Strong-Field Scattering of Two Black Holes: Numerics Versus Analytics

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Binary BHs on hyperbolic orbits



Deflection angle



Effective One Body model

- from 2-body to 1-body problem
- Geodesic motion in Schwarzschild-like spacetime

$$ds^{2} = -A(r)dt^{2} + B(r)dr^{2} + r^{2}(d\theta^{2} + \sin^{2}\theta d\phi^{2})$$

$$u = 1/r \qquad A(u)_{3PN} = 1 - 2u + 2vu^{3} + a_{4}vu^{4}$$

• Resummation as Padè approximant:

$$A(u) = \frac{a_0 + a_1 u^1 + a_2 u^2 + \dots + a_n u^n}{1 + b_1 u^1 + b_2 u^2 + \dots + b_m u^m}$$

"Padèing"



$$A(u) = \frac{1 + n_1 u}{1 + d_1 u^1 + d_2 u^2 + d_3 u^3}$$

Effective One Body model

- A Hamiltonian of the system (describes conservative dynamics)
- Radiation reaction force terms to be added to the equation of motion
- A description of the asymptotic gravitational waveforms

Effective One Body Hamiltonian

$$H_{EOB}(r, p_{\phi}, p_{r}) = M \sqrt{1 + 2v(H_{eff}/\mu - 1)}$$

$$H_{eff} = \mu \sqrt{A(r)(1+J^2u^22\nu(4-3\nu)u^2p_r^4)} + p_r^2$$
$$p_r = p_r \sqrt{\frac{A}{B}}$$

EOB deflection angle

$$\frac{\chi}{2} = \int_{0}^{u_{max}(E,J)} U(u,J,H_{eff}) du - \frac{\pi}{2}$$
$$U(u,J,H_{eff}) = J \frac{\sqrt{A(u)B(b)}}{\sqrt{H_{eff}^2 - A(u)(1+J^2u^2)}}$$

Radiation reaction terms

 $\frac{\partial x^{i}}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{i}}$

 $\frac{\partial p^l}{\partial t} = \frac{-\partial H}{\partial x_i} + F_i$

Radiation reaction in the deflection angle

• When neglecting terms qudratic in F_i (of order (v/c)¹⁰) :

$$\begin{split} \chi^{(non-conservative)} = \chi^{(conservative)} (\overline{E}, \overline{J}) \\ E = \frac{1}{2} (E_{incoming} + E_{outgoing}) \qquad J = \frac{1}{2} (J_{incoming} + J_{outgoing}) \end{split}$$

Initial data



- Equal mass BHs (m=0.5 M)
- Non spinning
- Equal anti-parallel initial momenta (|p|=0.12 M)
- Initial separation: 100 M
- Varying impact parameter b
- TwoPunctures code (spectral method)

Initial data: possible configurations



Initial energy and angular momentum

b	E/M	J/M ²
9.6	1.0225555	1.099652
9.8	1.0225722	1.122598
10.0	1.0225791	1.145523
10.6	1.0225870	1.214273
11.0	1.0225884	1.260098
12.0	1.0255907	1.374658
13.0	1.0225924	1.489217
14.0	1.0225931	1.603774
15.0	1.0225938	1.718331
16.0	1.0225932	1.832883

Evolution

- BSSN formulation of Einstein equations
- Spatial derivatives: 8th-order finite-difference (McLachlan code)
- 7 box-in-box mesh refinement levels for each BH
- Cartesian grid (no multipatch)
- Time evolution: Method of lines 4th-order Runge-Kutta time integrator

Radiated energy and angular momentum



- Weyl scalar psi4
- Multipole decomposition up to I=8
- 4 extraction radii
- Extrapolation to null infinity
- Error sources: finite resolution, extrapolation, junk radiation

Deflection angle



- Polynomial fit of theta as function of 1/r
- Extrapolation to 1/r=0
- Choice of degree of the polynomial

Singular value decomposition

- Linear least squares problem: A x = b
- SVD decomposition: A = M W V^T
- W = diag{w₁,w₂,..,w_i} and x depends linearly on the reciprocals 1/w_i
- Treshold T: if $w_n < T^*max(w_i)$, then $1/w_n = 0$
- Coefficients and the extrapolant do not vary for polynomials of degree n>N

Results

b	chi _{nr}	chi _{5PN} EOB	chi _{4PN} EOB	chi _{3PN} EOB	chi _{2PN} EOB	chi ^{EOB}	chi _{3PN} PN	chi _{2PN} PN	chi PN
9.6	305.8(2. 6)	322(62)	364.29				139.9	124.2	
9.8	253.0(1. 4)	261(14)	274.92	332.24			131(2)	118.46	
10.0	222.9(1. 7)	227(5)	234.26	259.46			126(1)	115.89	
10.6	172.0(1. 4)	172.8(7)	174.98	182.09	220.11	260.53	118.5(3)	112.43	
11.0	152.0(1. 3)	152.4(3)	153.59	157.68	177.60	194.90	114.7(2)	110.14	
12.0	120.7(1. 5)	120.77(6)	121.17	122.63	129.98	136.42	104.34(4)	102.06	
13.0	101.6(1. 7)	101.63(2)	101.80	102.48	106.20	109.80	93.69(2)	92.54	
14.0	88.3(1.8)	88.348(8)	88.43	88.80	90.95	93.30	84.111(7)	83.55	
15.0	78.4(1.8)	78.427(4)	78.47	78.69	80.03	81.699	75.962(3)	75.71	169.298

Results



Conclusions

- Compared full GR simulations of BHs on hyperbolic orbits with PN-EOB predictions
- Found agreement for the 5PN NR-calibrated EOB case for every b
- Even for non circular orbits
- Possibility of extracting information from scattering experiments to complete the EOB model