

Self-force in hyperbolic scattering

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- **Part A: Introduction to gravitational self-force in classical GR**
 - Foundations
 - Sample of results for bound orbits

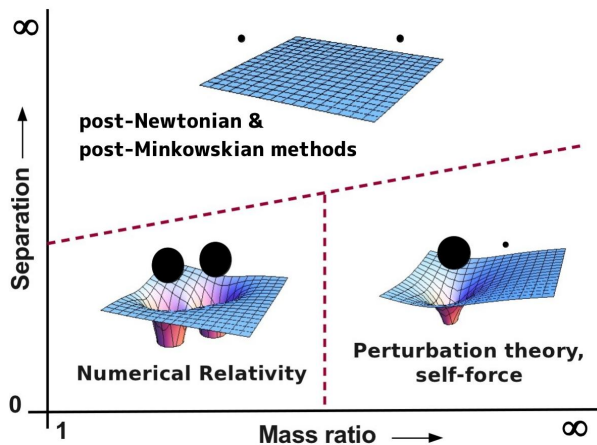
- **Part B: Self-force in black-hole scattering**
 - First results in a scalar-field toy model [LB & Long 2021, 2022]
 - Comparison with Amplitude PM calculations [LB, Bern et al., 2023]
 - Current and future work [Whittall & LB, 2023]

PART A: INTRODUCTION TO SELF-FORCE

Nonexpert review:

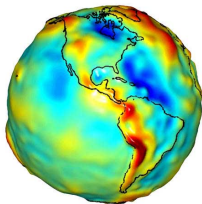
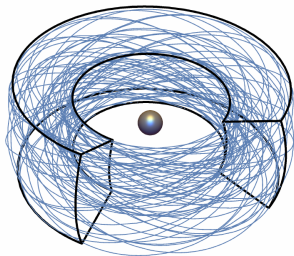
Barack & Pound, *Self-force and radiation reaction in general relativity*,
2019 Rep. Prog. Phys. **82** 016904 [arXiv:1805.10385]

Domains of the 2-body problem in classical GR



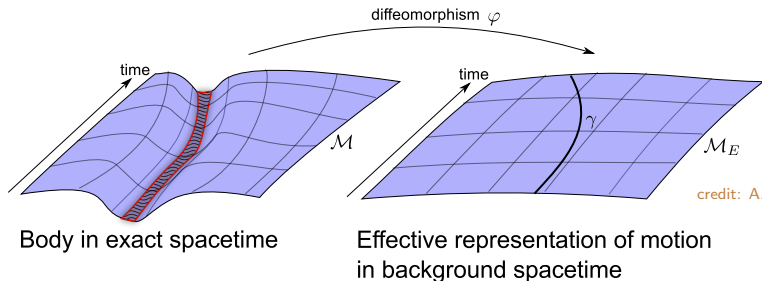
EMRIs as astrophysical probes of strong-field physics

- Small mass ratio, $q \sim \frac{10M_{\odot}}{10^6M_{\odot}} = 10^{-5} \ll 1$
 - ⇒ Slow evolution, over $T_{\text{RR}} \sim T_{\text{orb}}/q \gg T_{\text{orb}}$
 - ⇒ Very many grav. wave cycles in LISA band:
 $N_{\text{orb}} \sim 1/q \sim 10^5$
- Orbits very complicated.
Geodesics generically tri-periodic & ergodic.



- Precision probe of strong-field geometry:
 - “black-hole geodesy”
 - tests of GR

Problem of motion

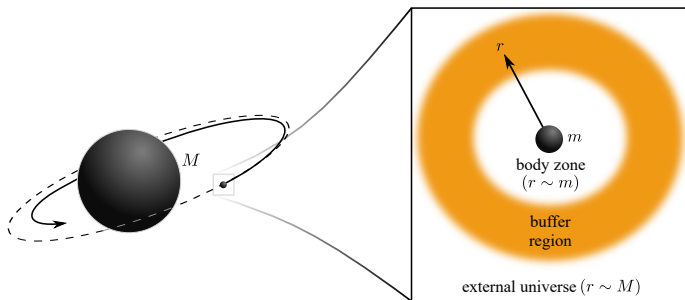


Guiding principles:

- “Point particle” does not make sense as a fundamental object in GR, but “point particle equation of motion” can — in a certain effective way.
- No need for ad-hoc regularization; EoM rigorously derived via a limit process.

Matched Asymptotic Expansions

Mino, Sasaki & Tanaka (1997), building on Burke, d'Eath, Kates, Thorne & Hartle,...

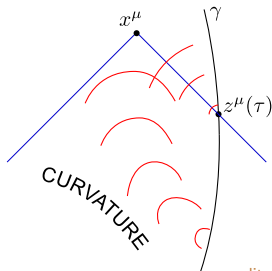


- Trajectory defined on background spacetime using a suitable far-zone limit; constrained by matching near & far expansions of the metric in the matching zone.
- **No resort to "point particles"**: notion *derived* rather than assumed

Equation of Motion with 1st-order self-force

Metric perturbation at x^μ is a sum of “direct” and “tail” contributions:

$$g_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{full}} = g_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)} + h_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{direct}} + h_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{tail}}$$



credit: A. Pound

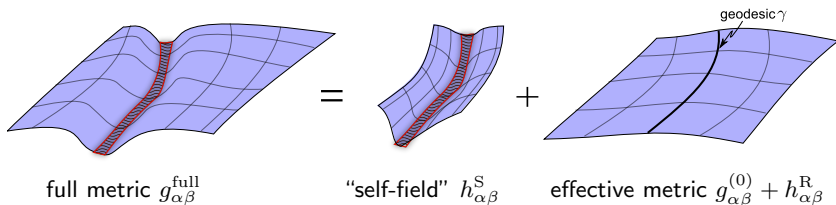
$$m \frac{D^2 z^\alpha}{d\tau^2} = m \nabla^{\alpha\beta\gamma} h_{\beta\gamma}^{\text{tail}} \Big|_{z(\tau)} =: F_{\text{self}}^\alpha$$

$$\nabla^{\alpha\beta\gamma} h_{\gamma\beta} := -\frac{1}{2} (g_{(0)}^{\alpha\beta} + u^\alpha u^\beta) u^\gamma u^\delta \left(2\nabla_\delta^{(0)} h_{\beta\gamma} - \nabla_\beta^{(0)} h_{\gamma\delta} \right)$$

“R field” reformulation [Detweiler & Whiting 2003]

- $h_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{tail}}$ is **not** a vacuum solution of the linearized Einstein equations
- But one can construct a vacuum solution $h_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{R}}$ [associated with a certain (a-causal) Green function in the Hadamard representation] such that $\nabla h^{\text{R}}|_z = \nabla h^{\text{tail}}|_z$.

$$\Rightarrow F_{\text{self}}^{\alpha} = m \nabla^{\alpha\beta\gamma} h_{\beta\gamma}^{\text{R}} = \nabla^{\alpha\beta\gamma} (h_{\beta\gamma}^{\text{ret}} - h_{\beta\gamma}^{\text{S}})$$



- **Interpretation:** orbit is a **geodesic** in the effective metric.
- Similar result for extended material objects [Harte 2010], 2nd-order self-force (Pound 2012), non-perturbative [Harte 2012]

Practical schemes in black-hole spacetimes:

I. Mode-sum method

- Subtraction of $h_{\alpha\beta}^S$ done mode-by-mode in a multipole expansion about large BH:

$$\begin{aligned} F_{\text{self}}(z(\tau)) &= m \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \left[(\nabla h^{\text{ret}})^{\ell} - (\nabla h^S)^{\ell} \right] \Big|_{z(\tau)} \\ &= \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \left[m (\nabla h^{\text{ret}})^{\ell} \Big|_{z(\tau)} - A(z)\ell - B(z) - C(z)/\ell \right] - D(z) \end{aligned}$$

- **Regularization parameters** derived analytically from local form of $h_{\alpha\beta}^S$; known for generic orbits in Kerr (LB & Ori 2000-03)
- **Numerical input:** Modes of $h_{\beta\gamma}$ obtained by solving metric perturbation equations with a particle (delta function) source and retarded boundary conditions.

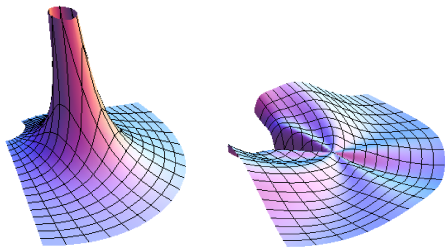
Practical schemes in black-hole spacetimes:

II. Puncture (or “effective source”) method

- Analytically construct **Puncture field** $h_{\alpha\beta}^P \approx h_{\alpha\beta}^S$ so that $\nabla h^P = \nabla h^S$ at particle.
- Write linearized field equation $\delta G_{\mu\nu}(h) = T_{\mu\nu}$ in “punctured” form

$$\delta G_{\mu\nu}(h - h^P) = T_{\mu\nu} - \delta G_{\mu\nu}(h^P) =: S_{\mu\nu}^{\text{eff}}$$

- Numerically solve for **Residual field** $h^{\text{Res}} := h - h^P$. Then $F_{\text{self}} = m\nabla h^{\text{Res}}$

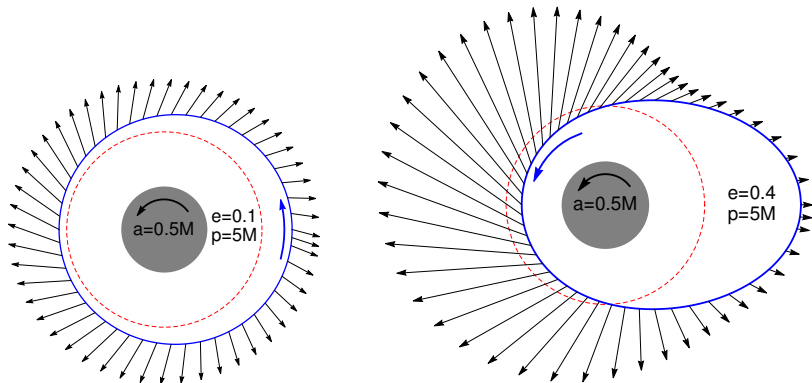


credit: J. Thornburg & B. Wardell

- Implementations (2007–) by
 - LB, Golbourn, Dolan, Thornburg,...
 - Detweiler, Vega, Diener, Wardell,...

Self-force along fixed geodesic orbits

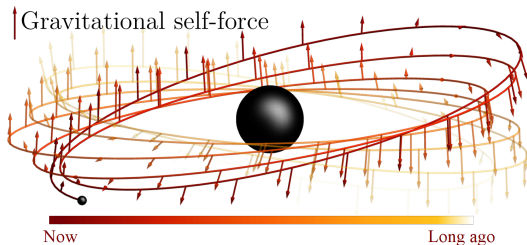
sample results for equatorial orbits in Kerr ($a = 0.5M$)



Based on data from [M. van de Meent \(2016\)](#)
using numerical implementation of Mano-Suzuki-Takasugi method
+ metric reconstruction + mode-sum regularization.

Self-force along fixed geodesic orbits

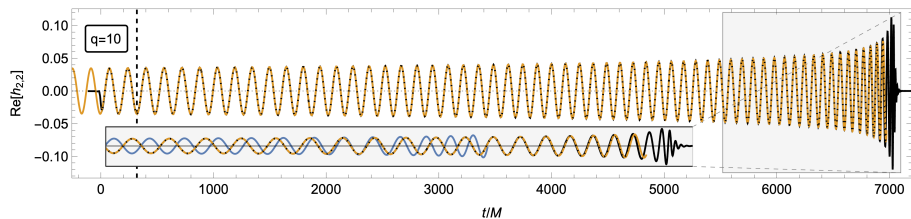
sample results for an inclined eccentric orbit in Kerr



$$a = 0.5M, \quad p = 10, \quad e = 0.1, \quad \cos \theta_{\min} = 0.3$$

[M. Van de Meent]

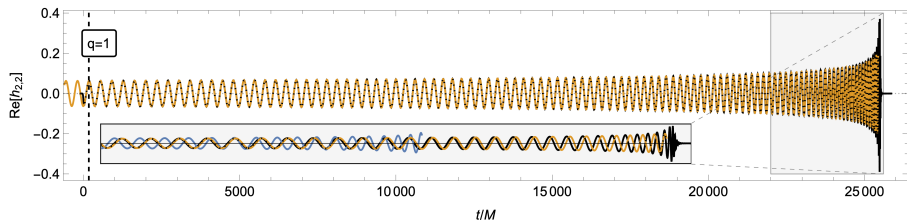
First 1-post-adiabatic waveforms from 2nd-order calculations



mass ratio 1:10

[Wardell et al. 2021]

First 1-post-adiabatic waveforms from 2nd-order calculations



mass ratio 1:1

[Wardell et al. 2021]

Conservative effects of the self-force

Now “turn off” dissipation:

$$m \frac{Dz^\alpha}{d\tau^2} = F_{\text{cons}}^\alpha := \frac{1}{2} \left[F_{\text{self}}^\alpha(h^{\text{ret}}) + F_{\text{self}}^\alpha(h^{\text{adv}}) \right]$$

Motivation

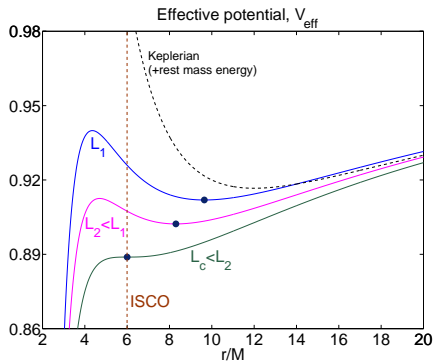
- ▶ Clean quantitative description of gauge-invariant finite-mass effects
- ▶ Comparison with post-Newtonian & post-Minkowskian calculations
- ▶ Strong-field calibration data for Effective One Body potentials
- ▶ Construct two-body Hamiltonian

$O(q)$ shift in the ISCO frequency

Restoring force $\sim -mV'_{\text{eff}} + F_{\text{self}}$

inflection at $r_{\text{isco}} = 6M + O(q)$.

$$\Rightarrow \Omega_{\text{isco}} = 6^{-3/2} M^{-1} + \Delta\Omega_{\text{isco}}$$



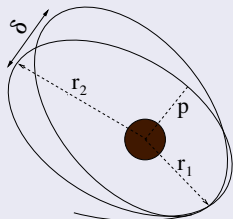
$$\left(\frac{\Delta\Omega_{\text{isco}}}{\Omega_{\text{isco}}} \right)_{\text{SF}} = 0.2513(6) q \quad [\text{LB \& Sago 2009}]$$

$$= 0.25101546(5) q \quad [\text{Akca, LB, Damour \& Sago 2012}]$$

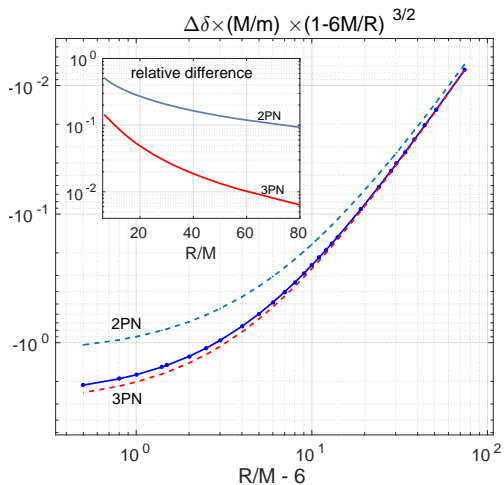
$$\left(\frac{\Delta\Omega_{\text{isco}}}{\Omega_{\text{isco}}} \right)_{\text{3PN}} = 0.434913 \dots q$$

$O(q)$ correction to the periastron advance in slightly eccentric orbits [LB, Damour & Sago 2010]

$$\delta = 2\pi \left[\left(1 - \frac{6M}{R} \right)^{-1/2} - 1 \right] + \Delta\delta(R)$$



Use $R := \left(\frac{M+m}{\Omega^2} \right)^{1/3}$ as an "invariant" parametrization of the limiting circular orbit.



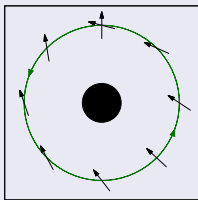
“Self-torque” and spin precession

[Dolan, Warburton, Harte, Le Tiec, Wardell & LB 2014]

In limit $s \ll m^2$, spin is parallel-transported along geodesic of $g + h^R$:

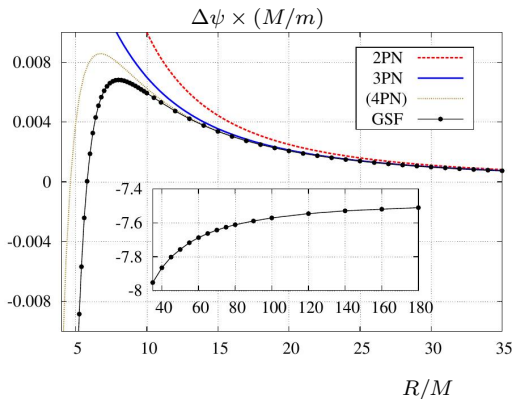
$$u^\beta \nabla_\beta^{(R)} u_\alpha = 0, \quad u^\beta \nabla_\beta^{(R)} s_\alpha = 0 \quad [\text{Harte 2012}]$$

Circular orbit in Schwarzschild:
Spin undergoes simple precession:



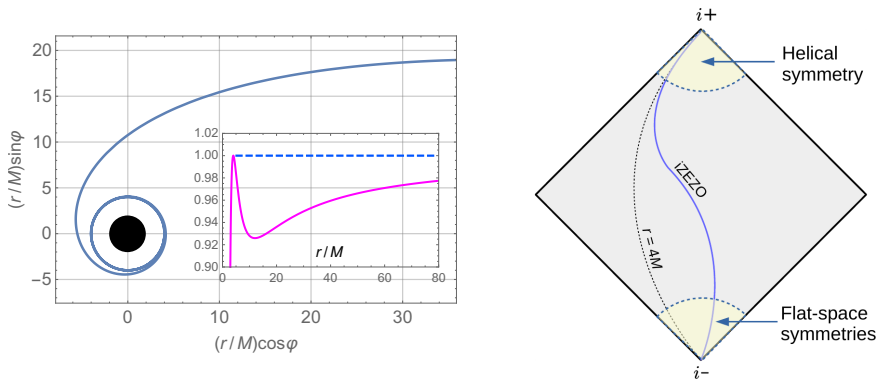
$$\psi(R) = 1 - \sqrt{1 - 3M/R} + \Delta\psi$$

Precession angle per radian angular motion



SF effects on the ZEXO (Zero-binding-Energy Zoom-whirl Orbit)

[LB, Colleoni, Damour, Isoyama & Sago 2019]



Two asymptotic symmetries allow identification of the (unstable) circular orbit's energy and angular momentum as Bondi-type quantities (neglecting radiation).

SF effects on the ZEZO (Zero-binding-Energy Zoom-whirl Orbit)

[LB, Colleoni, Damour, Isoyama & Sago 2019]

Frequency of the asymptotic circular orbit:

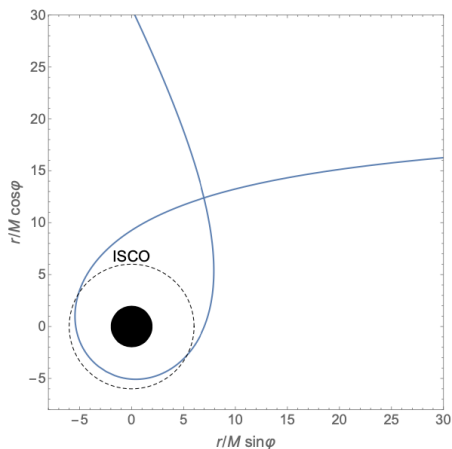
$$\begin{aligned}\Omega &= (8M)^{-1} [1 + 0.5536(2)q] && \text{our direct calculation} \\ &= (8M)^{-1} [1 + 0.55358516671q] && \text{IBCO redshift + 1st law} \\ &= (8M)^{-1} [1 + 0.32q] && \text{EOB (2009 model)} \\ &= (8M)^{-1} [1 + 0.553603030(1)q] && \text{EOB using 1st law}\end{aligned}$$

Angular momentum of the asymptotic circular orbit:

$$\begin{aligned}L &= 4M\mu [1 - 0.304(3)q] && \text{our direct calculation} \\ &= 4M\mu [1 - 0.3046742879q] && \text{IBCO redshift + 1st law} \\ &= 4M\mu [1 - 0.288(80)q] && \text{EOB (2009 model)} \\ &= 4M\mu [1 - 0.30467428782(6)q] && \text{EOB using 1st law}\end{aligned}$$

PART B: SELF-FORCE AND SCATTERING

Motivation



$$v_\infty = 0.2, \quad b = 21M$$

- Scattering angle $\chi(E_{\text{COM}}, b)$ defined unambiguously (even with radiation); benchmark for strong-field dynamics
 - Can probe down to light ring, $r = 3M$
 - New way of calibrating EOB theory, using PM χ info [Damour 2016]
 - Bound-to-unbound map [Kälén & Porto 2019+]
-
- $\chi_{1\text{SF}}$ determines the **full** conservative dynamics to 4PM order (arbitrary q); $\chi_{2\text{SF}}$ extends that to 6PM. [Damour 2019]
 - 1GSF results give the full $O(q)$ piece of χ (“all PM orders”)

Self-force correction to the scattering angle

$$\Delta\chi := \chi(E, b) - \chi_0(E, b) = O(q)$$

where $\chi_0 := \lim_{q \rightarrow 0} \chi$ is the geodesic limit at same E, b :

$$\Delta\chi_0 = 2k\sqrt{p/e} \operatorname{Elliptic}\left(\frac{\chi_\infty}{2}; -k^2\right)$$

with

$$k := 2\sqrt{\frac{e}{p-6-2e}}, \quad \chi_\infty := \cos^{-1}(-1/e),$$

and with the transformation $(p, e) \leftrightarrow (E, b)$ obtainable in analytical form.

$$\Delta\chi = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A_\alpha(\tau; e, p) F_{\text{self}}^\alpha(\tau) d\tau \quad [\text{LB \& Long 2022}]$$

[*Note at $O(q)$ it suffices to evaluate F_{self}^α along the limiting geodesic.]

Conservative and dissipative effects

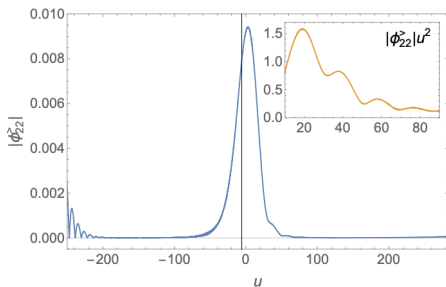
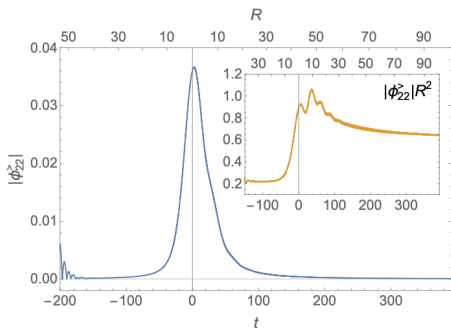
$$\Delta\chi_{\text{cons}} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A_{\alpha}^{\text{cons}}(\tau; p, e) F_{\text{cons}}^{\alpha}(\tau) d\tau$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\chi_{\text{diss}} &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A_{\alpha}^{\text{diss}}(\tau; p, e) F_{\text{diss}}^{\alpha}(\tau) d\tau \\ &= \alpha_E(p, e)\Delta E_{\text{rad}} + \alpha_J(p, e)\Delta J_{\text{rad}} \quad [\text{LB \& Long 2022}]\end{aligned}$$

Last result expresses $\Delta\chi_{\text{diss}}$ in terms of total radiated energy and angular momentum, similar to relations in PM theory.

First attempt on gravitational scattering problem

Via metric reconstruction from a Hertz potential ϕ , obtained by numerically solving Teukolsky equation as a PDE in 1+1D [Long & LB 2021]



- $F_{\text{self}} \sim \partial h_{\alpha\beta} \sim \partial^3 \phi$.
Hard to get good accuracy with current, rudimentary numerical method.
- On hold till better integration method developed (in progress).

Toy model:

Scalar charge scattered off a Schwarzschild black hole

Charge sources a massless Klein-Gordon field Φ :

$$\nabla^\alpha \nabla_\alpha \Phi = -4\pi Q \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\delta^4(x - z(\tau))}{\sqrt{-g(x)}} d\tau$$

We ignore the gravitational self-force, and consider only back-reaction from Φ :

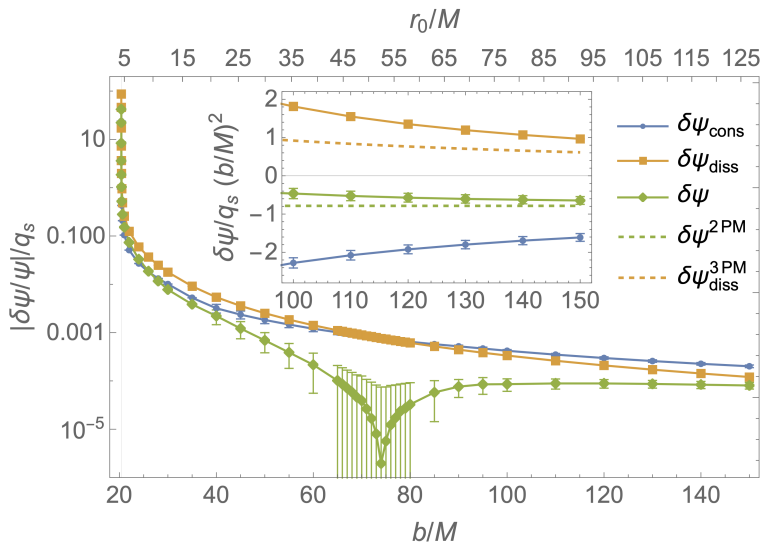
$$\frac{Dp^\alpha}{d\tau} = -Q \nabla^\alpha \Phi^R =: F_{\text{self}}^\alpha$$

Assume $q_s := Q^2/(mM) \ll 1$. Then deviation from geodesic is small, and again

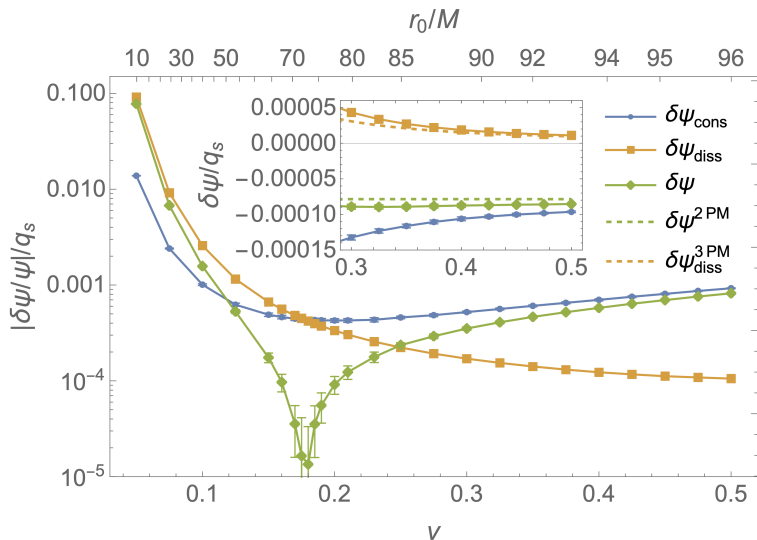
$$\Delta\chi = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A_\alpha(\tau; e, p) F_{\text{self}}^\alpha(\tau) d\tau,$$

with F_{self}^α again evaluated along the limiting geodesic.

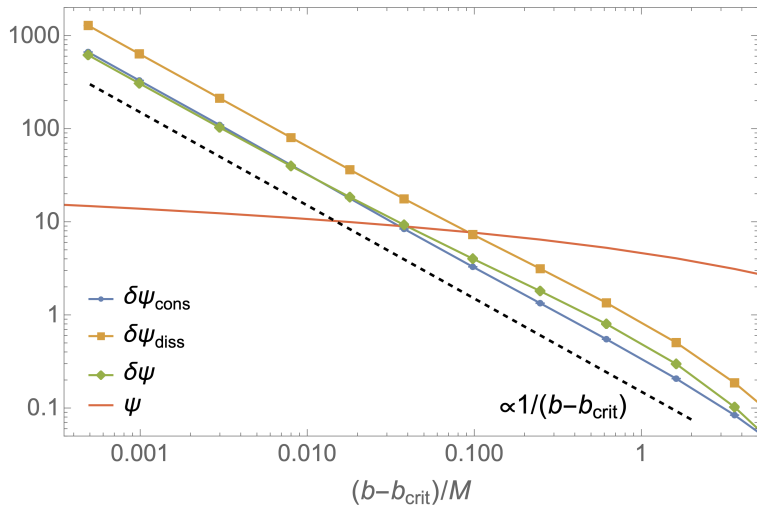
Scattering angle results ($v = 0.2$) [LB & Long 2022]



Scattering angle results ($b = 100M$) [LB & Long 2022]



Scattering angle results (near plunge threshold) [LB & Long 2022]



Comparison with PM results from Amplitudes

[LB, Bern, Herrmann, Long, Parra-Martinez, Roiban, Ruf, Shen, Solon, Teng, Zeng 2023]

Expansion around flat space:

$$\delta\chi^{\text{PM}} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \delta\chi_i \left(\frac{M}{b}\right)^i$$

2PM [Gralla & Lobo '22]:

$$\delta\chi_2^{\text{cons}} = -\frac{\pi}{4} \left(\frac{M}{b}\right)^2$$

$$\delta\chi_2^{\text{diss}} = 0$$

v : Velocity at infinity

b : Impact parameter

3PM:

$$\delta\chi_3^{\text{cons}} = -\frac{4(3-v^2)}{3v^2\sqrt{1-v^2}} \left(\frac{M}{b}\right)^3$$

$$\delta\chi_3^{\text{diss}} = \frac{2(v^2+1)^2}{3v^3\sqrt{1-v^2}} \left(\frac{M}{b}\right)^3$$

LO

NLO

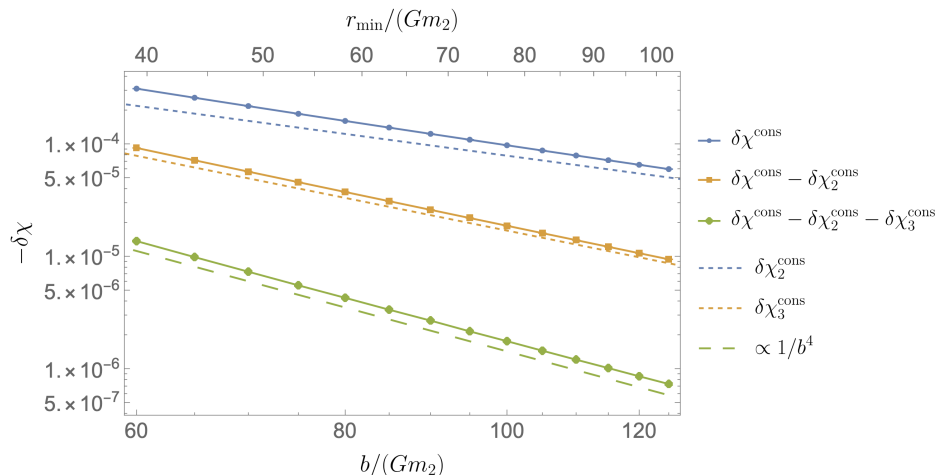
4PM dissipative:

$$\delta\chi_4^{\text{diss}} = \left(r_1 + r_2 \operatorname{arcsech}(\sqrt{1-v^2}) + r_3 \log \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-v^2}} + 1 \right) \right] \right) \left(\frac{M}{b}\right)^4$$

r_i = rational coefficients

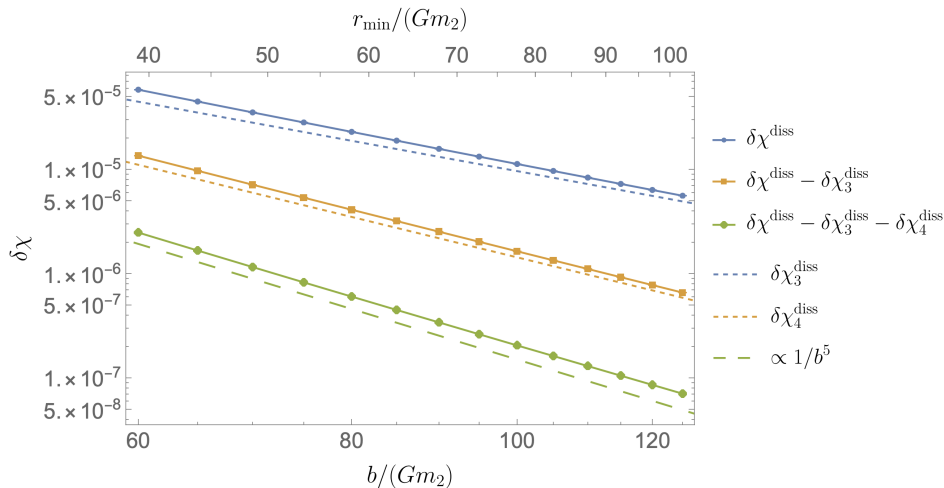
Comparison with PM: conservative sector

[LB, Bern, Herrmann, Long, Parra-Martinez, Roiban, Ruf, Shen, Solon, Teng, Zeng 2023]



Comparison with PM: dissipative sector

[LB, Bern, Herrmann, Long, Parra-Martinez, Roiban, Ruf, Shen, Solon, Teng, Zeng 2023]



Comparison with PM: numerical fitting

[LB, Bern, Herrmann, Long, Parra-Martinez, Roiban, Ruf, Shen, Solon, Teng, Zeng 2023]

PM expansion with free parameters:

$$\delta\varphi_{\text{cons}}^{\text{PM}} = \frac{a_2}{b^2} + \frac{a_3}{b^3} + \frac{a_4}{b^4} + \frac{a_5}{b^5} + \dots$$

Up to **3PM** can fit value or use **analytic value**.

a_2	a_3	a_4	a_5
-1.0886	-	-	-
-0.7535	-21.77	-	-
-0.7899	-16.17	-206.5	-
-0.7803	-18.49	-25.0	-4620
-0.785398	-19.18	-	-
-0.785398	-16.93	-176.2	-
-0.785398	-17.20	-131.1	-1793
-0.785398	-16.9356	-175.9	-
-0.785398	-16.9356	-174.4	-107
< 1%	~ 1%	~ -175	< 0(?)

4PM results from Amplitudes

[LB, Bern, Herrmann, Long, Parra-Martinez, Roiban, Ruf, Shen, Solon, Teng, Zeng 2023]

$$\begin{aligned}
 \delta\varphi_4^{\text{cons}} = & \left(r_1 + r_2 \operatorname{arccosh} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-v^2}} \right) + r_3 \operatorname{arccosh} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-v^2}} \right)^2 + r_4 E \left(-\frac{v^2 + 2\sqrt{1-v^2} - 2}{v^2} \right)^2 \right. \\
 & \left. + r_5 K \left(-\frac{v^2 + 2\sqrt{1-v^2} - 2}{v^2} \right) E \left(-\frac{v^2 + 2\sqrt{1-v^2} - 2}{v^2} \right) + r_6 K \left(-\frac{v^2 + 2\sqrt{1-v^2} - 2}{v^2} \right)^2 \right. \\
 & + r_7 \log \left(\frac{v}{2\sqrt{1-v^2}} \right) + r_8 \log \left(\frac{v}{2\sqrt{1-v^2}} \right) \operatorname{arccosh} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-v^2}} \right) \\
 & + r_9 \log \left(\frac{v}{2\sqrt{1-v^2}} \right) \log \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-v^2}} + 1 \right) \right) + r_{10} \log \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-v^2}} + 1 \right) \right) \\
 & \left. + r_{11} \log^2 \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-v^2}} + 1 \right) \right) + r_{12} \alpha + r_{13} \frac{\beta}{v^2} + r_4 \log(b) \right) \left(\frac{M}{b} \right)^4
 \end{aligned}$$

r_i = rational coefficients
 Free coefficients
Log term
Elliptic integrals

Fitting for internal-structure coefficients c_1 and c_2

[LB, Bern, Herrmann, Long, Parra-Martinez, Roiban, Ruf, Shen, Solon, Teng, Zeng 2023]

Subtract known **analytic** parts of conservative 4PM:

$$\Delta_4(v) := (\delta\chi_4^{\text{cons}} - \delta\chi_4^{\text{known}})b^4 = \frac{3}{8}\pi M^4 [c_2 + c_1(5 - 4/v^2)] + \mathcal{O}(1/b)$$

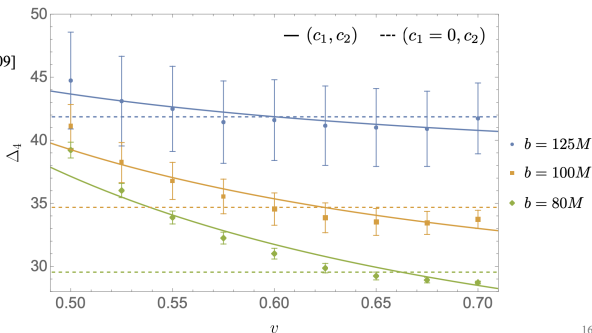
c_1 & c_2 are **Love numbers**.

Expect $c_1 = 0$ [Binnington & Poisson '09]

b/M	c_1	c_2
80	0.94	-21.2
100	0.68	-25.9
125	0.31(± 0.38)	-33.6
80	0	-25.1
100	0	-29.4
125	0	-35.5

Fixed

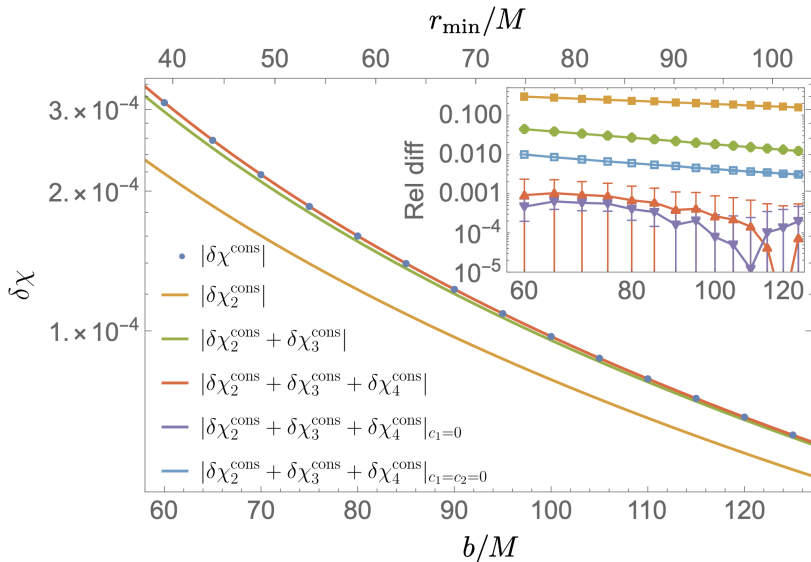
(Fitting error)



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Comparison through 4PM: conservative sector

[LB, Bern, Herrmann, Long, Parra-Martinez, Roiban, Ruf, Shen, Solon, Teng, Zeng 2023]

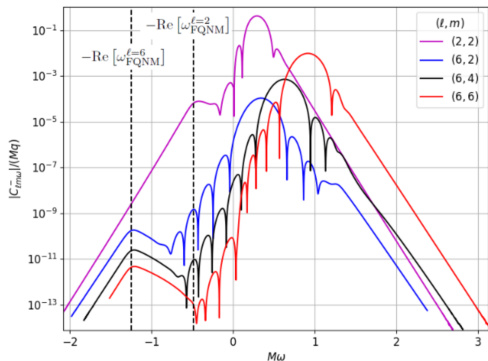


Frequency-domain approach for improved precision

[Whittall and LB 2023]

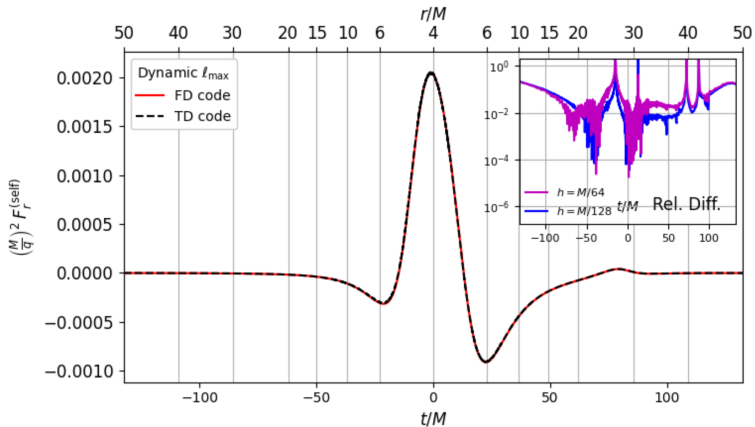
$$\Phi = \sum_{\ell, m} \int d\omega \phi_{\ell m \omega}(r) Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \varphi) e^{-i\omega t}$$

- Reconstruct Φ and F_{self} from numerical solutions of ODEs for $\phi_{\ell m \omega}(r)$
- **Much** more precise than TD method in strong field



Frequency-domain approach for improved precision

[Whittall and LB 2023]



- FD code loses accuracy fast at large r , where small frequencies dominate.
- Work in progress to analytically derive F_{self} at large r in $1/r$ expansion.

Prospects

- **Improved TD method:** spectral, hyperboloidal slicing, compactification. Two ongoing efforts, one using mode-sum regularization (with R. Mécado), another using puncture (with P. Diener).
- **Analytical self-force at large r** is under way, to capitalize on improved accuracy enabled by FD method.
- **Road to gravitational scattering:**
 - Direct Lorenz-gauge calculation [Akçay, Warburton, LB 2013]
 - Radiation-gauge reconstruction [Pound, Merlin, LB 2013]
 - Lorenz-gauge reconstruction [Dolan, Durkan, Kavanagh, Wardell 2023]
- **2nd-order self-force?** No disparate timescales perhaps makes scattering problem easier than bound-orbit case.