

The Eikonal Exponentiation and Soft Theorems

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Based on

[2008.12743](#), [2101.05772](#), [2104.03256](#),
[2105.04594](#), [2203.11915](#), [2204.02378](#)

in various collaborations with

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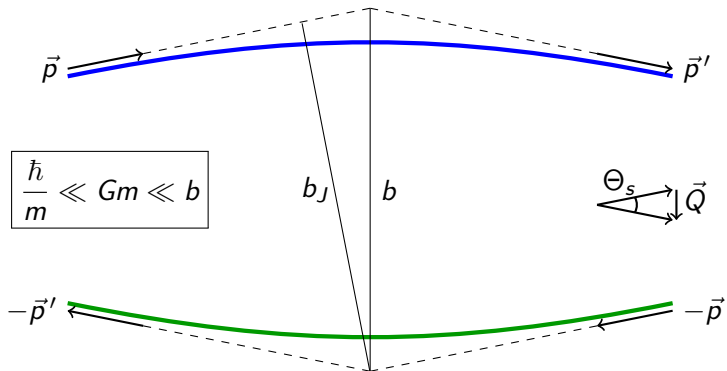


NORDITA

- 1 The 3PM Eikonal
- 2 The ZFL of the Energy Emission Spectrum
- 3 Angular Momentum of Zero-Frequency Gravitons

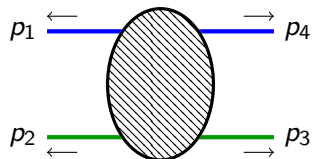
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PM Black-Hole Scattering



$$p b_J = J, \quad Q = 2p \sin \frac{\Theta_s}{2}, \quad s = E^2 = m_1^2 + 2m_1 m_2 \sigma + m_2^2.$$

The Elastic Eikonal



$$s = -(p_1 + p_2)^2 = E^2,$$

$$t = -(p_1 + p_4)^2 = -q^2,$$

$$u = 2(m_1^2 + m_2^2) - s - t.$$

From q to b :

$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(s, b) = \frac{1}{4E\rho} \int \frac{d^{D-2}q}{(2\pi)^{D-2}} e^{ib \cdot q} \mathcal{A}(s, q), \quad 1 + i\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(s, b) = e^{2i\delta(s, b)},$$

in the classical limit, and the stationary-phase approximation gives

$$Q_\mu = \frac{\partial \text{Re } 2\delta}{\partial b^\mu}.$$

Example: 1PM scattering in $D = 4 - 2\epsilon \rightarrow 4$

$$2\delta_0 = \frac{4Gm_1 m_2 (\sigma^2 - \frac{1}{2})}{2\sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}} \frac{\Gamma(-\epsilon)}{(\pi b^2)^{-\epsilon}} \implies Q_{\text{1PM}} = \frac{4Gm_1 m_2 (\sigma^2 - \frac{1}{2})}{b\sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}}.$$

The 3PM Eikonal [2008.12743, 2101.05772, 2104.03256]

[Related work at 3PM: 1901.04424, 2005.04236, 2010.01641, 2104.03957, 2104.04510, 2105.05218, 2108.04216]

- Eikonal phase

$$\operatorname{Re} 2\delta_2 = \frac{4G^3 m_1^2 m_2^2}{b^2} \left\{ \frac{s (12\sigma^4 - 10\sigma^2 + 1)}{2m_1 m_2 (\sigma^2 - 1)^{\frac{3}{2}}} + \frac{2(\sigma - \frac{1}{2})^2}{\sigma^2 - 1} \mathcal{I}(\sigma) \right. \\ \left. - \frac{\sigma (14\sigma^2 + 25)}{3\sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}} + \frac{-4\sigma^4 + 12\sigma^2 + 3}{\sigma^2 - 1} \operatorname{arccosh} \sigma \right\}$$

(color code: **probe limit**, **potential**, **radiation reaction**) with

$$\mathcal{I}(\sigma) = \frac{8 - 5\sigma^2}{3(\sigma^2 - 1)} + \frac{\sigma (2\sigma^2 - 3)}{(\sigma^2 - 1)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \operatorname{arccosh} \sigma.$$

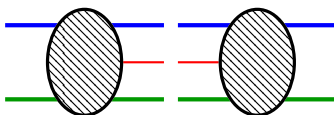
- Infrared divergent exponential suppression:

$$\operatorname{Im} 2\delta_2 = \frac{4G^3 m_1^2 m_2^2}{\pi b^2} \left[-\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \log(\sigma^2 - 1) \right] \frac{2(\sigma - \frac{1}{2})^2}{\sigma^2 - 1} \mathcal{I}(\sigma) + \dots,$$

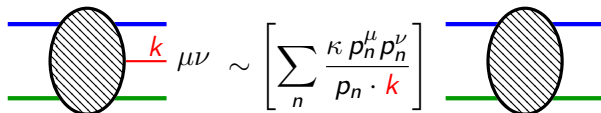
where \dots are either $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$ or have no branch point at $\sigma = 1$.

3PM Radiation Reaction from Soft Theorems [2101.05772]

- Analyticity: $i \log(1 - \sigma^2 - i0) = i \log(\sigma^2 - 1) + \pi$
- Unitarity: $\text{Im } 2\delta_2 = [\text{Im } \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_2]_{3p.c.}$ and

$$[\text{Im } 2\mathcal{A}]_{3p.c.} = \int d(\text{LIPS})$$


- Soft theorem: [Weinberg'64,'65]



$$\sim \left[\sum_n \frac{\kappa p_n^\mu p_n^\nu}{p_n \cdot k} \right]$$

For $\text{Im } 2\delta_2$ this gives $\frac{8G^3 m_1^2 m_2^2}{\pi b^2} \frac{2(\sigma - \frac{1}{2})^2}{\sigma^2 - 1} \mathcal{I}(\sigma)$ times

$$\int_0^{\omega_{\max} b} \frac{d\omega}{\omega^{1+2\epsilon}} \sim -\frac{1}{2\epsilon} + \log(\omega_{\max} b) \sim \frac{1}{2} \left[-\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \log(\sigma^2 - 1) \right].$$

Smoothness of $\text{Re } 2\delta_2$ at High Energy

- The infrared divergence in $\text{Im } 2\delta_2$:

$$\text{Im } 2\delta_2 = -\frac{G}{2\pi\epsilon} Q_{1\text{PM}}^2 \mathcal{I}(\sigma) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^0).$$

- It determines the radiation-reaction term in $\text{Re } 2\delta_2$,

$$\text{Re } 2\delta_2^{\text{RR}} = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} [-\pi\epsilon \text{Im } 2\delta_2].$$

- At high energy, as $\sigma \rightarrow \infty$ and $s \sim 2m_1 m_2 \sigma$, i.e. in the massless limit, the complete eikonal phase is smooth

$$\text{Re } 2\delta_2 \sim Gs \frac{\Theta_s^2}{4}, \quad \Theta_s \sim \frac{4G\sqrt{s}}{b}$$

in agreement with [\[Amati,Ciafaloni,Veneziano'90\]](#).

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Zero-Frequency Limit of the Energy Emission Spectrum

- ZFL of the energy emission spectrum:

$$W \equiv \lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \frac{dE_{\text{rad}}}{d\omega} = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} [-4\epsilon \text{Im } 2\delta].$$

- To 3PM order,

$$W = \frac{2G}{\pi} Q_{1\text{PM}}^2 \mathcal{I}(\sigma).$$

- At high energy, as $\sigma \rightarrow \infty$ and $s \sim 2m_1 m_2 \sigma$,

$$W \sim \frac{4G}{\pi} Q_{1\text{PM}}^2 \log \sigma.$$

Not smooth!

Infrared Divergences and the ZFL of the Spectrum

- The soft theorem determines the infrared divergences for any background hard process. [Weinberg'64,'65] [see also 2105.04594]

$$\mathcal{A} = e^{\mathcal{W}} \mathcal{A}^0 \text{ with}$$

$$\mathcal{W} = \frac{G}{2\pi\epsilon} \sum_{n,m} m_n m_m \left(\sigma_{nm}^2 - \frac{1}{2} \right) \frac{\eta_n \eta_m \operatorname{arccosh} \sigma_{nm} - i\pi \delta(n, m)}{\sqrt{\sigma_{nm}^2 - 1}},$$

where $\eta_n = +1$ if n is outgoing, $\eta_n = -1$ if n is incoming,

$$\sigma_{nm} = -\eta_n \eta_m \frac{p_n \cdot p_m}{m_n m_m}, \quad \delta(n, m) = \delta_{\eta_n, \eta_m} - \delta_{nm}.$$

- This expression is independent of the details of the hard particles and only depends on their momenta.
- ZFL of the spectrum:

$$W \equiv \lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \frac{dE_{\text{rad}}}{d\omega} = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} [4\epsilon \operatorname{Re} \mathcal{W}].$$

Eikonal Operator in the ZFL [2204.02378]

[Soft dressing: Bloch,Nordsieck'37, Thirring,Touschek'51, Weinberg'65, 1607.03120, 1712.04551, 2012.04208;

Operator exponentiation: 2107.12891, 2112.07556; Classical soft theorems: 1806.01872, 1808.03288, 1912.06413, 2105.08739.]

Operator dressing of the elastic eikonal in b space

$$S_{s.r.} = e^{\int_{\vec{k}} \left[f^{\mu\nu}(k) a_{\mu\nu}^\dagger(k) - f^{*\mu\nu}(k) a_{\mu\nu}(k) \right]} e^{i \operatorname{Re} 2\delta}.$$

- Here $f^{\mu\nu}(k)$ is dictated by the Weinberg soft theorem ($\kappa = \sqrt{8\pi G}$)

$$f^{\mu\nu}(k) = \Pi_{\rho\sigma}^{\mu\nu}(k) F^{\rho\sigma}(k), \quad F^{\mu\nu}(k) = \sum_n \frac{\kappa p_n^\mu p_n^\nu}{p_n \cdot k},$$

while $\int_{\vec{k}} = \int \frac{d^D k}{(2\pi)^D} 2\pi \delta(k^2) \theta(k^0) \theta(\Lambda - k^0)$, with Λ the cutoff, and $\Pi_{\rho\sigma}^{\mu\nu}$ is the TT projector.

- This step introduces the key identification

$$Q_\mu = e^{-i \operatorname{Re} 2\delta} \left(-i \frac{\partial}{\partial b^\mu} \right) e^{i \operatorname{Re} 2\delta} = \frac{\partial \operatorname{Re} 2\delta}{\partial b^\mu}.$$

Using the Soft Eikonal Operator

- Infrared divergences: $\langle 0 | S_{s.r.} | 0 \rangle = e^{2i\delta}$,

$$\text{Im } 2\delta = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\vec{k}} F^{\mu\nu} \left(\eta_{\mu\rho} \eta_{\nu\sigma} - \frac{1}{D-2} \eta_{\mu\nu} \eta_{\rho\sigma} \right) F^{\rho\sigma} = -\text{Re } \mathcal{W}.$$

- Probability of n soft emissions and average number of soft quanta

$$\mathcal{P}_n = \frac{1}{n!} \int_{\vec{k}_1} \cdots \int_{\vec{k}_n} \langle 0 | S_{s.r.}^\dagger | n \rangle \langle n | S_{s.r.} | 0 \rangle = \frac{1}{n!} [2 \text{Im } 2\delta]^n e^{-2 \text{Im } 2\delta},$$

$$\langle 0 | S_{s.r.}^\dagger \mathcal{N} S_{s.r.} | 0 \rangle = \mathcal{N}, \quad \mathcal{N} = 2 \text{Im } 2\delta.$$

- Energy and momentum in the ZFL:

$$\langle 0 | S_{s.r.}^\dagger P^\mu S_{s.r.} | 0 \rangle = \mathcal{P}_{\text{rad}}^\mu, \quad W \equiv \lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \frac{dE_{\text{rad}}}{d\omega} = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} [-4\epsilon \text{Im } 2\delta].$$

ZFL of the Spectrum for a $2 \rightarrow 2$ Process

Let us define $\sigma_Q = \sigma - \frac{Q^2}{2m_1 m_2}$, so that

$$s = m_1^2 + 2m_1 m_2 \sigma + m_2^2, \quad t = -Q^2, \quad u = m_1^2 - 2m_1 m_2 \sigma_Q + m_2^2.$$

ZFL of the spectrum, with an exact dependence on σ , Q and $m_{1,2}$

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \frac{4G}{\pi} \left\{ 2m_1 m_2 \left(\sigma^2 - \frac{1}{2} \right) \frac{\operatorname{arccosh} \sigma}{\sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}} - 2m_1 m_2 \left(\sigma_Q^2 - \frac{1}{2} \right) \frac{\operatorname{arccosh} \sigma_Q}{\sqrt{\sigma_Q^2 - 1}} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{j=1,2} \left[\frac{m_j^2}{2} - m_j^2 \left(\left(1 + \frac{Q^2}{2m_j^2} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \right) \frac{\operatorname{arccosh} \left(1 + \frac{Q^2}{2m_j^2} \right)}{\sqrt{\left(1 + \frac{Q^2}{2m_j^2} \right)^2 - 1}} \right] \right\}. \\ &= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} [-4\epsilon \operatorname{Im} 2\delta] \end{aligned}$$

PM Expansion at Low and High Energy

- Standard PM regime: when $Q^2 \ll m_{1,2}^2$, we recover [2101.05772]

$$W \sim \frac{2G}{\pi} Q^2 \mathcal{I}(\sigma), \quad \text{Im } 2\delta \sim -\frac{G}{2\pi\epsilon} Q^2 \mathcal{I}(\sigma).$$

This gives W , $\text{Im } 2\delta$ up to $\mathcal{O}(G^5)$, and hence $\text{Re } 2\delta_2^{RR}$, for any background hard, including the spinning case [2203.13272].

- UR regime: when $m_{1,2}^2 \ll Q^2 < s$, we recover [1901.10986]

$$W \sim \frac{4G}{\pi} \left[s \log \frac{s}{s - Q^2} + Q^2 \log \frac{s - Q^2}{Q^2} \right]$$

and when $Q \sim \frac{\sqrt{s}}{2} \Theta_s$ with $\Theta_s \sim \frac{4G\sqrt{s}}{b} \ll 1$ [2105.08739]

$$W \sim \frac{4G}{\pi} \left(\frac{\Theta_s}{2} \right)^2 \left[\log \left(\frac{2}{\Theta_s} \right)^2 + 1 \right].$$

- Sharp convergence radius of the PM expansion: $Q < 2m_{1,2}$ (agrees with the bound in [Kovacs,Thorne'77,'78, D'Eath'78]).

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$-i0$ Prescription

- Stress-energy tensor for an idealized scattering process:

[Weinberg'72,1702.00095,1907.05187]

$$\mathcal{T}^{\mu\nu}(x) = \sum_n \theta(\eta_n x^0) m_n u_n^\mu u_n^\nu \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta^{(D)}(x - u_n \tau) d\tau,$$

with $p_n^\mu = \eta_n m_n u_n^\mu$, $u_n^\mu u_{n,\mu} = -1$, $u_n^0 > 0$.

- Fourier transform:

$$\tilde{\mathcal{T}}^{\mu\nu}(k) = \int d^D x \mathcal{T}^{\mu\nu}(x) e^{-ik \cdot x} = \frac{1}{i\kappa} F^{\mu\nu}(k),$$

with

$$F^{\mu\nu}(k) = \sum_n \frac{\kappa p_n^\mu p_n^\nu}{p_n \cdot k - i0}.$$

- This is also the Feynman $-i0$ prescription carried by the propagator of the n th line.

Warm-Up: Memory Effect [\[2203.11915,2204.02378\]](#)

[Kovacs,Thorne'77,'78, 1411.5745, 2101.12688, 2102.08339, 2107.10193]

- Waveform: $\kappa \langle 0 | S_{s.r.}^\dagger H_{\mu\nu}(x) S_{s.r.} | 0 \rangle = W_{\mu\nu}(x)$ with

$$H_{\mu\nu}(x) = \int_{\vec{k}} \left[a_{\mu\nu}(k) e^{ikx} + a_{\mu\nu}^\dagger(k) e^{-ikx} \right].$$

- Asymptotic limit: set $x^\mu = (u + r, r\hat{x})$ and send $r \rightarrow \infty$ for fixed u , \hat{x} .
- In the approach [\[2203.11915\]](#), the $-i0$ fixes the u -independent ST ambiguity [\[cf. 2010.01641,2201.11607\]](#), i.e. in the Fourier transform

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{d\omega}{i2\pi} \frac{e^{-i\omega u}}{-\eta_n \omega - i0} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{d\omega}{i2\pi} \frac{e^{i\omega \eta_n u}}{\omega - i0} = \theta(\eta_n u).$$

- Letting $p_n = \eta_n(E_n, \vec{k}_n)$,

$$W^{\mu\nu} \sim \frac{2G}{r} \sum_n \theta(\eta_n u) \frac{(p_n^\mu p_n^\nu)_{TT}}{E_n - \vec{k}_n \cdot \hat{x}} = \frac{2G}{r} \sum_{\text{in}} \frac{(p_n^\mu p_n^\nu)_{TT}}{E_n - \vec{k}_n \cdot \hat{x}} + \mathcal{O}(G^2).$$

The PM limit thus agrees with [\[2010.01641\]](#).

- Charge associated to Lorentz transformations:

$$i\mathcal{J}_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{sc}} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\vec{k}} \left[a^\dagger(k) k_{[\alpha} \frac{\partial a(k)}{\partial k^{\beta]} } - k_{[\alpha} \frac{\partial a^\dagger(k)}{\partial k^{\beta]} } a(k) \right].$$

- Classical contribution due to gravitons with $\omega < \Lambda$:

$$\mathcal{J}_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{sc}} = \langle 0 | \mathcal{S}_{s.r.}^\dagger \mathcal{J}_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{sc}} \mathcal{S}_{s.r.} | 0 \rangle \text{ gives}$$

$$i\mathcal{J}_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{sc}} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\vec{k}} \left(f^* k_{[\alpha} \frac{\partial f}{\partial k^{\beta]} } - k_{[\alpha} \frac{\partial f^*}{\partial k^{\beta]} } f \right), \quad f = \sum_n \frac{g_n}{p_n \cdot k - i0}$$

- Again the $-i0$ prescription is important, and the result localizes to $\omega = 0$,

$$\int_{-\Lambda}^{\Lambda} \frac{\omega d\omega}{(-\eta_n \omega + i0)(-\eta_m \omega - i0)} = -\frac{i\pi}{2} (\eta_n - \eta_m)$$
$$\int_{-\Lambda}^{\Lambda} \frac{\omega d\omega}{(-\eta_m \omega - i0)^2} = -i\pi \eta_m.$$

$\mathcal{J}_{\alpha\beta}$ for the Graviton [2203.11915]

- Total angular momentum/mass dipole operator:

$$iJ_{\alpha\beta} = \int_{\vec{k}} a_{\mu\nu}^\dagger(k) \left(P^{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} k_{[\alpha} \frac{\overleftrightarrow{\partial}}{\partial k^{\beta]}} + 2\eta^{\mu\rho} \delta_{[\alpha}^\nu \delta_{\beta]}^\sigma \right) a_{\rho\sigma}(k)$$

with $P^{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} (\eta^{\mu\rho} \eta^{\nu\sigma} + \eta^{\mu\sigma} \eta^{\nu\rho} - \eta^{\mu\nu} \eta^{\rho\sigma})$.

- Classical average: $\mathcal{J}_{\alpha\beta} = \langle 0 | S_{s.r.}^\dagger J_{\alpha\beta} S_{s.r.} | 0 \rangle$

$$i\mathcal{J}_{\alpha\beta} = \int_{\vec{k}} F_{\mu\nu}^* \left[\left(\eta^{\mu\rho} \eta^{\nu\sigma} - \frac{1}{D-2} \eta^{\mu\nu} \eta^{\rho\sigma} \right) k_{[\alpha} \frac{\overleftrightarrow{\partial}}{\partial k^{\beta]}} + 2\eta^{\mu\rho} \delta_{[\alpha}^\nu \delta_{\beta]}^\sigma \right] F_{\rho\sigma}$$

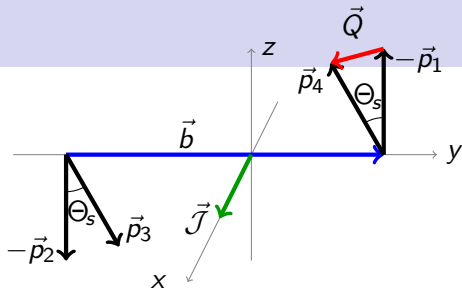
in agreement with [2203.04283].

The final expression in $D = 4$ is

$$\mathcal{J}_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{G}{2} \sum_{n,m} \left[\left(\sigma_{nm}^2 - \frac{1}{2} \right) \frac{\frac{\sigma_{nm} \operatorname{arccosh} \sigma_{nm}}{\sqrt{\sigma_{nm}^2 - 1}} - 1}{\sigma_{nm}^2 - 1} - \frac{2\sigma_{nm} \operatorname{arccosh} \sigma_{nm}}{\sqrt{\sigma_{nm}^2 - 1}} \right] (\eta_n - \eta_m) p_n^{[\alpha} p_m^{\beta]}.$$

Angular Momentum Loss

The formula captures the loss of mechanical angular momentum $\vec{\mathcal{J}}$ completely up to $\mathcal{O}(G^2)$ [2010.01641, 2101.12688, 2102.08339, 2110.08681, 2203.04283]



Analyticity vs Linear Response:

$$\mathcal{J}^{yz} \sim \frac{4p}{Q} \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} [-\pi \epsilon \text{Im } 2\delta] + \mathcal{O}(G^4)$$

ensures that/explains why [2104.03256]

$$\Theta_{3\text{PM}}^{\text{RR}} = -\frac{1}{p} \frac{\partial \text{Re } 2\delta_2^{\text{RR}}}{\partial b} = \frac{2}{pb} \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} [-\pi \epsilon \text{Im } 2\delta_2]$$

agrees with [1210.2834, 2010.01641]

$$\Theta_{3\text{PM}}^{\text{RR}} \simeq -\frac{1}{2p} \frac{\partial \Theta_{1\text{PM}}}{\partial b} \mathcal{J}^{yz} \simeq \frac{Q}{2p^2 b} \mathcal{J}^{yz}.$$

Angular Momentum Loss

- The formula captures the loss of mechanical angular momentum to $\mathcal{O}(G^2)$ also for spinning particles, for generic spin alignments [2203.13272].
- It also captures the $\mathcal{O}(G^n)$ loss due to zero-frequency gravitons attached to the elastic process. Cross-checked to $\mathcal{O}(G^3)$ against [2203.04283].
- In analogy with W , the PM limit and the high-energy limit do not commute. In the high-energy limit $m_i^2 \ll Q^2 = s \sin^2 \frac{\Theta_s}{2}$,

$$\mathcal{J}^{yz} \sim 2Gs \sin \Theta_s \log \frac{\cos \frac{\Theta_s}{2}}{\sin \frac{\Theta_s}{2}}$$

and for small Θ_s

$$\mathcal{J}^{yz} \sim Gs\Theta_s \log \frac{4}{\Theta_s^2}.$$

Mass-Dipole Loss

- We find an $\mathcal{O}(G^2)$ loss for the ty component

$$\frac{\mathcal{J}_{ty}}{b(E_1 - E_2)} \sim \frac{\mathcal{J}_{yz}}{2bp}$$

in agreement with [2203.04283]. Solving

$$\Delta(b_1 E_1 - b_2 E_2) = -\mathcal{J}_{ty}, \quad \Delta(b_1 + b_2)p = -\mathcal{J}_{yz}$$

yields

$$\Delta b_1 p = \Delta b_2 p = -\mathcal{J}_{yz}/2.$$

- There is an $\mathcal{O}(G^3)$ loss for the tz component

$$\frac{\mathcal{J}_{tz}}{b(E_1 - E_2)} \sim \frac{\Theta_s}{8} \frac{\mathcal{J}_{yz}}{bp}.$$

- The formula does not capture $\mathcal{O}(G)$ and $\mathcal{O}(G^2)$ terms in the mass dipole loss due to the long-range nature of the gravitational force

[2110.08681].

Summary and Outlook

- $\text{Re } 2\delta_2$ is **smooth** at high energy
- $\mathcal{S}_{s.r.}$ gives a **unitary** description for soft radiation on top of any process:
 - yields the **ZFL** of the energy emission spectrum W
 - predicts/subtracts **divergent part** of $\text{Im } 2\delta_2$
 - is crucial to restore **smoothness** at high energy
- Including the appropriate $-i0$ prescription, it also yields the $\mathcal{O}(G^n)$ $\mathcal{J}_{\alpha\beta}$ **due to the “zero-frequency gravitons”**, or rather to static field effects, on top of any process.

For the future:

- Beyond the ZFL [cf. 2112.07556] (in progress...)
- $\mathcal{O}(G^n)$ angular momentum from the subleading soft theorem
- Learning more about RR effects at $\mathcal{O}(G^4)$ [cf. 2203.04283].