



Black holes in effective field theories: Dynamics and new observational signatures

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Beyond-GR black holes in EFT

Effective field theories

- Einstein's theory is **not renormalizable**
- A solution: supplement Einstein-Hilbert action with **higher-order curvature invariants**.
- EFT – keep **only the low energy** corrections to the action, assuming that they are dominant on astrophysical scales.
- Desire: field equations of **second order** and **well posed**
- Best candidate: **scalar-Gauss-Bonnet** theory

scalar-Gauss-Bonnet gravity

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[R - 2\nabla_\mu \varphi \nabla^\mu \varphi - V(\varphi) + \lambda^2 f(\varphi) \mathcal{R}_{GB}^2 \right].$$

Gauss-Bonnet invariant:

$$\mathcal{R}_{GB}^2 = R^2 - 4R_{\mu\nu}R^{\mu\nu} + R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}R^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}$$

- Schwarzschild: $R_{GB}^2 = \frac{48M^2}{r^6}$
- Field equations :

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}Rg_{\mu\nu} + \Gamma_{\mu\nu} = 2\nabla_\mu \varphi \nabla_\nu \varphi - g_{\mu\nu} \nabla_\alpha \varphi \nabla^\alpha \varphi - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu} V(\varphi),$$

$$\nabla_\alpha \nabla^\alpha \varphi = \frac{1}{4} \frac{dV(\varphi)}{d\varphi} - \frac{\lambda^2}{4} \frac{df(\varphi)}{d\varphi} \mathcal{R}_{GB}^2,$$

Scalar field coupling $f(\varphi)$ $\nabla_\alpha \nabla^\alpha \varphi = -\frac{\lambda^2}{4} \frac{df(\varphi)}{d\varphi} R_{GB}^2$

Expand $f(\varphi)$ in series around $\varphi = 0$:

$$f(\varphi) = f_0 + f_1\varphi + f_2\varphi^2 + f_3\varphi^3 + f_4\varphi^4 + O(\varphi^5)$$

Type I:

- $f_1 \neq 0$: **shift-symmetric** theory, Schwarzschild is not a solution, $|\varphi| > 0$ always
Kanti et al PRD(1996), Torii et al (1996), Pani&Cardoso PRD (2009)

Type II:

- $f_1 = 0, f_2 > 0, R_{GB}^2 > 0$: **spontaneous** scalarization, Kerr unstable for **small masses** DD, Yazadjiev PRL (2018), Silva et al PRL (2018), Antoniou et al (2018)
- $f_1 = 0, f_2 < 0, R_{GB}^2 < 0$: **spin-induced** scalarization, Kerr unstable for **large spins**
Dima et al PRL (2020), DD et al RPD(2020), Berti et al PRL (2021), Herdeiro et al PRL (2021)

Beyond Type II:

- $f_1 = 0, f_2 = 0 : \mu_{\text{eff}}^2 = 0$, **nonlinear** scalarization, Kerr **linearly stable always**,
nonlinear scalarized phases can co-exist DD, Yazadjiev, PRD Lett. (2021)

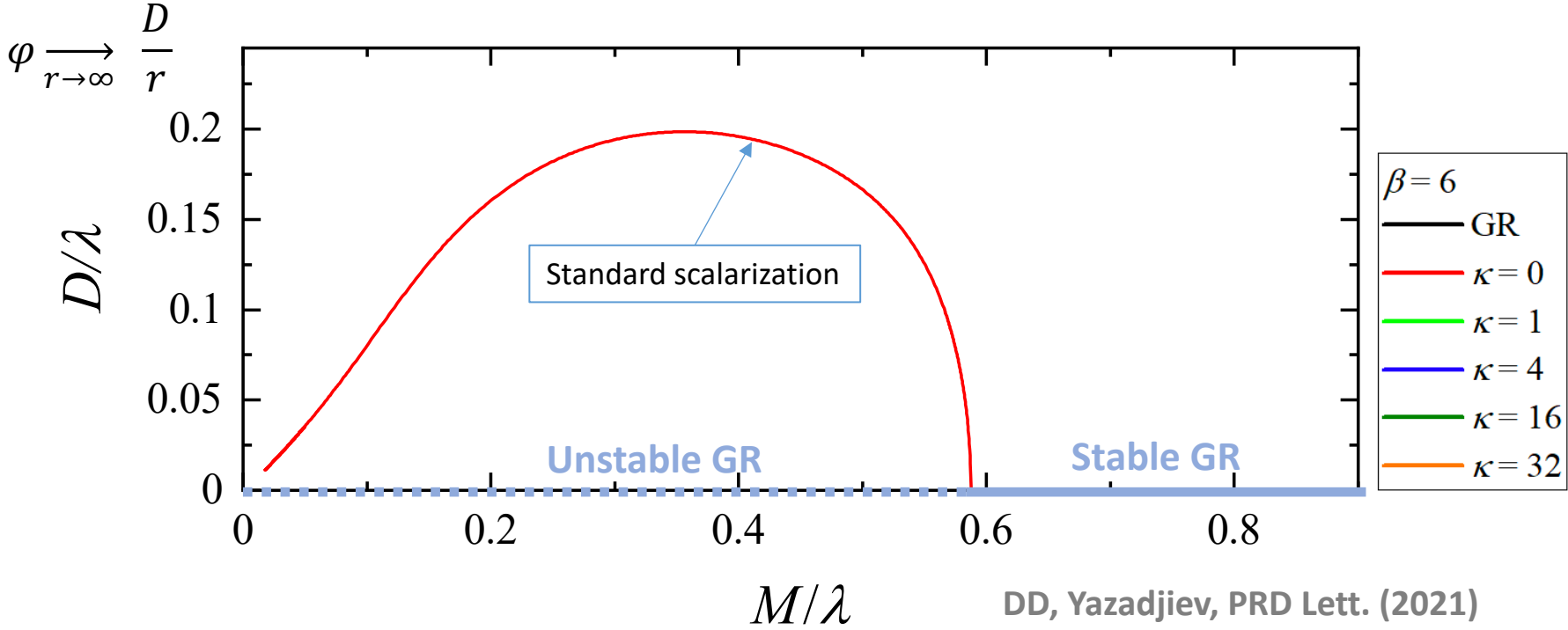
Scalar field coupling $f(\varphi)$

- Better numerically – consider an **exponential function**

$$f(\varphi) = \frac{1}{2\beta} (1 - e^{-\beta(\varphi^2 + \kappa\varphi^4)})$$

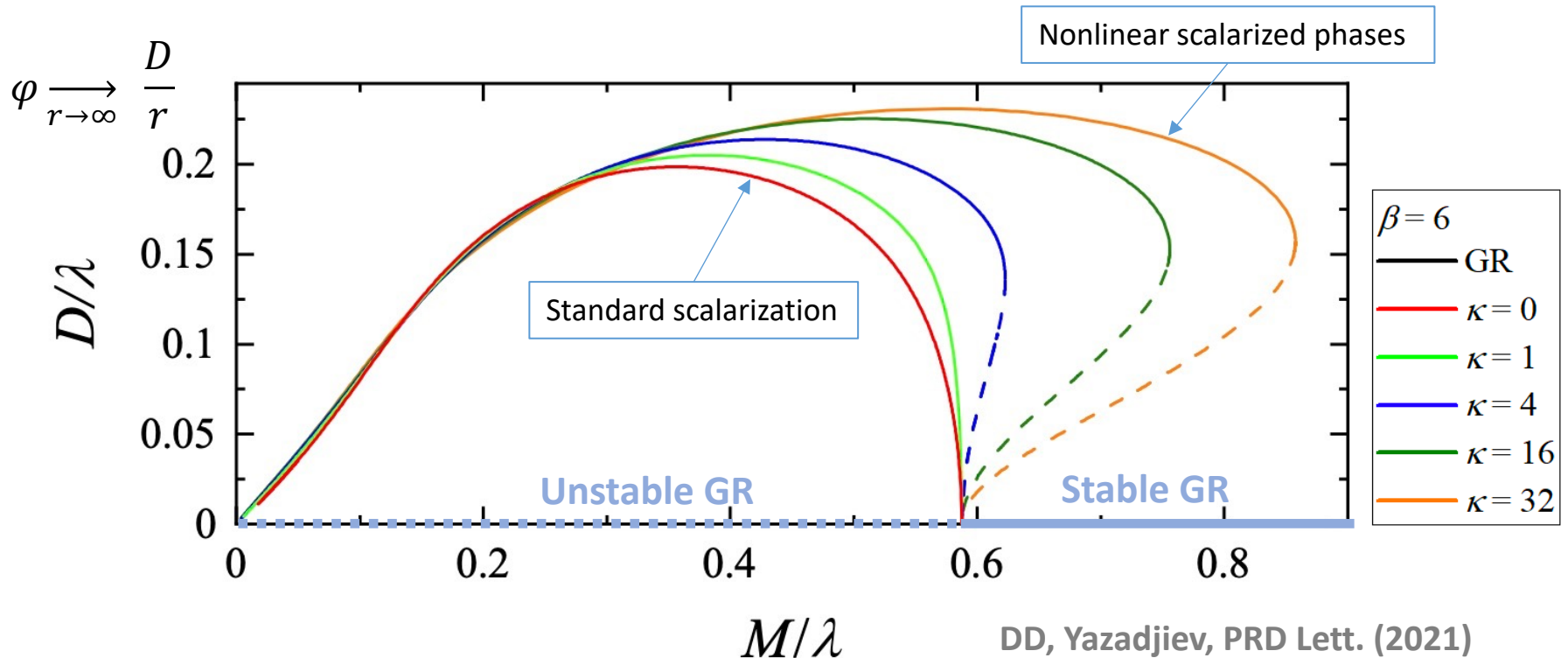
Standard scalarization with φ^2

$$f(\varphi) = \frac{1}{2\beta} (1 - e^{-\beta(\varphi^2 + \kappa\varphi^4)})$$



Standard + nonlinear scalarization

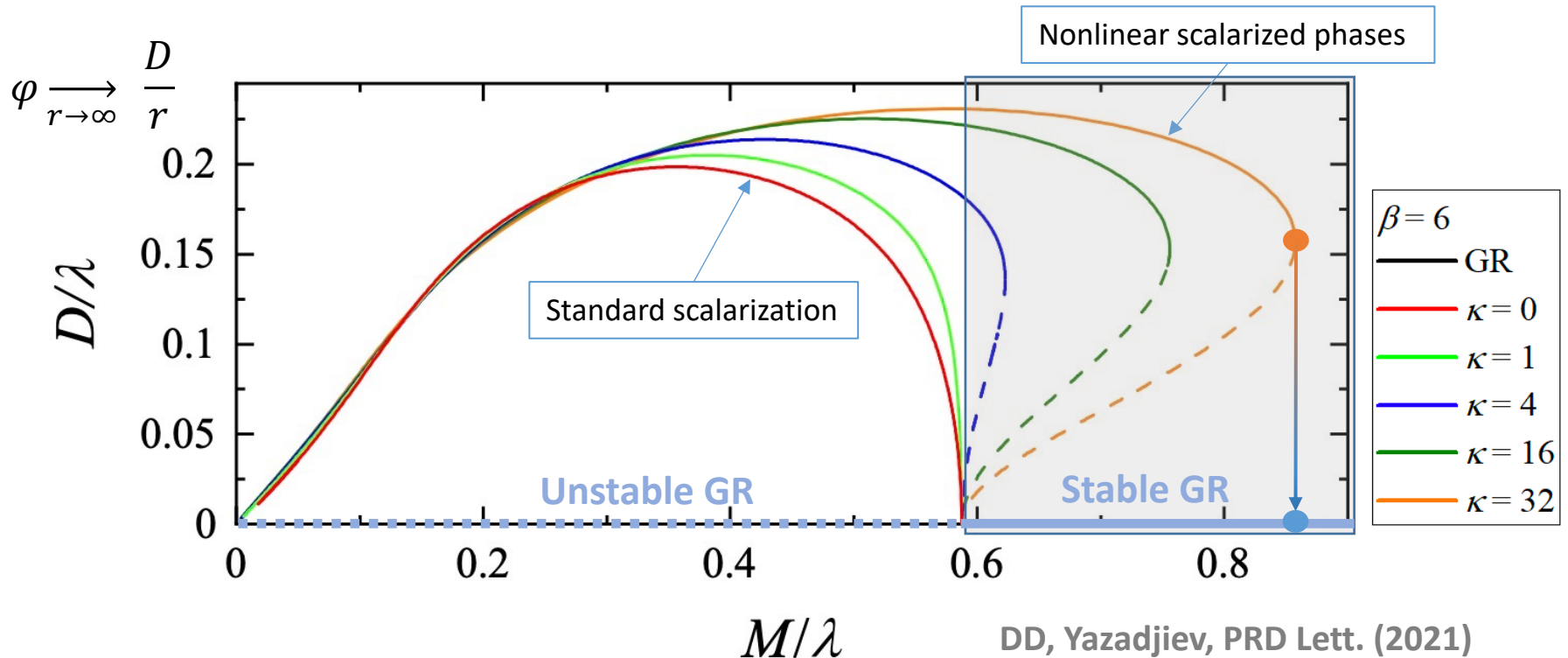
$$f(\varphi) = \frac{1}{2\beta} (1 - e^{-\beta(\varphi^2 + \kappa\varphi^4)})$$



- Transition from **stable scalarized to GR** happens with a **jump**
- For a similar effect for charged BH see Blázquez-Salcedo et al. PLB (2020)

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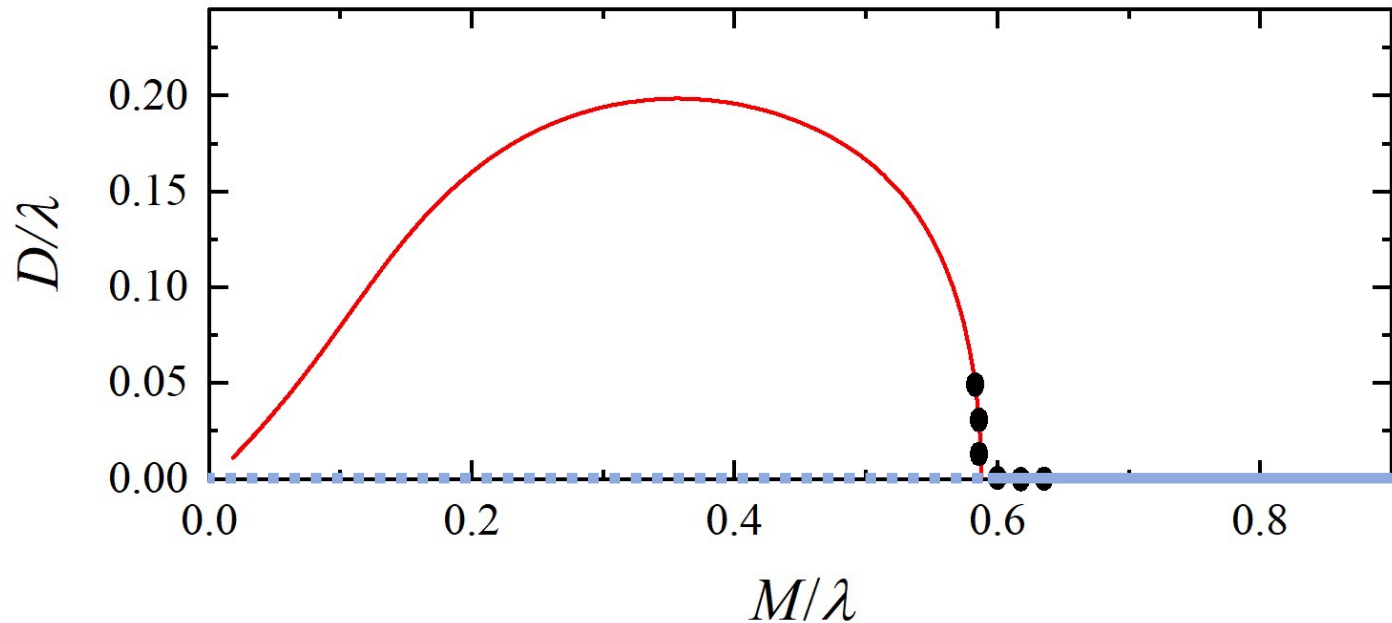


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Binary mergers

Dynamical descalarization

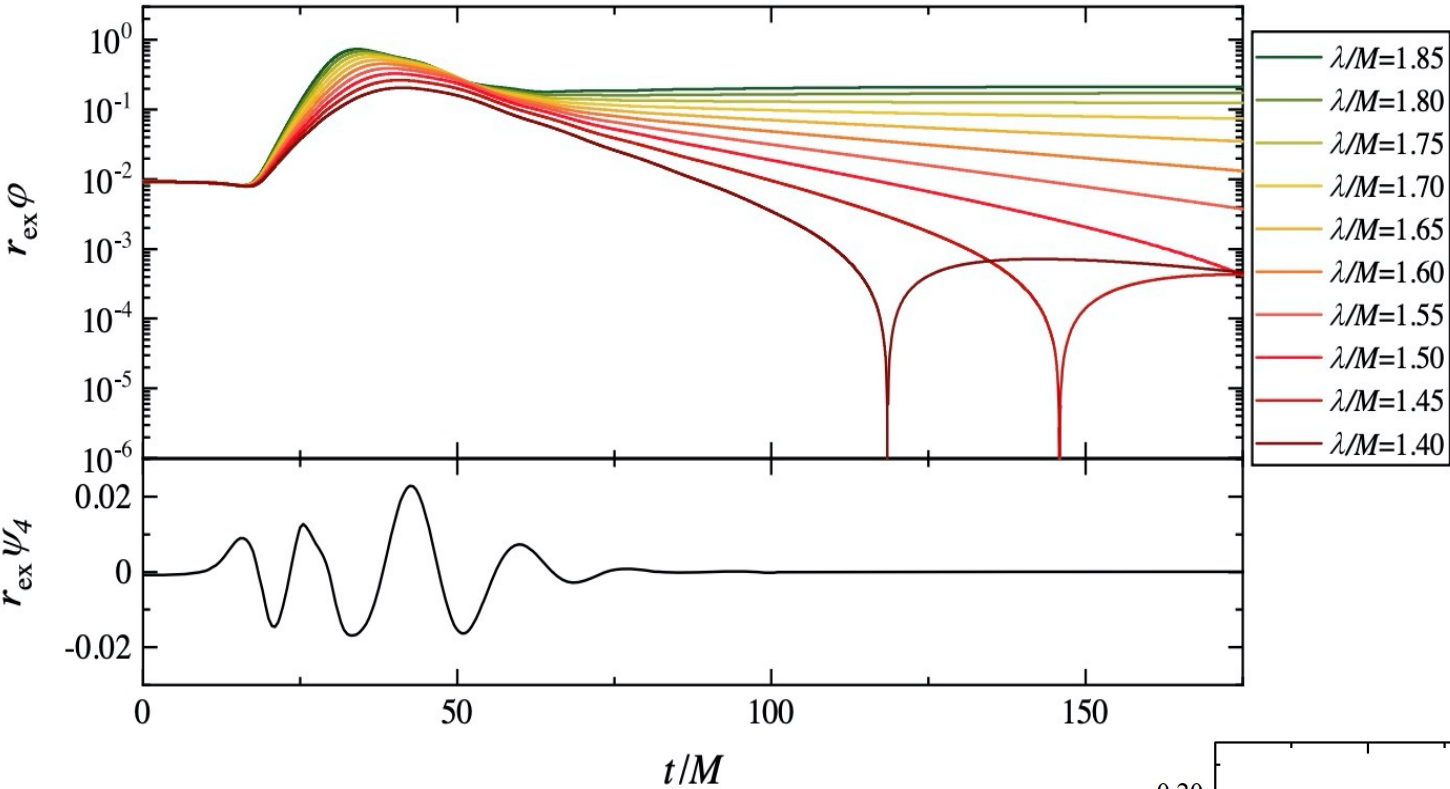
$$f(\varphi) = \frac{1}{2\beta} (1 - e^{-\beta(\varphi^2 + \kappa\varphi^4)}) \quad (\beta = 6, \kappa = 0)$$



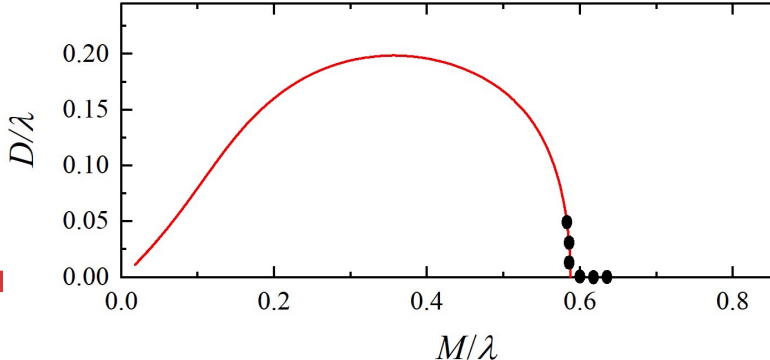
- Decoupling limit Silva et al. RPL (2021), Elley et al. PRD (2022)
- Full problem East&Ripley PRL (2021), Areste-Salo et al PRL (2022), Corman et al. (2023)

Dynamical descalarization

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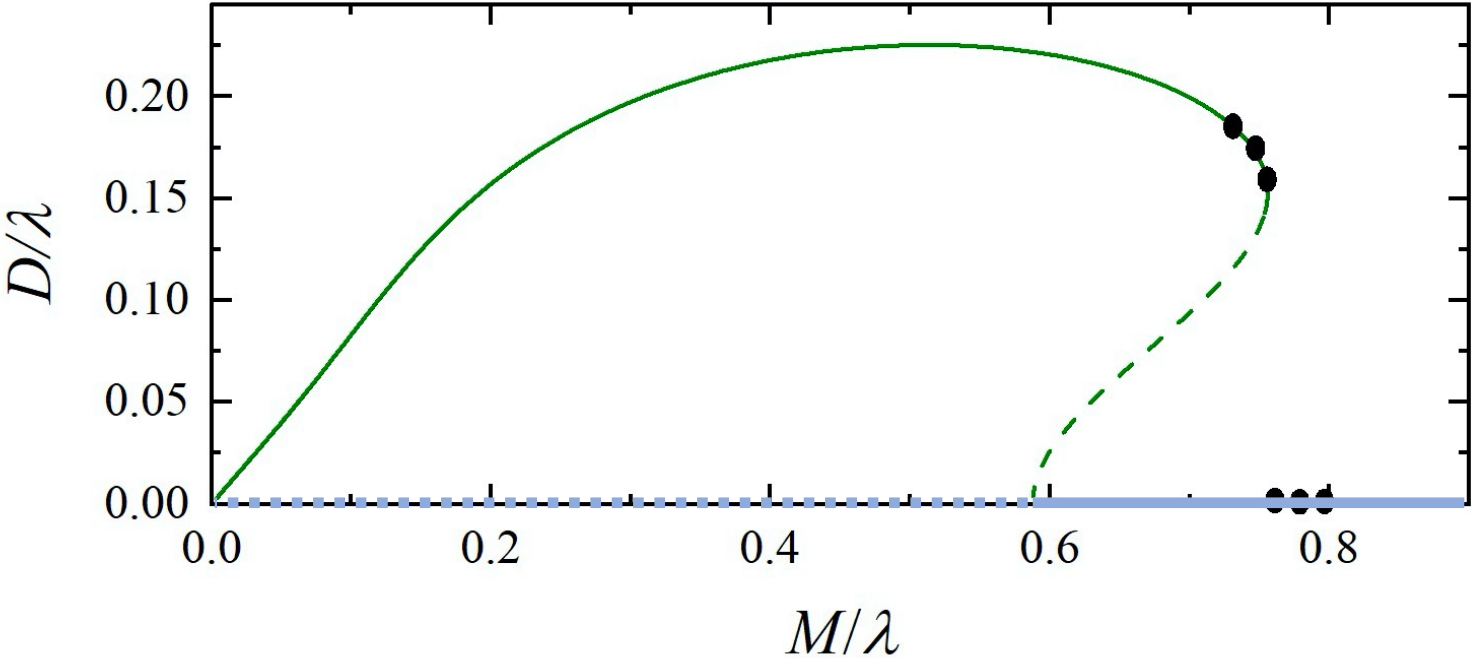


DD, Vano-Vinuales, Yazadjiev PRDLett. (2022)



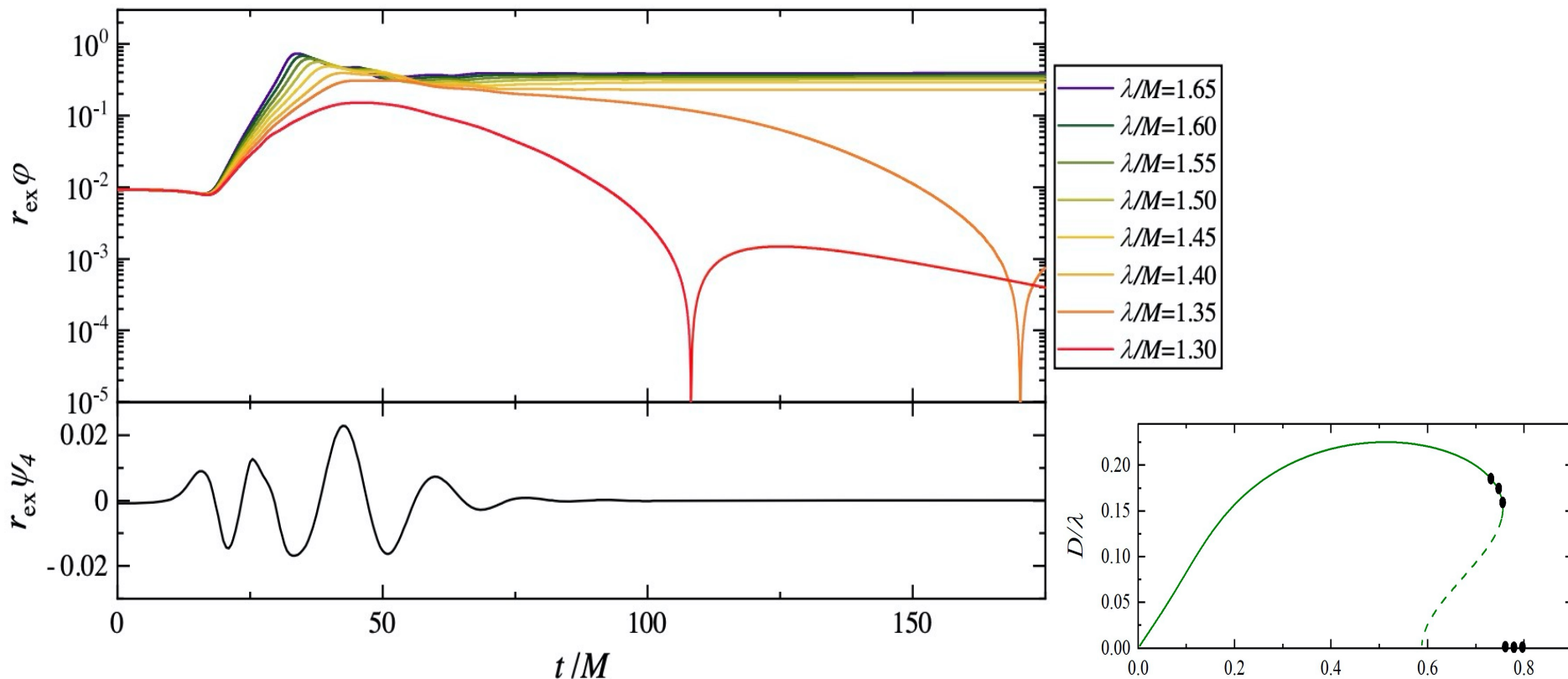
Dynamical descalarization WITH a jump

$$f(\varphi) = \frac{1}{2\beta} (1 - e^{-\beta(\varphi^2 + \kappa\varphi^4)}) \quad (\beta = 6, \kappa = 16)$$



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DD, Vano-Vinuales, Yazadjiev PRD Lett (2022)

- **Similarities** with the **matter phase transitions** during neutron star binary mergers Most et al. PRL (2019), Bauswein et al. PRL (2019), Weih et al. (2020).

Well-posedness

- A solution exists;
- The solution is unique;
- It changes continuously with changes in the data.

Studying hyperbolicity

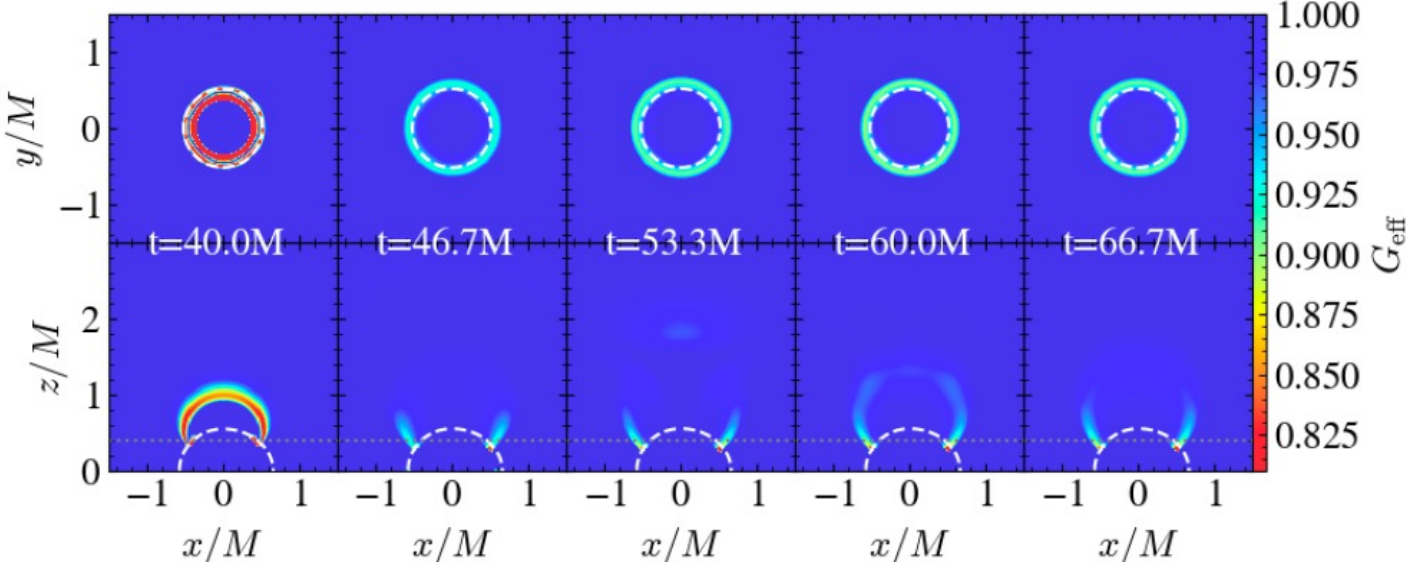
- **Principle symbol** – a matrix assembled by the coefficients in front of the leading (2nd) order derivative in the differential equation
- **Scalar-Gauss-Bonnet gravity**: Can be written in terms of an **effective metric**
Real PRD (2021), Areste-Salo et al PRL (2022), PRD (2022)

$$g_{\text{eff}}^{\mu\nu} = g^{\mu\nu} - \Omega^{\mu\nu}$$

$$\Omega_{\mu\nu} = \lambda \nabla_{\mu} \nabla_{\nu} f(\varphi)$$

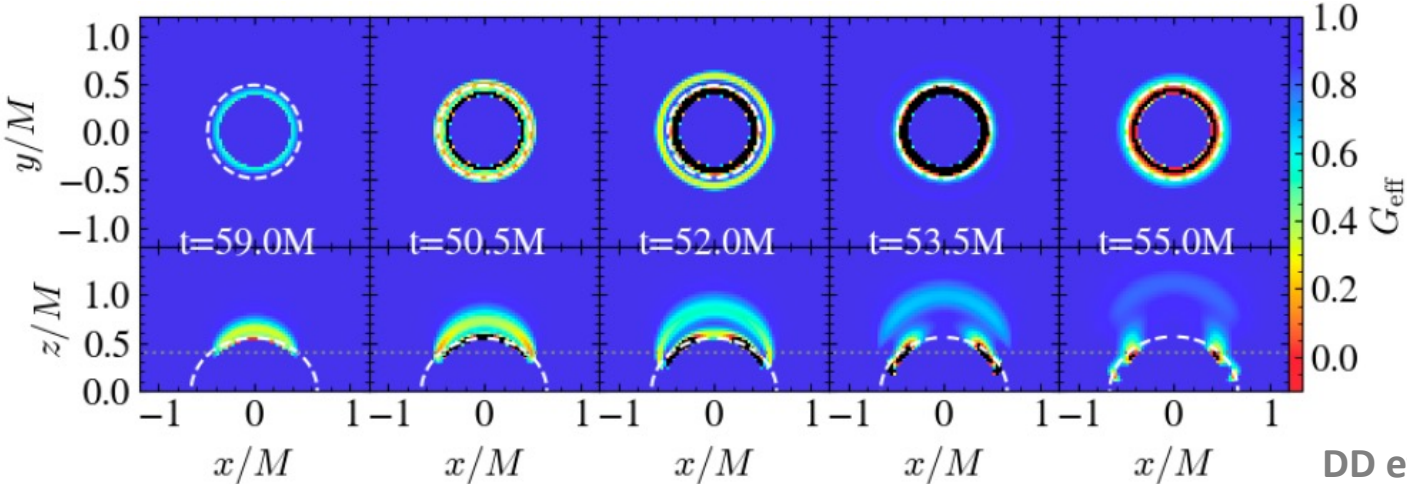
- **Hyperbolicity loss** when the determinant of the effective metric < 0
East&Ripley PRL (2021), Areste-Salo et al PRL (2022), Hegade et al PRD (2023), Corman et al. PRD (2023)
- **Modified harmonic gauge** in Gauss-Bonnet theory – the system remains **hyperbolic in weak coupling limit** Kovacs&Real PRL (2021)

Normalized determinant – spin-induced black hole



Hyperbolic evolution

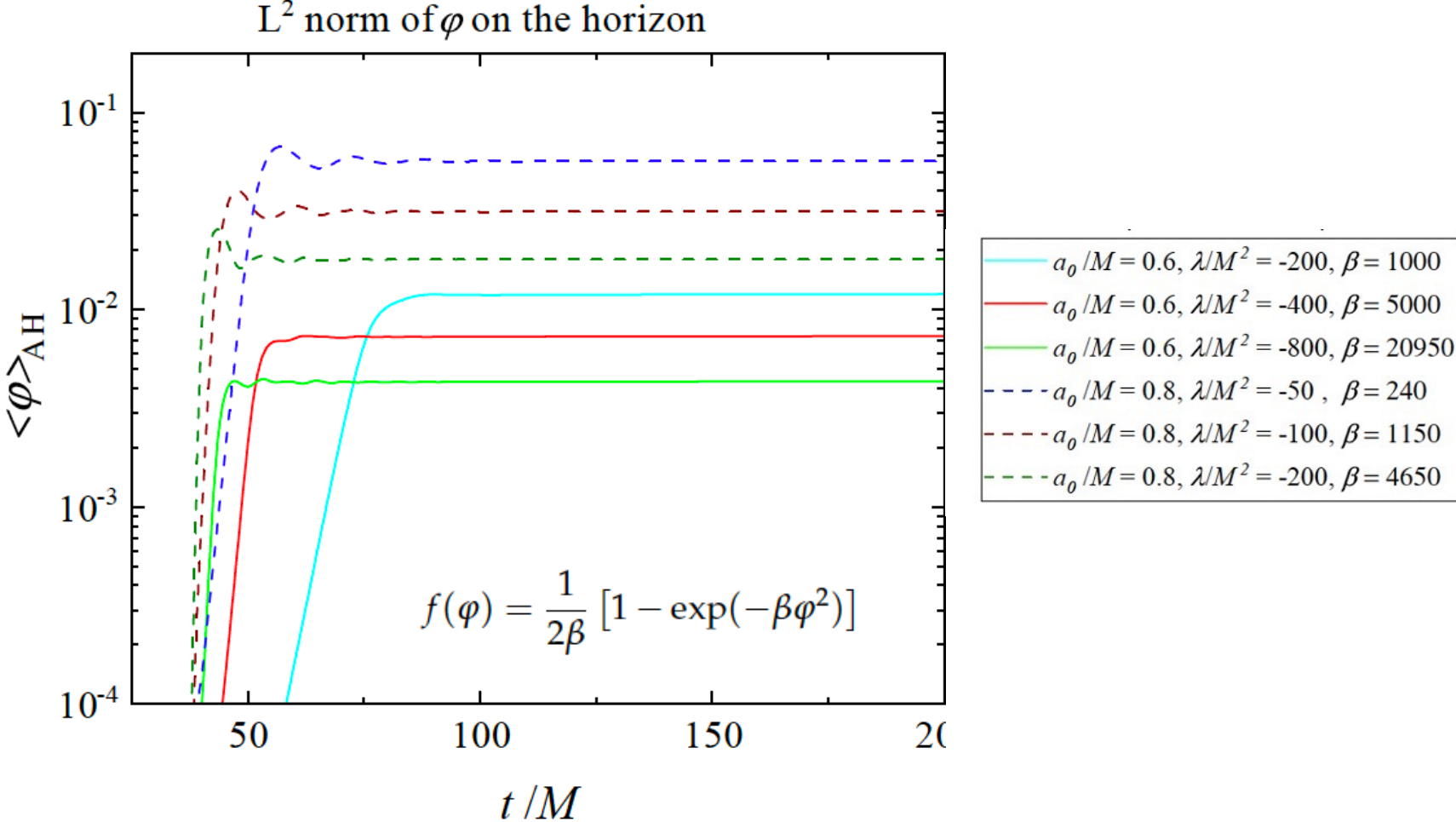
VS.



Hyperbolicity loss

DD et al. PRD (2023)

Limitting models for hyperbolicity loss

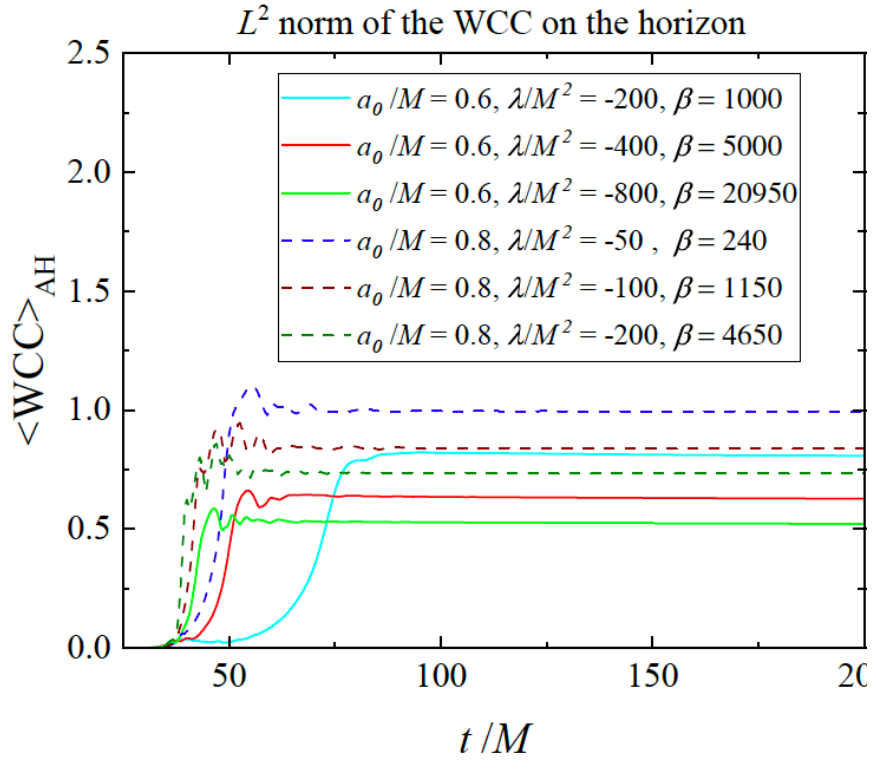
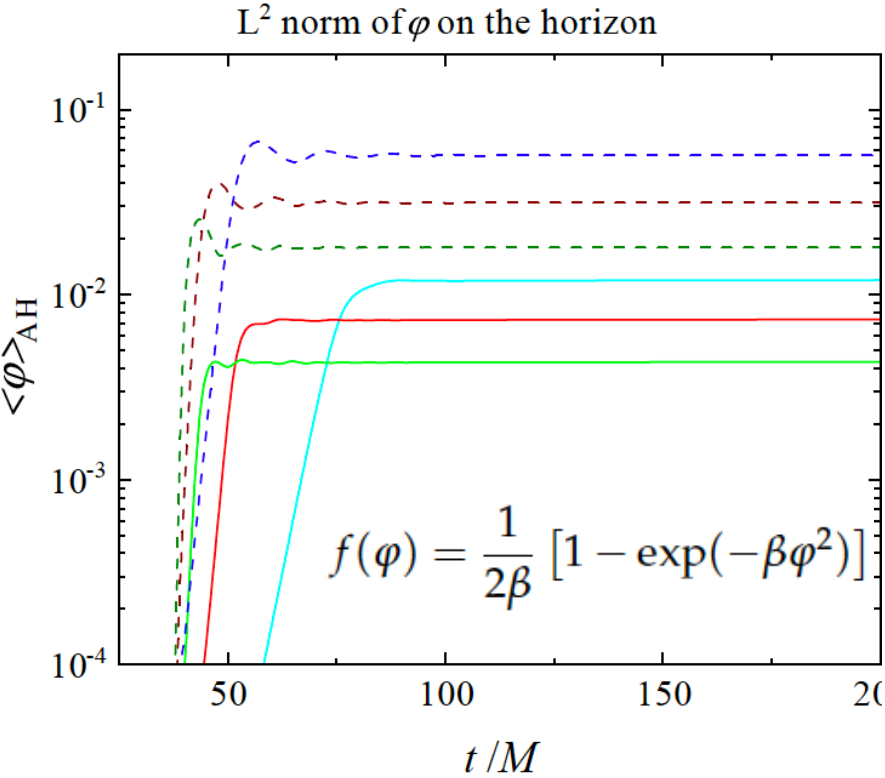


Limiting models and weak coupling condition

- Weak coupling condition

$$\sqrt{|\lambda f'(\varphi)|} / L \ll 1$$

$$L^{-1} = \max\{|R_{ij}|^{1/2}, |\nabla_\mu \varphi|, |\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \varphi|^{1/2}, |\mathcal{R}_{GB}^2|^{1/4}\}$$



DD et al. PRD (2023)

Resolving the problem

- **Gauge change** – not very likely to help, hyperbolicity loss due to eigenvalues of physical modes becoming imaginary Areste-Salo et al PRL (2022), PRD (2022), DD et al. PRD (2023)
- **Fixing approach** Franchini et al PRD (2022), Cayuso et al PRL (2023)
 - ✓ A prescription to control the high frequency behaviour of an EFT
 - ✓ Modify in an *ad hoc* way the higher-order contributions to the field equations
 - ✓ Add a driver equation to let the solution relax to its correct value
- **Addition interactions** in the action can mitigate the hyperbolicity loss

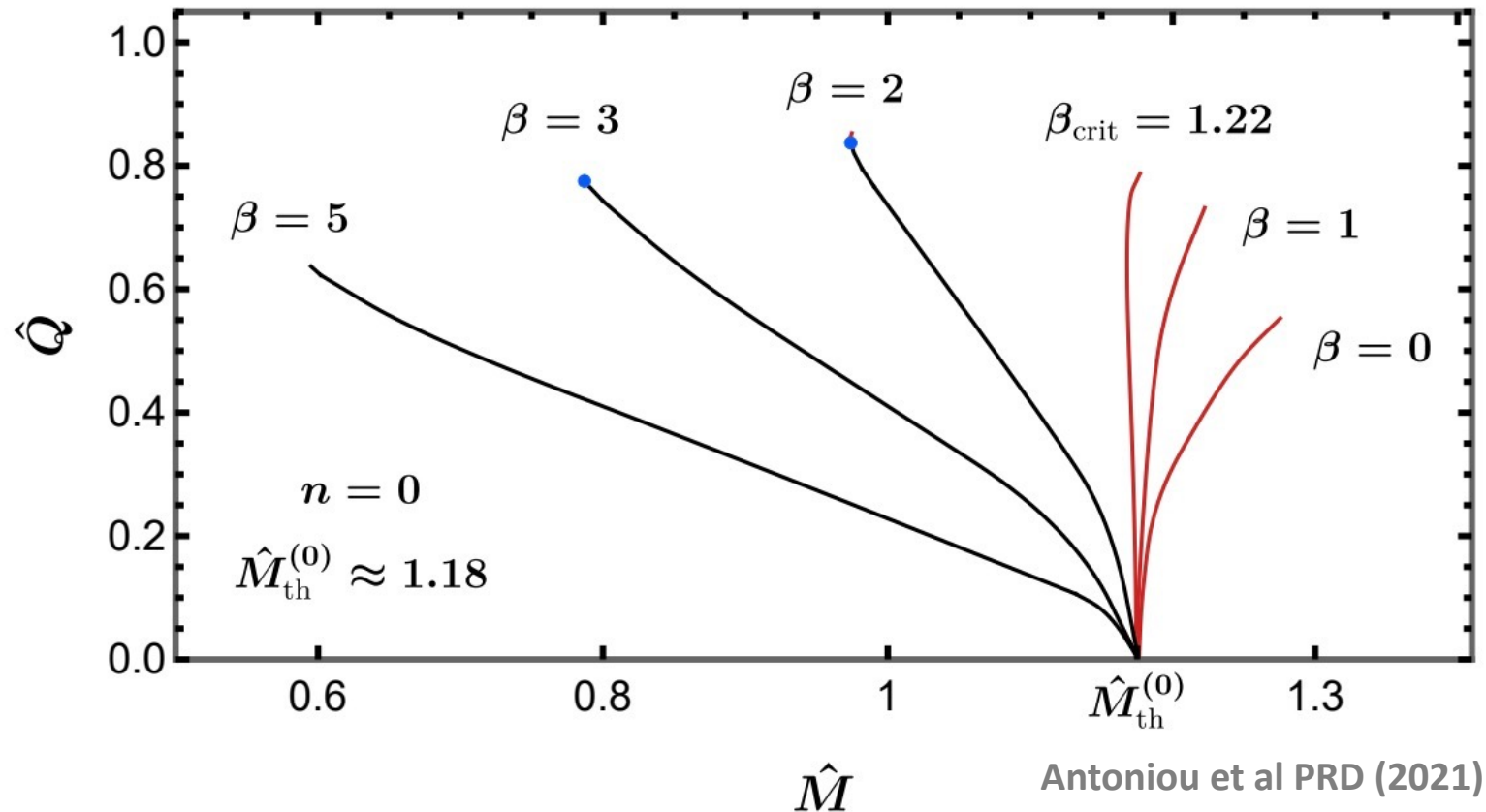
$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[R - \frac{1}{2} \nabla_\mu \varphi \nabla^\mu \varphi + \frac{1}{4} \lambda^{GB} f(\varphi) R^{GB} - \beta(\varphi) R \right]$$

Ricci scalar coupling

Ricci scalar coupling

$$f(\varphi) \sim \varphi^2, \quad \beta(\varphi) \sim \beta\varphi^2$$

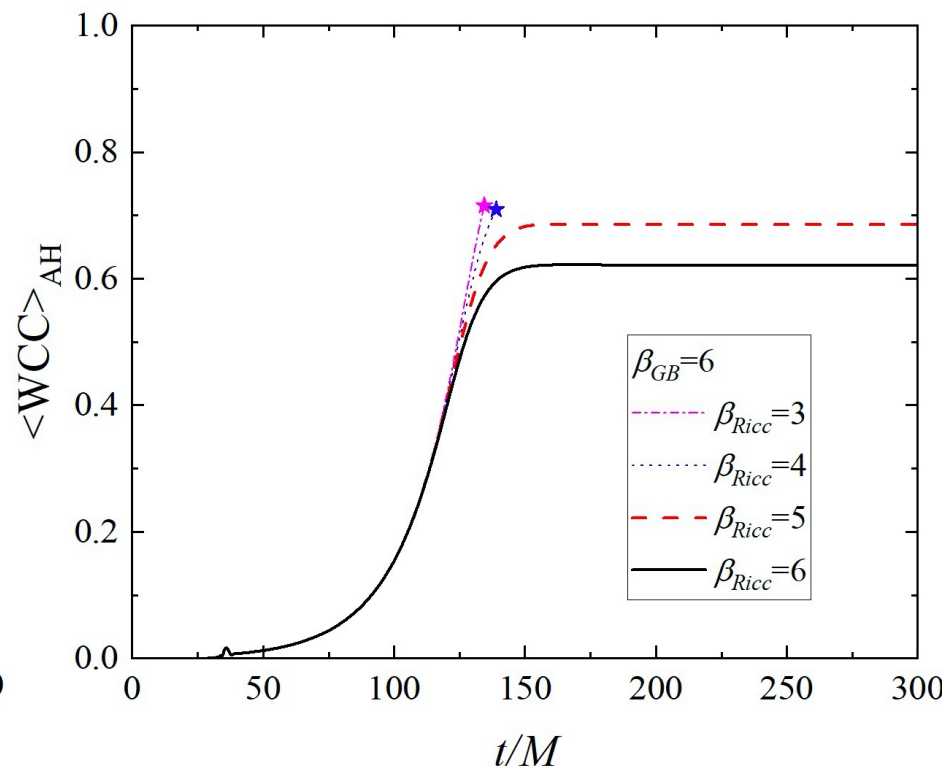
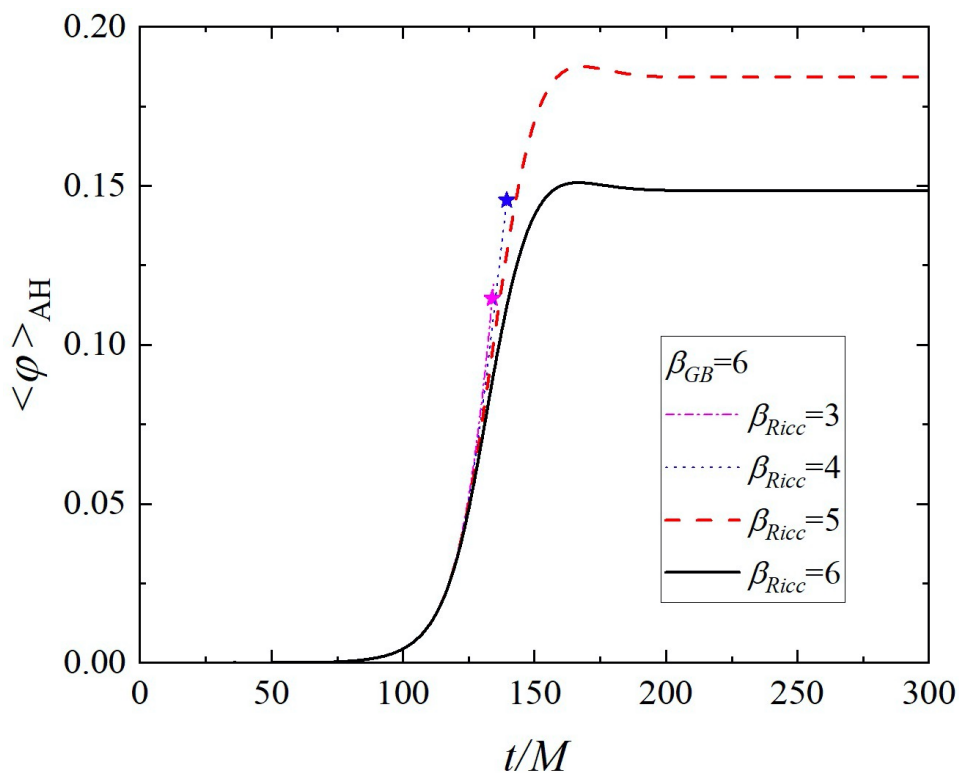
- Previously unstable solution **turn stable** Antoniou et al PRD (2021)
- Loss of hyperbolicity is **mitigated** in 1D simulation Thaalba et al (2023)



Ricci scalar coupling – 3D simulations

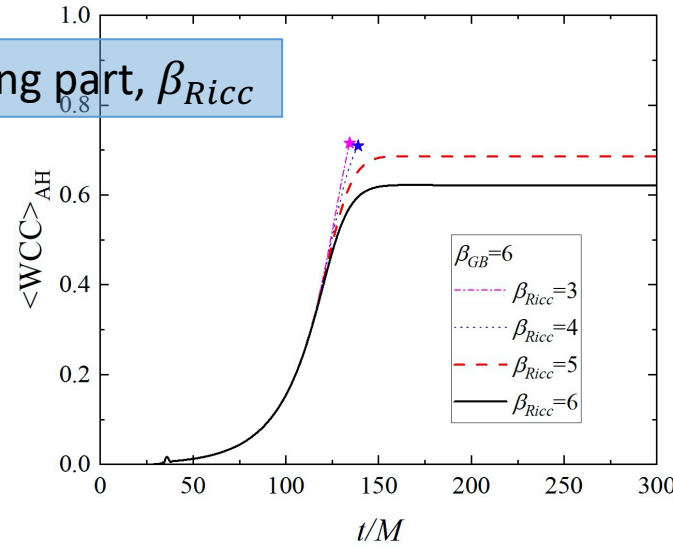
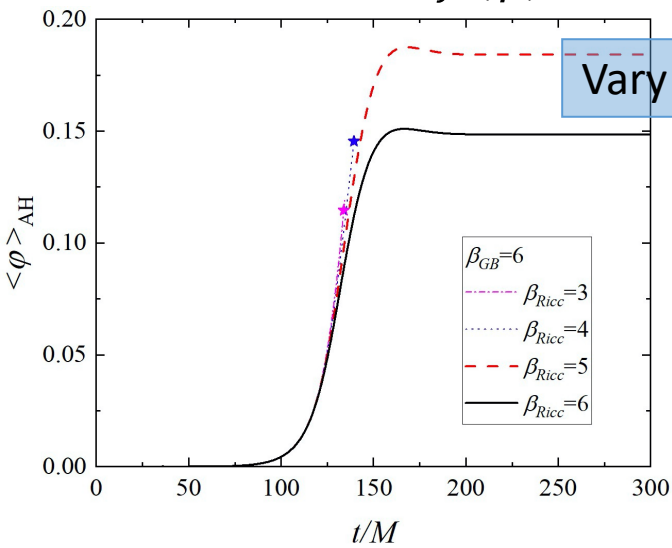
$$f(\varphi) \sim e^{-\beta_{GB}\varphi^2}, \quad \beta(\varphi) \sim e^{-\beta_{Ricc}\varphi^2}$$

- Evolution of a single nonrotating black hole
DD, Areste-Salo, Cough, Figueras, Yazadjiev, in prep.

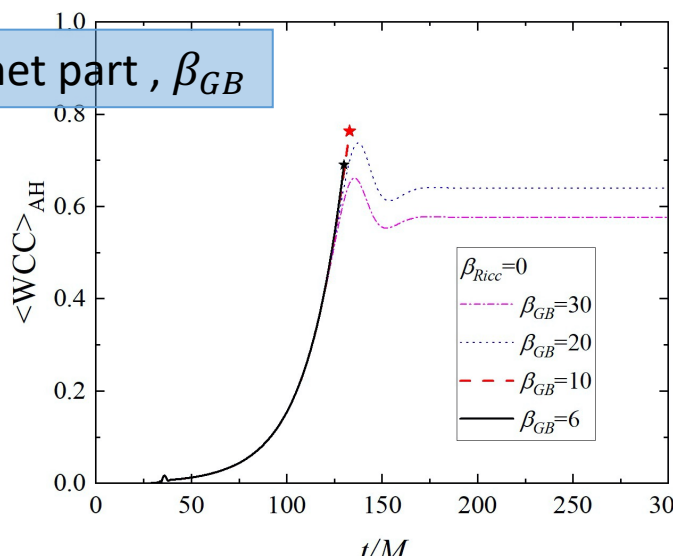
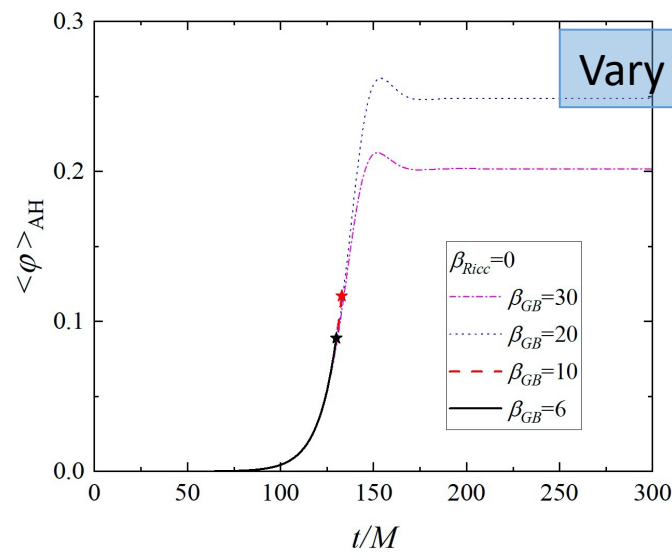


Ricci coupling vs. GB coupling variation

$$f(\varphi) \sim e^{-\beta_{GB}\varphi^2}, \quad \beta(\varphi) \sim e^{-\beta_{Ricc}\varphi^2}$$



VS.



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Conclusions

- Black holes in EFT offer a **very interesting venue of exploration**.
- Binary mergers can possess a **qualitatively new phenomenology**
- **Well-posedness** more subtle than in GR
- **Weak coupling condition** should always be obeyed

Outlook

- Exploring further the **fixing equation approach**
 - A deeper investigation **of binary mergers** and their **astrophysics signatures**
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THANK YOU!
