

# Hidden Spectral Symmetries and Mode Stability of Rotating Black Holes

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# Outline

1. BH Perturbations
2. Stability properties of Kerr
3. Stability properties of Kerr-de Sitter
4. Conclusions

# 1. BH Perturbations

2. Stability properties of Kerr

3. Stability properties of Kerr-de Sitter

4. Conclusions

# Kerr Black Holes

Astrophysical BHs are believed to be described by the **Kerr metric**:

$$ds^2 = -\frac{\Delta}{\Sigma} (dt^2 - a \sin^2 \theta d\varphi)^2 + \frac{\Sigma}{\Delta} dr^2 + \Sigma d\theta^2 + \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\Sigma} ((r^2 + a^2) d\varphi - a dt)^2$$

$$\Delta = (r - r_+)(r - r_-)$$

↓

$$\Sigma \equiv r^2 + a^2 \cos^2 \theta$$

**Event/Cauchy horizon:**  $r_{\pm} = M \pm \sqrt{M^2 - a^2}$

mass angular momentum per unit mass

Maximally-rotating (**extremal**) Kerr is for  $a = M$

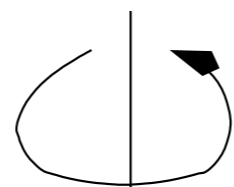
Horizon at  $r = r_{\pm}$  has **angular veloc.**  $\Omega_{\pm} \equiv \frac{a}{r_{\pm}^2 + a^2}$

and **surface gravity**  $\kappa_{\pm} = \frac{r_+ - r_-}{2(r_{\pm}^2 + a^2)}$

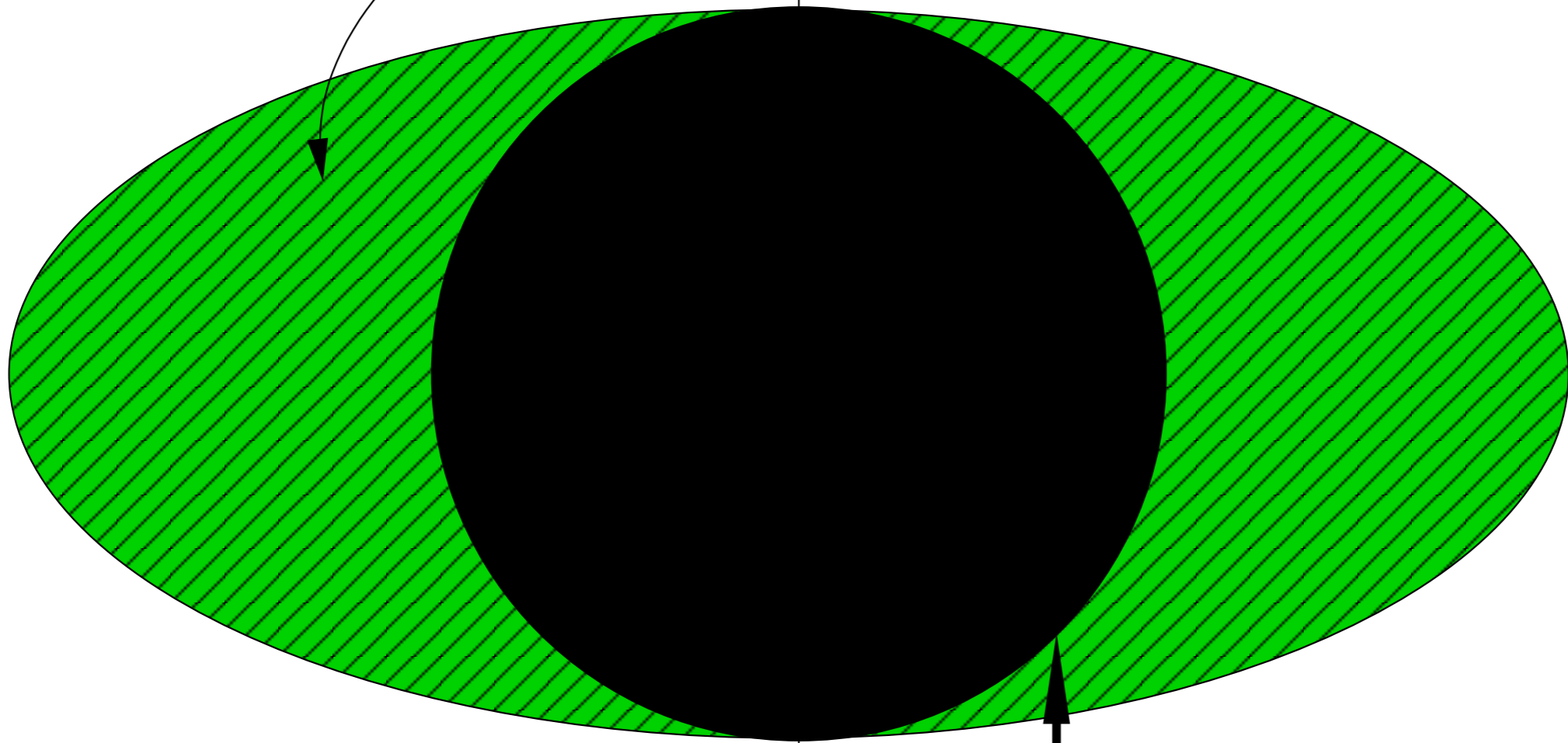
It has a curvature **singularity** at  $r = 0$  and  $\theta = \pi/2$

It has two *explicit symmetries* (Killing vectors):

stationarity (  $\partial_t$  ) and axi-symmetry (  $\partial_\varphi$  )


 $\Omega_+ \equiv \frac{a}{r_+^2 + a^2}$  : angular velocity

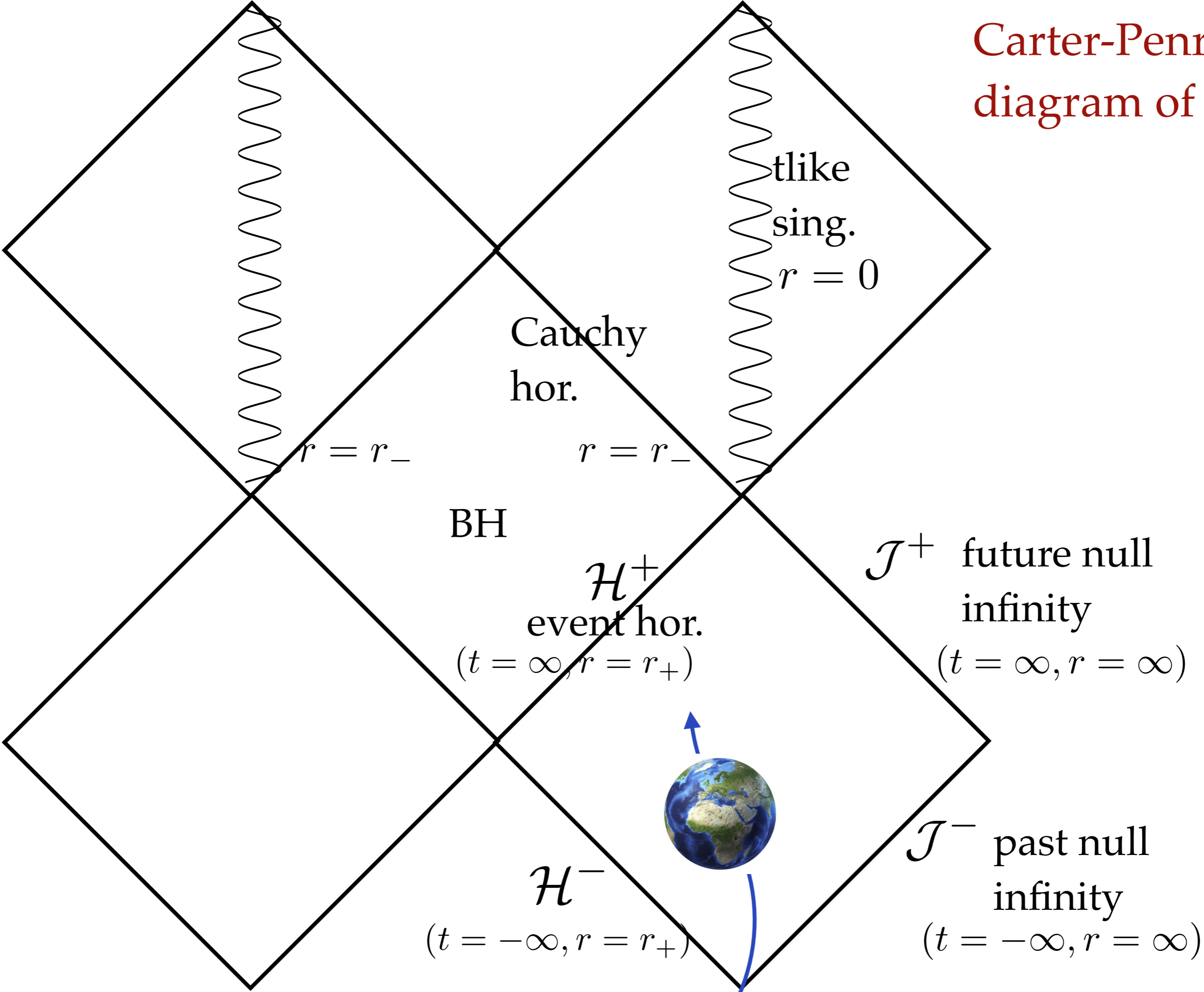
**ergosphere**  $(\partial_t)^2 > 0$   $\longrightarrow$  observer must rotate  
 (spacelike) inside ergosphere



$(\partial_t)^2 < 0$   
 (timelike)

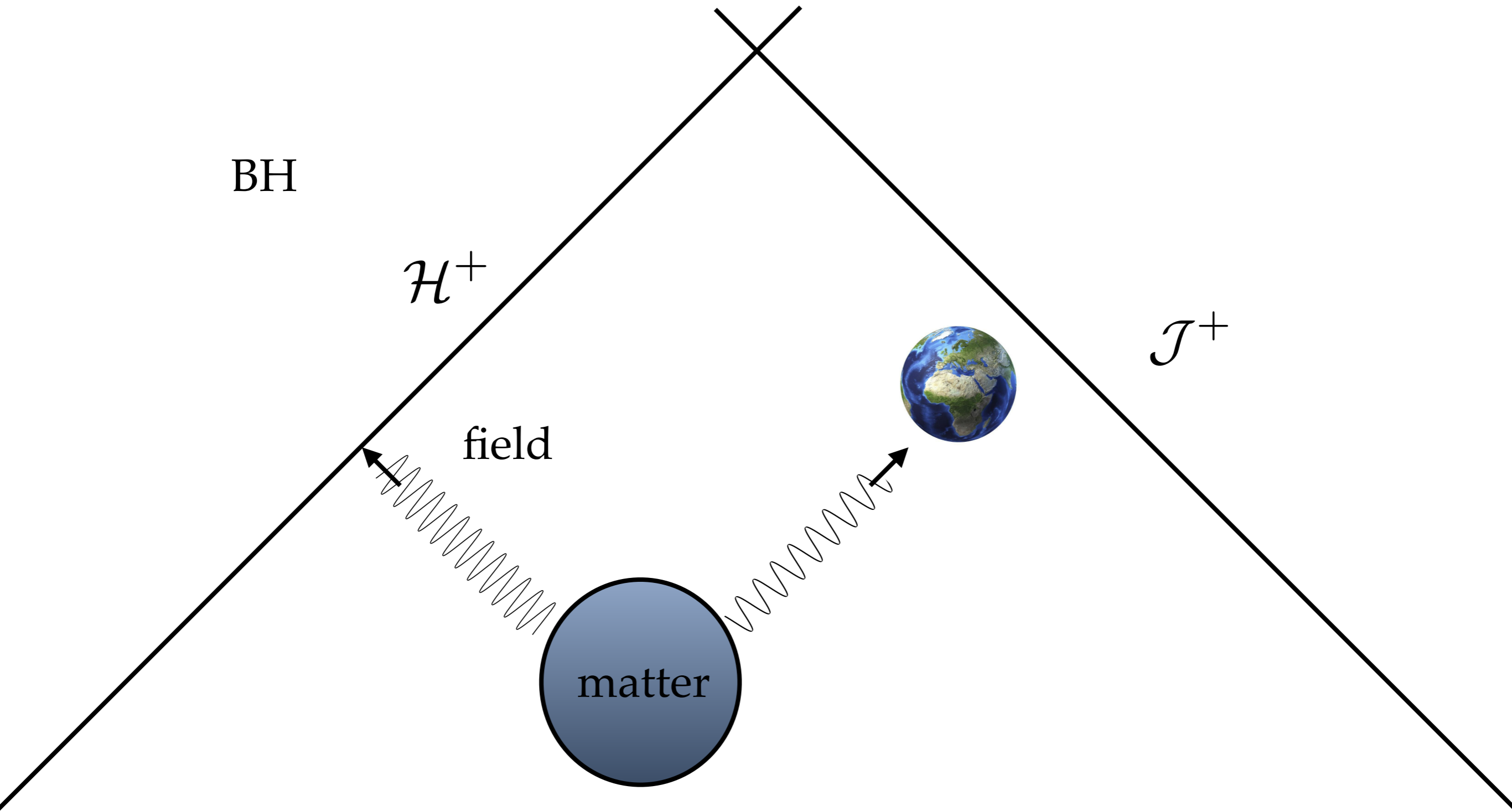
event horizon  
 $r = r_+$

# Carter-Penrose diagram of Kerr



# BH Perturbations

BHs are not in isolation but are 'perturbed' by fields (scalar, fermion, electromagnetic, gravitational...) due to neighbouring matter (eg, accretion disk, neutron star, etc) or another BH





Important question in order to ascertain whether a Kerr BH is really the final stage of gravitational collapse of massive stars:

is Kerr spacetime *stable* under field perturbations?

# Wave Equation

We consider **linear field perturbations** of a *fixed* BH (ie, we do not consider the backreaction of the field on the BH)  $\longrightarrow$  the fields propagate on a BH *background*  $g_{\mu\nu}$

E.g., **scalar** field perturbations  $\phi$  of a BH satisfy a **wave eq.** (2nd order hyperbolic linear PDE)

$$\square\phi(x) \equiv g_{\mu\nu} \nabla^\mu \nabla^\nu \phi(x) = T(x) : \text{source of field}$$

||

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( \Delta \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} - \frac{a^2}{\Delta} \right) \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial \varphi^2} - \frac{4aMr}{\Delta} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial t \partial \varphi} - \left( \frac{(r^2 + a^2)^2}{\Delta} - a^2 \sin^2 \theta \right) \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial t^2}$$

Perturbations by other fields satisfy a similar wave eq.

Eg, for **grav. field perturbations**, *linearize* Einstein eqs.

Smaller BH ( $m$ ) moving on the background metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  of a massive BH ( $M$ ) causes perturbation metric  $h_{\mu\nu}$

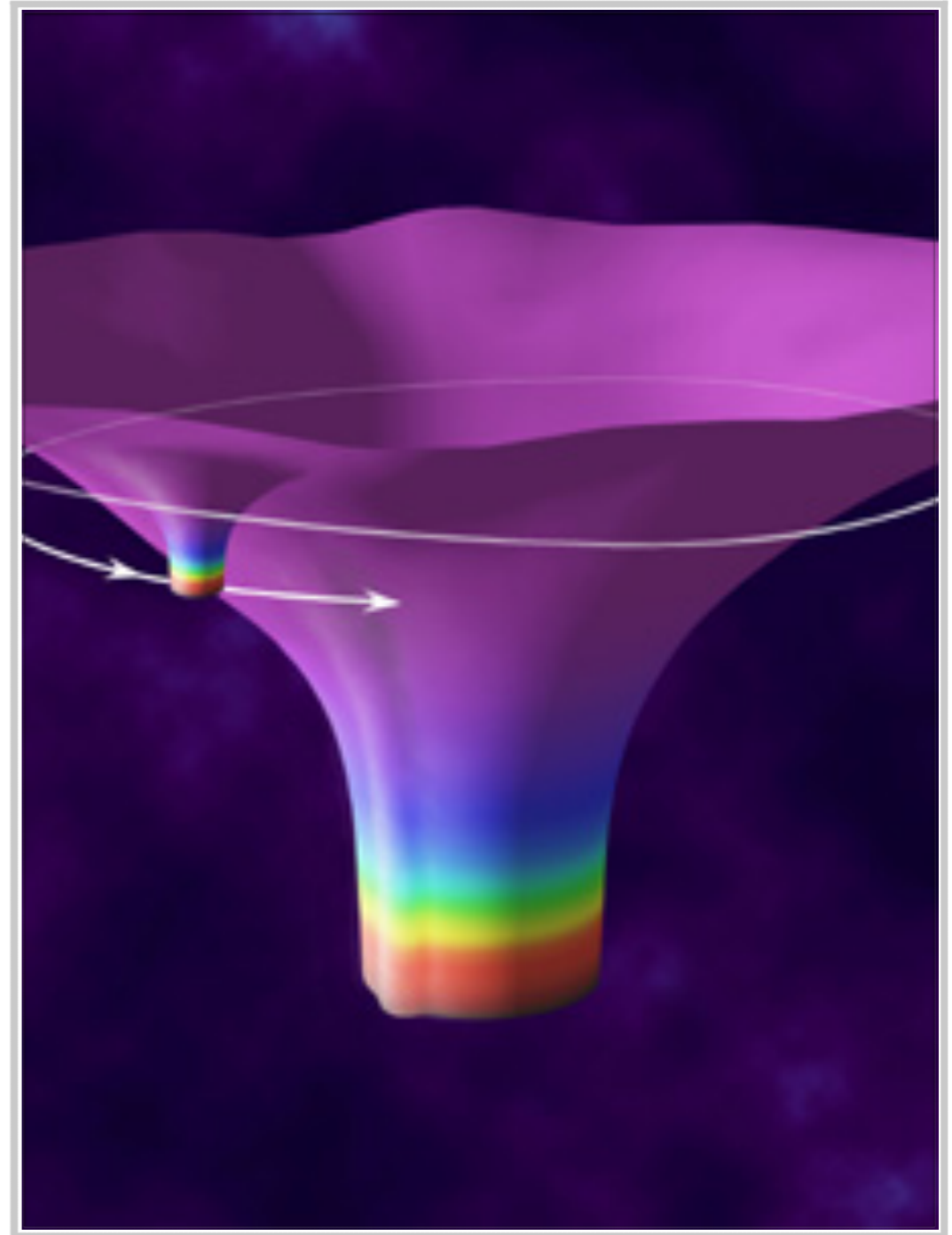
due to  $M$



$$\text{Total metric} = g_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu} + O\left(\frac{m}{M}\right)^2$$



perturbation (**gravitational waves**) due to  $m$



The eqs. satisfied by the different components of  $h_{\mu\nu}$  do not decouple, but...

Credit: NASA

Teukolsky'73 managed to decouple the eqs. satisfied for combinations  $\psi$  of different components and derivatives of the various fields (spin  $|s|=0$  scalar,  $=1/2$  neutrino,  $=1$  emag for Faraday tensor,  $=2$  grav for Weyl tensor)

Teukolsky "master" PDE:  $\hat{\mathcal{O}}\psi(x) = T_s(x)$

$\uparrow$  source of field

It's a **wave-like eq.:**

$$\hat{\mathcal{O}} \equiv \left( \frac{(r^2 + a^2)^2}{\Delta} - a^2 \sin^2 \theta \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - 2s \left( \frac{M(r^2 - a^2)}{\Delta} - r - ia \cos \theta \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$$

$$+ \frac{4aMr}{\Delta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t \partial \varphi} + \left( \frac{a^2}{\Delta} - \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \varphi^2} - 2s \left( \frac{a(r - M)}{\Delta} + \frac{i \cos \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi}$$

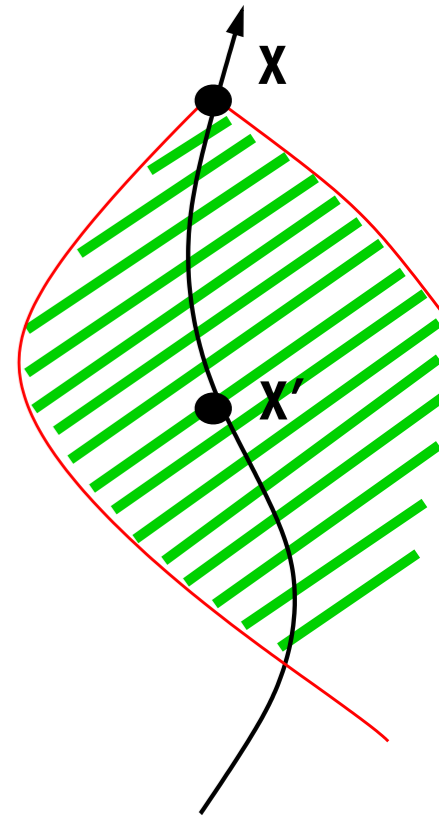
$$- \Delta^{-s} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( \Delta^{s+1} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) - \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + (s^2 \cot^2 \theta - s)$$

# Green Function

A crucial object is the retarded Green function

$$\hat{\mathcal{O}} G_{ret}(x, x') = \delta_4(x, x') \quad \text{with causal b.c.:$$

$$G_{ret}(x, x') = 0 \quad \text{if } x' \notin J^-(x)$$

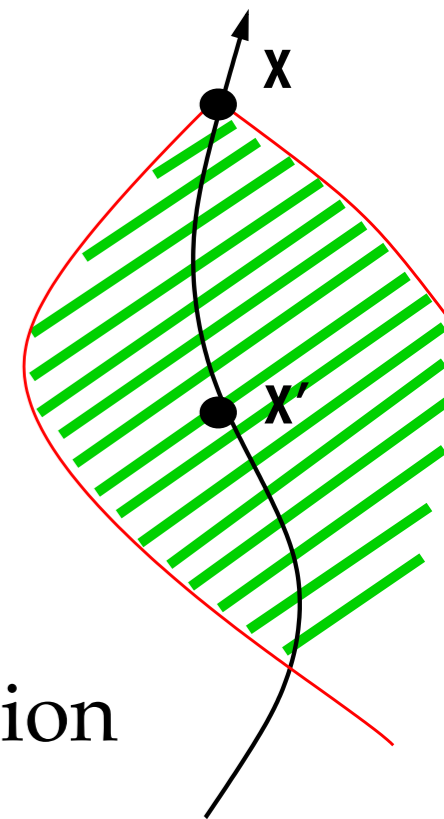


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GF determines evolution in time of any initial field configuration

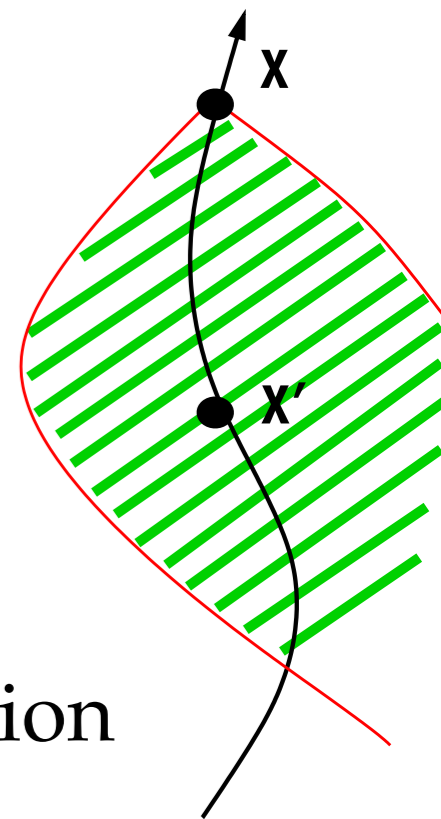
$$\psi(x) = \int_{t=0} \left[ G_{ret}(x, x') \dot{\psi}^{ic}(\vec{x}') + \psi^{ic}(\vec{x}') \partial_t G_{ret}(x, x') \right] d^3 \vec{x}'$$

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GF can be calculated by *separating* (Carter'68) into Fourier modes (← stationarity) and spheroidal harmonics (← axisymmetry & *hidden symmetry*: Killing-Yano tensor):

$$G_{ret} = \sum_{\ell, m} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega e^{im\varphi - i\omega t} S_{\ell m \omega}(\theta) S_{\ell m \omega}(\theta') G_{\ell m \omega}(r, r')$$

↑ Fourier modes

The GF Fourier modes satisfy the radial Teukolsky eq.:

$$\hat{\mathcal{O}}_r G_{lm\omega}(r, r') = \delta(r, r')$$



2nd order linear operator in r

$$\hat{\mathcal{O}}_r \equiv \Delta \frac{d^2}{dr^2} + \frac{[\omega(r^2 + a^2) - am - is(r - M)]^2}{\Delta} + \left( \frac{M^2 - a^2}{\Delta} + 4is\omega r - \lambda - a^2\omega^2 + 2am\omega \right)$$



separation const.: eigenvalue of angular ODE


(  $\lambda$  is invariant under  $s \rightarrow -s$  )

It can be trivially transformed to a confluent Heun ODE: 2 regular singular pts. at  $r = r_{\pm}$  & 1 irregular singular pt. at  $r = \infty$



The GF of a 2nd order linear ODE can be found from two linearly independent slns. of the *homogeneous* radial ODE:

$$G_{lm\omega}(r, r') = \frac{R_{lm\omega}^{in}(r_{<}) R_{lm\omega}^{up}(r_{>})}{W}$$

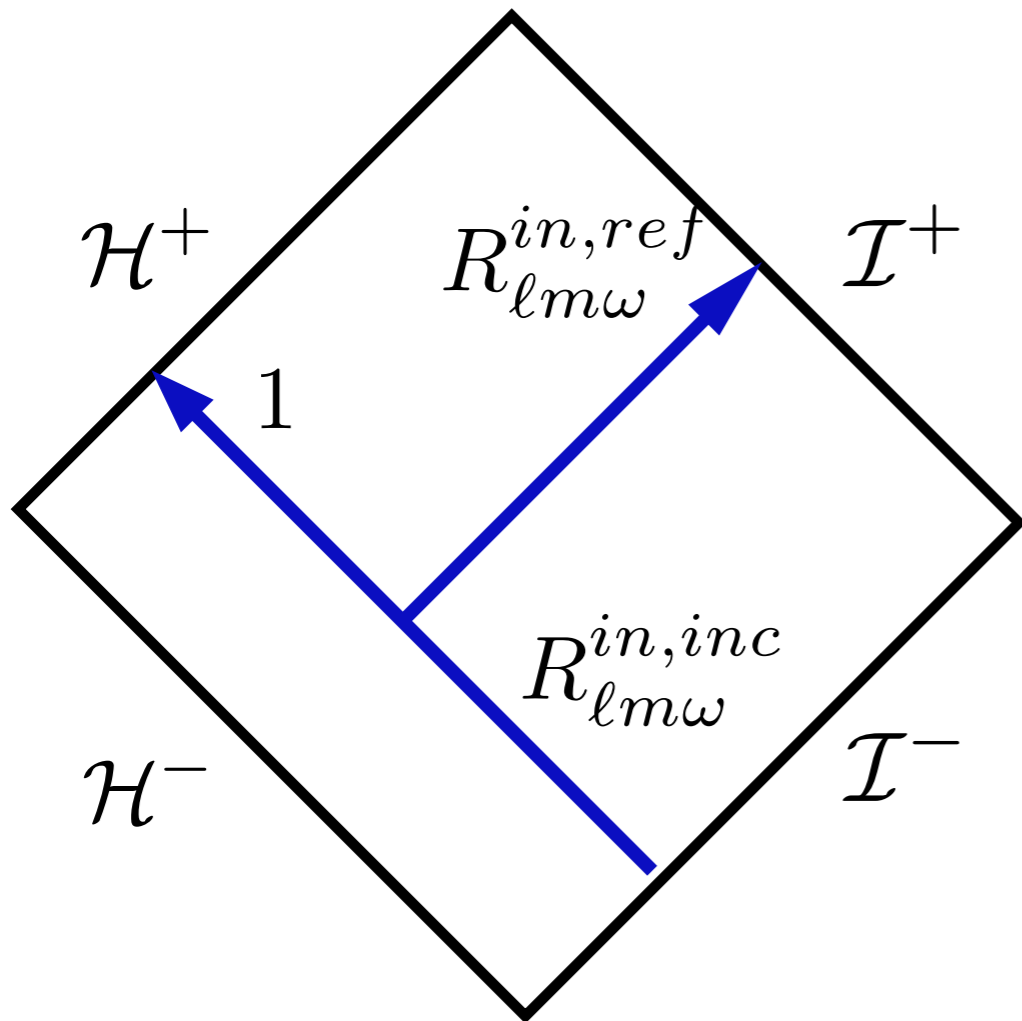

Wronskian

$r_{<} \equiv \min(r, r')$   
 $r_{>} \equiv \max(r, r')$

where  $\hat{O}_r R_{lm\omega}^{in/up}(r) = 0$

Causal boundary conditions for the homogeneous slns.:

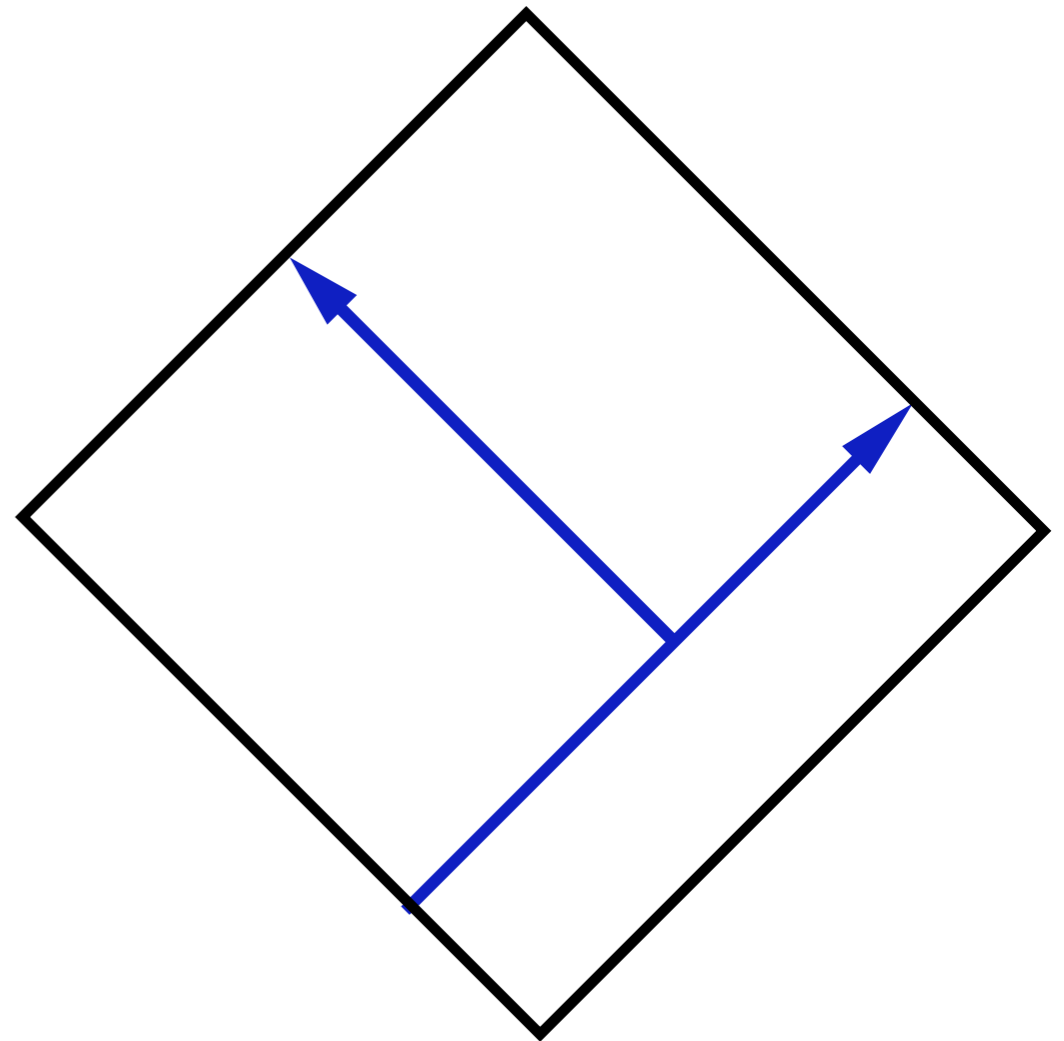
$$e^{-i\omega t} R_{lm\omega}^{in}(r)$$



$$R_{lm\omega}^{in} \sim e^{-i\omega_+ r_*}, \quad r_* \rightarrow -\infty \\ (r \rightarrow r_+)$$

is purely-ingoing into the horizon

$$e^{-i\omega t} R_{lm\omega}^{up}(r)$$



$$R_{lm\omega}^{up} \sim e^{+i\omega r_*}, \quad r_* \rightarrow +\infty \\ (r \rightarrow \infty)$$

is purely-outgoing to infinity

$$W = 2i\omega R_{lm\omega}^{in,inc}$$

$$\omega_{\pm} \equiv \omega - m\Omega_{\pm}$$

$$\frac{dr_*}{dr} \equiv \frac{r^2 + a^2}{\Delta}$$

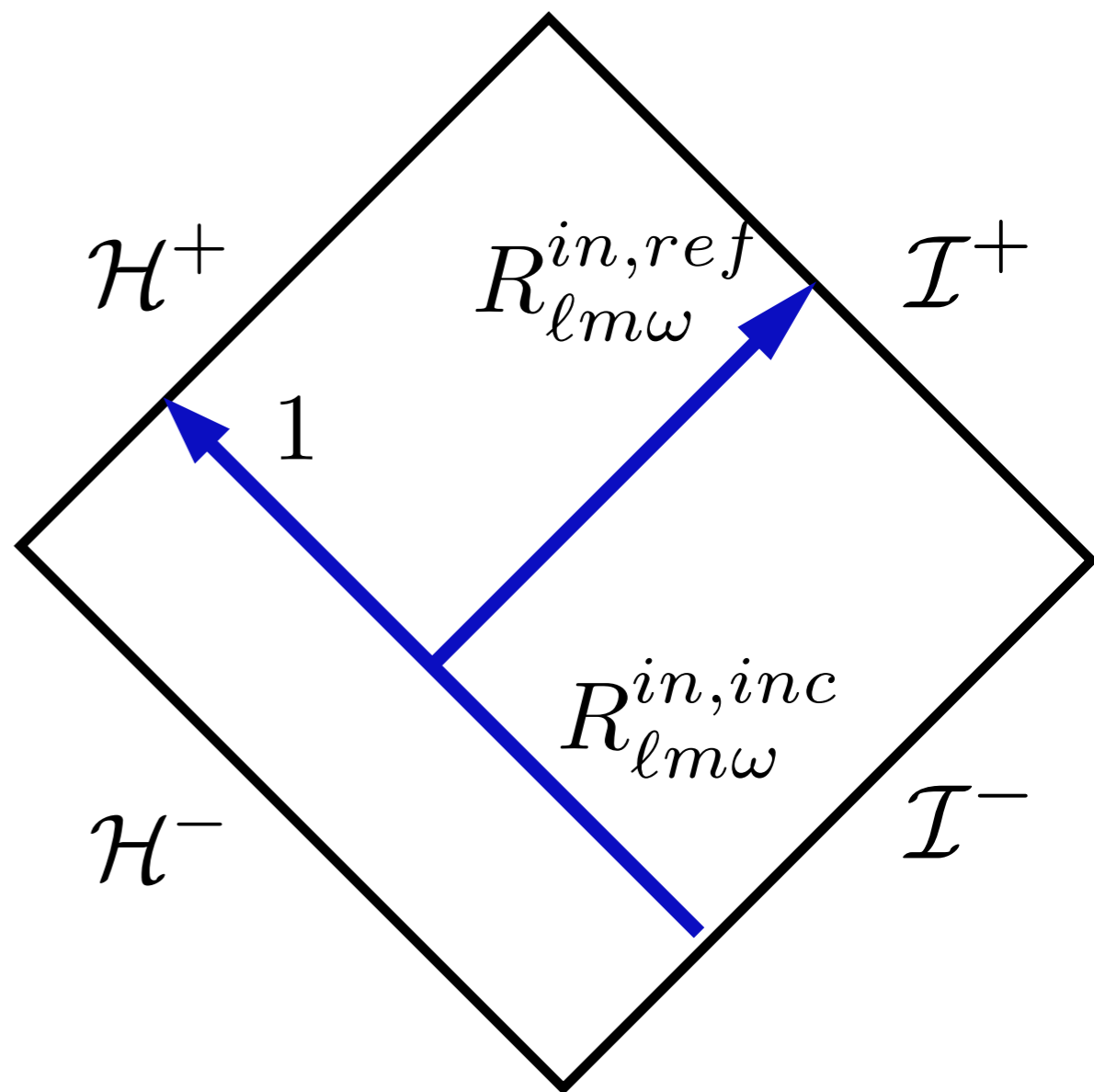
# Superradiance

Wronskian condition (energy conservation):

$$\left| R_{lm\omega}^{in,ref} \right|^2 = \left| R_{lm\omega}^{in,inc} \right|^2 - \frac{\omega_+}{\omega}$$

**Superradiance:** reflected wave has more energy than incident wave if

$$\omega_+ \cdot \omega < 0$$

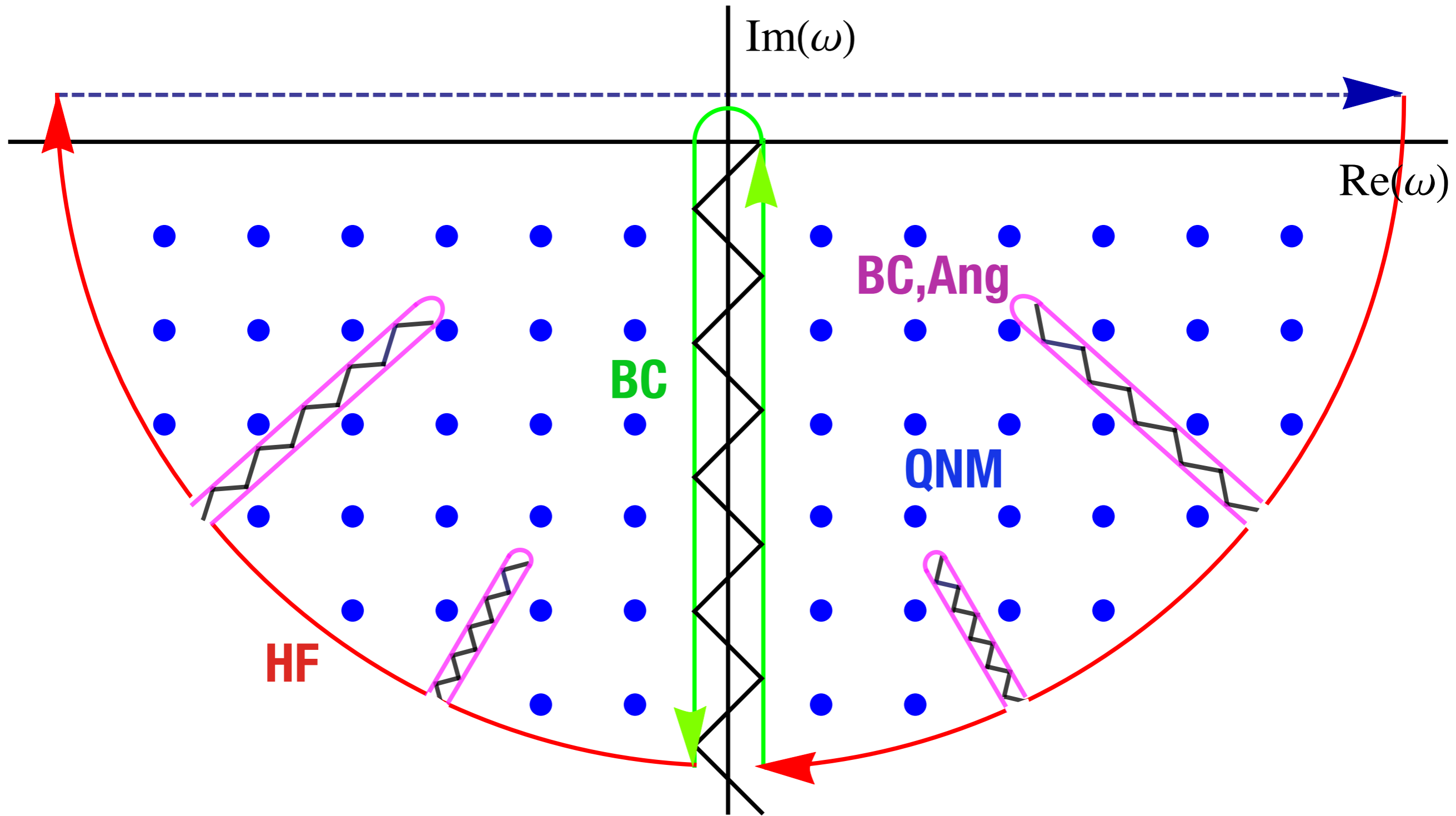


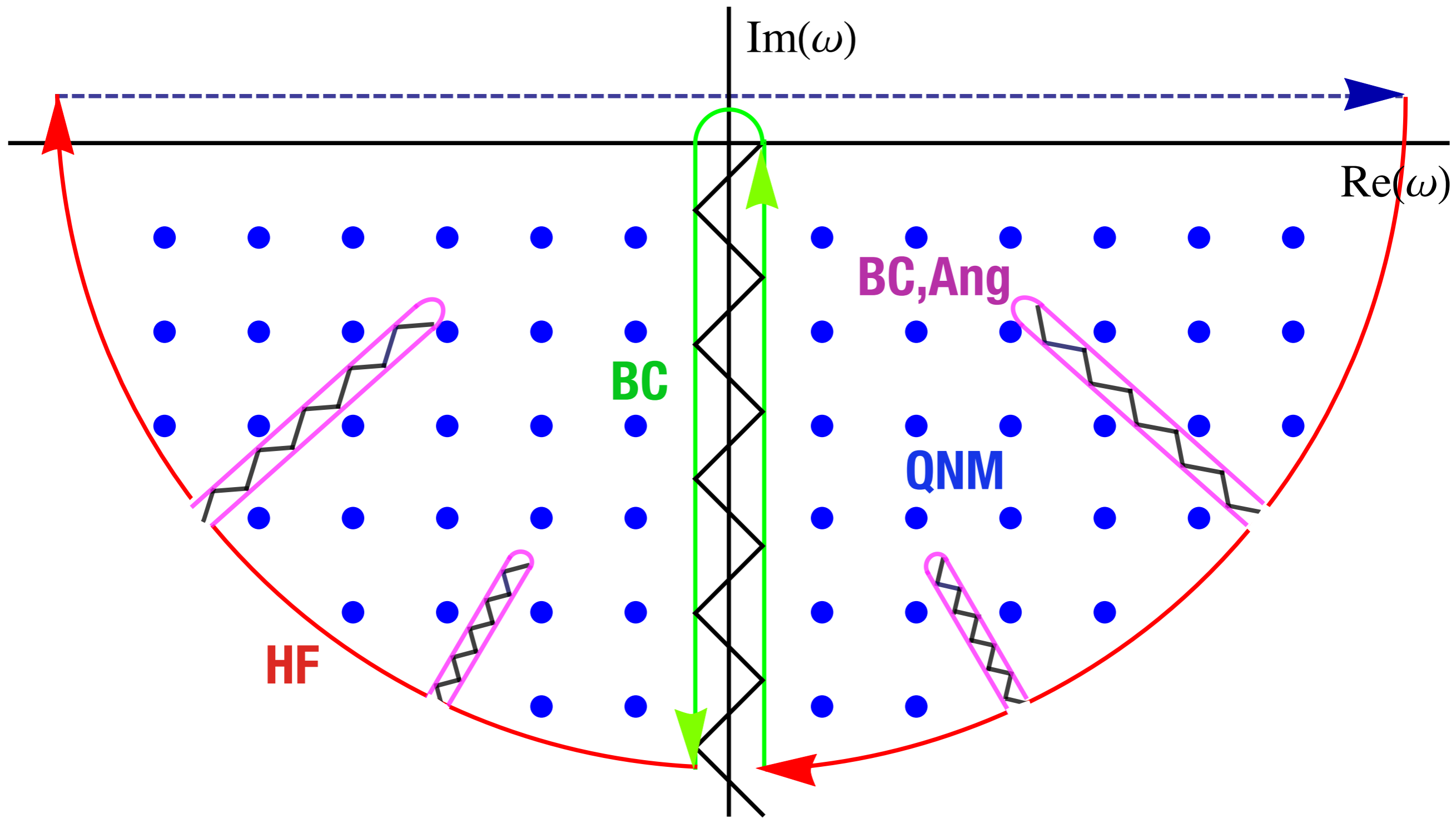
Field modes with those frequencies extract *rotational energy* from the BH thanks to existence of *ergosphere* (region near BH where  $\partial_t$  is spacelike)

# Complex contour deformation

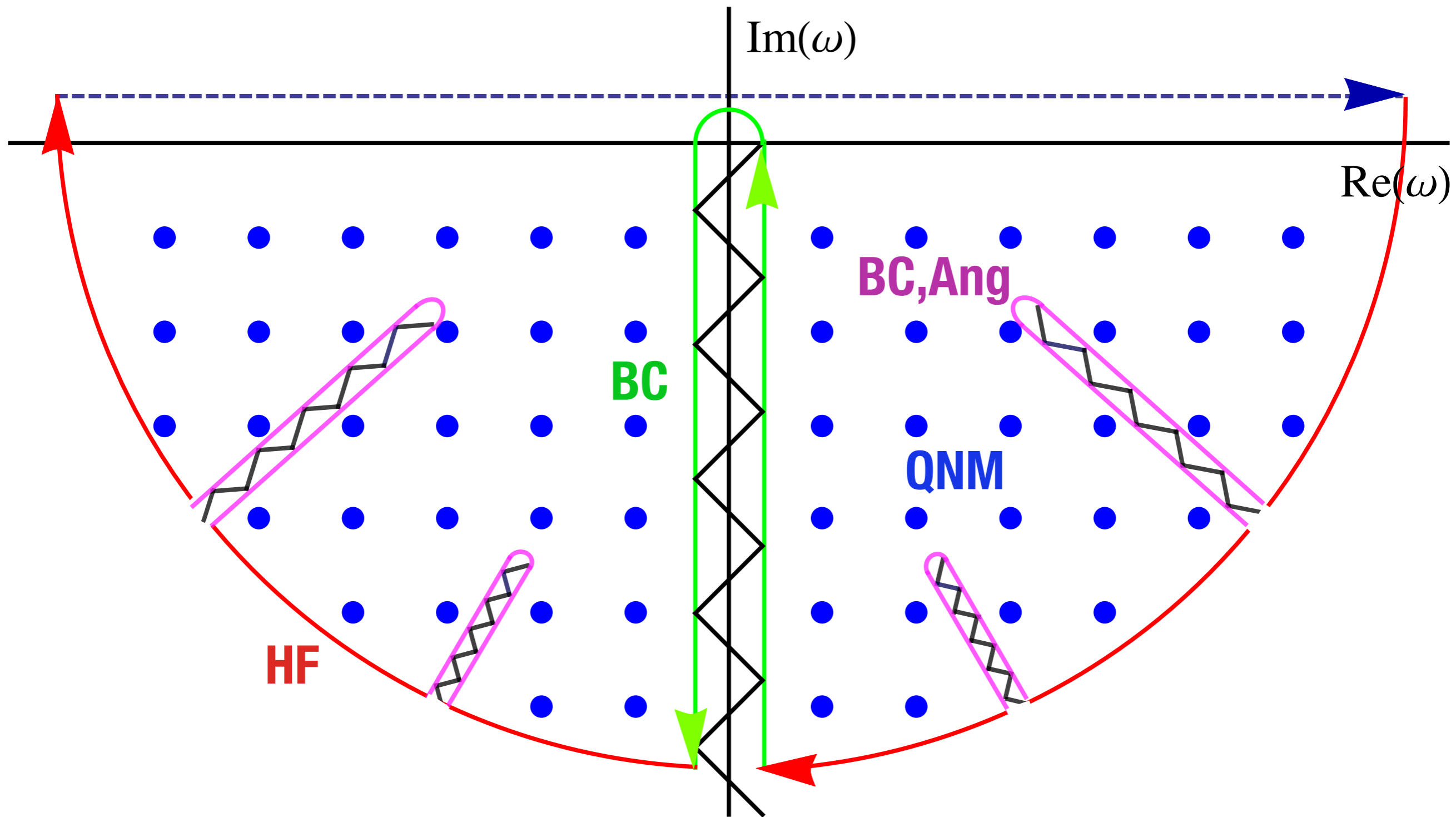
Instead of carrying out the Fourier integral along the real- $\omega$  axis, it's useful to deform the contour of integration into **complex- $\omega$**  plane

Then apply the residue th. to account for the **singularities** of the Fourier modes  $G_{lm\omega}$





$$G_{lm\omega} = G_{lm\omega}^{HF} + G_{lm\omega}^{QNM} + G_{lm\omega}^{BC} + G_{lm\omega}^{BC,Ang}$$



$$G_{lmw} = \cancel{G_{lmw}^{HF}} + G_{lmw}^{QNM} + G_{lmw}^{BC} + \cancel{G_{lmw}^{BC,Ang}}$$

# Mode solutions

Mode slns. correspond to frequencies  $\omega_{lmn} \in \mathbb{C}$  which are *poles* of the GF modes

$$G_{lm\omega}(r, r') = \frac{R_{lm\omega}^{in}(r_{<}) R_{lm\omega}^{up}(r_{>})}{W} = \infty$$

↑  
 $\omega = \omega_{lmn}$

$$n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$



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$$\omega = \omega_{lmn}$$

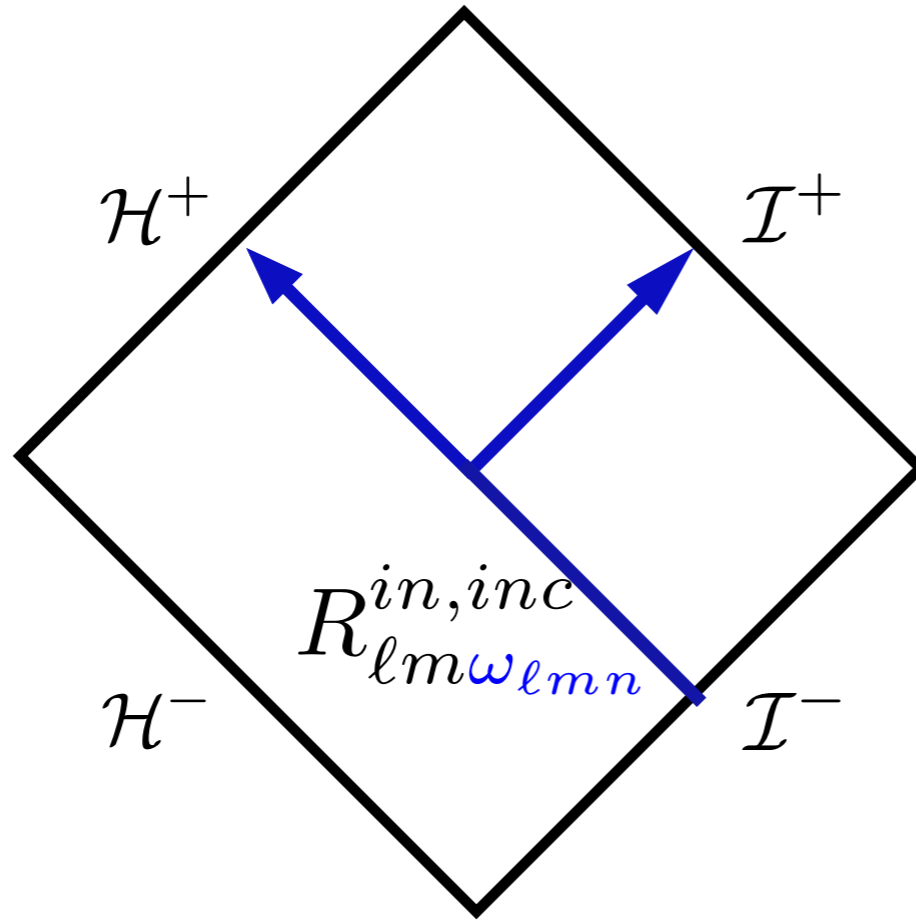


$$n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

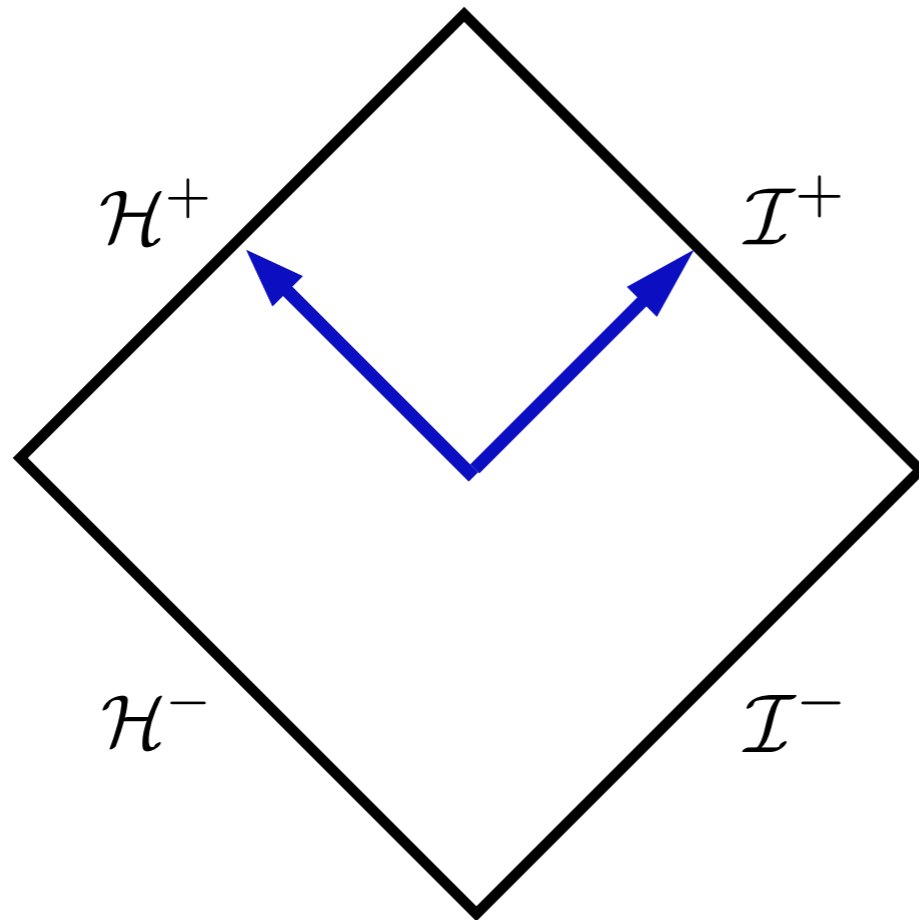
So they are zeros of the denominator:

$$W = 2i\omega R_{lm\omega}^{in,inc} = 0$$

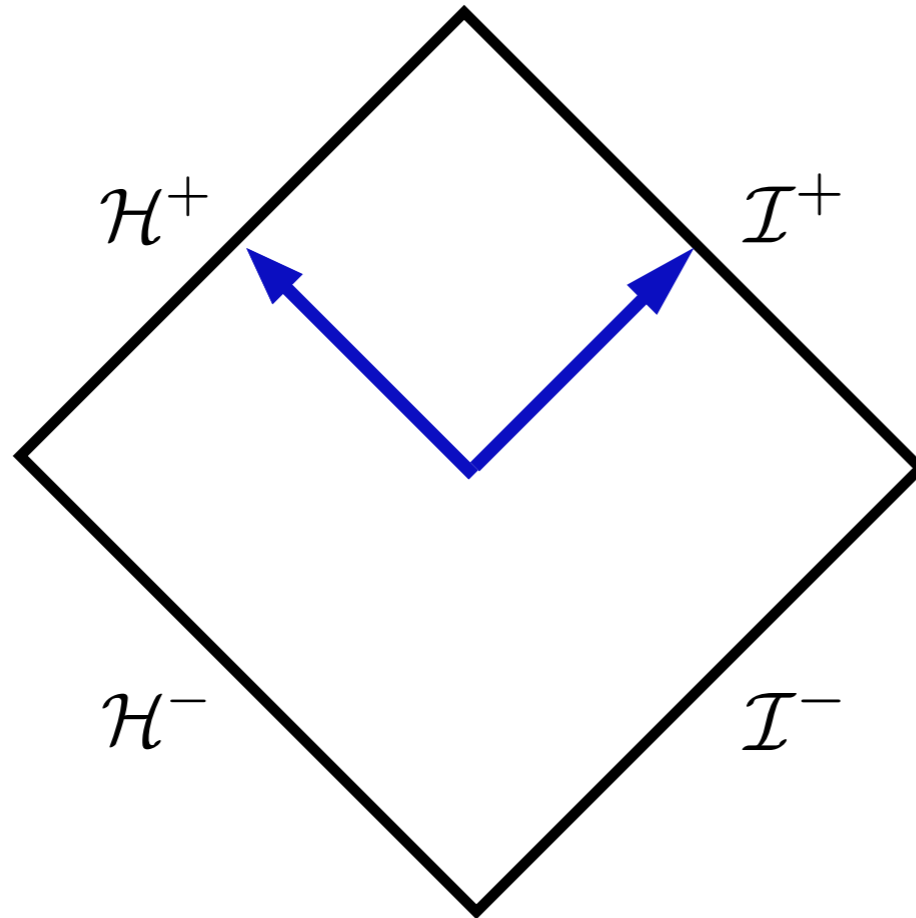
Then:  $e^{-i\omega_{lmn}t} R_{lm\omega_{lmn}}^{in}$



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Mode slns. are purely ingoing waves into the horizon and purely outgoing at infinity

$$e^{-i\omega_+ r_*} \sim R_{lm\omega}^{in} \sim e^{i\omega r_*} \quad \text{at } \omega = \omega_{lmn}$$

$$r_* \rightarrow -\infty \quad r_* \rightarrow \infty$$

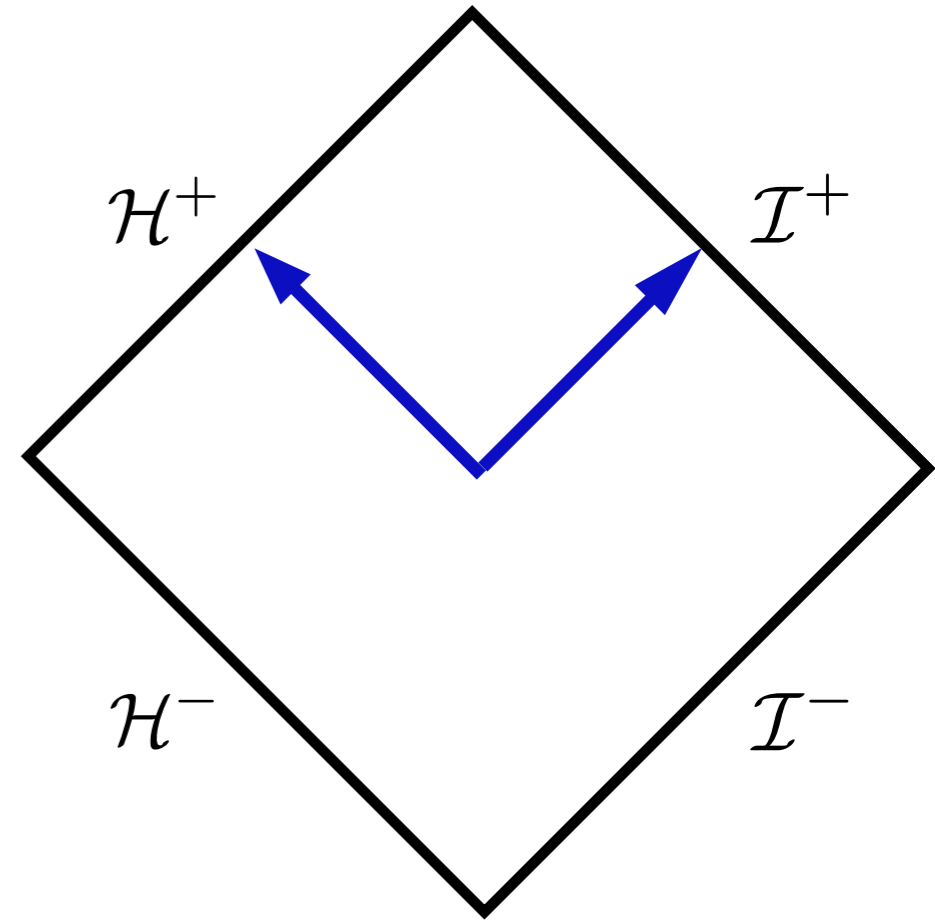
$$e^{-i\omega_{lmn}t} R_{lm\omega_{lmn}}^{in}$$

Time dependence:

$$e^{-i\omega_{lmn}t}$$



$$t \rightarrow +\infty$$



{ If  $Im(\omega_{lmn}) < 0$ : exponentially damped (quasinormal modes, QNMs)  
If  $Im(\omega_{lmn}) > 0$ : exponentially growing (unstable modes)

[ If  $Im(\omega_{lmn}) = 0$ : marginally unstable]

# QNMs ( $\text{Im}(\omega_{\ell mn}) < 0$ ) of Kerr:

$m = -10$

$m = 10$

$\text{Im}(\omega_{\ell mn})$

$\text{Re}(\omega_{\ell mn})$

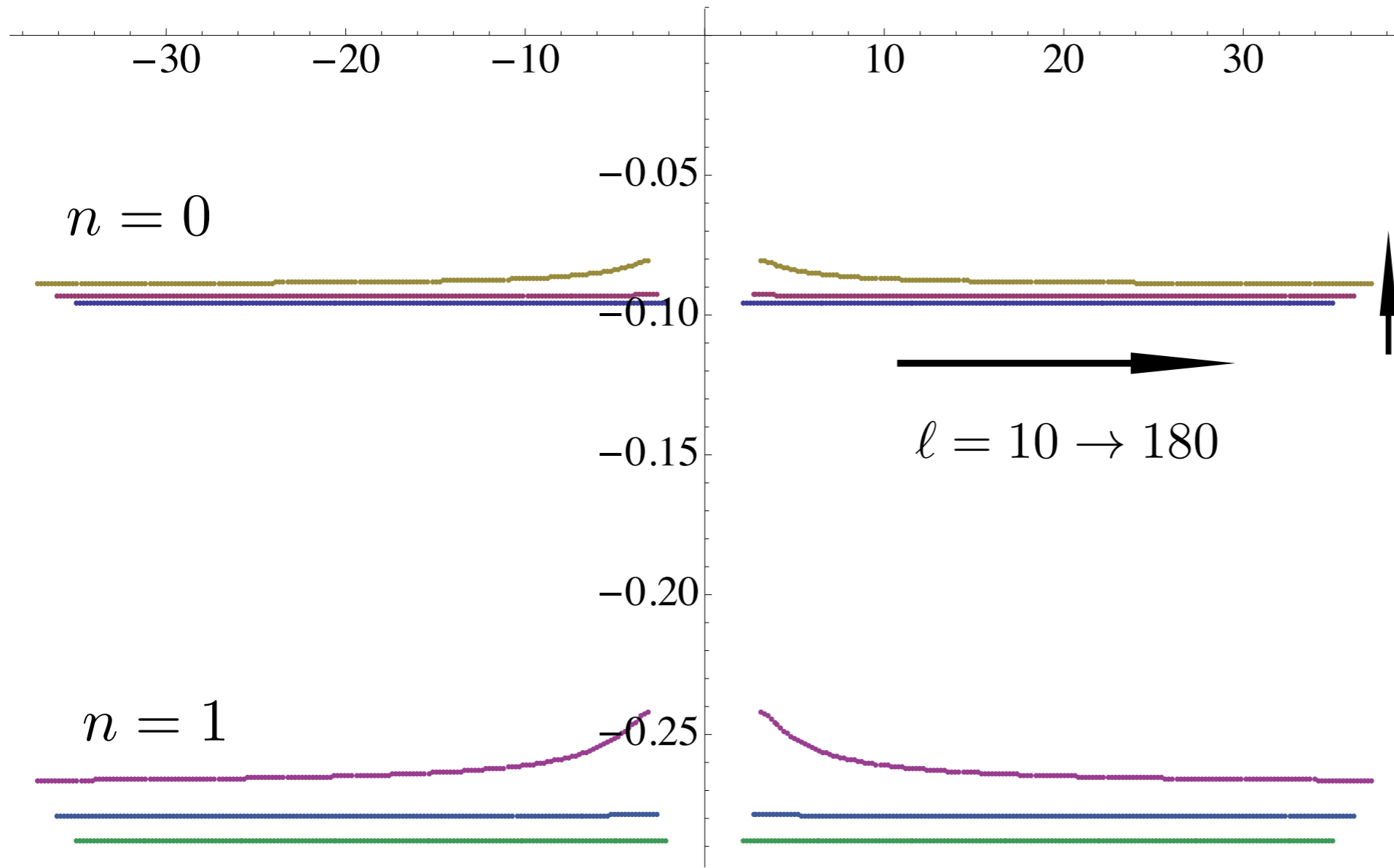
$n = 0$

$a/M = 0.2, 0.6, 0.8$

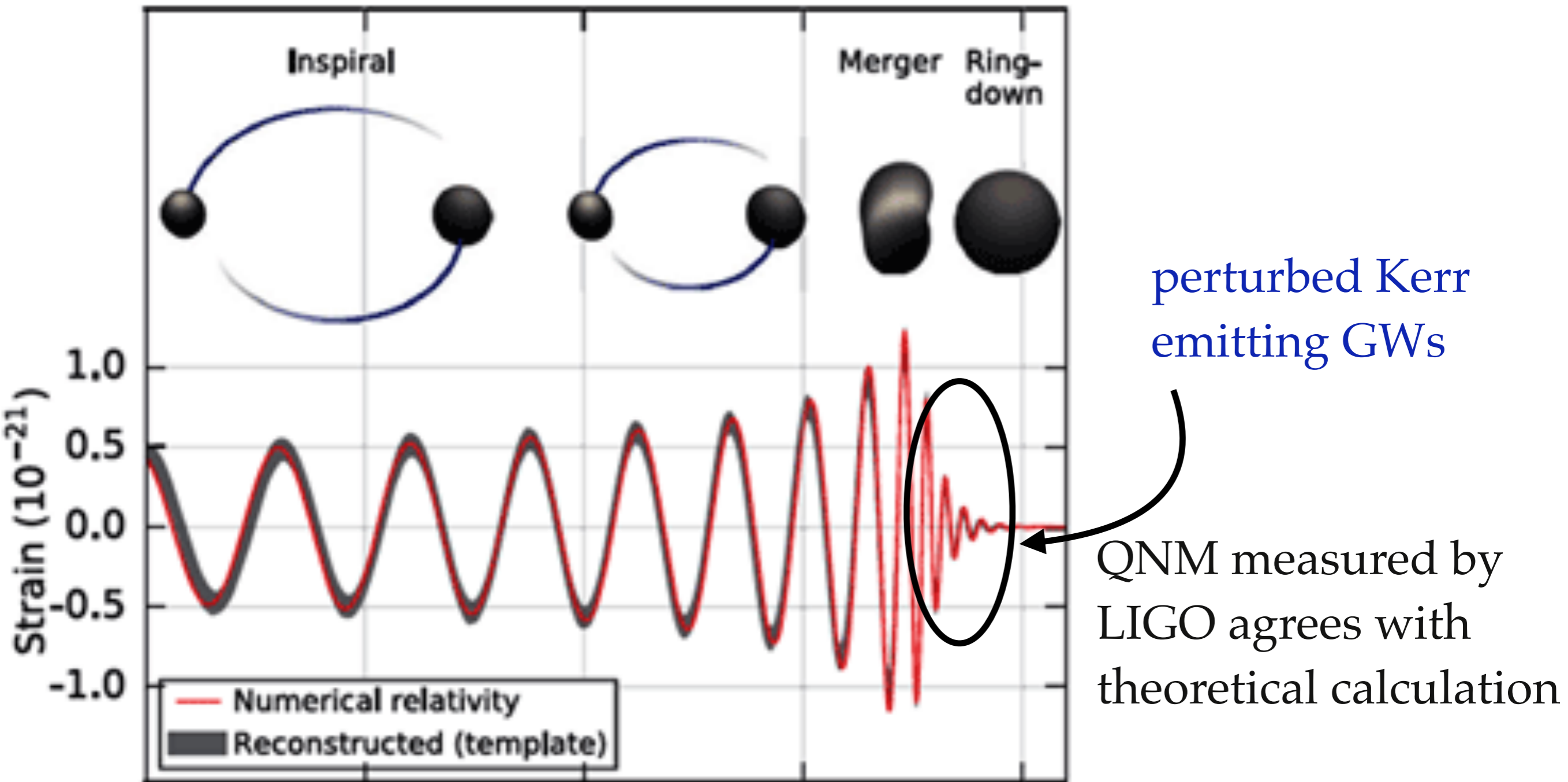
$\ell = 10 \rightarrow 180$

$n = 1$

Casals&Yang

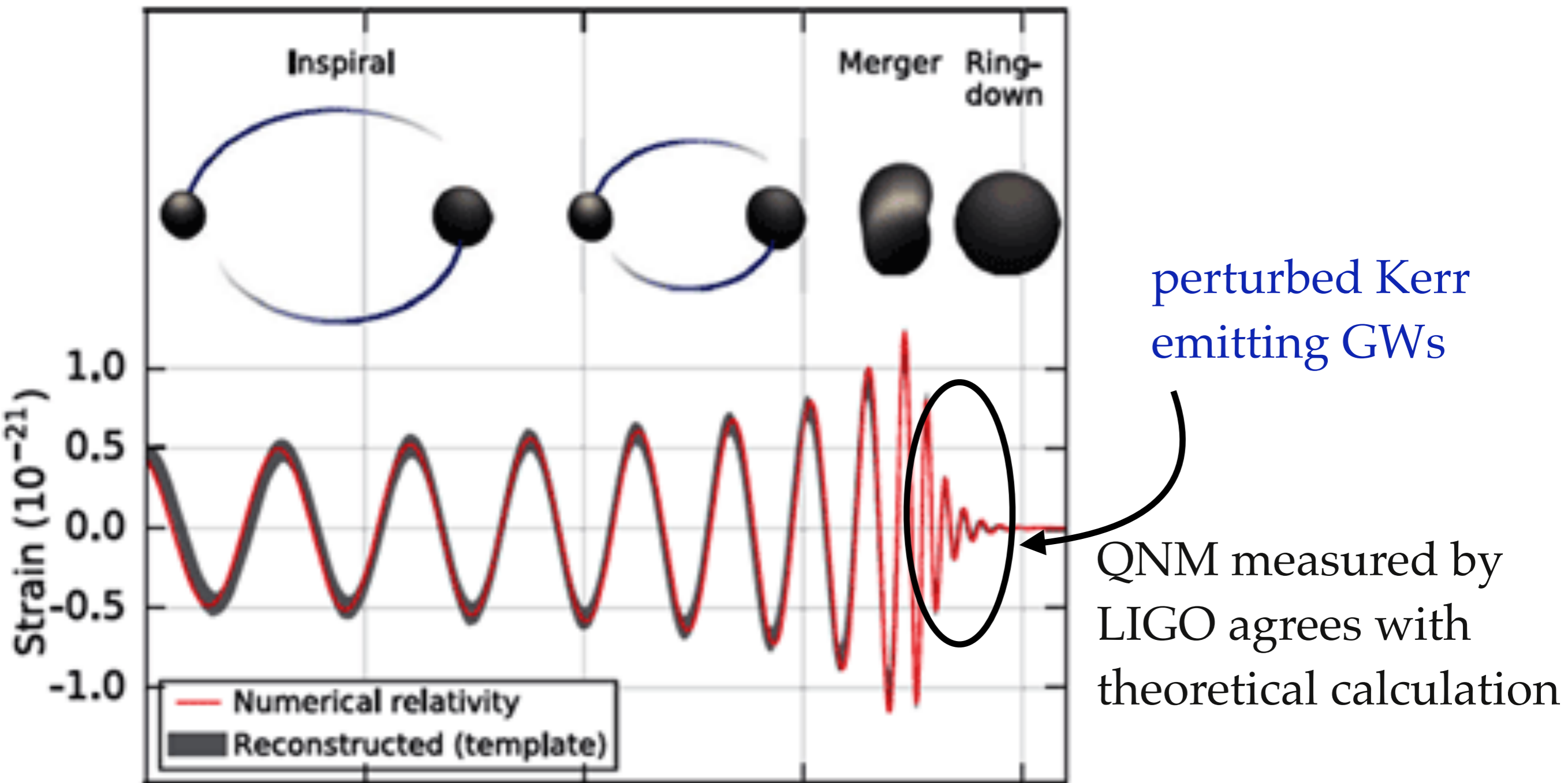


The last stage (*ringdown*) of a **gravitational waveform** can be modelled as perturbations of Kerr via QNMs:



LIGO'16

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Q: Are there any **unstable modes** ( $Im(\omega_{lmn}) > 0$ ) in Kerr?



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## Some instabilities

- Kerr BH with event horizon removed by a “mirror” (may model wormholes) has unstable modes (Friedman’78)

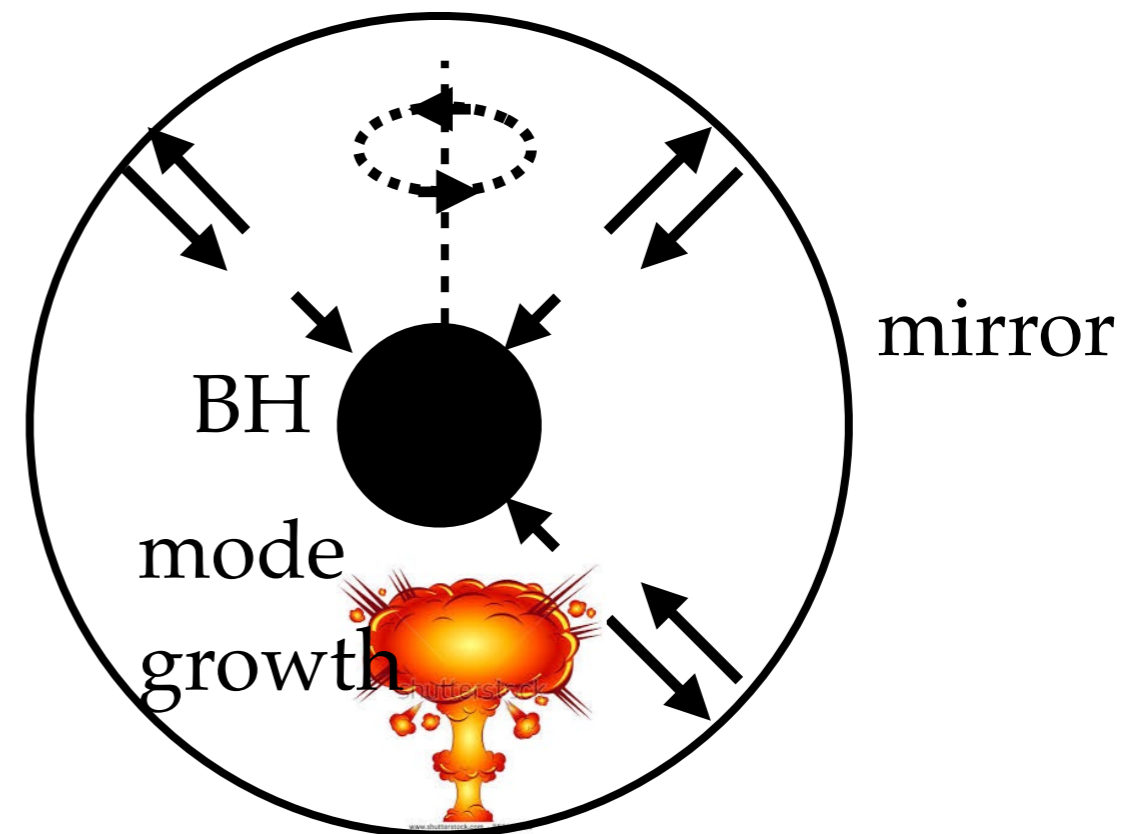
Instability timescale  $\sim$  secs for massive wormholes (eg, Cardoso et al’08)

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- **BH ‘bomb’** (Press&Teukolsky’72):  
Kerr BH unstable when surrounded by a (sufficiently far) “mirror”

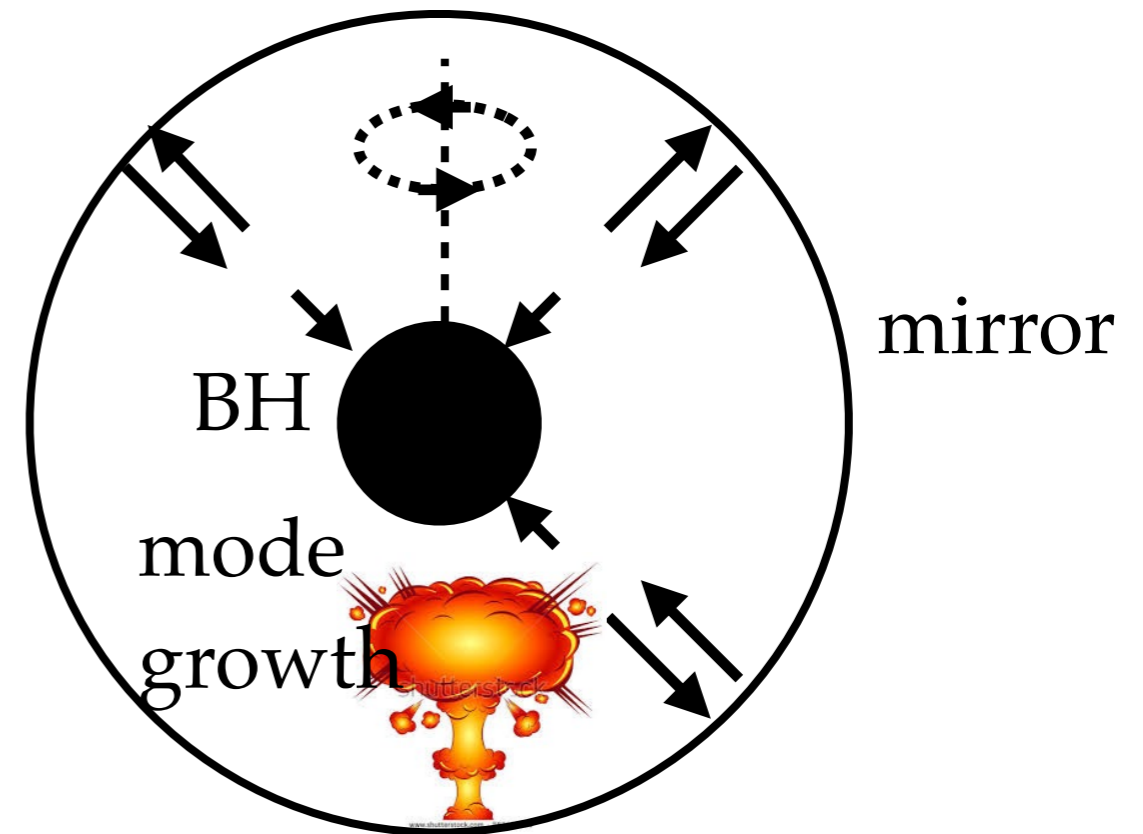


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- Kerr BH is **unstable** under **massive** field perturbations (Damour et al’76)

Instability timescale has been used to constrain masses of fields, eg,  
**mass of Proca field**  $\lesssim 4 \times 10^{-22}$  eV (Pani et al’12)

What about Kerr (*without* mirror) under *massless* field perturbations?

## Mode stability of Kerr

Consider a possible unstable mode  $\phi(x) = e^{im\varphi - i\omega t} \phi_{m\omega}(r, \theta)$

of the scalar wave eq. Multiply the eq. by  $\phi^*$ , integrate over  $\theta$  and  $r$  and take the Im part:

$$\int_{r_+}^{\infty} dr \int_{-1}^{+1} d(\cos \theta) \left[ \frac{4amM}{r} - \frac{2\text{Re}(\omega)}{r^2} \left[ (r^2 + a^2)^2 - a^2 \Delta \sin^2 \theta \right] \right] \frac{r^2}{\Delta} |\phi_{m\omega}|^2 = 0$$

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This equality requires:  $0 < \text{Re}(\omega) < |m|\Omega_+$

i.e., unstable modes are only possible in this (superradiant) regime

NB: for  $a = 0 \rightarrow \Omega_+ = 0$ : superradiant regime does not exist in Schwarzschild (it has no ergosphere) and so it's mode-stable

Whiting'89 came up with a smart way: an injective **integral transformation**

$$u(x) \equiv f_1(x) \int_{r_+}^{\infty} f_2(r, x) e^{i\omega r} R(r) dr$$

simple specific functions

satisfies radial Teukolsky ODE  
(has superradiance)  $\hat{\mathcal{O}}_r R(r) = 0$

satisfies a new radial ODE that has **no superradiance** (it corresponds to a spacetime *without* ergosphere)



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This allows to show it must be  $u \equiv 0$  if  $R$  is an unstable mode

$$\begin{array}{c} \downarrow \text{injectivity} \\ R \equiv 0 \end{array}$$

So there're no unstable modes (nor marginally unstable, Shlapentokh-Rothman'15) for massless general-spin fields in Kerr => **Kerr is mode-stable**

## Analogy (?) Kerr - SQCD

Aminov, Grassi & Hatsuda'20 noticed that the radial Teukolsky operator can be rewritten as

$$\hat{\mathcal{O}}_r = z(z-1) \frac{d^2}{dz^2} - p^2 z(z-1) - m_3 p (2z-1) + \left( E + \frac{1}{4} \right) - \frac{m_1 m_2}{z} - \frac{(m_1 + m_2)^2 - 1}{4z(z-1)}$$

where  $z \equiv \frac{r - r_-}{r_+ - r_-}$

$$E \equiv -\lambda - a^2 \omega^2 - s^2 + 8M^2 \omega^2 - \frac{1}{4}$$

$$p \equiv i\omega(r_+ - r_-)$$

$$r = (r_-, r_+, \infty) \leftrightarrow z = (0, 1, \infty)$$

and the 'mass' parameters  $m_1 = s - \xi_- + \xi_+$        $m_2 = \xi_- + \xi_+$

$$\xi_{\pm} \equiv i \frac{\omega_{\pm}}{2\kappa_{\pm}}$$

$$m_3 = -s - \xi_- + \xi_+$$

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$$\xi_{\pm} \equiv i \frac{\omega_{\pm}}{2\kappa_{\pm}} \qquad m_3 = -s - \xi_- + \xi_+$$

The ODE is **symmetric** under  $m_1 \leftrightarrow m_2$  (but *not* under  $m_{1,2} \leftrightarrow m_3$ )

This ODE is the same as the quantum SU(2) Seiberg–Witten eq. with 3 fundamental hypermultiplets in supersymmetric quantum chromodynamics (SQCD), where the  $m_i$  are “flavour masses” of the hypermultiplets

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Since this rule in SQCD is manifestly symmetric under *any*  $m_i \leftrightarrow m_j$   
 $\forall i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

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Casals & Teixeira da Costa'22 *proved*, directly in Kerr, this SQCD-mass symmetry conjecture and used it to obtain an alternative proof of mode stability as follows...

# Kerr: “SQCD-mass” symmetries & mode stability

First rewrite the b.c. for mode slns. in terms of the new ‘SQCD variables’:

$$e^{-\frac{1}{2}(m_1+m_2-1)\ln(z-1)} \sim R_{lm\omega}^{in} \sim e^{pz}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} r_* \rightarrow -\infty & r_* \rightarrow \infty \\ (z \rightarrow 1) & (z \rightarrow \infty) \end{array}$$

So the b.c. for mode slns., like the ODE, are **symmetric** under  $m_1 \leftrightarrow m_2$  but *not* under  $m_{1,2} \leftrightarrow m_3$

Next express the 'in'-sln. as a (Jaffé) expansion about  $r = r_+$  (Leaver'85):

$$R_{\ell m \omega}^{in} = e^{p(z-1)} e^{\frac{1}{2}(m_1+m_2+2m_3-1)\ln z} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(m_1+m_2-1)\ln(z-1)} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n \left( \frac{z-1}{z} \right)^n$$

with coeffs. satisfying a 3-term recurrence rln.

$$\alpha_n^{(+1)} b_{n+1} + \alpha_n^{(0)} b_n + \alpha_n^{(-1)} b_{n-1} = 0$$

The coefficients  $\alpha_n^{(\pm 1)}$  and  $\alpha_n^{(0)}$  depend on  $M, a, \omega, \ell, m$

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In order to also satisfy the mode sln. b.c. also at  $r = \infty$  ( $z = \infty$ )

we need for the infinite n-series to converge there

It can be shown that requiring for the series to converge at  $r = \infty$  is equivalent to the **mode freqs.**  $\omega = \omega_{\ell mn}$  satisfying a **continued fraction eq.**

$$0 = \alpha_0^{(0)} + \frac{-\alpha_0^{(+1)} \alpha_1^{(-1)}}{\alpha_1^{(0)} + \frac{-\alpha_1^{(+1)} \alpha_2^{(-1)}}{\alpha_2^{(0)} + \frac{-\alpha_2^{(+1)} \alpha_3^{(-1)}}{\dots}}}$$

where

$$\alpha_{n-1}^{(+1)} \alpha_n^{(-1)} = n \{ [n - \sigma_1][n(n - \sigma_1) + \sigma_2] + \sigma_3 \}$$

$$\alpha_n^{(0)} = E + \frac{1}{4} + 2n(p - n) + (2n + 1 - p)\sigma_1 - \sigma_2$$

$$\sigma_1 \equiv m_1 + m_2 + m_3 \quad \sigma_2 \equiv m_1 m_2 + m_1 m_3 + m_2 m_3$$

$$\sigma_3 \equiv m_1 m_2 m_3$$

are **invariant** under *any* exchange  $m_i \leftrightarrow m_j$ , with  $i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

Therefore, the mode freqs.  $\omega_{lmn}$  are also **symmetric** under  $m_i \leftrightarrow m_j$

Remember the SQCD masses:

$$m_1 = s - \xi_- + \xi_+ \quad m_2 = \xi_- + \xi_+ \quad m_3 = -s - \xi_- + \xi_+$$

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This thus provides a new, simpler (no need for integral nor differential transformations!) proof of mode stability of (subextremal) Kerr BHs



# Stability of Extremal Kerr

All results so far were for *subextremal* Kerr. In *extremal* Kerr ( $a = M$ ):

- There're **no unstable modes** in extremal Kerr [Teixeira da Costa'20 by extending Whiting's integral transformation]

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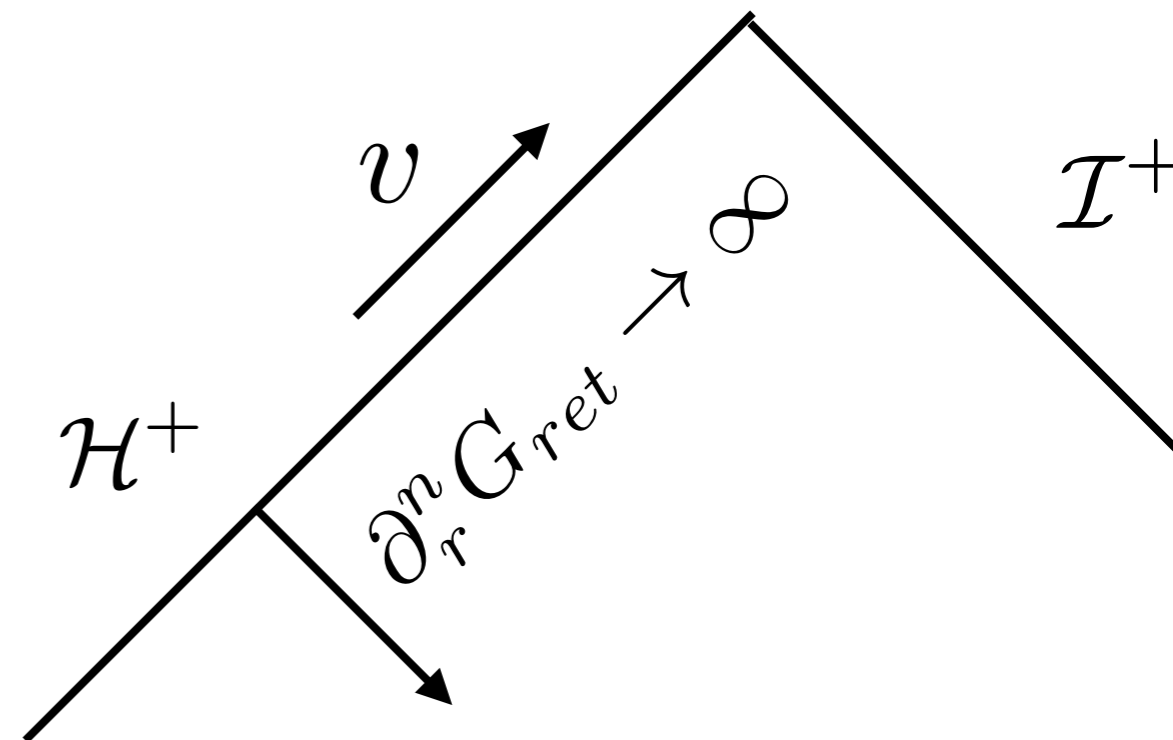
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$$(\partial_r^n G_{ret})|_{\mathcal{H}} \sim v^{n-s-1/2} \quad \text{as } v \rightarrow \infty$$



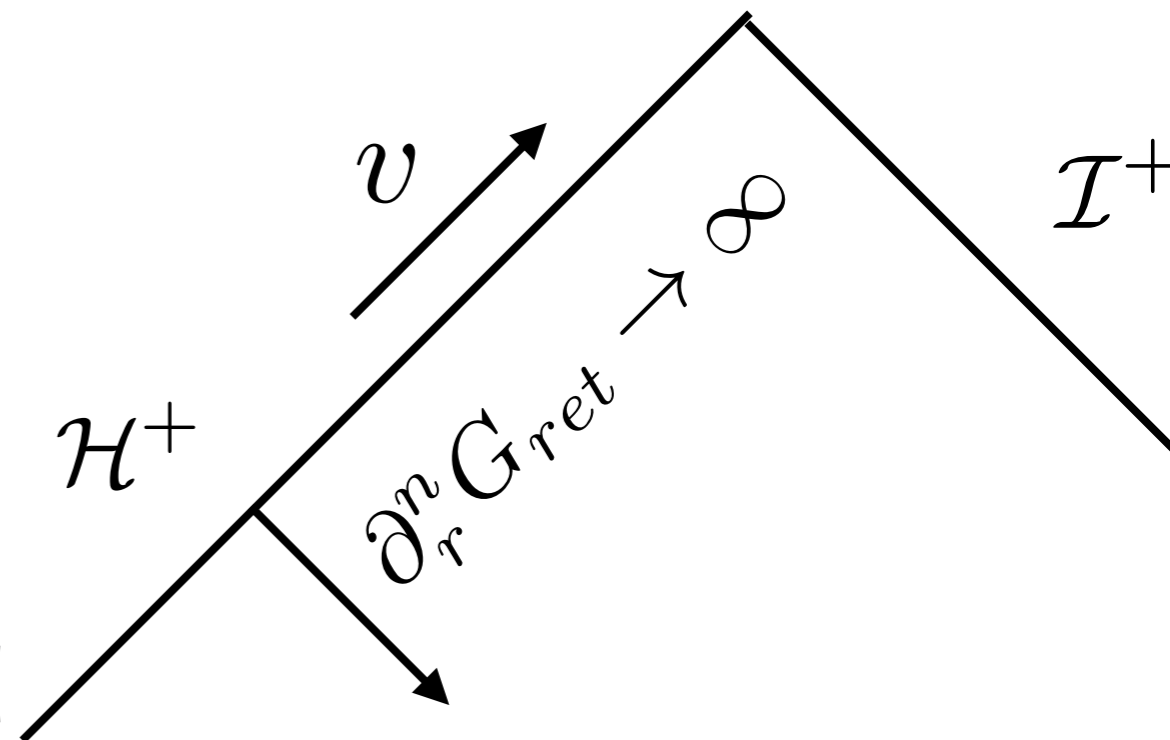
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- Such behaviour is due to an **emergent near-horizon conformal symmetry ( $AdS_2$ )** of extremal BHs [Gralla & Zimmerman'18]



## Full linear stability of Kerr?

Note: the full linear sln. of Teukolsky eq. is obtained from *infinite* sums / integrals of frequency modes  $\sum_{\ell, m} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega$   
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*Open question:* **full linear stability** of Kerr under **gravitational perturbations**

1. BH Perturbations

2. Stability properties of Kerr

3. Stability properties of Kerr-de Sitter

4. Conclusions



# Kerr-de Sitter Black Holes

Kerr-de Sitter metric represents a rotating BH in a de Sitter Universe

$$(M, a, \Lambda)$$

↑  
Cosmological const.

It's similar to the Kerr metric but with 3(+1) horizons:

$$\Delta = (r^2 + a^2) \left( 1 - \frac{\Lambda r^2}{3} \right) - 2Mr = -\frac{\Lambda}{3} (r - r_{--})(r - r_-)(r - r_+)(r - r_c)$$

$r_{--} < 0 < r_- < r_+ < r_c$

↑  
Cauchy  
horizon

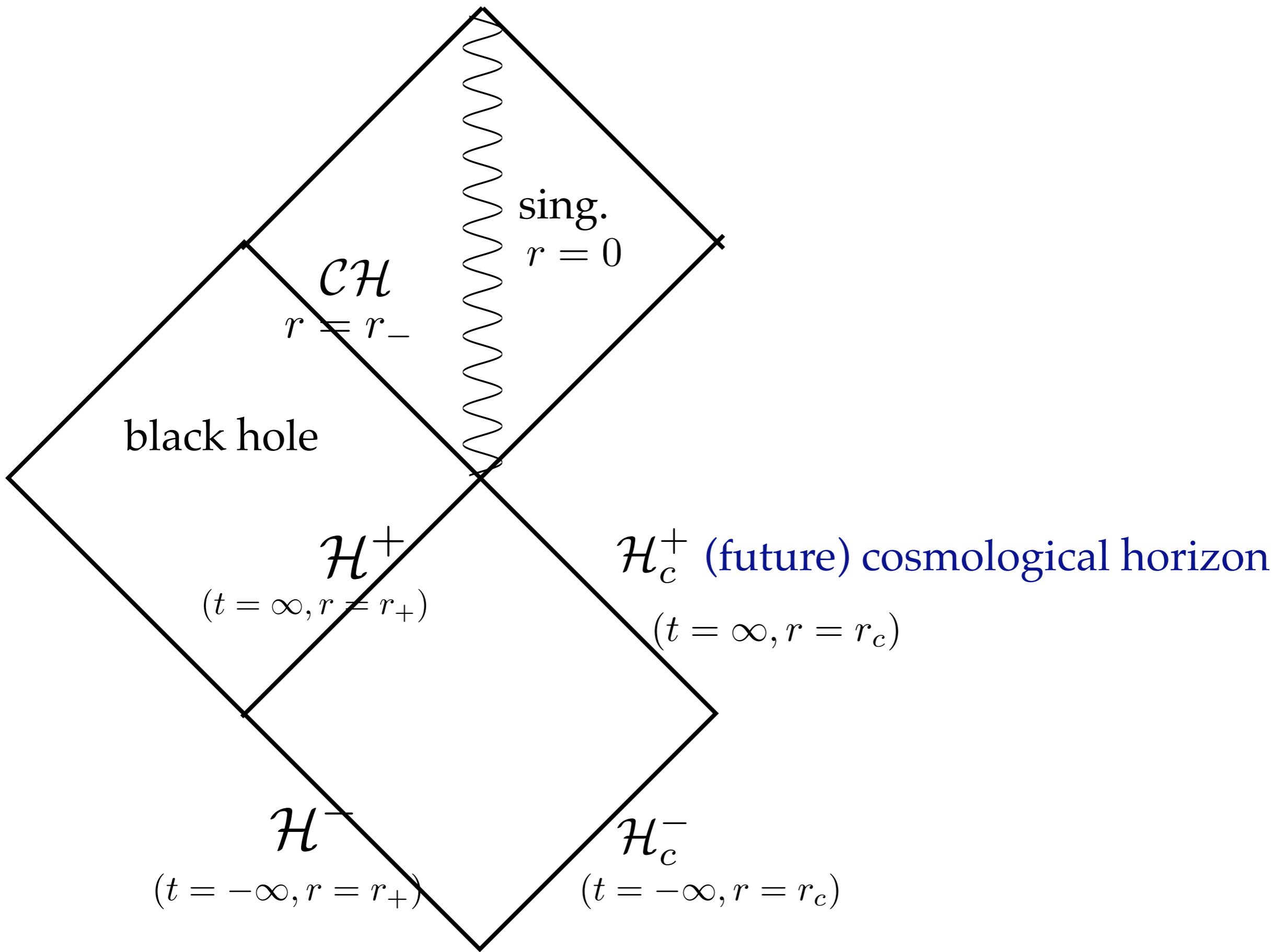
↑  
cosmological  
horizon

↓  
event horizon

Each horizon  $j = --, -, +, c$  has

angular velocity  $\Omega_j = \frac{a}{r_j^2 + a^2}$  and surface gravity  $\kappa_j$

# Carter-Penrose diagram of Kerr-de Sitter



# Perturbations of Kerr-de Sitter

Massless spin-field perturbations  $\psi$  of Kerr-de Sitter obey a Teukolsky master PDE (similar to the one in Kerr)

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$$G_{ret} = \sum_{\ell, m} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega e^{im\varphi - i\omega t} S_{\ell m \omega}(\theta) S_{\ell m \omega}(\theta') G_{\ell m \omega}(r, r')$$

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Casals & Teixeira da Costa'22 analyzed it, found mass symmetries and used them to investigate the mode stability of Kerr-de Sitter as follows

# 'Mass' symmetries in Kerr-de Sitter

We expressed the radial Teukolsky operator in Kerr-de Sitter as

$$\hat{O}_r = z(z-1)(z-z_2) \frac{d^2}{dz^2} + \frac{(4E-1)z_2+1}{4} - \frac{1}{(z-z_2)} \left[ \frac{1}{4} z(z-1) ((m_3+m_4)^2 - 1) - m_3 m_4 (z-z_2) \left( z - \frac{1}{2} \right) \right] - \frac{1}{z(z-1)} \left[ m_1 m_2 \left( \frac{z}{2} - z_2 \right) (z-1) + \frac{1}{4} (z-z_2) ((m_1+m_2)^2 - 1) \right]$$

where

$$z \equiv z_\infty \frac{r-r_-}{r-r_{--}} \quad z_2 \equiv z_\infty \frac{r_c-r_-}{r_c-r_{--}} \quad z_\infty \equiv \frac{r_+-r_{--}}{r_+-r_-}$$

$$r = (r_{--}, r_-, r_+, r_c, \infty) \leftrightarrow z = (\infty, 0, 1, z_2, \infty) \quad E = E(\lambda, \{\xi_j\}, \{r_j\})$$

and we now have *four* 'mass' parameters:

$$\begin{aligned} m_1 &= s - \xi_- + \xi_+ & m_3 &= -s - \xi_- + \xi_+ & \xi_j &\equiv i \frac{\omega_j}{2\kappa_j} \\ m_2 &= \xi_- + \xi_+ & m_4 &= \xi_- - \xi_+ + 2\xi_c & \omega_j &\equiv \omega - m\Omega_j \end{aligned}$$

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The ODE is *symmetric* under  $m_1 \leftrightarrow m_2$  or  $m_3 \leftrightarrow m_4$  (but *not* others)



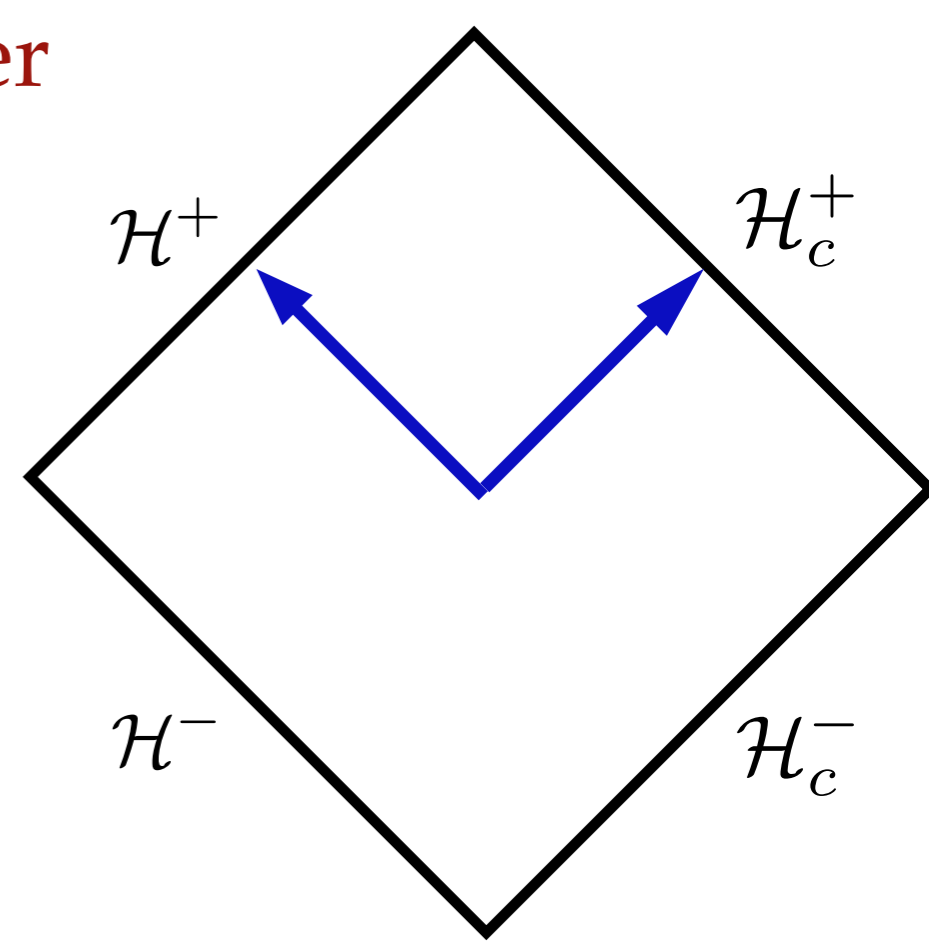
The radial Teukolsky ODE in KdS in principle has 5 regular singular pts. but it can be transformed into a **Heun eq.** with just 4 *regular* singular pts.:

$$r = (r_{--}, r_-, r_+, r_c) \quad (r = \infty \text{ is a } \textit{removable} \text{ singularity})$$

it's not a confluent Heun eq. as the irregular sing.  $r = \infty$  in Kerr has split into 2 regular sing. pts. here

## Mode slns. in Kerr-de Sitter

B.c. for **mode slns.** ( $\omega = \omega_{lmn}$ ): purely ingoing waves into the event horizon and purely outgoing at the cosmological horizon



$$e^{-i\omega_+ r_*} \sim R_{lm\omega}^{in} \sim e^{i\omega_c r_*}$$

$$r_* \rightarrow -\infty$$

$$(r \rightarrow r_+)$$

$$r_* \rightarrow \infty$$

$$(r \rightarrow r_c)$$

$$\frac{dr_*}{dr} \equiv \left(1 + \frac{a^2 \Lambda}{3}\right) \frac{(r^2 + a^2)}{\Delta}$$

Re-expressed in the new variables:

$$e^{-\frac{1}{2}(m_1 + m_2 - 1) \ln(z-1)} \sim R_{lm\omega}^{in} \sim e^{-\frac{1}{2}(m_3 + m_4 - 1) \ln(z-z_2)}$$

$$z \rightarrow 1$$

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So the b.c. for mode slns., like the ODE, are **symmetric** under  $m_1 \leftrightarrow m_2$  or  $m_3 \leftrightarrow m_4$  (but *not* others)

Instead of the Jaffé expansion about  $r = r_+$  which we used in Kerr for

$R_{lm\omega}^{in}$  we use an expansion in terms of *confluent hypergeometric funcs.*

$$R_{lm\omega}^{in} \propto \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n {}_2F_1 \left( -n, n + 1 - \sum_{j=1}^4 m_j; 1 - m_1 - m_2; \frac{z - 1}{z_2 - 1} \right)$$

where the coefficients satisfy a 3-term **recurrence rln.**

$$\alpha_n^{(+1)} b_{n+1} + \alpha_n^{(0)} b_n + \alpha_n^{(-1)} b_{n-1} = 0$$

and  $\alpha_n^{(\pm 1)}$  and  $\alpha_n^{(0)}$ , like the ODE, are **invariant** under  $m_1 \leftrightarrow m_2$  or  $m_3 \leftrightarrow m_4$  (but *not* others)

Similarly to Kerr, the above expression corresponding to a mode sln. is equivalent to the convergence of the series in  $r \in [r_+, r_c]$

Convergence of the series corresponds to a **continued fraction eq.** :

$$0 = \alpha_0^{(0)} + \frac{-\alpha_0^{(+1)} \alpha_1^{(-1)}}{\alpha_1^{(0)} + \frac{-\alpha_1^{(+1)} \alpha_2^{(-1)}}{\alpha_2^{(0)} + \frac{-\alpha_2^{(+1)} \alpha_3^{(-1)}}{\dots}}}$$

where

$$\alpha_{n-1}^{(+1)} \alpha_n^{(-1)} = \frac{n^2(n - \sigma_1)^2 \left[ \sigma_1 \sigma_3 - 4\sigma_4 + (\sigma_2 + (n - \sigma_1)n)^2 \right]}{(\sigma_1 - 2n)^2 [(\sigma_1 - 2n)^2 - 1]} + \frac{n(n - \sigma_1) \left[ \sigma_1 (\sigma_2 \sigma_3 - \sigma_1 \sigma_4) - \sigma_3^2 \right]}{(\sigma_1 - 2n)^2 [(\sigma_1 - 2n)^2 - 1]}$$

$$\alpha_n^{(0)} = \frac{[\sigma_1^3 - 4\sigma_1 \sigma_2 + 8\sigma_3] \sigma_1}{8(-2 + \sigma_1 - 2n)(\sigma_1 - 2n)} + \frac{2(4E + 1)z_2 + 2 + (z_2 + 1)(\sigma_1 - 2n - 2)(\sigma_1 - 2n) - 2z_2[\sigma_1^2 - 2\sigma_2]}{8(z_2 - 1)}$$

$$\sigma_1 \equiv \sum_{j=1}^4 m_j \quad \sigma_2 \equiv \prod_{i,j=1, j \neq i}^4 m_i m_j \quad \sigma_3 \equiv \prod_{i,j,k=1, k \neq j \neq i}^4 m_i m_j m_k$$

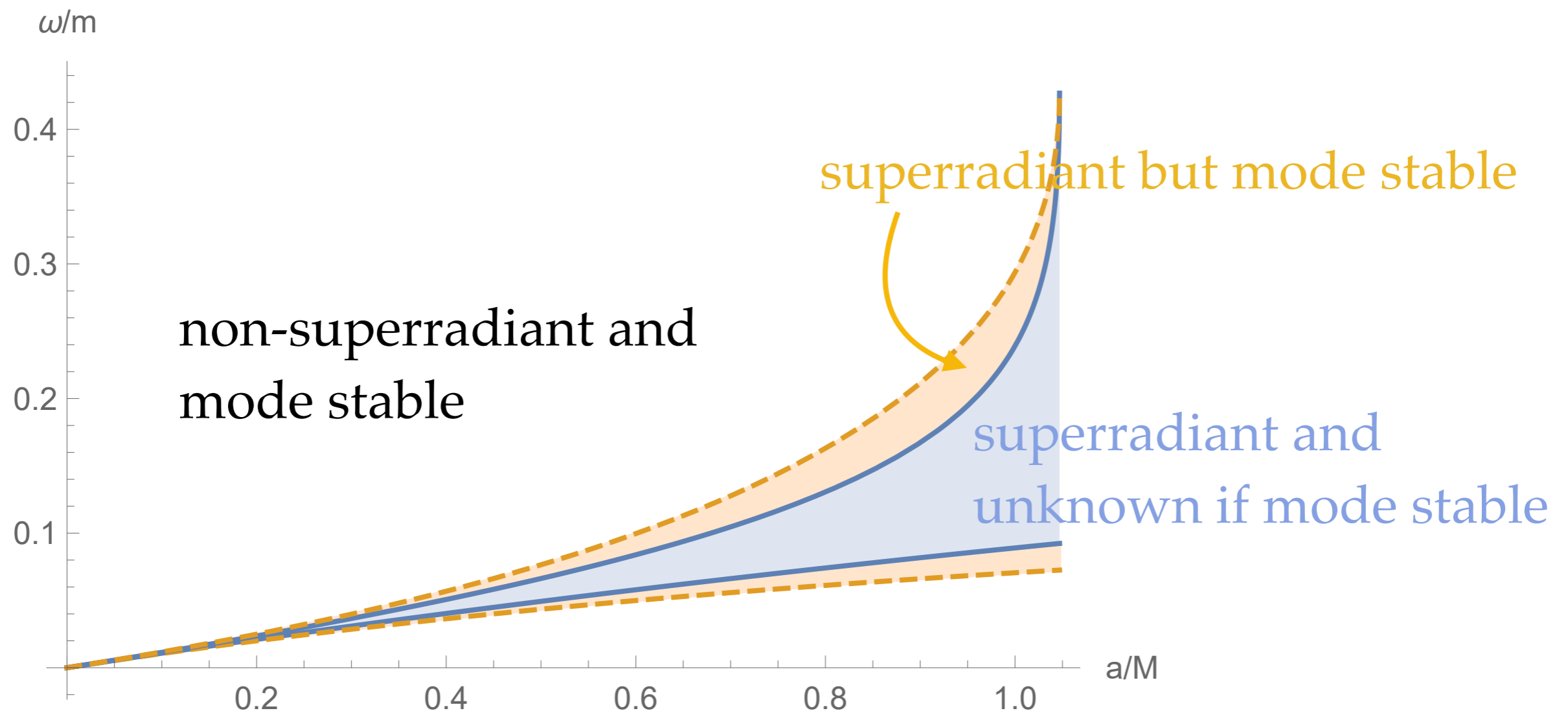
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Using  $m_2 \leftrightarrow m_3$  we transformed to a radial ODE which allowed us to exclude unstable modes from a subregion of the superradiant frequency regime



*Open question:* exclude unstable modes from the blue region so as to prove the mode stability of Kerr-de Sitter

1. BH Perturbations

2. Stability properties of Kerr

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# Conclusions

- **Kerr**: mode stability proven

Open question: prove *full* linear stability under grav. perturbations

- **Kerr-de Sitter**: only *partial* mode stability proven

Open question: *complete* proof of mode stability

Apart from the explicit (Killing) symmetries, Kerr harbours **hidden symmetries** (Killing Yano, 'SQCD mass', near-horizon conformal geometry, etc) which regularly surprise us and allow us to make analytical progress on the understanding of astrophysical BHs

*Merci bien!*