros+Eardley, Dolan...]

Schwarzschild and Kerr quasinormal mode spectrum



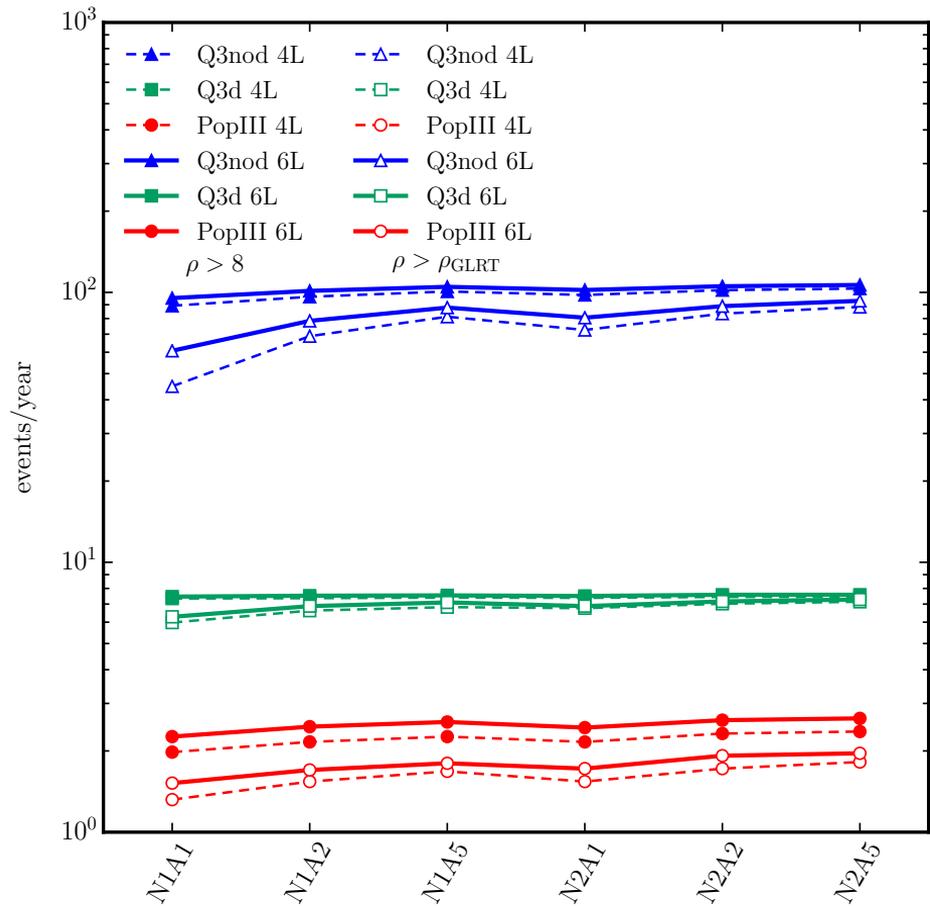
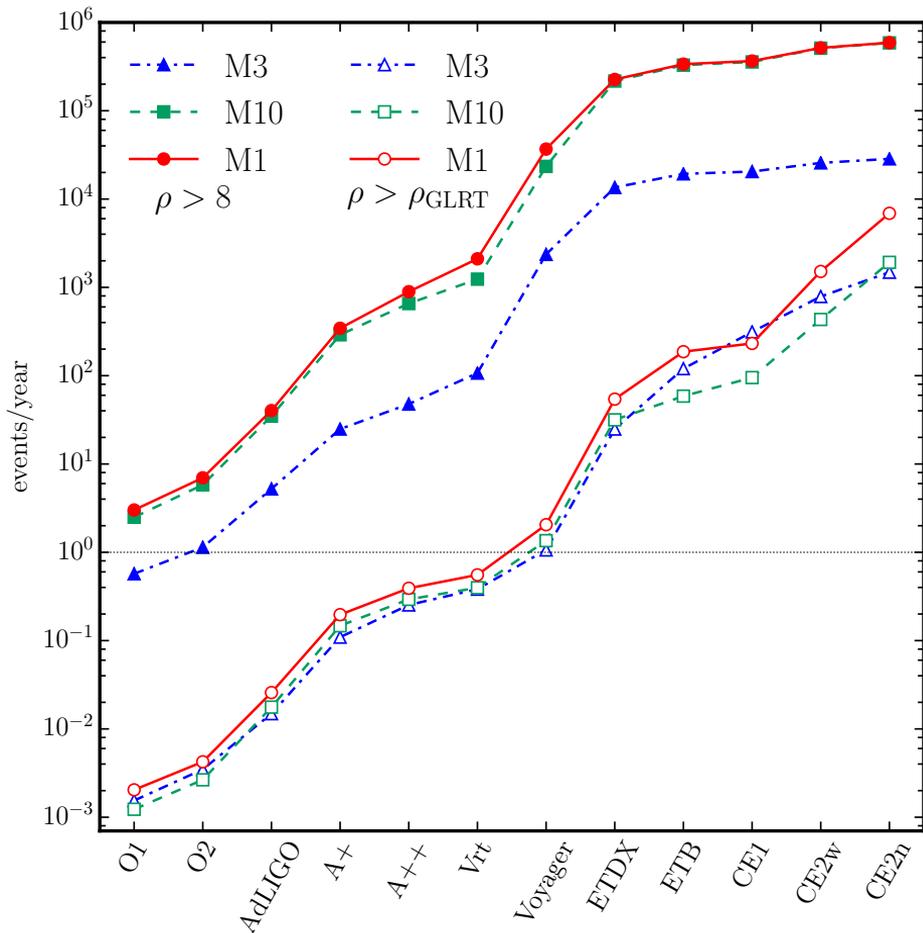
- **One mode** fixes mass and spin – and the whole spectrum!
- **N modes**: N tests of GR dynamics...**if** they can be measured
- Needs SNR>50 or so for a comparable mass, nonspinning binary merger

Bridging the mass gap: gravitational wave astronomy in the 2030s

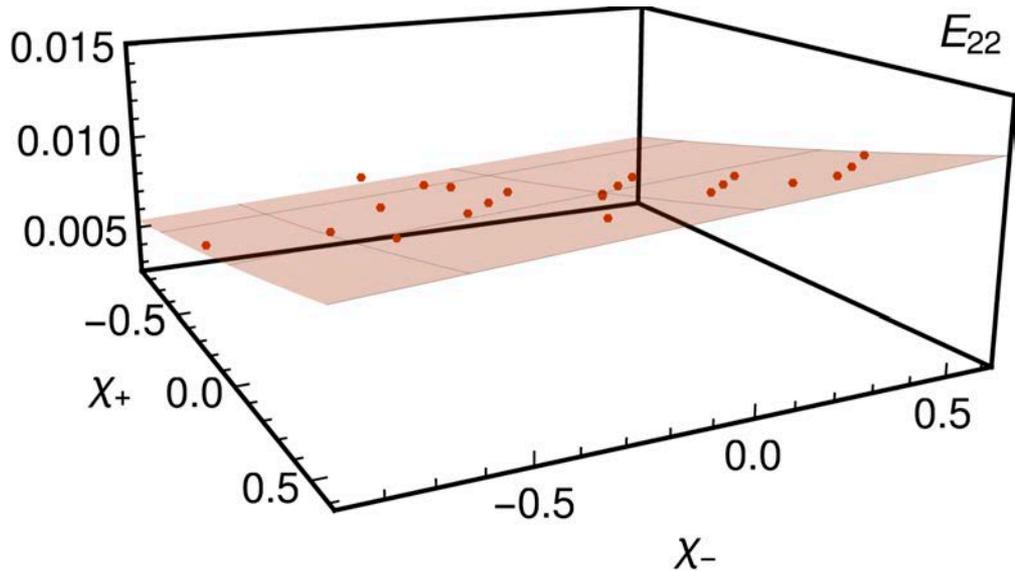
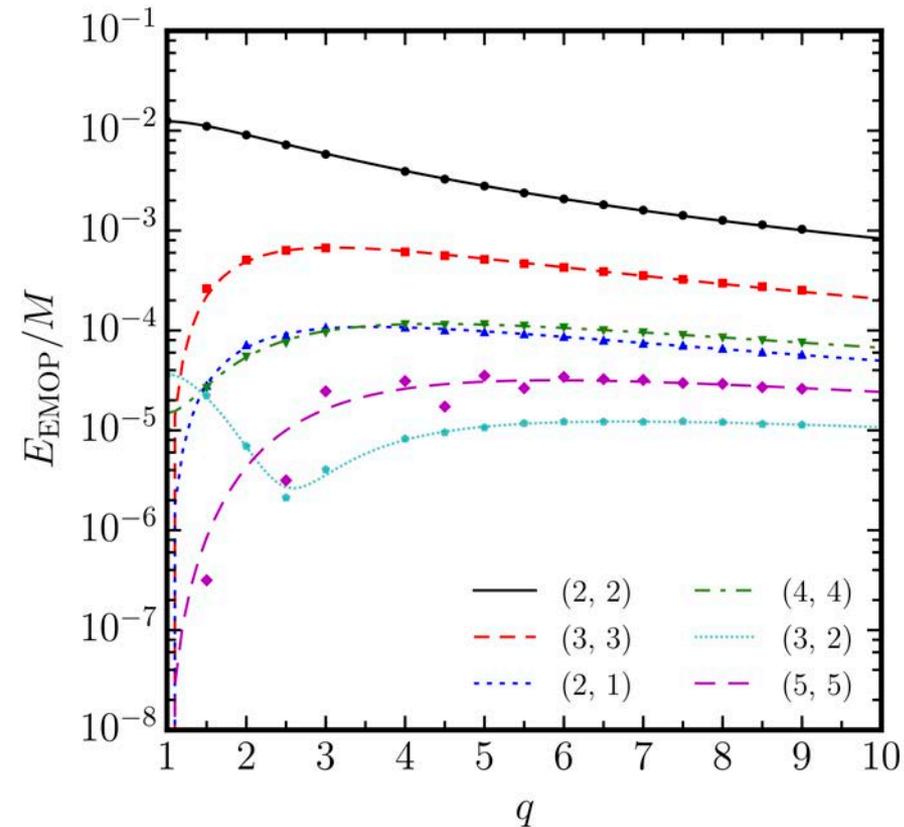


$$\rho = \frac{\delta_{\text{eq}}}{D_L \mathcal{F}_{lmn}} \left[\frac{8}{5} \frac{M_z^3 \epsilon_{\text{rd}}}{S_n(f_{lmn})} \right]^{1/2} f \text{ (Hz)}$$

Earth vs. space-based: ringdown detections and black hole spectroscopy



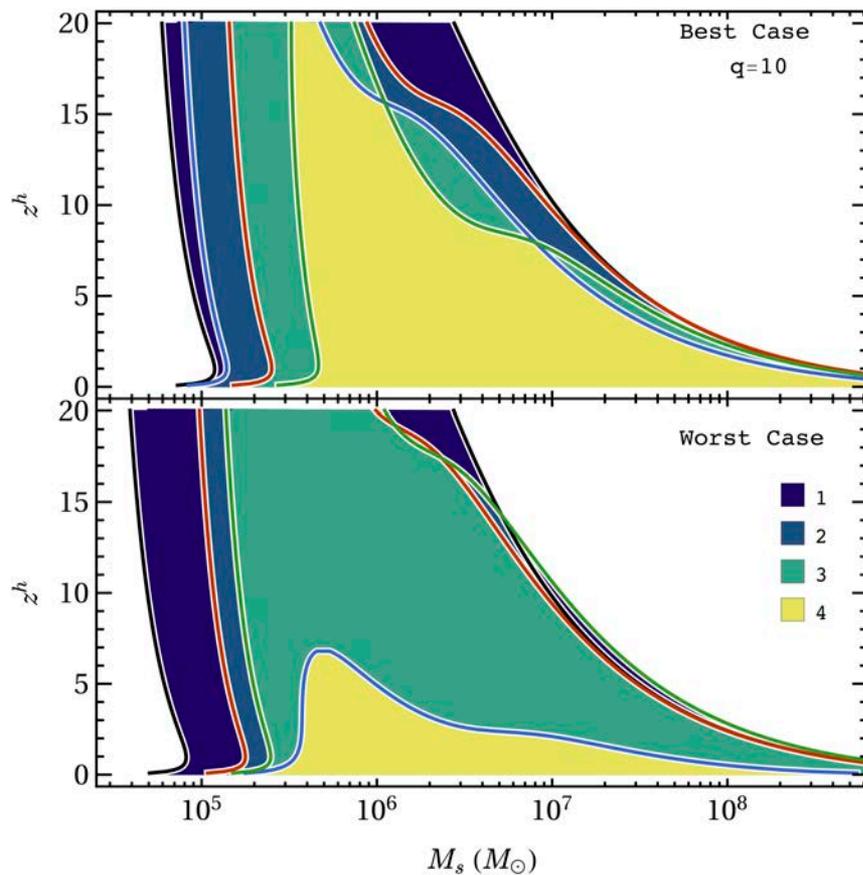
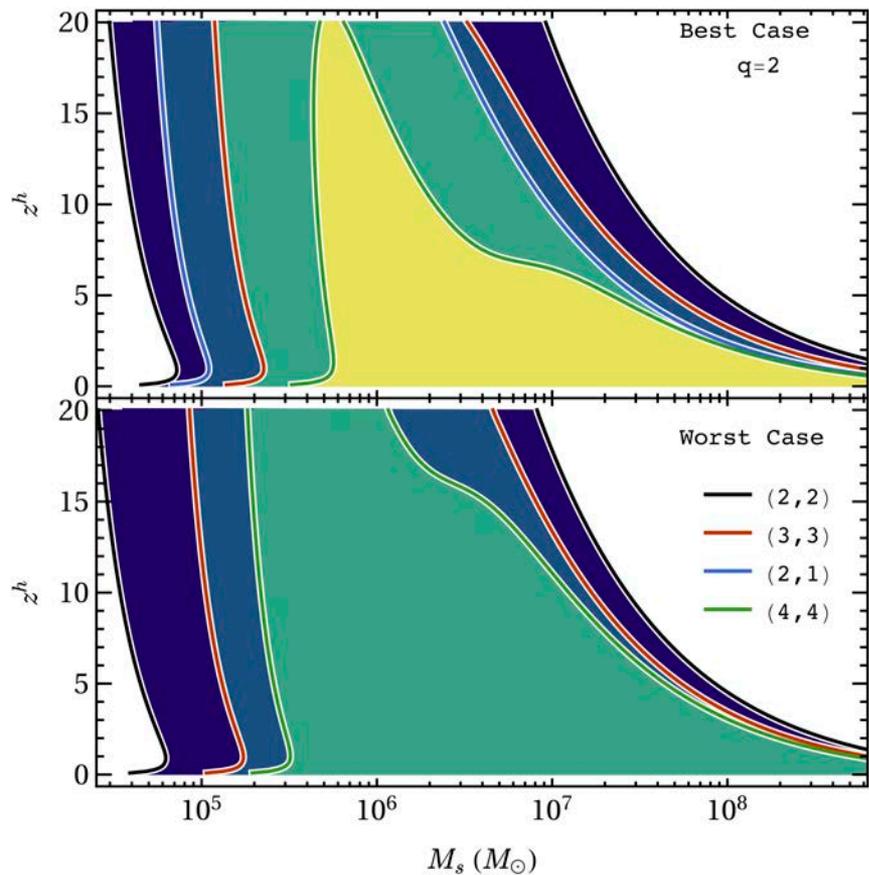
Multi-mode detectability: mass ratio and spin dependence



$$\chi_{\pm} \equiv \frac{m_1 \chi_1 \pm m_2 \chi_2}{m_1 + m_2}$$

Strongest spin dependence: $\ell = 2, m = 1$

How many modes? Depends on spin. Best/worst case scenarios in LISA



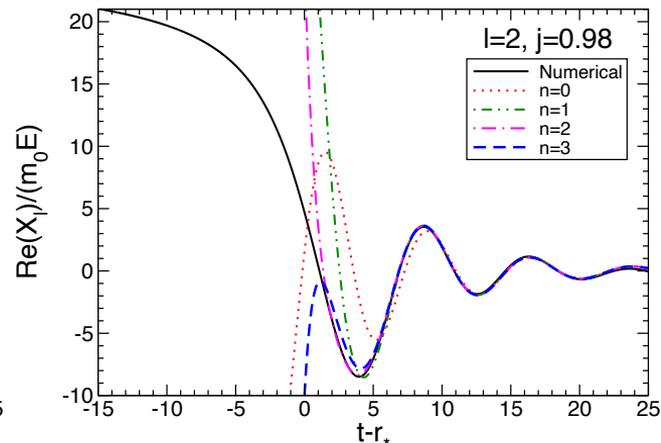
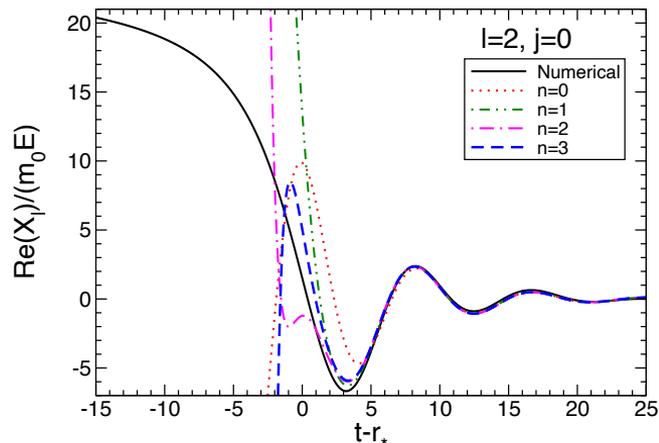
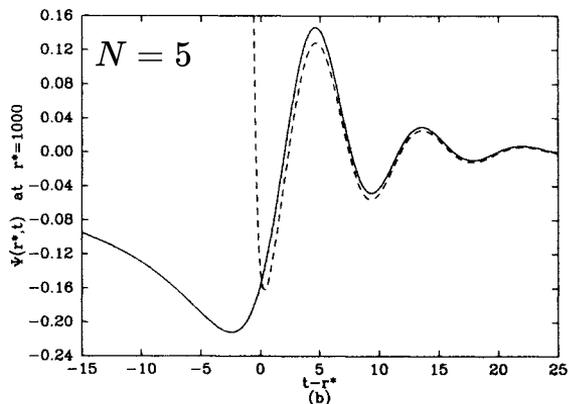
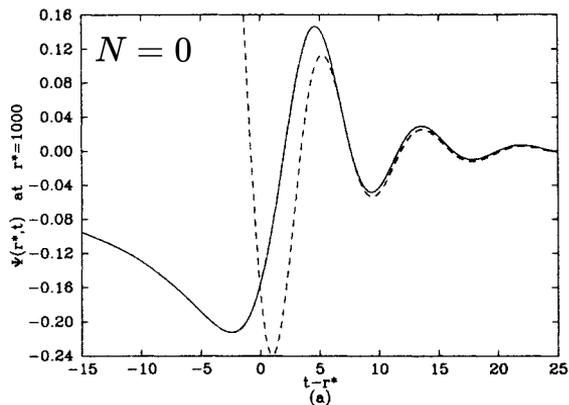


**WITH GREAT SNR
COMES GREAT
RESPONSIBILITY.**

SPIDERMAN

Including overtones is crucial, even in linear perturbation theory

Leaver (1986): Green's function in Schwarzschild. Overtones: agreement well before peak
Zhang+: extension to Kerr (here for an ultrarelativistic infall along the z axis)



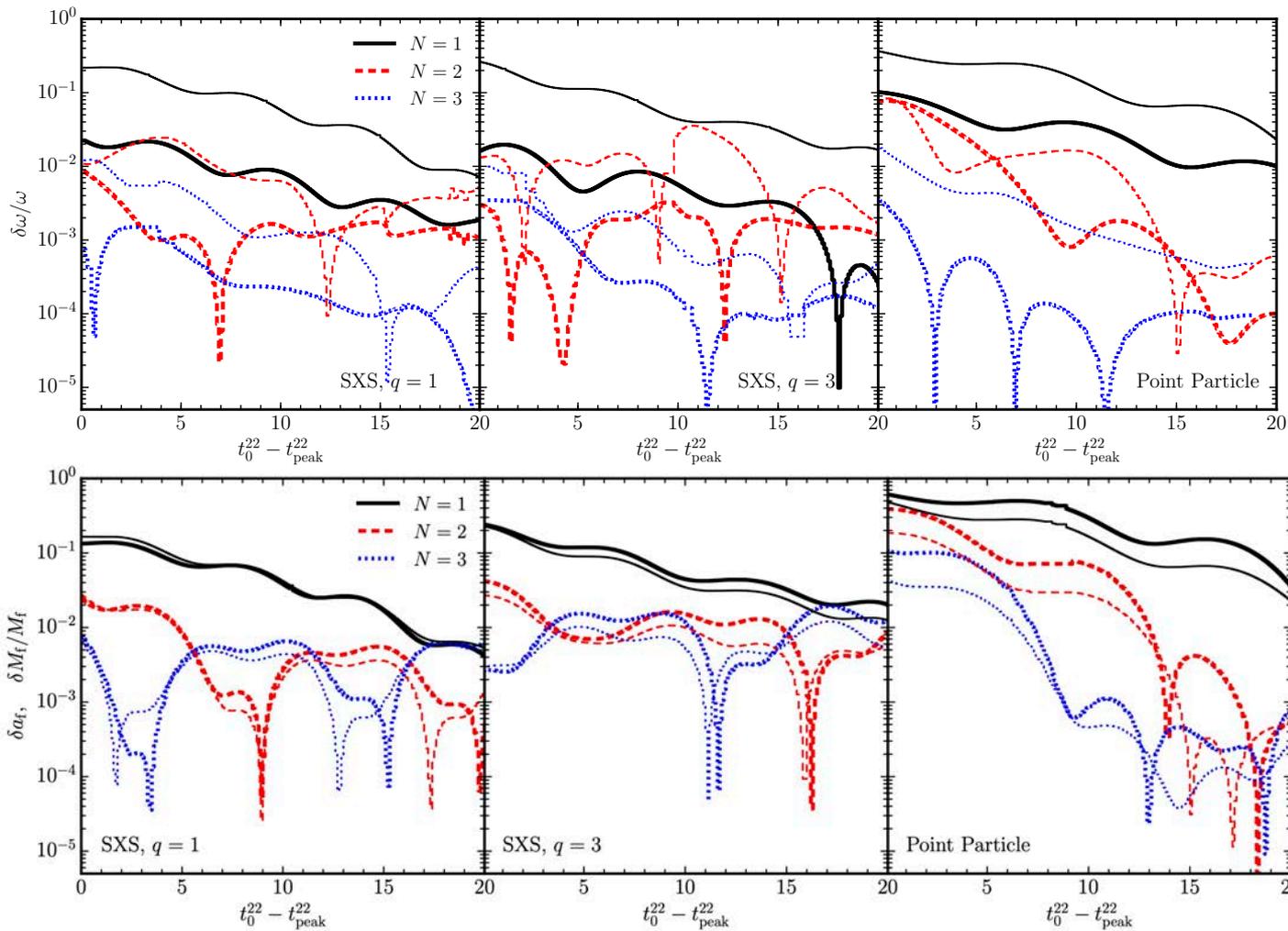
[Zhang+, 1710.02156]

“Excitation factors” in Kerr known
“Excitation coefficients” depend on initial data:
difficult, **unsolved** problem for comparable-mass mergers

[Leaver, PRD, 1986]

[EB+Cardoso, gr-qc/0605118]

Systematic errors on QNM frequencies/mass+spin from SXS/PP waveforms



Top:
real part (thick)
imaginary part (thin)

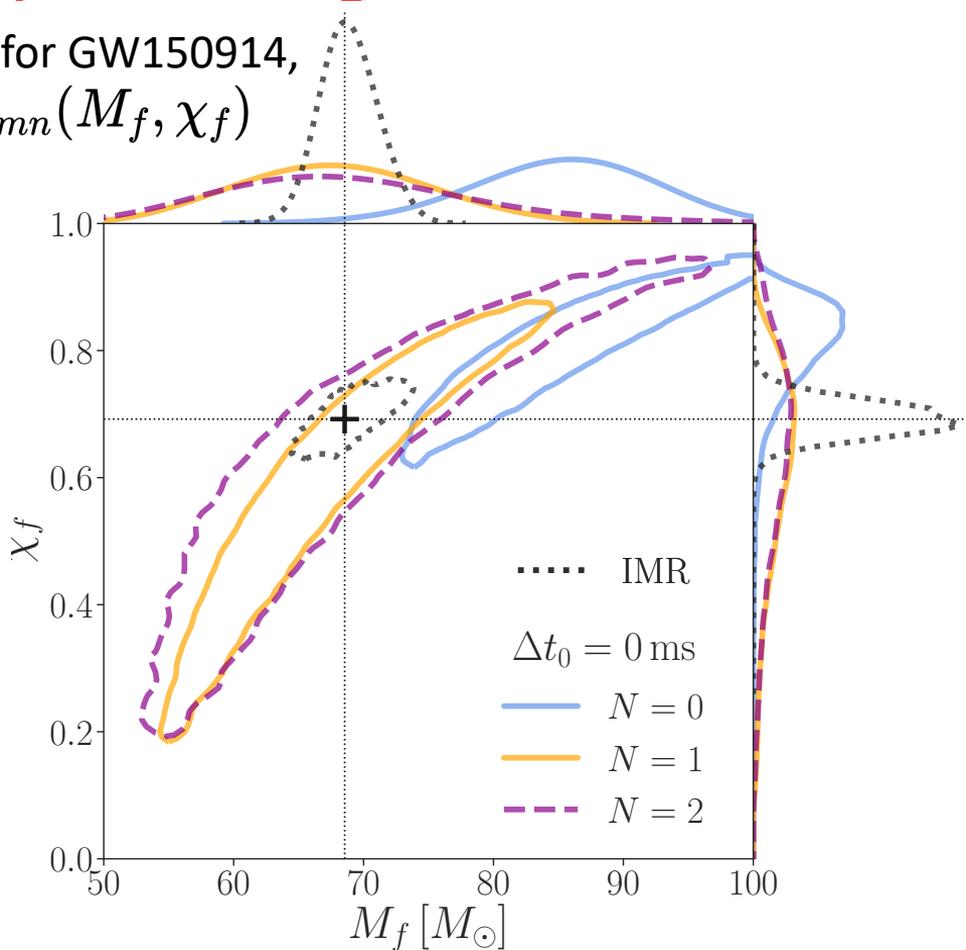
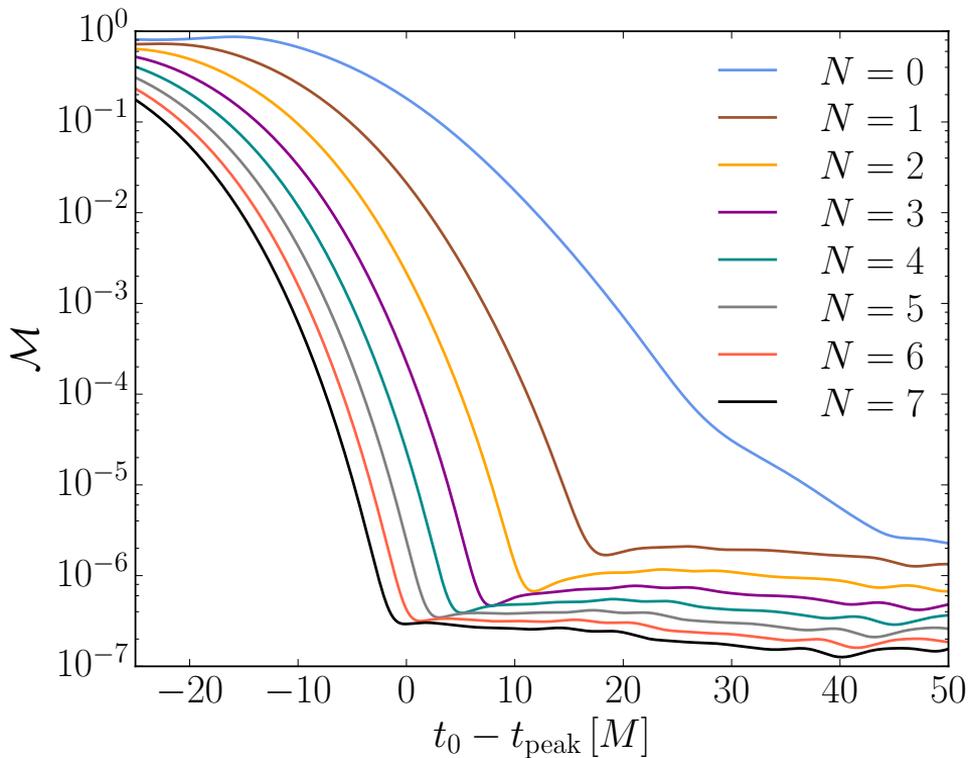
1% determination of ω_{220}
needs one overtone
(better if two or three)

Bottom:
spin (thick)
mass (thin)

1% determination of
mass and spin needs at
least two modes

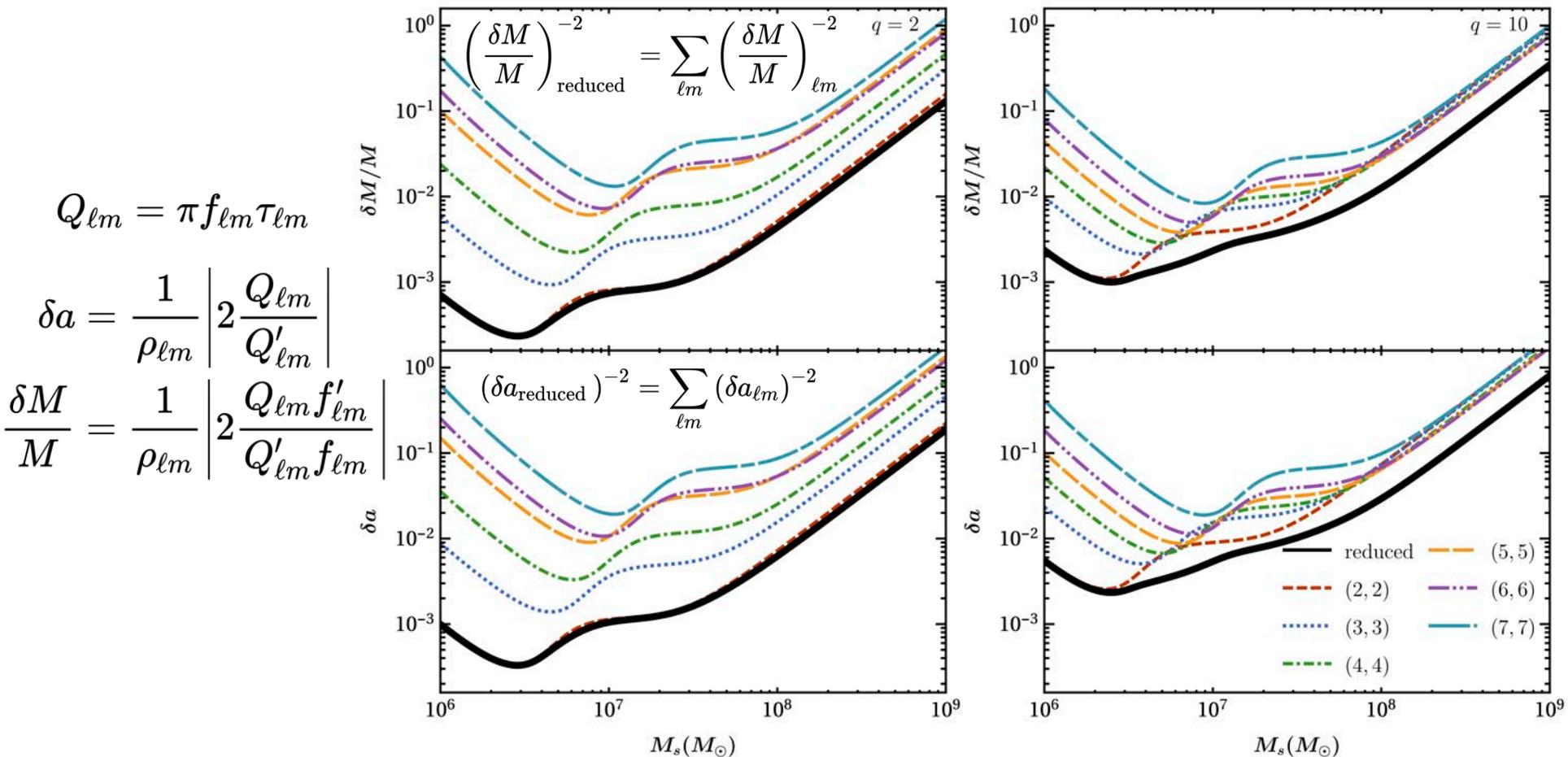
Systematic errors on mass and spin from fitting SXS waveforms

Overtones improve quality of consistency tests for GW150914,
not a “genuine” spectroscopy test: $\omega_{lmn} = \omega_{lmn}(M_f, \chi_f)$

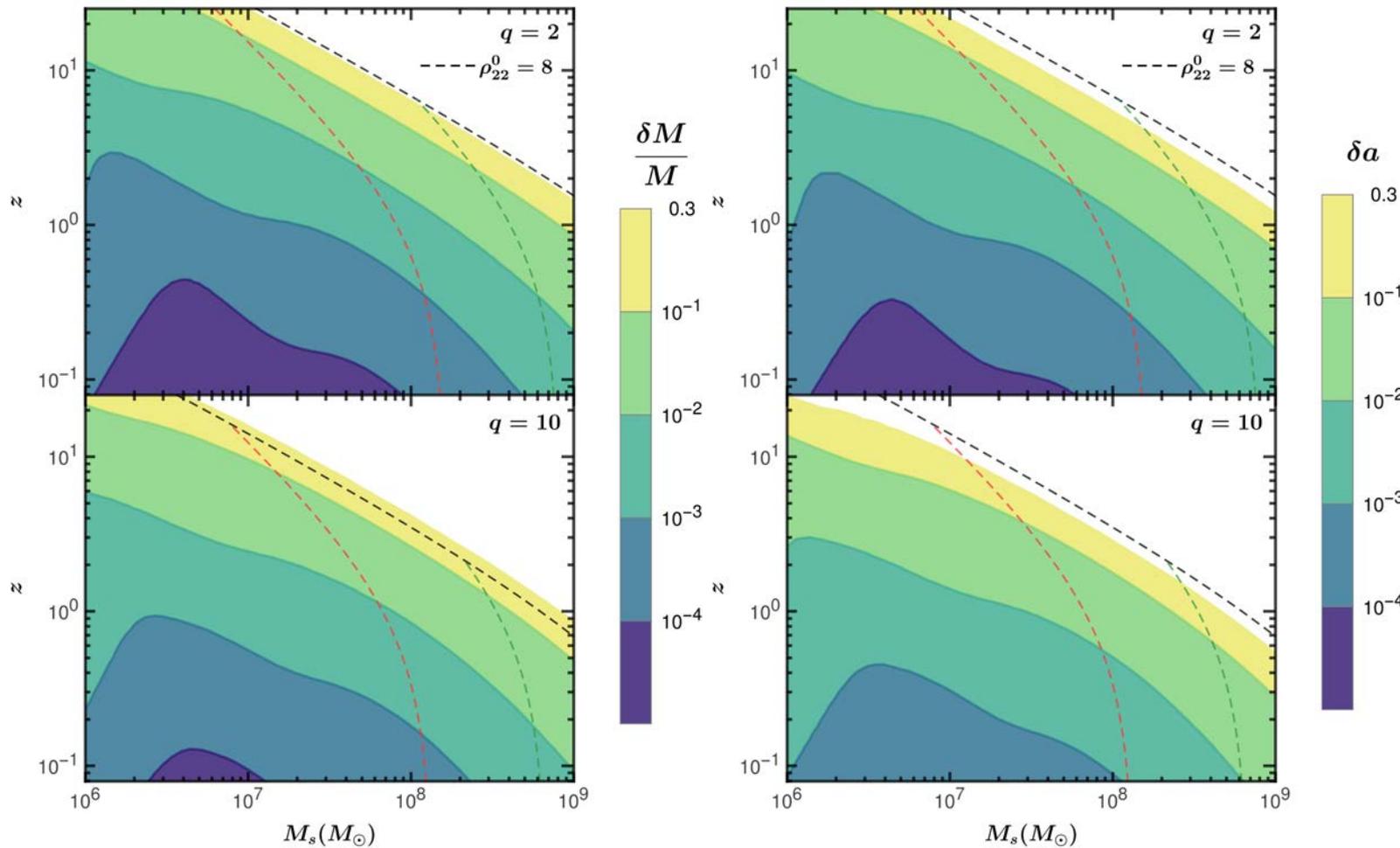


[Giesler+, 1903.08284; Isi+, 1905.00869]

Mass and spin measurement with multiple modes



Median errors on mass and spin combining multiple modes



Sky localization and distance determination

$$h_{\ell m}^i(t) = \mathcal{A}_{\ell m}^i e^{-(t-t_0)/\tau_{\ell m}} \cos(2\pi f_{\ell m} t + \Phi_{\ell m}^i) \quad \Omega_{\ell m}^i \equiv \sqrt{(F_+^i Y_+^{\ell m})^2 + (F_\times^i Y_\times^{\ell m})^2}$$

Amplitudes:

$$\mathcal{A}_{\ell m}^i = \frac{M \Omega_{\ell m}^i}{d_L(z)} A_{\ell m}(q, \chi_1, \chi_2)$$

Amplitude ratio:

$$Q_A^{\ell m} = \left(\frac{\mathcal{A}_{\ell m}^I}{\mathcal{A}_{\ell m}^{II}} \right)^2$$

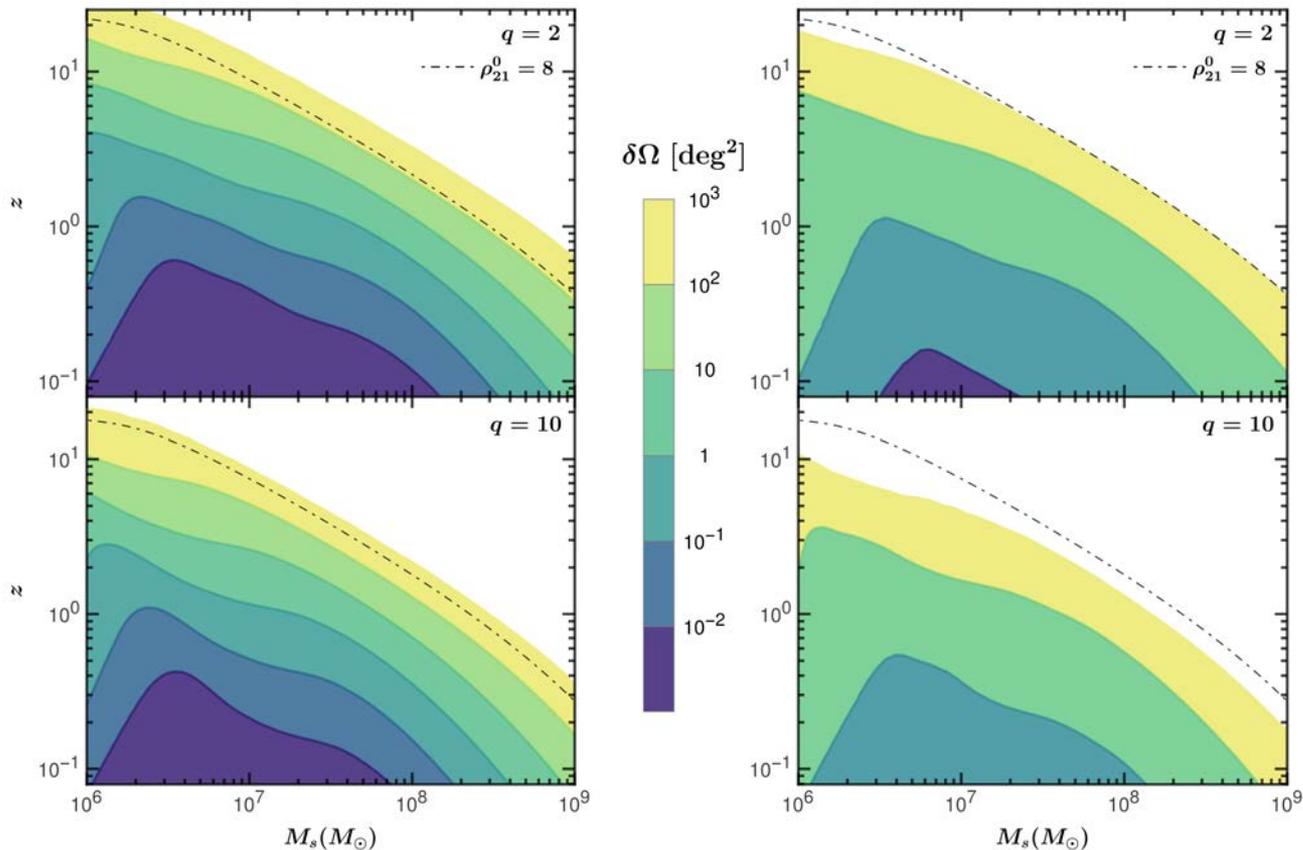
Phase difference:

$$\tan^{-1} Q_\Phi^{\ell m} = \Phi_{\ell m}^{II} - \Phi_{\ell m}^I$$

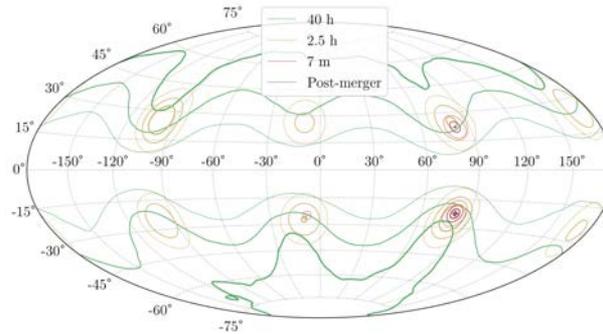
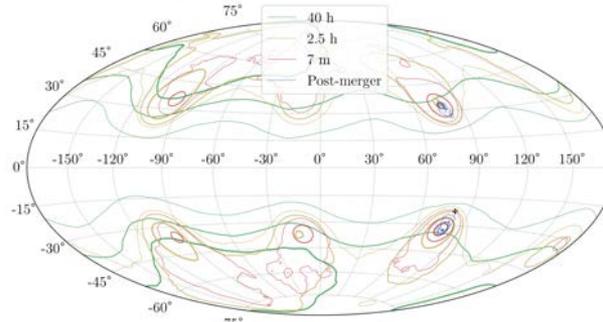
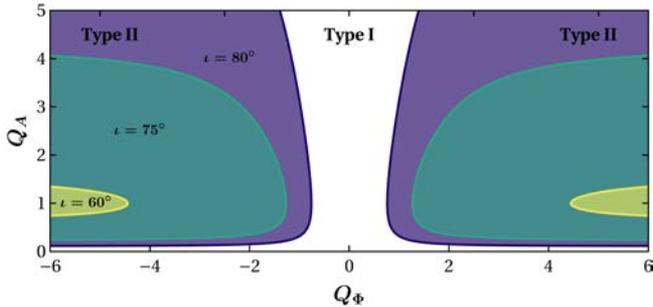
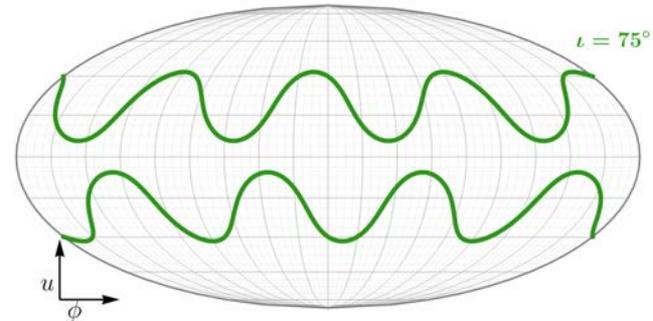
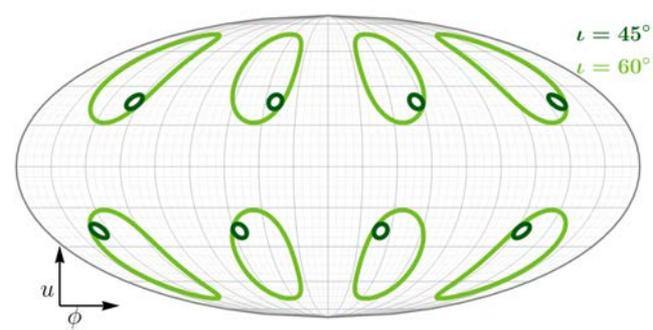
Relative antenna and polarization power:

$$Q_1 = \frac{(F_+^I)^2 + (F_\times^I)^2}{(F_+^{II})^2 + (F_\times^{II})^2}$$

$$Q_2 = \frac{(F_+^I)^2 + (F_+^{II})^2}{(F_\times^I)^2 + (F_\times^{II})^2}$$



Sky localization: the eightfold way and higher harmonics



Assume inclination is known.
Main observables:

$$Q_\Phi^{22}(\theta, \phi, \psi), Q_A^{22}(\theta, \phi, \psi)$$

Ignoring errors, these give contours of constant (θ, ϕ)

Degenerate positions without orbital modulation and higher harmonics – but can do better with better waveform models/PE

[Baibhav+, 2001.10011]
[Marsat+, 2003.00357]

Beyond GR: specific theories

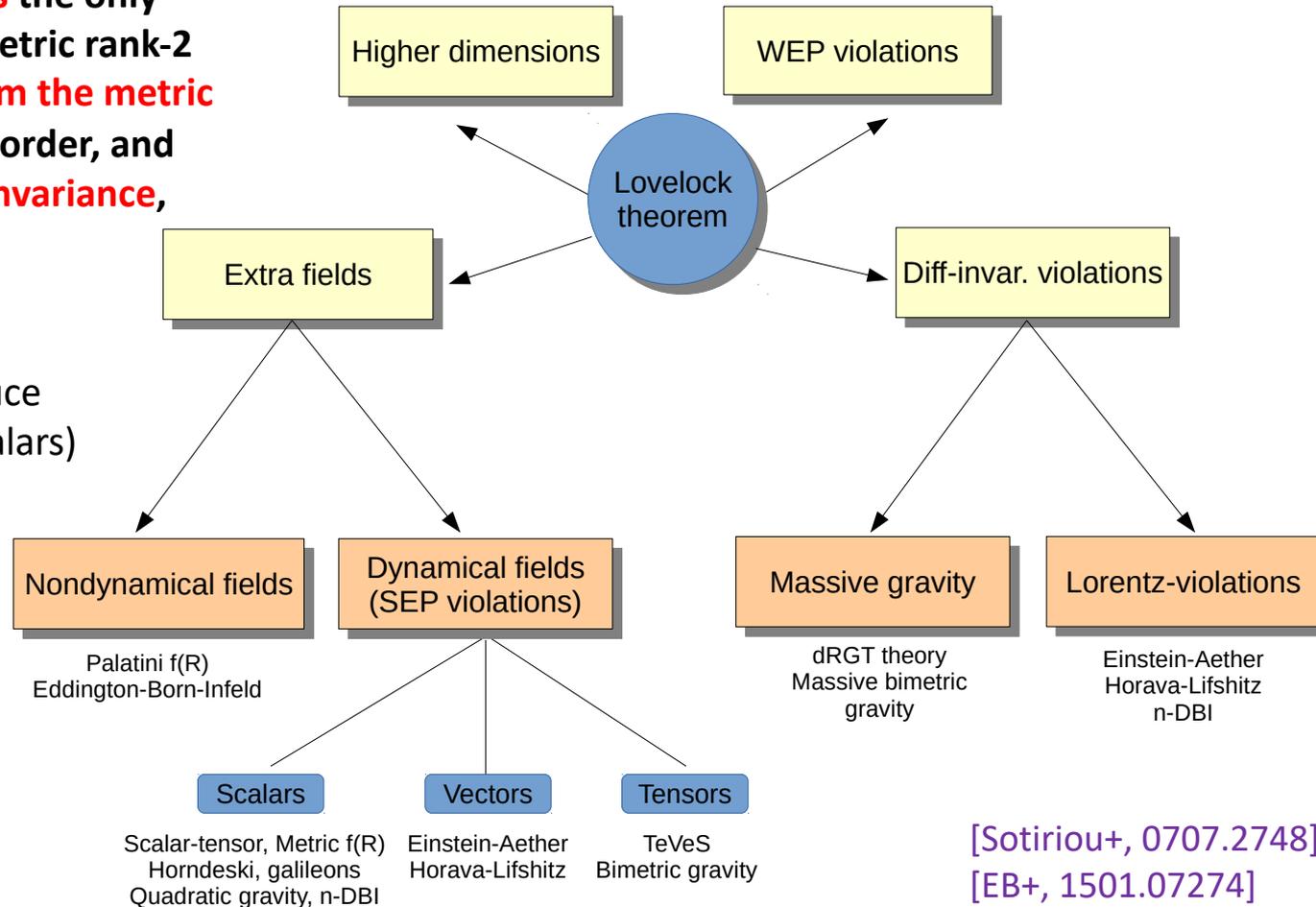
A guiding principle to modified GR: Lovelock's theorem

In four spacetime dimensions the only divergence-free (WEP) symmetric rank-2 tensor constructed solely from the metric and its derivatives up to 2nd order, and preserving diffeomorphism invariance, is the Einstein tensor plus Λ .

Generic modifications introduce additional fields (simplest: scalars)

Minimal requirements:

- Action principle
- Well-posed
- Testable predictions
- Black holes, neutron stars
- Cosmologically viable



[Sotiriou+, 0707.2748]
[EB+, 1501.07274]

Dynamical no-hair results in scalar-tensor theories

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi} \int \sqrt{-g} d^4x \left[\phi R - \frac{\omega(\phi)}{\phi} g^{\mu\nu} \phi_{,\mu} \phi_{,\nu} + M(\phi) \right] + \int \mathcal{L}_M(g^{\mu\nu}, \Psi) d^4x$$

Orbital period derivative: $\frac{\dot{P}}{P} = -\frac{\mu m}{r^3} \kappa_D (s_1 - s_2)^2 - \frac{8}{5} \frac{\mu m^2}{r^4} \kappa_1$

$$\kappa_D = 2\mathcal{G}\xi \left(\frac{\omega^2 - m_s^2}{\omega^2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \Theta(\omega - m_s)$$

$$\xi = \frac{1}{2 + \omega_{\text{BD}}}$$

$$\kappa_1 = \mathcal{G}^2 \left[12 - 6\xi + \xi \Gamma^2 \left(\frac{4\omega^2 - m_s^2}{4\omega^2} \right)^{\frac{5}{2}} \Theta(2\omega - m_s) \right]$$

$$G = 1 - \xi(s_1 + s_2 - 2s_1s_2)$$

$$\Gamma = 1 - 2 \frac{s_1 m_2 + m_1 s_2}{m}$$

For black hole binaries, $s_1 = s_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ and dipole vanishes identically

Quadrupole: $\Gamma = 0$

Result extended to higher PN orders, BH-NS, and is exact in the large mass ratio limit [Will & Zaglauer 1989; Alsing+, 1112.4903; Mirshekari & Will, 1301.4680;

Yunes+, 1112.3351; Bernard 1802.10201, 1812.04169, 1906.10735]

Ways around: matter (but EOS degeneracy), cosmological BCs (but small corrections), or

curvature itself sourcing the scalar field: dCS, EsGB [Yagi+ 1510.02152]

The EFT viewpoint

Expand all operators in the action in terms of some length scale
(must be macroscopic to be relevant for GW tests).

Theories: sum over curvature invariants with scalar-dependent coefficients

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{|g|} \left[R + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \ell^{2n-2} \mathcal{L}_{(n)} \right] \quad \text{and more specifically, at order } \ell^4$$

EsGB

dCS (dilaton+axion)

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{|g|} \left\{ R + \alpha_1 \phi_1 \ell^2 R_{\text{GB}} + \alpha_2 (\phi_2 \cos \theta_m + \phi_1 \sin \theta_m) \ell^2 R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \tilde{R}^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \right. \\ \left. + \lambda_{\text{ev}} \ell^4 R_{\mu\nu}^{\rho\sigma} R_{\rho\sigma}^{\delta\gamma} R_{\delta\gamma}^{\mu\nu} + \lambda_{\text{odd}} \ell^4 R_{\mu\nu}^{\rho\sigma} R_{\rho\sigma}^{\delta\gamma} \tilde{R}_{\delta\gamma}^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi_1)^2 - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi_2)^2 \right\}$$

Einsteinian cubic gravity (+parity-breaking) - causality constraints [Camanho+ 1407.5597]

Next order, no new DOFs [Endlich-Gorbenko-Huang-Senatore, 1704.01590]

$$S_{(4)} = \frac{\ell^6}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{|g|} \left\{ \epsilon_1 \mathcal{C}^2 + \epsilon_2 \tilde{\mathcal{C}}^2 + \epsilon_3 \mathcal{C}\tilde{\mathcal{C}} \right\} \quad \mathcal{C} = R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}, \quad \tilde{\mathcal{C}} = R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \tilde{R}^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}$$

[Cano-Ruipérez, 1901.01315; Cano-Fransen-Hertog, 2005.03671. See also work by Hui, Penco...]

Why Einstein-scalar-Gauss-Bonnet gravity? A loophole in no-hair theorems

Horndeski Lagrangian: most general scalar-tensor theory with second-order EOMs

$$S = \sum_{i=2}^5 \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{L}_i$$

$$\mathcal{L}_2 = G_2$$

$$\mathcal{L}_3 = -G_3 \square \phi$$

$$\mathcal{L}_4 = G_4 R + G_{4X} [(\square \phi)^2 - \phi_{\mu\nu}^2]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_5 = G_5 G_{\mu\nu} \phi^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{6} G_{5X} [(\square \phi)^3 + 2\phi_{\mu\nu}^3 - 3\phi_{\mu\nu}^2 \square \phi]$$

$$G_i = G_i(\phi, X) \quad \phi_{\mu\nu}^2 \equiv \phi_{\mu\nu} \phi^{\mu\nu}$$

$$X = -\frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi \quad \phi_{\mu\nu}^3 \equiv \phi_{\mu\nu} \phi^{\nu\alpha} \phi_\alpha^\mu$$

Set:

$$G_2 = X + 8f^{(4)} X^2 (3 - \ln X)$$

$$G_3 = 4f^{(3)} X (7 - 3 \ln X)$$

$$G_4 = \frac{1}{2} + 4f^{(2)} X (2 - \ln X)$$

$$G_5 = -4f^{(1)} \ln X$$

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left(\frac{1}{2} R + X + f(\phi) \mathcal{G} \right)$$

$$\mathcal{G} \equiv R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} - 4R_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu} + R^2$$

Shift symmetry: invariance under $\phi \rightarrow \phi + c$, i.e. $G_i = G_i(X)$

EsGB is **a special case of Horndeski and of quadratic gravity**

[Kobayashi+, 1105.5723; Sotiriou+Zhou, 1312.3622; Maselli+, 1508.03044]

Scalar-tensor theory and spontaneous scalarization

- Action (in the Einstein frame):

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g^*} [R^* - 2g^{*\mu\nu} (\partial_\mu \varphi) (\partial_\nu \varphi) - V(\varphi)] + S_M[\Psi, A^2(\varphi)g_{\mu\nu}^*]$$

- Gravity-matter coupling:

$$\alpha(\varphi) \equiv d(\ln A(\varphi))/d\varphi$$

$$\alpha(\varphi) = \alpha_0 + \beta_0(\varphi - \varphi_0) + \dots$$

- Field equations:

$$G_{\mu\nu}^* = 2 \left(\partial_\mu \varphi \partial_\nu \varphi - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu}^* \partial_\sigma \varphi \partial^\sigma \varphi \right) - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu}^* V(\varphi) + 8\pi T_{\mu\nu}^*,$$

$$\square_{g^*} \varphi = -4\pi \alpha(\varphi) T^* + \frac{1}{4} \frac{dV}{d\varphi},$$

Scalarization threshold: a back-of-the-envelope argument

$$\square_{g^*} \varphi = -4\pi\alpha(\varphi)T^* \quad \alpha(\varphi) = \beta_0\varphi$$

$$-T^* = A^4(\epsilon^* - 3p^*) \sim \frac{3}{4\pi R^2} \frac{m}{R} \quad \text{for } r < R$$

$$\nabla^2 \varphi = \text{sign}(\beta_0) \left[\frac{3|\beta_0|(m/R)}{R^2} \right] \varphi = \text{sign}(\beta_0)\kappa^2 \varphi$$

$$\beta_0 < 0 \implies \varphi_{\text{inside}} = \varphi_c \frac{\sin(\kappa r)}{\kappa r}$$

$$\varphi_c = \frac{\varphi_0}{\cos(\kappa R)} \gg \varphi_0 \quad \boxed{\kappa R \sim \pi/2}$$

$$\boxed{m/R \sim 0.2 \implies \beta \sim -4}$$

No-hair conditions in EsGB

$$S = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[R - \frac{1}{2} \nabla_\alpha \varphi \nabla^\alpha \varphi + f(\varphi) \mathcal{G} \right] + S_m[g_{\mu\nu}, \psi]$$

$$\mathcal{G} \equiv R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} - 4R_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu} + R^2$$

$$\square \varphi = -f_{,\varphi} \mathcal{G}$$

$$G_{\mu\nu} = T_{\mu\nu} = -\frac{1}{4} g_{\mu\nu} \partial_\rho \varphi \partial^\rho \varphi + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \varphi \partial_\nu \varphi \\ - g_{\gamma(\mu} g_{\nu)\delta} \epsilon^{\sigma\delta\rho\chi} \nabla_\tau [{}^* R^{\gamma\tau}{}_{\rho\chi} \nabla_\sigma f]$$

Matter: zero in vacuum

GB contribution $\propto f_{,\varphi}$

Kerr is a solution with constant scalar field if: $f_{,\varphi}(\varphi_0) = 0$

Dilatonic theories $f \sim \exp(\varphi)$ and shift-symmetric theories $f \sim \varphi$ **do not have a GR limit!**

No-hair theorem: in addition, $f_{,\varphi\varphi} \mathcal{G} < 0$

A proof, and a heuristic argument

$$\square\varphi = -f_{,\varphi}\mathcal{G}$$

$$\int_{\mathcal{V}} d^4x \sqrt{-g} [f_{,\varphi}\square\varphi + f_{,\varphi}^2(\varphi)\mathcal{G}] = 0$$

Integrate by parts, divergence theorem:

$$\int_{\mathcal{V}} d^4x \sqrt{-g} [f_{,\varphi\varphi}\nabla^\mu\varphi\nabla_\mu\varphi - f_{,\varphi}^2(\varphi)\mathcal{G}] = \int_{\partial\mathcal{V}} d^3x \sqrt{|h|} f_{,\varphi} n^\mu \nabla_\mu\varphi$$

The RHS vanishes for stationary, asymptotically flat spacetimes; if $f_{,\varphi\varphi}\mathcal{G} < 0$ both terms on the LHS vanish separately, i.e. $\varphi = \varphi_0 = c$

In alternative, linearize the scalar field equation: $[\square + f_{,\varphi\varphi}(\varphi_0)\mathcal{G}]\delta\varphi = 0$

$m_{\text{eff}}^2 = -f_{,\varphi\varphi}\mathcal{G}$ is an effective mass for the perturbation – tachyonic instability?

EsGB: black hole scalarization and other solutions

Einstein-dilaton-Gauss-Bonnet: $f = e^{\alpha\varphi}$

Kerr not a solution, minimum BH mass

[Mignemi-Stewart 93, Kanti+ 96, Pani-Cardoso 09, Yunes-Stein 11...]

Shift-symmetric Gauss-Bonnet: $f = a\varphi$

Kerr not a solution!

[Sotiriou-Zhou 14, Barausse-Yagi 15, Benkel+ 16...]

Minimal scalarization model: $f = \frac{1}{8}\eta\varphi^2$

[Silva+ 1711.02080]

Nonminimal scalarization model: $f = \frac{\lambda^2}{12} \left(1 - e^{-6\varphi^2}\right)$

[Doneva+ 1711.01187]

Polynomial, inverse polynomial, logarithmic...

[Antonioni+ 1711.03390/07431; Brihaye-Ducobu 1812.07438...]

Radial instability of the minimal scalarization model

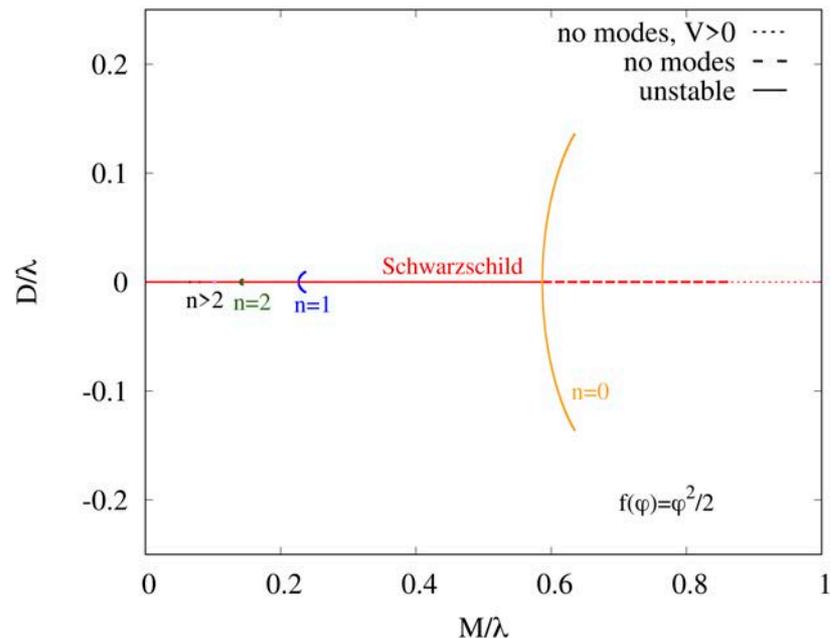
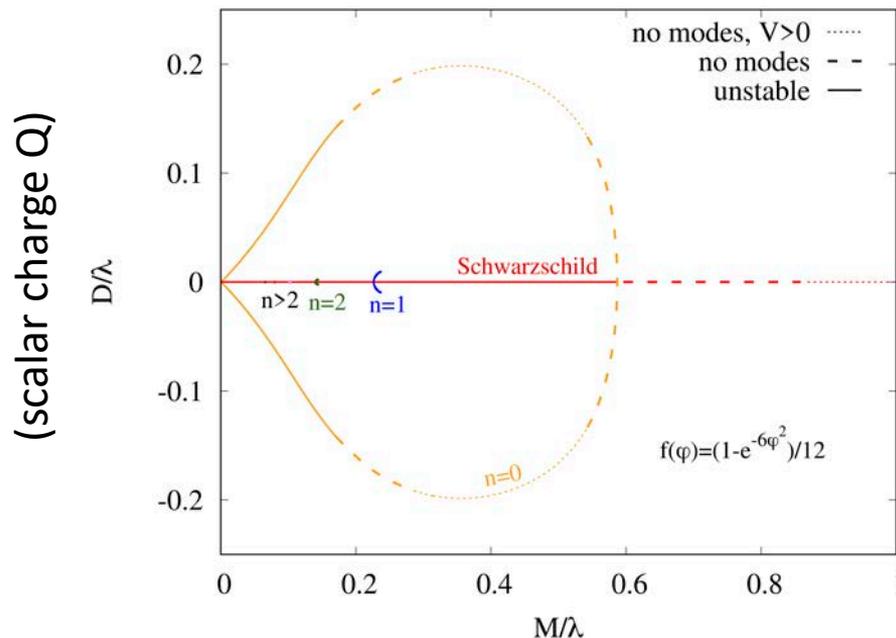
Are the solutions stable under radial perturbations?

Dashed/dotted: stable (no unstable modes, or positive potential); **solid: unstable**

$M > M_{\text{thr}} = 0.587\eta^{1/2}$: Schwarzschild is stable; threshold is coupling-independent

Intermediate mass: nodeless scalarized BHs with exponential coupling are stable

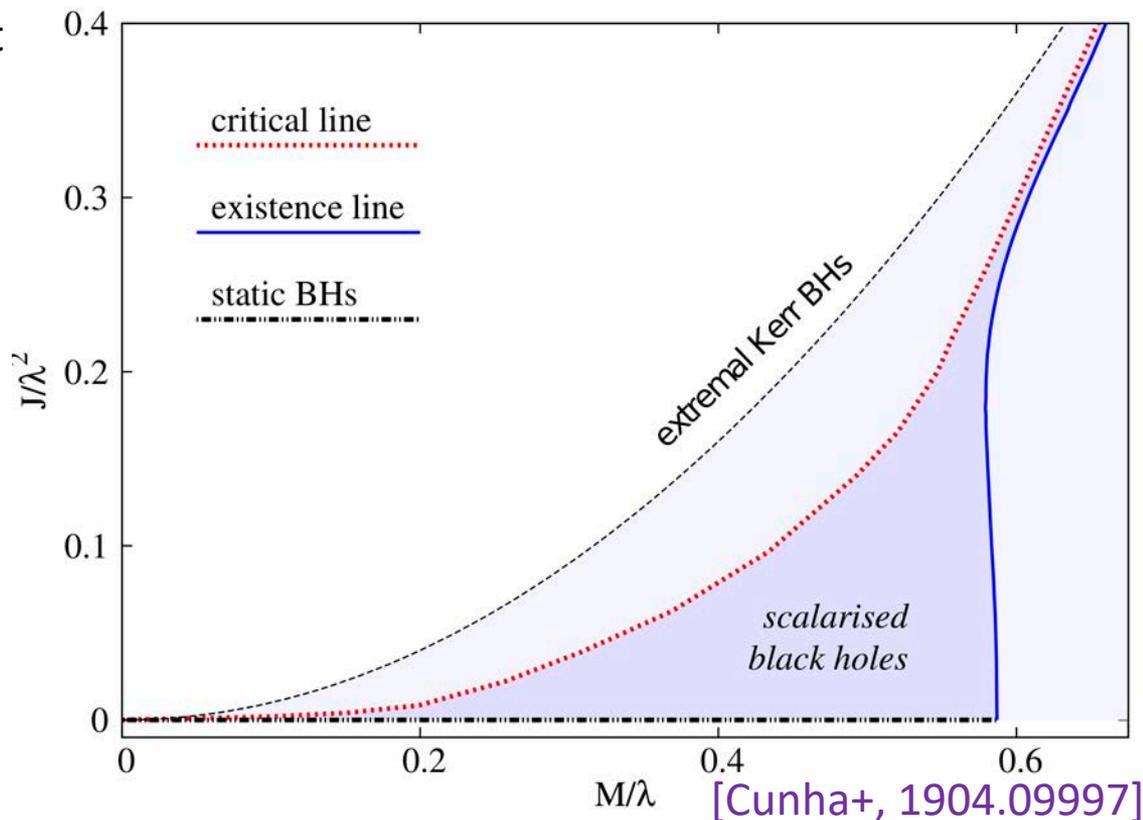
No BHs are stable below a certain mass (as in EdGB)



What about spin?

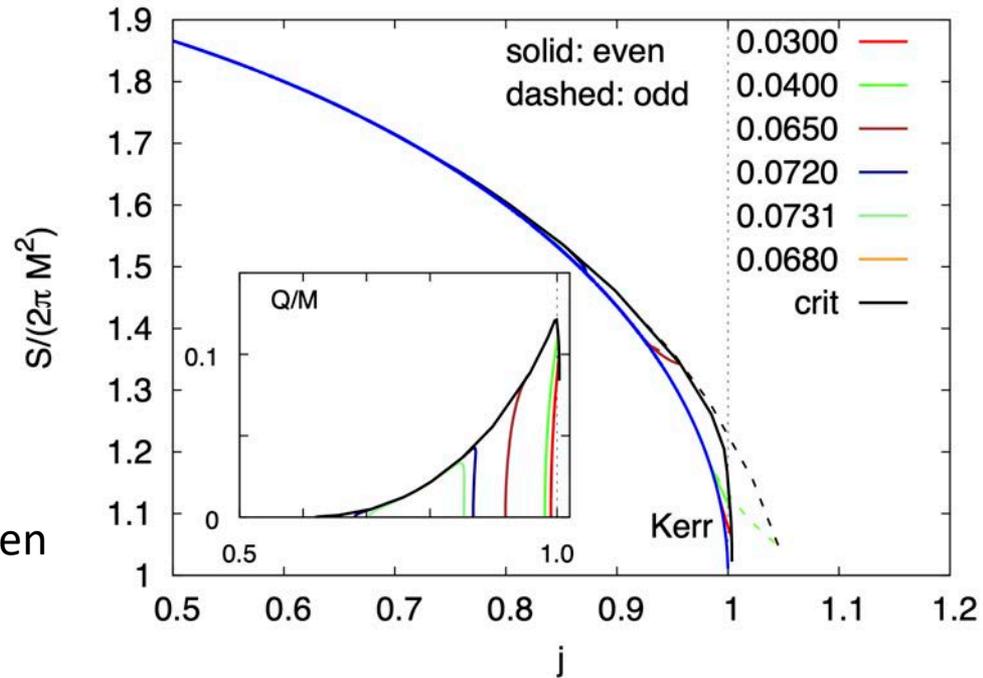
$$f = \frac{\lambda^2}{12} \left(1 - e^{-6\varphi^2}\right)$$

- For each spin J , scalarized BHs exist between two critical mass values (lowest bound: zero in static limit)
- Scalarized black holes are entropically favored
- Spin reduces difference between scalarized/unscalarized solutions: differences nearly unmeasurable for $j \geq 0.5$ (LIGO range!)
- Coupling dependence?



Spin-induced scalarization

- Take a second look at $\square\varphi = -f_{,\varphi}\mathcal{G}$
- Gauss-Bonnet invariant **changes sign** for $j \geq 0.5$! Spin-induced instability
- Even for quadratic coupling, spin-induced scalarized black holes are **entropically favored** over Kerr
- Small differences in charge, mass etc between quadratic and exponential coupling
- Quasinormal modes? May be easier via time evolutions
- Dynamical stability?



Black hole thermodynamics, skeletonization and the two-body Lagrangian

- Analytical solutions for generic coupling functions (up to fourth order in the EsGB coupling constant) satisfy the first law of black hole thermodynamics
- Skeletonization à la Eardley: slow inspiral means that black holes evolve with **constant Wald entropy** and a nontrivial asymptotic value of the scalar field
- Padé resummation seems to correctly predict **poles** in coupling of black holes to scalar fields
- EsGB-induced corrections to the (conservative) two-body Lagrangian: formally 1PN contribution, but for small coupling, effectively a 3PN term
“Miraculously”, no regularization is needed to solve the EOMs at 1PN: “simple” Fock integral
- $d+1$ formulation:
nonlinear canonical momenta, multivalued ADM Hamiltonian, strong-field breakdown

Binaries in Einstein-scalar-Gauss-Bonnet

- Post-Newtonian calculations in the weak coupling limit:

[Yagi+, 1110.5990]

Higher-order in coupling, generic EsGB:

[Julié+, 1909.05258]

- Dynamical scalarization:

[Khalil+, 1906.08161]

- Numerical simulations (weak coupling limit):

Scalar waveforms

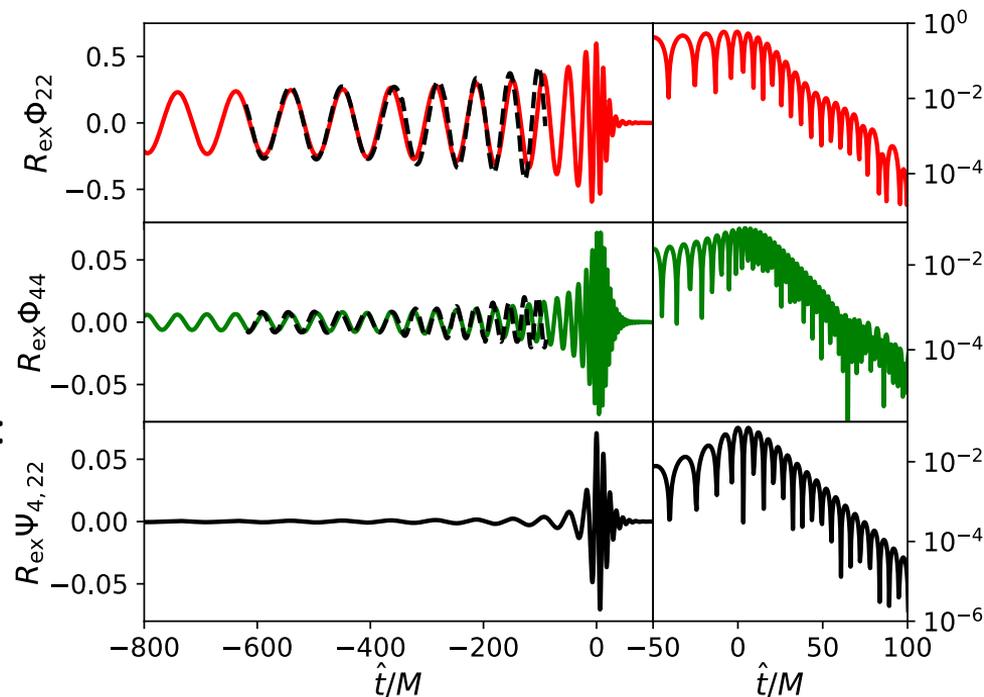
Scalar-led QNMs + gravitational-led QNMs

[Witek+, 1810.05177]

- Related work in dynamical Chern-Simons (weak coupling limit):

Scalar and gravitational waveforms

[Okounkova+ 1705.07924, 1906.08789]



Well posedness

- Papallo-Reall: EsGB not strongly hyperbolic **in the generalized harmonic gauge**
[Papallo-Reall, 1704.04730]

- Ripley-Pretorius: evidence for hair in spherical collapse in the weak-coupling limit, **but** well-posedness issues in spherical collapse in **shift-symmetric** EdGB

“there are open sets of initial data for which the character of the system of equations changes **from hyperbolic to elliptic** type in a compact region of the spacetime [...]

it is conceivable that a well-posed formulation of EdGB gravity (at least within spherical symmetry) may be possible if the equations are appropriately treated as mixed-type”

[Ripley-Pretorius, 1902.01468]

[Ripley-Pretorius, 1903.07543]

- Does Horndeski generally lead to caustics? Do global solutions exist?

[Babichev 1602.00735]

[Bernard-Lehner-Luna, 1904.12866]

Time evolution of the full Einstein-scalar-Gauss-Bonnet theory?

- Built action generalizing Gibbons-Hawking-York and Myers to ESGB theories
- ADM Lagrangian and Hamiltonian and d+1 decomposition generalized to EsGB
- Canonical momenta of ESGB theories are nonlinear in the extrinsic curvature: “accelerations” are functions of metric, scalar field and their first derivatives

$$\frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial K_{ab}} \mathcal{A}_{ab} + \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial K_{\varphi}} \mathcal{A}_{\varphi} = \mathcal{F}_{ij}$$

$$\frac{\partial \pi_{\varphi}}{\partial K_{ab}} \mathcal{A}_{ab} + \frac{\partial \pi_{\varphi}}{\partial K_{\varphi}} \mathcal{A}_{\varphi} = \mathcal{F}_{\varphi}$$

- Implications:
 - 1) the ADM Hamiltonian is generically multivalued, and the associated Hamiltonian evolution is not predictable
 - 2) the d+1 equations of motion are quasilinear and may break down in strongly curved, highly dynamical regimes
- Ripley-Pretorius: evidence for hair in spherical collapse in the weak-coupling limit, **but** well-posedness issues in spherical collapse in shift-symmetric EdGB

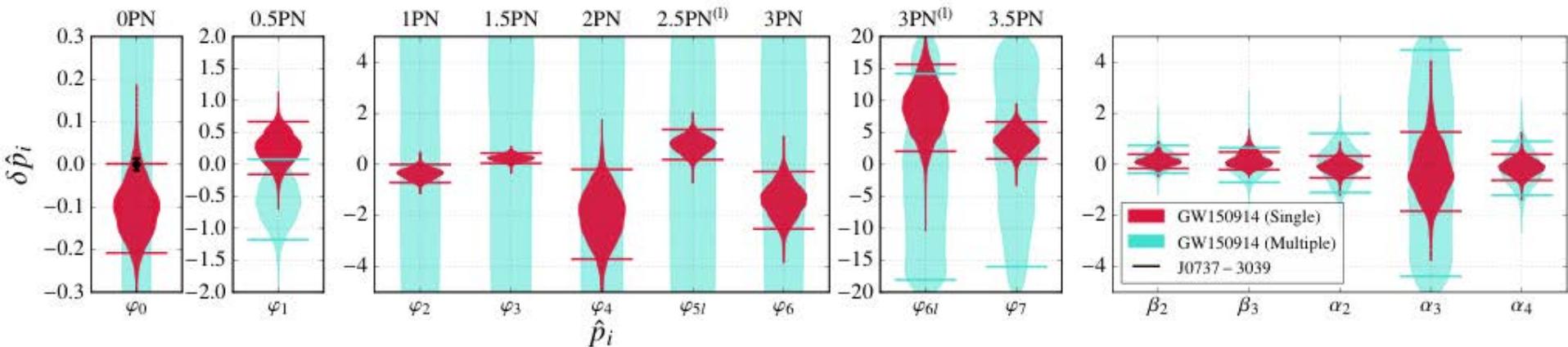
Specific Theories Summary

- EsGB: subclass of Horndeski theory that evades no-hair theorems
- Scalarized solution exist, are radially stable (as long as backreaction is included), can differ sensibly from GR
- Stable, nonspinning scalarized solutions are well motivated in EFT
- Scalarized solution become close to GR for spins of interest to LIGO remnant - more interesting phenomenology for spin-induced scalarization
- BHBs produce dipolar radiation [[Yagi+ 1510.02152](#); [Julié+, 1909.05258](#)]
- Binaries have been simulated in the weak-coupling limit [[Witek+ 1810.05177](#)]
- Full merger? Open issues with well posedness in the strong-coupling limit [[Papallo-Reall, Ripley-Pretorius, Bernard+, Julié+EB...](#)]

Beyond GR: parametrization

Inspiral: GR solution known, parametrized post-Einstein

$$\tilde{h}(f) = \tilde{A}_{\text{GR}}(f) [1 + \alpha_{\text{ppE}} v(f)^a] e^{i\Psi_{\text{GR}}(f) + i\beta_{\text{ppE}} v(f)^b}$$



Mapping to theories – can we do the same for ringdown?

Table 2 Mapping of ppE parameters to those in each theory for a black hole binary

Theory	β_{ppE}	b
Scalar–tensor [36, 179, 180]	$-\frac{5}{1792} \dot{\phi}^2 \eta^{2/5} (m_1 s_1^{\text{ST}} - m_2 s_2^{\text{ST}})^2$	-7
EdGB, D ² GB [23]	$-\frac{5}{7168} \zeta_{\text{GB}} \frac{(m_1^2 s_2^{\text{GB}} - m_2^2 s_1^{\text{GB}})^2}{m^4 \eta^{18/5}}$	-7
dCS [181]	$\frac{1549225}{11812864} \frac{\zeta_{\text{CS}}}{\eta^{14/5}} \left[\left(1 - \frac{231808}{61969} \eta\right) \chi_s^2 + \left(1 - \frac{16068}{61969} \eta\right) \chi_a^2 - 2\delta_m \chi_s \chi_a \right]$	-1
EA [182]	$-\frac{3}{128} \left[\left(1 - \frac{c_{14}}{2}\right) \left(\frac{1}{w_2^{\text{E}}} + \frac{2c_{14}c_+^2}{(c_+ + c_- - c_- c_+)^2 w_1^{\text{E}}} + \frac{3c_{14}}{2w_0^{\text{E}}(2-c_{14})} \right) - 1 \right]$	-5
Khronometric [182]	$-\frac{3}{128} \left[\left(1 - \beta_{\text{KG}}\right) \left(\frac{1}{w_2^{\text{KG}}} \frac{3\beta_{\text{KG}}}{2w_0^{\text{KG}}(1-\beta_{\text{KG}})} \right) - 1 \right]$	-5
Extra dimension [183]	$\frac{25}{851968} \left(\frac{dm}{dt} \right) \frac{3-26\eta+34\eta^2}{\eta^{2/5}(1-2\eta)}$	-13
Varying G [151]	$-\frac{25}{65536} \dot{G} \mathcal{M}$	-13
Mod. disp. rel. [184]	$\frac{\pi^{2-\alpha_{\text{MDR}}}}{(1-\alpha_{\text{MDR}})} \frac{D_{\alpha_{\text{MDR}}}}{\lambda_{\text{A}}} \frac{\mathcal{M}^{1-\alpha_{\text{MDR}}}}{(1+z)^{1-\alpha_{\text{MDR}}}}$	$3(\alpha_{\text{MDR}} - 1)$

Scalar, electromagnetic and gravitational perturbations in GR

Gravitational perturbations of a Schwarzschild BH: Regge-Wheeler/Zerilli equations

$$f \frac{d}{dr} \left(f \frac{d\Phi}{dr} \right) + [\omega^2 - fV_{\pm}] \Phi = 0 \quad f = 1 - \frac{r_H}{r}$$

Isospectrality: the odd/even potentials

$$V_- = \frac{\ell(\ell + 1)}{r^2} - \frac{3r_H}{r^3}$$

$$V_+ = \frac{9\lambda r_H^2 r + 3\lambda^2 r_H r^2 + \lambda^2(\lambda + 2)r^3 + 9r_H^3}{r^3(\lambda r + 3r_H)^2}$$

have the same quasinormal mode spectrum [Chandrasekhar-Detweiler 1975]

Scalar, electromagnetic and (odd) gravitational perturbations:

$$V_s = \frac{\ell(\ell + 1)}{r^2} + (1 - s^2) \frac{r_H}{r^3}$$

Generic (but decoupled) corrections to GR potentials

Modifications to the gravity sector and/or beyond Standard Model physics: expect

- small modifications to the functional form of the potentials – parametrize!
- coupling between the wave equations (more later)

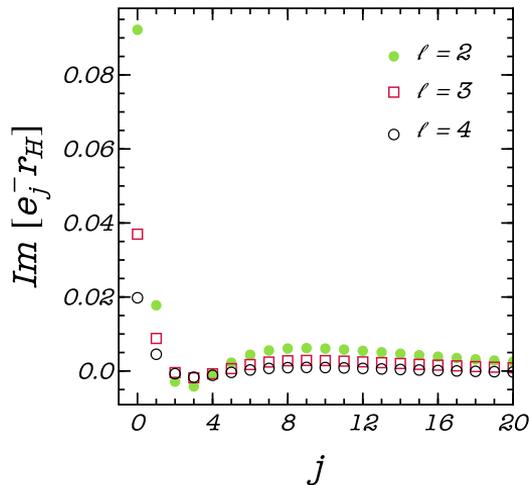
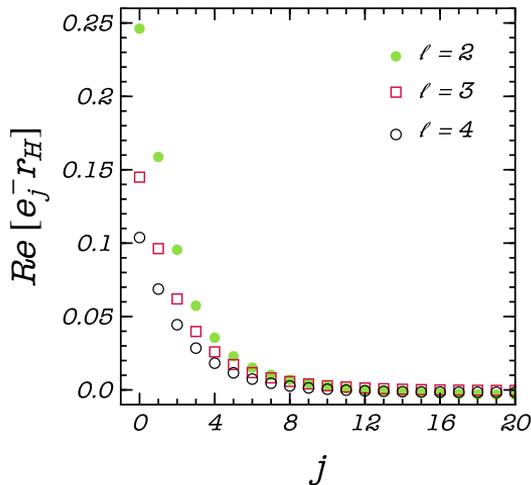
$$V = V_{\pm} + \delta V_{\pm} \quad \delta V_{\pm} = \frac{1}{r_H^2} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \alpha_j^{\pm} \left(\frac{r_H}{r} \right)^j \quad \omega_{\text{QNM}}^{\pm} = \omega_0^{\pm} + \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \alpha_j^{\pm} e_j^{\pm}$$

$$V = V_s + \delta V_s \quad \delta V_s = \frac{1}{r_H^2} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \beta_j^s \left(\frac{r_H}{r} \right)^j \quad \omega_{\text{QNM}}^s = \omega_0^s + \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \beta_j^s d_j^s$$

Maximum of $f(r)\alpha_j^{\pm} \left(\frac{r_H}{r} \right)^j$ is $\alpha_j^{\pm} \frac{(1 + 1/j)^{-j}}{j + 1}$, so corrections are small if:

$$(\alpha_j^{\pm}, \beta_j^s) \ll (1 + 1/j)^j (j + 1)$$

Correction coefficients and their asymptotic behavior

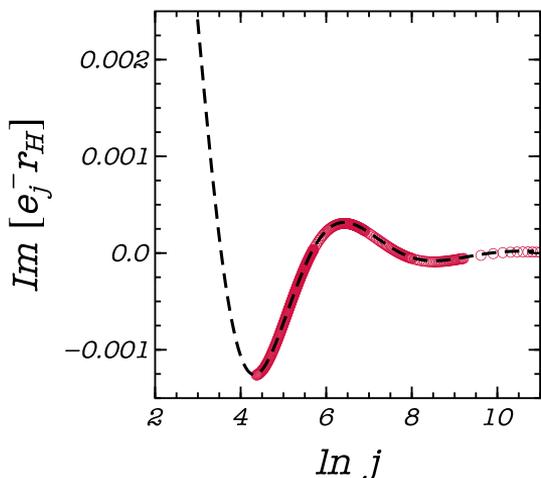
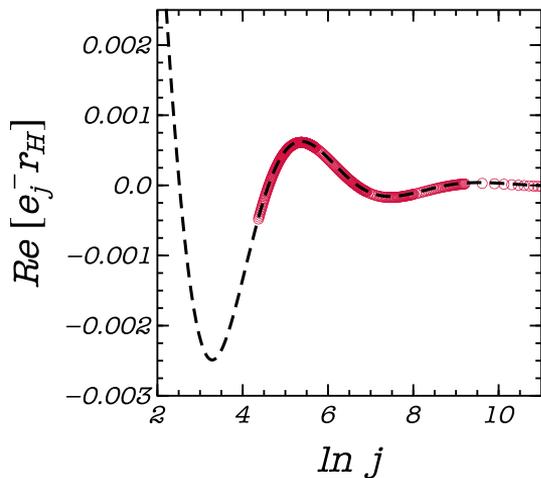


QNM frequency correction coefficients by direct integration [Pani, 1305.6759]

Asymptotics:

$$e_j \propto \frac{j^{2i\omega_0 r_H}}{j} = \frac{e^{2ir_H \omega_R \ln j}}{j^{1+2r_H \omega_I}}$$

Damped oscillatory behavior for large j



Fitting the numerics by

$$e_j \sim \frac{\kappa}{j^\beta} \sin(\gamma \ln j + \zeta)$$

confirms this.

Generic isospectrality breaking

Isospectrality follows from the existence of a “superpotential” such that:

$$fV_{\pm} = W_0^2 \mp f \frac{dW_0}{dr} - \frac{\lambda^2(\lambda + 2)^2}{36r_H^2} \quad W_0 = \frac{3r_H(r_H - r)}{r^2(3r_H + \lambda r)} - \frac{\lambda(\lambda + 2)}{6r_H}$$

Perturb to find conditions for isospectrality to hold:

$$2 \frac{d\delta W}{dr} = \delta V_- - \delta V_+ \quad 4 \frac{W_0}{f} \delta W = \delta V_+ + \delta V_-$$

Preserving isospectrality needs fine tuning!

$$\alpha_0^+ = \alpha_0^-$$

$$\alpha_1^+ = \alpha_1^-$$

$$\alpha_2^+ = \alpha_2^- + \frac{6(\alpha_0^- - \alpha_1^-)}{\lambda(\lambda + 2)}$$

Example 1: EFT

EFT corrections quartic in the curvature lead to a modified Regge-Wheeler equation:

$$\frac{d^2 \Psi_-}{dr_\star^2} + [\omega^2 - f(V_- + \delta V_-)] \Psi_- = 0$$

$$\delta V_- = \epsilon_2 \frac{18(\ell + 2)(\ell + 1)(\ell - 1)r_H^8}{r^{10}}$$

Trivially read off the correction coefficient: $\alpha_{10}^- = 18(\ell + 2)(\ell + 1)(\ell - 1)\epsilon_2$

Plug into $\omega_{\text{QNM}}^\pm = \omega_0^\pm + \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \alpha_j^\pm e_j^\pm$

to find

$$r_H \omega = r_H \omega_0 + (0.0663354 + 0.117439i)\epsilon_2(\ell - 1)(\ell + 1)(\ell + 2)$$

in agreement with numerical integrations.

Example 2: Reissner-Nordström

Odd gravitational perturbations of Reissner-Nordström satisfy

$$f_{\text{RN}} \frac{d}{dr} \left(f_{\text{RN}} \frac{d\Phi}{dr} \right) + (\omega^2 - f_{\text{RN}} V_{\text{RN}}) \Phi = 0 \quad f_{\text{RN}} = 1 - \frac{2M}{r} + \frac{Q^2}{r^2}$$

A simple change of variables brings the wave equation in our “canonical” form, with

$$V_{\text{RN}} = \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{r^2} + \frac{4r_H r_-}{r^4} - \frac{3(r_H + r_-)}{2r^3} - \frac{\left[4(\ell-1)(\ell+2)r_H r_- + \frac{9}{4}(r_H + r_-)^2 \right]^{1/2}}{r^3}$$

for small charge.

Read off coefficients to find:

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_{\text{QNM}} &= \left(1 - \frac{r_-}{r_H} \right) \left(\frac{2\Omega_0}{r_H} + e_0 \alpha_0^- + e_3 \alpha_3^- + e_4 \alpha_4^- \right) \\ &= \frac{\Omega_0}{M} + \frac{(0.0258177 - 0.002824i)Q^2}{M^3} \end{aligned}$$

TABLE II. Relative percentage errors on the real and imaginary parts of the QNMs for RN BHs, as a function of the charge-to-mass ratio Q/M .

Q/M	Δ_R	Δ_I
0.00	0%	0%
0.05	0.11%	0.042%
0.10	0.43%	0.17%
0.20	1.7%	0.66%
0.30	3.8%	1.5%
0.40	6.8%	2.6%
0.50	11%	4.2%

Example 3: Klein-Gordon in slowly rotating Kerr

At linear order in the spin parameter:

$$f \frac{d}{dr} \left(f \frac{d}{dr} \right) \Phi + \left(\omega^2 - fV_0 - \frac{4amM\omega}{r^3} \right) \Phi = 0$$

i.e.

$$f \frac{d}{dr} \left(f \frac{d}{dr} \right) \Phi + \left[\left(\omega - \frac{am}{r_H^2} \right)^2 - f \left(V_0 - \frac{2am\omega}{r_H^2} - \frac{2am\omega}{r_H^2} \frac{r_H}{r} - \frac{2am\omega}{r_H^2} \left(\frac{r_H}{r} \right)^2 \right) \right] \Phi = 0$$

Correction coefficients to the scalar wave equation:

$$\beta_0^0 = \beta_1^0 = \beta_2^0 = -2am\omega_0^0$$

$$\omega_{\text{QNM}} = \omega_0^0 + \frac{am}{r_H^2} - 2am\omega_0^0 (d_0^0 + d_1^0 + d_2^0)$$

TABLE III. Relative percentage errors in the real and imaginary parts of the QNM frequencies for scalar perturbations around a slowly spinning black hole, as a function of the BH angular momentum a/M .

a/M	Δ_R	Δ_I
0	0%	0%
10^{-4}	0.0050%	0.83%
10^{-3}	0.049%	5.1%
10^{-2}	0.49%	34%

Coupled perturbations

We really want to solve the coupled $N \times N$ system

$$f \frac{d}{dr} \left(f \frac{d\Phi}{dr} \right) + [\omega^2 - f\mathbf{V}] \Phi = 0 \quad \Phi = \{\Phi_i\} \quad (i = 1, \dots, N)$$

$$\mathbf{V}(r) = V_{ij}(r)$$

where each matrix element is perturbed:

$$V_{ij} = V_{ij}^{\text{GR}} + \delta V_{ij} \quad \delta V_{ij} = \frac{1}{r_H^2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_{ij}^{(k)} \left(\frac{r_H}{r} \right)^k$$

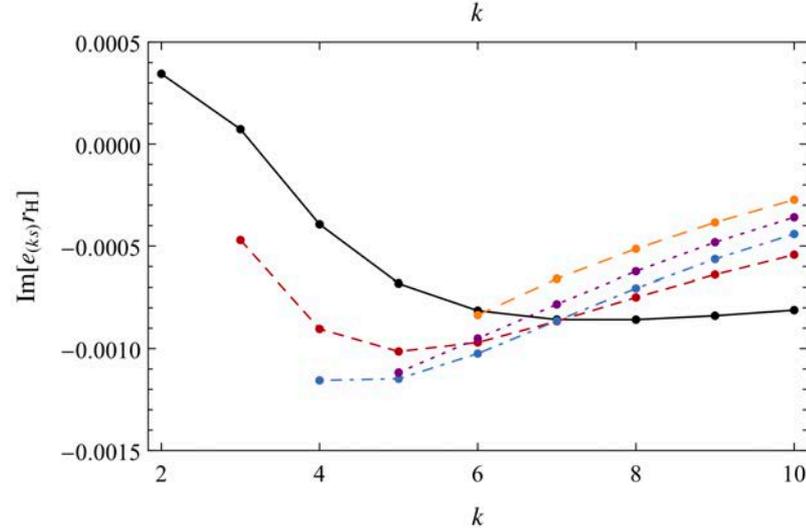
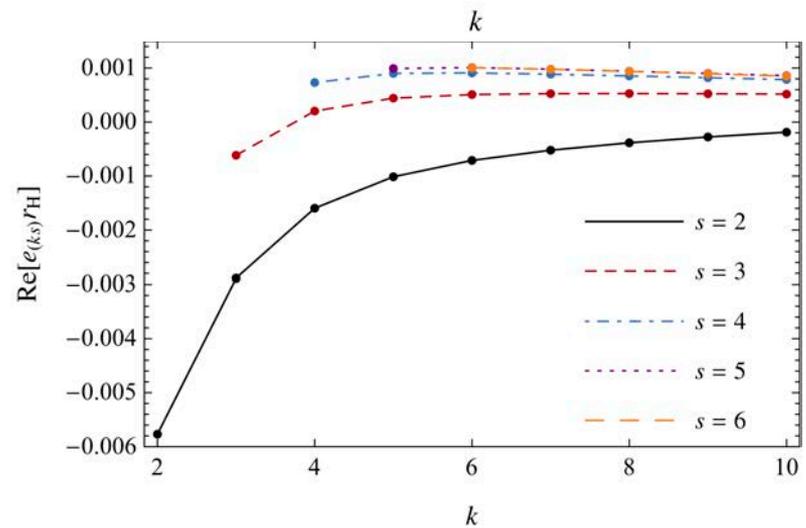
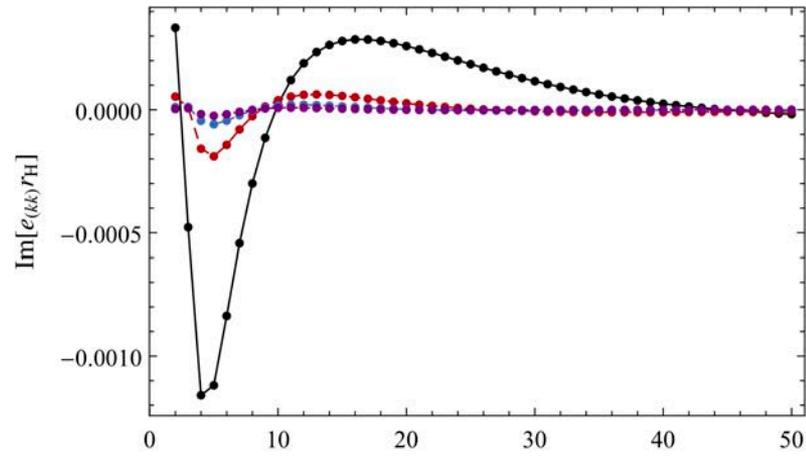
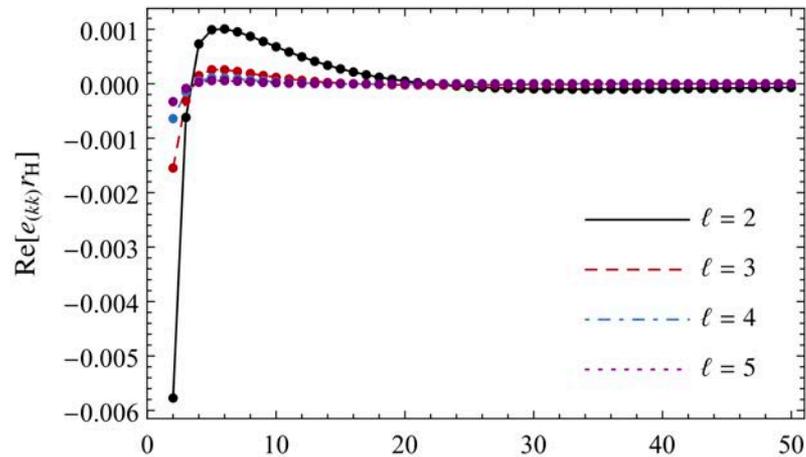
If the background spectra are nondegenerate, coupling will induce **quadratic** corrections.

Allow α to depend on ω . We need

- quadratic corrections in α , besides the linear diagonal terms $d_{(k)}^{ii}$
- coupling-induced corrections

$$\omega \approx \omega_0 + \alpha_{ij}^{(k)} d_{(k)}^{ij} + \alpha_{ij}^{(k)} \alpha_{pq}^{(s)} d_{(k)}^{ij} d_{(s)}^{pq} + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{ij}^{(k)} \alpha_{pq}^{(s)} e_{(ks)}^{ijpq} \quad (\text{Einstein summation})$$

Correction coefficients



The degenerate case

Degenerate spectra (e.g. **even/odd gravitational perturbations**) need special care. Why?

$$\left(\frac{d^2}{dr_*^2} + \omega^2 - fV_0\right)\phi_1 + \alpha Z\phi_2 = 0$$

$$\left(\frac{d^2}{dr_*^2} + \omega^2 - fV_0\right)\phi_2 + \alpha Z\phi_1 = 0$$

$$\left(\frac{d^2}{dr_*^2} + \omega^2 - fV_0 + \alpha Z\right)\phi_+ = 0$$

$$\left(\frac{d^2}{dr_*^2} + \omega^2 - fV_0 - \alpha Z\right)\phi_- = 0$$

Diagonalize: $\phi_1 = (\phi_+ + \phi_-)/2$
 $\phi_2 = (\phi_+ - \phi_-)/2$

Corrections are linear in α

Use degenerate perturbation theory:

$$\omega = \omega_0 + \epsilon\omega_1 \quad \omega_1 = \frac{\delta V_{++} + \delta V_{--} \pm \sqrt{(\delta V_{++} - \delta V_{--})^2 + 4\delta V_{+-}\delta V_{-+}}}{2}$$

$$\delta V_{\pm\pm} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_{\pm\pm}^{(k)} \left\langle \omega_0, \pm \left| f(r) \frac{r_H^{k-2}}{r^k} \right| \omega_0, \pm \right\rangle = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_{\pm\pm}^{(k)} \delta V_{\pm\pm}^{(k)}$$

Example 1: scalar/odd gravitational in dynamical Chern-Simons

Spectra are **nondegenerate**

The perturbed potentials read:

$$V_{11} = V_-$$

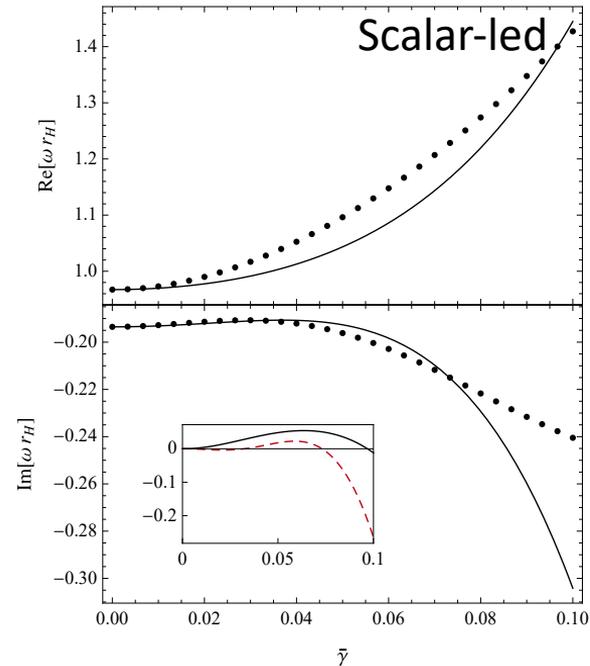
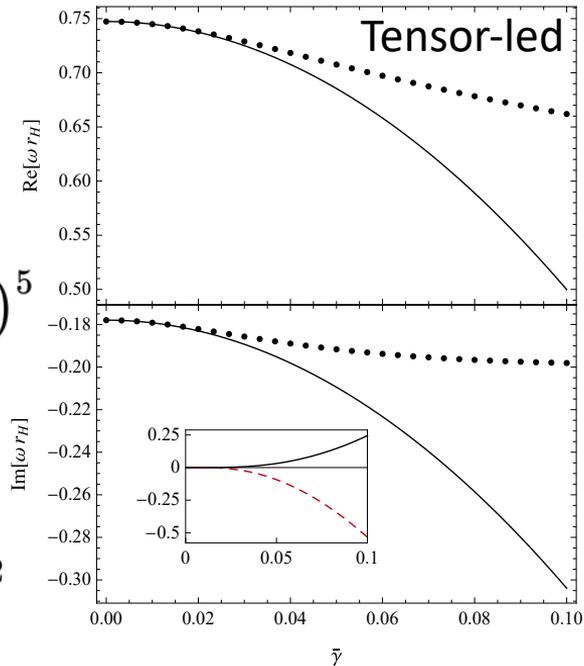
$$V_{12} = V_{21} = \frac{1}{r_H^2} \frac{12}{\sqrt{\beta} r_H^2} \sqrt{\pi \frac{(\ell+2)!}{(\ell-2)!}} \left(\frac{r_H}{r}\right)^5$$

$$V_{22} = V_{s=0} + \frac{1}{r_H^2} \frac{144\pi\ell(\ell+1)}{\beta r_H^4} \left(\frac{r_H}{r}\right)^8$$

Corrected frequencies:

$$\omega = \omega_0 + e_{(55)}^{1221} \left(12\bar{\gamma} \sqrt{\pi \frac{(\ell+2)!}{(\ell-2)!}} \right)^2$$

$$\omega = \omega_0 + 2d_{(8)} 144\pi\ell(\ell+1)\bar{\gamma}^2 + e_{(88)} \left[144\pi\ell(\ell+1)\bar{\gamma}^2 \right]^2 + e_{(55)}^{1221} \left(12\bar{\gamma} \sqrt{\pi \frac{(\ell+2)!}{(\ell-2)!}} \right)^2$$



Example 2: scalar-led perturbations in Horndeski

The scalar-led perturbation is related to background coupling functions in the Horndeski Lagrangian:

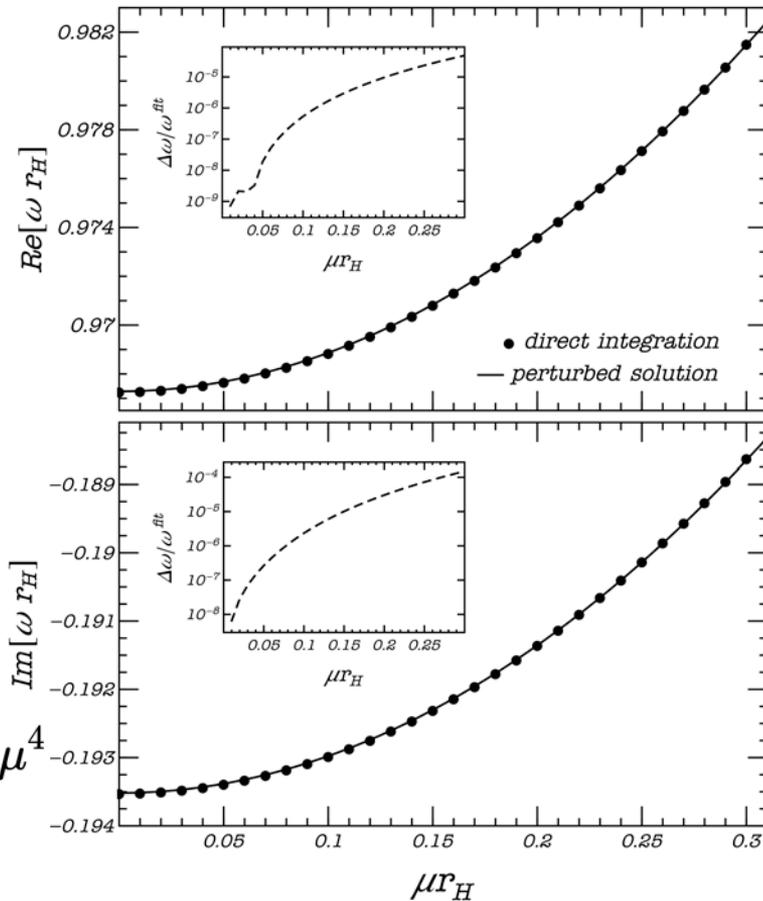
$$\frac{d^2\phi}{dr_*^2} + \left[\omega^2 - f \left(V_{s=0} + \mu^2 + \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{r^2} f\Gamma \right) \right] \phi = 0$$

$$\mu^2 = \frac{-\bar{G}_{2\phi\phi}}{3\bar{G}_{4\phi}^2 + \bar{G}_{2X} - 2\bar{G}_{3\phi}}$$

$$\Gamma = \frac{8\bar{G}_{4X}}{3\bar{G}_{4\phi}^2 + \bar{G}_{2X} - 2\bar{G}_{3\phi}}$$

Corrected frequencies read (can set $\Gamma = 0$):

$$\begin{aligned} \omega \approx & \omega_0 + d_{(0)}\mu^2 + [d_{(2)} + r_H d_{(3)}] \ell(\ell+1)\Gamma + \frac{1}{2} e_{(00)}\mu^4 \\ & + \frac{1}{2} [e_{(22)} + 2r_H e_{(23)} + r_H^2 e_{(33)}] [\ell(\ell+1)\Gamma]^2 \\ & + [e_{(02)} + r_H e_{(03)}] \ell(\ell+1)\mu^2\Gamma \end{aligned}$$



Example 3: odd/even gravitational coupling in EFT (degenerate)

The quartic-in-curvature EFT leads to a degenerate perturbed eigenvalue problem:

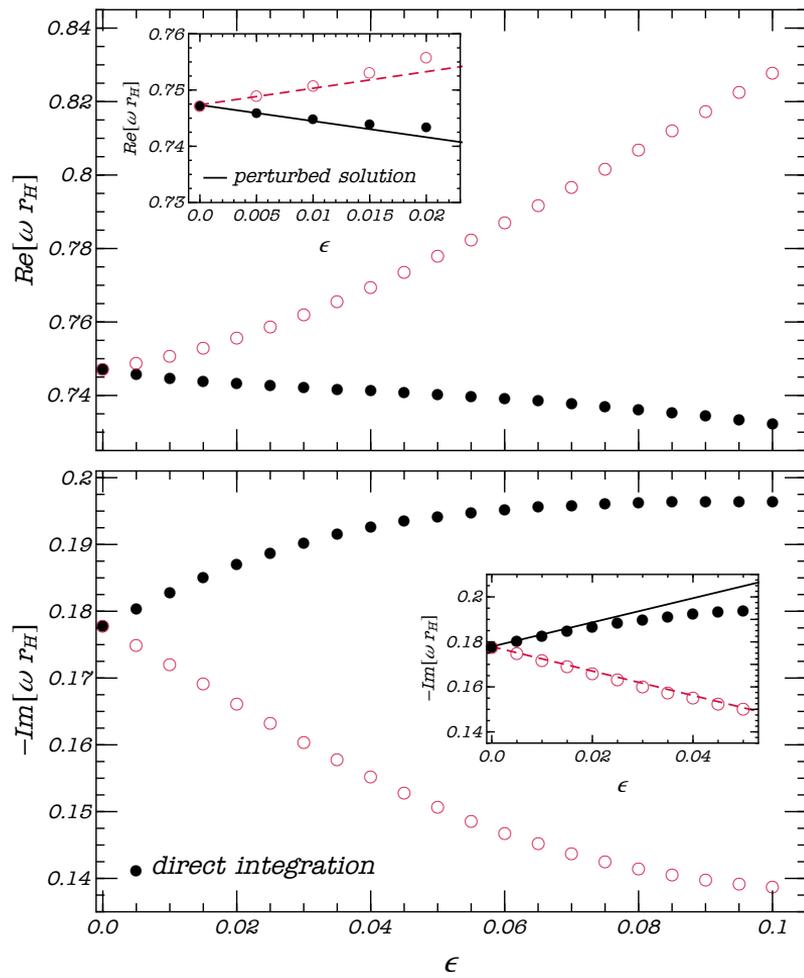
$$V_{11} = V_+$$

$$V_{22} = V_-$$

$$V_{12} = V_{21} = \epsilon V(r)$$

where off-diagonal perturbations are given in [\[Cardoso+, 1808.08962\]](#)

Direct integration vs. degenerate parametrization:
good agreement, but quadratic corrections could be useful



Parametrized merger/ringdown: a summary

Modifications to the gravity sector and/or beyond Standard Model physics:

- small modifications to the potentials
- coupling between the (matrix-valued) wave equations

We parametrized modifications by power laws, then computed perturbed QNMs for:

- linear corrections to diagonal terms [Cardoso+, 1901.01265]
- quadratic corrections + coupling [McManus+, 1906.05155]

The formalism is very general!

Examples:

- EFT, Reissner-Nordström, Klein-Gordon in Kerr for slow rotation
- scalar/odd gravitational dCS, scalar-led Horndeski, odd/even gravitational EFT

Needed generalizations:

- higher-order corrections (in particular, in degenerate coupled case)
- **coupled gravitational modes with rotation – LIGO/Virgo remnants have spins 0.7 or so!**

Parametrized
spectroscopy:
adding rotation

Rotating BH QNMs in modified gravity: the EFT viewpoint

QNM calculations: limited sample for specific theories (EdGB/EsGB, dCS) and **nonrotating** BHs [Blazquez-Salcedo+ 1609.01286 (EdGB), 2006.06006 (EsGB); Molina+ 1004.4007 (dCS)]

Cano's work: systematic small-rotation expansion + **scalar** QNMs

Theories: sum over curvature invariants with scalar-dependent coefficients

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{|g|} \left[R + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \ell^{2n-2} \mathcal{L}_{(n)} \right] \quad \text{and more specifically, at order } \ell^4$$

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{|g|} \left\{ R + \alpha_1 \phi_1 \ell^2 R_{\text{GB}} + \alpha_2 (\phi_2 \cos \theta_m + \phi_1 \sin \theta_m) \ell^2 R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \tilde{R}^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \right. \\ \left. + \lambda_{\text{ev}} \ell^4 R_{\mu\nu}^{\rho\sigma} R_{\rho\sigma}^{\delta\gamma} R_{\delta\gamma}^{\mu\nu} + \lambda_{\text{odd}} \ell^4 R_{\mu\nu}^{\rho\sigma} R_{\rho\sigma}^{\delta\gamma} \tilde{R}_{\delta\gamma}^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi_1)^2 - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi_2)^2 \right\}$$

Einsteinian cubic gravity (+parity-breaking) - causality constraints [Camanho+ 1407.5597]

Next order, no new DOFs [Endlich-Gorbenko-Huang-Senatore, 1704.01590]

$$S_{(4)} = \frac{\ell^6}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{|g|} \left\{ \epsilon_1 \mathcal{C}^2 + \epsilon_2 \tilde{\mathcal{C}}^2 + \epsilon_3 \mathcal{C}\tilde{\mathcal{C}} \right\} \quad \mathcal{C} = R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}, \quad \tilde{\mathcal{C}} = R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \tilde{R}^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}$$

[Cano-Ruipérez, 1901.01315; Cano-Fransen-Hertog, 2005.03671. See also work by Hui, Penco...]

No calculation of rotating BH QNMs in modified gravity: the EFT viewpoint

Background solutions:

algorithm to compute small-coupling corrections, up to order 14 in rotation

Scalar QNM calculations: “quasi-separable”

For zero coupling, can be separated in terms of spin-weighted **spheroidal** harmonics

$$\nabla^2 \psi = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i(m\phi - \omega t)} \mathcal{D}_{m,\omega}^2 \psi_{m,\omega}$$

$$\mathcal{D}_{m,\omega}^2 = \mathcal{D}_{(0)m,\omega}^2 + \lambda \mathcal{D}_{(1)m,\omega}^2$$

$$\psi_{m,\omega} = \sum_{l=|m|}^{\infty} S_{l,m}(x; a\omega) R_{l,m}(\rho)$$

End of the story: second-order radial ODEs can be cast as wave equations via redefinitions of the radial variable/radial WF, and solved either numerically or via WKB

$$\frac{d^2 \varphi}{dy^2} + (\omega^2 - V(y; \omega)) \varphi = 0$$

Note: not all potentials vanish at the horizon

Parametrized spectroscopy: how many observations do we need?

Use a small-spin expansion and add parametric deviations to frequency and damping time
 Assume you detect **N** sources, and **q** QNM frequencies for each source

$J = 1, 2, \dots, q$ modes/source Order in the spin expansion: need at least 4 or 5 in GR

$$\omega_i^{(J)} = \frac{1}{M_i} \sum_{n=0}^D \chi_i^n w_J^{(n)} \left(1 + \gamma_i \delta w_J^{(n)} \right)$$

$i = 1, \dots, N$ sources

$$\tau_i^{(J)} = M_i \sum_{n=0}^D \chi_i^n t_J^{(n)} \left(1 + \gamma_i \delta t_J^{(n)} \right)$$

Expansion coefficients in GR

Small, universal non-GR corrections

How many parameters?

If $\gamma_i = \alpha$ for all sources, reabsorb $\gamma_i \delta w^{(n)} \rightarrow \delta w^{(n)}$

How many observables?

$$\mathcal{P} = 2(D + 1)q$$

$$D = 4$$

$$\mathcal{O} = 2N \times q$$

$$\begin{matrix} q = 1 \\ \ell = m = 2 \end{matrix} \rightarrow \mathcal{P} = 10$$

$$\begin{matrix} q = 2 \\ \ell = m = 2 \\ \ell = m = 3 \end{matrix} \rightarrow \mathcal{P} = 20$$

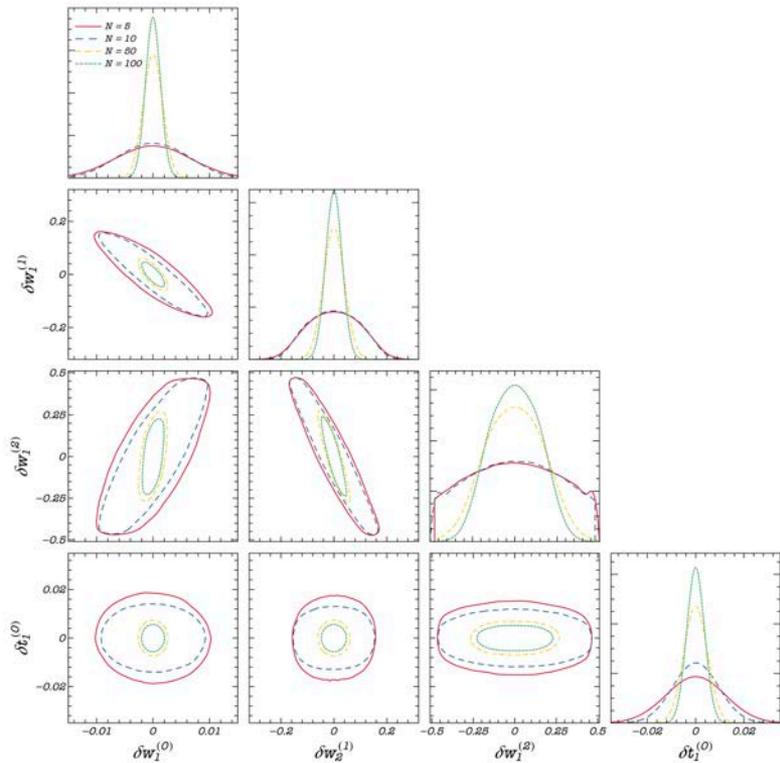
Need only $N \geq D + 1$

No calculation of rotating BH QNMs in modified gravity: the EFT viewpoint

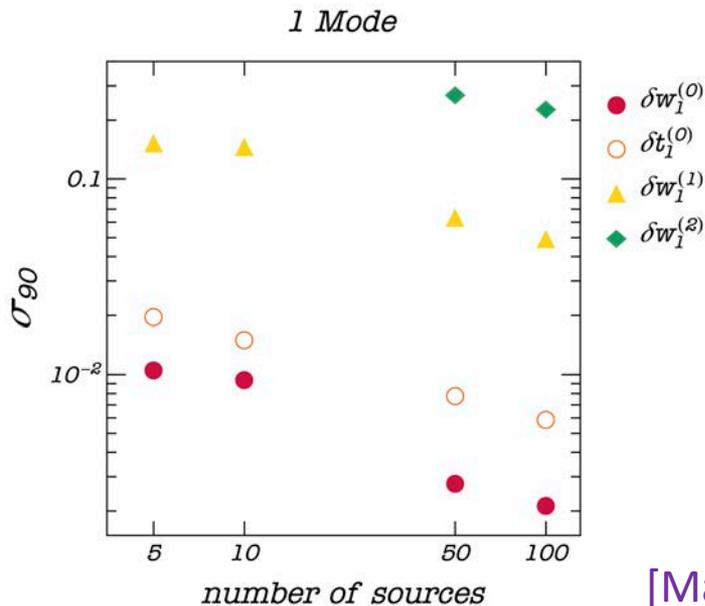
Complication: the coupling is often dimensionful $\gamma_i = \frac{\alpha}{(M_i^s)^p} = \frac{\alpha(1+z_i)^p}{M_i^p}$

Use Bayesian inference (MCMC), $p = 0$, $q = 1$ (one mode), simple source distributions

Einstein Telescope: constrain first three frequency coeffs and only the first damping coeffs



Width at 90% confidence gets better as we get more observations:



Take-home messages

“Null” spectroscopic tests of GR:

High-SNR (LISA/CE/ET) GW astronomy will need better control over systematic errors
[Ferguson+ 2006.04272]

Study excitation factor with “true” merger initial data. Nonlinearities?

“Real” tests of GR with black hole inspiral/merger/ringdown:

Need full nonlinear simulations in beyond-GR theories

- Identify interesting theories: EsGB is one such
- Study 3+1 decomposition and well-posedness (EFT - or better, full theory)

Parametrized tests of GR with black hole ringdown:

Nonrotating case quite well understood – but irrelevant to most “real” mergers

Rotation:

- Can use perturbation theory and slow-rotation approximation, but hard
- **Numerical, single black hole time-evolutions could get the QNM spectrum in specific theories first** (similar work has been done for rotating stars)