

RESCUING QUANTUM MECHANICS AND (APPROXIMATE) SPACETIME



Based on an image from NASA/CXC/M. Weiss

Physics Today April 2013

S.B. Giddings, UC Santa Barbara

Black Holes: Complementarity, Fuzz, or Fire?

Refs:

SBG: 0911.3395, 1108.2015, 1201.1037, 1211.7070, 1302.2613, 1308.3488, WIP

SBG & Y. Shi: 1205.4732, and in preparation

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Black Holes: ~~Complementarity, Fuzz, or Fire?~~

Alternative title: None of the above

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Things I choose to believe in:

Quantum mechanics

Robust; hard to sensibly modify

Spacetime (approximate)

Ultimately likely arises from deeper quantum structure

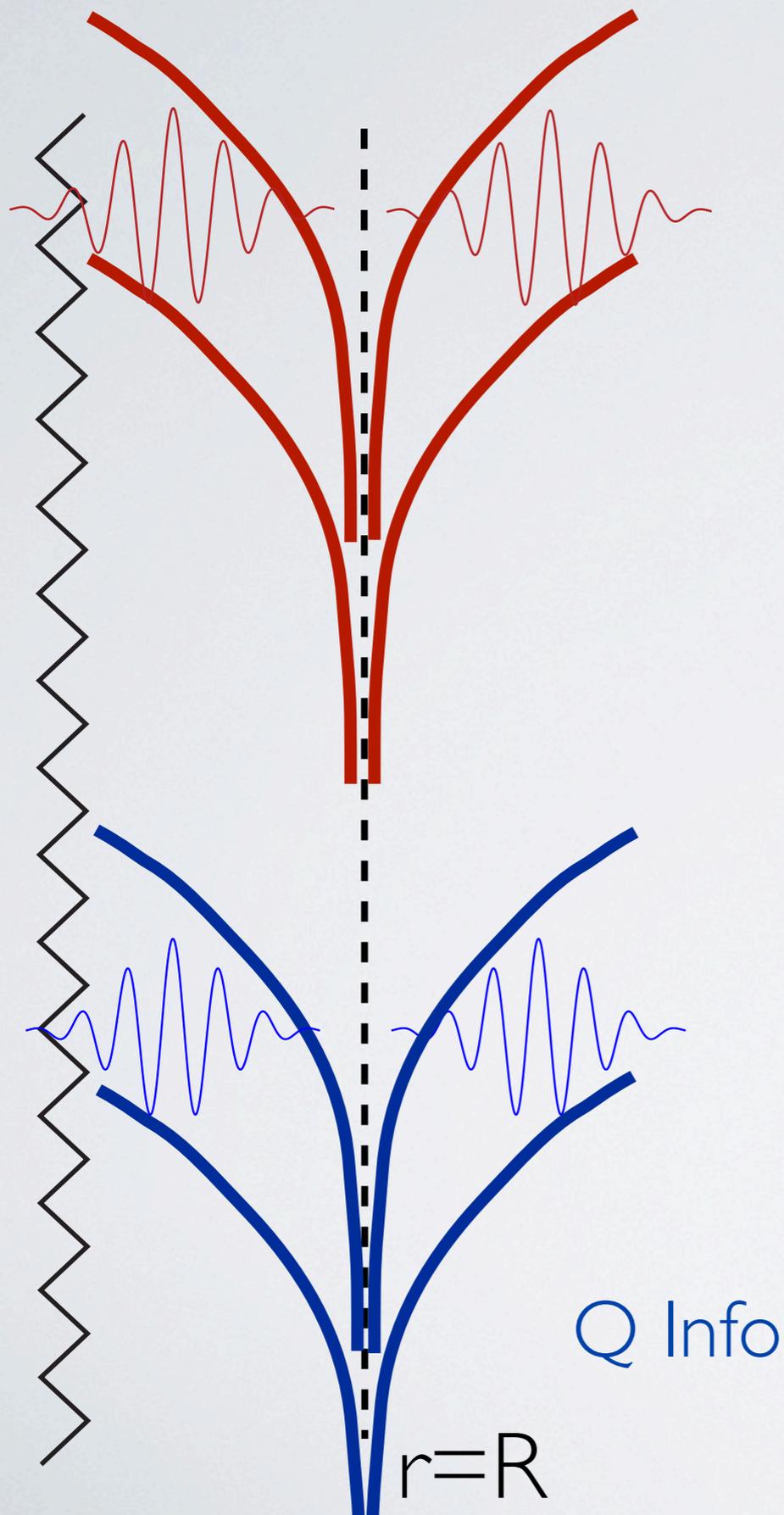
Good approximation -- with limitations -- for
big black holes and cosmologies

LQFT as an approximate description of dynamics

Can these be reconciled with black hole evolution?

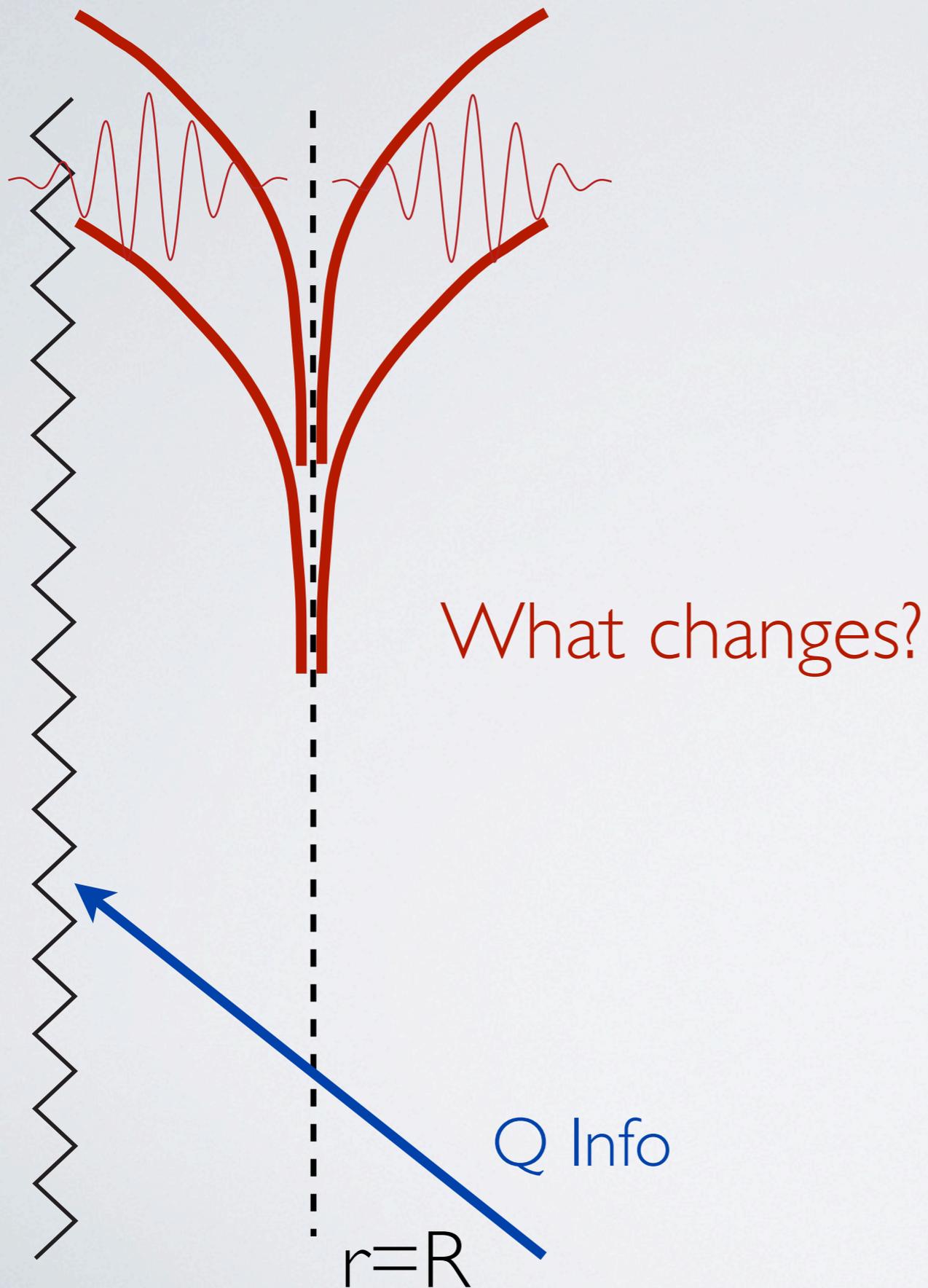
A proposed picture:

Stuff goes into singularity
(Stuff = Q Info)

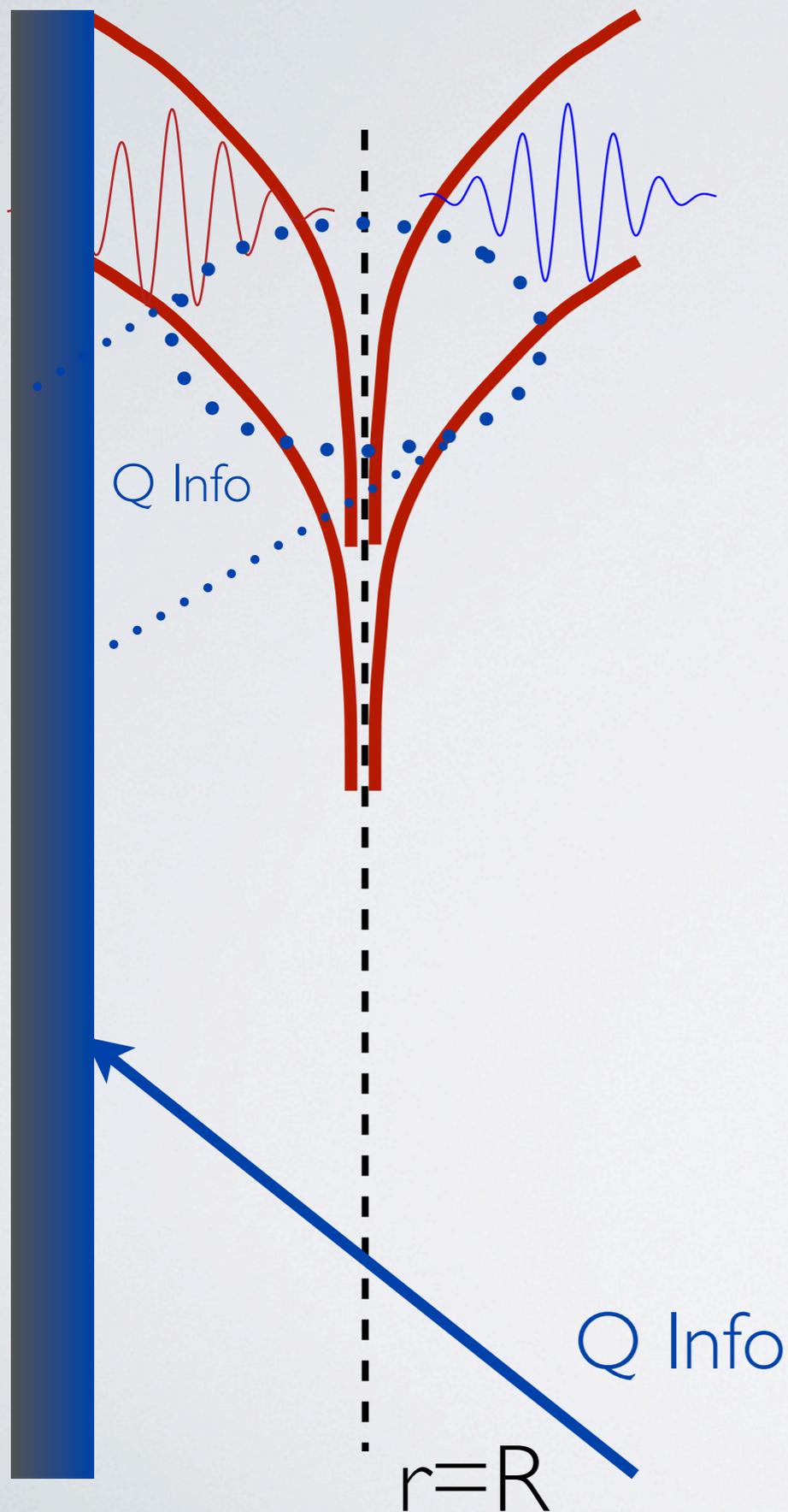


A proposed picture:

Stuff goes into singularity
(Stuff = Q Info)



A proposed picture:



Stuff goes into singularity
(Stuff = Q Info)

QM: Stuff comes out -
black holes leak information

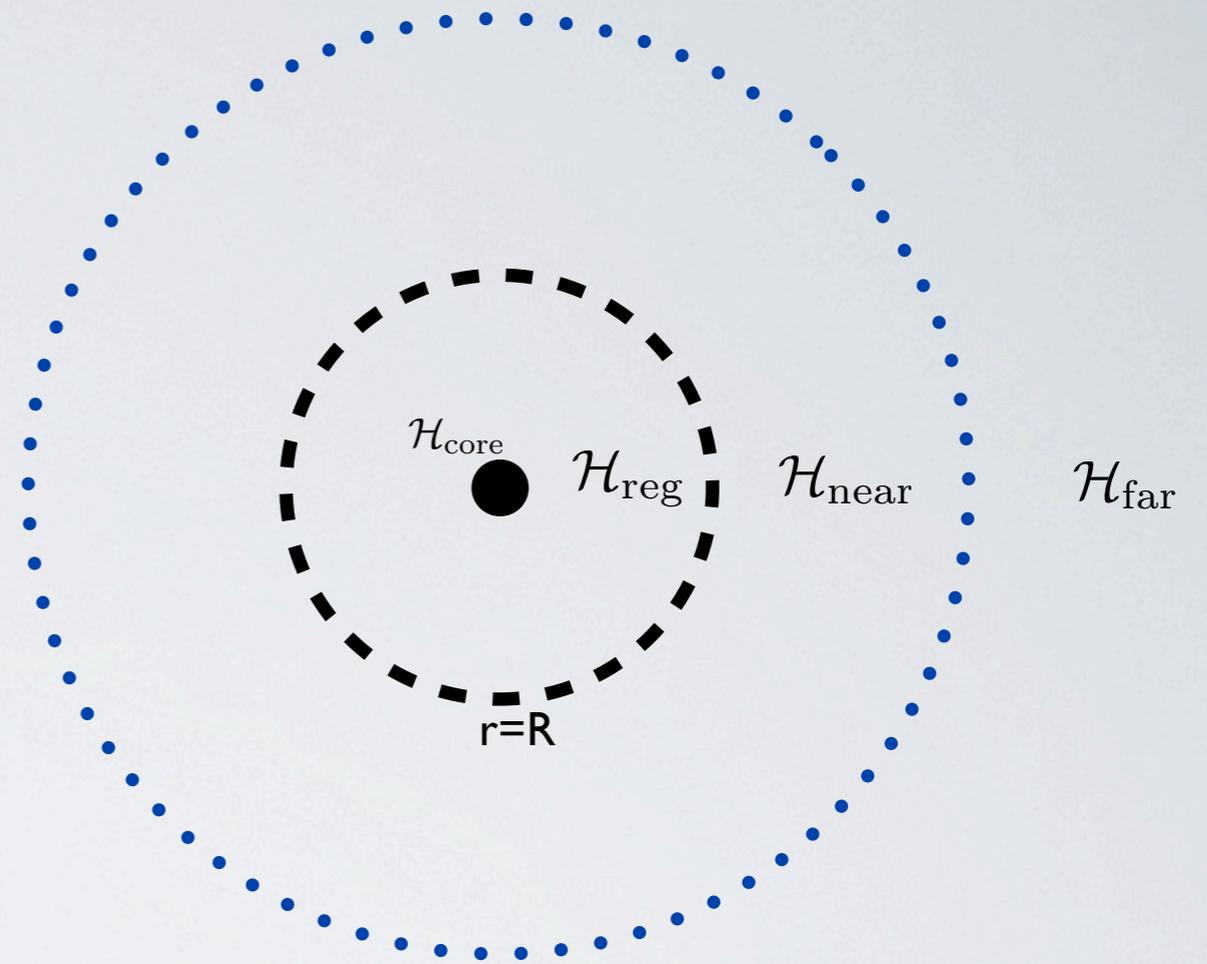
Nonlocal or superluminal
(w.r.t. semiclassical geometry)

(like massive remnants:
fuzzballs, firewalls, etc.)

“nonviolent:” saves approx
spacetime, equiv. principle?

How to describe?

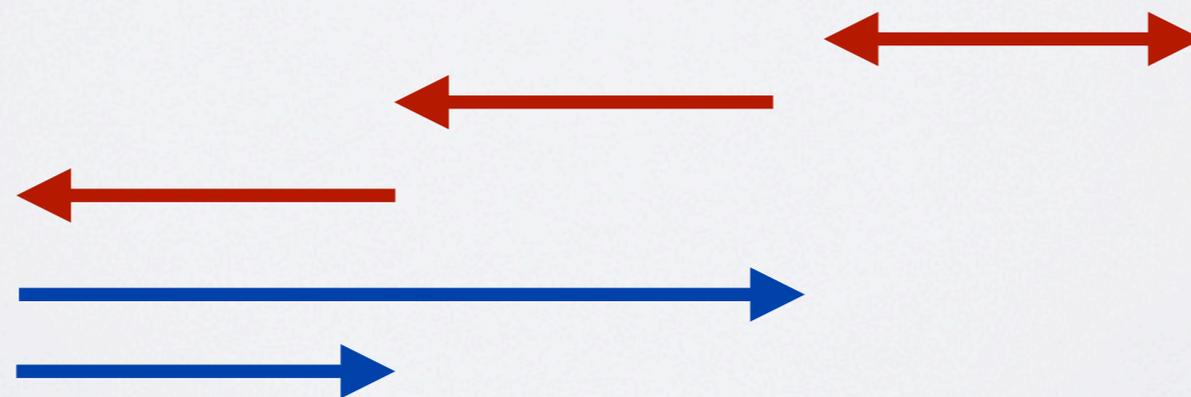
Possible fundamental picture ~



Unitary evolution: U

- rearranges excitations/degrees of freedom (+creates)

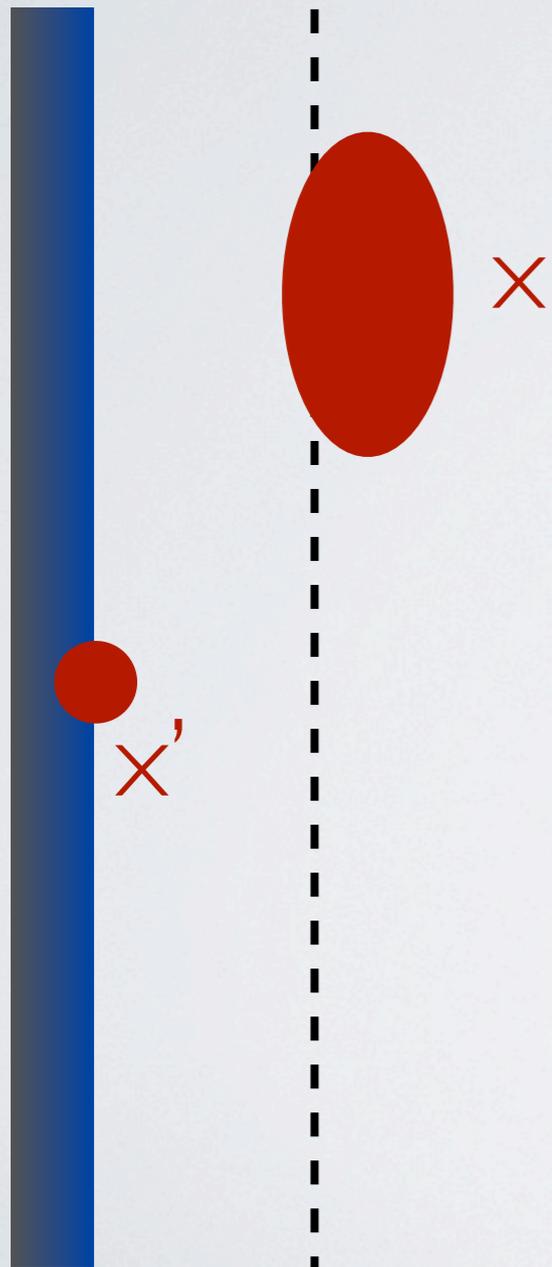
$$\mathcal{H} \subset \mathcal{H}_{\text{core}} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\text{reg}} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\text{near}} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\text{far}}$$



LQFT

“Extra”

Approximate description: deviation from local QFT (Not yet a complete picture)



$$\int dt H_{NL} = \int dV_4 dV'_4 \mathcal{O}_A(x) G_{AB}(x, x') \mathcal{O}_B(x')$$

local operators

(compare $G = \text{const.} : \sim \text{wormholes}$)

E.g. $\mathcal{O}_A = \phi^I$
 $= T_{\mu\nu}$
...

A main question of workshop:

Can information get out w/out destroying horizon?

The *effective source approximation*

Focus on outside:
$$\int dV_4 \mathcal{O}_A(x) \int dV'_4 G_{AB}(x, x') \mathcal{O}_B(x')$$

$$J_A(x)$$

E.g.
$$\int dV_4 J^I(x) \Phi^I(x) , \quad \int dV_4 J^{\mu\nu}(x) T_{\mu\nu}(x) \quad \dots$$

(~“horizon fluctuations”)

For purposes of near-horizon dynamics: can such effective sources 1) get needed info out 2) not have unacceptable (“violent”) consequences

Toy model: [1302.2613, +w/Y. Shi, in preparation]

$\phi =$ free scalar

$$\int dV_4 J(x) \phi(x) \quad J(x) = \sum_{lm} \int d\omega j_{\omega l}(r) e^{-i\omega t} Y_{lm}$$

(e.g. $t =$ Schw. time)

Properties of J :

- e.g. $\omega \sim 1/R$ (can generalize $1/R^p$)

- $j_{\omega l}(r)$ smooth at $r=R$; vanishes at $r \gg R$

- required size: $\frac{dS_{\text{vN}}}{dt} \lesssim \frac{1}{R} \iff \frac{dE}{dt} \gtrsim \frac{1}{R^2}$

\Rightarrow minimal: $J \sim 1/R^3 \quad j_{\omega l} \sim 1/R^2$

(take for all $l < l_{\text{max}}$)

Possible concerns:

Singular at horizon?

$J \sim \text{smooth} \implies$ don't excite planckian wavelengths

$\langle T_{--}^{\text{Krusk}} \rangle_J \xrightarrow{\text{horizon}} \text{finite}$

$a_p^{\text{Kruskal}} |\Psi_J\rangle = 0$ for $p \sim \text{Planckian}$: “no firewall condition”

Provides a way to avoid firewall problem

Other checks:

$R \rightarrow \infty$ limit: effects turn off, \longrightarrow Rindler

Mining \longrightarrow “overfull” black holes? $(S_{\text{vN}} > S_{\text{BH}})$

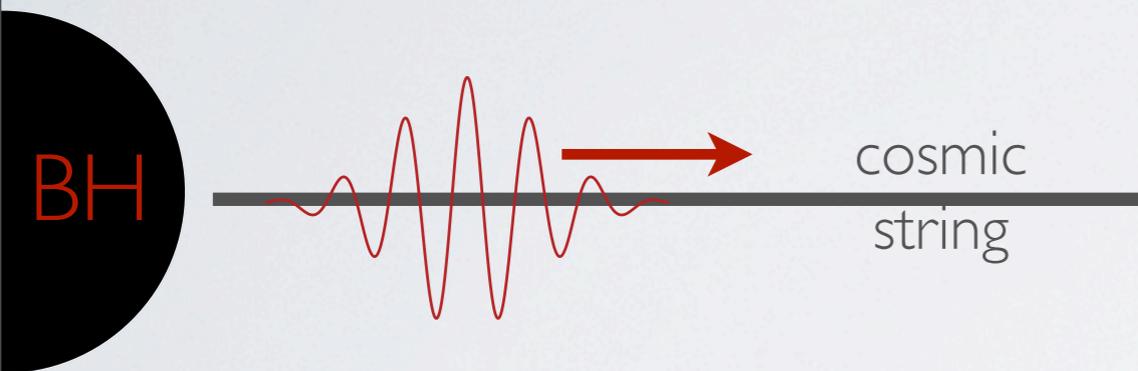
Effects of higher- l modes

No mining: suppressed contribution at \mathcal{I}^+ $|T_{\omega l}|^2 \sim (R\omega/l)^{2l}$
 small energy density near H $\langle T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{Krusk}} \rangle \sim l_{max}^2/R^4$

... little effect

Mining: (e.g. cosmic string)

open extra channel for Hawking
 + “new” excitations



$$\frac{dE_i}{dt} \sim \frac{1}{R^2} \quad \frac{dS_{vN,i}}{dt} \sim -\frac{1}{R}$$

Extra information-carrying excitations present only when mining

Avoid AMPS “implausible conspiracy”

- No: Word bag
- Photon bag
- Mineable mode bag

Another possible objection:

Generically predict extra flux

[1201.1037, 1205.4732,
1211.7070, 1302.2613]

Hawking + “information carrying”

Deviation from expected thermodynamics [1308.3488]

Quick argument:

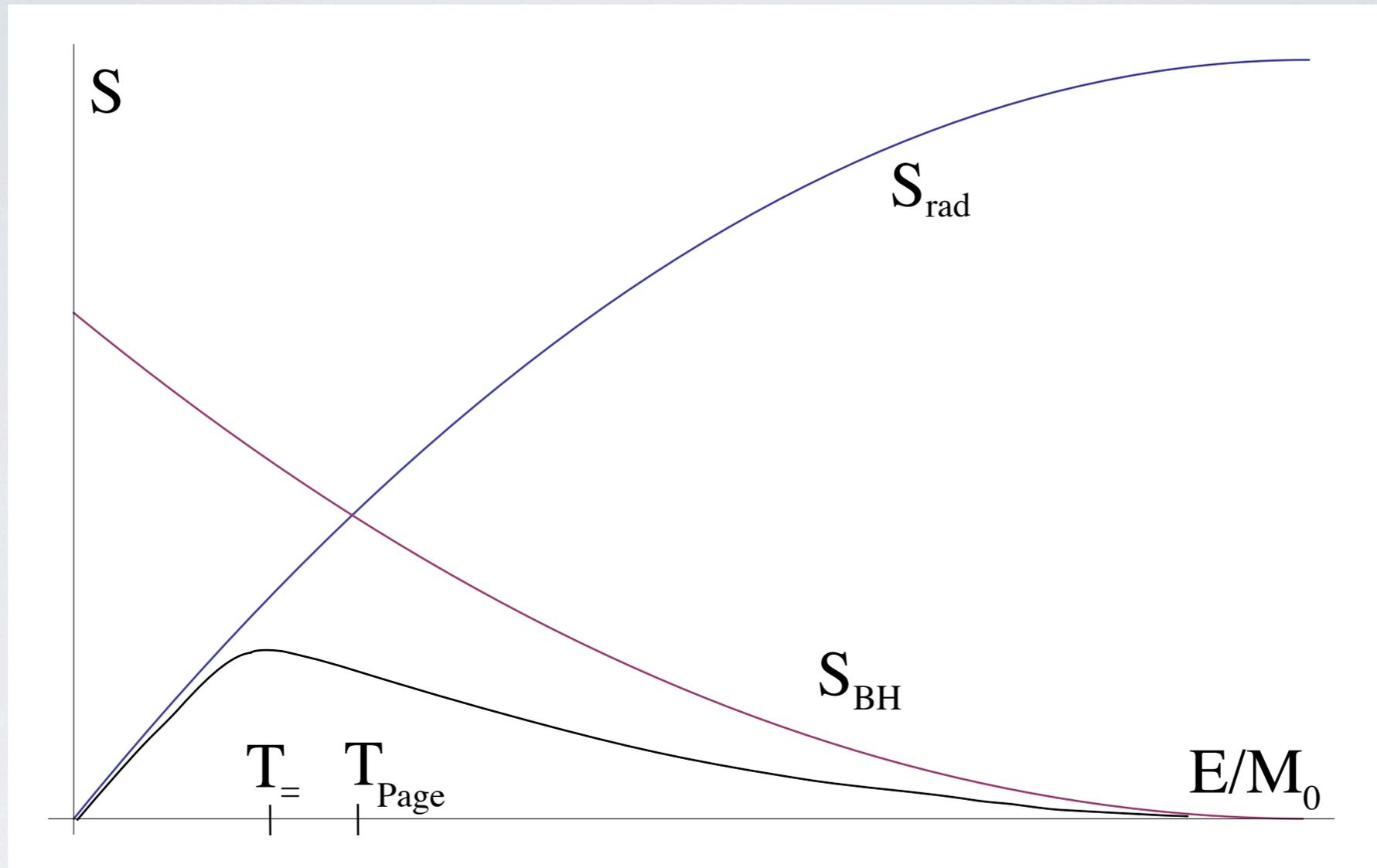
$$\frac{dE}{dt} > \frac{dE}{dt}|_{\text{Hawk}} \quad \rightarrow \quad T_{\text{equilib}} > T_H \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{dS_{\text{bh}}}{dM} < \frac{dS_{\text{BH}}}{dM}$$

Interesting question: models without extra flux?

Yes -- at infinite temp [1108.2015, 1201.1037]

No in simple models at finite temp [1308.3488 + WIP]

Page curve vs. new curve:



Important question: does this present a contradiction with anything we **really know**?

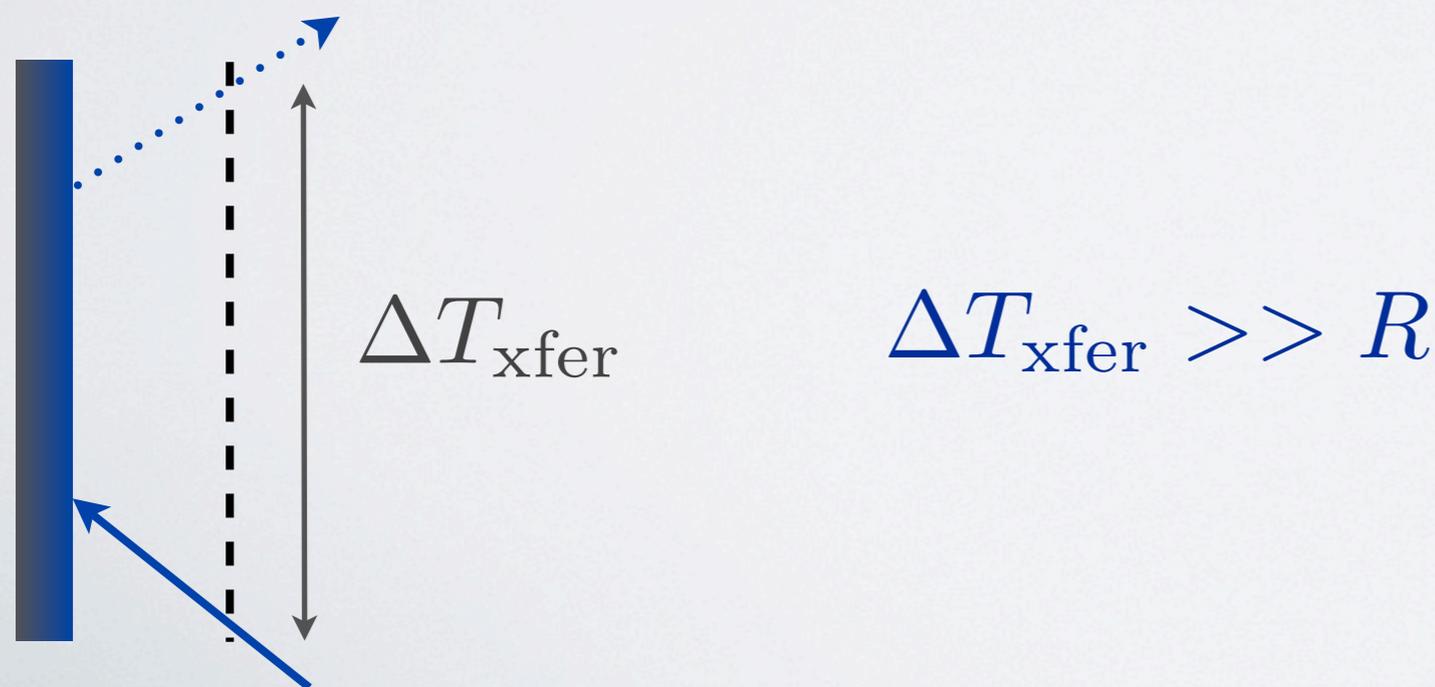
Further comments:

- Horizon is special
- “Violate” equivalence principle
(really: generalize?)



small for big BH
not sharp:
e.g. scales $\sim R$

- Nonlocality $\not\Rightarrow$ acausality



asymptotic causal
ordering

“from background”

no observable
violation of causality?
(conjecture: also inside)

From: Steve Giddings

[Show in Mailbox](#)

Subject: complementarity

Date: November 22, 2009 11:47:38 AM PST

To: Leonard Susskind

Dear Lenny,

I hope you'll forgive me, but I always had trouble understanding complementarity! Of course, if you have any further comments to sort out my confusions, I'd be interested! (<http://arxiv.org/abs/0911.3395>).

All the best,
Steve

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<http://www.physics.ucsb.edu/~giddings/index.html>

Nonlocality vs. complementarity: a conservative
approach to the information problem

Have only given an approximate, incomplete description,
proposed to evade some potential problems

What is the more fundamental story?

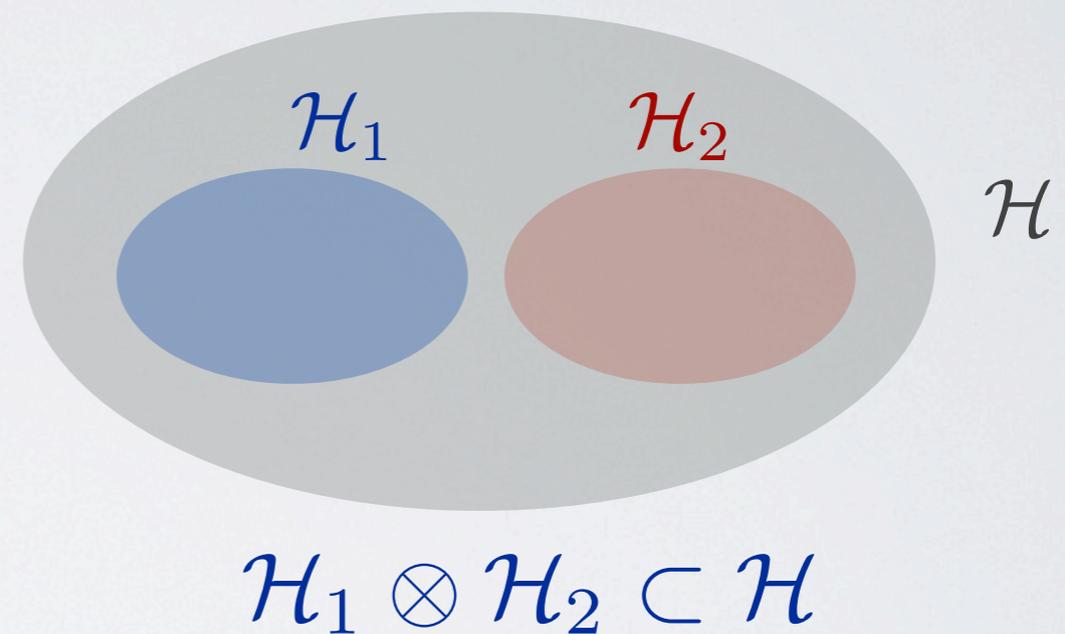
1201.1037

QM, ~locality: Hilbert space with networked factor structure:

Subfactor localization



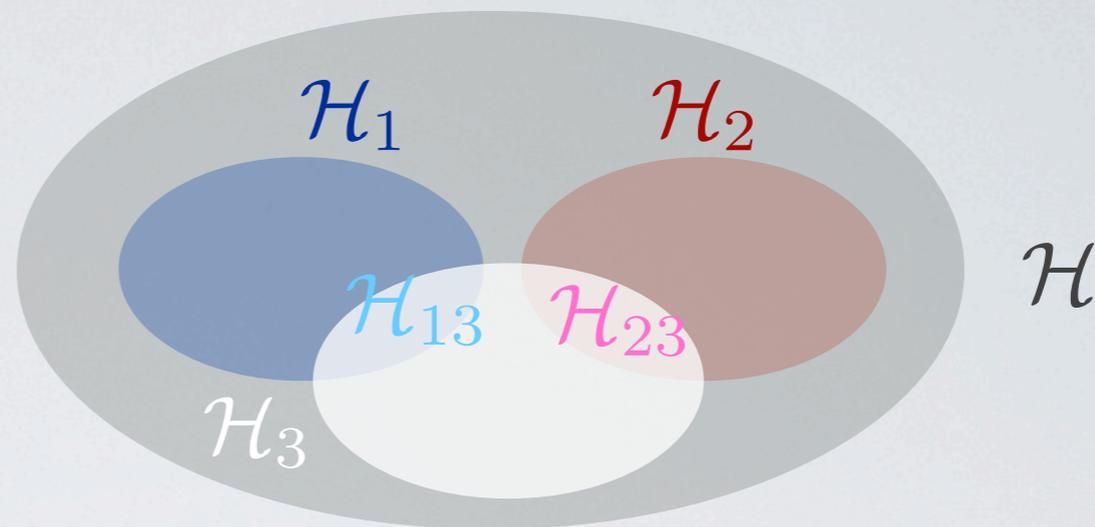
Spacetime localization



Compare LQFT:

$$[\mathcal{O}(x), \mathcal{O}(y)] = 0 \quad , \quad (x - y)^2 > 0$$

~ quantum analog
of manifold:



(some common ideas w/ algebraic
QFT; also Banks/Fischler “HST” --
though important differences)

- Unitary evolution; ~local, LQFT
- ~Locality: conditions on evolution

- Symmetries $\mathcal{H} \rightarrow S\mathcal{H}$ global
- $\mathcal{H} \rightarrow S_{loc}\mathcal{H} = S_1\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes S_2\mathcal{H}_2 \cdots$ local

Hilbert spaces w/ networked factors: a possible fundamental
framework for a unitary theory of quantum gravity

Summary:

Have asked question: can we describe the information transfer necessary to save QM without violent departure from semiclassical physics?

Evidence: yes



Deeper question: what does this tell us about the more fundamental framework for quantum gravity?

Hilbert spaces with networked factors,
unitary evolution

Scorecard for scenarios preserving QM

Nonlocality ~Semiclass.
Spacetime Classical BH
Thermo

“ $A = R_B$ ”
(generalized)

$$r \gg R$$

X

?

Firewall

$$r \leq R + l_{Pl}$$

X

X(?)

Nonviolent
transfer

$$r \sim R$$

(just right?)

✓

modify(?)

Details with modes

Simple model: free scalar, $\int dt H_{NL} \rightarrow \int dV_4 J(x) \phi(x)$

Describe effect in terms of modes created:

$$\phi(x) = \sum_A a_A U_A + h.c.$$

$$U_A \sim Y_{lm}(\Omega) \frac{u_l(r, t)}{r} \longleftarrow$$

radial problem: motion in effective potential, in new coordinates

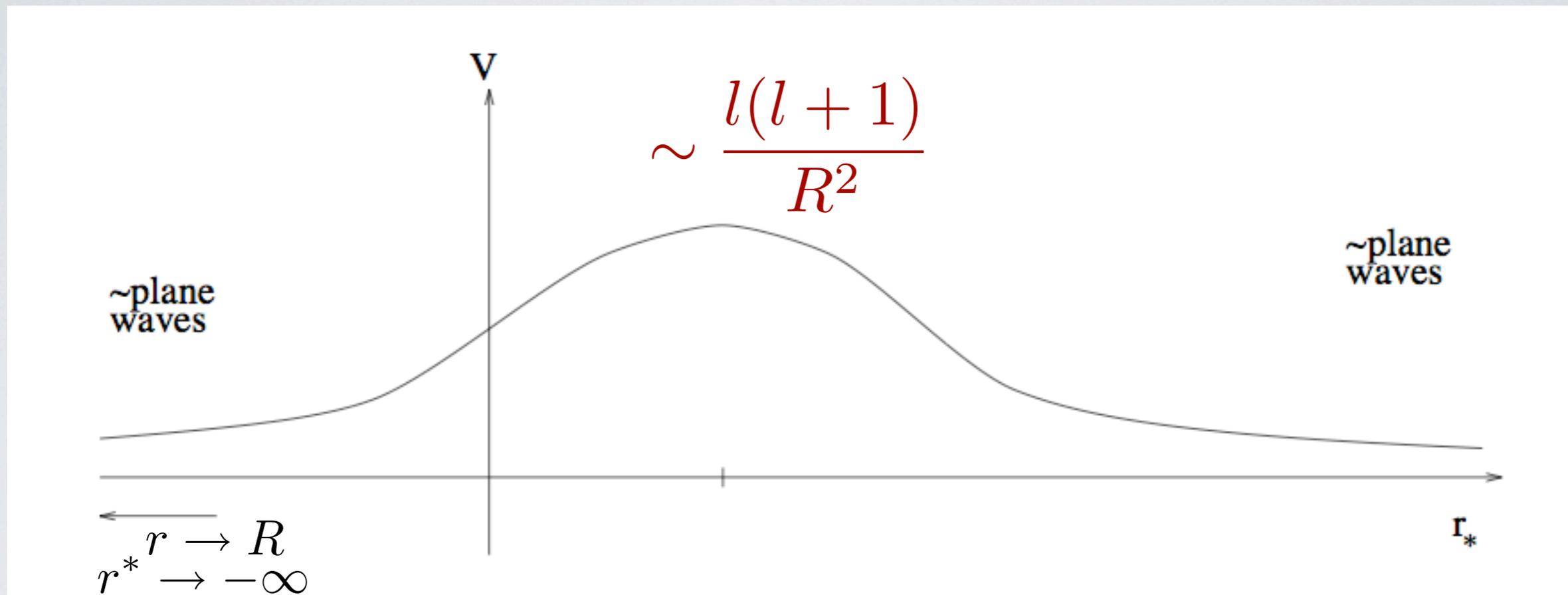
$$ds^2 = -f(r)dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{f(r)} + r^2 d\Omega^2$$

$$= -f(r)(dt^2 + dr^{*2}) + r^2 d\Omega^2$$

$$f(r) = 1 - \frac{R}{r}$$

“tortoise coordinate”

$$\left(-\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^{*2}} \right) u_l = V_l(r^*) u_l$$



Let
$$J(x) = j_l(t, r) Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi)$$

$$\Rightarrow \int dV_4 J \phi \sim a_{lm}^\dagger \int j_l u_l^*$$

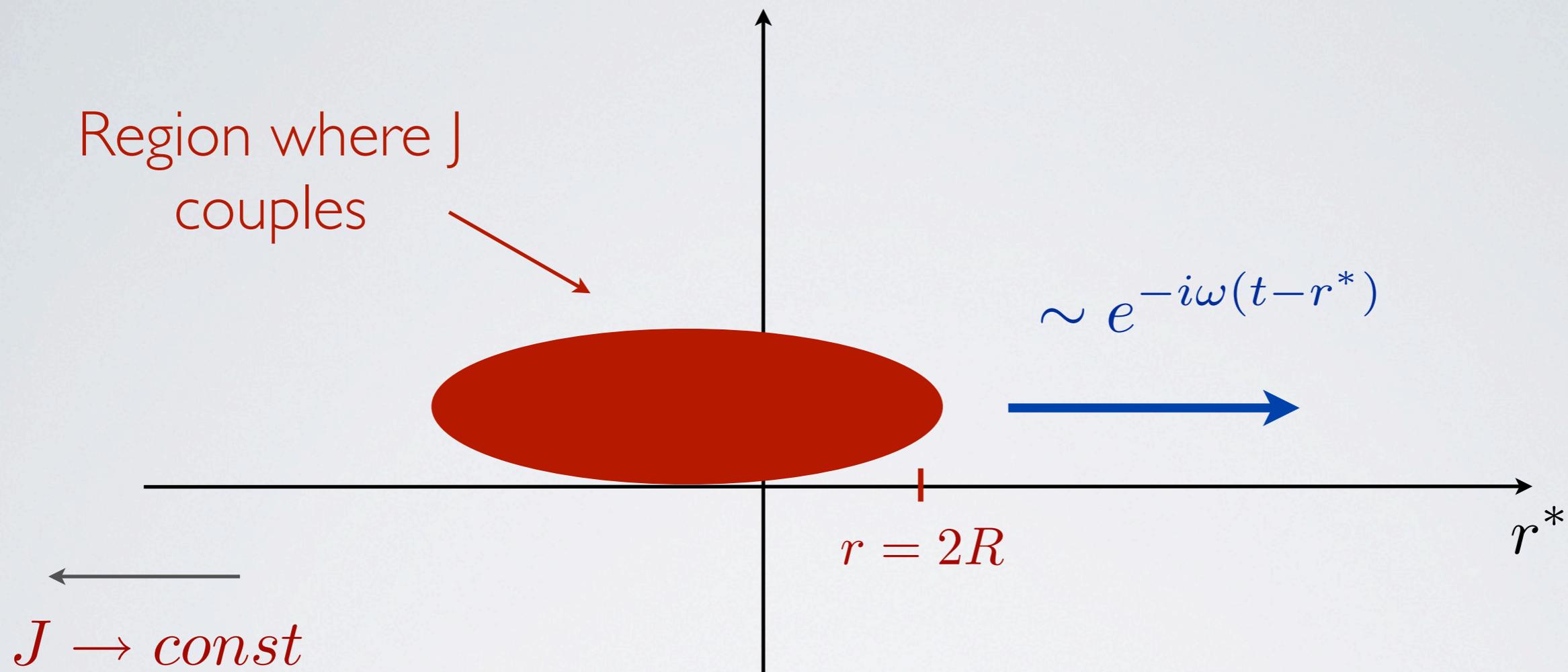
Specifically, consider J 's that are:

A) smooth at $r=R$ and

B) vanish rapidly for $r \gg 2R$ (outside “atmosphere”)

C) definite Schwarzschild frequency

First, $l = 0$, $\omega \sim 1/R$

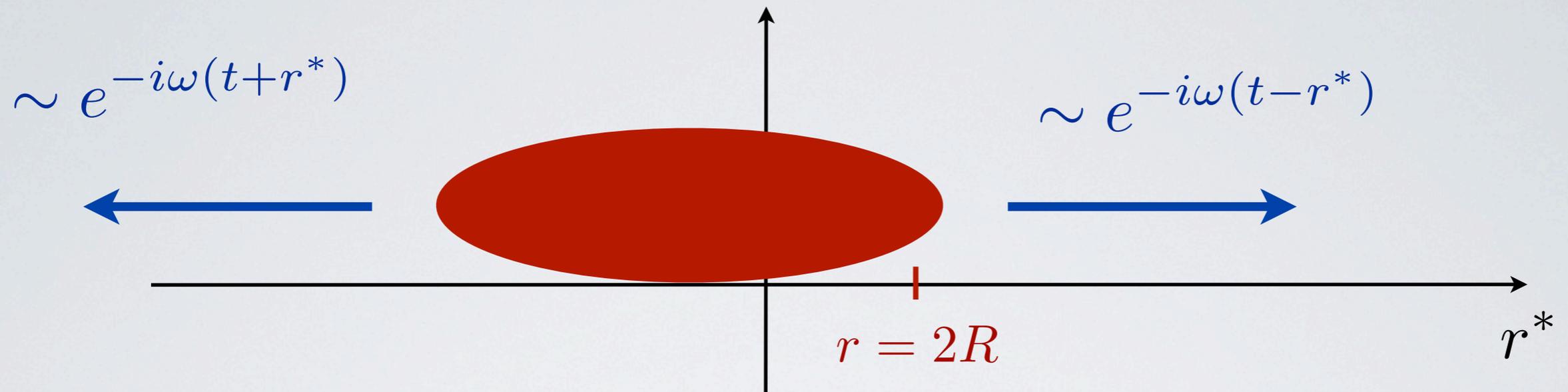


$$\int J u^* \rightarrow 0$$

Can arrange \sim one quantum of energy $1/R$ per time R : benchmark transfer rate

Outgoing energy density: $\sim 1/R^4$ "tiny"

Singular horizon?



$$T_{++} \not\rightarrow 0$$

$$x^\pm = t \pm r^*$$

$$T_{--} \rightarrow 0$$

$$T_{--}^{\text{Krusk}} = \left(\frac{\partial x^-}{\partial X^-} \right)^2 T_{--}$$

$\rightarrow \infty$ at $r=R$

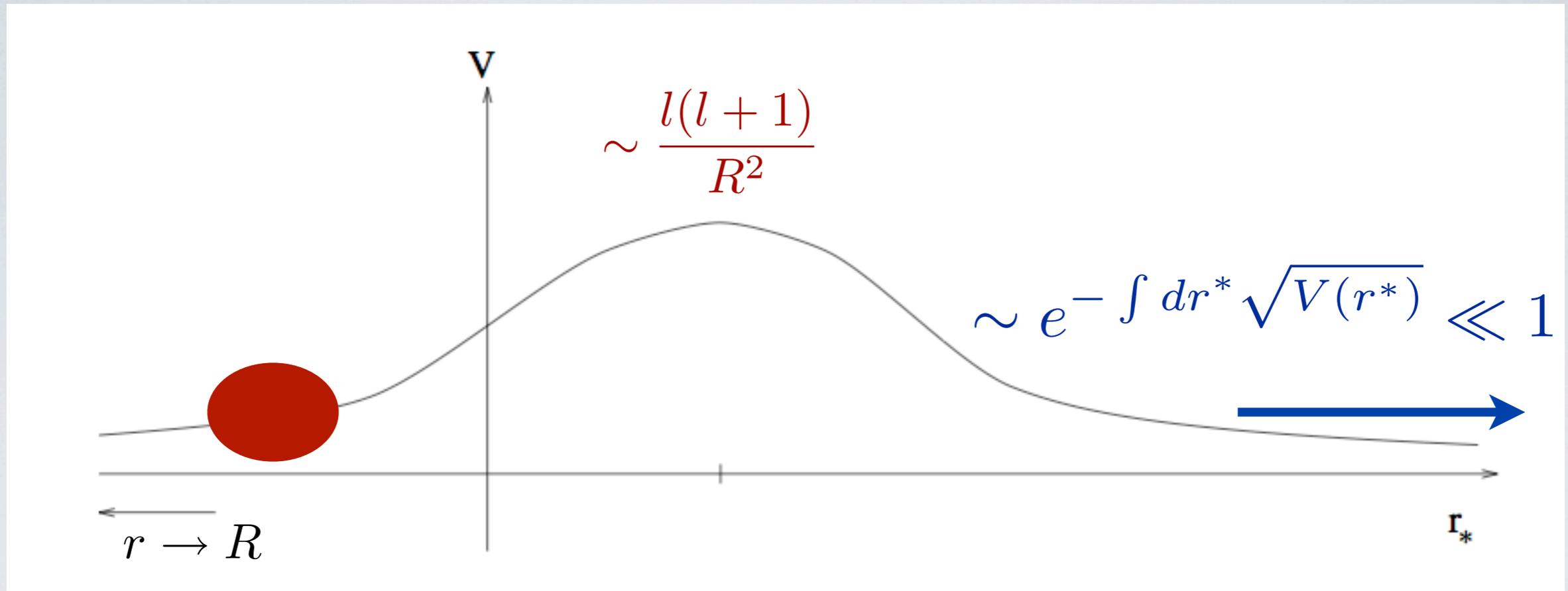
Good coords, infalling observer:

$$X^\pm = \pm 2R e^{\pm x^\pm / 2R}$$

Kruskal

No singularity!
holds for arbit. I

Next, consider $l > 0, \quad \omega \ll l/R$ (e.g. $\omega \sim 1/R$)



So: Effective sources $\sim j_l(t, r) Y_{lm}$ can be present, even with large magnitude compared to s-wave, without significant energy/information flux

This may help address one challenge to the scenario of nonviolent nonlocality