

**Title:** Nonlinear dynamics of compact object mergers in Einstein-scalar-Gauss-Bonnet gravity

**Speakers:** Maxence Corman

**Collection/Series:** 50 Years of Horndeski Gravity: Exploring Modified Gravity

**Subject:** Cosmology, Strong Gravity, Mathematical physics

**Date:** July 16, 2024 - 11:00 AM

**URL:** <https://pirsa.org/24070036>

**Abstract:**

In recent years, gravitational wave observations of compact objects have provided new opportunities to test our understanding of gravity in the strong-field, highly dynamical regime. To perform model-dependent tests of General Relativity with these observations, one needs accurate inspiral-merger-ringdown waveforms in alternative theories of gravity. In this talk, we will discuss the nonlinear dynamics of compact object mergers in a class of modified theories of gravity, as well as the challenges in numerically obtaining those solutions. The theory we focus on is Einstein-scalar-Gauss-Bonnet gravity, which is a representative example of a Horndeski gravity theory and is interesting because it admits scalar hairy black hole solutions.

# Nonlinear dynamics of compact object mergers in beyond General Relativity.

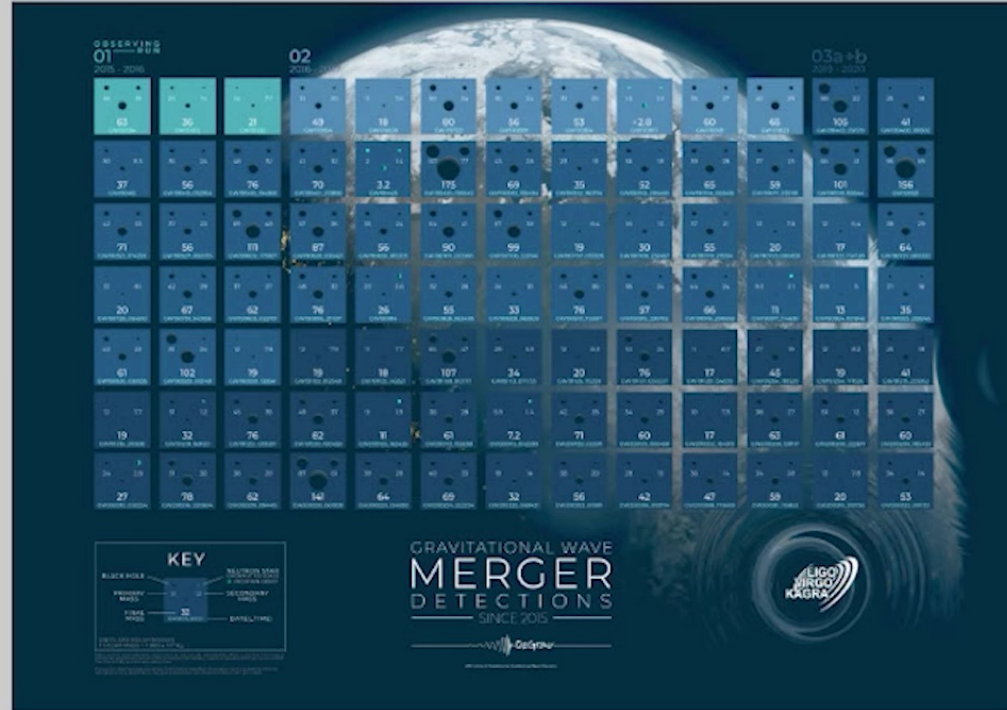
Maxence Corman

July 16, 2024

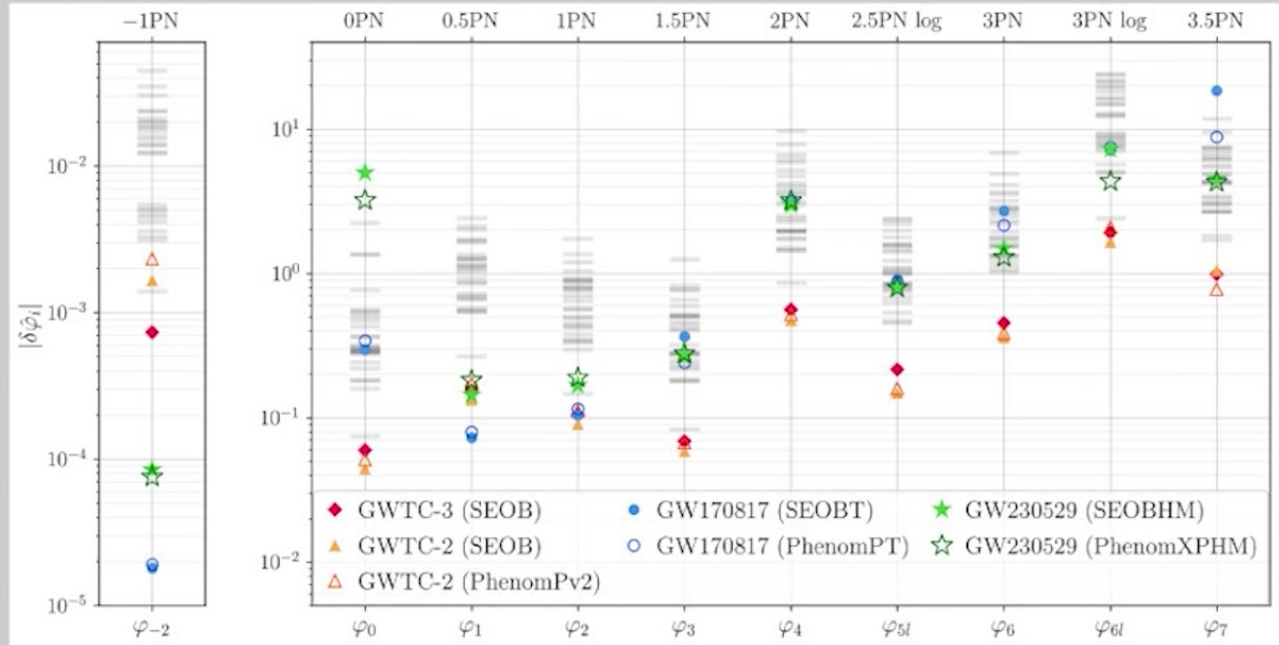
Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics



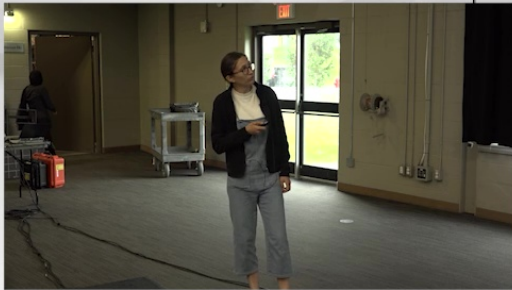
# Motivation



## Motivation

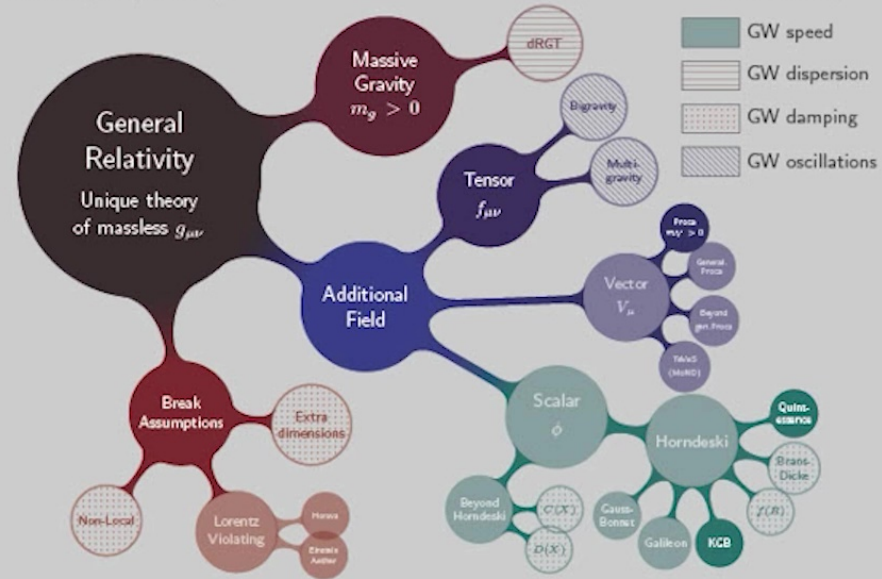


Parameterized test of GR during inspiral from Sanger+ 2024, arXiv:2406.03568



# Motivation

Modified gravity roadmap



Modified gravity roadmap summarizing the possible extensions of GR from Ezquiaga and Zumalacarregui, arXiv:1807.09241



## Approaches to studying modifications to general relativity

**Full solution:** Requires well-posed initial value problem formulation

- Same principal part as GR: Scalar-Tensor theories Damour, Esposito-Farese → Barausse+, Shibata+, Quadratic Gravity at weak coupling Noakes ⇒ Held+, East+
- Only scalar part modified: Cubic Horndeski Figueras+, Screening theories Bezares+
- Horndeski theories: Modified Generalized Harmonic formulation Kovacs and Reall → East+, Corman+ or modified CCZ4 formulation Salo+



## Approaches to studying modifications to general relativity

### Order-by-order

- Solve the equations *perturbatively*
- Pros: same principal part as GR, easy to implement and flexible
- Cons: secular effects
- Applications: EdGB and dCS

Okounkova+, Stein+

$$G(g) = \lambda S$$

- $\lambda^0 : G(g^0) = 0$
- $\lambda^1 : G(g^1) = \lambda S(g^0)$

### Fixing

- Inspired by Israel-Stewart fixing of relativistic hydrodynamics
- Fix evolution equations below some short lengthscale
- Add new dynamical fields with driver equations

$$G(g) = \lambda S$$

$$\rightarrow G(g) = \Pi$$

$$\text{and } \tau \partial_t \Pi = -\Pi + \lambda S$$



## Approaches to studying modifications to general relativity

### *Order-by-order*

- Solve the equations *perturbatively*
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Okounkova+,Stein+

$$G(g) = \lambda S$$

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### *Fixing*

- Inspired by Israel-Stewart fixing of relativistic hydrodynamics
- Fix evolution equations below some short lengthscale
- Add new dynamical fields with driver equations
- Pros: Corrections fully backreact
- Cons: Computationally expensive
- Applications: EsGB, Higher derivative theories

Cayuso+,Lehner+,Bezares+,Lara+,Franchini+



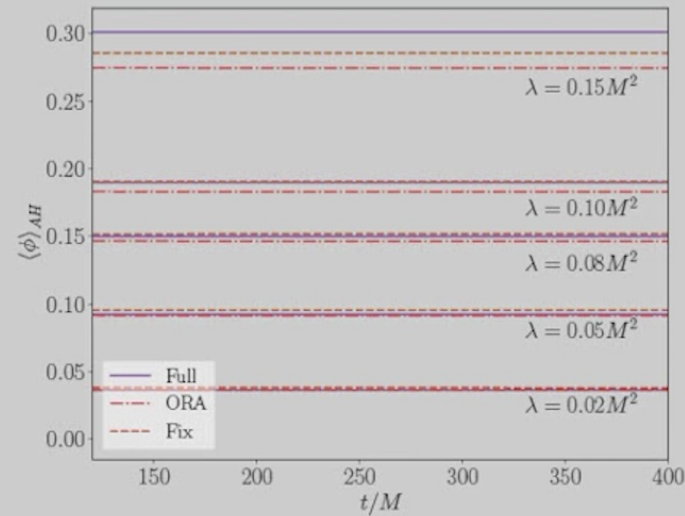


To what extent can predictions from approximate treatments such as the *order-by-order* and *fixing* approach be confronted with gravitational wave observations?

MC, Lehner, East and Dideron, 2024



## Black hole scalarization and saturation



Single, non-spinning black hole in axisymmetry

*Order-by-order approach*

$$\lambda^0: (g_{ab}^{(0)}, \phi^{(0)}) = (g_{ab}^{\text{GR}}, 0)$$

$$\lambda^1: (g_{ab}^{(1)}, \phi^{(1)}) = (0, \frac{\lambda}{M^2} \Phi)$$

*Fixing approach*

- Driver equation:

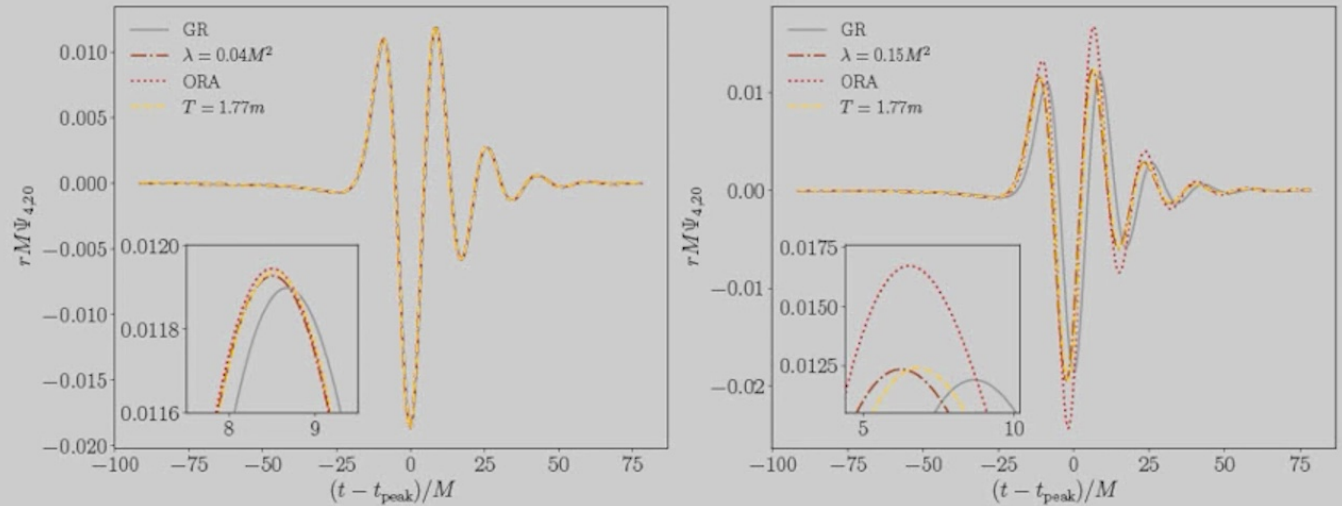
$$\sigma g^{ab} \partial_a \partial_b \mathbf{P} = \partial_0 \mathbf{P} + \kappa (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{S})$$

$\mathbf{P} \rightarrow \mathbf{S}$  on timescales  $T_s(\kappa, \sigma)$  and  $T_f(\kappa, \sigma)$

- Solutions obtained by extrapolating  $T_s \rightarrow 0$



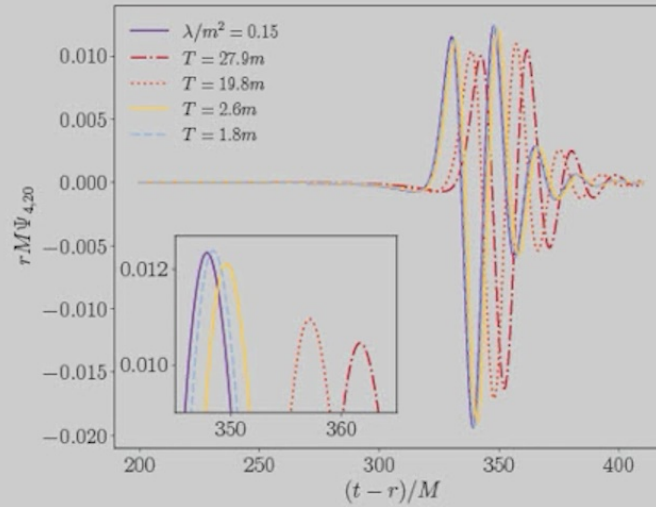
## Head on collisions of equal-mass scalarized black holes



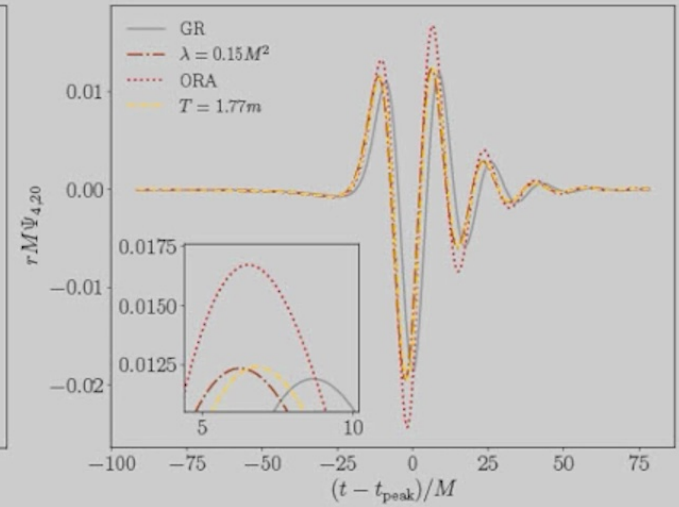
All agree reasonably well but differences are small. Amplitude order-by-order solution increases by 40% compared to 3.7% for full solution, while error in peak time remain small.



## Head on collisions of scalarized black holes



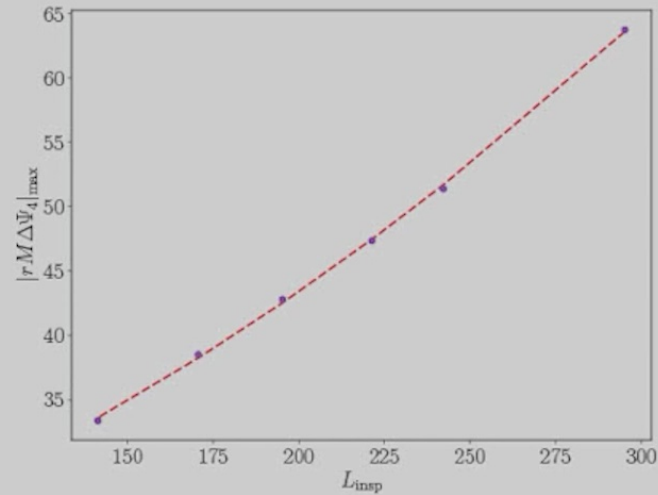
Different combination of fixing parameters.



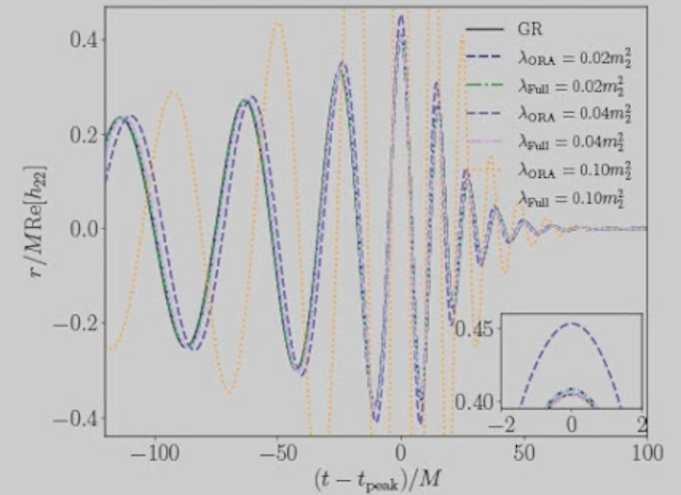
Amplitude order-by-order solution increases by 40% compared to 3.7% for full solution, while error in peak time remain small.



## Quasi-circular inspirals of scalarized black holes



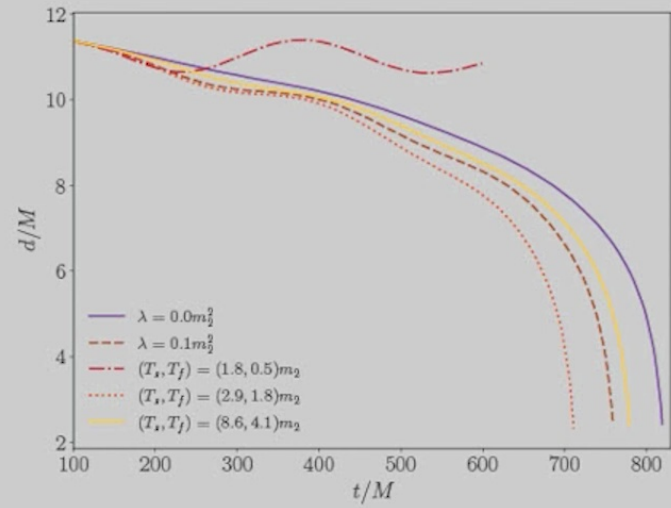
Secular effects reflected in amplitude waveform at merger,  $\Psi_4^{(2)} = \left(\frac{\lambda}{M^2}\right)^2 \Delta \Psi_4$ .



Weak dependence of amplitude at merger for full solution. Order-by-order overshoots full solution.



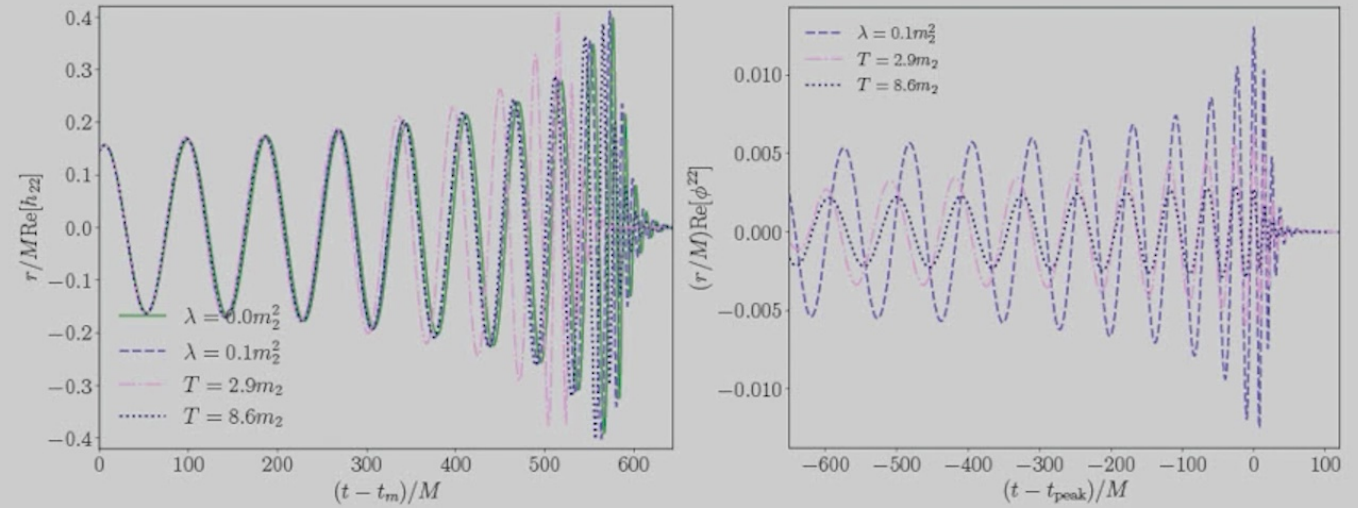
## Quasi-circular inspirals of scalarized black holes



Lack of resolution to resolve  $T_s$  and/or  $T_f$ ?



## Quasi-circular inspirals of scalarized black holes



The smaller  $T_s$  the closer scalar charge to full solution and faster inspiral. Can we extrapolate to  $T \rightarrow 0$ ?



## Take aways comparison study

To what extent can predictions from approximate treatments such as the *order-by-order* and *fixing* approach be confronted with gravitational wave observations?

- Order-by-order approach cannot faithfully track the solutions when the corrections to general relativity are non-negligible.
- Fixing approach can provide consistent solutions, provided the ad-hoc timescale over which the dynamical fields are driven to their target values is made short compared to the physical timescales → computationally feasible?





## Black hole-neutron star mergers in EsGB gravity



## Motivation for black hole-neutron star mergers in EsGB gravity

### Observation of gravitational waves from two neutron star-black hole coalescences

THE LIGO SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATION, THE VIRGO COLLABORATION, AND THE KAGRA COLLABORATION

(Dated: June 30, 2021)

#### ABSTRACT

We report the observation of gravitational waves from two compact binary coalescences in LIGO's and Virgo's third observing run with properties consistent with **neutron star-black hole (NSBH)** binaries. The two events are named GW200105.162426 and GW200115.042309, abbreviated as GW200105 and **GW200115**; the first was observed by LIGO Livingston and Virgo, and the second by all three LIGO-Virgo detectors. The source of GW200105 has component masses  $8.9^{+1.2}_{-1.5} M_{\odot}$  and  $1.9^{+0.3}_{-0.2} M_{\odot}$ , whereas the source of GW200115 has component masses  $5.7^{+2.1}_{-2.1} M_{\odot}$  and  $1.5^{+0.7}_{-0.3} M_{\odot}$  (all measurements quoted at the 90% credible level). The probability that the secondary's mass is below the maximal mass of a neutron star is 89%-96% and 87%-98%, respectively, for GW200105 and GW200115, with the ranges arising from different astrophysical assumptions. The source luminosity distances are  $280^{+119}_{-116}$  Mpc and  $300^{+152}_{-106}$  Mpc, respectively. The magnitude of the primary spin of GW200105 is less than 0.23 at the 90% credible level, and its orientation is unconstrained. For GW200115, the primary spin has a negative spin projection onto the orbital angular momentum at 88% probability. We are unable to constrain the spin or tidal deformation of the secondary component for either event. We infer an NSBH merger rate density of  $45^{+75}_{-33}$   $\text{Gpc}^{-3} \text{yr}^{-1}$  when assuming that GW200105 and GW200115 are representative of the NSBH population, or  $130^{+112}_{-69}$   $\text{Gpc}^{-3} \text{yr}^{-1}$  under the assumption of a broader distribution of component masses.

### Observation of Gravitational Waves from the Coalescence of a 2.5–4.5 $M_{\odot}$ Compact Object and a Neutron Star

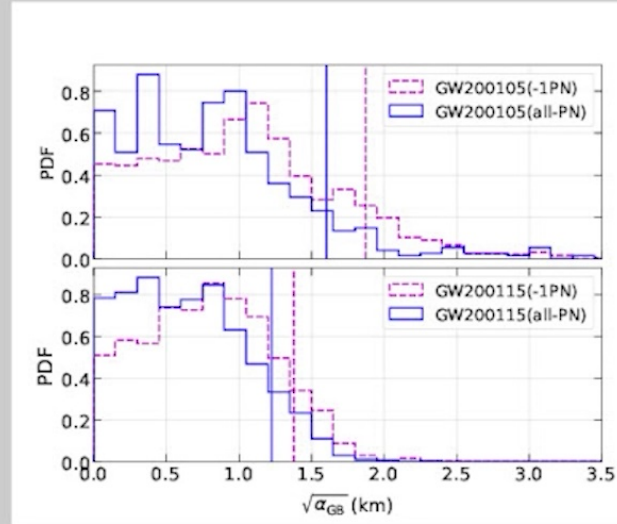
THE LIGO SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATION, THE VIRGO COLLABORATION, AND THE KAGRA COLLABORATION

#### ABSTRACT

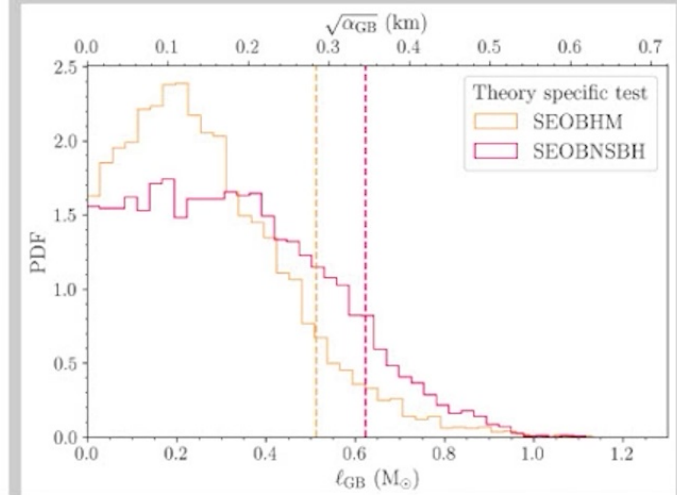
We report the observation of a coalescing compact binary with component masses **2.5–4.5  $M_{\odot}$**  and **1.2–2.0  $M_{\odot}$**  (all measurements quoted at the 90% credible level). The gravitational-wave signal GW230529.181500 was observed during the fourth observing run of the LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA detector network on 2023 May 29 by the LIGO Livingston observatory. The primary component of the source has a mass less than  $5 M_{\odot}$  at 99% credibility. We cannot definitively determine from gravitational-wave data alone whether either component of the source is a neutron star or a black hole. However, given existing estimates of the maximum neutron star mass, we find the most probable interpretation of the source to be the coalescence of **a neutron star with a black hole** that has a mass between the most massive neutron stars and the least massive black holes observed in the Galaxy. We estimate a merger rate density of  $55^{+127}_{-47}$   $\text{Gpc}^{-3} \text{yr}^{-1}$  for compact binary coalescences with properties similar to the source of GW230529.181500; assuming that the source is a neutron star-black hole merger, GW230529.181500-like sources constitute about 60% of the total merger rate inferred for neutron star-black hole coalescences. The discovery of this system implies an increase in the expected rate of neutron star-black hole mergers with electromagnetic counterparts and provides further evidence for compact objects existing within the purported lower mass gap.



## Motivation for black hole-neutron star mergers in EsGB gravity



Posteriors on  $\sqrt{\alpha_{\text{GB}}}$  from the leading -1PN correction and those including higher PN corrections (up to 2PN). Taken from Lyu+2022.



Posteriors on  $\sqrt{\alpha_{\text{GB}}}$  from the theory-specific test of FTI framework. Taken from Sanger+2024.

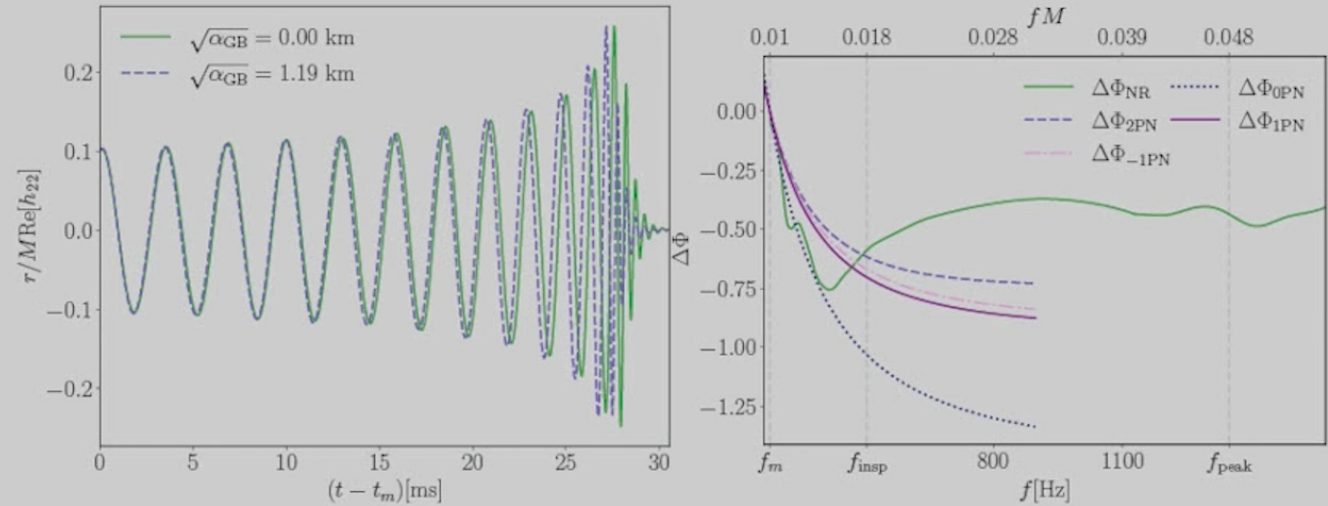


## Questions

1. Are PN predictions accurate enough to model inspiral?
2. What does the GW signal look like in non-linear regime?
3. Can we comment on the ringdown signal?



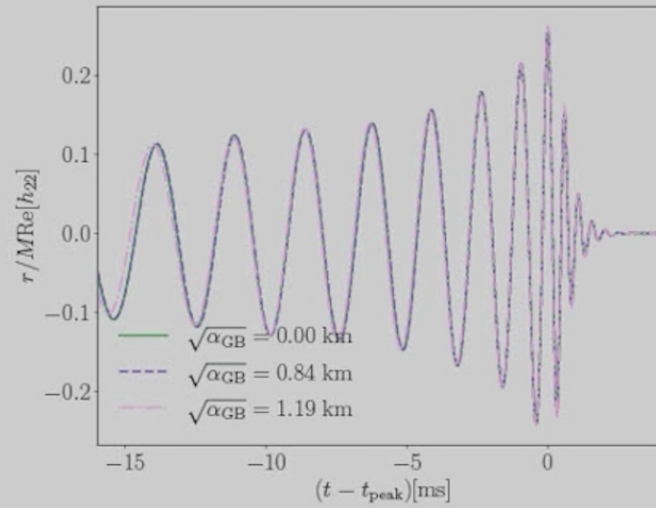
## Are PN predictions accurate enough to model inspiral? (MC and East 2024)



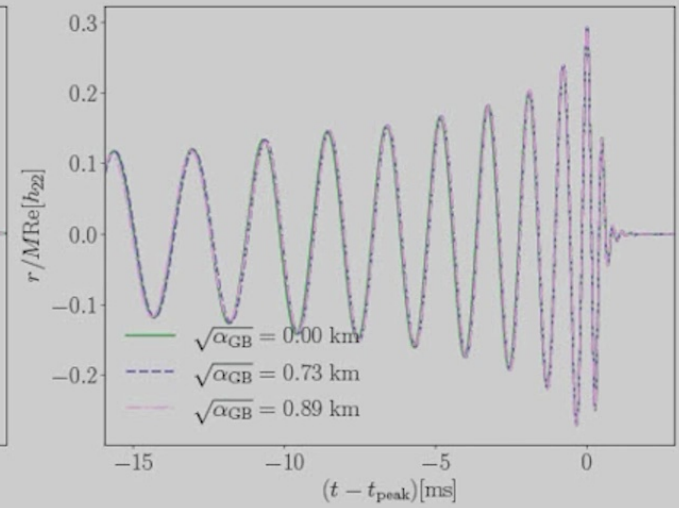
PN predictions taken from Sennet+2016 and mapped to Einstein frame using recipe outlined in Julie+2022 or more recently Julie+2024.



## What does the GW signal look like in non-linear regime? (MC and East 2024)



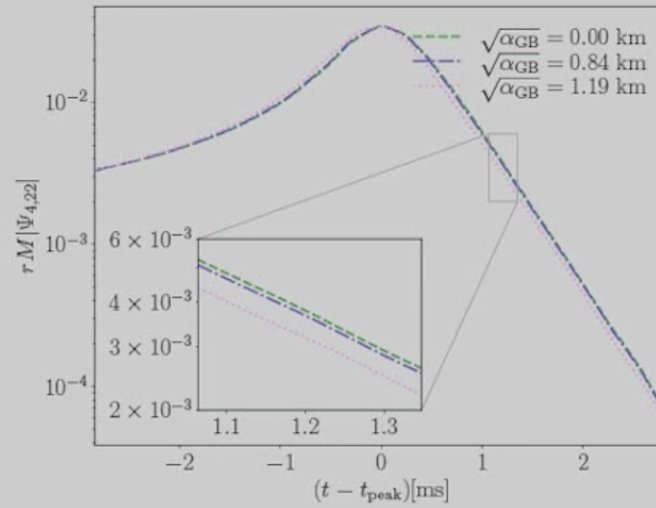
GW200115,  $\{M_{\text{BH}}, M_{\text{NS}}\} = \{5.7, 1.5\} M_{\odot}$



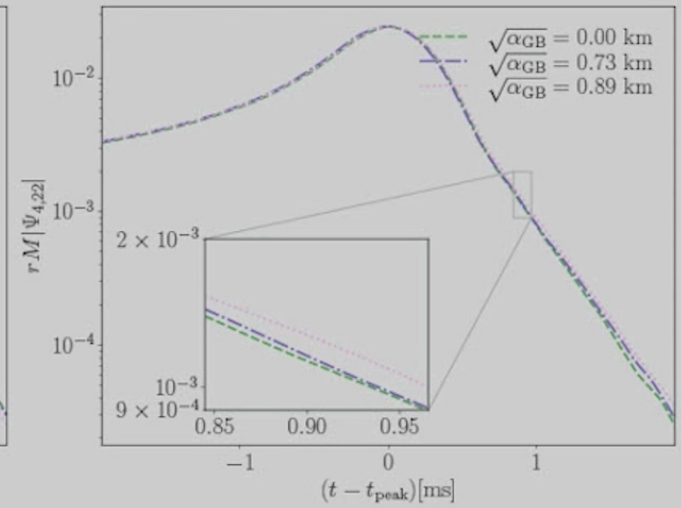
GW230529,  $\{M_{\text{BH}}, M_{\text{NS}}\} = \{3.5, 1.4\} M_{\odot}$



## Can we comment on the ringdown signal? (MC and East 2024)



GW200115,  $\{M_{\text{BH}}, M_{\text{NS}}\} = \{5.7, 1.5\}$



GW230529,  $\{M_{\text{BH}}, M_{\text{NS}}\} = \{3.5, 1.4\}$



## Conclusion

1. Are PN predictions accurate enough to model inspiral?  
*We find reasonable agreement up to the end of inspiral.*
2. What does the GW signal look like in non-linear regime? *We find weak dependence of amplitude GW signal on coupling at merger.*
3. Can we comment on the ringdown signal? *Sign of shift in frequencies consistent with perturbation theory but main effect is on amplitude GW signal.*





## Einstein scalar Gauss Bonnet gravity

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ R - (\nabla\phi)^2 + \beta(\phi)\mathcal{G} \right]$$

with  $\mathcal{G} \equiv R^2 - 4R_{ab}R^{ab} + R_{abcd}R^{abcd}$ .

- Horndeski theory  $\Rightarrow$  second order equations of motion
- Shift-symmetric  $\Rightarrow \beta(\phi) = 2\lambda\phi$
- Black hole solutions with scalar hair  $\sim \lambda/m^2$  (Sotiriou & Zhou)  $\Rightarrow$  energy loss through scalar radiation, -1PN (at leading order) dephasing in GW signal (Yagi)
- Well-posed initial value formulation (Kovacs and Reall)

