

Generalized Unitarity Techniques for Higgs Physics

Teaching Old Loops New Tricks

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- Outline

- ▷ Introduction
- ▷ Historical review of spinor helicity
 - ▷ Gluons, gluons, and gluons
 - ▷ Tree level properties and MHV
 - ▷ Massless and massive spinors
 - ▷ Modern notation
- ▷ Our process ($0 \rightarrow \bar{q}qQ\bar{Q}\Phi$)
- ▷ Loops... Old and New
 - ▷ Traditional approach
 - ▷ Generalized unitarity
 - ▷ New method and stability
 - ▷ Automation
- ▷ Comparison of methods
- ▷ Outlook and work left to do

• Introduction

- ▷ Theory calculations have not entirely kept pace with projected experimental precision
- ▷ Many important processes which need attention (Les Houches 2007)
 - Tree level is well under control (Born and real radiation)
 - Dipole subtraction is virtually automatic at NLO
 - Splitting functions are known to three-loops
 - ⇒ The virtual (loop) corrections are the sticking point, particularly at high multiplicity and multiple scales
- ▷ Traditional diagrammatic techniques are robust, well understood, but not particularly efficient (large expressions until end)
- ▷ Spinor helicity exploits gauge invariance
- ▷ This reduces complexity of intermediate (final) expressions
- ▷ When combined with cutting rules (generalized unitarity), we can get at virtual corrections in a highly efficient manner

On-shell unitarity is built on the spinor helicity formalism

- Spinor helicity... brief background (massless)

- ▷ 1966: Bjorken and Chen, Phys Rev **154** 1335

- ▷ 1988: Berends and Giele (mostly gluons)

- ▷ The Ubiquitous Photon [OUP 1990, Gastmans and Wu]

Multiparton amplitudes in gauge theories [Phys Rept **200** 301 (1991)]

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_{\pm}(p_i) &= v_{\mp}(p_i) \equiv |p_i^{\pm}\rangle \equiv |i^{\pm}\rangle & \langle i^{\pm}| &\equiv \langle p_i^{\pm}| \equiv \overline{u_{\pm}(p_i)} = \overline{v_{\mp}(p_i)} \\
 \langle ij\rangle &\equiv \langle i^{-}|j^{+}\rangle = \overline{u_{-}(p_i)}u_{+}(p_j) & [ij] &\equiv [i^{+}|j^{-}] = \overline{u_{+}(p_i)}u_{-}(p_j) \\
 \langle ij\rangle &= -\langle ji\rangle, \quad [ij] = -[ji] & \langle i\gamma^{\mu}j\rangle\langle k\gamma_{\mu}l\rangle &= 2\langle ik\rangle[lj] \\
 \langle ij\rangle\langle kl\rangle &= \langle ik\rangle\langle jl\rangle + \langle il\rangle\langle kj\rangle & \langle ij\rangle[ji] &= 2p_i \cdot p_j \\
 \langle ii\rangle &= [ii] = \langle ij\rangle = [ij] = 0 & \langle ij\rangle^* &= \text{sign}(i \cdot j)[ji] \quad (\text{outgoing})
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\epsilon_{\mu}^{\pm}(p, q) = \pm \frac{\langle q^{\mp}|\gamma_{\mu}|p^{\mp}\rangle}{\sqrt{2}\langle q^{\mp}|p^{\pm}\rangle}$$

- ▷ The subject seemed to be closed... until 1995 with an observation about gluon amplitudes in $\mathcal{N} = 1$, and $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SUSY by Bern, Dixon, Dunbar, and Kosower

- Spinor helicity... continued

- ▷ Color ordering drastically simplifies calculations

- Strip color factors, use distinct cyclic orderings of external legs
 - Particularly useful in gluon calculations (unphysical)
 - Spurious singularities much easier to find (not true traditionally)
 - Manifest gauge cancellations makes for compact expressions
 - Color structure and gauge invariance are separate issues

- ▷ Twistor inspiration:

- if $p_i \in \mathbb{R}$, then $u_{\pm}(p_i)$ are related
 - if $p_i \in \mathbb{C}$, this is not true generally! Think ψ and χ
 - This gives us new non-zero three-vertices

- ▷ Recursion relations at tree level

- $\mathcal{A}_n = \sum_{r,h} \mathcal{A}_{r+1}^h \frac{1}{P_r^2} \mathcal{A}_{n-r+1}^{-h}$

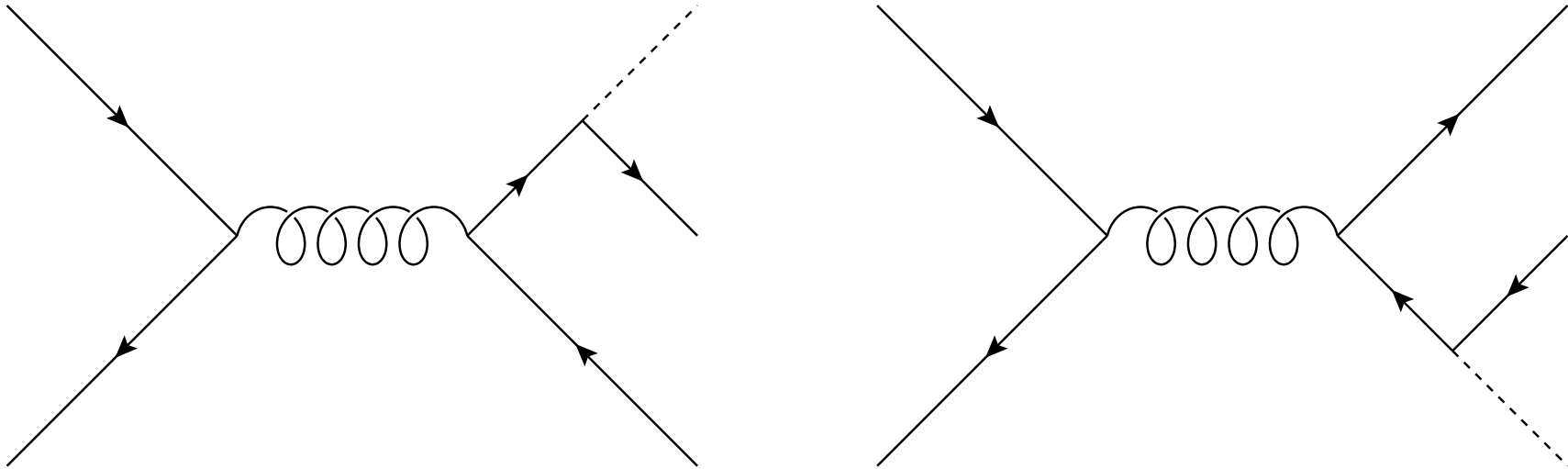
- $\langle j, l \rangle$ shift $k_j^\mu \rightarrow k_j^\mu - \frac{z}{2} \langle j \gamma^\mu l \rangle$ $k_l^\mu \rightarrow k_l^\mu + \frac{z}{2} \langle j \gamma^\mu l \rangle$

- $\mathcal{A}_n(z) \rightarrow 0$ as $z \rightarrow \infty$ (meromorphic)

- ▷ Yields *very* simple expressions for certain helicity combinations (MHV)

- ▷ Sew diagrams together to get *all* tree level expressions

- Sewing example $0 \rightarrow \bar{q}qQ\bar{Q}\Phi$



Two tree (Born) level diagrams

The process we have in mind is $b\bar{b}A^{(0)}$ production (not in SM)

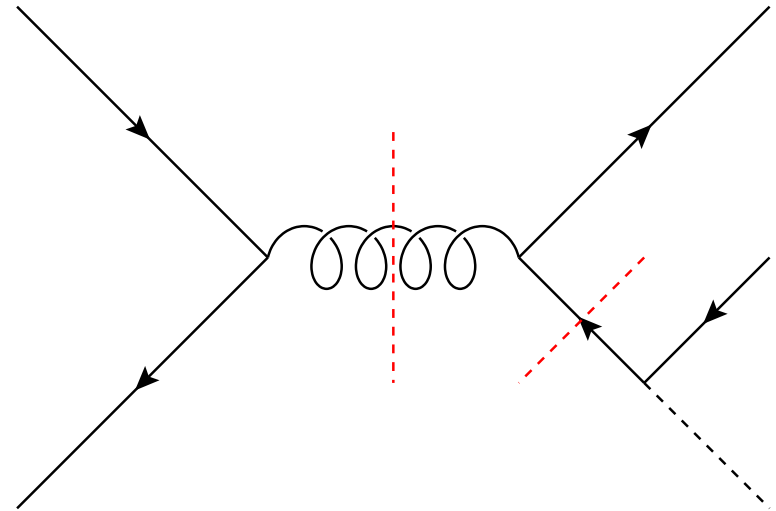
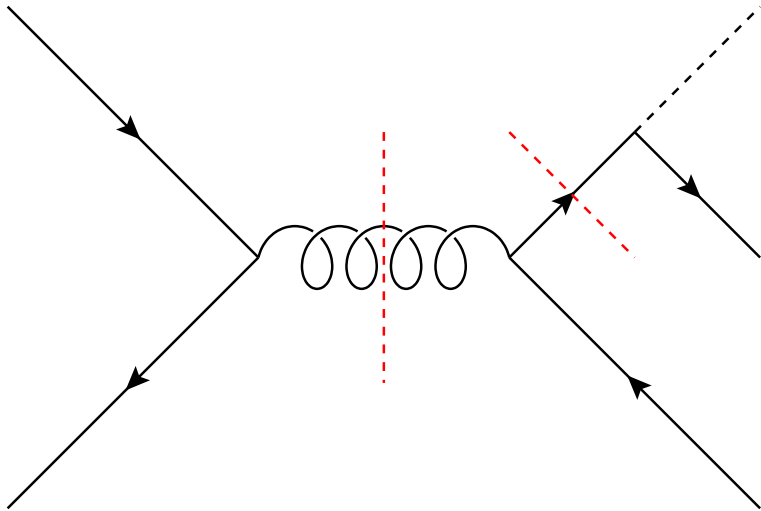
→ Discovery channel, lots of neat phenomenology

We can check the method with $t\bar{t}h/b\bar{b}h$ calculations that are already available

[Reina, Dawson, and Wackerth PRD **65** 053017 (2002)],

[Dawson, Jackson, Reina, and Wackerth Mod Phys Lett **A21** 89 (2006)]

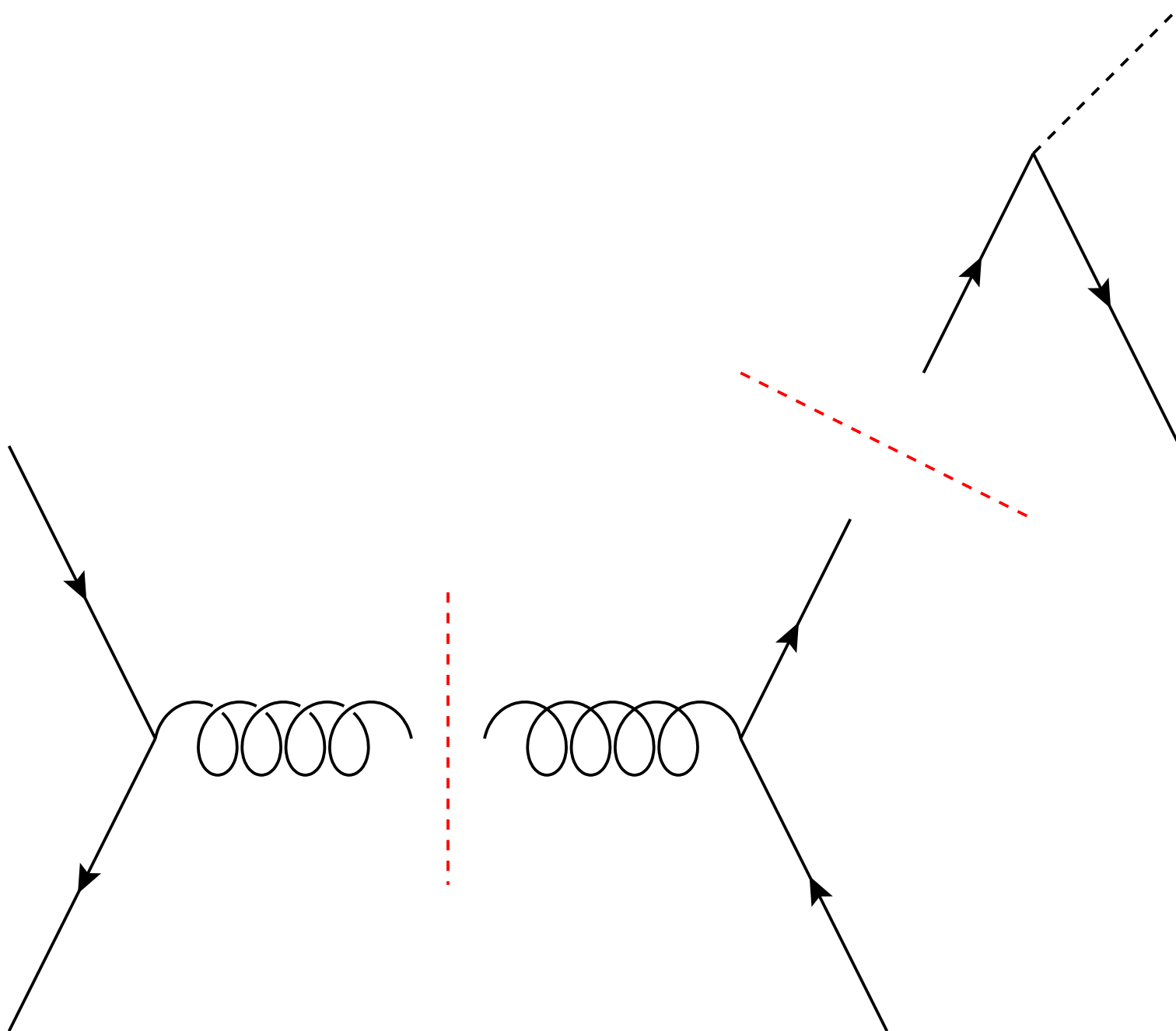
- Sewing example $0 \rightarrow \bar{q}qQ\bar{Q}\Phi$



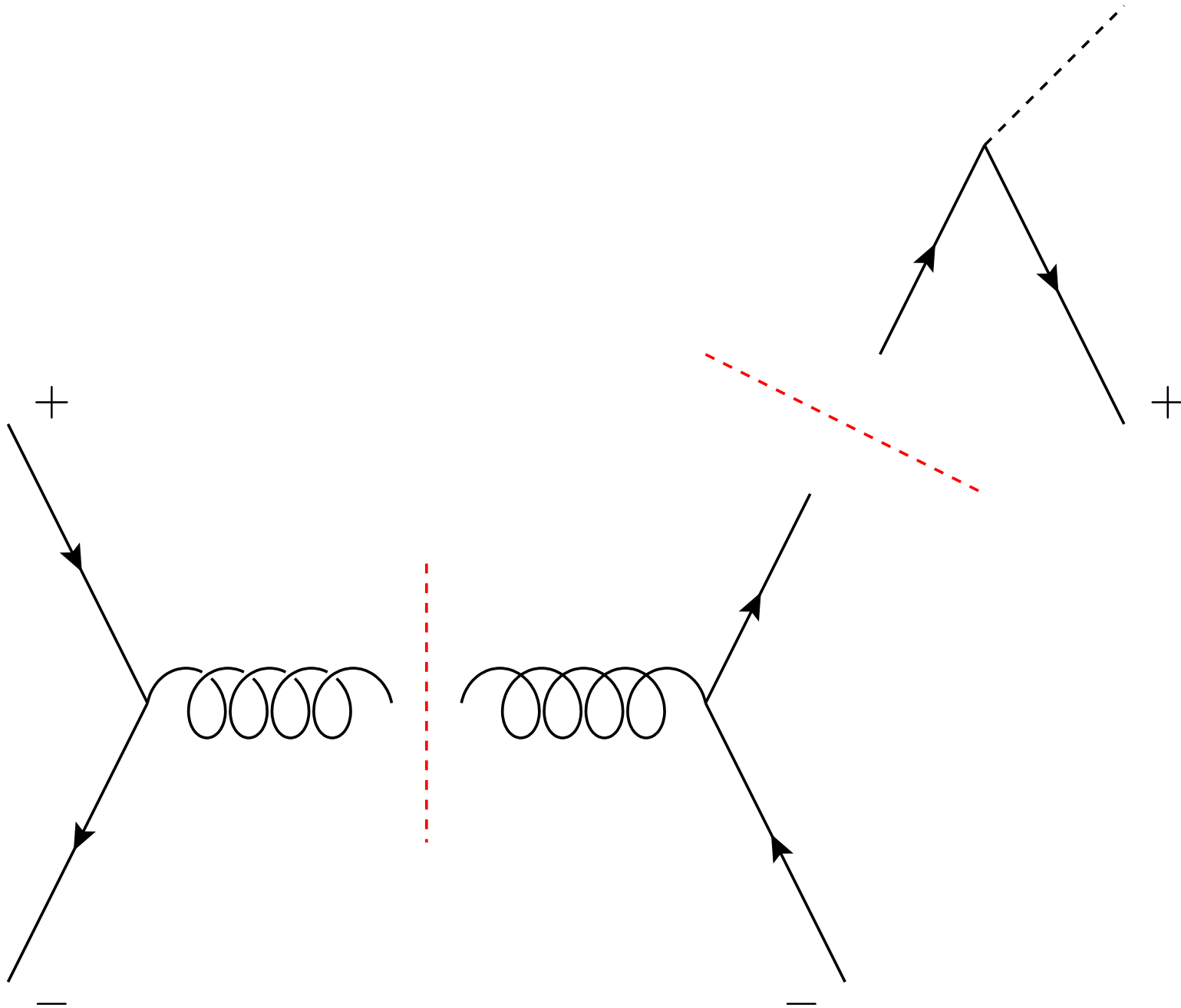
We can cut these into three new vertices...

Lets look at the first diagram (we label these tree level $B_2^{(1)}$ and $B_2^{(2)}$)

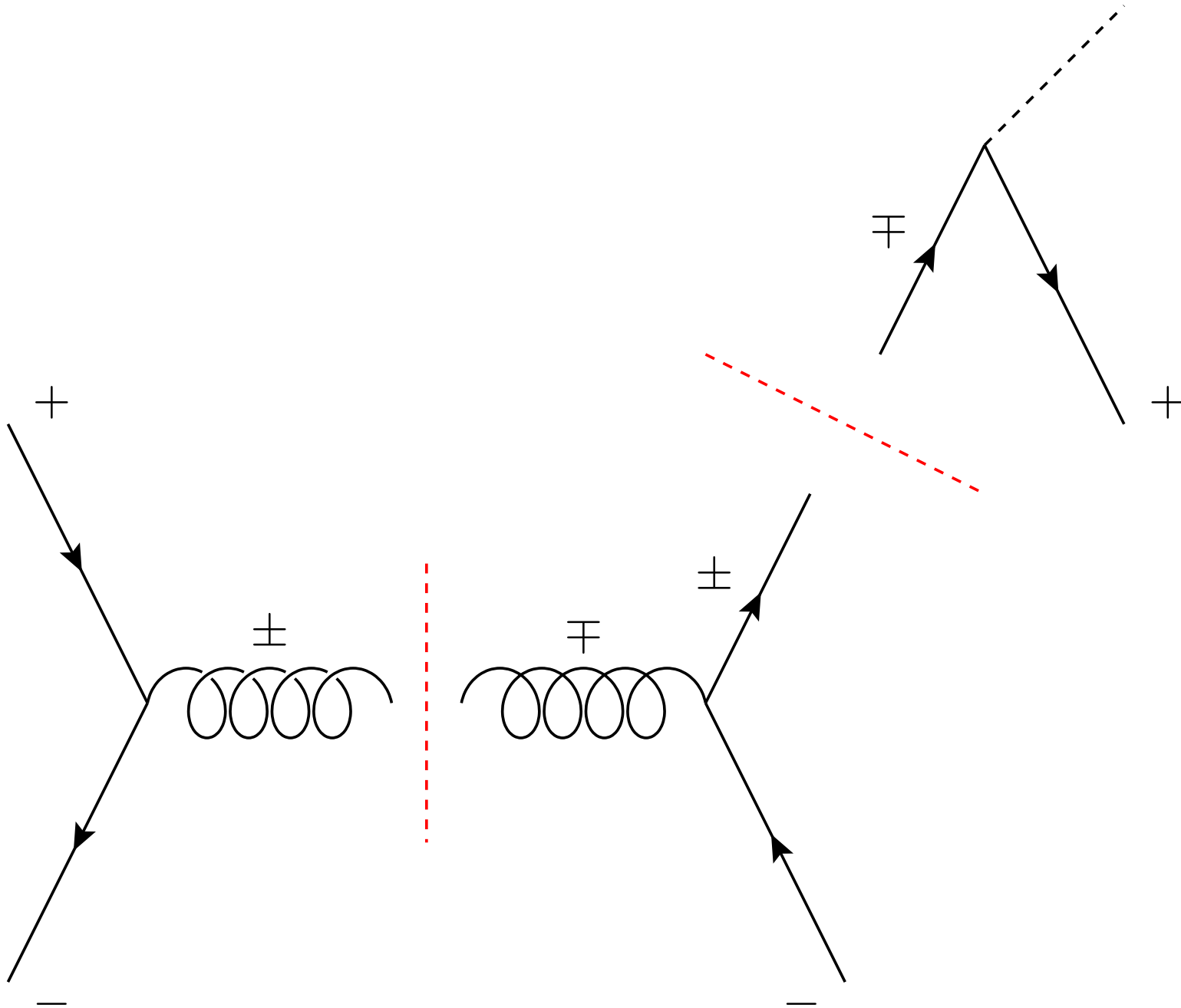
- Sewing example $0 \rightarrow \bar{q}q_Q\bar{Q}\Phi$ for tree level $B_2^{(1)}$



- Sewing example $0 \rightarrow \bar{q}qQ\bar{Q}\Phi$ (+ - + -) for tree level $B_2^{(1)}$



- Sewing example $0 \rightarrow \bar{q}qQ\bar{Q}\Phi$ (+ - + -) for tree level $B_2^{(1)}$



- $0 \rightarrow \bar{q}qQ\bar{Q}\Phi$ tree level helicities (there are four)

	$B_2^{(1)}$			$B_2^{(2)}$		
	$\bar{q}qG(p_{12})$	$Q\bar{Q}G(p_{12})$	$Q\bar{Q}\Phi(p_5)$	$\bar{q}qG(p_{12})$	$Q\bar{Q}G(p_{12})$	$Q\bar{Q}\Phi(p_5)$
$\mathcal{M}_{(0)}^{+-+-}$	- + + - + - - + -	+ - - + - + - - +	- + - + ++	- + + - + - - + +	+ + - + - + + - -	-- +- +-
$\mathcal{M}_{(0)}^{+-- +}$	- + + - + - - + +	+ + - - + + - + -	-- +- +-	- + + - + - - + -	- + - - + + - - +	- + - + ++
$\mathcal{M}_{(0)}^{-+++}$	+ - + + - - + - -	+ - - + - + - - +	- + - + ++	+ - + + - - + - +	+ + - + - + + - -	-- +- +-
$\mathcal{M}_{(0)}^{-+ - +}$	+ - + + - - + - +	+ + - - + + - + -	-- +- +-	+ - + + - - + - -	- + - - + + - - +	- + - + ++

Now we just need expressions for these vertices, and to connect them with propagators. But what about these **helicity violating** terms? How do we account for masses? What do you mean by massive ‘helicity’?

- Spinor helicity... with masses

- Massive spinors can be built (light-cone projection)

- Add a massless reference spinor q (take from our process)

- [Kleiss and Stirling NPB **262** 235 (1985)], [Ozeren and Stirling Eur Phys J **C48** 159 (2006)] and

- [Schwinn and Weinzierl JHEP **0505** 006 (2007)]

$$k^2 = m^2, \quad k^\mu \xrightarrow{b} k^{b,\mu} = k^\mu - \frac{m^2}{2k \cdot q} q^\mu, \quad (k^b)^2 = q^2 = 0$$

$$\bar{u}_+(p_1) = \frac{\langle q | (\not{p}_1 + m)}{\langle q 1 \rangle} \quad v_-(p_2) = \frac{(\not{p}_2 - m) | q \rangle}{[2q]}$$

$$\bar{u}_-(p_1) = \frac{[q | (\not{p}_1 + m)}{[q 1]} \quad v_+(p_2) = \frac{(\not{p}_2 - m) | q \rangle}{\langle 2q \rangle}$$

- ▷ We now have the building blocks needed for generalized unitarity
- ▷ What do the vertices look like?

- Vertices (helicity violating in red)

$$\underline{\underline{q(p_1) \bar{q}(p_2) G(p_3) \text{ mod } ig\sqrt{2}}}}$$

$$+ - + \quad - \frac{[13]^2}{[12]}$$

$$- + - \quad + \frac{\langle 13 \rangle^2}{\langle 12 \rangle}$$

$$+ - - \quad - \frac{\langle 23 \rangle^2}{\langle 12 \rangle}$$

$$- + + \quad + \frac{[23]^2}{[12]}$$

$$- - + \quad +m \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^2}{\langle 23 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle}$$

$$+ + - \quad +m \frac{[12]^2}{[23][13]}$$

$$\underline{\underline{q(p_1) \bar{q}(p_2) h^0(p_3) \text{ mod } im/v}}}$$

$$++ \quad +[12]$$

$$-- \quad +\langle 12 \rangle$$

$$+- \quad +m \left(\frac{\langle q2 \rangle}{\langle q1 \rangle} - \frac{[1q]}{[2q]} \right)$$

$$-+ \quad +m \left(\frac{[q2]}{[q1]} - \frac{\langle 1q \rangle}{\langle 2q \rangle} \right)$$

$$\underline{\underline{q(p_1) \bar{q}(p_2) A^0(p_3) \text{ mod } im/v}}}$$

$$++ \quad -[12]$$

$$-- \quad +\langle 12 \rangle$$

$$+- \quad +m \left(\frac{\langle q2 \rangle}{\langle q1 \rangle} + \frac{[1q]}{[2q]} \right)$$

$$-+ \quad -m \left(\frac{[q2]}{[q1]} + \frac{\langle 1q \rangle}{\langle 2q \rangle} \right)$$

• Generalized (Perturbative) Unitarity

[Britto, Cachazo, Feng, Witten, Dixon, Forde, Kilgore, Kosower, Ossola, Papadopoulos, Pittau,...]

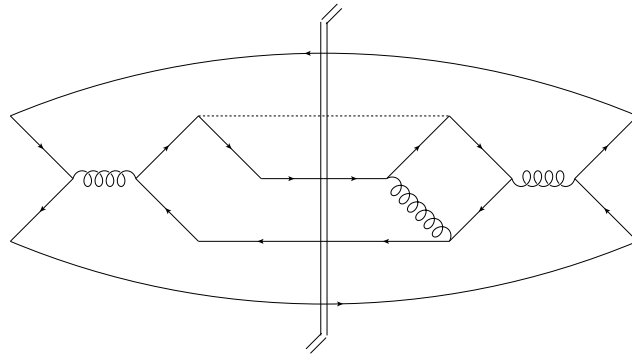
- ▷ Unitarity and Renormalizability *are* gauge theories
- ▷ Cutkosky rules (largest-time equation)
- ▷ Disc $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}^\dagger \mathcal{A}$ (optical theorem, imaginary part across branch cut)
- ▷ Very limited applications
 - Optical theorem is about $2 \rightarrow 2$ forward scattering
 - No interesting resolved final states

$$\mathcal{M}_n^{(1)} = \sum_k C_4^k D_0^k + \sum_k C_3^k C_0^k + \sum_k C_2^k B_0^k + \sum_k C_1^k A_0^k + R_n$$

- ▷ If we cut a diagram twice (cut two propagators in two different ways), we find the discontinuity in two ways and can solve for the box scalar integral coefficient directly
- ▷ Box diagrams are the easiest (contrast to traditional methods)
 - Several boxes can share a given branch cut, which is resolved by the sewing procedure
- ▷ The other integral coefficients take some work, but can also be obtained in this manner

- Loops... Old (Part of NLO calculation)

$$\left(\mathcal{M}_{(0)} \mathcal{M}_{(1)}^\dagger \right) = T_{11} + T_{12} + T_{21} + T_{22}, \quad \text{just } B_2^{(1,2)}$$



$$T_{11} = [\gamma^\mu u_1 \bar{u}_1 \gamma^\nu v_2 \bar{v}_2] [\gamma^5 (\not{p}_{35} + m) \gamma_\mu v_4 \bar{v}_4 \gamma^\rho (\not{l} + m) \gamma_\nu (\not{l}_{345} + m) \gamma_5 (\not{l}_{34} + m) \gamma_\rho u_3 \bar{u}_3]$$

$$T_{12} = [\gamma^\mu u_1 \bar{u}_1 \gamma^\nu v_2 \bar{v}_2] [\gamma^5 (\not{p}_{35} + m) \gamma_\mu v_4 \bar{v}_4 \gamma^\rho (\not{l}_{34} + m) \gamma_5 (\not{l}_{345} + m) \gamma_\nu (\not{l} + m) \gamma_\rho u_3 \bar{u}_3]$$

$$T_{21} = [\gamma^\mu u_1 \bar{u}_1 \gamma^\nu v_2 \bar{v}_2] [\gamma_\mu (\not{p}_{45} + m) \gamma^5 v_4 \bar{v}_4 \gamma^\rho (\not{l} + m) \gamma_\nu (\not{l}_{345} + m) \gamma_5 (\not{l}_{34} + m) \gamma_\rho u_3 \bar{u}_3]$$

$$T_{22} = [\gamma^\mu u_1 \bar{u}_1 \gamma^\nu v_2 \bar{v}_2] [\gamma_\mu (\not{p}_{45} + m) \gamma^5 v_4 \bar{v}_4 \gamma^\rho (\not{l}_5 + m) \gamma_5 (\not{l} + m) \gamma_\nu (\not{l}_{345} + m) \gamma_\rho u_3 \bar{u}_3]$$

Tensor integrals need to be reduced to scalar integrals...

- Loops... Old (4D Passarino-Veltman reduction)

$$A_0(m_1) \equiv (2\pi\mu)^{4-n} \int \frac{d^n l}{i\pi^2} \frac{1}{D_1}$$

$$B_{0,\mu,\mu\nu}(p_1, m_1, m_2) \equiv (2\pi\mu)^{4-n} \int \frac{d^n l}{i\pi^2} \frac{\{1, l_\mu, l_{\mu\nu}\}}{D_1 D_2}$$

$$C_{0,\mu,\mu\nu,\mu\nu\rho}(p_1, p_2, m_1, m_2, m_3) \equiv (2\pi\mu)^{4-n} \int \frac{d^n l}{i\pi^2} \frac{\{1, l_\mu, l_{\mu\nu}, l_{\mu\nu\rho}\}}{D_1 D_2 D_3}$$

$$D_{0,\mu,\mu\nu,\mu\nu\rho,\mu\nu\rho\sigma}(p_1, p_2, p_3, m_1, m_2, m_3, m_4) \equiv (2\pi\mu)^{4-n} \int \frac{d^n l}{i\pi^2} \frac{\{1, l_\mu, l_{\mu\nu}, l_{\mu\nu\rho}, l_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}\}}{D_1 D_2 D_3 D_4}$$

$$D_1 = l^2 - m_1^2 + i\epsilon$$

$$D_2 = (l + p_1)^2 - m_2^2 + i\epsilon$$

$$D_3 = (l + p_1 + p_2)^2 - m_3^2 + i\epsilon$$

$$D_4 = (l + p_1 + p_2 + p_3)^2 - m_4^2 + i\epsilon$$

- Loops... Get harder and harder (especially boxes)

Decompose into coefficients

$$D_\mu = p_{1\mu}D_{11} + p_{2\mu}D_{12} + p_{3\mu}D_{13}$$

$$D_{\mu\nu} = p_{1\mu}p_{1\nu}D_{21} + p_{2\mu}p_{2\nu}D_{22} + p_{3\mu}p_{3\nu}D_{23} \\ + p_{1\mu}p_{2\nu}D_{24} + p_{1\mu}p_{3\nu}D_{25} + p_{2\mu}p_{3\nu}D_{26} + g_{\mu\nu}D_{27}$$

$$D_{\mu\nu\rho} = p_{1\mu}p_{1\nu}p_{1\rho}D_{31} + p_{2\mu}p_{2\nu}p_{2\rho}D_{32} + p_{3\mu}p_{3\nu}p_{3\rho}D_{33} \\ + \{p_1p_1p_2\}_{\mu\nu\rho}D_{34} + \{p_1p_1p_3\}_{\mu\nu\rho}D_{35} + \{p_1p_2p_2\}_{\mu\nu\rho}D_{36} \\ + \{p_1p_3p_3\}_{\mu\nu\rho}D_{37} + \{p_2p_2p_3\}_{\mu\nu\rho}D_{38} + \{p_2p_3p_3\}_{\mu\nu\rho}D_{39} \\ + \{p_1p_2p_3\}_{\mu\nu\rho}D_{310} + \{p_1g\}_{\mu\nu\rho}D_{311} + \{p_2g\}_{\mu\nu\rho}D_{312} + \{p_3g\}_{\mu\nu\rho}D_{313}$$

$$D_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} = \dots$$

$$\{p_i p_j p_k\}_{\mu\nu\rho} \equiv \sum_{\sigma(i,j,k)} p_{\sigma(i)\mu} p_{\sigma(j)\nu} p_{\sigma(k)\rho} \quad \{p_i g\}_{\mu\nu\rho} \equiv p_{i\mu} g_{\nu\rho} + p_{i\nu} g_{\mu\rho} + p_{i\rho} g_{\mu\nu}$$

- Loops... and they have stability issues

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} p_1^2 & p_1 \cdot p_2 & p_1 \cdot p_3 \\ p_1 \cdot p_2 & p_2^2 & p_2 \cdot p_3 \\ p_1 \cdot p_3 & p_2 \cdot p_3 & p_3^2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ Gram determinant } (\det X \neq 0)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} p_1^\mu \\ p_2^\mu \\ p_3^\mu \end{pmatrix} D_\mu = X \begin{pmatrix} D_{11} \\ D_{12} \\ D_{13} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} R_{20} \\ R_{21} \\ R_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$R_{20} = \frac{1}{2}[C_0(1, 3, 4) - C_0(2, 3, 4) + (m_2^2 - m_1^2 - Q_2^2)D_0]$$

$$R_{21} = \frac{1}{2}[C_0(1, 2, 4) - C_0(1, 3, 4) + (m_3^2 - m_2^2 - Q_3^2 + Q_2^2)D_0]$$

$$R_{22} = \frac{1}{2}[C_0(1, 2, 3) - C_0(1, 2, 4) + (m_4^2 - m_3^2 - Q_4^2 + Q_3^2)D_0]$$

$$Q_1 = 0, \quad Q_i = \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} p_j$$

Gram determinant (can) introduce non-physical singular points, high complexity, error prone, diagrams talk to each other

- Loops... New

$$\mathcal{M}_n^{(1)} = \sum_k C_4^k D_0^k + \sum_k C_3^k C_0^k + \sum_k C_2^k B_0^k + \sum_k C_1^k A_0^k + R_n$$

- ▷ Reconstruct coefficients from unitarity cuts (with present propagators)

$$\frac{i}{p^2 - m^2} \rightarrow (2\pi)\delta^{(+)}(p^2 - m^2)$$

$$\int \frac{d^n l}{(2\pi)^n} \left[\frac{f(l)}{[l^2 - m_1^2 + i\epsilon][l_1^2 - m_2^2 + i\epsilon][l_{12}^2 - m_3^2 + i\epsilon][l_{123}^2 - m_4^2 + i\epsilon]} \right] \Big|_{l^n \rightarrow l^4}$$

$$\rightarrow \int \frac{d^n l}{(2\pi)^n} [f(l) \delta^{(+)}(l^2 - m_1^2) \delta^{(+)}(l_1^2 - m_2^2) \delta^{(+)}(l_{12}^2 - m_3^2) \delta^{(+)}(l_{123}^2 - m_4^2)]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{l^\pm} f(l), \quad \text{completely determines the loop momentum}$$

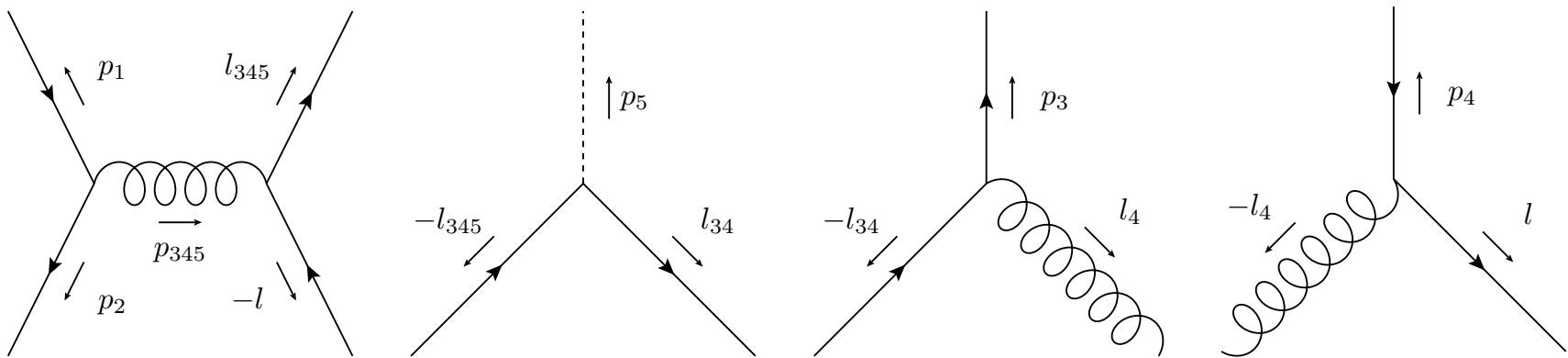
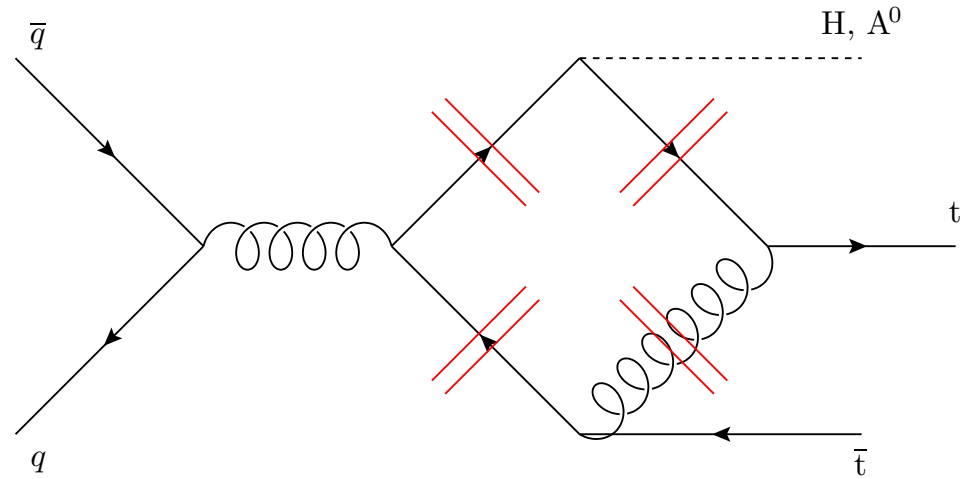
- ▷ We find following equation to solve for our box integral coefficient

$$\{l \mid l^2 = m_1^2, \quad l_1^2 = m_2^2, \quad l_{12}^2 = m_3^2, \quad l_{123}^2 = m_4^2\},$$

$$l^\pm = \alpha p_1 + \beta p_2 + \sigma p_3 \pm \rho P, \quad P^\mu = i\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} p_{1\nu} p_{2\rho} p_{3\sigma}, \quad \text{find } \alpha, \beta, \sigma, \rho$$

$$\Rightarrow C_4^k = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{l^\pm} A_1 A_2 A_3 A_4$$

- Our loop process ($0 \rightarrow \bar{q}qQ\bar{Q}\Phi$), the orphan (for check)



- $0 \rightarrow \bar{q}qQ\bar{Q}\Phi B_2^{(1)}$ loop helicities (independent)

\mathcal{M}^{+-+-}			
$\bar{q}q G^\lambda Q\bar{Q}$	$Q\bar{Q}\Phi$	$Q\bar{Q}G$	$Q\bar{Q}G$
+ - ± - +	++	- - +	+ - -
+ - ± + -	--	+ - +	+ + -
+ - ± + +	--	- - +	+ + -
+ - ± - +	-+	- - +	+ + -
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+ - ∓ - +	-+	- - +	+ + -
+ - ∓ + -	+ -	+ - +	+ - -
+ - ∓ + -	+ -	+ - -	+ - +

\mathcal{M}^{-+-+}			
$\bar{q}q G^\lambda Q\bar{Q}$	$Q\bar{Q}\Phi$	$Q\bar{Q}G$	$Q\bar{Q}G$
- + ∓ + -	--	+ + -	- + +
- + ∓ - +	++	- + -	- - +
- + ∓ - -	++	+ + -	- - +
- + ∓ + -	+ -	+ + -	- - +
- + ∓ - -	-+	+ + -	- + +
- + ∓ - +	-+	- + +	- + -
- + ∓ - +	-+	- + -	- + +
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- + ± + -	--	+ + -	- + +
- + ± + +	--	- + +	- + -
- + ± + +	--	- + -	- + +
- + ± - +	++	- + -	- - +
- + ± + +	+ -	- + -	- - +
- + ± + -	+ -	+ + -	- - +
- + ± - +	-+	- + -	- + +
- + ± - +	-+	- + +	- + -

- Comparison of methods

- ▷ Passarino-Veltman

- Well understood and implemented for years
- Largely automated
- Complex, unwieldy, unstable (as is, can be improved)

- ▷ Unitarity

- Drastic drop in complexity of expressions
- Utility in massive calculations? Massless is much easier...
- Easy (straightforward) to automate [BlackHat, Rocket, ...]
- Singularities are under better control numerically
- Diverge like $\frac{1}{\langle ij \rangle} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{s_{ij}}}$

- ▷ Timing and interest in theory community will be deciding factor

- ▷ Results are paramount at this point

- Outlook

- ▷ Still have triangles, bubbles, tadpoles, and rational terms
 - Challenging, but understood (not presented here)
- ▷ Numeric checks between different methods are still underway
- ▷ Proof of concept calculation for massive process
- ▷ Still some concern about speed of implementation at tree level
 - Adding in color slows calculations
 - Could be solved with representation of spinors?
 - Clearly, still needs to be optimized for MC work
- ▷ Strength is in wide applicability to NLO processes
- ▷ Automation will lead to low “time to curves”
- ▷ Worst case, good for new signal processes

Generalized Unitarity \Leftrightarrow New Tool for Phenomenology