

Two-timescale methods and transient resonances

in the inspirals of point particles into massive black holes

Tanja Hinderer

TAPIR, Caltech

with Éanna Flanagan (Cornell)

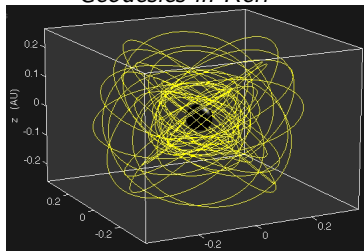
Motivation

- ▷ Inspirals of compact objects $\mu \sim 10M_{\odot}$ into massive black holes $M \sim 10^3 - 10^6 M_{\odot}$ are a promising source of gravitational waves.
- ▷ Last \sim year of inspiral contains $\sim M/\mu \sim 10^2 - 10^5$ cycles of waveform in the relativistic regime.

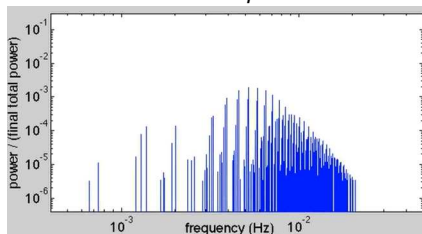
Many science payoffs: map spacetime, learn about black hole growth history and galaxy cores, cosmology

Required: theoretical waveforms with phase accuracy $\sim 10^{-2} - 10^{-5}$.

Geodesics in Kerr



Emitted GW spectrum



(from S. Drasco's black hole movies)

Timescales in the problem

$$\epsilon = \mu/M \ll 1$$

- On **short** timescales:

$$\tau_{\text{orb}} \sim M \quad \sim 50 \text{ s} \left(\frac{M}{10^7 M_{\odot}} \right)$$

μ moves on a geodesic of M 's background spacetime.

- On **longer** timescales

$$\tau_{\text{rr}} \sim M/\epsilon \quad \sim 1.6 \text{ yrs} \left(\frac{M}{10^7 M_{\odot}} \right) \left(\frac{10^{-6}}{\epsilon} \right)$$

gravitational radiation reaction causes the orbit to gradually evolve.

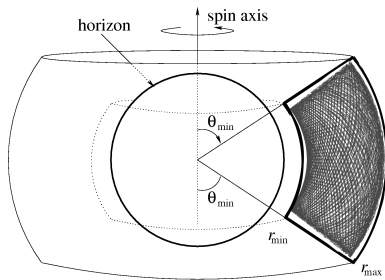
- Geodesic orbits and true orbits **dephase** by ~ 1 cycle after

$$\tau_{\text{deph}} \sim M/\sqrt{\epsilon} \quad \sim 13 \text{ hrs} \left(\frac{M}{10^7 M_{\odot}} \right) \left(\frac{10^{-6}}{\epsilon} \right)^{1/2}$$

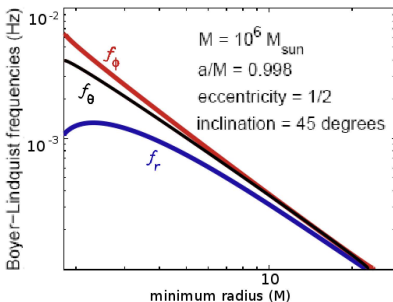
Bound geodesic orbital dynamics in Kerr

Conserved quantities:

- Energy $E = -\xi^a u_a$, azimuthal angular momentum $L_z = \varphi^a u_a$,
(special cases of conserved currents $T_{ab}\xi^b$, $T_{ab}\varphi^b$)
- Carter constant $Q = K_{ab}u^a u^b$, $\nabla_{(a}K_{bc)} = 0$
- Reparameterization: $(E, L_z, Q) \leftrightarrow (p, e, \iota)$



(Steve Drasco 2005)



Overview of the talk

- Motivation for a self-consistent two-timescale treatment of inspirals in Kerr
- **Stage I:** Two-timescale orbital motion
- Qualitatively new feature for generic orbits: **transient resonances**
- Properties, effects of the resonances
- Implications for gravitational wave science
- **Stage II:** Sketch of two-timescale Einstein Equations

Methods of computing waveforms

- Numerical relativity:
 - ▷ impractical, despite much recent progress (H. Pfeiffer, C. Lousto)
- Post-Newtonian methods:
 - ▷ invalid in the relativistic regime, useful for scoping out capabilities (Gair et al 2004, Brown et al 2006, Barack & Cutler 2004)
- Effective One-body methods
 - ▷ require calibration, useful for detection templates (Yunes et al, T. Damour)
- Black hole perturbation theory, first order

$$h_+ - ih_\times = \sum_{lmkn} Z_{lmkn} h_{lmkn}$$

- ▷ Self-consistency requires a geodesic worldline source
- ▷ produces “snapshots” valid for $\tau_{\text{deph}} \ll \tau_{\text{inspiral}}$ (Drasco et al 2005)

Methods of computing waveforms cont.

Use of conservation laws:

- ▷ compute fluxes $\langle \dot{E} \rangle$ and $\langle \dot{L}_z \rangle$ to infinity and down the horizon, infer evolution of orbital E, L_z
- ▷ works only for circular or equatorial orbits, leading order
- ▷ can track an entire inspiral either in the frequency or time domain

(Shibata 1994, Glampedakis et al 2002, Hughes 2000, Krivan et al 1997, Burko et al 2003, Martel 2003, Souperta et al 2005, Sundararajan et al 2007)

Use averaged self-force: Adiabatic waveforms

- ▷ requires only $\ddot{a}^{\text{SF}} = P \cdot \nabla(h^{\text{ret}} - h^{\text{adv}})/2$ (Mino 2003)

$$\langle \dot{Q} \rangle = \sum_{lmkn} c_{lmkn}^{\text{EH}} |Z_{lmkn}^{\text{EH}}|^2 + c_{lmkn}^{\infty} |Z_{lmkn}^{\infty}|^2, \quad \langle \dot{E} \rangle = \sum_{lmkn} |Z_{lmkn}^{\text{EH}}|^2 + |Z_{lmkn}^{\infty}|^2$$

- ▷ correct to leading order, waveforms in hand (ignoring inconsistencies)

Computing waveforms cont.

Black Hole Perturbation Theory, Second Order:

- ▷ validity still limited to $\tau_{\text{deph}} \ll \tau_{\text{inspiral}}$

$$g_{\alpha\beta} = g_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)} + \epsilon h_{\alpha\beta}^{(1)} + \epsilon^2 h_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)} + O(\epsilon^3)$$

sourced by a geodesic of $g^{(0)}$

After τ_{deph} : $\epsilon h_{\alpha\beta}^{(1)} \sim \epsilon^2 h_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)}$

Related: use of the gravitational self force:

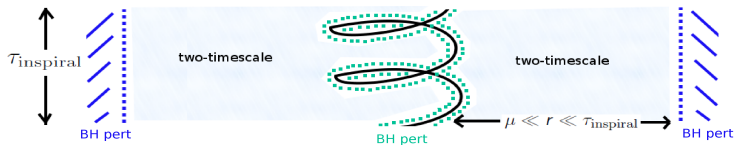
- ▷ Given inspiralling orbit, how to compute waveforms?

linearized theory + non-geodesic source for waveforms is inconsistent, results expected to be gauge dependent

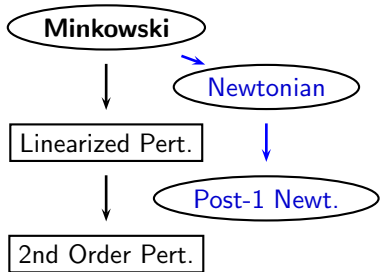
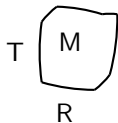
- Possible fixes:
- ▷ geodesic deviation [Gralla, Wald '10](#)
 - ▷ relax the gauge condition [Quinn, Wald '97](#), [Mino '03](#), [Pound '10](#)
 - ▷ stitch together many small evolution steps
 - ▷ this talk: two-timescale expansions

Two-timescale expansion

- Systematic framework, gives rigorous derivation of adiabatic prescription at leading order.
- Gives method for computing **post-adiabatic** corrections.
- Two stages: (i) Orbital motion, (ii) Einstein eqns.
- **Basis of method:**
Posit a one-parameter family of worldlines $z^\alpha(\tau, \epsilon)$ and metrics $g_{\alpha\beta}(x, \epsilon)$ of a specific form in a specific region of spacetime
- locally in time: ansatz is compatible with geodesic motion and first order perturbation theory

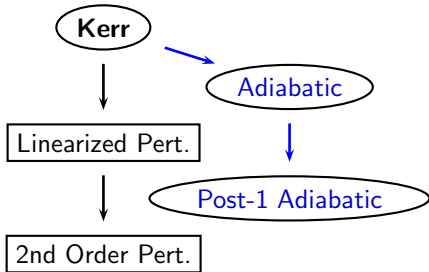


Context: Approximation Schemes



$$M/R \ll 1$$

$$M/R \ll R^2/T^2$$



$$M/R \ll 1$$

$$R/T \ll 1$$

Orbital motion part of the two-timescale formalism

Action angle variables $q_\alpha = (q_t, q_r, q_\theta, q_\phi)$, $J_\lambda = (E/\mu, L_z/\mu, Q/\mu^2)$

Geodesic equation in Kerr with self-force:

$$\frac{dq_\alpha}{d\tau} = \omega_\alpha(J_\lambda) + \epsilon g_\alpha^{(1)}(q_r, q_\theta, J_\lambda) + O(\epsilon^2),$$

$$\frac{dJ_\lambda}{d\tau} = 0 + \epsilon G_\lambda^{(1)}(q_r, q_\theta, J_\nu) + \epsilon^2 G_\lambda^{(2)}(q_r, q_\theta, J_\nu) + O(\epsilon^3)$$

- ▷ tori in phase space
- ▷ fundamental frequencies ω_r, ω_θ (t and φ symmetries)

Two-timescale expansions for the solutions:

- ansatz for the dependence on ϵ
- initially based on adiabaticity ($\tau_{\text{orb}} \ll \tau_{\text{rr}}$),
later augmented by treatments of resonances, separatrices

Two-timescale expansion

- Introduce: \triangleright a “slow” variable $\tilde{\tau} = \epsilon \tau$
- \triangleright auxiliary phase variables ψ_α

Ansatz: asymptotic expansion of the solutions at fixed $\tilde{\tau}$:

$$\psi_\alpha(\tilde{\tau}, \epsilon) = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \psi_\alpha^{(0)}(\tilde{\tau}) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} \psi_\alpha^{(1/2)}(\tilde{\tau}) + \ln \epsilon \psi_\alpha^{(\ln)} + \psi_\alpha^{(1)}(\tilde{\tau}) + O(\epsilon^{1/2})$$

$$J_\lambda(\tau, \epsilon) = \mathcal{J}_\lambda^{(0)}(\tilde{\tau}) + \sqrt{\epsilon} \mathcal{J}_\lambda^{(1/2)}(\tilde{\tau}) + \epsilon \ln \epsilon J^{(\ln)} + \epsilon J_\lambda^{(1)}(\psi_\alpha, \tilde{\tau}) + O(\epsilon^{3/2})$$

$$q_\alpha(\tau, \epsilon) = \psi_\alpha(\tilde{\tau}) + O(\epsilon)$$

Adiabatic approximation

$$J_\lambda(\tau, \epsilon) = \mathcal{J}_\lambda^{(0)}(\tilde{\tau}) + \sqrt{\epsilon} \mathcal{J}_\lambda^{(1/2)}(\tilde{\tau}) + \epsilon \mathcal{J}_\lambda^{(1)}(\psi_\alpha, \tilde{\tau}) + O(\epsilon^{3/2})$$

$$\psi_\alpha(\tilde{\tau}, \epsilon) = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \psi_\alpha^{(0)}(\tilde{\tau}) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} \psi_\alpha^{(1/2)}(\tilde{\tau}) + \psi_\alpha^{(1)}(\tilde{\tau}) + \dots$$

$$\frac{d\mathcal{J}_\lambda^{(0)}}{d\tilde{\tau}} = \langle G_\lambda^{(1)} \rangle [\mathcal{J}_\nu^{(0)}(\tilde{\tau})], \quad \psi_\alpha^{(0)}(\tilde{\tau}) = \int^{\tilde{\tau}} \omega_\alpha [\mathcal{J}_\lambda^{(0)}(\tilde{\tau}')] d\tilde{\tau}'.$$

nonresonant tori are ergodic:

$$\langle G_\lambda^{(1)} \rangle \equiv \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int_0^{2\pi} dq_r \int_0^{2\pi} dq_\theta G_\lambda^{(1)}(q_r, q_\theta, J_\lambda)$$

Adiabatic prescription:

- Replace $G_\lambda^{(1)}$ by $\langle G_\lambda^{(1)} \rangle$, drop all other forcing terms.
- Closed system, simpler: no need to specify ϵ to solve the ODEs

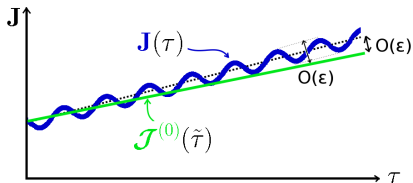
Properties of the adiabatic approximation

$$\frac{d\mathcal{J}_\lambda^{(0)}}{d\tilde{\tau}} = \langle G_\lambda^{(1)} \rangle [\mathcal{J}_\nu^{(0)}(\tilde{\tau})], \quad \psi_\alpha^{(0)}(\tilde{\tau}) = \int^{\tilde{\tau}} \omega_\alpha [\mathcal{J}_\lambda^{(0)}(\tilde{\tau}')] d\tilde{\tau}'$$

Fourier expansion of the forcing functions:

$$G^{(1)}(q_r, q_\theta, J_\lambda) = G_{00}^{(1)} + \sum_{k_r \neq 0} \sum_{k_\theta \neq 0} G_{k_r, k_\theta}^{(1)}(J_\lambda) e^{i(k_r q_r + k_\theta q_\theta)}$$

Full solution & adiabatic approx.



Post-1-adiabatic corrections

$$J_\lambda(\tau, \epsilon) = \mathcal{J}_\lambda^{(0)}(\tilde{\tau}) + \sqrt{\epsilon} \mathcal{J}_\lambda^{(1/2)}(\tilde{\tau}) + \epsilon J_\lambda^{(1)}(\psi_\alpha, \tilde{\tau}) + O(\epsilon^{3/2})$$

$$\psi_\alpha(\tilde{\tau}, \epsilon) = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \psi_\alpha^{(0)}(\tilde{\tau}) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} \psi_\alpha^{(1/2)}(\tilde{\tau}) + \psi_\alpha^{(1)}(\tilde{\tau}) + O(\epsilon^{1/2})$$

- require $g^{(1)}$, $G^{(1)}$ and $\langle G^{(2)} \rangle$ (currently unknown)
- give rise to phase errors of $O(1)$ over an inspiral

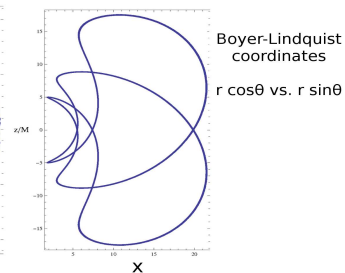
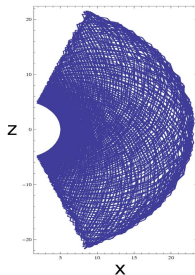
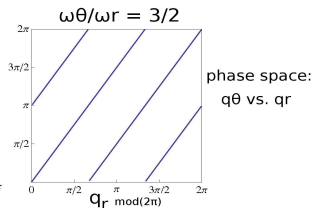
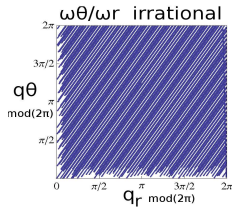
Decompose the forcing terms according to parity properties
under $q_r \rightarrow 2\pi - q_r$, $q_\theta \rightarrow 2\pi - q_\theta$

$$G_\lambda = \epsilon \left[\underbrace{\langle G_{\lambda, \text{dissipative}}^{(1)} \rangle}_{\text{known}} + \underbrace{\delta G_{\lambda, \text{dissipative}}^{(1)}}_{\text{"known"}} + \underbrace{G_{\lambda, \text{conservative}}^{(1)}}_{\text{"known"}} \right] + \underbrace{O(\epsilon^2)}_{\text{unknown}}$$

Transient Resonances

Occur when $\omega_\theta/\omega_r = k/n$ with k, n small integers.

Geometric picture:
trajectories fill up
lower-dimensional
tori



Resonance Timescale

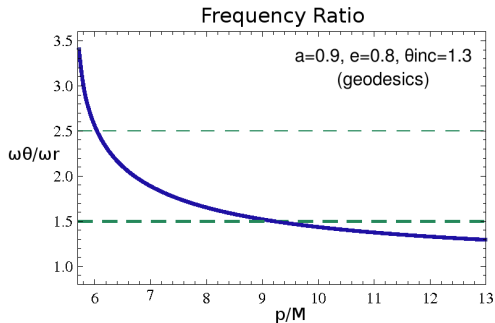
Timescale: intermediate between τ_{rr} and τ_{orb} :

$$\tau_{\text{res}} \sim 1/\sqrt{\epsilon} s, \quad \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{k} + \mathbf{n}$$

near a resonance at $\tau = 0$:

$$G^{(1)} \sim G_{00}^{(1)} + \sum_{\mathbf{v}} G_{\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{k}\mathbf{n})}^{(1)} e^{i\mathbf{v}[(\mathbf{n}\dot{\omega}_r - \mathbf{k}\dot{\omega}_\theta)\tau + (\mathbf{n}\dot{\omega}_r - \mathbf{k}\dot{\omega}_\theta)\tau^2/2 + \dots]} + \text{oscill.}$$

$\dot{\omega} \sim \epsilon$



strong resonances:

$$\mathbf{s} \lesssim O(|\ln(\epsilon)|)$$

▷ few and isolated

Estimates for relevant resonances and locations

- ▷ Resonant frequency combination:

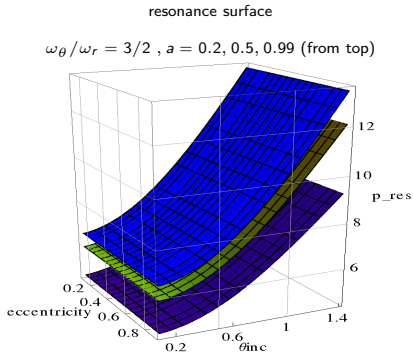
$$\sigma = n\omega_r - k\omega_\theta = 0$$

for Kerr inspirals: $n > k$

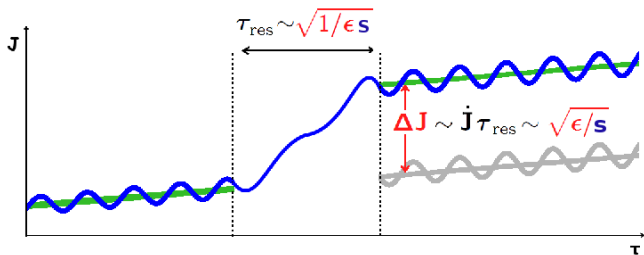
- ▷ Scaling estimates of $G_{kn}^{(1)}$ based on post-Newtonian orbits:

$$\frac{\dot{E}_{kn}^{\text{PN}}}{E^{\text{PN}}} \sim -\frac{e^n a^2 \sin^2 \iota}{(1-e^2)p^6} \delta_{k,2} f_E(e), \quad \frac{\dot{Q}_{kn}^{\text{PN}}}{Q^{\text{PN}}} \sim \frac{e^n a^2 \sin^2 \iota}{p^6} \delta_{k,2} f_Q(e),$$

$$\frac{\dot{L}_z^{\text{PN}}}{L_z^{\text{PN}}} \sim \frac{e^n \sin^2 \iota}{p^{11/2}} \delta_{k,2} \left[\frac{a}{\cos \iota} f_1(e) + \frac{a^2}{\sqrt{p}} f_2(e) \right]$$



Effect of a transient resonance



- $O(1)$ corrections to the adiabatic approximation during τ_{res}
- net jumps $\Delta J = O(\sqrt{\epsilon})$ across a resonance, affect the frequencies: $\Delta\omega \sim \omega_{,J} \Delta J$
- leads to phase errors $\sim 1/\sqrt{\epsilon}$ after further inspiral

Analytic Treatment

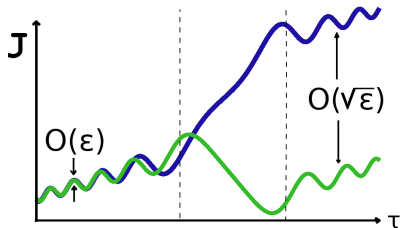
- ▶ Relevant phase in the resonance zone: $Q = \mathbf{k} q_r - \mathbf{n} q_\theta$
- ▶ Use matched asymptotic expansions to compute

$$\Delta J_\lambda \sim \sqrt{\epsilon} N(Q_0, G_{kn}^{(1)}, G_{00}^{(1)}, \partial \dot{Q} / \partial J_\lambda),$$

↑
phase entering the resonance to $O(1)$

- ▶ For the post-resonance phase to $O(1)$, also need $\Delta J_\lambda^{(1)}$ and ΔQ (✓)

Effect of differences in initial conditions



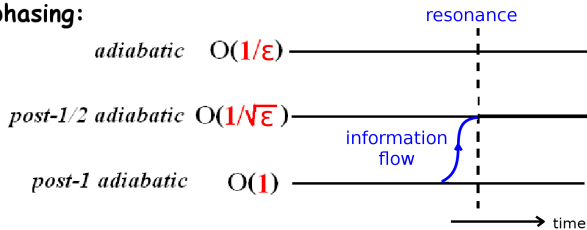
linearized approximation :

$$\Delta J_\lambda \sim \sqrt{\epsilon} 2\sqrt{\pi} \sum_{v \neq 0} \frac{G_{vk, vn}^{(1)}}{\sqrt{v|\sigma, \tilde{\tau}|}} \times [\cos(vQ_0) - \text{sgn}(\sigma, \tilde{\tau}) \sin(vQ_0)]$$

Properties of transient resonances

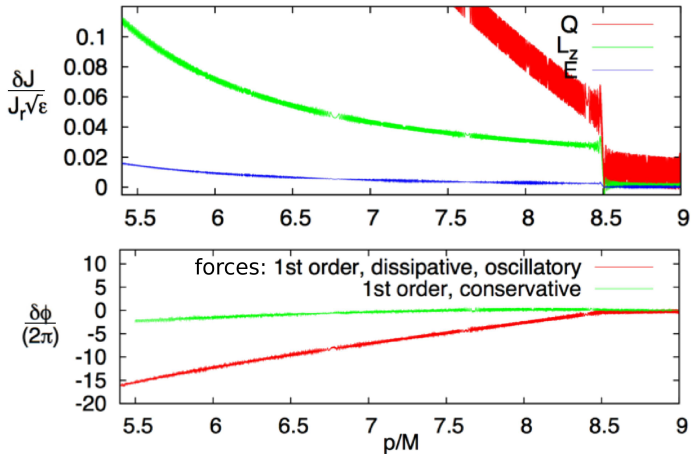
- Non-perturbative effects in v/c .
- Occur for eccentric, inclined orbits around spinning black holes.
- Driven by spin-dependent, instantaneous, dissipative pieces of the self-forces.
- Cause increased sensitivity to initial conditions:

phasing:



Numerical estimates

Integrate Kerr geodesics + approximate post-Newtonian forcing terms



$$a=0.95, \epsilon=3 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$\omega\theta/\omega r=3/2$$

Matching the phase evolution

Can idealize the phase evolution as:

$$\psi_{\alpha}(\tau; \epsilon) = \begin{cases} \epsilon^{-1} \psi_{\alpha}^{(0)}(\tilde{\tau}) + O(1), & \tau - \tau_0 \ll \tau_{\text{res}} \\ \epsilon^{-1} \psi_{\alpha}^{(0)}(\tilde{\tau} + \sqrt{\epsilon} \Delta \tilde{\tau}) - \omega_{\alpha}(\tilde{\tau}_0) \Delta \tilde{\tau} / \sqrt{\epsilon} + O(1), & \tau - \tau_0 \gg \tau_{\text{res}} \end{cases}$$

- effective $O(\sqrt{\epsilon})$ time shift: $\Delta \psi_{\alpha} \sim \omega_{\alpha}(\tilde{\tau}_0) \Delta \tilde{\tau} / \sqrt{\epsilon}$,
- equivalently: match to post-resonance phasing, phase error is accumulated before the resonance:

define $\tilde{\psi}_{\alpha}(\tau) = \psi_{\alpha}(\tau + \sqrt{\epsilon} \Delta \tau) - \Delta \psi_{\alpha}$, then:

$$\psi_{\alpha}(\tau; \epsilon) = \begin{cases} \epsilon^{-1} \tilde{\psi}_{\alpha}^{(0)}(\tilde{\tau}) - \Delta \tilde{\tau} / \sqrt{\epsilon} [\omega_{\alpha}(\tilde{\tau}) - \omega_{\alpha}(\tilde{\tau}_0)] + O(1), & \tau - \tau_0 \ll \tau_{\text{res}} \\ \epsilon^{-1} \tilde{\psi}_{\alpha}^{(0)}(\tilde{\tau}) + O(1), & \tau - \tau_0 \gg \tau_{\text{res}} \end{cases}$$

Summary: Transient resonances

- Qualitatively **new feature** of two-body problem in the relativistic, small mass ratio regime.
- Occur for generic orbits.
- Make the orbit more sensitive to changes in the **initial data**.
- Give rise to **phase corrections** that scale as $\sqrt{M/\mu}$, sudden jumps in the time derivative of the phases.
- **Require** currently unknown pieces of the gravitational self force.
- **Numerical estimates**: $\delta\phi \sim 10$ cycles for mass ratios $\sim 10^{-6}$.
- Further investigations in progress.

Double expansion of the Einstein Equation

- ▷ Metric:

$$g_{\alpha\beta}(\bar{t}, \bar{x}^j; \epsilon) = g_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)}(\bar{x}^j) + \epsilon h_{\alpha\beta}^{(1)}(q_r, q_\theta, q_\phi, \tilde{t}, \bar{x}^j) + O(\epsilon^2)$$

- ▷ Connection:

$$\nabla = \nabla^{(0,0)} + \epsilon \left[\nabla^{(0,1)} + \nabla_{[h^{(1)}]}^{(1,0)} \right] + O(\epsilon^2)$$

factors of h derivatives involving \tilde{t} and $\Omega^{(s)}$

- ▷ Einstein tensor:

$$G_{\alpha\beta}[g] = G_{\alpha\beta}[g^{(0)}] + \epsilon G_{\alpha\beta}^{(1,0)}[h^{(1)}] + O(\epsilon^2)$$

- ▷ $O(\epsilon)$ stress-energy conservation:

$$\nabla^{(0,0)} G^{(1,0)}[h^{(1)}] = 0$$

Solving the Einstein Eqs. (I)

$$G_{\alpha\beta}^{(1,0)}[h^{(1)}] = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \mathcal{D}h_{\alpha\beta}^{(1)} = 0,$$

linear differential operator on the 6-dim manifold $(q_r, q_\theta, q_\phi, \bar{x}^j)$

solution that matches to $T_{\alpha\beta}^{(1)}(q_i, \bar{x}^j, \tilde{t})$ is:

$$h_{\alpha\beta}^{(1)} = \frac{\partial g_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)}}{\partial M} \delta M(\tilde{t}) + \frac{\partial g_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)}}{\partial a} \delta a(\tilde{t}) + \dots \\ + \mathcal{F}_{\alpha\beta}[q_r, q_\theta, q_\phi, \bar{x}^j, E(\tilde{t}), L_z(\tilde{t}), Q(\tilde{t})],$$

same as in standard linear pert. theory with a geodesic source gauge freedom:

(i) $x^\alpha \rightarrow x^\alpha + \epsilon \xi^\alpha(q_r, q_\theta, q_\phi, \tilde{t}, x^j) + O(\epsilon^2)$

(ii) ϵ -independent transformations that preserve $\partial/\partial \tilde{t}$

Required solutions to get q_i to $O(1)$:

$$G^{(1,1)}[h^{(1)}] + G^{(2,0)}[h^{(1)}, h^{(1)}] + G^{(1,0)}[h^{(2)}] = T^{(2)}$$

the 00 Fourier component determines the \tilde{t} -dependence of the adiabatic solution (similar to conservation law approach),
oscillatory pieces give schematically

$$h^{(2)} = \mathcal{G}^{(2)}(\tilde{t}, \bar{x}^j) + H_{\alpha\beta}(q_i, \tilde{t}, \bar{x}^j).$$

Last missing piece: the 00 Fourier component of:

$$G^{(0,1)}[h^{(2)}] + \langle G^{(3,0)}[h^{(1)}, h^{(1)}, h^{(1)}] + 2G^{(2,1)}[h^{(1)}, h^{(2)}] + G^{(1,2)}[h^{(1)}] \rangle = 0$$

Summary

- Systematic 2-timescale approximation scheme, resolves the difficulties with the standard perturbation theory.
- Framework for computing higher order corrections to the adiabatic evolution.
- Identification of which pieces of the forcing functions are required to compute the motion at each order
- Treatment of resonances.