



# Distinguishing Frames through Entanglement

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# Outline

- Perturbative quantum gravity and how to probe it?
- The existence of fifth force through entanglement.
- Implications for de Sitter spacetime.

## Reference

- **SC**, Mazumdar and Pradhan, PRD 108, L121505 (2023).
- **SC**, Mazumdar and Pradhan, work in progress.



# Why “Quantum” Gravity?

- Massive quantum particle in spatial superposition requires gravity to be quantum as well.
  - Where can we ‘see’ such quantum effects? — (a) near the black hole horizon, (b) near the black hole singularity, (c) in the early universe physics, and (d) in the perturbative domain.
- Near the black hole horizon — probed by gravitational waves.
  - Early universe physics — probed by scalar power spectrum and primordial GW.
- Perturbative domain — probed by ‘table-top’ experiments involving entanglement between massive objects.



# Entanglement between Masses

- Two quantum systems with mass entangle through gravitational interaction, if and only if, gravity is inherently quantum.

[Bose +, Phys. Rev. D 105, 106028 (2022)]

- The two systems are taken to be harmonic oscillators.

$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_A + \hat{H}_B ; \quad \hat{H}_{A,B} = \frac{1}{2m} \hat{p}_{A,B}^2 + \frac{m\omega^2}{2} \delta \hat{x}_{A,B}^2$$

$$\hat{x}_A = -\frac{d}{2} + \delta \hat{x}_A ; \quad \hat{x}_B = -\frac{d}{2} + \delta \hat{x}_B$$

- Masses interact gravitationally, approximated as a linear system.

$$h_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{\kappa} (g_{\mu\nu} - \eta_{\mu\nu})$$

$$\gamma_{\mu\nu} := h_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} h \eta_{\mu\nu}$$

[Gupta, Proc. Phys. Soc. A65, 161 (1952)]

- The linearized gravitational field is then quantized subsequently.

$$[\gamma_{\mu\nu}(x), \gamma_{\alpha\beta}(x')] = i (\eta_{\mu\alpha} \eta_{\nu\beta} + \eta_{\mu\beta} \eta_{\nu\alpha}) D(x - x') \quad [\gamma(x), \gamma(x')] = -4i D(x - x')$$

$$\gamma_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} \int \frac{d^3k}{\sqrt{2\omega_{\mathbf{k}}}} [a_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{k}) e^{ikx} + a_{\mu\nu}^\dagger(\mathbf{k}) e^{-ikx}]$$

$$\gamma = \frac{2}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} \int \frac{d^3k}{\sqrt{2\omega_{\mathbf{k}}}} [b(\mathbf{k}) e^{ikx} + b^\dagger(\mathbf{k}) e^{-ikx}]$$



# The Interaction Hamiltonian

- The total Lagrangian has both gravity and matter:  $L_{\text{total}} = L_{\text{grav}}[g] + L_{\text{mat}}[g, \phi]$
- The Lagrangian can be expanded around flat background.
- This will provide quadratic action for gravitational perturbation and coupling between gravity and matter.
- We will be interested in this coupling and ask if this coupling is same in Einstein and Jordan frames.
- Non-invariance will lead to possible probe of fifth force using quantum entanglement due to gravity.

$$L_{\text{total}} = L_{\text{grav}}[\eta] + \left[ \frac{\delta L_{\text{grav}}}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} \right]_{\eta_{\mu\nu}} \delta g^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2!} \left[ \frac{\delta^2 L_{\text{grav}}}{\delta g^{\mu\nu} \delta g^{\alpha\beta}} \right]_{\eta_{\rho\sigma}} \delta g^{\mu\nu} \delta g^{\alpha\beta} + L_{\text{mat}}[\eta, \phi] + \left[ \frac{\delta L_{\text{mat}}}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} \right]_{\eta_{\alpha\beta}} \delta g^{\mu\nu}$$

$$L_{\text{total}} = L_{\text{grav}}^{(2)}[h] + L_{\text{mat}}[\eta, \phi] + \frac{1}{2} T_{\mu\nu} h^{\mu\nu}$$



# From Einstein to Jordan

- Two frames are related by conformal transformation:  $g_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow \tilde{g}_{\mu\nu} = \Omega^2(x)g_{\mu\nu}$
- Perturbative gravitational field gets corrected. 
$$\tilde{g}_{\mu\nu} = \Omega^2 g_{\mu\nu} = (1 + \phi) (\eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu})$$
$$= \eta_{\mu\nu} + (h_{\mu\nu} + \phi\eta_{\mu\nu}) ,$$
- The interaction Hamiltonian now involves an extra (scalar+matter) interaction term.

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{H}_{\text{int}} &= -\frac{1}{2} \int d^3\mathbf{x} \tilde{T}_{\mu\nu}(t, \mathbf{x}) \tilde{h}^{\mu\nu}(t, \mathbf{x}) , \\ &= H_{\text{int}} - \frac{1}{2} \int d^3\mathbf{x} \phi(t, \mathbf{x}) T(t, \mathbf{x}) ,\end{aligned}$$

$$T_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{p_\mu p_\nu}{E/c^2} \left[ \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_A) + \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_B) \right]$$

- Thus interaction between matter degrees of freedom is mediated by both gravity and scalar.

[SC +, Phys. Rev. D 108, L121505 (2023)]



# An Example: $f(R)$ Theories of Gravity

- The  $f(R)$  theories of gravity have a scalar-tensor analog.
- The perturbative theory yields three propagating degrees of freedom — (a) massless spin-2 modes and (b) massive spin 0 mode.

$$\gamma_{\mu\nu} \equiv h_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}h\eta_{\mu\nu} - F''(0)\Phi\eta_{\mu\nu}$$

- Since background is flat, we must have  $f(R)=R + F(R)$ . The interaction Hamiltonian becomes:

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{H}_{\text{int}} &= -\frac{1}{2} \int d^3\mathbf{r} h^{\mu\nu} T_{\mu\nu} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \int d^3\mathbf{r} \left[ \gamma^{\mu\nu} T_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}\gamma T - 2\alpha\Phi T \right]\end{aligned}$$

[SC +, Phys. Rev. D 108, L121505 (2023)]



# 'Quantum' Interaction in Einstein Frame

- The interaction changes the gravitational energy between the masses.

$$\Delta \hat{H}_g \equiv \sum \int d\mathbf{k} \frac{{}_g \langle 0 | \hat{H}_{\text{int}} | \mathbf{k} \rangle_g {}_g \langle \mathbf{k} | \hat{H}_{\text{int}} | 0 \rangle_g}{E_0^g - E_{\mathbf{k}}^g}$$

$$= -\frac{Gm^2}{|\hat{\mathbf{r}}_A - \hat{\mathbf{r}}_B|} + \frac{4G\hat{p}_A\hat{p}_B}{c^2|\hat{\mathbf{r}}_A - \hat{\mathbf{r}}_B|} - \frac{9G\hat{p}_A^2\hat{p}_B^2}{4c^4m^2|\hat{\mathbf{r}}_A - \hat{\mathbf{r}}_B|}$$

- As a consequence the masses, residing at the ground state of the harmonic oscillator will make transition to excited states.  
[Bose +, Phys. Rev. D 105, 106028 (2022)]
- This leads to an entangled state and hence mixed density matrix for either of these harmonic oscillators.
- Existence of an entangled state is a direct evidence of 'quantum' gravity.





# 'Quantum' Interaction in Jordan Frame

- In Jordan frame there is an additional scalar degree of freedom. Thus the interaction between the harmonic oscillators will have an extra term.

$$\Delta\hat{H}_\phi = \int d^3\mathbf{k}' \frac{\phi\langle 0|\hat{H}_{\text{int}}^\phi|\mathbf{k}'\rangle_\phi \phi\langle\mathbf{k}'|\hat{H}_{\text{int}}^\phi|0\rangle_\phi}{E_0^\phi - E_{\mathbf{k}'}^\phi}$$

- The total interaction between the masses become,

$$\Delta\hat{H}_{AB} = \Delta\hat{H}_g + \Delta\hat{H}_\phi = -\frac{(G + \mathcal{G}e^{-(\hat{\mathbf{r}}_A - \hat{\mathbf{r}}_B)/L})m^2}{|\hat{\mathbf{r}}_A - \hat{\mathbf{r}}_B|} + \frac{4G\hat{p}_A\hat{p}_B}{c^2|\hat{\mathbf{r}}_A - \hat{\mathbf{r}}_B|} - \frac{9(G + \frac{1}{9}\mathcal{G}e^{-(\hat{\mathbf{r}}_A - \hat{\mathbf{r}}_B)/L})\hat{p}_A^2\hat{p}_B^2}{4m^2c^4|\hat{\mathbf{r}}_A - \hat{\mathbf{r}}_B|}$$

[SC +, Phys. Rev. D 108, L121505 (2023)]



# Key Differences

1. The scalar field modifies the interaction.
2. The effect at leading order is a mere change in the gravitational constant by a Yukawa coupling.
3. However, the effects on next-to-leading orders are different — (a) the scalar does not affect terms of order  $(1/c^2)$ ; (b) it affects terms of  $\mathcal{O}(1/c^4)$  albeit in a different manner.
4. Thus effect of the scalar is not a simple modification to the gravitational coupling. It is more intricate and depends on the pN order.



# Modified State

- The combined two-oscillator system, originally in the ground state, finally becomes an entangled state.

$$|\psi_f\rangle_{AB} = \mathcal{N} \left[ |0\rangle_A |0\rangle_B - \frac{g_1 + g_2}{2\omega_m} |1\rangle_A |1\rangle_B + \frac{g_3}{2\omega_m} |2\rangle_A |2\rangle_B \right],$$

$$g_1 = \frac{(G + \mathcal{G}e^{-d/L})m}{d^3\omega_m},$$
$$g_2 = \frac{2Gm\omega_m}{c^2d},$$
$$g_3 = \frac{(9G + \mathcal{G}e^{-d/L})\hbar\omega_m^2}{16c^4d}$$

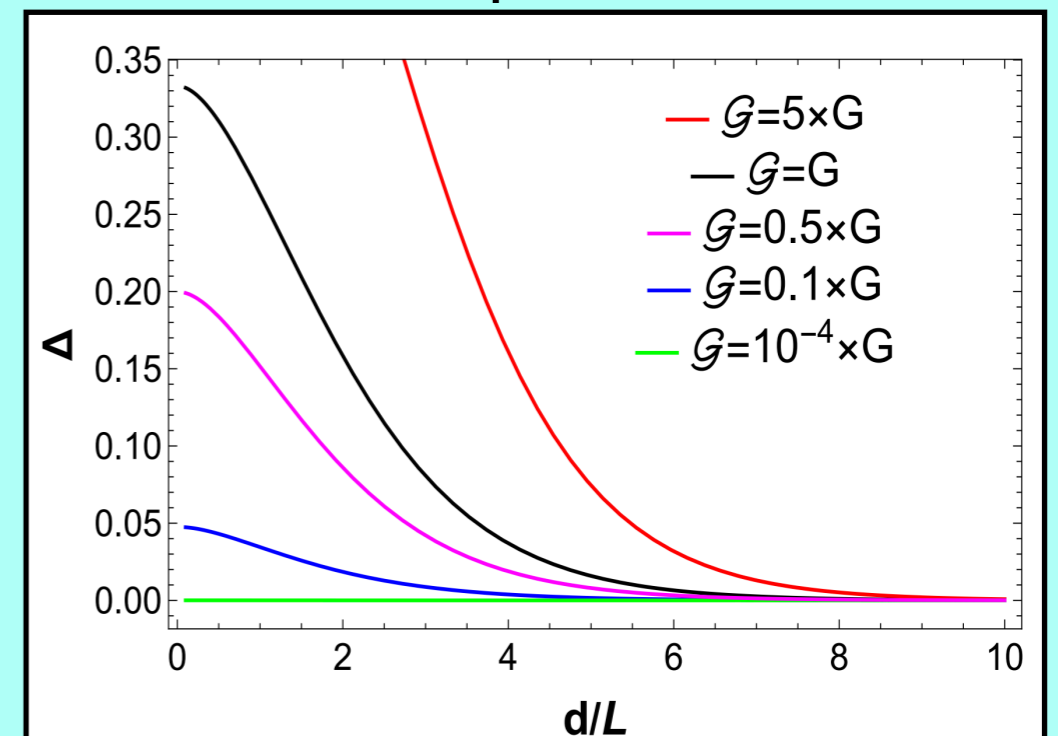
- This leads to a mixed density matrix, from which a non-zero concurrence, for traced over density matrix, can be obtained.
- The presence of an extra scalar degree of freedom enhances the concurrence, leading to stronger entanglement.

$$C = \sqrt{2(1 - \text{tr}(\hat{\rho}_A^2))}$$

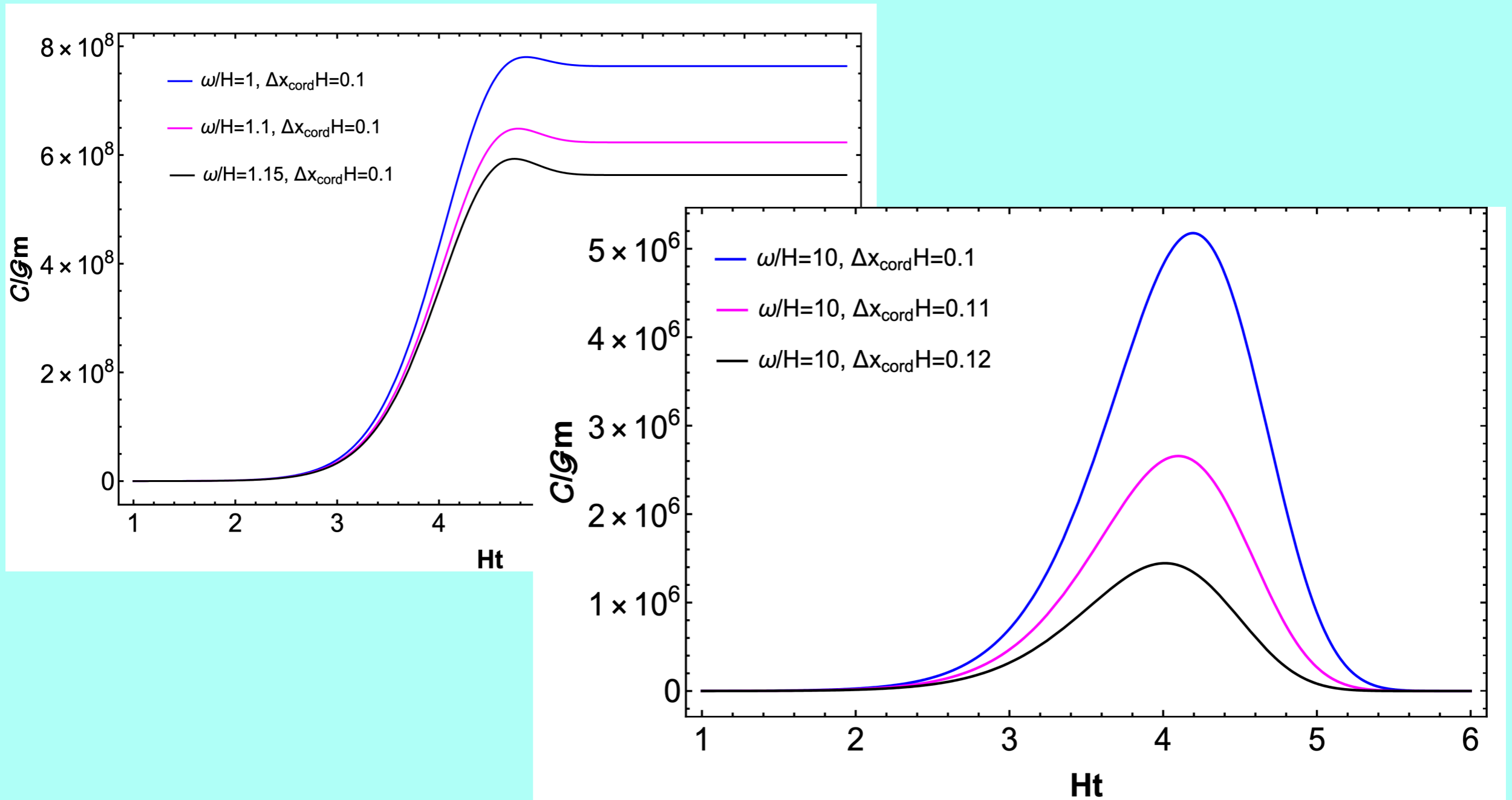
# Fifth force?

- The concurrence in the absence of scalar field (in Einstein frame) is fixed by Newton's constant and properties of the harmonic oscillators (mass, frequency) and separation.
- In presence of scalar field (in Jordan frame), the concurrence has extra contribution and depends on the strength of the scalar perturbation.

$$\Delta \equiv \frac{C^J(\mathcal{G}) - C^E(\mathcal{G} = 0)}{C^J(\mathcal{G}) + C^E(\mathcal{G} = 0)}$$



# Entanglement in de Sitter





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# Conclusion

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- **At linear level, the perturbative ‘quantum’ gravity can distinguish between Einstein and Jordan frame.**
- **Higher values of concurrence, compared to gravity, signals existence of a fifth force, possibly scalar mediated.**
- **In de Sitter universe, the concurrence for reasonable oscillators decay with time — implications for quantum to classical transition in the early universe.**



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# Thank You



# Restoring Units: GWs as Magnifying Glass

- Let  $\Delta A = \ell_p^2$ . For non-rotating black holes,  $A = 16\pi(GM/c^2)^2$ .
- Therefore, the frequency associated with a GW making the above change of area becomes,

$$\nu(\text{in Hz}) = \frac{\ell_p^2}{32\pi(G^2/c^6)Mh} = \frac{c^3}{64\pi^2GM}$$

- For  $M = 10M_\odot$ , the corresponding frequency becomes 32 Hz!
- Precisely in the LIGO frequency band! **[Agullo +, Phys. Rev. Lett. 126, 041302 (2021)]**
- Thus GWs act as a magnifying glass for quantum effects near the horizon. Information about Hawking Radiation is also encoded!