## On the stability of black hole quasi-normal modes

### José Luis Jaramillo

(joint work with Rodrigo Panosso Macedo and Lamis Al Sheikh) arXiv:2004.06434 [gr-qc]

> Institut de Mathématiques de Bourgogne (IMB) Université de Bourgogne Franche-Comté Jose-Luis.Jaramillo@u-bourgogne.fr



#### Theory of Relativity Seminar

Warsaw, 13 November 2020 - 🖓 🗠

Pyperboloidal approach to Quasi-Normal Modes (in asymptotic flatness)

3 Black Hole QNMs and (in)stability



### Scheme

### 1 Non-normal operators and spectral instability: Pseudospectrum

- 2 Hyperboloidal approach to Quasi-Normal Modes (in asymptotic flatness)
- 3 Black Hole QNMs and (in)stability
- 4 Conclusions and Perspectives

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## Spectral Theorem. Normal and 'non-normal' operators

#### Normal matrix: Spectral Theorem

Matrix case:

• Definition: denoting the adjoint matrix by  $L^{\dagger},$  then L is normal iff  $[L,L^{\dagger}]=LL^{\dagger}-L^{\dagger}L=0$ 

Examples: symmetric, hermitian, orthogonal, unitary...

• Spectral Theorem for matrices: L is normal iff is unitarily diagonalisable.

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The theorem extends, with appropriate assumptions, to 'normal operators' on Hilbert (and more generally Banach) spaces.

### 'Non-normal' operators, $[L, L^{\dagger}] \neq 0$ : no Spectral Theorem

- Completeness more difficult to study.
- Eigenvectors not necessarily orthogonal.
- Spectral instabilities.

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### Methodology here

Numerical spectral methods: Chebyshev polynomials truncations.

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### Example of spectral instability

$$L = a\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + b\frac{d}{dx} + c \quad , \quad a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$$

acting on functions in  $L^2([0,1])$ , with homogeneous Dirichlet conditions.

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### Example of spectral instability

$$L = a \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + b \frac{d}{dx} + c + \epsilon E_{ ext{Random}} \quad , \quad a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}, \; ||E_{ ext{Random}}|| = 1$$

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# Spectral (in)stability: eigenvalue condition number

Left- and right-eigenvectors, respectively  $u_i$  and  $v_i$ , of A

$$A^{\dagger}u_{i} = \bar{\lambda}_{i}u_{i} \quad (\Leftrightarrow u_{i}^{\dagger}A = \lambda_{i}u_{i}^{\dagger}) \quad , \quad Av_{i} = \lambda_{i}v_{i} \quad , \quad i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$$

Perturbation theory of eigenvalues [cf. Kato 80; e.g. Trefethen, Embree 05]:

$$\begin{split} A(\epsilon) &= A + \epsilon \delta A \quad , \qquad ||\delta A|| = 1 \; . \\ |\lambda_i(\epsilon) - \lambda_i| &= \epsilon \frac{|\langle u_i, \delta A \; v_i(\epsilon) \rangle|}{|\langle u_i, v_i \rangle|} \leq \epsilon \frac{||u_i|| \; ||\delta A \; v_i||}{|\langle u_i, v_i \rangle|} + O(\epsilon^2) \leq \epsilon \frac{||u_i|| \; ||v_i||}{|\langle u_i, v_i \rangle|} + O(\epsilon^2). \end{split}$$

Eigenvalue condition number:  $\kappa(\lambda_i)$ 

$$\kappa(\lambda_i) = \frac{||u_i||||v_i||}{|\langle u_i, v_i\rangle|}$$

# Spectral (in)stability and Pseudo-spectrum

Normal case: bounds on the norm of the resolvent  $R_L(\lambda) = (\lambda I - L)^{-1}$ 

Given  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\sigma(L)$  the spectrum of L, it holds

$$||(\lambda I - L)^{-1}||_2 = \frac{1}{\operatorname{dist}(\lambda, \sigma(L))}$$

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Non-normal case: bad control on the resolvent  $R_L(\lambda)$ . **Pseudo-spectrum** 

The norm of the resolvent can become very large far from the spectrum:

$$||(\lambda I - L)^{-1}||_2 \le \frac{\kappa}{\operatorname{dist}(\lambda, \sigma(L))}$$

where  $\kappa$  is a "condition number" assessing the lack of proportionality of 'left' and 'right' eigenvectors of L, and can become very large in the non-normal case.

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Given  $\epsilon > 0$ , the  $\epsilon$ -pseudospectrum  $\sigma_{\epsilon}(L)$  of L is defined as [cf. Trefethen, Embree]:

$$\sigma_{\epsilon}(L) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}, \text{ such that } ||(\lambda I - L)^{-1}|| > \epsilon^{-1}\}$$

$$= \quad \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}, \text{ such that } ||Lv - \lambda v|| < \epsilon \text{ for some } v \text{ with } ||v|| = 1\}$$

 $= \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}, \text{ such that } \lambda \in \sigma(L + \delta L) \text{ for some } \delta L \text{ with } ||\delta L|| < \epsilon \}$ 

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### Bauer-Fike theorem. Random perturbations

Pseudo-spectrum and condition number: Bauer-Fike theorem

Defining "tubular neighbourhood" of radius  $\epsilon$  around  $\sigma(A)$ 

 $\Delta_{\epsilon}(A) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{dist} (\lambda, \sigma(A)) < \epsilon\} ,$ 

it holds:  $\Delta_{\epsilon}(A) \subseteq \sigma_{\epsilon}(A)$ . For normal operators:  $\sigma_{\epsilon}(A) = \Delta_{\epsilon}(A)$ . Non-normal case,  $\kappa(\lambda_i) \neq 1$ , it holds (for small  $\epsilon$ ):

$$\sigma_{\epsilon}(A) \subseteq \bigcup_{\lambda_i \in \sigma(A)} \Delta_{\epsilon \kappa(\lambda_i) + O(\epsilon^2)}(\{\lambda_i\}) ,$$

Therefore  $\sigma_{\epsilon}(A)$  larger tubular neighbourhood of radius  $\sim \epsilon \kappa(\lambda_i)$ .

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#### Random perturbations and Pseudospectrum

Random perturbations  $\Delta L$  with  $||\delta L|| < \epsilon$  "push" eigenvalues into  $\sigma_{\epsilon}(A)$ , providing an insightful and systematic manner of exploring  $\sigma_{\epsilon}(L)$ .

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The surprising beneficial role of 'random perturbations' [cf. e.g Sjöstrand 19]

Random perturbations improve the analytical behaviour of  $R_L(\lambda)!!!$ 

José Luis Jaramillo



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Non-normal operators and spectral instability: Pseudospectrum

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Hyperboloidal approach to Quasi-Normal Modes (in asymptotic flatness)

# Hyperboloidal slices: geometric outgoing BCs at $\mathscr{I}^+$

#### Hyperboloidal approach to QNMs

- **Spectral problem**: homogeneous wave equation with purely outgoing boundary conditions.
- Outgoing BCs naturally imposed at *I*<sup>+</sup>.
- Outgoing BCs actually "incorporated" at *I*<sup>+</sup>:
  - Geometrically: null cones outgoing.
  - Analytically: BCs encoded into a singular operator not admitting BCs.
- Eigenfunctions do not diverge when  $x \to \infty$ : actually integrable.



Hyperboloidal approach to Quasi-Normal Modes (in asymptotic flatness)

# Hyperboloidal slices: geometric outgoing BCs at $\mathscr{I}^+$

#### Hyperboloidal approach to QNMs

- B. Schmidt [Schmidt 93; cf. also Friedman & Schutz 75]
- Analysis in the conformally compactified picture [Friedrich; Frauendiener,...]
- Framework for BH perturbations [Zenginoglu 11].
- QNM definition as operator eigenvalues [Bizoń...; Bizoń, Chmaj & Mach 20].
- QNMs of asymp. AdS spacetimes [Warnick 15].
- Schwarzschild QNMs [Ansorg & Macedo 16]. (cf. also Reissner-Nordström [Macedo, JLJ, Ansorg 18]).
- Extremal Reissner-Nordström [Gajic & Warnick 19].



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#### Gravitational Perturbation $(\ell = 2)$ 100 $\kappa = 0.5$ (Areal radius fixing) = 0.9 (Cauchy horizon fixing) $10^{-2}$ Explicit time integration 10-10ζ(π,0) 10-8 $10^{-10}$ $10^{-12}$ 10-14 50 100 150 250 300 200

#### 1. Wave problem in spherically symmetric asymptotically flat case

As starting point, consider the problem for a  $\phi_{\ell m}$  mode in tortoise coordinates:

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r_*^2} + V_\ell\right)\phi_{\ell m} = 0 \quad , \quad t \in ]-\infty, \infty[ \ , \ r^* \in ]-\infty, \infty[$$

# Compactification along hyperboloidal slices

#### 2. Choice of hyperboloidal foliation and compactification

Make the change to Bizoń-Mach variables [Bizoń & Mach 17]:

 $\left\{ \begin{array}{rcl} \tau &=& t-\ln\left(\cosh r_*\right) \\ y &=& \tanh r_* \end{array} \right. , \quad \tau \in ]-\infty, \infty [\ , \ y \in ]-1, 1[$ 

•  $\tau = \text{const.}$  defines a hyperboloidal slicing.

Ompactification along hyperboloidal slices.

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- We add the boundaries  $y = \pm 1$ .

3. Wave equation in hyperboloidal coordinates: no boundary conditions allowed

For  $y = \pm 1$ ,  $V_{\ell} = 0$ . In the interior,  $y \in ]-1, 1[$ :

$$\left(\partial_{ au}^2 + 2y\partial_{ au}\partial_y + \partial_{ au} + 2y\partial_y - (1-y^2)\partial_y^2 + \tilde{V}_\ell\right)\phi_{\ell m} = 0 \;,$$

with  $ilde{V}_\ell = rac{V_\ell}{(1-y^2)}.$ 

### Wave equation: reduction to first order system

#### 4. Evolution equation in first order form

Introducing the auxiliary field

 $\psi_{\ell m} = i \partial_\tau \phi_{\ell m} \; ,$ 

we can write the wave equation in first-order form:

$$i\partial_{\tau} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_{\ell m} \\ \psi_{\ell m} \end{pmatrix} = \left( \frac{0}{-(1-y^2)\partial_y^2 + 2y\partial_y + \tilde{V}_{\ell m}} \left| \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ -i(2y\partial_y + 1) \end{array} \right) \begin{pmatrix} \phi_{\ell m} \\ \psi_{\ell m} \end{pmatrix} \right) \,.$$

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### Spectral problem: first order formulation

#### 5. Eigenvalue problem for a non-selfadjoint operator, no BCs

Our problem: study

$$\hat{L} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_{\ell m} \\ \psi_{\ell m} \end{pmatrix} = is \begin{pmatrix} \phi_{\ell m} \\ \psi_{\ell m} \end{pmatrix} \quad , \quad \hat{L} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & | \ 1 \\ \hline \hat{L}_1 & | \ \hat{L}_2 \end{pmatrix} \ ,$$

where

$$\hat{L}_1 = -(1-y^2)\partial_y^2 + 2y\partial_y + \tilde{V}_{\ell m} \ , \ \hat{L}_2 = -i(2y\partial_y + 1) \ .$$

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where

$$\hat{L}_1 = -\partial_y \left( (1-y^2) \partial_y \right) + \tilde{V}_{\ell m} \quad , \quad \hat{L}_2 = \frac{1}{i} (2\Omega \cdot \nabla + \operatorname{div}\Omega) \quad (\text{with } \Omega = y)$$

#### QNM problem as a "proper" eigenvalue problem

Spectral problem in a Hilbert space with ("Energy") scalar product ( $\tilde{V} > 0$ ):

$$\langle \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \psi_1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \phi_2 \\ \psi_2 \end{pmatrix} \rangle_E = \int_{\Sigma_\tau} \left( \bar{\psi}_1 \psi_2 + (1 - y^2) \partial_y \bar{\phi}_1 \partial_y \phi_2 + \tilde{V} \bar{\phi}_1 \phi_2 \right) d\Sigma_t$$

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### Black Hole QNM instabilities [cf. Nollert 96, Nollert & Price 99]

#### Schwarzschild gravitational QNMs



Schwarzschild QNMs ( $\ell = 2$  diamonds,  $\ell = 3$  crosses) [e.g. Kokkotas & Schmidt 99]

## Black Hole QNM instabilities [cf. Nollert 96, Nollert & Price 99]

#### Nollert's work on stair-case discretizations of Schwarzschild

(revisited in [ Daghigh, Green & Morey 20, arXiv:2002.0725])



- Instability of the slowest decaying QNM (but ringdowm "stability").
- Instabilities of "highly damped QNMs".
- Various interests in BH QNM perturbations:
  - i) "Dirty" asrophysical black holes [Leung et al. 97; Barausse, Cardoso & Pani 14;...]
  - Quantum (highly damped QNMs/high frequency instability) [Hod 98; Maggiore 08; Babb, Daghigh & Kunstatter 11; Ciric, Konjik & Samsarov 19, Olmedo; ...].

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### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

Pöschl-Teller potential (Remark: toy-model in [Bizoń, Chmaj & Mach 20])

$$V = V_o \operatorname{sech}^2(r_*) = V_o(1 - y^2) \implies \tilde{V} = V_o$$

Particularly simple form (scalar field in de Sitter,  $m^2 = V_o$  [Bizoń, Chmaj & Mach 20])

- Integrable potential (QNM completeness [Beyer 99] with  $m^2 = V_o!$ ).
- QNM frequencies:  $\omega_n^{\pm} = -is_n^{\pm} = \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + i\left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)$
- Here, eigenfunctions are Jacobi polynomials:  $\phi_n(y) = P_n^{(s_n^{\pm}, s_n^{\pm})}(y)$ .



Pölsch-Teller QNM Perturbed-Spectra: Random Potential

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$$V = V_o \operatorname{sech}^2(r_*) = V_o(1 - y^2) \implies \tilde{V} = V_o$$

Particularly simple form (scalar field in de Sitter,  $m^2 = V_o$  [Bizoń, Chmaj & Mach 20])

- Integrable potential (QNM completeness [Beyer 99] with  $m^2 = V_o!$ ).
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Poschel-teller Spectrum and Pseudospectrum of L



#### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### Consistency check: self-adjoint case $\hat{L}_2 = 0$ .

Spectrum and Pseudospectrum of L with  $log||{\rm Random}||_2=-50$ 



#### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### Consistency check: self-adjoint case $\hat{L}_2 = 0$ .

Spectrum and Pseudospectrum of L with  $log||{\rm Random}||_2=-5$ 



#### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### Consistency check: self-adjoint case $\hat{L}_2 = 0$ .

Spectrum and Pseudospectrum of L with  $log||Random||_2 = -1$ 



#### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### Consistency check: self-adjoint case $\hat{L}_2 = 0$ .



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### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

QNM problem:  $\hat{L}_2 \neq 0$ .

Poschel-teller Spectrum and Pseudospectrum of L



### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### QNM problem: random perturbation (in the potential). Fixed resolution.



Spectrum and Pseudospectrum of L with  $log||Random||_2 = -15$ 

$$\epsilon = 10^{-15}$$

### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### QNM problem: random perturbation (in the potential). Fixed resolution.



Spectrum and Pseudospectrum of L with  $log||Random||_2 = -14$ 

$$\epsilon = 10^{-14}$$

### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### QNM problem: random perturbation (in the potential). Fixed resolution.



Spectrum and Pseudospectrum of L with  $log||{\rm Random}||_2=-13$ 

$$\epsilon = 10^{-13}$$

### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### QNM problem: random perturbation (in the potential). Fixed resolution.



Spectrum and Pseudospectrum of L with  $log||Random||_2 = -12$ 

$$\epsilon = 10^{-12}$$

### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### QNM problem: random perturbation (in the potential). Fixed resolution.



 $\epsilon = 10^{-11}$ 

### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### QNM problem: random perturbation (in the potential). Fixed resolution.



Spectrum and Pseudospectrum of L with  $log||Random||_2 = -10$ 

$$\epsilon = 10^{-10}$$

### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### QNM problem: random perturbation (in the potential). Fixed resolution.



Spectrum and Pseudospectrum of L with  $log||Random||_2 = -9$ 

$$\epsilon = 10^{-9}$$

### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### QNM problem: random perturbation (in the potential). Fixed resolution.



Spectrum and Pseudospectrum of L with  $log||Random||_2 = -8$ 

### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### QNM problem: random perturbation (in the potential). Fixed resolution.



Spectrum and Pseudospectrum of L with  $log||Random||_2 = -7$ 

### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### QNM problem: random perturbation (in the potential). Fixed resolution.



### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

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## Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### QNM problem: random perturbation (in the potential). Fixed resolution.



## Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### QNM problem: random perturbation (in the potential). Fixed resolution.



Spectrum and Pseudospectrum of L with  $log||Random||_2 = -3$ 

 $\mathrm{Im}(\omega_n)$  $-1 \times 10^{1}$  $-4 \times 10^{1} - 3 \times 10^{1} - 2 \times 10^{1} - 1 \times 10^{1}$  0  $10^1$  2×10<sup>1</sup> 3×10<sup>1</sup> 4×10<sup>1</sup>  $\operatorname{Re}(\omega_n)$  $\tilde{V} = \tilde{V}_{\text{Poeschl-Teller}} + \epsilon E_{\text{Random}}, \quad ||E_{\text{Random}}|| = 1$  $\epsilon = 10^{-3}$ 

## Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### QNM problem: random perturbation (in the potential). Fixed resolution.



Spectrum and Pseudospectrum of L with  $log||Random||_2 = -2$ 

$$\epsilon = 10^{-2}$$

## Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### QNM problem: random perturbation (in the potential). Fixed resolution.



 $\epsilon = 10^{-1}$ 

## Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### QNM problem: random perturbation (in the potential). Fixed resolution.



## Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### From this we learn:

- ALL overtones QNMs, unstable under high frequency perturbations: instability grows as dammping grows.
- Perturbations make **QNMs to "migrate" to Pseudo-spectrum contour lines** ("extended pattern", cf. Bauer-Fike theorem).
- Slowest damped QNM, stable under high frequency perturbations:
  - Directly from the Pseudo-spectrum.
  - From the size of the needed perturbations.
- It can be repeated with deterministic high frequency k perturbations.
- For low frequency perturbations: much milder effect.

 $\tilde{V} = \tilde{V}_{\text{Poeschl-Teller}} + \epsilon \cos(2\pi ky) \ , \ k \gg 1$ 

It can also be seen:
 Slowest damped QNM unstable under "infrared perturbations" (cutting V at larges distances): Nollert's instability of the fundamental QNM.

### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### QNM problem: Increasing resolution N. Fixed random perturbation $\epsilon = 10^{-16}$ .



N = 120

### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential



### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential



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## Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential





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#### QNM problem: Increasing resolution N. Fixed random perturbation $\epsilon = 10^{-16}$ .

Spectrum and Pseudospectrum of L with  $log||Random||_2 = -50$ 



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### Test-bed study: Pöschl-Teller potential

#### From this we learn:

- Pseudo-spectrum contour lines seem to converge to QNM curves observed by Nollert [cf. Nollert 96].
- Similarity to Neutron-Star "w-modes".



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- Pseudo-spectrum contour lines seem to converge to QNM curves observed by Nollert [cf. Nollert 96].
- Similarity to Neutron-Star "w-modes".



## Schwarzschild QNMs

#### Schwarzschild Pseudospectum: same qualitative behaviour (note: branch cut)



Highly damped QNMs unstable, slowest decaying QNMs stable.

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# QNM: (spherically symmetric) general case

Starting point: (scalar) wave equation in "tortoise" coordinates

On a stationary spatime (with timelike Killing  $\partial_t$ ):

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r_*^2} + V_\ell\right)\phi_{\ell m} = 0 \; ,$$

Dimensionless coordinates:  $\bar{t} = t/\lambda$  and  $\bar{x} = r_*/\lambda$  (and  $\bar{V}_{\ell} = \lambda^2 V_{\ell}$ ),

Conformal hyporboloidal approach

$$\begin{cases} \bar{t} &= \tau - h(x) \\ \bar{x} &= f(x) \end{cases}$$

- h(x): implements the hyperboloidal slicing, i.e. τ = const. is a horizon-penetrating hyperboloidal slice Σ<sub>τ</sub> intersecting future *I*<sup>+</sup>.
- f(x): spatial compactification between  $\bar{x} \in [-\infty, \infty]$  to [a, b].
- Timelike Killing:  $\lambda \partial_t = \partial_{\overline{t}} = \partial_{\tau}$ .

# QNM: (spherically symmetric) general case

#### First-order reduction: $\psi_{\ell m} = \partial_{\tau} \phi_{\ell m}$

$$\partial_{ au} u_{\ell m} = i L u_{\ell m}$$
 , with  $u_{\ell m} = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_{\ell m} \\ \psi_{\ell m} \end{pmatrix}$ 

where

$$L = \frac{1}{i} \left( \begin{array}{c|c} 0 & 1 \\ \hline L_1 & L_2 \end{array} \right)$$

$$L_{1} = \frac{1}{w(x)} (\partial_{x} (p(x)\partial_{x}) - q(x))$$
 (Sturm-Liouville operator)  

$$L_{2} = \frac{1}{w(x)} (2\gamma(x)\partial_{x} + \partial_{x}\gamma(x))$$

with 
$$w(x) = \frac{f'^2 - h'^2}{|f'|} > 0$$
,  $p(x) = \frac{1}{|f'|}$ ,  $q(x) = |f'| V_\ell$ ,  $\gamma(x) = \frac{h'}{|f'|}$ .

# QNM: (spherically symmetric) general case

#### Spectral problem

Taking Fourier transform, dropping  $(\ell, m)$  (convention  $u(\tau, x) \sim u(x)e^{i\omega\tau}$ ):

$$L u_n = \omega_n u_n$$
.

where

$$L = \frac{1}{i} \left( \begin{array}{c|c} 0 & 1 \\ \hline L_1 & L_2 \end{array} \right)$$

 $L_{1} = \frac{1}{w(x)} \left( \partial_{x} \left( p(x) \partial_{x} \right) - q(x) \right)$  (Sturm-Liouville operator)  $L_{2} = \frac{1}{w(x)} \left( 2\gamma(x) \partial_{x} + \partial_{x} \gamma(x) \right)$ 

Conformal hyperboloidal approach: No boundary conditions

It holds p(a) = p(b) = 0,  $L_1$  is "singular": **BCs "in-built" in** L.

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# QNM: (spherically symmetric) general case

#### Scalar product

Natural scalar product (where  $\tilde{V}_{\ell} := q(x) > 0$ ):

$$\langle u_1, u_2 \rangle_E = \frac{1}{2} \int_a^b \left( w(x) \bar{\psi}_1 \psi_2 + p(x) \partial_x \bar{\phi}_1 \partial_x \phi_2 + \tilde{V}_\ell \bar{\phi}_1 \phi_2 \right) dx ,$$

related to the "total energy" of  $\phi$  on  $\Sigma_t$ , defining the "energy norm"

$$||u||_{E}^{2} = \langle u, u \rangle_{E} = \int_{\Sigma_{\tau}} T_{ab}(\phi, \partial_{\tau}\phi) t^{a} n^{b} d\Sigma_{\tau} ,$$

#### Spectral problem of a non-selfadjoint operator

- Full operator *L*: not selfadjoint.
- $L_2$ : dissipative term encoding the energy leaking at  $\mathscr{I}^+$ .
- L selfadjoint in the non-dissipative  $L_2 = 0$  case.

#### Non-normal operators spectral tools: "energy norm" for Pseudospectrum.

## Application to Pöschl-Teller

#### Conformal compactification

$$\begin{cases} \bar{t} = \tau - \frac{1}{2}\ln(1 - x^2) \\ \bar{x} = \operatorname{arctanh}(x) \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \tau = \bar{t} - \ln\left(\cosh\bar{x}\right) \\ x = \tanh\bar{x} \end{cases}$$

mapping  $[-\infty,\infty]$  to [a,b] = [-1,1].

#### Spectral problem

Operators in L, with potential  $V(x) = V_o \operatorname{sech}^2(\bar{x})$  (with  $V_o = 1$ ):

$$L_1 = \partial_x \left( (1 - x^2) \partial_x \right) - 1$$
  

$$L_2 = -(2x\partial_x + 1) .$$

where:

$$w(x) = 1$$
 ,  $p(x) = (1 - x^2)$  ,  $q(x) = \frac{V}{1 - x^2} =: \tilde{V}(x)$  ,  $\gamma(x) = -x$ .

## Application to Schwarzschild

#### Schwarzschild potential

Axial (Regge-Wheeler) case:

$$V_{\ell}^{s} = \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) \left(\frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{r^{2}} + (1 - s^{2})\frac{2M}{r^{3}}\right) ,$$

where

•  $r_* = r + 2M \ln(r/2M - 1)$ 

• s = 0, 1, 2, respectively, to the scalar, electromagnetic and gravitational cases.

#### Numerical Chebyshev methods: analyticity of V(x)

Bizoń-Mach coordinates used in Pöschl-Teller not well adapted now: the potential is non-analytic in x, spoiling the accuracy of Chebyshev's methods. Same problem for the polar (Zerilli) case.

#### Solution

We resort rather to the 'minimal gauge' hyperboloidal slicing [Ansorg, Macedo 16; Macedo 18] guaranteeing the analyticity of the Schwarzschild potential.

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## Application to Schwarzschild

Conformal compactification: "minimal gauge" [Ansorg, Macedo 16; Macedo 18]

$$\begin{cases} \bar{t} &= \tau - \frac{1}{2} \left( \ln \sigma + \ln(1 - \sigma) - \frac{1}{\sigma} \right) \\ \bar{x} &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{\sigma} + \ln(1 - \sigma) - \ln \sigma \right) \end{cases}$$

mapping  $[-\infty,\infty]$  to [a,b] = [0,1] (we use  $\sigma$ , rather than x).

#### Spectral problem

Operators in L:

$$L_1 = \frac{1}{1+\sigma} \left[ \partial_\sigma \left( \sigma^2 (1-\sigma) \partial_\sigma \right) - \left( \ell (\ell+1) + (1-s^2) \sigma \right) \right]$$
  

$$L_2 = \frac{1}{1+\sigma} \left( (1-2\sigma^2) \partial_\sigma - 2\sigma \right) .$$

where:

$$w(\sigma) = 1 + \sigma$$
,  $p(\sigma) = \sigma^2(1 - \sigma)$ ,  $q(\sigma) = \frac{V}{\sigma^2(1 - \sigma)} =: \tilde{V}(\sigma)$ ,  $\gamma(\sigma) = 1 - 2\sigma^2$ .

## Trying to understand: the "current picture" ... in pictures



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## Trying to understand: the "current picture" ... in pictures

Comparison Pöschl-Teller versus Schwarzschild:



#### Remarks:

- High frequency perturbations: random  $\delta V_r$ , deterministic  $\delta V_d \sim \cos(2\pi kx)$ .
- Fundamental QNM stable.
- Perturbed QNMs "migrate" to  $\epsilon$ -contour lines of Pseudospectra.
- 'Universality' phenomenon?

## Trying to understand: the "current picture" ... in pictures



Black Hole and Neutron Star QNMs

Comparison with:

- Nollert's high-frequency Schwarzschild perturbations.
- Nollert's remark on Neutron Stars (w-modes) curvature QNMs.



### Trying to understand: the "current picture" ... in pictures



"Duality" QNMs (long-range potentials) and Regge poles (compact support potentials)?

QNM of an spherical obstacle [Stefanov 06]:

- Red-diamonds: fixed "n", running angular ℓ.
- Blue-diamonds: fixed  $\ell$  (here  $\ell = 20$ ), running n.



## Scheme

- Non-normal operators and spectral instability: Pseudospectrum
- 2 Hyperboloidal approach to Quasi-Normal Modes (in asymptotic flatness)
- 3 Black Hole QNMs and (in)stability
- 4 Conclusions and Perspectives

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#### Conclusions

- QNM "overtones":
  - QNM overtones are "ultraviolet unstable" (Nollert's ultraviolet instability): unstable under "high frequency" perturbations.
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  - The fundamental QNM is "infrared unstable" (Nollert's infrared instability): changing the asymptotic structure of the potential (cutting).
- 'Nollert BH QNM branches' as pseudospectrum contour lines: similar to star w-modes (curvature modes).

Can BHs disguise as Neutron Stars?

Universality phenomenon?

#### Perspectives

#### • Astrophysical consequences:

- i) Assessment of size/structure of actual astrophysical perturbations.
- ii) Size/frequency of perturbations from the Pseudospectrum contour lines?

A "poor's man" inverse scattering treatment?

#### iii) Assessment of "BH spectroscopy" approaches. Caveat: "BH scattering ringdown frequencies" possible disconnect from "QNM freq." [Nollert 96, Nollert & Price 99, Cardoso et al. 16, Konoplya & Zhidenko 16, Khanna & Price 17]. Late (intermediate) ringdown controlled by unperturbed QNMs [Nollert 96].

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#### • Fundamental physics consequences:

- Fundamental QNM and (strong) cosmic censorship (Cauchy horizon stability).
- Assessment of instabilities (Quantum Gravity-"agnostic") triggered from (sub)Planckian scales.

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• Mathematical relativity: from numerical evidence to actual proofs.

[Gajic & Warnick 19; Zworski 20; Hintz & Vasy 17; Häfner, Hintz & Vasy 19; Dyatlov & Zworski 19]. QNM enhanced regularity [Ansorg & Macedo 16, Gajic & Warnick 19]: Gevrey classes.

#### Pseudospectra as a "bottom map" of a "Gevrey Ocean"?
Conclusions and Perspectives

Conclusions and Perspectives

## A "Gevrey Ocean" perspective?



