Numerical Relativity, Black Hole Mergers, and Gravitational Waves: Part I

Joan Centrella

Deputy Director, Astrophysics Science Division
NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center
Greenbelt, MD 20771 USA

This series of 3 lectures will present recent developments in numerical relativity, and their applications to simulating black hole mergers and computing the resulting gravitational waveforms. In this first lecture, we introduce the basic ideas of numerical relativity, highlighting the challenges that arise in simulating gravitational wave sources on a computer.