

# A MODE-SUM APPROACH TO THE SELF-FORCE IN CURVED SPACETIME

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# 1. Gravitational Waves and Radiation Reaction

- A possible source of gravitational waves for LISA detection: a *binary inspiral* (EMRI).
- Describing the theoretical waveform requires an accurate description of the orbital evolution of the small black hole: including the effects of *radiation reaction* and the *self-force*.

## What is Self-force?

- The self-force is the *interaction* of a particle with its *own field* (scalar, electromagnetic, gravitational).
- Self-force includes *radiation reaction*, and also includes *conservative effects*.
- It *changes* the *world-line* of the particle *away from* a *geodesic*.
- e.g. Self-force of a scalar field:

$$F_{\text{self}}^a = q \nabla^a \psi^{\text{R}},$$

$q$ : charge of a particle,

$\psi^{\text{R}}$ : field that results from the particle itself but does *not* include the *singular* part.

## 2. General Formal Schemes for Calculating Self-force

- Dirac (1938): an *electron* moving in *flat* spacetime,  
 Dewitt and Brehme (1960): an *electron* moving in *curved* spacetime (extended Dirac's problem),  
 Mino, Sasaki and Tanaka (1997), Quinn and Wald (1997): *Gravitational* self-force of particles in *curved* spacetime,  
 Quinn (2000): a *scalar* point particle in *curved* spacetime
- e.g. Quinn's self-force of a *scalar* field:

$$m\dot{v}^a = q\nabla^a\psi_{\text{in}} + \frac{1}{3}q^2(\ddot{v}^a - \dot{v}^2v^a) + \frac{1}{6}q^2(R^a{}_bv^b + v^a R_{bc}v^bv^c) - \frac{1}{12}q^2 Rv^a + \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} q^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\tau-\varepsilon} \nabla^a G^{\text{ret}}(x^a(\tau), z^a(\tau')) d\tau'.$$

$\Rightarrow G^{\text{ret}}(x^a(\tau), z^a(\tau'))$ : bi-scalar retarded Green's function for the wave eqn.

$$\nabla^2\psi^{\text{ret}} = -4\pi J_0 \quad \text{with} \quad J_0 = q \int_{\Gamma} (-g)^{-1/2} \delta^{(4)}(x^a - z^a(\tau)) d\tau.$$

*Note* the *tail* integral term.

*Scalar self-force exists; radiation reaction* occurs even for a particle in free fall.

### 3. Evaluation of Scalar Self-force in Schwarzschild spacetime by *Mode-sum Regularization* (Barack and Ori (2002); Mino, Nakano, and Sasaki (2002); Detweiler, Messaritaki, and Whiting (2003))

- Self-force is obtained by *subtraction*:

$$\mathcal{F}_a^{\text{self}} = \lim_{p \rightarrow p'} \left[ \mathcal{F}_a^{\text{ret}}(p) - \mathcal{F}_a^{\text{S}}(p') \right] = \lim_{p \rightarrow p'} \mathcal{F}_a^{\text{R}}(p').$$

(**S** : **S**ingular **S**ource, **R** : **R**egular **R**emainder)

- Use *spherical harmonic decompositions*:

$$\psi^{\text{ret/S}} = \sum_{\ell m} \psi_{\ell m}^{\text{ret/S}}(r, t) Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi).$$

Determine  $\psi_{\ell m}^{\text{ret}}(r, t)$  ( $\rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{\ell a}^{\text{ret}}$ ) *numerically* and  $\psi_{\ell m}^{\text{S}}(r, t)$  ( $\rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{\ell a}^{\text{S}}$ ) *analytically*.

- Self-force is finally computed by *mode-sum regularization*:

$\psi^{\text{ret/S}}$  is *infinite* but  $\psi_{\ell m}^{\text{ret/S}}$  is *finite* at the location of the particle, .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_a^{\text{self}} &= \lim_{p \rightarrow p'} \nabla_a \left( \psi^{\text{ret}} - \psi^{\text{S}} \right) \\ &= \lim_{p \rightarrow p'} \nabla_a \left\{ \sum_{\ell m} \left[ \psi_{\ell m}^{\text{ret}}(r, t) - \psi_{\ell m}^{\text{S}}(r, t) \right] Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi) \right\} \\ &= \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \lim_{p \rightarrow p'} \left( \mathcal{F}_{\ell a}^{\text{ret}} - \mathcal{F}_{\ell a}^{\text{S}} \right) \\ &= \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \left\{ \lim_{p \rightarrow p'} \mathcal{F}_{\ell a}^{\text{ret}} - \left[ \left( \ell + \frac{1}{2} \right) A_a + B_a + \frac{C_a}{\ell + \frac{1}{2}} - \frac{2\sqrt{2}D_a}{(2\ell - 1)(2\ell + 3)} + O(\ell^{-4}) \right] \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $A_a, B_a, C_a, D_a$  are termed *regularization parameters*.

### 3.A. Numerical Computation of $\mathcal{F}_{\ell a}^{\text{ret}}$ (Detweiler, Messaritaki, and Whiting (2003))

- **Solve numerically** the wave eqn. for a charge  $q$  moving along  $\Gamma(\tau)$ , described by  $z^a(\tau)$ :

$$\nabla^2 \psi^{\text{ret}} = -4\pi j_0 \quad \text{with} \quad j_0 = q \int_{\Gamma} (-g)^{-1/2} \delta^{(4)}(x^a - z^a(\tau)) d\tau.$$

- **e.g.** Charge moving along a **circular** orbit at radius  $r_o$  with angular frequency  $\Omega$  about a Schwarzschild BH:

$$z^i(t) \Leftrightarrow (r = r_o, \theta = \pi/2, \phi = \Omega t).$$

Then

$$j_0 = \sum_{\ell m} \frac{q_{\ell m}}{4\pi r_o} \delta(r - r_o) e^{i\omega_m t} Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi)$$

with

$$\omega_m = -m\Omega, \quad q_{\ell m} = \frac{4\pi q Y_{\ell m}^*(\pi/2, 0)}{r_o \frac{dt}{d\tau}}, \quad \frac{dt}{d\tau} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - 3M/r_o}}.$$

Decompose

$$\psi^{\text{ret}} = \sum_{\ell m} \psi_{\ell m}^{\text{ret}}(r) e^{i\omega_m t} Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi)$$

and solve the wave eqn.

$$\frac{d^2 \psi_{\ell m}^{\text{ret}}}{dr^2} + \frac{2(r - M)}{r(r - 2M)} \frac{d\psi_{\ell m}^{\text{ret}}}{dr} + \left[ \frac{\omega^2 r^2}{(r - 2M)^2} - \frac{\ell(\ell + 1)}{r(r - 2M)} \right] \psi_{\ell m}^{\text{ret}} = -\frac{q_{\ell m}}{r_o - 2M} \delta(r - r_o)$$

with B.C. requiring only ingoing waves at the event horizon ( $r \rightarrow 2M$ ) and outgoing waves at infinity ( $r \rightarrow \infty$ ).

Finally,

$$\mathcal{F}_{\ell r}^{\text{ret}} = \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} \left. \frac{d\psi_{\ell m}^{\text{ret}}}{dr} \right|_{r_o}.$$

### 3.B. Analytical Calculation of $\mathcal{F}_{\ell a}^S$ (Barack and Ori (2002); Mino, Nakano, and Sasaki (2002); Detweiler, Messaritaki, and Whiting (2003); Kim(2004))

- Determine *regularization parameters* analytically

$$\mathcal{F}_{\ell a}^S = \left(\ell + \frac{1}{2}\right) A_a + B_a + \frac{C_a}{\ell + \frac{1}{2}} - \frac{2\sqrt{2}D_a}{(2\ell - 1)(2\ell + 3)} + O(\ell^{-4}).$$

- e.g. Charge moving along a *general* orbit about a Schwarzschild BH (Kim(2004)):

$$\mathcal{F}_{\ell a}^S = \ell \text{ mode decomp. of } \partial_a \psi^S, \quad \text{where } \psi^S = \frac{q}{\sqrt{\mathcal{X}^2 + \mathcal{Y}^2 + \mathcal{Z}^2}}.$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{X}^A = \Lambda^A_B \left[ M^B_b (x^b - x_o^b) + \frac{1}{2} M^B_b \Gamma_{cd}|_o (x^c - x_o^c)(x^d - x_o^d) \right] + O[(x - x_o)^3]$$

(*Thorne-Hartle-Zhang normal coords.*) with

$$M^A_a = \text{diag} \left[ f^{1/2}, f^{-1/2}, r_o, -r_o \right] \quad \left( f \equiv 1 - \frac{2M}{r_o} \right),$$

$$\Lambda^A_B = \text{Lorentz boost by four-velocity of particle.}$$

Then

$$A_t = \text{sgn}(\Delta) \frac{q^2 \dot{r}}{r_o^2 \lambda}, \quad A_r = -\text{sgn}(\Delta) \frac{q^2 E}{r_o^2 f \lambda}, \quad A_\phi = 0, \quad A_\theta = 0, \quad B_t = \frac{q^2}{r_o^2} E \dot{r} \left[ \frac{F_{3/2}}{\lambda^{3/2}} - \frac{3F_{5/2}}{2\lambda^{5/2}} \right],$$

$$B_r = \frac{q^2}{r_o^2} \left[ -\frac{F_{1/2}}{\lambda^{1/2}} + \frac{(f - 2\dot{r}^2) F_{3/2}}{2f\lambda^{3/2}} + \frac{3\dot{r}^2 F_{5/2}}{2f\lambda^{5/2}} \right], \quad B_\phi = \frac{q^2}{J} \dot{r} \left[ \frac{F_{1/2} - F_{3/2}}{\lambda^{1/2}} + \frac{3(F_{5/2} - F_{3/2})}{2\lambda^{3/2}} \right], \quad B_\theta = 0,$$

$$C_t = C_r = C_\phi = C_\theta = 0, \quad \dots, \quad \text{where } \Delta \equiv r - r_o \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda \equiv (1 + J^2/r_o^2).$$

### 3.C. An Example: Self-force on *circular* orbits about Schwarzschild BH

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}_r^{\text{self}} &= \sum_{\ell} \lim_{r \rightarrow r_o} \left[ \mathcal{F}_{\ell r}^{\text{ret}}(r) - \mathcal{F}_{\ell r}^{\text{S}}(r) \right] = \sum_{\ell} \mathcal{F}_{\ell r}^{\text{R}}(r_o) \\ &= \sum_{\ell} \left\{ \lim_{r \rightarrow r_o} \mathcal{F}_{\ell r}^{\text{ret}}(r) - \left[ \left( \ell + \frac{1}{2} \right) A_r + B_r - \frac{2\sqrt{2}D_r}{(2\ell - 1)(2\ell + 3)} + O(\ell^{-4}) \right] \right\}\end{aligned}$$

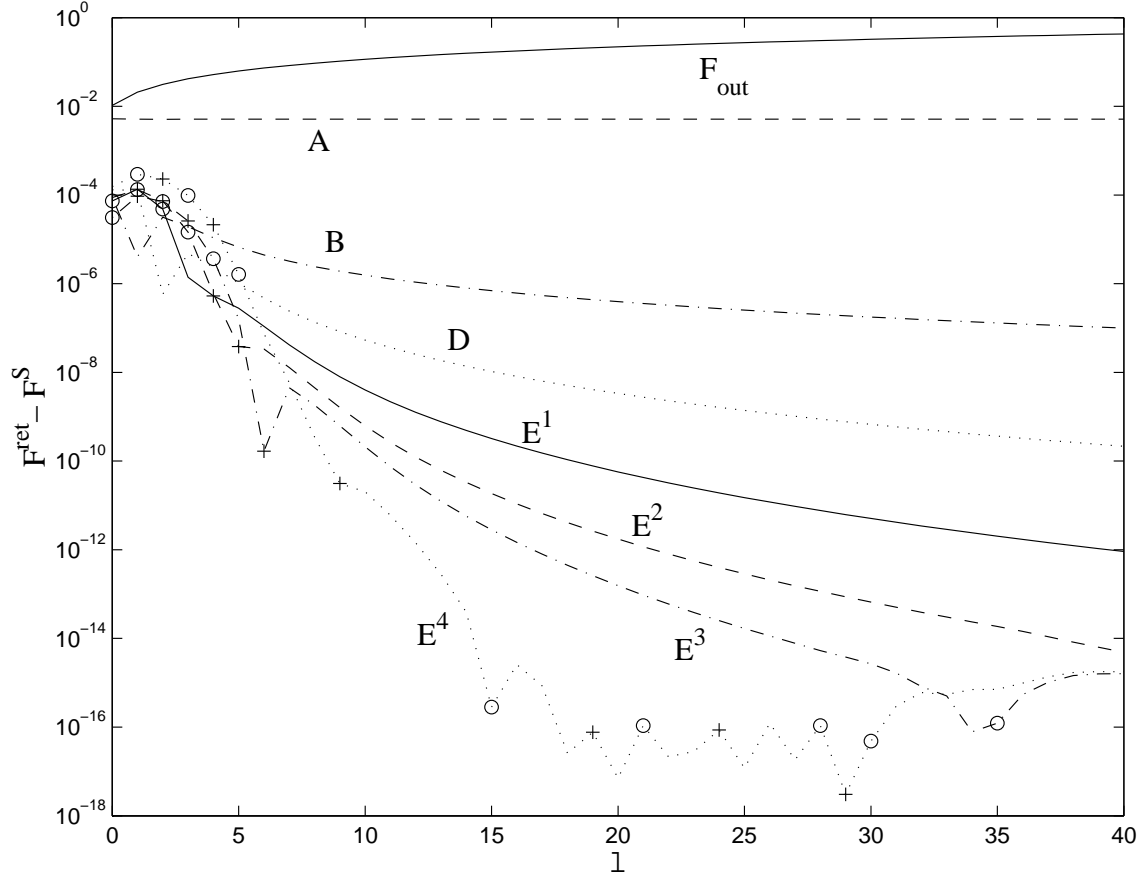


Figure 1:  $\mathcal{F}_{\ell r}^{\text{self}}$  vs.  $\ell$  (by courtesy of Detweiler et al, 2003 ): for  $r_o = 10M$  to  $\ell = 40$ ,  $\mathcal{F}_r^{\text{self}} = 1.37844828(2) \times 10^{-5}$

## 4. Gravitational Self-force in Schwarzschild Spacetime by Mode-sum Regularization (in progress)

- Problems with *Mino-Sasaki-Tanaka-Quinn-Wald Gravitational Self-force: not gauge invariant* and *depending upon the gauge condition*.
- Determine the *effects of self-force: changes in gauge invariant quantities* due to the *self-force effects*.

e.g. For a *circular* orbit, a *direct observable*  $\Omega$  (orbital angular frequency) or a combination of observables  $E - \Omega J$

$\Rightarrow$  The particle moves on a geodesic of  $g_{ab} + h_{ab}^{\mathbf{R}}$  and

$$\Omega^2 = (d\phi/dt)^2 = (u^\phi/u^t)^2 = \frac{M}{r^3} - \frac{r - 3M}{2r^2} u^a u^b \partial_r h_{ab}^{\mathbf{R}},$$

$$(E - \Omega J)^2 = \left(1 - \frac{3M}{r}\right) \left(1 - u^a u^b h_{ab}^{\mathbf{R}} + \frac{1}{2} r u^a u^b \partial_r h_{ab}^{\mathbf{R}}\right),$$

where  $u_a = (u_t, u_r, u_\theta, u_\phi) = (-E, 0, 0, J)$  (four-velocity of particle).

*Mode-sum regularization* can be similarly employed using *tensor spherical harmonic decomposition*

$$h_{ab}^{\mathbf{R}} = h_{ab}^{\text{ret}} - h_{ab}^{\mathbf{S}} = \sum_{\ell m} [h_{ab}^{\text{ret } \ell m} - h_{ab}^{\mathbf{S} \ell m}] = \sum_{\ell} [h_{ab}^{\text{ret } \ell} - h_{ab}^{\mathbf{S} \ell}],$$

$$\partial_c h_{ab}^{\mathbf{R}} = \partial_c h_{ab}^{\text{ret}} - \partial_c h_{ab}^{\mathbf{S}} = \sum_{\ell m} [\partial_c h_{ab}^{\text{ret } \ell m} - \partial_c h_{ab}^{\mathbf{S} \ell m}] = \sum_{\ell} [\partial_c h_{ab}^{\text{ret } \ell} - \partial_c h_{ab}^{\mathbf{S} \ell}].$$

(**S** : Singular **S**ource, **R** : **R**egular **R**emainder)

## 5. Self-forces in Kerr Spacetime by Mode-sum Regularization (in progress)

- **Extremely difficult** to handle the problem in **strong field regime**
- Study of a **simple** case of **scalar** self-force: in **weak field, weak spin** limit ( $M/r \ll 1$ ,  $a/r \ll 1$  ( $a \equiv J/M$ )) with **circular, equatorial** orbits  
 $\Rightarrow$  **Simplify the Kerr geometry** and **modify the coordinates** such that to leading order in  $M/r$  and  $a/r$

$$ds^2 \cong - \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) d\tilde{t}^2 + \left(1 + \frac{2M}{r}\right) dr^2 + r^2 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\tilde{\phi}^2),$$

where

$$\tilde{t} \equiv t - (a \sin^2 \theta) \phi \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\phi} \equiv \phi - \left(\frac{a}{r^2}\right) t.$$

Then,  $\tilde{\nabla}^2$  is **spherically symmetric in the new geometry**  $\tilde{x}^a = (\tilde{t}, r, \theta, \tilde{\phi})$ , and we solve

$$\tilde{\nabla}^2 \psi^{\text{ret}} = -4\pi j^0(\tilde{x}),$$

where

$$j^0(\tilde{x}) = q \int (-g)^{-1/2} \delta^4(\tilde{x}^a - \tilde{z}^a(\tau)) d\tau = q (-g)^{-1/2} (d\tilde{t}/d\tau)^{-1} \delta^3(\tilde{x}^i - \tilde{z}^i(\tilde{t}))$$

and

$$\tilde{z}^i(\tilde{t}) = (r_o, \pi/2, \tilde{\Omega}\tilde{t}) \quad \text{with} \quad \tilde{\Omega} \equiv \Omega - a(r_o^{-2} + \Omega^2) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad z^i(t) = (r_o, \pi/2, \Omega t),$$

to calculate

$$F_a^{\text{self}} = q^2 \lim_{p \rightarrow p'} \partial_a \psi^{\text{R}} = q^2 \lim_{p \rightarrow p'} \partial_a (\psi^{\text{ret}} - \psi^{\text{S}}) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \lim_{p \rightarrow p'} (\mathcal{F}_{\ell a}^{\text{ret}} - \mathcal{F}_{\ell a}^{\text{S}}).$$

- For a scalar charge  $q$  moving along a **general** orbit in the plane with  $\theta_o$  about a Kerr BH,

$$\mathcal{F}_{\ell a}^S = \left(\ell + \frac{1}{2}\right) A_a + B_a + \frac{C_a}{\ell + \frac{1}{2}} + O(\ell^{-2})$$

with regularization parameters

$$A_t = \text{sgn}(r - r_o) \frac{q^2 \Sigma^2 \sin^2 \theta_o \dot{r}}{\mathcal{A} \sin^2 \theta_o (\Sigma + u_\theta^2) + \Sigma^2 L_z^2},$$

$$A_r = -\text{sgn}(r - r_o) \frac{q^2 \Sigma \sin \theta_o \left[ \mathcal{A} \sin^2 \theta_o (\Sigma + (\Sigma^2/\Delta) \dot{r}^2 + u_\theta^2) + \Sigma^2 L_z^2 \right]^{1/2}}{\Delta^{1/2} \left[ \mathcal{A} \sin^2 \theta_o (\Sigma + u_\theta^2) + \Sigma^2 L_z^2 \right]}, \quad A_\theta = 0, \quad A_\phi = 0,$$

$$B_a = \sqrt{2} q^2 \sin \theta_o \left[ -R_o^{-3/2} \left( P_{ab} \Gamma_{cd}^b \Big|_o + 2P_{bc} \Gamma_{ad}^b \Big|_o \right) \left\langle (\sin \Phi)^\mathcal{M} (\cos \Phi)^{2-\mathcal{M}} \chi^{-3/2} \right\rangle \right. \\ \left. + 6R_o^{-5/2} P_{ac} P_{bd} \Gamma_{ef}^b \Big|_o \left\langle (\sin \Phi)^\mathcal{N} (\cos \Phi)^{4-\mathcal{N}} \chi^{-5/2} \right\rangle \right] \quad (\mathcal{M} = \delta^c_\theta + \delta^d_\theta, \quad \mathcal{N} = \delta^c_\theta + \delta^d_\theta + \delta^e_\theta + \delta^f_\theta),$$

$$C_a = 0 \quad \dots \quad ,$$

where

$$\Delta \equiv r_o^2 + a^2 - 2Mr_o, \quad \Sigma \equiv r_o^2 + a^2 \cos^2 \theta_o, \quad \mathcal{A} \equiv (r_o^2 + a^2)^2 - a^2 \Delta \sin^2 \theta_o,$$

$$P_{ab} \equiv u_{oa} u_{ob} + g_{ab} \Big|_o, \quad Q_{ab} \equiv 2u_{oa} u_{ob} + g_{ab} \Big|_o,$$

$$R_o \equiv \left[ \left( -\Sigma - u_\theta^2 + L_z^2 + \frac{\mathcal{A} \sin^2 \theta_o}{\Sigma} \right)^2 + 4u_\theta^2 L_z^2 \right]^{1/2} + \Sigma + u_\theta^2 + L_z^2 + \frac{\mathcal{A} \sin^2 \theta_o}{\Sigma}, \quad \chi \equiv 1 - \alpha \sin^2(\Phi + \beta),$$

$$\alpha \equiv 2R_o^{-1} \left[ \left( -\Sigma - u_\theta^2 + L_z^2 + \mathcal{A} \sin^2 \theta_o / \Sigma \right)^2 + 4u_\theta^2 L_z^2 \right]^{1/2}, \quad \beta = \tan^{-1} \left[ 2u_\theta L_z / \left( -\Sigma - u_\theta^2 + L_z^2 + \mathcal{A} \sin^2 \theta_o / \Sigma \right) \right]$$

- **Gravitational** self-force in Kerr:  
Similarly, we may also try to solve

$$E_{ab} = -8\pi T_{ab}(\tilde{x}),$$

where

$$E_{ab} = \tilde{\nabla}^2 h_{ab}^{\text{ret}} + \tilde{\nabla}_a \tilde{\nabla}_b h^{\text{ret}} - 2\tilde{\nabla}_{(a} \tilde{\nabla}^c h_{b)c}^{\text{ret}} + 2R_{a\ b}^{\ c\ d} h_{cd}^{\text{ret}} + g_{ab} (\tilde{\nabla}^c \tilde{\nabla}^d h_{cd}^{\text{ret}} - \tilde{\nabla}^2 h^{\text{ret}})$$

and

$$T_{ab}(\tilde{x}) = \mu \int u^a u^b (-g)^{-1/2} \delta^4(\tilde{x}^a - \tilde{z}^a(\tau)) d\tau,$$

to calculate

$$\frac{dE}{d\tau} = -\frac{1}{2} u^a u^b \frac{\partial h_{ab}^{\text{R}}}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{2} u^a u^b \frac{\partial (h_{ab}^{\text{ret}} - h_{ab}^{\text{S}})}{\partial t} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{dJ}{d\tau} = \frac{1}{2} u^a u^b \frac{\partial h_{ab}^{\text{R}}}{\partial \phi} = \frac{1}{2} u^a u^b \frac{\partial (h_{ab}^{\text{ret}} - h_{ab}^{\text{S}})}{\partial \phi}.$$

## DISCUSSIONS & QUESTIONS

- How to include the *self-force effects* in the *orbital evolution*.
- *Dephasing effects* due to *conservative* self-force / *Adiabatic approach*.
- Developing techniques for the self-force in **Kerr** in *strong field regime*.