

Tidal Love Numbers of Black Holes Dressed by Dark Matter

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D'Onofrio, Datta & Maselli, arXiv:2605.02633



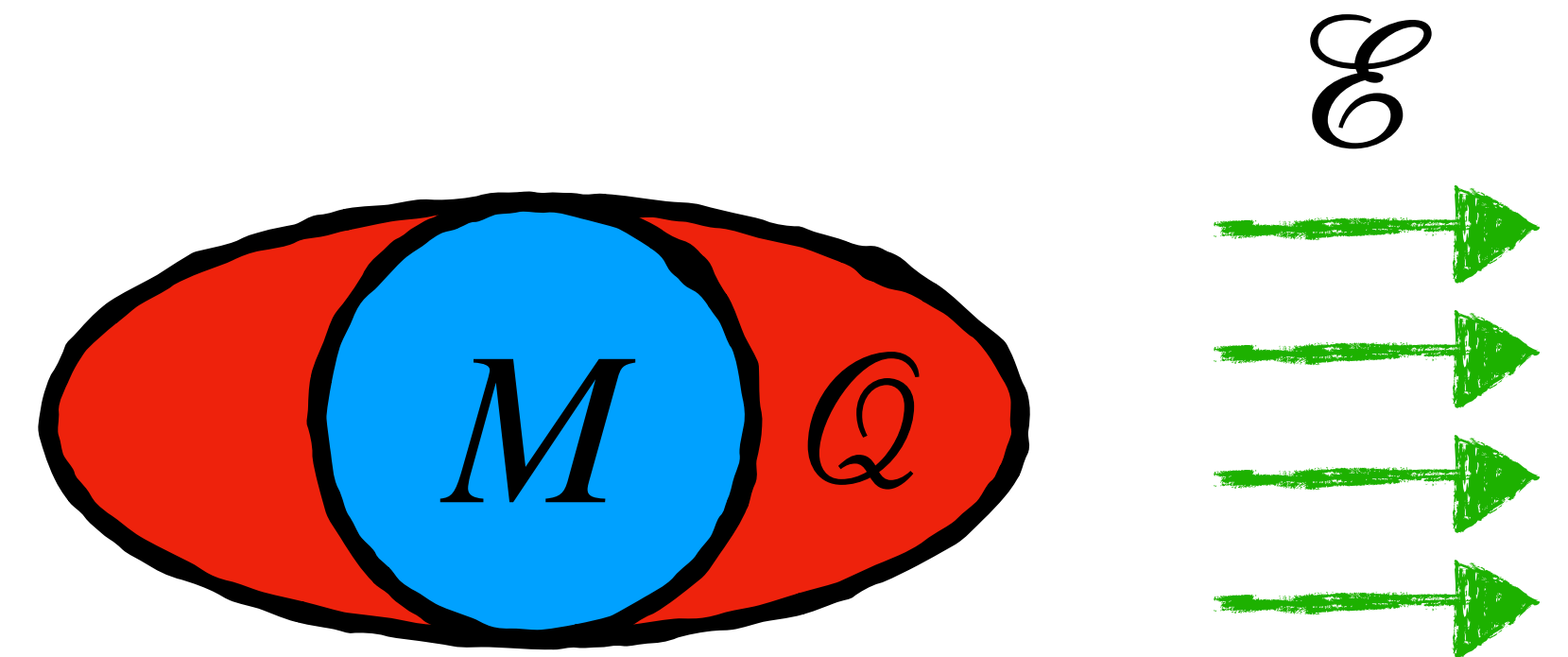
Newtonian Love number

Newtonian potential

$$\Phi(r) = \underbrace{\frac{M}{r}}_{\text{Newtonian potential}} + \underbrace{\left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{E} r^2 + \frac{Q}{r^3} \right)}_{\text{Induced Response}}$$

Tidal Field

Induced Response

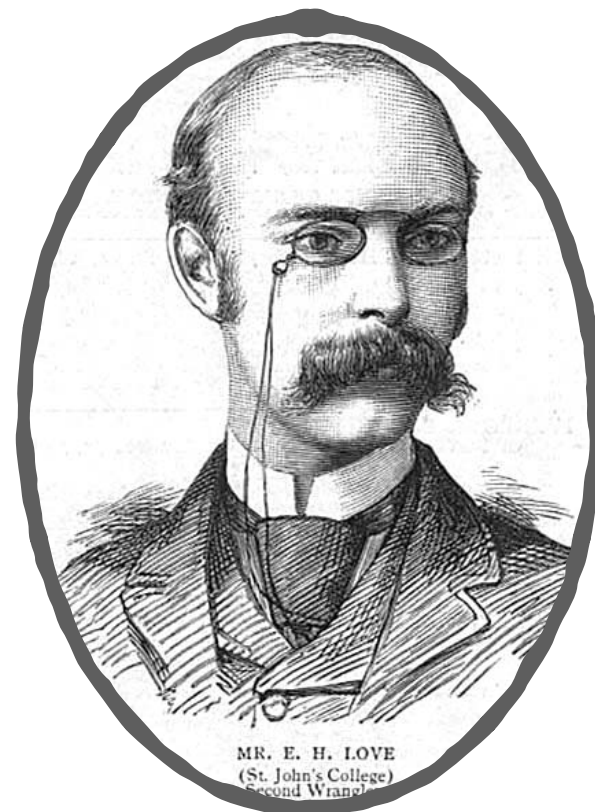
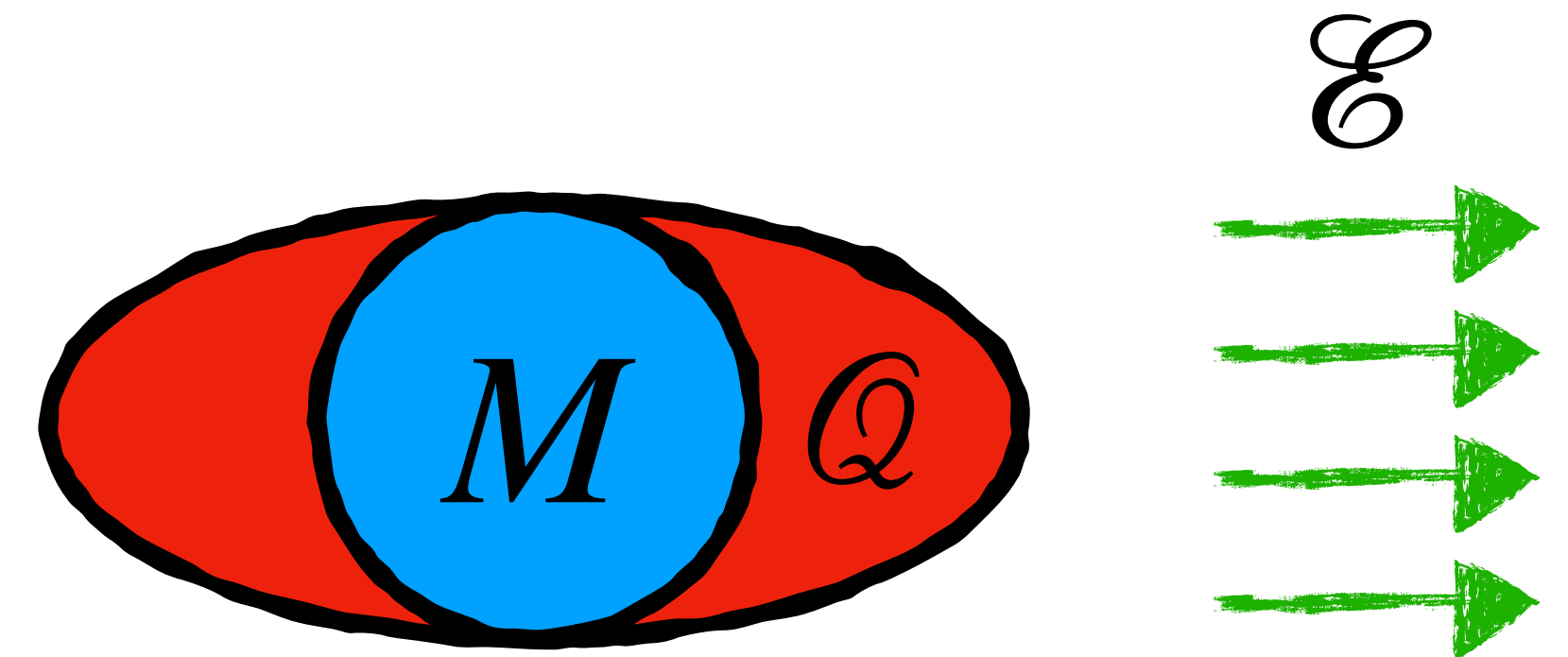


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Newtonian potential

$$\Phi(r) = \underbrace{\frac{M}{r}}_{\text{Newtonian}} + \underbrace{\left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{E} r^2 + \frac{Q}{r^3} \right)}_{\text{Induced Response}}$$

Tidal Field



Augustus Love
(1863, 1940)

Tidal deformability λ
(dimensionful)

$$Q = \lambda \mathcal{E}$$

Tidal Love number k_2
(dimensionless)

$$k_2 \propto \frac{\lambda}{L^5}$$

Relativistic Love number

Now the perturbation is **metric**, not a scalar, so
it splits by **parity**



Polar/Electric

even

Axial/Magnetic

odd

Relativistic Love number

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Far from the source, the field must settle into the **ACMC structure**, where **internal** ($Q_{\ell m}$) and **tidal** ($\mathcal{E}_{\ell m}$) multipoles are read off without coordinate ambiguity.

Asymptotically-mass-centered (ACMC)

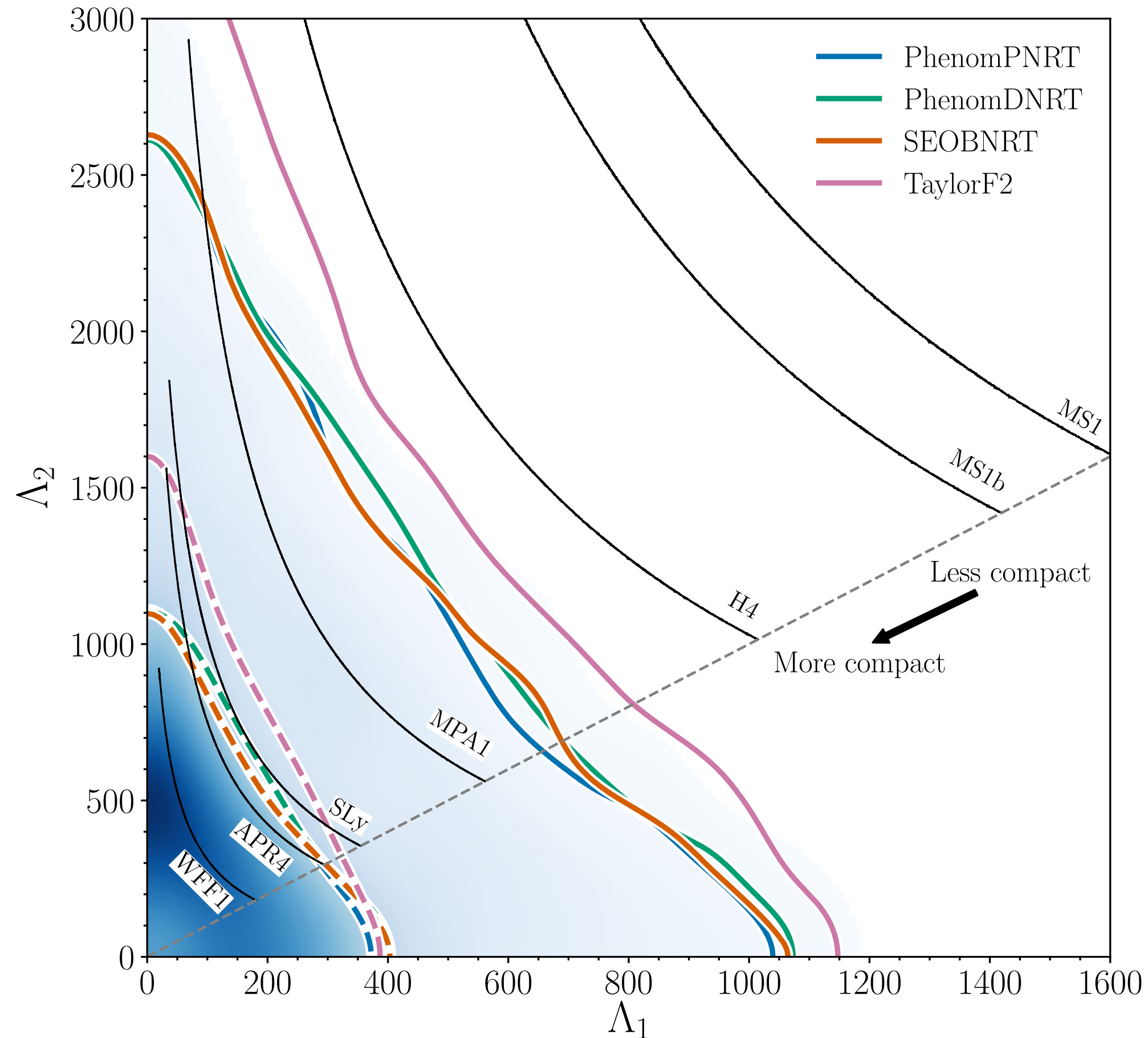
$$g_{tt} = -1 + \frac{2M}{r} + \sum_{\ell \geq 2, m} \left(\frac{1}{r^{\ell+1}} Q_{\ell m} + r^{\ell} \mathcal{E}_{\ell m} \right) Y_{\ell m}$$

Thorne, Rev. Mod. Phys. 52, 299 (1980)

Tides are measurable

BNS GW170817

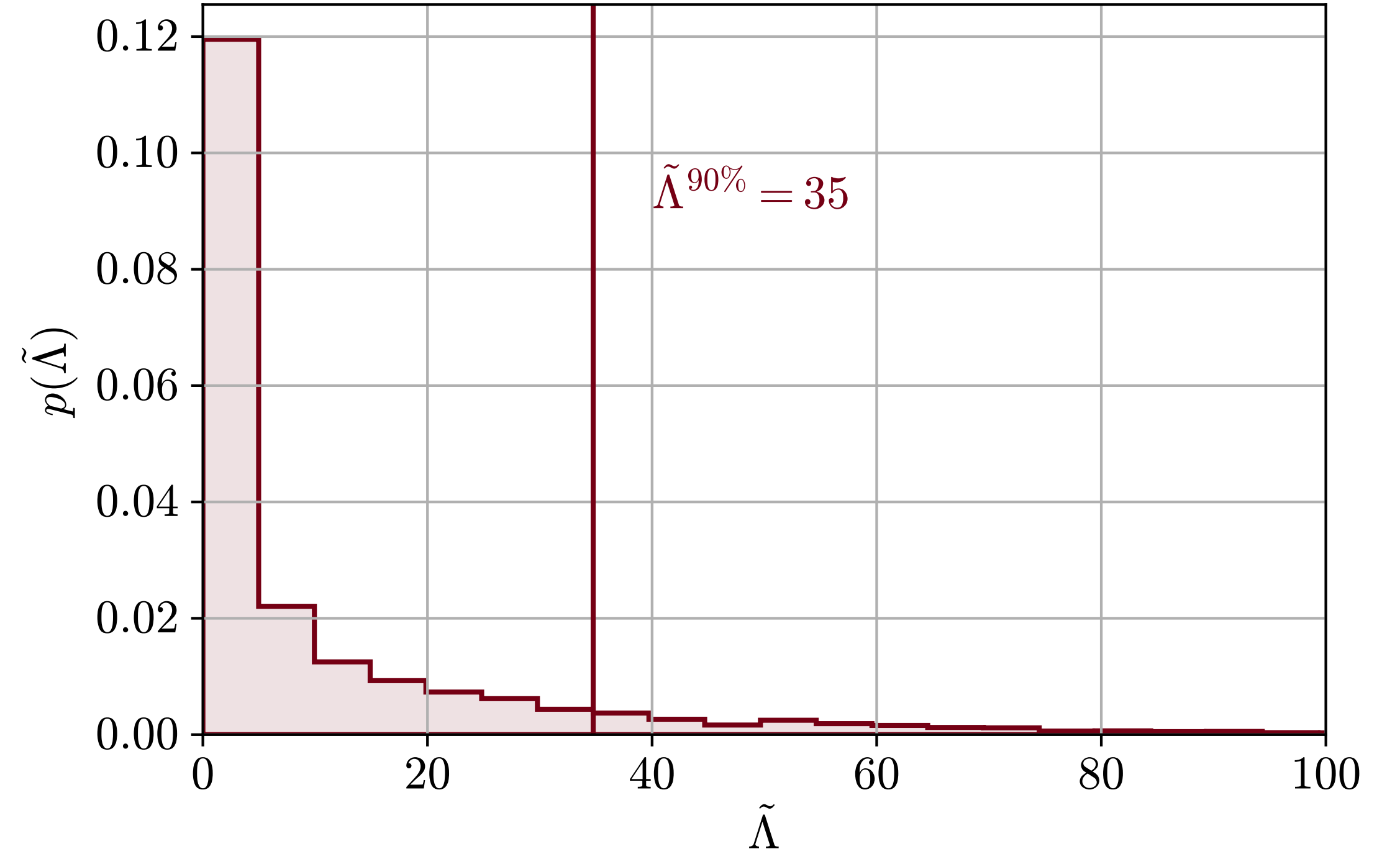
LVK, arXiv:1805.11579



$$\psi_{\text{tidal}} \propto \underbrace{\lambda_2 v^5}_{5\text{PN Polar}} + \underbrace{\lambda_2 v^6}_{6\text{PN}} + \underbrace{\sigma_2 v^6}_{6\text{PN Axial}} + \dots$$

BBH GW250114

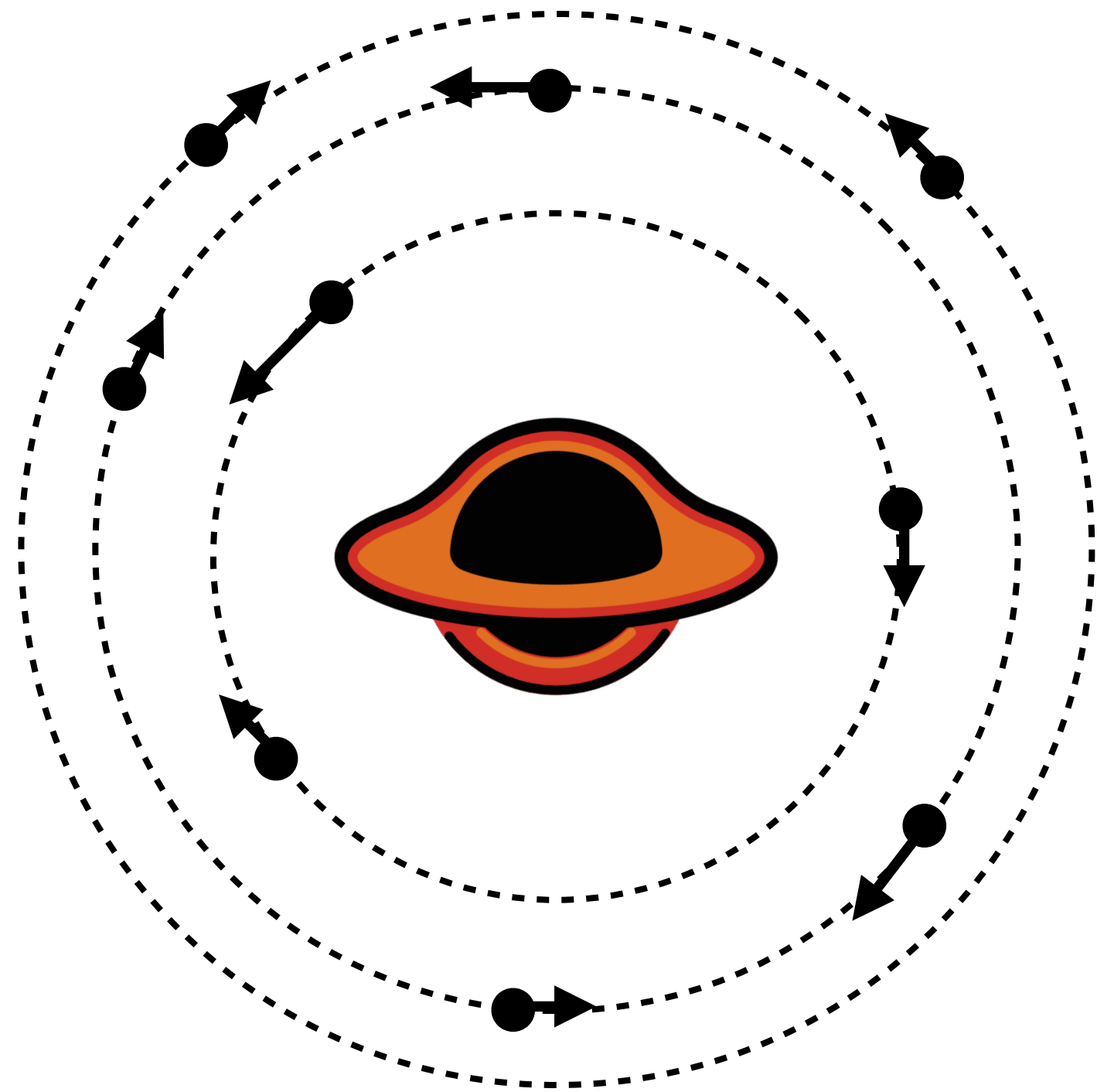
Andrés-Carcasona & Caneva Santoro, arXiv:2512.01918



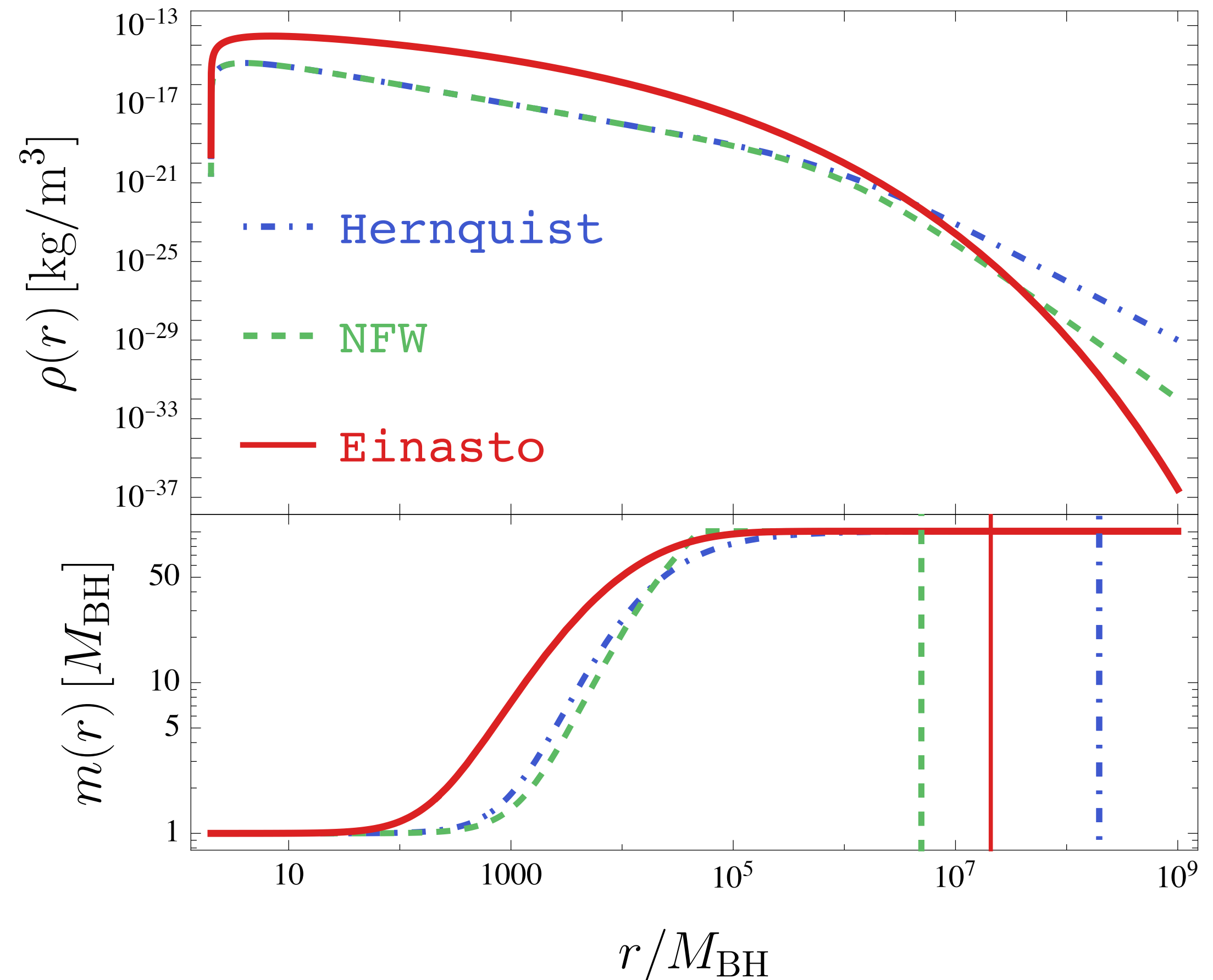
Black Holes in dark matter halos

Einstein Cluster

anisotropic fluid with no radial pressure



$$\rho(r) = \left(1 - \frac{2M_{BH}}{r}\right) \rho_{DM}(r)$$



The framework

Valid for axial perturbations of any anisotropic fluids in a spherically symmetric background.

$$T_{\mu\nu} = (\rho + p_t)u_\mu u_\nu + p_t g_{\mu\nu} + (p_r - p_t)k_\mu k_\nu \quad \delta g_{\mu\nu} = \sum_{\ell, m} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & h_0^{\ell m}(r, t)S_\theta^{\ell m} & h_0^{\ell m}(r, t)S_\phi^{\ell m} \\ * & 0 & h_1^{\ell m}(r, t)S_\theta^{\ell m} & h_1^{\ell m}(r, t)S_\phi^{\ell m} \\ * & * & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Axial/Magnetic

Coupled time-dependent axial equations

$$e^{-\nu}\dot{h}_0 - e^{-\lambda}h_1' - \frac{1}{r^2}\left(2m - 4\pi r^3(\bar{\rho} - \bar{p}_r)\right)h_1 = 0$$

$$e^{-\nu}\left(\dot{h}_0' - \ddot{h}_1\right) - \frac{2e^{-\nu}}{r}\dot{h}_0 - \left(\frac{(\ell - 1)(\ell + 2)}{r^2} + 16\pi(\bar{p}_t - \bar{p}_r)\right)h_1 = -\frac{4(\bar{p}_t - \bar{p}_r)}{\bar{\rho} + \bar{p}_t}U_k$$

$$e^{-\lambda}\left(h_0'' - \dot{h}_1'\right) - 4\pi r(\bar{\rho} + \bar{p}_r)\left(h_0' - \dot{h}_1\right) - \frac{2}{r}e^{-\lambda}\dot{h}_1 - \frac{1}{r^2}\left(\ell(\ell + 1) - \frac{4m}{r} + 8\pi r^2(\bar{\rho} + 2\bar{p}_t - \bar{p}_r)\right)h_0 = -4e^\nu U$$

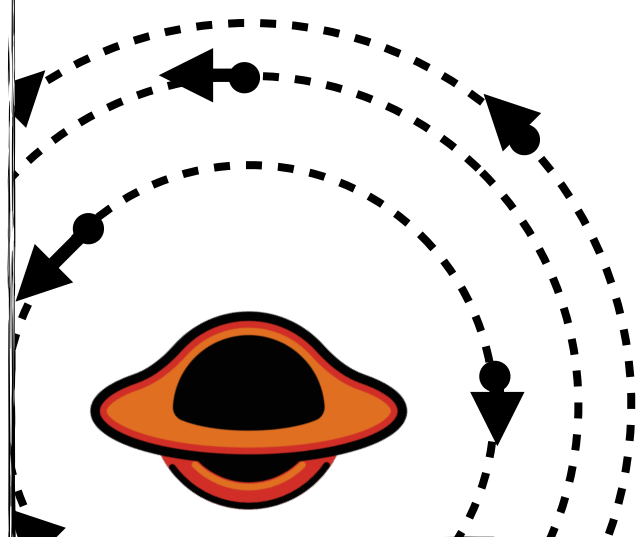
The framework

Irrotational master equation

$$e^{-\lambda} h_0'' - 4\pi r (\bar{\rho} + \bar{p}_r) h_0' - \frac{1}{r^2} \left(\ell(\ell + 1) - \frac{4m}{r} - 8\pi r^2 (\bar{\rho} + \bar{p}_r) \right) h_0 = 0$$

In the case of an **Einstein cluster**, $p_r = 0$:

$$\left(1 - \frac{2m}{r} \right) h_0'' - \frac{m'}{r} h_0' - \left(\frac{\ell(\ell + 1)}{r^2} - \frac{4m}{r^3} - \frac{2m'}{r^2} \right) h_0 = 0$$



Case study: Dark matter environment

Analytical

1. *Small compactness expansion $C = M/a_0$*
2. *Solving analytically h_0 up to first order in C*
3. *Compute the asymptotic behavior of the solution and **extract Love numbers***

Numerical

1. *Integrate the master equation up to R_{99}*
2. *Link it to the vacuum solution up to R_{ext}*
3. *Use the Hinderer formula for compact objects*

Hinderer, arXiv:0711.2420

Must agree!

Hernquist profile

Asymptotic solution different from ACMC :

$$h_0(r) \sim \underbrace{\sum_{i=-\infty}^3 a_i r^i}_{\text{ACMC}} + \underbrace{\log\left(\frac{r}{R_s}\right) \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} b_i r^{-i}}_{\text{Extra terms}}$$

R_s is an arbitrary length scale introduced to render the argument of the logarithm dimensionless

Cardoso & Duque, arXiv:1912.07616

Hernquist profile

Asymptotic solution different from ACMC : $h_0(r) \sim \overbrace{\sum_{i=-\infty}^3 a_i r^i}^{\text{ACMC}} + \underbrace{\log\left(\frac{r}{R_s}\right) \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} b_i r^{-i}}_{\text{Extra terms}}$

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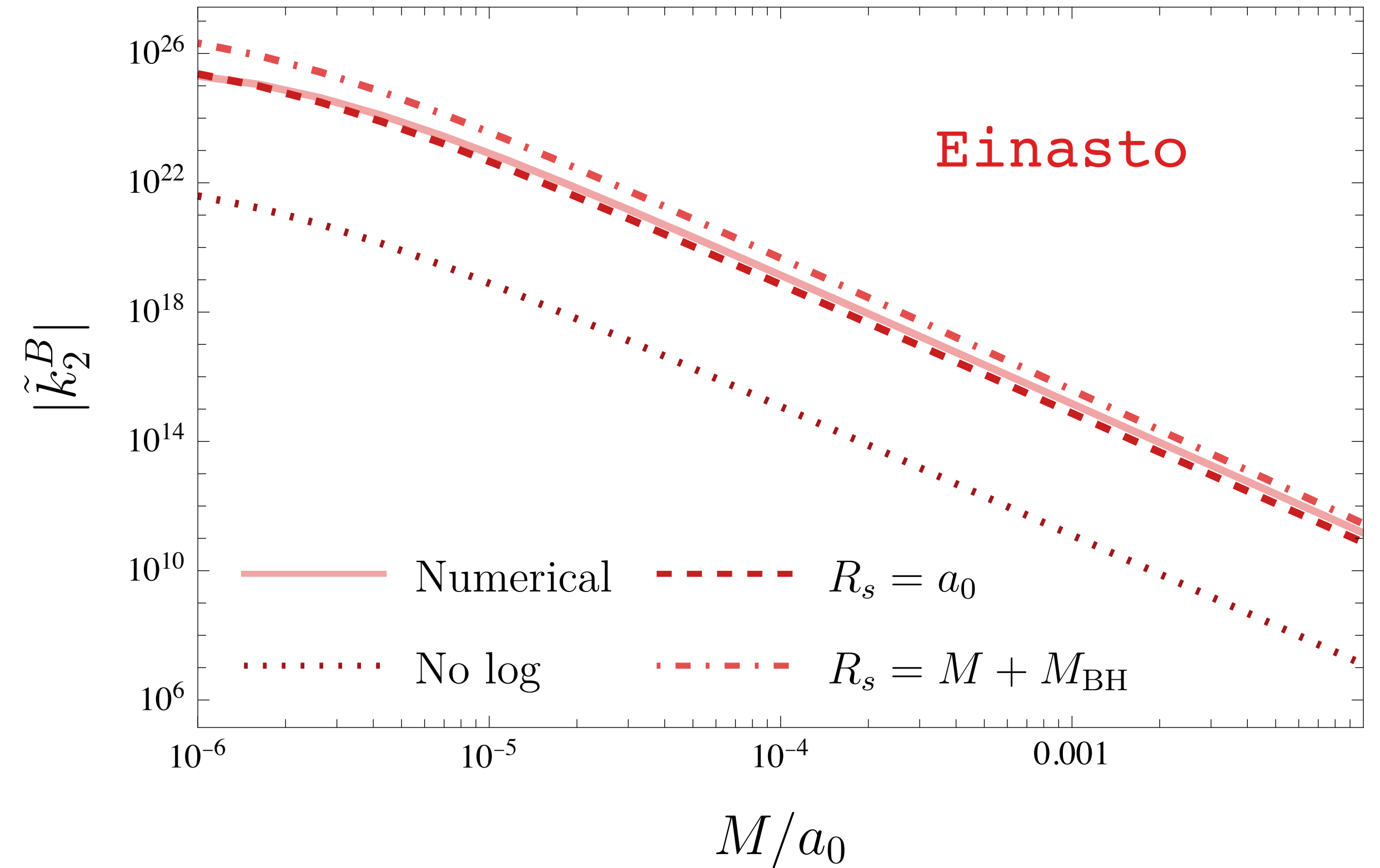
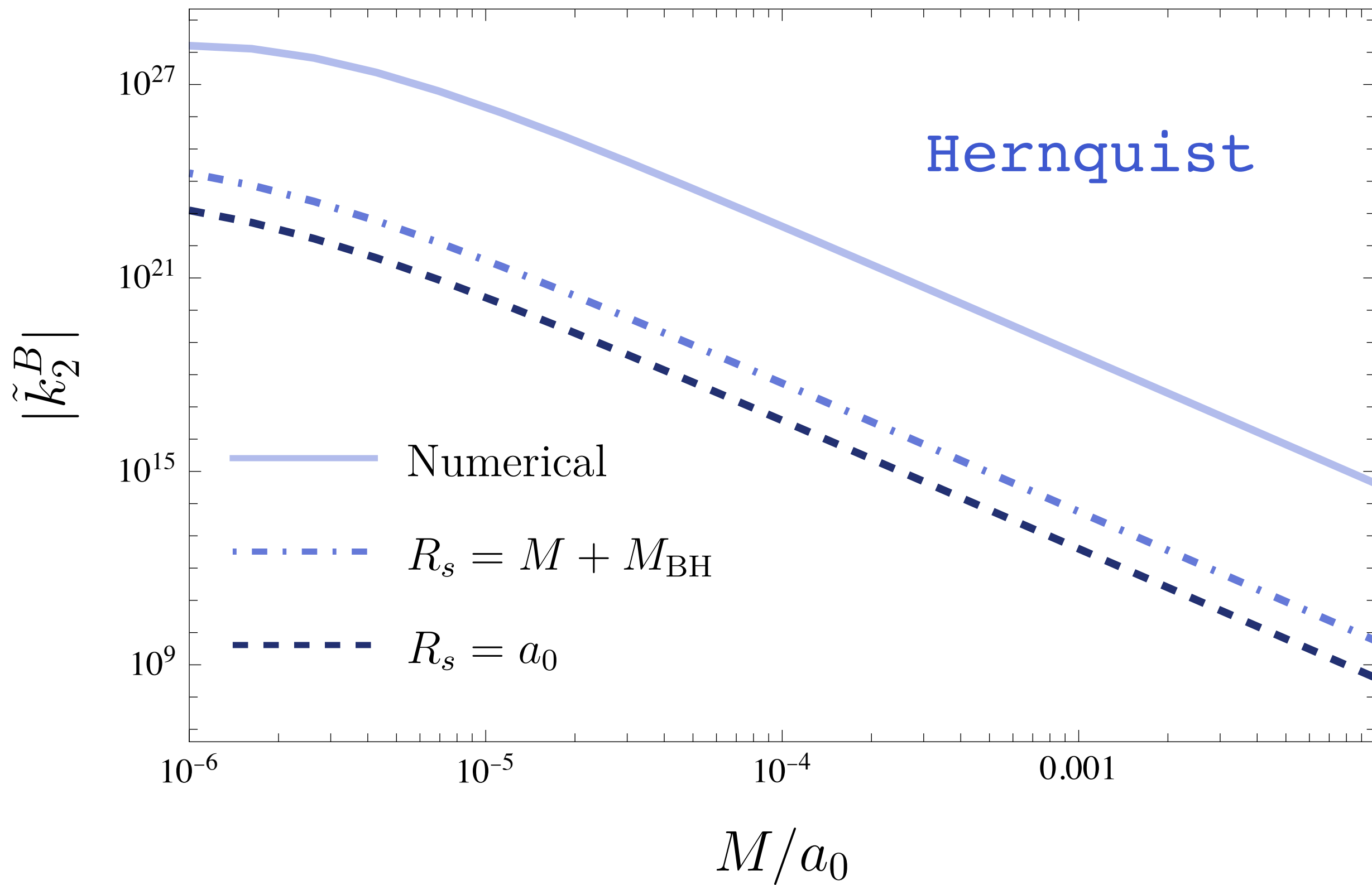
Ignoring these terms :

$$k_2^B \sim \frac{4 a_0^4 M (1 - 4 \log(a_0/R_s))}{(M + M_{BH})^5}$$

Cardoso et al. , arXiv:2109.00005

Chakraborty et al. , arXiv:2412.14831

The analytic Love number fails



NFW profile

*For NFW we **must** include a cut-off for the profile because its total mass diverges*

NFW profile

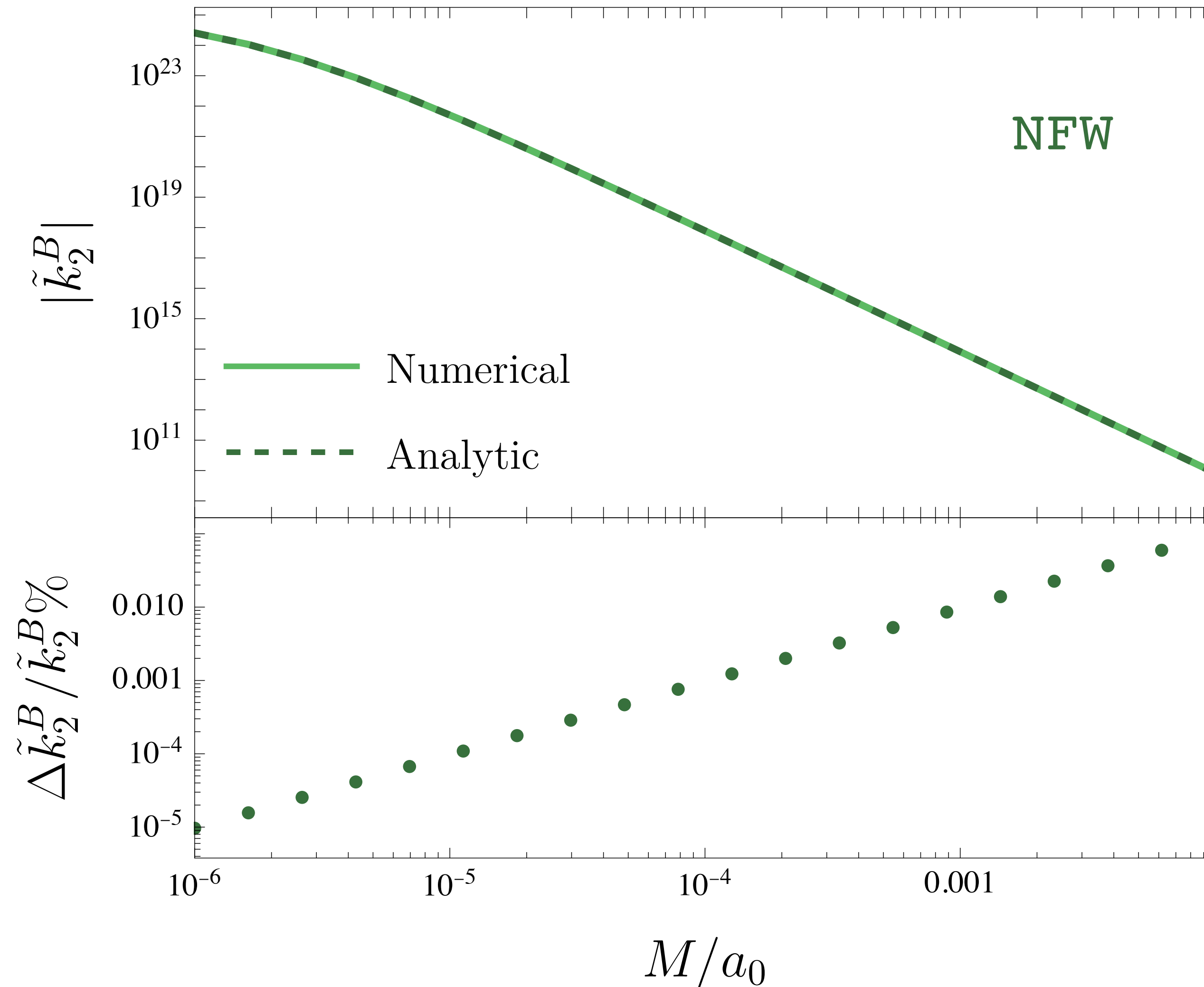
For NFW we **must** include a cut-off for the profile because its total mass diverges

Asymptotic solution is consistent with the ACMC :

$$h_0(r) \sim \sum_{i=-\infty}^3 a_i r^i \quad \checkmark$$

$$k_2^B \sim -\frac{4a_0^4 M}{(M + M_{BH})^5} + \frac{Mr_c^2(3r_c^3 - 5a_0r_c^2 + 10a_0^2r_c - 30a_0^3)}{15(M + M_{BH})^5 \left[r_c + (a_0 + r_c) \log \frac{a_0}{a_0 + r_c} \right]}$$

NFW: analytic and numerical agree



The fix: give the halo an edge

*Analytically we **never recover the vacuum** for Hernquist and Einasto*

*We **impose a cut-off** for these profiles at $r_o = R_{99}$ and compute the analytical solution*

The fix: give the halo an edge

Analytically we **never recover the vacuum** for Hernquist and Einasto

We **impose a cut-off** for these profiles at $r_o = R_{99}$ and compute the analytical solution

ACMC

$$\log\left(\frac{r}{R_s}\right) \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} b_i r^{-i}$$

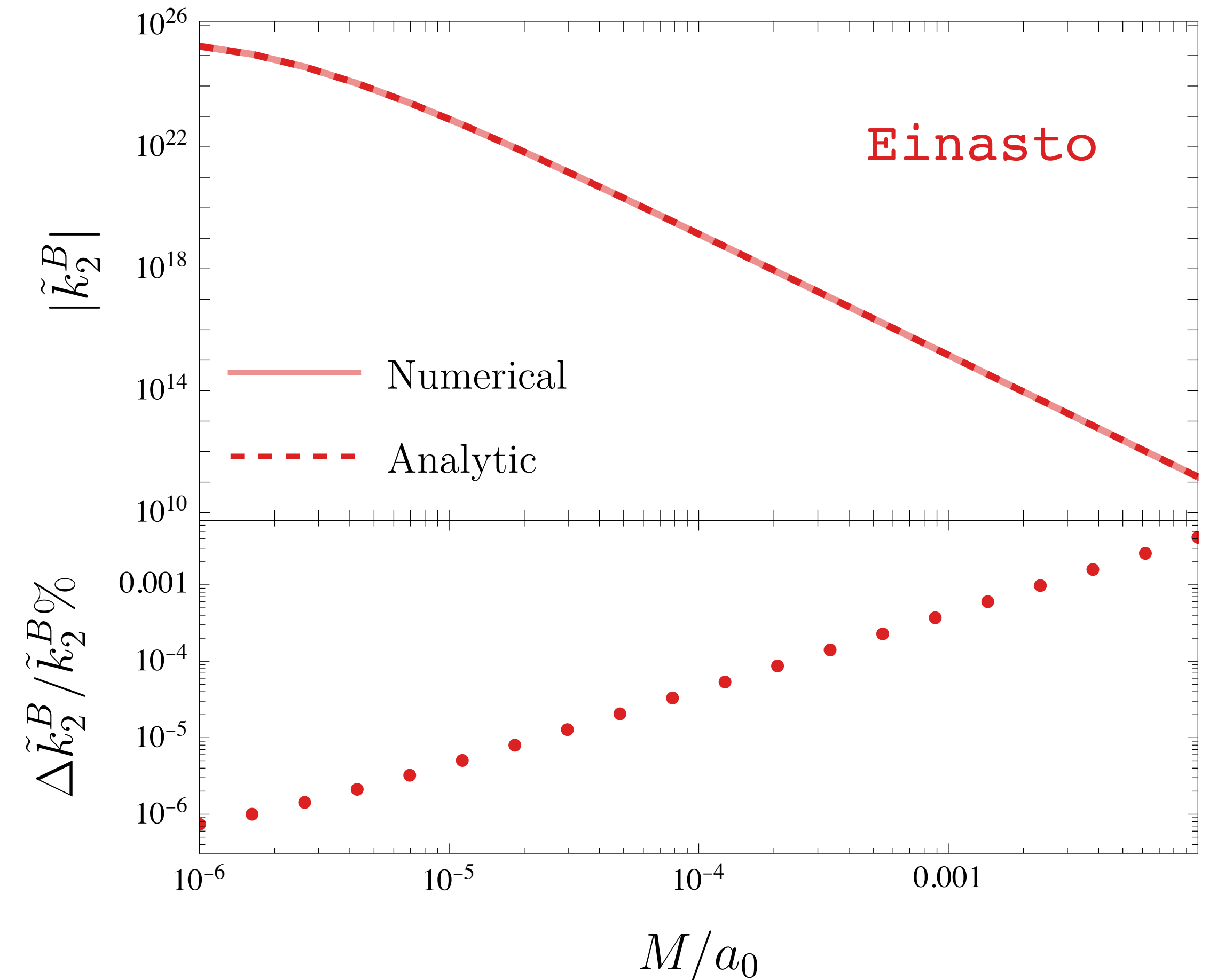
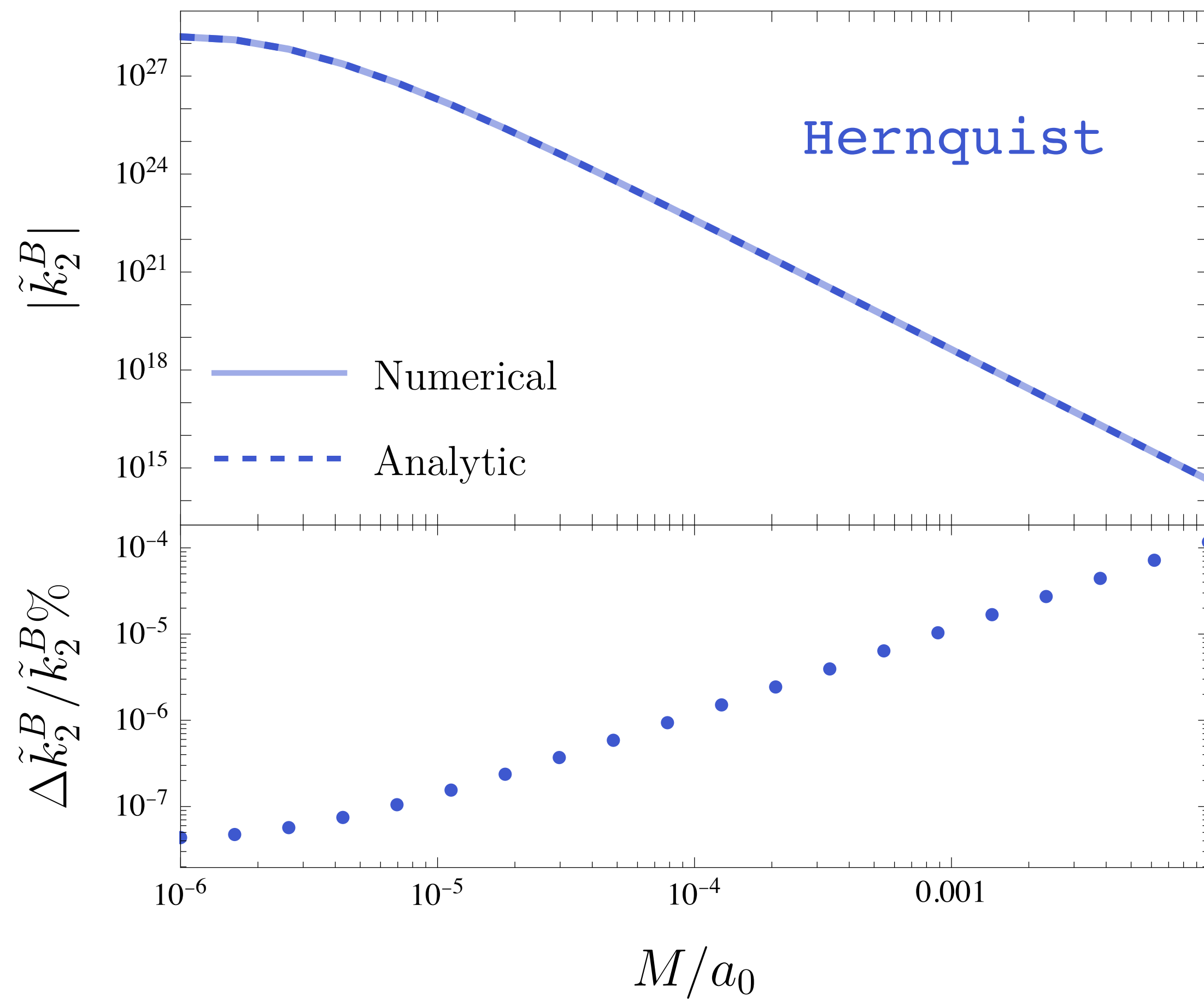
No more logs in the asymptotic expansion!

$$h_0(r) \sim \sum_{i=-\infty}^3 a_i r^i$$

For **Hernquist**:

$$k_2^B \sim \frac{4Ma_0(60a_0^4 + 90a_0^3r_o + 20a_0^2r_o^2 - 5a_0r_o^3 + 2r_o^4)}{15(M + M_{BH})^5r_o} + \frac{16Ma_0^4(a_0 + r_o)^2 \log\left(\frac{a_0 + r_o}{a_0}\right)}{15(M + M_{BH})^5r_o^2}$$

With a cutoff: agreement restored

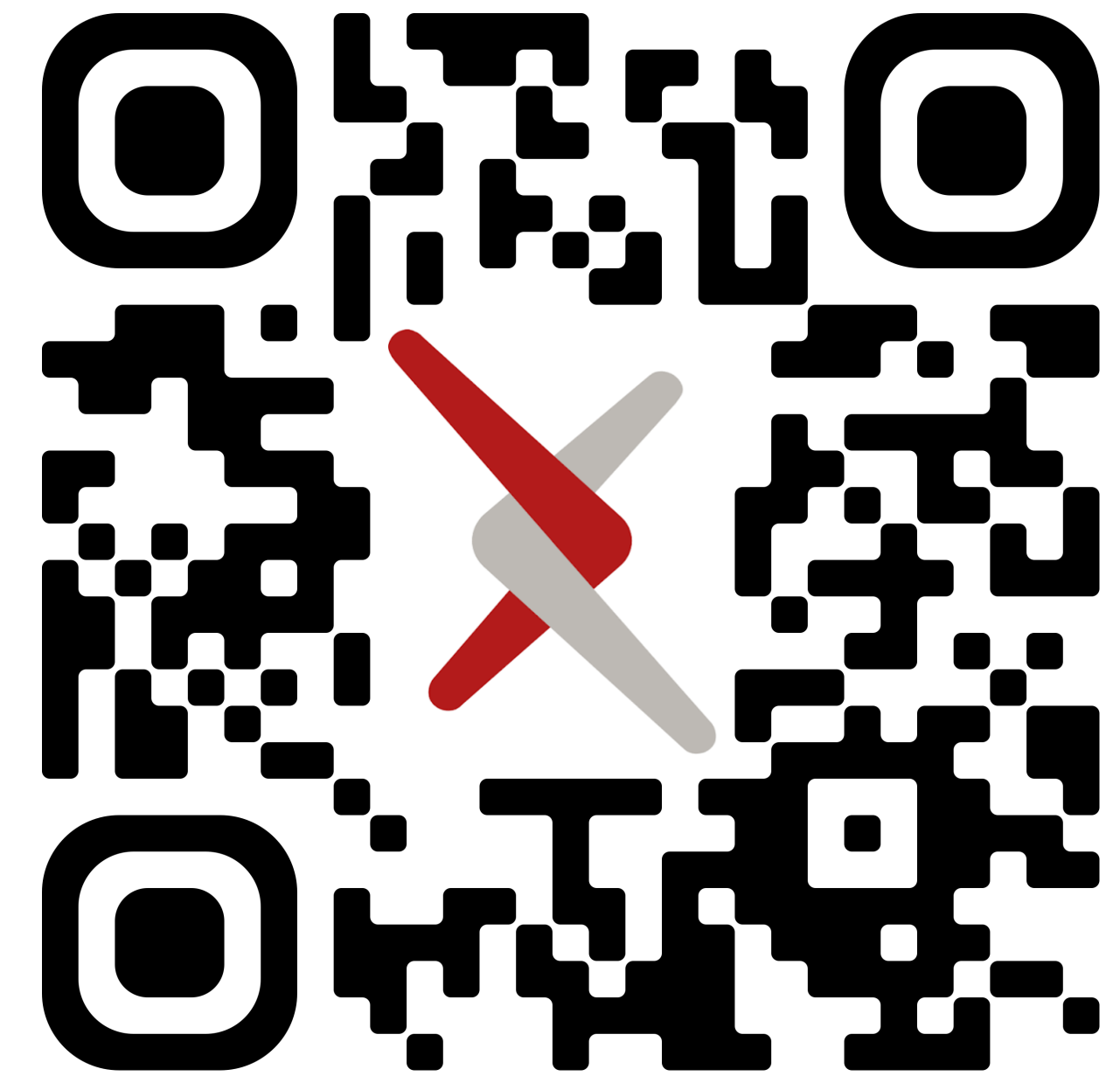


Conclusions

- *We developed the framework of axial perturbations of anisotropic fluids in a spherically symmetric background.*
- *We computed the tidal Love number of a BH surrounded by different DM profiles.*
- *We gave a physical interpretation and a solution to the logarithm problem in the asymptotic solution.*
- *We proved that DM halos give BHs large axial tidal deformability, a potential environmental signature for future detectors.*



**Thanks for the
attention! :)**



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BACKUP

Relativistic Love number

Now the perturbation is **metric**, not a scalar, so it splits by **parity** into the asymptotically-mass-centered (ACMC) form:

Polar/Electric
even

$$g_{tt} = -1 + \frac{2M}{r} + \sum_{\ell \geq 2, m} \left(\frac{1}{r^{\ell+1}} Q_{\ell m} + r^{\ell} \mathcal{E}_{\ell m} \right) Y_{\ell m}$$

$$Q_{\ell m} = \lambda_{\ell} \mathcal{E}_{\ell m} \quad k_{\ell}^E \propto \frac{\lambda_{\ell}}{R^{2\ell+1}}$$

Axial/Magnetic
odd

$$g_{0\phi} = \sum_{\ell \geq 2} \left(\frac{1}{r^{\ell}} S_{\ell m} + r^{\ell+1} H_{\ell m} \right) \sin \theta \partial_{\theta} Y_{\ell m}$$

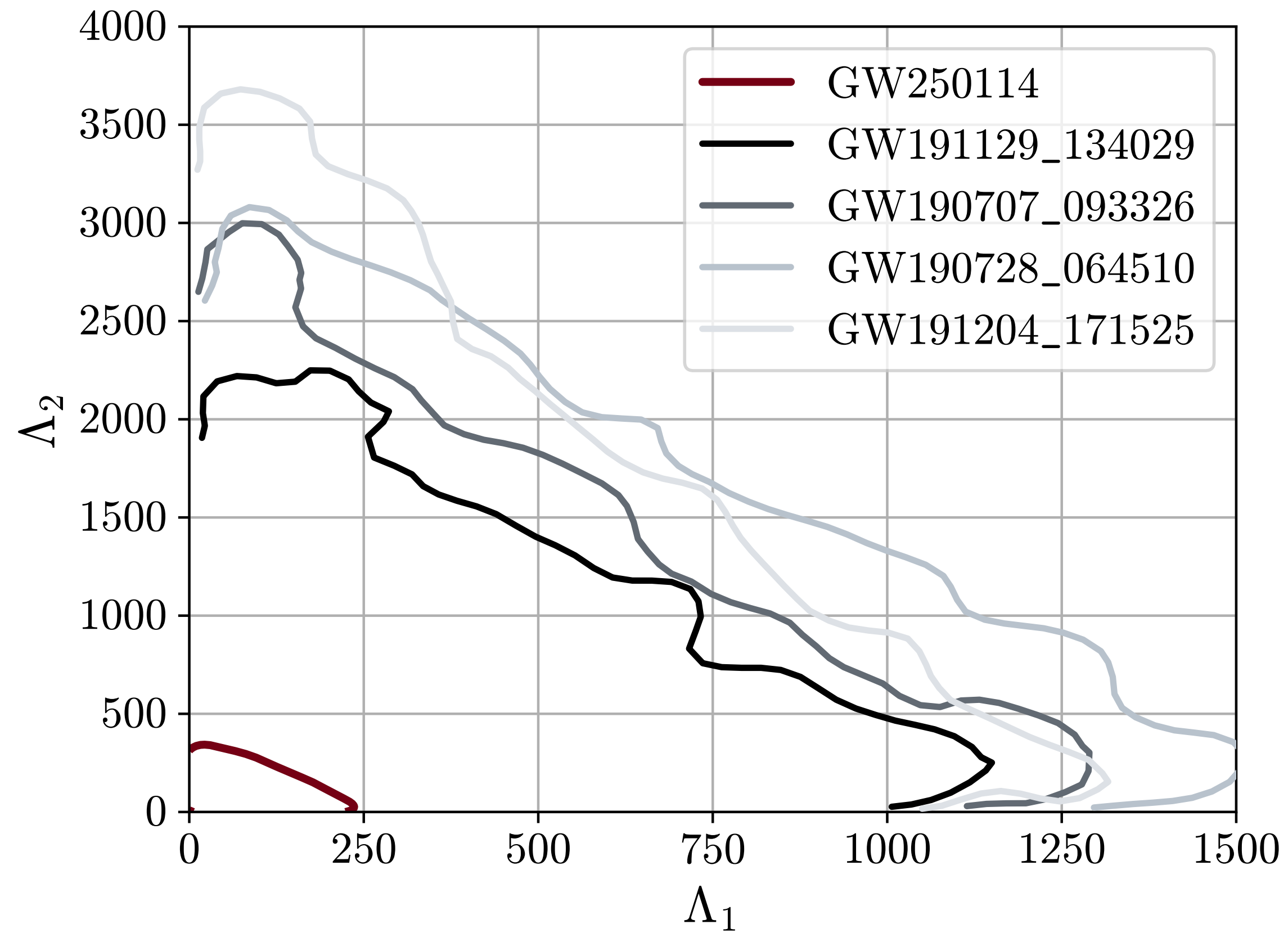
$$S_{\ell m} = \sigma_{\ell} H_{\ell m} \quad k_{\ell}^B \propto \frac{\sigma_{\ell}}{R^{2\ell+1}}$$

Polar/Electric
even

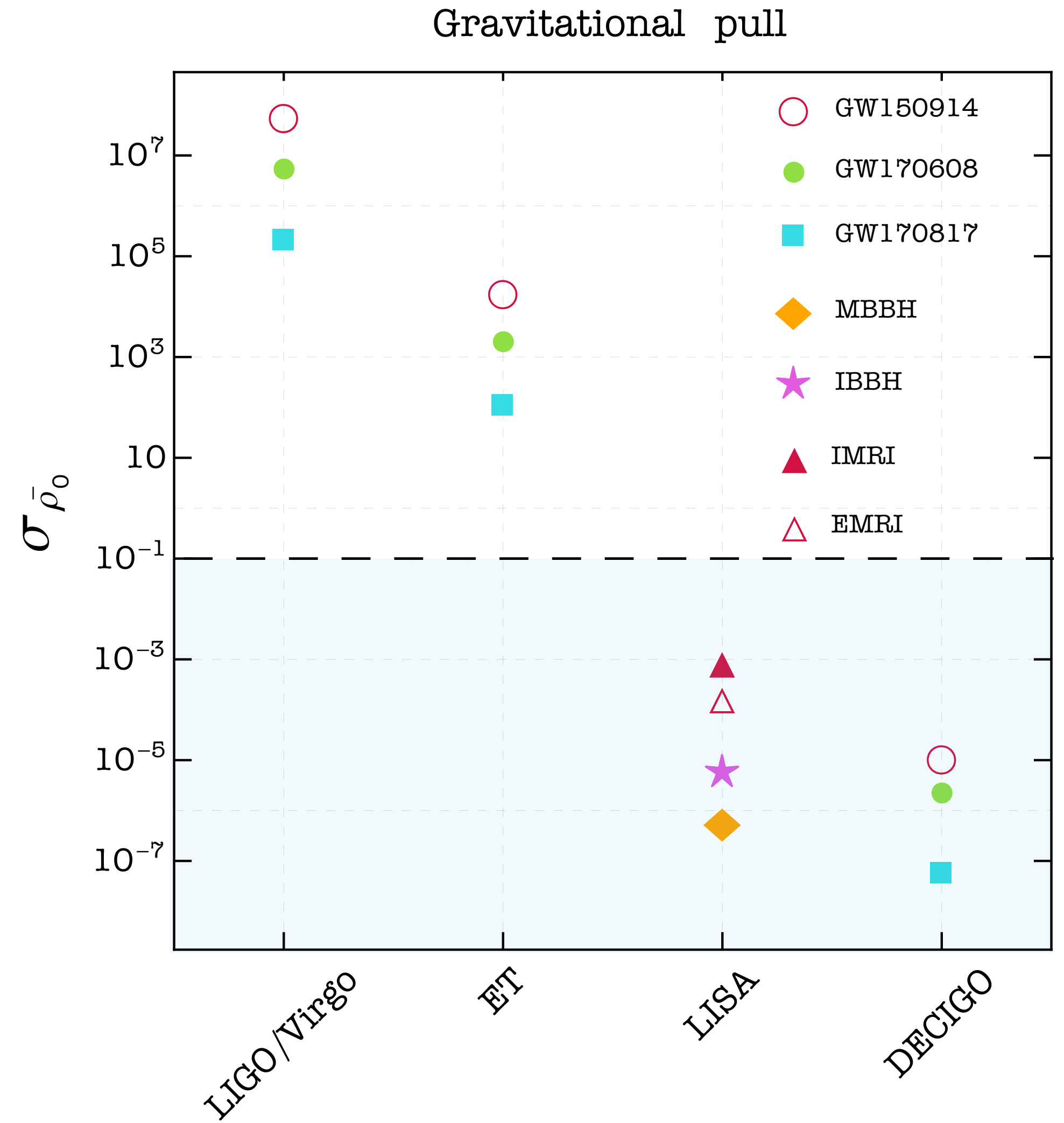
$$g_{tt} = -1 + \frac{2M}{r} + \sum_{\ell \geq 2, m} \left(\frac{2(2\ell - 1)!!}{\ell!} \frac{1}{r^{\ell+1}} Q_{\ell m} + \frac{2}{\ell!} r^\ell \mathcal{E}_{\ell m} \right) Y_{\ell m}$$

Axial/Magnetic
odd

$$g_{0\phi} = \sum_{\ell \geq 2} \left(\frac{4(2\ell - 1)!!}{(\ell + 1)!} \frac{1}{r^\ell} S_{\ell m} - \frac{1}{(\ell + 1)!} r^{\ell+1} H_{\ell m} \right) \sin \theta \partial_\theta Y_{\ell m}$$



Andrés-Carcasona & Caneva Santoro, arXiv:2512.01918



Cardoso & Maselli, arXiv:1909.05870

Anisotropic fluid dynamic

$$e^{-\nu}\dot{h}_0 - e^{-\lambda}h'_1 - \frac{1}{r^2}\left(2m - 4\pi r^3(\bar{\rho} - \bar{p}_r)\right)h_1 = 0$$

General

$$e^{-\nu}\left(\dot{h}'_0 - \ddot{h}_1\right) - \frac{2e^{-\nu}}{r}\dot{h}_0 - \left(\frac{(\ell - 1)(\ell + 2)}{r^2} + 16\pi(\bar{p}_t - \bar{p}_r)\right)h_1 = -\frac{4(\bar{p}_t - \bar{p}_r)}{\bar{\rho} + \bar{p}_t}U_k$$

$$e^{-\lambda}\left(h''_0 - \dot{h}'_1\right) - 4\pi r(\bar{\rho} + \bar{p}_r)\left(h'_0 - \dot{h}_1\right) - \frac{2}{r}e^{-\lambda}\dot{h}_1 - \frac{1}{r^2}\left(\ell(\ell + 1) - \frac{4m}{r} + 8\pi r^2(\bar{\rho} + 2\bar{p}_t - \bar{p}_r)\right)h_0 = -4e^\nu U$$

$$\partial_t\left(U - 4\pi e^{-\nu}(\bar{\rho} + \bar{p}_t)h_0\right) + \frac{\bar{p}_r - \bar{p}_t}{e^\lambda(\bar{\rho} + \bar{p}_t)}\left[\partial_r\left(U_k - 4\pi(\bar{p}_t + \bar{\rho})h_1\right) + \mathcal{F}(r)\left(U_k - 4\pi(\bar{p}_t + \bar{\rho})h_1\right)\right] = 0$$

$$e^{-\nu}\dot{h}_0 - e^{-\lambda}h'_1 - \frac{1}{r^2}\left(2m - 4\pi r^3(\bar{\rho} - \bar{p}_r)\right)h_1 = 0$$

Irrotational

$$e^{-\nu}\left(\dot{h}'_0 - \ddot{h}_1\right) - \frac{2e^{-\nu}}{r}\dot{h}_0 - \frac{(\ell - 1)(\ell + 2)}{r^2}h_1 = 0$$

$$e^{-\lambda}\left(h''_0 - \dot{h}'_1\right) - 4\pi r(\bar{\rho} + \bar{p}_r)\left(h'_0 - \dot{h}_1\right) - \frac{2}{r}e^{-\lambda}\dot{h}_1 - \frac{1}{r^2}\left(\ell(\ell + 1) - \frac{4m}{r} - 8\pi r^2(\bar{\rho} + \bar{p}_r)\right)h_0 = 0$$

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dr_{\star}^2} + \left(\omega^2 - e^{\nu} \left(\frac{\ell(\ell + 1)}{r^2} - \frac{6m}{r^3} + 4\pi(\bar{\rho} - \bar{p}_r) \right) \right) \psi = 0$$

Equivalent Regge-Wheeler equation for the irrotational fluid

Numerical formula

$$k_2^B = \frac{96}{5} \left(\frac{M_{tot}}{M + M_{BH}} \right)^5 \frac{2\xi(y - 2) - y + 3}{\mathcal{D}(\xi, y)}$$

$$y = y(R_{ext}) = R_{ext} h_0'^{(ext)}(R_{ext}) / h_0^{(ext)}(R_{ext})$$

$$\xi = M_{tot} / R_{ext}$$

$$\mathcal{D}(\xi, y) = 2\xi [2\xi^3(y + 1) + 2\xi^2 y + 3\xi(y - 1) - 3y + 9] + 3 [2\xi(y - 2) - y + 3] \log(1 - 2\xi)$$

Analytical method

$$h_0^{(1)}(r) = \Psi_+(r) \int_{2M_{BH}}^r dr' \frac{\mathcal{S}(r')\Psi_-(r')}{W(r')} + \Psi_-(r) \int_r^\infty dr' \frac{\mathcal{S}(r')\Psi_+(r')}{W(r')}$$

$$\Psi_- = A_1 r^3 \left(1 - \frac{2M_{BH}}{r} \right)$$

$$\Psi_+ = -\frac{A_2}{24M_{BH}^5 r} \left[2M_{BH} (3r^3 - 3M_{BH}r^2 - 2M_{BH}^2 r - 2M_{BH}^3) + 3r^4 \left(1 - \frac{2M_{BH}}{r} \right) \log \left(\frac{r}{r - 2M_{BH}} \right) \right]$$