

Classical Gravitational Bound States with Amplitudes

Riccardo Gonzo

based on work with with T.Adamo (2212.13269), C.Shi (2304.06066)
and work in progress with T.Adamo and A.Ilderton



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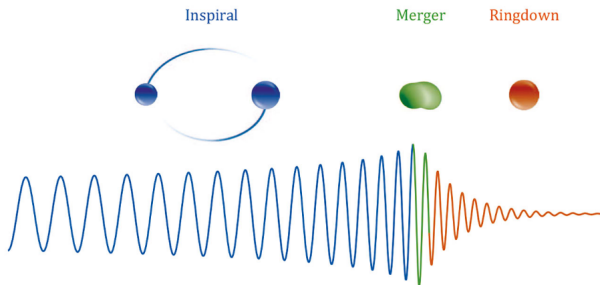
- 1 Motivation and introduction
- 2 Amplitude-action relation and classical bound states
- 3 Scattering and bound observables for generic Kerr orbits
- 4 The classical S-matrix and radiative observables
- 5 Conclusion

Motivation and introduction (I)

- The recent discovery of gravitational waves **calls for new analytical techniques** to study **the two-body problem**.

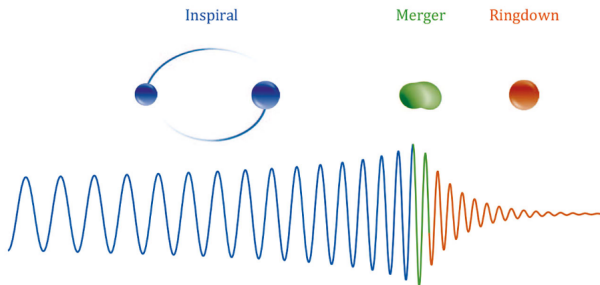
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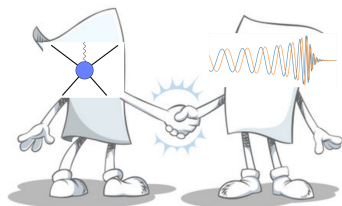


- Today: focus on the inspiral phase, where we can model compact objects as point particles in the spirit of effective field theory [Goldberger, Rothstein]

Motivation and introduction (II)

- Why amplitudes?

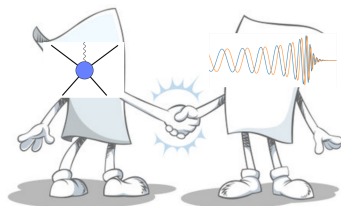
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New perspective on GR!



- **Question:** How can we study **classical bound states** from **amplitude** techniques?

This seems an hard question ...

'It must be said that the theory of relativistic effects and radiative corrections in bound states is not yet in an entirely satisfactory shape.'
(Weinberg, QFT I, page 560)



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$$H|\psi\rangle = E|\psi\rangle, \quad H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + V, \quad V(r) \propto -\frac{g}{r},$$

which can be solved exactly (at all orders in the coupling g)

$E > 0 \leftrightarrow$ scattering plane wave $\psi \propto e^{i\vec{k}^>\cdot\vec{x}}$ \leftrightarrow **continuous spectrum** $E_{\vec{k}}$

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where $>$ (resp. $<$) stands for scattering orbits (resp. bound orbits).

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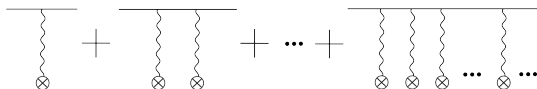
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- Note: In **partial wave basis** there is an **analytic continuation** $k^> \rightarrow i k^<$ ($\sqrt{y^2 - 1} \rightarrow i\sqrt{1 - y^2}$ with $y = E/m$) from scattering to bound solutions in the **semiclassical limit of large quantum numbers** $\hbar n \rightarrow L$ [Adamo, RG].

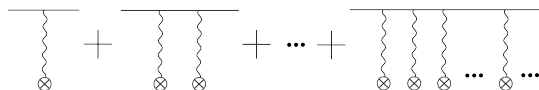
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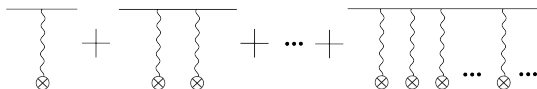
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which is actually used to study QED bound systems like positronium e^+e^- !
 We can write it as an **amplitude recursion relation**

$$\overline{\text{K}} = \overline{\text{W}}, \quad \overline{\text{M}_4} = \overline{\text{K}} + \overline{\text{K}} \overline{\text{M}_4}$$

which is nothing else than the **(quantum) Bethe-Salpeter equation!**

The bound state equation in quantum field theory

- The **Bethe-Salpeter equation** is a **non-perturbative recursion relation** for 4-pt amplitudes, which **generate the bound state energy poles** via the **iteration of a two-massive particle irreducible kernel \mathcal{K}**



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$$\mathcal{M}_4(p_1, p'_1; P) = \mathcal{K}(p_1, p'_1; P) + \int \hat{d}^4 l \mathcal{K}(p_1, l; P) G(l, P) \mathcal{M}_4(l, p'_1; P),$$

where $G(l, P)$ is the two-body propagator.

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- How can we take the classical limit?

What is the classical expansion?

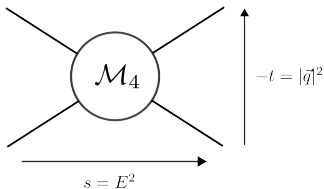
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What is the classical expansion?

- **Framework:** QFT scattering amplitudes techniques for the classical gravitational interaction of two massive (spinless or spinning) point particles
- Consider the conservative 4-pt amplitude: the classical expansion $\hbar \rightarrow 0$ is equivalent to consider the Heavy Particle Effective Theory (HEFT) scheme [Damgaard,Aoude,Haddad,Helset;Brandhuber,Chen,Travaglini,Wen]

$$p_1^\mu := p_A^\mu + \hbar \frac{\bar{q}^\mu}{2}, \quad (p'_1)^\mu := p_A^\mu - \hbar \frac{\bar{q}^\mu}{2}, \quad s = (p_A + p_B)^2,$$
$$p_2^\mu := p_B^\mu - \hbar \frac{\bar{q}^\mu}{2}, \quad (p'_2)^\mu := p_B^\mu + \hbar \frac{\bar{q}^\mu}{2}, \quad t = -\hbar^2 |\vec{q}|^2,$$

where p_A, p_B are the classical momenta and q is the momentum transfer.



Equivalently, we can use the eikonal formulation (see Carlo's talk!)

The classical Bethe-Salpeter equation

- We obtain the **classical Bethe-Salpeter equation** from **quotienting diagrams** by **symmetrization over internal graviton exchanges**: [Adamo, RG]

$$\mathcal{M}_{4,(n+1)}^{\text{cl}}(p_A, p_B, q) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{K}_{\text{cl}}(p_A, p_B, q) & \text{if } n = 0 \\ \frac{1}{n+1} \int \hat{d}^4 l \mathcal{K}_{\text{cl}}(p_A, p_B, l) G_{\text{cl}}(p_A, p_B, l) \mathcal{M}_{4,(n)}^{\text{cl}}(p_A, p_B, q - l) & \text{if } n \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

where the **two-body propagator** is replaced by its **on-shell version**

$$G_{\text{cl}}(p_A, p_B, l) = \hat{\delta}(2l \cdot p_A) \hat{\delta}(2l \cdot p_B),$$

and (n) is the number of classical two-massive particle irreducible diagrams.

$$\text{Diagrammatic representation of the equation: } \mathcal{M}_{4,(1)}^{\text{cl}} = \mathcal{K}_{\text{cl}}, \quad \mathcal{M}_{4,(n+1)}^{\text{cl}} = \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{\text{diagrams}} \mathcal{K}_{\text{cl}} \mathcal{M}_{4,(n)}^{\text{cl}} \quad n \geq 1$$

Exponentiation of the classical kernel: an exact solution

- Going to **impact parameter space** (i.e. to the partial wave basis)

$$\tilde{f}(x_q) \equiv \int \hat{d}^4 q \hat{\delta}(2p_A \cdot q) \hat{\delta}(2p_B \cdot q) e^{i(q \cdot x_q)/\hbar} f(q),$$

the **classical BSE** becomes

$$\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{4,(n+1)}^{\text{cl}}(p_A, p_B, x_{\perp}) = \begin{cases} \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_{\text{cl}}(p_A, p_B, x_{\perp}) & \text{if } n = 0 \\ \frac{1}{n+1} \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_{\text{cl}}(p_A, p_B, x_{\perp}) \tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{4,(n)}^{\text{cl}}(p_A, p_B, x_{\perp}) & \text{if } n \geq 1 \end{cases},$$

which means that **the final solution exponentiates exactly** [Adamo,RG]

$$\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_4^{\text{cl}}(p_A, p_B, x_{\perp}) = e^{\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_{\text{cl}}(p_A, p_B, x_{\perp})}.$$

Natural **generalization for spinning particles!**

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Natural **generalization for spinning particles!**

- The **analytic structure (poles, etc.)** in momentum space arise completely from

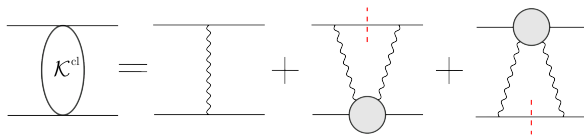
$$i\mathcal{M}_4^{\text{cl}}(p_A, p_B; q_{\perp}) = \frac{4\sqrt{(p_A \cdot p_B)^2 - m_A^2 m_B^2}}{\hbar^2} \int d^2 x_{\perp} e^{-i\vec{q}_{\perp} \cdot x_{\perp}} \left(e^{\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_{\text{cl}}(p_A, p_B, x_{\perp})} - 1 \right).$$

An example: classical kernel for spinless particles at 2PM

- We can consider for example the **classical kernel up to 2 PM**

$$\tilde{\mathcal{K}}^{\text{cl},>}(p_A, p_B, x_\perp) = \frac{i}{\hbar} \left[-2G_N \log(\mu_{\text{IR}} |x_\perp|) m_A m_B \frac{2y^2 - 1}{\sqrt{y^2 - 1}} + \frac{3\pi}{4} G_N^2 m_A m_B (m_A + m_B) \frac{5y^2 - 1}{\sqrt{y^2 - 1}} \frac{1}{|x_\perp|} \right],$$

which encodes the **conservative dynamics of two spinless particles**.

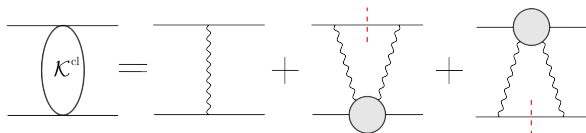


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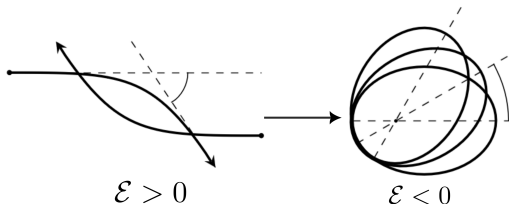


- Note that the **motion is restricted to a plane** and completely determined by the **conserved quantities (\mathcal{E}, L)!**

$$\mathcal{E} := \frac{E - m_A - m_B}{\mu}, \quad L = p_\infty(E, m_A, m_B) |x_\perp|, \quad y = \frac{E^2 - m_A^2 - m_B^2}{2m_A m_B},$$

The Hamilton-Jacobi action from amplitudes (I)

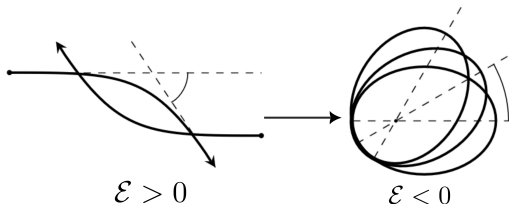
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- Natural connection of the kernel with the scattering **Hamilton-Jacobi action**

$$\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_{\text{cl}}^>(p_A, p_B; x_{\perp}) = \frac{i}{\hbar} I^>(\mathcal{E}, L), \quad I_r^>(\mathcal{E}, L) = \oint_{\mathcal{C}^>} dr p_r(r, \mathcal{E}, L) + L\pi,$$

where p_r is the radial momentum and $\mathcal{C}^>$ is the contour of integration for scattering orbits. This is the “**amplitude-action**” relation! [Bern et al.; Damgaard, Plante, Vanhove; Kol, O’Connell, Telem; Adamo, RG]

The Hamilton-Jacobi action from amplitudes (II)

- There is a remarkable analytic continuation between the boundary conditions for scattering and bound planar orbits [Kälin, Porto]

$$\int_{\mathcal{C}_r^>} = 2 \int_{r_m(\mathcal{E}, L)}^{\infty}, \quad \int_{\mathcal{C}_r^<} = 2 \int_{r_-(\mathcal{E}, L)}^{r_+(\mathcal{E}, L)},$$
$$r_-(\mathcal{E}, L) \stackrel{\mathcal{E} \leq 0}{=} r_m(\mathcal{E}, L), \quad r_+(\mathcal{E}, L) \stackrel{\mathcal{E} \leq 0}{=} r_m(\mathcal{E}, -L),$$

thanks to which (p_r is invariant under $L \rightarrow -L$)

$$I_r^<(\mathcal{E} < 0, L) = I_r^>(\mathcal{E} < 0, L) - I_r^>(\mathcal{E} < 0, -L).$$

Alternatively, analytically continue in the rapidity y at fixed L [Adamo, RG; Di Vecchia, Heissenberg, Russo, Veneziano]

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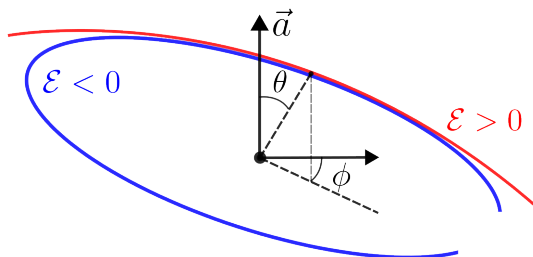
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- This picture generalize to the case of aligned-spin particles $\vec{L} // \vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2$, since the motion still remains on the equatorial plane. [Kälin,Porto]
- What happens when \vec{L} and \vec{a} are oriented in generic directions?

Hamiltonian for geodesics in Kerr

- Let's consider the **generic orbit in a Kerr black hole** of spin \vec{a} for a massive point particle with orbital angular momentum $\vec{L} \cdot \vec{a} \neq |\vec{L}||\vec{a}|$



which are described by the **geodesic Hamiltonian** $H(x, p) = 1/2 g_{\text{Kerr}}^{\mu\nu} p_\mu p_\nu$ in some convenient **Boyer-Lindquist coordinates** (t, r, θ, ϕ) .

The Hamilton-Jacobi action for generic Kerr orbits

- Using the **integrability of Kerr**, we can generalize the H-J action for generic orbits of a **massive spinless probe in a Kerr black hole** [Carter]

$$\boxed{I := I_r + I_\theta}, \quad I_r = \int_{\mathcal{C}_r} p_r dr, \quad I_\theta = \int_{\mathcal{C}_\theta} p_\theta d\theta,$$

with the radial (resp.polar) momentum p_r (resp. p_θ) and contour \mathcal{C}_r (resp. \mathcal{C}_θ)

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- The **radial and the polar action obey the analytic continuation** [RG, Shi]

$$I_r^<(\mathcal{E}, L, a, L_Q) \stackrel{\mathcal{E} \leq 0}{=} I_r^>(\mathcal{E}, L, a, L_Q) - I_r^>(\mathcal{E}, -L, -a, -L_Q),$$

$$I_\theta^<(\mathcal{E}, L, a, L_Q; n^>, \eta_{\text{out}}^>) \stackrel{\mathcal{E} \leq 0}{=} I_\theta^>(\mathcal{E}, L, a, L_Q; n^<, \eta_{\text{out}}^<).$$

How do we compute scattering and bound observables?

Azimuthal deflection angle for generic Kerr orbits

- Once we have the H-J action, we can obtain the azimuthal deflection angle by differentiation over L

$$\Delta\phi + \pi = -\frac{\partial I}{\partial L} = -\frac{\partial I_r}{\partial L} - \frac{\partial I_\theta}{\partial L}$$

which gives in the perturbative expansion in $G_N M$ ($a \ll G_N M$)

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\phi = & \frac{2G_N M m L (2\mathcal{E} + 1)}{\sqrt{\mathcal{E}} L_Q^2} + \frac{3\pi G_N^2 M^2 m^2 L (5\mathcal{E} + 4)}{4L_Q^3} \\ & + a\sqrt{\mathcal{E} + 1} \left(\frac{4G_N M m^2 \sqrt{\mathcal{E}} (L_Q^2 - 2L^2)}{L_Q^4} \right) + \dots\end{aligned}$$

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- Matches known result in the equatorial limit $Q \rightarrow 0$ [Damgaard, Hoogeveen, Luna, Vines], but the expansion is new for generic orbits! [RG, Shi]

Time delay for generic null Kerr orbits

- The **time delay** is obtained by **differentiating over the energy E** in the HJ action. For **generic null geodesics** with fixed b relative to an observer with $b' \gg b$ but at the same energy $E' = E$ [Camanho, Edelstein, Maldacena, Zhiboedov; Accettulli Huber, Brandhuber, De Angelis, Travaglini]

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta T &= \left. \frac{\partial I}{\partial E} \right|_{L_Q, E} - \left. \frac{\partial I}{\partial E} \right|_{L'_Q \gg L_Q, E' = E} \\ &= 4G_N M \log \left(\frac{L'_Q}{L_Q} \right) + \frac{15\pi G_N^2 M^2 E}{2L_Q} + \frac{64G_N^3 M^3 E^2}{L_Q^2} \\ &\quad - \frac{aLE}{L_Q^4} (8G_N M L_Q^2 + 15\pi G_N^2 M^2 E L_Q + 256G_N^3 M^3 E^2) + \dots\end{aligned}$$

which in the equatorial limit matches [Bautista, Guevara, Kavanagh, Vines].

Fundamental frequencies for Kerr orbits

- The H-J action provides an **intrinsic definition** of the **fundamental frequencies** for the bound motion $\omega_r, \omega_\phi, \omega_\theta$ via the **action-angle representation** [Schmidt]:

$$\omega_r = -\frac{1}{\Omega} \frac{\partial J_\theta}{\partial Q}, \quad \omega_\theta = \frac{1}{\Omega} \frac{\partial J_r}{\partial Q}, \quad \omega_\phi = \frac{1}{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial J_r}{\partial L} \frac{\partial J_\theta}{\partial Q} - \frac{\partial J_r}{\partial Q} \frac{\partial J_\theta}{\partial L} \right),$$

with $\Omega := \frac{\partial J_r}{\partial H} \frac{\partial J_\theta}{\partial Q} - \frac{\partial J_r}{\partial Q} \frac{\partial J_\theta}{\partial H}$, $J_\phi = L$, $J_r = \oint p_r dr = I_r^<$, $J_\theta = \oint p_\theta d\theta = I_\theta^<(1)$.

Fundamental frequencies for Kerr orbits

- The H-J action provides an **intrinsic definition** of the **fundamental frequencies** for the bound motion $\omega_r, \omega_\phi, \omega_\theta$ via the **action-angle representation** [Schmidt]:

$$\omega_r = -\frac{1}{\Omega} \frac{\partial J_\theta}{\partial Q}, \quad \omega_\theta = \frac{1}{\Omega} \frac{\partial J_r}{\partial Q}, \quad \omega_\phi = \frac{1}{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial J_r}{\partial L} \frac{\partial J_\theta}{\partial Q} - \frac{\partial J_r}{\partial Q} \frac{\partial J_\theta}{\partial L} \right),$$

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- From the amplitude perspective we want **bound observables invariant under the choice of the time coordinate**, i.e. the **frequency ratios** [RG, Shi]

$$K^{\phi r} := \frac{\omega_\phi}{\omega_r} = \frac{\partial J_r / \partial Q}{\partial J_\theta / \partial Q} \frac{\partial J_\theta}{\partial L} - \frac{\partial J_r}{\partial L}, \quad K^{\theta r} := \frac{\omega_\theta}{\omega_r} = -\frac{\partial J_r / \partial Q}{\partial J_\theta / \partial Q}.$$

corresponding to the **precession of the periastron and of the orbital plane**.

Frequency ratios for Kerr orbits

- The periastron advance is [RG,Shi]

$$K^{\phi r} = 1 + \frac{3G_N^2 M^2 m^2 (5\mathcal{E} + 4)}{4L_Q^2} + \frac{aG_N^2 M^2 m^3 \sqrt{\mathcal{E} + 1} (L_Q - 3L)(5\mathcal{E} + 2)}{L_Q^4} \\ + \frac{3a^2 G_N^2 M^2 m^4}{32L_Q^6} \left[L^2 (445\mathcal{E}^2 + 416\mathcal{E} + 40) - L_Q (L_Q + 2L)(85\mathcal{E}^2 + 80\mathcal{E} + 8) \right]$$

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- The **precession of the orbital plane** is

$$K^{\theta r} = 1 + \frac{3G_N^2 M^2 m^2 (5\mathcal{E} + 4)}{4L_Q^2} - \frac{3aG_N^2 M^2 m^3 L \sqrt{\mathcal{E} + 1} (5\mathcal{E} + 2)}{L_Q^4} \\ + \frac{3a^2 G_N^2 M^2 m^4}{32L_Q^6} \left[L^2 (445\mathcal{E}^2 + 416\mathcal{E} + 40) - L_Q^2 (85\mathcal{E}^2 + 80\mathcal{E} + 8) \right].$$

As expected **frequencies become degenerate** in the spinless case $\omega_\theta \xrightarrow{a \rightarrow 0} \omega_\phi$

Radiative observables in the S-matrix formalism (I)

- How can the previous picture be generalized in the **presence of radiation**? Consider the **5-pt recursion** with the emission of a positive energy graviton

$$\left. \begin{array}{c} \overrightarrow{p_2} \quad \overrightarrow{p'_2} \\ \overleftarrow{p_1} \quad \overleftarrow{p'_1} \end{array} \right|_{E_{k_1} > 0} \mathcal{M}_5 = \mathcal{K}_R + \mathcal{K}_R \mathcal{M}_4 + \mathcal{K} \mathcal{M}_5$$

and apply the **symmetrization procedure** [Adamo, RG, Ilderton]

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A similar recursion holds for the **emission of n gravitons**.

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The diagram shows an equality between a 5-point amplitude and a sum of three terms. On the left, a large oval labeled \mathcal{M}_5 has two incoming momenta p_1, p_2 and two outgoing momenta p'_1, p'_2 . A wavy line representing a graviton is emitted from the top with momentum k_1 . The condition $E_{k_1} > 0$ is written below. This is equal to the sum of three diagrams: 1) a graviton emission from a \mathcal{K}_R vertex; 2) a graviton emission from a \mathcal{K}_R vertex followed by a \mathcal{M}_4 amplitude; 3) a \mathcal{K} vertex followed by a \mathcal{M}_5 amplitude.

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The diagram shows a recursion relation for symmetrized amplitudes. On the left, a large oval labeled $\mathcal{M}_{5,(1)}^{\text{cl}}$ has two incoming momenta p_1, p_2 and two outgoing momenta p'_1, p'_2 . A wavy line representing a graviton is emitted from the top with momentum k_1 . The condition $E_{k_1} > 0$ is written below. This is equal to a $\mathcal{K}_R^{\text{cl}}$ vertex. A comma follows. To the right, a large oval labeled $\mathcal{M}_{5,(n+1)}^{\text{cl}}$ has two incoming momenta p_1, p_2 and two outgoing momenta p'_1, p'_2 . A wavy line representing a graviton is emitted from the top with momentum k_1 . The condition $E_{k_1} > 0$ is written below. This is equal to a sum of two terms in brackets, multiplied by $\frac{1}{n+1}$: 1) a \mathcal{K}^{cl} vertex followed by a $\mathcal{M}_{5,(n)}^{\text{cl}}$ amplitude; 2) a $\mathcal{M}_{4,(n)}^{\text{cl}}$ amplitude followed by a $\mathcal{K}_R^{\text{cl}}$ vertex. Vertical dashed red lines separate the vertices in the bracketed terms.

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- Can we find an exact solution from the resummation?**

Radiative observables in the S-matrix formalism (II)

- The **classical S-matrix** is [Cristofoli, RG, Moynihan, O'Connell, Ross, Sergola, White; Britto, RG, Jehu; Di Vecchia, Heissenberg, Russo, Veneziano]

$$\tilde{\mathcal{S}}^{\text{cl}} \Big|_{E_{k_1}, \dots, E_{k_N} > 0} \sim e^{\tilde{\mathcal{K}}^{\text{cl}}(p_A, p_B; x_{q_1}, x_{q_2})} e^{\sum_{\sigma} \int d\Phi(k) \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_{\mathcal{R}}^{\text{cl}}(p_A, p_B; x_{q_1}, x_{q_2}, k^{\sigma}) a_{\sigma}^{\dagger}(k) + \text{h.c.}},$$

with a **coherent state of gravitons** representing the **gravitational wave**

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- Comments: 1) All amplitude observables for the two-body problem can be derived from such gauge-invariant representation; 2) Compact expression which unifies the treatment of potential and radiative modes.

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$$\sim e^{\left[\text{Diagram with } \mathcal{M}_n^{\text{cl}} \text{ and } \mathcal{K}^{\text{cl}} \right]} e^{\int d\Phi(k) \left[\text{Diagram with } \mathcal{K}_R^{\text{cl}} \right]} a^{\dagger}(k) + \text{h.c.}$$

- Comments: 1) All amplitude observables for the two-body problem can be derived from such gauge-invariant representation; 2) Compact expression which unifies the treatment of potential and radiative modes.
- Open problem:** can we understand the **analytic continuation of the waveform**?

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- **Future directions**: understand the amplitude-action relation for generic spin orientations, generalized Carter constant for spinning particles, analytic continuation for radiative observables, self-force from amplitudes, ...

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