

# Gravitational Scattering of Compact Bodies from Worldline Quantum Field Theory

Gustav Uhre Jakobsen

Period of PhD: 10/20 — 07/23

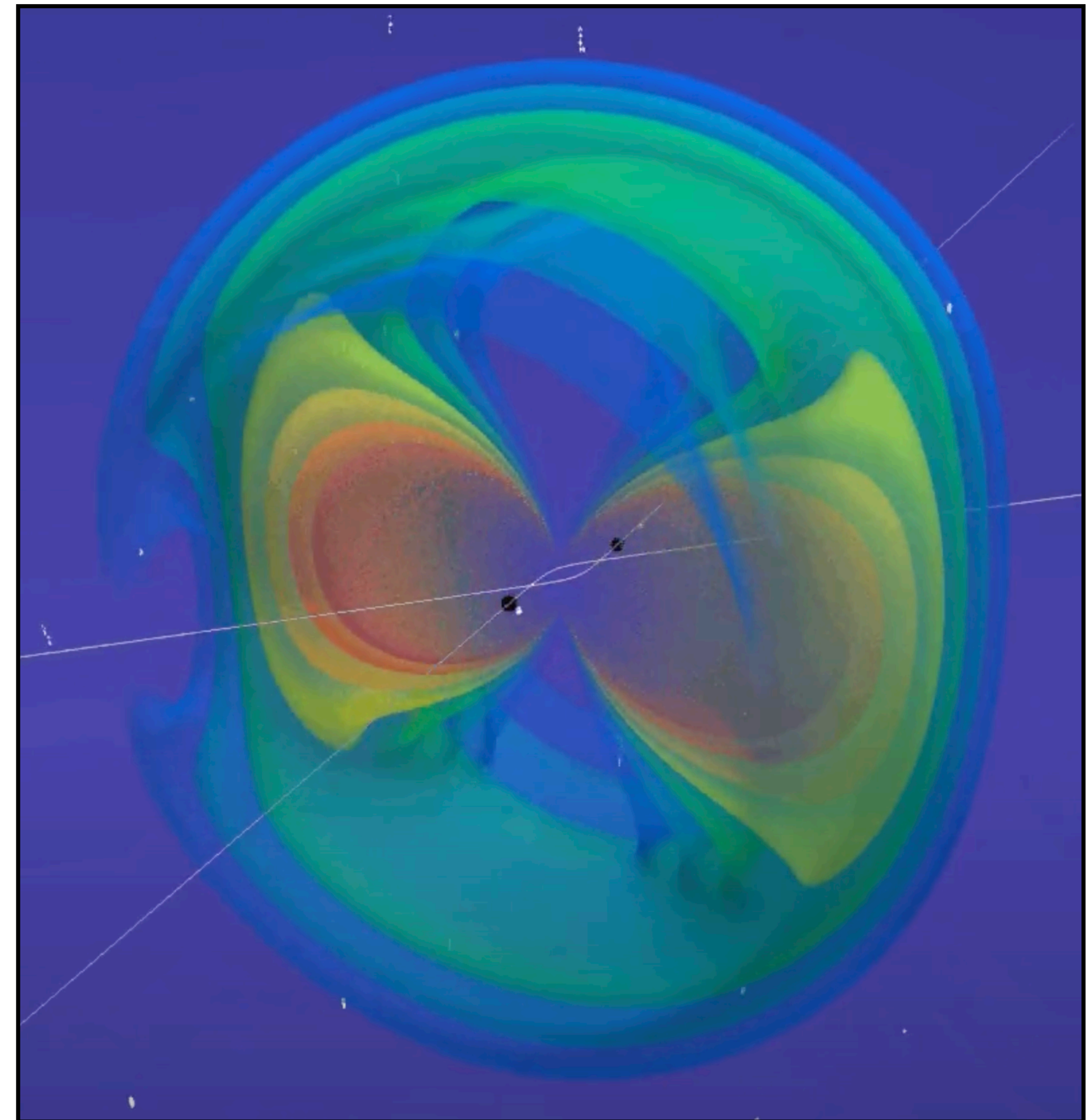
First advisor: Jan Plefka

Second advisor: Alessandra Buonanno

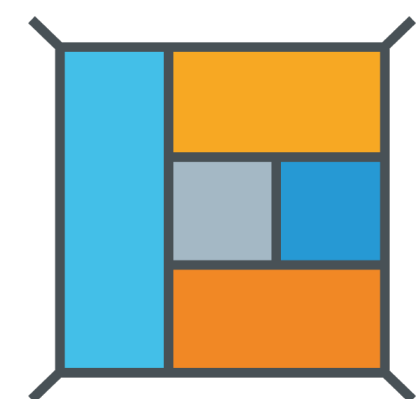
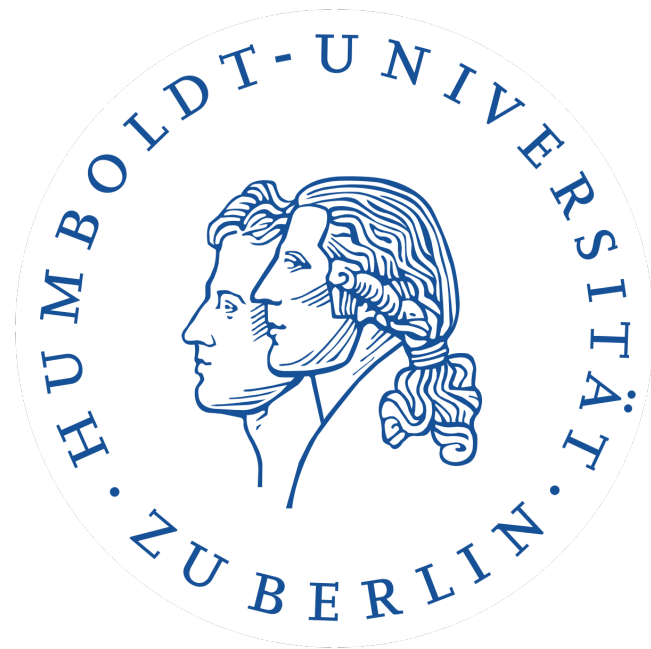
SMuK Dissertation Prize,

DPG Spring Meeting,

Gießen March 2024



Credit: Oluwadamilola Babayemi



RTG 2575:

**Rethinking  
Quantum Field Theory**

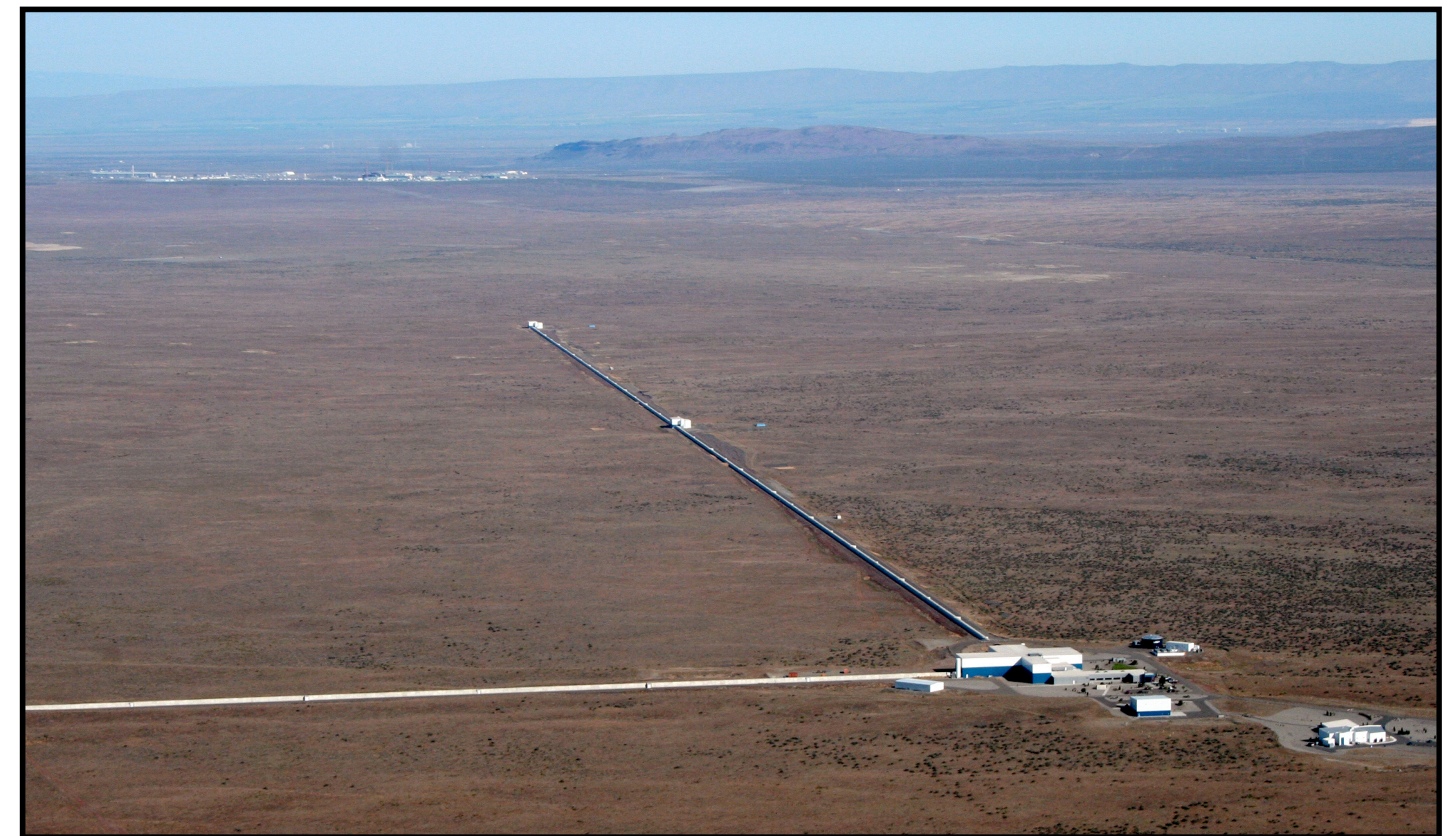
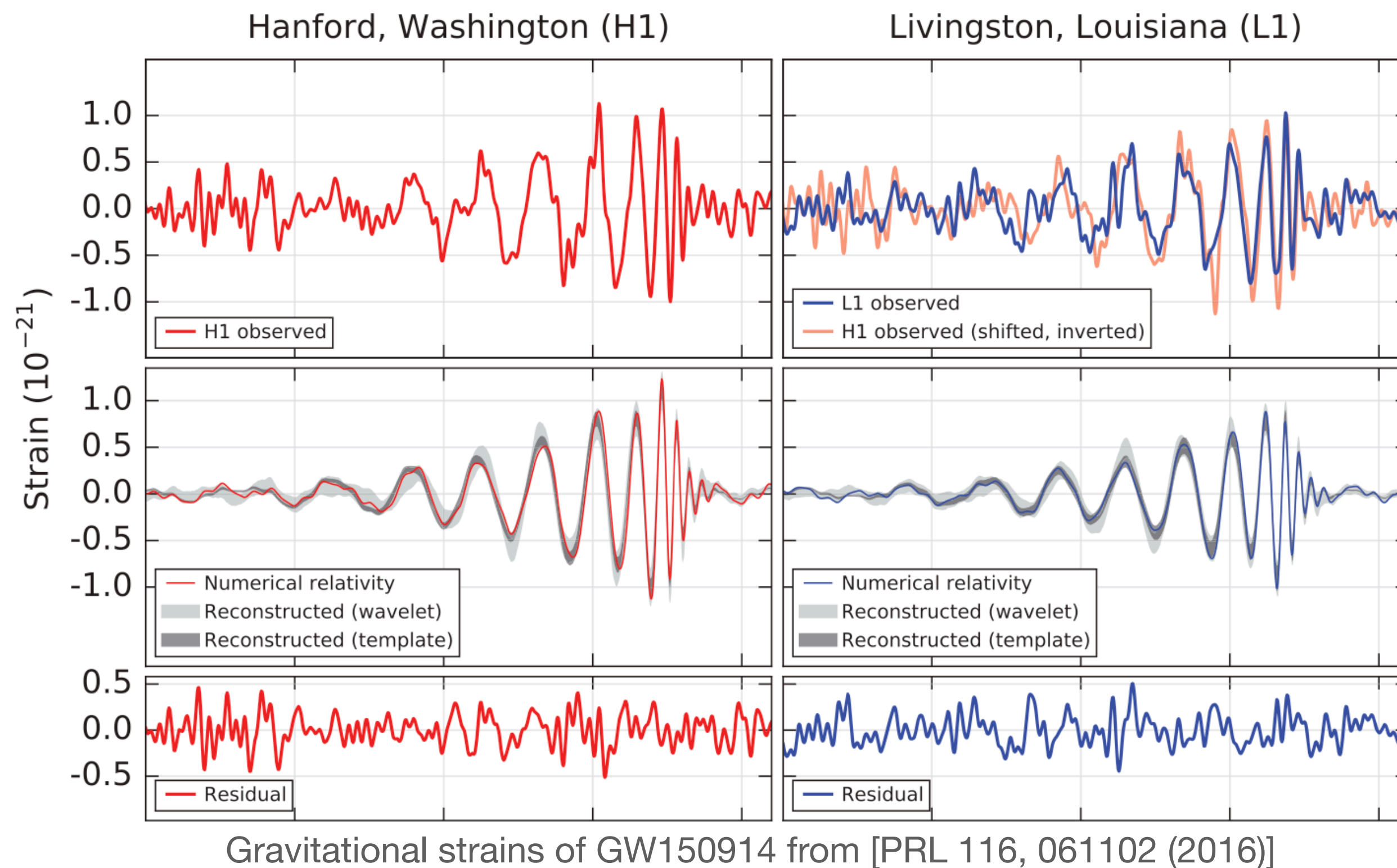
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# Gravitational wave physics

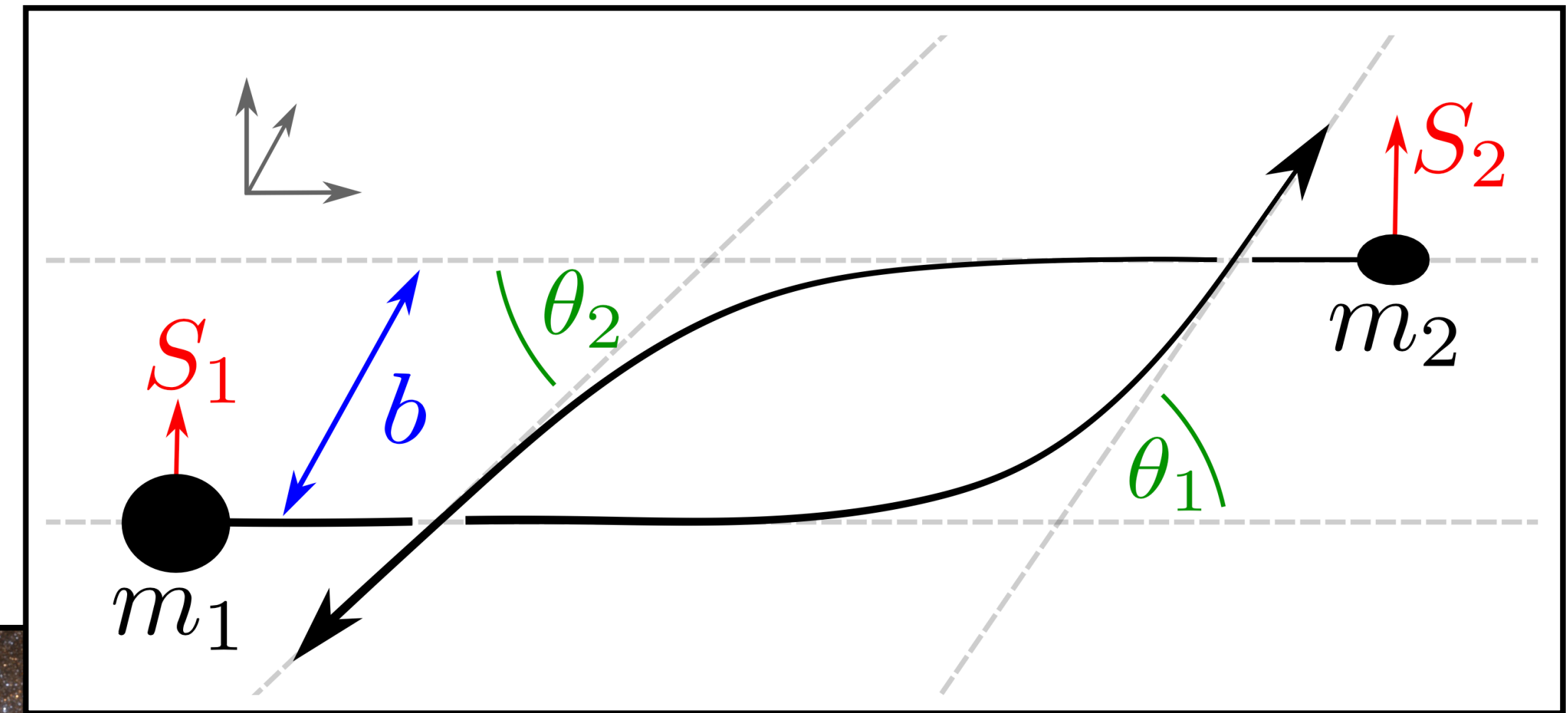
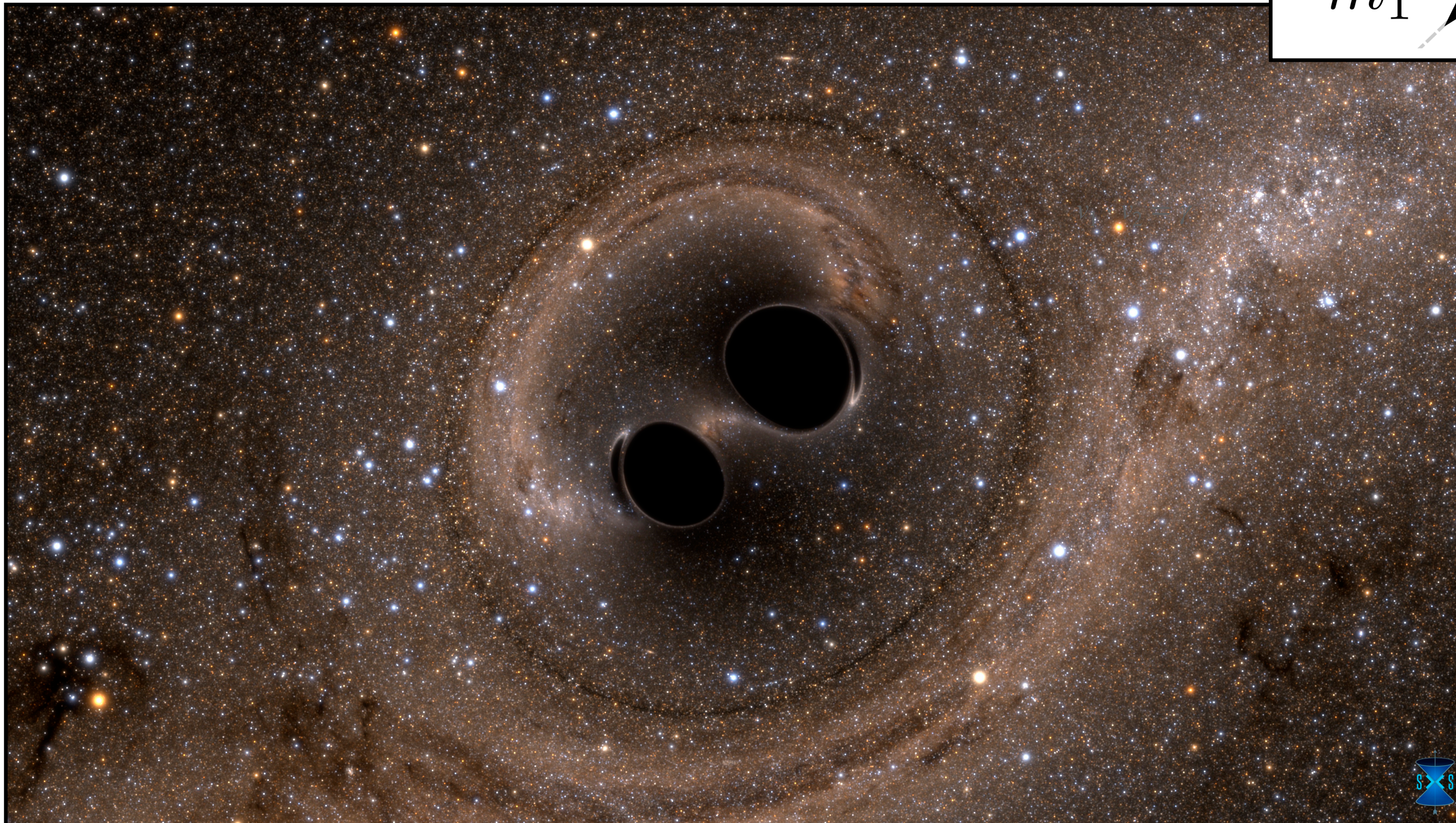
- In 2015, first direct observation of gravitational waves by the LIGO detectors
- In the future, new detectors promise increased precision which must be matched by theory computations



The LIGO Hanford observatory (credit: LIGO Lab/Caltech/MIT)

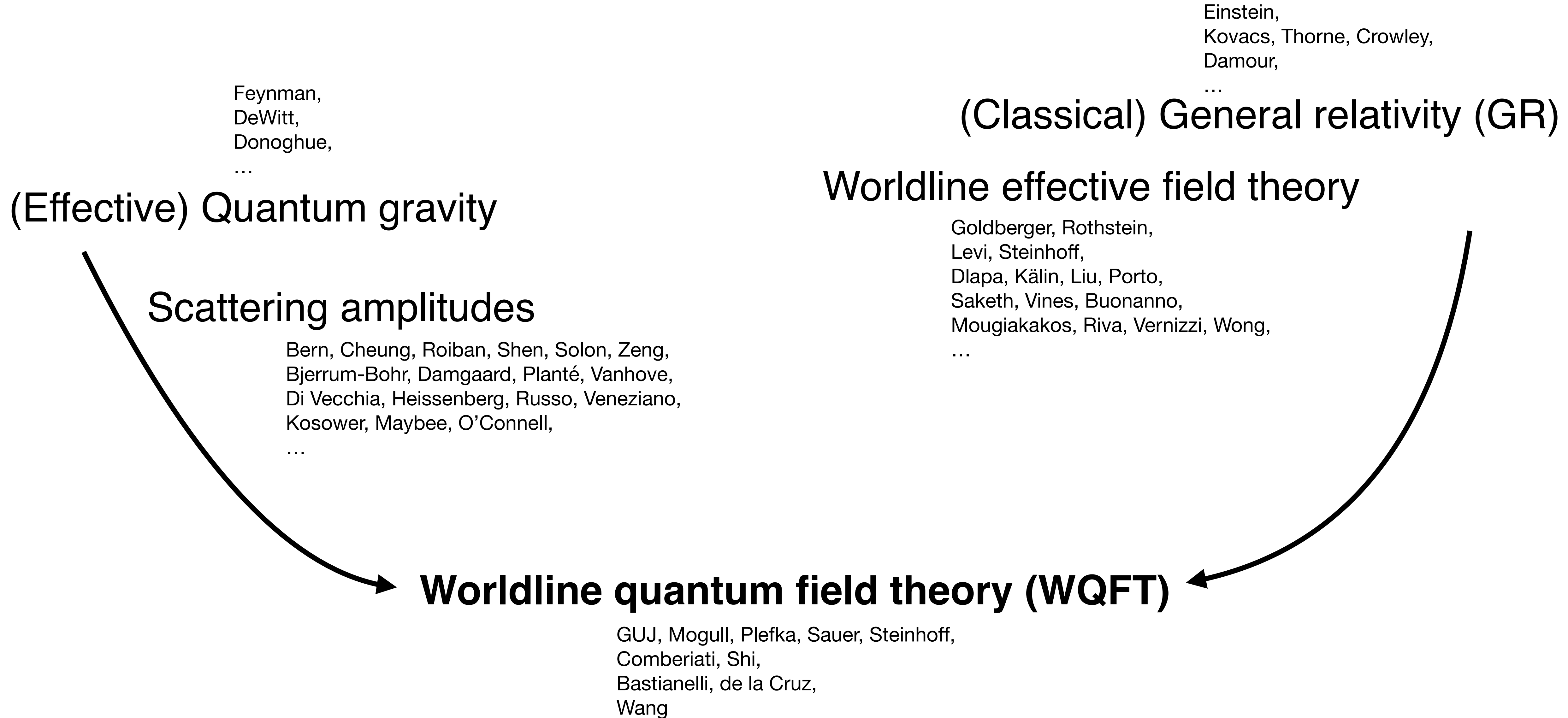
# General relativistic dynamics

(Bound) Compact binary mergers



(Unbound) Scattering

Compact bodies  
Black holes      Neutron stars



# List of publications

- [1] G. U. Jakobsen, G. Mogull, J. Plefka and J. Steinhoff, “*Classical Gravitational Bremsstrahlung from a Worldline Quantum Field Theory*”, Phys. Rev. Lett. 126 (2021) 201103
- [2] G. U. Jakobsen, G. Mogull, J. Plefka and J. Steinhoff, “*Gravitational Bremsstrahlung and Hidden Supersymmetry of Spinning Bodies*”, Phys. Rev. Lett. 128 (2022) 011101
- [3] G. U. Jakobsen, G. Mogull, J. Plefka and J. Steinhoff, “*SUSY in the Sky with Gravitons*”, JHEP 01 (2022) 027
- [4] G. U. Jakobsen and G. Mogull, “*Conservative and Radiative Dynamics of Spinning Bodies at Third Post-Minkowskian Order Using Worldline Quantum Field Theory*”, Phys. Rev. Lett. 128 (2022) 141102
- [5] G. U. Jakobsen, G. Mogull, J. Plefka and B. Sauer, “*All Things Retarded: Radiation-Reaction in Worldline Quantum Field Theory*”, JHEP 10 (2022) 128
- [6] G. U. Jakobsen and G. Mogull, “*Linear Response, Hamiltonian and Radiative Spinning Two-Body Dynamics*”, Phys. Rev. D 107 (2023) 044033

# Outline

- Worldline Quantum Field Theory (WQFT) formalism
- Worldline observables at two-loop order:
  - Quantum Field Theory (QFT) integration techniques
  - Perturbative results at two loops and quadratic in spins
- Conclusions and outlook

# Worldline quantum field theory (WQFT)

- Effective field theory of compact bodies as point particles
- Path integral on worldline and gravitational fields
- Tree diagrams  $\rightarrow$  classical physics

$$\langle X \rangle = \int \mathcal{D}[w(\tau), g_{\mu\nu}(x)] X e^{-iS/\hbar}$$

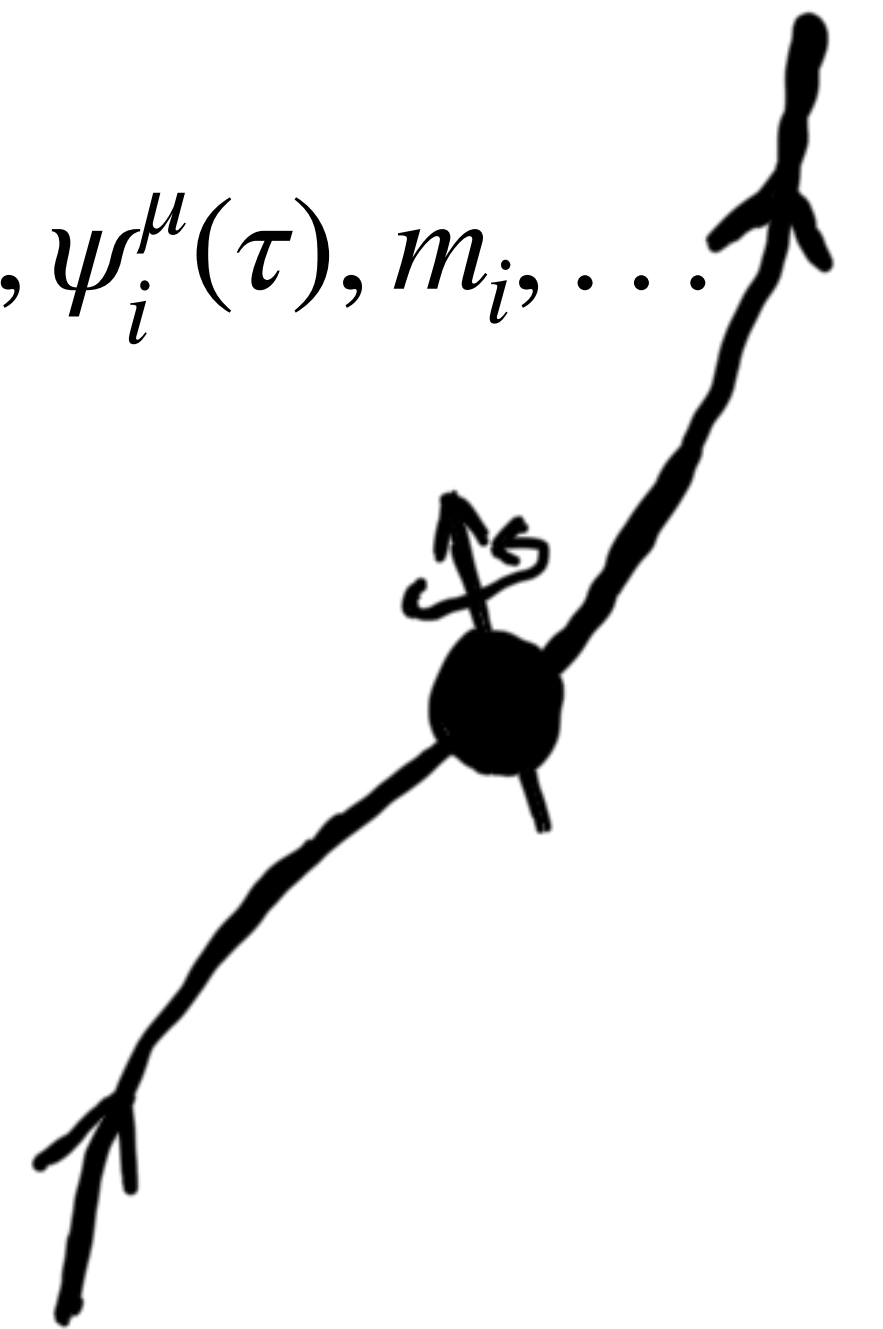
$$X = g_{\mu\nu}(k^\sigma) \rightarrow k^2 \epsilon^\mu \epsilon^\nu \langle g_{\mu\nu}(k^\sigma) \rangle \Big|_{k^2 \rightarrow 0}$$

$$X = w(\omega) \rightarrow \omega^2 \langle w(\omega) \rangle \Big|_{\omega \rightarrow 0}$$

# Spinning point particles [2,3,6]

- Worldline trajectory  $z_i^\mu(\tau)$  and Grassmann field  $\psi_i^\mu(\tau)$
- Physical spin vector  $S_i^\mu = -im_i(\psi_i \times \psi_i)^\mu$
- Supersymmetry with  $\delta z_i^\mu \sim \eta \psi_i^\mu$  and  $\delta \psi_i^\mu \sim \eta \dot{z}_i^\mu$

$$z_i^\mu(\tau), \psi_i^\mu(\tau), m_i, \dots$$



$$S_i = -\frac{m_i}{2} \int d\tau g_{\mu\nu} \left[ \dot{z}_i^\mu \dot{z}_i^\nu + i\psi_i^\mu \frac{D\psi_i^\nu}{d\tau} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{1}{8m_i} R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} S_i^{\mu\nu} S_i^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{C_{E,i}}{2m_i} R_{\alpha\mu\beta\nu} \dot{z}_i^\mu \dot{z}_i^\nu S_i^{\alpha\rho} S_{i\rho}^\beta + \dots \right]$$



# WQFT Feynman rules

$$g_{\mu\nu}(x) = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \sqrt{G_N} h_{\mu\nu}(x)$$

$$z^\mu(\tau) = b^\mu + \tau v^\mu + \Delta z^\mu(\tau)$$

$$\psi^\mu(\tau) = \Psi^\mu(\tau) + \Delta\psi^\mu(\tau)$$

$$h_{\mu\nu}(k) = \frac{m\kappa}{2} e^{ik \cdot b} \delta(k \cdot v + \omega)$$

$$\times \left( k_\rho v^\mu v^\nu + 2\omega v^{(\mu} \delta_{\rho}^{\nu)} - i \frac{1}{m} (k \cdot S)^{(\mu} (k_\rho v^{\nu)} + \omega \delta_{\rho}^{\nu)} \right) + \dots$$

$$= i \frac{\mathcal{P}_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu}^{-1}}{(k^0 + i\epsilon)^2 - \mathbf{k}^2},$$

$$= -\frac{i\eta_{\rho\sigma}}{m} \frac{1}{(\omega + i\epsilon)^2},$$

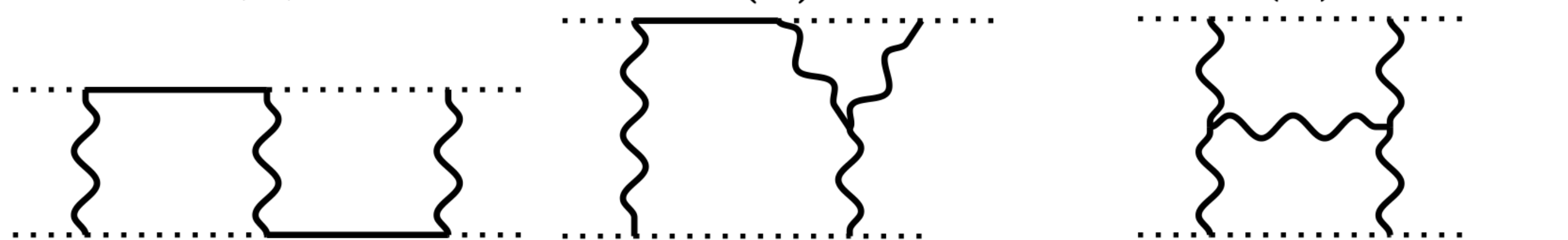
$$= -\frac{i\eta_{\rho\sigma}}{m} \frac{1}{\omega + i\epsilon}.$$



(1)

(2)

(3)

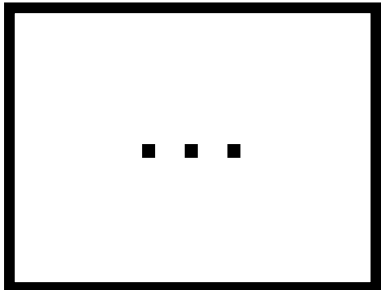


(4)

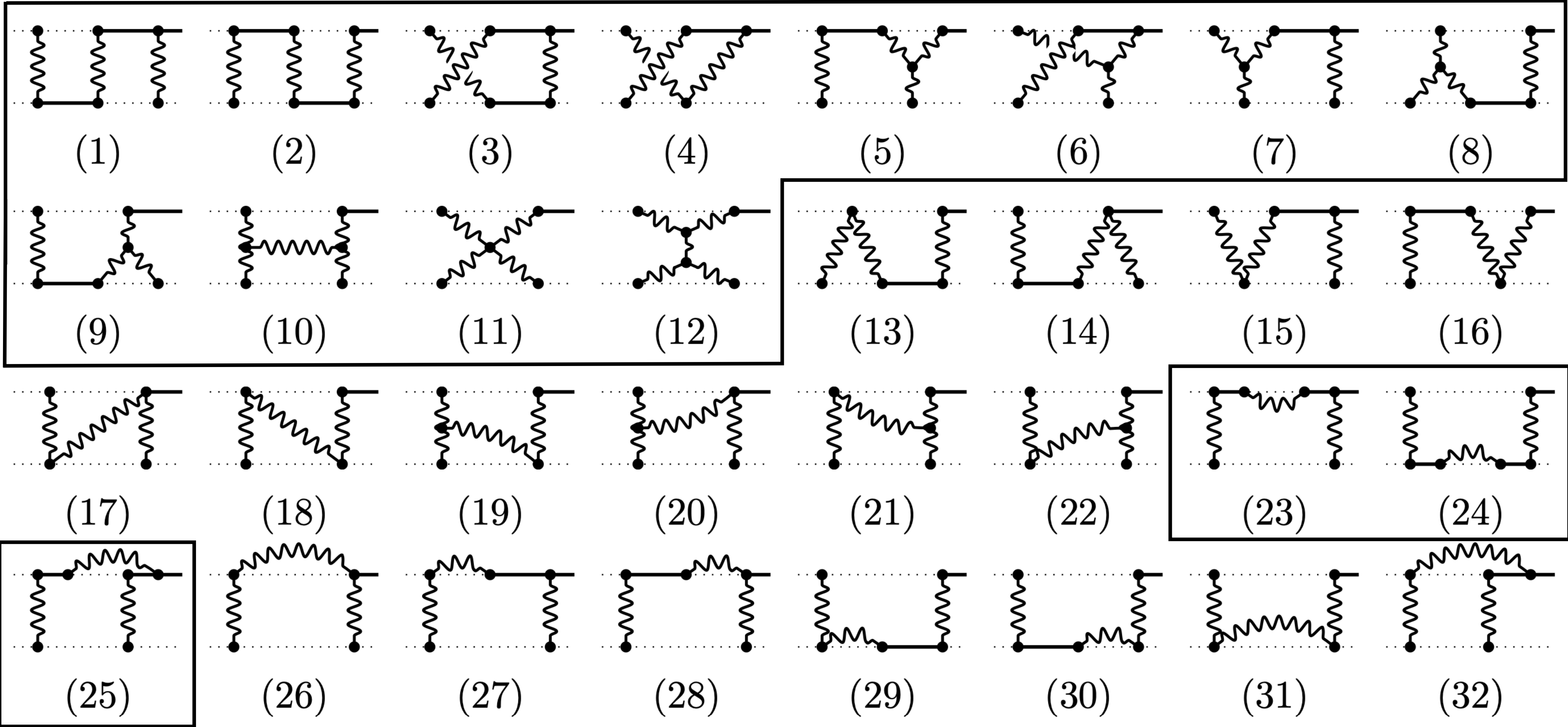
(5)

(6)

# Worldline observables at 2 loops and $S^2$ [4,5,6]



= non-spinning contributions



# QFT loop integration

- Tensor reduction
- Integration-by-parts reduction
- Differential Equations
- Method of Regions

$$\int d^{d-1} \ell_1 d^{d-1} \ell_2 \frac{\ell_1^{i_1} \dots \ell_1^{i_m} \ell_2^{j_1} \dots \ell_2^{j_l}}{D_1^{n_1} D_2^{n_2} D_3^{n_3} D_4^{n_4} D_5^{n_5} D_6^{n_6} D_7^{n_7}}$$

$$D_1 = \ell_1 \cdot \hat{e} \quad D_2 = \ell_1^2 \quad D_3 = (\ell_1 - \hat{q})^2$$

$$D_4 = \ell_2 \cdot \hat{e} \quad D_5 = \ell_2^2 \quad D_6 = (\ell_2 - \hat{q})^2$$

$$D_7 = (\ell_1 - \ell_2)^2 - 2(\gamma - 1) \ell_1 \cdot \hat{e} \ell_2 \cdot \hat{e}$$

$$\hat{e}^2 = \hat{q}^2 = 1$$

$$\hat{e} \cdot \hat{q} = 0$$

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta^2}}$$

# Post-Minkowskian spinning worldline observables at two loops [4,6]

- Complete post-Minkowskian conservative and dissipative results for  $\Delta p_i^\mu$  and  $\Delta S_i^\mu$  at two loops and  $\mathcal{O}(S^2)$ .
- Two-body Hamiltonian  $H(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{S}_i)$  for generic spins and bound motion.
- Post-Newtonian (PN) expansion provides first independent check of NNLO PN spinning Hamiltonian [Levi, Steinhoff: 1506.05794].
- State-of-the-art, partly verified by other groups [Alessio, Di Vecchia: 2203.13272; Cordero, Kraus, Lin, Ruf, Zeng: 2205.07357; Riva, Vernizzi, Wong: 2205.15295]

# Scattering Angle

$$\theta_{\text{cons}} = \Gamma \sum_{n,m} \left( \frac{G_N M}{b} \right)^n \frac{1}{b^m} \theta_{\text{cons}}^{(n,m)}$$

$$\theta_{\text{cons}}^{(3,0)} = 2 \frac{64\gamma^6 - 120\gamma^4 + 60\gamma^2 - 5}{3(\gamma^2 - 1)^3} \Gamma^2 - \frac{8\nu\gamma(14\gamma^2 + 25)}{3(\gamma^2 - 1)} - 8\nu \frac{4\gamma^4 - 12\gamma^2 - 3}{(\gamma^2 - 1)^{3/2}} \text{arccosh}\gamma ,$$

$$\theta_{\text{cons}}^{(3,1)} = 2\gamma \frac{16\gamma^4 - 20\gamma^2 + 5}{(\gamma^2 - 1)^{5/2}} (5\Gamma^2 s_+ - \delta s_-) - 4\nu s_+ \left( \frac{44\gamma^4 + 100\gamma^2 + 41}{(\gamma^2 - 1)^{3/2}} + 12\gamma \frac{(\gamma^2 - 6)(2\gamma^2 + 1)}{(\gamma^2 - 1)^2} \text{arccosh}\gamma \right)$$

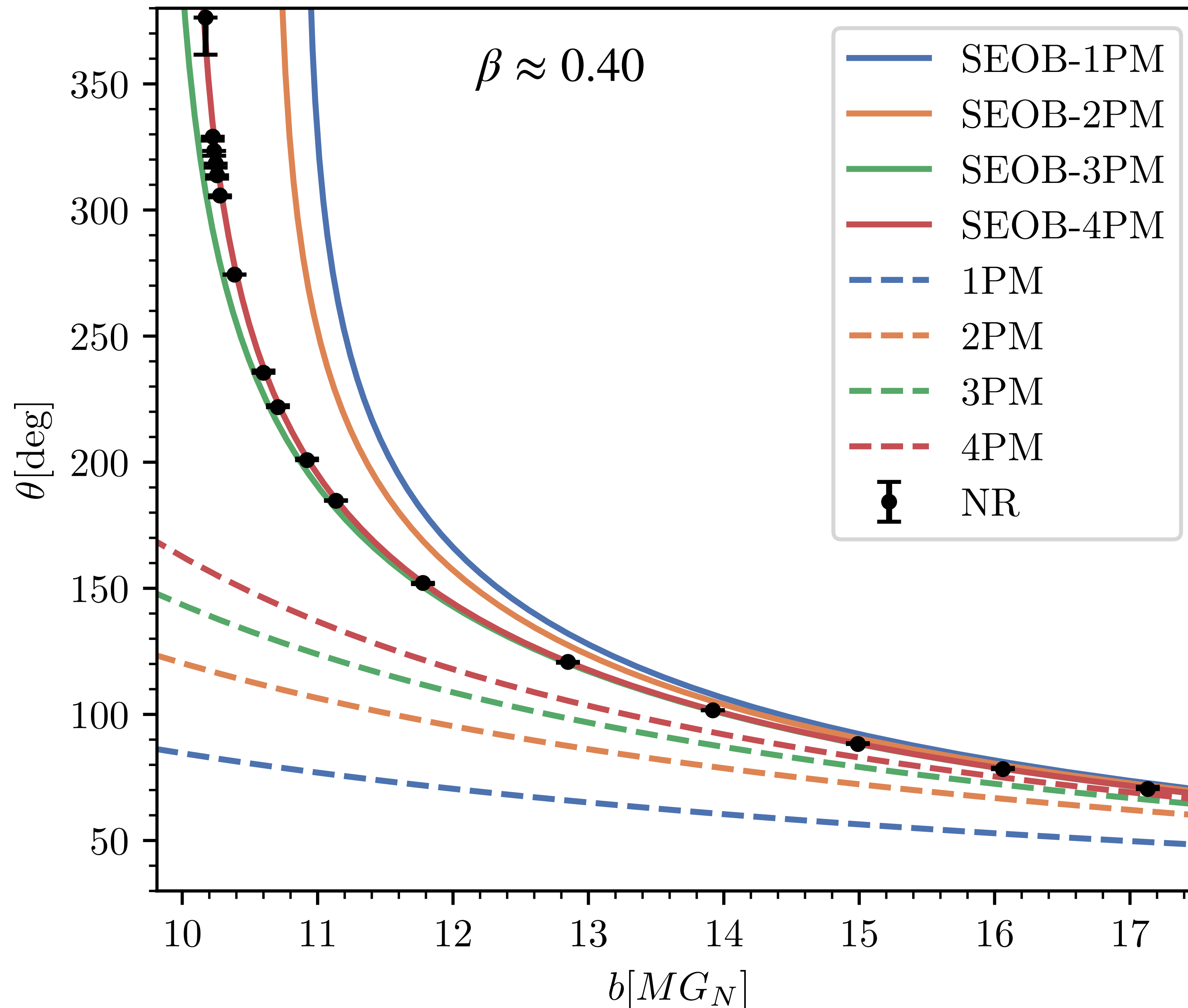
$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta^2}} , \quad \beta = \text{relativistic velocity} ,$$

$$\Gamma^2 = 1 + 2\nu(\gamma - 1) ,$$

$$\nu = \frac{m_1 m_2}{M^2} , \quad \delta = \frac{m_1 - m_2}{M} , \quad M = m_1 + m_2 , \quad m_i = \text{masses} ,$$

$$s_{\pm} = s_1 \pm s_2 , \quad s_i = \text{spin lengths}$$

# Outlook



**3-loop** scattering with spin and tidal effects:

2306.01714 **GUJ**, Mogull, Plefka, Sauer, Xu

2308.11514 **GUJ**, Mogull, Plefka, Sauer

2312.00719 **GUJ**, Mogull, Plefka, Sauer

Electromagnetic **self-force** with spin and polarization effects:

2311.04151 **GUJ**

Post-Minkowskian effective-one-body (EOB) **resummations**:

2402.12342 Buonanno, **GUJ**, Mogull

# Conclusions

- The WQFT is an efficient and flexible formalism for computing gravitational scattering observables
- Spin and dissipative effects are naturally incorporated into the WQFT
- Advanced integration techniques allow for high orders in perturbation theory
- State-of-the-art results at two loops and  $S^2$