

# Black Hole Ringdowns in a Non-Kerr Geometry

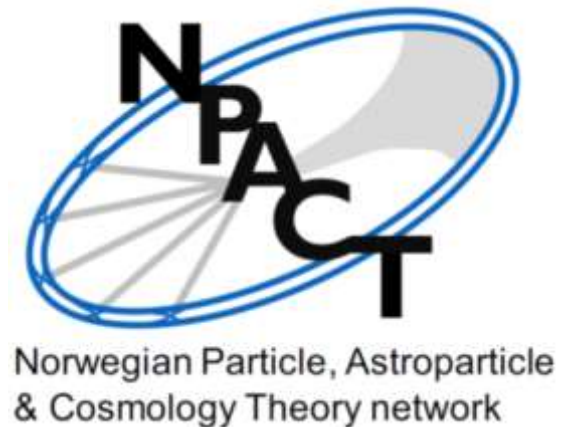
Zaryab Ahmed

University of Stavanger



32<sup>nd</sup> Nordic Network Meeting on “Strings, Fields and Branes”

6/12/23

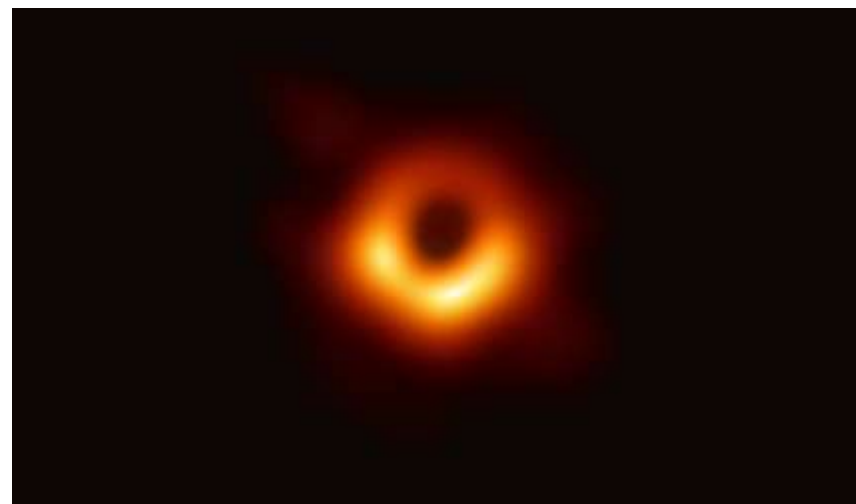
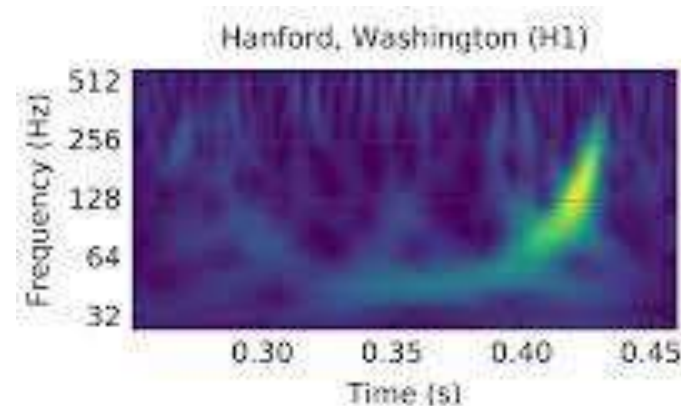


# Probing Strong-Regime Gravity

- Einstein's Field Equations (2015)

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R = 8\pi T_{\mu\nu}$$

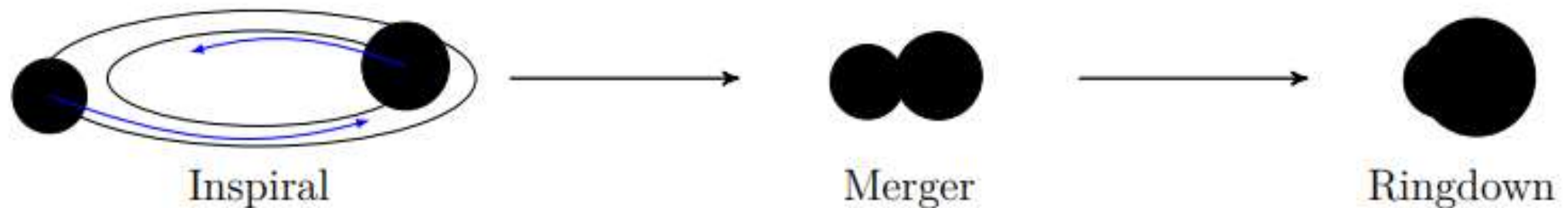
- LIGO observation GW150914 (2015), first gravitational waves
- Event Horizon Telescope, Black hole image captured (2017)
- Current observations consistent with General Relativity
- Novel constraints to non-GR models



# Our Ringdown Analysis with GW190521

Z. Ahmed (UiS), A. Nielsen (UiS), S. Kasta (NBI) (arxiv: xxxx.xxxx)

- Inspiral-Merger-Ringdown
- Model ringdown with some non-Kerr metric
- Confront Ringdown data with non-Kerr model



# Introduction

- We are interested in the ringdown of black holes.
- We like to fit damped sinusoids (QNMs).
- Five parameters for each mode: Starting time, amplitude, phase, frequency, damping time.
- Perturb around a background BH (Kerr in GR), to find frequency and damping time (2 parameters  $\rightarrow$  2 parameters in standard GR).
- Starting time, amplitude, phase determined by inspiral.

# Ringdown of a Perturbed Black Hole

- The decay of a linearly perturbed BH is characterized by Quasi-Normal Modes
- A perturbed BH emits energy in the form of GW as it stabilizes
- A QNM has a real and imaginary part, such that it is given by damped sinusoids

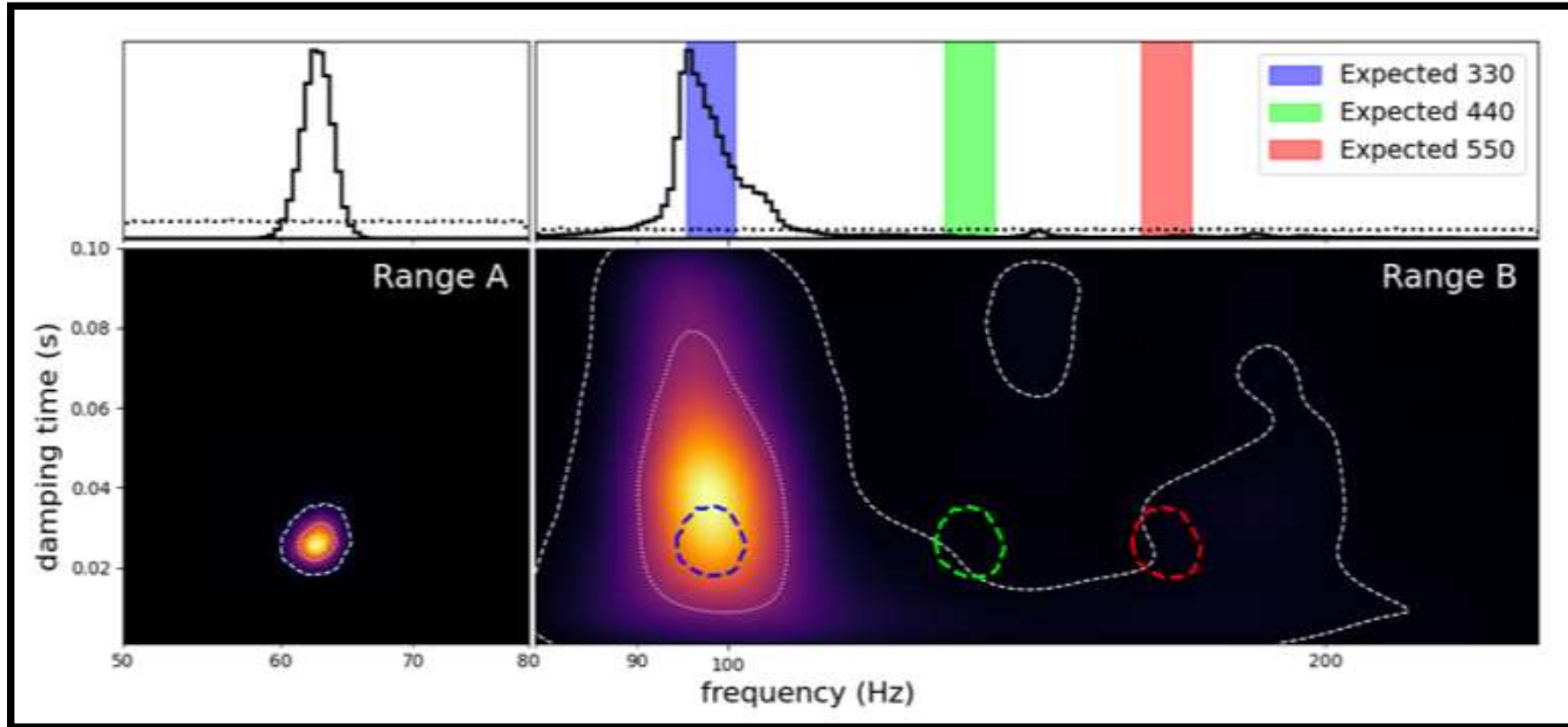
$$f(t) \propto e^{i(\omega t + \phi)} e^{-t/\tau}$$

- The modes are characterized by values of  $l$ ,  $m$  and  $n$

$$h_+ + ih_\times = \frac{M}{r} \sum_{lmn} A_{lmn} e^{i(\omega_{lmn}t + \phi_{lmn})} e^{-t/\tau_{lmn}} S_{lmn}$$

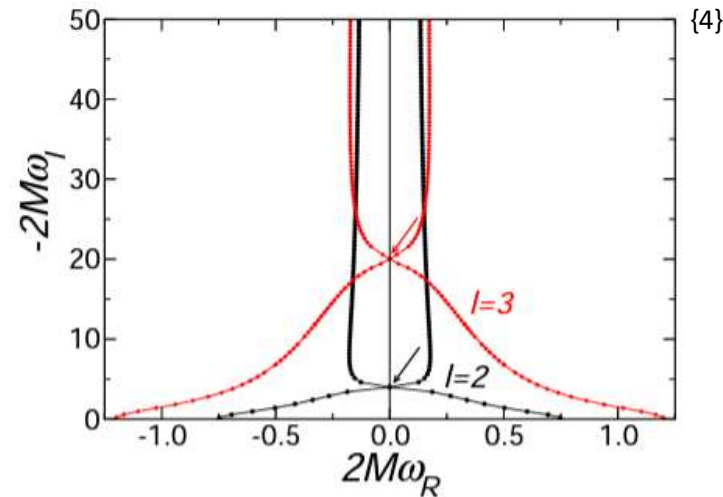
# Multi-mode observation: GW190521

{3}



# Computation of Quasi-Normal Modes

- QNMs normally computed with linearized metric perturbations (Teukolsky master equation)



- QNMs can also be obtained from geodesics at the light ring  $\omega = l\Omega - i\left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)\gamma$ <sup>{5}</sup>
  - $Re(\omega)$ : Depends on the orbital frequency of a graviton at the light ring
  - $Im(\omega)$ : Depends on the characteristic timescale to escape the orbit

{4} QNMs of black holes and black branes <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/0264-9381/26/16/163001>

{5} Stability of charged rotating black holes in eikonal limit [10.1103/PhysRevD.31.290](https://arxiv.org/abs/10.1103/PhysRevD.31.290)

# General Stationary, Axisymmetric Metrics may have more than 2 parameters

$$ds^2 = -[1 + h(r, \theta)](1 - \frac{2Mr}{\Sigma})dt^2 - [1 + h(r, \theta)]\frac{4aMr \sin^2 \theta}{\Sigma} dt d\phi$$

$$+ \frac{\Sigma[1 + h(r, \theta)]}{\Delta + a^2 \sin^2 \theta h(r, \theta)} dr^2 + \Sigma d\theta^2$$

$$+ [\sin^2 \theta (r^2 + a^2 + \frac{2a^2 Mr \sin^2 \theta}{\Sigma}) + h(r, \theta) \frac{a^2 (\Sigma + 2Mr) \sin^4 \theta}{\Sigma}] d\phi^2$$

{6}

where:  $h(r, \theta) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (\epsilon_{2k} + \epsilon_{2k+1} \frac{Mr}{\Sigma}) (\frac{M^2}{\Sigma})^k$



$$g_{tt}^{JP} = -(1 - \frac{2Mr}{\Sigma}) - \epsilon_3 \frac{M^3 (r - 2M)}{r^4}$$

$$g_{rr}^{JP} = \frac{\Sigma}{\Delta} + \epsilon_3 \frac{M^3 (r - 2M)}{\Delta^2}$$

$$g_{\theta\theta}^{JP} = \Sigma$$

$$g_{\phi\phi}^{JP} = (r^2 + a^2 \frac{2Ma^2 r \sin^2 \theta}{\Sigma}) \sin^2 \theta + \epsilon_3 \frac{a^2 M^3 (r + 2M)}{r^3}$$

$$g_{t\phi}^{JP} = -\frac{2Mar \sin^2 \theta}{\Sigma} - \epsilon_3 \frac{2aM^4}{r^4}$$

- Non-GR (not a vacuum solution), parametric deviation, reduces to Kerr
- $\epsilon_0 = \epsilon_1 = 0$ , for the metric to be asymptotically flat
- $\epsilon_2 = 4.6 \times 10^{-4}$ , Lunar Laser Ranging experiment
- $\epsilon_3$ , first unconstrained parameter  $\rightarrow h(r, \theta) = \epsilon_3 \frac{M^3 r}{\Sigma^2}$
- Real and imaginary parts of the QNM spectrum for equatorial orbits in Johannsen-Psaltis geometry up to linear order in  $\epsilon_3$ :

$$\omega_R^{JP} = \omega_R^K + \epsilon_3 (\frac{1}{81\sqrt{3}M} + \frac{10}{729M} \chi + \frac{47}{1458\sqrt{3}M} \chi^2)$$

$$\omega_I^{JP} = \omega_I^K - \epsilon_3 (\frac{1}{486M} \chi + \frac{16}{2187\sqrt{3}M} \chi^2)$$

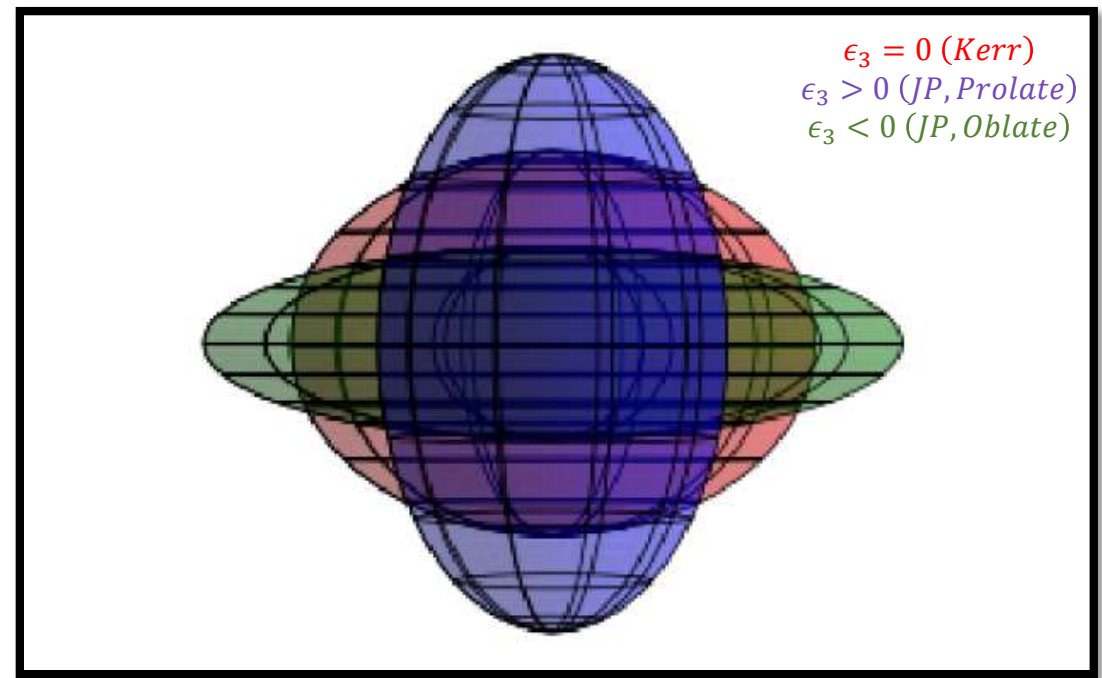
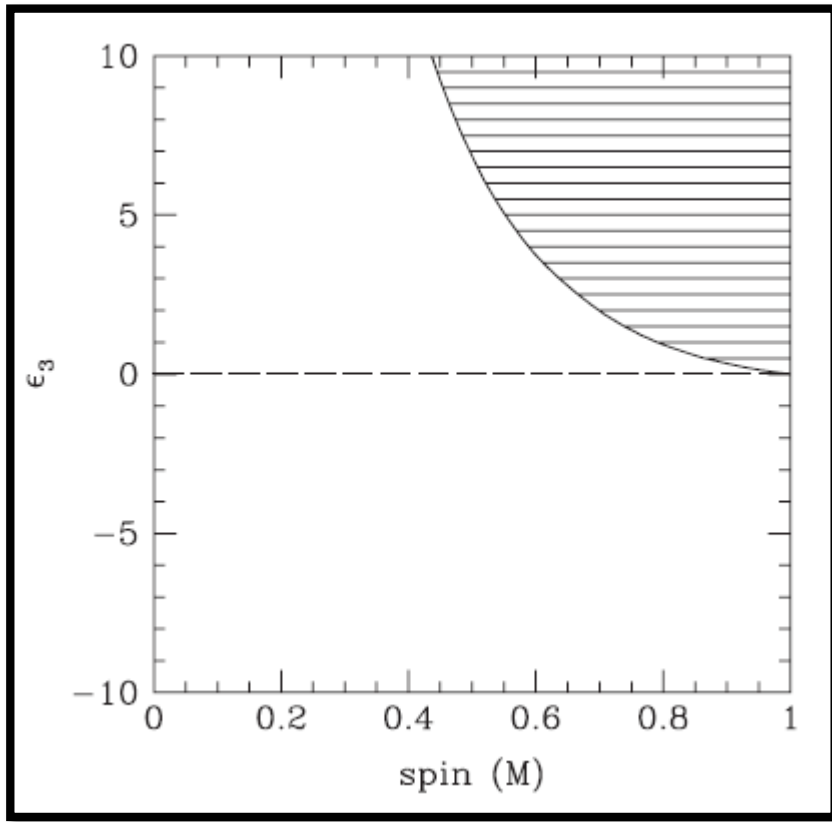
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{6} A metric for rapidly spinning black holes suitable for strong-field test of the no-hair theorem <https://link.aps.org/doi/10.1103/PhysRevD.83.124015>

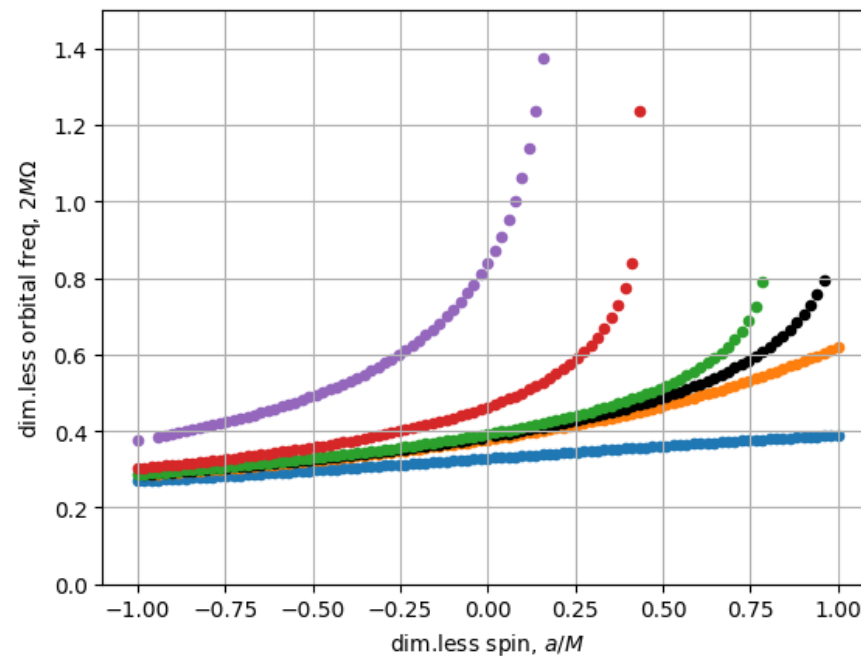
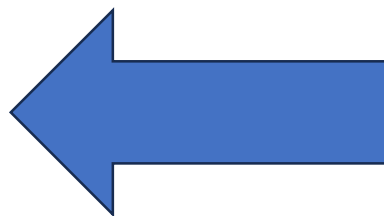
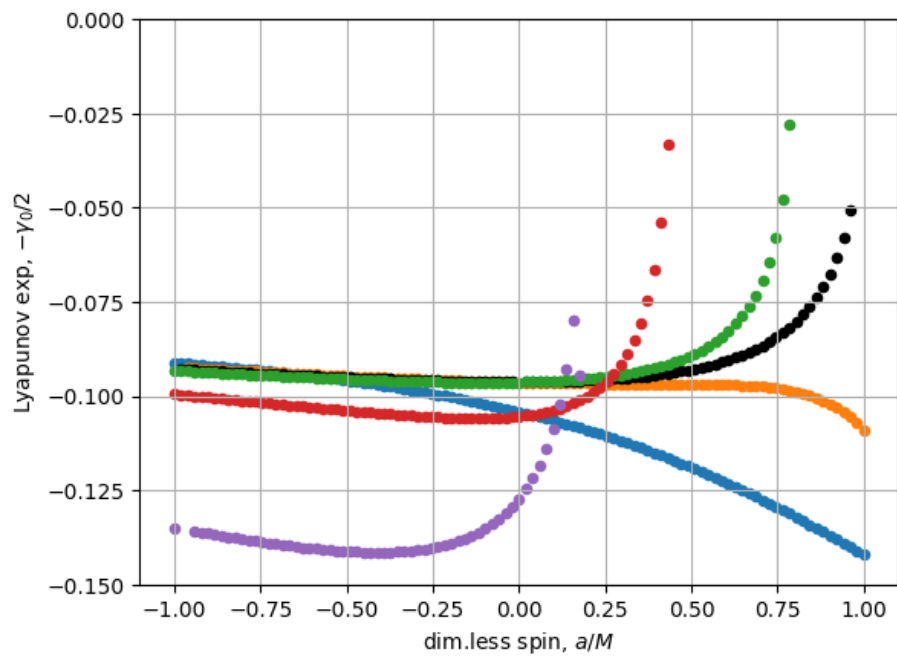
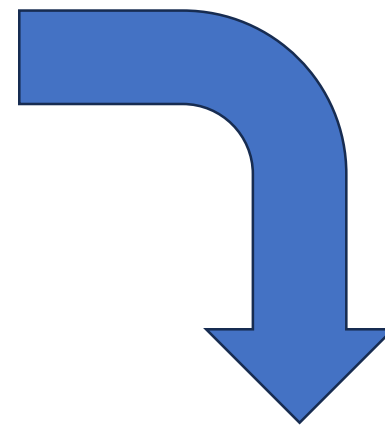
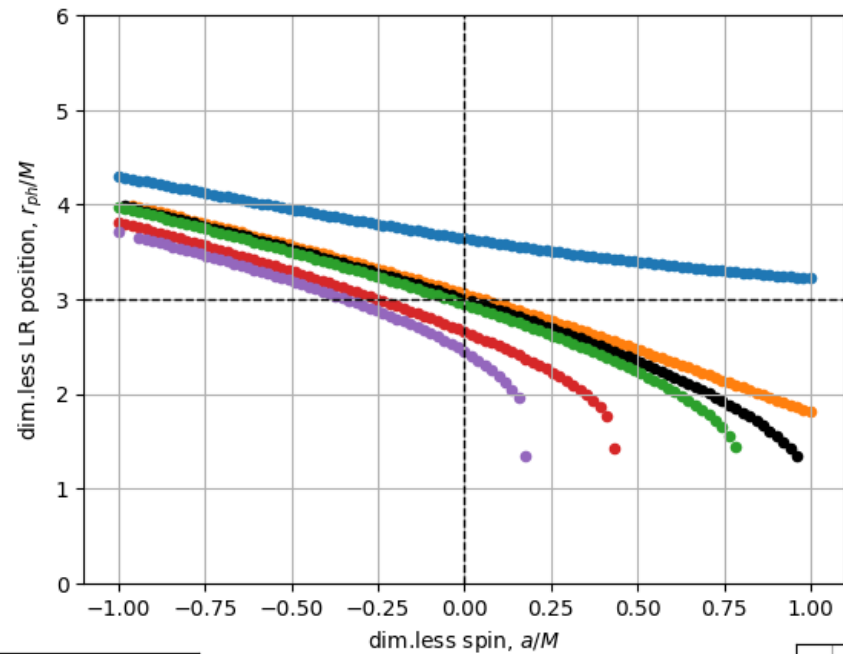
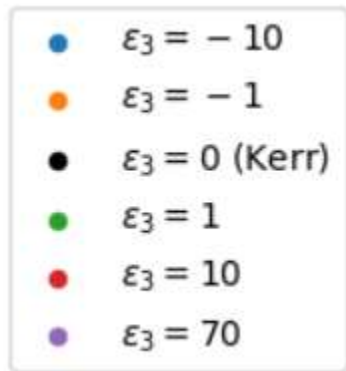
{7} Probing beyond-Kerr spacetimes with inspiral-ringdown corrections to gravitational waves <https://link.aps.org/doi/10.1103/PhysRevD.101.084050>



{6}



A visual representation of how  $\epsilon_3$  affects the ergospheres of Kerr and JP spacetimes.

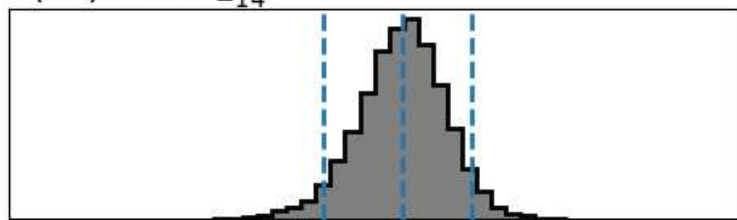


# Frequency-Tau Distribution

• GW150914

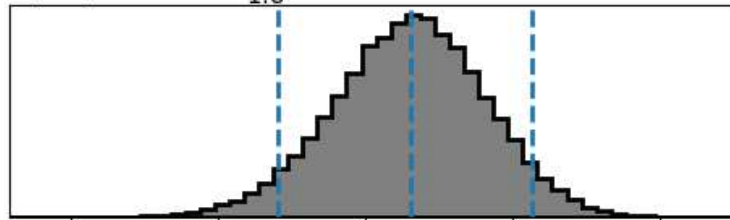
• GW190521

$$f(\text{Hz}) = 244^{+13}_{-14}$$

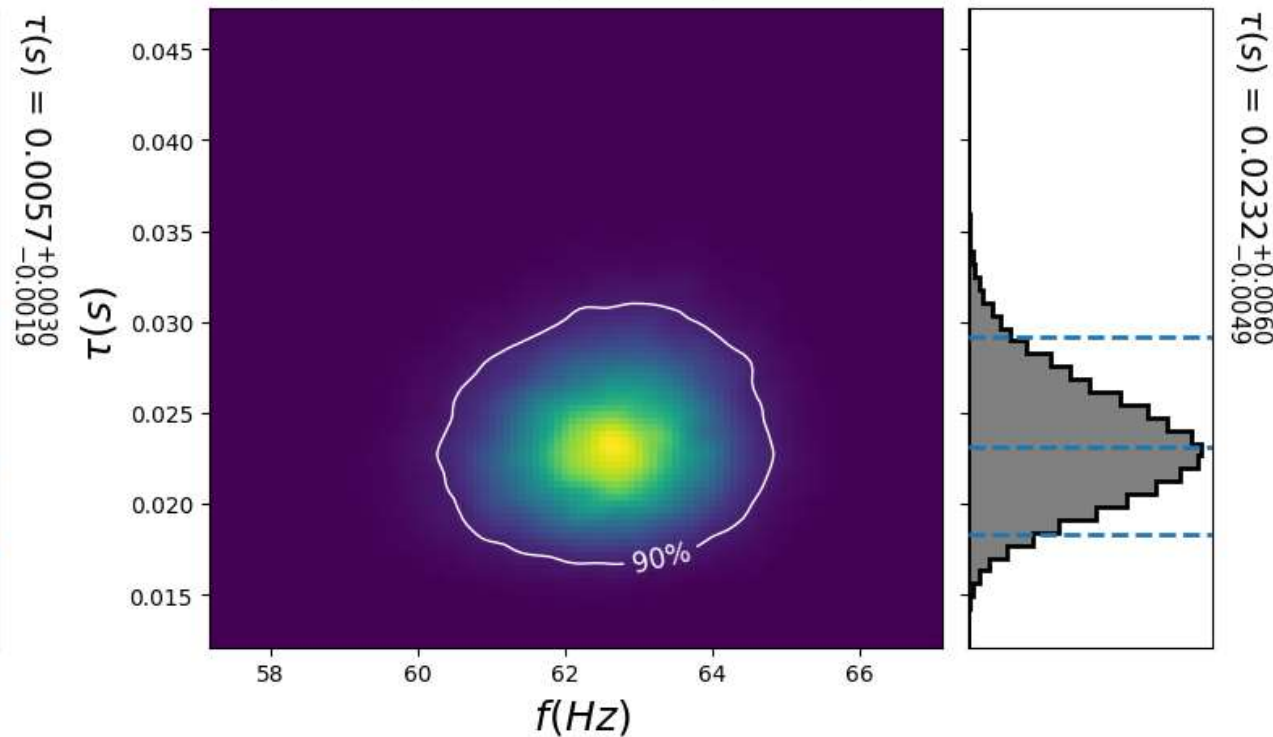
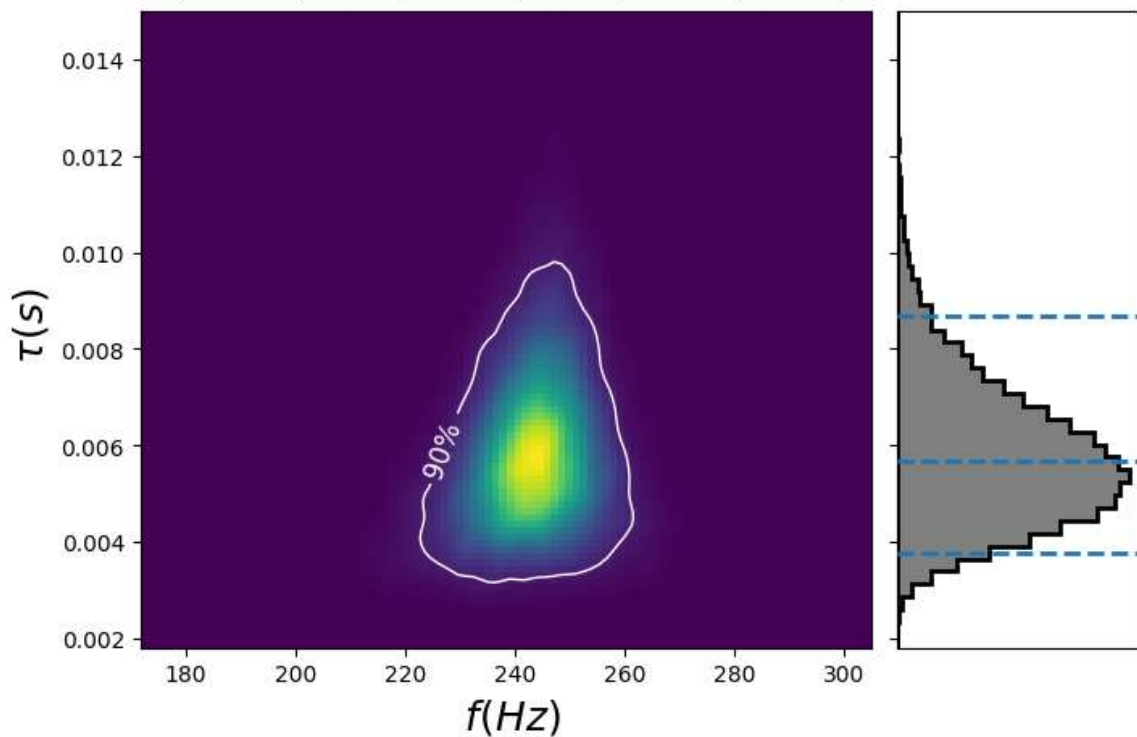


$$\frac{\Delta f}{f} = 5.3\%, \frac{\Delta \tau}{\tau} = 51\%$$

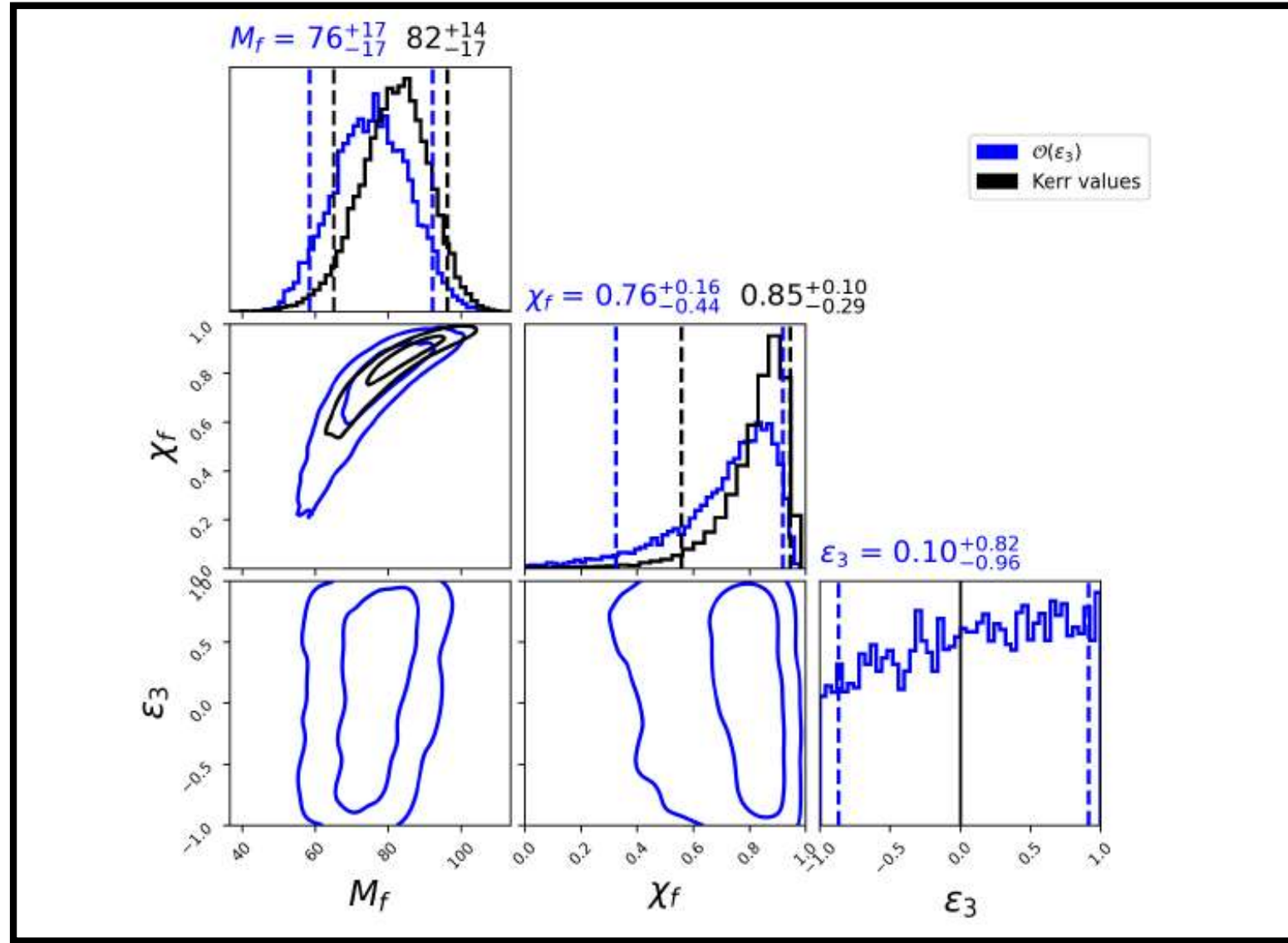
$$f(\text{Hz}) = 62.6^{+1.6}_{-1.8}$$



$$\frac{\Delta f}{f} = 2.7\%, \frac{\Delta \tau}{\tau} = 23\%$$



# GW150914



- Prior ranges:

$$M = [20, 200]$$

$$\chi = [0, 1]$$

$$\epsilon_3 = [-1, 1]$$

- $\epsilon_3$  posterior almost flat, more room for  $\epsilon_3$ .

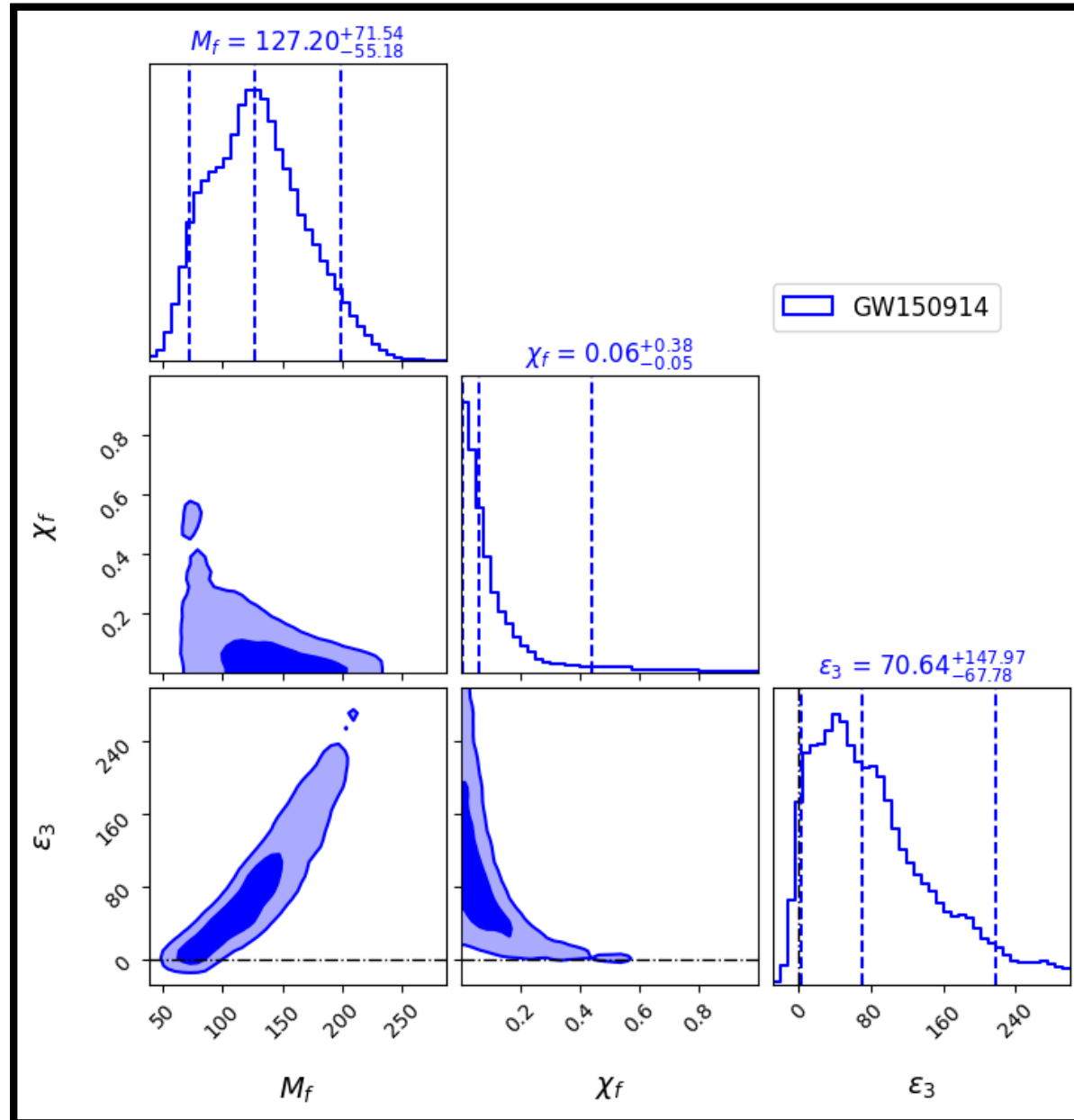
# GW150914

- Prior ranges:

$$M = [20, 300]$$

$$\chi = [0, 1]$$

$$\epsilon_3 = [-30, 300]$$



# GW150914

- Maximum likelihood of Mass from IMR

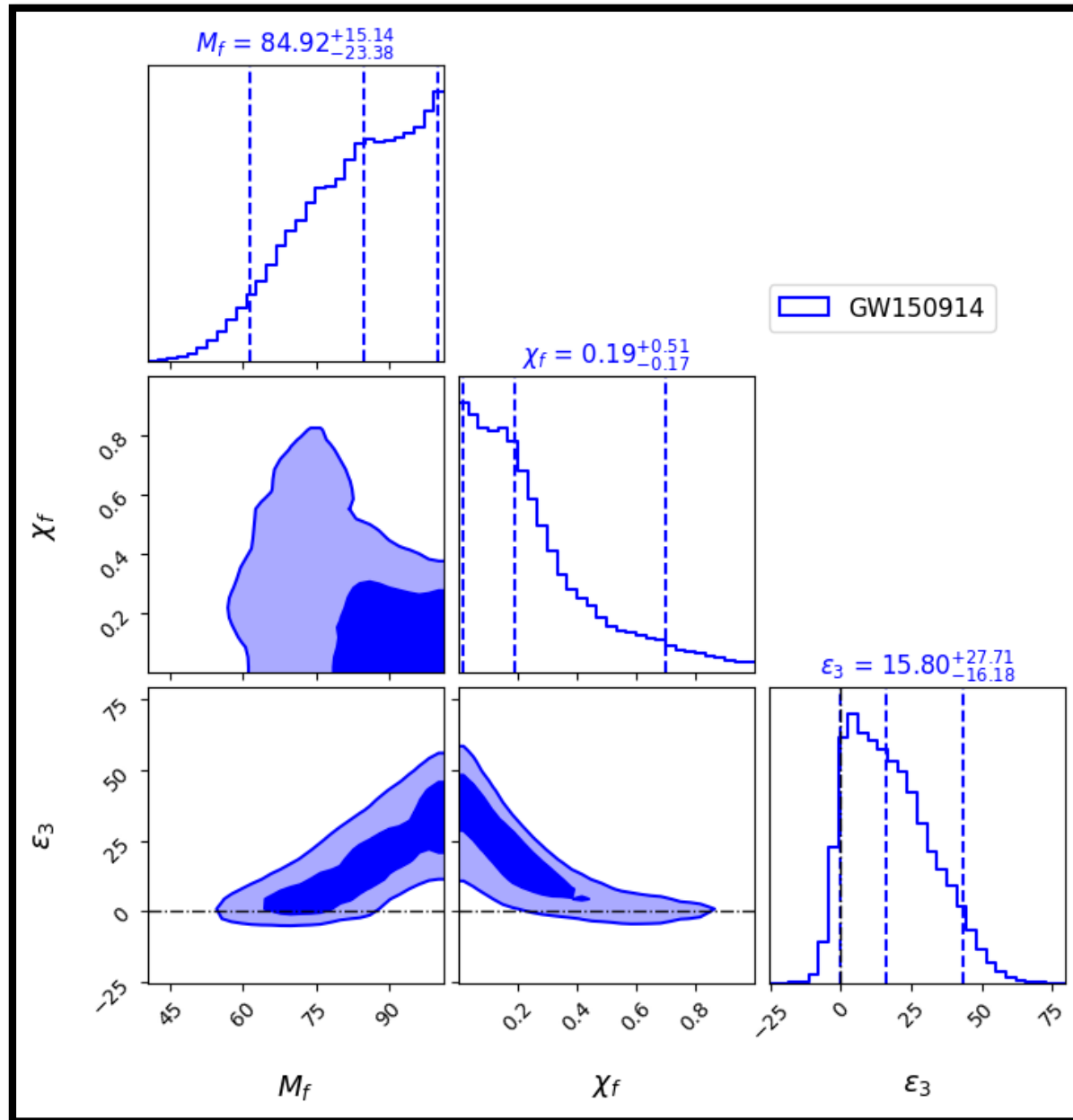
$$ML = 67M_o$$

- IMR-informed prior ranges:

$$M = [0.5ML, 1.5ML]$$

$$\chi = [0,1]$$

$$\epsilon_3 = [-30,300]$$



# GW190521

- Maximum likelihood of Mass from IMR

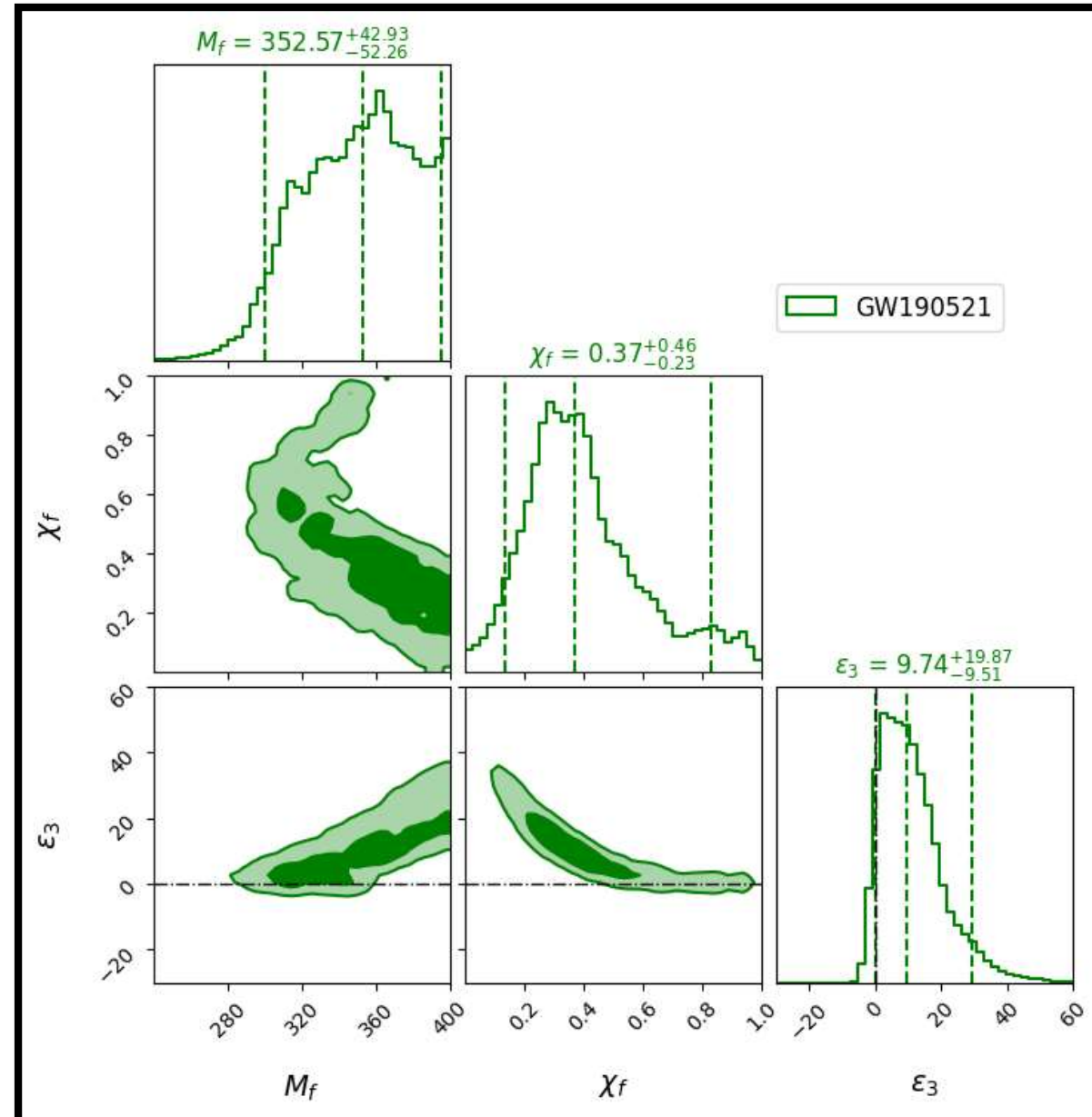
$$ML = 266M_o$$

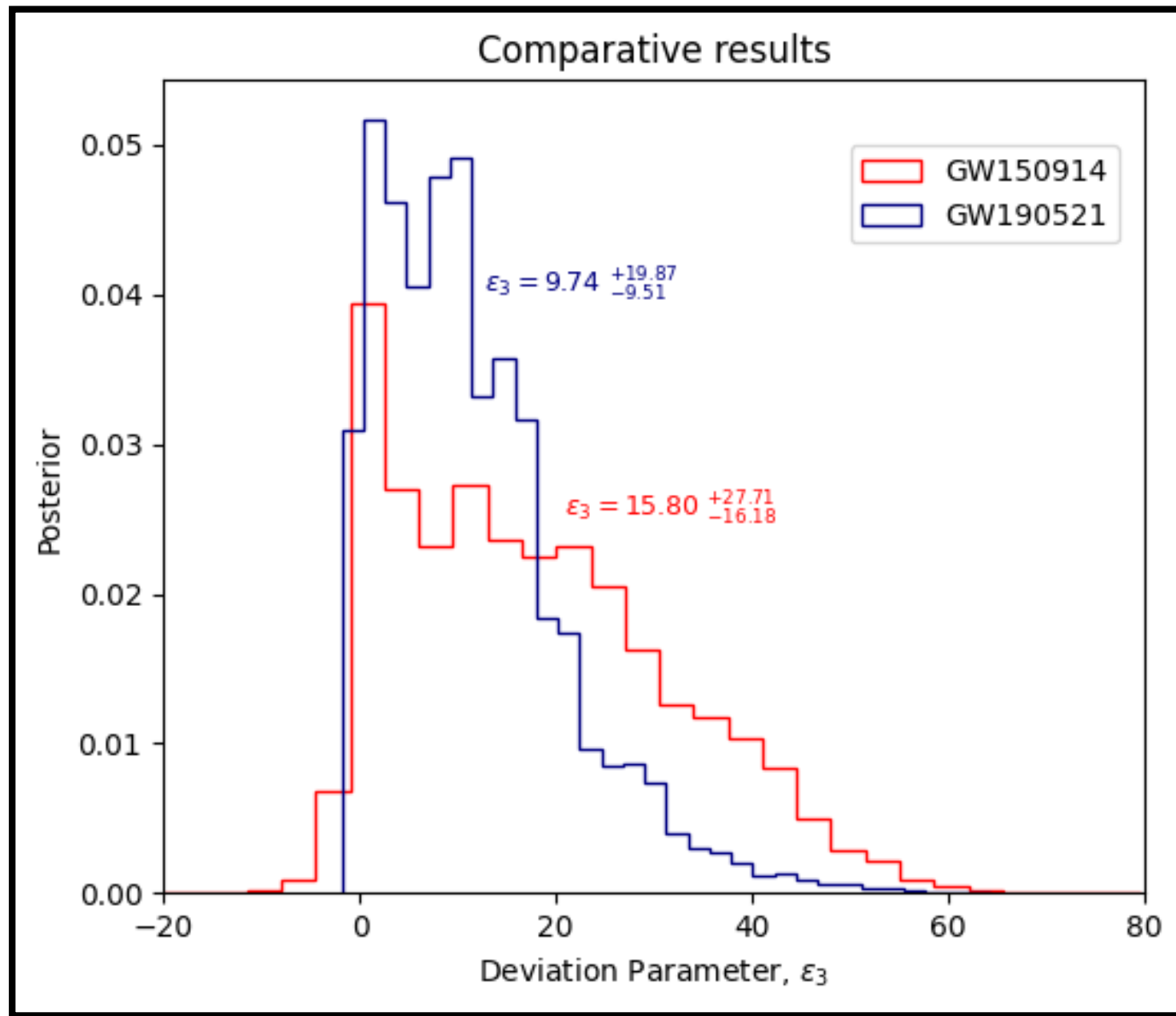
- IMR-informed prior ranges:

$$M = [0.5ML, 1.5ML]$$

$$\chi = [0,1]$$

$$\epsilon_3 = [-30,300]$$







# Conclusions

- Ringdown is sensitive to post-merger metric.
- 2 -> 3 problem
- Spin is anti-correlated with  $\epsilon_3$  in the ringdown; influences the prior choices.
- We find a tighter constraint  $\epsilon_3 = 9.74^{19.87}_{-9.51}$  using GW190521 220 mode ringdown, relative to existing constraints from GW150914 220 mode ringdown.<sup>{8}</sup>
- GW190521 ringdown (SNR=12.2) is a better candidate than GW150914 (SNR = 6.3) ringdown for non-Kerr parameter estimation.
- Higher SNR results in tighter constraints.
- Future detectors like LISA and CE and/or multimode observations like GW190521 are expected to provide better quality of data and therefore improve the constraint on deviation parameters like  $\epsilon_3$ .<sup>{9}</sup>

{8} Measuring deviations from the Kerr geometry with black hole ringdown. ( <https://arxiv.org/abs/2212.10725> )

{9} Probing beyond-kerr spacetimes with inspiral-ringdown corrections to gravitational waves. ( <https://journals.aps.org/prd/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevD.101.084050> )

**THANK YOU!**

# Post-Kerr QNM Validity<sup>{5}</sup>

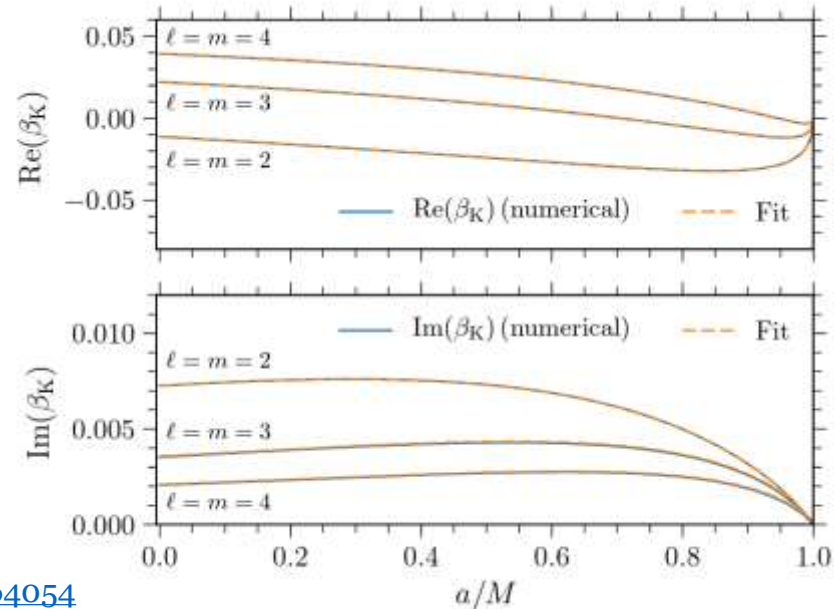
- QNM spectrum used for GW analysis based on Kerr metric
- Ensure that it is valid for a non-Kerr geometry
- Introduce an offset function,  $\beta_K$

$$\omega_{\text{obs}} = \sigma + \beta_K$$

$$\omega_K = \sigma_K + \beta_K$$

$$\omega_{\text{obs}} - \omega_K = \sigma - \sigma_K \neq 0$$

$$\sigma = \sigma_K + \delta\sigma$$



# General Stationary, Axisymmetric Metrics have more than 2 parameters<sup>{1}</sup>

- A general metric, in Boyer-Lindquist coordinates, with principle null directions,  $\partial_t$  and  $\partial_\phi$ , takes the form

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \begin{bmatrix} -g_{tt} & 0 & 0 & g_{t\phi} \\ 0 & g_{rr} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & g_{\theta\theta} & 0 \\ g_{\phi t} & 0 & 0 & g_{\phi\phi} \end{bmatrix}$$

- In this scenario, the computation of the light ring position is given by finding the roots of:

$$\begin{aligned} g_{tt}(r_{ph})b_{ph}^2 + 2g_{t\phi}(r_{ph})b_{ph} + g_{\phi\phi}(r_{ph}) &= 0 \\ g'_{tt}(r_{ph})b_{ph}^2 + 2g'_{t\phi}(r_{ph})b_{ph} + g'_{\phi\phi}(r_{ph}) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

- And the orbital frequency and Lyapunov exponent (inverse of damping time) are given by:

$$\Omega_{ph} = b_{ph}^{-1} = \frac{g'_{tt}}{-g'_{t\phi} \pm \sqrt{g'^2_{t\phi} - g'_{tt}g'_{\phi\phi}}}$$

$$\kappa_{ph}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 f}{dU^2}(U_{ph}) = \frac{f''(U_{ph})}{2U_{ph}^2}$$

$$\gamma_{ph} = |\kappa_{ph}\Omega_{ph}|$$