

# Visualizing 2PN Binary Black Hole Spin Precession

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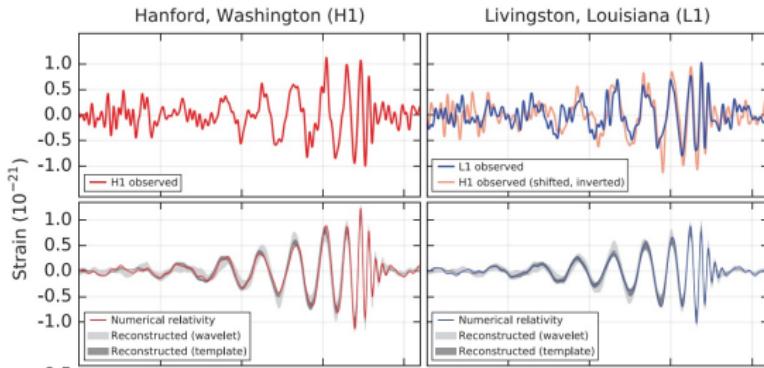
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# Outline

- Motivation: Binary Black Hole (BBH) Spin Precession and LIGO
- Post-Newtonian Approximation: Timescale Hierarchy
  - ▶  $t_{\text{orb}} \ll t_{\text{pre}} \ll t_{\text{RR}}$
- Reference Frames Used to Study BBH Spin Precession
  - ▶  $(\theta_1, \theta_2, \Delta\Phi)$
  - ▶  $(\xi, J, S)$
  - ▶ 2D Parameter spaces:  $(S, \xi)$ ,  $(J, \xi)$ , and  $(S, J)$
- 3D Visualization in the  $(\xi, J, S)$  Parameter space
  - ▶ Peculiar Configuration: "Wide Precession"
- Conclusion

# Motivation: LIGO and Spinning BBHs



First GW  
Detection!!  
GW150914

$$\mathcal{M}/M_{\odot} = 28.1^{+1.8}_{-1.5}$$

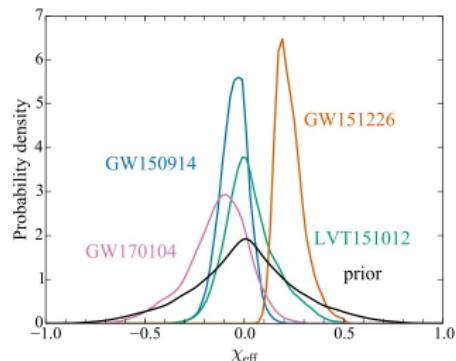
$$m_1/M_{\odot} = 36.2^{+5.2}_{-3.8}$$

$$m_2/M_{\odot} = 29.1^{+3.7}_{-4.4}$$

$$\xi = -0.06^{+1.4}_{-1.4}$$

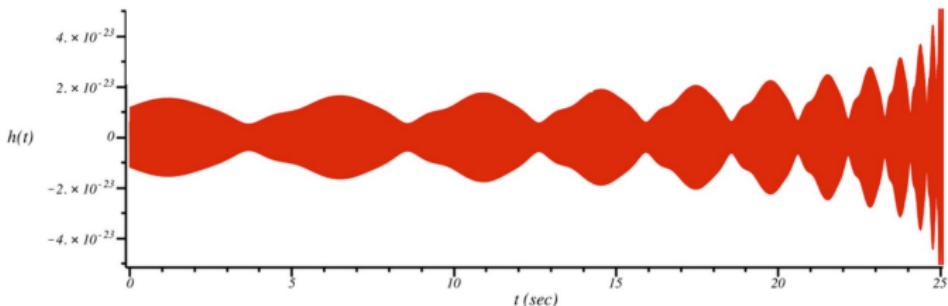
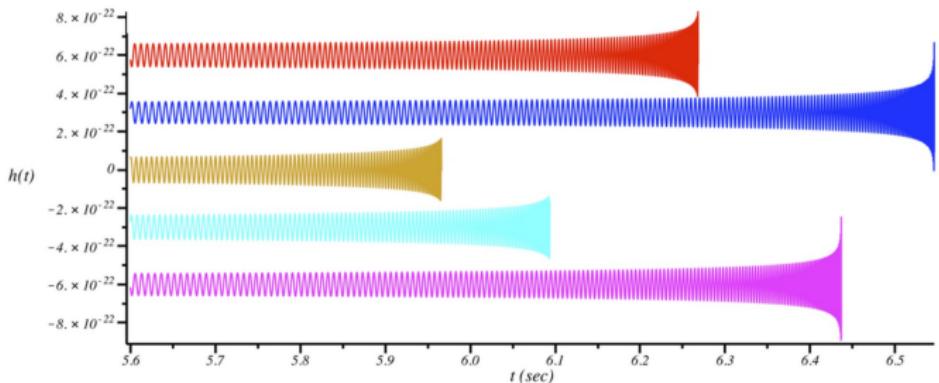
$$\chi_1 = ?, \chi_2 = ?$$

$$\xi = \frac{\chi_1 \cos(\theta_1) + q \chi_2 \cos(\theta_2)}{1+q}$$



# Motivation: LIGO and Spinning BBHs

- Astrophysics: Spin orientation is the most promising source!



# Post-Newtonian Approximation: Timescale Hierarchy

- Newtonian description in the lowest order and GR effects as higher order perturbations;
  - ▶ Background spacetime is Minkowski spacetime
  - ▶ Expansion in  $\epsilon = v^2/c^2$
- In the Post-Newtonian Regime, the precession equations:

$$\dot{\mathbf{S}}_1 = \frac{1}{2r^3} \left[ (4 + 3q)\mathbf{L} - \frac{3qM^2\xi}{1+q}\hat{\mathbf{L}} + \mathbf{S}_2 \right] \times \mathbf{S}_1$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{S}}_2 = \frac{1}{2r^3} \left[ (4 + \frac{3}{q})\mathbf{L} - \frac{3M^2\xi}{1+q}\hat{\mathbf{L}} + \mathbf{S}_1 \right] \times \mathbf{S}_2$$

## Post-Newtonian Approximation: Timescale Hierarchy

In the PN regime, the dynamics of precessing BBHs has a strong timescale hierarchy:

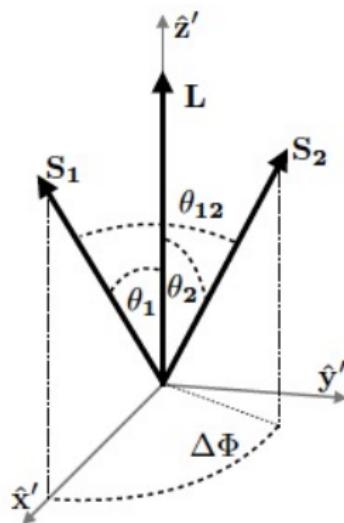
- Orbital time:  $t_{\text{orb}} \sim r^{3/2}/(GM)^{1/2}$
- Precession time:  $t_{\text{pre}} \sim c^2 r^{5/2}/(GM)^{3/2}$
- Radiation-reaction time:  $t_{\text{RR}} \sim c^5 r^4/(GM)^3$

$$t_{\text{orb}} \ll t_{\text{pre}} \ll t_{\text{RR}}$$

*Gerosa et al., arXiv:1506.03492 [gr-qc]*

## Reference Frames

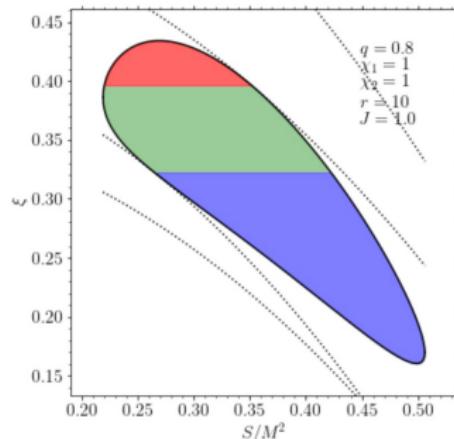
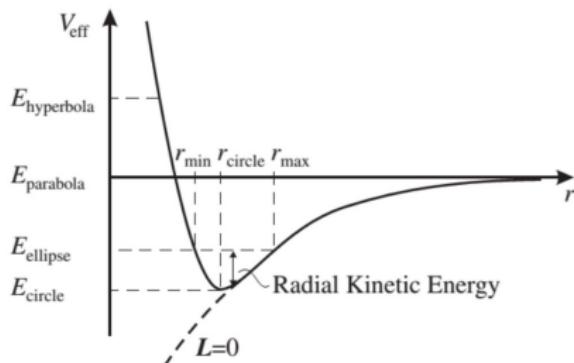
- $\mathbf{S}_1, \mathbf{S}_2$  and  $\mathbf{L} \Rightarrow 9\text{D}$  parameter space
- Constant:  $\chi_1, \chi_2$
- Reference frame:  $L_x = L_y = S_{y_1} = 0$
- 4 parameter:  $(r, \theta_1, \theta_2, \Delta\Phi)$ 
  - ▶  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \Delta\Phi = f(\xi, J, S)$
- 4 parameter:  $(r, \xi, J, S)$ 
  - ▶  $\xi \Rightarrow$  constant on  $t_{\text{pre}}$  and  $t_{\text{RR}}$
  - ▶  $J \Rightarrow$  constant on  $t_{\text{pre}}$
  - ▶  $S_{\min} \leq S \leq S_{\max} \Rightarrow$  varies on  $t_{\text{pre}}$



## 2D Parameter spaces: $(S, \xi)$ , $(J, \xi)$

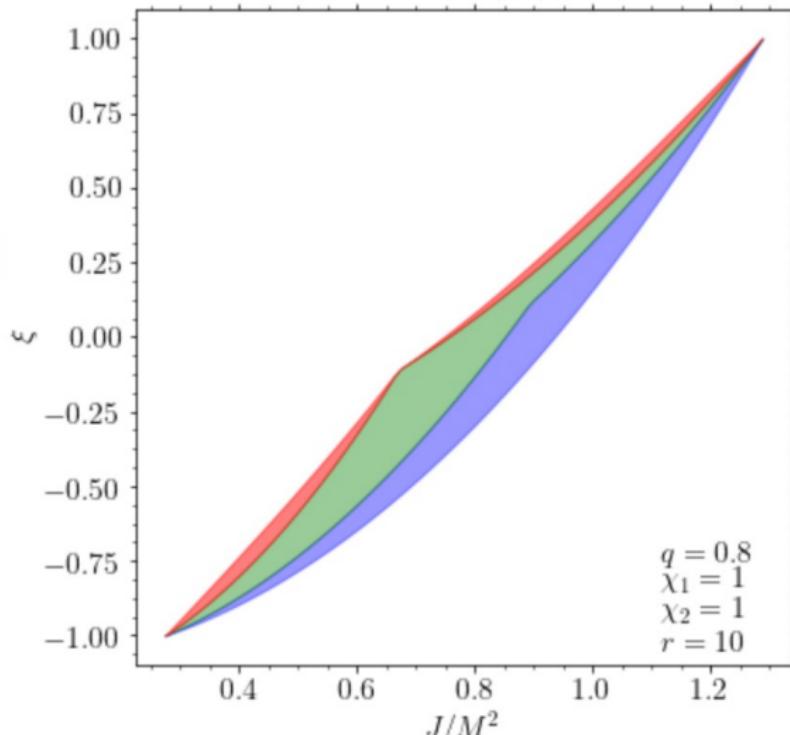
- Analogy between Classical Mechanics two body problem and Spin precession

$$(t, E, L, r) = (r, \xi, J, S)$$



## 2D Parameter spaces: $(J, \xi)$

- $S$ : Varies on  $t_{\text{pre}}$
- $J$ : Varies on  $t_{\text{RR}}$
- $\xi$ : Constant

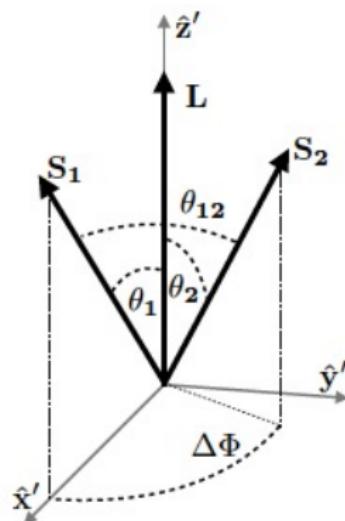


## 3D Visualization in the $(\xi, J, S)$ Parameter space

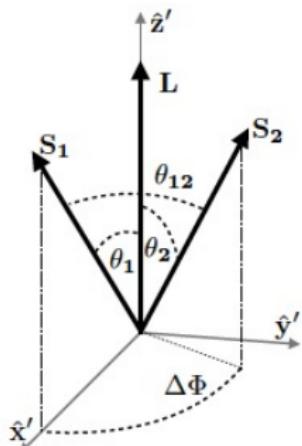
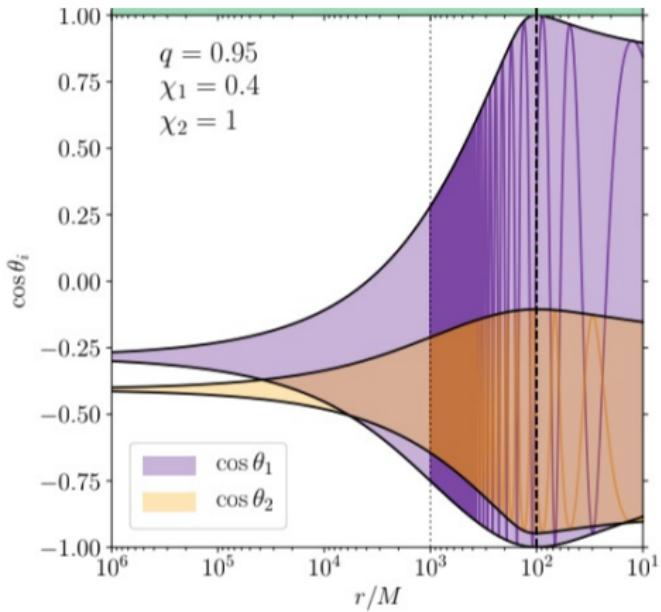
- Combine plots in the  $(\xi, J), (\xi, S)$  and  $(S, J)$  parameters space
- Includes all possible binaries for a fix  $r, q, \chi_1, \chi_2$ 
  - ▶ 3D Plot  $(\xi, J, S)$

## 3D Visualization: Morphology

- The evolution of  $\Delta\Phi$  allows us to categorize the precessional dynamics into three different classes:
  - $\Delta\Phi$  oscillates about 0  $\Rightarrow$  Blue
  - $\Delta\Phi$  circulates through the full range  $[-\pi, \pi]$   $\Rightarrow$  Green
  - $\Delta\Phi$  oscillates about  $\pi$   $\Rightarrow$  Red
- 3D Plot ( $\xi, J, S$ ): Morphology



# Peculiar Configuration: "Wide Precession"



# Conclusion

- Better understanding of the 3D Parameter space
- For future:
  - ▶ Make the surface itself dynamical
  - ▶ Have a binary evolve on the 3D plot
  - ▶ Add slider for  $r, q, \chi_1, \chi_2$
  - ▶ Make a webpage!!!

## Acknowledgement

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