Next-to-next-to-leading order post-Newtonian spin(1)-spin(2) Hamiltonian for self-gravitating binaries

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Abstract

We present the next-to-next-to-leading order post-Newtonian (PN) spin(1)-spin(2) Hamiltonian for two self-gravitating spinning compact objects. If both objects are rapidly rotating, then the corresponding interaction is comparable in strength to a 4PN effect. The Hamiltonian is checked via the global Poincaré algebra with the center-of-mass vector uniquely determined by an ansatz.

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1 Introduction

In the present article the next-to-next-to-leading order (NNLO) post-Newtonian (PN) spin(1)-spin(2) Hamiltonian for two self-gravitating spinning compact objects is derived. This Hamiltonian is of the order 4PN if both objects are rapidly rotating. The present article is a continuation of [1].

Spin(1)-spin(2) coupling in the PN approximation to general relativity was tackled by various authors during the last decades. The leading order interaction was calculated, e.g., in [2] with classical spins and in [3, 4] with quantum mechanical spins. A canonical treatment of the next-to-leading order was done in [5] (and its n-body extension in [6]) via the canonical formalism of Arnowitt, Deser, and Misner [7] enhanced from point-masses to linear order in spin in [8, 9]. This formalism was also used to derive the Hamiltonian presented in this article. There were also several noncanonical approaches for the next-to-leading order, namely [10, 11] (and an incomplete result in [12]) which calculated the spin(1)-spin(2) interaction in the effective field theory formalism. For further literature on spin interactions within the PN approximation see [1].

Unfortunately the 4PN point-mass Hamiltonian is not known yet. Thus the Hamiltonian obtained in the present article is currently not very useful within the Taylor-expanded post-Newtonian series, even if both objects are rapidly rotating. Further, the Hamiltonian is at most comparable in size to a 4PN effect, so it is particularly interesting to consider its effect on the motion of compact binaries during the very late inspiral phase. However, during this phase the PN approximation will become increasingly inadequate due to the highly nonlinear behavior of the dynamics. To overcome this problem it is most convenient to

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extrapolate to this nonlinear regime by resumming the PN series. Such a resummation was successfully implemented into the effective-one-body (EOB) approach, see, e.g., [13–17], which analytically provides complete binary inspiral gravitational waveforms that are in good agreement with numerical relativity. As the parameter space of spinning binaries is very large, it is invaluable to have such analytic methods at hand for the creation of waveform template banks to be used in future gravitational wave astronomy. For the same reason spin-dependent PN Hamiltonians are expected to be important for calibrating the EOB approach, whereas for the spin-independent part a calibration to numerical relativity already works reasonably well [16, 17] (also for the nonprecessing spinning case [18]). In order to further improve the accuracy of the EOB approach for the spinning case, the Hamiltonian derived in the present article should be valuable. Some of the spin-dependent PN Hamiltonians mentioned in [1] were already implemented in the EOB approach [19–23], see also [18]. Notice that this even includes the NNLO spin-orbit Hamiltonian [22, 23] obtained only very recently in our previous article [1]. But at the PN spin(1)-spin(2) level only the leading order Hamiltonian was incorporated into the EOB approach yet, though an extension to higher order spin(1)-spin(2) couplings is in principle possible [19, 21]. Notice that the EOB Hamiltonians in [21, 23] exactly implements the test-spin Hamiltonian in a Kerr background [24] and thus the corresponding spin(1)-spin(2) coupling through all PN orders.

In a forthcoming publication we will provide much more details on the calculation of the Hamiltonian in the present article and of the one in [1] as well. A comparison of the results given in this article to the recently obtained NNLO spin(1)-spin(2) potential calculated within an EFT approach [25] will be postponed to a later publication due to the very complicated calculations necessary for the conversion.

The article is organized as follows. The next-to-next-to-leading order spin(1)-spin(2) Hamiltonian is presented in Sect. 2. The Hamiltonian is checked via the global Poincaré algebra in Sect. 3, where the center-of-mass vector is uniquely determined from an ansatz.

Three-dimensional vectors are written in boldface and their components are denoted by Latin indices. The scalar product between two vectors $a$ and $b$ is denoted by $(a b) \equiv (a \cdot b)$. Our units are such that $c = 1$. There is no special convention for Newton’s gravitational constant $G$. In the results $P_a$ denotes the canonical linear momentum of the $a$th object, $\hat{z}_a$ the canonical conjugate position of the object, $m_a$ the mass of the object, $\hat{S}_a$ and $\hat{S}_{a(\hat{\iota}\hat{\sigma})}$ the spin vector and the spin tensor of the object, $r_{ab} = |\hat{z}_a - \hat{z}_b|$ the relative distance between two objects, and $n_{ab} = (\hat{z}_a - \hat{z}_b)/r_{ab}$ the direction vector pointing from object $b$ to object $a$. In the binary case the object labels $a, b$ take only the values 1 and 2. The round brackets around the indices of the canonical spin tensor $\hat{S}_{a(\hat{\iota}\hat{\sigma})}$ indicate that its components are given in a local Lorentz basis, which is essential for the canonical formalism, see [8, 9].

## 2 Result

The derivation of the result followed along the same lines as in the spin-orbit case [1]. In particular we used the free MATHEMATICA [26] package XTENSOR [27] for all computations, especially because of its fast index canonicalizer based on the package XPERM [28]. We also used the package XPERT [29], which is part of XTENSOR, for performing the perturbative part of our calculations. Furthermore we wrote several MATHEMATICA packages ourselves for evaluating integrals. It turns out after using the integration procedures mentioned in [1] that all integrals of the generalized Riesz-type appearing at spin(1)-spin(2) level can be reduced to Gamma functions and Polygamma functions, which can be handled without any problems by MATHEMATICA. Further the $d$-dimensional UV-analysis described in [30, 31] and in [1] gave contributions to intermediate expressions like in the spin-orbit case, however they again exactly canceled in the final result.

The next-to-next-to-leading order spin(1)-spin(2) Hamiltonian we obtained as a result of the procedures discussed in [1] is given by

$$H^{\text{NNLO}}_{\text{SS}} = \frac{G^2}{r_{12}^2} \left[ - (\hat{S}_1 \hat{S}_2) \left( \frac{63}{4} m_1^2 + \frac{145}{8} m_1 m_2 \right) + (n_{12} \hat{S}_1)(n_{12} \hat{S}_2) \left( \frac{105}{4} m_1^2 + \frac{289}{8} m_1 m_2 \right) \right]$$

$$+ \frac{G^2}{r_{12}^2} \left[ (n_{12} \times P_1) \hat{S}_1)(n_{12} \times P_1) \hat{S}_2) \left( \frac{12}{m_1} + \frac{9 m_2}{m_1} \right) \right]$$

2
\[-\frac{81}{4m_1}(n_{12} \times P_2)\hat{S}_1)\hat{(n_{12} \times P_1)\hat{S}_2}) - \frac{27}{4m_1}(n_{12} \times P_1)\hat{S}_1)\hat{(n_{12} \times P_2)\hat{S}_2})
\]
Notice that from a combinatorial point of view there are 167 algebraically different possible contributions to the Hamiltonian for all objects (written in terms of the canonical spin tensor), but 75 of them do not appear in the canonical representation used here. The Hamiltonian is valid for any compact objects like black holes or neutron stars.

The matter variables appearing in this Hamiltonian fulfill the standard Poisson bracket relations, namely

\[
\{\hat{z}_i^a, P_{a j}\} = \delta_{ij}, \quad \{\hat{S}_a(i)_{(j)}, \hat{S}_a(k)_{(t)}\} = \delta_{ik}\hat{S}_a(j)_{(t)} - \delta_{ij}\hat{S}_a(k)_{(t)} - \delta_{jk}\hat{S}_a(i)_{(t)} + \delta_{jk}\hat{S}_a(i)_{(k)},
\]

where the canonical spin tensor \(\hat{S}_a(i)_{(j)}\) is related to the canonical spin vector \(\hat{S}_a\) via \(\hat{S}_a(i)_{(j)} = \epsilon_{ijk}\hat{S}_a(k)\) and \(\epsilon_{ijk}\) is the Levi-Civita symbol. The appropriate Poisson brackets for the canonical spin vector are given by

\[
\{\hat{S}_a(i), \hat{S}_a(j)\} = \epsilon_{ijk}\hat{S}_a(k).
\]

All other Poisson brackets are zero. Notice that the spin length \(\sqrt{\hat{S}_a(i)\hat{S}_a(i)}\) is a constant. (This is not necessarily the case if the Hamiltonian would depend on angle-type variables describing the orientation of the object.) Therefore each spin vector has only two dynamical degrees of freedom, which are taken to be fixed by the next-to-leading order spin(1)-spin(2) Hamiltonian due to the algebraic quantities entering the center-of-mass vector. The \(\hat{S}_a\)-part of the center-of-mass vector can also be fixed by the next-to-leading order considered here will contain higher linear momentum powers than the next-to-leading order, which leads to a much higher number of irreducible algebraic quantities entering the center-of-mass vector. The \(\hat{z}_a\)-part of the center-of-mass vector can also be fixed by the next-to-leading order considered in the spin(1)-spin(2) Hamiltonian due to the \(\{G^i, P^j\}\) Poisson bracket relation appearing in the Poincaré algebra. So there remain only the mentioned 86 coefficients, which were uniquely fixed by evaluating the \(\{G^i, H\}\) Poisson brackets yielding 62 of them to be zero. The consistency of the solution obtained by evaluating the Poisson brackets above was checked by evaluating the \(\{G^i, G^j\}\) Poisson bracket relation and all other relations of the Poincaré algebra.

The center-of-mass vector at next-to-next-to-leading order spin(1)-spin(2) level is given by

\[
\begin{align*}
G_{SS}^{\text{NNLO}} &= \frac{G^2}{r_{12}} \left( (n_{12} \times \hat{S}_2) \times \hat{S}_1 \right) \left( \frac{17}{8} m_1 + m_2 \right) \\
+ \frac{G}{r_{12}} \left[ P_1 \left( \frac{n_{12} \hat{S}_1}{4m_1 m_2} \right) \hat{S}_2 + \frac{3((n_{12} \hat{S}_1)(n_{12} \hat{S}_2)(n_{12} P_2))}{4m_1 m_2} \right] \\
+ \left( n_{12} \times \hat{S}_1 \right) \left( \frac{(P_1 \times P_2)\hat{S}_2}{4m_1 m_2} \right) + \frac{3((n_{12} \times P_1)\hat{S}_2)(n_{12} P_2))}{4m_1 m_2}.
\end{align*}
\]
From this the boost vector $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{G} - \dot{t}\mathbf{P}$ can be obtained, which explicitly depends on time $t$.

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