



# Scattering Amplitudes

## LECTURE 2

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# Review of Lecture 1

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# Spinor helicity variables

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- ✧ Rewrite the four component momentum

$$p_1^\mu = \sigma_{a\dot{a}}^\mu \lambda_{1a} \tilde{\lambda}_{1\dot{a}}$$

- ✧ Little group scaling

$$\lambda \rightarrow t\lambda$$

$$\tilde{\lambda} \rightarrow \frac{1}{t}\tilde{\lambda}$$

$$p \rightarrow p$$

- ✧ Invariants

$$\langle 12 \rangle \equiv \epsilon_{ab} \lambda_{1a} \lambda_{2b} \quad [12] \equiv \epsilon_{\dot{a}\dot{b}} \tilde{\lambda}_{1\dot{a}} \tilde{\lambda}_{2\dot{b}}$$

$$s_{12} = \langle 12 \rangle [12]$$

# Three point amplitudes

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## ❖ Three point kinematics

$$p_1^2 = p_2^2 = p_3^2 = 0 \qquad p_1 + p_2 + p_3 = 0$$

## ❖ Two solutions:

$$\langle 12 \rangle = \langle 23 \rangle = \langle 13 \rangle = 0 \qquad [12] = [23] = [13] = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 \sim \lambda_2 \sim \lambda_3$$

$$\tilde{\lambda}_1 \sim \tilde{\lambda}_2 \sim \tilde{\lambda}_3$$

$(- \ - \ +)$   No solution for real momenta   $(+ \ + \ -)$

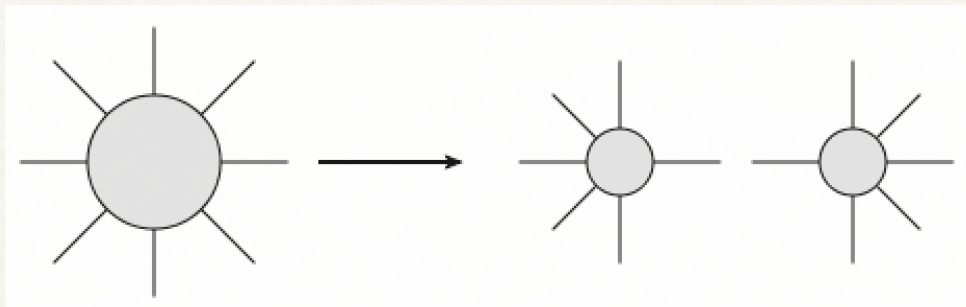
$$\frac{[ab]^4}{[12][23][31]} \quad \text{Yang-Mills amplitudes} \quad \frac{\langle a b \rangle^4}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 31 \rangle}$$



# Tree-level amplitudes

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- ❖ Locality and unitarity



$$\mathcal{M} \xrightarrow{P^2=0} \mathcal{M}_L \frac{1}{P^2} \mathcal{M}_R$$

- ❖ On-shell constructibility: amplitude fixed by poles
- ❖ Color decomposition

$$\mathcal{M} = \sum_{\sigma} \text{Tr}(T^{\sigma_1} T^{\sigma_2} T^{\sigma_3} \dots T^{\sigma_n}) A(123 \dots n)$$

# Recursion relations

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# Tree level amplitudes

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- ❖ Tree-level amplitude is a rational function of kinematics

$$A = \sum (\text{Feyn. diag}) = \frac{N}{\prod_j P_j^2}$$

momenta  
polarization vectors

Feynman propagators

$$P_j = \sum_k p_k$$

- ❖ Only poles, no branch cuts
- ❖ Gauge invariant object: use spinor helicity variables

# Momentum shift

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- ❖ Let us shift two external momenta

$$\begin{array}{ll} \lambda_1 \rightarrow \lambda_1 - z\lambda_2 & \tilde{\lambda}_1 \rightarrow \tilde{\lambda}_1 \\ \lambda_2 \rightarrow \lambda_2 & \tilde{\lambda}_2 \rightarrow \tilde{\lambda}_2 + z\tilde{\lambda}_1 \end{array}$$

- ❖ Momentum is conserved, stays on-shell

$$(\lambda_1 - z\lambda_2)\tilde{\lambda}_1 + \lambda_2(\tilde{\lambda}_2 + z\tilde{\lambda}_1) = \lambda_1\tilde{\lambda}_1 + \lambda_2\tilde{\lambda}_2$$

- ❖ This corresponds to shifting

$$p_1, p_2, \epsilon_1, \epsilon_2$$



# Shifted amplitude

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- ❖ On-shell tree-level amplitude with shifted kinematics

$$A_n(z) = A(\hat{p}_1(z), \hat{p}_2(z), p_3, \dots, p_n)$$

- ❖ Analytic structure

$$A_n(z) = \frac{N(z)}{\prod_j P_j(z)^2}$$


- ❖ Location of poles:  
$$P_j(z) = P_j - z\lambda_2\tilde{\lambda}_1 \quad \text{if } p_1 \in P_j$$
$$P_j(z) = P_j + z\lambda_2\tilde{\lambda}_1 \quad \text{if } p_2 \in P_j$$
$$P_j(z) = P_j \quad \text{otherwise}$$

# Shifted amplitude

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- ❖ On the pole if  $p_1 \in P_j$

$$P_j(z)^2 = P_j^2 - 2z\langle 1|P_j|2\rangle = 0$$


$$z = \frac{P_j^2}{2\langle 1|P_j|2\rangle} \equiv z_j$$

- ❖ Shifted amplitude:

$$A_n(z) = \frac{N(z)}{\prod_j P_j(z)^2}$$

location of poles






# Residue theorem

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❖ Shifted amplitude  $A_n(z) = \frac{N(z)}{\prod_k (z - z_k)}$

❖ Let us consider the contour integral


$$\int \frac{dz}{z} A_n(z) = 0 \quad \text{No pole at } z \rightarrow \infty$$

❖ Original amplitude  $A_n = A_n(z=0)$   Residue at  $z=0$

❖ Residue theorem:  $A_n + \sum_k \text{Res} \left( \frac{A_n(z)}{z} \right) \Big|_{z=z_k} = 0$

# Residue theorem

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$$A_n = - \sum_k \text{Res} \left( \frac{A_n(z)}{z} \right) \Big|_{z=z_k}$$


Residue on the pole  $P_j(z)^2 = 0$


- ✧ Unitarity of shifted tree-level amplitude

$$A_n(z) \xrightarrow{P_j(z)^2=0} A_L(z) \frac{1}{P_j(z)^2} A_R(z)$$



# Residue theorem

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$$A_n = - \sum_k \text{Res} \left( \frac{A_n(z)}{z} \right) \Big|_{z=z_k}$$


Residue on the pole  $P_j(z)^2 = 2\langle 1|P_j|2\rangle(z_j - z) = 0$

✧ Unitarity of shifted tree-level amplitude  $z_j = \frac{P_j^2}{2\langle 1|P_j|2\rangle}$

$$A_n(z) \xrightarrow{z=z_j} A_L(z_j) \frac{1}{2\langle 1|P_j|2\rangle} A_R(z_j)$$

# Residue theorem

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$$A_n = - \sum_k \text{Res} \left( \frac{A_n(z)}{z} \right) \Big|_{z=z_k}$$

$$A_L(z_j) \frac{1}{2\langle 1|P_j|2\rangle} A_R(z_j) \times \frac{2\langle 1|P_j|2\rangle}{P_j^2} = A_L(z_j) \frac{1}{P_j^2} A_R(z_j)$$

Final formula

$$A_n = - \sum_j A_L(z_j) \frac{1}{P_j^2} A_R(z_j) \quad z_j = \frac{P_j^2}{2\langle 1|P_j|2\rangle}$$



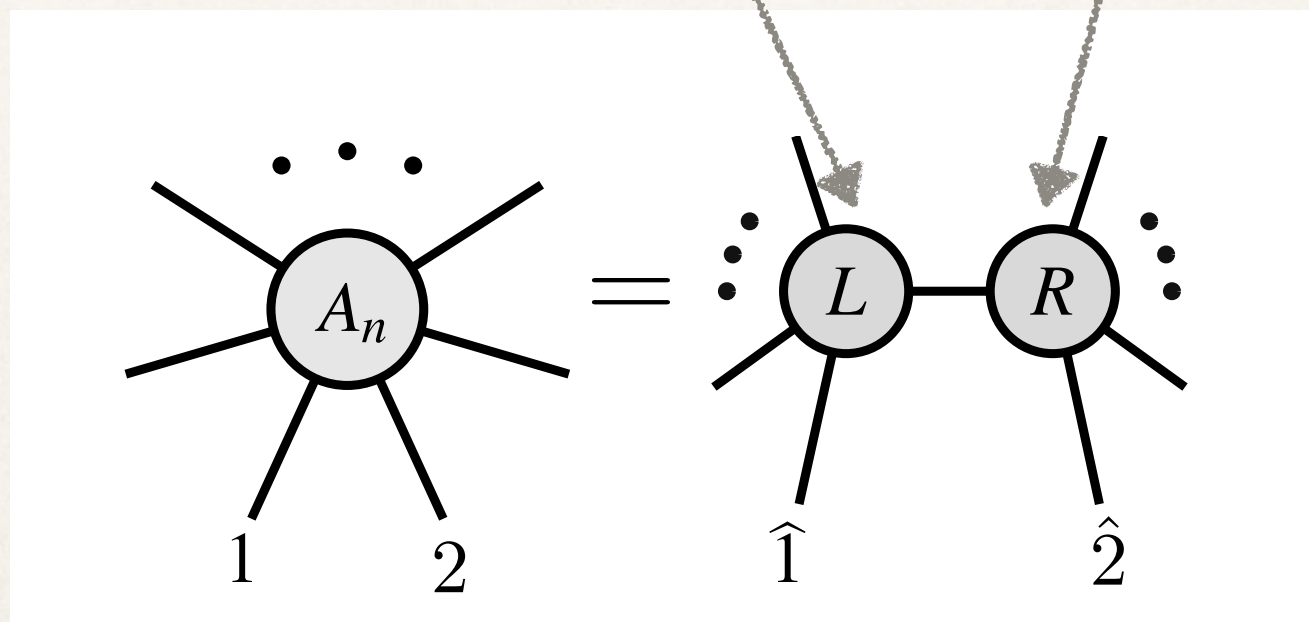
# BCFW recursion relations

(Britto, Cachazo, Feng, Witten, 2005)



$$A_n = - \sum_j A_L(z_j) \frac{1}{P_j^2} A_R(z_j)$$

$$z_j = \frac{P_j^2}{2\langle 1|P_j|2\rangle}$$



Chosen such  
that internal  
line is on-shell

Sum over all distributions of legs keeping 1,2 on different sides

# BCFW recursion relations

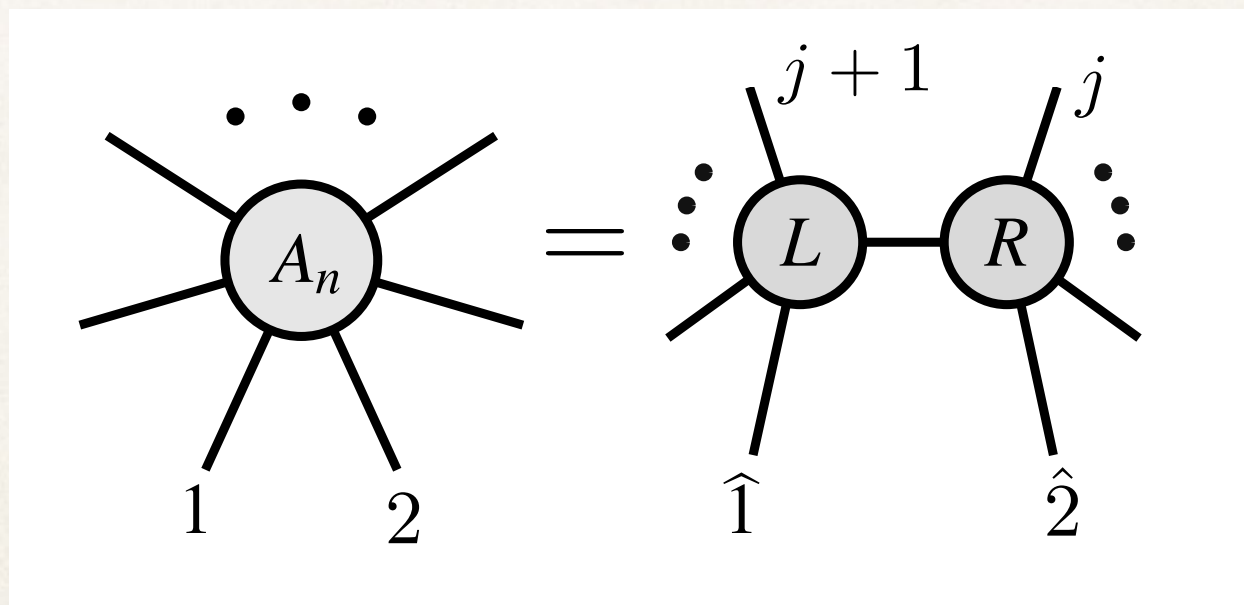
(Britto, Cachazo, Feng, Witten, 2005)



$$A_n = - \sum_j A_L(z_j) \frac{1}{P_j^2} A_R(z_j)$$

$$z_j = \frac{P_j^2}{2\langle 1|P_j|2\rangle}$$

For ordered amplitudes  $A(123 \dots n)$



Also sum over  
helicities of  
internal particle

Sum over all  $j = 3, 4, \dots, n - 1$



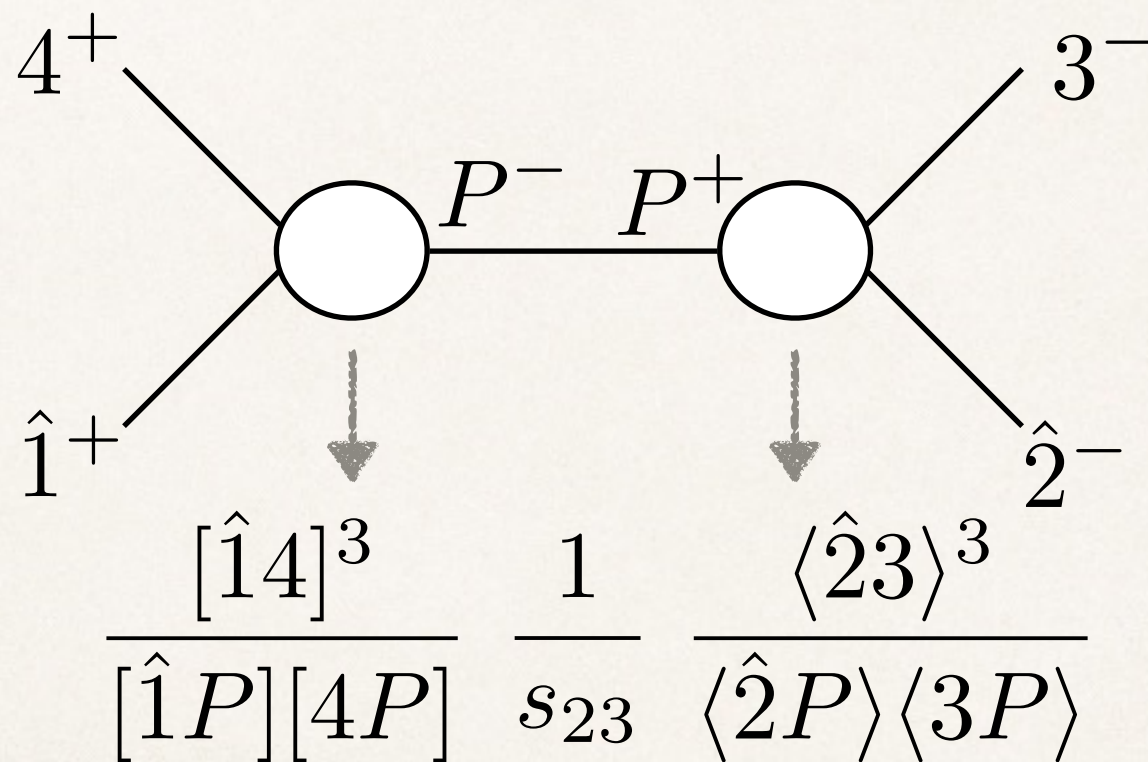
# Comment on applicability

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- ❖ The crucial property is  $A_n(z) \rightarrow 0$  for  $z \rightarrow \infty$
- ❖ In Yang-Mills theory this is satisfied if
$$\begin{array}{ll} \lambda_1 \rightarrow \lambda_1 - z\lambda_2 & \leftarrow \text{Helicity } + \\ \tilde{\lambda}_2 \rightarrow \tilde{\lambda}_2 + z\tilde{\lambda}_1 & \leftarrow \text{Helicity } - \end{array}$$
- ❖ Same is true for Einstein gravity, and many others
- ❖ This means that amplitudes in these theories are fully specified by residues on their poles

# Example 1: 4pt amplitude

- ✦ Let us consider amplitude of gluons  $A_4(1^+ 2^- 3^- 4^+)$



Only one term  
contributes

$$\hat{\lambda}_1 = \lambda_1 - z\lambda_2$$

$$\hat{\tilde{\lambda}}_2 = \tilde{\lambda}_2 + z\tilde{\lambda}_1$$

$z$  takes the value when  
 $P$  is on-shell momentum



# Example 1: 4pt amplitude

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- ✦ Let us consider amplitude of gluons  $A_4(1^+ 2^- 3^- 4^+)$

$$P^2 = \langle \hat{1}4 \rangle [14] = 0$$

$$\langle \hat{1}4 \rangle = \langle 14 \rangle - z \langle 24 \rangle = 0 \rightarrow z = \frac{\langle 14 \rangle}{\langle 24 \rangle}$$

We can now rewrite

Shouten identity

$$\hat{\lambda}_1 = \lambda_1 - z \lambda_2 = \lambda_1 - \frac{\langle 14 \rangle}{\langle 24 \rangle} \lambda_2 = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle}{\langle 24 \rangle} \lambda_4$$

$$\tilde{\lambda}_2 = \tilde{\lambda}_2 + z \tilde{\lambda}_1 = \frac{[12]}{[13]} \tilde{\lambda}_3$$

Use of momentum conservation

# Example 1: 4pt amplitude

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- ✦ Let us consider amplitude of gluons  $A_4(1^+ 2^- 3^- 4^+)$

$$\hat{\lambda}_1 = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle}{\langle 24 \rangle} \lambda_4$$

Calculate on-shell momentum  $P$

$$P = \hat{\lambda}_1 \tilde{\lambda}_1 + \lambda_4 \tilde{\lambda}_4 = \lambda_4 \left( \frac{\langle 12 \rangle}{\langle 24 \rangle} \tilde{\lambda}_1 + \tilde{\lambda}_4 \right)$$



$$\lambda_P = \lambda_4$$



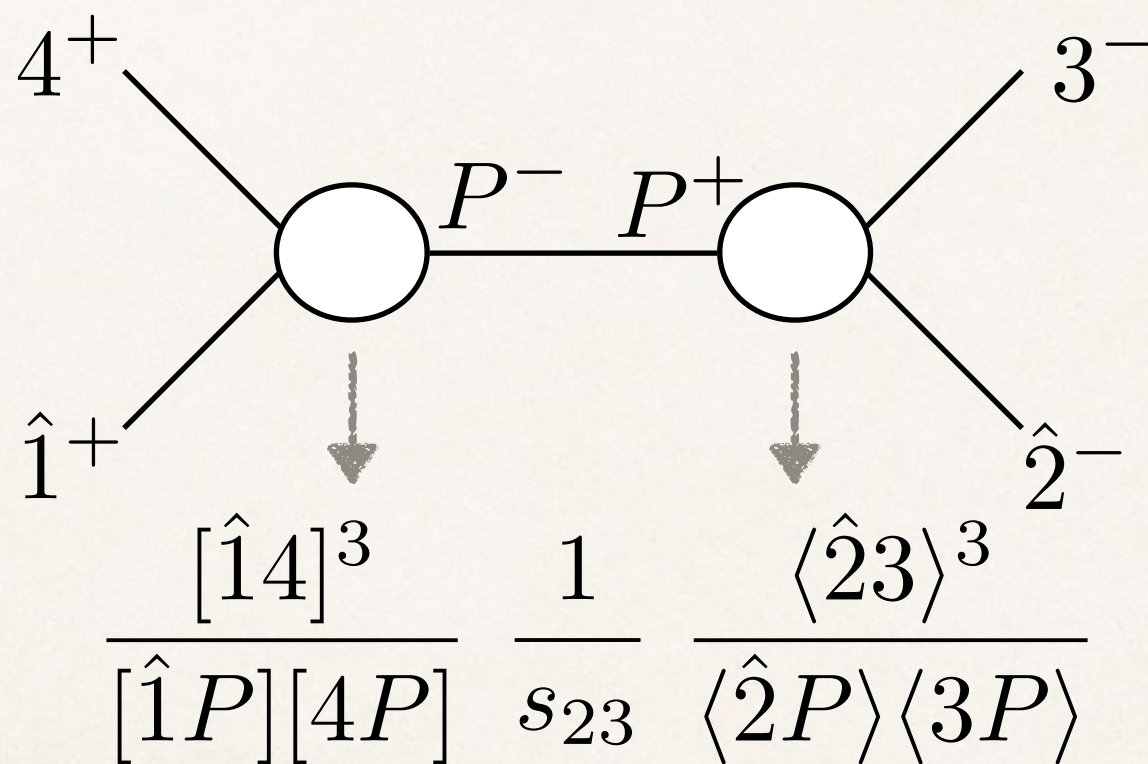
$$\tilde{\lambda}_P = \frac{\langle 23 \rangle}{\langle 24 \rangle} \tilde{\lambda}_3$$



# Example 1: 4pt amplitude

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- ✦ Let us consider amplitude of gluons  $A_4(1^+ 2^- 3^- 4^+)$



$$\hat{\lambda}_1 = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle}{\langle 24 \rangle} \lambda_4$$

$$\tilde{\lambda}_2 = \frac{[12]}{[13]} \tilde{\lambda}_3$$

$$\lambda_P = \lambda_4$$

$$\tilde{\lambda}_P = \frac{\langle 23 \rangle}{\langle 24 \rangle} \tilde{\lambda}_3$$

# Example 1: 4pt amplitude

- Let us consider amplitude of gluons  $A_4(1^+ 2^- 3^- 4^+)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{[\hat{1}4]^3}{[\hat{1}P][4P]} \frac{1}{s_{23}} \frac{\langle \hat{2}3 \rangle^3}{\langle \hat{2}P \rangle \langle 3P \rangle} \\
 & = \frac{\langle 23 \rangle^4}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 41 \rangle}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{\lambda}_1 = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle}{\langle 24 \rangle} \lambda_4$$

$$\tilde{\lambda}_2 = \frac{[12]}{[13]} \tilde{\lambda}_3$$

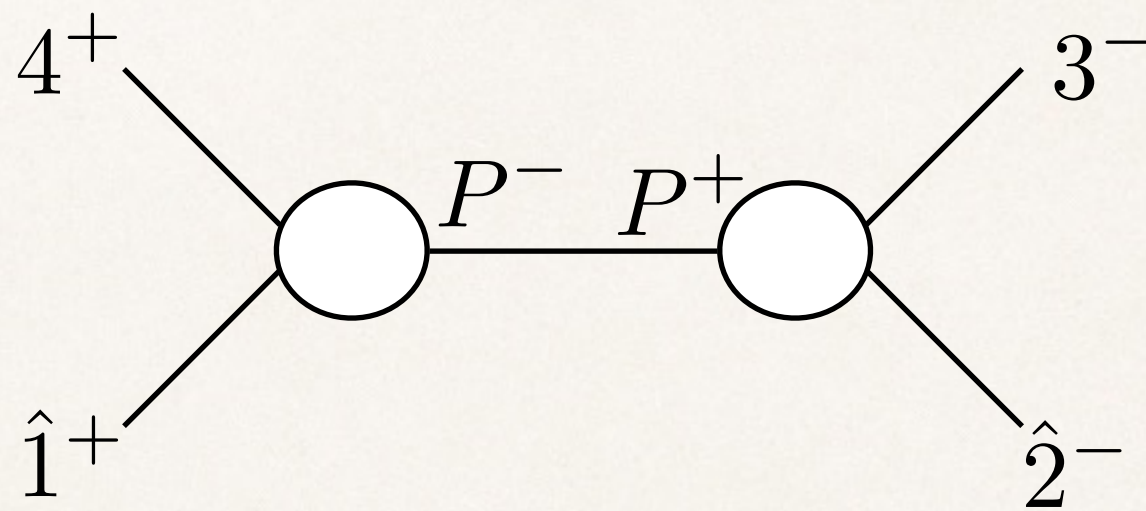
$$\lambda_P = \lambda_4$$

$$\tilde{\lambda}_P = \frac{\langle 23 \rangle}{\langle 24 \rangle} \tilde{\lambda}_3$$

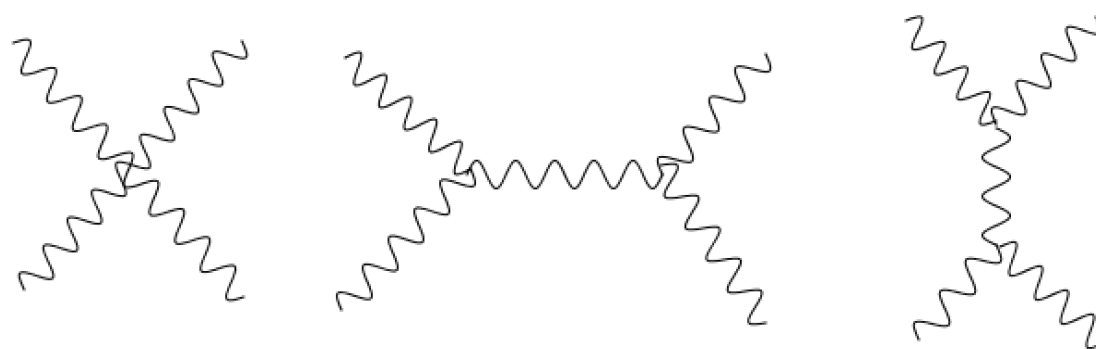


# Example 1: 4pt amplitude

- ❖ Let us consider amplitude of gluons  $A_4(1^+ 2^- 3^- 4^+)$

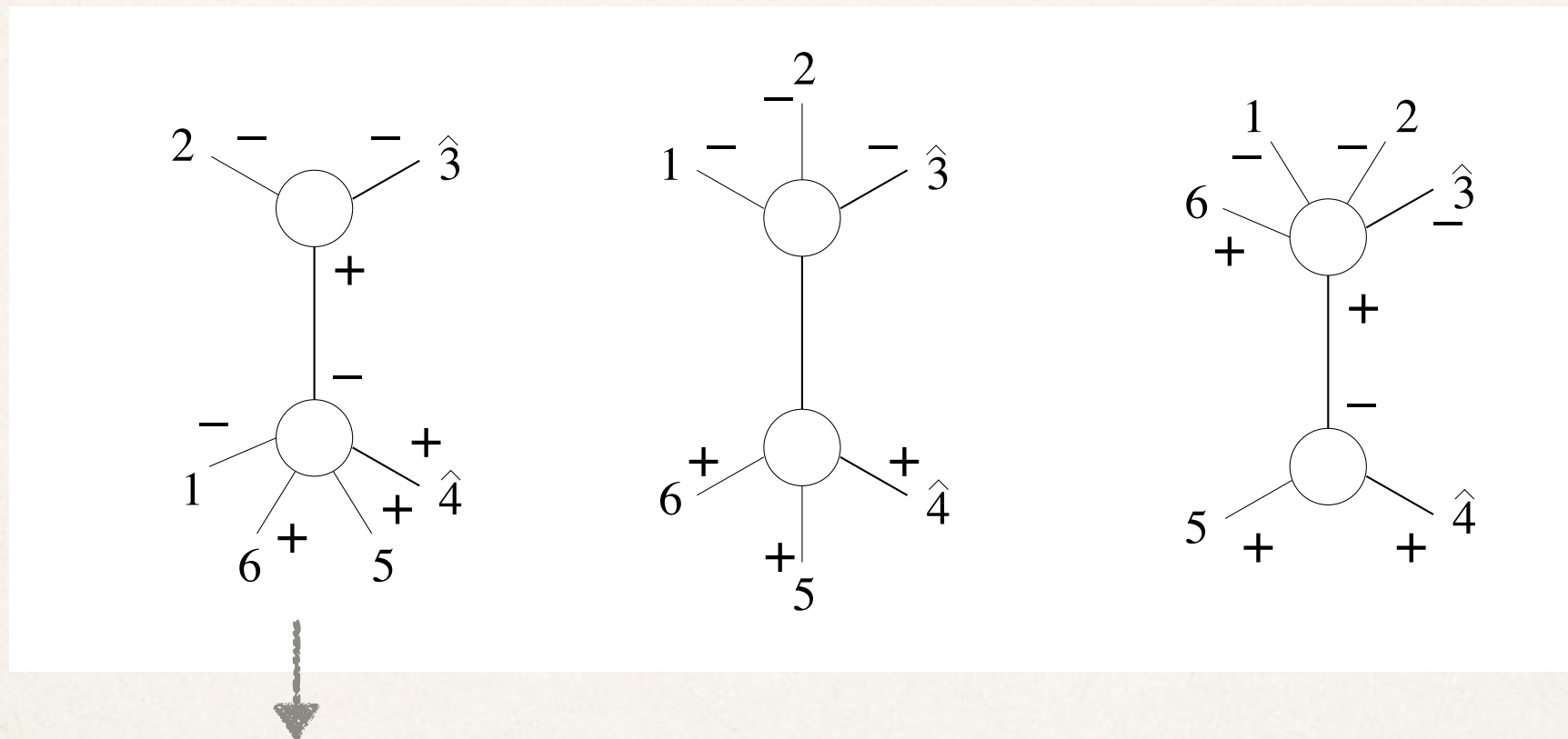


One gauge invariant  
object equivalent to  
three Feynman diagrams



# Example 2: 6pt amplitude

- Let us consider  $A_6(1^- 2^- 3^- 4^+ 5^+ 6^+)$  and shift legs 3,4



vs  
220 Feynman  
diagrams

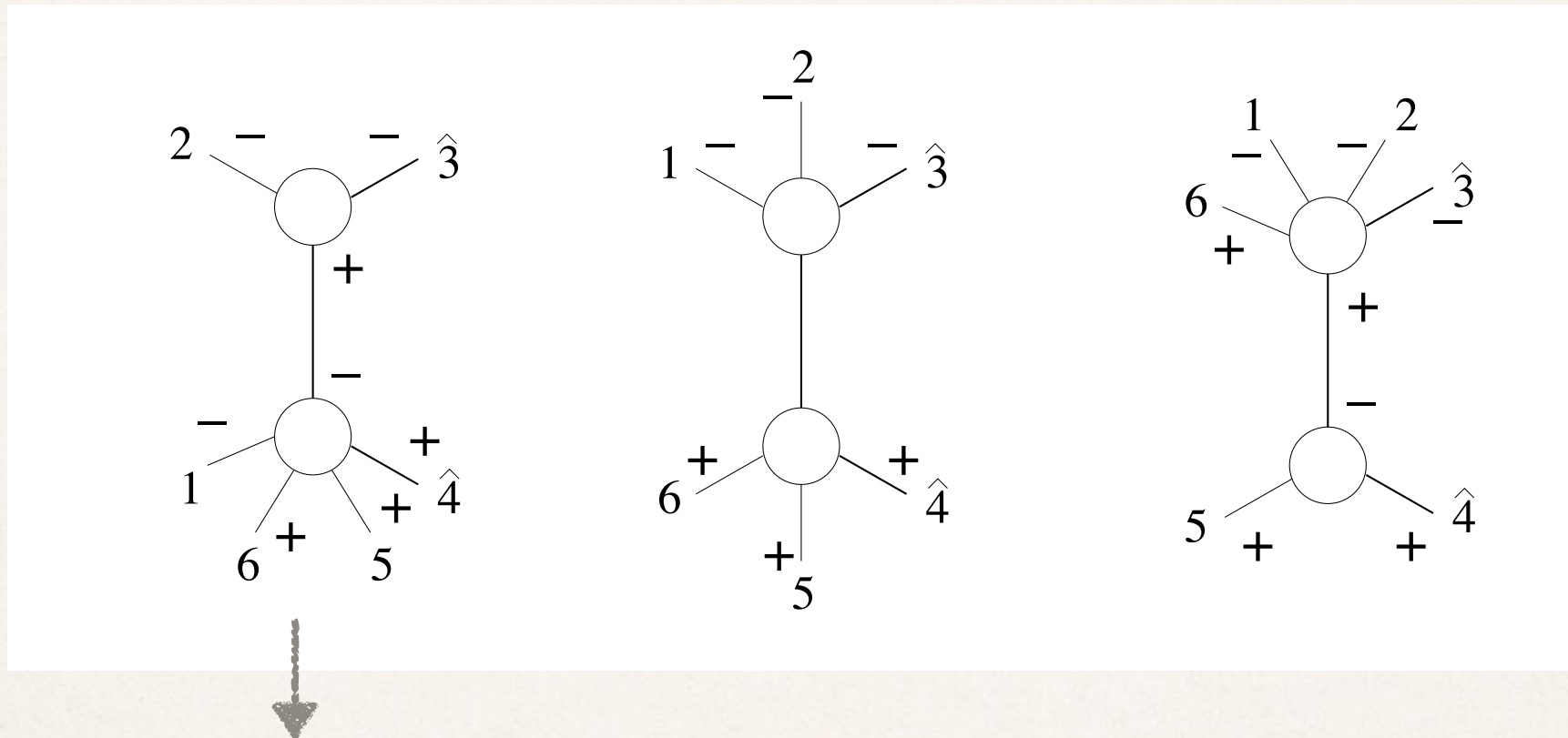
$$\frac{\langle 1|2+3|4\rangle^3}{[23][34]\langle 56\rangle\langle 61\rangle s_{234}\langle 5|3+4|2\rangle}$$

$$\langle 1|2+3|4\rangle = \langle 12\rangle[24] + \langle 13\rangle[34]$$



# Example 2: 6pt amplitude

- ✦ Let us consider  $A_6(1^- 2^- 3^- 4^+ 5^+ 6^+)$  and shift legs 3,4



$$\frac{\langle 1|2+3|4\rangle^3}{[23][34]\langle 56\rangle\langle 61\rangle s_{234}\langle 5|3+4|2\rangle} \quad \text{Spurious pole}$$

# Remark on BCFW

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- ❖ Extremely efficient (3 vs 220 for 6pt, 20 vs 34300 for 8pt)
- ❖ Terms in BCFW recursion relations
  - Gauge invariant
  - Spurious poles
- ❖ Amplitude = sum of these terms dictated by unitarity
- ❖ Note: not all factorization channels are present  
when 1,2 are on the same side



# Unitarity methods

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# One-loop amplitudes

- Sum of Feynman diagrams

$$\mathcal{M}^{1-loop} = \sum_j \int d\mathcal{I}_j \quad \text{where} \quad d\mathcal{I}_j = d^4\ell \, \mathcal{I}_j$$

- ✿ Re-express as basis of canonical integrals

$$\mathcal{M}^{1-loop} = \sum_j a_j \int d\mathcal{I}_j^{(4)} + \sum_j b_j \int d\mathcal{I}_j^{(3)} + \sum_j c_j \int d\mathcal{I}_j^{(2)} + \mathcal{R}$$

Box

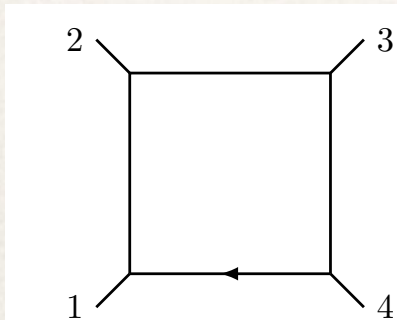
Triangle

Bubble



# One loop amplitudes

## ❖ Box integral



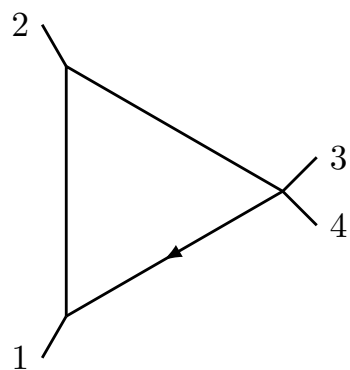
$$I = \frac{d^4 \ell \, st}{\ell^2 (\ell + k_1)^2 (\ell + k_1 + k_2)^2 (\ell - k_4)^2}$$

Tadpoles and  
other integrals

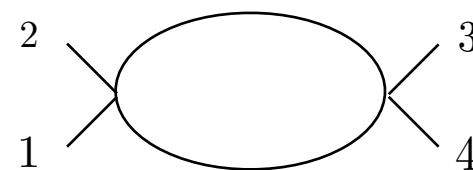


Vanish in dim reg

## ❖ Triangle and box integrals



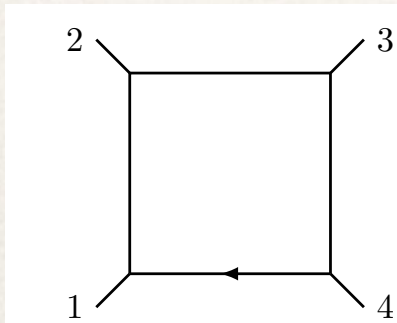
$$I = \frac{d^4 \ell \, s}{\ell^2 (\ell + k_1)^2 (\ell + k_1 + k_2)^2}$$



$$I = \frac{d^4 \ell \, s}{\ell^2 (\ell + k_1 + k_2)^2}$$

# One loop amplitudes

## ❖ Box integral



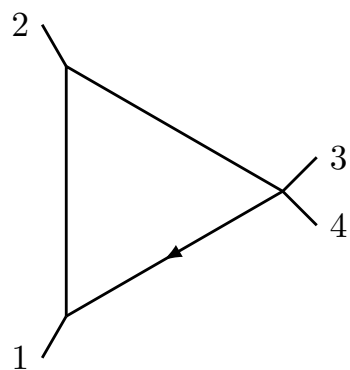
$$I = \frac{d^4 \ell \, st}{\ell^2 (\ell + k_1)^2 (\ell + k_1 + k_2)^2 (\ell - k_4)^2}$$

Tadpoles and  
other integrals

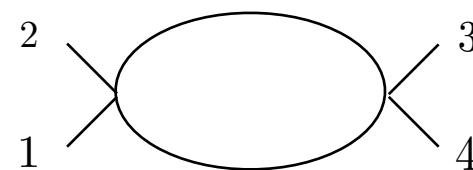


Vanish in dim reg

## ❖ Triangle and box integrals



$$I = \frac{d^4 \ell \, s}{\ell^2 (\ell + k_1)^2 (\ell + k_1 + k_2)^2}$$



$$I = \frac{d^4 \ell \, s}{\ell^2 (\ell + k_1 + k_2)^2}$$

UV divergent



# (Super) Yang Mills amplitudes

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- ❖ One-loop expansion in SYM theory

$$\mathcal{M} = \sum \text{Boxes} + \sum \text{Triangle} + \sum \text{Bubble} + \text{Rational}$$

Pure Yang-Mills

# (Super) Yang Mills amplitudes

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- ❖ One-loop expansion in SYM theory

$$\mathcal{M} = \sum \text{Boxes} + \sum \text{Triangle} + \sum \text{Bubble} + \text{Rational}$$

N=1 and N=2 Super Yang-Mills



# (Super) Yang Mills amplitudes

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- ❖ One-loop expansion in SYM theory

$$\mathcal{M} = \sum \text{Boxes} + \sum \text{Triangle} + \sum \text{Bubble} + \text{Rational}$$

N=4 Super Yang-Mills

- ❖ Note that it is UV finite at 1-loop, but also all loops

# One loop expansion

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## ❖ One-loop expansion

$$\mathcal{M} = \sum_j a_j \text{Boxes}_j + \sum_j b_j \text{Triangle}_j + \sum_j c_j \text{Bubble}_j + \text{Rational}$$




# One loop expansion


---

## ❖ One-loop expansion

$$\mathcal{M} = \sum_j a_j \text{Boxes}_j + \sum_j b_j \text{Triangle}_j + \sum_j c_j \text{Bubble}_j + \text{Rational}$$



How to calculate  
these coefficients?



How to calculate  
this function?

# One loop expansion

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## ❖ One-loop expansion

$$\mathcal{M} = \sum_j a_j \text{Boxes}_j + \sum_j b_j \text{Triangle}_j + \sum_j c_j \text{Bubble}_j + \text{Rational}$$

How to calculate  
these coefficients?

How to calculate  
this function?

↓

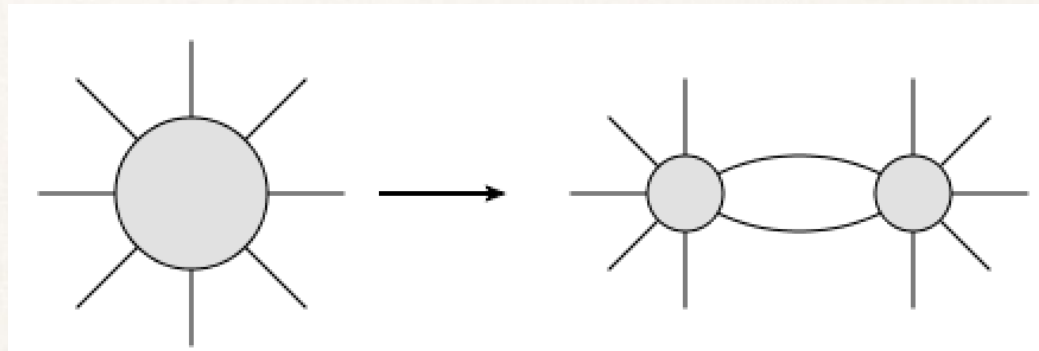
Unitarity methods



# One loop unitarity

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- ❖ Analogue of tree-level unitarity at one-loop



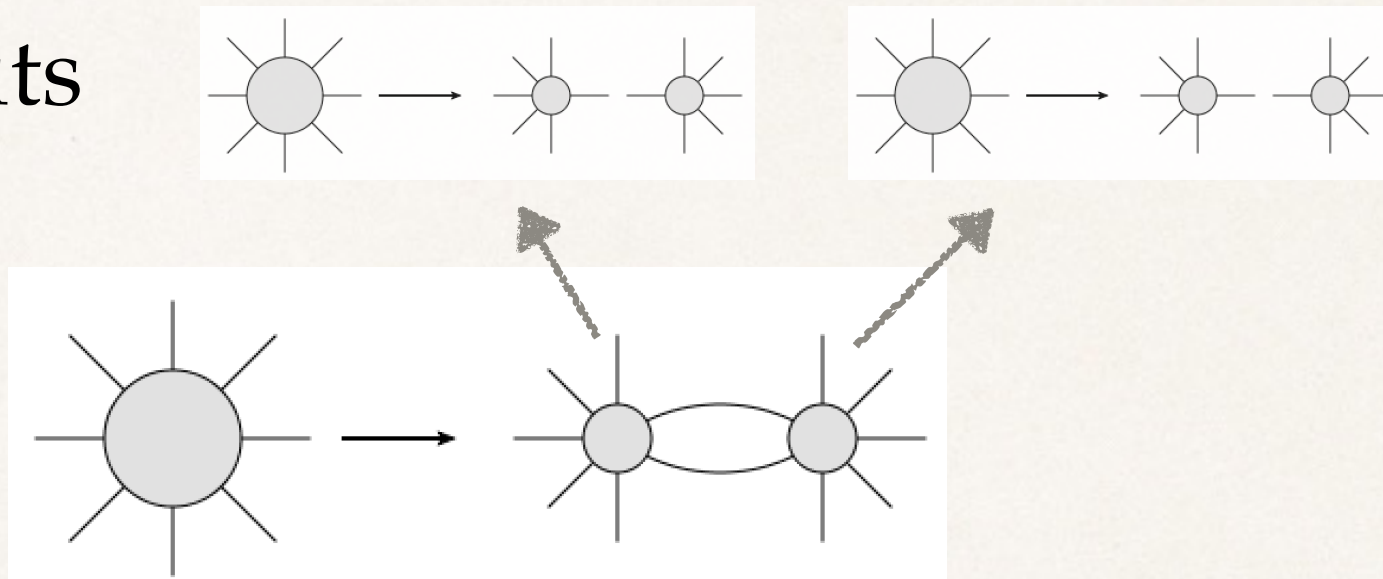
$$\mathcal{M}^{1-loop} \xrightarrow{\ell^2 = (\ell + Q)^2 = 0} \mathcal{M}_L^{tree} \frac{1}{\ell^2 (\ell + Q)^2} \mathcal{M}_R^{tree}$$

Unitarity cut

- ❖ In general      Cut  $\leftrightarrow \ell^2 = 0$

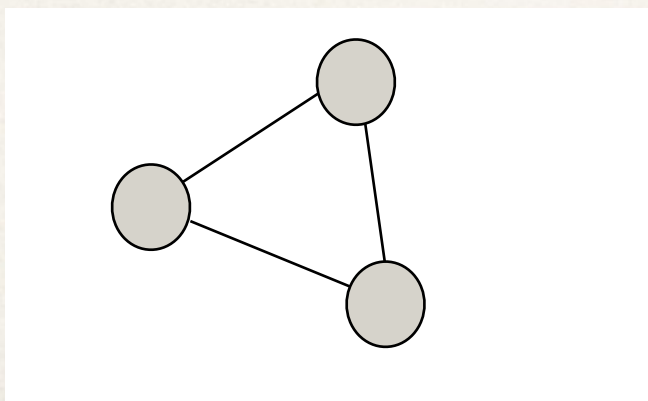
# One-loop unitarity

## ✦ Higher cuts



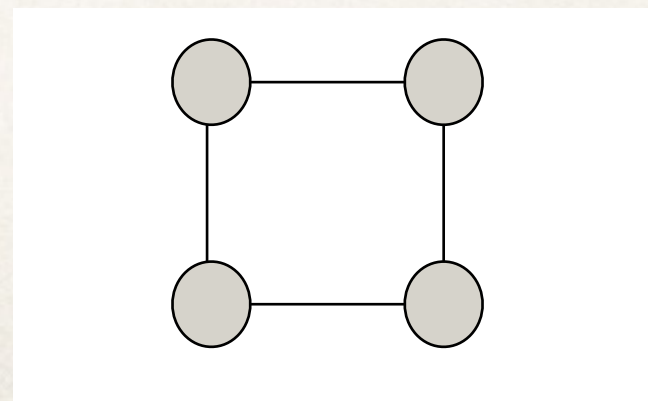
Triple cut

$$\ell^2 = (\ell + Q_1)^2 = (\ell + Q_2)^2 = 0$$



Quadruple cut

$$\ell^2 = (\ell + Q_1)^2 = (\ell + Q_2)^2 = (\ell + Q_3)^2 = 0$$

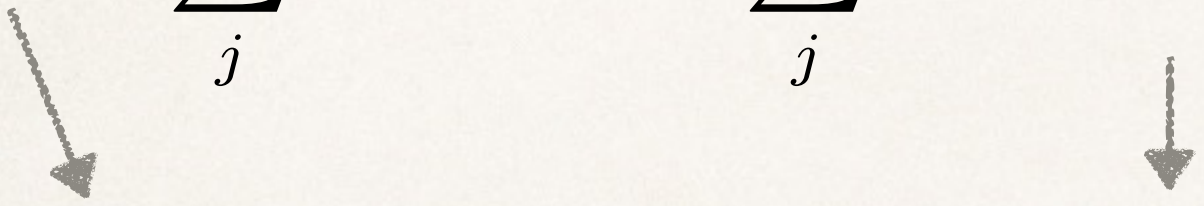




# Fixing coefficients

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- ❖ Perform cut on both side of equation

$$\mathcal{M} = \sum_j a_j \text{Boxes}_j + \sum_j b_j \text{Triangle}_j + \sum_j c_j \text{Bubble}_j + \text{Rational}$$


Product of trees

Linear combination of coefficients

- ❖ Example: Quadruple cut - only one box contributes

$$\mathcal{M}_1^{tree} \mathcal{M}_2^{tree} \mathcal{M}_3^{tree} \mathcal{M}_4^{tree} = a_j$$

- ❖ All coefficients  $a_j, b_j, c_j$  can be obtained

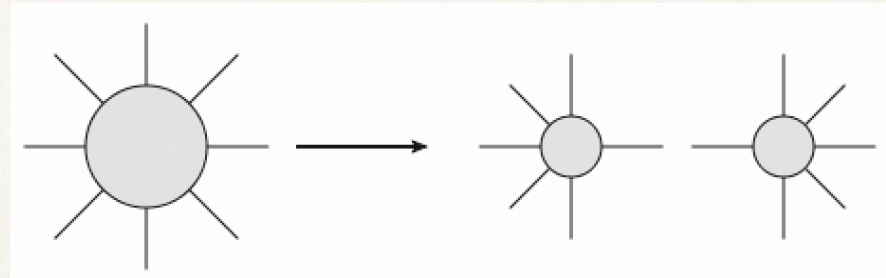
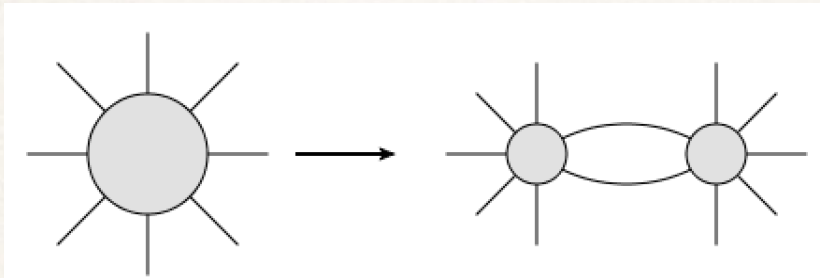


# Unitarity methods

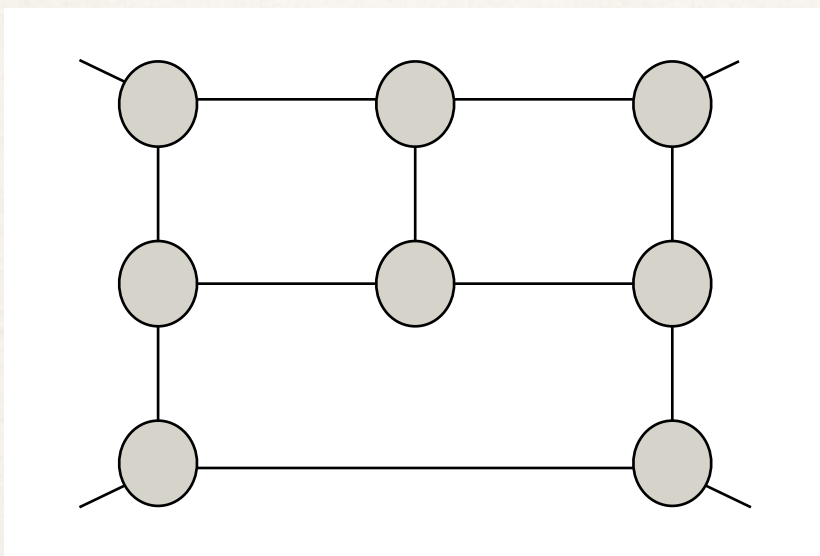
(Bern, Dixon, Kosower)



- ✦ We can iterate both types of cuts



- ✦ Stop when all propagators are cut: **maximal cut**



Product of 3pt on-shell amplitudes

Which 3pt amplitude?

Default answer: sum over all possibilities

Wait until next lecture for more....



# Unitarity methods

(Bern, Dixon, Kosower)



- ✧ Expansion of the amplitude

$$\mathcal{M}^{\ell-loop} = \sum_j a_j \int d\mathcal{I}_j$$

Two dashed arrows point downwards from the equation. One points from  $\mathcal{M}^{\ell-loop}$  to the text 'Cuts give product of trees'. The other points from  $d\mathcal{I}_j$  to the text 'Linear combinations of coefficients  $a_j$ '.

Cuts give product  
of trees

Linear combinations  
of coefficients  $a_j$

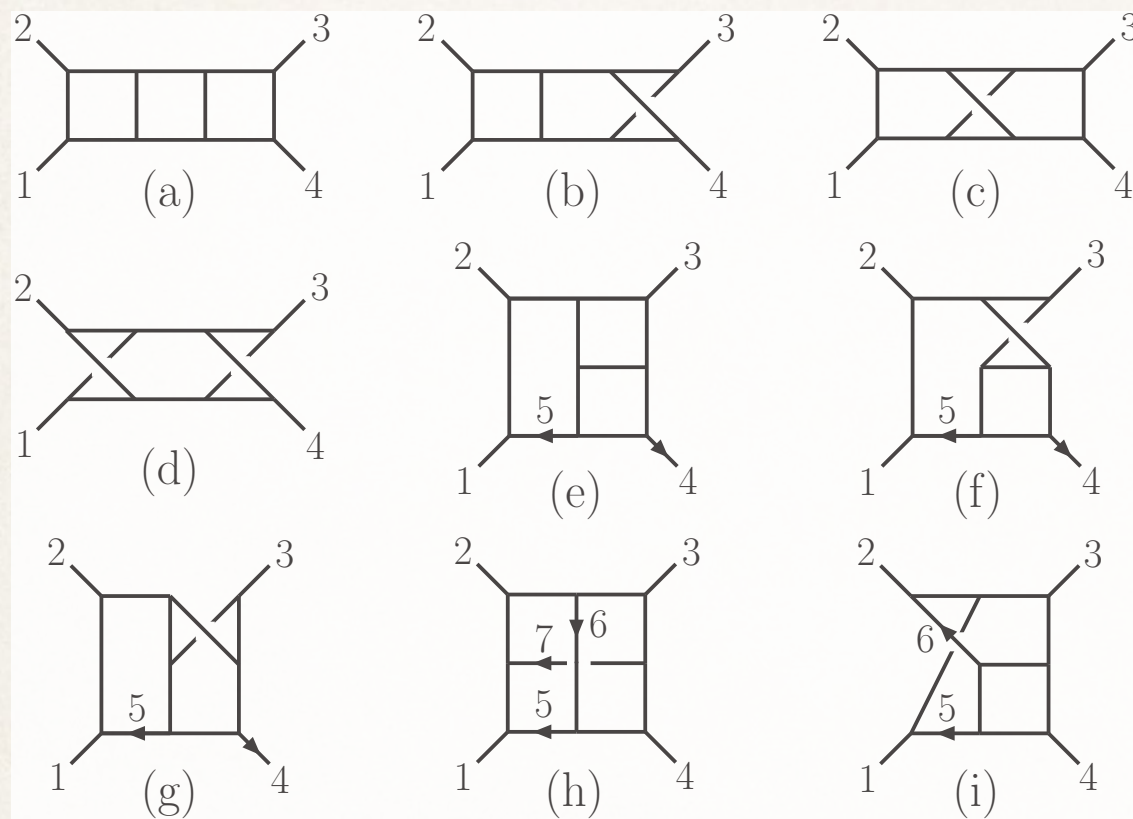
- ✧ Very successful method for loop amplitudes in different theories
- ✧ Practical problems:
  - Find basis of integrals
  - Solve (long) system of equations



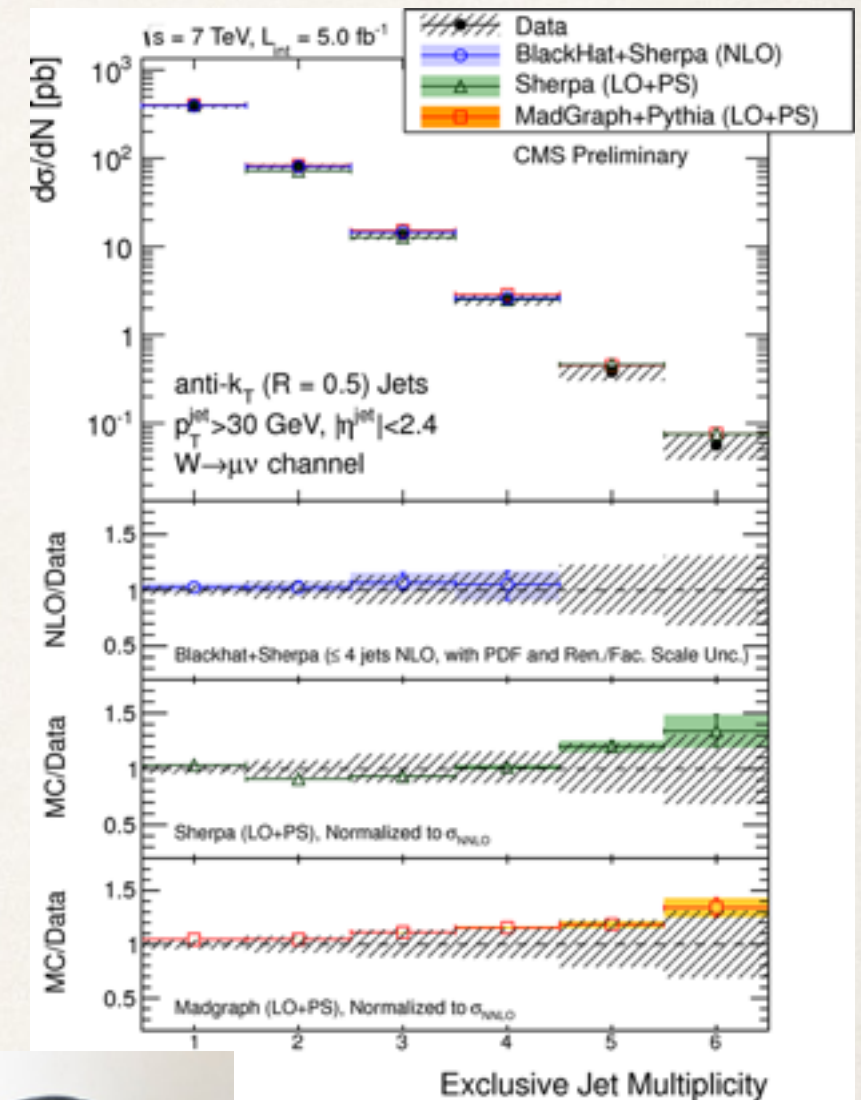
# Unitarity methods



## ❖ Results in susy theories and QCD



Basis of integrals for 3-loop amplitudes  
in N=4 SYM and N=8 SUGRA



Black Hat



# Leading singularity

(Cachazo)



- ❖ Maximal cut: number of propagators cut  $P \leq 3L + n - 3$
- ❖ Number of degrees of freedom in loop momenta  $4L$
- ❖ For example:  $n=4$  we can cut only  $3L + 1 < 4L$  times
- ❖ Residue depends on remaining degrees of freedom

$\mathcal{M} \xrightarrow{\text{Maxcut}} F(\alpha_j, p_k)$  ← This function has poles in  $\alpha_j$



Calculate residue until all  $\alpha_j$  are fixed

$G(p_k)$  **Leading singularity**



# On-shell good, off-shell bad

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- ❖ Feynman diagrams: off-shell objects
  - ❖ Unitarity methods:  $\text{Cut}[\mathcal{M}] = \text{Cut}[\text{Basis of integrals}]$
  - ❖ Recursion relations
- Off-shell objects
- On-shell objects
- Locality  
Unitarity

$$\mathcal{M} \sim \mathcal{M}_L \mathcal{M}_R$$

On-shell objects

Locality lost  
Unitarity

- ❖ Next direction: loosing manifest locality and unitarity



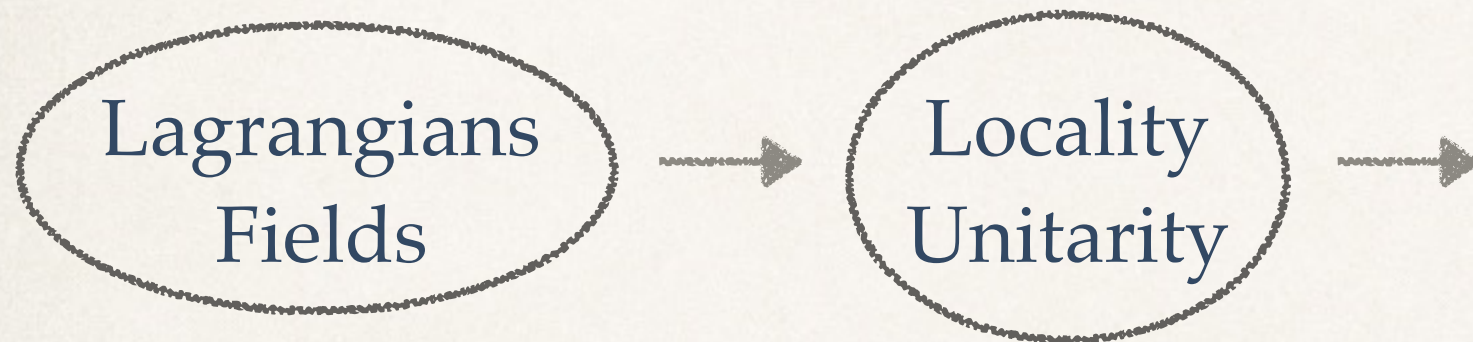
# Toy model: Planar $N=4$ SYM

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# New framework

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- ❖ Motivation: find different formulation of amplitudes
- ❖ Looking for a different starting point

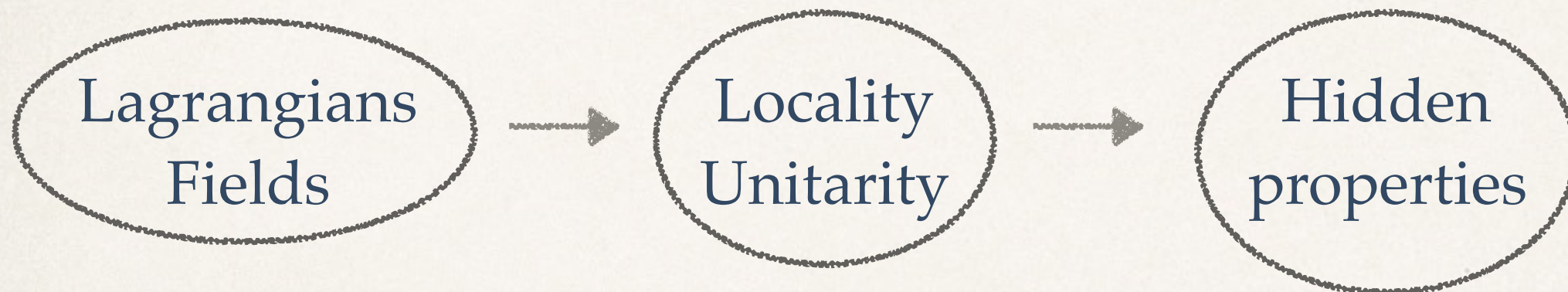




# New framework

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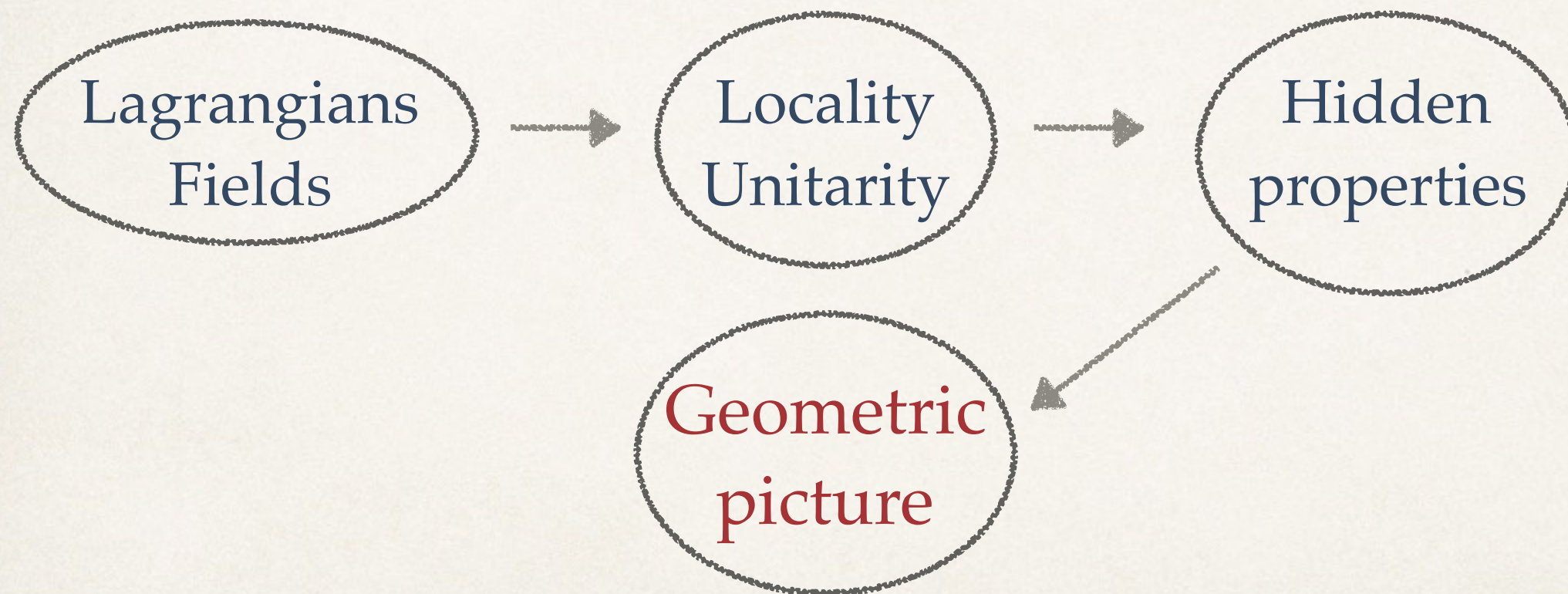
- ❖ Motivation: find different formulation of amplitudes
- ❖ Looking for a different starting point



# New framework

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- ❖ Motivation: find different formulation of amplitudes
- ❖ Looking for a different starting point





# Toy model

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- ❖ This is a great success; is there a deeper structure?
- ❖ Time-proven method: study a toy model first

## Wish list:

- Four-dimensional interacting theory
- Close to the real world (QCD) as much as possible
- Ability to generate plenty of explicit results

# Planar $N=4$ Super Yang-Mills theory

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(Brink-Scherk-Schwarz 1977)

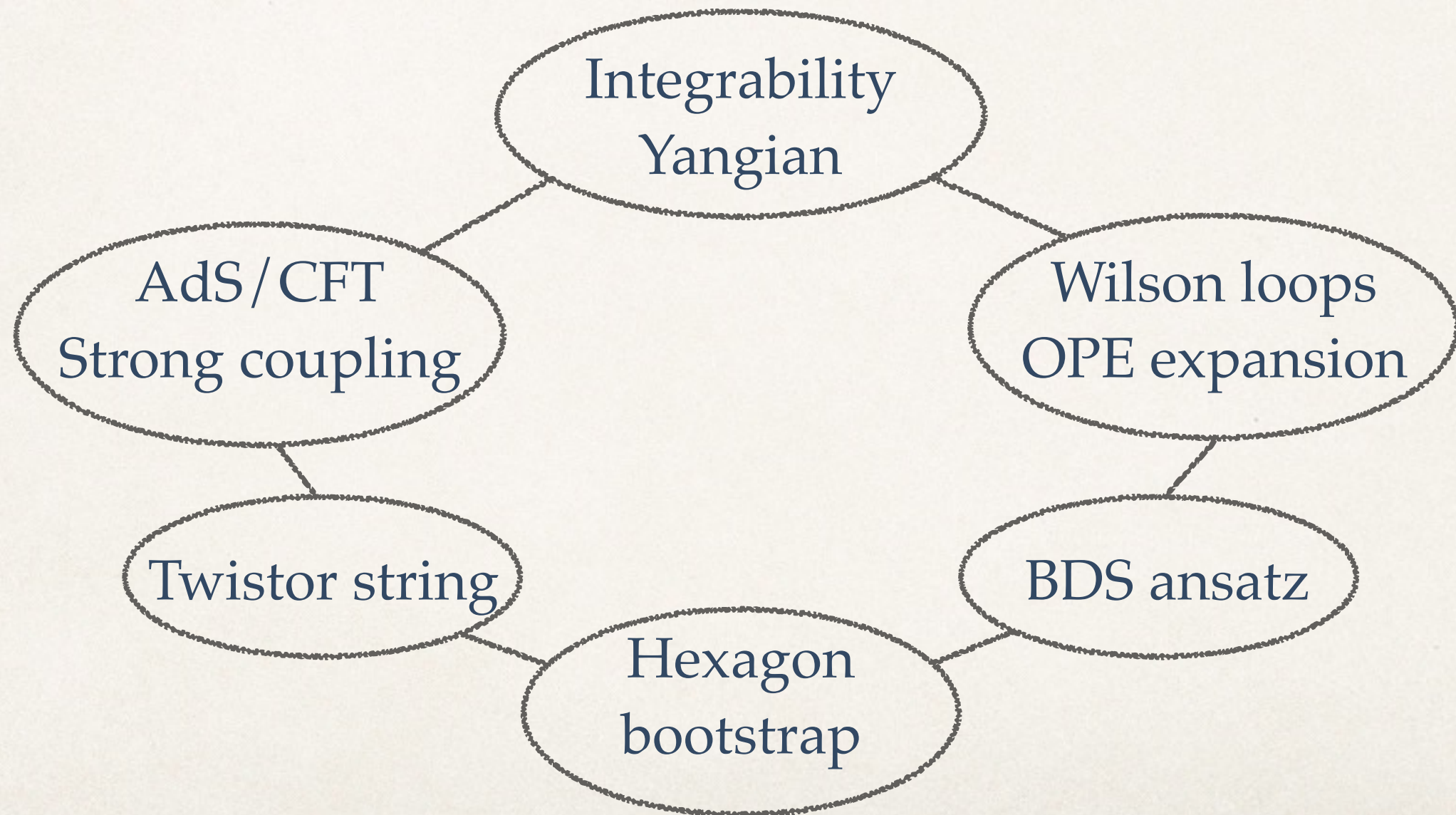
- ✧ Conformal, convergent series
- ✧ Great toy model for QCD
  - Tree-level amplitudes identical
  - Loop amplitudes simpler, structures similar
  - But, no confinement :(
- ✧ Past: new methods for amplitudes originated here



# Many faces of the theory

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- ❖ Useful playground for many theoretical ideas



# Amplitudes in N=4 SYM

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- ❖ N=4 superfield

$$\Phi = G_+ + \tilde{\eta}_A \Gamma_A + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\eta}^A \tilde{\eta}^B S_{AB} + \frac{1}{6} \epsilon_{ABCD} \tilde{\eta}^A \tilde{\eta}^B \tilde{\eta}^C \bar{\Gamma}^D + \frac{1}{24} \epsilon_{ABCD} \tilde{\eta}^A \tilde{\eta}^B \tilde{\eta}^C \tilde{\eta}^D G_-$$

- ❖ Superamplitudes:  $\mathcal{A}_n = \sum_{k=2}^{n-2} \mathcal{A}_{n,k}$



Component amplitudes with power  $\tilde{\eta}^{4k}$

- ❖ Planarity = single trace approx, ordered particles



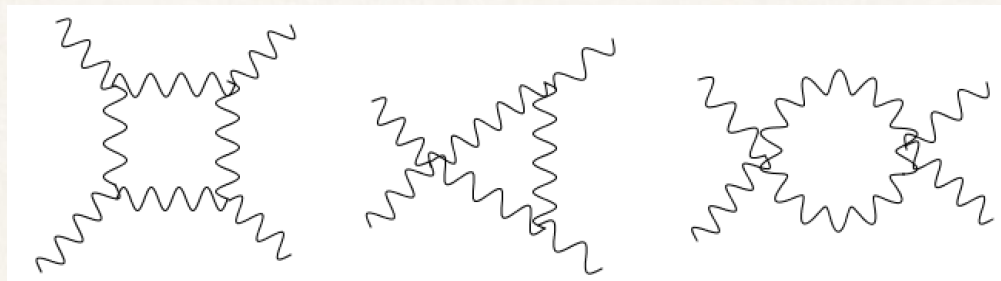
# Simple amplitudes

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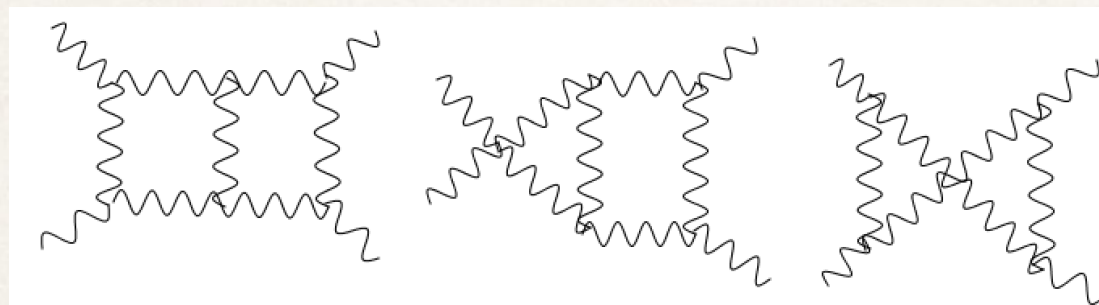
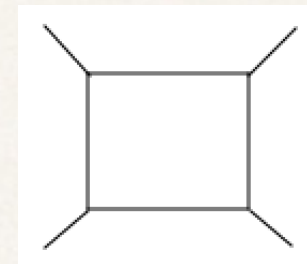
## ❖ Comparison: Feynman diagrams vs unitary methods

$$gg \rightarrow gg$$

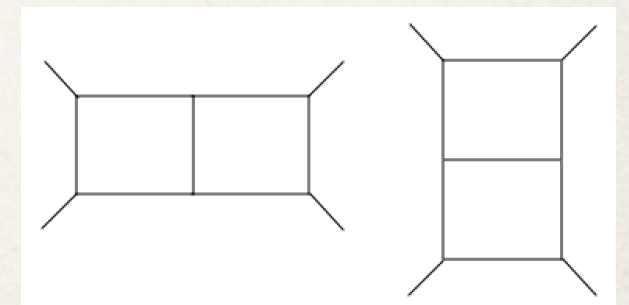
Number of  
graphs



87 vs 1



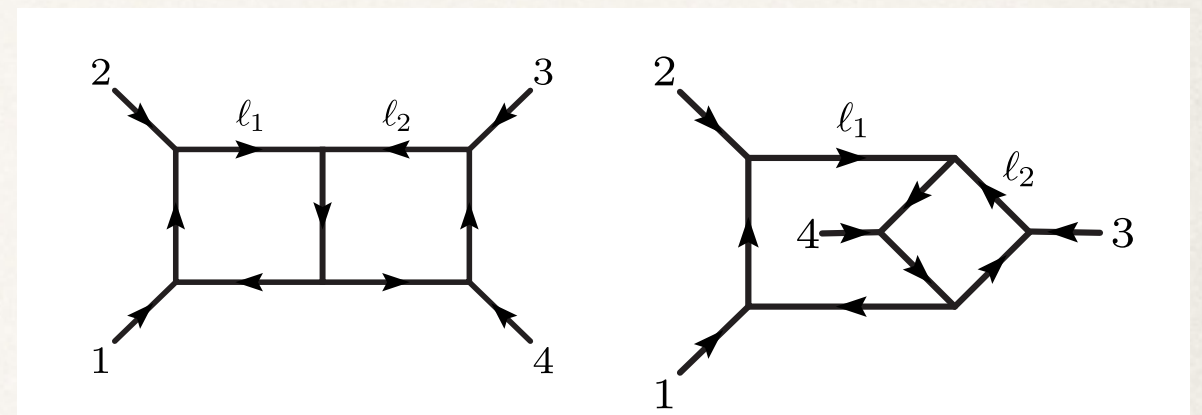
$\sim 1000$  vs 2



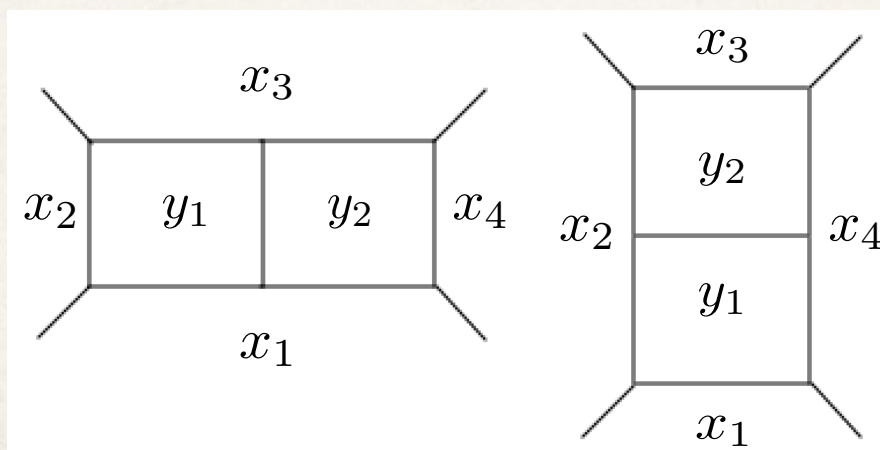
# Dual variables

❖ Generally, each diagram has its own variables

- No global loop momenta
- Each diagram: its own labels



❖ Planar limit: dual variables



$$k_1 = (x_1 - x_2) \quad k_2 = (x_2 - x_3) \quad \text{etc}$$

$$\ell_1 = (x_3 - y_1) \quad \ell_2 = (y_2 - x_3)$$

Global variables



# Integrand

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- ✦ Using these variables: define a single function

$$\mathcal{M} = \int d^4 y_1 \dots d^4 y_L \mathcal{I}(x_i, y_j)$$

  
Integrand

- ✦ Ideal object to study: rational function, no divergencies
- ✦ Standard wisdom:  $\mathcal{I} \sim \mathcal{I} + \text{Total derivative}$
- ✦ Planar N=4 SYM: unique function

# Dual conformal invariance (DCI)

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- ❖ Tree-level amplitudes + integrand in planar N=4 SYM:

(Drummond, Henn, Smirnov, Sokatchev 2006)

## Dual conformal symmetry

- ❖ Dual variables  $p_i = x_{i+1} - x_i$   $\sum_i x_i = 0$

- ❖ Conformal symmetry in the dual space

- ❖ Superconformal symmetry + Dual  $\rightarrow$  Yangian

(Drummond, Henn, Korchemsky, Sokatchev 2008)

(Drummond-Henn-Plefka 2009)



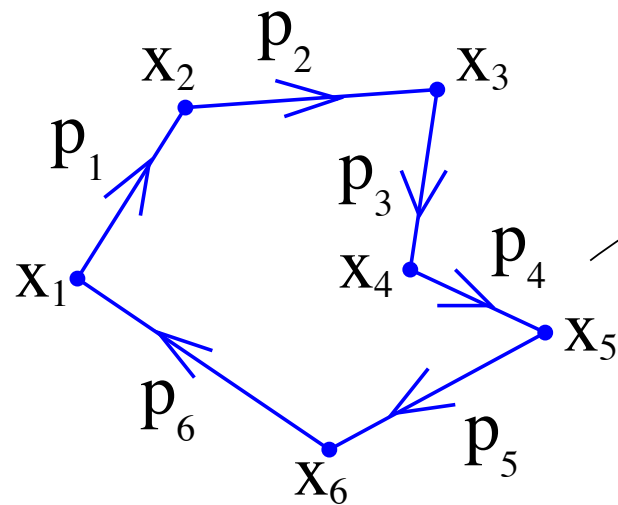
# Momentum twistors

(Hodges 2009)

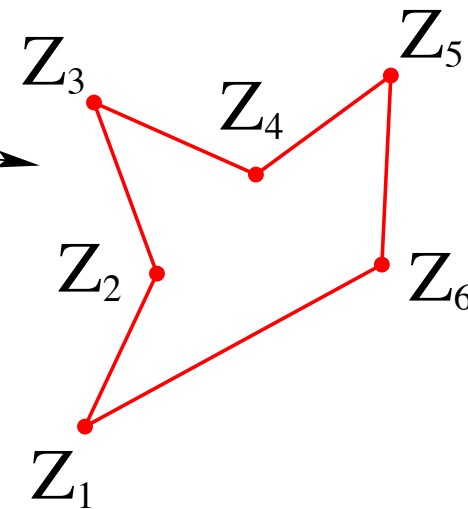
- ❖ New variables: points in  $\mathbb{P}^3$

$$Z = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_a \\ x_{a\dot{a}} \lambda_a \end{pmatrix}$$

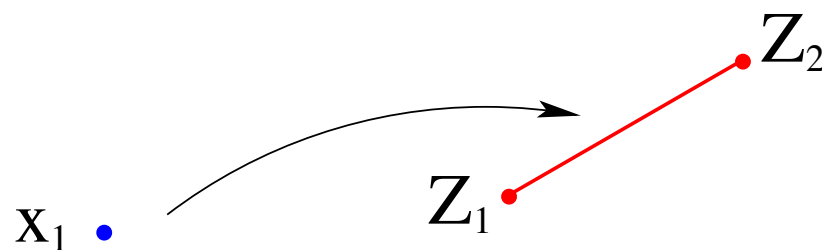
Dual Space–Time



Momentum Twistor Space



Cyclic ordering  
crucial



# Momentum twistors

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- ❖ Dual conformal:  $SL(4)$  on momentum twistors
- ❖ Dual conformal invariants:  $\langle 1234 \rangle = \epsilon_{abcd} Z_1^a Z_2^b Z_3^c Z_4^d$   
 $\langle 1234 \rangle = \langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle [23]$
- ❖ Yangian invariants:

$$[12345] = \frac{(\eta_1 \langle 2345 \rangle + \cdots + \eta_5 \langle 1234 \rangle)^4}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 2345 \rangle \langle 3451 \rangle \langle 4512 \rangle \langle 5123 \rangle}$$

$$\text{where } \tilde{\eta}_a = \frac{\langle a-1 \ a+1 \rangle \eta_a + \langle a \ a-1 \rangle \eta_{a+1} + \langle a+1 \ a \rangle \eta_{a-1}}{\langle a \ a+1 \rangle \langle a \ a-1 \rangle}$$



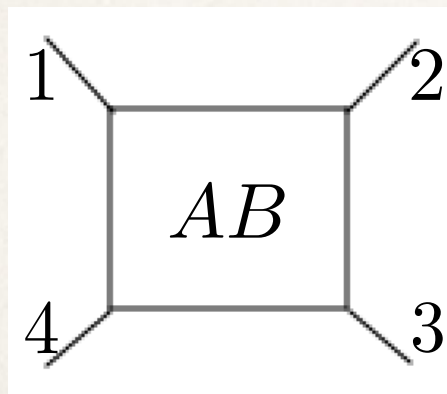
# Momentum twistors

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- ❖ Loop variable: pair of momentum twistors

$$\ell \leftrightarrow Z_A Z_B$$

- ❖ Example:



$$\frac{d^4 \ell \, st}{\ell^2 (\ell + k_1)^2 (\ell + k_1 + k_2)^2 (\ell - k_4)^2} \frac{\langle AB d^2 A \rangle \langle AB d^2 B \rangle \langle 1234 \rangle^2}{\langle AB12 \rangle \langle AB23 \rangle \langle AB34 \rangle \langle AB41 \rangle}$$

where  $\ell^2 = \frac{\langle AB41 \rangle}{\langle AB \rangle \langle 41 \rangle}$

$$\langle ij \rangle = \epsilon_{abcd} Z_i^a Z_j^b I^{cd}$$

Infinity twistor: breaking of DCI

# DCI of trees and integrand

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❖ In planar N=4 SYM

$$\mathcal{R}_{n,k}^{\ell-loop} = \frac{\mathcal{I}_{n,k}^{\ell-loop}}{\mathcal{M}_{n,k=2}^{tree}}$$

Yangian invariant (covariant) Parke-Taylor amplitude

❖ Example of 6pt tree-level amplitude

$$\mathcal{M}_6 = [12345] + [34561] + [56123]$$

All terms include spurious  
poles in momentum space

Tension between hidden  
symmetry and locality



Thank you for attention!