

Ascona Workshop: Elliptic functions  
in Mathematics and Physics

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**String amplitudes, elliptic multiple  
zeta values and single-valued maps**

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Oliver Schlotterer (AEI Potsdam & Perimeter Institute)

based on arXiv:1803.00527 with J. Brödel & F. Zerbini

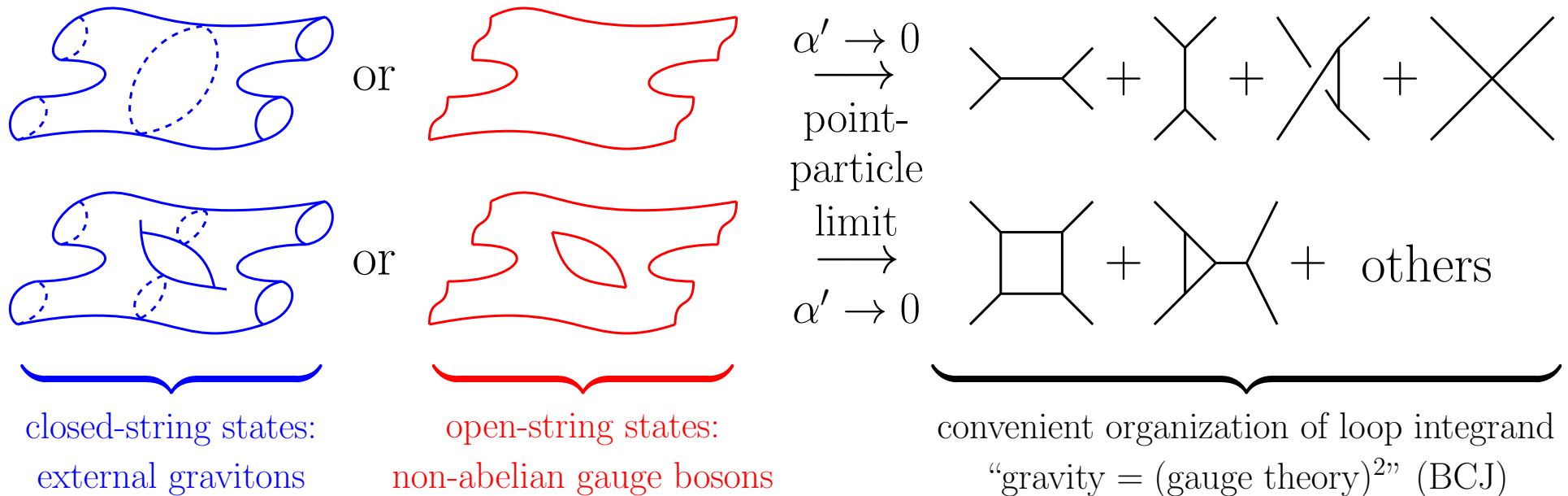
arXiv:18xy.abcde with J. Gerken & A. Kleinschmidt

07.09.2018

# Intro I – string perturbation theory

String amplitudes  $\longleftrightarrow$  Riemann surfaces as “fattened” Feynman diag’s

loop order in perturbation theory = genus of the Riemann surface



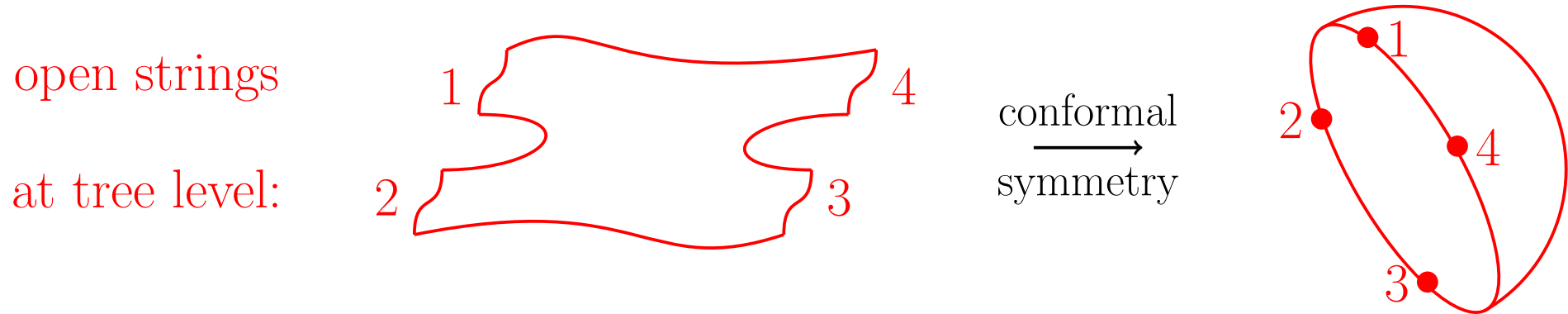
**This talk:** Study corrections to field theory  $\sim$  inverse string tension  $\alpha'$

$\implies$  rewarding laboratory for multiple zeta values,

elliptic generalizations & their single-valued projection

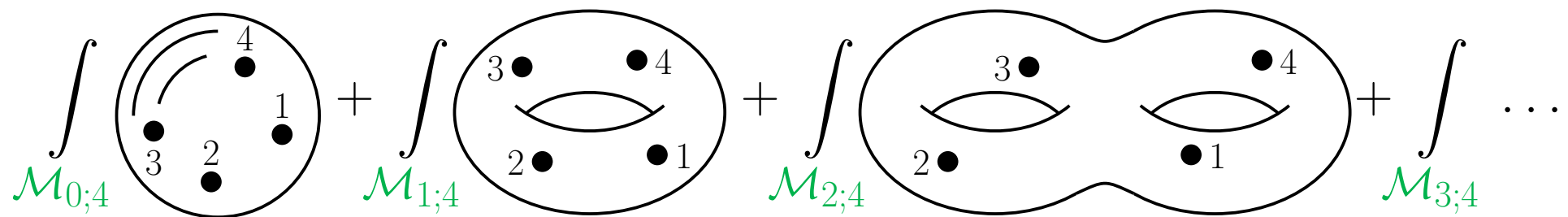
# Intro I – string perturbation theory

Map external states to punctures  $\bullet$  on the Riemann surface, e.g.



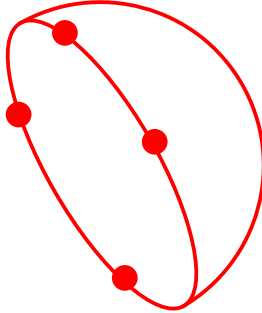
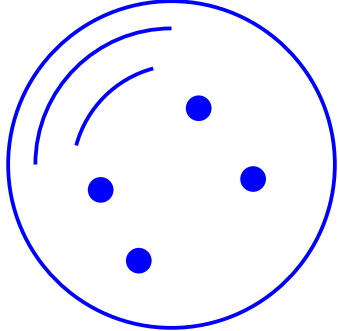
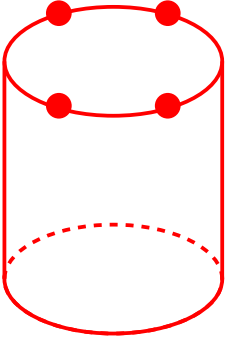
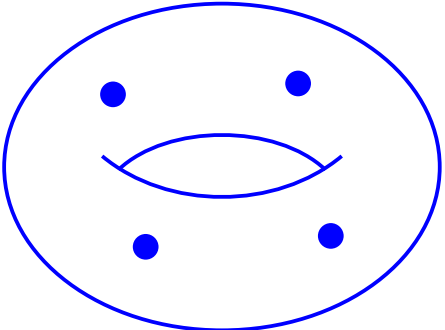
String amplitudes ( $n$  points,  $g$  loop)  $\leftrightarrow$  integrals over moduli spaces  $\mathcal{M}_{g;n}$

of  $n$ -punctured Riemann surfaces of genus  $g$ ,



$\alpha'$ -expansions  $\leftrightarrow$  generating series for (large classes of) periods of  $\mathcal{M}_{g;n}$ .

# Intro II – periods of moduli spaces at genus 0 & 1

	open strings	closed strings
tree level	disk 	sphere 
one loop	cylinder Möbius strip 	torus 

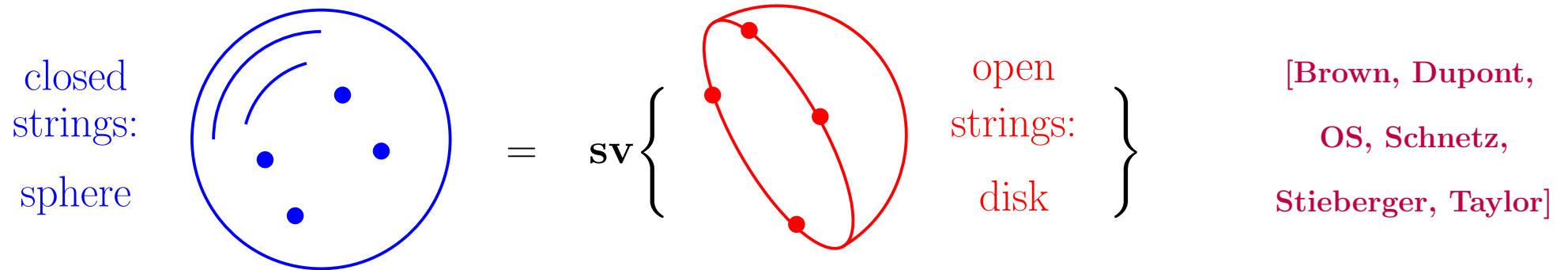
# Intro II – periods of moduli spaces at genus 0 & 1

	open strings	closed strings
tree	disk $\Rightarrow$ multiple zeta values	sphere $\Rightarrow$ single-valued MZVs
level	(MZVs) = polylog's at $z = 1$	= single-valued polylog's at $z = 1$
one	cylinder / Möbius strip	torus $\frac{\mathbb{C}}{\mathbb{Z} + \tau\mathbb{Z}} \Rightarrow$ modular graph forms
loop	$\Rightarrow$ elliptic MZVs	(modular covariant fct's of $\tau$ )
	<b>[Brödel, Mafra, Matthes, Richter, OS 2014 - 2017]</b>	<b>[D'Hoker, Green, Vanhove et al. 1999 - 2017]</b>

## Intro II – periods of moduli spaces at genus 0 & 1

At tree level, can obtain closed-string  $\alpha'$ -expansions

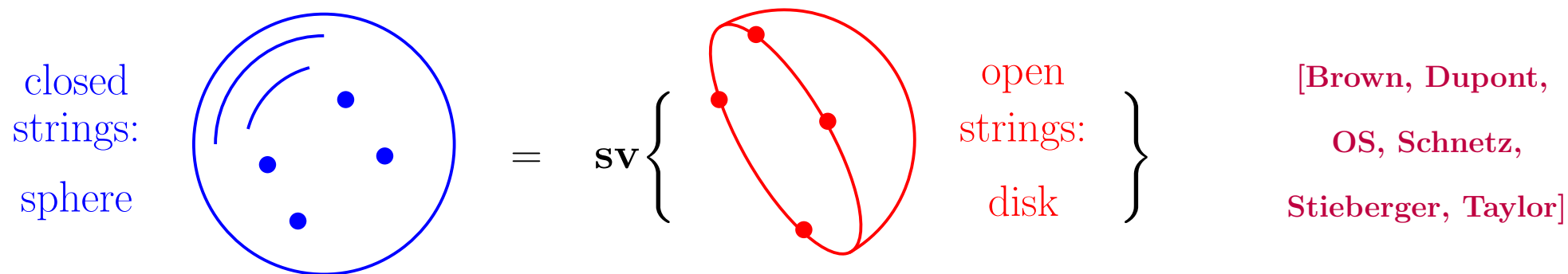
from single-valued projection “sv” of open-string  $\alpha'$ -expansions



## Intro II – periods of moduli spaces at genus 0 & 1

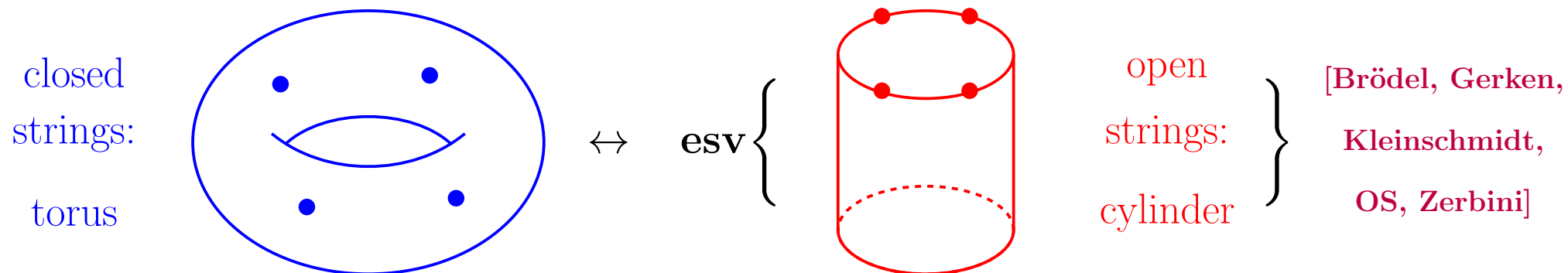
At tree level, can obtain closed-string  $\alpha'$ -expansions

from single-valued projection “sv” of open-string  $\alpha'$ -expansions



This talk: Empirically obtain elliptic single-valued projection “esv”

by comparing closed-string  $\alpha'$ -expansions  $\leftrightarrow$  open-string  $\alpha'$ -expansions



# Outline

## I. The single-valued map at tree level

[Brown, Dupont, OS, Schnetz, Stieberger, Taylor]

## II. Elliptic MZVs and open strings at one loop

[Brödel, Mafra, Matthes, OS 1412.5535 & Brödel, Matthes, OS 1507.02254]

## III. From closed strings to an elliptic single-valued map

[Brödel, OS, Zerbini 1803.00527]

## IV. The elliptic single-valued map and heterotic strings

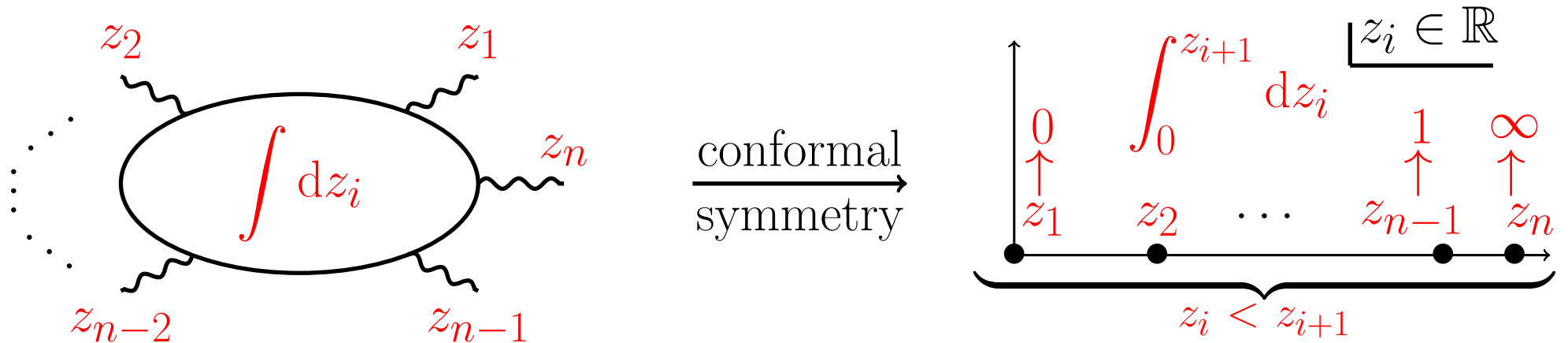
[Gerken, Kleinschmidt, OS: in progress]

## V. Conclusions & Outlook



## I. The single-valued map at tree level

# I. 1 Four open strings on the disk



Veneziano amplitude 1968 (4pt tree level, massless open-string states)

involving dim'less Mandestam invariants  $s_{ij} := 2\alpha' k_i \cdot k_j$

$$\begin{aligned}
 Z_{4\text{-pt}} &= \int_{0=z_1}^{1=z_3} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} z_2^{s_{12}} (1-z_2)^{s_{23}} = \frac{\Gamma(s_{12}) \Gamma(1+s_{23})}{\Gamma(1+s_{12}+s_{23})} \\
 &= \frac{1}{s_{12}} \exp \left( \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{\zeta_n}{n} (-1)^n [s_{12}^n + s_{23}^n - (s_{12}+s_{23})^n] \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{s_{12}} - \zeta_2 s_{23} + \zeta_3 s_{23} (s_{12}+s_{23}) + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

Expansion in  $\alpha'$  or  $s_{ij} \Rightarrow$  all Riemann zeta values  $\zeta_n = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k^{-n}$ .

## I. 2 Four closed strings on the sphere

Again fix  $(z_1, z_3, z_4) \rightarrow (0, 1, \infty)$ , integrate  $z = z_2$

and use dim'less Mandestam invariants  $s_{ij} := 2\alpha' k_i \cdot k_j$

$$\begin{aligned}
 J_{4\text{-pt}} &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0,1,\infty\}} d^2z \frac{|z|^{2s_{12}} |1-z|^{2s_{23}}}{z \bar{z} (1-\bar{z})} = \frac{1}{s_{12}} \prod_{i<j}^3 \frac{\Gamma(1+s_{ij})}{\Gamma(1-s_{ij})} \\
 &= \frac{1}{s_{12}} \exp \left( -2 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\zeta_{2k+1}}{2k+1} [s_{12}^{2k+1} + s_{23}^{2k+1} + s_{13}^{2k+1}] \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Only  $\zeta_{2k+1}$  at odd argument (no  $\zeta_{2k}$  from open-string case)

$$Z_{4\text{-pt}} = \frac{1}{s_{12}} \exp \left( \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{\zeta_n}{n} (-1)^n [s_{12}^n + s_{23}^n - (s_{12} + s_{23})^n] \right)$$

Formally, at the level of  $\alpha'$ -expansions, relate **closed** & **open** strings via

$$J_{4\text{-pt}} = Z_{4\text{-pt}} \left| \begin{array}{l} \zeta_{2k+1} \rightarrow 2 \zeta_{2k+1} \\ \zeta_{2k} \rightarrow 0 \end{array} \right.$$

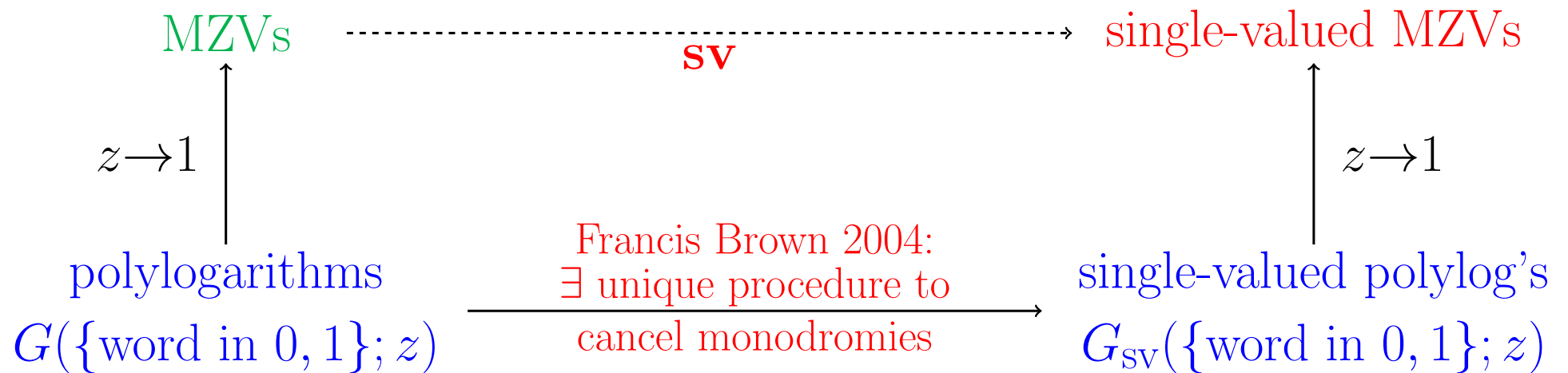
# I. 3 Single-valued MZVs

$\alpha'$ -expansion of  $n$ -point tree amplitudes involves multiple zeta values (MZVs)

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

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

[Schnetz 1302.6445 & Brown 1309.5309]



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

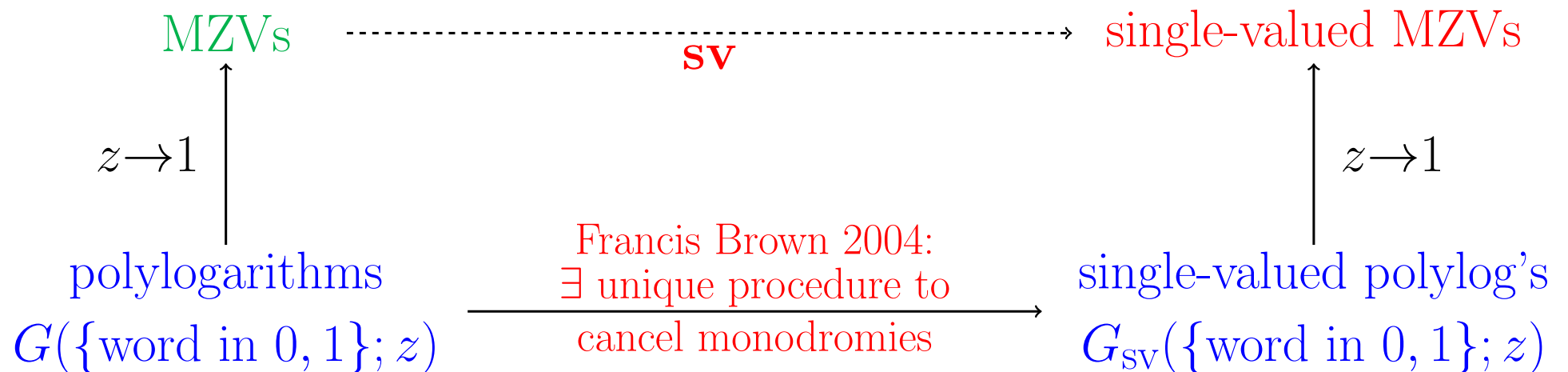
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$$\mathbf{sv}(\zeta_{2k}) = 0, \quad \mathbf{sv}(\zeta_{2k+1}) = 2 \zeta_{2k+1}, \quad \mathbf{sv}(\zeta_{3,5}) = -10 \zeta_3 \zeta_5, \quad \text{etc.}$$

# I. 4 Closed-string trees = sv(open-string trees)

At four points, have observed formal relation

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{sv} Z_{4\text{-pt}} & = & J_{4\text{-pt}} \\
 \nearrow & & \nwarrow \\
 \text{disk ordering} & & \text{antiholomorphic "Parke-Taylor" factor} \\
 -\infty < z_1 < z_2 < z_3 < z_4 < \infty & & (\bar{z}_{12}\bar{z}_{23}\bar{z}_{34}\bar{z}_{41})^{-1} \text{ with } \bar{z}_{ij} = \bar{z}_i - \bar{z}_j
 \end{array}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{\text{modulo } \text{SL}_2 \text{ fixing } (z_1, z_3, z_4) \rightarrow (0, 1, \infty)}$

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# I. 4 Closed-string trees = sv(open-string trees)

Extends to  $n$ -point disk & sphere integrals

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{sv } Z_{n\text{-pt}} & = & J_{n\text{-pt}} \\
 \nearrow & & \nwarrow \\
 \text{disk ordering} & & \text{antiholomorphic "Parke-Taylor" factor} \\
 -\infty < z_1 < z_2 < \dots < z_{n-1} < z_n < \infty & & (\bar{z}_{12}\bar{z}_{23}\dots\bar{z}_{n-1,n}\bar{z}_{n,1})^{-1} \text{ with } \bar{z}_{ij} = \bar{z}_i - \bar{z}_j
 \end{array}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{\text{modulo } \text{SL}_2 \text{ fixing } (z_1, z_{n-1}, z_n) \rightarrow (0, 1, \infty)}$

For an arbitrary rational function  $Q(z) = Q(z_2, z_3, \dots, z_{n-2})$ :

$$\begin{array}{l}
 Z(1, 2, \dots, n \mid Q(z)) = \int_{0 < z_2 < z_3 < \dots < z_{n-2} < 1} dz_2 \dots dz_{n-2} \prod_{i < j}^{n-1} |z_{ij}|^{s_{ij}} Q(z) \\
 \text{sv} \downarrow \\
 J(1, 2, \dots, n \mid Q(z)) = \frac{1}{\pi^{n-3}} \int_{\mathbb{C}^{n-3} \setminus \{z_i = z_j\}} \frac{d^2 z_2 \dots d^2 z_{n-2} \prod_{i < j}^{n-1} |z_{ij}|^{2s_{ij}} Q(z)}{\bar{z}_{12}\bar{z}_{23}\dots\bar{z}_{n-3,n-2}\bar{z}_{n-2,n-1}}
 \end{array}$$

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 \end{aligned}$$

- conjectured after order-by-order inspection of  $\alpha'$ -expansion

[OS, Stieberger 1205.1516; Stieberger 1310.3259; Stieberger, Taylor 1401.1218]

- announced as a theorem

[Brown: talk at String Math 2018 (Sendai, Japan); Brown, Dupont: to appear]

- physicist's proof (assuming e.g. standard transcendentality conjectures)

[OS, Schnetz 1808.00713]



## II. Elliptic MZVs and open strings at one loop

## II. 1 Four open strings on a cylinder

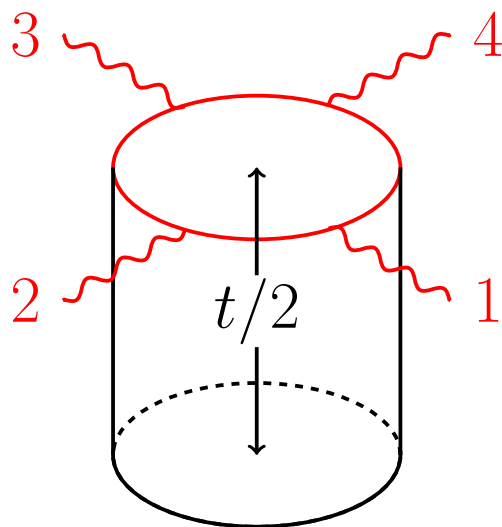
Cylinder contribution to planar one-loop amplitude  $\sim \text{Tr}(t^1 t^2 t^3 t^4)$

$$A_{\text{string}}^{1\text{-loop}}(1, 2, 3, 4) = s_{12} s_{23} A_{\text{YM}}^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 3, 4) \int_0^\infty dt I_{1234}(s_{ij}, \tau = it)$$

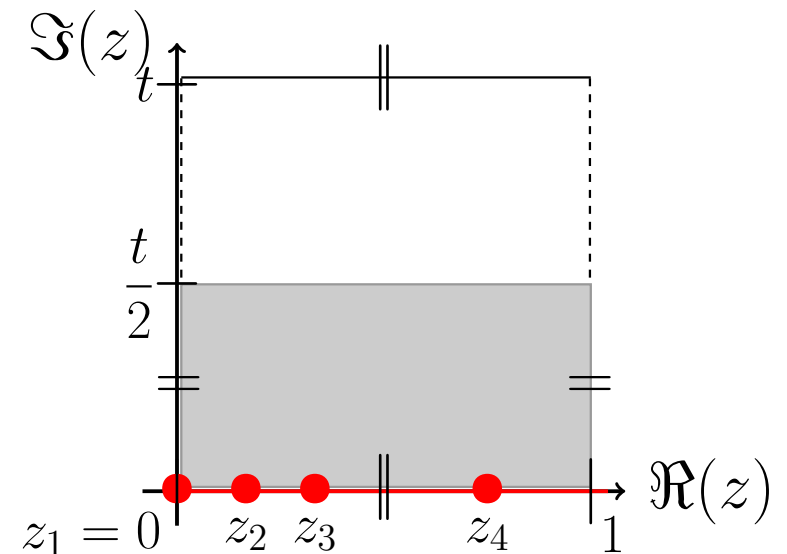
$$I_{1234}(s_{ij}, \tau) = \int_{0=z_1 < z_2 < z_3 < z_4 < 1} dz_2 dz_3 dz_4 \exp\left(\sum_{i < j}^4 s_{ij} P(z_i - z_j, \tau)\right)$$

[Brink, Green, Schwarz 1982]

with  $\sum_{i < j}^4 s_{ij} = 0$  and Green function  $\partial_z P(z, \tau) = \partial_z \log \theta(z, \tau) + 2\pi i \frac{\text{Im } z}{\text{Im } \tau}$ .



parametrized as  
"half a torus"



## II. 1 Four open strings on a cylinder

Main interest in this talk on the integral over the punctures  $z_2, z_3, z_4$

$$I_{1234}(s_{ij}, \tau) = \int_{0=z_1 < z_2 < z_3 < z_4 < 1} dz_2 dz_3 dz_4 \exp \left( \sum_{i < j}^4 s_{ij} \underbrace{P(z_i - z_j, \tau)}_{P_{ij}} \right)$$

- Taylor expand  $\exp(s_{ij} P_{ij}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} (s_{ij} P_{ij})^n$  for each pair  $1 \leq i < j \leq 4$
- integrating  $\prod_{i < j} (P_{ij})^{n_{ij}}$  over cyl. boundary  $\Rightarrow$  elliptic MZVs (eMZVs)

[Brödel, Mafra, Matthes, OS 1412.5535; see talk of Nils Matthes]

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[Brödel, Mafrá, Matthes, OS 1412.5535; see talk of Nils Matthes]

- eMZVs are proper subset of iterated  $\tau$ -integrals  $\mathcal{E}_0(k_1, k_2, \dots, k_r; \tau)$

over holomorphic Eisenstein series  $G_k(\tau)$  with  $\mathbb{Q}[\text{MZV}, \frac{1}{2\pi i}]$  coeff's

[Enriquez 1301.3042 & Brödel, Matthes, OS 1507.02254]

- cylinder  $\leftrightarrow$  specialize  $\tau = it$  with  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+$ , Moebius strip has  $\tau = \frac{1}{2} + it$

## II. 2 Iterated Eisenstein integrals

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

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

## II. 2 Iterated Eisenstein integrals

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

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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  $G_k^0(\tau)$ .

## II. 2 Iterated Eisenstein integrals

Back to open-string integral

$$I_{1234}(s_{ij}, \tau) = \int_{0=z_1 < z_2 < z_3 < z_4 < 1} dz_2 dz_3 dz_4 \exp \left( \sum_{i < j}^4 s_{ij} \underbrace{P(z_i - z_j, \tau)}_{P_{ij}} \right)$$

with Mandelstam relations  $s_{34} = s_{12}$ ,  $s_{14} = s_{23}$  &  $s_{13} = s_{24} = -s_{12} - s_{23}$

$$\begin{aligned} I_{1234}(s_{ij}, \tau) &= \frac{1}{6} + \frac{3s_{13}}{2\pi^2} [\zeta_3 - 6 \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0; \tau)] \\ &+ \frac{60}{\pi^2} (s_{13}^2 + 2s_{12}s_{23}) [\mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0, 0; \tau) - \frac{\zeta_4}{120}] \\ &- 2(s_{12}^2 + s_{12}s_{23} + s_{23}^2) [\mathcal{E}_0(4, 0; \tau) - \frac{\zeta_2}{12}] + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^3) \end{aligned}$$

Order by order in  $s_{ij}$ , get eMZVs and therefore iterated Eisenstein integrals

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

## II. 3 Symmetrized open-string integral

To connect with closed strings, combine permutations of  $\int_{0 < z_2 < z_3 < z_4 < 1}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_{\text{open}}^{\text{symm}}(s_{ij}, \tau) &= \sum_{\rho \in S_3} I_{1\rho(234)}(s_{ij}, \tau) \\
 &= 1 + (s_{12}^2 + s_{12}s_{23} + s_{23}^2) [\zeta_2 - 12 \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0; \tau)] \\
 &\quad + s_{12}s_{13}s_{23} \left[ 12 \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0; \tau) + 300 \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0; \tau) - \frac{5}{2} \zeta_3 \right] + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^4)
 \end{aligned}$$



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\end{aligned}$$

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

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

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

### III. From closed strings to an elliptic single-valued map

### III. 1 Four closed strings on a torus

Four-point closed-string amplitude at one loop (gravitons in type IIA/B)

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

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

[Brink, Green, Schwarz 1982]

- fund. domain  $\mathcal{F}$  of modular group  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  and torus  $\mathcal{T}(\tau) = \frac{\mathbb{C}}{\mathbb{Z} + \tau\mathbb{Z}}$
- Fourier expansion of the Green function with  $z = r + \tau s$  and  $r, s \in \mathbb{R}$

$$g(z, \tau) = \frac{\text{Im } \tau}{\pi} \sum_{\substack{m, n \in \mathbb{Z} \\ (m, n) \neq (0, 0)}} \frac{e^{2\pi i(nr - ms)}}{|m + \tau n|^2} \quad \text{modular invariant!}$$

- $\alpha'$ -expansion of  $J_{\text{closed}}(s_{ij}, \tau)$  & generalizations has long history

[D'Hoker, Green, Vanhove et al. 1999 - 2017]

### III. 1 Four closed strings on a torus

Main interest in this talk on the integral over the punctures  $z_2, z_3, z_4$

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

Again, Taylor expand the exponentials in  $s_{ij}$

$\implies$  need to evaluate  $\int_{\mathcal{T}(\tau)} d^2 z_j$  over  $\prod_{i < j} (g(z_{ij}, \tau))^{n_{ij}}$

$\implies$  modular invariance order by order in  $s_{ij}$

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Integrating monomials of Green fct's @  $z = r + \tau s$  over  $r, s \in (0, 1)$  ...

$$g(z, \tau) = \frac{\text{Im } \tau}{\pi} \sum_{\substack{m, n \in \mathbb{Z} \\ (m, n) \neq (0, 0)}} \frac{e^{2\pi i(nr - ms)}}{|m + \tau n|^2} \quad \text{modular invariant!}$$

... naturally lands on non-holomorphic Eisenstein series ...

$$E_k(\tau) := \left( \frac{\text{Im } \tau}{\pi} \right)^k \sum_{\substack{m, n \in \mathbb{Z} \\ (m, n) \neq (0, 0)}} \frac{1}{|m + \tau n|^{2k}}, \quad k \geq 2$$

... and generalizations to nested lattice sums “*modular graph functions*”.

[D'Hoker, Green, Gürdogan, Vanhove 1512.06779; see talk of Erik Panzer]

### III. 1 Four closed strings on a torus

Main interest in this talk on the [integral over the punctures  \$z\_2, z\_3, z\_4\$](#)

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$E_k$  and generalizations  $\longrightarrow$  (real parts of) [iterated Eisenstein integrals](#)

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

[[Gangl, Zagier 2000](#); [D'Hoker, Green 1603.00839](#);

[Brödel, OS, Zerbini 1803.00527](#); see talk of Erik Panzer]

### III. 1 Four closed strings on a torus

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$\longrightarrow$  [series in  \$q^m \bar{q}^n\$](#) , coefficients are [Laurent polynomials in  \$y := \pi \text{Im } \tau\$](#)

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

$\longrightarrow$  structure familiar from open strings &  $I_{\text{open}}^{\text{symm}}(s_{ij}, -\frac{1}{\tau}) \odot$

## III. 2 An elliptic single-valued projection?

Compare open- and closed-string  $\alpha'$ -expansion

$$I_{\text{open}}^{\text{symm}}(s_{ij}, -\frac{1}{\tau}) \longleftrightarrow J_{\text{closed}}(s_{ij}, \tau)$$

- leading orders  $1 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^2)$  on both sides
- series in  $q^m$  or  $q^m \bar{q}^n$  & Laurent polynomials in  $T := \pi\tau$  or  $y := \pi \text{Im } \tau$
- compare the first non-trivial order  $(\alpha')^2$ : very similar coefficients!

$$I_{\text{open}}^{\text{symm}}(s_{ij}, -\frac{1}{\tau}) \Big|_{(\alpha')^2} \sim -\frac{T^2}{90} + \frac{\pi^2}{9} + \frac{\pi^4}{30T^2} + \frac{2i\zeta_3}{T} - 12 \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0; \tau) - \frac{12i}{T} \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0; \tau)$$

$$J_{\text{closed}}(s_{ij}, \tau) \Big|_{(\alpha')^2} \sim \frac{2y^2}{45} + \frac{2\zeta_3}{y} - 24 \text{Re } \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0; \tau) - \frac{12}{y} \text{Re } \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0; \tau)$$

→ no closed-string analogue of  $\pi^{2k} \sim \zeta_{2k}$ , only **sv(MZV)**  $\zeta_3$  survives

→ closed string involves **real parts**  $\text{Re } \mathcal{E}_0(\dots)$  of iterated Eisenstein int's



## III. 2 An elliptic single-valued projection?

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

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

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 \end{aligned}$$

Engineer elliptic single-valued projection **esv**

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

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

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

## III. 2 An elliptic single-valued projection?

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

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

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

[Brödel, OS, Zerbini 1803.00527]

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

$$\left( \mathbf{esv} [\mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0; \tau)] \right)^2 \neq 2 \mathbf{esv} [\mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0, 4, 0, 0; \tau)]$$

$$+ 6 \mathbf{esv} [\mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 4, 0, 0, 0; \tau)] + 12 \mathbf{esv} [\mathcal{E}_0(4, 4, 0, 0, 0, 0; \tau)]$$

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

[Brown 1407.5167, 1707.01230, 1708.03354]

## IV. The elliptic single-valued map & heterotic strings

## IV. 1 The esv map on non-symmetrized integration cycles?

So far, studied **esv** on symmetrized **integration cycles**  $I_{\text{open}}^{\text{symm}} = \sum_{\rho \in S_3} I_{1\rho(234)}$

$$I_{1234}(s_{ij}, \tau) = \int_{0=z_1 < z_2 < z_3 < z_4 < 1} dz_2 dz_3 dz_4 \exp \left( \sum_{i < j}^4 s_{ij} \underbrace{P(z_i - z_j, \tau)}_{P_{ij}} \right) = I_{4321}(s_{ij}, \tau)$$

What is the **esv**-image of the **non-symmetric components**?

$$Z_{1234}(s_{ij}, \tau) := \frac{1}{3} [2 I_{1234}(s_{ij}, \tau) - I_{1342}(s_{ij}, \tau) - I_{1423}(s_{ij}, \tau)]$$

- by definition **cycle to zero**

$$Z_{1234}(s_{ij}, \tau) + Z_{1342}(s_{ij}, \tau) + Z_{1423}(s_{ij}, \tau) = 0.$$

- from earlier results on  $I_{1234}(s_{ij}, \tau)$ -expansion:

$$Z_{1234}(s_{ij}, \tau) = \frac{3s_{13}}{2\pi^2} [6 \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0) - \zeta_3] + \frac{s_{13}^2 + 2s_{12}s_{23}}{2\pi^2} [120 \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0, 0) - \zeta_4] + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^3)$$

## IV. 1 The esv map on non-symmetrized integration cycles?

What is the **esv**-image of the non-symmetric components?

$$Z_{1234}(s_{ij}, \tau) := \frac{1}{3} [2 I_{1234}(s_{ij}, \tau) - I_{1342}(s_{ij}, \tau) - I_{1423}(s_{ij}, \tau)]$$

step 1: modular transformation (recalling  $T := \pi\tau$ )

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{1234}(s_{ij}, -\frac{1}{\tau}) &= s_{13} \left( \frac{iT}{60} - \frac{3\zeta_3}{2T^2} - \frac{i\pi^2}{12T} + \frac{i\pi^4}{60T^3} + \frac{9}{T^2} \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0) \right) \\ + (s_{13}^2 + 2s_{12}s_{23}) &\left( \frac{T^2}{3780} - \frac{i\zeta_5}{T^3} - \frac{\pi^2}{216} + \frac{\pi^4}{360T^2} - \frac{\pi^6}{756T^4} + \frac{60}{T^2} \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0, 0) + \frac{120i}{T^3} \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0, 0, 0) \right) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^3) \end{aligned}$$

step 2: apply **esv**-rules to  $T$ ,  $\zeta_k$  and  $\mathcal{E}_0$  ...

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{esv} Z_{1234}(s_{ij}, -\frac{1}{\tau}) &= s_{13} \left( -\frac{y}{30} + \frac{3\zeta_3}{4y^2} - \frac{9}{2y^2} \operatorname{Re} \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0) \right) \\ + (s_{13}^2 + 2s_{12}s_{23}) &\left( -\frac{y^2}{945} + \frac{\zeta_5}{4y^3} - \frac{30}{y^2} \operatorname{Re} \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0, 0) - \frac{30}{y^3} \operatorname{Re} \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0, 0, 0) \right) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^3) \end{aligned}$$

next section: compare to closed-string quantities.

## IV. 2 $\mathbf{esv}(Z)$ from the heterotic string

- Heterotic string theories: also gauge bosons are closed-string excitations
- Motivation: type-II integral  $J_{\text{closed}}$  constrained by maximal SUSY
  - $\Rightarrow$  but generalities of **esv** should not depend on SUSY
  - $\Rightarrow$  non-SUSY current-algebra sector of heterotic string theories
    - is more likely to give a complete picture of **esv**

## IV. 2 esv( $Z$ ) from the heterotic string

- Heterotic string theories: also gauge bosons are closed-string excitations
- 1-loop 4-gluon amplitude @  $\text{Tr}(t^1 t^2 t^3 t^4) \ni$  integral over torus  $\mathcal{T}(\tau)$

$$J_{1234}^{\text{het}}(s_{ij}, \tau) = \left( \prod_{j=2}^4 \int_{\mathcal{T}(\tau)} \frac{d^2 z_j}{\text{Im } \tau} \right) V_2(1, 2, 3, 4|\tau) \exp \left( \sum_{i<j}^4 s_{ij} g(z_i - z_j, \tau) \right) \Big|_{z_1=0}$$

[Dolan, Goddard 0710.3743]

- Current algebra of heterotic strings  $\Rightarrow$  elliptic function  $V_2 \in$  integrand

$$V_2(1, 2, 3, 4|\tau) = F(z_{12}, \alpha, \tau) F(z_{23}, \alpha, \tau) F(z_{34}, \alpha, \tau) F(z_{41}, \alpha, \tau) \Big|_{\alpha^{-2}}$$

$$F(z, \alpha, \tau) = \frac{\theta_1'(0, \tau) \theta_1(z + \alpha, \tau)}{\theta_1(z, \tau) \theta_1(\alpha, \tau)} \quad \text{Kronecker Eisenstein series}$$

$\Rightarrow$  modular weight  $(2, 0)$  & simple Fourier expansion in  $z_j = r_j + \tau s_j$

- $\alpha'$ -expansion of  $\mathcal{J}_{1234}^{\text{het}} \rightarrow$  modular graph forms [D'Hoker, Green 1603.00839]

[Gerken, Kleinschmidt, OS: in progress]



## IV. 2 esv( $Z$ ) from the heterotic string

Integrate order by order & simplify modular graph forms

$$\begin{aligned}
 J_{1234}^{\text{het}}(s_{ij}, \tau) &= \left( \prod_{j=2}^4 \int_{\mathcal{T}(\tau)} \frac{d^2 z_j}{\text{Im } \tau} \right) V_2(1, 2, 3, 4 | \tau) \exp \left( \sum_{i < j}^4 s_{ij} g(z_i - z_j, \tau) \right) \Big|_{z_1=0} \\
 &= 2\pi i \left\{ 3s_{13} \frac{\partial E_2}{\partial \tau} + \frac{2}{3} (s_{12}^2 + 4s_{12}s_{23} + s_{23}^2) \frac{\partial E_3}{\partial \tau} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^3) \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Higher orders in  $\alpha'$  also involve

$$\text{e.g. } E_m \frac{\partial E_n}{\partial \tau} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} \left( \text{more challenging modular graph functions} \right)$$

→ can all be expressed in terms of iterated Eisenstein integrals  $\mathcal{E}_0$

## IV. 2 esv(Z) from the heterotic string

Integrate order by order & simplify modular graph forms

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 \end{aligned}$$

After importing  $\mathcal{E}_0(\dots)$ -representation of  $E_k$  ...

$$J_{1234}^{\text{het}}(s_{ij}, \tau) = \pi^2 s_{13} \left( \frac{2y}{15} - \frac{3\zeta_3}{y^2} + \frac{18}{y^2} \text{Re } \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0) + 72\mathcal{E}_0(4) + \frac{36}{y} \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0) \right) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^2)$$

... most terms match open-string target up to few exceptions  $\sim y^m \mathcal{E}_0(\dots)$

$$(2\pi i)^2 \text{esv } Z_{1234}(s_{ij}, -\frac{1}{\tau}) = \pi^2 s_{13} \left( \frac{2y}{15} - \frac{3\zeta_3}{y^2} + \frac{18}{y^2} \text{Re } \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0) \right) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^2)$$

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After importing  $\mathcal{E}_0(\dots)$ -representation of  $E_k$  ...

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 &+ \pi^2 (s_{12}^2 + 4s_{12}s_{23} + s_{23}^2) \left( \frac{4y^2}{945} - \frac{\zeta_5}{y^3} + \frac{120}{y^2} \text{Re } \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0, 0) + \frac{120}{y^3} \text{Re } \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0, 0, 0) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + 160\mathcal{E}_0(6, 0) + \frac{240}{y} \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0) + \frac{120}{y^2} \mathcal{E}_0(6, 0, 0, 0) \right) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^3),
 \end{aligned}$$

... most terms match open-string target up to few exceptions  $\sim y^m \mathcal{E}_0(\dots)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2\pi i)^2 \text{esv } Z_{1234}(s_{ij}, -\frac{1}{\tau}) &= \pi^2 s_{13} \left( \frac{2y}{15} - \frac{3\zeta_3}{y^2} + \frac{18}{y^2} \text{Re } \mathcal{E}_0(4, 0, 0) \right) \\
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 \end{aligned}$$

## IV. 2 esv(Z) from the heterotic string

Up to and including  $\alpha'^3$ , have verified the following conjecture:

$$J_{1234}^{\text{het}}(s_{ij}, \tau) = (2\pi i)^2 \mathbf{esv} Z_{1234}(s_{ij}, -\frac{1}{\tau}) \text{ modulo } y^m \mathcal{E}_0(\dots)$$

open string predicts  
coefficient of  $y^m q^0 \bar{q}^n$ ,  
i.e. without factors of  $q$

no control over terms  
with factors of  $q$  or  $\mathcal{E}_0(\dots)$

[Gerken, Kleinschmidt, OS: in progress]

Does modular weight  $(2, 0)$  of  $J_{1234}^{\text{het}}(s_{ij}, \tau)$  fix the missing  $y^m \mathcal{E}_0(\dots)$  ??

→ at order  $\alpha'^3$ , above **esv** conjecture uniquely fixes the coeff's in an ansatz

$$J_{1234}^{\text{het}}(s_{ij}, \tau) \Big|_{\alpha'^3} \sim \frac{4}{5} \frac{\partial E_4}{\partial \tau} + 6 E_2 \frac{\partial E_2}{\partial \tau} + 12 \frac{\partial E_{2,2}}{\partial \tau}$$

modular graph function of “depth 2”

## IV. 2 esv( $Z$ ) from the heterotic string

Up to and including  $\alpha'^3$ , have verified the following conjecture:

$$J_{1234}^{\text{het}}(s_{ij}, \tau) = (2\pi i)^2 \mathbf{esv} Z_{1234}(s_{ij}, -\frac{1}{\tau}) \text{ modulo } y^m \mathcal{E}_0(\dots)$$

- tree level correspondence: closed-string integrands  $\leftrightarrow$  integration cycles

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{“Parke–Taylor” factor} \\ (z_{12}z_{23} \dots z_{n-1,n}z_{n,1})^{-1} \text{ with } z_{ij} = z_i - z_j \end{array} \right\} \leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{disk ordering} \\ -\infty < z_1 < z_2 < \dots < z_{n-1} < z_n < \infty \end{array} \right.$$

- have now seen two conjectural generalizations to genus-one

$$1 \leftrightarrow \bigcup_{\rho \in S_{n-1}} \{0 < z_{\rho(2)} < z_{\rho(3)} < \dots < z_{\rho(n)} < 1\}$$

$$V_2(1, 2, 3, 4) \leftrightarrow \{0 < z_2 < z_3 < z_4 < 1\} - \frac{1}{6} \bigcup_{\rho \in S_3} \{0 < z_{\rho(2)} < z_{\rho(3)} < z_{\rho(4)} < 1\}$$

- **expect:** combination of elliptic  $V_w(1, 2, \dots, n) \leftrightarrow \forall$  cylinder ordering

modular weight  $w$  depends on the (anti-)symmetrization of the cycles

## V. Conclusion & Outlook

- $\alpha'$ -expansion of string amplitudes  $\longleftrightarrow$  periods of moduli spaces  $\mathcal{M}_{g;n}$

	open strings	closed strings
tree	disk $\Rightarrow$ multiple zeta values	sphere $\Rightarrow$ single-valued MZVs
level	(MZVs) = polylog's at $z = 1$	= single-valued polylog's at $z = 1$
one	cylinder / Möbius strip	torus $\frac{\mathbb{C}}{\mathbb{Z} + \tau\mathbb{Z}} \Rightarrow$ modular graph forms
loop	$\Rightarrow$ elliptic MZVs	(modular covariant fct's of $\tau$ )

## V. Conclusion & Outlook

- $\alpha'$ -expansion of string amplitudes  $\longleftrightarrow$  periods of moduli spaces  $\mathcal{M}_{g;n}$
- conjectural elliptic single-valued projection from one-loop  $\alpha'$ -expansions:

$$\text{esv} : \text{eMZVs (open string)} \rightarrow \begin{cases} \text{modular graph functions (type II)} \\ \text{up to ambiguities with } \sqcup\text{-product} \\ \text{modular graph forms (heterotic)} \\ \text{up to mismatch } \sim q \text{ or } \mathcal{E}_0 \end{cases}$$

- should underpin by explicitly constructing single-valued elliptic polylog's
- should relate higher-genus modular graph functions with open strings

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

**Thank you for your attention !**