Methods to solve 2-body problem in General Relativity



• Two parameters determine the range of validity of each method:

$$rac{G\,M}{r\,c^2} \sim rac{v^2}{c^2} \quad \& \quad rac{m_2}{m_1}$$

The effective-one-body (EOB) approach

• EOB approach introduced before NR breakthrough

AB, Pan, Taracchini, Bohe', Shao, Barausse, Hinderer, Steinhoff; Damour, Nagar, Bernuzzi, Bini, Balmelli; Iyer, Sathyaprakash; Jaranowski, Schaefer;



 EOB model uses best information available in PN theory, but resums PN terms in suitable way to describe accurately dynamics and radiation during inspiral and plunge.

• EOB assumes comparable-mass description is smooth deformation of testparticle limit. It employs non-perturbative ingredients and models analytically merger-ringdown signal.

The effective-one-body approach in a nutshell

$$\nu = \frac{\mu}{M} \qquad 0 \le \nu \le 1/4$$
$$\mu = \frac{m_1 m_2}{M} \qquad M = m_1 + m_2$$

- Two-body dynamics is mapped into dynamics of one-effective body moving in deformed blackhole spacetime, deformation being the mass ratio.
- Some key ideas of EOB model were inspired by quantum field theory when describing energy of comparable-mass charged bodies.



(AB & Damour PRD59 (1999) 084006)

EOB inspiral-merger-ringdown analytic waveform



(AB & Damour, PRD59 (1999) 084006, PRD62 (2000) 064015)

EOB Hamiltonian: resummed PN conservative dynamics



(credit: Hinderer)

• Dynamics condensed in $A_v(r)$ and $B_v(r)$

• $A_{\nu}(r)$, which encodes the energetics of circular orbits, is quite simple: $A_{\nu}(r) = 1 - \frac{2M}{r} + \frac{2M^{3}\nu}{r^{3}} + \left(\frac{94}{3} - \frac{41}{32}\pi^{2}\right)\frac{M^{4}\nu}{r^{4}} + \frac{a_{5}(\nu) + a_{5}^{\log}(\nu)\log(r)}{r^{5}} + \frac{a_{6}(\nu)}{r^{6}} + \cdots$

EOB resummed spin dynamics & waveforms



• EOB equations of motion:

$$\begin{split} \dot{\mathbf{r}} &= \frac{\partial H_{\text{real}}^{\text{EOB}}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \qquad \qquad F \propto \frac{dE}{dt}, \quad \frac{dE}{dt} \propto \sum_{\ell m} |h_{\ell m}|^2 \\ \dot{\mathbf{p}} &= -\frac{\partial H_{\text{real}}^{\text{EOB}}}{\partial \mathbf{r}} + \mathbf{F} \qquad \qquad \dot{\mathbf{S}} = \{\mathbf{S}, H_{\text{real}}^{\text{EOB}}\} \end{split}$$

• EOB waveforms:

 $h_{\ell m}^{\rm insp-plunge} = h_{\ell m}^{\rm Newt} \, e^{-im\Phi} \, S_{\rm eff} \, T_{\ell m} \, e^{i\delta_{\ell m}} \, (\rho_{\ell m})^{\ell} \, h_{\ell m}^{\rm NQC}$

Evolve two-body dynamics up to light ring (or photon orbit) and then ...



Quasi-normal modes excited at light-ring crossing

(Goebel 1972, Davis et al. 1972, Ferrari et al. 1984, Damour et al. 07, Barausse et al. 11, Price et al. 15)

... attach superposition of quasi-normal modes of remnant black hole.



On the simplicity of merger signal



• Peak of black-hole potential close to "light ring".

- Once particle is inside potential, direct gravitational radiation from its motion is strongly filtered by potential barrier (high-pass filter).
- Only black-hole spacetime vibrations (quasi-normal modes) leaks out black-hole potential.

Numerical Relativity

• Breakthrough in 2005 (Pretorius 05, Campanelli et al. 06, Baker et al. 06)

Kidder, Pfeiffer, Scheel, Lindblom, Szilagyi; Bruegmann, Hannam, Husa, Tichy; Laguna, Shoemaker; ...



• Simulating eXtreme Spacetime (SXS) collaboration (Mroue et al. 13)

 $R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4}T_{\mu\nu}$

• Numerical-Relativity & Analytical Relativity collaboration (Hinder et al. 13)

The (plunge and) merger in first NR simulations



(AB, Cook & Pretorius 07)

First comparisons/calibrations between NR and EOB model





• Calibrated EOBNR waveform



(AB, Pan, Baker, Centrella, Kelly at al. 08)

• EOBNR waveforms used in first LIGO searches

Numerical relativity reaching into post-Newtonian territory

(Szilagyi, Blackman, AB, Taracchini et al. 15)

 376 GW cycles, zero spin & mass ratio 7 (8 months, a few millions CPU hours!)



 Except for this case, current waveforms in NR catalogues have 30-80 GWs, thus they cover only a portion of the detector bandwidth.

Completing EOB waveforms using NR/perturbation theory information



Finite mass-ratio effects make gravitational interaction less attractive



EOBNR waveforms used in LIGO 01 modeled-search



Inspiral-merger-ringdown phenomenological waveforms

• First works in mid-late 2000 (Ajith et al. 07, Pan et al. 07, Santamaria et al. 10)

 Fast, frequency-domain waveform model hybridizing and fitting EOB & NR (Khan et al. 15; Husa et al. 15)

$$\tilde{h}(f;\lambda_i) = \mathcal{A}(f;\lambda_i) e^{i\phi(f;\lambda_i)}$$



EOBNR waveforms used in modeled search in LIGO O1

• Matched filtering employed

(Abbott et al. arXiv:1606.04856)



Numerical-relativity simulation of a binary black-hole merger with parameters close to GW150914



- Waveform models very closely match the exact solution from Einstein equations around GW150914 & GW151226.
- Systematics due to modeling are smaller than statistical errors. (see also Abbott et al. arXiv:1611.07531)

Numerical-relativity simulation of a binary black-hole merger with parameters close to GW151226

(visualization credit: Dietrich, Haas @AEI)

(Ossokine, AB & SXS project)



(Abbott et al. PRL 116 (2016) 241103)



 Systematics due to modeling are smaller than statistical errors.