Innermost stable circular orbits around relativistic rotating stars

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(Received 3 June 1998; published 8 October 1998)

We investigate the innermost stable circular orbit (ISCO) of a test particle moving on the equatorial plane around rotating relativistic stars such as neutron stars. First, we derive approximate analytic formulas for the angular velocity and circumferential radius at the ISCO making use of an approximate relativistic solution which is characterized by arbitrary mass, spin, mass quadrupole, current octapole and mass 2⁴-pole moments. Then, we show that the analytic formulas are accurate enough by comparing them with numerical results, which are obtained by analyzing the vacuum exterior around numerically computed geometries for rotating stars of polytropic equation of state. We demonstrate that contribution of mass quadrupole moment for determining the angular velocity and, in particular, the circumferential radius at the ISCO around a rapidly rotating star is as important as that of spin. [S0556-2821(98)05120-0]

PACS number(s): 04.25.Nx, 04.40.Dg

I. INTRODUCTION

Observations of the low-mass x-ray binaries (LMXBs) with the Rossi x-ray Timing Explorer have revealed quasiperiodic oscillations (QPOs) around a frequency of ~1 kHz [1]. At present, more than 10 sources of kHz QPOs have been found [1]. One of the most impressive features of kHz QPOs is their very high frequency. The LMXBs are considered to be systems which include a neutron star of mass $M \sim 1.4 M_{\odot}$, where M_{\odot} denotes the solar mass, and the accretion disk around the neutron star. The Kepler frequency of the accretion disk is

$$f \simeq 1.185 \text{ kHz} \left(\frac{15 \text{ km}}{R}\right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{M}{1.4M_{\odot}}\right)^{1/2}$$
, (1.1)

where R denotes the circumferential radius around the neutron star. If the origin of the kHz QPOs is certain oscillation frequencies of the accretion disk surrounding a neutron star of low magnetic field, they must be generated at less than ten Schwarzschild radii of the neutron star. This means that the kHz QPOs may bring us a chance to explore general relativistic effects [2].

Several authors have recently suggested that at least some of the kHz QPOs may be related to the Kepler frequency at the innermost stable circular orbit (ISCO) of the accretion disk around a neutron star [1]. One of the most strong reasons is that in many sources, the maximum frequency of the kHz QPOs is in narrow range between 1.1 and 1.2 kHz, although they are thought to have very different mass accretion rates and magnetic fields. Because of the fact that the ISCO is determined by the property of the central neutron star, but not by the properties of the accretion disk, such as the mass accretion rate, it has been suggested that the origin of the kHz QPOs of the highest frequencies may be the Kepler frequency at the ISCO. If this is true, it means that we have a great opportunity to investigate general relativistic effects [3,2].

Another remarkable feature of kHz QPOs is that they exhibit some evidences that in the center of their sources, rapidly rotating neutron stars are involved as follows: (1) many sources display two peaks of the kHz QPO, and the fre-

quency difference between the twin peaks (Δf) changes only slightly with time although the frequency of each peak changes [1]; (2) some sources which possess twin peaks also exhibit very coherent oscillations of several hundred Hz in x-ray bursts [1], and the frequencies change little with time during the bursts. Furthermore, they are approximately equal to or twice Δf . Since the spin frequency of a neutron star is the only candidate which changes only slightly on short time scales, the origin of the frequency difference between the twin peaks of QPOs and the oscillation frequencies in the x-ray bursts seem to correspond to the spin frequencies (or twice them) of neutron stars [1]. This means that QPO sources include rapidly rotating neutron stars.

Since the ISCO is determined by the geometry around the star, it is important to ask if the geometry around a neutron star can be approximated by that around a black hole. If the electric charge is neutral, stationary black holes must be of the Kerr type due to the uniqueness theorem [4]. Kerr black holes have mass, spin, quadrupole moment and so on, but multipole moments higher than the quadrupole are expressed in terms of the mass M and the spin angular momentum $J = S_1 = qM^2 \quad (|q| < 1) \text{ as } M_{2l} = M(iqM)^{2l} \text{ and } S_{2l-1}$ = $-iM(iqM)^{2l-1} \quad (l = 1, 2, 3, ...)^1$ [5], where M_l and S_l denote the mass and current moments, respectively. This means that the geometry outside the black hole horizon is expressed only in terms of M and q. As a result, the ISCO is determined solely by them. However, this is not the case for neutron stars. In the neutron star case, multipole moments higher than and including the quadrupole do not depend on the mass and spin in such a simple manner, and they are determined when the equation of state of the neutron star is given.

The purpose of this paper is to point out the significance of the multipole moments (in particular, the mass quadrupole moment) of rapidly rotating neutron stars in determining the ISCO around them. This is due to the following fact: In the case of a Kerr black hole, the magnitude of the quadrupole moment is denoted by $M_2 = -q^2 M^3$ [5], and $|M_2|$ is always

¹In this paper, we use units of G = 1 = c, where G and c are the gravitational constant and speed of light.

smaller than M^3 . In this case, the effect of the quadrupole moment is not important except in the case $q \sim 1$. However, in the case of a rotating neutron star, $|M_2/q^2M^3|$ may be much larger than unity ~ 10 , and hence for rapidly rotating neutron stars which seem to be located at the center of QPO sources, $|M_2|$ may be larger than qM^3 for the case $q \ge 0.1$ [6]. In such a case, the effect due to the quadrupole moment is as important as that due to the spin.

The paper is organized as follows. In Sec. II, we derive approximate analytic formulas for the angular velocity and circumferential radius of the ISCO around a rotating object characterized by its mass, spin angular momentum, mass quadrupole, current octapole, and mass 2⁴-pole moments. In Sec. III, we perform numerical computations for obtaining stationary, axisymmetric spacetimes of rotating stars, and making use of the numerical results, we demonstrate that the accuracy of our formulas derived in Sec. II are accurate. Section IV is devoted to a summary.

II. APPROXIMATE ANALYTIC FORMULAS FOR THE ANGULAR VELOCITY AND CIRCUMFERENTIAL RADIUS AT ISCO

A. Basic equations

The line element of the vacuum exterior outside a stationary, axisymmetric rotating object is generally written as [7]

$$ds^{2} = -F(dt - \omega d\varphi)^{2} + \frac{1}{F} [e^{2\gamma} (d\rho^{2} + dz^{2}) + \rho^{2} d\varphi^{2}].$$
(2.1)

Throughout this paper, we assume that the spacetime has reflection symmetry with respect to the equatorial plane z = 0, so that F, ω , and γ are functions of ρ and |z|.

Our purpose is to derive approximate formulas for the angular velocity and circumferential radius at the ISCO of a test particle on the equatorial plane around a rotating object. In the case when the test particle stays on the equatorial plane (z=0), geodesic equations can be integrated to give

$$\frac{dt}{d\tau} = \frac{Eg_{\varphi\varphi} + \ell g_{t\varphi}}{g_2},\tag{2.2}$$

$$\frac{d\varphi}{d\tau} = \frac{Eg_{t\varphi} + \ell g_{tt}}{g_2},\tag{2.3}$$

$$g_{\rho\rho} \left(\frac{d\rho}{d\tau}\right)^2 = -1 + E^2 \frac{g_{\varphi\varphi}}{g_2} + 2E \ell \frac{g_{t\varphi}}{g_2} + \ell^2 \frac{g_{tt}}{g_2}$$
$$\equiv -V(\rho), \qquad (2.4)$$

where *E* and ℓ denote the specific energy and specific angular momentum of the test particle. $g_{tt} = -F$, $g_{t\varphi} = F\omega$, $g_{\varphi\varphi} = -F\omega^2 + \rho^2/F$, and $g_2 \equiv g_{t\varphi}^2 - g_{tt}g_{\varphi\varphi}$ ($g_2 = \rho^2$ in the present line element). For circular orbits, relations of the angular velocity Ω , *E*, and ℓ are derived from the conditions $V = 0 = dV/d\rho$ as

$$\Omega = \frac{d\varphi}{dt} = \frac{-g_{t\varphi,\rho} + \sqrt{(g_{t\varphi,\rho})^2 - g_{tt,\rho}g_{\varphi\varphi,\rho}}}{g_{\varphi\varphi,\rho}}, \qquad (2.5)$$

$$E = -\frac{g_{tt} + g_{t\varphi}\Omega}{\sqrt{-g_{tt} - 2g_{t\varphi}\Omega - g_{\varphi\varphi}\Omega^2}},$$
(2.6)

$$\ell = \frac{g_{t\varphi} + g_{\varphi\varphi}\Omega}{\sqrt{-g_{t\tau} - 2g_{t\varphi}\Omega - g_{\varphi\varphi}\Omega^2}}.$$
(2.7)

For simplicity, we only consider prograde orbits in this paper. A circular orbit is stable (unstable) if

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$$\frac{d^2 V}{d\rho^2} = \frac{1}{g_2} \left(\frac{d^2 g_2}{d\rho^2} - E^2 \frac{d^2 g_{\varphi\varphi}}{d\rho^2} - 2E \mathscr{I} \frac{d^2 g_{t\varphi}}{d\rho^2} - \mathscr{I}^2 \frac{d^2 g_{tt}}{d\rho^2} \right)$$
(2.8)

is positive (negative). Hence, the coordinate radius ρ and Ω at the ISCO are determined from the condition where $d^2V/d\rho^2$ is vanishing.

Note that Eq. (2.8) is independent of metric function γ . Also, the angular velocity Ω and the circumferential radius $(\sqrt{g_{\varphi\varphi}} \equiv R)$ are independent of γ . Thus, we only need *F* and ω in the following.

B. Metric from the Ernst potential

A stationary axisymmetric vacuum geometry is completely determined by the Ernst potential [8], which is defined as

$$\mathcal{E} = F + i\psi = \frac{\sqrt{\rho^2 + z^2} - \xi}{\sqrt{\rho^2 + z^2} + \xi},$$
(2.9)

where $F = -g_{tt}$ and ξ is a complex potential. If we know ψ , ω is calculated as

$$\omega = -\int_{\infty}^{\rho} \frac{\rho'}{F^2} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial z} d\rho' \bigg|_{\text{constant } z}.$$
 (2.10)

Thus, once we know ξ , we have all the necessary information.

 ξ has the property that it can be expanded as [9,10]

$$\xi = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_{2j,k} \frac{\rho^{2j} z^k}{(\rho^2 + z^2)^{2j+k}},$$
(2.11)

where $a_{j,k}$ are complex constants in which information of the multipole moments of spacetime is completely contained. Note that $a_{j,k}$ is nonzero only for non-negative, even j and non-negative k. Also, because of reflection symmetry with respect to the equatorial plane, $a_{j,k}$ is real for even k, and pure imaginary for odd k. Note that for investigation of the ISCO on the equatorial plane, we only need $a_{j,0}$ and $a_{j,1}$.

Fodor, Hoenselaers, and Perjes (FHP) [9] show that all the components of $a_{j,k}$ are derived by the following recursive relation

$$a_{r,s+2} = \frac{1}{(s+1)(s+2)} \bigg[-(r+2)^2 a_{r+2,s} + \sum_{k,l,p,j} a_{k,l} a_{r-k-p,s-l-j}^* \{a_{p,j}(p^2+j^2-4p-5j - 2pk-2jl-2) + a_{p+2,j-2}(p+2)(p+2-2k) + a_{p-2,j+2}(j+2)(j+1-2l)\} \bigg], \qquad (2.12)$$

where the sum is taken for $0 \le k \le r$, $0 \le l \le s+1$, $0 \le p \le r-k$, and $-1 \le j \le s-l$ [10], and $a_{j,k}^*$ denotes the complex conjugate of $a_{j,k}$. As pointed out in Ref. [10], it can be shown that $a_{r,s+2}$ ($s \ge 0$) is a function of $a_{j,0}$ and $a_{j-1,1}$ with $j \le r+s+2$. This means that if we know $a_{j,0}$ and $a_{j,1}$ for $j \ge 0$, the entire spacetime metric (and of course, the metric on the equatorial plane) are completely determined. Note that if we know $a_{j,0}$ up to j = 2n and $a_{j,1}$ up to j = 2n-2, we can calculate $a_{0,k}$ up to k = 2n. Conversely, if we know $a_{0,k}$ up to k = 2n, we can calculate $a_{j,0}$ up to j = 2n and $a_{j,1}$ up to j = 2n-2.

In principle, we can calculate terms of $a_{j,k}$ up to arbitrary large j and k using Eq. (2.12). In practice, however, we have to truncate higher terms. To access an appropriate truncation point, we can make use of the solution for slowly rotating black holes of the mass M and the angular momentum J $(=S_1) \ll M^2$. In this case,

$$\xi = \frac{M\rho}{\sqrt{\rho^2 + M^2}} + \frac{iz\rho J}{(\rho^2 + M^2)^{3/2}} + O(z^2), \qquad (2.13)$$

where we have neglected terms of $O(J^2/M^4)$. Note that ρ is related to the Schwarzschild radial coordinate r_s as $\rho = \sqrt{r_s(r_s - 2M)}$. The Schwarzschild coordinate radius of the ISCO is $r_s = 6M(1 - \sqrt{8/27}J/M^2)$, so that the radius of the ISCO in ρ is given by

$$\rho_{\rm ISCO} = \sqrt{24}M - \frac{10J}{3M}.$$
 (2.14)

We have investigated how the estimated values of $\rho_{\rm ISCO}$ differ from the above one by expanding ξ in terms of $O(M/\rho)$ as

$$\xi = 1 - \frac{M^2}{2\rho^2} + \frac{3M^4}{8\rho^4} - \frac{5M^6}{16\rho^6} + \frac{35M^8}{128\rho^8} - \frac{63M^{10}}{256\rho^{10}} + i\frac{zJ}{\rho^2} \\ \times \left(1 - \frac{3M^2}{2\rho^2} + \frac{15M^4}{8\rho^4} - \frac{35M^6}{16\rho^6} + \frac{315M^8}{128\rho^8}\right) + O(\rho^{-12}).$$
(2.15)

We have found that in the case when we take up to $O(\rho^{-6})$, $O(\rho^{-8})$, and $O(\rho^{-10})$ terms, the errors in $\rho_{\rm ISCO}$ are about 4×10^{-4} , 10^{-5} and 4×10^{-7} , respectively, for the coefficient of *M*, and about 2×10^{-3} , 10^{-4} and 4×10^{-6} , respectively, for the coefficient of *J/M*. The order of magnitude of the errors in $\Omega_{\rm ISCO}$ have turned out to be almost the same as

those in $\rho_{\rm ISCO}$. Thus, we expect that this method will generate a fairly accurate approximate formula even if we include the higher multipole moments. In the following, we take $a_{j,0}$ up to j = 10 and $a_{j,1}$ up to j = 8, i.e., we take into account all the terms up to $O(\rho^{-10})$ consistently. In other word, we calculate $a_{0,k}$ up to k = 10, and neglect $a_{0,k}$ of $k \ge 11$.

C. Results

Our strategy for determining the ISCO is as follows. First, we assume that the spacetime is characterized by mass M, spin angular momentum $J(=S_1)=qM^2$, mass quadrupole $M_2=-Q_2M^3$, current octapole moments $S_3=-q_3M^4$, and mass 2⁴-pole $M_4=Q_4M^5$, and neglect the higher multipole moments. Note that q, Q_2 , q_3 , and Q_4 are positive for a rotating star in a prograde spin.

In the case of a rotating neutron star, we may assume $q \sim O(\epsilon_1)$, $Q_2 \sim O(\epsilon_2)$, $q_3 \sim O(\epsilon_1 \epsilon_2)$, $Q_4 \sim O(\epsilon_2^2)$, where $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2 \ll 1$, because q and Q_2 are expected to be less than unity. For a slowly rotating neutron star, $Q_2 \sim O(q^2)$, so that $\epsilon_2 \sim O(\epsilon_1^2)$. In this case, $Q_2 \sim O(\epsilon_1^2)$, $q_3 \sim O(\epsilon_1^3)$, $Q_4 \sim O(\epsilon_1^4)$. However, for a rapidly rotating neutron star, Q_2 can be as large as q, so that whenever the terms proportional to q^2 make a significant contribution, we should also take into account the terms proportional to Q_2^2 , Q_4 , qq_3 , and so on. This is the reason why we take into account S_3 and M_4 .

Hereafter, we expand all the quantities by means of $\epsilon \equiv \epsilon_1$ by formally setting $q \rightarrow \epsilon q$, $Q_2 \rightarrow \epsilon^2 Q_2$, $q_3 \rightarrow \epsilon^3 q_3$, and $Q_4 \rightarrow \epsilon^4 Q_4$, and retain all the terms up to $O(\epsilon^4)$ consistently. Thus, the formulas derived below are accurate up to $O(\epsilon_1^4)$ for a slowly rotating neutron star. Even for a rapidly rotating neutron star, the formulas include all the terms of $O(\epsilon_1)$, $O(\epsilon_2)$, $O(\epsilon_1^2)$, $O(\epsilon_2^2)$, and $O(\epsilon_1 \epsilon_2)$. Hence, they are still accurate to $O(Q_2^2)$.

As mentioned in the previous subsection, we need $a_{0,k}$ up to k=10. Relation between multipole moments and $a_{0,k}$ for $0 \le k \le 10$ have been already given by FHP [9]. Hence, by using them, we can calculate $a_{2j,0}$ $(1 \le j \le 5)$ and $a_{2j,1}$ $(1 \le j \le 4)$ up to $O(\epsilon^4)$ using Eq. (2.12) [11]. (The explicit forms of $a_{0,k}$, $a_{2j,0}$ and $a_{2j,1}$ are shown in Appendix A.) Once ξ is determined up to $O(\rho^{-10})$, F and ω are straightforwardly obtained from Eqs. (2.9) and (2.10) in the following form:

$$F = 1 + \sum_{j=1}^{11} C_{F,j} \left(\frac{M}{\rho}\right)^j + O(\rho^{-12}), \qquad (2.16)$$

$$\omega = \sum_{j=3}^{11} C_{\omega,j} \frac{M^{j-1}}{\rho^j} + O(\rho^{-12}), \qquad (2.17)$$

where $C_{F,j}$ and $C_{\omega,j}$ are functions of q, Q_2 , q_3 , and Q_4 . Substituting these equations into $d^2V/d\rho^2 = 0$, we rewrite Eq. (2.8) in the form

$$\sum_{i=0}^{4} \epsilon^{i} A_{i}(\rho) = 0, \qquad (2.18)$$

where the coefficients A_i are independent of ϵ but depend on q, Q_2 , q_3 , Q_4 , and ρ . These coefficients can be explicitly written out by substituting Eqs. (2.16) and (2.17) into Eq. (2.8) [making use of Eqs. (2.6) and (2.7)] and gathering in powers of ϵ . We then look for a solution in the form

$$\rho = \sum_{i=0}^{4} \epsilon^{i} c_{i}, \qquad (2.19)$$

where we know that $c_0 = \sqrt{24}M$ and $c_1 = -10qM/3$. Imposing that Eq. (2.18) holds in each order of ϵ , it is rewritten into three algebraic equations for c_2 , c_3 , and c_4 as

$$\frac{1}{2}\frac{d^2A_0}{d\rho^2}c_1^2 + \frac{dA_0}{d\rho}c_2 + \frac{dA_1}{d\rho}c_1 + A_2 = 0, \qquad (2.20)$$

$$\frac{1}{6} \frac{d^3 A_0}{d\rho^3} c_1^3 + \frac{d^2 A_0}{d\rho^2} c_1 c_2 + \frac{d A_0}{d\rho} c_3 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 A_1}{d\rho^2} c_1^2 + \frac{d A_1}{d\rho} c_2 + \frac{d A_2}{d\rho} c_1 + A_3 = 0, \qquad (2.21)$$

$$\frac{1}{24} \frac{d^4 A_0}{d\rho^4} c_1^4 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^3 A_0}{d\rho^3} c_1^2 c_2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 A_0}{d\rho^2} (c_2^2 + 2c_1 c_3) + \frac{d A_0}{d\rho} c_4 + \frac{1}{6} \frac{d^3 A_1}{d\rho^3} c_1^3 + \frac{d^2 A_1}{d\rho^2} c_1 c_2 + \frac{d A_1}{d\rho} c_3 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 A_2}{d\rho^2} c_1^2 + \frac{d A_2}{d\rho} c_2 + \frac{d A_3}{d\rho} c_1 + A_4 = 0, \quad (2.22)$$

where A_k and their derivatives are evaluated at $\rho = c_0$. From these algebraic equations we obtain

$$c_{2} \approx (-1.41671q^{2} + 1.07648Q_{2})M,$$

$$c_{3} \approx (-1.45081q^{3} + 1.60313qQ_{2} - 0.32561q_{3})M,$$

$$c_{4} \approx (-1.87941q^{4} + 2.74953q^{2}Q_{2} - 0.37568Q_{2}^{2} + 0.09377Q_{4} - 0.70086qq_{3})M. \qquad (2.23)$$

Using these approximate solutions, we reach approximate expressions for the angular velocity and circumferential radius of the ISCO, Ω_{ISCO} and R_{ISCO} , as follows:

$$\begin{split} \Omega_{\rm ISCO} &= \frac{1}{6\sqrt{6}M} (1 + 0.74846q + 0.78059q^2 - 0.23429Q_2 \\ &\quad + 0.98094q^3 - 0.64406qQ_2 + 0.07432q_3 \\ &\quad + 1.38118q^4 - 1.41729q^2Q_2 + 0.12798Q_2^2 \\ &\quad - 0.02129Q_4 + 0.25028qq_3), \end{split} \tag{2.24}$$

$$R_{\rm ISCO} = 6M(1 - 0.54433q - 0.22619q^{2} + 0.17989Q_{2} - 0.23002q^{3} + 0.26296qQ_{2} - 0.05317q_{3} - 0.29693q^{4} + 0.44546q^{2}Q_{2} - 0.06249Q_{2}^{2} + 0.01544Q_{4} - 0.11310qq_{3}).$$
(2.25)

For the case of Kerr metric, $Q_2 = q^2$, $q_3 = q^3$, and $Q_4 = q^4$, we obtain

$$\Omega_{\rm ISCO} = \frac{1}{6\sqrt{6}M} (1 + 0.74846q + 0.54630q^2 + 0.41120q^3 + 0.32085q^4), \tag{2.26}$$

$$R_{\rm ISCO} = 6M(1 - 0.54433q) - 0.04630q^2 - 0.02023q^3 - 0.01162q^4).$$
(2.27)

On the other hand, the exact Kerr solution gives [12]

$$\Omega_{\rm ISCO}^{\rm Kerr} = \frac{1}{6\sqrt{6}M} (1 + 0.74846q + 0.54630q^2 + 0.41108q^3 + 0.31991q^4 + O(q^5)),$$
(2.28)

$$R_{\rm ISCO}^{\rm Kerr} = 6M(1 - 0.54433q) - 0.04630q^2 - 0.02016q^3 - 0.01110q^4 + O(q^5)).$$
(2.29)

Thus, the error of the coefficients in our approximate formulas of $\Omega_{\rm ISCO}$ and $R_{\rm ISCO}$ is less than 10^{-4} for $O(\epsilon^2)$ terms, less than 10^{-3} for $O(\epsilon^3)$ terms, and $\sim 10^{-2}$ for $O(\epsilon^4)$ terms. Hence, for slowly rotating neutron stars (q < 0.1), our formulas are accurate enough. Even for very rapidly rotating neutron stars of $q, Q_2 \sim 0.5$, we may expect that they will yield very accurate values.

We note that in Eqs. (2.24) and (2.25), the signs of coefficients of the terms including Q_2 such as Q_2 , qQ_2 and q^2Q_2 are opposite to those of q^k (k=1-4) terms. As shown in Ref. [6], Q_2/q^2 is always larger than unity for a rotating neutron star, and hence Q_2 may be of O(q) for rapidly rotating neutron stars of $q \ge 0.1$. This implies that for rapidly rotating neutron stars, the effect due to the q^n terms is significantly suppressed by that due to Q_2 . Thus, we conclude that the effect of the quadrupole is important in determining the ISCO even when $q \sim 0.1$. On the other hand, the coefficients of q_3 and Q_4 are smaller than those of q and Q_2 . Thus, their contributions are small.

The formulas of *E* and ℓ at the ISCO are shown in Appendix B.

III. NUMERICAL STUDY

To confirm the accuracy of the formulas derived in Sec. II, we compare them with numerical solutions. We numerically construct stationary, axisymmetric spacetimes of relativistic rotating stars with a polytropic equation of state using Komatsu, Eriguchi, and Hachisu method [13]. Then, we estimate $\Omega_{\rm ISCO}$ and $R_{\rm ISCO}$ as well as the multipole moments of the numerically generated spacetimes. It is desirable to include all the multipole moments up to Q_4 , and compare our analytic formulas with the numerical results. However, accurate numerical calculation of Q_4 is difficult. In this section, we simply set $Q_4 = \alpha Q_2^4$. For the Newtonian incompressible case (Maclaurin spheroid case), $\alpha = 15/7$, and for Newtonian compressible case, we find $\alpha < 15/7$. Because of general relativistic effects, stars are more centrally condensed than those in the Newtonian case, so that we expect that α in general relativity is smaller than that in the Newtonian theory, i.e., $0 < \alpha \leq 2$. Hence, we simply set $\alpha = 1$. Fortunately, the coefficients of Q_4 in $\Omega_{\rm ISCO}$ and $R_{\rm ISCO}$ are small, so that our rough treatment does not affect the result much. In fact, we also set $\alpha = 0$ and 2, but our conclusion is not changed at all.

A. Basic equations

We consider the energy momentum tensor of an ideal fluid,

$$T_{\mu\sigma} = \rho_b \left(1 + \varepsilon + \frac{P}{\rho_b} \right) u_{\mu} u_{\sigma} + P g_{\mu\sigma}, \qquad (3.1)$$

where ρ_b , *P*, ε , u^{μ} , and $g_{\mu\sigma}$ are the baryon rest mass density, pressure, specific internal energy, four velocity, and spacetime metric. We adopt the polytropic equation of state,

$$P = K\rho_b^{\Gamma} = (\Gamma - 1)\rho_b\varepsilon; \quad \Gamma = 1 + \frac{1}{n}, \quad (3.2)$$

where K and n are the polytropic constant and the polytropic index.

We only consider the case when stars uniformly rotate around the *z*-axis. Hence, we set $u^r = u^{\theta} = 0$ and $u^{\varphi} = u^0 \Omega_s$, where Ω_s is the spin angular velocity of the rotating star. In this case, the fluid equations of motion are easily integrated to give [14]

$$\frac{h^2}{(u^0)^2} = -h^2(g_{tt} + 2g_{t\varphi}\Omega_s + g_{\varphi\varphi}\Omega_s^2)$$
$$= \text{const.}$$
(3.3)

where $h = 1 + \varepsilon + P/\rho_h = 1 + \Gamma \varepsilon$.

Following Butterworth and Ipser [15], we write the line element as

$$ds^{2} = -e^{2\nu}dt^{2} + r^{2}\sin^{2}\theta B^{2}e^{-2\nu}(d\varphi - \omega dt)^{2} + e^{2\zeta - 2\nu}(dr^{2} + r^{2}d\theta^{2}), \qquad (3.4)$$

where ν , *B*, ζ , and ω are field functions depending on *r* and θ . We present the field equations for these variables and briefly describe our numerical method in Appendix C.

Once the field variables are computed, the ISCO on the equatorial plane is found making use of Eq. (2.8) together with Eqs. (2.5)–(2.7). To examine the accuracy of our approximate analytic formulas derived in Sec. II, we also need to estimate the multipole moments. For M and q, we have the formulas as [15]

$$M = \int d^{3}x [e^{2\zeta} \rho_{b} B[2h(u^{0})^{2} - e^{-2\nu} \{1 + \varepsilon(2 - \Gamma)\}]$$

+ $2r^{2} \sin^{2} \theta(\Omega_{s} - \omega) \omega B^{3}(u^{0})^{2} e^{2\zeta - 4\nu} \rho_{b} h], \qquad (3.5)$

$$q = \frac{1}{M^2} \int d^3x r^2 \sin^2\theta (\Omega_s - \omega) B^3(u^0)^2 e^{2\zeta - 4\nu} \rho_b h. \quad (3.6)$$

For Q_2 and q_3 , we estimate them by using the asymptotic behaviors of ν and ω . For $r \rightarrow \infty$, ν , ω and *B* behaves as [15]

$$\nu \to -\frac{M}{r} + \frac{B_0 M}{3r^3} + \frac{Q_2 M^3}{r^3} P_2(y) + O(r^{-4}),$$
 (3.7)

$$\omega \to \frac{2qM^2}{r^3} - \frac{6qM^3}{r^4} + \frac{6}{5} \left[8 - \frac{3B_0}{M^2} \right] \frac{qM^4}{r^5} - \frac{q_3M^4}{r^5} (5y^2 - 1) + O(r^{-6}), \qquad (3.8)$$

$$B \to 1 + \frac{B_0}{r^2} + O(r^{-4}),$$
 (3.9)

where $y = \cos \theta$, $P_2(y) = (3y^2 - 1)/2$, and B_0 is a constant which is $-M^2/4$ for spherical cases. When we numerically obtain ν , ω , and B, we can extract information of Q_2 and q_3 at a large radius $r \ge M$ near the outer numerical boundary $(r=r_{\text{max}})$ as

$$Q_2 = 5 \frac{r^3}{M^3} \int_0^1 dy P_2(y) \nu, \qquad (3.10)$$

$$q_3 = -\frac{21r^5}{16M^4} \int_0^1 dy (5y^2 - 1)(1 - y^2)\omega.$$
 (3.11)

We evaluate Q_2 and q_3 at various large radii, and find that Q_2 quickly converges as $r \rightarrow r_{\text{max}}$. This suggests that the error for estimation of Q_2 is very small (we guess it is less than 1%). This is mainly because the coefficient of $O(r^{-4})$ part in ν is not large. On the other hand, convergence of q_3 at $r \rightarrow r_{\text{max}}$ is slow because the coefficient of $O(r^{-6})$ part in ω is large [15]. To obtain q_3 accurately, it is desirable to attach the outer numerical boundary as $r_{\text{max}} \gg M$, but to do that we need to take many grid points and hence need a long computational time. To save computational time, we use here an extrapolation method to estimate q_3 ; i.e., we calculate q_3 at several large radii which are not near the outer boundary (r

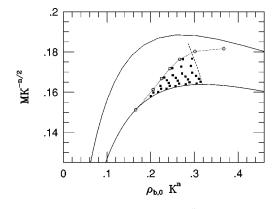


FIG. 1. Relation between mass $(MK^{-n/2})$ and density at r=0 $(\rho_{b,0}K^n)$ for n=1 polytrope. Lower and upper solid lines denote the relations for the spherical star and for the rotating star at the mass shed limit. Dotted line (with open circles) divides two regions where the ISCO exists or not: It exists below the line. Dashed line divides the stable and unstable branches: The left-hand side is the stable region. Filled squares denote data sets which are compared to our analytic formulas.

 $\sim 3r_{\text{max}}/4$), and extrapolate true value of q_3 at $r \rightarrow \infty$ by assuming that q_3 behaves as $q_3(r) = q_3(\infty) + C/r$ for the large radii, where *C* is a constant. Since this method is rough, we guess that the error of q_3 may be $\sim 10\%$ in this method. However, the large error in q_3 does not affect the following analysis much because the coefficients of q_3 terms in Ω_{ISCO} and R_{ISCO} are fortunately small. The important quantities in our analysis are *M*, *q* and Q_2 . We mention that we have also evaluated *M* and *q* by using

$$M = -r \int_{0}^{1} dy \,\nu, \qquad (3.12)$$
$$q = \left[1 - \frac{3M}{r} + \frac{3}{5} \left(8 - \frac{3B_0}{M^2}\right)\right]^{-1} \frac{3r^3}{4M^2} \int_{0}^{1} dy (1 - y^2) \omega, \qquad (3.13)$$

and confirmed that M calculated by Eqs. (3.5) and (3.12) and J calculated by Eqs. (3.6) and (3.13), respectively, agree very well.

B. Results

As the polytropic index, we set n=1. In Fig. 1, we show the relation between $\rho_{b,0}$ (ρ_b at r=0) and M for the case n=1. Note that in the figure, we plot nondimensional quantities $\rho_{b,0}K^n$ and $MK^{-n/2}$. The lower and upper solid lines denote the relations for the spherical star and for the rotating star at the mass shed limit, respectively. The filled squares denote data sets that are used for comparison with our analytic formulas. The dotted line is the critical line above which the ISCO ceases to exist. For sufficiently large $\rho_{b,0}$, stars are unstable against radial gravitational collapse [16]. The dashed line divides the stable and unstable branches: The left-hand side of it is the stable region. (Here, for judging the stability against the gravitational collapse, we have applied the turning point method shown in Ref. [17].) Since unstable stars are not realized in nature, we exclude numerical data in the unstable region.

In Table I, we show all the data we use in our analysis. As pointed out in Ref. [6], Q_2/q^2 is always greater than unity. (For the data in Table I, $2 \leq Q_2/q^2 \leq 4$.)

In Fig. 2, we show

$$\Delta_{\Omega}(l) = 6\sqrt{6}M[\Omega_{\rm ISCO}^{\rm numerical} - \Omega_{\rm ISCO}(l)],$$

$$\Delta_r(l) = \frac{1}{6M}[R_{\rm ISCO}^{\rm numerical} - R_{\rm ISCO}(l)], \qquad (3.14)$$

as a function of Q_2 . Here, $\Omega_{\rm ISCO}(l)$ and $R_{\rm ISCO}(l)$ $(1 \le l \le 4)$ denote the analytic formulas in which we include terms up to $O(\epsilon^l)$. We also define $\Delta_{\Omega}^{\rm Kerr}$ and $\Delta_r^{\rm Kerr}$ in which we use the analytic relations for the Kerr metric. The open circles, crosses, filled circles, open triangles and open squares denote $\Delta_a^{\rm Kerr}$, $\Delta_a(1)$, $\Delta_a(2)$, $\Delta_a(3)$ and $\Delta_a(4)$ $(a=\Omega \text{ or } r)$, respectively.

From Fig. 2, we find apparently that the Kerr formulas for the ISCO are not appropriate at all. The formula $R_{\rm ISCO}(1)$ is as bad as the Kerr formula, but $\Omega_{\rm ISCO}(1)$ is fairly good. The latter feature seems accidental: Since the relation $Q_2 \sim \alpha q^2$ with $\alpha \sim 2-4$ holds, cancellations between q^2 and Q_2 terms, between q^3 and qQ_2 terms, and among q^4 , q^2Q_2 and Q_4 terms occur. [In contrast, if $Q_2 \sim q^2$, $R_{\rm ISCO}(1)$ will be bad, while $\Omega_{\rm ISCO}(1)$ will be good. If $Q_2 \sim 10q^2$, both formulas will not be good at all.]

It should be stressed that for small Q_2 , $\Delta_{\Omega}^{\text{Kerr}}$ and Δ_r^{Kerr} [also $\Delta_r(1)$] are roughly proportional to Q_2 , while $\Delta_{\Omega}(2)$ and $\Delta_r(2)$ remain very small. Recalling that in the Kerr formulas $\Omega_{\text{ISCO}}^{\text{Kerr}}$ and $R_{\text{ISCO}}^{\text{Kerr}}$, the effect of Q_2 as an independent variable is absent, this feature implies a substantial effect of Q_2 on the determination of the ISCO around neutron stars even for $q \sim 0.1$.

We find the errors of the formulas $\Omega_{\rm ISCO}(2)$ and $R_{\rm ISCO}(2)$ are always very small for small $Q_2 < 0.2$ ($q \le 0.2$ in this case). For large $Q_2 > 0.2$, however, the errors gradually increase. This indicates that the effect of the terms of $O(Q_2^2)$ (such as Q_4) is not negligible. Therefore, it should be necessary to correctly take into account the terms of $O(Q_2^2)$, in order to give an appropriate formula for very rapidly rotating neutron stars. Note, however, that Fig. 2 also indicates that Δ_a ($a = \Omega$ or r) adequately converges to zero by adding higher order terms in ϵ . Thus, unless $q, Q_2 \ge 1$, an appropriate formula for very rapidly rotating neutron stars of large qand Q_2 can be derived along the line presented in this paper.

IV. SUMMARY

In this paper, we have investigated the ISCO of a test particle moving on the equatorial plane around a rotating object. We have derived fairly accurate approximate formulas for the angular velocity and circumferential radius of the ISCO including mass, spin, quadrupole, current octapole, mass 2⁴-pole moments of a rotating object. Our formulas show that the effect of quadrupole moment is important for determining the angular velocity and, in particular, the cir-

TABLE I. Numerical data for n=1 polytrope which we adopt in Sec. III. Note that R_e denotes the circumferential radius at the stellar surface on the equatorial plane. Because $M\Omega_s(\equiv \chi)$ is an invariant quantity irrespective of scaling of K, we can calculate the spin angular frequency of stars from the following data approximately as 370 Hz($\chi/0.016$)(1.4 M_{\odot}/M).

$\rho_{b,0}K^n$	$MK^{-n/2}$	$R_e K^{-n/2}$	$\Omega_s K^{n/2}$	q	Q_2	q_3	$R_{\rm ISCO}/6M$	$\Omega_{\rm ISCO} 6 \sqrt{6} M$
0.200	0.158	0.870	0.061	9.48×10^{-2}	3.53×10^{-2}	6.9×10 ⁻³	0.953	1.068
0.217	0.160	0.852	0.064	9.43×10^{-2}	3.19×10^{-2}	6.1×10^{-3}	0.953	1.069
0.236	0.162	0.833	0.067	9.38×10^{-2}	2.91×10^{-2}	5.4×10^{-3}	0.953	1.069
0.257	0.163	0.814	0.070	9.34×10^{-2}	2.66×10^{-2}	4.8×10^{-3}	0.952	1.070
0.280	0.164	0.795	0.073	9.31×10^{-2}	2.41×10^{-2}	4.4×10^{-3}	0.952	1.070
0.305	0.164	0.776	0.076	9.28×10^{-2}	2.22×10^{-2}	4.0×10^{-3}	0.952	1.070
0.206	0.160	0.869	0.098	1.50×10^{-1}	8.45×10^{-2}	2.6×10^{-2}	0.931	1.105
0.224	0.162	0.851	0.103	1.49×10^{-1}	7.66×10^{-2}	2.3×10^{-2}	0.930	1.106
0.243	0.163	0.832	0.107	1.49×10^{-1}	6.99×10^{-2}	2.1×10^{-2}	0.929	1.108
0.265	0.164	0.813	0.112	1.48×10^{-1}	6.36×10^{-2}	1.8×10^{-2}	0.928	1.109
0.289	0.165	0.794	0.116	1.47×10^{-1}	5.82×10^{-2}	1.7×10^{-2}	0.927	1.110
0.314	0.165	0.775	0.121	1.47×10^{-1}	5.36×10^{-2}	1.5×10^{-2}	0.927	1.111
0.222	0.163	0.863	0.144	2.12×10^{-1}	1.53×10^{-1}	6.6×10^{-2}	0.908	1.145
0.241	0.165	0.844	0.150	2.11×10^{-1}	1.39×10^{-1}	5.9×10^{-2}	0.906	1.149
0.262	0.166	0.825	0.156	2.10×10^{-1}	1.27×10^{-1}	5.3×10^{-2}	0.904	1.152
0.285	0.166	0.806	0.163	2.10×10^{-1}	1.17×10^{-1}	4.8×10^{-2}	0.902	1.154
0.310	0.167	0.787	0.170	2.09×10^{-1}	1.07×10^{-1}	4.3×10^{-2}	0.901	1.157
0.237	0.166	0.859	0.181	2.60×10^{-1}	2.11×10^{-1}	1.1×10^{-1}	0.891	1.176
0.257	0.167	0.840	0.189	2.59×10^{-1}	1.93×10^{-1}	9.9×10^{-2}	0.888	1.181
0.280	0.168	0.820	0.197	2.58×10^{-1}	1.77×10^{-1}	8.9×10^{-2}	0.885	1.186
0.304	0.168	0.801	0.205	2.57×10^{-1}	1.63×10^{-1}	8.1×10^{-2}	0.883	1.190
0.231	0.167	0.876	0.206	3.03×10^{-1}	2.86×10^{-1}	1.7×10^{-1}	0.882	1.196
0.251	0.168	0.857	0.214	3.01×10^{-1}	2.61×10^{-1}	1.6×10^{-1}	0.877	1.203
0.272	0.169	0.838	0.223	3.00×10^{-1}	2.40×10^{-1}	1.4×10^{-1}	0.873	1.210
0.295	0.170	0.818	0.232	2.99×10^{-1}	2.21×10^{-1}	1.3×10^{-1}	0.870	1.216
0.249	0.172	0.883	0.258	3.71×10^{-1}	3.84×10^{-1}	2.9×10^{-1}	0.862	1.237
0.270	0.173	0.863	0.269	3.70×10^{-1}	3.54×10^{-1}	2.6×10^{-1}	0.856	1.247
0.292	0.173	0.844	0.279	3.68×10^{-1}	3.27×10^{-1}	2.4×10^{-1}	0.851	1.257
0.274	0.176	0.887	0.307	4.28×10^{-1}	4.53×10^{-1}	3.9×10^{-1}	0.844	1.276
0.294	0.177	0.869	0.318	4.26×10^{-1}	4.22×10^{-1}	3.5×10^{-1}	0.837	1.288

cumferential radius of the ISCO for rapidly rotating neutron stars of $Q_2 \gtrsim q$ [6].

In a recent paper, Miller, Lamb, and Cook [2] performed a numerical computation for analyzing the ISCO around rapidly rotating neutron stars, and pointed out that $\Omega_{\rm ISCO}$ and in particular $R_{\rm ISCO}$ are not correctly determined by the first order analytic treatment in q. Our present study clarifies the reason for inaccuracy of the first order formula which is mainly due to the neglection of the quadrupole moment.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Numerical computation was in part performed using FACOM VX/4R in the data processing center of National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ). This work was in part supported by a Japanese Grant-in-Aid of Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Sports (Nos. 08NP0801 and 09740336).

APPENDIX A: COEFFICIENTS FOR THE ERNST POTENTIAL

FHP [9] give

$$a_{0,0} = M, \quad a_{0,1} = iJ, \quad a_{0,2} = M_2,$$

$$a_{0,3} = iS_3, \quad a_{0,4} = M_4 + \frac{M_{20}M}{7},$$

$$a_{0,5} = -i\frac{JM_{20}}{21} + \frac{M_{30}M}{3},$$

$$a_{0,6} = -\frac{M_{20}M^3}{33} + \frac{5M_{20}M_2}{231}$$

$$-\frac{4iM_{30}J}{33} + \frac{8M_{31}M}{33} + \frac{6M_{40}M}{11},$$

$$a_{0,7} = \frac{19iM_{20}M^2J}{429} - \frac{15M_{30}M^3}{143} + M^8O(\epsilon^5)$$

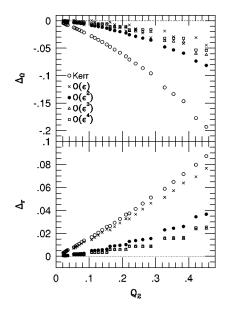


FIG. 2. Δ_{Ω} and Δ_r as functions of Q_2 for n=1 polytrope. Open circles, crosses, filled circles, open triangles and open squares denote Δ_a^{Kerr} , $\Delta_a(1)$, $\Delta_a(2)$, $\Delta_a(3)$ and $\Delta_a(4)$ ($a = \Omega$ or r), respectively.

$$a_{0,8} = \frac{M_{20}M^5}{143} + \frac{53M_{20}MJ^2}{3003} - \frac{311M_{20}M_2M^2}{3003} + \frac{36iM_{30}M^2J}{143} - \frac{3M^3}{13}(M_{31} + M_{40}) + M^9O(\epsilon^5),$$

$$a_{0,9} = -\frac{43iM_{20}M^4J}{2431} + \frac{7M_{30}M^5}{221} + M^{10}O(\epsilon^5),$$

$$a_{0,10} = -\frac{7M_{20}M^7}{4199} + \frac{4423M_{20}M^4M_2}{138567} - \frac{202M_{20}M^3J^2}{12597} - \frac{462iM_{30}M^4J}{4199} + \frac{28M^5}{323}(M_{31} + M_{40}) + M^{11}O(\epsilon^5),$$
(A1)

where $M_{20} = MM_2 + J^2$, $M_{30} = i(S_3M - M_2J)$, $M_{31} = -S_3J - M_2^2$, and $M_{40} = M_4M + S_3J$ [9].

Using Eq. (2.12), $a_{2j,0}$ $(1 \le j \le 5)$ and $a_{2j,1}$ $(1 \le j \le 4)$ up to $O(\epsilon^4)$ are calculated as

$$\begin{split} a_{2,0} &= -\frac{M^3}{2}(1-Q_2), \\ a_{4,0} &= \frac{M^5}{56}(21+10q^2-52Q_2+21Q_4), \\ a_{6,0} &= M^7 \bigg(-\frac{5}{16} -\frac{313q^2}{924} +\frac{4717Q_2}{3696} \\ &\quad +\frac{289q^2Q_2}{1848} -\frac{38Q_2^2}{77} -\frac{151Q_4}{176} +\frac{17q_3q}{66} \bigg), \end{split}$$

$$a_{8,0} = M^9 \left(\frac{35}{128} + \frac{31303q^2}{64064} - \frac{101373Q_2}{64064} + \frac{32171q^4}{384384} - \frac{22513q^2Q_2}{27456} + \frac{57535Q_2^2}{34944} + \frac{5571Q_4}{4576} - \frac{3343q_3q}{6864} \right),$$

$$a_{10,0} = M^{11} \left(-\frac{63}{256} - \frac{12974415q^2}{20692672} + \frac{153744405Q_2}{82770688} - \frac{6074105q^4}{22284416} + \frac{1686890165q^2Q_2}{869092224} - \frac{2883979925Q_2^2}{869092224} - \frac{1154583Q_4}{739024} + \frac{2221047q_3q}{2956096} \right),$$
(A2)

and

$$\begin{aligned} a_{2,1} &= \frac{3iM^4}{2}(-q+q_3), \\ a_{4,1} &= iM^6 \bigg(\frac{15q}{8} + \frac{15q^3}{28} - \frac{29qQ_2}{28} - \frac{13q_3}{4}\bigg), \\ a_{6,1} &= iM^8 \bigg(-\frac{35q}{16} - \frac{3763q^3}{2002} + \frac{95213qQ_2}{24024} + \frac{30743q_3}{6864}\bigg), \\ a_{8,1} &= iM^{10} \bigg(\frac{315q}{128} + \frac{579957q^3}{155584} - \frac{154403qQ_2}{19448} - \frac{876263q_3}{155584}\bigg). \end{aligned}$$
(A3)

APPENDIX B: FORMULAS OF E AND ℓ AT THE ISCO

From Eqs. (2.6) and (2.7) with an approximate formula of $\rho_{\rm ISCO}$ shown in Sec. II, *E* and ℓ at the ISCO are derived as

$$E_{\rm ISCO} = 0.94281 - 0.03208q - 0.02975q^{2} + 0.00794Q_{2} - 0.0341q^{3} + 0.0198qQ_{2} - 0.0019q_{3} - 0.0440q^{4} + 0.0404q^{2}Q_{2} - 0.0033Q_{2}^{2} + 0.0005Q_{4} - 0.0062qq_{3},$$
(B1)

$$\frac{\ell_{\rm ISCO}}{M} = 3.4641 - 0.9428q - 0.4444q^2 + 0.1879Q_2 - 0.3953q^3 + 0.2996qQ_2 - 0.0392q_3 - 0.4470q^4 + 0.4944q^2Q_2 - 0.0505Q_2^2 + 0.0093Q_4 - 0.0926qq_3.$$
(B2)

On the other hand, exact solutions for the Kerr case [12] are expanded as

$$E_{\rm ISCO}^{\rm Kerr} = 0.94281 - 0.03208q - 0.02182q^2 -0.01633q^3 - 0.01294q^4,$$
(B3)

$$\frac{\binom{\text{Kerr}}{\text{ISCO}}}{M} = 3.46410 - 0.94281q - 0.25660q^2 - 0.13531q^3 - 0.08791q^4.$$
(B4)

Hence, as in the case of $\Omega_{\rm ISCO}$ and $R_{\rm ISCO}$, the error of coefficients is less than 10^{-4} for $O(\epsilon^2)$ terms, $\sim 10^{-3}$ for $O(\epsilon^3)$ terms, and $\sim 10^{-2}$ for $O(\epsilon^4)$ terms.

If accretion of matter occurs from the ISCO to the central rotating body, the value of q of the central star increases as

$$\delta q = \frac{\mu}{M} \left(\frac{\ell_{\rm ISCO}}{M} - 2 q E_{\rm ISCO} \right), \tag{B5}$$

where μ is the rest mass of the accreting matter. Using Eqs. (B1) and (B2), an approximate formula for δq is given as

$$\delta q = \frac{\mu}{M} (3.4641 - 2.8284q - 0.3802q^2 + 0.1879Q_2 - 0.3358q^3 + 0.2837qQ_2 - 0.0392q_3 - 0.3788q^4 + 0.4548q^2Q_2 - 0.0505Q_2^2 + 0.0093Q_4 - 0.0887qq_3).$$
(B6)

Thus we obtain the following conclusions from Eqs. (B1), (B2), and (B6): If accretion of matter occurs from the ISCO, the effect of Q_2 are that (1) the maximum energy release efficiency of accreting matter slightly decreases, and that (2) the rate of increase in the angular momentum and δq of central body is increased.

APPENDIX C: FIELD EQUATIONS FOR COMPUTING ROTATING STARS AND THE NUMERICAL METHOD

In this appendix, we show field equation for ν , ω , B, and ζ for obtaining axially symmetric rotating stars, and briefly mentioned our numerical method to solve them. The field equations are as follows [15]:

$$\begin{split} \nu_{,rr} + &\frac{2}{r} \nu_{,r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \{ \nu_{,yy} (1 - y^2) - 2y \nu_{,y} \} \\ &= 4 \pi e^{2\zeta} \rho_b [2h(u^0)^2 - \{1 + (2 - \Gamma)\varepsilon\} e^{-2\nu}] \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} e^{-4\nu} B^2 (1 - y^2) \{ r^2 \omega_{,r}^2 + \omega_{,y}^2 (1 - y^2) \} \\ &- \frac{B_{,r}}{B} \nu_{,r} - \frac{1}{Br^2} B_{,y} \nu_{,y} (1 - y^2), \end{split}$$
(C1)

$$\hat{\omega}_{,rr} + \frac{4}{r} \hat{\omega}_{,r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \{ \hat{\omega}_{,yy} (1 - y^2) - 4y \hat{\omega}_{,y} \}$$

$$= -16\pi e^{2\zeta} \rho_b h(u^0)^2 (1 - \hat{\omega})$$

$$+ \left(4\nu_{,r} - \frac{3B_{,r}}{B} \right) \hat{\omega}_{,r} + \frac{1 - y^2}{r^2} \left(4\nu_{,y} - \frac{3B_{,y}}{B} \right) \hat{\omega}_{,y},$$
(C2)

$$B_{,rr} + \frac{3}{r}B_{,r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \{B_{,yy}(1-y^2) - 3yB_{,y}\} = 16\pi B e^{2\zeta - 2\nu}P,$$
(C3)

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_{,y} &= \left[(B+B_{,r}r)^{2}(1-y^{2}) + \left\{ By - B_{,y}(1-y^{2}) \right\}^{2} \right]^{-1} \\ &\times \left[(B+B_{,r}r) \{ -e^{-4\nu} \omega_{,y} \omega_{,r}r^{3}B^{3}(1-y^{2})^{2}/2 \\ &+ rB_{,ry}(1-y^{2}) - B_{,r}ry + 2\nu_{,y}\nu_{,r}rB(1-y^{2}) \} \\ &- \frac{1}{2} \left\{ By - B_{,y}(1-y^{2}) \right\} \\ &\times \{ e^{-4\nu}B^{3}r^{2}(1-y^{2})(\omega_{,r}^{2}r^{2} - \omega_{,y}^{2}(1-y^{2}))/2 - B_{,rr}r^{2} \\ &- B_{,r}r - 2B\nu_{,r}^{2}r^{2} + B_{,yy}(1-y^{2}) - 3yB_{,y} + 2\nu_{,y}^{2} \\ &\times (1-y^{2})B \} \right], \end{aligned}$$
(C4)

where instead of ω , we introduce $\hat{\omega} \equiv \omega \Omega_s^{-1}$ because $\omega \propto \Omega_s$ for slowly rotating cases.

We solve Poisson type equations for ν , $\omega(\hat{\omega})$, and *B* as the boundary value problem. That is, we solve these equations imposing boundary conditions (3.7)–(3.9) at $r=r_{\text{max}} > 10M$, regularity condition at r=0 and $\theta=0$, and reflection symmetry conditions at $\theta = \pi/2$. On the other hand, the equation for ζ is solved using second order Runge-Kutta method imposing the boundary condition at $\theta=0$ as $\zeta = \ln B$ [15].

Using field variables, Eq. (3.3) is rewritten as

$$(1 + nK\rho_b^{1/n})^2 [-e^{2\nu} + \Omega_s^2 (1 - \hat{\omega})^2 B^2 e^{-2\nu} r^2 \sin^2 \theta]$$

= C(=const). (C5)

Here, C, K, and Ω_s are constants determined in iteration which is carried out in the following manner [13].

(1) First of all, we fix the coordinate radii of stellar surfaces at equator and pole. Also, we fix the value of ρ_b at r = 0.

(2) We give a trial density configuration for ρ_b .

(3) We solve field equations (C1)-(C4).

(4) Since we have constraints imposed at procedure (1), we can determine C, K, and Ω_s using Eq. (C5).

(5) Using Eq. (C5) with C, K, and Ω_s determined at procedure (4), we calculate a new trial configuration for ρ_b .

(6) Return to (2), and repeat procedures (2)-(5) until a sufficient convergence is achieved.

Numerical computation is typically performed taking $(N_r, N_\theta) = (800, 80)$ grid points, where N_r and N_θ denote grid points for $0 < r \le r_{\text{max}}$ and $0 < \theta < \pi/2$. We use homogeneous grids in *r* and $y = \cos \theta$. We check our numerical code by comparing our numerical results for non-dimensional quantities $MK^{-n/2}$, JK^{-n} , $RK^{-n/2}$, and $\Omega_s K^{n/2}$ with another results presented previously in Ref. [16] for the case n = 1. We find that our numerical results agree well with those in Ref. [16] (inconsistency is less than 1%).

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