

Quantum Effects in Gravitational Fields

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Mode-Sum Renormalization in Black Hole Spacetimes

Peter Taylor *CfAR, School of Mathematical Sciences, DCU*

- J. Arrechea, C. Breen, A. Ottewill and PT, arXiv:2307.10307 (2023)
- PT, C. Breen and A. Ottewill, Phys. Rev. D 106, 065023 (2022)
- PT and C. Breen, Phys. Rev. D 96, 105020 (2017)
- PT and C. Breen, Phys. Rev. D 94, 125024 (2016)

I. BACKGROUND

- Consider a physical process characterized by

mass scale \mathcal{M}

length scale \mathcal{L}

time scale τ

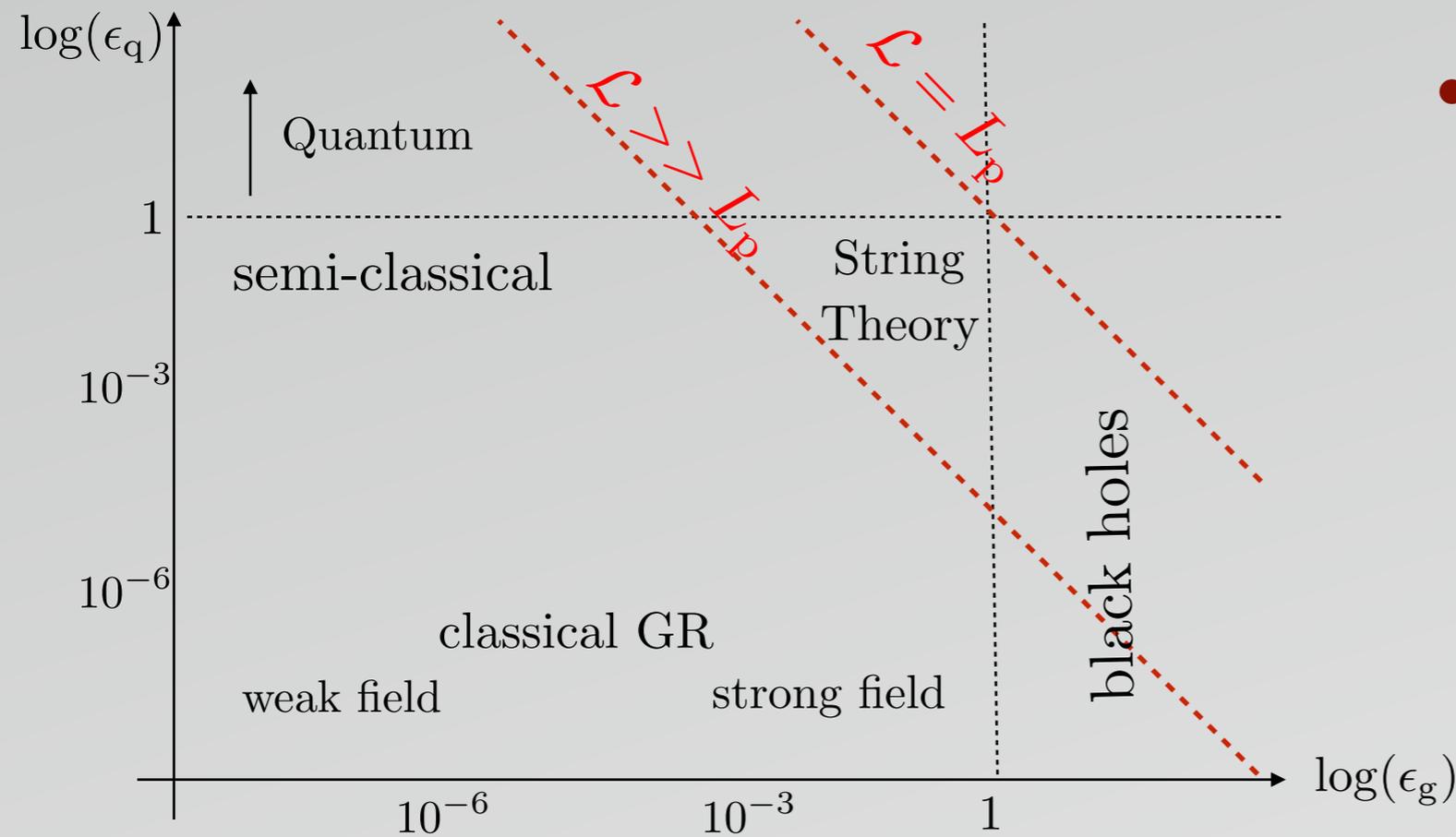
- Can construct dimensionless numbers

$$\epsilon_r = \frac{\mathcal{L}}{c\tau} \quad \text{Is SR important?}$$

$$\epsilon_g = \frac{GM}{\mathcal{L}c^2} \quad \text{Is GR important?}$$

$$\epsilon_q = \frac{\hbar}{\mathcal{M}\mathcal{L}c} \quad \text{Is QM important?}$$

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- Semi-classical gravity: Treat gravity classically and all other fields quantum mechanically. Assume (naively) metric satisfies

$$G_{ab} + \Lambda g_{ab} = 8\pi \langle A | \hat{T}_{ab} | A \rangle$$

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$$S[\phi; g_{ab}] = -\frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \{ g^{ab} \nabla_a \phi \nabla_b \phi + \xi R \phi^2 + \mu^2 \phi^2 \}$$

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Varying w.r.t. the field

$$(\nabla^a \nabla_a - \xi R - \mu^2) \phi = 0$$

Varying w.r.t. the metric

$$\begin{aligned} T_{ab} \equiv & (1 - 2\xi) \nabla_a \phi \nabla_b \phi + (2\xi - \frac{1}{2}) g_{ab} \nabla_c \phi \nabla^c \phi - 2\xi \phi \nabla_a \nabla_b \phi \\ & + 2\xi g_{ab} \phi \nabla_c \nabla^c \phi + \xi G_{ab} \phi^2 - \frac{1}{2} \mu^2 g_{ab} \phi^2 \end{aligned}$$

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Quantization: Field \rightarrow Operator-Valued Distribution

$$\phi(x) \rightarrow \hat{\phi}(x)$$

$$\text{Commutation Relations} \quad \left[\hat{\phi}(t, \mathbf{x}), n^a \nabla_a \hat{\phi}(t, \mathbf{x}') \right] = i \frac{\delta^3(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')}{\sqrt{h}}$$

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- \hat{T}_{ab} is quadratic in an operator-valued distribution which is ill-defined.

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(DeWitt, Physics Reports 1975,
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where

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\Theta}_{ab} = & (1 - 2\xi) g_{b'b} \nabla_a \nabla^{b'} + (2\xi - \frac{1}{2}) g_{ab} g_{c'}^c \nabla_c \nabla^{c'} \\ & - 2\xi \nabla_a \nabla_b + 2\xi g_{ab} \nabla_c \nabla^c + \xi G_{ab} - \frac{1}{2} m^2 g_{ab} \end{aligned}$$

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- Can we make physical sense of this limit, i.e., can we remove the divergent terms in a controlled way?

3. HADAMARD RENORMALIZATION (e.g. Wald, Comm. math. Phys. 1977; Wald, PRD 1978)

- Restrict to a class of quantum states for which the Green's function has the Hadamard property, i.e., for x sufficiently close to x' , the Green's function has the form

$$G_A(x, x') = \frac{i}{8\pi^2} \left\{ \frac{\Delta^{\frac{1}{2}}(x, x')}{\sigma(x, x') + i\epsilon} + V(x, x') \log \left(\frac{2\sigma(x, x')}{\ell^2} + i\epsilon \right) + W_A(x, x') \right\}$$

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$$G_A(x, x') = \underbrace{[G_A(x, x') - K(x, x')]}_{W_A(x, x')} + K(x, x')$$

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- $K(x, x')$ depends only on the local geometry.

$$\hat{\Theta}_{ab}K(x, x') \sim \gamma(x, x')G_{ab}(x) + \Lambda(x, x')g_{ab}(x) + \alpha(x, x')A_{ab}(x) + \beta(x, x')B_{ab}(x) + \dots$$

4. THE COMPUTATIONAL PROBLEM

$$\langle A | \hat{T}_{ab} | A \rangle_{\text{ren}} = \left[\hat{\Theta}_{ab} W_A(x, x') \right] = \left[\hat{\Theta}_{ab} (G_A(x, x') - K(x, x')) \right]$$

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mode-sum (global)

$$G_A(x, x') = \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l + 1) P_l(\cos \gamma) \int d\omega e^{-i\omega \Delta t} g_{\omega l}(r, r')$$

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Computational Problem: How do we subtract $K(x, x')$ from $G_A(x, x')$ in such a way that the coincidence limit can be meaningfully taken?

5. THE CANDELAS-HOWARD APPROACH

(Candelas-Howard PRD 1984, PRL 1984,
Anderson-Hiscock-Samuel, PRL 1993, PRD 1995)

- Work with Euclideanized metric: $ds^2 = f(r)d\tau^2 + dr^2/f(r) + r^2d\Omega^2$
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$$G(\Delta\tau, r) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \cos n\kappa\Delta\tau \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1) \frac{p_{nl}(r)q_{nl}(r)}{N_{nl}} - \frac{\kappa}{r f^{1/2}} \right)$$

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$$\langle \hat{\phi}^2 \rangle_{\text{ren}} = [W(x, x')] = \lim_{\Delta\tau \rightarrow 0} (G(\Delta\tau, r) - K(\Delta\tau, r))$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1) \left(\frac{p_{nl}(r)q_{nl}(r)}{N_{nl}} - \frac{\kappa}{r f^{1/2}} \right) + \frac{2n\kappa^2}{f} \right\} + \mathcal{O}(1)$$

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Not a complete mode-by-mode subtraction.
Not amenable to numerical computation

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$$\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l + 1) \left(\frac{p_{nl}(r)q_{nl}(r)}{N_{nl}} - \frac{\kappa}{r f^{1/2}} \right) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l + 1) \left(\frac{p_{nl}(r)q_{nl}(r)}{N_{nl}} - WKB + WKB - \frac{\kappa}{r f^{1/2}} \right)$$

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Watson-Sommerfeld Transform

- Parts of the integral can be done explicitly, singular and slowly converging terms cancel.

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- **Drawbacks:**
 - Inefficient and cumbersome to implement
 - Convergence is not explicit, requires WS transform
 - WKB not uniform

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Is there a more direct approach?

6. THE “EXTENDED COORDINATE” METHOD

(Taylor & Breen, PRD 2016, PRD 2017;
Taylor, Breen & Ottewill, PRD 2022)

- Two key considerations in obtaining a mode-by-mode expression for $\langle \hat{\phi}^2 \rangle_{\text{ren}}$.

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$$+ \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} \mathcal{T}_{ij}^{(R)}(r) \frac{\varpi^{2i+2j+2}}{s^{2j+2}} + \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \sum_{j=0}^i \mathcal{T}_{ij}^{(L)}(r) \varpi^{2j} s^{2i-2j} \log(s^2/\ell^2) + \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \sum_{j=0}^i \mathcal{T}_{ij}^{(P)}(r) \varpi^{2j} s^{2i-2j}$$

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Can we express these as mode-sums?

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- Similarly we can derive expressions for $\chi_{nl}(i, j|r)$, though they're more complicated to write down.

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$$K(x, x') = \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1) P_l(\cos \gamma) \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{in\kappa\Delta\tau} k_{nl}^{(m)}(r) + [\text{terms polynomial in } \varpi^2, s^2]$$

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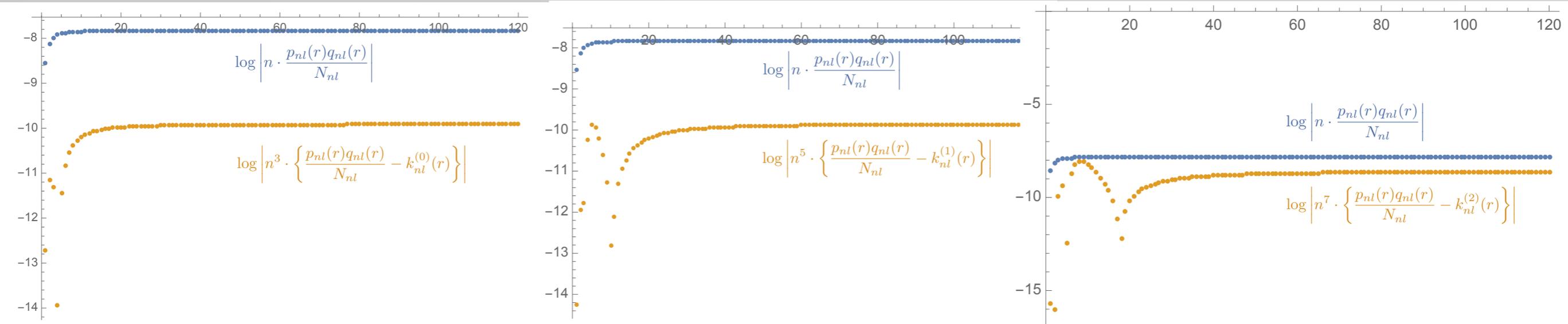
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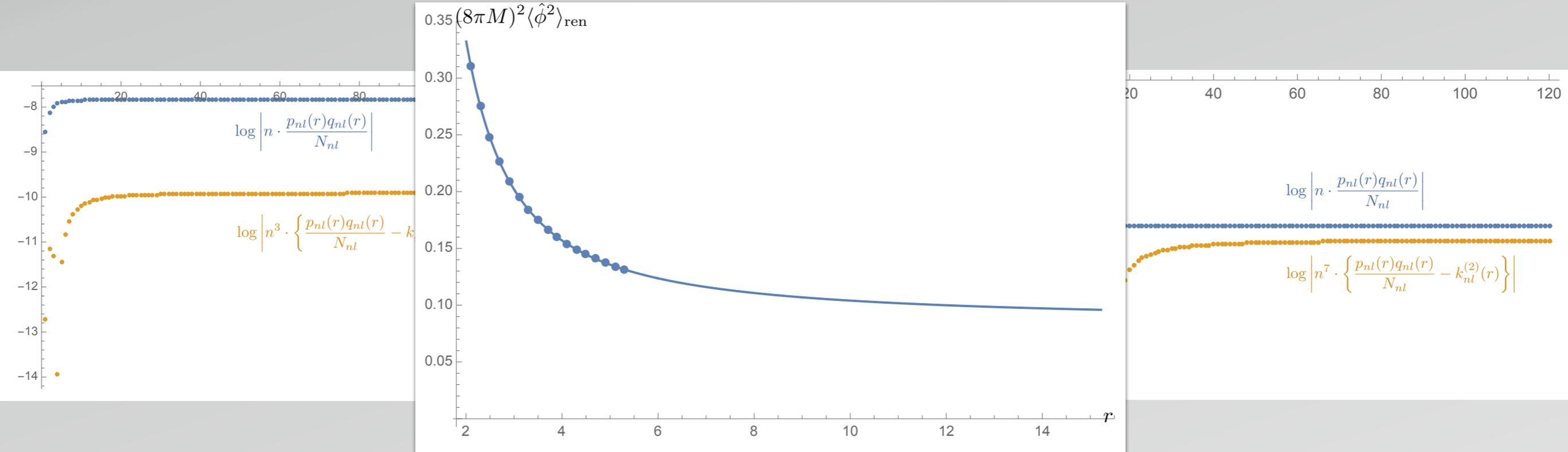
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- We can essentially use our calculation for $\langle \hat{\phi}^2 \rangle_{\text{ren}}$ to compute $\langle \hat{T}^a_b \rangle_{\text{ren}}$

7. THE RSET IN OTHER QUANTUM STATES

(Arrechea, Breen, Ottewill & PT, 2023)

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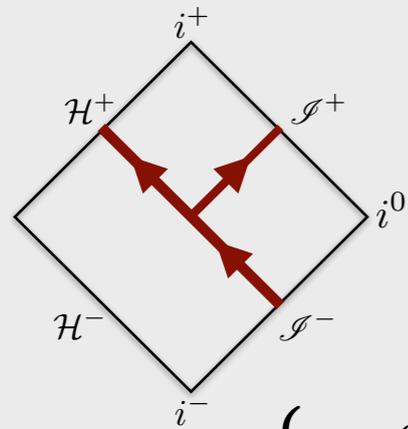
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**smooth since both are
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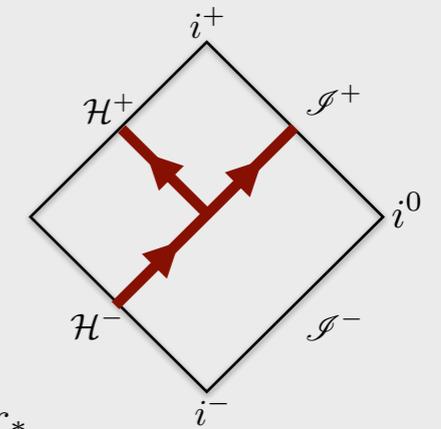
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$$\left\{ \frac{d^2}{dr_*^2} + \omega^2 - V_l(r) \right\} (r \Phi) = 0 \quad V_l \rightarrow \begin{cases} 0 & r \rightarrow r_+ \\ \mu^2 & r \rightarrow \infty. \end{cases}$$

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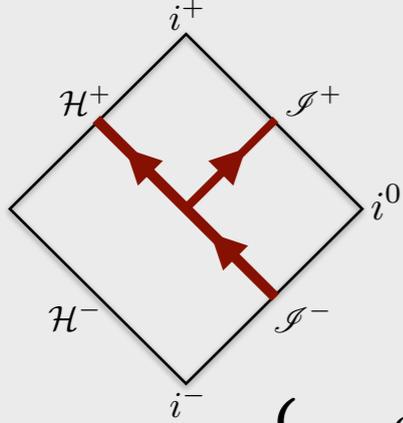
$$\Phi_{\omega l}^{\text{in}}(r) \sim \begin{cases} B_{\omega l}^{\text{in}} \frac{e^{-i\omega r_*}}{r_+}, & r \rightarrow r_+, \\ \frac{e^{-i\tilde{\omega} r_*}}{r} + A_{\omega l}^{\text{in}} \frac{e^{i\tilde{\omega} r_*}}{r}, & r \rightarrow \infty, \end{cases}$$

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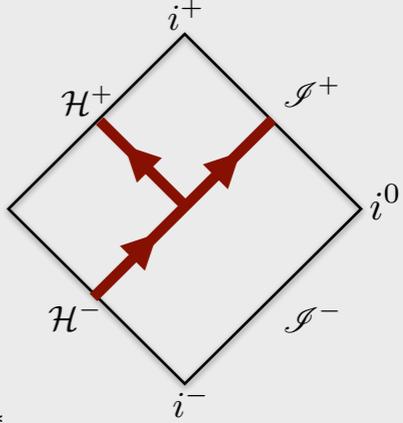
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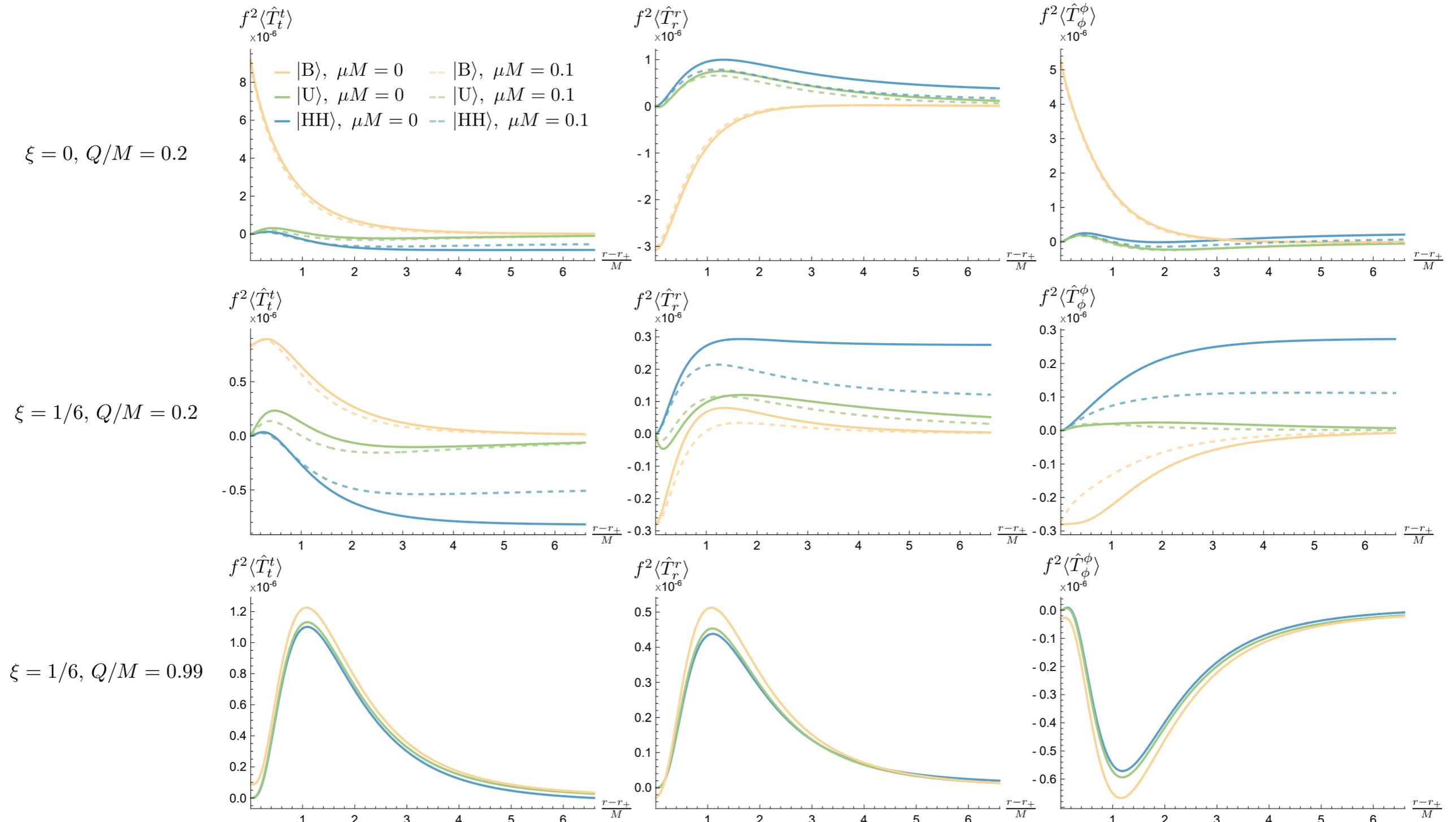
$$\Phi_{\omega l}^{\text{up}}(r) \sim \begin{cases} \frac{e^{i\omega r_*}}{r_+} + A_{\omega l}^{\text{up}} \frac{e^{-i\omega r_*}}{r_+}, & r \rightarrow r_+, \\ B_{\omega l}^{\text{up}} \frac{e^{i\tilde{\omega} r_*}}{r}, & r \rightarrow \infty, \end{cases}$$

$$\delta G_U = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1) P_l(\cos \gamma) \left[\int_{\mu}^{\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi\tilde{\omega}} \frac{e^{-i\omega \Delta t}}{(1 - e^{2\pi\omega/\kappa_+})} \Phi_{\omega l}^{\text{in}}(r) \Phi_{\omega l}^{\text{in}\dagger}(r') \right]$$

$$\delta G_B = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1) P_l(\cos \gamma) \left[\int_{\mu}^{\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi\tilde{\omega}} \frac{e^{-i\omega \Delta t}}{(1 - e^{2\pi\omega/\kappa_+})} \Phi_{\omega l}^{\text{in}}(r) \Phi_{\omega l}^{\text{in}\dagger}(r') + \int_0^{\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi\omega} \frac{e^{-i\omega \Delta t}}{(1 - e^{2\pi\omega/\kappa_+})} \Phi_{\omega l}^{\text{up}}(r) \Phi_{\omega l}^{\text{up}\dagger}(r') \right]$$

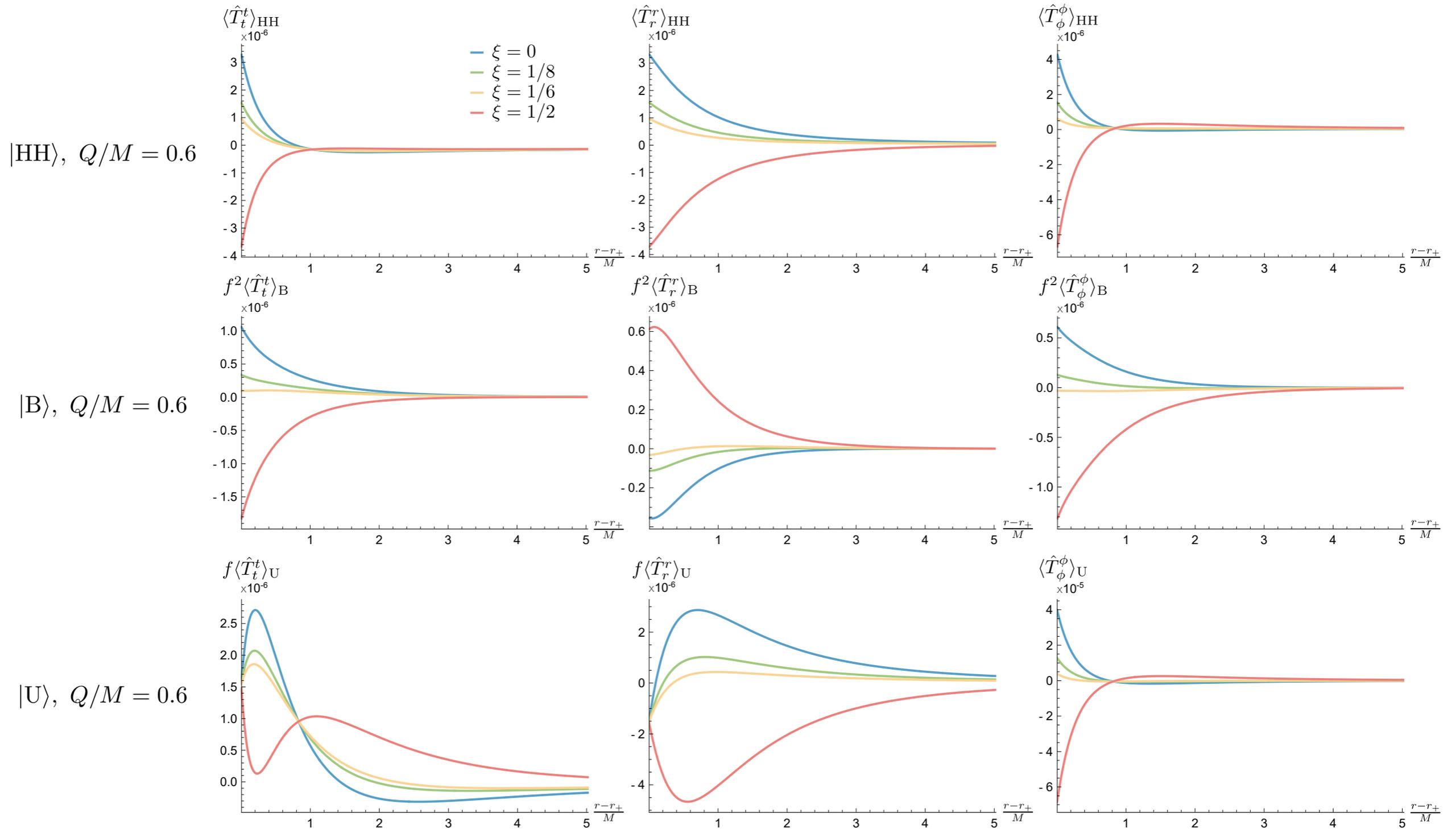
8. RESULTS

(Arrechea, Breen, Ottewill & PT, 2023)



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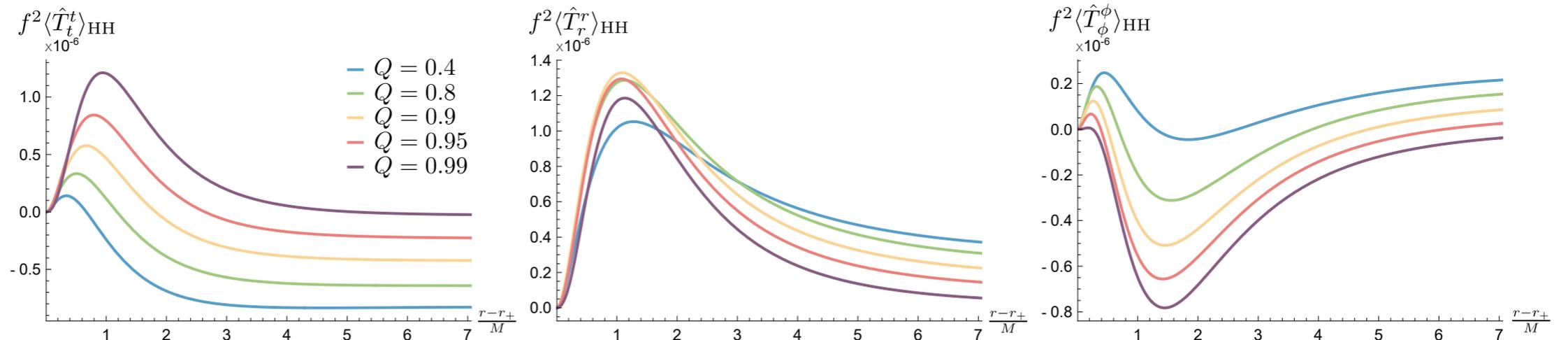
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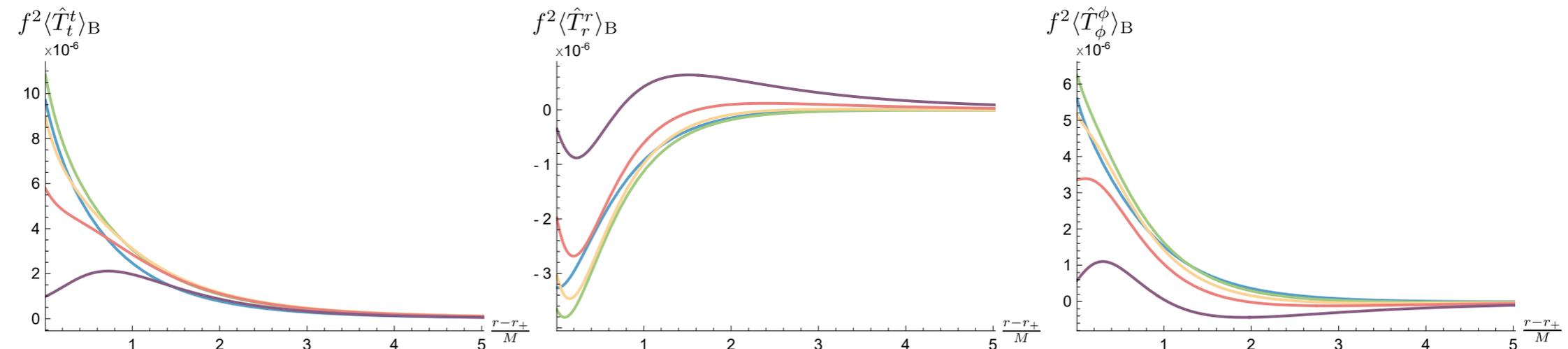
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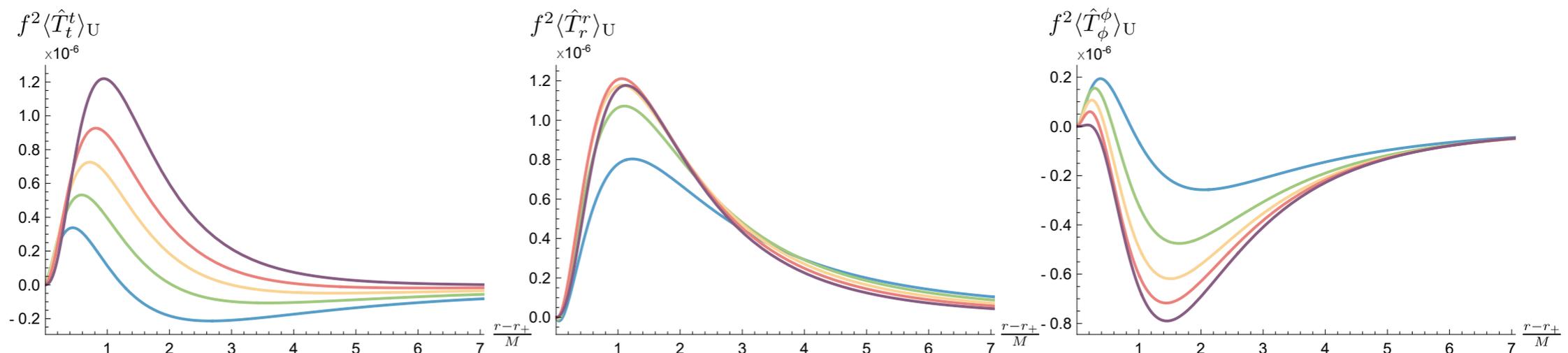
$|\text{HH}\rangle, \xi = 0$



$|\text{B}\rangle, \xi = 0$



$|\text{U}\rangle, \xi = 0$



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**broad
perspective**

**our
method**

outlook

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 - We can focus our efforts on physics and not on the intricacies of the RSET calculation.
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- Splitting in multiple directions guarantees a mode-by-mode subtraction.
 - A judicious choice of expansion “coordinates” permits us to compute all regularization parameters in closed form.
 - Resultant mode-sums are rapidly convergent, even close to the horizon.
 - Renormalization in BH spacetimes is surprisingly agnostic to number of dimensions and horizon topology. (*PT and C. Breen (PRD 2016+PRD 2017); T. Morley, E. Winstanley & PT (PRD 2021)*)
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outlook

- Work ongoing to extend to semi-classical stars (*J. Arrechea, A. Ottewill & C. Breen*), higher dimensions (*E. Scanlon & C. Breen*), charged fields (*E. Winstanley & G. Montagnon*), BH interiors (*L. Pisani*), cosmological spacetimes (*A. Ferreira*) and Kerr (*A. Heffernan et al.*).

Quantum Effects in Gravitational Fields

28 Aug-01 Sep 2023, Leipzig University

Thank you for your attention.

- J. Arrechea, C. Breen, A. Ottewill and PT, arXiv:2307.10307 (2023)
- PT, C. Breen and A. Ottewill, Phys. Rev. D 106, 065023 (2022)
- PT and C. Breen, Phys. Rev. D 96, 105020 (2017)
- PT and C. Breen, Phys. Rev. D 94, 125024 (2016)