

# Singularity structure of gravity amplitudes



with Enrico Herrmann (Caltech) 1604.03479 + in progress

related work by Paul Heslop and Arthur Lipstein 1604.03046

Jaroslav Trnka

Center for Quantum Mathematics and Physics (QMAP), UC Davis

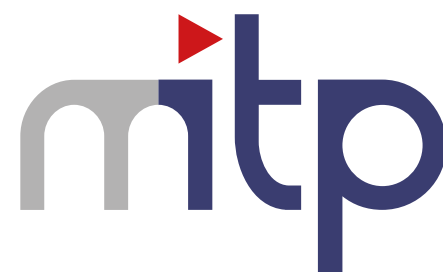
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*Amplitudes 2016, Nordita, July 5, 2016*





# ACTIVITIES 2017



## Mainz Institute for Theoretical Physics

### SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS JGU CAMPUS MAINZ

#### Amplitudes:

##### Practical and Theoretical Developments

Fabrizio Caola CERN, Herbert Gangl Univ. Durham,  
Jaroslav Trnka UC Davis,  
Johannes Henn, Stefan Müller-Stach,  
Stefan Weinzierl JGU

**February 6-17, 2017**

#### Quantum Vacuum and Gravitation:

##### Testing General Relativity in Cosmology

Manuel Asorey Univ. Zaragoza, Emil Mottola LANL,  
Ilya Shapiro Univ. Juiz de Fora, Andreas Wipf Univ. Jena

**March 13-24, 2017**

#### Low-Energy Probes of New Physics

Peter Fierlinger, Martin Jung TU Munich,  
Susan Gardner Univ. of Kentucky

**May 2-24, 2017**

#### The TeV Scale: a Threshold to New Physics?

Csaba Csaki Cornell, Christophe Grojean DESY,  
Andreas Weiler TU Munich, Pedro Schwaller JGU

**June 12 - July 7, 2017**

#### Diagrammatic Monte Carlo Methods for QFTs in Particle-, Nuclear-, and Condensed Matter Physics

Christoph Gatttringer Univ. Graz, Shailesh Chandrasekharan  
Duke Univ., Dean Lee Univ. North Carolina State

**September 18-29, 2017**

### TOPICAL WORKSHOPS JGU CAMPUS MAINZ

#### Quantum Methods for Lattice Gauge Theories Calculations

Ignacio Cirac MPI for Quantum Optics,  
Simone Montangero Univ. Ulm, Peter Zoller Univ. Innsbruck

**February 6-10, 2017, Schloss Waldthausen**

#### Women at the Intersection of Mathematics and High Energy Physics

Katrin Wendland Univ. Freiburg, Sylvie Paycha Univ. Potsdam,  
Kasia Rejzner Univ. York, Gabriele Honecker JGU

**March 6-10, 2017**

#### Geometry, Gravity and Supersymmetry

Vicente Cortés Univ. Hamburg, José Figueroa-O'Farrill  
Univ. Edinburgh, George Papadopoulos King's College London

**April 24-28, 2017**

#### Foundational and Structural Aspects of Gauge Theories

Claudio Dappiaggi Univ. Pavia, Klaus Fredenhagen DESY,  
Marco Benini Univ. Potsdam

**May 29 - June 6, 2017**

#### Supernova Neutrino Observations: What can we learn and do?

Hans-Thomas Janka MPI for Astrophysics, Georg Raffelt  
MPI for Physics, Lutz Köpke, Michael Wurm JGU

**October 9-13, 2017**

### MITP SUMMER SCHOOL

**August, 2017, Erbacher Hof Mainz**

Joachim Kopp, Felix Yu, Anna Kaminska, Maikel De Vries,  
Matthias Neubert JGU

For more details: <http://www.mitp.uni-mainz.de>



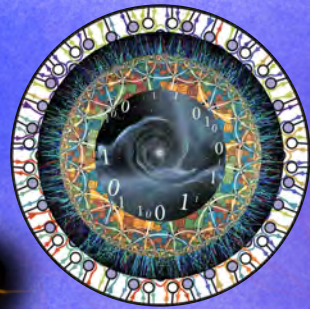
Mainz Institute for Theoretical Physics

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# QMAP

**UCDAVIS**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

*FIELDS*

*STRINGS*

*GRAVITY*

**DECEMBER 12-16, 2016**

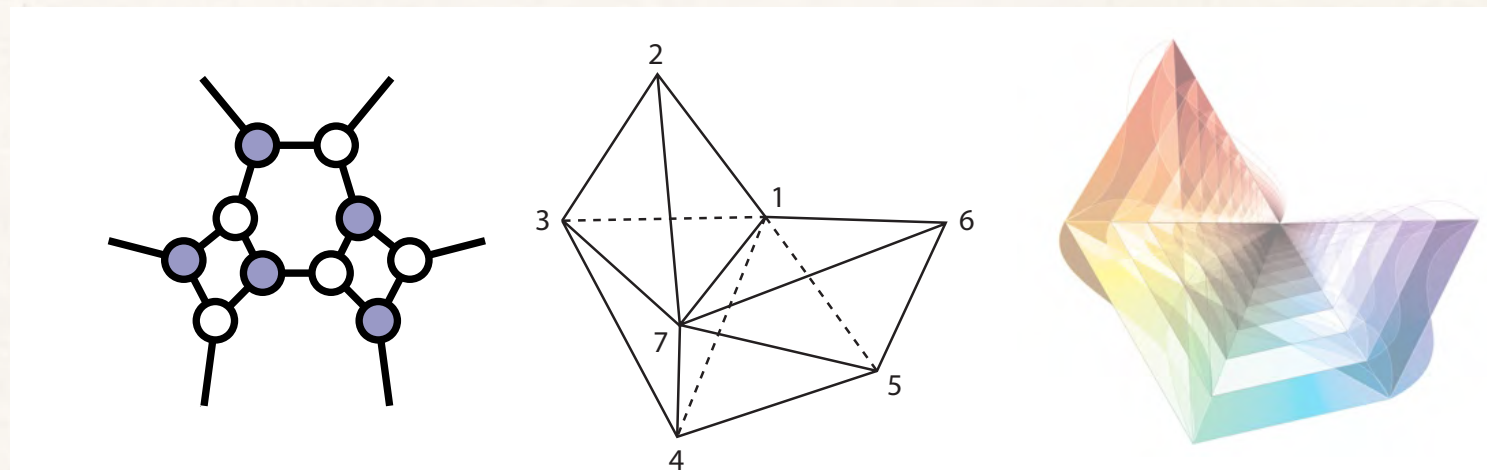
<http://qmap.ucdavis.edu/events/fsg2016>





# Goal

## Mathematical structures in planar $N=4$ SYM



Non-planar  $N=4$  SYM



$N=8$  SUGRA



# Questions

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- ❖ Do non-planar integrands have special properties?
- ❖ N=8 supergravity: singularity structure, from IR to UV



# Singularities of amplitudes

- ❖ Scattering amplitudes of massless particles in D=4

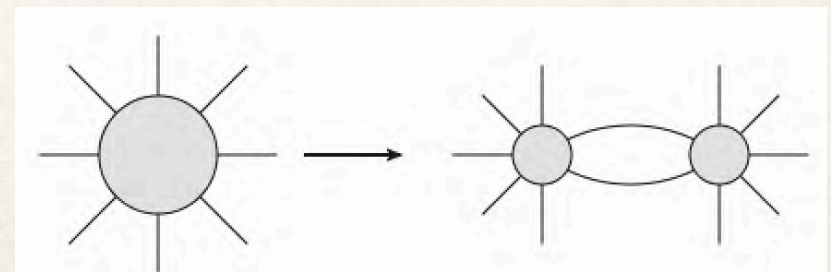
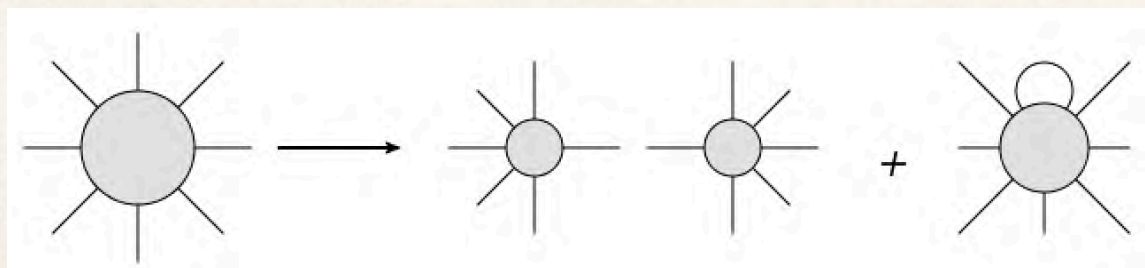
Fixed by singularities

$$\mathcal{A} = \sum_j \int d\mathcal{I}_j = \int d\mathcal{I}$$

No loop momenta,  
complicated functions

Loop momenta,  
rational function

Powerful unitarity





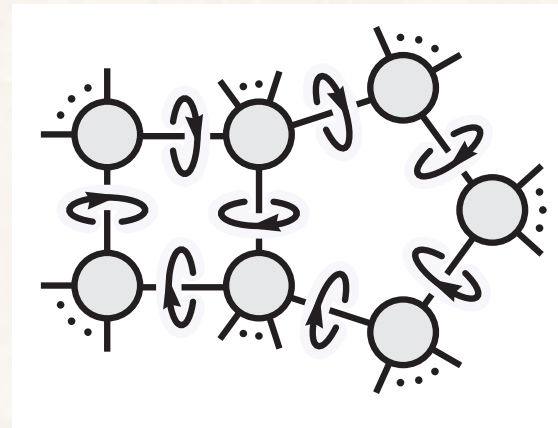
# Generalized unitarity

(Bern, Dixon, Kosower)

(Britto, Cachazo, Feng)

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- ❖ Iterative use of cut equation



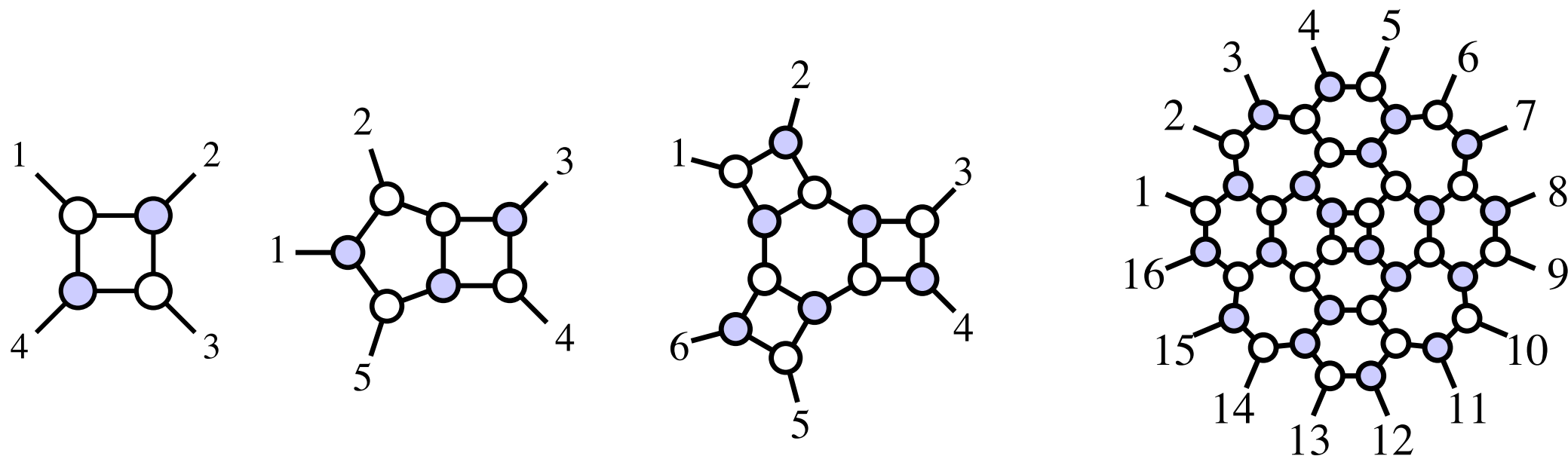
- ❖ Cuts of loops are products of tree-level amplitudes
- ❖ Cut everything you can: maximal cuts
- ❖ Factorization into three point amplitudes

On-shell diagrams

# On-shell diagrams

(Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachazo, Goncharov, Postnikov, JT 2012)

- ❖ Draw planar graph with three point vertices



Cuts of loop integrands

Product of 3pt amplitudes

- ❖ Exist in all theories, special in planar N=4 SYM

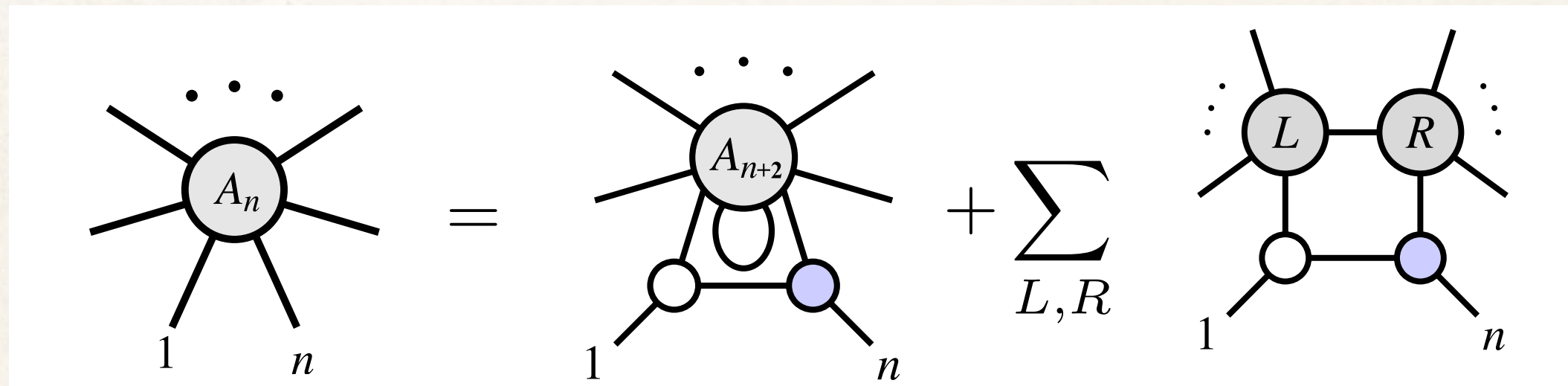


# Recursion relations

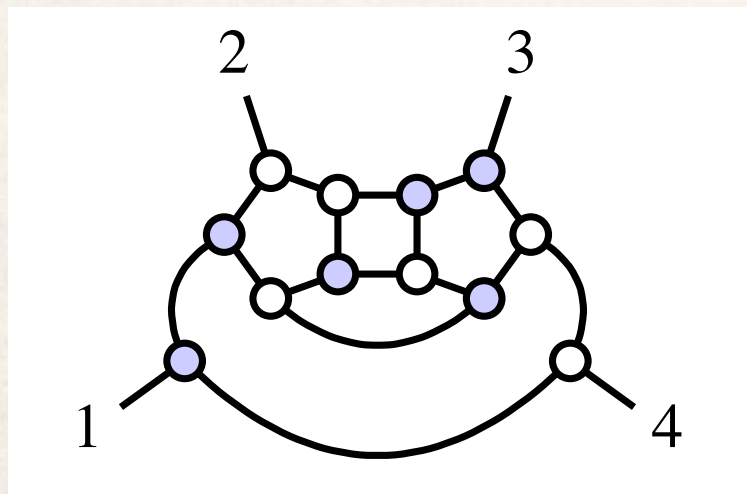
(Britto, Cachazo, Feng, Witten, 2005)

(Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachazo, Caron-Huot, JT, 2010)

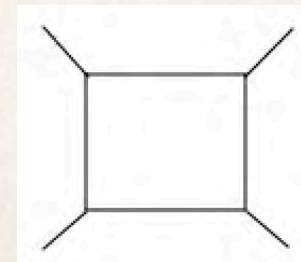
## ❖ Recursion relations for $\ell$ -loop integrand



## ❖ Example: 4pt 1-loop



5-loop on-shell diagram =  
1-loop off-shell box





# Momentum conservation

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- ❖ Deep connection: on-shell diagrams vs Grassmannian
- ❖ Simple motivation: linearize momentum conservation

$$\delta(P) = \delta \left( \sum_a \lambda_a \tilde{\lambda}_a \right)$$

- ❖ The Grassmannian as matrix of coefficients

(Arkani-Hamed, Cachazo, Cheung, Kaplan, 2009)

(Mason, Skinner, 2009)

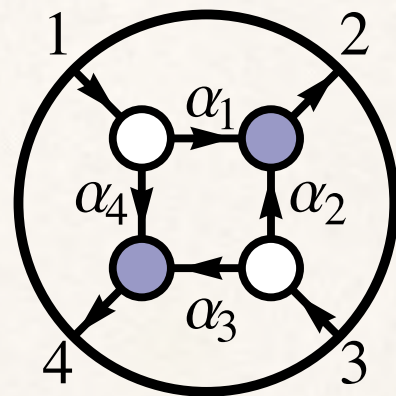
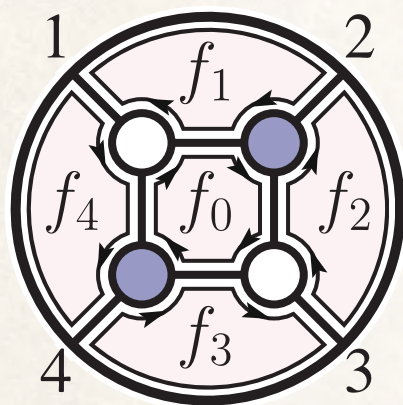
$$\delta \left( C_{ab} \tilde{\lambda}_b \right) \delta \left( C_{ab}^{\perp} \lambda_b \right)$$



# Positive Grassmannian

(Postnikov, 2006)

- ❖ Building positive matrix: face or edge variables



$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \alpha_1 & 0 & -\alpha_4 \\ 0 & \alpha_2 & 1 & \alpha_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- ❖ Connection to mathematics for planar diagrams

Choose  $\alpha_i > 0$ : positive minors  $\rightarrow$  **Positive Grassmannian**

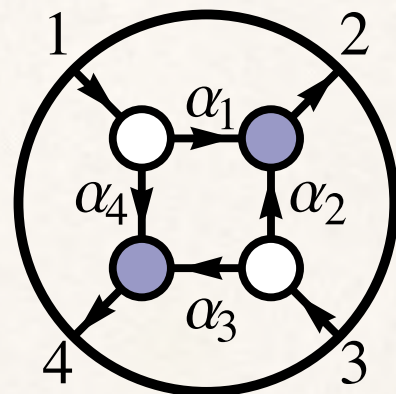
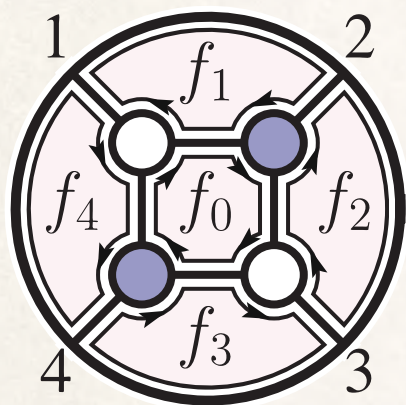
Area of research in algebraic geometry, combinatorics



# Connection to amplitudes

(Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachazo, Goncharov, Postnikov, JT, 2012)

- ❖ Building positive matrix: face or edge variables

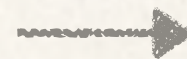


$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \alpha_1 & 0 & -\alpha_4 \\ 0 & \alpha_2 & 1 & \alpha_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- ❖ Same function as a product of 3pt amplitudes equal to

$$\Omega = \frac{d\alpha_1}{\alpha_1} \frac{d\alpha_2}{\alpha_2} \frac{d\alpha_3}{\alpha_3} \frac{d\alpha_4}{\alpha_4} \delta(C \cdot Z)$$

$$\delta(C \cdot Z) = \delta(C \cdot \tilde{\lambda}) \delta(C^\perp \cdot \lambda) \delta(C \cdot \tilde{\eta})$$



Solves for  $\alpha_i$   
in terms of  $\lambda_i, \tilde{\lambda}_i$   
and gives  $\delta(P)\delta(Q)$



# Hidden properties

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- ❖ Dual conformal symmetry: absence of poles at infinity
  - Cuts never localized at  $\ell \rightarrow \infty$
  - Relation to UV behavior
- ❖ Logarithmic singularities  $\frac{dx}{x}$ 
  - Statement about types of poles in the cut structure
  - Link to the uniform transcendentality
- ❖ Recursion relations, complete geometry picture?



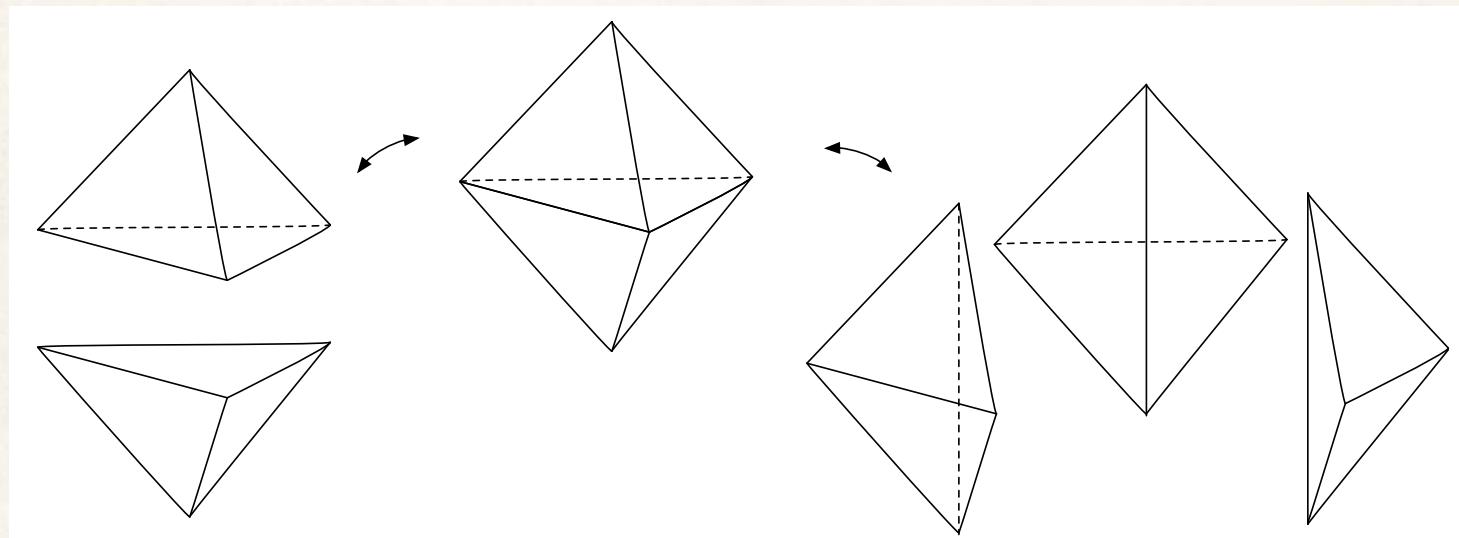
# Amplituhedron

(Arkani-Hamed, JT, 2013)



- ❖ Motivation: Grassmannian + polytope picture

(Hodges 2009)



Amplitudes are  
volumes!

- ❖ Definition of the space  $Y = C \cdot Z$

external data:  
momentum twistors

Grassmannian and generalizations

- ❖ Loop integrand = logarithmic volume on this space



# Scattering inequalities

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- ❖ Amplitudes are fixed by cuts: unique object
- ❖ Amplituhedron: provides the list of all legal cuts in the form of inequalities (for both loops and helicity)

$$P_j(z_k) \geq 0 \quad z_k \text{ parametrize loop momenta}$$

Furthermore the inequalities define  
a nice region in Grassmannian

- ❖ Implication: homogeneous equations Cut  $I = 0$

(Arkani-Hamed, Hodges, JT, 2014)

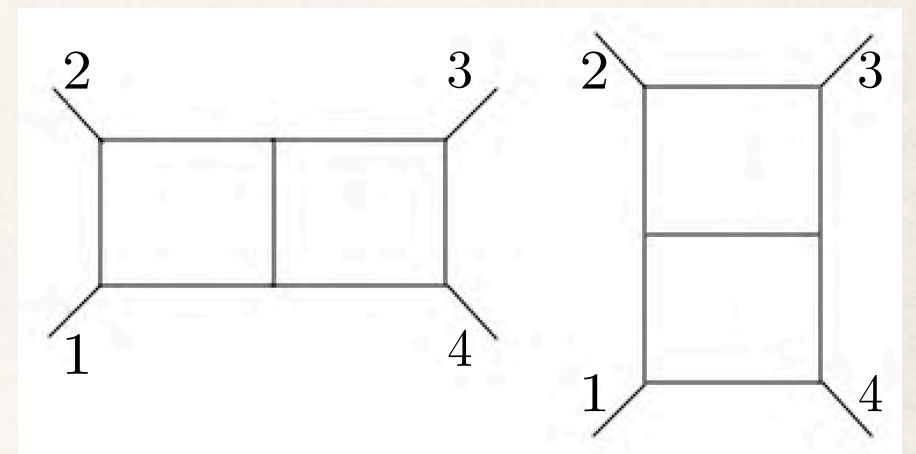


# Example of inequalities

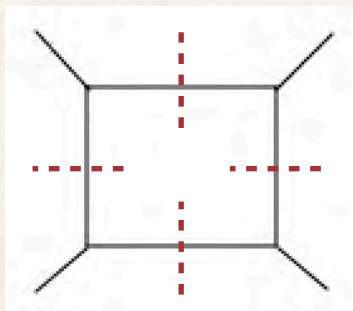
❖ Consider 4pt two-loop amplitude

❖ Inequalities:  $z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4 \geq 0$   
 $z_5, z_6, z_7, z_8 \geq 0$

$$(z_1 - z_5)(z_6 - z_2) + (z_3 - z_7)(z_8 - z_4) \geq 0$$



❖ Check: one-loop cut



$$\begin{aligned} z_1 &= 0 \\ z_2 &= 0 \\ z_3 &= 0 \\ z_4 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$-z_5 z_6 - z_7 z_8 \geq 0$$



$\Omega$  vanishes on this cut



# Non-planar amplitudes in $N=4$ SYM

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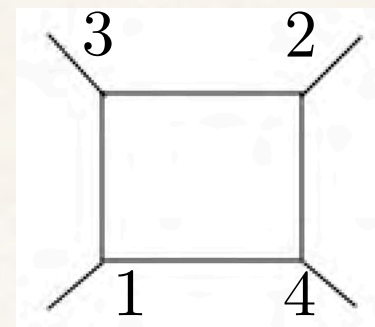
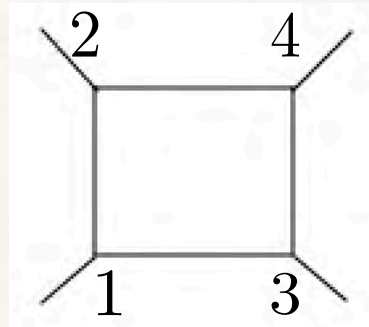
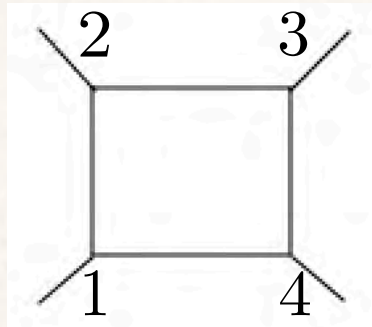
(Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachazo, JT, 2014)

(Bern, Herrmann, Litsey, Stankowicz, JT, 2014, 2015)



# Non-planar problems

- ❖ No unique integrand, labeling problem



What is  $\ell$  ?

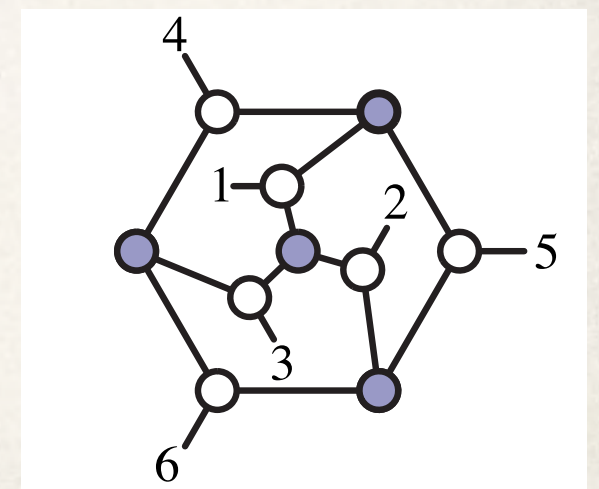
- ❖ No momentum twistors, no known hidden symmetries

- ❖ On-shell diagrams for singularities

(Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachazo, Postnikov, JT, 2014) (Franco, Galloni, Penante, Wen 2015)

Connection to Grassmannian, logarithmic form

$$\Omega = \frac{d\alpha_1}{\alpha_1} \frac{d\alpha_2}{\alpha_2} \frac{d\alpha_3}{\alpha_3} \frac{d\alpha_4}{\alpha_4} \frac{d\alpha_5}{\alpha_5} \frac{d\alpha_6}{\alpha_6} \delta(C \cdot Z)$$



see Jake's talk



# Non-planar amplitudes

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- ❖ No unique integrand, no recursion relations
- ❖ On-shell diagrams: cuts of amplitudes
- ❖ Conjecture: amplitudes have the same properties
  - Logarithmic singularities  $\longrightarrow$  Volumes of something?
  - No poles at infinity  $\longrightarrow$  Analogue of DCI?
  - Only homogeneous cuts  $\longrightarrow$  Scattering inequalities?  
Amplituhedron?



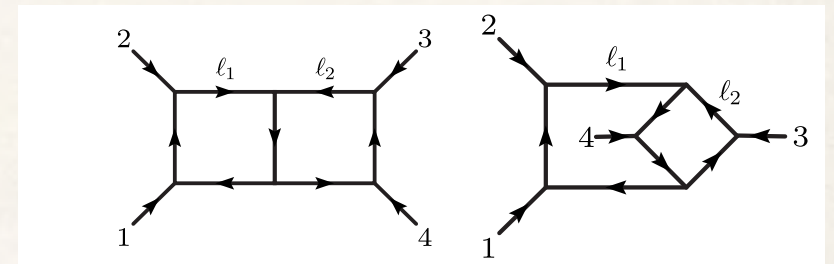
# Non-planar amplitudes

- ❖ Conservative approach: sum of integrals

$$A = \sum_i a_i \cdot C_i \cdot I_i \longrightarrow$$

Fix by homogeneous  
conditions

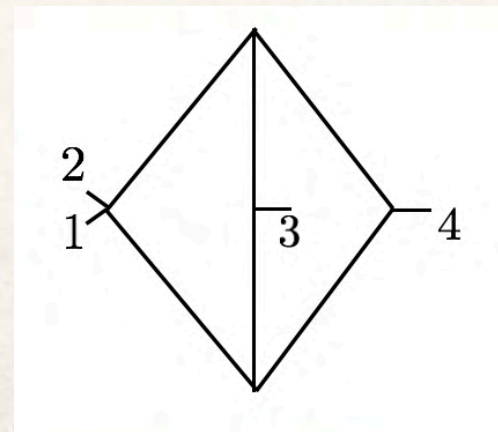
$$f^{1ab} f^{bcd} \dots f^{4ef}$$



Basis of integrals:

- Logarithmic singularities
- No poles at infinity

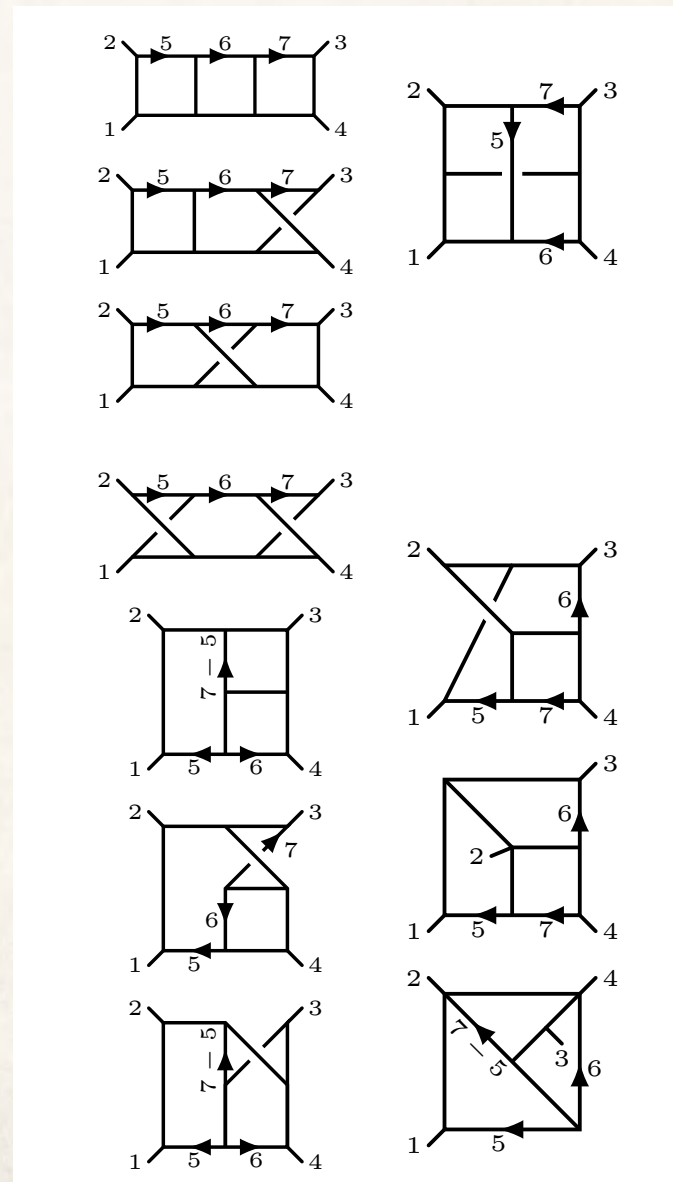
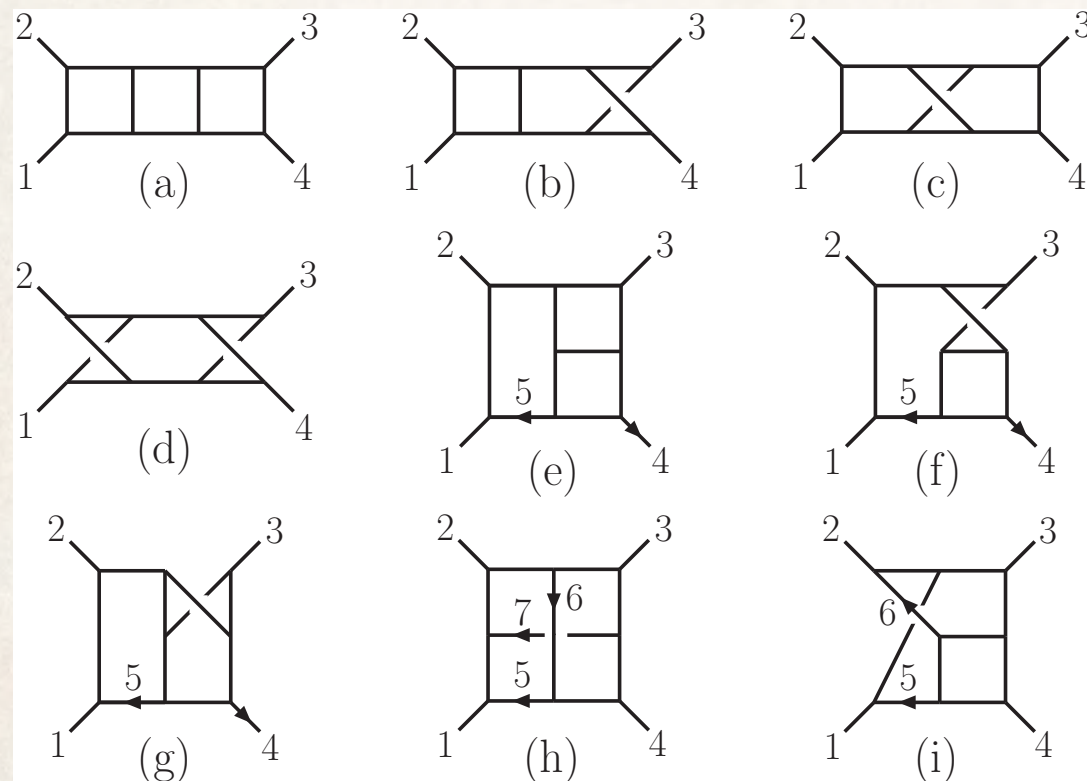
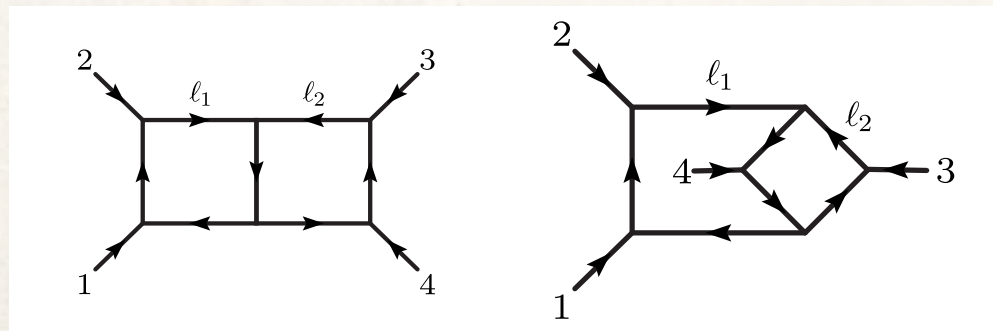
- ❖ Some diagrams forbidden





# Explicit checks

- ❖ Construct basis for 4pt at 2-loop and 3-loop, 5pt 2-loop



Expand the amplitude:





# Non-planar conclusion

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- ❖ Same properties of amplitudes as in planar sector
- ❖ Open questions: identify new symmetries, role of color factor, complete geometric formulation.....
- ❖ What about gravity?



# Gravity on-shell diagrams

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(Herrmann, JT 2016)

(Heslop, Lipstein 2016)



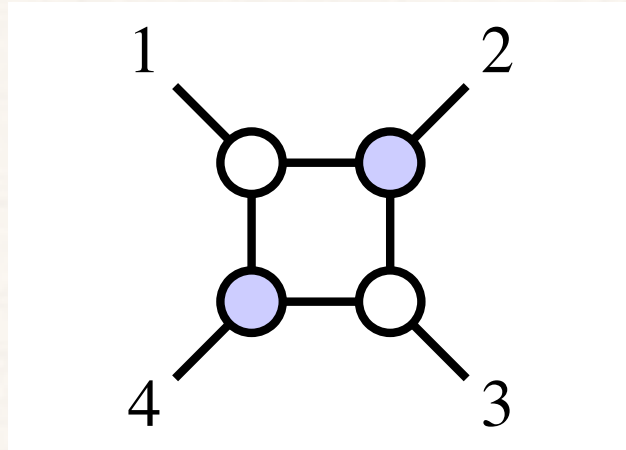
# First look: gravity on-shell diagrams

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- ❖ Let us just get some data
- ❖ Simplest class: MHV leading singularities

Yang-Mills

$$\frac{1}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 41 \rangle}$$



Gravity

$$\frac{[13][24]}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 14 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 24 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle}$$



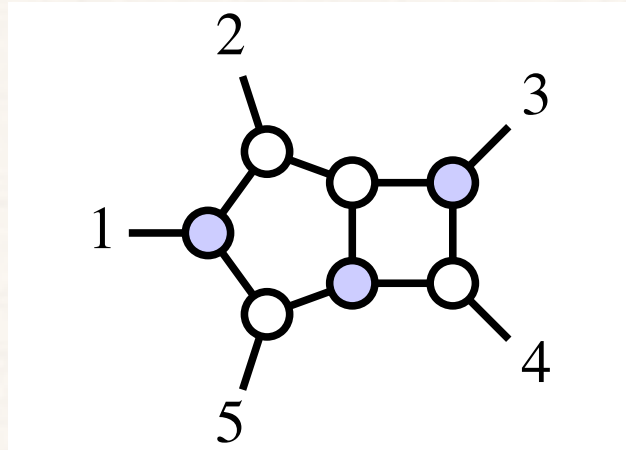
# First look: gravity on-shell diagrams

---

- ❖ Let us just get some data
- ❖ Simplest class: MHV leading singularities

Yang-Mills

$$\frac{1}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle \langle 51 \rangle}$$



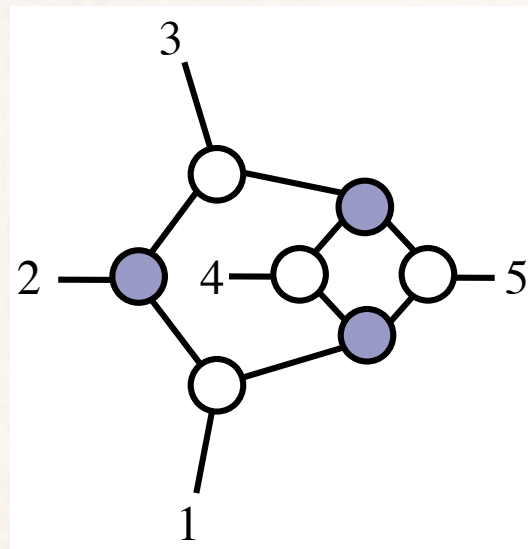
Gravity

$$\frac{[12][23][45]^2}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle}$$



# First look: gravity on-shell diagrams

- ✿ Let us just get some data
- ✿ Simplest class: MHV leading singularities



# Yang-Mills

$$\frac{\langle 13 \rangle}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 14 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle}$$

# Gravity

$$\frac{[12][23][45]^2}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 14 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 35 \rangle}$$



# First look: gravity on-shell diagrams

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- ❖ Based on these results: in Yang-Mills we could already conjecture the structure
- ❖ Natural conjecture for gravity

$$\frac{[\dots][\dots][\dots][\dots]}{\langle \dots \rangle \langle \dots \rangle \langle \dots \rangle \langle \dots \rangle \langle \dots \rangle}$$

↗ anti-holomorphic numerator

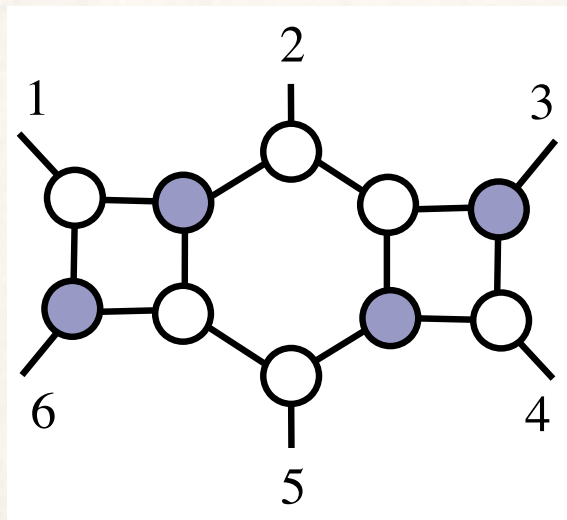
↘ single poles in the denominator



# First look: gravity on-shell diagrams

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- ❖ Higher poles, more complicated numerators

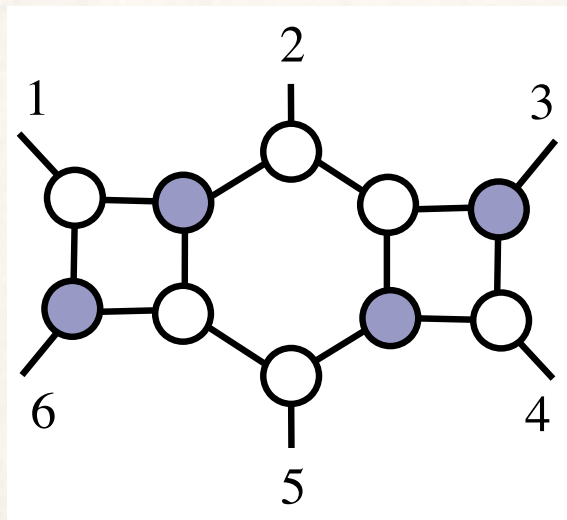


$$\frac{\langle 5|6 + 1|2\rangle \langle 2|3 + 4|5\rangle [16]^2 [34]^2}{\langle 12\rangle \langle 23\rangle \langle 34\rangle \langle 45\rangle \langle 56\rangle \langle 61\rangle \langle 25\rangle^2}$$



# First look: gravity on-shell diagrams

- ❖ Higher poles, more complicated numerators



$$\frac{\langle 5|6 + 1|2\rangle \langle 2|3 + 4|5\rangle [16]^2 [34]^2}{\langle 12\rangle \langle 23\rangle \langle 34\rangle \langle 45\rangle \langle 56\rangle \langle 61\rangle \langle 25\rangle^2}$$

Each numerator factor:  
collinear condition in the vertex

Higher poles:  
infinite momentum

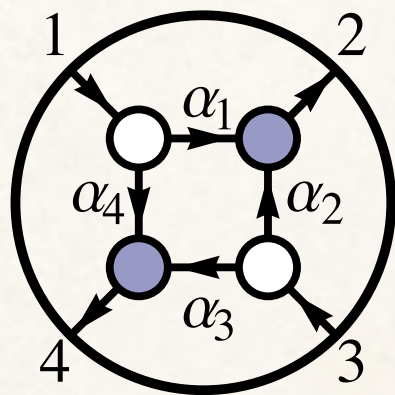
$$\langle 25\rangle = 0$$

blows up the loop in hexagon



# Grassmannian formula

- ❖ Edge variables for each edge



$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \alpha_1 & 0 & -\alpha_4 \\ 0 & \alpha_2 & 1 & \alpha_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- ❖ The value of the diagram in Yang-Mills

$$\Omega = \frac{d\alpha_1}{\alpha_1} \frac{d\alpha_2}{\alpha_2} \dots \frac{d\alpha_m}{\alpha_m} \cdot \delta(C \cdot Z)$$

$$\delta(C \cdot Z) = \delta(C \cdot \tilde{\lambda}) \delta(C^\perp \cdot \lambda) \delta(C \cdot \tilde{\eta})$$



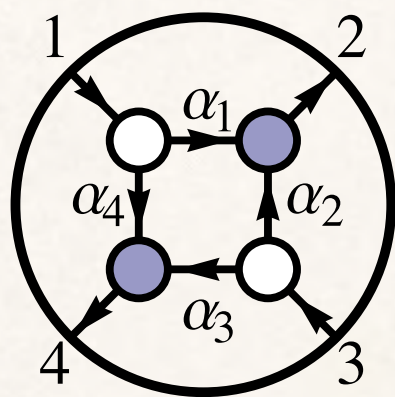
Solves for  $\alpha_i$   
in terms of  $\lambda_i, \tilde{\lambda}_i$   
and gives  $\delta(P)\delta(Q)$



# Grassmannian formula

(Herrmann, JT 2016)

- ❖ Edge variables for each edge



$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \alpha_1 & 0 & -\alpha_4 \\ 0 & \alpha_2 & 1 & \alpha_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- ❖ The value of the diagram in gravity

$$\Omega = \frac{d\alpha_1}{\alpha_1^3} \frac{d\alpha_2}{\alpha_2^3} \cdots \frac{d\alpha_m}{\alpha_m^3} \prod_v \Delta_v \cdot \delta(C \cdot Z)$$

Special numerator:  
factor in each vertex

$$\delta(C \cdot Z) = \delta(C \cdot \tilde{\lambda}) \delta(C^\perp \cdot \lambda) \delta(C \cdot \tilde{\eta})$$



# Grassmannian formula

(Herrmann, JT 2016)

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- ❖ Analyzing: 
$$\Omega = \frac{d\alpha_1}{\alpha_1^3} \frac{d\alpha_2}{\alpha_2^3} \cdots \frac{d\alpha_m}{\alpha_m^3} \prod_v \Delta_v \cdot \delta(C \cdot Z)$$
  - Higher poles at infinity
  - Single poles for finite momentum
  - Vanishes if for collinear momenta in vertex
- 
- ❖ Similar formula for  $N < 8$  SUGRA



# Relation to other work

(Heslop, Lipstein 2016)

- ✧ Gravity on-shell diagrams in the context of BCFW recursion relations
- ✧ Gravity tree amplitudes not just sum of on-shell diagrams

The diagram shows an equation for gravity tree amplitudes. On the left is a single vertex labeled  $A_n$  with  $n$  external legs, the first and last of which are labeled 1 and  $n$  respectively. This is equal to a sum over all on-shell diagrams  $L, R$  of the term  $\frac{1}{s_{1n}}$  multiplied by the diagram. The on-shell diagrams consist of two vertices,  $L$  and  $R$ , connected by two internal lines. Vertex  $L$  has legs 1 and  $n$ , and vertex  $R$  has legs 1 and  $n$ . The internal lines connect the legs of  $L$  to the legs of  $R$ . A dashed arrow points from the  $\frac{1}{s_{1n}}$  term to the text 'Extra kinematical factors' below.

$$A_n = \sum_{L,R} \frac{1}{s_{1n}} \text{ (on-shell diagram) }$$

Extra kinematical factors



# Singularities of gravity amplitudes

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(Herrmann, JT 2016)



# Conjectures for the amplitude

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- ❖ No loop recursion using on-shell diagrams
  - Absence of variables, generic non-planar problem
- ❖ Conjectures for loop integrands
  - Logarithmic poles for cuts
  - Collinearity conditions
  - Poles at infinity



IR

UV



# Logarithmic poles

- ❖ On-shell diagrams: all finite cuts logarithmic

$$\text{Integral} \rightarrow \text{Cut} \rightarrow \text{Cut} \rightarrow \frac{d\alpha}{\alpha^2} \quad \text{never happens}$$

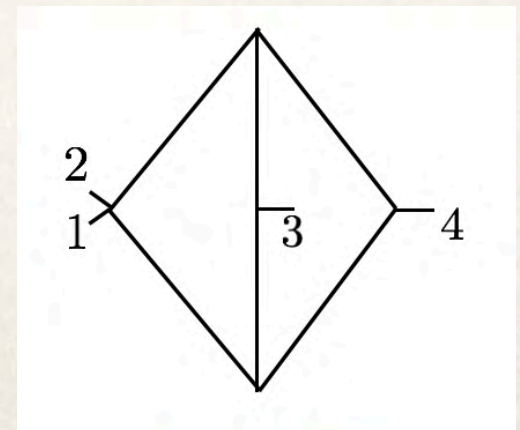
- ❖ Strong hint from BCJ relations

$$A^{(YM)} = \sum_i \frac{n_i^{(BCJ)} c_i}{s_i} = \sum_i \frac{n_i^{(dlog)} c_i}{s_i}$$

cancels double poles

$$A^{(GR)} = \sum_i \frac{n_i^{(dlog)} n_i^{(BCJ)}}{s_i}$$

Some diagrams prohibited

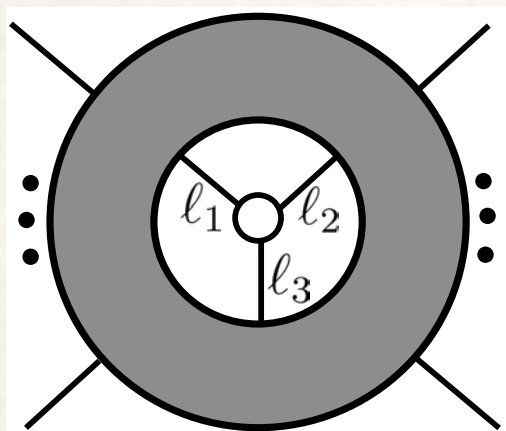




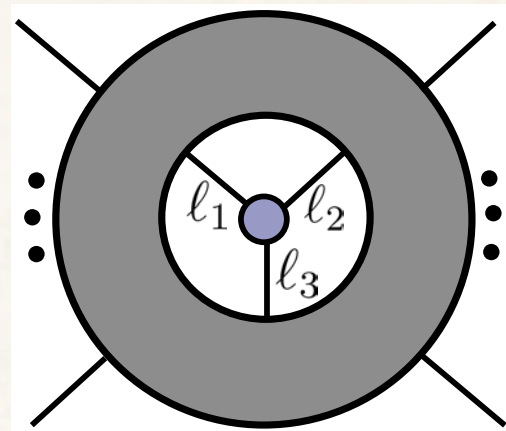
# Collinearity conditions

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- ❖ On-shell diagrams: any cut of the form



$$\sim [\ell_1 \ell_2]$$



$$\sim \langle \ell_1 \ell_2 \rangle$$

- ❖ In special case of external legs: collinear limit

$$A \sim \frac{[12]}{\langle 12 \rangle} \cdot (\dots)$$



# Collinearity conditions

- ❖ Example: prediction for cut

IR behavior of gravity

$$\ell = \lambda_1 \tilde{\lambda}_\ell \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram: A circle with a shaded interior. An external line labeled 1 enters from the left and connects to a small white circle on the left edge of the shaded region. Two lines, labeled 2 and 4, exit from the top and bottom of the shaded region respectively. Two curved lines connect the white circle to the shaded region, with the upper one labeled $\ell - p_1$ and the lower one labeled $\ell$. Arrows on these curves indicate a clockwise flow.} \end{array} \sim [\ell \ 1] \longrightarrow A_{GR}^{1-loop} \sim \frac{1}{\epsilon}$$

- ❖ Expansion of the 4pt 1-loop amplitude: three boxes

$$I_4^1(s; t) = \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram: A square loop with vertices labeled 1 (bottom-left), 2 (top-left), 3 (top-right), and 4 (bottom-right). An internal horizontal line connects the left and right sides, with an arrow pointing from left to right labeled $\ell$.} \end{array} \quad I_4^1(t; u) = \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram: A crossed square loop with vertices labeled 1 (bottom-left), 2 (top-left), 3 (top-right), and 4 (bottom-right). An internal horizontal line connects the left and right sides, with an arrow pointing from left to right labeled $\ell$.} \end{array} \quad I_4^1(u; s) = \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram: A crossed square loop with vertices labeled 1 (bottom-left), 2 (top-left), 3 (top-right), and 4 (bottom-right). An internal horizontal line connects the left and right sides, with an arrow pointing from right to left labeled $\ell$.} \end{array}$$

$$\text{Each scales} \sim \frac{1}{[\ell \ 1]}$$

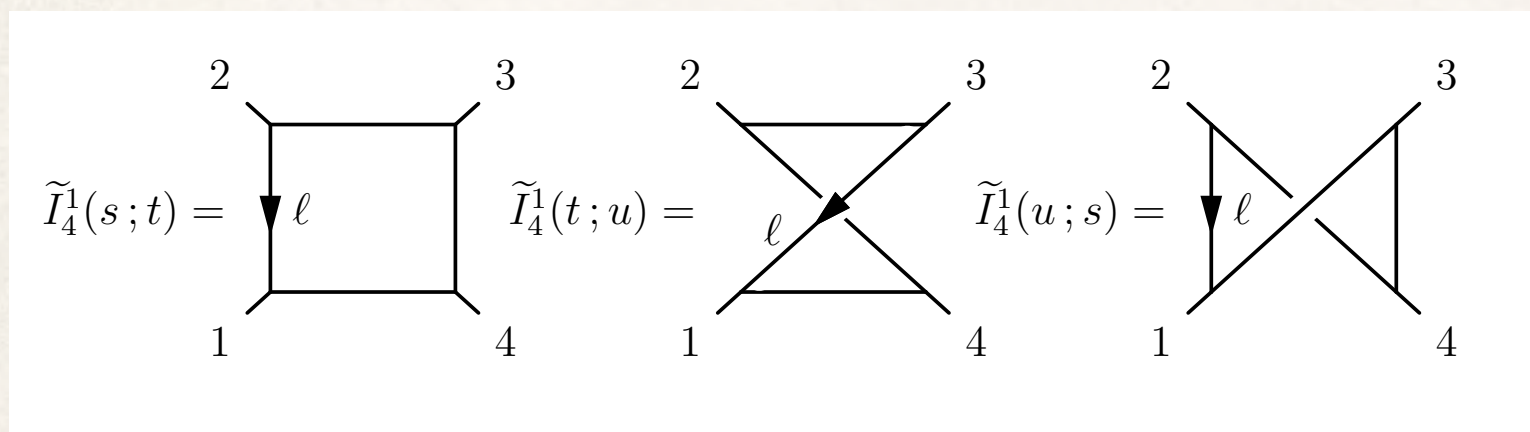
$$\text{Sum} \sim 1$$



# Collinearity conditions

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- ❖ We made a choice in labeling diagrams
- ❖ Consider another labels, and sum over both options



Total sum

$$\sim [\ell \ 1]$$

- ❖ Two loop checks more complicated, symmetrization!



Also important in the pre-integrand story

(Carrasco, 2015)



# Poles at infinity and UV behavior of $N=8$ supergravity

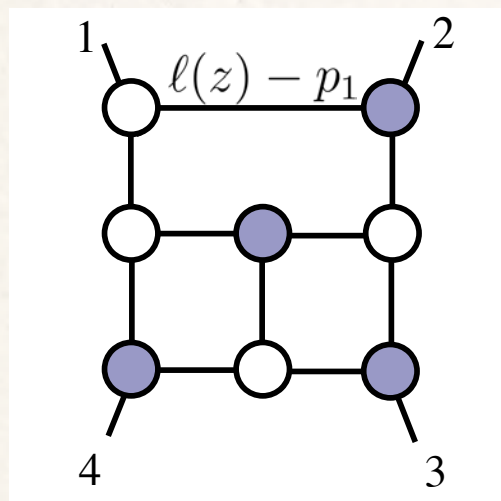
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# Poles at infinity

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- ❖ They are present starting at 3-loops



$$\sim \frac{dz}{z}$$

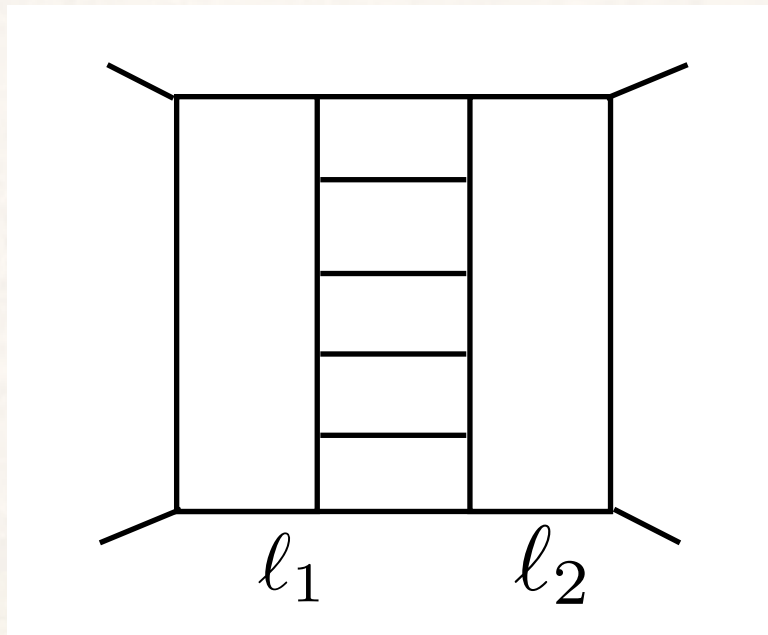
Pole at  
 $z \rightarrow \infty$   
 $\ell(z) \rightarrow \infty$

- ❖ Higher poles at higher loops
- ❖ Generically everything complex, the detailed description of space of poles at infinity needed

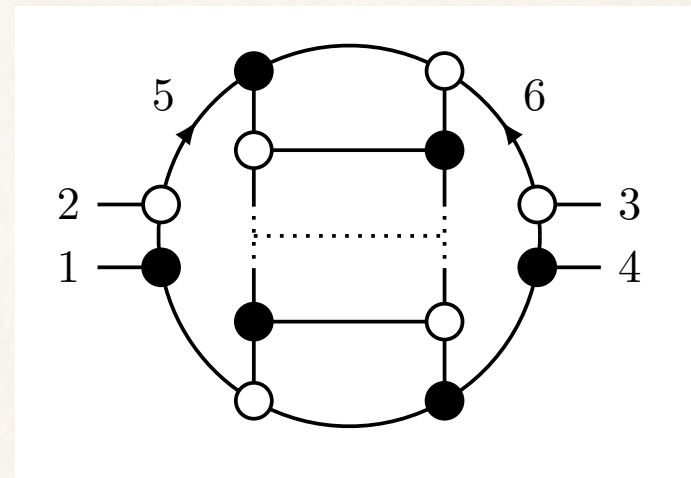


# Poles at infinity

- ❖ Expected divergence at 7-loops



matches the on-shell diagram  
with pole at infinity



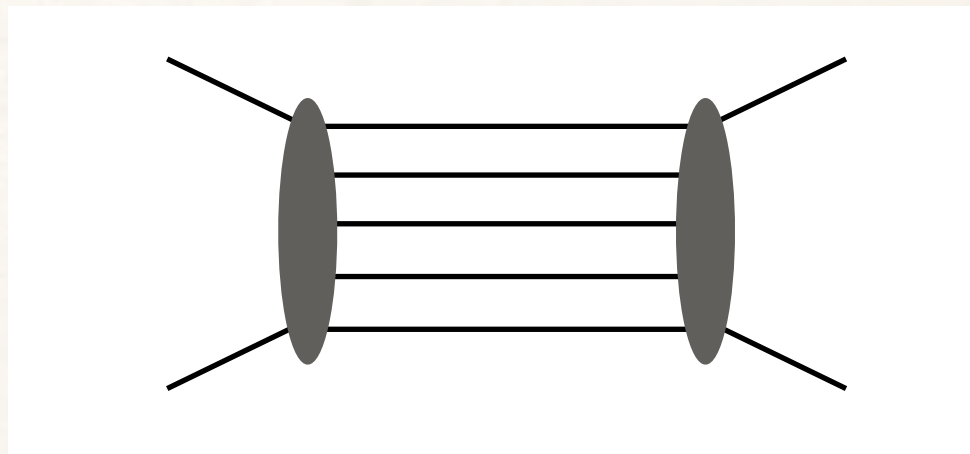
- ❖ What is the relation between poles at infinity and UV?
- ❖ The problem: real vs complex kinematics



# Poles at infinity

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- ❖ Lower cuts: real kinematics, no poles at infinity



- ❖ Requires cancelations between different diagrams
- ❖ Higher cuts: kinematics complex, poles at infinity



# Cancelations of UV divergencies

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- ✧ Expansion of the amplitude in terms of integrals

Enhanced cancelations

- ✧ Understand these cancelations at the integrand level

(Bern, Herrmann, Martinez, Stankowicz, JT, in progress)

- Relation to poles at infinity
- Lower supersymmetry  $\rightarrow$  lower loops

- ✧ We saw these cancelation in IR in the collinear regions



# Rigidity of $N=8$ SUGRA

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- ❖ Related to the UV question:

What is special about loop integrands in  $N=8$  SUGRA?

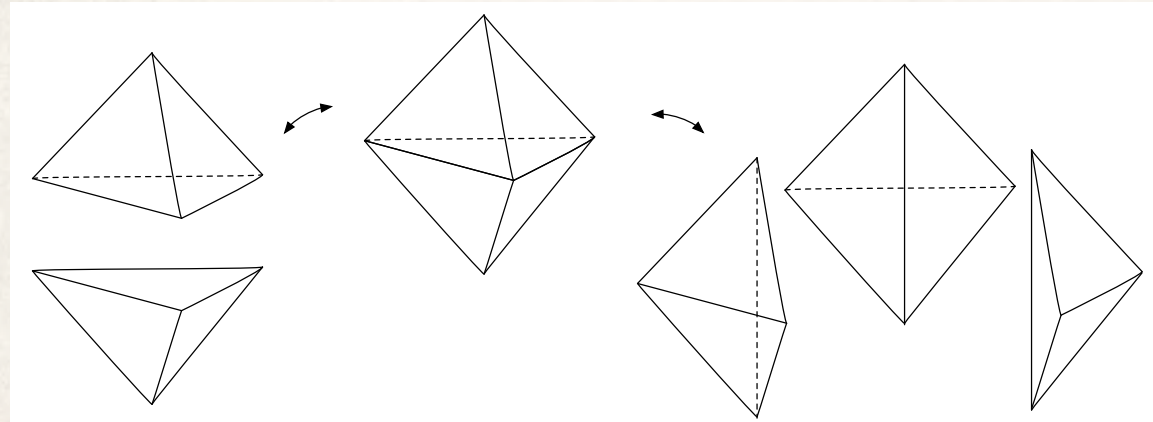
- ❖ For  $N=4$  SYM: simple singularity structure (logarithmic) + all singularities captured by inequalities = Amplituhedron
- ❖ If  $N=8$  SUGRA is special, it must be the rigidity of poles at infinity which are absent in  $N=4$  SYM



# Gravitational polytopes

(Herrmann, JT, in progress)

- ❖ The key to gravity is hidden in tree-level amplitudes
- ❖ Amplituhedron: first sign in NMHV tree amplitudes



Translate to momentum space  
Look at gravity: different than BCJ

- ❖ Encouraging preliminary results: gravity volume forms

$$\frac{(\langle 12 \rangle [45] \langle 3|4 + 5|6 \rangle)^2}{s_{345} \cdot s_{34} s_{45} \cdot s_{61} s_{12}}$$



$$\frac{(\langle 12 \rangle [45] \langle 3|4 + 5|6 \rangle)^4}{s_{345} \cdot s_{34} s_{45} s_{53} \cdot s_{61} s_{12} s_{26}}$$



# Conclusion

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# Conclusion

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- ❖ Grassmannian formula for gravity on-shell diagrams
- ❖ Conjecture for IR properties of the gravity integrands
- ❖ Poles at infinity: key to UV behavior
- ❖ First signs of new structures in tree-level amplitudes





Thank you for your attention