

# $\mathcal{N} = 4$ Super Yang-Mills Amplitudes: Multi-loop, multi-leg and sometimes multi-Regge

Georgios Papathanasiou



University of Zurich, November 6, 2017

1606.08807 + in progress w/

Del Duca, Druc, Drummond, Duhr, Dulat, Marzucca, Verbeek

1612.08976 w/ Dixon, Drummond, Harrington, McLeod, Spradlin

+ in progress w/ Caron-Huot, Dixon, McLeod, von Hippel

# Outline

Motivation: Why Planar  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  Amplitudes?

## The Amplitude Bootstrap

Cluster Algebra Upgrade: The 3-loop MHV Heptagon

Steinmann Upgrade: The 3-loop NMHV/4-loop MHV Heptagon

New Developments

## The Multi-Regge limit

Single-valued Multiple Polylogarithms

Fourier-Mellin Transforms & All-loop Dispersion Integrals

(N)LLA Applications: All MHV to (3)5 loops, also non-MHV

## Conclusions & Outlook

Aim: Can we compute scattering amplitudes in  $SU(N)$   $\mathcal{N} = 4$  super Yang Mills theory to all loops, for any multiplicity and quantum numbers of the external particles?

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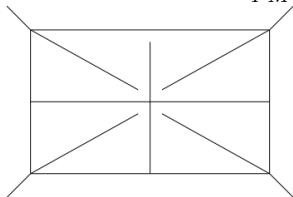
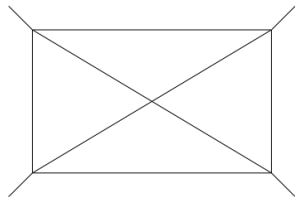
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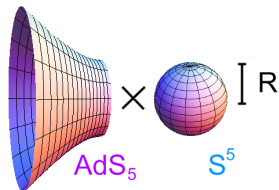


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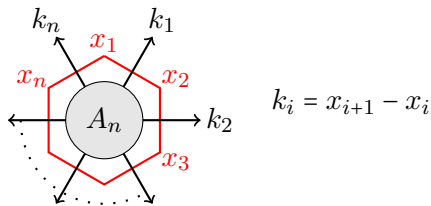


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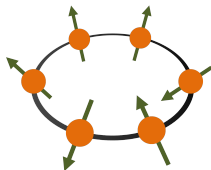
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- ▶ Integrable structures  $\Rightarrow$  All loop quantities! [\[Beisert,Eden,Staudacher\]](#)

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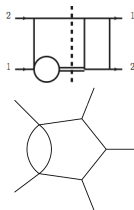
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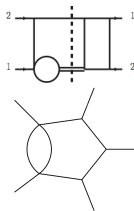
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See also recent 3-loop QCD soft anomalous dimension via bootstrap.

[Almelid,Duhr,Gardi,McLeod,White]



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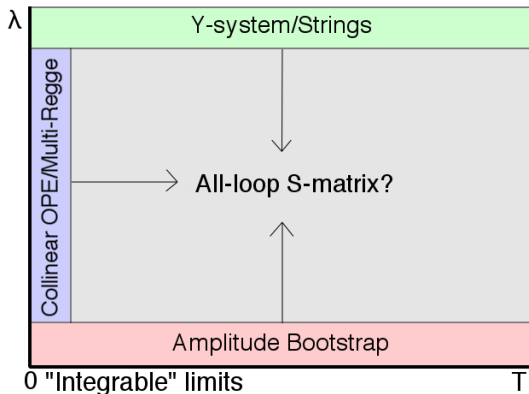
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More generally,



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Motivated by this progress, we upgraded this procedure for  $n = 7$ , with information from the cluster algebra structure of the kinematical space.

Surprisingly, more powerful than  $n = 6$ ! [Drummond,GP,Spradlin]

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Convenient tool for describing them: The **symbol**  $\mathcal{S}(f_k)$  encapsulating recursive application of above definition (on  $f_{k-1}^{(\alpha)}$  etc)

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Empirical evidence:  $L$ -loop amplitudes = MPLs of weight  $k = 2L$

[Duhr, Del Duca, Smirnov] [Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachazo, Goncharov, Postnikov, Trnka] [GP]



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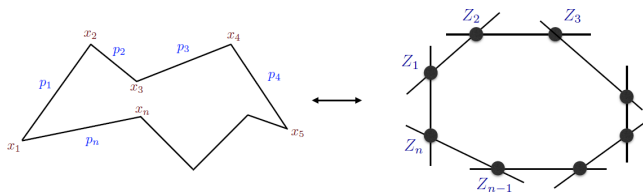
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The latter is a collection of  $n$  ordered *momentum twistors*  $Z_i$  on  $\mathbb{P}^3$ , (an equivalent way to parametrise massless kinematics), modulo dual conformal transformations. [Hodges]



$$x_i \sim Z_{i-1} \wedge Z_i$$

$$(x_i - x_j)^2 \sim \epsilon_{IJKL} Z_{i-1}^I Z_i^J Z_{j-1}^K Z_j^L = \det(Z_{i-1} Z_i Z_{j-1} Z_j) \equiv \langle i-1ij-1j \rangle$$



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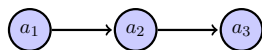
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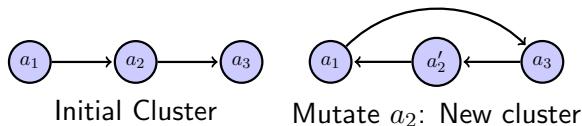


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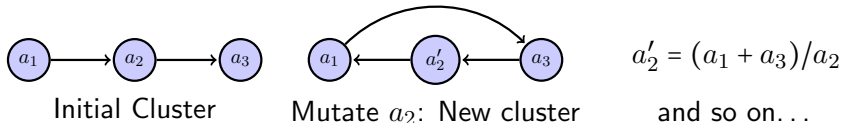
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2. In new quiver/cluster,  $a_k \rightarrow a'_k = \left( \prod_{\text{arrows } i \rightarrow k} a_i + \prod_{\text{arrows } k \rightarrow j} a_j \right) / a_k$

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See also very interesting, recent work on “cluster adjacency”.

[Drummond, Foster, Gürdogan]

## Heptagon Symbol Letters

Multiply  $\mathcal{A}$ -coordinates with suitable powers of  $\langle i i + 1 i + 2 i + 3 \rangle$  to form conformally invariant cross-ratios,

$$a_{11} = \frac{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 1567 \rangle \langle 2367 \rangle}{\langle 1237 \rangle \langle 1267 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle},$$

$$a_{41} = \frac{\langle 2457 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle}{\langle 2345 \rangle \langle 4567 \rangle},$$

$$a_{21} = \frac{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 2567 \rangle}{\langle 1267 \rangle \langle 2345 \rangle},$$

$$a_{51} = \frac{\langle 1(23)(45)(67) \rangle}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 1567 \rangle},$$

$$a_{31} = \frac{\langle 1567 \rangle \langle 2347 \rangle}{\langle 1237 \rangle \langle 4567 \rangle},$$

$$a_{61} = \frac{\langle 1(34)(56)(72) \rangle}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 1567 \rangle},$$

where

$$\langle ijkl \rangle \equiv \langle Z_i Z_j Z_k Z_l \rangle = \det(Z_i Z_j Z_k Z_l)$$

$$\langle a(bc)(de)(fg) \rangle \equiv \langle abde \rangle \langle acfg \rangle - \langle abfg \rangle \langle acde \rangle,$$

together with  $a_{ij}$  obtained from  $a_{i1}$  by cyclically relabeling  $Z_m \rightarrow Z_{m+j-1}$ .

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Define  **$n$ -gon symbol**: A symbol of the corresponding  $n$ -gon alphabet, obeying 1 & 2.

Weight $k =$	1	2	3	4	5	6
Number of heptagon symbols	7	42	237	1288	6763	?
well-defined in the $7 \parallel 6$ limit	3	15	98	646	?	?
which vanish in the $7 \parallel 6$ limit	0	6	72	572	?	?
well-defined for all $i+1 \parallel i$	0	0	0	1	?	?
with MHV last entries	0	1	0	2	1	4
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Table: Heptagon symbols and their properties.

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Table: Heptagon symbols and their properties.

The symbol of the three-loop seven-particle MHV amplitude is the only weight-6 heptagon symbol which satisfies the last-entry condition and which is finite in the  $7 \parallel 6$  collinear limit.

## Comparison with the hexagon case

Weight $k =$	1	2	3	4	5	6
Number of hexagon symbols	3	9	26	75	218	643
well-defined (vanish) in the $6 \parallel 5$ limit	0	2	11	44	155	516
well-defined (vanish) for all $i+1 \parallel i$	0	0	2	12	68	307
with MHV last entries	0	3	7	21	62	188
with both of the previous two	0	0	1	4	14	59

**Table:** Hexagon symbols and their properties.

Surprisingly, heptagon bootstrap more powerful than hexagon one! Fact that  $\lim_{7 \parallel 6} R_7^{(3)} = R_6^{(3)}$ , as well as discrete symmetries such as cyclic  $Z_i \rightarrow Z_{i+1}$ , flip  $Z_i \rightarrow Z_{n+1-i}$  or parity symmetry **follow for free**, not imposed a priori.





Upgrade II: Steinmann Relations [Steinmann][Cahill,Stapp][Bartels,Lipatov,Sabio Vera]

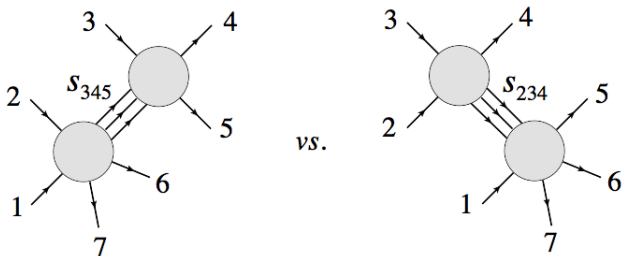
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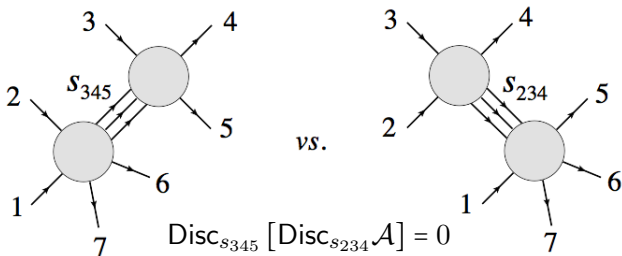
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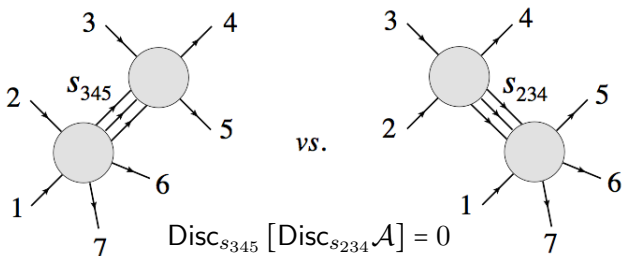


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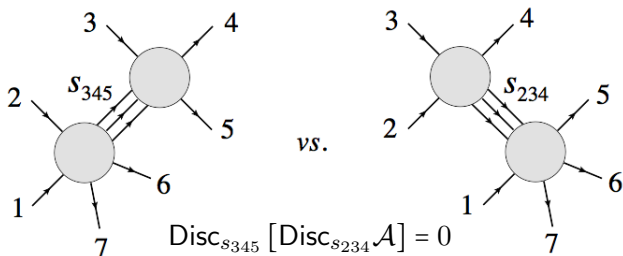


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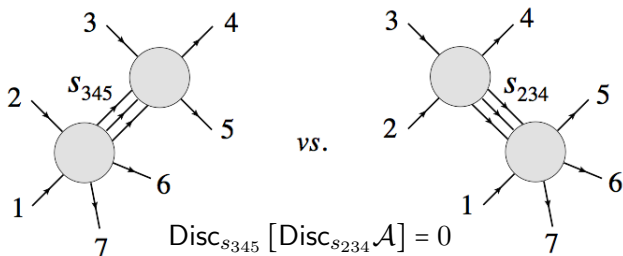


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Heptagon: No  $a_{1,i\pm 1}$ ,  $a_{1,i\pm 2}$  after  $a_{1,i}$  on second symbol entry

## Results: Steinmann Heptagon symbols

Weight $k =$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	$7''$
parity +, flip +	4	16	48	154	467	1413	4163	3026
parity +, flip -	3	12	43	140	443	1359	4063	2946
parity -, flip +	0	0	3	14	60	210	672	668
parity -, flip -	0	0	3	14	60	210	672	669
Total	7	28	97	322	1030	3192	9570	7309

**Table:** Number of Steinmann heptagon symbols at weights 1 through 7, and those satisfying the MHV next-to-final entry condition at weight 7. All of them are organized with respect to the discrete symmetries  $Z_i \rightarrow Z_{i+1}$ ,  $Z_i \rightarrow Z_{8-i}$  of the MHV amplitude.

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4. E.g. 6-fold reduction already at weight 5!

In this manner, obtained 3-loop NMHV and 4-loop MHV heptagon

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The 6-loop, 6-particle N+MHV amplitude

[Caron-Huot,Dixon,McLeod,GP,von Hippel;to appear]

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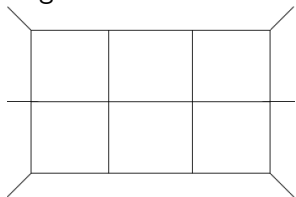
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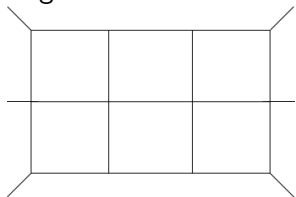
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Our result is purely MPL, thus lending no support to this claim.



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New alphabet:  $\{a, b, c, m_u, m_v, m_w, y_u, y_v, y_w\}$ , where

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Simplest formulation of Steinmann relations for the amplitude:

No  $b, c$  can appear after  $a$  in 2<sup>nd</sup> symbol entry & cyclic



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Observed empirically at first, must be consequence of original Steinmann holding not just in the Euclidean region, but also on other Riemann sheets.

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Double penta-ladders to all orders



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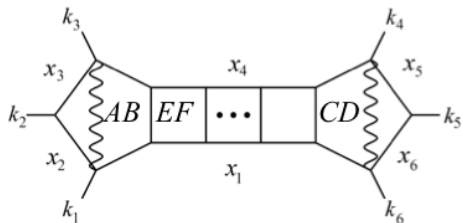
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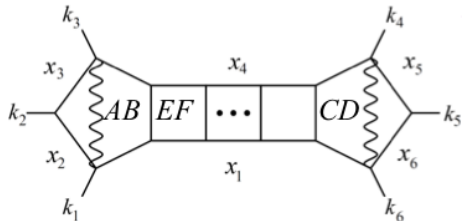
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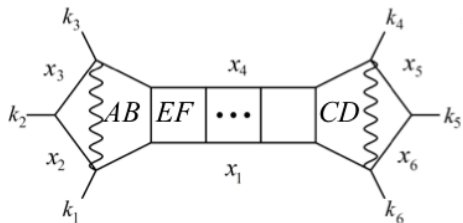
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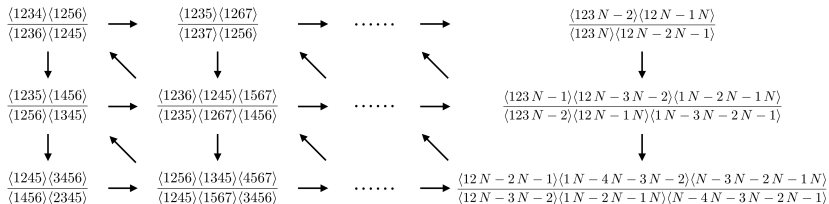
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Can in fact resum  $\Omega \equiv \sum \lambda^L \Omega^{(L)}$  in terms of a simple integral.

## Beyond seven particles

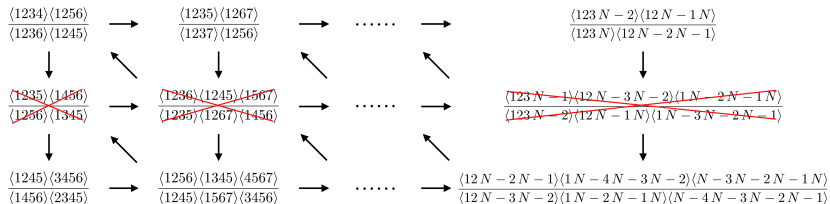
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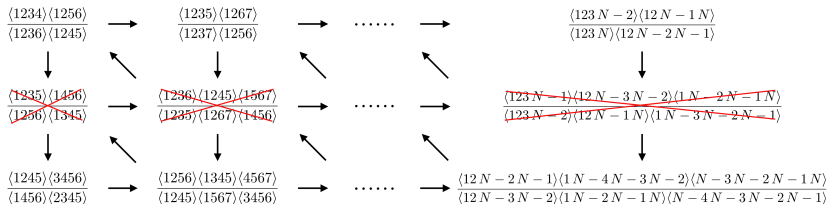
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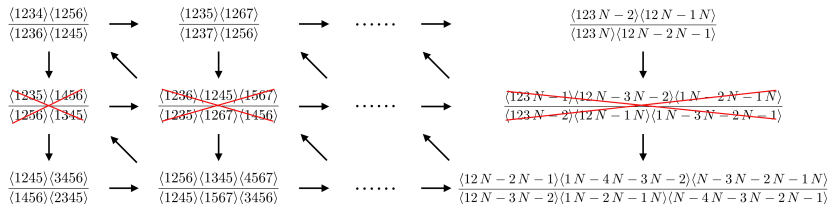


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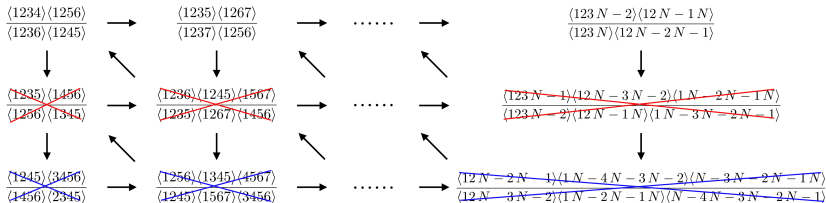


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[Del Duca, Druc, Drummond, Duhr, Dulat, Marzucca, GP, Verbeek]

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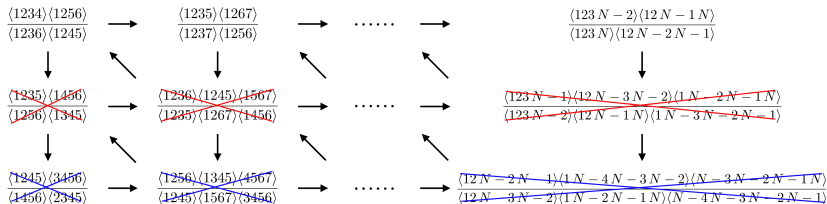
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- ▶ The two  $A_{N-5}$  factors not independent: Related by single-valuedness

## Beyond seven particles

For  $N \geq 8$ ,  $Gr(4, N)$  cluster algebra becomes infinite

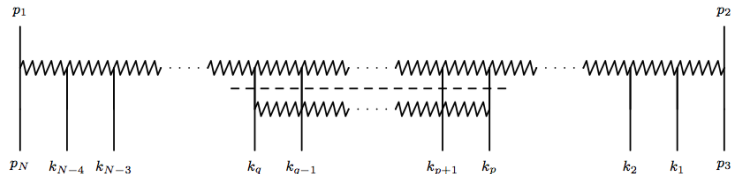


- ▶ However, in multi-Regge limit: Middle-row variables  $\rightarrow 0$ , i.e decouple
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Therefore multi-Regge limit crucial for going to higher points.

## $2 \rightarrow N - 2$ Multi-Regge Kinematics (MRK)

Phenomenologically relevant high-energy gluon scattering



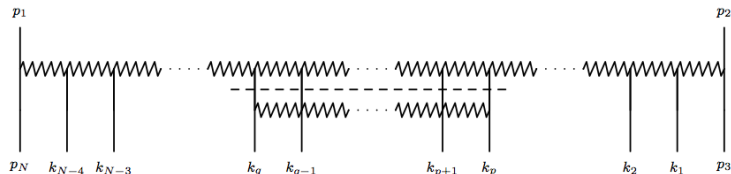
Defined by strong ordering of rapidities or lightcone +-components,

$$p_3^+ \gg p_4^+ \gg \dots p_{N-1}^+ \gg p_N^+, \quad |\mathbf{p}_3| \simeq \dots \simeq |\mathbf{p}_N|,$$

where  $p^\pm \equiv p^0 \pm p^z$ ,  $\mathbf{p}_k \equiv p_{k\perp} = p_k^x + ip_k^y$ , and can choose  $\mathbf{p}_1 = \mathbf{p}_2 = 0$ .

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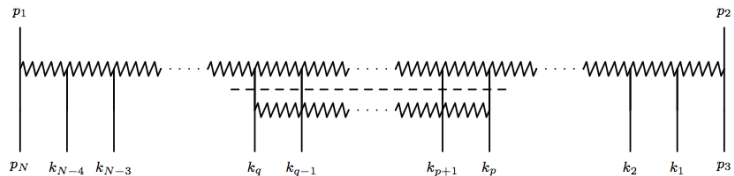
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Implies the hierarchy of scales, for  $s_{i,\dots,j} = (p_i + \dots + p_j)^2$ ,

$$s_{12} \gg s_{3\dots N-1}, s_{4\dots N} \gg s_{3\dots N-2}, s_{4\dots N-1}, s_{5\dots N} \gg \dots \\ \dots \gg s_{34}, \dots, s_{N-1N} \gg -s_{23}, \dots, -s_{2\dots N}.$$

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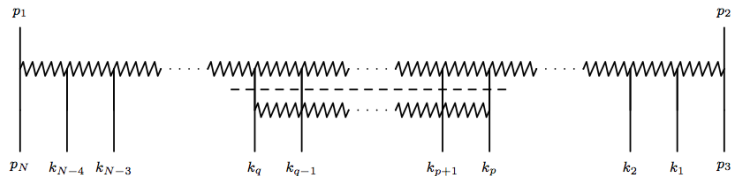
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Amplitudes typically develop large logarithms in the kinematic invariants, which are successfully resummed within the Balitsky-Fadin-Kuraev-Lipatov (BFKL) framework, giving rise to the concept of the Reggeized gluon (Regge pole) and its bound states (Regge cuts).

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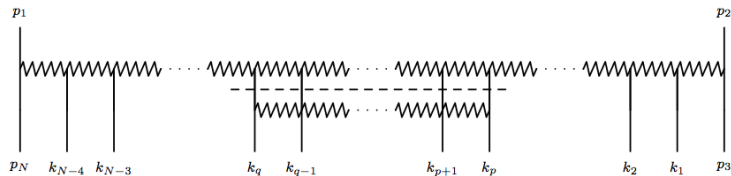


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All  $[p, q]$  cuts can be reconstructed from  $[1, N - 4]$ , so focus on the latter.



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Conclusion:  $N$ -particle  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  Super Yang-Mills amplitudes in multi-Regge kinematics are described by single-valued  $A_{N-5}$  polylogarithms.

## Single-valued multiple polylogarithms

Combinations of multiple polylogarithms,

$$G(a_1, \dots, a_n; z) \equiv \int_0^z \frac{dt_1}{t_1 - a_1} G(a_2, \dots, a_n; t_1), \quad G(; z) = 1,$$

and their complex conjugates, such that all branch cuts cancel, leaving only isolated singularities.

- ▶  $\forall G(\vec{a}, z), \exists$  unique map  $s$ , such that  $\mathcal{G}(\vec{a}, z) \equiv s(G(\vec{a}, z))$  is single-valued.
- ▶  $G(\vec{a}, z)$  then corresponds to *holomorphic* part of  $\mathcal{G}(\vec{a}, z)$ , obtained by setting  $\bar{z} \rightarrow 0$ , and removing any divergent  $\log \bar{z}$ .

Examples:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_a(z) &= G_a(z) + G_{\bar{a}}(\bar{z}) = \log \left| 1 - \frac{z}{a} \right|^2, \\ \mathcal{G}_{a,b}(z) &= G_{a,b}(z) + G_{\bar{b},\bar{a}}(\bar{z}) + G_b(a)G_{\bar{a}}(\bar{z}) + G_{\bar{b}}(\bar{a})G_{\bar{a}}(\bar{z}) \\ &\quad - G_a(b)G_{\bar{b}}(\bar{z}) + G_a(z)G_{\bar{b}}(\bar{z}) - G_{\bar{a}}(\bar{b})G_{\bar{b}}(\bar{z}). \end{aligned}$$

Building on F. Brown's work, we constructed *direct algorithm* for  $s$ .



## Application: Amplitudes in Leading-logarithmic approximation (LLA)

LLA (Regge cut) contribution factorizes in Fourier-Mellin (FM) space.

- FM transform: 
$$\mathcal{F}[F(\nu, n)] = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{w}{\bar{w}}\right)^{n/2} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{d\nu}{2\pi} |w|^{2i\nu} F(\nu, n)$$

- FM maps products into convolutions:

$$\mathcal{F}[F \cdot G] = \mathcal{F}[F] * \mathcal{F}[G] = f * g = \frac{1}{\pi} \int \frac{d^2 w}{|w|^2} f(w) g\left(\frac{z}{w}\right)$$

- Implies recursion in loop order. E.g. for  $N$  particles: Large logarithms  $\prod_{k=1}^{N-5} \log^{i_k} \tau_k$ , with  $\sum i_k = L - 1$  at  $L$  loops LLA, and MHV coefficient:

$$g_{++++}^{(i_1, \dots, i_k+1, \dots, i_{N-5})}(w_1, \dots, w_{N-5}) = \mathcal{E}(w_k) * g_{++++}^{(i_1, \dots, i_{N-5})}(w_1, \dots, w_{N-5})$$

In this fashion, obtained LLA contributions of MHV amplitudes to 5 loops for any  $N$ , and non-MHV amplitudes up to 4 loops and  $N = 8$ .

## Beyond LLA

Problem:  $N$ -particle dispersion integrals diverge for  $\log^0 \tau_k$

Explore eikonal approach to 6-particle MRK: [Caron-Huot'13]

$$e^{R_6(w)+i\delta_6(w)} = 2\pi i \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n \left(\frac{w}{w^*}\right)^{\frac{n}{2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\nu}{2\pi} \tilde{\Phi}_n(\nu) |w|^{2i\nu} e^{-L\omega_n(\nu)},$$

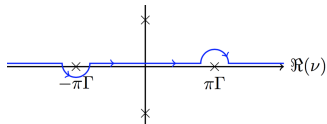
$$L = \log(\tau) + i\pi, \quad \delta_6(w) = \pi\Gamma \log \frac{|w|^2}{|1+w|^4}, \quad \Gamma = \frac{a}{2} - \frac{\zeta_2}{2} a^2 + \frac{11\zeta_4}{4} a^3 + \mathcal{O}(a^4).$$

Soft limits strongly constrain integrand and integration contour:

$$\lim_{w \rightarrow 0} e^{R_6(w)+i\delta_6(w)} = |w|^{2\pi i\Gamma}, \quad \lim_{w \rightarrow \infty} e^{R_6(w)+i\delta_6(w)} = |w|^{-2\pi i\Gamma}.$$

Imply exact bootstrap conditions for adjoint BFKL eigenvalue  $\omega$  and impact factor  $\tilde{\Phi}$ :

$$\omega_0(\pm\pi\Gamma) = 0, \quad \text{Res}_{\nu=\pm\pi\Gamma} (\tilde{\Phi}_0(\nu)) = \pm \frac{1}{2\pi},$$



# Beyond LLA

## Heptagon all-loop dispersion relation

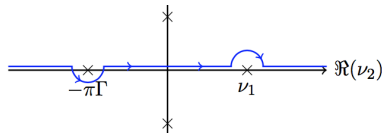
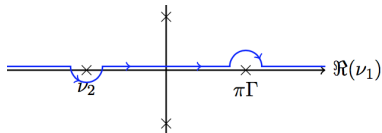
Propose (new ingredient: central emission block  $\tilde{C}_{n_1 n_2}$ )

$$e^{R_7 + i\delta_7} = 2\pi i \sum_{n_1, n_2 = -\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^{n_1 + n_2} \left(\frac{w_1}{w_1^*}\right)^{\frac{n_1}{2}} \left(\frac{w_2}{w_2^*}\right)^{\frac{n_2}{2}} \int \frac{d\nu_1 d\nu_2}{(2\pi)^2} |w_1|^{2i\nu_1} |w_2|^{2i\nu_2} \\ \times e^{-L_1 \omega_{n_1}(\nu_1)} e^{-L_2 \omega_{n_2}(\nu_2)} \tilde{\Phi}_{n_1}(\nu_1) \tilde{C}_{n_1 n_2}(\nu_1, \nu_2) \tilde{\Phi}_{n_2}(\nu_2),$$

$$L_i = \log \tau_i + i\pi, \quad \delta_7 = \pi\Gamma \log \frac{|w_1 w_2|^2}{|1 + w_2 + w_1 w_2|^4}.$$

Similarly, soft limits  $w_1 \rightarrow 0, w_2 \rightarrow \infty$  and  $w_2 \rightarrow 0$  with  $w_1 w_2$  fixed, imply

$$\tilde{C}_{0n_2}(\pi\Gamma, \nu_2) = \tilde{C}_{n_1 0}(\nu_1, -\pi\Gamma) = 2\pi i, \quad \text{Res}_{\nu_1 = \nu_2} \tilde{C}_{n_2 n_2}(\nu_1, \nu_2) = \frac{-i(-1)^{n_2} e^{i\pi\omega_{n_2}(\nu_2)}}{\tilde{\Phi}_{n_2}(\nu_2)}$$



## Determining the building blocks of the BFKL dispersion integrals

$\omega_n, \tilde{\Phi}_n$

- Initially obtained to LO from adjoint BFKL equation

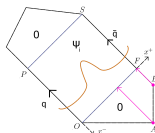
[Bartels,Lipatov,Sabio Vera]

$$\omega_n(\nu) = -aE(\nu, n) + \mathcal{O}(a^2), \quad \tilde{\Phi}_n(\nu) = \frac{a}{2} \frac{1}{\nu^2 + \frac{n^2}{4}} + \mathcal{O}(a^2),$$

$$E(\nu, n) = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{|n|}{\nu^2 + \frac{n^2}{4}} + \psi\left(1 + i\nu + \frac{|n|}{2}\right) + \psi\left(1 - i\nu + \frac{|n|}{2}\right) - 2\psi(1).$$

- Higher order corrections extracted from 6-particle perturbative data  
[Lipatov,Prygarin][Dixon,Duhr,Pennington]
- Remarkably, MRK intimately related to collinear limit, described at any coupling with the help of integrability by the ‘Wilson loop OPE’  
[Alday,Gaiotto,Maldacena,Sever,Vieira][Basso,Sever,Vieira]
- Can obtain  $\omega_n, \tilde{\Phi}_n$  to all loops! From analytic continuation of ‘1-particle gluon bound states’ [Basso,Caron-Huot,Sever][Drummond,GP][Hatsuda]

$$\mathcal{W}_6 \equiv \sum_{a=1}^{\infty} \int \frac{du}{2\pi} \mu_a(u) e^{-E_a(u)\tau + ip_a(u)\sigma + ia\phi}$$



## Determining the building blocks of the BFKL dispersion integrals

$\tilde{C}_{n_1 n_2}$

- Once again, computed to LO within the BFKL approach

[Bartels, Kormilitzin, Lipatov, Prygarin]

$$\tilde{C}_{n_1 n_2}^{(0)}(\nu_1, \nu_2) = \frac{\Gamma\left(1 - i\nu_1 - \frac{n_1}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(1 + i\nu_2 + \frac{n_2}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(i\nu_1 - i\nu_2 - \frac{n_1}{2} + \frac{n_2}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(i\nu_1 - \frac{n_1}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(-i\nu_2 + \frac{n_2}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(1 - i\nu_1 + i\nu_2 - \frac{n_1}{2} + \frac{n_2}{2}\right)}$$

- Here: Extract from 2-loop symbol of all MHV amplitudes, specialized to MRK [Caron-Huot] [Prygarin, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich] [Barheer, GP, Schomerus]
- Single-valuedness and soft limits *uniquely* upgrade symbol to function:

$$\frac{\tilde{C}_{n_1 n_2}^{(1)}(\nu_1, \nu_2)}{\tilde{C}_{n_1 n_2}^{(0)}(\nu_1, \nu_2)} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ DE_1 - DE_2 + E_1 E_2 + \frac{1}{4} (N_1 + N_2)^2 + V_1 V_2 \right. \\ \left. + (V_1 - V_2) (M - E_1 - E_2) + 2\zeta_2 + i\pi (V_2 - V_1 - E_1 - E_2) \right].$$

$$V(\nu, n) \equiv \frac{i\nu}{\nu^2 + \frac{n^2}{4}}, \quad N(\nu, n) = \frac{n}{\nu^2 + \frac{n^2}{4}}, \quad D_\nu = -i\partial/\partial\nu,$$

$$M(\nu_1, n_1, \nu_2, n_2) = \psi\left(i(\nu_1 - \nu_2) - \frac{n_1 - n_2}{2}\right) + \psi\left(1 - i(\nu_1 - \nu_2) - \frac{n_1 - n_2}{2}\right) + 2\gamma_E.$$

## Applications

- ▶ 5-loop MHV/4-loop NMHV 7-particle amplitude to NLLA, by evaluating dispersion integral by residues + nested sum algorithms  
[Moch,Uwer,Weinzierl]
- ▶ Generalize dispersion integral to any number of particles! 3-loop MHV 8-particle amplitude to NLLA by convolutions
- ▶ Momentum space factorization:  $L$ -loop NLLA MHV amplitudes decomposed into building blocks associated to amplitudes with up to  $L + 5$  legs
- ▶ Thus, obtain all 3-loop NLLA MHV amplitudes

## Conclusions & Outlook

In this presentation, we talked the beauty and simplicity of  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM amplitudes.

We focused on two approaches for their computation:

- ▶ The (Steinmann, Cluster) Bootstrap at fixed-order/general kinematics, exploiting their analytic properties  
⇒  $N = 6$  gluons to 6 loops,  $N = 7$  gluons to 4 loops
- ▶ The study of the multi-Regge limit, where factorization, dual conformal invariance and soft limits yield all-loop predictions  $\forall N$   
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Ultimately, can the integrability of planar SYM theory, together with a thorough knowledge of the analytic structure of its amplitudes, lead us to the theory's exact S-matrix?





# Momentum Twistors $Z^I$ [Hodges]

- ▶ Represent dual space variables  $x^\mu \in \mathbb{R}^{1,3}$  as projective null vectors  
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$$(x-x')^2 \propto 2X \cdot X' = \epsilon_{IJKL} Z^I \tilde{Z}^J Z'^K \tilde{Z}'^L = \det(Z \tilde{Z} Z' \tilde{Z}') \equiv \langle Z \tilde{Z} Z' \tilde{Z}' \rangle$$

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$$X^M \in \mathbb{R}^{2,4}, X^2 = 0, X \sim \lambda X.$$

- ▶ Repackage vector  $X^M$  of  $SO(2,4)$  into antisymmetric representation

$$X^{IJ} = -X^{JI} = \begin{bmatrix} \square \\ \square \end{bmatrix} \text{ of } SU(2,2)$$

- ▶ Can build latter from two copies of the fundamental  $Z^I = \square$ ,

$$X^{IJ} = Z^{[I} \tilde{Z}^{J]} = (Z^I \tilde{Z}^J - Z^J \tilde{Z}^I)/2 \text{ or } X = Z \wedge \tilde{Z}$$

- ▶ After complexifying,  $Z^I$  transform in  $SL(4, \mathbb{C})$ . Since  $Z \sim tZ$ , can be viewed as homogeneous coordinates on  $\mathbb{P}^3$ .

- ▶ Can show

$$(x-x')^2 \propto 2X \cdot X' = \epsilon_{IJKL} Z^I \tilde{Z}^J Z'^K \tilde{Z}'^L = \det(Z \tilde{Z} Z' \tilde{Z}') \equiv \langle Z \tilde{Z} Z' \tilde{Z}' \rangle$$

- ▶  $(x_{i+i} - x_i)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow X_i = Z_{i-1} \wedge Z_i$



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Comparing the two matrices,

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

## Imposing Constraints: Integrable Words

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Given a random symbol  $\mathcal{S}$  of weight  $k > 1$ , there does not in general exist any function whose symbol is  $\mathcal{S}$ . A symbol is said to be **integrable**, (or, to be an **integrable word**) if it satisfies

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Define a **heptagon symbol**: An integrable symbol with alphabet  $a_{ij}$  that obeys first-entry condition.

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Consequence for MHV amplitudes: Their differential is a linear combination of  $d \log \langle i j-1 j j+1 \rangle$ , which implies

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Particularly here: Only the 14 letters  $a_{2j}$  and  $a_{3j}$  may appear in the last symbol entry of  $R_7$ .

## Imposing Constraints: The Collinear Limit

It is baked into the definition of the BDS normalized  $n$ -particle  $L$ -loop MHV remainder function that it should smoothly approach the corresponding  $(n-1)$ -particle function in any simple collinear limit:

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A function has a well-defined  $i+1 \parallel i$  limit only if its symbol is independent of all nine of these letters.

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### Step 1 (Straightforward)

Form linear combination of all length- $k$  symbols made of  $a_{ij}$  obeying initial/Steinmann (+final) entry conditions, with unknown coefficients grouped in vector  $X$ .

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“Just” linear algebra, however for e.g. 4-loop MHV hexagon  $A$  boils down to a size of  $941498 \times 60182$ . Tackled with fraction-free variants of Gaussian elimination that bound the size of intermediate expressions, implemented in Integer Matrix Library and Sage. [\[Storjohann\]](#)

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BDS-like normalized amplitudes obey Steinmann relations,  
BDS normalized ones do not!

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Beyond MHV, amplitudes most efficiently organized by exploiting the (dual) superconformal symmetry of  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM.

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$$\mathcal{A}_n^{\text{MHV}} = (2\pi)^4 \delta^{(4)} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \right) \sum_{1 \leq j < k \leq n} (\eta_j)^4 (\eta_k)^4 A_n^{\text{MHV}} (1^+ \dots j^- \dots k^- \dots n^+) + \dots,$$

$$E \equiv \frac{\mathcal{A}_7^{\text{NMHV}}}{\mathcal{A}_7^{\text{BDS-like}}} = \mathcal{P}^{(0)} E_0 + [(12) E_{12} + (14) E_{14} + \text{cyclic}].$$

- ▶  $E_0, E_{12}, E_{14}$  the transcendental functions we wish to determine
- ▶  $\mathcal{P}_7^{(0)} = \frac{3}{7} (12) + \frac{1}{7} (13) + \frac{2}{7} (14) + \text{cyclic}$  the tree-level superamplitude
- ▶ (67) = (76)  $\equiv [12345]$  *Dual superconformal R-invariants*, with

$$[abcde] = \frac{\delta^{0|4} (\chi_a \langle bcde \rangle + \text{cyclic})}{\langle abcd \rangle \langle bcde \rangle \langle cdea \rangle \langle deab \rangle \langle eabc \rangle}, \quad \chi_i^A = \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \langle ji \rangle \eta_j^A.$$

## NMHV final entry conditions

[Caron-Huot]

$$\begin{aligned} & (34) \log a_{21}, \quad (14) \log a_{21}, \quad (15) \log a_{21}, \quad (16) \log a_{21}, \quad (13) \log a_{21}, \quad (12) \log a_{21}, \\ & (45) \log a_{37}, \quad (47) \log a_{37}, \quad (37) \log a_{37}, \quad (27) \log a_{37}, \quad (57) \log a_{37}, \quad (67) \log a_{37}, \\ & (45) \log \frac{a_{34}}{a_{11}}, \quad (14) \log \frac{a_{34}}{a_{11}}, \quad (14) \log \frac{a_{11}a_{24}}{a_{46}}, \quad (14) \log \frac{a_{14}a_{31}}{a_{34}}, \\ & (24) \log \frac{a_{44}}{a_{42}}, \quad (56) \log a_{57}, \quad (12) \log a_{57}, \quad (16) \log \frac{a_{67}}{a_{26}}, \\ & (13) \log \frac{a_{41}}{a_{26}a_{33}} + ((14) - (15)) \log a_{26} - (17) \log a_{26}a_{37} + (45) \log \frac{a_{22}}{a_{34}a_{35}} - (34) \log a_{33}, \end{aligned}$$

## Results: 3-loop NMHV Heptagon

Loop order $L =$	1	2	3
Steinmann symbols	$15 \times 28$	$15 \times 322$	$15 \times 3192$
NMHV final entry	42	85	226
Dihedral symmetry	5	11	31
Well-defined collinear	0	0	0

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4. We also need collinear limit of  $R$ -invariants

## Results: 4-loop MHV Heptagon

Loop order $L =$	1	2	3	4
Steinmann symbols	28	322	3192	?
MHV final entry	1	1	2	4
Well-defined collinear	0	0	0	0

## Results: 4-loop MHV Heptagon

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Well-defined collinear	0	0	0	0

For last step, we need to convert BDS-like normalized amplitude  $F$  to BDS normalized one  $\mathcal{F}$ ,

$$\mathcal{F} = F e^{\frac{\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}}{4} Y_7} \xrightarrow[\Gamma_{\text{cusp}} \rightarrow 4g^2]{\text{symbol}} \mathcal{F}^{(L)} = \sum_{k=0}^L F^{(k)} \frac{Y_n^{L-k}}{(L-k)!}.$$

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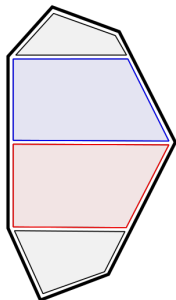
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Strong tension between collinear properties and Steinmann relations.

## Further check: Heptagon Wilson loop OPE

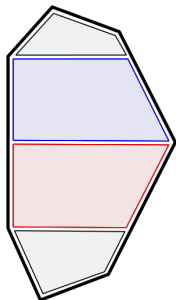
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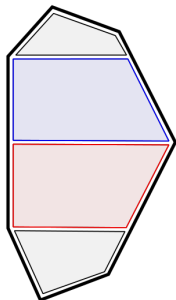


Integrability predicts linear terms in  $e^{-\tau_i}$  to all loops in integral form, e.g. [\[Basso, Sever, Vieira 2\]](#)

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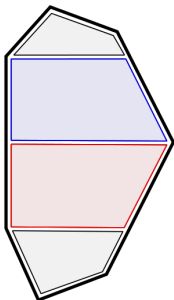
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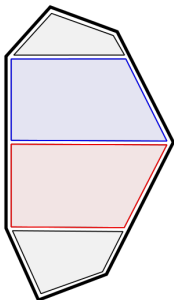
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Perfect match, currently computing 4 loops

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