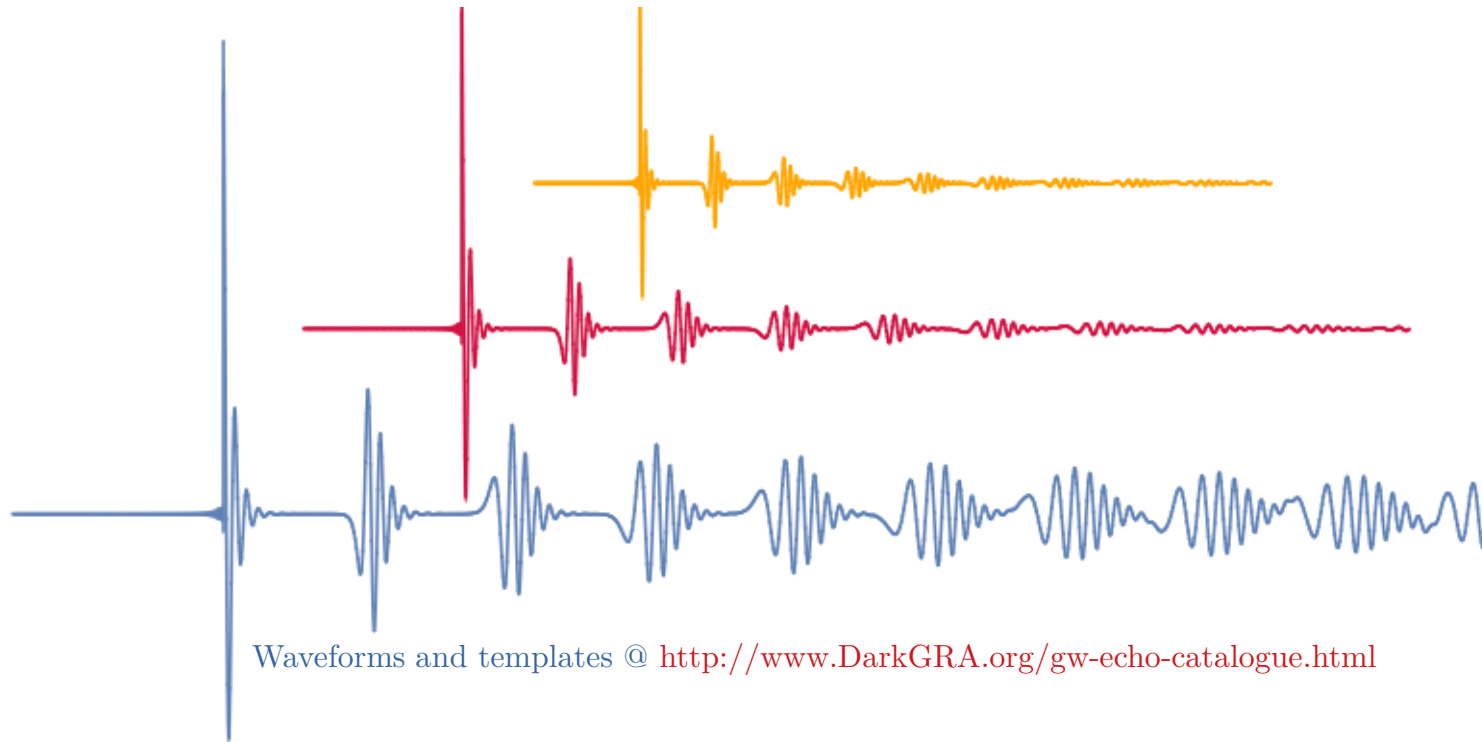




# Gravitational-wave echoes



Waveforms and templates @ <http://www.DarkGRA.org/gw-echo-catalogue.html>



# Testing BHs, why should we care?

- ▶ The observational status of black holes (BHs) is now more solid than ever
- ▶ (Classical) BHs in GR are very economical:

- ▶ Arbitrary mass

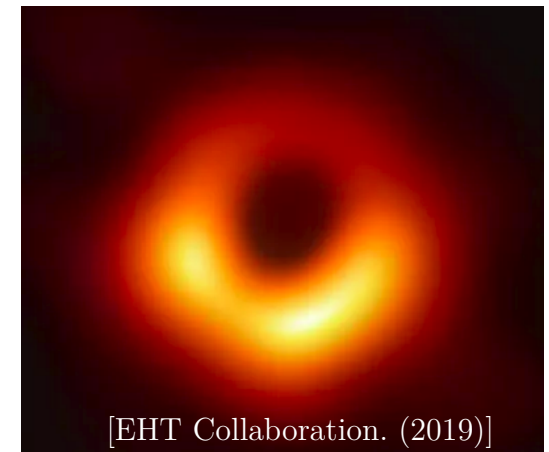
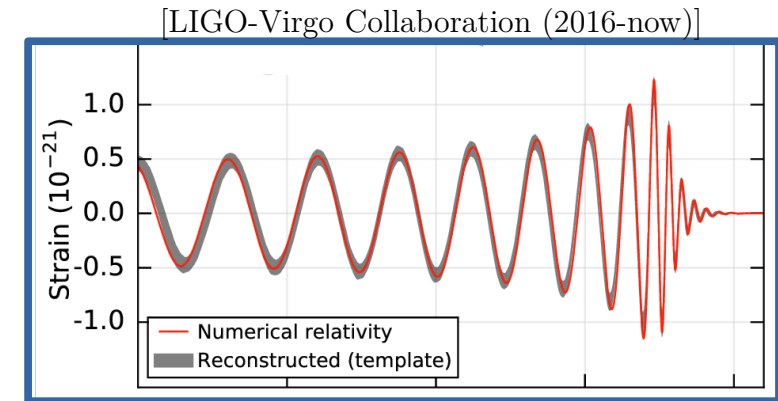
- ▶ Compactness  $M/R \sim 1$  ( $G=c=1$  units henceforth)

- ▶ Sound formation mechanism

- ▶ Linearly (at least mode) stable

[Dafermos & Rodnianski; Clay Math. Proc. (2013)]

- ▶ Consistent with *all* observations



So why questioning the BH picture and testing exotic compact objects (ECOs)?

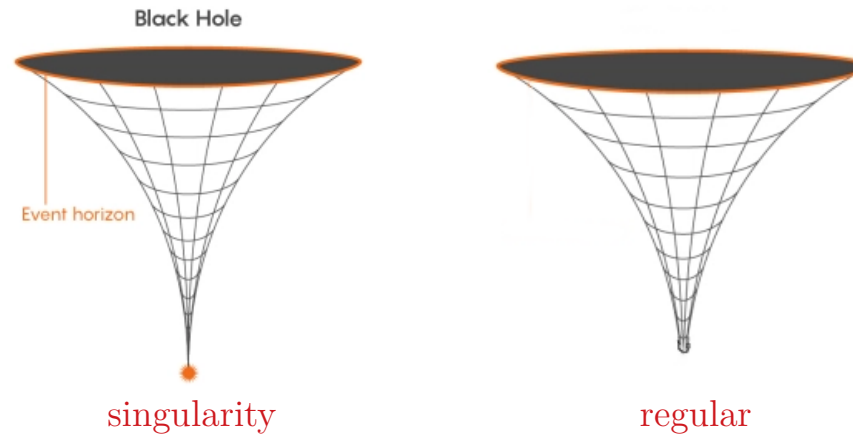
# Testing BHs, why should we care?

---

- ▶ New species of compact objects?
  - ▶ Lesson from timeline of particle physics discovery
- ▶ The dark matter connection
  - ▶ *Can ECOs form (part of) the dark matter?* (es. boson/axion stars)
- ▶ Quantifying the evidence for BHs
  - ▶ Lessons from tests of the WEP, etc, how to even *formulate* the problem?
- ▶ Problems on the horizon
  - ▶ BH exterior is fine, interior is not → **singularities**, Cauchy horizons, CTCs...
  - ▶ BHs are *required* for self consistency of General Relativity [Cosmic Censorship]
  - ▶ Drawbacks: Huge entropy, **unitarity loss**, thermodynamical instability [Hawking 1972]

# Testing BHs, why should we care?

- ▶ Resolution of Hawking's paradox might require **drastic changes at the horizon**:
  - ▶ **New physics at the horizon** (e.g. firewalls, nonlocality) [Almheri+, Giddings+, 2012-2017]
  - ▶ **Regular, horizonless compact objects** (e.g. fuzzballs) [Mathur, 2007-, Bena+ 2015, Turton, Warner]



- ▶ **Tunneling probability to quantum state:**

- ▶ small amplitude  $\rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{\text{tunneling}} \sim e^{-\alpha R_s^2 / \ell_P^2} \sim e^{-\alpha M^2 / \hbar}$

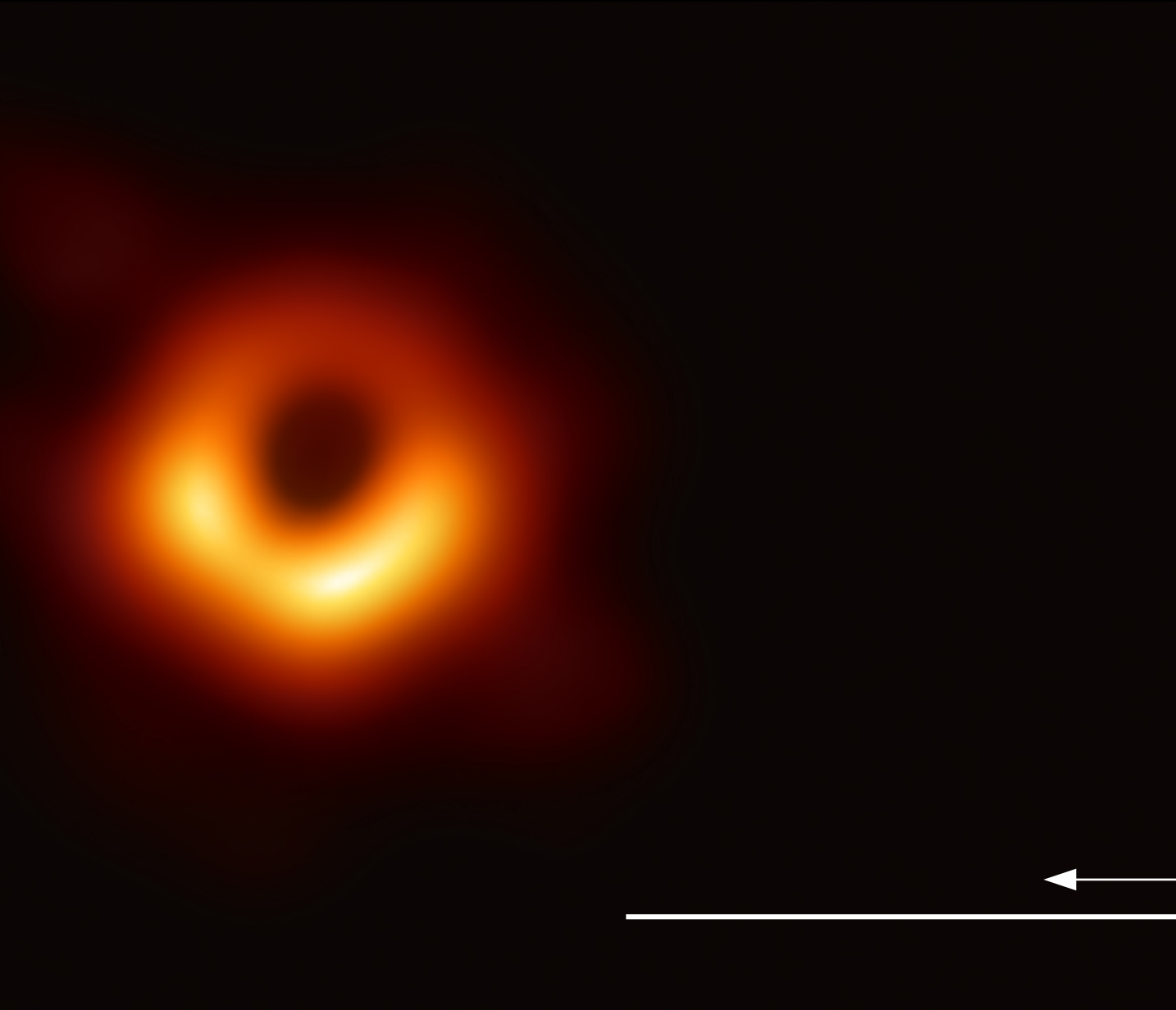
- ▶ but huge phase space  $\rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{\text{states}} \sim e^{S_{\text{BH}}} \sim e^{4\pi M^2 / \hbar}$

$$\mathcal{P}_{\text{tunneling}} \sim \mathcal{A}_{\text{tunneling}} \times \mathcal{N}_{\text{states}} \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$$

# How to test the BH picture?

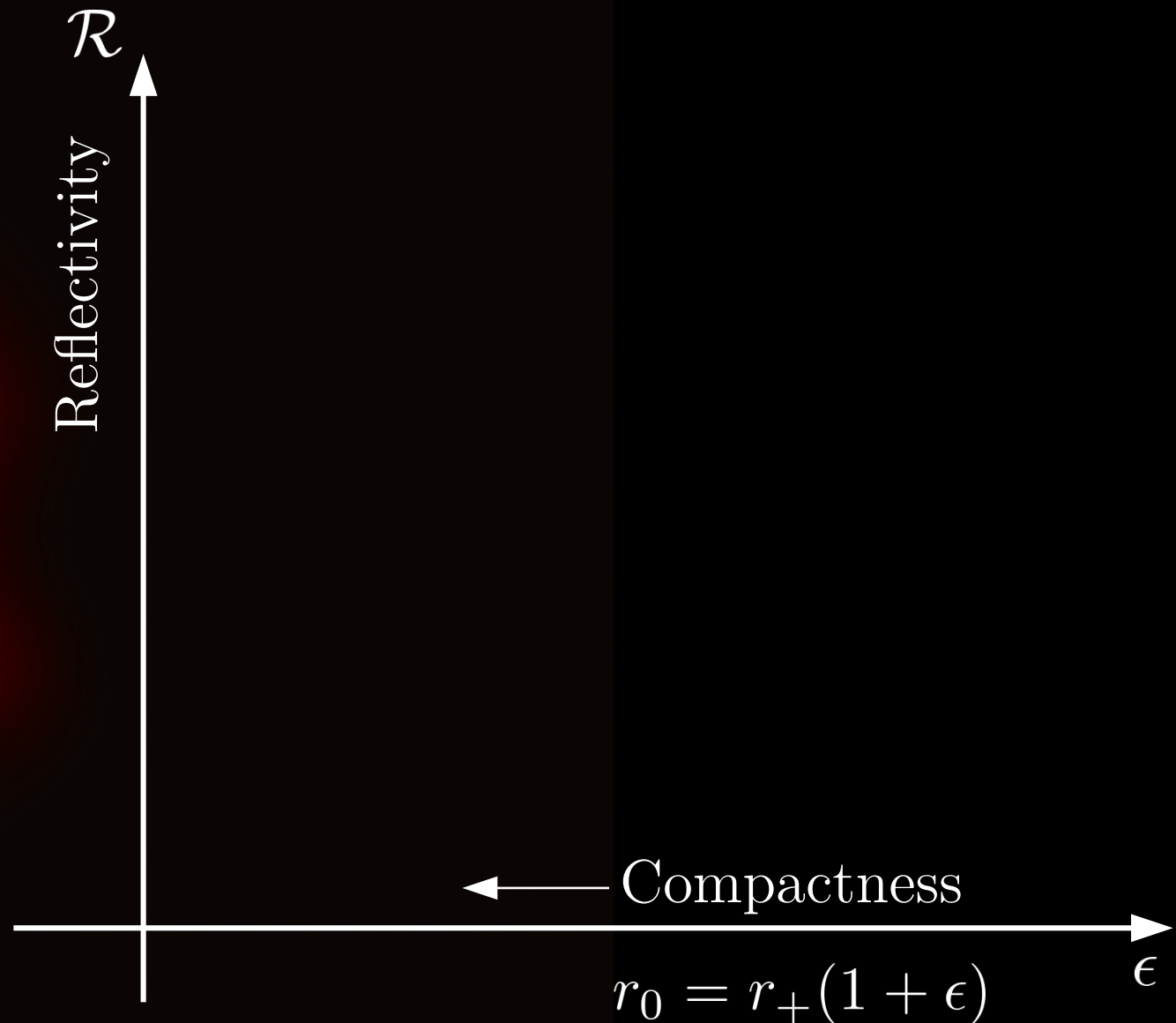


# How to test the BH picture?



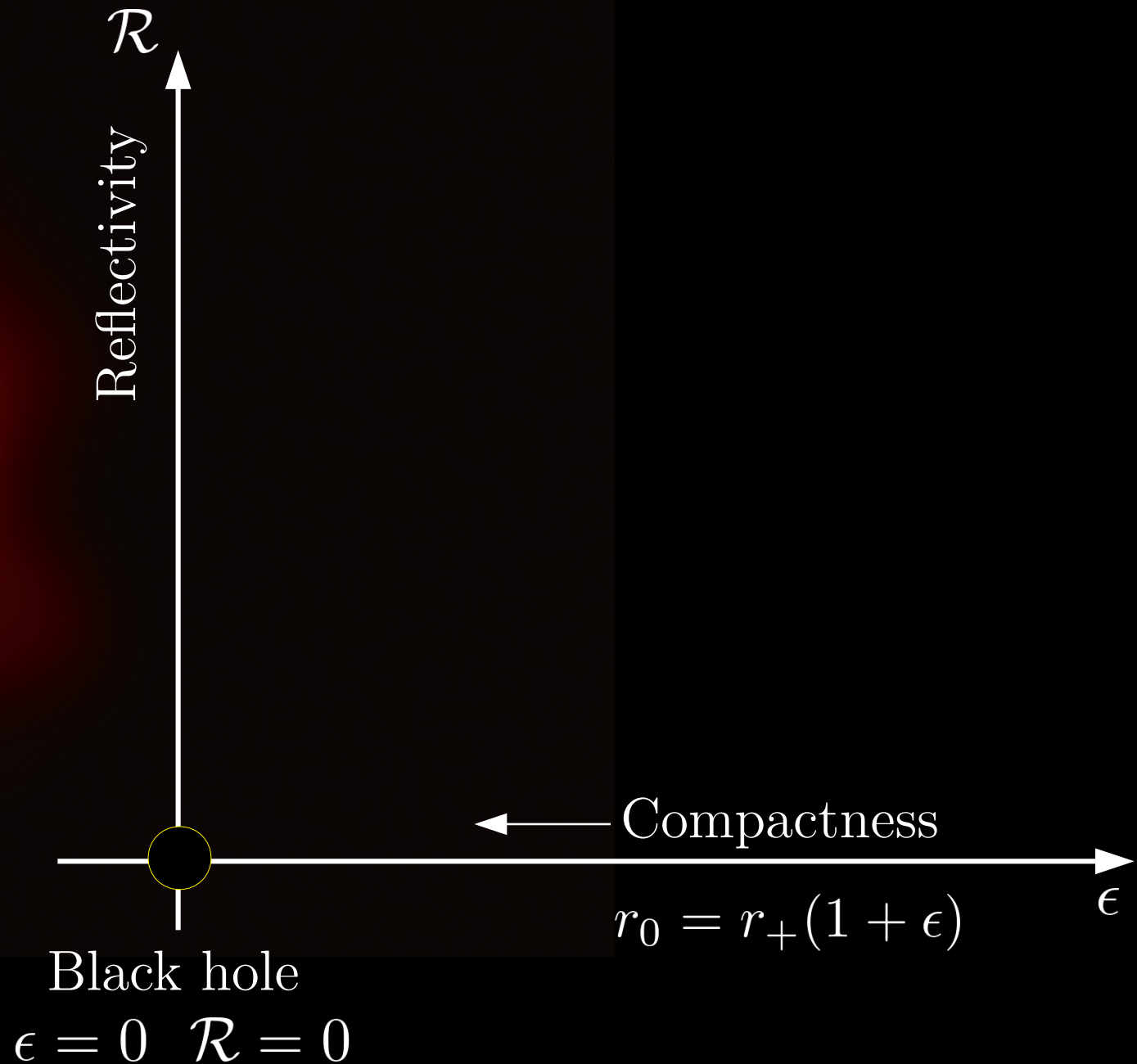
← Compactness  
 $r_0 = r_+(1 + \epsilon)$   $\epsilon$

# How to test the BH picture?



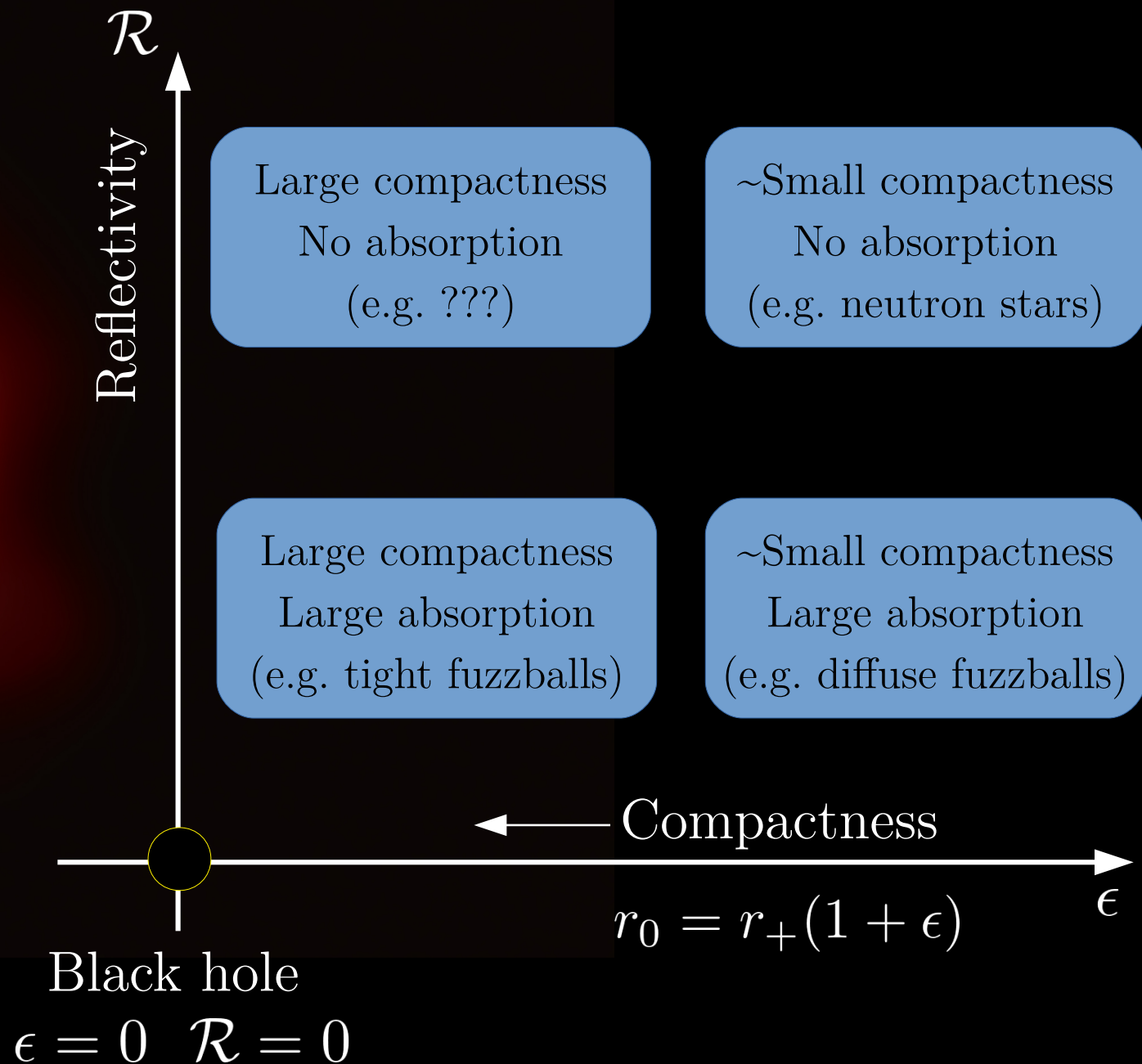


# How to test the BH picture?





# How to test the BH picture?

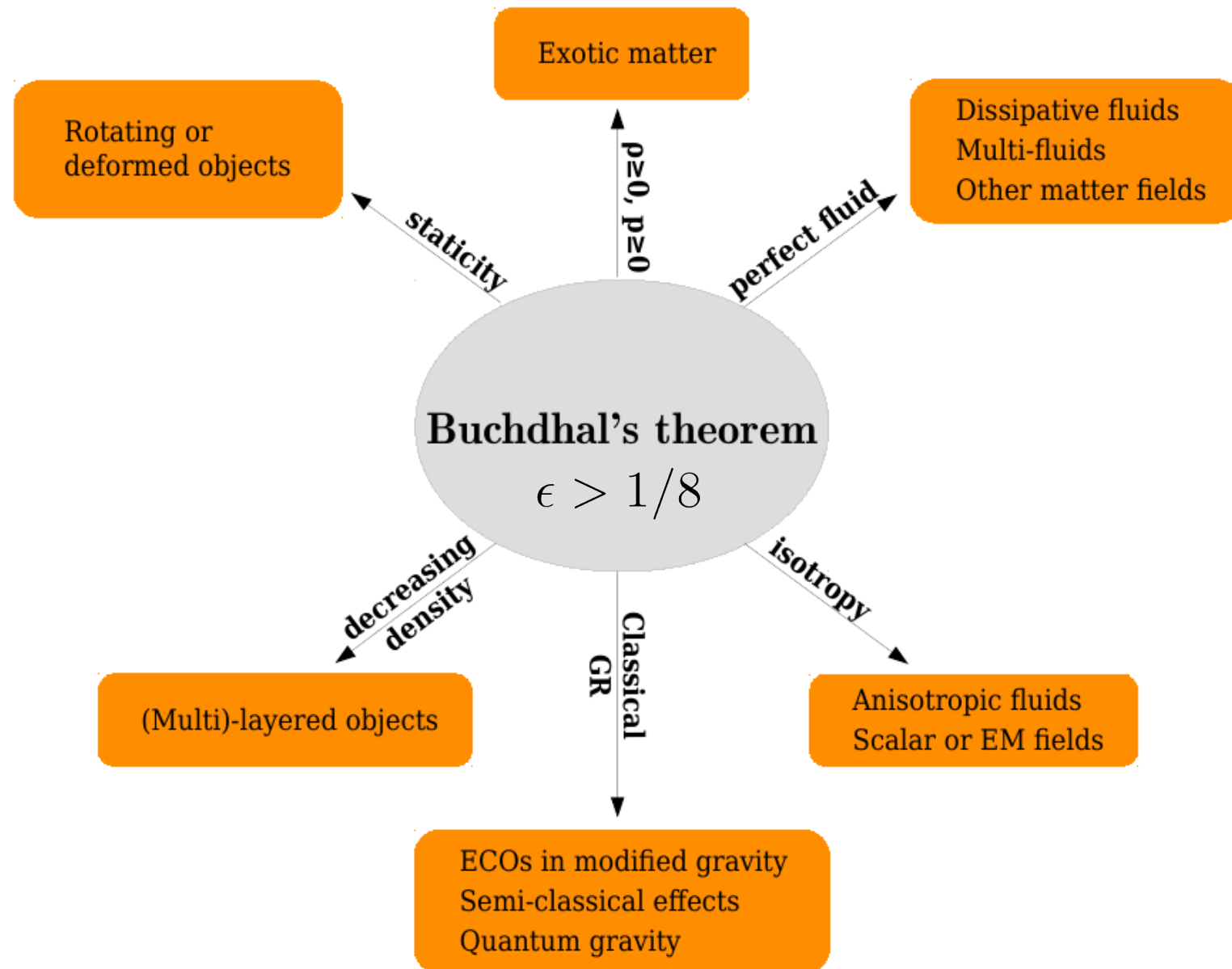


# Exotic compact objects (ECOs)

Cardoso & Pani, Living Rev Relativ (2019) 22:4

- ▶ Several models/proposals
- ▶ Different levels of “robustness” and open problems
  - ▶ Equilibrium sols? Stability? Formation? Coalescence?
- ▶ Phenomenologically:
  - ▶ “Good” ECOs [fluid stars, anisotropic stars, boson stars, oscillatons, ...]
  - ▶ “Bad” ECOs [fuzzballs, gravastars, wormholes, firewalls...]
- ▶ Two approaches:
  - ▶ Model-dependent and from first principles
  - ▶ Phenomenological and agnostic on the model

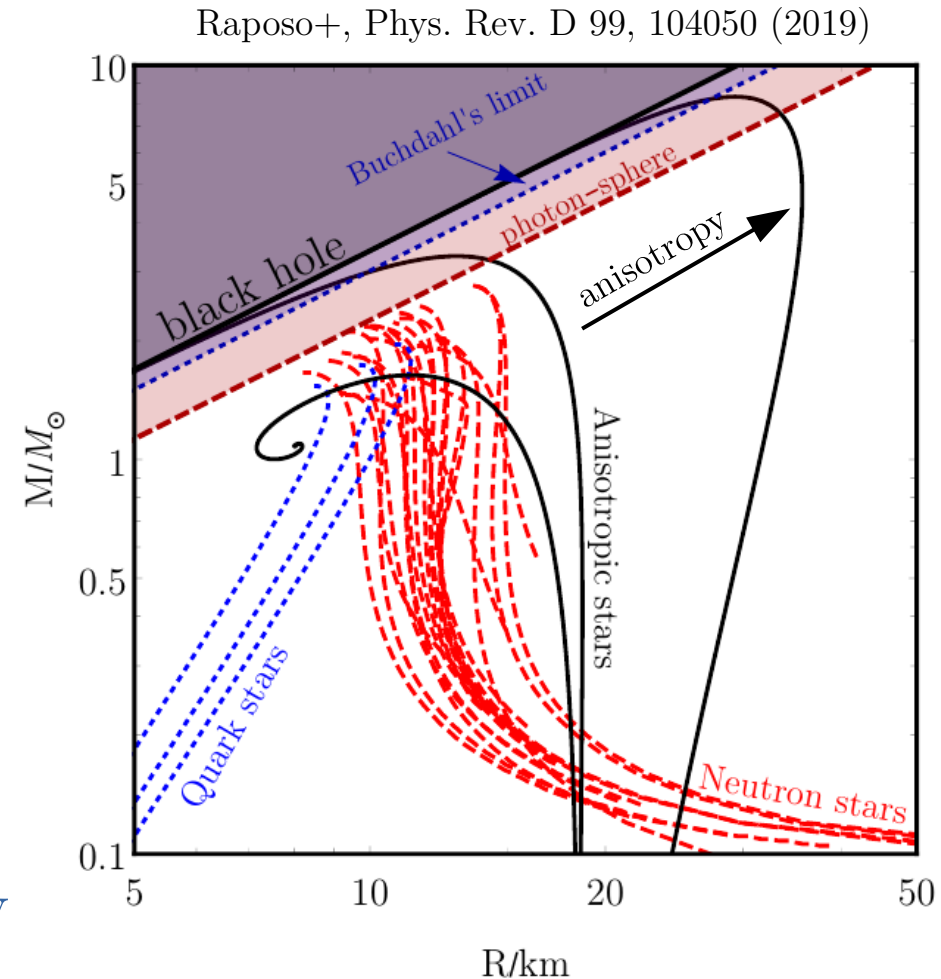
# A compass to navigate the ECO atlas



# Evading Buchdhal: anisotropic stars

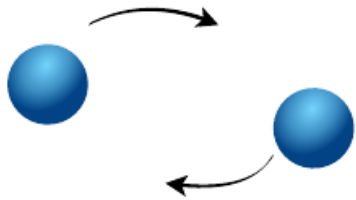
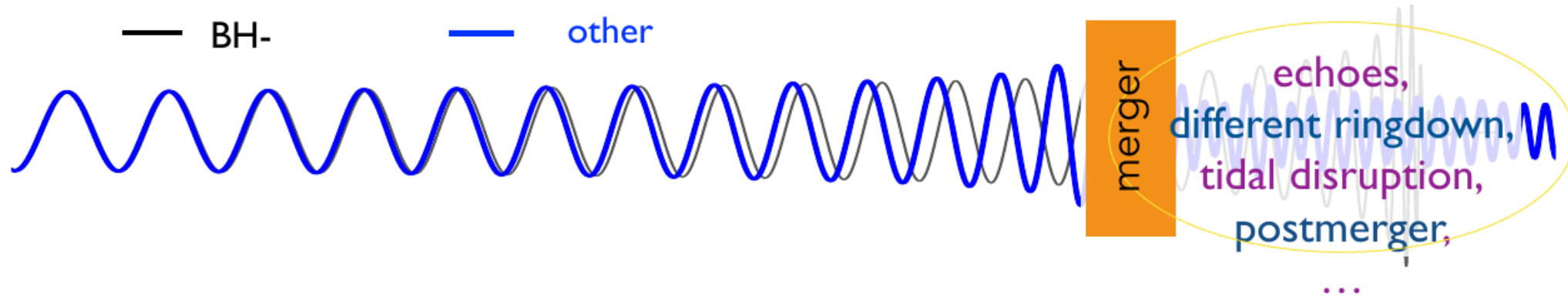
$$T_{\mu\nu} = T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{ISO}} + \sigma_1 k_\mu k_\nu + \sigma_2 \xi_\mu \xi_\nu + \sigma_3 \eta_\mu \eta_\nu$$

- Covariant framework for anisotropic fluids in GR, ready for 3+1 simulations
- Consistent proxy for ultracompact objects
- Satisfy WEC and SEC; highly-anisotropic configurations violate DEC
- Display all ECO typical phenomenology

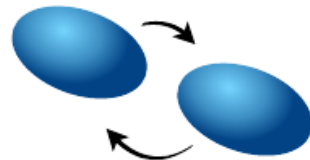


# GW-based tests of ECOs

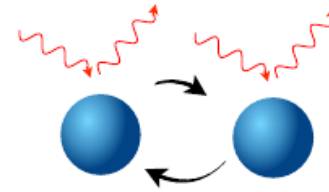
Slide concept by T. Hinderer and A. Maselli



*~point masses:  
same signal  
for all objects*



*tidal effects  
+  
spins  
deformations*



*absence of horizon  
**absorption**  
effects*



***echoes***

# GW spectroscopy

---

- ▶ Post-merger signal  $\rightarrow$  superposition of QNMs

[e.g. Kokkotas & Schmidt (1999), Berti, Cardoso, Starinets (2009)]

$$h_+ + ih_\times \sim \sum_i A_i \sin(\omega_i t + \phi_i) e^{-t/\tau_i} \mathcal{Y}_i$$

- ▶ QNMs of Kerr BH in GR depends only mass and spin [no hair] (**2**+ modes needed)

$$\omega_{nlm} = \omega_R^{\text{Kerr}}(M, \chi) + \delta\omega_R \quad \tau_{nlm} = \tau^{\text{Kerr}}(M, \chi) + \delta\tau$$

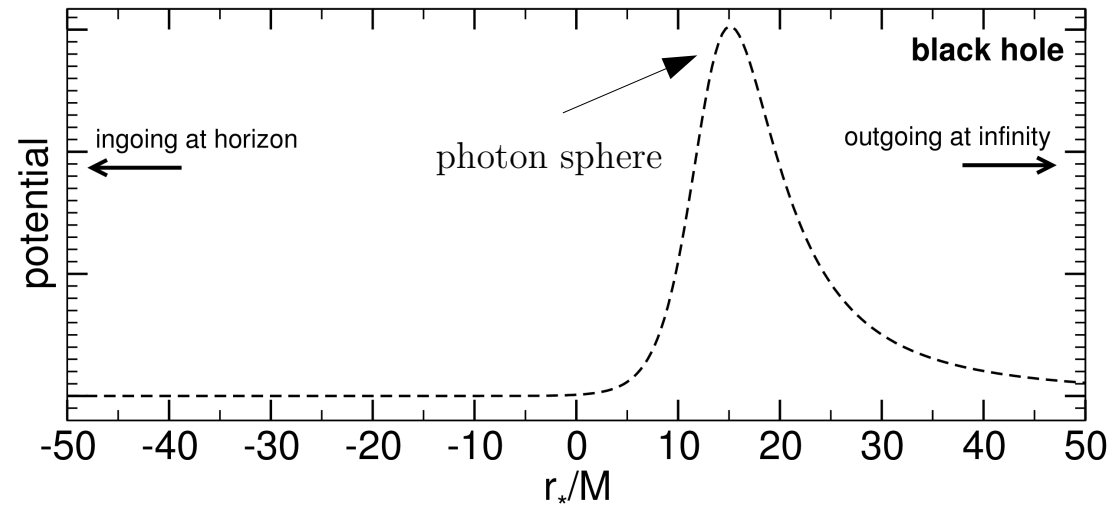
- ▶ **Mode shift** (due to different object, different dynamics, or couplings)
- ▶ **Extra ringdown modes** (e.g., extra polarizations, fields, matter)  $\rightarrow$  amplitudes?
- ▶ **Overtones** might be used [Gieser+, 2019] but careful with resolvability [Bhagwat+, 1910.08708]

# QNMs of exotic compact objects

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial r_*^2} + V_{slm}(r_*)\Psi = 0$$

[e.g. Kokkotas & Schmidt (1999), Berti, Cardoso, Starinets (2009)]

QNMs exponentially sensitive to  
boundary conditions





# QNMs of exotic compact objects

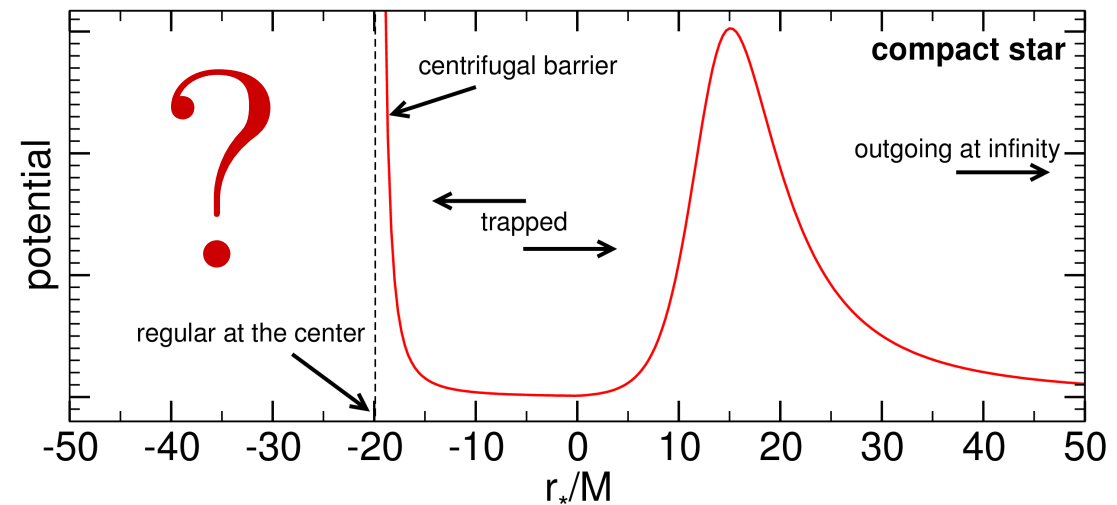
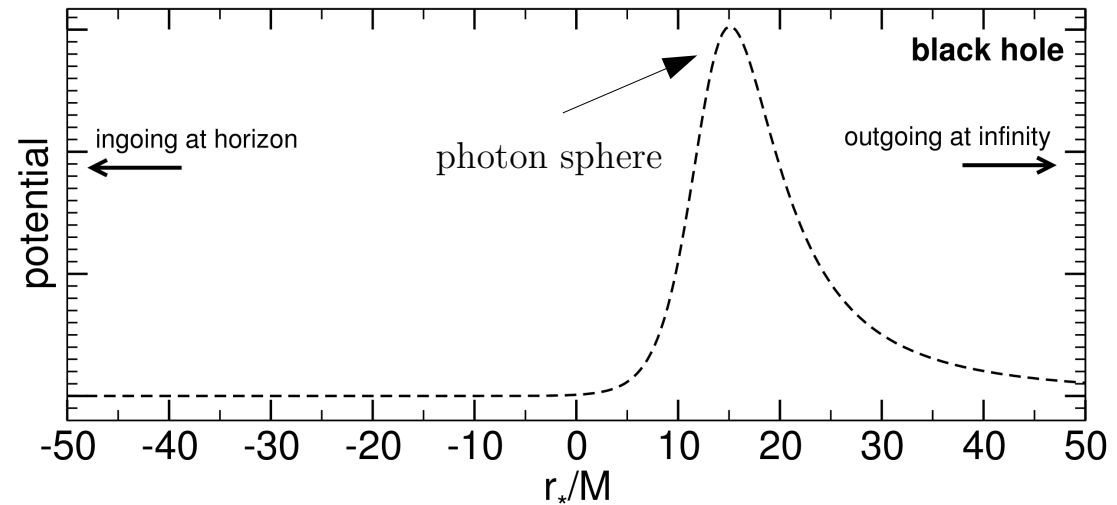
$$\frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial r_*^2} + V_{slm}(r_*)\Psi = 0$$

[e.g. Kokkotas & Schmidt (1999), Berti, Cardoso, Starinets (2009)]

QNMs exponentially sensitive to  
boundary conditions

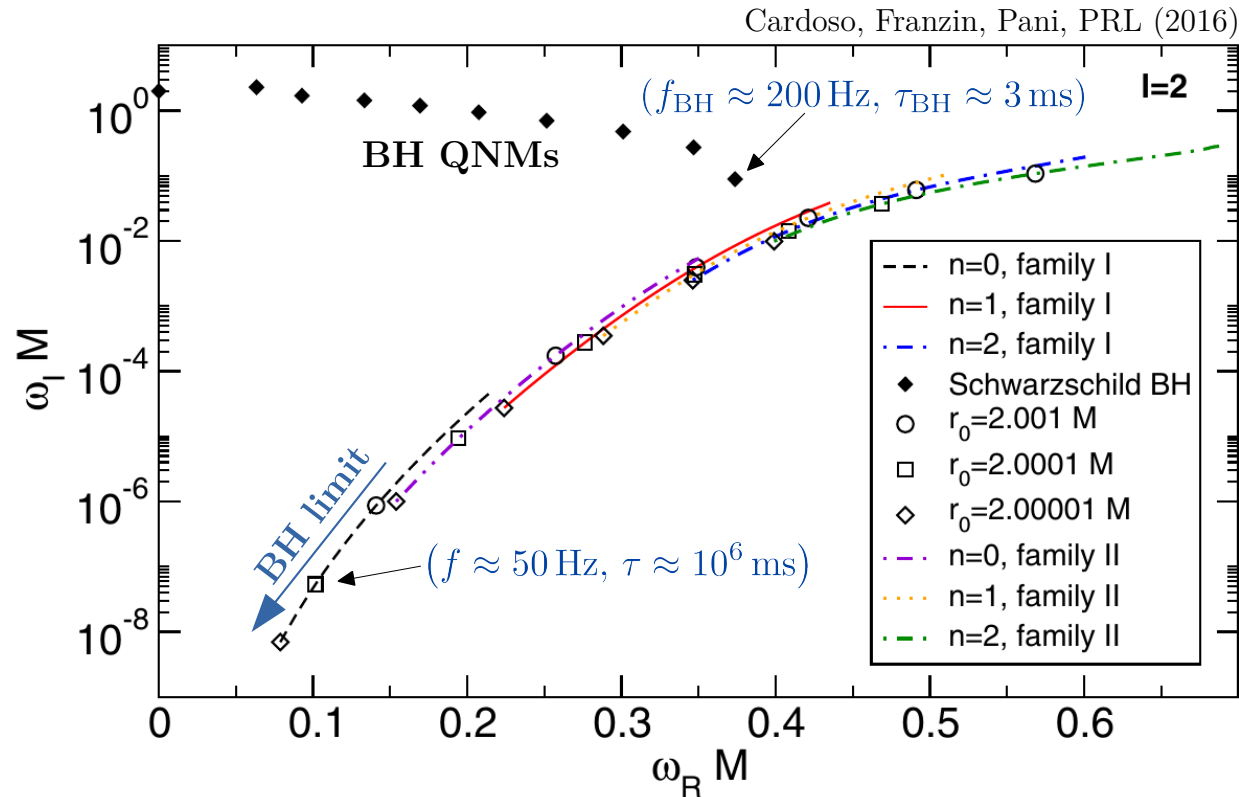
Ultracompact stars generically  
support trapped modes

Chandrasekhar & Ferrari PRSLA (1991)



No horizon  $\rightarrow$  QNM spectrum dramatically different

# QNM spectrum of an UCO



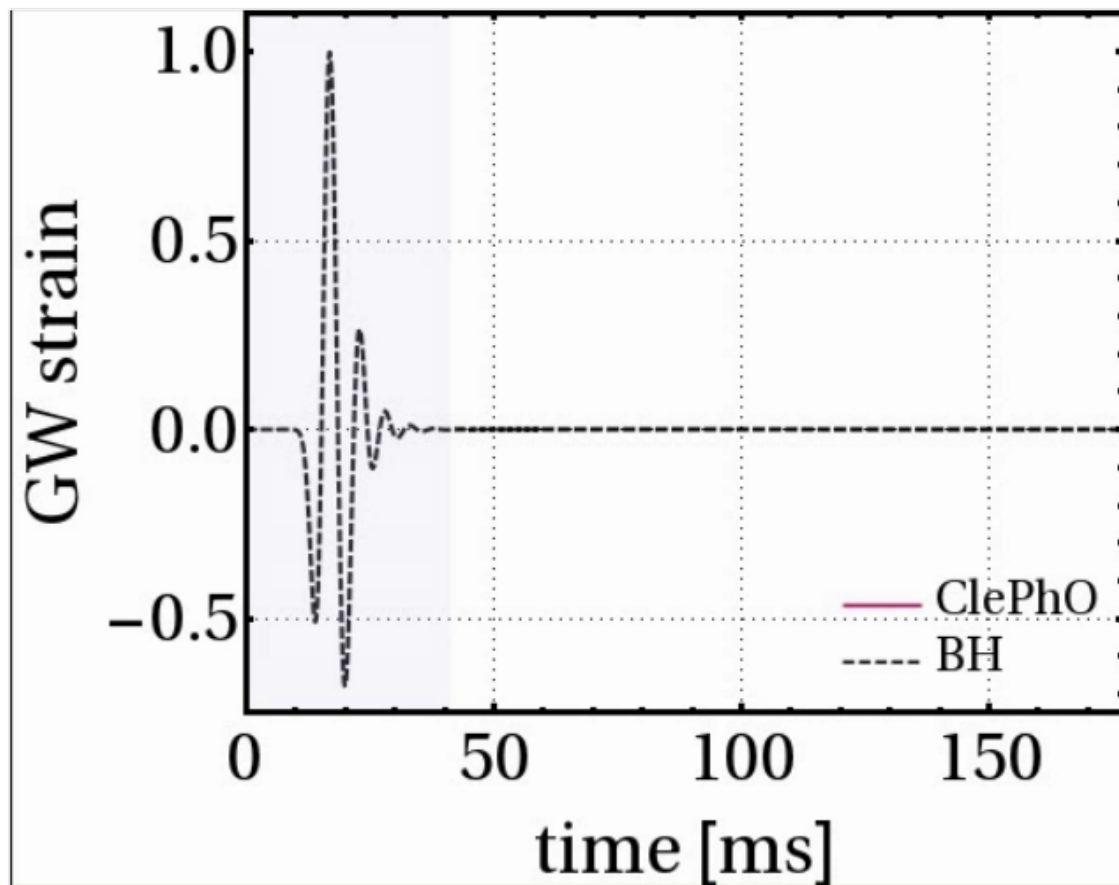
- Generic feature: low-frequency, long-lived QNMs in the BH limit

$$f_{\text{QNM}} \sim |\log \epsilon|^{-1} \quad \tau \sim |\log \epsilon|^{2l+3} \quad r_0 = r_+(1 + \epsilon)$$

- QNM spectrum dramatically different → ringdown?

# GW echoes

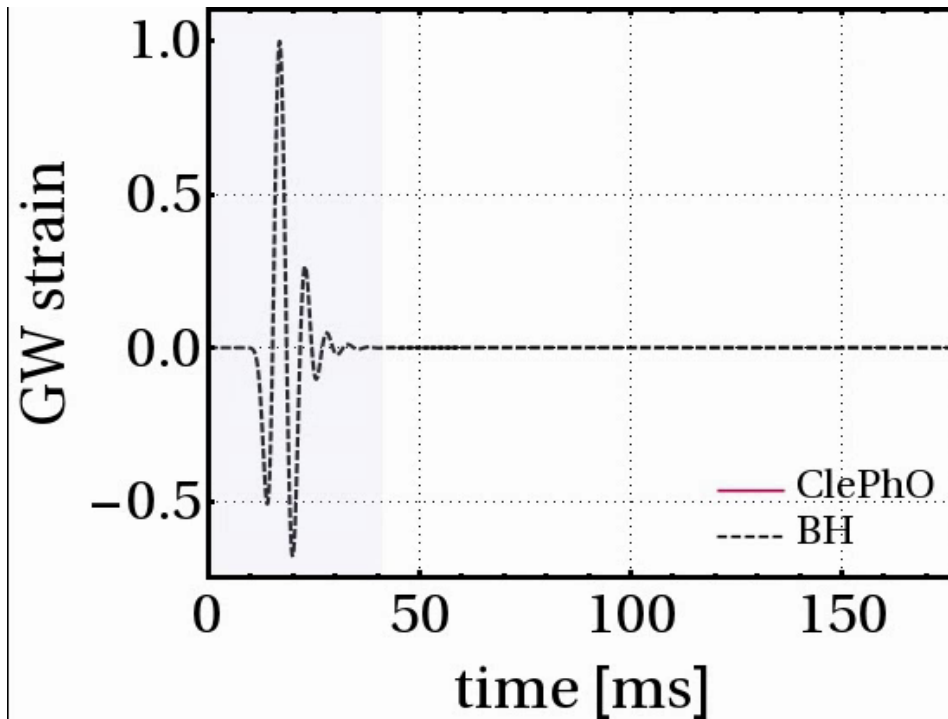
---



Ringdown of a Schwarzschild BH  
(Gaussian perturbation)

# GW echoes

Cardoso & PP, Nature Astronomy (2017)



Prompt ringdown is identical,  
but GW “echoes” at late time

Kokkotas 1996; Ferrari & Kokkotas, PRD 2000

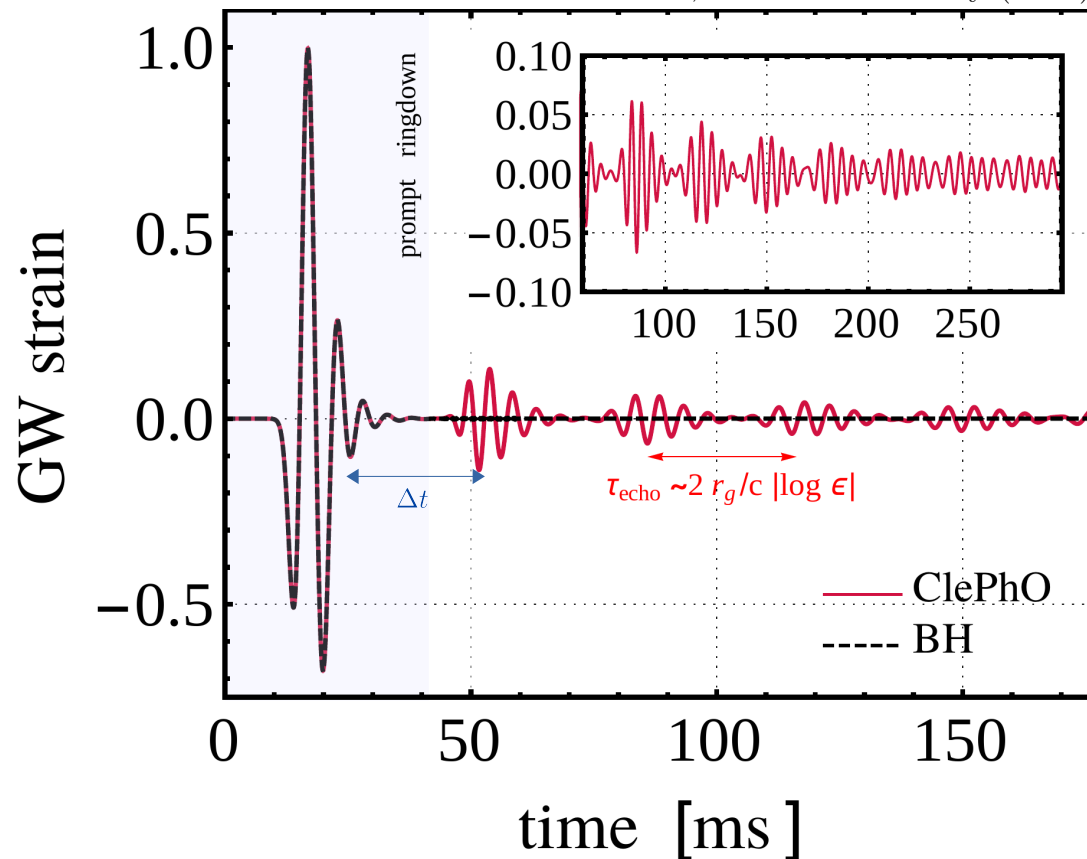
Cardoso, Franzin, PP, PRL (2016), Cardoso+ PRD (2016)

$$\tau_{\text{echo}} = \int_{r_0}^{3M} \frac{dr}{F} \sim \frac{2GM}{c^3} |\log \epsilon|$$

Delay time  $\rightarrow$  log dependence

# GW echoes

Cardoso & PP, Nature Astronomy (2017)



Prompt ringdown is identical,  
but GW “echoes” at late time

Kokkotas 1996; Ferrari & Kokkotas, PRD 2000

Cardoso, Franzin, PP, PRL (2016), Cardoso+ PRD (2016)

$$\tau_{\text{echo}} = \int_{r_0}^{3M} \frac{dr}{F} \sim \frac{2GM}{c^3} |\log \epsilon|$$

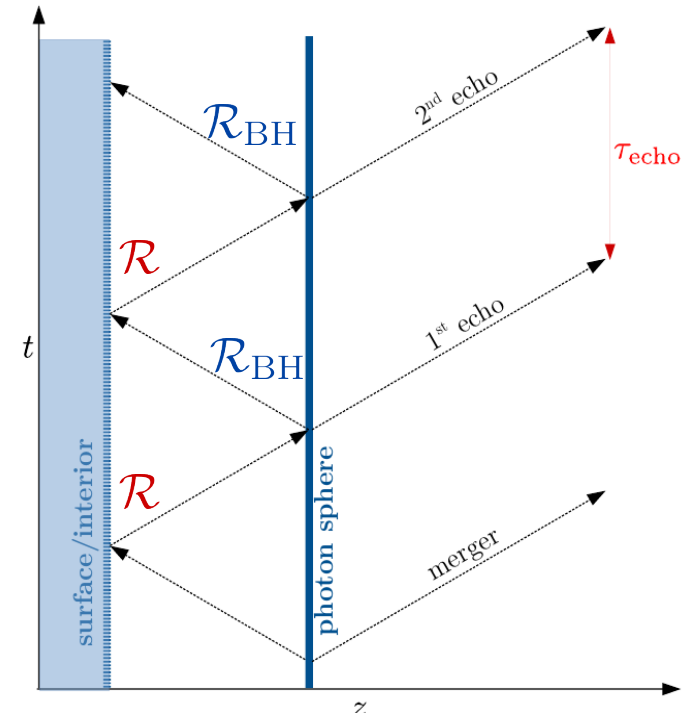
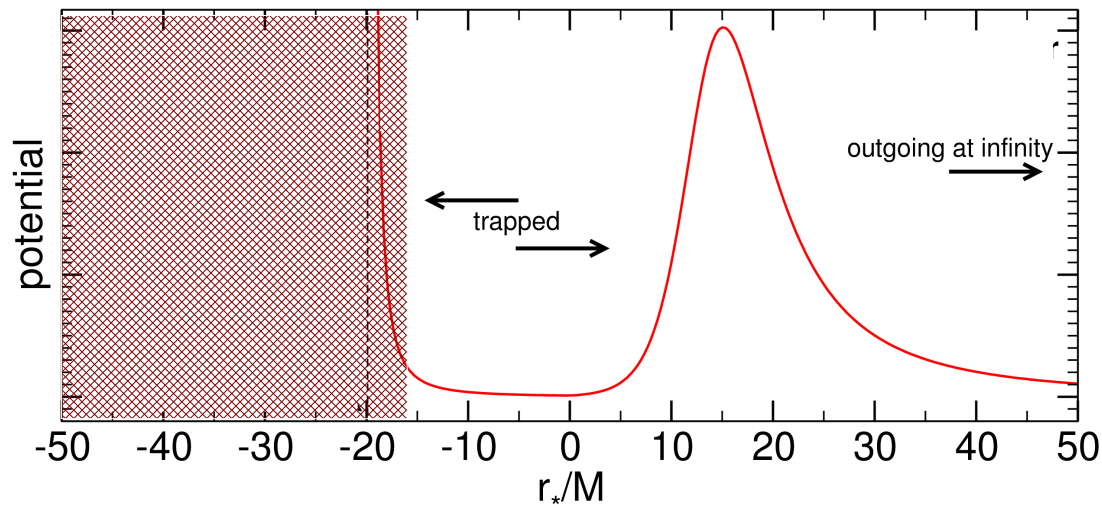
Delay time  $\rightarrow$  log dependence

- Even Planck-scale corrections near horizon are within reach!

$$r_0 - 2M \sim L_p \approx 10^{-33} \text{ cm} \Rightarrow \tau_{\text{echo}} \sim \frac{GM}{c^3} |\log \epsilon| \sim \mathcal{O}(50 \text{ ms})$$

# Model-independent signatures

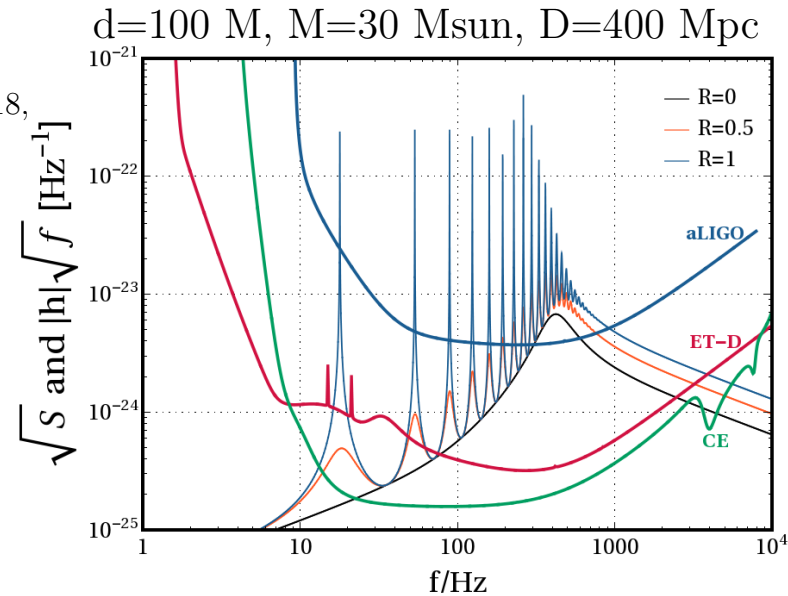
- ▶ Only a (classical) horizon absorbs everything!



- ▶ Reflectivity arises in many contexts:
  - ▶ Stellar-like regular interior
  - ▶ “Fuzziness”
  - ▶ Quantum emission from horizon
- ▶ Can be modelled by frequency-dependent reflectivity coefficient

# GW searches for echoes with LIGO/Virgo

- ▶ Tentative evidence in LIGO O1 [Abedi+, 2017, Conklin+ 2018]
- ▶ Contrasting results [Abedi+ 2017-2018, Ashton+ 2017, Westerweck+ 2018, Conklin+ 2019]
- ▶ Tentative detection of  $\sim 72$  Hz echoes @ $4.2\sigma$  in GW170817 [Abedi & Afshordi JCAP 2019]
- ▶ Absence of statistical evidence in O1 and O2 confirmed by recent analyses [Uchikata+ PRD 2019, Tsang+ 1906.11168]

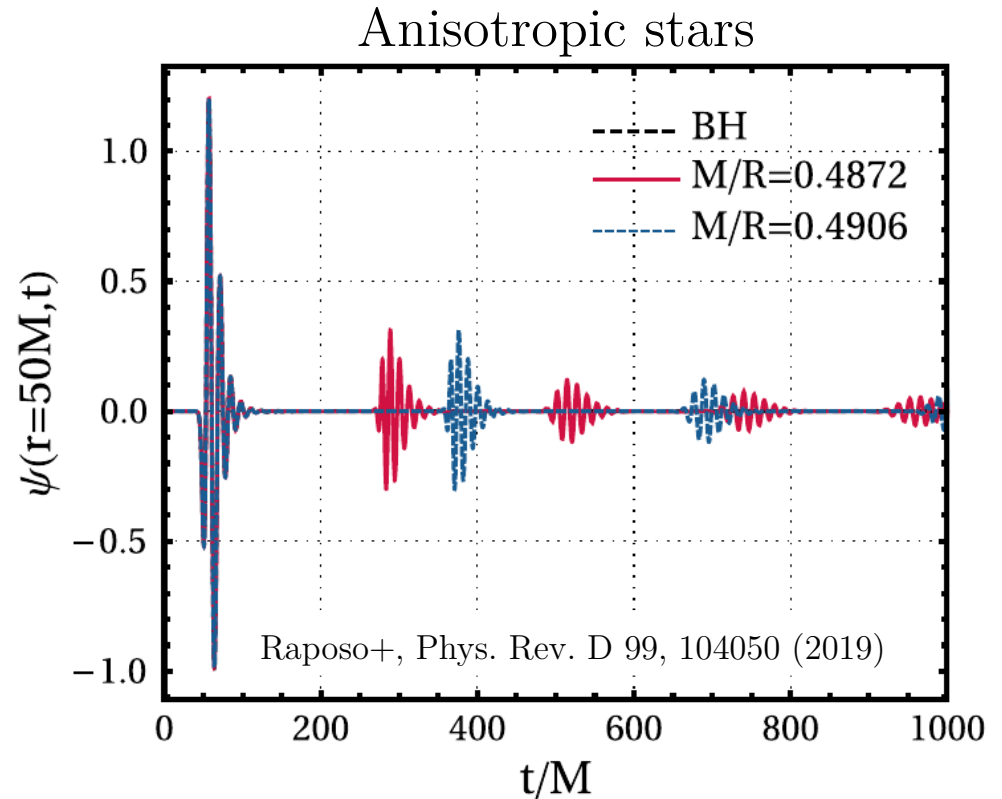
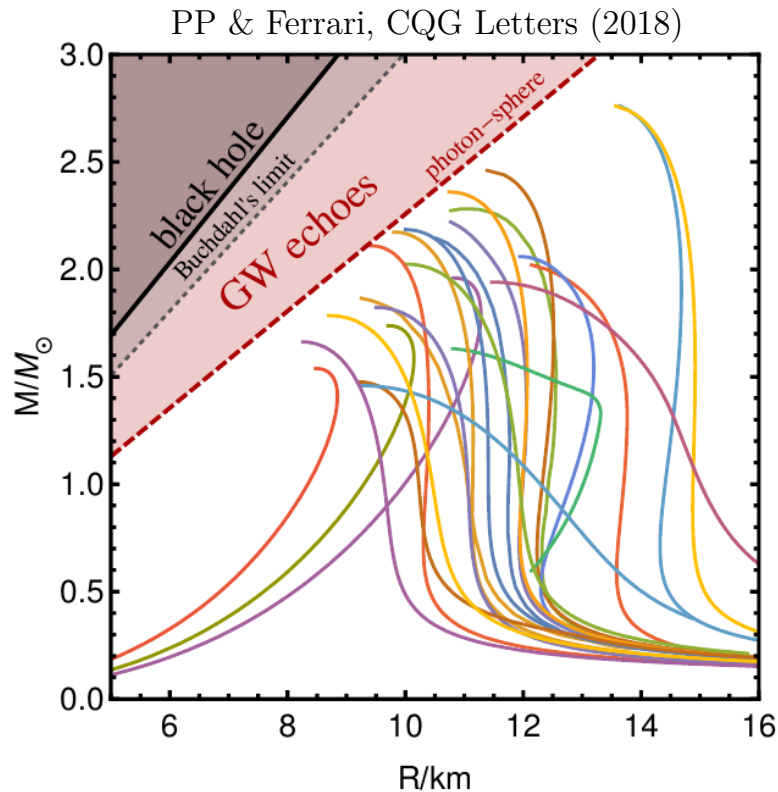


- ▶ Near-horizon quantum (?) structures within reach!
- ▶ Negative searches also important  $\rightarrow$  constrain/rule out ECO models



# Potential inferences from echoes

→ Remnant has photon sphere but  $\sim$  no horizon → neither GR BH *nor* ordinary NS



Echoes in GW170817-like system would be compatible with

- ▶ Near-horizon quantum structures [Cardoso+ 2016, Abedi+ 2017, Wang+ 2019, ...]
- ▶ NS with very exotic matter [Pani-Ferrari 2018, Mannarelli & Tonelli, PRD 2018])
- ▶ Modified theories of gravity [Conklin+ 2017, Buoninfante+ 2019, Delhom+ 2019]

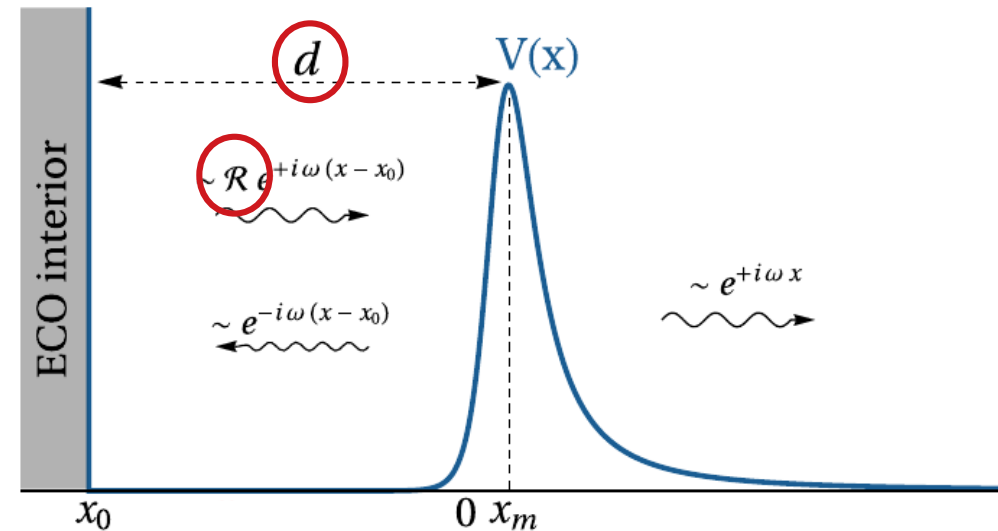
# GW echo modeling

Signal is rich: amplitude/frequency modulation, spin effects, reflectivity...

- Re-processing through a **transfer function** [Mark+ PRD96 084002 (2017)]

$$\tilde{Z}^+(\omega) = \tilde{Z}_{\text{BH}}^+(\omega) + \mathcal{K}(\omega)\tilde{Z}_{\text{BH}}^-(\omega)$$

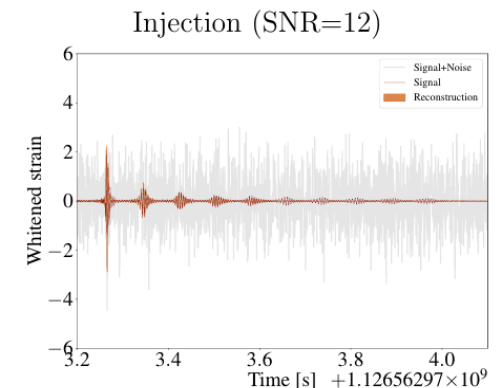
$$\mathcal{K}(\omega) = \frac{\mathcal{T}_{\text{BH}}\mathcal{R}}{1 - \mathcal{R}_{\text{BH}}\mathcal{R}}$$



- Progress in modeling [Nakano+ 2017; Mark+ 2017; Maselli+ 2017, Bueno+ 2018, Wang & Afshordi PRD 2018, Tsang+ 2018-2019, Testa & PP 2018, Wang+ 2019, Uchikata+ 2019, Maggio+ 2019...]

- Other strategies:

- Dyson series (potential as a perturbation) [Correia & Cardoso PRD 2018]
- Resonances (in the transfer function) [Conklin+ 2018-2019]
- Model-agnostic “wavelets” burst searches [Tsang+ PRD 2018, 1906.11168]

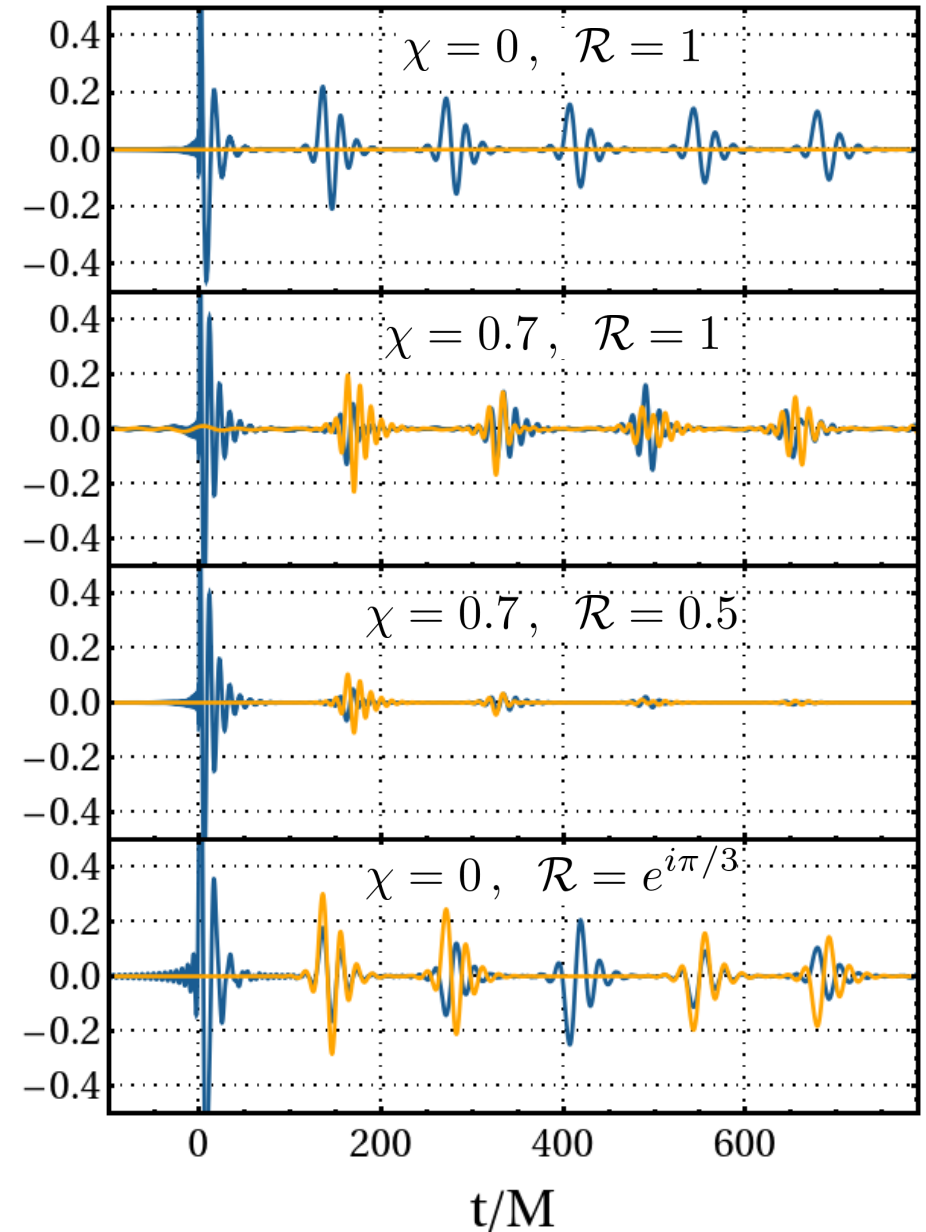
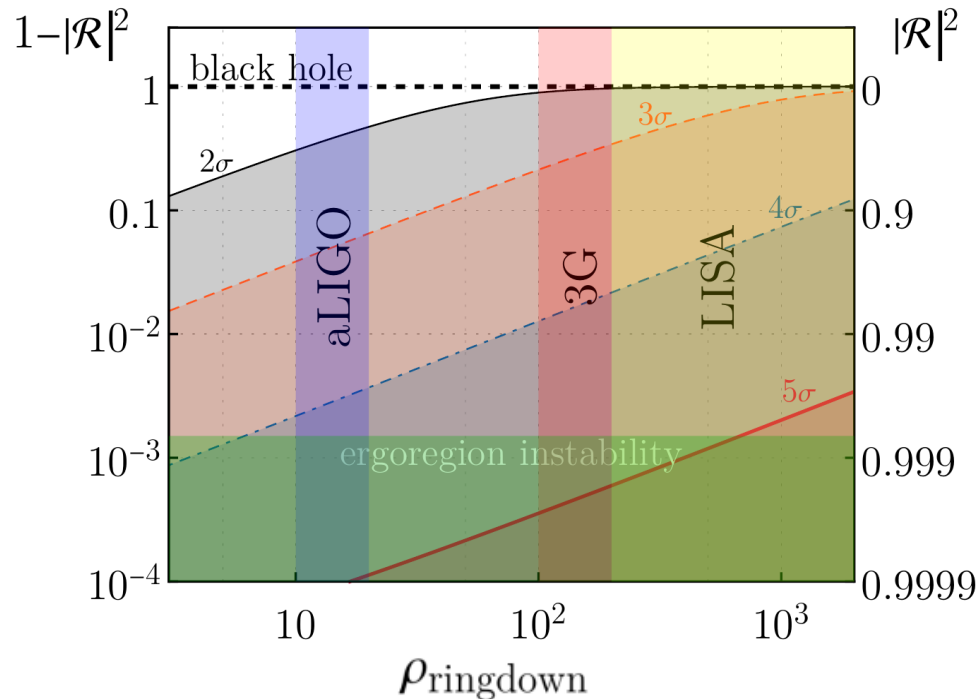


# Echo modeling & detectability

[Testa & PP PRD 2018, Maggio+ PRD 2019]

Physically-motivated, analytical template:

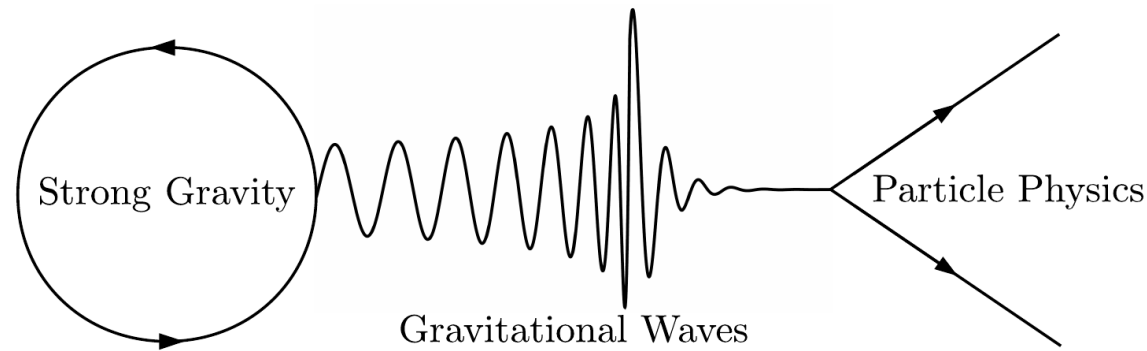
- ▶ Reflectivity can be complex!
- ▶ Mixing of polarizations
- ▶ Spin-dependent modulation
- ▶ Large reflectivity crucial for detection



Waveforms, templates, and movies available @ <http://www.DarkGRA.org/gw-echo-catalogue.html>

# Conclusion & Outlook

---



Cardoso, Pani - CERN Courier, Jan 2017

- ▶ Gravity community is undergoing a revolution
- ▶ Probing fundamental physics with gravitational observations
  - ▶ Testing quantum gravity? In the search of a log...
  - ▶ Better understanding/modeling is needed (especially of IMR signal)
  - ▶ Current observations put new constraints on ECO models
- ▶ Mimicking BHs is extremely challenging → observational & theoretical issues

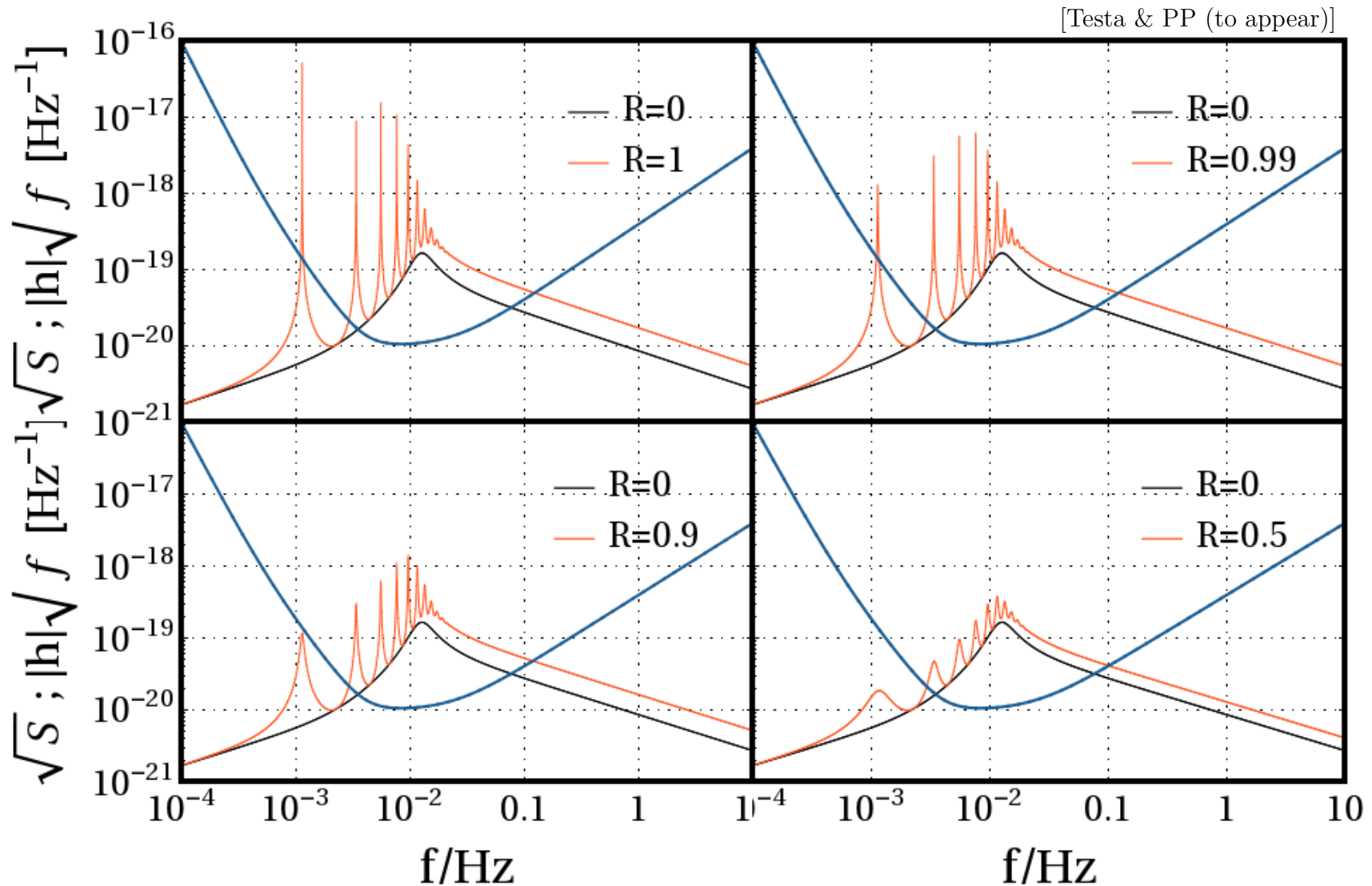
---

# Backup slides

*“Nothing is More Necessary than  
the Unnecessary” [cit.]*



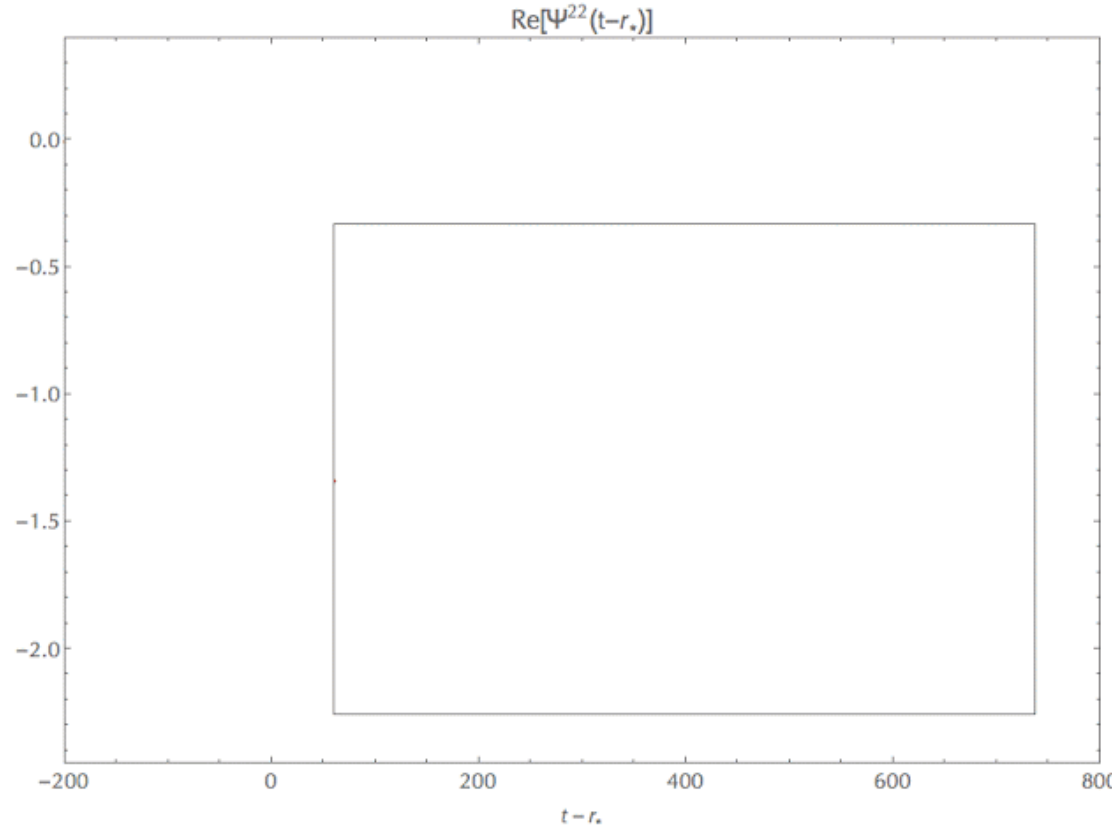
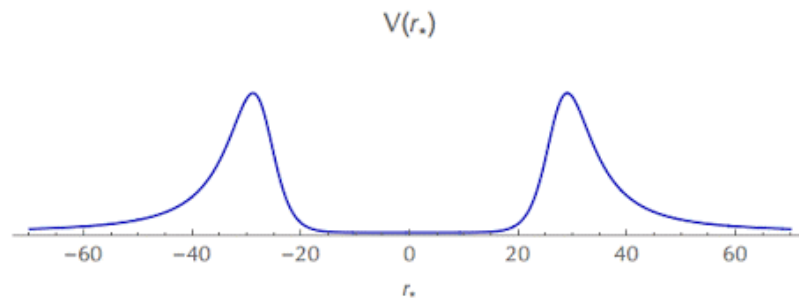
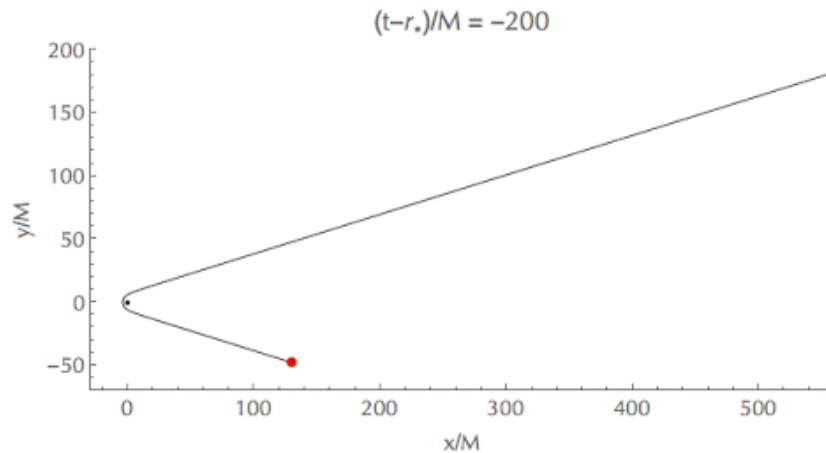
# Echoes VS LISA noise curve



# The role of the photon sphere

Cardoso, Hopper, Macedo, Palenzuela, Pani; PRD94 084031 (2016)

$$\mathcal{E} = 1.5, r_{\min}=4.3M, r_0-2M = 10^{-6}M$$



[Credits: Seth Hopper]

- Generic features for ultracompact ECOs (wormholes, gravastars, ultracompact stars, ...)

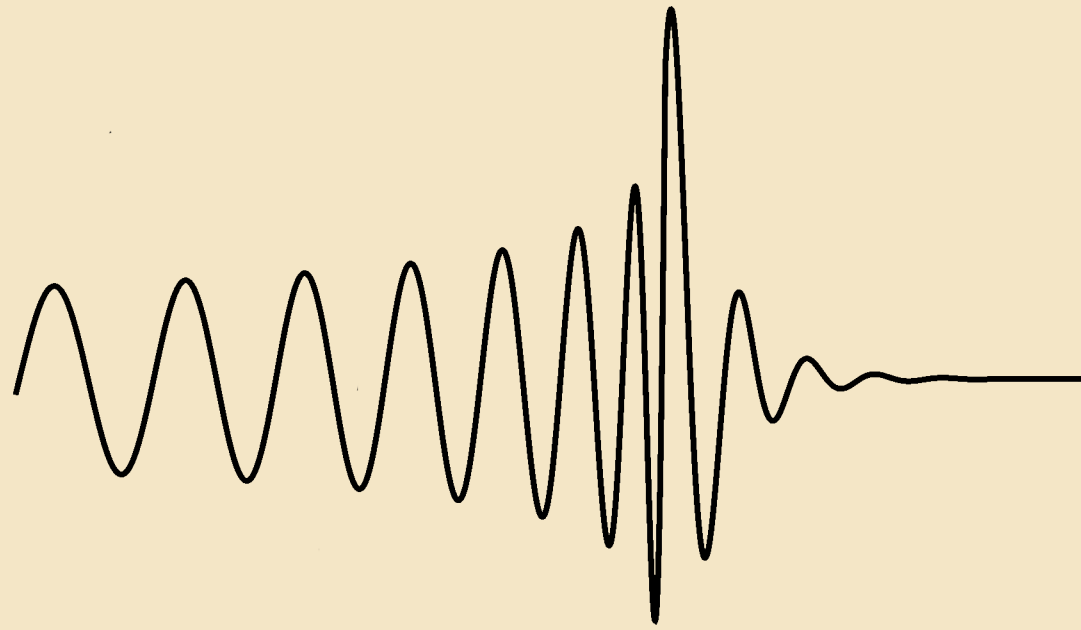
[Ferrari & Kokkotas, PRD 2000]

- The ringdown of ECOs without light ring is *qualitatively* different

[Chirenti & Rezzolla, PRD 2016]

- GW observations can rule out less compact ECOs without light ring





*Ceci n'est pas un trou noir.*

# Searching for the absence

---

When testing *BHs* we don't look for something, but for the **absence** thereof

- ▶ Surface / internal structure
- ▶ Radiation *from* the object
- ▶ Hair / multipolar structure
- ▶ Tidal Love numbers

BHs are **unique** yet **simple**

- ▶ BHs in GR+SM described by 3 parameters → multiple consistency tests

Need models and framework to go beyond null tests