

N=4 SYM and N=8 supergravity amplitudes

Lecture 2

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Plan

- Lecture 1:
- Unitarity method for loop amplitudes
 - N=4 super-Yang Mills
 - Example of amplitude construction
 - Quadruple cut, hepta cut
- Lecture 2:
- Non-planar amplitudes
 - N=8 supergravity
 - Kawai-Lewellen-Tye relations
 - Calculation of UV divergences
- Lecture 3:
- Color/Kinematics duality
 - Open problems

Non-planar & color

- For non-planar sector of gauge theory it is important to keep track of the amplitudes' color dependence
- There are two main ways to encode color (adjoint rep.)
 - $SU(N_c)$: Trace basis (Chan-Paton factors)
 - Color tensors built out of structure constants f^{abc}

Trace basis

Trace-basis gives full color structure of $SU(N_c)$ gauge theory amplitude:

$$A = g^{n-2} (g^2 N_c)^L \sum_{\substack{\text{non-cyclic} \\ \text{perms}}} A^{\text{single-trace}}(1, 2, \dots, n) \text{Tr}[T^{a_1} T^{a_2} \dots T^{a_n}]$$

$$+ g^n (g^2 N_c)^{L-1} \sum_{\substack{\text{non-cyclic} \\ \text{perms}}} A_{\text{trace}}^{\text{double}}(1, \dots, m; m+1, \dots, n) \text{Tr}[T^{a_1} \dots T^{a_m}] \text{Tr}[T^{a_{m+1}} \dots T^{a_n}]$$

...

$$+ g^{n+2p-2} (g^2 N_c)^{L-p+1} \sum_{\substack{\text{non-cyclic} \\ \text{perms}}} A^{p\text{-trace}}(1, \dots, n) \prod_p \text{Tr}[T T T \dots T]$$

$$A^{\text{single-trace}} = A^{\text{planar}} + \frac{1}{N_c^2} A^{(2)} + \frac{1}{N_c^4} A^{(4)} + \dots + \frac{1}{N_c^p} A^{(p)}$$

Examples

At tree level there are only planar contributions:

$$\mathcal{A}^{tree} = g^{n-2} \sum_{\substack{\text{non-cyclic} \\ \text{perms}}} A^{planar}(1, 2, \dots, n) \text{Tr}[T^{a_1} T^{a_2} \dots T^{a_n}]$$

At one-loop level there are planar single trace, and leading double-trace terms

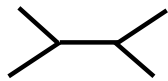
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}^{1-loop} = & g^n N_c \sum_{\substack{\text{non-cyclic} \\ \text{perms}}} A^{planar}(1, 2, \dots, n) \text{Tr}[T^{a_1} T^{a_2} \dots T^{a_n}] \\ & + g^n \sum_{\substack{\text{non-cyclic} \\ \text{perms}}} A_{\text{trace}}^{double}(1, \dots, m; m+1, \dots, n) \text{Tr}[T^{a_1} \dots T^{a_m}] \text{Tr}[T^{a_{m+1}} \dots T^{a_n}] \end{aligned}$$

At two loops:	single-trace	double-trace	triple-trace
	$\mathcal{O}(N_c^2)$	$\mathcal{O}(N_c)$	$\mathcal{O}(1)$
	$\mathcal{O}(1)$		

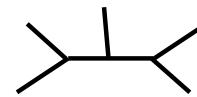
Color tensors

The set of all color tensors can be built by contracting f^{abc} in all possible way. **Examples:**

$$c^{abcd} = f^{abe} f^{ecd}$$



$$c^{abcde} = f^{abg} f^{gch} f^{hde}$$

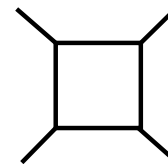


$$c^{ab} = f^{acd} f^{dcb}$$



$$= C_A \delta^{ab} \quad (\text{quadratic Casimir})$$

$$c^{abcd} = f^{e_1 a e_2} f^{e_2 b e_3} f^{e_3 c e_4} f^{e_4 d e_1}$$



Feynman rules in an adjoint theory only have f^{abc} color dependence
 \Rightarrow Amplitude is linear combination of color tensors

Planar vs. non-planar

- All tree amplitudes are planar
- One-loop amplitudes can be planar or non-planar
- However, all one-loop integrals are planar!
- Non-planar part are linear comb. of planar

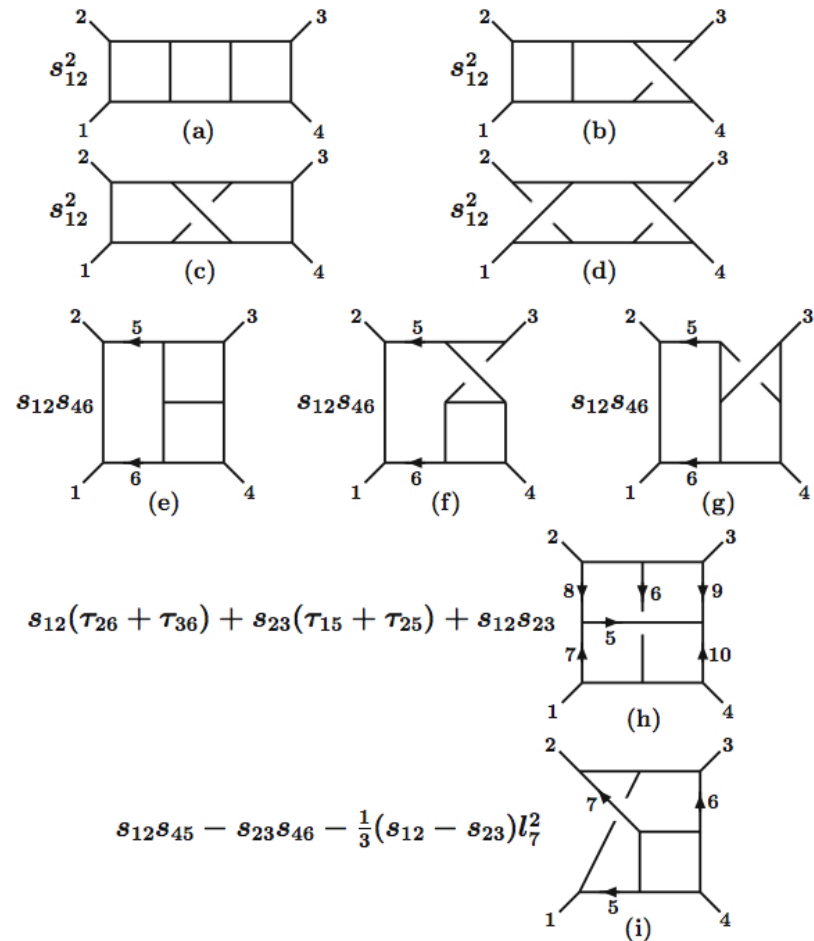
$$A_{\text{trace}}^{\text{double}}(1, 2, \dots, m; m + 1, \dots, n) = \sum_{\sigma \in \text{shuffle}\{1, 2, \dots, m\}\{m+1, \dots, n\}} A^{\text{planar}}(\sigma)$$

- First non-planar integrals show up at two loops

$$\mathcal{A}^{2\text{-loop}} = stA^{\text{tree}} \times \left(s \text{ [planar diagram]} + s \text{ [non-planar diagram]} + perms \right)$$

Example: non-planar 3loops

- Best way to understand nonplanar? Look at example:
- 3-loop 4pt N=4 SYM
- constructed 2007 using unitarity method
- Integration: open problem



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

$$\tau_{ij} = 2k_i \cdot l_j$$

Gravity amplitudes

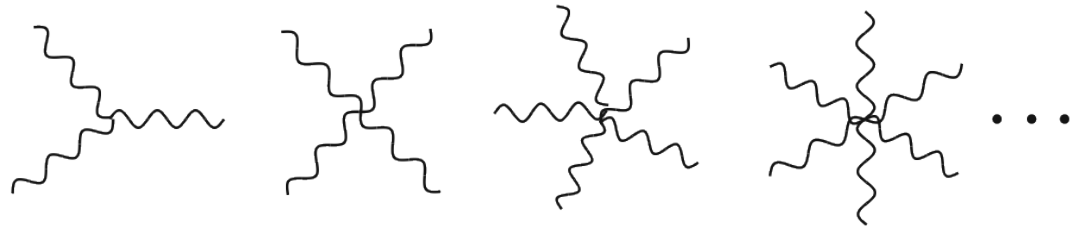
- In particle physics gravity (spin-2) theories are considered to be strange cousins of Yang-Mills (spin-1) theories
- Gravity has no color, thus no notion of planar amplitudes (non-planar integrals show up starting at two loops)
- The simplest 3-particle interaction in the Lagrangian involves two derivatives, unlike Yang-Mills one derivative
- Feynman diagrams thus have more momentum in the numerators \Rightarrow in general, gives bad UV divergences
- (Alternatively, the coupling constant is dimensionful \Rightarrow gravity is non-renormalizable)
- Tree-level amplitudes are always finite,
- Loop amplitudes may diverge \Rightarrow needs to be checked!

Perturbative gravity is messy!

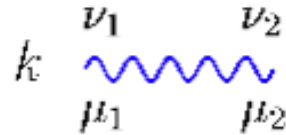
- Einstein gravity

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \sqrt{g} R$$

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \kappa h_{\mu\nu}$$

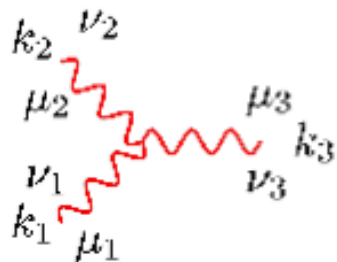


propagator: de Donder gauge



$$P_{\mu_1\nu_1\mu_2\nu_2}(k) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\eta_{\mu_1\nu_1}\eta_{\mu_2\nu_2} + \eta_{\mu_1\nu_2}\eta_{\mu_2\nu_1} - \frac{2}{D-2}\eta_{\mu_1\mu_2}\eta_{\nu_1\nu_2} \right] \frac{i}{k^2 + i\epsilon}$$

cubic
vertex:



$$G_{3\mu_1\nu_1\mu_2\nu_2\mu_3\nu_3}(k_1, k_2, k_3) = \text{sym} \left[-\frac{1}{2}P_3(k_1 \cdot k_2 \eta_{\mu_1\nu_1} \eta_{\mu_2\nu_2} \eta_{\mu_3\nu_3}) - \frac{1}{2}P_6(k_{1\mu_1} k_{1\nu_2} \eta_{\mu_1\nu_1} \eta_{\mu_3\nu_3}) + \frac{1}{2}P_3(k_1 \cdot k_2 \eta_{\mu_1\mu_2} \eta_{\nu_1\nu_2} \eta_{\mu_3\nu_3}) \right. \\ \left. + P_6(k_1 \cdot k_2 \eta_{\mu_1\nu_1} \eta_{\mu_2\mu_3} \eta_{\nu_2\nu_3}) + 2P_3(k_{1\mu_2} k_{1\nu_3} \eta_{\mu_1\nu_1} \eta_{\nu_2\mu_3}) - P_3(k_{1\nu_2} k_{2\mu_1} \eta_{\nu_1\mu_1} \eta_{\mu_3\nu_3}) \right. \\ \left. + P_3(k_{1\mu_3} k_{2\nu_3} \eta_{\mu_1\mu_2} \eta_{\nu_1\nu_2}) + P_6(k_{1\mu_3} k_{1\nu_3} \eta_{\mu_1\mu_2} \eta_{\nu_1\nu_2}) + 2P_6(k_{1\mu_2} k_{2\nu_3} \eta_{\nu_2\mu_1} \eta_{\nu_1\mu_3}) \right. \\ \left. + 2P_3(k_{1\mu_2} k_{2\mu_1} \eta_{\nu_2\mu_3} \eta_{\nu_3\nu_1}) - 2P_3(k_1 \cdot k_2 \eta_{\nu_1\mu_2} \eta_{\nu_2\mu_3} \eta_{\nu_3\mu_1}) \right]$$

After symmetrization ~ 100 terms !

(note: ampls are much prettier!)

N=8 supergravity

- N = 8 supergravity ($D = 4$) by [Cremmer, Julia and Scherk](#) (1978, 1979)
- 8 susys -- maximum number of susys for a spin-2 theory
- One supermultiplet of 256 massless states ($=2^8$)

	h^-	y^-_i	g^-_{ij}	n^-_{ijk}	X_{ijkl}	n^+_{ijk}	g^+_{ij}	y^+_i	h^+
helicity	-2	-3/2	-1	-1/2	0	1/2	1	3/2	2
# states	1	8	28	56	70	56	28	8	1

Note: binomial coefficients of $(x + y)^8$

- Reasons work on this theory:
 - With more susy expect better UV properties.
 - High symmetry implies ampls will be simple.
 - Contains a hidden $E_{7(7)}$ symmetry

Where is the first UV divergence?

3 loops	Conventional superspace power counting	Green, Schwarz, Brink (1982) Howe and Stelle (1989) Marcus and Sagnotti (1985)
5 loops	Partial analysis of unitarity cuts; <i>If</i> $\mathcal{N} = 6$ harmonic superspace exists; algebraic renormalisation	Bern, Dixon, Dunbar, Perelstein, Rozowsky (1998) Howe and Stelle (2003,2009)
6 loops	<i>If</i> $\mathcal{N} = 7$ harmonic superspace exists	Howe and Stelle (2003)
7 loops	<i>If</i> $\mathcal{N} = 8$ harmonic superspace exists; lightcone gauge locality arguments; Hints from string U-duality analysis. $E_{7(7)}$ analysis.	Grisaru and Siegel (1982); Kallos (2009); Green, Russo, Vanhove; Beisert, Elvang, Freedman, Kiermaier, Morales, Stieberger (2010)
8 loops	Explicit identification of potential susy invariant counterterm with full non-linear susy	Kallos; Howe and Lindström (1981)
9 loops	Assume Berkovits' superstring non-renormalization theorems can be carried over to $\mathcal{N} = 8$ supergravity	Green, Russo, Vanhove (2006)
Finite	Identified cancellations in multiloop amplitudes; lightcone gauge locality and $E_{7(7)}$	Bern, Dixon, Roiban (2006), Kallos (2009-11)

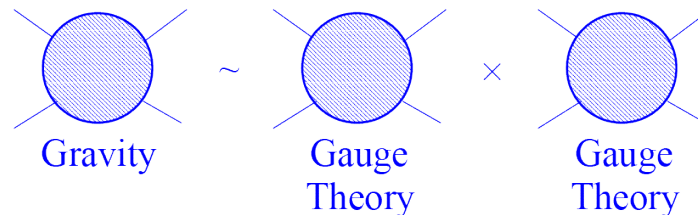
Note: thus far, no divergence has been found!

Kawai-Lewellen-Tye relations

- In string theory: closed strings (gravity) can be written as two open strings (gauge theory)

closed string \sim (left open string) \times (right open string)

- This is 'trivial' for free strings, but nontrivial for interacting ones
- Kawai, Lewellen and Tye showed how this is true for tree amplitudes
- Consider the limit where the strings become point-like: field theory



gravity states are products of gauge theory states:

$$M_3^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 3) = A_3^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 3) \tilde{A}_3^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 3)$$

$$|1\rangle_{\text{grav}} = |1\rangle_{\text{gauge}} \otimes |1\rangle_{\text{gauge}}$$

$$M_4^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 3, 4) = -is_{12} A_4^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 3, 4) \tilde{A}_4^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 4, 3)$$

$$M_5^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 3, 4, 5) = is_{12}s_{34} A_5^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 3, 4, 5) \tilde{A}_5^{\text{tree}}(2, 1, 4, 3, 5) \\ + is_{13}s_{24} A_5^{\text{tree}}(1, 3, 2, 4, 5) \tilde{A}_5^{\text{tree}}(3, 1, 4, 2, 5)$$

Example: 4pt tree

- Let's compute the 4pt tree-level scattering of gravitons

$$M^{\text{tree}}(1^-, 2^-, 3^+, 4^+) = s A^{\text{tree}}(1^-, 2^-, 3^+, 4^+) A^{\text{tree}}(1^-, 2^-, 4^+, 3^+)$$

Use:

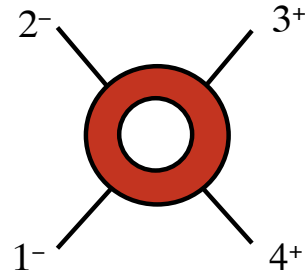
$$A^{\text{tree}}(1^- 2^- 3^+ 4^+) = i \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^4}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 41 \rangle} = -i \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 [34]^2}{st}$$

$$\begin{aligned} M^{\text{tree}}(1^-, 2^-, 3^+, 4^+) &= s \times \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 [34]^2}{st} \times \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 [43]^2}{su} \\ &= \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^4 [34]^4}{stu} \end{aligned}$$

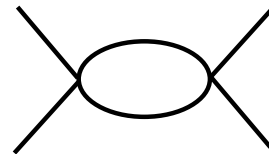
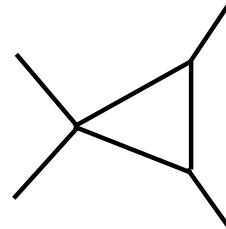
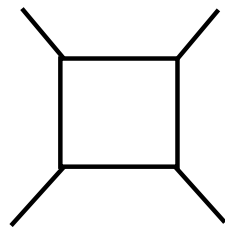
Homework from Hell: show that the Feynman rules gives the same answer!

Example: 4pt one-loop N=8 SG

$$M^{1\text{-loop}}(1^-, 2^-, 3^+, 4^+) =$$



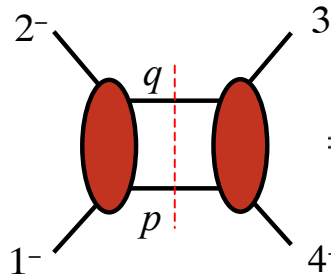
What kind of integrals are expected?



Compute the s-channel cut

$$= \int dLIPS \sum_{\text{states}} M^{\text{tree}}(1^-, 2^-, q, p) M^{\text{tree}}(-p, -q, 3^+, 4^+)$$

s-channel cut



$$= \int dLIPS \sum_{states} M^{\text{tree}}(1^-, 2^-, q, p) M^{\text{tree}}(-p, -q, 3^+, 4^+)$$

- What are the states in the sum? $h^+, \lambda^+, g^+, f^+, s, f^-, g^-, \lambda^-, h^-$
- ⇒ Naively 256^2 combinations
- SWI make all but one of them vanish!

$$\begin{aligned} & \int dLIPS \sum_{states} M^{\text{tree}}(1^-, 2^-, q, p) M^{\text{tree}}(-p, -q, 3^+, 4^+) \\ &= \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^4 [pq]^4}{s(k_1 + p)^2 (k_2 + p)^2} \times \frac{\langle pq \rangle^4 [34]^4}{s(k_4 - p)^2 (k_3 - p)^2} = \langle 12 \rangle^4 [34]^4 \frac{s^2}{(k_1 + p)^2 (k_2 + p)^2 (k_4 - p)^2 (k_3 - p)^2} \\ &= \langle 12 \rangle^4 [34]^4 \frac{((k_1 + p)^2 + (k_2 + p)^2)((k_4 - p)^2 + (k_3 - p)^2)}{(k_1 + p)^2 (k_2 + p)^2 (k_4 - p)^2 (k_3 - p)^2} \\ &= \langle 12 \rangle^4 [34]^4 \left[\frac{1}{(k_2 + p)^2 (k_3 - p)^2} + \frac{1}{(k_2 + p)^2 (k_4 - p)^2} + \frac{1}{(k_1 + p)^2 (k_3 - p)^2} + \frac{1}{(k_1 + p)^2 (k_4 - p)^2} \right] \end{aligned}$$

The result

- The 1-loop 4pt N=8 supergravity amplitude:

$$\begin{array}{c} 2^- \\ \diagdown \\ \text{---} \circ \text{---} \\ \diagup \\ 1^- \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 3^+ \\ \diagup \\ \text{---} \circ \text{---} \\ \diagdown \\ 4^+ \end{array} = stuM_4^{\text{tree}} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \square \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \end{array} + \textit{perms}$$

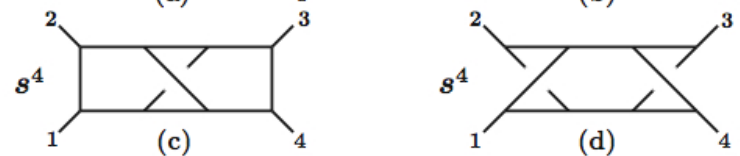
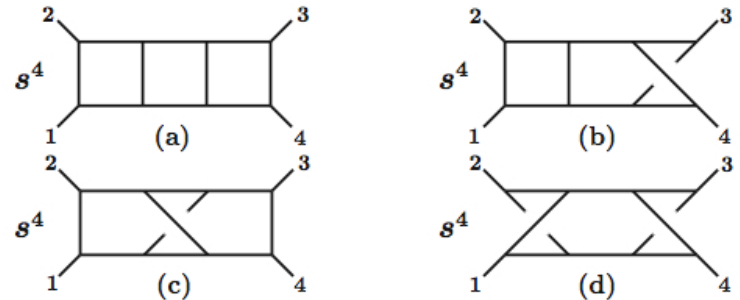
- The 2-loop 4pt N=8 supergravity amplitude:

$$M_4^{2\text{-loop}} = stuM_4^{\text{tree}} \left(s^2 \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \square \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \end{array} + s^2 \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \square \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \end{array} + \textit{perms} \right)$$

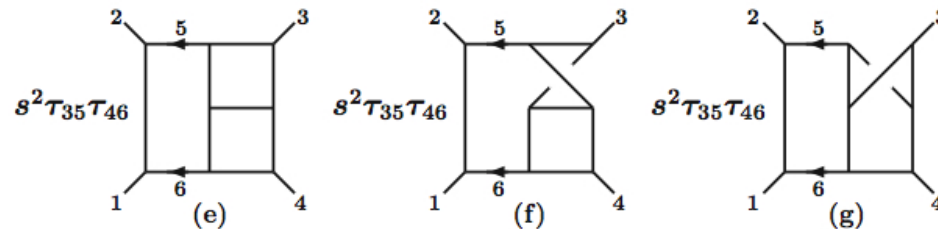
- **Homework:** Show that it has the correct two-particle cuts!

3-loop N=8 SG

- The 3-loop 4pt N=8 supergravity amplitude:

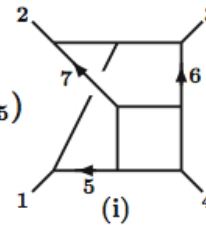
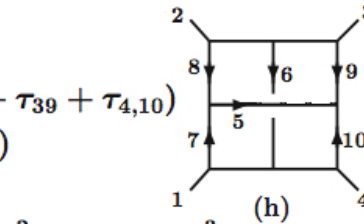


Bern, Carrasco, Dixon,
HJ, Kosower, Roiban, (2007)
Bern, Carrasco, Dixon,
HJ, Roiban (2008)



$$\begin{aligned}
 & (s(\tau_{26} + \tau_{36}) + t(\tau_{15} + \tau_{25}) + st)^2 \\
 & + (s^2(\tau_{26} + \tau_{36}) - t^2(\tau_{15} + \tau_{25}))(\tau_{17} + \tau_{28} + \tau_{39} + \tau_{4,10}) \\
 & + s^2(\tau_{17}\tau_{28} + \tau_{39}\tau_{4,10}) + t^2(\tau_{28}\tau_{39} + \tau_{17}\tau_{4,10}) \\
 & + u^2(\tau_{17}\tau_{39} + \tau_{28}\tau_{4,10})
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (s\tau_{45} - t\tau_{46})^2 - \tau_{27}(s^2\tau_{45} + t^2\tau_{46}) \\
 & - \tau_{15}(s^2\tau_{47} + u^2\tau_{46}) - \tau_{36}(t^2\tau_{47} + u^2\tau_{45}) \\
 & + l_5^2 s^2 t + l_6^2 st^2 - \frac{1}{3} l_7^2 stu
 \end{aligned}$$



$$\tau_{ij} = 2k_i \cdot l_j$$

UV divergences: 1-loop

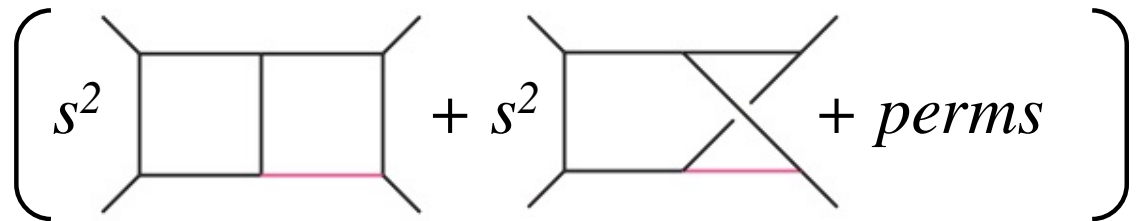
- Let's analyze the UV behavior!
- **Question:** Is the one-loop amplitude UV finite in $D=4$?

$$\text{Loop Diagram} = stuM_4^{\text{tree}} \text{ Square Loop Diagram} + \text{perms}$$

- **Question:** In what dimension does it diverge?
- **Answer:** $D \geq 8$

UV divergences: 2-loop

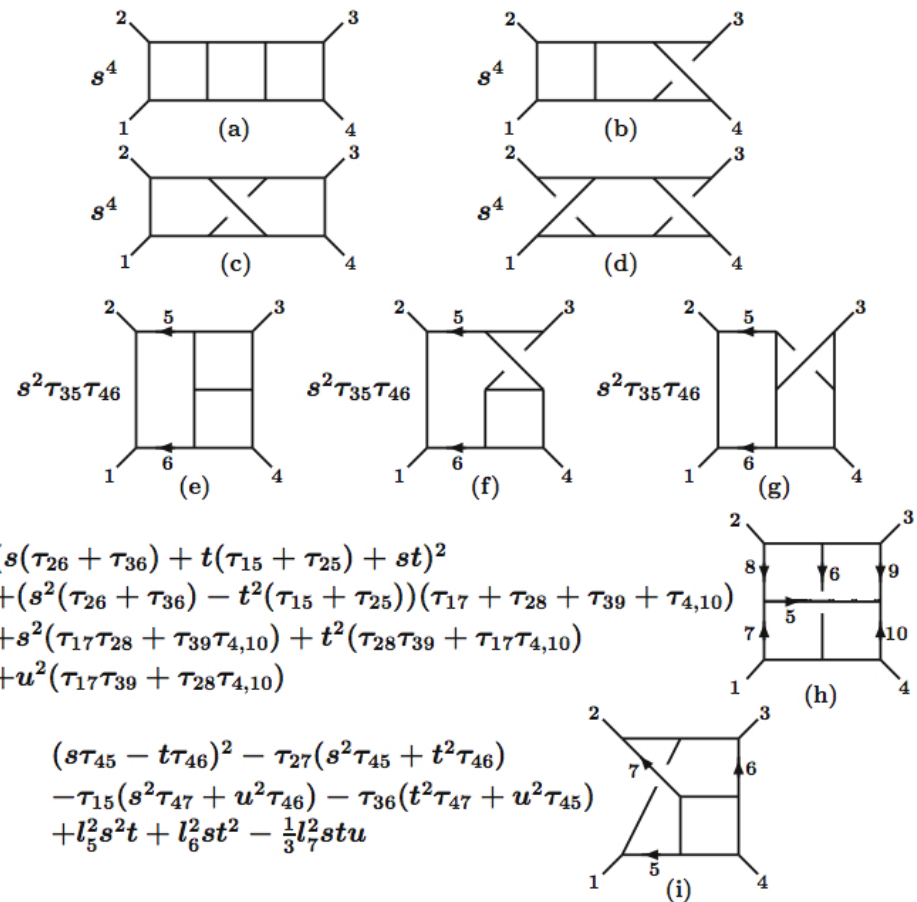
- Let's analyze the UV behavior!
- **Question:** Is the two-loop amplitude UV finite in $D=4$?

$$M_4^{2-loop} = stu M_4^{tree} \left(s^2 \left[\text{diagram 1} \right] + s^2 \left[\text{diagram 2} \right] + perms \right)$$


- **Question:** In what dimension does it diverge?
- **Answer:** $D \geq 7$

UV divergences: 3-loop

- Let's analyze the UV behavior!
- **Question:** Is the 3-loop amplitude UV finite in D=4?



- **Question:** In what dimension does it diverge?

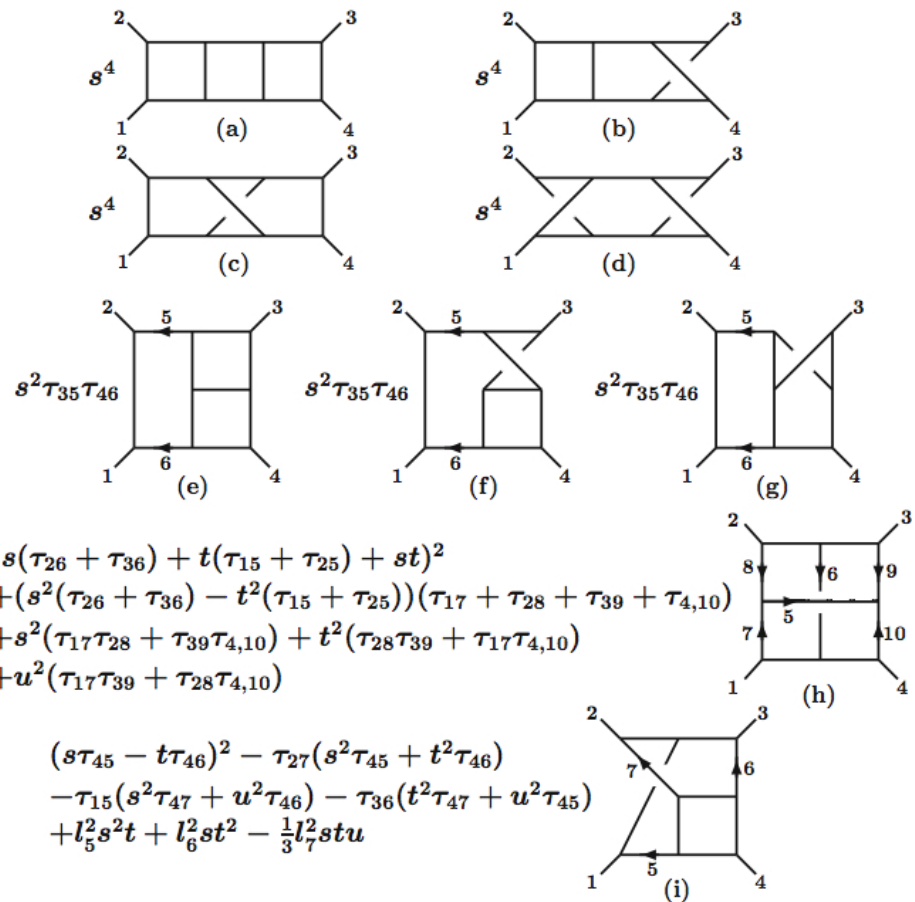
- **Answer:** $D \geq 6$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (s(\tau_{26} + \tau_{36}) + t(\tau_{15} + \tau_{25}) + st)^2 \\
 & + (s^2(\tau_{26} + \tau_{36}) - t^2(\tau_{15} + \tau_{25}))(\tau_{17} + \tau_{28} + \tau_{39} + \tau_{4,10}) \\
 & + s^2(\tau_{17}\tau_{28} + \tau_{39}\tau_{4,10}) + t^2(\tau_{28}\tau_{39} + \tau_{17}\tau_{4,10}) \\
 & + u^2(\tau_{17}\tau_{39} + \tau_{28}\tau_{4,10})
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (s\tau_{45} - t\tau_{46})^2 - \tau_{27}(s^2\tau_{45} + t^2\tau_{46}) \\
 & - \tau_{15}(s^2\tau_{47} + u^2\tau_{46}) - \tau_{36}(t^2\tau_{47} + u^2\tau_{45}) \\
 & + l_5^2 s^2 t + l_6^2 st^2 - \frac{1}{3} l_7^2 stu
 \end{aligned}$$

UV divergences: 3-loop

- Let's analyze the UV behavior!
- **Question:** Is the 3-loop amplitude UV finite in D=4?



- **Question:** In what dimension does it diverge?

- **Answer:** D ≥ 6