



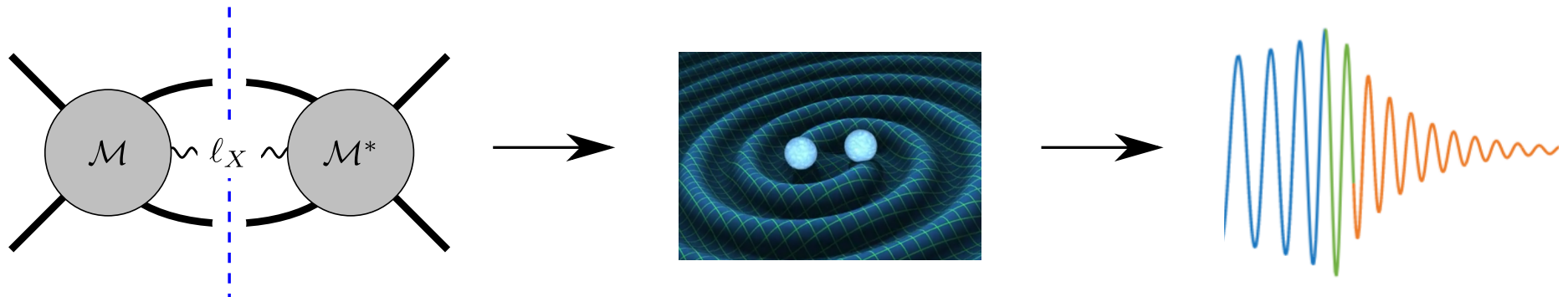
Importing perturbative QCD methods into gravitational wave physics

Mao Zeng, University of Oxford

Talk at Radcor / LoopFest 2021

arXiv:2005.04236 (JHEP), Parra-Martinez, Ruf, MZ

arXiv:2101.07254 (PRL), Bern, Parra-Martinez, Roiban, Ruf, Shen, Solon, MZ

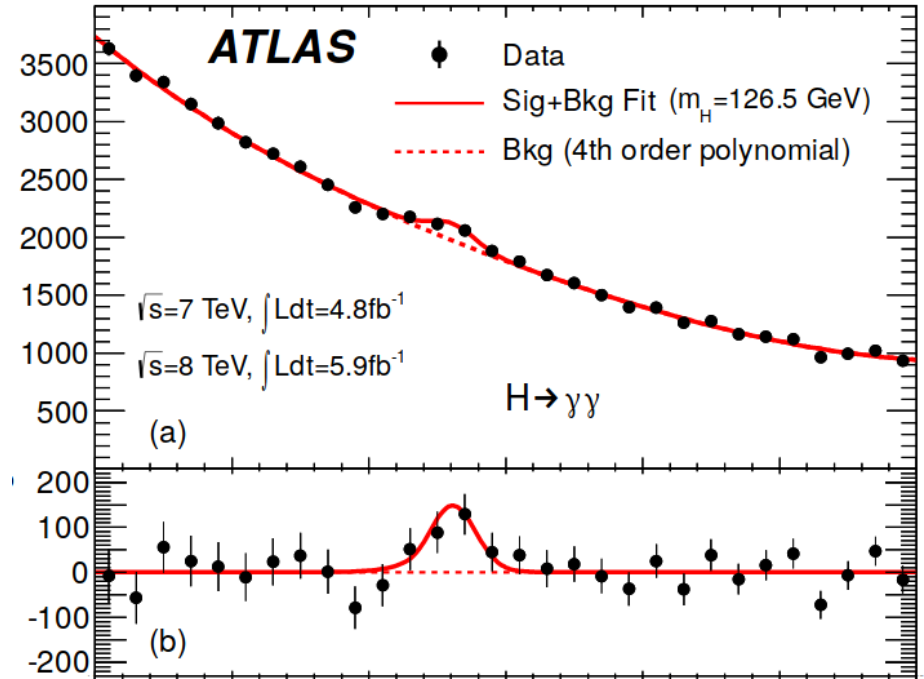


OUTLINE

1. Background - Precision GW Physics
2. The Amplitudes Approach
3. Collider methods - method of regions, differential equations, reverse unitarity...
4. Results & comparisons with numerical relativity

Background

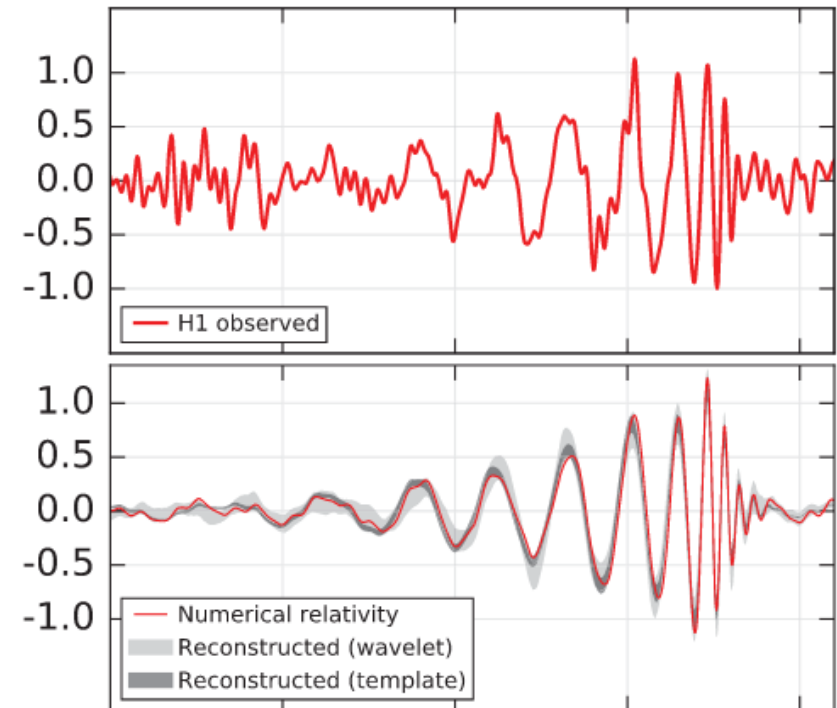
DISCOVERIES OF OUR TIMES



ATLAS Collaboration, arXiv:1207.7214

Two of the fundamental discoveries of our times: **Higgs boson (2012)**, **gravitational waves (2015)**. Spectacular confirmation of SM / GR.

DISCOVERIES OF OUR TIMES



LIGO & VIRGO collaborations,
[arXiv:1602.03837](https://arxiv.org/abs/1602.03837)

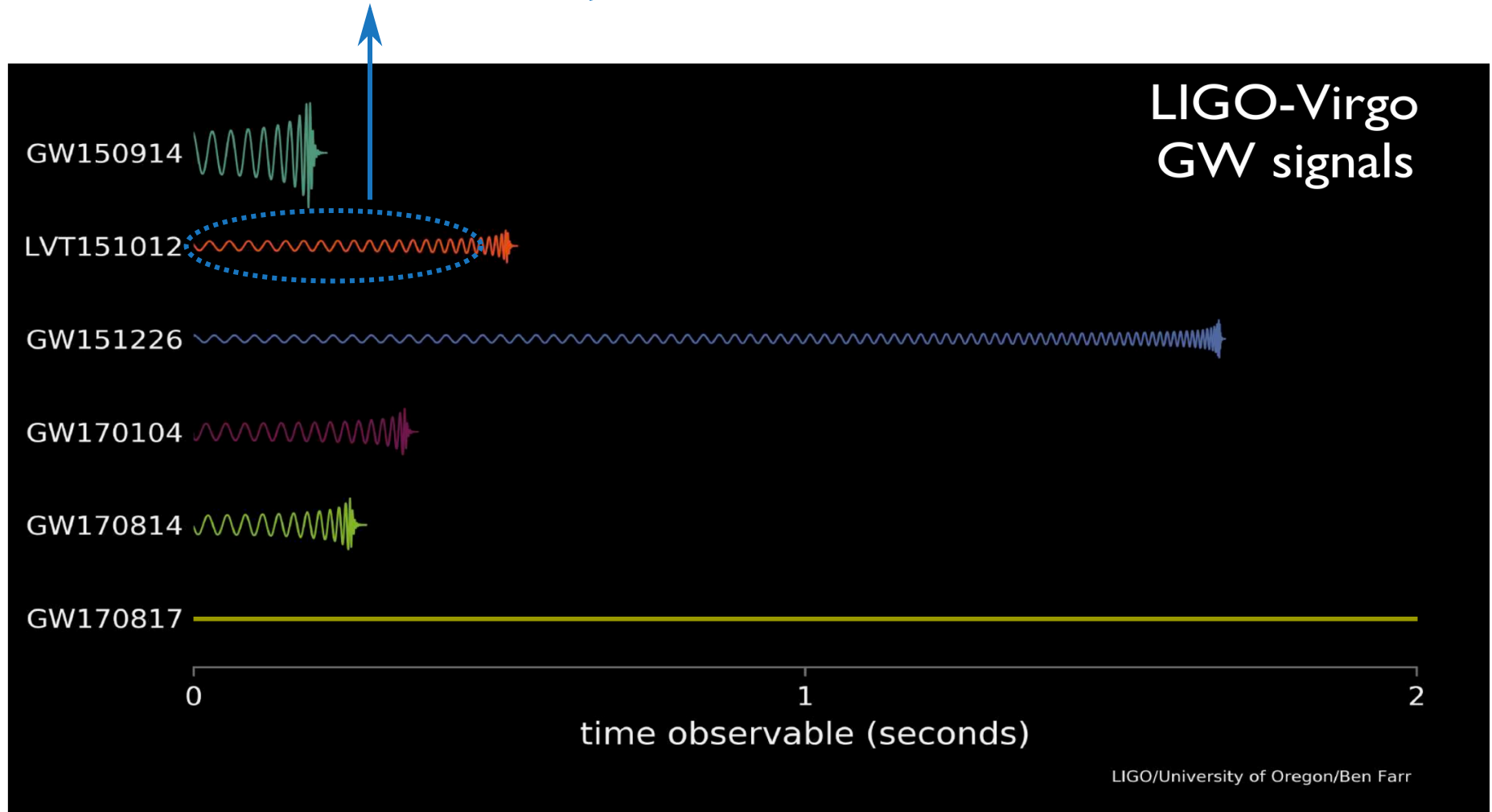
Two of the fundamental discoveries of our times: **Higgs boson (2012)**, **gravitational waves (2015)**. Spectacular confirmation of SM / GR.

- Intense precision theory efforts on two types experiments - chance for cross-fertilization?

INSPIRAL WAVEFORMS



Weak-field perturbative expansions: Post-Newtonian, **Post-Minkoskian**, Self force, Effective one body...



FUTURE GW DETECTORS

aLigo/
Virgo

— 2020

KAGRA

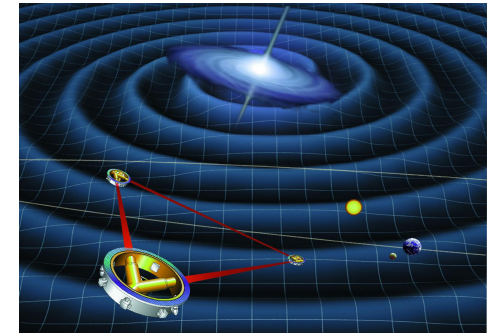
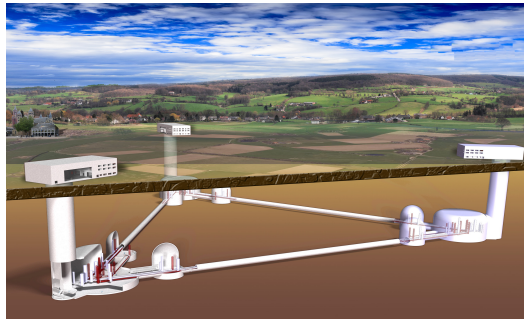
IndIGO

TianQin — 2025

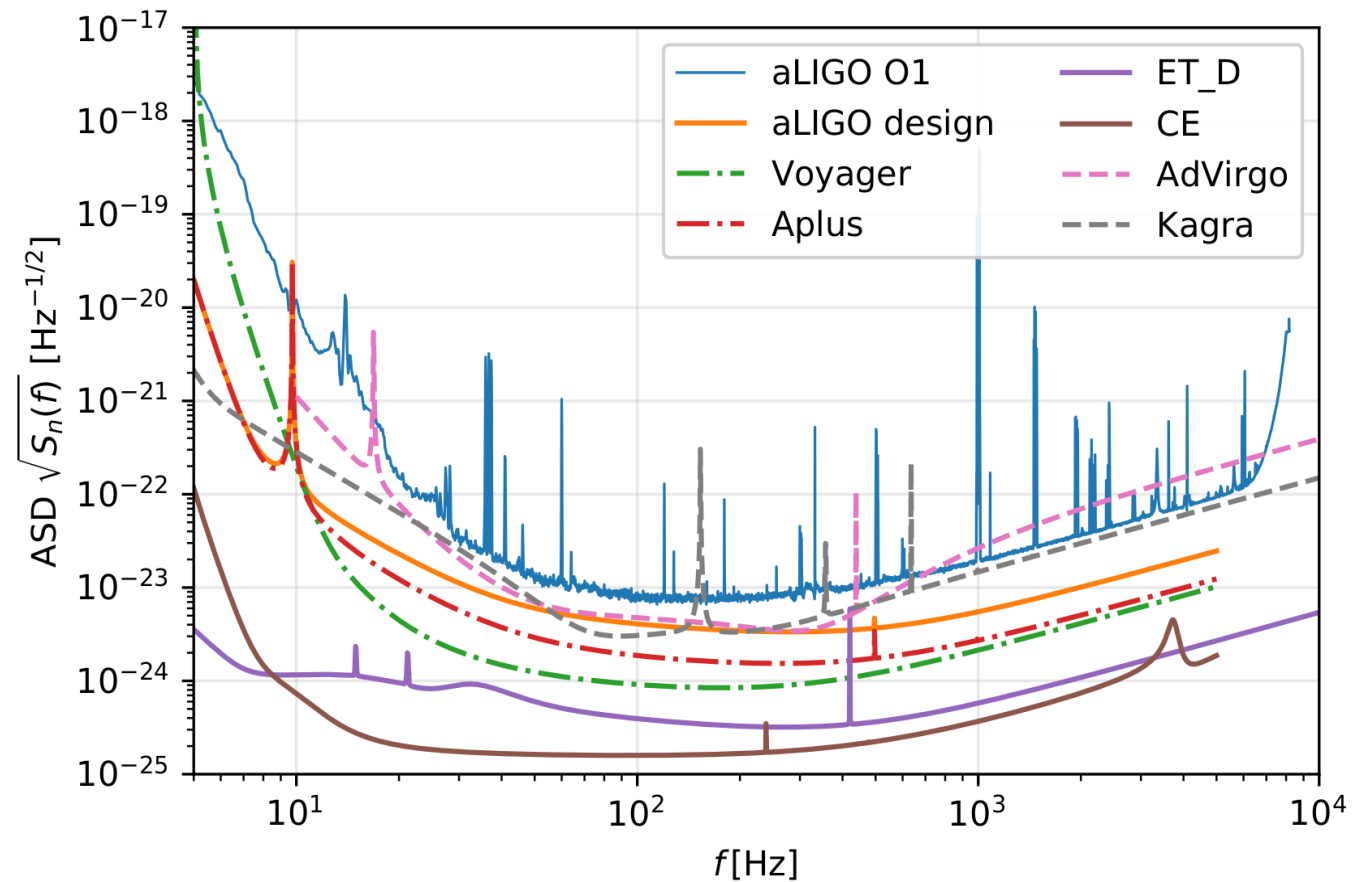
DECIGO

LISA — 2030

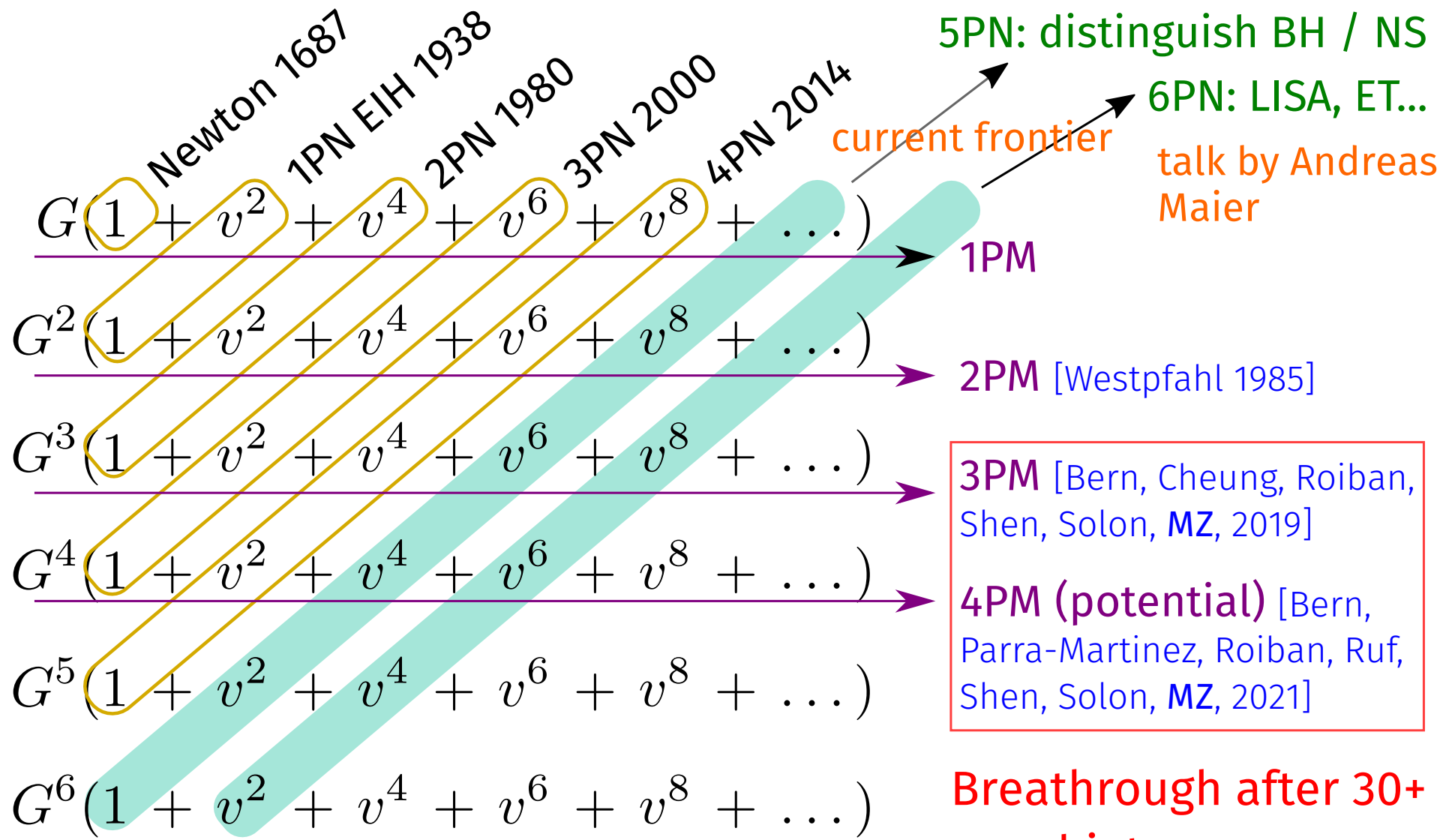
Einstein



Plot: sensitivity of future GW detectors.



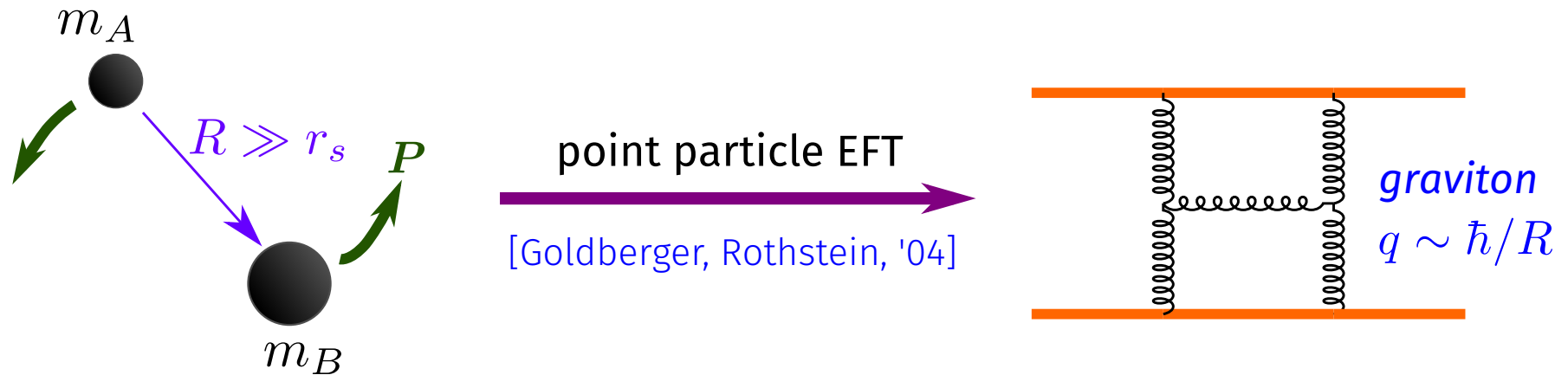
NEW RESULTS FOR CONSERVATIVE DYNAMICS



[adapted from Mikhail Solon's slide]

The Amplitudes Approach

POINT PARTICLE EFFECTIVE FIELD THEORY



Massive particles (scalar field) coupled to gravity.

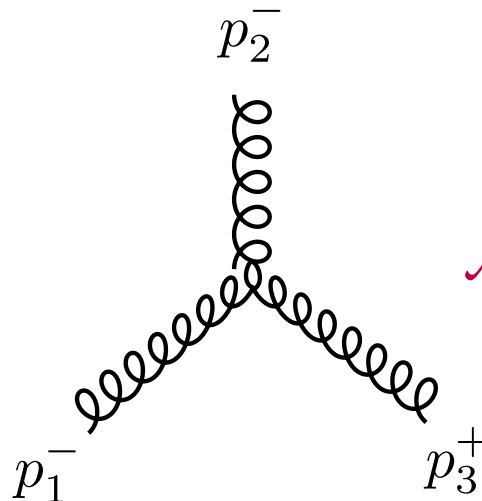
Lagrangian: $S = S_{\text{Einstein-Hilbert}} + S_{\text{point-particle}} + S_{\text{finite-size}}$

Point-particle: scalar field in dynamic metric.

Finite-size (tidal) effect: *highly suppressed* for compact objects $\sim \mathcal{O}(G^5)$, even more so for black holes $\sim \mathcal{O}(G^6)$.

GRAVITY AMPLITUDES FROM YANG-MILLS

- Gravity = (Yang-Mills)². 3-point amplitude example:



Yang-Mills
Gravity

$$\mathcal{A}_3(1^- 2^- 3^+) = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^3}{\langle 23 \rangle \langle 31 \rangle}, \quad \mathcal{M}_3(1^- 2^- 3^+) = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^6}{\langle 23 \rangle^2 \langle 31 \rangle^2}$$

↑
square!

- 4-points and above: generally a **sum** of YM × YM expressions.
 - Early example: *Kawai-Lewellen-Tye relations* (string theory)
 - Local Feynman diagram-like version: *Double copy from color-kinematic duality* [Bern, Carrasco, Johanson, 08]

CLASSICAL LIMITS FROM AMPLITUDES

- **Eikonal exponentiation:** scattering angle from saddle-point / stationary phase approximation.

[Glauber, '59; Levy, Sucher, '69; Soldate, '87; 't Hooft, '87; Amati, Ciafoloni, Veneziano, '87, '88, '90, '07; Muzinich, Soldate, '88; Kobat, Ortiz, '92; Bern, Ita, Parra-Martinez, Ruf, '20; Parra-Martinez, Ruf, MZ, '20; Di Vecchia, Heissenberg, Russo, Veneziano, '21...]

- **Two-body potential**, defined in an EFT inspired by NRQED / NRQCD, has smooth classical limit.

[Cheung, Rothstein, Solon, '18]

- Suitable **physical observables** from S-matrix have well-defined classical limits. [Kosower, Maybee, O'Connell, '18]

- Hyperbolic scattering can be **analytically continued** to elliptic orbits. [Kalin, Porto, '20]

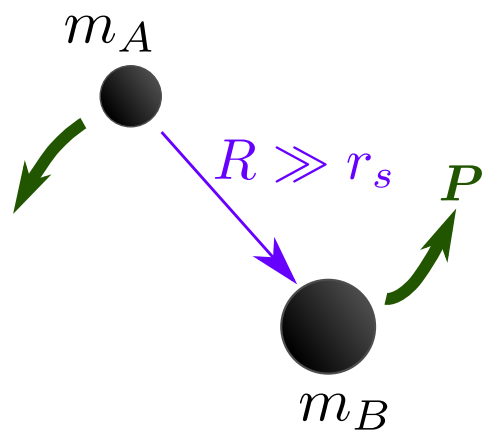
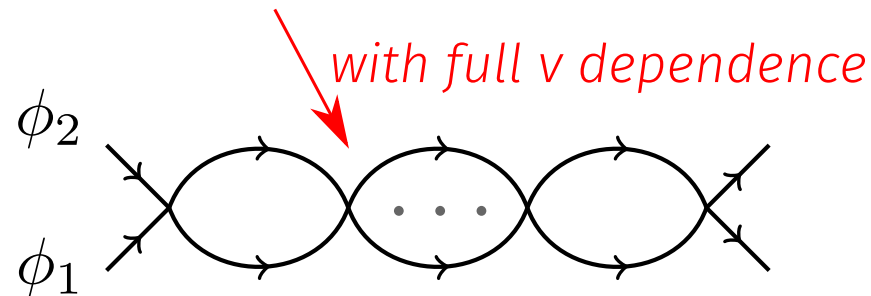
MATCHING TO NON-RELATIVISTIC EFT

[Cheung, Rothstein, Solon, 1808.02489]

Lagrangian: two scalars, no antiparticles, no particle creation

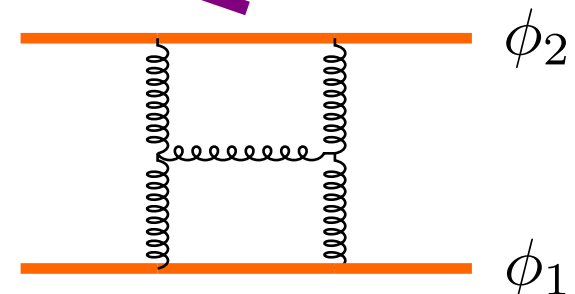
$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{i=1,2} \int_{\mathbf{k}} \phi_i^\dagger(-\mathbf{k}) \left(i\partial_t - \sqrt{\mathbf{k}^2 + m_i^2} \right) \phi_i(\mathbf{k}) \quad \leftarrow \text{kinetic term}$$

+ instantaneous potential $\sim V(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') \phi_1^\dagger \phi_1 \phi_2^\dagger \phi_2$



1. point particle EFT
[Goldberger, Rothstein, '04]

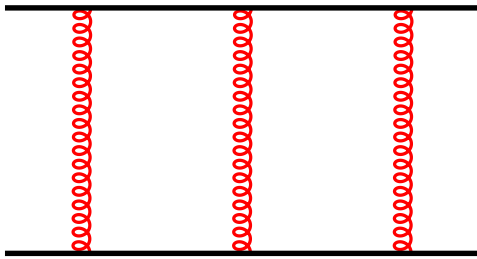
2. non-relativistic EFT



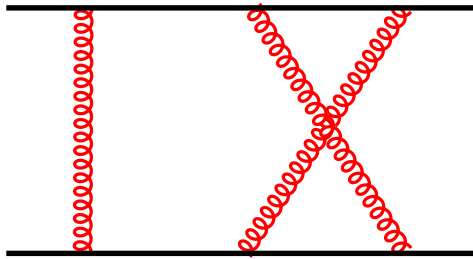
Importing collider methods

CHALLENGES IN LOOP INTEGRATION

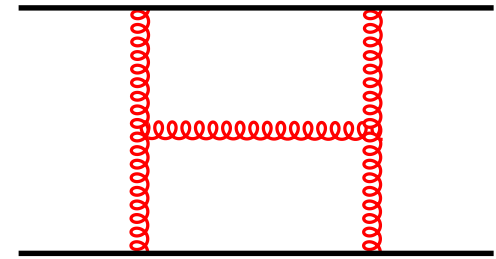
GW physics needs 3 loops and beyond, but exact evaluation is very difficult already at 2 loops: most results are planar, with $m_1 = m_2$.



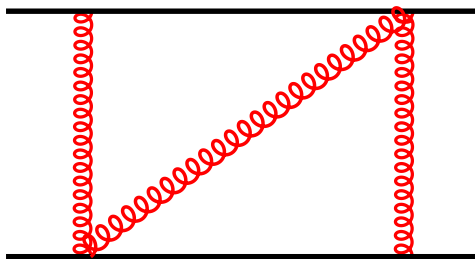
Smirnov, '01;
Henn, Smirnov, '13
Two-mass: Heller '21



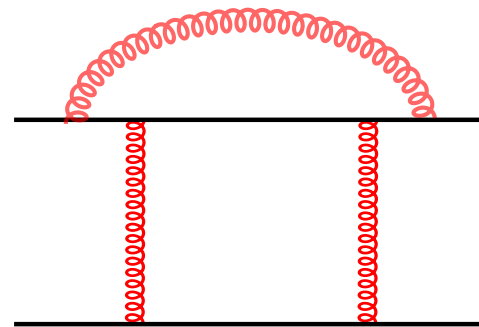
Heinrich, Smirnov, '04
(only the $1/\epsilon^2$ pole)



Leoni, Bianchi, '16;
Kreer, Weinzierl, '21
Talk by S. Weinzierl

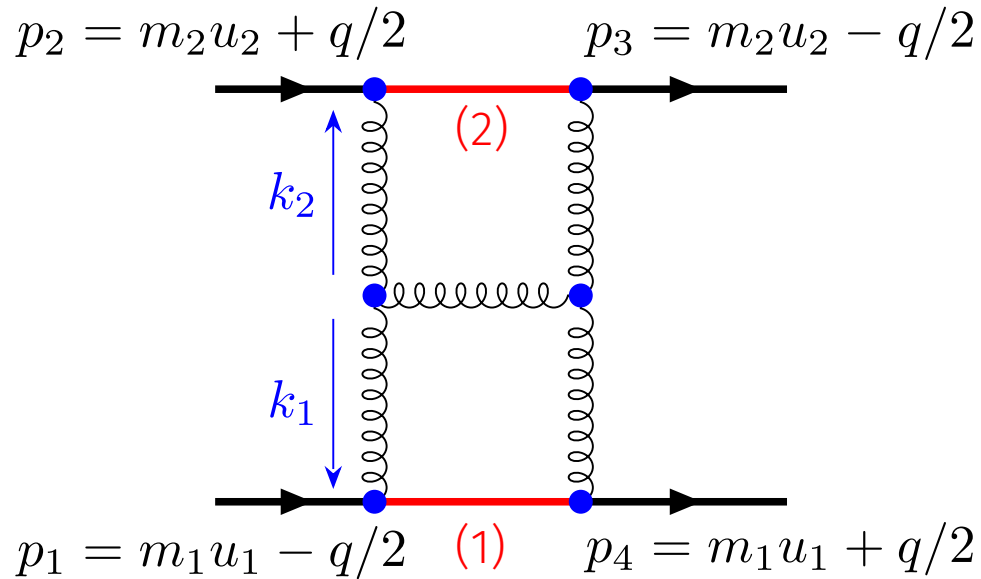


Heller, von Manteuffel, Schabinger, 19;
Broedel, Duhr, Dulat, Penante, Tancredi, '19



Talk by V. Smirnov, w/ Duhr, Tancredi

METHOD OF REGIONS



**Expanding matter propagators
(linearized):**

(1) : $(k_1 + p_1)^2 - m_1^2 \approx 2m_1 u_1 \cdot k_1 + i0$

(2) : $(k_2 + p_2)^2 - m_2^2 \approx 2m_2 u_2 \cdot k_2 + i0$

*(Hard region does not contribute to
classical physics)*

Soft region:

$$|k_1| \sim |k_2| \sim |q| \ll m_1, m_2, \sqrt{s}$$

Kinematics:

$$u_1^2 = u_2^2 = 1, \quad u_1 \cdot q = u_2 \cdot q = 0,$$

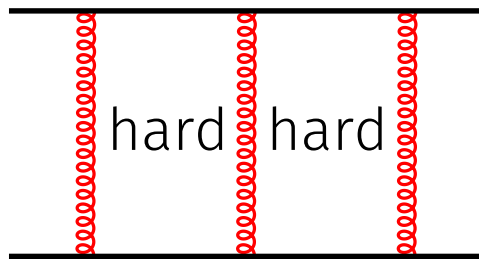
$$q^2 = t, \quad u_1 \cdot u_2 = \sigma$$

σ : dimensionless velocity
parameter - **differential
equations in σ**

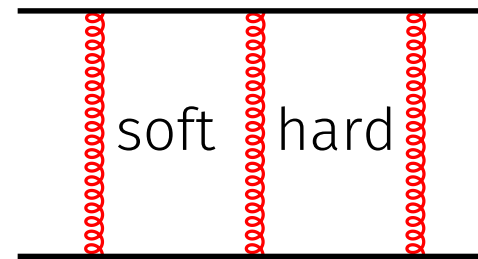
**IBP analytic - two
decoupled systems:**
integer and half-integer
powers of t

NO NEED FOR (MIXED) HARD REGIONS

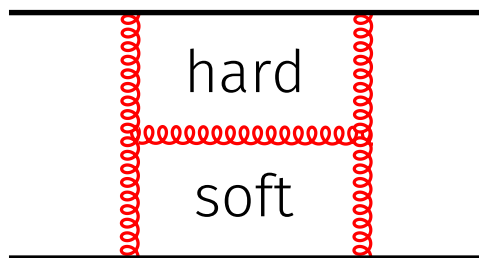
Hard gravitons are irrelevant for classical physics, sometimes after nontrivial cancellations.



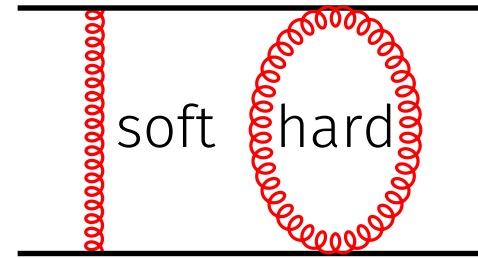
Contact potential,
no long-range
effects



Scaleless
integral

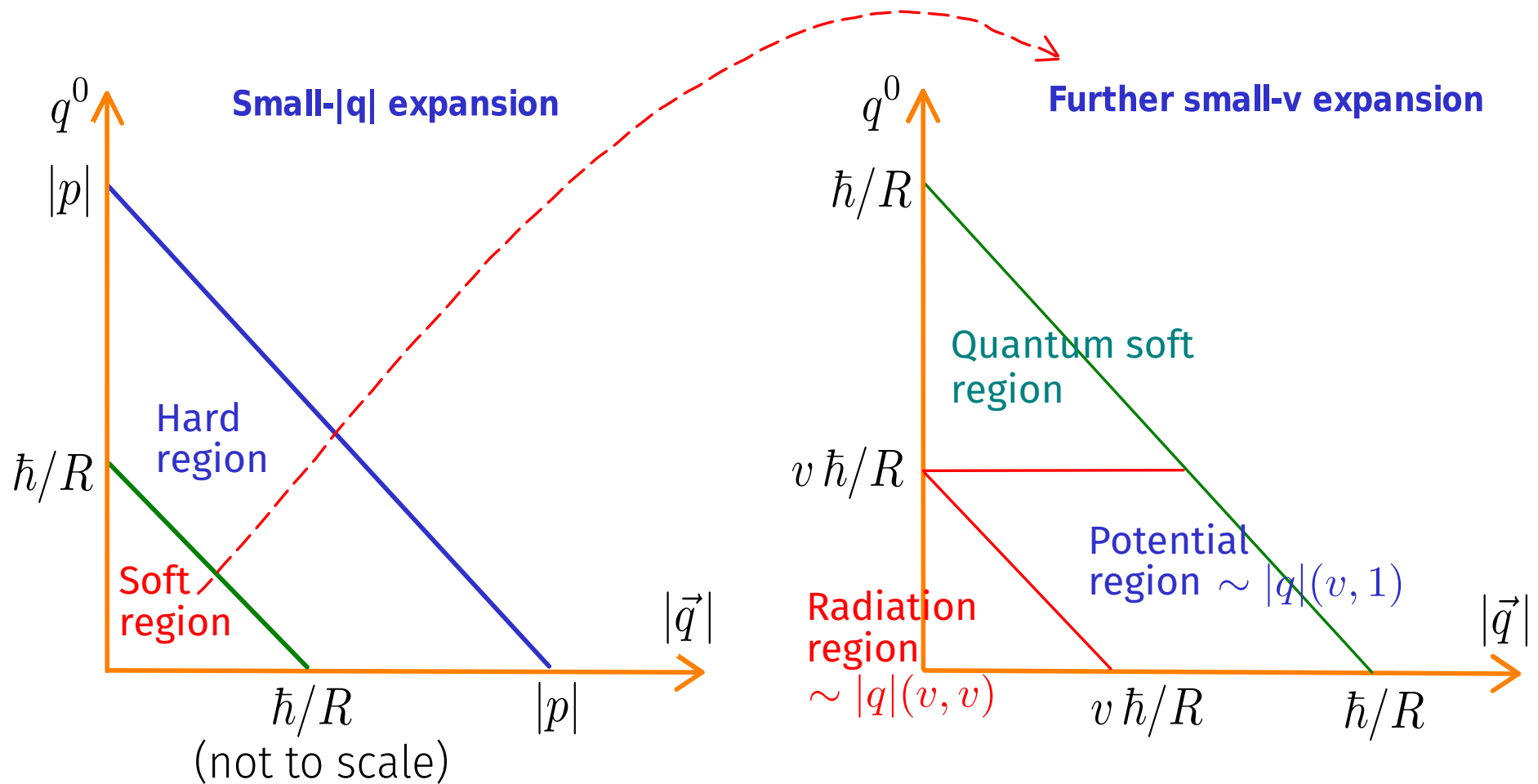


Suppressed in
 $\hbar \sim |q|/m, |q|/\sqrt{s}$



Suppressed
after IR
subtraction

FURTHER EXPANSION IN SMALL VELOCITY

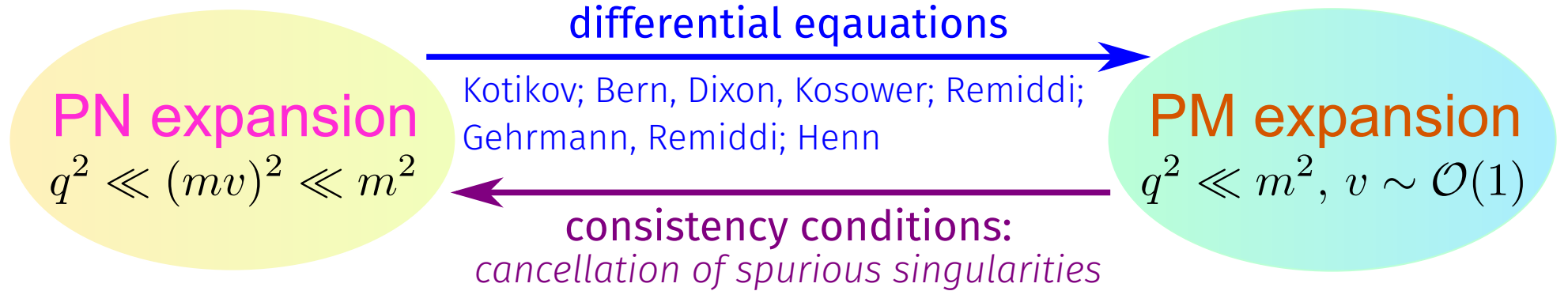


Potential region coincides with *conservative dynamics* up to 2 loops.

- suitable regularization needed: symmetrization prescription

[Cheung, Rothstein, Solon, '18; Cheung, Bern, Roiban, Shen, Solon, MZ, '19;
Parra-Martinez, Ruf, MZ, '20]

DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS



Imported into post-Minkowskian gravity: [Parra-Martinez, Ruf, MZ, '20]

subsequently: [Kalin, Porto, '20; Di Vecchia, Heissenberg, Russo, Veneziano, '21;

Herrmann, Parra-Martinez, Ruf, MZ, '21; Bjerrum-Bohr, Damgaard, Plante, Vanhove, '21]

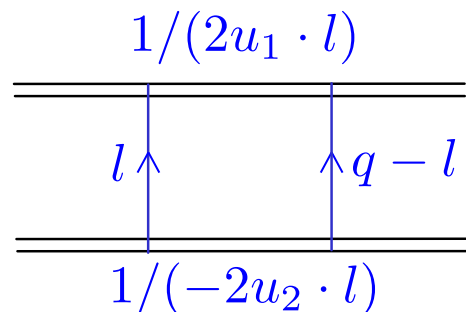
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial v} \left(\begin{array}{cc} \frac{1}{(2u_1 \cdot l)} & \\ \hline \epsilon v & \begin{array}{c} l \uparrow \quad \uparrow q - l \\ \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \end{array} \\ \hline \frac{1}{(-2u_2 \cdot l)} & \end{array} \right) = \epsilon \frac{\partial \log(\sqrt{1+v^2} - v)}{\partial v} \times \begin{array}{c} \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \\ \text{O} \\ \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \end{array}$$

$$u_1^2 = u_2^2 = 1, u_1 \cdot u_2 = y = \sqrt{1+v^2}$$

Solution for box: constant in potential region. Logarithm in soft region.

v independent; zero in potential region

DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS



$$u_1^2 = u_2^2 = 1, u_1 \cdot u_2 = y = \sqrt{1 + v^2}$$

$$\text{Rationalization: } y = \frac{1 + x^2}{2x}$$

$$\text{Physical region: } 0 < x < 1$$

$$\text{Euclidean region: } -1 < x < 0$$

symbol letters: $x, 1 \pm x, 1 + x^2$

Similar to letters in massive cusp anomalous dimension [Bruser, Dlapa, Henn, Yan, '20] Talk by C. Dlapa

Canonical form: [Henn, '13]

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \vec{I} = \epsilon \sum_r \frac{\partial \log W_r}{\partial x} \mathbb{M}^{(r)} \cdot \vec{I}$$

rational matrix

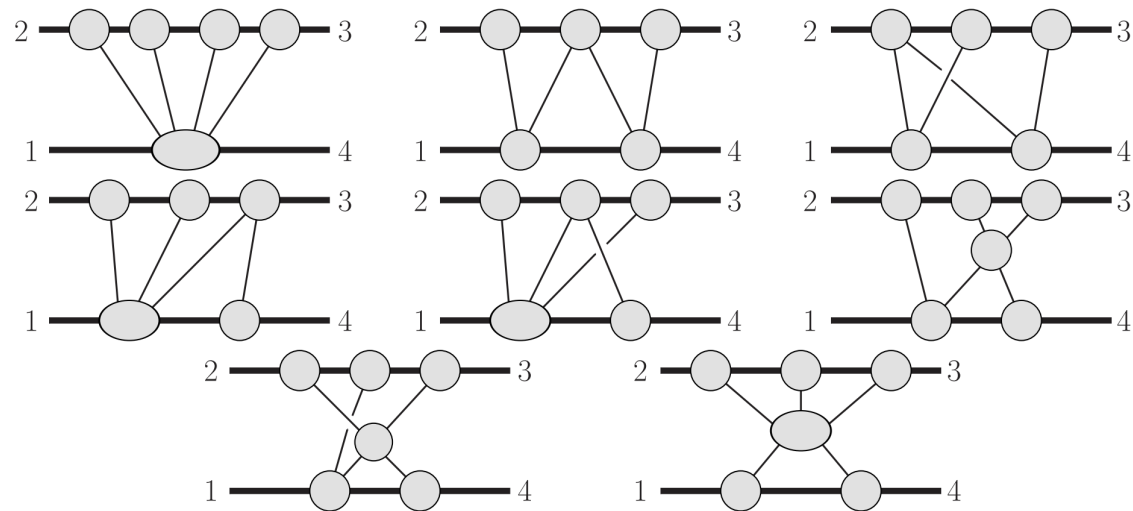
The last letter only appears at 3 loops. For the potential region, smooth static limit implies that $(1 - x)$ is never a first entry.

Results and Comparisons

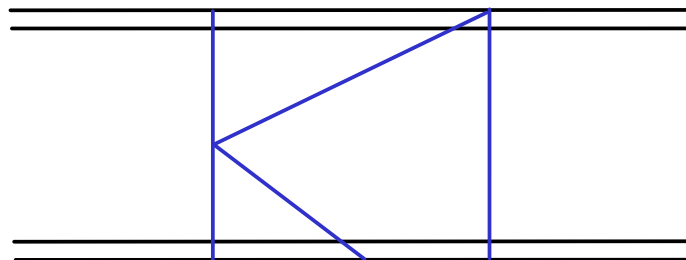
THE 4PM / 3-LOOP CALCULATION

[Bern, Parra-Martinez, Roiban, Ruf, Shen, Solon, MZ, '21 (PRL)]

- Amplitude integrand from 8 generalized unitarity cuts.



- In *potential region*, used **epsilon** [Prauso, '17] to find canonical form, except for one bottom-level sector (elliptic, 3×3 system).



THE 4PM / 3-LOOP CALCULATION

[Bern, Parra-Martinez, Roiban, Ruf, Shen, Solon, MZ, '21 (PRL)]

$$\mathcal{M}_4(\mathbf{q}) = G^4 M^7 \nu^2 |\mathbf{q}| \left(\frac{\mathbf{q}^2}{4^{1/3} \tilde{\mu}^2} \right)^{-3\epsilon} \pi^2 \left[\mathcal{M}_4^p + \nu \left(\frac{\mathcal{M}_4^t}{\epsilon} + \mathcal{M}_4^f \right) \right] + \text{IR divs.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_4^f = & h_4 + h_5 \log\left(\frac{\sigma+1}{2}\right) + h_6 \frac{\text{arccosh}(\sigma)}{\sqrt{\sigma^2-1}} + h_7 \log(\sigma) - h_2 \frac{2\pi^2}{3} + h_8 \frac{\text{arccosh}^2(\sigma)}{\sigma^2-1} + h_9 \left[\text{Li}_2\left(\frac{1-\sigma}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \log^2\left(\frac{\sigma+1}{2}\right) \right] \\ & + h_{10} \left[\text{Li}_2\left(\frac{1-\sigma}{2}\right) - \frac{\pi^2}{6} \right] + h_{11} \left[\text{Li}_2\left(\frac{1-\sigma}{1+\sigma}\right) - \text{Li}_2\left(\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma+1}\right) + \frac{\pi^2}{3} \right] + h_2 \frac{2\sigma(2\sigma^2-3)}{(\sigma^2-1)^{3/2}} \left[\text{Li}_2\left(\sqrt{\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma+1}}\right) - \text{Li}_2\left(-\sqrt{\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma+1}}\right) \right] \\ & + \frac{2h_3}{\sqrt{\sigma^2-1}} \left[\text{Li}_2\left(1-\sigma-\sqrt{\sigma^2-1}\right) - \text{Li}_2\left(1-\sigma+\sqrt{\sigma^2-1}\right) + 5\text{Li}_2\left(\sqrt{\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma+1}}\right) - 5\text{Li}_2\left(-\sqrt{\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma+1}}\right) + 2\log\left(\frac{\sigma+1}{2}\right) \text{arccosh}(\sigma) \right] \\ & + h_{12} \text{K}^2\left(\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma+1}\right) + h_{13} \text{K}\left(\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma+1}\right) \text{E}\left(\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma+1}\right) + h_{14} \text{E}^2\left(\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma+1}\right), \end{aligned}$$

polylogarithms up to transcendental weight 2

complete elliptic integrals of the 1st & 2nd kind

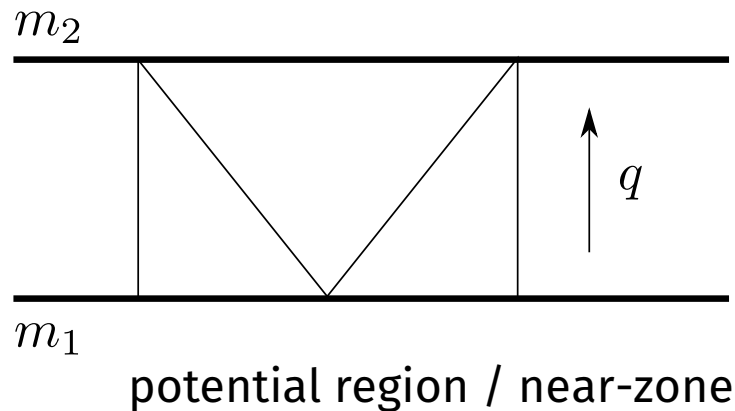
Rational prefactors:

$$h_1 = \frac{1151 - 3336\sigma + 3148\sigma^2 - 912\sigma^3 + 339\sigma^4 - 552\sigma^5 + 210\sigma^6}{12(\sigma^2 - 1)},$$

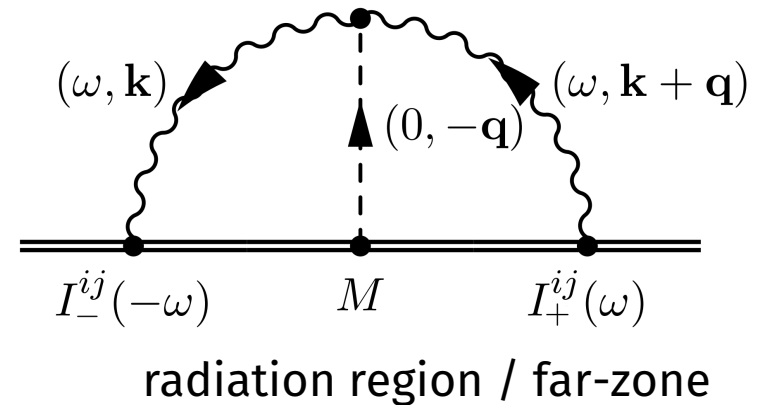
$$h_2 = \frac{1}{2} (5 - 76\sigma + 150\sigma^2 - 60\sigma^3 - 35\sigma^4),$$

⋮

IR DIVERGENCE IN 2-BODY POTENTIAL



+



[Gally, Leibovich, Porto, Ross, '15]

Potential region: graviton dominated by spatial momenta

$$\mathcal{M}_4^{\text{pot}}(\mathbf{q}) \propto \left[\frac{\mathcal{M}_4^t}{\epsilon} + \text{finite} \right] + \text{Iterations}$$

Next slides: preliminary NR comparison

Radiation region: small energy and spatial momenta $\sim 1/\lambda$

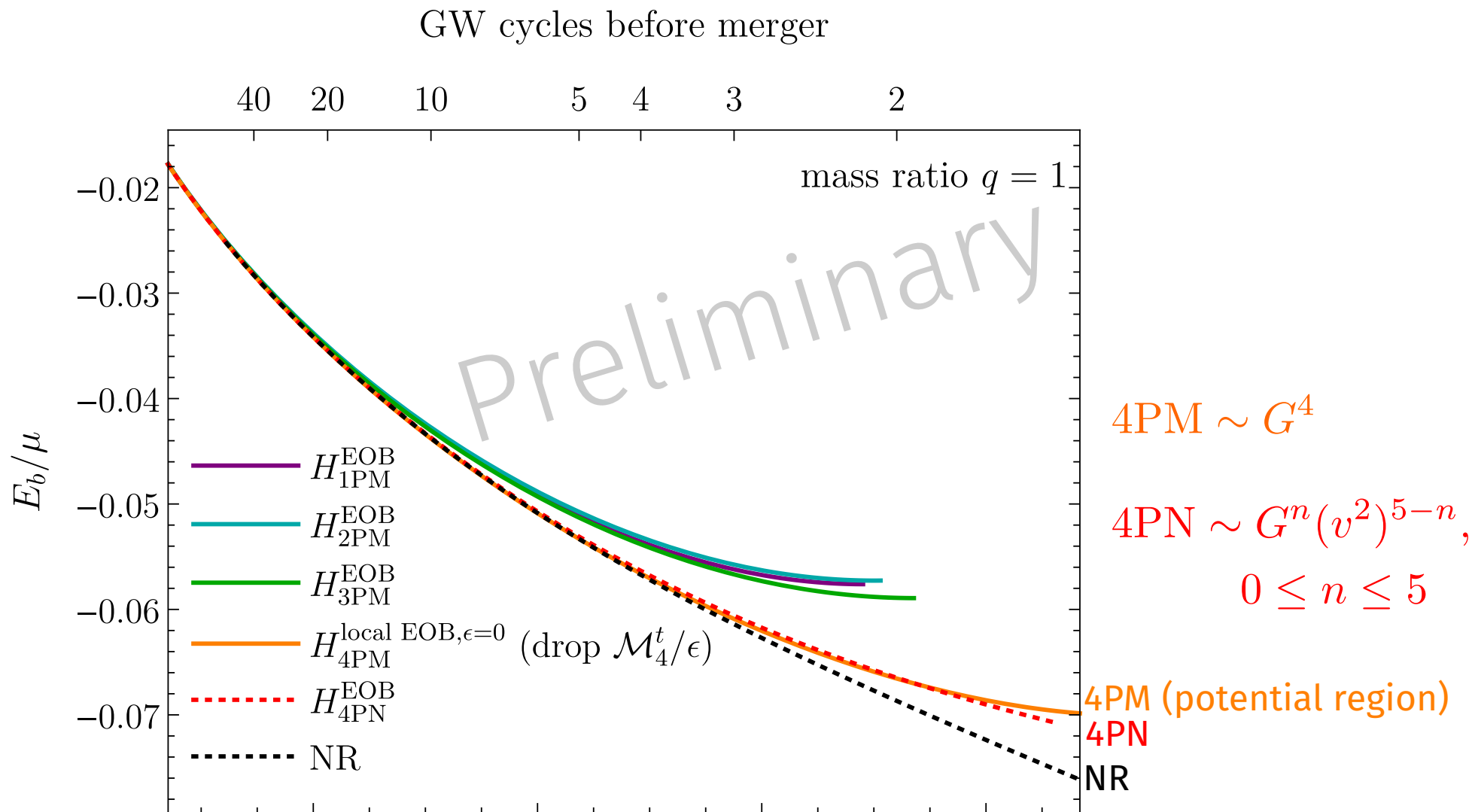
$$\mathcal{M}_4^{\text{rad}}(\mathbf{q}) \propto \left[-\frac{\mathcal{M}_4^t}{\epsilon} + 2 \log(v^2) + \text{finite} \right]$$

To be calculated in PM expansion!

Divergence cancels in the sum, leaving $\log(v)$ term analogous to Lamb shift in QED with $\log(\alpha)$ term.

4PM BINDING ENERGY VS. NUMERICAL RELATIVITY

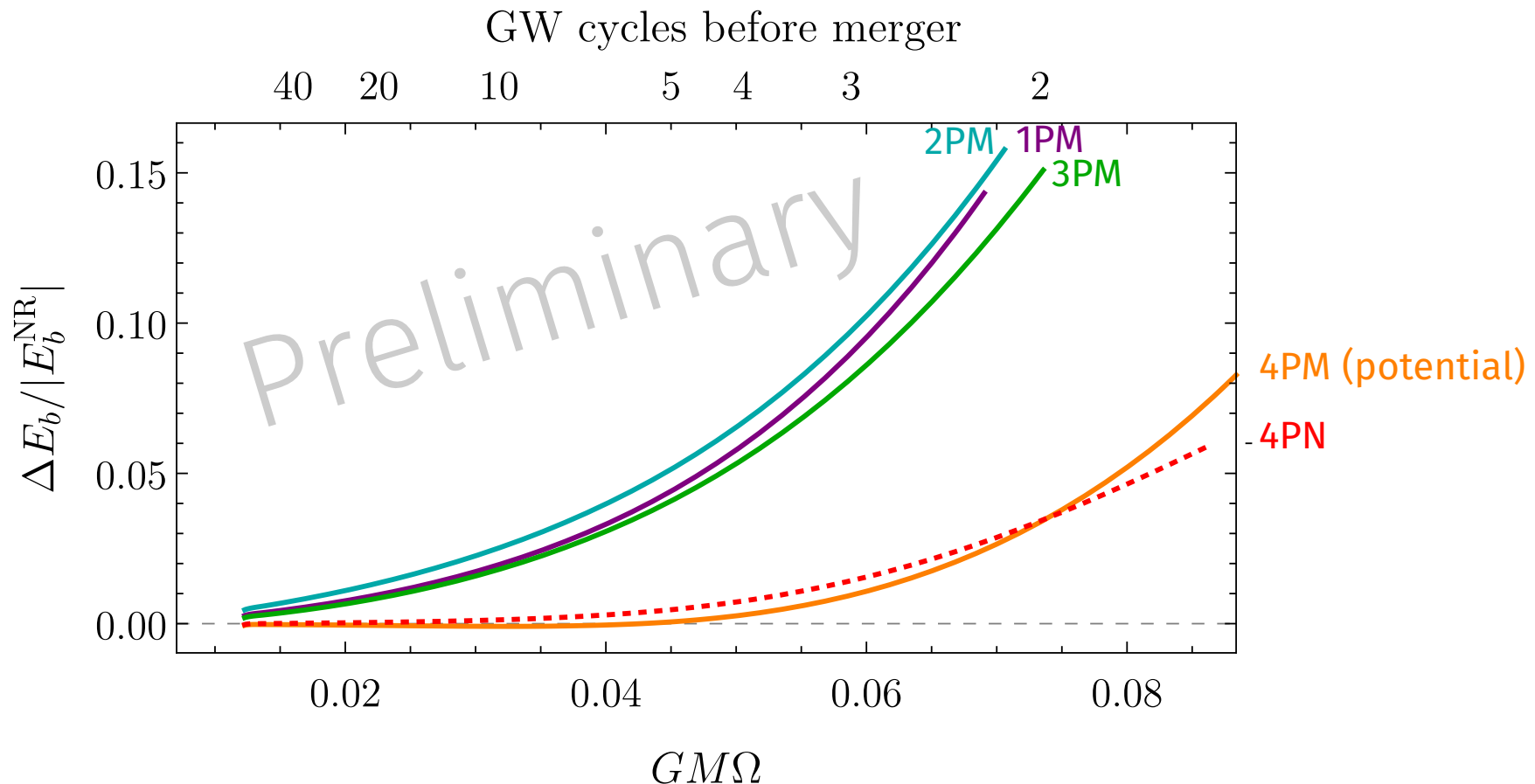
[Khalil, Buonanno, Steinhoff, Vines, preliminary]



4PM BINDING ENERGY VS. NUMERICAL RELATIVITY

[Khalil, Buonanno, Steinhoff, Vines, preliminary]

Same plot shown as relative deviation from NR.



Post-Minkowskian prediction starts to become competitive with post-Newtonian predictions!

DISCUSSIONS & OUTLOOK

- Obtained new results for *post-Minkowskian binary dynamics*, beyond the best classical calculations.
- Start to compete with post-Newtonian theory, and offers *new analytic insights*.
- Relies on modern methods for *scattering amplitudes* and *advanced integration techniques* developed in QCD:
 - Method of regions
 - IBP & Differential equations
 - Polylogarithms & (iterated) elliptic integrals
 - Reverse unitarity [Talk by Julio Parra-Martinez](#)
- Rich physics to be explored - spin, tidal effects, radiation reaction... Preparing for *coming decades of GW physics!*