



On the stability of a superspinar

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ABSTRACT

The superspinar proposed by Gimon and Hořava is a rapidly rotating compact entity whose exterior is described by the over-spinning Kerr geometry. The compact entity itself is expected to be governed by superstringy effects, and in astrophysical scenarios it can give rise to interesting observable phenomena. Earlier it was suggested that the superspinar may not be stable but we point out here that this does not necessarily follow from earlier studies. We show, by analytically treating the Teukolsky equations by Detwiler's method, that in fact there are infinitely many boundary conditions that make the superspinar stable at least against the linear perturbations of $m = l$ modes, and that the modes will decay in time. Further consideration leads us to the conclusion that it is possible to set the inverse problem to the linear stability issue: since the radial Teukolsky equation for the superspinar has no singular point on the real axis, we obtain regular solutions to the Teukolsky equation for arbitrary discrete frequency spectrum of the quasi-normal modes (no incoming waves) and the boundary conditions at the "surface" of the superspinar are found from obtained solutions. It follows that we need to know more on the physical nature of the superspinar in order to decide on its stability in physical reality.

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1. Introduction

The Kerr spacetime is an exact stationary solution of the vacuum Einstein equations and is characterized by two parameters, namely the gravitational mass M and the so-called Kerr parameter a which is the angular momentum divided by M . The solution describes a rotating black hole if $a^2 \leq M^2$, whereas it describes a naked singular spacetime if $a^2 > M^2$, using the geometrized units ($G = c = 1$). The Kerr black hole has been extensively studied in many scenarios which would be stable against linear perturbations. This may suggest the reliability of the weak version of the cosmic censorship hypothesis whose statement is, roughly speaking, the spacetime singularities formed from generic initial conditions are enclosed by event horizons. Also, many black-hole candidates, i.e. objects described by the Kerr solution of $a^2 < M^2$ have been found in our universe.

Gimon and Hořava pointed out an interesting fact that the supersymmetry does not imply the Kerr bound $a^2 \leq M^2$, and hence if a very compact object of $a^2 > M^2$ is found, it may be a signal of superstring theory [1]. They named it the superspinar. The naked singularity will be made harmless by stringy effect. However, before the indication of Gimon and Hořava, a study suggested the instability of the over-spinning Kerr spacetime $a^2 > M^2$ [2]. After the superspinar possibility, few more studies were done on the stability of the over-spinning Kerr geometry by other researchers [3–5], to suggest that the superspinar is unstable under various boundary conditions. The variety of the boundary conditions is maximal in the study by Pani et al., which includes all the previous studies, and they concluded that the over-spinning Kerr geometry and thus the superspinar is unstable. However, it should be noted that in order to conclude so, we must show that the over-spinning Kerr geometry is unstable under all possible boundary conditions, since at present nobody knows the physical nature of the superspinar. From this standpoint, the numerical results obtained by Pani et al. may not necessarily imply the instability of the superspinar.

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In this paper, in order to illustrate the stability problem of the superspinner, we analytically treat the linear perturbations in the near-extremal over-spinning Kerr spacetime by the manner devised by Detweiler [6–8]. It turns out that under a variety of boundary conditions the modes decay in time and the superspinner is stable.

This result may have intriguing implications on the existence and physics of very rapidly rotating compact objects in the Universe. It therefore follows from our results here that, at the very least, we need a detailed study of physically allowed boundary conditions in order to decide on the stability of superspinner or similar objects.

2. Teukolsky equations

The perturbations in the Kerr spacetime are governed by the Teukolsky equation [9]; Writing the master variable ψ in the form $\psi = e^{-i\omega t + im\varphi} S_{lm}(\theta) R_{lm}(r)$, the radial and angular Teukolsky equations are given by

$$\Delta^{-s} \frac{d}{dr} \left(\Delta^{s+1} \frac{dR_{lm}}{dr} \right) + \left(\frac{K^2 - 2is(r-M)K}{\Delta} + 4is\omega r - \lambda \right) R_{lm} = 0, \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{1}{\sin\theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left(\sin\theta \frac{dS_{lm}}{d\theta} \right) + \left[(a\omega \cos\theta + s)^2 - \left(\frac{m + s \cos\theta}{\sin\theta} \right)^2 - s(s-1) + F \right] S_{lm} = 0, \quad (2)$$

for the scalar ($|s|=0$), the electromagnetic ($|s|=1$) and gravitational ($|s|=2$) perturbations, where $F = {}_s F_{m,\omega}^l$ with the integer l larger than or equal to $\max(|m|, |s|)$ is the separation constant equivalent to the eigenvalue of Eq. (2) with the boundary conditions of regularity at $\theta = 0$ and π , $K := (r^2 + a^2)\omega - am$, $\lambda := F + a^2\omega^2 - 2am\omega$, and $\Delta := r^2 - 2Mr + a^2$. In the case of $a^2 < M^2$, $r = r_{\pm} := M \pm \sqrt{M^2 - a^2}$ are real roots of $\Delta = 0$; $r = r_+$ corresponds to the event horizon and $r = r_-$ is the location of the Cauchy horizon. In the extremal case, $a^2 = M^2$, r_+ and r_- agree with each other, and there is only one degenerate event horizon. In the case of $a^2 > M^2$, i.e., the superspinner, there is no real root of $\Delta = 0$, and correspondingly no event horizon exists.

In order to see whether the superspinner is stable, we investigate the angular frequencies of the quasi-normal modes, which are linear perturbations around the Kerr metric without incoming waves at infinity. Hence we focus on the component of the Weyl tensor denoted by ψ_4 , which corresponds to outgoing gravitational waves and relates to the master variable through $\psi_4 = (r - ia \cos\theta)^{-4} \psi$ with $s = -2$.

Hereafter, we follow Ref. [8] so that it is easy to compare the superspinner case with the black-hole case. Instead of R_{lm} , the following variable is introduced;

$$R_{lm} = \Delta^{-s} \tilde{R}_{lm} \exp\left(-i \int \frac{K}{\Delta} dr\right). \quad (3)$$

Then, Eq. (1) becomes

$$\Delta \frac{d^2 \tilde{R}_{lm}}{dr^2} - \left[2i\omega(r^2 + a^2) - 2(\tilde{s} + 1)(r - M) - 2iam \right] \times \frac{d\tilde{R}_{lm}}{dr} - \left[2(2\tilde{s} + 1)i\omega r + \tilde{\lambda} \right] \tilde{R}_{lm} = 0, \quad (4)$$

where, using $F = E - s(s+1)$, we have introduced $\tilde{s} := -s$ and $\tilde{\lambda} := \lambda + 2s = E + a^2\omega^2 - 2am\omega - \tilde{s}(\tilde{s} + 1)$.

3. Quasi-normal modes of near-extremal Kerr spacetime

We consider a near-extremal Kerr spacetime and hence we write the Kerr parameter in the form

$$a = M(1 - \epsilon),$$

assuming $0 < |\epsilon| \ll 1$. The spacetime contains a superspinner in the case of $\epsilon < 0$, whereas there is a black hole in the case of $\epsilon > 0$.

In the case of black hole, it is known that the quasi-normal mode (QNM) frequency ω approaches $m/2M$ for $m = l$ in the limit of $\epsilon \rightarrow 0_+$ [6]. The numerical study in Ref. [5] has revealed that even in the superspinner case, the QNM frequency ω approaches $m/2M$ for $m = l$ modes in the limit $\epsilon \rightarrow 0_-$. Hence, hereafter we focus on the modes of $m = l$ and assume

$$M\omega - \frac{m}{2} = \mathcal{O}(|\epsilon|^p), \quad (5)$$

where p is a positive constant.

We rewrite Eq. (4) in terms of the dimensionless variables $y := (r - M)/M$ and $\tilde{\omega} := M\omega$ as,

$$\begin{aligned} (y^2 - 2\epsilon + \epsilon^2) \frac{d^2 \tilde{R}_{lm}}{dy^2} - \left[2i\tilde{\omega}y^2 + 2(2i\tilde{\omega} - \tilde{s} - 1)y \right. \\ \left. + 2i(2\tilde{\omega} - m)(1 - \epsilon) + 2i\tilde{\omega}\epsilon^2 \right] \frac{d\tilde{R}_{lm}}{dy} \\ - \left[2(2\tilde{s} + 1)i\tilde{\omega}(y + 1) + \tilde{\lambda} \right] \tilde{R}_{lm} = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Before proceeding to our task, we briefly mention our strategy to obtain the QNM frequency for the black hole case. First, we obtain the approximate solutions of Eq. (6) in the far zone defined as $y \gg \max[\sqrt{|\epsilon|}, |\epsilon|^p]$ and the near zone defined as $y \ll 1$, separately. Then, we choose appropriate integration constants so that these solutions agree with each other in the overlapping region, $\max[\sqrt{|\epsilon|}, |\epsilon|^p] \ll y \ll 1$. Finally, we impose the no-incoming wave condition on the far-zone solution at infinity and the regularity condition on the near-zone solution at the event horizon, for black holes. A similar procedure is followed for the superspinner in order to clarify the difference from the black hole case.

In the far zone, the following equation approximates to Eq. (6);

$$\begin{aligned} y^2 \frac{d^2 \tilde{R}_{lm}}{dy^2} - \left[2i\tilde{\omega}y^2 + 2(2i\tilde{\omega} - \tilde{s} - 1)y \right] \frac{d\tilde{R}_{lm}}{dy} \\ - \left[2(2\tilde{s} + 1)i\tilde{\omega}(y + 1) + \tilde{\lambda} \right] \tilde{R}_{lm} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

The solution of the above equation is written in terms of confluent hypergeometric functions ${}_1F_1(\alpha; \gamma; z)$;

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{R}_{lm}^{\text{far}} = Ay^{-\tilde{s}-1/2+2i\tilde{\omega}+i\delta} \\ \times {}_1F_1\left(\frac{1}{2} + \tilde{s} + 2i\tilde{\omega} + i\delta; 1 + 2i\delta; 2i\tilde{\omega}y\right) \\ + By^{-\tilde{s}-1/2+2i\tilde{\omega}-i\delta} \\ \times {}_1F_1\left(\frac{1}{2} + \tilde{s} + 2i\tilde{\omega} - i\delta; 1 - 2i\delta; 2i\tilde{\omega}y\right), \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

where A and B are integration constants, and

$$\delta^2 := 4\tilde{\omega}^2 - \frac{1}{4} - \tilde{\lambda} - \tilde{s}(\tilde{s} + 1) \simeq \frac{1}{4}(7m^2 - 1) - E.$$

This definition of δ^2 is different from Eq. (9) in Ref. [8] due to a typo. For the near-zone analysis, we keep terms only of leading

order in ϵ and introduce a new radial variable, $x := y - \sqrt{2\epsilon}$. Then, Eq. (6) approximates to,

$$x(x + \sigma) \frac{d^2 \tilde{R}_{lm}}{dx^2} - \left[2(2i\tilde{\omega} - \tilde{s} - 1)x - (\tilde{s} + 1)\sigma + 4i\tau \right] \frac{d\tilde{R}_{lm}}{dx} - \left[2(2\tilde{s} + 1)i\tilde{\omega} + \tilde{\lambda} \right] \tilde{R}_{lm} = 0, \quad (8)$$

where

$$\sigma := 2\sqrt{2\epsilon} \quad \text{and} \quad \tau := (1 + \sqrt{2\epsilon})\tilde{\omega} - \frac{m}{2}.$$

The solution of Eq. (8) is expressed by using Gauss's hypergeometric function ${}_2F_1(\alpha, \beta; \gamma; z)$ in the form

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{R}_{lm}^{\text{near}} = & C x^{-\tilde{s}+4i\tau/\sigma} {}_2F_1(1/2 - 2i\tilde{\omega} + i\delta + 4i\tau/\sigma, \\ & 1/2 - 2i\tilde{\omega} - i\delta + 4i\tau/\sigma; 1 - \tilde{s} + 4i\tau/\sigma; -x/\sigma) \\ & + D {}_2F_1(1/2 + \tilde{s} - 2i\tilde{\omega} + i\delta, 1/2 + \tilde{s} - 2i\tilde{\omega} - i\delta; \\ & 1 + \tilde{s} - 4i\tau/\sigma; -x/\sigma), \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

where C and D are integration constants.

Both solutions (7) and (9) are valid in the overlapping region. In the limit $y \rightarrow 0$, the solution (7) behaves as $\tilde{R}_{lm} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}y^{-\tilde{s}-1/2+2i\tilde{\omega}+i\delta} + \mathcal{B}y^{-\tilde{s}-1/2+2i\tilde{\omega}-i\delta}$. In the limit $y \rightarrow \infty$, the solution (9) behaves as $\tilde{R}_{lm} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}y^{-\tilde{s}-1/2+2i\tilde{\omega}+i\delta} + \mathcal{B}y^{-\tilde{s}-1/2+2i\tilde{\omega}-i\delta}$, where \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} are

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A} = & \sigma^{1/2-2i\tilde{\omega}-i\delta} \Gamma(2i\delta) \\ & \times \left[\frac{C\sigma^{4i\tau/\sigma} \Gamma(1 - \tilde{s} + 4i\tau/\sigma)}{\Gamma(1/2 - \tilde{s} + 2i\tilde{\omega} + i\delta) \Gamma(1/2 - 2i\tilde{\omega} + i\delta + 4i\tau/\sigma)} \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{D\sigma^{\tilde{s}} \Gamma(1 + \tilde{s} - 4i\tau/\sigma)}{\Gamma(1/2 + \tilde{s} - 2i\tilde{\omega} + i\delta) \Gamma(1/2 + 2i\tilde{\omega} + i\delta - 4i\tau/\sigma)} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

$$\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{A}|_{\delta \rightarrow -\delta}. \quad (11)$$

Thus, the matching condition is

$$A = \mathcal{A} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \mathcal{B}. \quad (12)$$

From the far-zone solution (7), for $y \rightarrow \infty$, we have

$$\tilde{R}_{lm}^{\text{far}} \simeq Z_{\text{out}} y^{-(1-4i\tilde{\omega})} e^{2i\tilde{\omega}y} + Z_{\text{in}} y^{-(2\tilde{s}+1)},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{\text{in}} = & A \frac{(-2i\tilde{\omega})^{-1/2-\tilde{s}-2i\tilde{\omega}-i\delta} \Gamma(1 + 2i\delta)}{\Gamma(1/2 - \tilde{s} - 2i\tilde{\omega} + i\delta)} \\ & + B \frac{(-2i\tilde{\omega})^{-1/2-\tilde{s}-2i\tilde{\omega}+i\delta} \Gamma(1 - 2i\delta)}{\Gamma(1/2 - \tilde{s} - 2i\tilde{\omega} - i\delta)}, \end{aligned}$$

$$Z_{\text{out}} = Z_{\text{in}}|_{\tilde{s} \rightarrow -\tilde{s}, \tilde{\omega} \rightarrow -\tilde{\omega}}.$$

Thus, together with Eq. (12), the no-incoming wave condition, $Z_{\text{in}} = 0$, leads to

$$\mathcal{A} \frac{(-2i\tilde{\omega})^{-i\delta} \Gamma(1 + 2i\delta)}{\Gamma(1/2 - \tilde{s} - 2i\tilde{\omega} + i\delta)} + (\delta \rightarrow -\delta) = 0. \quad (13)$$

Here it is worthwhile to notice that, in the black hole case ($\epsilon > 0$), the regular singular point $x = 0$ of Eq. (8) corresponds to the location of the event horizon. Since we impose the regularity of the solution at the event horizon, the integration constant C must vanish (note $\tilde{s} = 2$). By contrast, in the superspinar case ($\epsilon < 0$), the regular singular points $x = 0$ and $x = -\sigma$ of Eq. (8) are equivalent

to $y = \pm i\sqrt{2|\epsilon|}$. Hence, there is no regular singular point of Eq. (8) on the real axis of y , or equivalently, on the real axis of r . This is a distinctive feature of the superspinar from that of the black hole. The regularity requirement of the solution on the real axis of y does not lead to any condition on the integration constants C and D in the superspinar case. However, in order to get the QNM frequency in the superspinar case, we need to fix C and D . Thus, for example, we impose identical conditions for both the black hole ($\epsilon > 0$) and the superspinar ($\epsilon < 0$);

$$C = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad D = 1. \quad (14)$$

Substituting Eqs. (10) and (11) with the condition (14) into Eq. (13), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & - \frac{\Gamma(2i\delta)\Gamma(1 + 2i\delta)}{\Gamma(-2i\delta)\Gamma(1 - 2i\delta)} \\ & \times \frac{\Gamma(1/2 + \tilde{s} - 2i\tilde{\omega} - i\delta)\Gamma(1/2 - \tilde{s} - 2i\tilde{\omega} - i\delta)}{\Gamma(1/2 + \tilde{s} - 2i\tilde{\omega} + i\delta)\Gamma(1/2 - \tilde{s} - 2i\tilde{\omega} + i\delta)} \\ & = (-2i\tilde{\omega}\sigma)^{2i\delta} \frac{\Gamma(1/2 + 2i\tilde{\omega} + i\delta - 4i\tau/\sigma)}{\Gamma(1/2 + 2i\tilde{\omega} - i\delta - 4i\tau/\sigma)}. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

Equation (15) determines the QNM frequency $\tilde{\omega}$.

We have assumed that $\tilde{\omega} \rightarrow m/2$ in the limit of $a \rightarrow M$ or equivalently $\epsilon \rightarrow 0_{\pm}$. It is known that δ is real and positive in this limit, i.e., extremal black hole case, for $|\tilde{s}| = 2$ and $l = |m| \geq 2$ [10,11], and we focus on such cases. Then, the left hand side of Eq. (15) will have a finite limit for $\epsilon \rightarrow 0_{\pm}$. We write it in the form, L.H.S. = $qe^{i\chi}$. We know τ/σ diverges in the limit of $\epsilon \rightarrow 0_{+}$, i.e., in the extreme limit from the non-extreme black hole [6]. By continuity of the result with respect to a , τ/σ should diverge also in the limit of $\epsilon \rightarrow 0_{-}$. Hence we find that p in Eq. (5) should satisfy $p < 1/2$. Then, through completely the same arguments as that in Ref. [8], we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\omega}_{\text{R}} & \simeq \frac{m}{2} - \frac{1}{4m} e^{(\chi - 2k\pi)/2\delta} \cos \zeta \\ \tilde{\omega}_{\text{I}} & \simeq -\frac{1}{4m} e^{(\chi - 2k\pi)/2\delta} \sin \zeta, \end{aligned}$$

for both the black hole and the superspinar, where k is an integer number consistent with $|\epsilon|^{1/2} \ll e^{(\chi - 2k\pi)/2\delta} = \mathcal{O}(|\epsilon|^p)$ because of $0 < p < 1/2$. Since χ and δ will be of the order $|\epsilon|^0$, we have $k \ll -\ln|\epsilon|$ which corresponds to Eq. (28) in Ref. [8]. The estimate of ζ by Sasaki and Nakamura [7] is available not only for the black hole but also for the superspinar, in case of $\tilde{\omega} \simeq m/2$; $0 < \zeta < 2$. Thus the imaginary part of the QNM frequency $\tilde{\omega}_{\text{I}}$ is negative. This result implies that, under the condition (14), both the black hole and the superspinar are stable against the gravitational wave perturbations of $m = l$. We have found that there is at least one boundary condition under which the superspinar is stable against the gravitational perturbations of $m = l$, although the physical meaning of the boundary condition is unclear and needs to be further investigated.

4. Further consideration

Substituting Eqs. (10) and (11) into Eq. (13), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & D\sigma^{\tilde{s}} [\mathcal{F}(-\tilde{s}, \delta, -\tau/\sigma, -\tilde{\omega}) + \mathcal{F}(-\tilde{s}, -\delta, -\tau/\sigma, -\tilde{\omega})] \\ & = -C\sigma^{\frac{4i\tau}{\sigma}} [\mathcal{F}(\tilde{s}, \delta, \tau/\sigma, \tilde{\omega}) + \mathcal{F}(\tilde{s}, -\delta, \tau/\sigma, \tilde{\omega})], \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

where,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}(\tilde{s}, \delta, \tau/\sigma, \tilde{\omega}) &= (-2i\tilde{\omega})^{-i\delta} \Gamma(2i\delta) \Gamma(1 + 2i\delta) \\ &\times \Gamma(1 - \tilde{s} + 4i\tau/\sigma) \left[\Gamma(1/2 - \tilde{s} - 2i\tilde{\omega} + i\delta) \right. \\ &\times \left. \Gamma(1/2 - \tilde{s} + 2i\tilde{\omega} + i\delta) \Gamma(1/2 - 2i\tilde{\omega} + i\delta + 4i\tau/\sigma) \right]^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

As mentioned below Eq. (13), in contrast to the black hole, there are no conditions to determine C and D in the superspinar case, since there is no singular point in Eq. (8) on the real axis of r . This fact implies that there is no physical requirement that determines $\tilde{\omega}$ in the superspinar case. Hence we replace the question from usual one, i.e., “Which sign does $\tilde{\omega}_l$ have?” Since we do not know the physical nature of the superspinar, we would like to ask, “Are there boundary conditions under which the superspinar is stable?” If such boundary conditions exist, the stable superspinar will have a physical nature which leads to one of such boundary conditions.

The answer to this new question is “Yes”, since we may regard $\tilde{\omega}$ as an input parameter and Eq. (16) as an equation to determine the ratio between D and C : We may assume $\tilde{\omega} = m/2 + i\tilde{\omega}_l$ with $\tilde{\omega}_l = \mathcal{O}(|\epsilon|^p) < 0$. Since $\tilde{\omega}_l$ is arbitrary as long as it is negative and $\mathcal{O}(|\epsilon|^p)$, we therefore have an infinite number of boundary conditions under which the superspinar is stable. Once the ratio between C and D is determined through Eq. (16), we have the ratio between A and B through the matching condition (12). As a result, we have a damping solution of quasi-normal mode and can find the boundary condition at, for example, $y = 0$ by using this solution.

The present analysis is restricted to the modes of $m = l$ for the near-extremal case. However, the situations for the fundamental and overtone modes of general l and m are the same as in the case of $m = l$. Since the radial Teukolsky equation (4) for the superspinar has no singular point on the real axis, the solutions with any frequencies can be regular in the domain of $r > r_0$ under the no-incoming wave condition at infinity, where r_0 is an arbitrary constant: we do not have to solve the Teukolsky equation as an eigenvalue problem even if we require the regularity of the solution. After solving the Teukolsky equation under the no-incoming wave condition at infinity, we will find inner boundary conditions at $r = r_0$; the set of such inner boundary conditions for all complex frequencies is denoted by \mathcal{U}_{BC} . This fact implies that we may assume any spectrum of the QNM for each l and m , which is a discrete set of complex numbers with negative imaginary parts (e.g., the QNM spectrum of the Kerr black hole). This assumption is equivalent to that on boundary conditions at $r = r_0$, which are elements of \mathcal{U}_{BC} if and only if the frequencies are equal to those of assumed QNM spectrum. It is however a very non-trivial issue how to find out the physical information about the superspinar from the obtained boundary conditions at $r = r_0$, and hence it should be a future work. Although this is the “inverse problem” to the linear stability analysis, it is worthwhile to notice that the spectrum of the QNM frequencies cannot completely determine the physical nature of the superspinar since it does not uniquely fix the inner boundary condition.

The ergo-region instability is well known for a rapidly rotating compact object in which there is neither source nor absorber of the energy flux of perturbations [12–14]. Hence, it has been thought that a stable compact object with an ergo-region can only be a black hole. However, the present analysis suggests that this is not necessarily true, since we have not excluded a possibility that there is a source or an absorber of the energy flux “inside the superspinar”. There are infinite kinds of stable compact object with

ergo-regions, although we do not know whether they are composed of the physically reasonable matter.

5. A remark

Finally, we should note that our statement is consistent to the numerical results obtained by Pani et al. [5]. They solved the Teukolsky equation by imposing two kinds of the boundary conditions; one is the “reflection” and the other is the “absorption”. One of the boundary condition is imposed on a sphere of $r = r_0 = \text{constant}$ and r_0 is regarded as a free parameter. Fig. 3 in Ref. [5] shows that the imaginary part of the QNM frequency is negative, or equivalently, the superspinar is stable, for sufficiently large or small r_0 under the reflection boundary condition; For example, in the case of $r_0 = 2M$, the superspinar is stable against the perturbations of $m = 0, 1$ and 2 with $l = 2$. The larger m requires the larger r_0 so that the superspinar is stable. This tendency seems to be reasonable from the point of view of the ergo-region instability [12–14]; if there is an ergo-region around an axisymmetric stationary object, it is unstable against large m modes. If we regard r_0 as the surface of the superspinar, there is no ergo-region around the superspinar with $r_0 > 2M$. Hence it seems to be reasonable to conclude that no ergo-region instability may occur for sufficiently large r_0 . However, it should be noted that r_0 does not have to be a surface of the superspinar. A smooth extension of the solution to the domain, $r < r_0$, is always possible, since there is no singular point in the radial Teukolsky equation. Hence the reflection boundary condition at $r = r_0 > 2M$ is equivalent to some other regular boundary condition imposed at, for example, $r = M$. Hence, Fig. 3 in Ref. [5] implies that there are infinite kinds of boundary condition under which the superspinar is stable.

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