Dynamical captures of two nonspinning equal mass black holes in weakly hyperbolic orbits



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I. Introduction





• How many bound systems will be formed through encounters?

"Unbound" → "Bound"

• This "Capturing cross-section" is important to understand evolutions of stars & black holes after their formations, event rate of GW detection, etc..





- Binary black hole simulations so far:
 - Mostly for quasi-circular orbits (i.e., e ~ 0)

• Detectability including eccentric mergers:

- How many binary BHs to be formed?:
 - O'Leary, Kocsis, Loeb ('09) for a galaxy w/ a SMBH at the center
 - Based on the PN approximation with parabolic orbit approximations for weakly hyperbolic orbits

$$\Gamma_{1\text{GN}} = \int_{r_{\text{min}}}^{r_{\text{max}}} dr 4\pi r^2 \int_{M_{\text{min}}}^{M_{\text{max}}} dM \int_{M_{\text{min}}}^{M} dm \\ \times \iint_{x_m, x_M > 10, J > J_{\text{LC}}} d^3 v_M f_M(r, v_M) f_M(r, v_M) \sigma_{\text{cs}} w, \\ \sim 10^{-8} \text{ and } 10^{-10} \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

→ 1~1000/yr at aLIGO!

N-body simulations (Hong & Lee ('13)): ~ 0.02~20/yr

- East et al ('13):
 - Developed a new strategy taking into account the characteristic features of eccentric merger sources.
- It might be interesting to study the capturing processes in full GR, and see where the approximations break down.

II. Gravitational radiation capture

• Newtonian gravity for two-body interactions:



- As long as L≠0, an "unbound" object initially should escape to infinity after an encounter.
- For captures, e.g., "Hyperbolic orbit → Elliptic orbit", a third object is needed to extract out a suitable energy of the system;



• A geodesic motion on the Schwarzschild BH background:



Escape to infinity after encountering

Direct capturing could occur even if $L \neq 0$

• General relativity: "Gravitational wave (GW) emissions"



- So, initial "unbound" to bound process could happen through an encounter, forming a bound binary!!
 - ➔ Gravitational radiation capture or Dynamical capture
- The marginal capturing gives



$$b_{\max} = \frac{L_{\rm cr}(E)}{\mu v_{\infty}} = \frac{L_{\rm cr}(E)}{\sqrt{2\mu E}}$$

$$\sigma_{\rm cap} = \pi b_{\rm max}^2$$

III. Post-Newtonian results

• Emitted energy (2.5PN) for a hyperbolic orbit: R. Hansen ('72)

$$\Delta E = -\frac{2}{15} \frac{G^{7/2}}{c^5} m_1^2 m_2^2 (m_1 + m_2)^{1/2} \times \frac{(\pi - \theta_0)(96 + 292e^2 + 37e^4) + \frac{1}{3}e\sin\theta_0(602 + 673e^2)}{a^{7/2}(e^2 - 1)^{7/2}} \Delta E \times \frac{(\pi - \theta_0)(96 + 292e^2 + 37e^4) + \frac{1}{3}e\sin\theta_0(602 + 673e^2)}{a^{7/2}(e^2 - 1)^{7/2}} \Delta L = -\frac{8}{5} \frac{G^3}{c^5} m_1^2 m_2^2 \frac{(\pi - \theta_0)(8 + 7e^2) + e\sin\theta_0(13 + 2e^2)}{a^2(e^2 - 1)^2} \alpha^2(e^2 - 1)^2}$$
$$a = Gm_1 m_2/(2E) \qquad e = \sqrt{1 + 2EL^2/(G^2 \mu m_1^2 m_2^2)} \qquad \cos\theta_0 = \frac{1}{e}$$

 $\Delta E(E, e) = \Delta E(E, L) = \Delta E(E, b)$ $\Delta L(E, e) = \Delta L(E, L) = \Delta L(E, b)$ $L = b \times \mu v_{\infty} = b \sqrt{2\mu E}$ $\sum AE(E, b_{max}) = -E$ $\sum CAPTURED$ JUST CAPTURED ESCAPE TO INFINITY $\Delta E(E, b_{max}) = -E$ $\sum b_{max}(E) = \frac{L_{cr}(E)}{\sqrt{2\mu E}}$

For L = fixed with $m_1=m_2=1/2$,

$$\Delta E \sim -\frac{85\pi}{393216L^7} - \frac{61\pi}{2560L^5}E - \frac{37\pi}{120L^3}E^2 + \cdots \quad \text{for} \quad E \sim 0$$

$$\sim -\frac{37\pi}{240L^3}E^2 - \cdots \qquad \qquad \text{for} \quad E \sim \infty$$





All initial unbound objects will be captured directly if $L \le L_0$.



• **NR simulations** for two non-spinning equal mass black holes:



• Parabolic approximation:



- Instead of finding E for which

$$\Delta E(E,L) = -E,$$

we use that

$$\Delta E(E, L) \sim \Delta E(E = 0, L)$$

for a weakly hyperbolic orbit, i.e., "small" $E \sim 0$ (e~1).



- Namely, we prepare an initial data for two black holes in a parabolic orbit, and perform the numerical simulation to get the emitted energy ΔE_{para} .
- Then, we set $E = |\Delta E_{para}|$.
- For such parabolic initial data, we use the EOB formulation.
- For most simulations, the parabolic approximation was used to save computational time.
- We also checked the validity of this approximation as E increases.

• Maximum impact parameter or capturing cross-section:



w/ m1 + m2 = 1

IV. NR results

• Minimum angular momentum giving escapes to infinity:



• Features of orbits and waveforms: See the talk by Y. Bae!

Multi mode contributions:



$$\Psi_{4} = \sum_{l=2}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^{l} A^{l,m} \left({}_{-2}Y^{l,m}(\theta,\phi) \right)$$

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \lim_{r \to \infty} \frac{r^2}{16\pi} \oint \left| \int_{-\infty}^t \Psi_4 \, dt' \right|^2 d\Omega$$
$$= \lim_{r \to \infty} \frac{r^2}{16\pi} \sum_{l,m} \left| \int_{-\infty}^t A^{l,m} \, dt' \right|^2$$



- Energy emitted by GWs for marginal captures: ΔE
- Large radiation for small initial angular momentum
- at the peak, but less than mostly (~3.7% for e~0)
- 2.5PN is in good agreement w/ NR for large L, but it breaks down as L decreases.
- The parabolic approximation breaks down for _____.



- Angular momentum radiation: ΔL
- Similar features with the energy radiation



- Maximum impact parameter or capturing cross-section:
 - Less capturing for large initial energies
 - 2.5PN deviates from NR as E increases:

- For any given energy, the GR result gives the strongest capturing.



V. Discussion

- Gravitational radiation capture processes of two equal mass BHs are investigated in full GR for the first time, and the capture cross-section is compared with the PN calculations.
- There are many interesting regions in the parameter space unexplored, including un-equal masses and spins. For un-equal masses, non-quadrupole (i.e., I > 2) mode contributions might NOT be negligible.
- How much is the event rate improved in GW detection experiments due to the GR effect?
- In eccentric merger simulations, it is interesting to understand the mechanism of radiations and its efficiency in more detail.