

The New Era of Precision Gravitational-Wave (astro)Physics

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Outline

- The science from GW experiments stems on our ability to make precise predictions: brief review of theoretical groundwork to identify and interpret the signals.
- GWs detected from binary black holes & binary neutron stars: astrophysical and fundamental physics implications. Tests of GR.
- Effective-one-body theory: it can re-sum and re-organize perturbative results to improve accuracy and include strong-field effects close to merger; it can model semi-analytically merger-ringdown.
- The bright future of GW astrophysics comes with new theoretical challenges and opportunities.
- Can gravitational waveforms be obtained more efficiently with modern scattering amplitude techniques?

Solving two-body problem in General Relativity (including radiation)



• Synergy between analytical and numerical relativity is crucial.

Solving two-body problem in General Relativity (including radiation)

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

- GR is non-linear theory.
- Einstein's field equations can be solved:
- approximately, but analytically (fast way)
- exactly, but numerically on supercomputers (slow way)

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

• GWI51226: SNR=13, 55 cycles (from 35 Hz), I sec.



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(Abbott et al. PRL 119 (2017) 161101)

• GW170817: SNR=32, 3000 cycles (from 30 Hz), one minute.



• Synergy between analytical and numerical relativity is crucial.

Advanced detectors' roadmap and rates



Solving two-body problem in General Relativity

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

- **GR** is non-linear theory. Complexity similar to QCD.
- Einstein's field equations can be solved:
 - approximately, but analytically (fast way)
 - exactly, but numerically on supercomputers (slow way)



- Analytical methods: post-Newtonian/post-Minkowskian/small mass-ratio expansion, effective-one-body theory
 - effective field-theory, dimensional regularization, etc.
 - diagrammatic approach to organize expansions



Post-Newtonian/post-Minkowskian formalism/effective field theory



- Multi-chart approach to describe motion of strong self-gravity bodies, such as NS & BH.
- Radiation-reaction problem.

- Matched asymptotic expansions.
 - Generation problem.

Equations of motion/Hamiltonian in post-Newtonian theory

• First introduced in 1917 (Droste & Lorentz 1917, ... Einstein, Infeld & Hoffmann 1938)

(Blanchet, Damour, Iyer, Faye, Bernard, Bohe', AB, Marsat; Jaranowski, Schaefer, Steinhoff; Will, Wiseman; Flanagan, Hinderer, Vines; Goldberger, Porto, Rothstein; Kol, Levi, Smolkin; Foffa, Sturani; ...)

 $\widehat{H}_{N}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p}) = \frac{\mathbf{p}^{2}}{2} - \frac{1}{r} \qquad \text{Small parameter is } \mathbf{v/c} \ll \mathbf{I}, \mathbf{v}^{2}/\mathbf{c}^{2} \sim \mathbf{GM/rc}^{2}$ $\widehat{H}_{1PN}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p}) = \frac{1}{8}(3\nu - 1)(\mathbf{p}^{2})^{2} - \frac{1}{2}\left\{(3 + \nu)\mathbf{p}^{2} + \nu(\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{p})^{2}\right\}\frac{1}{r} + \frac{1}{2r^{2}}$ $\widehat{H}_{2PN}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p}) = \frac{1}{16}\left(1 - 5\nu + 5\nu^{2}\right)(\mathbf{p}^{2})^{3} + \frac{1}{8}\left\{\left(5 - 20\nu - 3\nu^{2}\right)(\mathbf{p}^{2})^{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{m_{2}}\right\} + \dots + \frac{1}{m_{2}} + \dots + \frac{1}{m_{2}$

 Compact object is point-like body endowed with time-dependent multipole moments (skeletonization).

Small mass-ratio expansion/gravitational self-force formalism

• First works in 50-70s (Regge & Wheeler 56, Zerilli 70, Teukolsky 72)

Small parameter is $m_{2/m_1} \ll I_{,v^2/c^2} \sim GM/rc^2 \sim I_{,M} = m_1 + m_2$

Equation of gravitational perturbations in black-hole spacetime:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial r_\star^2} + \frac{V_{\ell m} \Psi}{V_{\ell m}} \Psi = \mathcal{S}_{\ell m}$$





 m_1

m2

Green functions in Schwarzschild/Kerr spacetimes. (Fujita, Poisson, Sasaki, Shibata, Khanna, Hughes, Bernuzzi, Harms, Nagar...)

• Accurate modeling of relativistic dynamics of large massratio inspirals requires to include back-reaction effects due to interaction of small object with its own gravitational perturbation field.

(Deitweiler, Whiting, Mino, Poisson, Quinn, Wald, Sasaki, Tanaka, Barack, Ori, Pound, van de Meent, ...)

Numerical Relativity: binary black holes

• 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 Spacetimes (SXS) collaboration (Mroue et al. 13)

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

 376 GW cycles, zero spins & massratio 7 (8 months, few millions CPU-h)

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



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

The effective-one-body (EOB) approach

• EOB approach introduced before NR breakthrough

(AB, Pan, Taracchini, Barausse, Bohe', Cotesta, Shao, Hinderer, Steinhoff, Vines; Damour, Nagar, Bernuzzi, Bini, Balmelli, Messina; 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 (going beyond quasi-circular adiabatic motion).
- 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.
- **Real description** Effective description m_2 m Map $m{g}_{\mu
 u}$ m m_1 E_{real} E_{eff} J_{real} N_{real}

(AB & Damour 1998)

 Some key ideas of EOB model were inspired by quantum field theory when describing energy of comparable-mass charged bodies.

Energy for comparable-mass bodies

• Classical gravity: (AB & Damour 98)

$$\frac{E_{\rm real}^2}{E_{\rm real}} = m_1^2 + m_2^2 + 2m_1m_2\left(\frac{E_{\rm eff}}{\mu}\right)$$

• Quantum electrodynamics: (Brezin, Itzykson & Zinn-Justin 1970)

$$\frac{E_{\text{real}}^2}{\sqrt{1 + Z^2 \alpha^2 / (n - \epsilon_j)^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + Z^2 \alpha^2 / (n - \epsilon_j)^2}}$$

• Considering scattering states:

$$\varphi(s) \equiv \frac{s - m_1^2 - m_2^2}{2m_2 m_2} = \frac{-(p_1 + p_2)^2 - m_1^2 - m_2^2}{2m_2 m_2} = -\frac{p_1 \cdot p_2}{m_1 m_2}$$

EOB Hamiltonian: resummed conservative dynamics (@2PN)

 Real Hamiltonian Effective Hamiltonian $H_{\rm real}^{\rm PN} = H_{\rm Newt} + H_{\rm 1PN} + H_{\rm 2PN} + \cdots$ $H_{\text{eff}}^{\nu} = \mu \sqrt{A_{\nu}(r)} \left| 1 + \frac{\mathbf{p}^2}{\mu^2} + \left(\frac{1}{B_{\nu}(r)} - 1 \right) \frac{p_r^2}{\mu^2} \right|$ $ds_{\rm eff}^2 = -A_{\nu}(r)dt^2 + B_{\nu}(r)dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega^2$ • EOB Hamiltonian: $H_{\text{real}}^{\text{EOB}} = M \sqrt{1 + 2\nu \left(\frac{H_{\text{eff}}^{\nu}}{\mu} - 1\right)}$

(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



$$H_{\text{real}}^{\text{EOB}} = M \sqrt{1 + 2\nu \left(\frac{H_{\text{eff}}^{\nu}}{\mu} - 1\right)} \quad \bullet H_{\text{eff}}^{\nu} \text{ with spins, two EOB resummations:}$$

(Barausse, Racine & AB 09; Barausse & AB 10, 11)

(Damour 01, Damour, Jaranowski & Schäfer 08; Damour & Nagar 14)

• EOB equations of motion (AB et al. 00, 05; Damour et al. 09):

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

• EOB waveforms (AB et al. 00; Damour et al. 09; Pan, AB et al. 11):

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

EOB inspiral-merger-ringdown analytic waveform



• By solving Hamilton equations with appropriate, resummed radiation-reaction force, we obtain orbital motion and gravitational waveform.



On the simplicity of merger signal in small-mass ratio limit



- 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.

(Goebel 1972, Davis et al. 1972, Ferrari & Mashhoon 1984)

On the full effective-one-body waveforms

• 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.



• Effective-one-body (EOB) theory & NR (EOBNR)

141 SXS simulations



• Inspiral-merger-ringdown phenomenological waveforms fitting EOB & NR (IMRPhenom) (Khan et al. 16, Hannam et al 16)

Strong-field effects in binary black holes included in EOB

Finite mass-ratio effects make gravitational interaction less attractive

0.7 0.6 0.5 Schwarzschild (1) V ISCO Schwarzschild light ring 0.3 **SEOBNR** light ring 0.2 EOBNR Schwarzschild 0.1 0 3 5 6 r/M $A_{\nu}(r) = 1 - \frac{2M}{r} + \frac{2M^{3}\nu}{r^{3}} + \left(\frac{94}{3} - \frac{41}{32}\pi^{2}\right)\frac{M^{4}\nu}{r^{4}} + \frac{a_{5}(\nu) + a_{5}^{\log}(\nu)\log(r)}{r^{5}} + \frac{a_{6}(\nu)}{r^{6}} + \cdots$

(Taracchini, AB, Pan, Hinderer & SXS 14)

Probing equation of state of neutron stars

Neutron Star:

- mass: I-3 Msun
- radius: 9-15 km
- core density > 10^{14} g/cm³





• Terrestrial experiments test EOS at densities smaller than nuclei saturation density. • NS equation of state (EOS) affects gravitational waveform during late inspiral, merger and post-merger.

Probing equation of state of neutron stars



•Tidal effects imprinted on gravitational waveform during inspiral through parameter λ .

• λ measures star's quadrupole deformation in response to companion perturbing tidal field:

$$Q_{ij} = -\lambda \,\mathcal{E}_{ij}$$

State-of-art waveform models for binary neutron stars

• Synergy between analytical and numerical work is crucial.



(Damour 1983, Flanagan & Hinderer 08, Binnington & Poisson 09, Vines et al. 11, Damour & Nagar 09, 12, Bernuzzi et al. 15, Hinderer et al. 16, Steinhoff et al. 16, Dietrich et al. 17-18, Nagar et al. 18)

Strong-field effects in presence of matter in EOB theory



Tides make gravitational interaction more attractive

PN templates for compact-object binary inspirals

$$\begin{split} \tilde{h}(f) &= \mathcal{A}_{\rm SPA}(f) \ e^{i\psi_{\rm SPA}(f)} \qquad \mathcal{M} = \nu^{3/5} \ \mathcal{M} \\ \psi_{\rm SPA}(f) &= 2\pi f t_c - \Phi_c - \pi/4 + \frac{3}{128} (\pi \mathcal{M} f)^{-5/3} \ \frac{0}{14} \qquad \text{graviton with} \\ \text{non zero mass} \\ \begin{array}{l} \text{dipole} & -\frac{5\hat{\alpha}^2}{336\omega_{\rm BD}} \nu^{2/5} \frac{1}{(\pi \mathcal{M} f)^{-2/3}} - \frac{128}{3} \frac{\pi^2 D \ \mathcal{M}}{\lambda_g^2 (1+z)} (\pi \mathcal{M} f)^{2/3} \qquad \text{spin-orbit} \\ + & \left(\frac{3715}{756} + \frac{55}{9}\nu\right) \nu^{-2/5} (\pi \mathcal{M} f)^{2/3} - 16\pi \nu^{-3/5} (\pi \mathcal{M} f) + 4\beta \nu^{-3/5} (\pi \mathcal{M} f) \\ + & \left(\frac{15293365}{508032} + \frac{27145}{504}\nu + \frac{3085}{72}\nu^2\right) \frac{2}{\nu^{-4/5}} (\pi \mathcal{M} f)^{4/3} - 10\sigma \nu^{-4/5} (\pi \frac{2}{M} f)^{4/3} \\ + & \left(\frac{15293365}{13} + \frac{27145}{504}\nu + \frac{3085}{72}\nu^2\right) \frac{2}{\nu^{-4/5}} (\pi \mathcal{M} f)^{4/3} - 10\sigma \nu^{-4/5} (\pi \frac{2}{M} f)^{4/3} \\ + & \left(\frac{15293365}{13} + \frac{27145}{144}\nu + \frac{3085}{72}\nu^2\right) \frac{2}{\nu^{-4/5}} (\pi \mathcal{M} f)^{4/3} - 10\sigma \nu^{-4/5} (\pi \frac{2}{M} f)^{4/3} \\ + & \left(\frac{15293365}{13} + \frac{27145}{144}\nu + \frac{3085}{72}\nu^2\right) \frac{2}{\nu^{-4/5}} (\pi \mathcal{M} f)^{4/3} - 10\sigma \nu^{-4/5} (\pi \frac{2}{M} f)^{4/3} \\ + & \left(\frac{15293365}{13} + \frac{27145}{144}\nu + \frac{3085}{72}\nu^2\right) \frac{2}{\nu^{-4/5}} (\pi \mathcal{M} f)^{4/3} - 10\sigma \nu^{-4/5} (\pi \frac{2}{M} f)^{4/3} \\ + & \left(\frac{15293365}{13} + \frac{27145}{144}\nu + \frac{3085}{72}\nu^2\right) \frac{2}{\nu^{-4/5}} (\pi \mathcal{M} f)^{4/3} - 10\sigma \nu^{-4/5} (\pi \frac{2}{M} f)^{4/3} \\ + & \left(\frac{15293365}{144}\nu + \frac{3085}{144}\nu + \frac{3085}{72}\nu^2\right) \frac{2}{\nu^{-4/5}} (\pi \mathcal{M} f)^{4/3} - 10\sigma \nu^{-4/5} (\pi \frac{2}{M} f)^{4/3} \\ + & \left(\frac{15293365}{144}\nu + \frac{3085}{144}\nu + \frac{3085}{72}\nu^2\right) \frac{2}{\nu^{-4/5}} (\pi \mathcal{M} f)^{4/3} - 10\sigma \nu^{-4/5} (\pi \frac{2}{M} f)^{4/3} \\ + & \left(\frac{16}{13} (m_1 + 12m_2)m_1^4\Lambda_1 + (m_2 + 12m_1)m_2^4\Lambda_2}{(m_1 + m_2)^5} \right) \frac{1}{\lambda} \\ + & \left(\frac{16}{13} (m_1 + 12m_2)m_1^4\Lambda_1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} m_1^4\Lambda_2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} m_1^4\Lambda_2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} m_1^4\Lambda_2 + \frac{1}{2} m_1^4$$

Template bank for modeled search & possible systematics



(visualization credit: Dietrich, Haas @AEI) (Ossokine, AB & SXS project)



 Systematics due to modeling are smaller than statistical errors for GW events observed in OI & O2 runs.

(see also Abbott et al. CQG 34 (2017) 104002)

Unveiling binary black-hole properties: masses



 Chirp mass is best measured. Individual masses can be better measured if merger is observed, because total mass is measured at merger.

Unveiling binary black-hole properties: spins



Unveiling binary black-hole properties: spins



Unveiling binary neutron star properties: masses



- Degeneracy between masses and spins limit their measured accuracy.
- Fastest-spinning neutron star has (dimensionless) spin ~0.4.
- Observation of binary pulsars in our galaxy indicate spins are not larger than ~0.04.
- Current measurements of NS masses dominated by statistical error.

Constraining NS equation of states with GW170817



Depends on EOS & compactness

$$\Lambda = \frac{\lambda}{m_{\rm NS}^5} = \frac{2}{3} k_2 \left(\frac{R_{\rm NS}c^2}{Gm_{\rm NS}}\right)^5$$

• Effective tidal deformability enters GW phase at 5PN order:

$$\tilde{\Lambda} = \frac{16}{13} \frac{(m_1 + 12m_2)m_1^4 \Lambda_1 + (m_2 + 12m_1)m_2^4 \Lambda_2}{(m_1 + m_2)^5}$$
$$\tilde{\Lambda} : 300^{+500}_{-190} \quad @ 90\% \text{ CL}$$

 Current measurements of tidal effects dominated by statistical error.

Extending waveform modeling in all binary parameter space

- Difficult to run NR simulations for large mass ratios (> 4) & large spins (> 0.8), with large number of GW cycles (> 50).
- For large mass ratios and spins crucial to combine PN, GSF and NR results in EOB framework.

(Damour 09, Barausse, AB et al. 12, Le Tiec, ... AB 12, Bini et al. 12-16, Antonelli et al. in prep)

 Perform EOB internal consistency checks to control systematics due to limited length and number of NR simulations.

(Pan, AB et al. 14, Bohe' ... AB et al. 16)

• Compare with other waveform models. (Khan et al. 16, Nagar et al. 15-18)



(Bohe'...AB et al. 16)

Need more efficient ways to solve two-body problem, analytically

 In test-body limit, spinning EOB Hamiltonian includes linear terms in spin of test body at all PN orders.

(Barausse et al. 10, Barausse & AB 11, 12; Vines et al. 15)

$$(\sigma + \sigma^2) \left(1 + \frac{v^2}{c^2} + \cdots \right)$$

• Is EOB mapping unique at all orders?

$$\boldsymbol{H_{\text{real}}^{\text{EOB}}} = M \sqrt{1 + 2\nu \left(\frac{\boldsymbol{H_{\text{eff}}}^{\boldsymbol{\nu}}}{\mu} - 1\right)}$$

Using unbound orbits and scattering angle as adiabatic invariant, at IPM: mapping unique & 2-body relativistic motion equivalent to I-body motion in Kerr. (Damour 16, Bini et al. 17-18, Vines 17)

 $\frac{Gm}{rc^2} \left(1 + \frac{v^2}{c^2} + \cdots \right) \mathbf{GM/rc^2} << \mathbf{v^2/c^2} \sim \mathbf{I}$



exact mapping at the leading PN orders

• Results at leading PN order but all orders in spin.

(Vines & Steinhoff 16; Vines & Harte 16, Siemonsen, Steinhoff & Vines 17)

 $(S_i + S_i^2 +$

On quantum-field theory methods in classical gravity & GWs

- Modern scattering amplitude methods of quantum fields/particles:
 - Bern-Carrasco-Johansson (BCJ) duality/ double copy (Bern et al. 10, Monteiro et al. 15, Bjerrum-Bohr et al. 15, Luna et al. 16, 17, Goldberger & Ridgway 17, Goldberger, Li & Prabhu 17)
 - Britto-Cachazo-Feng-Witten (BCFW) on-shell recursion relations/unitary methods (Britto et al. 04, 05, Bern et al. 1994, 1995, Neil & Rothstein 13)
 - Higher spin fields (Vaidya 16; Guevara 17)
- Can those techniques be really more efficient in solving two-body problem, including radiation?
- Those methods naturally allow to obtain PM results (GM/rc² << v²/c² ~1). How to go beyond perturbative calculations? We are interested in strong-field regime (GM/rc² ~1).
- How to reconstruct classical dynamics from quantum scattering amplitudes? (Damour 17, Bjerrum-Bohr et al. 18)
- How to efficiently compute gravitational waveforms?

Gravitational waveforms built from conservative & dissipative dynamics

• GW from time-dependent quadrupole moment:

• Center-of-mass energy: $E(\omega)$ $E(v) = -\frac{\mu}{2}v^2 + \cdots$ $F(v) = \frac{32}{5}v^2\frac{c^5}{G}\left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^{10} + \cdots$

• Balance equation:
$$\frac{dE(\omega)}{dt} = -F(\omega) \rightarrow \dot{\omega}(t) = -\frac{F(\omega)}{dE(\omega)/d\omega}$$

Gravitational-wave phase:

$$\Phi_{\rm GW}(t) = 2\Phi(t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int^t \omega(t') dt'$$

 $h_{ij} \sim \frac{G}{c^4} \, \frac{Q_{ij}}{\mathbf{D}}$

PN versus PM expansion for conservative two-body dynamics



spinning compact objects



(credit: Justin Vines)

current known
PN resultscurrent known
PM resultsoverlap between
PN & PM resultsunknown• PM resultsWestfahl 79, Westfahl & Goller 80, Portilla 79-80, Bel et al. 81, Ledvinka et al. 10,
Damour 16-17, Guevara 17, Vines 17, Bini & Damour 17-18, Vines in prep)

spinning compact objects



Binding energy at 2PM in EOB theory: comparison to NR



• Accurate NR data (Ossokine & Dietrich 17) • Crucial to complete 2PM results with PN

• Using a 2PM EOB Hamiltonian (Damour 17)

- terms for **bounded orbits** to improve accuracy.
- Important to compute **3PM**.

A wish-list of precision calculations which could have "real" phenomenological impact

Note I: Until we have new results to check against current analytical waveform models and against numerical-relativity computations, it is not possible to understand the "real" phenomenological impact.

Note 2: To have "real" phenomenological impact, we need conservative and dissipative results (i.e., also waveforms).

Possible problems to tackle:

- Scattering amplitudes at 2 loops [3PM (GM/rc² << v²/c² ~1)] for non-spinning and then spinning particles [black holes].
- Scattering amplitudes at I loop [2PM (GM/rc² << v²/c² ~I)] for particles endowed with multipole moments [neutron stars].
- Non-perturbative [GM/rc² ~ v²/c² ~ 1] scattering amplitude from "condensates" [strongly curved spacetimes] ???

The new era of precision gravitational-wave astrophysics

 Theoretical groundwork in analytical and numerical relativity has allowed us to build faithful waveform models to search for signals, infer properties and test GR.



• We can now learn about gravity in the genuinely highly dynamical, strong field regime.



- We can now unveil properties of neutron stars unaccessible in other ways.
- To take full advantage of discovery potential in next years and decades we need to continue to make precise theoretical predictions.
- Analytical relativity work still needed to cover the entire parameter space. New opportunities for theoretical physicists to contribute!

"Astrophysical & Cosmological Relativity" Department

