

# QCD Meets Gravity VI

(NWU 30.11-4.12/2020)

Post-Newtonian meets Ultra-Relativistic  
after all\*

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\*based on: P. Di Vecchia, C. Heissenberg, R. Russo, GV,  
2008.12743 (PLB), & to appear

See also Carlo Heissenberg's talk



COLLÈGE  
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# A two years old puzzle

- In 1710.10599, T. Damour suggested that useful input for the EOB could be obtained from the high-energy/UR regime of gravitational scattering discussed, among others, by ACV since the late eighties.
- Made sense: the PM(=loop) expansion could then be anchored to two limiting cases: the much studied small-velocity PN expansion on the one hand, and the UR limit on the other (NB: both limits are classical)
- In 1901.04424/1908.01493 an impressive calculation by BCRSSZ led to the first "complete" 3PM result (GR for two massive scalars). Announced @ QCDMG-IV-12.2018
- Checked to be consistent up to "5PN" (later also to "6PN") order but presented a puzzle.

- The high-energy (or just the massless) limit of the **BCRSSZ** result exhibited a **logarithmic divergence** in contrast with a **perfectly finite** 1990 result by **ACV**.
- NB: gravity is supposedly **free** from  **$m=0$**  (collinear) **divergences**. Quite some controversy came up.
- Furthermore, **both** the **massless limit** of **ACV90** (**DNRVW1911**, **BIP-MR2002**) **and** the **BCRSSZ log-enhancement** @ large  **$s/m^2$**  (**P-MRZ2005**) have been claimed/checked to be "**universal**" and yet looked mutually incompatible.
- The prevailing attitude till a few months ago was that the limits  **$q \ll m \ll E$**  and  **$m \ll q \ll E$**  are unrelated:  
**PN and UR don't meet/talk!**
- But the **solution** of the puzzle turned out to be **different**...that's the main topic of this talk.

# Outline

- The **gravitational eikonal** approach
- **Sharpening** the puzzle
  - Extending the **ACV-90** argument
  - Calculation of the massive **UR 3-particle cut**
- 3PM massive  **$N=8$  SUGRA** @ all  **$p/m=v(1-v^2)^{-1/2}$** 
  - Recovering **smooth UR** limit from full **soft** region through **RR** (see also **Carlo's** talk)
- **Recasting in real-analytic, xing-symm. form**
- **Radiation reaction via soft theorems**
- Connection with **Damour's 2010.01641**.
- Summary



new!

# The gravitational eikonal approach (1987...)

- Eikonal resummation in **b-space** restores **unitarity** by converting a p.w.unitarity violating amplitude into a large phase:  $S(b) \sim e^{2i\delta}$
- $2\delta \sim (\text{Action})/\hbar \gg 1 \Rightarrow$  class. limit
- Going back to **q-space** one recovers **GR expectations** (or derives new results!) through a saddle point approximation.
- For a review (including string & brane effects) see e.g. my 2015 Les Houches lecture notes or the short account given in my slides at the AEI workshop in August.

# Sharpening the puzzle

## I. Extending the *ACV90* argument

- To put ACV90 on more rigorous and general grounds (e.g. @  $q < m$ ) we use general properties of the scattering amplitude (for the HE scattering of two scalars in a generic theory of gravity)
  - Real analyticity:  $A^*(s^*, t) = A(s, t)$
  - Xing symm.:  $A(s, t) = A(u, t)$ ,  $u = -s - t + 2m_1^2 + 2m_2^2$
  - Asymptotic behavior in order to write suitably subtracted fixed- $t$  disp. relations.
- From those we get informations on the high-energy limit of  $\rho = \text{Re}A(s, t) / \text{Im}A(s, t)$  in analogy with what is done in high-energy soft hadronic physics.
- Popular in '70s, now again w/ LHC data, also used recently by Caron-Huot et al. (see his talk?)

Typical results: for  $\text{Im } A \sim s^n \log^p s$

$\rho = \text{Re}A(s,t)/\text{Im}A(s,t)$

For  $n$  even

$$\rho \sim -\frac{2 \log s}{(1+p)\pi}$$

while for  $n$  odd,  $p > 0$ ,

$$\rho \sim \frac{\pi p}{2 \log s}$$

These model-independent results allow to express  $\text{Re } \delta_2$  in terms of  $\text{Im } \delta_2$  & of **tree + 1-loop** quantities.

$$2\text{Re}\delta_2 = \frac{\pi p}{2 \log s} (2\text{Im}\delta_2) - (4 - 3p) \frac{\delta_0}{s} (2\nabla\delta_0)^2 - (p - 1)(2\delta_0)(2\text{Im}\delta_1)$$

non-universal quantum piece aka  $\Delta_1$

For  $p$  generic (e.g.  $p=2$ ) we are left with a non-universal piece  $\sim \text{Im}\delta_1$ . Also, since neither  $\text{Im}\delta_1$  nor  $\delta_0$  have a  $\log s$ ,  $\text{Re } \delta_2$  would not have a finite UR limit. And, indeed,  $p=2$  is the **BCRSSZ** value...



$$2\text{Re}\delta_2 = \frac{\pi p}{2 \log s} (2\text{Im}\delta_2) - (4 - 3p) \frac{\delta_0}{s} (2\nabla\delta_0)^2 - (p - 1)(2\delta_0)(2\text{Im}\delta_1)$$

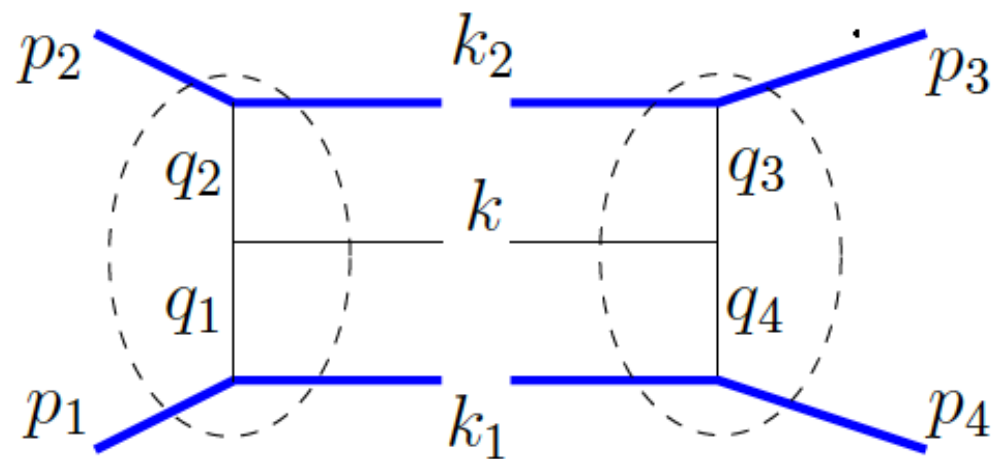
On the contrary, if  $p=1$ ,  $\text{Re}\delta_2$  does **not** depend on the non-universal  $\text{Im}\delta_1$  and approaches a **finite UR limit**. The above relation simplifies to:

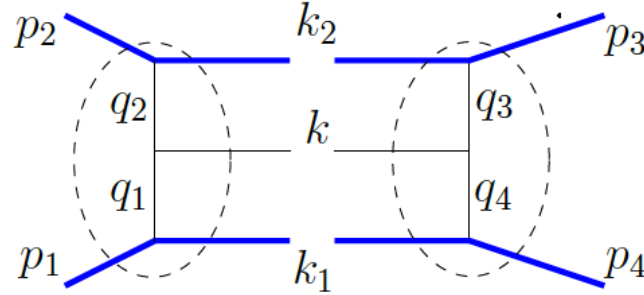
$$2\text{Re}\delta_2 = \frac{\pi}{2 \log s} (2\text{Im}\delta_2) - \frac{\delta_0}{s} (2\nabla\delta_0)^2$$

The logarithmically growing term in  $\text{Im}\delta_2$  has an **IR divergence** which, however, **cancels** against the  $\delta_0$  term yielding a **finite result** for  $\text{Re}\delta_2$ , see below.

## II. Revisiting the 3-particle unitarity cut

- Given the general A&X result it is crucial to compute the full 3-p. unitarity cut at high energy ( $\sim \text{Im } A_2^{(3pc)}$ ) which, in b-space, gives  $\text{Im } \delta_2$ .
- Was done in ACV90 for  $m=0$ . We have redone the whole calculation for a generic  $q^2/m^2$  ratio
- Its kinematics is shown below (NB: called H diagram in both ACV and BCRSSZ, not the same!)





- The calculation amounts to convoluting two tree-level 5-point functions evaluated in the (double)-Regge limit. In momentum space one finds:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Im} A_2^{(3p)} = & \frac{(16\pi G_N)^3 s^3}{2\pi} \int dy \int \frac{d^{D-2} \vec{q}_1}{(2\pi)^{D-2}} \int \frac{d^{D-2} \vec{q}_2}{(2\pi)^{D-2}} \frac{1}{(\vec{k}^2)^2} \\
 & \times \left[ \frac{[(\vec{q}_1 \vec{q}_4)(\vec{q}_2 \vec{q}_3) + (\vec{q}_1 \vec{q}_2)(\vec{q}_3 \vec{q}_4) - (\vec{q}_1 \vec{q}_3)(\vec{q}_2 \vec{q}_4)]^2}{\vec{q}_1^2 \vec{q}_2^2 \vec{q}_3^2 \vec{q}_4^2} + 1 - \frac{(\vec{q}_1 \vec{q}_2)^2}{\vec{q}_1^2 \vec{q}_2^2} - \frac{(\vec{q}_3 \vec{q}_4)^2}{\vec{q}_3^2 \vec{q}_4^2} \right]
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.8}$$

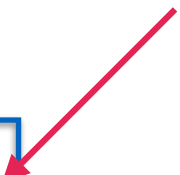
It is **less IR singular** than the “H” diagram of **BCRSSZ**. As a result, we only get a **single log s** enhancement (**p=1!**) from the **y** integral.

In b-space this gives ( $D = 4 - 2\epsilon$ )



$$\text{Im} \widetilde{M}_H(s, b) = \frac{(8G_N s)^3 \log s (\pi b^2)^{3\epsilon} \Gamma^3(1 - \epsilon)}{16\pi b^2} \left[ -\frac{1}{4\epsilon} + \frac{1}{2} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \right]$$

to be identified with  $4s \text{ Im } \delta_2$ . Therefore  $p=1$ , the IR singular term exactly cancels against the  $\delta_0$  piece, and one **recovers** the finite **ACV90** result at  $\epsilon = 0$ !

$$2\text{Re}\delta_2 = \frac{4G^3 s^2}{\hbar b^2}$$


As a result the **clash** between **ACV** and **BCRSSZ** looked more and **more puzzling**.

3PM massive  $N=8$  SUGRA

@ all  $p/m = v(1-v^2)^{-1/2}$

- We then decided to compute the full amplitude in **N=8 SUGRA** (with **massive external states** introduced via KK compactification,  **$\cos\phi=0$** )
- Arbitrary energy, i.e. from **deep NR** to **deep UR**.
- We used the method of IBP+DE, but included contributions from the **full soft** (potential plus radiation) **region**.
- It is known (Cf. **Ruf's** talk yesterday) that including only the potential region implies loss of **x-ing symmetry** and manifest **Lorentz invariance**, both crucial in the ACV90 argument.
- Keeping the full soft region **restores** them.

- We found that, at high energy, the sum of **planar and non-planar boxes** gives a contribution **of the same order as** the one coming from the **H** topology.
- The  **$\log^2 s$**  terms in **Im  $A_2$**  cancel in the sum; same for the  **$\log s$**  term in **Re  $A_2$**  (Cf. the A&X argument!)
- The final result **confirms** asymptotically **ACV90** and extends it to arbitrary kinematics.
- It was later confirmed by a different method by **HP-MRZ** (pr. comm.) and is quite illuminating.
- I will give it later and refer to **Carlo's** talk for details



Real-analytic, xing-symmetric form  
of  $N=8$  results

- We have seen importance of **analyticity and x-ing** symmetry in relating different quantities and in simplifying computations
- Interesting and useful to recast our 3PM result (in N=8 SUGRA) in an explicitly **analytic & xing-symmetric** form.
- We got the following result (**DHRV**, to appear)

Defining as usual:

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma &= \frac{s - m_1^2 - m_2^2}{2m_1m_2} \geq 1 \\ x &= \sigma - \sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1} \leq 1\end{aligned}\quad \begin{array}{l} \text{in s-channel} \\ \text{physical region} \end{array}$$

and their crossing counterparts:

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\sigma} &= \frac{u - m_1^2 - m_2^2}{2m_1m_2} = -\left(\sigma - \frac{q^2}{2m_1m_2}\right) \\ \bar{x} &= \bar{\sigma} - \sqrt{\bar{\sigma}^2 - 1} = -\frac{1}{x} \left(1 - \frac{q^2/(2m_1m_2)}{\sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}}\right) + O(q^4)\end{aligned}$$

we found

$$A_2(s, q^2) = \frac{(8\pi G_N)^3}{(4\pi)^4} \left( \frac{4\pi e^{-\gamma_E}}{q^2} \right)^{2\epsilon} (\sigma^4 + \bar{\sigma}^4) \hat{A}_2(s, q^2)$$

$$\hat{A}_2(s, q^2) = \frac{\hat{A}_2^{(2)}(s, q^2)}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{\hat{A}_2^{(1)}(s, q^2)}{\epsilon}$$

( $O(1/\epsilon$  in b)

where

( $O(1)$  in b)

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{A}_2^{(2)}(s, q^2) = & \left[ -\frac{8\pi^2 m_1^4 m_2^4}{q^2} \left( \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 - 1} + \frac{\bar{\sigma}^2}{\bar{\sigma}^2 - 1} \right) \right. \\ & - 8m_1^3 m_2^3 \left( \frac{\sigma}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^2} \log^2(-x) + \frac{\bar{\sigma}}{(\bar{\sigma}^2 - 1)^2} \log^2(-\bar{x}) \right. \\ & \left. \left. + 2 \left[ \frac{\sigma^2}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^{3/2}} \log(-x) + \frac{\bar{\sigma}^2}{(\bar{\sigma}^2 - 1)^{3/2}} \log(-\bar{x}) \right] \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

and (here we eliminated barred variables)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{A}_2^{(1)}(s, q^2) = & 4\pi^2 m_1^2 m_2^2 (m_1^2 + m_2^2) \frac{\sigma^2}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^2} \quad \text{real \& irrel.} \\
 & - 32m_1^3 m_2^3 \frac{\sigma^2}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^{3/2}} (\log(-x) - \log(x)) \quad \text{imaginary} \\
 & + 4m_1^3 m_2^3 \frac{\sigma(\sigma^2 - 2)}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^2} (\log(-x) - \log(x)) \left( Li_2(x^2) - Li_2\left(\frac{1}{x^2}\right) \right) \quad \text{log-enh. 1/2 PN} \\
 & - \frac{8}{3} m_1^3 m_2^3 \frac{1}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^{1/2}} [(\log^3(-x) - \log^3(x)) + \pi^2 (\log(-x) - \log(x))] \quad \text{log-enh. 2 PN} \\
 & - 8m_1^3 m_2^3 \frac{\sigma^3}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^2} (\log(-x) - \log(x)) (\log(-x) + \log(x)) \quad \text{irrel.} \\
 & + 8m_1^3 m_2^3 \frac{\sigma^2}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^{3/2}} (\log(-x) - \log(x)) \left( \log(1 - x^2) + \log\left(1 - \frac{1}{x^2}\right) \right) \quad \text{1/2 PN}
 \end{aligned}$$


# Connecting $\text{Re } \delta_2$ and $\text{Im } \delta_2$ for RR

- Two contributions stick out since their real parts correspond to **half-integer PN** (sum is **1.5PN**)

$$\begin{aligned}
 &+4m_1^3 m_2^3 \frac{\sigma(\sigma^2 - 2)}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^2} (\log(-x) - \log(x)) \left( \text{Li}_2(x^2) - \text{Li}_2\left(\frac{1}{x^2}\right) \right) \\
 &+8m_1^3 m_2^3 \frac{\sigma^2}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^{3/2}} (\log(-x) - \log(x)) \left( \log(1 - x^2) + \log\left(1 - \frac{1}{x^2}\right) \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

- In both,  $\text{Re } \delta_2$  and  $\text{Im } \delta_2$  appear in the combination

$$i \frac{(1-x)^{-2\epsilon} + (x-1)^{-2\epsilon}}{(-2\epsilon)} = i \left[ \frac{1}{(-\epsilon)} + 2 \log(1-x) \right] + \pi + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$$



IR sing. in  $\text{Im } \delta_2$       RR contribution to  $\text{Re } \delta_2$

# Connecting soft theorems to RR?

- The above results imply a **new intriguing connection** between soft theorems (i.e. the **ZFL** of  $dE^{\text{rad}}/d\omega$ ) and the **RR** contribution to the **3PM eikonal phase**.

$$\text{Re } 2\delta_2^{RR} = -\pi\epsilon \text{ Im } 2\delta_2(\epsilon \rightarrow 0) = \frac{\pi}{4\hbar} \frac{dE^{\text{rad}}}{d\omega}(\omega \rightarrow 0)$$

for instance we found:

$$\frac{dE^{\text{rad}}}{d\omega}(\omega \ll v/b \rightarrow 0) = \frac{32G^3}{5\pi} \frac{m_1^2 m_2^2}{b^2}$$

ZFL (Smarr 1977)

in agreement with  
Kovacs & Thorne 1978

# 3PM eikonal in N=8

(from AEI workshop, see CH's talk)

$$\text{Re}(\delta_2) = \frac{2G^3(2m_1m_2\sigma)^2}{b^2}$$
$$\left[ \frac{\sigma^4}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^2} - \cosh^{-1}(\sigma) \left( \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 - 1} - \frac{\sigma^3 (\sigma^2 - 2)}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^{5/2}} \right) \right]$$

P-MRZ

New

The diagram consists of two red arrows. One arrow points from the word 'New' at the bottom to the term  $\frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 - 1}$  inside the large bracket of the second equation. The other arrow points from the word 'New' at the bottom to the label 'P-MRZ' at the top right, which is positioned above the same term  $\frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 - 1}$ .



# 3PM sc. angle N=8

(from AEI workshop, see CH's talk)

$$\chi_{3\text{PM}} = \frac{2G^3(2m_1m_2\sigma)^3}{J^3} \left( S + \frac{(2m_1m_2\sigma)}{s} (B + A + C) \right)$$

$$S = -\frac{1}{3} \frac{\sigma^3}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^{3/2}} \quad \leftarrow \text{“Schwarzschild.”}$$

$$B = -\cosh^{-1}(\sigma) \quad \leftarrow \text{P-MRZ (2PN)}$$

$$A = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 - 1} \quad \leftarrow \text{ACV-limit}$$

$$C = \cosh^{-1}(\sigma) \frac{\sigma(\sigma^2 - 2)}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^{3/2}} \quad \leftarrow \text{1.5PN}$$

cancel @  
large  $\sigma$

# Connection with Damour 2010.01641?

- In 2010.01641 Damour has derived the RR part of the scattering angle in GR using a smart shortcut.
- Used a previous result with Bini (1210.2834) relating RR to loss of energy and angular momentum
- He argued that, at 3PM, only latter enters
- He then computed  $J^{\text{rad}}$  to  $O(G^2)$  and got the 3PM RR correction to the BCRSSZ deflection angle recovering smoothness and the ACV90 UR limit.
- Our method provides instead the RR correction to the eikonal phase  $\text{Re } \delta_2$  directly from the ZFL of the energy-loss-spectrum at  $O(G^3)$ .
- We understood mathematically why the two calculations lead to the same result

- We have used the **DHRV** connection to re-derive Damour's result in **GR**. Our method computes directly **Re  $\delta_2$**  instead of the scattering angle. Result:

**1PN**

**2PN(BCRSSZ)**

$$2\text{Re}\delta_2 = \frac{2G^3 m_1 m_2 s}{\hbar b^2 (\sigma^2 - 1)^{3/2}} (12\sigma^4 - 10\sigma^2 + 1) - \frac{4G^3 m_1^2 m_2^2}{\hbar b^2 (\sigma^2 - 1)^{1/2}} \left( \frac{\sigma(14\sigma^2 + 25)}{3} + (4\sigma^4 - 12\sigma^2 - 3) \frac{\cosh^{-1}(\sigma)}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^{1/2}} \right) + \frac{2G^3 m_1^2 m_2^2 (2\sigma^2 - 1)^2}{\hbar b^2 (\sigma^2 - 1)^2} \left( \frac{8 - 5\sigma^2}{3} + \sigma(2\sigma^2 - 3) \frac{\cosh^{-1}(\sigma)}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^{1/2}} \right)$$

**2.5PN**

UR-limit: log s terms becomes subleading &

$$(48 - 56/3 - 40/3)\sigma^2 = 16\sigma^2 \quad \Rightarrow \text{ACV90!}$$

- Another check would be to use TD's approach for **N=8 SUGRA** and obtain the **DHRV** result for the RR contribution to the scattering angle;
- Instead, we checked our (equivalent) connection between the **soft limit of radiated energy** and the **RR**.
- In N=8 the total radiated energy comes from the **graviton**, the **dilaton**, 2 **vectors**, and 2 **scalars**.
- They add up to reproduce the correct **RR** term in **Re  $\delta_2$** :



$$\frac{1}{3} \left[ (8 - 5\sigma^2 + 3\sigma(2\sigma^2 - 3)F(\sigma)) + (\sigma^2 + 2 - 3\sigma F(\sigma)) + 8(\sigma^2 - 1) + 2(\sigma^2 - 1) \right]$$

$$= 2(\sigma^2 + \sigma(\sigma^2 - 2)F(\sigma)); \quad F(\sigma) = \frac{\cosh^{-1}(\sigma)}{\sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}}$$

# Summarizing

- We have seen how the inclusion of the full soft region allows for the eikonal phase and the (physical) scattering angle, including RR terms, to be continuous functions of  $p/m = v(1-v^2)^{-1/2}$  so that Newtonian and UR classical limits get smoothly connected (meet!)
- We have uncovered (via analyticity) an intriguing relation between the RR terms and the  $O(G^3)$  ZFL of the  $dE^{\text{rad}}/d\omega$  spectrum controlled by soft theorems.
- This looks mathematically equivalent to Damour's recent connection between RR and radiated angular momentum @  $O(G^2)$ , but the precise physical reason for the equivalence remains to be understood.

# From Amplitudes (Dublin, July 2019)

- Eventually, one would like to **extend** these results to **arbitrary masses and kinematics** and to **combine** them with recent ones on the conservative **gravitational potential at 3PM** level, leading hopefully to a full understanding of gravitational **scattering and radiation** at that level.

Thank you!