

Numerical relativity for next-generation gravitational-wave probes of fundamental physics

David Radice, Francois Foucart, Pablo Laguna, Geoffrey
Lovelace, and Helvi Witek

Snowmass 2021 CF7 Update
March 10, 2022

Whitepaper contents

- Motivation
- Gravitational waveform modeling
- Nuclear physics and neutron stars
- High-precision gravitational-wave observations
- Testing gravity in the nonlinear regime
- Black holes as cosmic particle detectors
- Summary and future directions

Whitepaper status

- Current draft in progress on overleaf
- 7 pages so far
- Section status
 - Motivation — 4 paragraphs + 1 figure drafted, need to resolve comments
 - Gravitational waveform modeling — need to flesh out bullets
 - Nuclear physics and neutron stars — 6 paragraphs + references drafted
 - High-precision gravitational-wave observations — 3 paragraphs + references drafted
 - Testing gravity in the nonlinear regime — 2 paragraphs + references drafted
 - Black holes as cosmic particle detectors — 1 paragraph + references drafted
 - Summary and future directions — need to flesh out bullets

Snowmass2021 Cosmic Frontier White Paper: Numerical relativity for next-generation gravitational-wave probes of fundamental physics

David Radice^{1x}, Francois Foucart¹, Pablo Laguna², Geoffrey Lovelace³, and Helvi Witek⁴

¹Department of Physics & Astronomy, University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire 03824, USA

²Center for Gravitational Physics and Department of Physics, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX 78712, USA

³Nicholas and Lee Begovich Center for Gravitational-Wave Physics and Astronomy, California State University, Fullerton, Fullerton, CA 92834, USA

⁴Illinois Center for Advanced Studies of the Universe and Department of Physics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois 61801, USA

Key messages for topical group report

- Next-generation gravitational-wave detectors (LIGO Voyager, Cosmic Explorer, Einstein Telescope, NEMO) will probe fundamental physics with unprecedented sensitivity
 - Nuclear physics & neutron stars: nature of dense matter
 - Testing gravity in the nonlinear regime with high-fidelity gravitational-wave observations
 - Black holes as cosmic particle detectors: complementary to other experiments
- Accurate theoretical models of the observed waves are critical for realizing this goal
- Challenge: these models will require numerical relativity calculations on supercomputers that achieve at least an order of magnitude more accuracy than today's state of the art