Seventeenth Marcel Grossmann Meeting



Contribution ID: 1

Type: Invited talk in a parallel session

Probing deviations to Kerr geometry with extreme mass-ratio inspirals

Friday, 12 July 2024 15:20 (20 minutes)

One of the primary research aims of the Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (LISA) mission is to comprehensively map the Kerr spacetime, a fundamental pursuit in the realm of general relativity. To achieve this goal, it is essential to develop precise tools capable of discerning any deviations from the Kerr geometry. Extreme mass-ratio inspirals (EMRIs) stand out as particularly promising sources for probing the spacetime metric, offering profound insights into the gravitational phenomena. In this direction, we analyze a deformed Kerr geometry, being the central source of an EMRI system, with an inspiralling object that exhibits eccentric equatorial motion. We conduct a leading order post-Newtonian analysis and examine the deviations in gravitational wave fluxes and phase, emerging at two post-Newtonian order. Our findings evaluate the detectability of these deviations through gravitational wave dephasing, highlighting the pivotal role of LISA observations in advancing our understanding of spacetime geometry.

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Session Classification: Gravitational instantons and black holes

Track Classification: Black Holes: Classical and Beyond (BH): Gravitational instantons and black holes