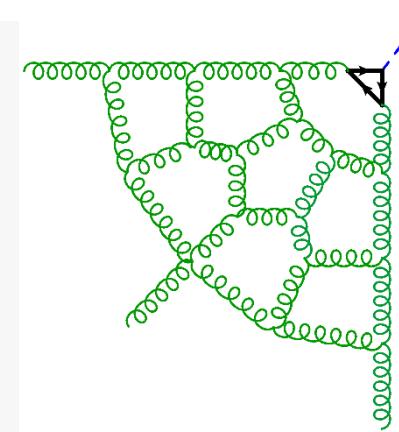
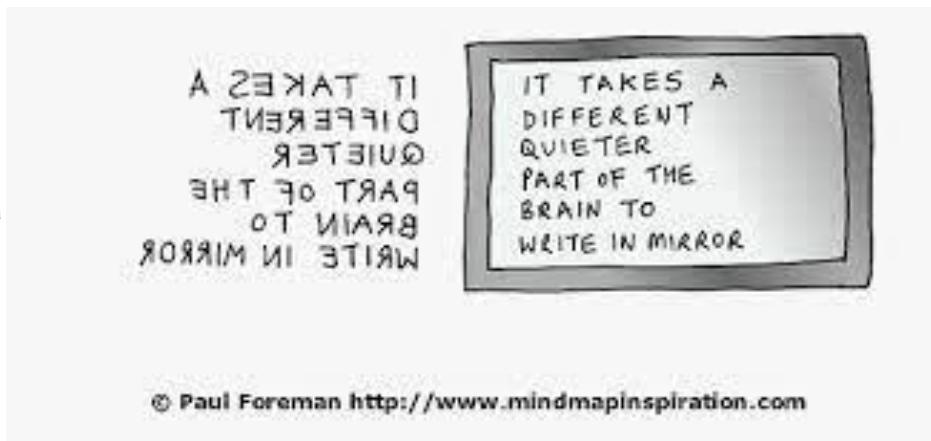
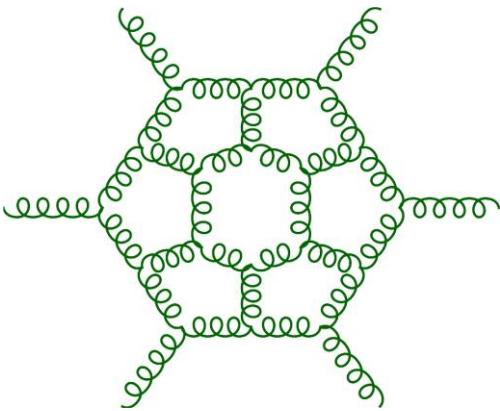


# Scattering Amplitudes in Maximally Supersymmetric Gauge Theory and a New Duality



Lance Dixon (SLAC)

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

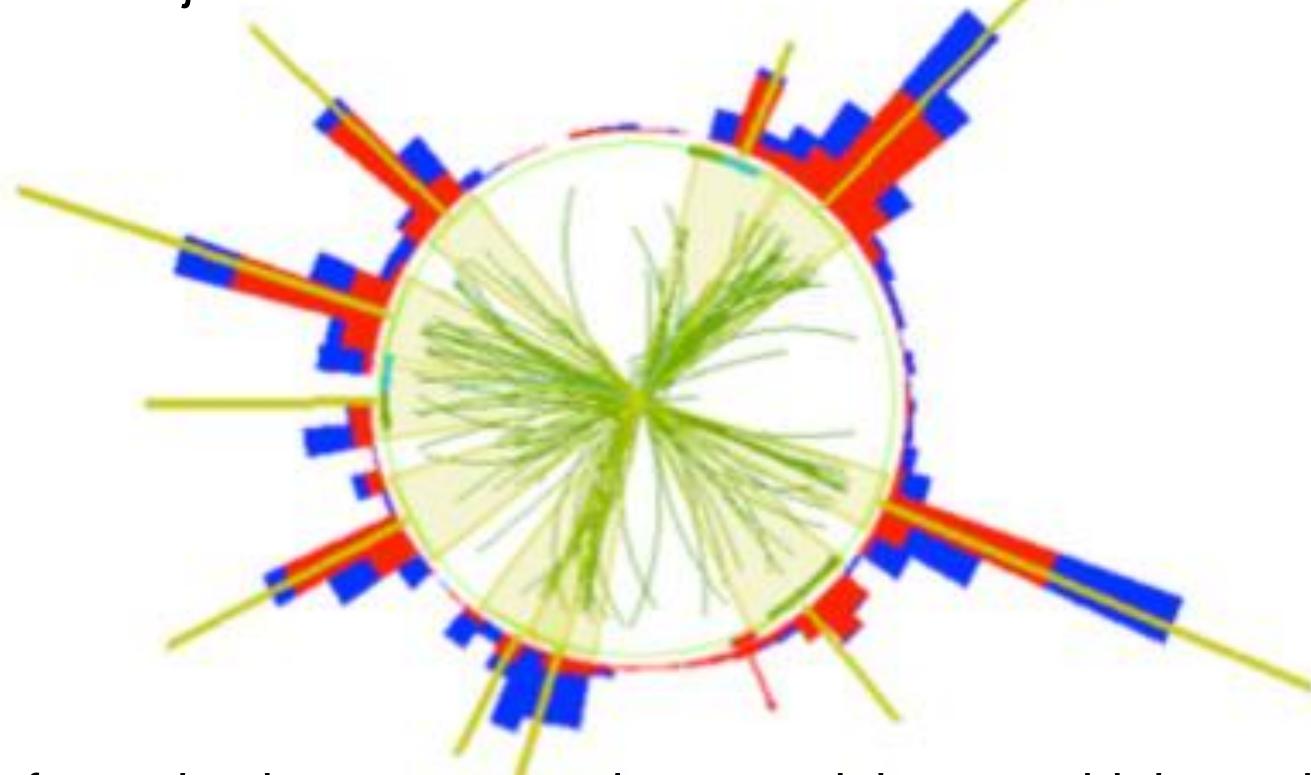
GGI Tea Break  
9 February 2022



CMS Experiment at LHC, CERN  
Data recorded: Mon Oct 25 05:47:22 2010 CDT  
Run/Event: 148864 / 592770996  
Lumi section: 520  
Orbit/Crossing: 136152948 / 1594

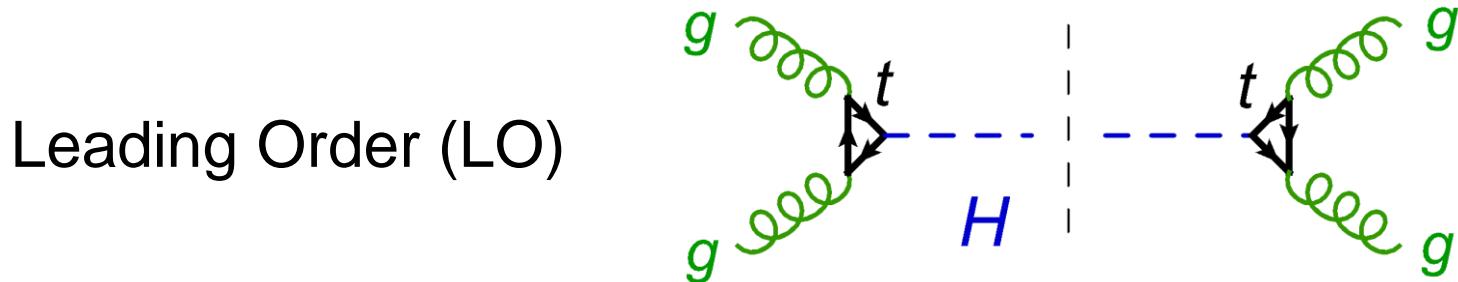
# LHC is a QCD Machine

- Copious production of quarks and gluons which materialize as collimated jets of hadrons



- Confrontation between experiment and theory at high precision requires taking into account **higher order corrections** in the **strong coupling  $\alpha_s$**

# Example: Total cross section for producing Higgs boson at LHC via gluon fusion



- Higgs production at LHC is dominantly via gluon fusion, mediated by a top quark loop.
- Since  $2m_{top} = 350 \text{ GeV}$   
 $\gg m_{Higgs} = 125 \text{ GeV}$ , we can integrate out the top quark to get a leading operator  $H G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{\mu\nu a}$

# Perturbative Short-Distance Cross Section

$$\hat{\sigma}(\alpha_s, \mu_F, \mu_R) = [\alpha_s(\mu_R)]^{n_\alpha} \left[ \hat{\sigma}^{(0)} + \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \hat{\sigma}^{(1)}(\mu_F, \mu_R) + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi}\right)^2 \hat{\sigma}^{(2)}(\mu_F, \mu_R) + \dots \right]$$

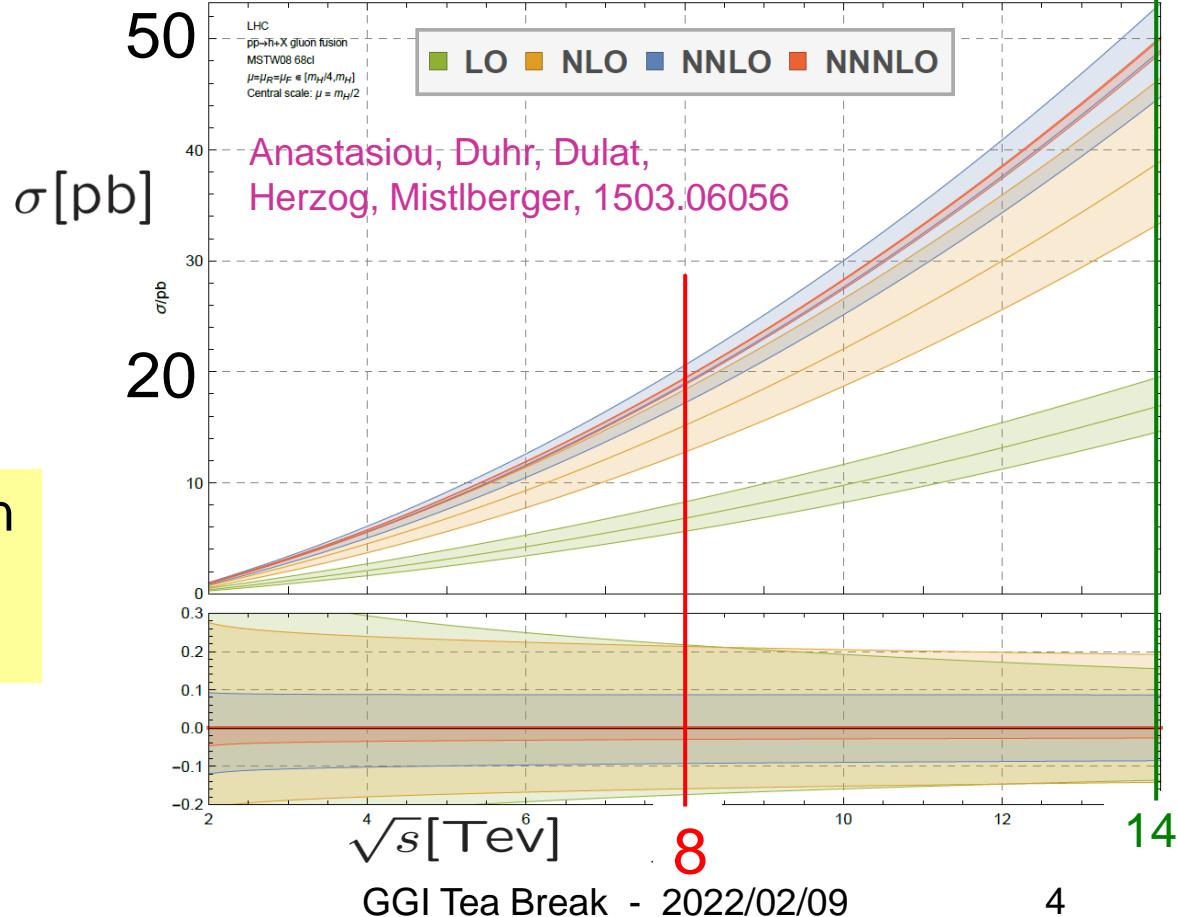
LO                    NLO                    NNLO

Leading-order (LO)  
predictions **qualitative:**  
**poor convergence**

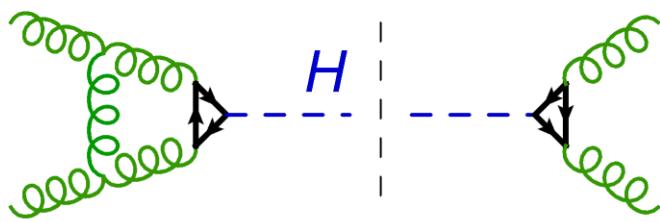
of expansion in  $\alpha_s(\mu)$   
Uncertainty bands from  
varying  $\mu_R = \mu_F = \mu$

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

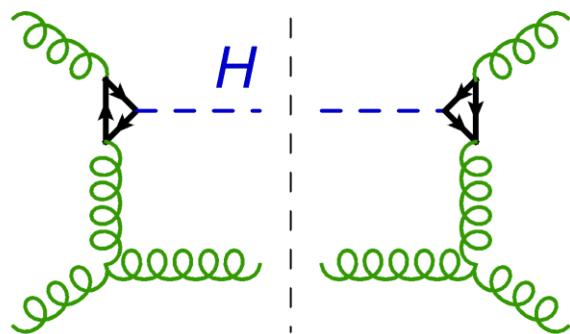
LO  $\rightarrow$  NNNLO  
 $\rightarrow$  factor of 2.7 increase!



# NLO QCD topologies

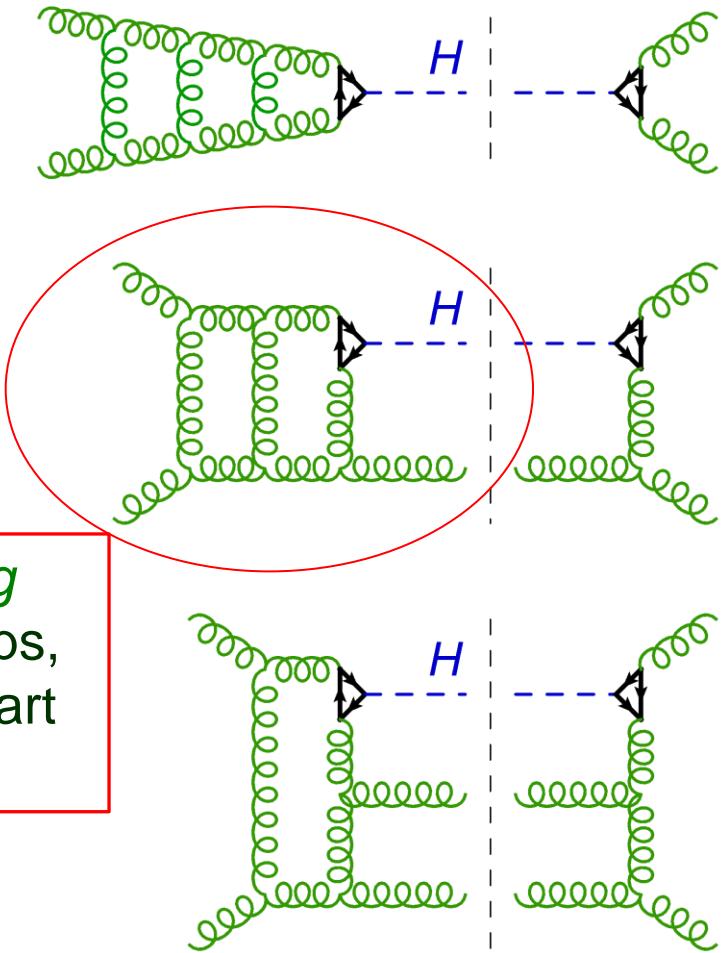


virtual  $gg \rightarrow H$

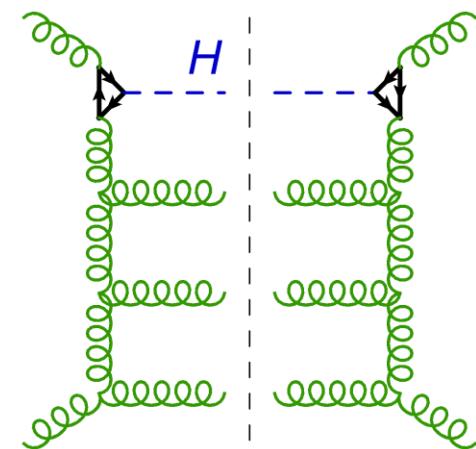


real,  $gg \rightarrow Hg$

# NNNLO QCD topologies



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



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

# Multi-loop complexities

- Multi-loop multiscale integrals typically very difficult to evaluate
- All 1 loop integrals with external legs in D=4 are reducible to scalar box integrals + simpler → combinations of + simpler

$$\text{Li}_2(x) = - \int_0^x \frac{dt}{t} \ln(1-t)$$

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

- At  $L$  loops, special functions with up to  $2L$  integrations  
Hannesdottir, McLeod, Schwartz, Vergu, 2109.09744
- Weight  $2L$  iterated integrals, generalized polylogarithms, or worse

# Planar N=4 SYM, toy model for QCD amplitudes

- QCD's maximally supersymmetric cousin, N=4 super-Yang-Mills theory (SYM), gauge group  $SU(N_c)$ , in the large  $N_c$  (planar) limit
- Structure very rigid:  
$$\text{Amplitudes} = \sum_i \text{rational}_i \times \text{transcendental}_i$$
- For planar N=4 SYM, we understand rational structure quite well, focus on the transcendental functions.
- Furthermore, at least three dualities hold:
  1. AdS/CFT
  2. Amplitudes dual to Wilson loops
  3. New “antipodal” duality between amplitudes and form factors

# Finite radius of convergence

- Planar N=4 SYM has no renormalons ( $\beta(g) = 0$ ) and no instantons ( $e^{-1/g_{\text{YM}}^2} = e^{-N_c/\lambda}$ )
- Its perturbative expansion can have a finite radius of convergence, unlike QCD, QED, whose perturbative series are asymptotic.
- For cusp anomalous dimension, using coupling

$$g^2 \equiv \frac{N_c g_{\text{YM}}^2}{16\pi^2} = \frac{\lambda}{16\pi^2}, \quad \text{the radius is } \frac{1}{16}$$

Beisert, Eden, Staudacher (BES), 0610251

- Ratio of successive loop orders  $\frac{\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}^{(L)}}{\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}^{(L-1)}} \rightarrow -16$
- See same radius of convergence in high-loop-order behavior of amplitudes and form factors, in suitable kinematic regions.

# N=4 SYM particle content

Brink, Schwarz, Scherk; Gliozzi, Scherk, Olive (1977)

*massless spin 1 gluon*   
*4 massless spin 1/2 gluinos*   
*6 massless spin 0 scalars* 

$G = SU(N_c)$

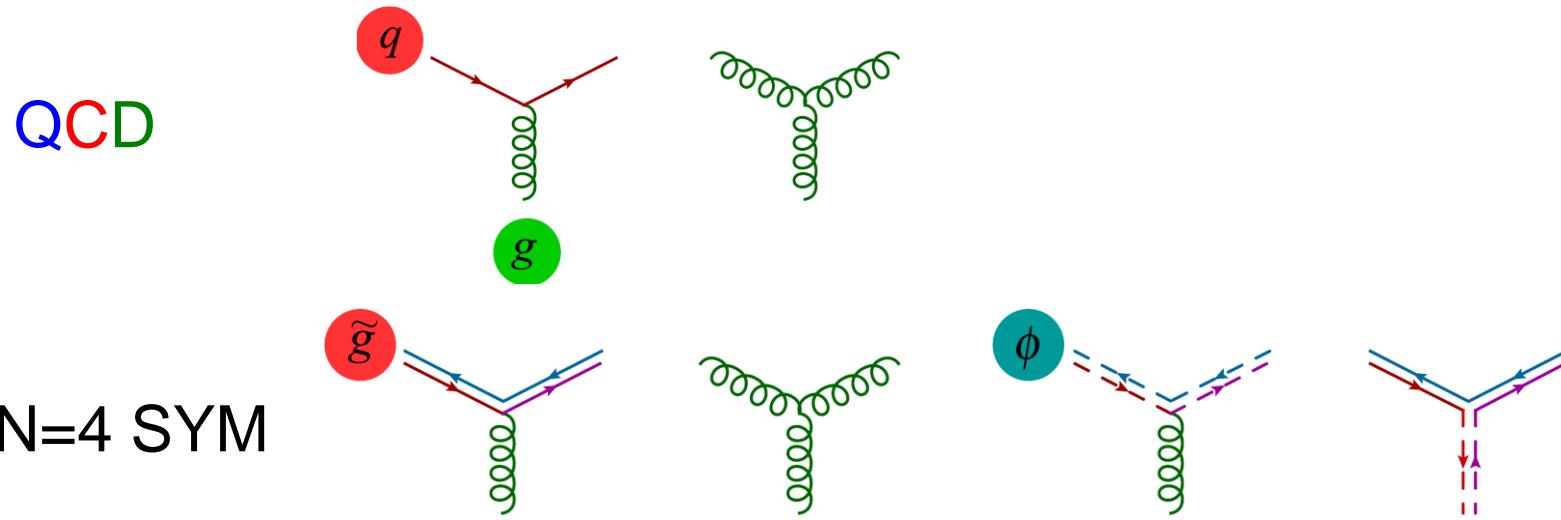
SUSY  
 $Q_a, a=1,2,3,4$   
shifts helicity  
by 1/2  $\longleftrightarrow$

$\mathcal{N} = 4$	1	$\longleftrightarrow$	4	$\longleftrightarrow$	6	$\longleftrightarrow$	4	$\longleftrightarrow$	1
	$g^-$		$\lambda_{\bar{i}}^-$		$\bar{\phi}_{i\bar{j}}, \phi_{ij}$		$\lambda_i^+$		$g^+$
helicity	-1		$-\frac{1}{2}$		0		$\frac{1}{2}$		1

all in adjoint representation of  $G$

# QCD vs. N=4 SYM

- QCD has **gluons** and **quarks** in fundamental rep. of  $SU(N_c)$
- Replace **quarks** with 4 copies of fermions in adjoint rep. (**gluinos**) and add 6 real adjoint **scalars**
- Feynman vertices:

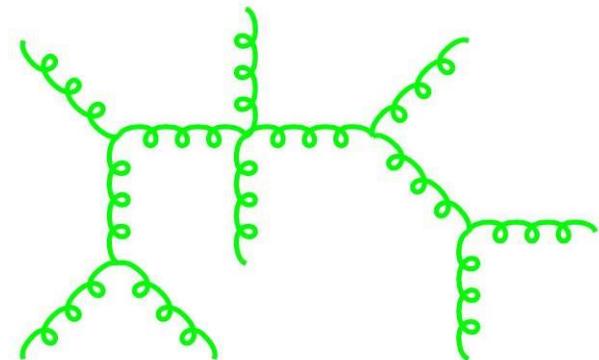
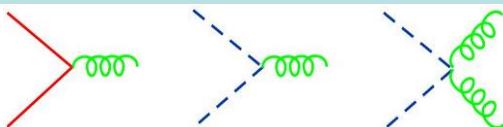


# QCD vs. N=4 SYM at tree level

At tree-level essentially identical

Consider a tree amplitude for  $n$  gluons.

Fermions and scalars cannot appear because they are produced in pairs



Hence the amplitude is the same in QCD and N=4 SYM.

The QCD tree amplitude “secretly” obeys all identities of N=4 supersymmetry:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Diagram A} & = & \text{Diagram B} \\ \text{A red oval with a vertical dot inside, surrounded by four green wavy gluon lines with '+' signs at the ends.} & = & \text{A red oval with a vertical dot inside, surrounded by four green wavy gluon lines with '+' signs at the top and '-' signs at the bottom.} \end{array}$$

$$\frac{1}{\langle ij \rangle^4} \times \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram C} \\ \text{A red oval with a vertical dot inside, surrounded by four green wavy gluon lines with '+' signs at the top and '-' signs at the bottom.} \end{array} \quad \text{independent of } i, j$$

No longer true at quantum (loop) level

# N=4 SYM very special

- At one loop, cancellation of loop momenta in numerator  
→ only scalar box integrals

Bern, LD, Dunbar, Kosower, hep-ph/9403226

- Weight 2 functions – dilogs. E.g.,  $gg \rightarrow Hg$  @ 1 loop ⊃

$$\text{Diagram: } H \text{ (top), } g_1 \text{ (top-right), } g_3 \text{ (bottom-left), } g_2 \text{ (bottom-right)} = \text{Li}_2\left(1 - \frac{s_{123}}{s_{12}}\right) + \text{Li}_2\left(1 - \frac{s_{123}}{s_{23}}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \ln^2\left(\frac{s_{12}}{s_{23}}\right) + \dots$$

- QCD results also contain single log's and rational parts from (tensor) triangle + bubble integrals

$$\text{Diagram: } \text{Triangle with legs } 1, 2, 3 \text{ meeting at a vertex.} \quad \text{Diagram: } \text{Bubble with legs } 1, 2, 3 \text{ meeting at a vertex.} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} - \ln(s_{123})$$

# Higher loops

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

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

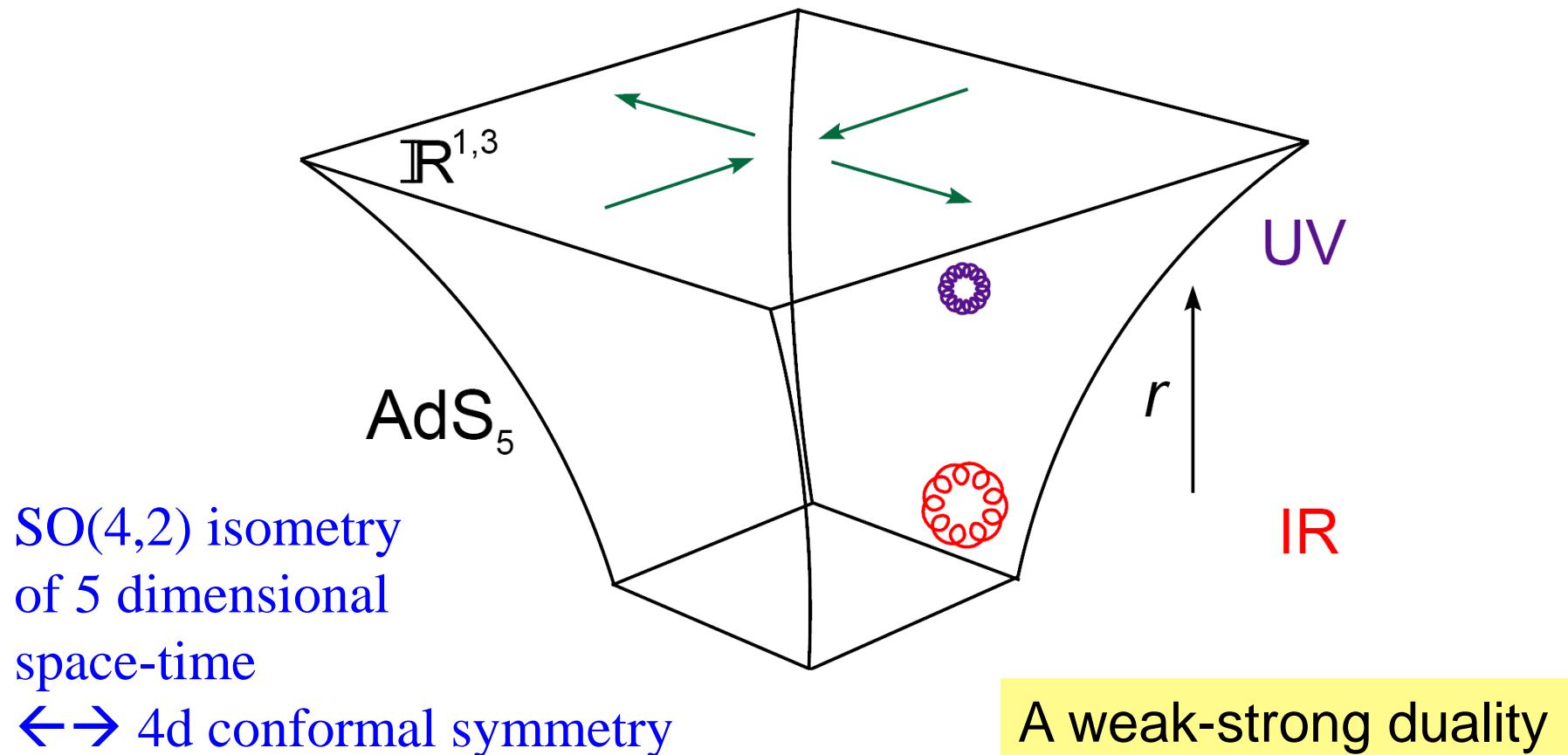
$$\text{Li}_2(x) = - \int_0^x \frac{dt}{t} \ln(1-t) = \int_0^x d\ln t \cdot [-\ln(1-t)] \quad 2$$

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

# AdS/CFT

Maldacena (1997)

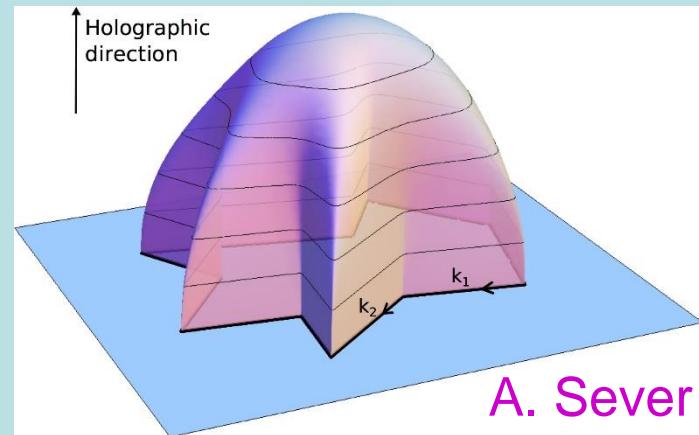
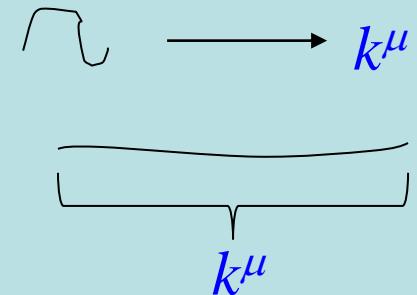
Conformal field theory (like N=4 SYM) is dual to a theory of gravity in anti-de Sitter space (like strings in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$ )



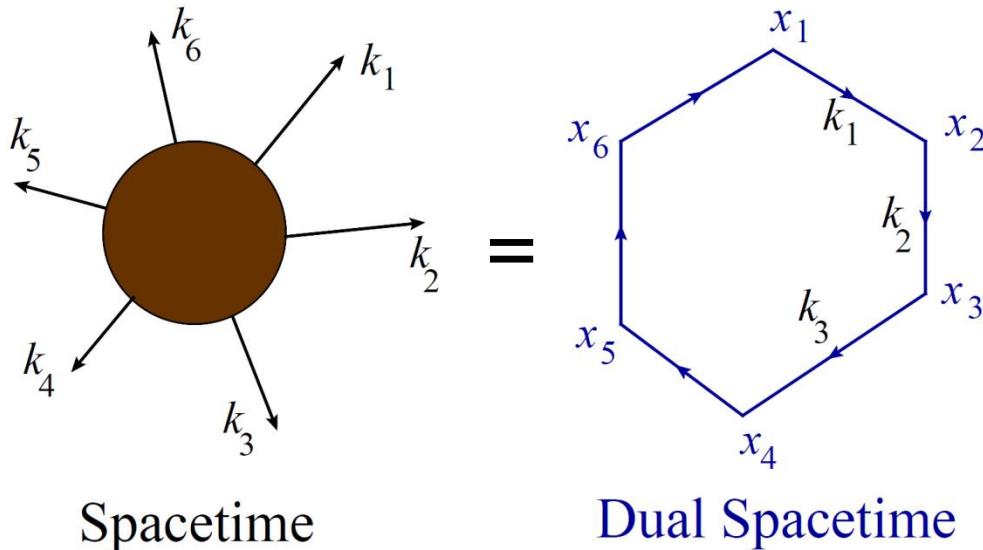
# T-duality symmetry of string theory

Alday, Maldacena, 0705.0303

- Exchanges string world-sheet variables  $\sigma, \tau$
- $X^\mu(\tau, \sigma) = x^\mu + k^\mu \tau + \text{oscillators}$
- $\rightarrow X^\mu(\tau, \sigma) = x^\mu + k^\mu \sigma + \text{oscillators}$
- Strong coupling limit of planar N=4 SYM  
is semi-classical limit of string theory:  
world-sheet stretches tight around  
minimal area surface in AdS.
- Boundary determined by momenta  
of external states: light-like polygon  
with null edges = momenta  $k^\mu$



# 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

- 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 verified to hold at weak coupling too

weak-weak duality,  
holds order-by-order

# Dual conformal invariance

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

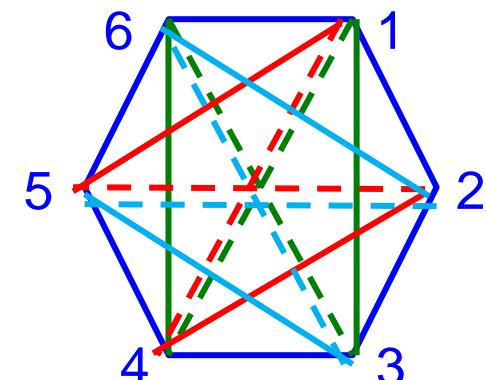
$$u_{ijkl} \equiv \frac{x_{ij}^2 x_{kl}^2}{x_{ik}^2 x_{jl}^2}$$

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

$n = 6 \rightarrow$  precisely 3 ratios:

$n = 7 \rightarrow$  6 ratios.  
In general,  $3n-15$  ratios.

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

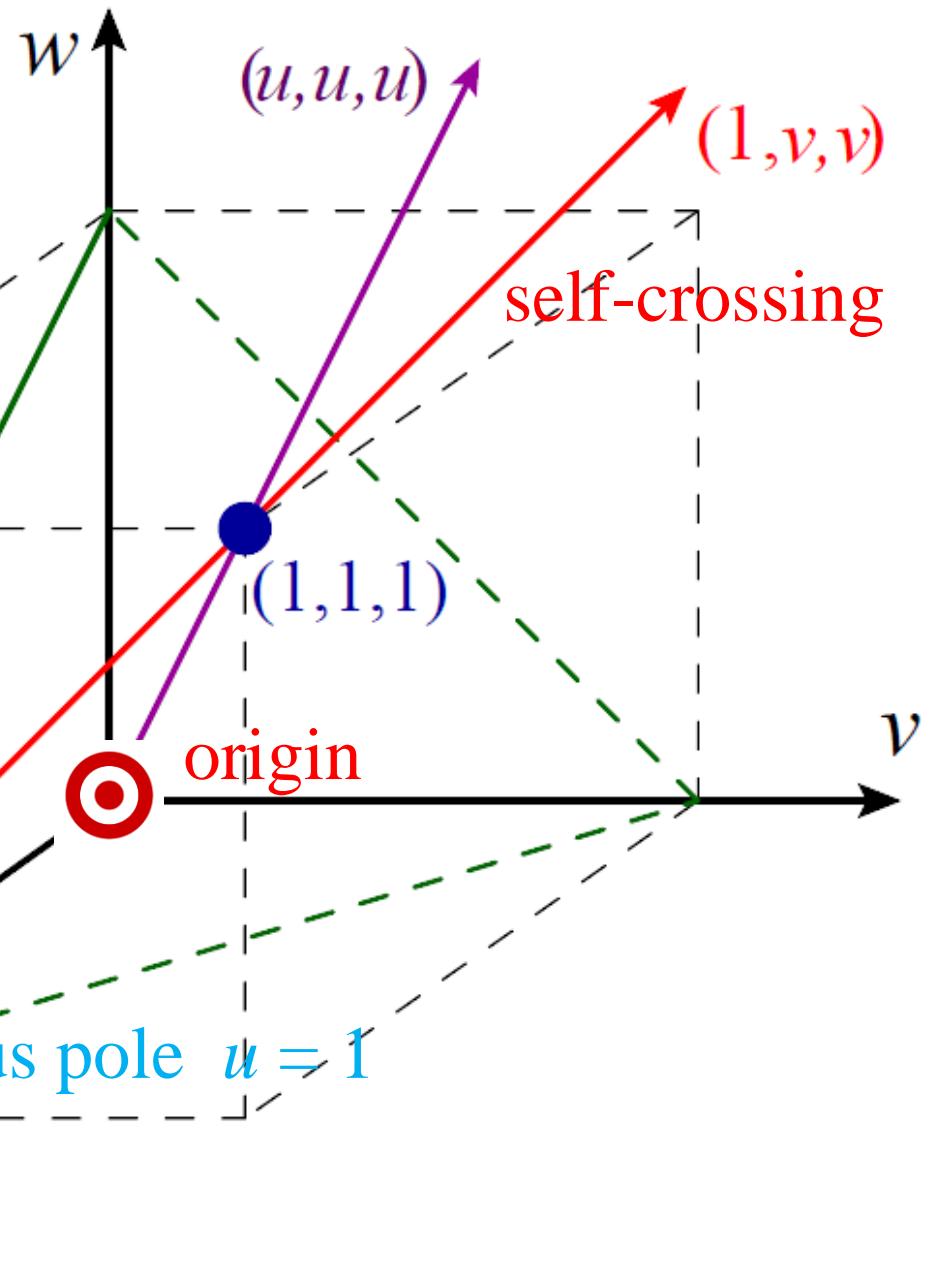


6-gluons: already rich  
kinematical playground

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

(near) collinear  
 $v = 0, u + w = 1$

multi-Regge  
(1,0,0)  
 $u$



# Hexagon function bootstrap

## Loops

3

LD, Drummond, Henn, 1108.4461, 1111.1704;

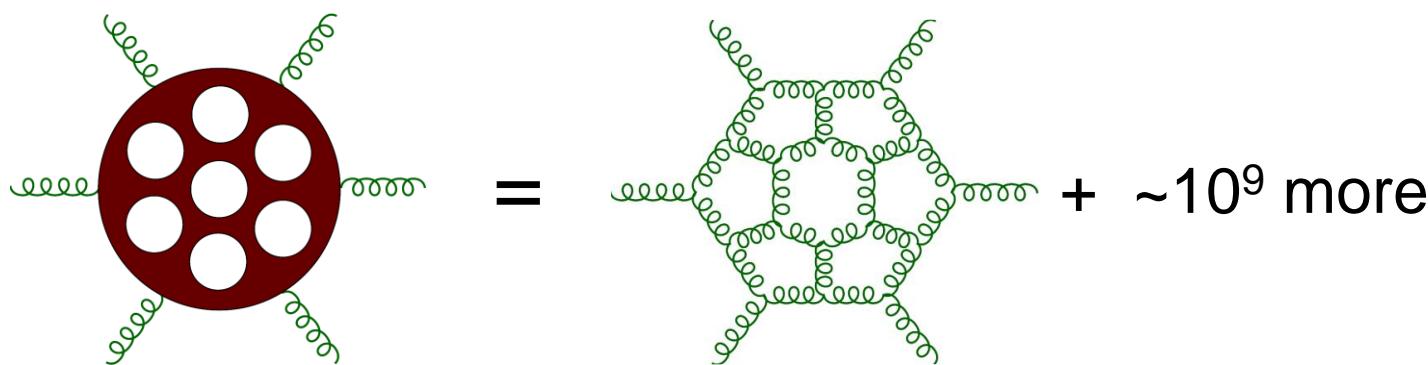
4,5

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, 22mm.nnnnn (NMHV 7 loop)

- Use analytical properties of perturbative (six point) amplitudes in planar N=4 SYM to determine them directly, **without ever peeking inside the loops**
- Step toward doing this **nonperturbatively** (no loops to peek inside) for general kinematics

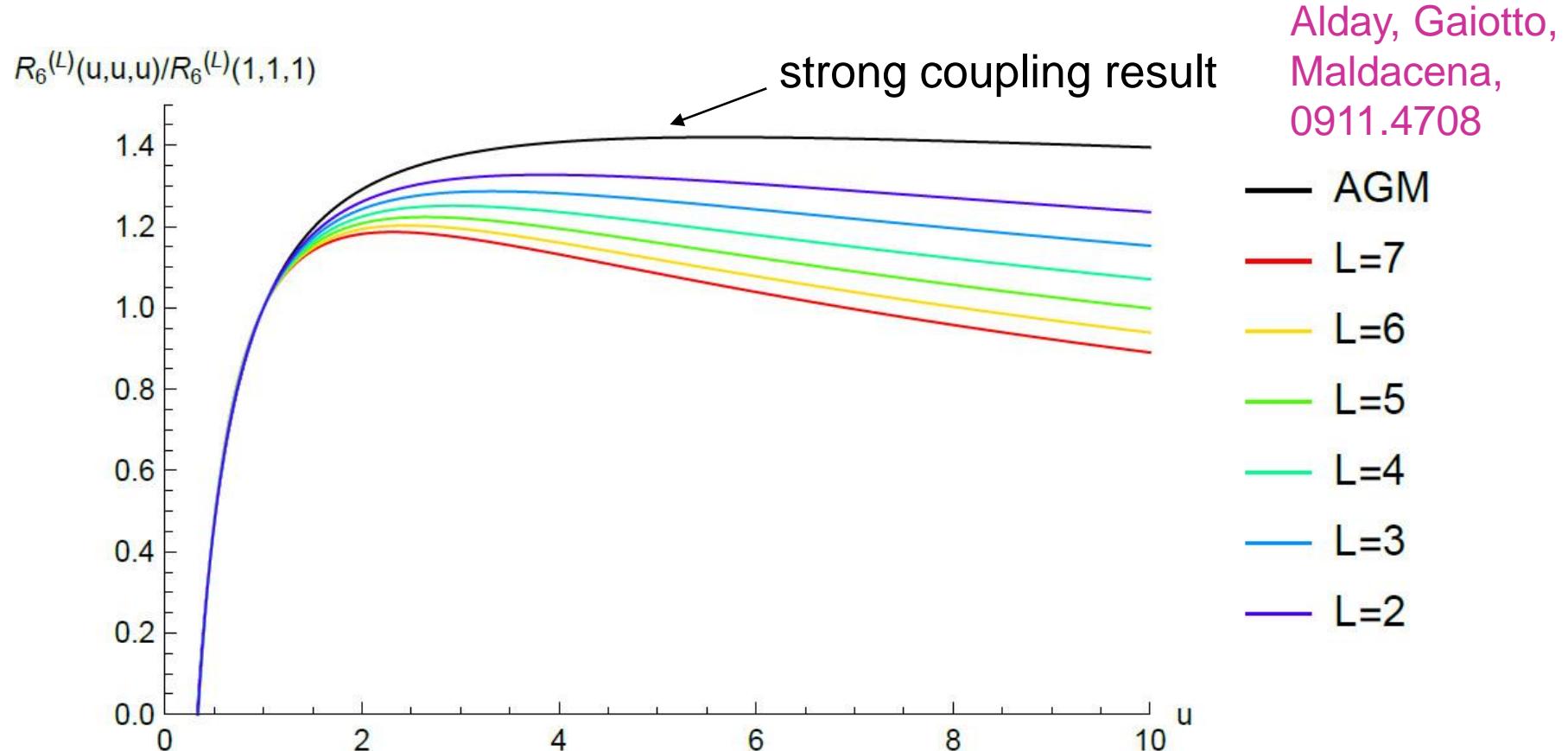


# Rich theoretical “data” mine



- Rare to have perturbative results to 7 loops
- Usually high loop order → single numbers such as  $\beta$  functions or anomalous dimensions
- Here we have analytic functions of 3 variables
- Many limits to study (and exploit)

# Example: MHV finite remainder $R_6^{(L)}$ on $(u,u,u)$



- **Amazing proportionality of each perturbative coefficient at small  $u$ , and also with the strong coupling result**

# Origin at weak coupling

- Remarkably, MHV remainder  $R_6$  and closely-related quantity  $\ln \mathcal{E}$  are quadratic in logarithms through 7 loops CDDvHMP, 1903.10890
- Previously observed through 2 loops, and at strong coupling, on the diagonal  $(\underline{u}, u, u)$  AGM, 0911.4708

$$\ln \mathcal{E}(u_i) \approx -\frac{\Gamma_{\text{oct}}}{24} \ln^2(u_1 u_2 u_3) - \frac{\Gamma_{\text{hex}}}{24} \sum_{i=1}^3 \ln^2 \frac{u_i}{u_{i+1}} + C_0$$

	$L = 1$	$L = 2$	$L = 3$	$L = 4$	$L = 5$
$\Gamma_{\text{oct}}$	4	$-16\zeta_2$	$256\zeta_4$	$-3264\zeta_6$	$\frac{126976}{3}\zeta_8$
$\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}$	4	$-8\zeta_2$	$88\zeta_4$	$-876\zeta_6 - 32\zeta_3^2$	$\frac{28384}{3}\zeta_8 + 128\zeta_2\zeta_3^2 + 640\zeta_3\zeta_5$
$\Gamma_{\text{hex}}$	4	$-4\zeta_2$	$34\zeta_4$	$-\frac{603}{2}\zeta_6 - 24\zeta_3^2$	$\frac{18287}{6}\zeta_8 + 48\zeta_2\zeta_3^2 + 480\zeta_3\zeta_5$
$C_0$	$-3\zeta_2$	$\frac{77}{4}\zeta_4$	$-\frac{4463}{24}\zeta_6 + 2\zeta_3^2$	$\frac{67645}{32}\zeta_8 + 6\zeta_2\zeta_3^2 - 40\zeta_3\zeta_5$	$-\frac{4184281}{160}\zeta_{10} - 65\zeta_4\zeta_3^2 - 120\zeta_2\zeta_3\zeta_5 + 228\zeta_5^2 + 420\zeta_3\zeta_7$

- Coefficients involve same **BES kernel** as for **cusp**, but “tilted” by angle  $\alpha$ ,

$$\Gamma_{\text{cusp}} = \Gamma_{\alpha=\pi/4}$$

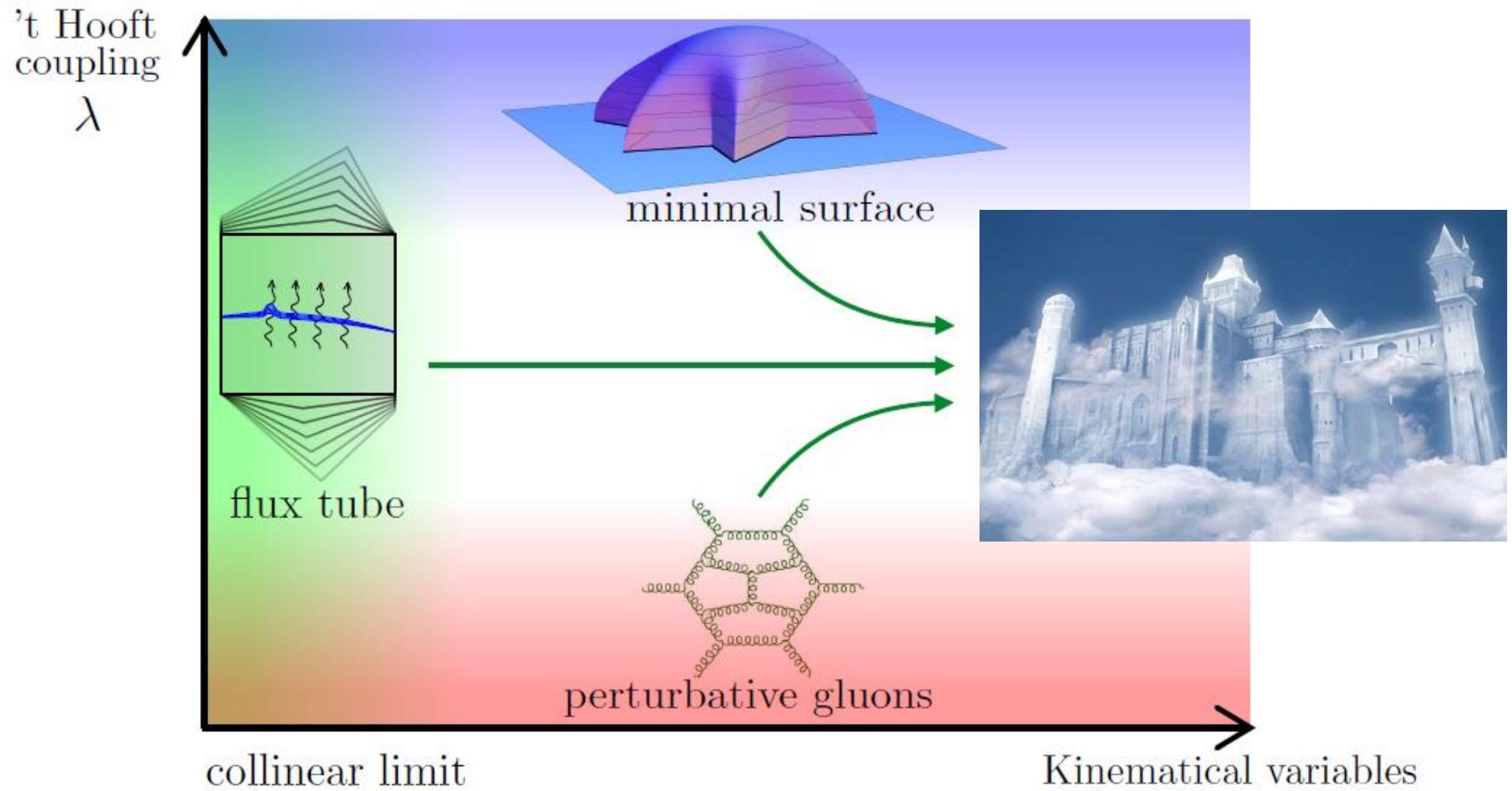
$$\Gamma_{\text{oct}} = \Gamma_{\alpha=0}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{hex}} = \Gamma_{\alpha=\pi/3}$$

B. Basso, LD, G. Papathanasiou, 2001.05460

# Solving for Planar N=4 SYM Amplitudes

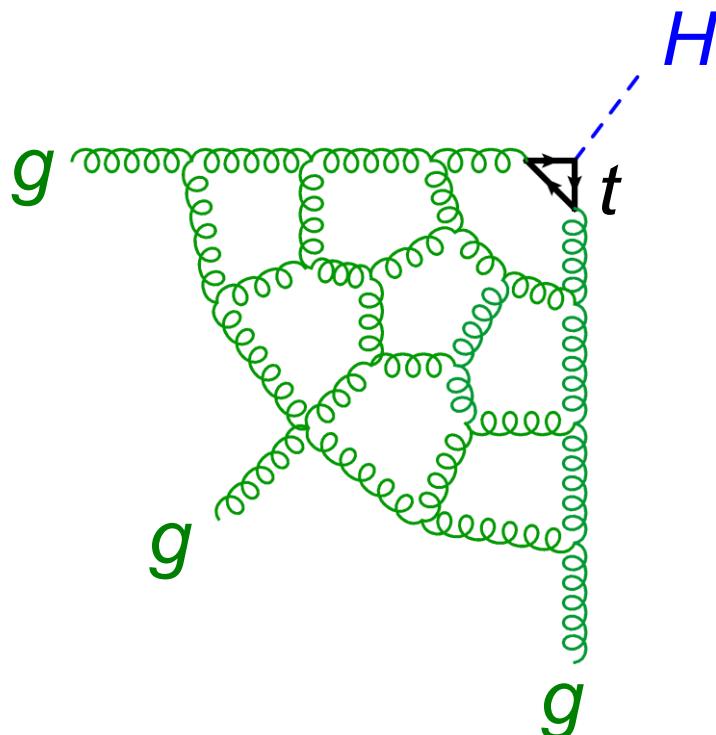
Images: A. Sever, N. Arkani-Hamed



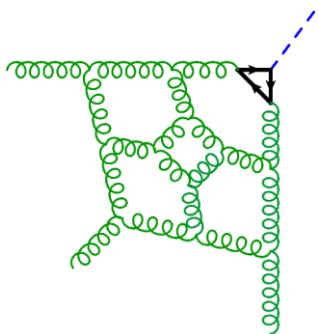
# “Higgs” amplitudes and N=4 SYM form factors

LD, A. McLeod, M. Wilhelm, 2012.12286  
+ Ö. Gürdoğan, to appear

3,4,5 loops  
6,7,8 loops



- At leading order in  $1/m_{top}$ ,  
Higgs boson couples to gluons via  
the operator  $H G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{\mu\nu}{}^a$



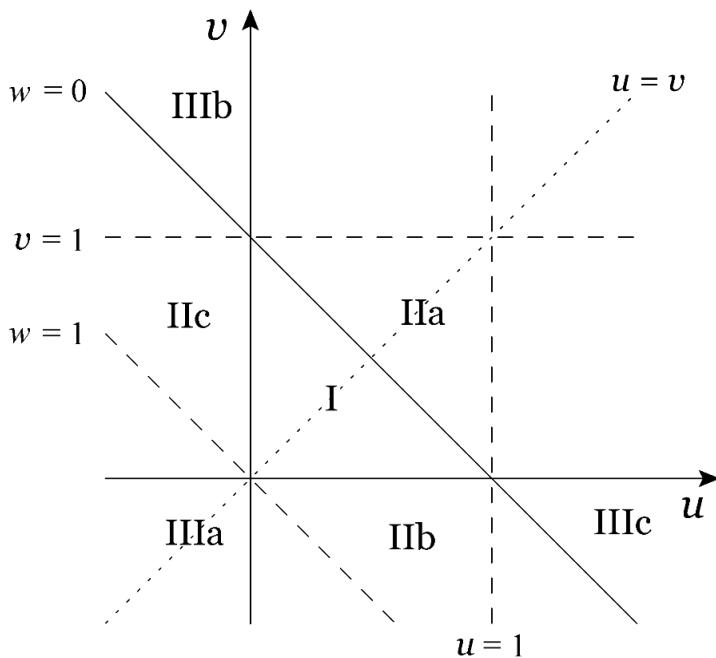
# Form factors (cont.)

- Higgs is a scalar, color singlet. In QCD its amplitudes with gluons are matrix elements of  $G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{\mu\nu}{}^a$  with on-shell gluons: “**form factors**”
- In N=4, this operator is part of the (BPS-protected) stress tensor supermultiplet, which also includes for example  $\phi_1^\dagger \phi_1 - \phi_2^\dagger \phi_2$  ( $\in \mathbf{20}$  of  $SU(4)_R$ )
- **Hgg** “Sudakov” form factor is “**too simple**”; it has no kinematic dependence beyond overall  $(-s_{12})^{-L\epsilon}$
- **Hggg** is “**just right**”, depends on 2 dimensionless ratios

# $Hggg$ kinematics is two-dimensional

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

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



N=4 amplitude is  
 $S_3$  invariant

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

$$u = \frac{s_{12}}{s_{123}}$$

$$v = \frac{s_{23}}{s_{123}}$$

$$w = \frac{s_{31}}{s_{123}}$$

$$u + v + w = 1$$

I = decay / Euclidean

IIa,b,c = scattering / spacelike operator

IIIa,b,c = scattering / timelike operator

not cross ratios!

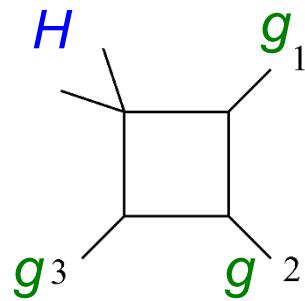
$D_3 \equiv S_3$  dihedral symmetry generated by:

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

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

b. flip:  $u \leftrightarrow v$

# One loop integrals/amplitudes


$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Diagram: } \text{A square loop with vertices. The top-left vertex is labeled } H \text{ in blue. The top-right vertex is labeled } g_1 \text{ in green. The bottom-right vertex is labeled } g_2 \text{ in green. The bottom-left vertex is labeled } g_3 \text{ in green. The four edges of the square are solid black lines.} \\ & = \text{Li}_2\left(1 - \frac{s_{123}}{s_{12}}\right) + \text{Li}_2\left(1 - \frac{s_{123}}{s_{23}}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \ln^2\left(\frac{s_{12}}{s_{23}}\right) + \dots \\ & = \text{Li}_2\left(1 - \frac{1}{u}\right) + \text{Li}_2\left(1 - \frac{1}{v}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \ln^2\left(\frac{u}{v}\right) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

# A two-loop story

- Gehrmann et al. computed  $H_{ggg}$  in QCD at 2 loops  
Gehrmann, Jaquier, Glover, Koukoutsakis, 1112.3554
- Soon after, Brandhuber et al. computed stress tensor 3-point form factor  $\mathcal{F}_3$  in N=4 SYM,  
Brandhuber, Travaglini, Yang, 1201.4170  
saw that “maximally transcendental part” of QCD result (both (+++) and (---)) was **same as N=4 result!!**
- This “principle of maximal transcendentality”  
Kotikov, Lipatov, Velizhanin, hep-ph/0301021, hep-ph/0611204  
was known to work for DGLAP and BFKL anomalous dimensions, but **not** for generic scattering amplitudes, so this one is **very special**

# 2d HPLs

Gehrmann, Remiddi, hep-ph/0008287

Space graded by weight  $n$ . Every 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.

# Generalized polylogarithms

Chen, Goncharov, Brown,...

- Can be defined as **iterated integrals**, e.g.

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

- Or define differentially:  $dF = \sum_{s_k \in \mathcal{S}} F^{s_k} d \ln s_k$
- There is a Hopf algebra that “co-acts” on the space of polylogarithms,  $\Delta: F \rightarrow F \otimes F$
- The **derivative**  $dF$  is one piece of  $\Delta$ :  $\Delta_{n-1,1} F = \sum_{s_k \in \mathcal{S}} F^{s_k} \otimes \ln s_k$
- so we refer to  $F^{s_k}$  as a  $\{n-1,1\}$  coproduct of  $F$
- **$s_k$  are letters in the symbol alphabet  $\mathcal{S}$**

# Generalized polylogarithms (cont.)

- The  $\{n-1,1\}$  coaction can be applied iteratively.
- Define the  $\{n-2,1,1\}$  double coproducts,  $F^{s_k,s_j}$ , via the derivatives of the  $\{n-1,1\}$  single coproducts  $F^{sj}$ :

$$dF^{sj} \equiv \sum_{s_k \in \mathcal{S}} F^{s_k,s_j} d \ln s_k$$

- And so on for the  $\{n-m,1,\dots,1\}$   $m^{\text{th}}$  coproducts of  $F$ .
- The maximal iteration,  $n$  times for a weight  $n$  function, is the symbol,

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

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

Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich, 1006.5703

# Example: The 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:

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

- **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  $d \ln(\dots)$ .

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

Remiddi, Vermaseren, hep-ph/9905237

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

# Symbol alphabet $\mathcal{S}$ for $Hg_{gg}$

Gehrman, Remiddi, hep-ph/0008287

- Comparing

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

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

$$w = 1 - u - v$$

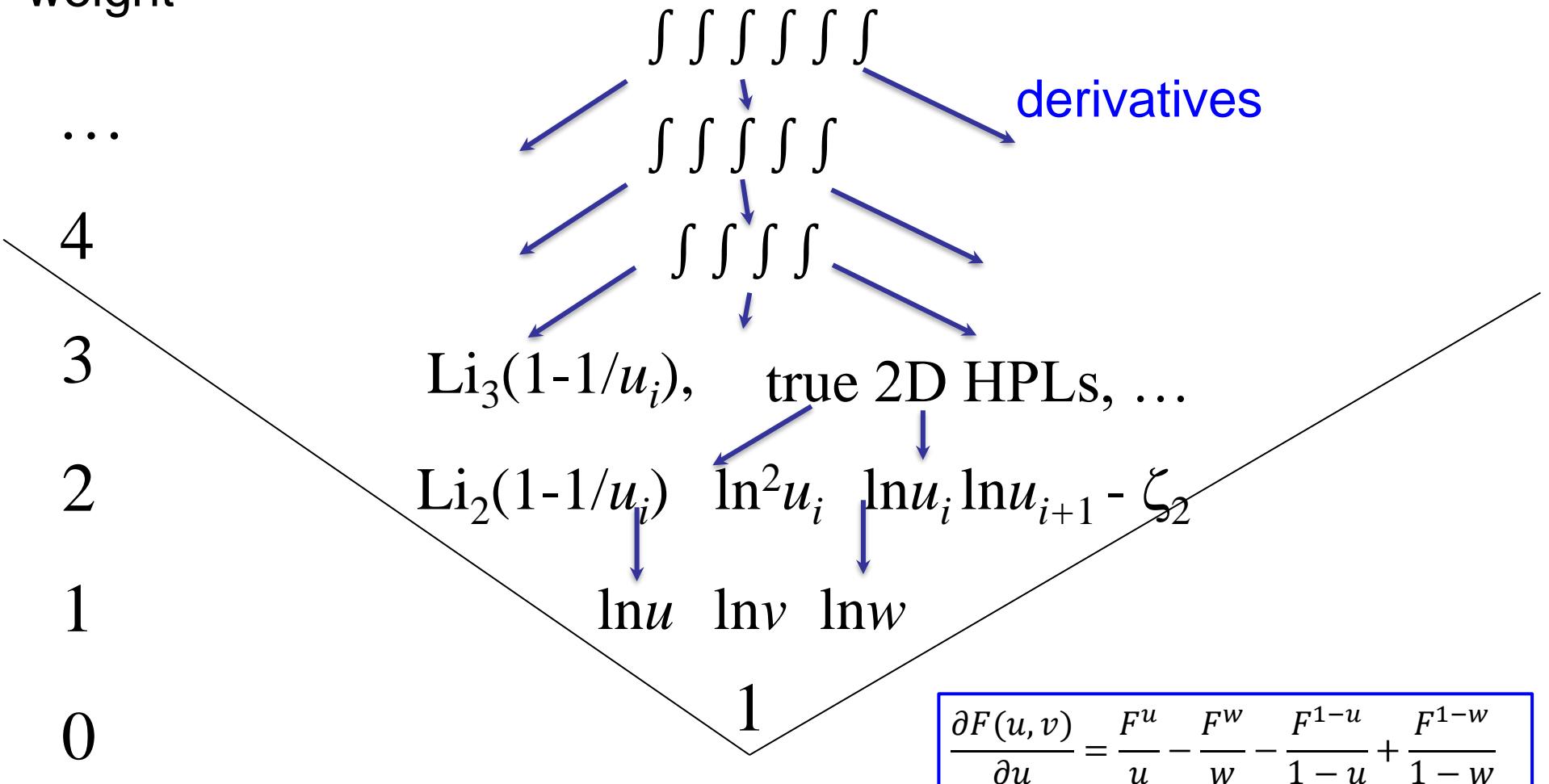
with

$$dF = \sum_{s_k \in \mathcal{S}} F^{s_k} d \ln s_k$$

alphabet is  $\mathcal{S} = \{u, v, w, 1-u, 1-v, 1-w\}$

# Heuristic view of function space

weight



# Symbol alphabets for $n$ -gluon amplitudes

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

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

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

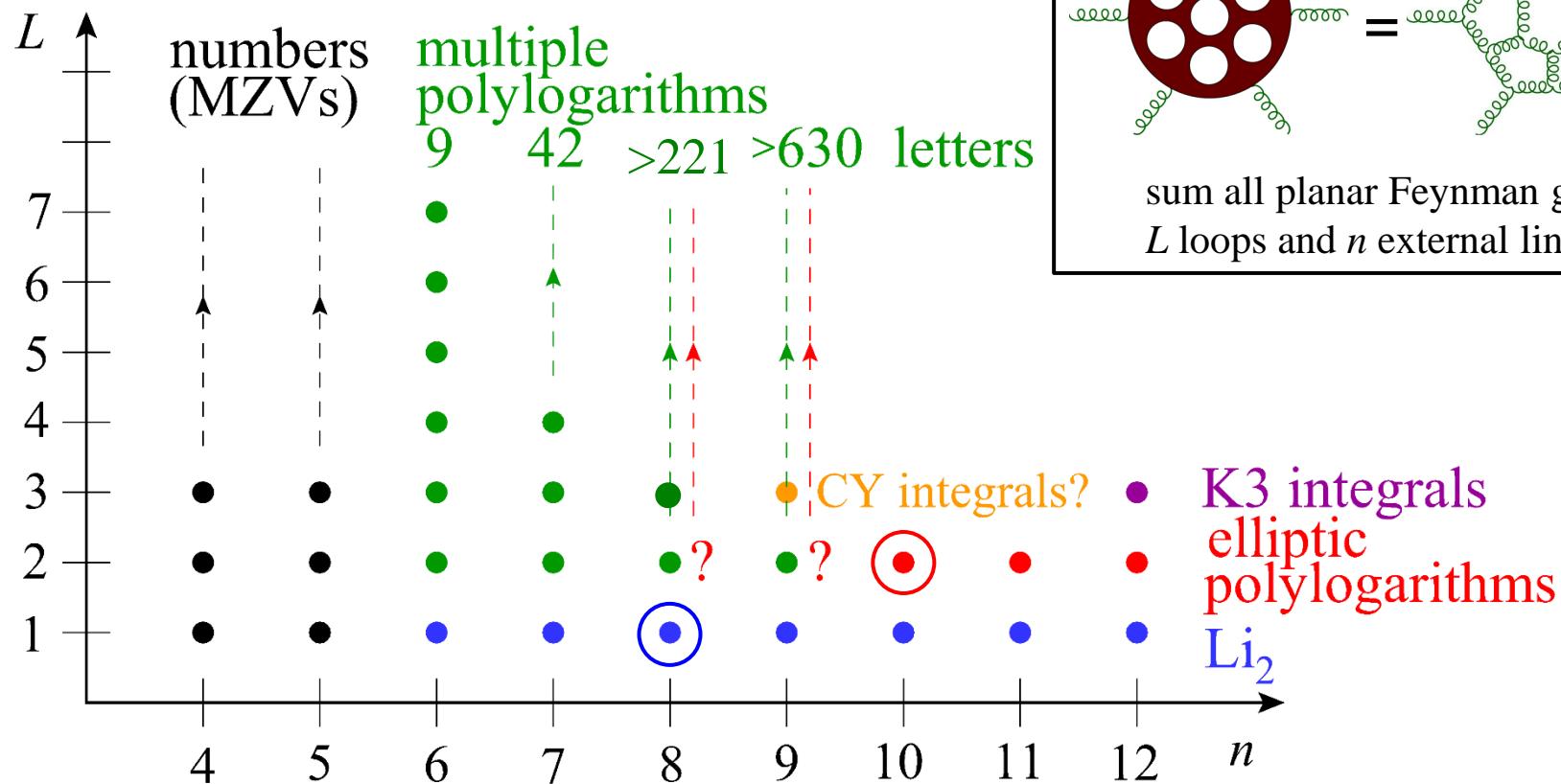
$n = 7$  has 42 letters

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, Kalousios, 1912.08217, 2002.04624;  
Henke, Papathanasiou 1912.08254, 2106.01392;  
Z. Li, C. Zhang, 2110.00350

# Beyond $n = 8$



# 3-gluon form factor: better alphabet

- Motivated by 6 gluon case, switch to equivalent alphabet

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Simplest analytic form is for $v \rightarrow \infty$

→ Harmonic polylogarithms  $H_{\vec{w}} \equiv H_{\vec{w}}(1 - \frac{1}{u})$

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

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

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

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

# 6-gluon amplitude is simplest for $(\hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{w}) = (1, \hat{v}, \hat{v})$

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

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

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

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

There's an exact map at symbol level, with  $\frac{1}{\hat{v}} = 1 - \frac{1}{\hat{u}}$ ,  
 $0 \leftrightarrow 1$ , if you also reverse the order of the symbol entries!!!  
 Works to 7 loops, where  $\sim 2^{2 \times 7 - 2} = 4,096$  terms agree

# Antipodal duality in 2d

weak-weak duality

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

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

also corresponds to “twisted forward scattering”:

$$\hat{k}_{i+n}^\mu = -\hat{k}_i^\mu, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n \quad (n = 3 \text{ here})$$

# 6-gluon alphabet and symbol map

- $\mathcal{S}_6 = \{ \hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{w}, 1 - \hat{u}, 1 - \hat{v}, 1 - \hat{w}, \hat{y}_u, \hat{y}_v, \hat{y}_w \} \xrightarrow{\text{1 for } \Delta = 0}$ 
 $\rightarrow \mathcal{S}'_6 = \{ \hat{a} = \frac{\hat{u}}{\hat{v}\hat{w}}, \hat{b} = \frac{\hat{v}}{\hat{w}\hat{u}}, \hat{c} = \frac{\hat{w}}{\hat{u}\hat{v}}, \hat{d} = \frac{1-\hat{u}}{\hat{u}}, \hat{e} = \frac{1-\hat{v}}{\hat{v}}, \hat{f} = \frac{1-\hat{w}}{\hat{w}} \}$
- Kinematic map on letters:  
 $\sqrt{\hat{a}} = d, \quad \hat{d} = a,$       *plus cyclic relations*

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

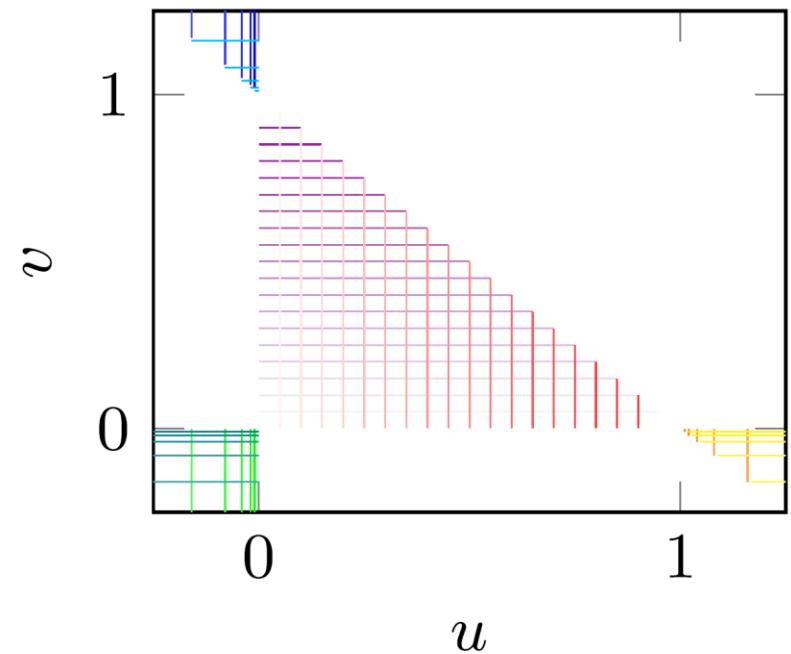
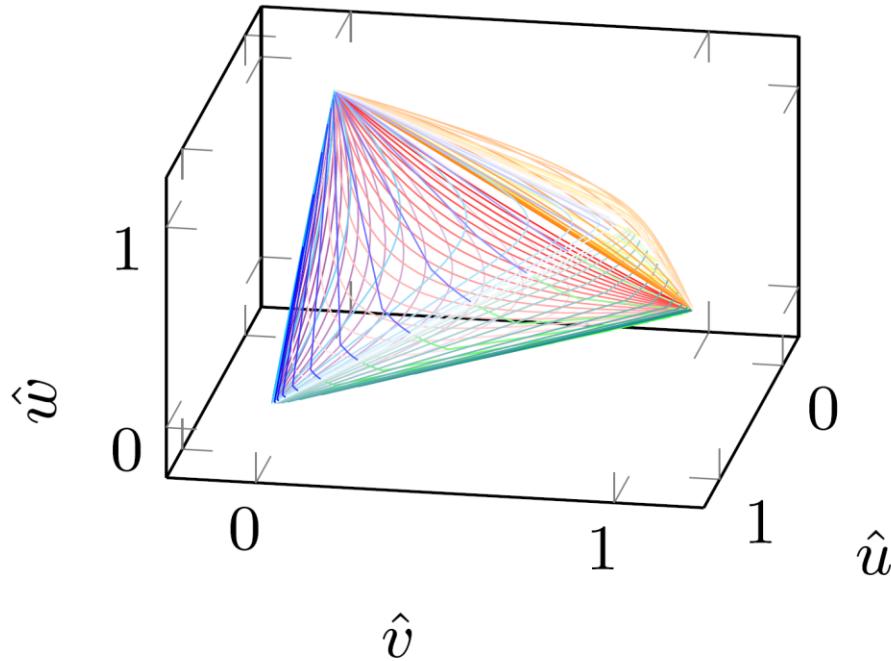
$$S[A_6^{(2)}] = \hat{b} \otimes \hat{d} \otimes \hat{d} \otimes \hat{d} + \frac{1}{2}\hat{b} \otimes \hat{b} \otimes \hat{b} \otimes \hat{d} + \text{dihedral}$$

...

- 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

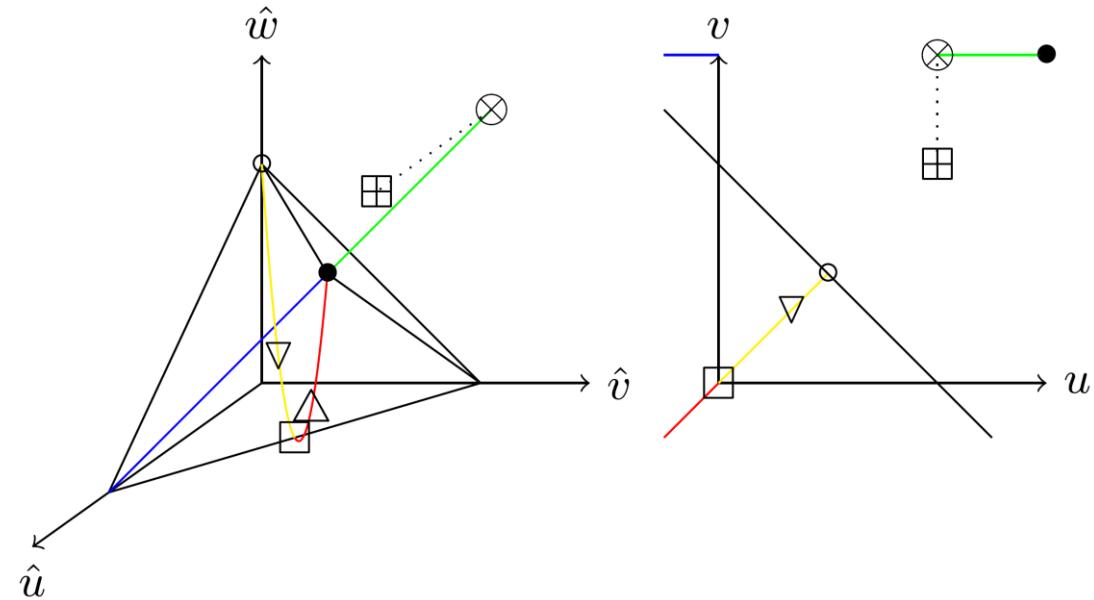


- Soft is dual to collinear; collinear is dual to soft
- White regions in  $(u, v)$  map to some of  $\hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{w} > 1$

# Many special dual points

There is an “ $f$ ” alphabet at all of these points, which is a way of writing multiple zeta values (MZV’s) so that the coaction is manifest.

F. Brown, 1102.1310;  
 O. Schnetz,  
 HyperlogProcedures



	$(\hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{w})$	$(u, v, w)$	functions
$\nabla$	$(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4})$	$(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3})$	$\sqrt[6]{1}$
$\square$	$(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0)$	$(0, 0, 1)$	$\text{Li}_2(\frac{1}{2}) + \text{logs}$
$\bullet$	$(1, 1, 1)$	$\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} (u, u, 1-2u)$	MZVs
$\circ$	$(0, 0, 1)$	$(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0)$	MZVs + logs
$\triangle$	$(\frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{4})$	$(-1, -1, 3)$	$\sqrt[6]{1}$
$\boxplus$	$(\infty, \infty, \infty)$	$(1, 1, -1)$	alternating sums
$\otimes$	$\lim_{\hat{v} \rightarrow \infty} (1, \hat{v}, \hat{v})$	$\lim_{v \rightarrow \infty} (1, v, -v)$	MZVs
$-$	$(1, \hat{v}, \hat{v})$	$\lim_{v \rightarrow \infty} (u, v, 1-u-v)$	$\text{HPL}\{0, 1\}$
$-$	$(\hat{u}, \hat{u}, (1-2\hat{u})^2)$	$(u, u, 1-2u)$	$\text{HPL}\{-1, 0, 1\}$

# The simplest point

- $(\hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{w}) = (1,1,1) \Leftrightarrow u, v \rightarrow \infty$
- At this point,

$$A_6^{(1)}(\cdot) = 0$$

$$A_6^{(2)}(\cdot) = -9\zeta_4$$

$$A_6^{(3)}(\cdot) = 121\zeta_6$$

$$A_6^{(4)}(\cdot) = 120f_{3,5} - 48\zeta_2f_{3,3} - \frac{6381}{4}\zeta_8$$

$$A_6^{(5)}(\cdot) = -2688f_{3,7} - 1560f_{5,5} + \mathcal{O}(\pi^2)$$

$$A_6^{(6)}(\cdot) = 48528f_{3,9} + 37296f_{5,7} + 21120f_{7,5} + \mathcal{O}(\pi^2)$$

$$F_3^{(1)}(\cdot) = 8\zeta_2$$

$$F_3^{(2)}(\cdot) = 31\zeta_4$$

$$F_3^{(3)}(\cdot) = -145\zeta_6$$

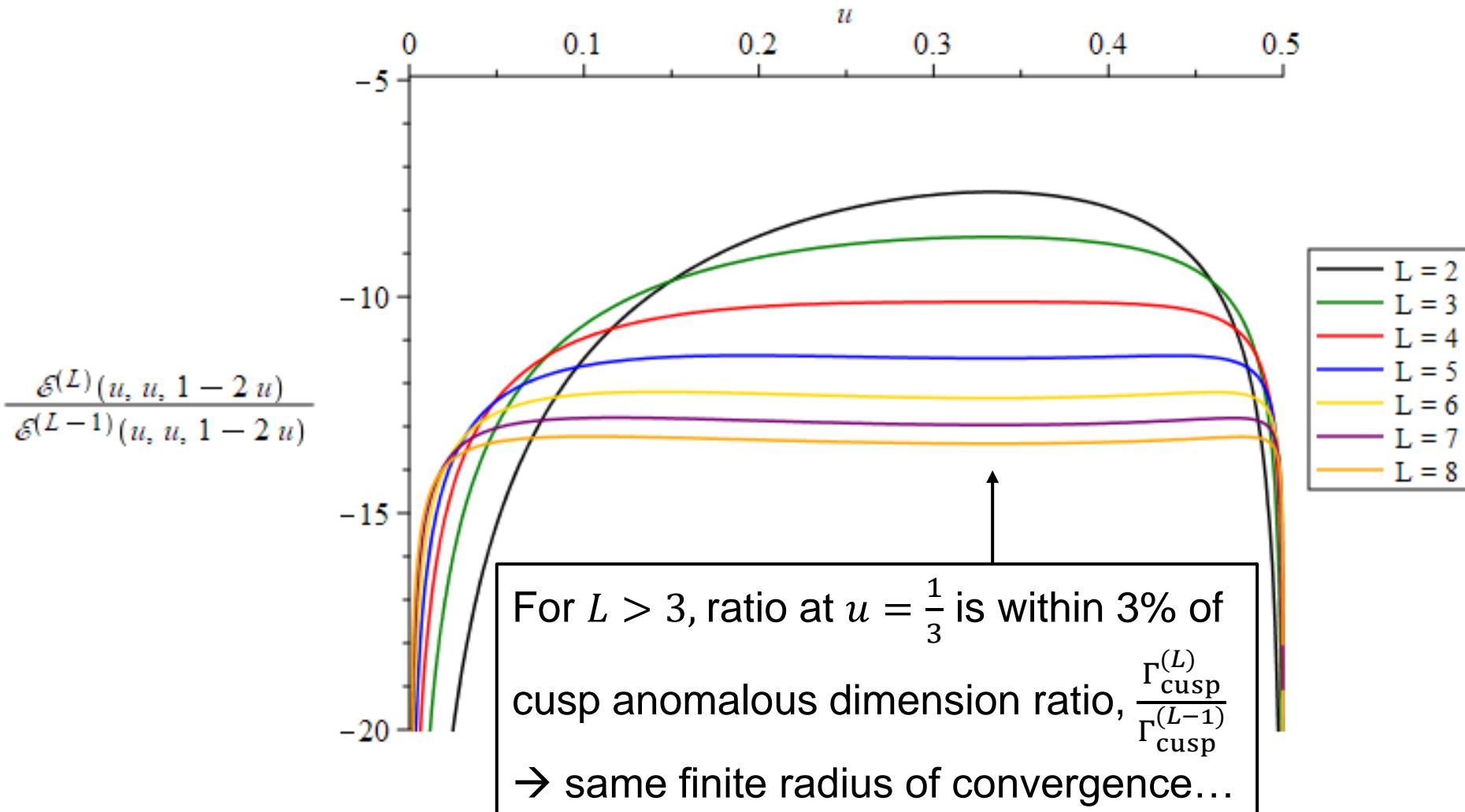
$$F_3^{(4)}(\cdot) = 120f_{5,3} + \frac{11363}{4}\zeta_8$$

$$F_3^{(5)}(\cdot) = -2688f_{7,3} - 1560f_{5,5} + \mathcal{O}(\pi^2)$$

$$F_3^{(6)}(\cdot) = 48528f_{9,3} + 37296f_{7,5} + 21120f_{5,7} + \mathcal{O}(\pi^2)$$

- Reversing ordering of words in  $f$ -alphabet, the **blue values** show that antipodal duality holds at these points beyond symbol level, **modulo  $i\pi$**
- **modulo  $i\pi$**  seems to be the best we can get from the antipode

# Euclidean Region numerics

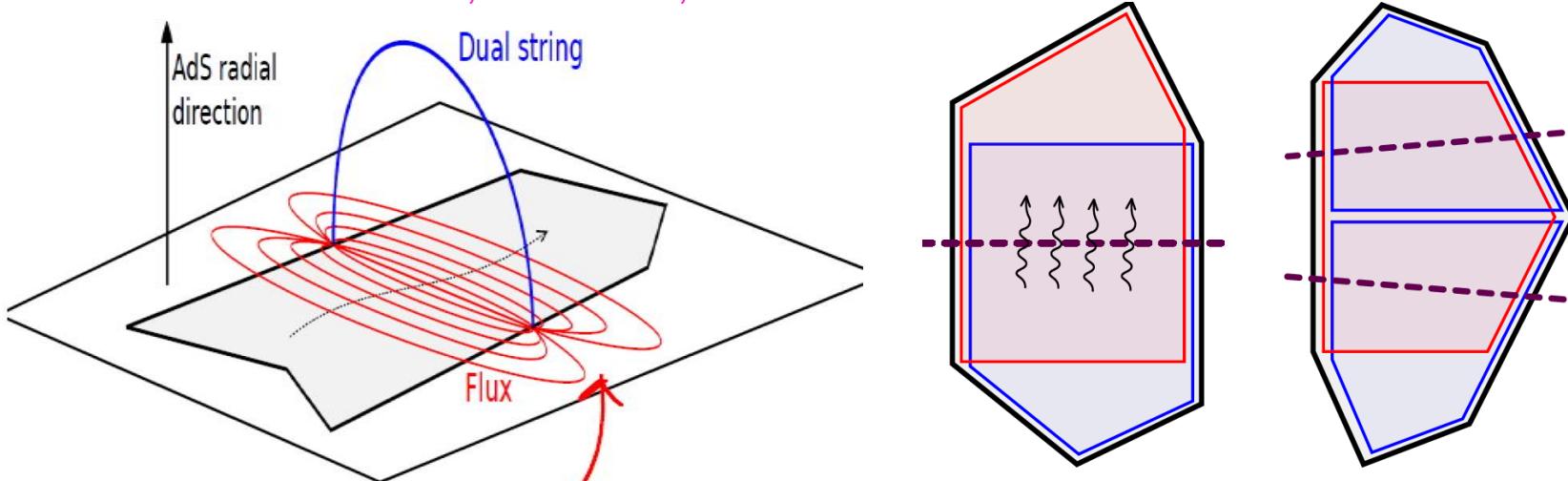


# Bootstrap boundary data: Flux tubes at finite coupling

Alday, Gaiotto, Maldacena, Sever, Vieira, 1006.2788;

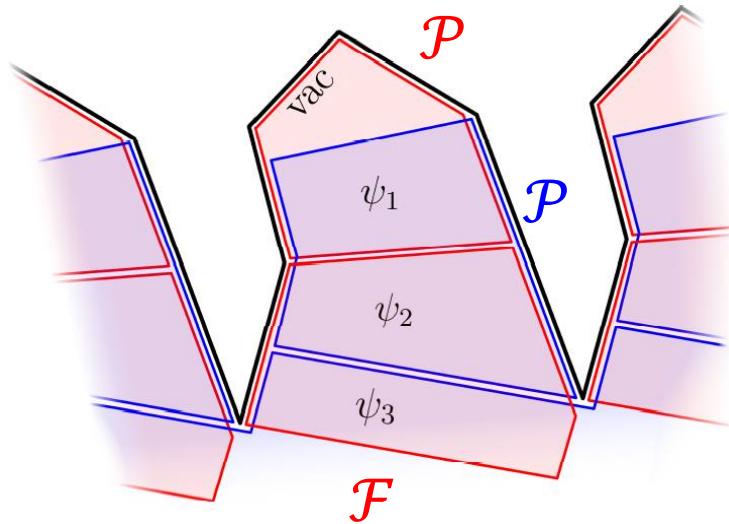
Basso, Sever, Vieira, 1303.1396, 1306.2058, 1402.3307, 1407.1736, 1508.03045

BSV+Caetano+Cordova, 1412.1132, 1508.02987



- Tile  $n$ -gon with pentagon transitions.
- Quantum integrability → compute pentagons exactly in 't Hooft coupling
- 4d S-matrix as expansion (OPE) in number of flux-tube excitations = expansion around near collinear limit

# The new FFOPE



- Form factors are Wilson loops in a **periodic** space, due to injection of operator momentum

Alday, Maldacena, 0710.1060; Maldacena, Zhiboedov, 1009.1139;  
Brandhuber, Spence, Travaglini, Yang, 1011.1899

- Besides **pentagon transitions  $\mathcal{P}$** , this program needs an additional ingredient, the **form factor transition  $\mathcal{F}$**

**Sever, Tumanov, Wilhelm, 2009.11297, 2105.13367, 2112.10569**

# OPE representation

- 6-gluon amplitude:

$$\mathcal{W}_{\text{hex}} = \sum_{\mathbf{a}} \int d\mathbf{u} P_{\mathbf{a}}(0|\mathbf{u}) P_{\mathbf{a}}(\bar{\mathbf{u}}|0) e^{-E(\mathbf{u})\tau + ip(\mathbf{u})\sigma + im\phi}$$

$$T = e^{-\tau}, S = e^{-\sigma}, F = e^{i\phi}. \quad v = \frac{T^2}{1+T^2} \rightarrow 0,$$

weak-coupling,  $E = k + \mathcal{O}(g^2)$  → expansion in  $T^k$

- 3-gluon form factor:  $\psi = \text{helicity 0 pairs of states}$

$$\mathcal{W}_3 = \sum_{\psi} e^{-E_{\psi}\tau + ip_{\psi}\sigma} \mathcal{P}(0|\psi) \mathcal{F}(\psi)$$

weak-coupling → expansion in  $T^{2k}$  (no azimuthal angle  $\phi$ )

# OPE parametrizations

- Amplitude:

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

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

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

- Form factor:

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

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

- Apply the kinematic map  $\rightarrow$   $\hat{T} = \frac{T}{S} , \quad \hat{S} = \frac{1}{TS}$
- There is apparently a correspondence between  
single flux tube excitations for the amplitude ( $T^1$ ) and  
double (or bound state) excitations for the form factor ( $T^2$ )

# 8-gluon Amp $\longleftrightarrow$ 4-gluon FF

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

- We have a **candidate kinematic map** for a **4-dimensional** surface (**4-gluon FF is 5d**).
- $\mathcal{S}[R_8^{(2)}]$  is known S. Caron-Huot, 1105.5606
- The **kinematic+antipodal** maps take it to a symbol with 40 letters, the first 8 of which are “right”:  $u_i = \frac{s_{i,i+1}}{s_{1234}}, \quad v_i = \frac{s_{i,i+1,i+2}}{s_{1234}}$
- But we still have to run more checks on this **candidate 2-loop 4-gluon form factor**

# 8-4 Kinematic Map in OPE Parametrization

- 8-point amplitude has  $D_8$  dihedral symmetry; change it to  $D_4$  of the form factor by requiring

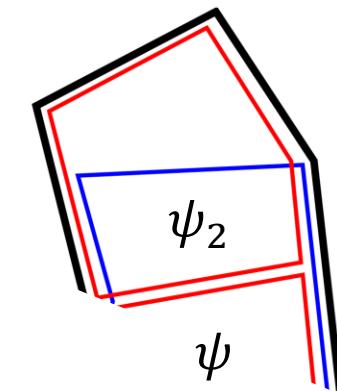
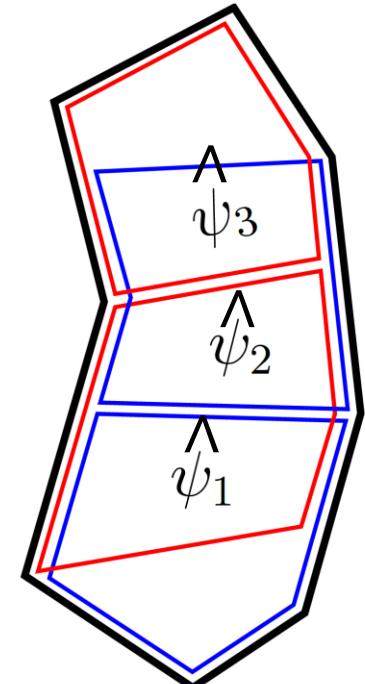
$$\hat{T}_3 = \hat{T}_1, \quad \hat{S}_3 = \hat{S}_1, \quad \hat{F}_3 = \hat{F}_1$$

- To get  $\mathcal{S}[R_8^{(2)}]$  to have only 8 final entries, we also fix  $\hat{F}_1 = \hat{F}_2 = 1$ .
- The kinematic map becomes

$$\hat{T}_1 = \frac{T}{S}, \quad \hat{S}_1 = \frac{1}{TS},$$

$$\hat{T}_2 = \frac{T_2}{S_2}, \quad \hat{S}_2 = \frac{1}{T_2 S_2}$$

and requires  $F_2 = i$



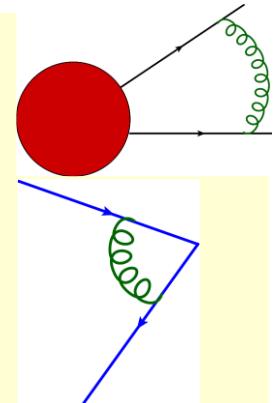
# Summary & Outlook

- Form factors as well as scattering amplitudes in planar N=4 SYM can now be **bootstrapped** to high loop order
- Remarkably simple behavior at “origin”
- Comparing the 3-gluon form factor to the 6-gluon amplitude, a **strange new antipodal duality** swaps the role of **branch cuts and derivatives**, and may map single flux-tube excitations (amplitude) to doubles (form factor).
- What is the underlying **physical reason** for this duality?
- (How) does it hold at **strong coupling**?
- (How much) can we verify of it at the **8-4** level, and beyond?
- How much can we **exploit** it to learn more about both amplitudes and form factors?

# Extra Slides

# Removing Amplitude (or Form Factor) Infrared Divergences

- On-shell amplitudes **IR divergent** due to long-range gluons
- Polygonal Wilson loops **UV divergent** at cusps, anomalous dimension  $\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}$   
 – known to all orders in planar N=4 SYM:  
 Beisert, Eden, Staudacher, hep-th/0610251



- Both removed by dividing by **BDS-like ansatz**  
 Bern, LD, Smirnov, hep-th/0505205, Alday, Gaiotto, Maldacena, 0911.4708
- Normalized [MHV] amplitude is finite, dual conformal invariant, also uniquely (up to **constant**) maintains important symbol adjacency relations due to causality (Steinmann relations for **3-particle invariants**):

$$\varepsilon(u_i) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mathcal{A}_6(s_{i,i+1}, \epsilon)}{\mathcal{A}_6^{\text{BDS-like}}(s_{i,i+1}, \epsilon)} = \exp\left[\frac{\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}}{4} \varepsilon^{(1)} + R_6\right]$$

↑  
remainder function

# BDS & BDS-like normalization for $\mathcal{F}_3$

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}_3}{\mathcal{F}_3^{\text{MHV, tree}}} = \exp \left\{ \sum_{L=1}^{\infty} g^{2L} \left[ \left( \frac{\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}^{(L)}}{4} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \right) M^{\text{1-loop}}(L\epsilon) + C^{(L)} + R^{(L)}(u, v, w) \right] \right\}$$

BDS ansatz

split 1-loop amplitude judiciously:

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}_3^{\text{1-loop}}}{\mathcal{F}_3^{\text{MHV, tree}}} \equiv M^{\text{1-loop}}(\epsilon) = M(\epsilon) + \mathcal{E}^{(1)}(u, v, w)$$

remainder function only a function of  $u, v, w$ ;  
vanishes in all collinear limits,  
but no adjacency constraints

$$M(\epsilon) = -\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \sum_{i=1}^3 \left( \frac{\mu^2}{-s_{i,i+1}} \right)^\epsilon - \frac{7}{2} \zeta_2 + \sum_{i=1}^3$$

$$\mathcal{E}^{(1)}(u, v, w) \text{ obeys "adjacency constraints"} \quad \left[ \left( \frac{1}{u} - \frac{1}{v} \right) + \text{Li}_2 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{w} \right) \right] \quad \mathcal{E}^{(1), u} + \mathcal{E}^{(1), 1-u} = 0$$

Now divide by  $w$ .

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}_3^{\text{BDS-like}}}{\mathcal{F}_3^{\text{MHV, tree}}} = \exp \left\{ \sum_{L=1}^{\infty} g^{2L} \left[ \left( \frac{\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}}{4} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \right) M(L\epsilon) + C^{(L)} \right] \right\} \Rightarrow$$

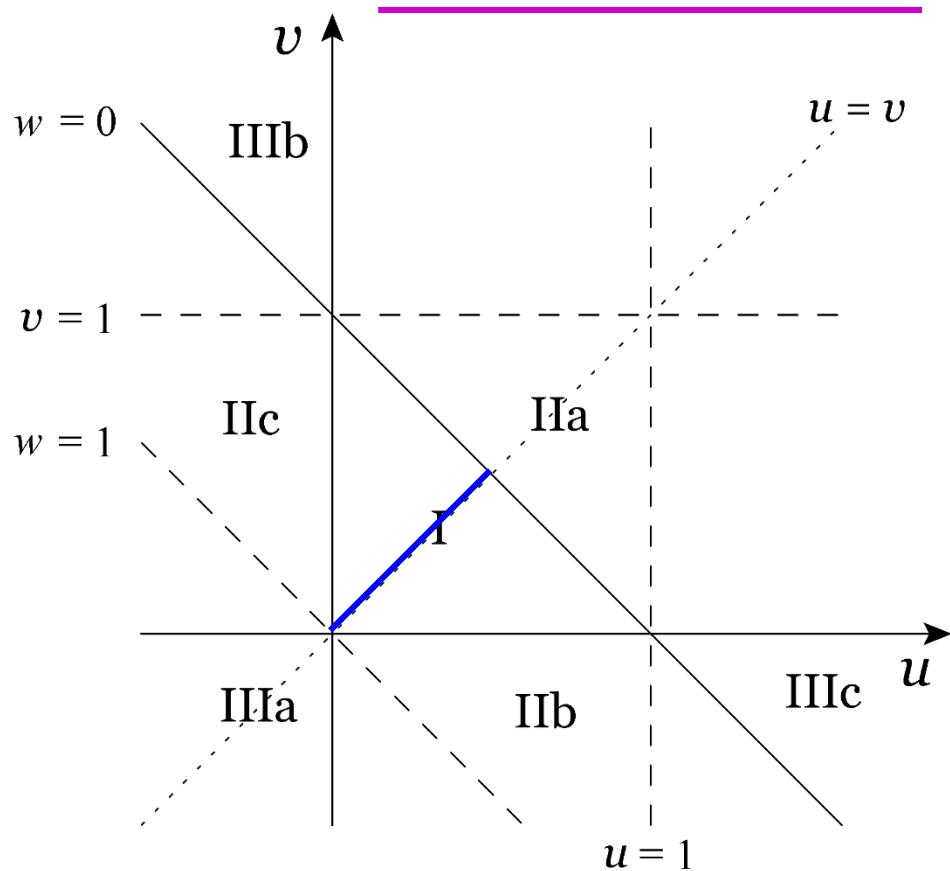
$$\mathcal{E} = \exp \left[ \frac{\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}}{4} \mathcal{E}^{(1)} + R \right]$$

# Number of (symbol-level) linearly independent $\{n, 1, \dots, 1\}$ coproducts ( $2L - n$ derivatives)

weight	$n = 0$	$n = 1$	$n = 2$	$n = 3$	$n = 4$	$n = 5$	$n = 6$	$n = 7$	$n = 8$	$n = 9$	$n = 10$	$n = 11$	$n = 12$	$n = 13$	$n = 14$	$n = 15$	$n = 16$
$L = 1$	1	3	1														
$L = 2$	1	3	6	3	1												
$L = 3$	1	3	9	12	6	3	1										
$L = 4$	1	3	9	21	24	12	6	3	1								
$L = 5$	1	3	9	21	46	45	24	12	6	3	1						
$L = 6$	1	3	9	21	48	99	85	45	24	12	6	3	1				
$L = 7$	1	3	9	21	48	108	236	155	85	45	24	12	6	3	1		
$L = 8$	1	3	9	21	48	108	242	466	279	155	85	45	24	12	6	3	1

- Properly normalized  $L$  loop N=4 form factors  $\mathcal{E}^{(L)}$  belong to a small space  $\mathcal{C}$ , dimension saturates on left
- $\mathcal{E}^{(L)}$  also obeys multiple-final-entry relations, saturation on right

# Some numerics



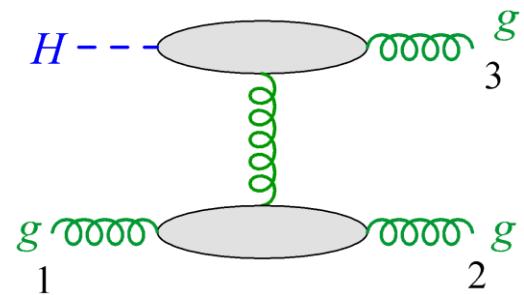
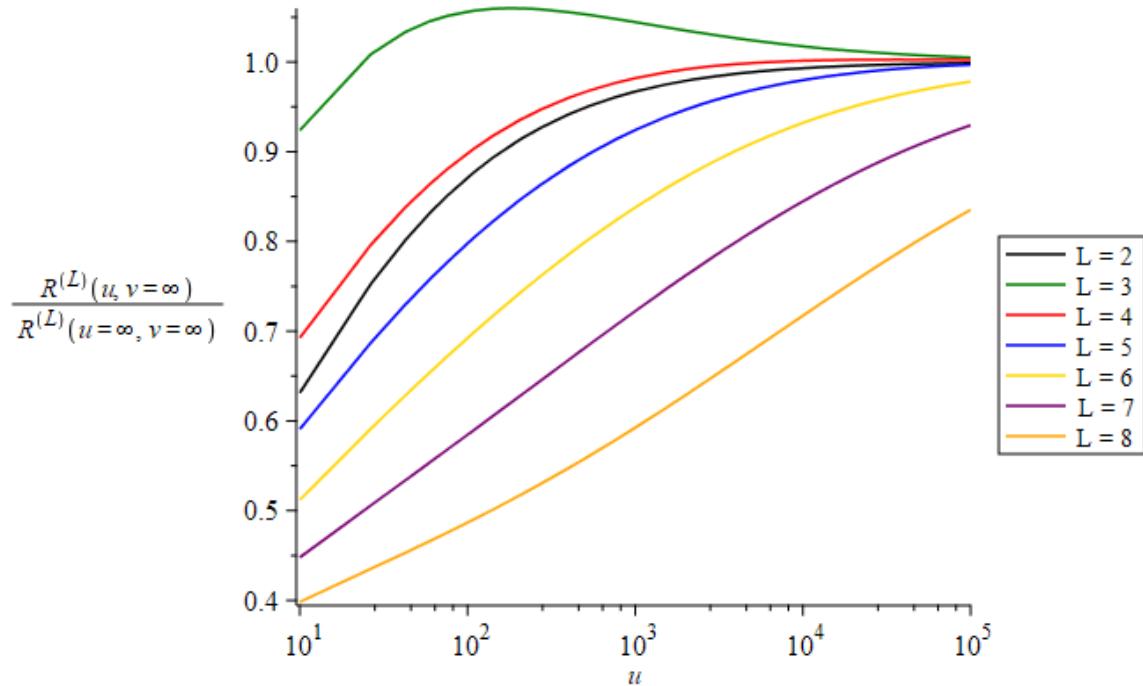
$I$  = decay / Euclidean

$IIa,b,c$  = scattering / spacelike operator

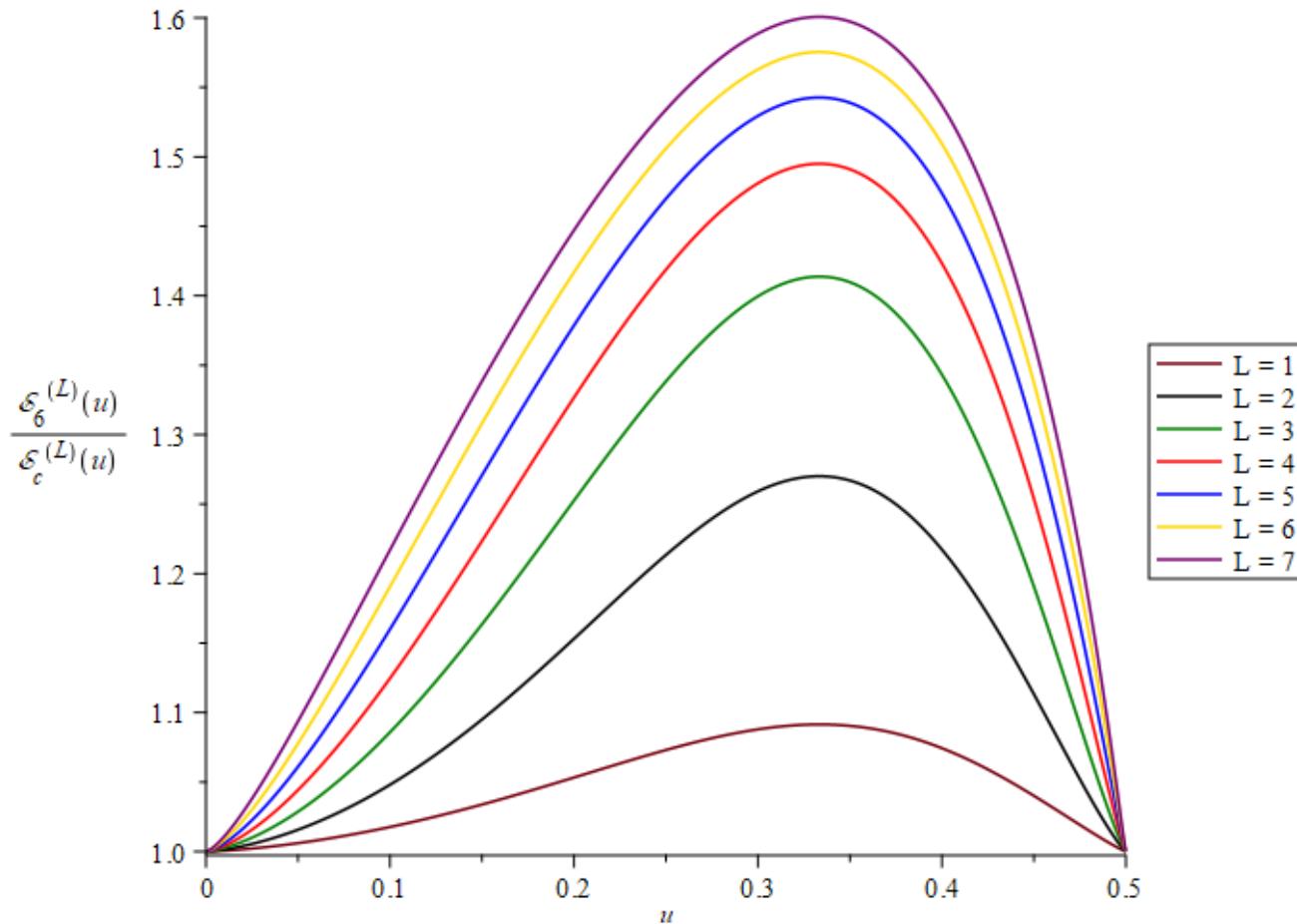
$IIIa,b,c$  = scattering / timelike operator

# Real “impact factor” appears in space-like Regge limit, $\nu \rightarrow \infty$

Remainder function  $R$  is nontrivial function of  $u = \frac{s_{12}}{m_H^2}$  as  $s_{23} \rightarrow \infty$



# Numerical implications of antipodal duality?



# Values of HPLs {0,1} at $u = 1$

- Classical polylogs

evaluate to Riemann zeta values

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

$$\text{Li}_n(1) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^n} = \zeta(n) \equiv \zeta_n$$

- HPL's evaluate to nested sums called multiple zeta values (MZVs):

$$\zeta_{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_m} = \sum_{k_1 > k_2 > \dots > k_m > 0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k_1^{n_1} k_2^{n_2} \cdots k_m^{n_m}}$$

Weight  $n = n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_m$

- MZV's obey many identities, e.g. stuffle

$$\zeta_{n_1} \zeta_{n_2} = \zeta_{n_1, n_2} + \zeta_{n_2, n_1} + \zeta_{n_1+n_2}$$

- All reducible to Riemann zeta values until weight 8.

Irreducible MZVs:  $\zeta_{5,3}, \zeta_{7,3}, \zeta_{5,3,3}, \zeta_{9,3}, \zeta_{6,4,1,1}, \dots$

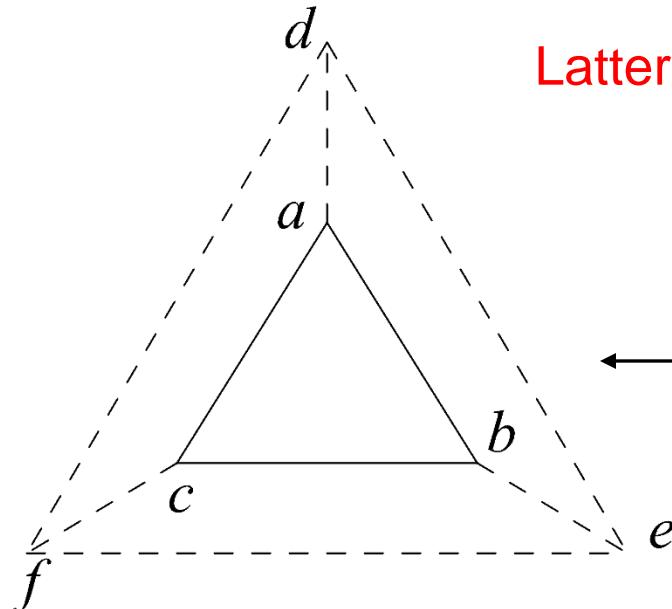
# Many “empirical” adjacency constraints

$$F^{d,e} = F^{e,d} = F^{e,f} = F^{f,e} = F^{f,d} = F^{d,f} = 0$$

Hold for 2 loop QCD amplitudes too, planar and nonplanar!

LD, Mcleod, Wilhelm, 2012.12286

$$F^{a,d} = F^{d,a} = F^{b,e} = F^{e,b} = F^{c,f} = F^{f,c} = 0$$



Latter are NEW: Hold for planar N=4 SYM to 8 loops!

Mnemonic for dihedral symmetry;  
6 dashed lines indicate 12 forbidden pairs.

# Empirical multi-final entry relations

1.  $\varepsilon^a = 0$  (plus dihedral images)
2.  $\varepsilon^{a,e} = \varepsilon^{a,f}$  (plus ...)
3.  $\varepsilon^{a,b,d} = 0, \quad \varepsilon^{a,e,e} = -\varepsilon^{a,f,f},$   
 $\varepsilon^{e,a,f} = \varepsilon^{f,a,f} - \varepsilon^{a,f,f}$
4. ...

# Number of remaining parameters in form-factor ansatz after imposing constraints

$L$	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
symbols in $\mathcal{C}$	48	249	1290	6654	34219	????	????
dihedral symmetry	11	51	247	1219	????	????	????
$(L - 1)$ final entries	5	9	20	44	86	???	???
$L^{\text{th}}$ discontinuity	2	5	17	38	75	???	??
collinear limit	0	1	2	8	19	70	6
OPE $T^2 \ln^{L-1} T$	0	0	0	4	12	56	0
OPE $T^2 \ln^{L-2} T$	0	0	0	0	0	36	0
OPE $T^2 \ln^{L-3} T$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OPE $T^2 \ln^{L-4} T$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OPE $T^2 \ln^{L-5} T$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 4:** Number of parameters left when bootstrapping the form factor  $\mathcal{E}^{(L)}$  at  $L$ -loop order in the function space  $\mathcal{C}$  at symbol level, using all the conditions on the final  $(L - 1)$  entries, which can be deduced at  $(L - 1)$  loops.

# The [Dual] Conformal Group

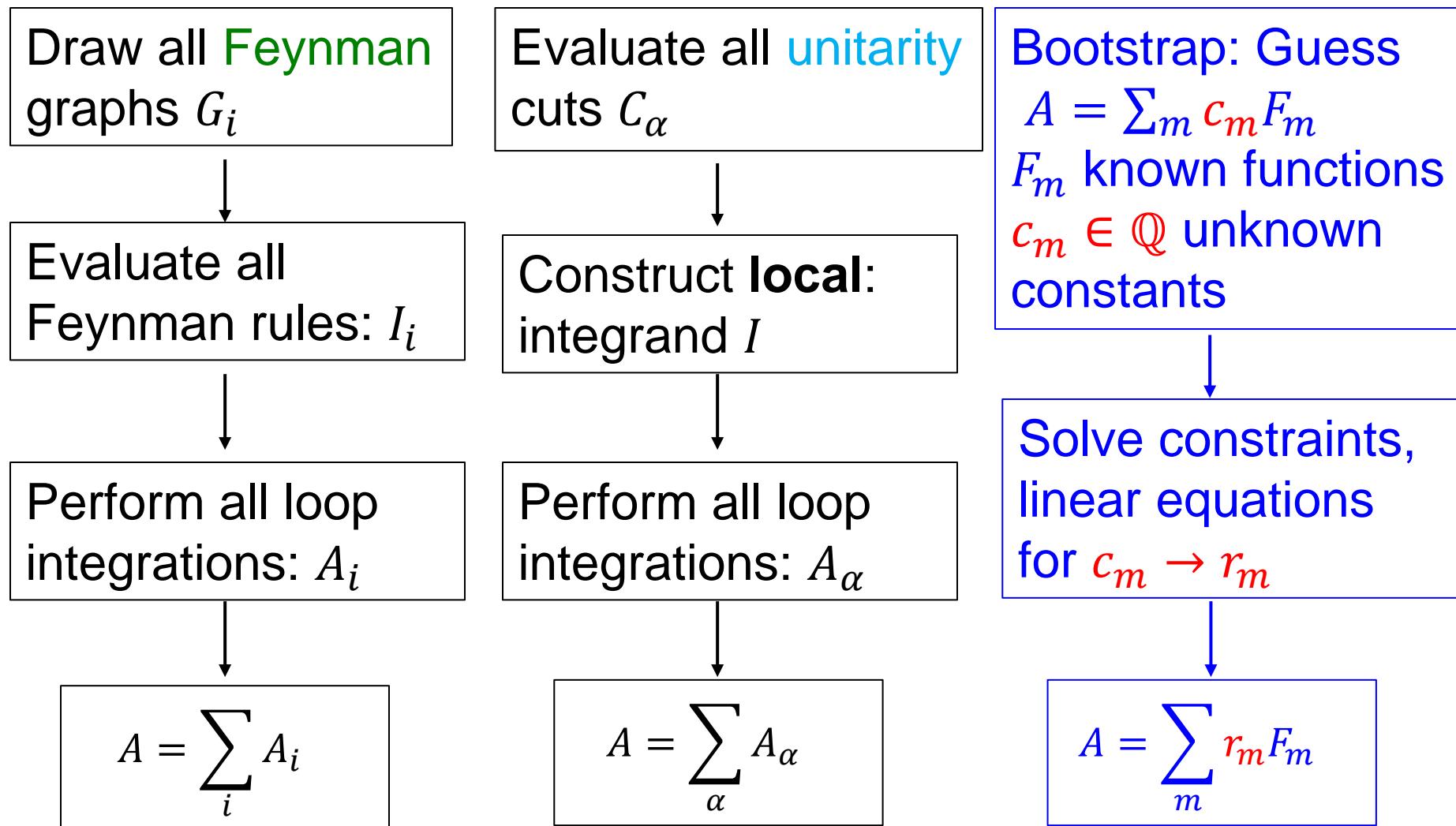
$\text{SO}(4,2) \supset \text{SO}(3,1)$  [rotations+boosts] + translations+dilatations + special-conformal

$$15 = 3 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 4$$

- The nontrivial generators are special conformal  $K^\mu$
- Correspond to inversion · translation · inversion
- To obtain a [dual] conformally invariant function  $f(x_{ij}^2)$  just have to check invariance under inversion,

$$x_i^\mu \rightarrow x_i^\mu / x_i^2$$

# Different routes to perturbative amplitudes



# Beyond 8-4

- The map  $\hat{T}_1 = \frac{T}{S}, \hat{S}_1 = \frac{1}{TS}, \hat{T}_2 = \frac{T_2}{S_2}, \hat{S}_2 = \frac{1}{T_2 S_2}$  seems **likely** to generalize to give rise to a  $2(n - 2)$  parameter subspace of the full  $3n - 7$  dimensional  $n$ -point form factor kinematics, presumably from setting  $F_2 = \dots = F_{n-2} = i$
- We can **conjecture** that **antipodal duality** applies on this subspace
- But there is still a lot to be checked!