

# Cluster Adjacency

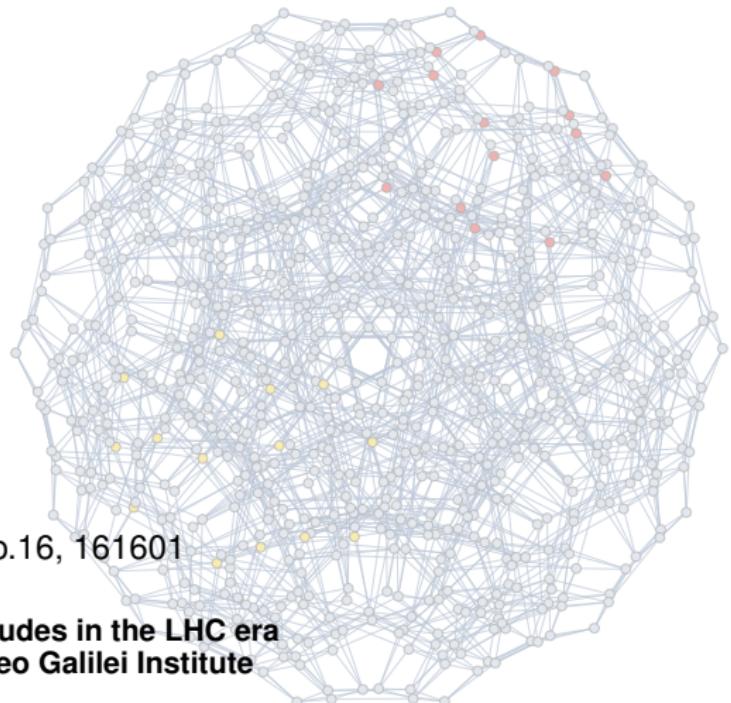
Ömer Gürdoğan

University of Southampton

in collaboration with

James Drummond  
Jack Foster

- ▶ arXiv:181x.xxxxx
- ▶ arXiv:1810.08149
- ▶ Phys.Rev.Lett. **120** (2018) no.16, 161601



Amplitudes in the LHC era  
Galileo Galilei Institute

30.10.2018

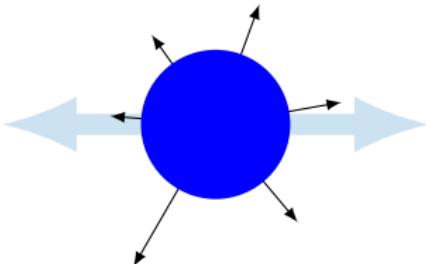
UNIVERSITY OF  
**Southampton**



# Scattering amplitudes

QFT is the framework in which we understand the microscopic universe.

**QFT**

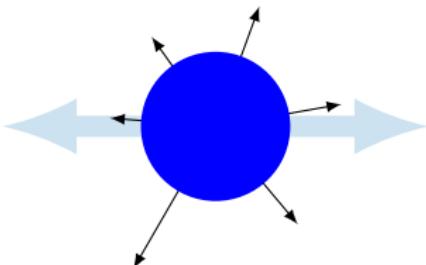


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bottleneck: **loop integration**
- ▶ **Either:** QFT is intrinsically hard

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**QFT**

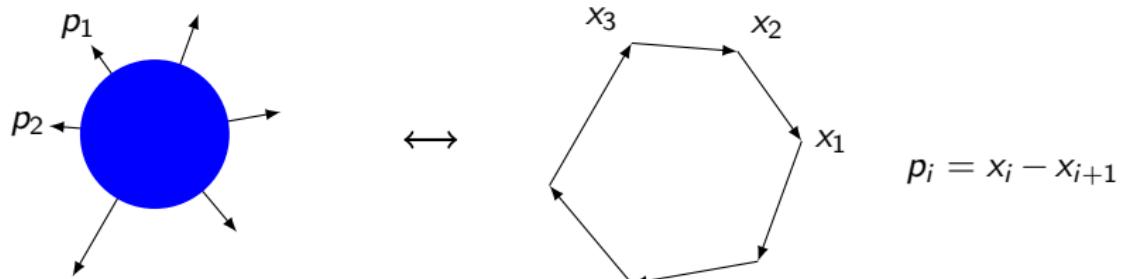


- ▶ Amplitudes relate Quantum Field Theory to observations in colliders.
  - ▶ Higher-order computations notoriously difficult  
bottleneck: **loop integration**
  - ▶ **Either:** QFT is intrinsically hard **Or:** An ideal formulation is lacking  
The more we compute  $\leadsto$  the more amazing mathematical structures.
- Goal:** Use these to develop an understanding of scattering amplitudes and QFT free of redundancies

# Scattering in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ super Yang-Mills

- Duality with Wilson loops

[Alday, Maldacena; Drummond, Korchemsky, Sokatchev; Brandhuber, Heslop, Travaglini]



- Profound consequences for the scattering amplitude:  
**dual conformal symmetry**
- The “BDS-like” normalised amplitude

$$\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_{\text{BDS-like}} E$$

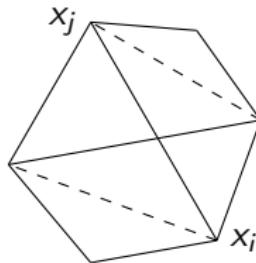
- $\mathcal{A}_{\text{BDS-like}} \sim \exp[\mathcal{A}^{(1\text{-loop})}]$ ,
- $\mathcal{A}_{\text{BDS-like}}$  unique solution to  
**dual-conformal** Ward identities

# The “BDS-like”-normalised amplitude

$$\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_{\text{BDS-like}} E$$

- **Finite** :  $\mathcal{A}_{\text{BDS-like}}$  removes the IR divergences to all loops
- Depends on  $n(n - 5)/2$  dual-conformal **cross ratios**

$$u_{ij} = \frac{x_{ij+1}^2 x_{i+1j}^2}{x_{i+1j+1}^2 x_{ij}^2} =$$



- Inherits the analytic structure of  $\mathcal{A}$
- (Lore) MHV and NMHV:  $E$  = linear combination of (generalised) polylogarithms of weight  $w = 2L$  at  $L$  loops

$$G(a_w, a_{w-1}, \dots, a_1; z) = \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{z' - a_w} G(a_{w-1}, \dots, a_1; z'), \quad G(z) = 1$$

# The symbol map

- ▶ A map from polylogarithms of weight  $w$  to a  $w$ -fold tensor space:

$$\mathcal{S} : \mathcal{G}_w \longrightarrow \bigotimes^w \mathbb{S}$$

$\mathbb{S}$ : “alphabet”

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- ▶ Examples:

$$G(\vec{0}_w; z) \propto \ln^w z \mapsto z \otimes z \dots \otimes z$$

$$G(\vec{0}_{w-1}, 1, z) = -\text{Li}_w(z) \mapsto (1-z) \otimes z \otimes z \otimes \dots$$

$$G(0, a, 1, z) \mapsto a \otimes (1-a) \otimes z + a \otimes (1-a) \otimes (1-a) + \dots$$

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## ▶ Discontinuities from the symbol:

- Initial entries  $\leftrightarrow$  branch points   • Tails  $\leftrightarrow$  symbol of the discontinuity

$$\mathcal{S}[\text{Disc}_{z=1} \text{Li}_3(z)] = z \otimes z = \mathcal{S}\left[\frac{1}{2} \ln^2(z)\right]$$

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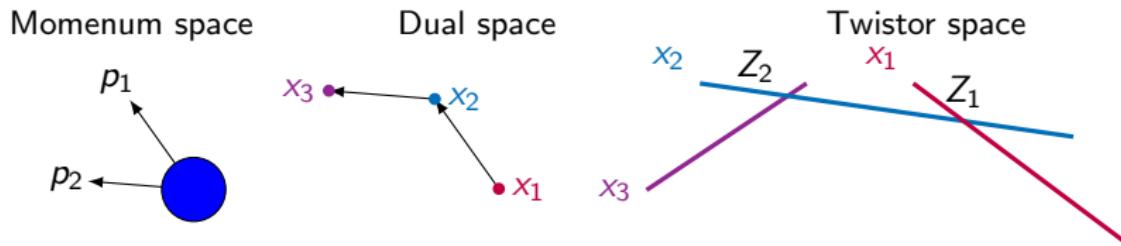
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**Symbol  $\rightarrow$  function much easier than loop integration**

# Kinematics in twistor space

Twistor space  $\mathbb{CP}_3$  The natural parametrisation of light-like kinematics

- Points in dual space  $\leftrightarrow$  lines in twistor space
- Intersecting lines in  $\mathbb{CP}_3 \leftrightarrow$  light-like separated dual points

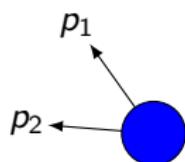


# Kinematics in twistor space

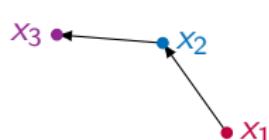
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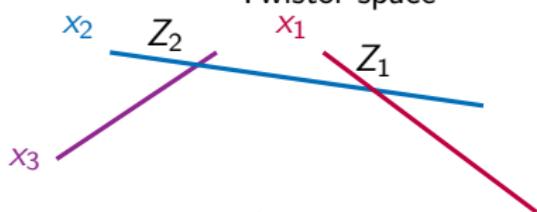
Momentum space



Dual space



Twistor space



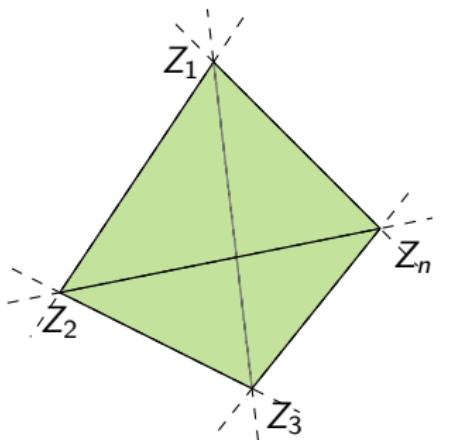
**Basic  $SL(4)$  invariants:**

Plücker coordinates

$$s_{12} = (p_1 + p_2)^2 = x_{13}^2 \sim \langle n123 \rangle$$

where

$$\langle n123 \rangle := \epsilon_{ABCD} Z_n^A Z_1^B Z_2^C Z_3^D$$

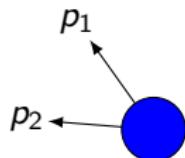


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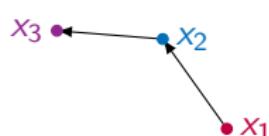
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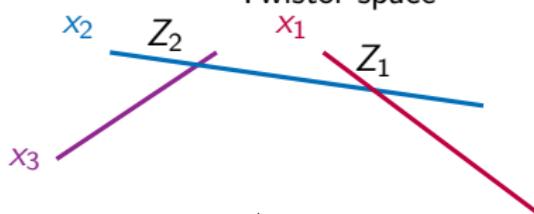
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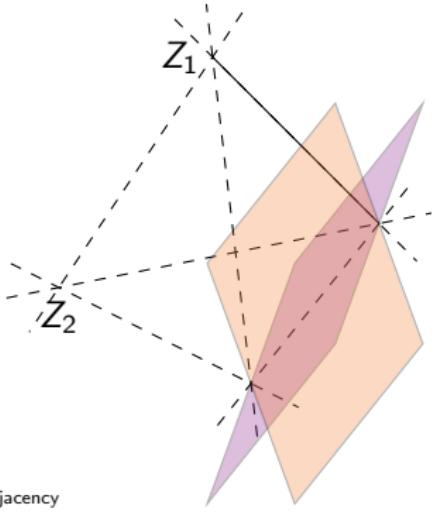
## Other invariants:

Eg constructed with two points and two planes  $\eta_1$  &  $\eta_2$ .

$$\eta_1 = Z_2 \wedge Z_3 \wedge Z_4, \eta_2 = Z_5 \wedge Z_6 \wedge Z_7$$

$$\langle n1 \eta_1 \cap \eta_2 \rangle$$

$$= \langle n234 \rangle \langle 1567 \rangle - \langle n567 \rangle \langle 1234 \rangle$$



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Several constraints on the symbol of  $E$ :

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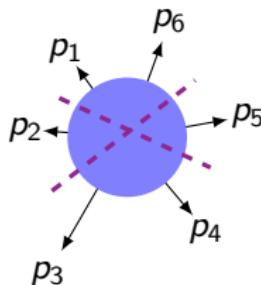
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**Bootstrap strategy:** Construct the symbol of  $E$  from all possible constraints on an **Ansatz**.

[Caron-Huot, Dixon, Drummond, Harrington, Henn, McLeod, Papathanasiou, Pennington, Spradlin, von Hippel]

Where are the branch points?

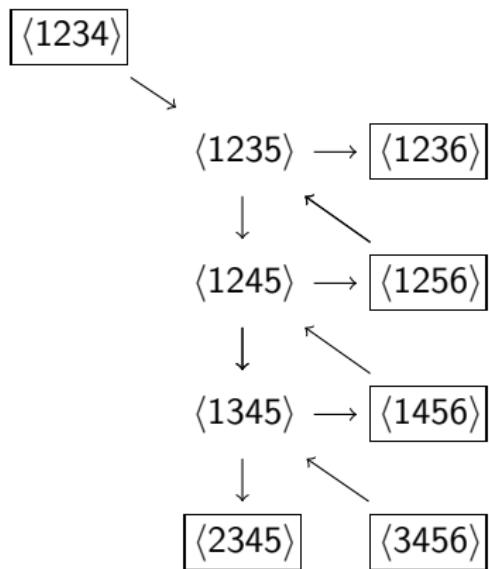
$\leadsto$

**Cluster Algebras**

# Branch points from $\text{Gr}(4, n)$ cluster algebras

[Fomin, Zelevinsky; Golden, Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich]

$\text{Gr}(4, 6)$  example: Six-particle scattering



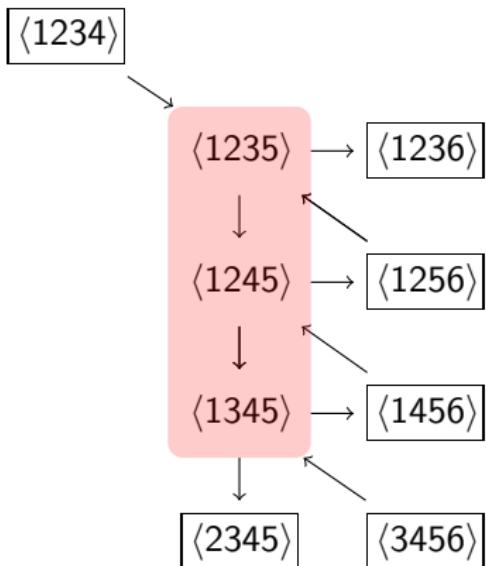
**Cluster:** Quiver diagram with nodes in  $\mathcal{A}$  and adjacency matrix  $b_{ij}$ .

**Nodes:** All-adjacent Plückers:  
**frozen**, others **active**

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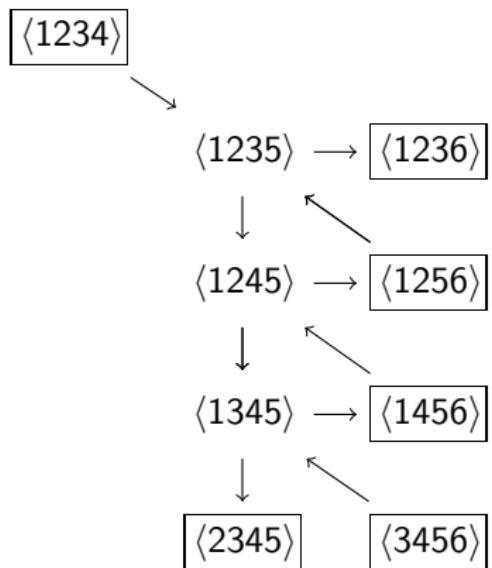
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**$A_3$ -type:** The active nodes are connected in an  $A_3$  Dynkin diagram

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**Mutations** “mutation on an active node” transform the cluster to a new one:

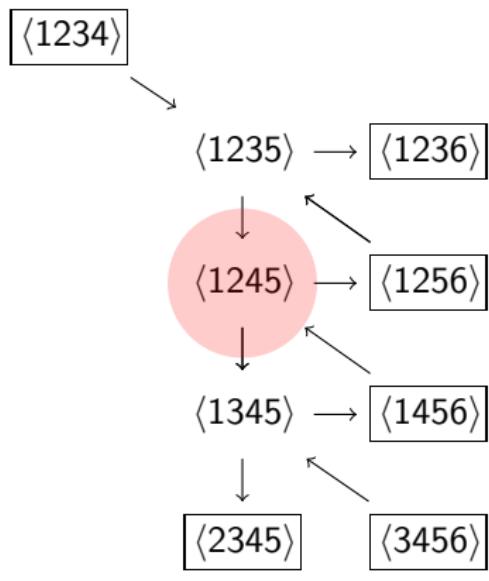
$$b'_{ij} = \begin{cases} -b_{ij} & k \in \{i, j\} \\ b_{ij} & b_{ik} b_{kj} \leq 0 \\ b_{ij} + b_{ik} b_{kj} & b_{ik} b_{kj} > 0 \\ b_{ij} - b_{ik} b_{kj} & b_{ik} b_{kj} < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$a'_k = \frac{1}{a_k} \left[ \prod_{i|b_{ik}>0} a_i^{b_{ik}} + \prod_{i|b_{ik}<0} a_i^{-b_{ik}} \right]$$

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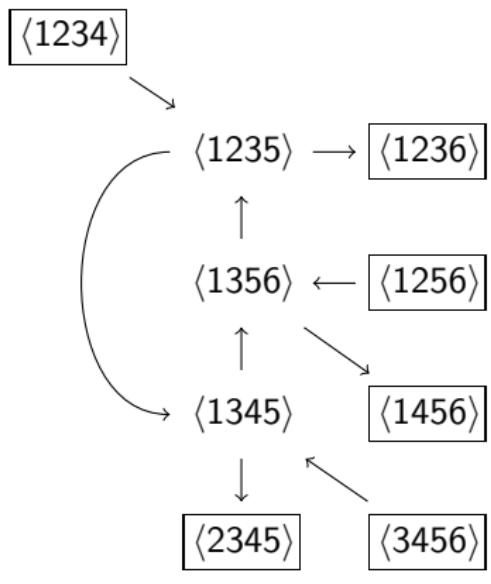
**Example** mutate the initial cluster on  $\langle 1245 \rangle$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle 1245 \rangle \\ \mapsto & \frac{\langle 1235 \rangle \langle 1456 \rangle - \langle 1256 \rangle \langle 1345 \rangle}{\langle 1245 \rangle} \\ & = \langle 1356 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

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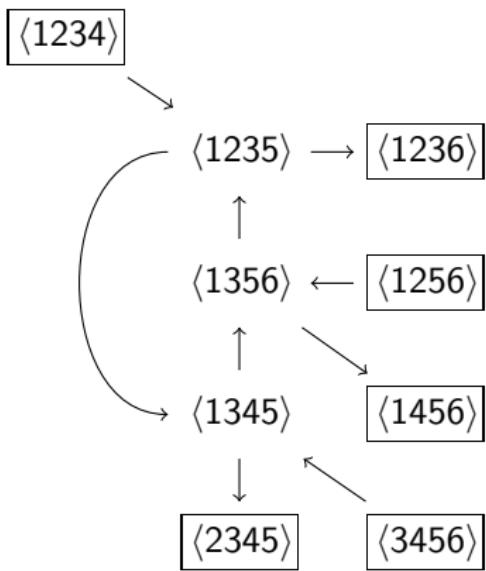
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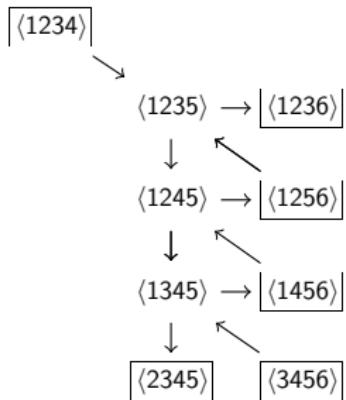
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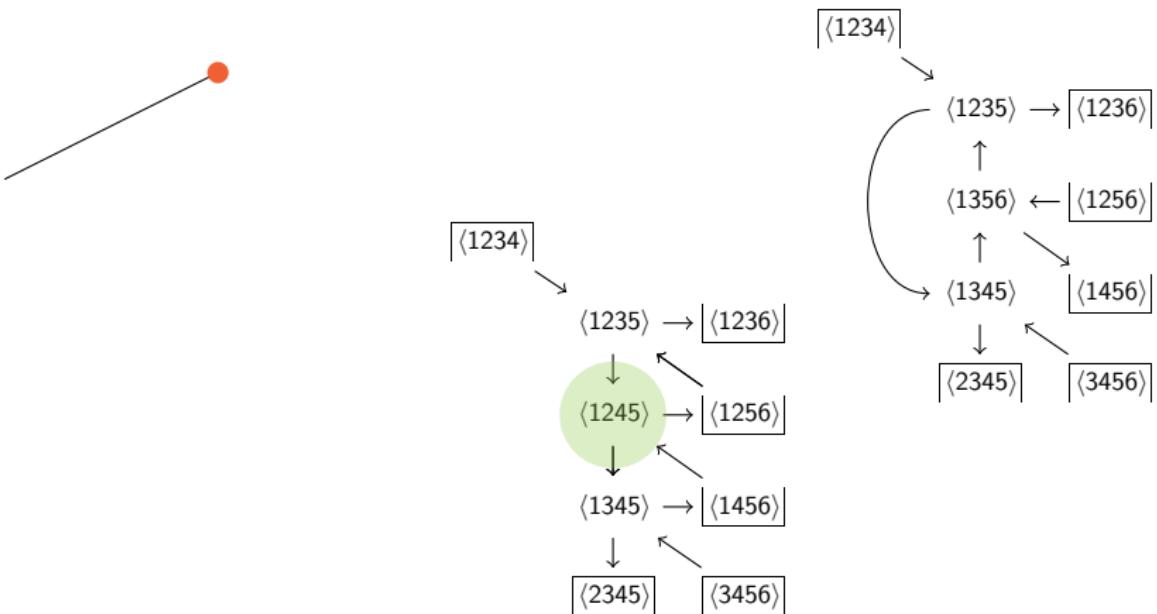
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- Mut's generate  $\binom{6}{4} = 15$  branch points
- $15 - 6 = 9$  homogeneous combinations, eg  $\{u, v, w, 1-u, 1-v, 1-w, y_u, y_v, y_w\}$

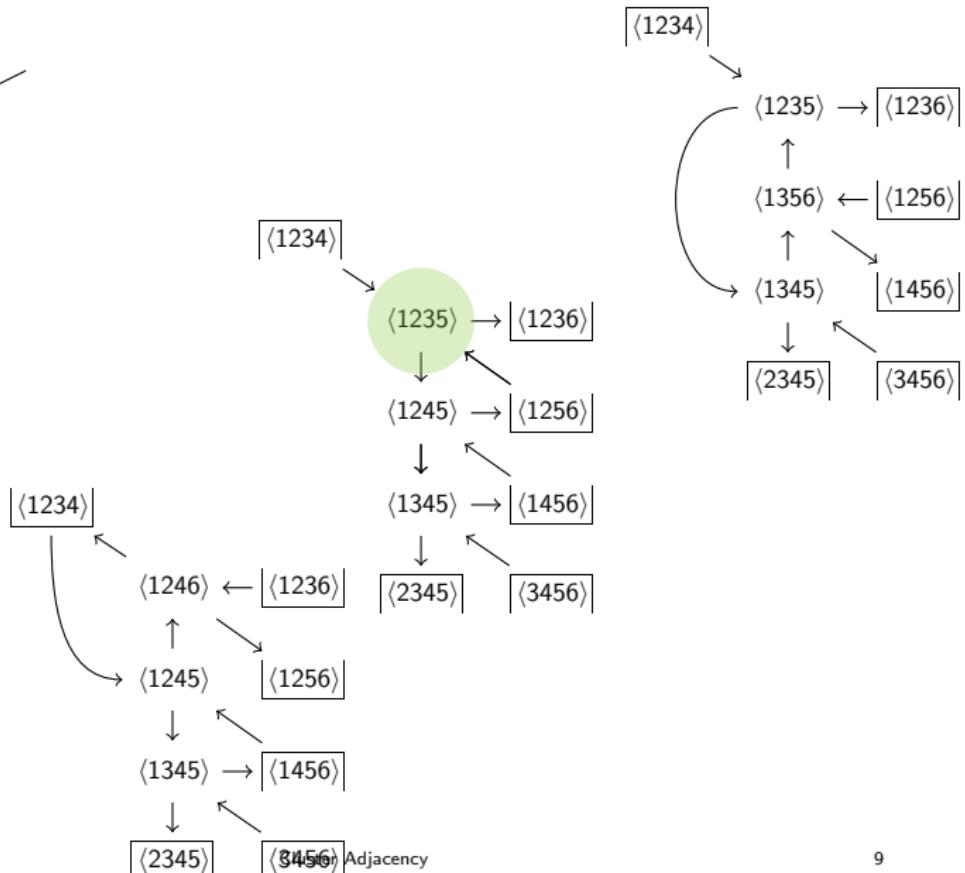
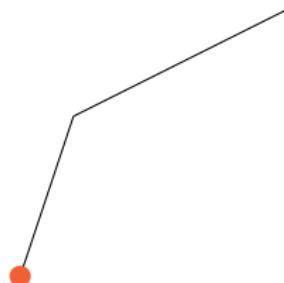
# The $\text{Gr}(4, 6) \cong A_3$ / Stasheff polytope



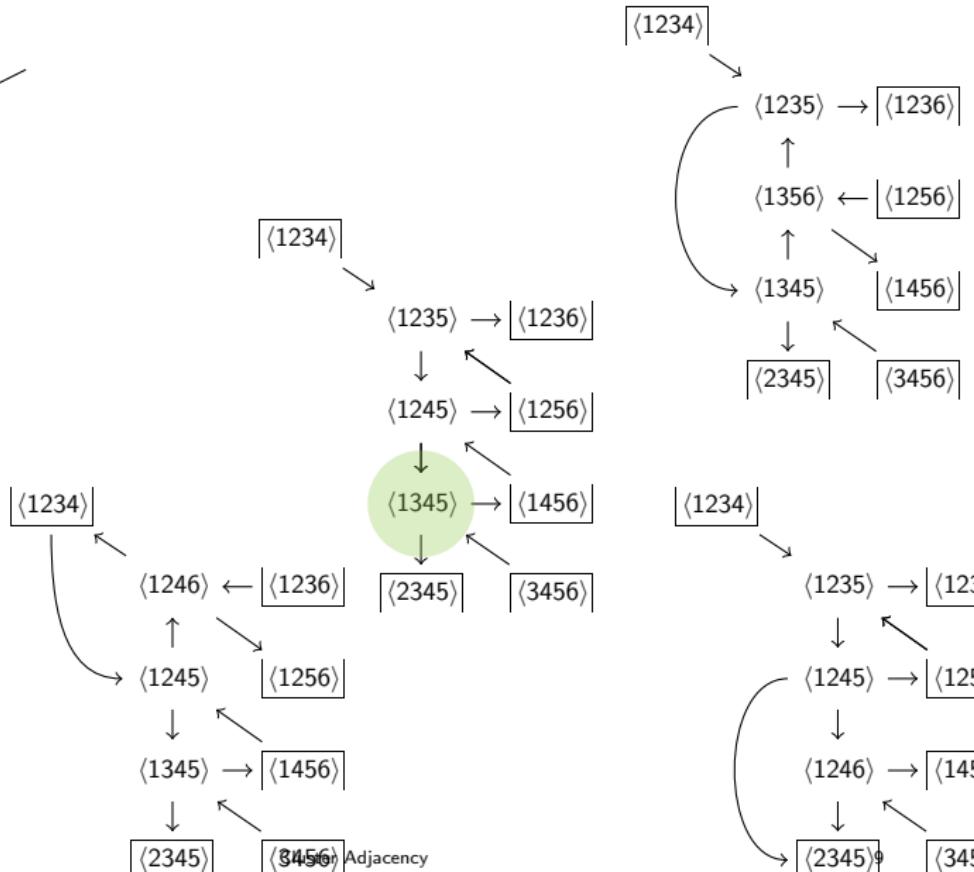
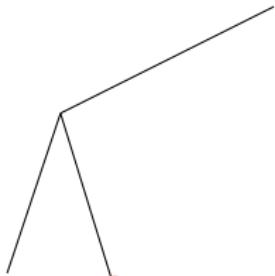
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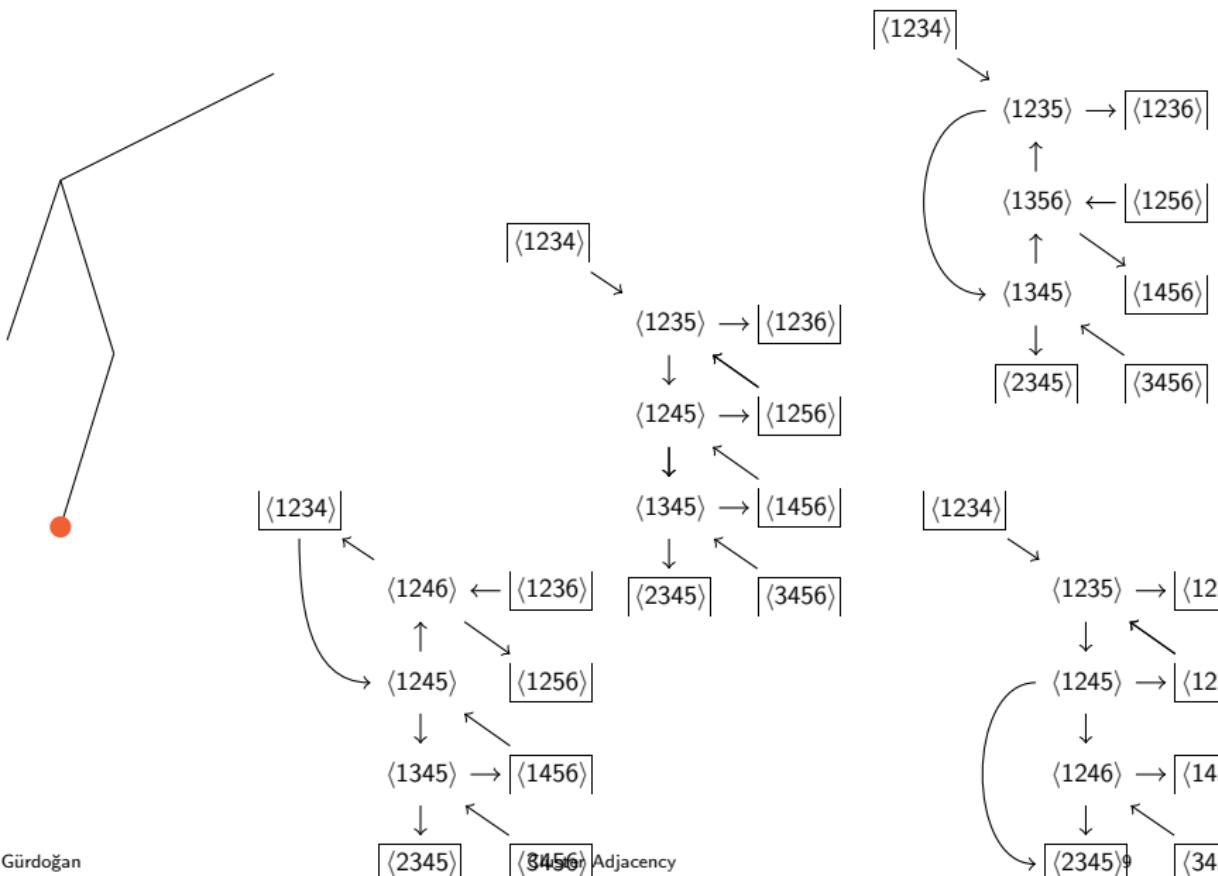
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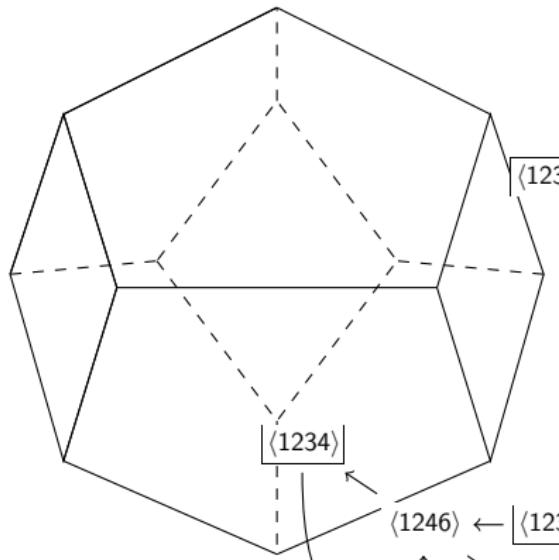
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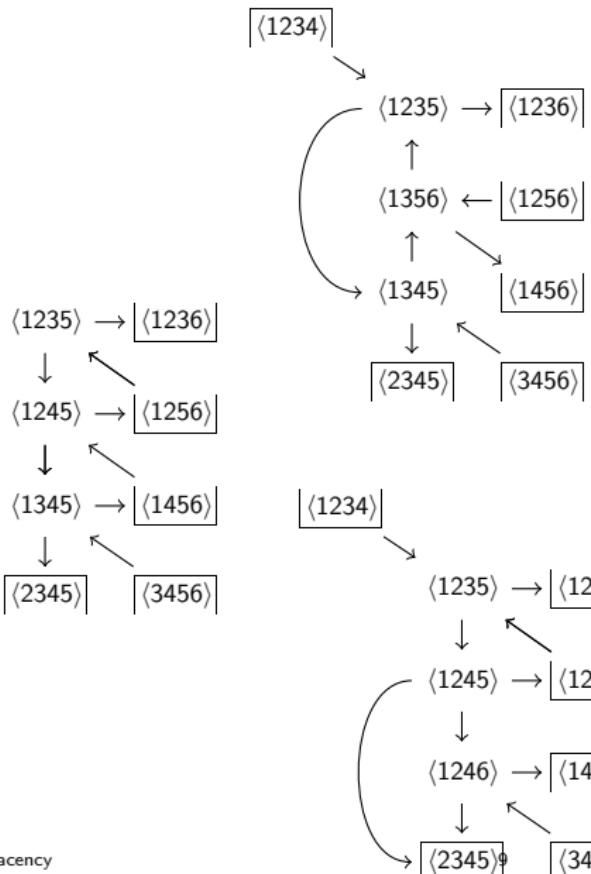
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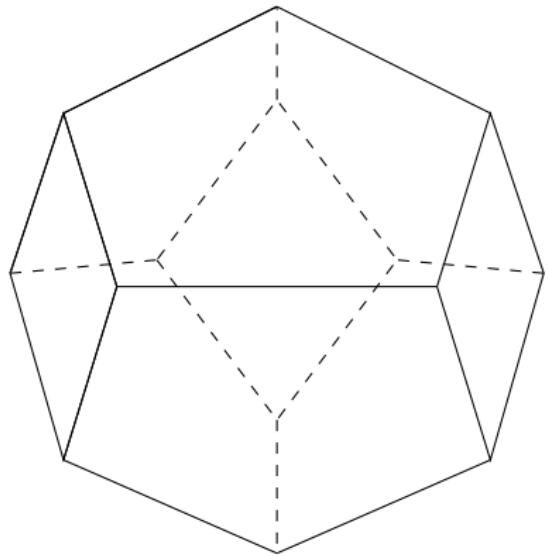
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$\langle 2345 \rangle$   $\langle 3456 \rangle$  Adjacency



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## The associahedron

The mutations of clusters close on a polytope.

# Status of (Steinmann) Cluster bootstrap

7					
6		✓	✓		
5		✓	✓		
4	BDS	✓	✓	✓	
3		✓	✓	✓	✓
2		✓	✓	✓	✓
1		✓	✓	✓	✓
		MHV	NMHV	MHV	NMHV
n	4,5	6		7	

Very high in loop level

but

constrained by linear  
algebra technology

✓: Function, ✅: Symbol comp.

[Caron-Huot, Dixon, Drummond, Harrington, Henn, McLeod, Papathanasiou, Pennington, Spradlin, von Hippel]

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**Aim:** Write down amplitudes without any calculation.

**Good start:** Knowledge of initial ( $\sim$  branch cuts) & final entries

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LOOPS	BDS	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
n	4,5	6	6	7	7	7	7	7

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**Useful:** Knowing what we cannot write  $\leadsto$  **Cluster Adjacency**

# Cluster Adjacency

Consecutive branch points of scattering amplitudes must appear in the same cluster.

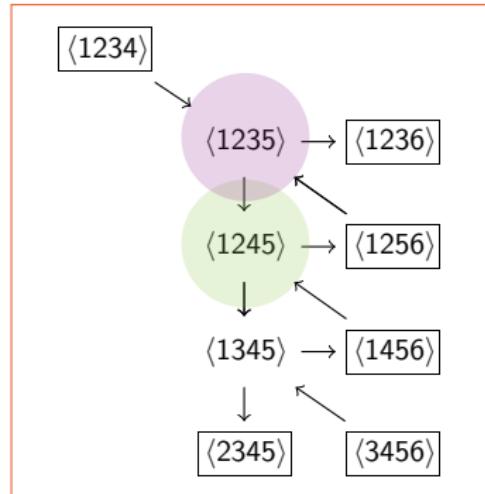
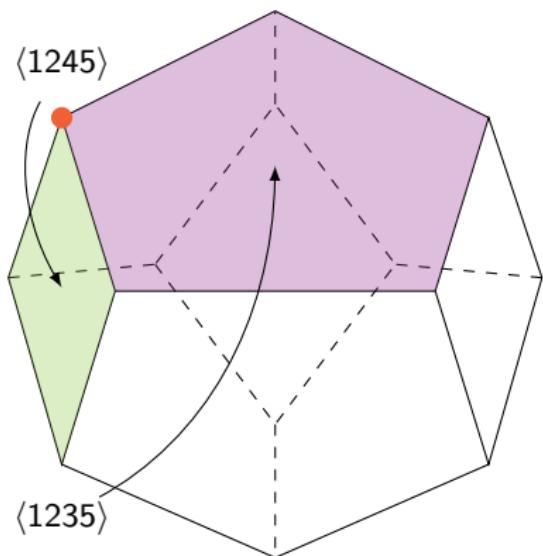
[Drummond, Foster, ÖCG]

A **geometric** principle governing the analytic structure of scattering amplitudes

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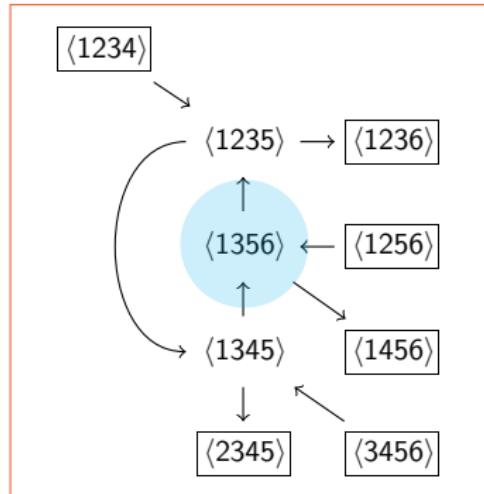
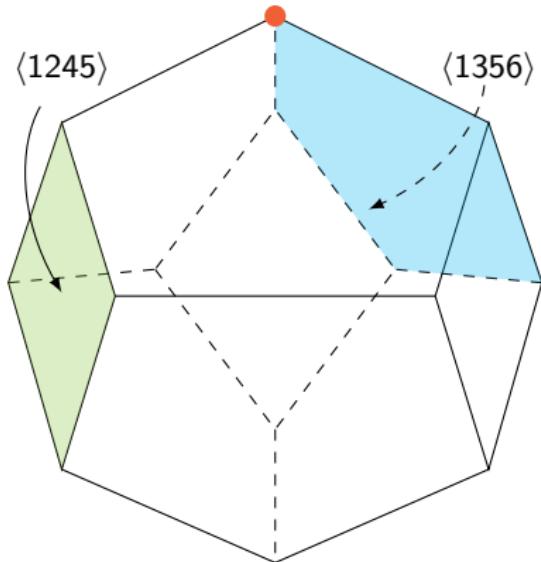
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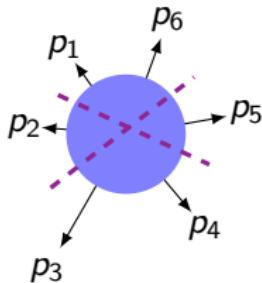
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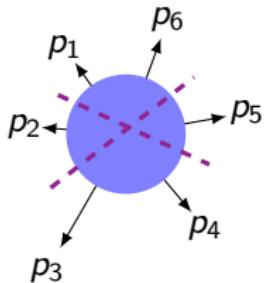
Brackets in overlapping invariants mutate to each other:

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- ▶ Various **further relations**

shorthand:

$$(12) = \langle 3456 \rangle$$

etc

(12) : Frozen, adjacent to anything

(13) :  $\{(13), (14), (15), (35), (36)\}$ , & frozen

(14) :  $\{(13), (14), (15), (24)\}$ , & frozen

# The heptagon: $\text{Gr}(4, 7) \cong E_6$

odd  $n$ : homogenise active nodes with frozen-adjacent Plückers and ignore latter

$$a_{11} = \frac{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 1567 \rangle \langle 2367 \rangle}{\langle 1237 \rangle \langle 1267 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle}$$

$$a_{51} = \frac{\langle 1(23)(45)(67) \rangle}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 1567 \rangle}$$

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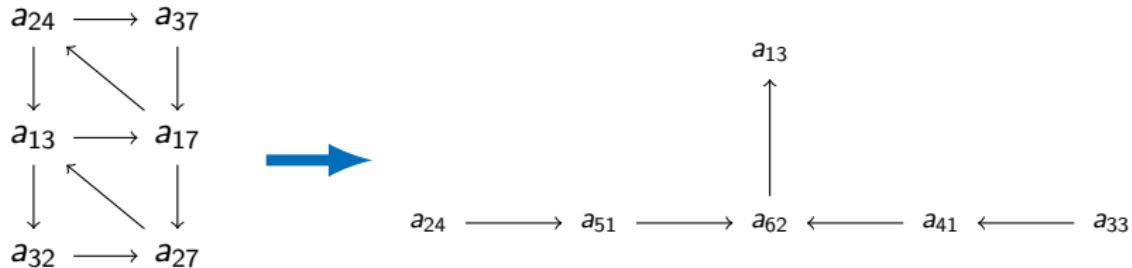
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$$a_{61} = \frac{\langle 1(34)(56)(72) \rangle}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 1567 \rangle}$$

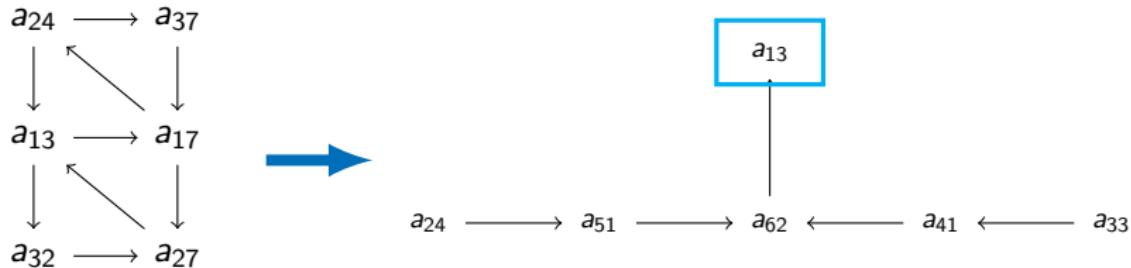
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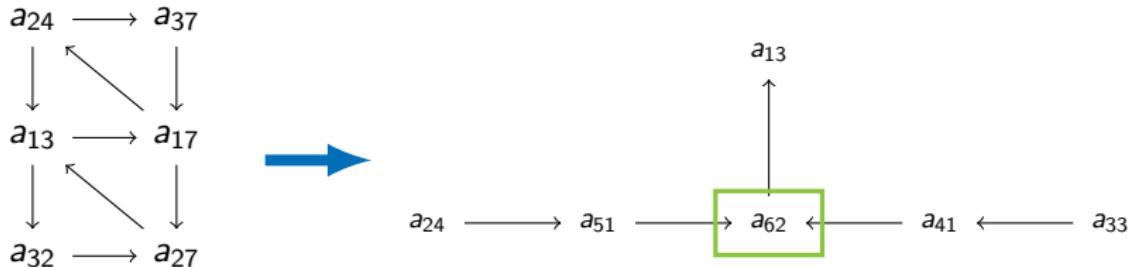
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$A_5$  subalgebra: 20 + 1 neighbours

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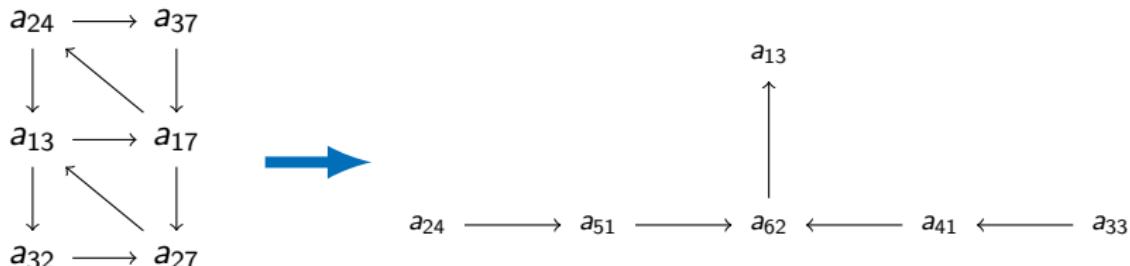
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$A_2 \times A_2 \times A_1$  subalgebra:  $(5+5+2)+1$  neighbours

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	$a_{1i}$	$a_{2i}$	$a_{3i}$	$a_{4i}$	$a_{5i}$	$a_{6i}$
$a_{11}$	● ○ ○ ◆ ♦ ○ ○	◆ ♦ ○ ● ◆ ● ○	◆ ○ ● ◆ ● ○ ◆	● ○ ◆ ○ ○ ◆ ○	● ○ ◆ ○ ○ ◆ ○	◆ ♦ ○ ○ ○ ○ ◆
$a_{21}$	◆ ○ ● ◆ ● ○ ◆	● ○ ● ◆ ● ○ ◆	◆ ○ ◆ ○ ◆ ● ○	◆ ○ ◆ ○ ◆ ● ○	○ ◆ ● ○ ◆ ○ ◆	○ ◆ ○ ○ ● ○ ◆
$a_{31}$	◆ ◆ ○ ● ◆ ● ○	◆ ● ◆ ○ ◆ ○ ◆	● ○ ● ◆ ● ○ ◆	◆ ○ ◆ ● ○ ◆ ○	○ ◆ ○ ◆ ● ○ ◆	○ ○ ◆ ○ ● ○ ◆
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$a_{61}$	◊ ◆ ○ ○ ○ ○ ◆	○ ○ ◆ ○ ○ ● ◆	○ ◆ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○	◊ ◆ ◆ ○ ○ ○ ○ ◆	◊ ◆ ◆ ○ ○ ○ ○ ◆	● ◆ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

The adjacency table for  $\text{Gr}(4, 7)$  branch points

◊: non-neighbour, ○: mutation non-neighbour,

◆: connected neighbour, ●: disconnected neighbour

# Some consequences of Cluster Adjacency

## ► Smaller function spaces

Weight	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Hexagon:												
CA	6	13	26	51	98	184	340	613	1085	1887	3224	5431	9014
St	6	13	27	54	106	207	405	796	1572	3117	6199	12354	24654
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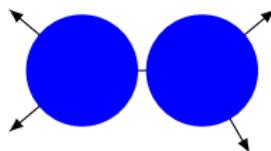
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## ► Smaller Ansätze for functions of weight- $k$ :

$$f^{(k)} = \sum c_{i\alpha} f_i^{(k-1)} \otimes \phi_\alpha, \quad \phi_\alpha \in \mathcal{A} \quad (1)$$

Only  $f_i^{(k-1)}$  ending with neighbours of  $\phi_\alpha$  needed in the coproduct.

# Tree amplitudes



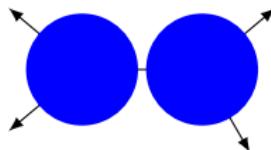
**BCFW** recursion of tree amplitudes via factorisation on physical poles.

**NMHV:**  $\mathcal{A}^{\text{NMHV}} = \sum_{2 < i < j \leq n} [1\ i - 1\ i\ j - 1\ j]$ , where

$$[abcde] = \frac{\delta(\langle abcd \rangle \chi_e + \text{cyclic})}{\langle abcd \rangle \langle abce \rangle \langle abde \rangle \langle acde \rangle \langle bcde \rangle} \quad \ni \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{physical} \\ \text{spurious poles} \end{array}$$

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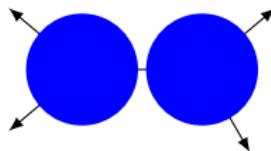
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Poles of BCFW terms are cluster neighbours!

[Drummond, Foster, ÖCG]

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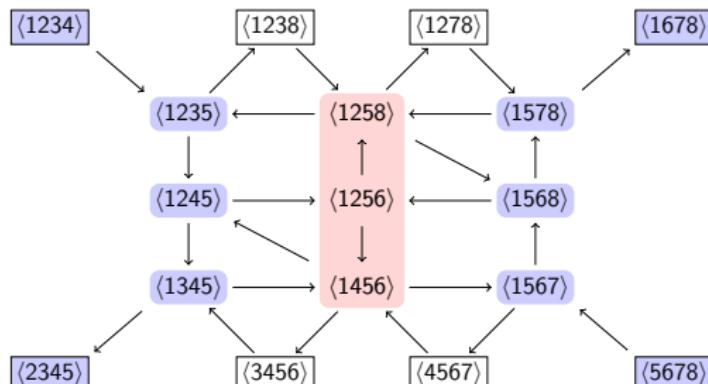


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# NMHV loop amplitudes

- Expansion in R-invariants:  $E = \sum [abcde] f_{abcde}$
- Rational R-invariants CA poles  
in Plücker
- Polylog coefficient functions  
CA branch cuts
- Dual superconformal symmetry:  
 $\bar{Q}$  equation  $\Rightarrow$  final entries of  $f \leftrightarrow [\dots]$
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- The diagram illustrates the decomposition of an NMHV loop amplitude  $E$ . It shows a sum of terms  $[abcde] f_{abcde}$ , where each term is a rational R-invariant (CA pole) multiplied by a polylog coefficient function (CA branch cut). Arrows point from the text labels to the corresponding parts of the formula. Below this, the concept of dual superconformal symmetry is introduced, showing that the final entries of the function  $f$  are related by a symmetry, indicated by a double-headed arrow between  $f$  and  $[\dots]$ .

# NMHV loop amplitudes

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- The diagram illustrates the decomposition of the NMHV loop amplitude  $E$ . It starts with a sum over R-invariants  $[abcde]$ , which are further divided into Rational R-invariants CA poles in Plücker coordinates and Polylog coefficient functions CA branch cuts. These components then feed into the expression for  $f$ .
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$\bar{Q}$  final entries of NMHV coefficient functions are cluster compatible with the R-invariants.

# NMHV Heptagon up to 4 loops

[Drummond, Foster, OCG, Papathanasiou]

Three types of R-invariants for 7-particles

$$E_7 = (12) f_{(12)} + (13) f_{(13)} + (14) f_{(14)} + \text{cyclic}, \quad (12) = [34567] \text{ etc}$$

$\bar{Q}$  - compatible final entries in CA form:

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- Neighbour set of  $(ij)$  =  $\bigcap_{a \in \text{poles of } (ij)}$  neighbour sets of  $a$ .

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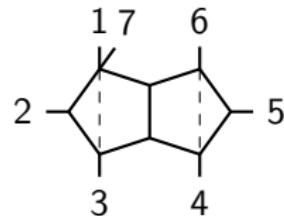
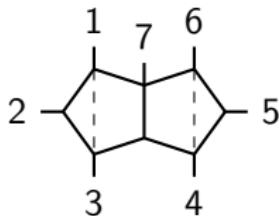
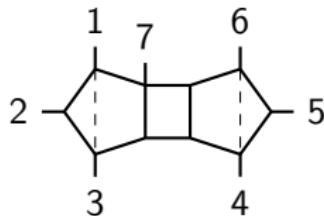
**Cluster-adjacent** Ansatz for the  $\{k-1, 1\}$  coproduct of  $f_{(ij)}$ : (17,490 coeffs @ 4 loops with partial reflection symmetry implemented)

- ▶ Integrability of  $f_{(ij)}$  ( $\curvearrowleft$  56 coefficients @ 4 loops)
  - ▶  $E_7$  free of spurious poles ( $\curvearrowleft$  5 coefficients @ 4 loops)
  - ▶  $E_7$  finite in the collinear limit
- ✓ Fixes the 4-loop NMHV Heptagon

# Beyond $\mathcal{N} = 4$ super Yang-Mills

Individual integrals satisfy cluster adjacency

[Drummond, Foster, ÖCG]

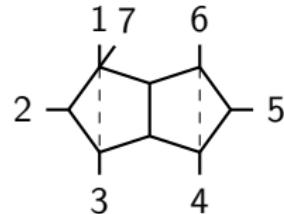
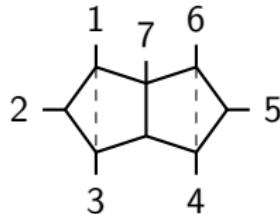
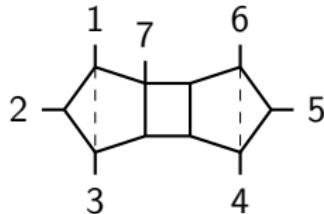


- ▶ **Finite integrals** due to  $i - - - j$  numerators
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- ▶ Exhibit cluster adjacency **individually**

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- ▶ Branch cuts given by  $\text{Gr}(4, n)$  cluster algebras
- ▶ Exhibit cluster adjacency **individually**
  
- ▶ Other integrals known to obey Steinmann relations and  $\exists$  evidence for more.  $\leadsto$  **cluster interpretation?**

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Can **only** come in the form  $\dots a \otimes X \otimes a' \dots$ , where

$$X = \prod_{\phi \in \text{nodes}} \phi^{b_{\phi a}}$$

e.g.

$$n_2 \longrightarrow a \xrightarrow{n_1} n_4 \quad \Rightarrow \quad X(a) = \frac{n_1 n_2}{n_3 n_4}$$

**NB:**  $X(a)$  is independent of the cluster.

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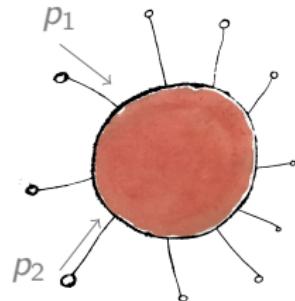
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**Thank You!**