



Amplitudes 2018 @ SLAC



Recent developments in string amplitudes

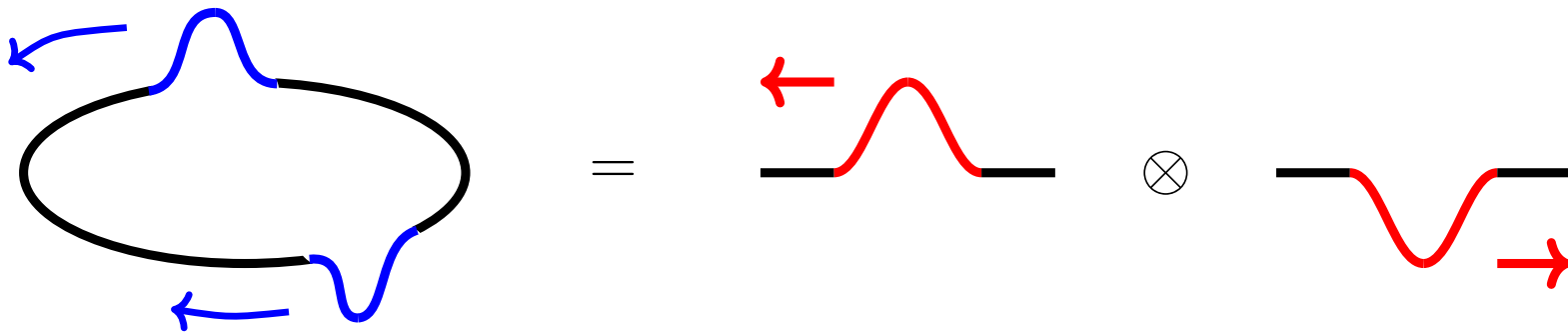
Oliver Schlotterer

(Perimeter Institute & AEI Potsdam)

20.06.2018

Intro I: Why string amplitudes?

- key observables in a candidate theory of quantum gravity (testing string dualities, Veneziano amplitude '68 \Rightarrow birth of string theory, etc.)
- double-copy structure gravity = (gauge theory)² natural from $\alpha' \rightarrow 0$ limit of open & closed strings (with chiral splitting for loops)



[see e.g. talks of Adamo, Carrasco, Geyer, O'Connell, Zeng]

Intro I: Why string amplitudes?

- key observables in a candidate theory of quantum gravity (testing string dualities, Veneziano amplitude '68 \Rightarrow birth of string theory, etc.)
- double-copy structure gravity = (gauge theory)² natural from $\alpha' \rightarrow 0$ limit of open & closed strings (with chiral splitting for loops)
- fruitful overlap with number theory: polylogs & multiple zeta values & elliptic / single-valued versions in simple context (cf. Feynman int's)

$$\int d^{D-2\epsilon} \ell \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{[square diagram]} \\ \text{[circle diagram]} \text{ etc.} \end{array} \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{multiple polylogarithms } \text{Li}_w(z), \dots \\ \text{elliptic polylogs } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \text{Li}_w(q^n z), \dots \\ \dots \text{ and many more } \dots \end{array} \right.$$

[see e.g. talks of Bourjaily, Britto, Duhr, McLeod, Mizera, Panzer]

- can often export string correlators to ambitwistors / CHY [talk of Geyer]

Intro II: Two major challenges in string amplitudes

Perturbative expansion (drawn for closed strings \leftrightarrow surfaces without bdy)

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}_{0;4}} + \int_{\mathcal{M}_{1;4}} + \int_{\mathcal{M}_{2;4}} + \int_{\mathcal{M}_{3;4}} + \dots$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{string}}^{g\text{-loop}}(1, 2, \dots, n) \sim \int_{\mathcal{M}_{g;n}} \left\langle \left(\prod_j \text{PCO}(w_j) \right) V_1(z_1) V_2(z_2) \dots V_n(z_n) \right\rangle_g$$

moduli space of
 n -punctured (super-)
Riemann surfaces
at genus g with or
without boundaries

integrals: math

correlation function of n vertex
operators V_j for ext. states
on Riemann surface of genus g ;
depending on g & formalism:
picture-changing op's (PCOs)

integrands: CFT

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recent years:

surprisingly
rich structures
in integrands
and integrals !

moduli space of
 n -punctured (super-)
Riemann surfaces
at genus g with or
without boundaries

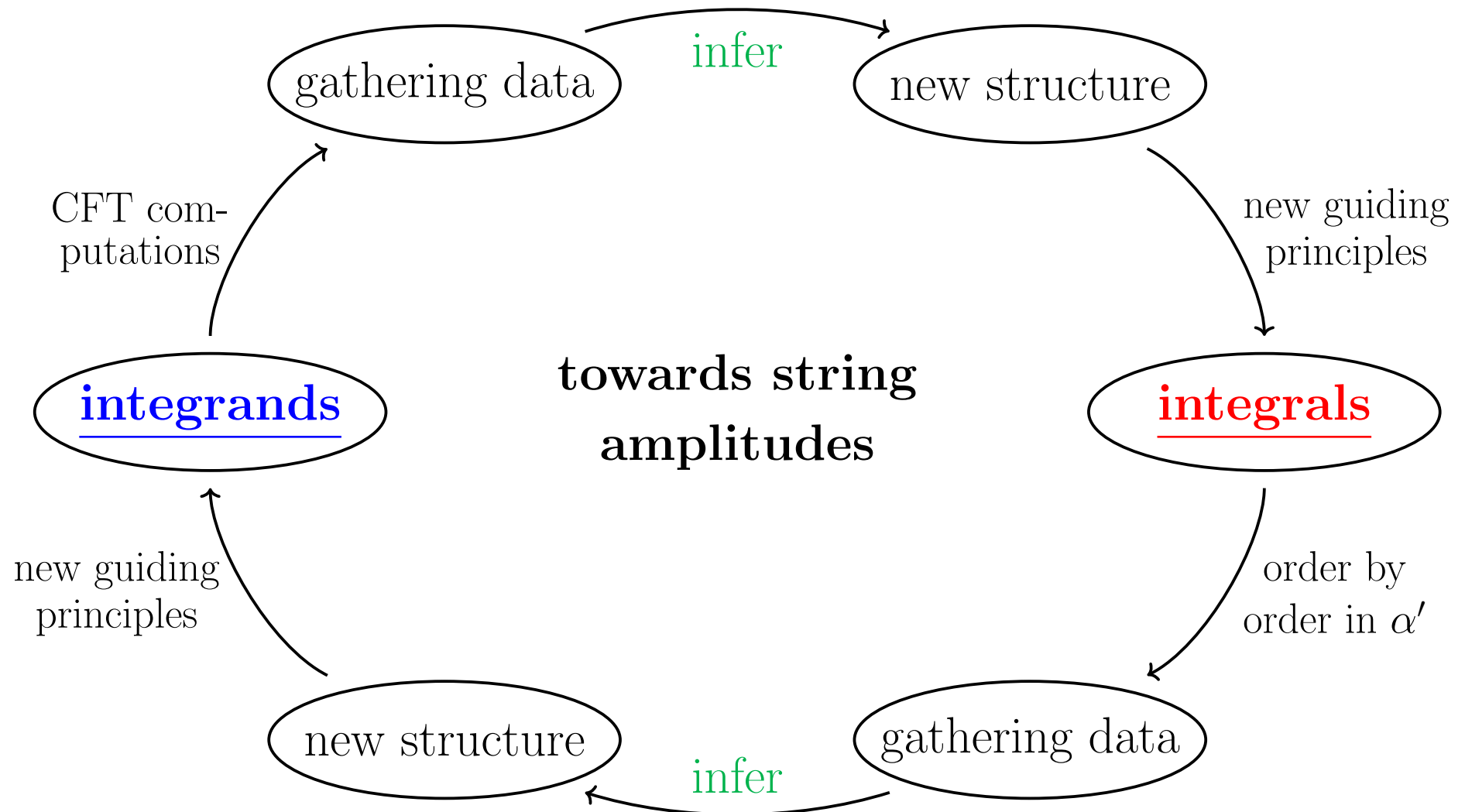
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Intro III: This talk's perspective on string amplitudeology

Path forward: mixture of explicit computation and **pattern spotting**

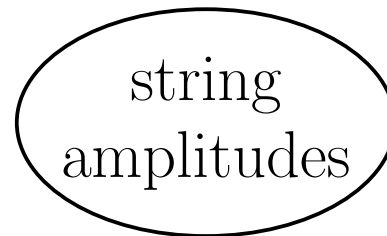


Intro IV: Recent progress on “integrand” & “integral” side

n -point tree-level correlators
for bosonic & heterotic strings:
field-theory double copies invol-
ving massive gauge theories

[Azevedo, Chiodaroli, Johansson, OS 1803.05452]

integrands



integrals



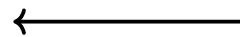
loop order

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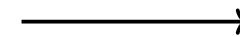
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integrands



string
amplitudes



integrals

evidence for double-copy structure
in open superstring at one loop:
gravitational R^4 matrix elements
versus SUSY genus-one correlators

[Mafrà, OS 1711.09104
& work in progress]

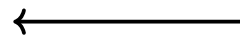
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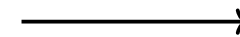
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integrands



string
amplitudes



integrals

getting closed-string integrals from
“single-valued” open-string integrals:
modular invariants from single-valued
elliptic multiple zeta values @ genus 1

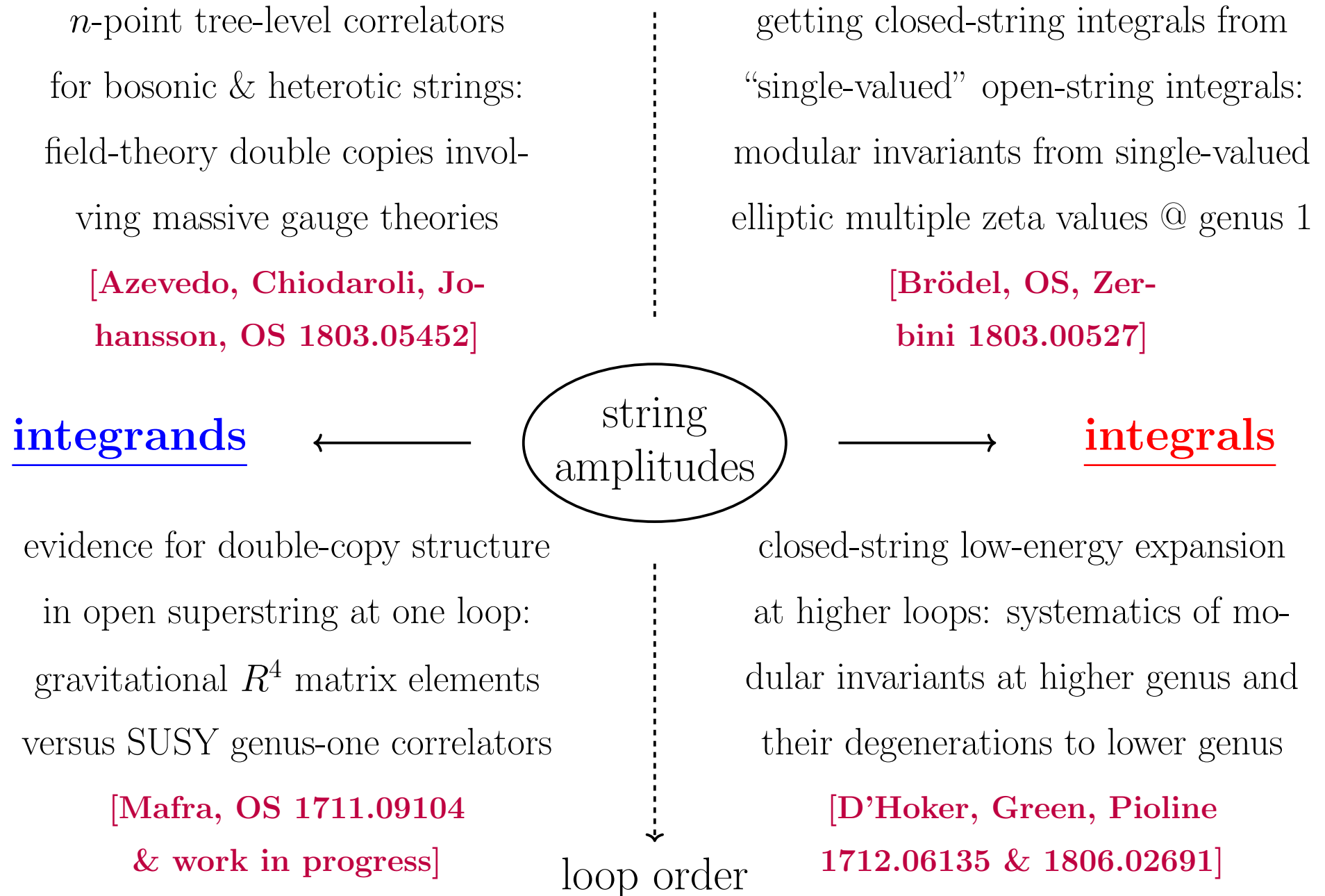
[Brödel, OS, Zerbini 1803.00527]

evidence for double-copy structure
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Intro IV: Recent progress on “integrand” & “integral” side



Outline

I. Tree-level double copy of various string theories

[Azevedo, Chiodaroli, Johansson, OS 1803.05452]

II. One-loop double copy of open superstrings

[Mafra, OS 1711.09104 & in progress]

III. Closed strings as single-valued open strings at one loop

[Brödel, OS, Zerbini 1803.00527]

IV. Closed-string low-energy expansion at higher genus

[D'Hoker, Green, Pioline 1712.06135, 1806.02691]

V. Conclusions & Outlook

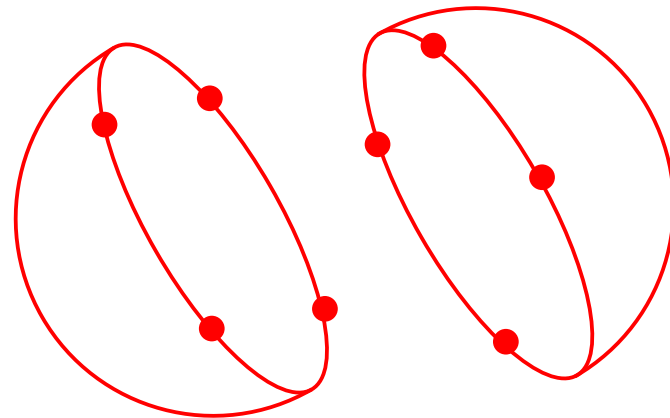
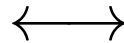
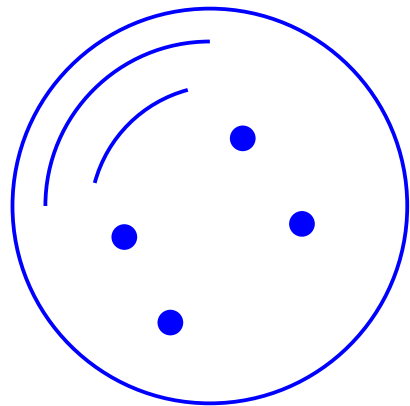
I. Tree-level double copy of various string theories

I. 1 KLT formulae as a diagnosis for double copy

Birth of double copy: **KLT relations** among string amplitudes at tree-level

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{closed}}^{\text{tree},4}(\alpha') = \bar{\mathcal{A}}_{\text{open}}^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 4, 3; \alpha') \sin\left(\frac{\pi\alpha'}{2} k_1 \cdot k_2\right) \mathcal{A}_{\text{open}}^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 3, 4; \alpha') .$$

closed
strings:
sphere



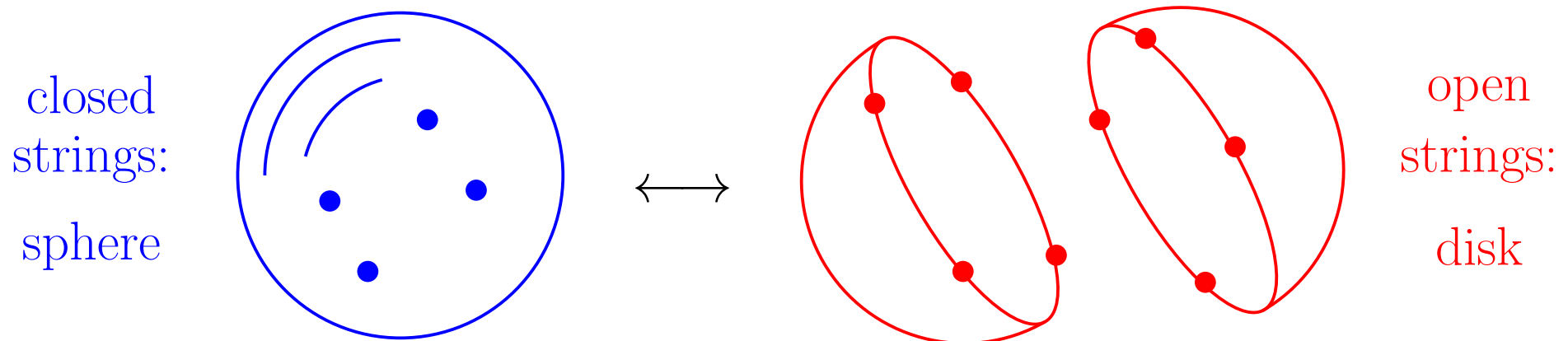
open
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disk

[Kawai, Lewellen, Tye 1986]

I. 1 KLT formulae as a diagnosis for double copy

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[Kawai, Lewellen, Tye 1986]

Field-theory limit $\alpha' \rightarrow 0$: relate **gravity** to **double copy of gauge theories**:

$$M_{\text{SUGRA}}^{\text{tree},4} = \bar{A}_{\text{SYM}}^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 4, 3) k_1 \cdot k_2 A_{\text{SYM}}^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 3, 4) \equiv \bar{A}_{\text{SYM}}^{\text{tree}} \otimes_{\text{KLT}} A_{\text{SYM}}^{\text{tree}} .$$

Will refer to operation \otimes_{KLT} at $\alpha' \rightarrow 0$ as **field-theory double copy**.


I. 1 KLT formulae as a diagnosis for double copy

At n points, more combinatorics and $(n-3)!$ -element BCJ bases

$$\{ A_{\text{SYM}}^{\text{tree}}(1, \rho(2, 3, \dots, n-2), n-1, n), \quad \text{permutation } \rho \in S_{n-3} \}$$

[Bern, Carrasco, Johansson 0805.3993]

$$M_{\text{SUGRA}}^{\text{tree},n} = \sum_{\rho, \tau \in S_{n-3}} \bar{A}_{\text{SYM}}^{\text{tree}}(1, \rho, n, n-1) S(\rho|\tau)_1 A_{\text{SYM}}^{\text{tree}}(1, \tau, n-1, n)$$



 $(n-3)! \times (n-3)! \text{ KLT matrix, entries are } \sim (k_i \cdot k_j)^{n-3}$

[Bern, Dixon, Perelstein, Rozowsky 1998]

[Bjerrum-Bohr, Damgaard, Feng, Sondergaard, Vanhove 2010]

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e.g. 2×2 terms

at 5 points with

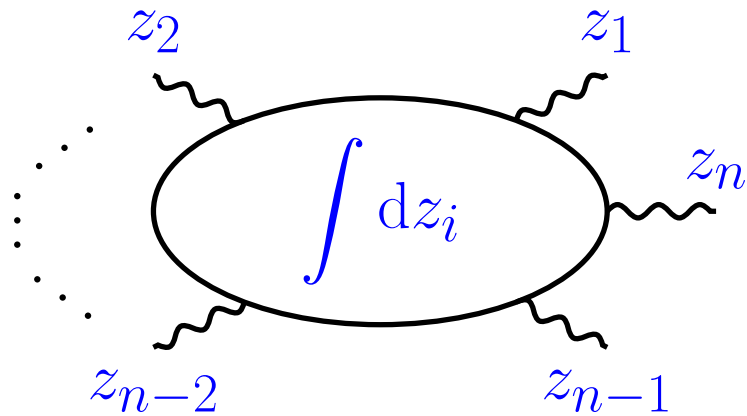
$$S(\rho(2, 3)|\tau(2, 3))_1 = \begin{pmatrix} (k_1 \cdot k_2)(k_{1+2} \cdot k_3) & (k_1 \cdot k_2)(k_1 \cdot k_3) \\ (k_1 \cdot k_2)(k_1 \cdot k_3) & (k_1 \cdot k_3)(k_{1+3} \cdot k_2) \end{pmatrix}$$

Shorthand for KLT formulae:

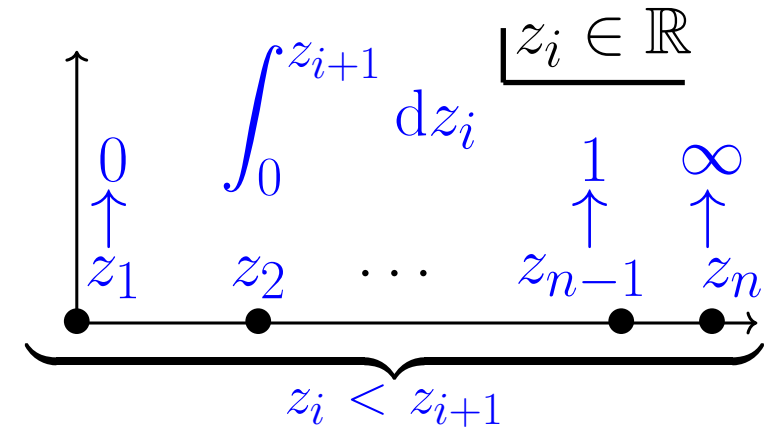
$$M_{\text{SUGRA}}^{\text{tree}} = \bar{A}_{\text{SYM}}^{\text{tree}} \otimes_{\text{KLT}} A_{\text{SYM}}^{\text{tree}}$$

I. 2 Open superstrings as a double copy

Map disk boundary to $\mathbb{R} \implies$ iterated integrals over $z_j \in (0, 1)$.

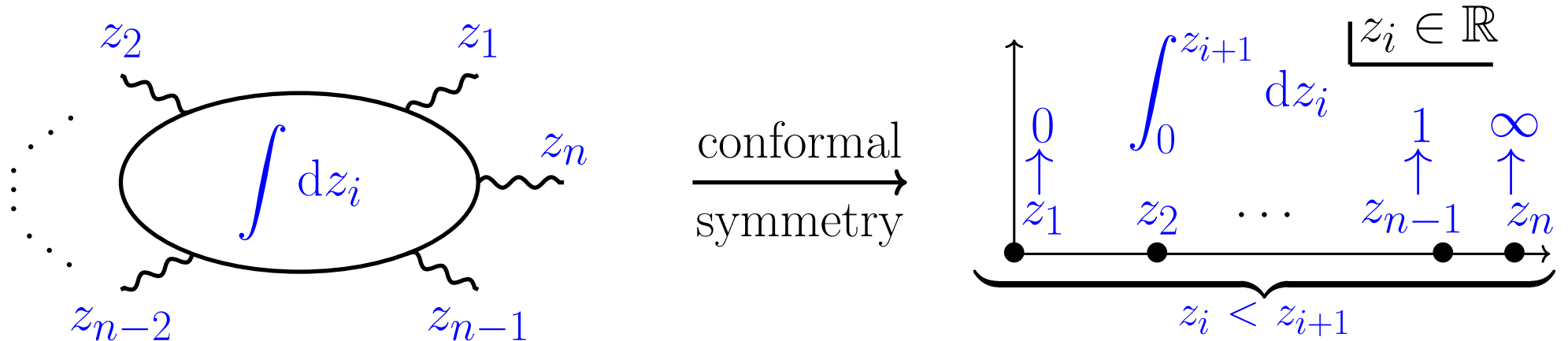


conformal
symmetry \longrightarrow



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Basis of disk integrals \subset “Parke–Taylor” denominators (with $z_{ij} = z_i - z_j$)

$$Z_\sigma(\rho(1, 2, \dots, n)) \equiv (2\alpha')^{n-3} \int_{z_{\sigma(i)} < z_{\sigma(i+1)}} \frac{dz_1 \dots dz_n}{\text{vol SL}_2(\mathbb{R})} \frac{\prod_{i < j}^n |z_{ij}|^{2\alpha' k_i \cdot k_j}}{\rho(z_{12} z_{23} \dots z_{n-1, n} z_{n, 1})}$$

[talks of Arkani-Hamed, He, Mizera]

- BCJ relations in the permutations $\rho \in S_n$ of $(z_{12} z_{23} \dots z_{n, 1})^{-1}$
[Brödel, OS, Stieberger 1304.7267; talk of Mizera]

- $\alpha' \rightarrow 0$ limit of $Z_\sigma(\dots) \implies$ tree amplitudes of bi-adjoint ϕ^3 & NLSM
[Cachazo, He, Yuan 1309.0885; Carrasco, Mafra, OS 1608.02569]

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behave like amplitudes ... in putative effective theory of bicolored scalars

\implies refer to $Z_\sigma(\dots)$ as amplitudes of “Z-theory”

[Carrasco, Mafra, OS
Aug. – Dec. 2016]

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\implies refer to $Z_\sigma(\dots)$ as amplitudes of “Z-theory” [Carrasco, Mafra, OS
Aug. – Dec. 2016]

Factorized expression for n -point function of open superstrings

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{open}}^{\text{tree}}(\sigma) = Z_\sigma \otimes_{\text{KLT}} \mathcal{A}_{\text{SYM}}^{\text{tree}} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{[Mafra, OS, Stieberger 1106.2645,} \\ \text{Brödel, OS, Stieberger 1304.7267]} \end{array}$$

- all polarizations in field-theory amplitudes $\mathcal{A}_{\text{SYM}}^{\text{tree}}$ of $D = 10$ SYM (!)
- KLT formula signals field-theory double copy

“open superstring = Z-theory \otimes SYM”

I. 3 Towards bosonic & heterotic strings

∃ similar double-copy form for bosonic-string amplitudes

... involving a peculiar gauge theory “ $(DF)^2 + \text{YM}$ ”

[Azevedo, Chiodaroli, Johansson, OS 1803.05452]

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{(DF)^2+\text{YM}} \equiv & \frac{1}{2} (D_\mu F^{a\mu\nu})^2 - \frac{1}{4} m^2 (F_{\mu\nu}^a)^2 - \frac{1}{3} f^{abc} F_\mu^{a\nu} F_\nu^{b\lambda} F_\lambda^{c\mu} \\ & + \frac{1}{2} (D_\mu \varphi^\alpha)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m^2 (\varphi^\alpha)^2 + \frac{1}{2} C^{\alpha ab} \varphi^\alpha F_{\mu\nu}^a F^{b\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{3!} d^{\alpha\beta\gamma} \varphi^\alpha \varphi^\beta \varphi^\gamma \Big|_{m^2 = -\frac{1}{\alpha'}} \end{aligned}$$

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- kin. operator $\sim (\partial^4 - m^2 \partial^2) \Rightarrow$ 2 gluon modes: $\left(\begin{smallmatrix} \text{massless} \\ \text{physical} \end{smallmatrix} \right) \oplus \left(\begin{smallmatrix} \text{massive} \\ \text{ghost} \end{smallmatrix} \right)$
- massive-ghost scalar φ^α : index $\alpha \leftrightarrow$ real representation of gauge group

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- massive-ghost scalar φ^α : index $\alpha \leftrightarrow$ real representation of gauge group
- tachyon poles of bosonic string fix mass parameter to $m^2 = -\frac{1}{\alpha'}$
- constructing $\mathcal{L}_{(DF)^2+\text{YM}}$ guided by BCJ relations [Johansson, Nohle 1707.02965]
- ∃ canonical extension “ $(DF)^2 + \text{YM} + \phi^3$ ” involving bi-adj. scalars ϕ

I. 4 String tree amplitudes as field-theory double copies

Double-copy pattern (field theory) \otimes_{KLT} (stringy building block)

→ universal to tree amplitudes in various string theories !

\otimes_{KLT}	SYM		
Z-theory	open superstring		

- “Z-theory” \leftrightarrow α' -dependent disk integrals

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\otimes_{KLT}	SYM		
Z-theory	open superstring		
sv (open superstring)	closed superstring		

- “Z-theory” \leftrightarrow α' -dependent disk integrals
- “**sv**” \leftrightarrow formal “single-valued” projection on zeta values in α' -expansion

[Schnetz 1302.6445 & Brown 1309.5309, see later]

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\otimes_{KLT}	SYM	$(DF)^2 + \text{YM}$	
Z-theory	open superstring	open bosonic string	
sv (open superstring)	closed superstring	heterotic string (grav)	
sv (open bos. string)	heterotic string (grav)	closed bosonic string	

- “Z-theory” \leftrightarrow α' -dependent disk integrals [Azevedo, Chiodaroli, Johansson, OS 1803.05452]
- “sv” \leftrightarrow formal “single-valued” projection on zeta values in α' -expansion
- gauge theory $(DF)^2 + \text{YM}$

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Z-theory	open superstring	open bosonic string	
sv (open superstring)	closed superstring	heterotic string (grav)	het. string (gauge/grav)
sv (open bos. string)	heterotic string (grav)	closed bosonic string	

[Azevedo, Chiodaroli, Johansson, OS 1803.05452]

- “Z-theory” \leftrightarrow α' -dependent disk integrals
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Z-theory	open superstring	open bosonic string	comp(open bos. string)
sv (open superstring)	closed superstring	heterotic string (grav)	het. string (gauge/grav)
sv (open bos. string)	heterotic string (grav)	closed bosonic string	comp(closed bos. string)

[Azevedo, Chiodaroli, Johansson, OS 1803.05452]

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- gauge theory $(DF)^2 + \text{YM}$ and scalar extension $(DF)^2 + \text{YM} + \phi^3$

II. One-loop double copy of open superstrings

II. Double-copy structure of 1-loop open-string amplitudes

Recall the double-copy structure of the open superstring @ tree level

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{c} \text{open superstring} \\ \text{at tree level} \end{array}} = \boxed{\begin{array}{c} \text{gauge invariant} \\ \text{amplitudes } A_{\text{SYM}}^{\text{tree}} \end{array}} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\text{KLT}} \\ \otimes \\ \xleftarrow{\text{KLT}} \end{array} \boxed{\begin{array}{c} \text{disk integrals over} \\ (z_{12}z_{23} \cdots z_{n1})^{-1} \end{array}}$$

II. Double-copy structure of 1-loop open-string amplitudes

Recall the double-copy structure of the open superstring @ tree level

$$\boxed{\text{open superstring at tree level}} = \boxed{\text{gauge invariant amplitudes } A_{\text{SYM}}^{\text{tree}}} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\text{KLT}} \\ \otimes \\ \xleftarrow{\text{KLT}} \end{array} \boxed{\text{disk integrals over } (z_{12}z_{23} \dots z_{n1})^{-1}}$$

\exists conjectural loop-level extension for maximal supersymmetry

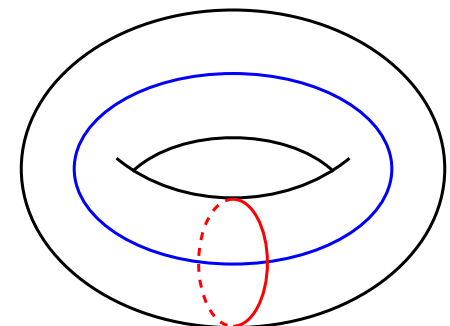
$$\boxed{\text{open superstring at one loop}} = \boxed{\text{gauge inv. SYM tensors } C^{\mu\nu\dots}} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{R^4} \\ \otimes \\ \xleftarrow{R^4} \end{array} \boxed{\text{cylinder int's over } E^{\mu\nu\dots}(\ell, z_j, \tau)}$$

Functions on the cylinder are “**generalized elliptic integrands**” with

$$E^{\mu\nu\dots}(\ell, z_j, \tau) = E^{\mu\nu\dots}(\ell - 2\pi i k_j, z_j + \tau, \tau)$$

periodic modulo shift of loop momentum ℓ

$$\text{e.g. } E_{1|2,3,4,5}^{\mu} = \ell^{\mu} + [k_2^{\mu} \partial_z \log \theta_1(z_{12}) + (2 \leftrightarrow 3, 4, 5)]$$



II. Double-copy structure of 1-loop open-string amplitudes

$$\boxed{\text{open superstring at one loop}} = \boxed{\text{gauge inv. SYM tensors } C^{\mu\nu\dots}} \overset{\curvearrowright}{\underset{\curvearrowleft}{\otimes R^4}} \boxed{\text{cylinder int's over } E^{\mu\nu\dots}(\ell, z_j, \tau)}$$

What is the “double-copy metric” \otimes_{R^4} ?

→ defined by tree-level matrix elements of SUSY R^4 operator

$$\boxed{\text{matrix element of SUSY } R^4} = \boxed{\text{gauge inv. SYM tensors } C^{\mu\nu\dots}} \overset{\curvearrowright}{\underset{\curvearrowleft}{\otimes R^4}} \boxed{\text{gauge inv. SYM tensors } \tilde{C}^{\mu\nu\dots}}$$

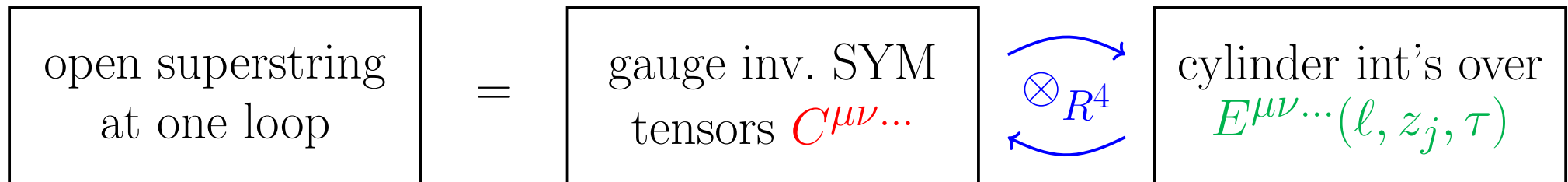
E.g. at 5pt, (→ so far, double-copy structure verified up to 7pt)

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{open},5}^{1\text{-loop}} = \int_{\mathcal{M}_{1;5}} \int d^{10}\ell \left\{ C_{1|2,3,4,5}^{\mu} E_{1|2,3,4,5}^{\mu} + [s_{23} C_{1|23,4,5} E_{1|23,4,5} + \dots] \right\}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ E \leftrightarrow \tilde{C} \end{array} \quad M_{R^4}^{\text{tree}} = C_{1|2,3,4,5}^{\mu} \tilde{C}_{1|2,3,4,5}^{\mu} + [s_{23} C_{1|23,4,5} \tilde{C}_{1|23,4,5} + \dots]$$

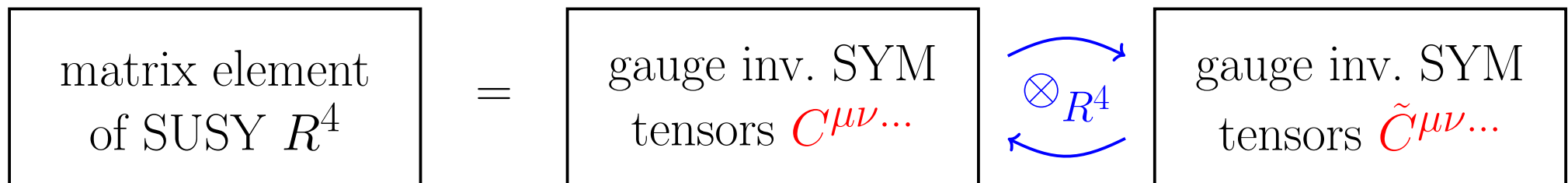
[Mafra, OS 1711.09104 & in progress]

II. Double-copy structure of 1-loop open-string amplitudes



What is the “double-copy metric” \otimes_{R^4} ?

→ defined by tree-level matrix elements of SUSY R^4 operator



Is double copy a generic feature of open-string perturbation theory?

- reduced supersymmetry @ 1 loop: R^2 matrix elements instead of R^4
- higher loops \leftrightarrow different gravitational operators? E.g. $D^4 R^4$ at 2 loops?
- reformulation of amplitude prescription where double copy is manifest?

III. Closed strings as single-valued open strings @ 1 loop

III. 1 Tree level: closed strings vs. single-valued open strings

α' -expansion of F_σ^τ & $\mathcal{A}_{\text{open}}^{\text{tree}}$ involves multiple zeta values (MZVs)

$$\zeta_{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r} \equiv \sum_{0 < k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_r}^{\infty} k_1^{-n_1} k_2^{-n_2} \dots k_r^{-n_r}, \quad n_r \geq 2$$

[Terasoma 2002 & Brown 2006]

Schematically,

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{open}}^{\text{tree}}(\sigma) = \overbrace{\left(\mathbb{1} + \zeta_2 (\alpha' k_i \cdot k_j)^2 + \zeta_3 (\alpha' k_i \cdot k_j)^3 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^4) \right)}^{\text{from } Z_\sigma(\rho(\dots)) \text{ and } \otimes_{\text{KLT}}} \sigma^\tau A_{\text{SYM}}^{\text{tree}}(\tau)$$

Polynomial structure in $\alpha' k_i \cdot k_j$ at n points can be determined to any order

[e.g. Brödel, OS, Stieberger, Terasoma 1304.7304 & Mafra, OS 1609.07078]

Explicit results at $n \leq 7$ points available for download

[http : //wwth.mpp.mpg.de/members/stieberg/mzv/index.html](http://wwth.mpp.mpg.de/members/stieberg/mzv/index.html)

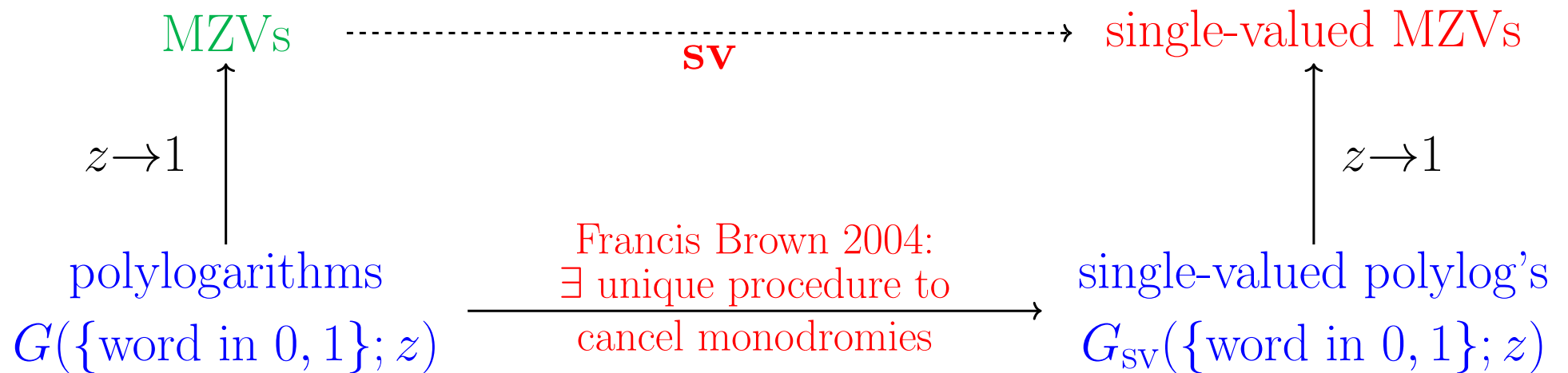
III. 1 Tree level: closed strings vs. single-valued open strings

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Define single-valued projection **sv** of MZVs via their polylogarithm origin

[Schnetz 1302.6445 & Brown 1309.5309]



e.g. $G(1; z) = \log(1-z) \longrightarrow G_{\text{sv}}(1; z) = \log |1-z|^2$

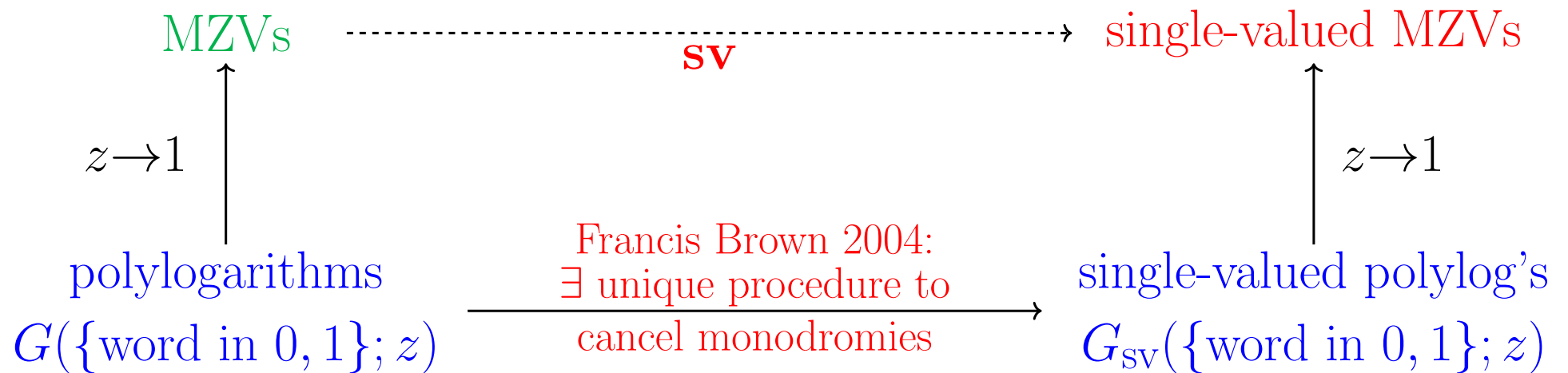
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Define single-valued projection **sv** of MZVs via their polylogarithm origin

[Schnetz 1302.6445 & Brown 1309.5309]



$$\text{sv}(\zeta_{2k}) = 0, \quad \text{sv}(\zeta_{2k+1}) = 2 \zeta_{2k+1}, \quad \text{sv}(\zeta_{3,5}) = -10 \zeta_3 \zeta_5, \quad \text{etc.}$$

III. 1 Tree level: closed strings vs. single-valued open strings

Closed-string n -point function simplifies to **field-theory double copy**

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{closed}}^{\text{tree}}(\alpha') = \bar{A}_{\text{SYM}}^{\text{tree}} \otimes_{\text{KLT}} \mathbf{sv} \mathcal{A}_{\text{open}}^{\text{tree}}(\alpha')$$

[OS, Stieberger 1205.1516 & Stieberger 1310.3259]

Schematically, by $\mathbf{sv}(\zeta_{2k}) = 0$ and $\mathbf{sv}(\zeta_{2k+1}) = 2\zeta_{2k+1}$,

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{open}}^{\text{tree}}(\sigma) = \left(\mathbf{1} + \zeta_2(\alpha' k_i \cdot k_j)^2 + \zeta_3(\alpha' k_i \cdot k_j)^3 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^4) \right)_\sigma^\tau A_{\text{SYM}}(\tau)$$

$$\mathbf{sv} \mathcal{A}_{\text{open}}^{\text{tree}}(\sigma) = \left(\mathbf{1} + 2\zeta_3(\alpha' k_i \cdot k_j)^3 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^4) \right)_\sigma^\tau A_{\text{SYM}}(\tau)$$

III. 1 Tree level: closed strings vs. single-valued open strings

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- emergence of $\mathbf{sv} \mathcal{A}_{\text{open}}^{\text{tree}}(\alpha')$ still conjectural (tested to high α' -orders),

but inductive all-order proof is within reach [OS, Schnetz: in progress]

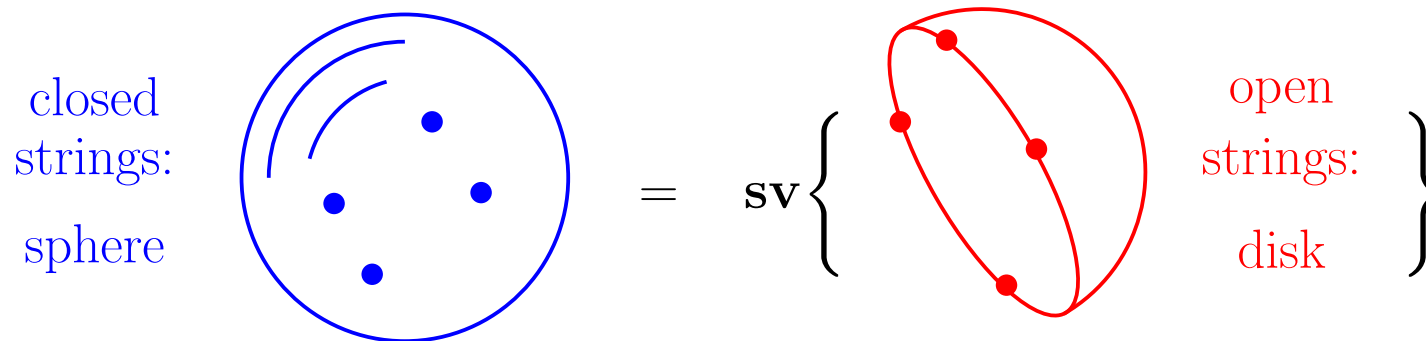
- also: **sv**-relation in worldsheet sigma models of type-I & heterotic strings

[Fan, Fotopoulos, Stieberger, Taylor 1711.05821]

III. 1 Tree level: closed strings vs. single-valued open strings

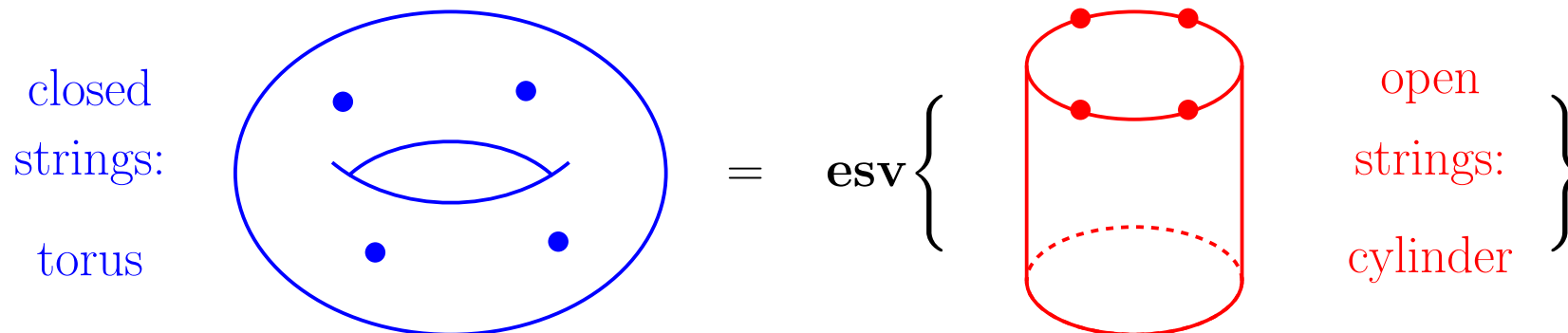
Next, generalize genus-zero correspondence

between open- and closed-string integrals ...



[OS, Stieberger 1205.1516, Stieberger 1310.3259]

... to an empirical elliptic single-valued projection “**esv**” at genus one



[Brödel, OS, Zerbini 1803.00527]

III. 2 One loop four-point integrals – the toy model

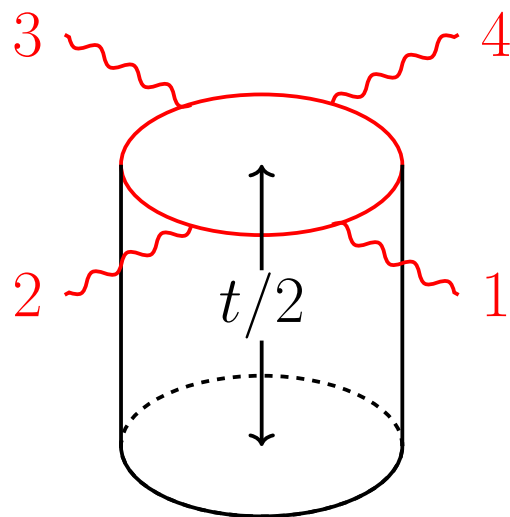
Toy model: *abelian* open-string states $t^a \rightarrow \mathbb{1}$ on cylinder worldsheet:

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{open}}^{\text{1-loop}}(1, 2, 3, 4) = s_{12}s_{23}A_{\text{YM}}^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 3, 4) \int_0^\infty dt I_{\text{open}}(s_{ij}, \tau = it)$$

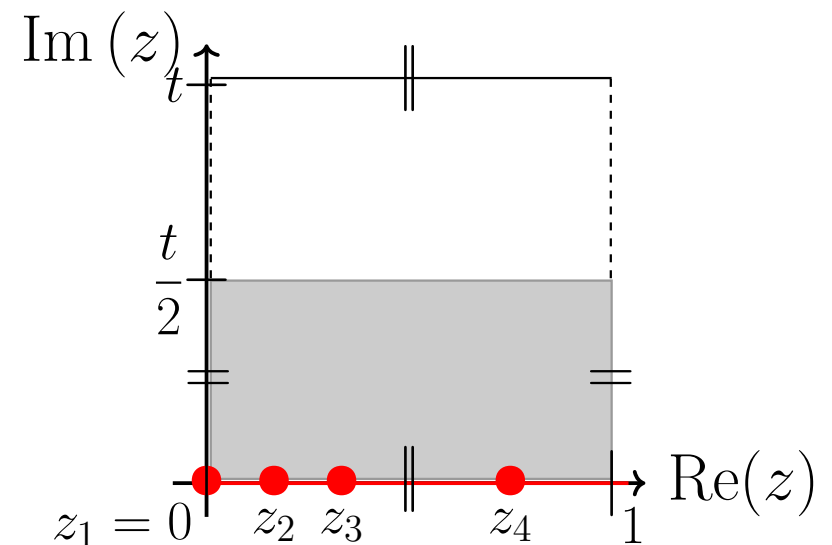
$$I_{\text{open}}(s_{ij}, \tau) = \left(\prod_{j=2}^4 \int_0^1 dz_j \right) \exp \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i<j}^4 s_{ij} g(z_i - z_j, \tau) \right) \Big|_{z_1=0}$$

with $s_{ij} = 2\alpha' k_i \cdot k_j$ & Green function $\partial_z g(z, \tau) = \partial_z \log \theta(z, \tau) + 2\pi i \frac{\text{Im } z}{\text{Im } \tau}$.

[Brink, Green, Schwarz 1982]



parametrized as
 →
 “half a torus”



III. 2 One loop four-point integrals – the toy model

Toy model: *abelian* open-string states $t^a \rightarrow \mathbf{1}$ on cylinder worldsheet:

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{open}}^{1\text{-loop}}(1, 2, 3, 4) = s_{12}s_{23} A_{\text{YM}}^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 3, 4) \int_0^\infty dt I_{\text{open}}(s_{ij}, \tau = it)$$

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Similar integral for 4 closed strings at one loop:

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{closed}}^{1\text{-loop}}(1, 2, 3, 4) = |s_{12}s_{23} A_{\text{YM}}^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 3, 4)|^2 \int_{\mathcal{F}} \frac{d^2 \tau}{(\text{Im } \tau)^2} J_{\text{closed}}(s_{ij}, \tau)$$

fund. domain
 \mathcal{F} of $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$

$$\underbrace{J_{\text{closed}}(s_{ij}, \tau)}_{\text{mod. invariant}} = \left(\prod_{j=2}^4 \int_{\text{torus}(\tau)} \frac{d^2 z_j}{\text{Im } \tau} \right) \exp \left(\sum_{i<j}^4 s_{ij} g(z_i - z_j, \tau) \right) \Big|_{z_1=0}$$

[Brink, Green, Schwarz 1982]

III. 2 One loop four-point integrals – the toy model

This talk's main interest: integrals $I_{\text{open}}, J_{\text{open}}$ over punctures z_j @ fixed τ

$$I_{\text{open}}(s_{ij}, \tau) = \left(\prod_{j=2}^4 \int_0^1 dz_j \right) \exp \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i<j} s_{ij} g(z_i - z_j, \tau) \right) \Big|_{z_1=0}$$

$$J_{\text{closed}}(s_{ij}, \tau) = \left(\prod_{j=2}^4 \int_{\text{torus}(\tau)} \frac{d^2 z_j}{\text{Im } \tau} \right) \exp \left(\sum_{i<j} s_{ij} g(z_i - z_j, \tau) \right) \Big|_{z_1=0}$$

- low-energy expansion in $s_{ij} = 2\alpha' k_i \cdot k_j$: Taylor expand the $\exp(s_{ij} \dots)$
- $\int \prod_{i<j} (g(z_i - z_j, \tau))^{n_{ij}}$ over cyl. boundary \Rightarrow elliptic MZVs (eMZVs)
[Brödel, Mafra, Matthes, OS 1412.5535]
- eMZVs & closed-string integrals \Rightarrow iterated Eisenstein integrals

iterated τ -integral $\mathcal{E}_0(k_1, k_2, \dots, k_r; \tau)$ over holo' Eisenstein series $G_k(\tau)$

[Enriquez 1301.3042 & Brödel, Matthes, OS 1507.02254]

[see Claude Duhr's talk]

III. 3 Iterated Eisenstein integrals in one-loop amplitudes

Symmetrized open-string integral (note modular transformation $\tau \rightarrow -\frac{1}{\tau}$)

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_{\text{open}}(s_{ij}, -\frac{1}{\tau}) = & 1 - (s_{12}^2 + s_{12}s_{23} + s_{23}^2) \left[\frac{T^2}{90} - \frac{\pi^2}{9} - \frac{\pi^4}{30T^2} - \frac{2i\zeta_3}{T} + 12 \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0; \tau) + \frac{12i}{T} \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0; \tau) \right] \\
 & + s_{12}s_{13}s_{23} \left[-\frac{iT^3}{756} + \frac{i\pi^2 T}{45} - \frac{\zeta_3}{2} - \frac{7i\pi^4}{72T} - \frac{2\pi^2\zeta_3}{T^2} + \frac{15\zeta_5}{2T^2} + \frac{17i\pi^6}{1890T^3} + \frac{12\pi^2}{T^2} \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0; \tau) \right. \\
 & \left. + 300 \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0; \tau) + \frac{900i}{T} \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0, 0; \tau) - \frac{900}{T^2} \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0, 0, 0; \tau) \right] + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^4)
 \end{aligned}$$

Open string: Laurent polynomials in $T \equiv \pi\tau$ along with series in $q=e^{2\pi i\tau}$

“double expansion in $(\log q)^{\pm 1}$ and q ”

III. 3 Iterated Eisenstein integrals in one-loop amplitudes

Symmetrized open-string integral (note modular transformation $\tau \rightarrow -\frac{1}{\tau}$)

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 \end{aligned}$$

Open string: Laurent polynomials in $T \equiv \pi\tau$ along with series in $q=e^{2\pi i\tau}$

... fits to closed strings: Laurent poly's in $y \equiv \pi \text{Im } \tau$ & series in q & \bar{q}

$$\begin{aligned}
 J_{\text{closed}}(s_{ij}, \tau) &= 1 + (s_{12}^2 + s_{12}s_{23} + s_{23}^2) \left[\frac{2y^2}{45} + \frac{2\zeta_3}{y} - 24 \text{Re } \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0; \tau) - \frac{12}{y} \text{Re } \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0; \tau) \right] \\
 &+ s_{12}s_{13}s_{23} \left[-\frac{2y^3}{189} - \zeta_3 - \frac{15\zeta_5}{4y^2} + 600 \text{Re } \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0; \tau) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{900}{y} \text{Re } \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0, 0; \tau) + \frac{450}{y^2} \text{Re } \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0, 0, 0; \tau) \right] + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^4)
 \end{aligned}$$

α' -expanding J_{closed} & generalizations \Rightarrow “*modular graph functions*”

[D'Hoker, Green, Gürdogan, Vanhove 1512.06779; various authors 1999 - 2017]

III. 4 Towards an elliptic single-valued projection

How to map open-string data to closed-string data?

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_{\text{open}}(s_{ij}, -\frac{1}{\tau}) \Big|_{(\alpha')^2} &\sim -\frac{T^2}{90} + \frac{\pi^2}{9} + \frac{\pi^4}{30T^2} + \frac{2i\zeta_3}{T} - 12 \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0; \tau) - \frac{12i}{T} \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0; \tau) \\
 J_{\text{closed}}(s_{ij}, \tau) \Big|_{(\alpha')^2} &\sim \frac{2y^2}{45} + \frac{2\zeta_3}{y} - 24 \text{Re} \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0; \tau) - \frac{12}{y} \text{Re} \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0; \tau)
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III. 4 Towards an elliptic single-valued projection

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 \end{aligned}$$

Engineer candidate **esv** for *elliptic single-valued projection*

$$\mathbf{esv} : \left\{ \begin{array}{l}
 \text{(i) : } \quad \zeta_{n_1, n_2, \dots} \rightarrow \mathbf{sv}(\zeta_{n_1, n_2, \dots}) \\
 \text{(ii) : } \quad T \rightarrow 2iy \text{ i.e. } \tau \rightarrow 2i \text{Im } \tau \\
 \text{(iii) : } \quad \mathcal{E}_0(k_1, \dots; \tau) \rightarrow 2 \text{Re} \mathcal{E}_0(k_1, \dots; \tau)
 \end{array} \right.$$

to match above expressions @ $(\alpha')^2$ and in fact complete $(\alpha')^{\leq 6}$ orders!

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to match above expressions @ $(\alpha')^2$ and in fact complete $(\alpha')^{\leq 6}$ orders!

conjecture:

$$\mathbf{esv} I_{\text{open}}(s_{ij}, -\frac{1}{\tau}) = J_{\text{closed}}(s_{ij}, \tau)$$

III. 4 Towards an elliptic single-valued projection

Conjectural *elliptic single-valued projection* **esv** (works to order α'^6)

$$\mathbf{esv} : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{(i) : } \zeta_{n_1, n_2, \dots} \rightarrow \mathbf{sv}(\zeta_{n_1, n_2, \dots}) \\ \text{(ii) : } T \rightarrow 2iy \text{ i.e. } \tau \rightarrow 2i \operatorname{Im} \tau \\ \text{(iii) : } \mathcal{E}_0(k_1, \dots; \tau) \rightarrow 2 \operatorname{Re} \mathcal{E}_0(k_1, \dots; \tau) \end{array} \right.$$

conjecture:

$$\mathbf{esv} I_{\text{open}}(s_{ij}, -\frac{1}{\tau}) = J_{\text{closed}}(s_{ij}, \tau)$$

[Brödel, OS, Zerbini 1803.00527]

• so far requires ad-hoc convention how to use **shuffle multiplication of \mathcal{E}_0**

• should connect **esv** rules with single-valued elliptic polylogarithms

[D'Hoker, Green, Gürdogan, Vanhove 1512.06779]

• **esv** should relate to equivariant iterated Eisenstein integrals of Brown

[Brown 1407.5167, 1707.01230, 1708.03354]

IV. Closed-string low-energy expansion @ higher genus

IV. 1 Modular graph functions at higher genus

Four-point closed-string integral @ 1 loop \Rightarrow modular graph functions

$$J_{\text{closed}}(s_{ij}, \tau) = \left(\prod_{j=2}^4 \int_{\Sigma(\tau)} \frac{d^2 z_j}{\text{Im } \tau} \right) \exp \left(\sum_{i < j} s_{ij} g(z_i - z_j, \tau) \right) \Big|_{z_1=0}$$

Crucial information from degeneration near the cusp $\tau \rightarrow i\infty$

$$J_{\text{closed}}(s_{ij}, \tau) = 1 + (s_{12}^2 + s_{12}s_{23} + s_{23}^2) \left(\frac{2y^2}{45} + \frac{2\zeta_3}{y} + \mathcal{O}(e^{-2\pi \text{Im } \tau}) \right) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^3)$$

\longrightarrow Laurent polynomials in $y \equiv \pi \text{Im } \tau$ of **bounded** degree

IV. 1 Modular graph functions at higher genus

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\longrightarrow Laurent polynomials in $y \equiv \pi \text{Im } \tau$ of **bounded** degree

Impressive novel achievements [D'Hoker, Green, Pioline 1712.06135, 1806.02691]

- generalize gen. series J_{closed} of modular graph functions to any genus g
- identify “good” parameter like y for non-separating degeneration @ $g > 1$
- degeneration of Green functions and modular graph functions @ $g > 1$

IV. 1 Modular graph functions at higher genus

At higher loops, need the following ingredients

- abelian differentials $\omega_{I=1,2,\dots,g}$ on genus- g surface (@ $g=1$ only $\omega_1=dz$)
- $g \times g$ period matrix Ω with positive definite imaginary part $\text{Im } \Omega$
- Arakelov Green function $\mathcal{G}(z_i, z_j|\Omega)$ inverse to $\partial_z \bar{\partial}_z$ subject to

$$\int \sum_{I,J=1}^g (\text{Im } \Omega^{-1})^{IJ} \omega_I(z) \bar{\omega}_J(z) \mathcal{G}(z, y|\Omega) = 0$$

At two loops, integrand of $\mathcal{M}_{\text{closed}}^{2\text{-loop}}$ w.r.t. $d^6\Omega$ reads **[D'Hoker, Phong 2005]**

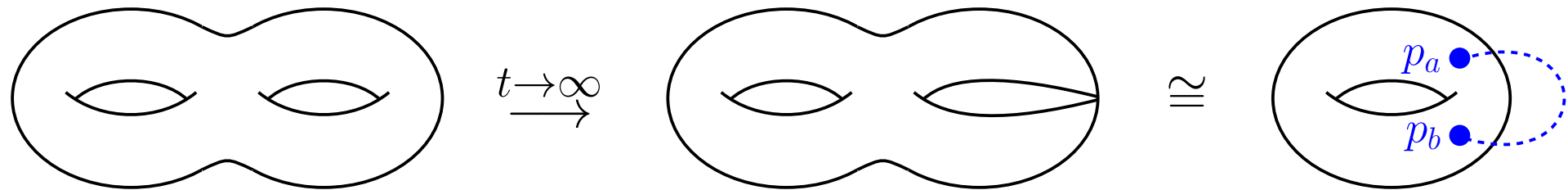
$$J_{\text{closed}}^{2\text{-loop}}(s_{ij}|\Omega) = \frac{1}{16} \int_{\Sigma^4} \frac{\mathcal{Y} \wedge \bar{\mathcal{Y}}}{(\det \text{Im } \Omega)^2} \exp \left\{ \sum_{1 < i \leq j}^4 s_{ij} \mathcal{G}(z_i, z_j|\Omega) \right\}$$

with $\Delta(z_i, z_j) \equiv \omega_1(z_i) \wedge \omega_2(z_j) - \omega_1(z_j) \wedge \omega_2(z_i)$ and

$$3\mathcal{Y} \equiv (s_{13} - s_{14}) \Delta(z_1, z_2) \wedge \Delta(z_3, z_4) + \text{cyc}(2, 3, 4)$$

IV. 2 Degeneration of higher-genus modular graph functions

Non-separating degeneration from genus g to genus $g-1$



- two extra punctures $\Sigma_g \rightarrow \Sigma_{g-1} \setminus \{p_b, p_a\}$
- block decompose $g \times g$ period matrix and send $\Omega_{gg} \rightarrow i\infty$

$$\Omega_{g \times g} = \begin{pmatrix} \tau_{(g-1) \times (g-1)} & v \\ v^t & \Omega_{gg} \end{pmatrix}, \quad v_{I=1,2,\dots,g-1} = \int_{p_a}^{p_b} \omega_I$$

Optimal degeneration parameter for bounded-degree Laurent polynomials

$$t \equiv \frac{\det \operatorname{Im} \Omega}{\det \operatorname{Im} \tau} = \operatorname{Im} \Omega_{gg} - \sum_{I,J=1}^{g-1} \operatorname{Im} v_I (\operatorname{Im} \tau^{-1})^{IJ} \operatorname{Im} v_J$$

[D'Hoker, Green, Pioline 1712.06135]

IV. 2 Degeneration of higher-genus modular graph functions

2-loop amplitude as generating series for genus-2 modular graph functions

$$J_{\text{closed}}^{2\text{-loop}}(s_{ij}|\Omega) = \frac{1}{16} \int_{\Sigma^4} \frac{\mathcal{Y} \wedge \bar{\mathcal{Y}}}{(\det \text{Im } \Omega)^2} \exp \left\{ \sum_{1 < i \leq j}^4 s_{ij} \mathcal{G}(z_i, z_j|\Omega) \right\}$$

Using degeneration parameter $t = \text{Im } \Omega_{22} - \frac{(\text{Im } v)^2}{\text{Im } \tau}$ at $\Omega_{22} \rightarrow i\infty$,

- Arakelov Green function has degree $(1, 1)$ in t (modulo exp. suppressed)

$$\mathcal{G}\left(z_i, z_j \mid \begin{pmatrix} \tau & v \\ v & \Omega_{22} \end{pmatrix}\right) = \frac{\pi t}{3g^2} + f_0(z_i, z_j, p_a, p_b|\tau) + \frac{f_1(z_i, z_j, p_a, p_b|\tau)}{t} + \mathcal{O}(e^{-2\pi t})$$

- modular graph functions from $J_{\text{closed}}^{2\text{-loop}}(s_{ij}|\Omega)$ with w powers of $\mathcal{G}(z_i, z_j)$
 - Laurent polynomials of degree (w, w) in t (modulo exp. suppressed)
 - Laurent coeff's = v -dependent modular graph functions @ genus 1
- real power in the use of t : **bounded**-degree Laurent polynomials

IV. 2 Degeneration of higher-genus modular graph functions

α' -expansion of the two-loop integral

$$J_{\text{closed}}^{2\text{-loop}}(s_{ij}|\Omega) = 2 \overbrace{(s_{12}^2 + s_{13}^2 + s_{14}^2)}^{\rightarrow D^4 R^4} + 64 \varphi(\Omega) \overbrace{(s_{12}^3 + s_{13}^3 + s_{14}^3)}^{\rightarrow D^6 R^4} + \frac{1}{2} \Phi(\Omega) \overbrace{(s_{12}^2 + s_{13}^2 + s_{14}^2)^2}^{\rightarrow D^8 R^4} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^5)$$

Subleading order $D^6 R^4$: Kawazumi–Zhang inv. [D'Hoker, Green 1308.4597]

$$\varphi(\Omega) = -\frac{(\text{Im } \Omega^{-1})^{IL} (\text{Im } \Omega^{-1})^{JK}}{4} \int_{\Sigma^2} \omega_I(z_1) \bar{\omega}_J(z_1) \mathcal{G}(z_1, z_2) \omega_K(z_2) \bar{\omega}_L(z_2)$$

with degeneration [D'Hoker, Green, Pioline 1712.06135, 1806.02691]

$$\varphi\left(\begin{array}{c} \tau \quad v \\ v \quad \Omega_{22} \end{array}\right) = \frac{\pi t}{6} + \frac{g_1(v|\tau)}{2} + \frac{5}{4\pi t} [g_2(0|\tau) - g_2(v|\tau)] + \mathcal{O}(e^{-2\pi t})$$

Generalized genus-1 modular graph functions with $v = r + \tau s$ & $r, s \in \mathbb{R}$

$$g_k(v|\tau) = \left(\frac{\text{Im } \tau}{\pi}\right)^k \sum_{\substack{m, n \in \mathbb{Z} \\ (m, n) \neq (0, 0)}} \frac{e^{2\pi i(nr - ms)}}{|m + \tau n|^{2k}}$$

IV. 2 Degeneration of higher-genus modular graph functions

α' -expansion of the two-loop integral

$$J_{\text{closed}}^{2\text{-loop}}(s_{ij}|\Omega) = 2 \overbrace{(s_{12}^2 + s_{13}^2 + s_{14}^2)}^{\rightarrow D^4 R^4} + 64 \varphi(\Omega) \overbrace{(s_{12}^3 + s_{13}^3 + s_{14}^3)}^{\rightarrow D^6 R^4} + \frac{1}{2} \Phi(\Omega) \overbrace{(s_{12}^2 + s_{13}^2 + s_{14}^2)^2}^{\rightarrow D^8 R^4} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^5)$$

Higher-order invariant $\rightarrow D^8 R^4$

$$\Phi(\Omega) = \frac{1}{64} \int_{\Sigma^4} \frac{|\Delta(z_1, z_3)\Delta(z_2, z_4)|^2}{(\det \text{Im } \Omega)^2} \{ \mathcal{G}(z_1, z_2) + \mathcal{G}(z_3, z_4) - \mathcal{G}(z_2, z_3) - \mathcal{G}(z_1, z_4) \}^2$$

with degeneration (numerators of t^{-1} and t^{-2} known)

$$\Phi \left(\begin{array}{cc} \tau & v \\ v & \Omega_{22} \end{array} \right) = \frac{8\pi^2 t^2}{45} + \frac{2\pi t}{3} g_1(v|\tau) + \frac{7}{3} g_2(0|\tau) - \frac{2}{3} g_2(v|\tau) + (g_1(v|\tau))^2 \\ + \frac{\text{more involved}}{\pi t} + \frac{\text{even more involved}}{\pi^2 t^2} + \mathcal{O}(e^{-2\pi t})$$

Similar results for separating degenerations and worldline “tropical” limit.

[D'Hoker, Green, Pioline 1806.02691]

V. Conclusions & Outlook

V. 1 Exciting news I did not have a chance to talk about

- hyperbolic geometry & string perturbation theory / string field theory
[Moosavian, Pius 1703.10563, 1706.07366, 1708.04977]
- low-energy expansion of 1-loop 4-graviton amplitude of heterotic strings,
get modular graph forms (\rightarrow nonzero modular weights)
[Basu 1708.08409, 1710.01993]
- all-loop exact & non-perturbative coefficient of $D^6 R^4$ interaction
in dim $d < 10$ type-IIB theory (using new Poincaré-series techniques)
[Ahlén, Kleinschmidt 1803.10250]
- exact non-perturbative coefficient of $D^2 F^4$ in certain heterotic orbifolds
[Bossard, Cosnier-Horeau, Pioline 1806.03330]

V. 2 Visions & long term goals for string amplitudes

- sidestep CFT: obtain open-string correlators from first principles
 - double copy is likely to be part of the answer
- closed-string integrals from suitable projection of open-string data:
 - expect higher-genus version of the single-valued projection
- mathematical framework for open-string integrals:
 - combine the input from coaction principle and KZB associators

Thank you for your attention !

Backup I: Iterated Eisenstein integrals

Holomorphic Eisenstein series ($k \geq 4$ even, $q = e^{2\pi i\tau}$) & $G_0 \equiv -1$

$$G_k(\tau) = \sum_{\substack{m,n \in \mathbb{Z} \\ (m,n) \neq (0,0)}} \frac{1}{(m\tau+n)^k} = 2\zeta_k + \frac{2(2\pi i)^k}{(k-1)!} \sum_{m,n=1}^{\infty} m^{k-1} q^{mn}$$

Backup I: Iterated Eisenstein integrals

Holomorphic Eisenstein series ($k \geq 4$ even, $q = e^{2\pi i\tau}$) & $G_0 \equiv -1 \equiv G_0^0$

$$G_k(\tau) = \sum_{\substack{m,n \in \mathbb{Z} \\ (m,n) \neq (0,0)}} \frac{1}{(m\tau+n)^k} = 2\zeta_k + \underbrace{\frac{2(2\pi i)^k}{(k-1)!} \sum_{m,n=1}^{\infty} m^{k-1} q^{mn}}_{G_k^0(\tau)}$$

Define **iterated Eisenstein integrals** recursively by $\mathcal{E}_0(; \tau) = 1$ and

$$\mathcal{E}_0(k_1, k_2, \dots, k_r; \tau) = (2\pi i)^{1-k_r} \int_{\tau}^{i\infty} d\tau' G_{k_r}^0(\tau') \mathcal{E}_0(k_1, k_2, \dots, k_{r-1}; \tau')$$

$k_1 \geq 4 \Rightarrow$ convergent integrals by **zero-mode subtraction** $G_{k_1}^0 = G_{k_1} - 2\zeta_{k_1}$

$$\text{e.g. } \mathcal{E}_0(k, \underbrace{0, 0, \dots, 0}_{p-1}; \tau) = \frac{-2}{(k-1)!} \sum_{m,n=1}^{\infty} \frac{m^{k-1}}{(mn)^p} q^{mn}$$

q -expansion straightforwardly inherited from above $G_k^0(\tau)$.

Backup II: Modular transformation for open strings @ 1 loop

Back to symmetrized open-string integrals (recall abelianization $t^a \rightarrow \mathbb{1}$)

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_{\text{open}}(s_{ij}, \tau) &= 1 + (s_{12}^2 + s_{12}s_{23} + s_{23}^2) [\zeta_2 - 12 \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0; \tau)] \\
 &\quad + s_{12}s_{13}s_{23} \left[12 \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0; \tau) + 300 \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0; \tau) - \frac{5}{2} \zeta_3 \right] + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^4)
 \end{aligned}$$

Backup II: Modular transformation for open strings @ 1 loop

Back to symmetrized open-string integrals (recall abelianization $t^a \rightarrow \mathbb{1}$)

$$I_{\text{open}}(s_{ij}, \tau) = 1 + (s_{12}^2 + s_{12}s_{23} + s_{23}^2) [\zeta_2 - 12 \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0; \tau)] \\ + s_{12}s_{13}s_{23} \left[12 \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0; \tau) + 300 \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0; \tau) - \frac{5}{2} \zeta_3 \right] + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^4)$$

Modular S -transformation $\tau \rightarrow -\frac{1}{\tau}$ follows from $G_k(-\frac{1}{\tau}) = \tau^k G_k(\tau)$

$$I_{\text{open}}(s_{ij}, -\frac{1}{\tau}) = 1 - (s_{12}^2 + s_{12}s_{23} + s_{23}^2) \left[\frac{T^2}{90} - \frac{\pi^2}{9} - \frac{\pi^4}{30T^2} - \frac{2i\zeta_3}{T} + 12 \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0; \tau) + \frac{12i}{T} \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0; \tau) \right] \\ + s_{12}s_{13}s_{23} \left[-\frac{iT^3}{756} + \frac{i\pi^2 T}{45} - \frac{\zeta_3}{2} - \frac{7i\pi^4}{72T} - \frac{2\pi^2 \zeta_3}{T^2} + \frac{15\zeta_5}{2T^2} + \frac{17i\pi^6}{1890T^3} + \frac{12\pi^2}{T^2} \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0; \tau) \right. \\ \left. + 300 \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0; \tau) + \frac{900i}{T} \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0, 0; \tau) - \frac{900}{T^2} \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0, 0, 0; \tau) \right] + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^4)$$

\implies coeff's of $q^{0,1,2,\dots}$ are Laurent polynomials in $T \equiv \pi \tau$ with MZVs.

\implies right structure to compare with closed-string quantities ...