

# From UV completeness to black hole physics:

## Lessons from Asymptotic Safety and Hořava Gravity

Quantum spacetime and the Renormalization Group  
Heidelberg - April 1, 2025



Francesco Del Porro -  
Niels Bohr Institute Academy

Works in collaboration with:

F. Ferrarin, S. Liberati, A. Platania, J. Pfeiffer, M. Schneider and S. Silveravalle

# Outline

Motivations

Hořava Gravity: modified causality vs BH thermodynamics

Asymptotic Safety: two predictions on the IR landscape

Conclusions

# Motivations

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Hořava Gravity: modified causality vs BH thermodynamics

Asymptotic Safety: two predictions on the IR landscape

## Conclusions

# Many approaches to QG

There are many ways to achieve a “good” (UV complete) Quantum Gravity

## QFT

- Hořava Gravity (non-Lorentz invariant)
- Asymptotic Safety (non-perturbative)
- Quadratic Gravity (unitarity?)
- ....

## Beyond QFT

- String theory
- Loop quantum gravity
- Group field theory
- ....

# Many approaches to QG

A conservative approach would select a QFT description

## QFT

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- Quadratic Gravity (unitarity?)
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Ok the UV, but...

# Many approaches to QG

Q: how does the UV physics impact the low-energy regimes?

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# Hořava Gravity

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**Hořava Gravity: modified causality vs BH thermodynamics**

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# Hořava Gravity

ArXiv:**0901.3775**,  
P. Hořava

Dropping Local Lorentz Invariance can be employed to build a *power counting renormalizable* theory of gravity. We assume an anisotropic scaling between space and time

$$\mathcal{M} \simeq \mathbb{R} \times \Sigma_d, \quad \{\vec{x} \rightarrow \lambda \vec{x}, \quad \tau \rightarrow \lambda^d \tau\}$$

The full diffeomorphism invariance is broken into the foliation preserving one

$$FDiff = \{\tau \rightarrow \tau'(\tau), \quad \vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{x}'(\vec{x}, \tau)\}$$

# Hořava Gravity

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P. Hořava

The Lifshitz scaling allows the insertion of higher (spatial) derivatives. Within the ADM decomposition

$$S[\gamma_{ij}, N, N_i] = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int_{\mathcal{M}} N \sqrt{\gamma} [K_{ij} K^{ij} - \lambda K^2 - \mathcal{V}(a_i, R)]$$

$$K_{ij} = \frac{1}{2N} (\dot{\gamma}_{ij} - 2 \nabla_{(i} N_{j)})$$

$$a_i = \nabla_i \log(N)$$

$$\{R, a_i a^i, R^2, a_i a_j R^{ij}, \dots\}$$

up to  $(\nabla_i)^{2d}$

$a_i = 0$  Projectable HG

$a_i \neq 0$  Non-projectable HG

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ArXiv:**1512.02250**,  
A. Barvinsky, D. Blas, M. Herrero-Valea, S. Sybiriakov, C. Steinwachs

$$a_i = \nabla_i \log(N)$$

*In progress*,  
D. Blas, FDP, M. Herrero-Valea, S.  
Sybiriakov, J. Radkowski

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The higher derivatives operators modify the dispersion relations

See  
ArXiv:**2307.13039**  
M. Herrero-Valea,

$$\omega_{TT}^2 = \beta k^2 + \mu_2 k^4 + \nu_5 k^6$$

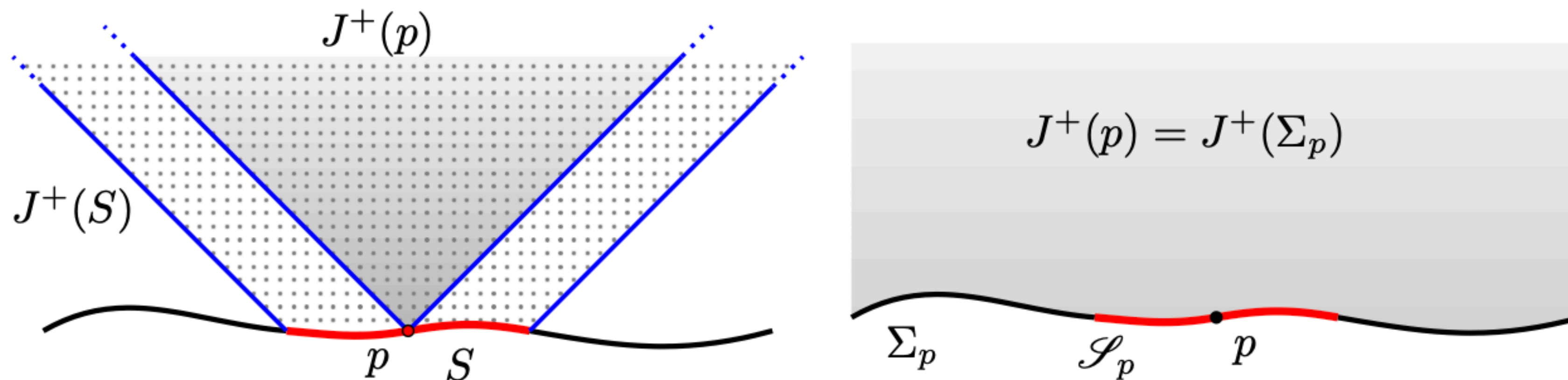
$$\omega_S^2 = (-\tilde{\beta} k^2 + (8\mu_1 + 3\mu_2) k^4 + (8\nu_4 + 3\nu_5) k^6)$$

Ok the UV, but...

# Causality

Perturbations with modified dispersion relations feel a different causal structure

$$\omega^2(k) = k^2 \left( 1 + \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_{2j} \frac{k^{2j}}{\Lambda^{2j}} \right) \quad \beta_{2j} \geq 0$$



J. Bhattacharyya, M. Colombo, T. Sotiriou  
ArXiv: **1509.01558**



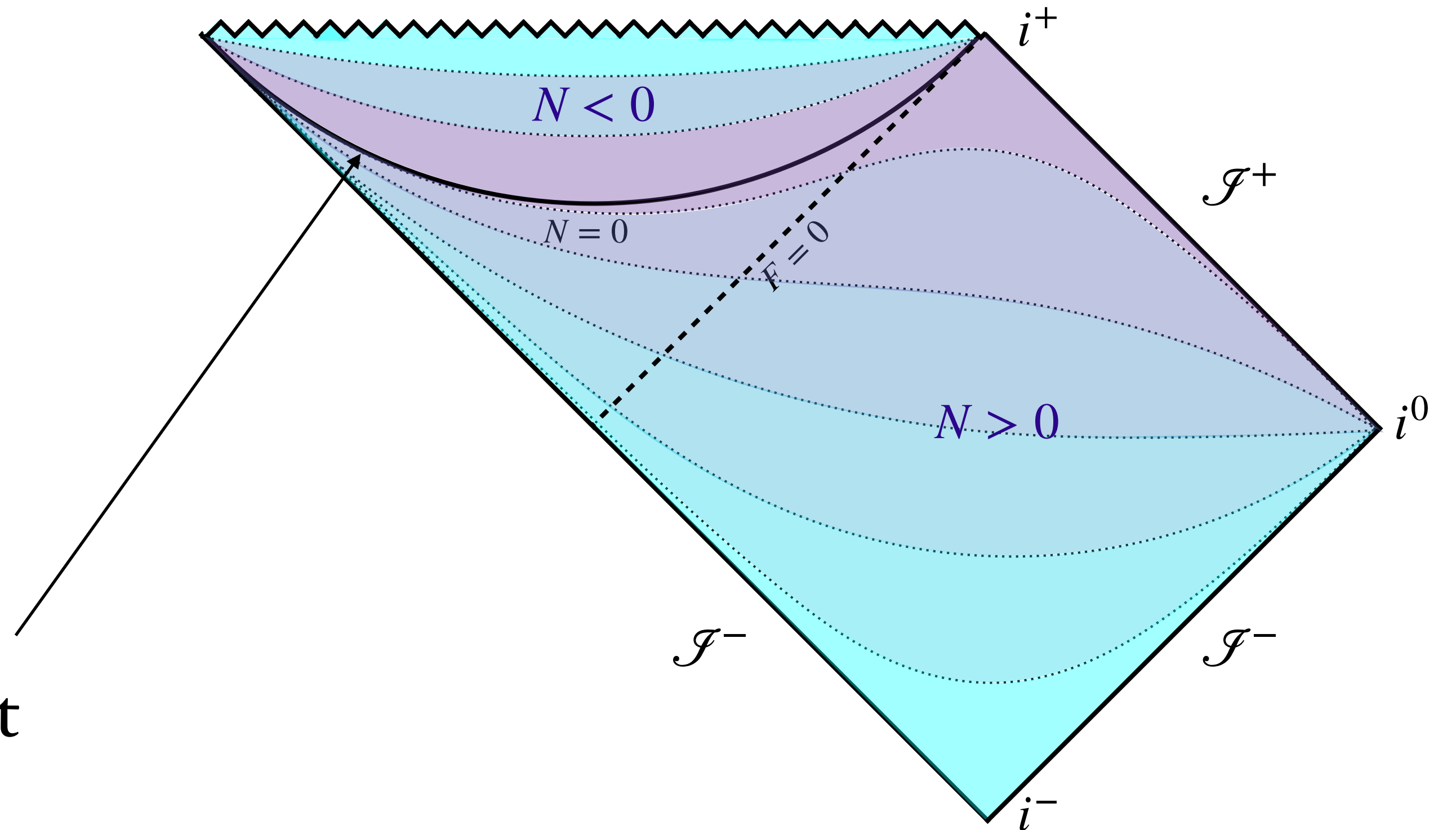
# Black holes in Hořava gravity

Perturbations with modified dispersion relations feel a different causal structure

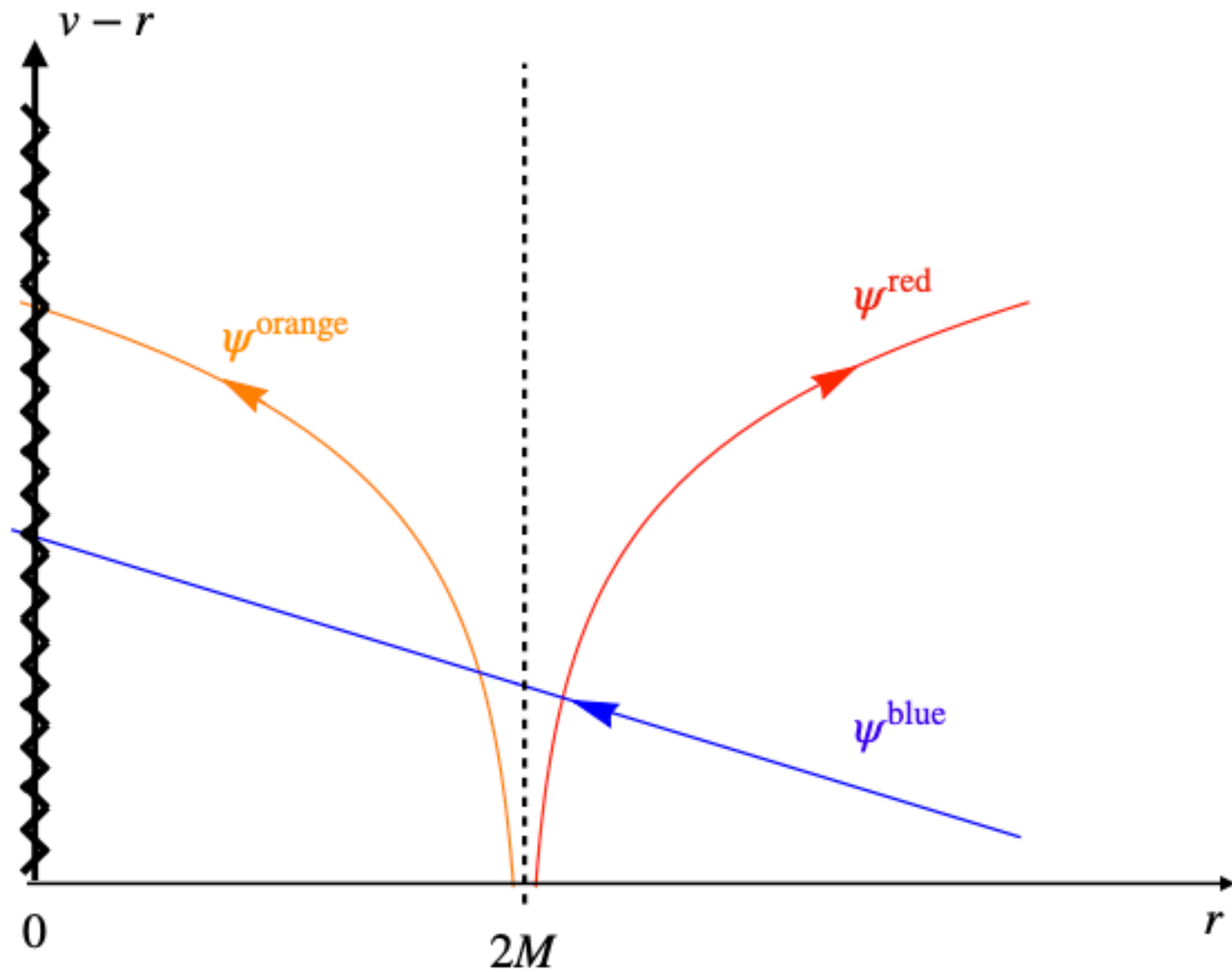
$$u_a = \frac{\partial_a \tau}{\sqrt{\partial_c \tau \partial^c \tau}}$$

If  $u_a$  becomes orthogonal to a compact surface, we have a Universal Horizon

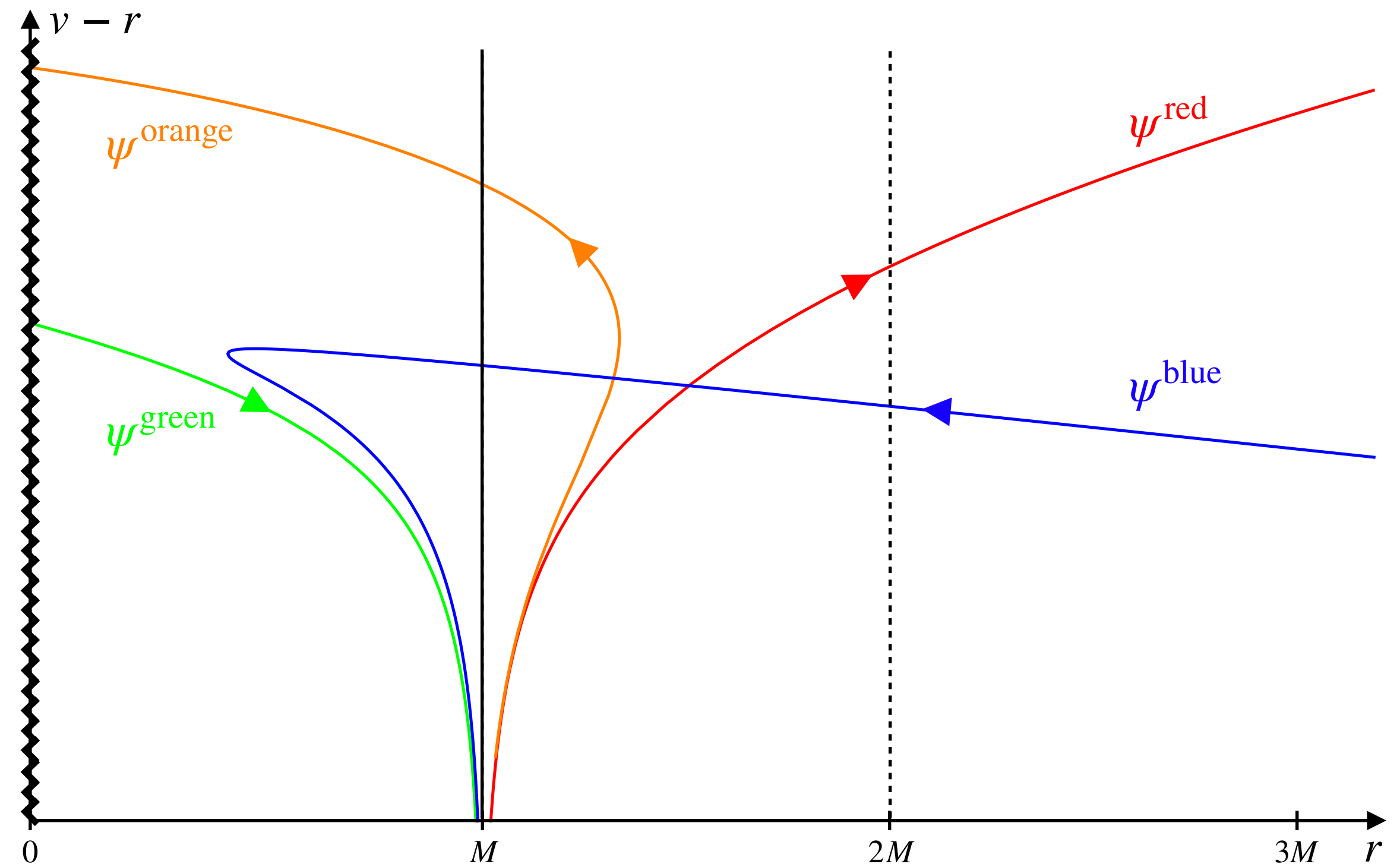
$$\text{UH} = \{(\chi \cdot u) = 0, \quad (\chi \cdot a) \neq 0\}$$



# Particles with MDRs

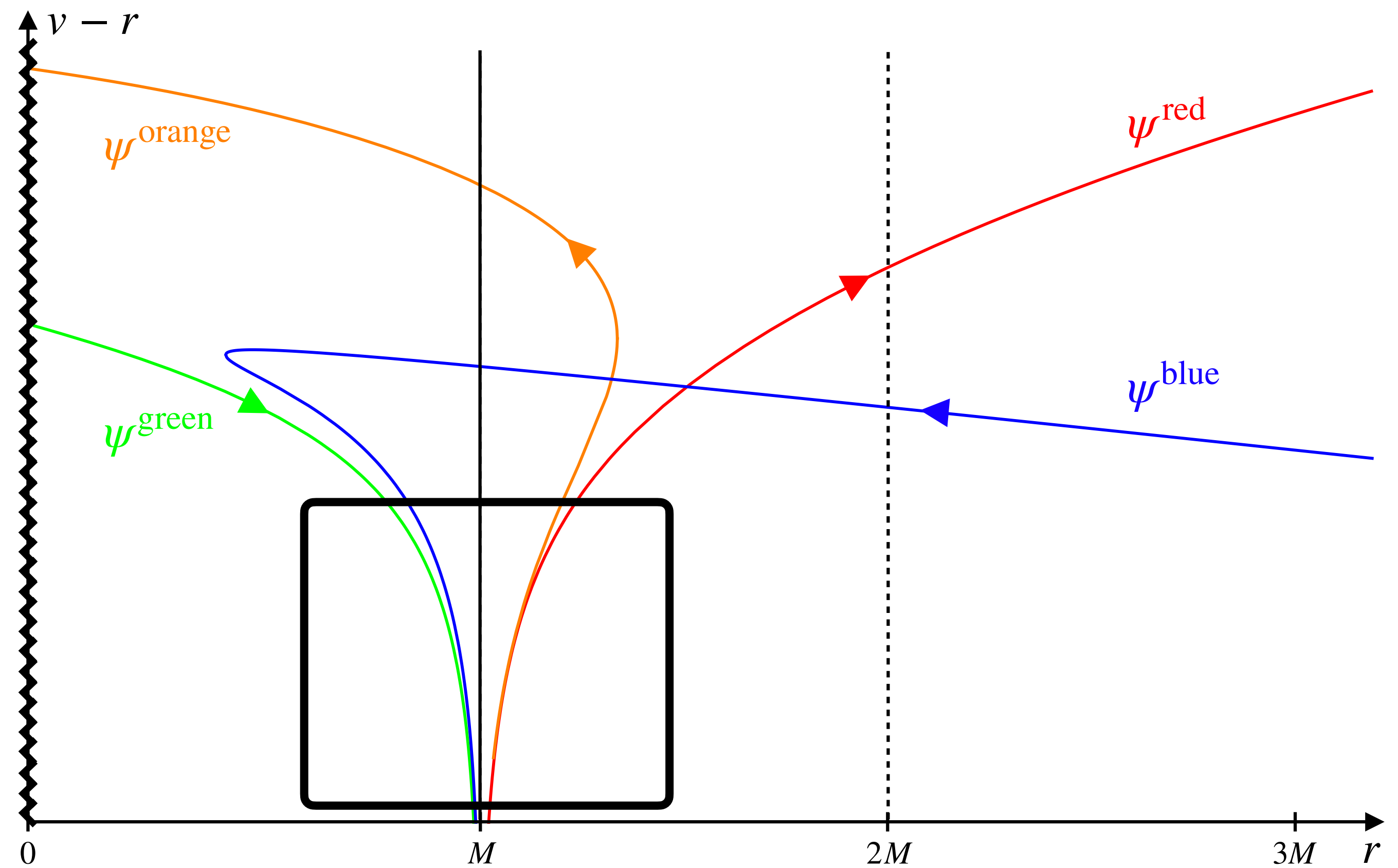


$$\omega^2(k) = k^2$$



$$\omega^2(k) = k^2 \left( 1 + \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_{2j} \frac{k^{2j}}{\Lambda^{2j}} \right)$$

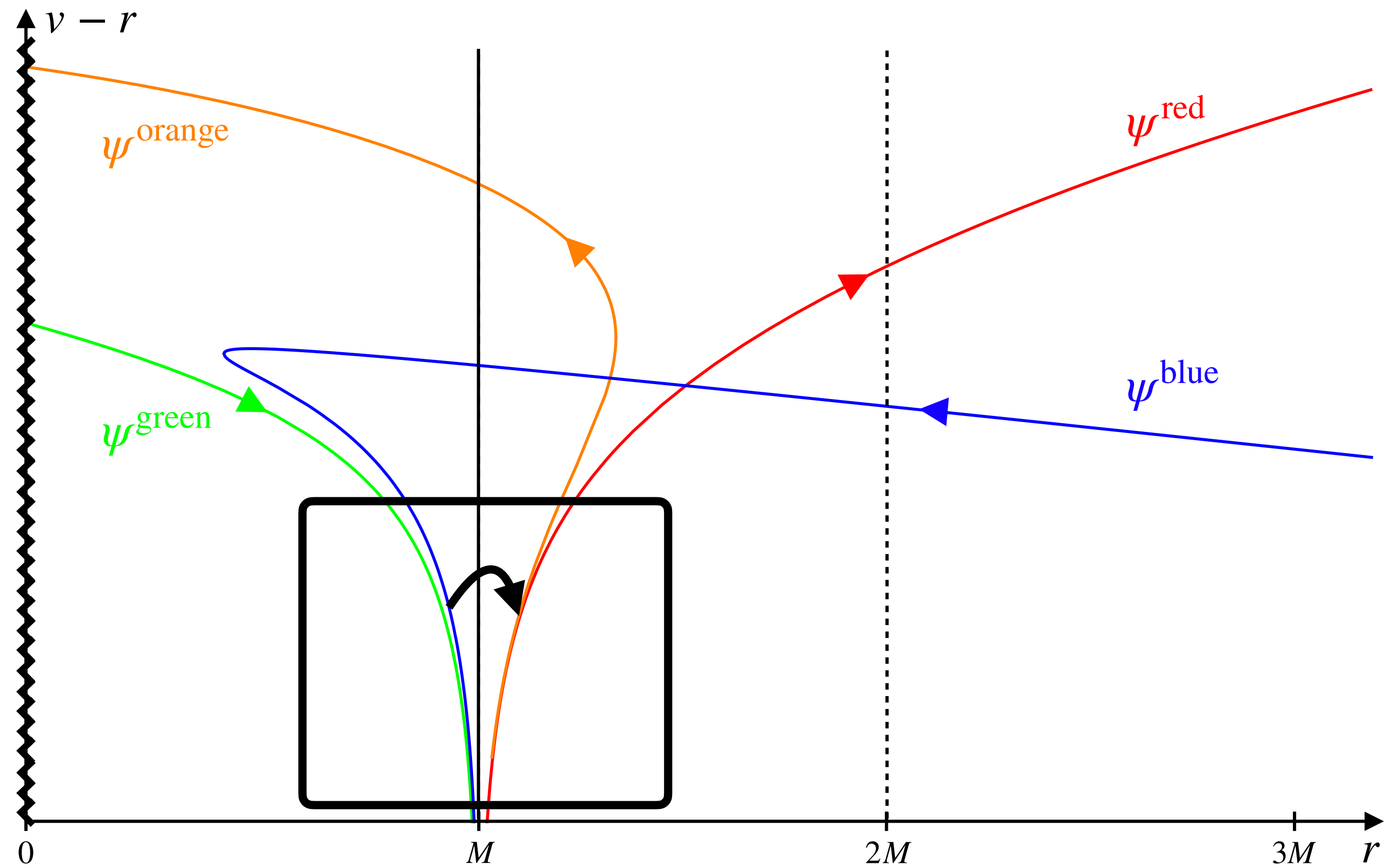
# Hawking radiation



# Hawking radiation

$$\Gamma = e^{-\Omega/T_{\text{UH}}}$$

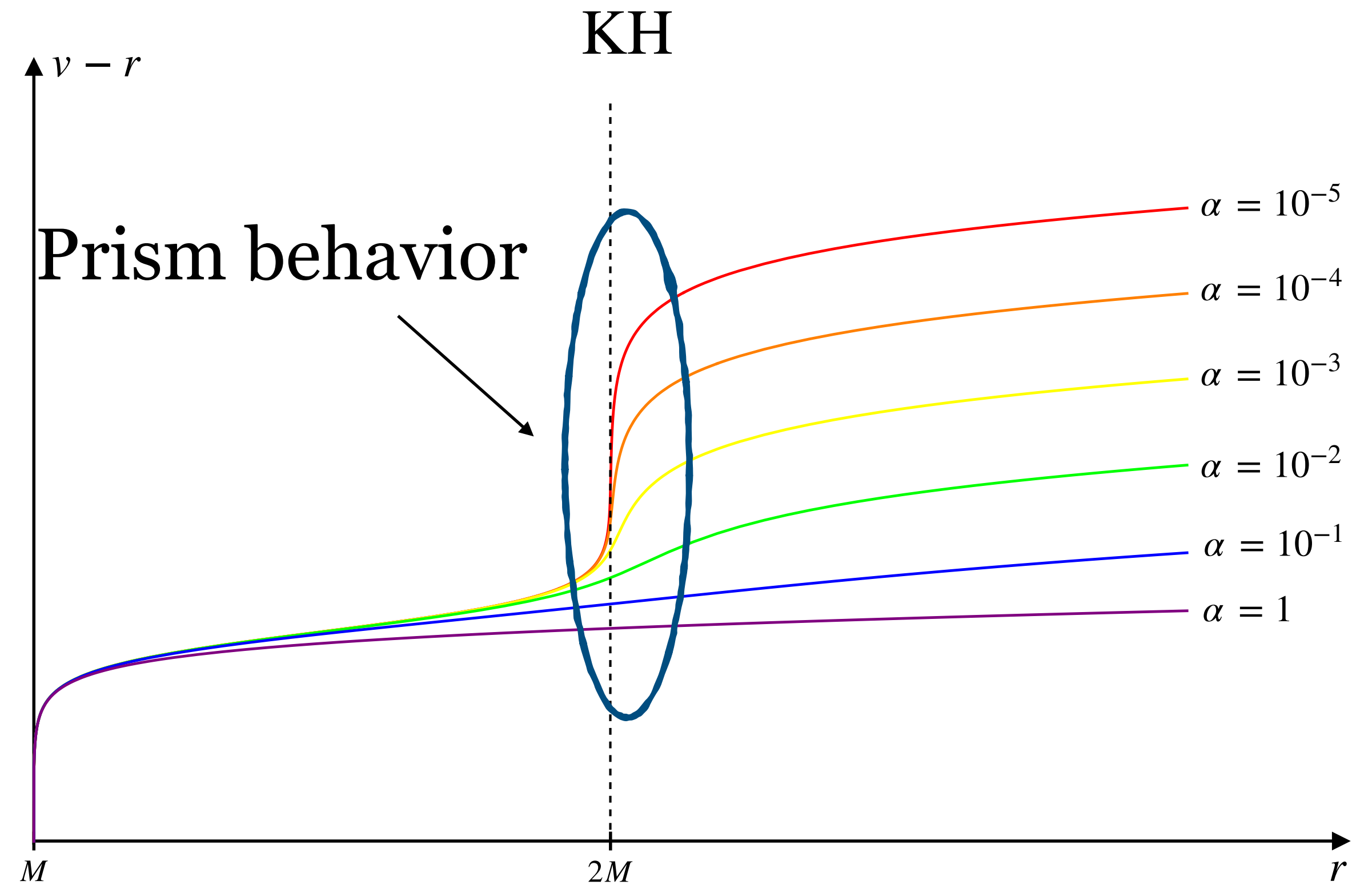
$$T_{\text{UH}} = \frac{(a \cdot \chi)}{2\pi} = \frac{\kappa_{\text{UH}}}{\pi}$$



# Propagation

The emission at the UH is insensitive to  $\Lambda$ . However we expect something to happen when  $\Lambda \rightarrow \infty$

The rays for which  
 $\alpha = \Omega/\Lambda \ll 1$  linger at the  
KH for long time

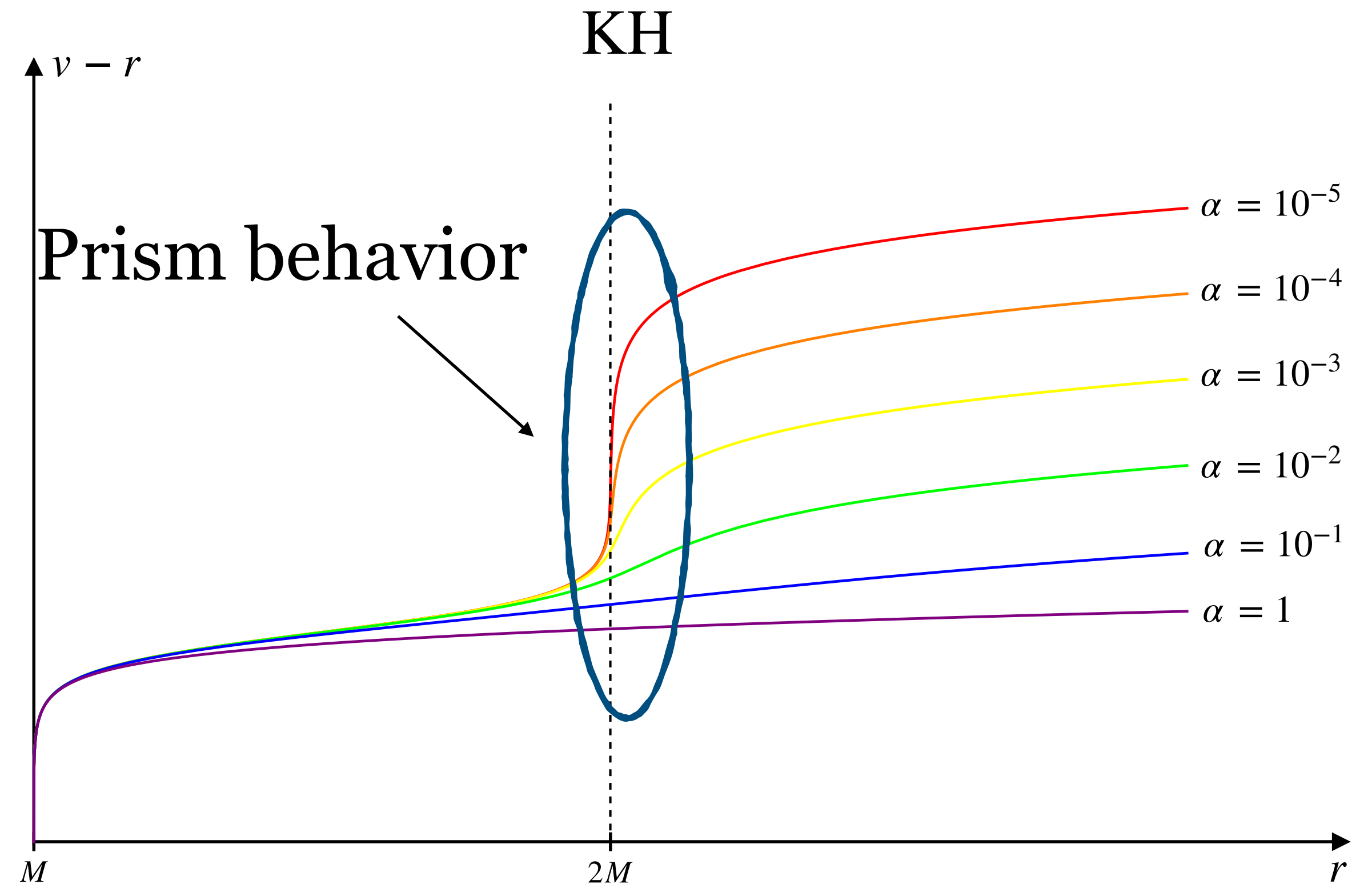


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$$T(\alpha) = \frac{\kappa_{\text{KH}}}{2\pi}(1 + 3\alpha^2) + \dots$$



# Predicting the landscape with AS

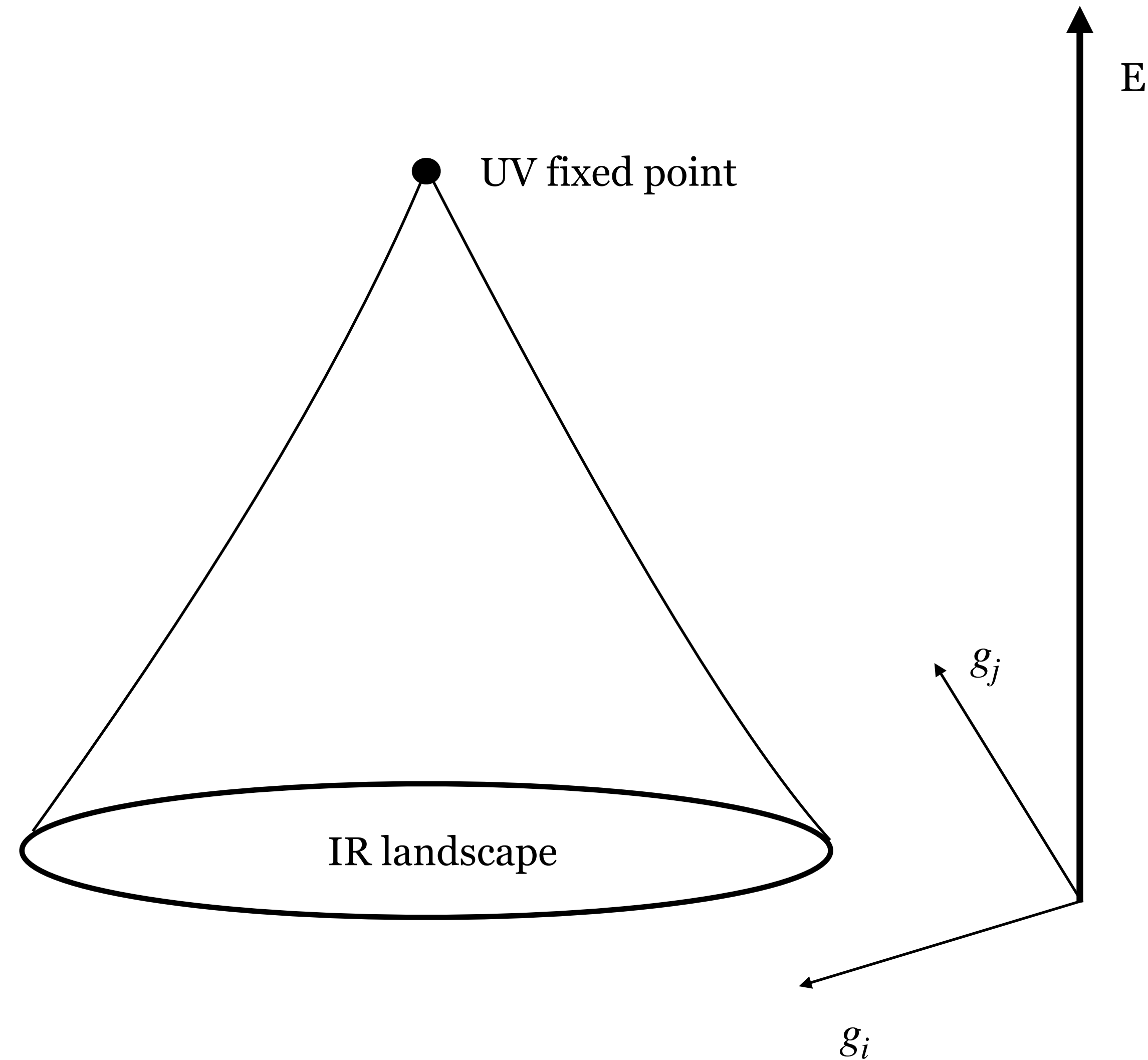
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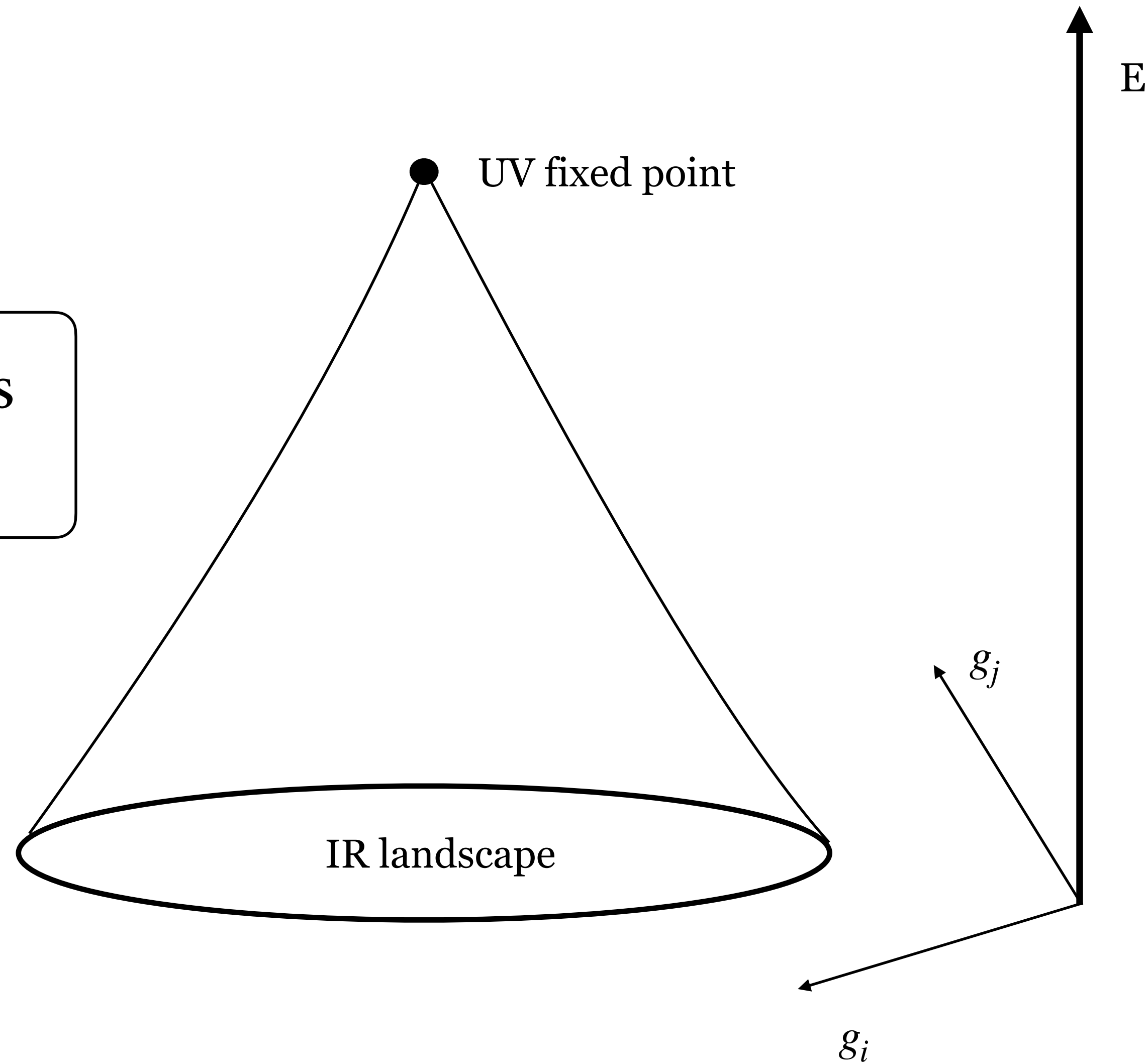
# Predicting the landscape with AS





# Predicting the landscape with AS

Q: what can this teach us  
about BHs?



# Example 1: BH in Einstein-Weyl

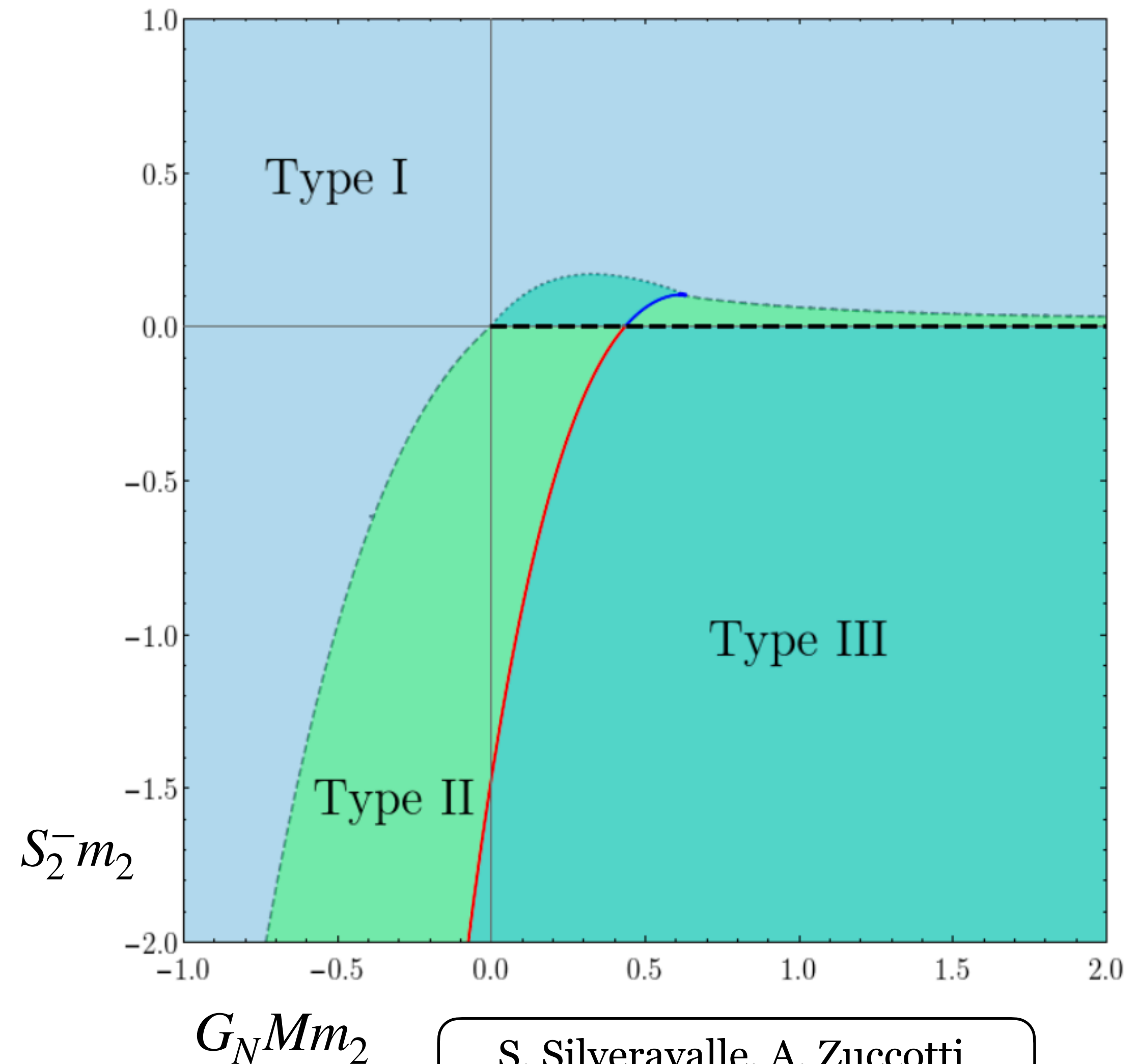
$$S_{\text{EW}} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_N} \int \sqrt{-g} \left[ R - \frac{\alpha}{2} C_{abcd} C^{abcd} \right]$$

$$ds^2 = -h(r) dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{f(r)} + r^2 d\Omega_2 \quad m_2 = \alpha^{-1/2}$$

Asymptotically:

$$h(r) \simeq 1 - \frac{2G_N M}{r} + 2S_2^- \frac{e^{-m_2 r}}{r}$$

$$f(r) \simeq 1 - \frac{2G_N M}{r} + S_2^- \frac{e^{-m_2 r}}{r} (1 + m_2 r)$$



S. Silveravalle, A. Zuccotti  
ArXiv: **2210.13877**

# Example 1: BH in Einstein-Weyl

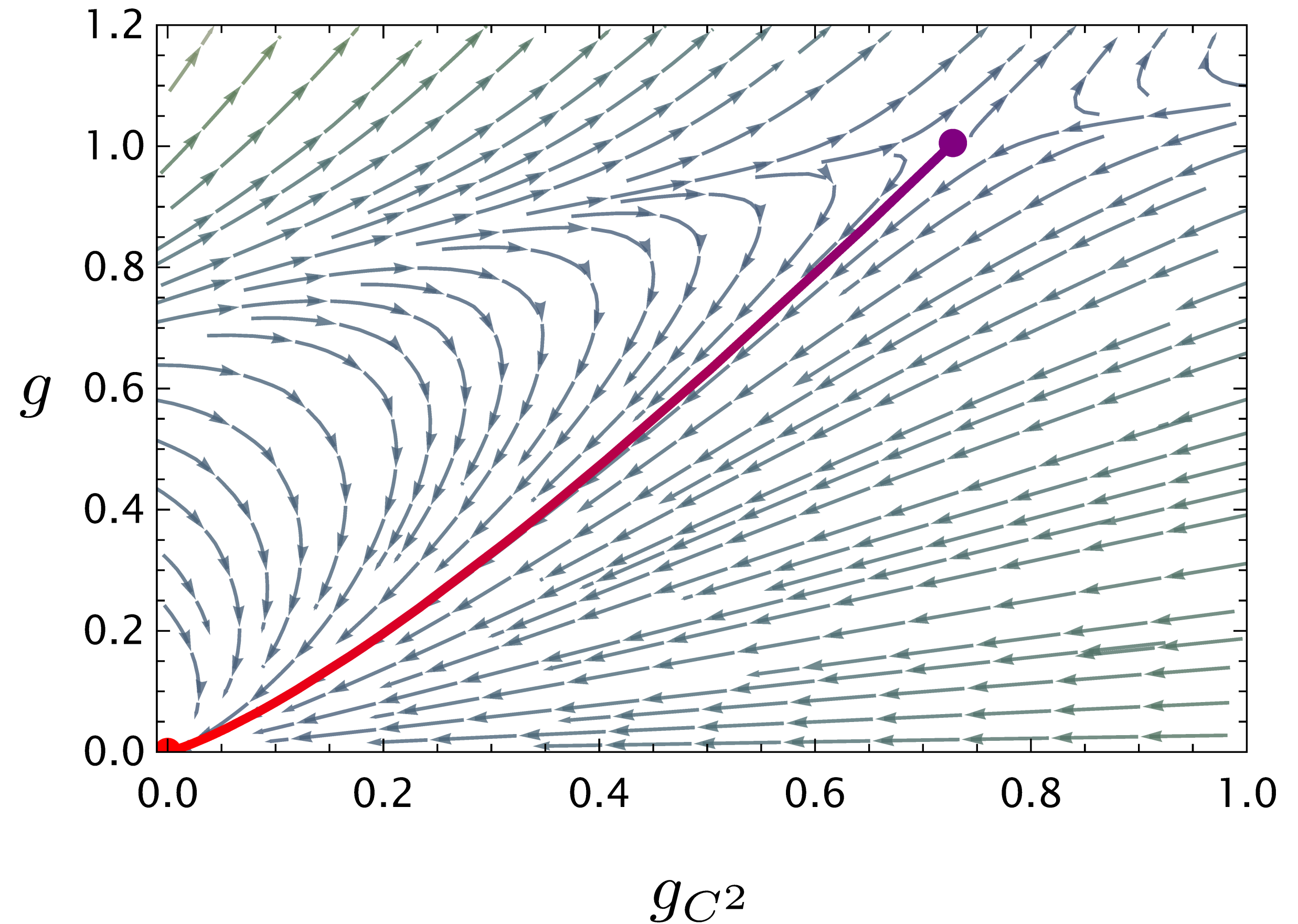
$$S_{\text{EW}} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_N} \int \sqrt{-g} \left[ R - \frac{\alpha}{2} C_{abcd} C^{abcd} \right]$$

EW has an UV fixed point. We can give a prediction

B. Knorr  
ArXiv: **2104.11336**

$$g_{C^2}(k) = \alpha(k) k^2 \quad g(k) = G_N(k) k^2$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{g_{C^2}(k)}{g(k)} = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{\alpha(k)}{G_N(k)} = \frac{M_p^2}{m_2^2}$$



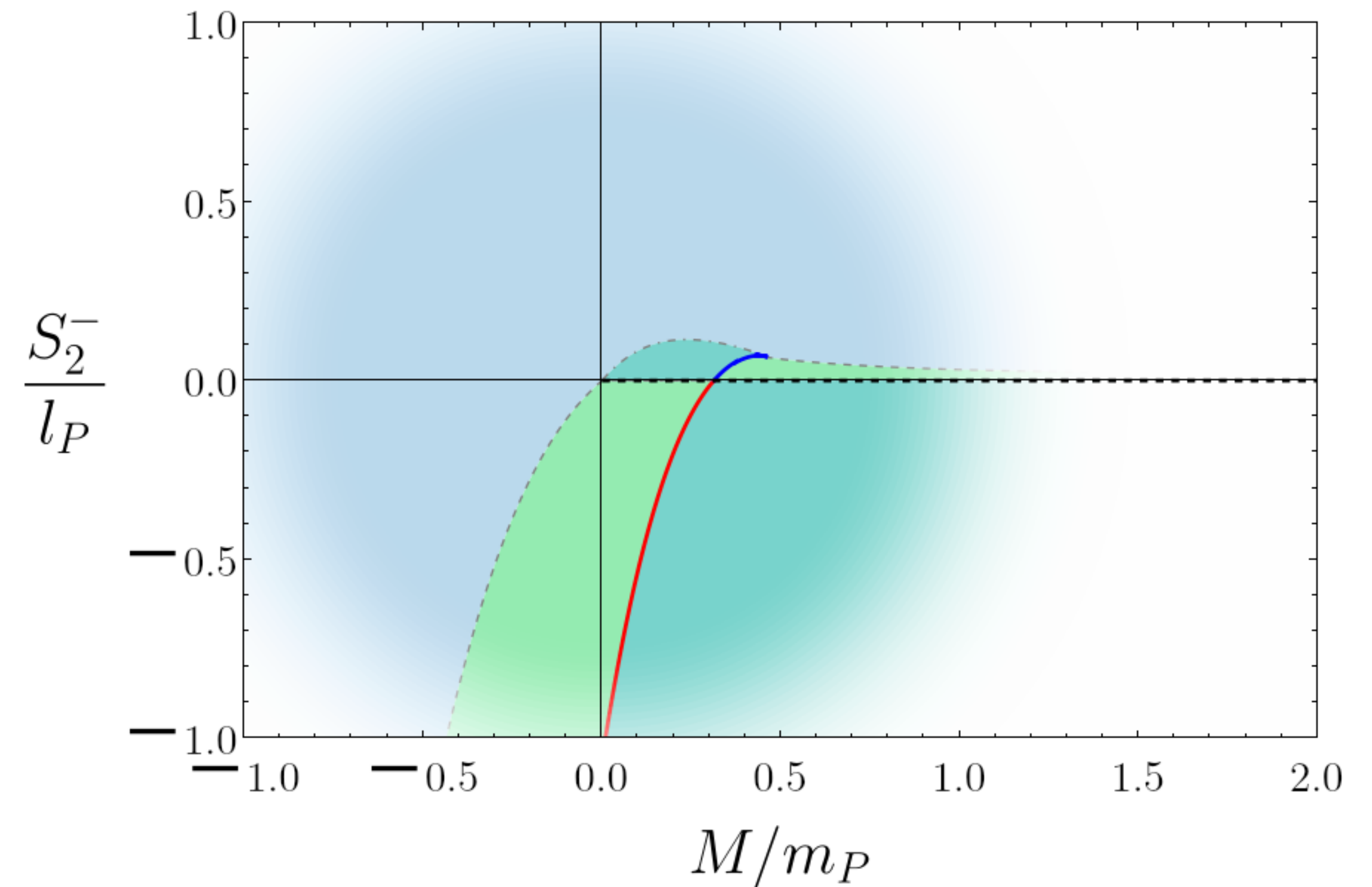
# Example 1: BH in Einstein-Weyl

$$S_{\text{EW}} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_N} \int \sqrt{-g} \left[ R - \frac{\alpha}{2} C_{abcd} C^{abcd} \right]$$

EW has an UV fixed point. We can give a prediction

$$m_2^2 \simeq 1.96 M_p^2$$

For more details → Jonas' Poster!  
(work in progress)





# Example 2: UV sensitivity of EBH

## Extremal Kerr black holes as amplifiers of new physics

Gary T. Horowitz,<sup>1</sup> Maciej Kolanowski,<sup>2</sup> Grant N. Remmen,<sup>1,3</sup> and Jorge E. Santos<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Department of Physics, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106, U.S.A.*

<sup>2</sup>*Institute of Theoretical Physics, Faculty of Physics, University of Warsaw, Pasteura 5, 02-093 Warsaw, Poland*

<sup>3</sup>*Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106, U.S.A.*

<sup>4</sup>*Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics,  
University of Cambridge, Wilberforce Road, Cambridge, CB3 0WA, UK*

We show that extremal Kerr black holes are sensitive probes of new physics. Stringy or quantum corrections to general relativity are expected to generate higher-curvature terms in the gravitational action. We show that in the presence of these terms, asymptotically flat extremal rotating black holes have curvature singularities on their horizon. Furthermore, near-extremal black holes can have large yet finite tidal forces for infalling observers. In addition, we consider five-dimensional extremal charged black holes and show that higher-curvature terms can have a large effect on the horizon geometry.

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \left[ R + \eta \kappa^4 \mathcal{R}^3 + \lambda \kappa^6 \mathcal{C}^2 + \tilde{\lambda} \kappa^6 \tilde{\mathcal{C}}^2 \right]$$

$$g_{ab} = g_{ab}^{(0)} + \eta h_{ab}^{(6)} + \lambda h_{ab}^{(8)} + \tilde{\lambda} \tilde{h}_{ab}^{(8)}$$

$$\delta g_{ab}^{\text{EBH}}(x) \sim (x - x_{\text{H}})^\gamma$$

$$\gamma = 2 + \eta \gamma^{(6)} + \lambda \gamma^{(8)} + \tilde{\lambda} \tilde{\gamma}^{(8)}$$

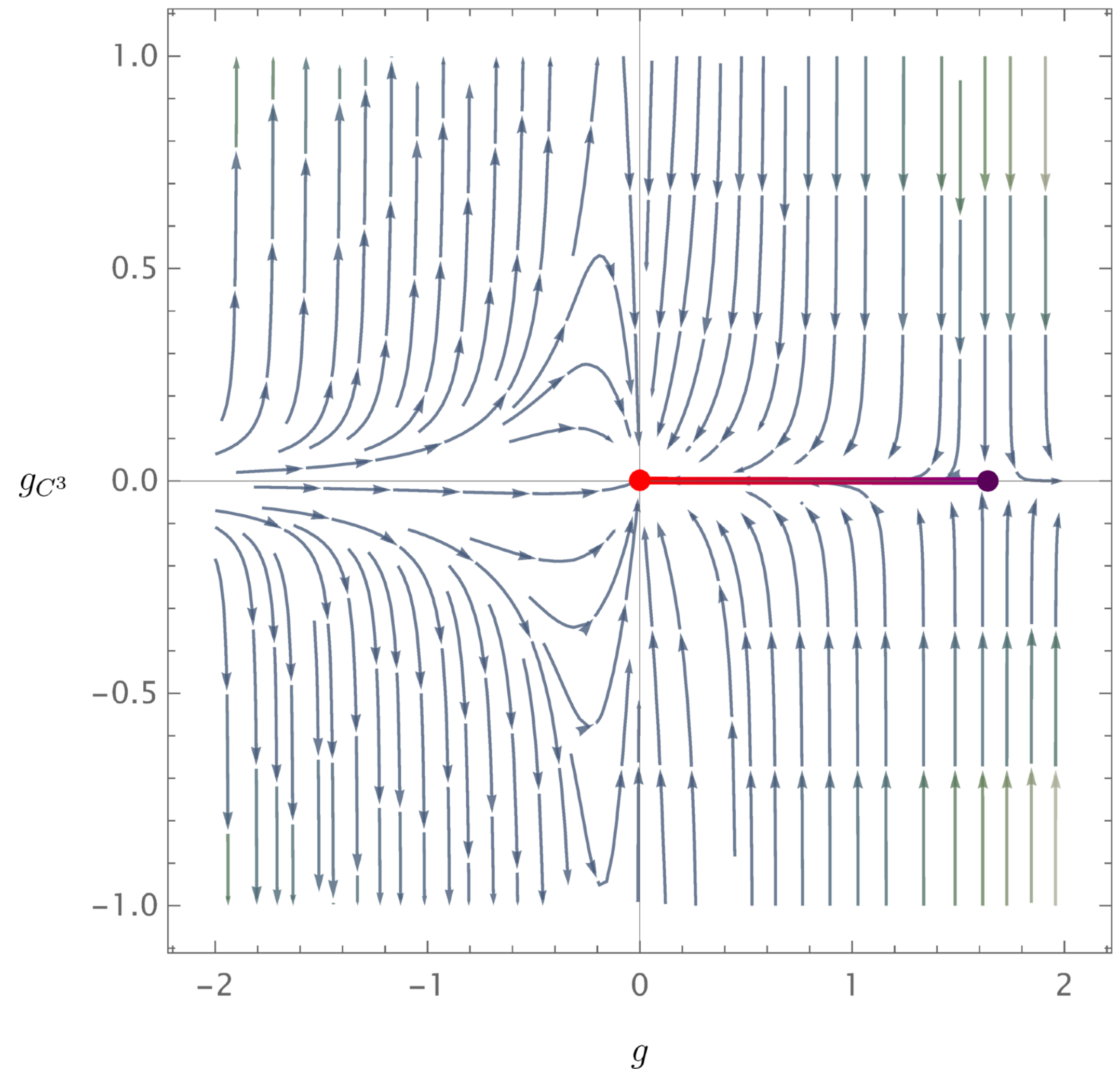
# Example 2: UV sensitivity of EBH

Eight derivatives are complicated... But for six derivatives we can say something

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2\kappa^2} [R + \eta\kappa^4 \mathcal{R}^3]$$

And again we have

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{g_{C^3}(k)}{g(k)} = \eta_{\text{IR}}$$

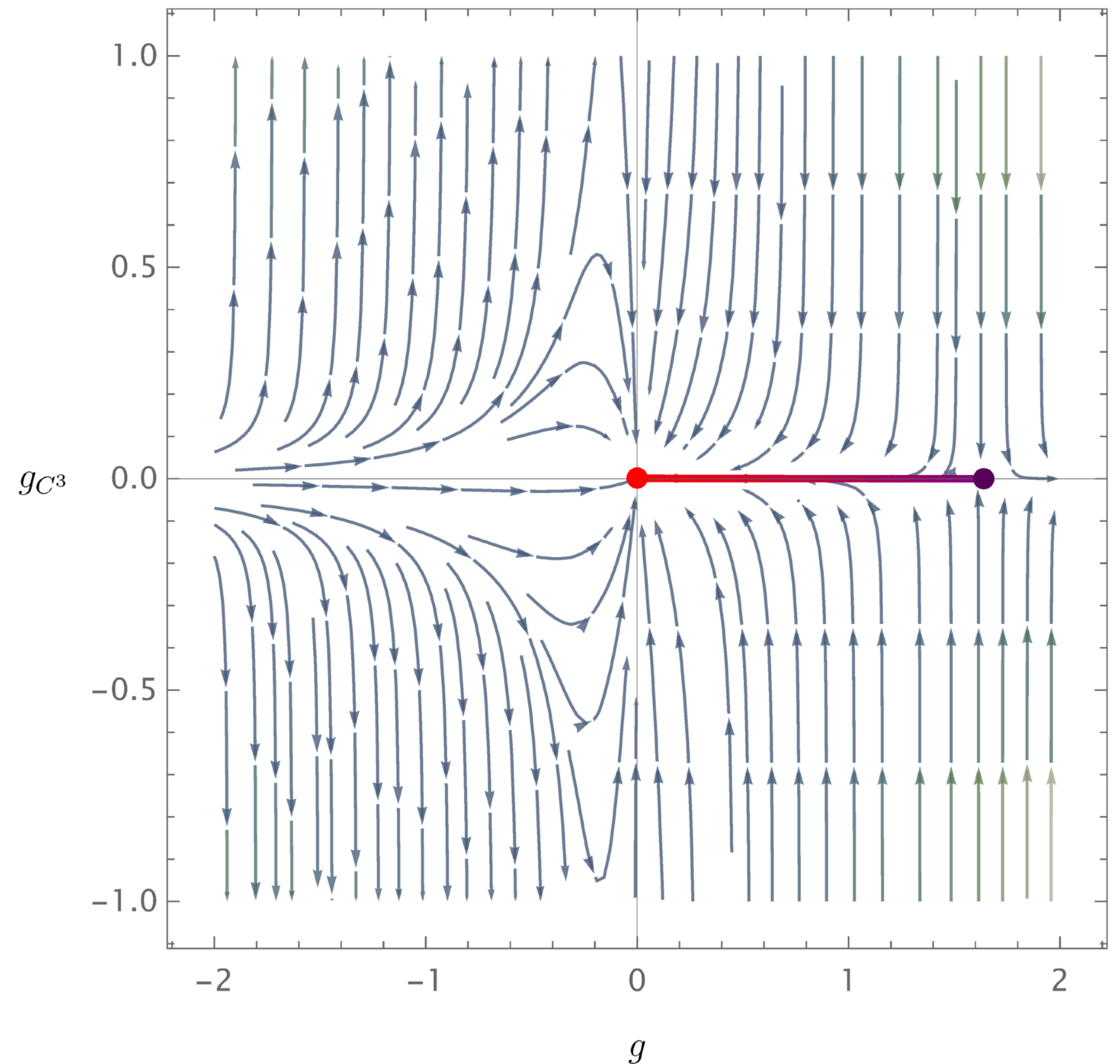


# Example 2: UV sensitivity of EBH

In this case, AS predicts no UV sensitivity of EBH:

$$\eta_{\text{IR}} \simeq 9.4 \times 10^{-3} > 0 \quad \gamma = 2 + \eta_{\text{IR}} \gamma^{(6)} > 2$$

For more details → Francesco's Poster!  
(work in progress)





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- In the case of Hořava Gravity: the modified causality apparently challenges the thermal properties, which in the end can be recovered
- In the case of Asymptotic Safety: the constraint of UV completeness impacts the landscape, solving possible puzzles

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**Thank you!**