



\langle Quantum|Gravity \rangle Society

Hidden Structures in Gravitational Scattering

Clifford Cheung

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Caltech

gravitational scattering: (1708.03872, 1705.03025, 2002.10470)

gravitational actions: (1612.00868, 1612.03927, 1709.04932, 2108.02276, 2204.07130)

applications to GWs: (1808.02489, 1901.04424, 1908.01493, 2003.08351, 2006.06665)

action



amplitudes

“ the theory ”

action



amplitudes

“ the observables ”

principles: *unitarity,*
locality, Poincare

luxuries: *supersymmetry,*
extra dimensions, etc.



action



amplitudes

action



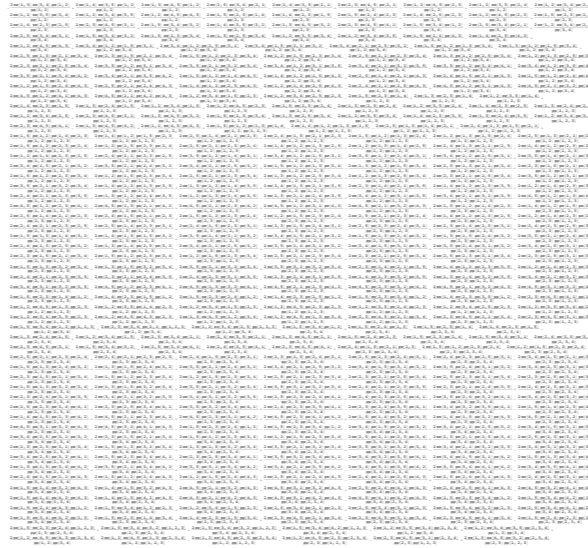
*“ S-matrix
program ”*

amplitudes

Gauge symmetry manifests Poincare invariance and locality at the cost of redundancy.

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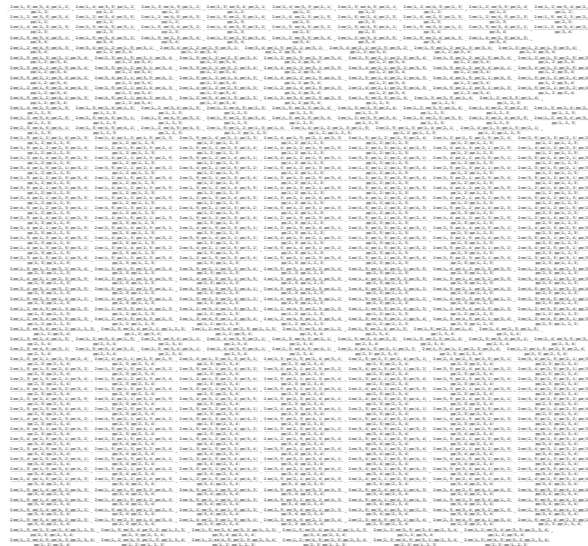
$$A(1^{h_1}2^{h_2}3^{h_3}4^{h_4}5^{h_5}) =$$



Feynman diagrams
(*factorization manifest*)

Gauge symmetry manifests Poincare invariance and locality at the cost of redundancy.

$$A(1^{h_1}2^{h_2}3^{h_3}4^{h_4}5^{h_5}) =$$



Feynman diagrams
(*factorization manifest*)

$$A(1^+2^+3^+4^+5^+) = A(1^-2^+3^+4^+5^+) = 0$$

$$A(1^-2^+3^-4^+5^+) = \frac{\langle 13 \rangle^4}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle \langle 51 \rangle}$$

$$A(1^-2^-3^+4^+5^+) = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^3}{\langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle \langle 51 \rangle}$$

modern tools
(*factorization obscure*)

Gravity suffers also, due to diffeomorphisms.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \xrightarrow{\delta^3 S} \\
 & \delta\varphi_{\mu\nu}\delta\varphi_{\sigma'\tau'}\delta\varphi_{\rho''\lambda''} \\
 & \text{Sym}\left[-\frac{1}{4}P_3(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\sigma\tau}\eta^{\rho\lambda})-\frac{1}{4}P_6(p^\sigma p^\tau\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\rho\lambda})+\frac{1}{4}P_3(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\sigma}\eta^{\nu\tau}\eta^{\rho\lambda})+\frac{1}{2}P_6(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\sigma\rho}\eta^{\tau\lambda})+P_3(p^\sigma p^\lambda\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\tau\rho})\right. \\
 & \left.-\frac{1}{2}P_3(p^\tau p'^\mu\eta^{\nu\sigma}\eta^{\rho\lambda})+\frac{1}{2}P_3(p^\rho p'^\lambda\eta^{\mu\sigma}\eta^{\nu\tau})+\frac{1}{2}P_6(p^\rho p^\lambda\eta^{\mu\sigma}\eta^{\nu\tau})+P_6(p^\sigma p'^\lambda\eta^{\tau\mu}\eta^{\nu\rho})+P_3(p^\sigma p'^\mu\eta^{\tau\rho}\eta^{\lambda\nu})\right. \\
 & \left.-P_3(p\cdot p'\eta^{\nu\sigma}\eta^{\tau\rho}\eta^{\lambda\mu})\right], \quad (2.6)
 \end{aligned}$$

3pt graviton *vertex*

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \xrightarrow{\delta^4 S} \\
 & \delta\varphi_{\mu\nu}\delta\varphi_{\sigma'\tau'}\delta\varphi_{\rho''\lambda''}\delta\varphi_{\nu''\kappa''} \\
 & \text{Sym}\left[-\frac{1}{8}P_6(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\sigma\tau}\eta^{\rho\lambda}\eta^{\kappa\epsilon})-\frac{1}{8}P_{12}(p^\sigma p^\tau\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\rho\lambda}\eta^{\kappa\epsilon})-\frac{1}{4}P_6(p^\sigma p'^\mu\eta^{\nu\tau}\eta^{\rho\lambda}\eta^{\kappa\epsilon})+\frac{1}{8}P_6(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\sigma}\eta^{\nu\tau}\eta^{\rho\lambda}\eta^{\kappa\epsilon})\right. \\
 & +\frac{1}{4}P_6(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\sigma\tau}\eta^{\rho\epsilon}\eta^{\lambda\kappa})+\frac{1}{4}P_{12}(p^\sigma p^\tau\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\rho\epsilon}\eta^{\lambda\kappa})+\frac{1}{2}P_6(p^\sigma p'^\mu\eta^{\nu\tau}\eta^{\rho\epsilon}\eta^{\lambda\kappa})-\frac{1}{4}P_6(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\sigma}\eta^{\nu\tau}\eta^{\rho\epsilon}\eta^{\lambda\kappa}) \\
 & +\frac{1}{4}P_{24}(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\sigma\rho}\eta^{\tau\lambda}\eta^{\kappa\epsilon})+\frac{1}{4}P_{24}(p^\sigma p^\tau\eta^{\mu\rho}\eta^{\nu\lambda}\eta^{\kappa\epsilon})+\frac{1}{4}P_{12}(p^\rho p'^\lambda\eta^{\mu\sigma}\eta^{\nu\tau}\eta^{\kappa\epsilon})+\frac{1}{2}P_{24}(p^\sigma p'^\rho\eta^{\tau\mu}\eta^{\nu\lambda}\eta^{\kappa\epsilon}) \\
 & -\frac{1}{2}P_{12}(p\cdot p'\eta^{\nu\sigma}\eta^{\tau\rho}\eta^{\lambda\mu}\eta^{\kappa\epsilon})-\frac{1}{2}P_{12}(p^\sigma p'^\mu\eta^{\tau\rho}\eta^{\lambda\nu}\eta^{\kappa\epsilon})+\frac{1}{2}P_{12}(p^\sigma p^\rho\eta^{\tau\lambda}\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\kappa\epsilon})-\frac{1}{2}P_{24}(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\tau\rho}\eta^{\lambda\epsilon}\eta^{\kappa\sigma}) \\
 & -P_{12}(p^\sigma p^\tau\eta^{\nu\rho}\eta^{\lambda\epsilon}\eta^{\kappa\mu})-P_{12}(p^\rho p'^\lambda\eta^{\nu\epsilon}\eta^{\kappa\sigma}\eta^{\tau\mu})-P_{24}(p^\sigma p'^\rho\eta^{\tau\epsilon}\eta^{\kappa\mu}\eta^{\nu\lambda})-P_{12}(p^\rho p'^\epsilon\eta^{\lambda\sigma}\eta^{\tau\mu}\eta^{\nu\kappa}) \\
 & +P_6(p\cdot p'\eta^{\nu\rho}\eta^{\lambda\sigma}\eta^{\tau\epsilon}\eta^{\kappa\mu})-P_{12}(p^\sigma p^\rho\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\tau\epsilon}\eta^{\kappa\lambda})-\frac{1}{2}P_{12}(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\rho}\eta^{\nu\lambda}\eta^{\sigma\epsilon}\eta^{\tau\kappa})-P_{12}(p^\sigma p^\rho\eta^{\tau\lambda}\eta^{\mu\epsilon}\eta^{\nu\kappa}) \\
 & \left.-P_6(p^\rho p'^\epsilon\eta^{\lambda\kappa}\eta^{\mu\sigma}\eta^{\nu\tau})-P_{24}(p^\sigma p'^\rho\eta^{\tau\mu}\eta^{\nu\epsilon}\eta^{\kappa\lambda})-P_{12}(p^\sigma p'^\mu\eta^{\tau\rho}\eta^{\lambda\epsilon}\eta^{\kappa\nu})+2P_6(p\cdot p'\eta^{\nu\sigma}\eta^{\tau\rho}\eta^{\lambda\epsilon}\eta^{\kappa\mu})\right]. \quad (2.7)
 \end{aligned}$$

4pt graviton *vertex*

Gravity suffers also, due to diffeomorphisms.

$$\begin{aligned} & \xrightarrow{\delta^3 S} \\ & \delta\varphi_{\mu\nu}\delta\varphi_{\sigma'\tau'}\delta\varphi_{\rho''\lambda''} \\ & \text{Sym}\left[-\frac{1}{4}P_3(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\sigma\tau}\eta^{\rho\lambda})-\frac{1}{4}P_6(p^\sigma p^\tau\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\rho\lambda})+\frac{1}{4}P_3(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\sigma}\eta^{\nu\tau}\eta^{\rho\lambda})+\frac{1}{2}P_6(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\sigma\rho}\eta^{\tau\lambda})+P_3(p^\sigma p^\lambda\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\tau\rho})\right. \\ & \left.-\frac{1}{2}P_3(p^\tau p'^\mu\eta^{\nu\sigma}\eta^{\rho\lambda})+\frac{1}{2}P_3(p^\rho p'^\lambda\eta^{\mu\sigma}\eta^{\nu\tau})+\frac{1}{2}P_6(p^\rho p^\lambda\eta^{\mu\sigma}\eta^{\nu\tau})+P_6(p^\sigma p'^\lambda\eta^{\tau\mu}\eta^{\nu\rho})+P_3(p^\sigma p'^\mu\eta^{\tau\rho}\eta^{\lambda\nu})\right. \\ & \left.-P_3(p\cdot p'\eta^{\nu\sigma}\eta^{\tau\rho}\eta^{\lambda\mu})\right], \quad (2.6) \end{aligned}$$

3pt graviton *vertex*

$$\begin{aligned} & \xrightarrow{\delta^4 S} \\ & \delta\varphi_{\mu\nu}\delta\varphi_{\sigma'\tau'}\delta\varphi_{\rho''\lambda''}\delta\varphi_{\nu''\kappa''} \\ & \text{Sym}\left[-\frac{1}{8}P_6(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\sigma\tau}\eta^{\rho\lambda}\eta^{\nu\kappa})-\frac{1}{8}P_{12}(p^\sigma p^\tau\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\rho\lambda}\eta^{\nu\kappa})-\frac{1}{4}P_6(p^\sigma p'^\mu\eta^{\nu\tau}\eta^{\rho\lambda}\eta^{\nu\kappa})+\frac{1}{8}P_6(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\sigma}\eta^{\nu\tau}\eta^{\rho\lambda}\eta^{\nu\kappa})\right. \\ & +\frac{1}{4}P_6(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\sigma\tau}\eta^{\rho\lambda}\eta^{\nu\kappa})+\frac{1}{4}P_{12}(p^\sigma p^\tau\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\rho\lambda}\eta^{\nu\kappa})+\frac{1}{2}P_6(p^\sigma p'^\mu\eta^{\nu\tau}\eta^{\rho\lambda}\eta^{\nu\kappa})-\frac{1}{4}P_6(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\sigma}\eta^{\nu\tau}\eta^{\rho\lambda}\eta^{\nu\kappa}) \\ & +\frac{1}{4}P_{24}(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\sigma\rho}\eta^{\tau\lambda}\eta^{\nu\kappa})+\frac{1}{4}P_{24}(p^\sigma p^\tau\eta^{\mu\rho}\eta^{\nu\lambda}\eta^{\nu\kappa})+\frac{1}{4}P_{12}(p^\rho p'^\lambda\eta^{\mu\sigma}\eta^{\nu\tau}\eta^{\nu\kappa})+\frac{1}{2}P_{24}(p^\sigma p'^\rho\eta^{\tau\mu}\eta^{\nu\lambda}\eta^{\nu\kappa}) \\ & -\frac{1}{2}P_{12}(p\cdot p'\eta^{\nu\sigma}\eta^{\tau\rho}\eta^{\lambda\mu}\eta^{\nu\kappa})-\frac{1}{2}P_{12}(p^\sigma p'^\mu\eta^{\tau\rho}\eta^{\lambda\nu}\eta^{\nu\kappa})+\frac{1}{2}P_{12}(p^\sigma p^\rho\eta^{\tau\lambda}\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\nu\kappa})-\frac{1}{2}P_{24}(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\tau\rho}\eta^{\lambda\mu}\eta^{\nu\kappa}) \\ & -P_{12}(p^\sigma p^\tau\eta^{\nu\rho}\eta^{\lambda\mu}\eta^{\nu\kappa})-P_{12}(p^\rho p'^\lambda\eta^{\nu\mu}\eta^{\kappa\sigma}\eta^{\tau\mu})-P_{24}(p^\sigma p'^\rho\eta^{\tau\mu}\eta^{\kappa\mu}\eta^{\nu\lambda})-P_{12}(p^\rho p'^\nu\eta^{\lambda\sigma}\eta^{\tau\mu}\eta^{\nu\kappa}) \\ & +P_6(p\cdot p'\eta^{\nu\rho}\eta^{\lambda\sigma}\eta^{\tau\mu}\eta^{\nu\kappa})-P_{12}(p^\sigma p^\rho\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\tau\mu}\eta^{\kappa\lambda})-\frac{1}{2}P_{12}(p\cdot p'\eta^{\mu\rho}\eta^{\nu\lambda}\eta^{\sigma\mu}\eta^{\tau\kappa})-P_{12}(p^\sigma p^\rho\eta^{\tau\lambda}\eta^{\mu\nu}\eta^{\nu\kappa}) \\ & \left.-P_6(p^\rho p'^\nu\eta^{\lambda\kappa}\eta^{\mu\sigma}\eta^{\nu\tau})-P_{24}(p^\sigma p'^\rho\eta^{\tau\mu}\eta^{\nu\lambda}\eta^{\kappa\lambda})-P_{12}(p^\sigma p'^\mu\eta^{\tau\rho}\eta^{\lambda\mu}\eta^{\nu\kappa})+2P_6(p\cdot p'\eta^{\nu\sigma}\eta^{\tau\rho}\eta^{\lambda\mu}\eta^{\nu\kappa})\right]. \quad (2.7) \end{aligned}$$

4pt graviton *vertex*

$$M(1^-2^-3^+) = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^6}{\langle 13 \rangle^2 \langle 32 \rangle^2}$$

3pt graviton *amplitude*

$$M(1^-2^-3^+4^+) = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^4 [34]^4}{stu}$$

4pt graviton *amplitude*

Redundancy is not an affliction of spin. Not even scalars are safe. Consider on-shell amplitudes in

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 g(\phi)$$

At 3pt, 4pt, 5pt, ... you will find they are all zero!

Redundancy is not an affliction of spin. Not even scalars are safe. Consider on-shell amplitudes in

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 g(\phi) \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2$$

At 3pt, 4pt, 5pt, ... you will find they are all zero!

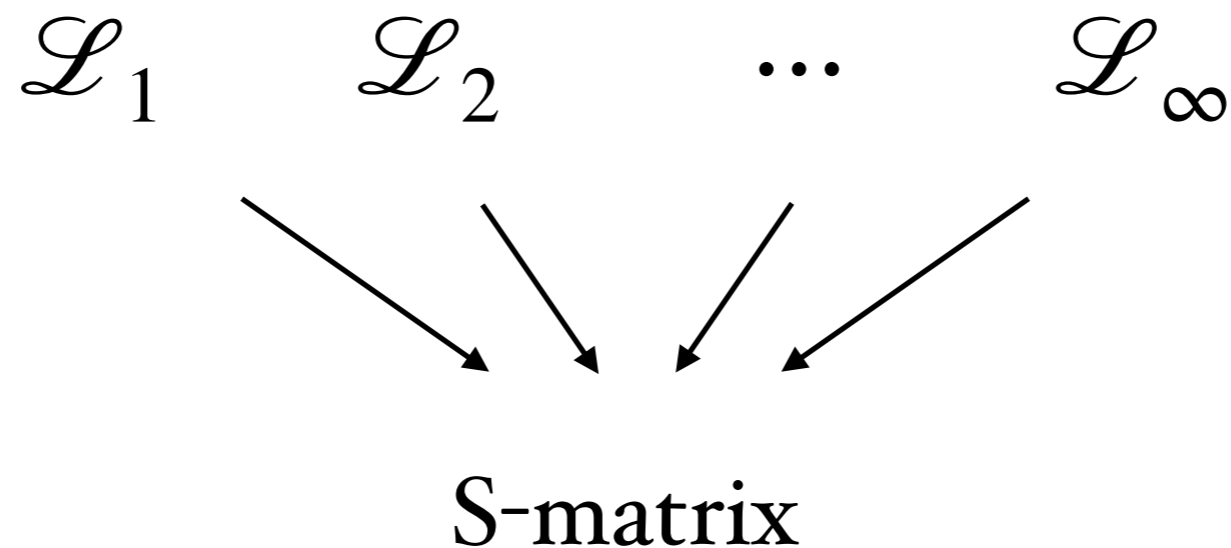
$$f(\phi) \longleftrightarrow \phi \quad \text{where} \quad f'(\phi)^2 = g(\phi)$$

Field redefinitions: a non-symmetry of the action that leaves the S-matrix invariant.

The fields of QFT are integration variables of the path integral. You can always change variables.

$$Z[J] \sim \int [d\phi] e^{iS[\phi] + i \int J\phi}$$

Thus, Lagrangians are infinitely redundant!



hidden structure #1:
double copy

Bern, Carrasco, and Johansson (BCJ) discovered a hidden duality structure in gauge theory + gravity.

$$(\text{gauge})^2 = \text{gravity}$$

Color - Kinematics Duality: scattering exhibits an isomorphism between color and kinematics.

Double Copy: swapping color for kinematics yields the correct amplitudes of new theories.

In three-particle scattering, double copy is trivial.

3pt gluon

3pt graviton

$$A(1_a^- 2_b^- 3_c^+) = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^3}{\langle 13 \rangle \langle 32 \rangle} f_{abc}$$

$$M(1^- 2^- 3^+) = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^6}{\langle 13 \rangle^2 \langle 32 \rangle^2}$$

$$A(1_a^+ 2_b^+ 3_c^-) = \frac{[12]^3}{[13][32]} f_{abc}$$

$$M(1^+ 2^+ 3^-) = \frac{[12]^6}{[13]^2 [32]^2}$$

Simply replace f_{abc} with the kinematic structure.

In four-particle scattering, we see a small miracle.

$$A_4 = \frac{c_s n_s}{s} + \frac{c_t n_t}{t} + \frac{c_u n_u}{u}$$

$$c_s = f_{abe} f_{cde}$$

$$c_t = f_{bce} f_{ade}$$

$$c_u = f_{cae} f_{bde}$$

Here n_s, n_t, n_u are non-unique functions of $p_i p_j$, $p_i e_j$, $e_i e_j$ that satisfy kinematic Jacobi identities.

$$c_s + c_t + c_u = 0$$

(mathematical identity)

$$n_s + n_t + n_u = 0$$

(true on-shell)

Perhaps color and kinematics are interchangeable since they satisfy the same algebraic identities?

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4pt gluon
(polarization = e_μ)

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↓ ↓ ↓ “double copy”

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Double copy is proven at tree + recycled to loop integrands via unitarity to SUGRA, and LIGO.

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4pt graviton +
two-form + dilaton
(polarization = $e_\mu \tilde{e}_{\tilde{\mu}}$)

Double copy is proven at tree + recycled to loop integrands via unitarity to SUGRA, and LIGO.

Double copy is weirdly ubiquitous among “nice” theories with very few coupling constants.

| | | | |
|--|--|----------------------|---|
| $\mathcal{N} > 4$ supergravity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM theory SYM theory ($\mathcal{N} = 1, 2, 4$) | [1, 2, 31, 291, 292] | |
| $\mathcal{N} = 4$ supergravity with vector multiplets | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM theory YM-scalar theory from dim. reduction | [1, 2, 31, 293] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $\mathcal{N} = 2 \times \mathcal{N} = 2$ construction is also possible |
| pure $\mathcal{N} < 4$ supergravity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (S)YM theory with matter (S)YM theory with ghosts | [188] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ghost fields in fundamental rep |
| Einstein gravity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> YM theory with matter YM theory with ghosts | [188] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ghost/matter fields in fundamental rep |
| $\mathcal{N} = 2$ Maxwell-Einstein supergravities (generic family) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SYM theory YM-scalar theory from dim. reduction | [120] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> truncations to $\mathcal{N} = 1, 0$ only adjoint fields |
| $\mathcal{N} = 2$ Maxwell-Einstein supergravities (homogeneous theories) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SYM theory with half hypermultiplet YM-scalar theory from dim. reduction with matter fermions | [121, 294] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fields in pseudo-real reps include Magical Supergravities |
| $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supergravities with hypermultiplets | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SYM theory with half hypermultiplet YM-scalar theory from dim. red. with extra matter scalars | [121, 240] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fields in matter representations construction known in particular cases |
| $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supergravities with vector/hypermultiplets | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SYM theory with chiral multiplets $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SYM theory with chiral multiplets | [239, 241, 295] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> construction known in particular cases |
| $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravities with vector multiplets | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SYM theory with chiral multiplets YM-scalar theory with fermions | [188, 239, 241, 295] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fields in matter reps construction known in particular cases |
| $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravities with chiral multiplets | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SYM theory with chiral multiplets YM-scalar with extra matter scalars | [188, 239, 241, 295] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fields in matter reps construction known in particular cases |
| Einstein gravity with matter | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> YM theory with matter YM theory with matter | [1, 188] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> construction known in particular cases |

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| $R + \phi R^2 + R^3$ gravity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> YM theory + $F^3 + F^4 + \dots$ YM theory + $F^3 + F^4 + \dots$ | [296] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> extension to $\mathcal{N} \leq 4$ replacing one of the factors by undeformed SYM theory |
| Conformal (super)gravity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DF^2 theory (S)YM theory | [152, 153] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $\mathcal{N} \leq 4$ involves specific gauge theory with dimension-six operators |
| 3D maximal supergravity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BLG theory BLG theory | [119, 243, 297] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3D only |
| YME supergravities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SYM theory YM + ϕ^3 theory | [120, 125, 133, 134, 140, 214, 216, 257, 283, 285, 289] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> trilinear scalar couplings $\mathcal{N} = 0, 1, 2, 4$ possible |
| Higgsed supergravities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SYM theory (Coulomb branch) YM + ϕ^3 theory with extra massive scalars | [122] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $\mathcal{N} = 0, 1, 2, 4$ possible massive fields in supergravity |
| $U(1)_R$ gauged supergravities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SYM theory (Coulomb branch) YM theory with SUSY broken by fermion masses | [123] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $0 \leq \mathcal{N} \leq 8$ possible SUSY is spontaneously broken only theories with Minkowski vacua |
| gauged supergravities (nonabelian) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SYM theory (Coulomb branch) YM + ϕ^3 theory with massive fermions | [284] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SUSY is spontaneously broken only theories with Minkowski vacua |
| DBI theory | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NLSM (S)YM theory | [125, 126, 285, 298–301] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $\mathcal{N} \leq 4$ possible also obtained as $\alpha' \rightarrow 0$ limit of abelian Z-theory |
| Volkov-Akulov theory | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NLSM SYM theory (external fermions) | [125, 302–308] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> restriction to external fermions from supersymmetric DBI |
| Special Galileon theory | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NLSM NLSM | [125, 285, 301, 306, 309] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> theory is also characterized by its soft limits |
| DBI + (S)YM theory | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NLSM + ϕ^3 (S)YM theory | [125, 126, 156, 285, 298–300, 306, 310] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $\mathcal{N} \leq 4$ possible also obtained as $\alpha' \rightarrow 0$ limit of semi-abelianized Z-theory |
| DBI + NLSM theory | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NLSM YM + ϕ^3 theory | [125, 126, 156, 285, 298–300] | |

Double copy transcends gauge theory + gravity!

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Is the double copy just the tetrad formalism? **No.**

Double copy transcends gauge theory + gravity!

- gluon \otimes gluon = graviton
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- gluon \otimes pion = Born-Infeld photon

Is the double copy just the tetrad formalism? No.

Is it just open/closed string duality? Unclear.

Anyway, a QFT fact deserves a QFT explanation.

The double copy is a proven fact about on-shell, flat-space, tree-level scattering amplitudes.

Why is it true?

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Why is it true? When is it true?

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Why is it true? When is it true?

- which theories?
- higher-loops?
- non-perturbatively?
- curved spacetime?
- classical solutions?

The double copy is a proven fact about on-shell, flat-space, tree-level scattering amplitudes.

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- higher-loops?
- classical solutions?
- non-perturbatively?

We don't understand double copy. And the stakes are not low: (lattice QCD)² = QG?

Case in point, consider double copy amplitude for the theory of the graviton + two-form + dilaton.

$$M_4 = \frac{n_s \tilde{n}_s}{s} + \frac{n_t \tilde{n}_t}{t} + \frac{n_u \tilde{n}_u}{u}$$

$n_s, n_t, n_u =$ functions of e_μ, p_μ

$\tilde{n}_s, \tilde{n}_t, \tilde{n}_u =$ functions of $\tilde{e}_{\tilde{\mu}}, p_{\tilde{\mu}}$

So there is an amplitudes representation with two Lorentz invariances acting on μ and $\tilde{\mu}$ indices.

Can the double Lorentz invariance of gravity be made explicit in the off-shell action?

$$S_{\text{EH}} = \int d^d x \sqrt{-g} \left(\frac{R}{16\pi G} + L_{\text{GF}} \right)$$

↑
arbitrary

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu} + O(h^2) + O(h^3) + \dots$$

We can exploit the freedom of field basis and gauge fixing which leaves amplitudes unchanged.

The resulting action is remarkably compact.

$$S_{\text{EH}} = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^d x \partial_A \Sigma_{CE} \partial_B \Sigma^{DE} \left(\frac{1}{16} \Sigma^{AB} \delta_D^C - \frac{1}{4} \Sigma^{CB} \delta_D^A \right)$$

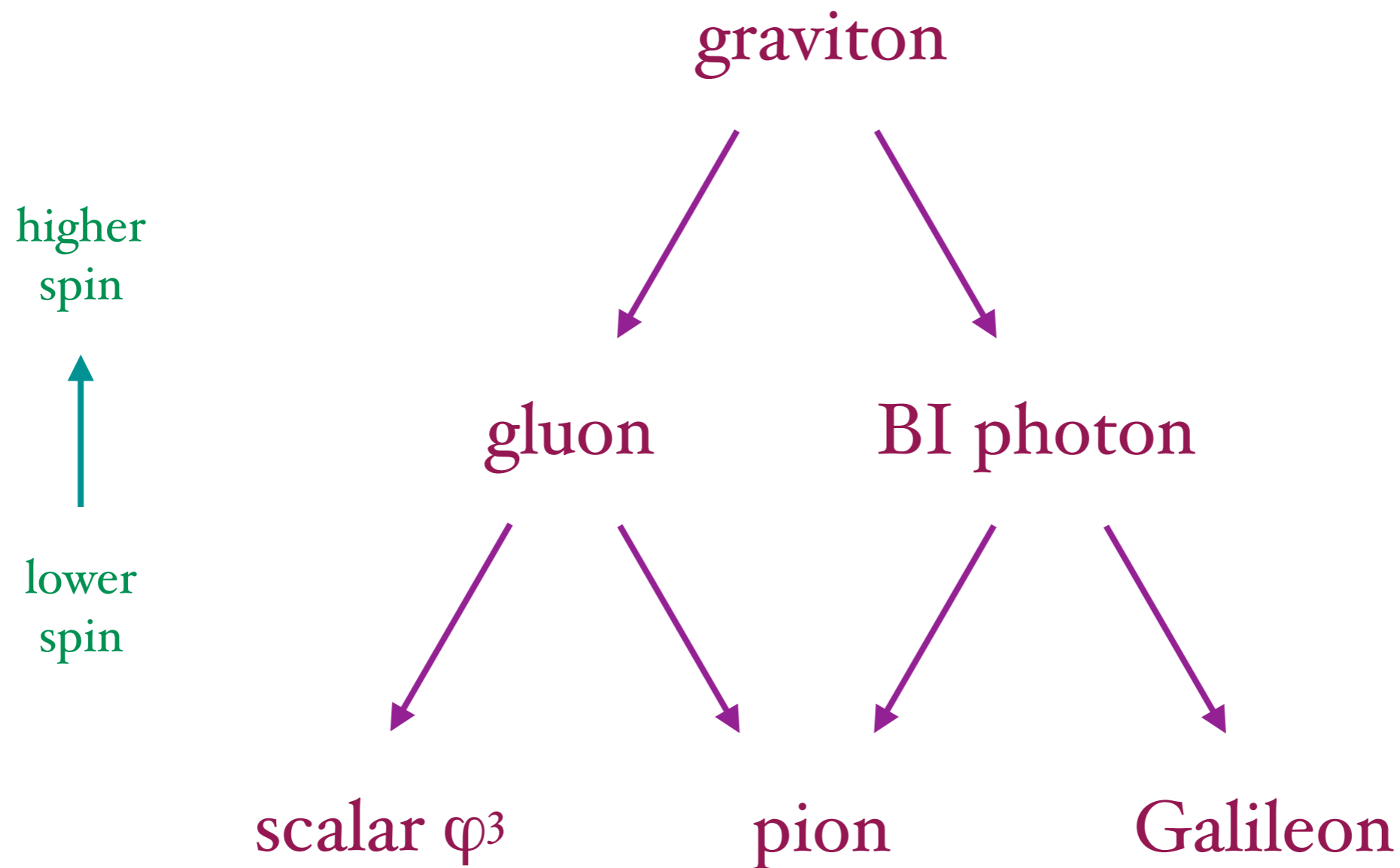
$$\Sigma_{AB} = (e^H)_{AB} \quad H_{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & h_{\mu\tilde{\nu}} \\ h_{\tilde{\mu}\nu} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \partial_A = (\partial_\mu, \partial_{\tilde{\mu}})$$

$$\Sigma^{AB} = (e^{-H})^{AB}$$

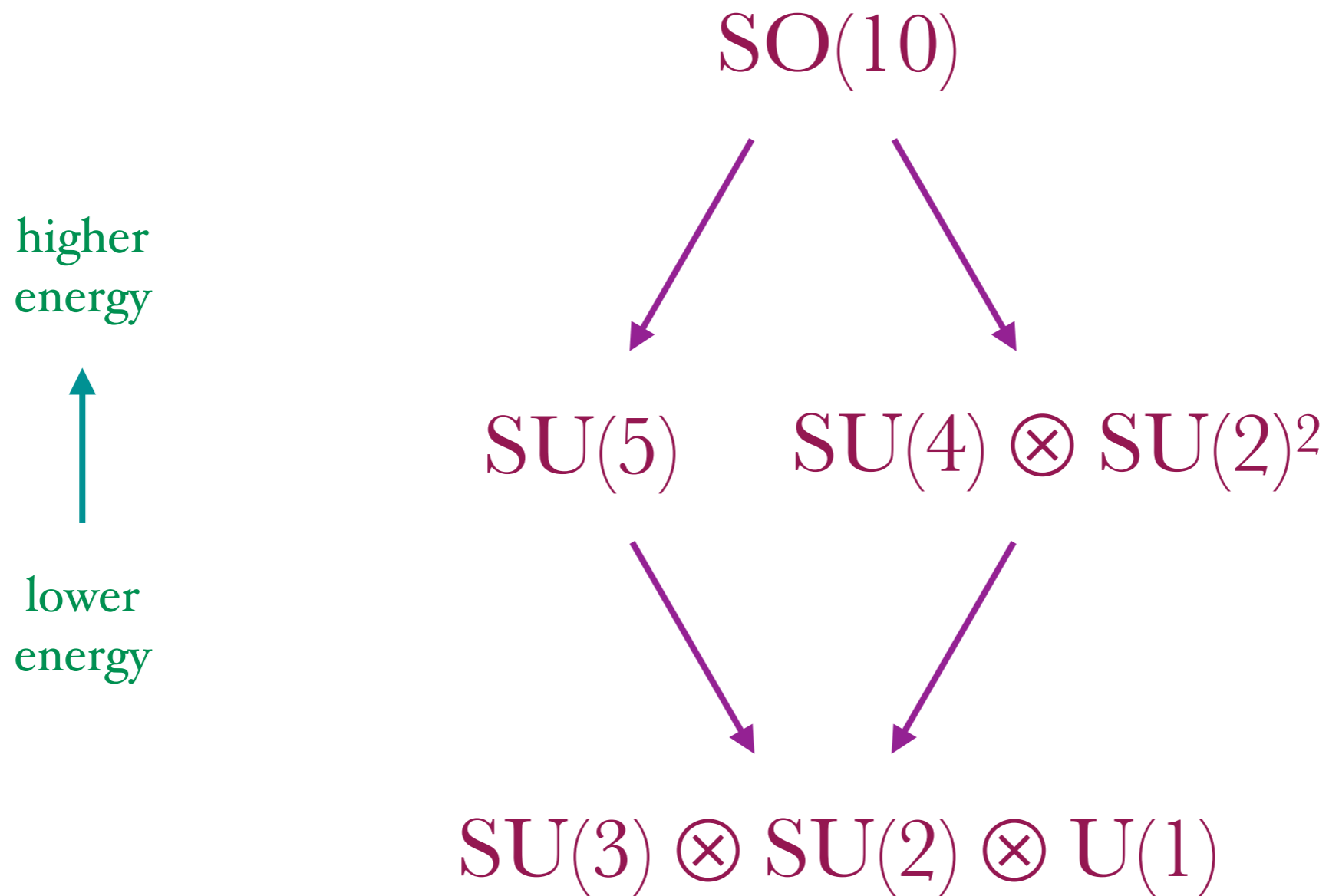
The off-shell Feynman diagrams have a doubled Lorentz invariance and the on-shell amplitudes have a doubled gauge symmetry.

hidden structure #2:
unification via gravity

The graviton S -matrix encodes gluons, pions, etc.



This is distinct from textbook grand unification.



To begin, we think of gluon tree amplitudes as abstract functions of kinematic invariants.

$$\begin{aligned} A &= e_1^{\mu_1} e_2^{\mu_2} \cdots e_n^{\mu_n} A_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \cdots \mu_n} \\ &= \text{scalar function of } p_i p_j, p_i e_j, e_i e_j \end{aligned}$$

Crucially, we maintain the on-shell conditions.

massless

helicity basis

$$p_i p_i = p_i e_i = e_i e_i = 0$$

transverse

A physical on-shell amplitude satisfies several constraints. The first is the **Ward identity**.

$$A \Big|_{e_i=p_i} = W_i A = 0$$

Here we recast the Ward identity as a differential operator that annihilates the amplitude.

$$W_i = \sum_{v=p_j, e_j} (p_i v) \frac{\partial}{\partial (v e_i)}$$

The second constraint is typically trivial: total momentum conservation.

$$P_\nu A = 0$$

As before, we can define an operator for this property of the amplitudes.

$$P_\nu = \sum_i p_i^\nu$$

Now let us construct an operator T that acts on the amplitude A to produce a new one $T \cdot A$.

If the operator satisfies the conditions,

$$[W_i, T] \sim 0 \qquad [P_\nu, T] \sim 0$$

then if A is gauge invariant and momentum-conserving then so too is $T \cdot A$.

$$W_i \cdot (T \cdot A) = 0 \qquad P_\nu \cdot (T \cdot A) = 0$$

From these vanishing commutators we derive the “transmutation operators”.

$$T_{ij} = \frac{\partial}{\partial (e_i e_j)} \quad 2 \text{ gluon} \rightarrow 2 \text{ scalar}$$

$$T_{ijk} = \frac{\partial}{\partial (p_i e_j)} - \frac{\partial}{\partial (p_k e_j)} \quad 1 \text{ gluon} \rightarrow 1 \text{ scalar}$$

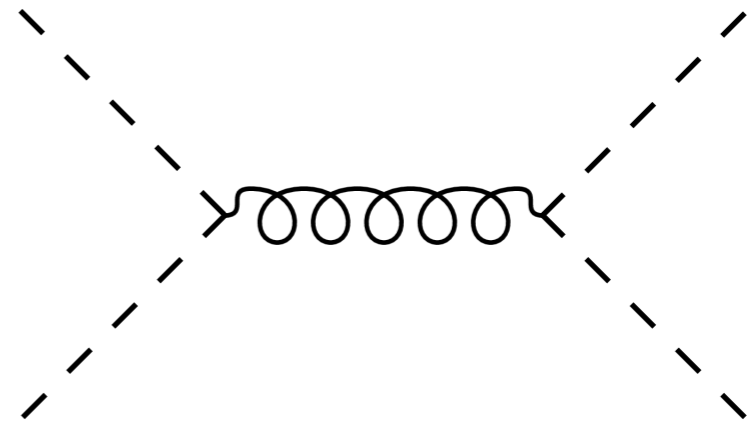
$$T_i = \sum_j p_i p_j \frac{\partial}{\partial (p_j e_i)} \quad 1 \text{ gluon} \rightarrow 1 \text{ pion}$$

We proved transmutation for all graviton, gluon, pion tree amplitudes + explicit checks up to 8pt.

Example #1: YM to SQED

$$T_{12} \cdot T_{34} \cdot A(g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4) = \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial(e_1 e_2)} \frac{\partial}{\partial(e_3 e_4)} \right] A(g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4)$$

$$= \frac{p_1 p_3}{p_1 p_2} = A(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3, \phi_4) =$$



Extracting the $(e_1 e_2)(e_3 e_4)$ term is **dimensional reduction** to two new flavors of charged scalars.

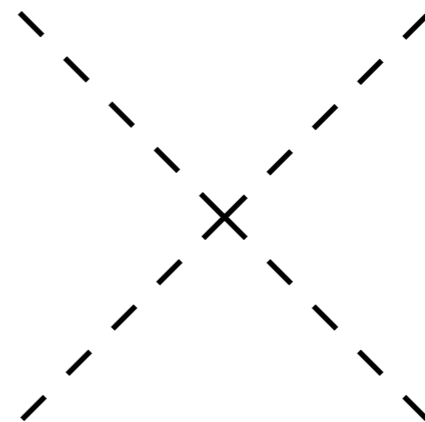
$$e_1^\mu = e_2^\mu = \overset{d+1+1}{(0, 1, 0)}$$

$$e_3^\mu = e_4^\mu = \overset{d+1+1}{(0, 0, 1)}$$

Example #2: YM to NLSM

$$T_{14} \cdot T_2 \cdot T_3 \cdot A(g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4) = \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial(e_1 e_4)} \dots \right] A(g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4)$$

$$= p_1 p_3 = A(\pi_1, \pi_2, \pi_3, \pi_4) =$$



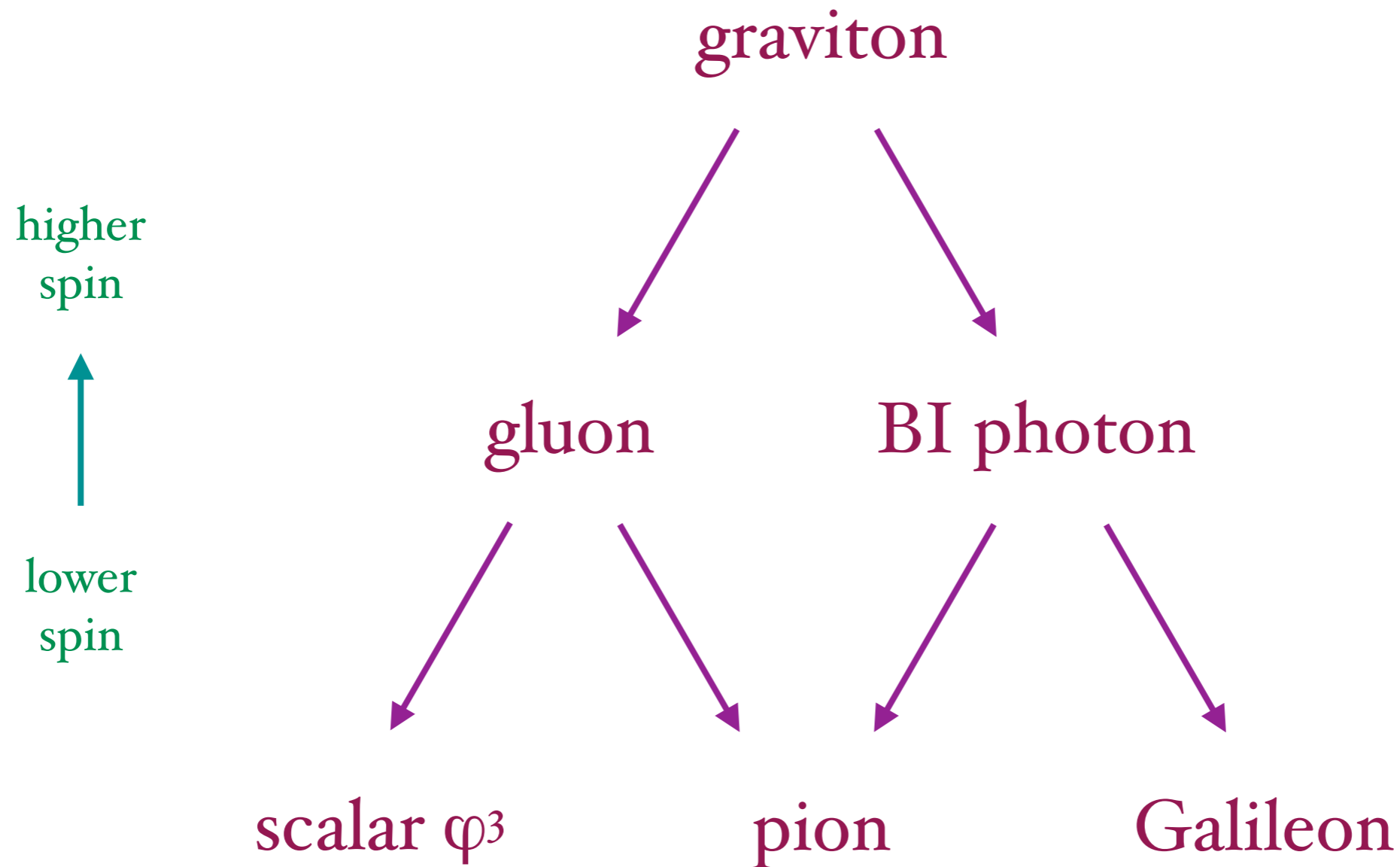
We can recast pions as oddly polarized gluons under dimensional reduction.

$$e_1^\mu = e_2^\mu = (0, 1, 0) \quad \overset{d+1+d}{}$$

$$e_2^\mu = (p_2^\alpha, 0, ip_2^\beta) \quad \overset{d+1+d}{}$$

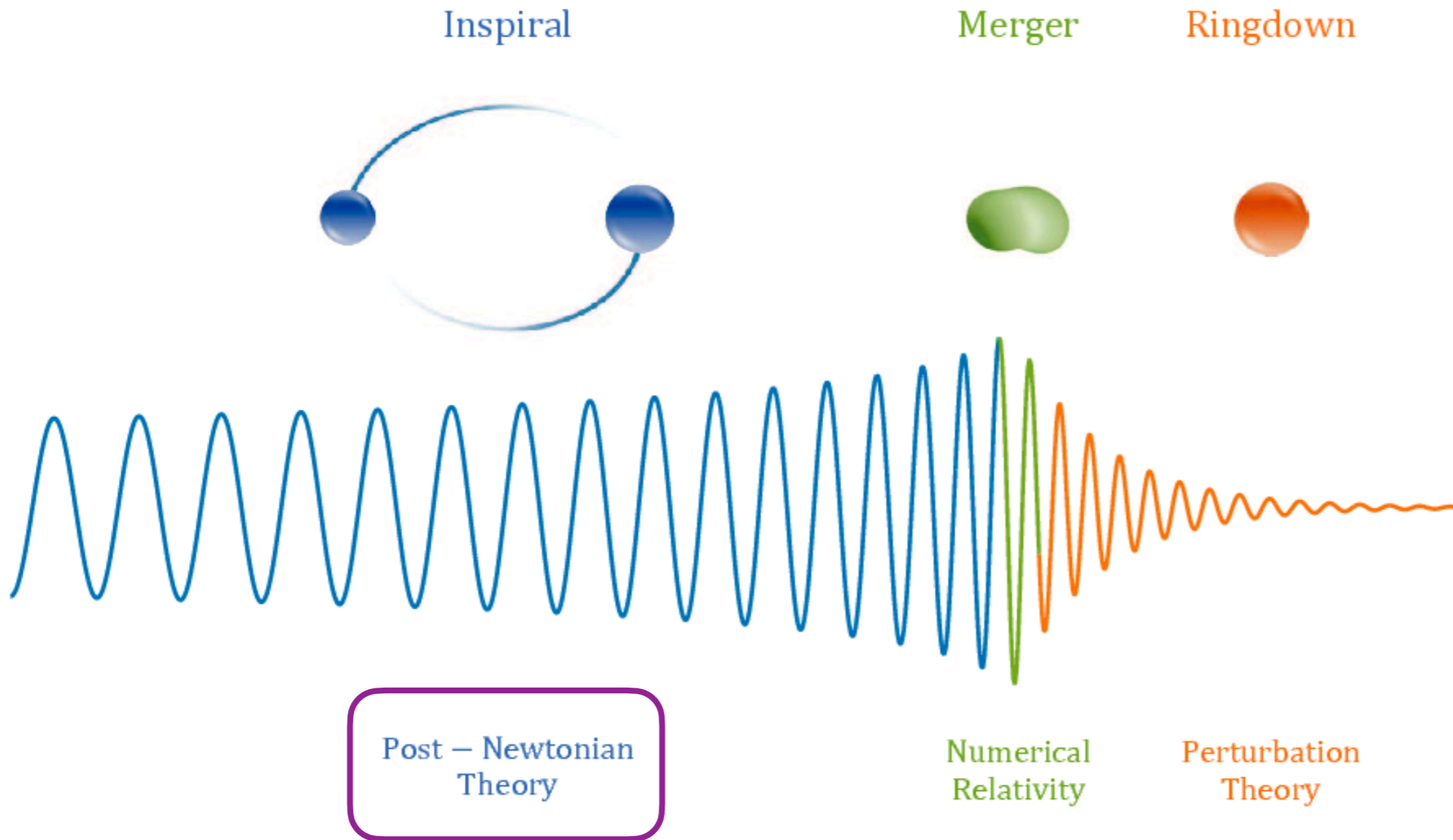
$$e_3^\mu = (p_3^\alpha, 0, ip_3^\beta) \quad \overset{d+1+d}{}$$

“gravity = mother of all theories”



applications to
gravitational waves

The binary black hole merger has three phases.



perturbation theory
is applicable here

State-of-the-art perturbative computations in gravitational wave physics center on the “post-Newtonian” expansion, based on

$$v^2 \sim \frac{GM}{r} \ll 1$$

which is tiny and perturbatively calculable during the inspiral phase of the merger.

The so-called “post-Minkowskian” expansion parameter is G , and we call it perturbation theory.

Map of Perturbation Theory

oPN iPN 2PN 3PN 4PN 5PN 6PN 7PN

iPM $(1 + v^2 + v^4 + v^6 + v^8 + v^{10} + v^{12} + v^{14} + \dots) G$

2PM $(1 + v^2 + v^4 + v^6 + v^8 + v^{10} + v^{12} + \dots) G^2$

3PM $(1 + v^2 + v^4 + v^6 + v^8 + v^{10} + \dots) G^3$

4PM $(1 + v^2 + v^4 + v^6 + v^8 + \dots) G^4$

5PM $(1 + v^2 + v^4 + v^6 + \dots) G^5$

⋮

Map of Perturbation Theory

| | 0PN | 1PN | 2PN | 3PN | 4PN | 5PN | 6PN | 7PN | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------|-----|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1PM | $(1 + v^2 + v^4 + v^6 + v^8 + \dots)$ | | | | | $+ v^{10} + v^{12} + v^{14} + \dots$ | | | G | | |
| 2PM | | | | | | | | | $(1 + v^2 + v^4 + v^6 + \dots)$ | | $+ v^8 + v^{10} + v^{12} + \dots$ |
| 3PM | $(1 + v^2 + v^4 + v^6 + \dots)$ | | $+ v^4 + v^6 + v^8 + \dots$ | | G^3 | | | | | | |
| 4PM | | | | | $(1 + v^2 + v^4 + v^6 + \dots)$ | | G^4 | | | | |
| 5PM | $(1 + v^2 + v^4 + v^6 + \dots)$ | | G^5 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | \vdots | | | | |

Can amplitudes give an efficient and scaleable path to higher PN? Naively, there are issues.

- black holes \neq SYM gluons
(double copy, recursion, etc. all apply to masses)
- LIGO does not observe scattering
(NRQCD solved the amplitudes - potentials map)

All these puzzles have been surmounted. New results on conservative dynamics, radiation, spin, finite size effects are appearing swiftly.

full theory

effective theory

amplitudes
methods



BH / graviton
tree amplitudes

$$A_{\text{tree}}$$

generalized
unitarity



integral
representation

$$A = \sum_i d^{(i)} I^{(i)}$$

multi-loop
integration



full loop
amplitude

$$A(p, q)$$

identical
physics

=

build
ansatz



effective BH
Lagrangian

$$V(p, q)$$

Feynman
diagrams



integral
representation

$$A_{\text{EFT}} = \sum_i d_{\text{EFT}}^{(i)} I^{(i)}$$

multi-loop
integration



EFT loop
amplitude

$$A_{\text{EFT}}(p, q)$$

gluons

(double copy)



$$A_{\text{grav}} = A_{\text{YM}} \otimes A_{\text{YM}}$$

gravitons

(transmute)



$$A_{\phi_1\phi_2+\text{grav}} = \frac{\partial A_{\text{grav}}}{\partial(e_1 e_2)}$$

massless scalars + gravitons

(add mass)



$$A_{\phi'_1\phi'_2+\text{grav}} = A_{\phi_1\phi_2+\text{grav}} \Big|$$

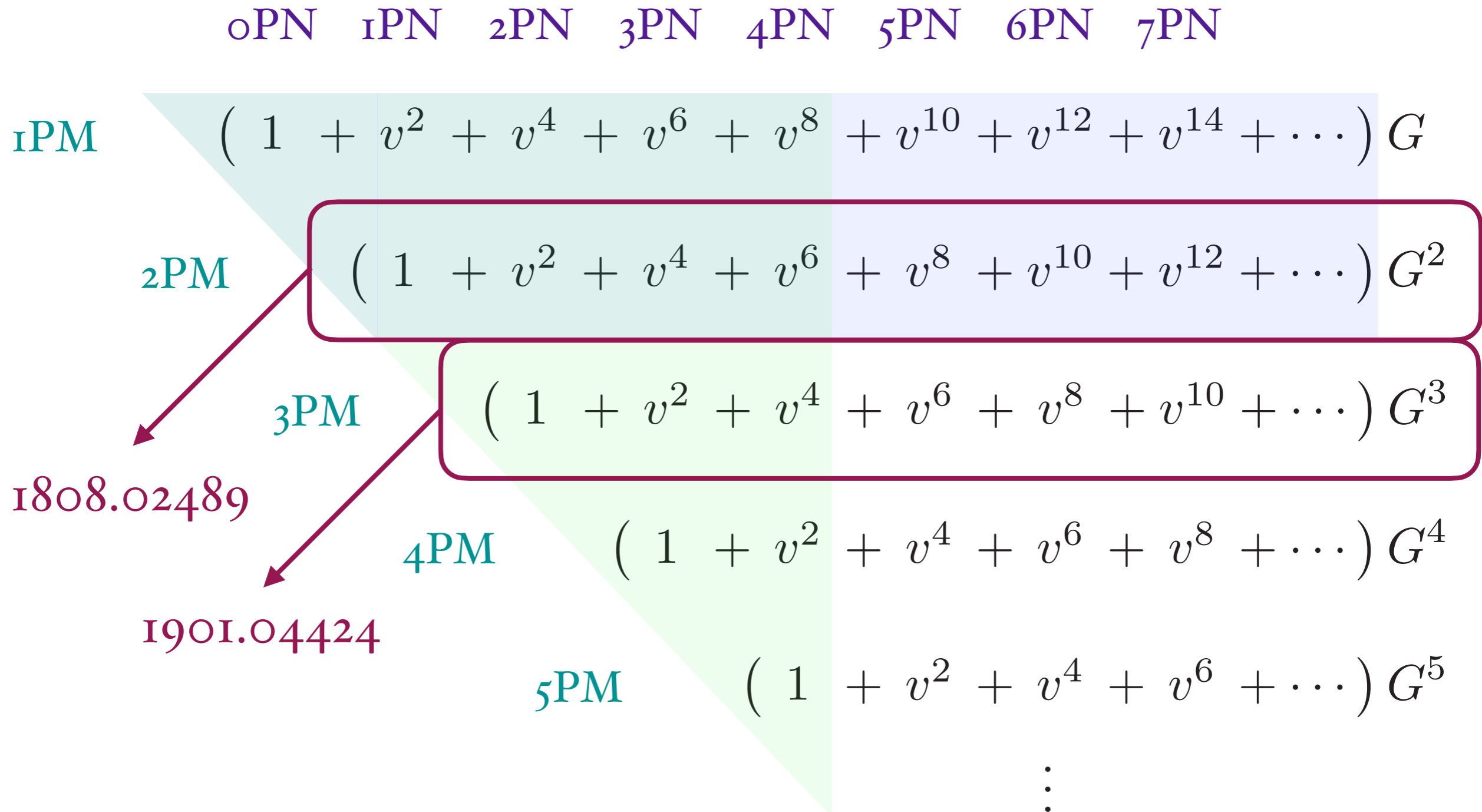
$$p_1 p_2 \rightarrow p_1 p_2 - m_1 m_2$$

massive scalars + gravitons

Map of Perturbation Theory

| | 0PN | 1PN | 2PN | 3PN | 4PN | 5PN | 6PN | 7PN | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------|-----|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1PM | $(1 + v^2 + v^4 + v^6 + v^8 + \dots)$ | | | | | $+ v^{10} + v^{12} + v^{14} + \dots$ | | | G | | |
| 2PM | | | | | | | | | $(1 + v^2 + v^4 + v^6 + \dots)$ | | $+ v^8 + v^{10} + v^{12} + \dots$ |
| 3PM | $(1 + v^2 + v^4 + v^6 + \dots)$ | | $+ v^4 + v^6 + v^8 + \dots$ | | G^3 | | | | | | |
| 4PM | | | | | $(1 + v^2 + v^4 + v^6 + \dots)$ | | G^4 | | | | |
| 5PM | $(1 + v^2 + v^4 + v^6 + \dots)$ | | G^5 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | \vdots | | | | |

Map of Perturbation Theory



These amplitudes methods are now state-of-the-art approach for the PM conservative potential.

$$V(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} c_i(\mathbf{p}^2) \left(\frac{G}{|\mathbf{r}|} \right)^i$$

$$c_1 = \frac{\nu^2 m^2}{\gamma^2 \xi} (1 - 2\sigma^2) ,$$

$$c_2 = \frac{\nu^2 m^3}{\gamma^2 \xi} \left[\frac{3}{4} (1 - 5\sigma^2) - \frac{4\nu\sigma (1 - 2\sigma^2)}{\gamma\xi} - \frac{\nu^2(1 - \xi) (1 - 2\sigma^2)^2}{2\gamma^3\xi^2} \right] ,$$

$$c_3 = \frac{\nu^2 m^4}{\gamma^2 \xi} \left[\frac{1}{12} (3 - 6\nu + 206\nu\sigma - 54\sigma^2 + 108\nu\sigma^2 + 4\nu\sigma^3) - \frac{4\nu (3 + 12\sigma^2 - 4\sigma^4) \operatorname{arcsinh} \sqrt{\frac{\sigma-1}{2}}}{\sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}} \right. \\ \left. - \frac{3\nu\gamma (1 - 2\sigma^2) (1 - 5\sigma^2)}{2(1 + \gamma)(1 + \sigma)} - \frac{3\nu\sigma (7 - 20\sigma^2)}{2\gamma\xi} + \frac{2\nu^3(3 - 4\xi)\sigma (1 - 2\sigma^2)^2}{\gamma^4\xi^3} \right. \\ \left. - \frac{\nu^2 (3 + 8\gamma - 3\xi - 15\sigma^2 - 80\gamma\sigma^2 + 15\xi\sigma^2) (1 - 2\sigma^2)}{4\gamma^3\xi^2} + \frac{\nu^4(1 - 2\xi) (1 - 2\sigma^2)^3}{2\gamma^6\xi^4} \right]$$

conclusions

- Scattering amplitudes have uncovered hidden structures lurking inside real-world theories like gravitons, gluons, and pions.
- In my view, these structures should be visible as symmetries or principles in an action. Some progress has been manifesting enhanced Lorentz and color-kinematics symmetries.
- Double copy, generalized unitarity and EFT have together led to state-of-the-art results for gravitational wave physics, with more to come!

thank you!



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