

# Probing the nature of gravity on black hole horizons

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# outline of the talk

consider spacetime endowed with existence of a minimum length

(i.e., with quadratic intervals  $\rightarrow$  finite limit at coincidence)

[minimum-length metric or quantum metric or qmetric]

[Kothawala 1307.5618](#); [Kothawala, Padmanabhan 1405.4967](#); [JaffinoStargen, Kothawala 1503.03793](#)

allow for this description to include null intervals

[AP 1812.01275](#)

apply it to black hole horizons

[Krishnendu N V, S. Chakraborty, A. Perri, AP \(ongoing work\)](#)

# minimum-length metric

Kothawala 1307.5618; Kothawala, Padmanabhan 1405.4967; JaffinoStargen, Kothawala 1503.03793

existence of a minimum length  $L$  affects geometry itself in the small scale (i.e., not regarded as  $L$ -blurring of sources in an ordinary spacetime)

modification introduced in the quadratic interval  $\sigma^2(x, x')$  (before  $g_{ab}$ ):

$\sigma^2(x, x') \mapsto S(\sigma^2)$  with  $S(\sigma^2) \rightarrow \epsilon L^2$  finite in the coincidence limit  $x \rightarrow x'$

(with  $S(\sigma^2) \approx \sigma^2$  when  $|\sigma^2| \gg L^2$ , i.e., when  $x$  is far apart from  $x'$ )

for it, one needs a metric singular everywhere: how to deal with this?

we face the unavoidable nonlocality accompanying gravity in the smallest scales

convenience of nonlocal objects to describe this: use bitensors (just like  $\sigma^2(x, x')$ , which is a biscalar)

to require

$\sigma^2(x, x') \mapsto S(\sigma^2)$  with  $S(\sigma^2) \rightarrow \epsilon L^2$  finite in the coincidence limit  $x \rightarrow x'$   
along the connecting geodesic, which such remains  
(with a same character) also in the new metric

implies

$$g_{ab}(x') \mapsto q_{ab}(x, x') = A g_{ab} + \epsilon(1/\alpha - A)t_a t_b$$

$$t_a = \text{tangent vector} \quad \alpha = \alpha(\sigma^2), A = A(\sigma^2)$$

biscalars

$q_{ab}$  turns out to be completely fixed if a condition is additionally posed on the 2-point function  $G(x, x')$  of any field (namely, this is about causality):

one requires that, when spacetime is maximally symmetric,

$$G(\sigma^2) \mapsto \widetilde{G}(\sigma^2) = G(S(\sigma^2))$$

where

$G$  and  $\widetilde{G}$  are Green functions of  $\square$  and  ${}_x \widetilde{\square}_{x'}$  resp., and  ${}_x \widetilde{\square}_{x'}$  is the d'Alembertian associated to  $q_{ab}(x, x')$

one gets:

Kothawala 1307.5618; Kothawala, Padmanabhan 1405.4967; JaffinoStargen, Kothawala 1503.03793

$$q_{ab}(x, x') = A g_{ab} + \epsilon (1/\alpha - A) t_a t_b \quad t_a \text{ unit tangent to connect. geod.}$$

$\epsilon = -/+ 1$  for time/space sep.

with

$$A = \frac{S}{\sigma^2} \left( \frac{\Delta}{\Delta_S} \right)^{\frac{2}{D-1}} \quad \alpha = \frac{S}{\sigma^2 S'^2} \quad (D\text{-dim spt.})$$

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$$\Delta(x, x') = - \frac{1}{\sqrt{g(x)g(x')}} \det \left[ - \nabla_a^{(x)} \nabla_b^{(x')} \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2(x, x') \right] \quad \text{van Vleck determinant}$$

$\Delta_S = \Delta(\tilde{x}, x')$  with  $\tilde{x}$  such that  $\sigma^2(\tilde{x}, x') = S$  on the connecting geodesic

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$q_{ab}$  is singular everywhere in the  $x \rightarrow x'$  limit, and  $q_{ab} \approx g_{ab}$  for  $x, x'$  far apart

# null separations

AP 1812.01275, 2207.12155

what's the meaning of a finite distance limit in this case?

key: affine  $\lambda$  = measure of distance by the canonical observer

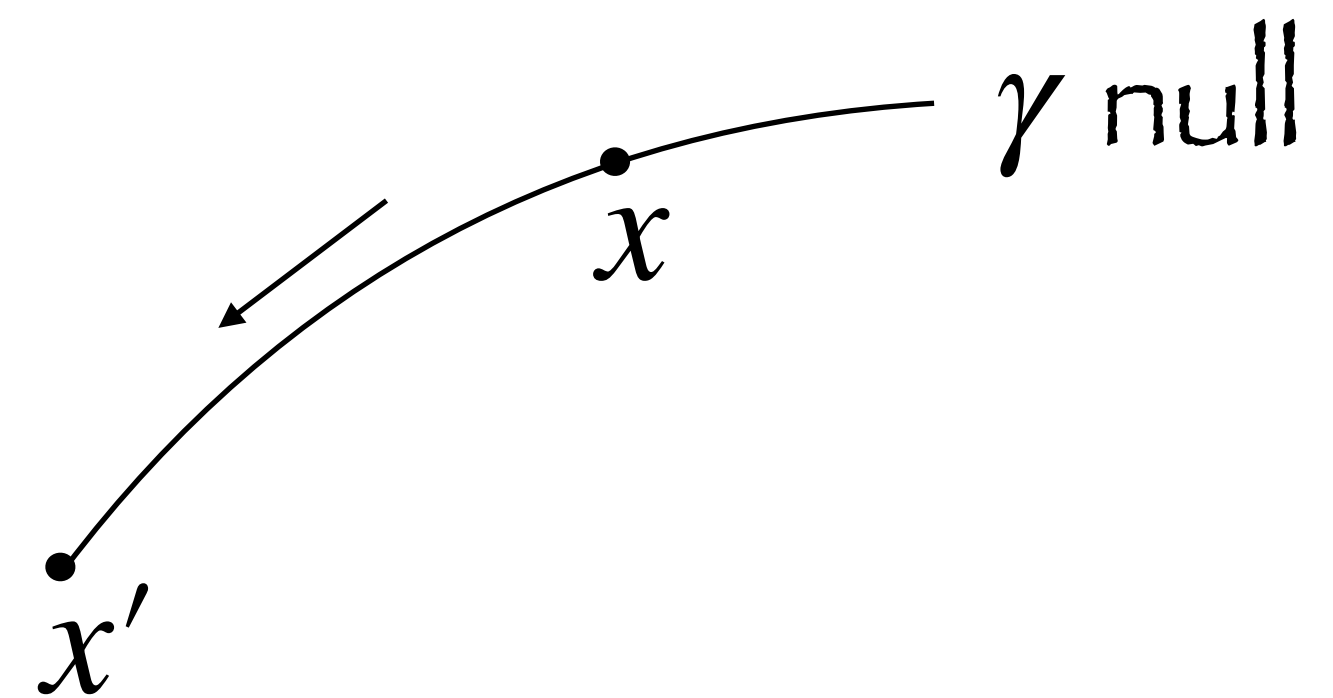
metric:

this observer at  $x'$  will find a finite lower bound  $L$  to  $\lambda - \lambda_{x'}$

take  $\lambda_{x'} = 0$ ,

$\lambda \mapsto \tilde{\lambda}(\lambda)$ , with  $\tilde{\lambda} \rightarrow L$  when  $\lambda \rightarrow 0$

(with  $\tilde{\lambda}(\lambda) \approx \lambda$  when  $\lambda \gg L$ )



we seek  $q_{ab}^{(\gamma)}$  of the form  $q_{ab}^{(\gamma)} = A_{(\gamma)} g_{ab} + (A_{(\gamma)} - 1/\alpha_{(\gamma)}) (l_a n_b + n_a l_b)$

$$n_a \text{ null with } l^a n_a = -1$$

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from

$$\tilde{l}^b \tilde{\nabla}_b \tilde{l}_a = 0$$

$$\text{with } \tilde{l}^a = \frac{dx^a}{d\tilde{\lambda}} = l^a \frac{d\lambda}{d\tilde{\lambda}},$$

$$\text{and } \tilde{\nabla}_b \tilde{v}_a = \nabla_b \tilde{v}_a - \frac{1}{2} q^{cd} (-\nabla_d q_{ba} + 2\nabla_{(b} q_{a)d}) \tilde{v}_c$$

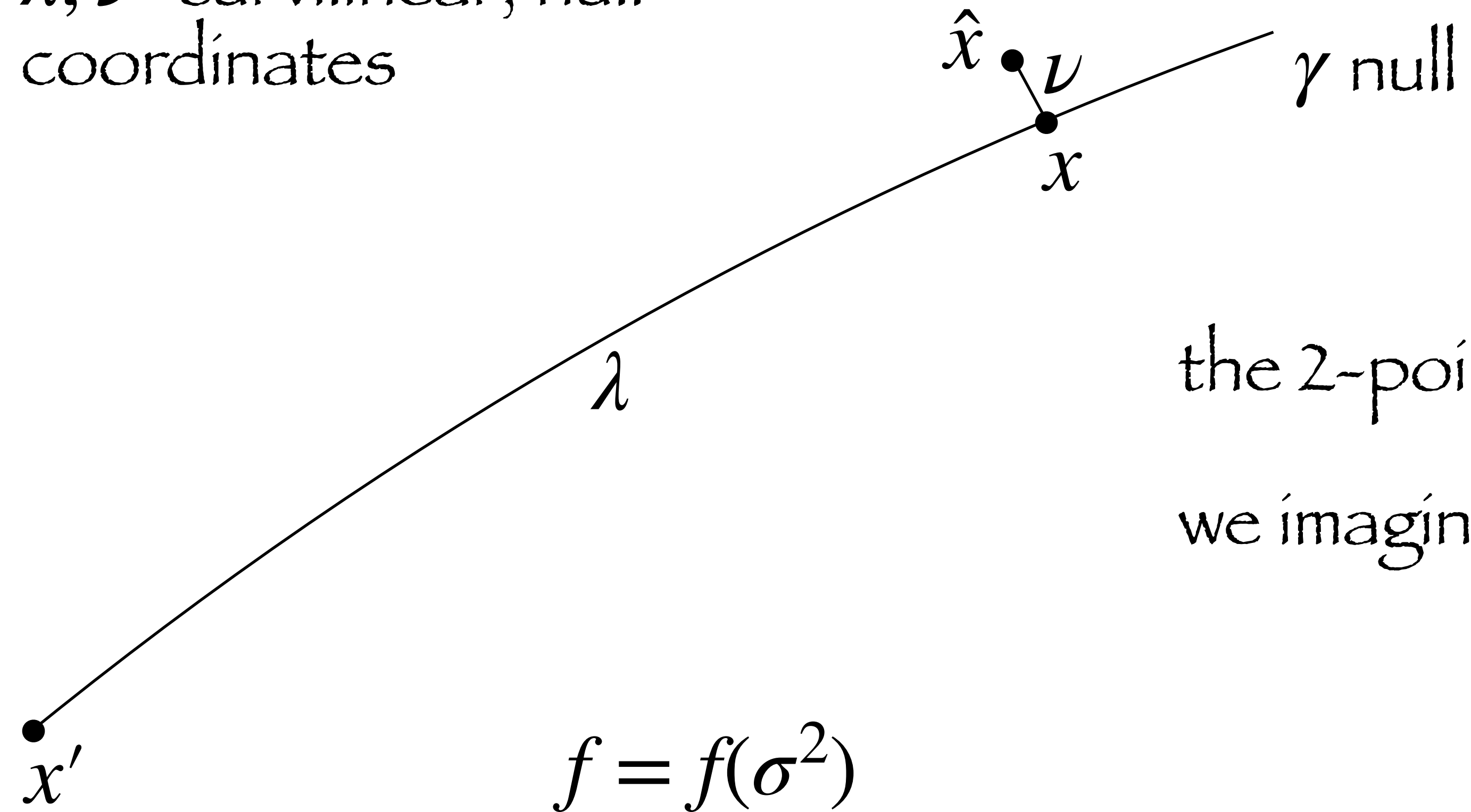
we obtain

$$\alpha_{(\gamma)} = \frac{C}{d\tilde{\lambda}/d\lambda},$$

with  $C$  real const.



$\lambda, \nu$  curvilinear, null  
coordinates



the 2-point function  $G(x, x')$  diverges on  $\gamma$   
we imagine to be slightly off  $\gamma$

$$f = f(\sigma^2)$$

$$\square f = (4 + 2\lambda \nabla_a l^a) \frac{df}{d\sigma^2} \quad \text{at } x \in \gamma$$

$$l^a = \frac{dx^a}{d\lambda}$$

we implement then the d'Alembertian condition this way:

$\widetilde{G}(\sigma^2) = \widetilde{G}(S(\sigma^2))$  is solution of

$$(4 + 2\tilde{\lambda} \widetilde{\nabla}_a \tilde{l}^a) \frac{d\tilde{G}}{dS} \Big|_{\tilde{\lambda}} = (4 + 2\tilde{\lambda} \widetilde{\nabla}_a \tilde{l}^a) \left( \frac{d\tilde{G}}{d\sigma^2} \right) \Big|_{\lambda=\tilde{\lambda}} = 0 \quad (1)$$

when

$G(\sigma^2)$  is solution of

$$(4 + 2\lambda \nabla_a l^a) \frac{dG}{d\sigma^2} \Big|_{\lambda} = 0 \quad (2)$$

using  $\widetilde{\nabla}_b \tilde{l}_a$  and the expression for  $\alpha_{(\gamma)}$  we already have, eq. (1) is

$$4 + 2\tilde{\lambda} \frac{d\lambda}{d\tilde{\lambda}} \nabla_a l^a|_{\lambda} + \tilde{\lambda} (D - 2) \frac{d\lambda}{d\tilde{\lambda}} \frac{d}{d\lambda} \ln A_{(\gamma)} = 0 \quad D = \text{spacetime dim.}$$

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from (2) at  $\tilde{\lambda}$ , i.e.,  $4 + 2\tilde{\lambda} \nabla_a l^a|_{\tilde{\lambda}} = 0$ ,

$$\text{and } \nabla_a l^a|_{\lambda} = \frac{D - 2}{\lambda} - \frac{d}{d\lambda} \ln \Delta, \quad \nabla_a l^a|_{\tilde{\lambda}} = \frac{D - 2}{\tilde{\lambda}} - \frac{d}{d\tilde{\lambda}} \ln \Delta_{\tilde{\lambda}},$$

we obtain

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} \ln \left[ \frac{\lambda^2}{\tilde{\lambda}^2} \left( \frac{\Delta_{\tilde{\lambda}}}{\Delta} \right)^{\frac{2}{D-2}} A_{(\gamma)} \right] = 0$$

which is

$$A_{(\gamma)} = C' \frac{\tilde{\lambda}^2}{\lambda^2} \left( \frac{\Delta}{\Delta_{\tilde{\lambda}}} \right)^{\frac{2}{D-2}}, \quad C' > 0 \text{ const.}$$

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from

$$q_{ab}^{(\gamma)} = A_{(\gamma)} g_{ab} + (A_{(\gamma)} - 1/\alpha_{(\gamma)}) (l_a n_b + n_a l_b) \approx g_{ab} \quad \text{when } \lambda \gg L,$$

we get  $C' = 1 = C$

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then, final expression is

$$q_{ab}^{(\gamma)} = A_{(\gamma)} g_{ab} + (A_{(\gamma)} - 1/\alpha_{(\gamma)}) (l_a n_b + n_a l_b)$$

with

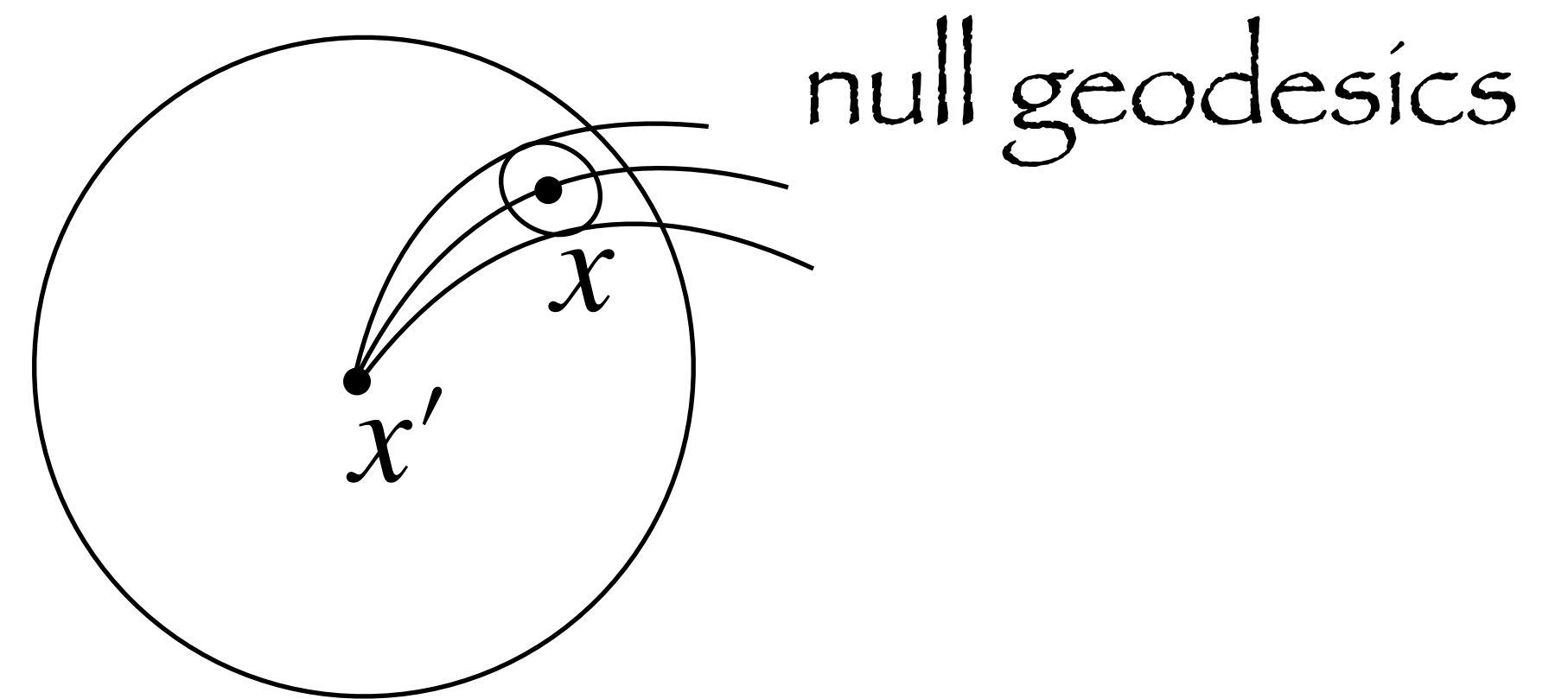
$$\alpha_{(\gamma)} = \frac{1}{d\tilde{\lambda}/d\lambda},$$
$$A_{(\gamma)} = \frac{\tilde{\lambda}^2}{\lambda^2} \left( \frac{\Delta}{\Delta_{\tilde{\lambda}}} \right)^{\frac{2}{D-2}}.$$

$q_{ab}$  singular everywhere  
when  $x \rightarrow x'$

# areas shrink to finite values

transverse metric:

$$\tilde{h}_{ab} = A_{(\gamma)} h_{ab}$$



$$\begin{aligned} d^{D-2} \tilde{a}(x) &= \sqrt{\det \tilde{h}_{ab}(x)} d^{D-2} a(x) = \sqrt{\det \tilde{h}_{ab}(x)} \lambda^{D-2} d\Omega_{(D-2)} = \\ &= \tilde{\lambda}^{D-2} \frac{\Delta}{\Delta_{\tilde{\lambda}}} d\Omega_{(D-2)} \rightarrow L^{D-2} \frac{1}{\Delta_{\tilde{\lambda}=L}} d\Omega_{(D-2)} \approx L^{D-2} d\Omega_{(D-2)} \end{aligned}$$

which is finite for a given  $d\Omega_{(D-2)}$

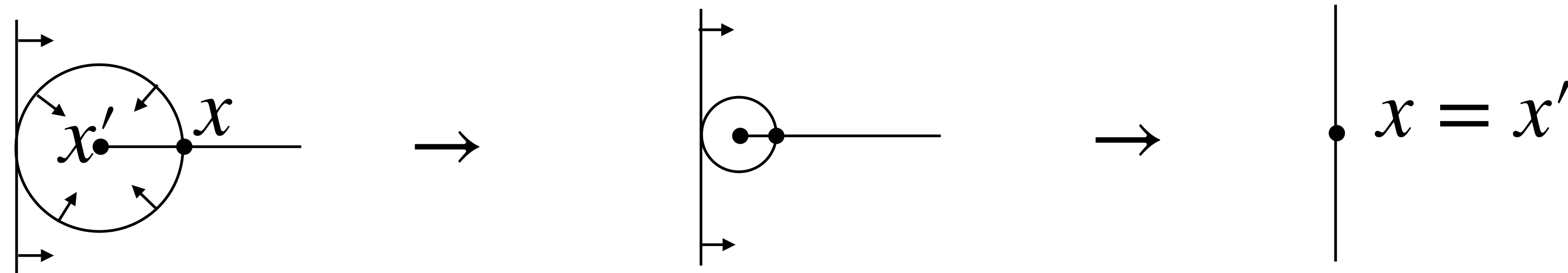
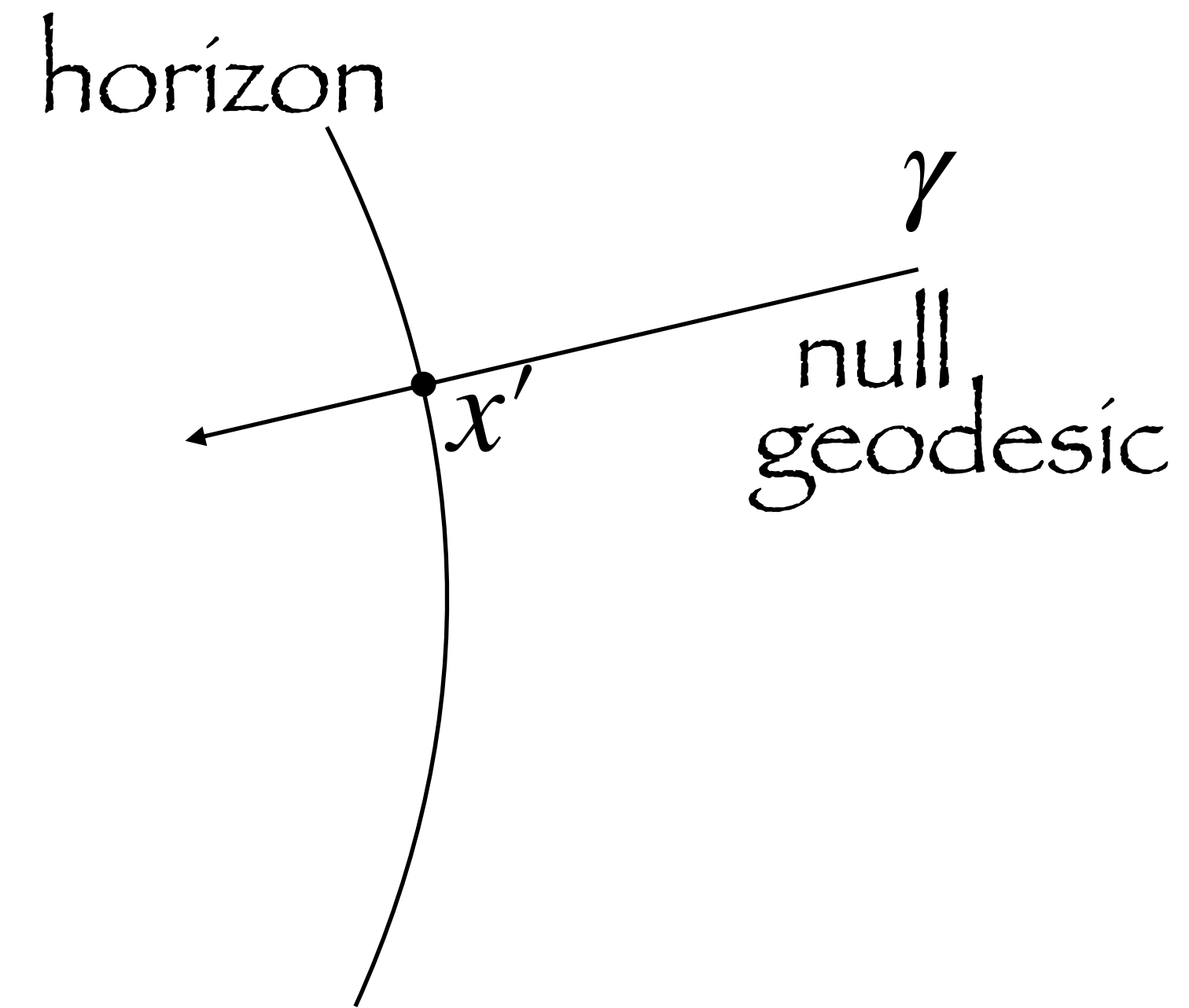
$$\Delta_{\tilde{\lambda}=L} = 1 + \frac{1}{6} L^2 R_{ab} l^a l^b + \dots$$

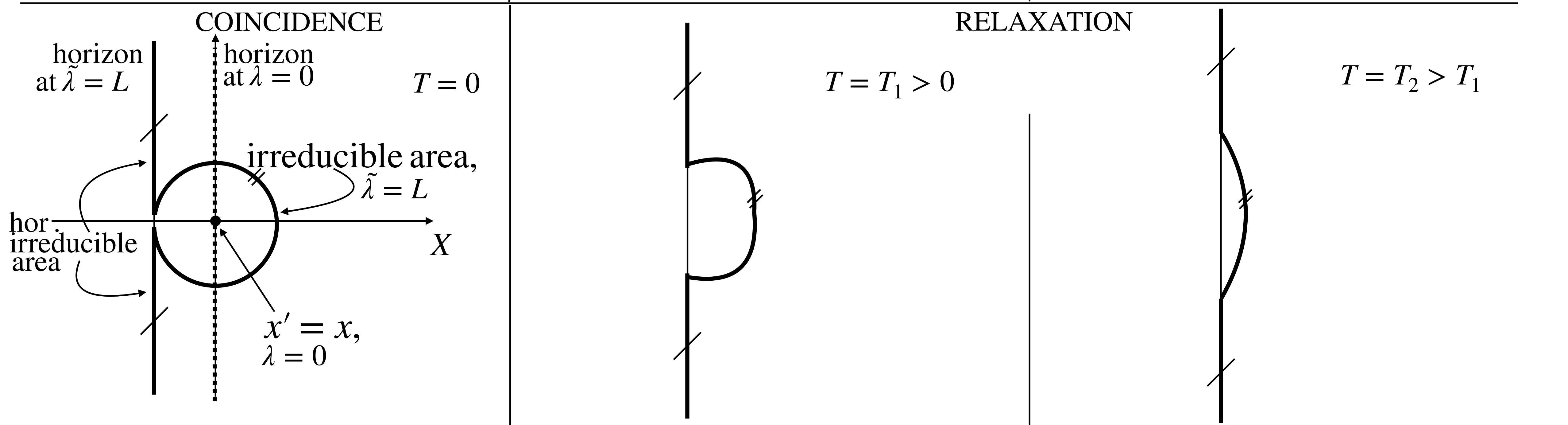
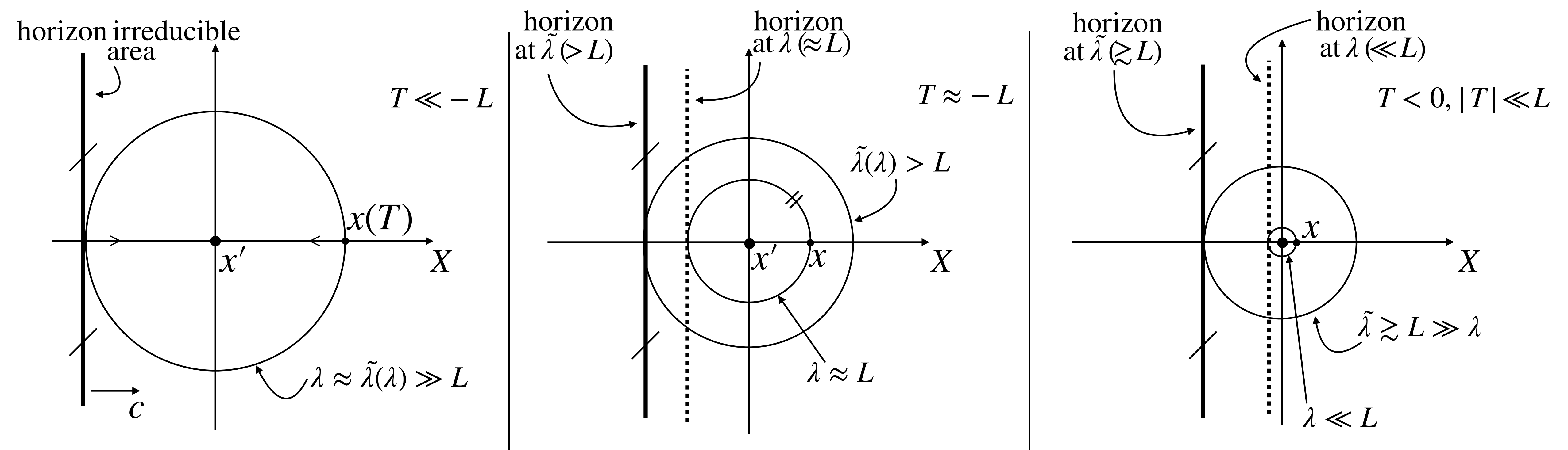
# use on horizons

(coll. with Krishnendu N V (ICTS, Bengaluru), S. Chakraborty (IACS, Kolkata),  
A. Perri (Bologna))

$x'$  = event of crossing of the horizon by  
a null geodesic

we describe the coincidence event in  
local Gullstrand-Painleve' at  $x'$





this means

$$A \rightarrow A' = A + 4\pi L^2$$

minimum step:  $\delta A_{\min} = 4\pi L^2 = 4\pi\beta^2 l_p^2 = 4\pi\beta^2 \hbar$   $\beta \equiv L/l_p$

energy conservation  $\Rightarrow$  threshold energy  $E_0$  to have absorption;  
for energies  $E < E_0$ , no absorption

induced reflectivity  $\mathcal{R} \neq 0$ :

$$\mathcal{R}(\omega) = 1 \quad \omega < \omega_0$$

$$\mathcal{R}(\omega) = 0 \quad \omega \geq \omega_0$$

$$\omega_0 = E_0/\hbar$$



from

$$\delta M = \frac{1}{8\pi} \kappa \left( \delta A + 4\pi \frac{\delta(J^2)}{\sqrt{M^4 - J^2}} \right)$$

$$\kappa = \frac{r_+ - M}{r_+^2 + J^2/M^2} \quad \text{surf. grav.}$$

$$r_+ = M + \sqrt{M^2 - J^2/M^2} \quad \text{outer hor.}$$

we get

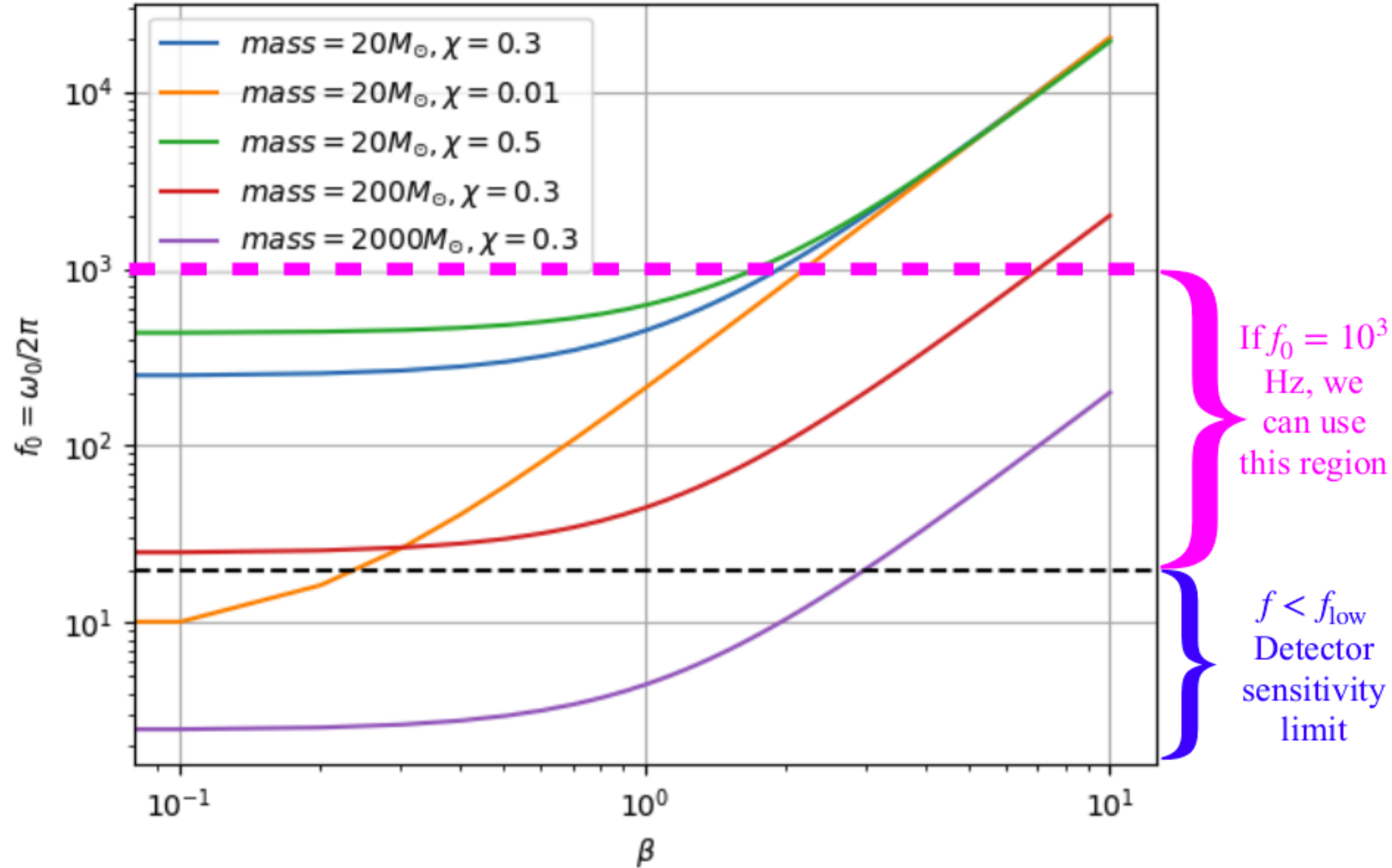
$$(\delta A = \delta A_{\min}, \delta J_{(\min)} = 2\hbar, E_0 = \delta M_{\min})$$

$$\omega_0 = \frac{\kappa}{2} \beta^2 + 2\Omega = \kappa \left( \frac{\beta^2}{2} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{(M^2/J)^2 - 1}} \right)$$

$$\Omega = \frac{J/M}{2Mr_+}$$

ang. vel. at the hor.

# Region of parameter space that we can constrain: just from the frequency estimations

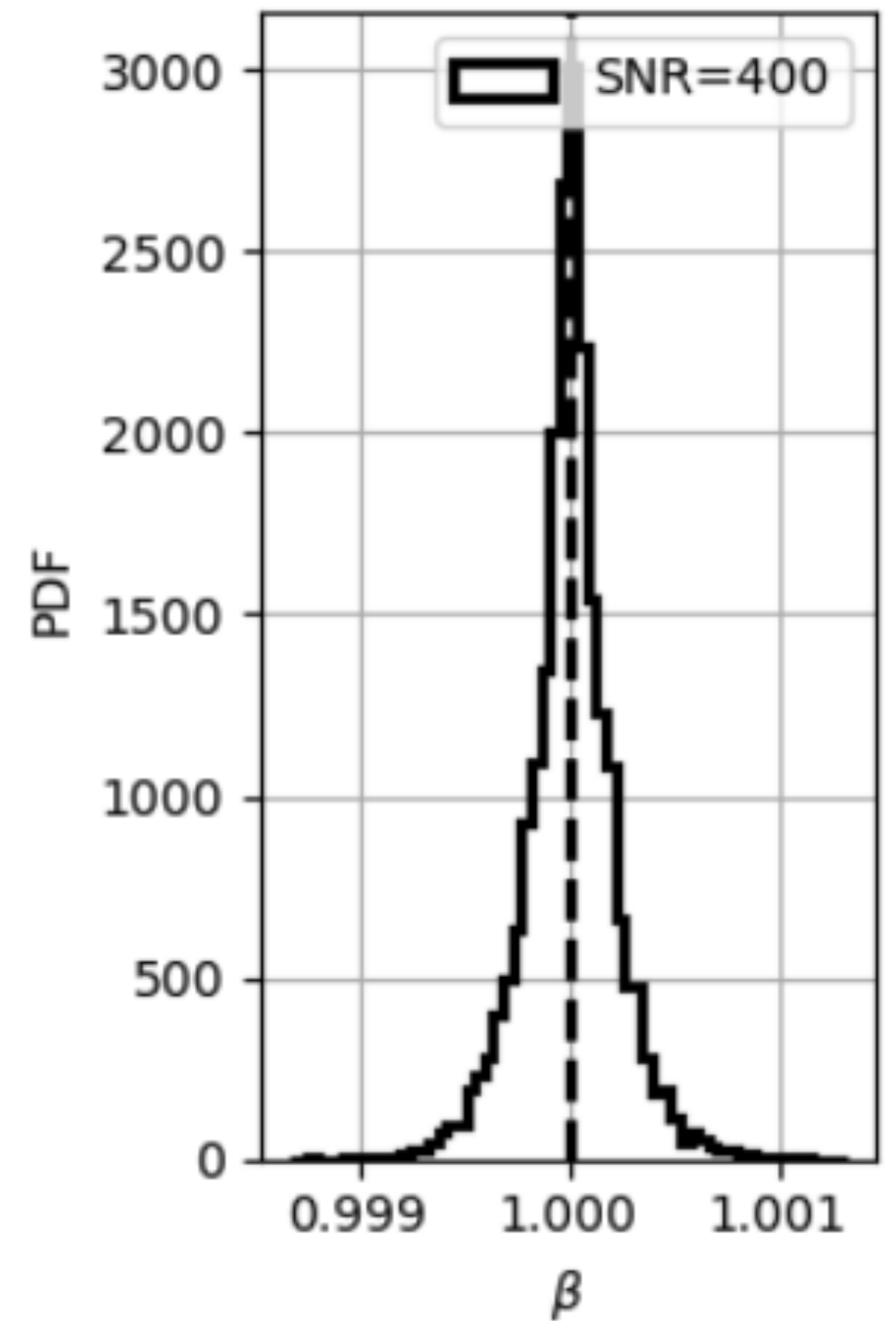
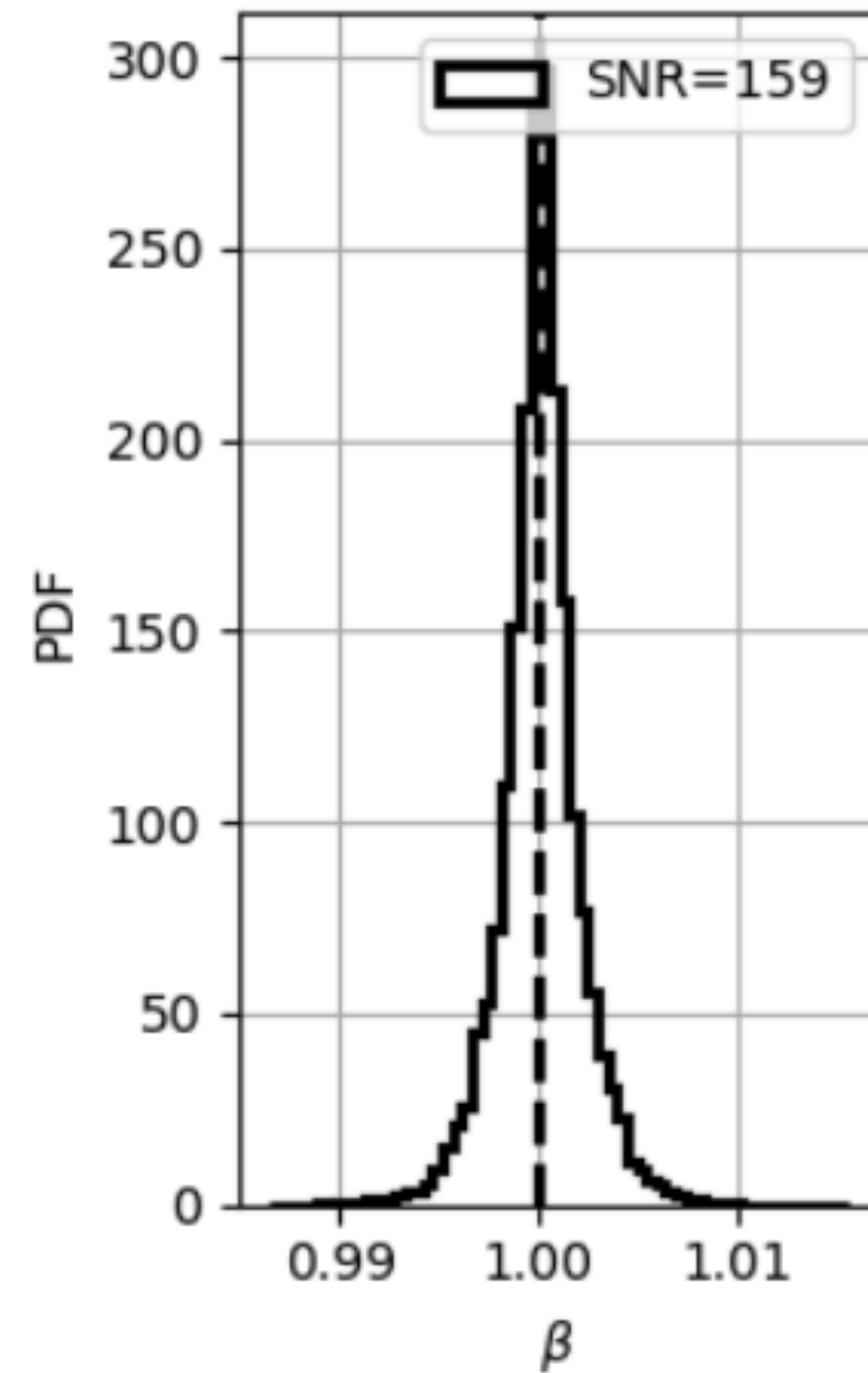
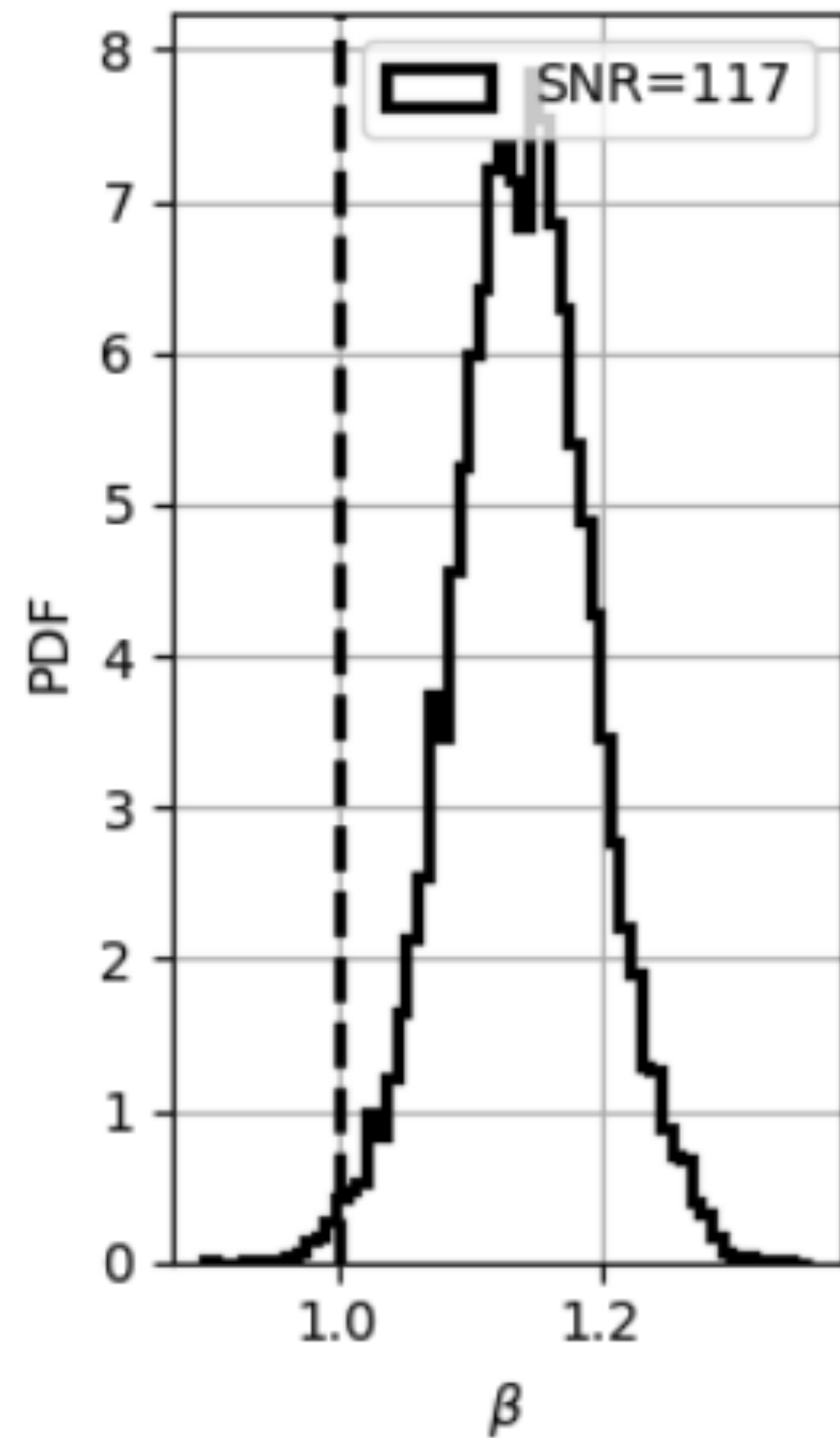
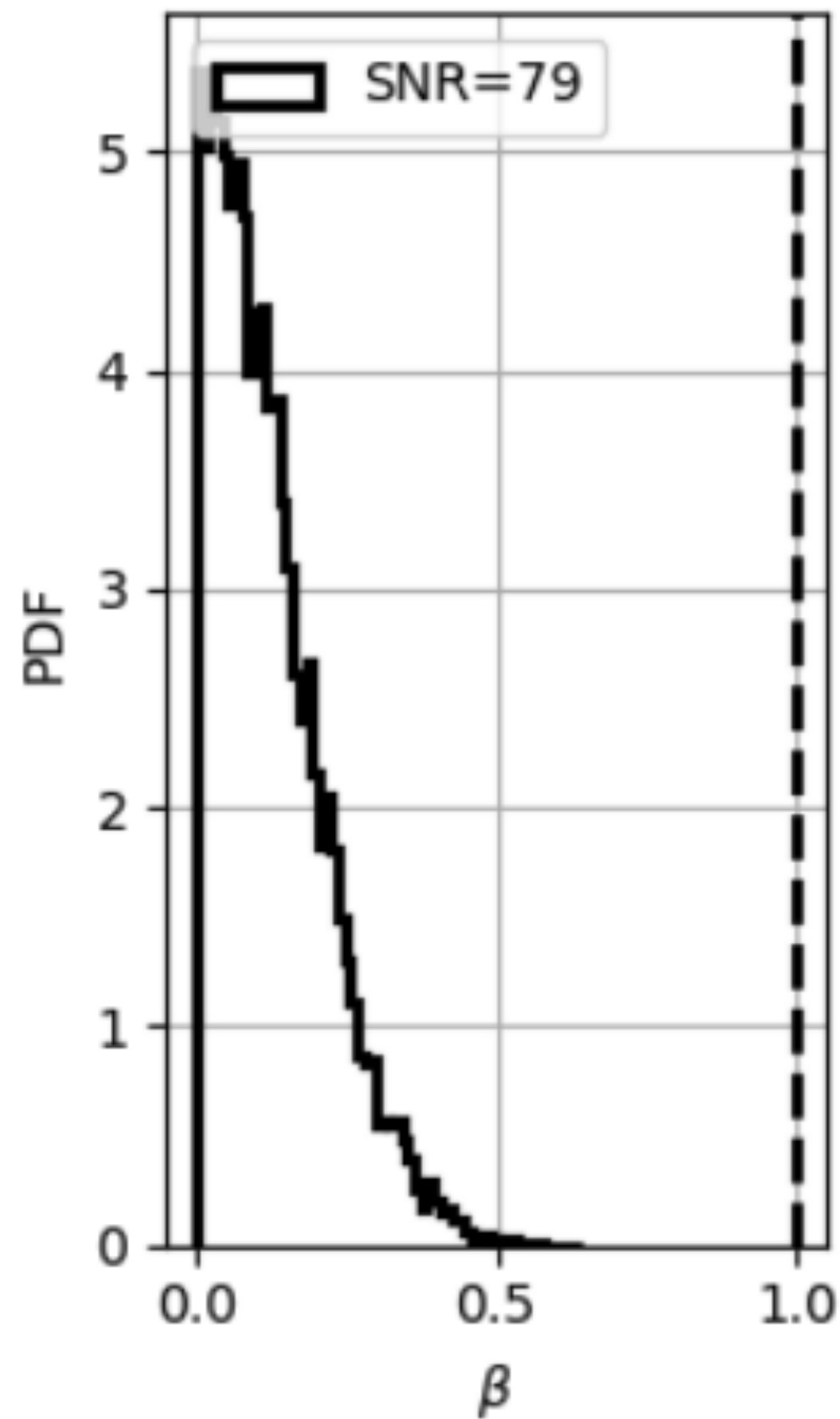


$$\chi = \frac{J}{M^2}$$

If the BH mass is in the stellar mass range, highly spinning cases will have more constraining power

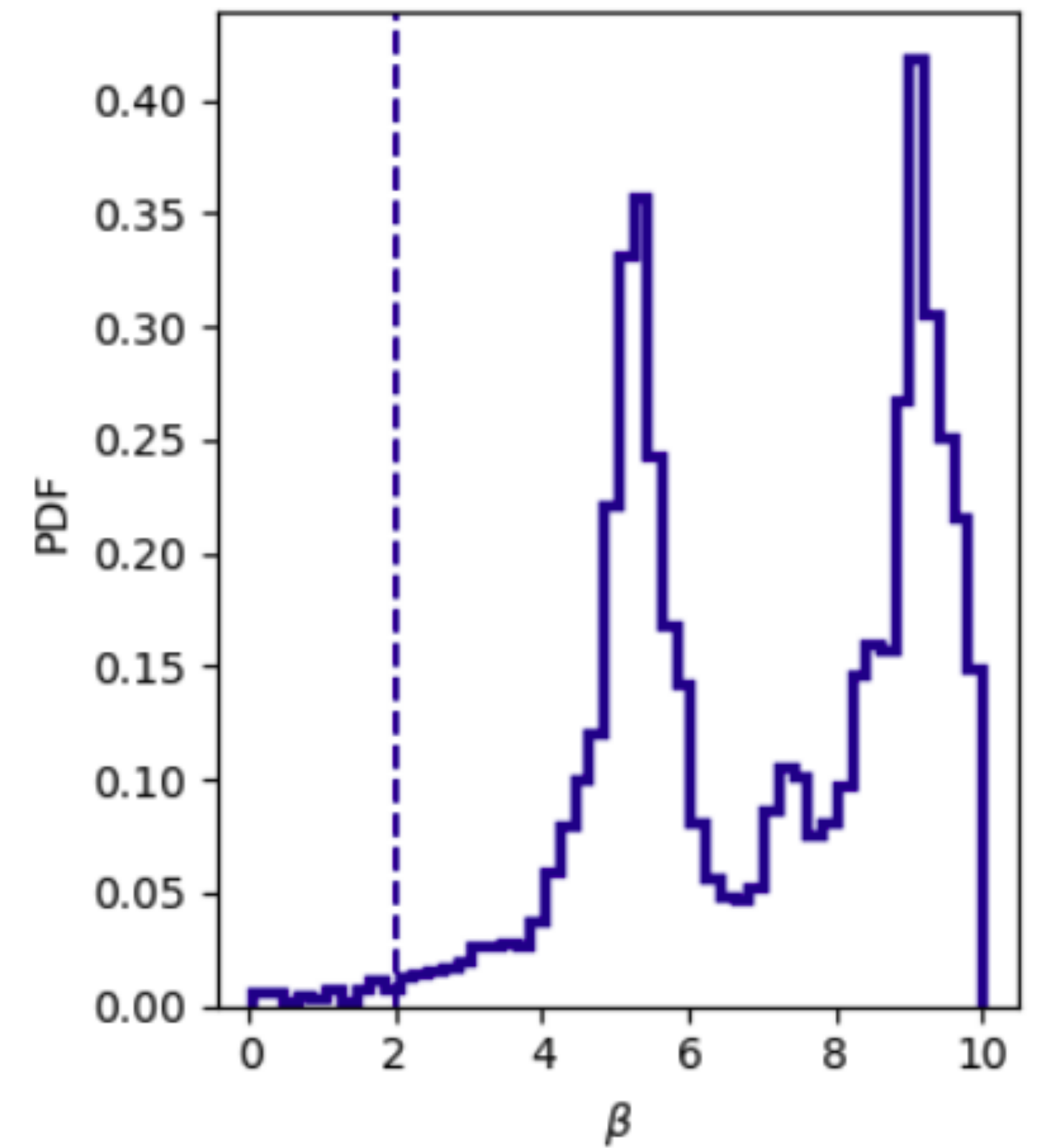
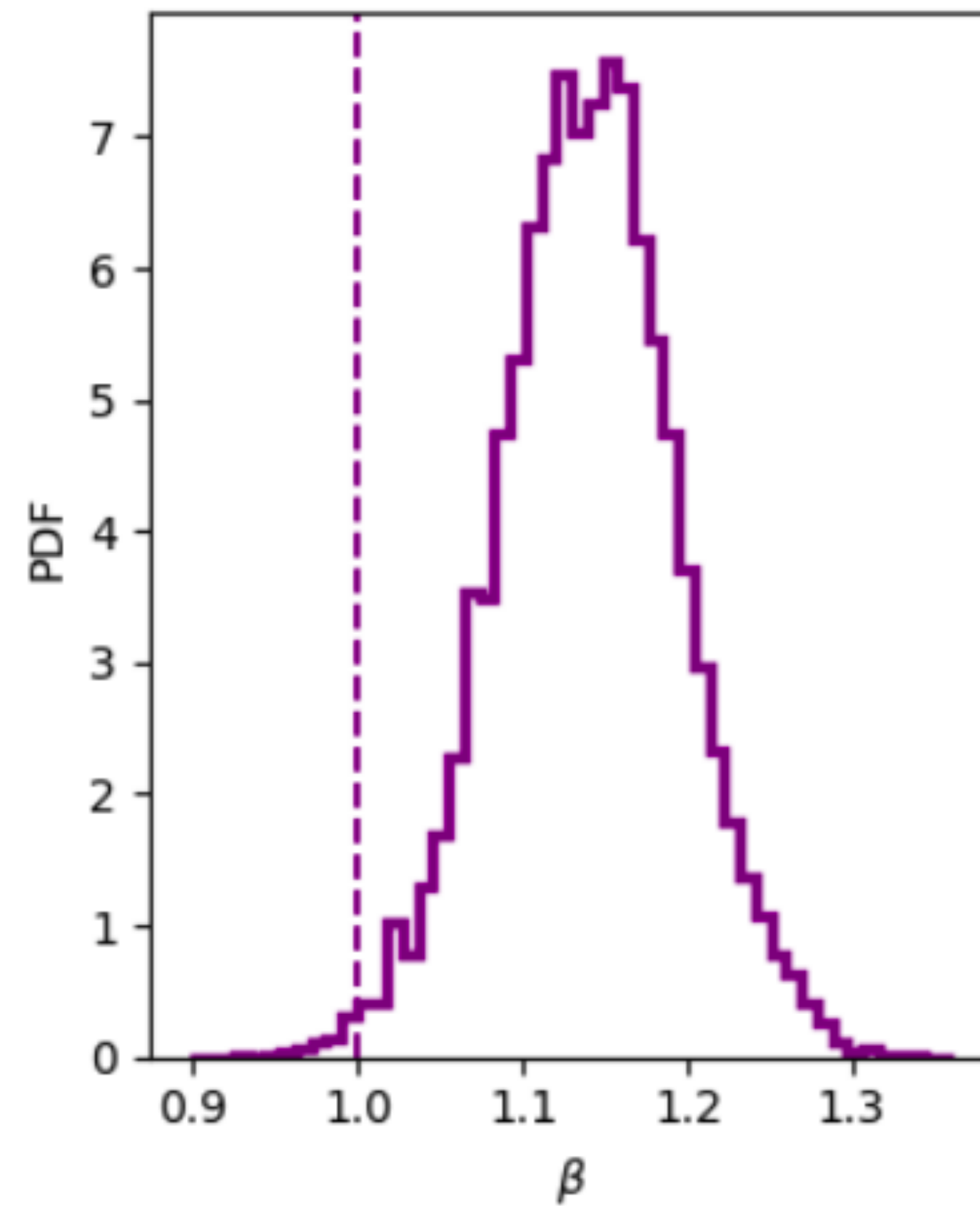
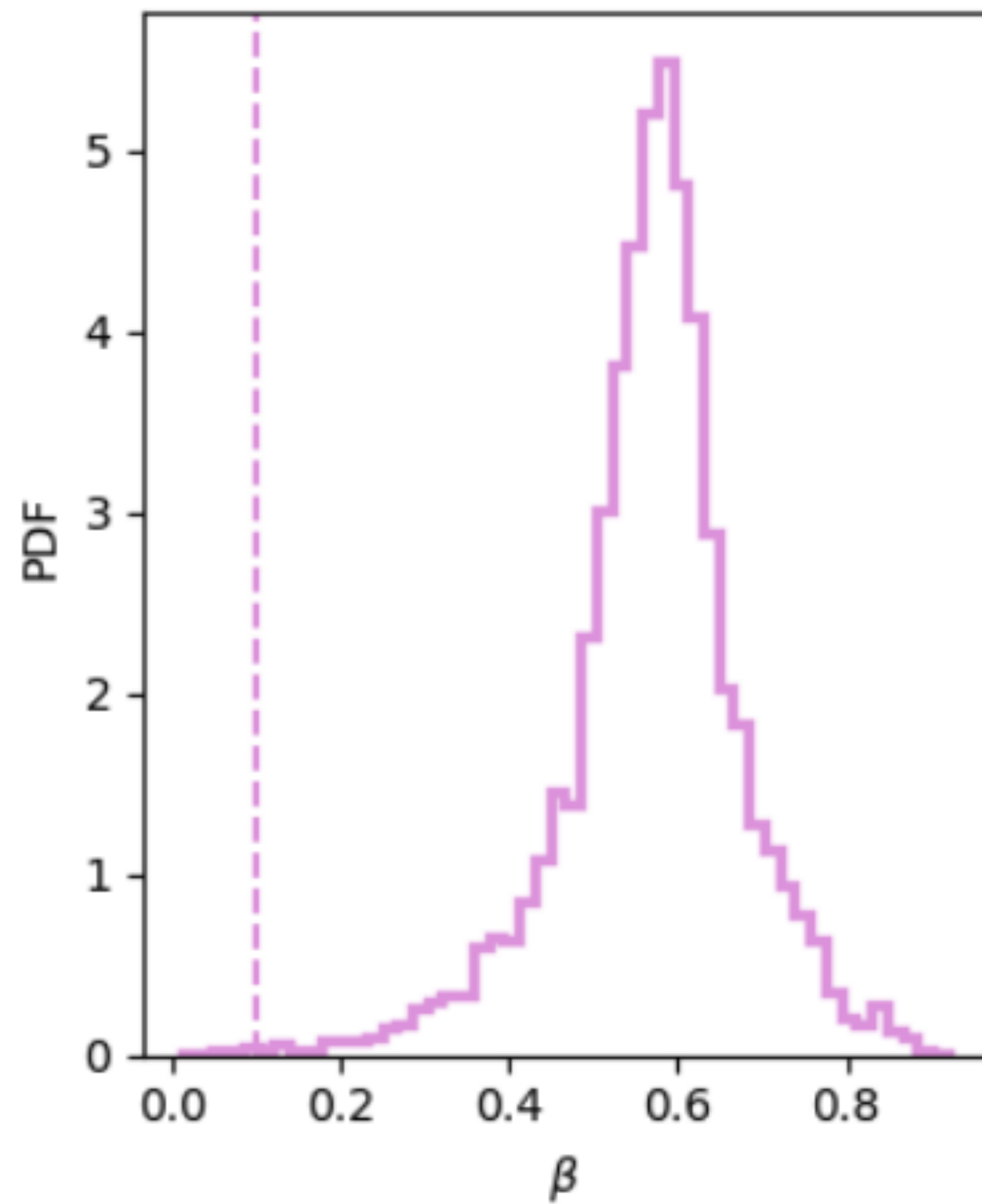
(from Krishnendu)

# Posteriors: Effect of SNR $\{\beta, m_i, \chi_i\}$



(from Krishnendu)

# Different injected values $\{\beta, m_i, \chi_i\}$ , SNR = 119



(from Krishnendu)

in conclusion,

- qmetric: tool to investigate imprints of quantum gravity from limit length
- it can be usefully considered also for null separated events
- when applied to horizons, it shows existence of a limit step in area increase
- this induces  $\mathcal{R} \neq 0$  below a given threshold energy  $E_0$
- $\omega_0 = E_0/\hbar$  is in the sensitivity range of ground-based GW detectors  
for fast spinning black holes