

General relativity and its classical modification in gravitational collapse

Final Public Oral

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Nonlinear dynamics of the modified gravity theory

Einstein-dilaton Gauss-Bonnet (EdGB) gravity

Theory of gravity that has a spacetime metric $g_{\mu\nu}$ and a “dilaton” (real scalar field) ϕ

$$S_{EdGB} = \frac{c^4}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} (R - g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - V(\phi) - W(\phi) \mathcal{G}), \quad (1)$$

where \mathcal{G} is the (four dimensional) *Gauss-Bonnet scalar*

$$\mathcal{G} = R^2 - 4R_{\mu\nu}R^{\mu\nu} + R_{\mu\alpha\nu\beta}R^{\mu\alpha\nu\beta}. \quad (2)$$

- ▶ Numerically studied EdGB gravity in spherical symmetry
- ▶ Computed dilaton dynamics and 'scalarized' black hole solutions
- ▶ Found EdGB gravity solutions can violate the Null Convergence Condition
- ▶ Found a break down in hyperbolicity of the theory for sufficiently large modified gravity corrections: EdGB gravity is fundamentally 'mixed type'

Why is EdGB a modified gravity theory?

- ▶ EdGB gravity is a “modified” gravity theory as it is not General Relativity (GR):

$$S_{GR} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left(\frac{c^4}{16\pi G} R + \mathcal{L}_m \right), \quad (3)$$

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R = \frac{16\pi G}{c^4} T_{\mu\nu} \quad (4)$$

- ▶ GR has essentially passed all experimental/observational tests
- ▶ Nevertheless there are reasons to study modified gravity theories

Planck units

- ▶ We will use (*reduced*) Planck units: $8\pi G = c = \hbar = k_B = 1$
- ▶ Everything can be phrased in terms of the *geometrized dimension* L
- ▶ Energy scale, etc. are multiples of:
 - ▶ Planck energy: $E_p = l_p c^4 / G \sim 10^{16} \text{ergs} \sim 10^{19} \text{GeV}$
 - ▶ Planck length: $l_p = (G\hbar/c^3)^{1/2} \sim 10^{-33} \text{cm}$
 - ▶ Planck time: $t_p = l_p / c \sim 10^{-44} \text{s}$
 - ▶ Planck mass: $m_p = l_p c^2 / G \sim 10^{-5} \text{g}$
 - ▶ Planck temperature $E_p / k_B \sim 10^{32} \text{K}$

Outline

Review: motivations to study modified gravity theories

EdGB gravity

Approaches to studying modified gravity theories

Nonperturbative dynamics of EdGB gravity

Shift symmetric

\mathbb{Z}_2 symmetric

Conclusion

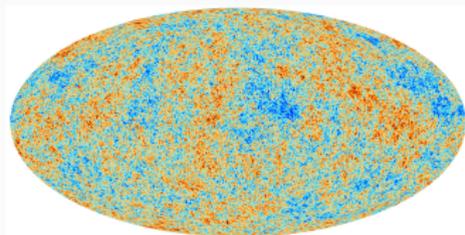
Why study modified gravity theories?

- ▶ Find a complete theory of quantum gravity
- ▶ Model the dynamics of the very early universe
- ▶ Model the dynamics of the late universe
- ▶ Model the interior of black holes
- ▶ Null Convergence Condition
- ▶ Test GR for sake of basic science

Find a complete theory of quantum gravity

- ▶ GR is *nonrenormalizable*: the gravitational coupling constant, G , has units of $(M_P)^2$ (M_P is the Planck mass.)
- ▶ Nonrenormalizability hints that GR could/'should' be modified at energies around the Planck scale $l_p \sim 10^{-33} \text{cm}$

Cosmology and GR



- ▶ At the largest scales the universe is approximately:
 1. **homogeneous**
 2. **isotropic**
 3. expanding
 4. Spatial sections are geometrically flat (${}^{(3)}R_{ijkl} = 0$)
- ▶ **Friedman-Lemaitre-Robertson-Walker (FLRW)** solutions to the Einstein Equations
- ▶ With **suitable** matter contributions, the FLRW solutions match observational cosmological data extremely well

Early universe cosmology and GR: basic question

- ▶ What mechanism set the initial conditions for the universe?
 - ▶ *inflation*: introduce new fields/modify GR
 - ▶ *ekpyrosis*: introduce new fields/modify GR
- ▶ FLRW cosmologies are *geodesically incomplete*: what preceded the 'big bang'?

- ▶ To model the recent/late time expansion of the universe, need to add a *cosmological constant* Λ to the Einstein equations

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R + g_{\mu\nu}\Lambda = T_{\mu\nu}. \quad (5)$$

- ▶ Is there a physical mechanism that sets the value of the cosmological constant, or is it a new 'fundamental' constant of nature?

Model the interior of black holes

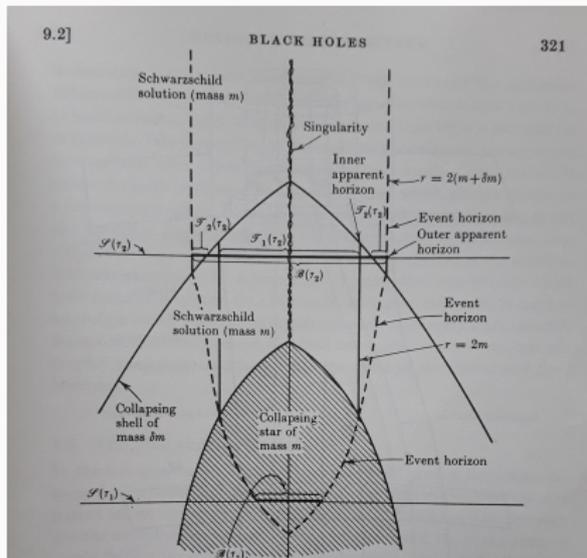


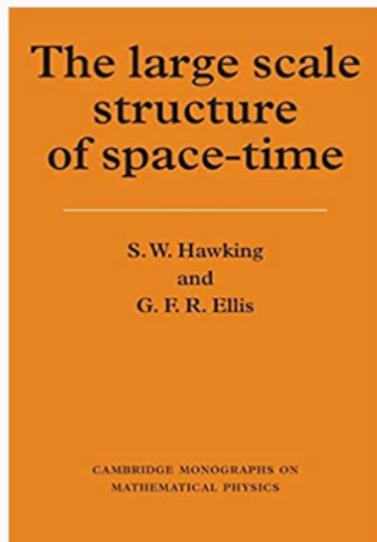
FIGURE 59. The spherical collapse of a star of mass m , followed by the spherical collapse of a shell of matter of mass δm ; the exterior solution will be a Schwarzschild solution of mass m after the collapse of the star, and a Schwarzschild solution of mass $m + \delta m$ after the collapse of the shell. At time τ_1 there is an event horizon but no apparent event horizon; at time τ_2 there are two apparent horizons within the event horizon.

them both (figure 60). At some later time, \mathcal{F}_1 , \mathcal{F}_2 and \mathcal{F}_3 might merge together.

We shall only outline the proofs of the principal properties of the apparent horizon. First of all one has:

- ▶ Inside black holes: spacetime solutions to GR are *incomplete*
- ▶ Unless GR is modified, an observer would reach the 'end' of space and time
- ▶ Cosmic censorship: the observer would be torn to pieces by tidal forces before reaching any 'singularity' or end to spacetime

Null Convergence Condition (NCC)

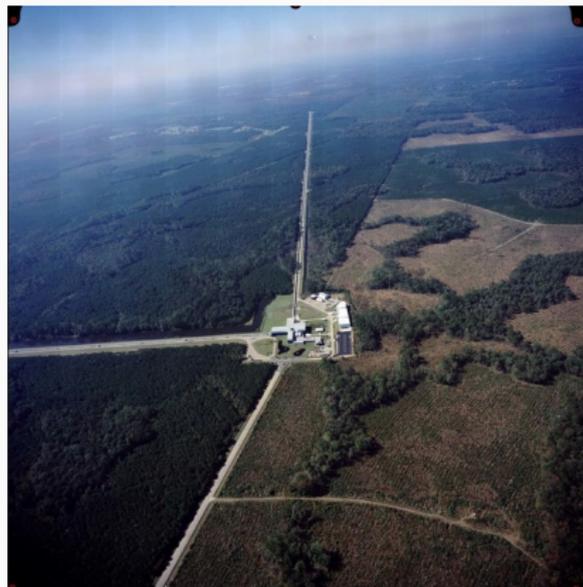
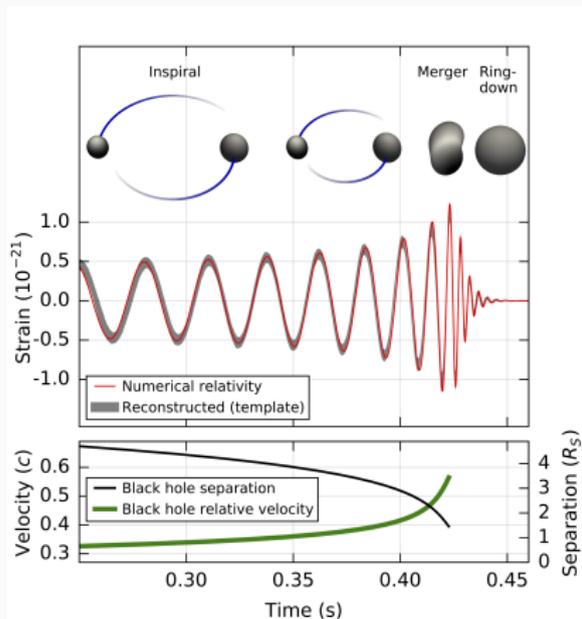


- ▶ For all null vectors k^a ,

$$R_{ab}k^ak^b \geq 0 \quad (6)$$

- ▶ Plays important role in incompleteness (singularity) theorems
 - ▶ Incompleteness of FLRW cosmologies (big bang)
 - ▶ Incompleteness inside of black holes
- ▶ Standard classical matter fields cannot stably violate NCC
- ▶ Need to modify general relativity

Test GR for the sake of basic science: gravitational waves



- ▶ Gravitational potential of earth $\sim 10^{-9}$
- ▶ Employ *matched filtering* to extract gravitational wave signals: need to accurately model the physics!

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$$S_{EdGB} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} (R - g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - V(\phi) - W(\phi) \mathcal{G}), \quad (7)$$

Gauss-Bonnet scalar

$$\mathcal{G} = R^2 - 4R_{\mu\nu}R^{\mu\nu} + R_{\mu\alpha\nu\beta}R^{\mu\alpha\nu\beta}. \quad (8)$$

Why EdGB gravity?

$$W(\phi)\mathcal{G}$$

- ▶ Find a complete theory of quantum gravity
 - ▶ Scalar Gauss-Bonnet term is order scalar-tensor mixing terms that may be found in the low energy limits of string theory
- ▶ Model the dynamics of the very early universe
- ▶ Model the dynamics of the late universe
- ▶ Model the interior of black holes
 - ▶ Scalar Gauss-Bonnet term shows up in some theories that attempt to address these problems
- ▶ Null Convergence Condition
 - ▶ EdGB gravity violates NCC for some solutions

Gravitational waves and testing GR

There are very few modified gravity theories that¹

1. Are consistent with General Relativity in regimes where it is well tested
2. Predict observable deviations in the dynamical, strong field regime relevant to black hole mergers
3. Possess a classically well-posed initial value problem

¹Lehner and Pretorius, *Ann.Rev.Astron.Astrophys.* 52 (2014) 661-694 ▶

Gravitational waves and testing GR

1. Are consistent with General Relativity in regimes where it is well tested
 - ▶ EdGB gravity not highly constrained by, e.g. binary pulsar tests²
2. Predict observable deviations in the dynamical, strong field regime relevant to black hole mergers
 - ▶ EdGB has scalarized black hole solutions, so it may predict large deviations from GR³
3. Possess a classically well-posed initial value problem
 - ▶ Equations of motion are second order so there may be initial data configurations for which this is true for EdGB gravity⁴

²Yagi et. al. Phys.Rev. D93 (2016) no.2, 024010

³e.g. Kanti, Mavromatos, Tamvakis, Winstanley, Phys.Rev. D54 (1996) 5049-5058; Sotiriou, Zhou Phys.Rev. D90 (2014) 124063

⁴e.g. Zwiebach, Phys.Lett. 156B (1985) 315-317

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Approaches to studying modified gravity theories⁶

- ▶ Order reduction approach to solve the equations of motion of a modified gravity theory ⁵
- ▶ Study exact (nonperturbative) solutions to particular modified gravity theories

⁵can be used with effective field theories

⁶For further discussion, see e.g.

Cayuso, Ortiz, Lehner, Phys.Rev. D96 (2017) no.8, 084043;

Allwright, Lehner, Class.Quant.Grav. 36 (2019) no.8, 084001

Study nonperturbative effects

Directly solve full nonlinear set of equations (our approach)

$$S_{EdGB} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} (R - g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - V(\phi) - W(\phi) \mathcal{G}), \quad (9)$$

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R + \delta_{\alpha\beta\rho\sigma}^{\gamma\delta\kappa\lambda} R^{\rho\sigma}{}_{\kappa\lambda} (\nabla^\alpha \nabla_\gamma W(\phi)) \delta^\beta{}_{(\mu} g_{\nu)\delta} \\ - \nabla_\mu \phi \nabla_\nu \phi + \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} (\nabla \phi)^2 + \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} V(\phi) = 0, \quad (10)$$

$$\square \phi - V'(\phi) - W'(\phi) \mathcal{G} = 0. \quad (11)$$

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Nonperturbative dynamics of EdGB gravity

Goal: To study the full equations of motion of a EdGB gravity

Challenge: We must then understand if theory has well posed initial value problem, obeys cosmic censorship, etc.

Reward: Could understand how modifications of GR affects the nonlinear dynamics of two black holes when they merge (and see how that affects the gravitational waveform produced during the merger)

Roadmap

- ▶ Study the dynamics of EdGB gravity in spherical symmetry for several choices of $V(\phi)$ and $W(\phi)$
 - ▶ Shift symmetric EdGB: $V(\phi) = 0$, $W(\phi) = \lambda\phi$
 - ▶ \mathbb{Z}_2 symmetric EdGB: $V(\phi) = m^2\phi^2$, $W(\phi) = \frac{1}{4}\eta\phi^2$
- ▶ Look at black hole solutions to the theory, and if for interesting features of the solutions
 - ▶ Scalarized black holes
 - ▶ Null Convergence Condition violation
 - ▶ Character of the equations of motion as partial differential equations

$$S_{EdGB} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} (R - g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - V(\phi) - W(\phi)\mathcal{G}), \quad (12)$$

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Shift symmetric EdGB gravity

$$S_{EdGB} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} (R - (\nabla\phi)^2 + 2\lambda\phi\mathcal{G}), \quad (13)$$

Shift symmetric EdGB gravity: unique shift symmetric $\phi \rightarrow \phi + c$ scalar-tensor theory that does not admit **stationary** Schwarzschild black hole solutions⁷

⁷Sotiriou and Zhou, Phys.Rev. D90 (2014) 124063

- ▶ Schwarzschild-like coordinates

$$ds^2 = - e^{2A(t,r)} dt^2 + e^{2B(t,r)} dr^2 + r^2 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2\theta d\phi^2). \quad (14)$$

- ▶ Second order finite difference methods to solve the equations of motion

Equations of motion for EdGB gravity

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R + 2\lambda\delta_{\alpha\beta\rho\sigma}^{\gamma\delta\kappa\lambda}R^{\rho\sigma}{}_{\kappa\lambda}(\nabla^\alpha\nabla_\gamma\phi)\delta^\beta{}_{(\mu}g_{\nu)\delta} - \nabla_\mu\phi\nabla_\nu\phi + \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}(\nabla\phi)^2 = 0, \quad (15)$$

$$\square\phi + \lambda\mathcal{G} = 0. \quad (16)$$

Take algebraic combinations of equations of motion to get a hyperbolic (wave-like) equation for ϕ , and ordinary differential equations in r for the metric variables A and B

Results in Schwarzschild-like coordinates

$$A\partial_t^2\phi - B\partial_t\partial_r\phi + C\partial_r^2\phi + \dots = 0, \quad (17)$$

$$\partial_r A + \dots = 0, \quad (18)$$

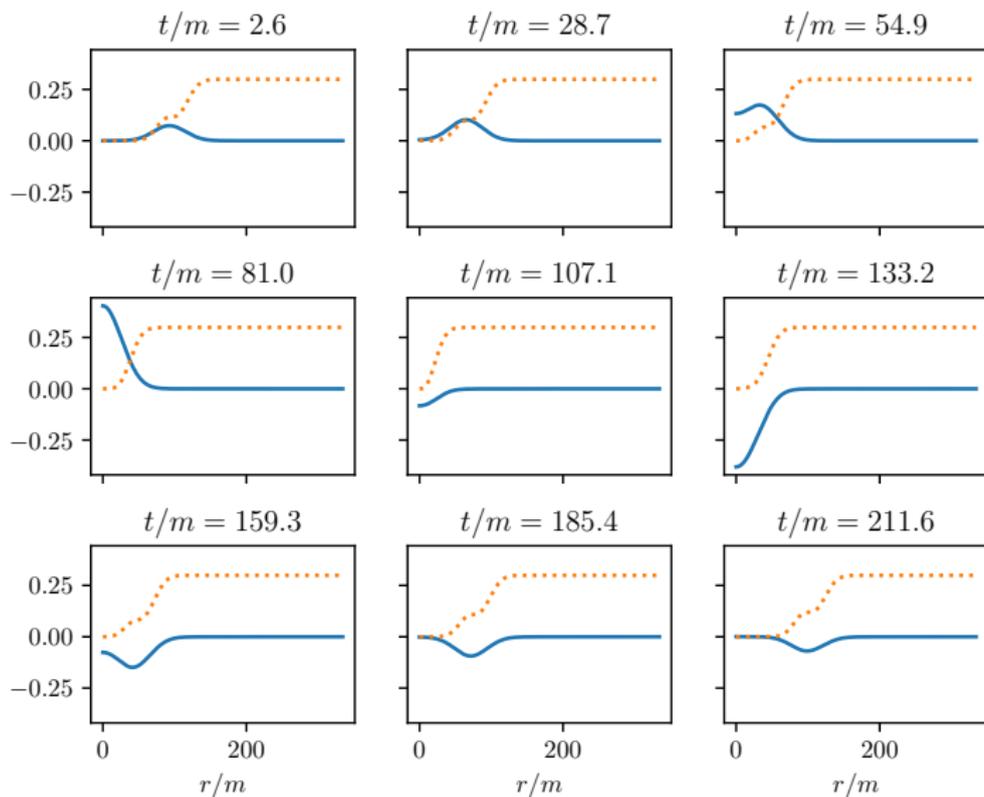
$$\partial_r B + \dots = 0. \quad (19)$$

- ▶ Study: small initial EdGB scalar pulse, with no initial black hole ⁸
- ▶ Initial data

$$\phi(t, r)|_{t=0} = a_0 \left(\frac{r}{w_0}\right)^2 \exp\left(-\left(\frac{r-r_0}{w_0}\right)^2\right). \quad (20)$$

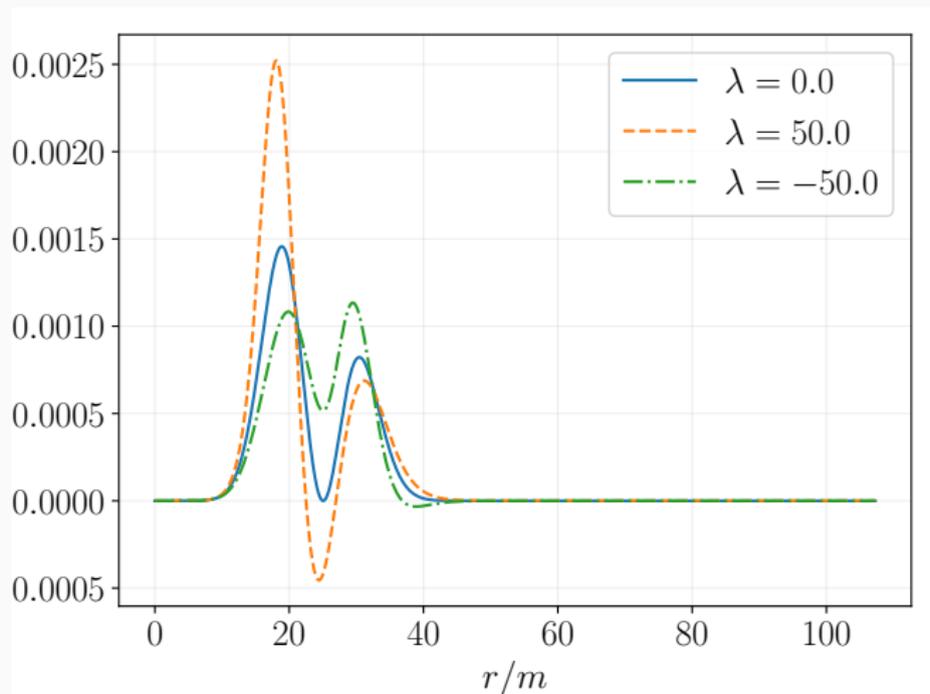
⁸JLR and Frans Pretorius Phys. Rev. D 99, 084014 (2019), JLR and Frans Pretorius Class.Quant.Grav. 36 (2019) no.13, 134001

Example scalar field evolution: scalar field disperses



Example scalar field evolution: null convergence condition

$$2\lambda\phi\mathcal{G} \quad R_{\mu\nu}k^\mu k^\nu \quad (21)$$



Diagnostics: hyperbolicity of theory

- ▶ **Challenge:** must then understand if theory has well posed initial value problem, obeys cosmic censorship, etc.
- ▶ Well posed initial value problem: theory has a *strongly hyperbolic* formulation

Diagnostics: hyperbolicity

- ▶ Hyperbolicity: all the characteristic speeds in the theory are real
- ▶ Characteristic speeds: speed at which high frequency, linear perturbations travel about background solution
- ▶ Example:

$$h(x)\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} - V(x)f = 0. \quad (22)$$

Characteristic speeds are $c_{\pm} = \pm\sqrt{1/h(x)}$.

Characteristics

- ▶ Hyperbolicity: all the characteristic speeds in the theory are real
- ▶ Characteristic speeds: speed at which high frequency, linear perturbations travel about background solution
- ▶ Example:

$$h(x)\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} - V(x)f = 0. \quad (23)$$

Characteristic speeds are $c_{\pm} = \pm\sqrt{1/h(x)}$.

Characteristic speed



Diagnostics: hyperbolicity

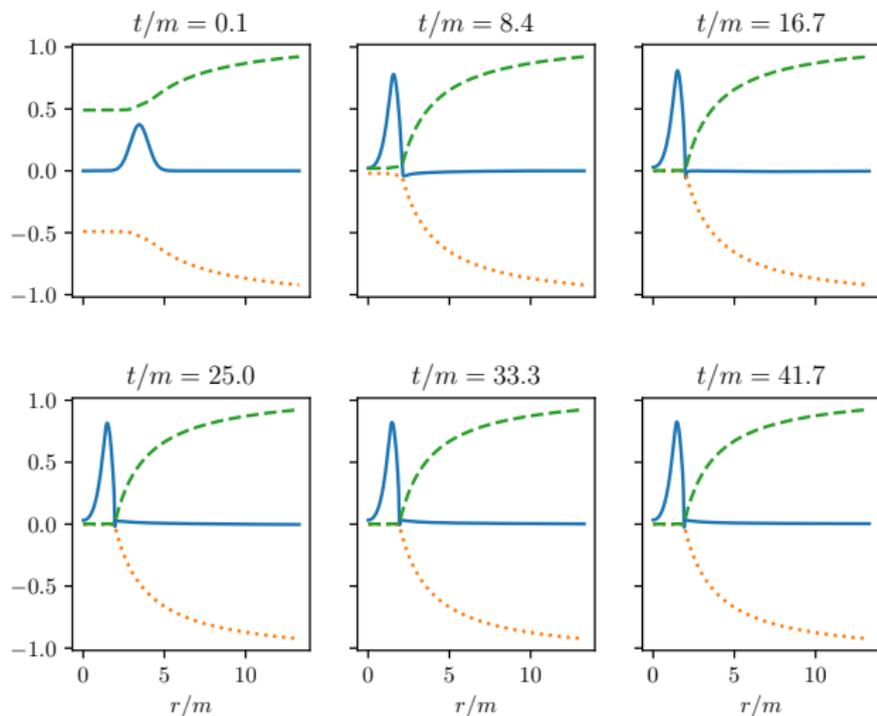
- ▶ Hyperbolicity: all the characteristic speeds in the theory are real
- ▶ For EdGB gravity in spherical symmetry, characteristic speeds c obey equation of the form:

$$\mathcal{A}c^2 + \mathcal{B}c + \mathcal{C} = 0, \quad (24)$$

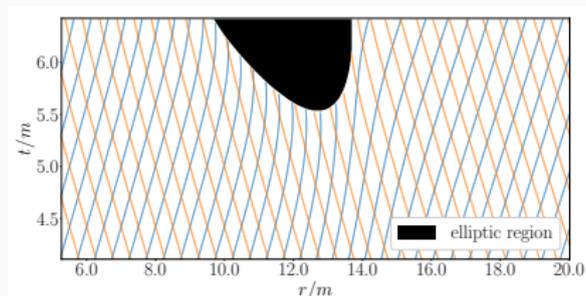
where \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{B} , and \mathcal{C} depend on metric variables, scalar field, and their derivatives.

- ▶ Three regimes: parabolic, elliptic, and hyperbolic depending on sign of the discriminant $\mathcal{D} \equiv \mathcal{B}^2 - 4\mathcal{A}\mathcal{C}$.

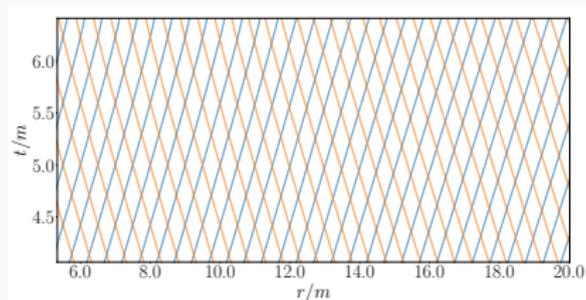
Scalar field evolution and characteristics for $\lambda R \ll 1$



EdGB gravity with $R\lambda \sim 0.1$

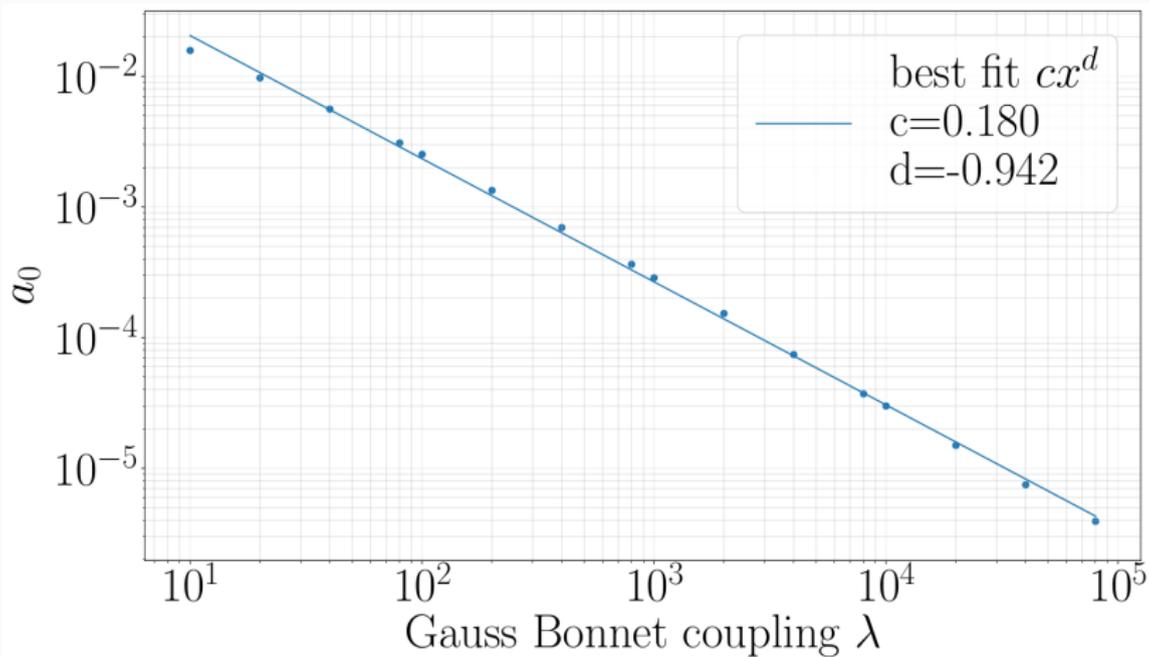


(a) EdGB characteristics



(b) Null characteristics

Elliptic vs hyperbolic evolution



$$\phi(t, r)|_{t=0} = a_0 \left(\frac{r}{w_0} \right)^2 \exp \left(- \left(\frac{r - r_0}{w_0} \right)^2 \right). \quad (25)$$

EdGB gravity as “mixed-type” equations

- ▶ We find EdGB equations of motion for scalar field are hyperbolic up to a given curvature scale $R \times \lambda \sim 0.1$, then equations become *elliptic*
- ▶ Mixed type PDE: solution regions where elliptic, hyperbolic
- ▶ Example: Tricomi equation

$$\partial_x^2 f + x \partial_y^2 f = 0. \quad (26)$$

- ▶ Separation line between hyperbolic and elliptic part: **sonic line**

“Mixed-type” PDE

- Terminology comes from fluid dynamics: equation of motion for steady state solutions to inviscid, compressible flow obey a mixed-type equation⁹

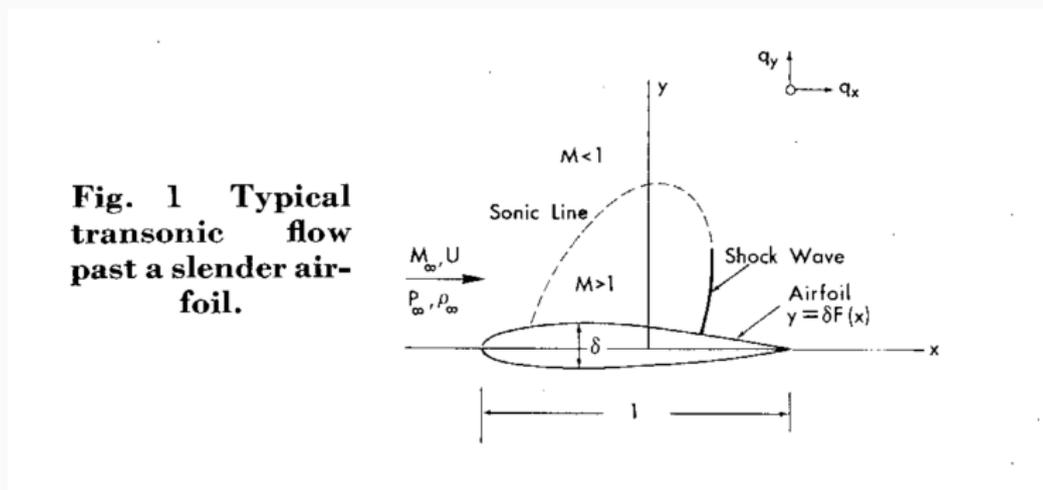


Figure: J. D. Cole and E. M. Murman. *Calculation of Plane Steady Transonic Flow*

⁹e.g. C. Morawetz, *Mathematical Approach to the Sonic Barrier*

Simulations in Painlevé-Gullstrand (PG) coordinates

$$ds^2 = -\alpha(t, r)^2 dt^2 + (dr + \alpha(t, r)\zeta(t, r)dt)^2 + r^2 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2\theta d\phi^2). \quad (27)$$

- ▶ Horizon penetrating
- ▶ Not singularity avoiding
- ▶ spatially flat: ${}^{(3)}R_{ijkl} = 0$

$$\alpha = 1, \quad \zeta = \sqrt{\frac{2m}{r}}. \quad (28)$$

Equations of motion in PG coordinates for EdGB gravity

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R + 2\lambda\delta_{\alpha\beta\rho\sigma}^{\gamma\delta\kappa\lambda}R^{\rho\sigma}{}_{\kappa\lambda}(\nabla^\alpha\nabla_\gamma\phi)\delta^{\beta(\mu}g_{\nu)\delta} - \nabla_\mu\phi\nabla_\nu\phi + \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}(\nabla\phi)^2 = 0, \quad (29)$$

$$\square\phi + \lambda\mathcal{G} = 0. \quad (30)$$

- ▶ Through taking algebraic combinations of the equations of motion, can define wave-like equation for ϕ (with no time derivatives acting on α and ζ).
- ▶ Hamiltonian and momentum constraints give ordinary differential equations (in r) for metric fields α and ζ

- ▶ Solve PDE/ODE system with (second order) finite difference methods
- ▶ Spatial compactification ($x = L$ is spatial infinity)

$$r(x) \equiv \frac{x}{1 - x/L} \quad (31)$$

- ▶ Modified Berger-Oliger style fixed mesh refinement to solve system of hyperbolic and elliptic (ode) equations¹⁰

¹⁰Pretorius and Choptuik, J.Comput.Phys. 218 (2006) 246-274 

Schwarzschild initial data

- ▶ Schwarzschild initial data
- ▶ Curvature coupling with black hole mass m

$$C \equiv \frac{\lambda}{m^2}. \quad (32)$$

- ▶ Compare to “decoupled” scalar field solution: time independent solution of Schwarzschild background with scalar field obeying

$$\square\phi + \lambda\mathcal{G} = 0. \quad (33)$$

Growth of scalar hair

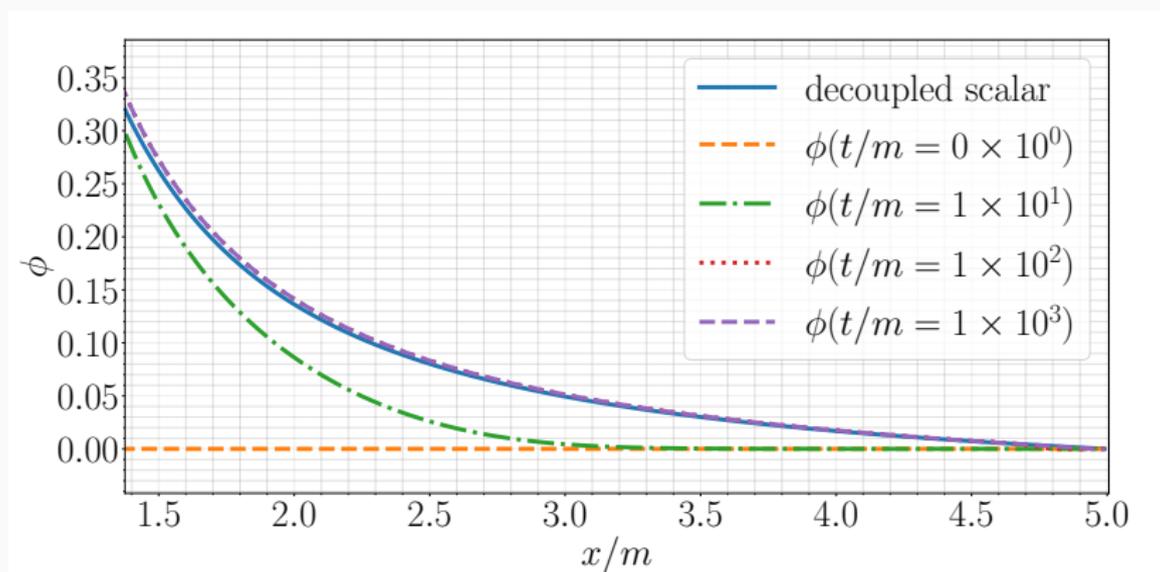
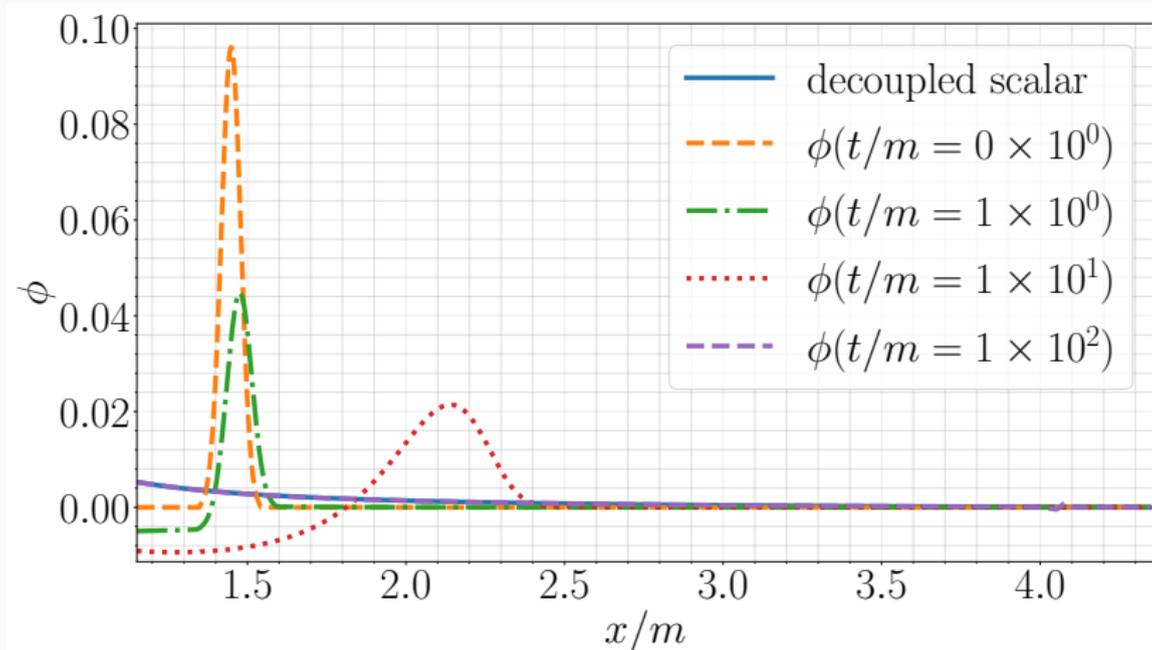


Figure: $C = 0.16$. The horizon (MOTS) is located at $x_h/m \approx 1.48$, and spatial infinity is at $x/m = 5$.

Schwarzschild initial data with a perturbation

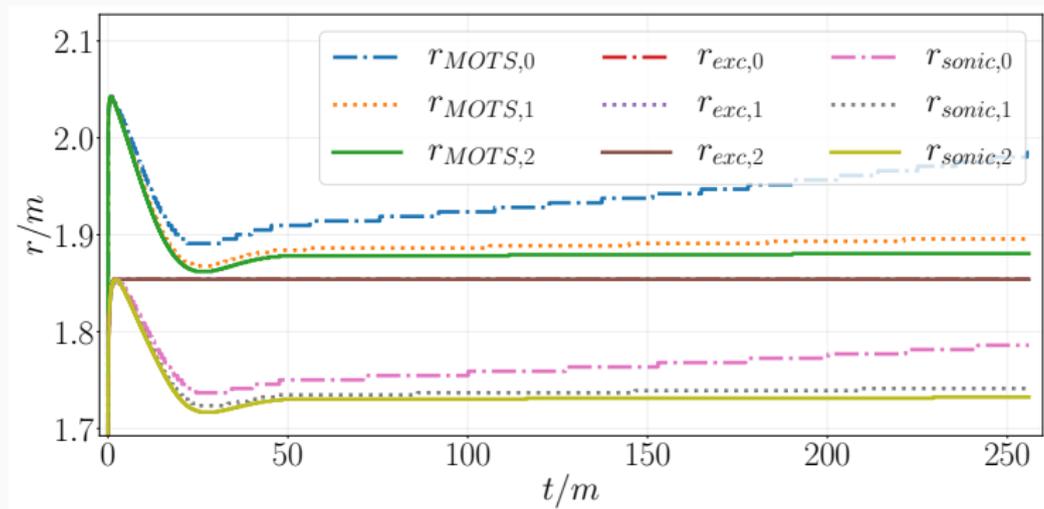


$$\phi(t, r)|_{t=0} = \begin{cases} \phi_0 \exp\left[-\frac{1}{(r-a)(b-r)}\right] \exp\left[-5\left(\frac{r-(a+b)/2}{a+b}\right)^2\right] & a < r < b \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Sonic line and black holes in EdGB gravity

- ▶ Sonic line forms inside EdGB black hole for any (nonzero) value of λ
- ▶ Geometry is smooth and finite up to sonic line (cannot say what geometry is past sonic line)
- ▶ For small enough λ/m^2 , sonic line inside black hole horizon and elliptic region is “censored”
- ▶ For large enough λ/m^2 , sonic line outside black hole horizon

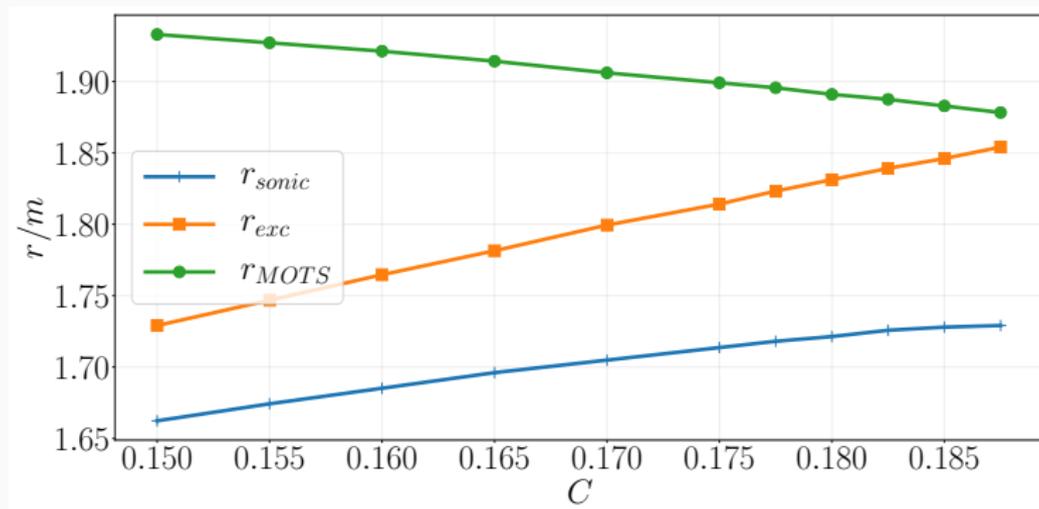
Evolution of sonic line vs. apparent horizon



EdGB black holes: elliptic region inside of black hole for small enough curvature couplings

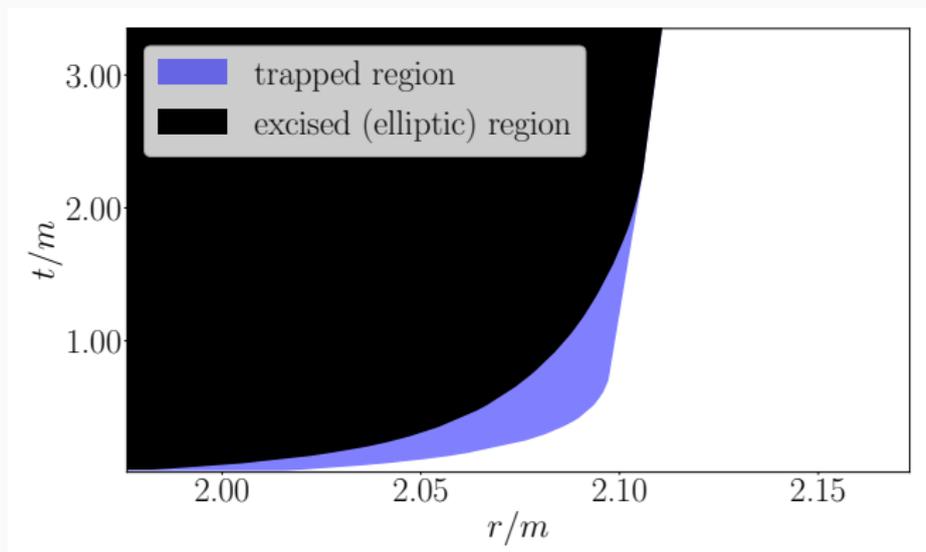
Evolution of sonic line vs. apparent horizon

Sonic point approaches black hole horizon for larger curvature couplings (estimate “extremal” $\lambda/m^2 \sim 0.23$)



“Superextremal” curvature-coupling

For large enough curvature couplings, elliptic region grows outside of black hole: have “naked” elliptic region and can on longer run simulations



“Superextremal” curvature-coupling

- ▶ Formation of naked elliptic region: breakdown of casual evolution
- ▶ No universal curvature coupling value for which have “naked” elliptic region
- ▶ With large enough gradients can trigger elliptic region formation, so triggering elliptic region formation depends on initial data ¹¹

¹¹JLR and Frans Pretorius Phys. Rev. D 99, 084014 (2019), JLR and Frans Pretorius Class.Quant.Grav. 36 (2019) no.13, 134001

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$$S_{\mathbb{Z}_2} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left(R - (\nabla\phi)^2 - \mu^2\phi^2 - 2\lambda\phi^4 + \frac{1}{8}\eta\phi^2\mathcal{G} \right). \quad (34)$$

- ▶ symmetric under $\phi \rightarrow -\phi$
- ▶ Scalarized black holes can form in this theory depending on value of μ , λ , η , and black hole mass

- ▶ With black holes of mass M define dimensionless quantities

$$\hat{M} \equiv \frac{M}{\eta^{1/2}}, \quad (35)$$

$$\hat{\mu} \equiv \mu\eta^{1/2}, \quad (36)$$

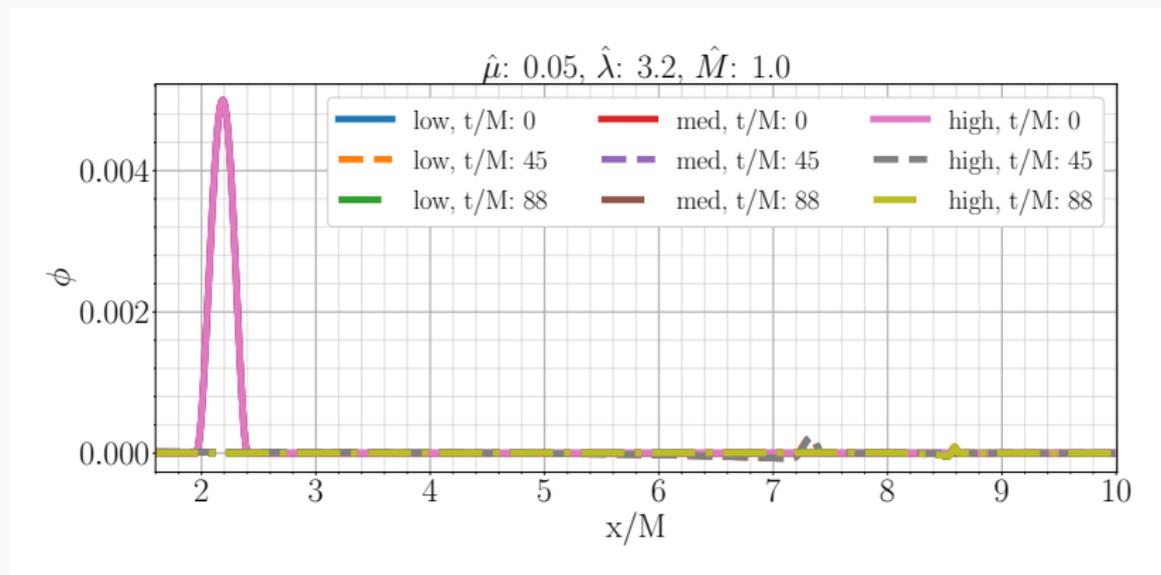
$$\hat{\lambda} \equiv \eta\lambda. \quad (37)$$

- ▶ For large enough $\hat{\lambda}$ and small enough \hat{M} radially stable scalarized black holes exist in this theory
- ▶ For small enough \hat{M} an elliptic region can form outside of the black hole horizon
- ▶ For large enough $\hat{\lambda}$, there is a band of \hat{M} values that lead to scalarized black holes but no naked elliptic region
- ▶ With nonzero $\hat{\lambda}$, for scalarized black holes there is an elliptic region inside the horizon

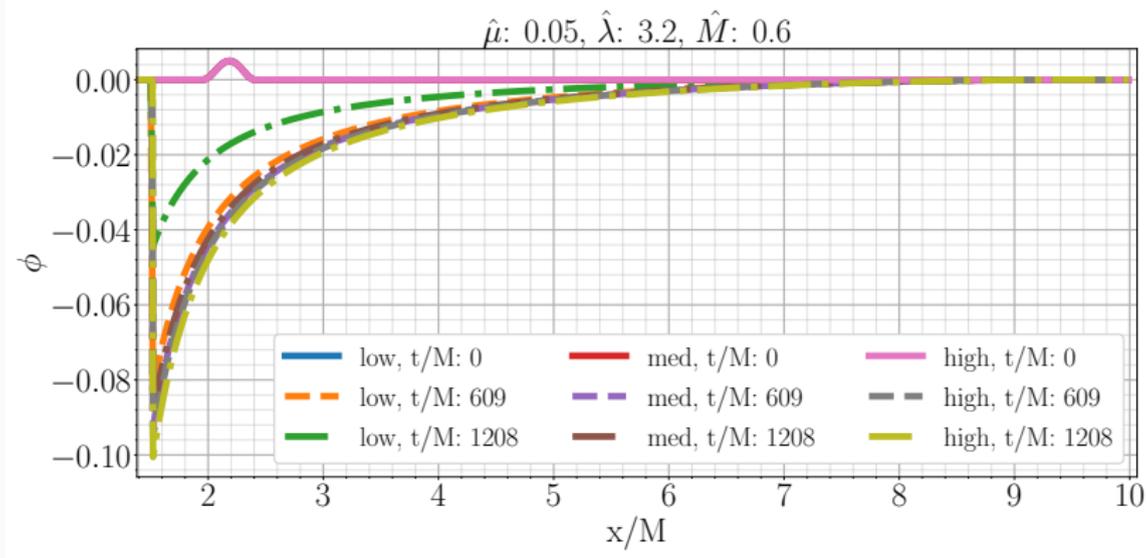
Numerical setup

- ▶ Work in Painlevé-Gullstrand coordinates
- ▶ Spatially compactified domain
- ▶ Unigrid evolution
- ▶ Always have black hole in initial data, with nonzero scalar field profile outside of black hole

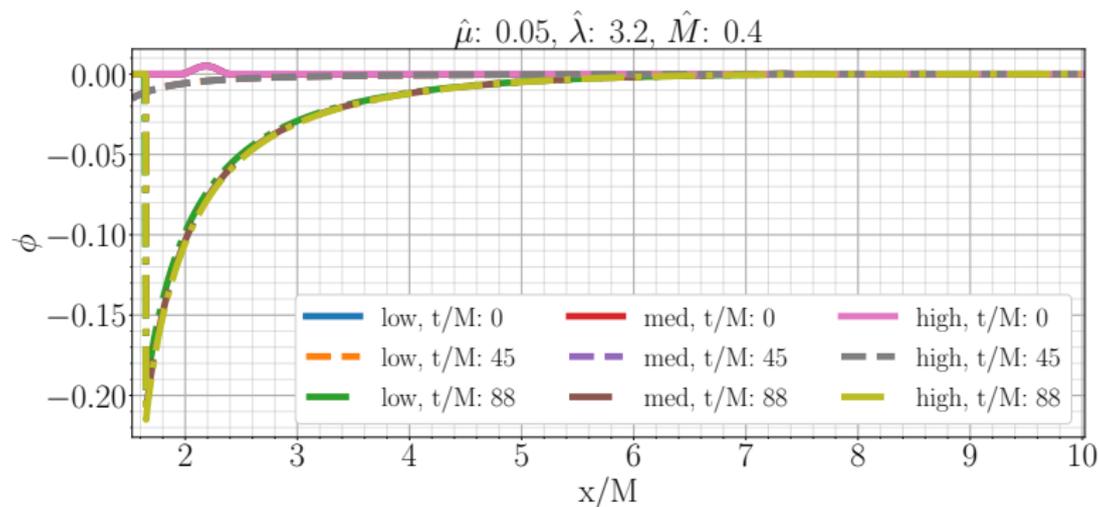
Example: scalar field disperses and stable Schwarzschild black hole results



Example: black hole scalarization



Example: naked elliptic region forms



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Publications related to this presentation

- ▶ JLR and Frans Pretorius, Phys.Rev.D 99 (2019) 8, 084014, arXiv:1902.01468
- ▶ JLR and Frans Pretorius, Class.Quant.Grav. 36 (2019) 13, 134001, arXiv:1903.07543
- ▶ JLR, Class.Quant.Grav. 36 (2019) 23, 237001, arXiv:1908.04234
- ▶ JLR and Frans Pretorius, Phys.Rev.D 101 (2020) 4, 044015, arXiv:1911.11027
- ▶ JLR and Frans Pretorius, Class.Quant.Grav, arXiv:2005.05417

Future directions

- ▶ Study other modified gravity theories in spherical symmetry and look at NCC, hyperbolicity, etc
- ▶ Kovacs and Reall: 'modified harmonic gauge'¹⁴ that allows for solving EdGB gravity (and other 'Horndeski theories') in general backgrounds
- ▶ Implement this gauge with a version of Frans' generalized harmonic code
- ▶ Ultimate goal: black hole simulations and gravitational wave signals

Conclusion

- ▶ GR is an extremely successful theory of gravity, but there are still reasons to study modified gravity theories
- ▶ Study of the nonlinear dynamics of EdGB gravity in spherical symmetry
 - ▶ Scalarized black holes can form for some versions of the theory and for some parameter ranges
 - ▶ EdGB gravity violates weak/strong cosmic censorship
- ▶ potential future directions:
 - ▶ Study EdGB gravity in less symmetry restricted spacetime in modified harmonic gauge
 - ▶ Apply analysis to other varieties of EdGB gravity, or other modified gravity theories

Additional work on well-posedness of modified gravity theories

- ▶ Bernard, Lehner, and Luna¹⁵ consider spherically symmetric dynamics of

$$\mathcal{L} = (1 + G_4(\phi)) R + (\partial\phi)^2 - V(\phi) + G_2(\phi, (\partial\phi)^2). \quad (38)$$

see also Papallo and Reall, who study Horndeski theories in less symmetric spacetimes¹⁶.

- ▶ Kovacs and Reall¹⁷ have found a set of gauge conditions that may lead to well-posed evolution for small enough deviations from GR

$$\mathcal{L} = R + (\partial\phi)^2 + f_1(\phi) (\partial\phi)^4 - V(\phi) + f_2(\phi)\mathcal{G}. \quad (39)$$

¹⁵Phys.Rev. D100 (2019) no.2, 024011

¹⁶Papallo, Reall, Phys.Rev. D96 (2017) no.4, 044019

¹⁷2003.08398

Shift symmetric EdGB gravity in these two approaches

$$S_{EdGB} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} (R - g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - 2\lambda \phi \mathcal{G}), \quad (40)$$

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R + 2\lambda \delta_{\alpha\beta\rho\sigma}^{\gamma\delta\kappa\lambda} R^{\rho\sigma}{}_{\kappa\lambda} (\nabla^\alpha \nabla_\gamma \phi) \delta^{\beta(\mu} g_{\nu)\delta} - \nabla_\mu \phi \nabla_\nu \phi + \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} (\nabla \phi)^2 = 0, \quad (41)$$

$$\square \phi + \lambda \mathcal{G} = 0. \quad (42)$$

Order reduction approach for EdGB gravity¹⁸

Assume $\epsilon \sim \lambda$ and $|\epsilon| \ll 1$

$$\begin{aligned}g_{\mu\nu} &= g_{\mu\nu}^{(0)} + \epsilon g_{\mu\nu}^{(1)} + \epsilon^2 g_{\mu\nu}^{(2)} + \dots \\ \phi &= \phi^{(0)} + \epsilon \phi^{(1)} + \epsilon^2 \phi^{(2)} + \dots\end{aligned}\tag{43a}$$

$$\phi^{(0)} = 0,\tag{44a}$$

$$R_{\mu\nu}[g_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)}] - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R[g_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)}] = 0\tag{44b}$$

$$\square\phi^{(1)} = \lambda\mathcal{G}[g_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)}],\tag{45a}$$

$$R_{\mu\nu}[g_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)}] - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R[g_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)}] = 0\tag{45b}$$

$$R_{\mu\nu}[g_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}] - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R[g_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}] = \lambda \times F[\phi^{(1)}]\tag{46}$$

¹⁸Okounkova, *Phys. Rev. D* 100 (2019)