

Enrico Herrmann



NATIONAL
ACCELERATOR
LABORATORY

In collaboration with: Jaroslav Trnka

+ work in progress + Alex Edison, Cameron Langer, Julio Parra-Martinez

**Loop integrands in
 $N=4$ sYM and $N=8$ sugra**

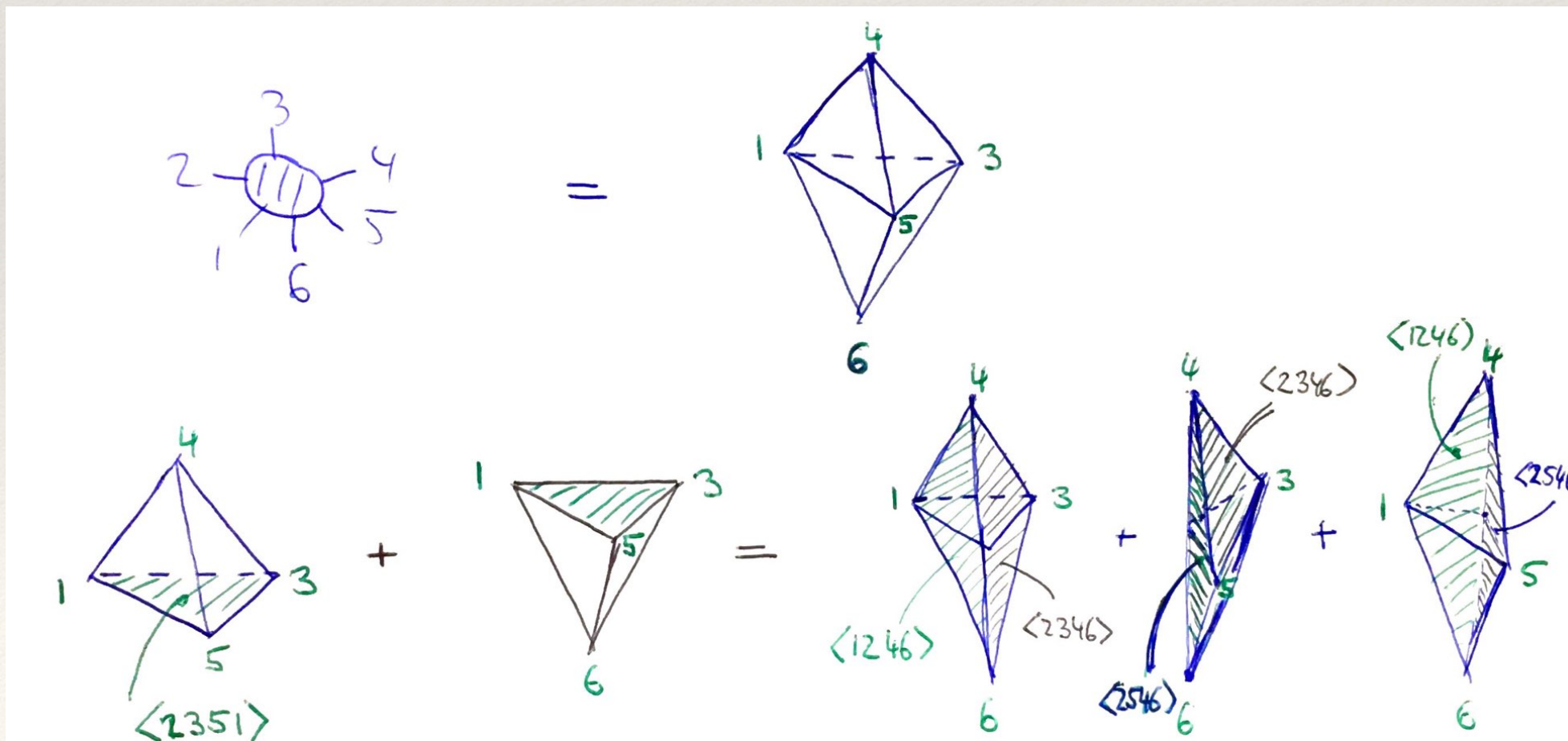
The Galileo Galilei Institute
For Theoretical Physics
10/31/2018

(0) Motivation

❖ grand idea: reformulate QFT: replace unitarity & locality by new mathematical principles

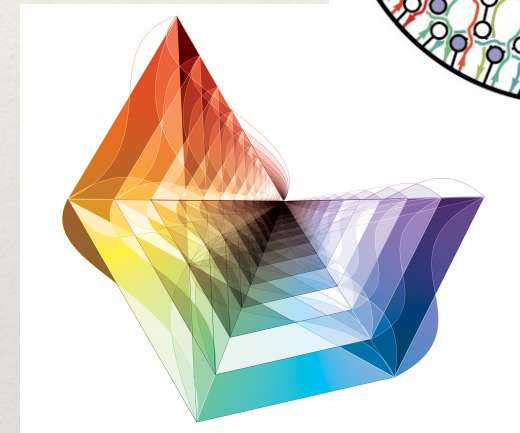
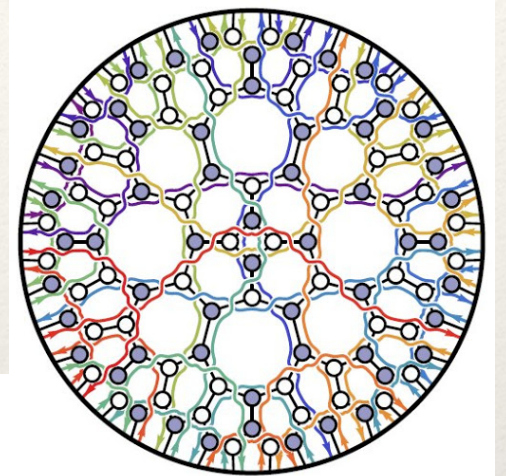
❖ 1st hint Hodges: 6pt tree-amp = **volume** of polyhedron in \mathbb{P}^3

$$\frac{\langle 1345 \rangle^3}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 1245 \rangle \langle 2345 \rangle \langle 2351 \rangle} + \frac{\langle 1356 \rangle^3}{\langle 1235 \rangle \langle 1256 \rangle \langle 2356 \rangle \langle 2361 \rangle} = \frac{\langle 1346 \rangle^3}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 1236 \rangle \langle 1246 \rangle \langle 2346 \rangle} + \frac{\langle 3456 \rangle^3}{\langle 2345 \rangle \langle 2356 \rangle \langle 2346 \rangle \langle 2546 \rangle} + \frac{\langle 5146 \rangle^3}{\langle 1245 \rangle \langle 1256 \rangle \langle 1246 \rangle \langle 2546 \rangle}$$



(0) Motivation

- ❖ fascinating interplay between physics & geometry in scattering amplitudes
- ❖ novel geometric structures primarily in planar $N=4$ sYM:
 - ❖ **Grassmannian** [space of k -planes in n -dim]
[Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachazo, Goncharov, Postnikov, Trnka]
 - ❖ **Amplituhedron**
[Arkani-Hamed, Trnka]
- ❖ What about other theories?
 - ❖ φ^3 -theory: **Associahedron** [Arkani-Hamed, Bai, He, Yan]
 - ❖ nonplanar YM? [Bern, Litsey, Stankowicz, EH, Trnka]
 - ❖ gravity? [EH, Trnka] + work in progress [Edison, EH, Langer, Parra-Martinez, Trnka]
 - ❖ $N < 4$ sYM? work in progress [EH, Langer, Trnka]



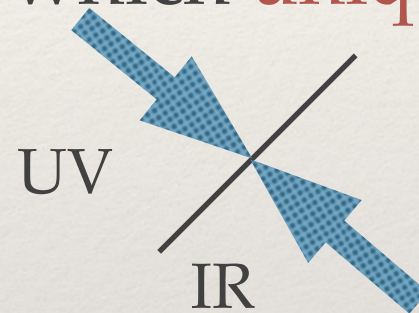
(0) Motivation

- ❖ comparison planar N=4 sYM, nonplanar sYM, gravity

❖ planar N=4 sYM	❖ nonplanar N=4 sYM	❖ gravity
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- ❖ identify homogeneous properties which **uniquely** fix amplitude

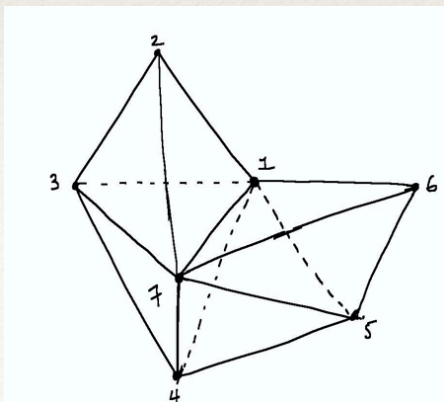
- ❖ constrain UV & IR



- ❖ dlog-forms
- ❖ no poles at infinity

- ❖ What are the gravity properties?

- ❖ reformulate **constraints** as **inequalities** that define **geometry**



?



?

(1) Outline

- ❖ i) setting the stage:
amplitudes, integrands, cuts and on-shell diagrams
- ❖ ii) properties of on-shell (OS) diagrams
- ❖ iii) from OS-diagrams to properties of amplitudes
- ❖ iv) Gravity
 - ❖ IR - properties [EH,Trnka '16]
 - ❖ UV - properties [EH,Trnka '18] ← focus on this part
 - ❖ Fixing the amplitude in progress [Edison,EH,Langer,Parra-Martinez,Trnka]
- ❖ v) Conclusions

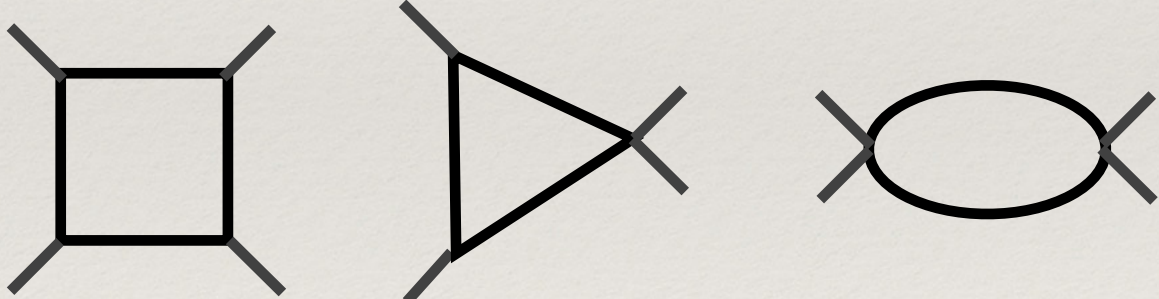
i) loop-amplitudes

- ❖ loop-amplitudes in 4d:

$$\mathcal{A}^{(L)} = \sum_k c_k \int \mathcal{F}_k d^4\ell_1 \cdots d^4\ell_L$$

kinematic coefficients

basis integrands [Jake's talk]

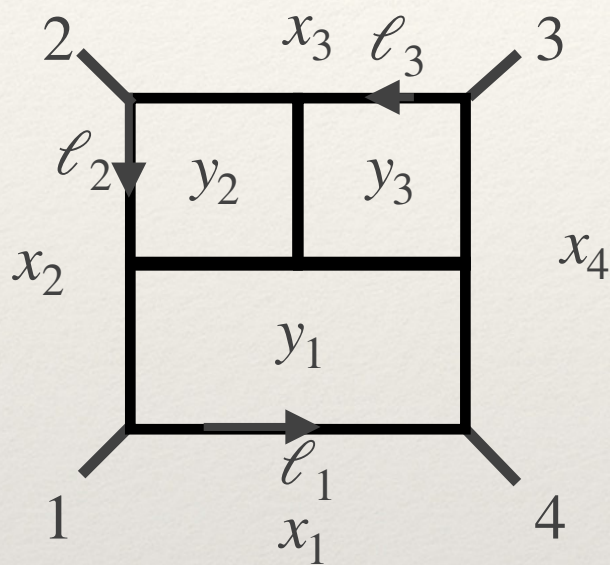


The image shows three Feynman diagrams representing basis integrands. From left to right: a square loop (box diagram), a triangle loop, and a bubble loop (two vertices connected by two internal lines).

- ❖ generalized unitarity: match amplitude on **cuts** \longrightarrow fix c 's

i) planar integrand

❖ planar integrand \Leftrightarrow unambiguous labels!



$$p_i^\mu = (x_{i+1}^\mu - x_i^\mu)$$

$$\ell_i^\mu = (y_i^\mu - x_i^\mu)$$

dual-variables

$$\mathcal{A}^{(L)} = \sum_k c_k \int \mathcal{F}_k d^4 \ell_1 \cdots d^4 \ell_L = \int \mathcal{F} d^4 y_1 \cdots d^4 y_L$$

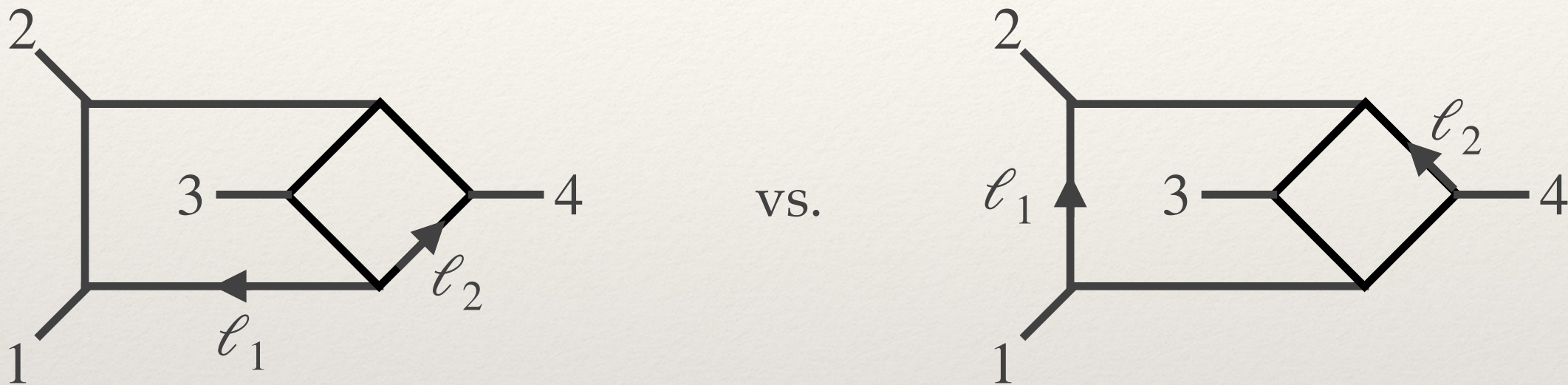
❖ well-defined notion of an **integrand**

❖ rational function

❖ properties of integrated answer **encoded** in \mathcal{F}

i) ambiguity in non-planar integrands

- ❖ no **global** loop-variables in nonplanar diagrams:



- ❖ no global definition of an **integrand** \longrightarrow stick with diagrams

$$\mathcal{A}^{(L)} = \sum_k c_k \int \mathcal{F}_k d^4 \ell_1 \cdots d^4 \ell_L$$

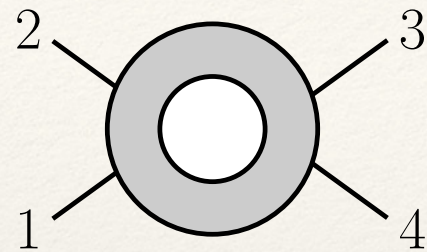
- ❖ expansion objects for:

- ❖ non-planar YM
- ❖ gravity

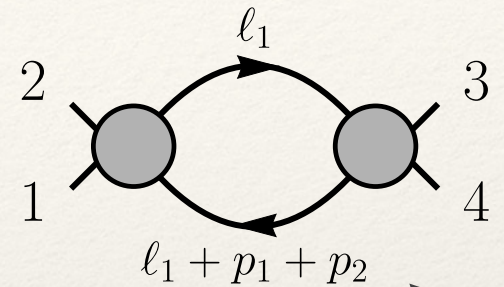
Is there a way out?

i) cuts of loop-integrands

❖ unitarity cut:



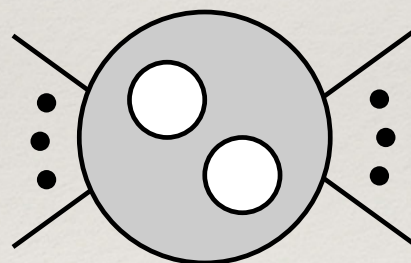
$$\ell_1^2 = (\ell_1 + p_1 + p_2)^2 = 0$$



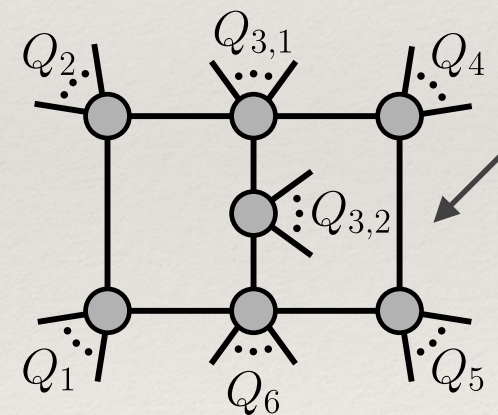
$$\text{Res}_{\ell_1^2=0=(\ell_1+1+2)^2} \mathcal{A}^{(1)}(1234) = \sum_{\text{states}} \mathcal{A}_L^{(0)} \times \mathcal{A}_R^{(0)}$$

on-shell functions

❖ generalized unitarity:



$$\ell_1^2 = \dots = \ell_8^2 = 0$$

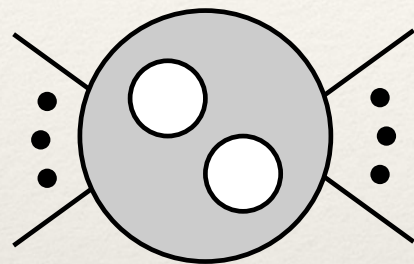


$$\text{Res}_{\ell_i^2=0} \mathcal{A}^{(2)} = \sum_{\text{states}} \mathcal{A}_1^{(0)} \times \dots \times \mathcal{A}_7^{(0)}$$

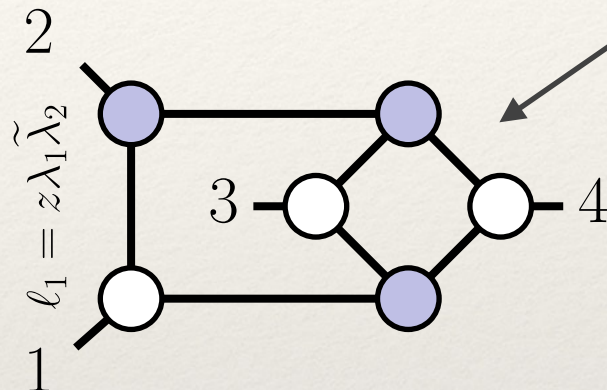
❖ well-define loop-variables on cuts!

i) on-shell diagrams

❖ generalized unitarity:



$$\ell_1^2 = \dots = \ell_7^2 = 0$$

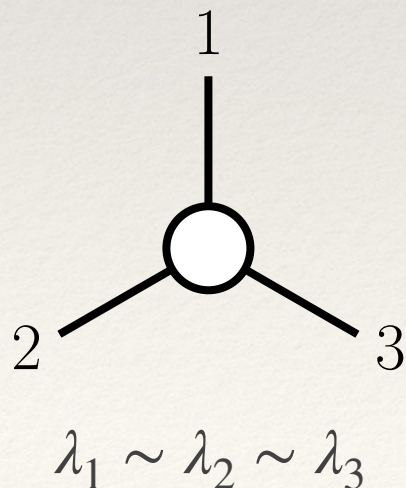


on-shell diagram

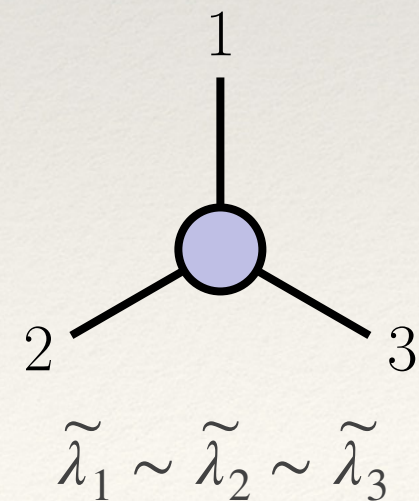
$$\text{Res}_{\ell_i^2=0} \mathcal{A}^{(2)}(1234) = \sum_{\text{states}} \mathcal{A}_1^{(0)} \times \dots \times \mathcal{A}_6^{(0)} = f(z; \lambda_i, \tilde{\lambda}_i)$$

❖ elementary building blocks:

$\mathcal{A}_3^{\overline{\text{MHV}}}$:



$\mathcal{A}_3^{\text{MHV}}$:



ii) Grassmannian and on-shell diagrams

❖ fascinating connection between physics and mathematics

The screenshot shows the arXiv page for the paper "Scattering Amplitudes and the Positive Grassmannian" by Nima Arkani-Hamed et al. The page includes the Cornell University Library logo, a search bar, and a sidebar with download and citation options. A red circle highlights the text "158 pages, 264 figures" in the comments section.

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arXiv.org > hep-th > arXiv:1212.5605

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High Energy Physics – Theory

Scattering Amplitudes and the Positive Grassmannian

Nima Arkani-Hamed, Jacob L. Bourjaily, Freddy Cachazo, Alexander B. Goncharov, Alexander Postnikov, Jaroslav Trnka

(Submitted on 21 Dec 2012 (v1), last revised 17 Mar 2014 (this version, v2))

We establish a direct connection between scattering amplitudes in planar four-dimensional theories and a remarkable mathematical structure known as the positive Grassmannian. The central physical idea is to focus on on-shell diagrams as objects of fundamental importance to scattering amplitudes. We show that the all-loop integrand in $N=4$ SYM is naturally represented in this way. On-shell diagrams in this theory are intimately tied to a variety of mathematical objects, ranging from a new graphical representation of permutations to a beautiful stratification of the Grassmannian $G(k,n)$ which generalizes the notion of a simplex in projective space. All physically important operations involving on-shell diagrams map to canonical operations on permutations; in particular, BCFW deformations correspond to adjacent transpositions. Each cell of the positive Grassmannian is naturally endowed with positive coordinates and an invariant measure which determines the on-shell function associated with the diagram. This understanding allows us to classify and compute all on-shell diagrams, and give a geometric understanding for all the non-trivial relations among them. Yangian invariance of scattering amplitudes is transparently represented by diffeomorphisms of $G(k,n)$ which preserve the positive structure. Scattering amplitudes in $(1+1)$ -dimensional integrable systems and the ABJM theory in $(2+1)$ dimensions can both be understood as special cases of these ideas. On-shell diagrams in theories with less (or no) supersymmetry are associated with exactly the same structures in the Grassmannian, but with a measure deformed by a factor encoding ultraviolet singularities. The Grassmannian representation of on-shell processes also gives a new understanding of the all-loop integrand for scattering amplitudes, presenting all integrands in a novel GL_n form which directly reflects the underlying positive structure.

Comments: a handful of minor corrections and citations added/updated; 158 pages, 264 figures

Subjects: **High Energy Physics – Theory (hep-th)**; Algebraic Geometry (math.AG); Combinatorics (math.CO)

Cite as: arXiv:1212.5605 [hep-th]
(or arXiv:1212.5605v2 [hep-th] for this version)

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12 blog links (what is this?)

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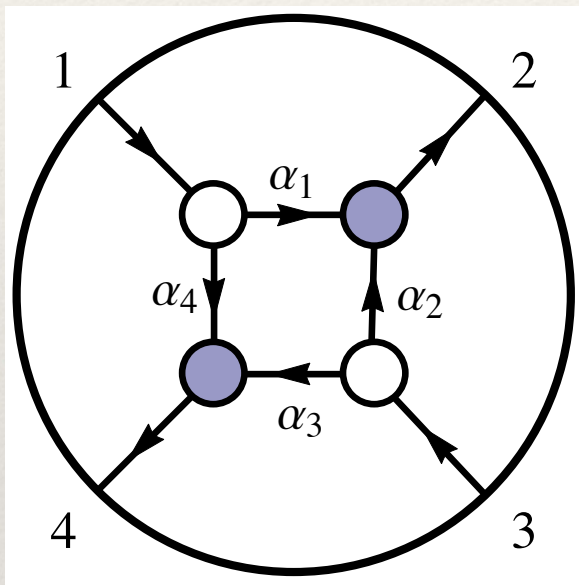
Bookmark (what is this?)

❖ connection to algebraic geometry, combinatorics, ...

ii) Grassmannian and on-shell diagrams

- planar diagrams in mathematics: building matrices with positive minors

$$\text{Gr}_{\geq}(k, n) \simeq \{[(k \times n) \text{ matrices}] / \text{GL}(k) \mid \text{ordered } (k \times k) \text{ minors} \geq 0\}$$



$$\Leftrightarrow C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \alpha_1 & 0 & -\alpha_4 \\ 0 & \alpha_2 & 1 & \alpha_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \alpha_i > 0$$

k : helicity-sector / R-charge
 n : # external legs

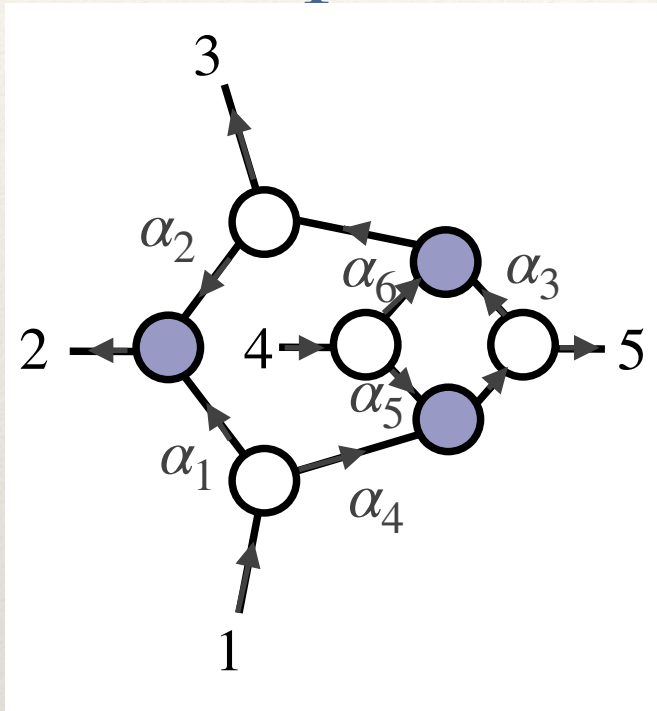
- connection to physics: value of **N=4 sYM** OS-diag is
[Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachazo, Goncharov, Postnikov, Trnka]

$$\Omega^{\mathcal{N}=4\text{ sYM}} = \frac{d\alpha_1}{\alpha_1} \dots \frac{d\alpha_r}{\alpha_r} \delta(C \cdot \mathcal{L})$$

all external kinematics

ii) Grassmannian and on-shell diagrams

- ❖ non-planar diagrams \longrightarrow give up positivity



$$\text{Gr}(k, n) \simeq \{[(k \times n) \text{ matrices}] / \text{GL}(k)\}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \alpha_1 + \alpha_2\alpha_3\alpha_4 & \alpha_3\alpha_4 & 0 & \alpha_4 \\ 0 & \alpha_2(\alpha_6 + \alpha_3\alpha_5) & (\alpha_6 + \alpha_3\alpha_5) & 1 & \alpha_5 \end{pmatrix}$$

k : helicity-sector / R-charge

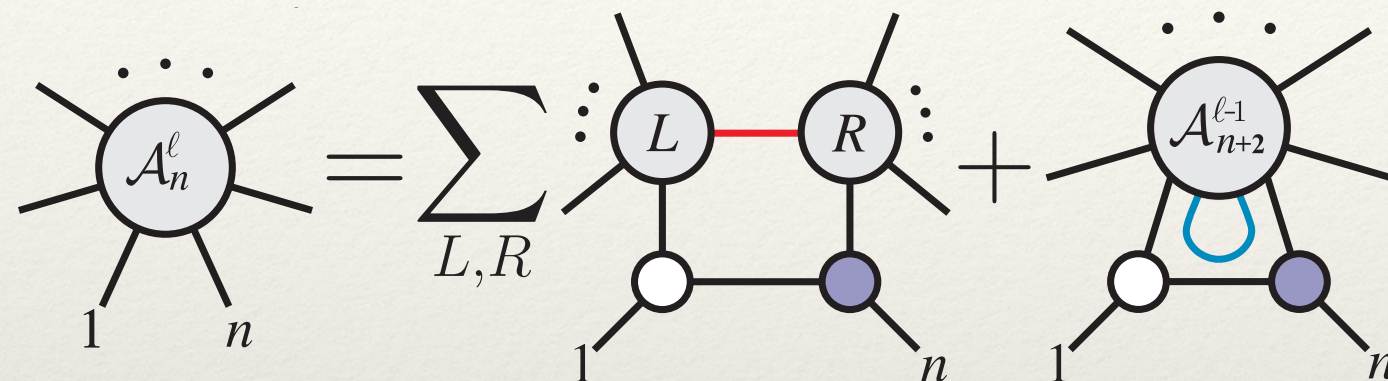
n : # external legs

- ❖ connection to physics: value of **N=8 sugra** OS-diag is [EH, Trnka]

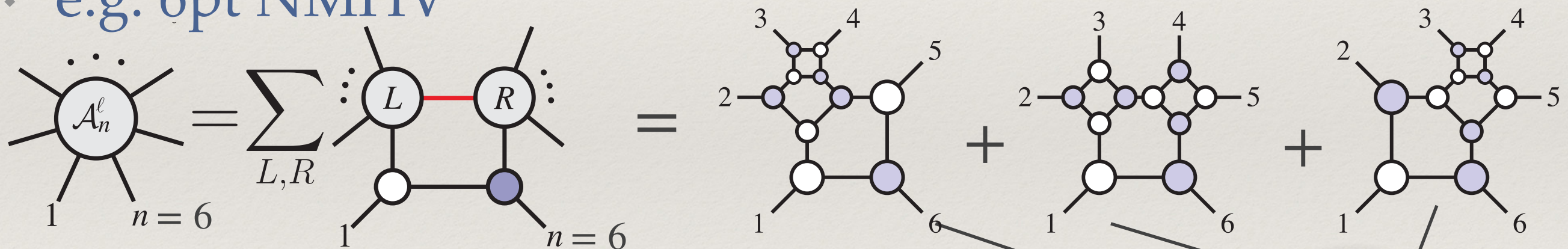
$$\Omega^{\mathcal{N}=8 \text{ sugra}} = \left[\frac{d\alpha_1}{\alpha_1^3} \cdots \frac{d\alpha_r}{\alpha_r^3} \prod_v \Delta_v \right] \delta(C \cdot \mathcal{F})$$

iii) from OS-diags to amplitudes

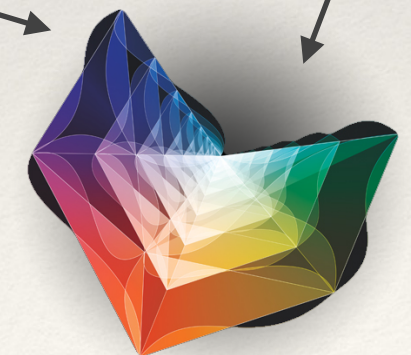
- ❖ planar $N=4$ sYM \longrightarrow BCFW loop-recursion relations



- ❖ e.g. 6pt NMHV



- ❖ amplitudes **inherit** properties of OS-diags!



- ❖ theories where BCFW-loop recursion unknown:

OS-diags \longleftrightarrow cuts of loop integrands: encode properties of amplitude

iii-1) from OS-diags to amplitudes: YM

- ❖ N=4 sYM (planar & non-planar)
- ❖ IR-property: logarithmic singularities!

$$\Omega^{\mathcal{N}=4\text{sYM}} = \frac{d\alpha_1}{\alpha_1} \dots \frac{d\alpha_r}{\alpha_r} \delta(C \cdot \mathcal{F})$$

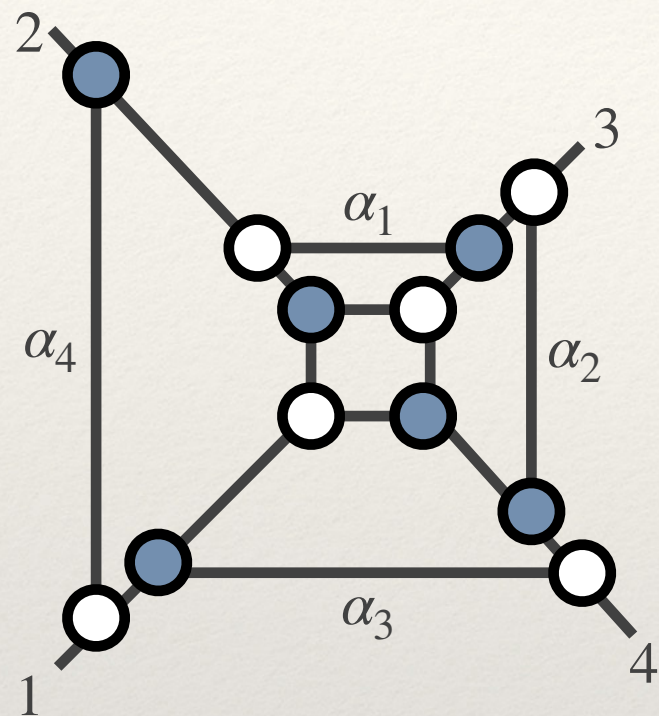
all external kinematics

- ❖ IR-condition on analytic properties of amplitudes:

$$\mathcal{A} \sim \frac{dx}{x-a} R(x, \dots) \quad , \text{ as } x \rightarrow a \text{ (singular point)}$$

- ❖ nontrivial constraints on possible local integrand basis elements!

interlude: Feynman integrals in dlog-form

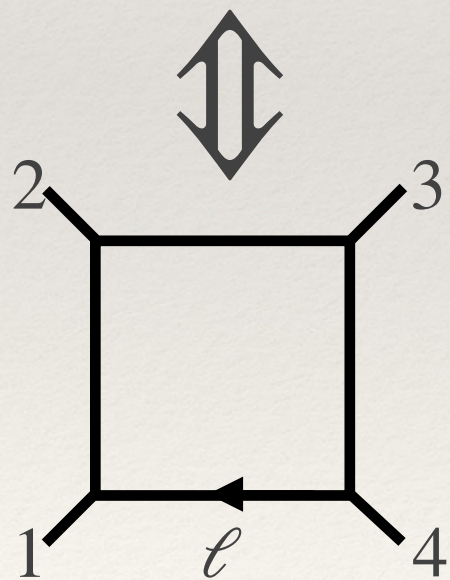


$$\Omega = \frac{d\alpha_1}{\alpha_1} \frac{d\alpha_2}{\alpha_2} \frac{d\alpha_3}{\alpha_3} \frac{d\alpha_4}{\alpha_4} \times \mathcal{A}_4^{\text{tree}} \times \delta(C \cdot \mathcal{L})$$

logarithmic form in Grassmannian variables!

can identify and solve for Feynman loop variables ℓ^μ

Arkani-Hamed, Cachazo, Goncharov, Postnikov, Trnka: [1212.5605](#)

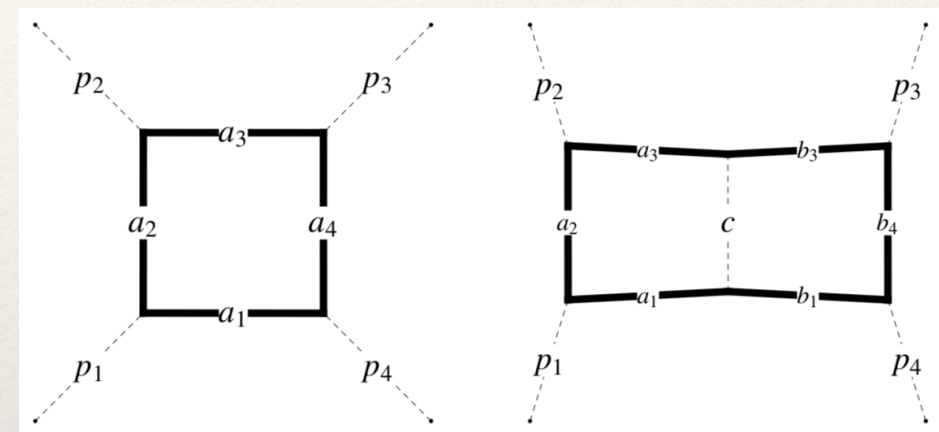
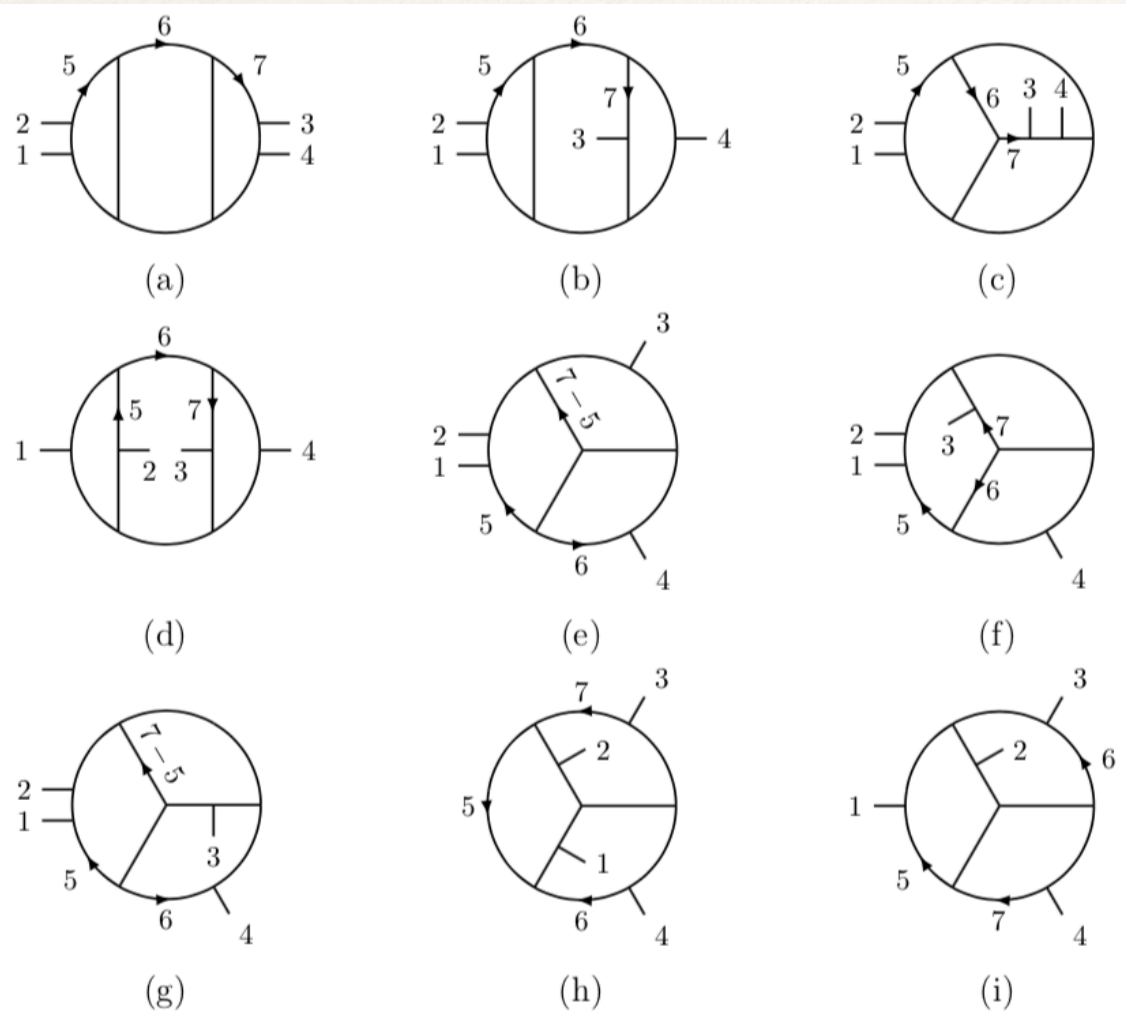


$$\Omega = d \log \frac{\ell^2}{(\ell - \ell^*)^2} d \log \frac{(\ell - p_1)^2}{(\ell - \ell^*)^2} d \log \frac{(\ell - p_1 - p_2)^2}{(\ell - \ell^*)^2} d \log \frac{(\ell + p_4)^2}{(\ell - \ell^*)^2}$$

new representation of Feynman integrals

dlog-representation exists for more general FI

Bern, EH, Litsey, Stankowicz, Trnka: 1412.8584, 1512.08591

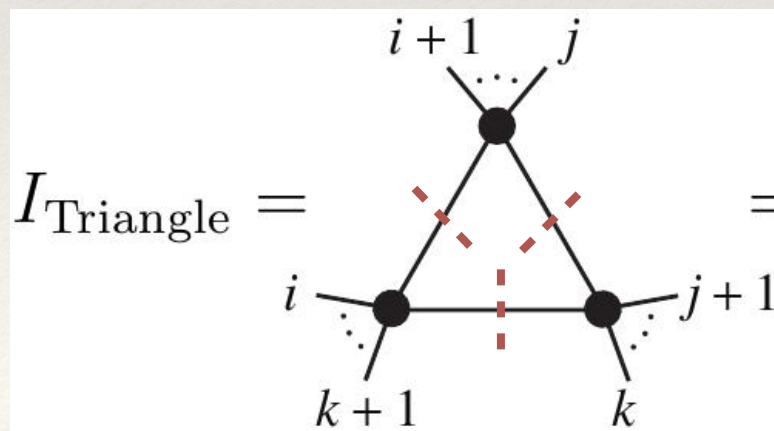


dlog forms exist for special integrals

- related to UT conjecture of $\mathcal{N} = 4$ sYM
- basis of integrals for Henn diff. eqs.
- new symmetries of nonplanar theories?
- potential geometric interpretation?

iii-2) from OS-diags to amplitudes: YM

- ❖ N=4 sYM (planar & non-planar)
- ❖ UV-property: no poles at infinity!
 - planar: manifest in terms of mom. twistors
 - non-planar: need to check in local expansion, term-by-term analysis
- ❖ stronger than UV-finiteness, e.g. triangle integral

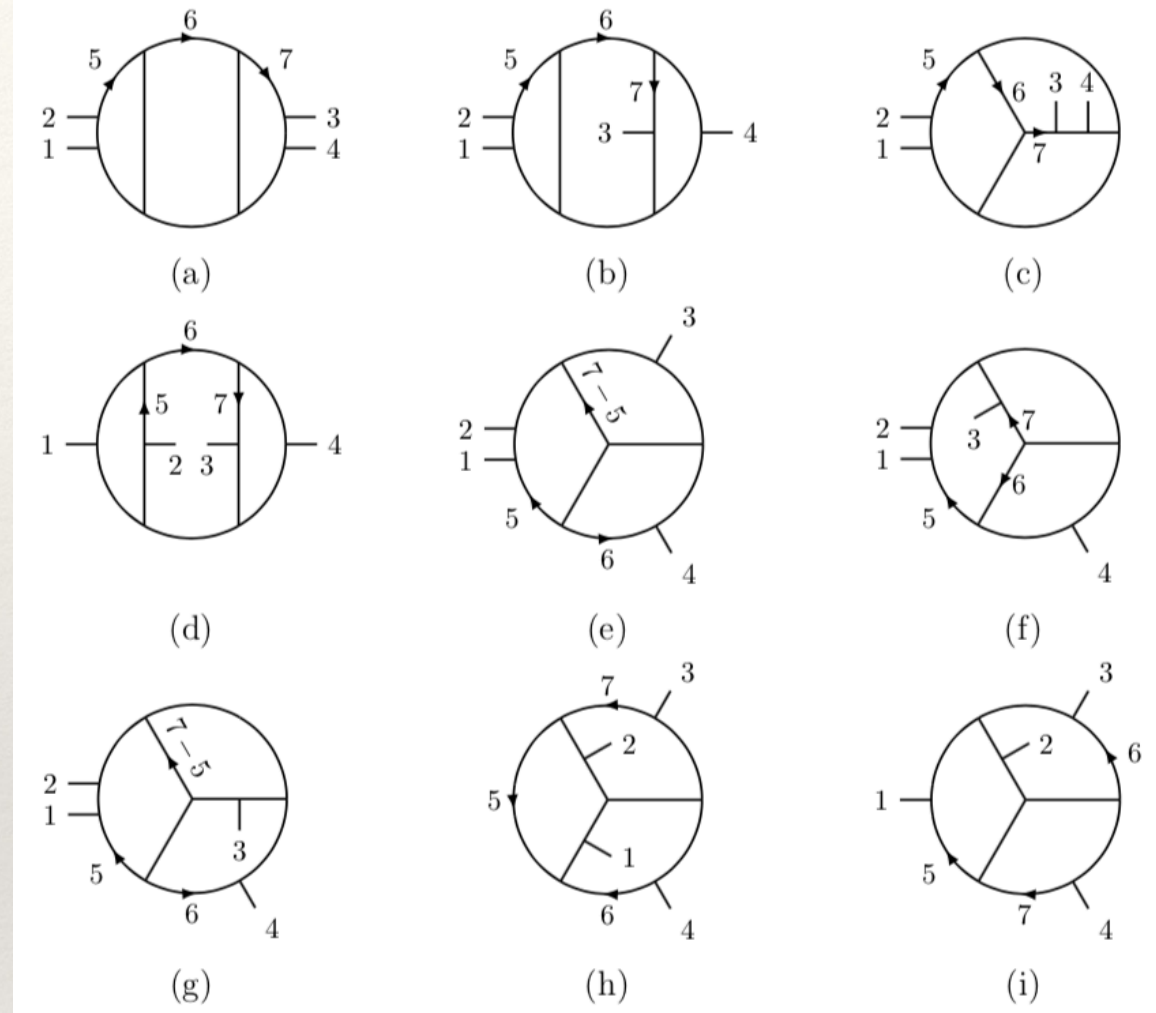


$$I_{\text{Triangle}} = \sim \frac{dz}{z}, \quad \ell^\mu(z) \sim z, \text{ has Res @ } \ell \rightarrow \infty$$

iii-3) uniqueness of YM

- ❖ non-planar N=4 sYM
- ❖ Combine IR- & UV-properties

- term-by-term analysis
- dlog-forms
- no poles at infinity



- ❖ new non-planar symmetry? [Bern,Enciso,Ita,Shen,Zeng; Chicherin,Henn,Sokatchev]

$$\mathcal{A}^{(L)} = \sum_k c_k \int \mathcal{I}_k d^4 \ell_1 \cdots d^4 \ell_L$$

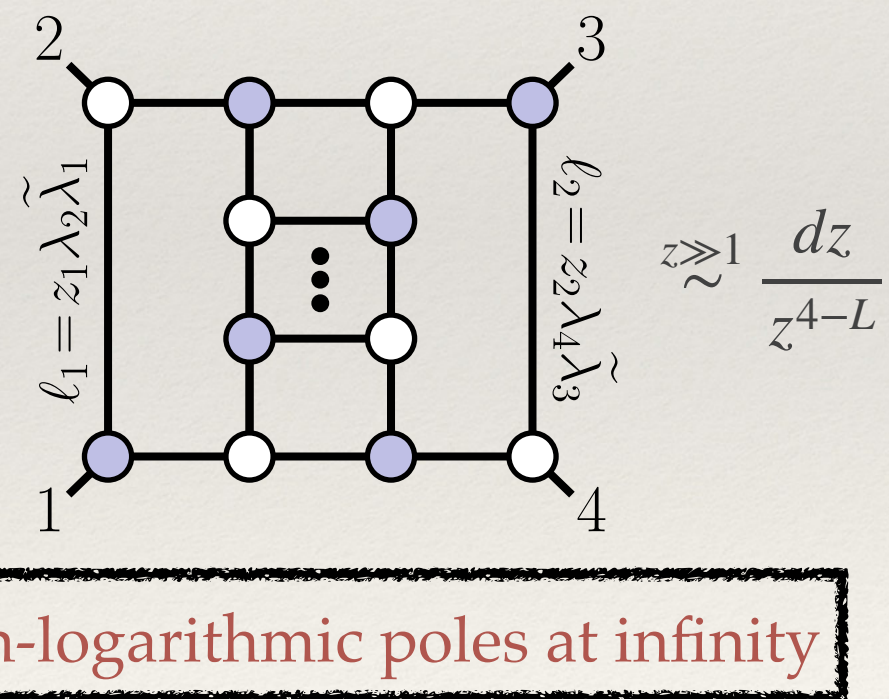
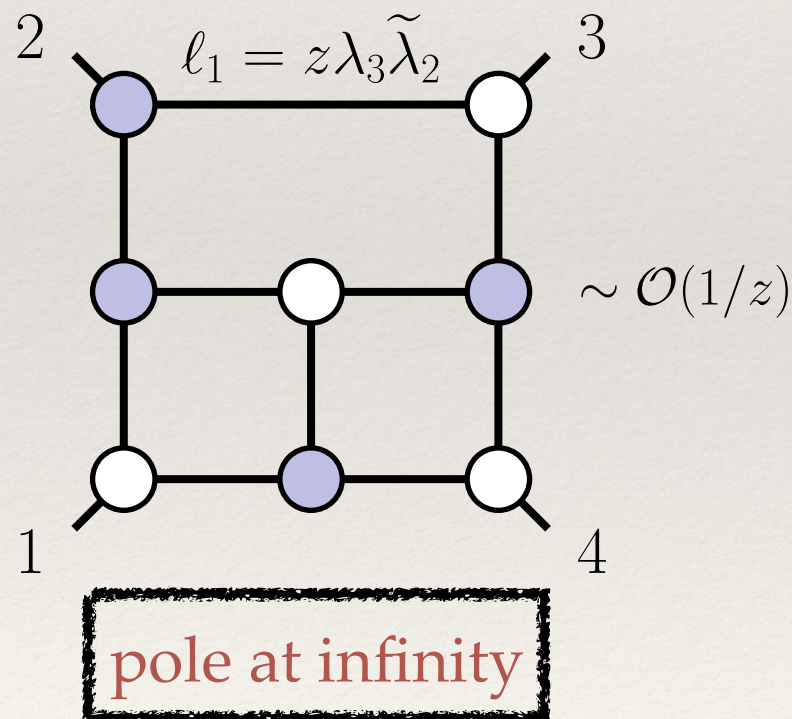
- ❖ fix c's with homogeneous cuts: **geometric interpretation**

$$\text{Res } \mathcal{A}^{(L)} = 0$$

[Bern,EH,Litsey,Stankowicz,Trnka]

iv) gravity [EH, Trnka]

- ❖ Does there exist an analogous story in gravity?
- ❖ Gravity is nonplanar \rightarrow term-by-term analysis?
 - analytic properties that single out gravity?



drastically different properties than in YM!

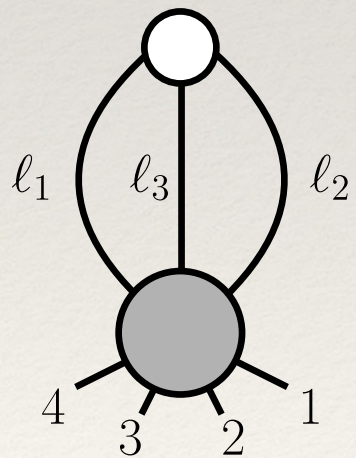
iv-1) gravity in the IR [EH,Trnka]

- ❖ Gravity on-shell diagrams:

$$\Omega^{\mathcal{N}=8 \text{ sugra}} = \left[\frac{d\alpha_1}{\alpha_1^3} \dots \frac{d\alpha_r}{\alpha_r^3} \prod_v \Delta_v \right] \delta(C \cdot \mathcal{F})$$

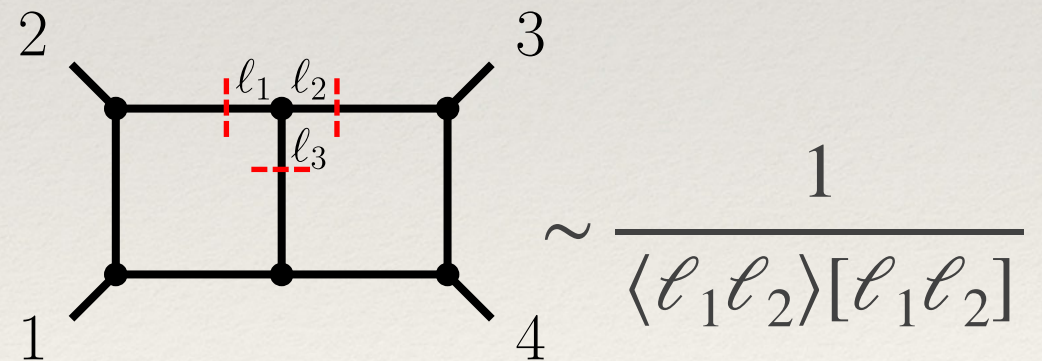
on-shell diagrams vanish in collinear region

- ❖ Gravity on-shell functions, i.e. more general cuts:



near $\langle \ell_1 \ell_2 \rangle = 0$:

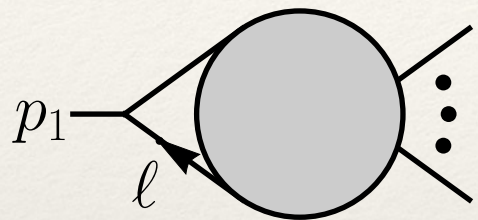
$$\mathcal{M} \sim \frac{[\ell_1 \ell_2]}{\langle \ell_1 \ell_2 \rangle} \times \text{regular}$$



gravity properties are “global” in nature!

iv-2) mild-IR behavior of gravity amplitudes

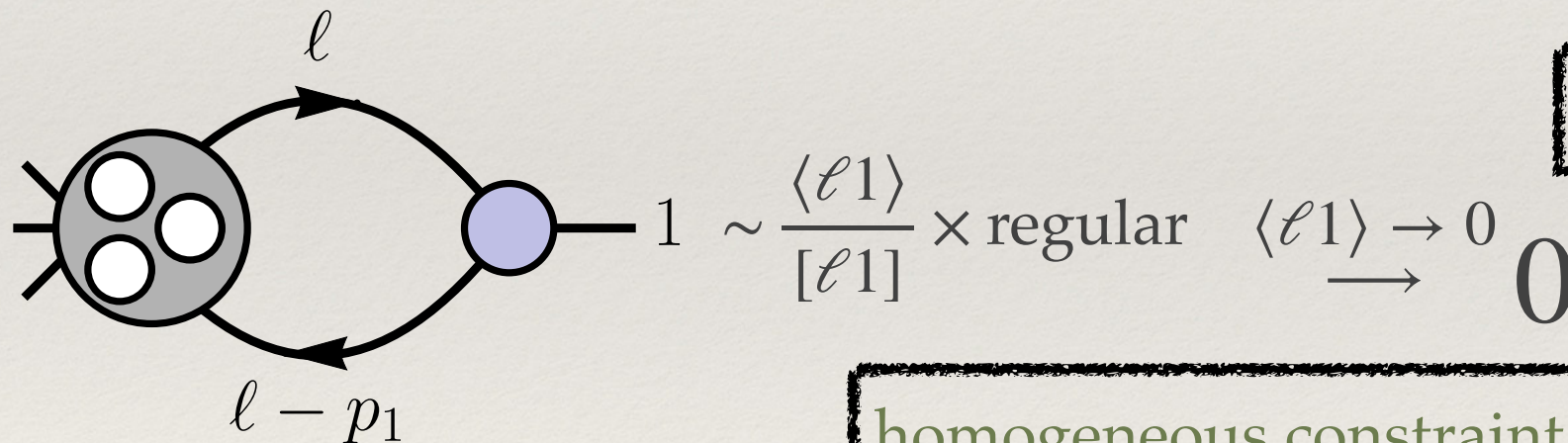
- ❖ collinear region of loop momentum:



$$\ell^2 = 0 \Rightarrow (\ell - p_1)^2 = \langle \ell 1 \rangle [\ell 1]$$

$$\ell^2 = 0 = \langle \ell 1 \rangle = [\ell 1] \Rightarrow \boxed{\ell^\mu = \alpha p_1^\mu}$$

- ❖ Gravity on-shell functions vanish there!



nontrivial cancelations even at L=1

- L=1, 4pt:
sum of 6 boxes

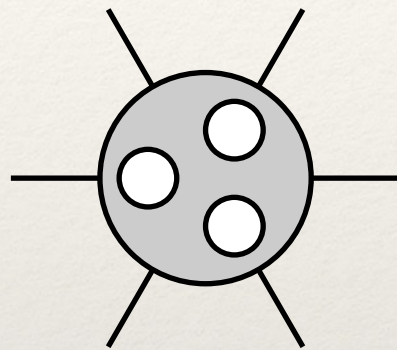
homogeneous constraint!

$$\mathcal{A}^{(L)} \sim \frac{1}{\epsilon^{2L}} \quad \text{vs.} \quad \mathcal{M}^{(L)} \sim \frac{1}{\epsilon^L}$$

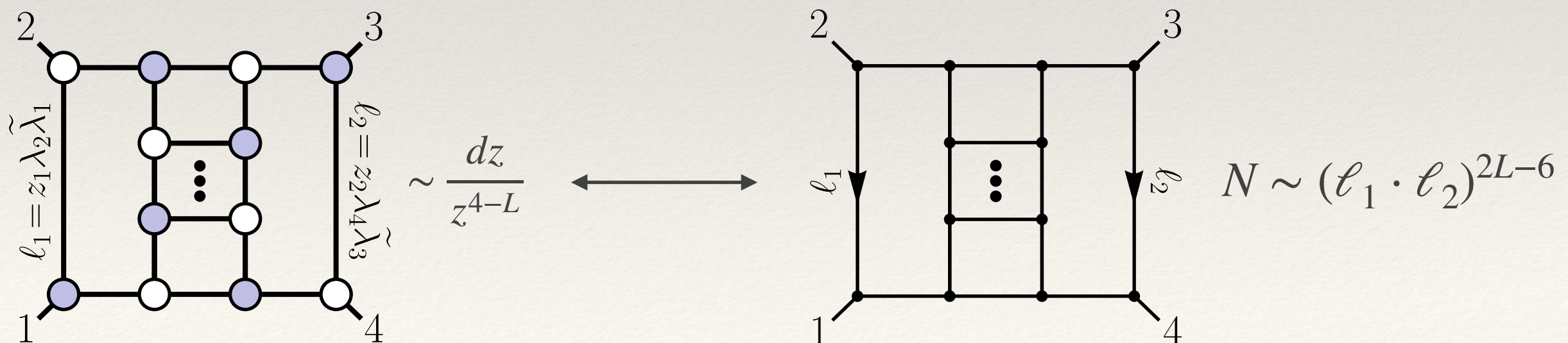
gravity on-shell functions vanish in collinear region \longleftrightarrow soft IR-behavior of Amplitude

iv-3) gravity in the UV

- ❖ no off-shell definition of ℓ : no invariant probe of $\ell \rightarrow \infty$

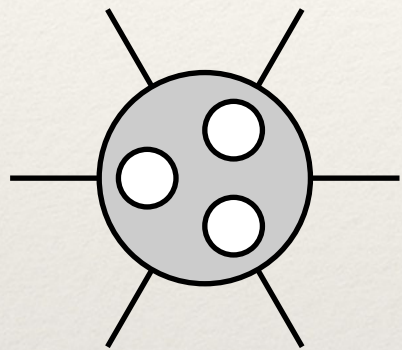


- ❖ study **cuts** that make ℓ well defined, then probe $\ell \rightarrow \infty$
- ❖ maximal cuts: **dictate diagram scaling!**



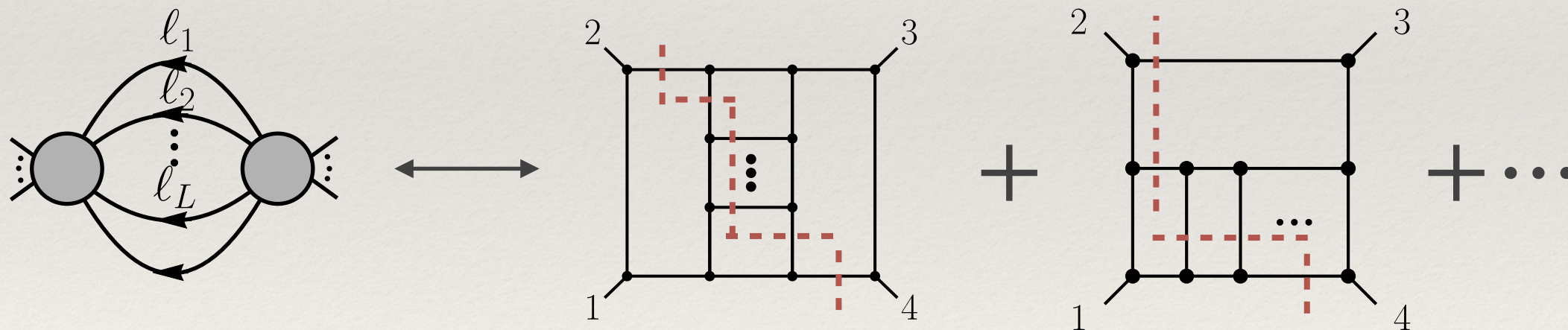
iv-3) gravity in the UV

- ❖ Can we do better than maximal cuts?



- ❖ get as close as possible to off-shell \mathcal{I}

- ❖ **multi-unitarity cut!** $L+1$ props on-shell

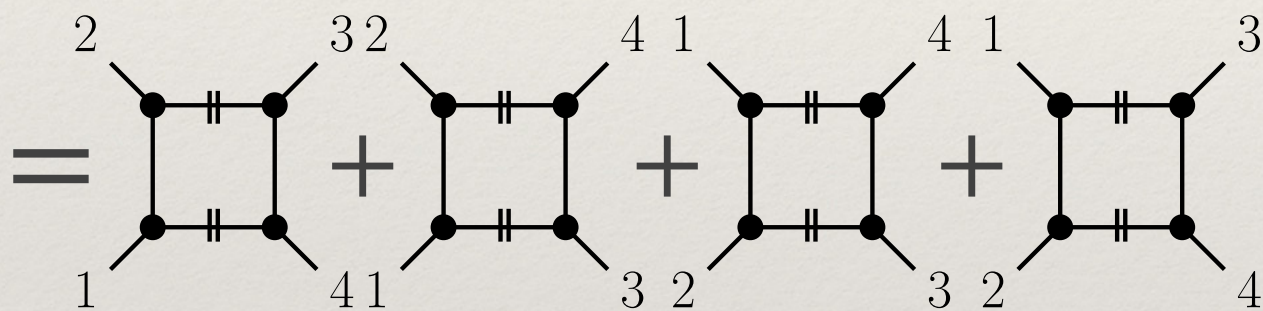
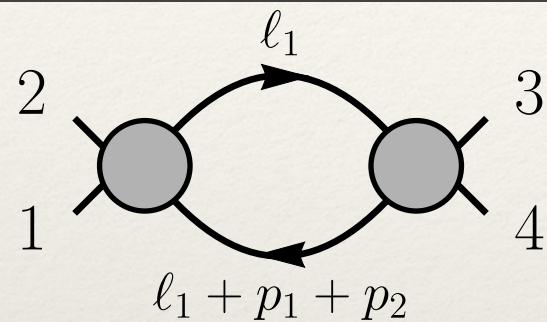


- ❖ interesting cancellation when $a < \max(b_i)$ as $\ell_i(z) \xrightarrow{z \rightarrow \infty} \infty$

$$\mathcal{M}(z)|_{\text{cut}} \sim z^a = z^{b_1} + z^{b_2} + z^{b_3} + \dots$$

iv-3) gravity in the UV

❖ L=1

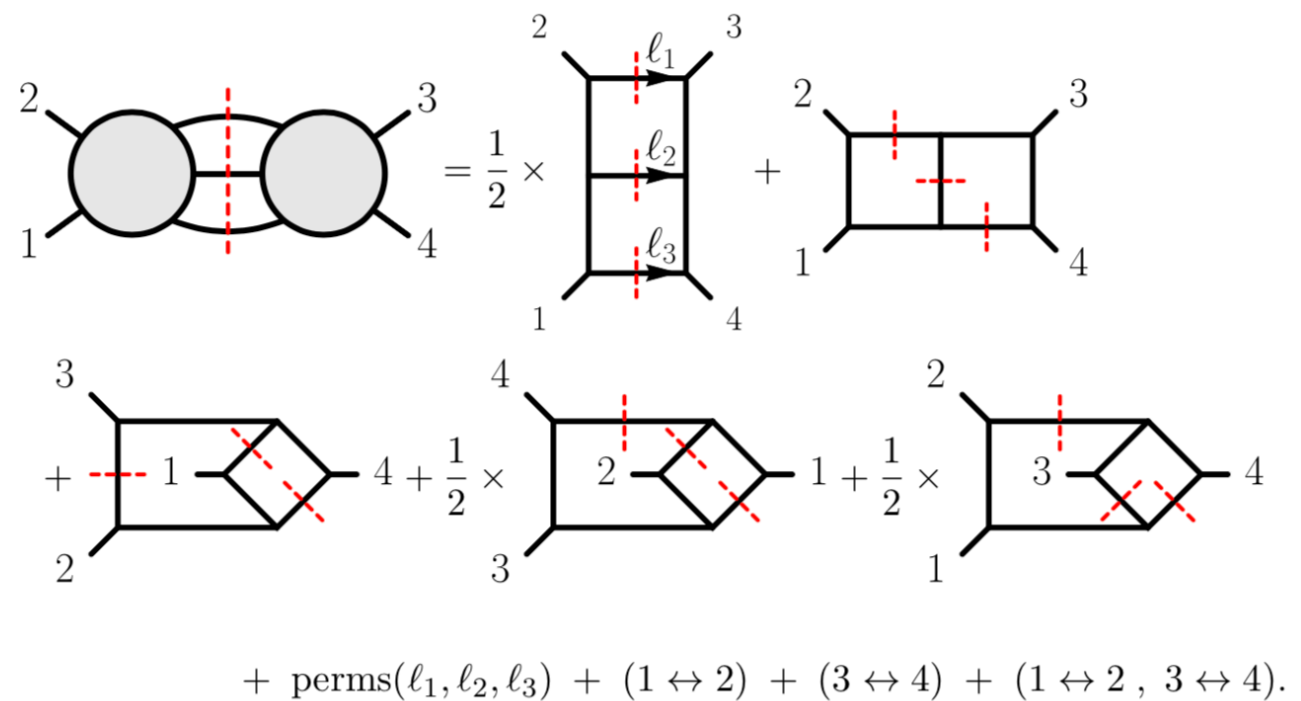


$$\sim \frac{1}{(\ell_1 \cdot 2)(\ell_1 \cdot 3)} + \frac{1}{(\ell_1 \cdot 1)(\ell_1 \cdot 3)} + \frac{1}{(\ell_1 \cdot 2)(\ell_1 \cdot 4)} + \frac{1}{(\ell_1 \cdot 1)(\ell_1 \cdot 4)}$$

$$= \frac{s_{12}^2}{(\ell_1 \cdot 1)(\ell_1 \cdot 2)(\ell_1 \cdot 3)(\ell_1 \cdot 4)}$$

❖ cancelation in d-dim

❖ L=2



[Bern, Enciso, Parra-Martinez, Zeng]

❖ half-max. sugra in d=5

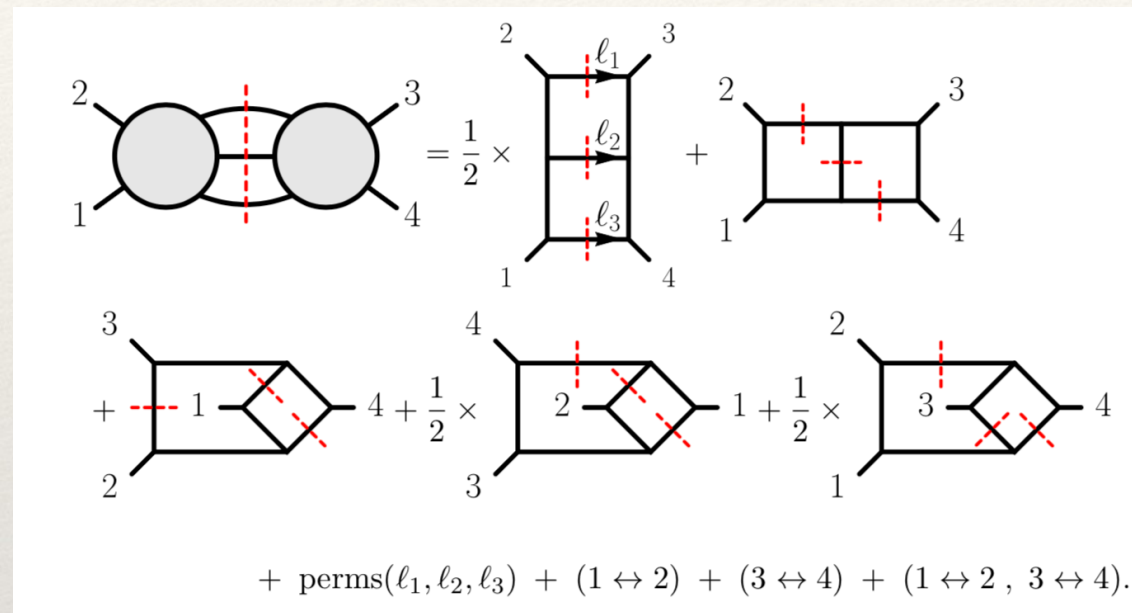
❖ **no cancelation!**

[EH, Trnka]

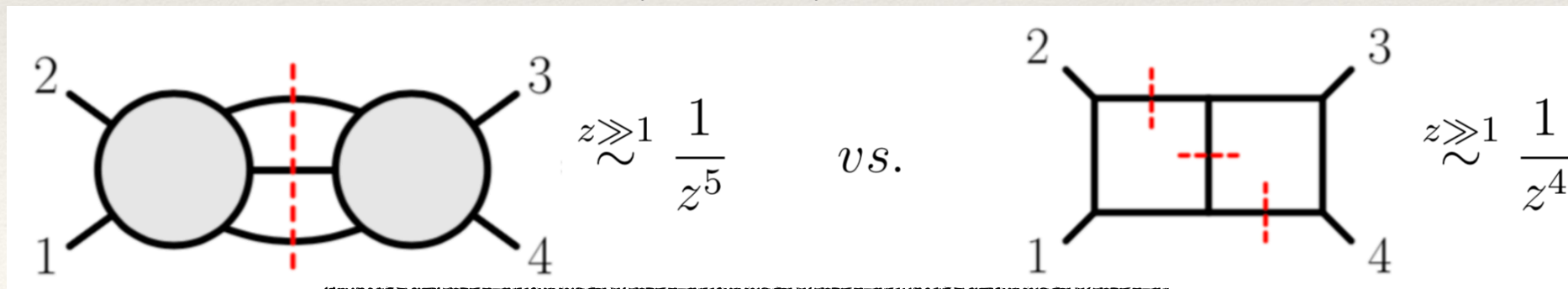
❖ d=4 **special!** spinor-helicity

iv-3) gravity in the UV

- ❖ some details about $L=2, d=4$



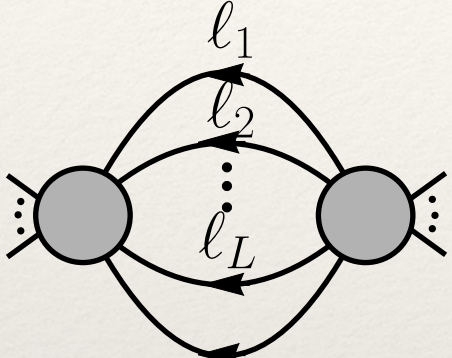
- ❖ probing infinity: $\ell_1^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \ell_i = \lambda_{\ell_i} \tilde{\lambda}_{\ell_i}$
 $\lambda_{\ell_i}^\alpha \mapsto \lambda_{\ell_i}^\alpha + z \sigma_i \eta^\alpha$
← holomorphic shift
← constant reference spinor



cancellation in $d=4$ for $N=8$ sugra!

iv-3) gravity in the UV

- ❖ ideally, would like L-loop, d=4 test:



susy state sum

$$= \int d\tilde{\eta} \mathcal{M}_L^{(0),k_L} \times \mathcal{M}_R^{(0),k_R}, \quad k_L + k_R - (L + 1) = k$$

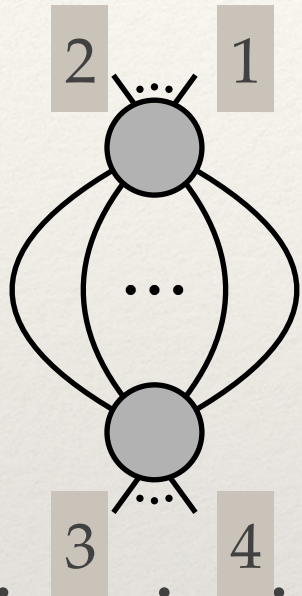
- ❖ probing infinity: $\ell_i^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \ell_i = \lambda_{\ell_i} \tilde{\lambda}_{\ell_i}$
 $\lambda_{\ell_i}^\alpha \mapsto \lambda_{\ell_i}^\alpha + z\sigma_i \eta^\alpha$
← holomorphic shift
← constant reference spinor

- ❖ technical challenge:

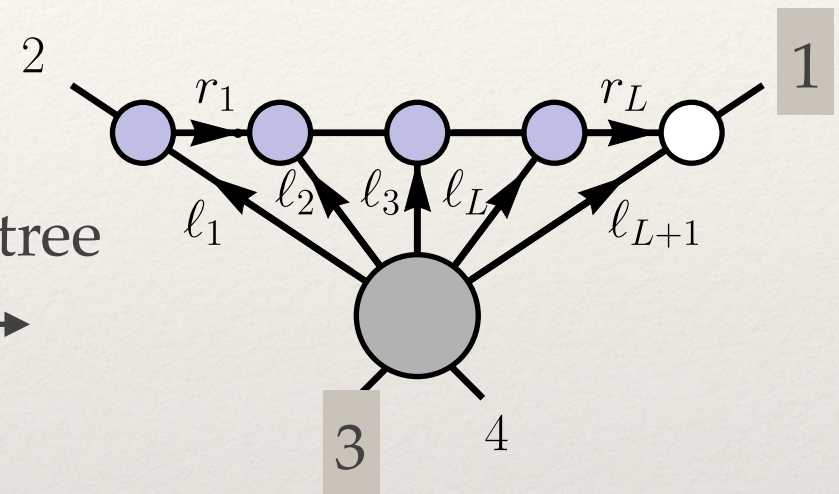
need good control over higher point, higher k gravity trees!

iv-3) gravity in the UV

❖ intermediate work-around:



deeper cut: forces n-pt MHV-tree



❖ probing infinity:

$$\ell_i = \lambda_{x_i} \tilde{\lambda}_2, \quad i = 1, \dots, L-1$$

holomorphic shift

$$\lambda_{x_i} \mapsto \lambda_{x_i} + \alpha \eta$$

constant reference spinor

$$\alpha \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow \ell_i \rightarrow \infty$$

$L =$	2	3	4	L
	α^{-2}	α^{-3}	α^{-4}	α^{-L}
worst diagram	α^{-2}	α^{-1}	α^0	?

BCJ- YM numerator:

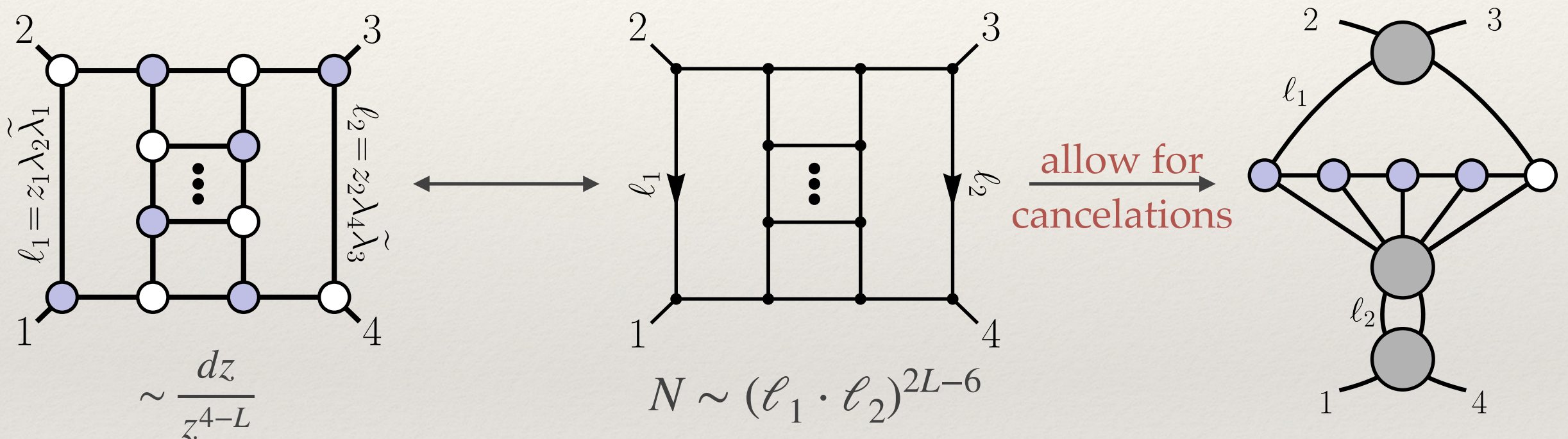
[Bern, Carrasco, Dixon, Johansson, Roiban '10]

$$\begin{aligned}
 & s_{23}(s_{10,11}(s_{17} - l_6^2) - l_5^2 l_{11}^2) \\
 & + s_{12} s_{15}(s_{23} - s_{78} + l_9^2) \\
 & + s_{16}(s_{12} s_{79} + l_{10}^2 s_{23}) \\
 & - l_7^2(s_{12} s_{1,10} - l_{12}^2 s_{12} + l_{10}^2 s_{23})
 \end{aligned}$$

(35)

iv-3) gravity in the UV

- ❖ different all-loop cut where diagram scaling is known!



$L =$	3	4	5	L
	α^{-10}	α^{-8}	α^{-8}	α^{-8}
	α^{-5}	α^{-4}	α^{-3}	α^{L-8}

Massive cancellations between diagrams!

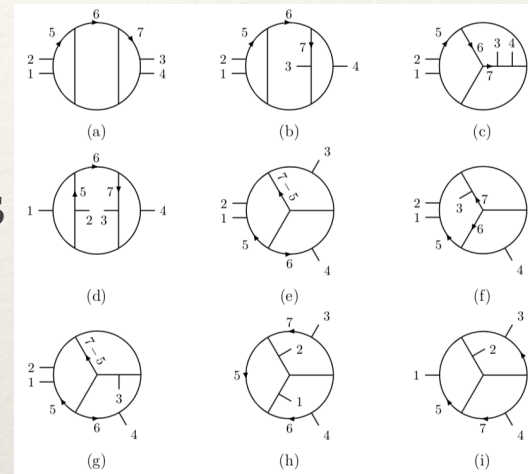
iv-4) uniqueness of gravity from analytic properties

❖ remember YM-strategy:

❖ $d \log$ (IR)

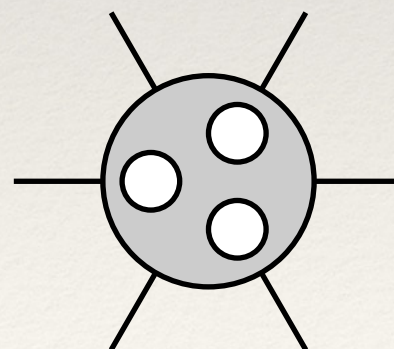
❖ no poles @ $\ell \rightarrow \infty$ (UV)

construct integrand basis that has these properties term-by-term



additional homogenous information

hom. analytic properties
 \mathcal{R}
 geometry



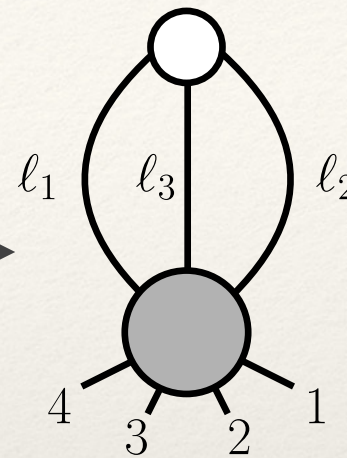
can uniquely reconstruct the YM integrand

iv-4) uniqueness of gravity from analytic properties

❖ Gravity is completely different:

❖ $d \log(\text{IR})$

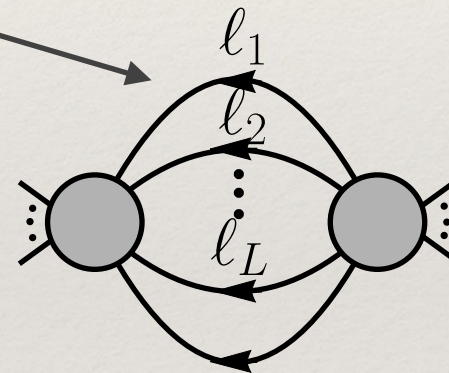
❖ no poles @ $\ell \rightarrow \infty$ (UV)



near $\langle \ell_1 \ell_2 \rangle = 0$:

$$\mathcal{M} \sim \frac{[\ell_1 \ell_2]}{\langle \ell_1 \ell_2 \rangle} \times \text{regular}$$

additional homogenous information



Improved large-z scaling

Uniquely reconstruct the gravity?

in progress [Edison,EH,Langer,Parra-Martinez,Trnka]

❖ 2-loop 4pt, 1-loop 5pt, ...

hom. analytic properties

geometry?

stay tuned!

v) Conclusions

- ❖ new geometric formulations of QFT
 - ❖ Grassmannian, Amplituhedron in planar $N=4$ sYM
 - ❖ geometry \longleftrightarrow canonical differential forms with logarithmic singularities
- ❖ hints that these geometric structures persist in nonplanar $N=4$ sYM
 - ❖ same analytic properties, $d\log$ + no poles at infinity [manifest **term-by-term**]
- ❖ Gravity has still a lot of surprises in store for us:
 - ❖ IR-properties (vanishing collinear) & UV-conditions (improved large z -scaling) are **global** in nature
 - ❖ do we have the full list of homogeneous constraints that “define” gravity?
 - ❖ Can we “geometrize” these properties?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION