

# An EFT approach to black hole perturbations in scalar tensor theories

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*based on*

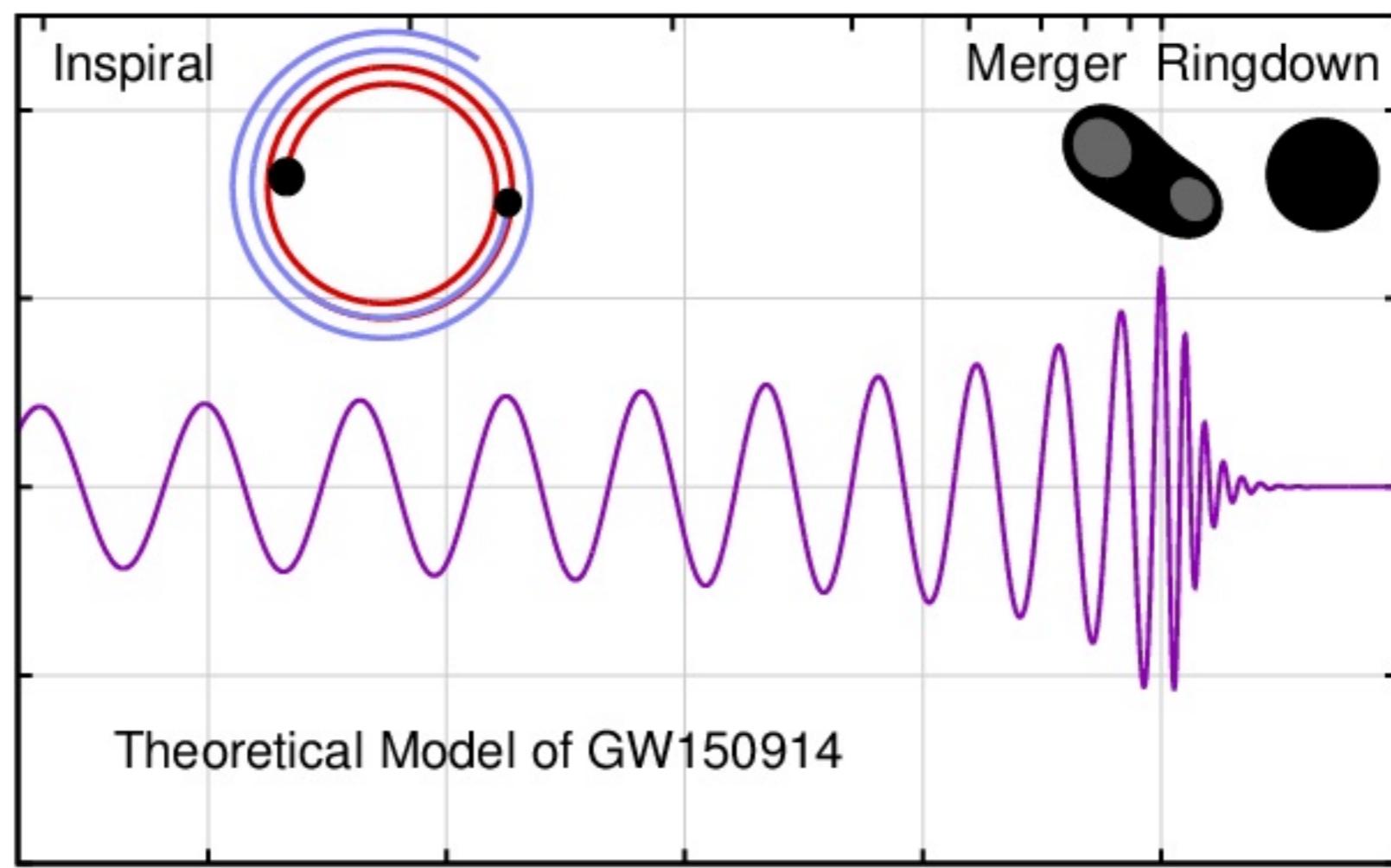
1708.09391 + work in progress

*in collaboration with*

G. Franciolini, L. Hui, L. Santoni, E. Trincherini

24th Rencontres Itzykson  
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**Question:** GW observations → model-independent constraints on new d.o.f's in the gravitational sector?



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Model-independent tests  
based on the ringdown?



# Why Ringdown?

**Theory:** usually studied on a model-by-model basis: a more systematic approach is needed.

**Experiment:** 3rd-gen & space-based detectors will enable "black hole spectroscopy".

**This talk:** EFT for ringdown of static, hairy black holes in scalar-tensor theories

# Schwarzschild Ringdown

- BH perturbation theory:  $g_{\mu\nu} = \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} + \Delta g_{\mu\nu}$
- Break  $\Delta g_{\mu\nu}$  into irreducible components:

FRW	$e^{i\mathbf{x}\cdot\mathbf{k}}$	scalars, vectors, tensors
Schwarzschild	$e^{-i\omega t}, Y_\ell^m(\theta, \phi)$	parity eigenstates

- Parity eigenstates:

$$\Delta g_{\mu\nu} = \begin{cases} 3 \text{ odd} & \rightarrow 1 \text{ d.o.f.} \\ 7 \text{ even} & \rightarrow 1 \text{ d.o.f.} \end{cases}$$

# Schwarzschild Ringdown

- Linearized equations reduce to:

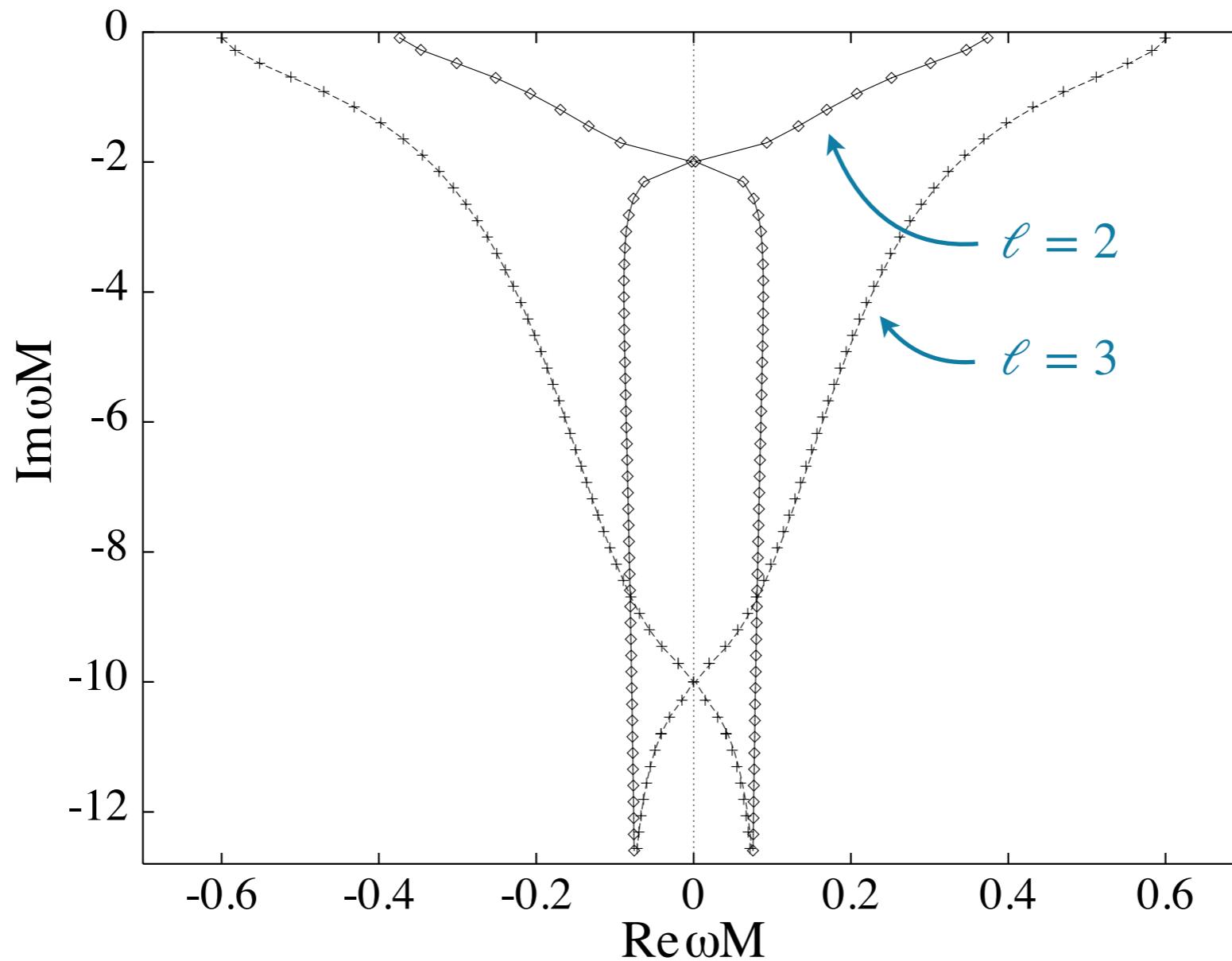
$$\left[ -\frac{d^2}{d\tilde{r}^2} + V_i(\tilde{r}) \right] \psi_i = \omega^2 \psi_i, \quad i = \text{even, odd}$$

- Out-going boundary conditions:

$$\psi_i \sim e^{-i\omega(t \mp \tilde{r})} \quad \text{for} \quad \tilde{r} \rightarrow \pm \infty$$

- Solutions exist for complex quasi-normal frequencies  $\omega_{n,\ell}$
- **Note:** “electric-magnetic duality”  $\longrightarrow$  isospectrality in d=4

# Schwarzschild Ringdown



Source: Kokkotas & Schmidt 99

# Modifications of QNM spectrum

## in scalar-tensor theories

1. New d.o.f.  $\longrightarrow$  new frequencies
2. GR frequencies are shifted
3. Isospectrality is broken
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**Require a scalar hair**

[ Ferreira, Lagos & Tattersall 17 ]

# More on Scalar Hair

- No-go theorems for static, asymptotically flat BHs are based on assumptions
- Scalar hair allowed theoretically:

$$\text{e.g. } L = \frac{M_p^2}{2}R - \frac{1}{2}(\partial\Phi)^2 - V(\Phi) + \Delta L$$

$$\Delta L = \begin{cases} \alpha \Phi \tilde{R}^{\mu\nu\lambda\rho} R_{\mu\nu\lambda\rho} & [\text{Alexander \& Yunes 07}] \\ \alpha \Phi (R^{\mu\nu\lambda\rho} R_{\mu\nu\lambda\rho} - 4R^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu} + R^2) & [\text{Sotiriou 15}] \end{cases}$$

- Let's test scalar hair!

# Effective action

- Blueprint: EFT of inflation / dark energy [ Cheung, Creminelli, Fitzpatrick,  
Kaplan & Senatore 08 ]  
[ Gubitosi, Vernizzi & Piazza 12 ]

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- Work in unitary gauge:  $\Delta\Phi \rightarrow \Delta\Phi - \xi^r \partial_r \bar{\Phi} \equiv 0$
- Effective action invariant under  $(t, \theta, \phi)$  – diffs :

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} L \left( g^{\mu\nu}, \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda\rho}, R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}, \nabla_\mu, g^{rr}, K_{\mu\nu}, r \right)$$

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- Expand building blocks around background:

$$\text{e.g. } g^{rr} = \bar{g}^{rr} + \delta g^{rr}, \quad K_{\mu\nu} = \bar{K}_{\mu\nu} + \delta K_{\mu\nu}, \quad \dots$$

# Effective action

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{M^2(r)}{2} R - f_1(r) - f_2(r) \delta g^{rr} - f_3(r) \bar{K}_{\mu\nu} \delta K^{\mu\nu} \right. \\ \left. + c_1(r) (\delta g^{rr})^2 + c_2(r) \delta g^{rr} \delta K + c_3(r) \bar{K}_{\mu\nu} \delta g^{rr} \delta K^{\mu\nu} \right. \\ \left. + (11 \text{ terms}) + \dots \right]$$

# Effective action

Removable with  
conformal transformation

Fixed by the  
background metric

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# Effective action → QNMs

- In principle:

Finite # of terms in the effective action for perturbations



Schrödinger-like equation for even/odd modes

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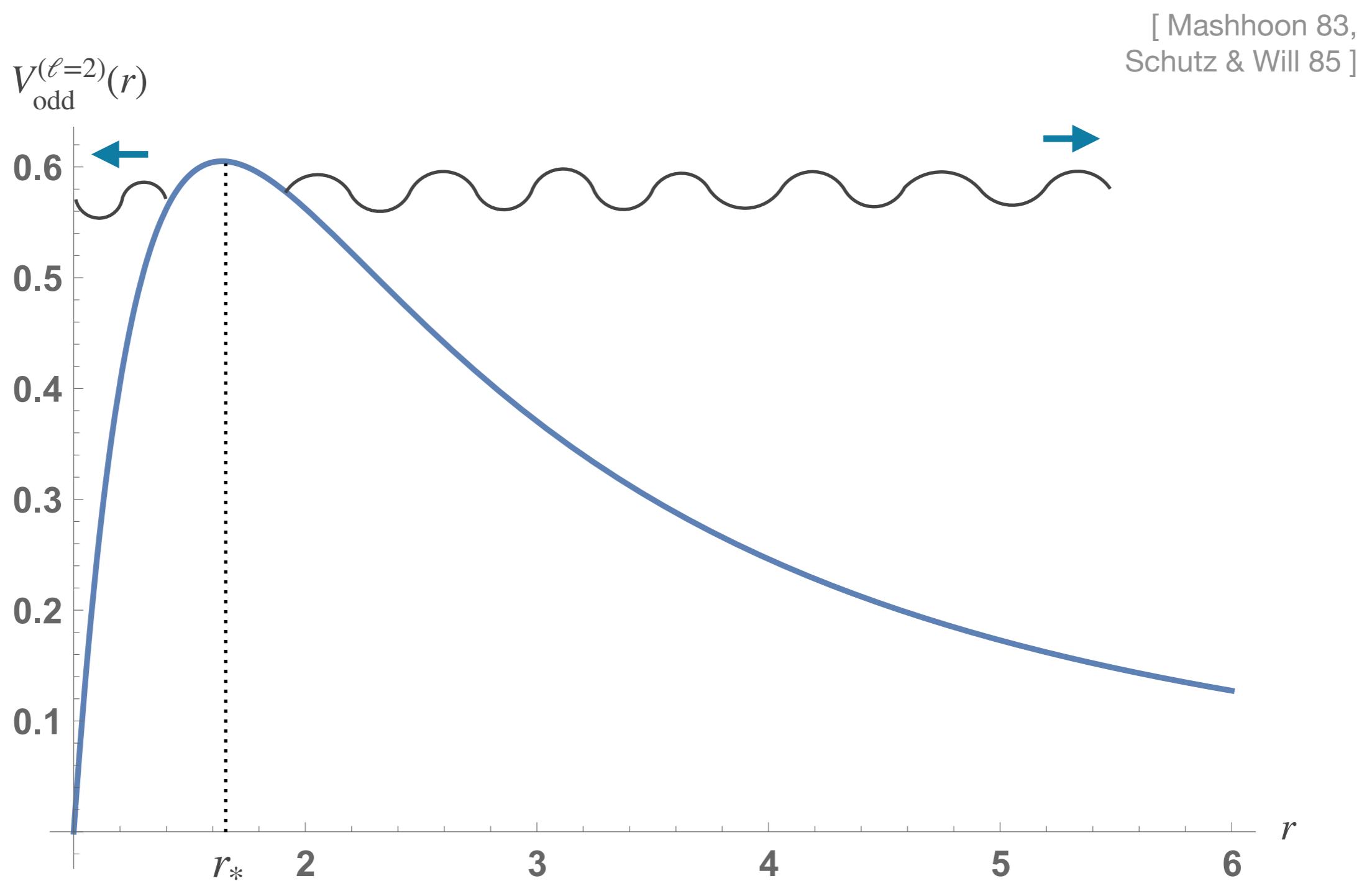
- In practice:

EFT coefficients are arbitrary functions of  $r$



Arbitrary QNM potentials

# WKB approximation



# WKB approximation

- Lowest order WKB approximation:

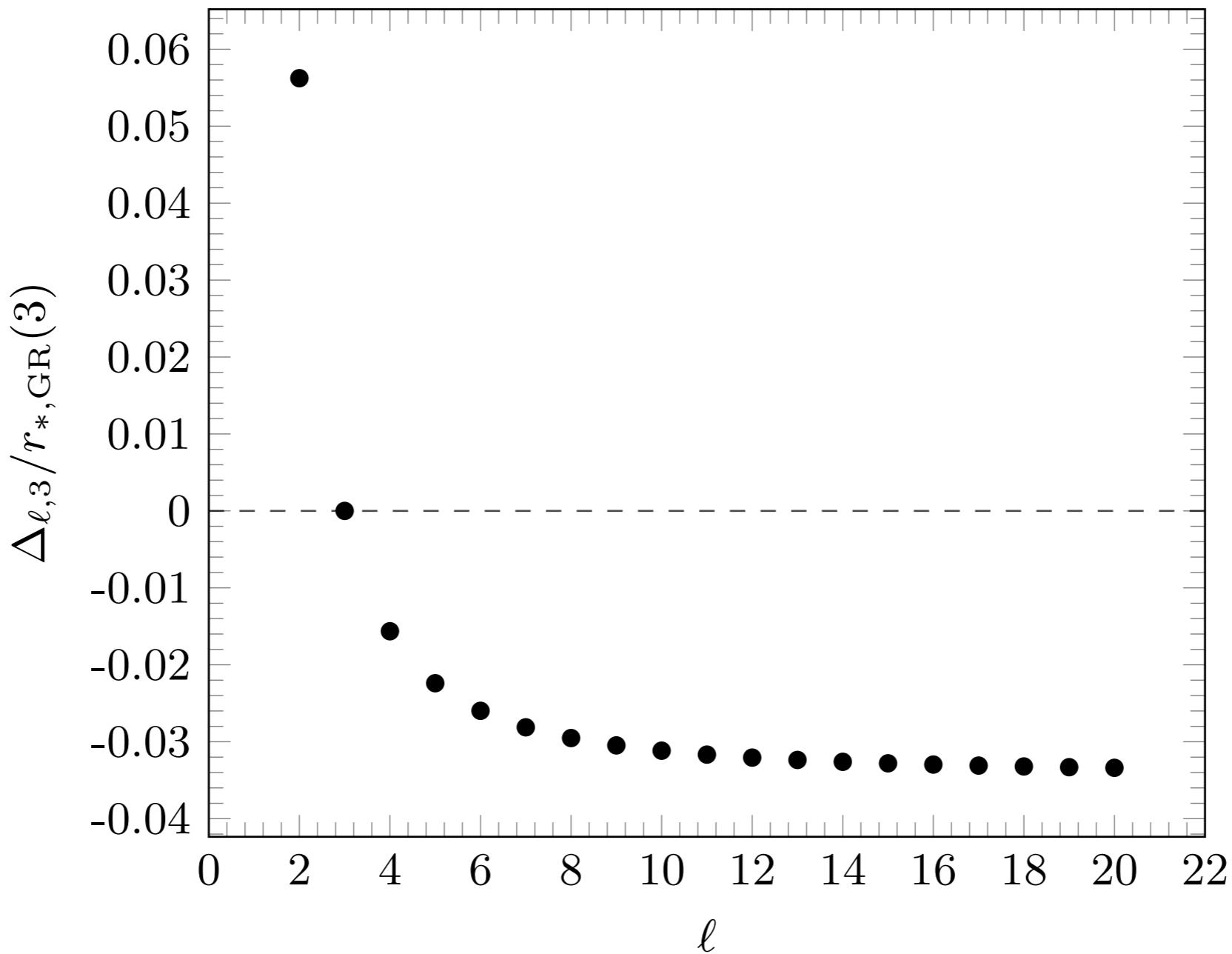
[ Mashhoon 83,  
Schutz & Will 85 ]

$$\left. \frac{\omega^2 - V_\ell}{\sqrt{-2 \partial_{\tilde{r}}^2 V_\ell}} \right|_{r=r_*(\ell)} \simeq -i(n + 1/2) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \omega_{n,\ell}$$

- Schwarzschild: 3% accuracy on  $\text{Re}[\omega_{0,3}]$ , 0.5% on  $\text{Im}[\omega_{0,3}]$
- Accuracy improves (worsens) for higher  $\ell$  ( $n$ )
- Can be extended to higher orders

[ Iyer & Will 87 ]

# Light-ring Expansion



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- Quasi-Schwarzschild approximation: the position of the light ring is close to its GR value

$$r_*(\ell) = r_{*,GR}(\ell) + \delta r_*(\ell), \quad \text{with} \quad \delta r_* \ll r_{*,GR}$$

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- Lowest order:  $r_*(\ell) \simeq \text{constant} \rightarrow$  all EFT coefficients evaluated at same point, become parameters
- Higher order: express  $\delta r_*(\ell)$  in terms of derivatives of  $V$ :

$$\frac{dV_\ell}{dr} \Bigg|_{r_* = r_{*,GR}(3) + \Delta_{\ell,3} + \delta r_*} = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \Delta_{\ell,3} + \delta r_* \simeq - \frac{\partial_r V_\ell}{\partial_r^2 V_\ell} \Bigg|_{r=r_{*,GR}(3)}$$

# Hairy BHs vs Inflation

Inflation	QNMs of Hairy BHs
scalar=“clock”	scalar=“hair”
quasi-deSitter	quasi-Schwarzschild
Slow-roll expansion	Light-ring expansion
Derivatives of inflation potential	Derivatives of QNM potential
horizon-crossing: $k/a(t_*) = H(t_*)$	maximum of potential: $r_*(\ell)$
EFT of inflation	Our EFT

# Odd Sector

- Effective action at lowest order in derivatives:

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{M_p^2}{2} R - f_1(r) - f_2(r) \delta g^{rr} \right]$$

- Background metric:

$$d\bar{s}^2 = -a(r)^2 dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{b(r)^2} + r^2 d\Omega^2$$

- EFT coefficients:

$$f_1(r) = \frac{M_p^2(1 - b^2 - 2rb^2)}{r^2}, \quad f_2(r) = \frac{M_p^2}{r} \left( \frac{a'}{a} - \frac{b'}{b} \right)$$

# Odd Sector

- Linearized equations  $\rightarrow$  Schrödinger-like equation

$$\left[ -\frac{d^2}{d\tilde{r}^2} + V \right] \psi = \omega^2 \psi$$

w/  $V = \frac{a^2 b^2}{r} \left[ \frac{a'}{a} + \frac{b'}{b} - \frac{2}{r} - \frac{(\ell - 1)(\ell + 2)}{rb^2} \right], \quad \frac{d\tilde{r}}{dr} = \frac{1}{ab}$

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- Lowest order WKB formula + light ring expansion:

$$\omega_{n,\ell} = F(n, \ell, a_*, a'_*, b_*, b'_*, b''_*, b_*^{(3)}, b_*^{(4)})$$

- 3rd-Gen + LISA:  $\omega_{0,\ell}$  potentially up to  $\ell \sim 7$  [ Baibhav & Berti 18 ]

# Conclusions

- Introduced EFT for QNMs of BHs with scalar hair
- Model-indep. parametrization of deviations from QNMs of GR
- Close analogy between inflation and QNMs of hairy BH
- Formal applications, e.g. wormhole stability [Franciolini, Hui, Penco, Santoni & Trincherini, 18]

- Next steps:

Extend to spinning solutions

Include matter couplings

Reconsider no-hair theorems

EFT of multi-field inflation [Senatore & Zaldarriaga, 10]  
EFT of dark energy [Gubitosi, Piazza & Vernizzi, 12]

Thank you.

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