

Learning the Simplicity of Scattering Amplitudes

ML4Jets 2024

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2408.04720



Caltech

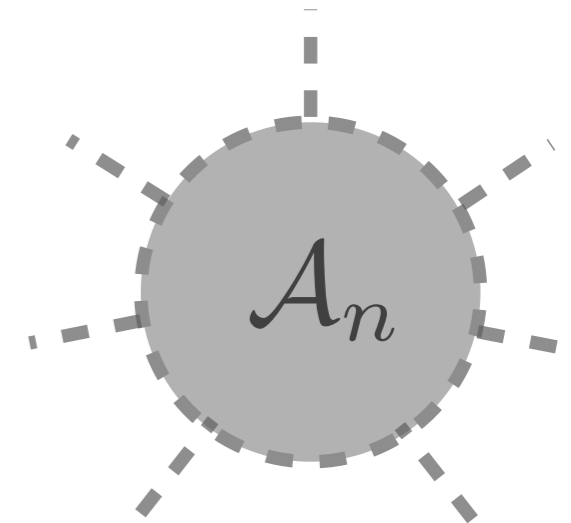
November 5, 2024



What do we care about and why ?

- **Basic building block** in hep-th ?

→ Amplitudes



Why useful ?

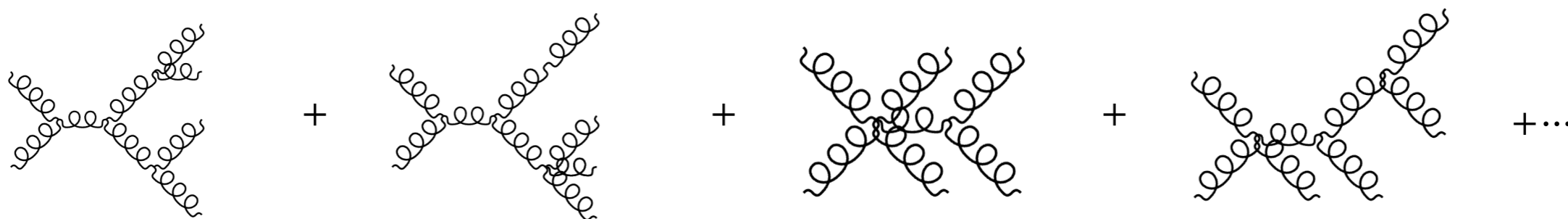
- Calculate observables
- Gain theoretical insight

→ Staring (intensely) at a **simple** amplitude can teach us a lot !

e.g : Double Copy, Amplituhedron, Twistor Grassmanian

Why should amplitudes be simple ?

Process: $gg \rightarrow gggg$



220 Feynman diagrams - pages and pages of results !

Our result has successfully passed both these numerical checks.

Details of the calculation, together with a full exposition of our techniques, will be given in a forthcoming article. Furthermore, we hope to obtain a simple analytic form for the answer, making our result not only an experimentalist's, but also a theorist's delight.

Parke, Taylor (1985)

A theorist's and experimentalist's delight

Process: $gg \rightarrow gggg$

Simple !

$$|\mathcal{M}_6(1^-2^-3^+4^+5^+6^+)|^2 = \frac{(p_1 \cdot p_2)^3}{(p_2 \cdot p_3)(p_3 \cdot p_4)(p_4 \cdot p_5)(p_5 \cdot p_6)(p_6 \cdot p_1)}$$

Equation (3) has the correct dimensions and symmetry properties for this n -particle scattering amplitude squared. Also it agrees with the known results^{4,5} for $n=4, 5$, and 6. The agreement for $n=6$ is numerical.^{5,6}

Parke, Taylor (1986)

→ Via guesswork: complicated calculation matches a simple result !

Spinor-Helicity Formulation

Process: $gg \rightarrow gggg$

“Modern” formula

$$\mathcal{M}_6(1^-2^-3^+4^+5^+6^+) = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^3}{\langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle \langle 56 \rangle \langle 61 \rangle}$$

Helicity spinors brackets

$$\langle ij \rangle = \sqrt{2p_i \cdot p_j} e^{i\phi}$$
$$[ij] = \sqrt{2p_i \cdot p_j} e^{-i\phi}$$

- Spinor helicity formalism expedites calculations
- Reduction of spinor helicity amplitudes still requires **guesswork** or **clever ansatz** constructions

ML as an oracle

Goal: Do the guesswork with ML

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{M} = & \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^3 [13]}{\langle 23 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle [23]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^3 [14] [25]}{\langle 13 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle [12] [45]} \\
 & - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 [13] [24] [35]}{\langle 24 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle [12] [23] [45]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 [13] [25] [34]}{\langle 24 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle [12] [23] [45]} \\
 & - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 \langle 23 \rangle [13] [45]}{\langle 15 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle [14] [15]} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 [45]}{\langle 15 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle [15]} \\
 & + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 \langle 34 \rangle [13] [34] [45]}{\langle 15 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle [12] [15] [23]} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 \langle 15 \rangle [15]}{\langle 13 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle [12]} \\
 & + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 \langle 23 \rangle [15] [24] [34]}{\langle 13 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle [12] [14] [45]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 \langle 23 \rangle [14] [23] [25]}{\langle 13 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle [12]^2 [45]} \\
 & + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 \langle 23 \rangle [15] [24]}{\langle 13 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle [12] [14]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 [24]}{\langle 13 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle [12]} \\
 & + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 [24] [45]}{\langle 13 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle [12] [15]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 \langle 34 \rangle [13] [24] [34] [45]}{\langle 13 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle [12] [14] [15] [23]} \\
 & + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle [13] [34]}{\langle 15 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle [12] [14]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle [34]}{\langle 15 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle [12]} \\
 & + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 14 \rangle [14] [45]}{\langle 15 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle [12] [15]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 14 \rangle [13] [34] [45]}{\langle 15 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle [12] [15] [23]} \\
 & - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle [34] [35]}{\langle 24 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle [12] [45]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle [15] [34]^2}{\langle 24 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle [12] [14] [45]} \\
 & + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$



ML Model



$$\overline{\mathcal{M}} = - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^3}{\langle 15 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle}$$

Check answer numerically !

Can ML do a symbolic simplification of spinor-helicity amplitudes ?

Transformer for translation

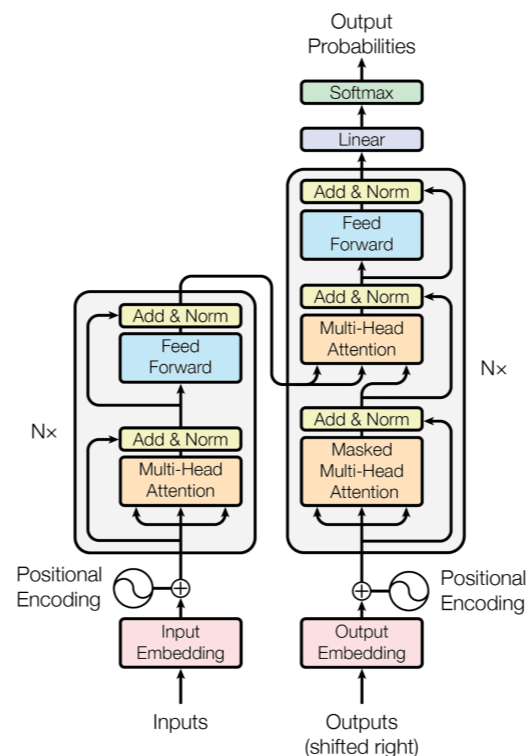
Symbolic translation task

Encoder - Decoder Transformer

Idea introduced for integration + ODE's
[1912.01412 by Lample, Charton]

$$\mathcal{M} = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^3 [13]}{\langle 23 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle [23]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^3 [14] [25]}{\langle 13 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle [12] [45]} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 [13] [24] [35]}{\langle 24 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle [12] [23] [45]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 [13] [25] [34]}{\langle 24 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle [12] [23] [45]} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 \langle 23 \rangle [13] [45]}{\langle 15 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle [14] [15]} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2 [45]}{\langle 15 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle [15]}$$

“French”

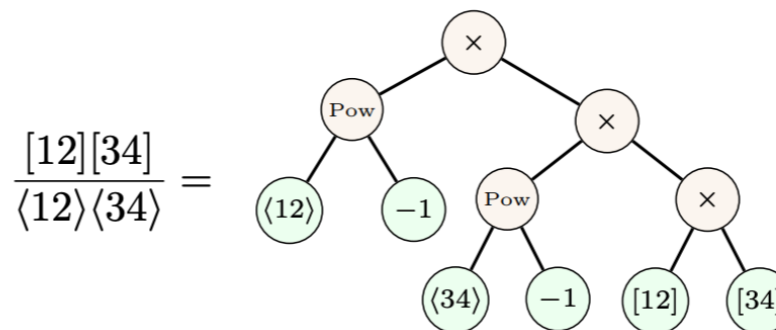


[1706.03762]

$$\overline{\mathcal{M}} = - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^3}{\langle 15 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle}$$

“English”

A mathematical expression is language !



= ['mul', 'pow', 'ab12', '-1', 'mul', ...]

Data generation starting from simple amplitudes

Backward generation

$$\overline{\mathcal{M}} = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle [14] [46]^2 - \langle 25 \rangle [45] [46]^2}{\langle 13 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^2 [12] [15] [16] [56]}$$

Simple amplitude



$$\mathcal{M} = \frac{\langle 15 \rangle \langle 26 \rangle [14] [46]^2}{\langle 13 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^2 \langle 56 \rangle [12] [15] [16] [56]} + \frac{\langle 25 \rangle [24] [46]^2}{\langle 13 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^2 [12] [15] [16] [26]} - \frac{\langle 25 \rangle [25] [46]^3}{\langle 13 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^2 [12] [15] [16] [26] [56]} + \frac{\langle 16 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle [13] [14] [46]^2}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^2 \langle 56 \rangle [12]^2 [15] [16] [56]} - \frac{\langle 16 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle [14] [45] [46]^2}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle \langle 56 \rangle [12]^2 [15] [16] [56]} + \frac{\langle 16 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle [14] [23] [46]^2}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^2 \langle 56 \rangle [12]^2 [15] [16] [56]} - \frac{\langle 16 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle \langle 46 \rangle [14] [46]^3}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^2 \langle 56 \rangle [12]^2 [15] [16] [56]} - \frac{\langle 16 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle [14] [46]^2}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^2 [12]^2 [15] [16]}$$

“Scrambled” version

Simple $\overline{\mathcal{M}}$ guidelines

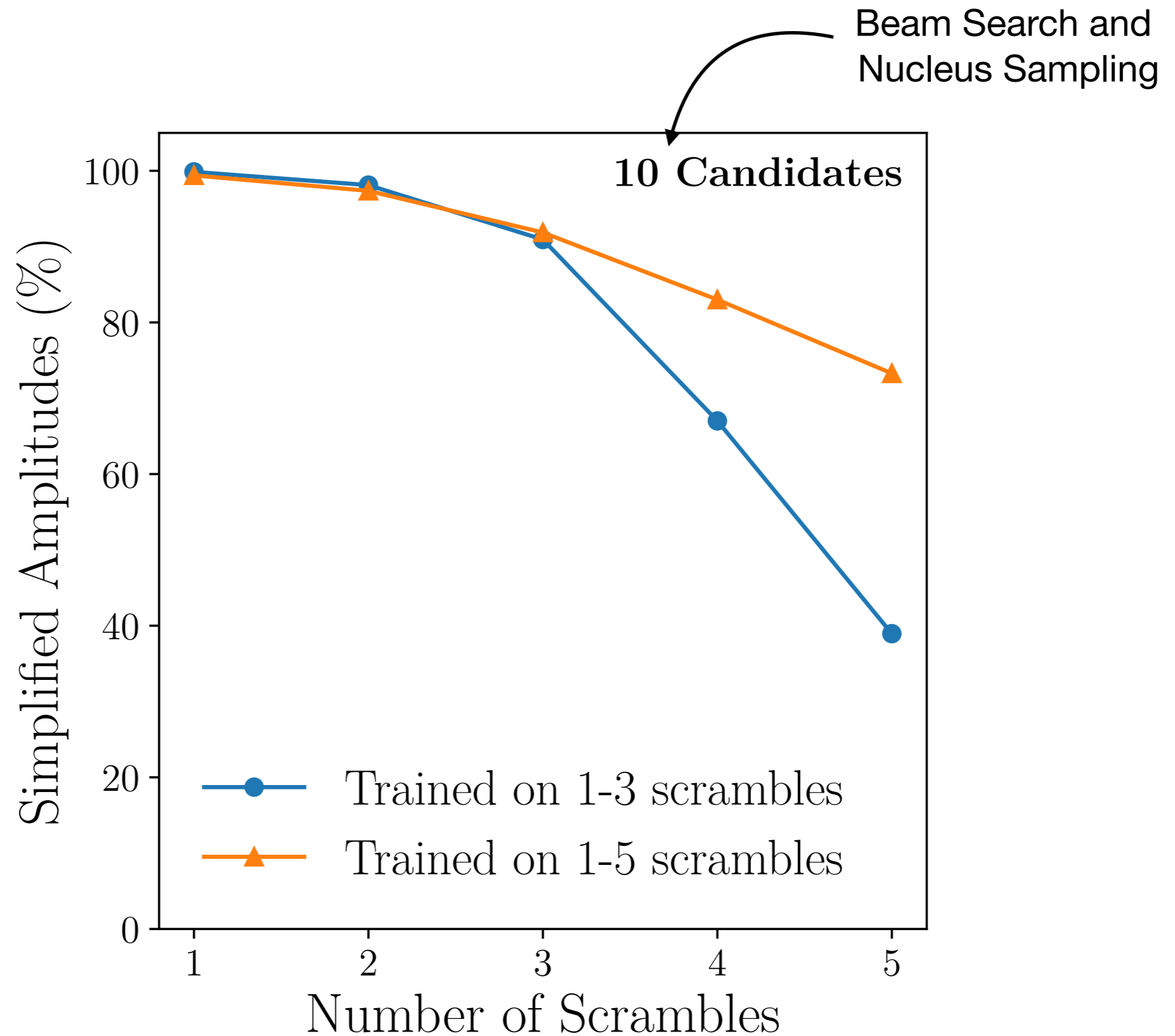
- 4-6 external momenta
- 0-3 numerators
- Monomial denominator
- $[ij], \langle ij \rangle$ only

Scrambling moves

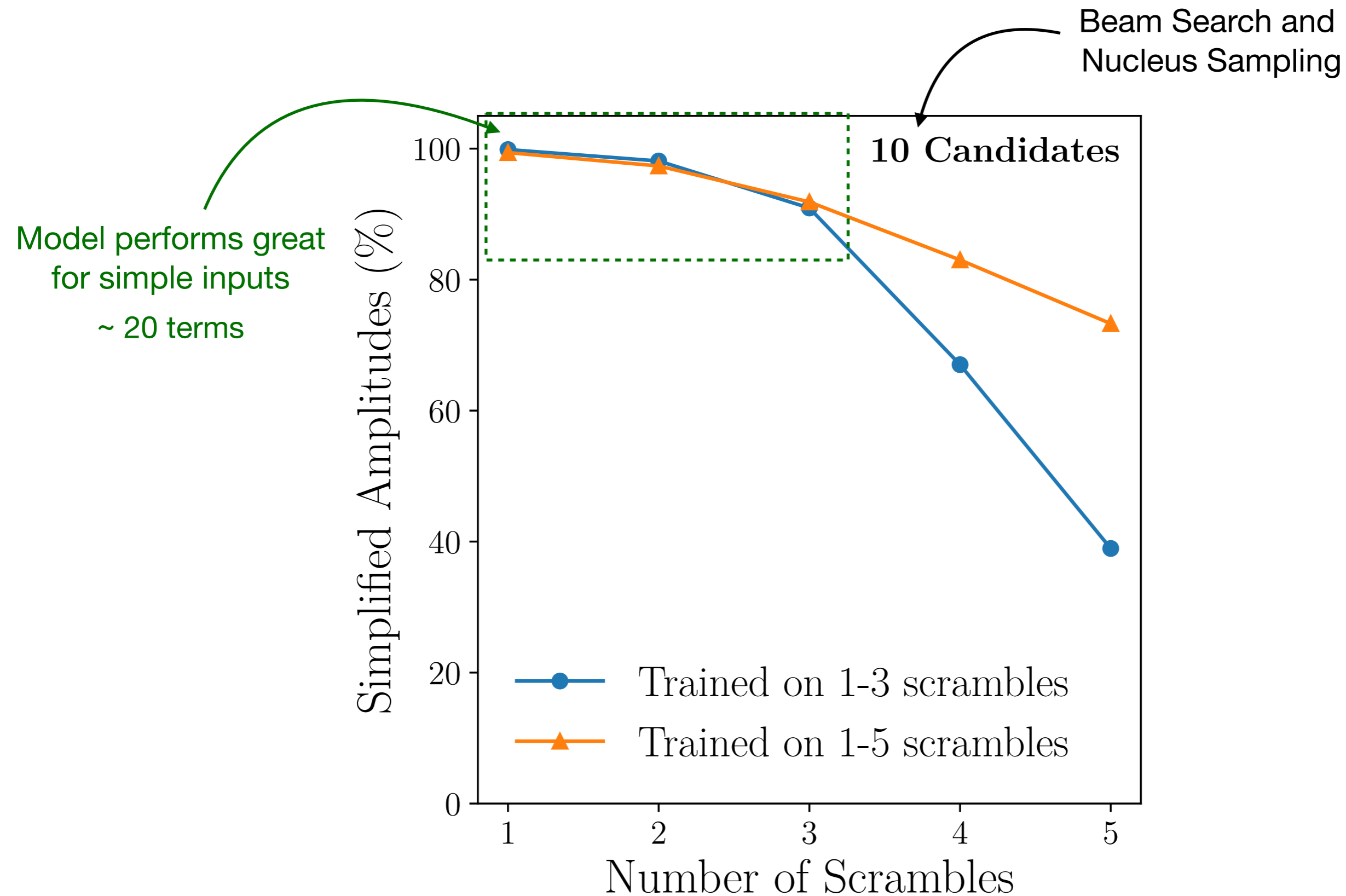
Schouten $\langle ij \rangle \langle kl \rangle = \langle il \rangle \langle kj \rangle + \langle ik \rangle \langle jl \rangle$

Momentum conservation $\sum_{j=1}^n \langle ij \rangle [jk] = 0$

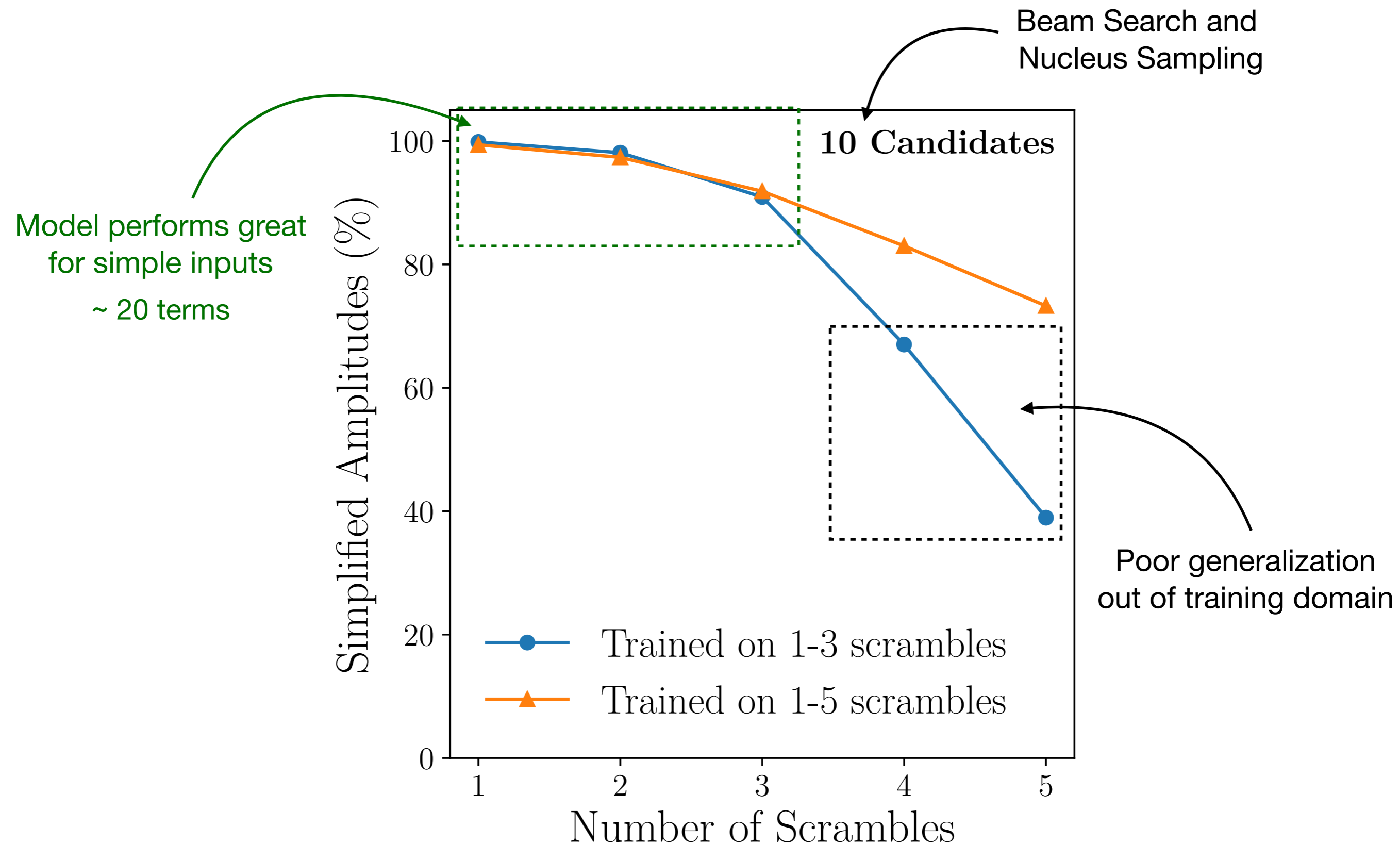
Results for simple simplification: 5-pt amplitudes



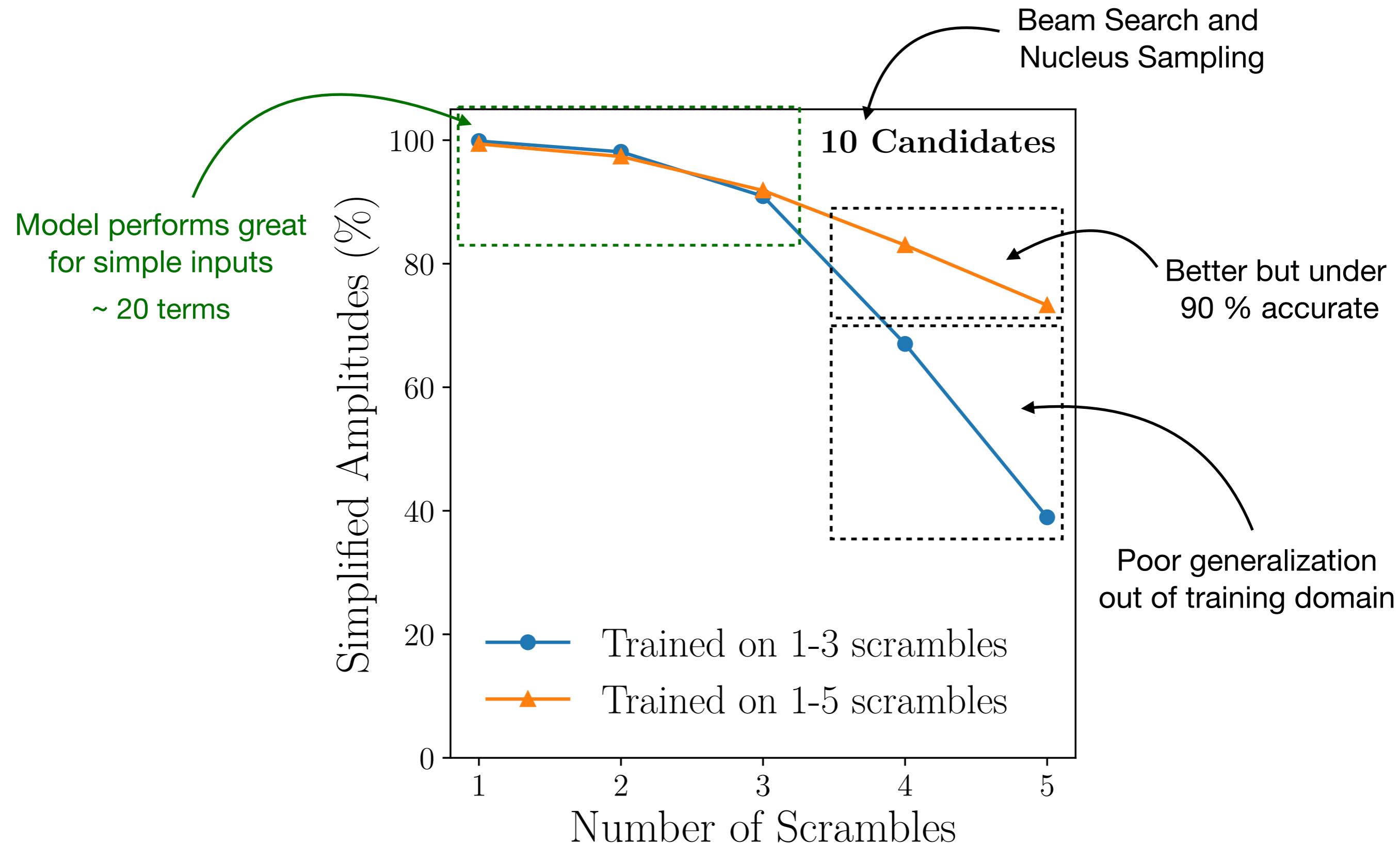
Great for simple simplifications



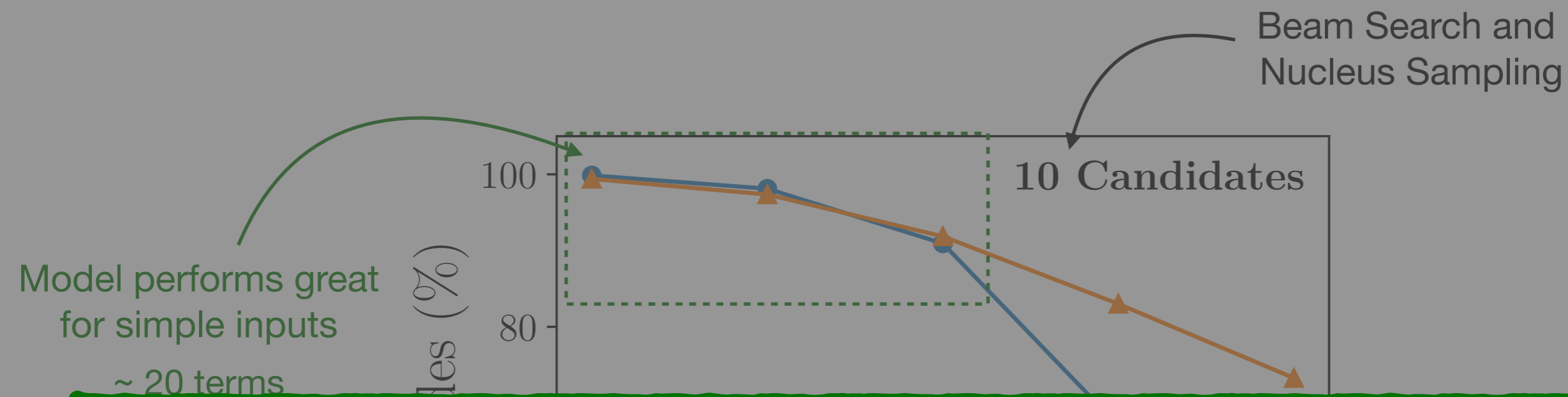
Poor generalization for longer inputs



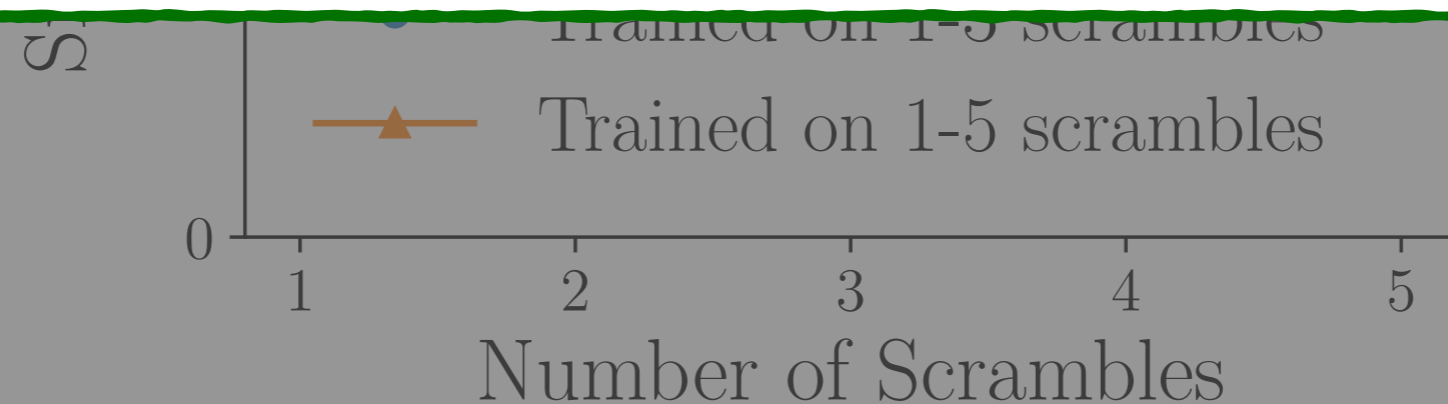
Poor generalization for longer inputs



Poor generalization for longer inputs



How can we simplify longer amplitudes with hundreds of terms ?



Human-like simplification

Human : Focus attention on terms likely to simplify

$$\langle 13 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle [13][25] + \langle 14 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [25][34] - \langle 14 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle [13][25] + \langle 14 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle [12][45] + \langle 14 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [23][45] + \dots$$
$$\langle 12 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [13][25] + \langle 14 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [13][45] + \langle 14 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle [12][45] + \dots$$

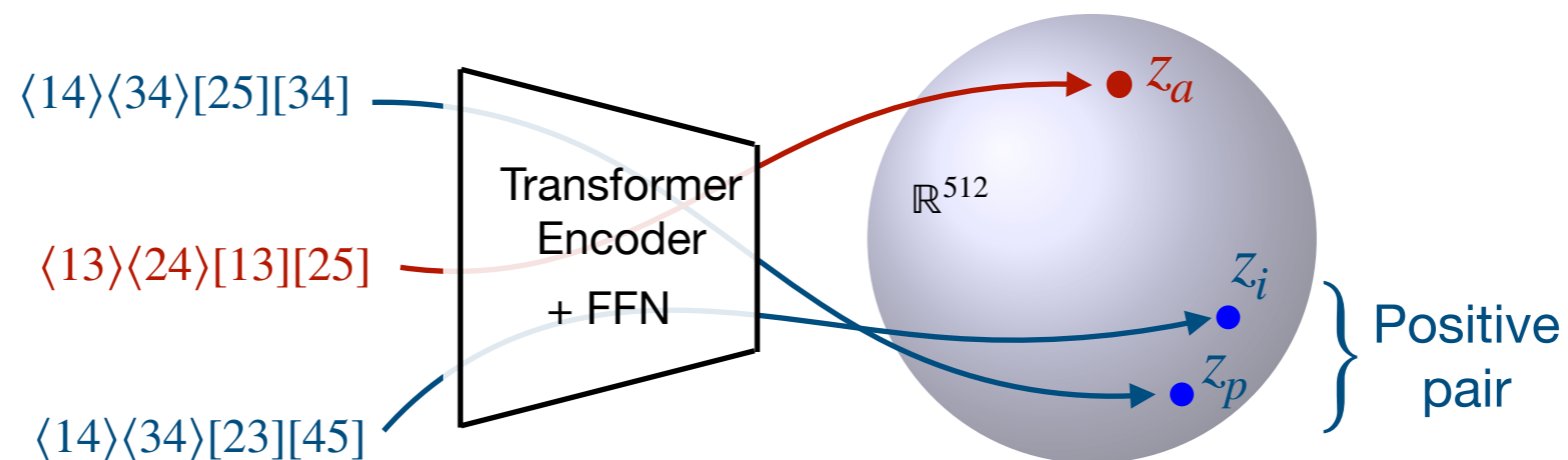
→ We use a sparse attention pattern

How can we mimic this and learn to group similar terms ?

Supervised Contrastive Learning

Goal: Pull together similar terms in embedding space

→ Train this embedding space

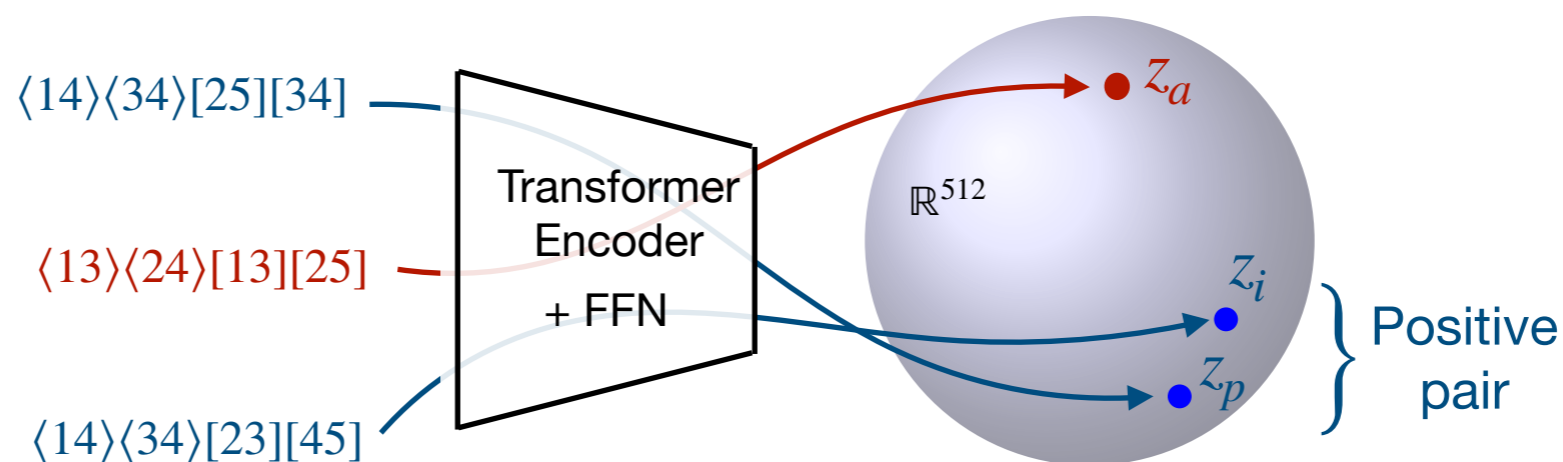


Use supervised contrastive learning !

Supervised Contrastive Learning

Goal: Pull together *similar* terms in embedding space

Terms appearing in same identity



Contrastive Loss

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{con}} = -\frac{1}{|I|} \sum_{i \in I} \frac{1}{|P(i)|} \sum_{p \in P(i)} \log \frac{\exp(s(z_i, z_p)/\tau)}{\sum_{a \in A(i)} \exp(s(z_i, z_a)/\tau)}$$

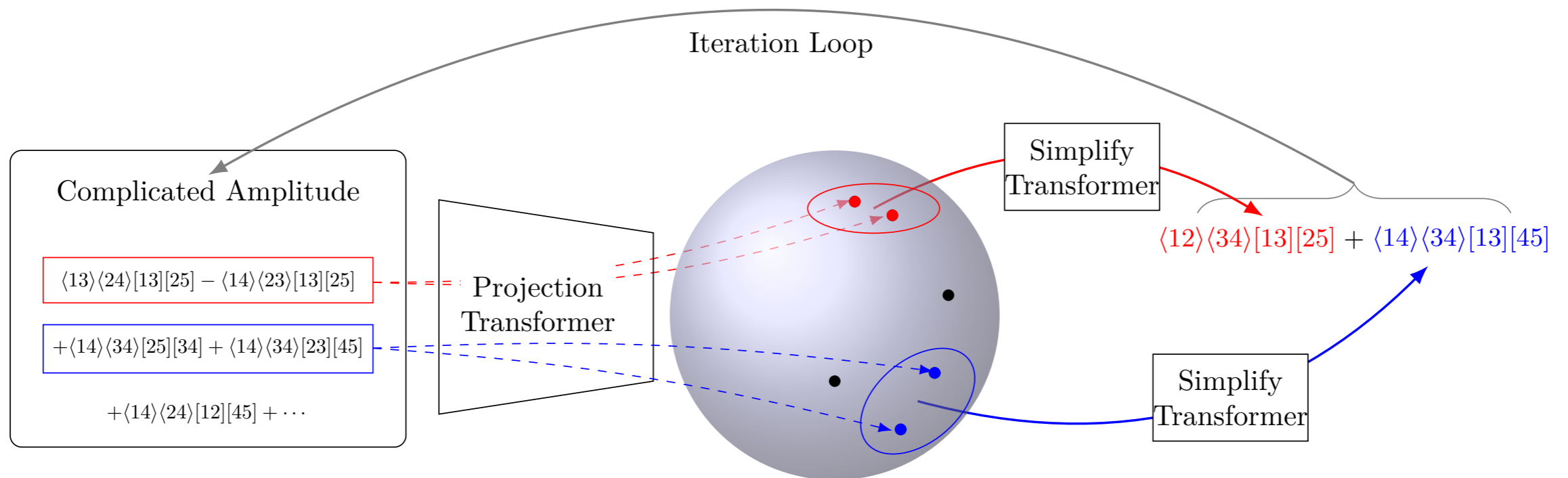
Cosine similarity : $s(z_1, z_2) = \frac{z_1 \cdot z_2}{\|z_1\| \|z_2\|}$

Encourage uniformity

Promote alignment

Complete Simplification Pipeline: our Oracle

We group terms that have a high cosine similarity in the embedding space

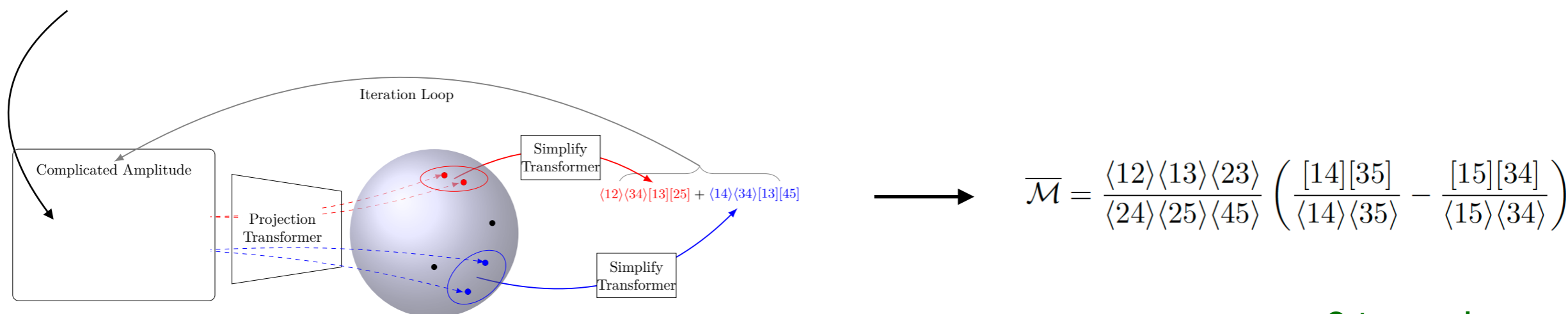


Complete ML pipeline deals with parts of the full amplitude at a time

A drastic simplification: $\mathcal{M}(\phi\phi\phi h^+ h^+)$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M} = & \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle^2 \langle 15 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [12] [15]^2 [24] [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^3 \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [35] [45]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle^2 \langle 15 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [12] [15]^2 [34]^2}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^2 \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [35] [45]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle^2 [12] [15] [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^2 \langle 45 \rangle^2 [35]} \\ & + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle^2 \langle 25 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [12] [15] [24] [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^3 \langle 45 \rangle^2 [23] [35]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle^2 \langle 34 \rangle [12] [15] [34]^2}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^2 \langle 45 \rangle^2 [23] [35]} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle [12] [15] [24] [34]}{\langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [45]} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle [12] [15] [34]^2}{\langle 25 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [45]} \\ & - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle [12] [34]}{\langle 15 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^2} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle [12] [24] [34]}{\langle 15 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^2 [23]} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle [12] [34]^2}{\langle 15 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^2 [23]} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle^2 \langle 34 \rangle [12] [14] [15] [25] [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^3 \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [35] [45]} \\ & - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle^2 \langle 34 \rangle [12] [15]^2 [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^2 \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [35]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [12] [15] [24] [25] [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^3 \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [35] [45]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [12] [15] [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^2 \langle 45 \rangle^3 [35]} \\ & + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [12] [15] [24] [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^2 \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [45]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [12] [15] [25] [34]^2}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^2 \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [35] [45]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [12] [15] [34]^2}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [45]} \\ & - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle^2 [12] [15] [24] [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^3 \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [35]} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle^2 [12] [15] [34]^2}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^2 \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [35]} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [12] [15] [34] [45]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^2 \langle 45 \rangle^2 [23] [35]} \\ & + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle [12] [25] [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^2 \langle 45 \rangle^2 [35]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle [12] [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^2} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [12] [24] [25] [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^3 \langle 45 \rangle^2 [23] [35]} \\ & - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [12] [34] [45]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^2 \langle 45 \rangle^2 [35]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [12] [24] [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^2 \langle 45 \rangle^2 [23]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [12] [25] [34]^2}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^2 \langle 45 \rangle^2 [23] [35]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [12] [34]^2}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^2 [23]} \\ & - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle^2 [12] [24] [34] [45]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^3 \langle 45 \rangle^2 [23] [35]} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle^2 [12] [34]^2 [45]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^2 \langle 45 \rangle^2 [23] [35]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle [12] [14] [25] [34]}{\langle 25 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [45]} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle [12] [15] [34]}{\langle 25 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23]} \\ & - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle [12] [34]}{\langle 25 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^3} + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle [12] [34] [45]}{\langle 25 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^2 [23]} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle^2 \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [12] [14] [25]^2 [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^3 \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [35] [45]} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle^2 \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [12] [14] [25] [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^2 \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [45]} \\ & + \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle^2 \langle 34 \rangle^2 [12] [14] [25] [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^3 \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [35]} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle^2 \langle 34 \rangle [12] [15] [25] [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle^2 \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23] [35]} - \frac{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle^2 \langle 34 \rangle [12] [15] [34]}{\langle 14 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle^3 [23]} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

298 terms !



2 terms !

Lessons and Outlook

1) ML is useful for mathematical tasks

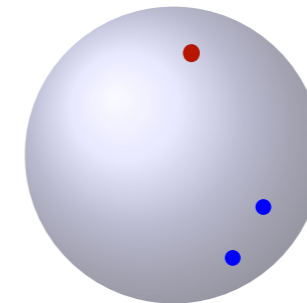
→ we have numerical checks



+



2) Need meaningful representations



3) Framework is flexible

→ only need to adapt the training data

At scale, AI assistant for hep-th ?

Backup

Model Architectures and Training Parameters

Hyperparameter Type	Parameter Description	Value
Network architecture	Encoder layers	3
	Decoder layers	3
	Attention heads	8
	Embedding dimension	512
	Maximum input length	2560
Training parameters	Batch size	16
	Epoch size	50,000
	Epoch number	1,500
	Learning Rate	10^{-4}

Encoder-Decoder
for simplification

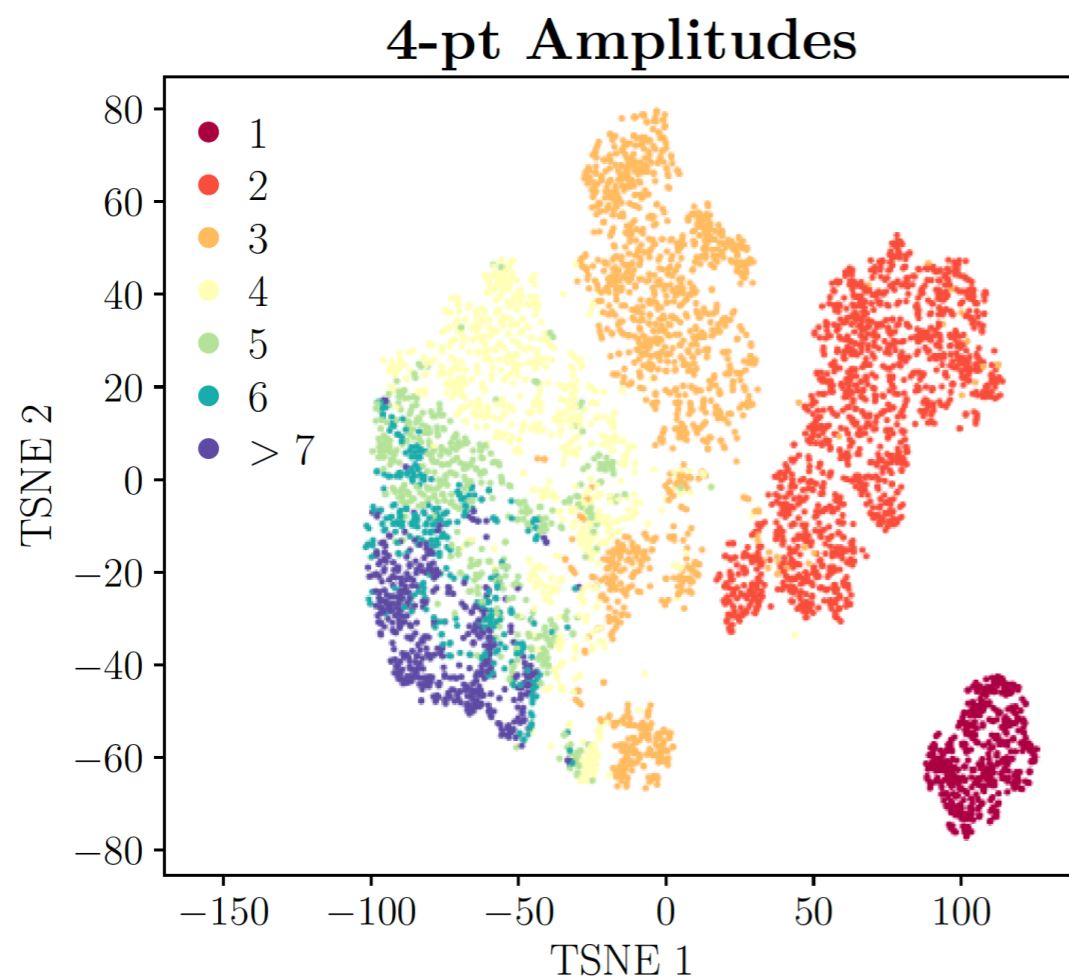
Hyperparameter Type	Parameter Description	Value
Encoder architecture	Num layers	2
	Attention heads	8
	Embedding dimension	512
	Maximum input length	256
Feed-forward architecture	Num layers	2
	Hidden dimension	512
Training parameters	Batch size	128
	Epoch size	10,000
	Epoch number	500
	Learning Rate	10^{-4}
	Temperature	0.15

Embedding network

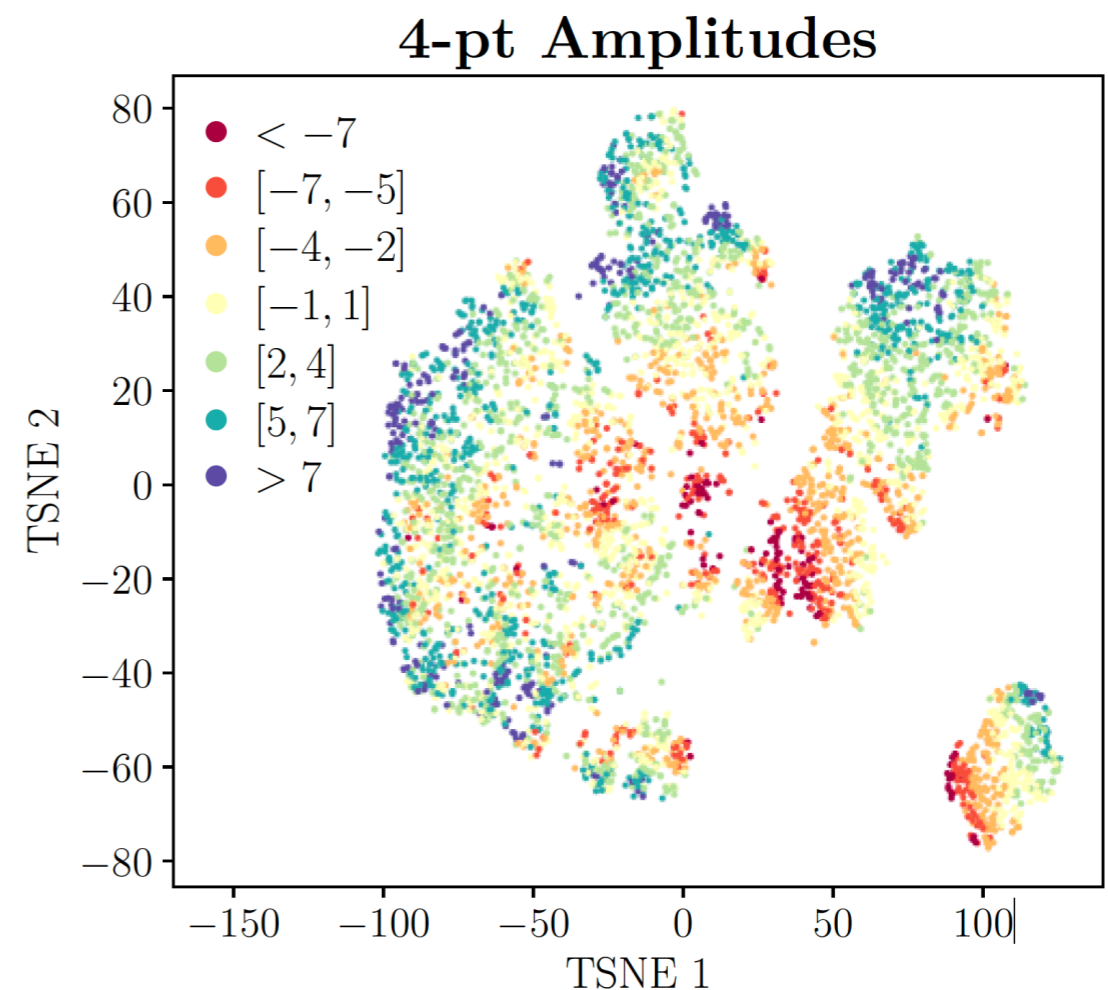
Interesting Representations: t-SNE visualisations

Amplitude embeddings

$$e(\mathcal{M}) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{M})|} \sum_{w \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{M})} \mathbf{E}(w | \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{M}))$$



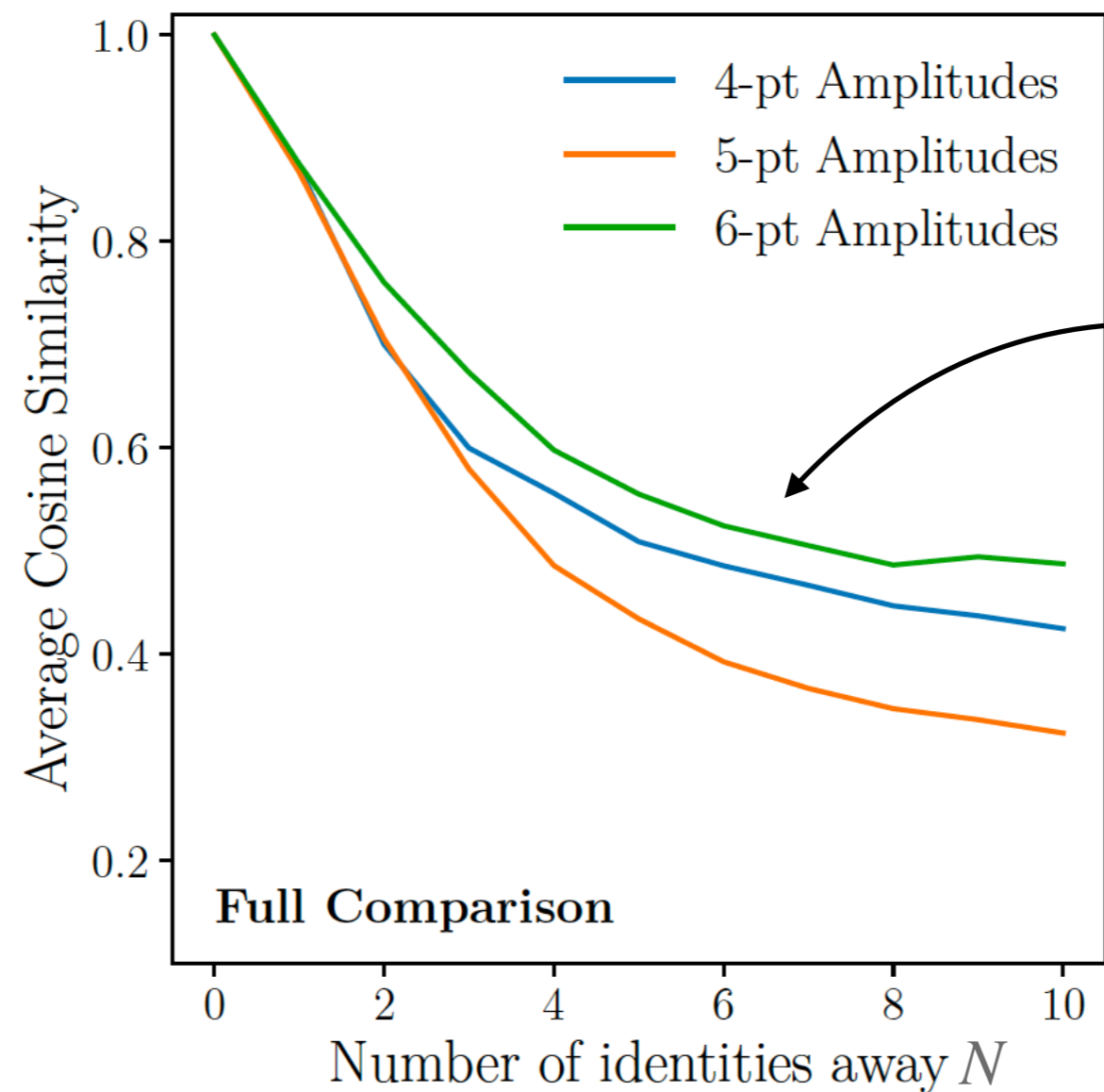
Colour-coded by number
of numerators terms



Colour-coded by
mass dimension

Similarity Measure

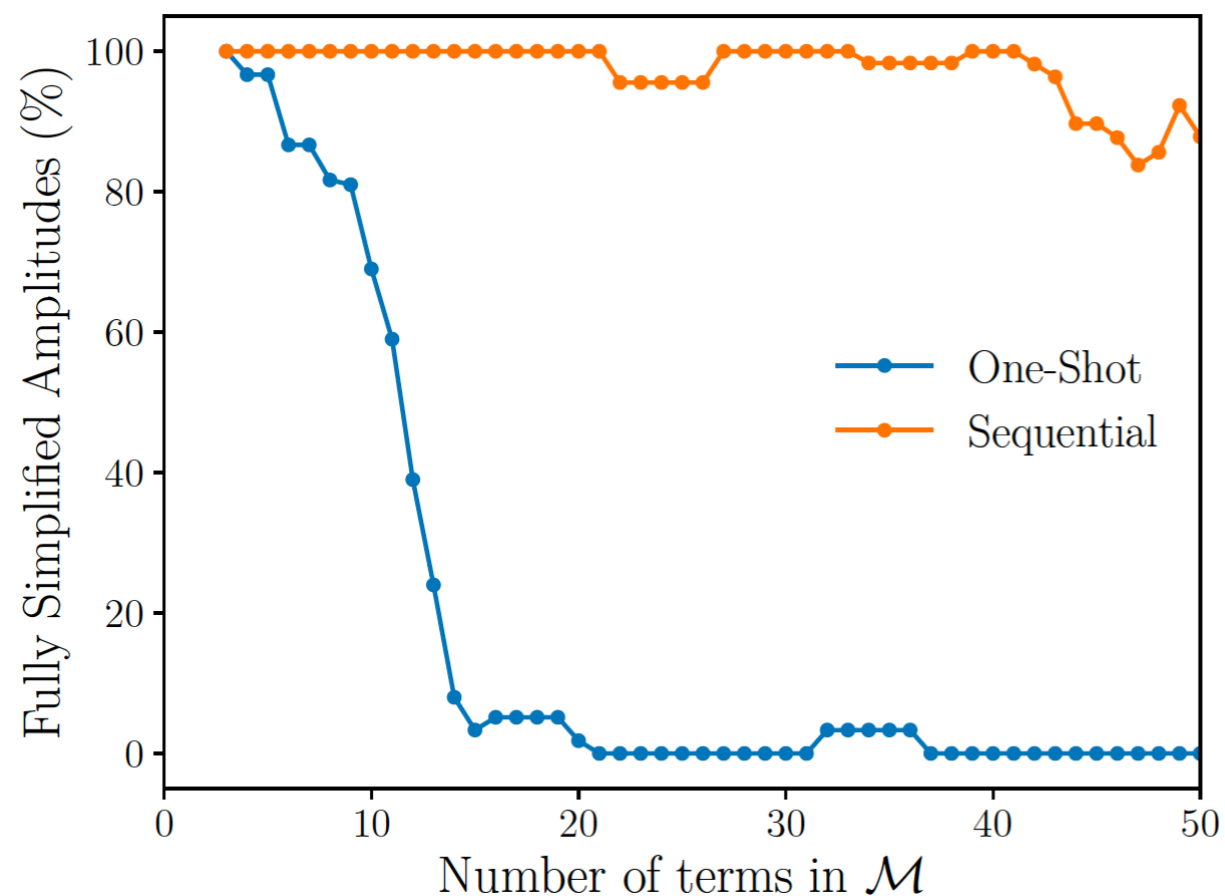
Average cosine similarity between terms that are N identities away



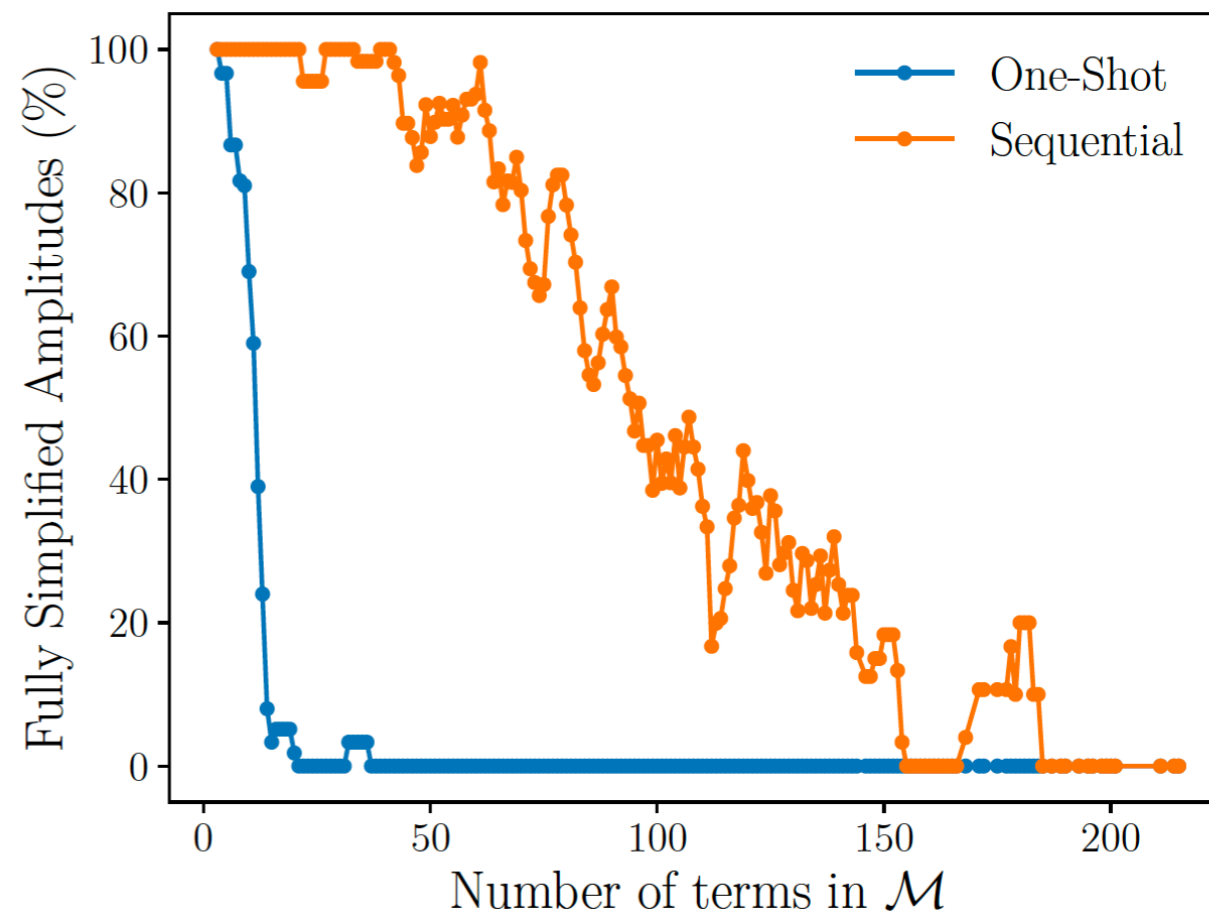
Terms in the embedding space are organised by their similarity !

Simplification results

How often do we fully simplify 4 and 5-pt amplitudes down to a single term following Parke-Taylor ?



Transformer Encoder alone handles 20 terms at most



Full pipeline almost flawless till 50 terms !

Even when fails still reduces to ~13 % of original size