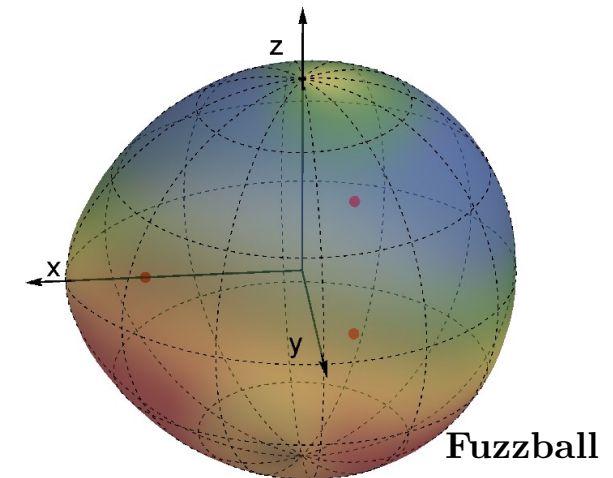
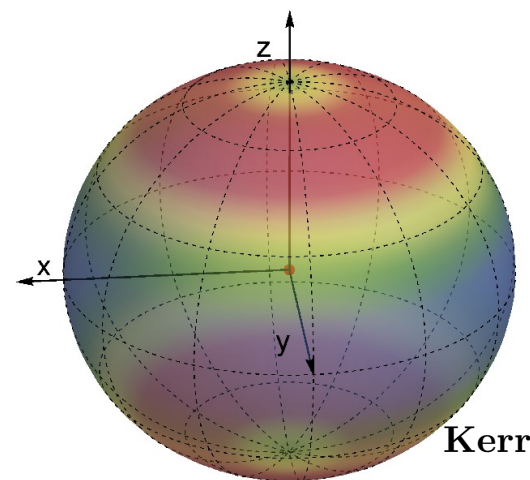
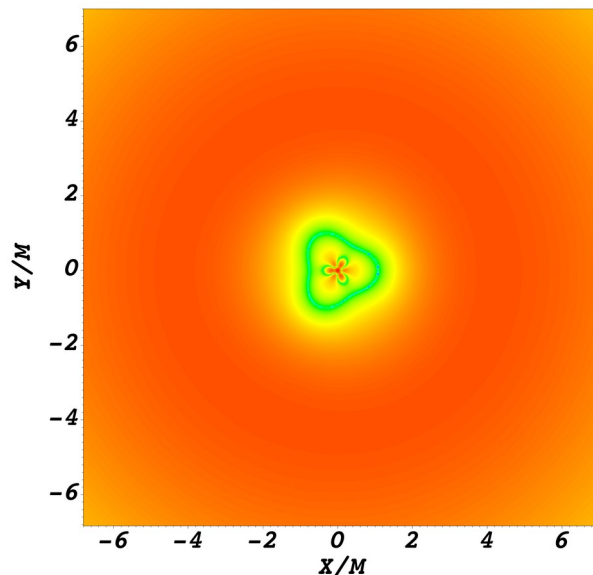


*“String Theory as a bridge between Gauge Theories and Quantum Gravity”*

# Model-agnostic phenomenology of black-hole microstates

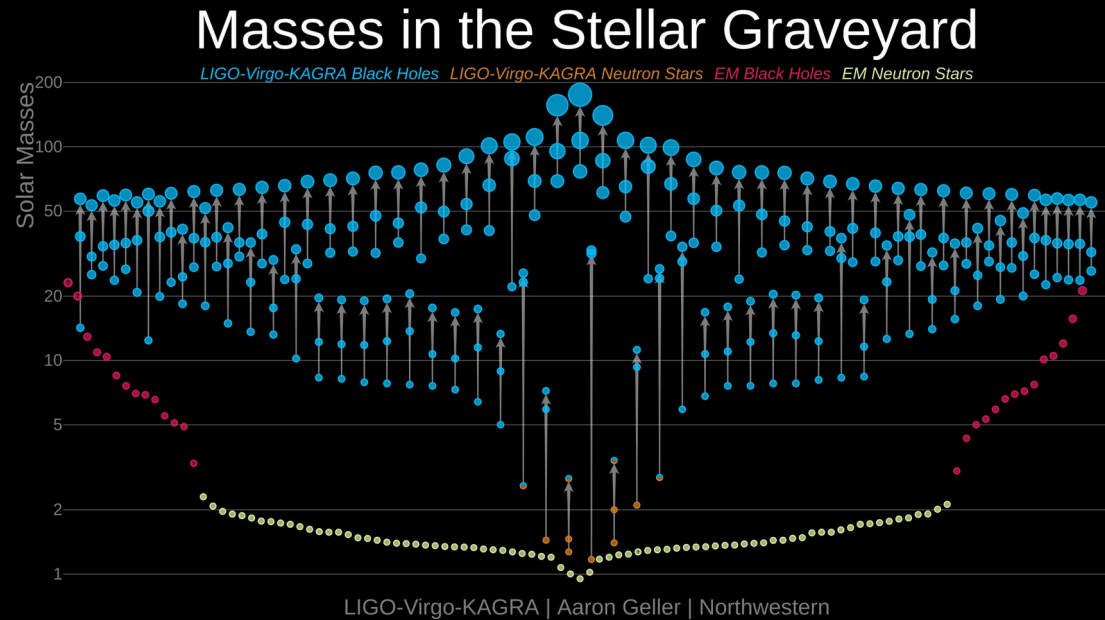
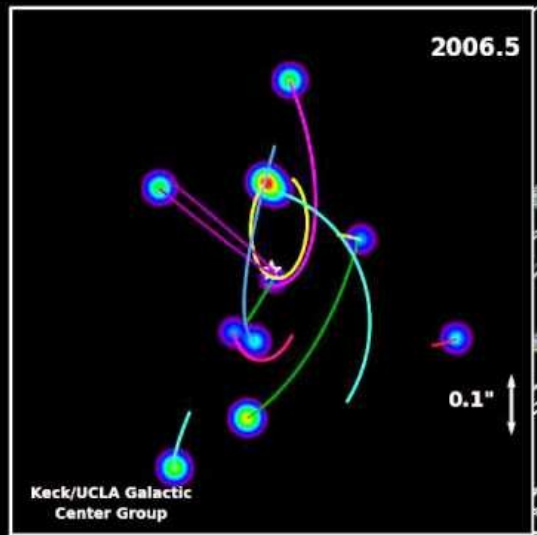


Paolo Pani

Sapienza University of Rome & INFN Roma1

<https://web.uniroma1.it/gmunu>

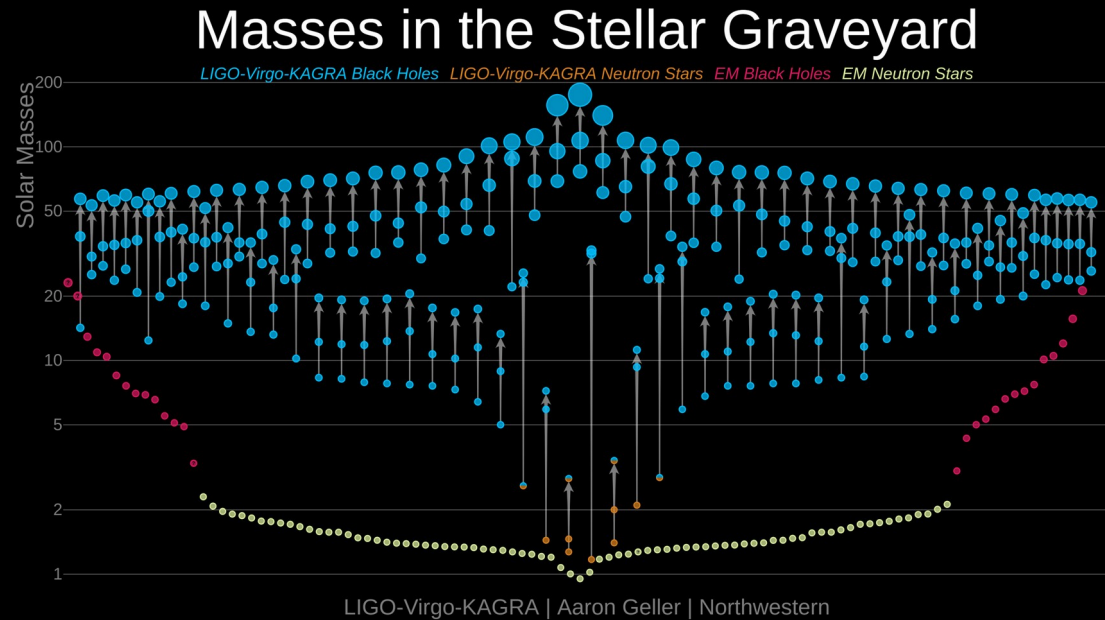
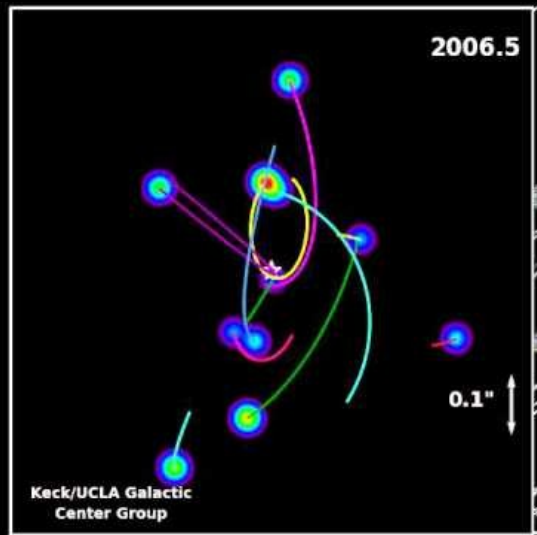
# Black holes are now everywhere!



Why (still) testing the nature of BHs?



# Black holes are now everywhere!



$e^{10^{90}}$  states!



2017



2020

Why (still) testing the nature of BHs?

# Problems on the horizon

---

- ▶ **Information loss:** unitarity of BH evaporation inconsistent with locality + “no drama” at the horizon

[Hawking, Almheri+ 2013]

- ▶ **Entropy:** Microscopic origin of the huge BH entropy ( $\exp[S_{\text{BH}}] \sim \exp[G M^2]$  states)?

- ▶ **Quantum tunneling:**  $\exp[-S_{\text{tunnel}}] \exp[S_{\text{BH}}] \sim 1 \rightarrow$  tunnel to quantum-gravity state with  $O(1)$  probability

[Mathur 2010, Bena+ 2016]

- ▶ **Singularities, Cauchy horizons, BH interior...**

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[Mathur 2010, Bena+ 2016]

- ▶ **Singularities, Cauchy horizons, BH interior...**

- ▶ **New physics (“structure”) at the horizon solves all these problems**

→ **Observational signatures of quantum BHs?**

- ▶ **More conservative / phenomenological motivations:**

- ▶ need concrete models to quantify the “BH-ness” of source (e.g. Bayesian model selection)

- ▶ BHs are unique: any evidence of deviations from classical BH → new physics / new matter

# The fuzzball paradigm

- ▶ BHs are quantum objects: ensembles of a huge number of regular, horizonless, microstates

[Lunin+ 2001, Mathur 2005+, Bena+, Bianchi+, Giusto+, ...]

- ▶ BH entropy accounted for by the number of microstates

[Strominger 1996, Horowitz 1996, Maldacena 1997]

- ▶ Tunnelling probability to fuzzball  $\sim O(1)$  in specific models

[Bena+ 2016]

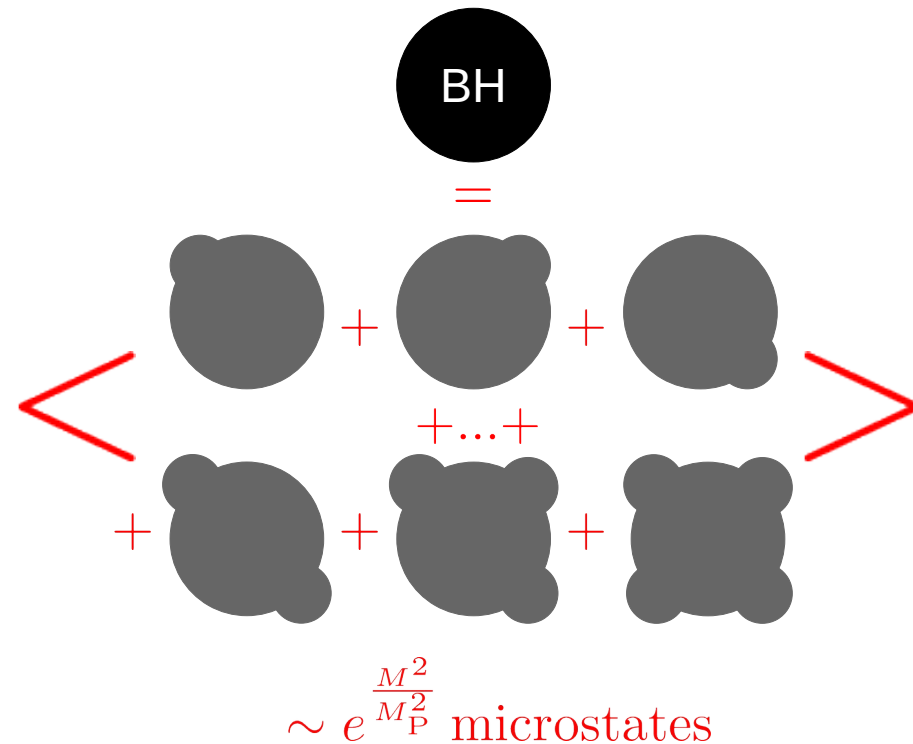
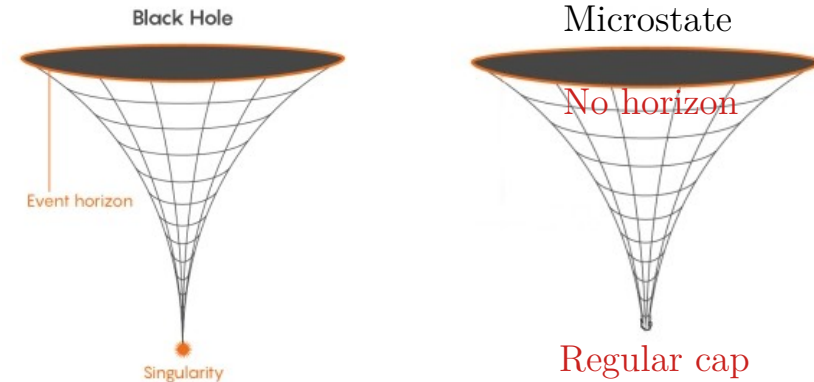
- ▶ (Low-energy truncations of) string theory admits huge families of solutions [Bena+ 2007, 2015-2017]

- ▶ **Pros:** well motivated, concrete, mass is free parameter

- ▶ **Cons:** complicated, mostly extremal charged BHs  
(but see [Bha+ 2021] for non-SUSY extension and [Bha+ 2022] for uncharged case)

- ▶ Growing interest in studying the phenomenology

[Mayerson 2020, 2022, Bena+ Snowmass 2022]





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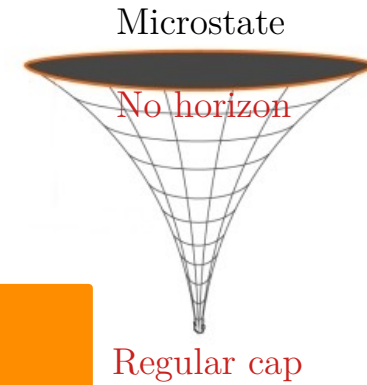
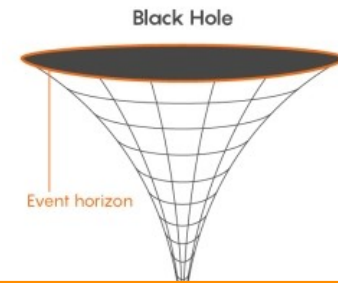
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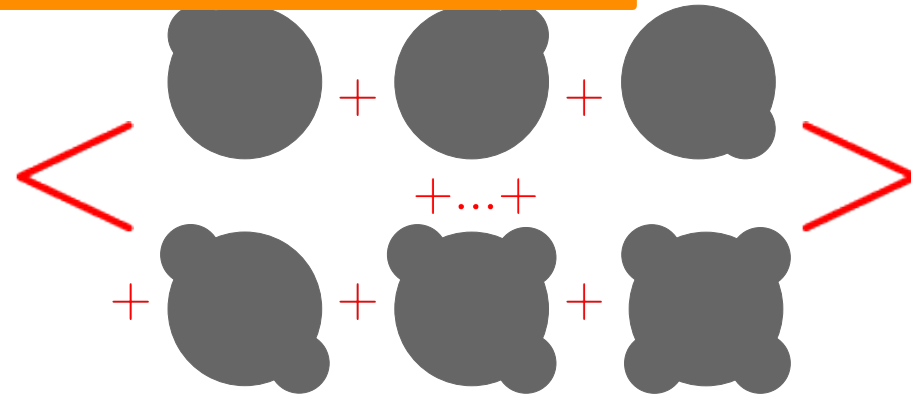
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Model-agnostic  
observational signatures?



$$\sim e^{\frac{M^2}{M_{\text{P}}^2}} \text{ microstates}$$

# A family of microstates

- ▶ N=2 supergravity: 4 gauge fields, 3 scalars [Bena-Warner 2008]
- ▶ No spatial isometries in general, but closed form!

4D ansatz:

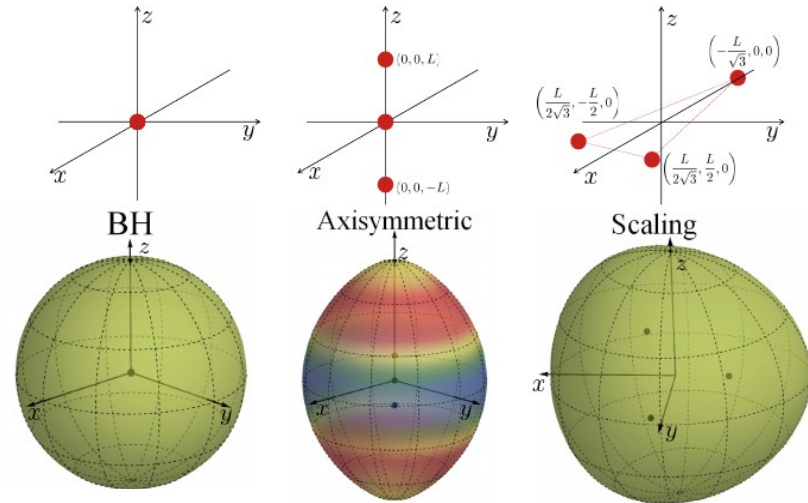
$$ds^2 = -e^{2U} (dt + \omega)^2 + e^{-2U} \sum_{i=1}^3 dx_i^2,$$

$$Z_I = L_I + \frac{|\epsilon_{IJK}| K^J K^K}{2V},$$

$$\mu = \frac{W}{2} + \frac{L_I K^I}{2V} + |\epsilon_{IJK}| \frac{K^I K^J K^K}{6V^2}$$

$$e^{-4U} = Z_1 Z_2 Z_3 V - \mu^2 V^2,$$

$$*_3 d\omega = \frac{1}{2} (V dW - W dV + K^I dL_I - L_I dK^I)$$



$$V = 1 + \sum_{a=1}^N \frac{v_a}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_a|}, \quad L_I = 1 + \sum_{a=1}^N \frac{\ell_{I,a}}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_a|},$$

N centers:

$$K^I = \sum_{a=1}^N \frac{k_a^I}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_a|}, \quad W = \sum_{a=1}^N \frac{m_a}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_a|},$$

- ▶ In D=4 solutions looks singular at the centers, but regular in higher dimensions
- ▶ No ergoregion by construction → no ergoregion instability

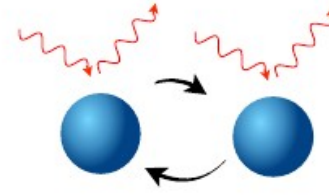
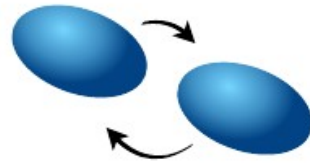
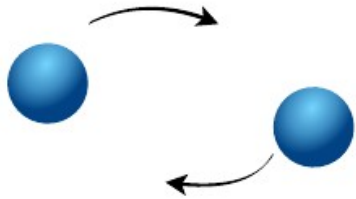
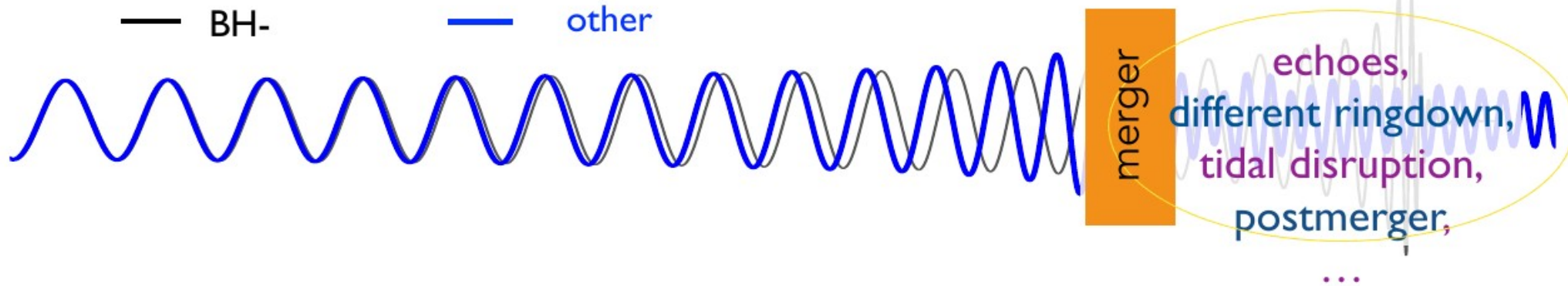
# Model-agnostic properties

---

- ▶ Charges, Dipoles → different emission in binaries
- ▶ Spin & higher multipoles → different structure/emission
- ▶ Non-integrable motion and chaos → different geodesics
- ▶ Tidal Love numbers → different tidal properties
- ▶ QNMs & echoes → different ringdown

# GW signatures

Slide concept by T. Hinderer + A. Maselli



*~point masses:  
same signal  
for all objects*

**Spin  
Measurements  
+ extra DOF**

***tidal effects  
+  
spins  
multipolar  
structure***

*absence of horizon  
**absorption  
effects***

***echoes  
+ QNMs***



# Post-Newtonian inspirals

---

$$\tilde{h}(f) = \mathcal{A}(f)e^{i(\psi_{\text{PP}} + \psi_{\text{TH}} + \psi_{\text{TD}})}$$

$$1\text{PN} = \frac{v^2}{c^2}$$

Blanchet, Living Rev. Relativity 17, 2 (2014)

- Dynamics described as point particles endowed with moments:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{orb}} + \mathcal{L}_2^{\text{int}} \quad \mathcal{L}_{\text{orb}} = \mathcal{L}_M + \mathcal{L}_J + \mathcal{L}_{Q2} + \mathcal{L}_{Q3} + \mathcal{L}_{S2} + \mathcal{L}_{S3}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_M = \frac{\mu v^2}{2} + \frac{\mu M}{r} + \frac{\mu}{c^2} \left\{ \frac{1 - 3\nu}{8} v^4 + \frac{M}{2r} \left[ (3 + \nu) v^2 + \nu \dot{r}^2 - \frac{M}{r} \right] \right\} + O(c^{-4})$$

$$\mathcal{L}_J = \frac{\epsilon^{abc}}{c^2} v^b \left[ (\eta_2 J_1^a + \eta_1 J_2^a) \frac{2M}{r^2} n^c + (\eta_2^2 J_1^a + \eta_1^2 J_2^a) \frac{a^c}{2} \right] + O(c^{-4})$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{Q2} = \frac{3\eta_1 M}{2r^3} Q^{ab} n^{ab}$$

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$$\mathcal{L}_{Q2} = \frac{3\eta_1 M}{2r^3} Q^{ab} n^{ab}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_2^{\text{int}} = -\frac{1}{4\lambda_2} Q^{ab} Q^{ab} - \frac{1}{12\lambda_3} Q^{abc} Q^{abc} - \frac{1}{6\sigma_2} S^{ab} S^{ab} - \frac{1}{16\sigma_2} S^{abc} S^{abc} + \alpha J_2^a Q^{bc} S^{abc} + \beta J_2^a S^{bc} Q^{abc}$$

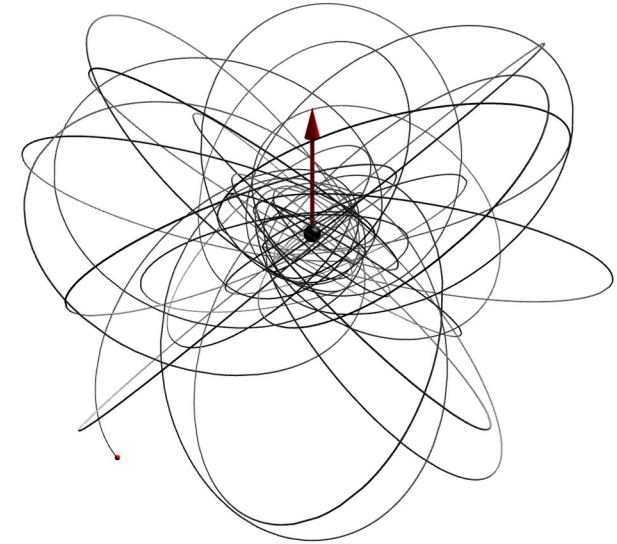
Finite-size effects  
(Love numbers)

# Extreme mass-ratio inspirals

---

Review: Barack, CQG 2009

- ▶ Point particle moving on primary's spacetime
- ▶ + self-force and finite-size effects
- ▶ To leading order:
  - ▶ (adiabatic) geodesic motion around primary
  - ▶ GW fluxes from perturbation theory
  - ▶ Any other flux from other fields



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- ▶ In GR:

$$R_{\mu\nu}^{\text{bkg}} = 0$$

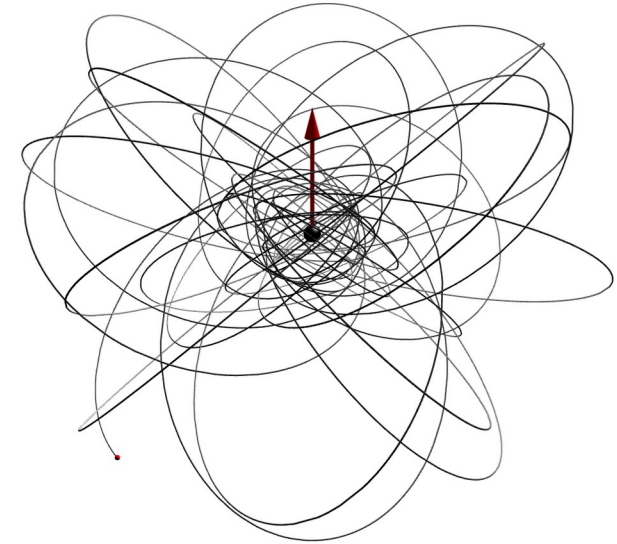
Kerr BH

$$\nabla^{\mu} T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{particle}} = 0$$

Geodesics

$$\delta G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{particle}}$$

Linearized  $\rightarrow$  fluxes





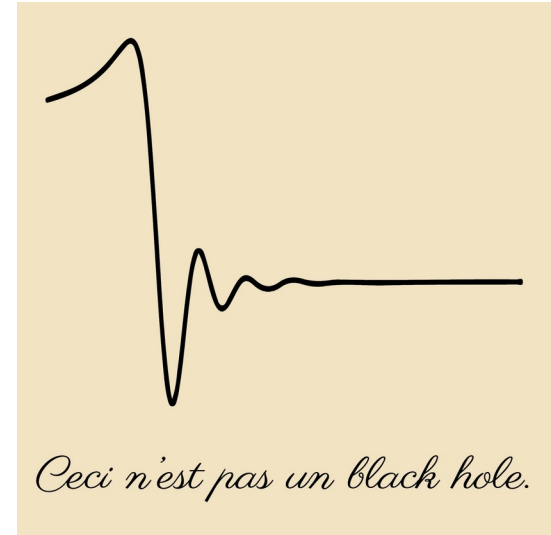
# Field theory in curved spacetime

Review: Berti, Cardoso, Starinets, CQG 2009

- Perturbations on given background, in GR:

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$$\square_{\text{bkg}} h_{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad \text{Linear perturbations + boundary conditions}$$



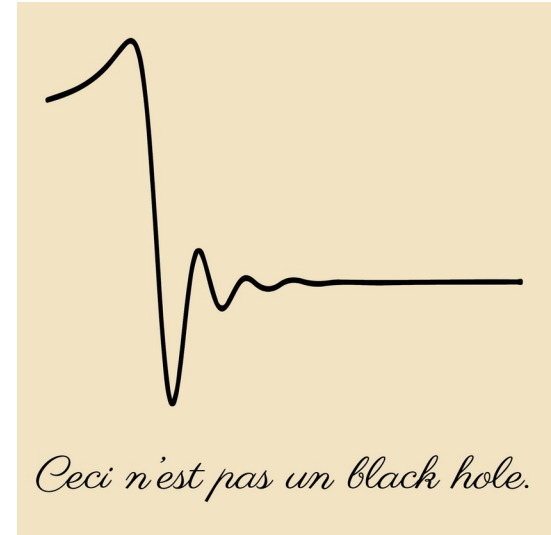
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- ▶ Post-merger signal → superposition of quasinormal modes (QNMs)

$$h_+ + ih_\times \sim \sum_{i=(\ell,m,n)} A_i \sin(\omega_i t + \phi_i) e^{-t/\tau_i}$$

- ▶ Smoking guns of “new physics”:

- ▶ Shift of QNMs (bkg geometry + dynamics + boundary conditions):

$$\omega_{lmn} = \omega_{lmn}^{\text{Kerr}}(M, \chi) + \delta\omega_{lmn}(M, \chi, \ell_{\text{new}})$$

- ▶ Extra modes (e.g., polarizations, matter modes), Isospectrality breaking

# Constraining fundamental charges

- ▶ PN theory: extra dipolar emission [Barausse-Yunes-Chamberlain PRL 2016]

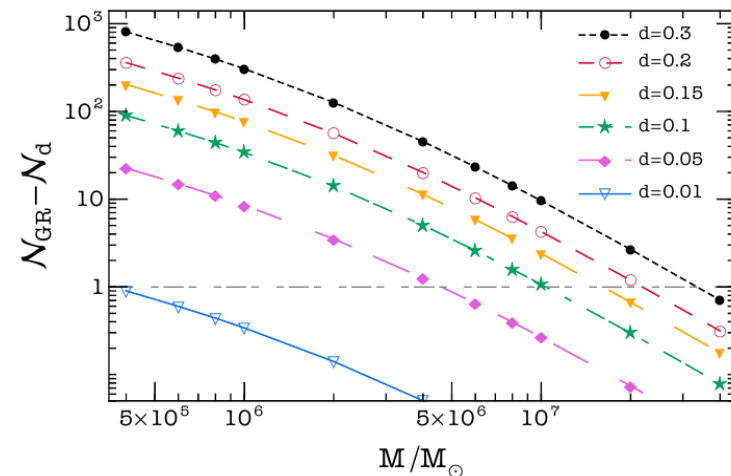
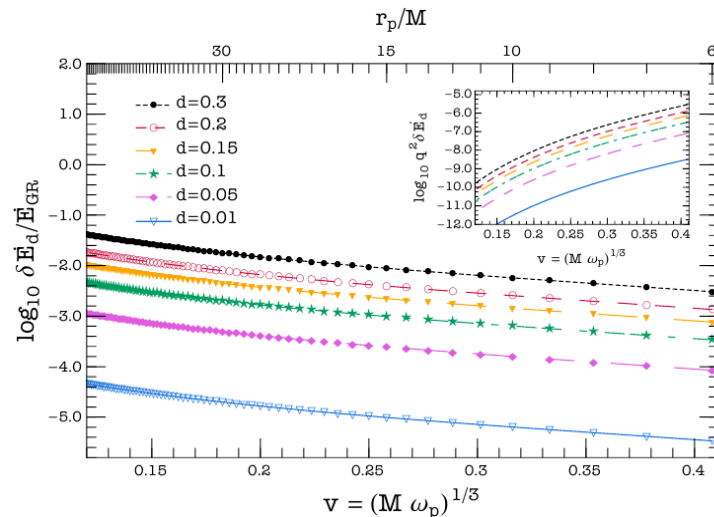
$$\dot{E}_{\text{GW}} = \dot{E}_{\text{GR}} \left[ 1 + B \left( \frac{Gm}{r_{12}c^2} \right)^{-1} \right] \quad \text{-1PN correction (stronger at large distance)}$$

- ▶ EMRIs: for high-curvature extensions to GR, supermassive BHs are  $\sim$ Kerr, but the secondary can be modelled as a point charge:

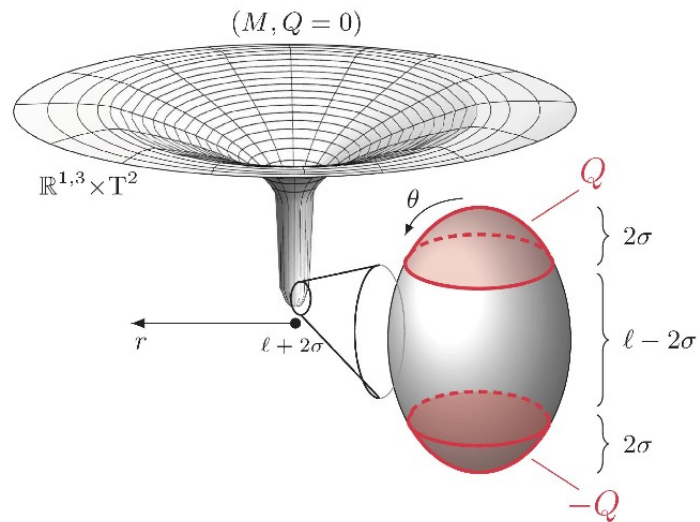
[Maselli+ PRL 2022-2023, Nature Astronomy 2022]

$\square_{\text{Kerr}} \phi = \text{charge } \mathcal{T}_{\text{particle}}$

Constraints:  $d=Q/M < 0.01$



# Globally neutral solitons

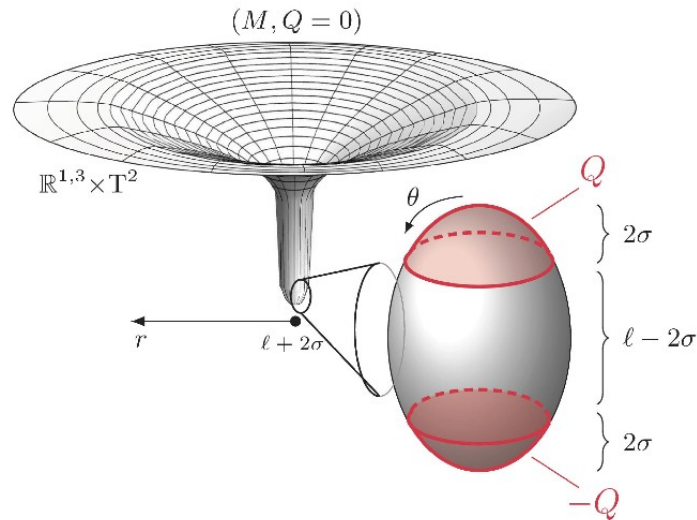


Bah, Heidmann+, PRL 2020, PRD 2022,2023

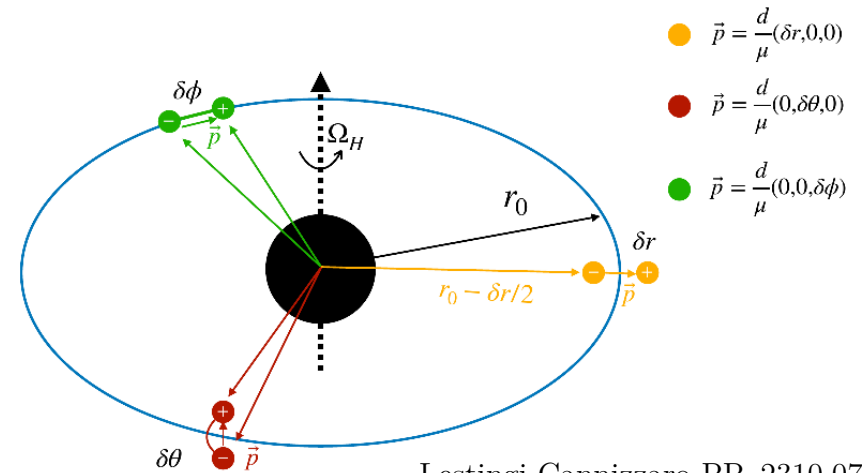
- ▶ Zero net charge, but dipole moment!
- ▶ Phenomenology of fundamental dipoles?
  - ▶ Precession, extra radiation



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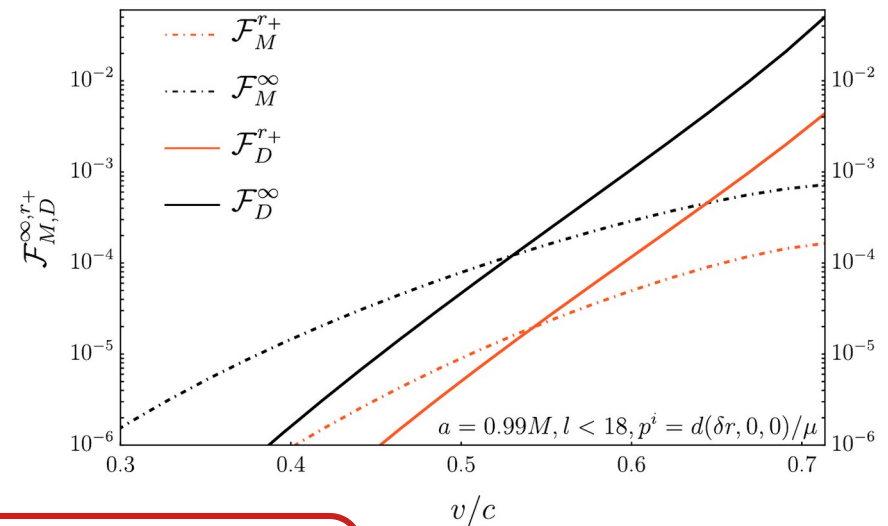


Bah, Heidmann+, PRL 2020, PRD 2022,2023



Lestingi-Cannizzaro-PP, 2310.07772

$$F_M = (4\pi)^2 q^2 d^2 \mathcal{F}_M, \quad F_D = (4\pi)^2 q^4 p^2 \mathcal{F}_D$$



- ▶ Zero net charge, but dipole moment!
- ▶ Phenomenology of fundamental dipoles?
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Emission suppressed in EMRIs  
 How about comparable binaries?

# Testing the Kerr bound

---

- ▶ GR BHs have dimensionless spin  $\chi \equiv \frac{J}{M^2} \leq 1$
- ▶ Fuzzballs can evade this bound
  - ▶ Microstates of *static* BHs are generically (slowly?) spinning
  - ▶ Quantum gravity generically admits “superspinars” [Gimon-Horava PRD 2009]

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  - ▶ Microstates of *static* BHs are generically (slowly?) spinning
  - ▶ Quantum gravity generically admits “superspinars” [Gimon-Horava PRD 2009]
- ▶ Kerr bound can be tested in a model-independent way:
  1. Point particle PN phase up to 1.5PN depends only on masses & spins
    - ▶ but no consistent PN inspiral or merger waveforms
  2. Measuring secondary spin in an EMRI with LISA? [Piovano+ PLB 2020]
    - ▶ but correlated with other parameters! [Piovano+ PRD 2021]
    - ▶ can spin precession and generic orbits break degeneracy?

# Signatures of multipolar structure

---

$$\tilde{h}(f) = \mathcal{A}(f)e^{i(\psi_{\text{PP}} + \psi_{\text{TH}} + \psi_{\text{TD}})}$$

$$1\text{PN} = \frac{v^2}{c^2}$$

Blanchet, Living Rev. Relativity 17, 2 (2014)

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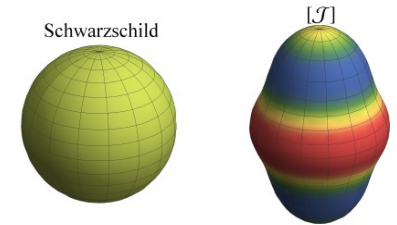
Blanchet, Living Rev. Relativity 17, 2 (2014)

► **2PN:** Point-particle phase depends on **multipole moments** of the bodies

► Tests of the BH no-hair theorem [Hansen 1974]

$$M_{\ell}^{\text{Kerr}} + iS_{\ell}^{\text{Kerr}} = M^{\ell+1} (i\chi)^{\ell}$$

Mass moments                      Spin moments



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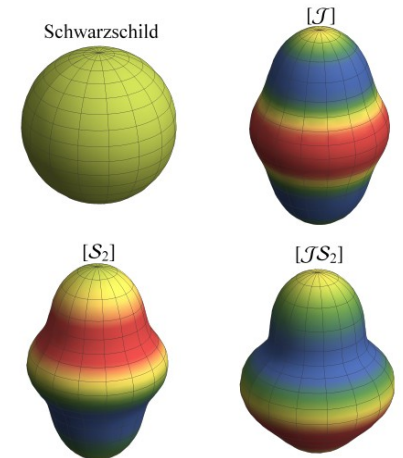
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- ▶ **Any non-Kerr object:**

$$M_\ell = M_\ell^{\text{Kerr}} + \delta M_\ell \quad S_\ell = S_\ell^{\text{Kerr}} + \delta S_\ell$$

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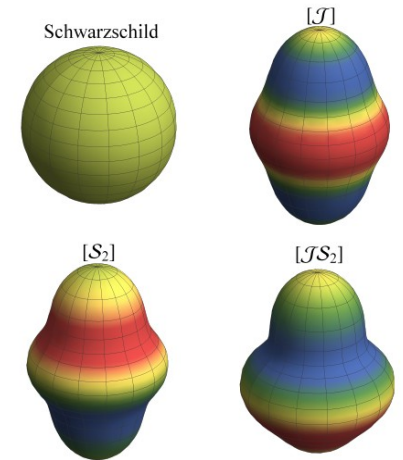
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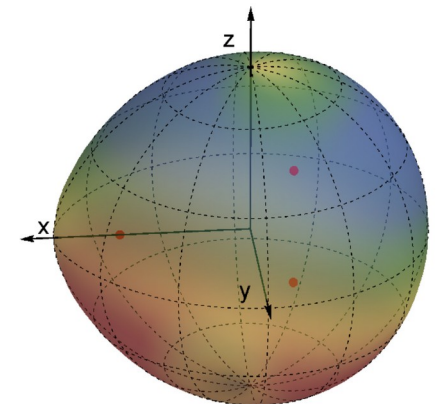


- ▶ **Any non-Kerr object:**

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**Fuzzball can break:** [Bena+ 2020-2021; Bianchi+ PRL-JHEP 2020]

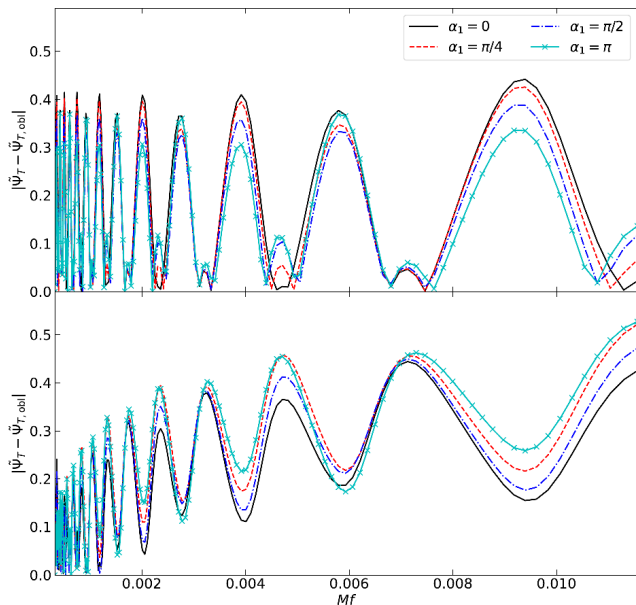
- ▶ equatorial symmetry: e.g.  $S_2 \neq 0, M_3 \neq 0$
- ▶ axial symmetry: e.g.  $M_{20} \neq 0, M_{21} \neq 0, M_{22} \neq 0$



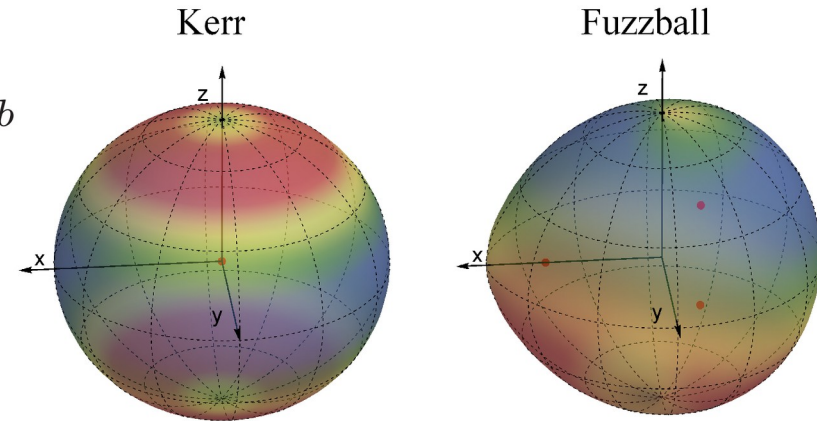
Credits: G. Raposo

# Signatures of multipolar structure

- ▶ Fuzzballs (in N=2 supergravity):
  - ▶ certain multipole ratios are  $\sim$  universal [Bena-Mayerson PRL-JHEP 2020]
  - ▶ certain multipole invariants are minimum for BPS BHs [Bianchi+ PRL-JHEP 2020] ...but not for non-BPS states [Bena+ 2021]
- ▶ Lot of progress: current models should be extended beyond Kerr symmetries:
  - ▶ Searching for equatorial-symmetry breaking with LISA EMRIs [Fransen-Mayerson 2022]
  - ▶ Axial-symmetry breaking introduces precession & phase modulation [Loutrel+ 2022]



$$\mathcal{L}_{Q2} = \frac{3\eta_1 M}{2r^3} Q^{ab} n^{ab}$$



Precession is crucial to measure the effect

[Loutrel+ PRD 2022; Loutrel+ 2309.17404]



# Tidal effects beyond Kerr

---

$$\tilde{h}(f) = \mathcal{A}(f)e^{i(\psi_{\text{PP}} + \psi_{\text{TH}} + \psi_{\text{TD}})}$$

- ▶ **2.5log PN: tidal heating** [Alvi PRD 2001, Poisson, PRD 2009]



- ▶ BHs absorb radiation at horizon
- ▶ Tidal heating is  $\sim$  absent for ECOs  $\rightarrow$  how about fuzzballs?
- ▶ Important for EMRIs in LISA [Maselli+, 2018, Hughes PRD 2001, Datta+ PRD 2020]

# Tidal effects beyond Kerr

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$$\tilde{h}(f) = \mathcal{A}(f)e^{i(\psi_{\text{PP}} + \psi_{\text{TH}} + \psi_{\text{TD}})}$$

▶ **2.5log PN: tidal heating** [Alvi PRD 2001, Poisson, PRD 2009]



▶ BHs absorb radiation at horizon

▶ Tidal heating is  $\sim$  absent for ECOs  $\rightarrow$  how about fuzzballs?

▶ Important for EMRIs in LISA [Maselli+, 2018, Hughes PRD 2001, Datta+ PRD 2020]

▶ **5PN: tidal deformability and Love numbers** [Flanagan & Hinder, PRD77 021502 2008]

▶ Love = 0 for an **isolated BH** in **GR** [Damour '86; Binnington-Poisson PRD 2009; Damour-Nagar PRD 2009]

▶ Love  $\neq$  0 in any other case [Porto+ Fortsch. Phys. 2016, Cardoso+, PRD 2017]

▶ In several ECO models **Love scales logarithmically**  $\rightarrow$  strong constraints with LISA

[Maselli+, PRL 2018, CQG 2019; Addazi+ PRL 2019]

# Tidal effects beyond Kerr

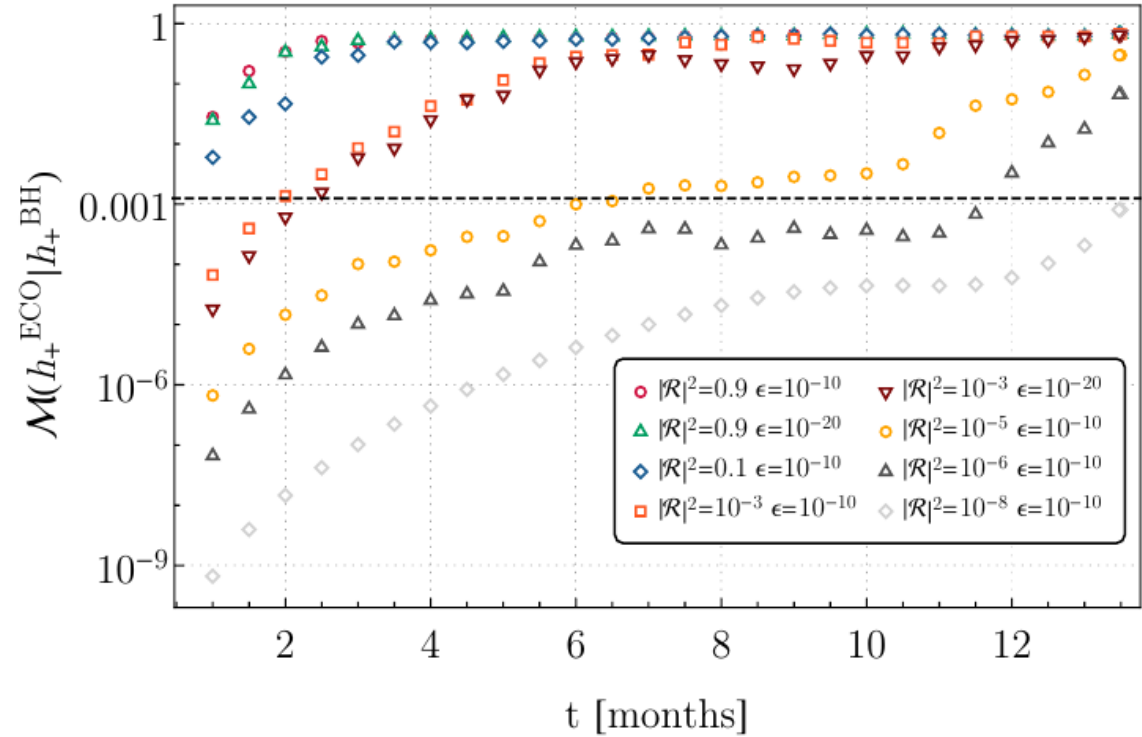
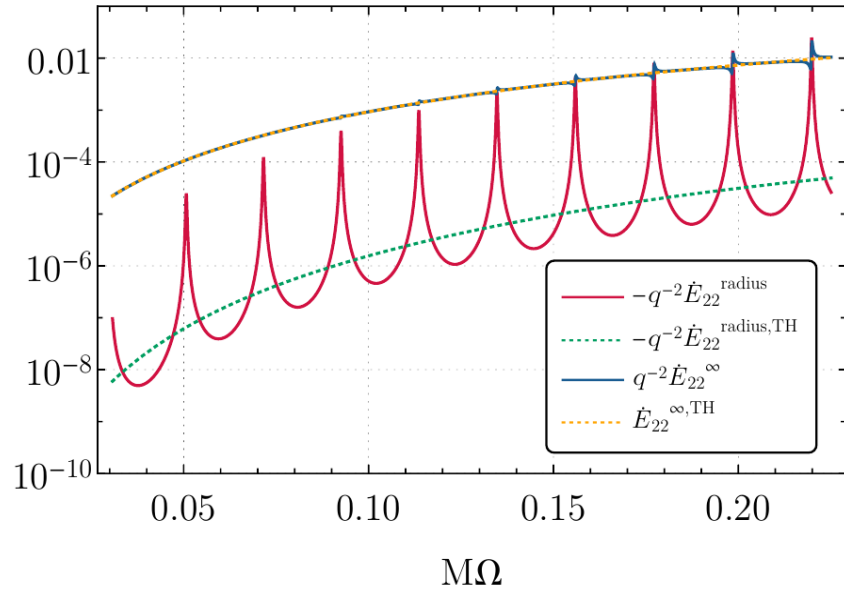
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$$\tilde{h}(f) = \mathcal{A}(f)e^{i(\psi_{\text{PP}} + \psi_{\text{TH}} + \psi_{\text{TD}})}$$

Any evidence of  $\text{Love} \neq 0$  in a supermassive object would imply a departure from the standard vacuum GR BH picture

- ▶ **5PN: tidal deformability and Love numbers** [Flanagan & Hinder, PRD77 021502 2008]
  - ▶ Love = 0 for an **isolated BH** in **GR** [Damour '86; Binnington-Poisson PRD 2009; Damour-Nagar PRD 2009]
  - ▶ **Love  $\neq 0$  in any other case** [Porto+ Fortsch. Phys. 2016, Cardoso+, PRD 2017]
  - ▶ In several **ECO models Love scales logarithmically** → strong constraints with LISA [Maselli+, PRL 2018, CQG 2019; Addazi+ PRL 2019]

# Testing horizon absence with EMRIs



- ▶ ECO QNM excitation in fluxes [Maggio, van de Meent, Pani; PRD 2021; see also Sago-Tanaka PRD 2021]
- ▶ EMRIs can potentially constrain the reflectivity at the level of  $|\mathcal{R}|^2 \lesssim 10^{-8}$
- ▶ Specific models (e.g.  $\mathcal{R}(\omega) = e^{-\frac{|\omega - m\Omega|}{2T_H}}$ ) can be confirmed/ruled out

# Dynamical Love beyond Kerr

Chakraborty-Maggio-Silvestrini-Pani, 2310.06023

- Teukolsky formalism for Kerr metric + boundary conditions [Chia 2021, Creci+ 2021, Consoli+ 2022, Bonelli+ 2021]

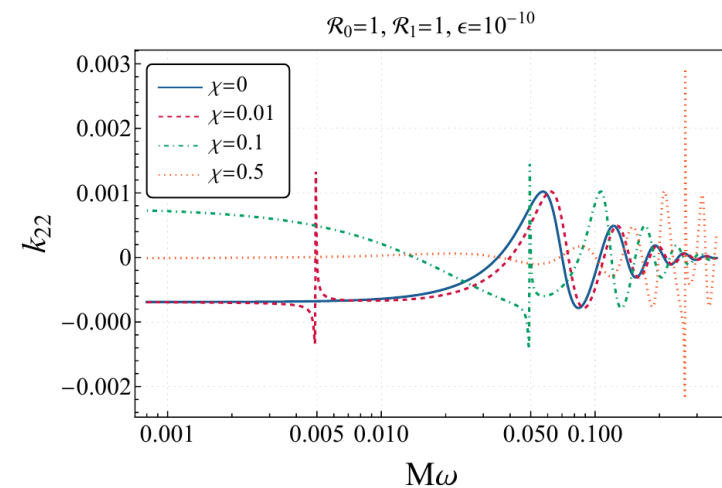
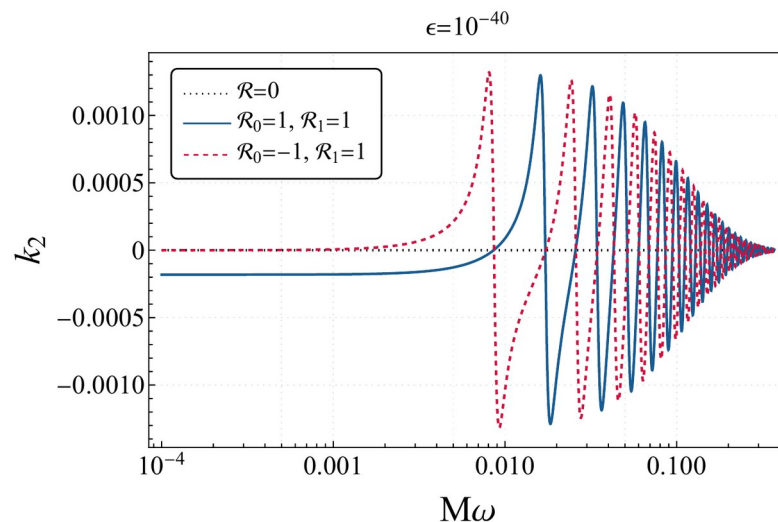
Zero static Love unless  $\mathcal{R}(\omega) = 1 + iM\omega\mathcal{R}_1$

$$\mathcal{R}(\omega) = \mathcal{R}_0 + iM\omega\mathcal{R}_1 + \mathcal{O}(M^2\omega^2)$$

$$r_0 = r_+(1 + \epsilon)$$

$$k_2 = \frac{2}{15} \text{Re} \left[ \frac{1}{-2\mathcal{R}_1 + \{7 + 16i\pi + 8(\epsilon + \ln \epsilon)\}} \right]$$

- Generic log dependence, static limit discontinuous, resonances



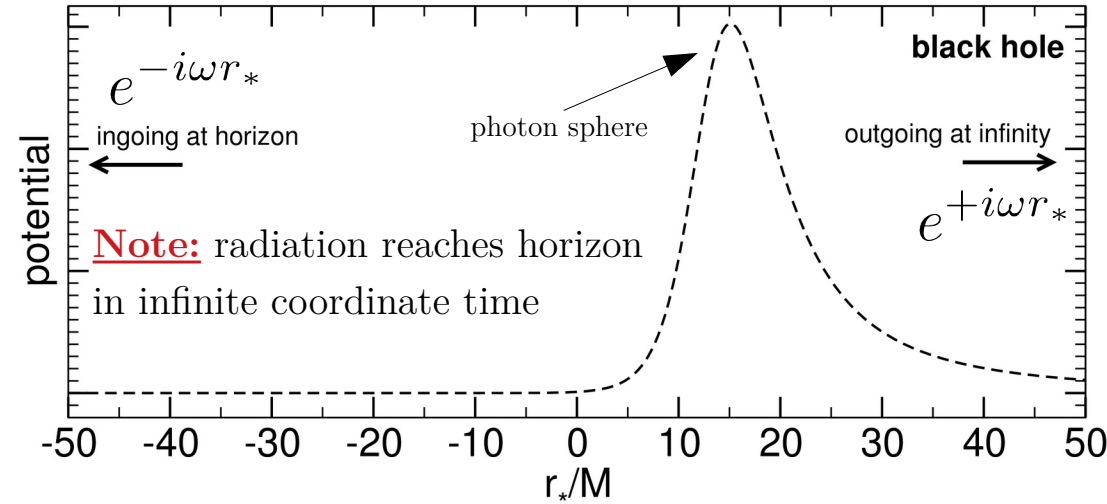
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# BH microstate ringdown

# QNMs: BHs vs Rest of the World

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial r_*^2} + V_{slm}(r_*) \Psi = S$$

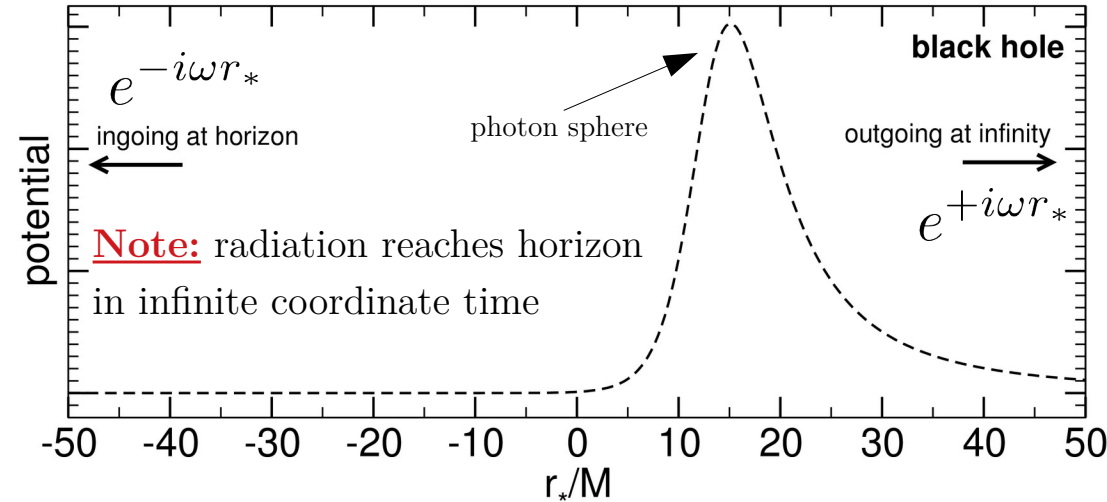
[e.g. Kokkotas & Schmidt (1999), Berti, Cardoso, Starinets (2009)]



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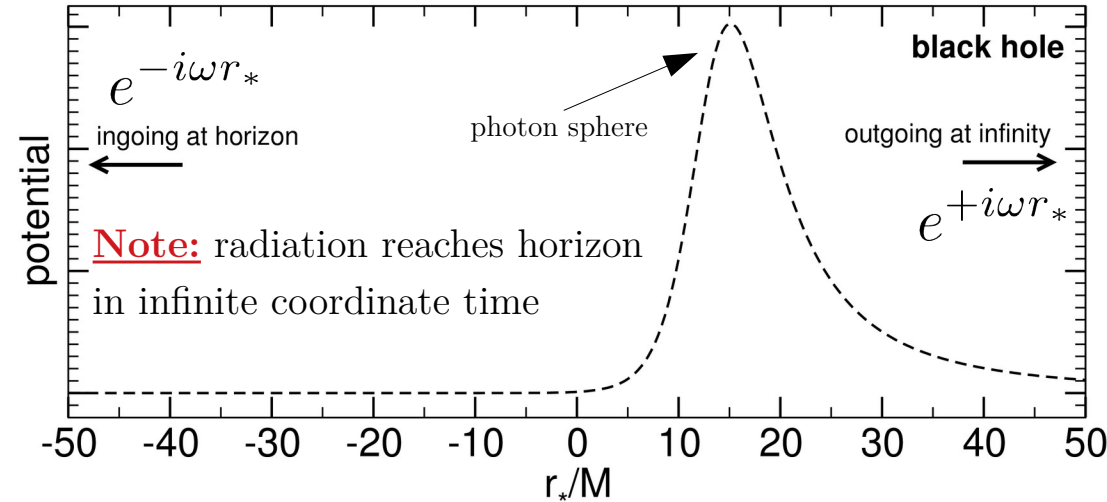
Only (classical) BHs absorb everything!



# QNM: BHs vs Rest of the World

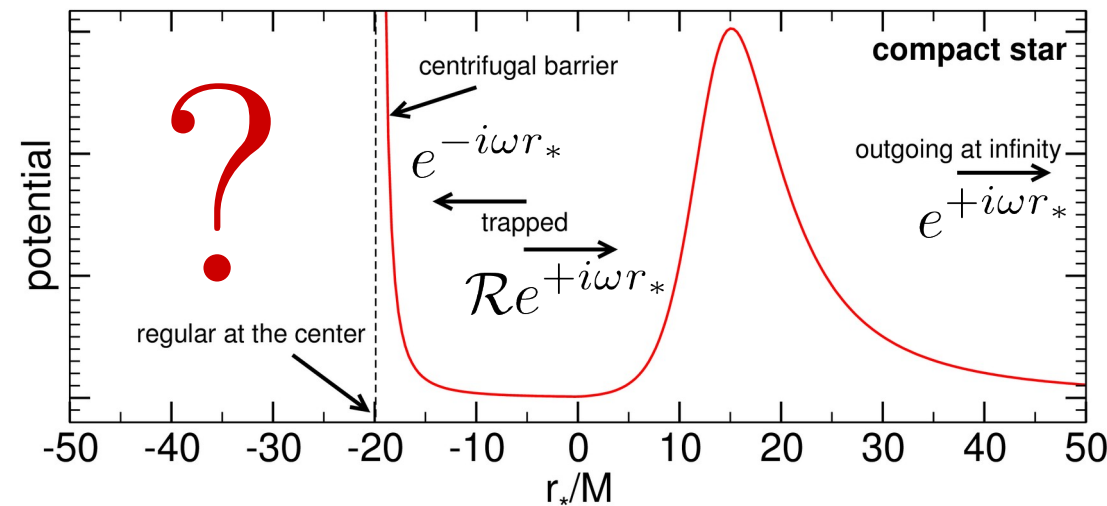
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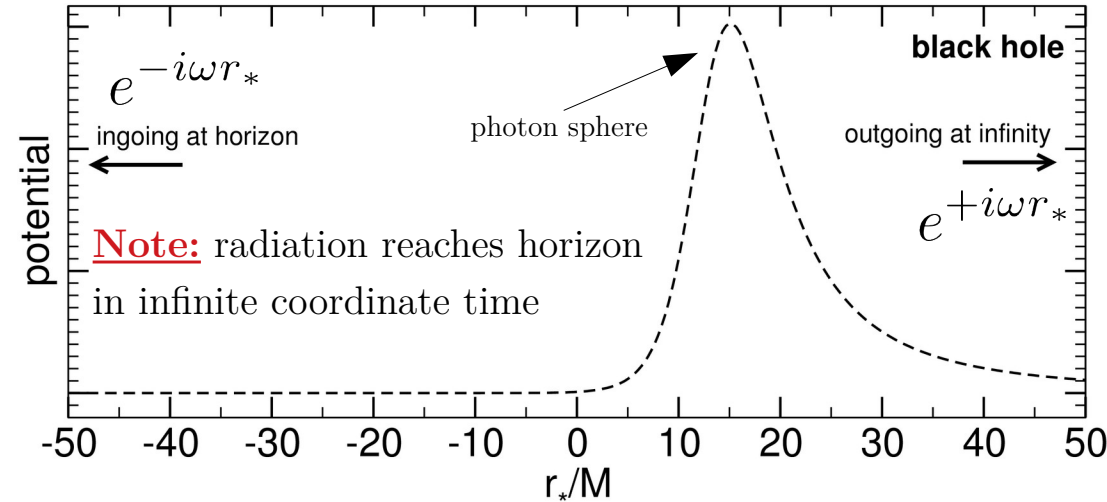
- ▶ Total absorption is the defining property of a BH
- ▶ Some reflectivity in any other case
- ▶ Reflectivity = weak GW interaction!



# QNM: BHs vs Rest of the World

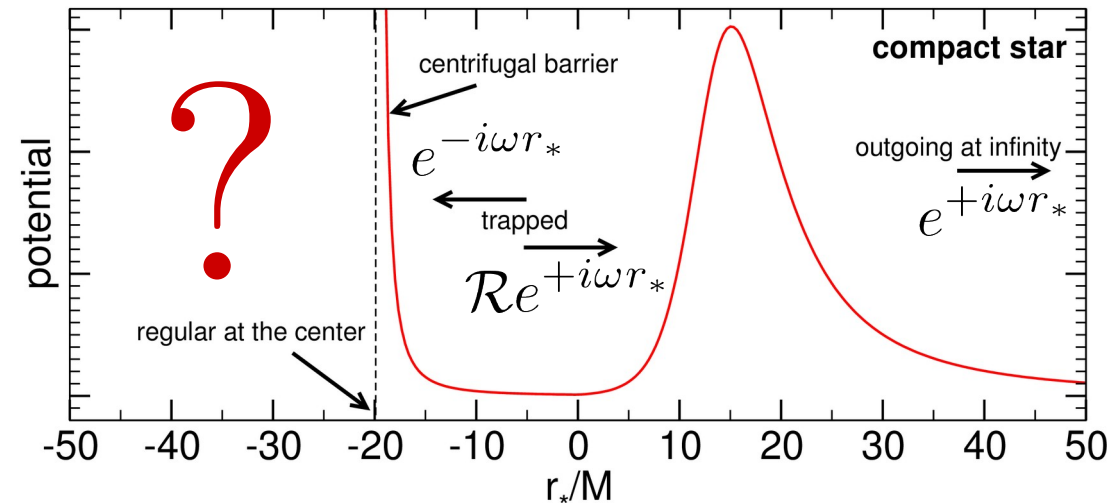
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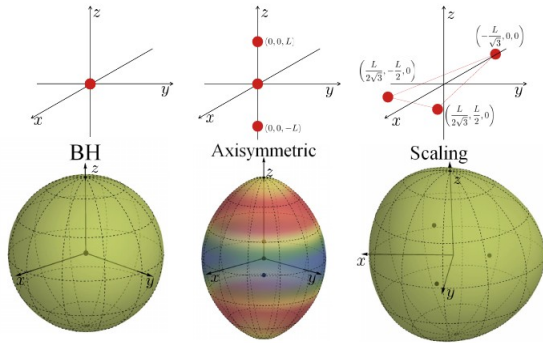
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- ▶ Some reflectivity in any other case
- ▶ Reflectivity = weak GW interaction!



No horizon → different ringdown

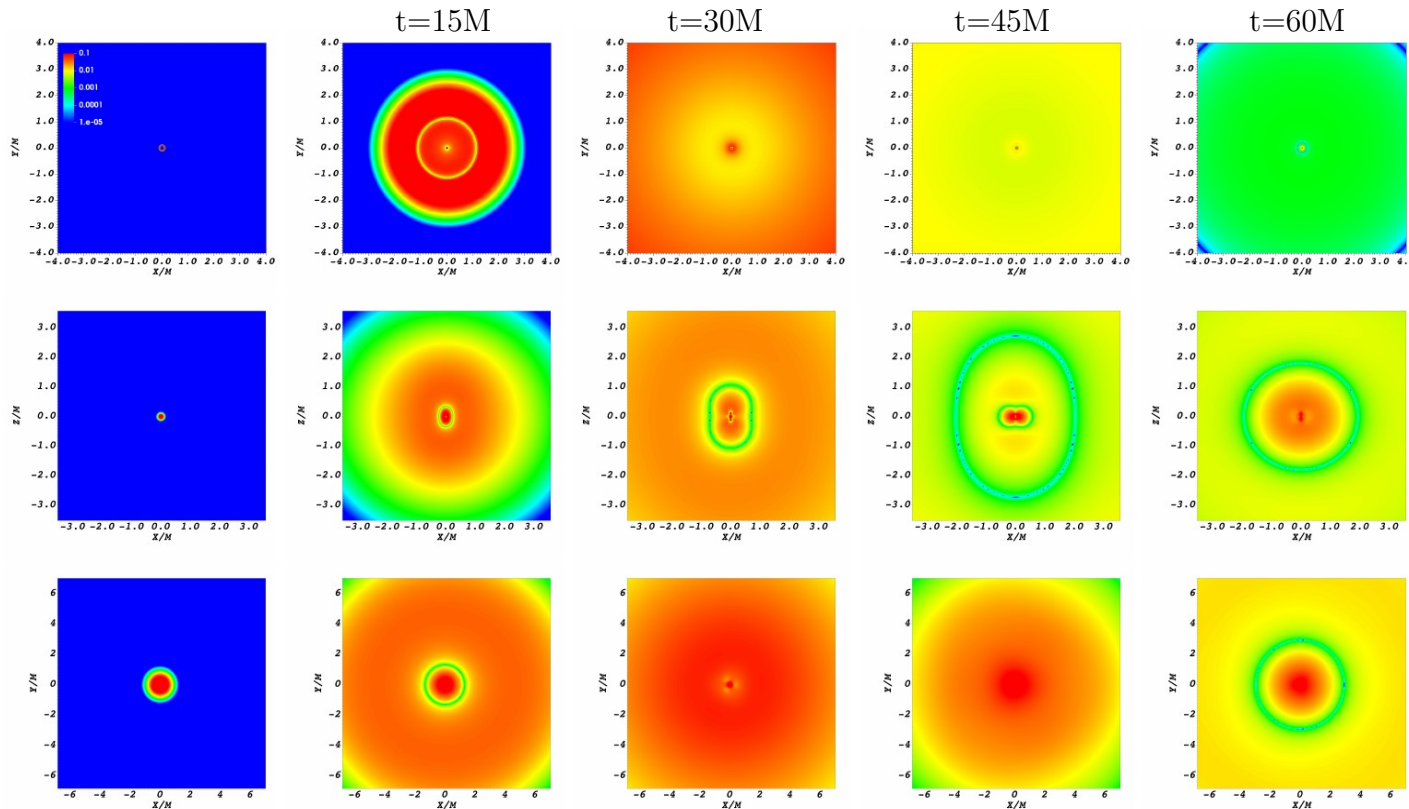
# BH microstate spectroscopy

Ikeda+, PRD 2021



Bianchi+ 2020

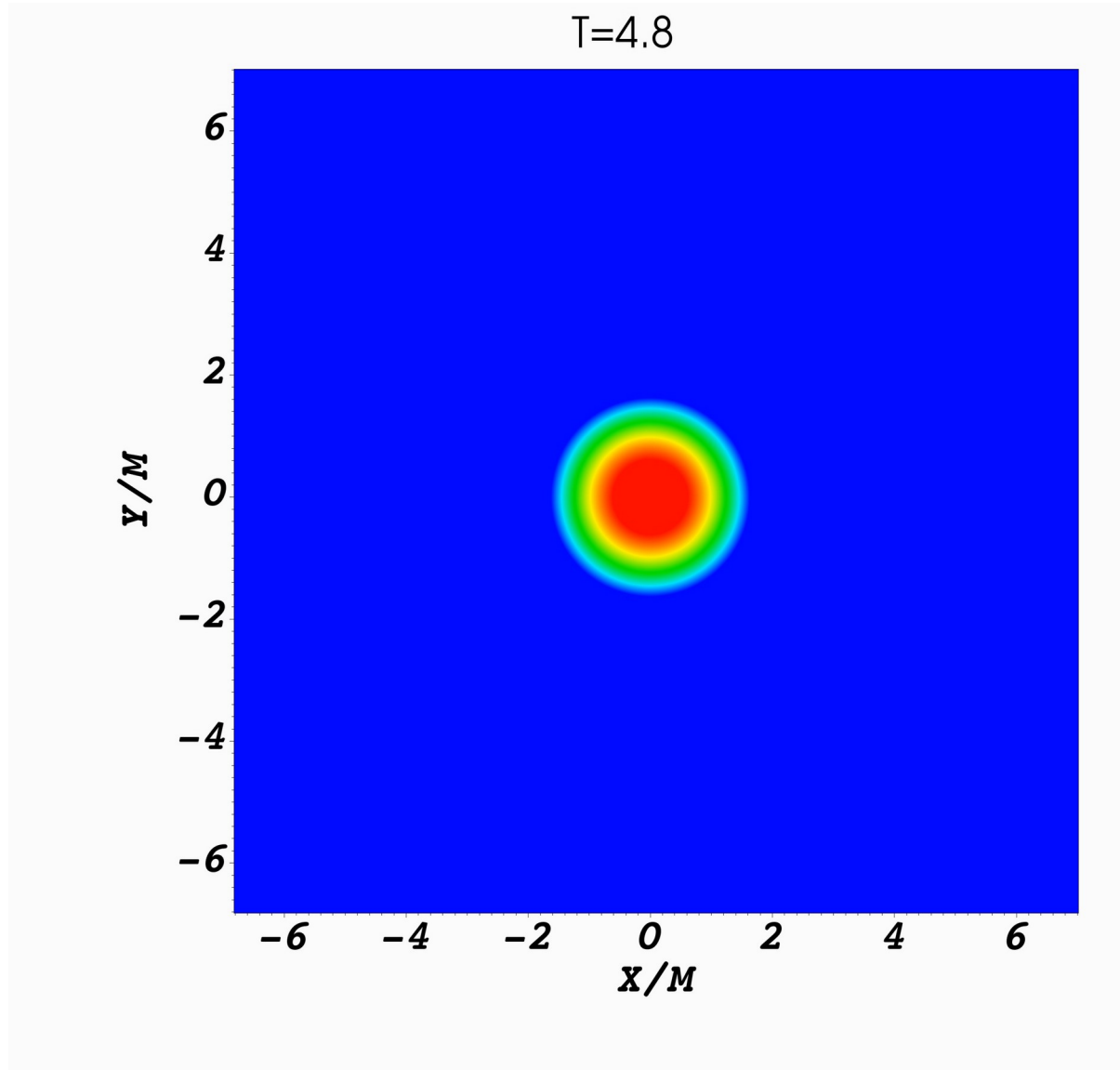
- ▶ Background: family of sols to N=2 supergravity [Bena-Warner 2008]
- ▶ 3+1 evolution of Klein-Gordon equation on generic microstate
- ▶ No spatial isometries in general



- ▶ Qualitatively similar results also for neutral topological solitons [Heidmann+ 2023; Bianchi-Di Russo 2023]

# BH microstate spectroscopy

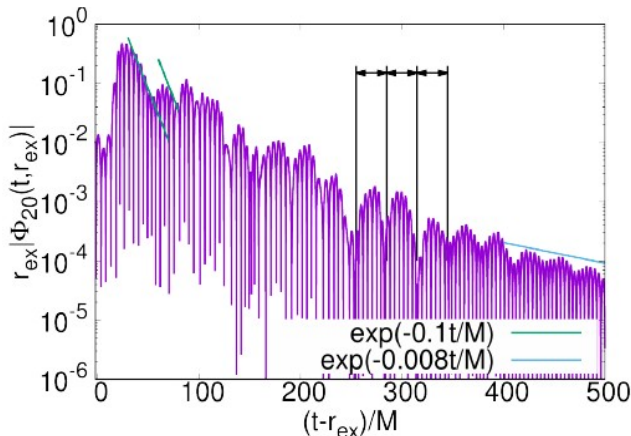
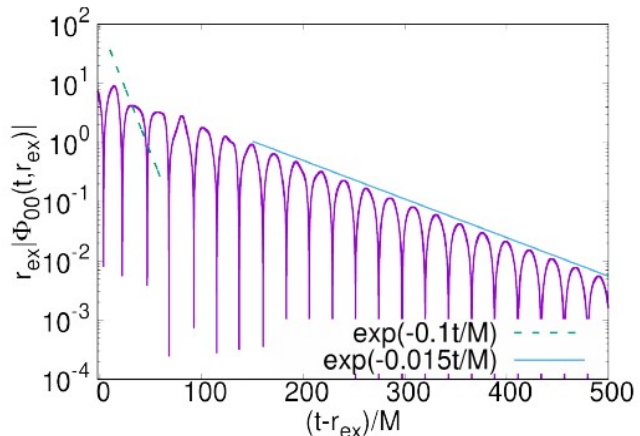
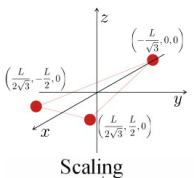
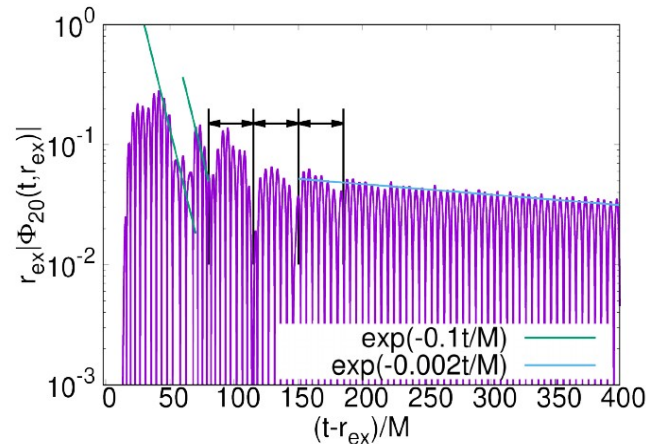
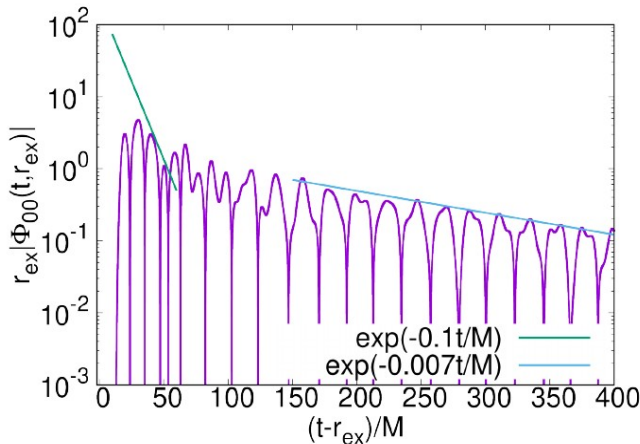
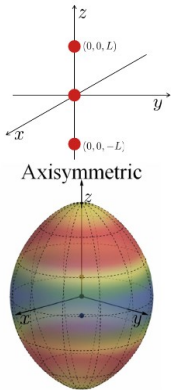
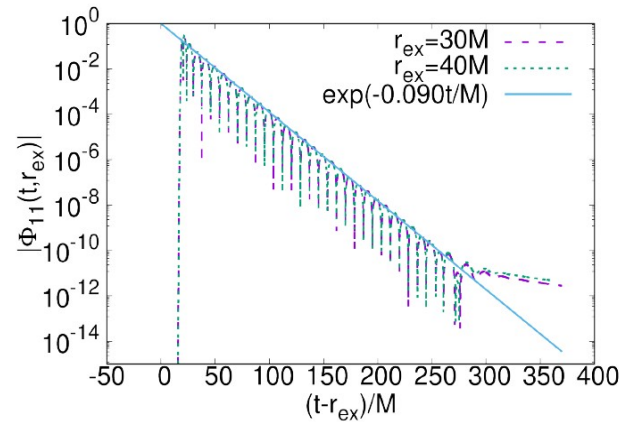
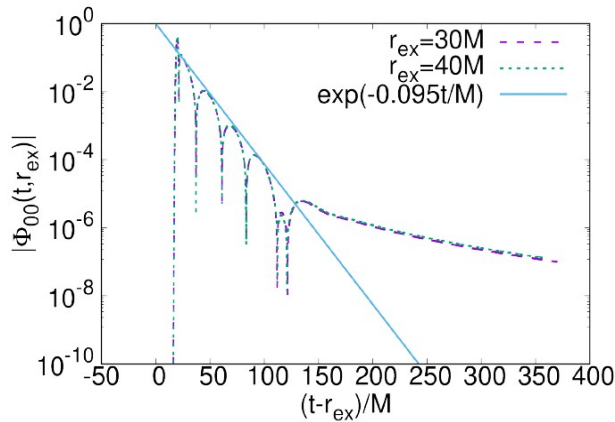
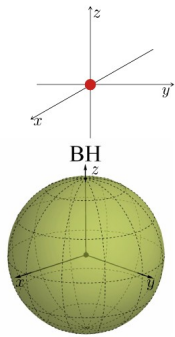
Ikeda+, PRD 2021



Movies @ <https://web.uniroma1.it/gmunu/fuzzballs-multipole-moments-and-ringdown>

# BH microstate spectroscopy

Ikeda+, PRD 2021

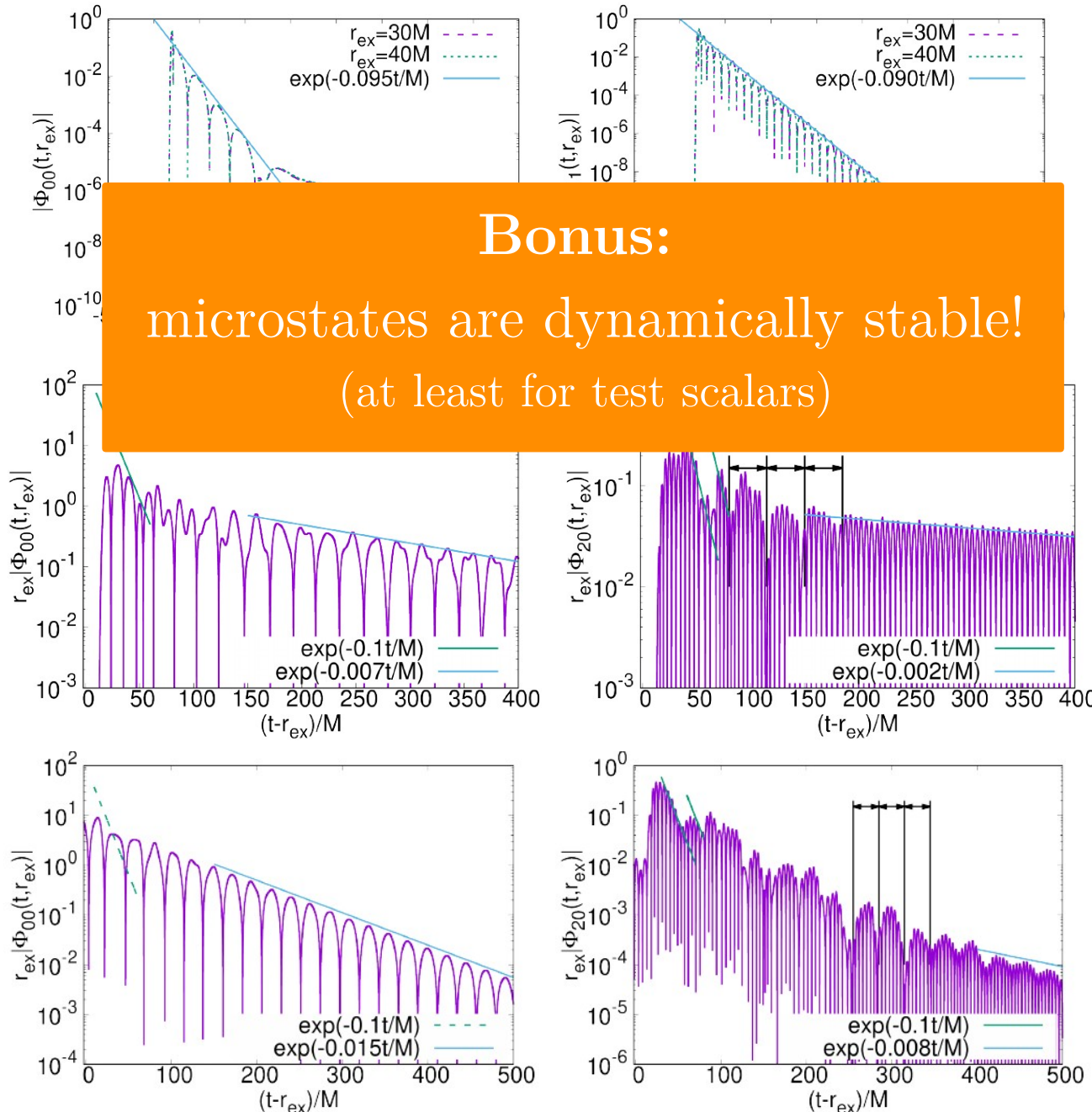
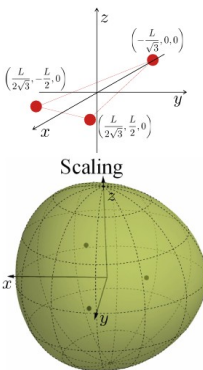
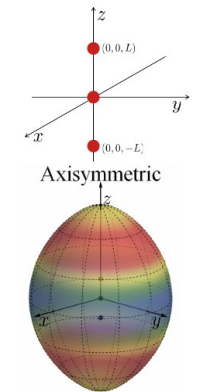
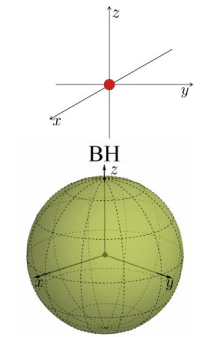


Overall structure  
qualitatively clear but  
mode mixing  
complicates the signal



# BH microstate spectroscopy

Ikeda+, PRD 2021



Overall structure  
 qualitatively clear but  
 mode mixing  
 complicates the signal

# Conclusion & Outlook

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- ▶ *Living the BH era*: discovery opportunities for new physics!
- ▶ BH microstate phenomenology is now in full blossom
  - ▶ consistent quantum gravity model to quantify beyond-BH effects
  - ▶ unveiled way more complex/messy phenom than ECO toy models
- ▶ BHs are unique: portal to observable quantum gravity effects?
- ▶ **If Not Now, When?** (LISA/ET constraints will be unparalleled)
- ▶ Long way and open issues before confronting fuzzballs with the data:
  - ▶ **Uncharged/non-SUSY** (is an issue? Maybe not... see modified gravity)
  - ▶ **Dynamical simulations** (e.g. microstate vs BH dynamical formation)
  - ▶ **Measurement problem** (typical vs atypical states, averaging?)

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# Backup slides

*“Nothing is More Necessary than  
the Unnecessary” [cit.]*

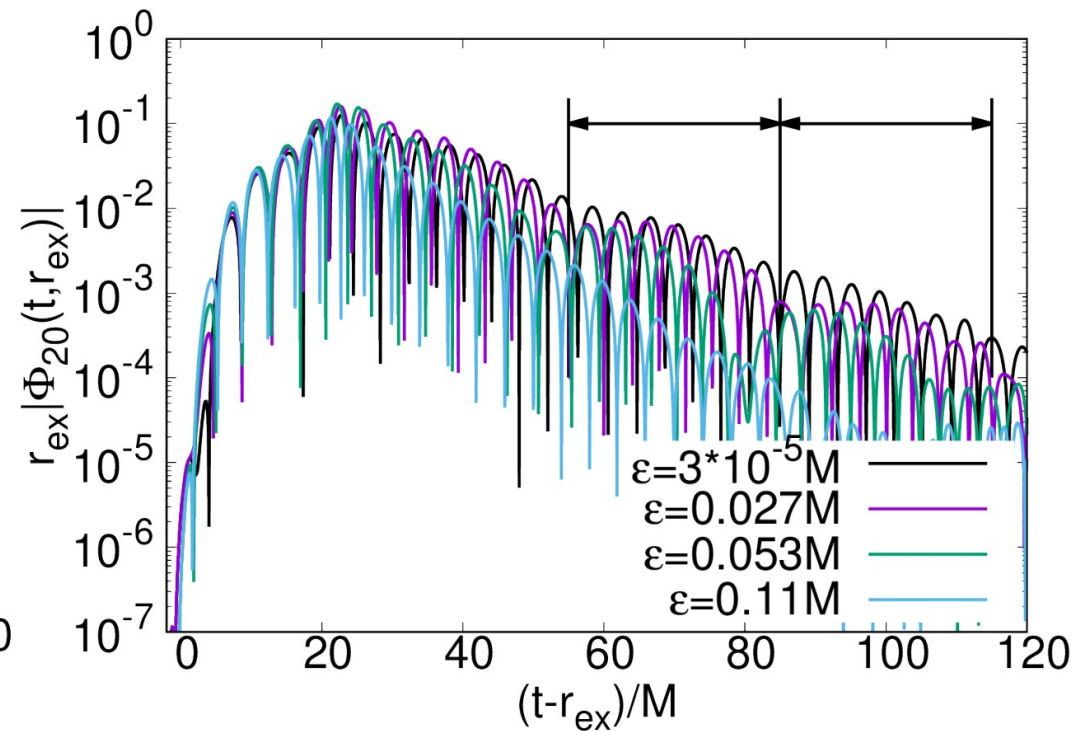
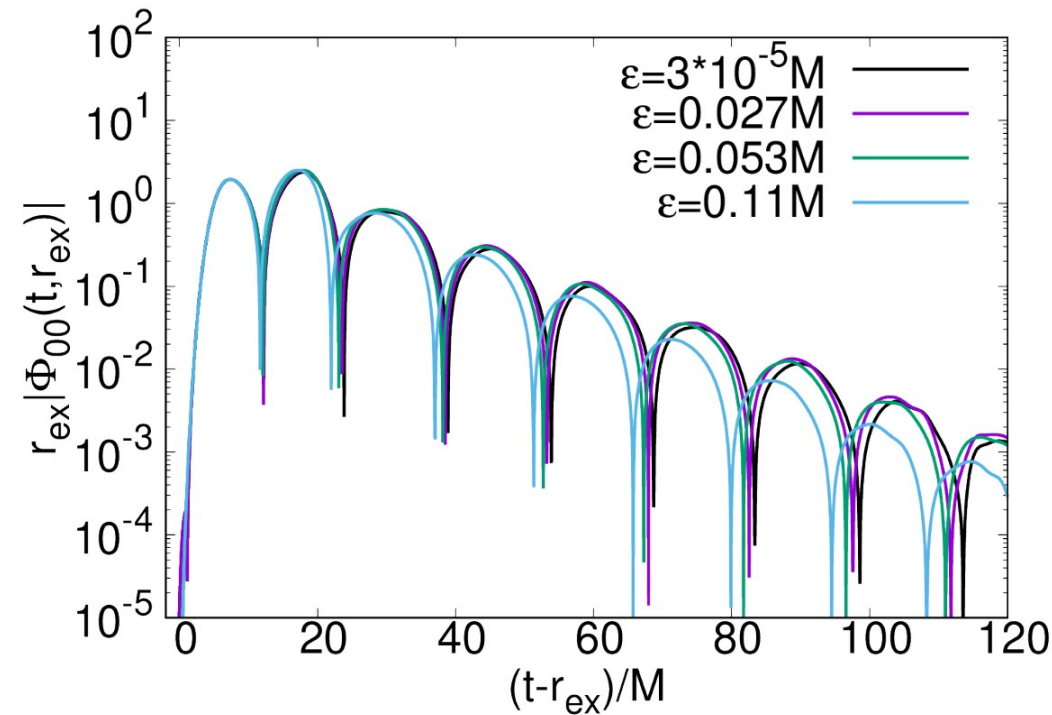




# Dealing with the singularities

Ikeda+, PRD 2021

$$\frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_a|} \rightarrow \frac{\text{erf}(|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_a|/\epsilon)}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_a|}$$



- ▶ Careful with the resolution and numerical convergence!
- ▶ 4D boundary conditions from 5D regularity? (might be hard to implement)
- ▶ Numerical simulations in  $D=5$ ?