

# Black Hole Formation and Classicalization in Ultra-Planckian Graviton Scattering

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# Outline:

- I) Classicalization and the black Hole N-portrait
- II) Large N graviton scattering amplitudes at high energies in FT and ST
- III) Interpretation of high energy behavior in the light of the N-portrait
- IV) Some final remarks and observations

# I) Classicalization and the black Hole N-portrait

[G. Dvali, C. Gomez, ....]

Einstein gravity possesses many interesting features:

- Geometry
- Black Holes
- Relation to Yang-Mills
- .....

But there are still many unsolved problems:

**Quantization** 

- Perturbative renormalizability
- Non-perturbative properties, space-time transitions, emergence of space & time, ..

In particular two questions and puzzles:

- What is the quantum nature of Black Holes - microscopic understanding of black hole entropy?

Two (interconnected ?) claims:  
Solve these problems (partially) within Einstein gravity!

⇒ Classicalization & the black hole N-portrait.

- What is the high energy behavior of graviton scattering amplitudes ?

Unitarity at tree level ?

## Classicalization & the black hole N-portrait:

- Are described by **IR physics**,  
.. where there is no need to modify gravity in the IR

However there remain still some UV problems:

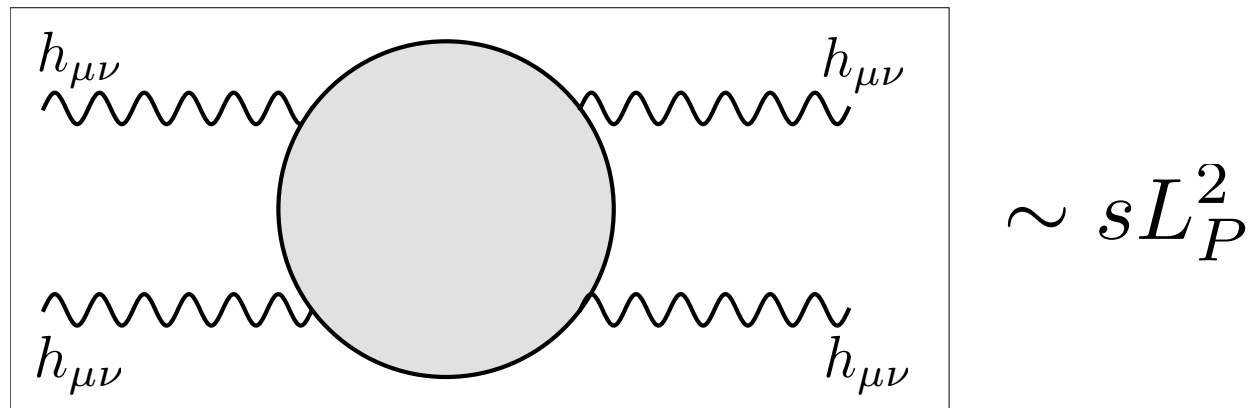
- Precise coefficient in black hole entropy:

$$S = \frac{1}{4} \frac{A}{L_P^2}$$

- Renormalization, UV finiteness of loop amplitudes

New UV degrees of freedom  $\Rightarrow$  String theory !

## Unitarity and classicalization:



It is known that tree level graviton scattering amplitudes grow like  $s$  (center of mass energy).

$\Rightarrow$  Violation of unitarity at  $s = M_P^2$

One possible solution: **Wilsonian approach:**

Amplitude is unitarized by integrating in new weakly coupled degrees of freedom of shorter and shorter wave lengths (at higher and higher energies).

**But:** Gravity has smallest length scale:  $L_P$

**Beyond this length the Wilsonian approach breaks down:**

It is expected that black holes will be produced in particle scattering processes with  $\sqrt{s}^{-1} < R_s \equiv \sqrt{s} L_P^2$

[’t Hooft (1987); Antoniadis, Arakani-Hamed, Dimopoulos, Dvali (1998); Banks, Fischler (1999); Dimopoulos, Landsberg (2001); Yoshino, Nambu (2002); Giddings, Thomas (2002); Eardley, Giddings (2002); Giddings, Rychkov (2004); Rychkov (2004); ...]

**Classicalization:** Amplitudes get unitarized by classical black hole formation.

[G. Dvali, C. Gomez (2010); G. Dvali, G. Giudice, C. Gomez, A. Kehagias (2010)]

(Gravity protects itself at high energies by black hole formation.)

**UV physics**  $\Leftrightarrow$  **IR physics**

So we need a better understanding of how black holes are formed in graviton scattering amplitudes.

# Black hole corpuscular N-portrait:

Quantum black hole = Bound state of  $N$  gravitons  
(Bose-Einstein condensate)

[G. Dvali, C. Gomez (2011 - 2014); G. Dvali, C. Gomez, D.L. (2012)]

Relevant properties (for us):

- $N$  is large and the gravitons are soft.
- Interaction strength among individual gravitons is small:

$$\alpha = \frac{L_P^2}{R^2} \ll 1 \quad (R \dots \text{graviton wave length})$$

- Collective ('t Hooft like) coupling:  $\lambda = \alpha N$
- Black holes are formed at the quantum critical point:

$$\lambda = 1$$

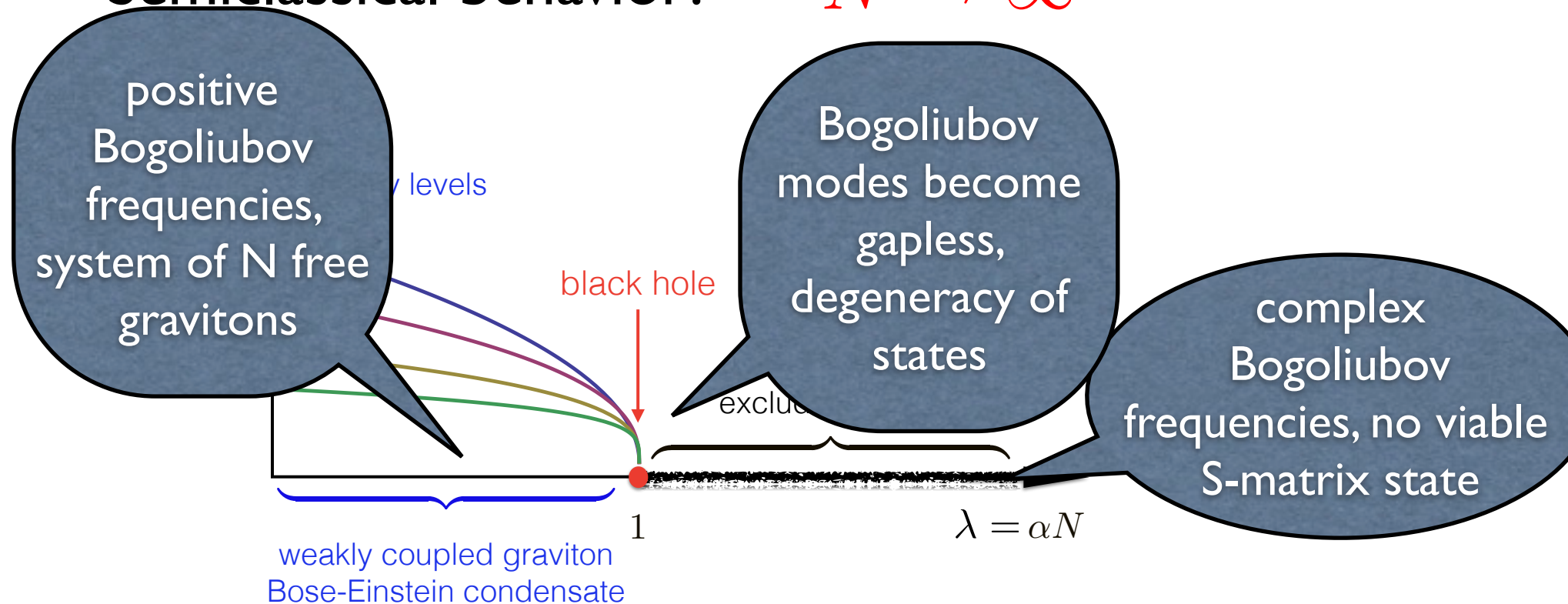
$$(R = \sqrt{N} L_P)$$

[G. Dvali, C. Gomez, arXiv:1207.4059;  
Flassig, Pritzel, Wintergerst, arXiv:1212.3344]



## Black hole bound state (at $\lambda = 1$ ):

- Mass and size:  $M_{BH} = \sqrt{N}M_P$ ,  $R_{BH} = \sqrt{N}L_P$
- Exponential degeneracy, entropy:  $S \sim N$
- Semiclassical behavior:  $N \rightarrow \infty$



Can we reconcile this picture in graviton scattering processes (expressed in terms of  $N$  and  $\lambda$ )?

## Interrelation between classicalization and b. h. N-portrait:

2  $\longrightarrow$   $N$  graviton amplitude with high center of mass  $s$ :

$$N \rightarrow \infty, \quad s \rightarrow \infty \quad (s \gg M_P) \quad \text{with} \quad \lambda = \frac{s}{M_P^2 N} \neq 0$$

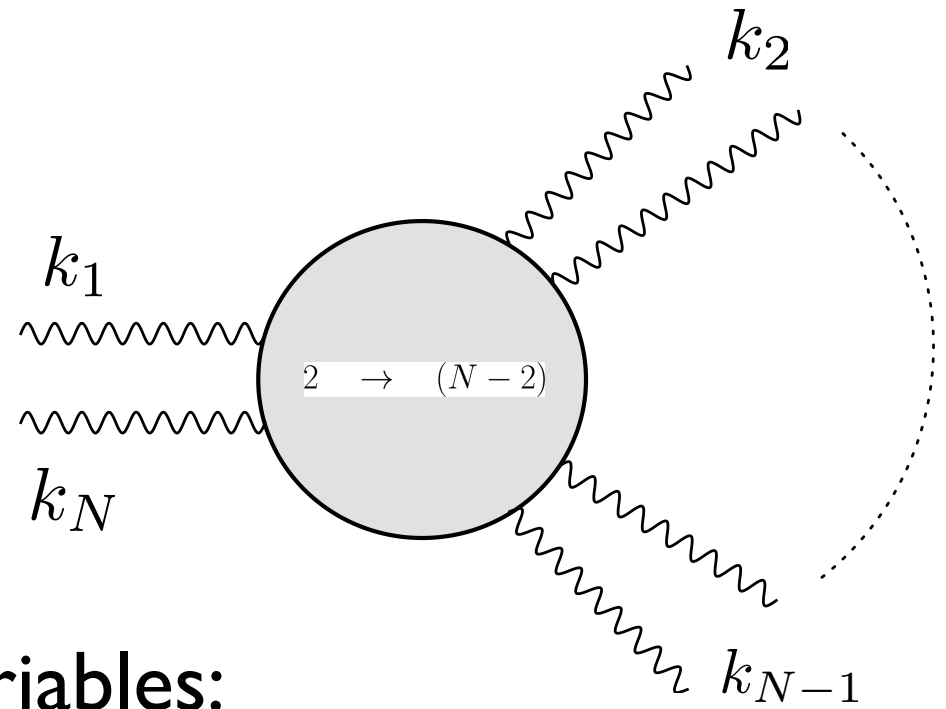
Results of the paper:

- Concrete technical computations of graviton scattering amplitudes in FT and ST in this kinematical regime - here only main results.
- Dependence on lambda shows interesting behavior that supports (at least in self-consistent way) the classicalization and black hole picture.
- Some interesting transition from FT with **black holes** to **string theory with Regge modes**.

## II) Large N graviton scattering amplitudes at high energies in FT and ST

### (i) Field theory

$$M_{2 \rightarrow N-2}(N, s_{ij}) :$$



$\frac{1}{2}N(N-3)$  kinematic variables:

$$s_{ij} \equiv (k_i + k_j)^2 = 2 k_i k_j$$

$$\# \text{constraints} = \frac{1}{2}(N-D)(N-D-1)$$

||

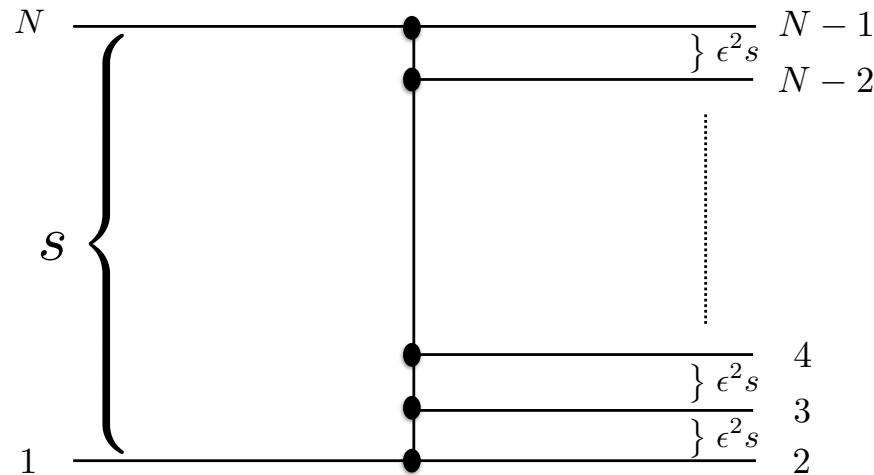
High energy regime: Eikonal Regge limit

Eikonal limit: two momenta are singled out

Regge limit: high center of mass energy

$$s_{ij} = (k_i + k_j)^2 \sim \begin{cases} s, & i, j \in \{1, N\}, \\ -\epsilon s, & i \in \{1, N\}, j \notin \{1, N\}, \\ \epsilon^2 s, & i, j \notin \{1, N\}, \end{cases}$$

$$s \rightarrow \infty, \quad \epsilon \rightarrow 0$$



We want to have soft gravitons in the final state.

Classicalization limit:  $p_{in} \sim \sqrt{s}$  and  $p_{out} \sim \frac{\sqrt{s}}{N-2}$

$$s_{ij} = (k_i + k_j)^2 \sim \begin{cases} s, & i, j \in \{1, N\}, \\ -\frac{s}{N-2}, & i \in \{1, N\}, j \notin \{1, N\}, \\ \frac{s}{(N-2)^2}, & i, j \notin \{1, N\}. \end{cases}$$

$$s \rightarrow \infty, \quad \epsilon = \frac{1}{N-2} \rightarrow 0$$

To compute the graviton scattering amplitudes we use on-shell methods and **KLT** techniques. [Kawai, Lewellen, Tye (1986)]

## N-point gravity tree level scattering via KLT:

$$M_N = \left(-\frac{\kappa}{2}\right)^{N-2} \sum_{\sigma, \gamma \in S_{(N-3)}} A_N(1, \sigma(2, \dots, N-2), N-1, N) S[\gamma(2, \dots, N-2), \sigma(2, \dots, N-2)]_{N-1} A_N(1, N-1, \sigma(2, \dots, N-2), N)$$

[Bern, Dixon, Perelstein, Rozowsky (1998); ... Bjerrum-Bohr, Damgaard, Sondergaard, Vanhove (2010)]

- $S[\dots, \dots]$  is called momentum kernel,  $S \sim s_{ij}^{N-3}$
- $A_N(\dots)$  color ordered MHV Yang-Mills amplitude:

$$A_N(1^+, \dots, i^-, \dots, j^-, \dots, N^+) = \frac{\langle i j \rangle^4}{\langle 1 2 \rangle \langle 2 3 \rangle \dots \langle N-1 N \rangle \langle N 1 \rangle}$$

Spinor helicity brackets:  $\langle ij \rangle = \sqrt{|s_{ij}|} e^{i\phi_{ij}}$  [Park, Taylor (1986)]

- Yang-Mills amplitude scales like:

$$A_N = s^{\frac{4-N}{2}} f(\phi) (N-2)^{N-4}$$

- Momentum kernel scales like:

$$S \sim \left( \frac{s}{(N-2)^2} \right)^{N-3}$$

- Thus gravity amplitude scales via KLT like:

$$M_N \sim \kappa^{N-2} \tilde{C}(N) s \times (N-2)^{-2}$$

with  $\tilde{C}(N)$  double sum over phase factors.

It fixes the combinatorics of the amplitude.

We computed it using QFT methods and scattering equations in string theory:

$$\tilde{C}(N) = (N-1)!$$

To obtain the physical probability, i.e. the S-matrix element, we have to consider

$$d|\langle 2|S|N-2\rangle|^2 = \frac{1}{(N-2)!} \prod_{i=2}^{N-1} dp_i^4 |M_N|^2 \delta^4(P_{total})$$

Full cross section by integrating over momenta and summing over helicities:  $( p_{in} \sim \sqrt{s} , p_{out} \sim \frac{\sqrt{s}}{N-2} )$

Physical  $2 \rightarrow N-2$  scattering probability in classicalization regime:

$$|\langle 2|S|N-2\rangle|^2 = \left( \frac{L_P^2 s}{N^2} \right)^N N! = \left( \frac{\lambda}{N} \right)^N N! \sim e^{-N} \lambda^N$$

Collective coupling  $\lambda \equiv \alpha N = s/M_P^2 N$



## (ii) Closed string theory

High energy behavior of open/closed string amplitudes shows exponential fall off due to Regge modes.

[Veneziano (1968); Amati, Ciafaloni, Veneziano (1987); Gross, Mende (1987), Gross, Manes (1989)]

Example: 4-point graviton amplitude

$$\mathcal{M}_4 \sim K \frac{\Gamma(-\frac{\alpha'}{4}s)\Gamma(-\frac{\alpha'}{4}t)\Gamma(-\frac{\alpha'}{4}u)}{\Gamma(\frac{\alpha'}{4}s)\Gamma(\frac{\alpha'}{4}t)\Gamma(\frac{\alpha'}{4}u)}$$

$$\longrightarrow_{\alpha' \rightarrow \infty} \kappa^2 |A_4|^2 \times 4\pi\alpha' \frac{st}{u} \exp\left\{ \frac{\alpha'}{2} (s \ln |s| + t \ln |t| + u \ln |u|) \right\}$$

Square of  
YM-amplitude

Momentum  
kernel

String  
form factor

(Note: this was basically the state of the art before our paper.)

# Generalization to arbitrary N:

[Stieberger, Taylor (2013, 2014)]

- KLT and Laplace saddle point methods.
- Recent work on scattering equations. [Cachazo, H, Yuan (2013)]
  - This fixes the combinatorics of string amplitude in the high energy limit  $\alpha' \rightarrow \infty$ .

$$\mathcal{M}_N = (-1)^{N-3} \kappa^{N-2} A_{YM}^t S_0 \text{sv}(\mathcal{A})$$

$\mathcal{A}$  is an  $(N-3)!$  -dim. vector of independent open string amplitudes:

$$\mathcal{A}_N(1, \pi(2, \dots, N-2), N-1, N) = g_{YM}^{N-2} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{N-3}} F_{\pi\sigma} A_{YM}(\sigma), \quad \pi \in S_{N-3}$$

$S_0$  is the momentum kernel: }  
 $F_{\pi\sigma}$  is the string form factor: }  $(N-3)! \times (N-3)! \text{ matrices}$

sv: single valued map

[Stieberger (2014)]

High energy limit:

$$s \gg L_P^2, \quad g_s^{-2} = \frac{L_s^2}{L_P^2} \gg 1 \Rightarrow \alpha' s \gg \frac{L_s^2}{L_P^2} \gg 1$$

Eikonal limit & Classicalization regime:

$$\mathcal{M}_N = \kappa^{N-2} |A_{YM}(1, \dots, N)|^2 \mathcal{F}_N$$

String form factor, comprises all stringy physics

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_N &\sim (4\pi\alpha')^{N-3} \left( \frac{s_{12} s_{23}}{s_{2N}} \right) \exp\left\{ \frac{\alpha'}{2} (s_{12} \ln s_{12} + s_{23} \ln s_{23} + s_{2N} \ln s_{2N}) \right\} \\ &\times \prod_{l=1}^{N-4} \left( \frac{x_l y_l}{z_l} \right) \exp\left\{ \frac{\alpha'}{2} (x_l \ln x_l + y_l \ln y_l + z_l \ln z_l) \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

## Two different energy regimes:

$$(i) \quad \frac{\sqrt{s}}{N} < M_s : \text{„infrared“, field theory regime}$$

Field and ST theory amplitudes agree.

This was already conjectured for the MHV case up to 5 points by [Cheung, O'Connell, Wecht (2010)]

$$F_N = 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{M}_N = M_N^{FT}$$

$$(ii) \quad \frac{\sqrt{s}}{N} > M_s : \text{„ultraviolet“, string theory regime}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_N \sim \kappa^{N-2} \alpha'^{N-3} s e^{-\frac{\alpha'}{2} (N-3) s \ln(\alpha' s)}$$

Amplitude gets tamed by string states (**Regge modes**).

### III) Interpretation of high energy behavior in the light of the N-portrait

What makes us believe that our results support the idea of classicalization and black hole formation?

#### (i) Field theory

Perturbative amplitude:

$$|\langle 2|S|N-2\rangle|^2 \sim e^{-N} \lambda^N, \quad \lambda = \frac{s}{M_P^2 N}$$

Unitarity threshold: amplitude changes behavior at  $\lambda = 1$ .

$\lambda < 1$  weak coupling: unitary behavior.

$\lambda > 1$  strong coupling: non-unitary behavior.

These regions precisely correspond to the 3 regimes of the black hole N-portrait.

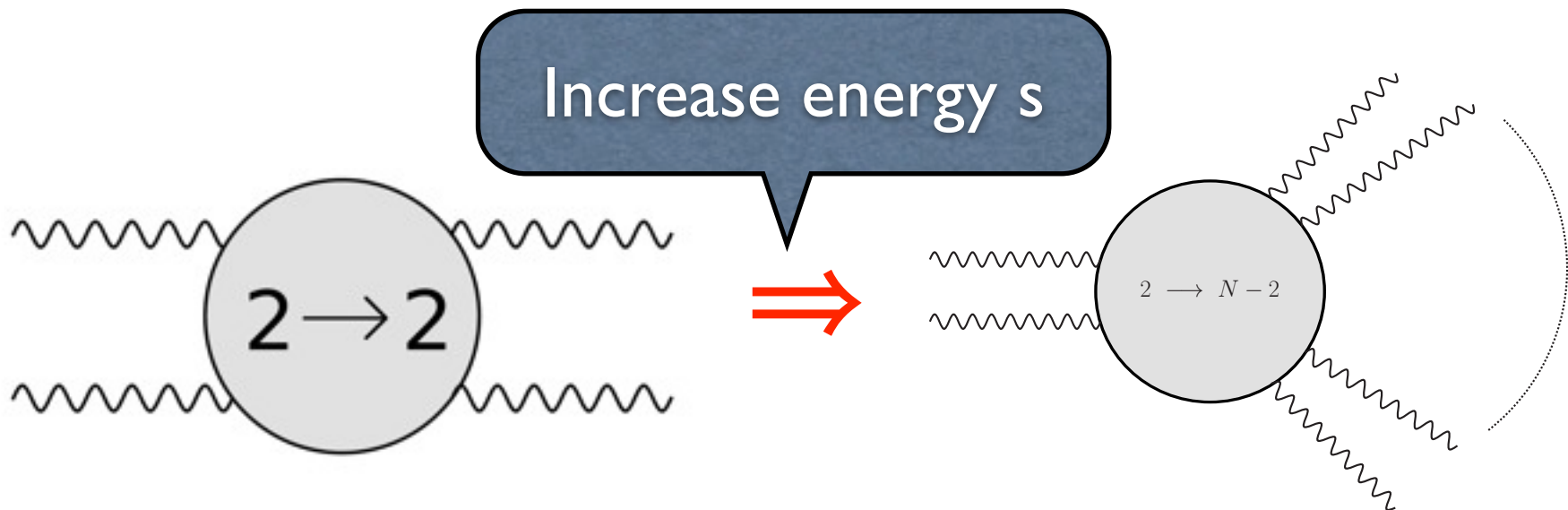
For large  $s$  unitarization occurs if  $N$  increases appropriately:

$$\frac{\sigma_{2 \rightarrow N+1}}{\sigma_{2 \rightarrow N}} \lesssim 1$$

This bound implies that  $N \gtrsim N_{crit} = s L_P^2$

**This is the core of the idea of classicalization!**

$N$  should be larger than the corresponding entropy of a black hole with mass equal to the center of mass energy.



# Connection to non-perturbative black hole bound state:

The perturbative amplitude is suppressed by  $e^{-N}$ .

This is just the inverse of the degeneracy of states of a black hole with entropy  $\mathcal{S} \sim N$ .

Therefore this suppression factor is compensated at the critical point  $\lambda = 1$  by  $e^N$  from the degeneracy of black hole states:

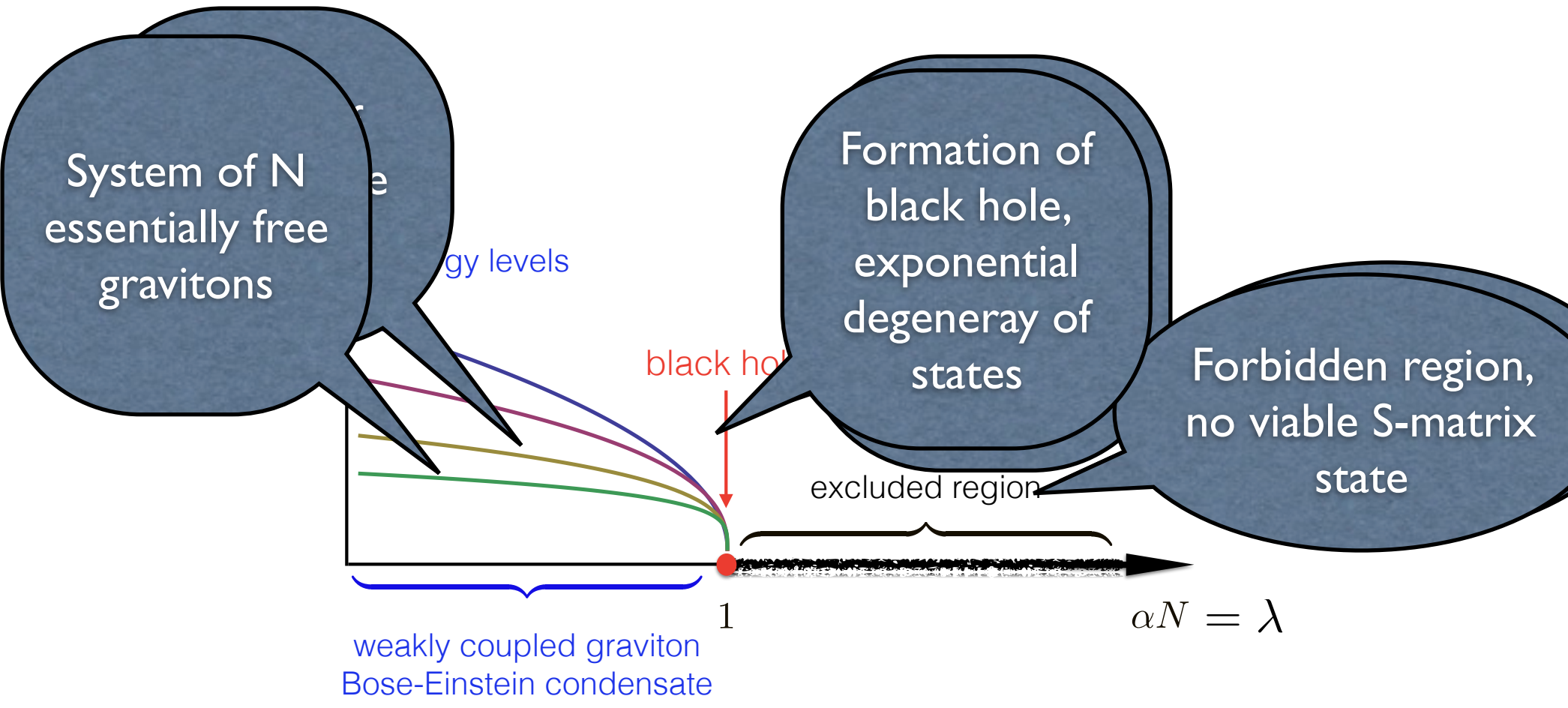
$$A_{BH} \sim \sum_j |\langle 2|S|N \rangle|_p^2 |\langle N|BH \rangle_j|_{np}^2 \sim \lambda^N e^{-N}|_p \times e^N|_{np}$$

pert.  
amplitude

projection on black  
hole bound state

(This was cross checked by a semiclassical calculation.)

So, black hole is exactly dominating at  $\lambda = 1$ .





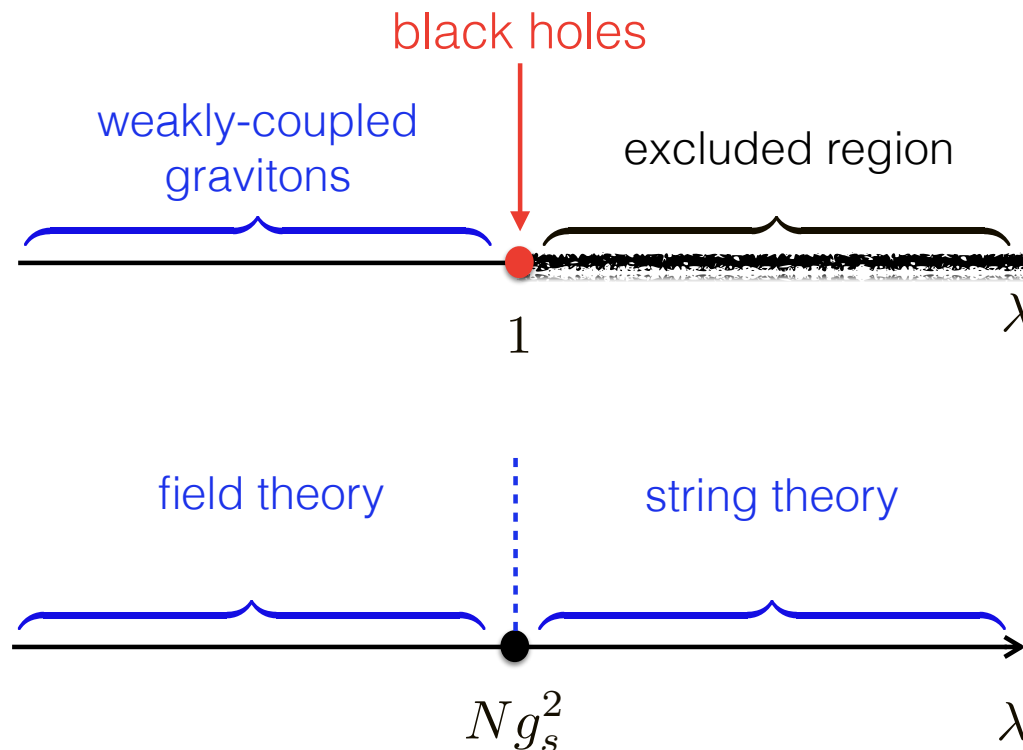
(ii) **String theory:** there are additional regimes:

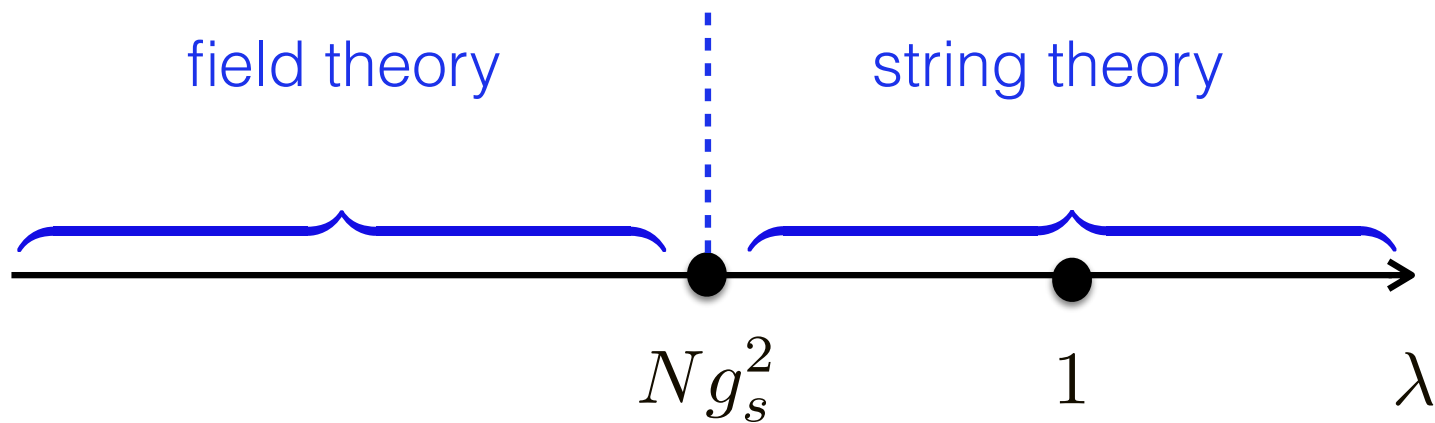
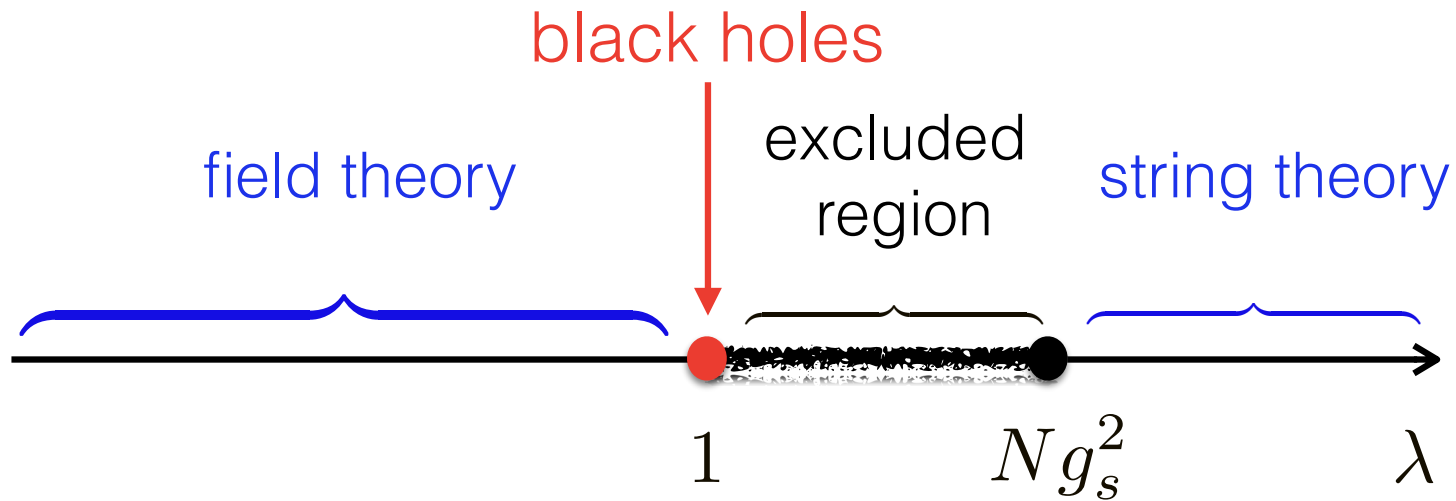
$$(i) \quad \frac{\sqrt{s}}{N} < M_s : \iff \lambda < N g_s^2$$

FT amplitude = ST amplitude, black hole dominance

$$(ii) \quad \frac{\sqrt{s}}{N} > M_s : \iff \lambda > N g_s^2$$

String states dominate.





Consistency for all  $\lambda$

What is happening at the point  $\lambda = N g_s^2 = 1$  ?

Here the F.T. amplitude agrees with the string amplitude at the critical point  $\lambda = 1$ .

This the point where the **string effects** match the amplitude from the F.T. **black hole formation**.

$g_s = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \Rightarrow$  **String - black hole** correspondence:  
**black hole** can be described by a **state of strings**.

[Horowitz, Polchinski (1996); Dvali, D.L. (2009); Dvali, Gomez (2010)]

Here the **IR is** meeting the **UV**.

## IV) Some final remarks and observations

As we have seen, the gravity amplitudes can be expressed as sums over Yang-Mills amplitudes.

But we never used the information about the number of colors  $N_c$ .

- Relation between open and closed string coupling:

$$g_s = g_{open}^2$$

- At point of string-bh correspondence:  $g_s = 1/\sqrt{N}$

- Planar limit of gauge theory:  $g_{open}^2 = 1/N_c$

So naively we get:  $N = N_c^2$

What is the interpretation of this relation?

# Summary:

- Exact computation of N-point gravity (string) amplitudes in transplanckian energy region in closed form.
- We found evidence for classicalization and black hole production (black hole N-portrait):
  - dependence on  $N$
  - dependence on  $\lambda$
  - dependence on entropy  $S$
- We found an interesting transition between field theory: string - black hole correspondence.
- The limit of large  $N_c$  in Yang-Mills apparently corresponds to the limit of large number of constituent gravitons in scattering process.

## Next steps:

[Stieberger (2013/14); Cachazo, He, Yuan (2014)]

- Mixed gauge boson (open)/gravity (closed) amplitudes:  
Bh N-portrait with matter  
[Dvali, Gomez, D.L. (2013)]
- Bh N-portrait beyond tree level  
First steps in [Kuhnel, Sundborg (2014)]

Thank you very much!