Looking for Echoes from Quantum Black Holes

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University of

Stavanger



Do we have event horizon?

- Test GR: Event horizon is one of predictions of GR.
- What about quantum nature of black hole horizon?

Stimulated Hawking Radiation: Black holes as a lab for new physics

Hawking radiation flux is small as it originates from Planckian vacuum fluctuations

 $G_{\mu\nu} = \langle T_{\mu\nu} \rangle$

Frequency of Gravitational waves $\sim \frac{1}{M} \sim T_H$

Required frequency to excite quantum mechanical ~ $\frac{Black hole mass}{Number of black hole states} \sim \frac{M}{M^2} = \frac{1}{M} \sim T_H$

One may consider echoes as stimulated emission of Hawking radiation, caused by the GWs that excite the quantum BH microstructure

Stimulated Hawking Radiation:



Spontaneous emission for black hole occurs at times $\sim M^3$

Stimulated Hawking radiation is **faster than spontaneous emission** by the number of photons/gravitons. If frequency is 1/M and energy is M, number of particles is $\sim M^2$. So time scale emission is $M^3/M^2 = M$

Quantum mechanics imply that we have minimum Planck length, which is **about 10**⁻³⁵ **meters**.

So the time for the waves reaching the minimum distance of return (**Planckian** horizon) is not infinite.

Therefore a time to reach the stationary state drops to ~ 1 sec after the merger for $\sim 300 M_{\odot}$ (redshifted mass) black hole

$$\Delta t_{\rm echo} \simeq \frac{4GM_{\rm BH}}{c^3} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-a^2}} \right) \times \ln \left(\frac{M_{\rm BH}}{M_{\rm planck}} \right)$$
$$\simeq 1.128 \, \sec \left(\frac{M_{\rm BH}}{300 \ M_{\odot}} \right) \times \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-a^2}} \right),$$

We might have stimulated Hawking radiation after ~ 1 sec from merger time for GW190521 Or we have stimulated Hawking radiation after ~ 1 hour from merger time of $\sim 10^6 M_{\odot}$



Firewall black holes and echoes from an action principle

Jahed Abedi Phys. Rev. D **107**, 064004 – Published 6 March 2023



ABSTRACT

It is often said that there is no gravity theory based on local action principles giving rise to firewall black hole solutions. Additionally, Guo and Mathur [Int. J. Mod. Phys. D **31**, 2242009 (2022).] have cast doubt on the observability of firewall echoes due to the closed trapped surface produced by a backreaction of macroscopic in-falling wave packets. In this paper, we bring Einstein-Maxwell-Dilaton action as a toy model that serves as counterexample to these assertions. Actions with Maxwell and dilaton fields emerge from several fundamental theories, such as the low energy limit of (super) string theory or Kaluza-Klein compactifications. In these systems, the black hole solution has two curvature singularities. We will show that the outer singularity inside the event horizon can cause significant change to the outside, close to the extremal limit, making a macroscopic reflective barrier near the event horizon that would lead to "observable" gravitational wave echoes in this toy model. Additionally, we also call into question the argument by Guo *et al.* [J. High Energy Phys. 07 (**2018**) 162.] claiming that a very small fraction of the backscattered photons will be able to escape back to infinity from the firewall, using these black holes as a counterexample.



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Einstein-Maxwell-Dilaton gravity with the dimension-less dilaton coupling constant α

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} [R - 2(\nabla \phi)^2 + e^{-2\alpha\phi} F^2].$$





Effective potentials (barrier on right) due to angular momentum (firewall) and electric potential (barrier on the left) with $\alpha = 2$ and different values of charge. Here as we approach the extremal limit, the peak of the barrier grows and approaches the event horizon. At the extremal limit it touches the event horizon.

Greybody factors for qQ > 0 at the near extremal limit (see the Appendix for details). As seen in this plot this BH replicates the ECO/firewall. These resonances at low frequency are due to repeating reflections or echoes from two barriers



PyCBC

coherent WaveBurst

An open source software for gravitational-wave data analysis

Free and open software to study gravitational waves.



PyCBC is a software package used to explore astrophysical sources of gravitational waves. It contains algorithms that can detect coalescing compact binaries and measure the astrophysical parameters of detected sources. PyCBC was used in the first direct detection of gravitational waves by LIGO and is used in the ongoing analysis of LIGO and Virgo data. PyCBC was featured in Physics World as a good example of a large collaboration publishing its research products, including its software.



Coherent WaveBurst is an open source software package devised to search for a broad range of gravitational-wave (GW) transients without prior knowledge of the signal waveform. As a search pipeline, it identifies coherent events in data from multiple GW detectors and reconstructs a GW signal associated with these events by using the maximum likelihood analysis.



TABLE II: Theoretical expectations for $\Delta t_{\rm echo}$'s of each merger event (Eq. 6), compared to their best combined fit within the 1σ credible region, and the contribution of each event to the joint SNR for the echoes (Eq. 10).



Credit: Salemi et al, 2019

Abedi et al (Oct 2017)



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Credit: Salemi et al, 2019

Abedi et al (Oct 2017)

Co-localization of GW151012



FIG. 7: Co-localization analysis for GW151012. We performed several reconstructions with different search thresholds. The panels are named according to their thresholds: A-B-C index relates with different search parameters configurations and the numbers (5 or 3) relates pixel pattern configuration [54]. All searches prefer the hypothesis of sky co-localization of echoes and main event, at Bayes factors of 1.6-5.4. All searches for GW151012 prefer the hypothesis of sky co-localization of echoes and main event, at Bayes factors of 1.6-5.4.



Luis F. Longo

Abedi et al (Dec 2021)

Echoes from GW170817:

2019 Buchalter Cosmology First Prize,

 $p - value = 1.6 \times 10^{-5}$



FIG. 5: Average number of noise peaks higher than a particular -X(t,f) within a frequency-intervals of 63-92 Hz and time-intervals of 1 sec for LIGO noise near GW170817 event. The red square shows the observed $-X(t_{\text{peak}}, f_{\text{peak}})$ peak at 1.0 sec after the merger. The horizontal bar shows the correspondence between X(t, f) values and their significance. This histogram obtained from producing ~2 weeks data out of off-source 2048 sec available data [34].



FIG. 6: Amplitude-time representations of first (and most significant) echo peak at 1.0 sec after the merger and frequency of 72 Hz. The shaded region is 0-1 sec prior range after the merger, first adopted in [21], which we use to estimate p-value . The maximum of the peak is 6.48×10^{59} .



WHEN DID THE REMNANT OF GW170817 COLLAPSE TO A BLACK HOLE?

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ABSTRACT

The main hard pulse of prompt gamma-ray emission in GRB 170817A had a duration of ~ 0.5 s and its onset was delayed with respect to the gravitational-wave chirp signal by $t_{del} \approx 1.74$ s. Detailed follow-up of the subsequent broadband kilonova emission revealed a two-component ejecta – a lanthanide-poor ejecta with mass $M_{ej,blue} \approx 0.025 M_{\odot}$ that powered the early but rapidly fading blue emission and a lanthanide-rich ejecta with mass $M_{ej,red} \approx 0.04 M_{\odot}$ that powered the longer lasting redder emission. Both the prompt gamma-ray onset delay and the existence of the blue ejecta with modest electron fraction, $0.2 \leq Y_e \leq 0.3$, can be explained if the collapse to a black hole was delayed by the formation of a hypermassive neutron star (HMNS). Here, we determine the survival time of the merger remnant by combining two different constraints, namely, the time needed to produce the requisite blue-ejecta mass and that necessary for the relativistic jet to bore its way out of the expanding ejecta. In this way, we determine that the remnant of GW170817 must have collapsed to a black hole after $t_{coll} = 0.98^{+0.31}_{-0.26}$ s. We also discuss how future detections and the delays between the gravitational and electromagnetic emissions can be used to constrain the properties of the merged object.

Echoes from the Abyss: A highly spinning black hole remnant for the binary neutron star merger GW170817

Jahed Abedi (AEI, Hanover), Niayesh Afshordi (Waterloo/PI)

The first direct observation of a binary neutron star (BNS) merger was a watershed moment in multi-messenger astronomy. However, gravitational waves from GW170817 have only been observed prior to the BNS merger, but electromagnetic observations all follow the merger event. While post-merger gravitational wave signal in general relativity is too faint (given current detector sensitivities), here we present the first tentative detection of post-merger gravitational wave "echoes" from a highly spinning "black hole" remnant. The echoes may be expected in different models of quantum black holes that replace event horizons by exotic Planck-scale structure and tentative evidence for them has been found in binary black hole merger events. The fact that the echo frequency is suppressed by log M (in Planck units) puts it squarely in the LIGO sensitivity window, allowing us to build an optimal model-agnostic search strategy via cross-correlating the two detectors in frequency/time. We find a tentative detection of echoes at $f_{echo} \simeq 72$ Hz, around 1.0 sec after the BNS merger, consistent with a 2.6-2.7 M_{\odot} "black hole" remnant with dimensionless spin 0.84 – 0.87. Accounting for all the "look-elsewhere" effects, we find a significance of 4.2σ , or a false alarm probability of 1.6×10^{-5} , i.e. a similar cross-correlation within the expected frequency/time window after the merger cannot be found more than 4 times in 3 days. If confirmed, this finding will have significant consequences for both physics of quantum black holes and astrophysics of binary neutron star mergers [Note added: This result is independently confirmed by arXiv:1901.04138, who use the electromagnetic observations to infer $t_{coll} = 0.98^{+0.31}_{-0.26}$ sec for black hole formation].

Confirmation



An executive summary of these observations is shown in Tables 20 and 21 as positive evidence (p-value ≤ 0.05) and failed results, respectively.

_	Authors	Method	Data	p-value
1	Abedi, Dykaar, Afshordi (ADA) 2017 [1]	ADA template	O1	1.1%
2	Conklin, Holdom, Ren 2018 [4]	spectral comb	O1+O2	0.2% - 0.8%
3	Westerweck, et al. 2018 [6]	ADA template	O1	2.0%
4	Nielsen, et al. 2019 [7]	ADA+Bayes	GW151012, GW151226	2%
5	Uchikata, et al. 2019 [2]	ADA template	O1	5.5%
6	Uchikata, et al. 2019 [2]	ADA template	O2	3.9%
7	Salemi, et al. 2019 [8]	coherent WaveBurst	GW151012, GW151226	0.4%,3%
8	Abedi, Afshordi 2019 [3]	spectral comb	BNS	0.0016%
9	Gill, Nathanail, Rezolla 2019 [145]	Astro Modelling	BNS EM	$t_{\rm coll} = t_{\rm echo}$

Table 20. Table of positive results (p-value ≤ 0.05) by different groups (The p-value for Nielsen et al. above [7] is a rough estimate, based on the log-Bayes = 1.66).

	Authors	Method	Data	possible caveat	
1	Westerweck, et al. 2018 [6]	ADA template	O1	"Infinite" prior	
2	Nielsen, et al. 2019 [7]	ADA+Bayes	GW150914	mass-ratio dependence	
3	Uchikata, et al. 2019 [2]	ADA, hi-pass	01,02	no low-frequencies	
4	Salemi, et al. 2019 [8]	coherent WaveBurst	01,02	mass-ratio dependence,	
				only 1st echo	
5	Lo, et al. 2019 [9]	ADA+Bayes	O1	"Infinite" prior	
6	Tsang, et al. 2019 [140]	BayesWave	O1+O2	needs very loud echoes	
				(-9 free parameters!)	

Table 21. Table of failed searches and their possible caveat.

Abedi et al. 2020

LIGO/Virgo and KAGRA:

Tests of General Relativity with Binary Black Holes from the second LIGO–Virgo Gravitational-Wave Transient Catalog

The LIGO Scientific Collaboration and the Virgo Collaboration (compiled 29 October 2020)

TABLE X. Results of search for GW echoes. A positive value of the log Bayes factor $\log_{10} \mathcal{B}_{IMR}^{IMRE}$ indicates a preference for the IMRE model over the IMR model, while a negative value of the log Bayes factor suggests instead a preference for the IMR model over the IMRE model.

Event	$\log_{10}\mathcal{B}_{\rm IMR}^{\rm IMRE}$	Event	$\log_{10} \mathcal{B}_{\rm IMR}^{\rm IMRE}$
GW150914	-0.57	GW170809	-0.22
GW151226	-0.08	GW170814	-0.49
GW170104	-0.53	GW170818	-0.62
GW170608	-0.44	GW170823	-0.34
GW190408_181802	-0.93	GW190706_222641	-0.10
GW190412	-1.30	GW190707_093326	0.08
GW190421_213856	-0.11	GW190708_232457	-0.87
GW190503_185404	-0.36	GW190720_000836	-0.45
GW190512_180714	-0.56	GW190727_060333	0.01
GW190513_205428	-0.03	GW190728_064510	0.01
GW190517_055101	0.16	GW190828_063405	0.10
GW190519_153544	-0.10	GW190828_065509	-0.01
GW190521	-1.82	GW190910_112807	-0.22
GW190521_074359	-0.72	GW190915_235702	0.17
GW190602_175927	0.13	GW190924_021846	-0.03
GW190630_185205	0.08		

arXiv.org > gr-qc > arXiv:2112.06861

General Relativity and Quantum Cosmology

[Submitted on 13 Dec 2021]

Tests of General Relativity with GWTC-3

The LIGO Scientific Collaboration, the Virgo Collaboration, the KAGRA Collaboration:

TABLE XIV. Results of the echoes analysis (Sec. VIII B). List of p-values for signal to noise Bayes Factor \mathcal{B}_N^S for the events that are analysed. In the absence of any echoes signal these should be uniformly distributed between [0, 1]. Fig. 15 shows the corresponding PP plot with 90% credible intervals superimposed on it. There is no evidence for the presence of echoes.

Event	<i>p</i> -value
GW191109_010717	0.35
GW191129_134029	0.35
GW191204_171526	0.37
GW191215_223052	0.23
GW191216_213338	0.88
GW191222_033537	0.89
GW200115_042309	0.44
GW200129_065458	0.33
GW200202_154313	0.43
GW200208_130117	0.24
GW200219_094415	0.18
GW200224_222234	0.59
GW200225_060421	0.69
GW200311_115853	0.42
GW200316_215756	0.27

t_{echo} < 0.5 sec

missing GW190521

Boltzmann reflectivity

 $\widetilde{\omega} = \omega - m\Omega_H$

Near horizon frequency

 ω Frequency at infinity



Near the horizon it is natural to expect having quantum mechanical reflection given by Boltzmann factor $(|\omega - m\Omega_H|)$ m=2 for quadrupolar gravitational radiation).

$$h_{GR}(\omega)exp\left(-\frac{|\omega-mM_H|}{2T_H}\right)$$

m=2 for quadrupolar gravitational radiation). T_H is Hawking temperature. $M(\omega)$ is ringdown mode.

Successive echoes imply that the waveform changes to:

$$h_{\rm GR+echoes}(\omega) = h_{\rm GR}(\omega) \left[1 + Ae^{i\phi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{R}^n \right] + \mathcal{R} \equiv \mp \exp\left[-\frac{\hbar|\omega - 2\Omega_H|}{2kT_H} + i\omega\Delta t_{\rm echo}\right]$$

Boltzmann Echoes (Oshita, et al., 2020)

Boltzmann echoes



Boltzmann GW echoes template for GW150914 like signal with amplitude A = 1

Boltzmann echoes



GW190521

<u>arXiv:2201.00047</u>

$\Delta t_{echo} = 1.272_{-0.073}^{+0.066}$ $M_f^{det} = 260^{+18}_{-16}$ $A = 1.07^{+0.57}_{-0.62}$ LogA 1.5 ◀ 1.0 0.5 % Energy = $6.2^{+10.1}_{-5.2}$ Euergy 122 220 230 240 250 260 270 280 290 300 M^{det} 10 % Horizon frequency = $47.3^{+5.9}_{-3.6}$ Horizon frequency 20010- $\phi = 4.5^{+1.2}_{-2.3}$ $Log\Lambda = 5.5^{+4.9}_{-7.5}$ LogA 10 20 40 60 1.0 1.5 0.5 1.0 1.5 30 80 6 -10 2.0 2 4 0 % Energy Horizon frequency Δt_{echo} Log∧ А ф

Bayes factor = 7.5 Preference for echoes

GW190521

 10^{-22}

10⁻²³ ·

 10^{-24}

Strain [1/sqrt(Hz)]



PyCBC vs cWB

GW190521



Histograms to quantify PyCBC false positive (GR injections) and true positive (GR+echo injections). Comparing to the GW190521 echo, we obtain their values as 1.46%, and 34.5%

respectively.

Search for echoes on the edge of quantum black holes

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ABSTRACT

I perform an unprecedented template-based search for stimulated emission of Hawking radiation (or Boltzmann echoes) by combining the gravitational wave data from 65 binary black hole merger events observed by the LIGO/Virgo collaboration. With a careful Bayesian inference approach, I found no statistically significant evidence for this signal in either of the 3 Gravitational Wave Transient Catalogs GWTC-1, GWTC-2 and GWTC-3. However, the data cannot yet conclusively rule out the presence of Boltzmann echoes either, with the Bayesian evidence ranging within 0.3-1.6 for most events, and a common (non-vanishing) echo amplitude for all mergers being disfavoured at only 2:5 odds. The only exception is GW190521, the most massive and confidently detected event ever observed, which shows a positive evidence of 9.2 for stimulated Hawking radiation. An optimal combination of posteriors yields an upper limit of A < 0.42 (at 90% confidence level) for a universal echo amplitude, whereas $A \sim 1$ was predicted in the canonical model. The next generation of gravitational wave detectors such as LISA, Einstein Telescope, and Cosmic Explorer can draw a definitive conclusion on the quantum nature of black hole horizons.



We assume echo model is the same for all the events

In particular we assume all the events have same echo amplitude A compared to their main event signal GW191222 033537 GW200220 061928 GW151012 GW190915 235702 GW191109 010717 GW190602 175927 GW190527 092055 GW170809 GW190503 185404 GW191230 180458 GW190620 030421 GW190514 065416 GW190728 064510 GW190814 GW200128 022011 GW170814 GW170104 GW200302 015811 GW190828 065509 GW191129 134029 GW190707 093326 GW200129 065458

GW170729 GW190412 GW190424 180648 GW200202 154313 GW200225 060421 GW200209 085452 GW190408 181802 GW190706 222641 GW190727 060333 GW170608 GW190708 232457 <u>GW190720_000836</u> GW190731 140936 GW200311 115853 GW190421_213856 GW190413 134308 <u>GW190517_055101</u> GW170823 GW200316 215756 GW190719 215514 GW190513 205428 GW190519 153544

GW190929 012149 GW190828 063405 GW190630 185205 GW200224 222234 GW200219 094415 GW170818 GW190910 112807 GW150914 GW200208 130117 GW191216 213338 GW190521 GW190925 232845 GW200112 155838 GW200216_220804 GW191215 223052 GW190512 180714 GW151226 GW190521 074359 GW190924 021846 GW191204 171526 GW190413 052954

We fix the amplitude A for all events and combine the bayes factors

Overall Bayes factor = $\prod_{i=events} B_i(A)$

Successive echoes imply that the waveform changes to:

$$h_{\rm GR+echoes}(\omega) = h_{\rm GR}(\omega) \left[1 + Ae^{i\phi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{R}^n \right]$$

 $\mathcal{R} \equiv \mp \exp[-\frac{\hbar |\omega - 2\Omega_H|}{2kT_H} + i\omega\Delta t_{\rm echo}]$

Boltzmann Echoes (Oshita, et al., 2020)

We vary the amplitude A within 0-2 and plot overall Bayes factor in terms of A





Combined events give an overall value of $\simeq 0.4$ for bayes factor for echoes waveform



GWTC 1	log @GR+echo	GWTC 1	log @GR+echo	GWTC 1	log @GR+echo
OWIC-1	$\log_{10} \mathscr{D}_{GR}$		$\log_{10} \mathcal{D}_{GR}$	GW1C-1	$\log_{10} \mathscr{D}_{\text{GR}}$
GW150914	-0.53	GW1/0608	0.05	GW170818	-0.06
GW151012	0.05	GW170729	-0.12	GW170823	-0.25
GW151226	-0.09	GW170809	0.08		
GW170104	0.13	GW170814	-0.30		
GWTC-2	$\log_{10} \mathscr{B}_{\mathrm{GR}}^{\mathrm{GR}+\mathrm{echo}}$	GWTC-2	$\log_{10} \mathscr{B}_{\mathrm{GR}}^{\mathrm{GR}+\mathrm{echo}}$	GWTC-2	$\log_{10} \mathscr{B}_{\mathrm{GR}}^{\mathrm{GR}+\mathrm{echo}}$
GW190408_181802	-0.16	GW190521	0.96	GW190728_064510	-0.01
GW190412	-0.09	GW190521_074359	-0.54	GW190731_140936	-0.15
GW190413_052954	0.03	GW190527_092055	0.01	GW190814	-0.42
GW190413_134308	-0.10	GW190602_175927	-0.22	GW190828_063405	0.04
GW190421_213856	0.21	GW190620_030421	-0.16	GW190828_065509	-0.14
GW190424_180648	-0.17	GW190630_185205	-0.17	GW190910_112807	-0.30
GW190503_185404	-0.02	GW190706_222641	-0.06	GW190915_235702	-0.09
GW190512_180714	-0.06	GW190707_093326	-0.02	GW190924_021846	0.00
GW190513_205428	-0.15	GW190708_232457	-0.01	GW190925_232845	-0.03
GW190514_065416	-0.03	GW190719_215514	-0.01	GW190929_012149	-0.13
GW190517_055101	0.07	GW190720_000836	-0.07		
GW190519_153544	-0.35	GW190727_060333	-0.30		
GWTC-3	$\log_{10} \mathscr{B}_{\mathrm{GR}}^{\mathrm{GR}+\mathrm{echo}}$	GWTC-3	$\log_{10} \mathscr{B}_{\mathrm{GR}}^{\mathrm{GR}+\mathrm{echo}}$	GWTC-3	$\log_{10} \mathscr{B}_{\mathrm{GR}}^{\mathrm{GR}+\mathrm{echo}}$
GW191109_010717	-0.36	GW200112_155838	-0.28	GW200219_094415	-0.07
GW191129_134029	0.01	GW200128_022011	-0.2	GW200220_061928	0.21
GW191204_171526	0.01	GW200129_065458	-0.43	GW200224_222234	-0.34
GW191215_223052	0.2	GW200202_154313	0.21	GW200225_060421	-0.01
GW191216_213338	0.03	GW200208_130117	0.08	GW200302_015811	-0.12
GW191222_033537	-0.32	GW200209_085452	0.14	GW200311_115853	-0.37
GW191230_180458	-0.21	GW200216_220804	-0.15	GW200316_215756	-0.01



Histogram of log₁₀ bayes factors of 65 events.. Vertical regions identify Jeffreys scale for interpretation of bayes factor.

What it has to do with LISA?



http://gwplotter.com Moore et. al.

Kaiser et. al. DOI 10.1088/1361-6382/abd4f6





FIG. 6. Projected exclusion plot for the ECO reflectivity \mathcal{R} as a function of the SNR in the ringdown phase. The shaded areas represent regions that can be excluded at a given confidence level $(2\sigma, 3\sigma, 4\sigma, 5\sigma)$. Vertical bands are typical SNR achievable by aLIGO/Virgo, 3G, and LISA in the ringdown phase, whereas the horizontal band is the region excluded by the ergoregion instability [40, 41]. We assumed $\chi = 0.7$ for the spin of the merger remnant, the result depends only mildly on the spin.

Maggio et. al. 2019 arXiv: 1907.03091

Conclusion

- We found upper limit for amplitude of echoes with combining 65 events.
- GW190521 which is the most massive event observed to date has shown evidence for echo signal.
- Next generation detectors such as LISA using this search can give a better constraint on amplitude of echoes from massive binary black holes and extreme mass ratio inspirals.

Thank you