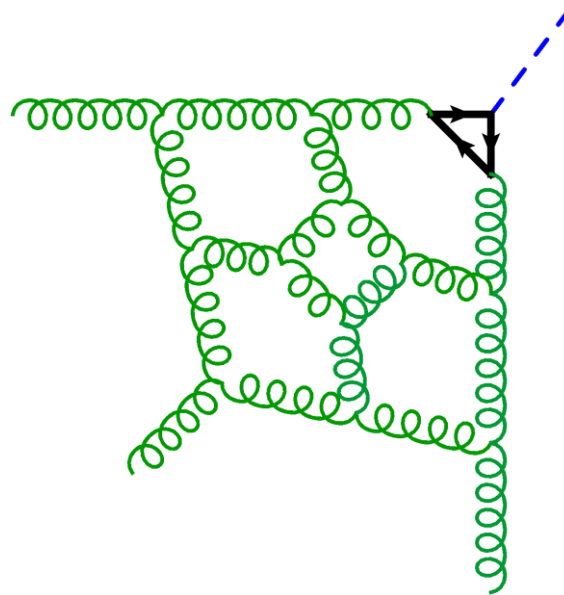


# [Amplitude] Bootstrap

## Lecture 2



Lance Dixon (SLAC)

“The Amplitude Games”

Mainz Institute for Theoretical Physics

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# 2d HPLs

Gehrmann, Remiddi, hep-ph/0008287

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

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

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

$$w = 1 - u - v$$

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  $F^{S_j}$ :

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

- 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

# Symbol alphabet for $H_{ggg}$

Gehrmann, Remiddi, hep-ph/0008287

- Comparing

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

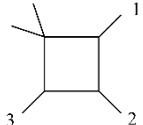
$$\frac{\partial F(u, v)}{\partial v} = \frac{F^v}{v} - \frac{F^w}{1-u-v} - \frac{F^{1-v}}{1-v} + \frac{F^{1-w}}{u+v}$$

with

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

we see that  $\mathcal{S} = \{u, v, w, 1-u, 1-v, 1-w\}$        $w = 1-u-v$

**Exercise:** Verify that all 3 dihedral (cyclic) permutations of the (finite part of the) box integral are in this space.



$$= \text{Li}_2\left(1 - \frac{1}{u}\right) + \text{Li}_2\left(1 - \frac{1}{v}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \ln^2\left(\frac{u}{v}\right) + \dots$$

# Iterative construction and “integrability”

- Suppose we know all functions  $F$  at weight  $n-1$ , and the dimension of this space is  $d_{n-1}$ .
- We can use the differential definition to construct all functions at the next weight up,  $n$ .
- In the 2dHPL case, naively we get  $d_n = 6d_{n-1}$  weight  $n$  functions, given that there are 6  $\{n-1, 1\}$  coproducts  $F^u, F^v, F^w, F^{1-u}, F^{1-v}, F^{1-w}$
- But there is an **integrability constraint**, that the **mixed partial derivatives must be equal**:

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial^2 F(u, v)}{\partial u \partial v} = \frac{\partial^2 F(u, v)}{\partial v \partial u}}$$

# Homework

- Use equality of the mixed partial derivatives to derive a set of linear constraints on the  $\{n-2,1,1\}$  “double” coproducts,  $F^{S_k, S_j}$
- After looking at what multiplies the independent rational functions of  $u$  and  $v$ , you should find 9 independent relations:

$$F^{1-u,1-v} - F^{1-v,1-u} = 0, \quad \text{and dihedral images (3 equations)}$$

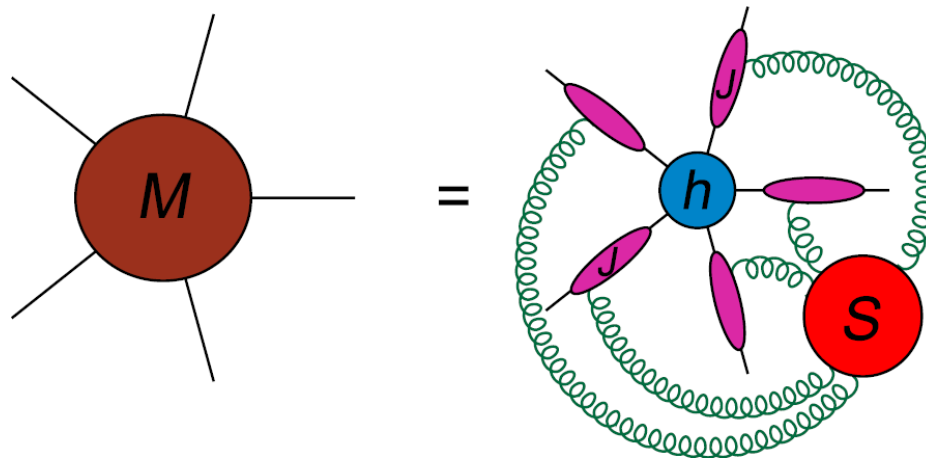
$$F^{u,v} - F^{v,u} + F^{1-w,v} - F^{v,1-w} = 0, \quad \text{and dihedral images (6 eqns)}$$

- Note that you might initially find linear combinations of these relations, but they can be rearranged into this form.

# Infrared divergences

1980s QCD factorization: Collins, Soper, Sterman, Mueller, Sen, Magnea, Korchemsky, ...

- All on-shell amplitudes in massless gauge theory are infrared divergent due to soft gluon exchange, and virtual collinear splitting.



- Soft divergences quite complicated “web” for  $n$ -point amplitude because soft gluons can “see” all hard particles

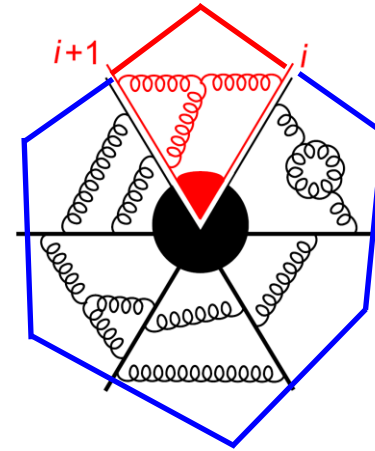


# Planar IR divergences

e.g. Bern, LD, Smirnov, hep-th/0505205

- IR divergences simplify drastically in the planar limit:
- The  $n$  (adjoint) hard particles generically have very different color indices on each side of their double-edged ('t Hooft) color lines, defining  $n$  “wedges”:

- Each soft gluon can only be emitted and absorbed within a **single wedge**.
- Collinear virtual emission can be assigned to wedges too.
- Each wedge is very simple kinematically, depending only on  $s_{i,i+1}$
- It is the square root of a 2-point “Sudakov” form factor
- Furthermore, it is dual to a piece of the  $n$ -gon, containing a single vertex, or cusp.
- Leading behavior  $\sim$  cusp anomalous dimension.



Magnea,  
Sterman

Korchensky, Radyushkin

# BDS Ansatz

Bern, LD, Smirnov, hep-th/0505205

For planar N=4 SYM  $n$ -point MHV amplitudes:

$$\frac{\mathcal{A}_n^{\text{BDS}}}{\mathcal{A}_n^{\text{tree}}} \equiv \mathcal{M}_n^{\text{BDS}} = \exp \left[ \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{\lambda}{8\pi^2} \right]^l \left( f^{(l)}(\epsilon) M_n^{(1)}(l\epsilon) + C^{(l)} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \right) \right]$$

- $\lambda = N_c g_{YM}^2$  is the 't Hooft coupling
- $M_n^{(1)}(l\epsilon)$  is 1-loop MHV amplitude, in dimensional regularization with  $D = 4 - 2l\epsilon$
- Unusual dimension and  $f^{(l)}(\epsilon) \sim \Gamma_{cusp} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$  designed to reproduce Sudakov form factor for each wedge, [Magnea, Sterman](#) capture all IR divergences. (Also proper collinear limits.)
- $C^{(l)}$  is a constant for  $n = 4, 5$ , as a consequence of **dual conformal invariance**: no cross ratios on which to depend!

# Remainder function

Bern, LD, Kosower, Roiban, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich, 0803.1465;  
Drummond, Henn, Korchemsky, Sokatchev, 0803.1466

- Starting at  $n = 6$ , BDS ansatz for MHV amplitudes needs correction, define a **remainder function**:

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mathcal{A}_n^{\text{MHV}}(s_{i,i+1}, \epsilon)}{\mathcal{A}_n^{\text{BDS}}(s_{i,i+1}, \epsilon)} \equiv \exp[R_n(u_i)]$$

- **Dual conformal invariance**
  - $R_n$  only depends on  $3n-15$  cross ratios  $u_i$
- Collinear properties of  $\mathcal{A}_n^{\text{BDS}}$  are “correct”
  - $R_n \rightarrow R_{n-1}$  smoothly as any two gluons become collinear
- In particular,  $R_6 \rightarrow R_5 = 0$ . Similarly for  $Hggg$  remainder  $R$

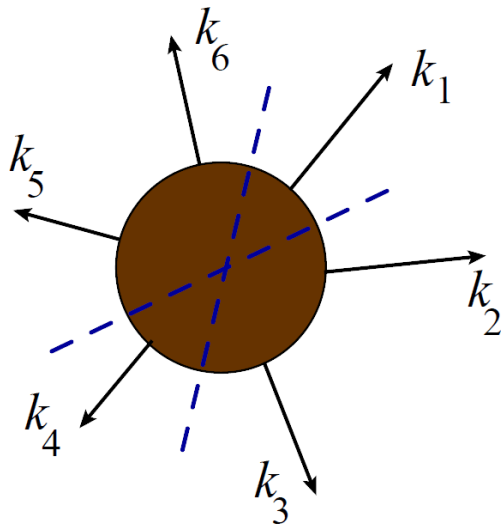
# Remainder function issues

- Despite the nice **collinear** properties of the remainder function, it does not have the nicest **causal (branch cut)** properties, leading it to live in “**too big**” a space of functions.
- **Not good for bootstrapping.**
- Problem is that BDS ansatz exponentiates the full one-loop amplitude. The perturbative expansion of the exponential at two loops includes  $[M_n^{(1)}]^2$ , and this quantity **violates** certain causal “**Steinmann**” relations

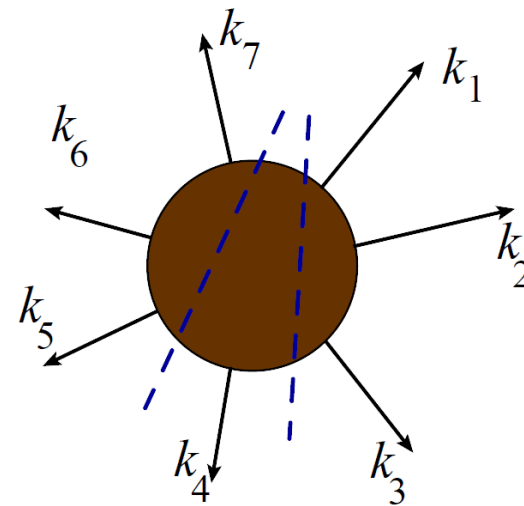
# Steinmann relations

Steinmann, Helv. Phys. Acta (1960)    Bartels, Lipatov, Sabio Vera, 0802.2065

- Amplitudes should not have **overlapping** branch cuts:



Not Allowed



Allowed

$$\text{Disc}_{S_{234}} \left[ \text{Disc}_{S_{123}} \mathcal{A}_6 \right] = 0$$

can't apply to  
2 particle cuts in  
**massless** case  
because they are  
**not independent**

# BDS-like normalization

- Inspecting the 1-loop 6-gluon amplitude, it splits into a part with **no 3-particle cuts** (only  $\ln s_{i,i+1}$ ), and a **finite dual conformal part**:

$$M_6^{(1)}(\epsilon) = \widehat{M}_6^{(1)}(\epsilon) + \mathcal{E}_6^{(1)}(u, v, w)$$

$$\widehat{M}_6^{(1)}(\epsilon) = \sum_{i=1}^6 \left[ -\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} (1 - \epsilon \ln s_{i,i+1}) - \ln s_{i,i+1} \ln s_{i+1,i+2} + \frac{1}{2} \ln s_{i,i+1} \ln s_{i+3,i+4} + \zeta_2 \right]$$

$$\mathcal{E}_6^{(1)} = \text{Li}_2\left(1 - \frac{1}{u}\right) + \text{Li}_2\left(1 - \frac{1}{v}\right) + \text{Li}_2\left(1 - \frac{1}{w}\right)$$

- So we can normalize by the more **minimal** ansatz,

$$\mathcal{A}_6^{\text{BDS-like}} = \mathcal{A}_6^{\text{tree}} \exp \left[ \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{\lambda}{8\pi^2} \right]^2 (f^{(l)}(\epsilon) \widehat{M}_6^{(1)}(l\epsilon) + \mathcal{C}^{(l)}) \right]$$

Alday, Gaiotto, Maldacena, 0911.4708

# BDS-like normalized amplitude $\mathcal{E}$

Caron-Huot, LD, von Hippel, McLeod, 1609.00669

- For 6 gluons, best to work with:

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

from  $f^{(l)}(\epsilon \rightarrow 0)$

because it obeys

$$\text{Disc}_{s_{234}} \left[ \text{Disc}_{s_{123}} \mathcal{E}_6 \right] = 0$$

- There's also a Steinmann-preserving 7-gluon normalization.  
LD, Drummond, Harrington, McLeod, Papathanasiou, Spradlin, 1612.08976
- For 3-point “ $Hggg$ ” form factor  $\mathcal{F}_3$ , there are **no Steinmann relations to preserve**, but we can **still expect a more minimal normalization to simplify things**.

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

- Inspecting the 1-loop amplitude,

$$M_3^{(1)}(\epsilon) = \widehat{M}_3^{(1)}(\epsilon) + \mathcal{E}^{(1)}(u, v, w)$$

$$\widehat{M}_3^{(1)}(\epsilon) = \sum_{i=1}^3 \left[ -\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} (1 - \epsilon \ln s_{i,i+1}) - \frac{1}{2} \ln^2 s_{i,i+1} \right] + \frac{9}{2} \zeta_2 + \sum_{i=1}^3 [\ln^2 u_i - \ln u_i \ln u_{i+1}]$$

$i$  index is mod 3

$$\mathcal{E}^{(1)} = 2 \left[ \text{Li}_2 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{u} \right) + \text{Li}_2 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{v} \right) + \text{Li}_2 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{w} \right) \right]$$

and we normalize by,

$$\mathcal{F}_3^{\text{BDS-like}} = \mathcal{F}_3^{\text{tree}} \exp \left[ \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{\lambda}{8\pi^2} \right]^2 (f^{(l)}(\epsilon) \widehat{M}_3^{(1)}(l\epsilon) + \mathcal{C}^{(l)}) \right]$$

$$\mathcal{E}(u_i) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mathcal{F}_3(s_{i,i+1}, \epsilon)}{\mathcal{F}_3^{\text{BDS-like}}(s_{i,i+1}, \epsilon)} = \exp \left[ \frac{\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}}{4} \mathcal{E}^{(1)} + R \right]$$



# Relation between $R$ , $\mathcal{E}$

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

- In collinear limit,  $\mathcal{E}(u_i) \rightarrow \exp\left[\frac{\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}}{4} \mathcal{E}^{(1)}\right]$
- Cusp anomalous dimension known to all loop orders (by inverting a semi-infinite matrix  $\mathbb{K}$ , not in closed form)  
Beisert, Eden, Staudacher, hep-th/0610251

$$\frac{\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}}{4} = g^2 - 2\zeta_2 g^4 + 22\zeta_4 g^6 - (219\zeta_6 + 8\zeta_3^2)g^8 + \dots$$

where  $g^2 \equiv \frac{\lambda}{16\pi^2}$

- At symbol level, all zeta values vanish,

$$\mathcal{E}(u_i) = \exp\left[g^2 \mathcal{E}^{(1)} + R\right] = 1 + g^2 \mathcal{E}^{(1)} + g^4 [R^{(2)} + \frac{1}{2} (\mathcal{E}^{(1)})^2] + \dots$$

- So  $\mathcal{E}^{(2)} = R^{(2)} + \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{E}^{(1)}]^2$ , etc.

# Inspecting the 2 loop symbol

- Symbol of the infrared finite “remainder function” from [Brandhuber, Travaglini, Yang, 1201.4170](#)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{S}(R_3^{(2)}) = 4 & \left[ -2u \otimes (1-u) \otimes (1-u) \otimes \frac{1-u}{u} + u \otimes (1-u) \otimes u \otimes \frac{1-u}{u} \right. \\
 & -u \otimes (1-u) \otimes v \otimes \frac{1-v}{v} - u \otimes (1-u) \otimes w \otimes \frac{1-w}{w} \\
 & -u \otimes v \otimes (1-u) \otimes \frac{1-v}{v} - u \otimes v \otimes (1-v) \otimes \frac{1-u}{u} \\
 & +u \otimes v \otimes w \otimes \frac{1-u}{u} + u \otimes v \otimes w \otimes \frac{1-v}{v} \\
 & +u \otimes v \otimes w \otimes \frac{1-w}{w} - u \otimes w \otimes (1-u) \otimes \frac{1-w}{w} \\
 & +u \otimes w \otimes v \otimes \frac{1-u}{u} + u \otimes w \otimes v \otimes \frac{1-v}{v} \\
 & \left. +u \otimes w \otimes v \otimes \frac{1-w}{w} - u \otimes w \otimes (1-w) \otimes \frac{1-u}{u} \right] + \text{cyclic}
 \end{aligned}$$

- It is not that complicated (84 terms), but every pair of adjacent letters appears.
- So let's convert to  $\mathcal{E}^{(2)} = R^{(2)} + \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{E}^{(1)}]^2$

# A better alphabet

- Motivated by a similar change of variables in the 6 gluon case [Caron-Huot, LD, von Hippel, McLeod, 1609.00669](#) (which exposes the Steinmann relations there), we also switch to the alphabet

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

- We find that the symbol of the one- and two-loop amplitudes simplify remarkably, down to just 1 and 2 terms, plus dihedral images(!!!):

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

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

# Exercise(s)

- From  $\mathcal{E}^{(1)}(u, v, w) = 2 \left[ \text{Li}_2 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{u} \right) + \text{Li}_2 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{v} \right) + \text{Li}_2 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{w} \right) \right]$

compute the symbol by taking derivatives, first in the alphabet

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

and then convert it to  $\mathcal{S}' = \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}$

- You can also derive relations between coproducts in different alphabets using the chain rule:

$$F^u = F^a - F^b - F^c - F^d \qquad F^{1-u} = F^d$$

+ dihedral images

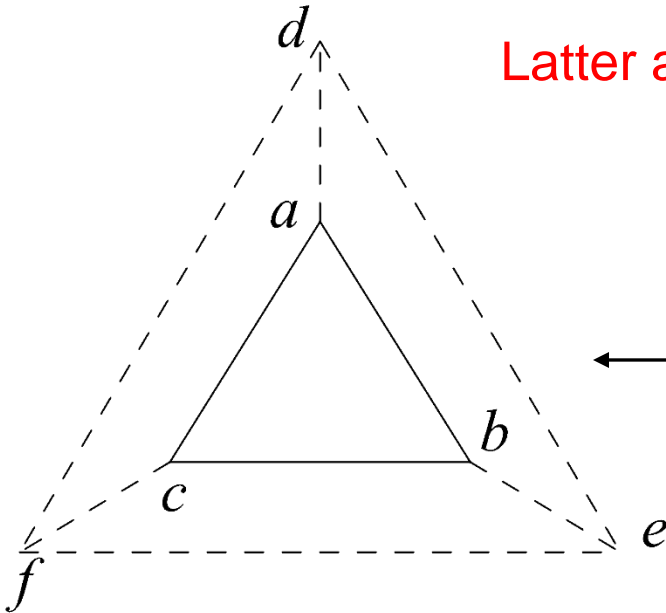
# Many adjacency constraints!

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

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!  
LD, Gürdoğan, Mcleod, Wilhelm, to appear

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

# Pair recap for planar N=4 SYM

- There are 9 integrability relations. In the alphabet  $\mathcal{S}'$ , 6 of them become the antisymmetric parts of the 12 relations

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

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

- The 3 remaining integrability relations are a bit longer:

$$F^{a,b} - F^{b,a} + F^{a,c} - F^{c,a} = 0$$

$$F^{b,c} - F^{c,b} + F^{a,c} - F^{c,a} = 0$$

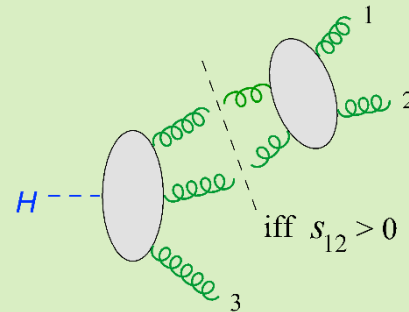
$$F^{d,b} - F^{b,d} + F^{c,d} - F^{d,c} + F^{e,c} - F^{c,e} + F^{a,e} - F^{e,a} \\ + F^{f,a} - F^{a,f} + F^{b,f} - F^{f,b} + 4(F^{c,b} - F^{b,c}) = 0$$

- Number of allowed pairs is  $36 - 6 - 9 = 21$   
(This number is saturated by 3 loops.)

# Branch cut conditions

All massless particles

→ all branch cuts start at origin in  $s_{i,i+1}, s_{123}$



→ Branch cuts all start from 0 or  $\infty$  in  $u = \frac{s_{12}}{s_{123}}$  or  $v$  or  $w$

→ Only 3 weight 1 functions, not 6:  $\{ \ln u, \ln v, \ln w \}$   ~~$\ln(1-u)$~~

- Quite generally, derivatives commute with branch cuts:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \text{Disc}_{z=z_0} f(z) = \text{Disc}_{z=z_0} \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}$$

- Derivatives of higher weight functions must obey branch-cut condition too. At symbol level this means their first entries can only be  $\{u, v, w\}$ , or  $\{a, b, c\}$

# Branch cut conditions

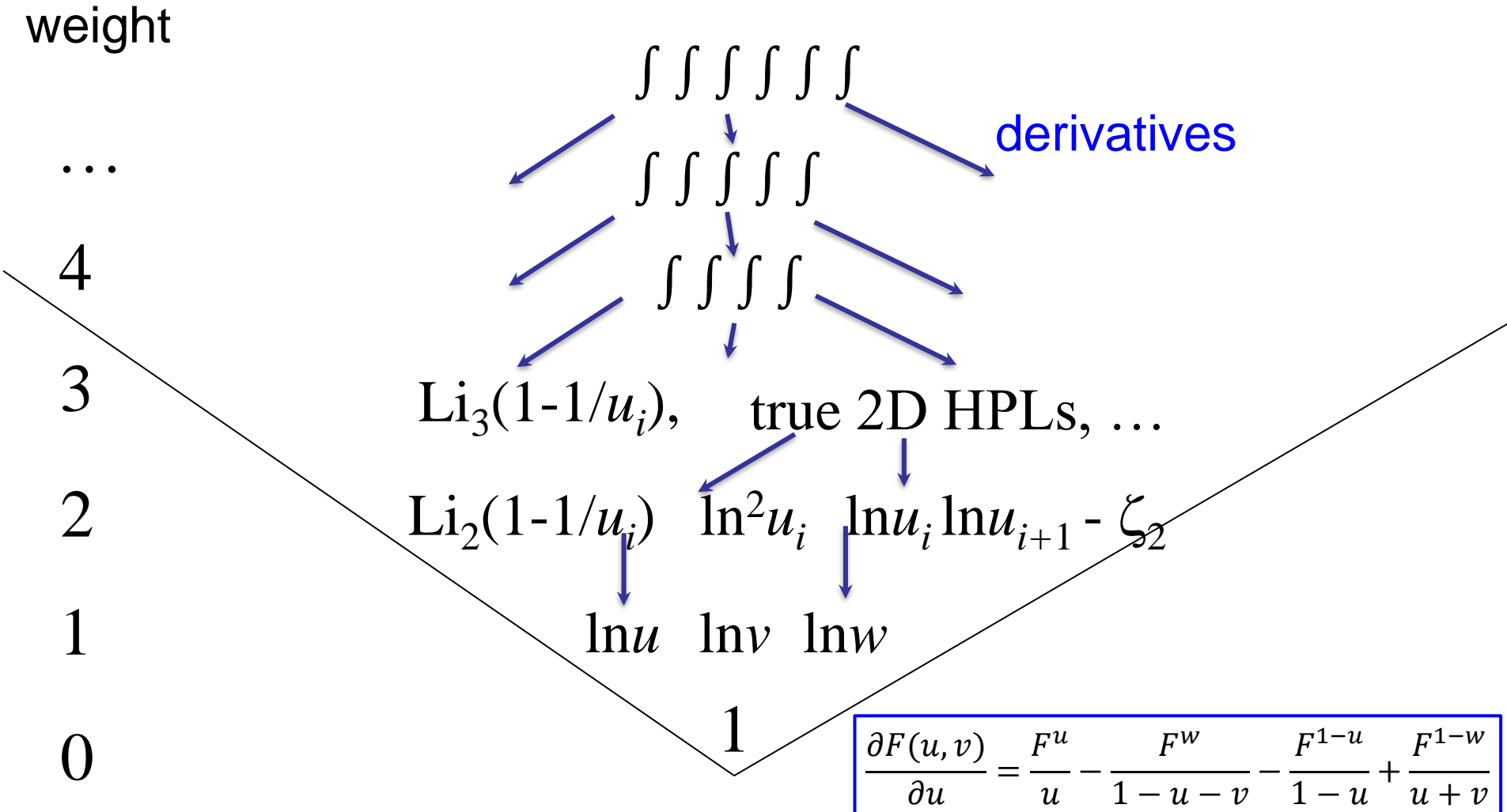
- In the form factor case, requiring no branch cut as  $u \rightarrow 1$  for arbitrary  $v, w \rightarrow 0$  gives the condition (+ dihedral images):

$$F^{1-u}(1, v, w)|_{v, w \rightarrow 0} = 0$$

- This condition is stronger than the first-entry condition. At symbol level it says that a  $1 - u$  anywhere in the symbol must be preceded by  $u, 1 - v, \text{ or } 1 - w$
- For 6 and 7 gluons, the appropriate first entry condition is enough, at symbol level.



# Heuristic view of space



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

# Construction of space

- **Weight 2:** Must start with  $\{a, b, c\}$ . 6 choices of letters in second slot before applying pair constraints.
- First suppose second letter is also  $\{a, b, c\}$ . Then “longest” pair constraint collapses to  $F^{b,c} = F^{c,b}$ . Combining it with the other two long ones gives the dihedral images,  $F^{a,b} = F^{b,a}$ ,  $F^{c,a} = F^{a,c}$ .
- Solved by 
$$a \otimes a = S \left[ \frac{1}{2} \ln^2 a \right] + \text{cyclic} \quad (3)$$
- $$a \otimes b + b \otimes a = S[\ln a \ln b] + \text{cyclic} \quad (3)$$
- If last letter is  $d$ , “longest” pair constraint  $\rightarrow F^{b,d} = F^{c,d}$
- $$\rightarrow b \otimes d + c \otimes d = -2u \otimes \frac{1-u}{u} = S[2\text{Li}_2 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{u} \right)] + \text{cyclic} \quad (3)$$
- **Weight 2 space is 9 dimensional.**

# Construction of space (cont.)

- **Weight 3:** Start with the 9 weight 2 symbol, and tack on all 6 choices of letters in 3<sup>rd</sup> slot.
- Apply pair constraints.
- Also apply branch cut constraints. (Satisfied at weight 2.)
- Finally there are some triple constraints.
- Solve on computer → **weight 3 is 21 dimensional**
- **Promote to functions:**

At low weights, most are logs and 1d HPLs:

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

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

Symbol alphabet for  $H_{\vec{w}}(x)$ :  $\{x, 1-x\}$

# Construction of space (cont.)

Let  $u = u_1, v = u_2, w = u_3$

- 3 weight 1 functions:  $\ln u_i$
- 9 weight 2 functions:

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln^2 \left( \frac{u_i}{u_{i+1}} \right) + \zeta_2, \quad \frac{1}{2} \ln^2 \left( \frac{u_i u_{i+1}}{u_{i+2}} \right) + \zeta_2, \quad H_{0,1}(1 - u_i)$$

- 22 weight 2 functions:

$$\left\{ \frac{1}{6} \ln^3 \left( \frac{u_i}{u_{i+1}} \right) + \zeta_2 \ln \left( \frac{u_i}{u_{i+1}} \right), \quad \frac{1}{6} \ln^3 \left( \frac{u_i u_{i+1}}{u_{i+2}} \right) + \zeta_2 \ln \left( \frac{u_i u_{i+1}}{u_{i+2}} \right), \right. \\ \left. \frac{1}{6} \ln^3 u_i - H_{0,1,1}(1 - u_i), \quad \frac{1}{6} \ln^3 u_i + \ln u_i H_{0,1}(1 - u_i) + 2 H_{0,1,1}(1 - u_i) \right. \\ \left. H_{0,0,1}(1 - u_i) + H_{0,1,1}(1 - u_i) \right\}, \quad \text{[five 3-orbits]}$$

+ two more complicated 3-orbits

+  $\zeta_3$  [need first at 6 loops!]

# Symbol is too verbose

→ Nested representation better

---

loop order $L$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
terms in $S[\mathcal{E}^{(L)}]$	6	12	636	11,208	263,880	4,916,466	97,594,968	???

---

- Define every function by its  $\{n - 1, 1\}$  coproducts, i.e. its first derivatives.
- Also need to specify constants of integration at one point, e.g.  $(u, v, w) = (1, 0, 0)$



# Three-index tensors

- Function space defined by

$$dF = \sum_{s_\alpha \in \mathcal{S}} F^{s_\alpha} d \ln s_\alpha \quad \text{or} \quad \Delta_{n-1,1} F = \sum_{s_\alpha \in \mathcal{S}} F^{s_\alpha} \otimes \ln s_\alpha$$

- Let  $\{f_i^{(n)}\}$  be a basis for the  $d_n$  functions at weight  $n$ , and expand the derivatives of  $f_i^{(n)}$  in terms of  $f_i^{(n-1)}$  :

$$df_i^{(n)} = \sum_{j,\alpha} T_{ij\alpha}^{(n)} f_j^{(n-1)} d \ln s_\alpha$$

- Tensors  $T_{ij\alpha}^{(n)} \in \mathbb{Q}$  have dimension  $d_n \times d_{n-1} \times |\mathcal{S}|$ , fully characterize space at symbol level, and up to constants at function level.