Apparent Horizon Finder



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Apparent Horizon Finding Intro

Expansion 101





Finding an apparent horizon (AH) corresponds to finding the outermost 2D trapped surface, where the "expansion", Θ , is zero. This is the surface where the area of a spherical flash of light rays emitted radially outwards will remain constant.

$$m_{\mu\nu} = \gamma_{\mu\nu} - s_{\mu}s_{\nu}, \qquad k_a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(n^a + s^a\right)$$
$$\Theta = m^{\mu\nu}\nabla_{\mu}k_{\nu} = \frac{1}{4} k^{\mu}\nabla_{\mu}Area^{\mu\nu} = 0$$

Image from T. W. Baumgarte and S. L. Shapiro, Numerical Relativity: Solving Einstein's Equation on the Computer

Example for Schwarzschild



Even though we're solving for zero Expansion, multiplying by a power of the radius has better convergence properties.



In binaries, when merging, a 3rd and 4th trapped surface appear suddenly enclosing the smaller 2. The outermost one is the merged horizon. Hence, we need 3 AH for binary simulations.

(see details in 1907.00683)







Numerical Methods for Star-shaped AHs



GRchombo's AHFinder discretizes the 2D AH surface and uses a quasi-Newton method from the PETSc library to find the zero of the expansion for an ansatz of a star-shaped horizon, given some initial guess (currently set to spherical).

Newton's Method (1D):

$$f_{n+1} = f_n - \gamma \left(\Theta'(f_n)\right)^{-1} \Theta(f_n) , \quad 0 < \gamma \le 1$$



Not so easy

Good

Images from M. Alcubierre, Introduction to 3+1 Numerical Relativity

Image from Wikipedia

Numerical Methods for Star-shaped AHs





Ansatz: $F(\theta, \phi, r) = r - f(\theta, \phi) = 0$ $s^{i} = \frac{D^{i}F}{|DF|}$ Mix non-linear Newton-Method (SNES): $\vec{f}_{n+1} = \vec{f}_{n} - \gamma \Delta \vec{f}$ PETSc: $\begin{cases} \Delta \vec{f} = \left(\nabla_{\vec{f}} \vec{\Theta} \left(\vec{f}_{n}\right)\right)^{-1} \vec{\Theta} \left(\vec{f}_{n}\right) \end{cases}$

> With linear system solver (KSP): $\left(\nabla_{\vec{f}} \vec{\Theta} \left(\vec{f}_n\right)\right) \Delta \vec{f} = \vec{\Theta} \left(\vec{f}_n\right)$ $\Rightarrow \text{ provide } \Theta\left(\cdot\right), \nabla \Theta\left(\cdot\right), \vec{f}_0$



AHFinder Class



How to use?

1) Install PETSc and change Chombo's Make.defs.local

2) Change your Example

3) Add parameters to 'params.txt' file

4) What is the output?

Quick version: consult BinaryBH / KerrBH Examples as a reference



1) Install PETSc and change Chombo's Make.defs.local

- To install PESTc, it is preferable to use a cluster module. If building yourself, see below.
- Change Make.defs.local for 2D and PETSc compatibility and recompile Chombo.



If building yourself, make sure in installation you configure it with:

- HDF5. Use '--with-hdf5-dir=' with directory as in your HDF FLAGS of Make.defs.local (without the 'include'/'lib').
- MPI (if your Chombo has MPI). Force no MPI with '--with-mpi=0' or force MPI compilers with '--with-cc=mpiicc --with-cxx=mpiicpc
 - --with-fc=mpiifort'

2) Change your Example - Part I

Main KerrBH.cpp ×

#include "BHAMR.hpp"

int runGRChombo(int argc, char *argv[])

BHAMR bh amr: DefaultLevelFactory<KerrBHLevel> kerr bh level fact(bh amr, sim params); setupAMRObject(bh amr, kerr bh level fact); AMRInterpolator<Lagrange<4>> interpolator(bh amr, sim params.origin, sim params.dx, sim params.boundary params, sim params.verbositv): bh amr.set interpolator(&interpolator); USE AHFINDER (sim params.AH activate) AHSphericalGeometry sph(sim params.kerr params.center); bh amr.m ah finder.add ah(sph, sim params.AH initial guess, sim params.AH params);



Main_Example.cpp: Change GRAMR to BHAMR (which provides AHFinder and PunctureTracker)

- Main_Example.cpp: Add an AMRInterpolator if you don't have one yet
- Main_Example.cpp: Add an AH with a given geometry

2) Change your Example - Part II

∢ ► /	SimulationParameters.hpp ×	
31 32	<pre>pp.load("kerr_center", kerr_params.center, center);</pre>	
33 34 35	<pre>#ifdef USE_AHFINDER</pre>	_params.mass
36 37 38	} KerrBH::params_t kerr_params;	
39 40 41 42	<pre>#ifdef USE_AHFINDER</pre>	
43	};	
< >	GNUmakefile ×	
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	<pre>src_dirs := \$(GRCH0MB0_SOURCE)/utils \ \$(GRCH0MB0_SOURCE)/simd \ \$(GRCH0MB0_SOURCE)/CCZ4 \ \$(GRCH0MB0_SOURCE)/BoxUtils \ \$(GRCH0MB0_SOURCE)/GRChomboCore \ \$(GRCH0MB0_SOURCE)/TaggingCriteria \ \$(GRCH0MB0_SOURCE)/InitialConditions/BlackHoles \ \$(GRCH0MB0_SOURCE)/BlackHoles \ \$(GRCH0MB0_SOURCE)/APparentHorizonFinder \$(GRCH0MB0_SOURCE)/ApparentHorizONFINDE \$(GRCH0MB0_SOURCE)/ApparentHoriZONFIND</pre>	- Si ar - Gi Ai Ar
26	include \$(CHOMBO HOME)/mk/Make test	



- SimulationParameters.hpp: Add an initial guess parameter
- GNUmakefile: Add the BlackHoles, AMRInterpolator and ApparentHorizonFinder Source folders

2) Change your Example - Part III

< Þ	KerrBHLevel.hpp ×
9	#include "BHAMR.hpp"
10	<pre>#include "DefaultLevelFactory.hpp"</pre>
11	<pre>#include "GRAMRLevel.hpp"</pre>
12	
13	class KerrBHLevel : public GRAMRLevel
14	
15	<pre>friend class DefaultLevelFactory<kerrbhlevel>;</kerrbhlevel></pre>
16	<pre>// Inherit the contructors from GRAMRLevel</pre>
17	<pre>using GRAMRLevel::GRAMRLevel;</pre>
18	
19	BHAMR &m_bh_amr = dynamic_cast <bhamr &="">(m_gr_amr)</bhamr>



- ExampleLevel.hpp: include BHAMR and create a 'm_bh_amr' member
- ExampleLevel.cpp: add 'solve' to 'specificPostTimeStep' (you may have to add it to the .hpp if you don't have it already)

•• /	KerrBHLevel.cpp ×
95	<pre>void KerrBHLevel::specificPostTimeStep()</pre>
96	{
97	<pre>CH TIME("KerrBHLevel::specificPostTimeStep");</pre>
98	#ifdef USE_AHFINDER
99	<pre>if (m_p.AH_activate && m_level == m_p.AH_params.level_to_run)</pre>
100	<pre>m_bh_amr.m_ah_finder.solve(m_dt, m_time, m_restart_time);</pre>
101	#endif
102	

2) Change your Example - Part IV - Binaries

```
Main BinaryBH.cpp ×
48
        bh amr.set interpolator(
            &interpolator); // also sets puncture tracker interpolator
49
50
51
    #ifdef USE AHFINDER
52
           (sim params.AH activate)
53
            AHSphericalGeometry sph1(sim params.bh1 params.center);
54
55
            AHSphericalGeometry sph2(sim params.bh2 params.center);
57
            bh amr.m ah finder.add ah(sph1, sim params.AH 1 initial guess,
                                        sim params.AH params);
59
            bh amr.m ah finder.add ah(sph2, sim params.AH 2 initial guess,
60
                                        sim params.AH params);
61
            bh amr.m ah finder.add ah merger(0, 1, sim params.AH params);
62
63
   #endif
```

 Main_Example.cpp: add as many AHs as you want, including mergers. Only initial guesses need to be added (except for mergers, for which it is automatic). AHFinder::solve manages solving all the AHs.



3) Add parameters to 'params.txt' file

```
#Apparent Horizon finder
AH_activate = 1
AH_num_ranks = 65
AH_num_points_u = 65
AH_num_points_v = 48
#AH_solve_interval = 1
#AH_print_interval = 1
#AH_track_center = true
#AH_predict_origin = true
#AH_level_to_run = 0
#AH_start_time = 0.
#AH_give_up_time = -1.
```

```
#AH merger search factor = 1.
#AH merger pre factor = 1.
#AH allow re attempt = 0
#AH max fails after lost = -1
#AH verbose = 1
#AH print geometry data = 0
#AH re solve at restart = 0
#AH stop if max fails = 0
#AH 1 initial guess = 0.3
#AH 2 initial guess = 0.3
#AH num extra vars = 2
#AH extra vars = chi d1 Ham d2 A11
AH set origins to punctures = 1
```

- params.txt: there are many AH parameters. The commented values are the default values. Consult AHFinder.hpp for more information (meaning and default values).

AHFinder – How to use 4) What is the output? Part I - Command Line



stats AH3.out

BinaryBH_000172.3d.hdf5	coords_AH2_0022.out	coords_AH3_0071.out	coords_AH3_0131.out	pout.88
BinaryBH_000176.3d.hdf5	coords_AH2_0023.out	coords_AH3_0072.out	coords_AH3_0132.out	pout 89
BinaryBH_000180.3d.hdf5	coords_AH2_0024.out	coords_AH3_0073.out	coords_AH3_0133.out	pout 9
BinaryBH_000184.3d.hdf5	coords_AH2_0025.out	coords_AH3_0074.out	coords_AH3_0134.out	pouc.s
BinaryBH 000188.3d.hdf5	coords AH2 0026.out	coords AH3 0075.out	coords AH3 0135.out	pout.90
BinaryBH 000192.3d.hdf5	coords AH2 0027.out	coords AH3 0076.out	coords AH3 0136.out	pout.91
BinaryBH_000196.3d.hdf5	coords_AH2_0028.out	coords_AH3_0077.out	coords_AH3_0137.out	pout.92
BinaryBH_000200.3d.hdf5	coords_AH2_0029.out	coords_AH3_0078.out	coords_AH3_0138.out	pout.93
coords_AH1_0000.out	coords_AH3_0019.out	coords_AH3_0079.out	coords_AH3_0139.out	pout.94
coords_AH1_0001.out	coords_AH3_0020.out	coords_AH3_0080.out	coords_AH3_0140.out	pout.95
coords_AH1_0002.out	coords_AH3_0021.out	coords_AH3_0081.out	coords_AH3_0141.out	pout.96
coords_AH1_0003.out	coords_AH3_0022.out	coords_AH3_0082.out	coords_AH3_0142.out	pout 07
coords_AH1_0004.out	coords AH3 0023.out	coords_AH3_0083.out	coords_AH3_0143.out	pour.97
coords_AH1_0005.out	coords_AH3_0024.out	coords_AH3_0084.out	coords_AH3_0144.out	pout.98
coords_AH1_0006.out	coords_AH3_0025.out	coords_AH3_0085.out	coords_AH3_0145.out	pout.99
coords_AH1_0007.out	coords_AH3_0026.out	coords_AH3_0086.out	coords_AH3_0146.out	slurm-17662242.out
coords_AH1_0008.out	coords_AH3_0027.out	coords_AH3_0087.out	coords_AH3_0147.out	stats_AH1.out
				stats AH2 out

 Output will be a 'coords' file for each AH and for each step, containing to coordinates of the AH surface, and a 'stats' file for each AH, containing convergence information (e.g. area and spin) for all timesteps.

4) What is the output? Part II - 'pout' files

```
pout.0
GRAMRLevel::advance level 3 at time 2.23438 (22.2691 M/hr). Boxes on this rank: 8 / 28
Solving AH #0
SNES Iteration number 6
KSP Iteration number 78
Solver converged. Horizon FOUND.
SNESConvergedReason = 4
center: (6.1905, 8.00001, -1.46586e-09)
area = 16.9617
mass = 0.580898
spin = 1.77674e-05
irreducible mass = 0.580898
dimensionless spin vector = (1.7253e-07, -2.92756e-05, 8.85515e-06)
dimensionless spin in z (from equator-length integral) = 0
Solving AH #1
SNES Iteration number 6
KSP Iteration number 78
Solver converged, Horizon FOUND.
SNESConvergedReason = 4
center: (9.8095, 8.00001, -1.46832e-09)
area = 16.9627
mass = 0.580915
spin = 1.74909e-05
irreducible mass = 0.580915
dimensionless spin vector = (1.82558e-07, 2.90686e-05, -7.84557e-06)
dimensionless spin in z (from equator-length integral) = 0
BHs #0 and #1 at distance = 3.61901 > minimum distance = 2. Skipping solve for merger...
GRAMRLevel::advance level 0 at time 2.25 (22.1623 M/hr). Boxes on this rank: 1 / 1
```



 'pout' files: print various information when solving for the AHs. Control with the 'AH_verbose' verbosity level (ranges between 0-3).

- The **spin** is calculated in 2 ways: one to calculate the full spin 3-vector and another method to gets the spin oriented with 'z'. The later is more precise, and the former is only useful if you need to know the direction of the spin.

AHFinder – How to use 4) What is the output? Part III - 'coords' files



000	ids_AII1_000000.dat	\sim \sim					
#	theta	phi	r	chi	dx chi	dy chi	dz chi
	0.000000000	0.0000000000	0.4839762884	5.5056177192e-02	7.1150767569e-18	7.1015242298e-18	2.2786411876e-01
	0.3141592654	0.0000000000	0.4839941742	5.5085085743e-02	7.0672731933e-02	-8.8091426514e-20	2.1664488191e-01
	0.6283185307	0.0000000000	0.4840507182	5.5149123468e-02	1.3438728357e-01	6.6136332522e-18	1.8441576914e-01
	0.9424777961	0.0000000000	0.4841351993	5.5221840971e-02	1.8513333988e-01	2.6969529041e-18	1.3407117896e-01
	1.2566370614	0.0000000000	0.4842168287	5.5275258124e-02	2.1776052981e-01	4.6349642874e-18	7.0594833460e-02
	1.5707963268	0.0000000000	0.4842598993	5.5293492230e-02	2.2914994366e-01	3.8556939759e-18	-2.4070510568e-18
	1.8849555922	0.0000000000	0.4842168289	5.5275258178e-02	2.1776052986e-01	2.7240579584e-18	-7.0594833478e-02
	2.1991148575	0.0000000000	0.4841351998	5.5221841092e-02	1.8513333999e-01	5.1228552650e-18	-1.3407117903e-01
	2.5132741229	0.0000000000	0.4840507191	5.5149123687e-02	1.3438728371e-01	6.3696877634e-18	-1.8441576933e-01
	2.8274333882	0.0000000000	0.4839941758	5.5085086123e-02	7.0672732060e-02	5.6785088784e-18	-2.1664488230e-01
	3.1415926536	0.0000000000	0.4839762899	5.5056177544e-02	5.2177229551e-18	5.2041704279e-18	-2.2786411914e-01
	0.0000000000	0.3141592654	0.4859051601	5.5495880920e-02	5.3803532810e-18	5.3668007538e-18	2.2833166757e-01
	0.3141592654	0.3141592654	0.4870958848	5.5783990070e-02	6.7444169396e-02	2.1909965817e-02	2.1735972065e-01

'coords' files: contain the coordinate system information about the surface of the AH (spherical coordinates - theta, phi, r - above).
 With the parameters 'AH_num_write_vars = 2' and 'AH_write_vars = chi d1_chi' the example above also outputs the value of 'chi' and its derivatives at each point of the horizon. These can be diagnostic variables and include 1st or 2nd derivatives.

4) V	Vhat is the	e output?	Part III -	stats_AH	l1.dat		J T EHO	<u>nn/=]@</u>)
head stats_AH	11.dat			81 (A) 84 (A)		20 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	200 0	
# ti	.me til	e area	ma	ss irreducible m	ass	spin dimless spin-	x dimless spin-	y .
2.0000000	4.000000000e+0	00 1.6418300976e+01	5.7151703384e-	01 5.7151703359e	-01 3.39472207196	e-05 1.0990679865e-0	8 -5.9239748341e-0	5
2.50000000	00 5.000000000e+0	0 1.7487064429e+01	5.8982547674e-	01 5.8982547673e	-01 6.70979409286	e-06 -5.1749065646e-0	7 -1.0211252952e-0	5
3 0000000	6 000000000000000000000000000000000000	1 8423481166e+01	6.8541185337e-	81 6.8541185326e	-01 2 2251144079	e-05 4 3507303577e-0	7 -3 5360014956e-0	5
3,50000000	00 7.000000000000000	0 1.9195748854e+01	6.1797029939e-	01 6.1797029828e	-01 7.4045531728	e-05 1.3623533919e-0	7 -1.1964564076e-0	4
515000000			0111310233350	01 0111910290202	01 111013331120		1 1115015010100 0	
	dimless spin-z di 4.3389940102e-06 -4.9873397381e-06 -1.0015825320e-05 6.4701339056e-06	mless spin-z-alt 0.0000000000+00 6. 0.0000000000+00 6. 0.0000000000+00 6. 0.0000000000+00 6.	origin_x 1561971694e+00 2283372624e+00 3160466820e+00 4135201723e+00	origin_y 7.9999998311e+00 7.9999997328e+00 7.9999994787e+00 7.9999991857e+00	origin_z 6.2348738671e-23 1.0867085297e-22 7.1447725409e-23 9.7917505011e-23	center_x 6.1468078594e+00 8. 6.2343423711e+00 7. 6.3162350431e+00 7. 6.3855359687e+00 8.	center_y 0000049371e+00 0.0 9999910394e+00 0.0 9999853858e+00 0.0 0000071376e+00 0.0	center_z 0000000000e+00 0000000000e+00 000000000

- **'stats'** files: print the area and (dimensionless) spin of each found AH at each timestep (printing every **'AH_print_interval * AH_solve_interval'**). Again, **'dimless spin-z-alt'** is a more precise calculation if aligned with 'z', and spix-x,y,z gives the 3-vector direction.
- **'origin'** is the origin of the coordinate system used in the **'coords'** file (the starting point for the solver, which might not coincide with the actual center of the AH).
- **'center'** is an approximate geometric center of the surface found (an approximate location of the puncture).
- 'file' is the 'coords_AH#_file.dat' file containing the coordinates of this step. This allows the user to change parameters that affect AH printing frequency (as 'AH_level_to_run', 'AH_solve_interval', etc.) without losing track of 'coords' file numbering.

4) What is the output? Plot using python or gnuplot





The straight line is the expected value. Increasing the number of points in the AH brings us closer to it (provided the numerical grid has enough resolution).

4) What is the output? Plot using python or gnuplot





Python script example for plotting in 'Postprocessing_tools' repository.

4) What is the output? Similarly for BinaryBH case





4) What is the output? It doesn't always go right...

In the case below, AH1 converged to the inner merged trapped surface (see slide 4), AH2 converged to the merged horizon (that should be AH3) and AH3 stopped converging. Other problems can appear as well, so pay attention to the merger stage.

The best solution is to change the initial guess for the merger (using 'AH_merger_pre_factor'), or by changing the frequency of solving to make sure AH3 stays stable. When AH3 is stable, it's fine for AH1 and AH2 to stop converging (they should!). If they don't, one can force them to stop by deleting the last entry of their 'stats' file and restarting.





4) What is the output? When it goes right...

Time = 0000.12503 2 1 z 0 $^{-1}$ -2 -3 3 -3 -2 $^{-1}$ -1 0 2 -3

3



AHFinder – Extra notes

AHFinder – Advanced notes



- Finding other surfaces: the AHFinder finds a level surface of a given function and is independent of physics. The default function is 'expansion = 0', but you can define 'AHFunction' to be a new class following 'AHFunctionDefault.hpp'. See KerrBH Example to see how to use the AHFinder to look for 'chi' contours instead of the AH.
- **'Postprocessing_tools' repo**: contains in ChomboTools an Example of how to run the AHFinder on a set of HDF5's and a python script for plotting the AH and related quantities.
- Writing Diagnostics on AH: if you use diagnostics in 'AH_write_vars', make sure those diagnostics are computed at 'specificPostTimeStep'. AHFinder has a 'need_diagnostics' method that determines if any "writing variable" is diagnostic. See KerrBH Example.

AHFinder – Advanced notes



New Geometry (3D or 2D): the AHFinder is compatible with 2D and 3D codes, just write a new geometry class following the existing ('AHSphericalGeometry' for 3D and 'AHStringGeometry' for 2D) and define 'AHSurfaceGeometry' to be your new geometry class before including 'BHAMR.hpp'. For Cartoon methods, some terms in the Expansion calculation may have to be adapted for each problem (see 'AHFunctions.hpp').

 Interpolating data: see the 'InterpolatorTest' for how to use the existing Interpolating classes to interpolate your own 1D, 2D or 3D data.



AHFinder – Examples

AHFinder – Examples

Circular and eccentric Binary Black Hole

Missing circular - to add



AHFinder – Examples

t=0

Image credit to Chenxia Gu

Example of AHFinder working in 2D (BlackString 4+1 reduced to a 2+1 simulation by Cartoon method), with non-spherical geometry (String Geometry) and being used to find both the AH and chi contours (see chi contours on the right)



64.0100



AH analysis

AH analysis

How does the AH behave in Kerr isotropic initial data?

For a BH of mass 'M' and dimensionless spin 's' ranging from [-1,1] (s=a/M, 'a' being the spin of our current KerrBH initial data):

$$r_{AH} = \frac{1}{4} M \left(1 + \sqrt{1 - s^2} \right)$$

$$\chi_{AH,\Theta=0} = \frac{\left(1 - s^2 \right)^{1/6} \left(\frac{1 + \sqrt{1 - s^2}}{2} \right)^{2/3}}{16}$$

$$\chi_{AH,\Theta=\pi/2} = \frac{\left(1 - s^2 \right)^{1/6} \left(\frac{1 + \sqrt{1 - s^2}}{2} \right)^{1/3}}{16}$$





AH analysis

How does the AH behave in puncture gauge?



Kerr BH simulations with M=1 and spin from s=0 to s=0.99. The area and mass:



The mass slightly drifts over time. This is a known issue for when the resolution is not good enough OR when the finest level is too close to the AH. (KerrBH simulation with L=N=128, max_level=6, regrid_threshold=0.0065, regrid_interval=0, CCZ4 formulation)

AH analysis How does the AH behave in puncture gauge?

The spin:



a#(a)a

The spin also suffers from a drift, just like the mass.

AH analysis How does the AH behave in puncture gauge?

The AH radius and value of $\boldsymbol{\chi}$ on the AH:



Both wobble slightly until some asymptotic value. In the plots above we already see some drift at later times, just like for the area/mass/spin. For spin=0, we can see that asymptotic behavior settles at $\chi \sim 0.26$ and r \sim M.

AH analysis How does the AH behave in puncture gauge?

Asymptotic values of AH radius and value of χ on the AH vs spin:

Data Data Fit: 0.278 + 0.758 1 - spin Fit: 0.26 \(1 - spin) 0.25 1.0 0.9 0.20 0.8 0.15 AH Radius 0.7 AH X 0.10 0.5 0.05 0.4 0.3 0.00 0.2 0.8 0.2 0.0 0.4 0.6 1.0 0.0 0.6 0.8 1.0

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The asymptotic values was extracted for each spin and a fit with an appropriate expression can be seen in the legend. This is just an estimate, but often a useful one. The blue region around the blue line is an estimate of the error from the numerical simulations.