

Binary black hole mergers in Dynamical Chern-Simons gravity

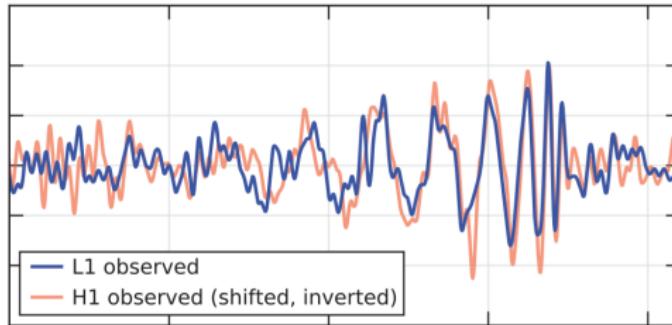
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with Maria Okounkova (TAPIR, Caltech)



GR21@Columbia — 2016 July 12 (§A3)

Vision

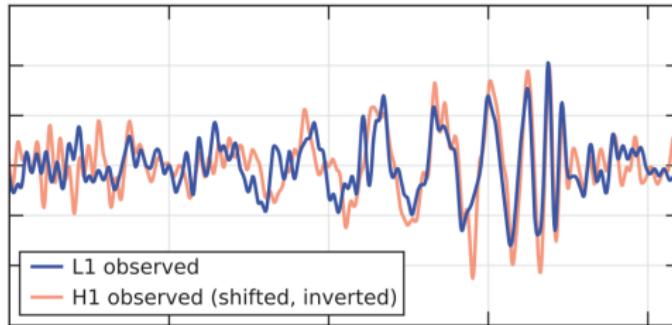
- Before this year: precision tests of GR in weak field
- Now: first direct measurements of dynamical, strong field regime



- Future: **precision** tests of GR in the **strong field**
 - \Rightarrow Black hole binary merger

Vision

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Question: How to perform precision tests of GR in strong field?

How to perform precision tests

- Two approaches: theory-agnostic and theory-specific
- Agnostic: **parameterize**, e.g. PPN
- Don't know how to parameterize in strong-field!
- Want **guidance** from specific theories

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Problem: Only simulated BBH mergers in GR!

The problem

- Only have BBH mergers in GR, some scalar-tensor
 - Recall BBH in S-T is identical to GR (unless funny boundaries)

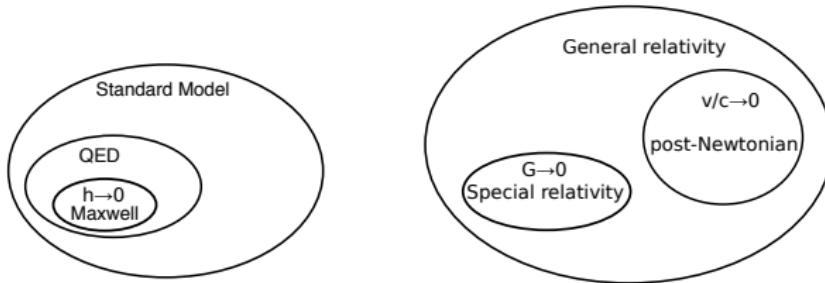
From Lehner+Pretorius 2014:

redshifts of $z \simeq 20$ with a SNR ≥ 10 . For a recent review see Seoane et al. (2013).] Compounding the problem, despite the large number of proposed alternatives or modifications to general relativity (see, for example, Will 1993, 2006), almost none have yet been presented that (a) are consistent with general relativity in the regimes where it is well tested, (b) predict observable deviations in the dynamical strong field relevant to vacuum mergers, and (c) possess a classically well-posed initial value problem to be amenable to numerical solution in the strong field. The notable exceptions are a subset of scalar tensor theories, though these require a time-varying cosmological scalar field for binary black hole systems (Horbatsch & Burgess 2012) or one or more neutron stars in the merger (see Section 5). Thus there is little guidance on what reasonable strong-field deviations one might expect. Proposed solutions to (at least partially) circumvent these problems include the parameterized post-Einsteinian and related frameworks (Yunes & Pretorius

- Don't know if other theories have good **initial value problem**
Example: Delsate+ PRD **91**, 024027, dynamical Chern-Simons
 - But wait—title of this talk!

The solution

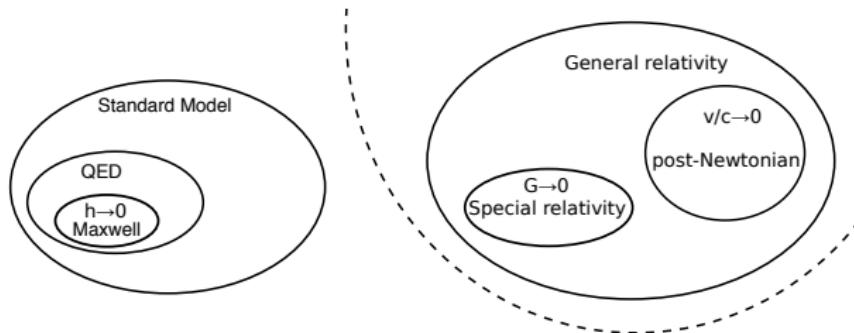
- Treat every theory as an **effective field theory** (EFT)
- Already do this for GR. **Valid** below some scale
- Theory only needs to be **approximate**, approximately well-posed



- Example: weak force below EWSB scale (lose unitarity above)

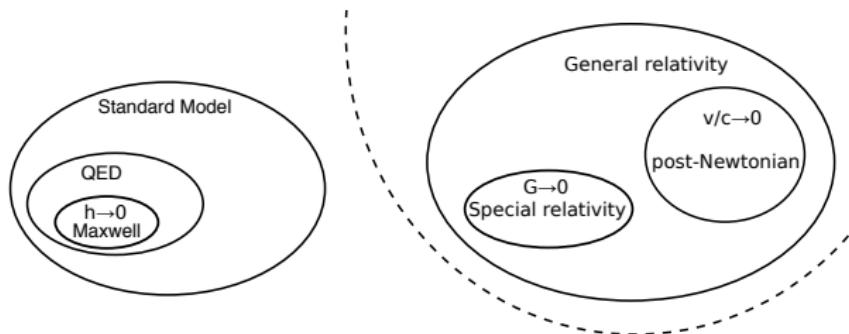
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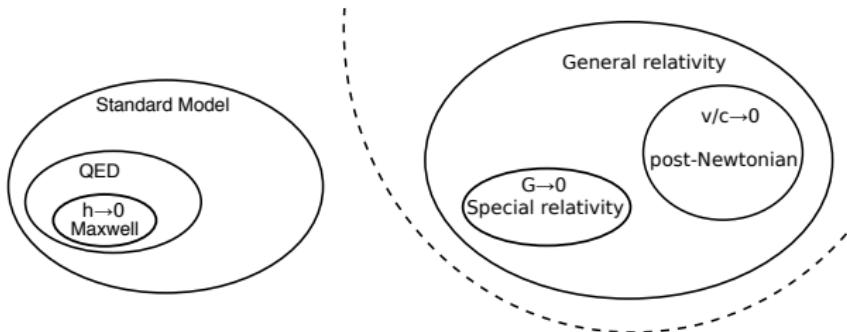
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The solution



- Same should happen in gravity EFT:
lose predictivity (bad initial value problem) above some scale
- Theory valid below cutoff $\Lambda \gg E$. Must recover GR for $\Lambda \rightarrow \infty$.
- Assume **weak coupling**, use **perturbation theory**

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Example: Dynamical Chern-Simons gravity

What is dynamical Chern-Simons gravity?

- Chern-Simons = GR + pseudo-scalar + interaction

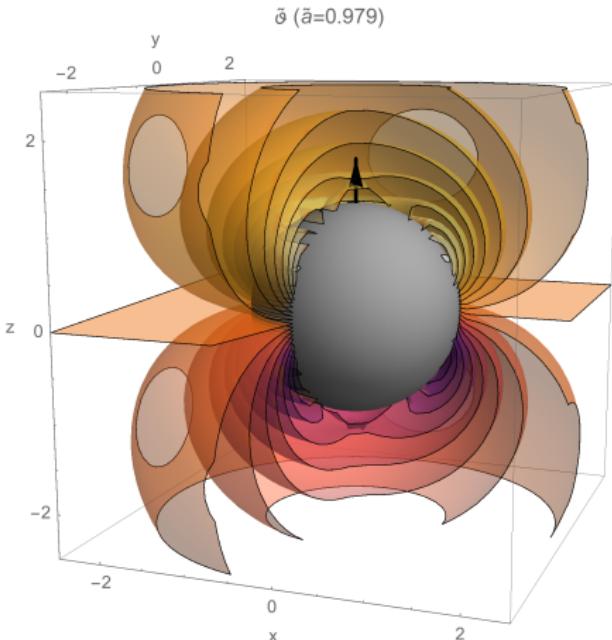
$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[R - \frac{1}{2}(\partial\vartheta)^2 + \varepsilon \vartheta {}^*RR \right]$$

$$\square\vartheta = \varepsilon {}^*RR, \quad G_{ab} + \varepsilon C_{ab}[\partial\vartheta \partial^3 g] = T_{ab}$$

- Anomaly cancellation, low-E string theory, LQG...
(see Nico's review Phys. Rept. **480** (2009) 1-55)
- Lowest-order EFT with parity-odd ϑ , shift symmetry (long range)
- Phenomenology unique from other R^2
(e.g. Einstein-dilaton-Gauss-Bonnet)

Black holes in dCS

- $a = 0$ (Schwarzschild) is exact solution with $\vartheta = 0$
- Rotating BHs have dipole+ scalar hair



LCS, PRD **90** 044061 (2014) [arXiv:1407.2350]

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LCS, PRD **90** 044061 (2014) [arXiv:1407.2350]
- Post-Newtonian of BBH inspiral in
PRD **85** 064022 (2012) [arXiv:1110.5950]
- More updated phenomenology in
CQG **32** 243001 (2015) [arXiv:1501.07274]

Back to problem and solution

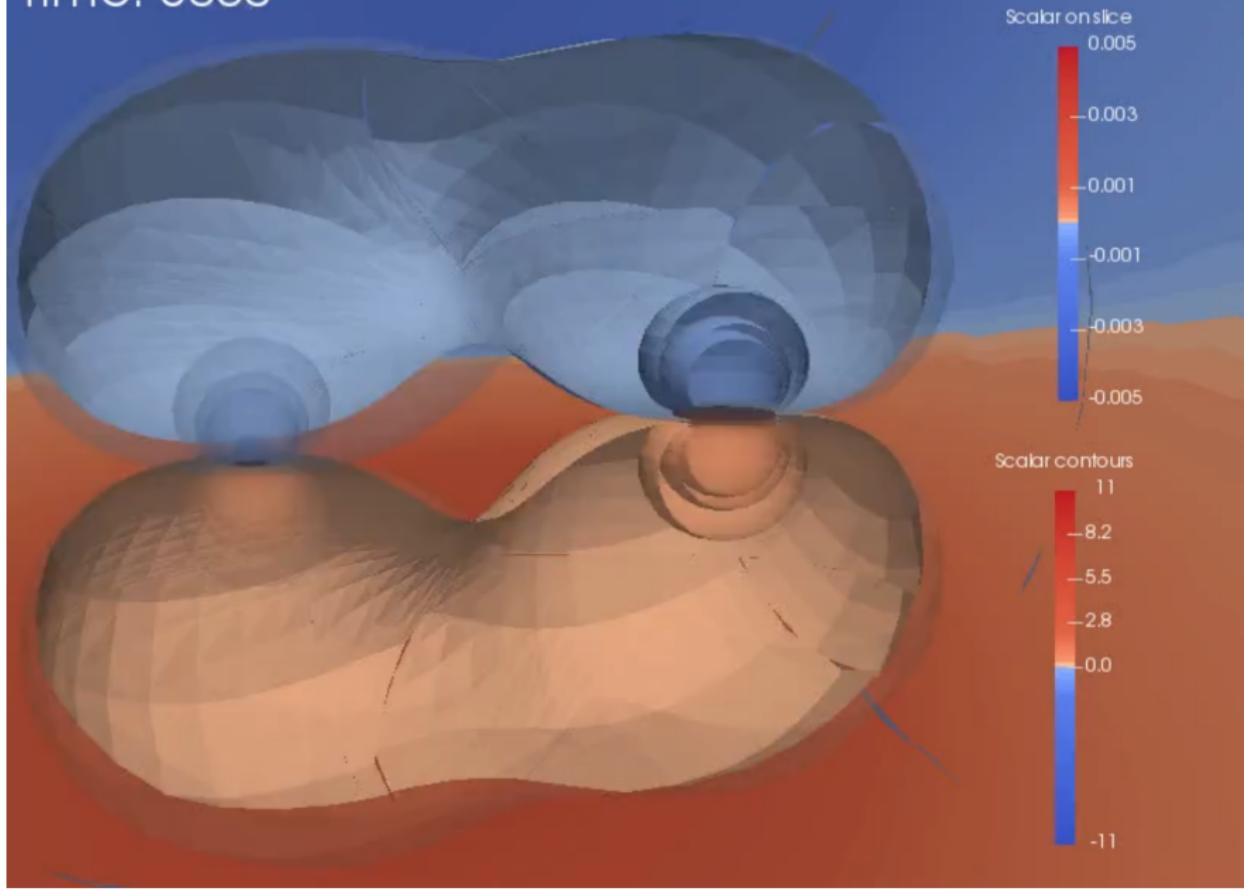
- DCS had principal part $\partial^3 g$ coming from C_{ab} tensor. *Probably* not well-posed, Delsate+ PRD **91**, 024027.
- Theory is GR + $\varepsilon \times$ deformation. Expand everything in ε
- Chalkboard
- At every order in ε , principal part is $\text{Princ}[G_{ab}]$

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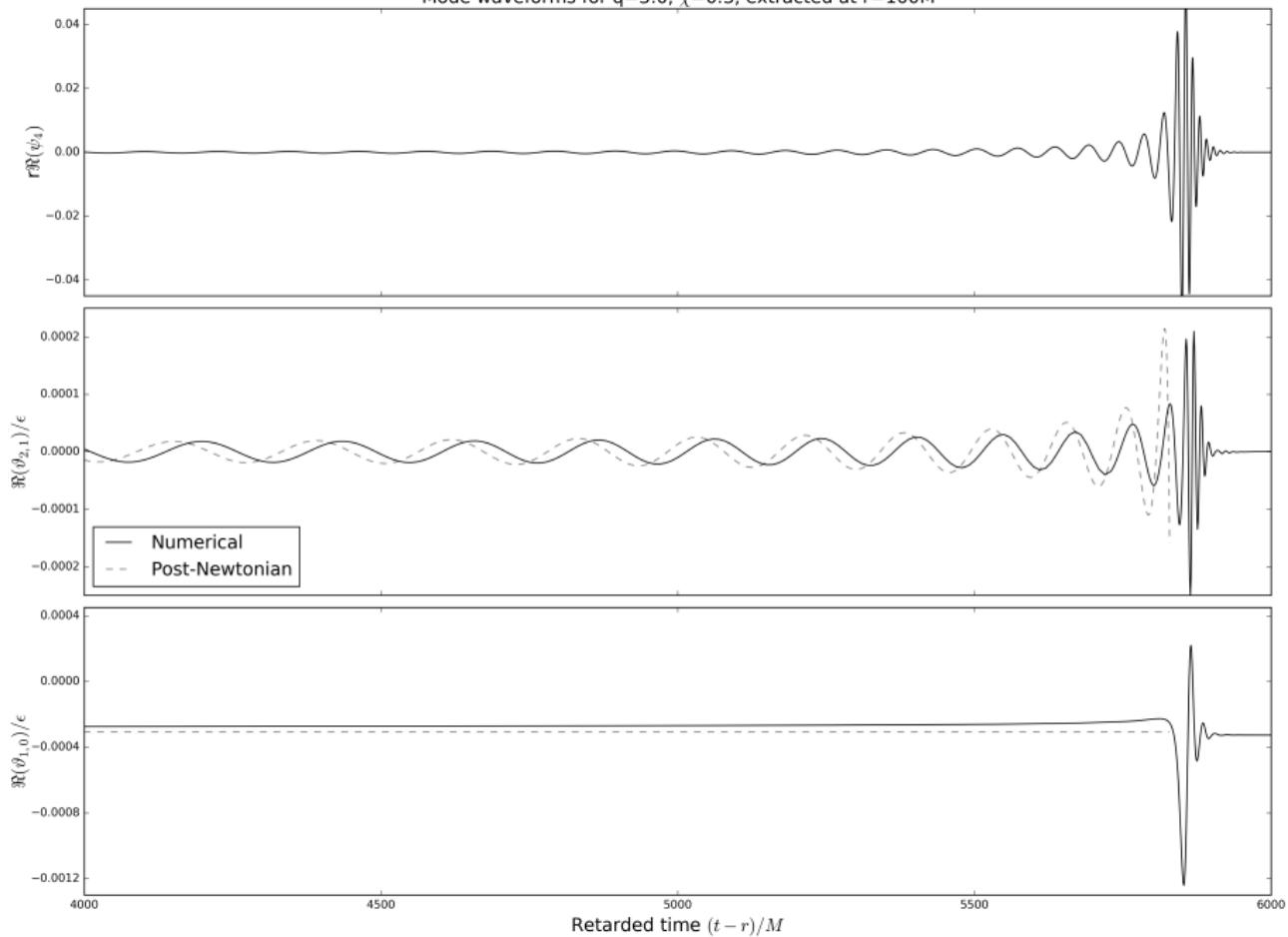
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Background dynamics are well-posed \implies perturbations well-posed

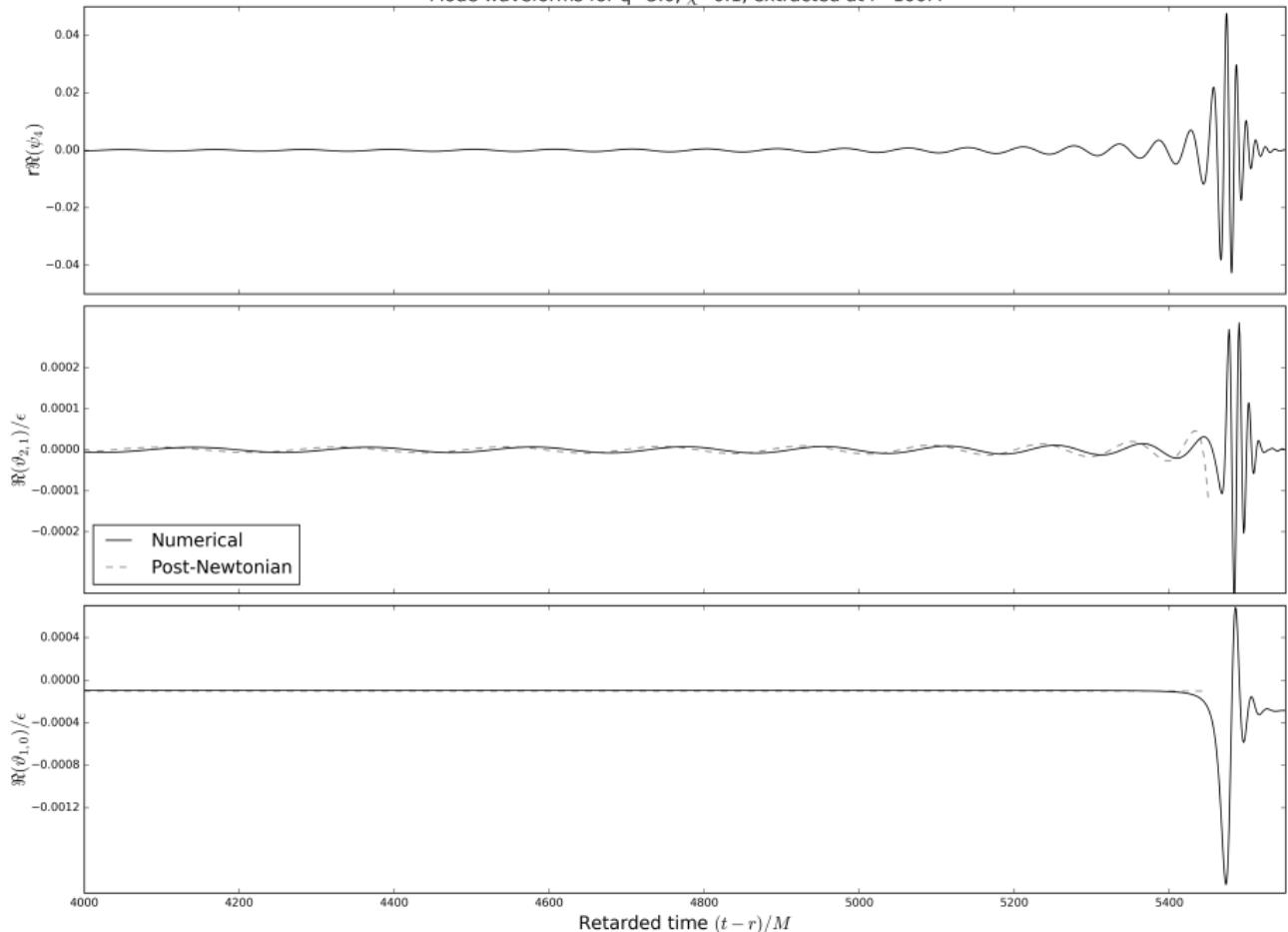
Time: 3000



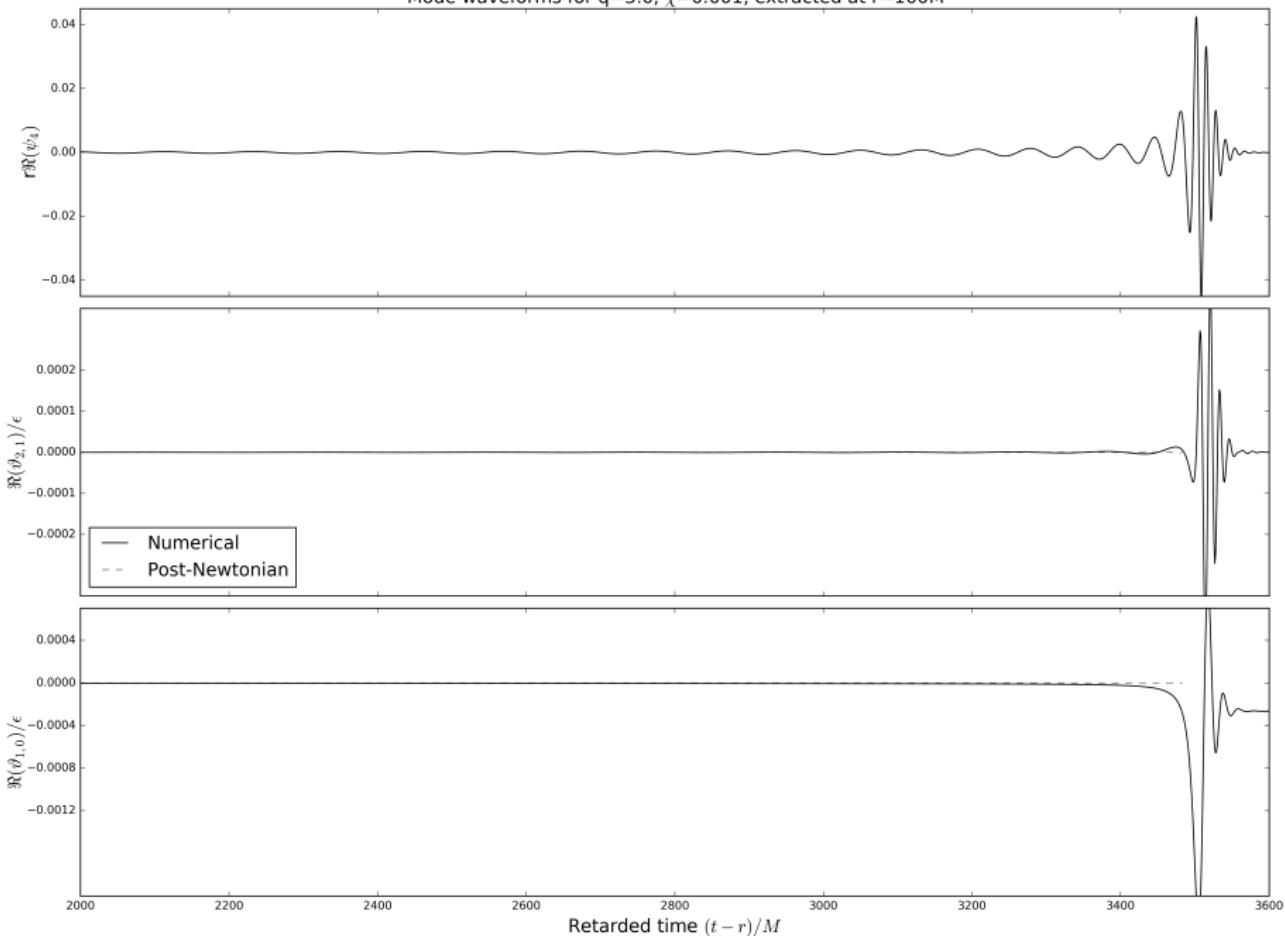
Mode waveforms for $q=3.0$, $\chi=0.3$, extracted at $r=100M$



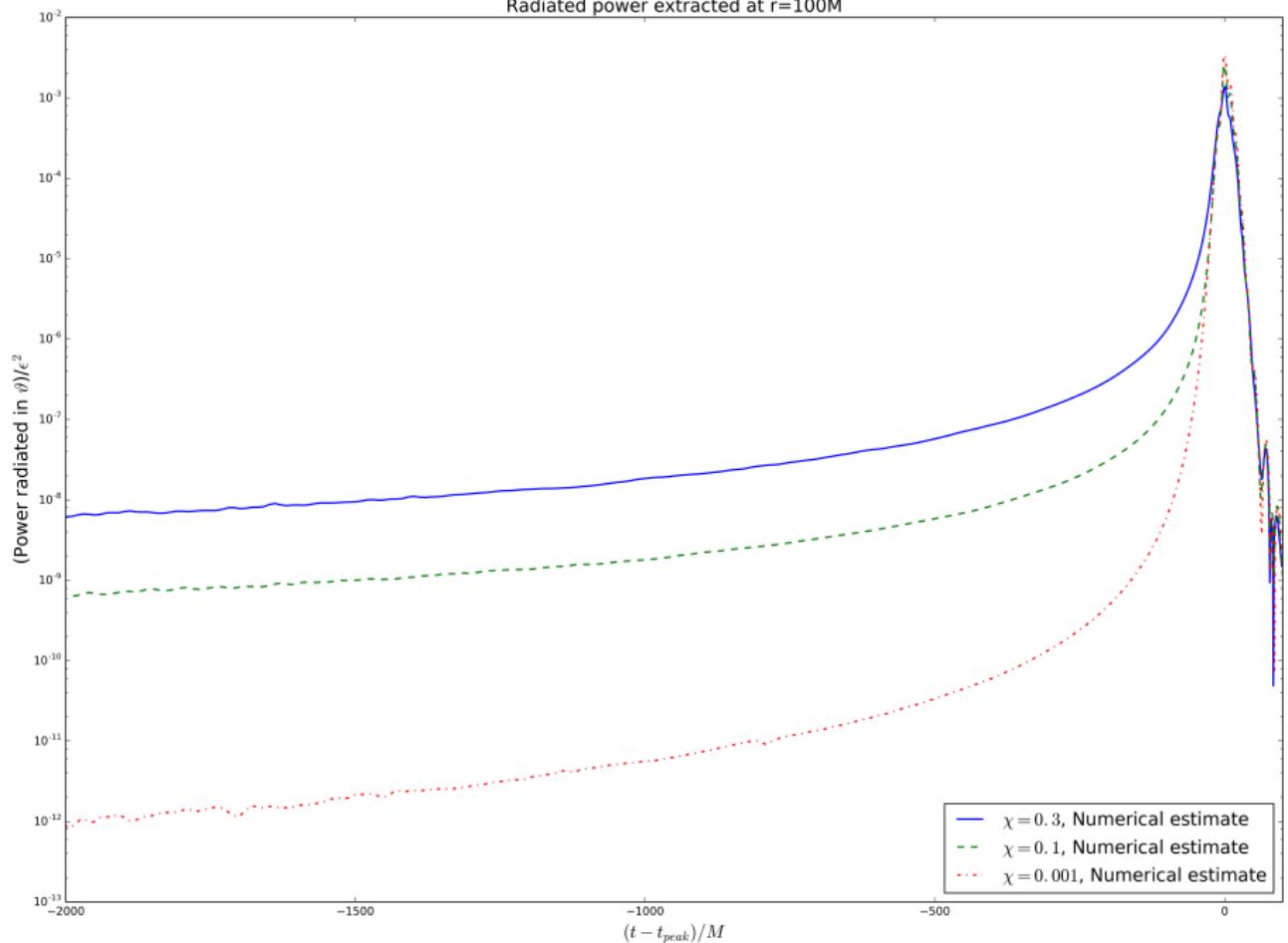
Mode waveforms for $q=3.0$, $\chi=0.1$, extracted at $r=100M$



Mode waveforms for $q=3.0$, $\chi=0.001$, extracted at $r=100M$



Radiated power extracted at $r=100M$



The Plan

- Do $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^2)$ perturbations numerically
- Lots of **phenomenology** studies in dynamical Chern-Simons
- Method is generic—apply to other theories.
Next up: Einstein-dilaton-Gauss-Bonnet
- Understand **regime of validity** of weak-coupling limit
- Build (surrogate model) **parameter estimation** code,
constrain specific theories
- Provide **guidance** to build parameterized models

The TAKEAWAY™

- Want precision tests of GR in strong-field
 \implies Binary black hole mergers
- Want alternative models
- Most alternative theories: don't know about initial value problem
- Effective field theory gives solution:
 - weak-coupling limit
 - perturbation theory about general relativity solution
- Gives well-posed initial value problem
- First binary black hole mergers in dynamical Chern-Simons gravity
- Lots more to do!