One-loop scattering waveforms from a Heavy-mass Effective Field Theory

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Menu

- Classical limit for observables in General Relativity
- Heavy-mass Effective Field Theory (HEFT) for classical General Relativity (Brandhuber, Chen, GT, Wen)
 - Diagrammatic extraction of the classical limit
- One-loop gravitational bremsstrahlung (Brandhuber, Brown, Chen, De Angelis, Gowdy, GT)
 - Unbound binaries/eccentric orbits
 - KMOC & HEFT
 - Newman-Penrose scalar Ψ_4
 - Scattering waveforms in the frequency/time domain

- Based (mostly) on 2303.06111
 with Andi, Graham, Gang, Stefano & Joshua
- Related works:
 - Herdershee, Roiban & Teng 2303.06112
 - Elkidir, O'Connell, Sergola & Vazquez-Holm 2303.06211
 - Georgoudis, Heissenberg & Vazquez-Holm 2303.07006

Extracting the classical limit

- A key question is how to extract efficiently the classical contribution from a loop computation
 - Ioop diagrams contain classical contributions
 - \hbar expansion is not the same as the loop expansion (Holstein & Donoghue)
- What does "efficient" mean?
 - Expand as little as possible and as soon as possible...
 - ... in particular before performing loop integrations
 - Ideally separate out different orders in \hbar at the diagrammatic level



Classical physics from large-charge limit

- Large masses and large angular momenta (in \hbar units) limit
- Equivalent to scaling the momenta of external / internal massless particles and momentum transfers by \hbar (Kosower, Maybee, O'Connell)

 $(k,\ell,q) \longrightarrow \hbar(k,\ell,q)$

- In addition also scale $\kappa \longrightarrow \kappa/\sqrt{\hbar}$
- Example: two-to-two scattering of heavy scalars
 - Amplitude (discarding local terms) $A_4 \sim \kappa^2/q^2 \longrightarrow \hbar^{-3}\kappa^2/q^2$

Newton's potential:
$$V \sim \frac{1}{E_1 E_2} \int d^3 q \ A_4 \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}(\hbar^{3-3}) = \mathcal{O}(\hbar^0)$$

Classical limit & the HEFT

- Small \hbar -expansion equivalent to large-mass expansion
 - Recall that the Klein-Gordon equation is $\left|\Box + \left(\frac{mc}{\hbar}\right)^2\right| \phi = 0$
- Heavy-mass Effective Field Theory (Brandhuber, Chen, GT, Wen)
 - Black holes exchange momenta that are much smaller than their masses
 - similar to Heavy-Quark Effective Theory (Georgi)
 - Earlier work by Aoude, Damgaard, Haddad, Helset
- How can this become (more) powerful?
 - Use the amplitude arsenal for the calculation of HEFT amplitudes!
 - Double copy, recursion relations, unitarity, plus diagrammatic separation of different orders in the mass expansion...

Our strategy

- Generate gravitational HEFT amplitudes efficiently
 - BCJ numerators of HEFT amplitudes in YM with two scalars during from a kinematic quasi-shuffle Hopf algebra (Brandhuber, Chen, GT, Johansson, Wen)
 - # terms in a BCJ numerator is Fubini_{*n*-1} for *n* gluons \degree
 - Gravitational HEFT amplitudes via the double copy
- D-dim'l HEFT recursions with 4 scalars + gravitories
 (Brandhuber, Brown, Chen, De Angelis, Gowdy, GT)
 - Shifts chosen to leave linearised massive propagators unmodified, inputs:
 D-dim HEFT amplitudes with 2 scalars & factorisation on massless propagators
- \hbar counting in HEFT manifest at the diagrammatic level
 - Pick only classically-relevant terms in the HEFT expansion of amplitudes, hyper-classical & quantum contributions dropped from the get go
- Unitarity to compute non-analytic terms in amplitudes

The idea of the HEFT

• Hard and soft particles

$$p_1 \leftarrow A_4^{\text{GR}} \leftarrow p_1' \qquad q = \ell_1 + \ell_2$$

- Incoming heavy particle: $p^{\mu} = mv^{\mu}$
- After the interaction with a graviton: $p'_1 = p_1 + q$
- In QCD, the momentum transfer q is of order $\Lambda_{\rm QCD} \ll m$
- For classical gravitational physics: $\ell_{1,2} = \hbar \hat{k}_{1,2}$, with $\hat{k}_{1,2}$ fixed as $\hbar \to 0$

•
$$p'_1 = p_1 + \ell_1 + \ell_2 = mv + \hbar(\hat{k}_1 + \hat{k}_2)$$

- To see how HEFT amplitudes arise, perform a heavy-mass expansion on the amplitudes
 - For explanation only, in practice we derive them using recursive techniques and the double copy without reference to exact amplitudes

Example: Compton amplitude

• Start from exact amplitude $p_1 \leftrightarrow A_4^{\text{GR}} \rightarrow p_1 = i \, 4\kappa^2 \frac{(p_1 \cdot F_1 \cdot F_2 \cdot p_1)^2}{D_{12}D_{21}D}$

• $D_{12} = -2(p_1 \cdot \ell_1) + i\varepsilon$, $D_{21} = -2(p_1 \cdot \ell_2) + i\varepsilon$, $D = q^2 + i\varepsilon$, F = field strength

- Expand massive propagators
- **Result:** $\left(\frac{1}{D_{12}D_{21}D} = -\frac{1}{(q^2)^2}\left(\frac{1}{D_{12}} + \frac{1}{D_{21}}\right) = \frac{1}{(q^2)^2}\left[i\pi\,\delta(\bar{p}\cdot\ell_1) \frac{q^2}{(2\bar{p}\cdot\ell_1)^2}\right] + \cdots\right)$
 - Unbarred variables spoil this by adding δ' terms from $p \cdot q = q^2/2 = O(\hbar^2) \neq 0$
 - Set $\bar{p} = \bar{m}v$, $\bar{m} = \left(m^2 \frac{q^2}{4}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ and count mass powers (*m* and \bar{m} coincide at large *m*)



— = cut massive propagator from *iɛ*, important also at tree level !
 dots = higher-order terms in the masses

• HEFT neatly separates different orders in masses and \hbar !

- First term: hyper-classical, scales as $\hbar^{-1-1} = \hbar^{-2}$ and $\mathcal{O}(\bar{m}^3)$
- Second term: HEFT amplitude, classical, scales as $\hbar^{-1-2+2} = \hbar^{-1}$ and $\mathcal{O}(\bar{m}^2)$
- Generalises to higher points, HEFT amplitude is the term without delta functions

Example: one-loop scattering angle

(Brandhuber, Chen, GT, Wen)

• Two-to-two scattering of spinless heavy objects:



- Four diagrams, different dependence on the masses and hence \hbar
- What happens to the hyper-classical term?



• In impact parameter space, convolution \rightarrow product:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} p_{2} & b = \text{impact parameter} \\ \hline & & \downarrow \\ p_{4} & & \downarrow \\ p_{4}$$

- Hyper-classical diagrams are two-massive-particle reducible
- Hyper-classical diagrams are two-massive-particle reducible Reconstruct exponentiation of tree-level phase $\delta_{\text{HEFT}}^{(0)}$

•
$$e^{i(\delta_{\text{HEFT}}^{(0)} + \delta_{\text{HEFT}}^{(1)} + \cdots)} = 1 + i \,\delta_{\text{HEFT}}^{(0)} + \left(\delta_{\text{HEFT}}^{(1)} - \frac{1}{2} \left(\delta_{\text{HEFT}}^{(0)}\right)^2\right) + \cdots$$

manifest in HEFT, no need to check it. Simply drop hyper-classical diagrams!

• HEFT allows to compute the exponent diagrammatically

- **Compute only** two-massive-particle irreducible diagrams
- One- and two-loop scattering angle checked (Brandhuber, Chen, GT, Wen '21)

Gravitational Bremsstrahlung

(Brandhuber, Brown, Chen, De Angelis, Gowdy, GT)

- Scattering of two spinless black holes
 - Newman-Penrose scalar ψ_4
 - Spectral and far-field time-domain gravitational waveforms
 - Main computation is the five-point HEFT amplitude at one loop
- Combine the HEFT expansion with the KMOC approach
- Kinematics:
 - $y := v_1 \cdot v_2$ relative velocity
 - $q_{1,2}^2 \leq 0$ momentum transfers
 - $w_{1,2} := v_{1,2} \cdot k \ge 0$



From amplitudes to classical observables

- KMOC approach allows to relate scattering data to observables in classical gravity (Kosower, Maybee, O'Connell)
 - For some operator *O*, compute $\langle O^{\text{out}} \rangle_{\psi} := {}_{\text{out}} \langle \psi | O | \psi \rangle_{\text{out}}$
 - We will be interested in $R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}(x)$ or $h_{\mu\nu}(x)$
 - $|\psi\rangle_{
 m out} = S |\psi\rangle_{
 m in}$ where $S = \mathbb{I} + i T$
 - $\bullet \quad \langle O^{\text{out}} \rangle_{\psi} := {}_{\text{in}} \langle \psi | (\mathbb{I} i T^{\dagger}) O(\mathbb{I} + i T) | \psi \rangle_{\text{in}}$
 - BH Initial state: $\begin{aligned} |\psi\rangle_{\text{in}} &:= \int d\Phi(p_1) d\Phi(p_2) e^{i(p_1 \cdot b_1 + p_2 \cdot b_2)} \phi(p_1) \phi(p_2) |p_1 p_2\rangle_{\text{in}} \\ d\Phi(p_i) &:= \frac{d^D p_i}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \delta^{(+)}(p_i^2 - m_i^2) , \qquad |p\rangle := a^{\dagger}(\vec{p}) |0\rangle \end{aligned}$
 - $b_1, b_2 = \text{ impact parameters}$
 - Wavepackets sharply localised: λ

$$\lambda_{1,2}^{\rm Compton} \ll \ell_{\phi_{1,2}} \ll \sqrt{-b^2}$$

• For the linearised Riemann curvature

$$\begin{split} \langle R_{\mu\nu\rho\lambda}^{\text{out}}(x) \rangle_{\psi} &= \kappa \operatorname{Re}\left\{ \int \prod_{j=1}^{2} d\Phi(p_{j}) \, |\phi(p_{1})|^{2} |\phi(p_{2})|^{2} \sum_{h} \int d\Phi(k) e^{-ik \cdot x} \, k_{[\mu} \varepsilon_{\nu]}^{(h)*}(\vec{k}) k_{[\rho} \varepsilon_{\lambda]}^{(h)*}(\vec{k}) \right. \\ \left. \int \prod_{j=1}^{2} \frac{d^{D}q_{j}}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \delta(2\bar{p}_{1} \cdot q_{1}) \delta(2\bar{p}_{2} \cdot q_{2}) e^{i(q_{1} \cdot b_{1} + q_{2} \cdot b_{2})} \left[\langle p_{1}' p_{2}' k^{h} | i \, T | p_{1} p_{2} \rangle + \langle p_{1}' p_{2}' | T^{\dagger} a_{h}(\vec{k}) T | p_{1} p_{2} \rangle \right] \Big\} \end{split}$$

- From now on omit the spectator red part
- A certain subtracted five-point amplitude has appeared...
- ...transformed to impact parameter space $q_{1,2}$ = momentum transfers, $q_1+q_2=k$



From KMOC to HEFT

Subtracted amplitude:

 $\langle p_1' p_2' \boldsymbol{k}^{\boldsymbol{h}} | i T | p_1 p_2 \rangle + \langle p_1' p_2' | T^{\dagger} \boldsymbol{a}_{\boldsymbol{h}}(\vec{\boldsymbol{k}}) T | p_1 p_2 \rangle = \langle p_1' p_2' \boldsymbol{k}^{\boldsymbol{h}} | i T | p_1 p_2 \rangle + \sum \langle p_1' p_2' | T^{\dagger} | n \rangle \langle n, \boldsymbol{k}^{\boldsymbol{h}} | T | p_1 p_2 \rangle$

- Ist term is the complete (one-loop) amplitude
 - contains everything from hyper-classical to quantum
- 2nd term on RHS at one loop: $\sum \langle p'_1 p'_2 | T^{\dagger} | r_1, r_2 \rangle^{(0)} \langle r_1, r_2, \mathbf{k}^{\mathbf{h}} | T | p_1 p_2 \rangle^{(0)}$
 - r_1, r_2 scalars
 - 2-massive particle reducible
 - $\mathcal{O}(\bar{m}_1^3 \bar{m}_2^3)$ and thus hyper-classical
 - **Factorises in IPS**

 r_1, r_2



Subtracted amplitude is the one-loop HEFT amplitude!

 $\langle p_1' p_2' \boldsymbol{k}^{\boldsymbol{h}} | i T | p_1 p_2 \rangle^{(1)} + \sum_{r_1, r_2} \langle p_1' p_2' | T^{\dagger} | r_1, r_2 \rangle^{(0)} \langle r_1, r_2, \boldsymbol{k}^{\boldsymbol{h}} | T | p_1 p_2 \rangle^{(0)} = (2\pi)^D \delta^{(D)} (q_1 + q_2 - k) \mathcal{M}_{5, \text{HEFT}}^{(1)}$

• **Result:**
$$\langle R_{\mu\nu\rho\lambda}^{\text{out}}(x) \rangle_{\psi} = \kappa \operatorname{Re}\left[i \sum_{h} \int d\Phi(k) e^{-ik \cdot x} k_{[\mu} \varepsilon_{\nu]}^{(h)*}(\vec{k}) k_{[\rho} \varepsilon_{\lambda]}^{(h)*}(\vec{k}) \widetilde{W}\right]$$

• \tilde{W} = spectral waveform

$$\widetilde{W}(\vec{b},k^{h}) := -i \int d\mu^{(D)} e^{i(q_{1}\cdot b_{1}+q_{2}\cdot b_{2})} \mathcal{M}_{5,\text{HEFT}}(q_{1},q_{2};h) \qquad q_{1}+q_{2}=k$$

Waveform from five-point HEFT amplitude in Impact Parameter Space (IPS)

• **IPS measure**
$$d\mu^{(D)} := \frac{d^D q_1}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{d^D q_2}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} (2\pi)^D \delta^{(D)}(q_1 + q_2 - k) \delta(2p_1 \cdot q_1) \delta(2p_2 \cdot q_2)$$

• Under a shift $b_{1,2} \to b_{1,2} + a$, we have $\widetilde{W} \to e^{ik \cdot a} \widetilde{W}$ hence we can set $b_2 \to 0$

Five-point HEFT amplitude

• Tree-level from recursion: (Brandhuber, Brown, Chen, De Angelis, Gowdy, GT)



- Conditions on shifts: I. $r^2 = 0$ 2. $r \cdot k = r \cdot \varepsilon_k = r \cdot \overline{v}_{1,2} = 0$
- I. for linear poles in z, 2. for shifts to appear only in polarisation vectors
- Need HEFT amplitudes with 2 scalars and many gravitons in arbitrary dimension (known from double copy and kinematic algebra construction)
- Result:

$$\mathcal{M}(k,\bar{p}_{1},\bar{p}_{2}) = i\frac{N_{1}}{q_{1}^{2}} + i\frac{N_{2}}{q_{2}^{2}}$$

$$N_{1,2} = \pm \frac{\kappa^{3}\bar{m}_{1}^{2}\bar{m}_{2}^{2}}{(2k\cdot q)(\bar{v}_{2,1}\cdot k)^{2}} \left\{ \left[\bar{y}(\bar{v}_{2,1}\cdot F_{k}\cdot q) + (\bar{v}_{2,1}\cdot k)(\bar{v}_{1}\cdot F_{k}\cdot \bar{v}_{2}) \right]^{2} - \frac{1}{D-2}(\bar{v}_{2,1}\cdot F_{k}\cdot q)^{2} \right\}$$

agrees with Luna, Nicholson, O'Connell & White

One-loop five-point HEFT amplitude

• One-loop cut diagrams, to be merged:



- Linearised massive propagators with PV prescription (from HEFT expansion)
- Infrared-divergent results, compare then with Weinberg's 1965 formula

• Weinberg's formula (schematically):

$$S_{etalpha}
ightarrow ({
m Exp}) \cdot S^{(0)}_{etalpha}$$

- Exponent contains a real and imaginary part
- Phase usually discarded for cross sections, but relevant for us!
- HEFT-expand Weinberg's formula:

- Real part of exponent vanishes at this order
- Our result perfectly agrees with HEFT-expanded Weinberg's formula

- Infrared divergences are a useful sanity check...
 ...but what do we do with them?
 - KMOC contains amplitudes, not $|A|^2$
- IR divergences removed by re-defining observer's time:

•
$$t \to t - \frac{G(p_1 + p_2) \cdot n}{\epsilon}$$
 with $k^{\mu} = \omega n^{\mu}$

• Recall
$$\langle R^{\text{out}}_{\mu\nu\rho\lambda}(x)\rangle_{\psi} = \kappa \operatorname{Re}\left[i\sum_{h}\int d\Phi(k)e^{-ik\cdot\boldsymbol{x}}k_{[\mu}\varepsilon^{(h)*}_{\nu]}(\vec{k})k_{[\rho}\varepsilon^{(h)*}_{\lambda]}(\vec{k})\widetilde{W}\right]$$

- Shift is irrelevant since we measure time intervals (Porto, Ross & Rothstein 2012)
- Henceforth use $W^{(1)}(b,k^h) := -i \int d\mu^{(4)} e^{iq_1 \cdot b} \mathcal{M}^{(1)}_{5,\text{HEFT,fin}}(q_1,q_2;h)$
 - Set D=4, and take finite part of the amplitude

Far-field limit of waveforms

• Asymptotic waveforms at large observer distance

At large distances $r = |\vec{x}| \to \infty$ and $|x_0| \to \infty$, with fixed retarded time u := t - r, integration over angular directions of emitted graviton localises

$$\langle R^{\text{out}}_{\mu\nu\rho\lambda}(x)\rangle_{\psi} \stackrel{r\to\infty}{=} \frac{\kappa}{8\pi r} \sum_{h} \int_{0}^{+\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \left[k_{[\mu}\varepsilon^{(h)*}_{\nu]}(\vec{k})k_{[\rho}\varepsilon^{(h)*}_{\lambda]}(\vec{k}) W(b,k^{h})e^{-i\omega\boldsymbol{u}} + k_{[\mu}\varepsilon^{(h)}_{\nu]}(\vec{k})k_{[\rho}\varepsilon^{(h)}_{\lambda]}(\vec{k}) W^{*}(b,k^{h})e^{i\omega\boldsymbol{u}} \right]_{k=\omega(1,\hat{\mathbf{x}})}$$

- angular direction of the graviton localises along observer's direction $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$
- Newman-Penrose null tetrad formalism (Newman & Penrose 1969)
 - project on a basis of null complex vectors $L_{\mu} = n_{\mu}$, $N_{\mu} = \zeta_{\mu}$, $M_{\mu} = \varepsilon_{\mu}^{(+)}$, $M_{\mu}^* = \varepsilon_{\mu}^{(-)}$
 - $k = \omega n, \ \zeta = \text{reference vector, with } \zeta \cdot \varepsilon^{(\pm)} = 0, \ \zeta \cdot n = 1$
 - $(L_{\mu}, N_{\mu}, M_{\mu}, M_{\mu}^*)$ are frequency-independent

- Newman-Penrose scalar $\Psi_4(x) = N^{\mu}M^{\nu*}N^{\rho}M^{\sigma*}\langle W^{\text{out}}_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}(x)\rangle$
 - Of the NP scalars, $\Psi_4(x)$ has the slowest decay at large $|\vec{x}|$,

$$\Psi_4(x) \xrightarrow{|\vec{x}| \to \infty} \frac{\Psi_4^0(x)}{|\vec{x}|}$$

• NP scalar in terms of waveforms in the far-field domain:

$$\Psi_4^0(x) = \frac{\kappa}{8\pi} \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \,\omega^2 \Big[W(b;k^-)e^{-i\omega u} + \big[W(b;k^+) \big]^* e^{i\omega u} \Big]_{k=\omega(1,\hat{\mathbf{x}})}$$

• Far from the sources, it is related to the second (retarded-)time derivative of the two polarisation of the gravitational wave

$$\Psi_4(x) = -\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}^{(--)}\ddot{h}^{\mu\nu} = -\frac{1}{8\pi|\vec{x}|}(\ddot{h}_+^\infty - i\ddot{h}_\times^\infty)$$

• $\varepsilon_{++,--} \sim \varepsilon_+ \pm i\varepsilon_{\times}$ (plus and cross polarisations)

Tree-level waveforms

- Earlier computations:
 - Time domain, asymptotic metric computed by Kovacs and Thorne (1978)
 - Analytic computation with worldline formalism by Jakobsen, Mogull, Plefka and Steinhoff '21 (see also Mougiakakos, Riva & Vernizzi for a semi-analytic result)

• Time-domain:

Frequency domain:





One-loop waveforms

• One-loop frequency-domain (or spectral) waveform:

$$\widehat{W}^{(1)}(b,k^h) := -i \int d\mu^{(4)} \ e^{iq_1 \cdot b} \left[\mathcal{M}_{5,\text{HEFT},\text{fin}}^{(1)} - iG\left(m_1 w_1 \log \frac{w_1^2}{\mu_{\text{IR}}^2} + m_2 w_2 \log \frac{w_2^2}{\mu_{\text{IR}}^2} \right) \mathcal{M}_{\text{HEFT}}^{(0)} \right]$$

• $w_{1,2} = k \cdot v_{1,2}$ proportional to ω

Exponentiation of the "tails" (Blanchet & Schaefer '93; Porto, Ross, Rothstein 2012)

$$e^{i\theta_{\text{tail}}(\mu,\omega)}\mathcal{M}_{\text{HEFT}}^{(0)}$$

with
$$heta_{ ext{tail}}(\mu_{ ext{IR}},\omega) = G\Big(m_1w_1\lograc{w_1^2}{\mu_{ ext{IR}}^2} + m_2w_2\lograc{w_2^2}{\mu_{ ext{IR}}^2}\Big)$$

- Natural from the QFT viewpoint
- IR pole always accompanied by a log

$$\frac{1}{\epsilon} - \log\left(-\frac{\omega^2}{\mu_{\rm IR}^2}\right)$$



Conclusions & open problems

- Heavy-mass Effective Field Theory allows for an efficient extraction of the classical limit
 - No "artistic" element in combining diagrams, no cancellations to be found
 - Hyper-classical / quantum terms identified and dropped before integrations
 - HEFT amplitude even have their own double copy and can be computed by recursions or the algebra
 - Kinematic algebra of the HEFT and Yang-Mills theory
- One-loop scattering waveforms
 - KMOC approach leads naturally to the HEFT

(Some) questions

- Analytic waveforms (important to clarify shape of time-domain waveform)
- Analytic continuation for bound orbits?
- Apply HEFT to higher PM orders calculations
- Spin, tidal effects
- Similarities with the worldline formalism(s)
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Thank you!