

Leading nonlinear tidal effects and scattering amplitudes

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ABSTRACT: We present the two-body Hamiltonian and associated eikonal phase, to leading post-Minkowskian order, for infinitely many tidal deformations described by operators with arbitrary powers of the curvature tensor. Scattering amplitudes in momentum and position space provide systematic complementary approaches. For the tidal operators quadratic in curvature, which describe the linear response to an external gravitational field, we work out the leading post-Minkowskian contributions using a basis of operators with arbitrary numbers of derivatives which are in one-to-one correspondence with the worldline multipole operators. Explicit examples are used to show that the same techniques apply to both bodies interacting tidally with a spinning particle, for which we find the leading contributions from quadratic in curvature tidal operators with an arbitrary number of derivatives, and to effective field theory extensions of general relativity. We also note that the leading post-Minkowskian order contributions from higher-dimension operators manifest double-copy relations. Finally, we comment on the structure of higher-order corrections.

KEYWORDS: Classical Theories of Gravity, Effective Field Theories, Scattering Amplitudes

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1 Introduction

The remarkable discovery of gravitational waves by the LIGO and Virgo collaborations [1, 2] has ushered in a new era of exploration that promises major new discoveries on black holes, neutron stars and perhaps even new basic insights into fundamental physics. Theoretical tools of increased precision, matching that of gravitational-wave signals not only from current detectors but also from proposed gravitational-wave observatories [3–5], are required.

The evolution of a compact binary and the ensuing gravitational-wave emission can be divided in three distinct phases — inspiral, merger and ring down — according to their underlying properties. The inspiral part of binary mergers, which is the subject of this

paper, is analyzed through models such as the effective one-body (EOB) formalism [6, 7]. The weak gravitational field during this phase makes it suitable for a perturbative approach and these models import information from post-Newtonian (PN) gravity [8–38], as well as the self-force framework [39, 40] and numerical relativity [41–43]. More recently, the post-Minkowskian (PM) expansion [44–58] has gained prominence due to its capture of the complete velocity dependence at fixed order in Newton’s constant. By exposing the analytic structure of each order, this expansion also offers new insight into features of gravitational perturbation theory, exposes hereto unexpected structure in certain observables, and may open a path to the resummation of perturbation theory in the classical limit. The PN, PM and self-force expansions provide important nontrivial cross checks in their overlapping regions of validity [36–38, 55, 56, 59–61]. For recent reviews see refs. [62–67].

Over the years a close link between classical physics and scattering amplitudes has been developed [53–55, 57, 68–83] and led to a robust and powerful means for obtaining two-body Hamiltonians [53] and observables in the post-Minkowskian expansion. It was obtained by combining modern techniques, such as generalized unitarity [84–91], which emphasize gauge-invariant building blocks at all stages and build higher-order contributions from lower-order ones with effective field theory methods. This framework proved its effectiveness through the construction of the sought after two-body Hamiltonian at the third order in Newton’s constant [54, 55] and the identification of surprising simplicity in physical observables of interacting spinning black holes [92]. The scattering angle is of particular importance, as it provides a direct link [82] with the EOB framework [6, 7] used to predict gravitational wave emission from compact binaries.

In this paper we investigate the effects of tidal deformations [93–95] on the conservative two-body Hamiltonian during the inspiral phase, focusing on their structure in the post-Minkowskian expansion. The tidal deformations offer a window into the equation of state of neutron stars [96–99] and test our understanding of black holes [83, 100–107] and of possible exotic physics [108–114]. While tidal effects are expected to vanish for black holes in general relativity [97, 115–118], they are of crucial importance for understanding the equation of state of neutron stars. These corrections are formally equivalent to fifth-order post-Newtonian effects [24], highlighting the importance of precision perturbative calculations.

Properties of extended bodies that relate to their finite size can be encoded in local-operator deformations of a point-particle theory by integrating out their internal degrees of freedom. The set of all possible tidal operators is constrained only by the symmetry properties of the fundamental theory, such as parity. We introduce our organization of tidal operators in close analogy with the case of electromagnetic susceptibilities. Indeed, not only is there a formal similarity between gauge theory and gravity, but the integrand of gravitational scattering amplitudes can be obtained directly from gauge theory using the double copy [119–123]. For the relatively simple case of the leading-PM order contribution of a given tidal operator to scattering amplitudes, these relations follow from the factorization of the point-particle energy-momentum tensor and from the fact that the linearized Riemann tensor is a product of two gauge-theory field strengths. Thus, in analogy with the case of electromagnetic interactions of extended bodies, tidal operators may contain arbitrarily-high number of Riemann curvature tensors with an arbitrary number of derivatives.

Curvature-squared tidal operators, describing the linear response of an extended body to an external gravitational field, were recently classified in ref. [107], where an expression for the two-body Hamiltonian and scattering angle at leading post-Minkowskian order was conjectured. Here we prove the conjecture for a basis of operators whose Wilson coefficients in the four-dimensional point-particle effective action are exactly the same as the worldline electric and magnetic tidal coefficients, related to the corresponding multipole Love numbers by factors of the typical scale of the body, see e.g. refs. [24, 96–99, 105]. The lowest-order matrix elements of our tidal operators are, by construction, the same as the matrix elements of the worldline tidal operators. To establish the map beyond leading order it is necessary to compare physical quantities. At the next-to-leading order the contributions of low-derivative R^2 tidal operators to the two-body Hamiltonian and to the scattering angle were determined in refs. [83, 106].

We also obtain the leading-order modifications of the two-body Hamiltonian and of the scattering angle due to tidal operators with arbitrarily-high number of Weyl tensors, which describe the nonlinear response of extended bodies to external gravitational field. As usual we organize the operators in terms of electric and magnetic-type components, E and B , of the Riemann (or Weyl) tensor. The finite rank of these tensors leads to nontrivial relations between different operators, allowing us to express the contributions of E^n and B^n -type operators for $n \geq 4$ in terms of those of products of simpler operators, thus reducing the number of independent structures.

While these relations appear mysterious for scattering amplitudes in momentum space, they are made manifest by Fourier-transforming the integral representation of the amplitude to position space. At any loop order, the transform decouples all integrals from each other. This observation allows us to write down closed-form expressions for amplitudes, two-body Hamiltonians and scattering angles generated by infinite families of operators. Beyond leading order the structure of tidally-deformed amplitudes is more complicated, but the momentum-space methods of refs. [53–55, 83] can be applied systematically. Integration by parts methods [124, 125] are especially powerful for the conservative two-body problem because in the potential region of loop integrals all relevant integrals are of single-scale type [126].

The methods we use to describe tidal operators apply equally well to deformations of a point-particle theory by any operators, including e.g. those arising in effective field theory extensions of General Relativity [127–133]. We illustrate this point by working out the contributions of R^3 and R^4 and compare them with existing results. The two-body Hamiltonian and associated observables for a point-particle deformed by tidal operators interacting with a spinning particle can also be derived through similar methods. To leading PM order, only the single-graviton interaction of the spinning particle is relevant and it is captured by the stress tensors described in [92, 134, 135]. As an example, we find the leading spin-orbit contributions from E^2 -type tidal operators with an arbitrary number of derivatives interacting with a spinning particle.

This paper organized as follows. In section 2 we present a description of the operators encoding tidal deformations. In section 3 we discuss the leading-order tidal contributions from R^2 -type operators with an arbitrary number of derivatives. This section also

demonstrate how to incorporate spin effects for the second body. We proceed to derive in section 4 the leading contributions of various infinite classes of R^n -type tidal operators and also comment on their higher-order contributions. In section 5 we discuss the application of our methods to the case of R^n extensions of General Relativity. We present our conclusions in section 6. An appendix gives the explicit results for the contributions of a collection of high-order tidal operators to the two-body Hamiltonian and the associate scattering amplitudes.

Note added. While this project was ongoing we became aware of concurrent work by Cheung, Shah and Solon [136] based on using the geodesic equation and containing some overlap on leading contributions to the two-body Hamiltonian from the R^n tidal operators. In addition, the methods developed there determine the two-body Hamiltonian for a tidally-deformed test particle interacting with a Schwarzschild black hole, to all orders in the Schwarzschild radius of the latter. We are grateful for interesting and helpful discussions and sharing drafts.

2 Effective actions for tidal effects

2.1 Effective actions for post-Minkowskian potentials

In this work we study tidal or finite-size effects in the gravitational interactions of two massive extended bodies. They are encoded in a classical two-body Hamiltonian of the form

$$H(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) = \sqrt{\mathbf{p}^2 + m_1^2} + \sqrt{\mathbf{p}^2 + m_2^2} + V(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}), \quad (2.1)$$

and is extracted systematically, following the general approach introduced in [53], by matching QFT scattering amplitudes to a non-relativistic EFT. If the size of the two bodies is much smaller than their separation, non-analytic/long-distance classical potential has the form

$$V(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) \sim c_i(\mathbf{p}) m \left(\frac{Gm}{|\mathbf{r}|} \right)^i, \quad (2.2)$$

where m carries unit mass dimension and the momentum transfer \mathbf{q} , Fourier-conjugate to \mathbf{r} , is much smaller than the center of mass momentum \mathbf{p} . Such a conservative potential arises from integrating out gravitons with momenta ℓ in the potential region which has the scaling behavior

$$\ell = (\ell^0, \boldsymbol{\ell}) \sim (|\mathbf{q}||\mathbf{v}|, |\mathbf{q}|), \quad (2.3)$$

where $|\mathbf{v}| \sim \mathcal{O}(|\mathbf{p}|/m)$. Note that Gm is of the order of the effective Schwarzschild radius of the particles R_s , so the classical expansion¹ of the potential is an expansion in $R_s/|\mathbf{r}|$. If the separation of the two bodies can be of the same order as their typical size R , then the classical potential takes the form

$$V(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) \sim c_{i,k}(\mathbf{p}) m \left(\frac{Gm}{|\mathbf{r}|} \right)^i \left(\frac{R}{|\mathbf{r}|} \right)^k. \quad (2.4)$$

¹The amplitude also contains non-analytic terms which we will not study here, corresponding to quantum contributions to the potential of the form $(\ell_p^2/r^2)^n$, where ℓ_p is the Planck length.

For black holes $R \sim R_s$ so the size of terms with powers of R is comparable to higher PM orders. For other bodies $R > R_s$ so the contribution should be bigger. For reference, neutrons stars have $R/R_s \sim 10$, and the sun has $R/R_s \sim 10^5$. In practice, it is convenient to always use R_s/r as the expansion parameter so that the tidal effects just modify the coefficients in the usual PM potential, i.e. $c_{i,k} \sim \Delta c_{i+k}$.

From our point of view, the new scale R_s is introduced by integrating out the degrees of freedom that describe the tidal dynamics of an extended body to yield a point-particle effective theory. In such an effective theory the finite size effects are encoded as higher-dimension operators \mathcal{O}_i which are suppressed by powers of $R_s|\mathbf{q}|$. Their Wilson coefficients can be determined either by matching to the complete theory that includes the tidal degrees of freedom, or by comparing to experiment. A side effect of choosing R_s instead of R as the scale characterizing finite-size effects is that for less compact bodies the Wilson coefficients are not necessarily $\mathcal{O}(1)$. This approach was pioneered in the context of a worldline PN formalism in ref. [24], and recently adapted to the PM framework in ref. [106]. In the QFT language this approach has been recently used in refs. [83, 107]. In section we provide a systematic treatment of such effective actions and write a basis of operators which simplifies the translation between QFT and worldline formalisms and makes the relation to familiar *in-in* observables manifest.

The cases that we focus on in this paper correspond to leading contributions from tidal or other operators. Although these operators first contribute to loop amplitudes, the determination of their leading-order contribution to the two-body potential is straightforward and formally given by inverting the Born relation between the scattering amplitude and the potential:

$$V_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) = -\frac{1}{4E_1 E_2} \int \frac{d^{D-1}\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} e^{-i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{r}} \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}). \tag{2.5}$$

Here $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}$ is the leading-order four-scalar scattering amplitude with a single insertion of \mathcal{O} , center of mass momentum \mathbf{p} , transferred momentum \mathbf{q} . In general the potential is gauge dependent and not unique. In the above equation we choose to expose the on-shell condition on \mathbf{q} first such that $\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{q} \simeq \mathcal{O}(q^2) \sim 0$. This naturally gives the potential in the isotropic gauge.

Alternatively, the effective two-body Hamiltonian can be constructed by matching its conservative observables — such as the conservative scattering angle, or the impulse and spin kick — or the closely-related eikonal phase [137–140],

$$\delta_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{b}) = \frac{1}{4m_1 m_2 \sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}} \int \frac{d^{D-2}\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^{D-2}} e^{-i\mathbf{b}\cdot\mathbf{q}} \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}), \tag{2.6}$$

with the corresponding quantities in the complete theory. Here we use $-p_i = -m_i u_i$ as the incoming momenta of particle 1 and 2 and

$$\sigma \equiv \frac{p_1 \cdot p_2}{m_1 m_2} = u_1 \cdot u_2. \tag{2.7}$$

In either case, the matching is carried out order by order in Newton’s constant G , that is order by order in the post-Minkowskian expansion. The relation between the eikonal

and conservative observables holds also for the scattering of spinning particles. To leading nontrivial order, the effect of a composite operator \mathcal{O} on the impulse and spin kick in the center-of-mass frame is

$$\Delta \mathbf{p} = -\nabla_{\mathbf{b}} \delta_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{b}) + \dots, \quad \Delta \mathbf{S}_i = -\{\mathbf{S}_i, \delta_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{b})\} + \dots, \quad (2.8)$$

where the ellipsis stand for higher-order terms that depend on \mathcal{O} and $\{\bullet, \bullet\}$ is the Poisson bracket. We expect that the all-order relation between the eikonal phase and conservative observables put forth in ref. [92] holds in the presence of deformations by tidal and other composite operators. At leading order, the semiclassical approximation implies that the eikonal phase coincides with the radial action integrated over the scattering trajectory, i.e. integrated over a straight line for the leading order calculation. We discuss this further in section 3.3. The latter allows us to make contact with ref. [105] in which tidal effects were computed using a classical worldline formalism for a subset of tidal operators. See also [141] for additional discussion of the relation between radial action, eikonal phase, and amplitude.

Alternatively the matching can be performed by directly computing a physically meaningful quantity such as the conservative scattering angle, corresponding to the scattering with radiation reaction turned off; or the closely related eikonal phase. In either case matching is performed order by order in perturbation theory in Newton's constant, G , that is order by order in the post-Minkowskian expansion.

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{q}) = |\mathbf{q}|^A \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\mathcal{O}}, \quad (2.9)$$

$$V_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{1}{4E_1 E_2} \frac{2^A \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}(D-1+A)\right)}{\pi^{(D-1)/2} \Gamma\left(-\frac{1}{2}A\right)} |\mathbf{r}|^{-A-(D-1)} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\mathcal{O}}, \quad (2.10)$$

$$\delta_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{b}) = \frac{1}{4m_1 m_2 \sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}} \frac{2^A \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}(D-2+A)\right)}{\pi^{(D-2)/2} \Gamma\left(-\frac{1}{2}A\right)} |\mathbf{b}|^{-A-(D-2)} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\mathcal{O}}, \quad (2.11)$$

where we have used the formula for the Fourier transform of a power

$$\int \frac{d^D \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^D} e^{-i\mathbf{x}\cdot\mathbf{q}} |\mathbf{q}|^A = \frac{2^A \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}(D+A)\right)}{\pi^{d/2} \Gamma\left(-\frac{1}{2}A\right)} |\mathbf{x}|^{-(A+D)}. \quad (2.12)$$

Here A is power of the soft q carried by the amplitude. For an operator with n power of Riemann or Weyl tensors with n_{∂} derivatives acting on them, the leading contribution to the two-to-two scalar amplitude is

$$A = 3n + n_{\partial} - 3 - 2\epsilon(n-1), \quad (2.13)$$

where we use $D = 4 - 2\epsilon$. For example, for the electric and magnetic operators E^2 and B^2 we will introduce shortly, $n = 2$ and $n_{\partial} = 0$ so $A = 3 - 2\epsilon$, and every pair of derivatives acting of these increases n_{∂} and A by two.

2.2 Effective actions for linear and non-linear tidal effects

We now explain how to parametrize the response of a general body to an external field and how this can be encoded in an effective action. We will discuss this in detail in the simpler case of electromagnetism, which will easily generalize to the gravitational case.

2.2.1 Tidal response in non-linear optics

The full non-linear response of a body to an external electric field E_i is described by the induced electric dipole moment density D_i . In the rest frame of the body, it has a formal expansion in powers of the electric field [142]:

$$D_{i_1}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \chi_{i_1 i_2}^{(1)}(t, \mathbf{x}) E_{i_2}(t, \mathbf{x}) + \chi_{i_1 i_2 i_3}^{(2)}(t, \mathbf{x}) E_{i_2}(t, \mathbf{x}) E_{i_3}(t, \mathbf{x}) + \dots \quad (2.14)$$

The first term is the familiar linear response function; the subsequent terms encode the properties of the body in the susceptibility tensors, $\chi^{(n)}$, which are symmetric in their indices. Similarly, in the presence of a magnetic field B_i , one can write magnetic susceptibilities, as well as general susceptibilities capturing the response under a general electromagnetic field.

It is convenient to transform eq. (2.14) to Fourier space, where it takes the form

$$D_{i_1}(-\omega_1, -\mathbf{q}_1) = \chi_{i_1 i_2}^{(1)}(\omega_1, \mathbf{q}_1; \omega_2, \mathbf{q}_2) E_{i_2}(\omega_2, \mathbf{q}_2) + \chi_{i_1 i_2 i_3}^{(2)}(\omega_1, \mathbf{q}_1; \omega_2, \mathbf{q}_2; \omega_3, \mathbf{q}_3) E_{i_2}(\omega_2, \mathbf{q}_2) E_{i_3}(\omega_3, \mathbf{q}_3) + \dots \quad (2.15)$$

Here we have adopted a generalized summation convention where repeated frequencies and momenta are integrated over, and the Fourier susceptibilities include energy-momentum-conservation delta functions

$$\chi_{i_1 \dots i_n}^{(n-1)} = \delta \left(\sum_i \omega_i \right) \delta \left(\sum_i \mathbf{q}_i \right) \tilde{\chi}_{i_1 \dots i_n}^{(n-1)}, \quad (2.16)$$

which account for the fact that the position-space product in eq. (2.14) becomes a Fourier space convolution in eq. (2.15).

The dipole density can be related to a generating function — or effective action — $S(E)$, via the usual response formula

$$D_{i_1}(-\omega_1, -\mathbf{q}_1) = \frac{\partial S(E)}{\partial E^{i_1}(\omega_1, \mathbf{q}_1)}. \quad (2.17)$$

The effective action, following from formally integrating eq. (2.14), is given by

$$S(E) = \frac{1}{2} \chi_{i_1 i_2}^{(1)}(\omega_1, \mathbf{q}_1; \omega_2, \mathbf{q}_2) E_{i_1}(\omega_1, \mathbf{q}_1) E_{i_2}(\omega_2, \mathbf{q}_2) + \frac{1}{3} \chi_{i_1 i_2 i_3}^{(2)}(\omega_1, \mathbf{q}_1; \omega_2, \mathbf{q}_2; \omega_3, \mathbf{q}_3) E_{i_1}(\omega_1, \mathbf{q}_1) E_{i_2}(\omega_2, \mathbf{q}_2) E_{i_3}(\omega_3, \mathbf{q}_3) + \dots \quad (2.18)$$

This makes clear that the momentum space susceptibilities are completely symmetric tensors, as well as symmetric functions of all their arguments. $S(E)$ could be put in a form closer to an action by series expanding the susceptibilities and rewriting the powers of frequency and three-momenta as derivatives. For instance one can rewrite some terms in the expansion as follows

$$\left(\frac{\partial \chi_{i_1 i_2}^{(1)}}{\partial \omega_1 \partial \mathbf{q}_2^j} (0) \omega_1 \mathbf{q}_2^j \right) E_{i_1}(\omega_1, \mathbf{q}_1) E_{i_2}(\omega_2, \mathbf{q}_2) \sim \left(\frac{\partial \chi_{i_1 i_2}^{(1)}}{\partial \omega_1 \partial \mathbf{q}_2^j} (0) \right) \partial_t E_{i_1}(t, \mathbf{x}) \nabla_x^j E_{i_2}(t, \mathbf{x}). \quad (2.19)$$

Note that the expansion in the three momenta here simply corresponds to a multipole expansion of the electric fields.

So far we have been working in the rest frame of the object. The choice of a frame breaks manifest Lorentz invariance down to the rotations around the position of the object. We would like to covariantize the expressions above so that they are valid in an arbitrary reference frame, in which the body moves with velocity \mathbf{v} . This can be done by considering the four-velocity of the object $u^\mu = \gamma(1, \mathbf{v})$, where γ is the Lorentz factor. As is well known the electric field and magnetic fields in the rest frame of the body can be covariantly written as

$$E_\mu = F_{\mu\nu}u^\nu, \quad B_\mu = *F_{\mu\nu}u^\nu, \quad (2.20)$$

where $F_{\mu\nu}$ is the electromagnetic field strength, and $*F_{\mu\nu}$ its dual. Similarly, it is clear that any frequency and spatial momenta can be written as

$$\omega_i \rightarrow u \cdot q \equiv u^\mu q_\mu, \quad \mathbf{q}_i \rightarrow (q^\perp)_\mu \equiv P_{\mu\nu}q^\nu, \quad (2.21)$$

where we have introduced the four momentum of the field, q_i^μ and a projector,

$$P^{\mu\nu} = \eta^{\mu\nu} - u^\mu u^\nu, \quad (2.22)$$

which makes indices purely spatial in the rest frame of the object. Naively this covariantization requires adding components to the polarizabilities so that $\chi_{i_1 \dots i_n}^{(n-1)} \rightarrow \chi_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(n-1)}$, and we can write

$$S(E) = \chi_{\mu_1 \mu_2}^{(1)}(u \cdot q_1, q_1^\perp; u \cdot q_2, q_2^\perp) E_{\mu_1}(q_1) E_{\mu_2}(q_2) + \chi_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3}^{(2)}(u \cdot q_1, q_1^\perp; u \cdot q_2, q_2^\perp, u \cdot q_3, q_3^\perp) E_{\mu_1}(q_1) E_{\mu_2}(q_2) E_{\mu_3}(q_3) + \dots, \quad (2.23)$$

due to the fact that $u^\mu E_\mu = u^\mu B_\mu = 0$, which follows from the antisymmetry of the field strength.

The generating function written above describes the non-linear response of an arbitrary material, including those that violate rotational and Lorentz invariance. In the following we will be only interested in Lorentz-preserving effects, which impose additional constraints on the susceptibility tensors. Firstly, Lorentz invariance constrains the index structure of the susceptibility, which can only be carried by Lorentz-covariant tensors. If we impose parity, the only such tensors are the metric itself and the graviton momenta, so the tensor susceptibility must decompose in a set of scalar susceptibilities as follows

$$\chi_{\mu_1 \mu_2}^{(1)} = \chi_0^{(1)} g_{\mu_1 \mu_2} + \chi_1^{(1)} q_{1\mu_1}^\perp q_{2\mu_2}^\perp \quad (2.24)$$

$$\chi_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3}^{(2)} = \chi_0^{(2)} (g_{\mu_1 \mu_2} q_{3\mu_3}^\perp + g_{\mu_2 \mu_3} q_{1\mu_1}^\perp + g_{\mu_3 \mu_1} q_{2\mu_2}^\perp), \quad (2.25)$$

$$\chi_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3 \mu_4}^{(3)} = \chi_0^{(3)} g_{(\mu_1 \mu_2} g_{\mu_3 \mu_4)} + \chi_1^{(3)} (g_{\mu_1 \mu_2} q_{3\mu_3}^\perp q_{4\mu_4}^\perp + \text{perms}) + \chi_2^{(3)} q_{1\mu_1}^\perp q_{2\mu_2}^\perp q_{3\mu_3}^\perp q_{4\mu_4}^\perp, \quad (2.26)$$

where in general each tensor structure must be summed over permutations which respect the symmetry ($\mu_i \leftrightarrow \mu_j$) while simultaneously swapping $q_i^\perp \leftrightarrow q_j^\perp$. Another consequence of Lorentz invariance is that the scalar susceptibilities only depend on Lorentz invariant combinations of momenta, so that

$$\chi_a^{(n-1)}(u \cdot q_i; q_i^\perp) \rightarrow \chi_a^{(n-1)}(u \cdot q_i; q_i^\perp \cdot q_j^\perp). \quad (2.27)$$

Note that in the rest frame $q_i^\perp \cdot q_j^\perp = \mathbf{q}_i \cdot \mathbf{q}_j$.

2.2.2 Non-linear tidal response in gravity

It is now easy to generalize the tidal response for electromagnetism to its gravitational analog. In this case we start from the induced quadrupole moment, written in terms of the gravito-electric field

$$Q_{i_1 j_1}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \chi_{i_1 j_1 i_2 j_2}^{(1)}(t, \mathbf{x}) E_{i_2 j_2}(t, \mathbf{x}) + \chi_{i_1 j_1 i_2 j_2 i_3 j_3}^{(2)}(t, \mathbf{x}) E_{i_2 j_2}(t, \mathbf{x}) E_{i_3 j_3}(t, \mathbf{x}) + \dots, \quad (2.28)$$

where now the gravitational susceptibilities are more general tensors symmetric in each pair of i and j indices

$$\chi^{\dots i j \dots} = \chi^{\dots j i \dots}, \quad \chi^{\dots i_a j_a \dots i_b j_b \dots} = \chi^{\dots i_b j_b \dots i_a j_a \dots}. \quad (2.29)$$

In the rest frame of the object the electric field is related to the Weyl tensor as $E_{ij} = C_{0i0j}$. Similar expressions can be written for the response to a gravito-magnetic or to a mixed field.

All of these quantities can be covariantized by introducing

$$E_{\mu\nu} \equiv C_{\mu\alpha\nu\beta} u^\alpha u^\beta, \quad B_{\mu\nu} \equiv (*C)_{\mu\alpha\nu\beta} u^\gamma u^\delta \equiv \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma\mu} C^{\alpha\beta}{}_{\delta\nu} u^\gamma u^\delta, \quad (2.30)$$

where all indices are curved and the Levi-Civita tensor is defined as $\epsilon^{0123} = +1$. As in the electromagnetic case the following relations hold

$$E_{\mu\nu} u^\nu = 0, \quad B_{\mu\nu} u^\nu = 0, \quad (2.31)$$

as well as

$$E_\mu{}^\mu = 0, \quad B_\mu{}^\mu = 0, \quad (2.32)$$

where the first equality is a consequence of the tracelessness of the Weyl tensor. The corresponding generating function for tidal response is then simply

$$\begin{aligned} S_{\text{grav}}(E) &= \chi_{\mu_1 \nu_1 \mu_2 \nu_2}^{(1)}(u \cdot q_1, P q_1; u \cdot q_2, P q_2) \phi(p') E^{\mu_1 \nu_1}(q_1) E^{\mu_2 \nu_2}(q_2) \phi(p) \\ &+ \chi_{\mu_1 \nu_1 \mu_2 \nu_2 \mu_3 \nu_3}^{(2)}(u \cdot q_1, P q_1; u \cdot q_2, P q_2, u \cdot q_3, P q_3) \phi(p') E^{\mu_1 \nu_1}(q_1) E^{\mu_2 \nu_2}(q_2) E^{\mu_3 \nu_3}(q_3) \phi(p) \\ &+ \dots \end{aligned} \quad (2.33)$$

where, as above, a convolution over all momenta is implicit, and the covariant susceptibilities are traceless in each pair of μ, ν indices $\eta^{\mu\nu} \chi_{\dots \mu \nu \dots} = 0$. Once again, Lorentz invariance will further constraint the form of the susceptibility tensors in a way analogous to eqs. (2.24)–(2.26).

2.2.3 From response to QFT effective actions

We now proceed to connect our discussion to a QFT effective action, focusing on the case of gravity; the electromagnetic case is completely analogous.

The connection can be easily made by interpreting the generating function, $S_{\text{grav}}(E)$ as the expectation value in a background field of an operator in a one-particle state $|p\rangle$ with

four momentum $p = mu$, and zero spin. In second-quantized language the one-particle state is created by a scalar field, ϕ , at infinity and

$$S_{\text{tidal}} = \chi_{\mu_1\mu_2}^{(1)}(u \cdot q_1, q_1^\perp; u \cdot q_2, q_2^\perp) \phi(p) E_{\mu_1}(q_1) E_{\mu_2}(q_2) \phi(p') \quad (2.34)$$

$$+ \chi_{\mu_1\mu_2\mu_3}^{(2)}(u \cdot q_1, q_1^\perp; u \cdot q_2, q_2^\perp, u \cdot q_3, q_3^\perp) \phi(p) E_{\mu_1}(q_1) E_{\mu_2}(q_2) E_{\mu_3}(q_3) \phi(p') + \dots,$$

can be identified as the momentum-space effective action that encodes the response to the background field. Note that, in order to enforce momentum conservation, the Fourier-transformed susceptibilities must satisfy

$$\chi_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(n-1)} = \delta \left(\sum_i q_i - q \right) \tilde{\chi}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(n-1)}, \quad (2.35)$$

where $q = -(p + p')$. Note that the susceptibilities are initially only defined for $q = 0$, so their covariantization requires an extension to $q \neq 0$. This does not affect the classical limit. As above, each term in the expansion of susceptibilities is encoded by a higher-dimension operator in the effective action, where now the factors of four-velocity u can be identified with derivatives acting on the scalar field. For instance,

$$\partial_\omega^{2n} \chi_{\mu_1\nu_1\mu_2\nu_2}^{(1)}(0, 0) [(u \cdot q_1)^{2n} + (u \cdot q_2)^{2n}] \phi(p') E^{\mu_1\nu_1}(q_1) E^{\mu_2\nu_2}(q_2) \phi(p)$$

$$, \quad \leftrightarrow \partial_\omega^{2n} \chi_{\mu_1\nu_1\mu_2\nu_2}^{(1)}(0, 0) \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \frac{1}{m^{2n}} \phi E^{\mu_1\nu_1} \nabla_{(\rho_1 \dots \rho_{2n})} E^{\mu_2\nu_2} \nabla^{(\rho_1 \dots \rho_{2n})} \phi. \quad (2.36)$$

where the classical limit is implicit on the left-hand side. To write a generic operator appearing in this expansion it is convenient to introduce the combinations,

$$\hat{E}_{\mu_1\mu_2 \dots \mu_n} = \frac{i^2}{m^2} \text{Sym}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n} [\nabla_{\nu_n} \dots \nabla_{\nu_3} C_{\mu_1\alpha\mu_2\beta} \hat{P}_{\mu_n}^{\nu_n} \dots \hat{P}_{\mu_3}^{\nu_3} \nabla^\alpha \nabla^\beta],$$

$$\hat{B}_{\mu_1\mu_2 \dots \mu_n} = \frac{i^2}{m^2} \text{Sym}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n} [\nabla_{\nu_n} \dots \nabla_{\nu_3} (*C)_{\mu_1\alpha\mu_2\beta} \hat{P}_{\mu_n}^{\nu_n} \dots \hat{P}_{\mu_3}^{\nu_3} \nabla^\alpha \nabla^\beta],$$

$$\hat{E}_{\mu_1\mu_2 \dots \mu_n}^{(l)} = \frac{i^{m+2}}{m^{m+2}} \text{Sym}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n} [\nabla_{\nu_n} \dots \nabla_{\nu_3} \nabla^{\rho_1} \dots \nabla^{\rho_l} C_{\mu_1\alpha\mu_2\beta} \hat{P}_{\mu_n}^{\nu_n} \dots \hat{P}_{\mu_3}^{\nu_3} \nabla_{(\rho_1} \dots \nabla_{\rho_l)} \nabla^\alpha \nabla^\beta],$$

$$\hat{B}_{\mu_1\mu_2 \dots \mu_n}^{(l)} = \frac{i^{m+2}}{m^{m+2}} \text{Sym}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n} [\nabla_{\nu_n} \dots \nabla_{\nu_3} \nabla^{\rho_1} \dots \nabla^{\rho_l} (*C)_{\mu_1\alpha\mu_2\beta} \hat{P}_{\mu_n}^{\nu_n} \dots \hat{P}_{\mu_3}^{\nu_3} \nabla_{(\rho_1} \dots \nabla_{\rho_l)} \nabla^\alpha \nabla^\beta], \quad (2.37)$$

where all the derivatives on the right of the Weyl tensor act on the scalar field, and the position-space projector is

$$\hat{P}_\mu^\nu = \frac{1}{m^2} (\partial_\mu \partial^\nu - \delta_\mu^\nu \partial^2). \quad (2.38)$$

The terms in the expansion that encode the most general linear response are then

$$S_{\text{tidal}}^{\text{QFT}}|_{\text{linear}} = m \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (\mu^{(n,l)} \phi \hat{E}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(l)} \hat{E}^{(l)\mu_1 \dots \mu_n} \phi + \sigma^{(n,l)} \phi \hat{B}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(l)} \hat{B}^{(l)\mu_1 \dots \mu_n} \phi) \quad (2.39)$$

where the coefficients are related to the susceptibility as $\mu^{(n,l)} \sim (\partial_{\omega_2})^l (\partial_{q_1, q_2})^l \chi_0^{(1)}(0; 0)$, and the magnetic susceptibilities are related to $\sigma^{(n,l)}$ in a similar way. Operators like

$\phi E_{\mu_1 \mu_2}^{(l_1)} E^{(l_2) \mu_1 \mu_2} \phi$ with $l_1 \neq l_2$ are related to operators with $l_1 = l_2$ by integration by parts and use of scalar field equations of motion. We therefore can ignore them at this order. Similarly, the effective action

$$S_{\text{tidal}}^{\text{QFT}}|_{\text{non-linear}} = m \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (\rho_e^{(n)} \phi \hat{E}_{\mu_1}^{\mu_2} \hat{E}_{\mu_2}^{\mu_3} \dots \hat{E}_{\mu_n}^{\mu_1} \phi + \rho_m^{(n)} \phi \hat{B}_{\mu_1}^{\mu_2} \hat{B}_{\mu_2}^{\mu_3} \dots \hat{B}_{\mu_n}^{\mu_1} \phi) + \dots \quad (2.40)$$

encodes part of the lowest-multipole time-independent non-linear response,

It is not difficult to translate the different terms in the response functions into a first quantized framework. This leads to a one-to-one relation between the higher-dimension operators in the QFT effective action and worldline operators. The factors of u are identified with the four-velocity of the worldline $u^\mu = dx^\mu/d\tau$ and the factors of $(u \cdot \nabla)$ simply become derivatives with respect to the proper time τ . Thus, the analog of the operators in the effective worldline action are

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \dots \mu_n} &= \text{Sym}_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \dots \mu_n} \left[P_{\mu_3}^{\nu_3} \dots P_{\mu_n}^{\nu_n} \nabla_{\nu_3} \dots \nabla_{\nu_n} C_{\mu_1 \alpha \mu_2 \beta} \right] u^\alpha u^\beta, \\ B_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \dots \mu_n} &= \text{Sym}_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \dots \mu_n} \left[P_{\mu_3}^{\nu_3} \dots P_{\mu_n}^{\nu_n} \nabla_{\nu_3} \dots \nabla_{\nu_n} (*C)_{\mu_1 \alpha \mu_2 \beta} \right] u^\alpha u^\beta, \\ E_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(m)} &= (u^\alpha \nabla_\alpha)^m E_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n} = (\partial_\tau)^m E_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}, \\ B_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(m)} &= (u^\alpha \nabla_\alpha)^m B_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n} = (\partial_\tau)^m B_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.41)$$

where $P_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu} - u_\mu u_\nu$ is the u -orthogonal projector on the worldline. The effective action encoding the linear response are

$$S_{\text{tidal}}^{\text{worldline}}|_{\text{linear}} = \int d\tau \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \mu^{(n,l)} (E_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(l)} E^{(l) \mu_1 \dots \mu_n} + \sigma^{(n,l)} B_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(l)} B^{(l) \mu_1 \dots \mu_n}). \quad (2.42)$$

Note that here we use a different normalization than ref. [105], the relation between our coefficients is $\mu_{\text{BDG}}^{(n,l)} = 2l! \mu^{(n,l)}$ and $\sigma_{\text{BDG}}^{(n,l)} = 2(l+1)! \sigma^{(n,l)}$. The non-linear response is captured by

$$S_{\text{tidal}}^{\text{worldline}}|_{\text{non-linear}} = \int d\tau \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \rho_e^{(n)} E_{\mu_1}^{\mu_2} E_{\mu_2}^{\mu_3} \dots E_{\mu_n}^{\mu_1} + \rho_m^{(n)} B_{\mu_1}^{\mu_2} B_{\mu_2}^{\mu_3} \dots B_{\mu_n}^{\mu_1} + \dots \quad (2.43)$$

Thus, for a particle of mass m_i described by the scalar field ϕ_i , the correspondence between worldline operators and QFT Lagrangian operators is

$$\int d\tau E_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(l)} E^{(l) \mu_1 \dots \mu_n} \longleftrightarrow m_i \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \phi_i \hat{E}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(l)} \hat{E}^{(l) \mu_1 \dots \mu_n} \phi_i, \quad (2.44)$$

$$\int d\tau B_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(l)} B^{(l) \mu_1 \dots \mu_n} \longleftrightarrow m_i \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \phi_i \hat{B}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(l)} \hat{B}^{(l) \mu_1 \dots \mu_n} \phi_i. \quad (2.45)$$

The normalization of the QFT operators is fixed such that their four-point matrix elements in the classical limit reproduce the expectation value of the worldline operators, provided that the normalization of the asymptotic states is the same for both of them, i.e. it is a

nonrelativistic normalization for the QFT states. One may similarly construct a correspondence between worldline and QFT operators with more factors of the Riemann tensor. For more details about the correspondence between QFT amplitudes and worldline matrix elements see e.g. ref. [143].

2.2.4 Four dimensional relations

In any fixed dimension, the operators described above satisfy relations stemming from their finite number of components;² thus they give an overcomplete description of the physics of extended bodies.

One class of relations follows from the electric and magnetic fields being tensors of finite rank. Naively they have rank four, but because $E_{\mu\nu}u^\nu = B_{\mu\nu}u^\nu = 0$ their rank is lowered to three. This is not a surprise: it is a consequence of the fact that $E_{\mu\nu}$ and $B_{\mu\nu}$ are the covariant versions of the purely spatial E_{ij}, B_{ij} in the rest frame. The simplest relation following from the finiteness of the ranks of E and B is

$$E_{[\mu_1}{}^{\mu_2} E_{\mu_2}{}^{\mu_3} E_{\mu_3}{}^{\mu_4} E_{\mu_4]}{}^{\mu_1} = 0, \tag{2.46}$$

which, together with the tracelessness of E , implies that $E^4 = 1/2(E^2)^2$. More generally, relations can be found which involve mixed powers of the electric and magnetic fields. For operators with no derivatives all such relations can be generated by evaluating the following determinant as a formal power series

$$\det[1 + t(E + rB)] = \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^i R_{i,j} t^i r^j. \tag{2.47}$$

The rank-three property of an arbitrary combination of E and B implies that $R_{i \geq 4, j} = 0$. A sample of such relations is

$$\begin{aligned} 2^3 R_{4,0} &= (E^2)^2 - 2(E^4) = 0, \\ 2^2 R_{4,2} &= 2(EB)^2 + (B^2)(E^2) - 2(EBEB) - 4(E^2B^2) = 0, \\ 5R_{5,0} &= (E^5) - \frac{5}{6}(E^2)(E^3) = 0, \\ 6R_{5,2} &= 6(E^2BEB) + 6(E^3B^2) - (B^2)(E^3) - 3(E^2)(EB^2) = 0, \\ 2R_{5,4} &= 2(EB^4) - (B^2)(EB^2) = 0, \end{aligned} \tag{2.48}$$

as well as the ones that follow by interchanging E and B . Here the round parenthesis denote the matrix trace,

$$(\mathcal{O}) \equiv \text{Tr}[\mathcal{O}]. \tag{2.49}$$

Recursively solving them implies that any operator of the form $(E^{n \geq 4})$ can be written as a polynomial in E^2 and E^3 as follows

$$(E^n) = n \sum_{2p+3q=n} \frac{1}{2^p 3^q} \frac{\Gamma(p+q)}{\Gamma(p+1)\Gamma(q+1)} (E^2)^p (E^3)^q. \tag{2.50}$$

²In a different context these relations are known as *evanescent operators* which are operators whose matrix elements vanish in four-dimensions but not in general dimension [144, 145].

A similar relation holds for (B^{2n}) , while $(B^{2n+1}) = 0$ in a parity-invariant theory such as GR.

Another class of relations follows from the vanishing of the Gram determinants of any five or more four-momenta. They imply that certain terms in the power series expansion of susceptibilities are not linearly independent. For instance,

$$\det(v_i \cdot v_j) = 0 \quad \text{with} \quad v_i \subset \{p_1, p_2, q_1, q_2, q_3\}. \quad (2.51)$$

A final class of relations, which we will not detail any further, follows from the over-antisymmetrization of indices of both derivatives and E or B .

An exhaustive enumeration of the E^2 - and B^2 -type operators was carried out in ref. [107], using Hilbert series techniques [146–148], which automatically eliminate the redundancies described here. In contrast, we will not make an attempt to eliminate all redundant operators, but rather use their relations as a check on our framework and calculations.

3 Leading order E^2 and B^2 tidal effects

In this section we discuss the leading-order contribution of the two-graviton tidal operators constructed in section 2. The analysis parallels to some extent that of ref. [107], with the main difference being the choice of operator basis. Our choice aligns with the worldline approach [24, 105] making it straightforward to compare Love numbers. We also evaluate all integrals providing a proof of the results with arbitrary numbers of derivatives. Here we work in an amplitudes-based approach following refs. [53–55, 83].

3.1 Constructing integrands

The first task is to write down a scattering amplitude from which classical scattering angles and Hamiltonians can be extracted. To obtain the integrand we use the generalized unitarity method [84–91]. In this method, the integrand is constructed from the generalized unitarity cut which we define to be

$$\mathcal{C} \equiv \sum_{\text{states}} \mathcal{M}_{(1)}^{\text{tree}} \mathcal{M}_{(2)}^{\text{tree}} \mathcal{M}_{(3)}^{\text{tree}} \cdots \mathcal{M}_{(m)}^{\text{tree}}, \quad (3.1)$$

where the $\mathcal{M}_{(i)}^{\text{tree}}$ are tree amplitudes, some of which can have operator insertion. As a simple example, figure 1 displays the unitarity cut containing the leading-order effect of an R^2 tidal operator.

In general, the cuts that can contribute to the conservative classical Hamiltonian satisfy some simple rules. The first is that generalized unitarity cuts must separate the two matter lines to opposite sides of a cut, which follows from the fact we are interested only in long-range interactions. Another general rule is that every independent loop must have at least one cut matter line, so the energy is restricted to a matter residue. Any contribution with a graviton propagator attached to the same matter line also does not contribute to the conservative classical part. Further details are found in ref. [55].

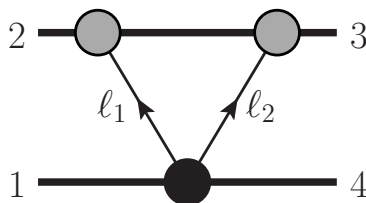


Figure 1. The generalized cut for leading-order contributions to E^2 - or B^2 -type tidal operators. Each blob is an on-shell amplitude, which in this case is local. Each exposed line is taken to be on shell and the blobs represent tree amplitudes. The dark blob contains an insertion of an E^2 - or B^2 -type higher-dimension operator with an arbitrary number of additional derivatives. The external momenta are all outgoing and the arrows indicated the direction of graviton momenta.

In constructing the amplitude integrand we may immediately expand in soft-graviton momenta, since each power of graviton momentum effectively carries an additional power of \hbar and is quantum suppressed. This expansion can be carried out either on at the level of the input tree amplitudes or after assembling the cuts. The order to which a given term needs to be expanded is dictated by simple counting rules. Terms with too high a scaling in the graviton momenta are dropped. For example, at one-loop for the case without tidal or other higher-dimension operators this implies that any term in a diagram numerator with more than a single power of loop momentum in the numerators yields only quantum-mechanical contributions; some terms require fewer loop-momentum factors. In the presence of higher-dimension operators, the leading classical contributions can have higher powers of loop momentum dictated simply by the number of extra derivatives in the operator compared to the usual two derivative minimal coupling; the extra implicit powers of \hbar are made up by the coefficient so the entire expression corresponds to a classical result.

In general to sew the trees together into generalized cuts one should use physical-state projectors which depend on null reference momenta

$$\mathbb{P}^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} = \sum_{\text{states}} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu}(-p)\varepsilon^{\rho\sigma}(p) = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbb{P}^{\mu\rho}\mathbb{P}^{\nu\sigma} + \mathbb{P}^{\mu\sigma}\mathbb{P}^{\nu\rho}) - \frac{1}{D-2}\mathbb{P}^{\mu\nu}\mathbb{P}^{\rho\sigma}, \quad (3.2)$$

where $\mathbb{P}^{\mu\rho} = \eta^{\mu\rho} - (n^\mu p^\rho + n^\rho p^\mu)/(n \cdot p)$ and n^μ is the null reference momentum. However, the reference momenta will drop out if the seed amplitudes are manifestly transverse. In fact, one can always arrange for such terms to automatically drop out [149].

Alternatively, we can also use four-dimensional helicity states to sew gravitons across unitarity cuts. In general, some caution is required in the presence of infrared or ultraviolet singularities, although at least through third post-Minkowskian order helicity methods have been shown to correctly capture all contributions [55]. For cases without non-trivial infrared or ultraviolet divergences,³ we can straightforwardly apply four-dimensional methods. In our cases, the above D -dimensional sewing is simple enough so we will not use four-dimensional helicities here.

³There are ultraviolet divergence at even loop orders that local in momentum transfer q , e.g. in the 3PM scattering [54, 55]. However, these are irrelevant for long-range dynamics because they can be absorbed by a contact interaction.

Finally, the information from multiple generalized cuts must be merged into a single expression. This can either be accomplished at the level of the integrand or after integration. For leading tidal coefficients, effectively only a single cut contributes, so merging information from the cuts is trivial.

3.1.1 Simplifications from leading classical order

The on-shell amplitudes in the unitarity cut simplifies dramatically if we are only interested at leading classical order. Because there is no enhancement from iteration, any terms beyond the leading order in graviton momenta are quantum mechanical and can thus be ignored. For example, consider a three-point scalar-graviton-scalar amplitude at tree level

$$\mathcal{M}_3(\phi(p), h(\ell), \phi(p')) = -\kappa p^\mu p^\nu \varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell), \tag{3.3}$$

where κ is related to Newton's constant by $\kappa^2 = 32\pi G$. For any of the three-point amplitudes inserted in figure 1, we can replace the scalar momenta p by the external momentum p_2 at leading classical order. Physically this implies that we ignore all back reaction on the particle 2, so all three-point amplitudes in figure 1 are approximately the same.

For the amplitude with higher-dimension operator, it suffices to use linearized version of the curvature operators. Expanding the metric in the usual way, $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \kappa h_{\mu\nu}$, we find the Weyl tensor to leading order is

$$C_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} = -2\kappa \partial_{[\mu} \partial_{|\rho} h_{\sigma]|\nu]} + \mathcal{O}(\kappa^2, \square h). \tag{3.4}$$

In deriving this expression we have also dropped terms proportional to the equations of motion for the graviton; this is because they do not contribute to the on-shell matrix elements necessary for the evaluation of the leading-order amplitude. The linearized Weyl tensor in momentum space then reads

$$C_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}^{\text{lin}}(\ell) \equiv \frac{\kappa}{2} [\ell_\mu \ell_\rho \varepsilon(\ell)_{\nu\sigma} - \ell_\nu \ell_\rho \varepsilon(\ell)_{\mu\sigma} - \ell_\mu \ell_\sigma \varepsilon(\ell)_{\nu\rho} + \ell_\nu \ell_\sigma \varepsilon(\ell)_{\mu\rho}]. \tag{3.5}$$

The linearized Weyl tensor can be written a form that manifests the double copy in terms of two gauge-theory field strengths

$$C_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}^{\text{lin}}(\ell) = \frac{\kappa}{2} F_{\mu\nu}^{\text{lin}}(\ell) F_{\rho\sigma}^{\text{lin}}(\ell), \tag{3.6}$$

where

$$F_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}^{\text{lin}}(\ell) \equiv \ell_\mu \varepsilon(\ell)_\nu - \ell_\nu \varepsilon(\ell)_\mu, \tag{3.7}$$

and we identify the graviton polarization tensor as $\varepsilon(\ell)_{\nu\sigma} = \varepsilon(\ell)_\nu \varepsilon(\ell)_\sigma$. This simple example of a double-copy relation [119–123], which is trivial at the linearized level, then implies that the leading-order amplitudes for tidal operators display double-copy relations. The gauge invariance is manifest.

To make the gravitational coupling manifest in all equations, we will extract all factors of κ from the building blocks of amplitudes. The linearized electric and magnetic

components of the linearized Weyl tensor (3.5) follow from eq. (2.30)

$$\mathcal{E}_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell, p) = \frac{1}{2m^2} \left[\ell_{\mu_1} \ell_{\mu_2} (p \cdot \varepsilon(\ell) \cdot p) - (p \cdot \ell) (\ell_{\mu_1} \varepsilon(\ell)_{\mu_2\rho} p^\rho + \ell_{\mu_2} \varepsilon(\ell)_{\mu_1\rho} p^\rho) + \varepsilon(\ell)_{\mu_1\mu_2} (p \cdot \ell)^2 \right], \quad (3.8)$$

$$\mathcal{B}_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell, p) = \frac{1}{4m^2} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma\mu} \left[(p \cdot \ell) (\ell^\alpha \varepsilon(\ell)^\beta_{\mu_2} - \ell^\beta \varepsilon(\ell)^\alpha_{\mu_2}) + \ell^\beta \ell_{\mu_2} (p \cdot \varepsilon(\ell))^\alpha - \ell^\alpha \ell_{\mu_2} (p \cdot \varepsilon(\ell))^\beta \right], \quad (3.9)$$

where the particle momentum and its four-velocity are related in the usual way, $p_\mu = mu_\mu$. It is then straightforward to assemble the amplitude with insertions of a higher-dimension operator from above formulae.

In general to sew trees into generalized cuts one should use physical-state projectors which depend on null reference momenta. However, for the leading-order contributions that we will mostly be studying here, the terms containing dependence on the reference momentum automatically drop out because they are contracted into manifestly gauge-invariant (transverse) quantities.⁴ Effectively, we can use the numerator of the de Donder gauge propagator,

$$\mathbb{P}^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} = \sum_{\text{states}} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu}(-p) \varepsilon^{\rho\sigma}(p) \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} (\eta^{\mu\rho} \eta^{\nu\sigma} + \eta^{\mu\sigma} \eta^{\nu\rho}) - \frac{1}{D-2} \eta^{\mu\nu} \eta^{\rho\sigma}, \quad (3.10)$$

to sew gravitons across cuts. Combining the projector with the three-point amplitude in eq. (3.3) at leading classical order, effectively turns the graviton polarization tensors of the higher-dimension operator into

$$\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell) \rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}(p_2) = \left(p_{2,\mu} p_{2,\nu} - \frac{m_2^2}{D_s - 2} \eta_{\mu\nu} \right). \quad (3.11)$$

Crucially the result is independent of the loop momentum, implying that the sewing automatically imposes Bose symmetry for the gravitons of the higher-dimension operator. As we will outline in section 4, this no longer holds beyond leading order where back-reaction becomes important. For example, at next-to-leading order pairs of the stress tensor in eq. (3.3) can source a single graviton, acting as a sort of “impurity”, which may be interpreted as the first correction to the gravitational field of a free particle towards that of a Schwarzschild black hole.

The discussion above can be extended to include the leading-order scattering of scalars deformed by higher-dimension operators off higher-spin particles described the Lagrangian

⁴In fact, one can always arrange for such terms to automatically drop out [149].

in ref. [92]. For a generic spinning body the stress tensor is⁵

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_3(\phi_s(p), h(\ell), \phi_s(p')) &= -\kappa V_3^{\mu\nu}(\phi_s(p), h(\ell), \phi_s(p')) \varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell), \\ V_3^{\mu\nu}(\phi_s(p), h(\ell), \phi_s(p')) &= p^\mu p^\nu \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{C_{ES^{2n}}}{(2n)!} \left(\frac{\ell \cdot S(p)}{m} \right)^{2n} \\ &\quad - i \ell_\rho p^{(\mu} S(p)^{\nu)\rho} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{C_{BS^{2n+1}}}{(2n+1)!} \left(\frac{\ell \cdot S(p)}{m} \right)^{2n}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.12)$$

where ℓ is the graviton momentum and $S(p)^\mu$ and $S(p)^{\mu\nu}$ are the covariant spin vector and spin tensor, related by

$$S^{\mu\nu}(p) = -\frac{1}{m} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\gamma\delta} p_\gamma S_\delta(p), \quad S^\mu(p) = -\frac{1}{2m} \epsilon^{\mu\beta\gamma\delta} p_\beta S_{\gamma\delta}(p), \quad (3.13)$$

and we recall that in the classical limit $\ell \cdot S(p)/m = \mathcal{O}(1)$.

For the Kerr black hole the stress tensor, originally found in ref. [135] from different considerations, is obtained by setting $C_{ES^{2n}} = C_{BS^{2n+1}} = 1$ and has the closed-form expression

$$\mathcal{M}_3^{\text{Kerr}}(\phi_s(p), h(\ell), \phi_s(p')) = -\kappa \exp(ia * \ell)^{(\mu}{}_{\rho} p^{\nu)} p^\rho \varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell), \quad (3.14)$$

where

$$a^\mu = \frac{1}{2p^2} \epsilon^\mu{}_{\nu\rho\sigma} p^\nu S^{\rho\sigma}(p), \quad (a * \ell)^\mu{}_{\nu} \equiv \epsilon^\mu{}_{\nu\rho\sigma} a^\rho \ell^\sigma. \quad (3.15)$$

Despite the more complicated dependence on the graviton momentum, the sewing of the spinning three-point amplitudes with the composite operator contact term can be carried by a replacement analogous to eq. (3.11). For example, for a particle with the stress of a Kerr black hole, it is

$$\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell) \rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{Kerr}}(\ell, p_2) = \exp(ia * \ell)^{(\alpha}{}_{\rho} p^{\beta)} p^\rho \left(\delta_\alpha^\mu \delta_\beta^\nu - \eta_{\alpha\beta} \frac{\eta^{\mu\nu}}{D_s - 2} \right). \quad (3.16)$$

We note that only the terms with an even number of spin vectors, in general governed by the coefficients $C_{ES^{2n}}$, contribute to the trace part of this replacement. To shorten the ensuing equations, in the following we will use the replacement

$$\epsilon^{\mu\nu}(\ell) \rightarrow T_{\text{gen}}^{\mu\nu}(\ell, p_2) = \left(p_2^\mu p_2^\nu - \frac{m_2^2}{D_s - 2} \eta^{\mu\nu} \right) A(\ell) - \frac{i}{2} \ell_\rho (p_2^\mu S^{\nu\rho}(p_2) + p_2^\nu S^{\mu\rho}(p_2)) B(\ell), \quad (3.17)$$

where $A(\ell)$ and $B(\ell)$ can be read off eqs. (3.12) and (3.16).

⁵For compactness of expressions, we employ here a slightly different notation than it is standard in the literature, e.g. [92, 134]. The translation is $C_{ES^{2n}}^{\text{here}} = C_{ES^{2n}}^{\text{standard}}$, $C_{BS^1}^{\text{here}} = 1$ and originates from the minimal coupling and $C_{BS^{2n+1}}^{\text{here}} = C_{BS^{2n}}^{\text{standard}}$.

3.2 Momentum-space analysis

Before discussing the leading-order effects of the most general tidal operators introduced in section 2, we discuss here the simpler case of operators $E_{\mu_1\mu_2}^{(m)}$, corresponding to the multipoles of the gravitational field of the quadrupole operator $E_{\mu\nu}$.

The construction of the relevant four-point matrix element of the operator $\phi E_{\mu_1\mu_2}^{(m)} E^{(m)\mu_1\mu_2} \phi$, corresponding to the darker blob in figure 1, is straightforward. The matrix element is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{E_{i,2}^2}(h(\ell_1), h(\ell_2), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)) &= 2\kappa^2 m_1 \left(D_{E_{i,2}^2}(p_1, \ell_1, p_4, \ell_2) + D_{E_{i,2}^2}(p_1, \ell_2, p_4, \ell_1) \right), \\ D_{E_{i,2}^2}(p_1, \ell_1, p_4, \ell_2) &= \left(\frac{i}{m_1} \right)^{2l} (p_1 \cdot \ell_1)^l (p_1 \cdot \ell_2)^l \mathcal{E}_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_1, p_1) \mathcal{E}^{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_2, p_4). \end{aligned} \quad (3.18)$$

As noted earlier, because tidal operators are gauge invariant and constructed out of Weyl tensors, this matrix element obeys the transversality conditions for the two gravitons. Thus, their contribution to generalized unitarity cut in figure 1 automatically accounts for the physical-state projection. The sewing is then simply given by the replacement in eq. (3.11). To leading order in soft expansion we can also replace all $p_1 \cdot \ell_2 = -p_1 \cdot \ell_1 + \mathcal{O}(q)$.

The resulting amplitude is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{E_{i,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) &= i\kappa^2 \int \frac{d^D \ell_1}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{\mathcal{M}_{E_{i,2}^2}(h(\ell_1), h(\ell_2), \phi(p_3), \phi(p_4))|_{\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i) \rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}(p_2)}}{\ell_1^2((\ell_1 - p_2)^2 - m_2^2)(q - \ell_1)^2} \\ &= 4i m_1 \kappa^4 \int \frac{d^D \ell_1}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{(u_1 \cdot \ell_1)^{2l} \mathcal{E}_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_1, p_1) \mathcal{E}^{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_2, p_1)|_{\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i) \rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}(p_2)}}{\ell_1^2((\ell_1 - p_2)^2 - m_2^2)(q - \ell_1)^2}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.19)$$

where the numerator is given more explicitly by

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathcal{E}_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_1, p_1) \mathcal{E}^{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_2, p_1)|_{\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i) \rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}(p_2)} \\ &= \frac{1}{8} m_2^4 \left[(u_1 \cdot \ell_1)^2 \left((u_1 \cdot \ell_1)^2 + \frac{1}{2} q^2 \right) - 2\sigma^2 q^2 (u_1 \cdot \ell_1)^2 + \frac{1}{8} q^4 (1 - 2\sigma^2)^2 \right] + \mathcal{O}(q^6). \end{aligned} \quad (3.20)$$

Further expanding the amplitude in the soft limit leads to

$$\mathcal{M}_{E_{i,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = 64i\pi^2 G^2 |\mathbf{q}|^{3+2l} m_1 m_2^3 \left((1 - 2\sigma^2)^2 I_{2l} + 4(-1 + 4\sigma^2) I_{2(1+l)} + 8I_{2(2+l)} \right),$$

where I_{2l} are triangle integrals

$$I_{2l} = \int \frac{d^D \ell}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{|\mathbf{q}|^{-2l+1} (\ell \cdot u_1)^{2l}}{\ell^2 (-2\ell \cdot u_2) (\ell - q)^2}, \quad (3.21)$$

which must be evaluated in the potential region. The results of these integrals were conjectured in ref. [107]. Here we present the proof, by going to the frame in which particle 2 is at rest

$$u_{1\mu} = -(\sigma, 0, 0, \sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}), \quad u_{2\mu} = -(1, 0, 0, 0), \quad q_\mu = (0, \mathbf{q}) = (0, q^x, q^y, q^z), \quad (3.22)$$

under which $\ell_{i\mu} = (\ell_i^0, \ell_i) = (\ell_i^0, \ell_i^x, \ell_i^y, \ell_i^z)$. Note that since $q^z = \mathbf{q} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \mathcal{O}(q^2)$ by on shell conditions, we can treat $q^z \approx 0$ if we are only interested in the leading classical limit. We then have

$$I_{2l} = (\sigma^2 - 1)^l \int \frac{d^D \ell}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{|\mathbf{q}|^{-2l+1} (\ell^z)^{2l}}{(2\ell^0)^2 (\ell - \mathbf{q})^2} = \frac{i(\sigma^2 - 1)^l}{2^{2l+1} (4\pi)^{(D-1)/2}} \int \frac{d^{D-1} \boldsymbol{\ell}}{\pi^{(D-1)/2}} \frac{|\mathbf{q}|^{-2l+1} (2\ell^z)^{2l}}{\ell^2 (\boldsymbol{\ell} - \mathbf{q})^2}, \quad (3.23)$$

where in the second equality we have evaluated the residue of the energy pole with a symmetry factor 1/2 because the graviton propagators cannot be on shell in the potential region. The remaining integral is a Euclidean triangle with a linearized propagator and is given by Smirnov in ref. [150],

$$\begin{aligned} & \int \frac{d^{D-1} \boldsymbol{\ell}}{\pi^{(D-1)/2}} \frac{(\mathbf{q}^2)^{a+b+\frac{\epsilon}{2}-\frac{3}{2}}}{(\ell^2 - i0)^a [(\boldsymbol{\ell} - \mathbf{q})^2 - i0]^b (2\ell^z - i0)^c} \\ &= e^{\frac{i\pi\epsilon}{2}} |\mathbf{q}|^{-2\epsilon} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{\epsilon}{2}) \Gamma(\frac{3}{2} - a - \frac{\epsilon}{2} - \epsilon) \Gamma(\frac{3}{2} - b - \frac{\epsilon}{2} - \epsilon) \Gamma(a + b + \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \epsilon - \frac{3}{2})}{2\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)\Gamma(c)\Gamma(3 - a - b - c - 2\epsilon)}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.24)$$

for $\mathbf{q} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}} = 0$ which is valid for leading order in the classical limit. The result is

$$I_{2l} = -\frac{i(\sigma^2 - 1)^l}{4^{l+2-\epsilon} (4\pi)^{1/2-\epsilon}} |\mathbf{q}|^{-2\epsilon} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2} - \epsilon) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + \epsilon)}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2} - l) \Gamma(1 - \epsilon + l)}. \quad (3.25)$$

Using the result for these integrals with $\epsilon = 0$ the amplitude is

$$\mathcal{M}_{E_{i,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = |\mathbf{q}|^{3+2l} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{E_{i,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}), \quad (3.26)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{E_{i,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}) &= G^2 m_1 m_2^3 \frac{(-1)^l \pi^{3/2} \Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + l)}{2^{2(1+l)} \Gamma(3 + l)} \\ &\times (\sigma^2 - 1)^l (11 + 4l(3 + l) - 6(5 + 2l)\sigma^2 + (5 + 2l)(7 + 2l)\sigma^4). \end{aligned} \quad (3.27)$$

The corresponding potential and eikonal phase are

$$V_{E_{i,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) = \frac{-1}{4E_1 E_2 |\mathbf{r}|^{2l+6}} \frac{2^{3+2l} \Gamma(3 + l)}{\pi^{3/2} \Gamma(-\frac{3}{2} - l)} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{E_{i,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}), \quad (3.28)$$

$$\delta_{E_{i,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{b}) = \frac{1}{4m_1 m_2 \sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{b}|^{2l+5}} \frac{2^{3+2l} \Gamma(\frac{5}{2} + l)}{\pi \Gamma(-\frac{3}{2} - l)} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{E_{i,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}). \quad (3.29)$$

It is not difficult to see that, for $l = 0$ and $l = 1$, eq. (3.29) reproduces the expectation values of the operators E^2 and $(\dot{E})^2$ evaluated in ref. [105].

The calculation above can be easily repeated for the operator $B_{\mu\nu}^{(l)} B^{\mu\nu(l)}$; it amounts to replacing in eq. (3.19) \mathcal{E} with \mathcal{B} given in eq. (3.9). The resulting amplitude, potential

and eikonal phase are:

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{B}_{l,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = |\mathbf{q}|^{3+2l} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\text{B}_{l,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}), \quad (3.30)$$

$$\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\text{B}_{l,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}) = G^2 m_1 m_2^2 \frac{(-1)^l \pi^{3/2} \Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + l)}{2^{2(l+1)} \Gamma(3 + l)} (5 + 2l)(\sigma^2 - 1)^{l+1} (1 + 2l + (7 + 2l)\sigma^2), \quad (3.31)$$

$$V_{\text{B}_{l,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) = \frac{-1}{4E_1 E_2 |\mathbf{r}|^{2l+6}} \frac{2^{3+2l} \Gamma(3 + l)}{\pi^{3/2} \Gamma(-\frac{3}{2} - l)} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\text{B}_{l,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}), \quad (3.32)$$

$$\delta_{\text{B}_{l,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{b}) = \frac{1}{4m_1 m_2 \sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{b}|^{2l+5}} \frac{2^{3+2l} \Gamma(\frac{5}{2} + l)}{\pi \Gamma(-\frac{3}{2} - l)} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\text{B}_{l,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}). \quad (3.33)$$

Similarly to eq. (3.29), the eikonal phase above evaluated on $l = 0$ and $l = 1$ reproduces the expectation values of the operators B^2 and $(\dot{B})^2$ found in [105].

3.3 Position-space analysis

Alternatively, the calculation can be done in position space, more specifically in the rest frame of particle 2 as in eq. (3.22). This approach will provide a simple way to generalize the analysis beyond one loop. There are two key observations here. First, the amplitude with C^2 operator insertion in eq. (3.18) factorizes into a product of the multipole expansions of electric or magnetic tensors

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathcal{M}_{\text{E}_{l,2}^2}(h(\ell_1), h(\ell_2), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)) \\ &= 4m_1 \kappa^2 \left(\frac{i}{m_1}\right)^{2l} ((p_1 \cdot \ell_1)^l \mathcal{E}_{\mu_1 \mu_2}(\ell_1, p_1)) ((p_1 \cdot \ell_2)^l \mathcal{E}^{\mu_1 \mu_2}(\ell_2, p_1)) + \mathcal{O}(q^{2l+4}), \end{aligned} \quad (3.34)$$

where we have applied the classical limit $p_4 = -p_1 + \mathcal{O}(q)$ to eq. (3.18). Second, in the potential region, we can integrate out graviton energy component by picking up residue from the matter propagator [53, 55]. This sets $\ell_1^0 = \ell_2^0 = 0$ and implies the graviton momenta ℓ_1, ℓ_2 are purely spatial. To exploit the factorization at the integrand level, we further Fourier transform the spatial \mathbf{q} in eq. (3.19) to position space⁶

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{\text{E}_{l,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) &\equiv \int \frac{d^{D-1} \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} e^{-i\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{q}} \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_{\text{E}_{l,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) \\ &= \frac{\kappa^2}{4m_2} \prod_{i=1}^2 \int \frac{d^{D-1} \ell_i}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{e^{-i\mathbf{r} \cdot \ell_i}}{\ell_i^2} \mathcal{M}_{\text{E}_{l,2}^2}(h(\ell_1), h(\ell_2), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)) \Big|_{\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i) \rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}(p_2)}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.35)$$

Crucially, the dependence on the two graviton momenta ℓ_1, ℓ_2 factorizes and each of them can be treated as an independent variable. Together with the factorization in eq. (3.34),

⁶The Fourier transform acts on the amplitude with generic off-shell q , which is three dimensional. We use $\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$ to denote amplitude with off-shell \mathbf{q} .

the Fourier transform acts on individual electric tensor $\mathcal{E}_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_i, p_1)$. We define

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{r}, p_1) &\equiv \int \frac{d^{D-1}\ell_i}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{e^{-ir\cdot\ell_i}}{\ell_i^2} \mathcal{E}_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i, p_1) \Big|_{\varepsilon_{\rho\sigma}(\ell) \rightarrow T_{\rho\sigma}(p_2)} \\ &= \frac{-m_2^2}{16\pi|\mathbf{r}|^5} \left[3\left(\mathbf{r}^2 + 2(\sigma^2 - 1)z^2\right) u_{2\mu}u_{2\nu} - 3\sigma\mathbf{r}^2(u_{2\mu}u_{1\nu} + u_{2\nu}u_{1\mu}) + 2\mathbf{r}^2 u_{1\mu}u_{1\nu} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 3(2\sigma^2 - 1)r_\mu r_\nu - 6\sigma\sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}z(u_{2\mu}r_\nu + u_{2\nu}r_\mu) + 3\sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}z(u_{1\mu}r_\nu + u_{1\nu}r_\mu) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + ((3\sigma^2 - 2)\mathbf{r}^2 - 3(\sigma^2 - 1)z^2)\eta_{\mu\nu} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (3.36)$$

where $r_\mu = (0, \mathbf{r}) = (0, x, y, z)$ in the frame of eq. (3.22) as the electric field sourced by p_2 in position space. The Fourier transform of scalar-graviton amplitude (with the graviton propagators) is then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{E_{i,2}^2}(h_1, h_2, \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)|\mathbf{r}) &\equiv \prod_{i=1}^2 \int \frac{d^{D-1}\ell_i}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{e^{-ir\cdot\ell_i}}{\ell_i^2} \mathcal{M}_{E_{i,2}^2}(h(\ell_1), h(\ell_2), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)) \\ &= \mathcal{M}_{E_{i,2}^2}(h(\ell_1), h(\ell_2), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)|\mathcal{E}_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_j, p_1) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\mathbf{r}_j, p_1), \ell_i \rightarrow i\nabla_j) \Big|_{\mathbf{r}_j \rightarrow \mathbf{r}}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.37)$$

where any loop momentum ℓ_j is replaced with the gradient on the position \mathbf{r}_j of the electric field $\mathcal{E}_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\mathbf{r}_j, p_1)$ and all \mathbf{r}_j are identified with \mathbf{r} . The two-scalar scattering amplitude in position space then has a simple form

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{E_{i,2}^2}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) &= \frac{\kappa^2}{4m_2} \mathcal{M}_{E_{i,2}^2}(h_1, h_2, \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)|\mathbf{r}) \\ &= \kappa^4 \frac{m_1}{m_2} (\sigma^2 - 1)^l \left[(\hat{\mathbf{z}} \cdot \nabla)^l \mathcal{E}_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\mathbf{r}, p_1) \right]^2, \end{aligned} \quad (3.38)$$

where in the second line we plug in the result in eq. (3.34), apply the replacement in eq. (3.37) and $\hat{\mathbf{z}}$ is the unit vector along z direction.

The position-space result is generally not isotropic; namely, it could depend on $\hat{\mathbf{z}} \cdot \mathbf{r}$. To make the result isotropic, we go back to momentum space and impose the on-shell condition $\hat{\mathbf{z}} \cdot \mathbf{q} = \mathcal{O}(q^2) \simeq 0$,

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = \int d^{D-1}\mathbf{r} e^{ir\cdot\mathbf{q}} \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) \Big|_{\hat{\mathbf{z}}\cdot\mathbf{q}=0}. \quad (3.39)$$

Since the result only depends on the covariant variables σ and $q^2 = -\mathbf{q}^2$, it can be promoted to any other frame. All Fourier-transforms that appear in this calculation are of the form

$$\int d^{D-1}\mathbf{r} \frac{e^{ir\cdot\mathbf{q}} (\hat{\mathbf{z}} \cdot \mathbf{r})^s}{r^h} = \frac{(-1)^{s/2} \pi^{D/2}}{2^{h-s-D+1}} \frac{|\mathbf{q}|^{h-s-D+1}}{\sin(\frac{1}{2}\pi(D-1-h)) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}h) \Gamma(1 + \frac{1}{2}(h-s-D+1))} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}(1+s))}{}, \quad (3.40)$$

for some exponents h and integer s . The isotropic potential then follows from eq. (2.10).

From the position-space amplitude we can directly obtain the eikonal phase, although it can be calculated easily once we have the amplitude $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{b})$. To see this, we simply

invert the amplitude in terms of eq. (2.5) and plug it into eq. (2.6)

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{b}) &= \frac{1}{4m_1 m_2 \sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}} \int \frac{d^{D-2} \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^{D-2}} e^{-i\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{q}} \int d^{D-1} \mathbf{r} e^{i\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{q}} \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) \Big|_{\mathbf{q}=(q^x, q^y, 0)} \\ &= \frac{1}{4m_1 m_2 \sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dz \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r} = (\mathbf{b}, z)),\end{aligned}\quad (3.41)$$

where we use $\mathbf{b} = (b^x, b^y, 0)$ and $\mathbf{r} = (x, y, z)$. Since we are only interested in the leading order, the particle trajectory can be treated as a straight line. In the frame where particle 2 is rest at the origin, the position of particle 1 is $x_1^\mu = (t, \mathbf{r}) = b^\mu + u_1^\mu \tau = \tau(\sigma, b^x, b^y, \sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1})$. The above formula can be written as

$$\delta_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{b}) = \frac{1}{4m_1 m_2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}(\tau)). \quad (3.42)$$

So the eikonal phase can be obtained straightforwardly from $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}(\tau))$. This is expected because the eikonal phase is proportional to the worldline action integrated over a straight line. Our approach here offers a derivation from purely scattering-amplitudes perspective.

The advantage of position-space approach is that it is very general. The discussion above applies to contribution of any tidal operator at its leading classical order. The only integrals needed, to any loop order, are in eq. (3.40). We will discuss and illustrate this point in more detail in section 4.

The discussion above can be generalized easily to the case with magnetic operators. The position-space magnetic component of the linearized Weyl tensor, contracted with a point-particle stress tensor, is

$$\mathcal{B}_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{r}, p_1) \equiv \int \frac{d^{D-1} \ell_i}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{e^{-i\mathbf{r} \cdot \ell_i}}{\ell_i^2} \mathcal{B}_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i, p_1) \Big|_{\varepsilon_{\rho\sigma}(\ell) \rightarrow T_{\rho\sigma}(p_2)}. \quad (3.43)$$

We have the scalar-graviton amplitude in position space

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{B}_{i,2}^2}(h(\ell_1), h(\ell_2), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4) | \mathbf{r}) &\equiv \prod_{i=1}^2 \int \frac{d^{D-1} \ell_i}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{e^{-i\mathbf{r} \cdot \ell_i}}{\ell_i^2} \mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{B}_{i,2}^2}(h(\ell_1), h(\ell_2), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)) \\ &= \mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{B}_{i,2}^2}(h(\ell_1), h(\ell_2), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4) | \mathcal{B}_{\mu_1 \mu_2}(\ell_j, p_1) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_{\mu_1 \mu_2}(\mathbf{r}_j, p_1), \ell_i \rightarrow i\nabla_j) \Big|_{\mathbf{r}_j \rightarrow \mathbf{r}}.\end{aligned}\quad (3.44)$$

Again we identify all \mathbf{r}_j in the end with \mathbf{r} . The position-space amplitude is then

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{B}_{i,2}^2}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{m_2} \left(\frac{\kappa}{2}\right)^2 \mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{B}_{i,2}^2}(h_1, h_2, \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4) | \mathbf{r}). \quad (3.45)$$

Let us comment on an interesting relation between electric and magnetic operators. In position space we find

$$\mathcal{E}_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{r}, p_1) \mathcal{E}^{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{r}, p_1) = \frac{3m_2^4}{128\pi |\mathbf{r}|^{10}} \left[3(\sigma^2 - 1)(\mathbf{r}^2 - z^2)(\sigma^2 \mathbf{r}^2 - (\sigma^2 - 1)z^2) + \mathbf{r}^4 \right], \quad (3.46)$$

$$\mathcal{B}_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{r}, p_1) \mathcal{B}^{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{r}, p_1) = \frac{9m_2^4}{128\pi |\mathbf{r}|^{10}} (\sigma^2 - 1)(\mathbf{r}^2 - z^2)(\sigma^2 \mathbf{r}^2 - (\sigma^2 - 1)z^2). \quad (3.47)$$

The two operators are almost identical. The difference between the two is independent of σ which is sub-sub-leading in the high-energy limit $\sigma \gg 1$. As explained in ref. [105], this is expected because the difference is proportional to Weyl tensor squared which is independent of σ . This behavior has also been observed at the next-to-leading order in ref. [106].

3.4 General multipole operators

Following the example discussed in detail in the previous sections, we proceed to evaluate the amplitudes and the corresponding eikonal phases with one insertion of the generic tidal operators $\phi E_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(l)} E^{(l)\mu_1 \dots \mu_n} \phi$ and $\phi B_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(l)} B^{(l)\mu_1 \dots \mu_n} \phi$. As already mentioned for operators with $n = 2$, we may choose without loss of generality, the two E and B factors to have equal upper index.

The calculations for the two operators are parallel. For this reason, in the common part we will collectively denote E or B by X , and specialize at them at the end. Thus, to leading order in κ , the momentum space expressions of $\hat{E}^{(l)}$ and $\hat{B}^{(l)}$ defined in eq. (2.37) are

$$X_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \dots \mu_n}^{(l)} = i^{2l+(n-2)} \left(\frac{i}{m}\right)^l (p \cdot \ell)^l \text{Sym}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n} [P_{\mu_3}^{\nu_3}(p) \ell_{\nu_3} \dots P_{\mu_n}^{\nu_n}(p) \ell_{\nu_n} X(\ell, p)_{\mu_1 \mu_2}] + \mathcal{O}(\kappa^2), \quad (3.48)$$

where $P_{\mu_i}^{\nu_i}$ are the momentum space form of the projectors in eq. (2.38) and $X_{\mu_1 \mu_2}(\ell, p)$ being given by $\mathcal{E}_{\mu_1 \mu_2}$ and $\mathcal{B}_{\mu_1 \mu_2}$ in eqs. (3.8)–(3.9) for the two operators, respectively. The symmetrization over the indices μ_1, \dots, μ_n includes division by the number of terms. In the expression above ℓ is the graviton momentum, p is the scalar momentum and $\varepsilon(\ell)$ in the explicit expressions of $\mathcal{E}_{\mu_1 \mu_2}$ and $\mathcal{B}_{\mu_1 \mu_2}$ is the graviton polarization tensor.

The product of two linearized $X_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(l)}$ with different graviton momenta ℓ_1 and ℓ_2 , and contracted as in eqs. (2.44) and (2.45), contains three different structures: (1) all projectors are contracted with each other, (2) all but one projector are contracted with each other and (3) all but two projectors are contracted with each other. The four-point matrix element of the operator $\phi X_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(l)} X^{(l)\mu_1 \dots \mu_n} \phi$ needed for the construction of the four-scalar amplitude is

$$\mathcal{M}_{X_{l,n}^2}(h(\ell_1), h(\ell_2), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)) = 2\kappa^2 m_1 \left(D_{X_{l,n}^2}(p_1, \ell_1, p_4, \ell_2) + D_{X_{l,n}^2}(p_1, \ell_2, p_4, \ell_1) \right), \quad (3.49)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} & D_{X_{l,n}^2}(p_1, \ell_1, p_4, \ell_2) \\ &= i^{2(n-2)} i^{2l} (-1)^l \frac{2(n-2)!}{n!} (u_1 \cdot \ell_1)^{2l} \left[(\ell_1 \cdot P(p_1) \cdot P(p_4) \cdot \ell_2)^{n-2} \Pi_1^X(p_1, \ell_1, p_4, \ell_2) \right. \\ &\quad + 2(n-2) (\ell_1 \cdot P(p_1) \cdot P(p_4) \cdot \ell_2)^{n-3} \Pi_2^X(p_1, \ell_1, p_4, \ell_2) \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} (n-2)(n-3) (\ell_1 \cdot P(p_1) \cdot P(p_4) \cdot \ell_2)^{n-4} \Pi_3^X(p_1, \ell_1, p_4, \ell_2) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (3.50)$$

The three factors $\Pi_1^X(p_1, \ell_1, p_4, \ell_2)$ are given by

$$\begin{aligned}\Pi_1^X(p_1, \ell_1, p_4, \ell_2) &= X_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_1, p_1)X^{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_2, p_4), \\ \Pi_2^X(p_1, \ell_1, p_4, \ell_2) &= \ell_1 \cdot P(p_1) \cdot X(\ell_2, p_4) \cdot X(\ell_1, p_1) \cdot P(p_4) \cdot \ell_2, \\ \Pi_3^X(p_1, \ell_1, p_4, \ell_2) &= \ell_1 \cdot P(p_1) \cdot X(\ell_2, p_4) \cdot P(p_1) \cdot \ell_1 \ell_2 \cdot P(p_4) \cdot X(\ell_1, p_1) \cdot P(p_4) \cdot \ell_2.\end{aligned}\tag{3.51}$$

To the order we are interested in we may freely replace $p_4 \rightarrow -p_1$, since the difference is of subleading order in the expansion in small transferred momentum. For $n = 2$, the second and third line vanish and, for $X \equiv E$, we recover the four-point matrix element of the operator $\phi E_{\mu_1\mu_2}^{(l)} E^{(l)\mu_1\mu_2} \phi$ given in eqs. (3.18).

Sewing this matrix element with two three-point scalar-graviton amplitudes in eq. (3.3) using the rule (3.11) leads to

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M}_{X_{i,n}^2}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) &= 8(8\pi G)^2 i^{2(n-2)} m_1 m_2^4 \frac{2(n-2)!}{n!} \\ &\quad \times \left[\mathcal{M}_n^{(l)}(\Pi_1^X) + 2(n-2)\mathcal{M}_n^{(l)}(\Pi_2^X) + \frac{1}{2}(n-2)(n-3)\mathcal{M}_n^{(l)}(\Pi_3^X) \right],\end{aligned}\tag{3.52}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{l,n}(\Pi_k^X) = \int \frac{d^D \ell}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{(u_1 \cdot \ell)^{2l} ((u_1 \cdot \ell)^2 + \frac{1}{2}q^2)^{n-2}}{\ell^2 ((\ell - p_2)^2 - m_2^2) (\ell - q)^2} \left(\frac{q^2}{(u_1 \cdot \ell)^2 + \frac{1}{2}q^2} \right)^{k-1} \mathcal{M}(\Pi_k^X),\tag{3.53}$$

where $k = 1, 2, 3$.

Both $\mathcal{M}(\Pi_k^{\mathcal{E}})$ and $\mathcal{M}(\Pi_k^{\mathcal{B}})$ have the same general structure:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M}(\Pi_i^X) &= A_i^X (u_1 \cdot \ell)^2 ((u_1 \cdot \ell)^2 + \frac{1}{2}q^2) + B_i^X q^2 (u_1 \cdot \ell)^2 \\ &\quad + C_i^X q^2 ((u_1 \cdot \ell)^2 + \frac{1}{2}q^2) + D_i^X q^4 (1 - 2\sigma^2)^2.\end{aligned}\tag{3.54}$$

The coefficients A, \dots, D for the amplitude with an insertion of an electric-type operator are given by

$$\begin{aligned}A_1^{\mathcal{E}} &= 1, & B_1^{\mathcal{E}} &= -2\sigma^2, & C_1^{\mathcal{E}} &= 0, & D_1^{\mathcal{E}} &= \frac{1}{8}, \\ A_2^{\mathcal{E}} &= \frac{1}{2}, & B_2^{\mathcal{E}} &= \frac{1}{8}(1 - 8\sigma^2), & C_2^{\mathcal{E}} &= 0, & D_2^{\mathcal{E}} &= \frac{1}{16}, \\ A_3^{\mathcal{E}} &= \frac{1}{2}, & B_3^{\mathcal{E}} &= -\frac{1}{2}\sigma^2, & C_3^{\mathcal{E}} &= 0, & D_3^{\mathcal{E}} &= \frac{1}{32},\end{aligned}\tag{3.55}$$

while those for the amplitude with an insertion of the ‘‘magnetic’’ operator are

$$\begin{aligned}A_1^{\mathcal{B}} &= 4, & B_1^{\mathcal{B}} &= (1 - 8\sigma^2), & C_1^{\mathcal{B}} &= -1, & D_1^{\mathcal{B}} &= \frac{1}{2}, \\ A_2^{\mathcal{B}} &= 2, & B_2^{\mathcal{B}} &= -4\sigma^2, & C_2^{\mathcal{B}} &= -\frac{1}{2}, & D_2^{\mathcal{B}} &= \frac{1}{4}, \\ A_3^{\mathcal{B}} &= 0, & B_3^{\mathcal{B}} &= \frac{1}{4}(1 - 8\sigma^2), & C_3^{\mathcal{B}} &= -\frac{1}{4}, & D_3^{\mathcal{B}} &= \frac{1}{8}.\end{aligned}\tag{3.56}$$

In the soft limit, all integrals in the amplitude (3.52) are of the type

$$I_{n,2l} = \int \frac{d^D \ell}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{|\mathbf{q}|^{1-2(n+l)} (u_1 \cdot \ell)^{2l} ((u_1 \cdot \ell)^2 + \frac{1}{2}q^2)^n}{\ell^2 (-2u_2 \cdot \ell) (\ell - q)^2};\tag{3.57}$$

they can be evaluated in terms of the triangle integrals (3.21) found in section 3.2:

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_{n,2l} &= \sum_{u=1}^n C_n^u \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-u} I_{2(l+u)} \\
 &= -\frac{i}{32} \frac{(-)^{n+l}}{2^{2l+n}} \frac{\Gamma(l+\frac{1}{2})}{\sqrt{\pi}\Gamma(l+1)} (\sigma^2-1)^m {}_2F_1\left(\frac{1}{2}+l, -n, 1+l, \frac{1}{2}(1-\sigma^2)\right), \quad (3.58)
 \end{aligned}$$

where C_n^u are binomial coefficients. In terms of these integrals, the three terms $\mathcal{M}_n^{(l)}(\Pi_k^X)$ making up the complete amplitude are

$$\mathcal{M}_{l,n}(\Pi_k^X) = A_k^X I_{n+1-k,2(l+1)} + B_k^X I_{n-k,2(l+1)} + q^2 C_k^X I_{n+1-k,2l} + (1-2\sigma^2) D_k^X I_{n-k,2l}, \quad (3.59)$$

with coefficients A, \dots, D given in (3.55) and (3.56). Using these building blocks it is then straightforward to assemble the amplitudes $\mathcal{M}_{E_{l,n}^2}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$ and $\mathcal{M}_{B_{l,n}^2}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$ in eq. (3.52). The eikonal phases follows by Fourier-transforming them to impact parameter space and including the appropriate factors as in eq. (3.29). Choosing $n=2$ we recover the amplitudes in eqs. (3.26) and (3.30). Last, the two-body potential and the eikonal phase are related to the leading-order amplitude in the usual way as in eqs. (2.5) and (2.6).

The position-space analysis also works in this case. In fact, for this approach it is convenient to sidestep the encoding of the tidal effects in a particular basis of higher-dimensions operators and work directly with the susceptibility χ . From this perspective the matrix element of an arbitrary tidal operator quadratic in the electric field is

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{M}_{\chi\text{EE}}(h(\ell_1), h(\ell_2), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)) \\
 &= 2m_1 \kappa^2 \chi_{\mu_1\nu_1\mu_2\nu_2}(u_1 \cdot \ell_1, \hat{\ell}_1; u_1 \cdot \ell_2, \hat{\ell}_2) \mathcal{E}_{\mu_1\nu_1}(\ell_1, p_1) \mathcal{E}^{\mu_2\nu_2}(\ell_2, p_1) \\
 &\quad + (p_1 \leftrightarrow p_4, u_1 \leftrightarrow u_4). \quad (3.60)
 \end{aligned}$$

Bose symmetry guarantees that this is symmetric in the two gravitons, so the manipulations in the previous section can be repeated here. The Fourier transform of the one-loop integrand, after sewing the unitarity cut and evaluating the energy integral, is

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{M}_{\chi\text{EE}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) \\
 &= \frac{\kappa^2}{4m_2} \int \frac{d^{D-1}\ell_1}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{e^{-ir \cdot \ell_1}}{\ell_1^2} \int \frac{d^{D-1}\ell_2}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{e^{-ir \cdot \ell_2}}{\ell_2^2} \mathcal{M}_{\chi\text{EE}}(h(\ell_1), h(\ell_2), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)) \Big|_{\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell) \rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}(p_2)} \\
 &= \frac{m_1 \kappa^4}{2m_2} \left[\chi_{\mu_1\nu_1\mu_2\nu_2}(v \hat{z} \cdot i \nabla_1, \nabla_1^\perp; v \hat{z} \cdot i \nabla_2, \nabla_2^\perp) \mathcal{E}_{\mu_1\nu_1}(\mathbf{r}_1, p_1) \mathcal{E}_{\mu_2\nu_2}(\mathbf{r}_2, p_1) \right]_{\mathbf{r}_1=\mathbf{r}_2=\mathbf{r}}, \quad (3.61)
 \end{aligned}$$

where $v = \sqrt{\sigma^2-1}$, $\nabla^\perp = \nabla - v^2 \hat{z}(\hat{z} \cdot \nabla)$, and we have introduced different positions, \mathbf{r}_i , for all the gravitons. They are to be set equal after the derivatives are evaluated. As before, we can obtain the isotropic potential by first generating the on-shell amplitude through eq. (3.39) and Fourier transforming back to the position space. The eikonal phase can either be obtained from eq. (2.6) or directly from $\mathcal{M}_{\chi\text{EE}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r})$ via eq. (3.42).

3.5 Adding spin

It is not difficult to formally the calculation in the previous sections to include spin degrees of freedom for the particle with momentum p_2 . It amounts to changing $T_{\mu\nu}(p_2)$ in eqs. (3.19), (3.35), (3.52) and (3.60) with $T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{Kerr}}(p_2, l_i)$ in eq. (3.16) or its general form defined from eq. (3.12) and parametrized as in eq. (3.17) and multiplying the resulting amplitude by the product of spin- S polarization tensors.

With this replacement, the contraction of two electric-type tensors $\mathcal{E}_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_i, p_1)$ is

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mathcal{E}_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_1, p_1)\mathcal{E}^{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_2, p_1)\Big|_{\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i)\rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{gen}}(p_2)} \quad (3.62) \\
 &= \frac{1}{8}m_2^4 A(\ell_1)A(\ell_2)(8(\ell\cdot u_1)^4 + 4(\ell\cdot u_1)^2 q^2(1-4\sigma^2) + q^4(1-2\sigma^2)^2) \\
 &\quad - \frac{i}{4}m_2^3 A(\ell_1)B(\ell_2)q^2\sigma(-4(\ell\cdot u_1)^2 + q^2(-1+2\sigma^2))S_2[u_1, q] \\
 &\quad + \frac{i}{2}m_2^3(A(\ell_2)B(\ell_1) + A(\ell_1)B(\ell_2))\ell\cdot u_1\sigma(4(\ell\cdot u_1)^2 + q^2(1-2\sigma^2))S_2[\ell, q] \\
 &\quad - \frac{i}{4}m_2^3(A(\ell_2)B(\ell_1) - A(\ell_1)B(\ell_2))q^2\sigma(4(\ell\cdot u_1)^2 + q^2(1-2\sigma^2))S_2[\ell, u_1] \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2}m_2^2 B(\ell_1)B(\ell_2)(\ell\cdot u_1)^2(-2(\ell\cdot u_1)^2 + q^2\sigma^2)S_2[e^\mu, q]S_2[e_\mu, \ell] \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2}m_2^2 B(\ell_1)B(\ell_2)(\ell\cdot u_1)^2(2(\ell\cdot u_1)^2 - q^2\sigma^2)S_2[e^\mu, \ell]S_2[e_\mu, \ell] \\
 &\quad + m_2^2 B(\ell_1)B(\ell_2)\ell\cdot u_1((\ell\cdot u_1)^2 - q^2\sigma^2)S_2[\ell, q]S_2[u_1, q] \\
 &\quad - \frac{1}{2}m_2^2 B(\ell_1)B(\ell_2)q^2((\ell\cdot u_1)^2 - q^2\sigma^2)S_2[\ell, p_1]S_2[u_1, q] \\
 &\quad - m_2^2 B(\ell_1)B(\ell_2)(\ell\cdot u_1)^2\sigma^2 S_2[\ell, q]^2 \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2}m_2^2 B(\ell_1)B(\ell_2)q^2(-(\ell\cdot u_1)^2 + q^2\sigma^2)S_2[\ell, u_1]^2 + \mathcal{O}(q^5),
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\ell_1 = \ell$, $\ell_2 = q - \ell$ and

$$S_2[a, b] \equiv S(p_2)^{\mu\nu}a_\mu b_\nu, \quad S_2[e^\mu, a]S_2[e_\mu, b] \equiv \eta_{\mu\nu}S(p_2)^{\mu\rho}a_\rho S(p_2)^{\nu\sigma}b_\sigma. \quad (3.63)$$

For vanishing spin, $A(\ell_i) = 1$ and $B(\ell_i) = 0$, only the first line of eq. (3.62) survives and we recover eq. (3.19). One may expand eq. (3.62) to arbitrary order in spin. For example, to first nontrivial order, which corresponds to inclusion of the spin-orbit interaction for particle 2, we find

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mathcal{E}_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_1, p_1)\mathcal{E}^{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_2, p_1)\Big|_{\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i)\rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{gen}}(p_2)} = \mathcal{E}_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_1, p_1)\mathcal{E}^{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_2, p_1)\Big|_{\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i)\rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}(p_2)} \quad (3.64) \\
 &\quad + \frac{i}{4}C_{BS^1}m_2^3\sigma(4\ell\cdot u_1 S_2[\ell, q] + q^2 S_2[u_1, q])(4(\ell\cdot u_1)^2 + q^2(1-2\sigma^2)) + \mathcal{O}((q\cdot S)^2),
 \end{aligned}$$

where the first term on the right-hand side is given by eq. (3.20). We recall that, as introduced in section 3.1.1, C_{BS^1} stands for the gravitational coupling that is linear in spin. With the standard normalizations $C_{BS^1} = 1$, but we keep it here to ease tracking the spin dependence.

It is straightforward, albeit tedious, to write out explicitly an integral representation of the amplitude by plugging in eq. (3.62) in eq. (3.19). We will refrain however from doing

so, and rather only comment on its structure. In addition to the integrals in eq. (3.21), the spin dependence introduces also tensor integrals:

$$I_l^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s} = \int \frac{d^D \ell}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{|\mathbf{q}|^{-2l-s+1} \ell^{\mu_1} \dots \ell^{\mu_s} (\ell \cdot u_1)^l}{\ell^2 (-2\ell \cdot u_2) (\ell - q)^2}; \quad (3.65)$$

they may be parametrized as a scalar integral $I_l[w, s]$ by contracting the free indices with an arbitrary vector w , from which the desired tensor integral is extracted by taking s derivatives. Note that, unlike the triangle integrals in eq. (3.21), here the exponent l is not constrained to be even. To leading order in spin only the vector integral is relevant. To this order, eq. (3.64) becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{E_{i,2}, S(p_2)}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) &= \varepsilon_2 \cdot \varepsilon_3 \mathcal{M}_{E_{i,2}}^2(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) \\ &+ 128(-1)^l C_{BS^1} G^2 \pi^2 \sigma |\mathbf{q}|^{2l+3} \left(S_2[u_1, q]((-1 + 2\sigma^2)I_{2l} + 4I_{2+2l}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 4S_2[e_\mu, q]((1 - 2\sigma^2)I_{1+2l}^\mu - 4I_{3+2l}^\mu) \right) m_1 m_2^3 \varepsilon_2 \cdot \varepsilon_3 + \mathcal{O}((q \cdot S)^2). \end{aligned} \quad (3.66)$$

It is not difficult to evaluate in the usual way the vector integrals, by writing them as a linear combination of u_1, u_2 and q and solving for the coefficients in terms of the scalar triangle integrals in eq. (3.21). Alternatively, one may re-evaluate the integrals in eq. (3.21) by treating u_1, u_2 and q as uncorrelated vectors, differentiate s times with respect to u_1 and then impose $u_i^2 = 1, u_i \cdot q = 0$. For the vector integrals we find

$$I_{2l+1}^\mu = -\frac{u_1^\mu - u_2^\mu y}{y^2 - 1} I_{2l+2}. \quad (3.67)$$

Thus, the amplitude with the first spin-dependent term for particle 2 is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{E_{i,2}, S(p_2)}(\phi(p_1), \phi(p_2), \phi(p_3), \phi(p_4)) &= \varepsilon_2 \cdot \varepsilon_3 \mathcal{M}_{E_{i,2}}^2(\phi(p_1), \phi(p_2), \phi(p_3), \phi(p_4)) \\ &- C_{BS^1} G^2 \pi^{3/2} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + l)}{2^{2l-5} \Gamma(3 + l)} m_2^3 \sigma (-1 + \sigma^2)^l (-3 + (7 + 2l)\sigma^2) |\mathbf{q}|^{3+2l} S_2[p_1, (iq)] \varepsilon_2 \cdot \varepsilon_3 \\ &+ \mathcal{O}((q \cdot S)^2). \end{aligned} \quad (3.68)$$

To extract the two-body potential in terms of the rest-frame spin it is necessary to expand the product of polarization tensors to leading order in spin, as discussed in ref. [92]. Using the relations

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_2 \cdot \varepsilon_3 &= \left(1 - i \frac{\epsilon_{rsk} p_2^r p_3^s S^k}{m_2(m_2 + E(\mathbf{p}_2))} + \mathcal{O}(S^2 \mathbf{q}^2) \right) + \mathcal{O}(q), \\ \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} p_{1\mu} p_{2\nu} q_\rho S_{i\sigma} &= (E_1 + E_2) (\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}) \cdot \mathbf{S}_i, \end{aligned} \quad (3.69)$$

the amplitude becomes

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathcal{M}_{E_{i,2}, S(p_2)}(\phi(p_1), \phi(p_2), \phi(p_3), \phi(p_4)) \\ &= \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{E_{i,2}}^2(\mathbf{p}) |\mathbf{q}|^{2l+3} + \left(\frac{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{E_{i,2}}^2(\mathbf{p})}{m_2(E_2 + m_2)} + (E_1 + E_2) \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{E_{i,2},1}^2(\mathbf{p}) \right) |\mathbf{q}|^{2l+3} i(\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}) \cdot \mathbf{S}_2 \\ &+ \mathcal{O}((q \cdot S)^2), \end{aligned} \quad (3.70)$$

where $\mathcal{M}_{E_{i,2},1}$ is the coefficient of $S_2[p_1, (iq)]$ in eq. (3.68) and, as before, the bar indicates that all \mathbf{q} dependence has been extracted. The two-body potential and the eikonal phase are then extracted by three-dimensional and two-dimensional Fourier-transforms, in terms of their spinless counterparts and the coefficient of the spin-dependent structure in the amplitude:

$$V_{E_{i,2},S_2}^2(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) = V_{E_{i,2}}^2(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) - \frac{(\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{r}) \cdot \mathbf{S}_2}{4E_1 E_2 |\mathbf{r}|^{2l+8}} \frac{2^{4+2l} \Gamma(4+l)}{\pi^{3/2} \Gamma(-\frac{3}{2}-l)} \\ \times \left(\frac{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{E_{i,2}}^2(\mathbf{p})}{m_2(E_2+m_2)} + (E_1+E_2) \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{E_{i,2},1}(\mathbf{p}) \right) + \mathcal{O}((\mathbf{r}\mathbf{S})^2), \quad (3.71)$$

$$\delta_{E_{i,2},S_2}^2(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{b}) = \delta_{E_{i,2}}^2(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{b}) + \frac{1}{4m_1 m_2 \sqrt{\sigma^2-1}} \frac{(\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{S}_2}{|\mathbf{b}|^{2l+7}} \frac{2^{4+2l} \Gamma(\frac{7}{2}+l)}{\pi \Gamma(-\frac{3}{2}-l)} \\ \times \left(\frac{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{E_{i,2}}^2(\mathbf{p})}{m_2(E_2+m_2)} + (E_1+E_2) \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{E_{i,2},1}(\mathbf{p}) \right) + \mathcal{O}((\mathbf{r}\mathbf{S})^2). \quad (3.72)$$

The position-space analysis extended to include spin degrees of freedom is equally straightforward. It amounts to substituting in eqs. (3.36) and (3.61) the stress tensor $T_{\mu\nu}(p_2)$ by the general spin-dependent one in eq. (3.17) or, for the scattering off a Kerr black hole, with $T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{Kerr}}(p_2)$ in eq. (3.16). As already emphasized, $T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{gen}}(\ell_i, p_2)$ depends on the graviton momentum ℓ_i which now makes a leading-order contribution because of the spin dependence. Nevertheless, the contribution of $T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{gen}}(\ell_i, p_2)$ can be organized as a differential operator acting on the position-space three-dimensional scalar propagator:

$$\mathcal{E}_{\mu_1 \mu_2}(\mathbf{r}, p_1) = \mathcal{E}_{\mu_1 \mu_2}(i\nabla, p_1) \Big|_{\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i) \rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{gen}}(i\nabla, p_2)} \int \frac{d^{D-1} \ell_i}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{e^{-i\mathbf{r} \cdot \ell_i}}{\ell_i^2}. \quad (3.73)$$

The structure of the stress tensor (3.16) implies that, for scattering off a Kerr black hole, the complete spin dependence is governed by the non-Abelian Fourier transform

$$\int \frac{d^{D-1} \ell_i}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{e^{-i(\hat{\mathbf{r}}-\hat{\mathbf{a}}) \cdot \ell_i}}{\ell_i^2}, \quad (3.74)$$

where $\hat{\mathbf{r}} = \mathbf{r} \mathbf{1}_4$ and $\hat{\mathbf{a}}$ is a vector of matrices, $(\hat{\mathbf{a}}_\sigma)^\mu{}_\nu = \epsilon^\mu{}_{\nu\rho\sigma} a^\rho$, with a defined in eq. (3.15). One may evaluate it by formally expanding the integrand in $\hat{\mathbf{a}}$.

On general grounds, as discussed in ref. [92], the impulse and spin kick is computed from the eikonal phase (3.72) through the relations (2.8) agree with those computed from Hamilton's equations of motion based on the two-body potential (3.71). The same holds for the magnetic analog of eqs. (3.72) and (3.71).

4 Nonlinear tidal effects

The amplitude with nonlinear tidal effect, i.e. the scattering with an X^n operator insertion, where X stands for E or B , can be constructed from the unitarity cut in figure 2. We

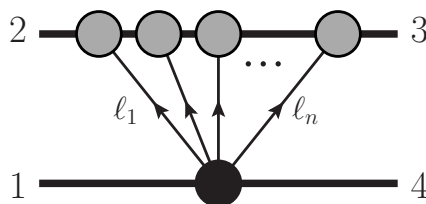


Figure 2. The generalized cut for leading order contributions to nonlinear tidal operators. Each blob is simply a (local) on-shell amplitude. The dark blob contains the X^n tidal operator. The direction of graviton momentum flow is indicated by the arrows.

will mostly focus on leading contribution for such an operator in this section. In this case, the simplifications described in section 3.1.1 are all applicable. Namely, the amplitude with X^n tidal operator is still comprised of linearized electric and magnetic Weyl tensor in eqs. (3.8) and (3.9); and the sewing of three-point amplitudes with the amplitude with X^n tidal operator is effectively replacing the polarization $\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i) \rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}(p_2)$ for each graviton. Start from the unitarity cut in figure 2. After sewing we find

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{X^n}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) &= \frac{\kappa^n}{m_2^{n-1}} \int \mathcal{M}_{X^n}(h(\ell_1), \dots, h(\ell_n), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)) \Big|_{\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i) \rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}(p_2)} \\ &\quad \times \frac{1}{\ell_1^2 \ell_2^2 \dots \ell_n^2} \left[\frac{i}{(-2u_2 \cdot \ell_1)} \frac{i}{(-2u_2 \cdot \ell_{12})} \dots \frac{i}{(-2u_2 \cdot \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \ell_j)} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (4.1)$$

where we integrate over ℓ_i with $i = 1, \dots, n-1$ and $\sum_{i=1}^n \ell_i = q$.

As discussed in the previous section, we can include spin degrees of freedom for the field without the tidal deformation by simply replacing in eq. (4.1) the point-particle stress tensor $T_{\mu\nu}$ with that of the general spinning particle $T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{gen}}$, cf. eq. (3.17), or with that of a Kerr black hole, cf. (3.16).

The calculations from position space and momentum space also follow similarly as before. We discuss them in turn.

4.1 Leading order position-space analysis

Start with eq. (4.1). Again we consider the rest frame of particle 2 in which we have eq. (3.22). The first step is to integrate out energy in potential region. Using the identity [151]

$$\delta\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \ell_i^0\right) \left[\frac{i}{(-2u_2 \cdot \ell_1 + i0)} \frac{i}{(-2u_2 \cdot \ell_{12} + i0)} \dots \frac{i}{(-2u_2 \cdot \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \ell_j + i0)} + \text{perm} \right] = \pi^{n-1} \prod_{i=1}^n \delta(\ell_i^0), \quad (4.2)$$

where perm is the rest of $n!$ permutations of ℓ_1, \dots, ℓ_n . Since the integrand is invariant under permutations, this localizes all $\ell_i^0 = 0$ with a $1/n!$ prefactor

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{X^n}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) &= \frac{(-\kappa)^n}{(2m_2)^{n-1} n!} \int \left[\prod_{i=1}^n \frac{d^{D-1} \ell_i}{(2\pi)^{D-1} \ell_i^2} \frac{1}{\ell_i^2} \right] \delta\left(\mathbf{q} - \sum_{i=1}^n \boldsymbol{\ell}_i\right) \\ &\quad \times \mathcal{M}_{X^n}(h(\ell_1), \dots, h(\ell_n), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)) \Big|_{\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i) \rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}(p_2)}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

To evaluate this integral, we use the same manipulations as at one loop. First consider the Fourier transform to position space

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{M}_{X^n}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) &= \int \frac{d^{D-1} \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} e^{-i\mathbf{r}\cdot\mathbf{q}} \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_{X^n}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) \\
 &= \frac{(-\kappa)^n}{(2m_2)^{n-1} n!} \prod_{i=1}^n \int \frac{d^{D-1} \boldsymbol{\ell}_i}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{e^{-i\mathbf{r}\cdot\boldsymbol{\ell}_i}}{\boldsymbol{\ell}_i^2} \mathcal{M}_{X^n}(h(\ell_1), \dots, h(\ell_n), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)) \Big|_{\mathcal{E}_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i) \rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}(p_2)} \\
 &= \frac{(-\kappa)^n}{(2m_2)^{n-1} n!} \mathcal{M}_{X^n}(h_1, \dots, h_n, \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)) | \mathbf{r},
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.4}$$

where we use eq. (3.36) to define

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{M}_{X^n}(h_1, \dots, h_n, \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)) | \mathbf{r} & \\
 \equiv \prod_{i=1}^n \int \frac{d^{D-1} \boldsymbol{\ell}_i}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{e^{-i\mathbf{r}\cdot\boldsymbol{\ell}_i}}{\boldsymbol{\ell}_i^2} \mathcal{M}_{X^n}(h(\ell_1), \dots, h(\ell_n), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)) \Big|_{\mathcal{E}_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i) \rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}(p_2)} & \\
 = \mathcal{M}_{X^n}(h(\ell_1), \dots, h(\ell_n), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)) | X_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\boldsymbol{\ell}_j, p_1) \rightarrow X_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\mathbf{r}_j, p_1), \boldsymbol{\ell}_j \rightarrow i\nabla_j \Big|_{\mathbf{r}_j \rightarrow \mathbf{r}}. &
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.5}$$

As before all the coordinates \mathbf{r}_j are identified as \mathbf{r} in the end. The above formula is very general and applies to higher multipole operators or general susceptibilities similar to eq. (3.61). Recall that $\mathcal{M}_{X^n}(h(\ell_1), \dots, h(\ell_n), \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4))$ is only a function of $\mathcal{E}_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_i, p_2)$, $\mathcal{B}_{\mu_1\mu_2}(\ell_i, p_2)$, and Mandelstam invariants. The Fourier transform simply replaces them with their corresponding in position-space expressions defined in eqs. (3.36) and (3.43). As before, the result of $\mathcal{M}_{X^n}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r})$ is generally not isotropic, because any $u_1 \cdot \ell$ in momentum space generates dependence on $\hat{\mathbf{z}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\ell}$. To bring it into the isotropic form, we Fourier transform back to momentum space, as in eq. (3.39).

A simple example is the operator $E_\mu{}^\nu E_\nu{}^\rho E_\rho{}^\mu$, denoted as (E^3) . With the contraction of three \mathcal{E} tensors (3.36) given by

$$\mathcal{E}_\mu{}^\nu(\mathbf{r}, p_1) \mathcal{E}_\nu{}^\rho(\mathbf{r}, p_1) \mathcal{E}_\rho{}^\mu(\mathbf{r}, p_1) = \frac{3m_2^6}{4096\pi^3 |\mathbf{r}|^{13}} \left[9(\sigma^2 - 1)(\mathbf{r}^2 - z^2)(\sigma^2 \mathbf{r}^2 - (\sigma^2 - 1)z^2) + 2\mathbf{r}^2 \right], \tag{4.6}$$

the graviton-scalar amplitude is

$$\mathcal{M}_{(E^3)}(h_1, h_2, h_3, \phi(p_1), \phi(p_4)) | \mathbf{r} = 12\kappa^3 m_1 \mathcal{E}_\mu{}^\nu(\mathbf{r}, p_1) \mathcal{E}_\nu{}^\rho(\mathbf{r}, p_1) \mathcal{E}_\rho{}^\mu(\mathbf{r}, p_1). \tag{4.7}$$

Plugging into eq. (4.4) then yields the four-scalar amplitude in position space

$$\mathcal{M}_{(E^3)}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) = -\frac{\kappa^6 m_1}{2m_2^2} \mathcal{E}_\mu{}^\nu(\mathbf{r}, p_1) \mathcal{E}_\nu{}^\rho(\mathbf{r}, p_1) \mathcal{E}_\rho{}^\mu(\mathbf{r}, p_1). \tag{4.8}$$

Using the Fourier transform formula in eq. (3.40), we arrive the final result

$$\mathcal{M}_{(E^3)}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = \frac{-|\mathbf{q}|^{6-4\epsilon}}{2\epsilon} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{(E^3)}(\mathbf{p}) = \frac{18}{11!!} G^3 m_1 m_2^4 \pi \left(\frac{7}{4} - 9\sigma^2 + 10\sigma^4 \right) \frac{|\mathbf{q}|^{6-4\epsilon}}{\epsilon}. \tag{4.9}$$

An important feature of the position-space scalar-graviton amplitude (4.5), which we already encountered in the one-loop analysis in section 3.3, is that it factorizes into a

product of position-space \mathcal{E} tensor, defined in eq. (3.36) and its magnetic counterpart, perhaps with additional derivatives. As explained in section 2, the fact that these position-space tensors have rank 3 implies that such a product can be further expressed as a sum of products of traces of at most three factors. For example, eq. (2.50) gives the decomposition of any power of a rank-3 matrix in terms of in terms of traces of two and three such matrices. It applies directly to the four-scalar amplitude with an insertion of (E^n) and expresses it as a sum of four-scalar amplitudes with an insertion of $(E^2)^{n_2}(E^3)^{n_3}$ with $n = 2n_2 + 3n_3$. It also applies directly to amplitudes with an insertion of (B^n) . While the resulting amplitude vanishes if n is odd, it also further simplifies if n is even. The parity-odd nature of $\mathcal{B}_{\mu,\nu}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p})$ and position-space factorization imply that, to leading order, $(B^3) = 0$ because there are insufficient vectors to saturate the Levi-Civita tensor. Therefore, to leading order, the analog of eq. (2.50) for the magnetic operators reduces to

$$(B^{n=2k}) = \frac{1}{2^{k-1}}(B^2)^k. \tag{4.10}$$

The amplitudes collected in the appendix A verify these formulas for up to $n = 8$.

The momentum-space four-scalar amplitude is related to the position-space four-scalar amplitude by single $(D - 1)$ -dimensional Fourier transform. The structure of the position-space amplitude is essential. This observation allows us to evaluate amplitudes and the corresponding two-body potentials to leading order for arbitrary operators.

Since the position-space scalar-graviton amplitudes with one insertion of either one of (E^2) , (B^2) or (E^3) have a similar structure, we will discuss them simultaneously, referring to these operators as (\mathcal{O}) . They have the form,

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_{(\mathcal{O})} = \mathcal{N}_{(\mathcal{O})} \frac{1}{r^h} \left(a_{(\mathcal{O})} + b_{(\mathcal{O})} \frac{(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1)^2}{r^2} + c_{(\mathcal{O})} \frac{(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1)^4}{r^4} \right), \tag{4.11}$$

where $\mathcal{N}_{(\mathcal{O})}$ is an operator-dependent normalization factor. For the three operators it is,

$$\mathcal{N}_{(E^2)} = \mathcal{N}_{(B^2)} = 2^4 G^2 \pi^2 m_1 m_2^3, \quad \mathcal{N}_{(E^3)} = 2^5 G^3 \pi^3 m_1 m_2^4, \tag{4.12}$$

and the coefficients are

$$\begin{aligned} a_{(E^2)} &= \frac{3(1 - 3\sigma^2 + 3\sigma^4)}{2\pi^2}, & b_{(E^2)} &= \frac{9(1 - 2\sigma^2)}{2\pi^2}, & c_{(E^2)} &= \frac{9}{2\pi^2}, \\ a_{(B^2)} &= \frac{9\sigma^2(\sigma^2 - 1)}{2\pi^2}, & b_{(B^2)} &= \frac{9(1 - 2\sigma^2)}{2\pi^2}, & c_{(B^2)} &= \frac{9}{2\pi^2}, \\ a_{(E^3)} &= -\frac{3(2 - 9\sigma^2 + 9\sigma^4)}{8\pi^3}, & b_{(E^3)} &= -\frac{27(1 - 2\sigma^2)}{8\pi^3}, & c_{(E^3)} &= -\frac{27}{8\pi^3}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.13}$$

The exponent of the overall r factor is $h = 6$ for $(\mathcal{O}) = (E^2)$ and $(\mathcal{O}) = (B^2)$ and $h = 9$ for $(\mathcal{O}) = (E^3)$.

The position-space amplitude with an insertion of an operator made up of n such traces is simply given by raising (4.11) to the n th power and adjusting the normalization factor,

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_{(\mathcal{O})^n} = \mathcal{N}_{(\mathcal{O})^n} \left[\frac{1}{r^h} \left(a_{(\mathcal{O})} + b_{(\mathcal{O})} \frac{(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1)^2}{r^2} + c_{(\mathcal{O})} \frac{(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1)^4}{r^4} \right) \right]^n. \tag{4.14}$$

The change in normalization factor is related to the normalization of the tree-level amplitude with one insertion of the composite operator. We find

$$\mathcal{N}_{(E^2)^n} = \mathcal{N}_{(B^2)^n} = 2^{2n+2} G^{2n} \pi^{2n} m_1 m_2^{2n+1}, \quad \mathcal{N}_{(E^3)^n} = 2^{3n+2} G^{3n} \pi^{3n} m_1 m_2^{3n+1}. \quad (4.15)$$

To obtain the momentum-space scattering amplitude with an insertion of an arbitrary operator $(\mathcal{O})^n$ we first use twice the binomial expansion and put the position-space amplitude in the form

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_{(\mathcal{O})^n} = \frac{\mathcal{N}_{(\mathcal{O})^n}}{\mathbf{r}^{nh}} \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{l=0}^k \binom{n}{k} \binom{k}{l} a_{\mathcal{O}}^{n-k} b_{\mathcal{O}}^l c_{\mathcal{O}}^{k-l} \left(\frac{(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1)^2}{\mathbf{r}^2} \right)^{2k-l}. \quad (4.16)$$

Using then the general tensor Fourier-transform relation (3.40) which enforces $\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1 = \mathbf{q}^2/2 \rightarrow 0$ leads to the desired result:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{(\mathcal{O})^n}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) &= \frac{\mathcal{N}_{(\mathcal{O})^n}}{|\mathbf{q}|^{D-nh-1}} \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{l=0}^k \binom{n}{k} \binom{k}{l} a_{\mathcal{O}}^{n-k} b_{\mathcal{O}}^l c_{\mathcal{O}}^{k-l} \\ &\times \frac{2^{D-hn-1} \pi^{D/2} (\sigma^2 - 1)^{2k-l} \Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + 2k - l)}{\sin(\frac{\pi}{2}(D - hn - 1)) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}(3 + hn - D)) \Gamma(2k - l + \frac{1}{2}hn)}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.17)$$

where $D = 4 - 2\epsilon$. The two-body potential and the eikonal phase follow then straightforwardly via eqs. (2.9)–(2.12):

$$V_{(\mathcal{O})^n}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) = -\frac{\mathcal{N}_{(\mathcal{O})^n}}{4E_1 E_2 |\mathbf{r}|^{nh}} \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{l=0}^k \binom{n}{k} \binom{k}{l} a_{\mathcal{O}}^{n-k} b_{\mathcal{O}}^l c_{\mathcal{O}}^{k-l} (\sigma^2 - 1)^{2k-l} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + 2k - l) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}hn)}{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(2k - l + \frac{1}{2}hn)}, \quad (4.18)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{(\mathcal{O})^n}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{b}) &= \frac{\mathcal{N}_{(\mathcal{O})^n}}{4m_1 m_2 |\mathbf{b}|^{nh-1}} \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{l=0}^k \binom{n}{k} \binom{k}{l} a_{\mathcal{O}}^{n-k} b_{\mathcal{O}}^l c_{\mathcal{O}}^{k-l} (\sigma^2 - 1)^{2k-l-1/2} \\ &\times \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + 2k - l) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}(hn - 1))}{\Gamma(2k - l + \frac{1}{2}hn)}. \end{aligned}$$

As discussed earlier, parity and factorization of the position-space amplitude implies that, to leading order in the classical limit, amplitudes with an insertion of an operator which has at least one parity-odd factor vanish identically even if the operator is overall parity-even. Thus, eq. (2.50) with $E \rightarrow B$ implies that the approach described here yields the two-body potential for all nonlinear tidal operators of the type (B^{2n}) .

The discussion above can be easily extended to cover amplitudes with one insertion of (E^n) . eq. (2.50) expresses it as a linear combination of amplitudes with one insertion of $(E^2)^{n_2} (E^3)^{n_3}$ with $2n_2 + 3n_3 = n$. The position space form of the latter involves a product of two factors analogous to the right-hand side of eq. (4.14). Each of them can be binomially expanded (with a slight simplification based on the equality $b_{(E^2)}/b_{(E^3)} = c_{(E^2)}/c_{(E^3)}$ visible in eq. (4.13)) and put in a form analogous to the right-hand side of eq. (4.16). Fourier-transforming using eq. (3.40) and putting together all terms leads to the momentum-space amplitude with one insertion of (E^n) .

The general formulas above show explicitly that the difference $E^{2n} - B^{2n}$ is subleading in the high-energy limit. This extends the observations of refs. [105, 106] beyond the linear order.

4.2 Order by order momentum-space analysis

The above position-space evaluation is a very effective means for evaluating leading contributions to any given tidal operator. Momentum-space methods for evaluating the loop integrals instead offer a straightforward way to systematically extend the results to higher orders following the methods presented in refs. [53–55]. Indeed following these methods, next to leading order contributions to E^2 and B^2 tidal operators were evaluated in ref. [83]. A related approach for tidal operators based on world lines has been recently given in ref. [106] where additional E^2 operators were evaluated.

Here we first re-evaluate the amplitudes in momentum space through C^4 and then discuss the extension to higher orders. The starting point is again the generalized cut shown in figure 2. We evaluate the expressions in D -dimensions. Here we do not make use of the special real-space factorization of the integrals discussed in the previous section, but rather simply carry out the evaluation of the cut and then reduce the result to a basis of independent momentum products. We can simplify the resulting expressions considerably by applying the cut conditions and expanding in small momentum transfer q . Specifically, we can choose a basis of momentum invariants which does not contain any of the products $(p_2 \cdot \ell_k)$, since the cut conditions give

$$\left(-p_2 + \sum_{i=1}^k \ell_i\right)^2 - m_2^2 = 0 \rightarrow (p_2 \cdot \ell_k) = \sum_{i=2}^k \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (\ell_i \cdot \ell_j) - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} (p_2 \cdot \ell_i), \quad (4.19)$$

where the final term can be eliminated inductively starting with $p_2 \cdot \ell_1 = 0$. Products of the form $(p_3 \cdot \ell_k)$ can then be eliminated using momentum conservation $p_3 = -p_2 - q = -p_2 - \sum \ell_i$. Since the cut graviton momenta scale as $\mathcal{O}(q)$, the cut conditions thus ensure that the scaling of $(p_2 \cdot \ell_k)$ or $(p_3 \cdot \ell_k)$, which naively would be $\mathcal{O}(q)$, instead scale as $\mathcal{O}(q^2)$. This greatly aids in the simplification of the integrand after expanding in small q .

Unlike in the position-space analysis, the integrals do not decouple into a product, and in general, the momentum-space integrals can be challenging to evaluate. To do so, we use FIRE6 [152, 153] which uses integration by parts methods [124, 125] to reduce the integrals a single master integral, which can then be evaluated either by direct integration or by differential equations [154–157]. Evaluating the integrals is the most significant bottleneck for this method, but the task is significantly aided by the use of special variables as described in [126],

$$p_1 = -(\bar{p}_1 - q/2), \quad p_4 = \bar{p}_1 + q/2, \quad p_2 = -(\bar{p}_2 + q/2), \quad p_3 = \bar{p}_2 - q/2. \quad (4.20)$$

The \bar{p}_i are orthogonal to q by construction: $\bar{p}_i \cdot q = 0$. As described in more detail in ref. [126], with these variables the matter propagators reduce to

$$\frac{1}{(p_2 + \ell_{1\dots i})^2 - m_2^2} = \frac{1}{2\bar{p}_2 \cdot \ell_{1\dots i}} + \mathcal{O}(q^0), \quad (4.21)$$

so the matter propagators are linear in the loop momenta. In addition, we can define normalized external momenta, $\bar{u}_i^\mu = \bar{p}_i^\mu / \sqrt{m_i^2 - q^2/4}$, such that $\bar{u}_i^2 = 1$. The net effect is that the q^2 dependence is scaled out of the integral so that it is only a function of a

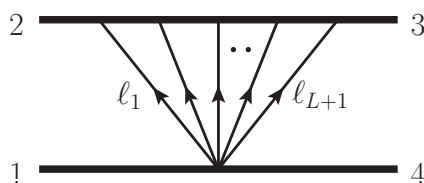


Figure 3. The L -loop fan integral.

single-scale $\bar{u}_1 \cdot \bar{u}_2 = \sigma + \mathcal{O}(q^2)$. Using these variables integral encountered at any order of perturbation theory can then be converted to a single scale integral. Such integrals are quite amenable to integration-by-parts methods, greatly speeding the evaluation.

The restriction to the potential region precludes pinching any propagators and the existence of irreducible scalar products. Thus, the result of IBP reduction is a single master integral, with a coefficient given by powers of \mathbf{q} dictated by dimensional analysis, as well as a polynomial in σ . The master integral is the scalar *fan* integral in figure 3, which can be easily evaluated by factorizing the loops by going to position space and Fourier transforming back, with the result

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_{\text{fan}}^{(L)} &= \int \left(\prod_{i=1}^{L+1} \frac{d^D \ell_i}{(2\pi)^D \ell_i^2} \right) \frac{|\mathbf{q}|^{2-L} \delta(\sum_i \ell_i - q)}{(-2u_2 \cdot \ell_1 + i0)(-2u_2 \cdot \ell_{12} + i0) \cdots (-2u_2 \cdot \ell_{1\dots n-1} + i0)} \\
 &= \frac{i^{L+2}}{2^{L(4-2\epsilon)} \pi^{L(\frac{3}{2}-\epsilon)}} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}-\epsilon)^{L+1} \Gamma((\epsilon-\frac{1}{2})L+1)}{\Gamma(L+2)\Gamma((\frac{1}{2}-\epsilon)(L+1))} |\mathbf{q}|^{-2\epsilon L}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{4.22}$$

At one loop this agrees with eq. (3.25) with $l = 0$, and at two and three loops it yields

$$I_{\text{fan}}^{(2)} = \frac{1}{768\pi^2} \frac{(\mathbf{q}^2)^{-2\epsilon}}{2\epsilon} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^0), \quad I_{\text{fan}}^{(3)} = -\frac{i}{49152\pi^2} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon).
 \tag{4.23}$$

The results of the IBP reduction at two loops gives the amplitudes with a single insertion of the tidal operators in terms of a single master integral:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{M}_{(E^3)} &= \frac{1024}{385} \pi^3 G^3 m_1 m_2^4 |\mathbf{q}|^6 \left(\frac{7}{4} - 9\sigma^2 + 10\sigma^4 \right) I_{\text{fan}}^{(2)}, \\
 \mathcal{M}_{(EB^2)} &= \frac{1024}{1155} \pi^3 G^3 m_1 m_2^4 |\mathbf{q}|^6 (\sigma^2 - 1) (1 + 10\sigma^2) I_{\text{fan}}^{(2)}, \\
 \mathcal{M}_{(B^3)} &= \mathcal{M}_{E^2B} = 0.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{4.24}$$

As expected, the parity odd operators E^2B and B^3 operator do not contribute.

At three loops, by reducing the integrand to the sole master integral we find the following for the amplitudes with an insertion of the single trace operators,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{M}_{(E^4)} &= -i \frac{983}{9031680} \pi^4 G^4 m_1 m_2^5 |\mathbf{q}|^9 (1231 - 7304\sigma^2 + 18590\sigma^4 - 22880\sigma^6 + 12155\sigma^8) I_{\text{fan}}^{(3)}, \\
 \mathcal{M}_{(B^4)} &= -i \frac{140569}{9031680} \pi^4 G^4 m_1 m_2^5 |\mathbf{q}|^9 (\sigma^2 - 1)^2 (1 + 10\sigma^2 + 85\sigma^4) I_{\text{fan}}^{(3)},
 \end{aligned}$$

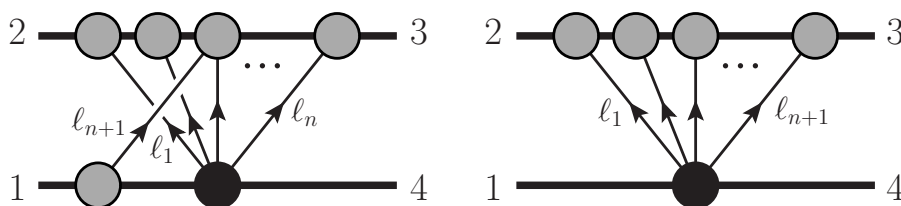


Figure 4. The generalized cuts that need to be evaluated at next to leading order for an R^n type tidal operator.

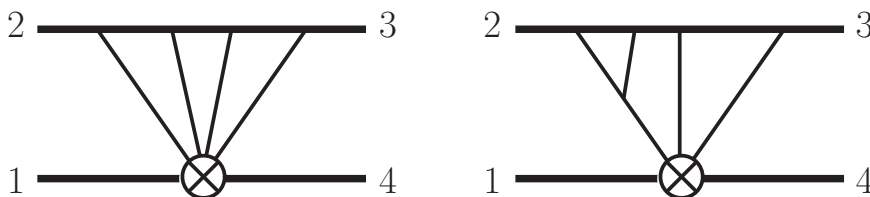


Figure 5. Sample diagrams for next-to-leading-order contributions for the R^3 tidal operators which are simple to evaluate.

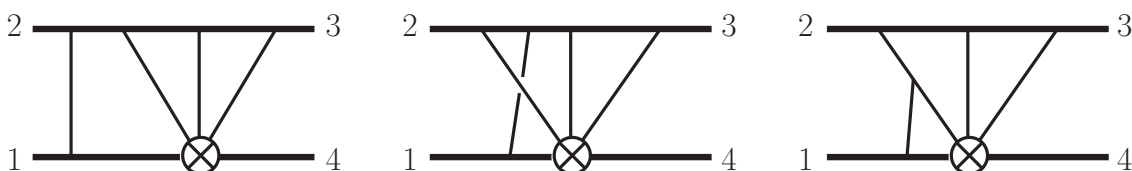


Figure 6. Sample diagrams next-to-leading order contributions for the R^3 tidal operators that involve iteration contributions or nontrivial integrals.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{M}_{(EEBB)} &= -i \frac{10813}{27095040} \pi^4 G^4 m_1 m_2^5 |\mathbf{q}|^9 (\sigma^2 - 1) (41 + 689\sigma^2 - 2925\sigma^4 + 3315\sigma^6) I_{\text{fan}}^{(3)}, \\
 \mathcal{M}_{(EBEB)} &= i \frac{10813}{27095040} \pi^4 G^4 m_1 m_2^5 |\mathbf{q}|^9 (\sigma^2 - 1) (25 + 481\sigma^2 - 2925\sigma^4 + 3315\sigma^6) I_{\text{fan}}^{(3)}. \quad (4.25)
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, the amplitudes with double trace insertions evaluate to,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{M}_{(E^2)^2} &= -i \frac{983}{4515840} \pi^4 G^4 m_1 m_2^5 |\mathbf{q}|^9 (1231 - 7304\sigma^2 + 18590\sigma^4 - 22880\sigma^6 + 12155\sigma^8) I_{\text{fan}}^{(3)}, \\
 \mathcal{M}_{(B^2)^2} &= -i \frac{140569}{4515840} \pi^4 G^4 m_1 m_2^5 |\mathbf{q}|^9 (\sigma^2 - 1)^2 (1 + 10\sigma^2 + 85\sigma^4) I_{\text{fan}}^{(3)}, \\
 \mathcal{M}_{(E^2)(B^2)} &= -i \frac{10813}{4515840} \pi^4 G^4 m_1 m_2^5 |\mathbf{q}|^9 (\sigma^2 - 1) (19 + 299\sigma^2 - 975\sigma^4 + 1105\sigma^6) I_{\text{fan}}^{(3)}, \\
 \mathcal{M}_{(EB)^2} &= 0, \quad (4.26)
 \end{aligned}$$

It is not difficult to check that these results satisfy the four-dimensional relations described in section 2. In addition, they agree with the results obtained in the previous section for tidal operators with arbitrary numbers of E s and B s and collected in the appendix for a variety of operators up to E^8 and B^8 .

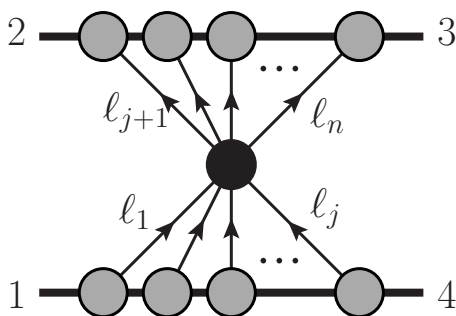


Figure 7. Cut for a general R^n type operator. In the case $j = 1$, it is convenient to take the single graviton attaching to the bottom matter line as off shell and part of a tree amplitude including the lower massive scalar line. All other gravitons and exposed matter lines are taken on shell. The direction of graviton momentum flow is indicated by the arrows.

An important aspect of the momentum-space approach is that it gives a systematic means for obtaining corrections higher order in Newton’s constant for any operator insertion. For example figure 4 shows the generalized cuts that would need to be evaluated to obtain the next-to-leading order corrections from an C^3 tidal operator. In the first of these cuts the four-point amplitude can appear at any location on the top matter line. The mapping of the integrands resulting from these cuts onto a integral basis generates a number of diagrams. For example, in figure 5 we show a sample of the diagrams that are quite easy to evaluate for an R^3 tidal operator, as we can again evaluate the integral using the real-space technique presented in the previous section. More complicated diagrams that involve iteration contributions or non-trivial integrations are shown in figure 6. In these cases, the integrals do not factorize, but the momentum-space approach of evaluating cuts and reducing to a basis of master integrals will still be quite feasible. As noted in refs. [57, 83] the probe limit simplifies the evaluation of the contributions. In any case, it is clear that amplitude methods can be applied beyond leading order to understand the systematics of higher-dimension operators. We leave this to future studies.

5 Effective field theory extensions of GR

The same methods apply just as well to any operator, not just the tidal ones. For example, we can consider the R^n operators arising from unknown short distance physics. Here we will not classify such operators, but pick illustrative examples. The effect of operators up to R^4 has already been discussed in some detail in refs. [129–133]. In order to be concrete here we discuss an effective action of the form

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^D x \sqrt{-g} (-R + c_K K_{\mu_1 \dots \rho_n} R^{\mu_1 \nu_1 \sigma_1 \rho_1} R^{\mu_2 \nu_2 \sigma_2 \rho_2} \dots R^{\mu_n \nu_n \sigma_n \rho_n}), \quad (5.1)$$

where the first term is the usual Einstein-Hilbert action, and $K_{\mu_1 \dots \rho_n}$ merely gives the contraction between the Riemann tensors. Each independent contraction carries an independent Wilson coefficient c_K .

We construct the integrands for pure R^n modifications of gravity in a similar manner as for those of the tidal operators. The leading contribution to the potential due to R^n operators is captured by the cuts in figure 7. The diagrams in general are a product of two fan diagrams, where all graviton legs, as well as the matter lines between the three point vertices, are on shell, the exception being the case where $(n - 1)$ on-shell gravitons attach to one of the matter lines, while one graviton which we take to be off shell attaches to the other matter line. In this case, it is convenient to include the matter line to which the single graviton propagator is attached as part of a single tree amplitude.

To evaluate the cuts in figure 7 we use the replacement derived above (see eq. (3.11)). This simplifies the form of the Riemann tensor:

$$R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}(\ell_i)|_{\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i) \rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}(p_a)} = -\frac{1}{2} \left(\ell_i^\mu \ell_i^\rho \left(p_a^\nu p_a^\sigma - \frac{1}{2} \eta^{\nu\sigma} m_a^2 \right) - (\sigma \leftrightarrow \rho) \right) + ((\mu, \rho) \leftrightarrow (\nu, \sigma)) + \mathcal{O}(q^3), \tag{5.2}$$

where p_a and m_a are the momentum and mass of the matter line the graviton attaches to. When contracted in sequence with other gravitons attaching to the same matter line, products involving the matter momenta in the above expression must reduce to $p_a \cdot p_a = m_a^2$, or the q scaling will become sub-leading, as shown in the previous section.

The cut corresponding to figure 7 is simply a product of two fans,

$$\mathcal{C}_{R^n} = K_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n} \mathcal{O}^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_j}(\ell_1, \dots, \ell_j; p_1) \mathcal{O}^{\mu_{j+1} \dots \mu_n}(\ell_{j+1}, \dots, \ell_n; p_2), \tag{5.3}$$

where, for instance,

$$\mathcal{O}^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_j}(\ell_1, \dots, \ell_j; p_1) = R_1^{\mu_1 \nu_1 \sigma_1 \rho_1} \dots R_j^{\mu_j \nu_j \sigma_j \rho_j} |_{\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}(\ell_i) \rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}(p_1)}. \tag{5.4}$$

As in previous sections, the integrands obtained after restoring the cut propagators are also well suited for applying position-space techniques. In this case, we must introduce a fictitious momentum transfer \mathbf{q}' such that the integrand decouples in two parts, corresponding to the two terms in eq. (5.3) decouple, and the corresponding propagators attached to one matter line or the other. The energy integrations can be carried out as in the previous sections with the result

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{R^n}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) &= K_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n} \int d^{D-1} \mathbf{q}' \delta(\mathbf{q} + \mathbf{q}') \int \left(\prod_{a=1}^j \frac{d^{D-1} \ell_a}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \right) \frac{\delta(\sum_{a=1}^j \ell_a + \mathbf{q}') \mathcal{O}^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_j}(\ell_1, \dots, \ell_j; p_1)}{\ell_1^2 \dots \ell_j^2} \\ &\quad \times \int \left(\prod_{a=j+1}^n \frac{d^{D-1} \ell_a}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \right) \frac{\delta(\sum_{a=j+1}^n \ell_a - \mathbf{q}') \mathcal{O}^{\mu_{j+1} \dots \mu_n}(\ell_{j+1}, \dots, \ell_n; p_2)}{\ell_{j+1}^2 \dots \ell_n^2}. \end{aligned} \tag{5.5}$$

Writing

$$\delta(\mathbf{q} + \mathbf{q}') = \int \frac{d^{D-1} \mathbf{x}}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} e^{i(\mathbf{q} + \mathbf{q}') \cdot \mathbf{x}} \tag{5.6}$$

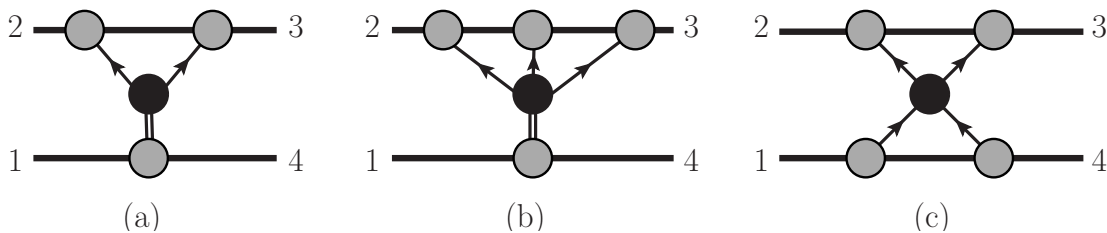


Figure 8. The corrections from (a) R^3 and (b,c) R^4 operators that appear in EFT extensions of GR. The double-line notation indicates that we have not used on-shell conditions on that line.

and taking the Fourier transform of the amplitude we find

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{M}_{R^n}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}) &= \int \frac{d^{D-1}\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} e^{-i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{r}} \mathcal{M}_{R^n}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) \\
 &= K_{\mu_1\dots\mu_n} \int d^{D-1}\mathbf{x} \int \left(\prod_{a=1}^j \frac{d^{D-1}\ell_a}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{e^{-i\ell_a\cdot\mathbf{x}}}{\ell_a^2} \right) \mathcal{O}^{\mu_1\dots\mu_j}(\ell_1, \dots, \ell_j; p_1) \\
 &\quad \times \int \left(\prod_{a=j+1}^n \frac{d^{D-1}\ell_a}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{e^{-i\ell_a\cdot(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{x})}}{\ell_a^2} \right) \mathcal{O}^{\mu_{j+1}\dots\mu_n}(\ell_{j+1}, \dots, \ell_n; p_2) \\
 &= K_{\mu_1\dots\mu_n} \int d^{D-1}\mathbf{x} \mathcal{O}^{\mu_1\dots\mu_j}(\mathbf{x}; p_1) \mathcal{O}^{\mu_{j+1}\dots\mu_n}(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{x}; p_2). \tag{5.7}
 \end{aligned}$$

The product in momentum space has become a convolution in position space over \mathbf{x} , which can be viewed as the position in the bulk, i.e. away from the massive particle trajectories, at which the R^n operator is inserted. Note however that this formula does not have a natural interpretation in position space, given that the energy integrals in each factor were performed by going to the rest frame of different particles. In practice, as in previous sections, this formula can be used by transforming one last time to momentum space, so that the convolution is trivialized and each factor can be written in isotropic coordinates.

The inclusion of derivatives, $\nabla^{2m} R^n$, or of spin on the matter lines poses no obstruction to applying this method. In the former case one must organize the additional powers of loop momentum in the integrand into either factor in analogy with eq. (5.3). The factorization argument carries over and the additional loop momenta become derivatives in position space acting on either factor of eq. (5.7). For the case of spin, the only difference is that the Fourier transforms in eq. (5.7) become non-Abelian Fourier transforms defined in eq. (3.74).

As simple examples, consider the cases of $\mathcal{O}_{R^3} = R^{\mu_1\nu_1}{}_{\mu_2\nu_2} R^{\mu_2\nu_2}{}_{\mu_3\nu_3} R^{\mu_3\nu_3}{}_{\mu_1\nu_1}$ and $\mathcal{O}_{(R^2)^2} = (R^{\mu_1\nu_1}{}_{\mu_2\nu_2} R^{\mu_2\nu_2}{}_{\mu_1\nu_1})^2$. The contributing generalized unitarity cut for the R^3 operator are shown in figure 8(a) while the two potentially contributing cuts for the R^4 operator are shown in figure 8(b,c). In the diagrams the double-line notation indicates that we have not used on-shell conditions on that line, but consider the two connected blobs as part of a single tree amplitude.⁷

⁷Whether on-shell conditions are used on the intermediate leg corresponds to shifting the coefficient of $\phi R^n \phi$ operators.

After carrying out the integration, the R^3 and R^4 amplitudes are

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{R^3} &= -6c_{R^3}G^2\pi^2m_1^2m_2^2(m_1+m_2)|\mathbf{q}|^3(\sigma^2-1), \\ \mathcal{M}_{(R^2)^2} &= -\frac{2^7}{315}c_{(R^2)^2}G^3\pi m_1^2m_2^2(m_1^2+m_2^2)\frac{(\mathbf{q}^2)^{3-2\epsilon}}{2\epsilon}(3\sigma^2-1), \end{aligned} \quad (5.8)$$

where we took the operators to have coefficient $c_{R^3}^3$ and $c_{(R^2)^2}$ respectively. Taking the Fourier transform (2.12) to position space gives the potentials

$$\begin{aligned} V_{R^3} &= \frac{18}{E_1E_2}c_{R^3}G^2m_1^2m_2^2(m_1+m_2)(\sigma^2-1)\frac{1}{r^6}, \\ V_{(R^2)^2} &= \frac{2^8}{E_1E_2}c_{(R^2)^2}G^3m_1^2m_2^2(m_1^2+m_2^2)(3\sigma^2-1)\frac{1}{r^9}. \end{aligned} \quad (5.9)$$

The \mathcal{O}_{R^3} amplitude and potential was obtained previously in refs. [130–133] and we find agreement. In ref. [130] the authors also evaluate the effect of an additional R^3 operator,

$$G_3 = \mathcal{O}_{R^3} - R^{\mu\nu\alpha}{}_{\beta}R^{\beta\gamma}{}_{\nu\sigma}R^{\sigma}{}_{\mu\gamma\alpha}; \quad (5.10)$$

this is related to tidal operators via a field redefinition up to operators that vanish in four dimensions. This can be seen by evaluating its four-dimensional four-point amplitude, which feeds into the two-graviton cut, using spinor-helicity methods [130]:

$$\mathcal{M}_{G^3}(\phi(p_1), h^{++}(k_2), h^{++}(k_3), \phi(p_4)) \propto [23]^4(-q^2 + 2m_1^2). \quad (5.11)$$

Since this is a local contribution, it is already captured by tidal operators of the form E^2 , B^2 . Interestingly, though, if this operator were present with a sufficiently large coefficient, it would produce a result equivalent to the leading tidal Love numbers, even if these are set identically to zero for black holes in Einstein gravity [97, 115–118].

The leading PN contribution from the R^4 operator ($\mathcal{O}_{(R^2)^2}$) was calculated in ref. [129], with which we find agreement. We can also easily determine that the other operators considered in ref. [129] give no contribution to the leading conservative potential. The contribution from $\mathcal{O}_{(R^2)(R\tilde{R})} = (R^{\mu_1\nu_1}{}_{\alpha\beta}\epsilon^{\alpha\beta}{}_{\mu_2\nu_2}R^{\mu_2\nu_2}{}_{\mu_1\nu_1})(R^{\mu_3\nu_3}{}_{\mu_4\nu_4}R^{\mu_4\nu_4}{}_{\mu_3\nu_3})$ is zero simply because it is parity-odd. The operator $\mathcal{O}_{(R\tilde{R})^2} = (R^{\mu_1\nu_1}{}_{\alpha\beta}\epsilon^{\alpha\beta}{}_{\mu_2\nu_2}R^{\mu_2\nu_2}{}_{\mu_1\nu_1})^2$, while being parity even, contributes zero at leading order, in analogy to the tidal operator $\mathcal{O}_{(EB)^2}$. In both cases, the factorization of the integrand in real space forces the separate parity-odd factors to evaluate to zero, as discussed in section 4.1

Here we refrain from evaluating the amplitudes for the R^5 and higher operators. However, in these cases, there is an additional link between the R^n extensions of Einstein gravity and the tidal operators. After carrying out the soft expansion of the integrand for the R^n operators, one encounters ultraviolet divergences that renormalize tidal operators [24]. For example, in principle the R^5 operator, which produces a diagram with three gravitons attached to one matter line and two attached to the other, could produce a UV subdivergence and thereby renormalize E^2 or B^2 tidal operators (with additional derivatives). It would be an interesting problem to systematically study this interplay for infinite sequences of R^n operators.

6 Conclusions

In this paper we evaluated the leading-PM order contributions to the two-body Hamiltonian from infinite classes of tidal operators using momentum space and position space scattering amplitude and effective field theory methods. The same principles yield leading-PM order Hamiltonian terms from tidal deformations probed by a spinning particle and also from effective field theory modifications of general relativity. Our results offer a new perspective on the general structure of linear and nonlinear tidal effects in the relativistic two-body problem while also being of potential phenomenological interest.

Our analysis of E^2 and B^2 tidal operators arbitrary number of derivatives is similar to that of ref. [107], except that we use a basis of operators which aligns with the more standard worldline tidal operators [24, 105]. Their Wilson coefficients are the same (up to an overall normalization that we provide) with the worldline electric and magnetic tidal coefficients which in turn are proportional to the corresponding multipole Love numbers. By directly evaluating all relevant integrals we obtain explicit expressions for the two-body Hamiltonian and the amplitude's eikonal phase, from which both scattering and closed-orbit observables can be found straightforwardly. We illustrated the inclusion of spin by working out the leading-order tidal contributions from E^2 -type operators with arbitrary number of derivatives for one object interacting with the spin of the other.

For tidal operators with arbitrary numbers of electric or magnetic components of the Weyl tensor, the integrand for the leading-order contributions are not difficult to construct because their building blocks are tree-level leading order on-shell matrix elements of the point-particle energy-momentum tensor and of the tidal operator. The simple loop-momentum dependence and the permutation symmetry of the three-point amplitude factors makes the integrals simple to evaluate. Indeed, Fourier-transforming all graviton propagators decouples all integrals from each other, making it straightforward to write down explicit results for infinite classes of tidal operators. We have verified that the results obtained this way thought direct momentum space integration. While position space methods make leading-order calculations straightforward, momentum-space methods can be applied systematically, to arbitrary PM order.

An interesting feature of gravitational tidal operators, which we exploited in their description, is their close similarity with gauge theory operators describing the interaction of extended charge distributions with electromagnetic fields. This formal connection extends to dynamical level double-copy relations. For leading-order contributions this is a straightforward consequence of the factorization of the linearized Riemann tensor into two gauge-theory field strengths and of the factorization of the energy-momentum tensor into two gauge theory currents. Such double-copy factorizations also hold for the energy-momentum tensor [92]. It would be very interesting to investigate double-copy relations beyond the leading PM order.

In summary, in this paper we took some steps towards systematically evaluating contributions to the two-body Hamiltonian from infinite families of tidal operators. The leading order in G results are remarkably simple, suggesting that much more progress will be forthcoming.

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A Appendix Summary of explicit results

In this appendix we collect explicit results for scattering amplitudes with a tidal operator insertion. Using eq. (2.5), this immediately gives us the potential. Here we consider the amplitudes with operator insertions of the type $E^{n-2m}B^{2m}$. We express the amplitude in terms of the variable $\sigma = p_1 \cdot p_2/m_1m_2$. The general formulae for $(E^2)^n$, $(B^2)^n$ and $(E^3)^n$ are given from eq. (4.16) to eq. (4.18) with the coefficients in eq. (4.13). Here we give explicit results corresponding up to 7 loops in the amplitudes approach. As noted in the text, the amplitudes with an odd B -field insertions vanish by parity so we do not include those. We also do not explicitly list cases where a trace contains an odd number of B s since these also vanish.

To list the amplitudes we scale out the powers of $|\mathbf{q}|$ from the scattering amplitudes, following eq. (2.9),

$$\mathcal{M}_{X^{2n}} = |\mathbf{q}|^{3(2n-1)} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{X^{2n}} = |\mathbf{q}|^{3(2n-1)} C_{X^{2n}}, \quad (\text{A.1})$$

for a tidal operator which we build from a total of $2n$ E s or B s, independent of the trace structure. For operators where total number of E s and B is odd the rescaling is bit difference because of the appearance of a divergence

$$\mathcal{M}_{X^{2n+1}} = |\mathbf{q}|^{6n-4n\epsilon} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{X^{2n}} = -\frac{1}{2n} \frac{1}{\epsilon} |\mathbf{q}|^{6n-4n\epsilon} C_{X^{2n+1}}, \quad (\text{A.2})$$

The long-range classical contribution comes from the $\log \mathbf{q}^2$ term that arises from expanding in ϵ .

As discussed in section 2, the potential is given in the two-body Hamiltonian is given by a Fourier transform (2.5) and the eikonal phase is also given by eq. (2.6). Carrying out the Fourier transform we have from eq. (2.10) and eq. (2.11)

$$V_{X^{2n}} = -\frac{1}{4E_1E_2} \frac{8^{2n-1} \Gamma(3n)}{\pi^{3/2} \Gamma(\frac{3}{2} - 3n)} \frac{C_{X^{2n}}}{|\mathbf{r}|^{6n}}, \quad (\text{A.3})$$

$$\delta_{X^{2n}} = \frac{1}{4m_1m_2\sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}} \frac{8^{2n-1} \Gamma(3n - \frac{1}{2})}{\pi \Gamma(\frac{3}{2} - 3n)} \frac{C_{X^{2n}}}{|\mathbf{b}|^{6n-1}}, \quad (\text{A.4})$$

where we only keep the finite term in ϵ . Similarly, for the odd powers

$$V_{X^{2n+1}} = \frac{1}{4E_1 E_2} \frac{(-1)^n \Gamma(6n+2)}{2\pi} \frac{C_{X^{2n+1}}}{|\mathbf{r}|^{6n+3}}, \quad (\text{A.5})$$

$$\delta_{X^{2n+1}} = \frac{1}{4m_1 m_2 \sqrt{\sigma^2 - 1}} \frac{(-1)^{n-1} 8^{2n} \Gamma(3n+1)^2}{\pi} \frac{C_{X^{2n+1}}}{|\mathbf{b}|^{6n+2}}. \quad (\text{A.6})$$

For X^2 we have,

$$\begin{aligned} C_{(E^2)} &= \frac{5}{2^3} G^2 m_1 m_2^3 \pi^2 \left(\frac{11}{5} - 6\sigma^2 + 7\sigma^4 \right), \\ C_{(B^2)} &= \frac{5}{2^3} G^2 m_1 m_2^3 \pi^2 (\sigma^2 - 1) (1 + 7\sigma^2), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.7})$$

where the parenthesis on the operator denote the matrix trace, as defined in eq. (2.49).

For X^3 :

$$\begin{aligned} C_{(E^3)} &= -\frac{2^2 3^2}{11!!} G^3 m_1 m_2^4 \pi \left(\frac{7}{4} - 9\sigma^2 + 10\sigma^4 \right), \\ C_{(EB^2)} &= -\frac{2^2 3}{11!!} G^3 m_1 m_2^4 \pi (\sigma^2 - 1) (1 + 10\sigma^2). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.8})$$

For X^4 :

$$\begin{aligned} C_{(E^4)} &= -\frac{11 \cdot 13}{2^{12} (7!!)^2} G^4 m_1 m_2^5 \pi^2 \left(\frac{1231}{143} - \frac{664}{13} \sigma^2 + 130\sigma^4 - 160\sigma^6 + 85\sigma^8 \right), \\ C_{(B^4)} &= -\frac{11 \cdot 13}{2^{12} (7!!)^2} G^4 m_1 m_2^5 \pi^2 (\sigma^2 - 1)^2 (1 + 10\sigma^2 + 85\sigma^4), \\ C_{(EEBB)} &= -\frac{11 \cdot 13}{2^{12} (7!!)^2} G^4 m_1 m_2^5 \pi^2 (\sigma^2 - 1) \left(\frac{41}{39} + \frac{53}{3} \sigma^2 - 75\sigma^4 + 85\sigma^6 \right), \\ C_{(EBEB)} &= \frac{11 \cdot 13}{2^{12} (7!!)^2} G^4 m_1 m_2^5 \pi^2 (\sigma^2 - 1) \left(\frac{25}{39} + \frac{37}{3} \sigma^2 - 75\sigma^4 + 85\sigma^6 \right), \\ C_{(E^2)^2} &= 2C_{(E^4)}, \\ C_{(B^2)^2} &= 2C_{(B^4)}, \\ C_{(E^2)(B^2)} &= -\frac{11 \cdot 13}{2^{11} (7!!)^2} G^4 m_1 m_2^5 \pi^2 (\sigma^2 - 1) \left(\frac{19}{13} + 23\sigma^2 - 75\sigma^4 + 85\sigma^6 \right). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.9})$$

For X^5 :

$$\begin{aligned} C_{(E^5)} &= \frac{1}{2^6 (19!!)} G^5 m_1 m_2^6 \pi \left(1094 - 8535\sigma^2 + 24608\sigma^4 - 32832\sigma^6 + 17280\sigma^8 \right), \\ C_{(E^3 B^2)} &= \frac{1}{2^6 5 (19!!)} G^5 m_1 m_2^6 \pi (\sigma^2 - 1) \left(499 + 10144\sigma^2 - 46656\sigma^4 + 51840\sigma^6 \right), \\ C_{(EBEBE)} &= -\frac{1}{2^5 5 (19!!)} G^5 m_1 m_2^6 \pi (\sigma^2 - 1) \left(61 + 1336\sigma^2 - 7776\sigma^4 + 8640\sigma^6 \right), \\ C_{(EB^4)} &= \frac{3^2}{2^2 5 (19!!)} G^5 m_1 m_2^6 \pi (\sigma^2 - 1)^2 (1 + 12\sigma^2 + 120\sigma^4), \\ C_{(E^3)(B^2)} &= \frac{3}{2^4 5 (19!!)} G^5 m_1 m_2^6 \pi (\sigma^2 - 1) \left(61 + 1336\sigma^2 - 7776\sigma^4 + 8640\sigma^6 \right), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
C_{(E^2)(EB^2)} &= \frac{3}{2^5 5 (19!!)} G^5 m_1 m_2^6 \pi (\sigma^2 - 1) (85 + 1600\sigma^2 - 5184\sigma^4 + 5760\sigma^6), \\
C_{(B^2)(EB^2)} &= 2C_{EB^4}.
\end{aligned}
\tag{A.10}$$

For X^6 , X^7 , X^8 :

$$\begin{aligned}
C_{(E^6)} &= \frac{17 \cdot 19 \cdot 3^5}{2^{21} 5^2 (13!!)^2} G^6 m_1 m_2^7 \pi^2 \left(\frac{5558245}{26163} - \frac{328930}{171} \sigma^2 + \frac{609305}{81} \sigma^4 - \frac{144980}{9} \sigma^6 \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{183425}{9} \sigma^8 - 14950 \sigma^{10} + 5175 \sigma^{12} \right), \\
C_{(B^6)} &= \frac{17 \cdot 19 \cdot 3^5}{2^{21} 5^2 (13!!)^2} G^6 m_1 m_2^7 \pi^2 (\sigma^2 - 1)^3 (5 + 69\sigma^2 + 575\sigma^4 + 5175\sigma^6), \\
C_{(E^7)} &= -\frac{3}{2^{12} (31!!)} G^7 m_1 m_2^8 \pi \left(1496063 - 15991430\sigma^2 + 71940660\sigma^4 \right. \\
&\quad \left. - 177188000\sigma^6 + 253373120\sigma^8 - 200648448\sigma^{10} + 69189120\sigma^{12} \right), \\
C_{(E^8)} &= -\frac{23 \cdot 29 \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5}{2^{31} 7^2 (19!!)^2} G^8 m_1 m_2^9 \pi^2 \left(\frac{57426585223}{7293645} - \frac{10076129056}{105705} \sigma^2 + \frac{32319394660}{63423} \sigma^4 \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \frac{1227512720}{783} \sigma^6 + \frac{82520830}{27} \sigma^8 - 3916416\sigma^{10} + 3294060\sigma^{12} \right. \\
&\quad \left. - 1718640\sigma^{14} + 441595\sigma^{16} \right), \\
C_{(B^8)} &= -\frac{23 \cdot 29 \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5}{2^{31} 7^2 (19!!)^2} G^8 m_1 m_2^9 \pi^2 (\sigma^2 - 1)^4 (35 + 620\sigma^2 + 6138\sigma^4 + 47740\sigma^6 + 441595\sigma^8).
\end{aligned}
\tag{A.11}$$

As noted in section 4, in the high-energy limit, where σ is large, simple relations are visible between amplitudes with E^2 and B^2 operators inserted [105, 106].

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