

# Numerical Simulations of Black Holes

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# Overview

Introduction

Moving Punctures

BH Results

Multi-Block & Matter Results

Outlook & Conclusions

# Numerical Relativity



In my universe  $T_{\mu\nu} = 0$  (mostly)

# Numerical Relativity

solve Einstein's equations with a computer (for vacuum:  $G_{\mu\nu} = 0$ )

important only for strong-field non-linear regime

- merger of compact objects

Much more than just black hole evolutions

- Formulations
- Hyperboloidal Slicing
- Coordinate conditions (gauges)
- Outer boundary
- Well-posedness analysis for different systems including gauge
- Use of different discretization systems
- Astrophysical initial data
- Matter (BH-Neutron Star, NS-NS, Supernovae, ...)
- High-energy collisions
- ...

# Solving Einstein's Equations

plug  $g_{ab}$  into  $G_{ab} = 0$

get 10 coupled quasi-linear 2nd order PDEs

problems

- no definite mathematical character,  
i.e. not hyperbolic, parabolic, elliptic
- admit no well-posed initial value problem

fix character of coordinates  $x^a$

- typically 1 time-like, 3 space-like (“3+1”-split)
- get elliptic and hyperbolic PDEs
  - ▷ elliptic: constraints on space-like slices (no time-derivatives), initial-data
  - ▷ hyperbolic: to evolve these slices

# Form of Equations

There are two sets of equations which people use

Start from  $G_{\mu\nu} = 0$

Harmonic [Pretorius]

$$\square x^\mu = H^\mu$$

$$g^{\gamma\delta} g_{\alpha\beta,\gamma\delta} + \dots = 0$$

BSSN [many groups]

$$ds^2 = -\alpha^2 dt^2 + \gamma_{ij}(dx^i + \beta^i dt)(dx^j + \beta^j dt)$$

Evolution and Constraint equations

Generalized Harmonic

- used by Pretorius, Cornell/Caltech, UMD

BSSN

- used by AEI, FAU, GT, Jena, NASA, PSU, RIT, UMD

# evolution method 1: Generalized Harmonic

Einstein's equations (vacuum)

$$0 = R_{ab} = -\frac{1}{2}\square g_{ab} + \nabla_{(a}\Gamma_{b)} + \dots$$

with  $\Gamma_a = -g_{ab}\square x^b$

$$\square x^a = 0$$

- 4 independent equations

principal part for each metric element becomes a scalar wave equation for that particular element!

- $\square g_{ab} = \dots$

used for a long time, but not in numerical relativity (singularities)

gauge source functions:  $\square x^a = H^a$  and constraint damping needed

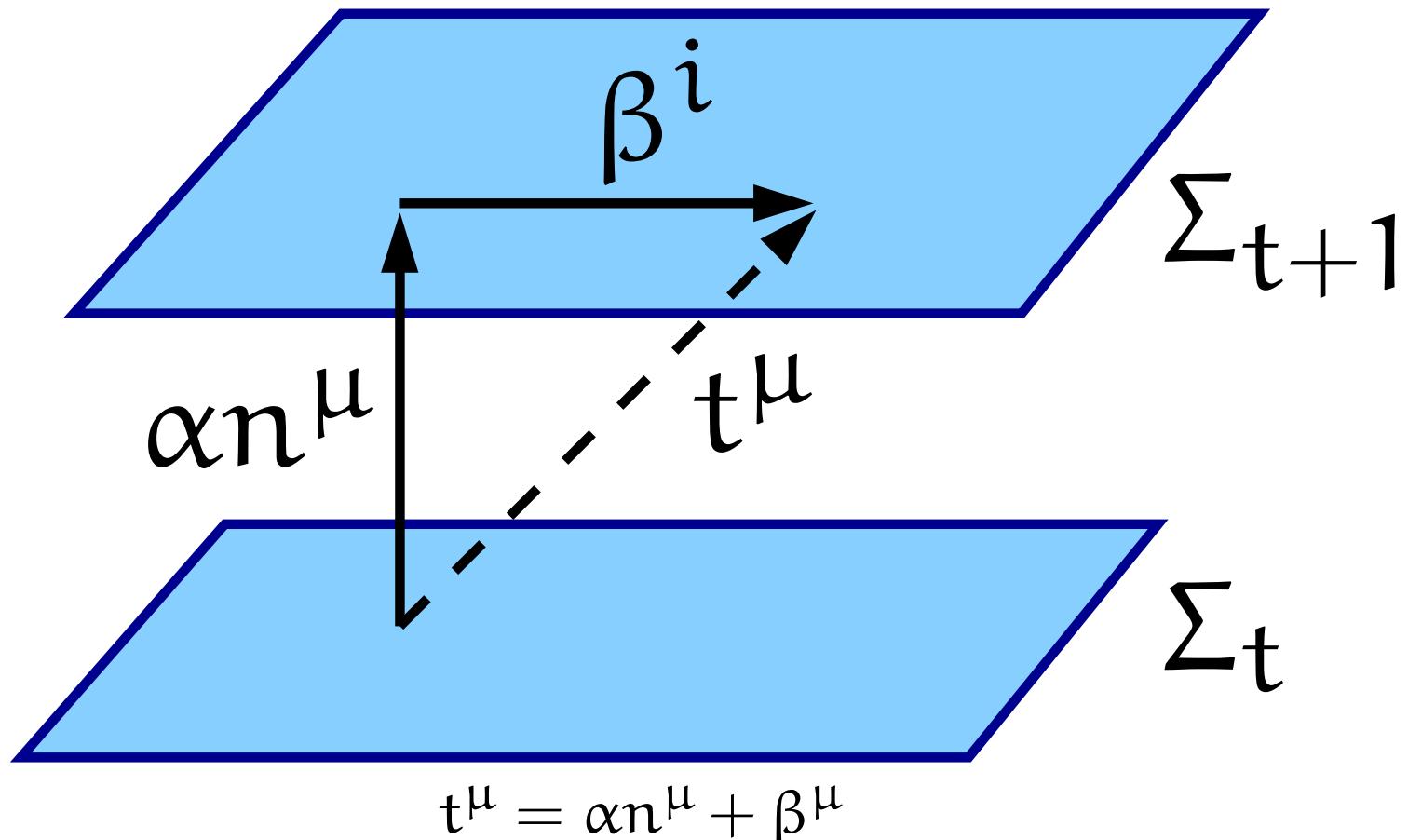
- Pretorius 2005

# time-space split

Lapse  $\alpha$ , Shift vector  $\beta^i$ , 3-metric  $\gamma_{ij}$ , extrinsic curvature  $K_{ij}$

$$ds^2 = -\alpha^2 dt^2 + \gamma_{ij}(dx^i + \beta^i dt)(dx^j + \beta^j dt)$$

extrinsic curvature  $K_{ij} = \dot{\gamma}_{ij}$



# evolution method 2: BSSN

$$\begin{aligned}
\partial_0 \alpha &= -2\alpha K \\
\partial_0 \beta^a &= B^a \\
\partial_0 B^a &= 3/4 \partial_0 \tilde{\Gamma}^a - \eta B^a \\
\partial_0 \tilde{\gamma}_{ij} &= -2\alpha \tilde{A}_{ij} \\
\partial_t \chi &= \frac{2}{3}\chi(\alpha K - \partial_a \beta^a) + \beta^i \partial_i \chi, \\
\partial_0 \tilde{A}_{ij} &= \chi(-D_i D_j \alpha + \alpha R_{ij})^{\text{TF}} + \alpha(K \tilde{A}_{ij} - 2\tilde{A}_{ik} \tilde{A}_j^k) \\
\partial_0 K &= -D^i D_i \alpha + \alpha \left( \tilde{A}_{ij} \tilde{A}^{ij} + \frac{1}{3}K^2 \right) \\
\partial_t \tilde{\Gamma}^i &= \tilde{\gamma}^{jk} \partial_j \partial_k \beta^i + \frac{1}{3} \tilde{\gamma}^{ij} \partial_j \partial_k \beta^k + \beta^j \partial_j \tilde{\Gamma}^i - \tilde{\Gamma}^j \partial_j \beta^i + \frac{2}{3} \tilde{\Gamma}^i \partial_j \beta^j - 2\tilde{A}^{ij} \partial_j \alpha + 2\alpha \left( \tilde{\Gamma}_{jk}^i \tilde{A}^{jk} + 6\tilde{A}^{ij} \partial_j \phi - \frac{2}{3} \tilde{\gamma}^{ij} \partial_j K \right)
\end{aligned}$$

$\partial_0 = \partial_t - \mathcal{L}_\beta$ , TF indicates that only the trace-free part of the tensor,  $R_{ij} = \tilde{R}_{ij} + R^\phi_{ij}$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
R^\phi_{ij} &= -2\tilde{D}_i \tilde{D}_j \phi - 2\tilde{\gamma}_{ij} \tilde{D}^k \tilde{D}_k \phi + 4\tilde{D}_i \phi \tilde{D}_j \phi - 4\tilde{\gamma}_{ij} \tilde{D}^k \phi \tilde{D}_k \phi, \\
\tilde{R}_{ij} &= -\frac{1}{2} \tilde{\gamma}^{lm} \partial_l \partial_m \tilde{\gamma}_{ij} + \tilde{\gamma}_{k(i} \partial_{j)} \tilde{\Gamma}^k + \tilde{\Gamma}^k \tilde{\Gamma}_{(ij)k} + \tilde{\gamma}^{lm} \left( 2\tilde{\Gamma}_{l(i} \tilde{\Gamma}_{j)km} + \tilde{\Gamma}_{im}^k \tilde{\Gamma}_{klj} \right),
\end{aligned}$$

$\tilde{\Gamma}^i$  is replaced by  $-\partial_j \tilde{\gamma}^{ij}$  wherever it is not differentiated.  $\partial_i \phi = -1/(4\chi) \partial_i \chi$  and  $\partial_{ij} \phi = \frac{1}{4}(-\partial_{ij} \chi / \chi + \partial_i \chi \partial_j \chi / \chi^2)$  Lie derivatives of non-tensorial quantities ( $\tilde{\gamma}_{ij}$ , and  $\tilde{A}_{ij}$ ) are given by

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}_\beta \tilde{\gamma}_{ij} &= \beta^k \partial_k \tilde{\gamma}_{ij} + \tilde{\gamma}_{ik} \partial_j \beta^k + \tilde{\gamma}_{jk} \partial_i \beta^k - \frac{2}{3} \tilde{\gamma}_{ij} \partial_k \beta^k, \\
\mathcal{L}_\beta \tilde{A}_{ij} &= \beta^k \partial_k \tilde{A}_{ij} + \tilde{A}_{ik} \partial_j \beta^k + \tilde{A}_{jk} \partial_i \beta^k - \frac{2}{3} \tilde{A}_{ij} \partial_k \beta^k.
\end{aligned}$$

# BSSN equations: code

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```
/* inverse conformal metric hij */  
double deth = (h11*h22-(h12*h12))*h33-h11*(h23*h23)+2.0*h12*h13*h23-(h13*h13)*h22;  
double oodeth = 1.0/deth;  
double hup11 = (h22*h33-(h23*h23))*oodeth;  
double hup12 = (-h12*h33+h13*h23)*oodeth;  
double hup22 = (h11*h33-(h13*h13))*oodeth;  
double hup13 = (h12*h23-h13*h22)*oodeth;  
double hup23 = (-h11*h23+h12*h13)*oodeth;  
double hup33 = (h11*h22-(h12*h12))*oodeth;  
  
/* christoffel */  
double chr111 = (-d_h311+2.0*d_h113)*half*hup13+(-d_h211+2.0*d_h112)*half*hup12+d_h111  
    *half*hup11;  
double chr211 = (-d_h311+2.0*d_h113)*half*hup23+(-d_h211+2.0*d_h112)*half*hup22+d_h111  
    *half*hup12;  
double chr311 = (-d_h311+2.0*d_h113)*half*hup33+(-d_h211+2.0*d_h112)*half*hup23+d_h111  
    *half*hup13;  
double chr112 = (-d_h312+d_h213+d_h123)*half*hup13+d_h122*half*hup12+d_h211*half*hup11;  
double chr212 = (-d_h312+d_h213+d_h123)*half*hup23+d_h122*half*hup22+d_h211*half*hup12;  
double chr312 = (-d_h312+d_h213+d_h123)*half*hup33+d_h122*half*hup23+d_h211*half*hup13;  
double chr122 = (-d_h322+2.0*d_h223)*half*hup13+d_h222*half*hup12+(2.0*d_h212-d_h122)  
    *half*hup11;  
double chr222 = (-d_h322+2.0*d_h223)*half*hup23+d_h222*half*hup22+(2.0*d_h212-d_h122)  
    *half*hup12;  
double chr322 = (-d_h322+2.0*d_h223)*half*hup33+d_h222*half*hup23+(2.0*d_h212-d_h122)  
    *half*hup13;  
double chr113 = d_h133*half*hup13+(d_h312-d_h213+d_h123)*half*hup12+d_h311*half*hup11;  
double chr213 = d_h133*half*hup23+(d_h312-d_h213+d_h123)*half*hup22+d_h311*half*hup12;  
double chr313 = d_h133*half*hup33+(d_h312-d_h213+d_h123)*half*hup23+d_h311*half*hup13;
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double chr123 = d_h233*half*hup13+d_h322*half*hup12+(d_h312+d_h213-d_h123)*half*hup11;
double chr223 = d_h233*half*hup23+d_h322*half*hup22+(d_h312+d_h213-d_h123)*half*hup12;
double chr323 = d_h233*half*hup33+d_h322*half*hup23+(d_h312+d_h213-d_h123)*half*hup13;
double chr133 = d_h333*half*hup13+(2.0*d_h323-d_h233)*half*hup12+(2.0*d_h313-d_h133)*half
    *hup11;
double chr233 = d_h333*half*hup23+(2.0*d_h323-d_h233)*half*hup22+(2.0*d_h313-d_h133)*half
    *hup12;
double chr333 = d_h333*half*hup33+(2.0*d_h323-d_h233)*half*hup23+(2.0*d_h313-d_h133)*half
    *hup13;

/* A^ij */
double Aup11 = hup13*hup13*A33+2.0*hup12*hup13*A23+hup12*hup12*A22+2.0*hup11*hup13*A13+2.0*hup11
    *hup12*A12+hup11*hup11*A11;
double Aup12 = hup13*hup23*A33+(hup12*hup23+hup13*hup22)*A23+hup12*hup22*A22+(hup11*hup23+hup12
    *hup13)*A13+(hup11*hup22+hup12*hup12)*A12+hup11*hup12*A11;
double Aup22 = hup23*hup23*A33+2.0*hup22*hup23*A23+hup22*hup22*A22+2.0*hup12*hup23*A13+2.0*hup12
    *hup22*A12+hup12*hup12*A11;
double Aup13 = hup13*hup33*A33+(hup12*hup33+hup13*hup23)*A23+hup12*hup23*A22+(hup11*hup33+hup13
    *hup13)*A13+(hup11*hup23+hup12*hup13)*A12+hup11*hup13*A11;
double Aup23 = hup23*hup33*A33+(hup22*hup33+hup23*hup23)*A23+hup22*hup23*A22+(hup12*hup33+hup13
    *hup23)*A13+(hup12*hup23+hup13*hup22)*A12+hup12*hup13*A11;
double Aup33 = hup33*hup33*A33+2.0*hup23*hup33*A23+hup23*hup23*A22+2.0*hup13*hup33*A13+2.0*hup13
    *hup23*A12+hup13*hup13*A11;

/* Gamma^i recomputed */
double GamRC1 = (d_h333*hup13+d_h323*hup12+d_h313*hup11)*hup33+((d_h323+d_h233)*hup13+(d_h322
    +d_h223)*hup12+(d_h312+d_h213)*hup11)*hup23+(d_h223*hup13+d_h222*hup12+d_h212
    *hup11)*hup22+(d_h313+d_h133)*(hup13*hup13)+((d_h312+d_h213+2.0*d_h123)*hup12
    +(d_h311+2.0*d_h113)*hup11)*hup13+(d_h212+d_h122)*(hup12*hup12)+(d_h211+2.0*d_h112)
    *hup11*hup12+d_h111*(hup11*hup11);
double GamRC2 = (d_h333*hup23+d_h323*hup22+d_h313*hup12)*hup33+(d_h323+d_h233)*(hup23*hup23)+((d_h322
    +2.0*d_h223)*hup22+(d_h313+d_h133)*hup13+(d_h312+2.0*d_h213+d_h123)*hup12+d_h113
    *hup11)*hup23+d_h222*(hup22*hup22)+((d_h312+d_h123)*hup13+(2.0*d_h212+d_h122)
    *hup12+d_h112*hup11)*hup22+(d_h311+d_h113)*hup12*hup13+(d_h211+d_h112)*(hup12
    *hup12)+d_h111*hup11*hup12;
double GamRC3 = d_h333*(hup33*hup33)+((2.0*d_h323+d_h233)*hup23+d_h223*hup22+(2.0*d_h313+d_h133)
    *hup13+(d_h213+d_h123)*hup12+d_h113*hup11)*hup33+(d_h322+d_h223)*(hup23*hup23)

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+(d_h222*hup22+(2.0*d_h312+d_h213+d_h123)*hup13+(d_h212+d_h122)*hup12+d_h112*hup11)
*hup23+d_h212*hup13*hup22+(d_h311+d_h113)*(hup13*hup13)+((d_h211+d_h112)*hup12
+d_h111*hup11)*hup13;

/* ricci */
double R11 = h13*d_Gam13+h12*d_Gam12+h11*d_Gam11+(-d_d_h3311*half+chr313*chr313*h33+2.0
*chr213*chr313*h23+chr213*chr213*h22+(2.0*chr313*chr33+2.0*chr213*chr323+4.0
*chr113*chr313)*h13+(2.0*chr233*chr313+2.0*chr213*chr223+4.0*chr113*chr213)*h12
+(2.0*chr133*chr313+2.0*chr123*chr213+3.0*(chr113*chr113))*h11)*hup33+(-2.0*d_d_h2311
*half+2.0*chr312*chr313*h33+(2.0*chr212*chr313+2.0*chr213*chr312)*h23+2.0*chr212
*chr213*h22+(2.0*chr312*chr33+2.0*chr313+2.0*chr212)*chr323+2.0*chr213*chr322
+4.0*chr112*chr313+4.0*chr113*chr312)*h13+(2.0*chr223*chr313+2.0*chr233*chr312
+2.0*chr212*chr223+2.0*chr213*chr222+4.0*chr112*chr213+4.0*chr113*chr212)*h12
+(2.0*chr123*chr313+2.0*chr133*chr312+2.0*chr122*chr213+2.0*chr123*chr212+6.0
*chr112*chr113)*h11)*hup23+(-d_d_h2211*half+chr312*chr312*h33+2.0*chr212*chr312
*h23+chr212*chr212*h22+(2.0*chr312*chr323+2.0*chr212*chr322+4.0*chr112*chr312)
*h13+(2.0*chr223*chr312+2.0*chr212*chr222+4.0*chr112*chr212)*h12+(2.0*chr123*chr312
+2.0*chr122*chr212+3.0*(chr112*chr112))*h11)*hup22+(-2.0*d_d_h1311*half+2.0*chr311
*chr313*h33+(2.0*chr211*chr313+2.0*chr213*chr311)*h23+2.0*chr211*chr213*h22+(2.0
*chr311*chr33+2.0*chr211*chr323+2.0*(chr313*chr313)+4.0*chr111*chr313+2.0*chr213
*chr312+4.0*chr113*chr311)*h13+(2.0*chr213*chr313+2.0*chr233*chr311+2.0*chr211
*chr223+(2.0*chr212+4.0*chr111)*chr213+4.0*chr113*chr211)*h12+(2.0*chr113*chr313
+2.0*chr133*chr311+2.0*chr112*chr213+2.0*chr123*chr211+6.0*chr111*chr113)*h11)
*hup13+(-2.0*d_d_h1211*half+2.0*chr311*chr312*h33+(2.0*chr211*chr312+2.0*chr212
*chr311)*h23+2.0*chr211*chr212*h22+(2.0*chr311*chr323+2.0*chr211*chr322+2.0*chr312
*chr313+(2.0*chr212+4.0*chr111)*chr312+4.0*chr112*chr311)*h13+(2.0*chr213*chr312
+2.0*chr223*chr311+2.0*chr211*chr222+2.0*(chr212*chr212)+4.0*chr111*chr212+4.0
*chr112*chr211)*h12+(2.0*chr113*chr312+2.0*chr123*chr311+2.0*chr112*chr212+2.0
*chr122*chr211+6.0*chr111*chr112)*h11)*hup12+(-d_d_h1111*half+chr311*chr311
*h33+2.0*chr211*chr311*h23+chr211*chr211*h22+(2.0*chr311*chr313+2.0*chr211*chr312
+4.0*chr111*chr311)*h13+(2.0*chr213*chr311+2.0*chr211*chr212+4.0*chr111*chr211)
*h12+(2.0*chr113*chr311+2.0*chr112*chr211+3.0*(chr111*chr111))*h11)*hup11+(chr313
*GamRC3+chr312*GamRC2+chr311*GamRC1)*h13+(chr213*GamRC3+chr212*GamRC2+chr211*GamRC1)
*h12+(chr113*GamRC3+chr112*GamRC2+chr111*GamRC1)*h11;
double R12 = (h13*d_Gam23+h12*d_Gam22+h11*d_Gam21+h23*d_Gam13+h22*d_Gam12+h12*d_Gam11+
-2.0*d_d_h3312*half+2.0*chr313*chr323*h33+(2.0*chr313*chr33+4.0*chr213*chr323

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+2.0*chr122*chr212+4.0*chr111*chr122+4.0*(chr112*chr112))*h11)*hup12+(-2.0*d_d_h1112
*half+2.0*chr311*chr312*h33+(2.0*chr311*chr313+4.0*chr211*chr312+(2.0*chr212+2.0
*chr111)*chr311)*h23+(2.0*chr213*chr311+4.0*chr211*chr212+2.0*chr111*chr211)*h22
+(2.0*chr312*chr313+(2.0*chr212+2.0*chr111)*chr312+4.0*chr112*chr311)*h13+(2.0
*chr213*chr312+2.0*chr113*chr311+2.0*(chr212*chr212)+2.0*chr111*chr212+6.0*chr112
*chr211+2.0*(chr111*chr111))*h12+(2.0*chr113*chr312+2.0*chr112*chr212+4.0*chr111
*chr112)*h11)*hup11+(chr313*GamRC3+chr312*GamRC2+chr311*GamRC1)*h23+(chr213*GamRC3
+chr212*GamRC2+chr211*GamRC1)*h22+(chr323*GamRC3+chr322*GamRC2+chr312*GamRC1)
*h13+((chr223+chr113)*GamRC3+(chr222+chr112)*GamRC2+(chr212+chr111)*GamRC1)*h12
+(chr123*GamRC3+chr122*GamRC2+chr112*GamRC1)*h11)/2.0;

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## high arithmetic intensity

| Operator | Number of times used |
|----------|----------------------|
| *        | 12,961               |
| +        | 5,398                |
| -        | 3,438                |
| /        | 69                   |

# Black Hole Singularities

Computers don't like the **singularities** inside of black holes

- Hawking & Penrose showed that all BHs contain singularities

**techniques** for handling singularities

- excision
- puncture
- stuffing
- singularity avoiding gauge

initial data for black holes

- collapse scalar field & excise (Pretorius)
- thin-sandwich
  - ▷ excise (Caltech/Cornell/UMD)
  - ▷ stuff (AEI/PSU/Jena/FAU/UMD)
- puncture

# Stuffing

if singularity inside: why not put a **regular solution** instead?

- Bona 1999, Misner 2001

problem: **constraint violations** are not bound by causality!

- can escape from BH & influence outside

BUT they are bound by the rules of PDEs

- figure out characteristic speeds
- show that characteristic speeds of constraint violating modes are at most  $c$
- then constraint violating modes can't get out!

depends on evolution system used (Brown et al 2008)

potential issue of discretization

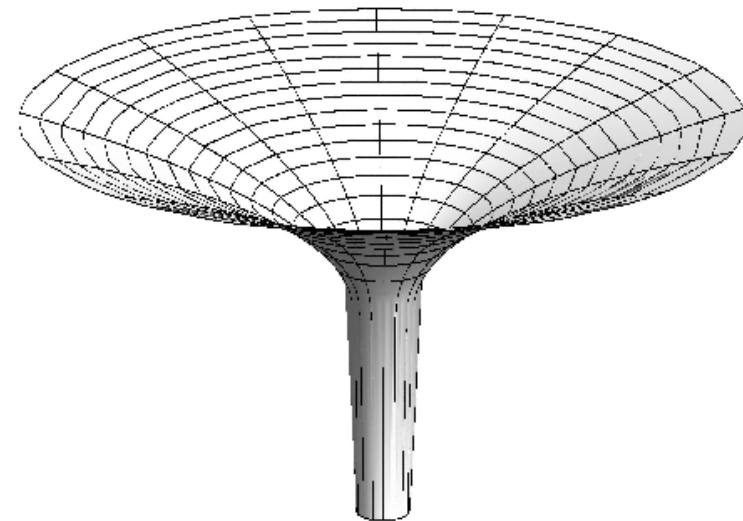
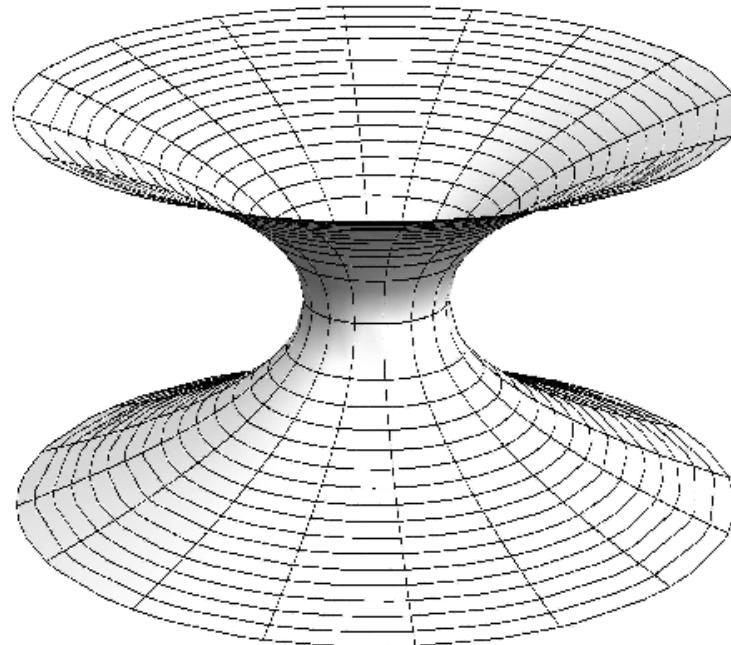
seems to work really **well** in practice

# Single Puncture

Schwarzschild spacetime in isotropic coordinates

$$ds^2 = -\frac{1-M/2r}{1+M/2r}dt^2 + (1+M/2r)^4(dr^2 + dS^2) \quad r_S = r(1+M/2r)^2$$

Wormhole becomes Trumpet. (Hannam et al 2008)



other end becomes cylindrical.  $R = 1.31 M$  (**inside**  $r_S = 2 M$ )

# Stages of BH merger

**Newtonian:** BHs far separated, GW emission would not lead to merger in Hubble time

- n-body interactions most likely to produce stellar mass BBHs
- probably not inspiral of stars (Belczynski et al 2007)
- gas interactions for supermassive BBHs

**Inspiral:** GW emission becomes dominant process, PN approximation works well

**Plunge/Merger:** Orbital evolution on longer adiabatic. Full numerical simulation required.

- this phase is very short, 1-2 GW cycles
- 1-10% of energy radiated

**Ringdown:** merger remnant settles down to single Kerr BH

- characteristic quasi-normal modes

# Comparison to post-Newtonian (PN)

weak field, slow motion

$x = (\dot{\phi}^{2/3})$  orbital frequency,  $\phi$  orbital phase

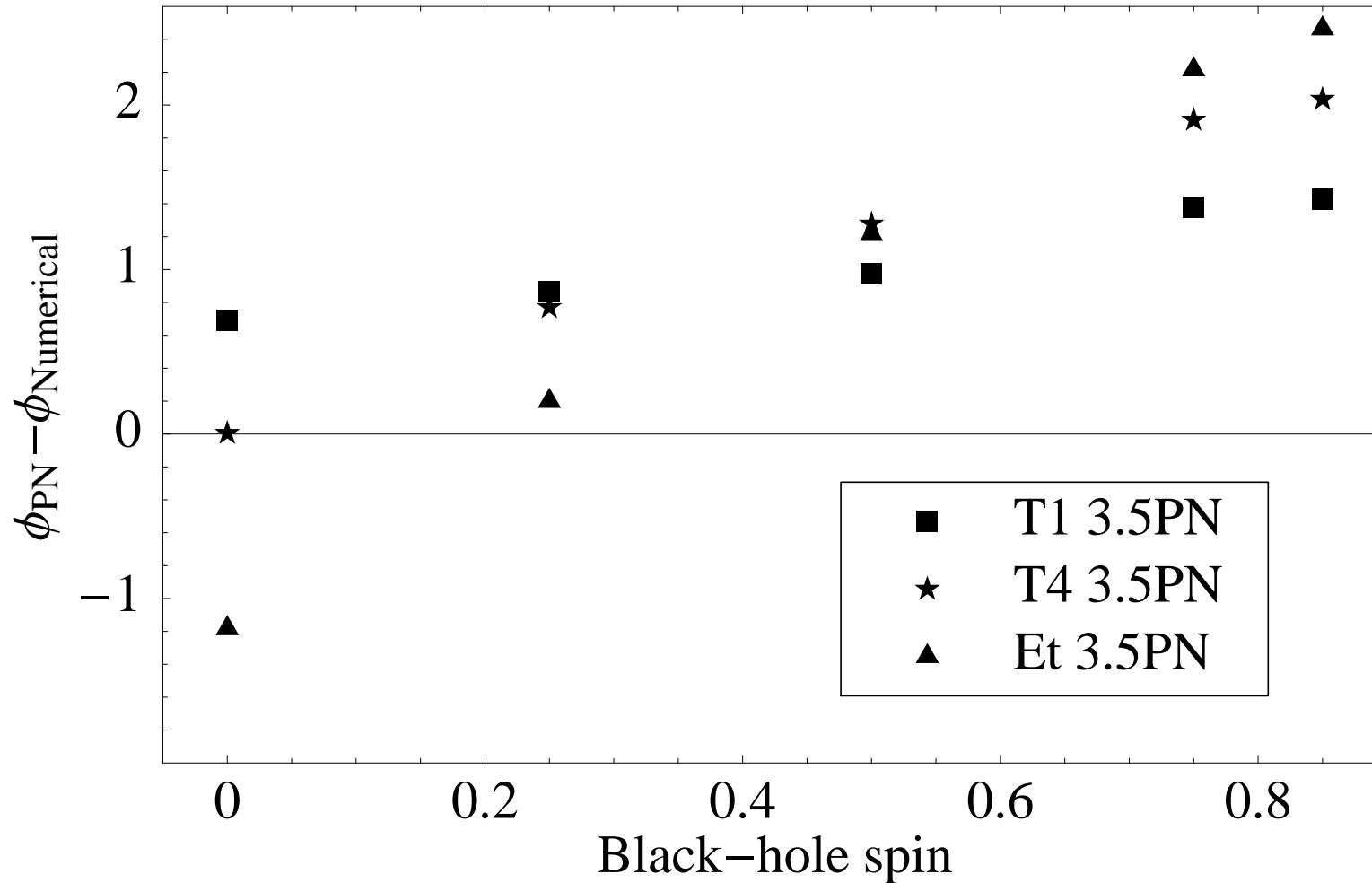
EOM for  $x, \phi$  contain energy  $E$ , GW energy flux  $F$

PN Taylor approximants (Damour et al 2001)

- TaylorT1: numerical integration of  $dx/dt = -\frac{F}{dE/dx}$  &  $d\phi/dt$
- TaylorT2: analytical integration of  $dx/dt$  &  $d\phi/dt$
- TaylorT3: like T2 except introduce different variable
- TaylorT4: like T1 except  $dx/dt = \text{Expand}\left(-\frac{F}{dE/dx}\right)$   
(Buonanno, Cook, Pretorius 2007)

phase error of 0.05 radians shortly before merger ( $\omega = 0.1$ )

# Comparison to PN: spin



comparison for different spins (Hannam et al 2008)

direct GW flux comparison shows no clear superiority of T4 (Boyle et al 2008)

# Comparison to PN: eccentricity

Hinder et al 2008

PN: 3 eccentricities:  $e_t, e_r, e_\phi$

- represents deviations from circular motion in  $t, r$  and  $\phi$
- all 3 are related by PN equations (identical to Newtonian order); used  $e_t$

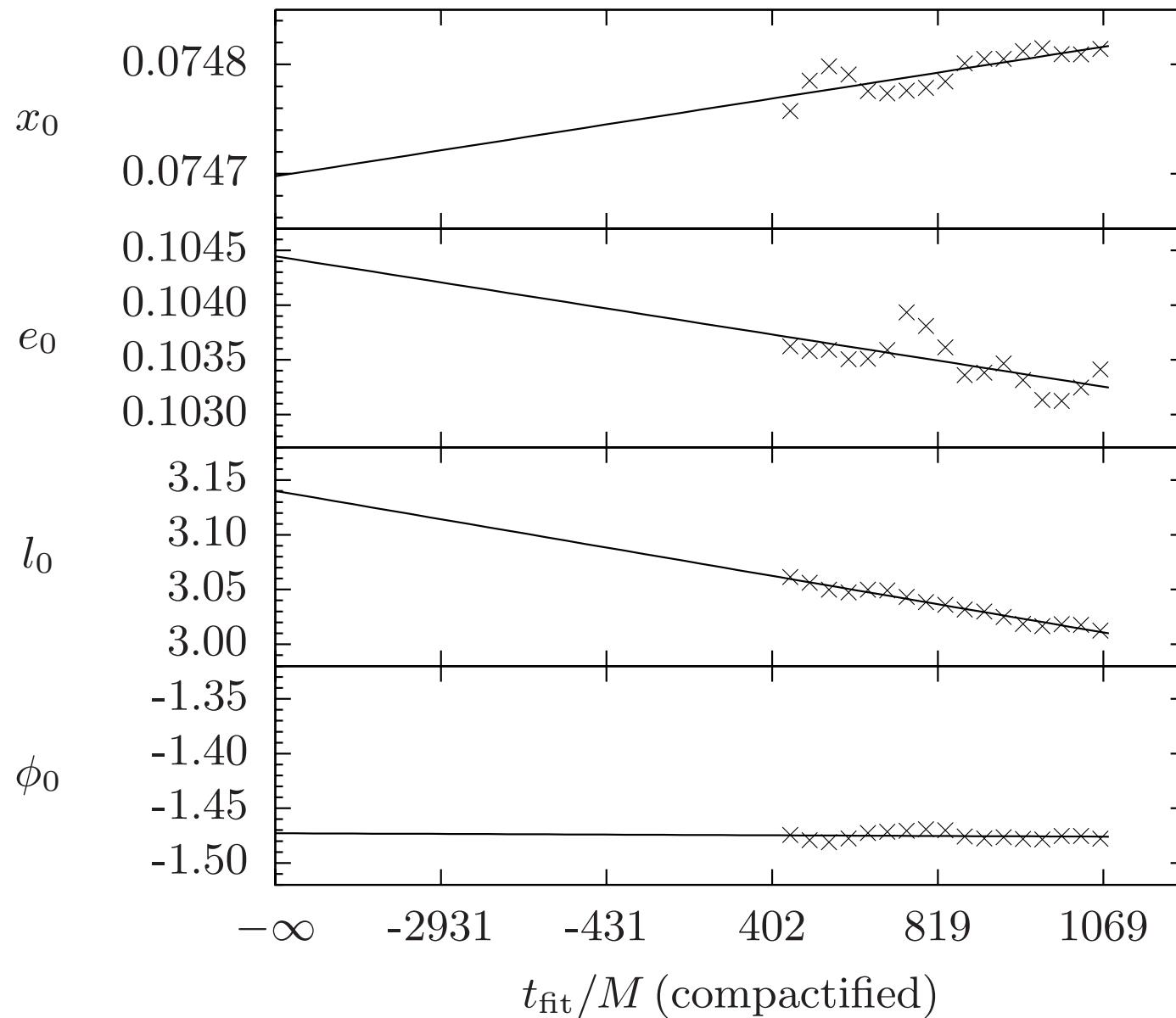
orbital period  $P$ : time to go from pericenter to pericenter

- due to precession this is not equivalent to  $\phi \rightarrow \phi + 2\pi$

use  $x = \omega^{2/3}$  instead of  $n = 2\pi/P$  (as in circular case)

$r = a(1 - e \cos u)$ , eccentric anomaly  $u$ ,  $l = u - e \sin u$  (Kepler's equation) mean anomaly  $l$

# Extrapolated Data



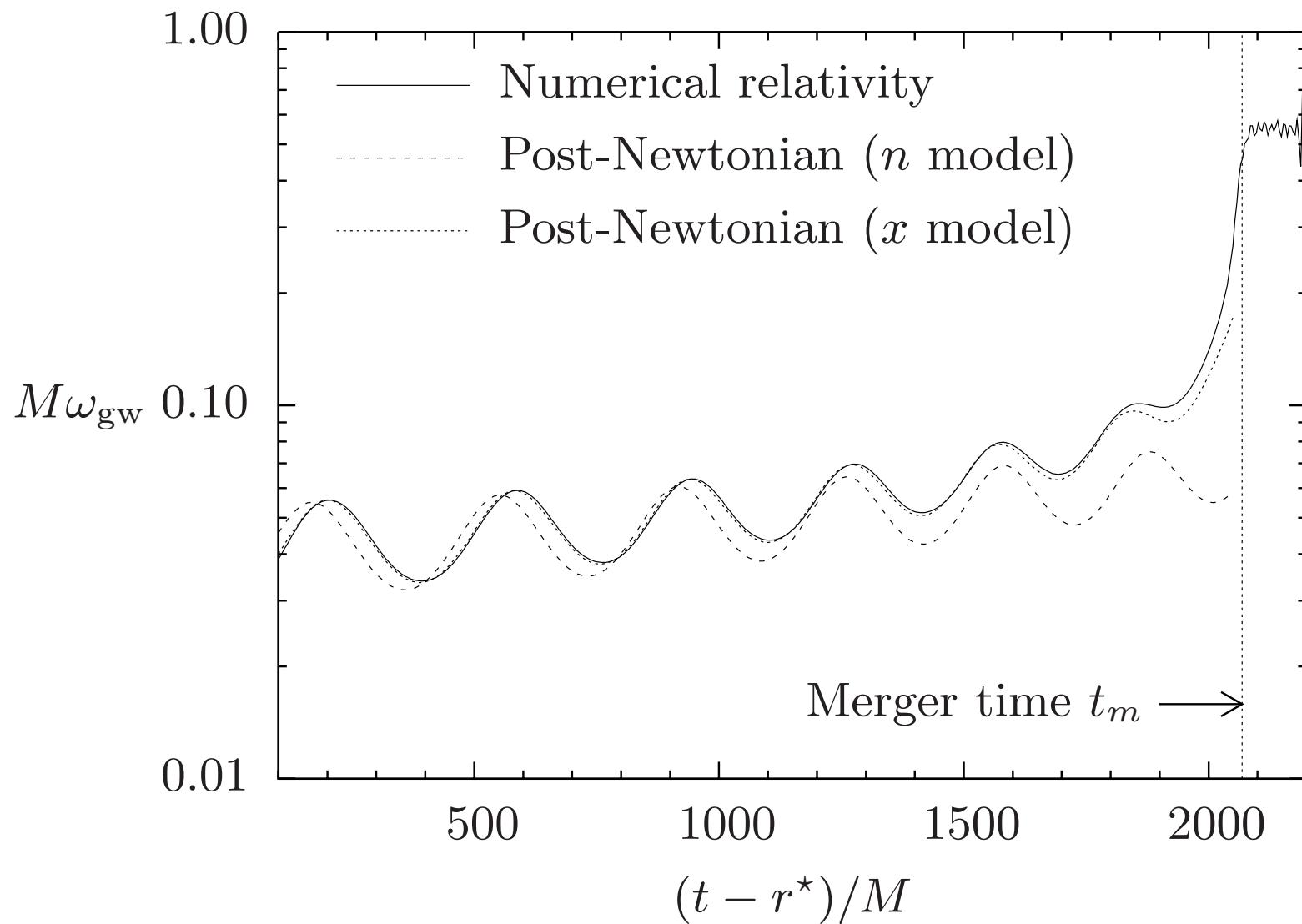
center of fitting window is modified, size is kept fixed ( $\pm 250 M$ )

# Extrapolated Data

| Parameter | Extrapolated value | Initial data value |
|-----------|--------------------|--------------------|
| $x_0$     | 0.07470(3)         | 0.0740853          |
| $e_0$     | 0.1041(4)          | 0.1                |
| $l_0$     | 3.14(1)            | $\pi = 3.1416$     |
| $\phi_0$  | -1.47(1)           | 0                  |

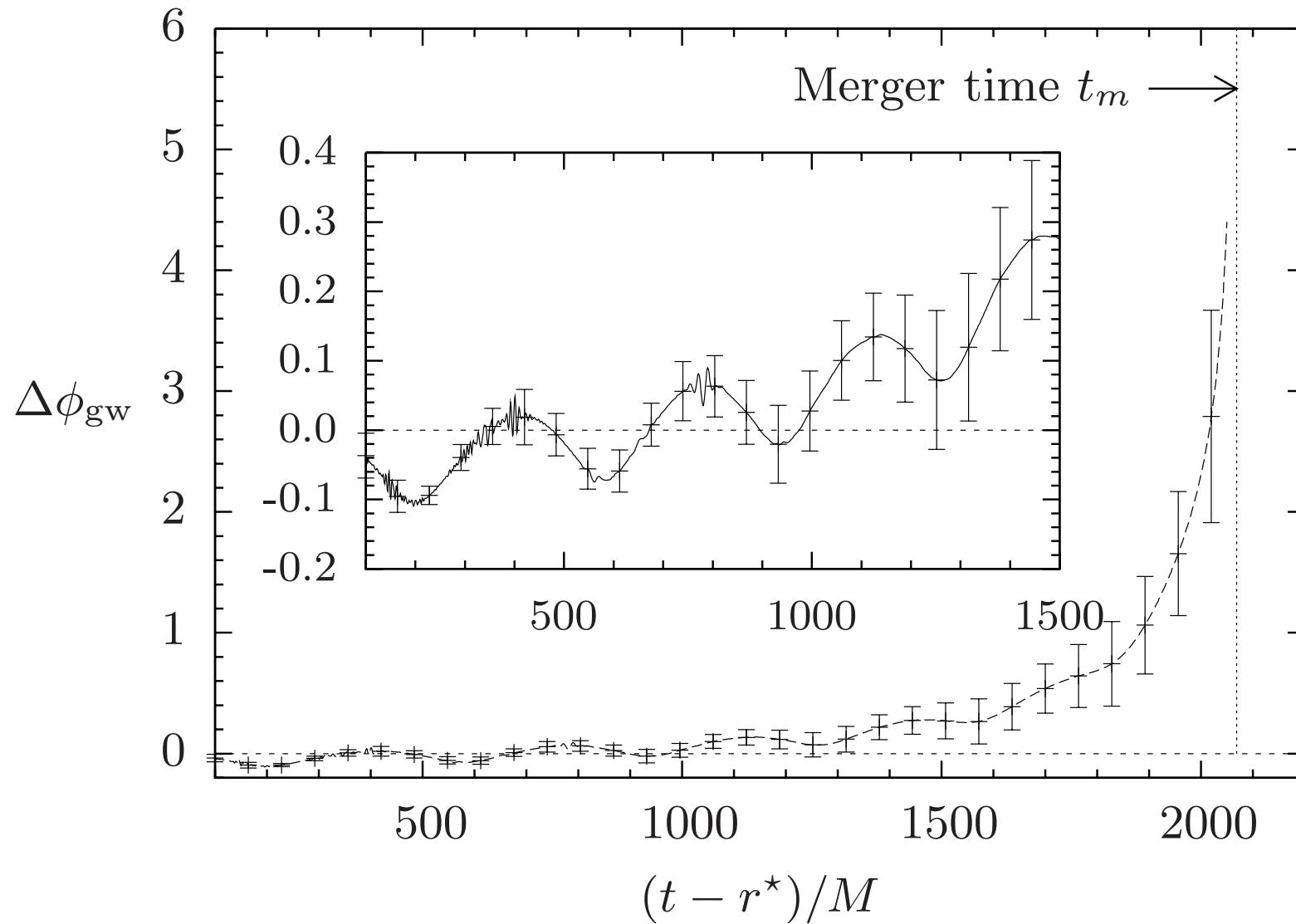
agreement is not required

# Agreement in $\omega$



$n = 2\pi/P$ , eccentricity oscillations

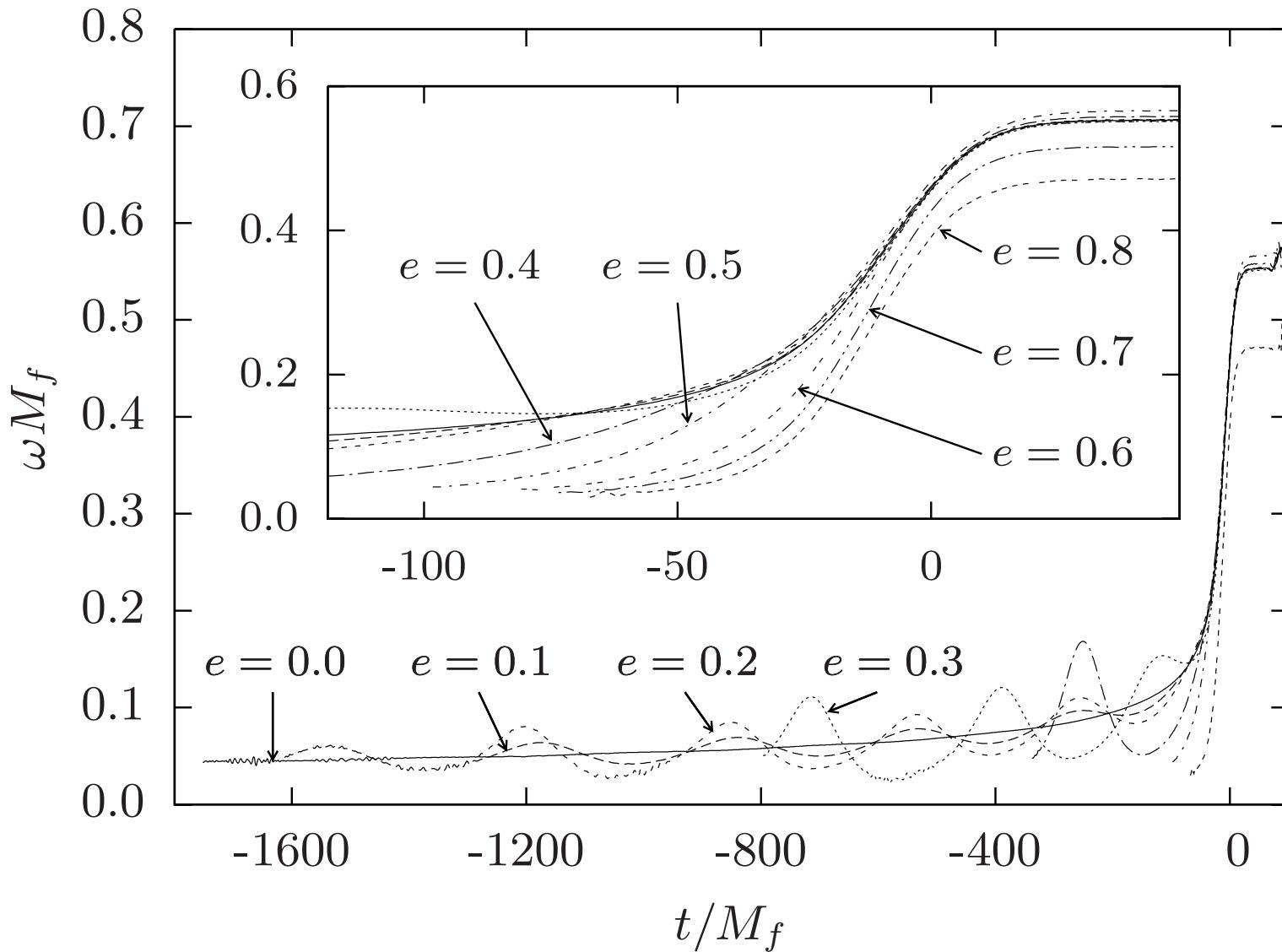
# Agreement in $\phi_{GW}$



at  $\omega = 0.1$  there is  $\Delta\phi_{GW} = 0.8$  radians. for TaylorT4 in circular:  
0.3 radians for 2PN, (0.05 radians at 3.5PN)

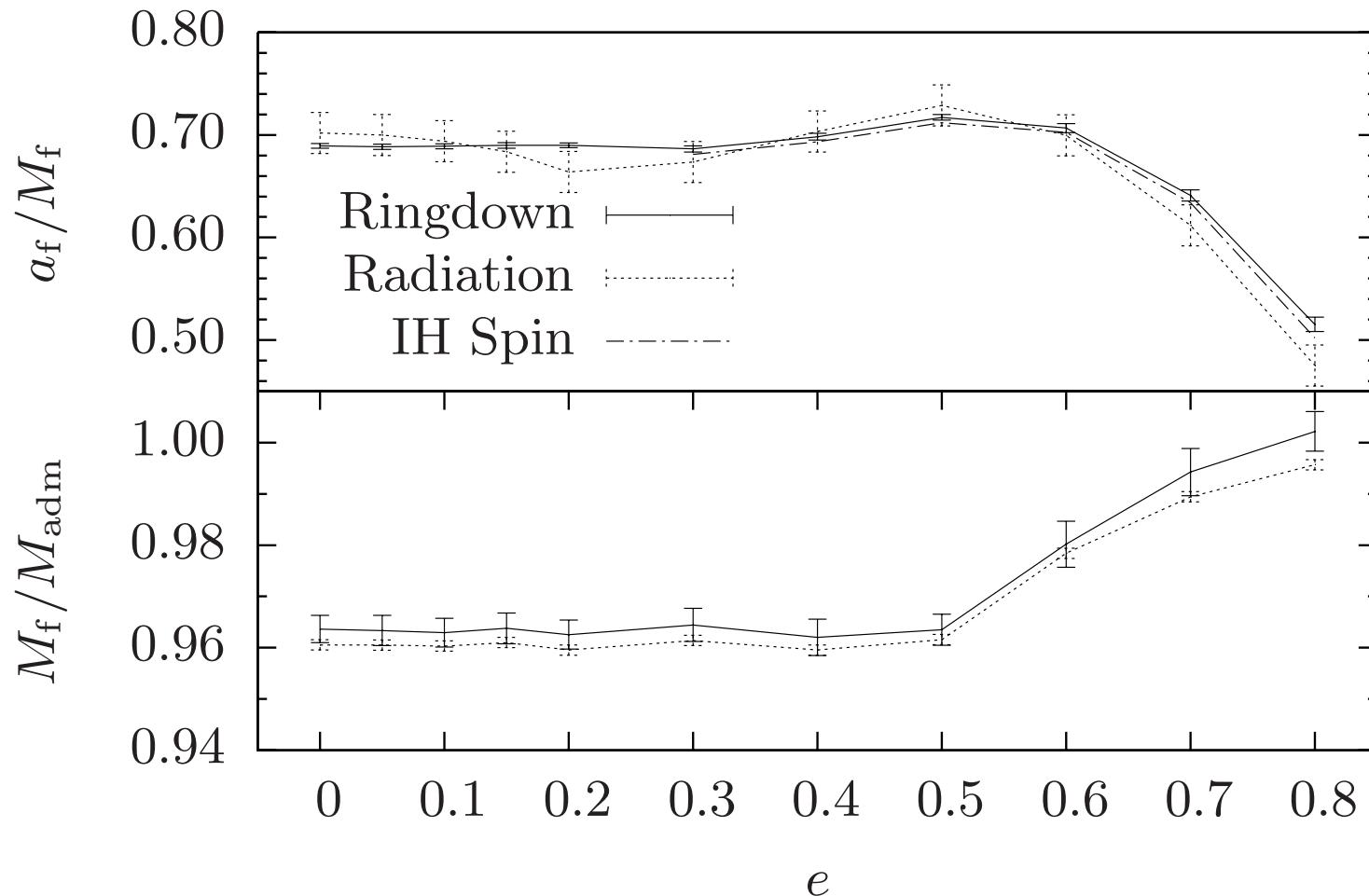
# Eccentricity lost in merger

eccentricity radiated away



# Final BH has no memory of inspiral

eccentricity radiated away



# Gravitational Recoil

asymmetric radiation of GW can carry net linear momentum  
recoil can come from unequal masses or from spins

- unequal-mass recoil up to 170 km/s (Gonzales et al 2007)  $\propto \eta^2$   
 $(\eta = m_1 m_2 / (m_1 + m_2)^2)$
- spin recoil  $\propto S_1 - S_2$

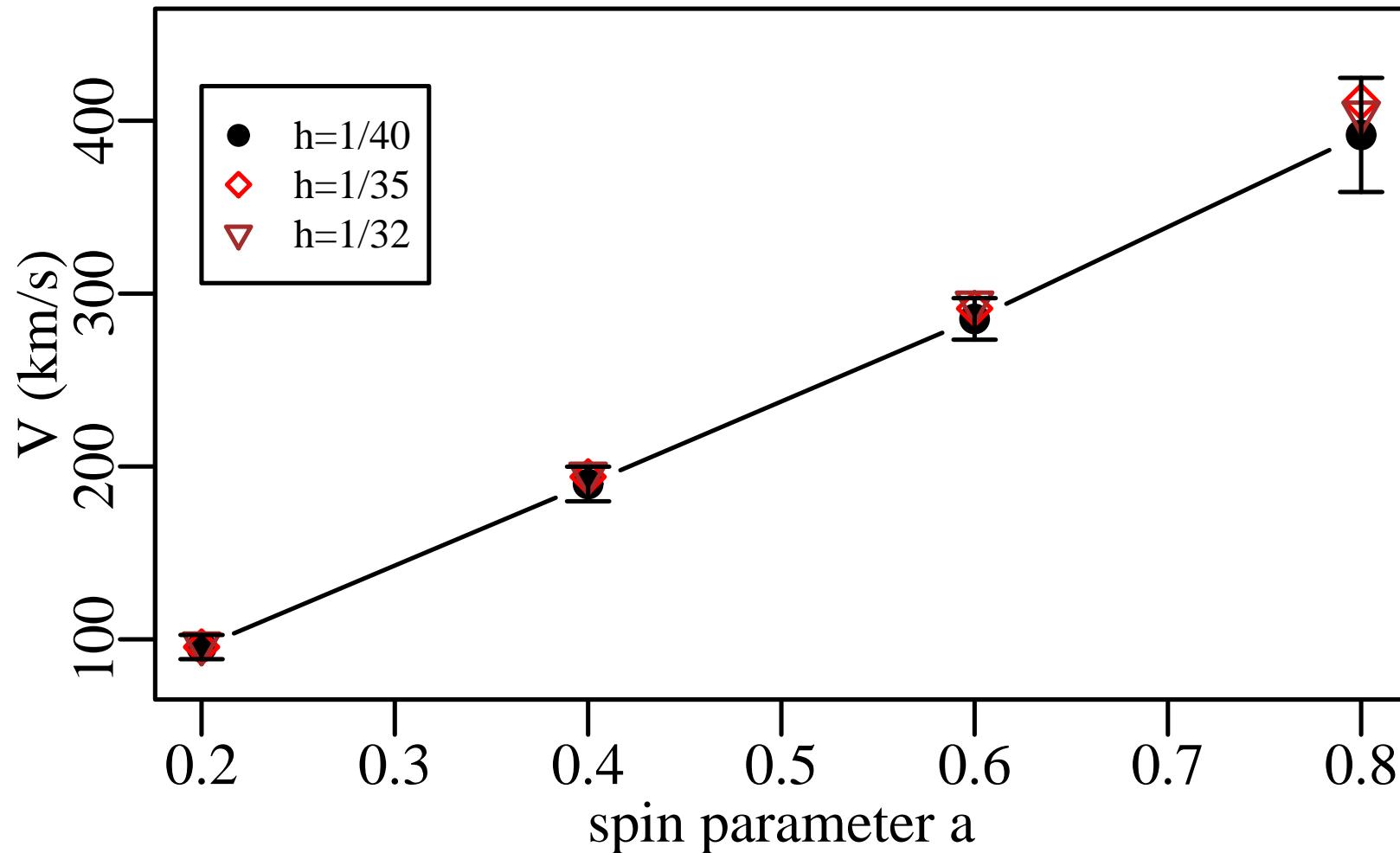
little recoil in inspiral (radiated  $P^i$  rotates around)

equal-mass spin recoil can get large

- 4000 km/s for circular inspiral Campanelli et al, Hannam et al 2007
- > 10,000 km/s for eccentric mergers (so far largest found), Healy et al 2008

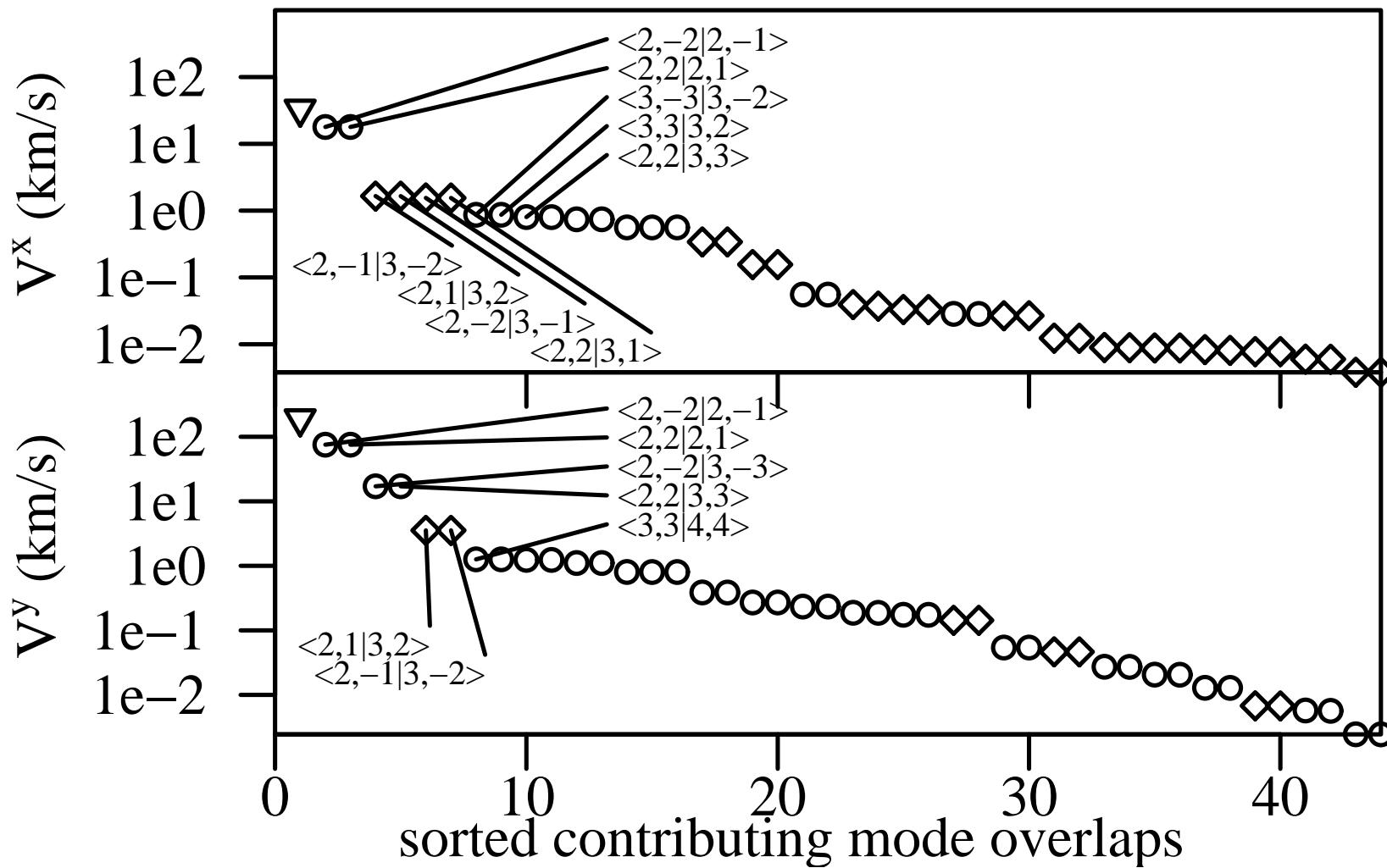
supermassive BH could get kicked out of galaxy (or at least displaced)

# Recoil velocity vs. $a/m$



linear scaling in  $a/M$  (as predicted by PN (Kidder 1995)).  
maximum recoil  $\approx 475$  km/s in-plane (FH et al 2007)

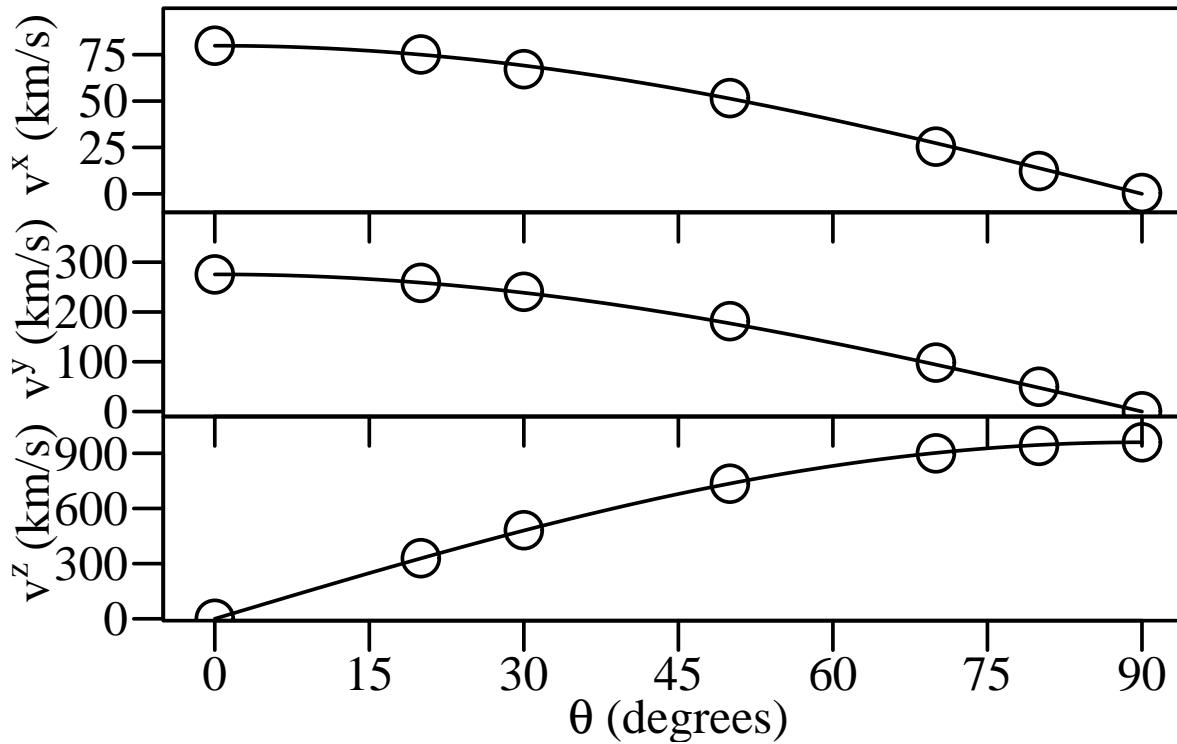
# Individual Mode contributions



Mode Overlaps contribute, some are negative.

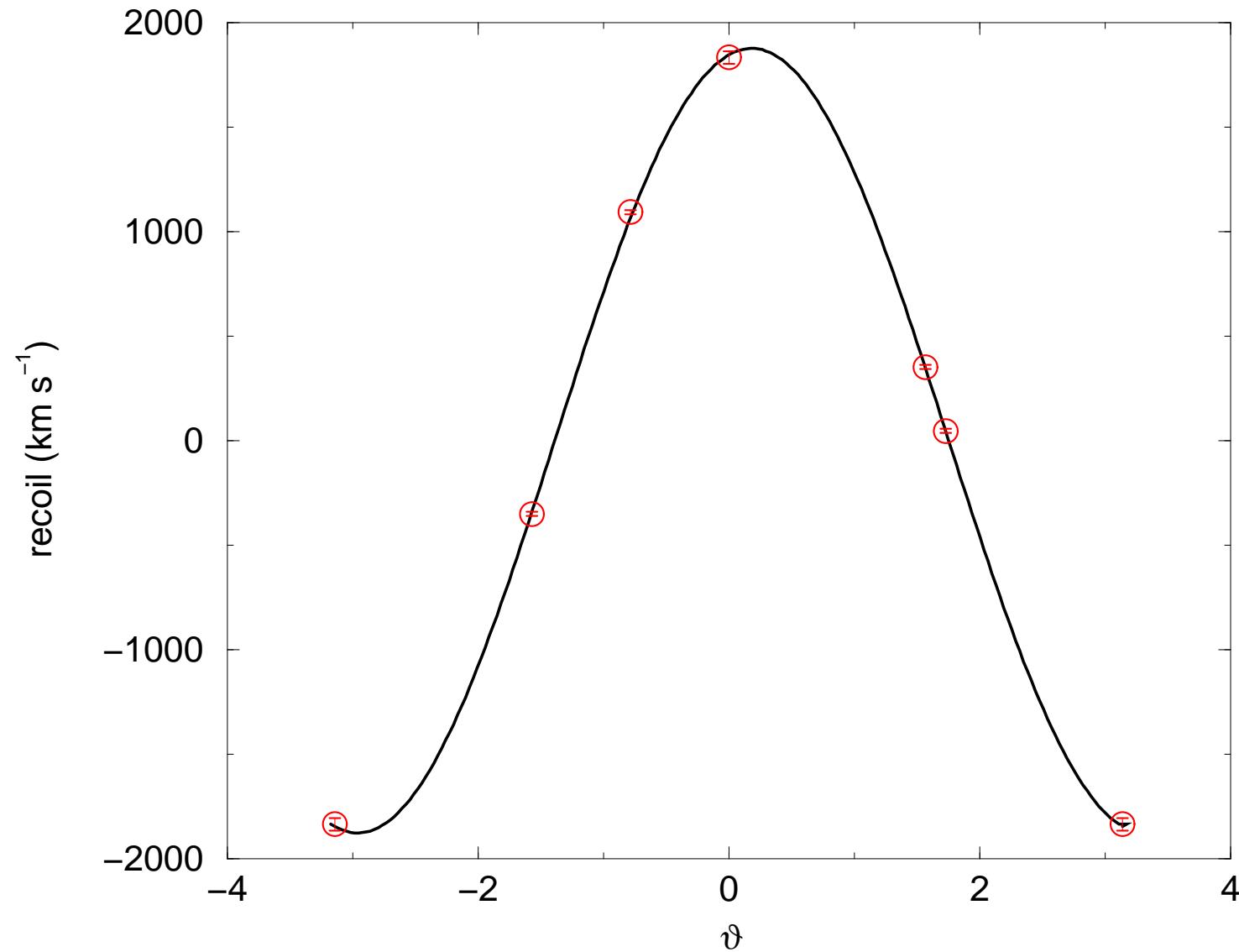
# Superkick configuration

off-plane angle (FH et al 2007)

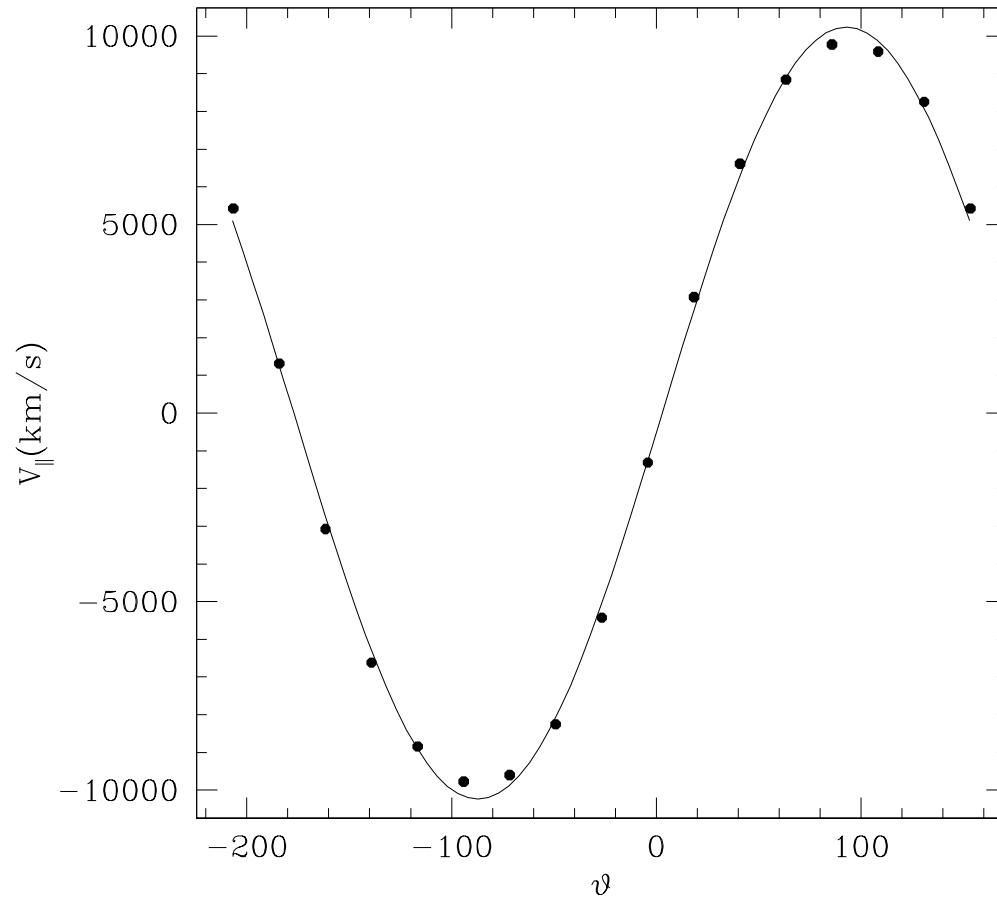


# Superkick configuration

$S^i$  in-plane (different angle) (Campanelli et al, Hannam et al 2007)

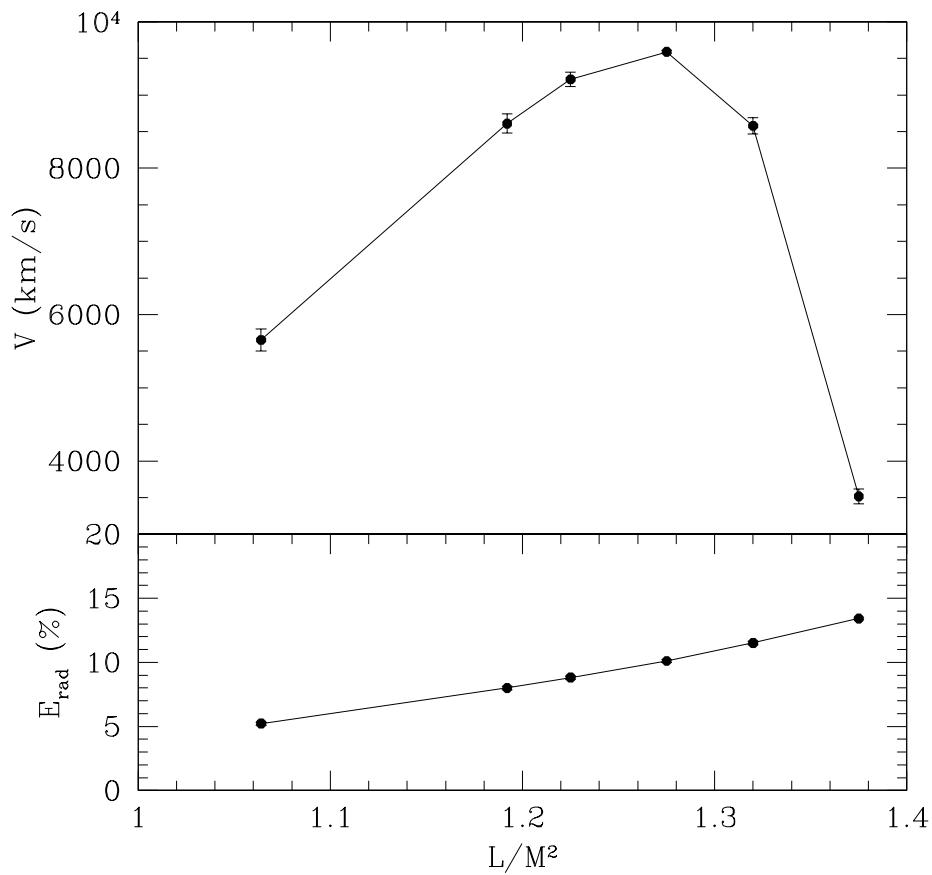


# Recoil from hyperbolic mergers



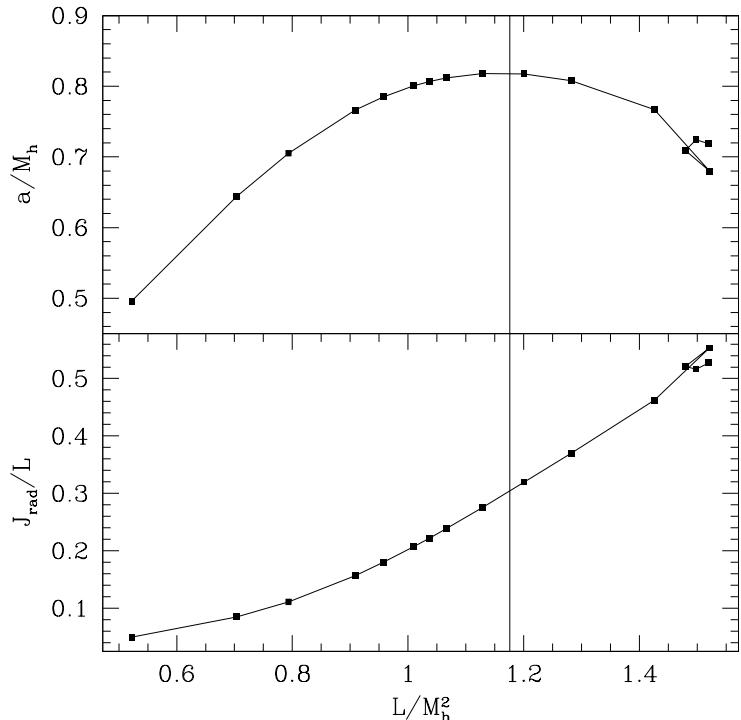
- also sin dependence on angle (Healy et al 2008)

# Recoil from hyperbolic mergers



note that  $v_{\text{max}}$  and  $E_{\text{max}}$  do not coincide (Healy et al 2008)

# How easy is it to produce high-spin BH in merger



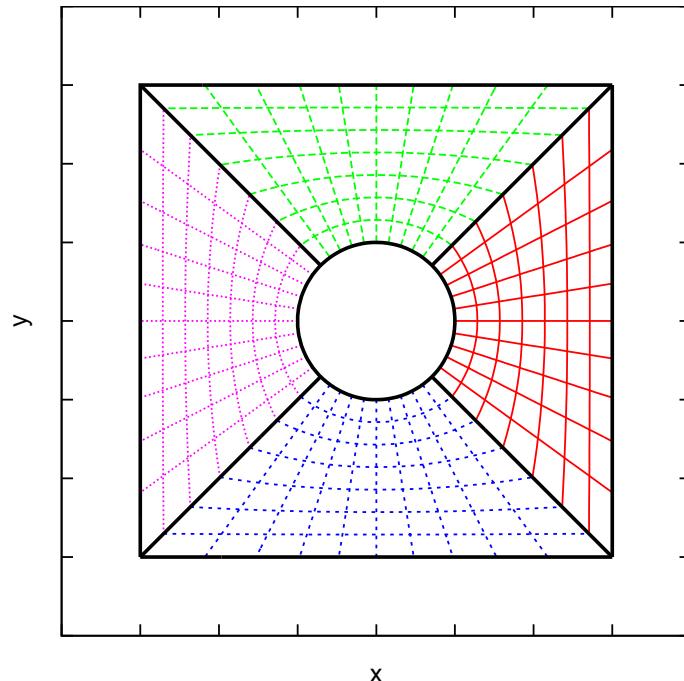
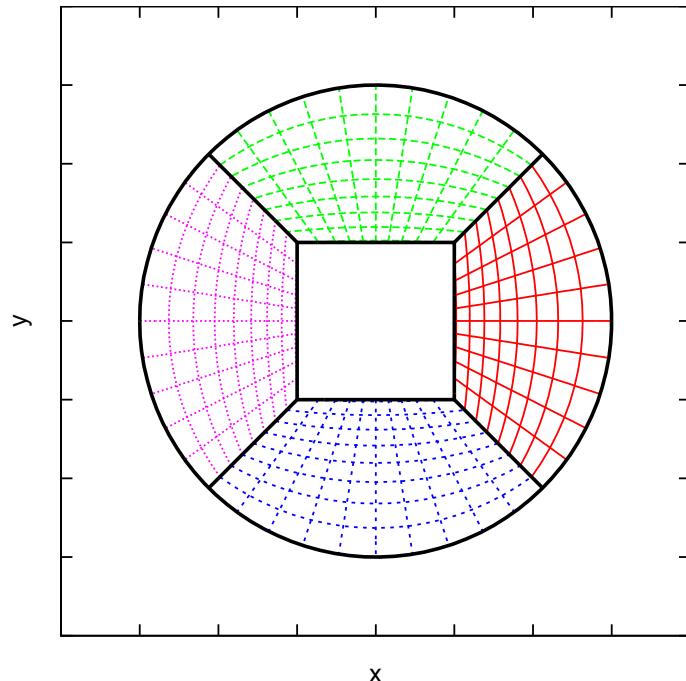
- surprisingly difficult due to enormous angular momentum radiation (up to 55%) (Washik et al 2008)
- upper limit of  $a/M \approx 0.82$  for this series ( $x = \pm 5$ ,  $P \in [0.1, 0.3]$ )
- gas accretion does not excite low  $\ell$  modes which carry angular momentum away

# Multi-Patch Finite Difference

binary BH inspiral using SpEC infrastructure (Pazos et al 2009)  
instead of pseudospectral (PS) use high-order finite difference (FD)

- excellent scaling due to box splitting method & communication through boundaries
  - ▷  $Y_{\ell m}$  basis for PS hard to parallelize
- memory issues
  - ▷ PS: very memory efficient, so store everything in memory
  - ▷ FD: much larger memory requirements

# Blocks

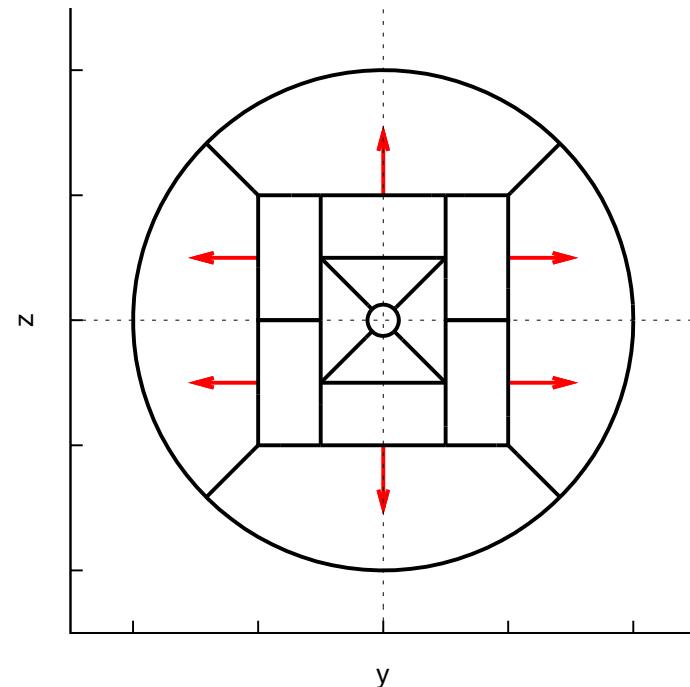
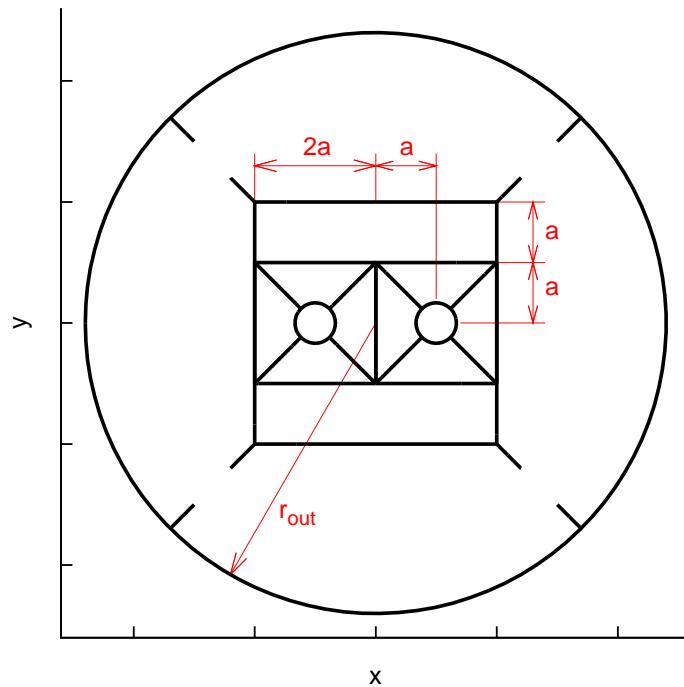


left shows inner juggling ball, right shows outer juggling ball

- minimum 6 blocks

for more CPUs: just **split blocks**

# Blocks

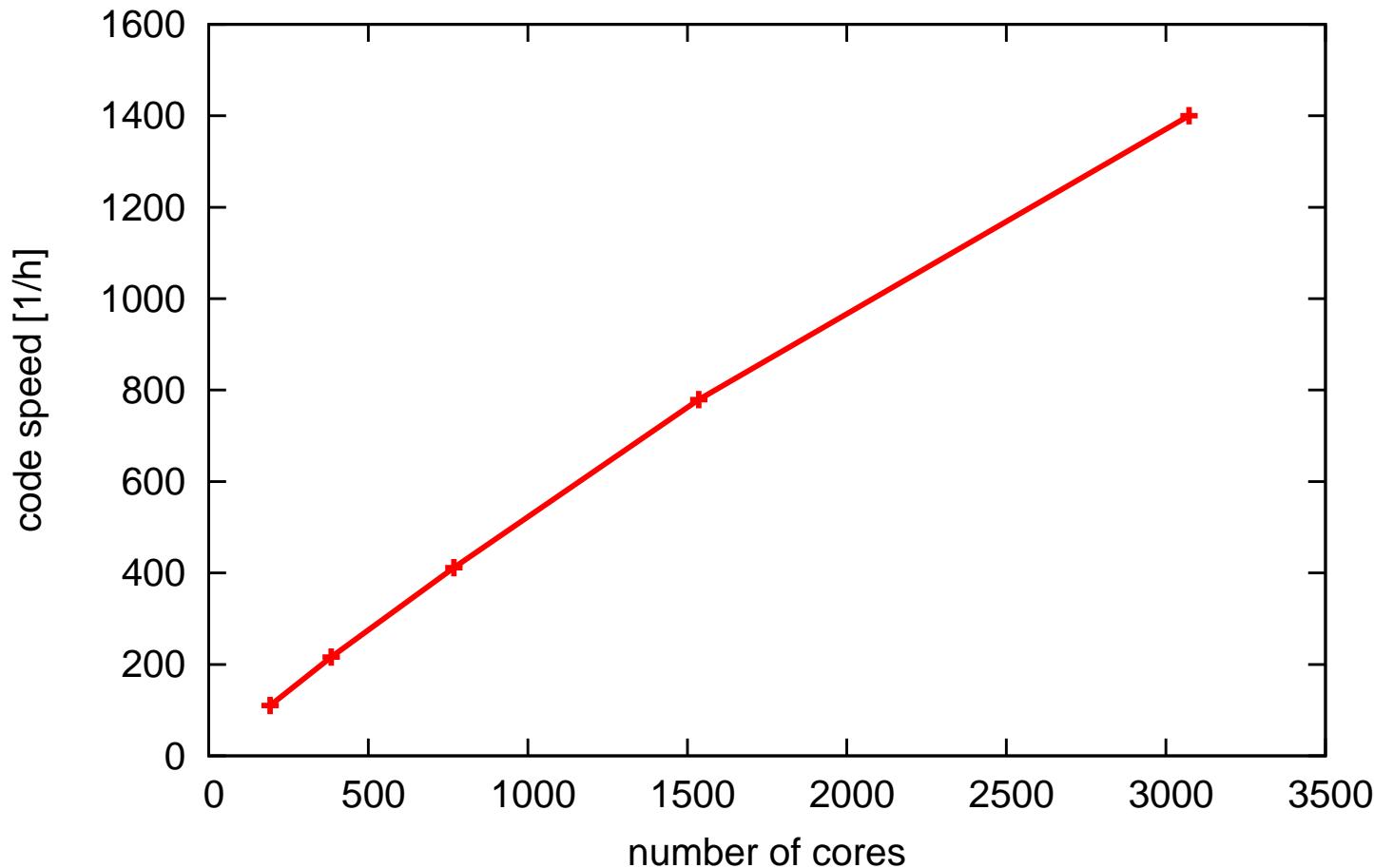


building up domain from multiple blocks

- $O(N)$  scaling of points in radial direction

24 basic **blocks**: actually used 192 & 384

# Strong Scaling



single bh is evolved on different number of CPUs (Pazos et al 2009)  
speed grows almost linearly

# Multi-Patch BH-NS Inspirals

work done mainly by Matt Duez & Enrique Pazos

BH-NS system

- one of the (very) few systems where  $T_{\mu\nu} \neq 0$  “for real”
- initial studies have been performed
- Duez et al 2009 used PS for  $g_{\mu\nu}$  and FD for  $T_{\mu\nu}$ 
  - ▷ technique pioneered by Dimmelmeier et al
  - ▷ best of all worlds (except for interpolation)

switch to full finite difference, i.e.  $g_{\mu\nu}$  too

- avoid interpolation
- currently able to run

# Graphics Processing Units - GPU

with Harald Pfeiffer & John Silberholz

GPU is chip on the graphics cards

GPU is a collection (240) of (fairly) slow compute units

aggregate performance over all is impressive

- 1 TFlops for GPU
- compare: currently typically 8 GFlops for single CPU core!

problems

- single-precision
  - ▷ paradox: care more about numerical method, but libraries often assume exact opposite
- fairly low memory per card → good for pseudospectral

started to work on implementation

# Conclusions

numerical relativity can provide **accurate** simulations

**template building** can be guided by these results

- aim for model, example EOB
- some of these models work extremely well, in-particular if **extra parameters** are introduced and fit by **comparison to NR**

recoil

- very large recoils now actively searched for

rich parameter space still needs much further exploration

**matter simulations** can profit from BH advances

- electro-magnetic fields in merger region. Palenzuela et al 2009
- gas flows in merger region (geodesics). van Meter et al 2009