A practical guide to second-order self-force calculations

Adam Pound, Niels Warburton Jeremy Miller, Barry Wardell +many helpful discussions with Leor Barack

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- This talk will give a practical guide to secondorder calculations
- We will point out areas where contributions are needed

Gravitational Self-force



Image credit: A. Pound

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Write metric as perturbative expansion about a background

$$g_{\mu\nu}=g^0_{\mu\nu}+\epsilon h^1_{\mu\nu}+\epsilon^2 h^2_{\mu\nu}+\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3)$$

Substitute expansion into Einstein equation

$$G_{\mu\nu}[g] = 8\pi T_{\mu\nu}$$

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Expanding out,

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$$G_{\mu\nu}[g] = G_{\mu\nu}[g^0] + \epsilon G^1_{\mu\nu}[h^1] + \epsilon^2 \left(G^1_{\mu\nu}[h^2] + G^2_{\mu\nu}[h^1, h^1] \right) + \mathcal{O}\left(\epsilon^3\right)$$

Obtain equations at each order in ϵ , which we can solve for $h_{\mu\nu}^1$, $h_{\mu\nu}^2$, ..., along with equations of motion for a worldline. Goal: compute $h_{\mu\nu}^1$, $h_{\mu\nu}^2$, z^{μ} .

$$\frac{Dz^{\alpha}}{d\tau} = \epsilon F_1^{\alpha} + \epsilon^2 F_2^{\alpha}$$

Why go to second-order?

On an inspiral timescale t $\sim M^2/m$, the phase of the gravitational wave has an expansion (excluding resonances):

$$\phi = \epsilon^{-1}\phi_0 + \phi_1 + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$$

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Adiabatic order

From the orbit averaged piece of first-order self-force $\langle F_1^{\alpha} \rangle$

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Post-Adiabatic order

Three contributions:

- First-order, oscillatory dissipative self-force $F_1^{\alpha(diss,osc)}$
- First-order conservative selfforce $F_1^{\alpha(cons)}$
- Second-order orbit averaged self-force $\langle F_2^{\alpha} \rangle$

Needed for precision tests of GR

Potential application to IMRIs

$$\begin{aligned} G_{\mu\nu}[g] &= G_{\mu\nu}[g^0] + \epsilon G^1_{\mu\nu}[h^1] + \epsilon^2 \left(G^1_{\mu\nu}[h^2] + G^2_{\mu\nu}[h^1, h^1] \right) + \mathcal{O}\left(\epsilon^3\right) \\ h^2 &= h^{R2} + h^{P2} \end{aligned}$$

Expand Einstein tensor and make regular/singular split in secondorder perturbation

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Solve order-by-order in $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ to get:

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Equations of motion take the form:

$$\frac{D^2 z^{\mu}}{d\tau} = \epsilon F^{1\mu}[h^{R1}] + \epsilon^2 F^{2\mu}[h^{R2}]$$

*Pound, Phys. Rev. Lett. 109, 051101 (2012)

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Expand the box operator:

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$$\frac{d}{dt} = \frac{d\varphi_p}{dt} \frac{\partial}{\partial\varphi_p} + \frac{d\tilde{t}}{dt} \frac{\partial}{\partial\tilde{t}}$$

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$$\Box = \Box_{\omega}^0 + \epsilon \Box_{\omega}^1$$

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General form of the two-timescale expanded field equations:

$$\Box^0_{\omega} h^1 = T^1$$
$$\Box^0_{\omega} h^{R2} = G^2_{\omega} [h^1, h^1] - \Box^0_{\omega} h^{P2} - \Box^1_{\omega} h^1$$

Adam will discuss the two-timescale expanded EoM

First results: monopole of 2nd-order metric perturbation

Particle on circular orbit of Schwarzschild black hole



$$E_{\rm bind} = (M_{\rm B} - M_{\rm BH} - m)/\mu$$

Total energy in the spacetime, defined as the Bondi mass on u=const slice we match to at large radius

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M_{BH}

 $-m)/\mu$

Total energy in the spacetime, defined as the Bondi mass on u=const slice we match to at large radius

Perturbed mass of larger black hole, defined as the irreducible mass computed from the area of the apparent horizon $E_{\rm bind} =$





Expanding out for small mass ratio

$$E_{\text{bind}} = \hat{\mathscr{E}}_0(y) - 1 + \epsilon E_{SF} + O(\epsilon^2)$$
$$E_{SF} = \hat{M}_B^{(2)} - \hat{M}_{\text{BH}}^{(2)} + \hat{\mathscr{E}}_0(y) - 1 + \frac{\delta \hat{M}(1 - 6y)y}{3(1 - 3y)^{3/2}}$$

We directly compute each of these quantities from the monopole piece of the first and second order metric perturbations on the horizon and at scri.

$$\hat{M}_{B}^{(2)} = \lim_{r \to \infty} \frac{1}{4} \left(\bar{h}_{0,0}^{2(1)} + \bar{h}_{0,0}^{2(6)} \right) Y_{0,0} \qquad \qquad \delta \hat{M} = -\frac{y}{(1 - 3y)^{1/2}}$$

$$\hat{M}_{irr}^{(2)} \sim \lim_{r \to 2M} \left(\bar{h}_{0,0}^{2(i)} + \partial_{\tilde{w}} \bar{h}_{0,0}^{1(j)} + \bar{h}_{0,0}^{1(i)} \bar{h}_{0,0}^{1(j)} \right) \qquad \hat{\mathscr{E}}_{0}(y) = \frac{1 - 2y}{(1 - 3y)^{1/2}}$$

Binding energy can also be computed from the first-law of binary black hole mechanics using first-order self-force data*

$$\delta M + \Omega \,\delta J = z_1 \delta m_1 + z_2 \delta m_2$$

Rewriting this in terms of binding energy as a function of y, we get

$$E_{SF}^{1\text{st law}} = \frac{1}{2} z_{SF}(y) - \frac{y}{3} \frac{dz_{SF}}{dy} - 1 + \sqrt{1 - 3y} + \frac{y}{6} \frac{5 - 12y}{(1 - 3y)^{3/2}}$$

Just as the energy balance law relates second-order fluxes to the first-order local SF, the FLBM relates a binary's second-order energy, as defined at infinity, to the first-order, local Detweiler redshift z_{SF} .

Important to note that the first-law assumes a conservative, helically symmetric, asymptotically flat spacetime.

*Le Tiec, Barausse, Buonanno, Phys. Rev. Lett.108:131103 (2012)





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Constructed via matched expansions
 Compact: only defined near worldline
$$\Box_{\omega}^{0} h^{1} = T^{1}$$

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- Compact: only defined near worldline
- Derivatives w.r.t. slow time:

$$\frac{dh^{1}}{d\tilde{t}} \sim \frac{dr_{0}}{d\tilde{t}} \frac{dh^{1}}{dr_{0}} \sim \left(\frac{dE}{dr_{0}}\right)^{-1} \dot{\mathcal{E}} \frac{dh^{1}}{dr_{0}}$$
- Non-compact

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We need codes that calculate the derivative of h¹ w.r.t. the orbital elements
- Non-compact



$$\Box^0_{\omega} h^1 = T^1$$
$$\Box^0_{\omega} h^{R2} = G^2_{\omega} [h^1, h^1] - \Box^0_{\omega} h^{P2} - \Box^1_{\omega} h^1$$

$$\begin{split} & \prod_{\omega}^{0} h^{1} = T^{1} \\ & \prod_{\omega}^{0} h^{R2} = G_{\omega}^{2}[h^{1}, h^{1}] - \prod_{\omega}^{0} h^{P2} - \prod_{\omega}^{1} h^{1} \\ & \text{Explicitly} \\ & \text{given by:} \quad G_{\omega}^{2}[h, h] \equiv -\frac{1}{2}h^{\mu\nu}(2h_{\mu(\alpha;\beta)\nu} - h_{\alpha\beta;\mu\nu} - h_{\mu\nu;\alpha\beta}) \\ & +\frac{1}{4}h^{\mu\nu}{}_{;\alpha}h_{\mu\nu;\beta} + \frac{1}{2}h^{\mu}{}_{\beta}{}^{;\nu}(h_{\mu\alpha;\nu} - h_{\nu\alpha;\mu}) \\ & -\frac{1}{2}\bar{h}^{\mu\nu}{}_{;\nu}(2h_{\mu(\alpha;\beta)} - h_{\alpha\beta;\mu}) \end{split}$$

Challenges constructing this term:

- divergent at the particle: as $(\Delta r)^{-2}$ in Lorenz gauge
- mode coupling with finite number of first-order modes
- numerical noise near the horizon
- decays too slowly at the horizon and infinity

Non-linear perturbation theory: behaviour at the particle

mode decomposition

$$h^1 \sim (\Delta r)^{-1}$$

 $\implies h^1_{lm} \sim \text{const} + \Delta r + \dots$

$$h_{lm}^{1}(r_{0}) = h_{lm}^{ret1}(r_{0}) - h_{lm}^{P1}(r_{0})$$

Non-linear perturbation theory: behaviour at the particle

mode decomposition

$$h^{1} \sim (\Delta r)^{-1}$$
 Mode-sum regularization
 $\implies h_{lm}^{1} \sim \text{const} + \Delta r + \dots$

$$h_{lm}^{T}(r_0) = h_{lm}^{rerT}(r_0) - h_{lm}^{rT}(r_0)$$

Non-linear perturbation theory: behaviour at the particle mode decomposition

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 $h^2 \sim (\Delta r)^{-2}$ $\implies h_{lm}^2 \sim \text{const} + \log(\Delta r) + \dots$

Must use effective-source regularization

Non-linear perturbation theory: behaviour at the particle mode decomposition



Wardell, NW, Phys. Rev. D 92, 084019 (2015)

Non-linear perturbation theory: mode coupling

$$G_{\mu\nu}^{2}[h^{1}, h^{1}] = \sum_{ilm} G_{ilm}(r; r_{0})e^{-im\Omega t}Y_{\mu\nu}^{ilm}(r, \theta^{A})$$

$$G_{ilm}^{2} = \sum_{\substack{i'l'm'\\i''l''m''}} \mathcal{D}_{ilm}^{i'l'm''} [h_{i'l'm'}^{1}, h_{i''l''m''}^{1}]$$

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We only have a finite number of

numerically computed (I,m)-modes of h^1



J. Miller, B. Wardell, A. Pound, Phys. Rev. D 94, 104018 (2016)

Non-linear perturbation theory: mode coupling



(but have to use **exact** mode decomposition of h^{P_1} for other terms done using mode coupling - no shortcuts)

J. Miller, B. Wardell, A. Pound, Phys. Rev. D 94, 104018 (2016)

Non-linear perturbation theory effective source near the worldline

















calculation is the analytic determination of an appropriate puncture field from which the effective source and regularized residual field can be calculated. In addition to its application in our effective-



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$$\square_{\omega}^0 h_{\omega}^{R2} = G_{\omega}^2 [h^1, h^1] - \square_{\omega}^0 h_{\omega}^{P2} - \square_{\omega}^1 h_{\omega}^1$$

with retarded boundary conditions

$$\Box^0_{\omega}h^{R2}_{\omega} = G^2_{\omega}[h^1,h^1] - \boxed{\Box^0_{\omega}h^{P2}_{\omega}} - \Box^1_{\omega}h^1_{\omega}$$

with retarded boundary conditions

Basic idea



Form of puncture

In most gauges, the puncture has the form

$$\begin{split} h^{P1}_{\mu\nu} &\sim \frac{m}{s} + O(s^0) \\ h^{P2}_{\mu\nu} &\sim \frac{m^2}{s^2} + \frac{mh^{\text{R1}}}{s} + O(s^0) \end{split}$$

- h^{P2} is available in Lorenz gauge, in arbitrary spacetime, through order s¹, in covariant form [Pound and Miller 2014]
- Also available, in less ready-to-use form, in "P smooth" gauges [Gralla 2012] and "highly regular" gauges [Pound 2017]

Expansion of worldline

- \blacksquare The worldline z^{μ} is where the puncture diverges
- Quasicircular orbit: $z^{\alpha} = (t, r_p(\tilde{t}, \epsilon), \pi/2, \phi_p(\tilde{t}, \epsilon))$, where

$$\begin{aligned} r_p &= r_0(\tilde{t}) + \epsilon \, r_1(\tilde{t}) + \dots \\ \frac{d\phi_p}{dt} &:= \Omega = \Omega_0(\tilde{t}) + \epsilon \, \Omega_1(\tilde{t}) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Plug expansion into the puncture:

$$\Rightarrow h^{P2} \rightarrow h^{P2} + \frac{\delta h^{P1}}{\delta r_p} r_1 + \frac{\delta h^{P1}}{\delta \dot{r}_p} \dot{r}_0 + \frac{\delta h^{P1}}{\delta \Omega} \Omega_1$$

 The two-timescale puncture is also available in covariant form for generic bound orbits

Demonstration in Lorenz gauge

For quasicircular orbits in Schwarzschild,

$$h_{\omega lm}^{P2} \sim m^2 \log |r - r_0| + (mh^{\mathcal{R}1} + r_1 + \dot{r}_0)|r - r_0|$$



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Extension to other gauges or variables

- Almost all calculations of first-order self-force have been built on Lorenz-gauge $h^{\rm S1}_{\mu\nu}$, even if they calculate the retarded field in a different gauge
- Can do the same at second order:
 - \blacktriangleright work in locally Lorenz gauge: $h^{P2}_{\mu\nu}$ in Lorenz, $h^{R2}_{\mu\nu}$ in whatever's convenient
 - transform from $h_{\mu\nu}^{P2,Lor}$ to some desired gauge
 - ► calculate punctures for Teukolsky (or Regge-Wheeler, Zerilli-Moncrief, etc.) variables: $\psi^{P2} = \psi[h^{P2,Lor}]$

$$\square_{\omega}^0 h_{\omega}^{R2} = G_{\omega}^2 [h^1, h^1] - \square_{\omega}^0 h_{\omega}^{P2} - \square_{\omega}^1 h_{\omega}^1$$

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Computing parametric derivative of h^1

$$\blacksquare \ \Box^1_{\omega} h^1_{\omega} \sim \partial_{\tilde{t}} h^1_{\omega} + \Omega_1 h^1_{\omega}$$

can convert to derivatives wrt parameters: e.g.,

$$\begin{split} h^{1}_{\omega}(\tilde{t}) &= h^{1}_{\omega}\left(r_{0}(\tilde{t}), \delta M(\tilde{t}), \delta J(\tilde{t})\right) \\ \Rightarrow \partial_{\tilde{t}}h^{1}_{\omega} &= \frac{dr_{0}}{d\tilde{t}}\partial_{r_{0}}h^{1}_{\omega} + \frac{d\delta M}{d\tilde{t}}\partial_{\delta M}h^{1}_{\omega} + \frac{d\delta J}{d\tilde{t}}\partial_{\delta J}h^{1}_{\omega} \end{split}$$

• to find $\partial_{r_0} h^1_\omega$, differentiate $\Box^0_\omega h^1_\omega = T^1_\omega$ wrt r_0 :

$$\partial_{r_0} (\Box^0_{\omega} h^1_{\omega}) = \partial_{r_0} T^1_{\omega} \Rightarrow \Box^0_{\omega} (\partial_{r_0} h^1_{\omega}) = \partial_{r_0} T^1_{\omega} - (\partial_{r_0} \Box^0_{\omega}) h^1_{\omega}$$

solve for $\partial_{r_0} h^1_\omega$ with your favorite frequency-domain method

Computing parametric derivative of h^1

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• to find $\partial_{r_0} h^1_\omega$, differentiate $\Box^0_\omega h^1_\omega = T^1_\omega$ wrt r_0 :

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_{r_0}(\Box^0_{\omega}h^1_{\omega}) &= \partial_{r_0}T^1_{\omega} \\ \Rightarrow \Box^0_{\omega}(\partial_{r_0}h^1_{\omega}) &= \partial_{r_0}T^1_{\omega} - (\partial_{r_0}\Box^0_{\omega})h^1_{\omega} \end{aligned}$$

 \blacksquare solve for $\partial_{r_0}h^1_\omega$ with your favorite frequency-domain method

Puncture \tilde{t} derivatives BCs Evolution Invitation

Dependence on choice of slow time






Extension to other gauges and variables

- Exactly the same idea applies
- e.g., two-timescale expansion of Teukolsky (or Zerilli-Moncrief, etc.) equation,

$$\hat{\Box}^0_{\omega}\psi^{R2}_{\omega}=S_{\omega}[h^1,h^1]-\hat{\Box}^0_{\omega}\psi^{P2}_{\omega}-\hat{\Box}^1_{\omega}\psi^1_{\omega},$$

$$\square_{\omega}^0 h_{\omega}^{R2} = G_{\omega}^2 [h^1, h^1] - \square_{\omega}^0 h_{\omega}^{P2} - \square_{\omega}^1 h_{\omega}^1$$

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Matched expansions [Pound, Moxon, Flanagan, Hinderer, Yamada, Isoyama, Tanaka]



- We want to impose retarded BCs on full, physical metric perturbation
- This does not trivially imply simple BCs for two-timescale fields because the two-timescale expansion breaks down near horizon and infinity

■ To find BCs for two-timescale fields, obtain other (time-domain) approximations near *ℋ*⁺ and *I*⁺

Boundary conditions

- Use post-Minkowski expansion near *I*⁺ and a near-horizon expansion near *H*⁺
- Obtain solutions by using leading-order retarded (time domain) Green's functions
- post-Minkowski solution looks like

$$h^{PM} = h^{\mathcal{P}, PM} + h^{\mathcal{R}, PM}$$

 $h^{\mathcal{P},PM} = \text{particular solution}, h^{\mathcal{R},PM} = \text{outgoing wave}$

Analogous near horizon

Boundary punctures

- BC for two-timescale solution h^{TT} is $FZ[h^{TT}] = NZ[h^{PM}]$
- To enforce BC, use $NZ[h^{\mathcal{P},PM}]$ as a puncture at large r, impose standard outgoing, retarded BC on residual field

$$h^{\mathcal{R},TT} = h^{TT} - \mathrm{NZ}[h^{\mathcal{P},PM}]$$

- Numerically computed $h^{\mathcal{R},TT}$ determines $h^{\mathcal{R},PM}$
- Analogous near horizon







Extension to other gauges and variables

- The boundary punctures may not be strictly necessary in some cases
 - nonstationary modes with \tilde{w} as slow time
 - in "nicer" gauges
- When needed, punctures can be obtained from Lorenz-gauge punctures

— or directly, using same methods as in Lorenz gauge (obtaining approximate solutions in time domain near boundaries)

Reminder: quasicircular orbits

$$\begin{split} r_p &= r_0(\tilde{t}) + \epsilon r_1(\tilde{t}) + O(\epsilon^2) \\ \Omega &= \Omega_0(\tilde{t}) + \epsilon \Omega_1(\tilde{t}) + O(\epsilon^2) \\ \phi_p &= \int \Omega \, dt = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \int (\Omega_0 + \epsilon \Omega_1 + \ldots) d\tilde{t} \\ h &\sim \sum_{nlm} \epsilon^n h^n_{\omega_m lm}(\tilde{t}, r) e^{-im\phi_p(\tilde{t})} Y_{lm} \\ (\omega_m &= m\Omega_0) \end{split}$$

$$\Box h^1 = T^1$$

$$\Box h^{R2} = G^2[h^1, h^1] - \Box h^{P2}$$

$$\frac{D^2 z^{\mu}}{d\tau^2} = \epsilon f_1^{\mu} [h^{R1}] + \epsilon^2 f_2^{\mu} [h^{R2}]$$

$$\begin{split} h^{P1} &\sim \frac{m}{|x^{\alpha}-z^{\alpha}|} \\ h^{P2} &\sim \frac{m^2}{|x^{\alpha}-z^{\alpha}|^2} + \frac{mh^{R1}}{|x^{\alpha}-z^{\alpha}|} \end{split}$$

$$\Box^0_\omega h^1_\omega = T^1_\omega$$

$$\Box h^{R2} = G^2[h^1, h^1] - \Box h^{P2}$$

$$\frac{D^2 z^{\mu}}{d\tau^2} = \epsilon f_1^{\mu} [h^{R1}] + \epsilon^2 f_2^{\mu} [h^{R2}]$$

$$\begin{split} h^{P1} &\sim \frac{m}{|x^{\alpha}-z^{\alpha}|} \\ h^{P2} &\sim \frac{m^2}{|x^{\alpha}-z^{\alpha}|^2} + \frac{mh^{R1}}{|x^{\alpha}-z^{\alpha}|} \end{split}$$

$$\Box^0_\omega h^1_\omega = T^1_\omega$$

$$\square_{\omega}^{0}h_{\omega}^{R2} = G_{\omega}^{2}[h^{1},h^{1}] - \square_{\omega}^{0}h_{\omega}^{P2} - \square_{\omega}^{1}h_{\omega}^{1}$$

$$\frac{D^2 z^{\mu}}{d\tau^2} = \epsilon f_1^{\mu}[h^{R1}] + \epsilon^2 f_2^{\mu}[h^{R2}]$$

$$\begin{split} h^{P1} &\sim \frac{m}{|x^{\alpha}-z^{\alpha}|} \\ h^{P2} &\sim \frac{m^2}{|x^{\alpha}-z^{\alpha}|^2} + \frac{mh^{R1}}{|x^{\alpha}-z^{\alpha}|} \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} \Box^0_{\omega} h^1_{\omega} &= T^1_{\omega} \\ \Box^0_{\omega} h^{R2}_{\omega} &= G^2_{\omega} [h^1, h^1] - \Box^0_{\omega} h^{P2}_{\omega} - \Box^1_{\omega} h^1_{\omega} \\ & \Omega_0 &= \sqrt{M/r_0^3} \\ \frac{dr_0}{d\tilde{t}} \propto f^{\rm diss}_1 [h^{R1}_{\omega}] \\ & \Omega_1 \propto f^{\rm cons}_1 [h^{R1}_{\omega}] + r_1 \\ \frac{dr_1}{d\tilde{t}} \propto f^{\rm diss}_2 [h^{R2}_{\omega}] \\ & h^{P1} \sim \frac{m}{|x^{\alpha} - z^{\alpha}|^2} + \frac{mh^{R1}}{|x^{\alpha} - z^{\alpha}|} \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} \Box^0_\omega h^1_\omega &= T^1_\omega \\ \Box^0_\omega h^{R2}_\omega &= G^2_\omega [h^1, h^1] - \Box^0_\omega h^{P2}_\omega - \Box^1_\omega h^1_\omega \\ \Omega_0 &= \sqrt{M/r_0^3} \\ \frac{dr_0}{d\tilde{t}} &\propto f_1^{\rm diss} [h^{R1}_\omega] \\ \Omega_1 &\propto f_1^{\rm cons} [h^{R1}_\omega] + r_1 \\ \frac{dr_1}{d\tilde{t}} &\propto f_2^{\rm diss} [h^{R2}_\omega] \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} h^{P1}_{\omega} &\sim const. + |r-r_0| \\ h^{P2}_{\omega} &\sim m^2 \log |r-r_0| + const. + (mh^{R1} + r_1 + \dot{r}_0)|r-r_0| \end{split}$$



$$\phi_p(t)=\int\Omega dt$$
 and 4D field $h=\sum_{lm}\epsilon h^1_{\omega_m lm}(\tilde{t},r)e^{-im\phi_p(t)}Y_{lm}$





$$\phi_p(t)=\int\Omega dt$$
 and 4D field $h=\sum_{lm}\epsilon h^1_{\omega_m lm}(\tilde{t},r)e^{-im\phi_p(t)}Y_{lm}$



Demonstration in Lorenz gauge

22 mode of adiabatic vs geodesic waveform



Notes on two-timescale framework

- solving the two-timescale equations gives us the post-adiabatic inspiral and waveform as an output
- the two-timescale expansion is currently the main framework under development for computing post-adiabatic waveforms — or for doing any second-order calculations at all

How you can contribute

- optimize numerical implementation of $G^2_{\omega}[h^1,h^1]$
- calculate explicit punctures h_{ω}^{P2} (in coordinates, decomposed into harmonics) for generic orbits in Schwarzschild and Kerr
- \blacksquare calculate derivatives of h^1_ω with respect to orbital parameters for generic orbits
- calculate explicit punctures at horizon and infinity for generic orbits
- incorporate particle's spin into two-timescale framework
- develop near-resonance expansions to transition across resonances
- \blacksquare develop method of computing h^n_ω in Lorenz gauge in Kerr
- develop tools for computing ψ^2_{ω} (e.g., coupling formula $h^1_{\omega lm} \to S_{\omega lm}[h^1, h^1]$)
- develop method of analytically calculating second-order quantities using PN expansions