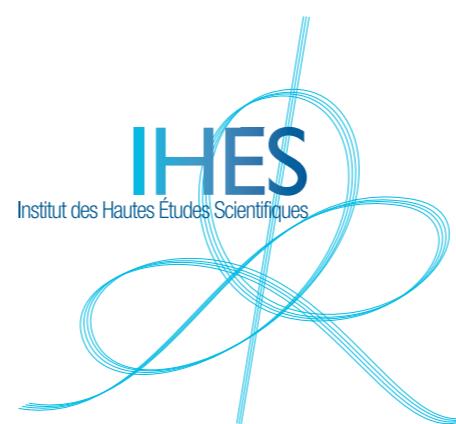




# Discovering the torsion bigravity world

Vasilisa Nikiforova

Institut des Hautes Études Scientifiques

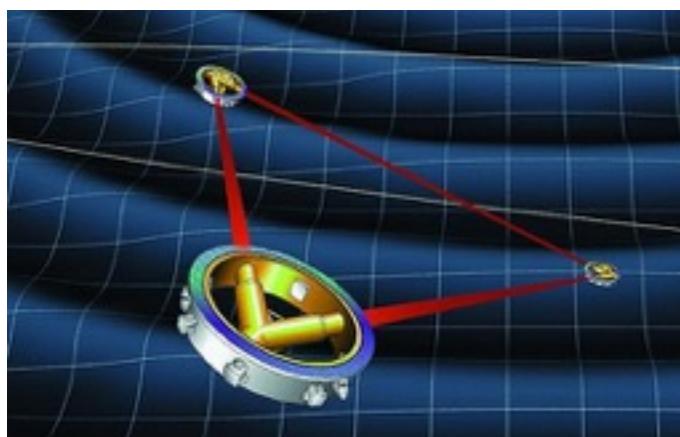


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Tours  
2022



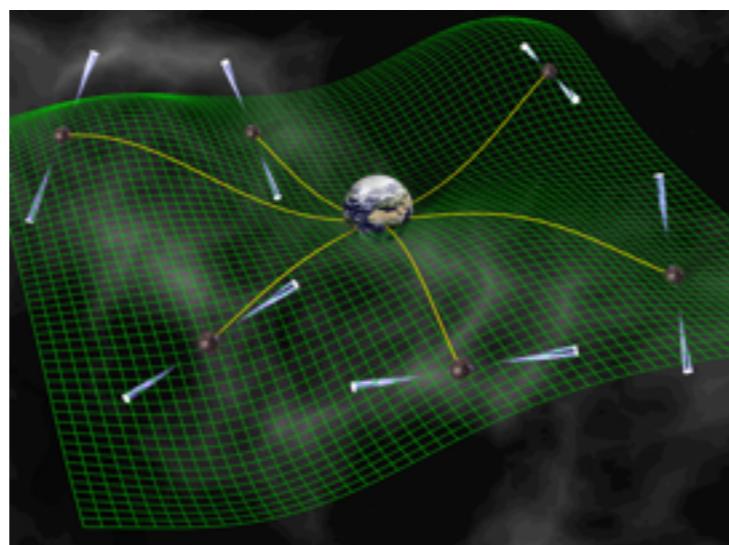
# Golden Era of gravity



LISA



LIGO-Virgo



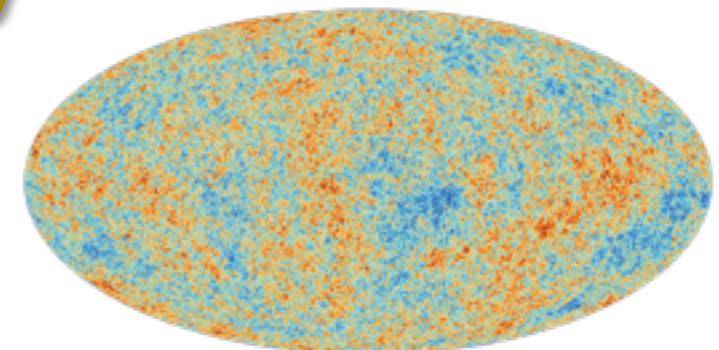
pulsar timing array



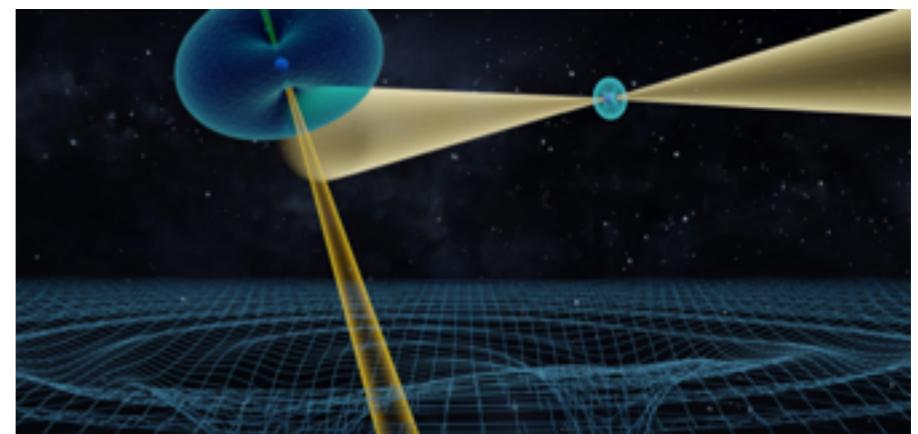
Microscope



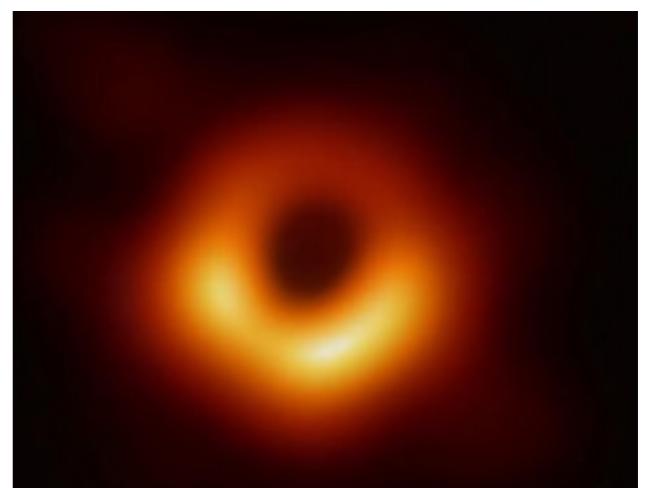
SgrA\*



CMB



binary pulsars

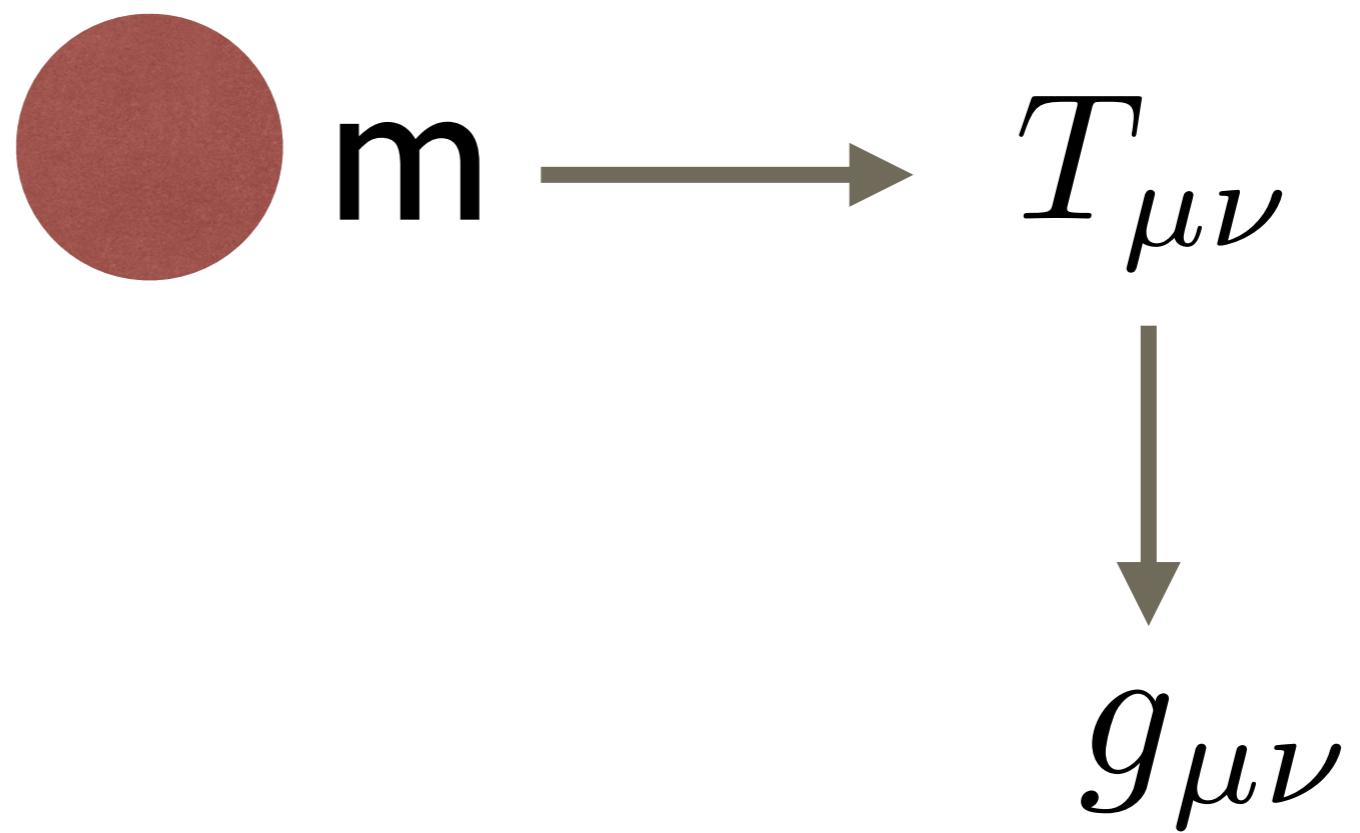


EHT

# Puzzles of gravity



# Sources of gravity

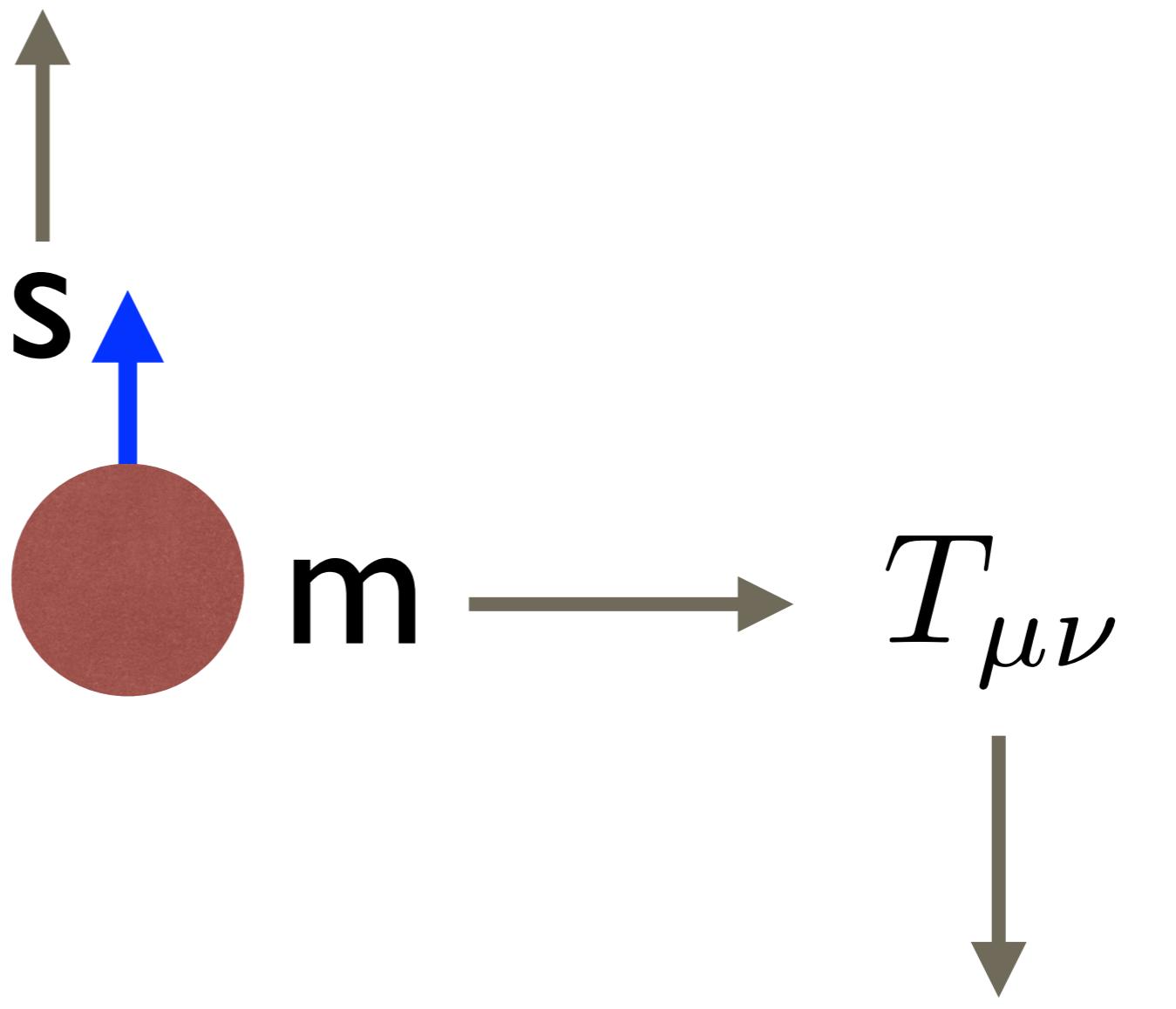


# Sources of gravity

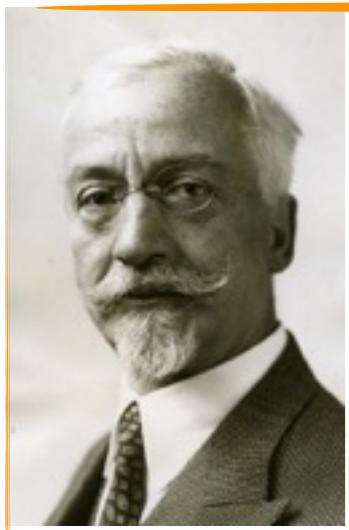
quantum  
spin density

$$S_{\lambda\mu\nu} \equiv \bar{\psi}\gamma^{[\lambda\mu\nu]}\psi \longrightarrow ? T^\lambda{}_{\mu\nu}$$

mass and spin are  
characteristics  
of a particle  
linked to  
space-time  
symmetries

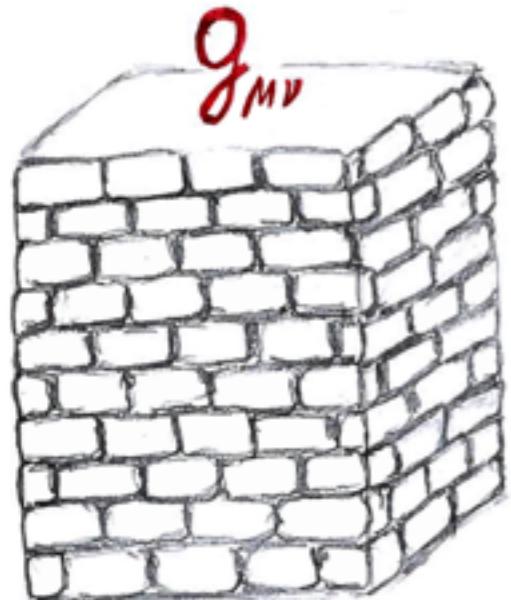


Quantum spin as a source of gravity ?

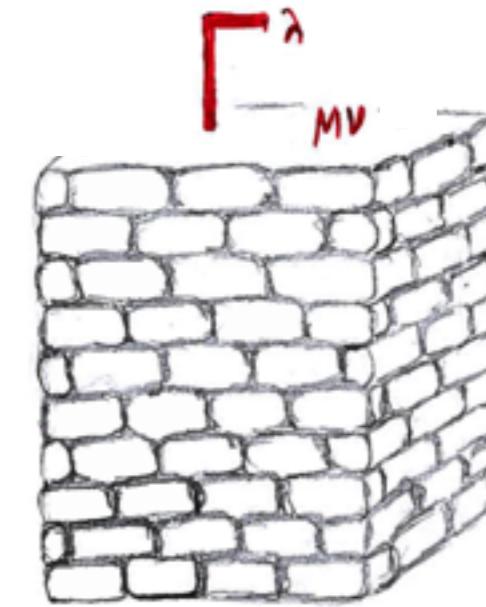


# Metric and (torsionfull) connection

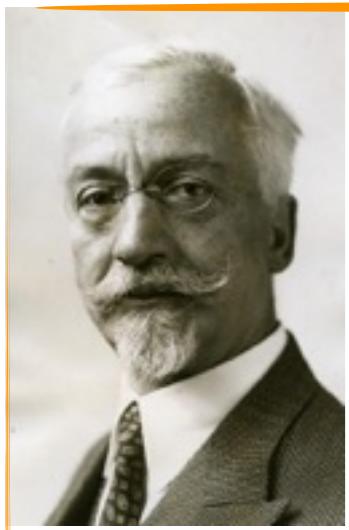
*Elie Cartan*



metric

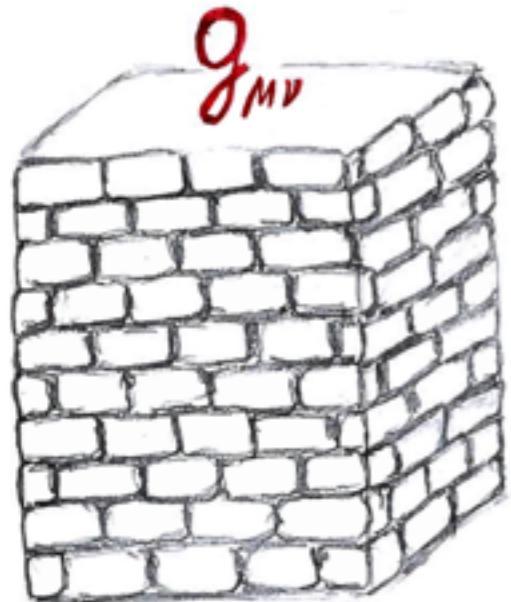


connection

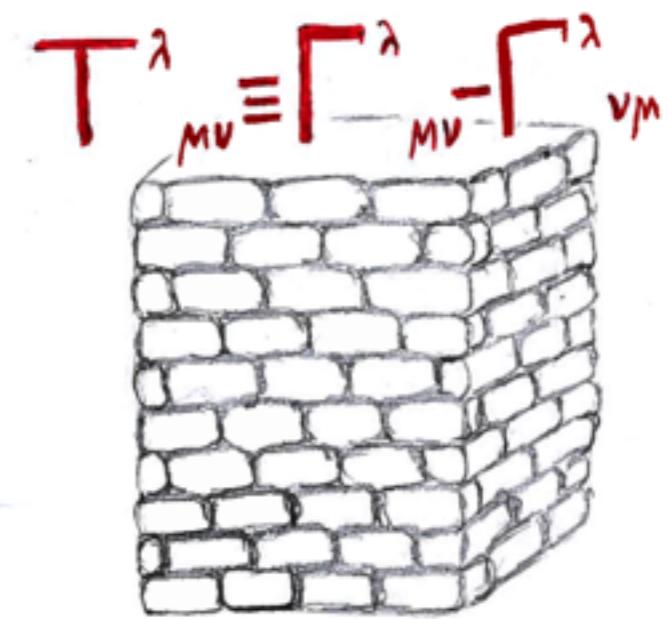


# Metric and (torsionfull) connection

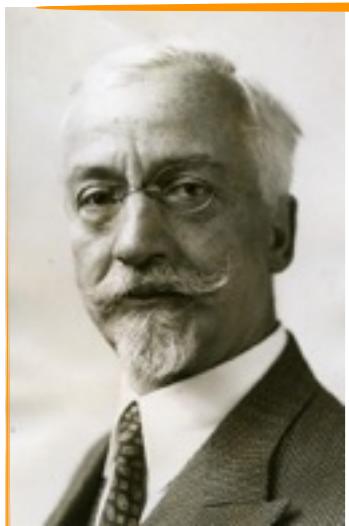
Elie Cartan



metric

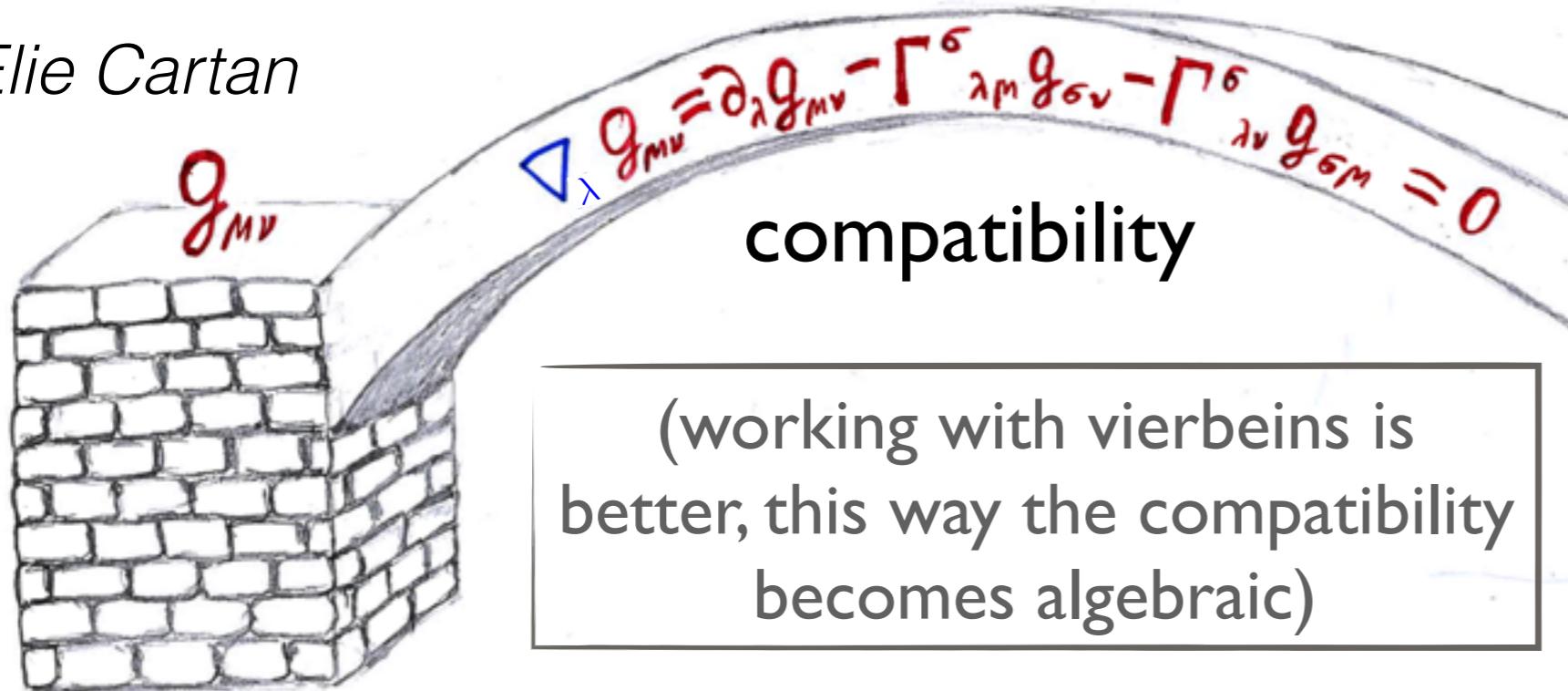


connection



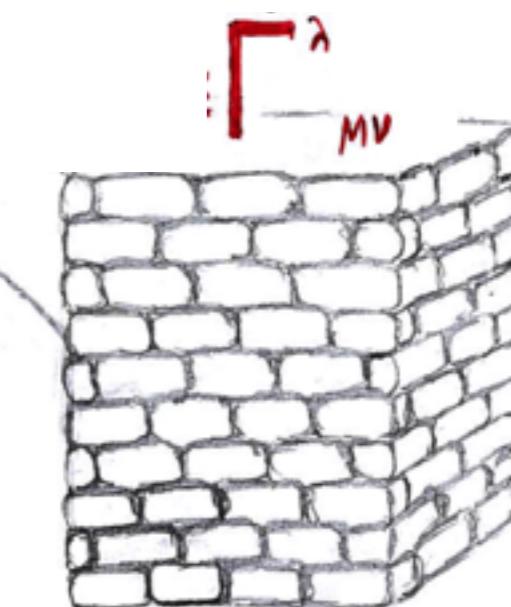
# Metric and (torsionfull) connection

Elie Cartan

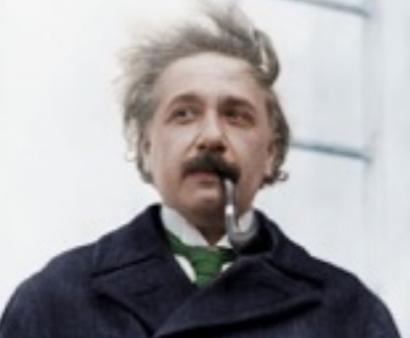


(working with vierbeins is  
better, this way the compatibility  
becomes algebraic)

metric



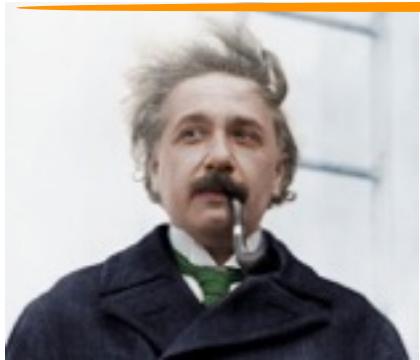
connection



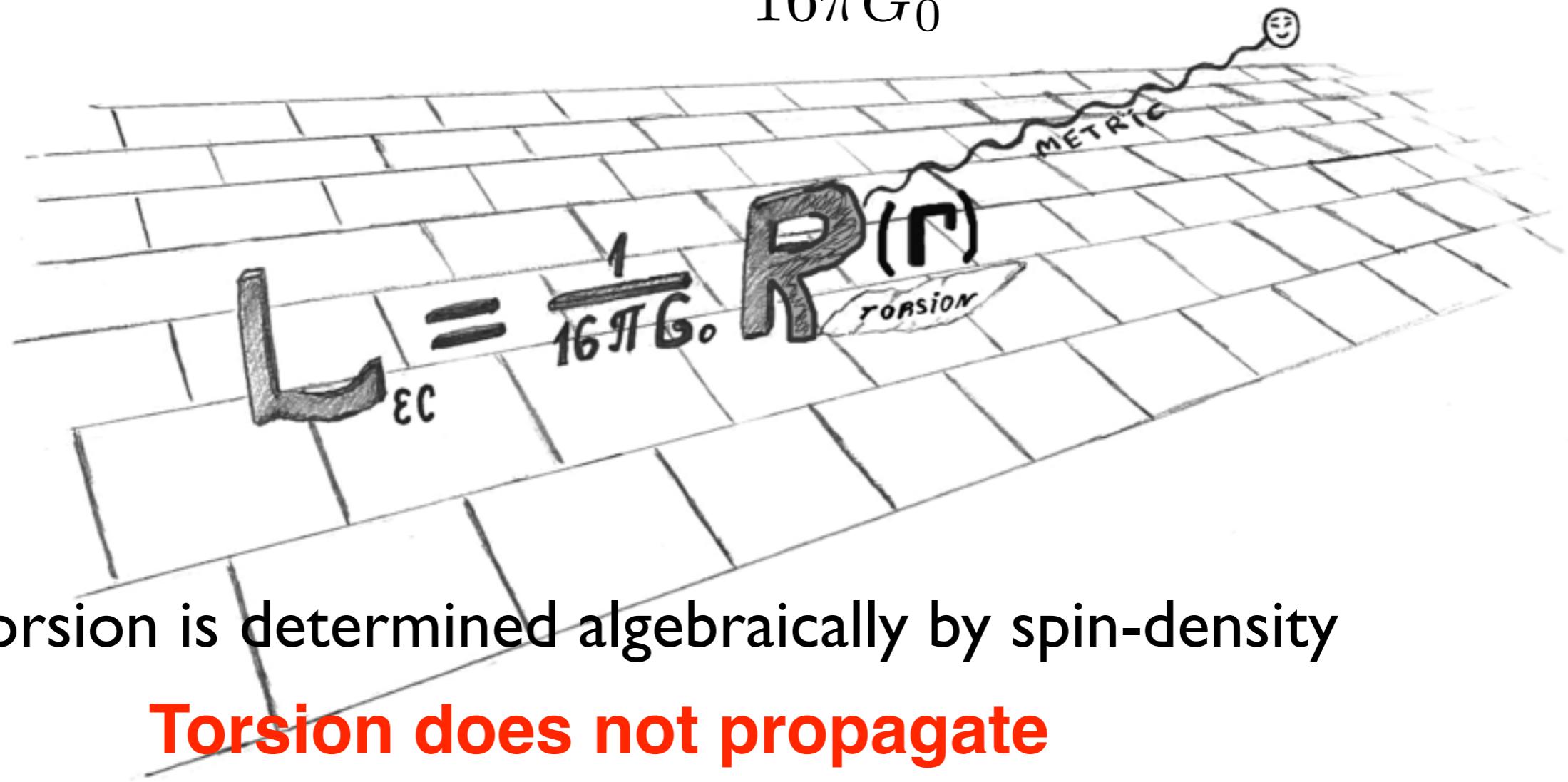
# Einstein-Cartan theory

$$L_{\text{Einstein-Cartan}} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_0} \mathcal{R}(\Gamma)$$

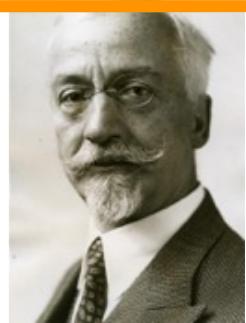
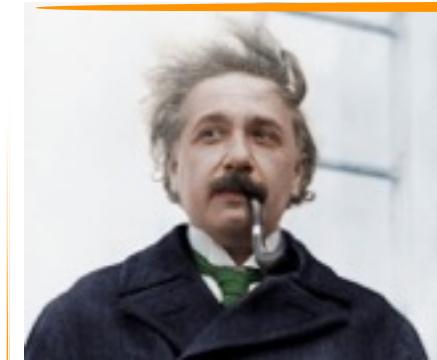
# Einstein-Cartan theory



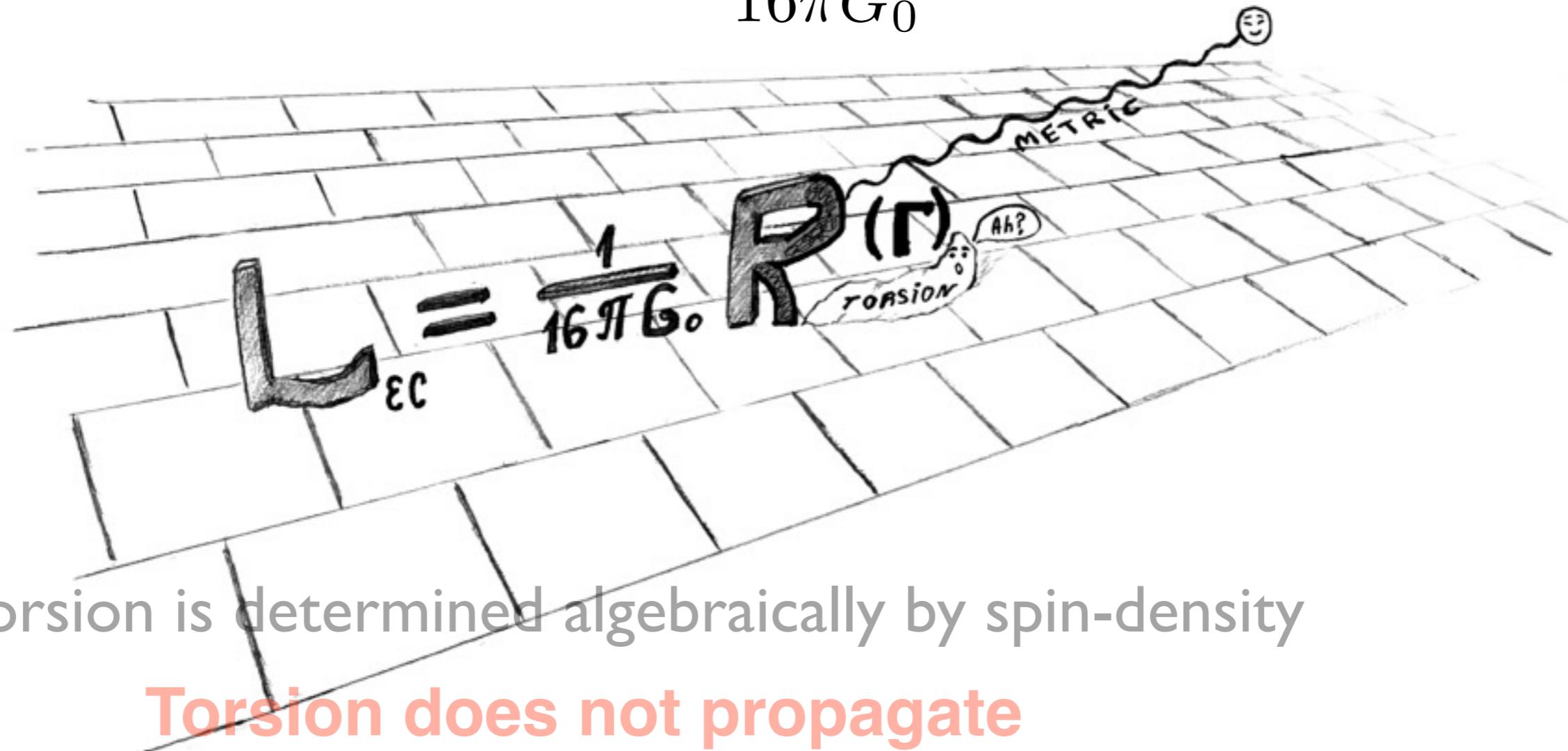
$$L_{\text{Einstein-Cartan}} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_0} \mathcal{R}(\Gamma)$$



# Einstein-Cartan theory



$$L_{\text{Einstein-Cartan}} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_0} \mathcal{R}(\Gamma)$$



torsion is determined algebraically by spin-density

**Torsion does not propagate**

**Could there be a theory of gravity containing dynamical torsion ?**

Sezgin-van Nieuwenhuizen'80,  
Hayashi-Shirafuji'81



# Torsion bigravity

Sezgin-van Nieuwenhuizen'80,  
Hayashi-Shirafuji'81

Nair  
Randjbar-Daemi  
Rubakov'09

Nikiforova  
Randjbar-Daemi  
Rubakov'09

Damour  
Nikiforova'19





# Torsion bigravity

Sezgin-van Nieuwenhuizen'80,  
Hayashi-Shirafuji'81

Nair  
Randjbar-Daemi  
Rubakov'09

Nikiforova  
Randjbar-Daemi  
Rubakov'09

Damour  
Nikiforova'19

$$L_{\text{GR}} +$$

$$L = \frac{1}{16\pi G_0} R(g)$$



# Torsion bigravity

Sezgin-van Nieuwenhuizen'80,  
Hayashi-Shirafuji'81

Nair  
Randjbar-Daemi  
Rubakov'09

Nikiforova  
Randjbar-Daemi  
Rubakov'09

Damour  
Nikiforova'19

$$L_{\text{GR}} + L_{\text{Einstein-Cartan}}$$

$$L = \frac{1}{16\pi G_0} R(g) + \frac{1}{16\pi G_0} \mathcal{R}(\Gamma)$$



# Torsion bigravity

Sezgin-van Nieuwenhuizen'80,  
Hayashi-Shirafuji'81

Nair  
Randjbar-Daemi  
Rubakov'09

Nikiforova  
Randjbar-Daemi  
Rubakov'09

Damour  
Nikiforova'19

$L_{\text{GR}}$  +  $L_{\text{Einstein-Cartan}}$  + quadratic terms

$$L = \frac{1}{16\pi G_0} R(g) + \frac{1}{16\pi G_0} \mathcal{R}(\Gamma) + \frac{1}{16\pi G_0} \left( \mathcal{R}_{(\mu\nu)}(\Gamma) \mathcal{R}^{(\mu\nu)}(\Gamma) - \frac{1}{3} \mathcal{R}(\Gamma)^2 \right) + \mathcal{R}_{[\mu\nu]}(\Gamma) \mathcal{R}^{[\mu\nu]}(\Gamma)$$



# Torsion bigravity

Sezgin-van Nieuwenhuizen'80,  
Hayashi-Shirafuji'81

Nair  
Randjbar-Daemi  
Rubakov'09

Nikiforova  
Randjbar-Daemi  
Rubakov'09

Damour  
Nikiforova'19

$L_{\text{GR}}$  +  $L_{\text{Einstein-Cartan}}$  + quadratic terms

$$L = \frac{1}{16\pi G_0(1+\eta)} R(g) + \frac{\eta}{16\pi G_0(1+\eta)} \mathcal{R}(\Gamma) + \frac{\eta}{16\pi G_0 \kappa^2} \left( \mathcal{R}_{(\mu\nu)} \mathcal{R}^{(\mu\nu)} - \frac{1}{3} \mathcal{R}^2 \right) + c_{34} \mathcal{R}_{[\mu\nu]}(\Gamma) \mathcal{R}^{[\mu\nu]}(\Gamma)$$

# Explicit field equations

$$\frac{\eta}{(1+\eta)16\pi G_0} \left( \mathcal{R}_{ij}(\Gamma) - \frac{1}{2}\eta_{ij}\mathcal{R}(\Gamma) \right) + \frac{1}{(1+\eta)16\pi G_0} \left( R_{ij}(g) - \frac{1}{2}\eta_{ij}R(g) \right)$$

$$+ \frac{\eta}{16\pi G_0 \kappa^2} \left[ \mathcal{R}_{ki}(\Gamma)\mathcal{R}_{kj}(\Gamma) + \mathcal{R}_{kl}(\Gamma)\mathcal{R}_{kilj}(\Gamma) - \frac{2}{3}\mathcal{R}(\Gamma)\mathcal{R}_{ij}(\Gamma) - \frac{1}{2}\eta_{ij} \left( \mathcal{R}_{kl}(\Gamma)\mathcal{R}_{kl}(\Gamma) - \frac{1}{3}\mathcal{R}(\Gamma)^2 \right) \right] = T_{ij}$$

2nd order in connection and metric !

stress-energy tensor

$$\left[ \eta_{ik} \left( D_m P_{jm} - \frac{2}{3} D_j P \right) - D_i P_{jk} \right] - \left[ \eta_{jk} \left( D_m P_{im} - \frac{2}{3} D_i P \right) - D_j P_{ik} \right]$$

$$+ \frac{\eta}{(1+\eta)16\pi G_0} (K_{ikj} - K_{jki} - K_{ill}\eta_{jk} + K_{jll}\eta_{ik})$$

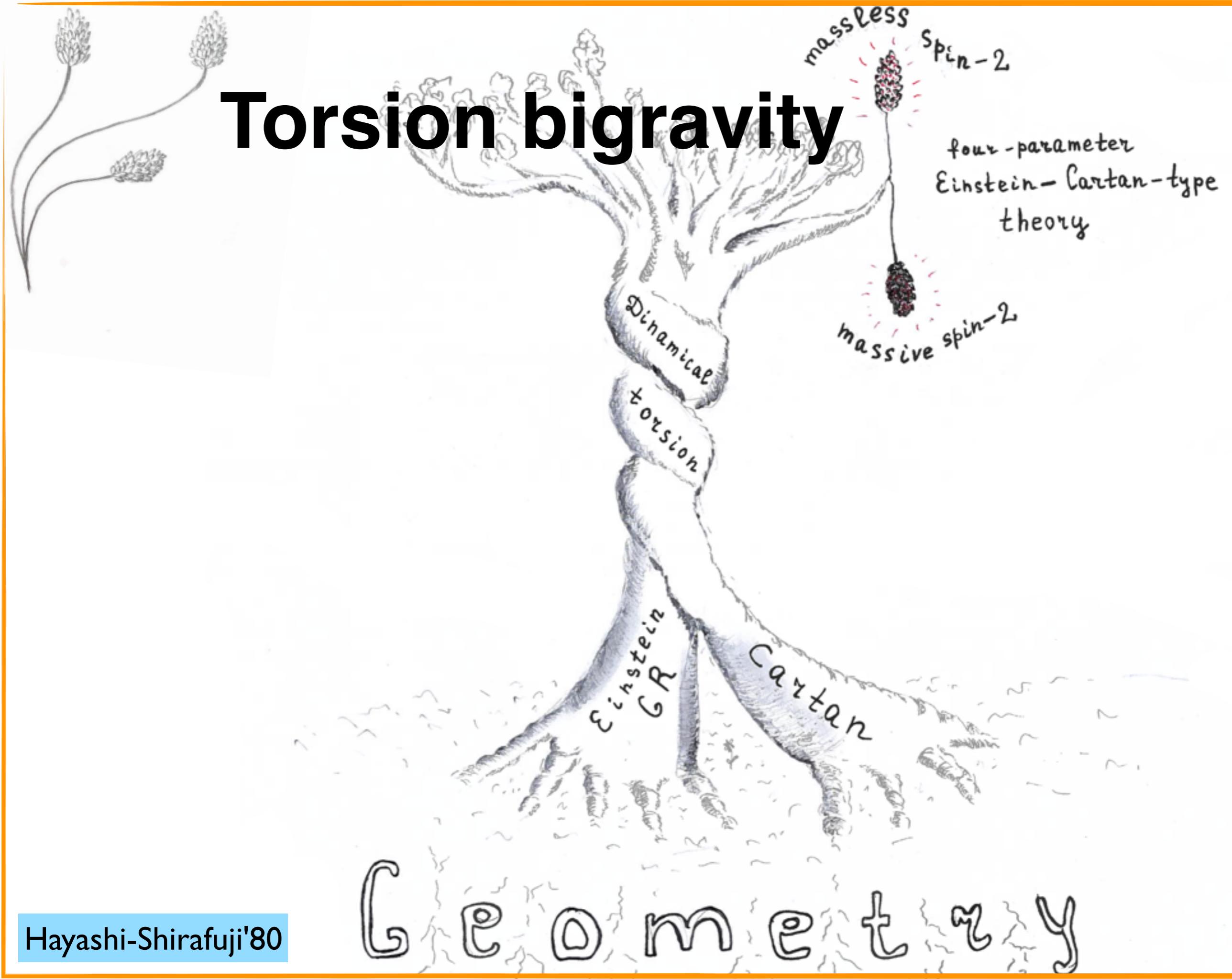
$$+ (K_{mkn} - K_{nkm} - K_{mll}\eta_{nk} + K_{nll}\eta_{mk}) \left( \eta_{im} P_{jn} - \eta_{jm} P_{in} - \frac{2}{3} \eta_{im} \eta_{jn} P \right) = S_{ijk}$$

$$P_{ij} \equiv \frac{\eta}{16\pi G_0 \kappa^2} \mathcal{R}_{(ij)}(\Gamma) + c_{34} \mathcal{R}_{[ij]}(\Gamma)$$

$$K_{ijk} = \frac{1}{2} (T_{i[jk]} + T_{j[ki]} - T_{k[ij]})$$

spin density

# Torsion bigravity



# Torsion bigravity

Field content around flat space:

**massless spin-2**

$$\square \bar{h}_{\mu\nu} + \partial_{\mu\nu}\bar{h} - \partial_{\mu\sigma}\bar{h}_\nu^\sigma - \partial_{\nu\sigma}\bar{h}_\mu^\sigma = 0$$

**massive spin-2**

$$\square u_{\mu\nu} + \partial_{\mu\nu}u - \partial_{\mu\sigma}u_\nu^\sigma - \partial_{\nu\sigma}u_\mu^\sigma - \kappa^2 u_{\mu\nu} = 0$$

$$u_{\mu\nu} \equiv \mathcal{R}_{(1)\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{6}g_{\mu\nu}\mathcal{R}_{(1)}$$

Geometry

# Theories with massive spin-2:

## Theoretical consistency

bimetric gravity

$$g_{\mu\nu}, \quad f_{\mu\nu}$$

$$L \sim \sqrt{g}R(g) + \sqrt{f}R(f) - V\left(\sqrt{g^{-1}f}\right)$$

  $m = 0, s = 2 \quad \alpha \delta g_{\mu\nu} + \beta \delta f_{\mu\nu}$

  $m \neq 0, s = 2 \quad \bar{\alpha} \delta g_{\mu\nu} + \bar{\beta} \delta f_{\mu\nu}$

torsion bigravity

$$g_{\mu\nu}, \quad T^\lambda{}_{\mu\nu}$$

$$L \sim \sqrt{g}R(g) + \sqrt{g}\mathcal{R}(\Gamma) + \sqrt{g}\left(\mathcal{R}_{(\mu\nu)}\mathcal{R}^{(\mu\nu)} - \frac{1}{3}\mathcal{R}^2\right) + \sqrt{g}\mathcal{R}_{[\mu\nu]}\mathcal{R}^{[\mu\nu]}$$

  $m = 0, s = 2 \quad \delta g_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{\kappa^2}\delta\mathcal{R}_{\mu\nu}$

  $m \neq 0, s = 2 \quad \delta\mathcal{R}_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{6}g_{\mu\nu}\delta\mathcal{R}$

ghost-free  
(5 dof for the massive spin-2;  
generic existence of 5  
constraints)

de Rham-Gabadadze-Tolley'10,  
Hassan-Rosen'11,  
Volkov'14

ghost-free  
(5 dof for the massive spin-2) around flat space,  
Einstein spaces ( $R_{\mu\nu} = \Lambda g_{\mu\nu}$ ),  
in nonlinear static spherically symm. solutions

Sezgin-van Nieuwenhuizen'80, Hayashi-Shirafuji'81, Nair-Randjbar-Daemi-Rubakov'09  
Nikiforova-Randjbar-Daemi-Rubakov'09, Damour-Nikiforova'19, Nikiforova'20

# Theories with massive spin-2:

## Theoretical consistency

### bimetric gravity

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ghost-free  
 (5 dof for the massive spin-2;  
 generic existence of 5  
 constraints)

de Rham-Gabadadze-Tolley'10,  
 Hassan-Rosen'11,  
 Volkov'14

### torsion bigravity

$$g_{\mu\nu}, \quad T^\lambda{}_{\mu\nu}$$

$$L \sim \sqrt{g}R(g) + \sqrt{g}\mathcal{R}(\Gamma) + \sqrt{g}\left(\mathcal{R}_{(\mu\nu)}\mathcal{R}^{(\mu\nu)} - \frac{1}{3}\mathcal{R}^2\right) + \sqrt{g}\mathcal{R}_{[\mu\nu]}\mathcal{R}^{[\mu\nu]}$$

  $m = 0, s = 2 \quad \delta g_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{\kappa^2}\delta\mathcal{R}_{\mu\nu}$

  $m \neq 0, s = 2 \quad \delta\mathcal{R}_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{6}g_{\mu\nu}\delta\mathcal{R}$

ghost-free  
 (5 dof for the massive spin-2) are  
 Einstein spaces ( $R_{\mu\nu} = \Lambda g_{\mu\nu}$ ),  
 in nonlinear static spherically symmet-

future  
 direction

Sezgin-van Nieuwenhuizen'80, Hayashi-Shirafuji'81, Nair-Randjbar-Daemi-Rubakov'09  
 Nikiforova-Randjbar-Daemi-Rubakov'09, Damour-Nikiforova'19, Nikiforova'20

# **Phenomenology: Torsion bigravity world**

**OK let us model a world  
on a base of torsion bigravity.**

**And then will see  
whether it looks like our real world or not.**

# Phenomenology: Torsion bigravity world



OK let us model a world  
on a base of torsion bigravity.

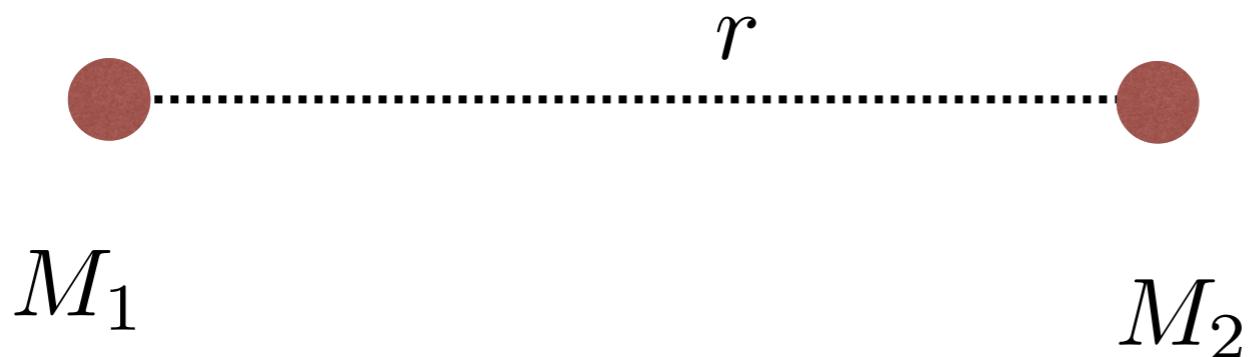
And then will see  
whether it looks like our real world or not.

*Newtonian limit*

# Newtonian limit in torsion bigravity

*Newtonian  
limit*

# Newtonian limit



# Newtonian limit



$$M_1$$

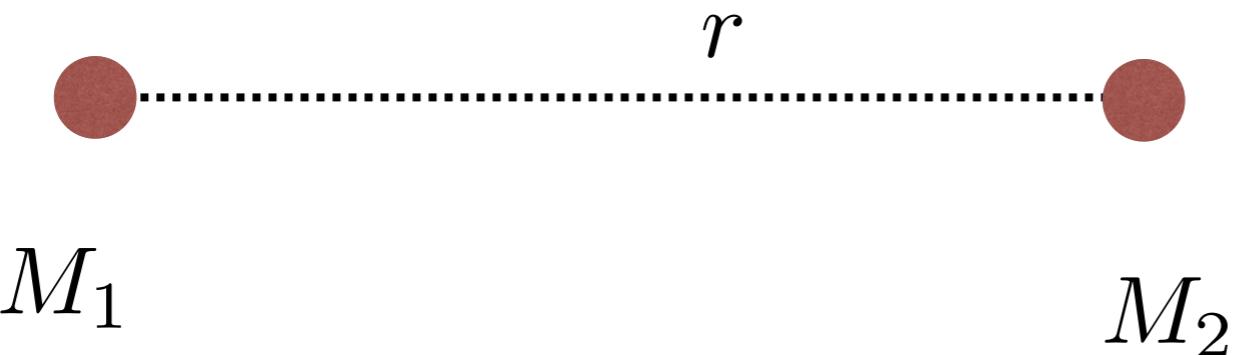
M<sub>2</sub>

## Coupling constant :

$$\frac{G_m}{G_0} = \frac{4}{3}\eta$$

$$L_{\text{interaction}} = G_0 T_{00} \left( \frac{-4\pi}{\Delta} \right) T_{00} + G_m T_{00} \left( \frac{-4\pi}{\Delta - \kappa^2} \right) T_{00}$$

# Newtonian limit



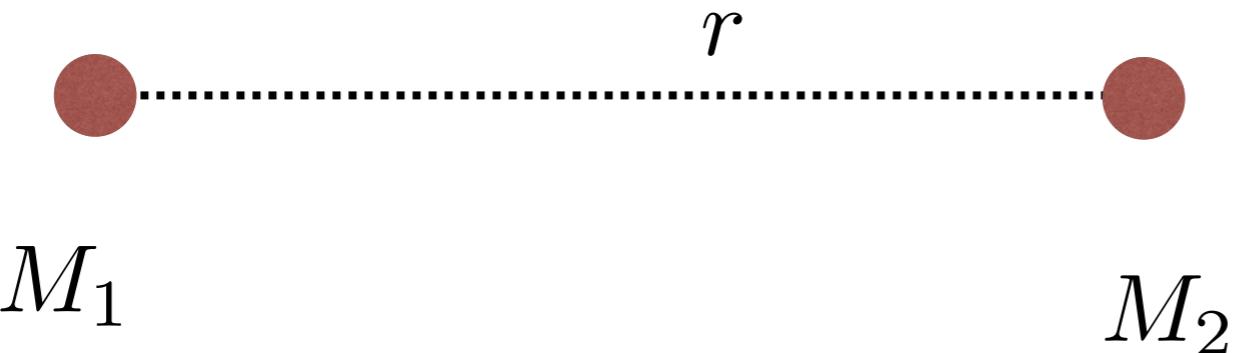
A circular logo with a wavy border containing the word "metric" above "oxidation". The "o" in "oxidation" is shaded dark.

$$\frac{G_m}{G_0} = \frac{4}{3}\eta$$

$$L_{\text{interaction}} = G_0 T_{00} \left( \frac{-4\pi}{\Delta} \right) T_{00} + G_m T_{00} \left( \frac{-4\pi}{\Delta - \kappa^2} \right) T_{00}$$

Hayashi-Shirafuji'81,  
Nikiforova-Ranjbar-Daemi-Rubakov'09

# Newtonian limit



A circular logo with a wavy border containing the word "metric" above "oxidation". The "o" in "oxidation" is shaded dark.

$$\frac{G_m}{G_0} = \frac{4}{3}\eta$$

$$\eta \lesssim 3 \times 10^{-4} \quad \text{for } \kappa^{-1} \lesssim 10 \text{ km} \quad (\kappa \gtrsim 10^{-10} \text{ eV})$$



*star*

# Stars in torsion bigravity

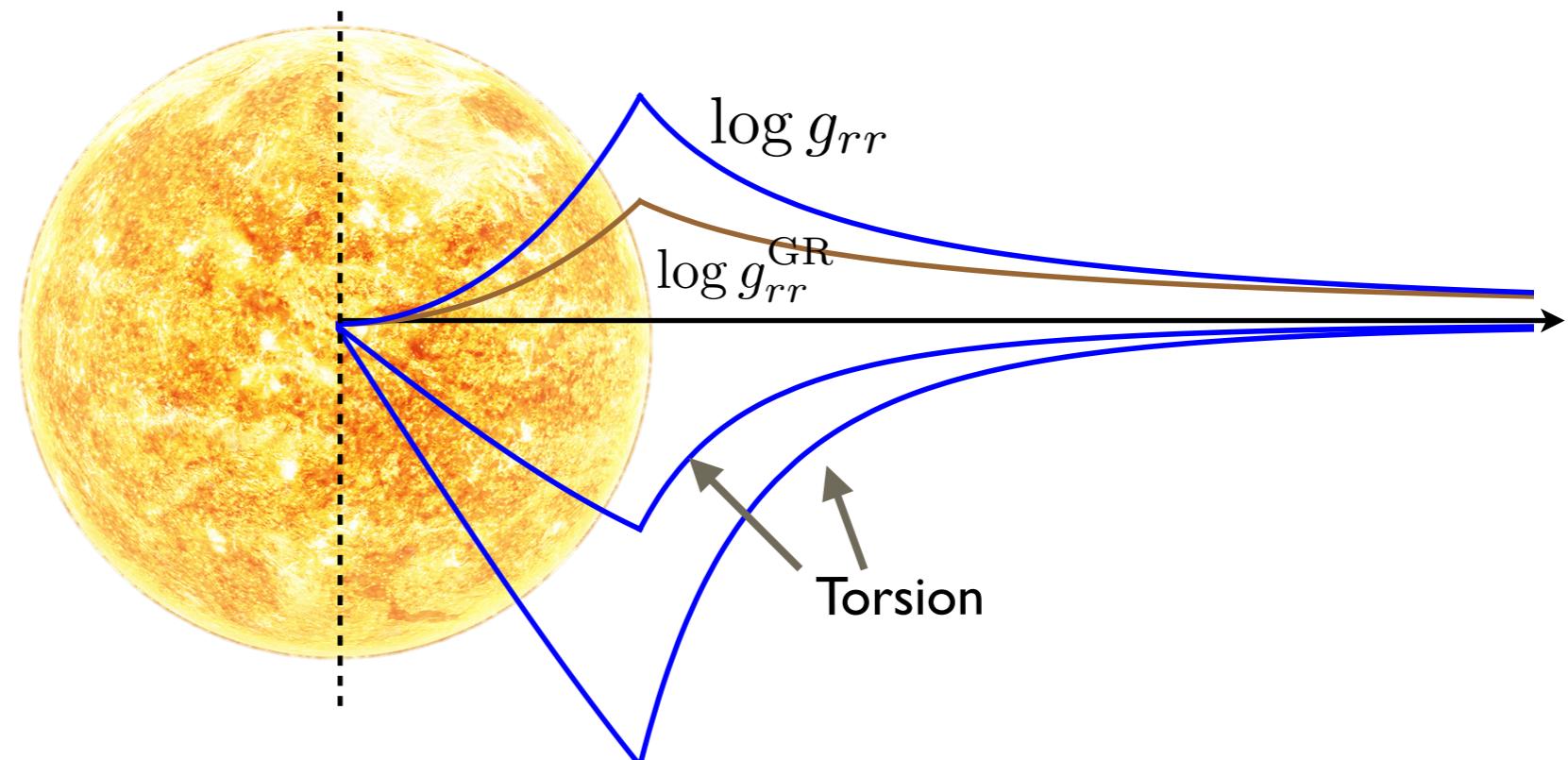
# Spherically symmetric star solutions

Damour, Nikiforova'19

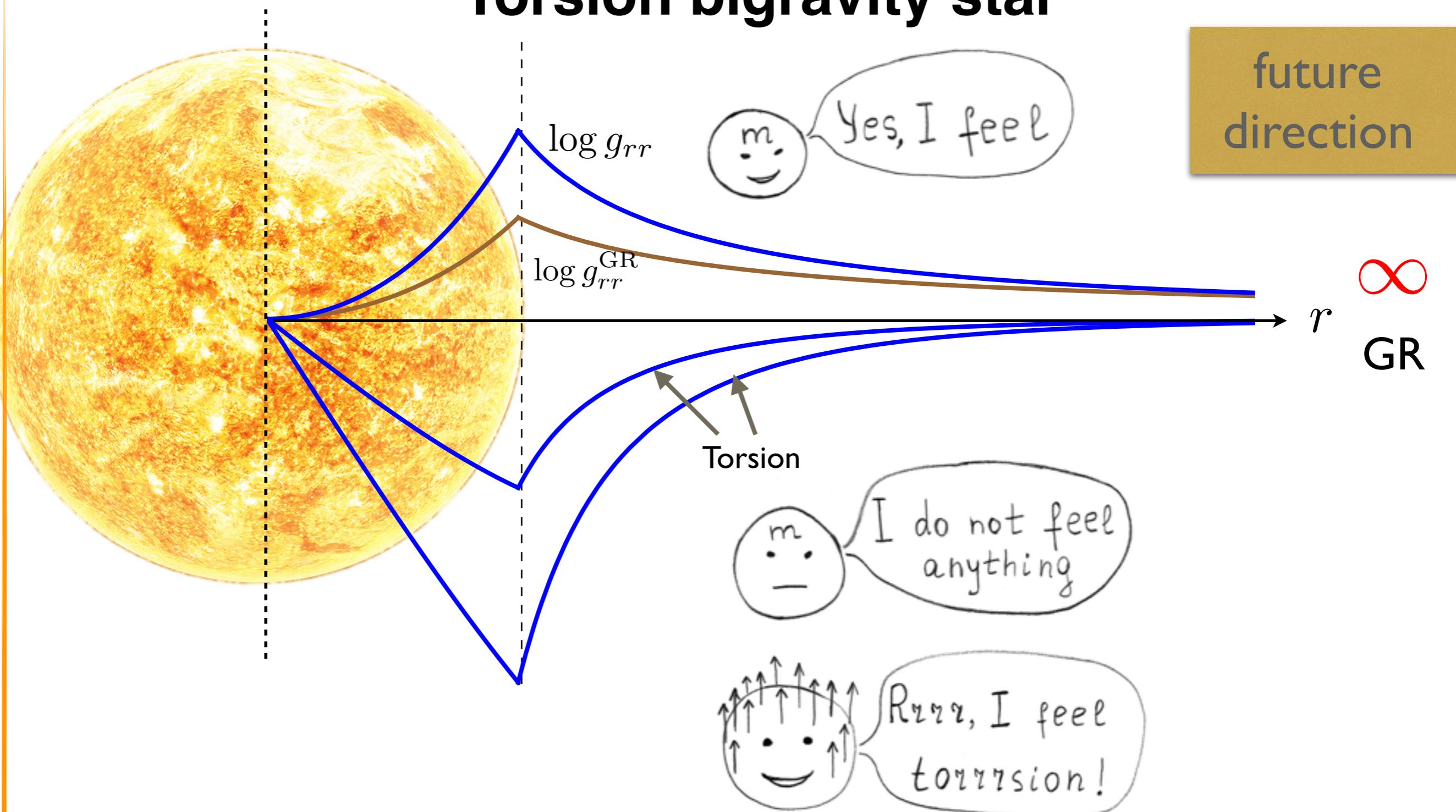
dynamical torsion is generated by  $T_{\mu\nu}$  of matter !



metric is different from the one predicted in GR  
(compactness is different)



# Torsion bigravity star



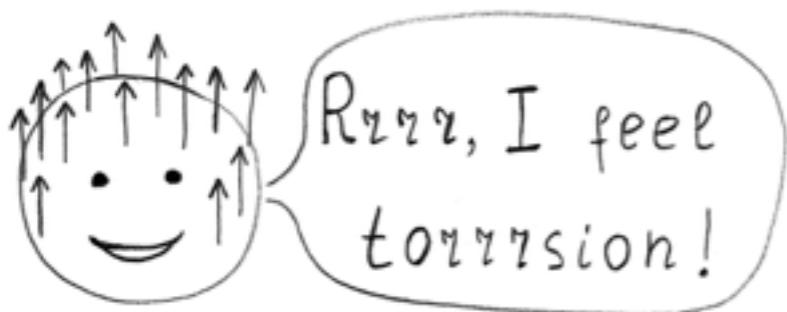
# Direct source of torsion, direct torsion probe

Dirac fermions

$$\mathcal{L}_m = \frac{i\hbar c}{2} (\bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \nabla_\mu \psi - \nabla_\mu \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \psi) - mc^2 \bar{\psi} \psi$$



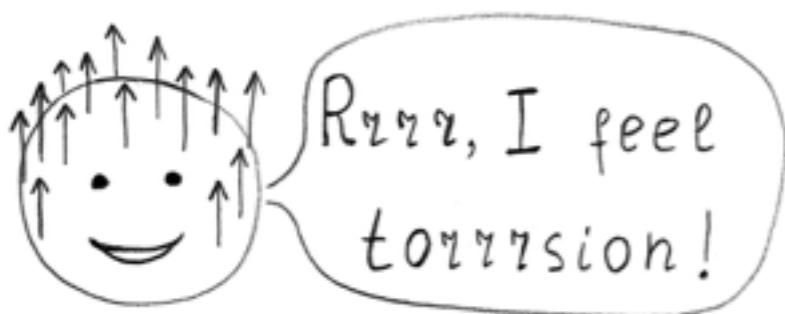
torsionfull connection



# Direct source of torsion, direct torsion probe

Dirac fermions

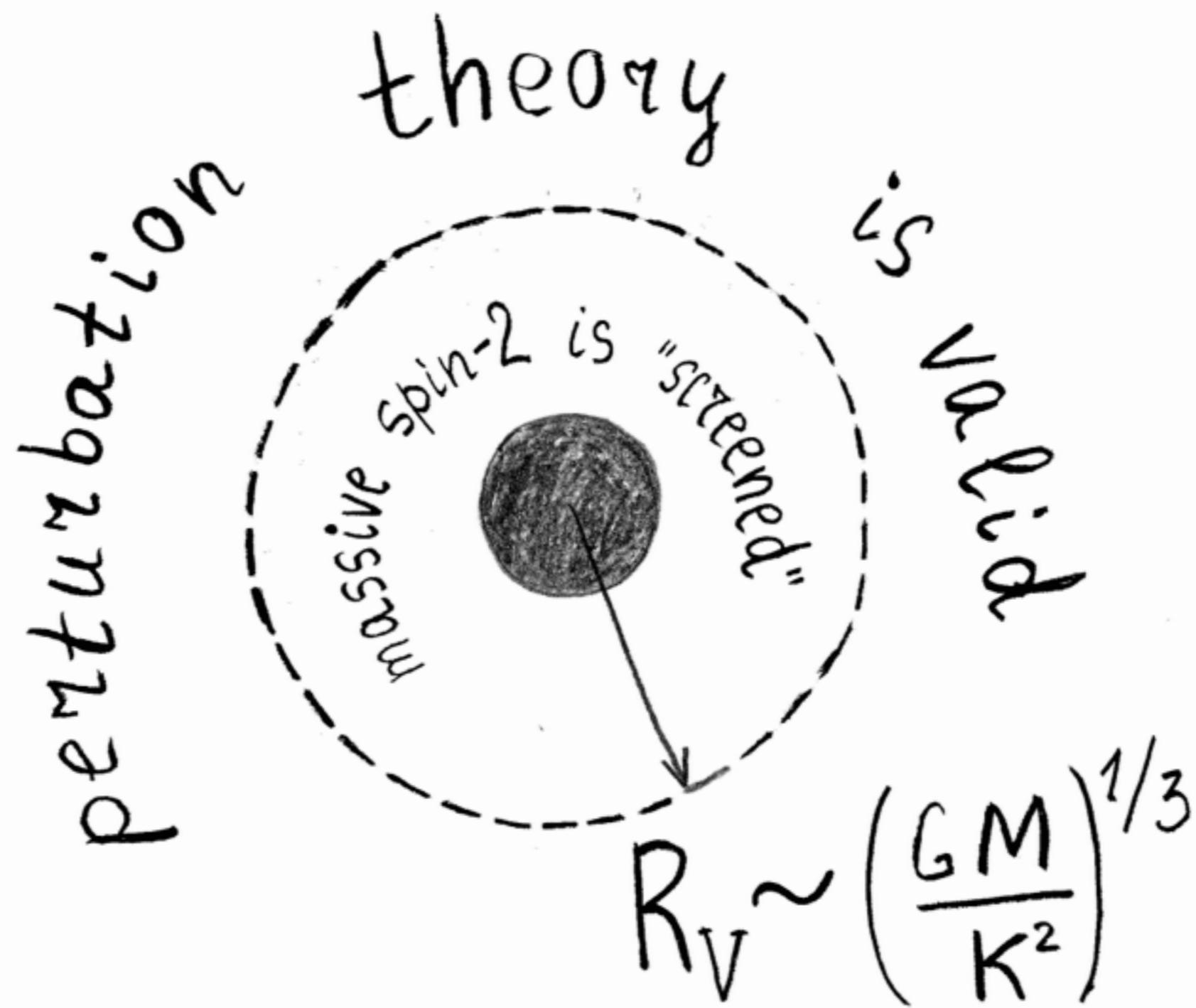
$$\mathcal{L}_m = \frac{i\hbar c}{2} (\bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \nabla_\mu \psi - \nabla_\mu \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \psi) - mc^2 \bar{\psi} \psi$$



$\bar{\psi} \gamma^{[\lambda\mu\nu]} \psi T_{\lambda\mu\nu}$

torsion is not easy to detect directly

# Vainshtein mechanism

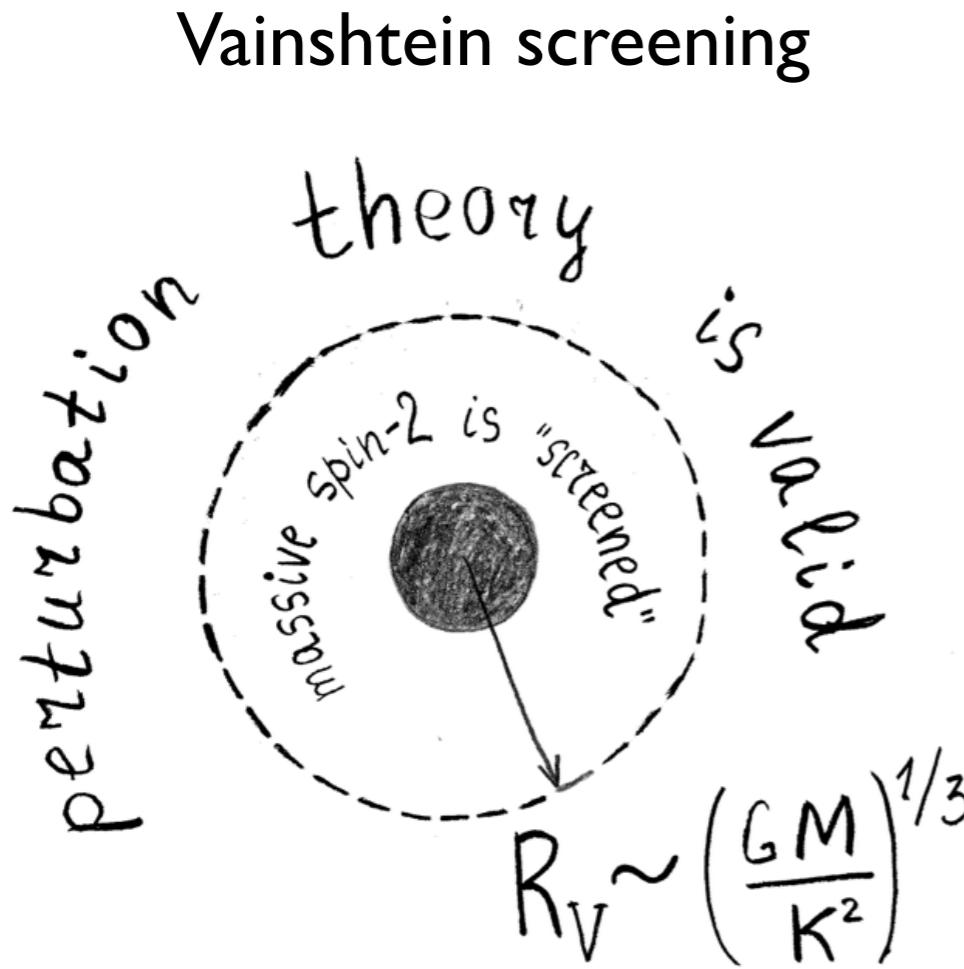


# Theories with massive spin-2:

## Vainshtein mechanism

bimetric gravity

torsion bigravity

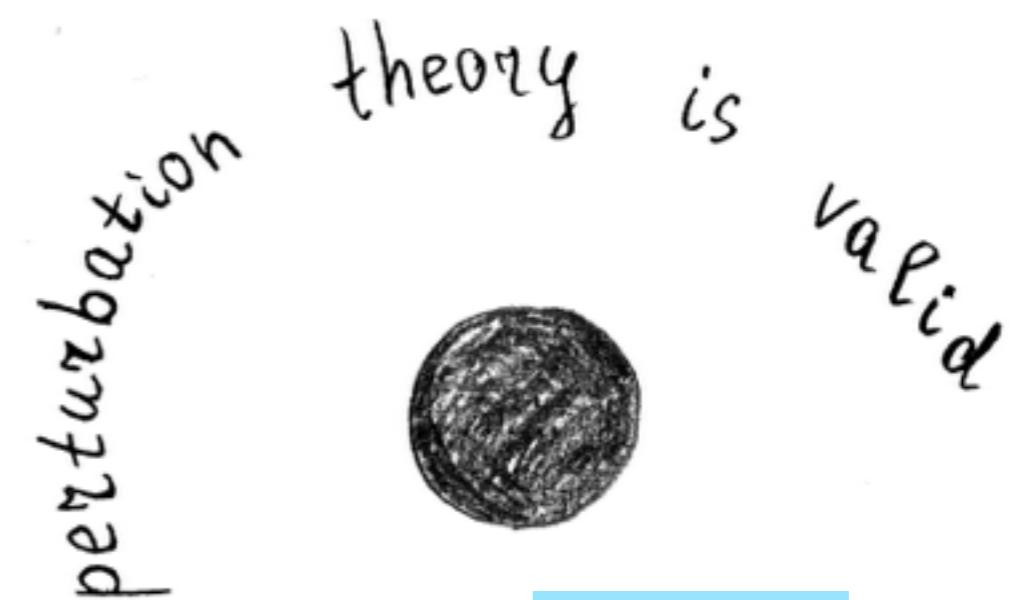


no  $\frac{1}{\kappa^2}$  denominators

absence of Vainshtein radius

↓

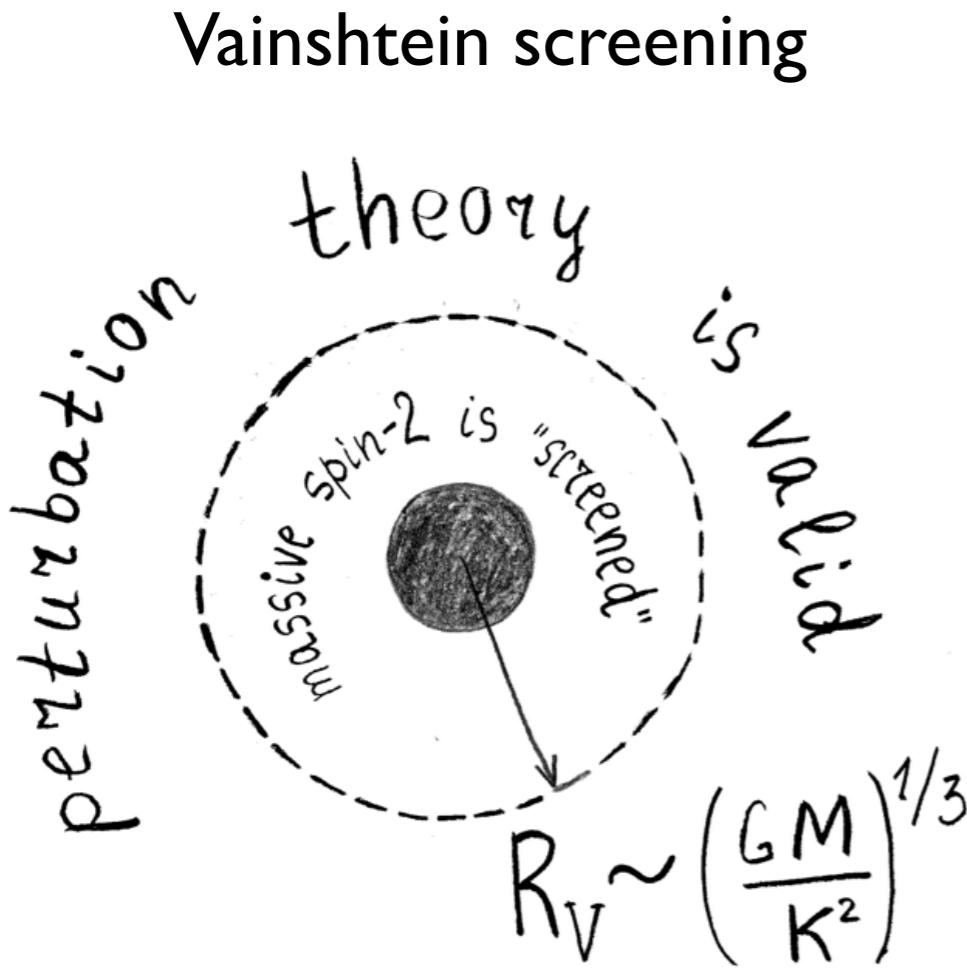
no Vainshtein screening



# Theories with massive spin-2:

## Vainshtein mechanism

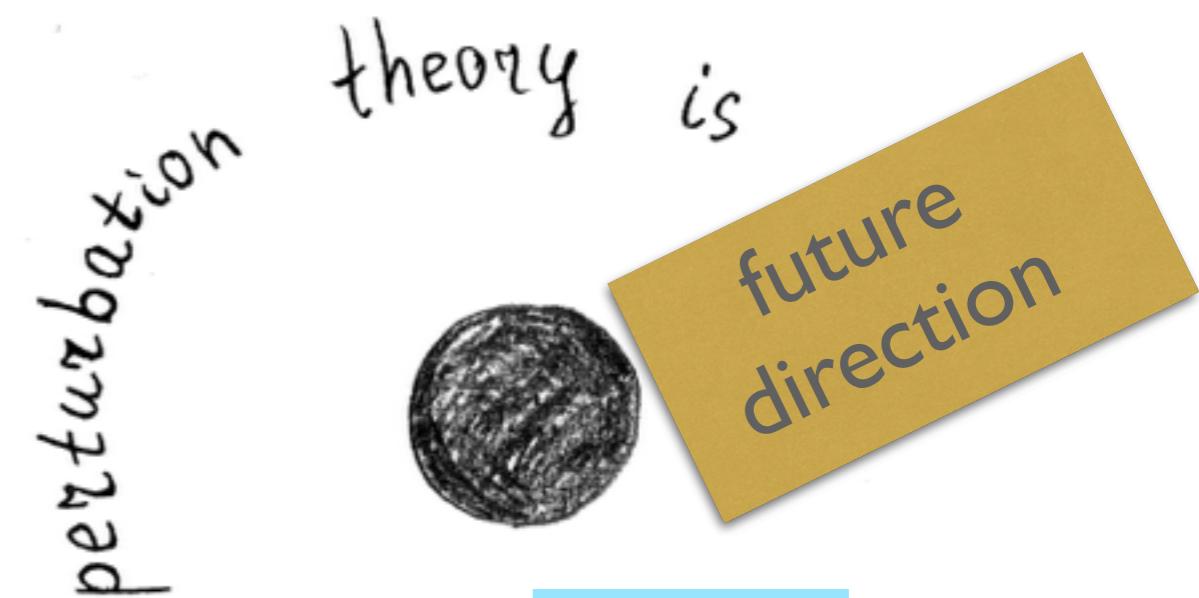
bimetric gravity



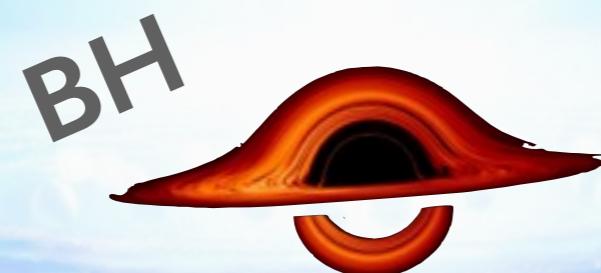
Babichev-Deffayet'13 ....

torsion bigravity

no  $\frac{1}{\kappa^2}$  denominators  
↓  
absence of Vainshtein radius  
↓  
no Vainshtein screening



Nikiforova'20



# Black Holes in torsion bigravity

# Theories with massive spin-2: (Asymptotically flat) black hole ZOO

## bimetric gravity

Einstein BHs (incl. Kerr)  
are exact solutions

Einstein BHs



(Volkov'12)

BHs  
with massive graviton hair



(Brito-Cardoso-Pani'13,  
Gervalle-Volkov'20)

# Theories with massive spin-2: (Asymptotically flat) black hole ZOO

torsion bigravity

Einstein BHs (incl. Kerr)  
are exact solutions  
(with zero torsion)

Einstein BHs



≠ Schwarzschild BHs  
with linearized torsion hair

in the limit of  
infinite range  
 $\kappa \rightarrow 0$

(different  
from  
the Einstein  
BHs)

asym. flat  
hairy BHs



# Theories with massive spin-2: (Asymptotically flat) black hole ZOO

## torsion bigravity

Einstein BHs (incl. Kerr)  
are exact solutions  
(with zero torsion)

Einstein BHs



✗ Schwarzschild BHs  
with linearized torsion hair  
(Nikiforova-Damour'20)

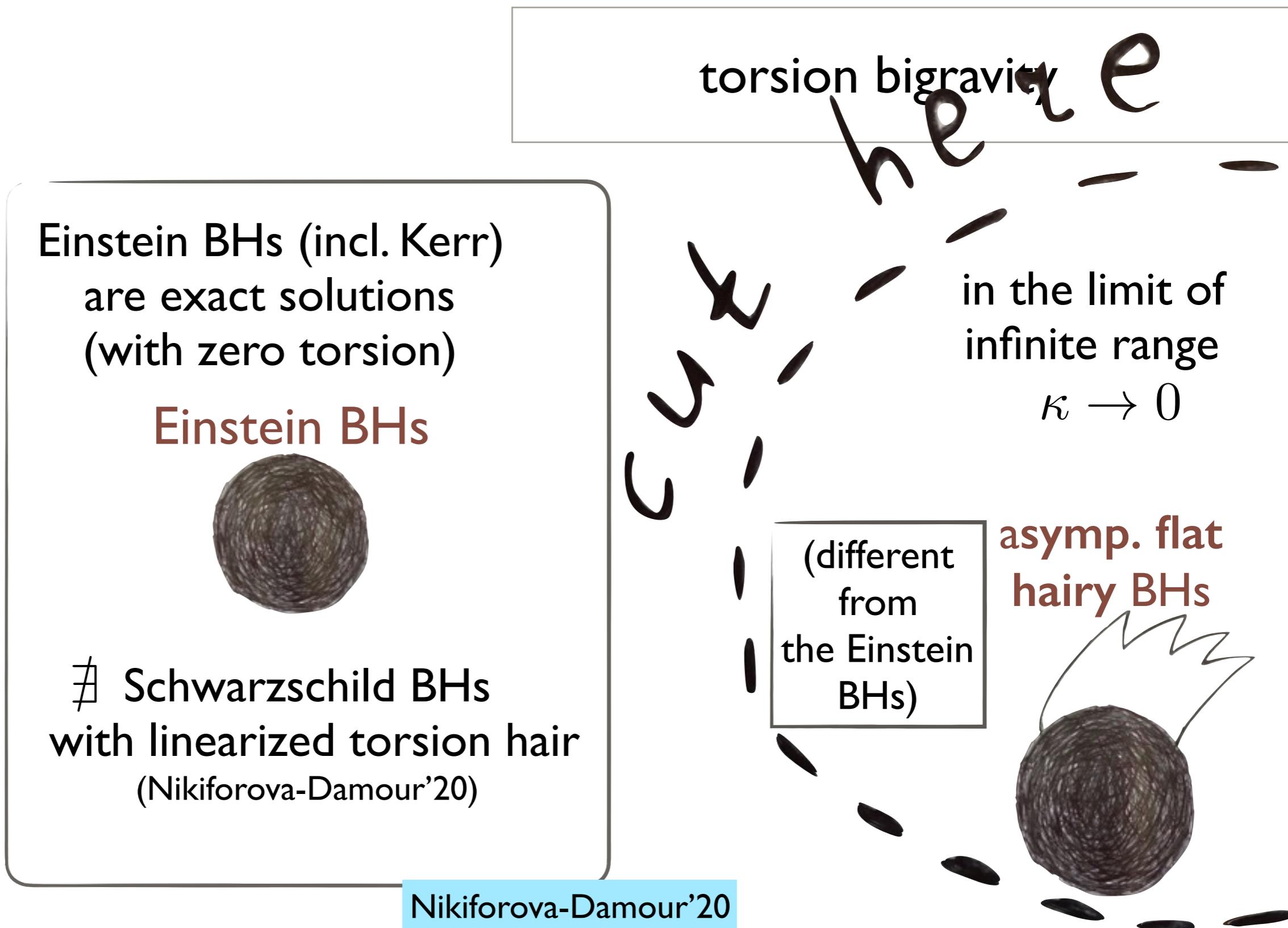
(different  
from  
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in the limit of  
infinite range  
 $\kappa \rightarrow 0$

asym. flat  
hairy BHs



# Theories with massive spin-2: (Asymptotically flat) black hole ZOO



# Theories with massive spin-2: (Asymptotically flat) black hole ZOO

## torsion bigravity

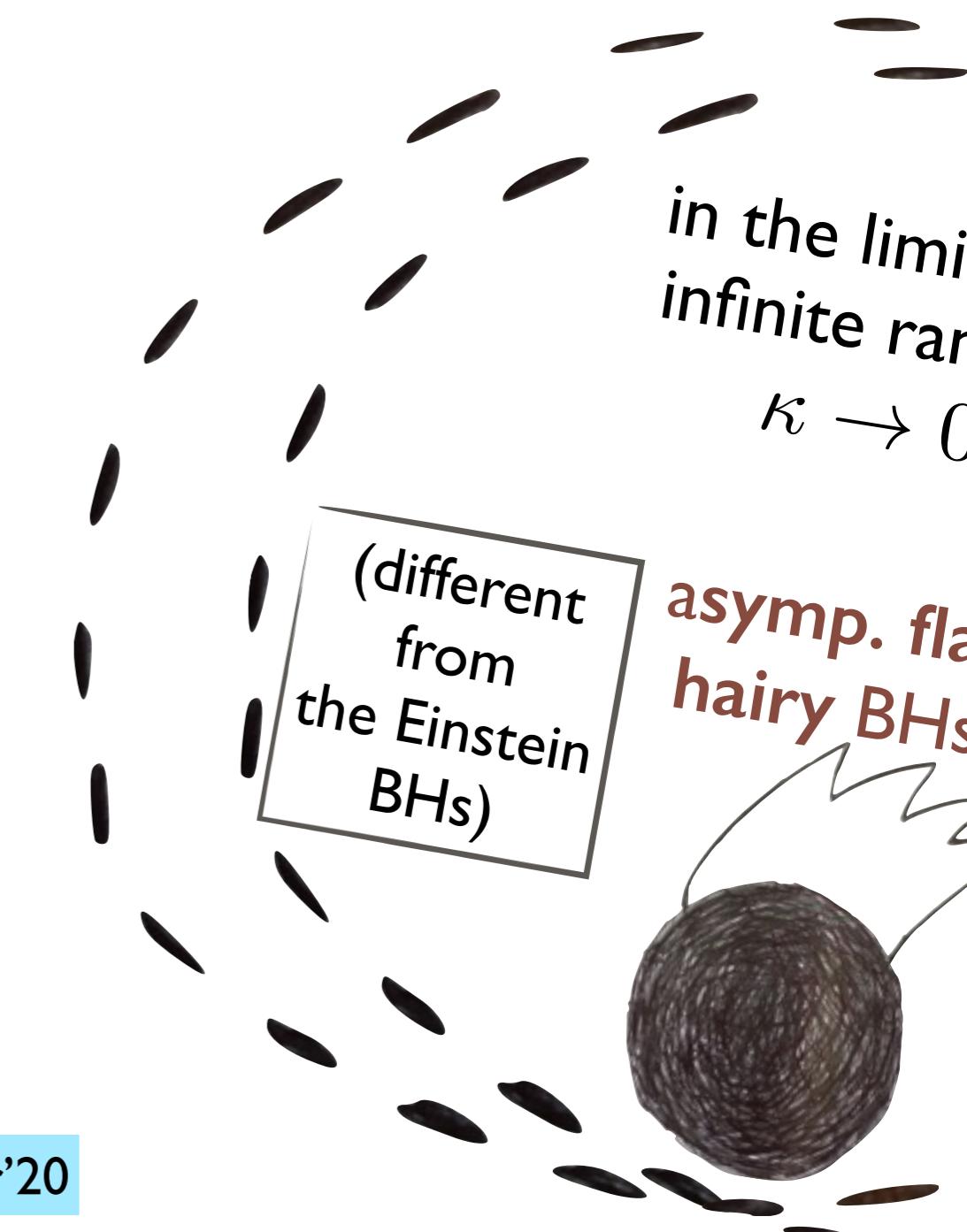
Einstein BHs (incl. Kerr)  
are exact solutions  
(with zero torsion)

Einstein BHs



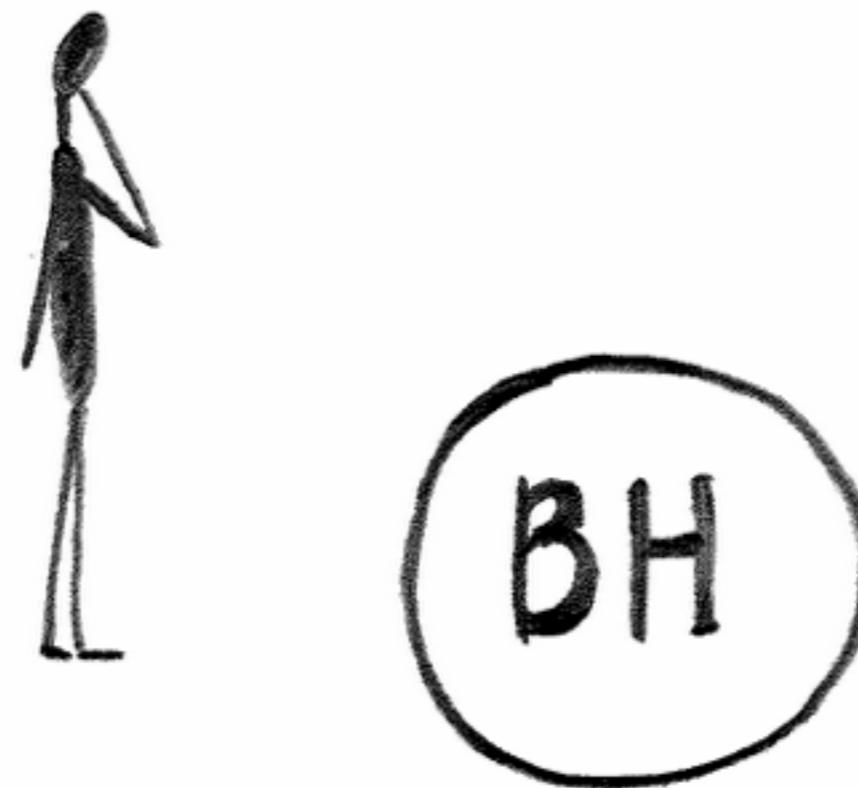
≠ Schwarzschild BHs  
with linearized torsion hair  
(Nikiforova-Damour'20)

Nikiforova-Damour'20



# Black hole perturbations

Nikiforova'21 + Nikiforova'22 + future works



# Black hole perturbations

Nikiforova'21 + Nikiforova'22 + future works



# Black hole perturbations

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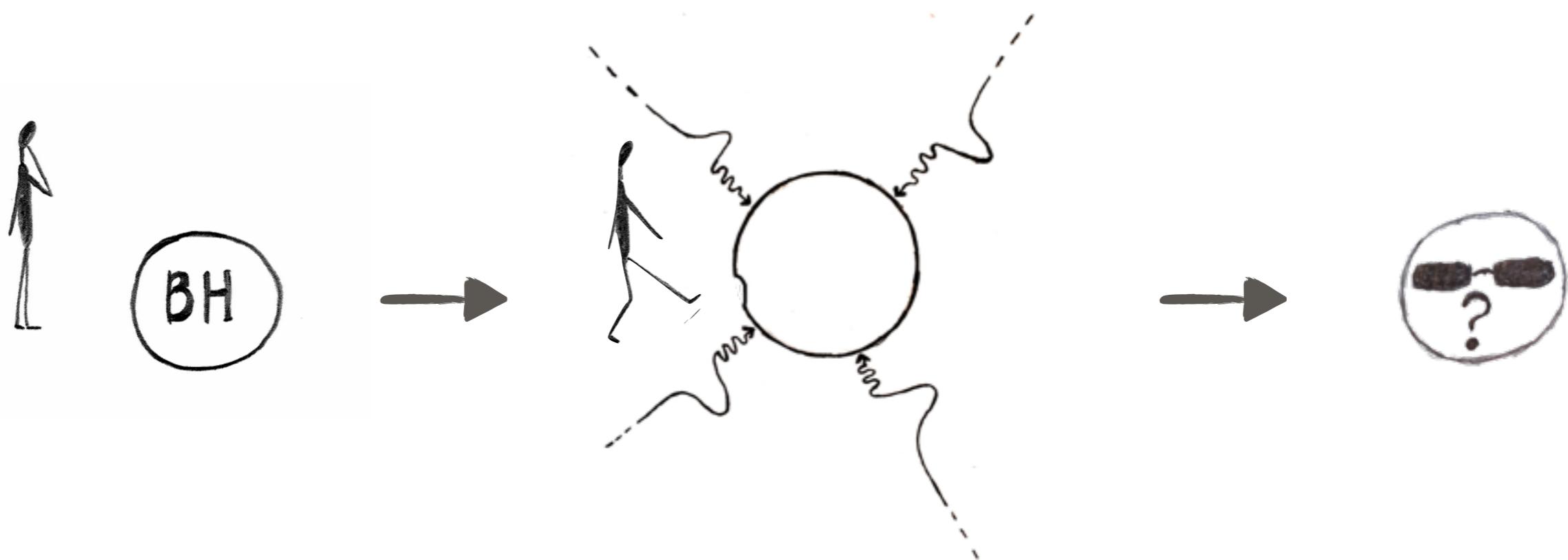
- quasi-bound states and stability
- quasi-normal modes



# Black hole perturbations

Nikiforova'21 + Nikiforova'22 + future works

- quasi-bound states and stability
- quasi-normal modes



# Theories with massive spin-2: Stability of Schwarzschild BHs

bimetric gravity

Einstein BHs

unstable for  $\kappa r_h < 0.86$

Babichev-Fabbri'13,  
Brito-Cardoso-Pani'13

stable

Gervalle-Volkov'20

unstable  
???

# Theories with massive spin-2: Stability of Schwarzschild BHs

torsion bigravity

Schw. BH is linearly **stable**

# Theories with massive spin-2: Stability of Schwarzschild BHs

torsion bigravity

lower bound on the mass of the massive spin-2  
to avoid singularities

$$\kappa > \frac{\sqrt{1 + \eta}}{r_h}$$

Schw. BH is linearly **stable**

# Theories with massive spin-2: Stability of Schwarzschild BHs

torsion bigravity

lower bound on the mass of the massive spin-2  
to avoid singularities

$$\kappa > \frac{\sqrt{1 + \eta}}{r_h}$$

for  $2M_\odot$  black hole:

$$\kappa \gtrsim 10^{-10} \text{ eV} \quad \kappa^{-1} < 6 \text{ km}$$

# Superradiant instabilities: NO

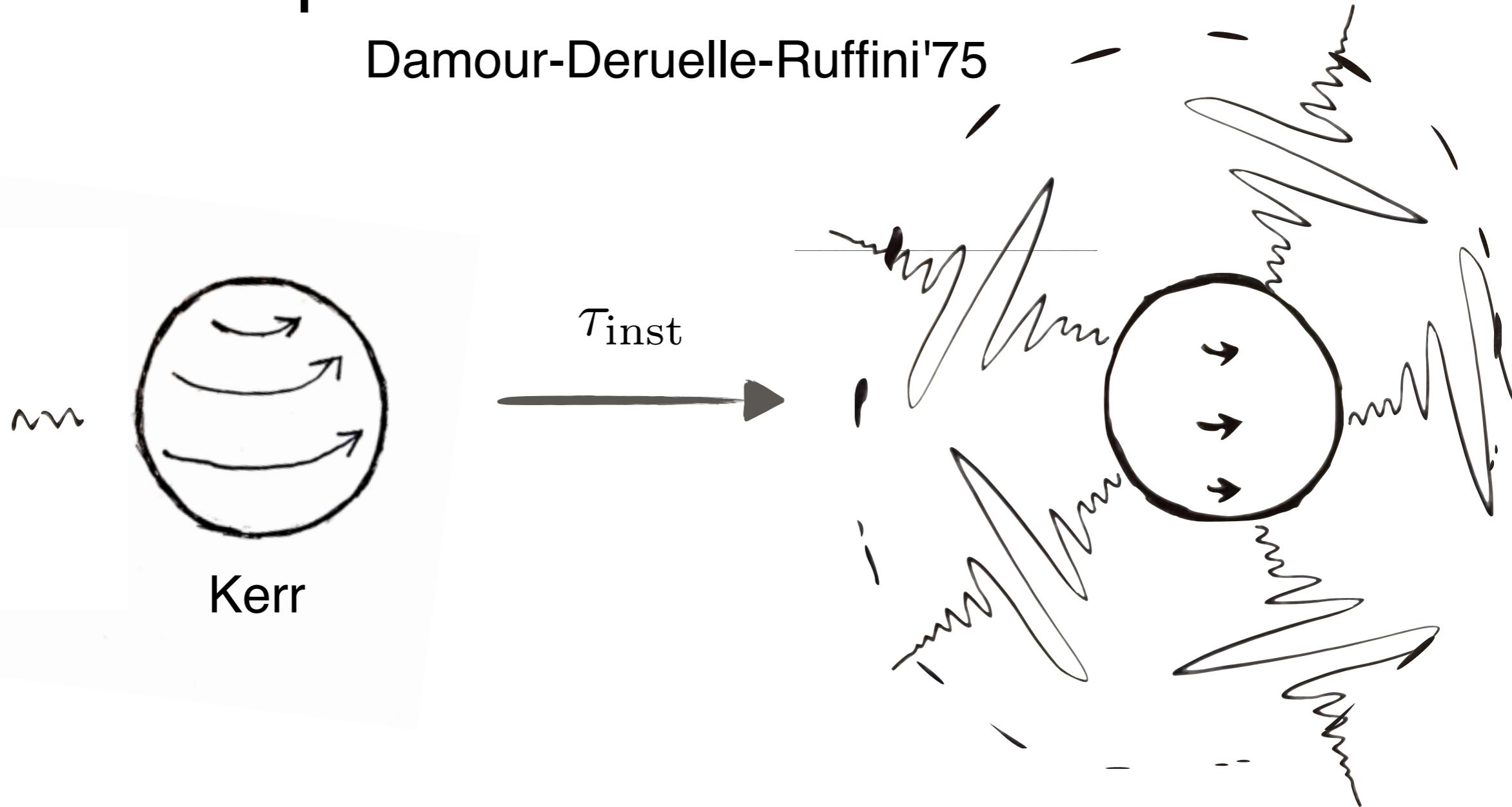
Damour-Deruelle-Ruffini'75



Kerr

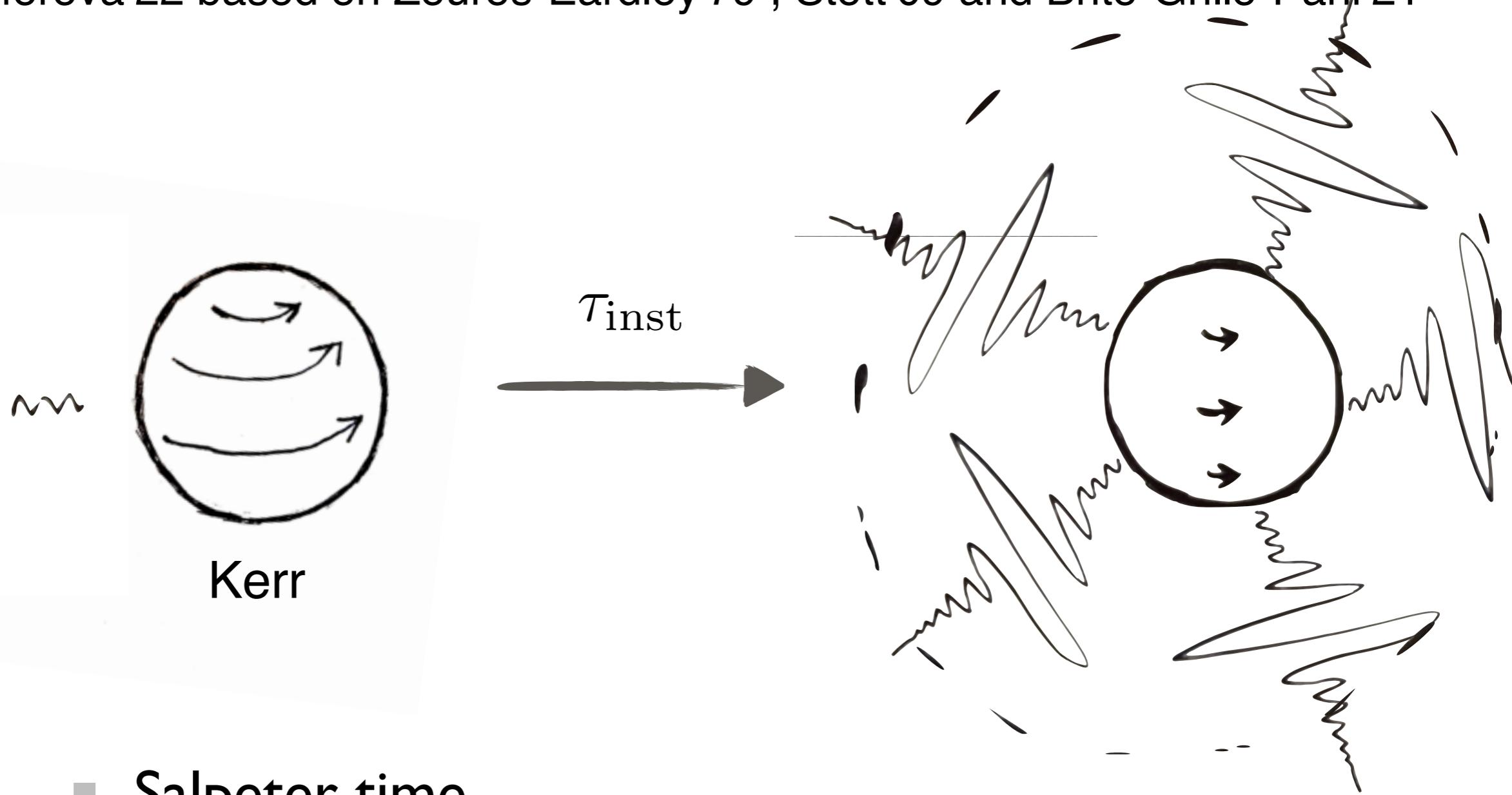
# Superradiant instabilities: NO

Damour-Deruelle-Ruffini'75



# Superradiant instabilities: NO

Nikiforova'22 based on Zouros-Eardley'79 , Stott'09 and Brito-Grillo-Pani'21

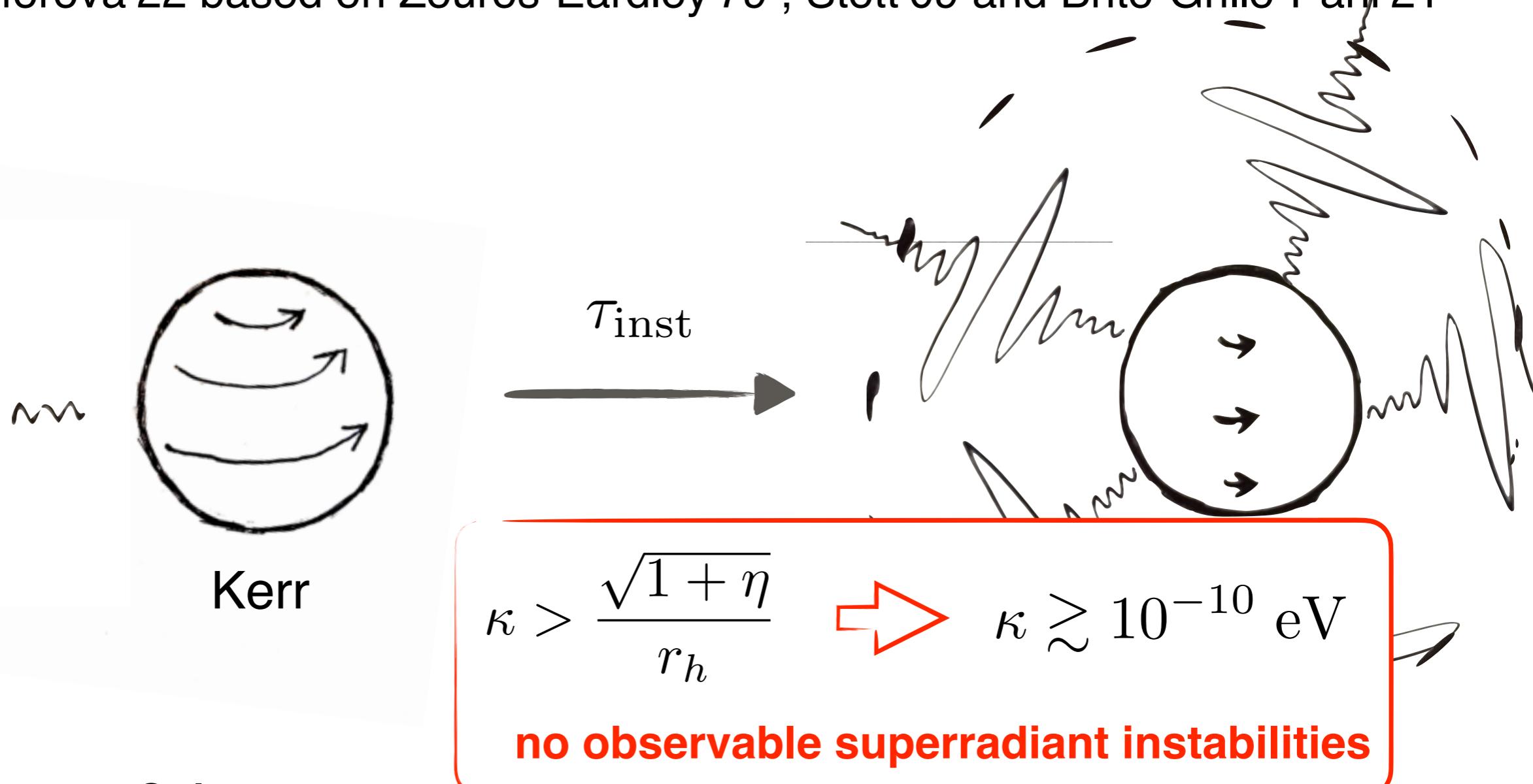


- Salpeter time
- time of observation of a spinning black hole

**EXCLUDED:**  $10^{-13} \text{ eV} \lesssim \kappa \lesssim 10^{-11} \text{ eV}$

# Superradiant instabilities: NO

Nikiforova'22 based on Zouros-Eardley'79 , Stott'09 and Brito-Grillo-Pani'21



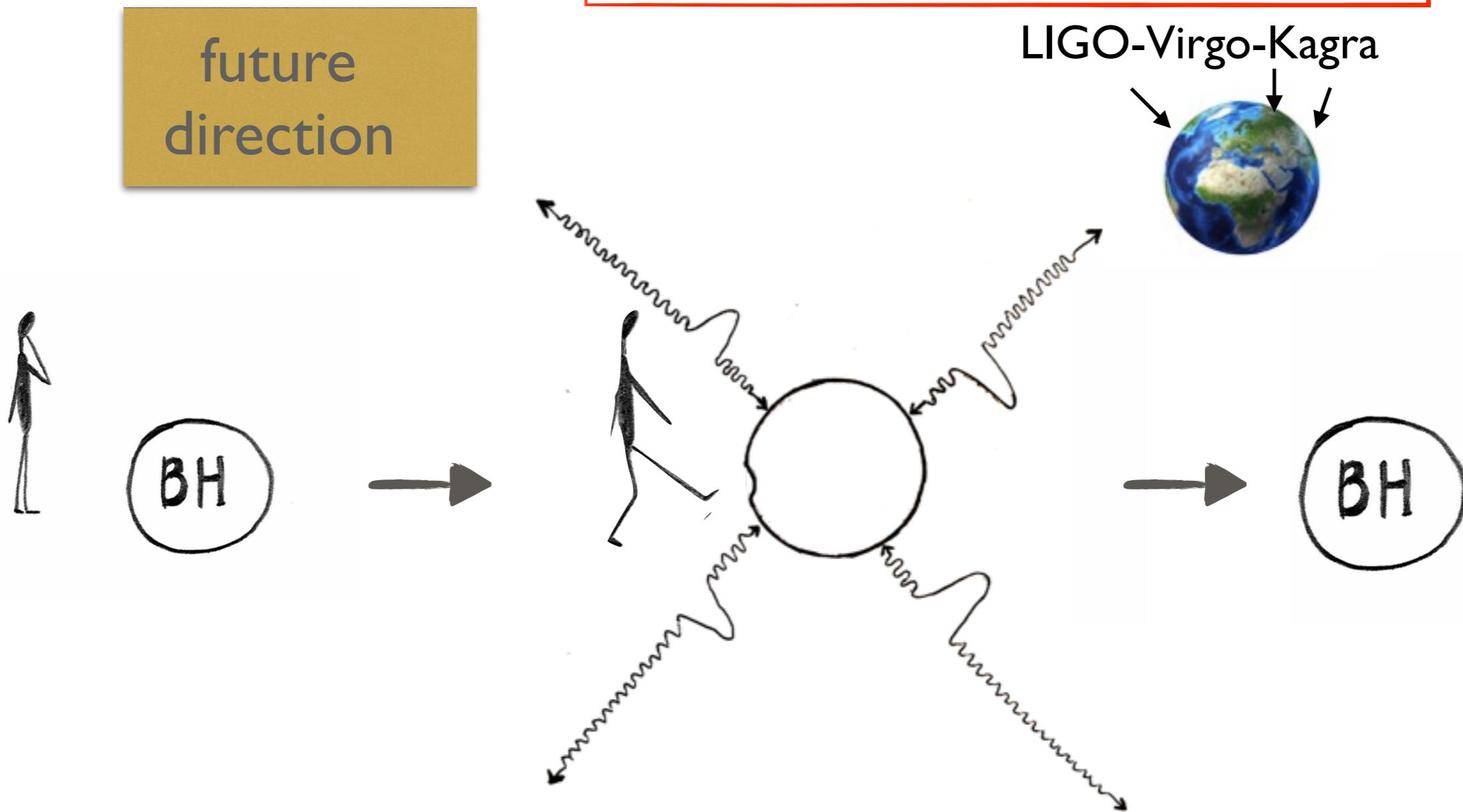
- Salpeter time
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**EXCLUDED:**  $10^{-13} \text{ eV} \lesssim \kappa \lesssim 10^{-11} \text{ eV}$

# Black hole perturbations

Nikiforova'21 + work in progress

- quasi-bound states and stability
- quasi-normal modes



## Take away message

- it's a good time to do gravity. good time to formulate questions, good time to look beyond GR
- gravity with dynamical torsion is a natural extension of GR
- gravity with dynamical torsion gives an interesting alternative to GR, which can be useful both for phenomenology and for theoretical development of gravity.  
TO THIS END, I will continue study.



# A 5-parameter class of dynamical torsion theories revived with cosmological motivation

Nair—Randjbar-Daemi—Rubakov (2009)

V. Nikiforova, S. Randjbar-Daemi, V. Rubakov (2009)

Deffayet—Randjbar-Daemi (2011)

V. Nikiforova, S. Randjbar-Daemi, V. Rubakov (2016)

V. Nikiforova (2017)

V. Nikiforova, T. Damour (2018)

self-accelerating solution

where torsion accelerates the Universe

but

instabilities found.