

Title: Antipodal (Self-)Duality in Planar N=4 Super-Yang-Mills Theory

Speakers: Lance Dixon

Series: Quantum Fields and Strings

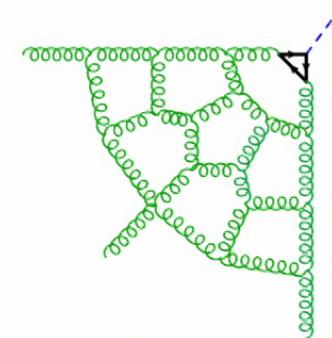
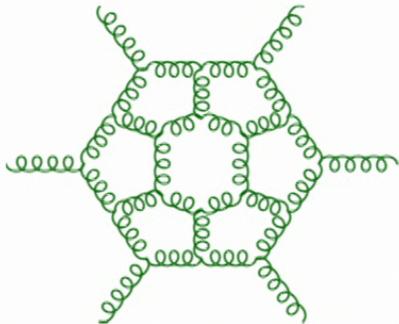
Date: April 04, 2023 - 2:00 PM

URL: <https://pirsa.org/23040071>

Abstract: Scattering amplitudes are where quantum field theory directly meets collider experiments. An excellent model for scattering in QCD is provided by N=4 super-Yang-Mills theory, particularly in the planar limit of a large number of colors, where the theory becomes integrable. The first nontrivial amplitude in this theory is for 6 gluons. It can be computed to 7 loops using a bootstrap based on the rigidity of the function space of multiple polylogarithms, together with a few other conditions. One can also bootstrap a particular form factor, for the chiral stress-tensor operator to produce 3 gluons, through 8 loops. This form factor is the N=4 analog of the LHC process, gluon gluon  $\rightarrow$  Higgs + gluon. Remarkably, the two sets of results are related by a mysterious 'antipodal' duality, which exchanges the role of branch cuts and derivatives. Furthermore, this duality is 'explained' by an antipodal self-duality of the 4 gluon form factor of the same operator; although it is still fair to say of the self-duality, 'who ordered that?'

Zoom link: <https://pitp.zoom.us/j/96265005656?pwd=Qndza3pIKzdmZVJGL0s1ZUZkRmp4QT09>

# Antipodal (Self-)Duality in Planar N=4 Super-Yang-Mills Theory



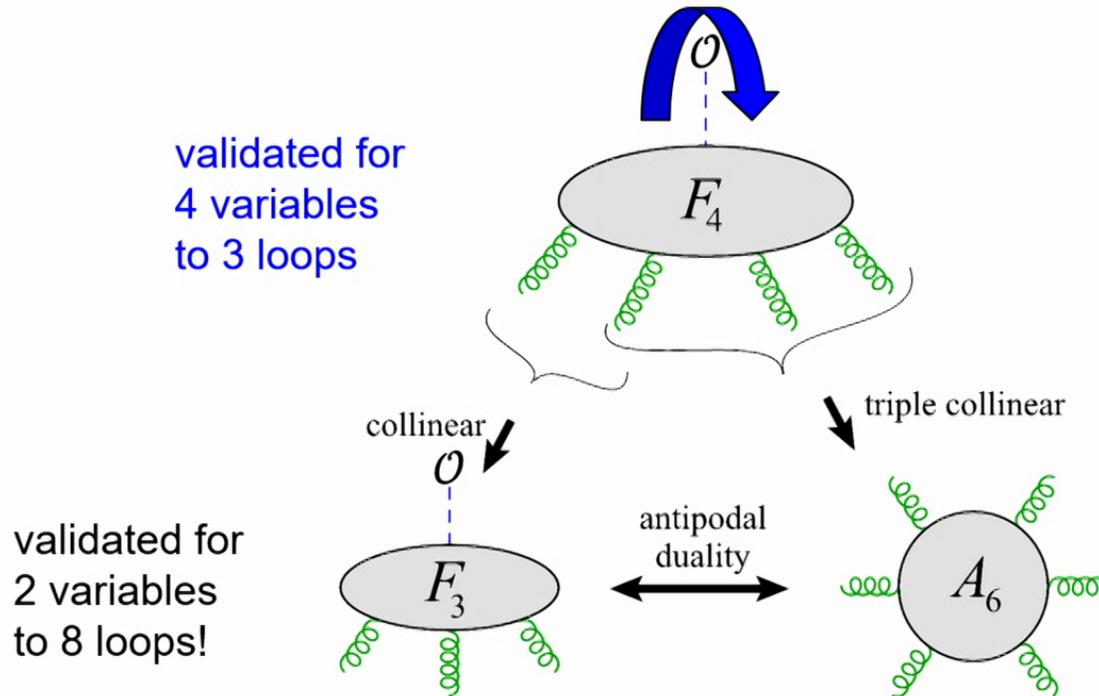
Lance Dixon (SLAC)

LD, Ö. Gürdoğan, Y.-T.Liu, A. McLeod, M. Wilhelm  
2112.06243, 2204.11901, 2212.02410

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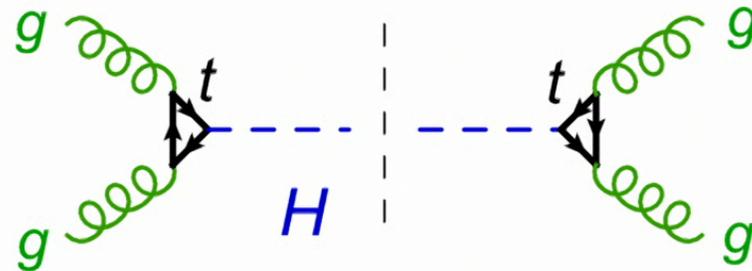
# This talk in one picture: Antipodal **Self** Duality



# Producing Higgs bosons at LHC

Higgs boson dominantly produced by **gluon fusion**, a **quantum process** at “one loop”, mediated by **top quark**, because  $t$  couples strongly to both gluons and Higgs

Leading Order (LO)  
cross section  
 $= |\text{one-loop amplitude}|^2$



- Since  $2m_{top} = 350 \text{ GeV}$   
 $\gg m_{Higgs} = 125 \text{ GeV}$ ,  
interaction between gluons and Higgs is approximately local  
(mediated by a leading dim 5 operator  $\mathcal{O} = H G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{\mu\nu a}$ )

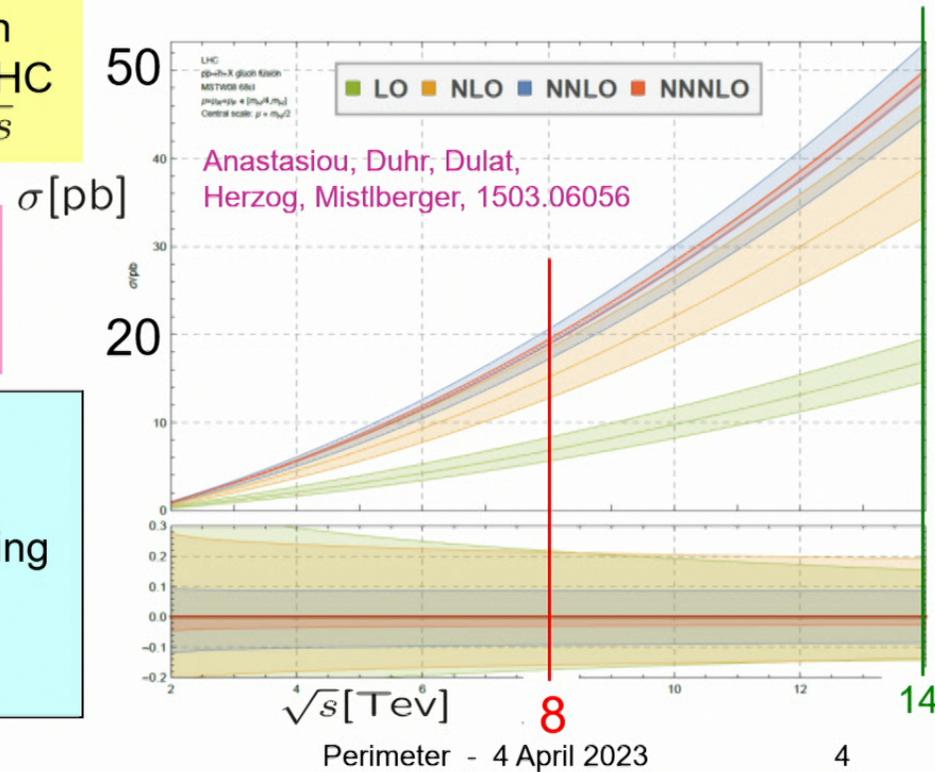
# Perturbative Short-Distance Cross Section

$$\hat{\sigma}(\alpha_s) = \alpha_s^n [ \underbrace{\hat{\sigma}^{(0)}}_{\text{LO}} + \alpha_s \underbrace{\hat{\sigma}^{(1)}}_{\text{NLO}} + \alpha_s^2 \underbrace{\hat{\sigma}^{(2)}}_{\text{NNLO}} + \alpha_s^3 \underbrace{\hat{\sigma}^{(3)}}_{\text{NNNLO}} + \dots ]$$

Higgs gluon fusion  
cross section at LHC  
vs. CM energy  $\sqrt{s}$

**LO approx. is terrible!**  
LO  $\rightarrow$  NNNLO  
 $\rightarrow$  factor of 2 or 3 increase!

**Poor convergence**  
of expansion in  $\alpha_s(\mu)$   
Uncertainty bands from varying  
 $\mu_R = \mu_F = \mu$   
**Necessitates high orders!**



L. Dixon Antipodal (Self-)Duality

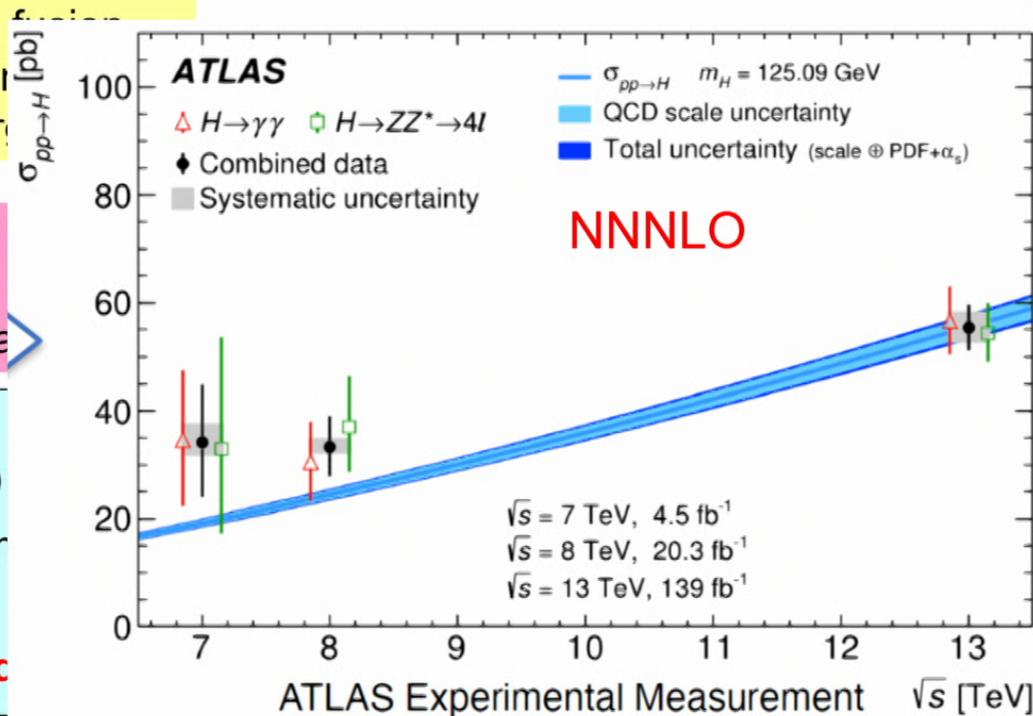
# Perturbative Short-Distance Cross Section

$$\hat{\sigma}(\alpha_s) = \alpha_s^n [ \underbrace{\hat{\sigma}^{(0)}}_{\text{LO}} + \alpha_s \underbrace{\hat{\sigma}^{(1)}}_{\text{NLO}} + \alpha_s^2 \underbrace{\hat{\sigma}^{(2)}}_{\text{NNLO}} + \alpha_s^3 \underbrace{\hat{\sigma}^{(3)}}_{\text{NNNLO}} + \dots ]$$

Higgs gluon fusion cross section vs. CM energy

**LO approx. is terrible!**  
LO → NNNLO  
→ factor of 2 or 3 increase

**Poor convergence** of expansion in  $\alpha_s(\mu)$   
Uncertainty bands from  $\mu_R = \mu_F = \mu$   
**Necessitates high order**

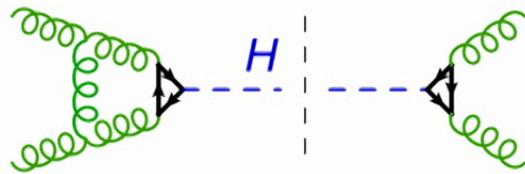


L. Dixon Antipodal (Self-)Duality

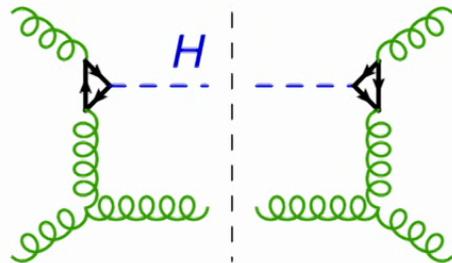
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# Some NLO QCD Feynman diagrams

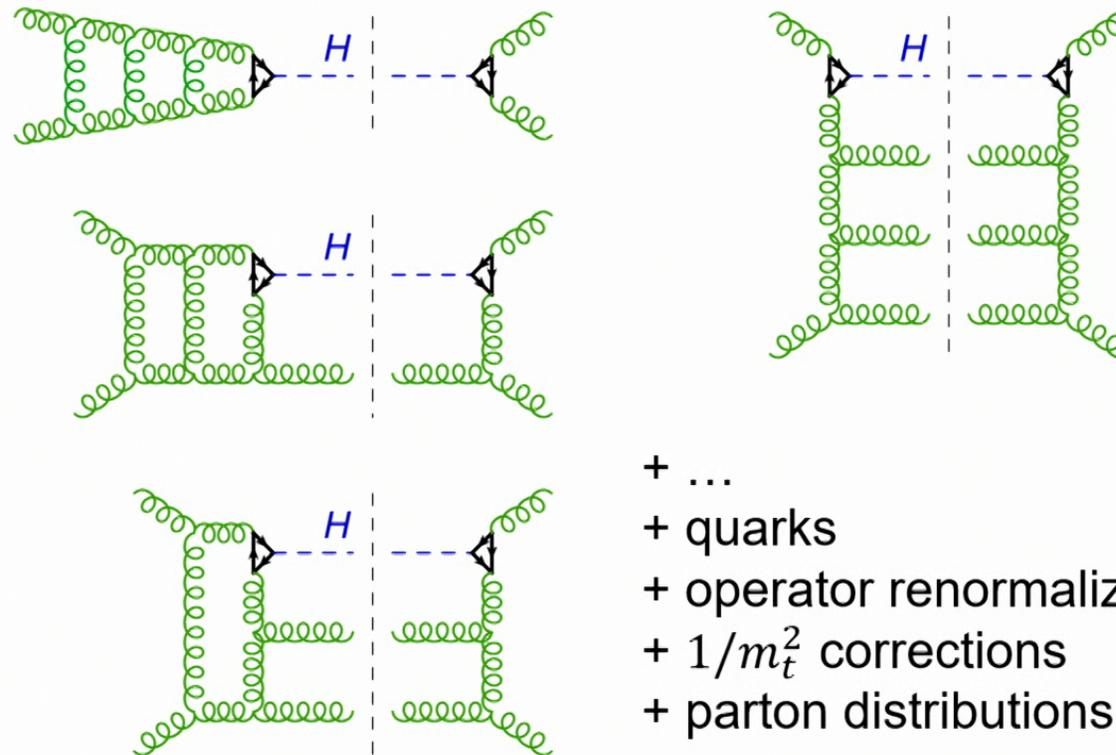


virtual  $gg \rightarrow H$



real,  $gg \rightarrow Hg$

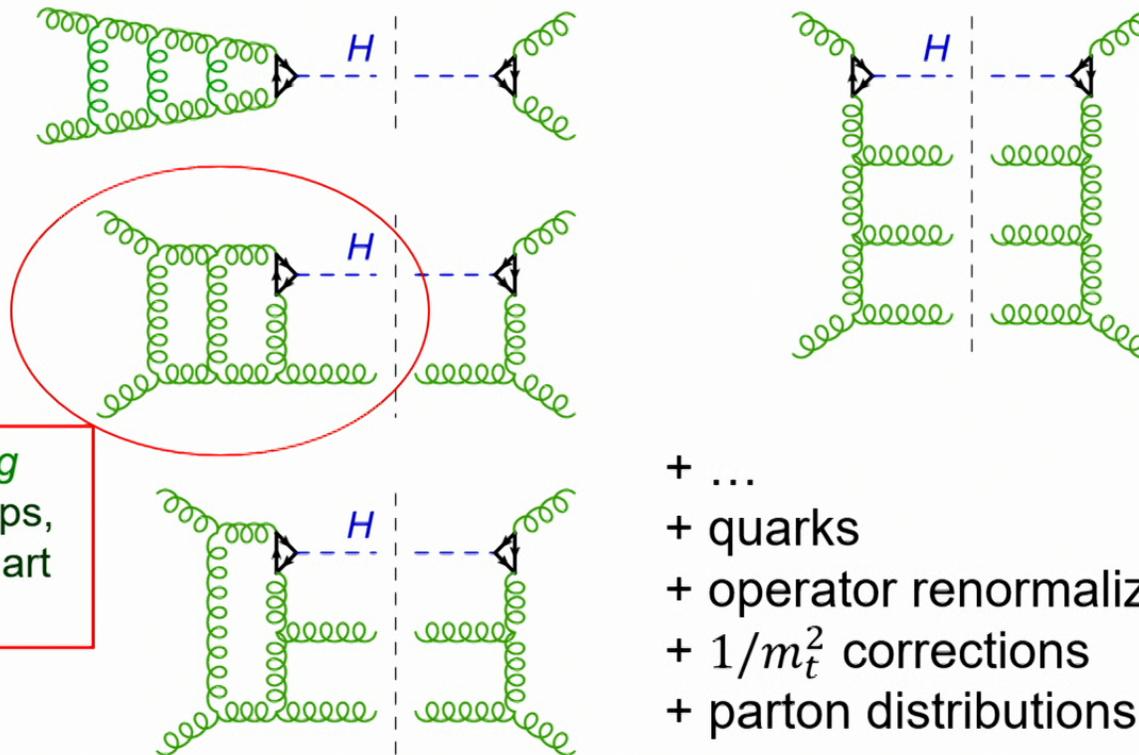
# Some NNNLO QCD topologies



- + ...
- + quarks
- + operator renormalization
- +  $1/m_t^2$  corrections
- + parton distributions

**Scattering amplitudes are the underlying building blocks**

# Some NNNLO QCD topologies



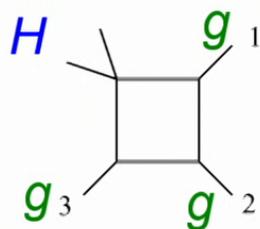
$gg \rightarrow Hg$   
@ 2 loops,  
state of art  
in QCD

- + ...
- + quarks
- + operator renormalization
- +  $1/m_t^2$  corrections
- + parton distributions

**Scattering amplitudes are the underlying building blocks**

# Beyond tree level

- Loop level Feynman diagrams come with an instruction to **integrate** over all loop momenta
- For example, at one loop the amplitude for  $gg \rightarrow Hg$  involves the “scalar box” integral



$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \int \frac{d^4 p}{p^2(p-p_1)^2(p-p_1-p_2)^2(p-p_1-p_2-p_3)^2} \\
 &= \text{Li}_2\left(1 - \frac{s_{123}}{s_{12}}\right) + \text{Li}_2\left(1 - \frac{s_{123}}{s_{23}}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \ln^2\left(\frac{s_{12}}{s_{23}}\right) + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

where the dilogarithm is  $\text{Li}_2(x) \equiv -\int_0^x \frac{dt}{t} \ln(1-t)$

# One loop not too bad

- For **any number of external particles**, all **one-loop** integrals (even in dimensional regularization,  $D = 4 - 2\epsilon$ ) can be reduced to scalar box integrals + simpler

Brown-Feynman (1952), Melrose (1965), 't Hooft-Veltman (1974), Passarino-Veltman (1979), van Neerven-Vermaseren (1984), Bern, LD, Kosower (1992)

→ combinations of  $\text{Li}_2(x) \equiv -\int_0^x \frac{dt}{t} \ln(1-t)$

where  $x$  is (many different) functions of the kinematic variables (Mandelstam invariants), plus **logarithms**

# Multi-loop much more complex

- At  $L$  loops, instead of just  $\text{Li}_2$ 's, get **special functions** with up to  $2L$  integrations
- Weight  $2L$  “iterated integrals”
- **Best case: generalized polylogarithms**, defined iteratively by

$$G(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, x) = \int_0^x \frac{dt}{t - a_1} G(a_2, \dots, a_n, t)$$

$$\text{and } G(\vec{0}_n, x) = \frac{(\ln x)^n}{n!}$$

- **Still very intricate multi-variate functions**

# Planar N=4 SYM, “hydrogen atom” of amplitudes

- QCD’s **maximally supersymmetric cousin**, N=4 super-Yang-Mills theory (SYM), gauge group **SU(N<sub>c</sub>)**, in large **N<sub>c</sub> (planar)** limit
- Structure very rigid:  
Amplitudes =  $\sum_i$  *rational<sub>i</sub>* × *transcendental<sub>i</sub>*
- For planar N=4 SYM, **rational** structure well understood, focus on **transcendental functions**.
- Furthermore, at least three dualities hold:
  1. **AdS/CFT**
  2. **Amplitudes dual to Wilson loops**

# Transcendental Structure

- N=4 SYM amplitudes have “uniform **weight**” (transcendentality)  $2L$  at loop order  $L$
- **Weight**  $\sim$  number of integrations, e.g.

$$\ln(s) = \int_1^s \frac{dt}{t} = \int_1^s d\ln t \quad 1$$

$$\text{Li}_2(x) = -\int_0^x \frac{dt}{t} \ln(1-t) = \int_0^x d\ln t \cdot [-\ln(1-t)] \quad 2$$

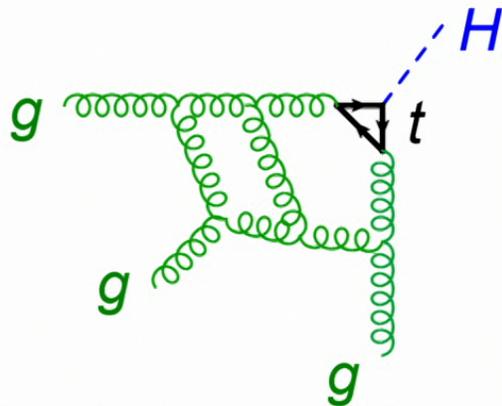
$$\text{Li}_n(x) = \int_0^x \frac{dt}{t} \text{Li}_{n-1}(t) \quad n$$

- **QCD** amps typically **all** weights from  $0$  to  $2L$

# “Goldilocks Process”: $gg \rightarrow Hg$

QCD state of art is two loops  
(not counting top quark loop)

Gehrmann, Jaquier, Glover,  
Koukoutsakis, 1112.3554



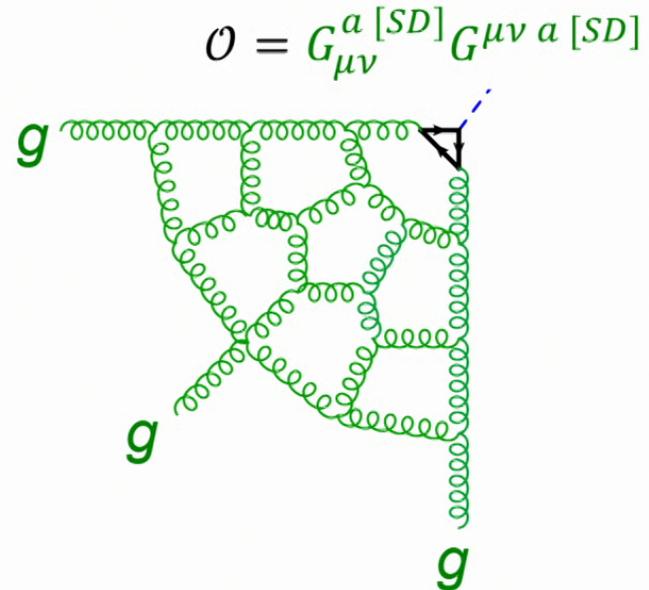
Recent progress on integrals for 3 loops

DiVita, Mastrolia, Schubert, Yundin, 1408.3107;  
Canko, Syrrakos, 2112.14275; Henn, Lim, Torres  
Bobadilla, 2302.12776

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Can get to **eight** loops in  
planar N=4 SYM

LD, Ö. Gürdoğan, A. McLeod, M. Wilhelm  
2012.12286, 2112.06243, 2204.11901



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# Harmonic Polylogarithms in one variable (HPL{0,1})

Remiddi, Vermaseren, hep-ph/9905237

- Generalize classical polylogs
- Define HPLs by iterated integration:

$$H_{0,\vec{w}}(x) = \int_0^x \frac{dt}{t} H_{\vec{w}}(t), \quad H_{1,\vec{w}}(x) = \int_0^x \frac{dt}{1-t} H_{\vec{w}}(t)$$

- Or by derivatives:

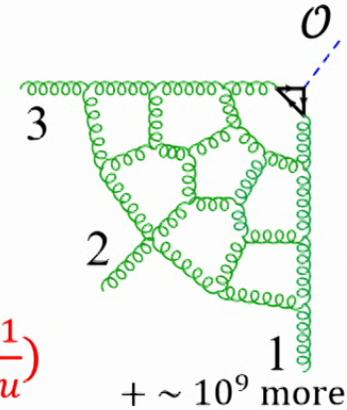
$$dH_{0,\vec{w}}(x) = H_{\vec{w}}(x) d \ln x \quad dH_{1,\vec{w}}(x) = -H_{\vec{w}}(x) d \ln(1-x)$$

- [Symbol alphabet:  $\mathcal{L} = \{x, 1-x\}$ ]
- Weight  $n$  = length of binary string  $\vec{w}$
- Number of functions at weight  $n = 2L$  is number of binary strings:  $2^{2L}$
- **Branch cuts** dictated by **first** integration/entry in symbol
- **Derivatives** dictated by **last** integration/entry in symbol

# A three-gluon form factor in planar N=4 SYM

$$u = \frac{s_{12}}{s_{123}}, \quad v = \frac{s_{23}}{s_{123}}, \quad w = \frac{s_{31}}{s_{123}} = 1 - u - v$$

$v \rightarrow \infty \rightarrow$  Harmonic polylogarithms  $H_{\vec{w}} \equiv H_{\vec{w}}\left(1 - \frac{1}{u}\right)$



+  $\sim 10^9$  more

$$F_3^{(1)}(v \rightarrow \infty) = 2H_{0,1} + 6\zeta_2$$

$$F_3^{(2)}(v \rightarrow \infty) = -8H_{0,0,0,1} - 4H_{0,1,1,1} + 12\zeta_2 H_{0,1} + 13\zeta_4$$

$$\begin{aligned} F_3^{(3)}(v \rightarrow \infty) = & 96H_{0,0,0,0,0,1} + 16H_{0,0,0,1,0,1} + 16H_{0,0,0,1,1,1} + 16H_{0,0,1,0,0,1} + 8H_{0,0,1,0,1,1} \\ & + 8H_{0,0,1,1,0,1} + 16H_{0,1,0,0,0,1} + 8H_{0,1,0,0,1,1} + 12H_{0,1,0,1,0,1} + 4H_{0,1,0,1,1,1} \\ & + 8H_{0,1,1,0,0,1} + 4H_{0,1,1,0,1,1} + 4H_{0,1,1,1,0,1} + 24H_{0,1,1,1,1,1} \\ & - \zeta_2(32H_{0,0,0,1} + 8H_{0,0,1,1} + 4H_{0,1,0,1} + 52H_{0,1,1,1}) \\ & - \zeta_3(8H_{0,0,1} - 4H_{0,1,1}) - 53\zeta_4 H_{0,1} - \frac{167}{4}\zeta_6 + 2(\zeta_3)^2 \end{aligned}$$

8 loop result has  $\sim 2^{2 \times 8 - 2} = 16,384$  terms

# 6-gluon amplitude in planar N=4 SYM

Depends on 3 “dual-conformal cross-ratios,  $(\hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{w})$

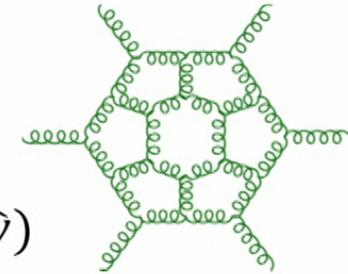
Simplest for  $(\hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{w}) = (1, \hat{v}, \hat{v})$

Let  $H_{\hat{w}} \equiv H_{\hat{w}}(1 - \frac{1}{\hat{v}})$

$$A_6^{(1)}(1, \hat{v}, \hat{v}) = 2H_{0,1}$$

$$A_6^{(2)}(1, \hat{v}, \hat{v}) = -8H_{0,1,1,1} - 4H_{0,0,0,1} - 4\zeta_2 H_{0,1} - 9\zeta_4$$

$$\begin{aligned} A_6^{(3)}(1, \hat{v}, \hat{v}) = & 96H_{0,1,1,1,1,1} + 16H_{0,1,0,1,1,1} + 16H_{0,0,0,1,1,1} + 16H_{0,1,1,0,1,1} + 8H_{0,0,1,0,1,1} \\ & + 8H_{0,1,0,0,1,1} + 16H_{0,1,1,1,0,1} + 8H_{0,0,1,1,0,1} + 12H_{0,1,0,1,0,1} + 4H_{0,0,0,1,0,1} \\ & + 8H_{0,1,1,0,0,1} + 4H_{0,0,1,0,0,1} + 4H_{0,1,0,0,0,1} + 24H_{0,0,0,0,0,1} \\ & + \zeta_2(8H_{0,0,0,1} + 8H_{0,1,0,1} + 48H_{0,1,1,1}) \\ & + 42\zeta_4 H_{0,1} + 121\zeta_6 \end{aligned}$$



+ ~ 10<sup>9</sup> more

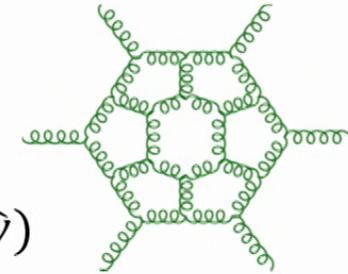
Exact map at symbol level ( $\zeta_n \rightarrow 0$ ), with  $\frac{1}{\hat{v}} = 1 - \frac{1}{u}$ ,  $0 \leftrightarrow 1$ ,

if you also **reverse order** of HPL indices!!!

Works to **7 loops**, where  $\sim 2^{2 \times 7 - 2} = 4,096$  terms agree

# 6-gluon amplitude in planar N=4 SYM

Depends on 3 “dual-conformal cross-ratios,  $(\hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{w})$   
Simplest for  $(\hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{w}) = (1, \hat{v}, \hat{v})$



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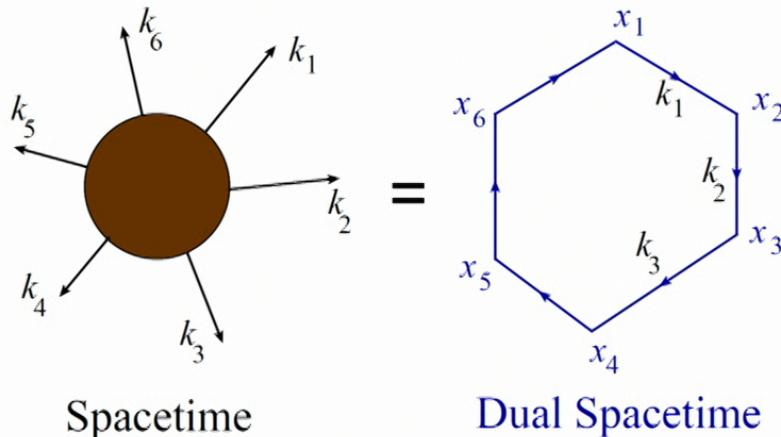
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if you also **reverse order** of HPL indices!!!

Works to **7 loops**, where  $\sim 2^{2 \times 7 - 2} = 4,096$  terms agree

# Amplitudes = Wilson loops



Alday, Maldacena, 0705.0303  
 Drummond, Korchemsky, Sokatchev, 0707.0243  
 Brandhuber, Heslop, Travaglini, 0707.1153  
 Drummond, Henn, Korchemsky, Sokatchev,  
 0709.2368, 0712.1223, 0803.1466;  
 Bern, LD, Kosower, Roiban, Spradlin,  
 Vergu, Volovich, 0803.1465

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- Polygon vertices  $x_i$  are not positions but **dual momenta**,  
 $x_i - x_{i+1} = k_i$
- Transform like positions under **dual conformal symmetry**

Duality holds at both strong and weak coupling

weak-weak duality,  
 holds order-by-order

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# Dual conformal invariance

- Wilson  $n$ -gon invariant under inversion:  $x_i^\mu \rightarrow \frac{x_i^\mu}{x_i^2}, \quad x_{ij}^2 \rightarrow \frac{x_{ij}^2}{x_i^2 x_j^2}$   
 $x_{ij}^2 = (k_i + k_{i+1} + \dots + k_{j-1})^2 \equiv s_{i,i+1,\dots,j-1}$

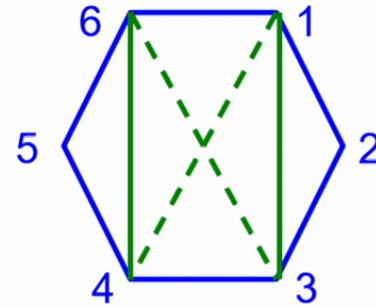
- Fixed, up to functions of invariant cross ratios:

$$u_{ijkl} \equiv \frac{x_{ij}^2 x_{kl}^2}{x_{ik}^2 x_{jl}^2}$$

- $x_{i,i+1}^2 = k_i^2 = 0 \rightarrow$  no such variables for  $n = 4, 5$

$n = 6 \rightarrow$  precisely 3 ratios:

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \hat{u} &= \frac{x_{13}^2 x_{46}^2}{x_{14}^2 x_{36}^2} = \frac{s_{12} s_{45}}{s_{123} s_{345}} \\ \hat{v} &= \frac{s_{23} s_{56}}{s_{234} s_{123}} \\ \hat{w} &= \frac{s_{34} s_{61}}{s_{345} s_{234}} \end{aligned} \right.$$



# Dual conformal invariance

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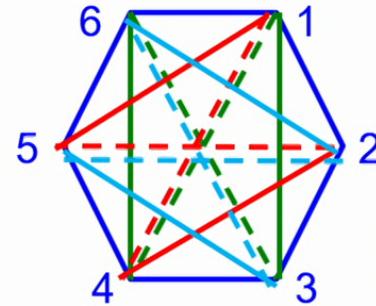
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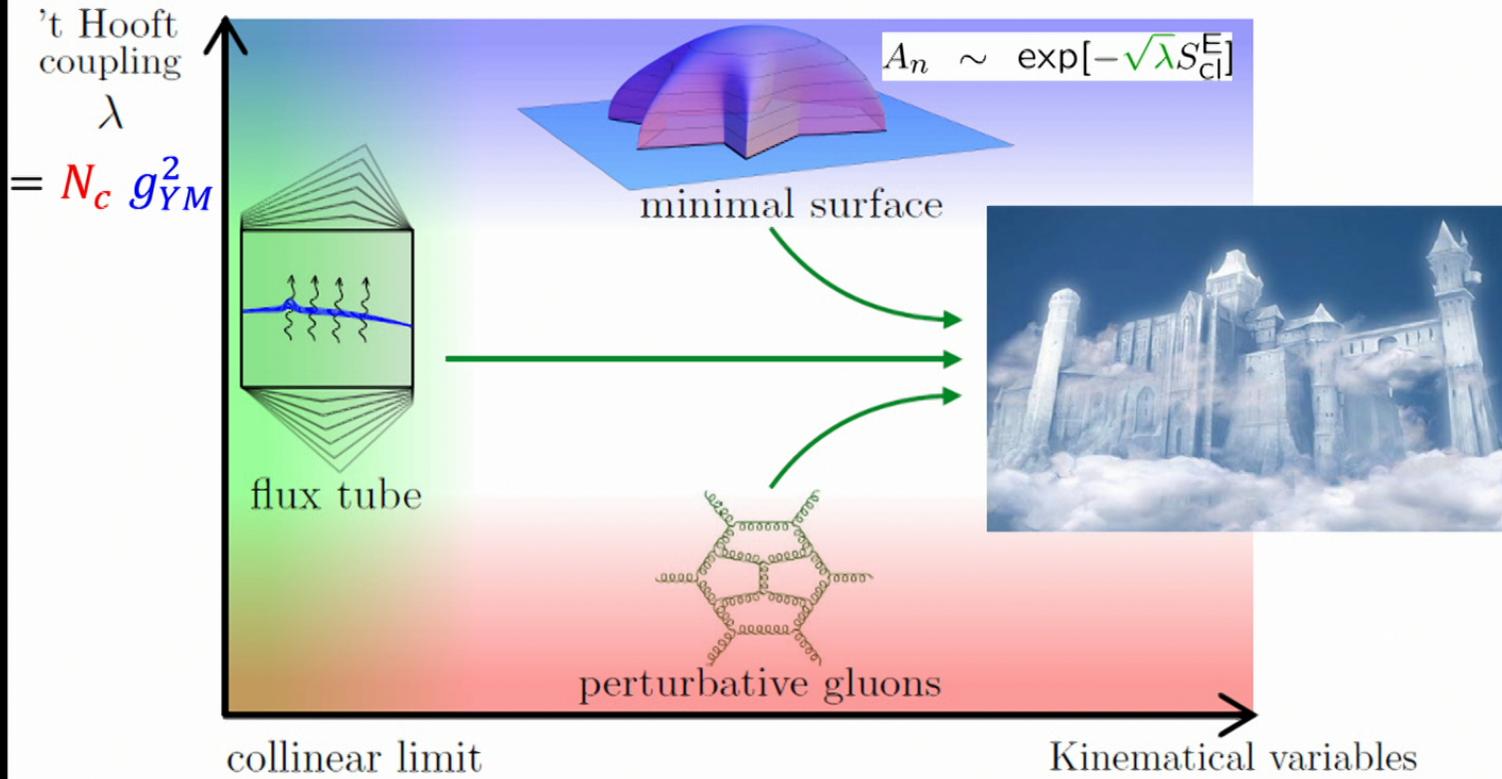
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# Solving Planar N=4 SYM Scattering

Images: A. Sever, N. Arkani-Hamed

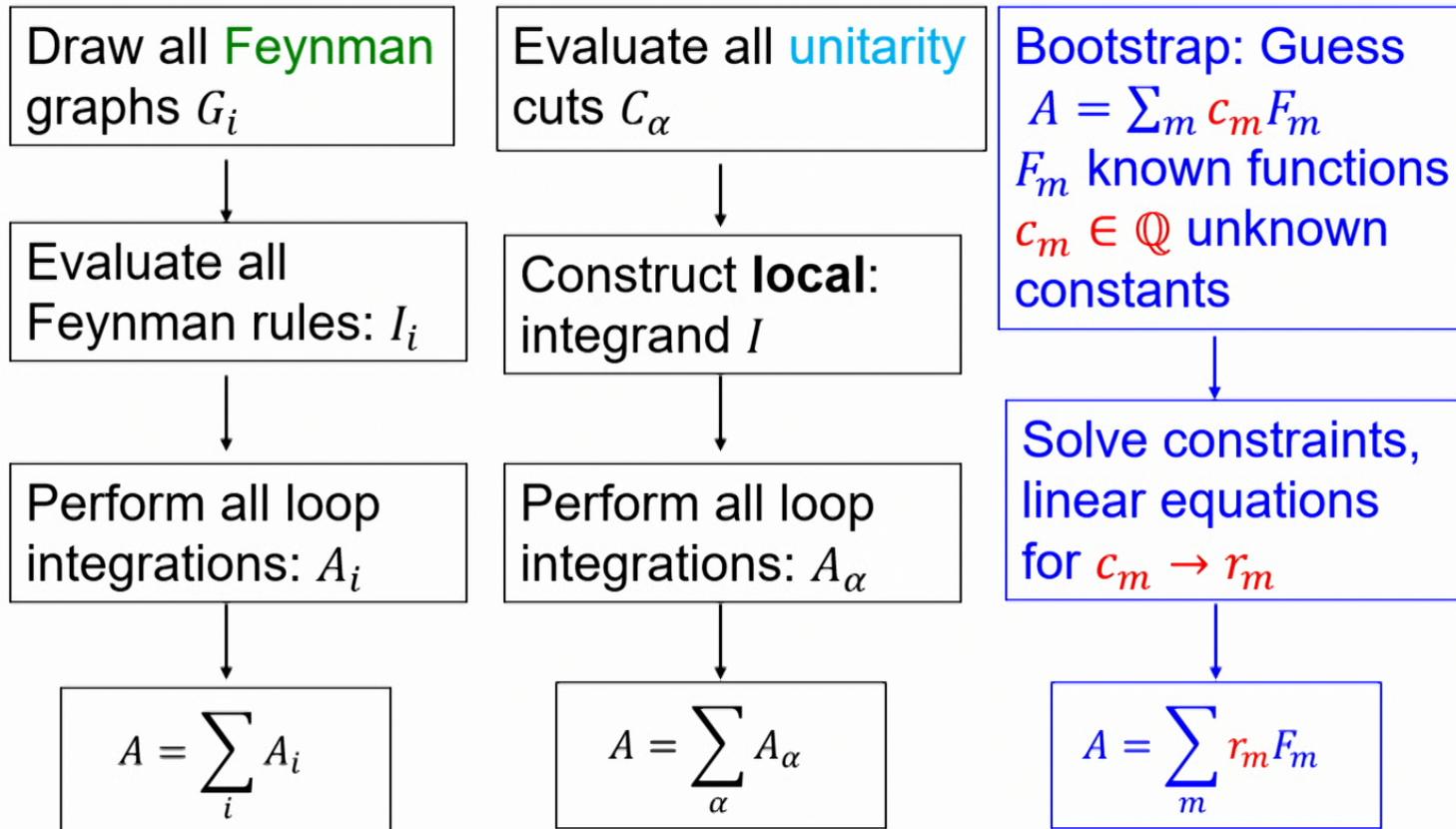


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# Different routes to perturbative amplitudes



# Hexagon function bootstrap

## Loops

3

LD, Drummond, Henn, 1108.4461, 1111.1704;

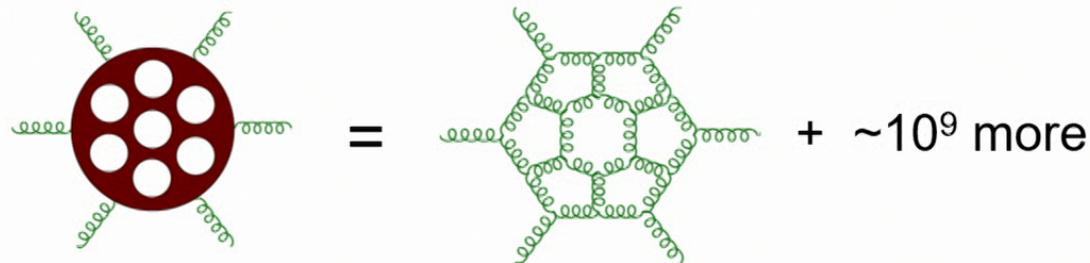
4,5

Caron-Huot, LD, Drummond, Duhr, von Hippel, McLeod, Pennington, 1308.2276, 1402.3300, 1408.1505, 1509.08127; 1609.00669;

6,7

Caron-Huot, LD, Dulat, von Hippel, McLeod, Papathanasiou, 1903.10890, 1906.07116; LD, Dulat, 23mm.nnnnn (NMHV 7 loop)

- Planar N=4 SYM: Make ansatz for space of multiple polylogarithms (MPLs) in which 6-point amplitude resides to determine it directly.  
**No explicit Feynman integrands or integrals.**
- Use boundary data from flux tube (pentagon) OPE  
Basso, Sever, Vieira, 1303.1396, 1306.2058,...
- Same general method used for “Higgs” form factor



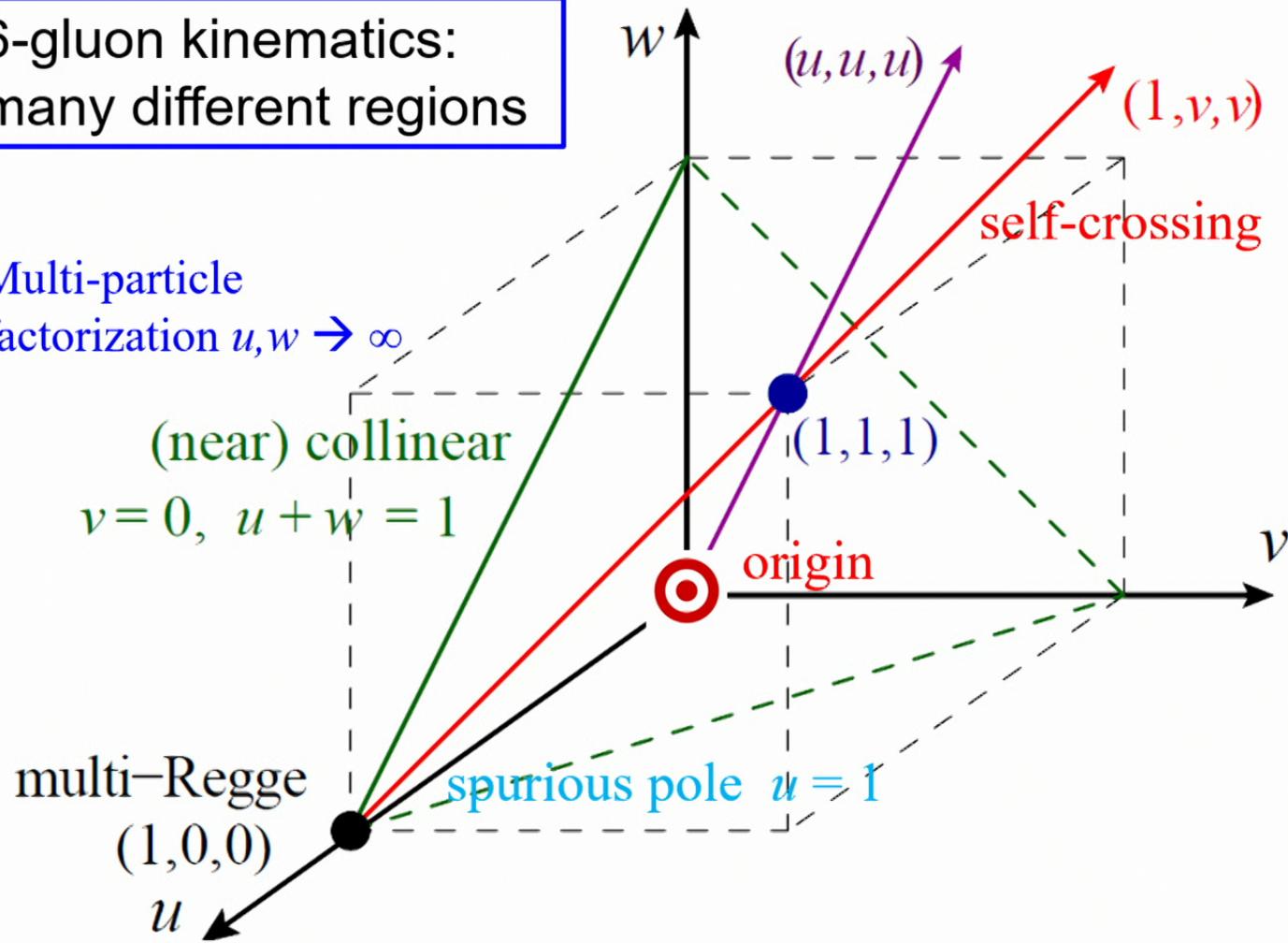
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6-gluon kinematics:  
many different regions

Multi-particle  
factorization  $u, w \rightarrow \infty$



# Iterate to get **symbol**

- $\{n-1,1\}$  coaction can be applied **iteratively**
- Define  $\{n-2,1,1\}$  **double** coproducts,  $F^{S_k, S_j}$ ,  
via derivatives of  $\{n-1,1\}$  **single** coproducts  $F^{S_j}$ :

$$dF^{S_j} \equiv \sum_{s_k \in \mathcal{L}} F^{S_k, S_j} d \ln s_k$$

- And so on for  $\{n-m,1,\dots,1\}$   $m^{\text{th}}$  coproducts of  $F$ .
- **Maximal iteration**,  $n$  times for weight  $n$  function, is the **symbol**, ["ln" is implicit in  $s_{i_k}$ ]

$$\mathcal{S}[F] \equiv \sum_{s_{i_1}, \dots, s_{i_n} \in \mathcal{L}} F^{s_{i_1}, \dots, s_{i_n}} s_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes s_{i_n}$$

where now  $F^{s_{i_1}, \dots, s_{i_n}}$  are just **rational numbers**

Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich, 1006.5703

## Example: Classical polylogarithms

$$\text{Li}_1(x) = -\ln(1-x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k}$$

$$\text{Li}_n(x) = \int_0^x \frac{dt}{t} \text{Li}_{n-1}(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k^n}$$

- Regular at  $x = 0$ , branch cut starts at  $x = 1$ .
- Iterated differentiation gives the symbol:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}[\text{Li}_n(x)] &= \mathcal{S}[\text{Li}_{n-1}(x)] \otimes x \\ &= \dots = -(1-x) \otimes x \otimes x \dots \otimes x \end{aligned}$$

- **Branch cut** discontinuities displayed in **first** entry of symbol, e.g. clip off leading  $(1-x)$  to compute discontinuity at  $x = 1$ .
- **Derivatives** computed from symbol by clipping **last** entry, multiplying by that  $d \ln(\dots)$ . **Alphabet**  $\mathcal{L} = \{x, 1-x\}$

# Symbol alphabets for $n$ -gluon amplitudes

parity-odd letters, algebraic in  $\hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{w}$

$$n = 6 \text{ has 9 letters: } \mathcal{L}_6 = \{\hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{w}, 1 - \hat{u}, 1 - \hat{v}, 1 - \hat{w}, \hat{y}_u, \hat{y}_v, \hat{y}_w\}$$

Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich, 1006.5703;  
LD, Drummond, Henn, 1108.4461; Caron-Huot,  
LD, von Hippel, McLeod, 1609.00669

$n = 7$  has 42 letters

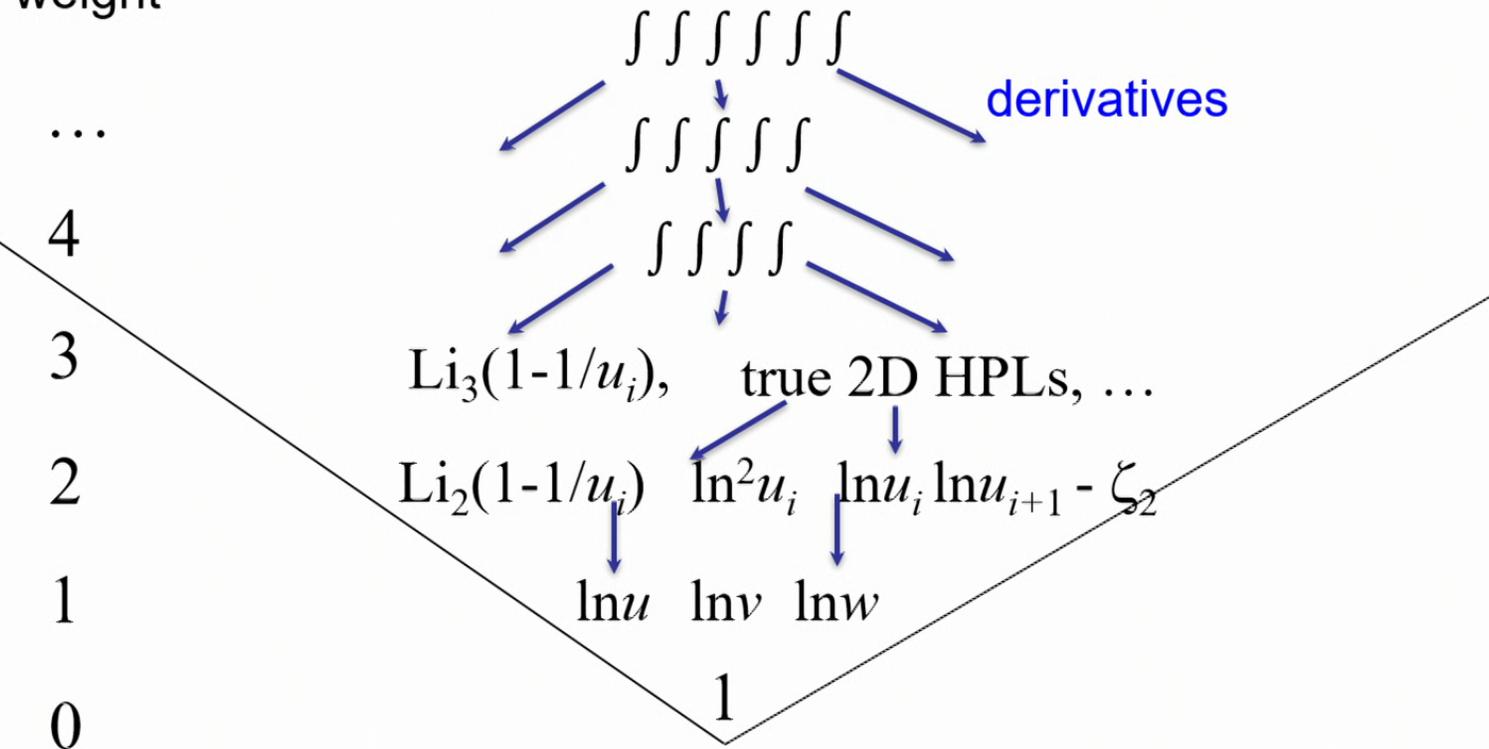
Golden, Goncharov, Paulos, Spradlin, Volovich, Vergu, 1305.1617,  
1401.6446, 1411.3289; Drummond, Papathanasiou, Spradlin 1412.3763

$n = 8$  has at least 222 letters, could even be infinite as  $L \rightarrow \infty$

Arkani-Hamed, Lam, Spradlin, 1912.08222;  
Drummond, Foster, Gürdoğan, Kalousios, 1912.08217, 2002.04624;  
Henke, Papathanasiou 1912.08254, 2106.01392;  
Z. Li, C. Zhang, 2110.00350

# Heuristic view of function space

weight



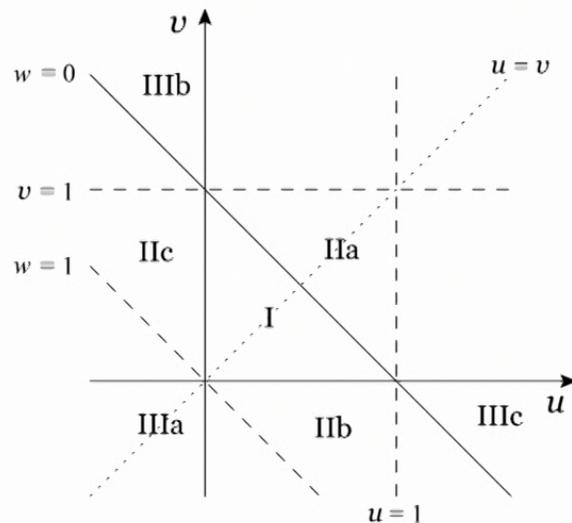
# Hggg kinematics is two-dimensional

$$k_1 + k_2 + k_3 = -k_H$$

$$s_{123} = s_{12} + s_{23} + s_{31} = m_H^2$$

$$s_{ij} = (k_i + k_j)^2 \quad k_i^2 = 0$$

$$u = \frac{s_{12}}{s_{123}} \quad v = \frac{s_{23}}{s_{123}} \quad w = \frac{s_{31}}{s_{123}}$$



$$u + v + w = 1$$

I = decay / Euclidean

IIa,b,c = scattering / spacelike operator

IIIa,b,c = scattering / timelike operator

N=4 amplitude is  $S_3$  invariant

$D_3 \equiv S_3$  dihedral symmetry generated by:

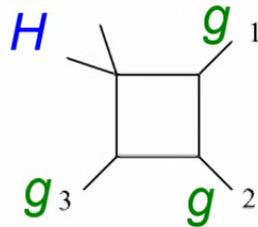
a. cycle:  $i \rightarrow i + 1 \pmod{3}$ , or

$$u \rightarrow v \rightarrow w \rightarrow u$$

b. flip:  $u \leftrightarrow v$

# One loop

scalar box integral:



$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \int \frac{d^4 p}{p^2 (p - p_1)^2 (p - p_1 - p_2)^2 (p - p_1 - p_2 - p_3)^2} \\
 &= \text{Li}_2 \left( 1 - \frac{s_{123}}{s_{12}} \right) + \text{Li}_2 \left( 1 - \frac{s_{123}}{s_{23}} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \ln^2 \left( \frac{s_{12}}{s_{23}} \right) + \dots \\
 &= \text{Li}_2 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{u} \right) + \text{Li}_2 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{v} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \ln^2 \left( \frac{u}{v} \right) + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

→ **Symbol** is  $u \otimes (1 - u) + v \otimes (1 - v) - u \otimes v - v \otimes u$

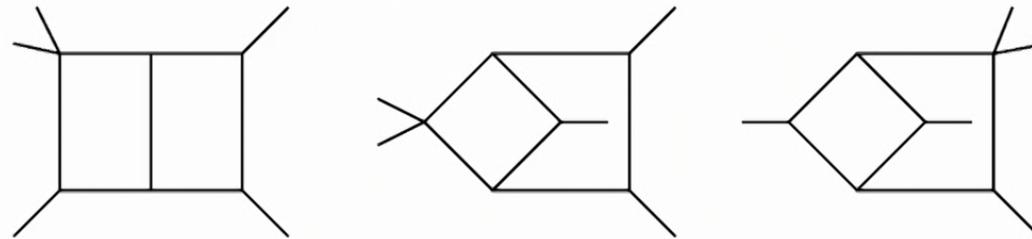
Including cycles,  $u \rightarrow v \rightarrow w \rightarrow u$ , **symbol** alphabet at one loop is

$$\mathcal{L} = \{u, v, w, 1 - u, 1 - v, 1 - w\}$$

Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich, 1006.5703

# Two loops

- $H_{ggg}$  computed in QCD at 2 loops  
Gehrmann, Jaquier, Glover, Koukoutsakis, 1112.3554
- Chiral stress tensor 3-point form factor  $\mathcal{F}_3$  in N=4 SYM  
computed next Brandhuber, Travaglini, Yang, 1201.4170
- Symbol alphabet **still**  
 $\mathcal{L} = \{u, v, w, 1 - u, 1 - v, 1 - w\}$



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# 2d HPLs

Gehrmann, Remiddi,  
hep-ph/0008287

$$\mathcal{L} = \{u, v, w, 1 - u, 1 - v, 1 - w\}$$

Space graded by weight. Every weight  $n$  function  $F$  obeys:

$$\frac{\partial F(u, v)}{\partial u} = \frac{F^u}{u} - \frac{F^w}{w} - \frac{F^{1-u}}{1-u} + \frac{F^{1-w}}{1-w}$$

$$\frac{\partial F(u, v)}{\partial v} = \frac{F^v}{v} - \frac{F^w}{w} - \frac{F^{1-v}}{1-v} + \frac{F^{1-w}}{1-w}$$

$$w = 1 - u - v$$

where  $F^u, F^v, F^w, F^{1-u}, F^{1-v}, F^{1-w}$  are weight  $n-1$  2d HPLs.

To bootstrap  $Hggg$  amplitude beyond 2 loops, find as small a subspace of 2d HPLs as possible, construct it to high weight, impose various constraints to get a unique answer

# Better (equivalent) alphabet

- Motivated by 6 gluon experience, we switch to an equivalent symbol alphabet

$$\mathcal{L}' = \left\{ a = \frac{u}{vw}, b = \frac{v}{wu}, c = \frac{w}{uv}, d = \frac{1-u}{u}, e = \frac{1-v}{v}, f = \frac{1-w}{w} \right\}$$

- Symbols of form factor  $F_3^{(L)}$  at 1 and 2 loops:  
just 1 and 2 terms, plus  $D_3$  dihedral images(!!!):

$$\mathcal{S} \left[ F_3^{(1)} \right] = (-1) b \otimes d + \text{dihedral}$$

$$\mathcal{S} \left[ F_3^{(2)} \right] = 4 b \otimes d \otimes d \otimes d + 2 b \otimes b \otimes b \otimes d + \text{dihedral}$$

Brandhuber, Travaglini, Yang, 1201.4170

dihedral cycle:  $a \rightarrow b \rightarrow c \rightarrow a, \quad d \rightarrow e \rightarrow f \rightarrow d$

dihedral flip:  $a \leftrightarrow b, \quad d \leftrightarrow e$

# Examples of patterns

- Every term in the symbol **starts with**  $a, b, c$ ; **never**  $d, e, f$
- Physical reason related to **causality**, which dictates where **branch cuts** can appear: only for  $(p_i + p_j)^2 \sim 0$
- Empirically, 12 pairs of adjacent letters are **forbidden**:

~~$\dots a \otimes d \dots, \quad \dots b \otimes e \dots, \quad \dots c \otimes f \dots$   
 $\dots d \otimes a \dots, \quad \dots e \otimes b \dots, \quad \dots f \otimes c \dots$   
 $\dots d \otimes e \dots, \quad \dots e \otimes f \dots, \quad \dots f \otimes d \dots$   
 $\dots e \otimes d \dots, \quad \dots f \otimes e \dots, \quad \dots d \otimes f \dots$~~

- **Resemble** constraints from **causality**:  
**Steinmann relations** Steinmann, *Helv. Phys. Acta* (1960)
- But **not quite**, which mystified us for a while...

# Antipodal duality in full 2d

LD, Ö. Gürdoğan, A. McLeod, M. Wilhelm, 2112.06243

$$F_3^{(L)}(u, v, w) = S \left( A_6^{(L)}(\hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{w}) \right)$$

**Antipode map**  $S$ , at symbol level, **reverses order of all letters**:

$$S(x_1 \otimes x_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_m) = (-1)^m x_m \otimes \cdots \otimes x_2 \otimes x_1$$

**Kinematic map** is

$$\hat{u} = \frac{vw}{(1-v)(1-w)}, \quad \hat{v} = \frac{wu}{(1-w)(1-u)}, \quad \hat{w} = \frac{uv}{(1-u)(1-v)}$$

Maps  $u + v + w = 1$  to **parity-preserving surface**

$$\Delta \equiv (1 - \hat{u} - \hat{v} - \hat{w})^2 - 4\hat{u}\hat{v}\hat{w} = 0$$

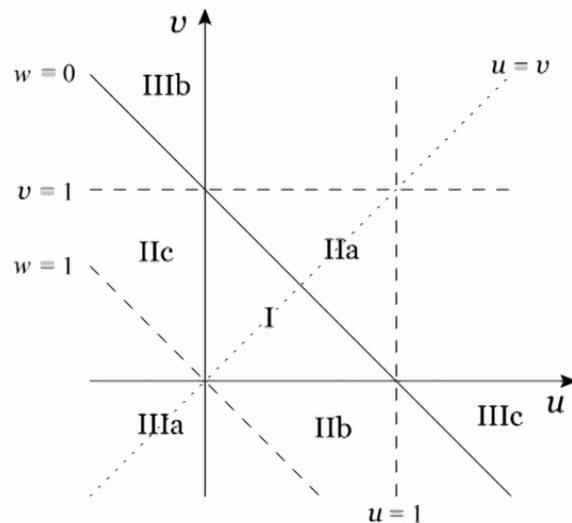
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# 6-gluon alphabet and symbol map

- $\mathcal{L}_6 = \{ \hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{w}, 1 - \hat{u}, 1 - \hat{v}, 1 - \hat{w}, \hat{y}_u, \hat{y}_v, \hat{y}_w \}$  → 1 for  $\Delta = 0$   
 $\rightarrow \mathcal{L}'_6 = \{ \hat{a} = \frac{\hat{u}}{\hat{v}\hat{w}}, \hat{b} = \frac{\hat{v}}{\hat{w}u}, \hat{c} = \frac{\hat{w}}{\hat{u}\hat{v}}, \hat{d} = \frac{1-\hat{u}}{\hat{u}}, \hat{e} = \frac{1-\hat{v}}{\hat{v}}, \hat{f} = \frac{1-\hat{w}}{\hat{w}} \}$

- Kinematic map on letters:

$$\sqrt{\hat{a}} = d, \quad \hat{d} = a, \quad \text{plus cyclic relations}$$

$$\mathcal{S} [A_6^{(1)}] = (-\frac{1}{2})\hat{b} \otimes \hat{d} + \text{dihedral}$$

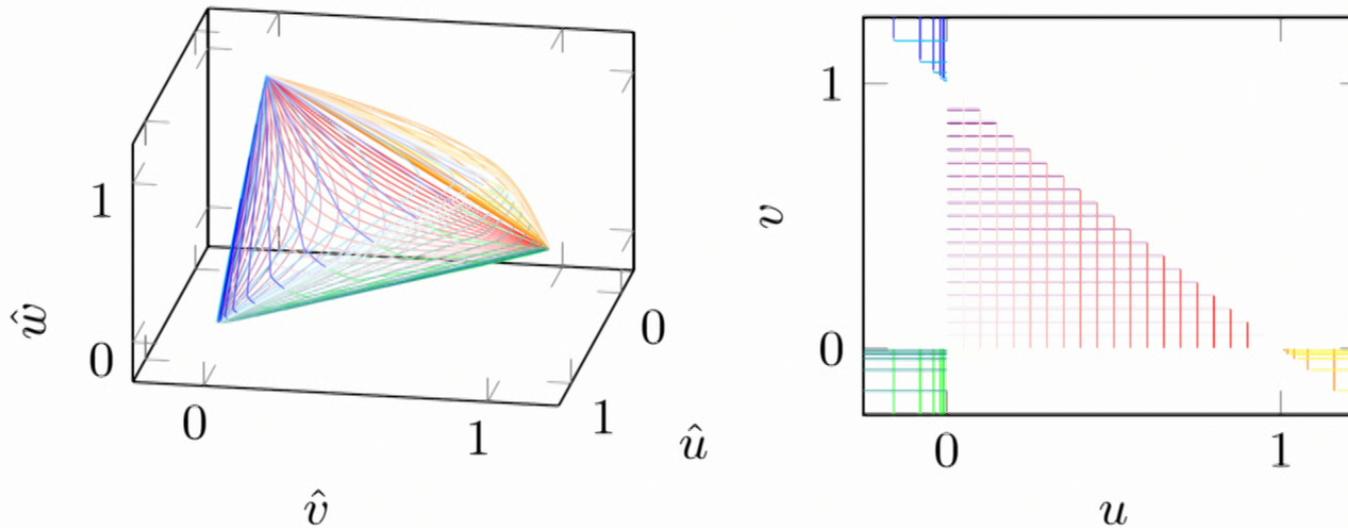
$$\mathcal{S} [A_6^{(2)}] = \hat{b} \otimes \hat{d} \otimes \hat{d} \otimes \hat{d} + \frac{1}{2} \hat{b} \otimes \hat{b} \otimes \hat{b} \otimes \hat{d} + \text{dihedral}$$

...

- Works through 7 loops!

$L$	number of terms
1	6
2	12
3	636
4	11,208
5	263,880
6	4,916,466
7	92,954,568
8	1,671,656,292

# Map covers entire phase space for 3-gluon form factor



- Soft is dual to collinear; collinear is dual to soft
- White regions in  $(u, v)$  map to some of  $\hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{w} > 1$

# “OPE” coordinates simplify kinematic map

Basso, Sever, Vieira, 1303.1396, 1306.2058,...;  
 Sever, Tumanov, Wilhelm, 2009.11297, 2105.13367, 2112.10569

- Amplitude: 
$$\hat{u} = \frac{1}{1 + (\hat{T} + \hat{S}\hat{F})(\hat{T} + \hat{S}/\hat{F})},$$

$$\hat{v} = \hat{u}\hat{w}\hat{S}^2/\hat{T}^2, \quad \hat{w} = \frac{\hat{T}^2}{1 + \hat{T}^2}$$

( $\hat{F} = 1$  for  $\Delta = 0$ )

- Form factor: 
$$u = \frac{1}{1 + S^2 + T^2}, \quad v = \frac{T^2}{1 + T^2},$$

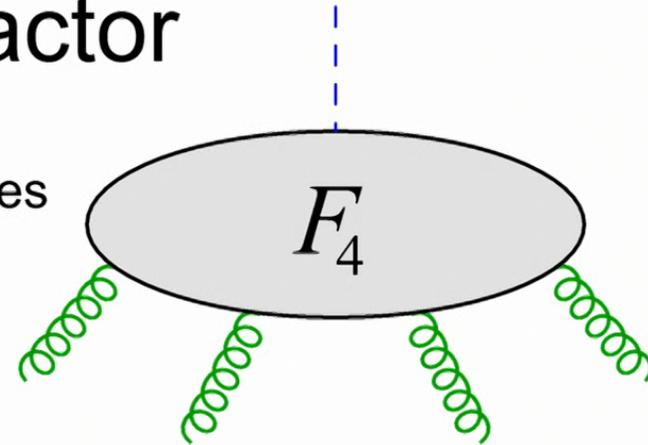
$$w = \frac{1}{(1 + T^2)(1 + S^{-2}(1 + T^2))},$$

- Kinematic map  $\rightarrow$  
$$\hat{T} = \frac{T}{S}, \quad \hat{S} = \frac{1}{TS}$$

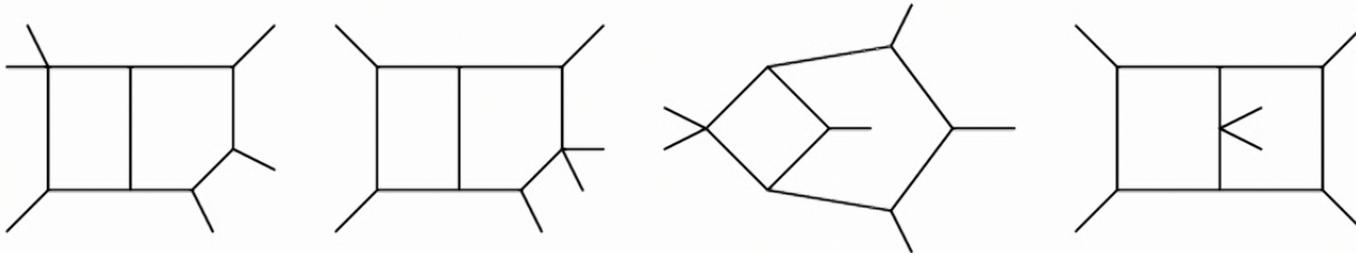
$$T = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{T}}{\hat{S}}}, \quad S = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\hat{T}\hat{S}}}$$

# Four-gluon form factor

Depends on 5 kinematical variables instead of 2.



Even just at two loops, contains state-of-the-art loop integrals → **113 possible symbol letters!**



Abreu, Ita, Moriello, Page, Tschernow, 2005.04195;

Abreu, Ita, Page, Tschernow, 2107.14180;

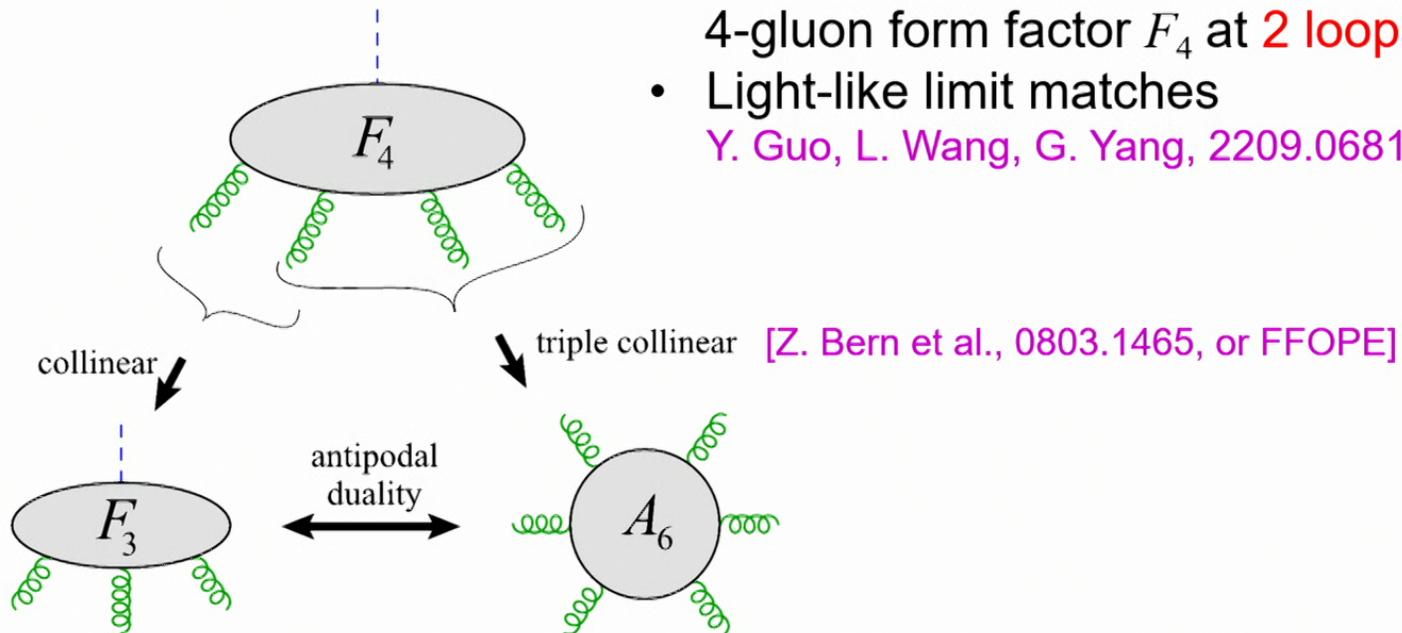
Abreu, Chicherin, Ita, Page, Sotnikov, Tschernow, Zoia, to appear

# Antipodal Self Duality

LD, Ö. Gürdoğan, Y.-T. Liu, A. McLeod, M. Wilhelm, 2212.02410

- Bootstrapped symbol of 4-gluon form factor  $F_4$  at **2 loops**
- Light-like limit matches

Y. Guo, L. Wang, G. Yang, 2209.06816



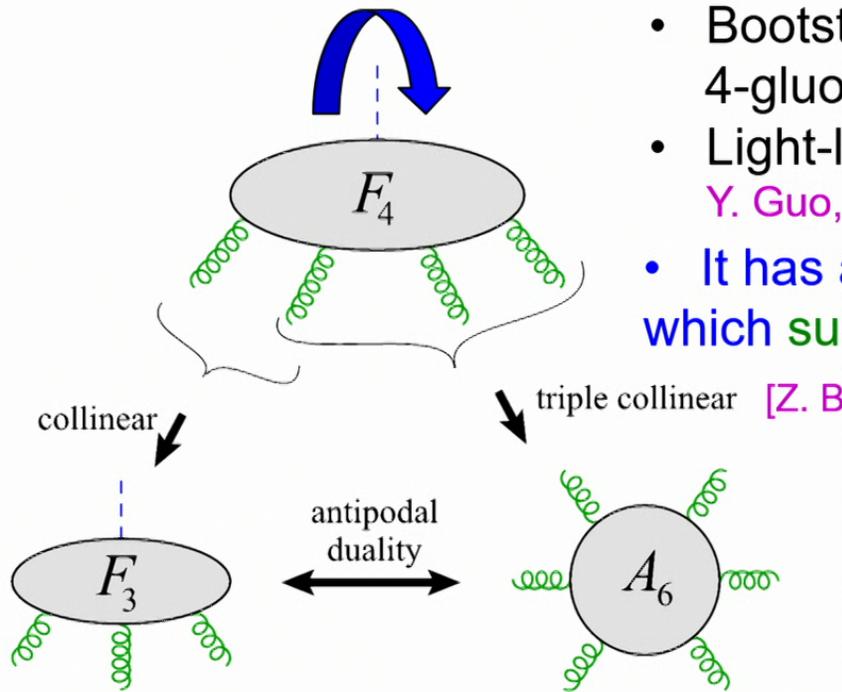
L. Dixon Antipodal (Self-)Duality

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- Bootstrapped symbol of 4-gluon form factor  $F_4$  at **2 loops**
- Light-like limit matches  
Y. Guo, L. Wang, G. Yang, 2209.06816
- It has an antipodal **self-duality** which **subsumes** the  $F_3 - A_6$  duality!

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_2 &= \frac{T}{S}, & S_2 &= \frac{1}{TS} \\
 T &= \sqrt{\frac{T_2}{S_2}}, & S &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{T_2 S_2}} \\
 F_2 &= 1
 \end{aligned}$$

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$$\hat{u} = \frac{1}{1 + (\hat{T} + \hat{S}\hat{F})(\hat{T} + \hat{S}/\hat{F})},$$

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( $\hat{F} = 1$  for  $\Delta = 0$ )

- Form factor: 
$$u = \frac{1}{1 + S^2 + T^2}, \quad v = \frac{T^2}{1 + T^2},$$

$$w = \frac{1}{(1 + T^2)(1 + S^{-2}(1 + T^2))},$$

- Kinematic map  $\rightarrow$  
$$\hat{T} = \frac{T}{S}, \quad \hat{S} = \frac{1}{TS}$$

$$T = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{T}}{\hat{S}}}, \quad S = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\hat{T}\hat{S}}}$$

# ASD at 3 loops

LD, Ö. Gürdoğan, Y.-T. Liu, A. McLeod, M. Wilhelm, 23mm.nnnnn

- Can bootstrap the symbol of  $F_4$  at **3 loops** too, using the same 113 letter alphabet.
- 2 loop symbol uses only 34 of the letters
- 3 loop symbol uses only 88 of the letters, and **ASD holds!**
- If we assume only 113 letters at higher loops too, and **ASD**, then there can only be **93 letters** (the others transform outside the 113 under the **ASD** kinematic map).
- 4 loops in progress

# Summary & Open Questions

- Form factors as well as scattering amplitudes in planar  $N=4$  SYM can now be **bootstrapped** to high loop order
- 6-gluon amplitude and 3-gluon form factor are related by a **strange new antipodal duality**, swapping the role of **branch cuts** and **derivatives**
- Embedded in a 4-gluon form factor self-duality!
  
- **Who ordered that?**
- Underlying **physical reason** for this duality?
- (How) does it hold at **strong coupling**?
- What other theories might it hold in?
- How much more can we **exploit it** to learn more about both amplitudes and form factors?