

# Gravitational bremsstrahlung from a heavy-mass effective field theory

To appear with-  
Andreas Brandhuber, Gang Chen,  
Stefano De Angelis, Joshua Gowdy  
and Gabriele Travaglini.

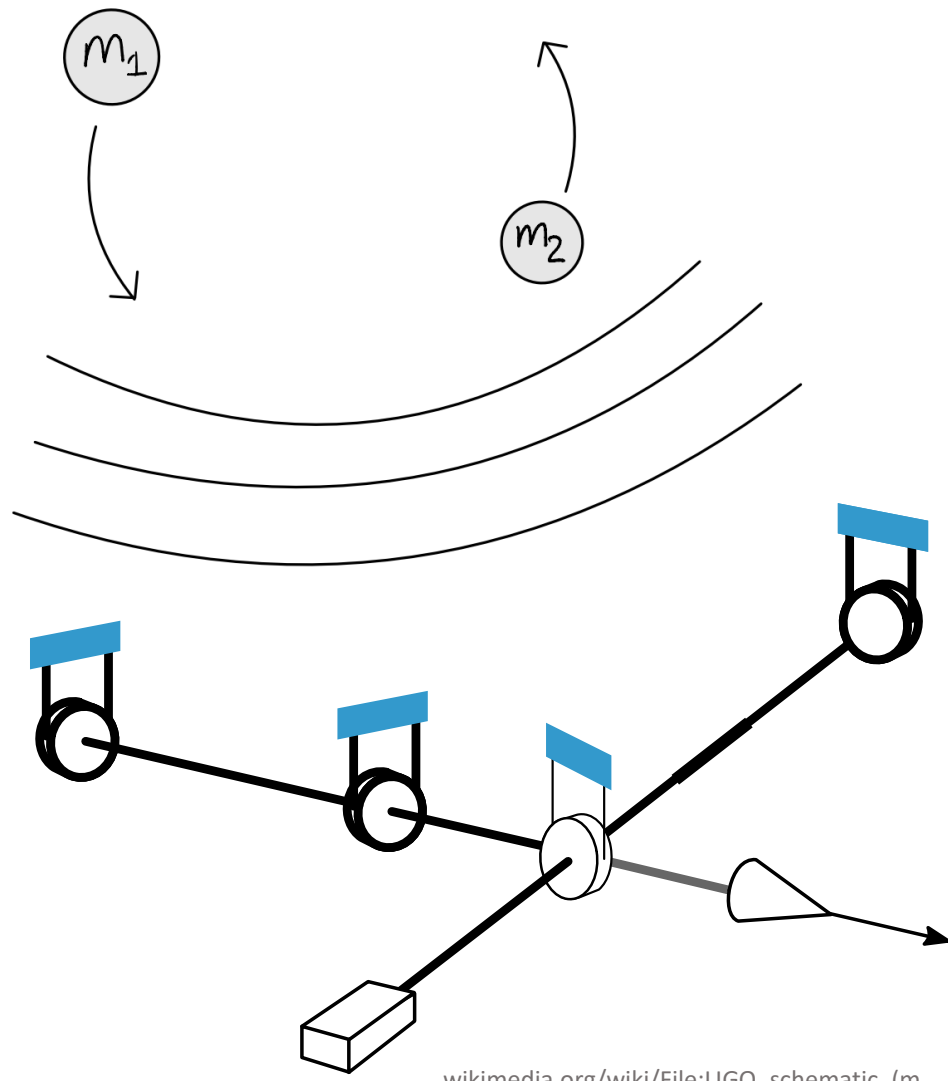
Graham R. Brown

13.12.2022-QCD Meets Gravity

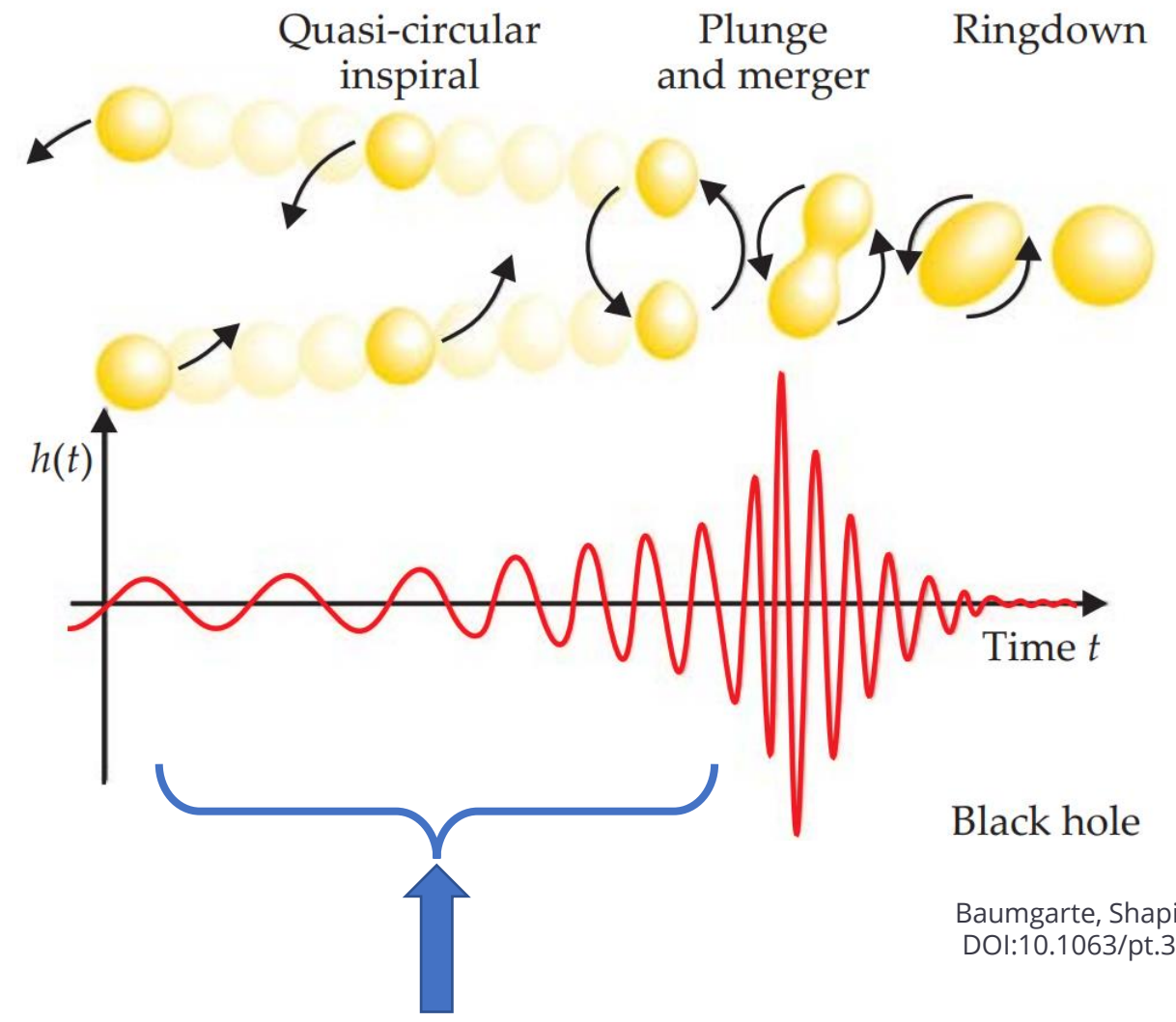
# Talk Outline:

- Motivation- gravitational waves.
- Everything you always wanted to know about HEFT, but were afraid to ask.
- Using the HEFT to build at 4 and 5-point amplitudes.

# Compulsory slide in any GW talk



wikimedia.org/wiki/File:LIGO\_schematic\_(multilang).svg



Black hole

Baumgarte, Shapiro,  
DOI:10.1063/pt.3.1294

We focus on the inspiral.

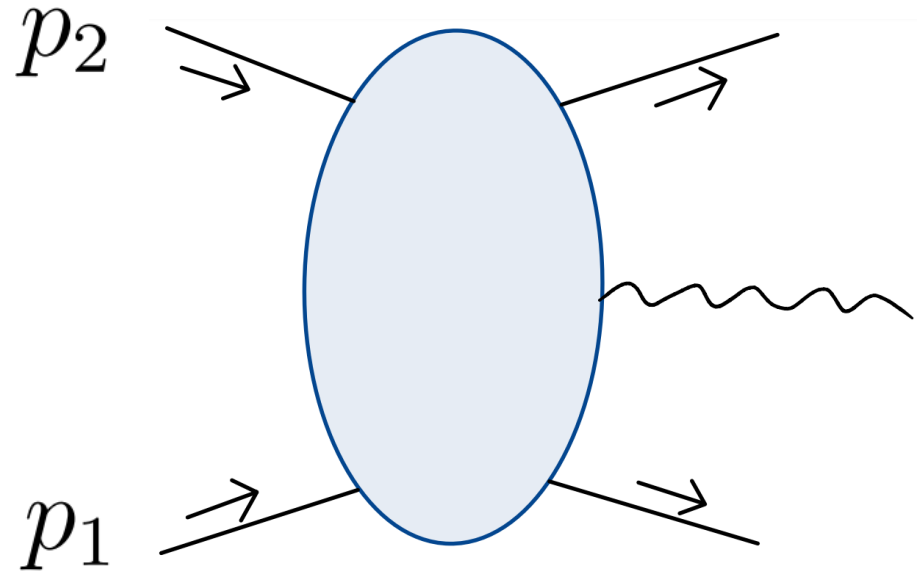
# How to approach perturbation theory?

Solve perturbatively in  $G_N$ .

$$G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G_N T_{\mu\nu}$$

Construct amplitudes perturbatively in  $G_N$ .

**Vs.**




(See talks today and Friday)

**Basic Idea:** Non-spinning black holes only have one parameter, their mass  $m$ . So describe them by a scalar field:

$$\mathcal{L} = \int d^D x \sqrt{-g} \left( \frac{R}{16\pi G_N} + \sum_{i=1,2} \left( \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi_i \partial_\nu \phi_i - m_i^2 \phi_i^2 \right) \right)$$

Then calculate amplitudes:

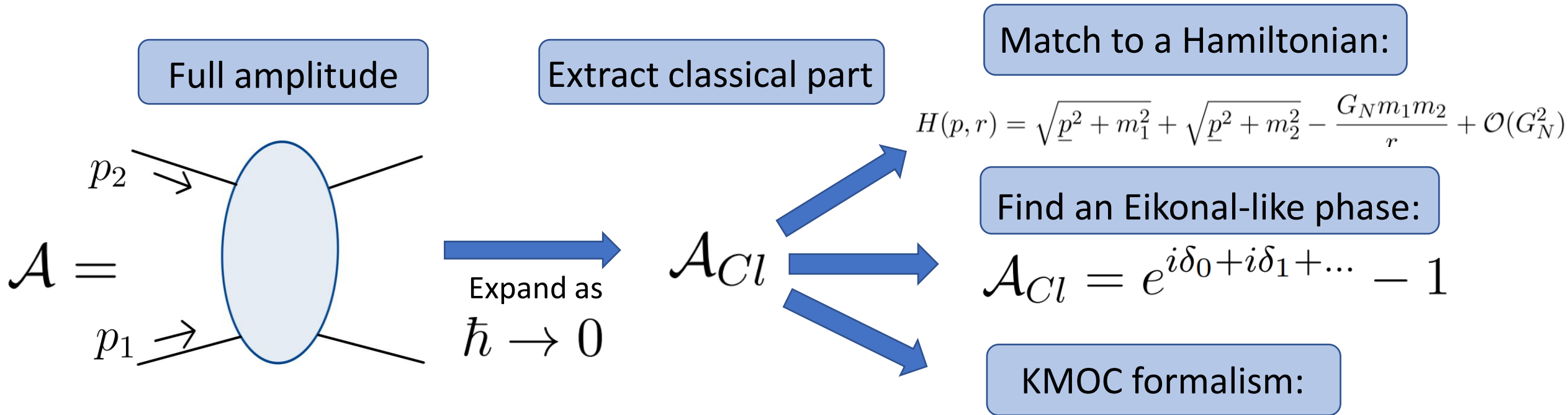
$$\mathcal{A} = \text{tree} + \text{loop} + \dots$$



Loops contain classical information

Iwasaki 1971

# From quantum amplitudes to Classical Observables



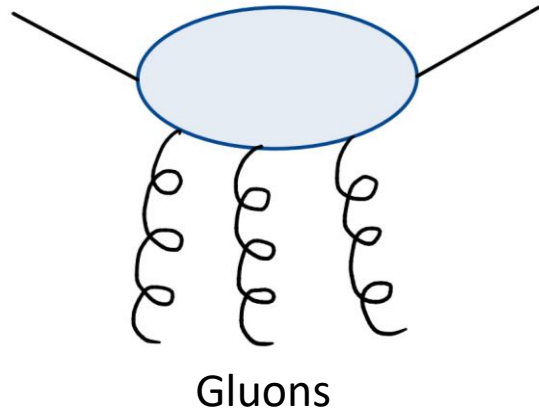
Kosower, Maybee, O'Connell 2018

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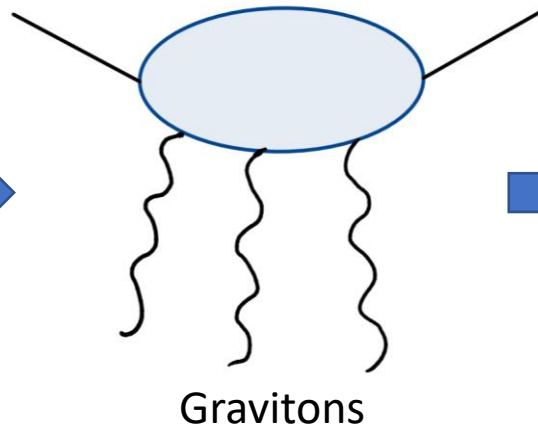
# How to calculate Gravity amplitudes?

**The Mantra:** Recycle previous results

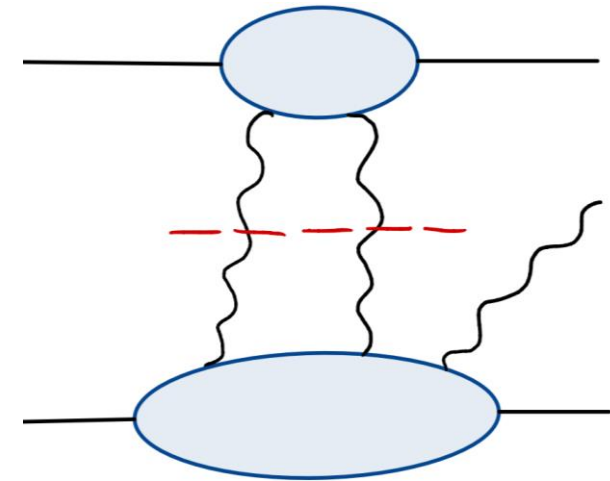
1. Find Tree level  
Amplitudes in Yang-Mills.



2. Double copy to tree  
level gravity amplitudes.



3. Glue tree level amplitudes  
together using unitarity cuts.

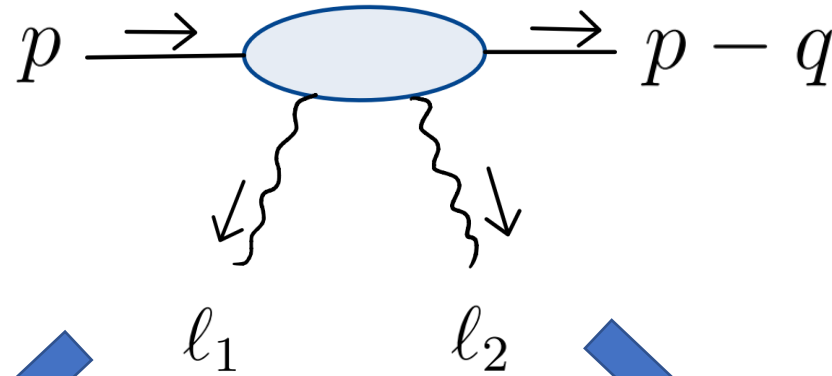


**HEFT makes these steps easy!**

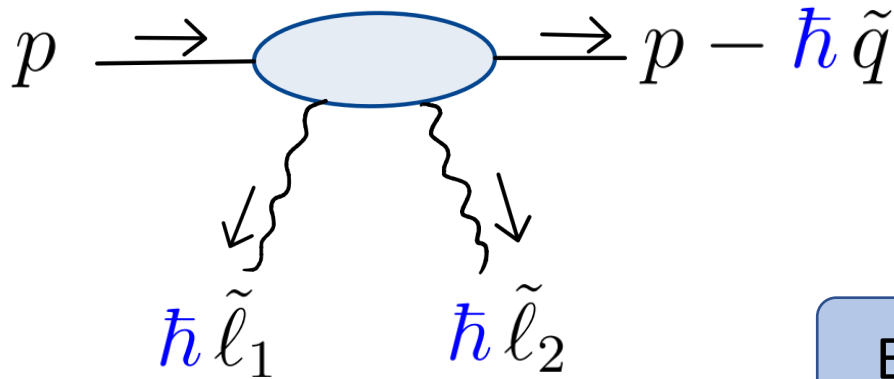
# Enter the “Heavy-mass Effective Field Theory” (HEFT)

Brandhuber, Chen, Travaglini, Wen 2021 x2 +Johansson 2021

Gregori 1990,  
Damgaard, Haddad, Helset 2019

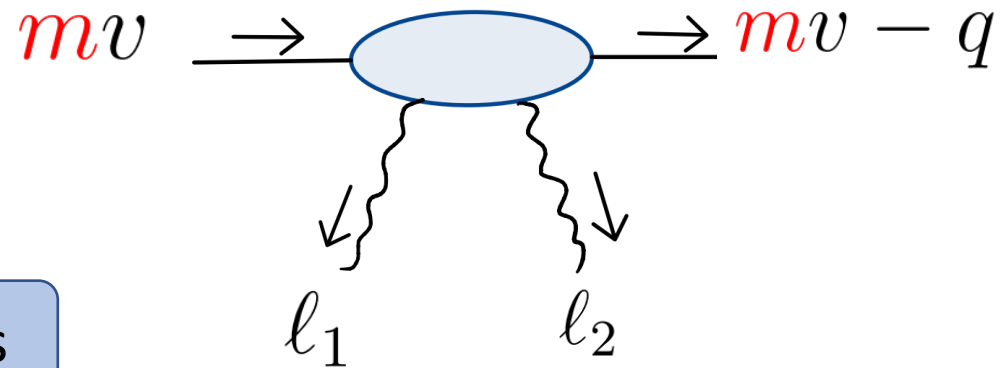


$\hbar \rightarrow 0$



$\tilde{l}_i = \text{Wavenumber}$

$1/m \rightarrow 0$

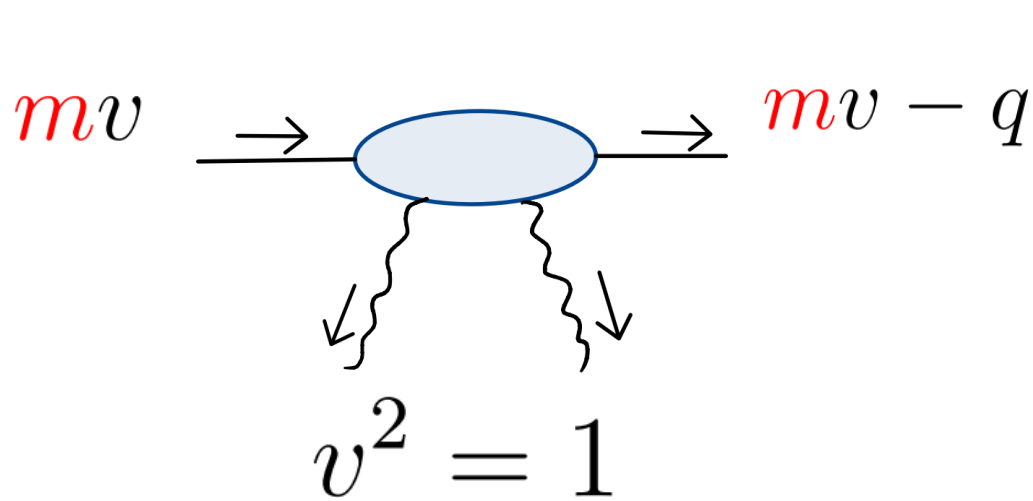


Equivalent expansions

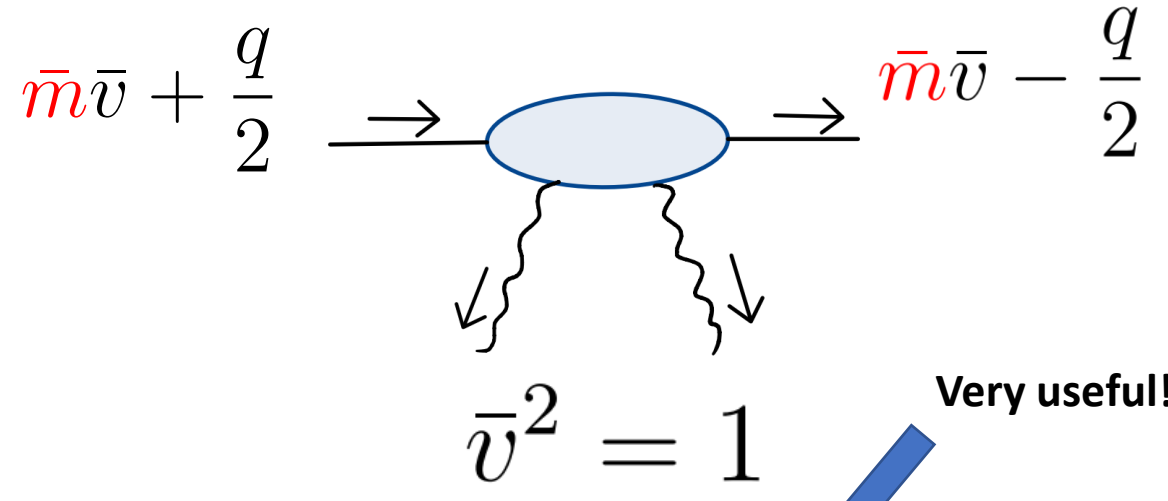


# A technical point... I lied

The HEFT is actually an expansion as  $1/\bar{m}_i \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\bar{m} = \sqrt{m^2 - q^2/4} = m + \mathcal{O}(m^{-1})$



$$v \cdot q = \frac{q^2}{2m} = \mathcal{O}(m^{-1})$$



$$\bar{v} \cdot q = 0$$

Very useful!

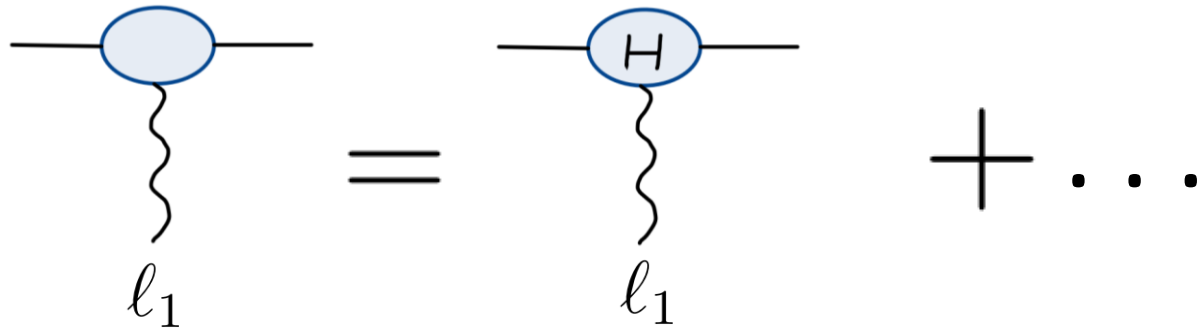
In the very end the power counting is the same.

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{m} &\rightarrow m \\ \bar{v} &\rightarrow v \end{aligned} \quad \text{as } m \rightarrow \infty$$

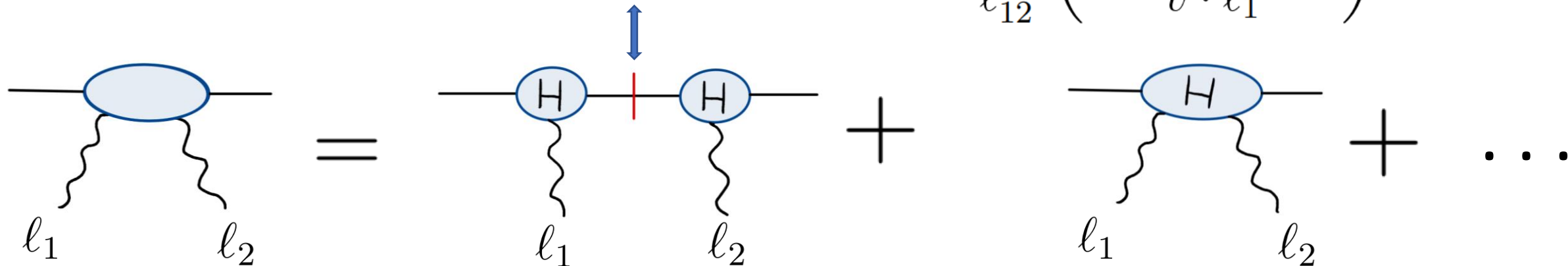
# Some HEFT examples:

$$A_3^{\text{GR}} = \bar{m}^2 (\bar{v} \cdot \varepsilon_1)^2 + \dots$$

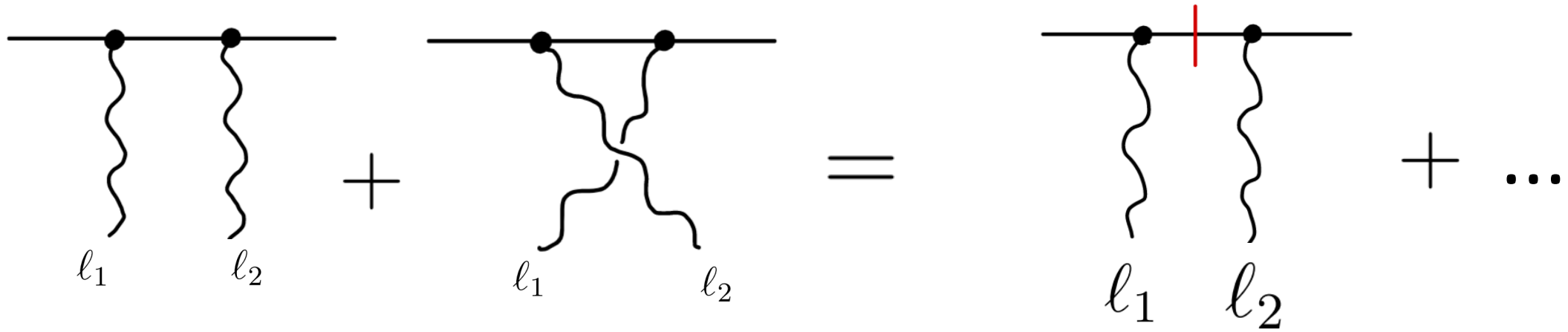
HEFT  
Amplitudes



$$A_4^{\text{GR}} = -(i\pi) \bar{m}^3 (\bar{v} \cdot \varepsilon_1)^2 \delta(\bar{v} \cdot l_1) (\bar{v} \cdot \varepsilon_2)^2 + \frac{\bar{m}^2}{l_{12}^2} \left( \frac{\bar{v} \cdot F_1 \cdot F_2 \cdot \bar{v}}{\bar{v} \cdot l_1} \right)^2 + \dots$$



# HEFT cuts

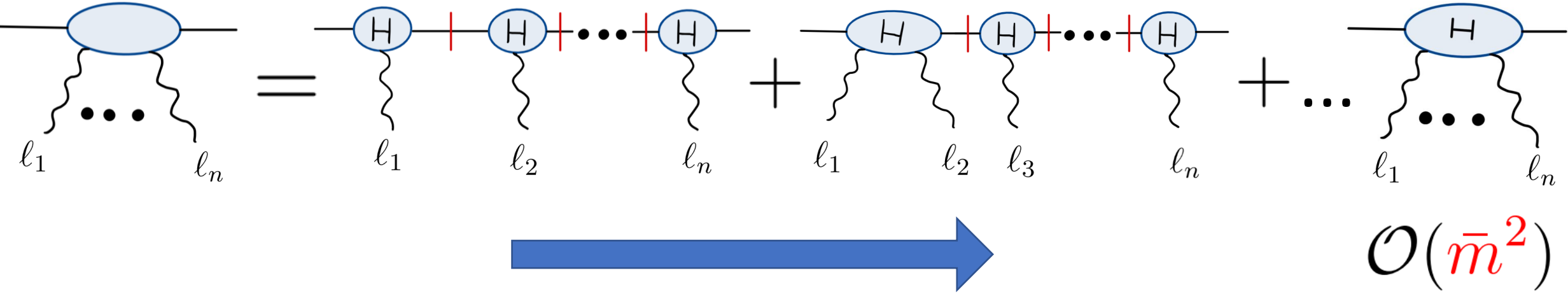


$$\frac{1}{-2\bar{m}\bar{v} - q \cdot \ell_1 + i\epsilon} + \frac{1}{2\bar{m}\bar{v} - q \cdot \ell_1 + i\epsilon} = -(i\pi)\delta(\bar{m}\bar{v} \cdot \ell_1) + \dots$$

$$\frac{1}{x + i\epsilon} - \frac{1}{x - i\epsilon} = -2\pi i\delta(x)$$

$i\epsilon$  matters even at tree level!

The general structure:

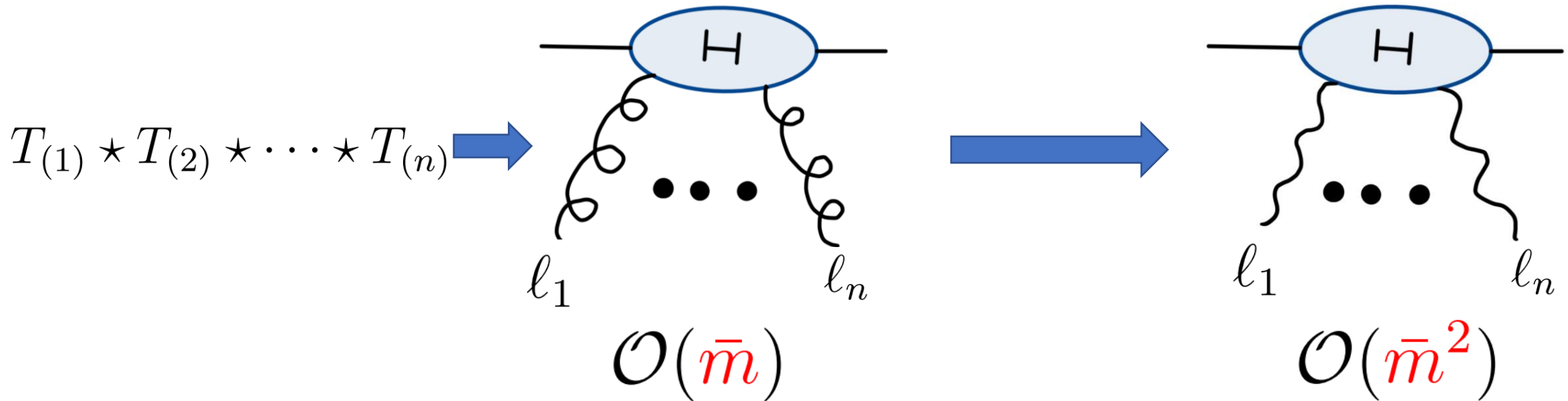


More powers of  $\hbar$  fewer powers of  $\bar{m}$

# How do we build HEFT amplitudes?

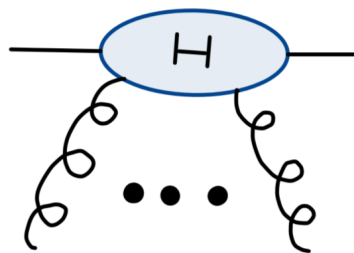
**1.** Build YM HEFT amplitudes using algebra.

**2.** Double copy YM HEFT amplitudes to GR.

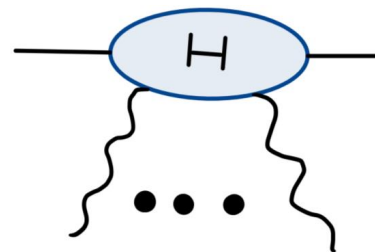


# The double copy form of HEFT amplitudes

Brandhuber, Chen, Travaglini, Wen 2021 +Johansson 2021

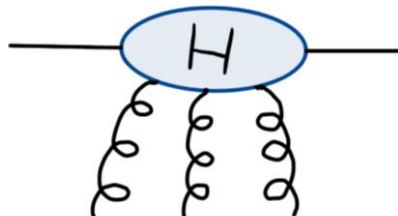


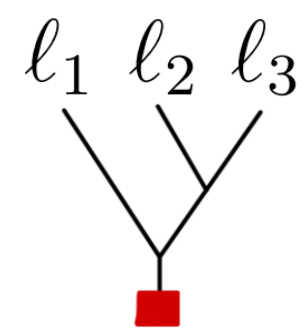
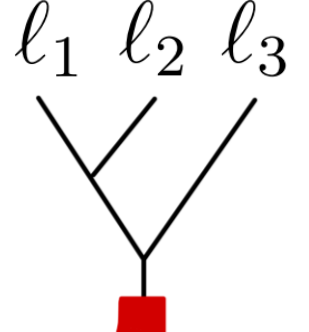
$$= \sum_{\Gamma \in \rho} \frac{\mathcal{N}(\Gamma, \bar{v})}{d_\Gamma}$$



$$= \sum_{\Gamma \in \tilde{\rho}} \frac{[\mathcal{N}(\Gamma, \bar{v})]^2}{d_\Gamma}$$

$\rho(\tilde{\rho})$  Are the set of (un)ordered commutators of massless legs with leftmost entry fixed to 1.



$$= \frac{\mathcal{N}([1, [2, 3]], \bar{v})}{l_{23}l_{123}} + \frac{\mathcal{N}([[1, 2], 3]), \bar{v})}{l_{12}l_{123}}$$



# BCJ numerators from quasi-shuffles

Brandhuber, Chen, Johansson, Travaglini, Wen 2021

$$T_{(1)} \star T_{(2)} \star \cdots \star T_{(n)} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathcal{N}(\Gamma, \bar{v})$$

For 2-gluons:  $T_{(1)} \star T_{(2)} = T_{(1),(2)} + T_{(2),(1)} - T_{(12)}$

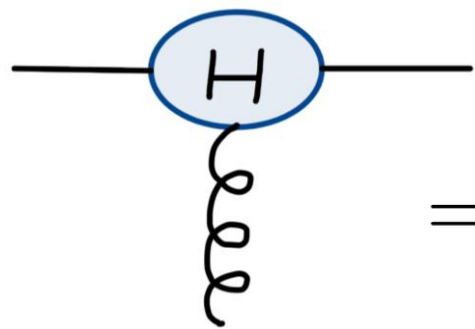
$$\mathcal{N}([1, 2], \bar{v}) = 2\langle T_{(1)} \star T_{(2)} \rangle = \frac{\bar{v} \cdot F_1 \cdot F_2 \cdot \bar{v}}{\bar{v} \cdot \ell_1}$$

## Key result:

*An  $n$ -point formula exists for all HEFT BCJ numerators and hence amplitudes.*

Some examples:

Yang-Mills

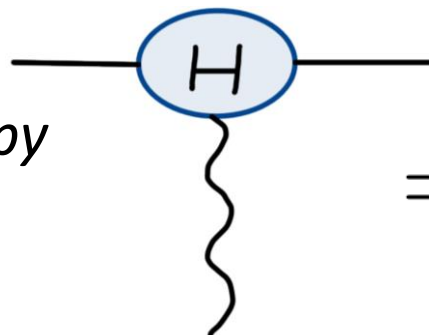


$$= \bar{m} (\bar{v} \cdot \varepsilon_1)$$

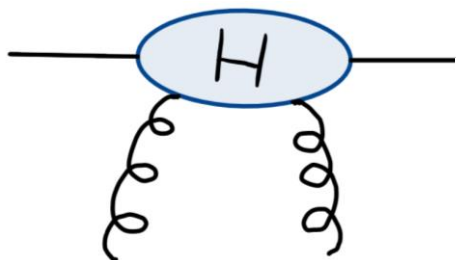
HEFT Double-Copy



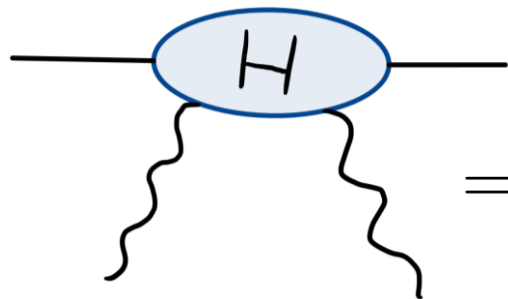
Gravity



$$= \bar{m}^2 (\bar{v} \cdot \varepsilon_1)^2$$



$$= \frac{\bar{m}}{\ell_{12}^2} \left( \frac{\bar{v} \cdot F_1 \cdot F_2 \cdot \bar{v}}{\bar{v} \cdot \ell_1} \right)$$



$$= \frac{\bar{m}^2}{\ell_{12}^2} \left( \frac{\bar{v} \cdot F_1 \cdot F_2 \cdot \bar{v}}{\bar{v} \cdot \ell_1} \right)^2$$

Manifestly gauge invariant:  $F_i^{\mu\nu} = l_i^\mu \varepsilon_i^\nu - l_i^\nu \varepsilon_i^\mu$

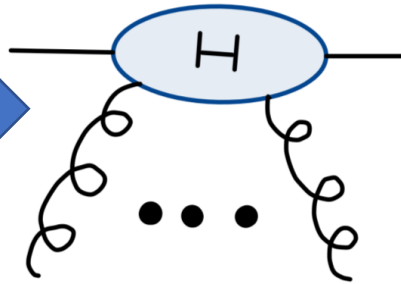


# The HEFT pipeline

Quasi-shuffle Algebra

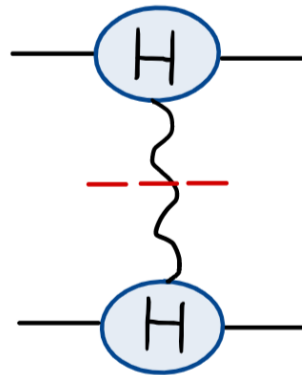
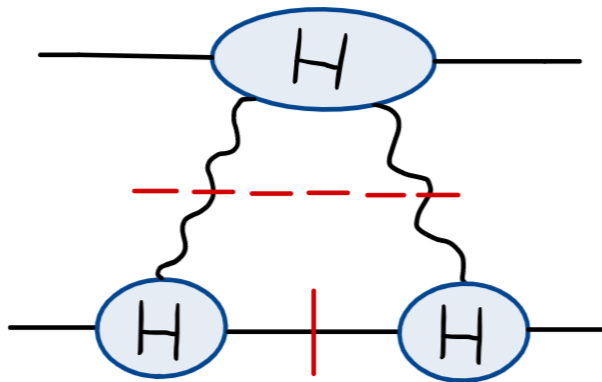
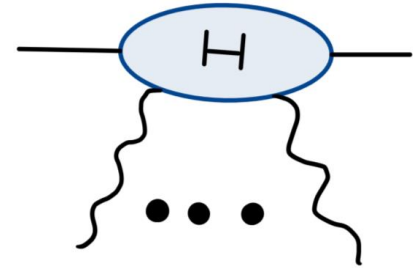
$$T_{(1)} \star T_{(2)} \star \dots \star T_{(n)}$$

Yang-Mills

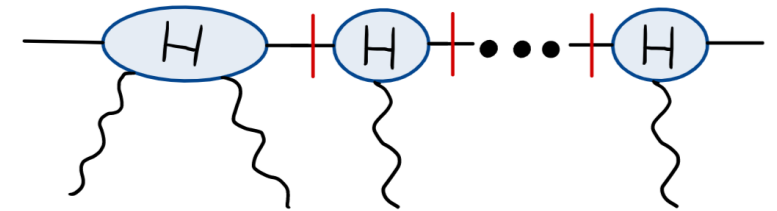


Double-Copy

Gravity



Unitarity/BCFW



# Building amplitudes: four-point tree-level

$$\mathcal{A}_4^{\text{Tree}} = \mathcal{O}(\bar{m}_1^2 \bar{m}_2^2)$$

$p_2$  —  $\text{H}$  —  $p_2 + q$

$p_1$  —  $\text{H}$  —  $p_1 - q$

A strange massive  
BCFW shift for HEFT:

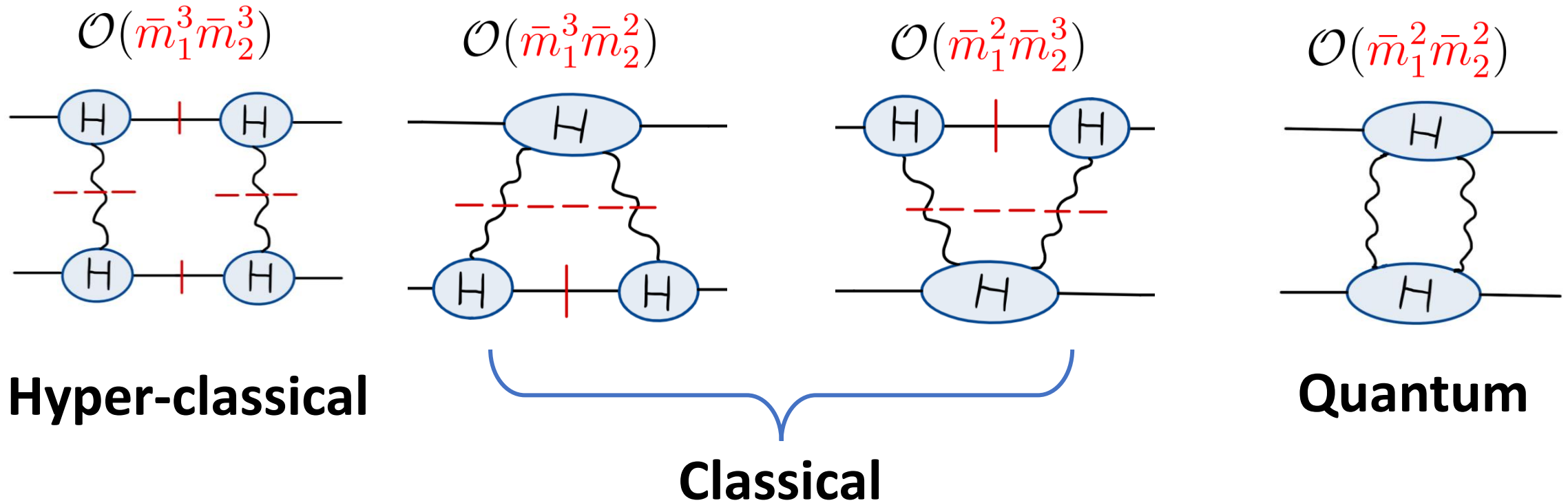
$$\hat{q}^\mu = q^\mu + z r^\mu$$

$$\bar{v}_i \cdot r = 0$$

$$r^2 = 0$$

# Building amplitudes: four-point one-loop

Brandhuber, Chen, Travaglini, Wen 2021

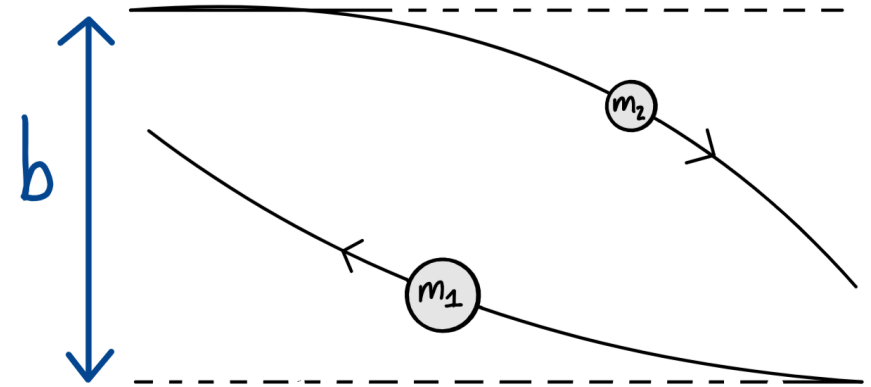


Quantum we can ignore but what about hyper-classical?

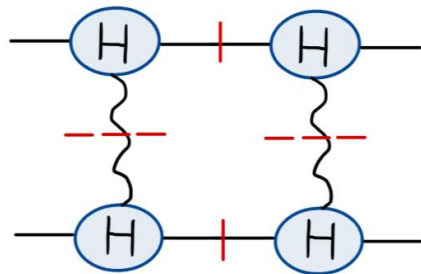
# The four-point amplitude exponentiates in impact parameter space

(Glauber; Levi & Sucher; ....; Amati, Ciafaloni & Veneziano; Kabat & Ortiz)

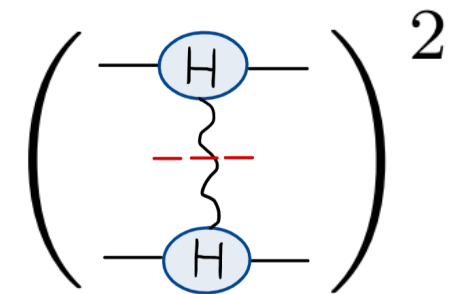
$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(b) = \int \frac{d^D q}{(2\pi)^{D-2}} \delta(\bar{v}_1 \cdot q) \delta(\bar{v}_2 \cdot q) e^{i\vec{q} \cdot \vec{b}} \mathcal{A}(q)$$



$$\tilde{\mathcal{S}} = 1 + i\tilde{\mathcal{A}} = e^{i\delta_0^{\text{HEFT}} + i\delta_1^{\text{HEFT}} + \dots}$$



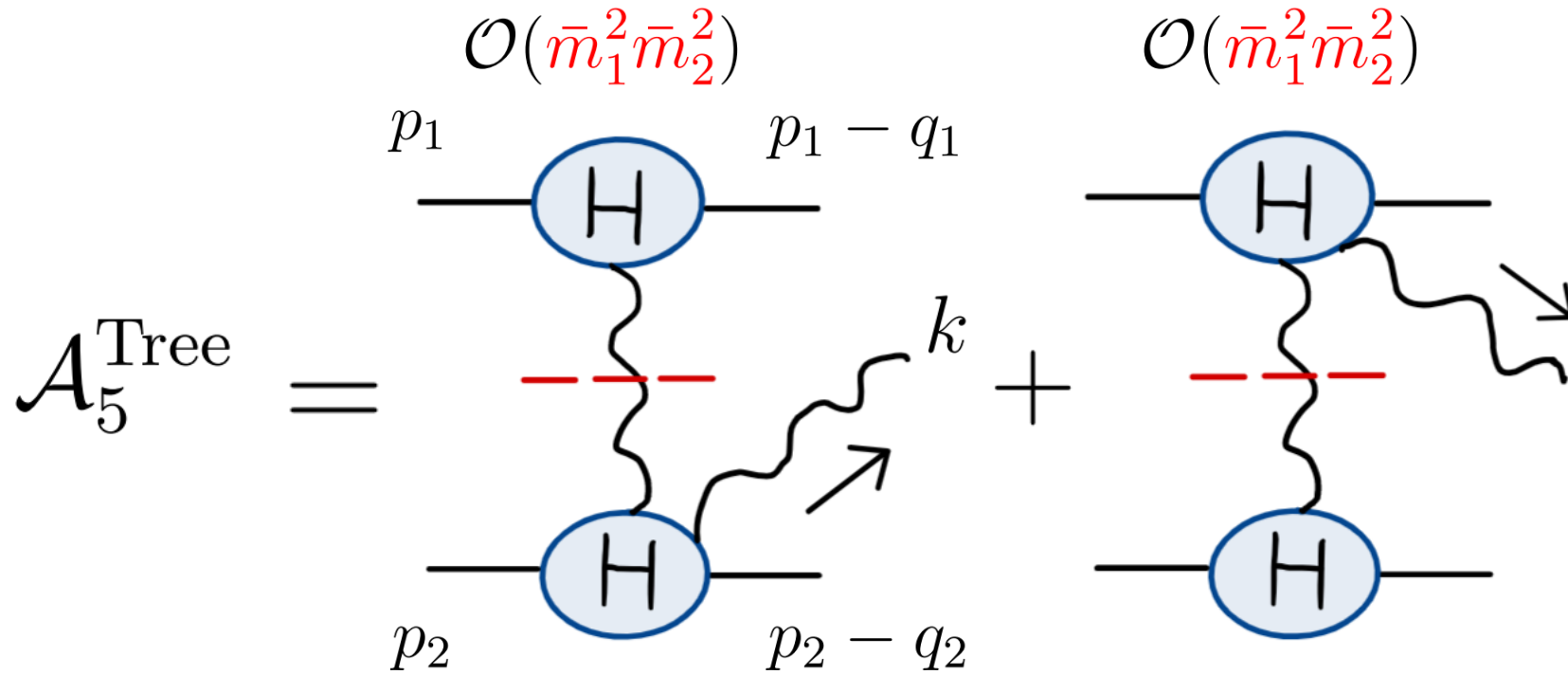
Impact parameter space



$$\int \frac{d^D l}{(2\pi)^{D-2}} \delta(\bar{v}_1 \cdot l) \delta(\bar{v}_2 \cdot l) \mathcal{A}_L(l) \mathcal{A}_R(l - q)$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_L(b) \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_R(b)$$

# Building amplitudes: five-point tree-level



Agreement with: Luna, Nicholson, O'Connell, White 2017

$$q_1 + q_2 = k$$

D-dim BCFW shift:

$$\hat{q}_1^\mu = q_1^\mu + z r^\mu$$

$$\hat{q}_2^\mu = q_2^\mu - z r^\mu$$

$$r \cdot k = 0$$

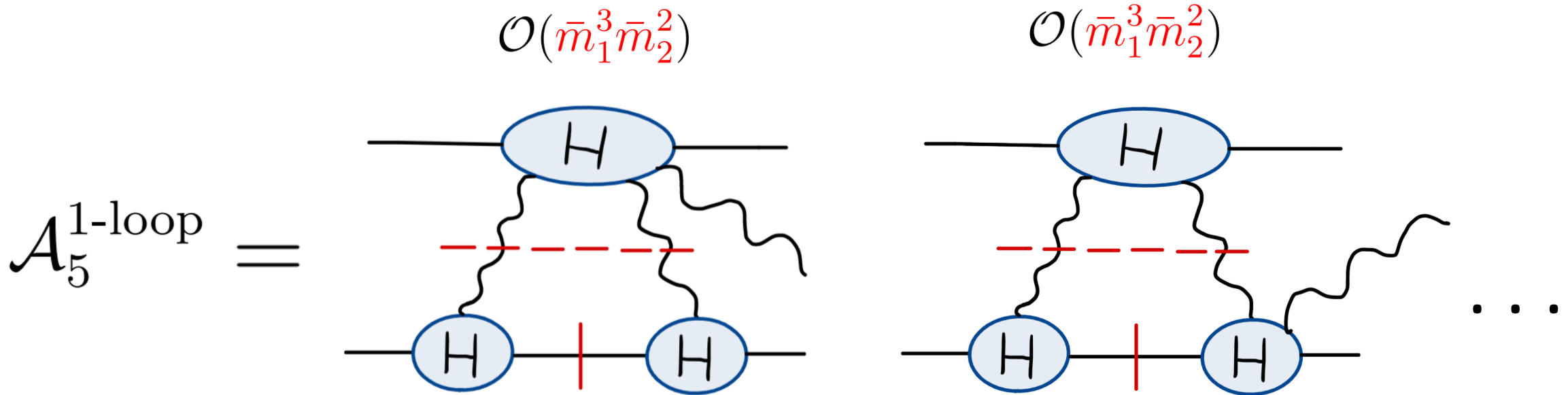
$$r \cdot \varepsilon_k = 0$$

$$r \cdot \bar{v}_i = 0$$

$$r^2 = 0$$

c.f. Britto, Gonzo, Jehu 2021

# Building amplitudes: five-point one-loop



- Agreement with: Herderschee, Roiban, Teng -To appear
- We reproduce Weinberg's universal prediction for IR divergences (after a HEFT expansion):

$$\text{IR Div} \left( \mathcal{A}_5^{1\text{-loop}} \right) \sim \frac{G_N}{\epsilon} (\bar{v}_1 \cdot k + \bar{v}_2 \cdot k) \mathcal{A}_5^{\text{Tree}}$$

In dimensional regularisation:

$$D = 4 - 2\epsilon$$

# Summary:

- The HEFT provides an efficient way of computing classical pieces of Gravitational scattering amplitudes.
- HEFT amplitudes are manifestly gauge invariant, D-dimensional, and have principle value massive poles.
- The amplitudes themselves are generated via a quasi-shuffle algebra and a closed form exists for any number of gravitons .

# For the future:

- Find the origin of the quasi-shuffle algebra.
- Check BCFW recursion at 6-point, and prove the large  $z$  behaviour.
- Inclusion of spin, see Gang's talk yesterday.
- Building waveforms from the 5-point amplitudes.

