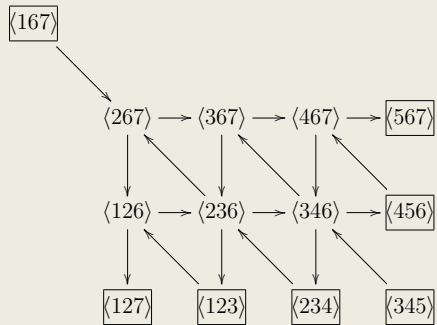
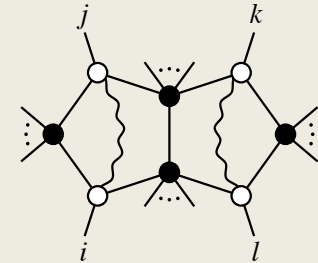


# Landau Singularities and Symbology



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Brown University

Nordita, June 2016



1512.07909

with Tristan Dennen and Marcus Spradlin

# Introduction

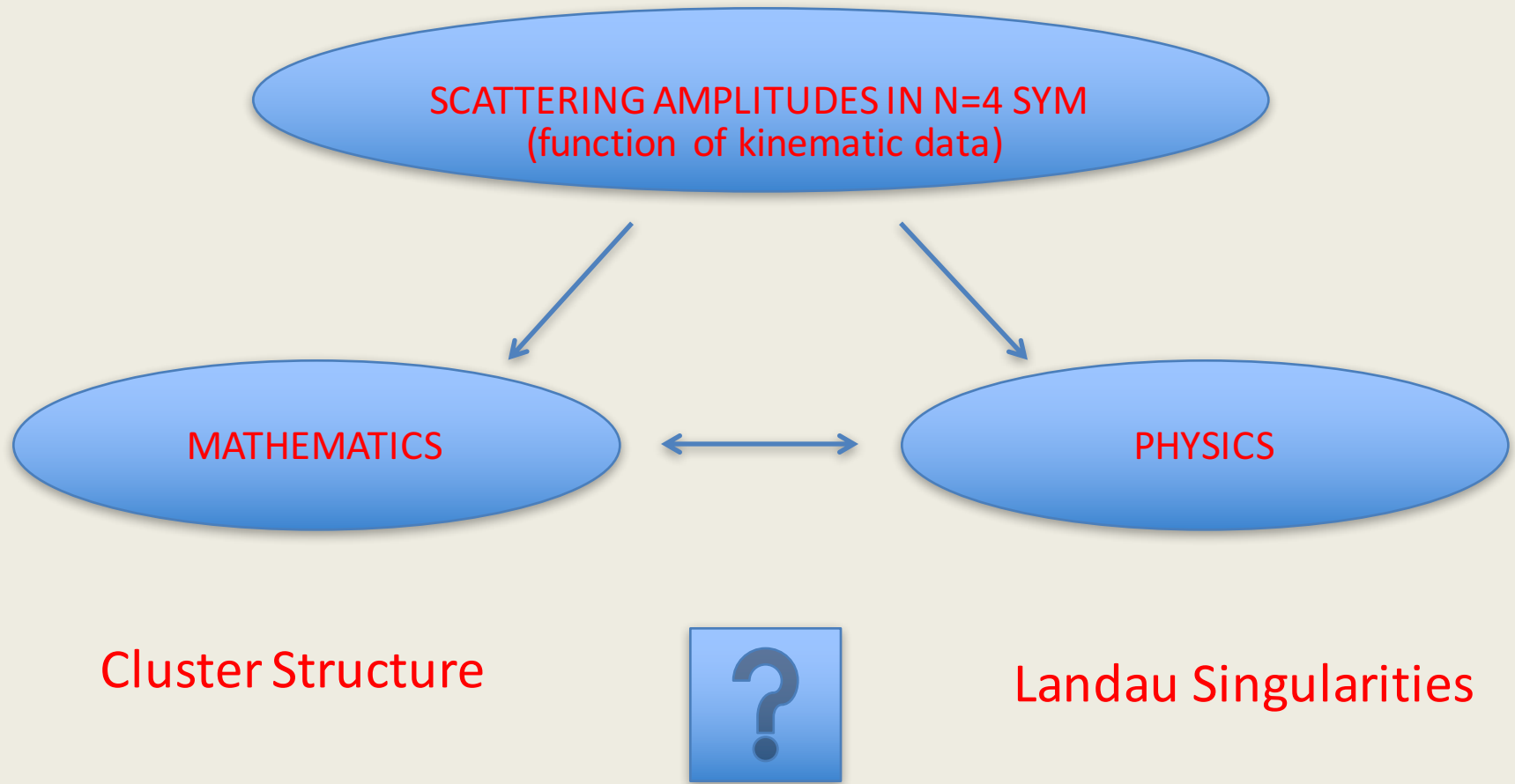
- A general goal of modern S-matrix program is to compute amplitudes with minimal effort.
- This relies on understanding both the **physical** principles they satisfy and **mathematical** properties they have.
- In best case scenarios, we would like these conditions to determine amplitudes **uniquely**.
- Our previous work has revealed that the **mathematical** structure of N=4 Yang-Mills amplitudes is at least partially dictated by **cluster algebra** structure.

Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu; Golden, Paulos; Parker, Scherlis, AV

- The goal of my talk is to explore the most basic **physical** principle --- locality, expressed through the **Landau equations** --- from which we will see cluster coordinates emerge.

Dennen, Spradlin, AV 1512.07909

Motivated by Maldacena, Simons-Duffin, Zhiboedov 1509.03612



THE GOAL OF OUR WORK IS TO EXPLORE THE CONNECTION  
BETWEEN CLUSTER COORDINATES AND LANDAU SINGULARITIES

# Plan

- Landau equations
- Solution: one and two-loop n-point MHV in N=4 SYM
- Connection with symbol alphabet of an amplitude
- Connection with cluster structure of an amplitude
- Conclusions and open questions

# Landau Singularities

Landau equations for a given Feynman integral are a set of kinematic constraints that are necessary for the appearance of a pole or branch point in the integrated function

$$I = c \int \prod_{r=1}^L d^D \ell_r \int_{\alpha_i \geq 0} d^\nu \alpha \delta(1 - \sum_{i=1}^\nu \alpha_i) \frac{\mathcal{N}(\ell_r^\mu, p_i^\mu, \dots)}{\mathcal{D}^\nu}$$

$$\mathcal{D} = \sum_{i=1}^\nu \alpha_i (q_i^2 - m_i^2),$$

In this talk:

only focus on singularities  
describes by Landau equation

Landau Equations

$$\sum_{i \in \text{loop}} \alpha_i q_i^\mu = 0 \quad \forall \text{ loops},$$

$$\alpha_i (q_i^2 - m_i^2) = 0 \quad \forall i.$$

Landau 1959

Eden, Landshoff, Olive, Polkinghorne  
"The Analytic S-Matrix"

Landau Singularities

locus in external kinematic data  
where Landau equations admit solutions

Leading LS

all  $\alpha_i \neq 0$

*LLS*

Subleading LS

some  $\alpha_i = 0$

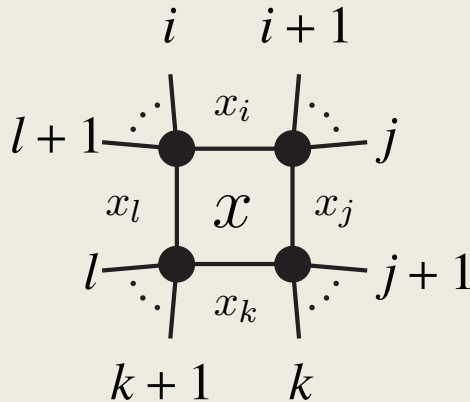
*SLLS, S<sup>2</sup>LLS*  
etc

# One-Loop Box

Landau 1959  
Eden, Landshoff, Olive, Polkinghorne  
"The Analytic S-Matrix"

The Landau equations are easily solved for one-loop box integrals in four dimensions.

(and bubbles and triangles)



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

$$x_{ij}^2 \equiv (x_i - x_j)^2$$

$$(x_i - x_j)^2 = (p_{i+1} + p_{i+2} + \dots + p_j)^2$$

The second Landau equation puts the propagators on-shell  
(no constraints on external kinematics).

$$(x - x_i)^2 = 0, \quad (x - x_j)^2 = 0, \quad (x - x_k)^2 = 0, \quad (x - x_l)^2 = 0$$

The solvability of the first equation gives a determinant constraint.

$$\alpha_i(x - x_i) + \alpha_j(x - x_j) + \alpha_k(x - x_k) + \alpha_l(x - x_l) = 0$$

Leading  
Landau  
Singularities

$$0 = (x_{ij}^2 x_{kl}^2 - x_{ik}^2 x_{jl}^2 + x_{il}^2 x_{jk}^2)^2 - 4x_{ij}^2 x_{jk}^2 x_{kl}^2 x_{il}^2$$

For generic integrals it becomes a hard problem, so next we focus on **specific N=4 SYM integrals**.

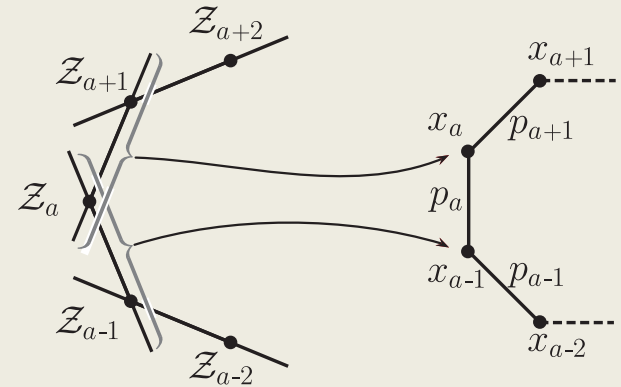
# Planar N=4 SYM and Momentum Twistors

## Null momentum

$$p_a^\mu \mapsto (p_a)_{\underline{\alpha}\dot{\alpha}} \equiv p_a^\mu (\sigma_\mu)_{\underline{\alpha}\dot{\alpha}} \equiv \lambda_{\underline{\alpha}}^{(a)} \tilde{\lambda}_{\dot{\alpha}}^{(a)}$$

## Momentum conservation

$$p_a \equiv x_a - x_{a-1}$$

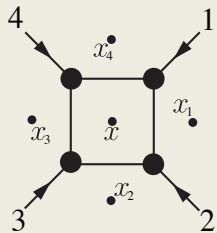


$$Z = (\lambda, \mu) = (\lambda_\alpha, x_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}} \lambda^{\dot{\alpha}})$$

$$\langle ABCD \rangle \equiv \epsilon_{IJKL} Z_A^I Z_B^J Z_C^K Z_D^L$$

If  $x, y$  are points in Minkowski space associated to two lines  $(A, B), (C, D)$  in  $\mathbb{P}^3$

$$(x - y)^2 = \frac{\langle ABCD \rangle}{\langle IAB \rangle \langle ICD \rangle}$$



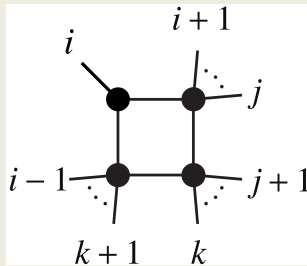
$$= \int d^4x \frac{N}{(x - x_1)^2 (x - x_2)^2 (x - x_3)^2 (x - x_4)^2}$$

$$\int_{AB} \frac{\langle 1234 \rangle^2}{\langle AB 12 \rangle \langle AB 23 \rangle \langle AB 34 \rangle \langle AB 41 \rangle}$$

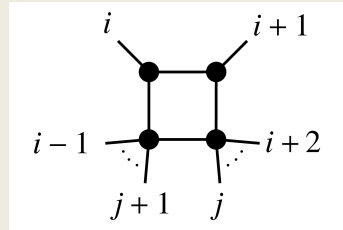
Hodges  
Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily,  
Cachazo, Trnka

Momentum twistors simplify the problem of analyzing solutions to Landau equations.

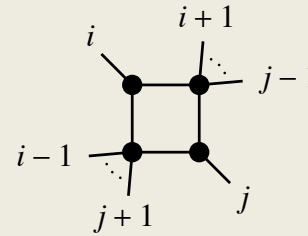
# One-loop boxes



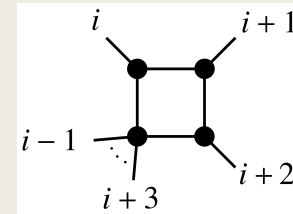
(b)



(c)



(d)



(e)

LLS

Box (b):  $0 = \langle i(i-1, i+1)(j, j+1)(k, k+1) \rangle$

Box (c):  $0 = \langle i-1 \ i \ i+1 \ i+2 \rangle \langle i \ i+1 \ j \ j+1 \rangle$

Box (d):  $0 = \langle i \ \bar{j} \rangle \langle \bar{i} \ j \rangle$

Box (e):  $0 = \langle i-1 \ i \ i+1 \ i+2 \rangle \langle i \ i+1 \ i+2 \ i+3 \rangle$

$\bar{a}$  is the plane  $(a-1, a, a+1)$

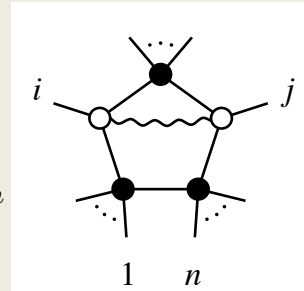
$$\langle C(A, B)(D, E)(G, H) \rangle \equiv \langle (A, B, C) \cap (D, E, C) GH \rangle$$

$$\langle (A, B, C) \cap (D, E, F) GH \rangle = \langle ABCG \rangle \langle DEFH \rangle - \langle ABCH \rangle \langle DEFG \rangle$$



# One-loop n-point MHV in N=4 SYM

$$\frac{\mathcal{A}_{\text{MHV}}^{1\text{-loop}}}{\mathcal{A}_{\text{MHV}}^{\text{tree}}} = \int_{AB} \sum_{1 < i < j < n}$$



Bern, Dixon, Dunbar, Kosower

Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachazo, Trnka

chiral pentagon

$$\frac{\langle AB \bar{i} \cap \bar{j} \rangle \langle i j n 1 \rangle}{\langle AB i-1 i \rangle \langle AB i i+1 \rangle \langle AB j-1 j \rangle \langle AB j j+1 \rangle \langle AB n 1 \rangle}$$

(LLS)

$$\langle i j n 1 \rangle \langle n 1 \bar{i} \cap \bar{j} \rangle = 0$$

$$(A, B) = (i, j) \quad \text{or} \quad (A, B) = \bar{i} \cap \bar{j}$$

$$\langle AB n 1 \rangle = 0$$

(SLLS)

$$\begin{aligned} \langle j(j-1, j+1)(i, i+1)(n, 1) \rangle &= 0, \\ \langle j(j-1, j+1)(i-1, i)(n, 1) \rangle &= 0, \\ \langle i(i-1, i+1)(j, j+1)(n, 1) \rangle &= 0, \\ \langle i(i-1, i+1)(j-1, j)(n, 1) \rangle &= 0, \\ \langle \bar{i} \bar{j} \rangle \langle i \bar{j} \rangle &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Reduces to boxes

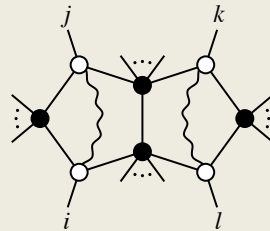
(S<sup>2</sup>LLS)

$$\begin{aligned} \langle i-1 i j-1 j \rangle \langle j-1 j n 1 \rangle \langle n 1 i-1 i \rangle &= 0, \\ \langle i i+1 j-1 j \rangle \langle j-1 j n 1 \rangle \langle n 1 i i+1 \rangle &= 0, \\ \langle i-1 i j j+1 \rangle \langle j j+1 n 1 \rangle \langle n 1 i-1 i \rangle &= 0, \\ \langle i i+1 j j+1 \rangle \langle j j+1 n 1 \rangle \langle n 1 i i+1 \rangle &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Reduces to triangles

Dennen, Spradlin, AV

# Two-loop n-point MHV in N=4 SYM

$$\frac{\mathcal{A}_{\text{MHV}}^{2\text{-loop}}}{\mathcal{A}_{\text{MHV}}^{\text{tree}}} = \int_{AB} \int_{CD} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i < j < k < l < i} \frac{\langle i j k l \rangle}{\langle ABCD \rangle} \times \frac{\langle AB \bar{i} \cap \bar{j} \rangle}{\langle AB i-1 i \rangle \langle AB i i+1 \rangle \langle AB j-1 j \rangle \langle AB j j+1 \rangle} \times \frac{\langle CD \bar{k} \cap \bar{l} \rangle}{\langle CD k-1 k \rangle \langle CD k k+1 \rangle \langle CD l-1 l \rangle \langle CD l l+1 \rangle}$$


Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily,  
Cachazo, Trnka

chiral double pentagon

(LLS)  $\langle i j k l \rangle \langle i j \bar{k} \cap \bar{l} \rangle \langle \bar{i} \cap \bar{j} k l \rangle \langle \bar{i} \cap \bar{j} \bar{k} \cap \bar{l} \rangle = 0 \quad (A, B) = (i, j) \text{ or } \bar{i} \cap \bar{j} \quad \text{and} \quad (C, D) = (k, l) \text{ or } \bar{k} \cap \bar{l}.$

(SLLS)  $\langle j(j-1, j+1)(i-1, i)(k, l) \rangle \langle j(j-1, j+1)(i-1, i) \bar{k} \cap \bar{l} \rangle = 0,$   
 $\langle j(j-1, j+1)(i, i+1)(k, l) \rangle \langle j(j-1, j+1)(i-1, i) \bar{k} \cap \bar{l} \rangle = 0,$   
 $\langle i(i-1, i+1)(j-1, j)(k, l) \rangle \langle j(j-1, j+1)(i-1, i) \bar{k} \cap \bar{l} \rangle = 0,$   
 $\langle i(i-1, i+1)(j, j+1)(k, l) \rangle \langle j(j-1, j+1)(i-1, i) \bar{k} \cap \bar{l} \rangle = 0.$

Dennen, Spradlin, AV

$$\langle i \bar{j} \rangle \langle \bar{i} j \rangle = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \langle k \bar{l} \rangle \langle \bar{k} l \rangle = 0$$

(S<sup>2</sup>LLS)  $\langle i i+1 j-1 j \rangle \langle j-1 j k l \rangle \langle k l i i+1 \rangle \langle j-1 j \bar{k} \cap \bar{l} \rangle \langle \bar{k} \cap \bar{l} i i+1 \rangle = 0, \quad \langle \bar{i} \cap (i, j-1, j) \bar{l} \cap (k, k+1, l) \rangle = 0,$   
 $\langle i-1 i j-1 j \rangle \langle j-1 j k l \rangle \langle k l i-1 i \rangle \langle j-1 j \bar{k} \cap \bar{l} \rangle \langle \bar{k} \cap \bar{l} i-1 i \rangle = 0, \quad \langle \bar{i} \cap (i, j, j+1) \bar{l} \cap (k, k+1, l) \rangle = 0,$   
 $\langle i i+1 j j+1 \rangle \langle j j+1 k l \rangle \langle k l i i+1 \rangle \langle j-1 j \bar{k} \cap \bar{l} \rangle \langle \bar{k} \cap \bar{l} i-1 i \rangle = 0, \quad \langle \bar{i} \cap (i, j-1, j) \bar{l} \cap (k-1, k, l) \rangle = 0,$   
 $\langle i-1 i j j+1 \rangle \langle j j+1 k l \rangle \langle k l i-1 i \rangle \langle j-1 j \bar{k} \cap \bar{l} \rangle \langle \bar{k} \cap \bar{l} i-1 i \rangle = 0, \quad \langle \bar{i} \cap (i, j, j+1) \bar{l} \cap (k-1, k, l) \rangle = 0,$

(S<sup>3</sup>LLS)

It would have been very difficult to solve Landau equations without momentum twistors.

- We have produced a long list of Landau singularities for one and two-loop  $N=4$  SYM integrals.
- For amplitudes of generalized polylogarithm form there should be a close connection between Landau singularities and symbol alphabet.

Maldacena, Simons-Duffin, Zhiboedov

Abreu, Britto, Duhr, Gardi, Gronqvist

# Symbol and Singularities

Many of the simplest (and hence best understood) amplitudes can be expressed in terms of a class of **generalized polylogs** defined by iterated integrals

$$Li_k(z) = \int_0^z Li_{k-1}(t) d \log t \quad Li_1(z) = -\log(1-z)$$

$$G(a_k, a_{k-1}, \dots; z) = \int_0^z G(a_{k-1}, \dots; t) \frac{dt}{t - a_k}, \quad G(z) \equiv 1$$

# Example: 2-loop 6-point MHV

GSVV

$$R_6^{(2)} = \sum_{\text{cyclic}} \text{Li}_4 \left( -\frac{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 2356 \rangle}{\langle 1236 \rangle \langle 2345 \rangle} \right) - \frac{1}{4} \text{Li}_4 \left( -\frac{\langle 1246 \rangle \langle 1345 \rangle}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 1456 \rangle} \right) \\ + \text{products of } \text{Li}_k(-x) \text{ functions of lower weight}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v_1 &= \frac{\langle 1246 \rangle \langle 1345 \rangle}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 1456 \rangle}, & v_2 &= \frac{\langle 1235 \rangle \langle 2456 \rangle}{\langle 1256 \rangle \langle 2345 \rangle}, & v_3 &= \frac{\langle 1356 \rangle \langle 2346 \rangle}{\langle 1236 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle}, \\ x_1^+ &= \frac{\langle 1456 \rangle \langle 2356 \rangle}{\langle 1256 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle}, & x_2^+ &= \frac{\langle 1346 \rangle \langle 2345 \rangle}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle}, & x_3^+ &= \frac{\langle 1236 \rangle \langle 1245 \rangle}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 1256 \rangle}, \\ x_1^- &= \frac{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 2356 \rangle}{\langle 1236 \rangle \langle 2345 \rangle}, & x_2^- &= \frac{\langle 1256 \rangle \langle 1346 \rangle}{\langle 1236 \rangle \langle 1456 \rangle}, & x_3^- &= \frac{\langle 1245 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle}{\langle 1456 \rangle \langle 2345 \rangle}, \end{aligned}$$

$$x_a^\pm = \frac{u_a}{2u_1u_2u_3} (u_1 + u_2 + u_3 - 1 \pm \sqrt{(u_1 + u_2 + u_3 - 1)^2 - 4u_1u_2u_3})$$

$$v_a = \frac{1}{u_a} - 1$$

$$u_a = \frac{(p_a + p_{a+1})^2 (p_{a+3} + p_{a+4})^2}{(p_a + p_{a+1} + p_{a+2})^2 (p_{a+2} + p_{a+3} + p_{a+4})^2}$$

# Example: 2-loop 6-point MHV

- Function

$$R_6^{(2)} = \sum_{\text{cyclic}} \text{Li}_4 \left( -\frac{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 2356 \rangle}{\langle 1236 \rangle \langle 2345 \rangle} \right) - \frac{1}{4} \text{Li}_4 \left( -\frac{\langle 1246 \rangle \langle 1345 \rangle}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 1456 \rangle} \right) \\ + \text{products of } \text{Li}_k(-x) \text{ functions of lower weight}$$

GSVV

- Symbol : much of the information about the analytic structure of such function is captured in an object called **symbol**

$$\langle 1256 \rangle \otimes \langle 1346 \rangle \otimes \langle 1246 \rangle \otimes \langle 1456 \rangle + \dots$$

7272 terms

# Symbol of Transcendental Function

Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu, AV

$$T_k \rightarrow S(T_k) = R_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes R_k$$

Symbol is an element of the  $k$ -fold tensor product of the multiplicative group of rational functions.

$$dT_k = \sum_i T_{k-1}^i d \log R_i \rightarrow S(T_k) = \sum_i S(T_{k-1}^i) \otimes R_i$$

$$\log(R) \rightarrow R$$

$$Li_2(R) \rightarrow -(1 - R) \otimes R$$

Symbol converts polylog functional equation into rational function identities.

Very useful for practical computations.

# Symbol and Singularities

- Much of the information about the analytic structure of such function is captured in an object called symbol.
- We expect that the symbol entries appearing in any amplitude should be such that their zeros specify values of the external momenta where solutions of the Landau equations exist.

Maldacena, Simons-Duffin, Zhiboedov

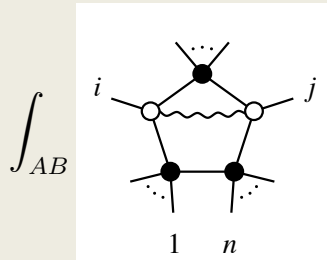
Abreu, Britto, Duhr, Gardi, Gronqvist



# One-loop n-point MHV in N=4 SYM

Bern, Dixon, Dunbar, Kosower

Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachazo, Trnka



$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \text{Li}_2(1 - u_{n,i-1,i,j}) - \text{Li}_2(1 - u_{j,n,i,j-1}) - \text{Li}_2(1 - u_{i,j-1,n,i-1}) \\
 &\quad - \text{Li}_2(1 - u_{i,j-1,n,i-1}) + \text{Li}_2(1 - u_{i,j-1,j,i-1}) \\
 &\quad + \log(u_{j,n,i-1,j-1}) \log(u_{n,i-1,i,j})
 \end{aligned}$$

$$u_{i,j,k,l} = \frac{\langle i i+1 j j+1 \rangle \langle k k+1 l l+1 \rangle}{\langle l l+1 j j+1 \rangle \langle k k+1 i i+1 \rangle} = \frac{x_{ij}^2 x_{kl}^2}{x_{lj}^2 x_{ki}^2}$$

Symbol:

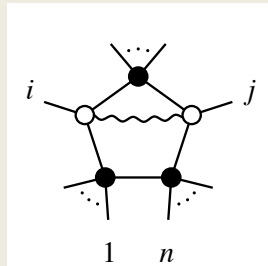
First Entry

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\langle i-1 i j-1 j \rangle, \quad \langle i-1 i j j+1 \rangle, \quad \langle i-1 i n 1 \rangle, \quad \langle i i+1 j-1 j \rangle \\
 &\langle i i+1 j j+1 \rangle, \quad \langle i i+1 n 1 \rangle, \quad \langle j-1 j n 1 \rangle, \quad \langle j j+1 n 1 \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

Second Entry

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\langle i-1 i n 1 \rangle, \langle i i+1 n 1 \rangle, \langle j-1 j n 1 \rangle \text{ and } \langle j j+1 n 1 \rangle \\
 &\langle \bar{i} j \rangle, \quad \langle i(i-1, i+1)(j, j+1)(n, 1) \rangle, \quad \langle i(i-1, i+1)(j-1, j)(n, 1) \rangle \\
 &\langle \bar{j} i \rangle, \quad \langle j(j-1, j+1)(i, i+1)(n, 1) \rangle, \quad \langle j(j-1, j+1)(i-1, i)(n, 1) \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

# One-loop n-point MHV in N=4 SYM



$$= \frac{\langle AB \bar{i} \cap \bar{j} \rangle \langle i j n 1 \rangle}{\langle AB i-1 i \rangle \langle AB i i+1 \rangle \langle AB j-1 j \rangle \langle AB j j+1 \rangle \langle AB n 1 \rangle}$$

(LLS)

$$\langle i j n 1 \rangle \langle n 1 \bar{i} \cap \bar{j} \rangle = 0$$

Prefactor

(SLLS)

$$\begin{aligned} \langle j(j-1, j+1)(i, i+1)(n, 1) \rangle &= 0, \\ \langle j(j-1, j+1)(i-1, i)(n, 1) \rangle &= 0, \\ \langle i(i-1, i+1)(j, j+1)(n, 1) \rangle &= 0, \\ \langle i(i-1, i+1)(j-1, j)(n, 1) \rangle &= 0, \\ \langle \bar{i} j \rangle \langle i \bar{j} \rangle &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Second entries of the symbol

(S<sup>2</sup>LLS)

$$\begin{aligned} \langle i-1 i j-1 j \rangle \langle j-1 j n 1 \rangle \langle n 1 i-1 i \rangle &= 0, \\ \langle i i+1 j-1 j \rangle \langle j-1 j n 1 \rangle \langle n 1 i i+1 \rangle &= 0, \\ \langle i-1 i j j+1 \rangle \langle j j+1 n 1 \rangle \langle n 1 i-1 i \rangle &= 0, \\ \langle i i+1 j j+1 \rangle \langle j j+1 n 1 \rangle \langle n 1 i i+1 \rangle &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

First/Second  
entries of the symbol

Dennen, Spradlin, AV

# Two-loop n-point MHV in N=4 SYM

- Explicit analytic results for the chiral double pentagon have only been obtained in n=6.

Drummond, Henn

- Symbol of two-loop n-point MHV amplitude

$$\langle a a+1 b b+1 \rangle \otimes \langle a \bar{b} \rangle \otimes \langle a a+1 b c \rangle \otimes \langle a \bar{b} \rangle$$

$$a, b \in \{i-1, i, j-1, j, k-1, k, l-1, l\} \quad \langle a(a-1, a+1)(c, c+1)(d, d+1) \rangle$$

$$\langle a a+1 \bar{b} \cap \bar{c} \rangle$$

$$a, b \in \{i, j, k, l\} \text{ and } c, d \in \{i-1, i, j-1, j, k-1, k, l-1, l\}$$

Caron-Huot

- It can be that individual chiral double pentagon integrals have an even larger symbol alphabet, with nontrivial cancelation in the sum which gives the amplitude.
- All of symbol entries are on the list of Landau singularities.

Dennen, Spradlin, AV

# Landau Singularities, Symbology and Cluster Structure

- All symbol entries are Landau singularities.
- Can we make a stronger statement? Why various other Landau singularities don't appear in the symbol?
- SSLs involve more complicated four-brackets than those which appear in amplitudes, but they are similar to **cluster A-coordinates** for the Grassmannian cluster algebra that it relevant to planar SYM.

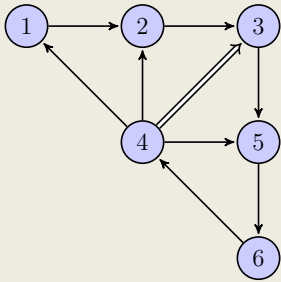
$$\begin{aligned}\langle \bar{i} \cap (i, j-1, j) \bar{l} \cap (k, k+1, l) \rangle &= 0 \\ \langle \bar{i} \cap (i, j, j+1) \bar{l} \cap (k, k+1, l) \rangle &= 0, \\ \langle \bar{i} \cap (i, j-1, j) \bar{l} \cap (k-1, k, l) \rangle &= 0 \\ \langle \bar{i} \cap (i, j, j+1) \bar{l} \cap (k-1, k, l) \rangle &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

All evidence to date says that for the simplest amplitudes in planar  $N=4$  Yang-Mills symbol entries are cluster coordinates on  $Gr(4,n)$ .

Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu; Golden, Paulos, Parker, Scherlis, AV

# Quivers and Cluster Algebra

Encode a quiver by a skew-symmetric matrix



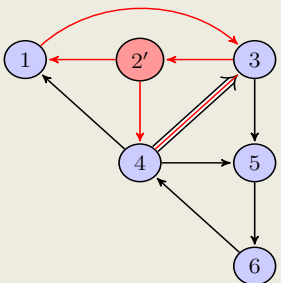
$$b_{ij} = (\#\text{arrows } i \rightarrow j) - (\#\text{arrows } j \rightarrow i).$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Cluster algebra is defined by

“a set of all cluster coordinates produced via mutations”

- Associate variable  $a_i$  (cluster coordinate) to each vertex  $i$
- Define mutation relation at vertex  $k$



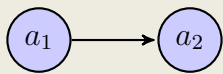
$$a_k a'_k = \prod_{i|b_{ik}>0} a_i^{b_{ik}} + \prod_{i|b_{ik}<0} a_i^{-b_{ik}},$$

$$a'_2 = \frac{1}{a_2} (a_1 a_4 + a_3)$$

Fomin, Zelevinsky 2002  
Cluster Algebra Portal

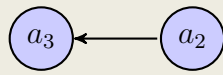
<http://www.math.lsa.umich.edu/~fomin/cluster.html>

# $A_2$ Cluster Algebra



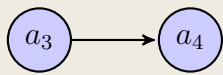
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$a_3 := a'_1 = \frac{1}{a_1} \left[ \prod_{i \rightarrow 1} a_i + \prod_{1 \rightarrow j} a_j \right] = \frac{1}{a_1} [a_1^0 a_2^0 + a_1^0 a_2^1] = \frac{1 + a_2}{a_1}$$



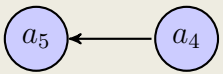
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$a_4 := a'_2 = \frac{1}{a_2} \left[ \prod_{i \rightarrow 2} a_i + \prod_{2 \rightarrow j} a_j \right] = \frac{1}{a_2} (1 + a_3) = \frac{1 + a_1 + a_2}{a_1 a_2}$$



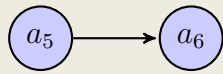
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$a_5 := a'_3 = \frac{1}{a_1} \left[ \prod_{i \rightarrow 3} x^i + \prod_{3 \rightarrow j} x^j \right] = \frac{1}{a_3} (1 + a_4) = \frac{a_1 a_2 + 1 + a_1 + a_2}{a_1 a_2} \frac{a_1}{1 + a_2} = \frac{1 + a_1}{a_2}$$



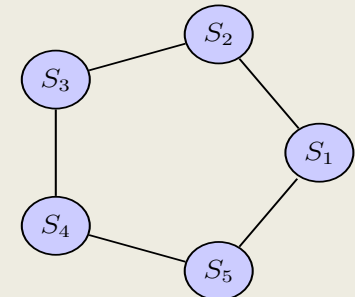
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$a_6 := a'_4 = \frac{1}{a_2} \left[ \prod_{i \rightarrow 4} a_i + \prod_{4 \rightarrow j} a_j \right] = \frac{1}{a_4} (a_5 + 1) = \frac{1 + a_1 + a_2}{a_2} \frac{a_1 a_2}{1 + a_1 + a_2} = a_1$$



$$a_1, a_2, a_3 = \frac{1 + a_2}{a_1}, a_4 = \frac{1 + a_1 + a_2}{a_1 a_2}, a_5 = \frac{1 + a_1}{a_2}$$

$$\{a_1, a_2\} \quad a_{n+1} = \frac{1 + a_n}{a_{n-1}}$$



# What does this have to do with amplitudes?

Amplitudes are functions on

$$\mathrm{Gr}(4, n)/(\mathbb{C}^*)^{n-1} \simeq \mathrm{Conf}_n(\mathbb{P}^3)$$

Drummond, Henn, Korchemsky, Sokatchev

Hodges

Let us look at **Grassmannian cluster algebras**.



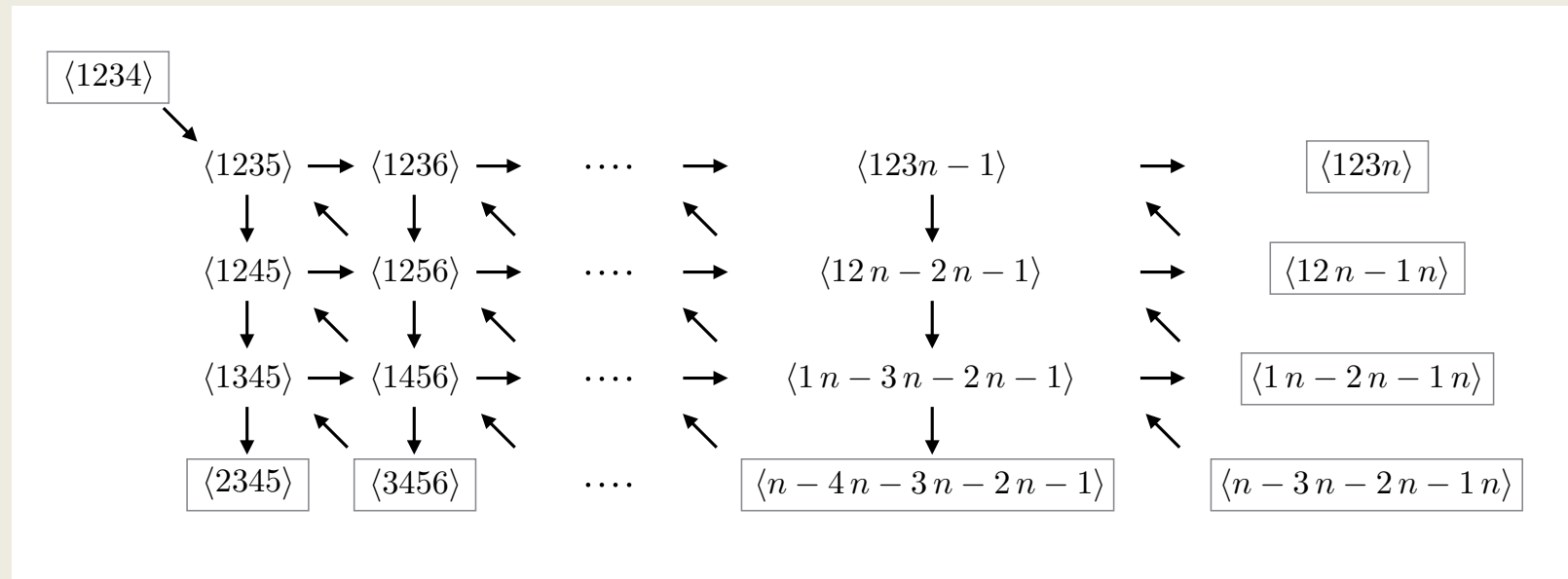
# Grassmannian cluster algebras

Gekhtman, Shapiro, Vainshtein

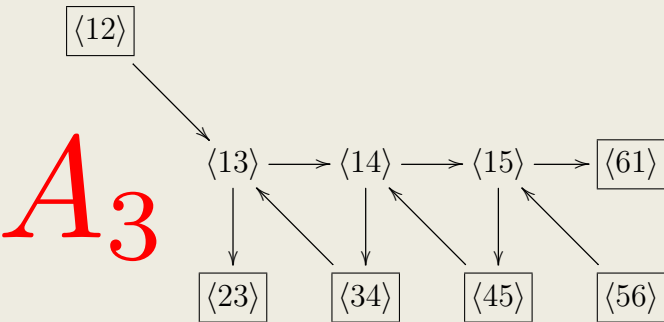
$$Gr(4, n)$$

Fomin, Zelevinsky, Scott

$3 \times (n-5)$  initial quiver with initial cluster variables which we then mutate to obtain all cluster coordinates



# Examples: n=6 & n=7



$\langle 13 \rangle, \langle 14 \rangle, \langle 15 \rangle,$   
 $\langle 15 \rangle, \langle 24 \rangle, \langle 25 \rangle,$   
 $\langle 13 \rangle, \langle 36 \rangle, \langle 46 \rangle,$   
 $\langle 26 \rangle, \langle 35 \rangle, \langle 36 \rangle,$

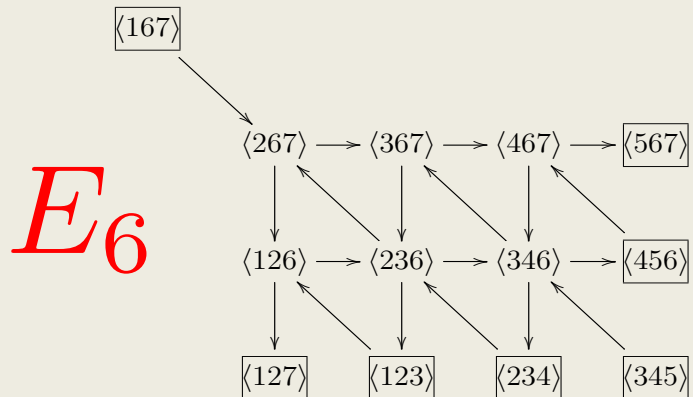
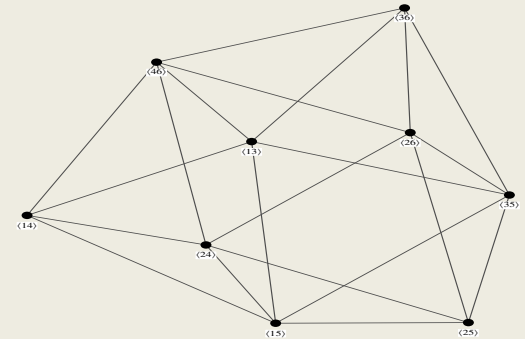
$\langle 14 \rangle, \langle 15 \rangle, \langle 24 \rangle,$   
 $\langle 14 \rangle, \langle 24 \rangle, \langle 46 \rangle,$   
 $\langle 24 \rangle, \langle 25 \rangle, \langle 26 \rangle,$   
 $\langle 26 \rangle, \langle 36 \rangle, \langle 46 \rangle.$

$\langle 13 \rangle, \langle 15 \rangle, \langle 35 \rangle,$   
 $\langle 15 \rangle, \langle 25 \rangle, \langle 35 \rangle,$   
 $\langle 24 \rangle, \langle 26 \rangle, \langle 46 \rangle,$

$\langle 13 \rangle, \langle 14 \rangle, \langle 46 \rangle,$   
 $\langle 13 \rangle, \langle 35 \rangle, \langle 36 \rangle,$   
 $\langle 25 \rangle, \langle 26 \rangle, \langle 35 \rangle,$

14 quivers  
 15 coordinates

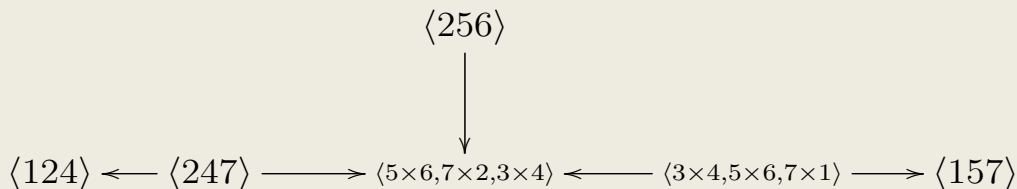
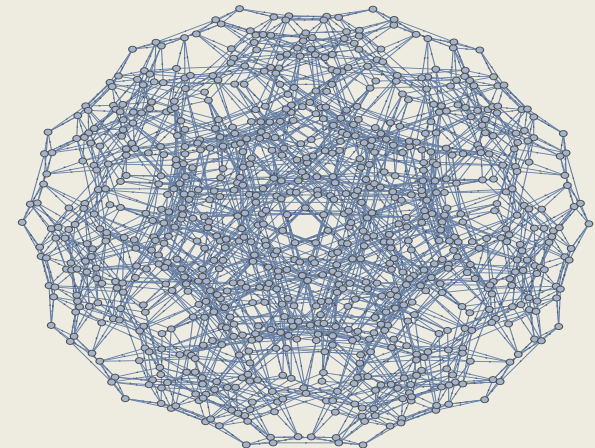
$\langle ii+1 \rangle \quad \langle ij \rangle$



833 quivers  
 49 coordinates

$\langle ijk \rangle$

$\langle 1 \times 2, 3 \times 4, 5 \times 6 \rangle, \quad \langle 1 \times 2, 3 \times 4, 5 \times 7 \rangle$



$\langle 1 \times 2, 3 \times 4, 5 \times 6 \rangle = \langle 512 \rangle \langle 634 \rangle - \langle 534 \rangle \langle 612 \rangle$

Picture by D. Parker

# What do cluster algebras have to do with amplitudes?

Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu; Golden, Paulos, Parker, Scherlis, AV

- **Symbols:** all n-point amplitudes in SYM theory have symbol alphabet with subset of cluster A-coordinates on  $\text{Gr}(4,n)$
- **Coproduct:** for two-loop MHV amplitudes, only cluster X-coordinates appear (with particular Poisson brackets) 
$$\frac{\langle 1235 \rangle \langle 1278 \rangle \langle 2456 \rangle \langle 5678 \rangle}{\langle 1256 \rangle \langle 2578 \rangle \langle 78(123) \cap (456) \rangle} \quad \text{and} \quad - \frac{\langle 2(13)(56)(78) \rangle \langle 5(12)(46)(78) \rangle}{\langle 1256 \rangle \langle 2578 \rangle \langle 78(123) \cap (456) \rangle}$$
- **Functions:** there is a particular class of natural functions which exhibit these properties (cluster functions,  $A_n$ -functions)

# Why is cluster structure useful?

- We can use cluster structure for advancing computations of multi-loop N=4 Yang-Mills amplitudes.

much more in Spradlin's talk

- Examples: 3-loop 7-point symbol,  
2-loop n-point function.

Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu; Golden, Paulos, Parker, Scherlis, AV

Caron-Huot, He; Dixon, Drummond, Duhr, Henn, Pennington, Von Hippel

# Landau Singularities and Cluster Structure

- SSLs involve more complicated four-brackets than those which appear in MHV amplitudes.
- These brackets resemble cluster A-coordinates in  $\text{Gr}(4,n)$  cluster algebra.

$$\begin{aligned} &\langle 1246 \rangle \langle 1256 \rangle \langle 1378 \rangle \langle 3457 \rangle - \langle 1246 \rangle \langle 1257 \rangle \langle 1378 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle - \\ &\quad \langle 1246 \rangle \langle 1278 \rangle \langle 1356 \rangle \langle 3457 \rangle + \langle 1278 \rangle \langle 1257 \rangle \langle 1346 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle + \\ &\quad \langle 1236 \rangle \langle 1278 \rangle \langle 1457 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

- It will be very interesting to understand the connection in detail.

in progress

# Conclusion

- We initiated a study of Landau singularities of Feynman integrals relevant to one- and two-loop MHV amplitudes in  $N=4$  SYM.
- A quantity appears in symbol of some Feynman integral/amplitude only if it is Landau singularity.
- At one loop: SSLS/SLS correspond to first/second entries of the symbol.
- At two loops: all symbol entries are Landau singularities. We also found additional solutions which don't seem to have direct connection with symbol alphabet.

# Open questions

- We have only taken first steps in exploring connection between symbology, cluster algebras and Landau singularities.
- Many questions remain:
  - Role of numerator factors in SYM vs Landau singularity analysis
  - Generalization to other cases/non-DCI theories, etc
  - Symbol of integral vs symbol of amplitude
  - Connection between cluster structure and Landau singularities
  - Landau singularities from Amplituhedron