## EH

# New techniques in the computation of scattering amplitudes 

Claude Duhr

LHCPhenoNet Mid-Term Meeting
Ravello, 17/09/2012

## Scattering amplitudes in QFT

- LHC physics is dominated by QCD.
- State of the art:
$\Rightarrow$ Tree-level: essentially solved (except multi-leg amplitudes).


## Scattering amplitudes in QFT

- LHC physics is dominated by QCD.
- State of the art:
$\Rightarrow$ Tree-level: essentially solved (except multi-leg amplitudes).
$\Rightarrow$ One loop:
$\checkmark$ Integral basis (boxes, triangles, bubbles)
$\checkmark$ Essentially solved


## Scattering amplitudes in QFT

- LHC physics is dominated by QCD.
- State of the art:
$\Rightarrow$ Tree-level: essentially solved (except multi-leg amplitudes).
$\Rightarrow$ One loop:
$\checkmark$ Integral basis (boxes, triangles, bubbles)
$\checkmark$ Essentially solved
$\Rightarrow$ Two loops:
- Two-loop amplitudes in general unknown.
- No two-loop integral basis known.
[See talks by Gluza and Malamos]


## Multi-loop computations

- Why are multi-loop computations so difficult..?
- Integration-by-parts identities allow to reduce the problem to the computation of a minimal set of master integrals.
- Quantities are divergent:
$\Rightarrow$ UV \& IR divergences.
- Two-loop integrals are generically polylogarithms of weight 4 in many external physical parameters.
= multiple polylogarithms.
- need to evaluate these functions numerically in a fast and efficient way, including all the branch cuts, etc.
- In other words, polylogarithms and their generalizations are everywhere!
$\Rightarrow$ Need to understand these functions!


## The life-cycle of a loop computation

- The final goal is to obtain an expression of the loop integrals in terms of
$\Rightarrow$ Transcendental numbers: mutliple zeta values, $\log 2$, etc.
$\Rightarrow$ Transcendental functions: a whole zoo was discovered


## The life-cycle of a loop computation

- The final goal is to obtain an expression of the loop integrals in terms of
$\Rightarrow$ Transcendental numbers: mutliple zeta values, $\log 2$, etc.
$\Rightarrow$ Transcendental functions: a whole zoo was discovered
^ (Classical) polylogarithms.


## The life-cycle of a loop computation

- The final goal is to obtain an expression of the loop integrals in terms of
$\Rightarrow$ Transcendental numbers: mutliple zeta values, $\log 2$, etc.
$\Rightarrow$ Transcendental functions: a whole zoo was discovered
^ (Classical) polylogarithms.
$\star$ Harmonic polylogarithms.


## The life-cycle of a loop computation

- The final goal is to obtain an expression of the loop integrals in terms of
$\Rightarrow$ Transcendental numbers: mutliple zeta values, $\log 2$, etc.
$\Rightarrow$ Transcendental functions: a whole zoo was discovered
^ (Classical) polylogarithms.
* Harmonic polylogarithms.
* 2d harmonic polylogarithms.


## The life-cycle of a loop computation

- The final goal is to obtain an expression of the loop integrals in terms of
$\Rightarrow$ Transcendental numbers: mutliple zeta values, $\log 2$, etc.
$\Rightarrow$ Transcendental functions: a whole zoo was discovered
^ (Classical) polylogarithms.
^ Harmonic polylogarithms.
* 2d harmonic polylogarithms.
^ Cyclotomic harmonic polylogarithms.


## The life-cycle of a loop computation

- The final goal is to obtain an expression of the loop integrals in terms of
$\Rightarrow$ Transcendental numbers: mutliple zeta values, $\log 2$, etc.
$\Rightarrow$ Transcendental functions: a whole zoo was discovered
^ (Classical) polylogarithms.
^ Harmonic polylogarithms.
* 2d harmonic polylogarithms.
^ Cyclotomic harmonic polylogarithms.
^ All these are just special classes of multiple polylogarithms.


## The life-cycle of a loop computation

- The final goal is to obtain an expression of the loop integrals in terms of
$\Rightarrow$ Transcendental numbers: mutliple zeta values, $\log 2$, etc.
$\Rightarrow$ Transcendental functions: a whole zoo was discovered
^ (Classical) polylogarithms.
$\star$ Harmonic polylogarithms.
* 2d harmonic polylogarithms.
^ Cyclotomic harmonic polylogarithms.
^ All these are just special classes of multiple polylogarithms.
^ Elliptic functions.
- In this talk: will concentrate exclusively on polylogarithms.


## The life-cycle of a loop computation

- Recursive definition of multiple polylogarithms:

$$
\left.G\left(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{n} ; z\right)=\int_{0}^{z} \frac{\mathrm{~d} t}{t-a_{1}} G\left(a_{2}, \ldots, a_{n} ; t\right) \right\rvert\, \operatorname{Li}_{n}(z)=\int_{0}^{z} \frac{\mathrm{~d} t}{t} \operatorname{Li}_{n-1}(t)
$$

## The life-cycle of a loop computation

- Recursive definition of multiple polylogarithms:

$$
\left.G\left(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{n} ; z\right)=\int_{0}^{z} \frac{\mathrm{~d} t}{t-a_{1}} G\left(a_{2}, \ldots, a_{n} ; t\right) \right\rvert\, \operatorname{Li}_{n}(z)=\int_{0}^{z} \frac{\mathrm{~d} t}{t} \operatorname{Li}_{n-1}(t)
$$

- All the special functions physicists defined are just special cases thereof:
$\Rightarrow$ (Classical) polylogarithms: $\operatorname{Li}_{n}(z)=-G(0, \ldots, 0,1 ; z)$


## The life-cycle of a loop computation

- Recursive definition of multiple polylogarithms:

$$
\left.G\left(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{n} ; z\right)=\int_{0}^{z} \frac{\mathrm{~d} t}{t-a_{1}} G\left(a_{2}, \ldots, a_{n} ; t\right) \right\rvert\, \operatorname{Li}_{n}(z)=\int_{0}^{z} \frac{\mathrm{~d} t}{t} \operatorname{Li}_{n-1}(t)
$$

- All the special functions physicists defined are just special cases thereof:
$\Rightarrow$ (Classical) polylogarithms: $\operatorname{Li}_{n}(z)=-G(0, \ldots, 0,1 ; z)$
$\Rightarrow$ Harmonic polylogarithms: $a_{i} \in\{-1,0,1\}$


## The life-cycle of a loop computation

- Recursive definition of multiple polylogarithms:
$\left.G\left(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{n} ; z\right)=\int_{0}^{z} \frac{\mathrm{~d} t}{t-a_{1}} G\left(a_{2}, \ldots, a_{n} ; t\right) \right\rvert\, \operatorname{Li}_{n}(z)=\int_{0}^{z} \frac{\mathrm{~d} t}{t} \operatorname{Li}_{n-1}(t)$
- All the special functions physicists defined are just special cases thereof:
$\Rightarrow$ (Classical) polylogarithms: $\operatorname{Li}_{n}(z)=-G(0, \ldots, 0,1 ; z)$
$\Rightarrow$ Harmonic polylogarithms: $a_{i} \in\{-1,0,1\}$
$\Rightarrow 2 d$ harmonic polylogarithms: e.g., $a_{i} \in\{0,1, a\}$


## The life-cycle of a loop computation

- Recursive definition of multiple polylogarithms:
$\left.G\left(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{n} ; z\right)=\int_{0}^{z} \frac{\mathrm{~d} t}{t-a_{1}} G\left(a_{2}, \ldots, a_{n} ; t\right) \right\rvert\, \operatorname{Li}_{n}(z)=\int_{0}^{z} \frac{\mathrm{~d} t}{t} \operatorname{Li}_{n-1}(t)$
- All the special functions physicists defined are just special cases thereof:
$\Rightarrow$ (Classical) polylogarithms: $\operatorname{Li}_{n}(z)=-G(0, \ldots, 0,1 ; z)$
$\Rightarrow$ Harmonic polylogarithms: $a_{i} \in\{-1,0,1\}$
$\Rightarrow 2 d$ harmonic polylogarithms: e.g., $a_{i} \in\{0,1, a\}$
$\Rightarrow$ Cyclotomic harmonic polylogarithms: roots of unity.


## The life-cycle of a loop computation

- Even if an amplitude is simple, it might be that our approach to the problem leads to a difficult answer.
- The polylogarithms satisfy various complicated functional equations.
$\Rightarrow$ The simplicity of the answer might be hidden behind a swath of functional equations.

$$
-\mathrm{Li}_{2}(z)-\ln z \ln (1-z)=\operatorname{Li}_{2}(1-z)-\frac{\pi^{2}}{6}
$$

- In other words we need to 'control' the functional equations among polylogarithms.


## Number theory and Loop integrals

- Polylogarithms have been introduced and studied several centuries ago by Euler, Nielsen, Poincaré,...
$\Rightarrow$ 'Mathematics of the 19th century'.


## Number theory and Loop integrals

- Polylogarithms have been introduced and studied several centuries ago by Euler, Nielsen, Poincaré,...
$\Rightarrow$ 'Mathematics of the 19th century'.
- No! Over the last 20 years polylogarithms were a very active field of research in pure mathematics.
- Mathematicians have discovered very far reaching algebraic structures underlying polylogarithms.
- In particular, mathematicians showed that multiple polylogarithms form a Hopf algebra.


## Number theory and Loop integrals

- Polylogarithms have been introduced and studied several centuries ago by Euler, Nielsen, Poincaré,...
$\Rightarrow$ 'Mathematics of the 19th century'.
- No! Over the last 20 years polylogarithms were a very active field of research in pure mathematics.
- Mathematicians have discovered very far reaching algebraic structures underlying polylogarithms.
- In particular, mathematicians showed that multiple polylogarithms form a Hopf algebra.
- Consequence: All functional equations are pure combinatorics!
$\Rightarrow$ You do not even need to know the integral in order to derive the relations among them!


## Hopf algebras

## Hopf algebras

- Algebra: Vector space with an operation that allows one to 'fuse' two elements into one (multiplication).


## Hopf algebras

- Algebra: Vector space with an operation that allows one to 'fuse' two elements into one (multiplication).
- Coalgebra: Vector space with an operation that allows one to break two elements apart (comultiplication).


## Hopf algebras

- Algebra: Vector space with an operation that allows one to 'fuse' two elements into one (multiplication).
- Coalgebra: Vector space with an operation that allows one to break two elements apart (comultiplication).
- Hopf algebra: Vector space with both multiplication and comultiplication, i.e., one can 'fuse' and 'break apart' in a consistent manner.


## Hopf algebras

- Algebra: Vector space with an operation that allows one to 'fuse' two elements into one (multiplication).
- Coalgebra: Vector space with an operation that allows one to break two elements apart (comultiplication).
- Hopf algebra: Vector space with both multiplication and comultiplication, i.e., one can 'fuse' and 'break apart' in a consistent manner.
- Goncharov showed that mutliple polylogarithms form a Hopf algebra.

$$
\begin{gathered}
\Delta(\ln z)=1 \otimes \ln z+\ln z \otimes 1 \\
\Delta\left(\operatorname{Li}_{n}(z)\right)=1 \otimes \operatorname{Li}_{n}(z)+\operatorname{Li}_{n}(z) \otimes 1+\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \operatorname{Li}_{n-k}(z) \otimes \frac{\ln ^{k} z}{k!}
\end{gathered}
$$

## The Hopf algebra of polylogarithms

- How can all this be useful to physicists..?


## The Hopf algebra of polylogarithms

- How can all this be useful to physicists..?
- Imagine a two-loop multi-scale integral that evaluates to 1000's of $\mathrm{Li}_{4}$ 's.
$\Rightarrow$ Can the expression be simplified?


## The Hopf algebra of polylogarithms

- How can all this be useful to physicists..?
- Imagine a two-loop multi-scale integral that evaluates to 1000's of $\mathrm{Li}_{4}$ 's.

$$
{ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{4}{ }^{\prime}
$$

## The Hopf algebra of polylogarithms

- How can all this be useful to physicists..?
- Imagine a two-loop multi-scale integral that evaluates to 1000's of $\mathrm{Li}_{4}$ 's.

Too complicated to handle ' $\mathrm{Li}_{4}{ }^{\prime}$

## The Hopf algebra of polylogarithms

- How can all this be useful to physicists..?
- Imagine a two-loop multi-scale integral that evaluates to 1000's of $\mathrm{Li}_{4}$ 's.

Too complicated to handle ${ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{4}{ }^{\prime}$
Break it into pieces
${ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{3} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1}{ }^{\prime} \quad{ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{2} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{2}{ }^{\prime} \quad{ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{3}{ }^{\prime}$

## The Hopf algebra of polylogarithms

- How can all this be useful to physicists..?
- Imagine a two-loop multi-scale integral that evaluates to 1000's of $\mathrm{Li}_{4}$ 's.

Too complicated to handle ${ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{4}{ }^{\prime}$

Still too
complicated ${ }^{‘} \mathrm{Li}_{3} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1}{ }^{\prime} \quad{ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{2} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{2}{ }^{\prime}$
Break it into pieces

## The Hopf algebra of polylogarithms

- How can all this be useful to physicists..?
- Imagine a two-loop multi-scale integral that evaluates to 1000's of $\mathrm{Li}_{4}$ 's.

Too complicated to handle ' $\mathrm{Li}_{4}$ '

Still too

${ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{2} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1} ' \quad{ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{2} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1}{ }^{\prime} \quad{ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{2}{ }^{\prime}$

## The Hopf algebra of polylogarithms

- How can all this be useful to physicists..?
- Imagine a two-loop multi-scale integral that evaluates to 1000's of $\mathrm{Li}_{4}$ 's.

Too complicated to handle ' $\mathrm{Li}_{4}$ '

Still too
complicated ${ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{3} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1}{ }^{\prime} \quad{ }^{'} \mathrm{Li}_{2} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{2}{ }^{\prime} \longrightarrow{ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{3}{ }^{\prime}$

${ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{2} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1} ' \quad{ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{2} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1}{ }^{\prime} \quad{ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{2}{ }^{\prime}$
${ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1}{ }^{\prime}$

$$
\operatorname{Li}_{1}(z)=-\log (1-z) \quad \log (a \cdot b)=\log a+\log b
$$

## The Hopf algebra of polylogarithms

- How can all this be useful to physicists..?
- Imagine a two-loop multi-scale integral that evaluates to 1000's of $\mathrm{Li}_{4}$ 's.

Too complicated to handle ${ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{4}$ '

Still too
complicated ' ${ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{3} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1}{ }^{\prime} \quad{ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{2} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{2}{ }^{\prime} \quad{ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{3}{ }^{\prime}$

${ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{2} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1}{ }^{\prime} \quad{ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{2} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1}{ }^{\prime} \quad{ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{2}{ }^{\prime}$
${ }^{6} \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1},>$ Symbol
$\operatorname{Li}_{1}(z)=-\log (1-z) \quad \log (a \cdot b)=\log a+\log b$

## The Hopf algebra of polylogarithms

Too complicated to handle ' $\mathrm{Li}_{4}$ '
Still too

${ }^{\prime} \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1} \otimes \mathrm{Li}_{1}$,

$$
\operatorname{Li}_{1}(z)=-\log (1-z) \quad \log (a \cdot b)=\log a+\log b
$$

## The Hopf algebra of polylogarithms



- At the end of this procedure, we have broken everything into little pieces (logarithms = symbol), for which all identities are known.
- We then need to reassemble the pieces to find the simplified expression (This is the most difficult step!)
- At each step information is lost, but in a controlled way:
- Can be recovered by going back up one step at the time.


## Hopf algebras and Loop integrals

- Understanding the mathematical structure underlying multiple polylogarithms opens new possibilities for the computation of Feynman integrals and scattering amplitudes.


## Hopf algebras and Loop integrals

- Understanding the mathematical structure underlying multiple polylogarithms opens new possibilities for the computation of Feynman integrals and scattering amplitudes.
- Substantial simplifications of complicated expressions:
$\Rightarrow$ Six-point MHV amplitude in N=4 Super Yang-Mills.
$\Rightarrow$ Two-loop helicity amplitudes for $\mathrm{H}+3 \mathrm{~g}$.


## Hopf algebras and Loop integrals

- Understanding the mathematical structure underlying multiple polylogarithms opens new possibilities for the computation of Feynman integrals and scattering amplitudes.
- Substantial simplifications of complicated expressions:
$\Rightarrow$ Six-point MHV amplitude in N=4 Super Yang-Mills.
$\Rightarrow$ Two-loop helicity amplitudes for $\mathrm{H}+3 \mathrm{~g}$.
- Determine space of functions a priori:
- Generalized ladder integrals.
$\Rightarrow \mathrm{N}=4$ SYM six-point amplitude in the Regge limit.
$\Rightarrow$ Two-loop three mass triangle integrals.


## 6-point amplitude in N=4 SYM

- Evaluating the individual diagrams one arrives at a very complicated combination of multiple polylogarithms (17 pages),

$$
\begin{align*}
& R_{6, W L}^{(2)}\left(u_{1}, u_{2}, u_{3}\right)=  \tag{H.1}\\
& \frac{1}{24} \pi^{2} G\left(\frac{1}{1-u_{1}}, \frac{u_{2}-1}{u_{1}+u_{2}-1} ; 1\right)+\frac{1}{24} \pi^{2} G\left(\frac{1}{u_{1}}, \frac{1}{u_{1}+u_{2}} ; 1\right)+\frac{1}{24} \pi^{2} G\left(\frac{1}{u_{1}}, \frac{1}{u_{1}+u_{3}} ; 1\right)+ \\
& \frac{1}{24} \pi^{2} G\left(\frac{1}{1-u_{2}}, \frac{u_{3}-1}{u_{2}+u_{3}-1} ; 1\right)+\frac{1}{24} \pi^{2} G\left(\frac{1}{u_{2}}, \frac{1}{u_{1}+u_{2}} ; 1\right)+\frac{1}{24} \pi^{2} G\left(\frac{1}{u_{2}}, \frac{1}{u_{2}+u_{3}} ; 1\right)+ \\
& \frac{1}{24} \pi^{2} G\left(\frac{1}{1-u_{3}}, \frac{u_{1}-1}{u_{1}+u_{3}-1} ; 1\right)+\frac{1}{24} \pi^{2} G\left(\frac{1}{u_{3}}, \frac{1}{u_{1}+u_{3}} ; 1\right)+\frac{1}{24} \pi^{2} G\left(\frac{1}{u_{3}}, \frac{1}{u_{2}+u_{3}} ; 1\right)+ \\
& \frac{3}{2} G\left(0,0, \frac{1}{u_{1}}, \frac{1}{u_{1}+u_{2}} ; 1\right)+\frac{3}{2} G\left(0,0, \frac{1}{u_{1}}, \frac{1}{u_{1}+u_{3}} ; 1\right)+\frac{3}{2} G\left(0,0, \frac{1}{u_{2}}, \frac{1}{u_{1}+u_{2}} ; 1\right)+ \\
& \frac{3}{2} G\left(0,0, \frac{1}{u_{2}}, \frac{1}{u_{2}+u_{3}} ; 1\right)+\frac{3}{2} G\left(0,0, \frac{1}{u_{3}}, \frac{1}{u_{1}+u_{3}} ; 1\right)+\frac{3}{2} G\left(0,0, \frac{1}{u_{3}}, \frac{1}{u_{2}+u_{3}} ; 1\right)- \\
& \frac{1}{2} G\left(0, \frac{1}{u_{1}}, 0, \frac{1}{u_{2}} ; 1\right)+G\left(0, \frac{1}{u_{1}}, 0, \frac{1}{u_{1}+u_{2}} ; 1\right)-\frac{1}{2} G\left(0, \frac{1}{u_{1}}, 0, \frac{1}{u_{3}} ; 1\right)+
\end{align*}
$$

[Del Duca, CD, Smirnov]

## 6-point amplitude in $\mathrm{N}=4$ SYM

$$
\begin{gathered}
R_{6}^{(2)}\left(u_{1}, u_{2}, u_{3}\right)=\sum_{i=1}^{3}\left(L_{4}\left(x_{i}^{+}, x_{i}^{-}\right)-\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Li}_{4}\left(1-1 / u_{i}\right)\right) \begin{array}{c}
\text { [Goncharov, Spradlin, } \\
\text { Vergu, Volovich] }
\end{array} \\
\quad-\frac{1}{8}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{3} \operatorname{Li}_{2}\left(1-1 / u_{i}\right)\right)^{2}+\frac{1}{24} J^{4}+\frac{\pi^{2}}{12} J^{2}+\frac{\pi^{4}}{72} \\
x_{i}^{ \pm}=u_{i} x^{ \pm}, x^{ \pm}=\frac{u_{1}+u_{2}+u_{3}-1 \pm \sqrt{\Delta}}{2 u_{1} u_{2} u_{3}}, \Delta=\left(u_{1}+u_{2}+u_{3}-1\right)^{2}-4 u_{1} u_{2} u_{3}, \\
L_{4}\left(x^{+}, x^{-}\right)=\frac{1}{8!!} \log \left(x^{+} x^{-}\right)^{4}+\sum_{m=0}^{3} \frac{(-1)^{m}}{(2 m)!!} \log \left(x^{+} x^{-}\right)^{m}\left(\ell_{4-m}\left(x^{+}\right)+\ell_{4-m}\left(x^{-}\right)\right) \\
\ell_{n}(x)=\frac{1}{2}\left(\operatorname{Li}_{n}(x)-(-1)^{n} \operatorname{Li}_{n}(1 / x)\right) \quad J=\sum_{i=1}^{3}\left(\ell_{1}\left(x_{i}^{+}\right)-\ell_{1}\left(x_{i}^{-}\right)\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

- This was the first time the new mathematical methods were applied.


## Higgs + 3 gluons

- Gehrmann, Jaquier, Glover and Koukoutsakis have recently computed the two-loop helicity amplitudes for a Higgs boson +3 gluons
$\Rightarrow$ in the decay region

$$
H \rightarrow g^{+} g^{+} g^{+} \quad H \rightarrow g^{+} g^{+} g^{-}
$$

$\Rightarrow$ and the scattering region

$$
g^{+} g^{+} \rightarrow g^{+} H \quad g^{+} g^{+} \rightarrow g^{-} H \quad g^{+} g^{-} \rightarrow g^{+} H
$$

- Kinematics (in the decay region):

$$
\begin{array}{r}
x_{1}=\frac{s_{12}}{m_{H}^{2}}, \quad x_{2}=\frac{s_{23}}{m_{H}^{2}}, \quad x_{3}=\frac{s_{31}}{m_{H}^{2}} \\
0<x_{i}<1 \quad \text { and } \quad x_{1}+x_{2}+x_{3}=1
\end{array}
$$

## Higgs + 3 gluons

- The result was expressed in terms of complicated combinations of ' 2 d harmonic polylogarithms'.
$\Rightarrow$ Symmetries completely lost (e.g. Bose symmetry).
$\Rightarrow$ Very long and complicated.
$\Rightarrow$ Numerical evaluation of complicated special functions.
$\Rightarrow$ Analytic continuation from decay to scattering region very complicated.


## Higgs + 3 gluons

- The result was expressed in terms of complicated combinations of ' 2 d harmonic polylogarithms'.
$\Rightarrow$ Symmetries completely lost (e.g. Bose symmetry).
$\Rightarrow$ Very long and complicated.
$\Rightarrow$ Numerical evaluation of complicated special functions.
$\Rightarrow$ Analytic continuation from decay to scattering region very complicated.
- Brandhuber, Gang and Travaglini observed that the symbol of the leading color weight 4 part (after subtracting the one-loop squared) is equal to the symbol of the form factor of 3 gluons in $\mathrm{N}=4$ Super Yang-Mills.
$\Rightarrow$ A simpler representation of the Higgs amplitudes in terms of classical polylogarithms only should exist.


## Higgs +3 gluons

$$
\begin{aligned}
\bar{A}_{\alpha}^{(2)} & =\mathcal{R}_{3}^{(2)}-\frac{\pi^{2}}{6} A_{\alpha}^{(1)}-\frac{1}{4} \zeta_{3} B_{\alpha}^{(1)}-\frac{\pi^{4}}{2880} \\
& \frac{11}{6}\left\{\Lambda_{3}\left(-\frac{x_{1} x_{3}}{x_{2}}\right)+\Lambda_{3}\left(-\frac{x_{2} x_{3}}{x_{1}}\right)+\Lambda_{3}\left(-\frac{x_{1} x_{2}}{x_{3}}\right)-\sum_{i=1}^{3} \operatorname{Li}_{3}\left(1-\frac{1}{x_{i}}\right)\right. \\
& -\Lambda_{3}\left(-\frac{x_{1}}{x_{2}}\right)-\Lambda_{3}\left(-\frac{x_{2}}{x_{1}}\right)-\Lambda_{3}\left(-\frac{x_{1}}{x_{3}}\right)-\Lambda_{3}\left(-\frac{x_{3}}{x_{1}}\right)-\Lambda_{3}\left(-\frac{x_{2}}{x_{3}}\right)-\Lambda_{3}\left(-\frac{x_{3}}{x_{2}}\right) \\
& +\frac{1}{2} \ln \left(x_{1} x_{2} x_{3}\right) A_{\alpha}^{(1)}+\frac{7}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{3}\left[\operatorname{Li}_{2}\left(1-x_{i}\right) \ln x_{i}\right]+\frac{3}{4} \ln x_{1} \ln x_{2} \ln x_{3}+\frac{1}{6} \ln ^{3}\left(x_{1} x_{2} x_{3}\right) \\
& \left.-\frac{5}{16} \pi^{2} \ln \left(x_{1} x_{2} x_{3}\right)-\frac{3}{8} \zeta_{3}+i \pi A_{\alpha}^{(1)}+\frac{i \pi^{3}}{16}-\frac{1}{3} \sum_{i=1}^{3} \ln ^{3} x_{i}\right\} \\
& +\frac{1}{36} \sum_{i=1}^{3}\left[\frac{P_{1}\left(x_{i}, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}\right)}{x_{i-1}^{2} x_{i+1}^{2}} \operatorname{Li}_{2}\left(1-x_{i}\right)+\frac{P_{2}\left(x_{i}, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}\right)}{x_{i}^{2}} \ln x_{i-1} \ln x_{i+1}+\frac{121}{4} \ln ^{2} x_{i}\right] \\
& +\frac{P_{3}\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\right)}{144 x_{1}^{2} x_{2}^{2} x_{3}^{2}} \pi^{2}-\frac{121}{72} i \pi \ln \left(x_{1} x_{2} x_{2}\right)+\frac{11}{36} i \pi\left(x_{1} x_{2}+x_{2} x_{3}+x_{3} x_{1}\right)+\frac{185}{24} i \pi \\
& +\frac{1}{72} \sum_{i=1}^{3} \frac{P_{4}\left(x_{i}, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}\right)}{x_{i-1} x_{i+1}} \ln x_{i}-\frac{1}{72}\left(x_{1} x_{2}+x_{3} x_{2}+x_{1} x_{3}\right)^{2}+\frac{247}{108}\left(x_{1} x_{2}+x_{3} x_{2}+x_{1} x_{3}\right) \\
& +\frac{1321}{216},
\end{aligned}
$$

$\Rightarrow$ Kummer' function

$$
\Lambda_{n}(z)=\int_{0}^{z} \mathrm{~d} t \frac{\ln ^{n-1}|t|}{1+t}=(n-1)!\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{(-1)^{n-k}}{k!} \ln ^{k}|z| \mathrm{Li}_{n-k}(z)
$$

## Higgs + 3 gluons

$$
\begin{align*}
\bar{D}_{\alpha}^{(2)} & =-\zeta_{3}+\frac{i \pi}{4}-\frac{1}{6}\left(x_{1} x_{2}+x_{3} x_{2}+x_{1} x_{3}\right)+\frac{67}{48}+\frac{P_{5}\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\right)}{72 x_{1}^{2} x_{2}^{2} x_{3}^{2}} \pi^{2} \\
& +\frac{1}{12} \sum_{i=1}^{3}\left[\frac{P_{6}\left(x_{i}, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}\right)}{x_{i-1}^{2} x_{i+1}^{2}} \operatorname{Li}_{2}\left(1-x_{i}\right)+\frac{P_{7}\left(x_{i}, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}\right)}{x_{i}^{2}} \ln x_{i-1} \ln x_{i+1}\right.  \tag{7.19}\\
& \left.+\frac{P_{8}\left(x_{i}, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}\right)}{2 x_{i-1} x_{i+1}} \ln x_{i}\right]
\end{align*}
$$

$$
\begin{align*}
\bar{E}_{\alpha}^{(2)} & =-\frac{i \pi^{3}}{48}-\frac{i \pi}{3} A_{\alpha}^{(1)}-\frac{1}{12} \ln \left(x_{1} x_{2} x_{3}\right)\left(\ln x_{1} \ln x_{2}+\ln x_{1} \ln x_{3}+\ln x_{2} \ln x_{3}\right) \\
& +\frac{P_{13}\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\right)}{432}+\frac{7}{12} \ln x_{1} \ln x_{2} \ln x_{3}-\frac{5}{48} \pi^{2} \ln \left(x_{1} x_{2} x_{3}\right)-\frac{29}{24} \zeta_{3} \\
& +\frac{11}{18} i \pi \ln \left(x_{1} x_{2} x_{3}\right)+\frac{P_{11}\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\right)}{288 x_{1}^{2} x_{2}^{2} x_{3}^{2}} \pi^{2}+\sum_{i=1}^{3}\left[\operatorname{Li}_{3}\left(x_{i}\right)-\frac{1}{3} \mathrm{Li}_{3}\left(1-x_{i}\right)\right. \\
& +\frac{1}{6} \operatorname{Li}_{2}\left(1-x_{i}\right) \ln x_{i}+\frac{1}{2} \ln \left(1-x_{i}\right) \ln ^{2} x_{i}+\frac{1}{6} \ln \left(x_{1} x_{2} x_{3}\right) \operatorname{Li}_{2}\left(1-x_{i}\right)  \tag{7.20}\\
& +\frac{P_{9}\left(x_{i}, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}\right)}{36 x_{i-1}^{2} x_{i+1}^{2}} \operatorname{Li}_{2}\left(1-x_{i}\right)+\frac{P_{10}\left(x_{i}, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}\right)}{36 x_{i}^{2}} \ln x_{i-1} \ln x_{i+1} \\
& \left.+\frac{11}{36} \ln ^{2} x_{i}+\frac{P_{12}\left(x_{i}, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}\right)}{216 x_{i-1} x_{i+1}} \ln x_{i}\right]-\frac{13}{36} i \pi\left(x_{1} x_{2}+x_{3} x_{2}+x_{1} x_{3}\right)-\frac{71}{18} i \pi,
\end{align*}
$$

## Higgs +3 gluons

$$
\begin{aligned}
\bar{F}_{\alpha}^{(2)} & =-\frac{i \pi}{18} \ln \left(x_{1} x_{2} x_{3}\right)-\frac{11}{144} \pi^{2}+\frac{1}{36} \sum_{i=1}^{3} \ln ^{2} x_{i}-\frac{5}{54} \ln \left(x_{1} x_{2} x_{3}\right)+\frac{5 i \pi}{18} \\
& +\frac{i \pi}{18}\left(x_{1} x_{2}+x_{2} x_{3}+x_{3} x_{1}\right)+\frac{5}{54}\left(x_{1} x_{2}+x_{3} x_{2}+x_{1} x_{3}\right) \\
& -\frac{1}{72}\left(x_{1} x_{2}+x_{3} x_{2}+x_{1} x_{3}\right)^{2}-\frac{x_{1} x_{2} x_{3}}{18} \sum_{i=1}^{3} \frac{\ln x_{i}}{x_{i}}
\end{aligned}
$$

- Originally, the expressions filled up more than 6 pages!
- Bose symmetry is now completely manifest.
- Only simple functions (classical polylogarithms) with simple arguments.
$\Rightarrow$ easy numerical evaluation.
- Similar results can be obtained for $H \rightarrow g^{+} g^{+} g^{-}$.


## Single-valued polylogarithms

- In some cases it is possible to determine the space of functions a priori from general considerations.


## Single-valued polylogarithms

- In some cases it is possible to determine the space of functions a priori from general considerations.
- In particular, in the case of
$\Rightarrow$ generalized ladder integrals,
$\Rightarrow$ the six-point $N=4$ SYM amplitude in the Regge limit,
$\Rightarrow$ three-mass triangle integrals, one can show on general grounds that the space of functions is the (almost) the same, and corresponds to polylogarithms in one complex variable $z$ without any branch cuts in the complex z plane (single-valued).


## Single-valued polylogarithms

- In some cases it is possible to determine the space of functions a priori from general considerations.
- In particular, in the case of
$\Rightarrow$ generalized ladder integrals,
$\Rightarrow$ the six-point $\mathrm{N}=4 \mathrm{SYM}$ amplitude in the Regge limit,
$\Rightarrow$ three-mass triangle integrals, one can show on general grounds that the space of functions is the (almost) the same, and corresponds to polylogarithms in one complex variable $z$ without any branch cuts in the complex z plane (single-valued).
- These functions can be classified [Brown], and it turns out that at a given loop order the amplitude can only be a linear combination of very few functions.


## Three-mass triangle integrals

- Consider a a three-point function without internal masses.
- The kinemtics is described by the two variables

$$
z \bar{z}=u=\frac{p_{1}^{2}}{p_{3}^{2}} \quad(1-z)(1-\bar{z})=v=\frac{p_{2}^{2}}{p_{3}^{2}}
$$

- It can be shown recursively, by combining the Hopf algebra with Cutkowski's rules, that the such three-point functions must be single-valued functions in the complex variable z.


## Three-mass triangle integrals

- Consider a a three-point function without internal masses.
- The kinemtics is described by the two variables

$$
z \bar{z}=u=\frac{p_{1}^{2}}{p_{3}^{2}} \quad(1-z)(1-\bar{z})=v=\frac{p_{2}^{2}}{p_{3}^{2}}
$$

- It can be shown recursively, by combining the Hopf algebra with Cutkowski's rules, that the such three-point functions must be single-valued functions in the complex variable z.
- Adding some symemtry considerations, there are only very functions of this type up to weight 4 (= 2 loops)!

| weight | + | - |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $\ln \|z\|^{2}, \ln \|1-z\|^{2}$ | - |
| 2 | $\zeta_{2}$ | $\mathcal{P}_{2}(z)$ |
| 3 | $\zeta_{3}, \mathcal{P}_{3}(z), \mathcal{P}_{3}(1-z)$ | $\mathcal{Q}_{3}(z)$ |
| 4 | $\mathcal{Q}_{4}^{+}(z), \mathcal{Q}_{4}^{+}(1-z)$ | $\mathcal{P}_{4}(z), \mathcal{P}_{4}(1-z), \mathcal{P}_{4}(1-1 / z), \mathcal{Q}_{4}^{-}(z)$ |

## Three-mass triangle integrals

- As an example, the one-loop integral reads in this basis:

$$
\begin{aligned}
T_{1}\left(p_{1}^{2}, p_{2}^{2}, p_{3}^{2} ; \epsilon\right)= & -2 c_{\Gamma} \frac{\Gamma(1-2 \epsilon)}{\Gamma(1-\epsilon)^{2}}\left(-p_{3}^{2}\right)^{-1-\epsilon} \frac{u^{-\epsilon} v^{-\epsilon}}{z-\bar{z}}\left\{\mathcal{P}_{2}(z)+2 \epsilon \mathcal{Q}_{3}(z)\right. \\
& \left.+\epsilon^{2}\left[\left(\frac{1}{6} \ln u \ln v-\zeta_{2}\right) \mathcal{P}_{2}(z)+2 \mathcal{Q}_{4}^{-}(z)\right]+\mathcal{O}\left(\epsilon^{3}\right)\right\} .
\end{aligned}
$$

- Similar results at two-loops.


## Three-mass triangle integrals

- As an example, the one-loop integral reads in this basis:

$$
\begin{aligned}
T_{1}\left(p_{1}^{2}, p_{2}^{2}, p_{3}^{2} ; \epsilon\right)= & -2 c_{\Gamma} \frac{\Gamma(1-2 \epsilon)}{\Gamma(1-\epsilon)^{2}}\left(-p_{3}^{2}\right)^{-1-\epsilon} \frac{u^{-\epsilon} v^{-\epsilon}}{z-\bar{z}}\left\{\mathcal{P}_{2}(z)+2 \epsilon \mathcal{Q}_{3}(z)\right. \\
& \left.+\epsilon^{2}\left[\left(\frac{1}{6} \ln u \ln v-\zeta_{2}\right) \mathcal{P}_{2}(z)+2 \mathcal{Q}_{4}^{-}(z)\right]+\mathcal{O}\left(\epsilon^{3}\right)\right\} .
\end{aligned}
$$

- Similar results at two-loops.
- Note that these integrals were known in principle:
- by Davydychev and Ussyukina: in terms of classical polylogarithms, but not expanded high enough in epsilon.
$\Rightarrow$ by Birthwright, Glover and Marquard: in terms of complicated iterated integrals involving square roots.
- In our representation: very compact, all symmetries manifest, analytic continuation almost trivial.


## More single-valued functions

- Certain generalized multi-loop dual conformal ladder integrals can be expressed in terms of the same type of functions:
$\Rightarrow$ write down an ansatz in terms of these functions, and inject it into some differential equation.
$\Rightarrow$ generates an infinite number of analytic results for multiloop 4-point integrals.


## More single-valued functions

- Certain generalized multi-loop dual conformal ladder integrals can be expressed in terms of the same type of functions:
$\Rightarrow$ write down an ansatz in terms of these functions, and inject it into some differential equation.
$\Rightarrow$ generates an infinite number of analytic results for multiloop 4-point integrals.
- Similar approach can be used for the six-point amplitude in $\mathrm{N}=4$ SYM in the Regge limit:
$\Rightarrow$ write down an ansatz in terms of these functions, and match the Taylor expansion of the ansatz to some MellinBarnes integral.
$\Rightarrow$ generates explicit results for the 6-point amplitude in $\mathrm{N}=4$ SYM up to ten loops in this limit!


## Conclusion \& open questions

- Understanding the mathematics underlying the functions that enter Feynman integrals opens new ways to deal with loop amplitudes:
$\Rightarrow$ Simplify complicated expressions.
$\Rightarrow$ Determine space of functions a priori and inject into differential equations or match asymptotic expansions.


## Conclusion $\&$ open questions

- Understanding the mathematics underlying the functions that enter Feynman integrals opens new ways to deal with loop amplitudes:
$\Rightarrow$ Simplify complicated expressions.
$\Rightarrow$ Determine space of functions a priori and inject into differential equations or match asymptotic expansions.
- Open questions:
$\Rightarrow$ So far arguments of polylogarithms need to be rational functions.
$\Rightarrow$ The case of elliptic functions is not covered.
$\Rightarrow$ Can we define a coproduct directly on Feynman integrals that matches the coproduct on multiple polylogarithms?



## Example: inversion relations

- Indeed, the Hopf algebra fixes the inversion relations recursively.


## Example: inversion relations

- Indeed, the Hopf algebra fixes the inversion relations recursively.
- Weight 1: trivial
$\mathrm{Li}_{1}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)=-\ln \left(1-\frac{1}{x}\right)=-\ln (1-x)+\ln (-x)=-\ln (1-x)+\ln x-i \pi$ with $x=x+i \varepsilon$.


## Example: inversion relations

- Weight 2:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\Delta_{1,1}\left[\operatorname{Li}_{2}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)\right] & =-\ln \left(1-\frac{1}{x}\right) \otimes \ln \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \\
& =\ln (1-x) \otimes \ln x-\ln x \otimes \ln x+i \pi \otimes \ln x \\
& =\Delta_{1,1}\left[-\operatorname{Li}_{2}(x)-\frac{1}{2} \ln ^{2} x+i \pi \ln x\right] .
\end{aligned}
$$

## Example: inversion relations

- Weight 2:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\Delta_{1,1}\left[\operatorname{Li}_{2}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)\right] & =-\ln \left(1-\frac{1}{x}\right) \otimes \ln \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \\
& =\ln (1-x) \otimes \ln x-\ln x \otimes \ln x+i \pi \otimes \ln x \\
& =\Delta_{1,1}\left[-\operatorname{Li}_{2}(x)-\frac{1}{2} \ln ^{2} x+i \pi \ln x\right] .
\end{aligned}
$$

- This fixes the inversion relation, up to some zeta value.
$\Rightarrow$ At each step we loose a zeta value, they are indecomposable ('primitive').

$$
\operatorname{Li}_{2}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)=-\operatorname{Li}_{2}(x)-\frac{1}{2} \ln ^{2} x+i \pi \ln x+c \pi^{2}
$$

and $c=1 / 3$ from $x=1$.

## Example: inversion relations

- Weight 3:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\Delta_{1,1,1}\left[\operatorname{Li}_{3}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)\right] & =-\ln \left(1-\frac{1}{x}\right) \otimes \ln \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \otimes \ln \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \\
& =-\ln (1-x) \otimes \ln x \otimes \ln x+\ln x \otimes \ln x \otimes \ln x-i \pi \otimes \ln x \otimes \ln x \\
& =\Delta_{1,1,1}\left[\operatorname{Li}_{3}(x)+\frac{1}{6} \ln ^{3} x-\frac{i \pi}{2} \ln ^{2} x\right] .
\end{aligned}
$$

## Example: inversion relations

- Weight 3:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\Delta_{1,1,1}\left[\operatorname{Li}_{3}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)\right] & =-\ln \left(1-\frac{1}{x}\right) \otimes \ln \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \otimes \ln \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \\
& =-\ln (1-x) \otimes \ln x \otimes \ln x+\ln x \otimes \ln x \otimes \ln x-i \pi \otimes \ln x \otimes \ln x \\
& =\Delta_{1,1,1}\left[\operatorname{Li}_{3}(x)+\frac{1}{6} \ln ^{3} x-\frac{i \pi}{2} \ln ^{2} x\right] .
\end{aligned}
$$

- At this stage however we have lost everything proportional to zeta values.
$\Rightarrow$ Go one step up!

$$
\begin{aligned}
\Delta_{2,1} & {\left[\operatorname{Li}_{3}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)-\left(\operatorname{Li}_{3}(x)+\frac{1}{6} \ln ^{3} x-\frac{i \pi}{2} \ln ^{2} x\right)\right] } \\
& =\left[-\operatorname{Li}_{2}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)-\mathrm{Li}_{2}(x)-\frac{1}{2} \ln ^{2} x-i \pi \ln x\right] \otimes \ln x \\
& =-\frac{1}{3} \pi^{2} \otimes \ln x=\Delta_{2,1}\left(-\frac{\pi^{2}}{3} \ln x\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

## Example: inversion relations

- Finally:
and $\alpha=\beta=0$ from $x=1$.
- We could now go on like this and derive the inversion relations for arbitrary weight.


## Example: inversion relations

- Finally:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \operatorname{Li}_{3}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)=\operatorname{Li}_{3}(x)+\frac{1}{6} \ln ^{3} x-\frac{i \pi}{2} \ln ^{2} x-\frac{\pi^{2}}{3} \ln x+\alpha \zeta_{3}+\beta i \pi^{3} \\
& \text { and } \alpha=\beta=0 \text { from } x=1 .
\end{aligned}
$$

- We could now go on like this and derive the inversion relations for arbitrary weight.
$\Rightarrow$ No painful manipulation of the integral representation at any step!


## Example: inversion relations

$$
\begin{aligned}
& G(-z,-z, 1-z, 1-z ; y)=\operatorname{Li}_{3}(1-x) \log (1-z)+\operatorname{Li}_{3}(1-z) \log (1-x)+\operatorname{Li}_{4}\left(1-\frac{1}{x}\right)+\operatorname{Li}_{4}(1-x) \\
& -\operatorname{Li}_{4}(x)-\operatorname{Li}_{3}(1-x) \log (x)+\mathrm{Li}_{4}\left(1-\frac{1}{z}\right)+\operatorname{Li}_{4}(1-z)-\operatorname{Li}_{4}(z)-\operatorname{Li}_{3}(1-z) \log (z)+\frac{1}{4} \log ^{2}(1-x) \\
& \log ^{2}(1-z)+\pi^{2}\left(-\frac{1}{6} \log (1-x) \log (1-z)+\frac{\log ^{2}(x)}{12}+\frac{\log ^{2}(z)}{12}\right)+\zeta(3) \log (x)-\zeta(3) \log (1-x)+ \\
& \frac{\log ^{4}(x)}{24}-\frac{1}{6} \log (1-x) \log ^{3}(x)-\zeta(3) \log (1-z)+\zeta(3) \log (z)+\frac{\log ^{4}(z)}{24}-\frac{1}{6} \log (1-z) \log ^{3}(z)+\frac{7 \pi^{4}}{360} \\
& \text { with } \mathrm{x}+\mathrm{y}+\mathrm{Z}=1,0<\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}, \mathrm{z}<1
\end{aligned}
$$

