

Symbology for elliptic Feynman integrals and scattering amplitudes

Matthias Wilhelm, Niels Bohr Institute



Amplitudes '22, Prague

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[2106.14902] with A. Kristensson and C. Zhang

[2206.08378] with C. Zhang

[22xx.xxxxx] with A. Spiering, C. Zhang, R. Morales and Q. Yang

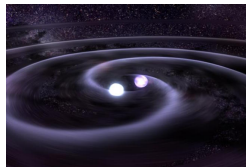
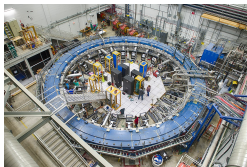




What numbers and functions occur in QFT?

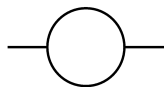
What identities do they satisfy?

How can we exploit this knowledge to extend our calculational reach?

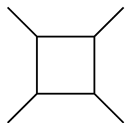


Goncharov polylogarithms and the symbol

At one loop: Polylogarithms



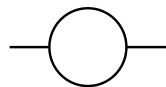
$$\stackrel{D=2}{\sim} \log \left(\frac{1+2\frac{m^2}{s} + \sqrt{1+4\frac{m^2}{s}}}{1+2\frac{m^2}{s} - \sqrt{1+4\frac{m^2}{s}}} \right),$$



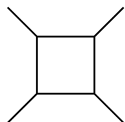
$$\stackrel{D=4}{\sim} \text{Li}_2(\dots) + \dots$$

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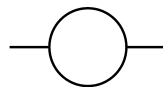
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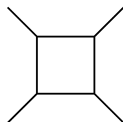
More generally: Goncharov polylogarithms [Chen (1977)], [Goncharov (1995)], ...

$$G(a_1, \dots, a_n; x) = \int_0^x \frac{dt}{t - a_1} G(a_2, \dots, a_n, t), \quad G(; x) = 1$$

Goncharov polylogarithms and the symbol

At one loop: Polylogarithms


$$D \stackrel{=}{\sim} 2 \log \left(\frac{1+2\frac{m^2}{s} + \sqrt{1+4\frac{m^2}{s}}}{1+2\frac{m^2}{s} - \sqrt{1+4\frac{m^2}{s}}} \right),$$


$$D \stackrel{=}{\sim} 4 \operatorname{Li}_2(\dots) + \dots$$

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Symbol [Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich (2010)]

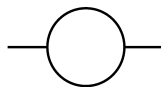
$$dG(\vec{a}; z) = \sum_i F_i d\log(\phi_i) \Rightarrow \mathcal{S}(G(\vec{a}; z)) = \sum_i \mathcal{S}(F_i) \otimes \log(\phi_i)$$

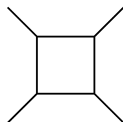
- Tensor product
 - $\log(ab) = \log(a) + \log(b)$
- ⇒ Easy to manipulate and well understood

→ talks by Song, Simone, Guilherme, Lance, Johannes, Matt, Andrew & Hofie

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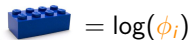
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Idea: Decompose complicated functions to simple functions!



Exploiting the power of the symbol

Dramatic simplification

- Two-loop six-gluon remainder function [Duhr, Del Duca, Smirnov (2010)]
18 pages \rightarrow 2 lines [Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich (2010)]

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Symbol alphabet

- Related to cluster algebras for six- and seven-gluon remainder functions in planar $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM theory [Golden, Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich (2013)],... \rightarrow Song's talk

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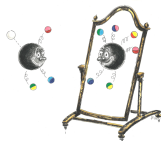
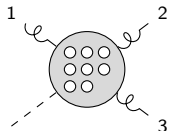
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Symbol bootstrap

- Six- and seven-gluon remainder functions in planar $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM theory up to seven- and four-loop order [Caron-Huot, Dixon, Drummond, Dulat, Foster, Gürdoğan, von Hippel, McLeod, Liu, Papathanasiou, ...]
- Solutions to differential equations [Henn, Herrmann, Parra-Martinez (2018)], ...
- Maximally transcendental part of Higgs \rightarrow 3 gluons in planar Yang-Mills theory up to 8-loop order!

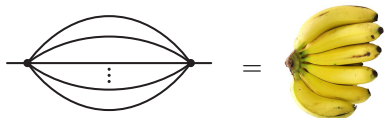
$$u = \frac{s_{12}}{s_{123}}, \quad v = \frac{s_{23}}{s_{123}}, \quad w = \frac{s_{13}}{s_{123}}$$

$$\phi_i \in \{u, v, w, 1 - u, 1 - v, 1 - w\}$$



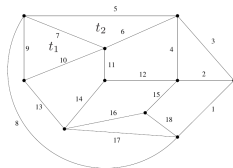
[Dixon, McLeod, MW (2020)], [Dixon, Gürdoğan, McLeod, MW (2021,2)] \rightarrow Lance's talk

Beyond polylogarithms: Elliptics & Calabi-Yau manifolds

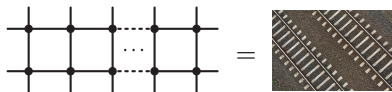


Calabi-Yau $(L-1)$ -fold

[Broadhurst, Fleischer, Tarasov (1993)], ...,
[Bönisch, Duhr, Fischbach, Klemm, Nega (2021)]



K_3 = Calabi-Yau 2-fold
[Brown, Schnetz (2010)]



Calabi-Yau $(L-1)$ -fold

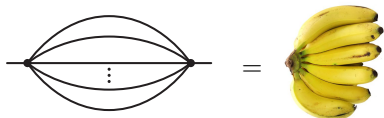
[Bourjaily, He, McLeod, von Hippel, MW (2018)], [Vergu, Volk (2020)]



Calabi-Yau $(2L-2)$ -fold

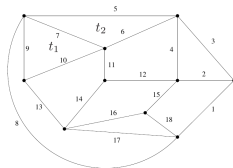
[Bourjaily, McLeod, von Hippel, MW (2018)]

Beyond polylogarithms: Elliptics & Calabi-Yau manifolds



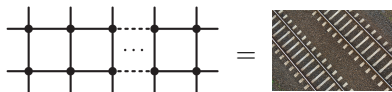
Calabi-Yau $(L - 1)$ -fold

[Broadhurst, Fleischer, Tarasov (1993)], ...,
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Calabi-Yau $(L - 1)$ -fold

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Calabi-Yau $(2L - 2)$ -fold

[Bourjaily, McLeod, von Hippel, MW (2018)]

Question: Similar understanding, structures & techniques?

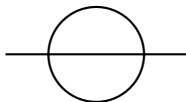
This talk: Symbology for Elliptics

Plan for this talk:

- Review of elliptic generalizations of polylogarithms [Brown, Levin (2011)], ..., [Brödel, Duhr, Dulat, Tancredi (2017)]
- Symbology for elliptic polylogarithms
Analog of $\log(a) + \log(b) = \log(ab)$? [MW, Zhang (2022)]
- Hidden simplicity \rightarrow Bootstrap
[Morales, Spiering, MW, Yang, Zhang (in progress)]



Examples:



[Broadhurst, Fleischer, Tarasov (1993)], ...,
[Adams, Bogner, Weinzierl (2013)], ...

[Caron-Huot, Larsen (2012)], [Bourjaily,
McLeod, Spradlin, von Hippel, MW (2017)],
[Kristensson, MW, Zhang (2021)]

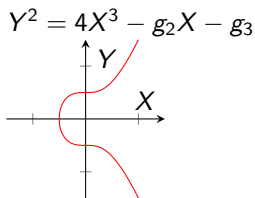
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- 2 Elliptic polylogarithms
- 3 Elliptic symbology
- 4 Hidden simplicity and elliptic bootstrap
- 5 Conclusion and Outlook

Elliptic polylogarithms I

Elliptic curve

$$y = \sqrt{P(x)}, \quad \deg_x P(x) = 3, 4$$



Elliptic polylogarithms [Brödel, Duhr, Dulat, Tancredi (2017)]

$$E_4\left(\begin{matrix} n_1 \\ c_1 \end{matrix} \dots \begin{matrix} n_k \\ c_k \end{matrix}; x\right) = \int_0^x dx' \psi_{n_1}(c_1, x') E_4\left(\begin{matrix} n_2 \\ c_2 \end{matrix} \dots \begin{matrix} n_k \\ c_k \end{matrix}; x'\right), \quad E_4(; x) = 1$$

Integration kernels

$$\psi_1(c, x) = \frac{1}{x - c},$$

$$\psi_0(0, x) = \frac{1}{y},$$

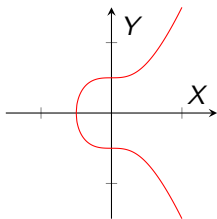
$$\psi_{-1}(c, x) = \frac{y|_{x=c}}{y(x - c)},$$

$$\psi_{\pm(n>1)}(c, x) = \dots$$

Not pure \rightarrow No symbol

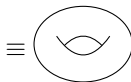
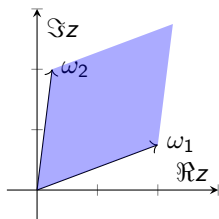
Elliptic curve and torus

$$Y^2 = 4X^3 - g_2X - g_3$$



\Leftrightarrow

$$\mathbb{C}/\{\omega_1\mathbb{Z} + \omega_2\mathbb{Z}\}$$



- Elliptic curve to torus: Abel map

$$z_c^+ = \int_{-\infty}^c \frac{dx}{y}$$

- Torus to elliptic curve: Weierstraß function

$$(X, Y) = (\wp(z), \wp'(z))$$

- Cave: each kinematic point c corresponds to two points $(c, \pm y|_{x=c})$ on the curve and has two images z_c^\pm on the torus!

Elliptic polylogarithms II

Elliptic polylogarithms on the normalized torus ($\tau = \omega_2/\omega_1$, $w = z/\omega_1$)

[Brödel, Duhr, Dulat, Tancredi (2017)] [Brödel, Duhr, Dulat, Penante, Tancredi (2018)]

$$\tilde{\Gamma}\left(\begin{matrix} n_1 \\ w_1 \end{matrix} \dots \begin{matrix} n_k \\ w_k \end{matrix}; w\right) = \int_0^w dw' g^{(n_1)}(w' - w_1) \tilde{\Gamma}\left(\begin{matrix} n_2 \\ w_2 \end{matrix} \dots \begin{matrix} n_k \\ w_k \end{matrix}; w'\right), \quad \tilde{\Gamma}(\cdot; w) = 1$$

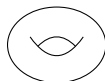
Integration kernels generated by the Eisenstein-Kronecker series:

$$\frac{(\partial_{w'} \theta_1(w')|_{w'=0}) \theta_1(w + \alpha)}{\theta_1(w) \theta_1(\alpha)} = \sum_{n \geq 0} \alpha^{n-1} g^{(n)}(w),$$

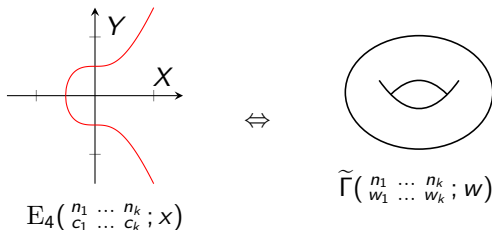
where $\theta_1(w) \equiv \theta_1(w|\tau) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} (-1)^{n-\frac{1}{2}} e^{\pi i \tau (n+\frac{1}{2})^2} e^{(2n+1)iw}$

Properties

- Length $k \neq$ weight $\sum_k n_k$
- Pure \rightarrow Symbol [Brödel, Duhr, Dulat, Penante, Tancredi (2018)]



Translation between elliptic polylogarithms



Relations between integration kernels

$$\psi_1(c, x) dx = \frac{1}{x - c} dx = \sum_{\sigma=\pm} [g^{(1)}(w - w_c^\sigma) - g^{(1)}(w - w_\infty^\sigma)] dw$$

$$\psi_{-1}(c, x) dx = \frac{y_c}{y(x - c)} dx = \sum_{\sigma=\pm} [\sigma g^{(1)}(w - w_c^\sigma) + \sigma g^{(1)}(w_c^\sigma)] dw$$

$$\psi_0(0, x) dx = \frac{dx}{y} = \omega_1 \underbrace{g^{(0)}(w)}_1 dw$$

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- 3 Elliptic symbology**
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Symbol for elliptic polylogarithms

Symbol for Goncharov polylogarithms [Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich (2010)]

$$dG(\vec{a}; z) = \sum_i F_i d\log(\phi_i) \Rightarrow \mathcal{S}(G(\vec{a}; z)) = \sum_i \mathcal{S}(F_i) \otimes \log(\phi_i)$$

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Elliptic generalization: $\tilde{\Gamma}_k^{(n)} = (2\pi i)^{k-n} \tilde{\Gamma}_k^{(n)}$ of weight n and length k
[Brödel, Duhr, Dulat, Penante, Tancredi (2018)]

$$d\tilde{\Gamma}_k^{(n)} = \sum_i \tilde{\Gamma}_{k-1}^{(n-j_i)} d\Omega^{(j_i)}(w_i) \Rightarrow \mathcal{S}(\tilde{\Gamma}_k^{(n)}) = \sum_i \mathcal{S}(\tilde{\Gamma}_{k-1}^{(n-j_i)}) \otimes \Omega^{(j_i)}(w_i)$$

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Remarks:

- Symbol letters $\Omega^{(n)}$: $\tilde{\Gamma}(\begin{smallmatrix} n \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}; w) = \Omega^{(n)}(w) - \Omega^{(n)}(0)$
- Factors of $(2\pi i) \Rightarrow$ Degenerate limit $\tau \rightarrow i\infty$: $\Omega^{(n)} \rightarrow \log$

Elliptic Symbology Analog of $\log(a) + \log(b) = \log(ab)$?

- Parity $\Omega^{(j)}(-w) = (-1)^{j+1}\Omega^{(j)}(w)$

- Quasi-periodicity

$$\Omega^{(n)}(w + \tau) = \sum_{j=0}^{n+1} \frac{(-1)^j}{j!} \Omega^{(n-j)}(w)$$

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- Relation between kernels

Recall $\psi_1(c, x)dx = \frac{dx}{x-c} = \sum_{\sigma \in \pm} [g^{(1)}(w - w_c^\sigma) - g^{(1)}(w - w_\infty^\sigma)]dw$

Trivial identity

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b \psi_1(c, x)dx &= \log \frac{b-c}{a-c} \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in \pm} \Omega^{(1)}(w_b^+ - w_c^\sigma) - \Omega^{(1)}(w_b^+ - w_\infty^\sigma) - (b \rightarrow a) \end{aligned}$$

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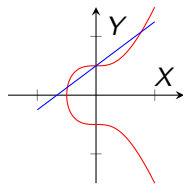
- Abel's addition theorem for $\Omega^{(0,1)}$
- Symbol prime for $\Omega^{(2)}$



Abel's addition theorem for elliptic integrals

$$\mathcal{C} : y^2 = P_4(x) = x^4 + a_3x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_1x + a_0$$

$$\mathcal{C}' : y = -x^2 + b_1x + b_2$$



Intersect in points (x_1, y_1) , (x_2, y_2) , $(x_3, -y_3)$
with $y_i = \sqrt{P_4(x_i)}$

Abel's addition theorem [Abel]

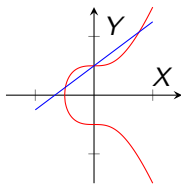
$I = \sum_{(x_i, y_i) \in \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{C}'} \int^{(x_i, y_i)}$ rational(x, y) contains at most logarithms of b_i

[MW, Zhang (2022)]

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- Torus images: $w_c^+ = \frac{1}{\omega_1} \int_{-\infty}^c \frac{dx}{y}$

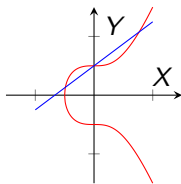
Abel's theorem: $w_{x_1}^+ + w_{x_2}^+ = w_{x_3}^+ \Rightarrow$ Identity for $\Omega^{(0)}(w) = 2\pi iw$

[MW, Zhang (2022)]

Abel's addition theorem for elliptic integrals

$$C: y^2 = P_4(x) = x^4 + a_3x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_1x + a_0$$

$$C': y = -x^2 + b_1x + b_2$$



Intersect in points (x_1, y_1) , (x_2, y_2) , $(x_3, -y_3)$
with $y_i = \sqrt{P_4(x_i)}$

Abel's addition theorem [Abel]

$I = \sum_{(x_i, y_i) \in C \cap C'} \int^{(x_i, y_i)}$ rational(x, y) contains at most logarithms of b_i

- Torus images: $w_c^+ = \frac{1}{\omega_1} \int_{-\infty}^c \frac{dx}{y}$

Abel's theorem: $w_{x_1}^+ + w_{x_2}^+ = w_{x_3}^+ \Rightarrow$ Identity for $\Omega^{(0)}(w) = 2\pi iw$

- Recall $\psi_{-1}(c, x) = \frac{y_c}{y(x-c)} = \sum_{\sigma=\pm} [\sigma g^{(1)}(w - w_c^\sigma) + \sigma g^{(1)}(w_c^\sigma)] dw$

Abel's theorem \Rightarrow Identity for $\Omega^{(1)}(w)$

[MW, Zhang (2022)]

Identities for $\Omega^{(2)}$?

Identities for $\Omega^{(2)}$? \Rightarrow elliptic Bloch relations

[Bloch (2000)], [Zagier, Gangl (2000)], [Brödel, Kaderli (2019)], [Bolbachan (2019)]

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Five-term identity for the Bloch-Wigner dilogarithm

$D = \Im(\text{Li}_2(z)) + \arg(1 - z) \log|z|:$

$$D(t) + D(s) + D\left(\frac{1-t}{1-ts}\right) + D(1-ts) + D\left(\frac{1-s}{1-ts}\right) = 0$$

Generalize to the elliptic Bloch-Wigner function

$$D^E(t, \tau) = \sum_{l \in \mathbb{Z}} D(e^{2\pi i \tau l} t)$$

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Problem We do not use the five-term identity for D , we use the symbol!

$\Omega^{(2)} \sim D^E$ is already a symbol letter \Rightarrow Define **symbol prime**

Consider

$$\mathcal{S}(\tilde{\Gamma}(\begin{smallmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{smallmatrix}; w)) = \Omega^{(0)}(w) \otimes \Omega^{(1)}(w) - \Omega^{(2)}(w) \otimes (2\pi i\tau)$$

Define **symbol prime**

$$\mathcal{S}'(\underbrace{\Omega^{(2)}(w)}_{\text{red brick}}) = \underbrace{\Omega^{(0)}(w)}_{\text{red brick}} \otimes' \underbrace{\Omega^{(1)}(w)}_{\text{red brick}}$$


Properties

- Reduces complicated identities of $\Omega^{(2)}$ to identities of $\Omega^{(0)}, \Omega^{(1)}$
→ Simplifications
- ...

[MW, Zhang (2022)]

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- 3 Elliptic symbology
- 4 Hidden simplicity and elliptic bootstrap**
- 5 Conclusion and Outlook

Example: 10-point elliptic double box

$$= \int d^4 x_l d^4 x_k \frac{(x_1 - x_5)^2}{(x_1 - x_l)^2 (x_3 - x_l)^2 (x_5 - x_l)^2} \times \frac{(x_3 - x_8)^2 (x_6 - x_{10})^2}{(x_l - x_k)^2 (x_6 - x_k)^2 (x_8 - x_k)^2 (x_{10} - x_k)^2}$$

- Dual momenta $x_a - x_{a+1} = p_a$
- (Seven independent) cross-ratios $x_{a,b;c,d} = \frac{(x_a - x_b)^2 (x_c - x_d)^2}{(x_a - x_c)^2 (x_b - x_d)^2}$
- First elliptic contribution to planar $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM theory
Only contribution to a particular component of the planar 10-point N^3 MHV amplitude [Caron-Huot, Larsen (2012)]

Symbol of the 10-point elliptic double box

Structure of the symbol ($\tau = \omega_2/\omega_1$):

$$\mathcal{S}\left(\frac{2\pi i}{\omega_1} \text{---}\right) \\ = \sum_{ikl} c^{ikl} \log(\phi_k) \otimes \log(\phi_l) \otimes \left[\sum_j \log(\phi_{ij}) \otimes \left(\frac{2\pi i}{\omega_1} \int_{-\infty}^{c_j} \frac{dx}{y} \right) + \Omega_i \otimes (2\pi i\tau) \right]$$

with $\Omega_i = \sum \Omega^{(2,1,0)}$ and

$$\mathcal{S}'(\Omega_i) = \sum_j \left(\frac{2\pi i}{\omega_1} \int_{-\infty}^{c_j} \frac{dx}{y} \right) \otimes' \log(\phi_{ij})$$



$$= \underbrace{\{\log(\phi_i)\}}_{53} \underbrace{\left(\frac{2\pi i}{\omega_1} \int_{-\infty}^{c_j} \frac{dx}{y} \right)}_6, 2\pi i\tau\}$$

[MW, Zhang (2022)]

Symbol of the 10-point elliptic double box

Structure of the symbol ($\tau = \omega_2/\omega_1$):

$$\mathcal{S} \left(\frac{2\pi i}{\omega_1} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \# \\ \hline \# \\ \hline \# \\ \hline \end{array} \right) \\ = \sum_{ikl} c^{ikl} \log(\phi_k) \otimes \log(\phi_l) \otimes \left[\sum_j \log(\phi_{ij}) \otimes \left(\frac{2\pi i}{\omega_1} \int_{-\infty}^{c_j} \frac{dx}{y} \right) + \Omega_i \otimes (2\pi i\tau) \right]$$

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Structure manifested by the symbol prime

- Double periodicity
 - Integrability w.r.t. τ
- ⇒ Symbol prime explains $\Omega_i!$

[MW, Zhang (2022)]

Elliptic bootstrap?

$$\text{Warm up: } \mathcal{S} \left(\frac{2\pi i}{\omega_1} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \# \\ \hline \end{array} \right)$$



Disassemble and reassemble!



[Morales, Spiering, MW, Yang, Zhang (in progress)]

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Conclusion

- Symbology for elliptic Feynman integrals & scattering amplitudes \equiv Analog of $\log(a) + \log(b) = \log(ab)$ for elliptic letters $\Omega^{(n)}$
 - $\Omega^{(0,1)}$: Abel's addition theorem
 - $\Omega^{(2)}$: Symbol prime
 - Reveals hidden simplicity!
- Proof of principle for elliptic bootstrap



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Outlook

- Simplified symbol → simplified function
- Bootstrap elliptic Feynman integrals and scattering amplitudes + Elliptic letters via Schubert problem

Works for  → Next target: 

[Morales, Spiering, MW, Yang, Zhang (in progress)]

- Generalize symbology to Calabi-Yau integrals

Conclusion and outlook

Conclusion

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Bonus slide: Symbol letters

- $\Omega^{(-1)} = -2\pi i\tau$, $\Omega^{(0)}(w) = 2\pi iw$, $\Omega^{(1)}(w) = \log(\theta_1(w, \tau)/\eta(\tau))$
- Sum representation

$$\Omega^{(\text{odd } j)}(w) = \left(\log(1 - e^{2\pi iw}) - \pi iw \right) \delta_{j,1} - \frac{2j\zeta_{j+1}\tau}{(2\pi i)^j} \\ + \frac{1}{(j-1)!} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{j-1} \log((1 - e^{2\pi i(n\tau-w)})(1 - e^{2\pi i(n\tau+w)})),$$

$$\Omega^{(\text{even } j)}(w) = -\frac{2\zeta_j w}{(2\pi i)^{j-1}} + \frac{1}{(j-1)!} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{j-1} \log \frac{1 - e^{2\pi i(n\tau+w)}}{1 - e^{2\pi i(n\tau-w)}}$$

- Degenerate limit: $y = x^2 + 2ax + b$, $\tau \rightarrow i\infty$

$$w_c^+ = \frac{1}{\omega_1} \int_{-\infty}^c \frac{dx}{y} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2\pi i} \log \frac{c + a - \sqrt{a^2 - b}}{c + a + \sqrt{a^2 - b}}$$

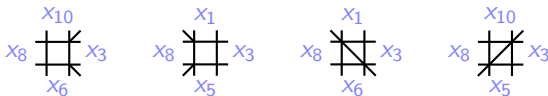
$$\Omega^{(\text{even } j)}(w_c^+) \rightarrow -\frac{2\zeta_j}{(2\pi i)^j} \log \frac{c + a - \sqrt{a^2 - b}}{c + a + \sqrt{a^2 - b}}$$

Bonus slide: Symbol alphabet

- First entry: $\{\log(u_i), \log(v_j)\}_{i=1,\dots,5; j=1,2} \rightarrow$ First-entry condition
- Second + third entry: $\{\log(a_i), \log(\frac{a_i - z_i}{a_i - \bar{z}_i}), \log(\frac{(z_i - \bar{z}_i)(\bar{z}_i - z_j)}{(z_i - z_j)(\bar{z}_i - \bar{z}_j)})\}$ with a_i rational in momentum twistors and

$$Z_{abcd}\bar{Z}_{abcd} = X_{a,b;c,d}, \quad (1 - Z_{abcd})(1 - \bar{Z}_{abcd}) = X_{d,a;b,c}$$

from



- Last entry: $\left\{ \left(\frac{2\pi i}{\omega_1} \int_{-\infty}^{c_j} \frac{dx}{y} \right), 2\pi i\tau \right\}$ with $c_j \in \{a_*, z_1 - 1, \bar{z}_1 - 1, -z_2, -\bar{z}_2, -i\infty\}$

[Kristensson, MW, Zhang (2021)], [MW, Zhang (2022)]