

Dynamics of Spinning, Eccentric Binary Black Holes at Second Post-Newtonian Order

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In collaboration with Sashwat Tanay and Laura Bernard

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GdR Ondes Gravitationnelles
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- 1 **Motivations & Post-Newtonian Framework**
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 - Orbit-Averaging and Exact Solutions
 - The Hybrid Approach
- 3 **The Orbital Sector: 2PN Quasi-Keplerian Parametrization**
 - Radial & Azimuthal Dynamics
 - Solving the QKP Ansatz

Based on [TC, Tanay & Bernard, 2603.20031]

Ground-Based (LVK)

$$10 \text{ Hz} < f < 5 \text{ kHz}$$

Target: Late inspiral & merger of BBH and BNS

Eccentricity $e \rightarrow 0$

Space-Based (LISA)

$$10^{-4} \text{ Hz} < f < 10^{-1} \text{ Hz}$$

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(EMRI, Galactic Binaries)

Significant Eccentricity & Spin Precession

Motivation: Modeling Eccentric, Precessing Binaries

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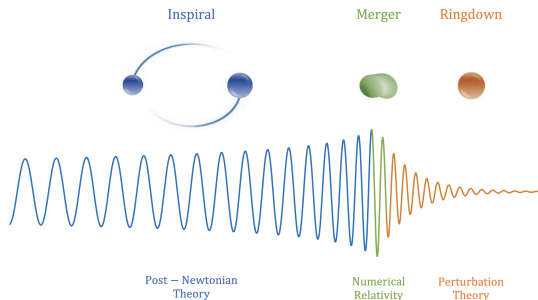
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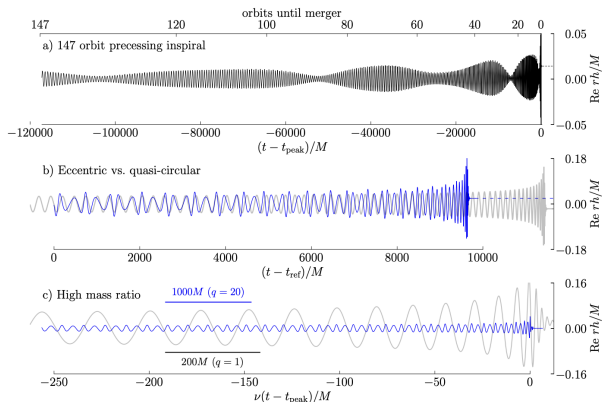
- **Goal:** Develop fast and accurate GW templates for advanced detectors (LISA, ET)



[Antelis & Moreno, 2016]

Effect of Spins and Eccentricity on Waveforms

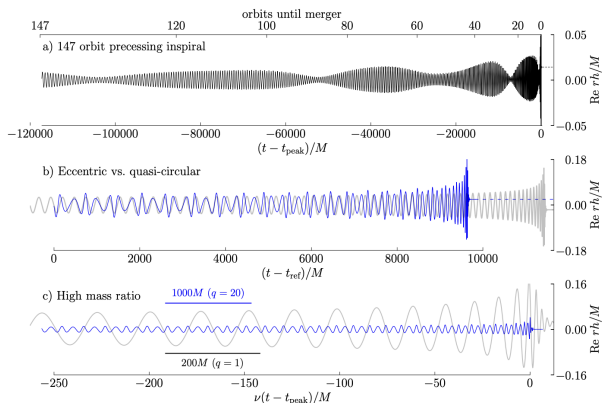
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[SXS Collaboration, 2505.13378]

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- To compute accurate waveforms, we require a precise description of **BBH dynamics**.
- Aim: Compute an analytical solution as function of time of the dynamics of **spinning, eccentric inspiralling BBHs at 2PN within GR**.

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- **Spin Scaling:** Black hole spins carry an inherent $1/c$ factor: $\mathbf{S}_a = \chi_a \frac{Gm_a^2}{c}$ with $\|\chi_a\| \leq 1$.
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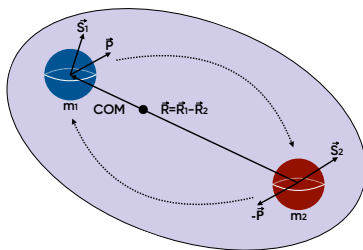
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- The dynamics for $H_{\text{p.p.}} = H_N + H_{1\text{PN}} + H_{2\text{PN}}$ has been solved by [Damour, Wex & Schäfer, 1988, 1993]
- The dynamics for $H_{1.5\text{PN}} = H_N + H_{1\text{PN}} + H_{\text{SO}}$ has been solved by [Cho & Lee, 2019]

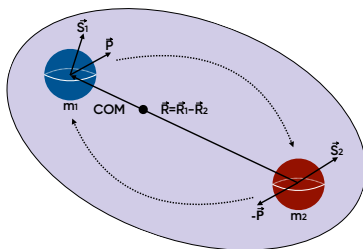
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Variables are scaled by the total mass $m = m_1 + m_2$ and the reduced mass $\mu = m_1 m_2 / m$.

- Time: $t = t^{\text{phys}} / (Gm)$
- Hamiltonian: $h = H / \mu$

Orbital Sector

- Separation: $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{R} / (Gm)$ and $\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{r} / r$
- Momentum: $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{P} / \mu$

Angular Momenta Sector

- Orbital: $\mathbf{l} = \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{p}$
- Individual spins: $\mathbf{s}_\alpha = \mathbf{S}_\alpha / (\mu Gm)$
- Total angular momentum: $\mathbf{j} = \mathbf{l} + \mathbf{s}_1 + \mathbf{s}_2$

Spins Combinations

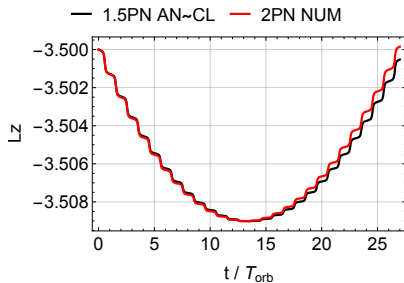
- $\mathbf{s}_{\text{eff}} = \delta_1 \mathbf{s}_1 + \delta_2 \mathbf{s}_2$ [1.5PN SO]
- $\mathbf{s}_0 = \nu_1 \mathbf{s}_1 + \nu_2 \mathbf{s}_2$ [2PN SS]

Mass weights: δ_α and $\nu_\alpha = m_b / m$.

The Full 2PN Spin Evolution

$$\frac{d\mathbf{s}_\alpha}{dt} = \frac{1}{c^2 r^3} \left(\delta_\alpha l + \nu_\alpha [3(\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{s}_0)\mathbf{n} - \mathbf{s}_0] \right) \times \mathbf{s}_\alpha,$$

$$\frac{dl}{dt} = -\frac{1}{c^2 r^3} \left(l \times \mathbf{s}_{\text{eff}} + 3 [(\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{s}_0)(\mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{s}_0)] \right).$$



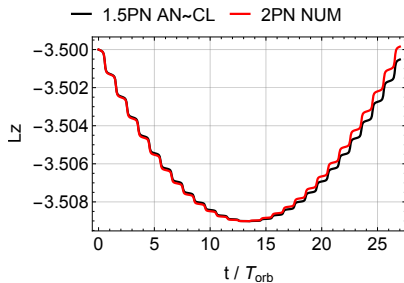
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Timescale Separation

$$T_{\text{prec}} \sim \frac{c^2 r^3}{l} \sim \mathcal{O}(c^2) T_{\text{orb}}$$



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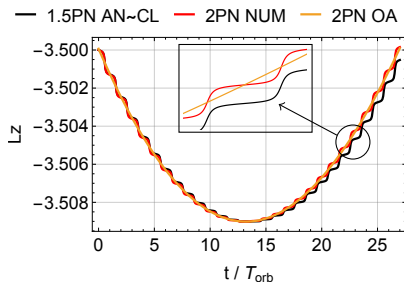
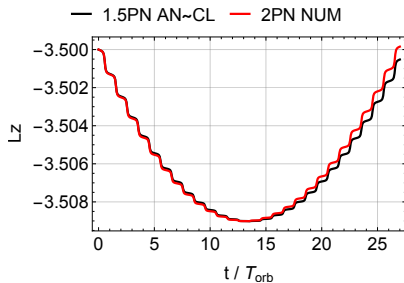
Orbit-Averaged (OA) EOMs

[Racine, 2001]

$$\left\langle \frac{d\mathbf{s}_a}{dt} \right\rangle_{T_{\text{orb}}} = \frac{1}{c^2 d^3} \left(\delta_a \mathbf{l} + \frac{\nu_a}{2} [\mathbf{s}_0 - 3\lambda \mathbf{l}] \right) \times \mathbf{s}_a,$$

$$\left\langle \frac{d\mathbf{l}}{dt} \right\rangle_{T_{\text{orb}}} = \frac{1}{c^2 d^3} \left(\mathbf{s}_{\text{eff}} - \frac{3}{2} \lambda \mathbf{s}_0 \right) \times \mathbf{l}.$$

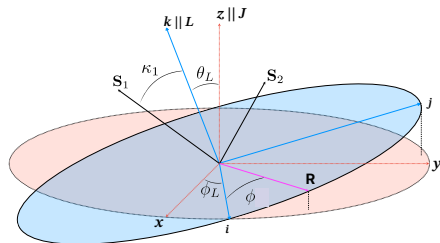
where $d^{-3} = \langle 1/r^3 \rangle$ and $\lambda \equiv \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_0 / l^2 = \text{const.}$



Orbit-averaging the 2PN phase space:

$$\{\mathbf{R}(t), \mathbf{P}(t), \mathbf{S}_1(t), \mathbf{S}_2(t)\} \longrightarrow \{\mathbf{L}(t), \mathbf{S}_1(t), \mathbf{S}_2(t)\}$$

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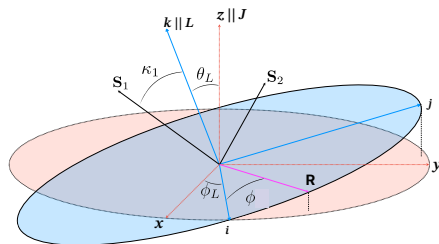
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The OA system possesses **7 independent constants** ($s_1, s_2, l, j^2, j_z + 2$ more relating angles between the momenta).

$$9 - 7 = 2 \text{ Degrees of Freedom} \longrightarrow \{\kappa_1, \phi_L\}$$



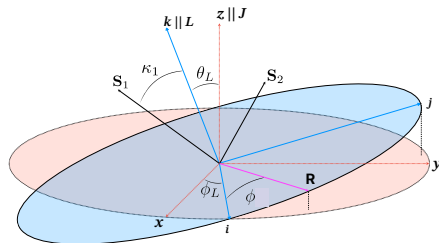
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The Two Slow Frequencies

These 2 degrees of freedom dictate the fundamental spin frequencies:

- **Nutation** (ω_{nut}): Internal shape evolution of the triad, governed by $\cos \kappa_1$.
- **Precession** (ω_{prec}): Azimuthal rotation of the entire triad around \mathbf{J} , governed by ϕ_L .

OA Equation of Motion

$$\left\langle \frac{d \cos \kappa_1}{dt} \right\rangle_{T_{\text{orb}}} = \frac{\delta_2 - \nu/2}{c^2 d^3 / s_1} (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{l} \cdot (\mathbf{s}_1 \times \mathbf{s}_2).$$

This can be rewritten in a separable form:

$$\frac{d \cos \kappa_1}{\sqrt{A(\cos \kappa_1 - x_-)(\cos \kappa_1 - x_+)(\cos \kappa_1 - x_3)}} = \frac{\pm dt}{c^2 d^3},$$

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The Cubic Roots (x_- , x_+ , x_3):

- $x_3 \sim \mathcal{O}(c) \rightarrow$ **Unphysical root** (lies outside $[-1, 1]$).
- $x_-, x_+ \in [-1, 1] \rightarrow$ **Physical boundaries**. The triad nutates within $[x_-, x_+]$ with an amplitude scaling as:

$$x_+ - x_- \simeq \frac{2m_1}{m_1 - m_2} \frac{s_2}{l} |\sin \kappa_1 \sin \kappa_2| \sim \mathcal{O}(c^{-1})$$

Analytical OA Solution

- $\cos \kappa_1$ is bounded between x_- and x_+ , the integral yields a Jacobi elliptic sine function:

$$\cos \kappa_1(t) = x_- + (x_+ - x_-) \operatorname{sn}^2(\Upsilon(t), \beta)$$

$$\Upsilon(t) = \frac{\sqrt{A(x_3 - x_-)}}{2} \left(\alpha(0) + \frac{t}{c^2 d^3} \right), \quad \beta = \sqrt{\frac{x_+ - x_-}{x_3 - x_-}}$$

Note: $\operatorname{sn}(u, k) = \sin(\operatorname{am}(u, k)) = \sin \phi$, where $u = \int_0^\phi \frac{d\theta}{\sqrt{1 - k^2 \sin^2 \theta}}$ is the incomplete elliptic integral of the first kind.

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The periodicity of the sn^2 function dictates the timescale of the triad's internal shape evolution, directly yielding the **nutaton frequency**:

$$\omega_{\text{nut}} = \frac{\pi \sqrt{A(x_3 - x_-)}}{2c^2 d^3 K(\beta)}$$

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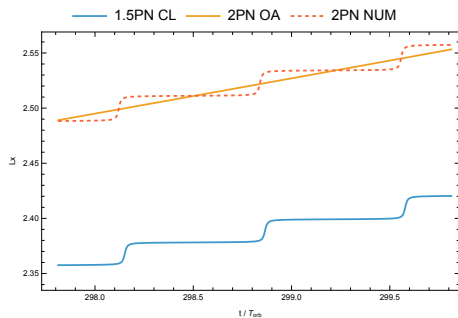
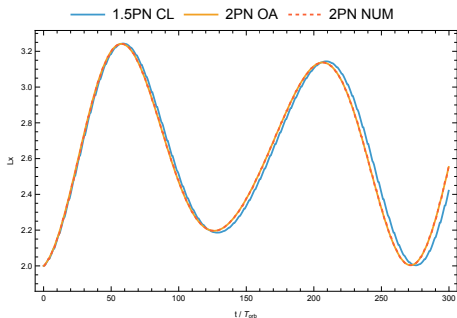
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- Global Precession:** Similar integration with elliptic functions yields an exact analytical solution for $\phi_L(t)$, from which we get the precession frequency ω_{prec} .

The Orbit-Averaged Limitation: Missing Fast Oscillations



- 👍 The OA model captures the **secular evolution** driven by the 2PN spin-spin couplings.
- 👎 However, the mathematical averaging artificially **filters out all fast orbital-timescale oscillations** present in the exact dynamics.

Motivation:

- **2PN OA:** captures secular evolution but misses fast oscillations
- **1.5PN:** captures fast oscillations but is secularly inaccurate

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Mnemonic technique:

Take the orbit-averaged precession equations and replace d^3 with r^3 .

The 2PN Hybrid Equation of Motion : $x \equiv \cos \kappa_1^{(H)}$

$$\frac{dx}{\sqrt{A(x-x_-)(x-x_+)(x-x_3)}} = \frac{\pm dt}{c^2 r^3}.$$

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- The true anomaly v_r drives the **secular growth**: $v_r = u + 2 \arctan \left(\frac{\beta_r \sin u}{1 - \beta_r \cos u} \right)$
- The term $\alpha[\dots] - u$ restore the 1.5PN **fast orbital oscillations**.

The 2PN Hybrid Equation of Motion : $x \equiv \cos \kappa_1^{(H)}$

$$\frac{dx}{\sqrt{A(x-x_-)(x-x_+)(x-x_3)}} = \frac{\pm dt}{c^2 r^3}.$$

- Roots x_i match the OA case (both algebraically and numerically).
- Integration requires injecting the **1PN Quasi-Keplerian** $r(u)$.

Integrated Hybrid Solution

$$\cos \kappa_1^{(H)}(t) = x_- + (x_+ - x_-) \text{sn}^2(\Upsilon^{(H)}(t), \beta)$$

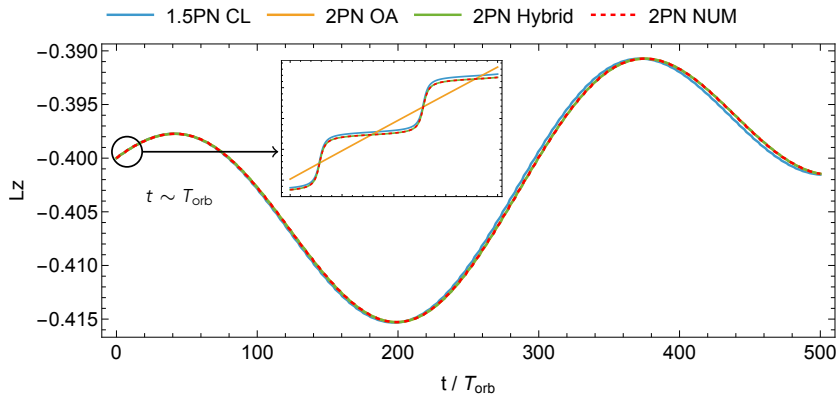
$$\Upsilon^{(H)}(u) = \frac{\sqrt{A(x_3 - x_-)}}{2} \left[\alpha(0) + \frac{1}{2c^2 n a_r^3} \left(\frac{(2 + e_r^2 - 3e_r e_t) v_r}{(1 - e_r^2)^{5/2}} + \frac{(e_r - e_t) \sin u}{(1 - e_r^2)(1 - e_r \cos u)^2} + \frac{(3e_r - e_t - 2e_r^2 e_t) \sin u}{(1 - e_r^2)^2(1 - e_r \cos u)} \right) \right]$$

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Global Precession: $\phi_L^{(H)}$ is evaluated by substituting $\Upsilon \rightarrow \Upsilon^{(H)}$ into its OA solution.

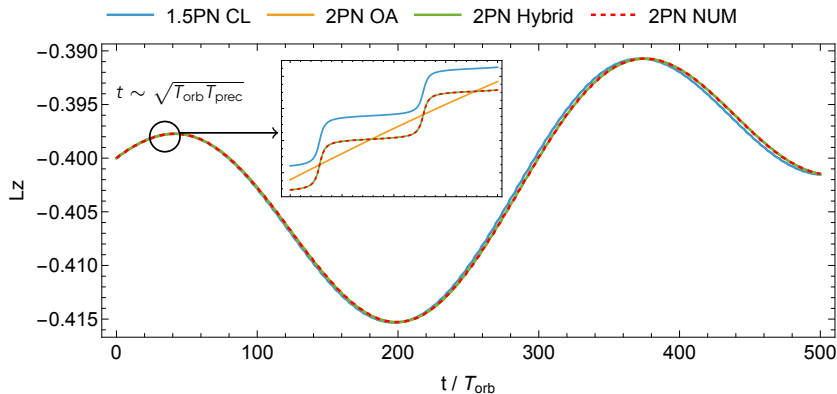
Slow Variables Dynamics: Hybrid Solution

Initial Inputs: $q = 0.2$, $e = 0.60$ $\chi_{\text{PN}} = 1/(rc^2) \sim 0.5\%$
 $\chi_1 = 0.19$, $\chi_2 = 0.78$ $\kappa_1 = 21^\circ$, $\kappa_2 = 58^\circ$, $\gamma = 79^\circ$



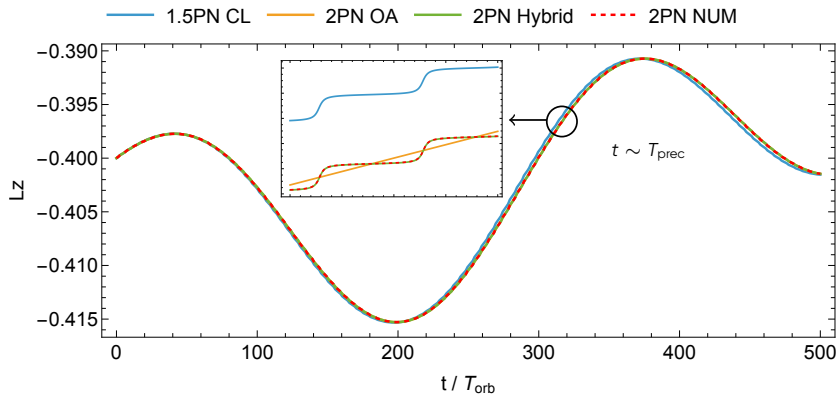
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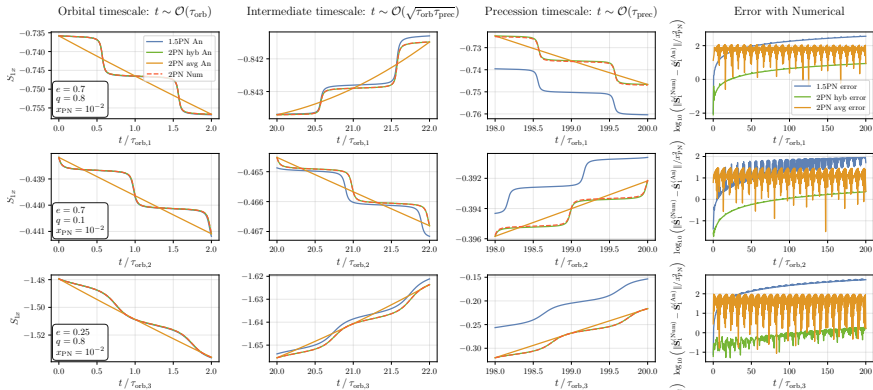
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Slow Variables Dynamics: Hybrid Model Accuracy

Initial angular momenta configuration:

$$\chi_1 = 0.62, \quad \chi_2 = 0.42, \quad \kappa_1 = 68^\circ, \quad \kappa_2 = 10^\circ, \quad \gamma = 73^\circ$$



Model	1.5PN Oscillations	1.5PN Secular	2PN Oscillations	2PN Secular	Error with Numerical
Exact 2PN	✓	✓	✓	✓	0
1.5PN	✓	✓	✗	✗	$\mathcal{O}(t/c^4)$
2PN (OA)	✗	✓	✗	✓	$\mathcal{O}(1/c^3)$
2PN (H)	✓	✓	✗	✓	$\mathcal{O}(1/c^4)$

Kepler Problem: The Newtonian Parametrization

The separation vector \mathbf{R} in the orbital plane is $\mathbf{R} = rGm(\cos \phi, \sin \phi, 0)$

Keplerian Dynamics:

$$r = a(1 - e \cos u)$$

$$n(t - t_0) = u - e \sin u$$

$$v = u + 2 \arctan \left(\frac{\beta \sin u}{1 - \beta \cos u} \right)$$

$$\beta = \frac{e}{1 + \sqrt{1 - e^2}}$$

Parameters:

r : Radial separation

a : Semi-major axis

e : Eccentricity

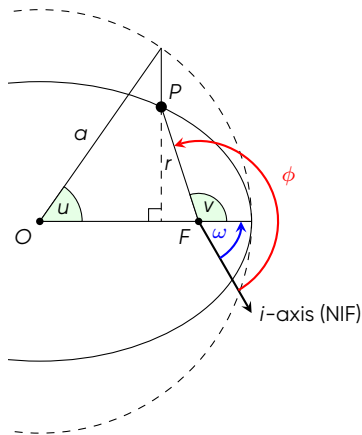
n : Mean motion

u : Eccentric anomaly

v : True anomaly

ω : Argument of periapsis

ϕ : Azimuthal phase ($\omega + v$)



The spinning 2PN ADM Hamiltonian:

$$h = h_{\text{p.p.}} + \frac{1}{2c^2 r^3} [2\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_{\text{eff}} + 3(\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{s}_0)^2 - s_0^2]$$

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Radial Equation of Motion:

$$\left(\frac{dr}{dt}\right)^2 = A + \frac{B}{r} + \frac{C}{r^2} + \frac{D_1}{r^3} + \frac{D_2}{r^4} + \frac{D_3}{r^5}$$

- A, B, D_2, D_3 remain constant (matching the non-spinning case).
- **The Problem:** C and D_1 evolve over the orbital timescale:

$$C = -l^2(t) + \frac{1}{c^2} [5(\nu - 2) + 2(1 - 3\nu)\mathcal{E}l^2] + \dots$$

$$D_1 = D_{1\text{orb}} - \frac{1}{c^2} [2(\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_{\text{eff}}) - s_0^2 + 3(\mathbf{n}(t) \cdot \mathbf{s}_0)^2]$$

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The time-dependence of l^2 and $(\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{s}_0)^2$ prevents the standard integration to compute the closed-form QKP.

Hybrid azimuthal EOM:

ϕ is measured relative to the i -axis of the NIF.

$$\frac{d\phi}{dt} = \frac{F}{r^2} + \frac{l_{1\text{orb}} + l_{1\text{spin}}}{r^3} + \frac{l_2}{r^4} + \frac{l_3}{r^5} + \frac{1}{c^2 r^3} \sum_{i=1}^2 \left(\frac{\beta_{iL}}{\alpha_{iL} + \cos \kappa_1^{(2,H)}} \right)$$

$$l_{1\text{spin}} = -\frac{1}{2c^2} \left[(2\delta_1 + 2\delta_2 - \nu)(1 - \lambda)\bar{l} + \lambda(\nu\bar{l} - 3\nu_2 s_2 \Sigma_2) \right]$$

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$$l^2(\phi) = \bar{l}^2 - \frac{s_{0p}^2}{2c^2 \bar{l}^2} \left[3e \cos(\phi - 2\phi_{sp}) + 3 \cos(2\phi - 2\phi_{sp}) + e \cos(3\phi - 2\phi_{sp}) \right]$$

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We now have both $(dr/dt)^2$ and $d\phi/dt$ analytically expressed in terms of $r, \phi, \mathcal{E}, \bar{l}$ and spin quantities.

Radial and Azimuthal EOMs

$$\left(\frac{dr}{dt}\right)^2 = A + \frac{B}{r} + \frac{C}{r^2} + \frac{D_{1\text{orb}} + D_{1\text{spin}}}{r^3} + \frac{D_2}{r^4} + \frac{D_3}{r^5}$$

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The Quasi-Keplerian Ansatz

$$n(t - t_0) = u - e_t \sin u + \frac{1}{c^4} [f_t \sin v_\phi + g_t (v_\phi - u) + h_t \sin(v_\phi - 2\phi_{sp})],$$

$$r = a_r (1 - e_r \cos u) + \frac{1}{c^4} [h_{r1} \cos(v_\phi - 2\phi_{sp}) + h_{r2} \cos(2v_\phi - 2\phi_{sp})],$$

$$\phi(t) - \phi(t_0) = (1 + k') v_\phi + \frac{1}{c^4} [f_{\phi 2} \sin 2v_\phi + f_{\phi 3} \sin 3v_\phi]$$

$$+ \frac{1}{c^4} [h_{\phi 1} \sin(v_\phi - 2\phi_{sp}) + h_{\phi 2} \sin(2v_\phi - 2\phi_{sp}) + h_{\phi 3} \sin(3v_\phi - 2\phi_{sp})] + \Pi_{\text{osc}}(u),$$

$$\Pi_{\text{osc}}(u) = \sum_{i=1}^2 \frac{\beta_{iL}}{\alpha_{iL} + x_-} \left[\frac{2 \Pi(n_i, \text{am}(\Upsilon(u), \beta), \beta)}{\sqrt{A(x_3 - x_-)}} - \frac{\Pi(n_i, \beta)}{nc^2 d^3 K(\beta)} v_\phi \right]$$

Ansatz close to [Klein & Jetzer, 2010]

Methodology

- **Parametrize:** Add harmonic functions and 2PN spin-spin free parameters to all QK parameters, e.g.:

$$a_r = a_r^{(N)} + \frac{1}{c^2} a_r^{(1)} + \frac{1}{c^3} a_r^{(\text{SO})} + \frac{1}{c^4} a_r^{(2)} + \frac{1}{c^4} a_r^{(\text{SS})}$$

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- **Match Coefficients:** Solve all equations to find the 2PN spin-spin corrections.

$$a_r = -\frac{1}{2\mathcal{E}} \left[1 + \frac{1}{2c^2} \mathcal{E} \left((7 - \nu) - \frac{1}{j^2} (4\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_{\text{eff}} - 2s_0^2 + 3s_{0p}^2) \right) + \dots \right]$$

$$h_r = -\frac{s_{0p}^2}{4j^2}, \quad h_{\phi 1} = -\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{1 + 2h\bar{j}^2} \frac{s_{0p}^2}{j^4}, \quad h_{\phi 2} = -\frac{s_{0p}^2}{8j^4}$$

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Observation: 2PN spin-spin interactions imply a slow secular evolution of the QK parameters themselves through s_0^2 and s_{0p}^2 .

From the final QK solution, we determine the fundamental frequencies:

$$r = \alpha_r(1 - e_r \cos u) + \frac{1}{c^4} + h_{r2} \cos(2v_\phi - 2\phi_{sp}),$$

$$n(t - t_0) = u - e_t \sin u + \frac{1}{c^4} [f_t \sin v_\phi + g_t(v_\phi - u)]$$

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- **Radial Mean Motion n :** Governs the radial period $T_{\text{orb}} = 2\pi/n$.

$$n = (-2\mathcal{E})^{3/2} \left[1 + \frac{(15 - \nu)\mathcal{E}}{4c^2} + \frac{1}{c^4} \left(\frac{3(2\nu - 5)(-2\mathcal{E})^{3/2}}{2\bar{l}} + \frac{(555 + 30\nu + 11\nu^2)\mathcal{E}^2}{32} \right) \right]$$

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- **Azimuthal Frequency** $\omega_\phi = n(1 + k')$: Advance $\Delta\phi = 2\pi(1 + k')$ per radial period.

$$k' = \frac{1}{c^2 \bar{I}^2} \left[3 - \delta_0 - \frac{3(4\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_{\text{eff}} - 2s_0^2 + 3s_{0p}^2)}{4\bar{I}^2} + \frac{1}{2} \lambda \left((2\delta_0 - \nu) + \frac{3s_2 \nu_2 \Sigma_2}{\bar{I}} \right) + \frac{\bar{I}^2}{nd^3} \sum_{i=1}^2 \frac{\beta_{iL} \Pi(n_i, \beta)}{(\alpha_{iL} + x_-) K(\beta)} + \dots \right]$$

where $\delta_0 = \delta_1 + \delta_2 - \nu/2$.

Orbital Frequencies of the 2PN Dynamics

From the final QK solution, we determine the fundamental frequencies:

$$r = \alpha_r(1 - e_r \cos u) + \frac{1}{c^4} + h_{r2} \cos(2\nu_\phi - 2\phi_{sp}),$$
$$n(t - t_0) = u - e_t \sin u + \frac{1}{c^4} [f_t \sin \nu_\phi + g_t(\nu_\phi - u)]$$
$$\phi(t) - \phi(t_0) = (1 + k')\nu_\phi + \frac{1}{c^4} \left[\sum_{m=2}^3 f_{\phi m} \sin m\nu_\phi + \sum_{m=1}^2 h_{\phi m} \sin(m\nu_\phi - 2\phi_{sp}) \right] + \tilde{\Pi}(u)$$

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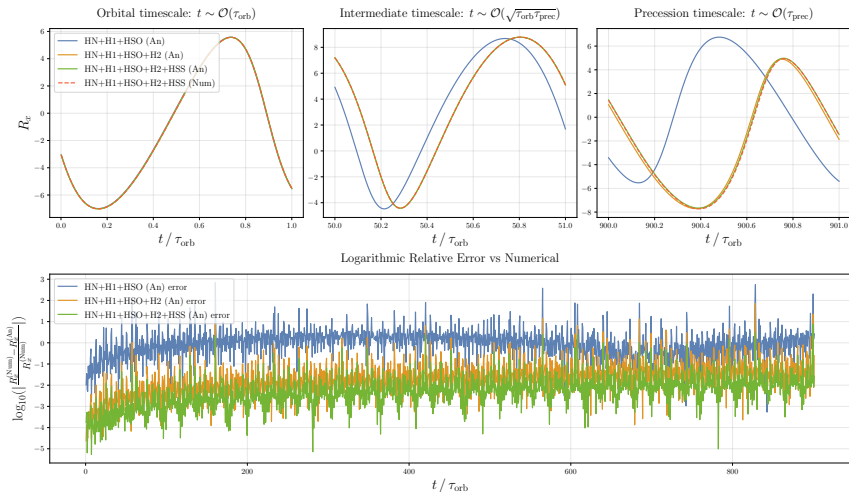
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where $\delta_0 = \delta_1 + \delta_2 - \nu/2$.

Together with the spin-sector frequencies ω_{nut} and ω_{prec} , we complete the set of **4 non-zero fundamental frequencies**.

Initial Inputs: $q = 2/3$, $e = 0.40$ $x_{\text{PN}} = 1/(rc^2) \sim 1\%$
 $\chi_1 = 0.31$, $\chi_2 = 0.62$ $\kappa_1 = 39^\circ$, $\kappa_2 = 154^\circ$, $\gamma = 127^\circ$



Geometric Reduction

- Vanishing Angles: $\theta_L, \kappa_1, \kappa_2, \gamma \rightarrow 0$ and $s_{0p} \rightarrow 0$.
- Constant Orbital Plane: \mathbf{L} remains fixed; spins are orthogonal to the orbital plane (\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P}).
- No Additional Wiggles: All supplementary 2PN oscillatory spin corrections vanish as $h_r, h_{\phi i} \propto s_{0p}^2$.

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Frequency & Phase Recovery

- The system recovers the **two degrees of freedom** of the non-spinning case (r and ϕ).
- **Nutation Amplitude Vanishes:** Even if the nutation frequency (ω_{nut}) is mathematically non-zero, its physical amplitude goes to 0.
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- **Literature Match:** We exactly recover the 2PN spin-aligned solution (e.g., comparing with [Tessmer, Hartung & Schäfer, 2010]).

Geometric Reduction

- Vanishing Angles: $\theta_L, \kappa_1, \kappa_2, \gamma \rightarrow 0$ and $s_{0p} \rightarrow 0$.
- Constant Orbital Plane: \mathbf{L} remains fixed; spins are orthogonal to the orbital plane (\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P}).
- No Additional Wiggles: All supplementary 2PN oscillatory spin corrections vanish as $h_r, h_{\phi i} \propto s_{0p}^2$.

Frequency & Phase Recovery

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Integrating the precessing equations of motion first, and then taking the spin-aligned limit, is a commutative procedure.

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→ The terms h_r , $h_{\phi 1}$, and $h_{\phi 2}$ induce small, fast oscillations on the orbital timescale.

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Constant r and $\dot{\phi}$ are only recovered if one performs an **orbit-average** to artificially smooth out these fast, spin-spin driven wiggles

Conservative Dynamics

- **Hybrid Spin Solution:** Constructed an analytical model for precessing spins that captures both spin–spin slow secular evolution and leading–order spin–orbit fast oscillations.
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Thank you!