

# Black-hole binary systems as GW source

*Ulrich Sperhake*

California Institute of Technology

CALTECH



Astro-GR meeting  
Barcelona, Sep 7<sup>th</sup> – Sep 11<sup>th</sup> 2009

# Overview

- Motivation
- Introduction
- Ingredients of numerical relativity
- Results
  - ▶ A brief history of BH simulations
  - ▶ Results following the recent breakthrough
- Summary

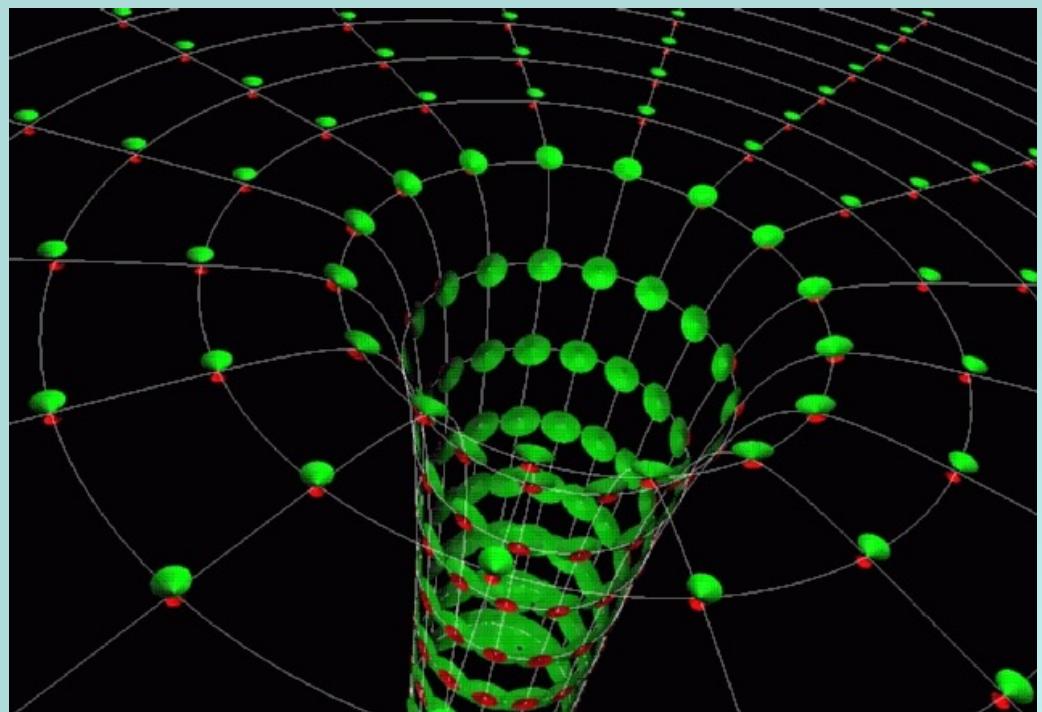
## **1. Motivation**

# Black Holes predicted by GR

- Black holes predicted by Einstein's theory of relativity
- Term “Black hole” by John A. Wheeler 1960s
- Vacuum solutions with a singularity
- For a long time: mathematical curiosity
  - ▶ valuable insight into theory
  - ▶ but real objects in the universe?
- That picture has changed dramatically!

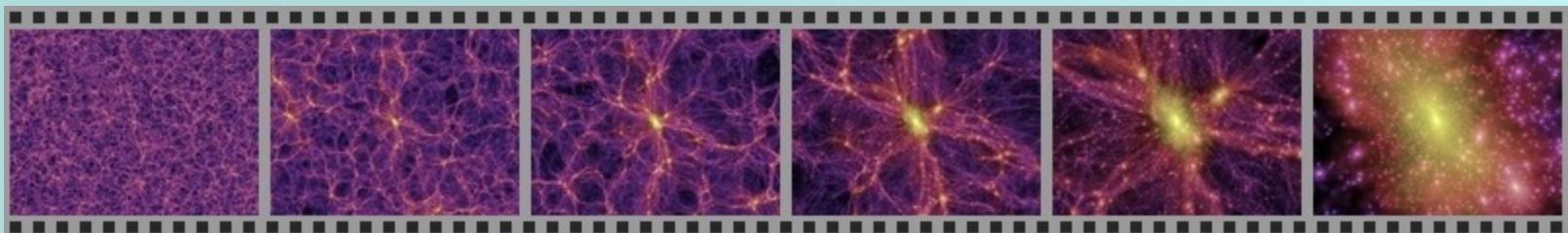
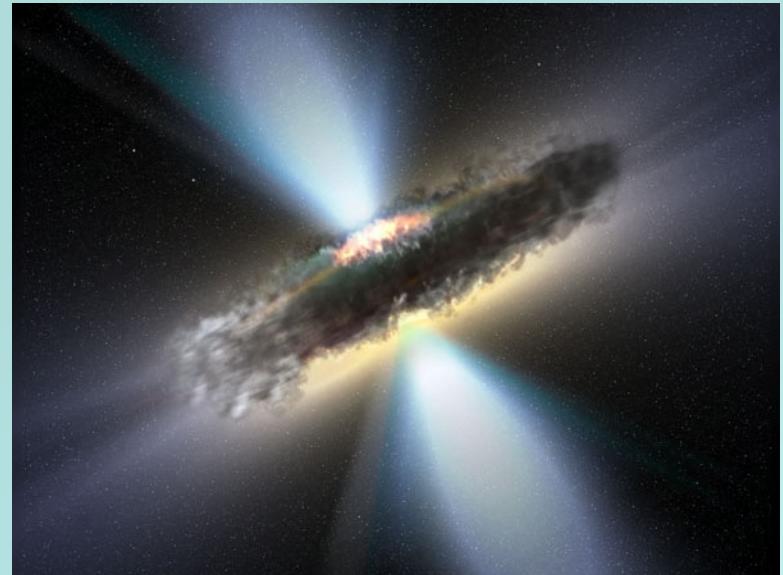
# How to characterize a black hole?

- Consider light cones
- Outgoing, ingoing light
- Calculate surface area of outgoing light
- Expansion:=Rate of change of that area
- Apparent horizon:= Outermost surface with zero expansion
- “Light cones tip over” due to curvature



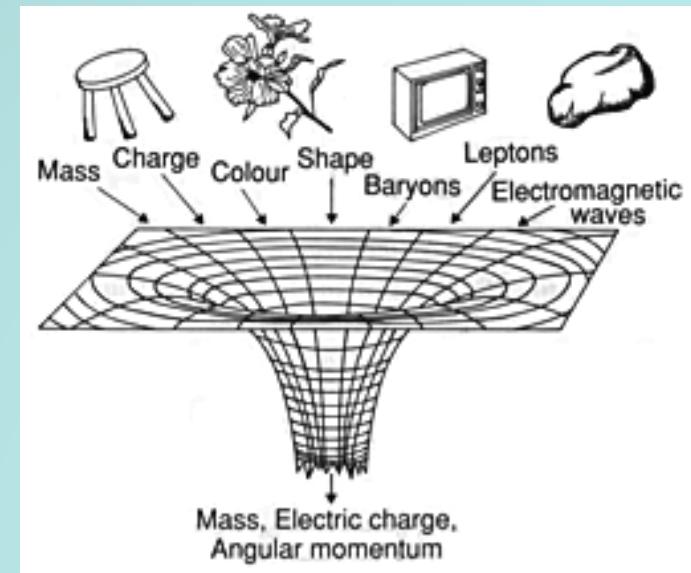
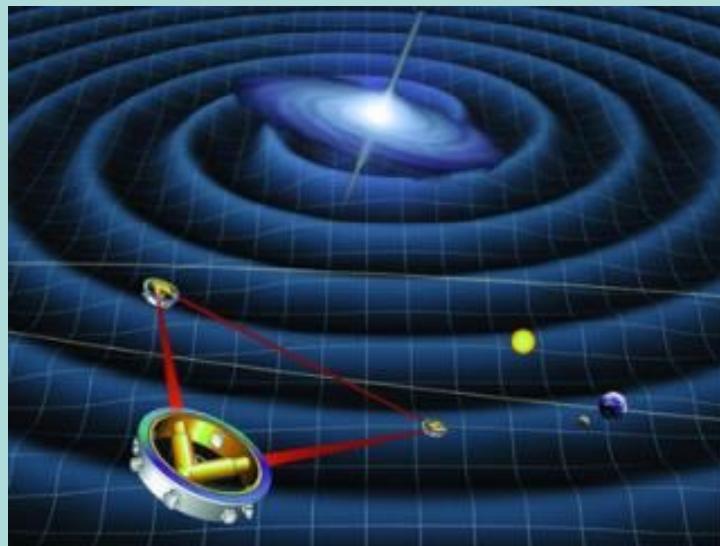
# Black Holes in astrophysics

- Black holes are important in astrophysics
  - ▶ Black holes found at centers of galaxies
  - ▶ Structure of galaxies
  - ▶ Important sources of electromagnetic radiation
  - ▶ Structure formation in the early universe



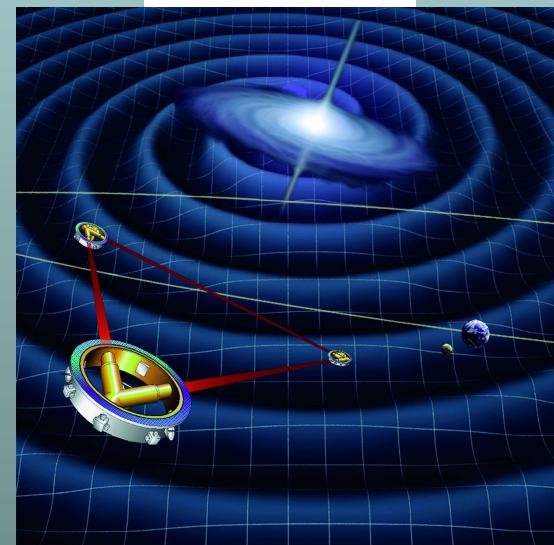
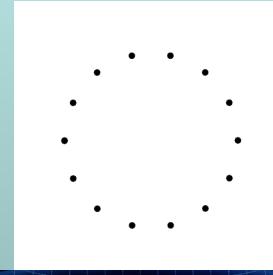
# Fundamental physics of black holes

- Allow for unprecedented tests of fundamental physics
  - ▶ Strongest sources of Gravitational Waves (GWs)
  - ▶ Test alternative theories of gravity
  - ▶ No-hair theorem of GR
  - ▶ Production in Accelerators



# Gravitational wave (GW) physics

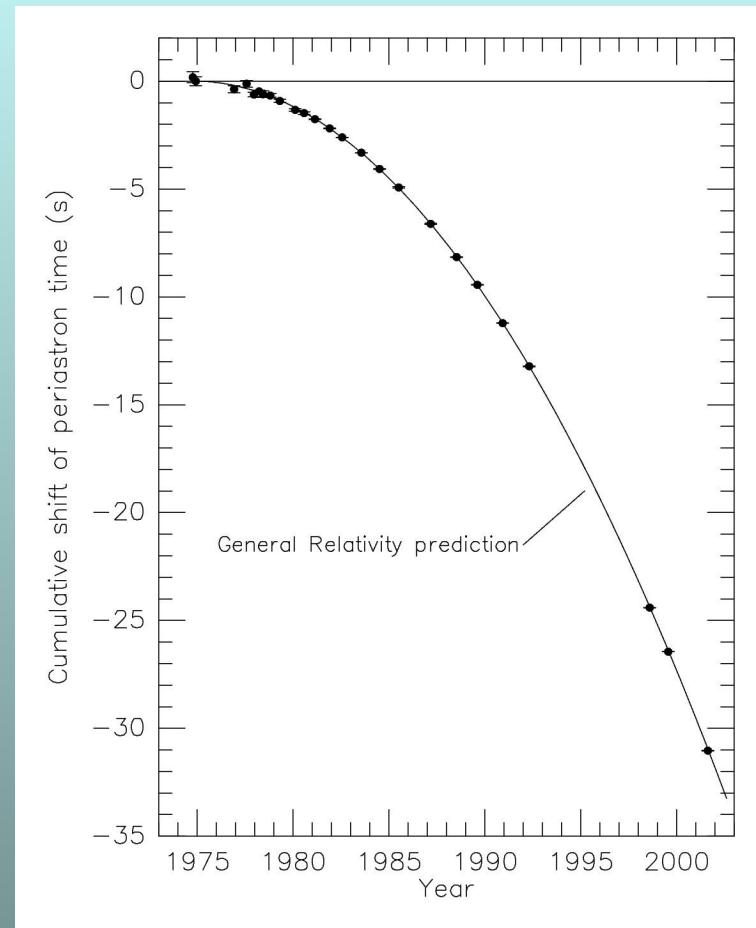
- Einstein  $\Rightarrow$  GWs; Analog of electromagnetic waves
- Strongest source: coalescing black holes
- GWs  $\Rightarrow$  change in separation  
< Atomic nucleus over 1 km



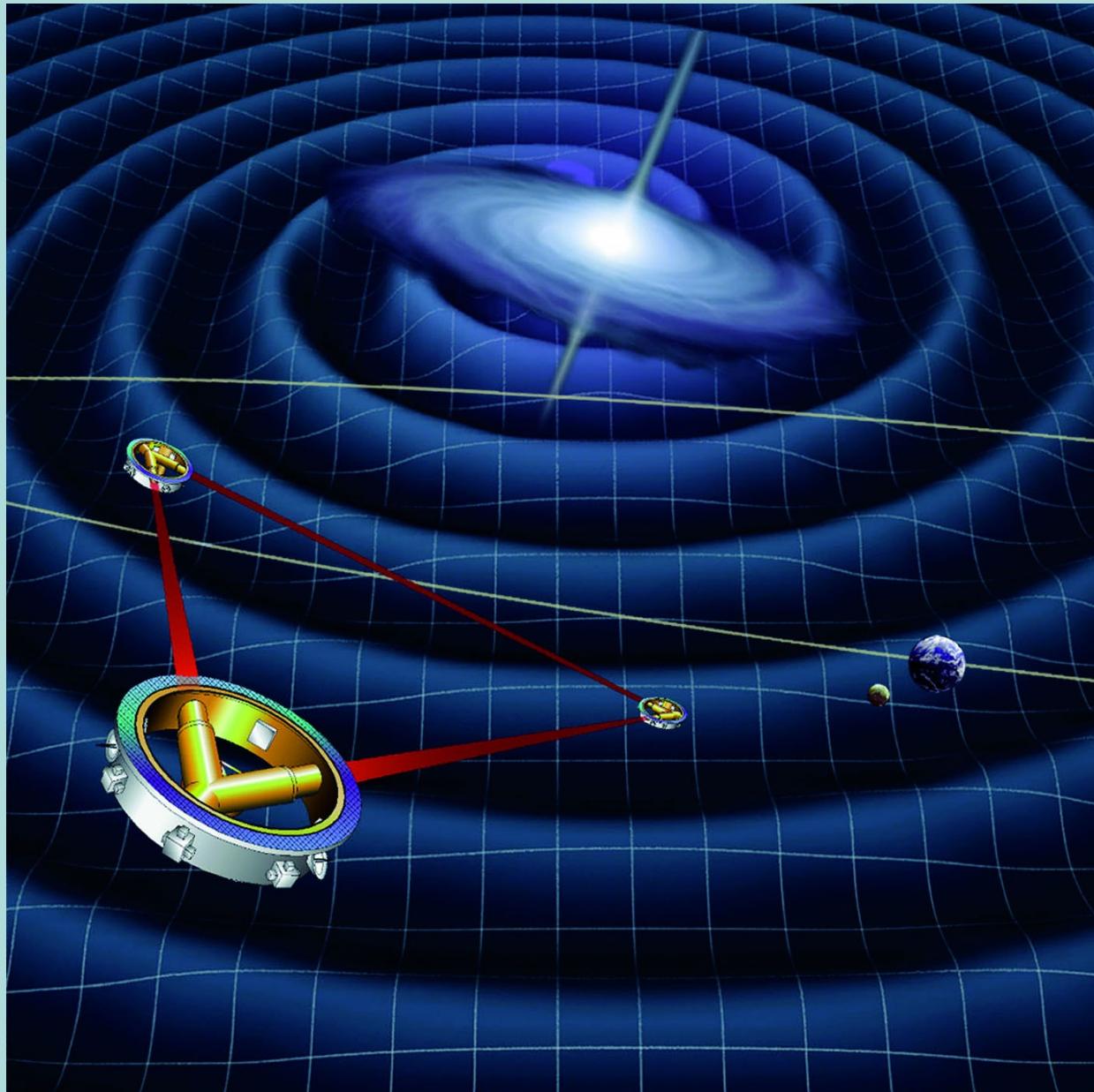
- Latest laser technology: GEO600, LIGO, TAMA, VIRGO
- Space mission: LISA

# Targets of GW physics

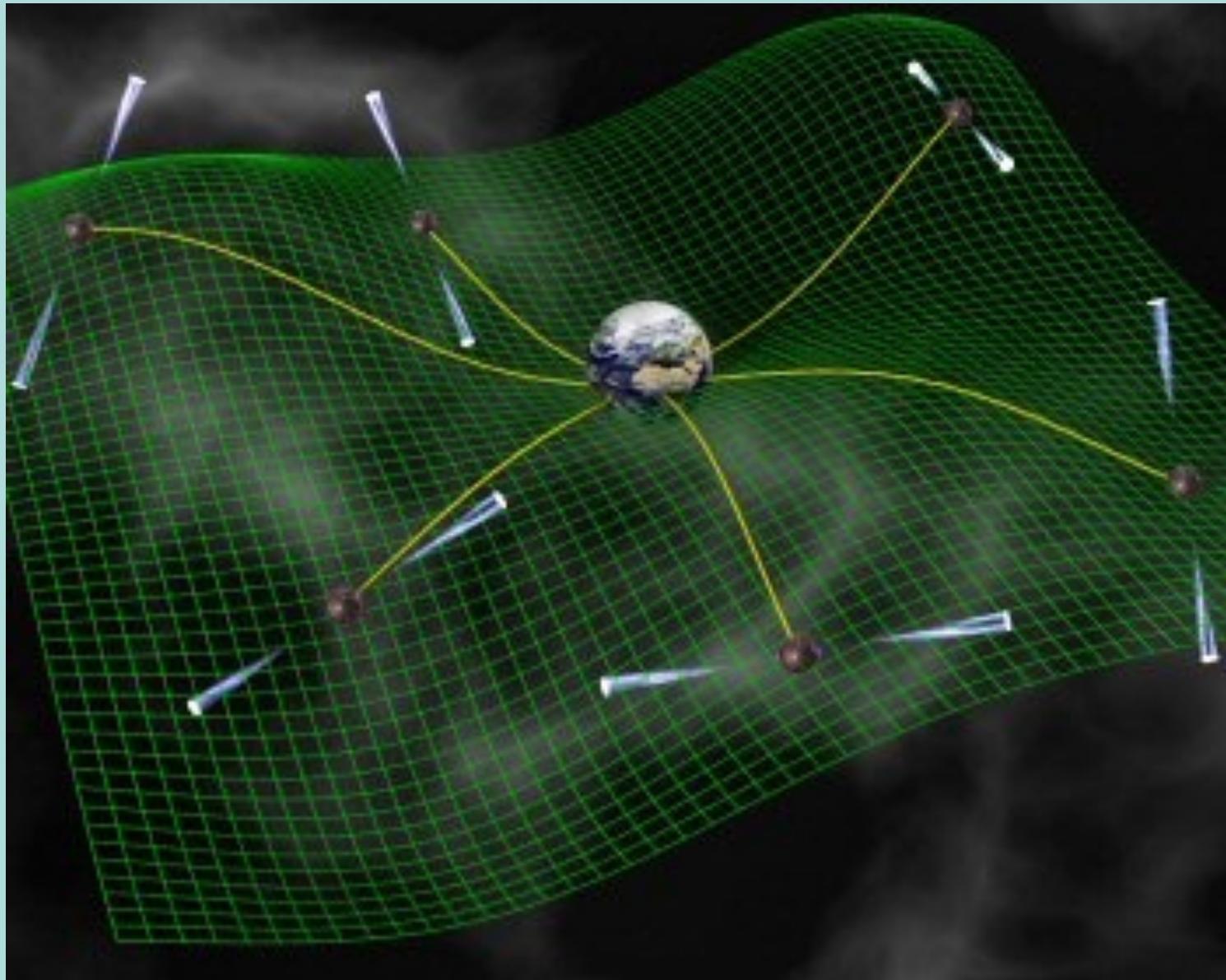
- Confirmation of GR  
Hulse & Taylor 1993 Nobel Prize
- Parameter estimation of black holes  $M, S$
- Optical counterparts
  - ▶ Standard sirens (candles)
  - ▶ Graviton mass
- Test the Kerr nature
- Cosmological sources
- Neutron stars: Equation of state
- Waveforms crucial for detection and parameter estimation



# Space interferometer LISA

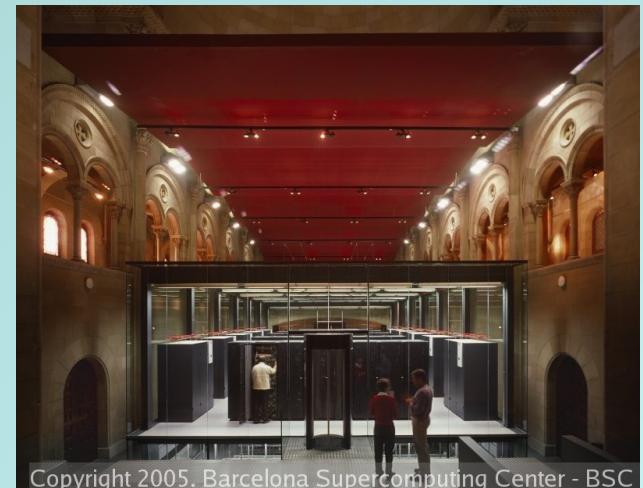
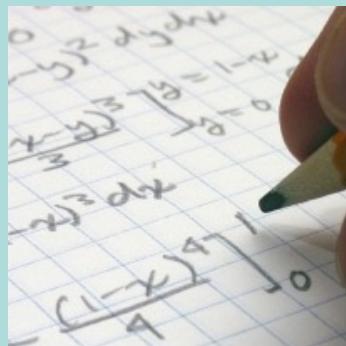


# Pulsar timing arrays

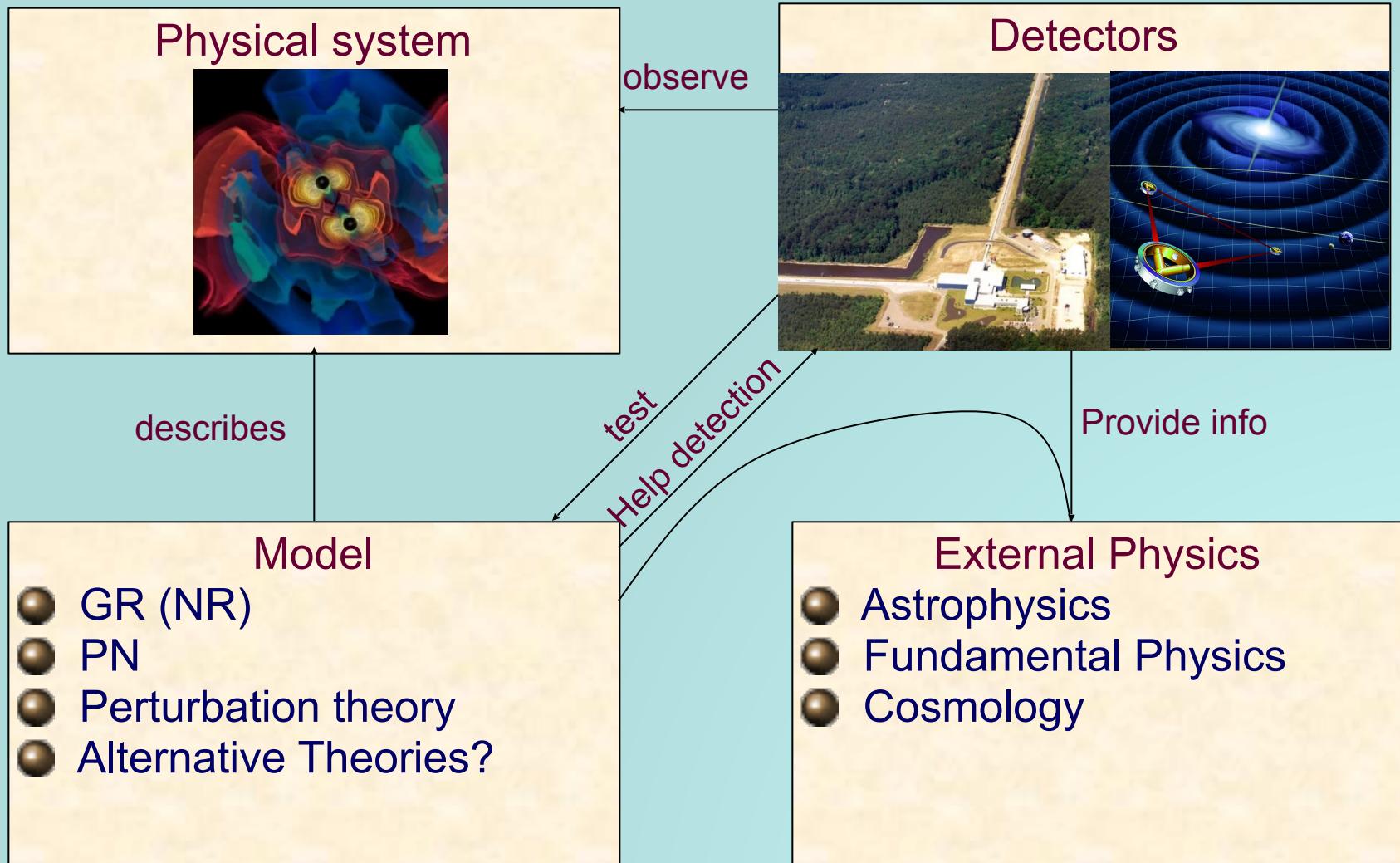


# Modelling of black-hole binaries

- Analytic solutions for dynamic systems: **Hopeless!!!**
- Modelling:
  - ▶ Approximation theories (PN, Perturbation theory,...)
  - ▶ Numerical Relativity (this talk!)
- Strength and weaknesses
  - Appr.: **efficient**, **approximative**, **works?**, **available**
  - NR: **slow**, **“exact theory”**, **works**, **availability?**
- Good GW modeling uses both!



# The big picture



## 2. The basics of numerical relativity

# A list of tasks

- Target: Predict time evolution of BBH in GR
- Einstein equations:
  - ▶ Cast as evolution system
  - ▶ Choose specific formulation
  - ▶ Discretize for Computer
- Choose coordinate conditions: Gauge
- Fix technical aspects:
  - ▶ Mesh-refinement / spectral domains
  - ▶ Excision
  - ▶ Parallelization
  - ▶ Find large computer
- Construct realistic initial data
- Start evolution and wait...
- Extract physics from the data

## 2.1. The Einstein equations

# Theoretical framework of GW course modeling

- Description of spacetime

Metric  $g_{\alpha\beta}$

- Field equations:  $G_{\alpha\beta}(g_{\alpha\beta}, \partial g_{\alpha\beta}, \partial^2 g_{\alpha\beta}) = 8\pi T_{\alpha\beta}$

MTW: “Spacetime tells matter how to move,  
matter tells spacetime how to curve”

In vacuum:  $G_{\alpha\beta} = R_{\alpha\beta} = 0$

10 PDEs of 2<sup>nd</sup> order for the metric

- System of equations very complex: Pile of paper!

Numerical methods necessary for general scenarios!

# 3+1 Decomposition

- GR: “Space and time exist as unity: Spacetime”

- NR: ADM 3+1 Split

3-Metric  $\gamma_{ij}$

Lapse  $\alpha$

Shift  $\beta^i$

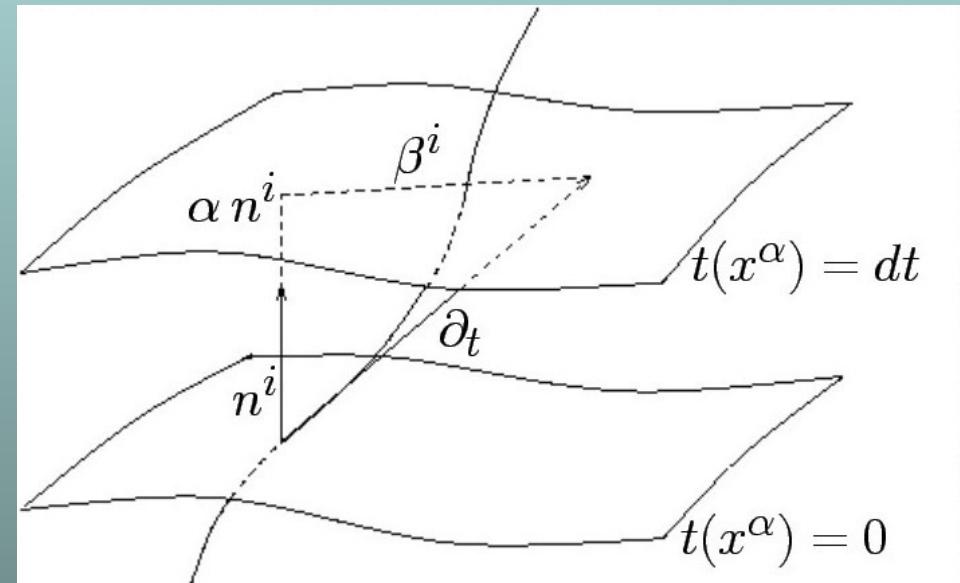
- lapse, shift  $\Rightarrow$  Gauge

- Einstein equations

$\Rightarrow$  6 Evolution eqs.

4 Constraints

Arnowitt, Deser, Misner (1962)  
York (1979)  
Choquet-Bruhat, York (1980)



- Constraints preserved under time evolution!

# ADM Equations

## ● Evolution equations

$$(\partial_t - L_\beta) \gamma_{ij} = -2\alpha K_{ij}$$

$$(\partial_t - L_\beta) K_{ij} = -D_i D_j \alpha + \alpha [R_{ij} - 2K_{im} K^m{}_j + K_{ij} K]$$

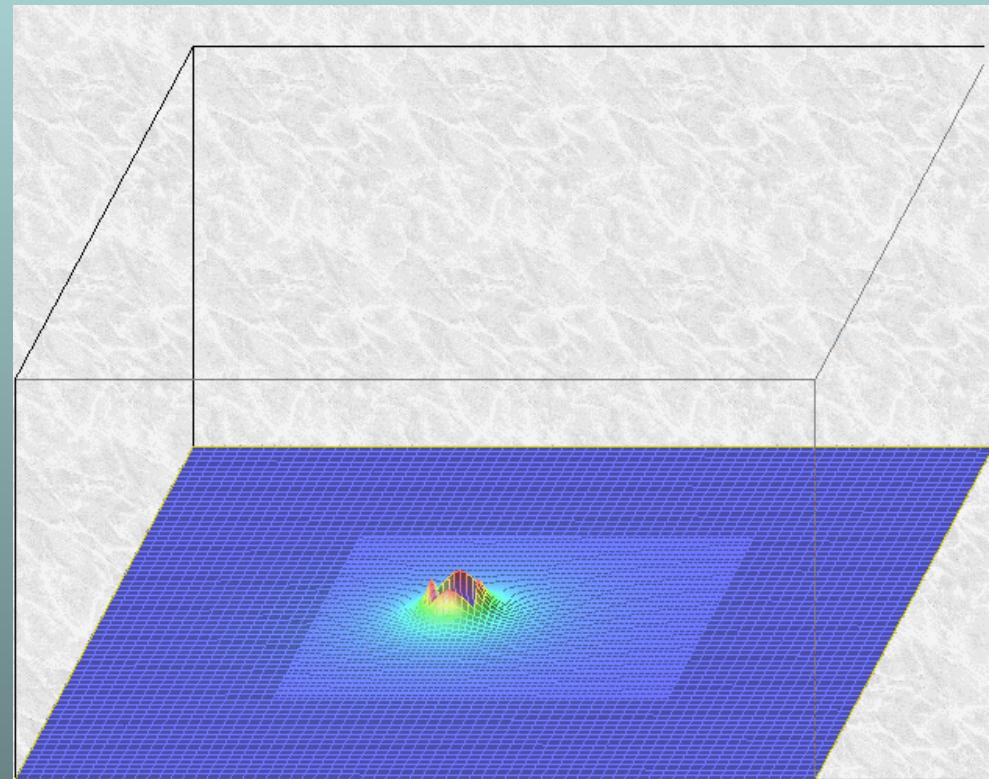
## ● Constraints

$$R + K^2 - K_{ij} K^{ij} = 0$$

$$-D_j K^{ij} + D^i K = 0$$

## ● Evolution

- ▶ Solve constraints
- ▶ Evolve data
- ▶ Construct spacetime
- ▶ Extract physics



# GR specific problems

- Initial data must satisfy constraints  
⇒ Numerical solution of elliptic PDEs  
Here: Puncture data    Brandt & Brügmann '97
- Formulation of the Einstein equations
- Coordinates are constructed ⇒ Gauge conditions
- Different length scales ⇒ Mesh refinement
- Equations extremely long ⇒ Turnover time  
Parallelization, Super computer
- Interpretation of the results? What is “Energy”, “Mass”?

# Eqs.: Baumgarte, Shapiro, Shibata, Nakamura (BSSN)

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

$$\phi = \frac{1}{12} \ln \gamma \quad \hat{\gamma}_{ij} = e^{-4\phi} \gamma_{ij}$$

$$K = \gamma_{ij} K^{ij} \quad \hat{A}_{ij} = e^{-4\phi} \left( K_{ij} - \frac{1}{3} \gamma_{ij} K \right)$$

$$\hat{\Gamma}^i = \gamma^{ij} \hat{\Gamma}_{jk}^i = -\partial_j \hat{\gamma}^{ij}$$

$$(\partial_t - \mathcal{L}_\beta) \hat{\gamma}_{ij} = -2\alpha \hat{A}_{ij}$$

$$(\partial_t - \mathcal{L}_\beta) \phi = -\frac{1}{6}\alpha K$$

$$(\partial_t - \mathcal{L}_\beta) \hat{A}_{ij} = e^{-4\phi} (-D_i D_j \alpha + \alpha R_{ij})^{\text{TF}} + \alpha (K \hat{A}_{ij} - 2 \hat{A}_{ik} \hat{A}^k{}_j)$$

$$(\partial_t - \mathcal{L}_\beta) K = -D^i D_i \alpha + \alpha (\hat{A}_{ij} \hat{A}^{ij} + \frac{1}{3} K^2)$$

$$\partial_t \hat{\Gamma}^i = 2\alpha \left( \hat{\Gamma}_{jk}^i \hat{A}^{jk} + 6\hat{A}^{ij} \partial_j \phi - \frac{2}{3} \hat{\gamma}^{ij} \partial_j K \right) - 2\hat{A}^{ij} \partial_j \alpha + \hat{\gamma}^{jk} \partial_j \partial_k \beta^i$$

$$+ \frac{1}{3} \hat{\gamma}^{ij} \partial_j \partial_k \beta^k + \beta^j \partial_j \hat{\Gamma}^i + \frac{2}{3} \hat{\Gamma}^i \partial_j \beta^j \underbrace{- \left( \chi + \frac{2}{3} \right) \left( \hat{\Gamma}^i - \hat{\gamma}^{jk} \hat{\Gamma}_{jk}^i \right) \partial_l \beta^l}_{\text{Yo et al. (2002)}}$$

# Generalized harmonic (GHG)

- Harmonic gauge: choose coordinates so that

$$\nabla_{\mu} \nabla^{\mu} x^{\alpha} = 0$$

- 4-dim. Version of Einstein equations

$$R_{\alpha\beta} = -\frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} g_{\alpha\beta} + \dots \quad (\text{no second derivatives!!})$$

Principal part of wave equation

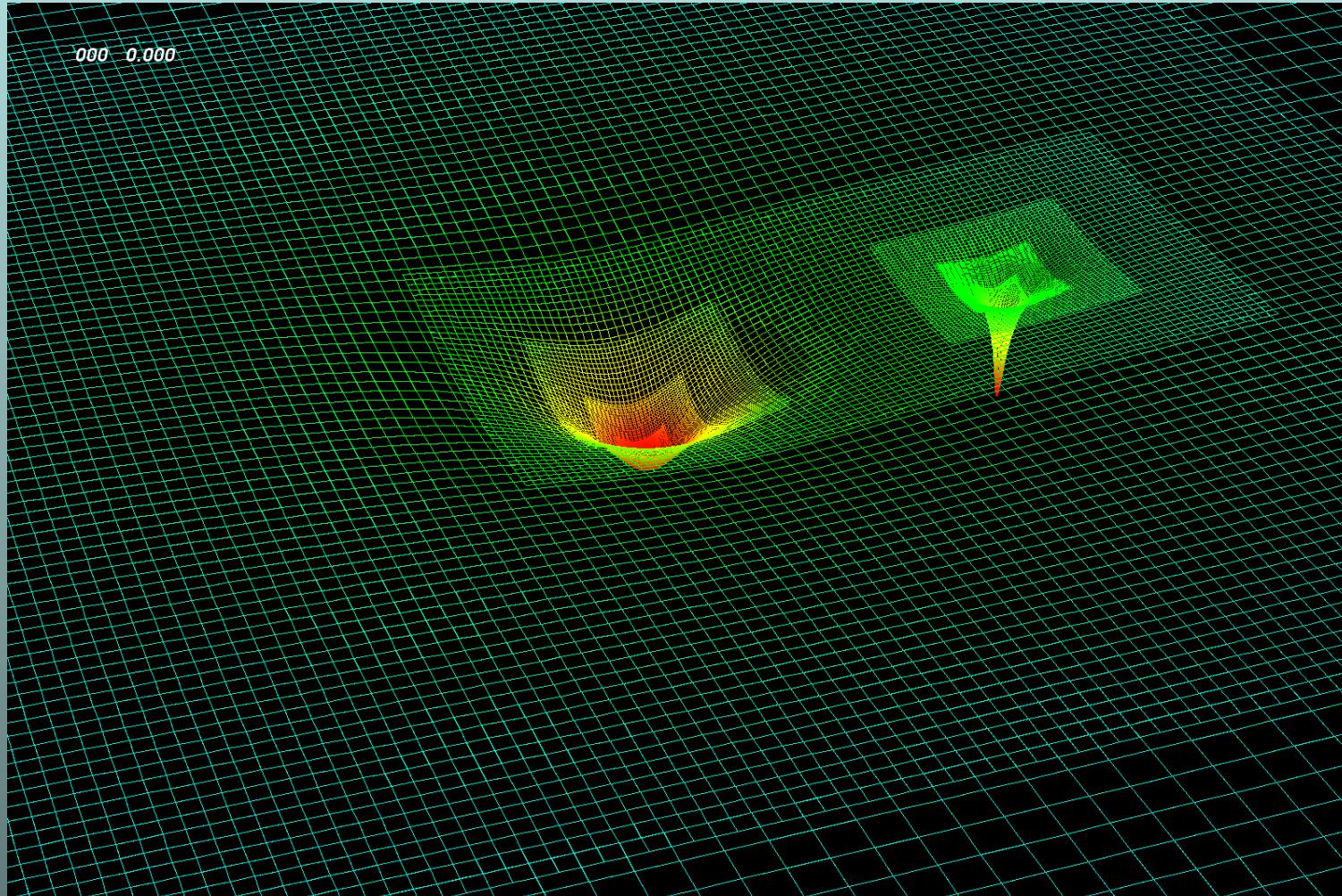
- Generalized harmonic gauge:  $H_{\alpha} := g_{\alpha\nu} \nabla_{\mu} \nabla^{\mu} x^{\nu}$

$$\Rightarrow R_{\alpha\beta} = -\frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} g_{\alpha\beta} + \dots - \frac{1}{2} (\partial_{\alpha} H_{\beta} + \partial_{\beta} H_{\alpha})$$

Still principal part of wave equation!!!

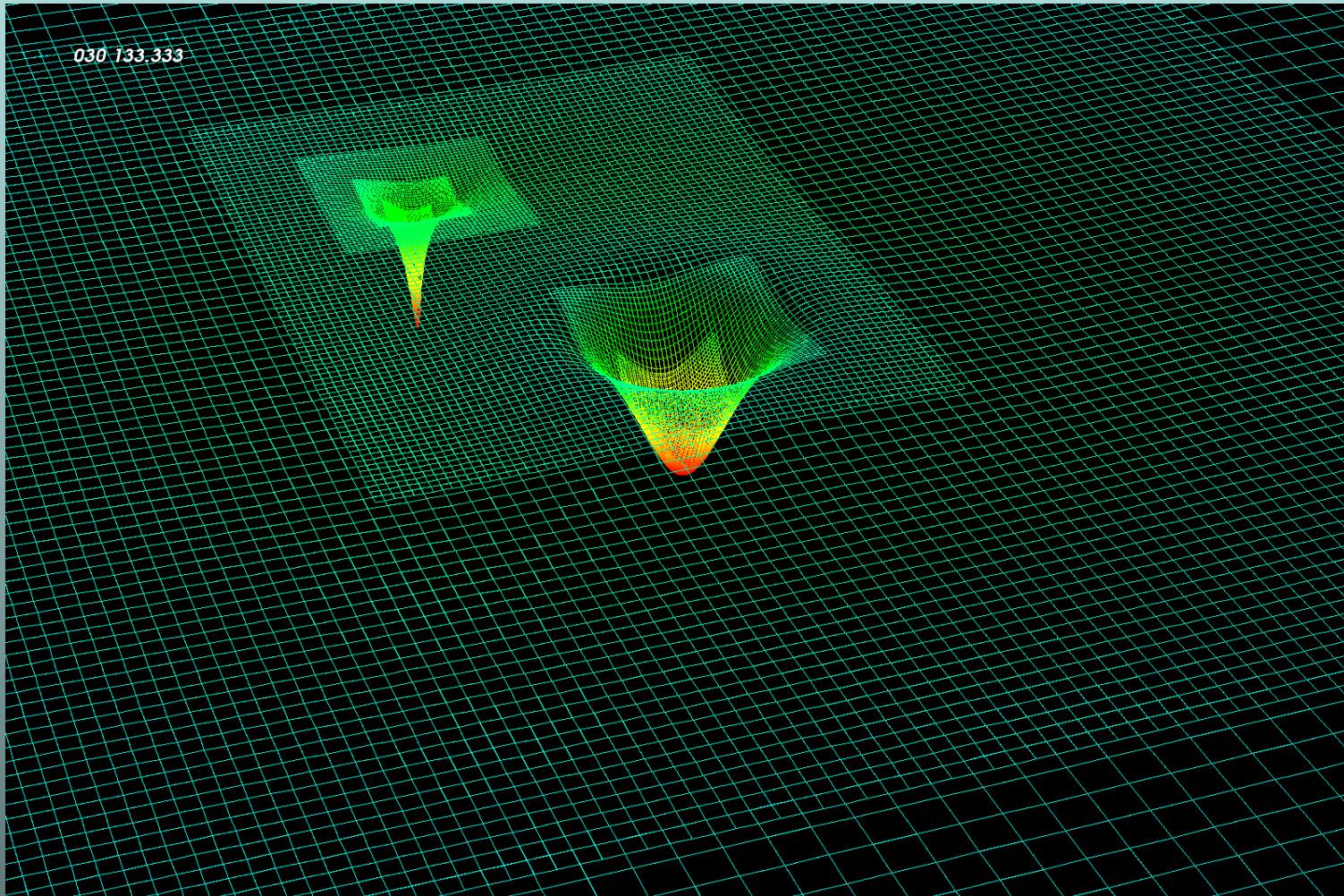
# Coordinate and gauge freedom

- Reminder: Einstein Eqs. Say nothing about  $\alpha, \beta^i$
- Avoid coordinate singularities! González et al. '08



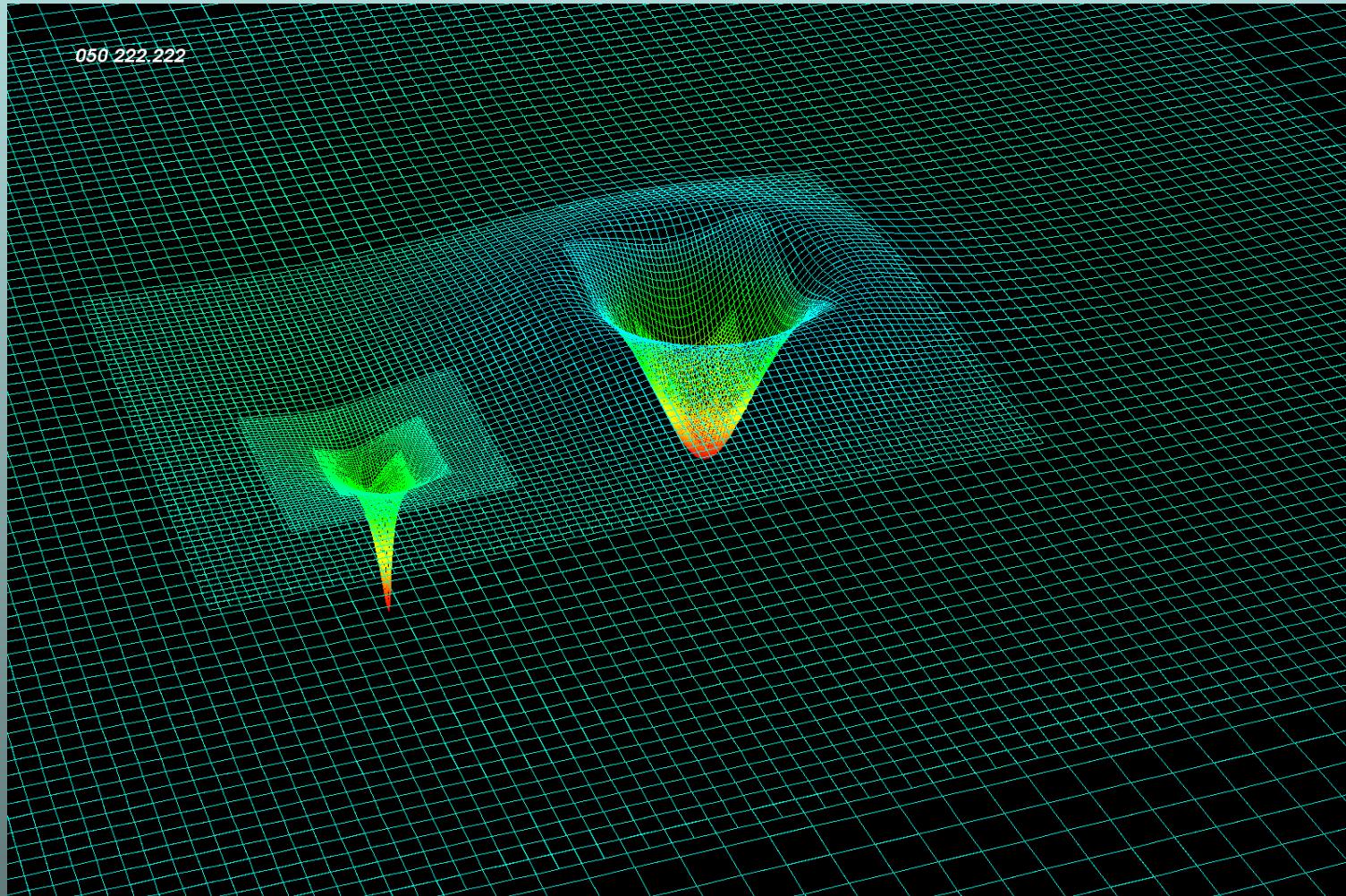
# Coordinate and gauge freedom

- Reminder: Einstein Eqs. Say nothing about  $\alpha, \beta^i$
- Avoid coordinate singularities!



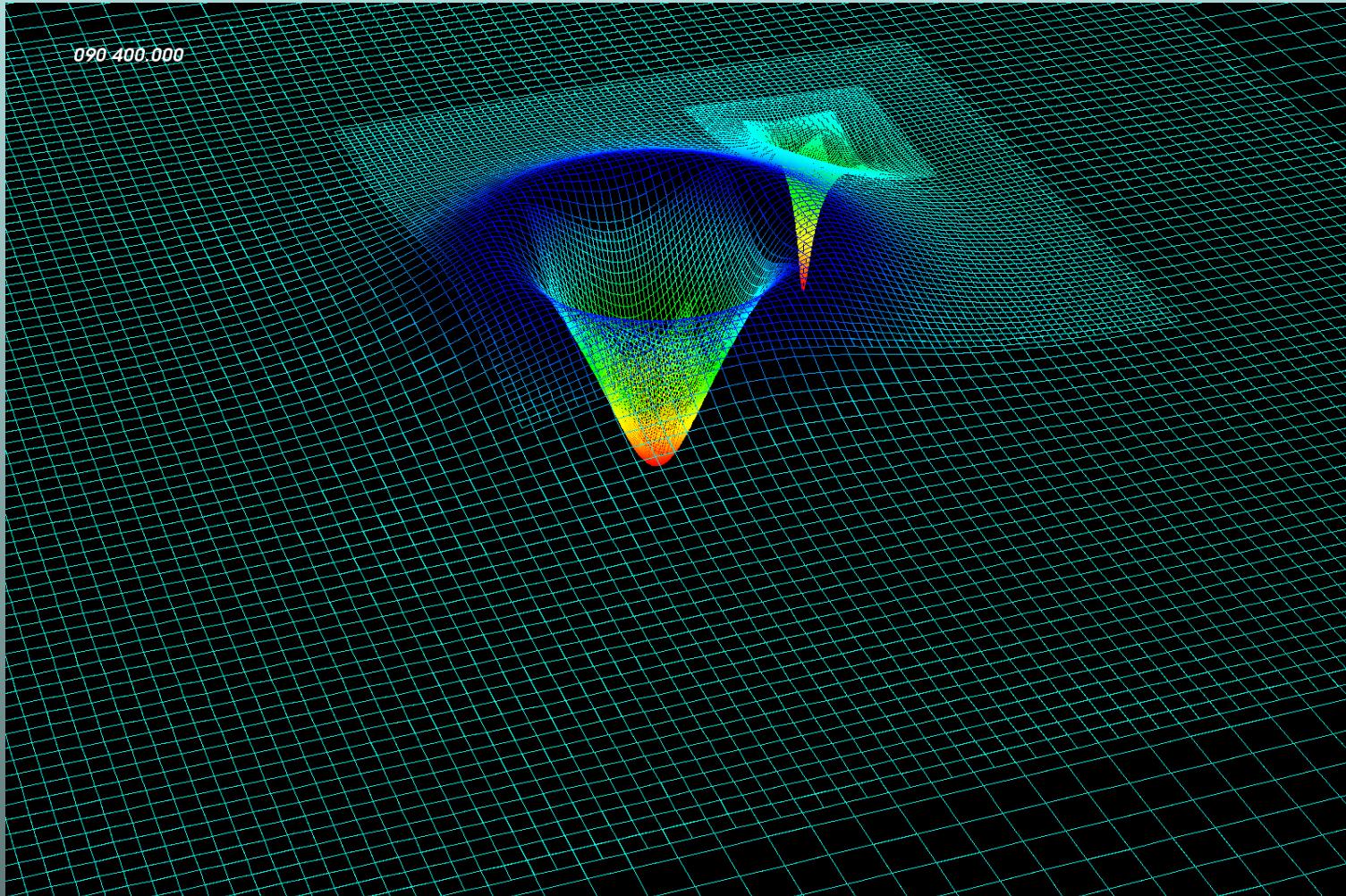
# Coordinate and gauge freedom

- Reminder: Einstein Eqs. Say nothing about  $\alpha, \beta^i$
- Avoid coordinate singularities!



# Coordinate and gauge freedom

- Reminder: Einstein Eqs. Say nothing about  $\alpha, \beta^i$
- Avoid coordinate singularities!



# Coordinate- and Gauge freedom

- General scenarios require “live” conditions

$$\partial_t \alpha = F(\alpha, \beta^i, \gamma_{ij}) \quad \partial_t \beta^i = G(\alpha, \beta^i, \gamma_{ij})$$

Hyperbolic, parabolic or elliptic PDEs

- Pretorius ‘05 Generalized Harmonic Gauge

- Goddard, Brownsville ‘06 moving punctures

1 + log slicing,       $\Gamma$  driver

- based on Alcubierre et al. (AEI)

Bona, Massó 1990s

# Diagnostik: Wellenformen

- In and outgoing direction are specified via Basis vectors  $n^\alpha$ ,   $m^\alpha$ ,  $\bar{m}^\alpha$  Kinnersley '69

- Newman-Penrose scalar

$$\Psi_4 = R_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} n^\alpha \bar{m}^\beta n^\gamma \bar{m}^\delta$$

- At Null-Infinity ! But cf. Nerozzi & Ellbracht '08

- Waves are normally extracted at fixed radius

$$\Rightarrow \Psi_4 = \Psi_4(t, \theta, \phi)$$

- Decompose angular dependence

$$\Psi_4 = \sum_m \psi_m(t) Y_m^{-2}(\theta, \phi) \quad \text{"Multipoles"}$$

- Gives directly  $E_{\text{rad}}$ ,  $P_{\text{rad}}$ ,  $J_{\text{rad}}$

# A brief history of BH simulations

- Pioneers:Hahn, Lindquist '60s, Eppley, Smarr et.al. '70s
- Grand Challenge: First 3D Code Anninos et.al. '90s
- Further attempts: Bona & Massó, Pitt-PSU-Texas, ...  
AEI-Potsdam Alcubierre et al.  
PSU: first orbit Brügmann et al. '04

Codes unstable

---

- Breakthrough: Pretorius '05                    “GHG”  
UTB, Goddard '05         “Moving Punctures”
- Currently:  $\approx 10$  codes, a.o.  
Pretorius, UTB/RIT, Goddard, PSU/GT, Sperhake, Jena/FAU, AEI/LSU,  
Caltech-Cornell, UIUC, Tainan/Beijing

### **3. Animations**

# Animations

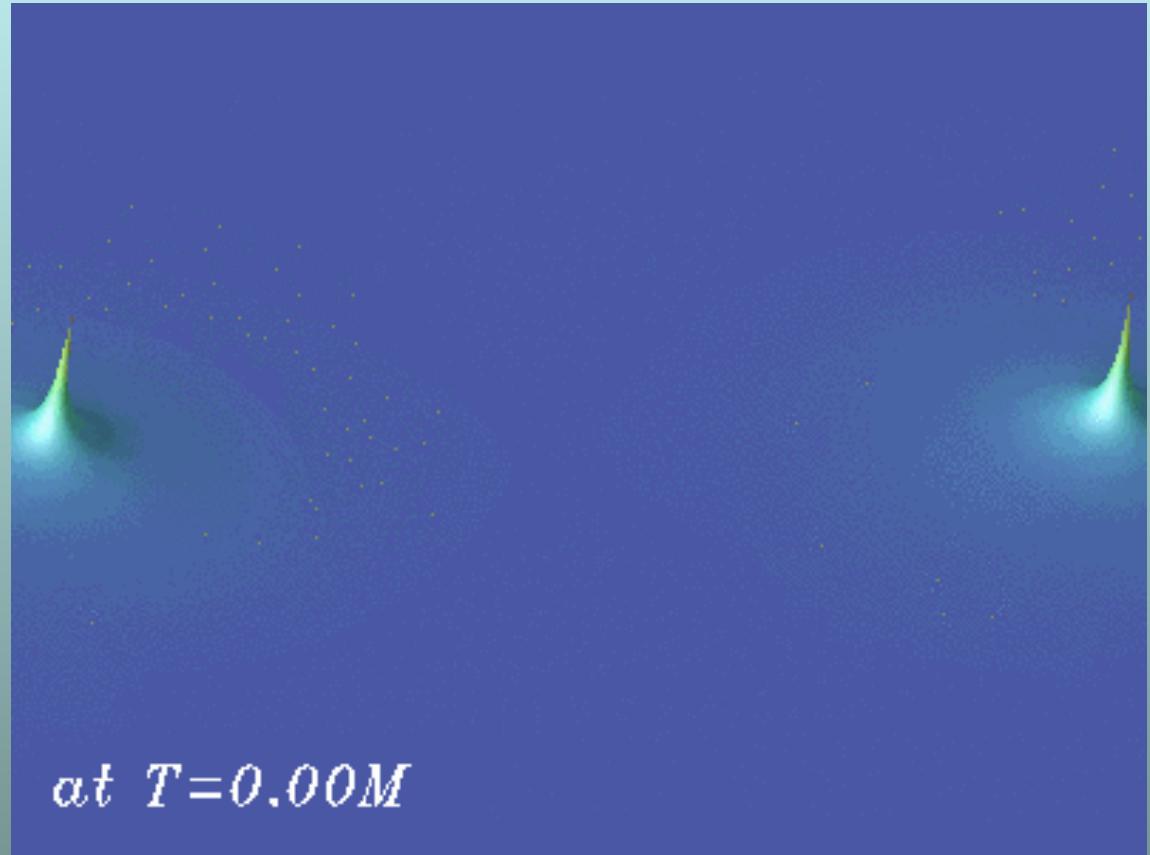
- Lean Code  
Sperhake '07

- Extrinsic  
curvature

$\text{tr}K$

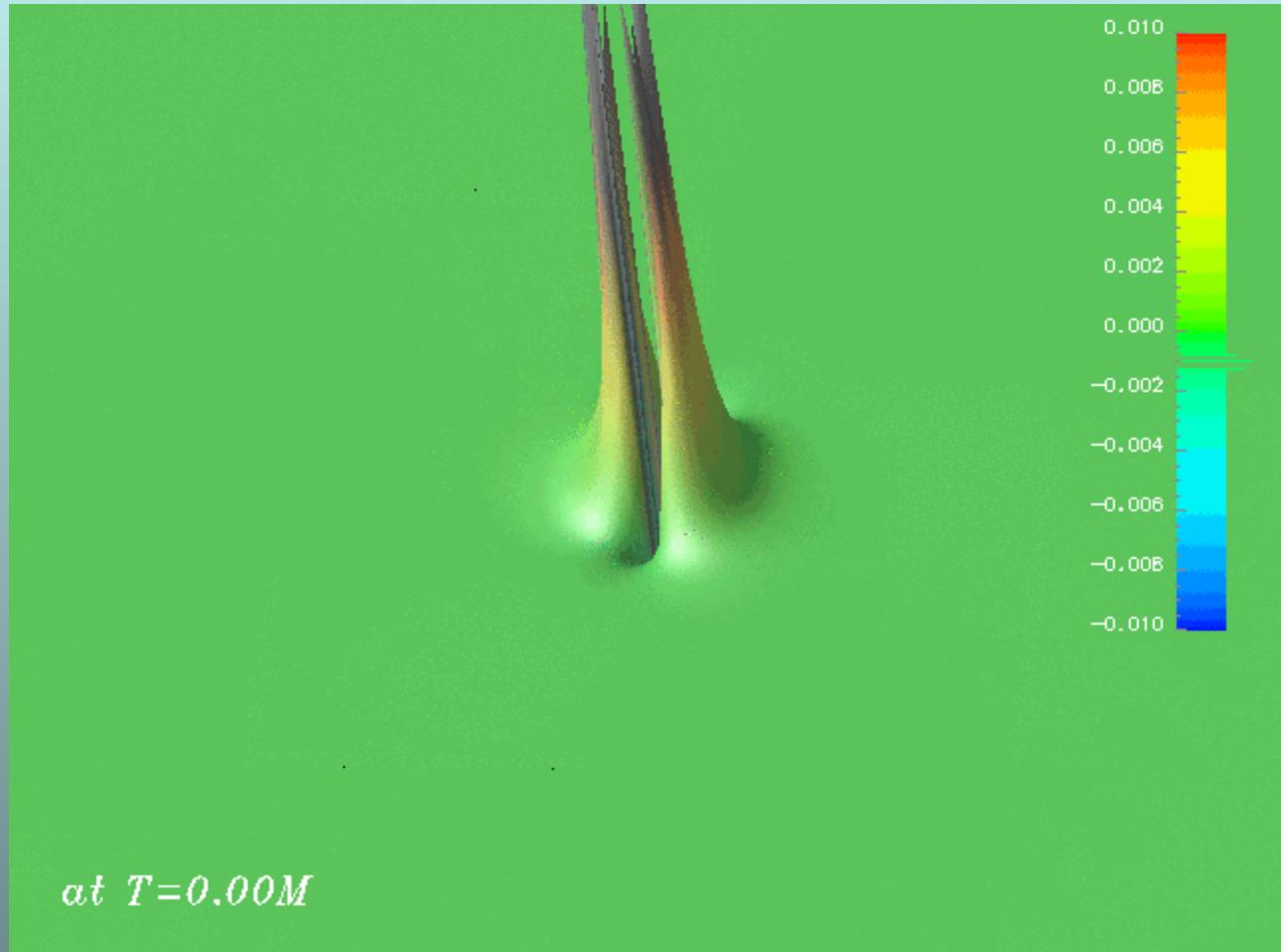
- Apparent  
horizon

AHFinderDirect  
Thornburg



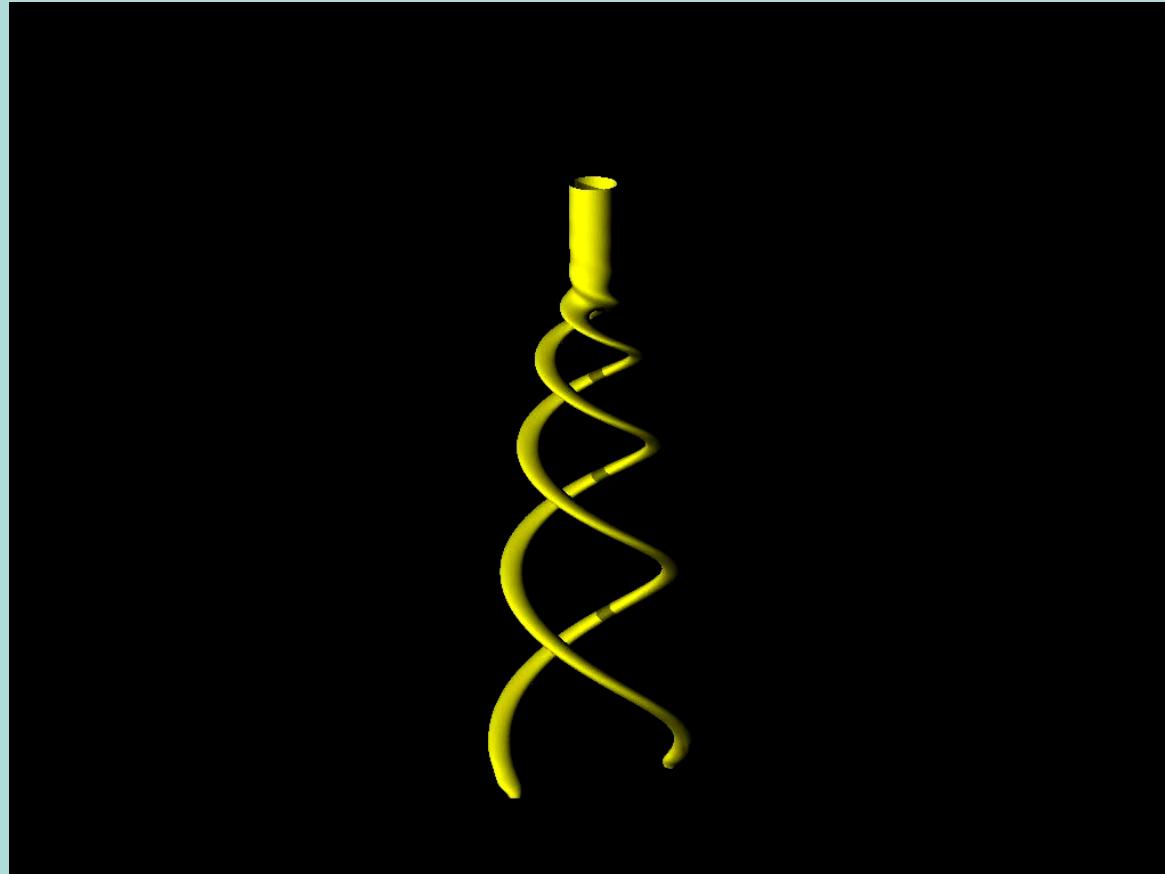
# Animations

- $\text{Re}[\Psi_4]$
- $\boxed{\mathbb{W}} = 2, m = 2$
- dominant



# Animations

- Event horizon of binary inspiral and merger BAM



Thanks to Marcus Thierfelder

## **7. Results on black-hole binaries**

# Free parameters of BH binaries

- Total mass  $M_{\text{ADM}}$ 
  - Relevant for detection: Frequencies depend on  $M_{\text{ADM}}$
  - Not relevant for source modeling: trivial rescaling
- Mass ratio  $q = \frac{M_1}{M_2}$ ,  $\eta = \frac{M_1 M_2}{(M_1 + M_2)^2}$
- Spin  $S_1, S_2$
- Initial parameters
  - ▶ Binding energy  $E_b$  Separation
  - ▶ Orbital angular momentum  $L$  Eccentricity
  - ▶ Alternatively: frequency, eccentricity

## 7.1. Non-spinning equal-mass holes

# The BBH breakthrough

- Simplest configuration
- GWs circularize orbit  
⇒ quasi-circular initial data

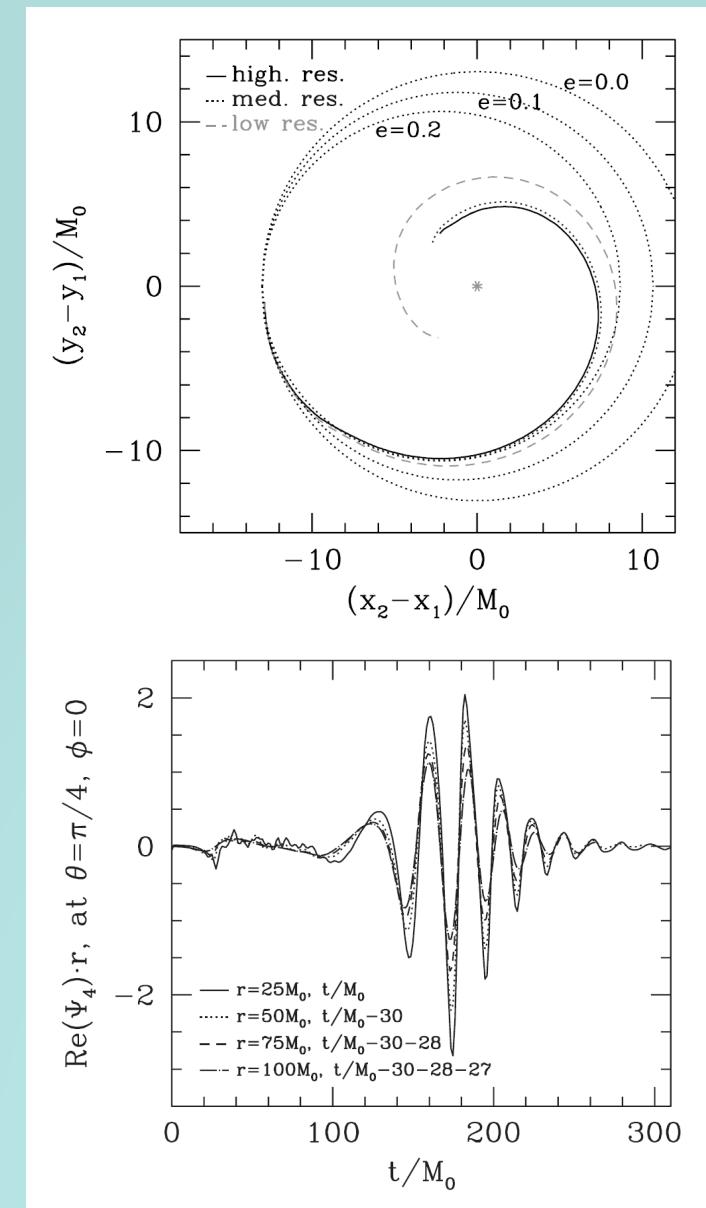
Pretorius PRL '05

- BBH breakthrough
- Initial data: scalar field
- Radiated energy

$$\begin{array}{l} R_{\text{ex}} [M] = \quad 25 \quad 50 \quad 75 \quad 100 \\ E [\%M] = \quad 4.7 \quad 3.2 \quad 2.7 \quad 2.3 \end{array}$$

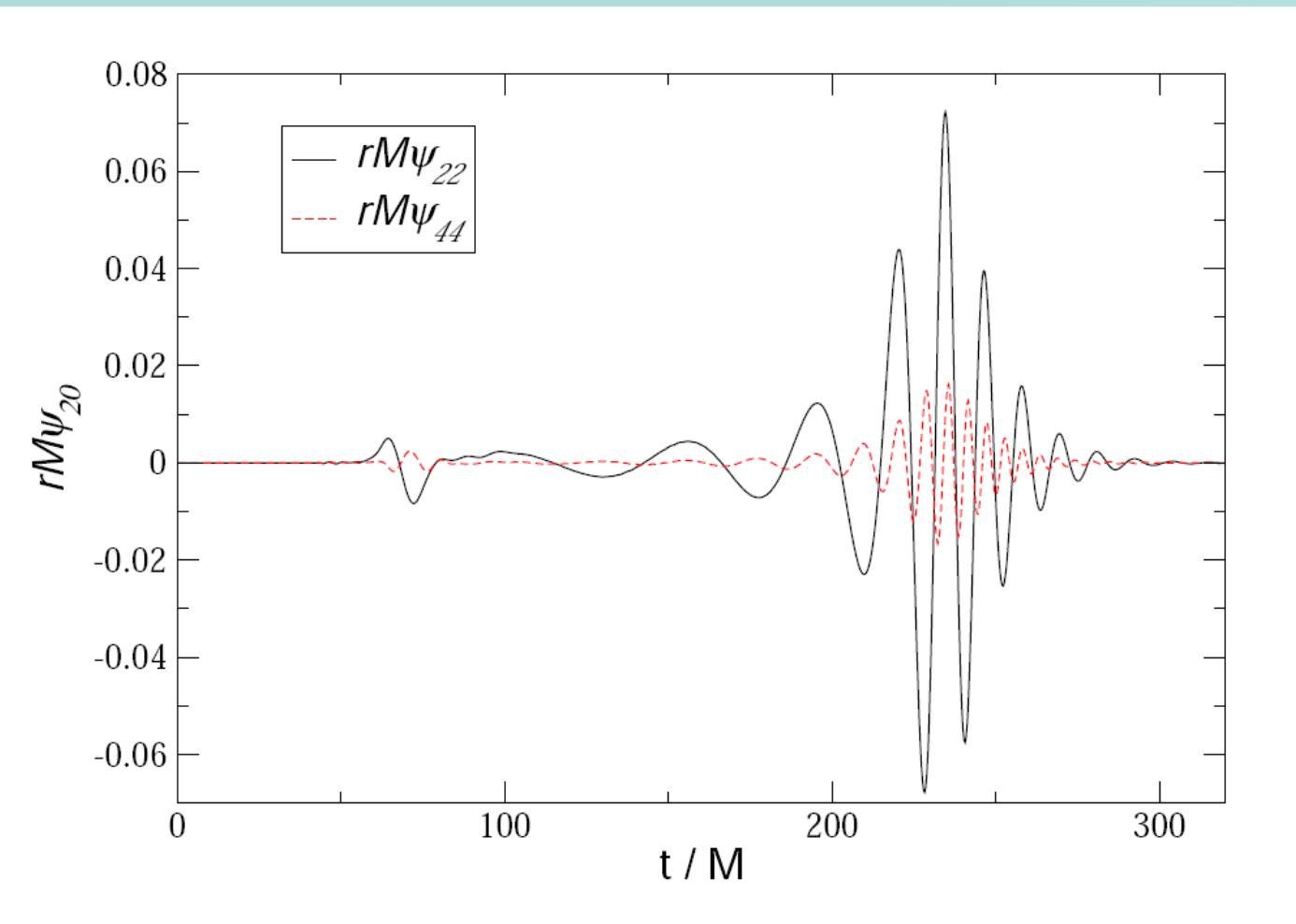
- Eccentricity

$$e = 0 \dots 0.2$$



# Non-spinning equal-mass binaries

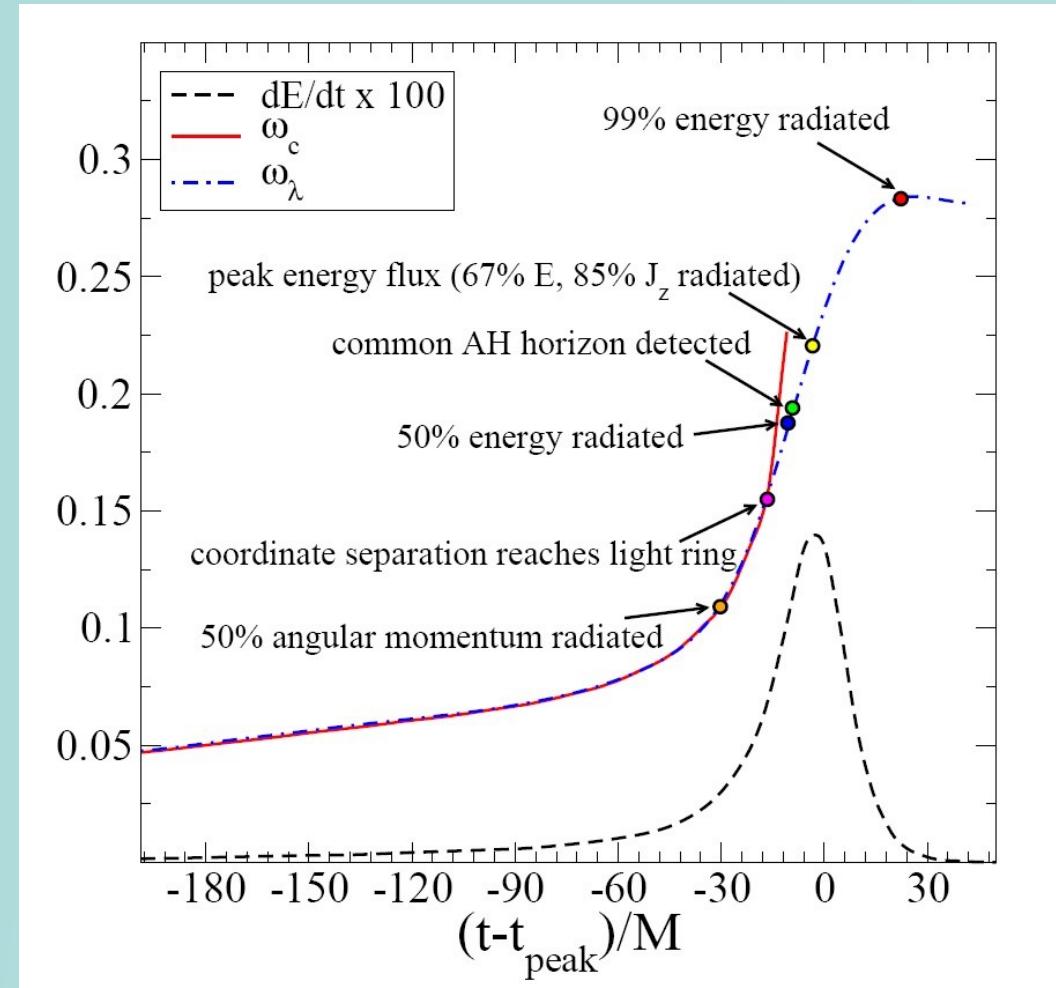
- Total radiated energy:  $3.6\% M_{\text{ADM}}$
-   $2, m = 2$  mode dominant: > 98%



# The merger part of the inspiral

Buonanno, Cook, Pretorius '06 (BCP)

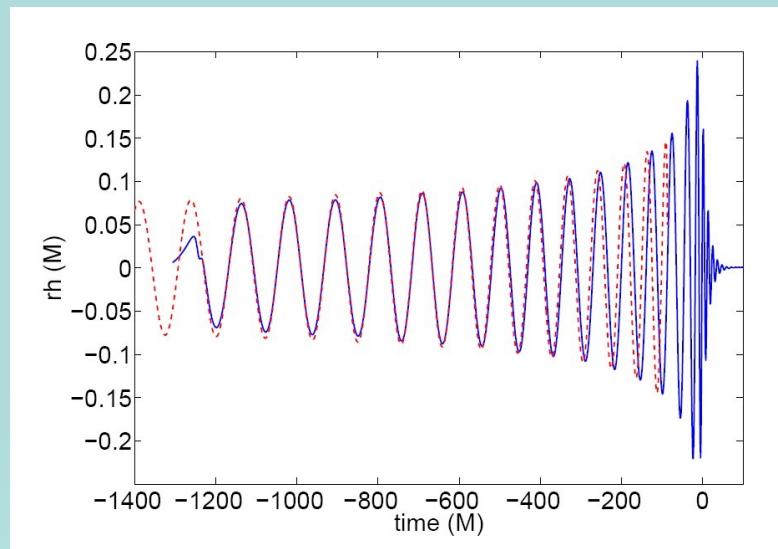
- merger lasts short:  
0.5 – 0.75 cycles
- Eccentricity small  
 $\approx 0.01$
- non-vanishing  
Initial radial velocity



# Comparison with Post-Newtonian

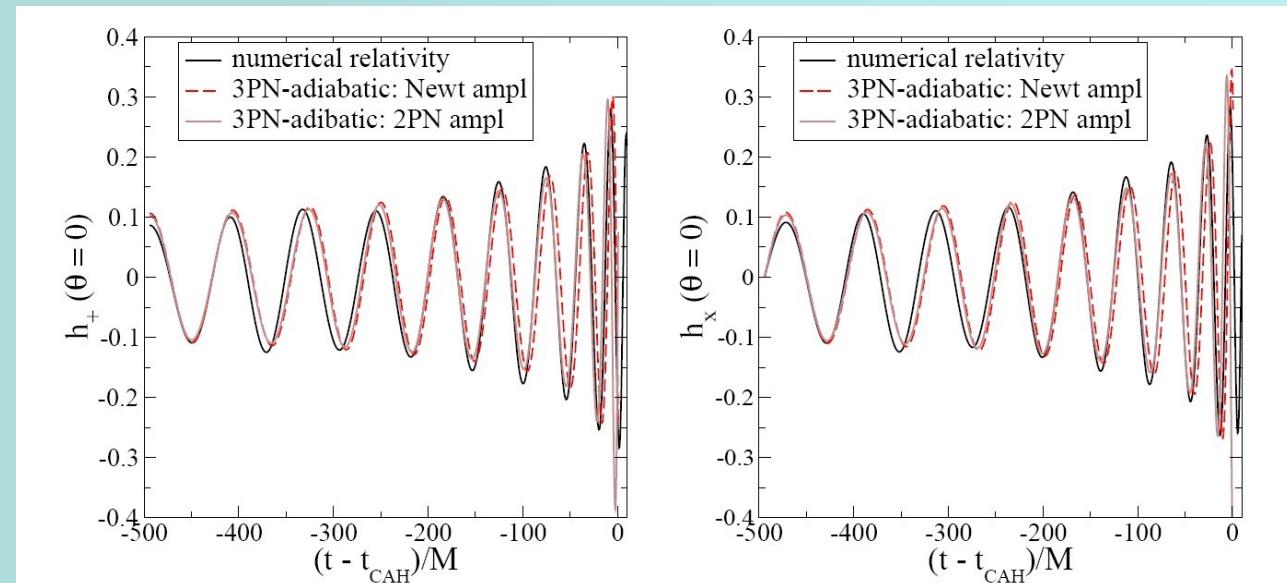
Goddard '07

- 14 cycles, 3.5 PN phasing
- Match waveforms:  $\phi$ ,  $\dot{\phi}$
- Accumulated phase error  
1 rad



Buonanno, Cook, Pretorius '06 (BCP)

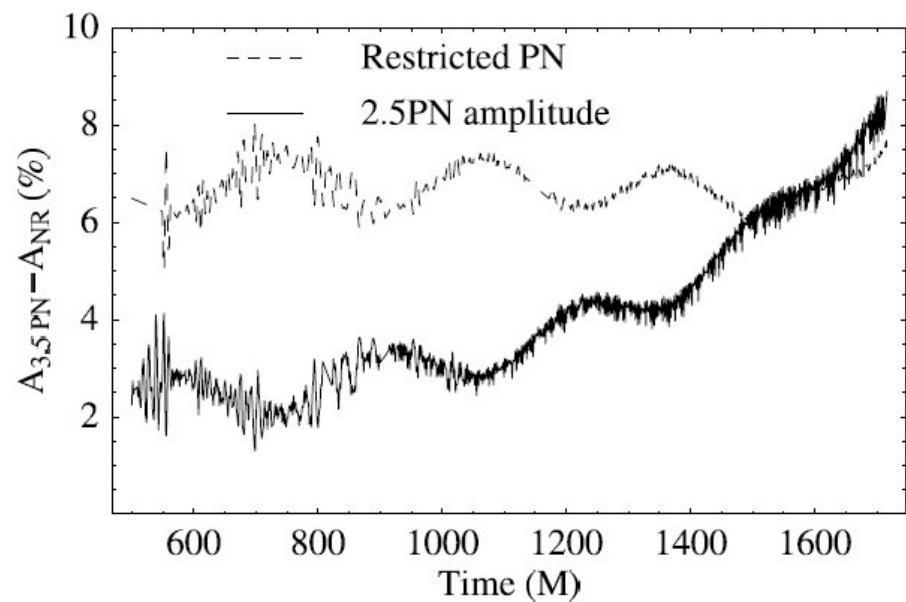
- 3.5 PN phasing  
2 PN amplitude



# Comparison with Post-Newtonian

Jena '07

- 18 cycles
- phase error < 1 rad
- 6<sup>th</sup> order differencing !!
- Amplitude: % range



Cornell/Caltech & Buonanno

- 30 cycles
- phase error  $\approx 0.02$  rad
- Effective one body (EOB)

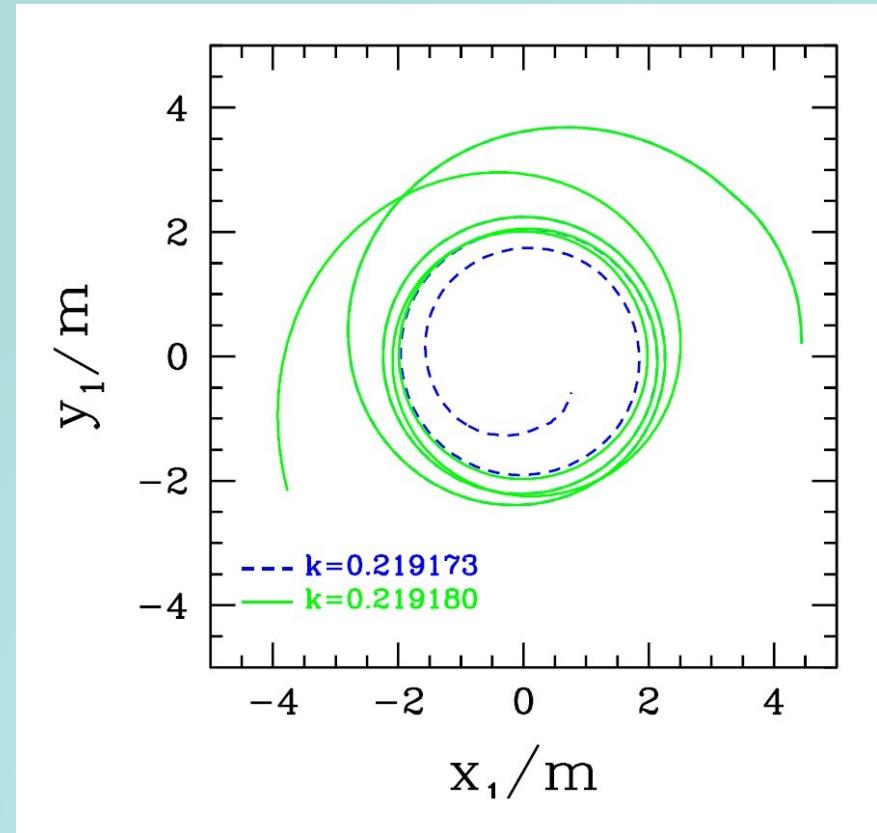
RIT

- First comparison with spin; not conclusive yet

# Zoom whirl orbits

Pretorius & Khurana '07

- 1-parameter family of initial data: linear momentum
- Fine-tune parameter  
⇒ "Threshold of immediate merger"
- Analogue in geodesics !
- Reminiscent of "Critical phenomena"
- Similar observations by PSU



Max. spin  $j_{\text{fin}} = 0.78$  for  $L \approx M^2$

## **7.2. Unequal masses**

# Unequal masses

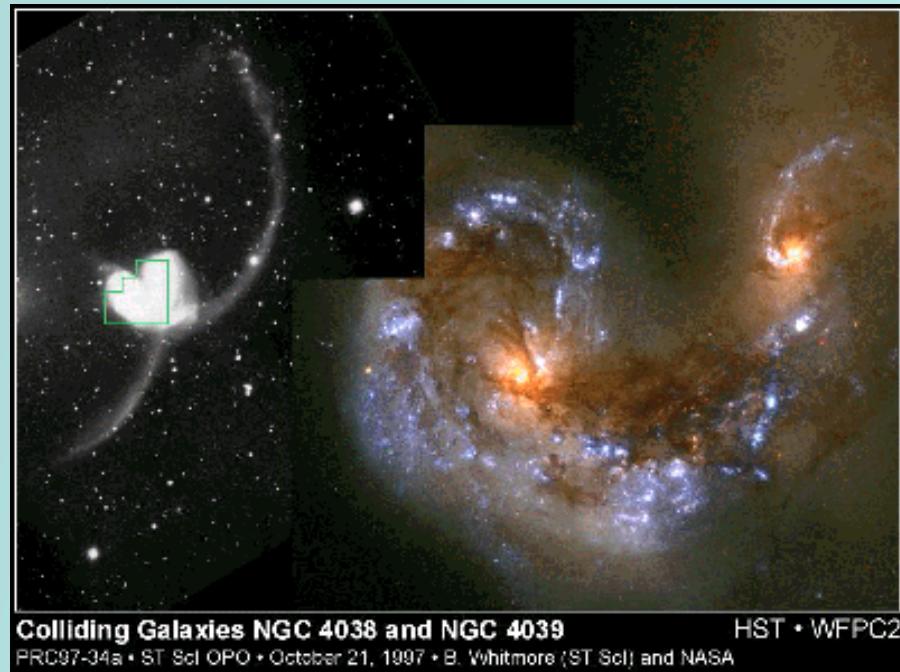
- Still zero spins
- Astrophysically much more likely !!
- Symmetry breaking
  - ▶ Anisotropic emission of GWs
  - ▶ Certain modes are no longer suppressed
- Mass ratios
  - ▶ Stellar sized BH into supermassive BH  $\approx 10^6$
  - ▶ Intermediate mass BHs  $\approx 10^3$
  - ▶ Galaxy mergers  $\approx 1\dots 10^3$
  - ▶ Currently possible numerically:  $\approx 1\dots 10$

# Gravitational recoil

- Anisotropic emission of GWs radiates momentum  
⇒ recoil of remaining system
- Leading order: Overlap of Mass-quadrupole  
with octopole/flux-quadrupole

Bonnor & Rotenburg '61, Peres '62, Bekenstein '73

- Merger of galaxies
- ⇒ Merger of BHs
- ⇒ Recoil
- ⇒ BH kicked out?



# Gravitational recoil

## ● Escape velocities

Globular clusters	30 km/s
dSph	20 – 100 km/s
dE	100 – 300 km/s
Giant galaxies	$\approx$ 1000 km/s

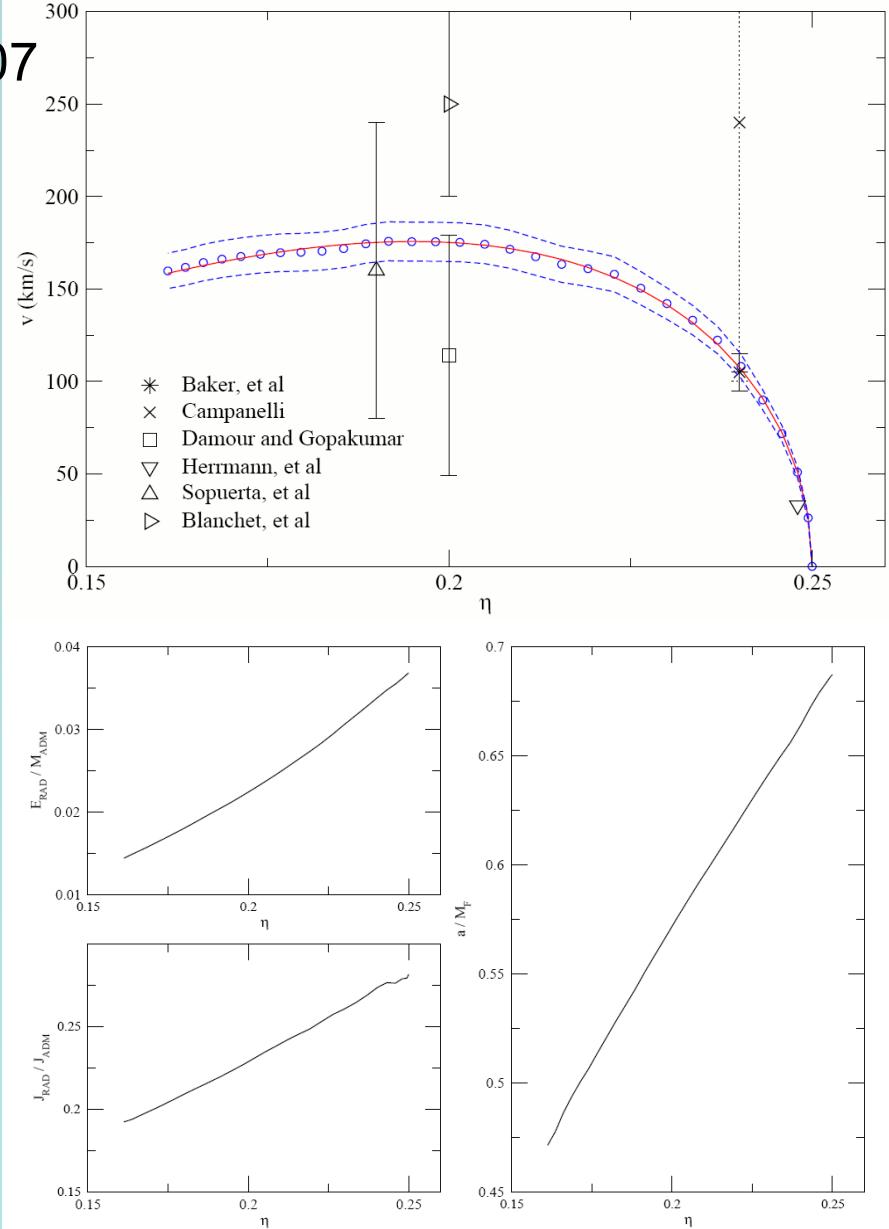
Merritt et al '04

## ● Ejection or displacement of BHs has repercussions on:

- ▶ Structure formation in the universe
- ▶ BH populations
- IMBHs via ejection?
- ▶ Growth history of Massive Black Holes
- ▶ Structure of galaxies

# Kicks of non-spinning black holes

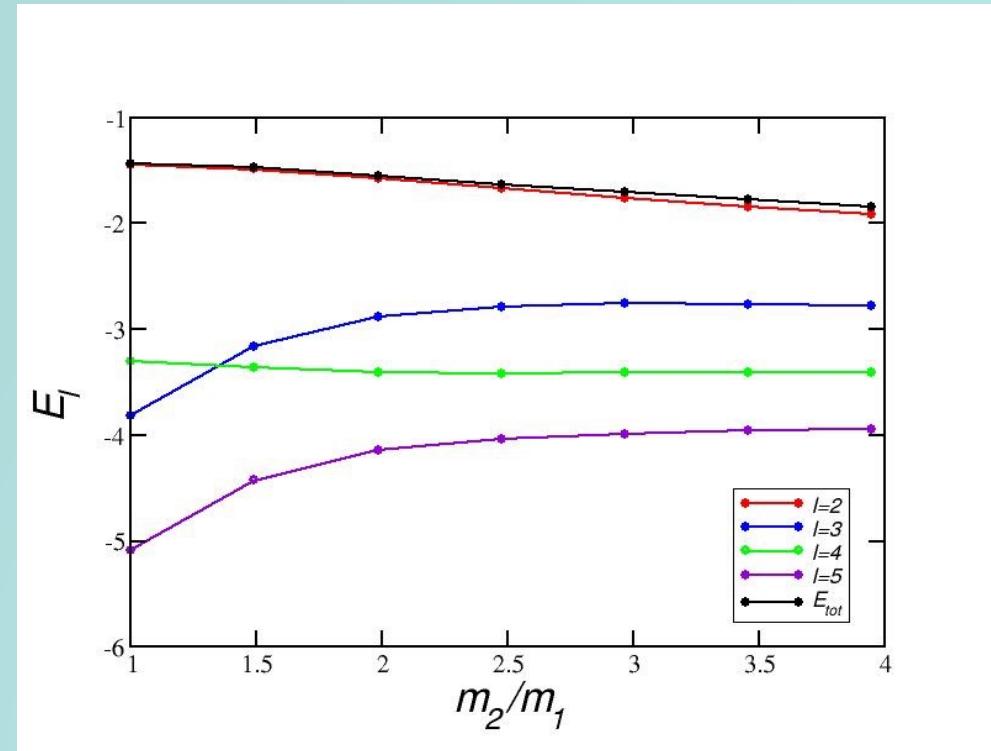
- Simulations PSU '07, Goddard '07
- Parameter study Jena '07
- Target: Maximal Kick
- Mass ratio:  $M_1 / M_2 = 1 \dots 4$
- 150,000 CPU hours
- Maximal kick 178 km/s  
for  $M_1 / M_2 \approx 3$
- Convergence 2<sup>nd</sup> order
- $E_{\text{rad}} \approx 3\%$ ,  $J_{\text{rad}} \approx 25\%$
- Spin 0.45...0.7



# Features of unequal-mass mergers

Berti et al '07

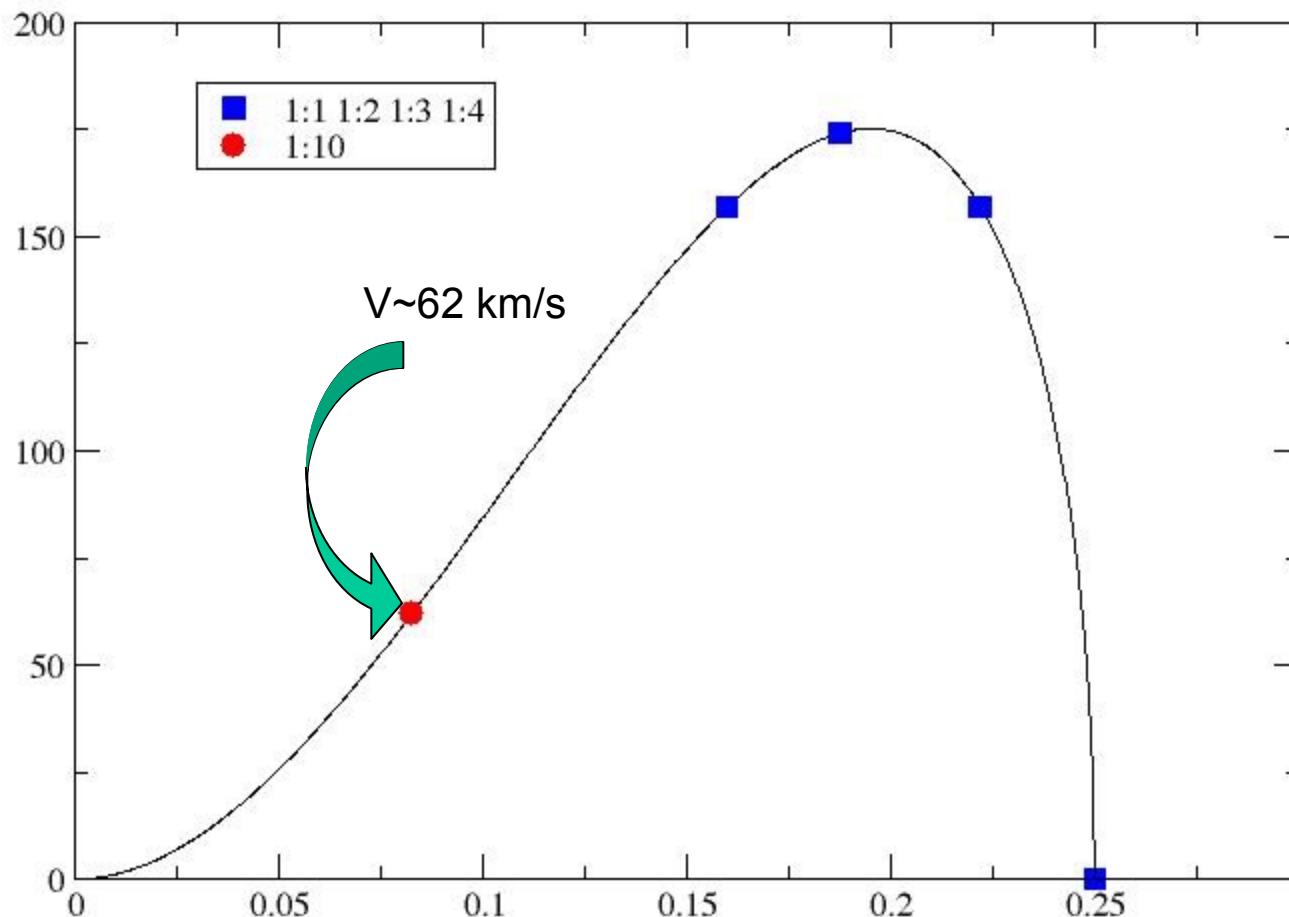
- Distribution of radiated energy
  - ▶ More energy in higher modes
  - ▶ Odd  $\ell$  modes suppressed for equal masses
- Important for GW-DA



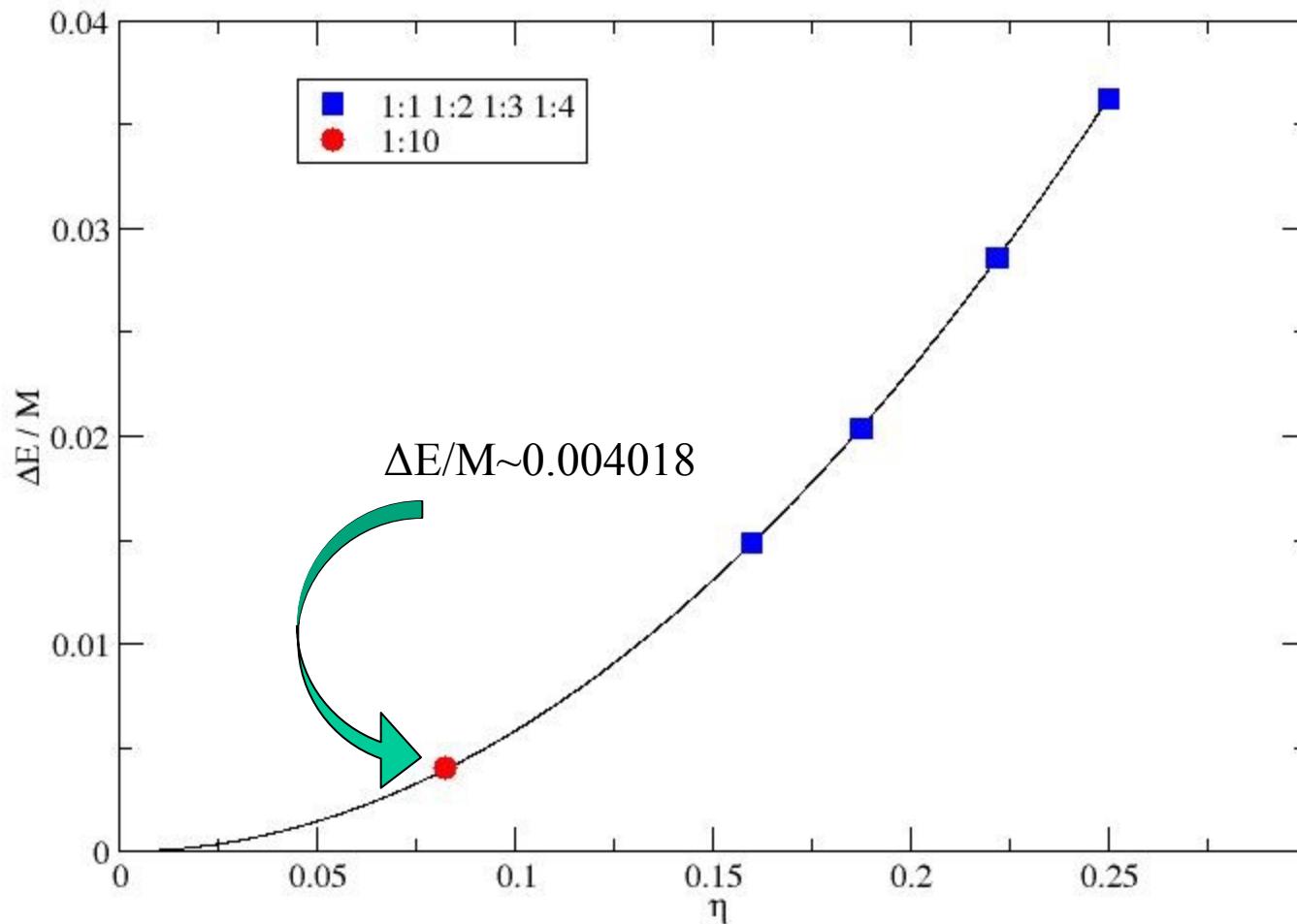
# Mass ratio 10:1

- In preparation: González, U.S., Brügmann
- Mass ratio  $q = 10$  ; Bam
- 4<sup>th</sup> order convergence
- Astrophysically likely configuration: Sesana et al. '07
- Test fitting formulas for spin and kick!

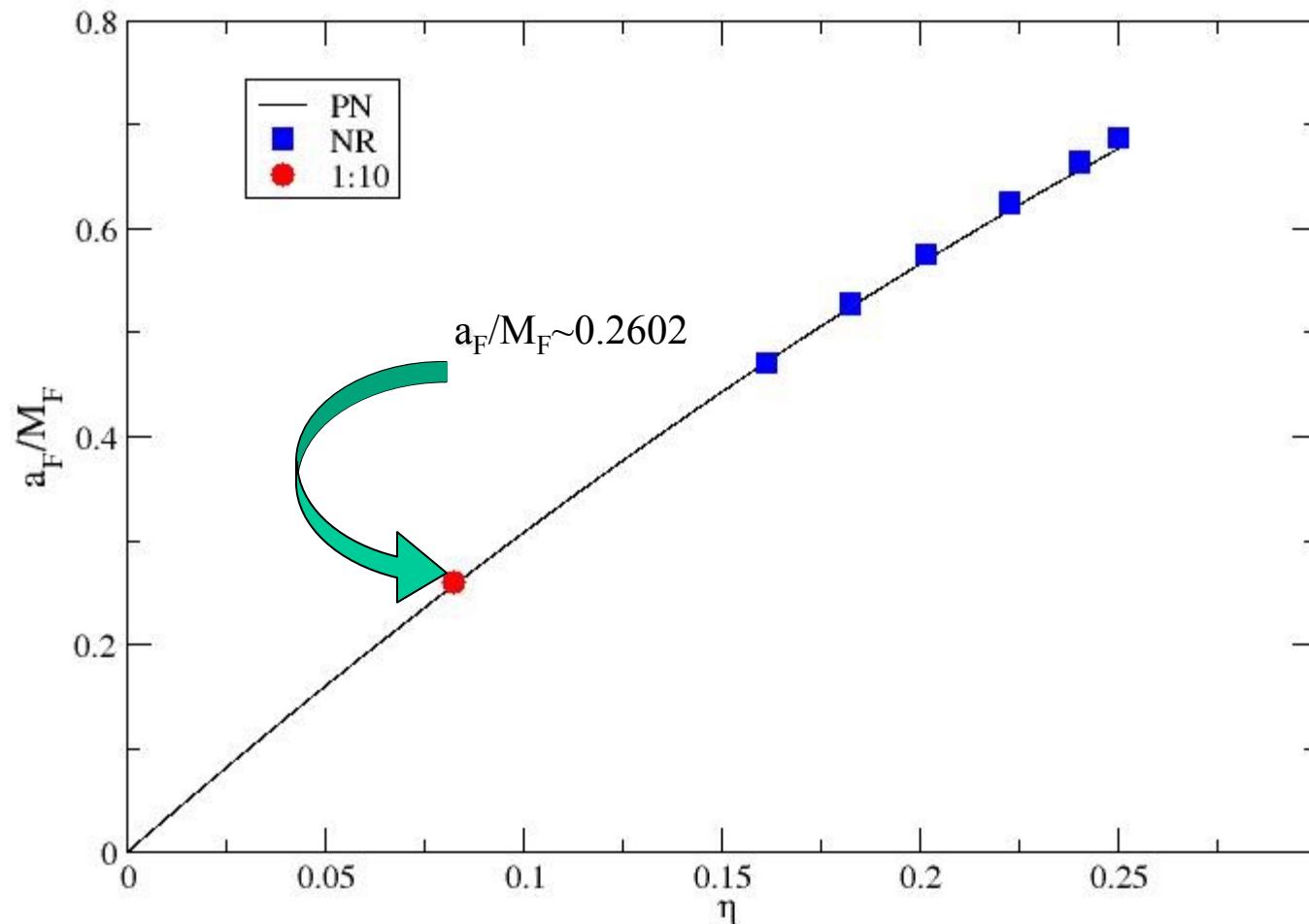
**Kick:**  $v = 1.2 \times 10^4 \eta^2 \sqrt{1 - 4\eta} (1 - 0.93\eta)$  (Fitchett '83  
Gonzalez et al. '07)



Radiated energy:  $\frac{\Delta E}{M} = 0.5802\eta^2$  (Berti et al. '07)



Final spin:  $a_F/M_F = 3.32\eta - 2.45\eta^2$  (Damour and Nagar 2007)



## **7.3. Spinning black holes**

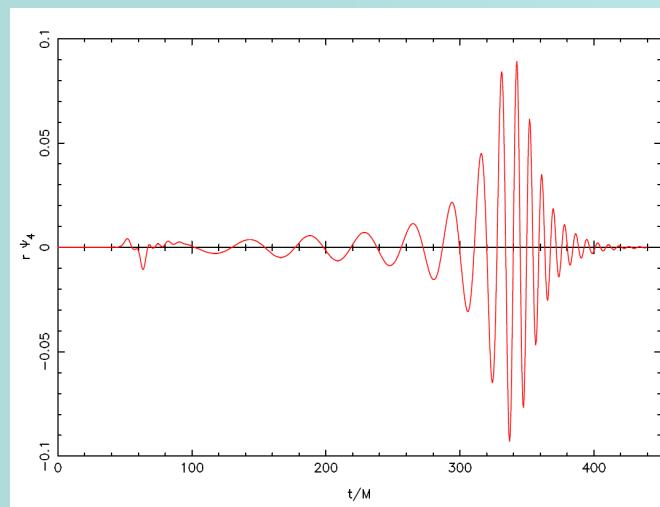
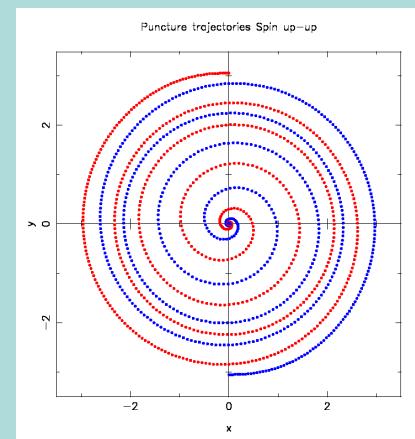
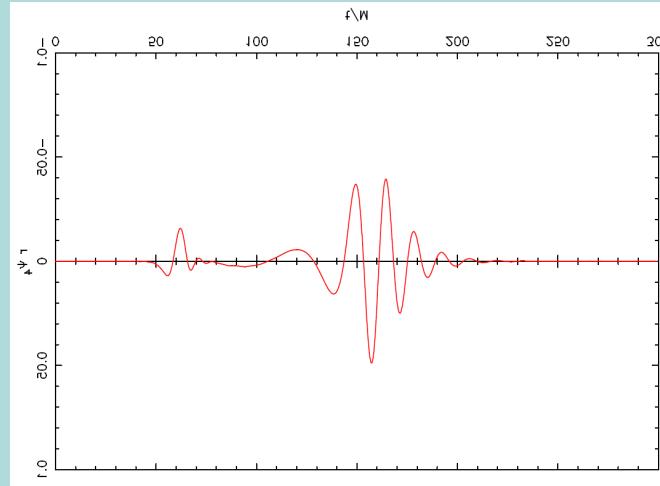
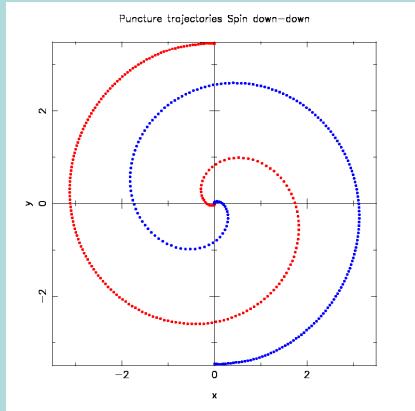
# Spinning holes: The orbital hang-up



$\uparrow\uparrow$   
 $\downarrow\uparrow\downarrow$

Spins parallel to  $L \Rightarrow$  more orbits,  
Spins anti-par. to  $L \Rightarrow$  fewer orbits

$E_{rad}, J_{rad}$  larger  
 $E_{rad}, J_{rad}$  smaller



UTB/RIT '07



no extremal Kerr BHs

# Spin precession and flip

- X-shaped radio sources

Merritt & Ekers '07

- Jet along spin axis

- Spin re-alignment  
⇒ new + old jet

- Spin precession  $98^\circ$

Spin flip  $71^\circ$

UTB, Rochester '06

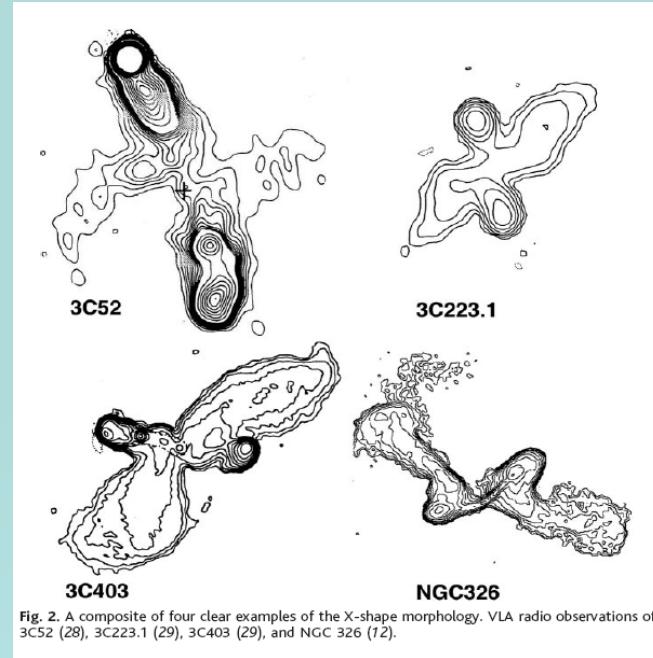
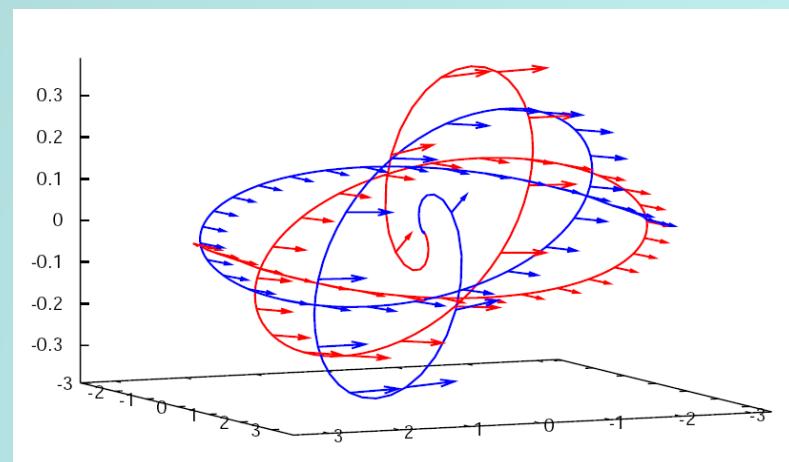


Fig. 2. A composite of four clear examples of the X-shape morphology. VLA radio observations of 3C52 (28), 3C223.1 (29), 3C403 (29), and NGC 326 (12).



# Recoil of spinning holes

- Kidder '95: PN study with Spins

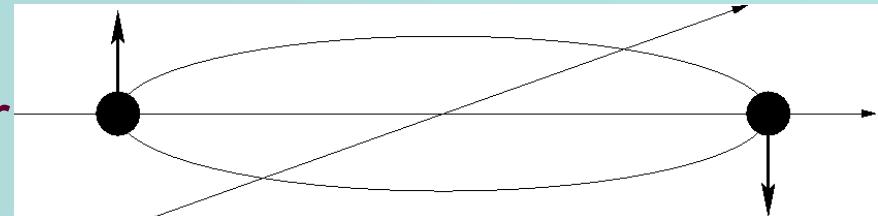
$$\frac{d\mathbf{P}}{dt} = \dot{\mathbf{P}}_{\mathbf{N}} + \dot{\mathbf{P}}_{\text{SO}},$$

= “unequal mass” + “spin(-orbit)”

- Penn State '07: SO-term larger

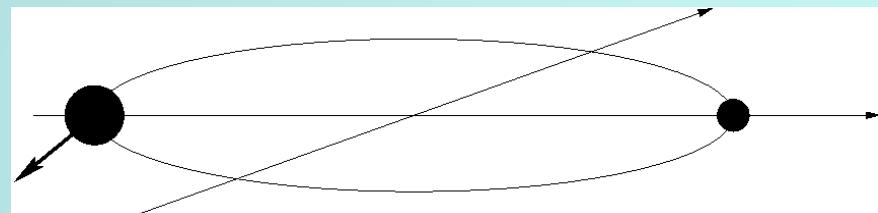
$$\frac{a}{m} = 0.2, \dots, 0.8$$

extrapolated:  $v = 475 \text{ km/s}$



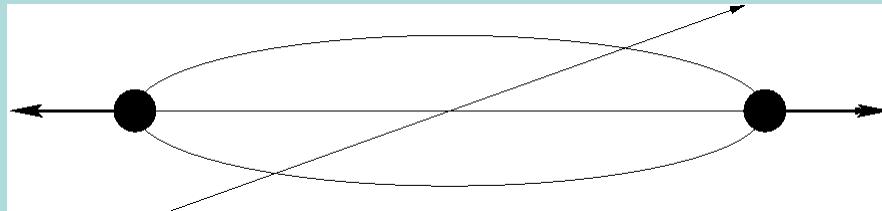
- AEI '07: One spinning hole, extrapolated:  $v = 440 \text{ km/s}$

- UTB-Rochester:  $v = 454 \text{ km/s}$



# Super Kicks

- Side result RIT '07, Kidder '95: maximal kick predicted for



$$v \approx 1300 \text{ km/s}$$

- Test hypothesis

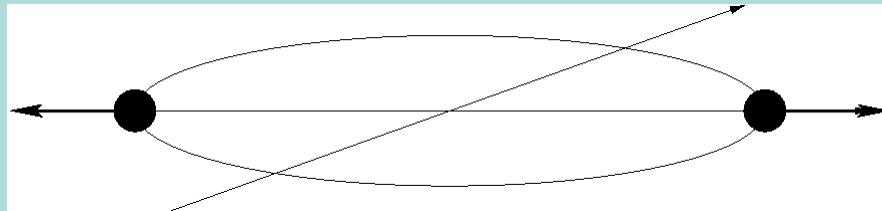
González, Hannam, US, Brügmann & Husa '07

Use two codes: Lean, BAM

- Generates kick  $v = 2500 \text{ km/s}$  for spin  $a \approx 0.75$

# Super Kicks

- Side result RIT '07, Kidder '95: maximal kick predicted for



$$v \approx 1300 \text{ km/s}$$

- Test hypothesis

González, Hannam, US, Brügmann & Husa '07

Use two codes: Lean, BAM

- Generates kick  $v = 2500 \text{ km/s}$  for spin  $a \approx 0.75$

- Extrapolated to maximal spin  $v = 4000 \text{ km/s}$

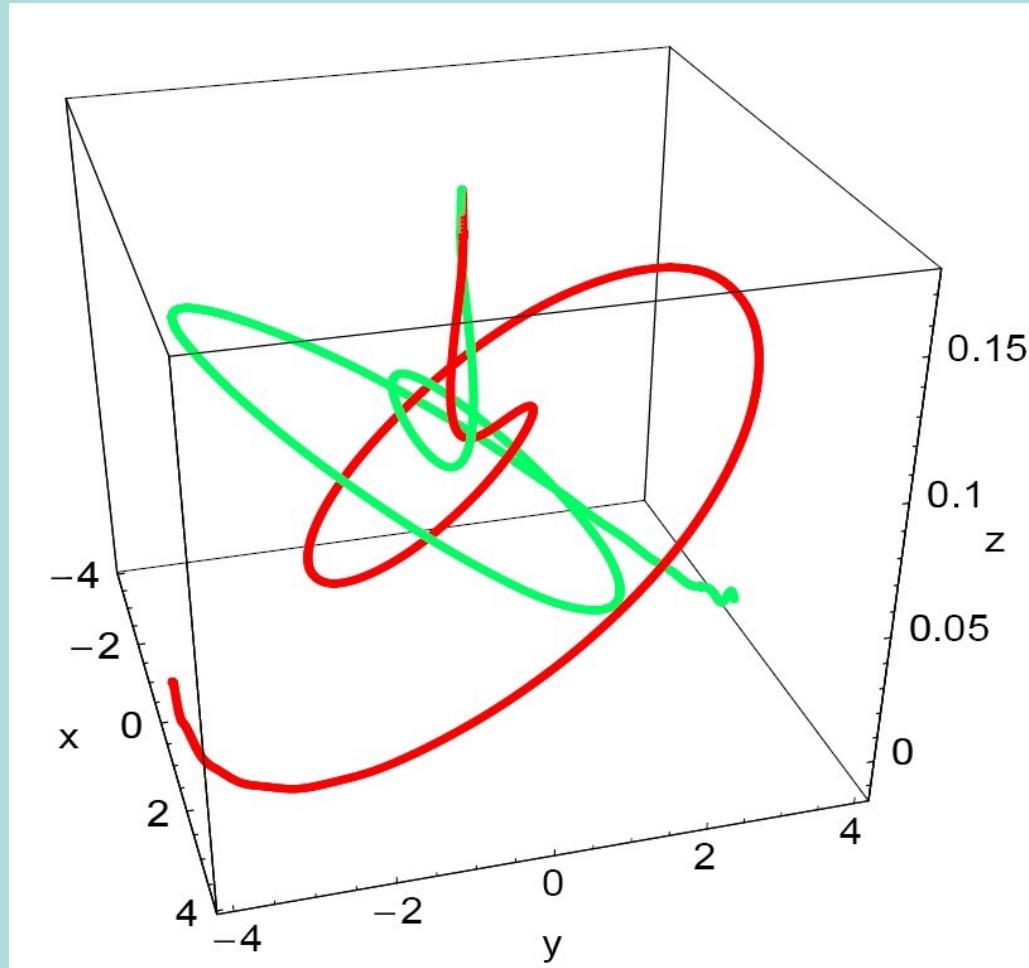
RIT '07

- Highly eccentric orbits  $v = 10000 \text{ km/s}$

PSU '08

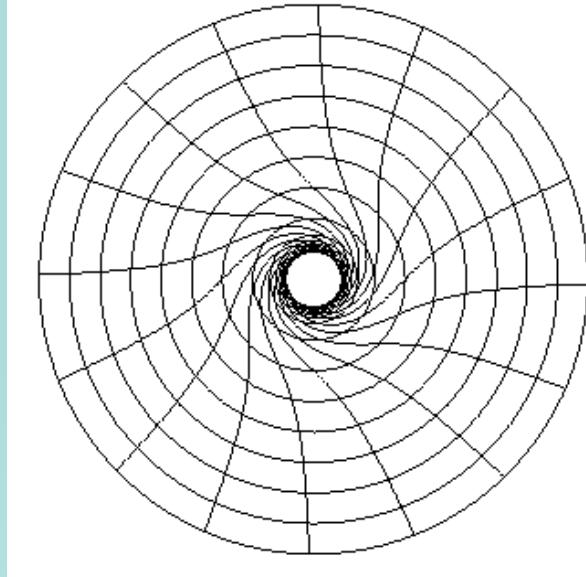
# What's happening physically?

- Black holes “move up and down”



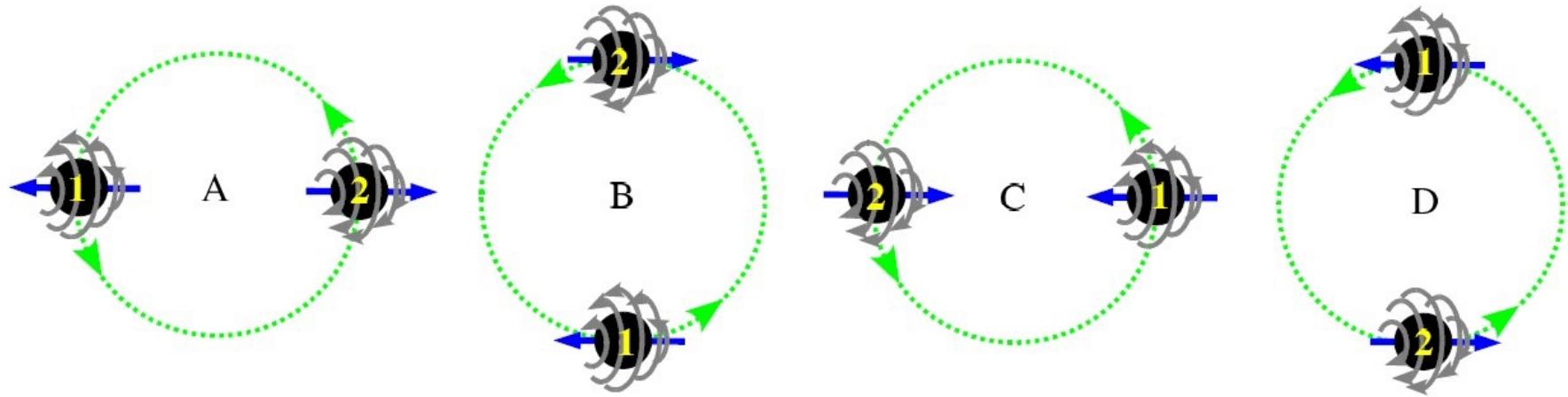
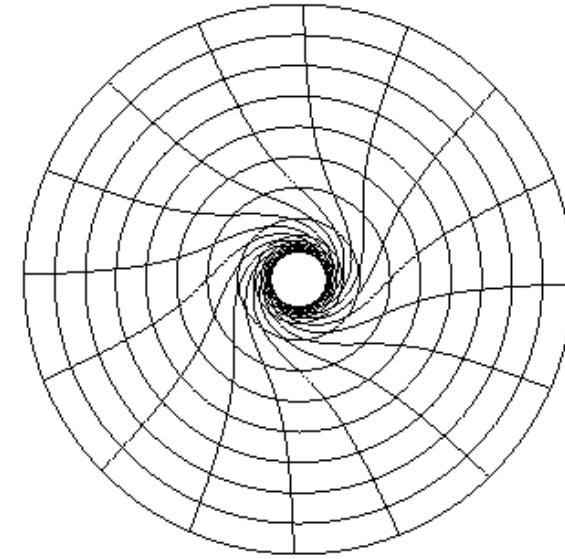
# A closer look at super kicks

- Physical explanation:  
“Frame dragging”
- Recall: rotating BH drags  
objects along with its rotation



# A closer look at super kicks

- Physical explanation:  
“Frame dragging”
- Recall: rotating BH drags  
objects along with its rotation



Thanks to F. Pretorius

# How realistic are superkicks?

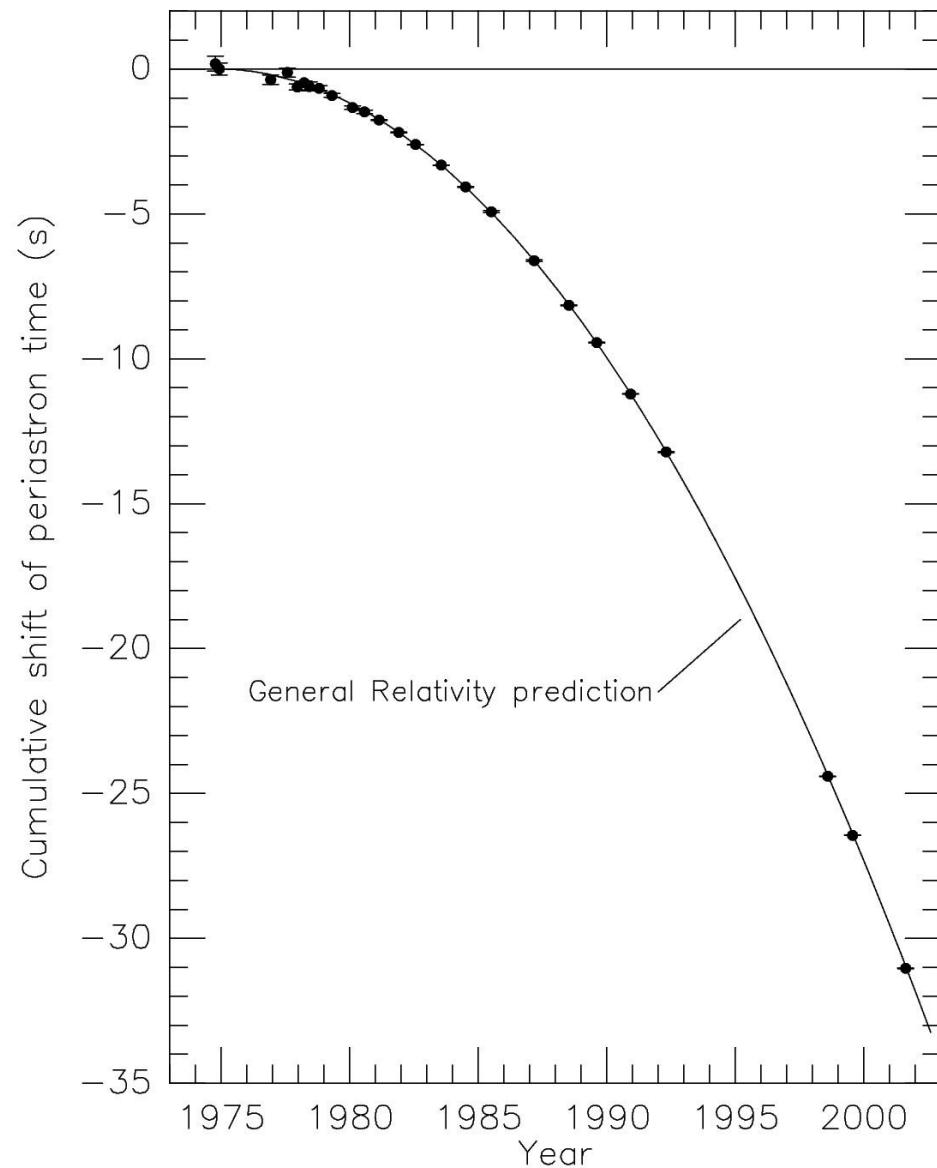
- Observations  $\Rightarrow$  BHs are not generically ejected!
- Are superkicks real?
- Gas accretion may align spins with orbit Bogdanovic et al.
- Kick distribution function:  $v_{\text{kick}} = v_{\text{kick}}(S_1, S_2, M_1 / M_2)$
- Analytic models and fits: Boyle, Kesden & Nissanke, AEI, RIT, Tichy & Marronetti,...
- Use numerical results to determine free parameters
- 7-dim. Parameter space: Messy! Not yet conclusive...
- EOB study  $\Rightarrow$  only 12% of all mergers have  $v > 500 \text{ km/s}$   
Schnittman & Buonanno '08

## 7.4. Numerical relativity and data analysis

# The Hulse-Taylor pulsar

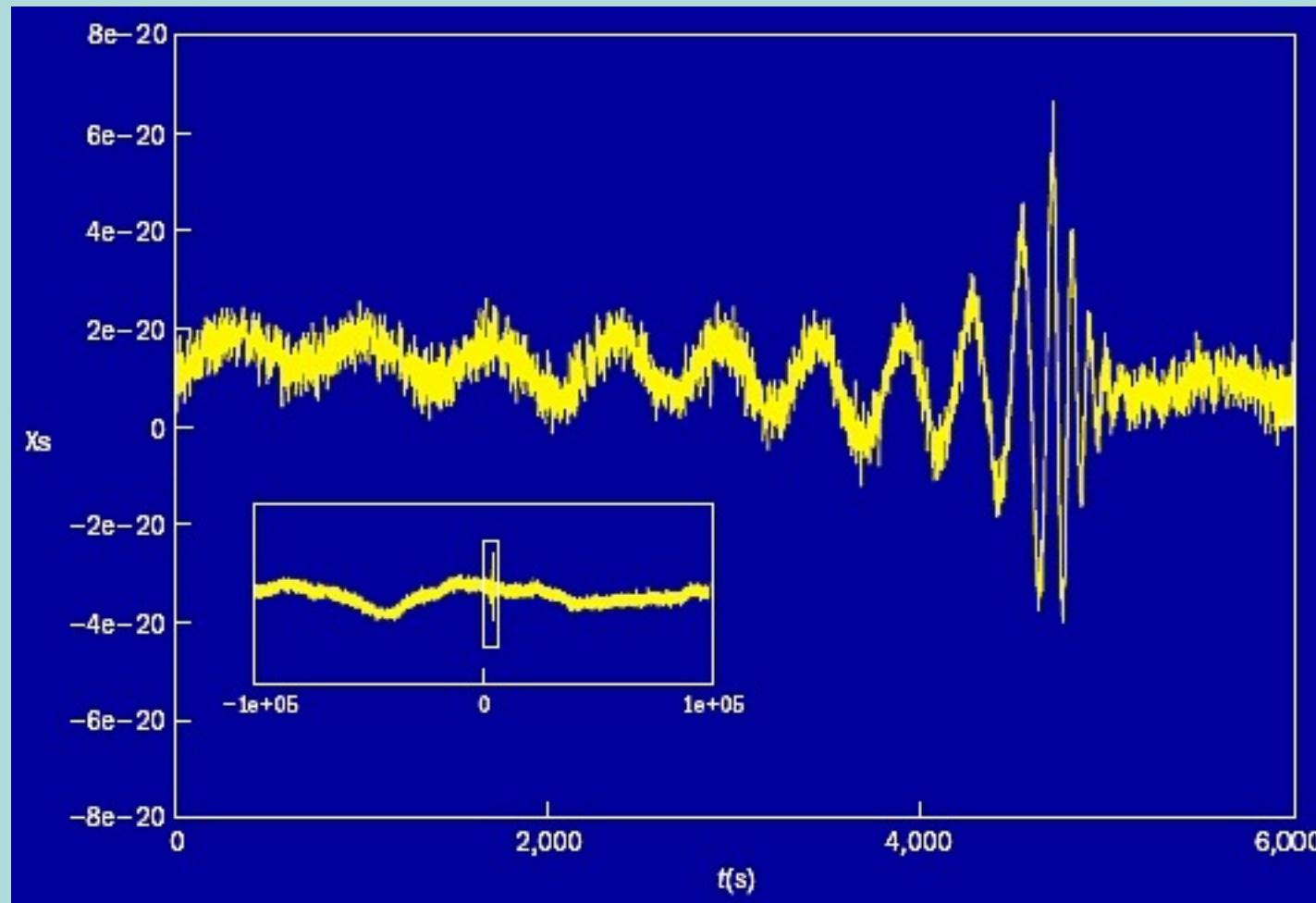
Hulse, Taylor '93

- Binary pulsar 1913+16
- GW emission
- Inspiral
- Change in period
- Excellent agreement with relativistic prediction



# The data stream: Strong LISA source

- SMBH binary



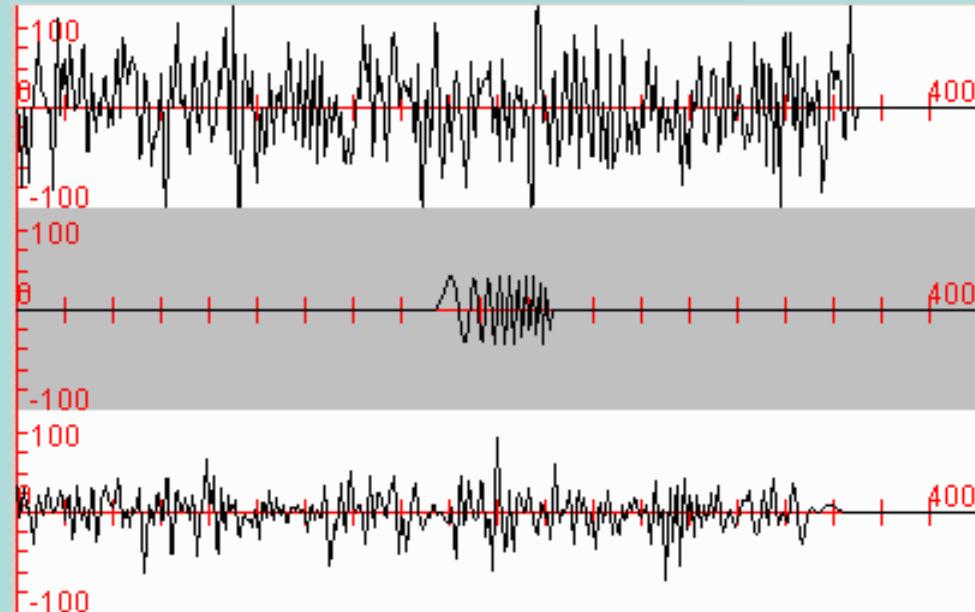
# The data stream: Matched filtering

- Matched filtering (not real data)

Noise + Signal

Theoretically  
Predicted signal

Overlap

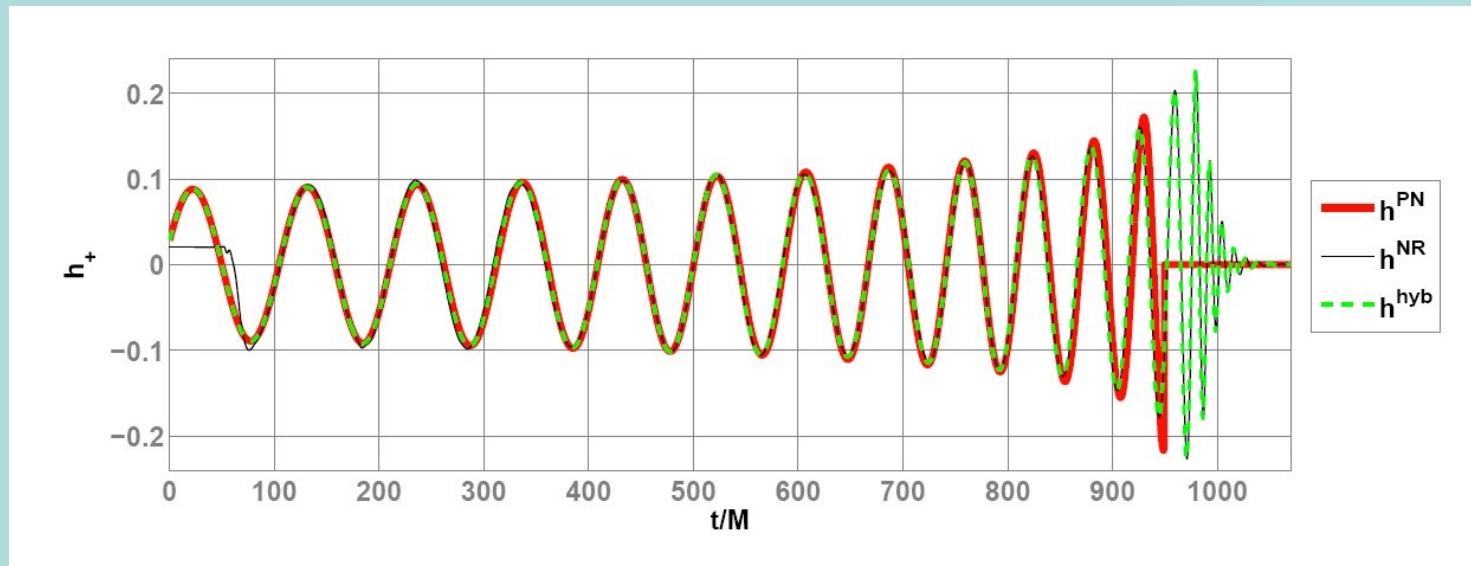


- Filter with one waveform per parameter combination
- Problem: 7-dim parameter space
- We need template banks!

# Numerical relativity meets data analysis

Ajith et al. '07

- PN, NR  $\Rightarrow$  hybrid waveforms



- Approximate hybrid WFs with phenomenological WFs
- Fitting factors: 0.99
- Create look-up tables to map between phenomenological and physical parameters

# Numerical relativity meets data analysis

PSU '07

- Investigate waveforms from spinning binaries
- Detection of spinning holes likely to require inclusion of higher order multipoles

Cardiff '07

- Higher order multipoles important for parameter estimates

Pan et al. '07

- Equal-mass, non-spinning binaries
- Plot combined waveforms for different masses

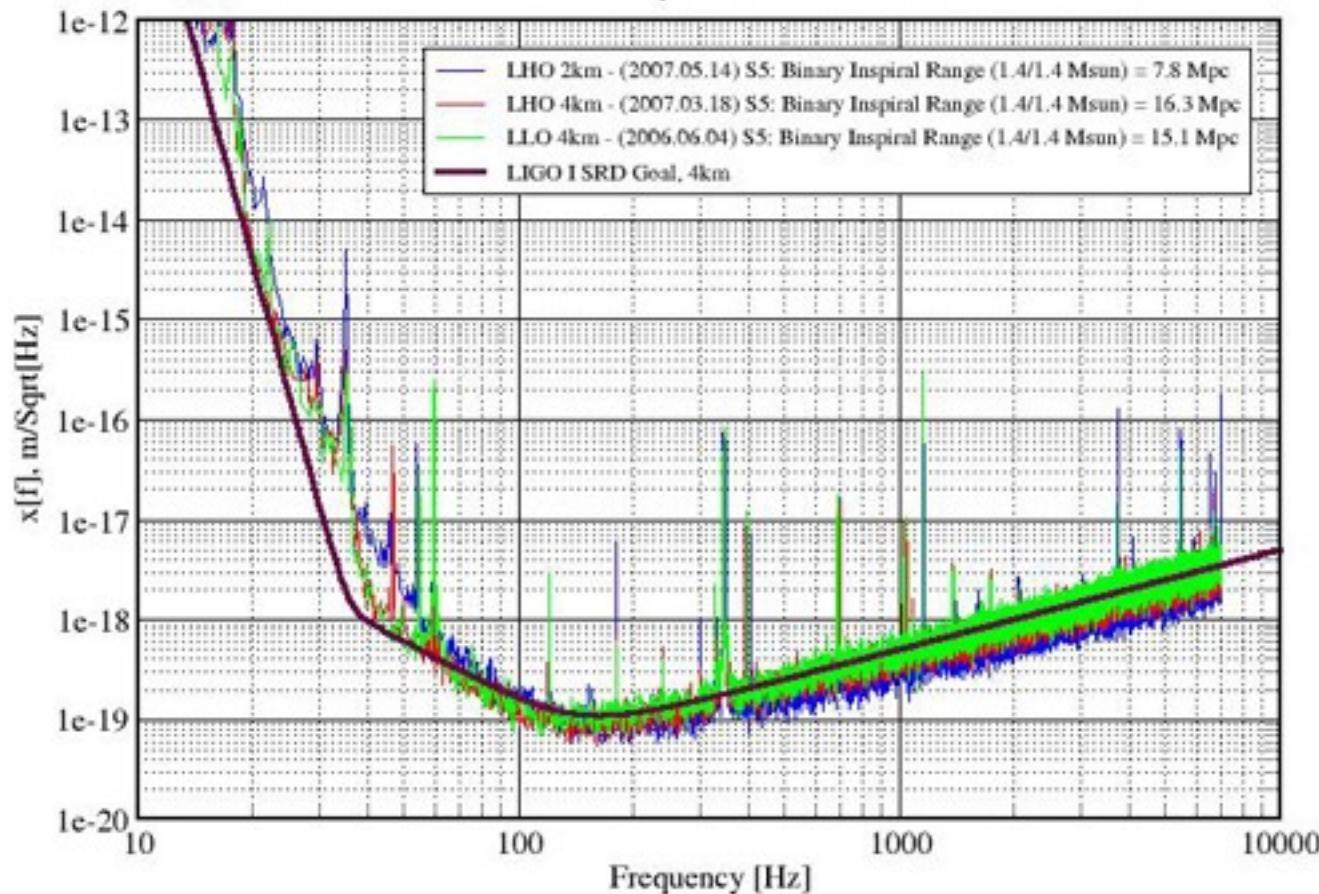
Ninja

- Large scale effort to use NR in DA

# Noise curves

## Displacement Sensitivity of the LIGO Interferometers

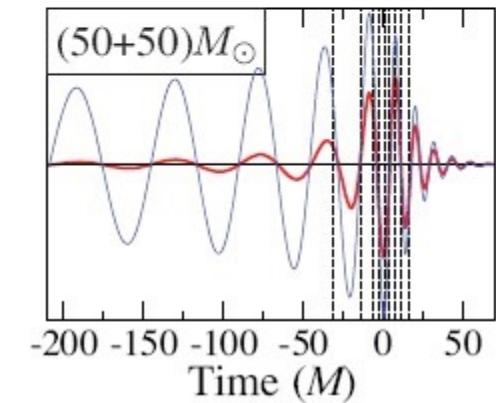
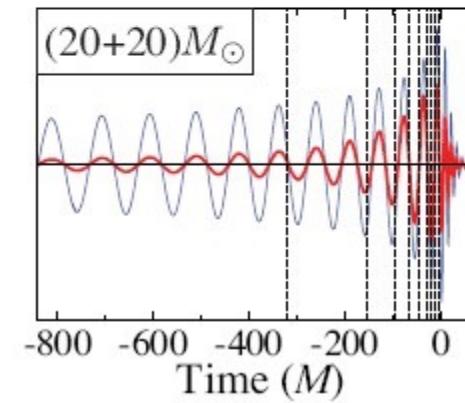
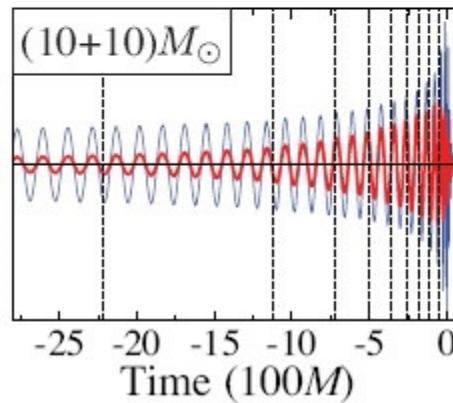
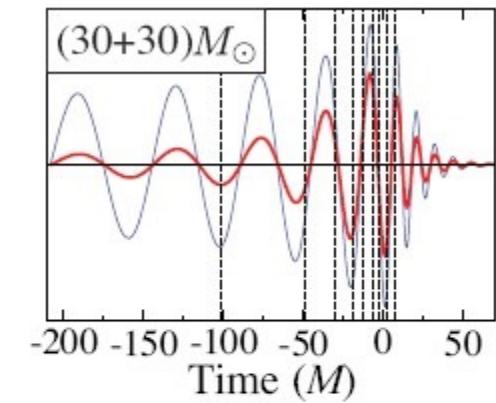
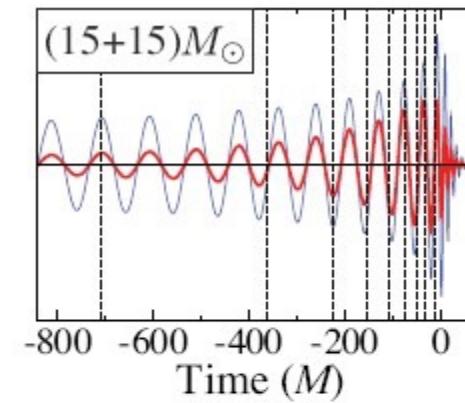
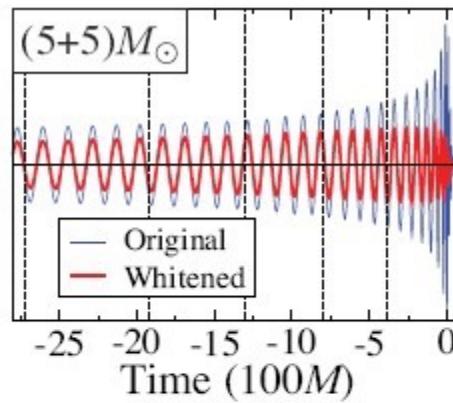
Performance for S5 - May 2007    LIGO-G070367-00-E



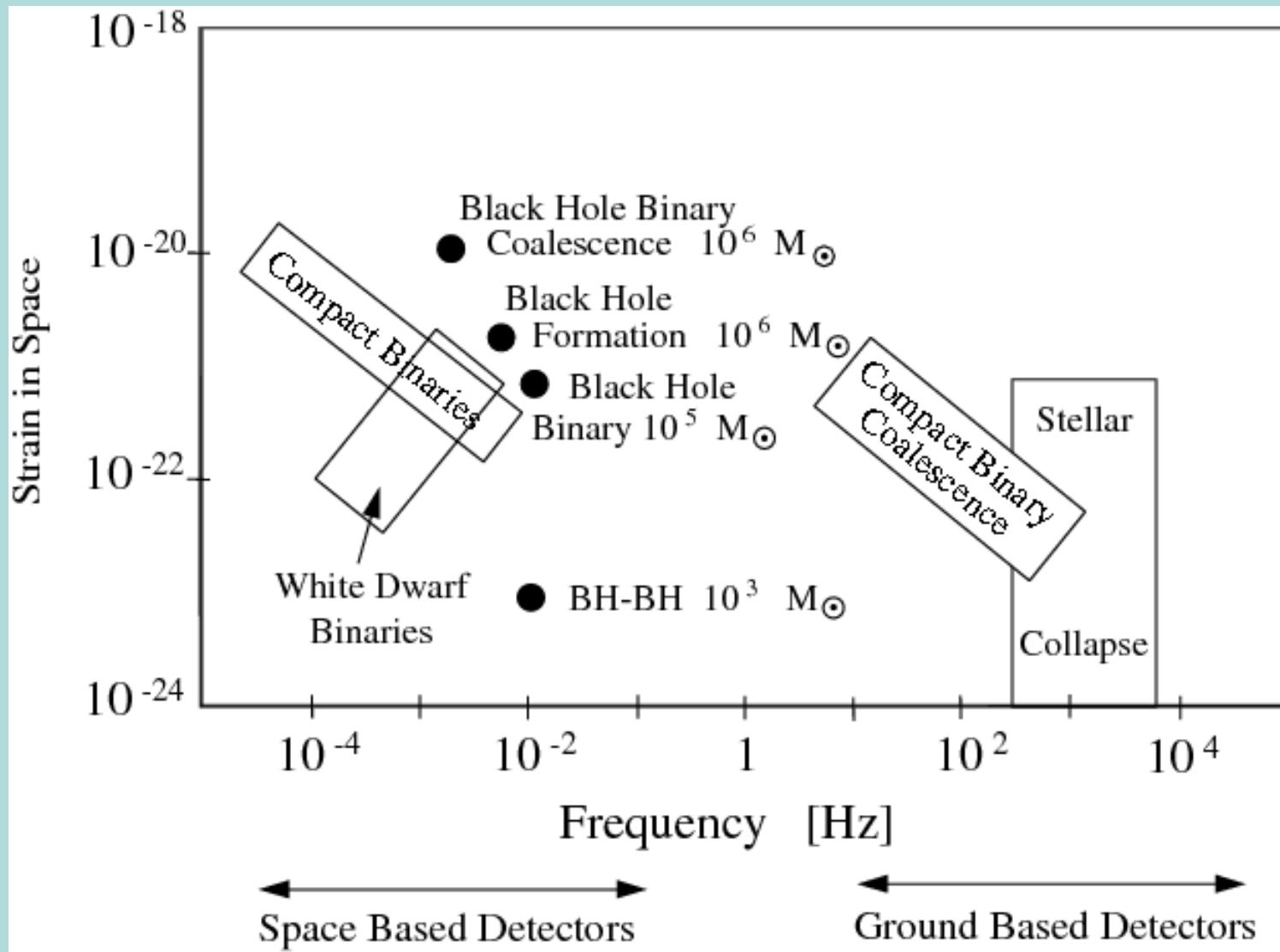
# Size doesn't matter... or does it?

- $10 M_{\text{sol}}$  Only 50 % in last 25 cycles plus Merger and RD
- $20 M_{\text{sol}}$  > 90 % in last 23 cycles + MRD
- $30 M_{\text{sol}}$  > 90 % in last 11 cycles + MRD NR can do that!
- $100 M_{\text{sol}}$  > 90 % in last cycle + MRD Burst!

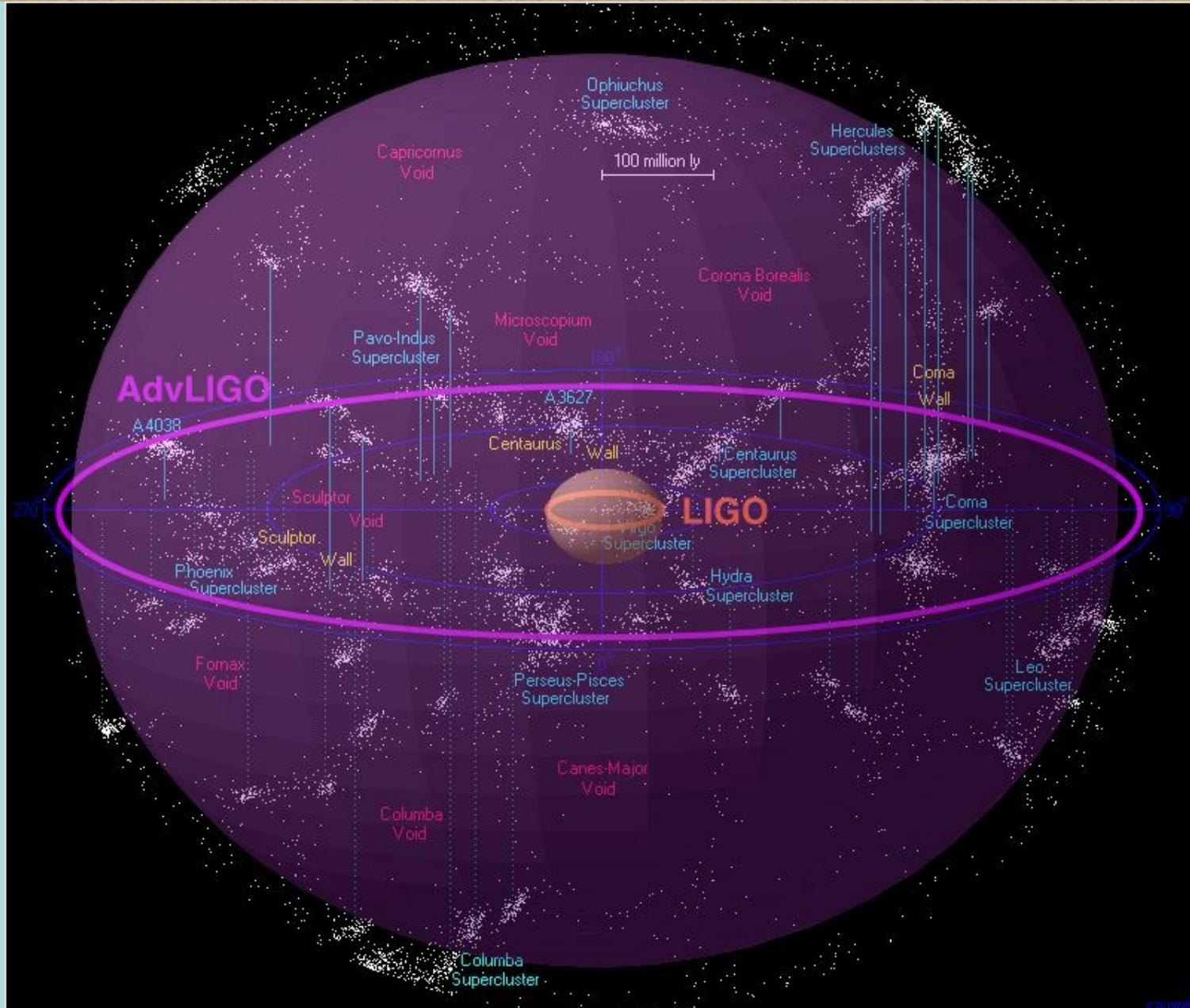
Buonanno  
et al.'07



# Expected GW sources



# How far can we observe?



## 7.4. High energy collisions

# Motivation

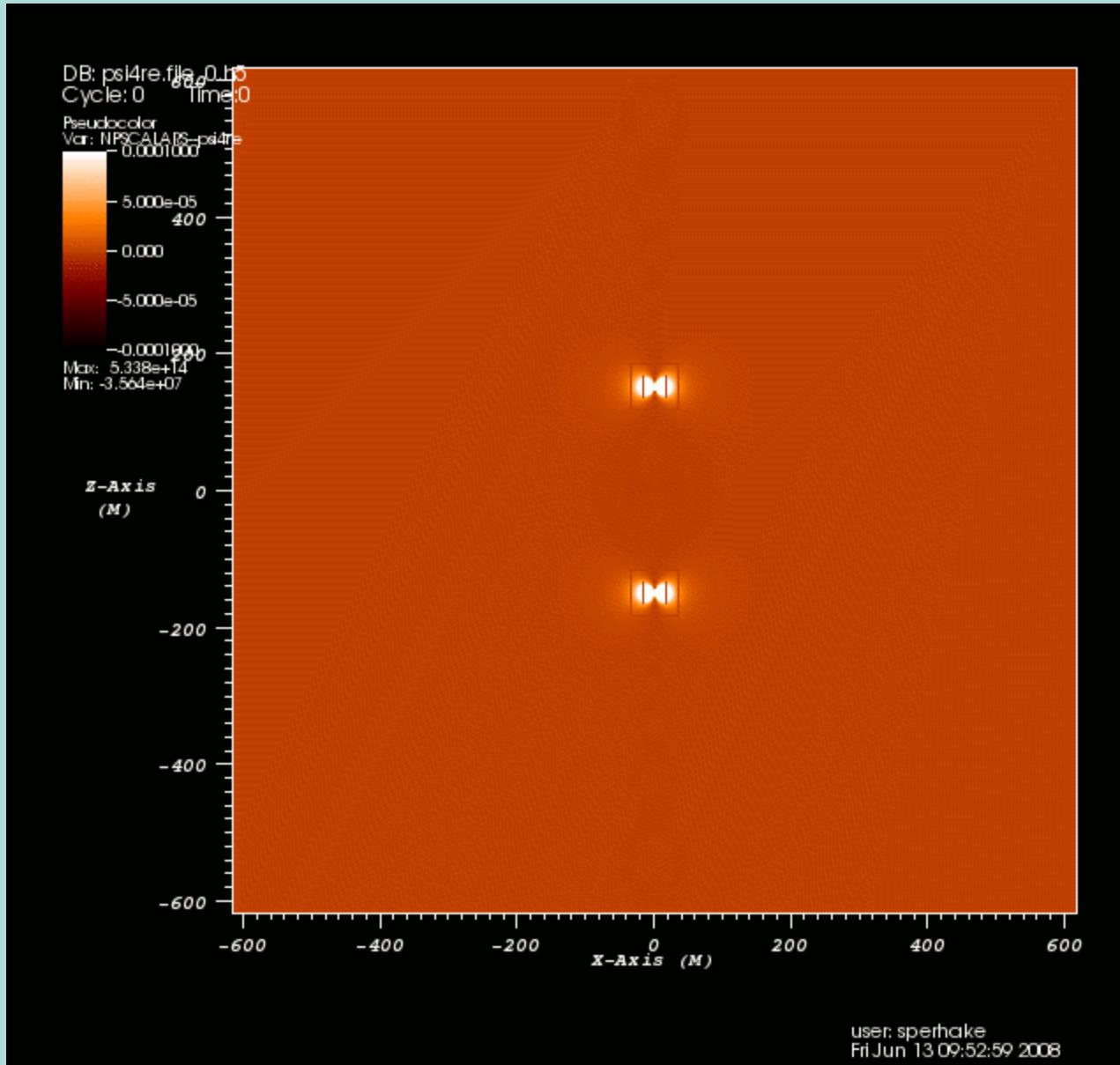
US, Cardoso, Pretorius, Berti & González '08

- Head-on collision of BHs near the speed of light
- Test cosmic censorship
- Maximal radiated energy
- First step to estimate GW leakage in LHC collisions
- Model GR in most violent regime
- Numerically challenging
  - Resolution, Junk radiation

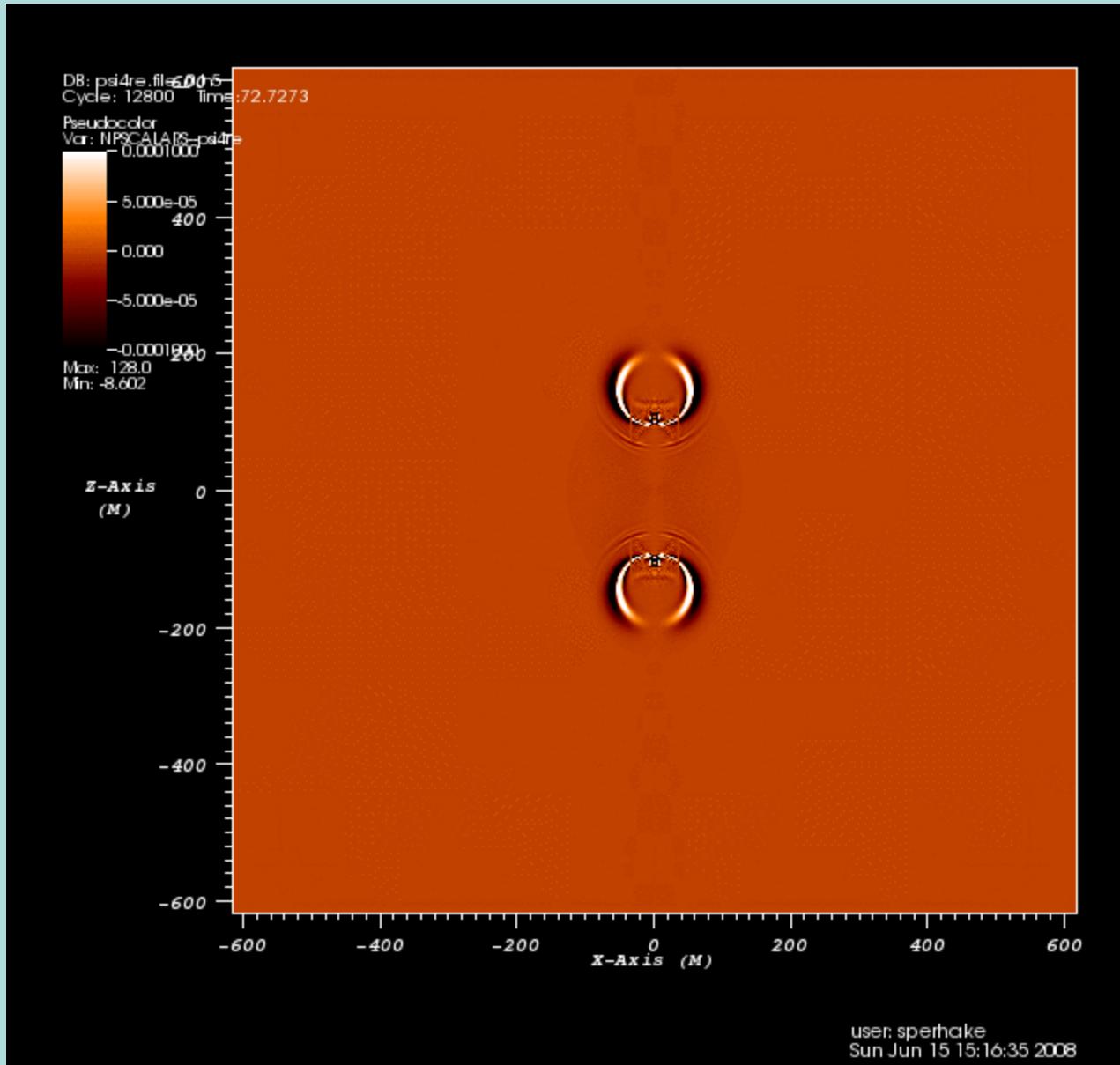
Shibata et al. '08

- Grazing collisions, cross sections
- Radiated energy even larger

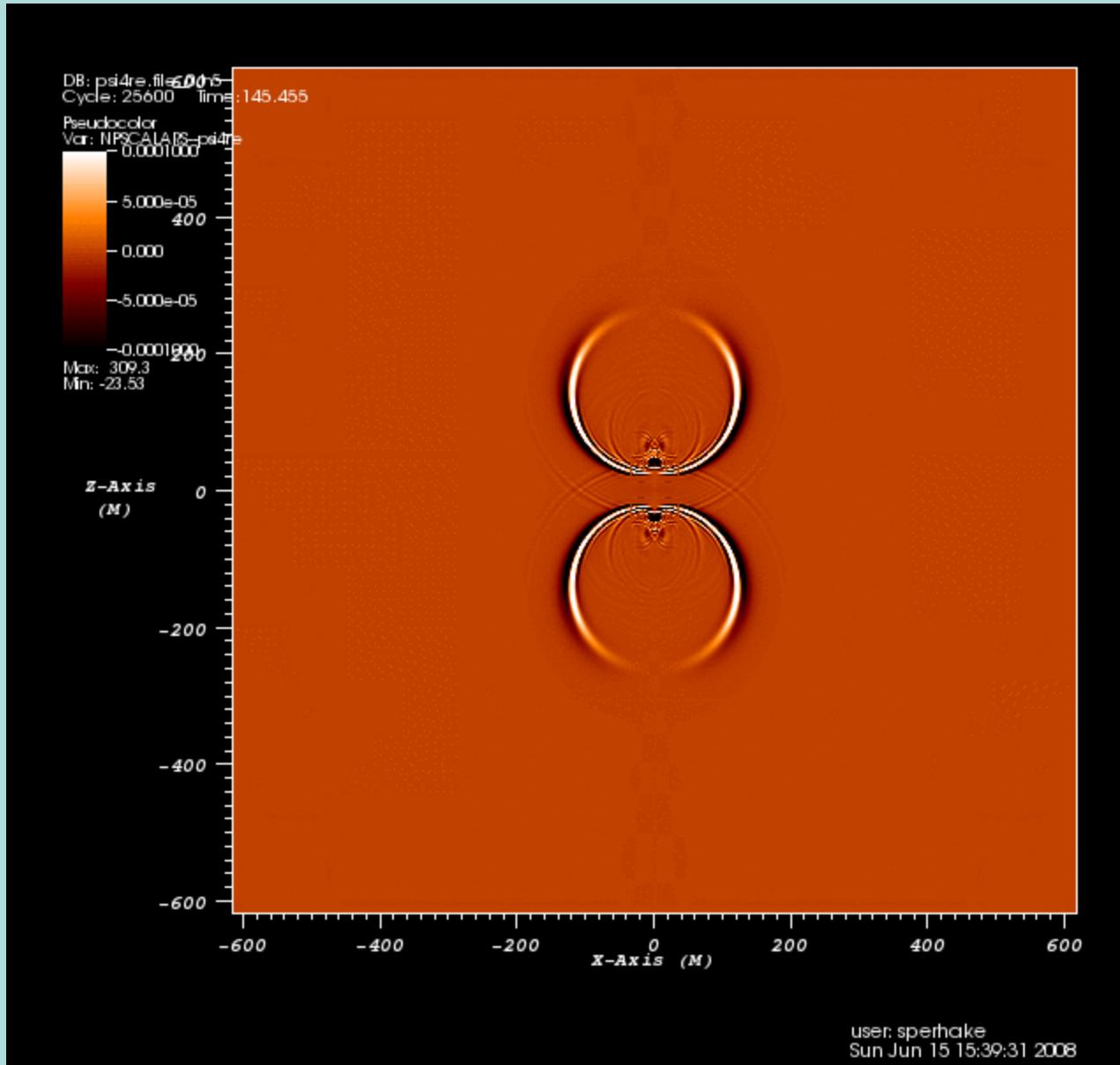
# Example: Head-on with 2.75



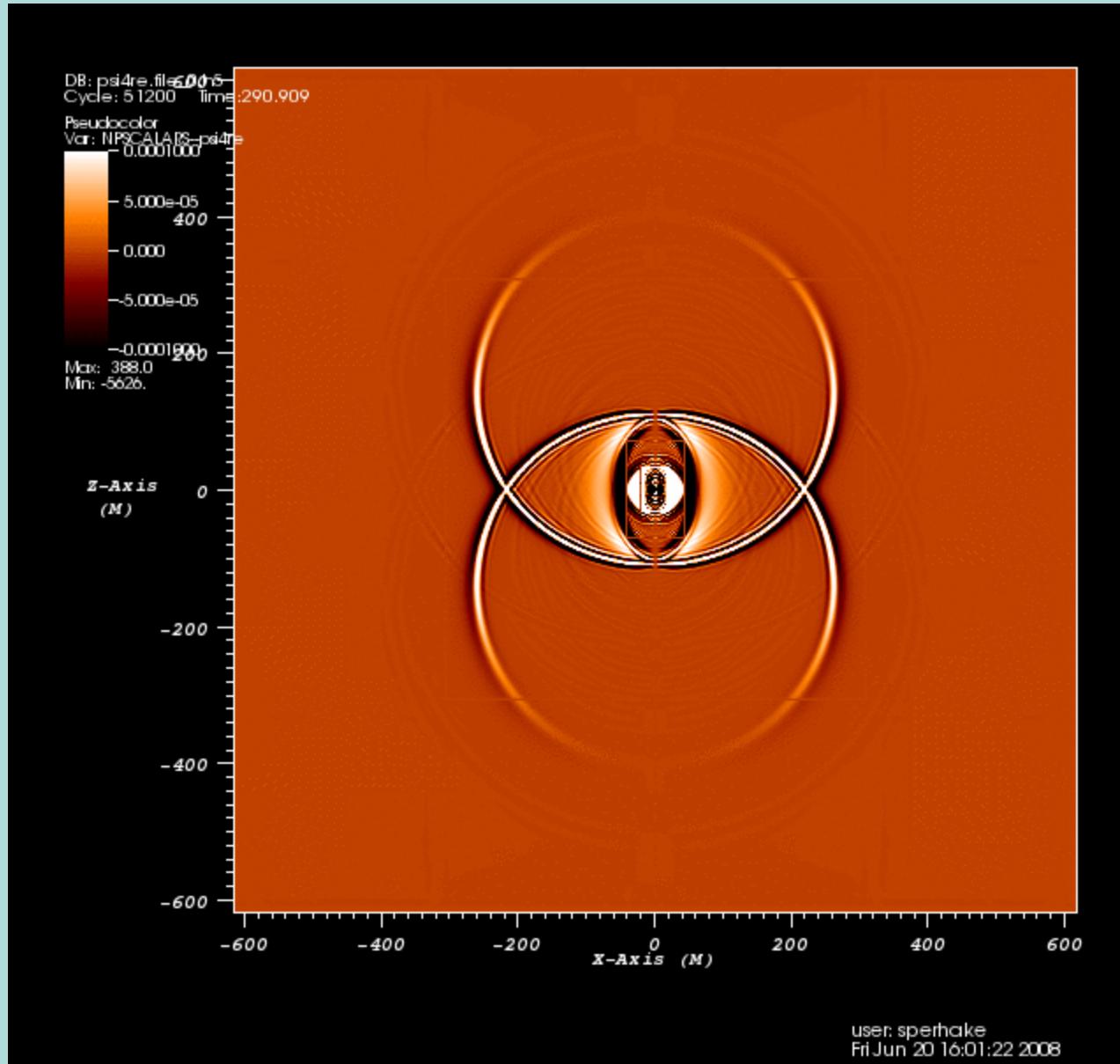
# Example: Head-on with 2.75



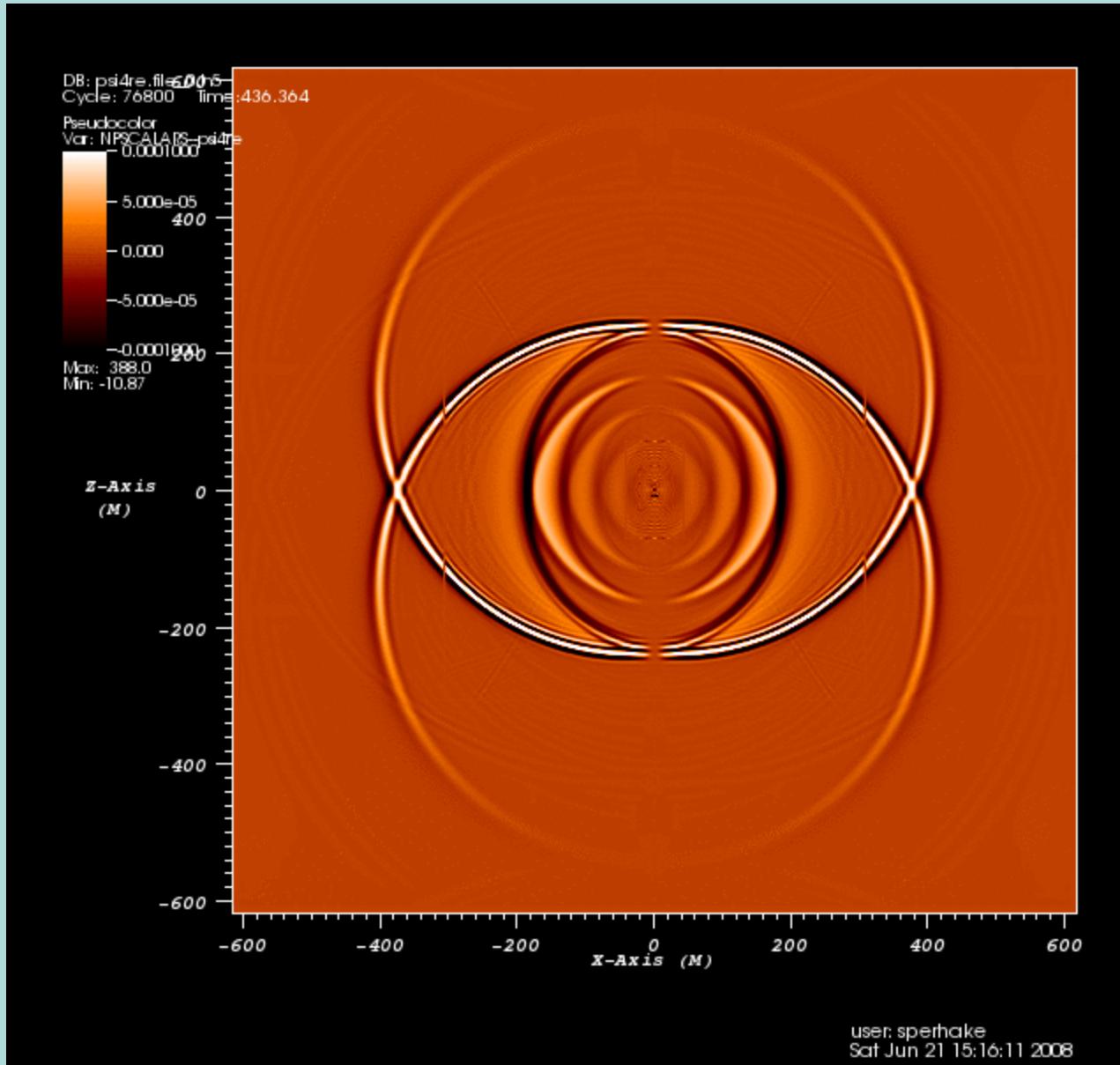
# Example: Head-on with 2.75



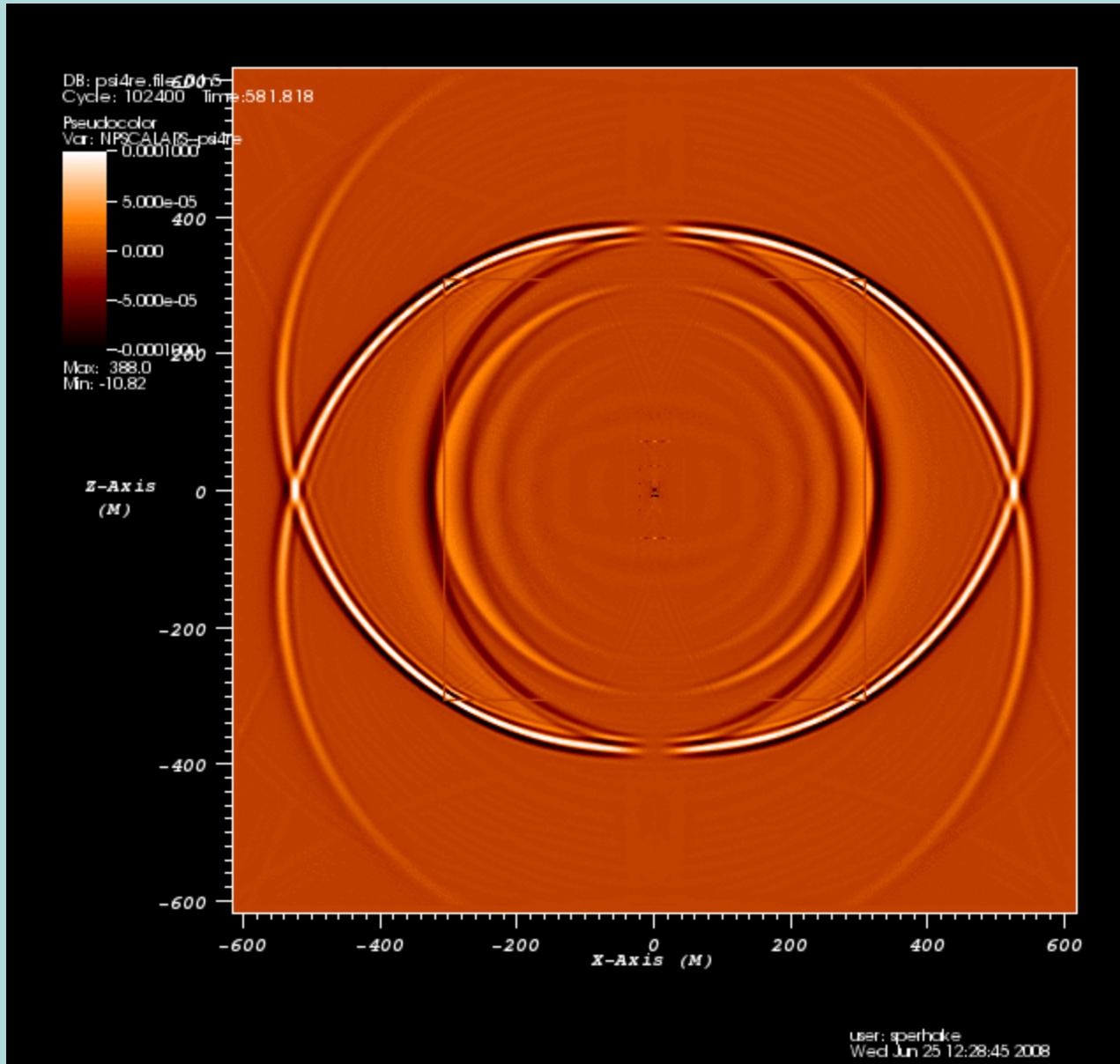
# Example: Head-on with 2.75



# Example: Head-on with 2.75

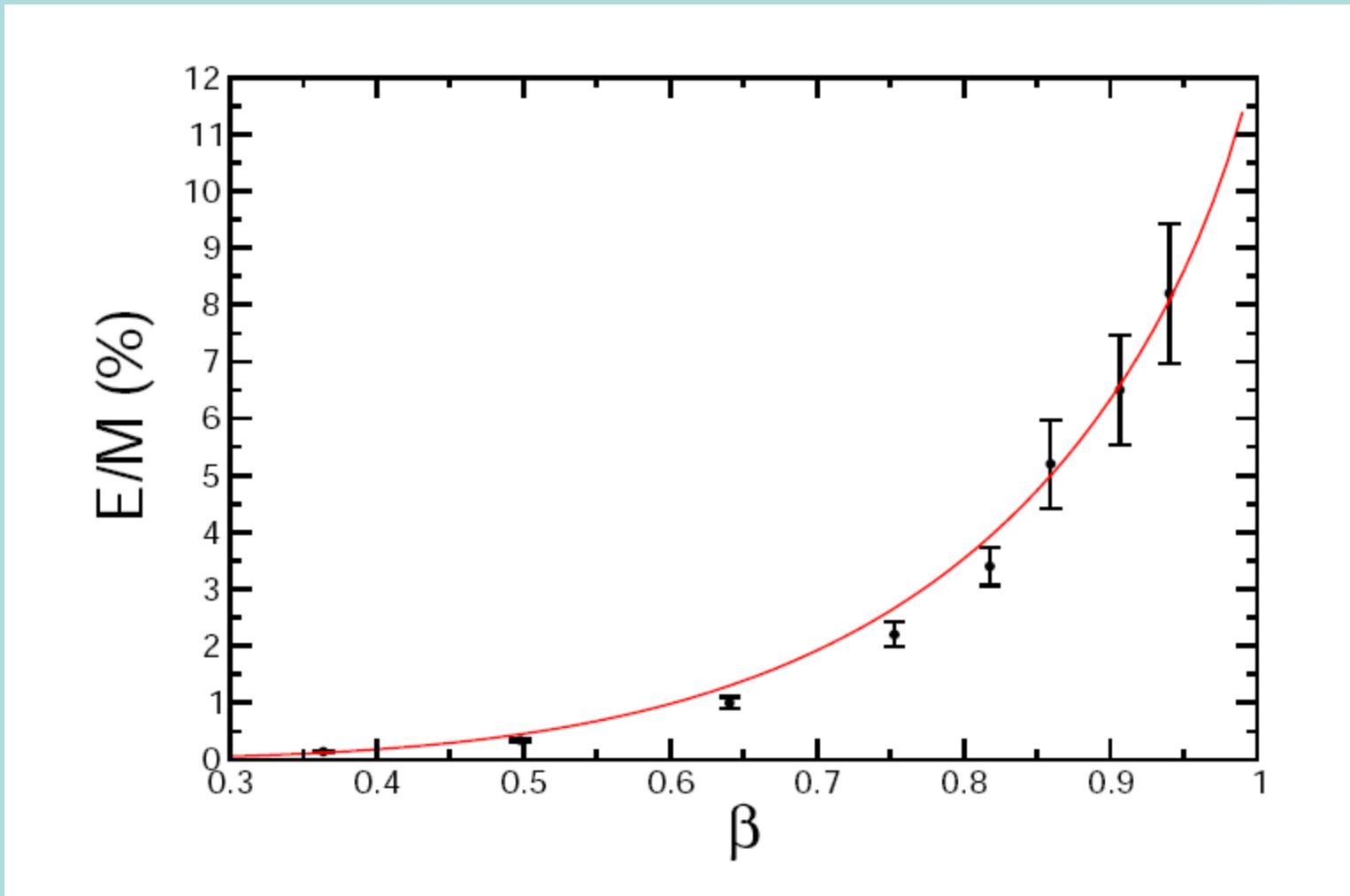


# Example: Head-on with 2.75



# Total radiated energy

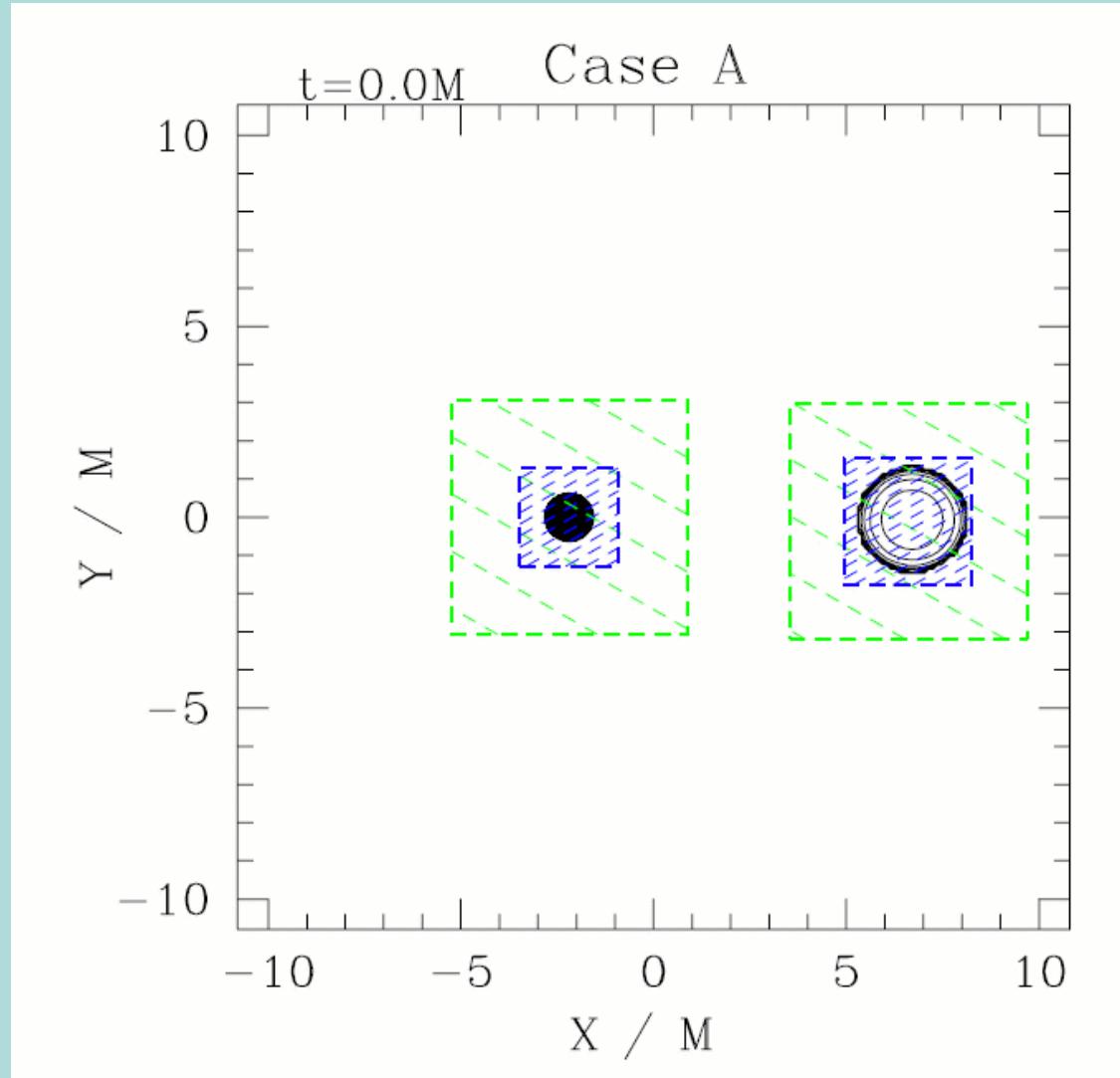
- Total radiated energy:  $14 \pm 3\%$  about half of Penrose's limit



## **7.5. Neutron star – BH binaries**

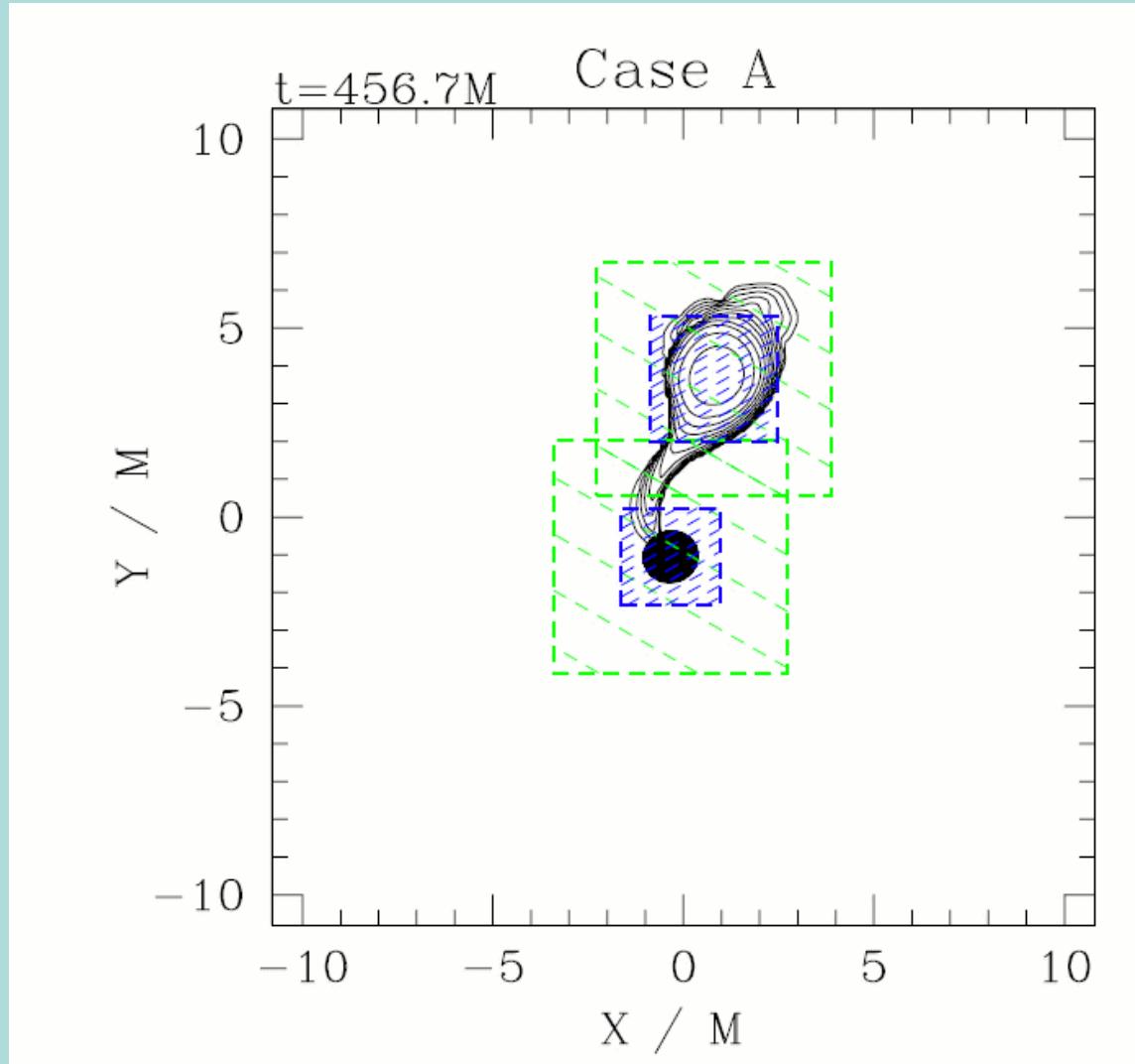
# Neutron star is disrupted

Etienne et al. '08



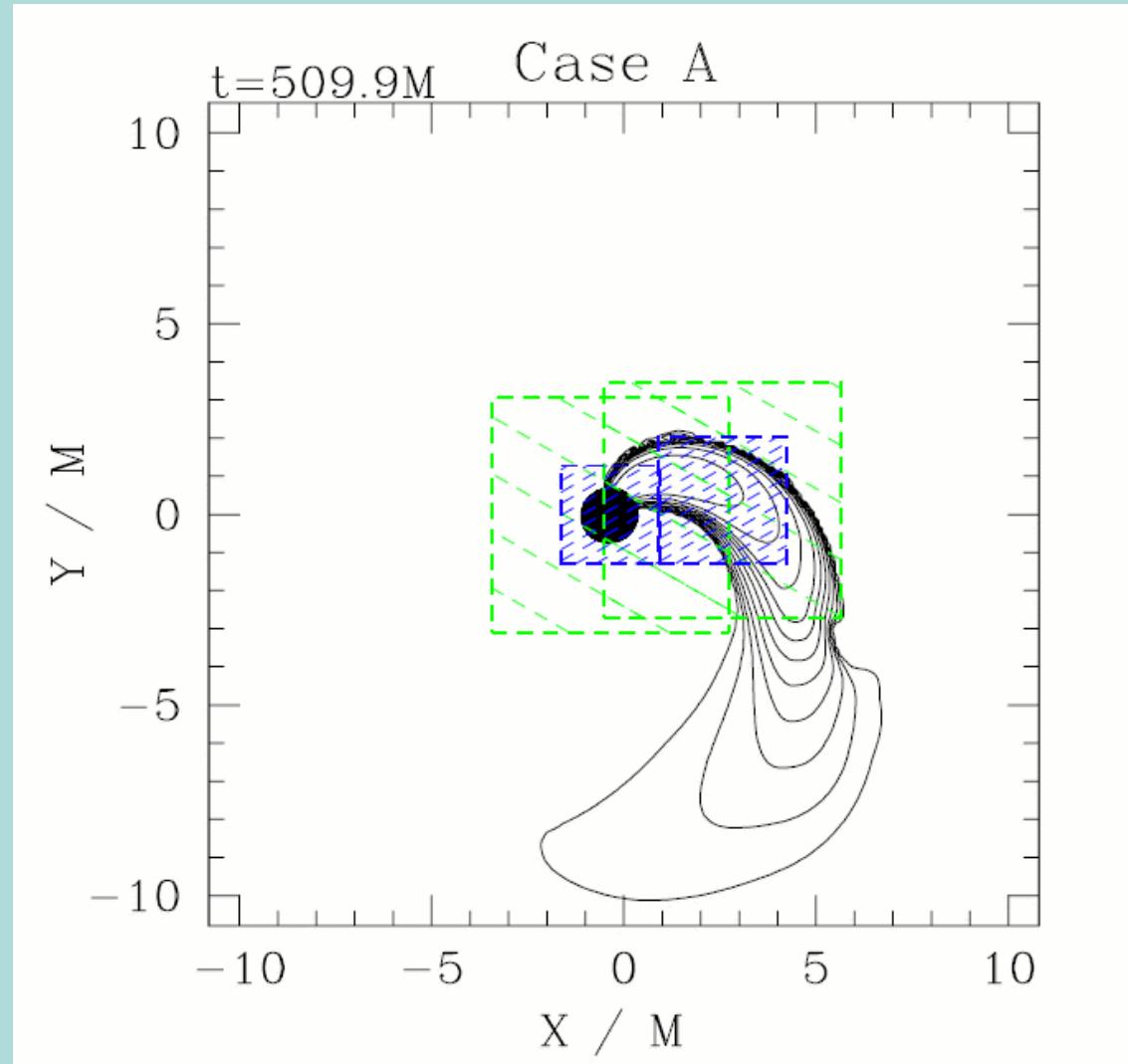
# Neutron star is disrupted

Etienne et al. '08



# Neutron star is disrupted

Etienne et al. '08

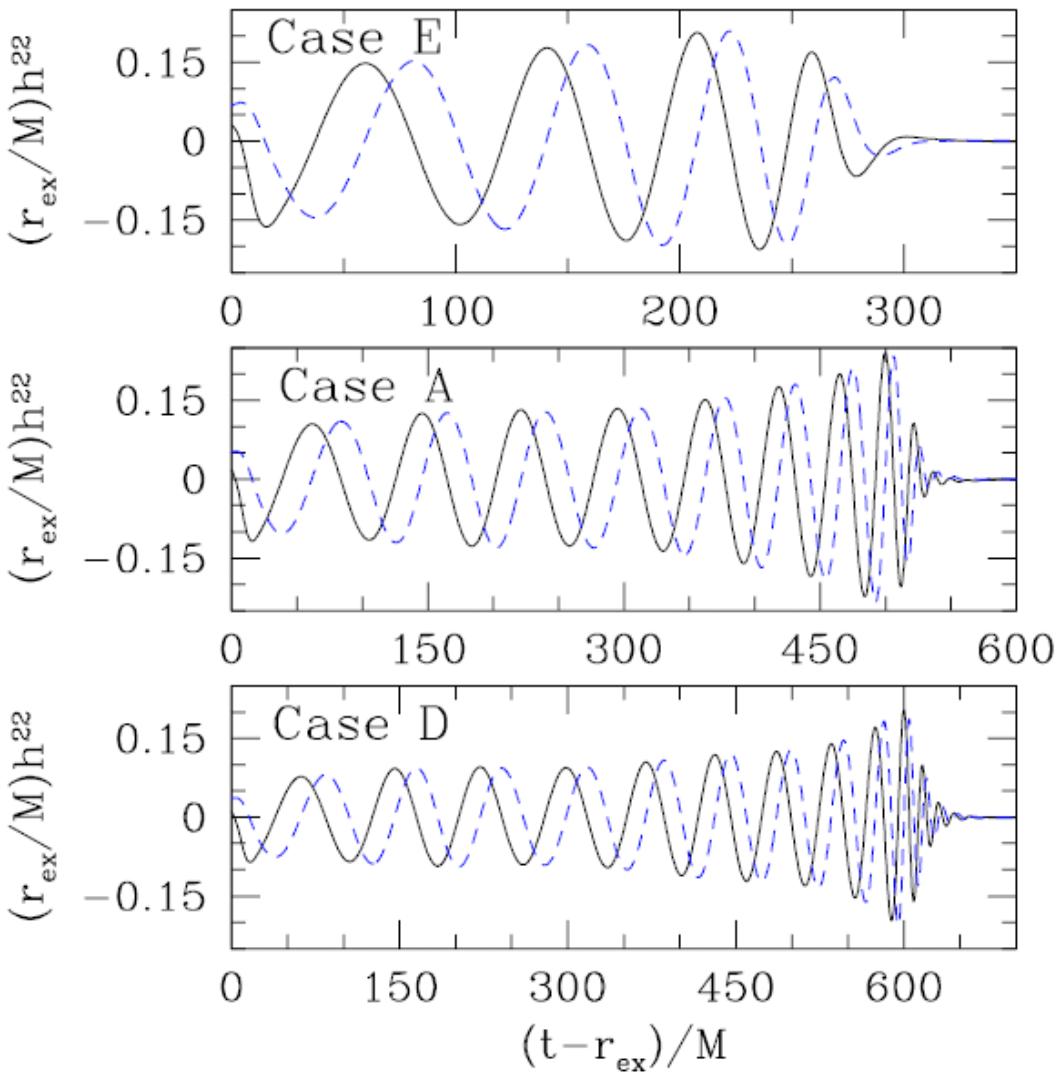


# Waveforms

Etienne et al. '08

- Ringdown depends on mass ratio  
 $q = 1, 3, 5$

- Active research area:  
UIUC, AEI,  
Caltech/Cornell



## **Future research**

# Main future research directions

- Gravitational wave detection
  - ▶ PN comparisons with spin
  - ▶ Generate template banks
  - ▶ Understand how to best generate/use hybrid wave forms
  - ▶ Simulate extreme mass ratios
- Astrophysics
  - ▶ Distribution functions for Kick, BH-spin, BH-mass
  - ▶ Improve understanding of Accretion, GW bursts,...
- Fundamental physics
  - ▶ High energy collisions: radiated energy, cross sections
  - ▶ Higher dimensional BH simulations