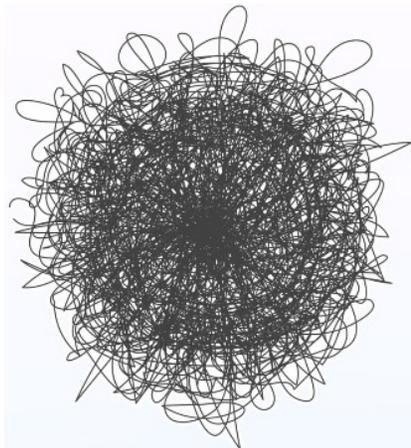


Absorption and emission of light particles from heavy string states



Elias Kiritsis



Bibliography

Ongoing work with:

Massimo Bianchi, Maurizio Firrotta, Vasilis Miarchos

Maurizio Firrotta, Vasilis Miarchos

Published in [ArXiv:2407.16476](#)

Maurizio Firrotta

Published in [ArXiv: 2402.16183](#)

On High Energy Strings,

Elias Kiritsis

Introduction

- **Black holes** have provided us with some of **the deepest puzzles in theoretical physics** in the last 50+ years.
- ♠ The puzzles are always connected with a **clash between quantum mechanics and gravity**.
- ♠ It is well known that T-inversion symmetry implies that an absorbing object must also emit. For black holes the **absorption is classical but the emission is quantum**.
- ♠ For a long time, the puzzle was between the **thermal properties** of black holes and the possibility that the underlying state describing them is **a pure state**.
- ♠ Recently, we have learned a few more important properties of black holes, that also led to a few more conjectures.

- Black holes have the **highest entropy density** from any physical system.
Bekenstein
- They are the **fastest scramblers** of all systems.
Susskind
- They are some of the **most chaotic quantum systems in nature** as they saturate the **quantum Lyapunov exponent bound**.
Maldacena+Shenker+Stanford
- They are the most **strongly entangled systems** in nature.
Maldacena+Susskind
- They are potentially the **most powerful quantum computers** because of storage capacity and degree of entanglement.
Lloyd, Dvali
- And for **(near) extremal black holes**, **quantum gravitational effects cannot** be neglected.
Kitaev, Maldacena,....

Black holes vs String Theory

- String theory has shed important light in **black-hole puzzles** in several distinct ways:

- ♠ It has provided concrete calculable examples of **explicit microscoping counting of black hole microstates**, in agreement with the Bekenstein entropy.

Strominger+Vafa

- The microscopic counting was done at $g_s \ll 1$ when a bound state is loosely coupled, and does not resemble a black hole.

- Supersymmetry transferred this result to $g_s \gg 1$ where the bound state **resembles a semiclassical black hole**.

- ♠ Extensions of this counting to black holes with small T gave the hints for the **AdS/CFT correspondence**.

- The **holographic correspondence**, provided a breakthrough on the way with think about black holes since.

- ♠ The black hole state was mapped to a canonical ensemble of a standard (holographic) QFT.
- ♠ The information paradox was refined and transformed to **subtler puzzles associated to firewalls**.
- ♠ The chaotic nature of black holes was understood, and it led to the **quantum Lyapunov exponent bound** that is independent of holography.
- String theory on the other hand, provides simpler complex systems, namely **High Energy String states (HES)** that may serve as proxies for complex systems like black holes.
- Indeed a HES at weak coupling is expected to become a black hole, developing a macroscopic horizon, as one increases the string coupling.
- At the transition point, several quantities agree when computed from the two pictures.
- This is known as the principle of **string-black hole complementarity**:
Susskind, Horowitz+Polchinski

(black hole gravitational mass) $M_{BH} = \frac{R_{BH}}{G_N}$; (Area law) $S_{BH} = \frac{R_{BH}^2}{G_N}$

(string states) $M_{String} = \frac{\sqrt{N}}{\ell_{string}}$

(multiplicity) $S_{String} = \ell_{string} M_{String} = \sqrt{N}$

- The **string/black-hole transition** happens when

$$R_{BH} = \ell_{string} \quad , \quad G_N = \frac{1}{g_s^2 \ell_{string}^2}$$

- At this point:

$$M_{BH} = M_{String} \quad \text{and} \quad g_s^4 = \frac{1}{N}$$

and

$$S_{BH} = S_{String} = \sqrt{N}$$

- It follows that a perturbative string approach to HES is valid iff

$$g_s \ll \frac{1}{N^{\frac{1}{4}}}$$

The thermal nature of pure states

- In his PhD thesis of 1987, [Seth Lloyd](#) has studied aspects of the black-hole information paradox.
- He has proven some powerful results that remained largely unknown until recently.
- His central result assumes a finite-dimensional subspace of the Hilbert space of a QFT of dimension n . As an example, this subspace can be the space of states with $\bar{E} \leq E \leq \bar{E} + d\bar{E}$.
- Consider a typical pure state in this subspace, $|\psi\rangle$.

$$\sqrt{\left(\langle\psi|O|\psi\rangle - \frac{\text{Tr}[O]}{n}\right)^2} \leq \frac{\sqrt{\frac{\text{Tr}[O^2]}{n} - \left(\frac{\text{Tr}[O]}{n}\right)^2}}{\sqrt{1+n}} \leq \frac{\max(O_i)}{\sqrt{n+1}}$$

- When $n \gg 1$, this is the microcanonical ensemble and the traces are the microcanonical thermal correlators.
- Similar bounds hold for standard deviations as well as higher correlators.
- The word typical is again important. For example if $|\psi\rangle$ is an **eigenvector of O** , or a superposition dominated by an eigenvector of O , then the bound fails.
- The working definition is that $|\psi\rangle$ is a linear superposition of all states in the subspace with complex coefficients drawn at random by a flat distribution.
- The choice of operator is also important: it should not be “**too complicated**” so that its maximal eigenvalue does increase fast enough with n .

- There is an alternative hypothesis that serves to explain thermalization and quantum chaos, known as the ETH.

Deutche, Srednicki

- It is formulated in terms of the matrix elements of operators in the energy eigenstates' basis, $O_{m,n} \equiv \langle E_m | O | E_n \rangle$.

$$O_{mn} = \bar{O} \delta_{m,n} + \sqrt{\frac{\overline{O^2}}{e^S}} R_{m,n}$$

- The numbers $R_{m,n}$ are random variables with zero mean and unit variance.
- This is an ansatz, that can explain both thermal properties as well as chaos.
- It is not however general and can fail in many theories.
- Lloyd's theorems are weaker but more robust.

HES as laboratories for complex systems

- It seems like a reasonable idea to use HES as laboratories for complex systems and in particular black holes.
- Beyond the correspondence principle of Horowitz-Polchinski, several other past efforts went in the same direction.
- The computation of string form factors.
Mitchell+Sundborg
- The decay rate of highly-excited fundamental string states.
Amati+Russo, Mañes, Chialva+Iengo+Russo
- However, the topic is technically very complex, as it is difficult to have appropriate vertex operators for such complicated states.
- Previous works have taken shortcuts that looked reasonable at the time.

- The main reason such calculations are doable today is via the use of two formalisms:

- ♠ One is the old **DDF formalism** that constructs physical HES vertex operators using a rather counter-intuitive (but efficient) construction.

Di Vecchia+Del Giudice+Fubini

- ♠ The second is more recent: the construction of the (non-trivial) BRST-invariant **coherent-state formalism for strings**, motivated by the necessity to study systematically cosmic string interactions.

Skliros+Hindmarsh, Skliros

- This gave rise to the first systematic computations of HES amplitudes recently.

Bianchi+Firrotta

Chaos in perturbative string theory

- An obvious question is whether there are signals of **chaotic behavior in HES states**.
- Signals of chaos in quantum-mechanical scattering amplitudes have been found in many cases in past.
- They would be attributed though to judiciously chosen scattering potentials.
- However, recently, signals of chaos have been found in the **scattering form factors of HES**.

Rosenhaus+Gross, Rosenhaus, Bianchi+Firrotta+Sonneschein+Weissman

- An analogue of the **spectral form factor** was defined using the angular zeros of the logarithmic derivative of the amplitude.

- For a HES with $\text{mass}^2 = \frac{N}{\ell_s^2}$, it was subsequently shown that such a form factor has **generically chaotic properties described by the β -ensemble of random matrices** with $\beta \simeq 2$.

Bianchi+Firrotta+Sonneschein+Weissman

- The word generically is important because the chaoticity is not there for every state in the subspace of states at level N .
- There are two special states at level N :
 - ♠ The state $(a_{-1}^{\mu})^N |p\rangle$ belonging to the leading Regge trajectory.
 - ♠ The state $a_N^{\mu} |p\rangle$.
- These two states do not exhibit chaotic behavior.
- This is also true for states near them.
- However , a generic state at level N exhibits chaotic behavior.

Covariant, coherent DDF vertex operators

- Degenerate open string excitations at level $L_0 = N$ can be seen as string microstates.

$$\left(\prod_{i=1}^{g_1} a_{-1}^{\mu_i} \right) \left(\prod_{i=1}^{g_2} a_{-2}^{\mu_i} \right) \cdots \left(\prod_{i=1}^{g_N} a_{-N}^{\mu_i} \right) |p\rangle \Rightarrow |g_n\rangle_N \Rightarrow N = \sum_{n=1}^N n g_n$$

5 harm



10 harm



100 harm



N



- There are many states for a given mass when $N \gg 1$ and their number scales as $e^{Ml_s} \sim e^{\sqrt{N}}$.

- The DDF formalism uses as basic operators

$$\mathcal{A}_{-n}^\mu(q) = \oint \frac{dz}{2\pi i} i\partial X^\mu(z) e^{-inq \cdot X} \quad , \quad [\mathcal{A}_m^\mu, \mathcal{A}_n^\nu] = n\eta^{\mu\nu} \delta_{m,-n}$$

with constraints

$$q \cdot \mathcal{A}_{-n} = 0 \quad , \quad q^2 = 0$$

- The generic state is obtained by acting with DDF oscillators on the tachyon state.

$$\begin{aligned} |T, g_n, p\rangle &= T_{\mu_1\mu_2\cdots} \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \prod_n \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^{g_n} g_n!}} \prod_{r=1}^{g_n} : \mathcal{A}_{-n}^{\mu_r}(q) : : e^{ipt \cdot X}(z) : |0\rangle \\ &= \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{V}(T, \{n, g_n\}, p; z) |0\rangle \end{aligned}$$

which is an on-shell state with

$$p = p_t - Nq \quad , \quad p_t^2 = \frac{1}{\ell_s^2} \quad , \quad 2p_t \cdot q = \frac{1}{\ell_s^2} \quad , \quad M^2 = -p^2 = (p_t - Nq)^2$$

- The **polarisation tensor** T is contracted with matrices and is transverse.

$$R^\mu{}_\nu = \delta^\mu{}_\nu - \frac{2}{\ell_s^2} (p_t)^\mu q_\nu \quad , \quad R^\mu{}_\nu (p_t)^\nu = 0 \quad , \quad q_\mu R^\mu{}_\nu = q_\nu$$

- Therefore **SO(D-2)** reps are described.

- The other ingredient is the **coherent vertex operator**

$$\mathcal{V}_{\text{coherent}}(\{\lambda_n\}, p; z) =: e^{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n \cdot \mathcal{A}_{-n}(q)} : e^{iptX}(z)$$

$$=: \exp \left[\sum_{n,m} \frac{\zeta_n \cdot \zeta_m}{2} \mathcal{S}_{n,m} e^{-i(n+m)q \cdot X} + \sum_n \zeta_n \cdot \mathcal{P}_n e^{-inq \cdot X} + ipt \cdot X \right] (z) :$$

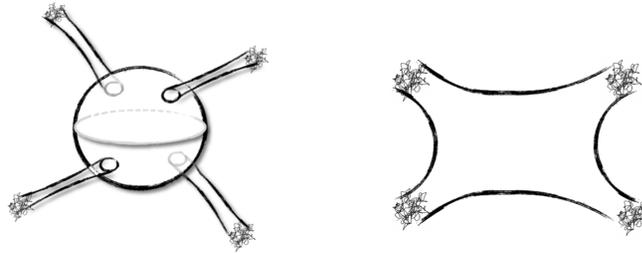
with $\zeta_n^\mu = \lambda_n^\nu R_\nu^\mu$.

- Individual HES states can be obtained by taking λ_n - derivatives on the coherent vertex operator.

The four-point amplitude

- The four-point amplitude of four coherent vertex operators

$$\mathcal{A}_4(\mathcal{V}_{coh}, \mathcal{V}_{coh}, \mathcal{V}_{coh}, \mathcal{V}_{coh})$$



- Veneziano amplitude with AES**

$$\mathcal{A}_{gen}^{4,HES}(s, t) = \mathcal{A}_{Ven}(s, t) e^{\mathcal{K}(\{\zeta_n^{(\ell)}\}; \partial_{\beta_s}, \partial_{\beta_t})} \Phi_{\beta_s, \beta_t}(s, t) \Big|_{\beta_s, t=0}$$

- Shapiro-Virasoro amplitude with AES**

$$\mathcal{M}_{gen}^{4HES}(s, t, u) = \mathcal{M}_{SV}(s, t, u).$$

$$e^{\mathcal{K}(\{\zeta_n^{(\ell)}\}; \partial_{\beta_s}, \partial_{\beta_t})} \Phi_{\beta_s, \beta_t}(s, t) e^{\bar{\mathcal{K}}(\{\bar{\zeta}_n^{(\ell)}\}; \partial_{\bar{\beta}_s}, \partial_{\bar{\beta}_t})} \bar{\Phi}_{\bar{\beta}_s, \bar{\beta}_t}(s, t) \Big|_{\beta_s, t, \bar{\beta}_s, \bar{\beta}_t=0}$$

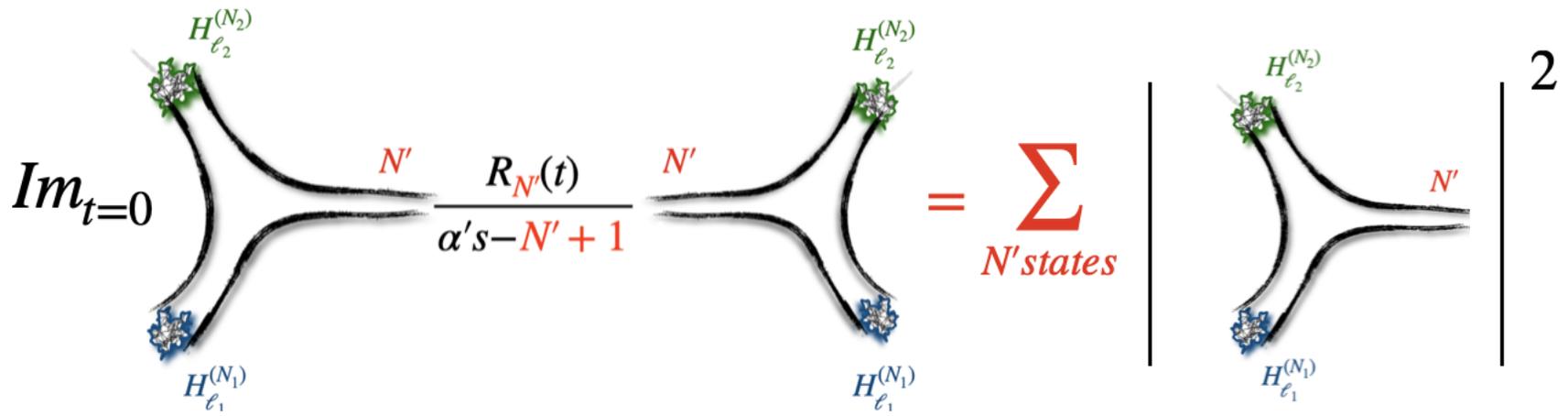
The absorption cross section

- We are interested in computing the elastic absorption cross section, where a general state $H_{\ell_1}^{N_1}$ absorbs another $H_{\ell_2}^{N_2}$ to become a third state.

$$H_{\ell_1}^{N_1} + H_{\ell_2}^{N_2} \rightarrow \text{anything in level } N'$$

where "anything" is any one-particle state, to leading order in perturbation theory.

- We do not average over ANY initial state: they are prepared to be fixed microstates in their respective levels.
- The respective absorption cross section can be computed using the **optical theorem** = the appropriate imaginary part of the forward four-point amplitude.



$$\begin{aligned}
 \sigma_{abs}^{H_{l_1}^{(N_1)} + H_{l_2}^{(N_2)} \rightarrow N'} &= \frac{g_s^2 \ell_s^{d-4}}{F_{H_1 H_2}^\phi} \sum_{\ell'} \left| \mathcal{A}_{H_{l_1}^{(N_1)} + H_{l_2}^{(N_2)} \rightarrow H_{\ell'}^{(N')}} \right|^2 = \\
 &= \frac{g_s^2 \ell_s^{d-4}}{F_{H_1 H_2}^\phi} \text{Im} \mathcal{A}_{H_{l_1}^{(N_1)} + H_{l_2}^{(N_2)} \rightarrow H_{l_1}^{(N_1)} + H_{l_2}^{(N_2)}}(s = M_{N'}^2, t = 0) \Big|_{\text{cut}} \\
 &= \frac{g_s^2 \ell_s^{d-4}}{F_{H_1 H_2}^\phi} \mathcal{F}_{s=M_{N'}^2, t=0}(H_{l_1}^{(N_1)}, H_{l_2}^{(N_2)}) \mathcal{R}_{N'}(t=0) \delta(s - M_{N'}^2)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\alpha' F_{H_1 H_2}^\phi = 2M_{H_1} |\vec{p}_2| \quad , \quad \mathcal{R}_{N'}(t=0) = 1 + N'$$

- Elastic Absorption **Universality** : only the levels matter.

$$\mathcal{F}_{s=M_{N'}^2, t=0}(H_{\ell_1}^{(N_1)}, H_{\ell_2}^{(N_2)}) = 1 - \frac{N_1 + N_2}{N' + 1}$$

- There is no dependence on ℓ_1, ℓ_2 .
- This is because of the sum over final states.
- Further averaging over the initial states makes no difference.
- Open string elastic absorption

$$\sigma_{abs,op}^{\langle N_1 \rangle + \langle N_2 \rangle \rightarrow N'}(E_{cm}) \Big|_{CoM} = \pi \ell_s^{d-2} g_o^2 \frac{(1 + N' - N_1 - N_2)}{\ell_s |\vec{p}_{cm}| \ell_s E_{cm}}$$

- Closed string elastic absorption

$$\sigma_{abs,cl}^{\langle N_1 \rangle + \langle N_2 \rangle \rightarrow N'}(E_{cm}) \Big|_{CoM} = \pi \ell_s^{d-2} g_c^2 \frac{(1 + N' - N_1 - N_2)^2}{\ell_s |\vec{p}_{cm}| \ell_s E_{cm}}$$

Special cases

- Photon absorption by any heavy open string state (no averaging over initial states)

$$\sigma_{abs}^{(open)} = \pi \ell_s^{d-2} g_o^2 ,$$

- If interpret this as the “size” of the HES as seen by the photon, then the size is independent of mass.
- The corresponding absorption cross-section for massless states in closed string theory is

$$\sigma_{abs}^{(closed)} = 2\pi \ell_s^d g_c^2 M\omega ,$$

- Closed HES have a non-trivial grey-body factor at tree-level.
- Both results are exact to leading order in string perturbation theory.

T-invariance and emission rates

- In a T-invariant theory we always have

$$\mathcal{A}_{H_{\ell_1}^{N_1} + H_{\ell_2}^{N_2} \rightarrow H_{\ell_3}^{N_3}} = \mathcal{A}_{H_{\ell_3}^{N_3} \rightarrow H_{\ell_1}^{N_1} + H_{\ell_2}^{N_2}}^*$$

- This is **distinct** from “**detailed balance**” (that assumes equilibrium).
- We shall use this to compute the emission rate.
- As we have previously averaged over H^{N_3} , the emission rate will be **averaged over initial** states.
- We must also average over $H_{\ell_2}^{N_2}$ (if we assume this is the “heavy” final state, $H_{\ell_1}^{N_1}$ being a graviton or photon.)

- The microscopic rate is

$$\frac{\delta \Gamma_{H_{\ell_3}^{N_3} \rightarrow H_{\ell_1}^{N_1} + H_{\ell_2}^{N_2}}}{\delta E_1 d\Omega_{\text{solid}}^{d-2}} = \frac{g_s^2}{8(2\pi)^{d-2}} \frac{E_1^{d-3}}{E_{N_2}} M_{N_3}^2 \left(1 - \frac{M_{N_1}^2}{E_1^2}\right)^{\frac{d-3}{2}} \left| \mathcal{A}_{H_{\ell_3}^{N_3} \rightarrow H_{\ell_1}^{N_1} + H_{\ell_2}^{N_2}} \right|^2 \times$$

$$\times \delta(E_3 - E_1 - E_2)$$

- We now sum over all external states

$$\frac{1}{\rho(d, N')} \sum_{\ell'} \sum_{\ell_1} \sum_{\ell_2} \left| \mathcal{A}_{H_{\ell'}^{(N')} \rightarrow H_{\ell_1}^{(N_1)} + H_{\ell_2}^{(N_2)}} \right|^2 \Rightarrow$$

- For photon emission (open strings)

$$\frac{d\Gamma^{N' \rightarrow \gamma + N}}{d\omega d\Omega_{\text{solid}}^{d-2}} = \frac{\pi g_o^2}{(2\pi)^{d-1}} \frac{(\ell_s \omega)^{d-2}}{1 - \frac{\ell_s \omega}{\sqrt{N-1}}} \cdot \frac{\rho(N' - 1 - 2\ell_s \omega \sqrt{N' - 1})}{\rho(N' - 1)}$$

- For a heavy initial state, $N' \gg 1$ and a low-energy photon, $\ell_s \omega \ll N'$:

$$\frac{\delta\Gamma^{N' \rightarrow \gamma + N}}{\delta\omega d\Omega_{\text{solid}}^{d-2}} \simeq \frac{\pi g_o^2}{(2\pi)^{d-1}} (\ell_s \omega)^{d-2} M_{N'} e^{-\frac{\omega}{T_H}} \quad , \quad T_H = \frac{1}{2\pi\ell_s} \sqrt{\frac{6}{d-2}}$$

- This is in agreement with $\omega \gg T_{\text{Hawk}}$ limit of the black-hole rate.

- For the emission of gravitons from a closed string HES

$$\frac{d\Gamma^{N' \rightarrow g+N}}{d\omega d\Omega_{\text{solid}}^{d-2}} = \frac{\pi g_c^2}{(2\pi)^{d-1}} \frac{(\ell_s M'_N)(\ell_s \omega)^{d-1}}{1 - \frac{\ell_s \omega}{\sqrt{N-1}}} \cdot \frac{\rho^2 \left(\frac{N'-1}{4} - \frac{\ell_s \omega}{2} \sqrt{N'-1} \right)}{\rho^2 \left(\frac{N'}{4} \right)}$$

- For a heavy initial state, $N' \gg 1$ and a low-energy graviton, $\ell_s \omega \ll N'$:

$$\frac{d\Gamma^{N' \rightarrow g+N}}{d\omega d\Omega_{\text{solid}}^{d-2}} = \frac{g_c^2}{(2\pi)^{d-2}} (\ell_s M'_N)^2 (\ell_s \omega)^{d-1} e^{-\frac{\omega}{T_H}}$$

- This is again in agreement with $\omega \gg T_{\text{Hawking}}$ limit of the black hole rate.

Conclusions

- We have computed general **four-point amplitude** of four **coherent string vertex operators**.
- We have computed the **absorption cross sections** for various open and closed string states from HES closed and open string states.
- The cross section do not depend on the details on the initial states.
- Using T-invariance, we have also computed the **emission cross sections** for various open and closed string states.
- When the degeneracies are large, our results are in agreement with **Lloyd's theorems**, as well as with **black-hole emission rates (at $\omega \gg T_H$)**
- For **$\omega l_s \ll 1$** our results differ from previous (indirect) calculations.

Open Ends

- There are several other computations that are interesting to do:
 - ♠ Emission and absorption of open strings from closed HES.
 - ♠ Emission and absorption of closed strings from open HES.
- Improving the eikonal high-energy scattering of HES states.
- Computing the long range fields of HES.
- Study the entanglement properties of final states.
- Compare extremal black holes with leading Regge trajectory states.

THANK YOU!

The \mathcal{S} and \mathcal{B} polynomials in the coherent vertex operator

- $\mathcal{P}_m, \mathcal{S}_{\ell,m}$ are suitable polynomials of the world-sheet operators $\partial_z^s X$ of the form

$$\zeta_n \cdot \mathcal{P}_n(z) := \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\zeta_n \cdot i \partial_z^k X(z)}{(k-1)!} \mathcal{Z}_{n-k}(a_s^{(n)}) , \quad a_s^{(n)} \equiv -in \frac{q \cdot \partial_z^s X}{(s-1)!}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_{n,m} := \sum_{r=1}^m r \mathcal{Z}_{n+r}(a_s^{(n)}) \mathcal{Z}_{m-r}(a_s^{(m)})$$

and \mathcal{Z}_n is the cycle index polynomial

$$\mathcal{Z}_n(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint \frac{dw}{w^{n+1}} e^{\sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \frac{x}{s} w^s}$$

Anatomy of the four-point amplitude

- Anatomy of the result: open string case
- typical Veneziano factor

$$A_{Ven}(s, t) = g_o^2 \frac{\Gamma(-\ell_s^2 s - 1) \Gamma(-\ell_s^2 t - 1)}{\Gamma(-\ell_s^2 s - \ell_s^2 t - 2)}$$

- Dressing of external arbitrarily excited states = polynomials V, W, I .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K}(\partial_{\beta_s}, \partial_{\beta_t}) = & \sum_{\ell=1}^4 \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \zeta_n^{(\ell)} \cdot V_n^{(\ell)}(\partial_{\beta_s}, \partial_{\beta_t}) + \sum_{n,m=1}^{\infty} \zeta_n^{(\ell)} \cdot \zeta_m^{(\ell)} W_{n,m}^{(\ell)}(\partial_{\beta_s}, \partial_{\beta_t}) \right) + \\ & + \sum_{v < f=1}^4 \sum_{n,m=1}^{\infty} \zeta_n^{(v)} \cdot \zeta_m^{(f)} I_{n,m}^{(v,f)}(\partial_{\beta_s}, \partial_{\beta_t}) \end{aligned}$$

- The pole-free (s,t)-symmetric Φ -function

$$\Phi_{\beta_s, \beta_t}(s, t) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \sum_{v=0}^{\infty} \frac{\beta_s^r \beta_t^v}{r! v!} \frac{(-\ell_s^2 s - 1)_r (-\ell_s^2 t - 1)_v}{(-\ell_s^2 s - \ell_s^2 t - 2)_{r+v}}$$

where $(x)_n \equiv \Gamma[x + n] / \Gamma[x]$ (Polchammer).

- The anatomy of the contractions

$$\mathcal{V}_{\text{coherent}} =: \exp \left[\sum_{n,m} \frac{\zeta_n \cdot \zeta_m}{2} \mathcal{S}_{n,m} e^{-i(n+m)q \cdot X} + \sum_n \zeta_n \cdot \mathcal{P}_n e^{-inq \cdot X} + ipt \cdot X \right] (z) :$$

- \mathcal{S} from any given V_ℓ contracts only with the tachyon vertex of other operators giving $W_{m,n}^{(\ell)}$.
- \mathcal{P} from any given V_ℓ contracts with the tachyon vertex of other operators giving $V_m^{(\ell)}$.
- \mathcal{P} from any given V_ℓ can contract with the \mathcal{P} from another V_f giving $I_{m,n}^{(\ell,f)}$.
- V, I, W are combinations of Jacobi Polynomials $P_N^{a,b}(\partial_{\beta_s}, \partial_{\beta_t})$.
- For the special case that 2 and 3 are massless states and 1,4 are HES we have:

$$V_n^{(1)\mu}(z) = \sqrt{2\alpha'} p_2^\mu P_{n-1}^{(\alpha_1^{(n)}, \beta_1^{(n)})}(1-2z) + z \sqrt{2\alpha'} p_3^\mu P_{n-1}^{(\alpha_1^{(n)}+1, \beta_1^{(n)})}(1-2z)$$

$$V_n^{(4)\mu}(z) = \sqrt{2\alpha'} p_1^\mu P_{n-1}^{(\alpha_4^{(n)}, \beta_4^{(n)})}(2z-1) + (1-z) \sqrt{2\alpha'} p_2^\mu P_{n-1}^{(\alpha_4^{(n)}+1, \beta_4^{(n)})}(2z-1)$$

$$W_{n,m}^{(1)}(z) = \sum_{r=1}^m r P_{n+r}^{(\alpha_1^{(n)}-r, \beta_1^{(n)}-1)}(1-2z) P_{m-r}^{(\alpha_1^{(m)}+r, \beta_1^{(m)}-1)}(1-2z)$$

$$W_{n,m}^{(4)}(z) = \sum_{r=1}^m r P_{n+r}^{(\alpha_4^{(n)}-r, \beta_4^{(n)}-1)}(2z-1) P_{m-r}^{(\alpha_4^{(m)}+r, \beta_4^{(m)}-1)}(2z-1)$$

$$I_{n_1, m_4}^{(1,4)}(z) = (-)^{m_4+1} \sum_{r,s=0}^{n_1, m_4} z^{r+s+1} P_{n_1-r-s-1}^{(\alpha_1^{(n_1)}+r+s+1; \beta_1^{(n_1)}-1)}(1-2z) \cdot$$

$$\cdot P_{m_4-r-s-1}^{(\beta_4^{(m_4)}+r+s+1; \alpha_4^{(m_4)}-1)}(1-2z)$$

- The map $z \leftrightarrow \beta_s, \beta_t$ comes from the combination

$$\beta_s z + \beta_t (1-z) \rightarrow \partial_{\beta_s} = -\partial_{\beta_t}$$

- The parameters $\alpha_1, \alpha_4, \beta_1, \beta_4$ are related to the momenta as follows

$$\alpha_1^{(n)} = -n - 2\alpha' n q_1 \cdot p_2, \quad \beta_1^{(n)} = -n - 2\alpha' n q_1 \cdot p_4,$$

$$\alpha_4^{(n)} = -n - 2\alpha' n q_4 \cdot p_1, \quad \beta_4^{(n)} = -n - 2\alpha' n q_4 \cdot p_3.$$

- The Jacobi Polynomials:

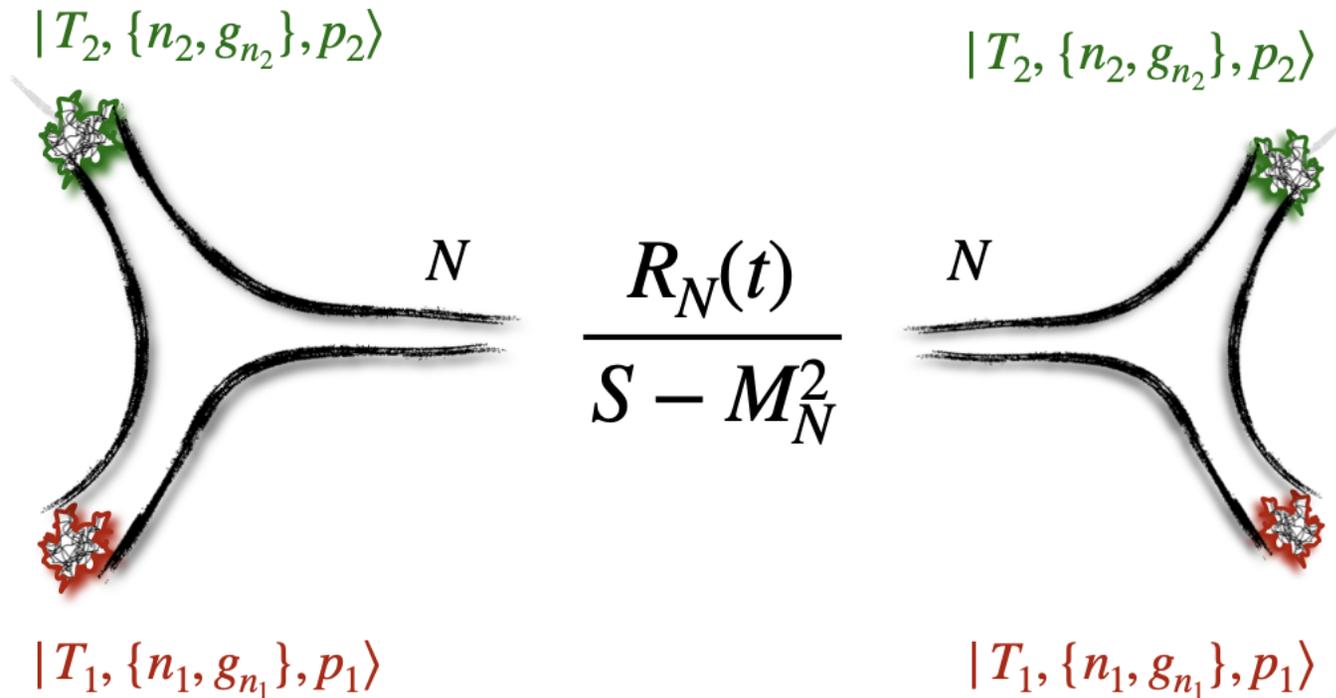
$$P_N^{(\alpha, \beta)}(x) = \sum_{r=0}^N \binom{N + \alpha}{N - r} \binom{N + \beta}{r} \left(\frac{x - 1}{2}\right)^r \left(\frac{x + 1}{2}\right)^{N-r}$$

- The following are the properties of the amplitude

- **Cyclicity and Crossing symmetry enforced by $\Phi_{\beta_s, \beta_t}(s, t)$**

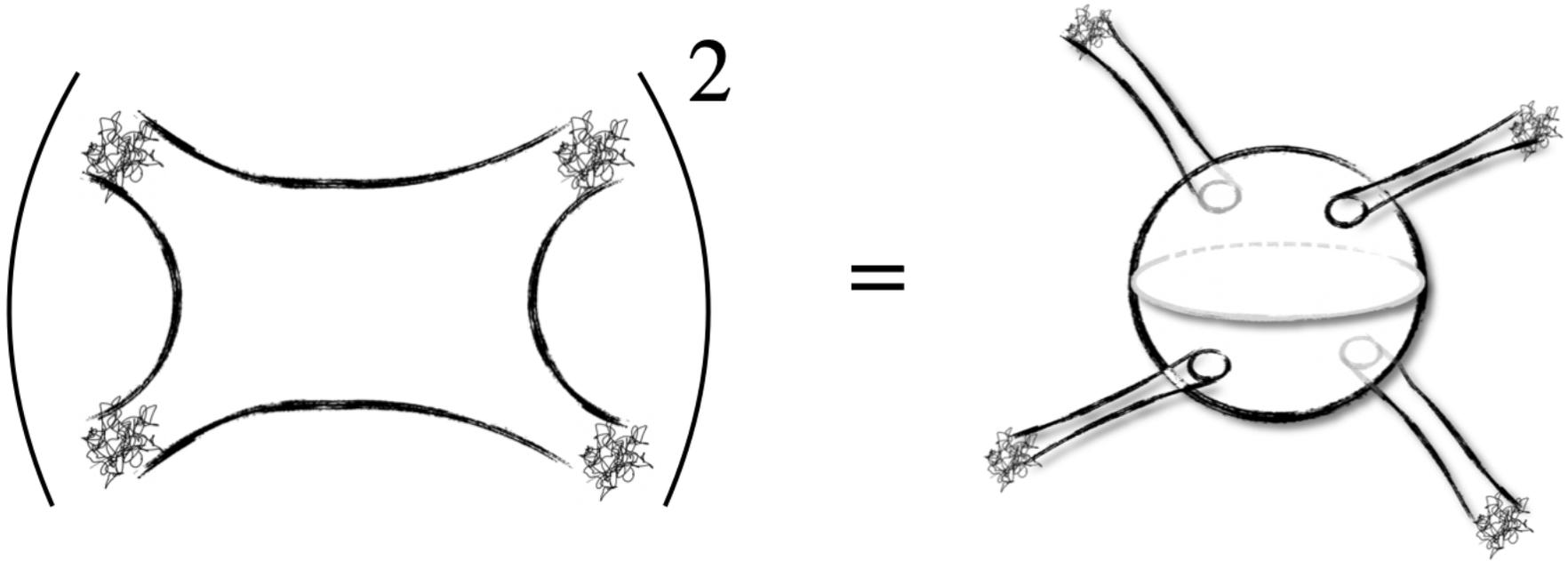
- Correct factorization properties

$$A_{gen}^{4HES}(s, t) \Big|_{P_N^2 \sim N-1} = A_{gen}^{2HES+N}(p_1, p_2, P_N) \frac{R_N(t)}{P_N^2 - M_N^2} A_{gen}^{2HES+N}(p_3, p_4, -P_N)$$



- Generalized KLT

$$\mathcal{M}_{gen}^{4HES}(s, t, u) = \sin \frac{\pi l_s^2 t}{4} \mathcal{A}_{gen}^{4HES}(s, t) \mathcal{A}_{gen}^{4HES}(t, u)$$



The Amati-Russo calculation

- Amati and Russo in particular, computed the average of the **inclusive emission rate** of massless strings from highly excited string states in **light-cone gauge**.

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d\omega} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}_{H_{N'}}} \sum_{H_{N'}} \sum_{H_N} \left| \begin{array}{c} L(\omega) \\ H_{N'} \\ H_N \end{array} \right|^2$$

number of states at level N'

- They found for open strings (in d dimensions)

$$\frac{d\Gamma(\omega)}{d\omega} = (\text{constant}) \frac{\omega^{d-2}}{e^{\frac{\omega}{T_H}} - 1}$$

and for closed strings

$$\frac{d\Gamma(\omega)}{d\omega} = (\text{constant}) \frac{\omega^{d-1} e^{-\frac{\omega}{T}}}{\left(e^{\frac{\omega}{T_L}} - 1\right) \left(e^{\frac{\omega}{T_R}} - 1\right)}, \quad \frac{1}{T} = \frac{1}{T_L} + \frac{1}{T_R}$$

recovering the familiar expressions of emission rates from black holes!!

- Absorption cross-sections from the detailed balance condition (that assumes thermodynamic equilibrium)

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d\omega} = \sigma \frac{\Omega_{\text{solid}}^{d-2} \omega^{d-2}}{e^{\frac{\omega}{T}} - 1}$$

with σ being the absorption cross section.

- We note that the calculation of emission rates in [Amati+Russo](#) was based on the average of the inclusive rate of emission of massless states using a **direct diagonal sum of squared 3-point amplitudes in the light-cone gauge**
- The resulting expression is claimed to be equivalent to a trace (and, therefore, basis-independent), but this statement does not seem to be correct, since the Fock space basis in the light-cone gauge is not orthonormal.

A toy summation over states

- A simple quantum mechanical example of calculation of probabilities: a simple reminder of the issues that appear when we use non-orthogonal bases.
- We consider an initial state $|\psi_0\rangle$ in the Hilbert space, that we assume normalized, $\langle\psi_0|\psi_0\rangle = 1$.
- We also consider a final state that belongs to a finite dimensional subspace V_n that is spanned by an orthonormal basis ψ_i with $\langle\psi_i|\psi_j\rangle = \delta_{ij}$.
- A generic (normalized) vector in V_n can be written as

$$|\psi(\vec{a})\rangle \equiv \sum_{i=1}^n a_i |\psi_i\rangle \quad , \quad \sum_{i=1}^n |a_i|^2 = 1$$

- Therefore, the manifold of normalized states of V_n is isometric to S^{2n-1} .
- The amplitude for $|\psi_0\rangle \rightarrow |\psi(\vec{a})\rangle$ is

$$A(\vec{a}) = \langle\psi_0|\psi(\vec{a})\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i A_{0i} \quad , \quad A_{0i} \equiv \langle\psi_0|\psi_i\rangle$$

- The probability of finding any state of V_n in $|\psi_0\rangle$ is given by the sum of probabilities $P(\vec{a}) = |A(\vec{a})|^2$ of ending in any vector of V_n .

- The sum is performed by the natural metric on V_n that of S^{2n-1} .

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_{0 \rightarrow V_n} &= \frac{1}{\Omega_{2n-1}} \int_{S^{2n-1}} d\Omega_{2n-1} |A(\vec{a})|^2 = \\
 &= \frac{1}{\Omega_{2n-1}} \sum_{i,j=1}^n A_{0i}^* A_{0j} \int_{S^{2n-1}} d\Omega_{2n-1} a_i^* a_j = \\
 &= \sum_{i,j=1}^n A_{0i}^* A_{0j} \delta^{ij} = \sum_{i=1}^n |A_{0i}|^2
 \end{aligned}$$

- above, $d\Omega_{2n-1}$ is the measure on the unit S^{2n-1} , and $\Omega_{2n-1} = \int_{S^{2n-1}} d\Omega_{2n-1}$ is the volume of the unit S^{2n-1} .

- The end result is the standard sum of squared amplitudes formulae that is valid as we see in an orthonormal basis.

- We now translate the same calculation in a non-orthogonal basis of final states.

- To do this we start from the orthonormal basis above and we rotate it to generic basis by an $GL(C,n)$ rotation M_{ij} ,

$$|\psi_i\rangle = \sum_{j=1}^n M_{ij} |\bar{\psi}_j\rangle \quad , \quad \det M \neq 0$$

- Now the inner products of the new basis have a nontrivial metric

$$G_{ij} \equiv \langle \bar{\psi}_i | \bar{\psi}_j \rangle = \sum_{k,l=1}^n M_{ik}^* M_{jl} \langle \psi_i | \psi_j \rangle = \sum_{k=1}^n M_{ik}^* M_{jk} = (M \cdot M^\dagger)_{ji}$$

- We also obtain

$$\bar{A}_{0i} \equiv \langle \psi_0 | \bar{\psi}_i \rangle = M_{ij} A_{0j} \quad \Rightarrow \quad A_{0i} = M_{ij}^{-1} \bar{A}_{0j}$$

- The probability can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} P_{0 \rightarrow V_n} &= \sum_{i=1}^n |A_{0i}|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n A_{0i}^* A_{0i} = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k,l=1}^n (M^*)_{il}^{-1} A_{0l}^* M_{ik}^{-1} \bar{A}_{0k} = \\ &= \sum_{k,l=1}^n (M \cdot M^\dagger)_{lk}^{-1} A_{0l}^* \bar{A}_{0k} = \sum_{k,l=1}^n G^{kl} A_{0l}^* \bar{A}_{0k} \end{aligned}$$

where G^{ij} is the inverse metric of G_{ij} .

T-invariance versus detailed balance.

- Detailed balance contains, beyond the assumption of T-invariance also the assumption of equilibrium.
- IN the emission/absorption case, it implies that the black body is equilibrium with the emitted radiation.
- In that case there is an extra contribution to the emission rate coming from stimulated emission.
- Assuming this we obtain in the HES case:

- Open string emission:

$$\frac{d\Gamma_{em}^{N' \rightarrow \gamma + N}}{d\omega d\Omega_{solid}^{(d-2)}} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{g_o^2}{(2\pi)^{d-2}} (\ell_s M_{N'}) (\ell_s \omega)^{d-2} \frac{1}{e^{\frac{\omega}{T_H}} - 1}$$

- Closed string emission

$$\frac{d\Gamma_{em}^{N' \rightarrow g + N}}{d\omega d\Omega_{solid}^{(d-2)}} = \frac{g_c^2}{(2\pi)^{d-2}} (\ell_s^2 M_{N'})^2 (\ell_s \omega)^{d-1} \frac{1}{e^{\frac{\omega}{T_H}} - 1} .$$

The $H_N T H_N T$ amplitude

$$\mathcal{A}_{H_N^1+T \rightarrow H_N^1+T} = A_{Ven}(s, t)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(2\alpha' \zeta_N^{(1)} \cdot p_2 \zeta_N^{(4)} \cdot p_1 \sum_{r_1, r_4=0}^{N-1} \binom{N-1+\alpha_1}{N-1-r_1} \binom{N-1+\alpha_4}{N-1-r_4} \binom{N-1+\beta_1}{r_1} \binom{N-1+\beta_4}{r_4} \mathcal{Q}_{[t; N-1+r_4-r_1]}^{[s; N-1+r_1-r_4]} \right. \\
 & + 2\alpha' \zeta_N^{(1)} \cdot p_2 \zeta_N^{(4)} \cdot p_2 \sum_{r_1, r_4=0}^{N-1} \binom{N-1+\alpha_1}{N-1-r_1} \binom{N+\alpha_4}{N-1-r_4} \binom{N-1+\beta_1}{r_1} \binom{N-1+\beta_4}{r_4} \mathcal{Q}_{[t; N+r_4-r_1]}^{[s; N-1+r_1-r_4]} \\
 & + 2\alpha' \zeta_N^{(1)} \cdot p_3 \zeta_N^{(4)} \cdot p_1 \sum_{r_1, r_4=0}^{N-1} \binom{N+\alpha_1}{N-1-r_1} \binom{N-1+\alpha_4}{N-1-r_4} \binom{N-1+\beta_1}{r_1} \binom{N-1+\beta_4}{r_4} \mathcal{Q}_{[t; N-1+r_4-r_1]}^{[s; N+r_1-r_4]} \\
 & + 2\alpha' \zeta_N^{(1)} \cdot p_3 \zeta_N^{(4)} \cdot p_2 \sum_{r_1, r_4=0}^{N-1} \binom{N+\alpha_1}{N-1-r_1} \binom{N+\alpha_4}{N-1-r_4} \binom{N-1+\beta_1}{r_1} \binom{N-1+\beta_4}{r_4} \mathcal{Q}_{[t; N+r_4-r_1]}^{[s; N+r_1-r_4]} \\
 & + \zeta_N^{(1)} \cdot \zeta_N^{(4)} (-)^{N-1} \sum_{v_1, v_4=0}^{N-1} \sum_{r_1, r_4=0}^{N-1} \binom{N+\alpha_1}{N-v_1-v_4-1-r_1} \binom{N-v_1-v_4-2+\beta_1}{r_1} \\
 & \quad \left. \binom{N+\beta_4}{N-v_1-v_4-1-r_4} \binom{N-v_1-v_4-2+\alpha_4}{r_4} \mathcal{Q}_{[t; 2(N-1-v_1-v_4)+r_1+r_4]}^{[s; N+r_1+r_4]} \right) \tag{1}
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mathcal{Q}_{[t; c_t]}^{[s; c_s]} := \frac{(-\alpha' s - 1)_{c_s} (-\alpha' t - 1)_{c_t}}{(-\alpha' s - \alpha' t - 2)_{c_s + c_t}} \tag{2}$$

and

$$\alpha_1 = -N - 2\alpha' N q_1 \cdot p_2, \quad \beta_1 = -N - 2\alpha' N q_1 \cdot p_4, \quad (3)$$

$$\alpha_4 = -N - 2\alpha' N q_4 \cdot p_1, \quad \beta_4 = -N - 2\alpha' N q_4 \cdot p_3. \quad (4)$$

Detailed plan of the presentation

- Title page 0 minutes
- Bibliography 0 minutes
- Introduction 2 minutes
- Black holes vs String Theory 6 minutes
- The thermal nature of pure states 9 minutes
- HES as laboratories for complex systems 11 minutes
- Chaos in Perturbative String Theory 13 minutes
- Covariant, Coherent, DDF Vertex operators 17 minutes
- The four-point amplitude 19 minutes
- The absorption cross section 23 minutes
- Special cases 24 minutes
- T-invariance and emission rates 29 minutes
- Conclusions 30 minutes
- Open ends 31 minutes

- The \mathcal{S} and \mathcal{B} polynomials in the coherent vertex operator 34 minutes
- Anatomy of the four-point-amplitude 35 minutes
- The Amati-Russo calculation 36 minutes
- A toy summation over states 37 minutes
- T-invariance versus detailed balance 38 minutes
- The H_2TH_2T amplitude 39 minutes
- The H_NTH_NT amplitude 40 minutes