

# Binary Black Holes: Numerical simulations and approximation methods

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CaJAGWR Seminar  
22 January 2008, Caltech

- Outline:
  - Simulations of binary black holes
  - Comparing NR vs PN waveforms
  - Final spin of the merged black hole
  - KITP workshop on NR and DA

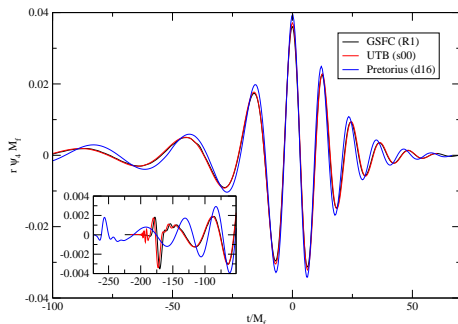
# BBH simulations: Methods

- Generalized Harmonic with Moving Excision [Pretorius 2005]
  - 10 second-order wave equations
  - constraint damping
  - Full adaptive mesh refinement
- Moving puncture [Campanelli et al 2006, Baker et al 2006]
  - BSSN formulation
  - Gauge driver conditions
  - Quickly adopted by multiple groups

# NR BBH Results: Equal-mass, non-spinning

- Simple merger phase
  - Energy radiated 3.5 – 5%
  - Final spin  $a/m = 0.69$
  - (2,2) mode dominates
- Progressed from 1 orbit + merger + ringdown to 16 orbits + merger + ringdown [Boyle et al 2007] [Caltech/Cornell 2008]
- Precision comparison with post-Newtonian (more details later in this talk)

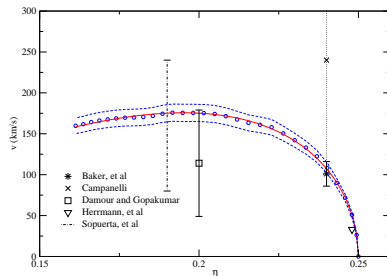
- Initial comparison among codes [Baker, Campanelli, Pretorius, Zlochower 2007]



# NR BBH Results: Unequal-mass, non-spinning

Maximum kick  $175 \pm 11 \text{ km/s}$   
at mass-ratio  $2.77$

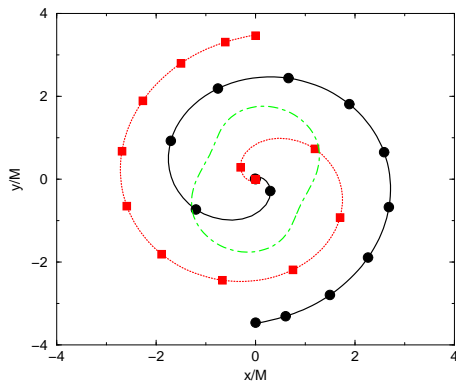
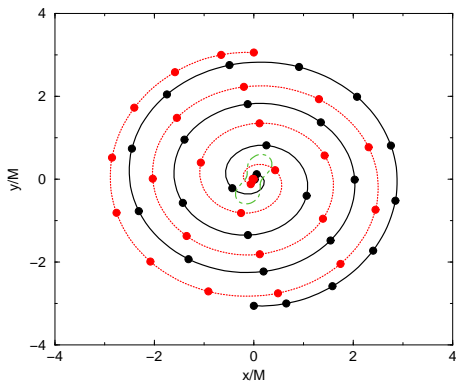
- Energy radiated decreases
- Final spin decreases
- Black hole kicks (random direction in orbital plane)
  - [Baker et al 2006]
  - [Herrmann et al 2007]
  - [González, et al 2007]
- Construction of templates [Ajith et al 2007]



$v(\text{km/s})$  vs  
 $\eta = (m_1 m_2)/(m_1 + m_2)^2$

## NR BBH Results: Equal-mass, aligned spins

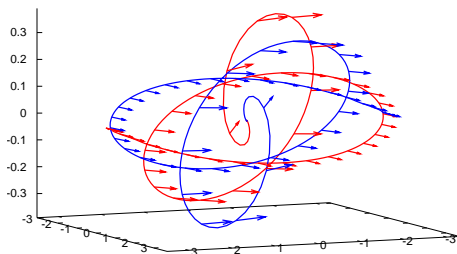
- Change in orbital dynamics (aligned vs anti-aligned spins) [Campanelli, Lousto, Zlochower 2006]
- Final spin aligned with orbital angular momentum (more later in talk)
- Kicks from unequal spins (up to  $475\text{km/s}$ ) [Herrmann et al 2007; Koppitz et al 2007]



# NR BBH Results: Equal-mass, precessing spins

- Precession of orbit and spins

[Campanelli, Lousto, Zlochower, Krishan, and Merritt, 2007]



- Super kicks! (up to

**4000km/s**)

[Campanelli et al 2007;  
Gonzalez et al 2007]

- Kick can be perpendicular to orbital plane

- Fitting formula for kicks (e.g. [Herrmann et al 2007]) based on PN formula

[Kidder 1995]

# NR BH Results

- Generic binaries
  - Simulations get more expensive as mass ratio and spins increase
  - Expected to be big focus of 2008
- 3-body interactions [Campanelli, Lousto, Zlochower 2007]

# Comparison between PN and NR

Collaborators at **Cornell** and **Caltech**:

**Michael Boyle**, **Duncan A. Brown** (LIGO), **Gregory B. Cook** (WFU),  
**Lee Lindblom**, **Geoffrey Lovelace**, **Abdul H. Mroué**, **Robert Owen**,  
**Harald P. Pfeiffer**, **Oliver Rinne**, **Mark A. Scheel**, **Saul A. Teukolsky**

- Compare Numerical (NR) and Post-Newtonian (PN) Waveforms
  - Test PN in late inspiral
  - Test NR in regime where PN is valid
- Need long, accurate NR simulation

# Spectral Einstein Code

[Kidder, Pfeiffer, Scheel]

- Generalized harmonic formulation of Einstein's equations
  - 10 coupled first-order wave equations (50 variables)
  - Constraint damping (Lindblom et al 2006)
- Dual frame method with dynamic tracking of the black holes
  - Time-dependent rotation and scaling (Scheel et al 2006)
  - Use control theory to adjust mapping to track holes
- Boundary conditions
  - Excision boundary is pure outflow (no BC needed)
  - Constraint preserving (Lindblom et al 2006)
  - No incoming physical radiation
  - Minimize reflections of gauge modes (Rinne et al 2007)
- Multidomain pseudospectral method
  - Exponential convergence for smooth solutions
  - Highly efficient for high accuracy

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# Extracting Gravitational Waves: Procedure

- Compute  $\Psi_4 = -C_{\alpha\mu\beta\nu}\ell^\mu\ell^\nu\bar{m}^\alpha\bar{m}^\beta$  where  $\ell^\mu \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(n^\mu - r^\mu)$ , and  $m^\mu$  is a complex null vector (satisfying  $m^\mu\bar{m}_\mu = 1$ )
  - Each extraction surface  $\mathcal{E}$  is a coordinate sphere
  - $n^\mu$  is timelike unit normal to spatial hypersurface
  - $r^\mu$  is outward-pointing spatial unit normal to  $\mathcal{E}$
  - $m^\mu = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}r} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} + i \frac{1}{\sin\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial\phi} \right)^\mu$
  - Do not orthonormalize tetrad
- Concentrate on dominant (2, 2) mode

$$\Psi_4(t, r, \theta, \phi) = \sum_{lm} \Psi_4^{lm}(t, r) {}_{-2}Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi)$$

- Define gravitational wave amplitude  $A$ , phase  $\phi$  and frequency  $\omega$

$$\Psi_4^{22}(r, t) = A(r, t)e^{-i\phi(r, t)}$$

$$\omega = \frac{d\phi}{dt}$$

# Extrapolating Gravitational Waves: Procedure

- Extract at  $r = 75m, 80m, 85m, \dots, 235m, 240m$
- Shift each waveform by  $r^* = r_{\text{areal}} + 2M_{\text{ADM}} \log \left( \frac{r_{\text{areal}}}{2M_{\text{ADM}}} - 1 \right)$
- Fit phase and amplitude as polynomials:

$$\phi(t - r^*, r) = \phi^{(0)}(t - r^*) + \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\phi^{(k)}(t - r^*)}{r^k}$$

$$rA(t - r^*, r) = A^{(0)}(t - r^*) + \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{A^{(k)}(t - r^*)}{r^k}$$

- Identify phase and amplitude at infinity with leading-order term:

$$\phi(t - r^*) = \phi^{(0)}(t - r^*)$$

and

$$rA(t - r^*) = A^{(0)}(t - r^*)$$

# Post-Newtonian Approximation

(Blanchet, 2006, <http://www.livingreviews.org/lrr-2006-4>)

- **Slow motion, weak field approximation**  $\epsilon \sim \frac{Gm}{rc^2} \sim \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2$
- Equations of motion
  - Acceleration
  - Binding Energy  $E$
  - Computed through  $\epsilon^{7/2}$
  - Radiation reaction enters at  $\epsilon^{5/2}$  and  $\epsilon^{7/2}$
- Wave generation
  - Luminosity  $\mathcal{L}$  computed through  $\epsilon^{7/2}$
  - Polarization waveforms  $h_+$  and  $h_\times$  computed through  $\epsilon^{5/2}$
- To produce accurate templates, assume:
  - Adiabatic inspiral of quasi-circular orbits
  - Energy balance

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# Adiabatic Inspiral of Quasicircular Orbits

- Emission of gravitational radiation circularizes the orbit
- Can express  $E$ ,  $\mathcal{L}$ ,  $h_+$ , and  $h_\times$  in terms of an orbital frequency parameter  $x \equiv \left(\frac{Gm\omega_{orb}}{c^3}\right)^{2/3}$  and the orbital phase  $\phi$
- For an equal mass, non-spinning binary

$$E = -\frac{mc^2}{8}x \left[ 1 - \frac{37}{48}x - \frac{1069}{384}x^2 + \left( \frac{1427365}{331776} - \frac{205}{384}\pi^2 \right) x^3 \right]$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{2c^5}{5G}x^5 \left\{ 1 - \frac{373}{84}x + 4\pi x^{3/2} - \frac{59}{567}x^2 - \frac{767}{42}\pi x^{5/2} \right. \\ \left. + \left[ \frac{18608019757}{209563200} + \frac{355}{64}\pi^2 - \frac{1712}{105}\gamma - \frac{856}{105}\ln(16x) \right] x^3 + \frac{16655}{6048}\pi x^{7/2} \right\}$$

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# PN waveforms: polarization waveforms and modes

Decompose polarization waveforms into spin-weighted spherical harmonics:

$$h_+ - ih_\times = \sum_{\ell=2}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} h^{\ell m}_{-2} Y^{\ell m}(\Theta, \Phi)$$

Polarization waveforms known to 2.5 PN order [Arun et al 2004]

$$h_{ij}^{TT} = \frac{4G}{c^2 R} \Pi_{ijmn} \sum_{\ell=2}^{\infty} \left\{ \frac{1}{c^{\ell} \ell!} \mathcal{U}_{mnL-2}(T_R) N_{L-2} + \frac{2\ell}{c^{\ell+1} (\ell+1)!} \epsilon_{pq(m} \mathcal{V}_{n)pL-2}(T_R) N_{qL-2} \right\}.$$

Can compute modes directly from multipole moments! [Kidder 2008]

$$h^{\ell m} = \frac{G}{\sqrt{2} R c^{\ell+2}} \left( U^{\ell m}(T_R) - \frac{i}{c} V^{\ell m}(T_R) \right)$$

# PN waveforms: modes to full known order

Radiative Multipole	PN order for $h_{+, \times}$	Known PN order
$\mathcal{I}_{ij}$	2.5	3
$\mathcal{J}_{ij}$	2	2
$\mathcal{I}_{ijk}$	2	2
$\mathcal{J}_{ijk}$	1.5	1.5
$\mathcal{I}_{ijkl}$	1.5	2
$\mathcal{J}_{ijkl}$	1	1
$\mathcal{I}_{ijklm}$	1	1
$\mathcal{J}_{ijklm}$	0.5	1
$\mathcal{I}_{ijklmn}$	0.5	1
$\mathcal{J}_{ijklmn}$	0	1
$\mathcal{I}_{ijklmno}$	0	1
$\mathcal{I}_L(\ell > 7)$	-	1
$\mathcal{J}_L(\ell > 6)$	-	1

## PN waveforms: modes to full known order

- For an equal mass, non-spinning binary

$$\begin{aligned}(h_+ - ih_\times)^{(2,2)} = & -2\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{5}} \frac{Gm}{c^2 R} e^{-2i\Phi} x \left\{ 1 - \frac{373}{168}x + 2\pi x^{3/2} - \frac{62653}{24192}x^2 \right. \\ & - \left[ \frac{197}{42}\pi + 6i \right] x^{5/2} + \left[ \frac{43876092677}{1117670400} + \frac{99}{128}\pi^2 \right. \\ & \left. \left. - \frac{428}{105} \ln x - \frac{856}{105}\gamma - \frac{1712}{105} + \frac{428}{105}i\pi \right] x^3 \right\}\end{aligned}$$

[Kidder, 2008]8

# Energy Balance

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = -\mathcal{L}$$

- Given  $E(x)$ ,  $\mathcal{L}(x)$  and  $h(x)$  need to choose:
  - Order  $k_\Phi$  through which terms in  $E$  and  $\mathcal{L}$  are kept (up to 3.5)
  - Order  $k_A$  through which terms in  $h$  are kept (up to 2.5)
  - How to use energy balance to obtain  $x(t)$  and  $\Phi(t)$

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# PN Taylor Approximants

(Damour, Iyer, Sathyaprakash, 2001)

- TaylorT1: Numerically integrate  $\frac{dx}{dt} = -\frac{\mathcal{L}}{(dE/dx)}$  and  $\frac{d\Phi}{dt} = \frac{x^{3/2}c^3}{Gm}$
- TaylorT2: Analytically integrate  $t(x) = t_0 + \int_x^{x_0} dx \frac{(dE/dx)}{\mathcal{L}}$  and  $\Phi(x) = \Phi_0 + \int_x^{x_0} dx \frac{x^{3/2}c^3}{Gm} \frac{(dE/dx)}{\mathcal{L}}$
- TaylorT3: Introduce  $\tau \equiv \frac{vc^3}{5Gm}(t_0 - t)$  where  $\tau^{-1/4} = O(c^{-2})$  and invert the TaylorT2 expression for  $t(x)$  to obtain  $x(t)$  and then  $\Phi(t)$

(Buonanno, Cook, Pretorius, 2007)

- TaylorT4: Expand  $\mathcal{F}(x) = -\frac{\mathcal{L}}{(dE/dx)}$  as a single Taylor series and numerically integrate  $\frac{dx}{dt} = \mathcal{F}$  and  $\frac{d\Phi}{dt} = \frac{x^{3/2}c^3}{Gm}$

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# Comparing Waveforms: Procedure

- Equate PN total mass to twice the irreducible mass of each BH
- $\Psi_4^{PN} = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}(h_+ - ih_\times)$
- Compare the (2,2) components of  $\Psi_4^{NR}$  and  $\Psi_4^{PN}$
- At a given matching frequency  $\omega_m$ 
  - Perform a time shift so  $t_{NR}(\omega_m) = t_{PN}(\omega_m)$
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- Compare the (2,2) components of  $\Psi_4^{NR}$  and  $\Psi_4^{PN}$
- At a given matching frequency  $\omega_m$ 
  - Perform a time shift so  $t_{NR}(\omega_m) = t_{PN}(\omega_m)$
  - Perform a phase shift so  $\phi_{NR}(\omega_m) = \phi_{PN}(\omega_m)$

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# Comparing Waveforms: Estimated Errors

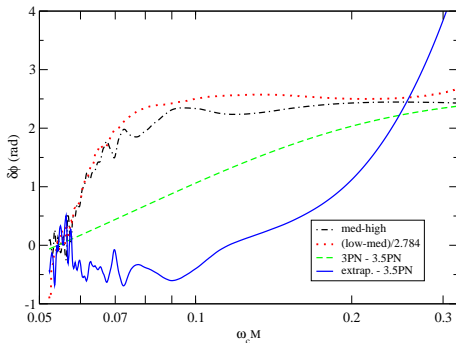
Effect	$\delta\phi$ (radians)	$\delta A/A$
Numerical truncation error	0.003	0.001
Finite outer boundary	0.005	0.002
Extrapolation $r \rightarrow \infty$	0.005	0.002
GW extraction at $r_{\text{areal}}=\text{const}$ ?	0.002	$10^{-4}$
Drift of mass $m$	0.002	$10^{-4}$
Coordinate time = proper time?	0.002	$10^{-4}$
Lapse spherically symmetric?	0.01	$4 \cdot 10^{-4}$
residual eccentricity	$0.02^1$	0.004
residual spins	0.03	0.001
<b>root-mean-square sum</b>	<b><math>0.04^1</math></b>	<b>0.005</b>

<sup>1</sup>For matching at  $m\omega_m = 0.04$ , the phase error due to residual eccentricity increases to 0.05 radians, thus increasing the root-mean-square sum to 0.06 radians.

# Comparing Waveforms: Goddard (gr-qc/0612024)

Consistency of post-Newtonian waveforms with numerical relativity  
(Baker, van Meter, McWilliams, Centrella, Kelly)

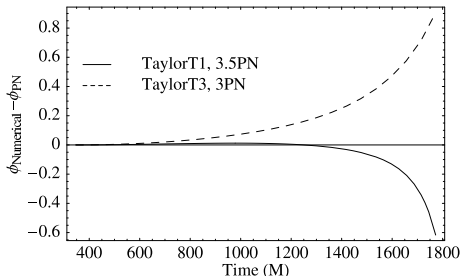
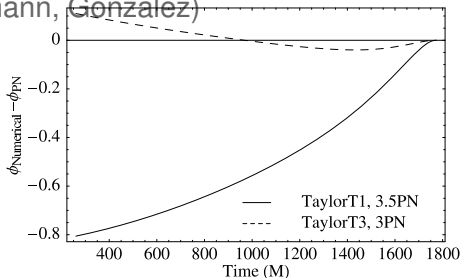
- 7 orbits ( $e < 0.01$ )
- 4th-order AMR, puncture
- extract at  $60M$
- TaylorT4
- Match at  $m\omega = 0.054$
- $m\omega = 0.15$  is about 1.5 orbits to merger



# Comparing Waveforms: Jena (gr-qc/0706.1305v2)

Where post-Newtonian and numerical-relativity waveforms meet  
(Hannam, Husa, Sperhake, Bruegmann, Gonzalez)

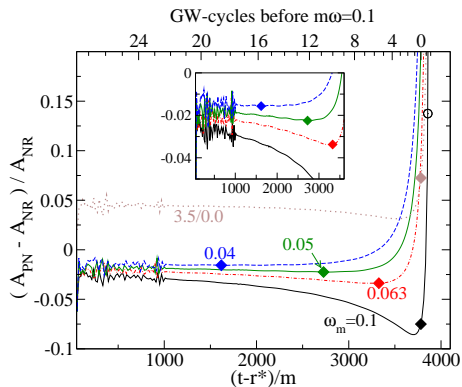
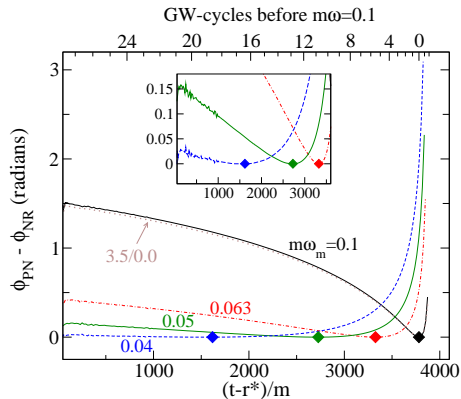
- 9 orbits ( $e < 0.0016$ )
- 6th-order AMR, puncture
- Extract at  
(50M, 60M, 70M, 80M, 90M)
- Extrapolate  $A(\phi)$  to  $\infty$
- phase accuracy 0.25 radians
- amplitude accuracy 2%
- match at  $m\omega = 0.1, 0.0455$



# Comparing Waveforms: NR and PN Taylor T1

- Numerically integrate

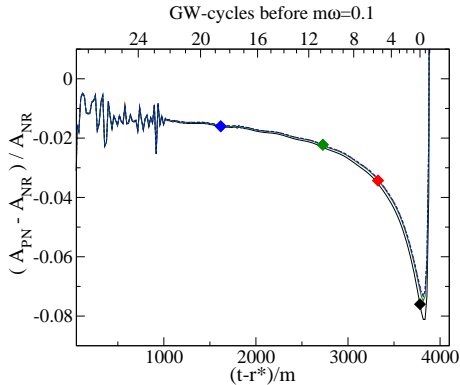
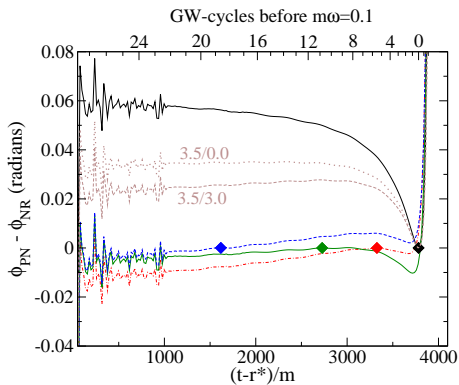
$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\frac{\mathcal{L}}{(dE/dx)} = \frac{16c^3}{5Gm} x^5 \frac{1 - \frac{373}{84}x + \dots}{1 - \frac{37}{24}x + \dots}$$



# Comparing Waveforms: NR and PN Taylor T4

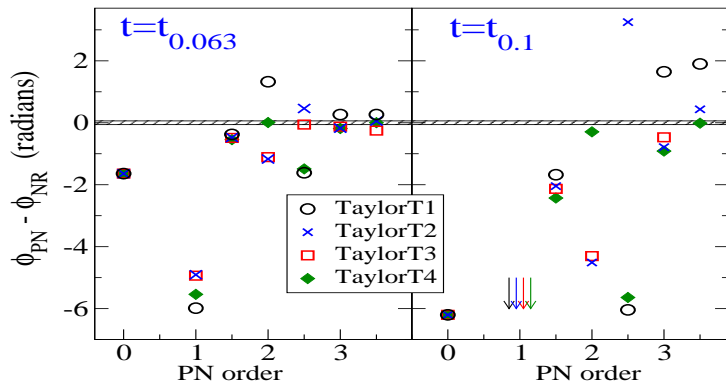
- Numerically integrate

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\frac{\mathcal{L}}{(dE/dx)} \sim \frac{16c^3}{5Gm} x^5 \left(1 - \frac{487}{168}x + \dots\right)$$



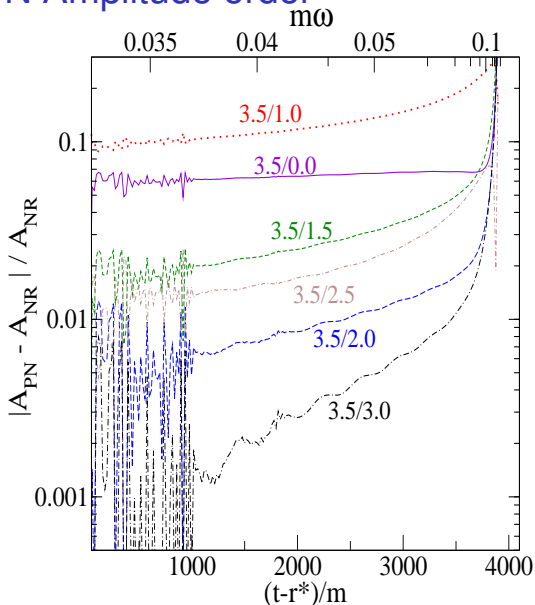
# NR vs PN: Varying PN order

● matched at  $m\omega = 0.04$



# NR vs PN: Varying PN Amplitude order

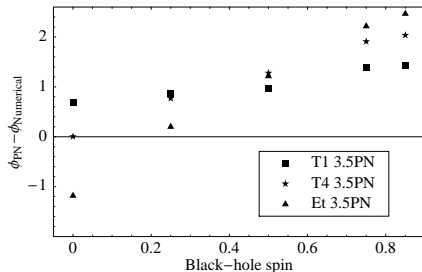
- Taylor T4 matched at  $m\omega = 0.04$
- 3.5 PN in phase
- vary PN in amplitude
- (2,2) mode
- Suggests computing full 3PN amplitude



# NR vs PN: Effects of spin

[Hannam, Husa, Bruegmann, Gopakumar, 2007]

- Spins aligned with orbital angular momentum.
- Spin-orbit effects through 2.5PN
- Spin-spin through 2PN
- phase error in 10 cycles prior to  $m\omega = 0.1$



# Astrophysical parameters of the final black hole

- Given initial masses and spins predict:
  - Final mass
  - Final spin
  - Recoil velocity
- Develop formulae from:
  - Test-particle calculations
  - post-Newtonian
  - symmetry arguments
  - numerical simulations

# Final Spin: Approach

[Buonanno, Kidder, Lehner 2008]

- Assume:

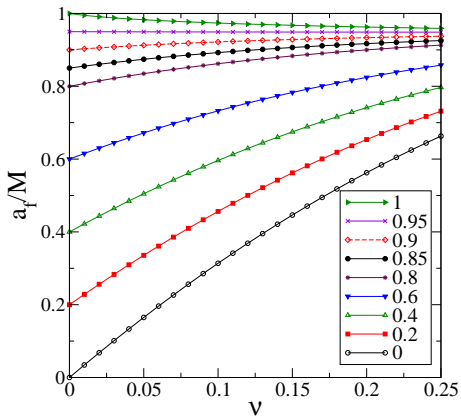
- mass of system is conserved
- magnitude of individual spins remain constant
- angular momentum radiated away from ISCO to merger is negligible
- Choose ISCO of Kerr black hole with spin parameter of the *final* black hole

$$\frac{a_f}{M} = \frac{L_{\text{orb}}}{M^2}(\mu, r_{\text{ISCO}}, a_f) + \frac{m_1 a_1}{M^2} + \frac{m_2 a_2}{M^2}$$

# Final Spin: Predictions

- Final spin for aligned equal spins as function of symmetric mass ratio

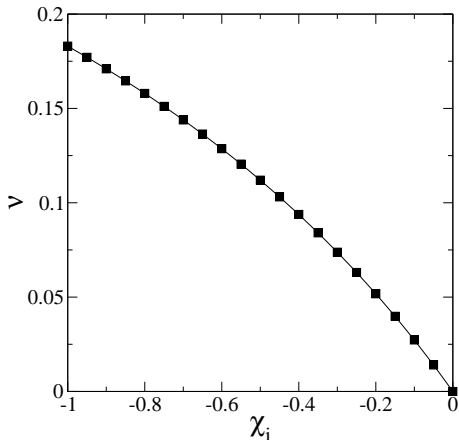
$$\nu = m_1 m_2 / (m_1 + m_2)^2$$



- Final non-spinning hole for equal spin parameters

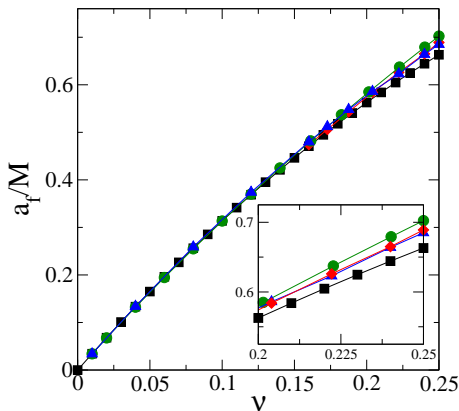
$$\chi_i = a_i / m_i$$

(anti-aligned with  $\vec{L}$ )

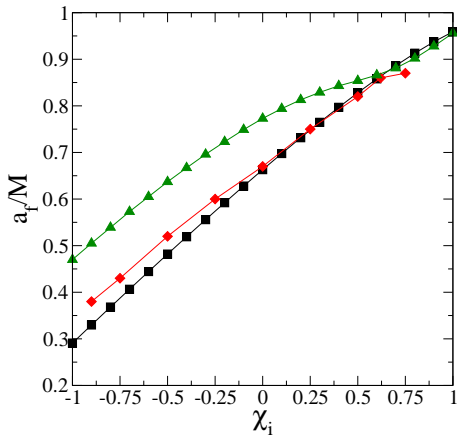


# Final Spin: Comparison with numerical results

- Non-spinning binary  
Our prediction [BKL]  
EOB: [Damour Nagar 2007]  
NR: [Berti et al 2007]  
NR+TP: [Buonanno et al 2007]



- Equal-mass, equal aligned spins  
Our prediction [BKL]  
EOB: [Buonanno et al 2006]  
NR: [Marronetti et al 2007]



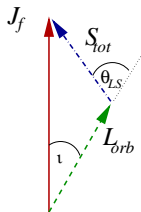
## Final Spin: Generic spins

- Assume magnitude of total spin and angle between total spin and direction of angular orbital momentum remain constant
- Solve system of equations

FAU : [Tichy and Marronetti 2007]

RIT : [Campanelli et al 2007]

PSU : [Herrmann et al 2007]

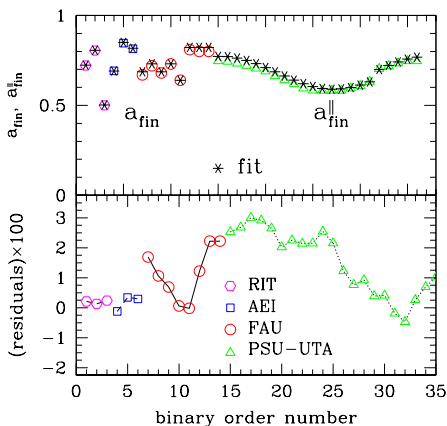
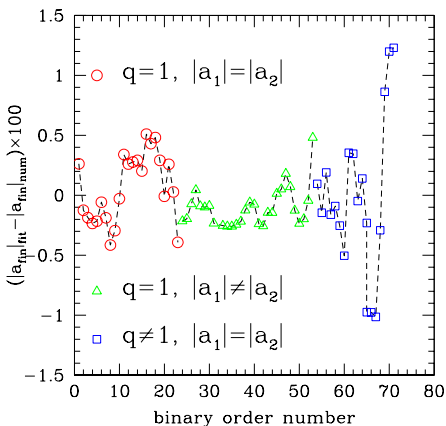


Case	$a_f/M$	$a_f/M$
$C_1$ (FAU)	0.67	0.66
$C_2$ (FAU)	0.72	0.71
$C_3$ (FAU)	0.68	0.66
$C_4$ (FAU)	0.73	0.71
$C_5$ (FAU)	0.64	0.61
$C_6$ (FAU)	0.81	0.82
$C_7$ (FAU)	0.80	0.82
$C_8$ (FAU)	0.80	0.82
$SP_3$ (RIT)	0.72	0.70
$SP_4$ (RIT)	0.81	0.80
$SP_6$ (RIT)	0.50	0.48
$S - 0$ (PSU)	0.75	0.78
$S - 75$ (PSU)	0.69	0.69
$S - 150$ (PSU)	0.58	0.57
$S - 225$ (PSU)	0.61	0.64
$S - 300$ (PSU)	0.72	0.76

# Final Spin: AEI simulations

[Rezzolla et al 2007]

- Developed formula for final spin
- Took ideas from [Bounanno, Kidder, Lehner, 2008]
- Fit coefficients from known simulations
- Needs testing in generic cases



# KITP Miniprogram: Interplay between Numerical Relativity and Data Analysis

- Use match to assess waveforms for detection purposes
- For parameter estimation want systematic errors to be less than statistical errors. Match is not adequate for this purpose. Lot of work to do!
- Calibration errors (goal: few degrees in phase, 10% in amplitude)
- Need large number of short waveforms covering parameter space to make sure there are no holes in search.
- Need longer accurate waveforms to construct/calibrate/test waveform templates

# Numerical INjection Analysis (NINJA) project

<http://www.gravity.phy.syr.edu/dokuwiki/doku.php?id=ninja:home>

- Goal is to test efficiency of various data analysis pipelines on numerical relativity waveforms buried in Gaussian noise.
- All numerical relativists and data analysts are invited to participate

# Summary

- Numerical relativity key to understanding BBH
- NR can be used to develop templates and fitting formulae
- NR needed to explore parameters and test analytic models