

Title: Generating Tree Amplitudes in N=4 SYM and N=8 Super-Gravity

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Abstract: TBA

Generating Tree Amplitudes in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM and $\mathcal{N} = 8$ SG

Dan Freedman MIT

Fall 2008

- **EFK2** to appear w/ H. Elvang and M. Kiermaier
- **EFK1** arXiv:0808.1720 w/ H. Elvang and M. Kiermaier
- **BEF** arXiv:0805.0757 w/ M. Bianchi and H. Elvang

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I. Introduction and Preview

Study of n -point on-shell tree amplitudes in

$\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM $A_n(1, 2, \dots, n)$ all processes - 16 states
 $\mathcal{N} = 8$ SG $M_n(1, 2, \dots, n)$ all processes - 256 states

Amplitudes classified within N^k MHV sectors— A_n with k -ve helicity and $n - k$ +ve helicity gluons and all amplitudes related by SUSY WI's. Idem for M_n in SG.

Simplest amplitudes in MHV sector: (2 -ve helicity lines), and become more complex with increasing k in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ and increasing k, n in $\mathcal{N} = 8$

Our Focus: Generating Functions which package all n -point amplitudes in each N^k MHV sector:

$$F_n^k(p_i, \eta_{ia}) \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n \quad a = 1, \dots, \mathcal{N}$$

p_i^μ are momenta, "spinorized" in terms of $|i\rangle, |i]$

η_{ia} are $n \times \mathcal{N}$ Grassmann variables

Generating functions encode state dependence of all N^k MHV n -point amplitudes in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ and $\mathcal{N} = 8$ theories.

$$\langle \text{any amplitude} \rangle = \prod \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_{ia}} F_n^k$$

Grassmann derivative of order $4k + 8$ in N^k sector of $\mathcal{N} = 4$ and $8k + 16$ in $\mathcal{N} = 8$.

Generating Functions answers interesting questions:

1. Precise characterization of MHV and N^k MHV sectors

MHV sector of $N=4$ contains 8-pt. function of +ve helicity gluinos

$$\langle F_+^a(1) F_+^b(2) F_+^c(3) F_+^d(4) F_+^e(5) F_+^f(6) F_+^g(7) F_+^h(8) \rangle$$

2. Gen. Fn. counts distinct processes in each sector,

$\mathcal{N} = 4$ # partitions of $4k + 8$ with $n_{max} = 4$

$\mathcal{N} = 8$ # partitions of $8k + 16$ with $n_{max} = 8$

	MHV	NMHV
$\mathcal{N} = 4$	15	34
$\mathcal{N} = 8$	186	919

Results:

- $\mathcal{N} = 4$ MHV generating function Nair 1988
NMHV " " GGK 0407027
Further development and applications (TBA) in BEF, EFK1
 N^k MHV Proved validity of underlying recursion relations
+ gen. fns. EFK1, EFK2
- $\mathcal{N} = 8$ MHV generating function + applics. BEF
NMHV " " works for many 6-point amplitudes,
but not all. Worse for $n > 6$
Fails for n -graviton amplitudes for $n \geq 12$
Repair is possible but impractical for applications.

Motivation Conjectured UV finiteness of $\mathcal{N} = 8$ SG.

4-graviton amplitude is finite at 3-loop order.



Bern, Carrasco, Dixon, Johansson, Kosower, Roiban 2007

4-loop calculation well underway.

Two questions:

1. How can work at tree level help with a program already at 4-loop level?
2. How can work in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM be relevant to $\mathcal{N} = 8$ SG.

Answers:

1. Direct calc. of Feynman diagrams is a poor approach

Far too many dias. with complicated vertices.

Instead, obtain tree amplitudes from recursion relations.

Compute loops from (generalized) unitarity cuts.

One must sum over all intermediate states which can propagate on cut lines.

These unitarity sums are easily done using generating functions.

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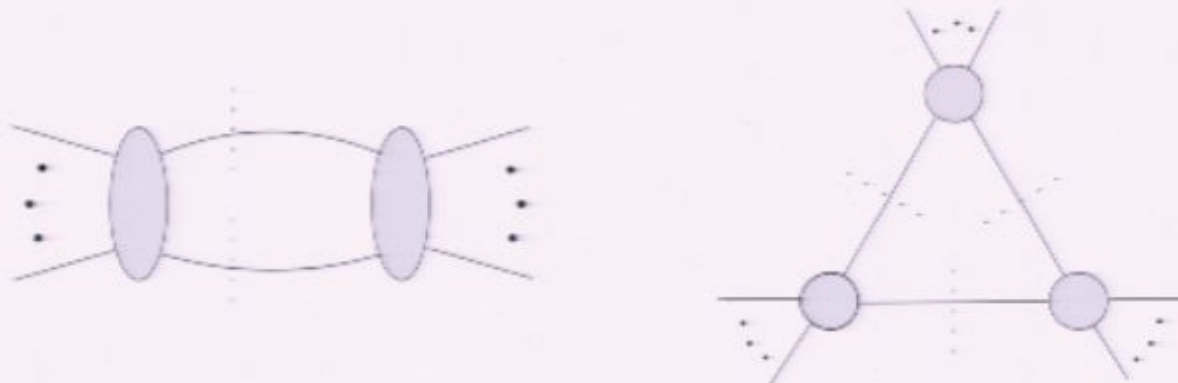
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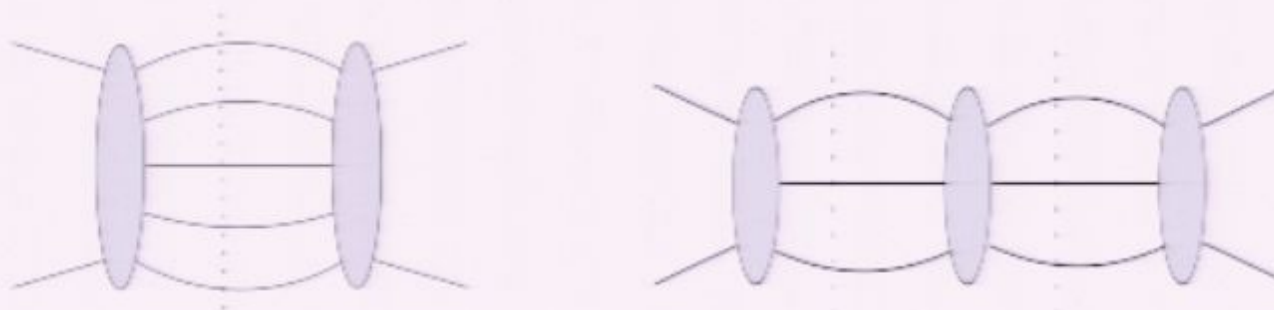
One must sum over all intermediate states which can propagate on cut lines.

These unitarity sums are easily done using generating functions.

In **BEF** we computed unitarity sums with MHV subamplitudes.



In **EFK1** we did sums which include NMHV and antiNMHV subamps. up to 4-loop order:



2. Why trees in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ are relevant to $\mathcal{N} = 8$.

1:1 map: compatible with SUSY

BEF

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{N} = 8 &\leftrightarrow (\mathcal{N} = 4)_L \otimes (\mathcal{N} = 4)_R \\ 256 &\quad 16 \quad \times \quad 16 \\ |SG\rangle_{ij} &= |SYM\rangle_i \otimes |SYM\rangle_j \end{aligned}$$

KLT relations for tree amplitudes give map dynamical content:

$$\begin{aligned} M_4(1234) &= s_{12} A_4(1234) A_4(1243) \\ M_n(12 \dots n) &= \sum_{perms} k_n A_n(\Pi_L) A_n(\Pi_R) \\ k_n &= \prod s_{ij} \quad n-3 \text{ factors.} \end{aligned}$$

One can express any helicity sum in $\mathcal{N} = 8$ as product of helicity sums in $(\mathcal{N} = 4)_L \otimes (\mathcal{N} = 4)_R$. Bern et al 2008

II. Spinor-Helicity Formalism

Spinor-helicity methods —

a. any 4-momentum can be "spinorized" (presented as a bi-spinor)

$$p^\mu \leftrightarrow p^{\dot{\alpha}\beta} \quad (= \sigma_{\mu}^{\dot{\alpha}\beta} p^\mu)$$

b. any null vector is a rank 1 bi-spinor

$$p^2 = 0 \implies p^{\dot{\alpha}\beta} = \tilde{\lambda}_p^{\dot{\alpha}} \lambda_p^\beta$$

Better notation: $\tilde{\lambda}^{\dot{\alpha}} \leftrightarrow |p\rangle$ $\lambda_p \leftrightarrow |p]$

c. Lorentz invariant inner products – (formed with $\epsilon^{\alpha\beta}$)

$$\langle ij \rangle = -\langle ji \rangle \quad [ij] = [ji]$$

d. Other features of notation: $p_1 + p_2 + \dots = |1\rangle[1| + |2\rangle[2| + \dots$

$$\langle i | p_j | k \rangle = \langle ij \rangle [j k] \quad p_i \cdot p_j = \langle ij \rangle [ij]$$

Schouten identity: $\langle ij \rangle \langle k | + \langle jk \rangle \langle i | + \langle ki \rangle \langle j | = 0$

Momentum conservation: $\sum p_i^\mu = 0 \leftrightarrow \sum |i\rangle [i| = 0$

e. In textbooks, e.g. Srednicki 2007

$\lambda_p, \tilde{\lambda}_p$ or $|p], |p\rangle$ are left, right-handed sols. of Dirac eqtn.

Related by $\tilde{\lambda} = \lambda^*$. BUT it is very useful to consider *complex* null momenta defined by $p^{\alpha\beta} = \lambda^\alpha \tilde{\lambda}^\beta \leftrightarrow |p\rangle [p|$ with *independent* spinors $|p\rangle, |p]$.

f. n -gluon MHV Parke-Taylor 1986 amplitudes

$$A_n(1^- 2^- 3^+ \dots n^+) = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^4}{\text{cyc}(1, n)}, \quad \text{cyc}(1, n) = \prod_1^n \langle i, i+1 \rangle$$

Purely holomorphic, (depends on $|i\rangle$, not on $|i]$)

Simple expression agrees with sum of many Feynman diagrams.

(8-gluon amplitude has ≈ 200 dias.)

III. The $\mathcal{N} = 4$ theory

8 boson + 8 fermion states in SU(4) irreps, $a, b, \dots = 1, \dots, 4$

$$B_+(p), F_+^a(p), B^{ab}(p) = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon^{abcd} B_{cd}(p), F_d^-(p), B^-(p)$$

Use ϵ^{abcd} to raise all indices.

New uniform notation for annihilation operators -

$$A(p), A^a(p), A^{ab}(p), A^{abc}(p), A^{abcd}$$

Helicity and bose-fermi statistics is determined by # of indices.

Supercharges: $\tilde{Q}_a = \epsilon_{\dot{\alpha}} \tilde{Q}_a^{\dot{\alpha}}$,
 act on annihilators as:

$$Q^a = \epsilon^{\alpha} Q_{\alpha}^a, \quad a = 1, \dots, 4$$

$$[\tilde{Q}_a, A(p)] = 0$$

$$[\tilde{Q}_a, A^b(p)] = \langle \epsilon p \rangle \delta_a^b A(p)$$

etc.

$$[Q^a, A(p)] = [\epsilon p] A^a(p)$$

$$[Q^a, A^b(p)] = [\epsilon p] A^{ab}(p)$$

etc.

\tilde{Q}_a raises helicity, eliminates an SU(4) index, involves $\langle \epsilon p \rangle$

Q^a lowers helicity, adds an SU(4) index, involves $[\epsilon p]$.

Pattern of $SU(4)$ indices on any amplitude gives quick and useful information.

$SU(4)$ invariance \implies States of any non-vanishing amplitude carry total of $4k + 4$ indices. Each index value $a = 1, 2, 3, 4$ occurs $k + 2$ times.

Examples:

$\langle A^{12}(1) A(2) A^{123}(3) A(4) A^4(5) A^{34}(6) \rangle$ is MHV.

$\langle A^{1234}(1) A(2) A^{1234}(3) A(4) A(5) A^{1234}(6) \rangle$ is NMHV.

$\langle A^{1234}(1) A^{12}(2) A^{34}(3) A(4) A^{13}(5) \rangle = 0$ 10 indices

ξ abcd

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IV. MHV Generating Function

The Nair generating function is:

$$F_n(|i\rangle, \eta_{ia}) = \delta^{(8)}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n |i\rangle \eta_{ia}\right) / \text{cyc}(1, n).$$

It is Lorentz invariant, SU(4) invariant, and cyclically symmetric.

A δ -function of m variables $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_m$ is a product $\prod_i \theta_i$. We have a $\delta^{(8)}$ with 8 arguments $Z_a^{\dot{\alpha}} = \sum_i \tilde{\lambda}_i^{\dot{\alpha}} \eta_{ia}$. Thus

$$\delta^{(8)}(Z_a^{\dot{\alpha}}) = \frac{1}{16} \prod_{a=1}^4 \sum_{i,j} \langle ij \rangle \eta_{ia} \eta_{ja}.$$

Any product of 8 $\partial/\partial \eta_{jb}$ gives a c-number of form $\langle \rangle \langle \rangle \langle \rangle \langle \rangle$.

Associate particles of $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM with $\partial/\partial\eta$'s:

$$A(i) \leftrightarrow 1$$

$$A^a(i) \leftrightarrow D_i^a = \partial/\partial\eta_{ia} = \partial_i^a$$

$$A^{ab}(i) \leftrightarrow D_i^{ab} = \partial_i^a \partial_i^b$$

$$A^{abc}(i) \leftrightarrow D_i^{abc} = \partial_i^a \partial_i^b \partial_i^c$$

$$A^{abcd}(i) \leftrightarrow D_i = \partial_i^1 \partial_i^2 \partial_i^3 \partial_i^4$$

Any amplitudes is obtained by applying corresponding 8th order diff.op. to \mathcal{F}_n . Examples:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i. } \langle A^{1234} A^{1234} A \dots A \rangle &= \partial_1^1 \partial_1^2 \partial_1^3 \partial_1^4 \partial_2^1 \partial_2^2 \partial_2^3 \partial_2^4 \delta^{(8)}(\dots) / \text{cyc}(1, n) \\ &= \langle 12 \rangle^4 / \text{cyc}(1, n) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ii. } \langle A^{1234} A^1 A^2 A^{34} A \dots A \rangle &= D_1 D_2^1 D_3^2 D_4^{34} \delta^{(8)}(\dots) / \text{cyc}(1, n) \\ &= \langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 14 \rangle^2 / \text{cyc}(1, n) \end{aligned}$$

The particular $\langle \rangle \langle \rangle \langle \rangle \langle \rangle$ in any amplitude is called its spin factor.

Easy to calculate spin factors using Wick contraction rule:

$$\hat{\partial}_i^a \dots \hat{\partial}_j^b = \pm \delta^{ab} \langle ij \rangle$$

If an amplitude vanishes by SU(4), its spin factor will automatically vanish.

Supercharges: $\tilde{Q}_a = \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \epsilon i \rangle \eta_{ia}, \quad Q^a = \sum_{j=1}^n [j \epsilon] \partial_j^a$

It can (easily) be shown that:

1. correct SUSY algebra $[\tilde{Q}, Q] = 0$, since $\sum p_i^\mu = 0$
2. trfs $[\tilde{Q}_a, D_{i\cdots}]$ are isomorphic to $[\tilde{Q}_a, A_{i\cdots}]$
3. Correct WI's, both formal and concrete:

Formal: $\tilde{Q}_a \mathcal{F}_n(|i\rangle, \eta) = 0$

Concrete: $\tilde{Q}_a (\partial/\partial \eta)^9 \mathcal{F}_n(|i\rangle, \eta) = 0$

Moving \tilde{Q} to the right \rightarrow gives same relation among amplitudes as in QFT WI. Similar for Q^a WI's.

V. MHV Generating Function – N=8 SG

Extension to MHV sector of $\mathcal{N} = 8$ SG:

BEF

i. The function

$$w_n(12\dots n) = M_n(1^- 2^- 3^+ \dots n^+) / \langle 12 \rangle^8$$

has full Bose symmetry.

ii. The generating function is

$$\Omega_n(|i\rangle, [i], \eta_{iA}) = w_n(\dots) \delta^{(16)} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{16} |i\rangle \eta_{iA} \right).$$

Now $8n$ Grassmann variables.

iii. All previous properties hold if we associate

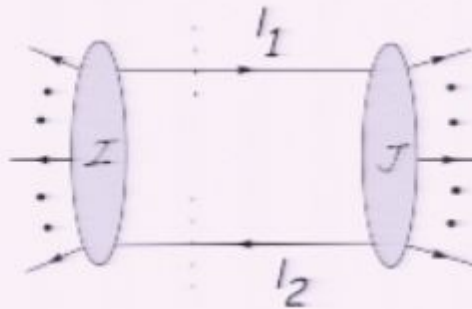
$$B(i) \leftrightarrow 1, \quad B_+^A(i) \leftrightarrow \partial / \partial \eta_{iA}, \dots, \dots, B^{12345678}(i) \leftrightarrow \partial_i^1 \dots \partial_i^8$$

iv. 1:1 corresp. MHV processes in N=8 \leftrightarrow partitions of 16 with

$$n_{\max} \leq 8 \quad \exists \quad 186 \text{ distinct processes!}$$

VI. Intermediate state helicity sum

Example: One-loop MHV amplitude



Use product of two **MHV** generating functions to compute intermediate state sum of unitarity cut:

$$\frac{1}{\text{cyc}(I) \text{cyc}(J)} D_{l_1}^{(4)} D_{l_2}^{(4)} \left[\delta^{(8)}(I) \delta^{(8)}(J) \right]$$

D_{l_1} and D_{l_2} distribute themselves between $\delta^{(8)}(I)$ and $\delta^{(8)}(J)$.
This automatically takes care of the sum over states.

Let's see how \rightarrow

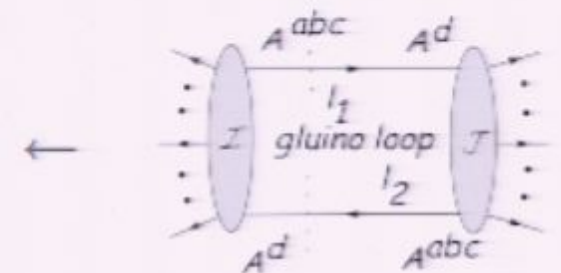
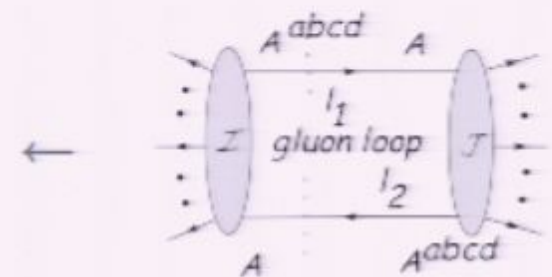
How it works:

$$D_{l_1}^{(4)} D_{l_2}^{(4)} \left[\delta^{(8)}(I) \delta^{(8)}(J) \right]$$

$$= \left[D_{l_1}^{abcd} \delta^{(8)}(I) \right] \left[D_{l_2}^{abcd} \delta^{(8)}(J) \right]$$

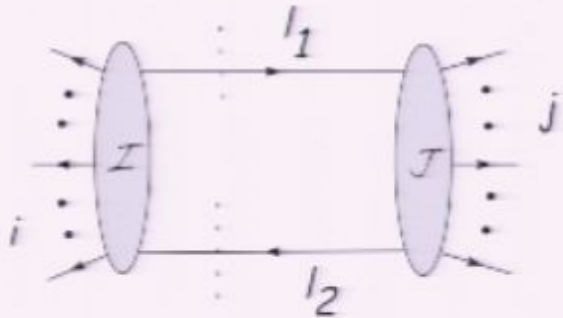
$$- 4 \left[D_{l_1}^{abc} D_{l_2}^d \delta^{(8)}(I) \right] \left[D_{l_2}^{abc} D_{l_1}^d \delta^{(8)}(J) \right]$$

$$+ 6 \text{ (scalar loop)} - 4 \text{ (gluino loop)} + \text{(gluon loop)}.$$



D_{l_1} and D_{l_2} distribute themselves between $\delta^{(8)}(I)$ and $\delta^{(8)}(J)$.
This does take care of the intermediate state sum, but it is awkward.

PRACTICAL evaluation of the spin sum: $D_{l_1}^{(4)} D_{l_2}^{(4)} [\delta^{(8)}(I_a) \delta^{(8)}(J_a)]$



$$I_a = |l_1\rangle\eta_{1a} - |l_2\rangle\eta_{2a} + \sum_{\text{ext } i} |i\rangle\eta_{ia}$$

$$J_a = -|l_1\rangle\eta_{1a} + |l_2\rangle\eta_{2a} + \sum_{\text{ext } j} |j\rangle\eta_{ja}$$

Use δ -function identity $\delta^{(8)}(I_a) \delta^{(8)}(J_a) = \delta^{(8)}(I_a + J_a) \delta^{(8)}(J_a)$ and note that

- $\delta^{(8)}(I_a + J_a) = \delta^{(8)}(\text{ext})$ is independent of loop momenta.
- $\delta^{(8)}(J_a) = 2^{-4} \prod_{a=1}^4 \sum_{j,j' \in J} \langle jj' \rangle \eta_{ja} \eta_{j'a} = \prod_{a=1}^4 (\langle l_1 l_2 \rangle \eta_{1a} \eta_{2a} + \dots)$.

So

$$D_{l_1}^{(4)} D_{l_2}^{(4)} [\delta^{(8)}(I_a) \delta^{(8)}(J_a)] = \delta^{(8)}(\text{ext}) D_{l_1}^{(4)} D_{l_2}^{(4)} \delta^{(8)}(J_a) = \delta^{(8)}(\text{ext}) \langle l_1 l_2 \rangle^4.$$

Put in $1/\text{cyc}(I)\text{cyc}(J)$ to get generating function for the cut 1-loop dia.
Can apply D_i for external lines of any MHV process.

VII. N^k MHV Amplitudes from MHV vertex expansion

We use MHV-vertex expansion ([CSW 0403047](#)) which constructs N^k MHV amplitudes from MHV sub-amplitudes. Advantages:

- i. physicists like diagrams
- ii. \exists many fewer MHV vertex dias. than Feynman dias.
- iii. MHV vertices are (slightly modified) Parke-Taylor amplitudes, very simple!
- iv. expansion is easily coded.

Full justification and extension to $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM requires RECURSION RELATIONS.

Inspired by method of [BCFW 2005](#), but based on different shift of momenta [Risager 0508206](#), [B-BDIPR 0509016](#)

1. Risager shift at NMHV level, shift of 3 external momenta p_1, p_2, p_3 , specified by spinor shift:

$$|\hat{1}\rangle = |1\rangle, \quad \text{same for } |\hat{2}\rangle, |\hat{3}\rangle$$

$$|\hat{1}] = |1] + z\langle 23|X], \quad \text{with } |\hat{2}], |\hat{3}] \text{ cyclic.}$$

Shift of square $|i]$ only with *reference spinor* $|X]$.

Shifted momenta $\hat{p}_i = |i\rangle[\hat{i}]$ – rank 1, hence null.

Overall momentum is conserved by Schouten.

For amplitudes in $\mathcal{N} = 4$, one must choose a shift of 3 lines which carry a common $SU(4)$ index value $a = 1, 2, 3, 4$. **BEF, EFK1.**

2. Analytically continued tree amplitudes $A_n(z)$ have only simple poles where shifted Feynman propagators vanish.

If $A_n(z) \rightarrow 0$ as $z \rightarrow \infty$ for all choices of $[X]$,

$$0 = \oint \frac{A_n(z)}{z} \implies A_n(0) = - \sum_{z_l \neq 0} \text{Res} \frac{A_n(z_l)}{z_l}$$

3. Result is recursion relation

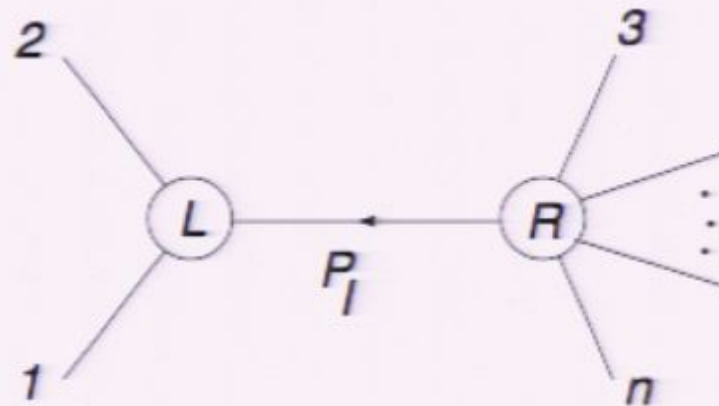
$$A_n(0) = \sum_l A_{n_1}(z_l) \frac{1}{p_l^2} A_{n_2}(z_l), \quad n_1 + n_2 = n + 2$$

- i. for 2-line **BCFW** shift the subamplitudes include both MHV \times MHV and antiMHV \times NMHV, undesirable.
- ii. for 3-line shift, the only subdias. are MHV!
- iii. Individ. dias. depend on $[X]$, but sum over all dias. does not!

4. Extension to all NMHV amplitudes in $\mathcal{N} = 4$. Package amplitudes in generating function.

Georgiou, Glover, Khoze 2004, BEF, EFK1

The generating function for each diagram is the product of gen. fn. for the MHV subdias. L, R, with common η_{Ia} for internal line. Apply $D_I^{(4)}$ to account for particles on each side of int. line.



$$A_{n,l} = D_I^{(4)} \frac{\delta(L)}{\text{cyc}(L)} \frac{1}{P_I^2} \frac{\delta(R)}{\text{cyc}(R)}$$

Evaluate $D_I^{(4)}$ and sum over dias. to get complete gen fn.

$$\mathcal{F}_n^{\text{NMHV}} = \delta^{(8)} \left(\sum_{\text{ext}} |i\rangle \eta_{ia} \right) \sum_{\text{dias.}} \frac{\prod_{b=1}^4 \sum'_j \langle P_I j \rangle \eta_{jb}}{\text{cyc}(L) P_I^2 \text{cyc}(R)}$$

where \sum'_j means sum only over external particle in subamp., and $|P_I\rangle = P_I |X\rangle \leftarrow$ the CSW prescription.

$\xi^{abcd} \dots$

$$P_{12} = |1\rangle\langle 1| + |2\rangle\langle 2|$$

$$\mathcal{F}_n^{NMHV} = \delta^{(8)} \left(\sum_{\text{ext}} |i\rangle \eta_{ia} \right) \sum_{\text{dias.}} \frac{\prod_{b=1}^4 \sum_j' \langle P_l j \rangle \eta_{jb}}{\text{cyc}(L) P_l^2 \text{cyc}(R)}$$

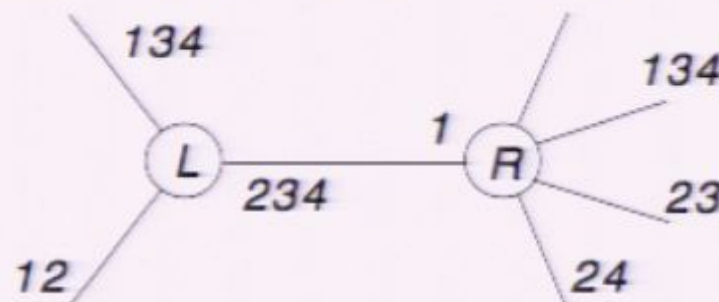
a. # dias. = $n(n-3)/2 \ll \ll$ # Feynman dias.

Compare with Drummond-Henn 2008, dual conformal symmetry, Fewer dias., $(n-3)(n-4)/2$, but each dia. is more complicated.

b. Each term in \mathcal{F}_n^{NMHV} is a product of 12 η_{ia} 's.
Any NMHV amplitude = $D^{(12)} \mathcal{F}_n^{NMHV}$

c. In practice, we specify SU(4) indices and calculate spin factors directly. This procedure is easily coded.

[X]-independence has been checked in many examples.



d. The form above is applied to NMHV unitarity sums in EFK1.

$$\mathcal{F}_n^{NMHV} = \delta^{(8)} \left(\sum_{\text{ext}} |i\rangle \eta_{ia} \right) \sum_{\text{dias.}} \frac{\prod_{b=1}^4 \sum_j' \langle P_l j \rangle \eta_{jb}}{\text{cyc}(L) P_l^2 \text{cyc}(R)}$$

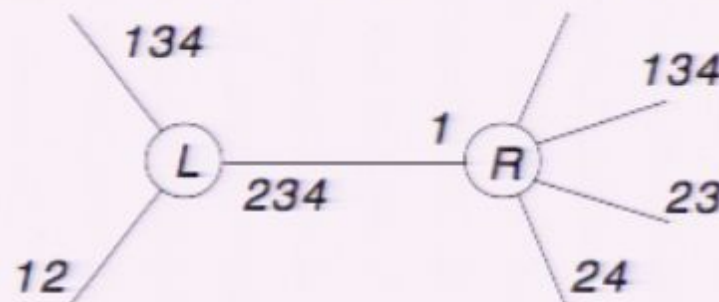
a. # dias. = $n(n-3)/2 \ll \ll$ # Feynman dias.

Compare with Drummond-Henn 2008, dual conformal symmetry, Fewer dias., $(n-3)(n-4)/2$, but each dia. is more complicated.

b. Each term in \mathcal{F}_n^{NMHV} is a product of 12 η_{ia} 's.
Any NMHV amplitude = $D^{(12)} \mathcal{F}_n^{NMHV}$

c. In practice, we specify SU(4) indices and calculate spin factors directly. This procedure is easily coded.

[X]-independence has been checked in many examples.



d. The form above is applied to NMHV unitarity sums in EFK1.

5. Extension to general level N^k MHV-

EFK2

a. Use all-line shift

$$|\hat{i}\rangle = |i\rangle$$

$$|\hat{j}\rangle = |j\rangle + zc_j|X\rangle$$

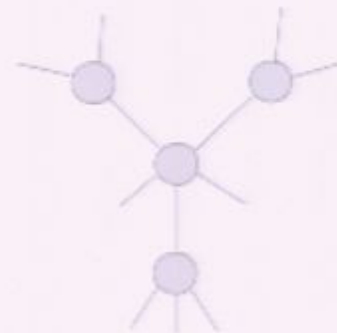
Momentum is conserved if $\sum_i c_i |i\rangle = 0$.

Two conditions on n complex c_i .

b. All-line shift simplifies the proof of MHV vertex expansion, but an intricate inductive argument involving both n , k is needed.

c. MHV vertex diagrams have various topologies.

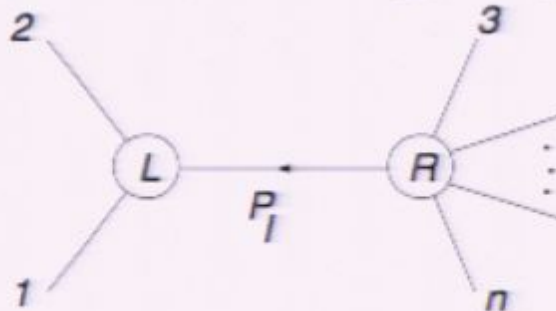
Example: N^3 MHV all dias. with 4 vertices.



- d. Numerical checks of $|X]$ - independence for several N^2 MHV amplitudes. Analytic checks for special N^3 MHV amplitudes with only 1 or 2 dias.
- e. Surprise: Every dia. for an N^k MHV process vanishes as $1/z^k$ as $z \rightarrow \infty$ for
- i. all-line shifts
 - ii. any $(k + 2)$ -line common-index shift. $k + 2$ is minimal number of shifted lines to obtain only MHV subdias. from recursion relation.

VIII. NMHV Generating Function for N=8 SG

Natural extension $\mathcal{N} = 4 \rightarrow \mathcal{N} = 8$ gives generating function:



$$\Omega_n^{NMHV} = \delta^{(16)} \left(\sum_i |i\rangle \eta_{ia} \right) \sum_{\text{dias.}} \frac{w_{n_1}(L) w_{n_2}(R)}{p_l^2} \prod_{A=1}^8 \sum_{j \in L} \langle P_l j \rangle \eta_{jA}$$

Sum of products of 24 η_{iA} $A = 1, \dots, 8$

One might hope that any $M_n = D^{(24)} \Omega_n^{NMHV}$

Check $[X]$ -independence of many amplitudes and compare with KLT formula:

$$M_n = \sum_{\text{perms}} (s_{ij})^{n-3} A_n A'_n$$

1. Many 6-point amplitudes pass the test, but results for several depend on $[X]$. e.g, a 6-scalar amplitude.
2. Can shift the KLT formula in these cases and find that they behave as z^p , $p = 0, 1$ for large z . \exists "pole at ∞ " for generic $[X]$.
3. Find special values of $[X]$ for which KLT result $M_6(z) \rightarrow 0$. For these values result from generating function agrees with KLT! The method works, but auxiliary computation to check large z behavior is cumbersome.
4. 3-line shift of KLT for n -graviton amplitudes. Find numerically $M_n(- - - + \dots +) \sim z^{n-12}$. Thus even n -graviton amplitudes are badly behaved for $n \geq 12$.

IX. Other approaches

1. 2-line *supershift* in generating function **A-HCK, BHT 2008**

Combine BCFW shift + shift of η variable to leave supercharge

$\tilde{Q}_a = \sum_i |i\rangle \eta_{ia}$ invariant.

Many advantages! But extension to k-line shifts of $|\]$'s unclear.

2. Supershift recursion relation solved by **Drummond-Henn, 2008**

N^k MHV tree amplitudes constructed from dual superconformal invariants.

Probably fundamental, but new and more complicated invariants are needed at each level k .

X. Conclusions, I

1. $\mathcal{N} = 4$ Generating Functions based on MHV vertex expansion proven and constructed for all N^k MHV amplitudes.
2. $\mathcal{N} = 8$ MHV gen. fn. works well, but \exists difficulties for NMHV.
3. Practical applications to multiplet sums on unitarity cuts of ℓ -loop amplitudes for $1 \leq \ell \leq 4$.

Omitted topics:

- i. cute analogy between spin factors and CFT correlators.
- ii. $E(7,7)$ low energy theorems for $\mathcal{N} = 8$. Also **A-HCK**
- iii. results on antiMHV and antiNMHV generating functions.

Open questions:

- a. improve treatment of $\mathcal{N} = 8$ SG?
- b. Is result $M_n^{NMHV} \sim z^{n-12}$ relevant to UV behavior?

Conclusions, II

These projects were **fun!**
I don't care what anybody else says!