

# Gravitational waves linearized about a spherically symmetric background

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- A non-dissipative fluid does not absorb energy
- If a GW propagates from  $r$  to  $r + \Delta$  through a dissipative medium with shear viscosity  $\eta$

$$(h_+, h_\times)(r + \Delta) = (h_+, h_\times)(r) \exp(-8\pi\eta\Delta)$$

in geometric units. Translating to SI units,

$$8\pi\eta\Delta = \frac{8\pi\eta\Delta G}{c^3} = 8\pi\eta\Delta \times 2.477 \times 10^{-36}$$

- Viscosity of common fluids range from  $10^{-3}\text{kg/m/s}$  (water) to  $10\text{kg/m/s}$  (syrup)
- Astrophysical viscosity values can be as high as  $10^{25}\text{kg/m/s}$  at the core of a supernova, but this occurs in a region of size at most  $10^5\text{m}$ .
- GWs have been observed from large distances  $\sim 1\text{Gpc} = 3.0857 \times 10^{25}\text{m}$ , but even so, an unreasonably large viscosity would be needed for significant damping.
- Thus, matter is commonly regarded as being transparent to GWs.

Coordinates are based on outgoing null hypersurfaces,  $(u, r, x^A)$ ;  $u$  labels the null hypersurface,  $r$  is a radial coordinate, and  $x^A$  are angular coordinates  $\theta, \phi$ . Then

$$ds^2 = - \left( e^{2\beta} (1 + W_c r) - r^2 h_{AB} U^A U^B \right) du^2 - 2e^{2\beta} du dr \\ - 2r^2 h_{AB} U^B du dx^A + r^2 h_{AB} dx^A dx^B .$$

Minkowski spacetime has  $W_c = \beta = U^A = 0$ ,  $h_{AB} = q_{AB}$  with  $q_{AB}$  a unit sphere metric,  $q_{AB} dx^A dx^B = d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2$ . We define perturbations

$$\beta = \Re \left( \beta^{[2,2]}(r) e^{i\nu u} \right) Z_{2,2}, \quad W_c = \Re \left( W_c^{[2,2]}(r) e^{i\nu u} \right) Z_{2,2}, \\ U = \Re \left( U^{[2,2]}(r) e^{i\nu u} \right) {}_1Z_{2,2}, \quad J = \Re \left( J^{[2,2]}(r) e^{i\nu u} \right) {}_2Z_{2,2},$$

where  $U = U^A q_A$ ,  $J = h^{AB} q^A q^B / 2$  with  $q_A = (1, i \sin \theta)$  and where  ${}_s Z_{2,2}$  are spin-weighted spherical harmonics. This “separation of variables” ansatz leads to the linearized Einstein equations reducing to ODEs in  $r$ .

- Solving  $R_{11} = 0$  gives  $\beta^{[2,2]}(r) = b_0$  constant.
- Eqs.  $q^A R_{1A} = 0$  and  $q^A q^B R_{AB} = 0$  are ODEs in  $U^{[2,2]}(r)$  and  $J^{[2,2]}(r)$ , and can be combined into a single master equation

$$x^4 \frac{d^2 J_2(x)}{dx^2} + 2x(2x^2 + i\nu x) \frac{dJ_2(x)}{dx} - 2(2x^2 + i\nu x) J_2(x) = 0,$$

where  $x = 1/r$  and  $J_2(x) = d^2 J(x)/dx^2$ . The solution is

$$J_2(x) = C_1 x + C_2 \exp\left(\frac{2i\nu}{x}\right) \left(3x - 6i\nu - 6\frac{\nu^2}{x} + 4\frac{i\nu^3}{x^2} + 2\frac{\nu^4}{x^3}\right).$$

- Integrating  $J_2(x)$  twice leads to expressions for  $J^{[2,2]}(r)$ ,  $U^{[2,2]}(r)$  involving 4 arbitrary constants.
- Integrating  $h^{AB} R_{AB} = 0$  leads to  $W_c^{[2,2]}(r)$  and introduces another integration constant.
- The solution involves 6 arbitrary constants, 2 of which are fixed using the constraint equations  $R_{00} = 0$ ,  $q^A R_{0A} = 0$ . Then the solution is<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>N.T. Bishop, Linearized solutions of the Einstein equations within a Bondi–Sachs framework, and implications for boundary conditions in numerical simulations, *Class. Quant. Grav.* **22** 2393–2406 (2005)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \beta^{[2,2]} &= b_0, \\
 W_c^{[2,2]} &= 4i\nu b_0 - 2\nu^4 C_{40} - 2\nu^2 C_{30} + \frac{4i\nu C_{30} - 2b_0 + 4i\nu^3 C_{40}}{r} \\
 &\quad + \frac{12\nu^2 C_{40}}{r^2} - \frac{12i\nu C_{40}}{r^3} - \frac{6C_{40}}{r^4} - C_{in0} \exp(2ir\nu) \frac{3}{r^4}, \\
 U^{[2,2]} &= \frac{\sqrt{6}(-2i\nu b_0 + \nu^4 C_{40} + \nu^2 C_{30})}{3} + \frac{2\sqrt{6}b_0}{r} + \frac{2\sqrt{6}C_{30}}{r^2} \\
 &\quad - \frac{4i\nu\sqrt{6}C_{40}}{r^4} - \frac{3\sqrt{6}C_{40}}{r^4} - C_{in0} \exp(2ir\nu) \sqrt{6} \left( i \frac{\nu}{r^3} - \frac{3}{2r^4} \right), \\
 J^{[2,2]} &= \frac{2\sqrt{6}(2b_0 + i\nu^3 C_{40} + i\nu C_{30})}{3} + \frac{2\sqrt{6}C_{30}}{r} + \frac{2\sqrt{6}C_{40}}{r^3} \\
 &\quad + C_{in0} \exp(2ir\nu) \sqrt{6} \left( \frac{1}{r^3} - 2i \frac{\nu}{r^2} - \frac{\nu^2}{r} \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

If there are no incoming GWs,  $C_{in0} = 0$ . Defining the rescaled GW strain by  $\mathcal{H}_0 = r(h_+ + ih_\times)$ , we find

$$\mathcal{H}_0 = \Re(H_0 \exp(i\nu u)) {}_2Z_{2,2} \text{ with } H_0 = -2\sqrt{6}\nu^2 C_{40}.$$

$C_{40}$  is determined by the physics, and  $b_0, C_{30}$  are gauge freedoms.

# The model: GW source surrounded by a spherical matter shell

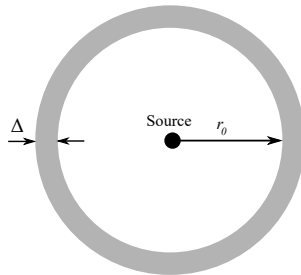


Figure: GW source inside a spherical shell of mass  $M_S$  between  $r = r_0$  and  $r = r_0 + \Delta$ .

- Construct solutions (a) Exterior to the shell, (b) Within the shell, and (c) Interior to the shell.
- Enforce continuity of the metric and first derivatives at the boundaries of the shell, and so construct a complete solution.

$$H = H_0 \left[ 1 + \frac{2M_S}{r_0} - \frac{iM_S\lambda}{r_0^2\pi} + \frac{iM_S\lambda e^{-4ir_0\pi/\lambda}}{4r_0^2\pi} + \dots \right].$$

Each of the terms containing  $M_S$  represents a correction to the wave strain in the absence of the shell.

- The first correction,  $2M_S/r_0$  represents the (well-known) gravitational red-shift effect.
- The second correction term,  $iM_S\lambda/(\pi r_0^2)$ , is out of phase with the leading terms  $1 + 2M_S/r_0$  and hence represents a phase shift of the GW without changing the GW energy.
- The third correction term represents a partial reflection of the GW by the shell, and leads to the possibility of a matter shell causing a GW echo.

- There has been previous work on whether the astrophysical environment might modify a GW signal including the possibility of an echo<sup>2</sup>
- It has been proposed that GW echoes are observed in LIGO data of GW150914<sup>3</sup>, but this suggestion is not widely accepted.
- Could a matter shell have produced the suggested echo? It was at 0.3s after merger, so the shell would have a radius of 45,000km. The magnitude of the echo was about 0.0992 times the original signal. Using 132Hz for the frequency, gives  $M_5 \approx 740,000 M_\odot$ . Such a mass within a radius of 45,000km would constitute a black hole, so the scenario of an echo caused by a shell can be discounted for GW150914.
- A much smaller shell radius would avoid an unreasonably large shell mass, but the effect would be seen as modifying the original signal, rather than an echo.
- The magnitude of the echo term can be written

$$\frac{2M_5}{r_0} \times \frac{\lambda}{8\pi r_0}$$

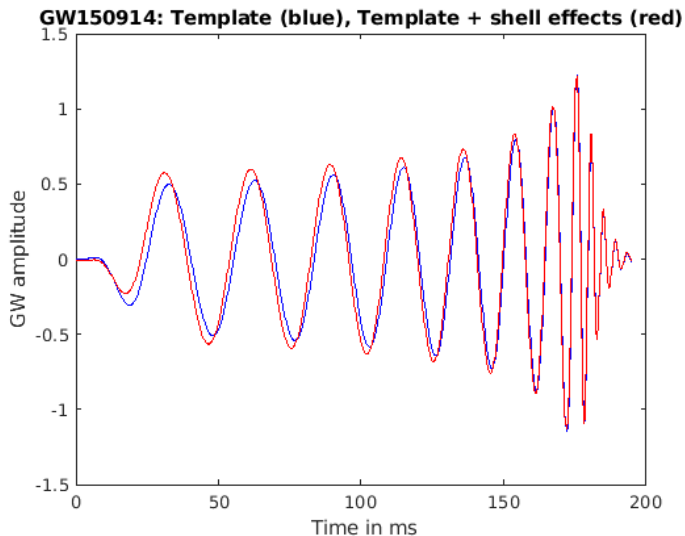
where  $\lambda$  is the wavelength

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<sup>2</sup>E.g., Barausse, E., Cardoso, V., Pani, P.: Can environmental effects spoil precision gravitational-wave astrophysics? Phys. Rev. D **89**(10), 104059 (2014). Konoplya, R.A., Stuchlík, Z., Zhidenko, A.: Echoes of compact objects: new physics near the surface and matter at a distance. Phys. Rev. D **99**, 024007 (2019)

<sup>3</sup>Abedi, J., Dykaar, H., Afshordi, N.: Echoes from the Abyss: tentative evidence for Planck-scale structure at black hole horizons. Phys. Rev. D **96**(8), 082004 (2017)





**Figure:** The effect of a matter shell of radius 900km and mass  $60M_{\odot}$  on the signal of GW150914. The original signal is in blue, and the original signal plus modifications is in red.

Making the usual separation of variables, i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{11} &= \Re(\sigma_{11}^{[2,2]}(r)e^{i\nu u})_0 Z_{2,2}, \quad q^A \sigma_{1A} = \Re(\sigma_{1U}^{[2,2]}(r)e^{i\nu u})_1 Z_{2,2}, \\ q^{AB} \sigma_{AB} &= \Re(\sigma_W^{[2,2]}(r)e^{i\nu u})_0 Z_{2,2}, \quad q^A q^B \sigma_{AB} = \Re(\sigma_J^{[2,2]}(r)e^{i\nu u})_2 Z_{2,2}.\end{aligned}$$

we find

$$\begin{aligned}\theta &= \sigma_{00} = \sigma_{01} = \sigma_{0A} = 0, \\ -\sigma_{11}^{[2,2]} &= \sigma_W^{[2,2]} = 12C_{40} \frac{3i - 3r\nu - ir^2\nu^2}{r^5\nu} \\ \sigma_{1U}^{[2,2]} &= 2C_{40} \frac{6i - 6r\nu - 3ir^2\nu^2 + r^3\nu^3}{r^4\nu} \\ \sigma_J^{[2,2]} &= C_{40} \frac{-3 - 3ir\nu + 3r^2\nu^2 + 2ir^3\nu^3 - r^4\nu^4}{r^3\nu}.\end{aligned}$$

We use the formula that the rate of energy loss per unit volume is  $-2\eta\sigma_{ab}\sigma^{ab}$ . This quantity is evaluated, then integrated over a shell of radius  $r$  and thickness  $\Delta$ ; the integration is straightforward because of the orthonormality of the angular basis functions. We find that the average rate of energy loss to the shell is

$$\langle \dot{E}_\eta \rangle = -12\eta C_{40}^2 \nu^6 \Delta \left( 1 + \frac{2}{r^2 \nu^2} + \frac{9}{r^4 \nu^4} + \frac{45}{r^6 \nu^6} + \frac{315}{r^8 \nu^8} \right),$$

where  $\langle f \rangle$  denotes the average of  $f(u)$  over a wave period, i.e.

$$\langle f \rangle = \frac{\nu}{2\pi} \int_0^{\frac{2\pi}{\nu}} f dt,$$

and where we have used  $\langle \cos^2(\nu u) \rangle = \langle \sin^2(\nu u) \rangle = 1/2$  and  $\langle \cos(\nu u) \sin(\nu u) \rangle = 0$ .

The rate of energy output as GWs is

$$\langle \dot{E}_{GW} \rangle = \frac{3C_{40}^2 \nu^6}{4\pi},$$

so that

$$\langle \dot{E}_\eta \rangle = -16\pi\eta\Delta \langle \dot{E}_{GW} \rangle \left( 1 + \frac{2}{r^2\nu^2} + \frac{9}{r^4\nu^4} + \frac{45}{r^6\nu^6} + \frac{315}{r^8\nu^8} \right).$$

Energy conservation means that energy absorbed by the viscous fluid is balanced by a reduction in the GW energy. Thus

$$\langle \dot{E}_{GW} \rangle(r + \Delta) = \langle \dot{E}_{GW} \rangle(r) \times \left[ 1 - 16\pi\eta\Delta \left( 1 + \frac{2}{r^2\nu^2} + \frac{9}{r^4\nu^4} + \frac{45}{r^6\nu^6} + \frac{315}{r^8\nu^8} \right) \right].$$

$H$  represents the magnitude of the GWs, and  $\langle \dot{E}_{GW} \rangle \propto H^2$

$$H(r + \Delta) = H(r) \left[ 1 - 8\pi\eta\Delta \left( 1 + \frac{2}{r^2\nu^2} + \frac{9}{r^4\nu^4} + \frac{45}{r^6\nu^6} + \frac{315}{r^8\nu^8} \right) \right].$$

The resulting differential equation is solved to give

$$H(r) = C \exp \left( -8\pi\eta \left( r - \frac{2}{r\nu^2} - \frac{3}{r^3\nu^4} - \frac{9}{r^5\nu^6} - \frac{45}{r^7\nu^8} \right) \right),$$

where  $C$  is a constant.

There are two useful special cases. Let  $r_i, r_o$  be the inner and outer radii of the shell. If  $r_i, r_o$  are much larger than the wavelength  $\lambda$  of the GWs, then

$$H(r_o) = H(r_i) \exp(-8\pi\eta(r_o - r_i)) .$$

Equivalent results have been given before<sup>4</sup>. If  $r_i$  is much smaller than the wavelength of the GWs with  $r_o = \alpha r_i$  with  $\alpha > 1$  then


$$H(r_o) = H(r_i) \exp\left(-\frac{360\pi\eta}{r_i^7 \nu^8} (1 - \alpha^{-7})\right) = H(r_i) \exp\left(-\frac{45\eta\lambda^8}{32r_i^7 \pi^7} (1 - \alpha^{-7})\right) .$$

As  $r_o \rightarrow \infty$ , this reduces to

$$H(r_o) = H(r_i) \exp\left(-\frac{45\eta\lambda^8}{32r_i^7 \pi^7}\right) ,$$

but the damping effect is reduced by only a little for a shell of finite thickness. For example,  $(1 - \alpha^{-7})$  is 0.99 for  $\alpha = 2$  and is 0.5 for  $\alpha = 1.104$ .

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<sup>4</sup>E.g., S.W. Hawking, Perturbations of an expanding universe, *Astrophys. J.* **145**, 544 (1966) 

- Energy lost by GWs = Energy gained by viscous fluid.
- The calculation of changes to the temperature  $T$  needs following physical parameters
  - Specific heat capacity  $C$
  - Density  $\rho$
  - Energy of GWs  $\Delta E_{GW}$
- Let

$$\psi = \frac{2\pi r}{\lambda}$$

- Then

$$T - T_0 = \frac{2G\eta\Delta E_{GW}}{r^2 c^3 C\rho} [D_0 Y_{0,0} + D_2 Y_{2,0} + D_4 Y_{4,0}]$$

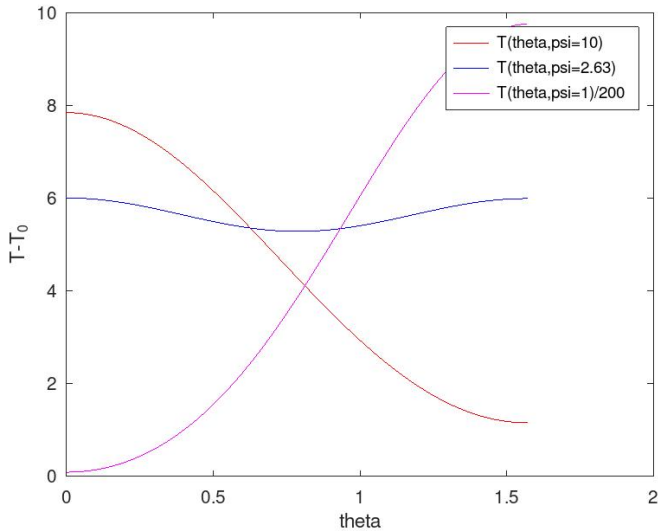
with  $D_0, D_2, D_4$  having the same functional form

- When there is good heat flow in the shell, or if the GW signal is on average isotropic, then

$$T - T_0 = \frac{2G\eta\Delta E_{GW}}{r^2 c^3 C\rho} D_0 Y_{0,0} = \frac{2G\eta\Delta E_{GW}}{r^2 c^3 C\rho} \left( \frac{315}{\psi^8} + \frac{45}{\psi^6} + \frac{9}{\psi^4} + \frac{2}{\psi^2} + 1 \right)$$

- For large  $r$ ,  $T - T_0$  falls off as  $r^{-2}$ , but for small  $r/\lambda$  fall-off goes as  $r^{-10}$ .

# The heating effect as a function of $\theta$ for different $\psi = 2\pi r/\lambda$





- The de Sitter metric is  $ds^2 = -dt^2 + A^2 e^{2\alpha t} (d\rho^2 + \rho^2 d\Omega^2)$ , where  $\alpha = \sqrt{\Lambda/3}$  with  $\Lambda$  being the cosmological constant.
- In Bondi-Sachs coordinates,

$$ds^2 = -du^2(1 - r^2\alpha^2) - 2dudr + r^2 d\Omega^2.$$

- Construction of the Einstein equations leads to a master equation (when  $\ell = 2$ )

$$x^2(x^2 - \alpha^2) \frac{d^2 J_2(x)}{dx^2} + 2x(2x^2 + i\nu x + \alpha^2) \frac{dJ_2(x)}{dx} - 2(2x^2 + i\nu x + \alpha^2) J_2(x) = 0,$$

where  $x = 1/r$  and  $J_2(x) = d^2 J(x)/dx^2$ .

- This equation has a simple solution representing outgoing GWs,  $J_2(x) = x$ , which also applies in the Minkowski case. The solution for incoming GWs is a complicated function involving  $\alpha$ .
- Modifications to the GW field are significant when  $\alpha r \gtrsim 1$ , i.e.  $r \gtrsim 5\text{Gpc}$ .

Making the ansatz of a small perturbation about Schwarzschild spacetime leads to

$$\beta = \Re(\beta^{[2,2]}(r)e^{i\nu u})_0 Z_{2,2}, \quad U = \Re(U^{[2,2]}(r)e^{i\nu u})_1 Z_{2,2},$$

$$W_c = -\frac{2M}{r^2} + \Re(W_c^{[2,2]}(r)e^{i\nu u})_0 Z_{2,2}, \quad J = \Re(J^{[2,2]}(r)e^{i\nu u})_2 Z_{2,2}.$$

Manipulation of the Einstein vacuum equations leads to a master equation

$$-2J_2(2x + 8Mx^2 + i\nu) + 2\frac{dJ_2}{dx} (2x^2 + i\nu x - 7x^3 M) + x^3(1 - 2xM)\frac{d^2 J_2}{dx^2} = 0$$

where  $J_2(x) \equiv d^2 J^{[2,2]}/dx^2$  and  $x = 1/r$ . In the Minkowski background case  $M = 0$ , there is a simple analytic solution

$$J_2(x) = b_1 x + b_2 \exp\left(\frac{2i\nu}{x}\right) \left(3x - 6i\nu - \frac{6\nu^2}{x} + \frac{4i\nu^3}{x^2} + \frac{2\nu^4}{x^3}\right),$$

where  $b_1, b_2$  are integration constants; further, if there are no incoming GWs, then  $b_2 = 0$  and the various metric terms  $J^{[2,2]}(r)$  simplify to polynomials in  $1/r$ . **However**, in the Schwarzschild case  $M \neq 0$ , it is not possible to solve the master equation analytically, and construction of a numerical solution is not straightforward since the differential equation has an essential singularity at  $x = 0$ .

- Let  $S_N = \sum_{n=1}^N a_n x^n$  denote a partial series solution about  $x = 0$ , then it can be shown that, given  $\epsilon > 0$ , values for  $x_0, N$  can be determined such that<sup>5</sup>

$$\left| J_2(x) - \sum_{n=1}^N a_n x^n \right| < \epsilon \quad \forall x \text{ with } 0 < x \leq x_0.$$

- Choose  $\epsilon = 10^{-16}$  (machine precision), and construct boundary data  $J_2(x_0)$ ,  $\partial_x J_2(x_0)$  for the numerical integration of the master equation in  $x_0 \leq x \leq 0.25$ .
- Construct metric quantities  $J^{[2,2]}(r)$ ,  $U^{[2,2]}(r)$ ,  $W_c^{[2,2]}(r)$ ,  $\beta^{[2,2]}(r)$  with all integration constants set to 0. Let  $R_{00}^{[0]}$ ,  $R_{0A}^{[0]}$  be the resulting components of the Ricci tensor. Then we use the constraint equations to write

$$R_{00} : C_{30} 6i\nu \left( \frac{2}{r^2} + \frac{3M}{r^3} \right) + C_{50} \left( \frac{i\nu}{r^2} - \frac{3}{r^3} \right) + R_{00}^{[0]} = 0$$

$$q^A R_{0A} : C_{30} \frac{3i\nu M \sqrt{6}}{r^2} - C_{50} \frac{\sqrt{6}}{2r^2} + q^A R_{0A}^{[0]} = 0,$$

and find values of  $C_{30}, C_{50}$  that minimize the square of the error over the numerical grid in the range  $x_0 \leq x \leq 0.25$ .

<sup>5</sup>F. Olver, *Asymptotics and special functions* (Academic Press, New York, 1974)

In the  $M = 0$  case, there are analytic formulas for the metric coefficients. The maximum of the absolute value of the error for each of these quantities is

Quantity	$\ \text{Error}\ _\infty$
$J$	$5.3 \times 10^{-10}$
$U$	$1.6 \times 10^{-9}$
$W_c$	$1.7 \times 10^{-9}$
$f_E$	$2.5 \times 10^{-8}$

In the  $M = 1$  case, the numerical solutions obtained are substituted into the left hand side of the Einstein equations, and we evaluate the maximum of the absolute value

Quantity	$\ \text{Error}\ _\infty$
$q^A R_{1A}$	$7.8 \times 10^{-15}$
$h^{AB} R_{AB}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-15}$
$q^A q^B R_{AB}$	$4.1 \times 10^{-14}$
$R_{01}$	$4.7 \times 10^{-16}$
$R_{00}$	$6.8 \times 10^{-10}$
$q^A R_{0A}$	$6.4 \times 10^{-10}$

- Having found the metric, it is then straightforward to find the velocity field and then the shear tensor  $\sigma_{ab}$ . The rate of energy loss per unit volume  $-2\eta\sigma_{ab}\sigma^{ab}$  is found, leading to

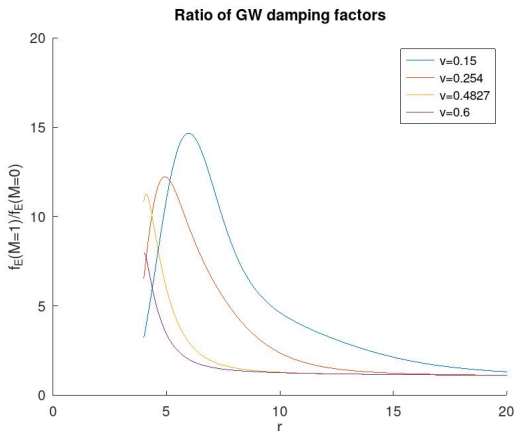
$$\langle \dot{E}_S \rangle = -16\pi\eta \frac{G}{c^3} \delta r \langle \dot{E}_{GW} \rangle f_E(r, \nu, M),$$

where  $\langle \dot{E}_S \rangle$  is the time-averaged rate of energy increase to a spherical shell of radius  $r$  and thickness  $\delta r$ . We compute

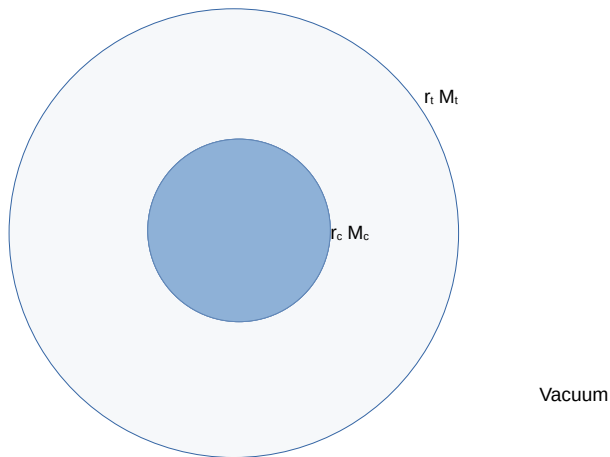
$$\frac{f_E(r, \nu, M)}{f_E(r, \nu, 0)}$$

with  $f_E(r, \nu, 0)$  known analytically and  $f_E(r, \nu, M)$  evaluated numerically.

# The damping/heating effects on a Schwarzschild background



Using a Minkowski background underestimates the damping/heating effect.



- The model comprises a core of radius  $r_c$  and mass  $M_c$  inside a matter distribution of variable density. The total mass is  $M_t$  and  $r > r_t$  is vacuum.
- The background metric is

$$ds^2 = -(1 + W_c^{[B]} r) \exp(2B^{[B]}) du^2 - 2 \exp(2B^{[B]}) du dr + q_{AB} dx^A dx^B$$

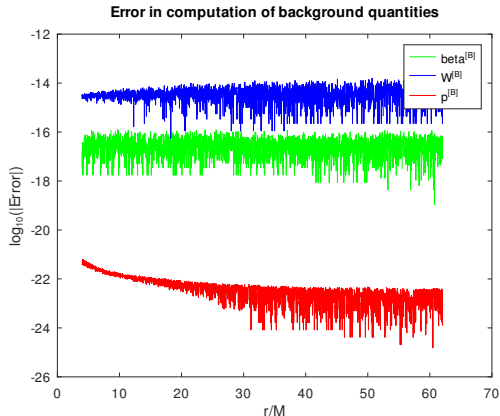
and the background matter fields are the density  $\rho^{[B]}$  and the pressure  $p^{[B]}$ , with the density being regarded as given. Then the Einstein equations together with the conservation conditions  $\nabla_a T^{ab} = 0$  lead to a system of ODEs in  $\partial_r \beta^{[B]}$ ,  $\partial_r W_c^{[B]}$  and  $\partial_r p^{[B]}$

- The system is integrated numerically inwards from  $r_t$  to  $r_c$  using the Schwarzschild metric as boundary conditions at  $r = r_t$  (i.e.,  $B^{[B]} = 0$ ,  $W_c^{[B]} = -2M_t r_t^2$ ,  $p^{[B]} = 0$ ).



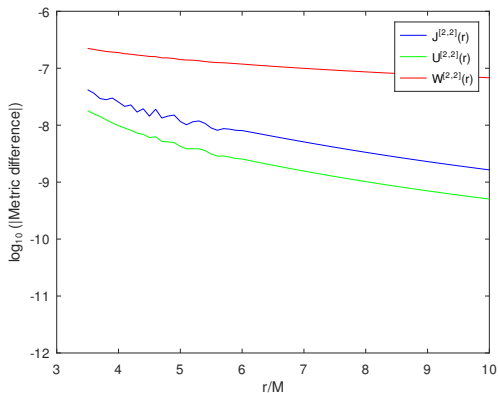
- The ansatz of metric perturbations on the background metric in the Einstein equations does not lead to a master equation, but instead to a coupled system of 5 first-order ODEs in the variables  $J^{[2,2]}(r)$ ,  $\partial_r J^{[2,2]}(r)$ ,  $U^{[2,2]}(r)$ ,  $\partial_r U^{[2,2]}(r)$  and  $W_c^{[2,2]}(r)$ .
- The system is solved numerically using the perturbed Schwarzschild solution to provide boundary data at  $r = r_t$  to find the solution in  $r_c \leq r \leq r_t$ .
- Then, as before, we find the velocity field, shear  $\sigma_{ab}$  and the quantity  $f_E$ .

# Code test against exact Schwarzschild interior solution

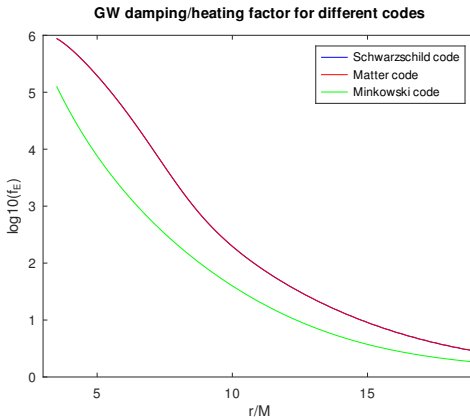


**Figure:** The matter code is run with  $\rho^{[B]} = \text{constant}$  and then, using the exact Schwarzschild interior solution, the errors in  $\beta^{[B]}$ ,  $W^{[B]}$ ,  $p^{[B]}$  are plotted on a  $\log_{10}$  scale against  $r/M$ .

Differences: Schwarzschild code, and matter code with negligible shell mass



**Figure:** The differences on a  $\log_{10}$  scale in  $J^{[2,2]}$ ,  $U^{[2,2]}$ ,  $W^{[2,2]}$  as calculated using the Schwarzschild code and the matter code with negligible shell density,  $\nu = 0.2549$  (which is 132Hz for  $M = 62M_{\odot}$ )



**Figure:** Plots of  $f_E$  on a  $\log_{10}$  scale with  $\nu = 0.2549$  computed by Schwarzschild code, matter code with negligible shell density, and Minkowski code.

When the GW wavelength  $\gg$  shell radius

- Measurable changes occur when GWs pass through a dust shell.
- If the shell is viscous, then GW damping and heating occur.
- The effects are enhanced when the background is Schwarzschild-like and  $r/M$  is not large.
- GW damping and heating can be astrophysically significant for
  - Core collapse supernova
  - Matter around merging black holes
  - Binary neutron star system post-merger
  - Primordial GWs from the inflationary era.

**Key point:** GW interactions with matter have long been regarded as being too small to be significant, but that may not be the case when  $\lambda \gg r_i$ .

THANK YOU

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