Quasinormal Modes of black holes for spin 3/2 fields By: Gerhard Harmsen Supervisor: Prof. Alan Cornell





What is a black hole?



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Schwarzschild metric

$$ds^{2} = -\left(1 - \frac{2GM}{r}\right)dt^{2} + \left(1 - \frac{2GM}{r}\right)^{-1}dr^{2} + r^{2}(d\theta^{2} + (\sin\theta)^{2}d\phi^{2})$$

• Kerr metric

$$\begin{split} ds^{2} &= -\left(1 - \frac{2GMr}{r^{2} + a^{2}cos^{2}\theta}\right)dt^{2} + \left(\frac{r^{2} + a^{2}cos^{2}\theta}{r^{2} - 2GMr + a^{2}}\right)dr^{2} + (r^{2} + a^{2}cos^{2}\theta)d\theta^{2} \\ &+ \left(r^{2} + a^{2} + \frac{2GMra^{2}sin^{2}\theta}{r^{2} + a^{2}cos^{2}\theta}\right)sin^{2}\theta d\phi^{2} - (\frac{4GMrasin^{2}\theta}{r^{2} + a^{2}cos^{2}\theta})d\phi dt \end{split}$$

Kerr black hole





QuasiNormal Modes (QNM's)

Allowed energy modes for a perturbed system





QNM's of black holes



- Graph showing the evolution of a gravitational wave packet in the background of a Schwarzschild black hole
- Allowed QNM's are dependant on characteristics of the black hole



Previous works in our group

- Calculation of QNM's for spin-1, ½ particles in Schwarzschild black hole backgrounds.
- Simulation of spin-1 and spin ½ particles in black hole backgrounds.



Work in this project

- Use of WKB approximation to determine the allowed QNM's for spin- 3/2 fields
- Add on Warren Carlson's program to try and simulate these spin- 3/2 fields



WKB approximation

- Determine approximate solutions ODE's
- Assume wave function of the following form

$$\epsilon^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = Q(x)y$$

• With *E* << **1**

WKB Approximation

Possible solution

$$y(x,\epsilon) = A(x,\epsilon)e^{\frac{iu(x)}{\epsilon}},$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}y}{\mathrm{d}x} = \left(A' + A\frac{iu'}{\epsilon}\right)e^{\frac{iu(x)}{\epsilon}},$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}^2 y}{\mathrm{d}x^2} = \left(-\frac{(u')^2}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{i}{\epsilon}(Au'' + 2A'u') + A''\right)e^{\frac{iu(x)}{\epsilon}}$$



WKB Approximation

Solution of the form

 $\left(A^{\prime\prime}(x,\epsilon)\epsilon^2 + 2\epsilon A^{\prime}(x,\epsilon)iu^{\prime(x)} + A(x,\epsilon) \left((iu^{\prime\prime}(x)\epsilon) + (iu^{\prime}(x))^2 \right) \right)$ = $Q(x)A(x,\epsilon)$

• Let:

$$\begin{aligned} A(x,\epsilon) &= A_0(x) + \epsilon A_1(x) + \epsilon^2 A_2(x) + \dots \\ A'(x,\epsilon) &= A'_0(x) + \epsilon A'_1(x) + \epsilon^2 A'_2(x) + \dots \\ A''(x,\epsilon) &= A''_0(x) + \epsilon A''_1(x) + \epsilon^2 A''_2(x) + \dots \end{aligned}$$



WKB Approximation

• Gather in terms of powers of ϵ^0

 $A_0(x)(iu'(x))^2 = Q(x)A_0(x)$

• Solution:

$$u(x) = \pm \int_{x_0}^x \sqrt{Q(k)} \, dk$$



Why WKB

- Doesn't tend to infinity for higher order perturbations
- Perturbations of black holes can be described by

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2}\psi(x) = Q(x,\omega)\psi(x)$$

• Has been used for spin - ½ and spin - 1 fields



Extensions

- Calculate and simulate QNM's for black holes in AdS space.
- Study stability of rotating black holes in higher dimensional models



Thank you

