

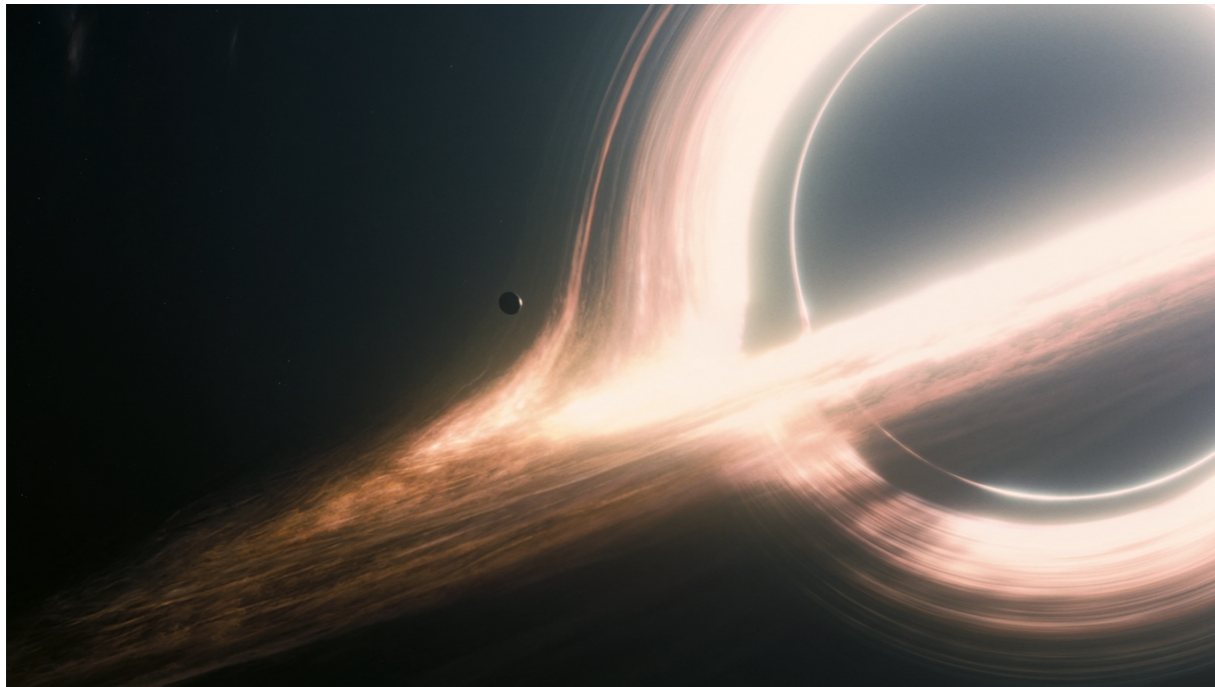
Inspiral into Gargantua

Niels Warburton
Sam Gralla
Scott Hughes

Marc Casals
Chris Kavanagh
Adrian Ottewill
Barry Wardell



Gargantua?



For ‘Interstellar’ Thorne estimates the black hole (Gargantua) must be spinning at

$$a/M \simeq 1 - 10^{-14}$$

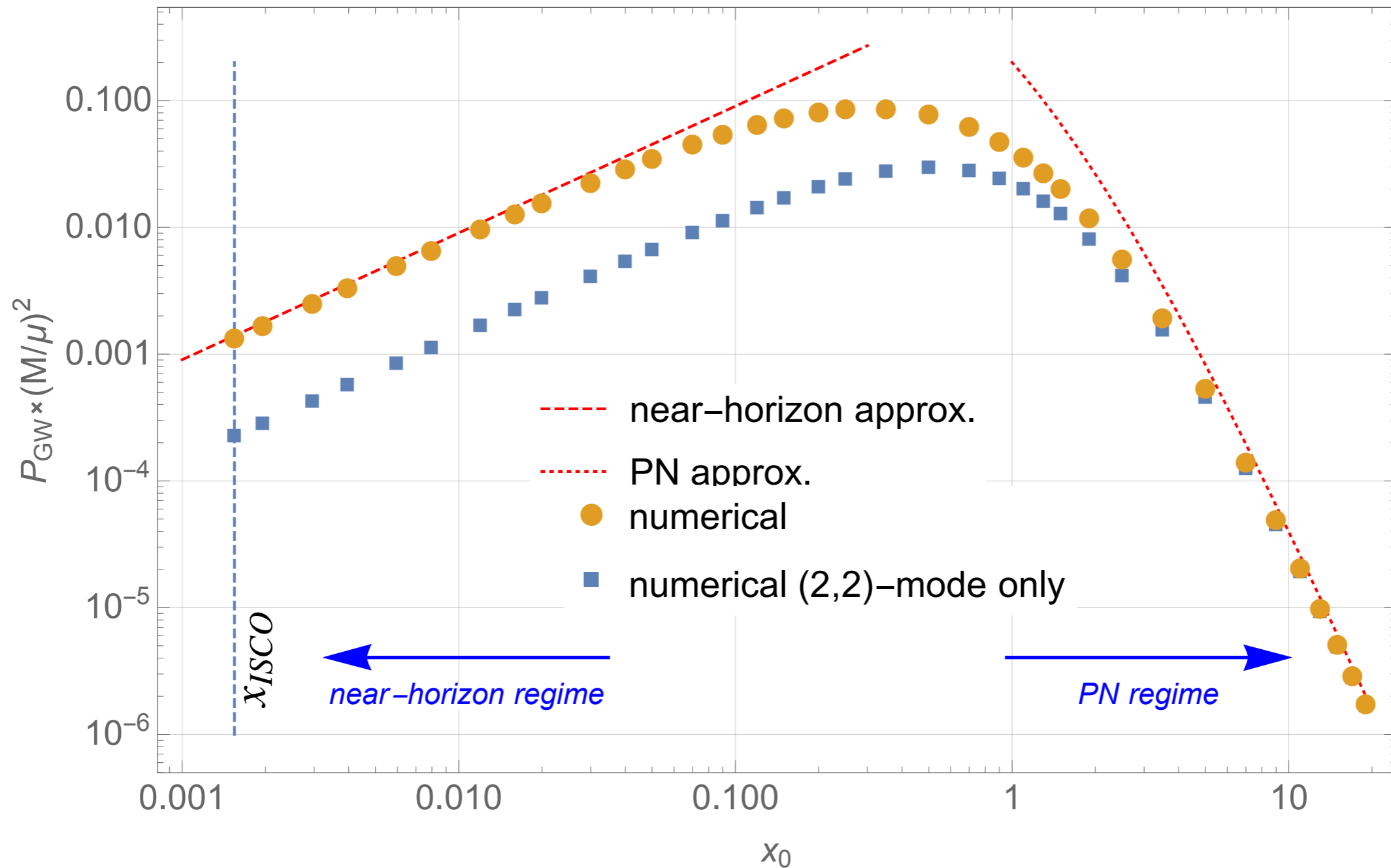
This talk: Gravitational wave emission from an inspiral into a near-extremal Kerr (NEK) black hole. $\text{NEK} \implies a/M \gtrsim 0.9999$

Useful notation:

$$x = \frac{r - r_+}{r_+}$$

$$\epsilon = \sqrt{1 - a^2/M^2}$$

Anatomy of a NEK inspiral



Flux **decreases** as horizon is approached
New analytic flux approximation

Derivation of main result

$$E = \frac{\mu}{\sqrt{3}} \left[1 + \frac{2x_0}{3} \left(1 - \frac{2\epsilon^2}{x_0^3} \right) \right] \quad \text{Energy of a particle on a circular equatorial orbit}$$

$$P_{\text{GW}} = (C_\infty + C_H)x_0 \quad \text{Gralla, Porfyriadis, Warburton, Phys. Rev. D 92, 064029, arXiv:1506.0896}$$

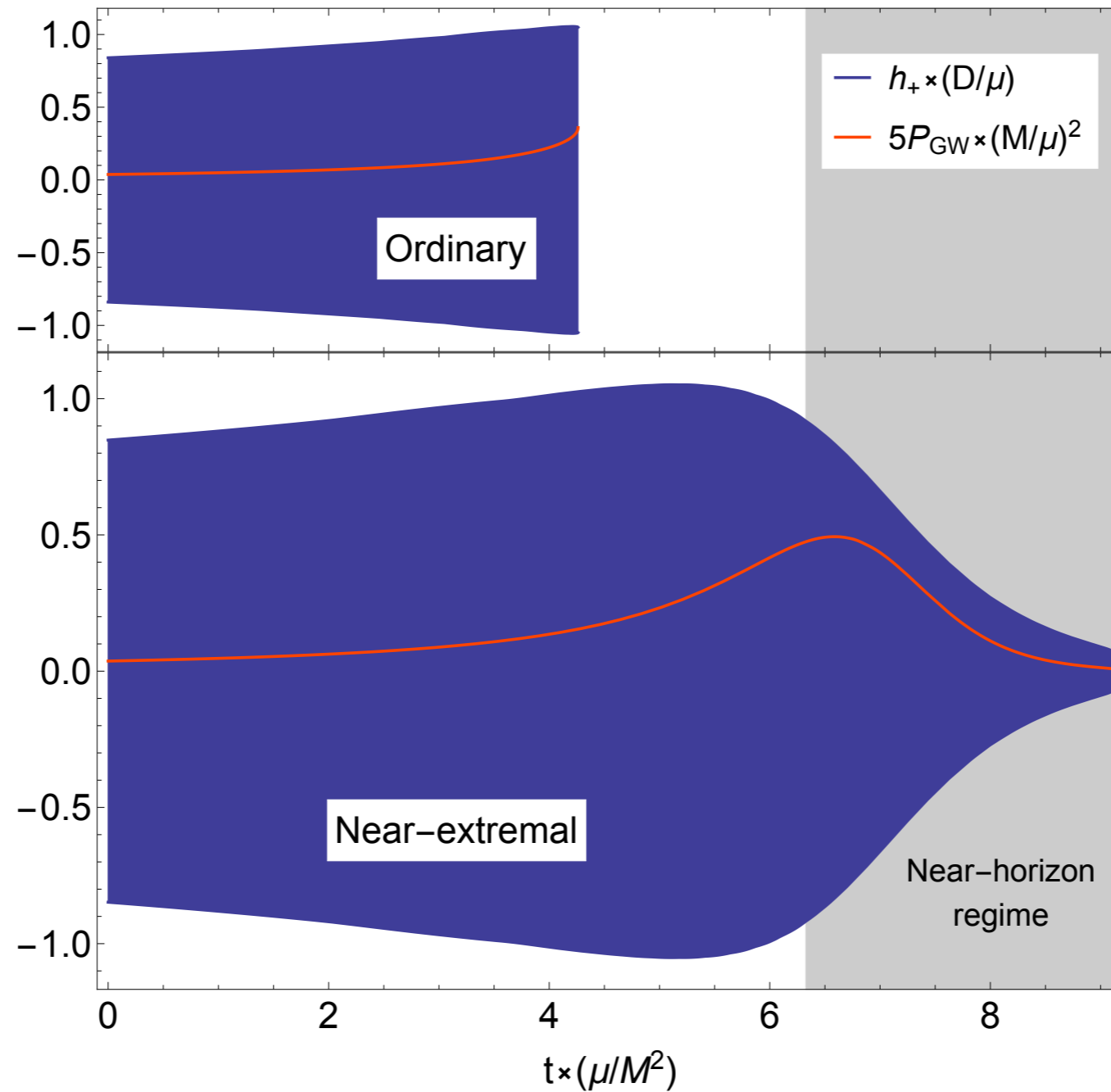
$$\left(\frac{dE}{dx_0} \right)^{-1} \frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{dx_0}{dt} = -\frac{x_0}{\tau} \left(\frac{1}{1 - 2\epsilon^2/x_0^3} \right) \quad \tau = 0.451\mu(M/\mu)^2$$

$$x_0(t) = X_0 e^{-t/\tau} \implies P_{\text{detector}} \sim e^{-t/\tau}$$

Similarly:

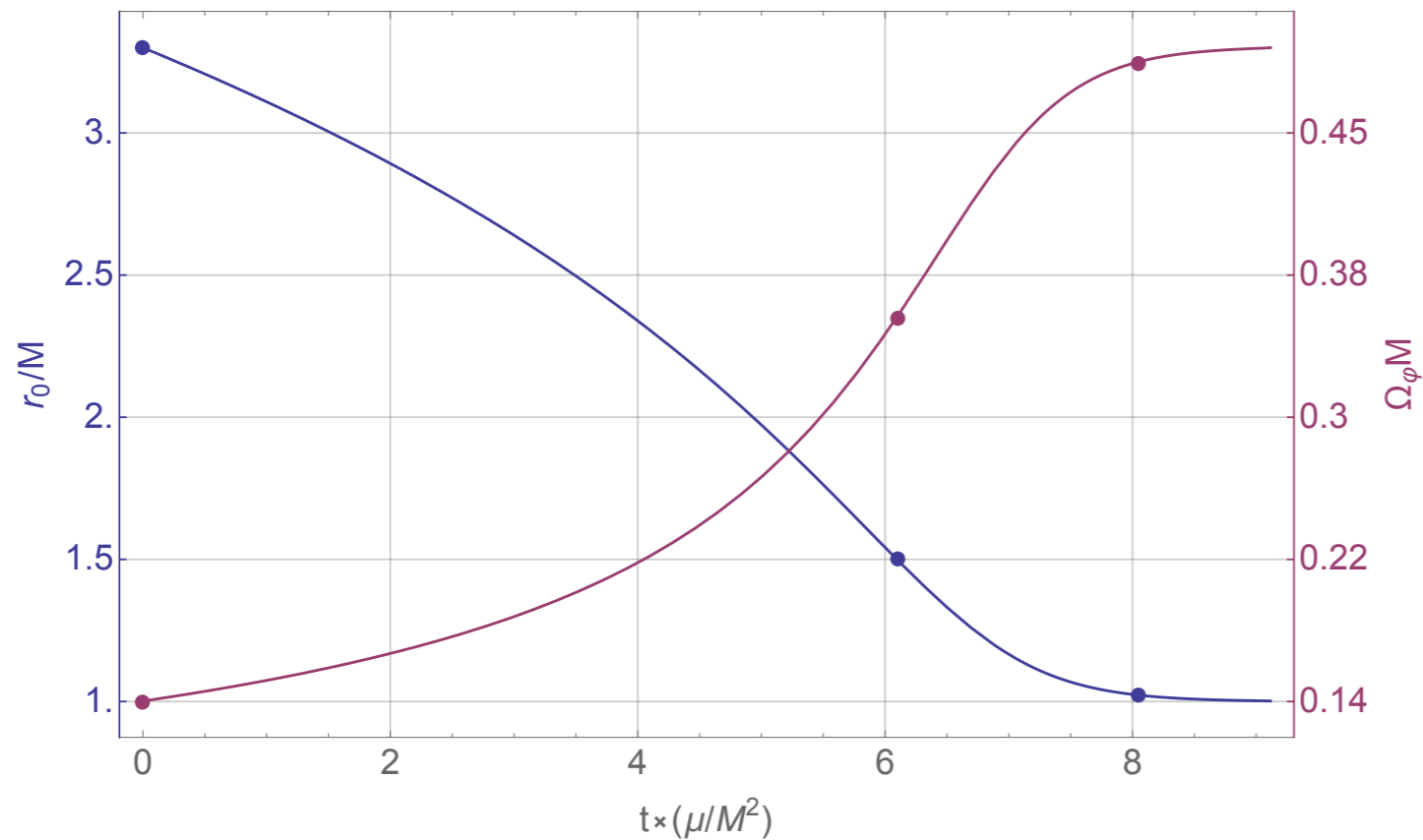
$$f_{\text{detector}} \sim 2 \times \Omega_H / 2\pi = \frac{1}{2\pi M}$$

Results: circular, equatorial



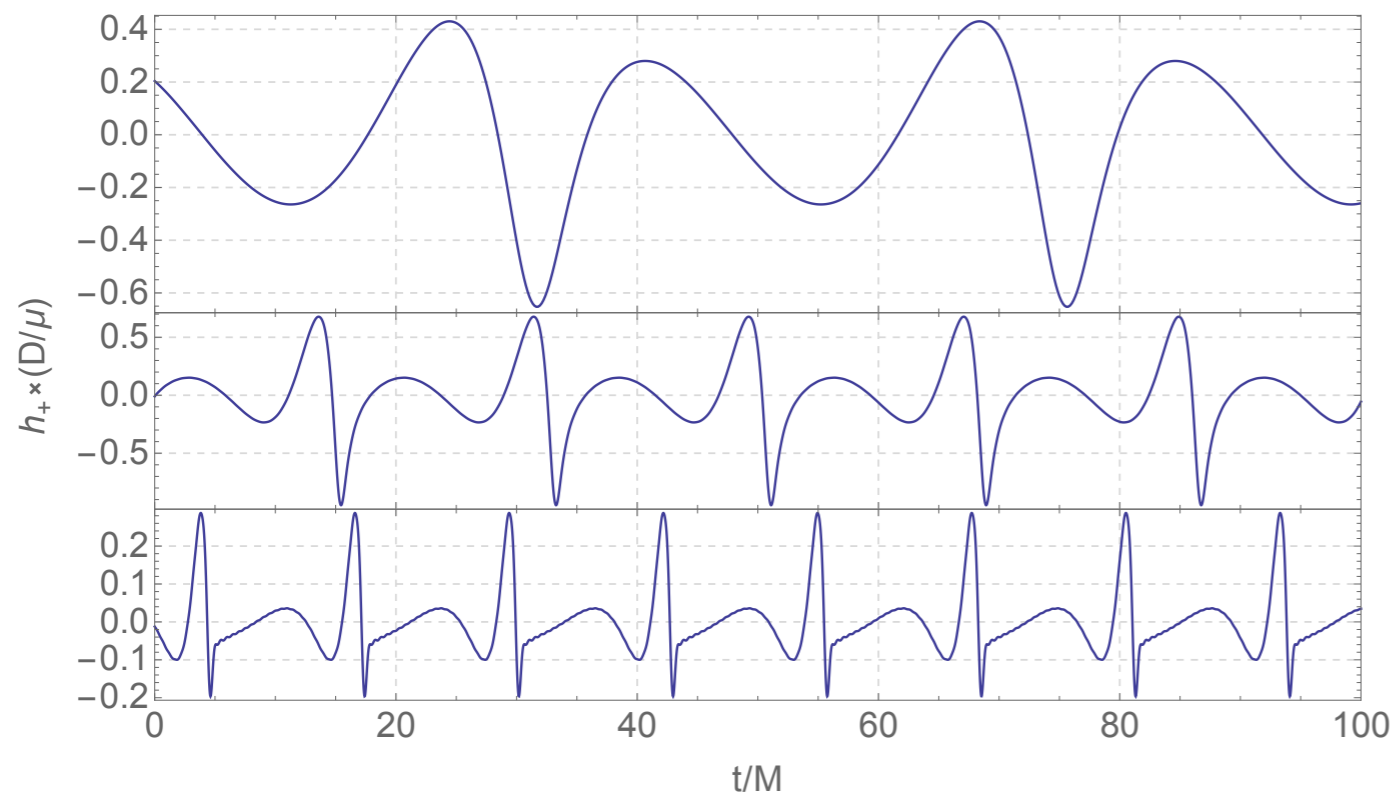
There is no chirp

Results: circular, equatorial inspiral



Orbital radius decays slowly near the horizon

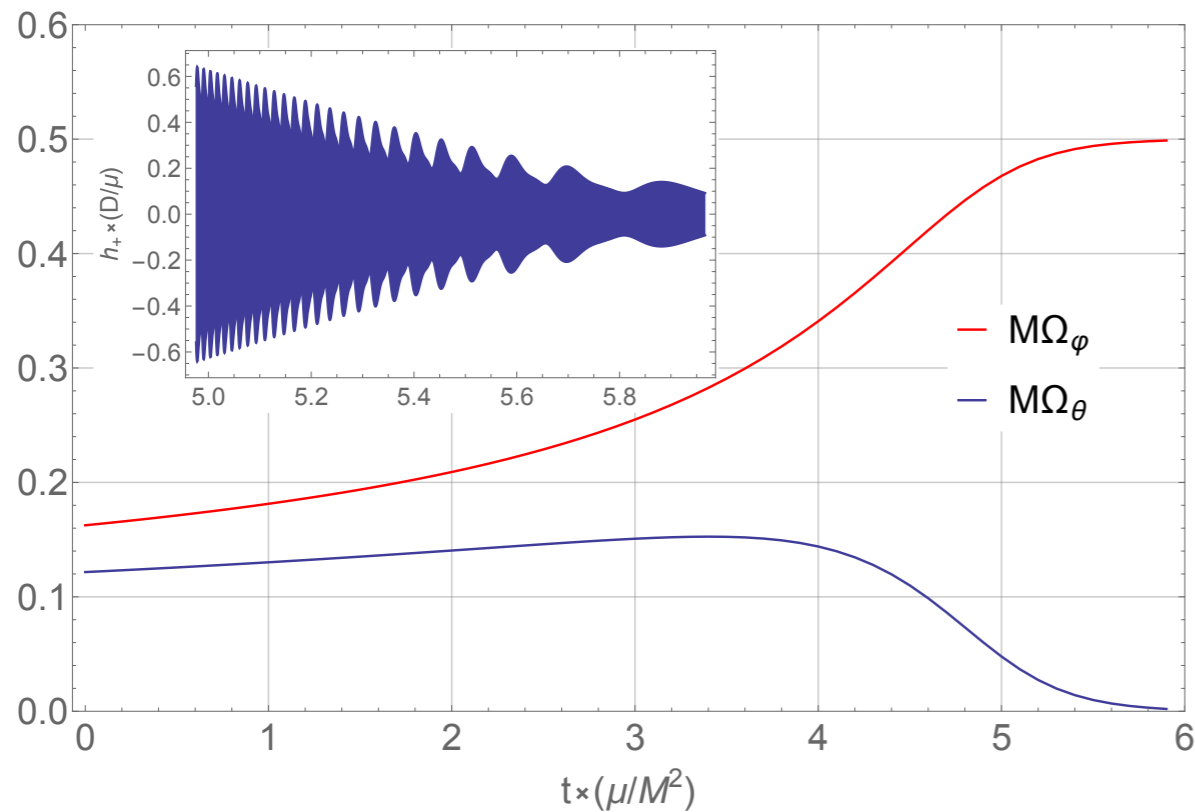
Orbital frequency saturates at the horizon frequency



Strong relativistic beaming in the near-horizon regime

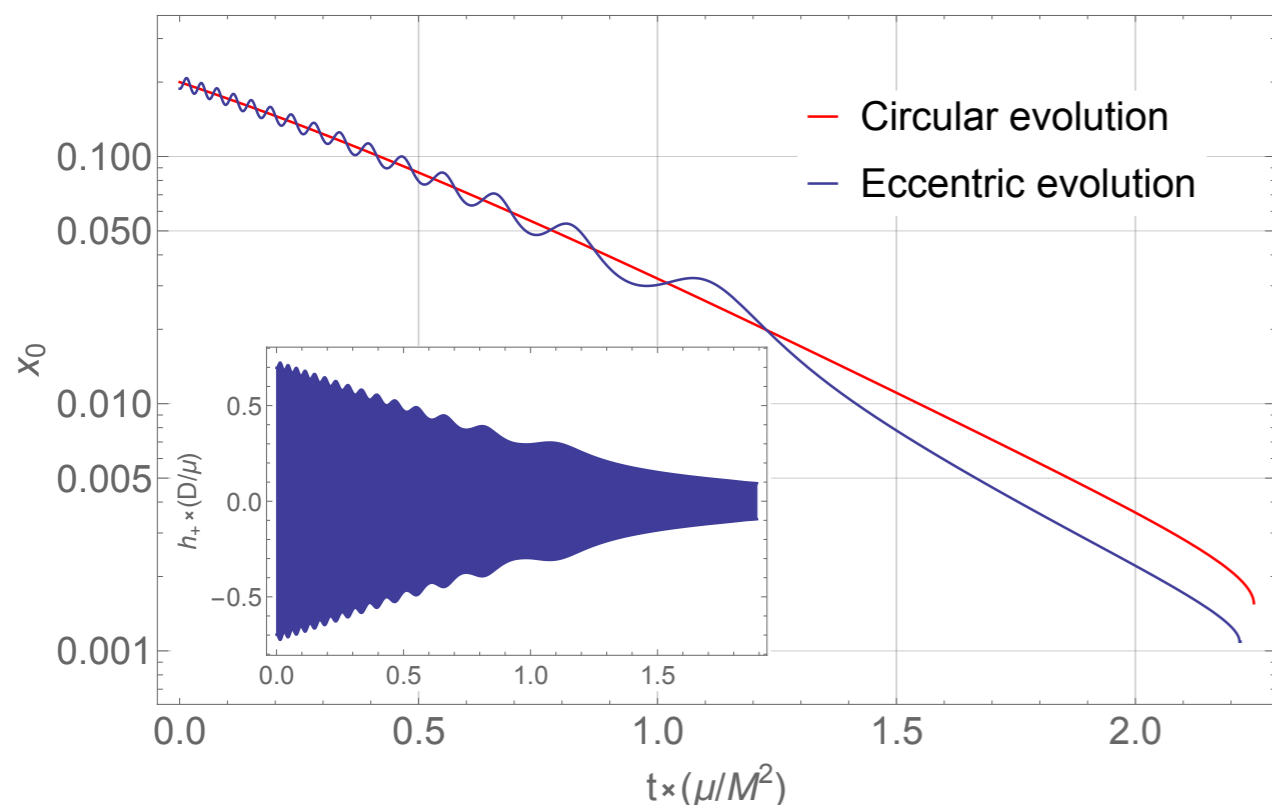
Results: spherical and eccentric, equatorial inspirals

Spherical



- Azimuthal frequency saturates at horizon frequency. Polar frequency tends to zero
- Waveform: exp. decay modulated with polar libration frequency

Eccentric, equatorial



- Considered low eccentricity inspirals ($e \sim 0.01$)
- Waveform: exp. decay modulated with radial libration frequency

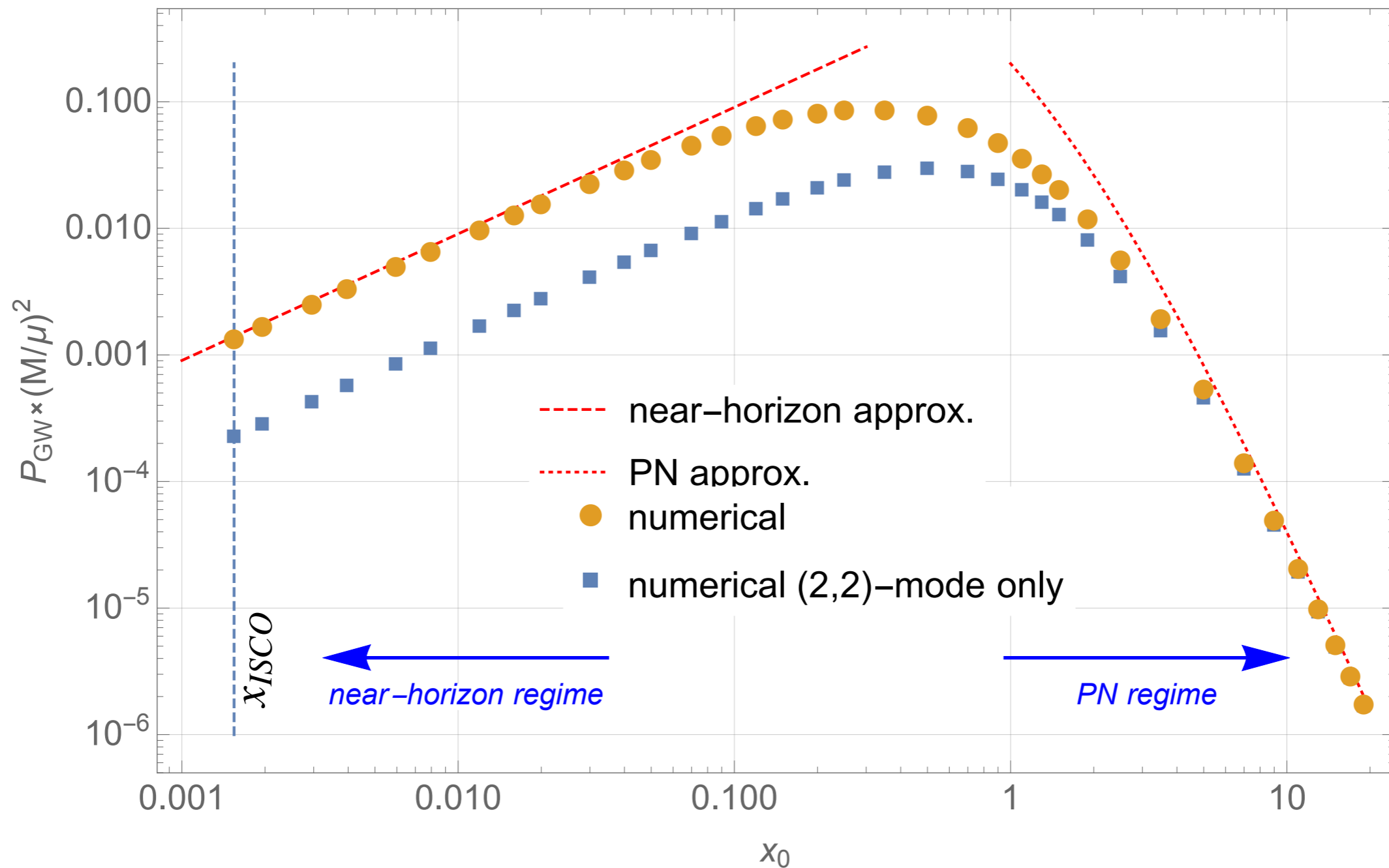
Extra details in the paper

- detectability with eLISA and ground-base detectors
- enough room for extended body near the horizon?
- when is the evolution adiabatic?
- zoom-whirl orbits can have ‘inverted’ behaviour
- confusion with quasi-normal mode ringing?

Extra details not in the paper

Shift in the ISCO location due to the smaller body...

The ISCO gives access to the near-horizon region



Near horizon flux not sensitive to ε .
The location of the ISCO more important.

ISCO shift in Kerr spacetime

Isoyama+, PRL 113, 161101 (2014)

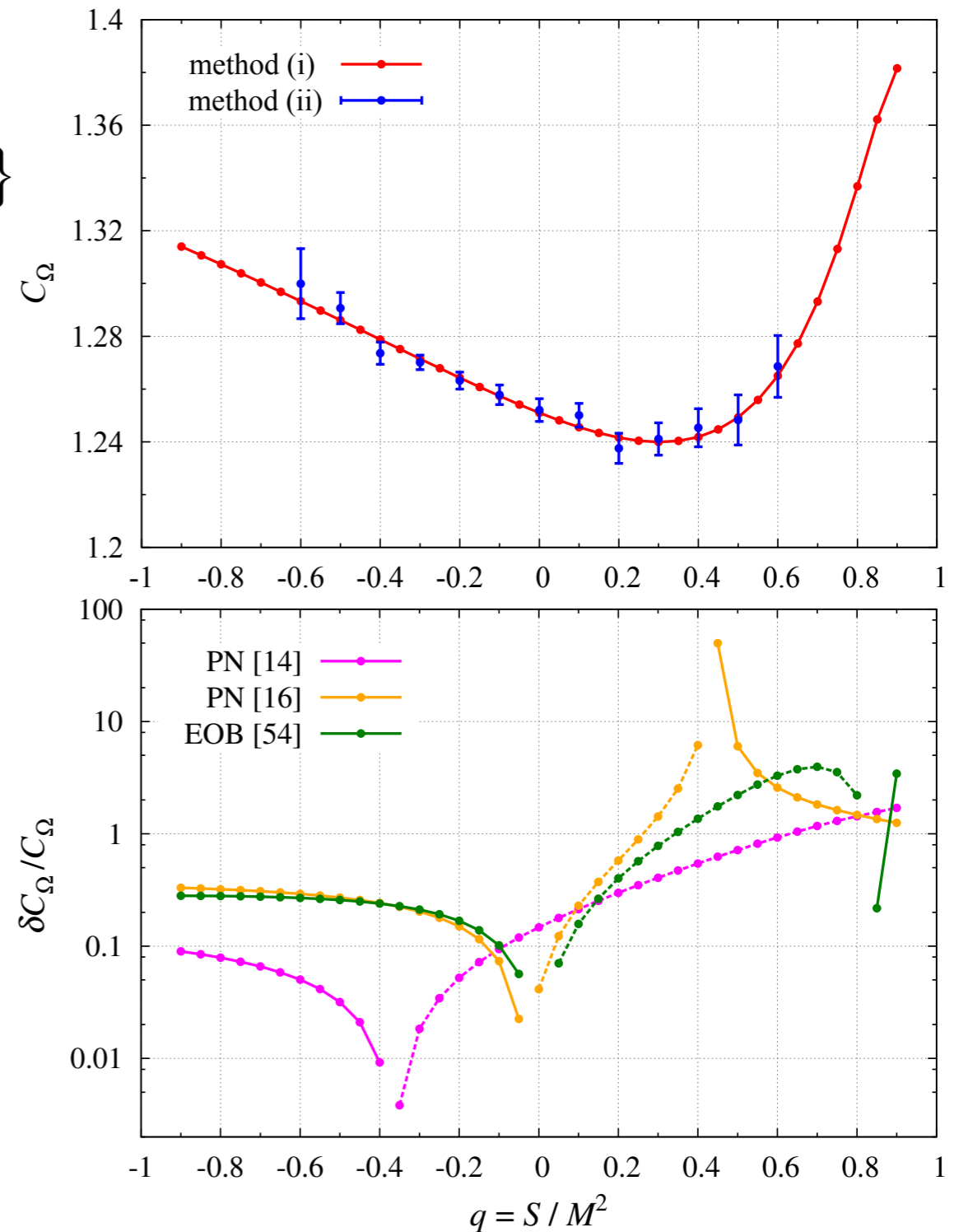
$$(M + \mu) \Omega_{\text{isco}} = M \Omega_{\text{isco}}^{(0)}(q) \{1 + \eta C_{\Omega}(q) + \mathcal{O}(\eta^2)\}$$

C_{Ω} can be calculated from the redshift invariant computed for a sequence of **circular orbits**

$$\begin{aligned} z &\equiv 1/u^t \\ &= z_{(0)} + \eta z_{(1)} + \mathcal{O}(\eta)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$z_{(1)} = z_{(0)} H, \quad \text{where } H = \frac{1}{2} h_{\alpha\beta}^R u^{\alpha} u^{\beta}$$

$$C_{\Omega} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{z_{(1)}''(\Omega_{\text{isco}}^{(0)})}{\Omega_{\text{isco}}^{(0)} z_{(0)}'''(\Omega_{\text{isco}}^{(0)})}$$



Calculation of H via radiation gauge



Code to calculate ψ_4 in the near horizon regime



Code to calculate H from ψ_0

$$\psi_4 = \frac{1}{(r - ia \cos(\theta))^4} \sum_{lm\omega} {}_{-2}R_{lm} {}_{-2}S_{lm}^{a\omega}(\theta) e^{im\varphi} e^{-i\omega t}$$
$$\psi_0 = \sum_{lm\omega} {}_2R_{lm} {}_2S_{lm}^{a\omega}(\theta) e^{im\varphi} e^{-i\omega t}$$

Calculation of H via radiation gauge

$${}_{-2}R_{lm} = Z_- {}_{-2}\tilde{R}_{lm}^- \Theta(r_0 - r) + Z_+ {}_{-2}\tilde{R}_{lm}^+ \Theta(r - r_0)$$

$${}_2R_{lm} = Y_- {}_{-2}\tilde{R}_{lm}^- \Theta(r_0 - r) + Y_+ {}_2\tilde{R}_{lm}^+ \Theta(r - r_0)$$

$$Y_+ = \frac{\bar{C}}{4\omega^4} Z_+$$

$$Y_- = 64(2Mr_+)^4 ik(k^2 + 4\epsilon^2)(4\epsilon - ik)C^{-1} Z_-$$

Using Teukolsky-Starobinsky identities

$${}_{-2}\tilde{R}_{lm} \leftrightarrow {}_2\tilde{R}_{lm}$$

$$\epsilon = \frac{\sqrt{M^2 - a^2}}{4Mr_+}$$

$$C = \sqrt{|C|^2 - (12M\omega)^2} + i12M\omega(-1)^{l+m}$$

This term was missing from
Press and Teukolsky 1974

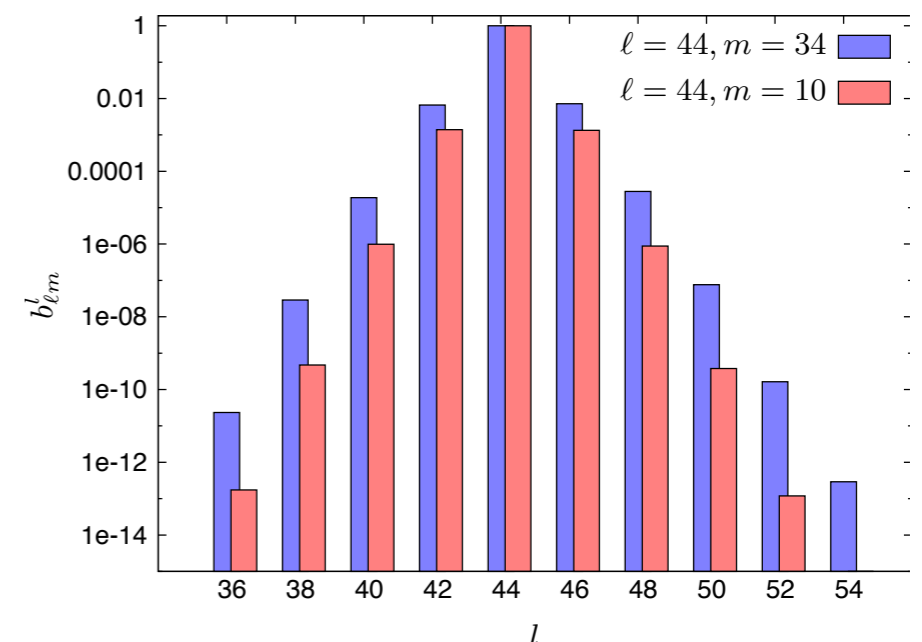
Regularize spheroidal-harmonic modes directly

$$H^R = \sum_l (H_l^{\text{ret}} - B_H) S_{lm}(\theta) e^{im\phi} = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} b_{lm}^\ell Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi)$$

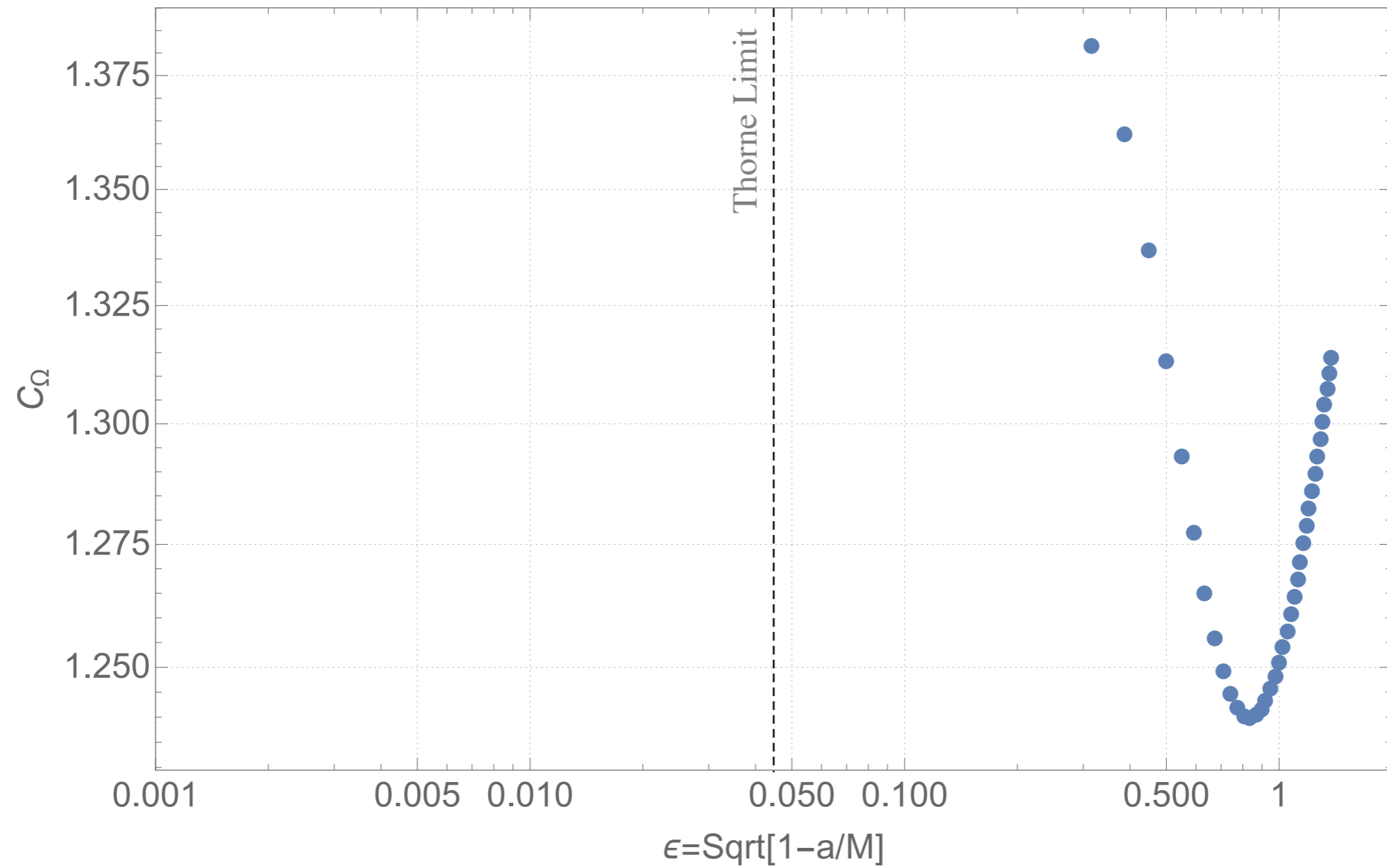
Old way: reg. spherical-harmonic modes

New way: reg. spheroidal-harmonic modes

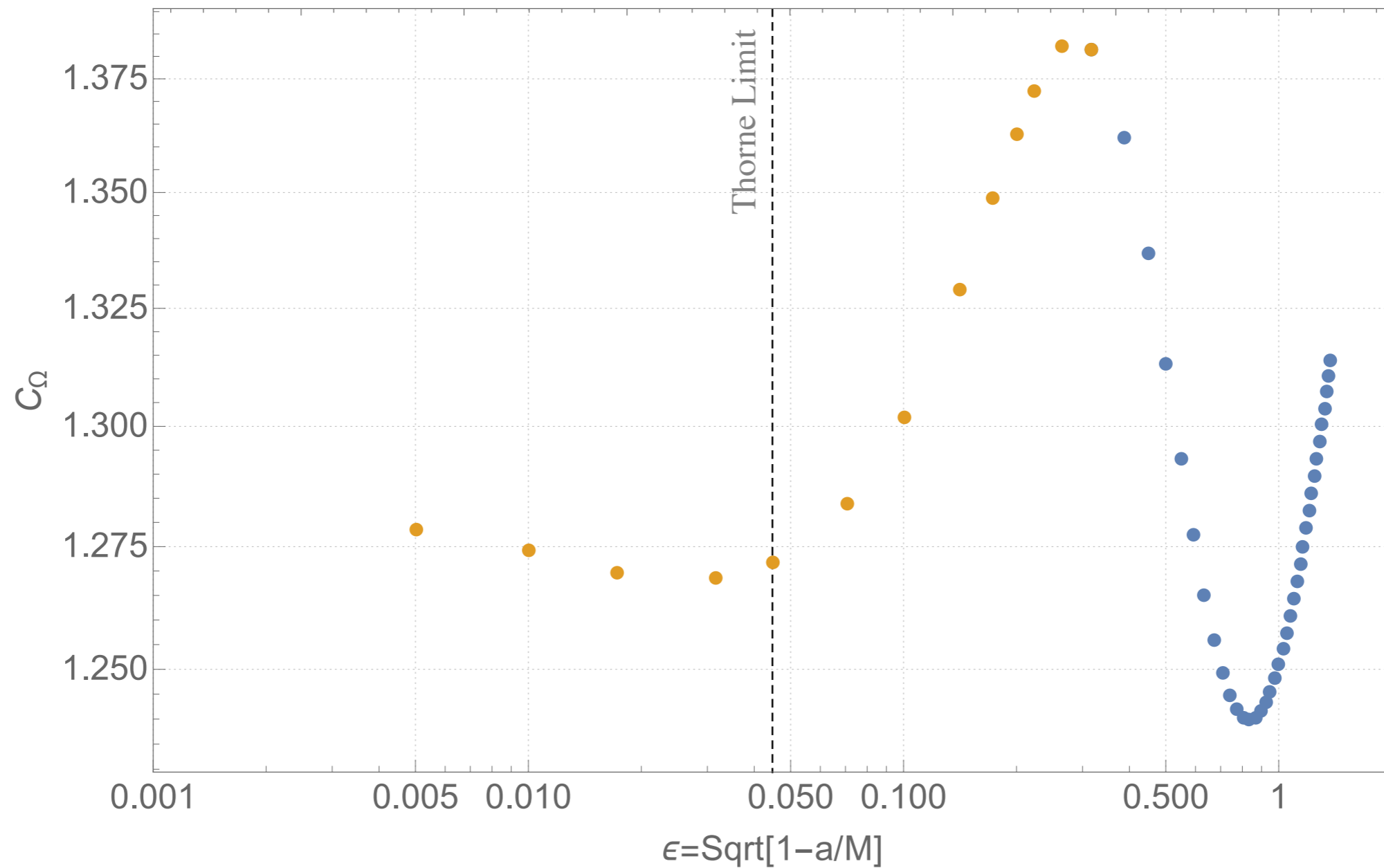
For more details see
Kavanagh's talk on Thursday



Near-extremal Kerr ISCO shift



Near-extremal Kerr ISCO shift



Can we say anything about the extremal limit?

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Maybe...

$$C_{\Omega} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{z''_{(1)}(\Omega_{\text{isco}}^{(0)})}{\Omega_{\text{isco}}^{(0)} z'''_{(0)}(\Omega_{\text{isco}}^{(0)})} \quad z'''_{(0)}(\Omega_{\text{isco}}^{(0)}) \sim \epsilon^{-2/3}$$

For $z''_{(1)}(\Omega_{\text{isco}}^{(0)})$ take inspiration from Colleoni+ (arXiv:1508.04031)

and split result into completion piece $z''_{(1)}^{\text{compl}}(\Omega_{\text{isco}}^{(0)}) \sim \epsilon^{-2/3}$

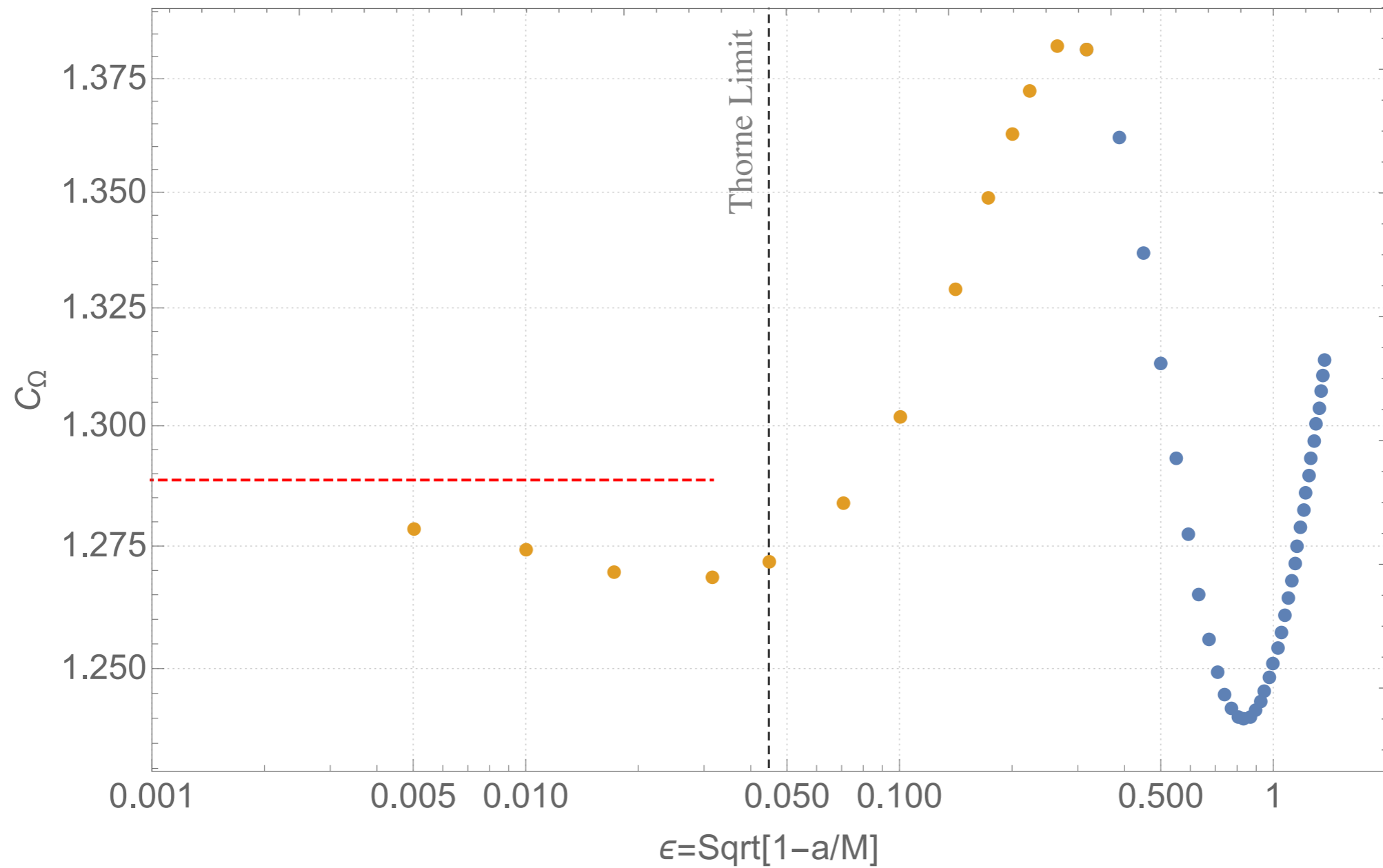
singular piece $z''_{(1)}^{\text{S}}(\Omega_{\text{isco}}^{(0)}) \sim \text{const}$

reconstruction piece

Preliminary numerical results suggest that $z''_{(1)}^{\text{recons}}(\Omega_{\text{isco}}^{(0)})$

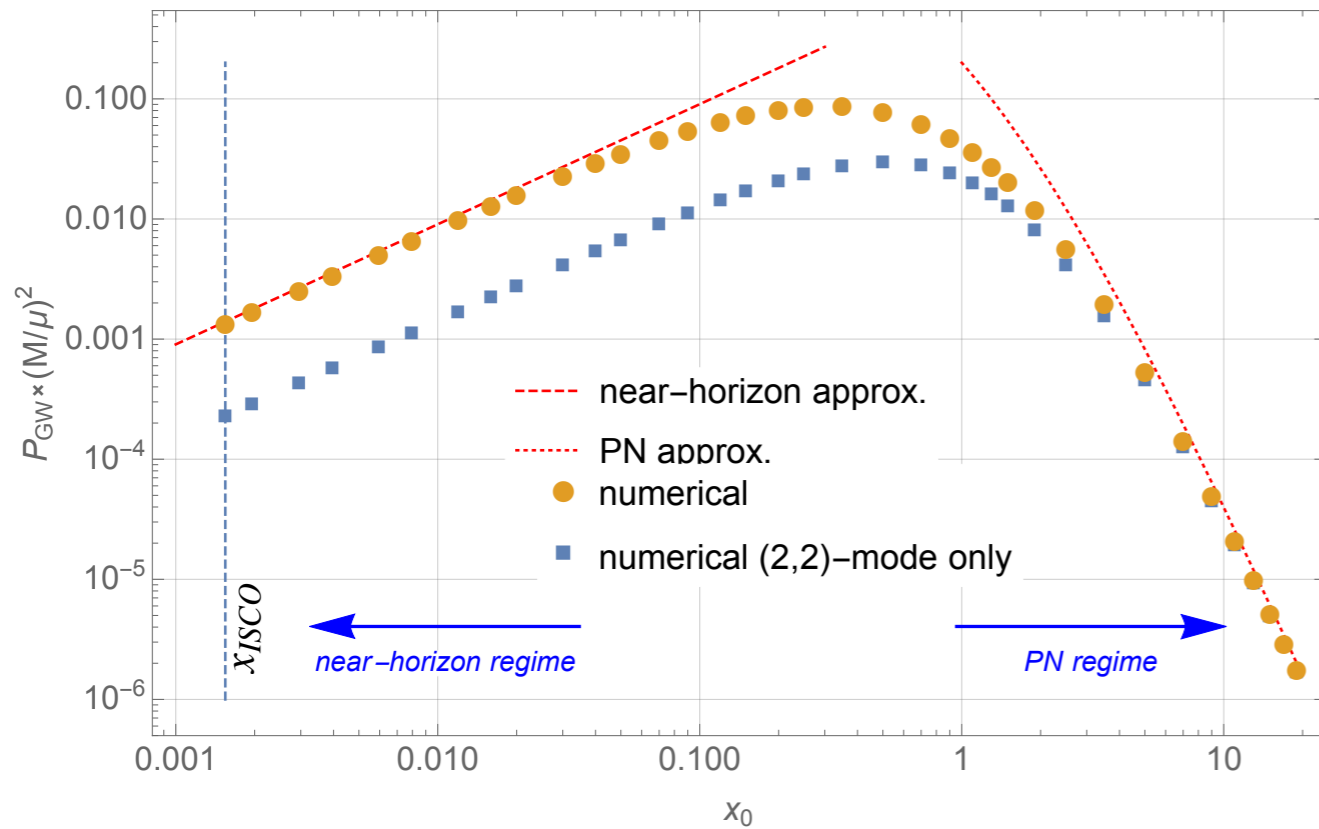
is finite, or at least doesn't diverge as fast as $\epsilon^{-2/3}$

Near-extremal Kerr ISCO shift

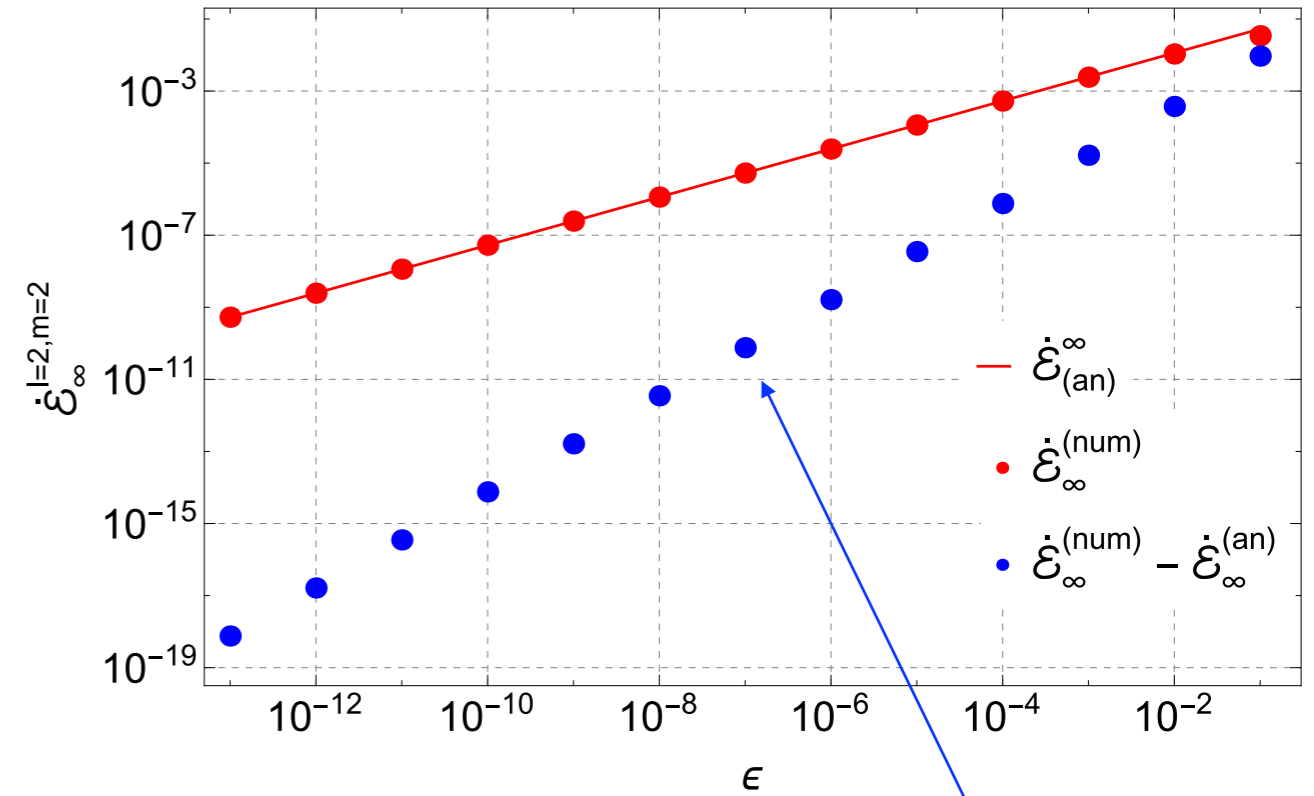


$$C_\Omega(\epsilon = 0) = 1 + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}$$

Future directions



Gralla, Porfyriadis, NW, Phys. Rev. D 92, 064029



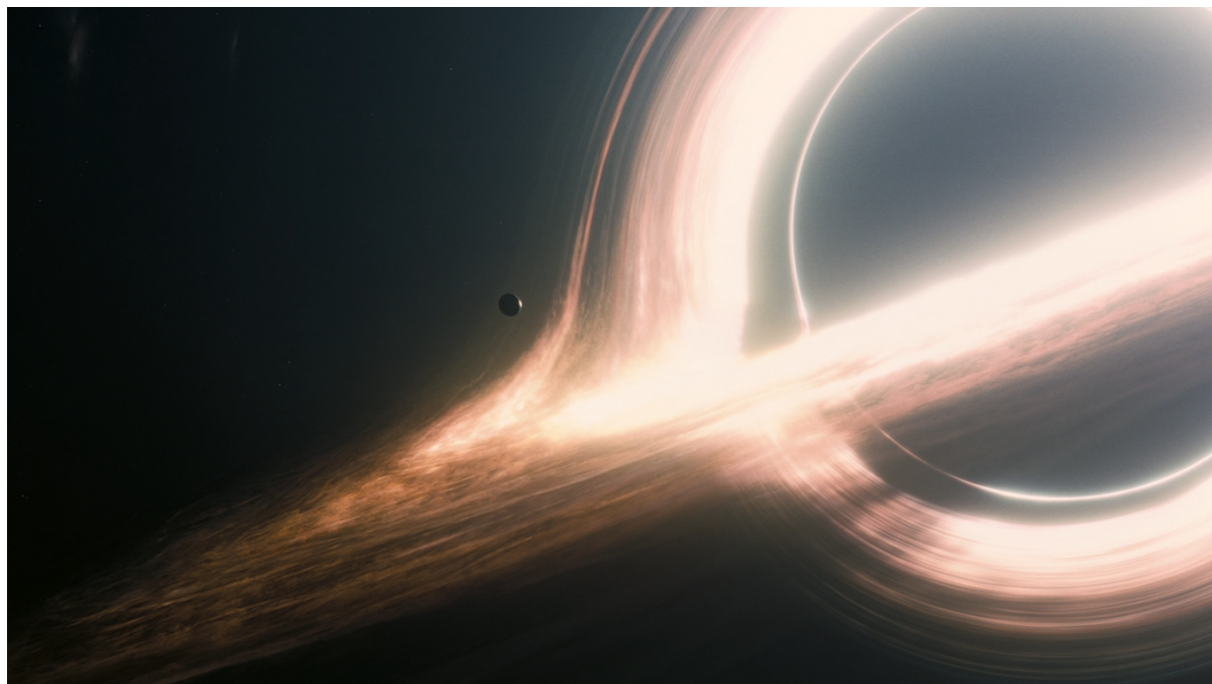
Analytically calculate next term: $P_{GW} = (C_{\infty} + C_H)x_0 + \mathcal{O}(x_0)^2$

Analytically calculate the ISCO shift

Add plunge and ringdown

Gravitational wave emission from an inspiral into a near-extremal Kerr black hole

- Characteristic exponential decay in waveform amplitude and rapid rise in the frequency: **there is no chirp**
- Signal robust to perturbations of the inspiral away from circular, equatorial
- Candidate source for eLISA and possibly ground based detectors
- Calculated the **conservative ISCO shift** for a near-extremal Kerr black hole



If Gargantua is out there
eLISA just might find it