

# *Dirty black hole binaries as probe of dark matter halos*

**@ Dark Matter and Stars, 3 May 2023**

In collaboration with

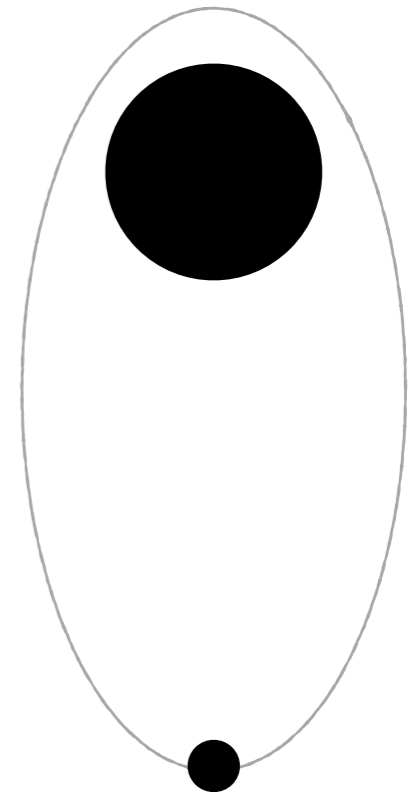
*V. Cardoso, F. Duque, K. Destounis, R. Panoso, E. Figueiredo*



*Andrea Maselli*

# Milestones

- *Asymmetric binaries as natural (golden) laboratories to test fundamental physics*
  - *top-notch to study the (generic) environment in which binaries evolve*
- *How do we build a relativistic BH solutions embedded within a core of matter?*
  - *Are astrophysical observables affected by the non-vacuum background?*
  - *Which are the best observables to capture the properties of the environment?*



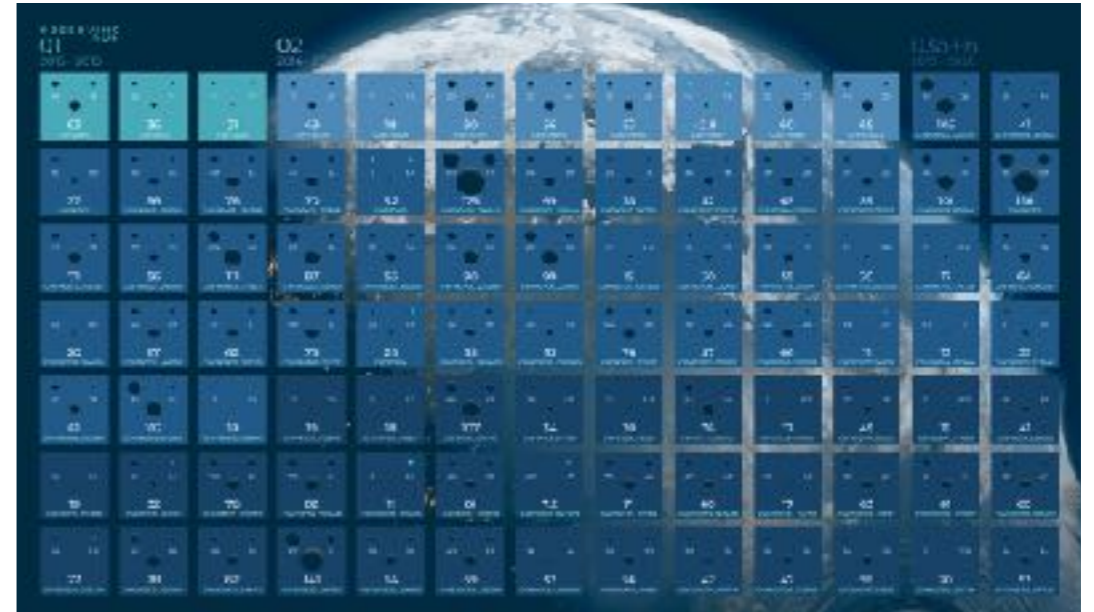
# Why asymmetric binaries?

90+ events observed so far from LVK, spanning a relatively small interval of mass ratios  $q \sim 1 : 30$

- 3G detectors are expected to beat down such value by several orders of magnitudes

$$q \sim 10^{-6} - 10^{-7}$$

- dynamics mostly dictated by  $q$ , with the duration of the inspiral & number of cycles growing as  $q$  decreases



LVK GWTC 3 2111.03605

## A discovery potential in 3 moves

- 1 Slow inspiral phase which could allow to continuously observe AB for very long periods, from months to years
- 2 dynamical evolutions with an uncommon richness, with resonances, large eccentricities and off-equatorial orbits, etc.
- 3 astro-fundamental physics setups

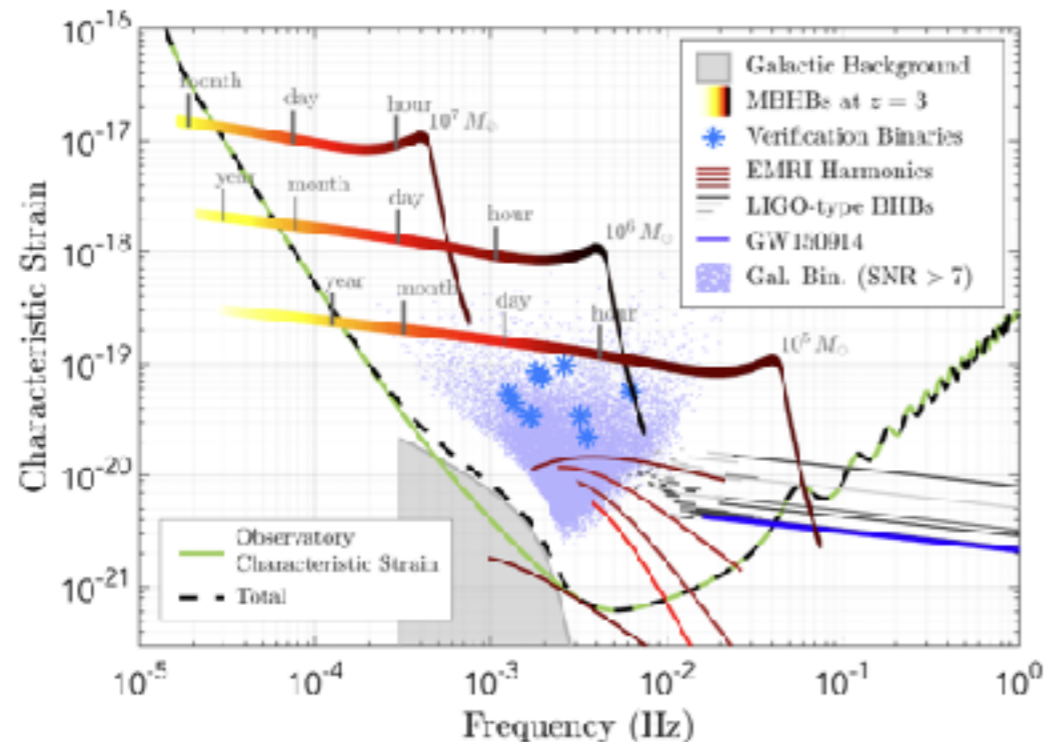
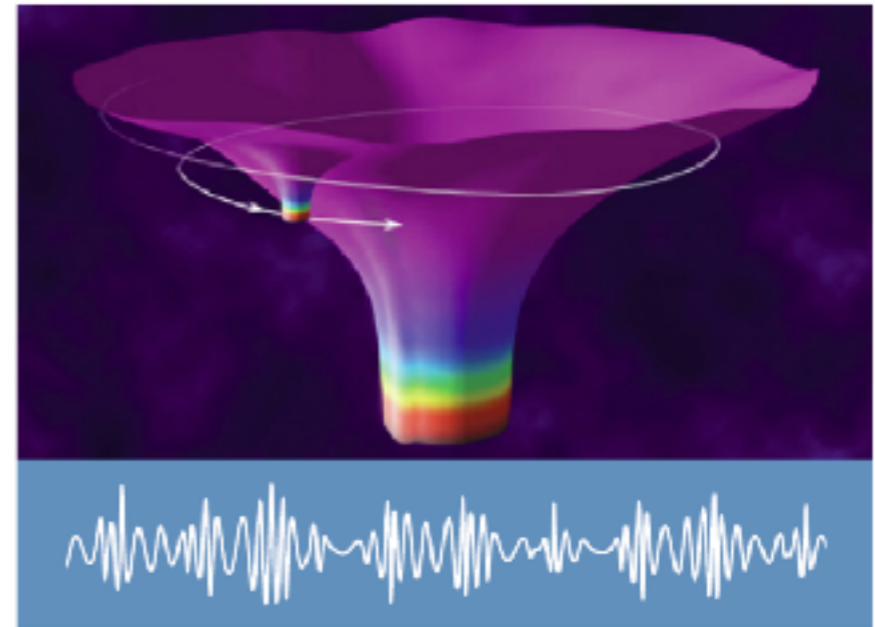
# Extreme Mass Ratio Inspirals

Binary systems with a stellar-mass body inspiralling into a massive black hole

- Primary with  $M \sim (10^4 - 10^8)M_{\odot}$
- Secondary such that the mass ratio

$$q = m_p/M \sim (10^{-6} - 10^{-3})$$

- Key point of theoretical description

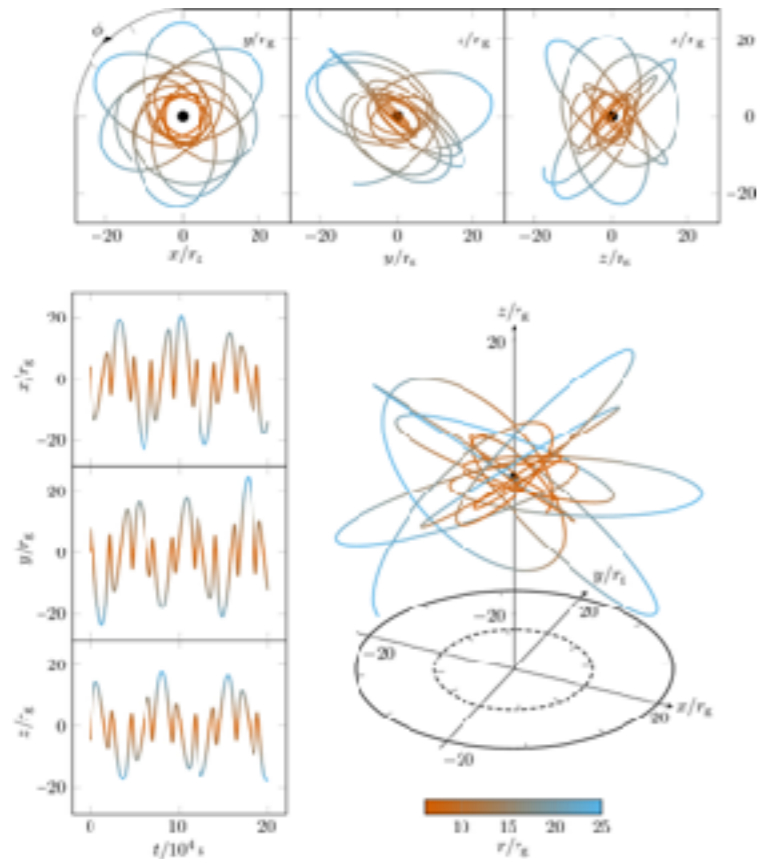


- Emit GWs in the mHz band, golden targets for LISA

# EMRI in nuce

1 2

EMRIs provide a rich phenomenology, due to their orbital features



- Non equatorial orbits
- Eccentric motion
- Resonances
- Complete  $\sim (10^4 - 10^5)$  cycles before the plunge

**bless** and **disguise**

Tracking EMRIs for  $O(\text{year})$  requires accurate templates

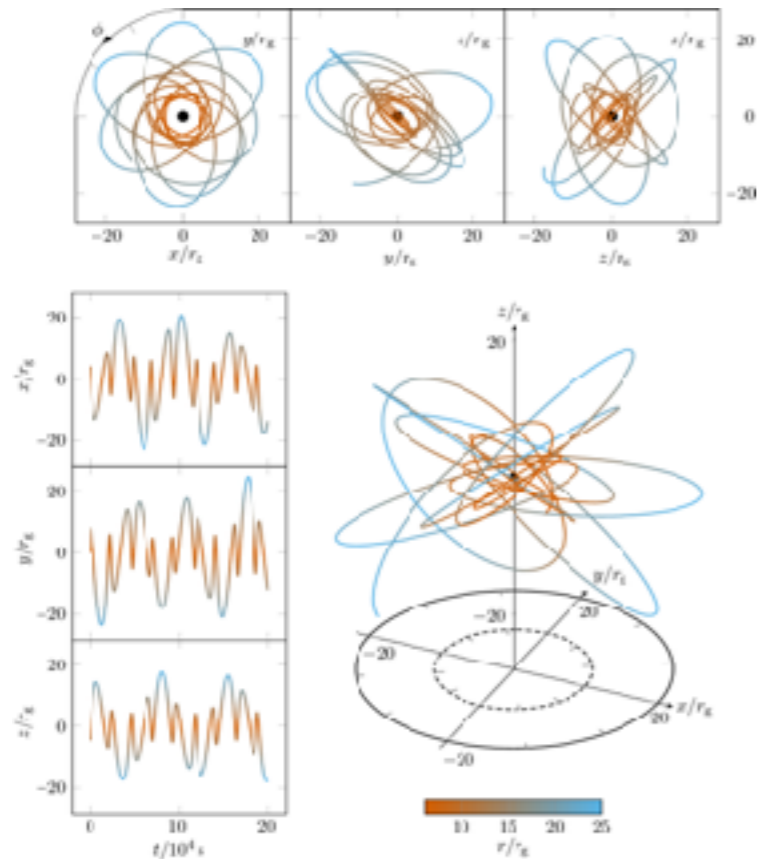
Berry +, *Astro2020* 1903.03686 (2019)

Very appealing to test fundamental & astro-physics

Precise space-time map and accurate binary parameters

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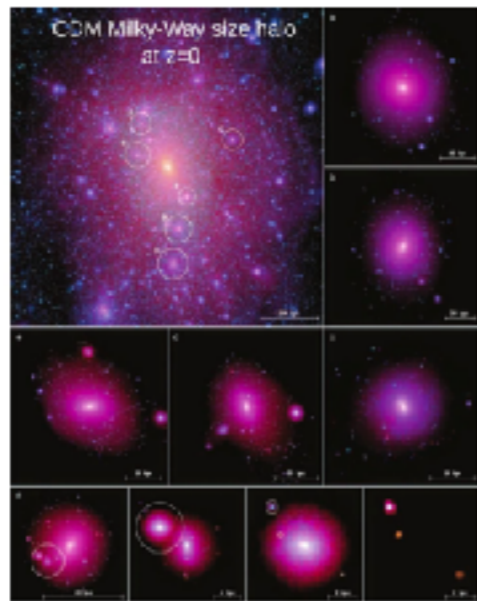
what are the features of the astrophysical environments in which binary systems evolve?

# Dirty & asymmetric BBHs

3

*GW sources evolve embedded in a variety of gas/matter contents/fields, which may leave detectable imprints on GW*

- *Can we infer properties on the environment in which binaries evolve?*
- *Are vacuum waveform models safe?*



*V. Springel et al., Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. 391 (2008)*



*G. Bertone et al., Nature 562, 7725 (2008)*

*MBH and inspirals evolve in DM-rich environment, within galaxies*

*IMIR/EMRI can assemble in accretion disks*



*particle physics laboratories*

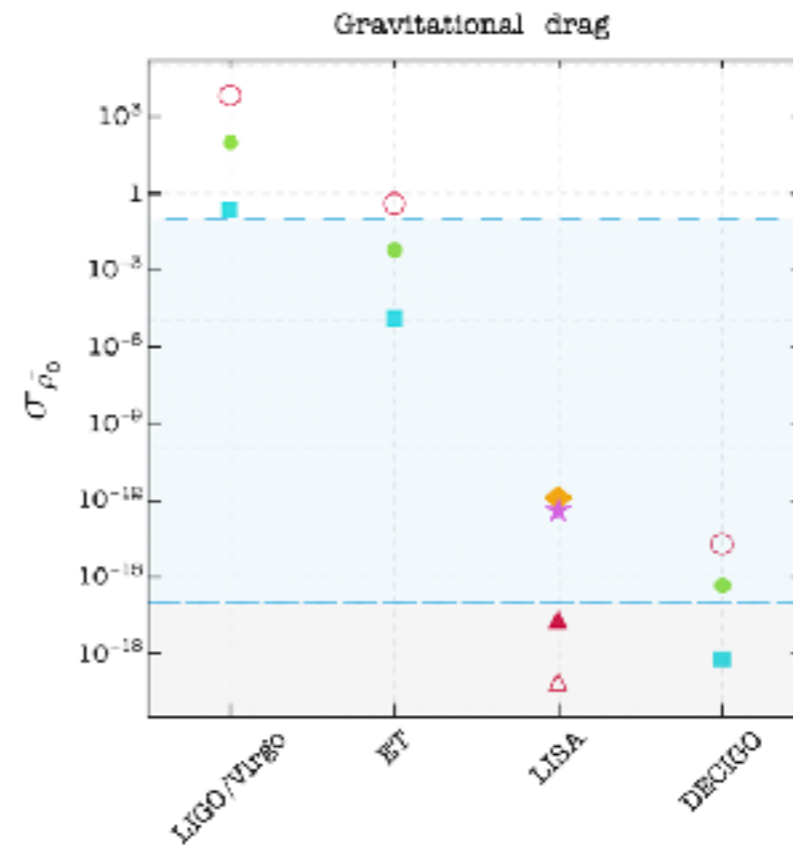
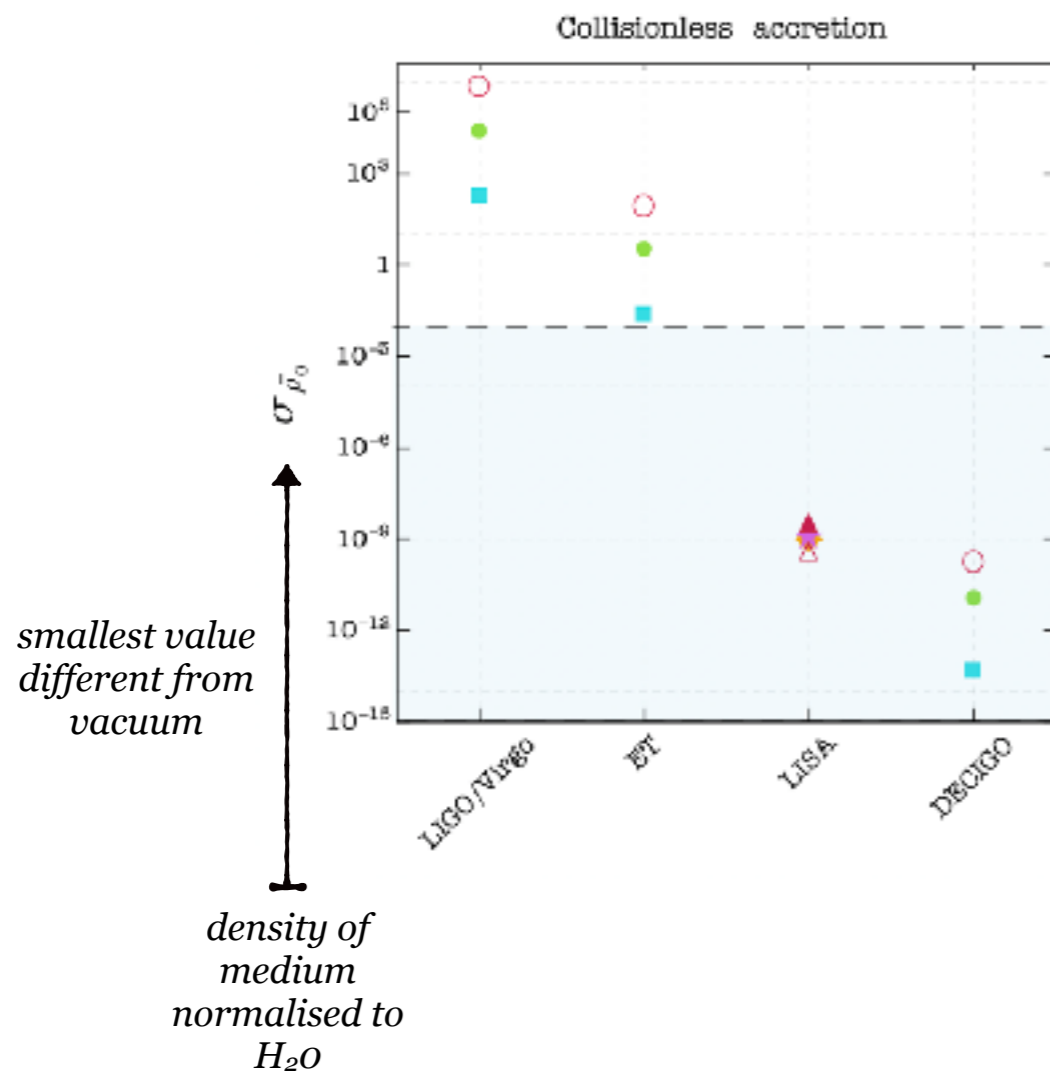
# Why EMRIs?

Constraints on the *environment's density* from different effects/sources/detectors

V. Cardoso & A. M., A&A 644, A147 (2020)

Useful (extrapolated) lessons from comparable mass binaries

○ environmental effects typically contribute at low frequencies





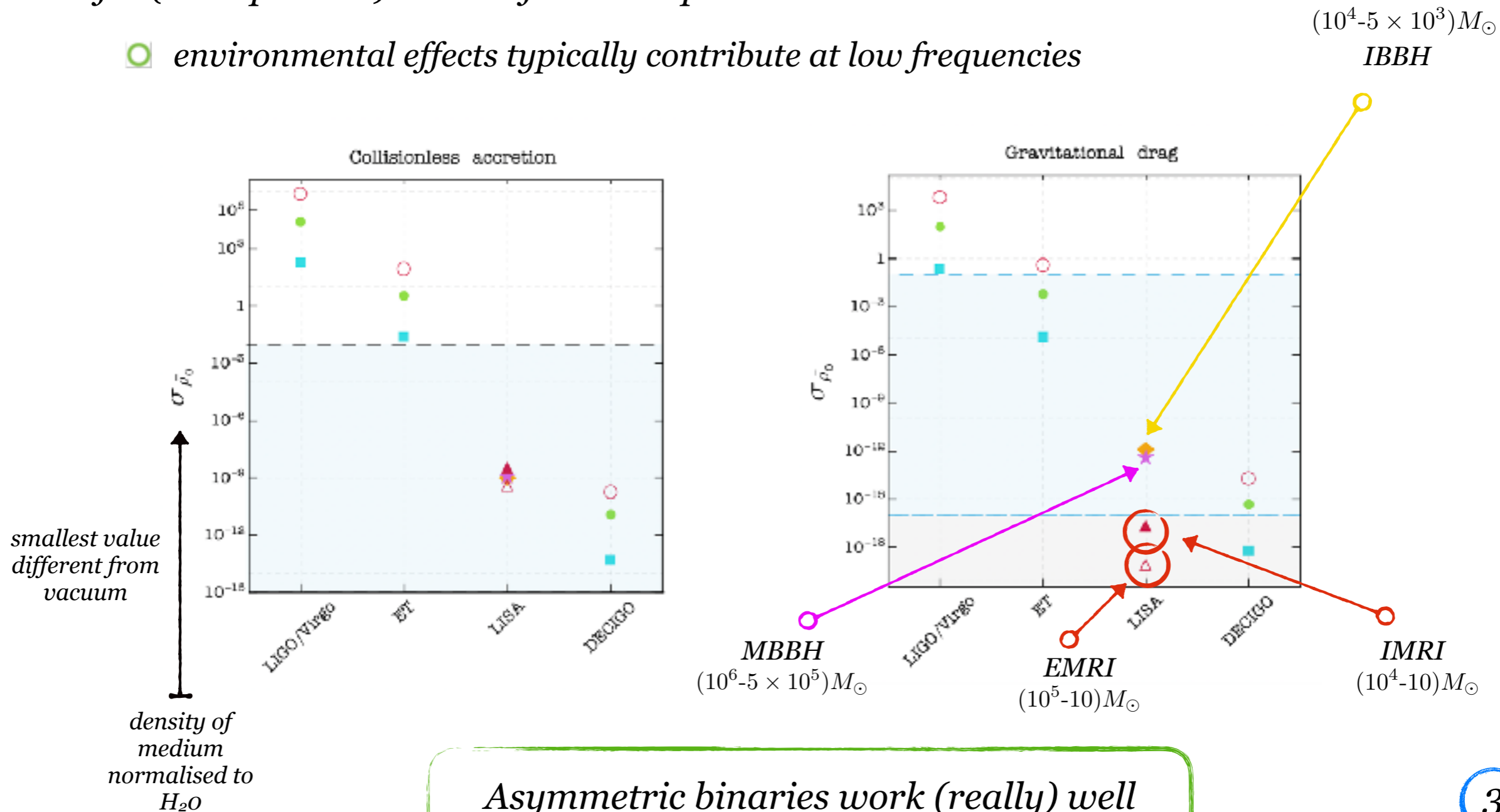
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Asymmetric binaries work (really) well

# What goes into an EMRI?

Using EMRI observations for precision astrophysics is a complex task

- The **Self-Force** program in (**vacuum** GR) is @ work for more than two decades for second order waveforms

Barack & Pound, *Rep. Prog. Phys.* 82 016904 (2018)

- Complexity of calculations beyond standard vacuum BBH grows very (very fast)

- Couplings with extra fields

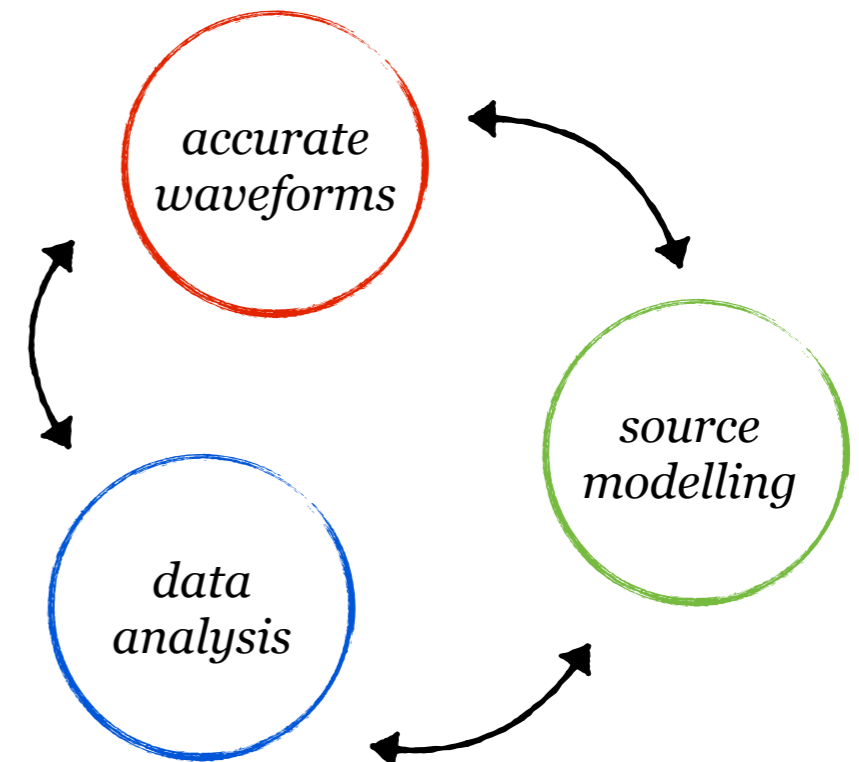
A.M. et al. *Nature Astronomy* 6, 4 464-470 (2022)

V. Cardoso et al., *Phys. Rev. D* 105, L061501 (2022)

- Even the background solutions are poorly characterised (spin?)

- Generation of (fast) waveform models

Katz +, *PRD* 104 064047 (2021)



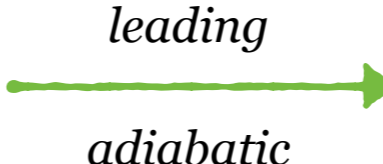
# EMRI in vacuum

How do we study EMRI in vacuum (GR)?

- The asymmetric character introduces a natural parameter to study the problem in perturbation theory  $q = m_p/M \ll 1$

$$g_{\alpha\beta} = g_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)} + h_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$G_{\mu\nu} = T_{\mu\nu}^p = 8\pi m_p \int \frac{\delta^{(4)}(x - y_p(\lambda))}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{dy_p^\alpha}{d\lambda} \frac{dy_p^\beta}{d\lambda} d\lambda$$





Regge-Wheeler-Zerilli  
(Schwarzschild  
background)

Teukolsky  
(Kerr  
background)

- The solution determines the phase evolution

$$\phi(t) = \overset{\text{adiabatic}}{\phi_{\text{diss-1}}} + \overset{\text{first post-adiabatic}}{\dots}$$

$\mathcal{O}(1/q)$                        $\mathcal{O}(1)$

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→ leading  
adiabatic

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$$\phi(t) = \underbrace{\phi_{\text{diss-1}}}_{\mathcal{O}(1/q)} + \underbrace{\dots}_{\text{first post-adiabatic}} \quad \leftarrow \text{error needed } \ll 1 \text{ radian}$$

↓  $\mathcal{O}(1/q)$       ↓  $\mathcal{O}(1)$

# The perturbation scheme

For the gravitational sector

$$h_{\alpha\beta} = h_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{pol}} + h_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{ax}}$$

$(-1)^\ell$  ← →  $(-1)^{\ell+1}$

$$h_{\mathbf{T}} = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} \left[ \mathcal{A}_{\ell m}^{(0)} \mathbf{a}_{\ell m}^{(0)} + \mathcal{A}_{\ell m}^{(1)} \mathbf{a}_{\ell m}^{(1)} + \mathcal{A}_{\ell m} \mathbf{a}_{\ell m} + \mathcal{B}_{\ell m}^{(0)} \mathbf{b}_{\ell m}^{(0)} + \mathcal{B}_{\ell m} \mathbf{b}_{\ell m} + \mathcal{Q}_{\ell m}^{(0)} \mathbf{c}_{\ell m}^{(0)} + \mathcal{Q}_{\ell m} \mathbf{c}_{\ell m} \right. \\ \left. + \mathcal{D}_{\ell m} \mathbf{d}_{\ell m} + \mathcal{G}_{\ell m} \mathbf{g}_{\ell m} + \mathcal{F}_{\ell m} \mathbf{f}_{\ell m} \right]$$

$$\mathbf{b}_{\ell m} = \frac{r_{\ell} r'}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & Y_{,\theta}^{\ell m} & Y_{,\phi}^{\ell m} \\ 0 & Y_{,\theta}^{\ell m} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & Y_{,\phi}^{\ell m} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- 7 **polar** components + 3 **axial** harmonics
  - For a spherically symmetric background the 2 families decouple
  - In vacuum GR using the Regge-Wheeler-Zerilli gauge the components reduce to **1** axial and **1** polar functions

# The wave equations

2 master equations for 2 perturbations

$$e^{-\lambda} = 1 - 2M/r$$

$$\Lambda = \ell(\ell + 1)/2 - 1$$

$$\frac{d^2 R_{\ell m}}{dr_*^2} + \left[ \omega^2 - e^{-\lambda} \left( \frac{\ell(\ell + 1)}{r^2} - \frac{6M}{r^3} \right) \right] R_{\ell m} = J_{\text{ax}} \longrightarrow \text{info on the orbital setup} \quad \text{Regge-Wheeler}$$

$$\frac{d^2 Z_{\ell m}}{dr_*^2} + \left[ \omega^2 - \frac{18M^3 + 18M^2 r \Lambda + 6Mr^2 \Lambda^2 + 2r^3 \Lambda^2 (1 + \Lambda)}{r^3 (3M + r \Lambda)} \right] Z_{\ell m} = J_{\text{pol}} \quad \text{Zerilli}$$

- Perturbations are needed to compute the GW fluxes...

$$\dot{E}_{\text{grav}}^{\pm} = \frac{1}{64\pi} \sum_{\ell=2}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} \frac{(\ell + 2)!}{(\ell - 2)!} (\omega^2 |Z_{\ell m}^{\pm}|^2 + 4 |R_{\ell m}^{\pm}|^2)$$

- ... which drive the orbital evolution

$$\text{orbital radius} \longleftarrow \frac{dr(t)}{dt} = -\dot{E} \frac{dr}{dE_{\text{orb}}} \quad ; \quad \frac{d\Phi(t)}{dt} = \frac{M^{1/2}}{r_p^{3/2}} \longrightarrow \text{orbital phase}$$

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info on the orbital setup

**Regge-Wheeler**

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**Zerilli**

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orbital phase



# How do we move on?

*The landscape of calculations for asymmetric binaries is relatively virgin*

○ Analyses within *comparable-mass*, adding Newtonian terms to the orbital energy or the GW fluxes of the vacuum BBH baseline

○ Inclusion of relativistic corrections to leading Newtonian terms show relevance of a fully relativistic descriptions

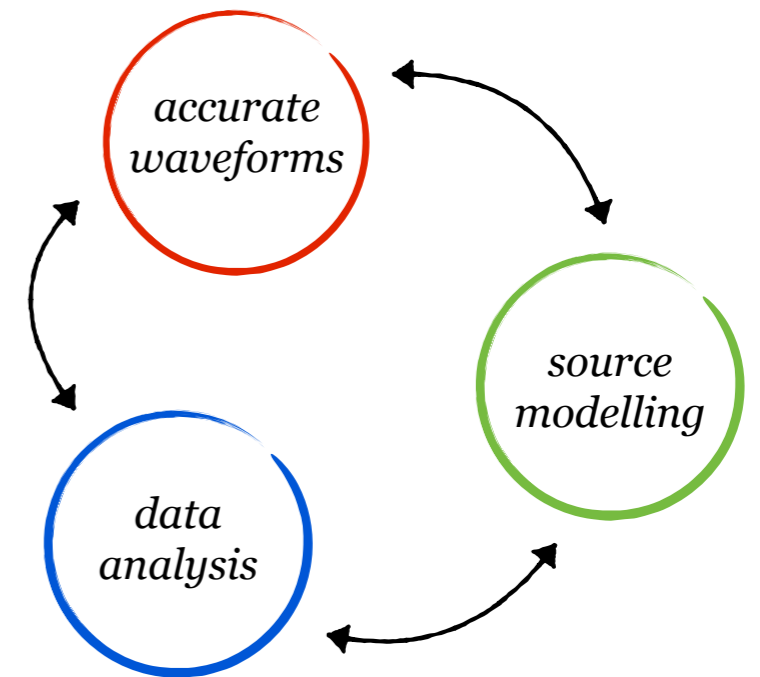
→ larger waveform dephasings

○ lack of fully relativistic solutions able to describe BHs within a medium

→ need of background geometry to do our perturbative job

→ allows to study couplings between grav/fluid perturbations

→ impact on on QNMs, GW fluxes, particle motion



L. Sberna +, PRD 106, 064056 (2022)  
L. Speri + 2207.10086  
A. Toubiana +, PRL 126, 101105 (2021)  
A. Coogan + PRD 105, 043009 (2022)  
N. Speeney+ PRD 106, 044027 (2022)  
...

# The Background

## The Einstein cluster prescription

V. Cardoso +, *PRD Lett.* 105, L061501, (2022)  
V. Cardoso +, *PRL* 129, 241103, (2022)

- Reduces matter distribution to average anisotropic stress energy tensor

$$\langle T^{\mu\nu} \rangle = \frac{n}{m_p} \langle P^\mu P^\nu \rangle \longleftrightarrow T^\mu{}_\nu = \text{diag}(-\rho, 0, p_t, p_t)$$

A. Einstein, *Annals Math.* 40 (1939)

- Spherical symmetry

$$ds^2 = -a(r) dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{1 - 2m(r)/r} + r^2 d\Omega^2$$

- Choose mass profile: we focused on DM rich environments

$$m(r) = M_{\text{BH}} + \frac{Mr^2}{(a_0 + r)^2} \left(1 - \frac{2M_{\text{BH}}}{r}\right)^2 \quad \leftarrow \text{Hernquist profile}$$

L. Hernquist, *The Astroph. Journal* 356 (1990)

- Generalized to any density profiles with radial dependence

E. Figueiredo, A.M. V. Cardoso, 2303.08183  
Jusufi, *arXiv:2202.00010*  
Igata et al, *arXiv:2202.00202*  
Konoplya et al., *The Astroph. Journal* 933 (2020)

# The Background

- Solve the Einstein's fields equations sourced by the halo stress-energy tensor

$$\rho(r) = \frac{2M(a_0 + 2M_{\text{BH}})(1 - 2M_{\text{BH}}/r)}{4\pi r(r + a_0)^3}$$

$$a(r) = \left(1 - \frac{2M_{\text{BH}}}{r}\right) e^{\Gamma}$$

$$\Gamma = -\pi\sqrt{\frac{M}{\xi}} + 2\sqrt{\frac{M}{\xi}} \arctan \frac{r + a_0 - M}{\sqrt{M\xi}}$$

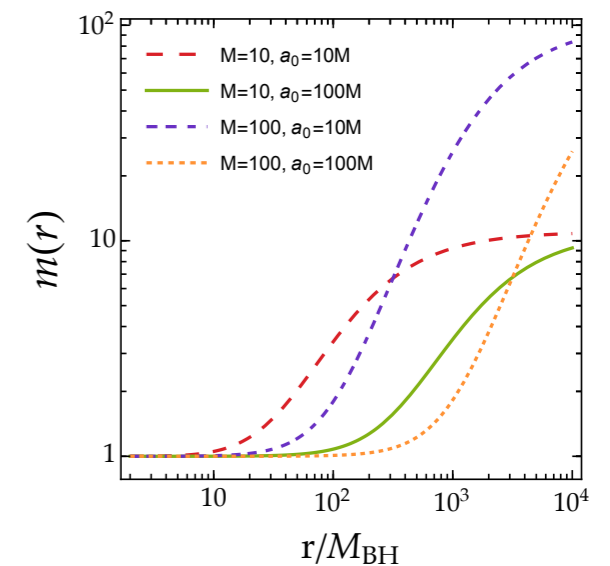
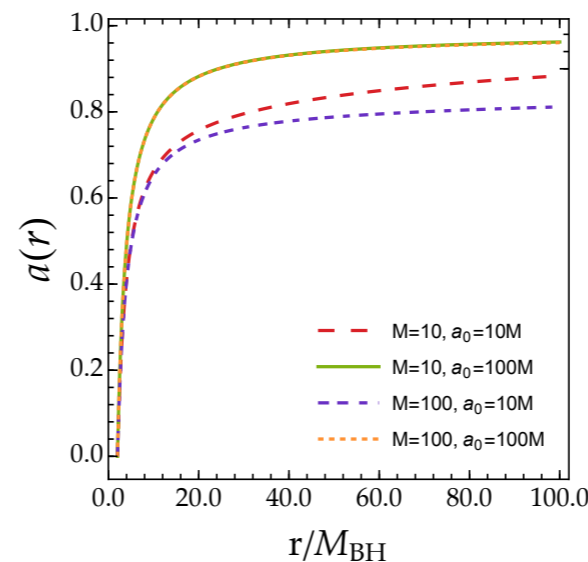
$$\xi = 2a_0 - M + 4M_{\text{BH}}$$

- To mimic galaxy observations

$$a_0 \gtrsim 10^4 M \quad \longrightarrow \quad M_{\text{BH}} \ll M \ll a_0$$

- Asymptotically flat

- Horizon at  $r = 2M_{\text{BH}}$



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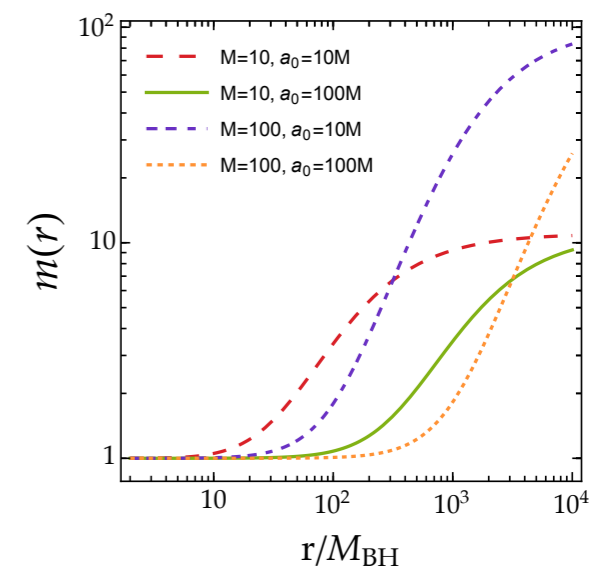
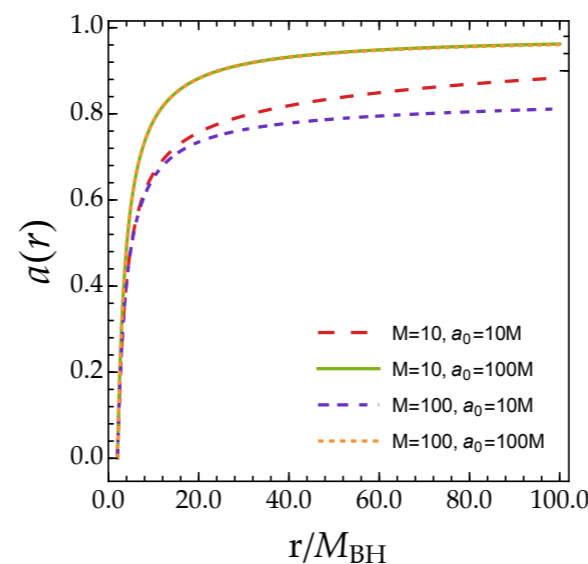
$e^{\Gamma} \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow 2M_{\text{BH}}} 1 - 2M/a_0 \xleftarrow{\text{Redshift factor}}$

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- Horizon at  $r = 2M_{\text{BH}}$



# Geodesics

*Generic halo configuration affects the orbital properties of massive and massless particles*

$$r_{\text{LR}} \simeq 3M_{\text{BH}} \left( 1 + \frac{MM_{\text{BH}}}{a_0^2} \right) \longrightarrow M_{\text{BH}}\Omega_{\text{LR}} \simeq \frac{1}{3\sqrt{3}} \left( 1 - \frac{M}{a_0} + \frac{M(M + 18M_{\text{BH}})}{6a_0^2} \right)$$

$$r_{\text{ISCO}} \simeq 6M_{\text{BH}} \left( 1 - \frac{32MM_{\text{BH}}}{a_0^2} \right) \longrightarrow M_{\text{BH}}\Omega_{\text{ISCO}} \simeq \frac{1}{6\sqrt{6}} \left( 1 - \frac{M}{a_0} + \frac{M(M + 396M_{\text{BH}})}{6a_0^2} \right)$$

- *At the leading order the halo only redshifts the dynamics*
- *BH shadows gets correction of the order  $M^2/a_0^2 \lesssim 10^{-8}$  (light-ring tests are safe)*

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Redshift factor

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○ Redshift factor      ○ non-linear corrections

- At the leading order the halo only redshifts the dynamics
- BH shadows gets correction of the order  $M^2/a_0^2 \lesssim 10^{-8}$  (light-ring tests are safe)

# Dirty perturbations

*EMRI (and more) evolving within environments*

- Consider linear perturbations of a BH+halo background induced by the small secondary  $\mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi(T_{\mu\nu} + T_{\mu\nu}^p)$

$$\text{grav-sector} \\ g_{\alpha\beta} = g_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)} + h_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{ax}} + h_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{pol}}$$

$$\text{fluid-sector} \\ u_{\mu} = u_{\mu}^0 + u_{\mu}^1 \quad \rho = \rho_0 + \rho_1 \\ p_t = p_t^0 + p_t^1 \quad p_r = p_r^1$$

- Decompose  $h_{\alpha\beta}$  and  $(u_{\mu}, p, \rho)$  in tensor, vector, scalar spherical harmonics
  - e.g. for the pressure field

$$p_t^1(t, r, \theta, \phi) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} \delta p_{t,\ell m}(t, r) Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi)$$

- Go to the Fourier space, replace into the field's equation and solve ODEs
  - For BH-halo configurations this 'simple' reduction works only partially
  - We have extra equations for matter quantities



# BH & halo: axial modes

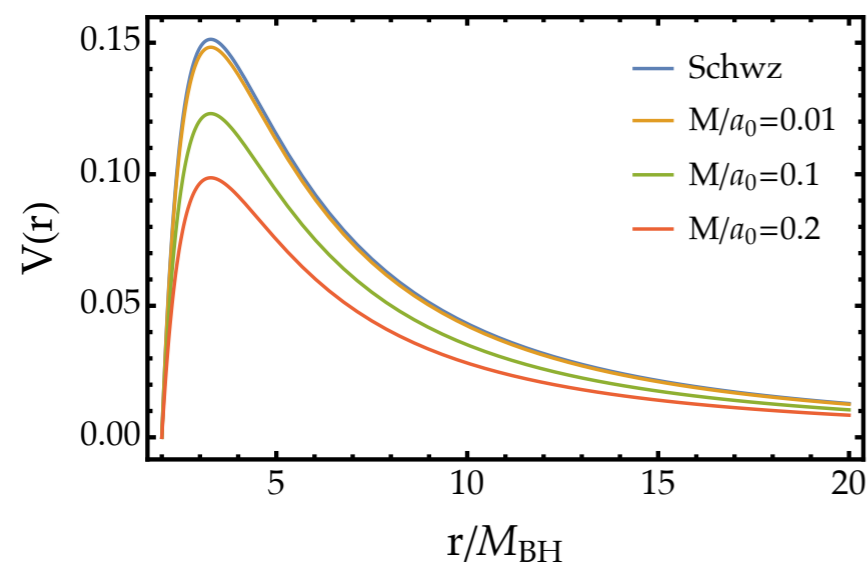
*How does the halo change the axial perturbations of the BH?*

- *Same functional form but...*

$$\frac{d^2 R_{\ell m}}{dr_*^2} + [\omega^2 - V^{\text{ax}}] R_{\ell m} = J_{\text{ax}}$$

$$V^{\text{ax}} = \frac{a(r)}{r^2} \left[ \ell(\ell + 1) - \frac{6m(r)}{r} + m'(r) \right]$$

- *Homogenous and in-homogenous problems provide the set up to study QNM and EMRI dynamics*



*Change in the scattering potential due to the halo compactness*

- *The halo affects the structure of the potential, as well the boundary conditions of the wave propagation at the horizon and at infinity*
- *axial modes are not couple to fluid perturbations*

# BH & halo: axial modes

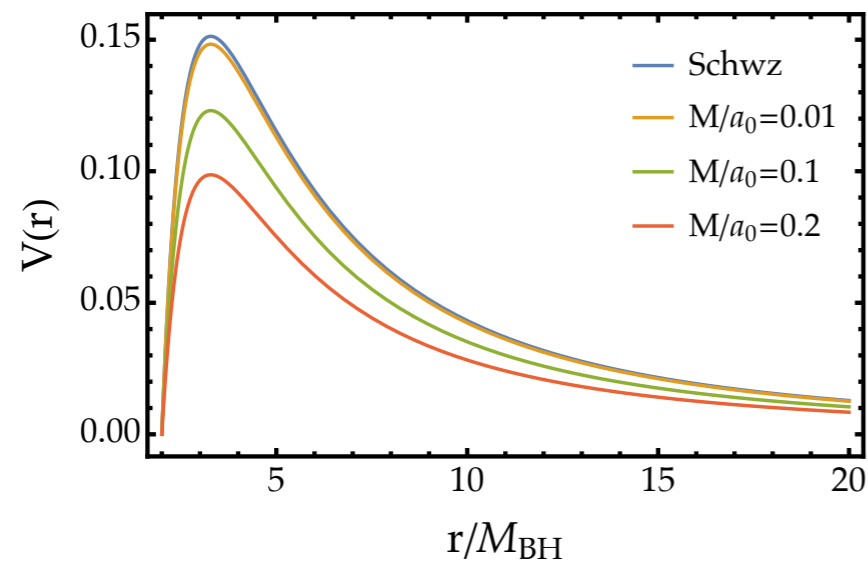
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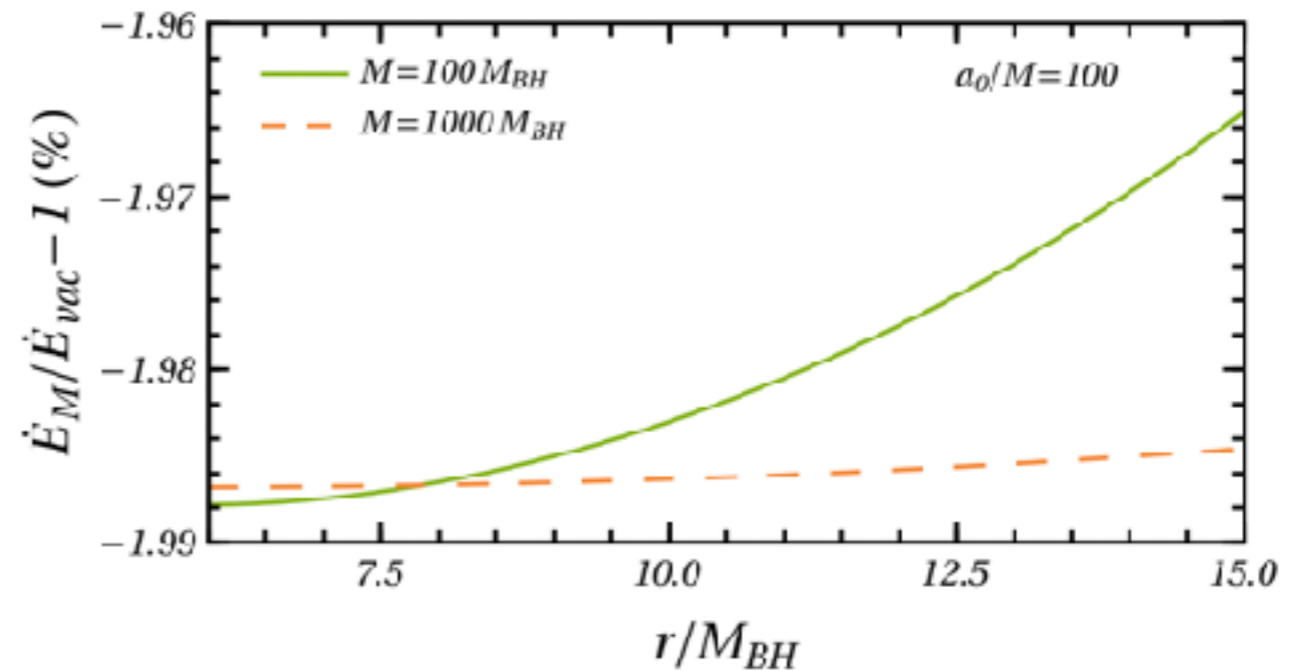
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- axial modes are not couple to fluid perturbations

# BH & halo EMRI: axial modes

The halo properties affect the GW emission and hence the EMRI inspiral evolution (already) at adiabatic level

V.Cardoso +, PRD Lett. 105, L061501, (2022)

Relative change in  
the axial flux v.s.  
vacuum



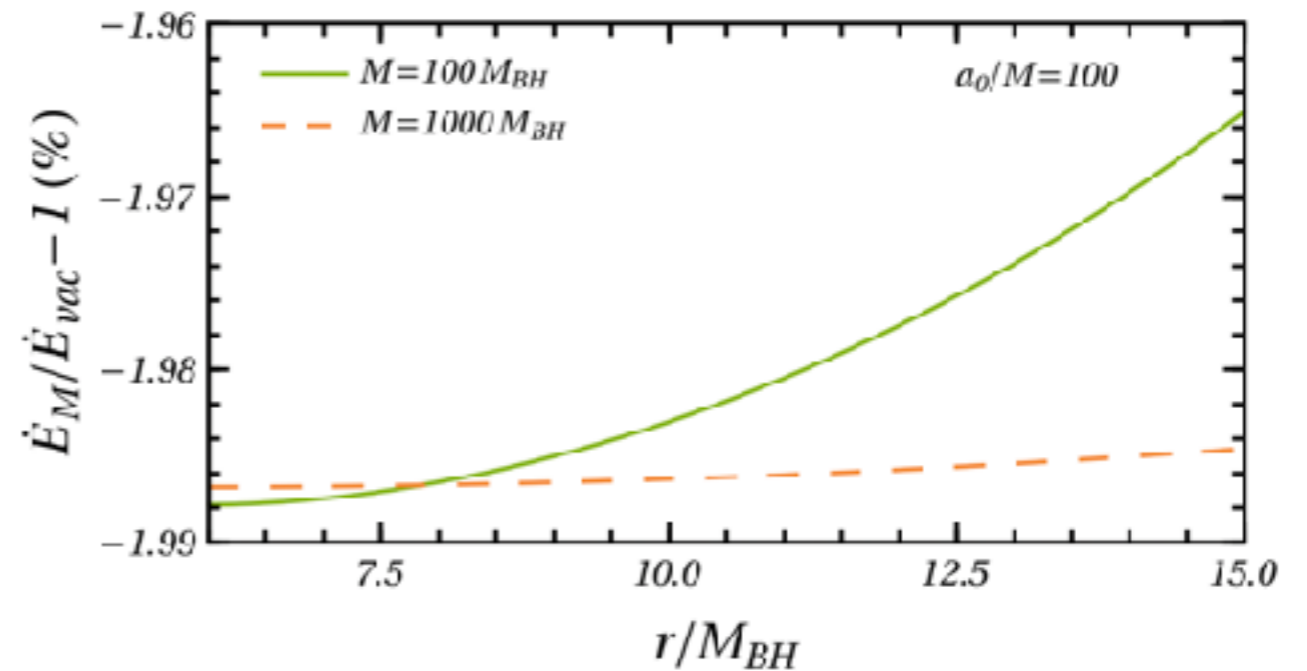
- The difference with vacuum grows with  $M$
- Suppression as  $M/a_0$  decreases
- Difference  $\ll 1\%$  as  $M/a_0 \sim 10^{-3}$

# BH & halo EMRI: axial modes

The halo properties affect the GW emission and hence the EMRI inspiral evolution (already) at adiabatic level

V.Cardoso +, PRD Lett. 105, L061501, (2022)

Relative change in  
the axial flux v.s.  
vacuum



- The difference with vacuum grows with  $M$
- Suppression as  $M/a_0$  decreases
- Difference  $\ll 1\%$  as  $M/a_0 \sim 10^{-3}$

1 year  
observation

before  
the plunge

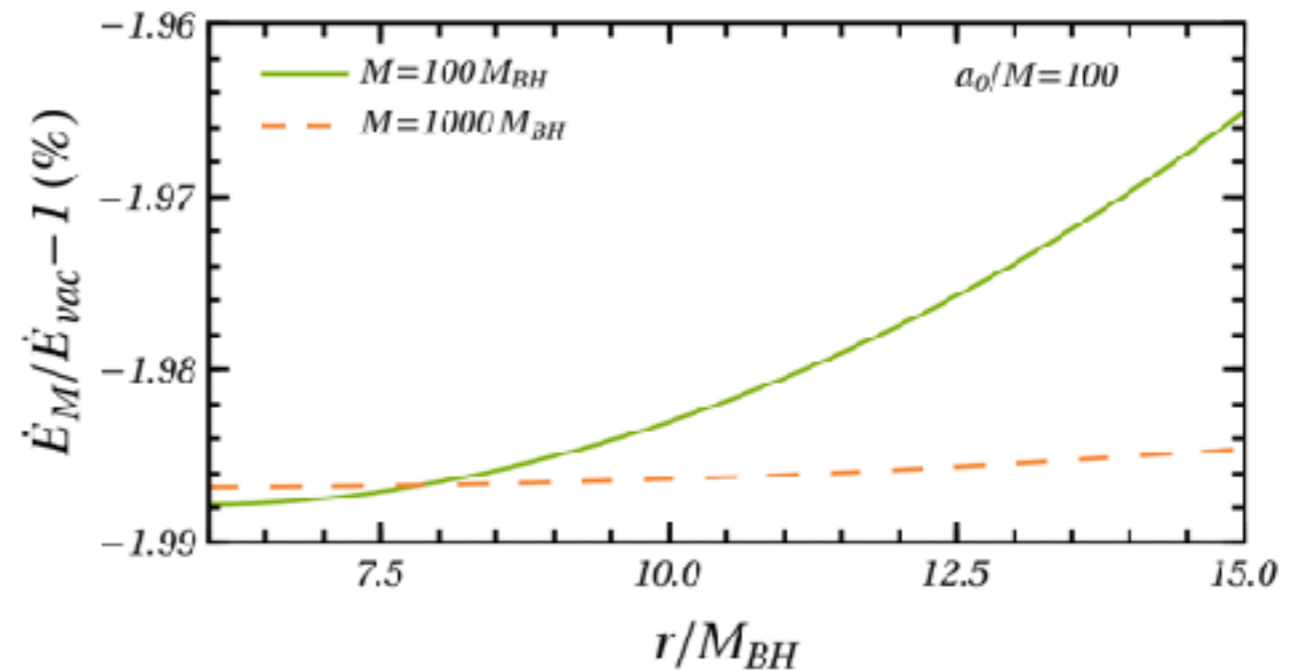
$\sim 500$  radians

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look promising  
but...

# *The redshift strikes back*

*Series expansion for low compactness*  $M/a_0 \ll 1$

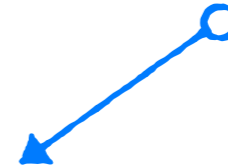
$$V^{\text{ax}} \approx \left(1 - \frac{2M}{a_0}\right) V_{\text{Schw}}^{\text{ax}} \quad J_{\ell m}^{\text{ax}} \approx \mu \left(1 - \frac{3M}{a_0}\right) J_{\ell m}^{\text{ax,Schw}} \quad \frac{dr}{dr_{\star}} \approx \left(1 - \frac{M}{a_0}\right) \frac{dr}{dr_{\star,\text{Schw}}}$$

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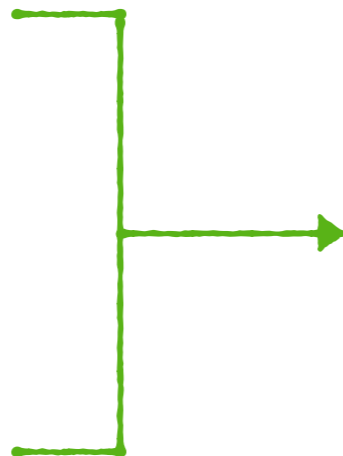
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$$\Omega_p \rightarrow \tilde{\Omega}_p = \Omega_p \left(1 - \frac{M}{a_0}\right)$$

$$\mu \rightarrow \tilde{\mu} = \mu \left(1 + \frac{M}{a_0}\right)$$

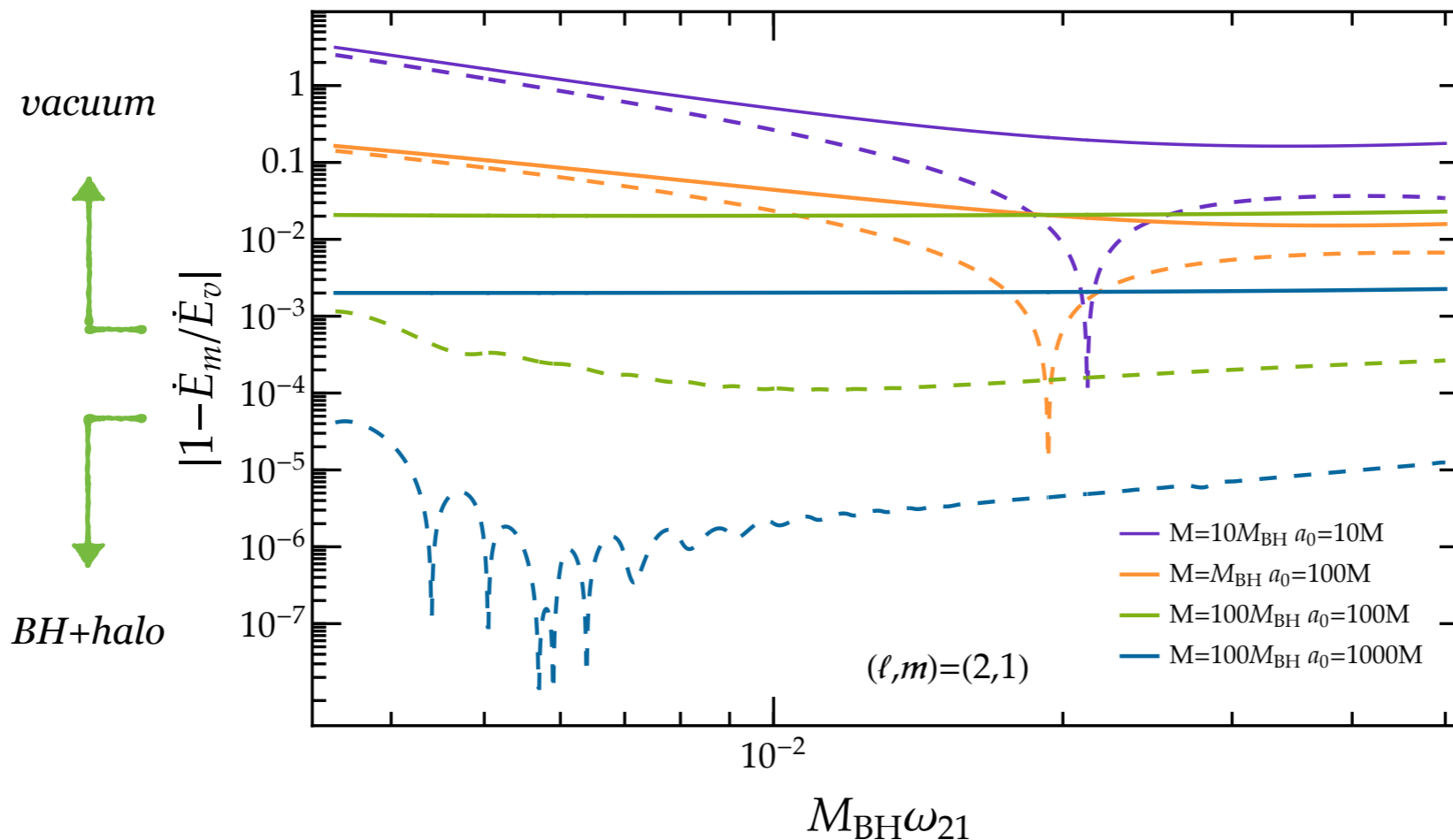


Equivalent to a vacuum solution  
with rescaled parameters  
(redshift of the BH mass scale)

# The redshift strikes back

*(2,1) axial flux emitted by an EMRI on circular motion*

- *fluxes tend to be smaller in the presence of the halo*



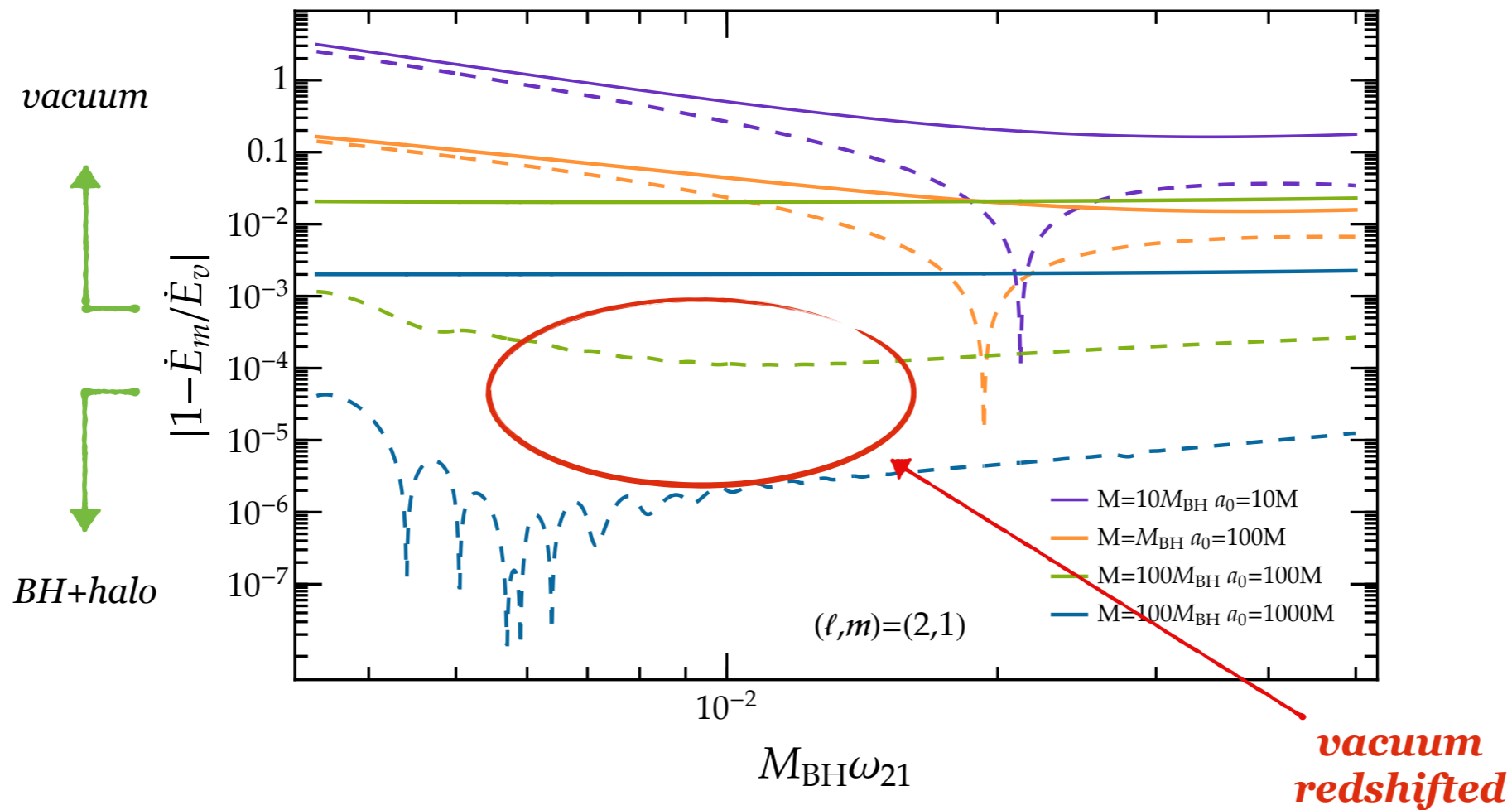
- *Redshifted quantities drastically reduce the discrepancy for realistic halos*
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# More general than it looks

E. Figueiredo, A. M., V. Cardoso, 2303.08183

Approach extended to generic density profiles

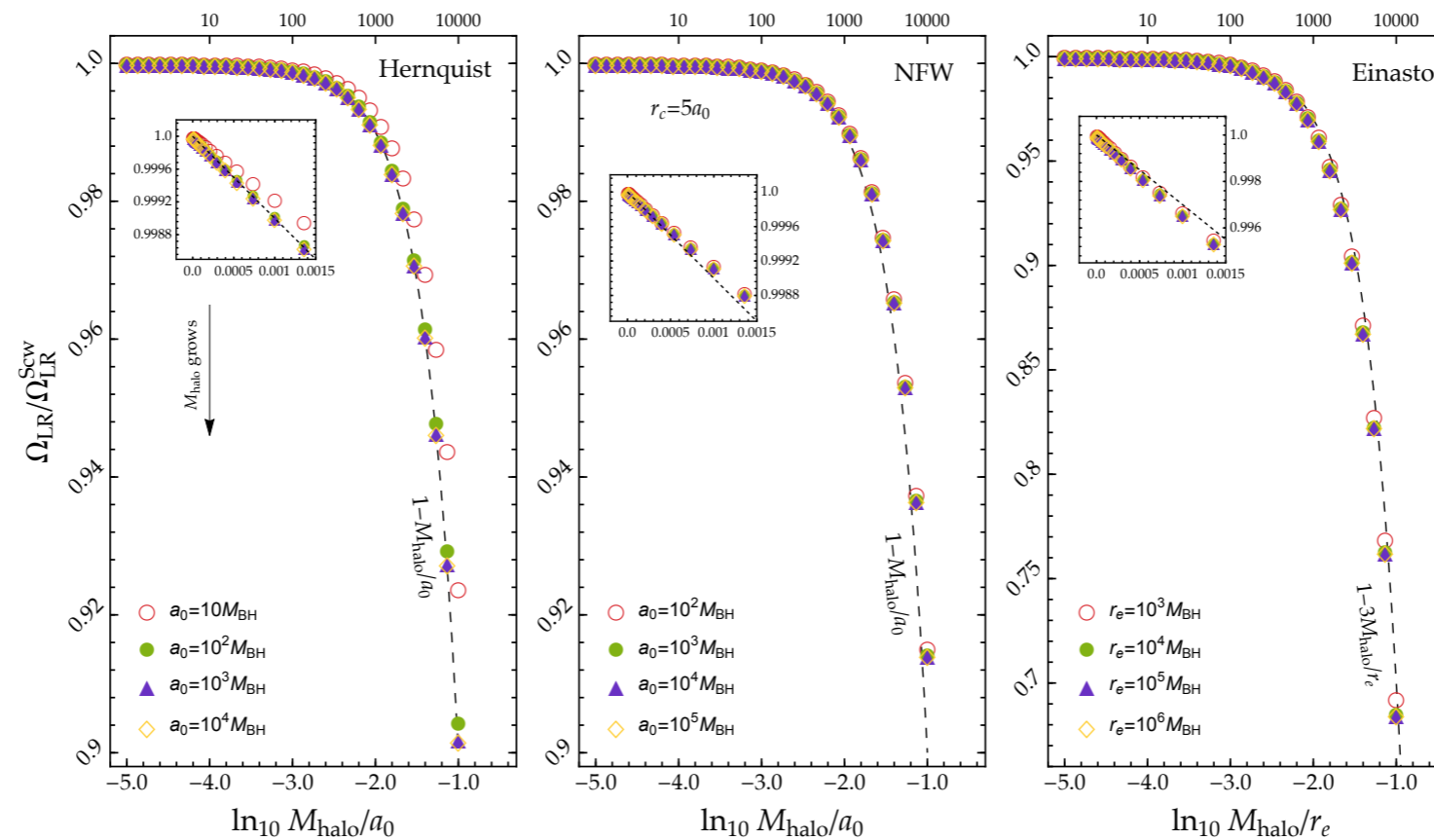
- Developed a fully numerical approach to treat any  $\rho(r)$
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$$\rho(r) = \rho_0 (r/a_0)^{-\gamma} [1 + (r/a_0)^\alpha]^{(\gamma-\beta)/\alpha}$$

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Hernquist & Navarro-Frenk-White

Einasto



- Changes with respect to vacuum can be interpreted in terms of a “redshift” scaling

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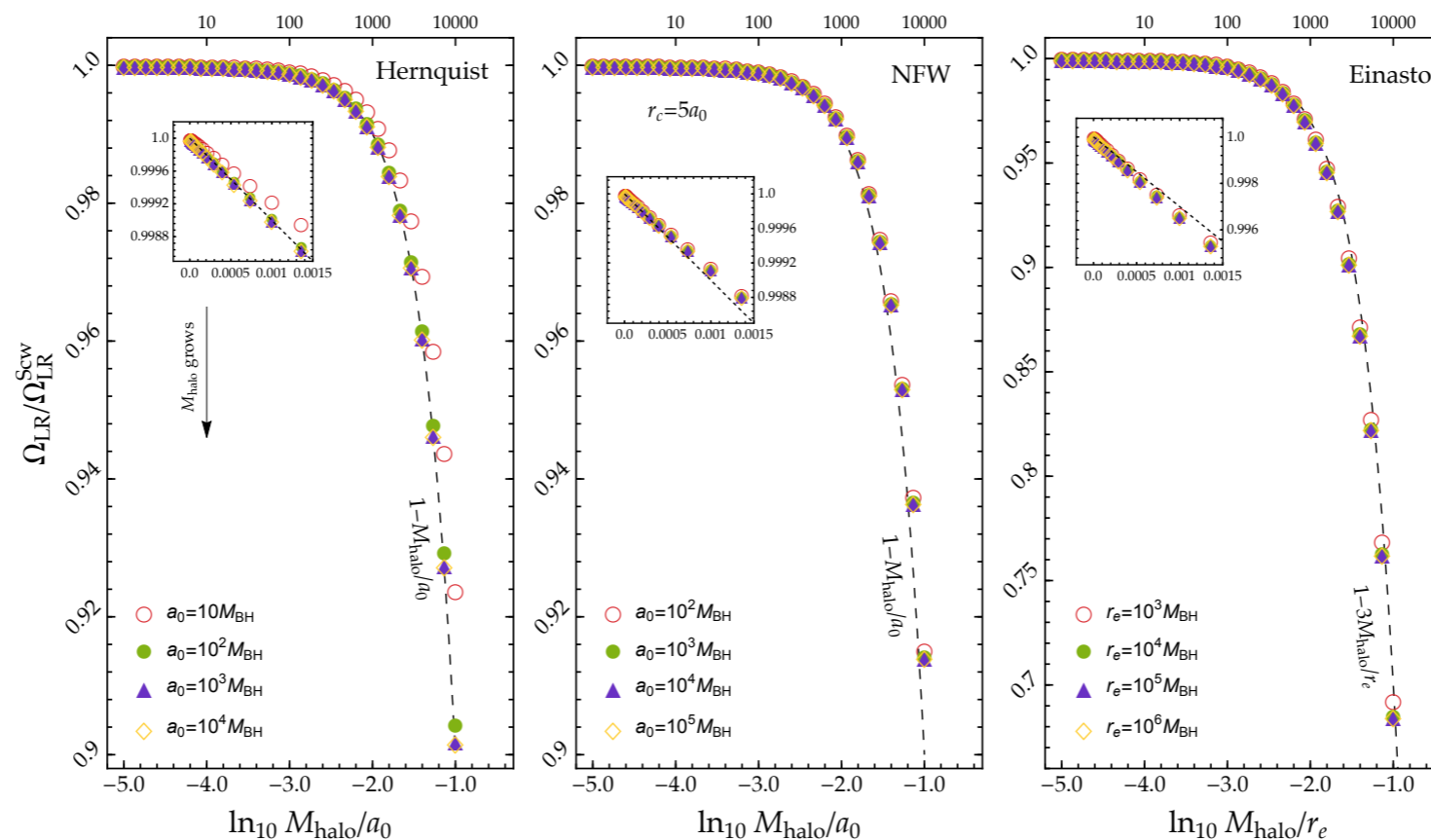
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geodesic  
frequency  
@ Light Ring

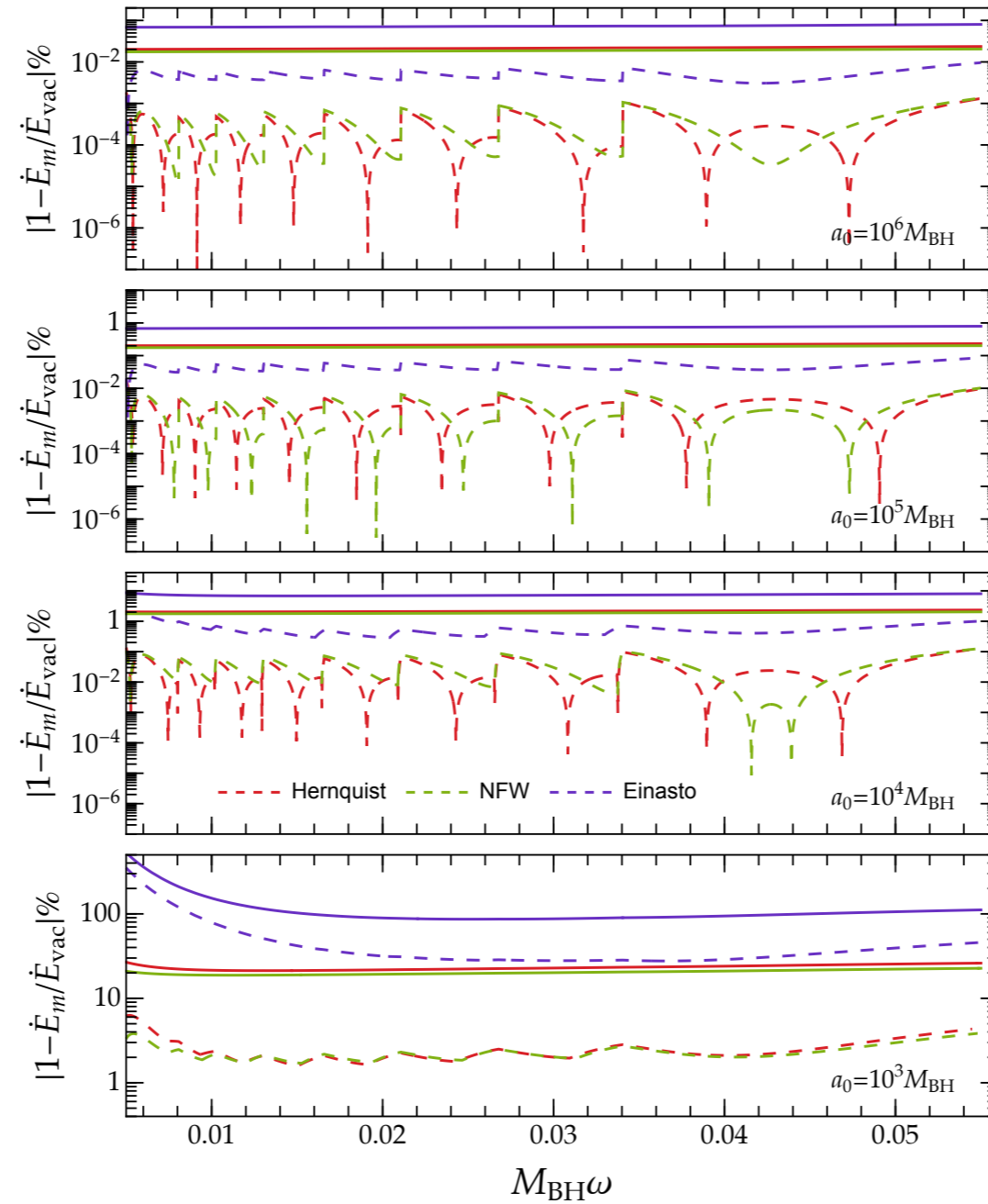
universal  
behaviour for  
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○ Changes with respect to vacuum can be interpreted in terms of a “redshift” scaling

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## Axial fluxes from EMRIs on circular orbits

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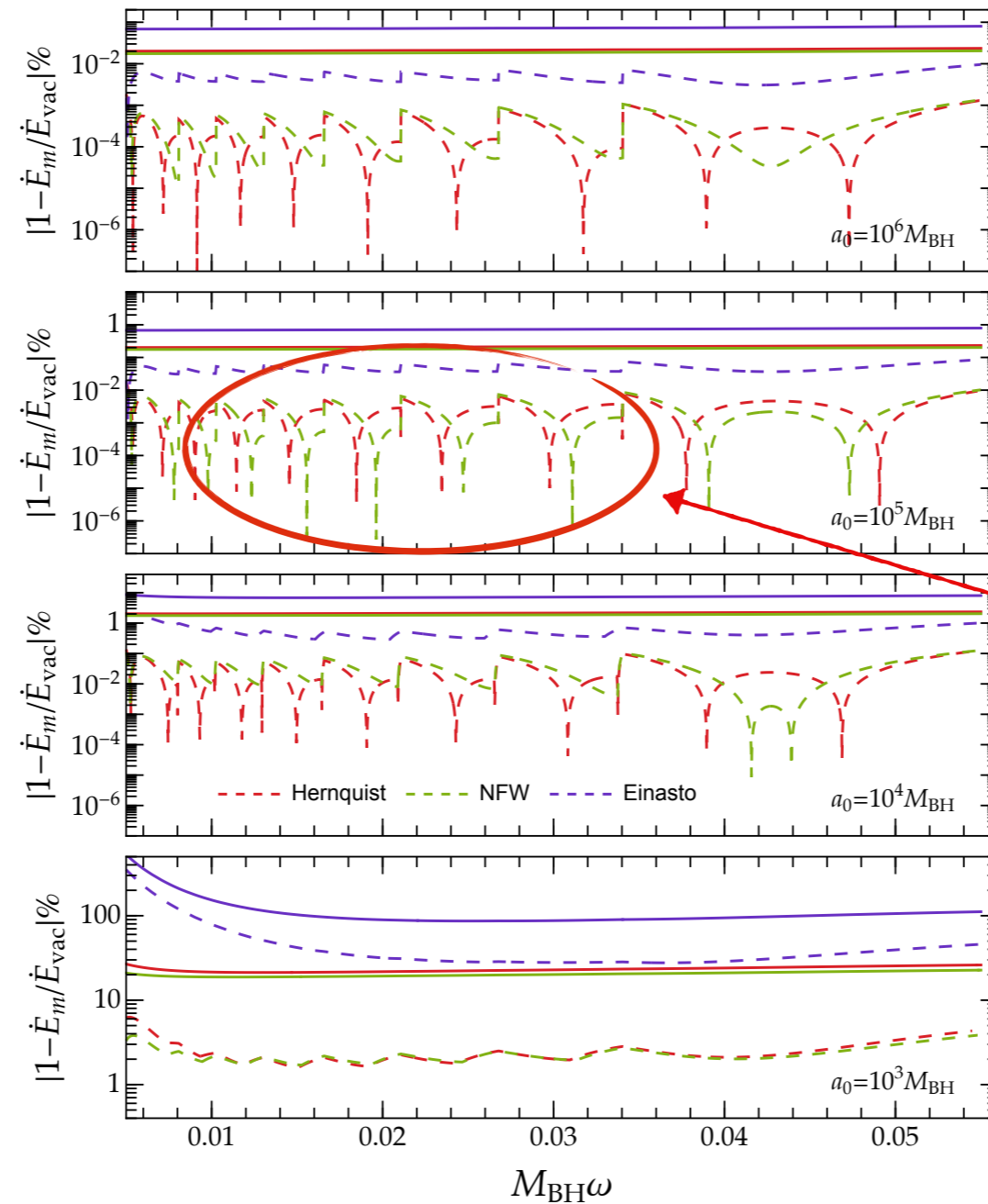


○ redshift (again) tends to suppress differences

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# BH & halo EMRI: polar modes

Polar sector is more challenging due (more variables &) **couplings** between **matter** and **metric** components

V. Cardoso+, PRL 129, 241103, (2022)

- System of 5 coupled differential equations for  $\vec{V} = (H_1, H_0, K, W, \delta\rho)$

$$\frac{d\vec{V}}{dr} = \mathbf{A}\vec{V} = \vec{S}$$

- The radial/tangential **speeds of sound** enter the modes

$$\delta p_{r,\ell m} = c_{s_r}^2 \delta\rho_{\ell m}$$

$$\delta p_{t,\ell m} = c_{s_t}^2 \delta\rho_{\ell m}$$

$$M = 10M_{\text{BH}} \quad M/a_0 = 0.1$$

$$M \rightarrow 0$$

$\ell$	$m$	$\dot{E}_\infty$ (Finite Diff)	$\dot{E}_\infty$ (FD <sub>inh</sub> )
2	2	1.7068011e-4	1.706(3)e-4
3	3	2.5489538e-5	2.547(3)e-5
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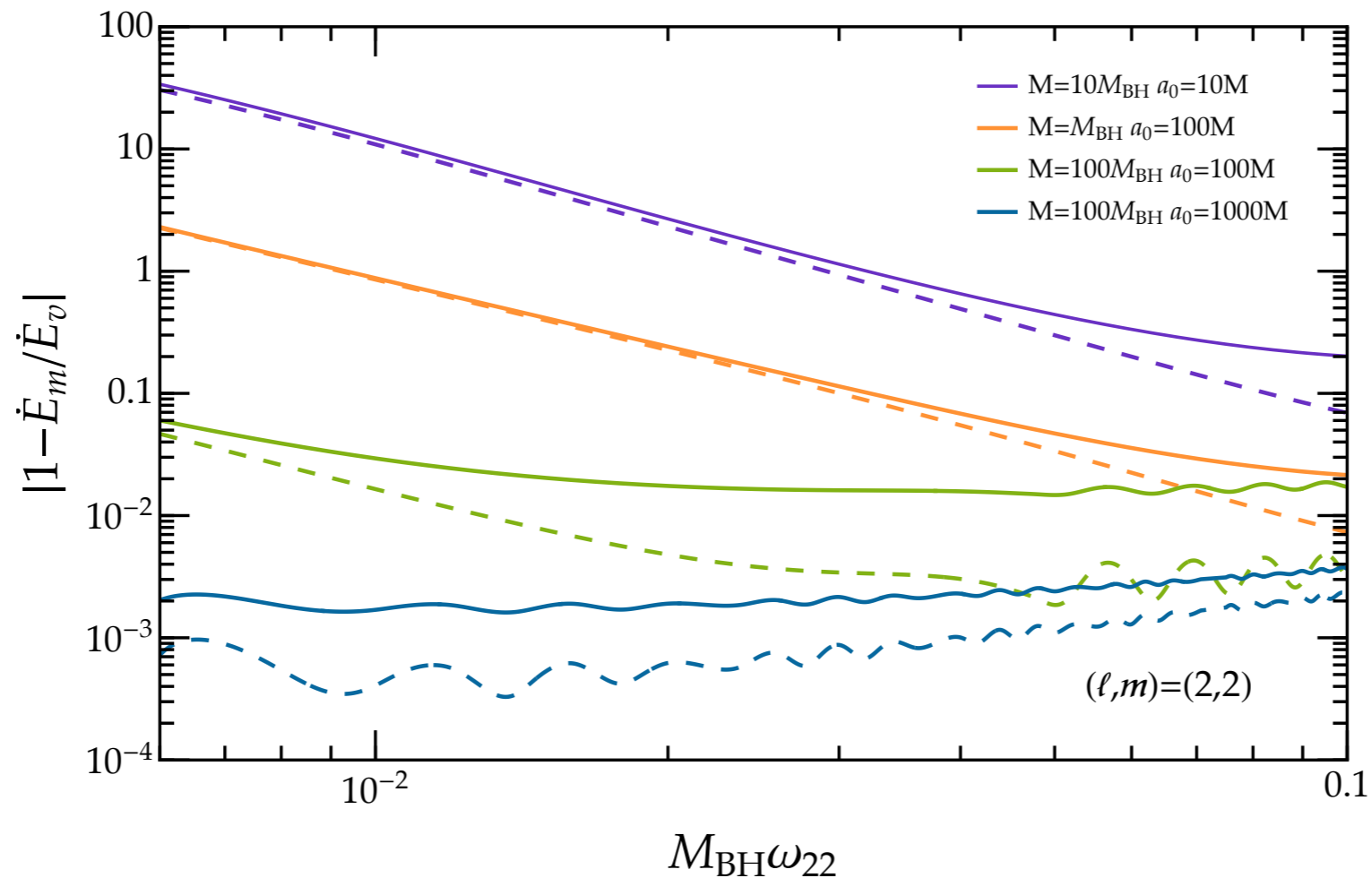
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*(2,2) polar flux emitted by an EMRI on circular motion*

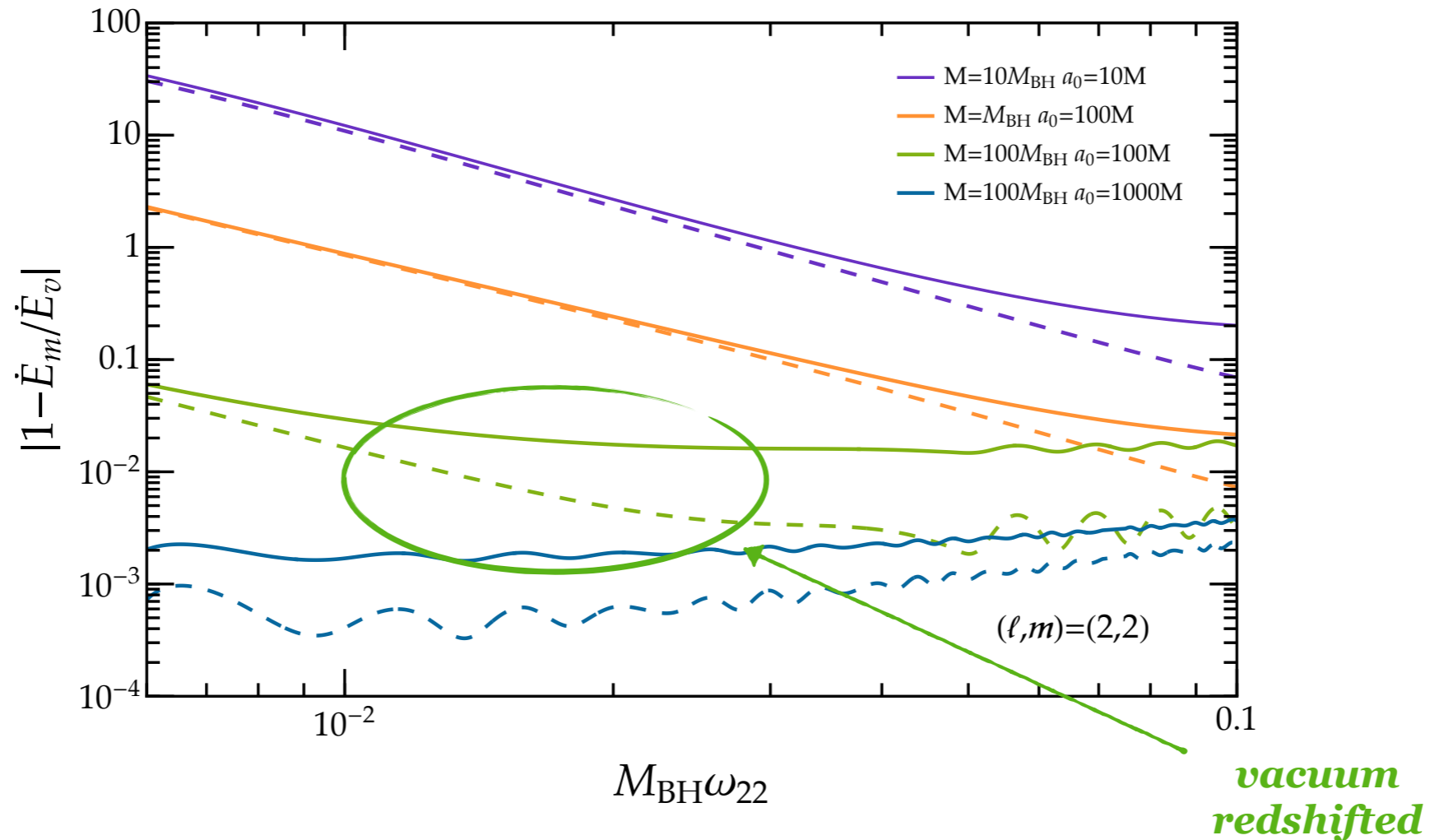


- *Redshift rescaling not enough to take into account shift in the fluxes*
- *generation and propagation affected by deviations due to the coupling between polar modes and the fluid*
- *deviations seem “promising” in terms of detectability*



# BH & halo EMRI: polar modes

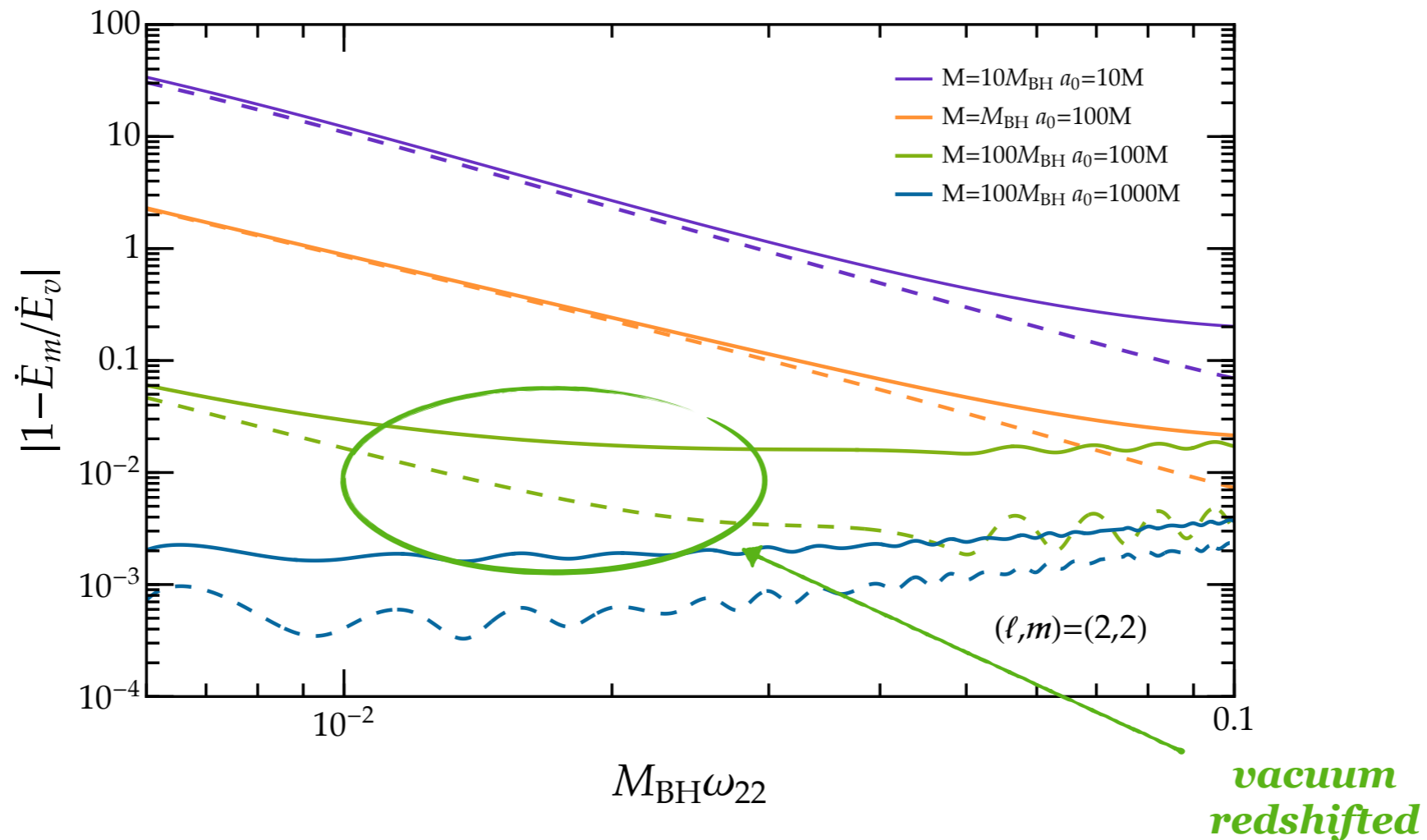
$(2,2)$  polar flux emitted by an EMRI on circular motion



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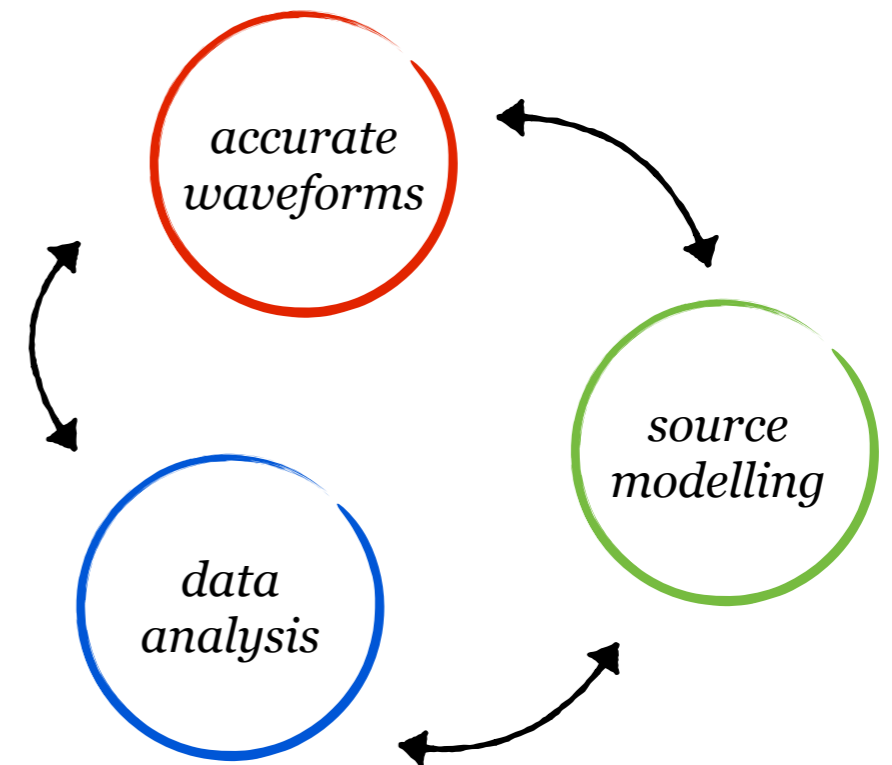


new waveform models to build

# *EMRI in dirty backgrounds*

## *First steps towards fully relativistic description*

- *Ab-initio calculation of EMRI evolution with a non-vacuum BBH background*
- *Changes in the emitted gravitational wave fluxes due to the environment's properties*
- *GW propagation and generation can be strongly affected by coupling between polar modes and the the fluid*



## ***But***

- *Rotating background for (more) realistic astrophysical BHs*
- *Waveform generation*
- *Detectability of halo parameters*
- *Degeneracy with beyond-GR modifications*

*Back up*

# Wave equation (homogeneous)

Solving the homogeneous problem allows to study the dirty BH **Quasi-Normal-Mode** spectrum

$$\frac{d^2 \psi_{\ell m}}{dr_*^2} + [\omega^2 - V] \psi_{\ell m} = 0$$

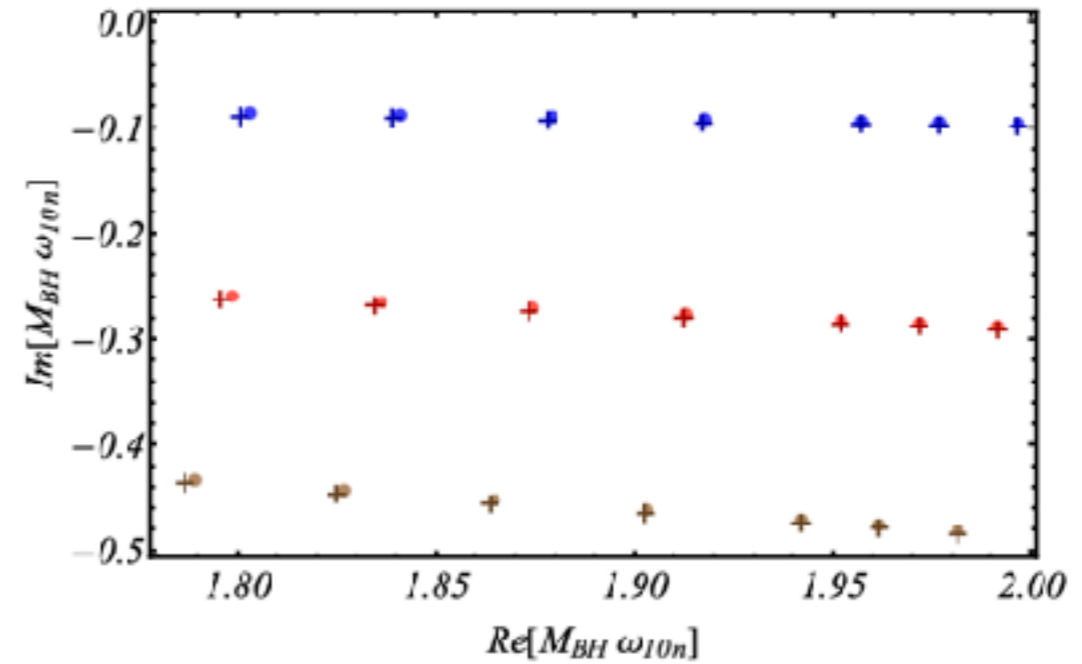
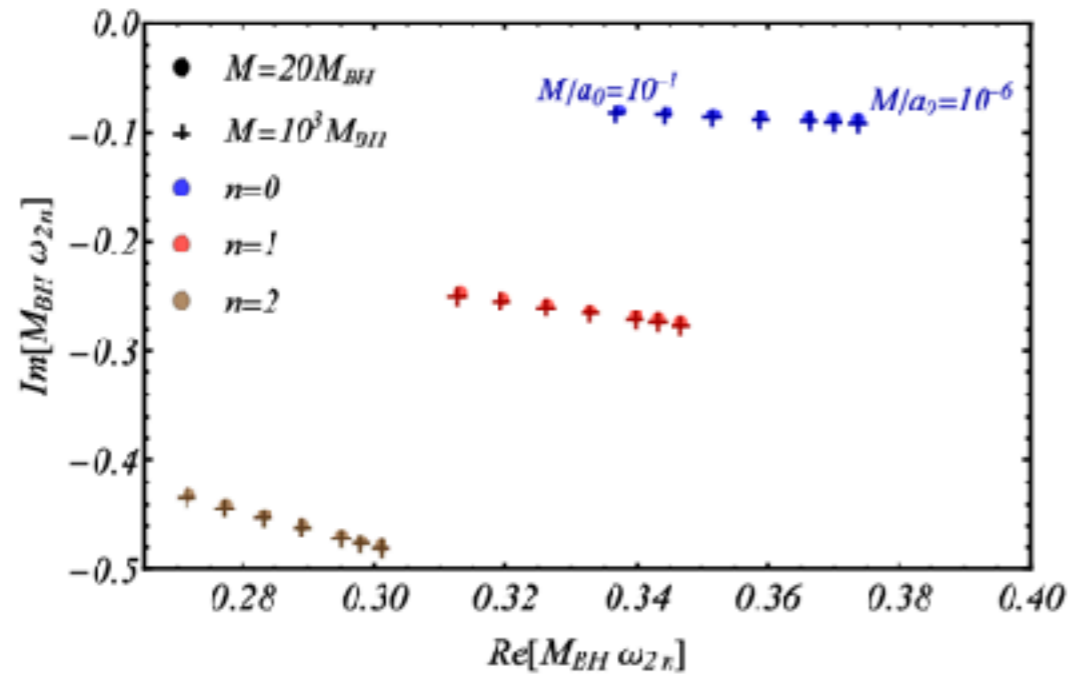
- Solve for the homogeneous part with suitably boundary conditions



- Find the system eigenvalues (the QNM frequencies) which render the two solutions dependent

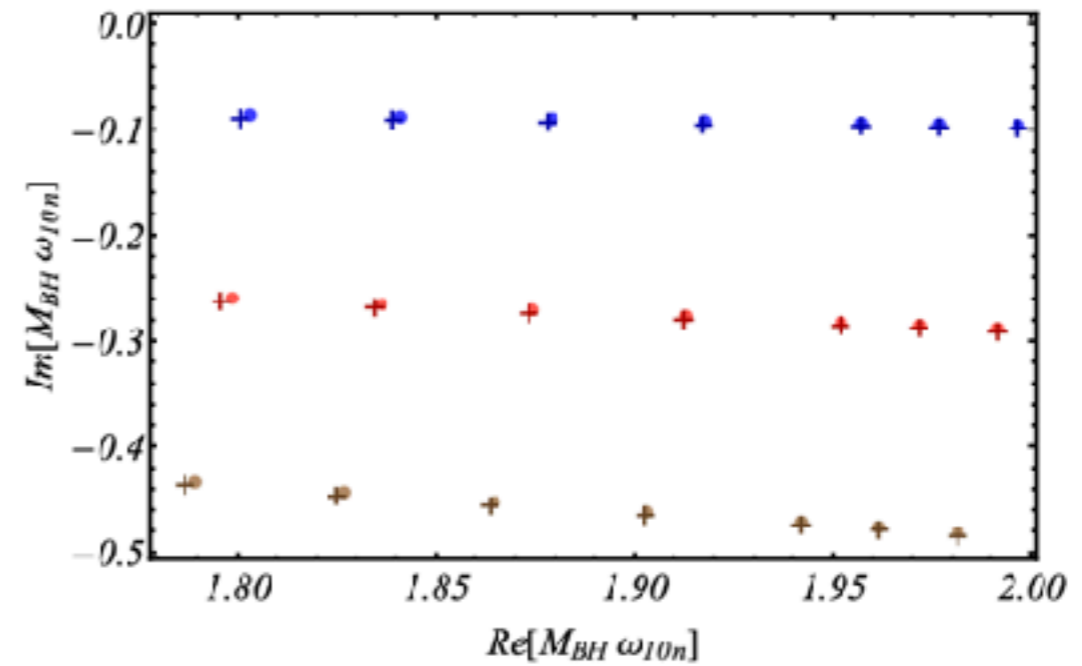
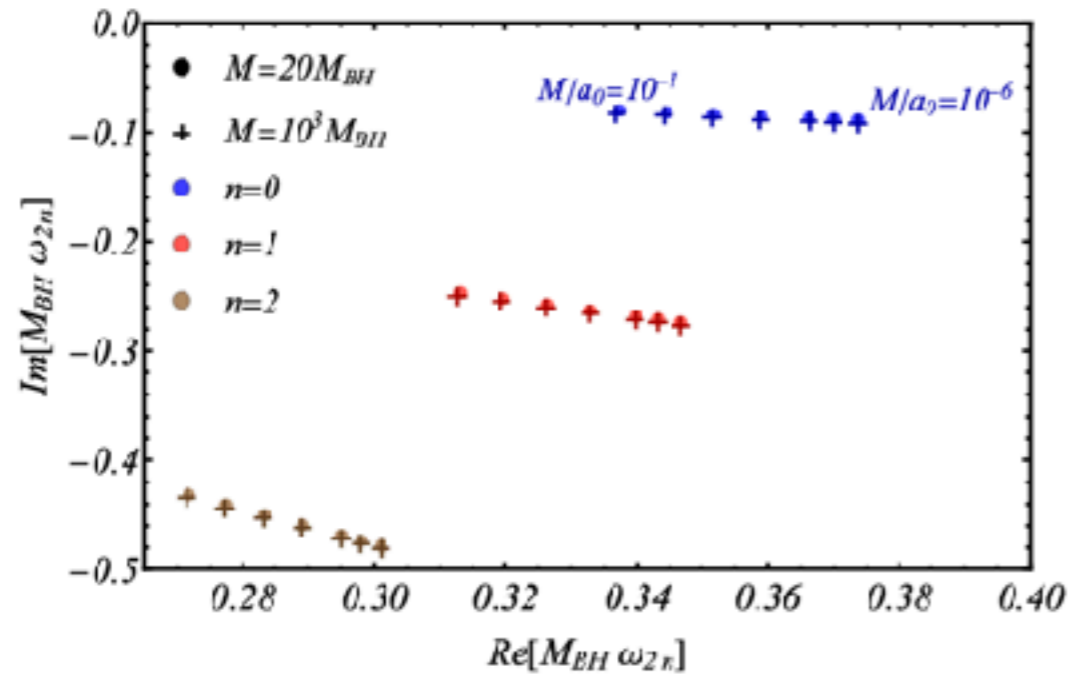
$$\psi_{\ell m}^{(-)} \psi_{\ell m}^{\prime(+)} - \psi_{\ell m}^{(+)} \psi_{\ell m}^{\prime(-)} = 0$$

# Quasi Normal Modes



- Both real and imaginary part decrease as  $M/a_0$  increases
- Very little dependence on  $M$

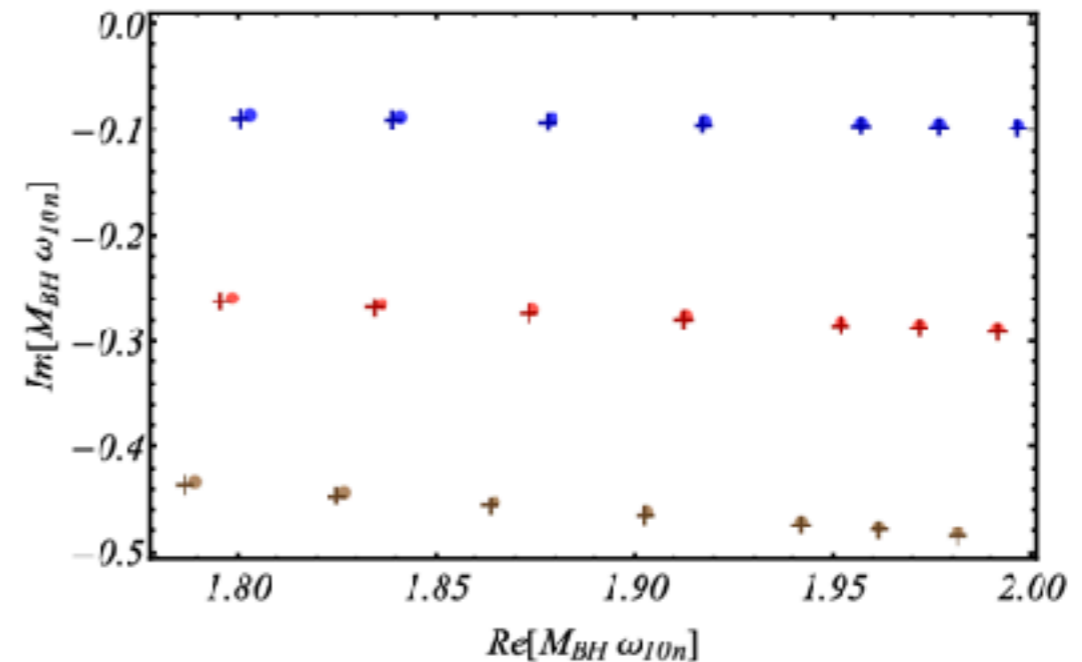
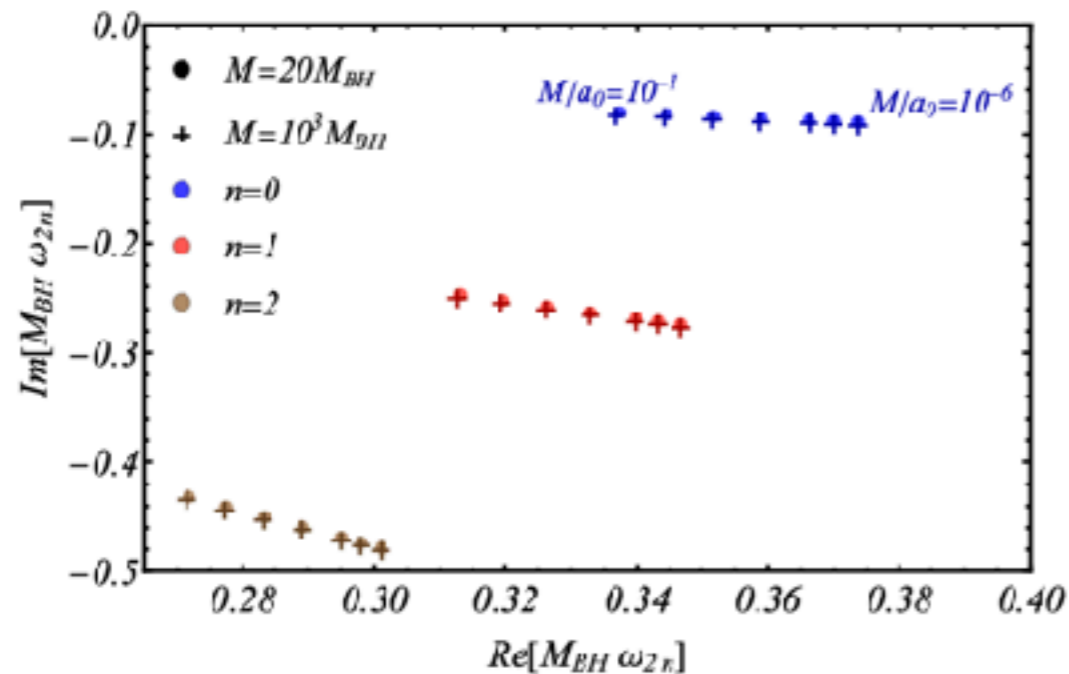
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$\leftarrow$  redshift  
 effect

# Quasi Normal Modes



- Both real and imaginary part decrease as  $M/a_0$  increases
- Very little dependence on  $M$
- In the eikonal limit  $\omega_{\text{QNM}} = \Omega_{\text{LR}} \ell - i(n + 1/2)|\lambda|$
- For small compactness

redshift  
effect

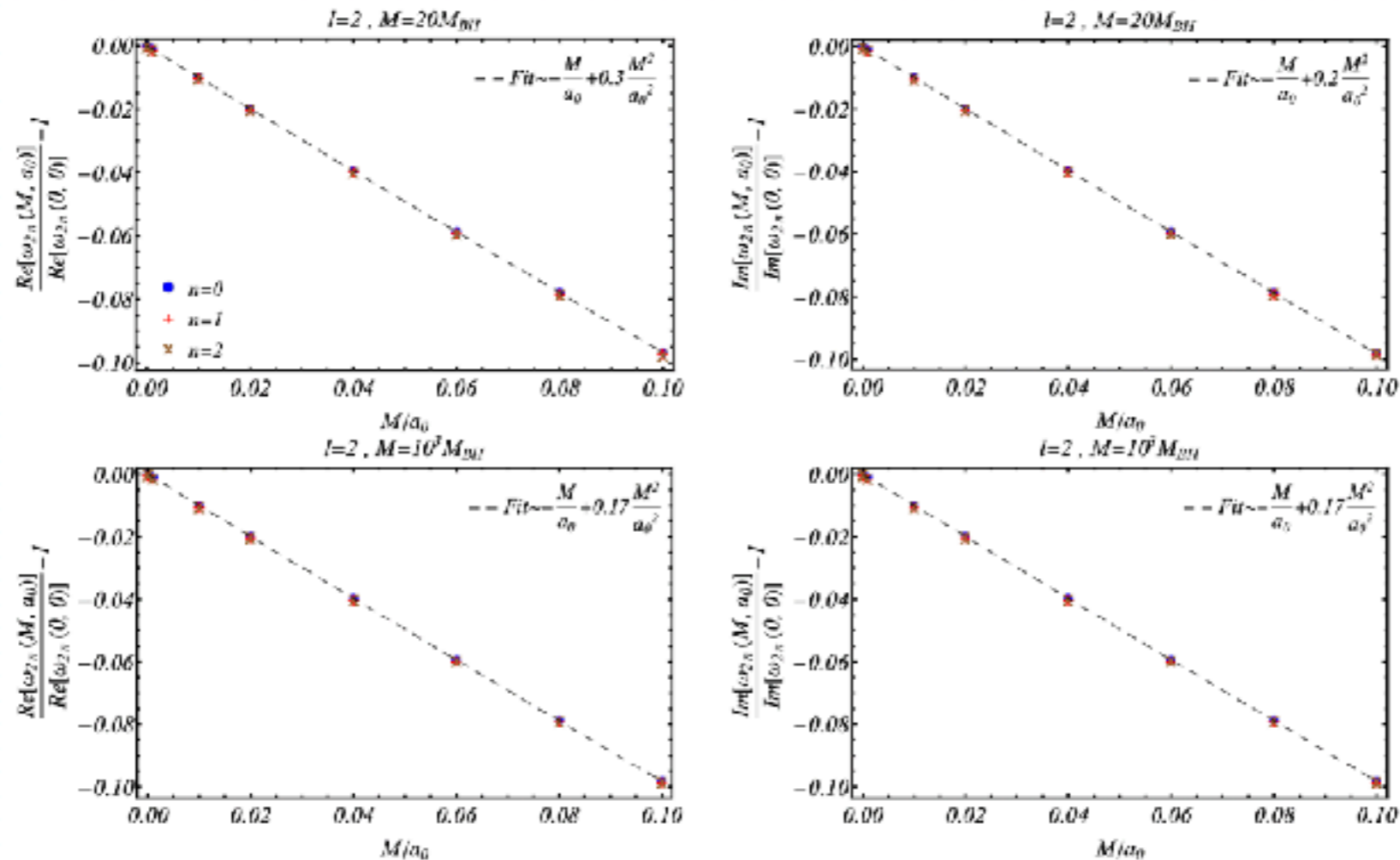
$$\frac{\Omega_{\text{LR}}}{\Omega_{\text{LR}}^{\text{vac}}} \simeq 1 - \frac{M}{a_0} - 0.17 \frac{M^2}{a_0}$$

$$\frac{\lambda}{\lambda^{\text{vac}}} \simeq 1 - \frac{M}{a_0} - 0.17 \frac{M^2}{a_0}$$



# Quasi Normal Modes

QNM behaviour as a function of the halo compactness



- The QNMs have a clear light-ring interpretation
- Linear and subdominant corrections agree with the analytic scaling of frequencies and damping times

# Wave equation (inhomogeneous)

EMRI evolution by solving the full inhomogeneous problem

$$\frac{d^2 \psi_{\ell m}}{dr_*^2} + [\omega^2 - V] \psi_{\ell m} = J_{\ell m}$$

- Solve for the homogeneous part with suitably boundary conditions



- Integrate over the source term for the full solution

$$\psi_{\ell m}^{\pm} \equiv \lim_{r_* \rightarrow \pm\infty} \psi_{\ell m}(r_*) = e^{\pm i\omega r_*} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\psi_{\ell m}^{(\mp)} J}{W} dr_*$$

- For circular orbits the integral greatly simplifies because of  $\delta(r - r_p)$