The Hexagon Function Bootstrap in planar N=4 SYM



LD, J. Drummond, C. Duhr, M. von Hippel, J. Pennington 1308.2276, 1402.3300, and to appear 19th Itzykson Conference Amplitudes 2014 – June 12 Saclay

Granularity vs. Fluidity



The Analytic S-Matrix

1960's: Before even Itzykson & Zuber. No QCD, no Lagrangian or Feynman rules for strong interactions

Bootstrap program: Reconstruct scattering amplitudes directly from analytic properties: "on-shell" information



Usually too hard

- Nonperturbative implementation leads to nonlinear integral equations
- Often not enough data to fix ambiguities
- Perturbative implementation is linear, recursive in loops and legs
- Most successful D=4 applications so far: construction of loop integrands (unitarity method, BCFW recursion, ...) but see talk by Britto; Abreu, Britto, Duhr, Gardi, 1401.3546

Tree-level fluidity

Amplitudes fall apart into simpler ones in special limits – pole information

Picture leads directly to BCFW (on-shell) recursion relations Britto, Cachazo, Feng, Witten, hep-th/0501052



Trees recycled into trees



Fluidity of the one-loop integrand

Ordinary unitarity: put 2 particles on shell

Generalized unitarity: put 3 or 4 particles on shell



Today we will use fluidity, i.e. factorization in kinematical limits, to bootstrap an integrated loop amplitude directly, without ever peeking inside the loops



Similar in spirit to "uplifting" approach for *R*^{1,1} kinematics Goddard, Heslop, Khoze, 1205.3448; Caron-Huot, He, 1305.2781

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Loop amplitudes without loop integrals

- 1. Consider N=4 super-Yang-Mills theory in the planar (large N_c) limit. Amplitudes possess many special properties, making integrated bootstrap feasible.
- 2. Make ansatz for functional form of scattering amplitudes in terms of iterated integrals hexagon functions
- 3. Use "boundary value data" to fix constants in ansatz. Linear constraints, leading to rational numbers.
- 4. Cross check.
- Works for 6-gluon amplitude, first "nontrivial" amplitude in planar N=4 SYM, through 4 loops for MHV = (--+++), 3 loops for NMHV = (---++)

Advantage of bootstrapping the integrated amplitude

Bypass all difficulties of doing integrals and all subtleties of infrared regularization by working directly with IR finite quantities:

- MHV: Remainder function
- NMHV: Ratio to MHV
- Just need a good guess for the form of the answer, plus excellent boundary data [Basso, Sever, Vieira]

Three kinematical limits

1. (Near) collinear limit

2. High-energy, multi-Regge limit

3. Multi-particle factorization limit (NMHV only)

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Planar N=4 SYM Scattering Amplitudes

- Uniform transcendental weight: " $\ln^{2L}x$ " at L loops
- Exact exponentiation for n=4 or 5 gluons
- Dual (super)conformal invariance for any n
- Amplitudes equivalent to Wilson loops
- Strong coupling "soap bubbles" (minimal area)
- Integrability + OPE → exact, nonperturbative predictions for near-collinear limit
- Factorization of amplitude in high-energy, multi-Regge limit
- Finite radius of convergence for pert. theory

Use properties to solve for *n*=6 amplitudes

Exact exponentiation

Bern, LD, Smirnov, hep-th/0505205

BDS Ansatz inspired by IR structure of QCD, Mueller, Collins, Sen, Magnea, Sterman plus evidence collected at 2 and 3 loops for n=4,5 using generalized unitarity and collinear limits:

$$\mathcal{A}_{n}^{\mathsf{BDS}} = \mathcal{A}_{n}^{\mathsf{tree}} \times \exp\left[\sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{\lambda}{8\pi^{2}}\right]^{l} \left(f^{(l)}(\epsilon) M_{n}^{(1)}(l\epsilon; s_{ij}) + C^{(l)} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)\right)\right]$$

constants, indep.of kinematics
all kinematic dependence from 1-loop amplitude

$$n=4 \implies \mathcal{M}_{4}|_{\mathsf{finite}} = \exp\left[\frac{1}{8}\gamma_{K}(\lambda) \ln^{2}\left(\frac{s}{t}\right) + \mathsf{const.}\right]$$

Confirmed at strong coupling using AdS/CFT, for $n=4,5$. Alday, Maldacena
(2007)

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Dual conformal constraints

Broadhurst (1993); Lipatov (1999); Drummond, Henn, Smirnov, Sokatchev, hep-th/0607160, ...

• Amplitude fixed, up to functions of dual conformally invariant cross ratios:

• Because $x_{i-1,i}^2 = k_i^2 = 0$ there are no such variables for n = 4,5 (after all loop integrations performed).

For n = 6, precisely 3 ratios:

$$u_1 = \frac{x_{13}^2 x_{46}^2}{x_{14}^2 x_{36}^2} = \frac{s_{12} s_{45}}{s_{123} s_{345}}$$

 $s_{12}, s_{23}, s_{34}, s_{45}, s_{56}, s_{61}, s_{123}, s_{234}, s_{345}$ $\rightarrow u_1, u_2, u_3$



+ 2 cyclic perm's

 $u_{ijkl} \equiv \frac{w_{ij}w}{x^2 r}$

Six-point remainder function R_6

• n = 6 first place BDS Ansatz must be modified, due to dual conformal cross ratios



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Strong coupling and soap bubbles

Alday, Maldacena, 0705.0303

- Use AdS/CFT to compute scattering amplitude
- High energy scattering in string theory semi-classical: two-dimensional string world-sheet stretches long distance, classical solution minimizes area Gross, Mende (1987,1988)

Classical action imaginary → exponentially suppressed tunnelling configuration

$$A_n \sim \exp[-\sqrt{\lambda}S_{\text{Cl}}^{\text{E}}]$$

We'll see amazingly similar behavior for strong and weak coupling coefficients – for some kinematics



Wilson loops at weak coupling

Motivated by strong-coupling correspondence, Alday, Maldacena, 0705.0303 use same "soap bubble" boundary conditions as scattering amplitude:



- One loop, *n=4* Drummond, Korchemsky, Sokatchev, 0707.0243
- One loop, any *n*
- Two loops, *n=4,5,6*
- Drummond, Henn, Korchemsky, Sokatchev, 0709.2368, 0712.1223, 0803.1466; Bern, LD, Kosower, Roiban, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich, 0803.1465

Brandhuber, Heslop, Travaglini, 0707.1153



- Wilson-loop VEV always matches [MHV] scattering amplitude!
 - Justifies dual conformal invariance for amplitude DHKS, 0712.1223

Two loop answer: $R_6^{(2)}(u_1, u_2, u_3)$

- Wilson loop integrals performed by Del Duca, Duhr, Smirnov, 0911.5332, 1003.1702 17 pages of multiple polylogarithms G(...).
- Simplified to classical polylogarithms using symbology Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich, 1006.5703

$$R_6^{(2)}(u_1, u_2, u_3) = \sum_{i=1}^3 \left(L_4(x_i^+, x_i^-) - \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Li}_4(1 - 1/u_i) \right)$$
$$- \frac{1}{8} \left(\sum_{i=1}^3 \operatorname{Li}_2(1 - 1/u_i) \right)^2 + \frac{1}{24} J^4 + \frac{\pi^2}{12} J^2 + \frac{\pi^4}{72}$$

$$x_i^{\pm} = u_i x^{\pm}, \qquad x^{\pm} = \frac{u_1 + u_2 + u_3 - 1 \pm \sqrt{\Delta}}{2u_1 u_2 u_3} \qquad \Delta = (u_1 + u_2 + u_3 - 1)^2 - 4u_1 u_2 u_3$$



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Wilson loop OPEs

Alday, Gaiotto, Maldacena, Sever, Vieira, 1006.2788; GMSV, 1010.5009, 1102.0062

• $R_6^{(2)}(u_1, u_2, u_3)$ can be recovered directly from analytic properties, using "near collinear limit",

 $v \rightarrow 0, \quad u + w \rightarrow 1$



Limit controlled by operator product expansion (OPE)

 Possible to go to 3 loops, by combining OPE with symbol ansatz
 LD, Drummond, Henn, 1108.4461

Now symbol \rightarrow function $R_6^{(3)}(u,v,w)$

LD, Drummond, von Hippel, Pennington, 1308.2276

and 4 loops,
$$R_6^{(4)}$$

LD, Duhr, Drummond, Pennington, 1402.3300

and 3 loop NMHV, LD, von Hippel, 1406.nnnn

Multi-Regge limit

• Minkowski kinematics, large rapidity separations between the 4 final-state gluons:



• Properties of planar N=4 SYM amplitude in this limit studied extensively at weak coupling:

Bartels, Lipatov, Sabio Vera, 0802.2065, 0807.0894; Lipatov, 1008.1015; Lipatov, Prygarin, 1008.1016, 1011.2673; Bartels, Lipatov, Prygarin, 1012.3178, 1104.4709; LD, Drummond, Henn, 1108.4461; Fadin, Lipatov, 1111.0782; LD, Duhr, Pennington, 1207.0186

• Factorization and exponentiation in this limit provides additional source of "boundary data" for bootstrapping!

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$2 \rightarrow 4$ Multi-Regge picture

Bartels, Lipatov, Sabio Vera, 0802.2065



$2 \rightarrow 4$ multi-Regge limit $\downarrow \rightarrow \leftarrow \downarrow$

- Euclidean MRK limit vanishes
- To get nonzero result for physical region, first let $u_1 \rightarrow u_1 e^{-2\pi i}$, then $u_1 \rightarrow 1$, $u_2, u_3 \rightarrow 0$ $\frac{u_2}{1-u_1} \rightarrow \frac{1}{(1+w)(1+w^*)}$ $\frac{u_3}{1-u_1} \rightarrow \frac{ww^*}{(1+w)(1+w^*)}$

$$R_6^{(L)} \to (2\pi i) \sum_{r=0}^{L-1} \ln^r (1-u) [g_r^{(L)}(w,w^*) + 2\pi i h_r^{(L)}(w,w^*)]$$

 $g_{L-1}^{(L)}$ (LLA) and $g_{L-2}^{(L)}$ (NLLA) well understood Put LLA, NLLA results into bootstrap; extract N^kLLA terms, k > 1

different

MRK Master formulae

• MHV:

$$e^{R+i\pi\delta}|_{MRK} = \cos \pi\omega_{ab} + i\frac{a}{2}\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty}(-1)^n \left(\frac{w}{w^*}\right)^{\frac{n}{2}}\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty}\frac{d\nu}{\nu^2 + \frac{n^2}{4}}|w|^{2i\nu}\Phi_{Reg}(\nu,n)$$

NLL: Fadin, Lipatov, 1111.0782;
Caron-Huot, 1309.6521 $\times \left(-\frac{1}{1-u}\frac{|1+w|^2}{|w|}\right)^{\omega(\nu,n)}$

• NMHV:

$$\begin{split} \exp(R^{\text{NMHV}} + i\pi\delta)|_{\text{MRK}} &= \overline{\mathcal{P}} \exp(R^{\text{MHV}} + i\pi\delta) \\ &= \cos\pi\omega_{ab} - i\frac{a}{2} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n \left(\frac{w}{w^*}\right)^{\frac{n}{2}} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{d\nu}{(i\nu + \frac{n}{2})^2} |w|^{2i\nu} \\ &\times \Phi_{\text{Reg}}^{\text{NMHV}} (\nu, n) \left(-\frac{1}{1-u} \frac{|1+w|^2}{|w|}\right)^{\omega(\nu, n)} \end{split}$$

LL: Lipatov, Prygarin, Schnitzer, 1205.0186

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Basic bootstrap assumption

- MHV: R₆^(L)(u,v,w) is a linear combination of weight 2L hexagon functions at any loop order L
- NMHV: Super-amplitude ratio function

$$\mathcal{P}_{\mathsf{NMHV}} \equiv \frac{\mathcal{A}_{\mathsf{NMHV}}}{\mathcal{A}_{\mathsf{MHV}}}$$

Drummond, Henn, Korchemsky, Sokatchev, 0807.1095

(also IR finite) has expansion

 $\mathcal{P}_{\mathsf{NMHV}} = \frac{1}{2} \Big[[(1) + (4)]V(u, v, w) + [(2) + (5)]V(v, w, u) + [(3) + (6)]V(w, u, v) \\ + [(1) - (4)]\tilde{V}(u, v, w) - [(2) - (5)]\tilde{V}(v, w, u) + [(3) - (6)]\tilde{V}(w, u, v) \Big]$

Grassmann-containing dual superconformal invariants

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hexagon functions

Functional interlude

Chen; Goncharov; Brown; talks by Vergu, Henn, Duhr, ...

- Multiple polylogarithms, or n-fold iterated integrals, or weight n pure transcendental functions f.
- Define by derivatives:

$$lf = \sum_{s_k \in \mathcal{S}} f^{s_k} d\ln s_k$$

S = finite set of rational expressions, "symbol letters", and $f^{s_k} \equiv \{n-1,1\}$ coproduct component Duhr, Grades

are also pure functions, weight *n*-1

Duhr, Gangl, Rhodes, 1110.0458

• Iterate: $df^{s_k} \Rightarrow f^{s_j s_k} \equiv \{n-2, 1, 1\}$ component

• Symbol = {1,1,...,1} component (maximally iterated)

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Harmonic Polylogarithms of one variable (HPLs {0,1})

Remiddi, Vermaseren, hep-ph/9905237

- Subsector of hexagon functions
- Define by iterated integration:

$$H_{0,\vec{w}}(u) = \int_0^u \frac{dt}{t} H_{\vec{w}}(t), \quad H_{1,\vec{w}}(u) = \int_0^u \frac{dt}{1-t} H_{\vec{w}}(t)$$

• Or by derivatives

 $dH_{0,\vec{w}}(u) = H_{\vec{w}}(u) \ d\ln u \quad dH_{1,\vec{w}}(u) = -H_{\vec{w}}(u)d\ln(1-u)$

• "Symbol letters": $S = \{u, 1-u\}$

Hexagon function symbol letters

- Momentum twistors Z_i^A , i=1,2,...,6 transform simply under dual conformal transformations. Hodges, 0905.1473
- Construct 4-brackets $\varepsilon_{ABCD}Z_i^A Z_j^B Z_k^C Z_l^D \equiv \langle ijkl \rangle$ • 15 projectively invariant combinations of 4-brackets can
- 15 projectively invariant combinations of 4-brackets can be factored into 9 basic ones:

$$S = \{u, v, w, 1 - u, 1 - v, 1 - w, y_u, y_v, y_w\}$$

• y_i not independent of u_i $y_u \equiv \frac{u - z_+}{u - z_-}$, ... where

$$z_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2} \left[-1 + u + v + w \pm \sqrt{\Delta} \right]$$
$$\Delta = (1 - u - v - w)^2 - 4uvw$$

 y_i rationalize symbol:

$$u = \frac{y_u(1 - y_v)(1 - y_w)}{(1 - y_u y_v)(1 - y_u y_w)}$$

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Branch cut condition

• All massless particles \rightarrow all branch cuts start at origin in

$$s_{i,i+1}, s_{i,i+1,i+2}$$

 \rightarrow Branch cuts all start from 0 or ∞ in

$$u = \frac{s_{12}^2 s_{45}^2}{s_{123}^2 s_{345}^2}$$
 or v or w

→ First symbol entry $\in \{u, v, w\}$

GMSV, 1102.0062; talk by Britto

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Hexagon functions are multiple polylogarithms in y_i

$$G(a_{1}, \dots, a_{n}; z) = \int_{0}^{z} \frac{dt}{t - a_{1}} G(a_{2}, \dots, a_{n}; t)$$
Region I:
$$\begin{cases} \Delta > 0, \quad 0 < u_{i} < 1, \quad \text{and} \quad u + v + w < 1, \\ 0 < y_{i} < 1. \end{cases}$$
Region I:
$$\begin{cases} \Delta > 0, \quad 0 < u_{i} < 1, \quad \text{and} \quad u + v + w < 1, \\ 0 < y_{i} < 1. \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{G} = \left\{ G(\vec{w}; y_u) | w_i \in \{0, 1\} \right\} \cup \left\{ G(\vec{w}; y_v) | w_i \in \left\{0, 1, \frac{1}{y_u}\right\} \right\} \cup \left\{ G(\vec{w}; y_w) | w_i \in \left\{0, 1, \frac{1}{y_u}, \frac{1}{y_v}, \frac{1}{y_u y_v}\right\} \right\}$$

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 Useful for analytics and for numerics for ∆ > 0
 GINAC implementation: Vollinga, Weinzierl, hep-th/0410259
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"Coproduct" approach

{n-1,1} coproduct defines coupled linear first-order PDEs

$$\begin{split} \left. \frac{\partial F}{\partial u} \right|_{v,w} &= \frac{F^u}{u} - \frac{F^{1-u}}{1-u} + \frac{1-u-v-w}{u\sqrt{\Delta}} F^{y_u} + \frac{1-u-v+w}{(1-u)\sqrt{\Delta}} F^{y_v} + \frac{1-u+v-w}{(1-u)\sqrt{\Delta}} F^{y_w} \\ \sqrt{\Delta} \left. y_u \frac{\partial F}{\partial y_u} \right|_{y_v,y_w} &= (1-u)(1-v-w) F^u - u(1-v) F^v - u(1-w) F^w - u(1-v-w) F^{1-u} \\ &+ uv \, F^{1-v} + uw \, F^{1-w} + \sqrt{\Delta} \, F^{y_u} \,. \end{split}$$

- Integrate numerically.
- Or solve PDEs analytically in special limits, e.g.:
- 1. Near-collinear limit
- 2. Multi-regge limit
- Always stay in space of functions with good branch cuts.
- Don't need $\Delta > 0$

A menagerie of functions

- 1. HPLs: One variable, symbol letters $\{u,1-u\}$. Near-collinear limit, lines (u,u,1), (u,1,1)
- 2. Cyclotomic Polylogarithms [Ablinger, Blumlein, Schneider, 1105.6063]: One variable, letters $\{y_u, 1+y_u, 1+y_u+y_u^2\}$. For line (u,u,u).
- 3. SVHPLs [F. Brown, 2004]: Two variables, letters $\{z,1-z,\overline{z},1-\overline{z}\}$. First entry/single-valuedness constraint (real analytic function in *z* plane). Multi-Regge limit.
- 4. Full hexagon functions. Three variables, symbol letters $\{u, v, w, 1 - u, 1 - v, 1 - w, y_u, y_v, y_w\}$, branch-cut condition

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Back to physics

- enumerate all hexagon functions with weight <u>2L</u>
- write most general linear combination with unkown rational-number coefficients
- impose a series of physical constraints until all coefficients uniquely determined
 - sometimes do in two steps: first fix symbol, later the full function (fix $\zeta(k)$ ambiguities)

Simple constraints on R_6

- S_3 permutation **symmetry** in $\{u, v, w\}$
- Even under "parity":
 every term must have an
 even number of *y_i*

$$egin{array}{cccc} i\sqrt{\Delta} & \leftrightarrow & -i\sqrt{\Delta} \ z_+ & \leftrightarrow & z_- \ y_i & \leftrightarrow & 1/y_i \end{array}$$

• Vanishing in **collinear** limit $v \to 0$ $u + w \to 1$

Constraint on final entry of symbol or {n-1,1} coproduct

• From super Wilson-loop approach Caron-Huot, 1105.5606, Caron-Huot, He, 1112.1060 for remainder function R_6 and for odd part of ratio function \widetilde{V} , only 6 of 9 possible entries:

$$\left\{\frac{u}{1-u}, \frac{v}{1-v}, \frac{w}{1-w}, y_u, y_v, y_w\right\}$$

• For even part *V*, one more entry allowed:

$$\Big\{ rac{u}{1-u}, rac{v}{1-v}, rac{w}{1-w}, rac{uw}{v}, y_u, y_v, y_w \Big\}$$

OPE Constraints

Alday, Gaiotto, Maldacena, Sever, Vieira, 1006.2788; GMSV, 1010.5009; 1102.0062 Basso, Sever, Vieira [BSV], 1303.1396; 1306.2058; 1402.3307

• $R_6^{(L)}(u,v,w)$ vanishes in the collinear limit, $v = 1/\cosh^2 \tau \rightarrow 0$ $\tau \rightarrow \infty$

Its **near**-collinear limit is described by an OPE with generic form

$$R_6^{(L)}(\boldsymbol{u}, \boldsymbol{v}, w) = R_6^{(L)}(\boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}, \phi) \sim \int dn \ C_n(g) \ \exp[-\underline{E_n(g)\boldsymbol{\tau}}]$$



OPE Constraints (cont.)

• Early OPE constraints fixed "leading discontinuity" terms:

 $\tau^{L-1} \sim [\ln T]^{L-1} \sim [\ln v]^{L-1}$ where $T \sim \exp(-\tau)$

 New results of BSV use power of integrability, give all powers of ln T for leading twist, one flux-tube excitation:

$$T e^{\pm i\phi} [\ln T]^k f_k(\sigma), \quad k = 0, 1, 2, ..., L-1$$

and even subleading twist, two flux-tube excitations

 $T^{2} \{e^{\pm 2i\phi}, 1\} [\ln T]^{k} f_{k}(\sigma), \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, L-1$

• At **ANY** loop order!

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Unknown parameters in $R_6^{(L)}$ symbol

Constraint	L = 2 Dim.	L = 3 Dim.	L = 4 Dim.
1. Integrability	75	643	5897
2. Total S_3 symmetry	20	151	1224
3. Parity invariance	18	120	874
4. Collinear vanishing (T^0)	4	59	622
5. OPE leading discontinuity	0	26	482
6. Final entry	0	2	113
7. Multi-Regge limit	0	2	80
8. Near-collinear OPE (T^1)	0	0	4
9. Near-collinear OPE (T^2)	0	0	

only need $T^2 \times e^{\pm 2i\phi}$ terms; $T^2 \times 1$ is pure cross check

Unknown parameters in $V^{(L)}$, $\tilde{V}^{(L)}$ functions

Constraint	One Loop	Two Loops	Three Loops
Symmetry in u and w	7	52	412
Cyclic vanishing of \tilde{V}	7	52	402
Final-entry condition	4	25	182
Spurious-pole vanishing	3	15	142
Collinear vanishing	1	8	92
$\mathcal{O}(T^1)$ Operator product expansion	0	0	2
$\mathcal{O}(T^2)$ OPE or Multi-Regge kinematics	0	0	0

$$[ilde{\Phi}_6]^2$$
 and $R_6^{(2)} imes V^{(1)}$

$$\begin{split} & \text{New information in MRK limit:} \\ & \text{NNLLA BFKL eigenvalue} \\ & E_{\nu,n} = \psi(\xi^+) + \psi(\xi^-) - 2\psi(1) - \frac{1}{2}\operatorname{sgn}(n)N \\ & E_{\nu,n}^{(1)} = -\frac{1}{4} \Big[\psi^{(2)}(\xi^+) + \psi^{(2)}(\xi^-) - \operatorname{sgn}(n)N \Big(\frac{1}{4}N^2 + V^2 \Big) \Big] \\ & + \frac{1}{2}V \Big[\psi^{(1)}(\xi^+) - \psi^{(1)}(\xi^-) \Big] - \zeta_2 E_{\nu,n} - 3\zeta_3 \\ \hline E_{\nu,n}^{(2)} = \frac{1}{8} \Big\{ \frac{1}{6} \Big[\psi^{(4)}(\xi^+) + \psi^{(4)}(\xi^-) - 60\operatorname{sgn}(n)N \Big(V^4 + \frac{1}{2}V^2N^2 + \frac{1}{80}N^4 \Big) \Big] \\ & - V \Big[\psi^{(3)}(\xi^+) - \psi^{(3)}(\xi^-) - 3\operatorname{sgn}(n)VN(4V^2 + N^2) \Big] \\ & + (V^2 + 2\zeta_2) \Big[\psi^{(2)}(\xi^+) + \psi^{(2)}(\xi^-) - \operatorname{sgn}(n)N \Big(3V^2 + \frac{1}{4}N^2 \Big) \Big] \\ & - V(N^2 + 8\zeta_2) [\psi'(\xi^+) - \psi'(\xi^-) - \operatorname{sgn}(n)VN] + \zeta_3 (4V^2 + N^2) \\ & + 44 \zeta_4 E_{\nu,n} + 16 \zeta_2 \zeta_3 + 80 \zeta_5 \Big\}, \\ V &\equiv -\frac{1}{2} \Big[\frac{1}{i\nu + \frac{|n|}{2}} - \frac{1}{-i\nu + \frac{|n|}{2}} \Big] = \frac{i\nu}{\nu^2 + \frac{|n|^2}{4}} \qquad N \equiv \operatorname{sgn}(n) \Big[\frac{1}{i\nu + \frac{|n|}{2}} + \frac{1}{-i\nu + \frac{|n|}{2}} \Big] = \frac{n}{\nu^2 + \frac{|n|^2}{4}} \end{split}$$

Closely related to flux-tube anomalous dimensions Basso, 1010.5237

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New information in MRK limit: NMHV impact factor

• NLL (from two-loop amplitude):

$$\Phi_{\text{Reg}}^{\text{NMHV},(1)}(\nu,n) = \Phi_{\text{Reg}}^{\text{MHV},(1)}(\nu,n) + \frac{in\nu}{2\left(-\frac{n}{2} + i\nu\right)^2 \left(\frac{n}{2} + i\nu\right)^2}$$

• NNLL (from three-loop amplitude):

$$\begin{split} \Phi_{\text{Reg}}^{\text{NMHV},(2)}(\nu,n) = & \Phi_{\text{Reg}}^{\text{MHV},(2)}(\nu,n) \\ & + \left(\Phi_{\text{Reg}}^{\text{MHV},(1)}(\nu,n) + \zeta_2 \right) \frac{in\nu}{2\left(-\frac{n}{2} + i\nu \right)^2 \left(\frac{n}{2} + i\nu \right)^2} \\ & - \frac{in\nu(n^2 - in\nu - 2\nu^2)}{8(-\frac{n}{2} + i\nu)^4 (\frac{n}{2} + i\nu)^4} \end{split}$$

Very suggestive (Basso...)

NMHV Multi-Particle Factorization



Only interesting for NMHV: MHV tree has no pole $\mathcal{A}_{MHV}^{(0)} = i \frac{\delta^4(p)\delta^8(q)}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \cdots \langle n1 \rangle}$

$$u = \frac{s_{12}s_{45}}{s_{123}s_{345}} \to \infty \qquad w = \frac{s_{61}s_{34}}{s_{345}s_{234}} \to \infty$$
$$u/w \text{ and } v = \frac{s_{23}s_{56}}{s_{234}s_{123}} \text{fixed}$$

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Multi-Particle Factorization (cont.)

 $(1) = (4) \rightarrow \infty$, rest finite

- \rightarrow look at V(u,v,w)
- Actually much better to look at U(u,v,w) defined by

 $U = \ln V + R_6 - \frac{1}{8} \gamma_K [\text{Li}_2(1-u) + \frac{1}{2} \ln^2 u + cyclic]$

- Don't put MHV amplitude over NMHV tree pole.
- Logs always more instructive.
- Last term cancels part of BDS ansatz

Factorization limit of U

$$U^{(1)}(u, v, w) = -\frac{1}{4}\ln^2(uw/v) - \zeta_2$$

$$U^{(2)}(u,v,w)|_{u,w\to\infty} = \frac{3}{4}\zeta_2 \ln^2(uw/v) - \frac{1}{2}\zeta_3 \ln(uw/v) + \frac{71}{8}\zeta_4$$

$$U^{(3)}(u,v,w)|_{u,w\to\infty} = \frac{1}{3}\zeta_3 \ln^3(uw/v) - \frac{75}{8}\zeta_4 \ln^2(uw/v) + (7\zeta_5 + 8\zeta_2\zeta_3)\ln(uw/v) - \frac{721}{8}\zeta_6 - 3(\zeta_3)^2$$

$$uw = \frac{s_{12}s_{34}}{s_{12}s_{34}} \frac{s_{45}s_{61}}{s_{45}s_{61}} \frac{1}{1}$$

Simple polynomial in $\ln(uw/v)$!

uw	$s_{12}s_{34}$	$s_{45}s_{61}$	1
v	s ₅₆	s_{23}	s_{345}^2

Full NMHV factorization function in terms of U:

$$\begin{split} [\ln F_6]^{(L)} &= \frac{\gamma_K^{(L)}}{8\epsilon^2 L^2} \bigg(1 + 2\,\epsilon\,L\,\frac{\mathcal{G}_0^{(L)}}{\gamma_K^{(L)}} \bigg) \bigg[\bigg(\frac{(-s_{12})(-s_{34})}{(-s_{56})} \bigg)^{-L\epsilon} + \bigg(\frac{(-s_{45})(-s_{61})}{(-s_{23})} \bigg)^{-L\epsilon} \bigg] \\ &- \frac{\gamma_K^{(L)}}{8} \bigg[\frac{1}{2} \ln^2 \bigg(\frac{(-s_{12})(-s_{34})}{(-s_{56})} \bigg/ \frac{(-s_{45})(-s_{61})}{(-s_{23})} \bigg) + 6\,\zeta_2 \bigg] \\ &+ U^{(L)}(u,v,w)|_{u,w\to\infty} + \frac{f_2^{(L)}}{L^2} + C^{(L)} \,. \end{split}$$

Global simplicity of U

$$U^{u} + U^{1-u} = U^{w} + U^{1-w} = -(U^{v} + U^{1-v})$$
$$U^{1-v} = 0$$
$$U^{y_{u}} = U^{y_{w}}$$

- These {n-1,1} coproduct relations hold globally in (u,v,w) through 3 loops
- First relation was imposed (7^{th} final entry allowed for V)
- Next two are quite surprising
- They imply that U has only 5 final entries: $\left\{\frac{u}{1-u}\right\}$

$$\left\{\frac{w}{1-w}, \frac{w}{1-w}, y_u y_w, y_v, \frac{uw}{v}\right\}$$

 And that one derivative of *U* is very simple:

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= (1-v)(l)

Numerical results

- Plot perturbative coefficients on various lines and surfaces
- Instructive to take ratios of successive loop orders $R_6^{(L)}/R_6^{(L-1)} = \overline{R}_6^{(L)}$
 - Planar N=4 SYM has no instantons and no renormalons.
 - Its perturbative expansion has a finite radius of convergence, 1/8
 - For "asymptotically large orders", $R_6^{(L)}/R_6^{(L-1)}$ should approach -8

Cusp anomalous dimension $\gamma_K(\lambda)$

• Known to all orders, Beisert, Eden, Staudacher [hep-th/0610251] closely related to amplitude/Wilson loop, use as benchmark for approach to large orders:

L	$\gamma_K^{(L)}/\gamma_K^{(L-1)}$	$\bar{R}_{6}^{(L)}(1,1,1)$	$\overline{\ln \mathcal{W}}_{ ext{hex}}^{(L)}(rac{3}{4},rac{3}{4},rac{3}{4})$	$\overline{\ln \mathcal{W}}_{hex}^{(L)}(\frac{1}{4},\frac{1}{4},\frac{1}{4})$
2	-1.6449340	∞	-2.7697175	-2.8015275
3	-3.6188549	-7.0040885	-5.0036164	-5.1380714
4	-4.9211827	-6.5880519	-5.8860842	-6.0359857
5	-5.6547494	_	_	_
6	-6.0801089	_	_	_
7	-6.3589220	_	_	_
8	-6.5608621	_	_	_
-	Ì ↓	-	-	-
	-8			



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On (u,u,1), everything collapses to HPLs of uRatio of $R_6^{(L)}(u,u,1)$ to $R_6^{(L-1)}(u,u,1)$



Ratio of successive loop orders extremely flat on (u, u, w)



Uniform negative value in Region I consistent with conjecture of Arkani-Hamed, Trnka based on positive Grassmannian

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Rescaled $R_6^{(L)}(u, u, u)$ and strong coupling





Ratio function odd part $\tilde{V}(u,1,1)$





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Recent progress in 7 point MHV too

 $R_7^{(2)}$ just computed in terms of Li_{2,2}(*x*,*y*), Li₄(*x*), Li₄(*x*), Li₄(*x*), Li₄(*x*), ln(*x*) Golden, Spradlin, 1306.0833, 0406.2055

based a form for the

differential $dR_7^{(2)}$

Caron-Huot, 1105.5606

+ cluster coord's

Golden, et al. 1305.1617, 1306.1833



Conclusions & Outlook

- Hexagon function ansatz → integrated planar N=4 SYM amplitudes over full kinematical phase space, for both MHV and NMHV for 6 gluons
- No need to know any integrands at all
- Important additional inputs from boundary data: near-collinear and/or multi-Regge limits
- Numerical and analytical results intriguing!
- Can one go to all orders?
- Extensions to other theories?

Extra Slides

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T¹ OPE for NMHV: 1111 component

• Evaluate (i) prefactors \rightarrow

$$\mathcal{P}^{(1111)}|_{T^1} = \frac{1}{2} \{ V(u, v, w) + V(w, u, v) - \tilde{V}(u, v, w) + \tilde{V}(w, u, v) - V(w, u, v) - \tilde{V}(w, u, v) + V(w, u, v) - V(w, u, v) -$$

$$+FT[\frac{1+S^{4}}{S(1+S^{2})}V(v,w,u) - \frac{1-S^{2}}{S}V(u,v,w)]\} \qquad T = e^{-\tau}$$

S = e^{σ}

• BSV:

$$\mathcal{P}^{(1111)} = 1 + e^{i\phi-\tau} \int \frac{du}{2\pi} \mu(u)(h(u)-1)e^{ip(u)\sigma-\gamma(u)\tau} \qquad F = e^{i\phi} + e^{-i\phi-\tau} \int \frac{du}{2\pi} \mu(u)(\bar{h}(u)-1)e^{ip(u)\sigma-\gamma(u)\tau} + \dots$$

$$h(u) = \frac{x^+(u)x^-(u)}{g^2}, \qquad \bar{h}(u) = \frac{g^2}{x^+(u)x^-(u)} \qquad x^{\pm}(u) = x(u \pm \frac{i}{2}) \qquad x(u) = \frac{1}{2}(u + \sqrt{u^2 - 4g^2})$$

- Quantities μ , p, γ meromorphic in rapidity u
- Evaluate *u* integral as (truncated) residue sum

See also Papathanasiou, 1310.5735

NMHV MRK limit

Like g, h for R_6 : Extract p, q from V, \tilde{V} \rightarrow linear combinations of SVHPLs [Brown, 2004]

$$R_{6}^{(L)} \rightarrow (2\pi i) \sum_{r=0}^{L-1} \ln^{r} (1-u) \left[g_{r}^{(L)}(w,w^{*}) + 2\pi i h_{r}^{(L)}(w,w^{*}) \right]$$

$$\mathcal{P}_{MRK}^{(L)} = (2\pi i) \sum_{r=0}^{L-1} \ln^{r} (1-u) \left[\frac{1}{1+w^{*}} (p_{r}^{(L)}(w,w^{*}) + 2\pi i q_{r}^{(L)}(w,w^{*})) + \frac{w^{*}}{1+w^{*}} (p_{r}^{(L)}(w,w^{*}) + 2\pi i q_{r}^{(L)}(w,w^{*})) \right]$$

• Then match p, q to master formula for factorization in Fourier-Mellin space

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How many hexagon functions?

Irreducible (non-product) ones:



$R_6^{(3)}(u,v,w)$ {5,1} coproduct

Many related

$$\begin{split} R_6^{(3),1-u} &= -R_6^{(3),u} , \qquad R_6^{(3),1-v} = -R_6^{(3),v} , \qquad R_6^{(3),1-w} = -R_6^{(3),w} \\ R_6^{(3),v}(u,v,w) &= R_6^{(3),u}(v,w,u) , \qquad R_6^{(3),w}(u,v,w) = R_6^{(3),u}(w,u,v) , \\ R_6^{(3),y_v}(u,v,w) &= R_6^{(3),y_u}(v,w,u) , \qquad R_6^{(3),y_w}(u,v,w) = R_6^{(3),y_u}(w,u,v) . \end{split}$$

\rightarrow Only 2 independent components to list, y_u and u

$$R_6^{(3),y_u} = \frac{1}{32} \left\{ -4 \left(H_1(u,v,w) + H_1(u,w,v) \right) - 2 H_1(v,u,w) + \frac{3}{2} \left(J_1(u,v,w) + J_1(v,w,u) + J_1(w,u,v) \right) - 4 \left[H_2^u + H_2^v + H_2^w + \frac{1}{2} \left(\ln^2 u + \ln^2 v + \ln^2 w \right) - 9 \zeta_2 \right] \tilde{\Phi}_6(u,v,w) \right\}$$

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$R_{6}^{(3)}(u,v,w)$ {5,1} coproduct (cont.)

$$R_6^{(3),u} = \frac{1}{32} \Big[A(u,v,w) + A(u,w,v) \Big]$$

$$A = M_{1}(u, v, w) - M_{1}(w, u, v) + \frac{32}{3} \left(Q_{ep}(v, w, u) - Q_{ep}(v, u, w) \right) + (4 \ln u - \ln v + \ln w) \Omega^{(2)}(u, v, w) + (\ln u + \ln v) \Omega^{(2)}(v, w, u) + 24H_{5}^{u} - 14H_{4,1}^{u} + \frac{5}{2}H_{3,2}^{u} + 42H_{3,1,1}^{u} + \frac{13}{2}H_{2,2,1}^{u} - 36H_{2,1,1,1}^{u} + H_{2}^{u} \left[-5H_{3}^{u} + \frac{1}{2}H_{2,1}^{u} + 7\zeta_{3} \right] + 12 \text{ more lines of HPLs}$$

Multiple zeta values at (u, v, w) = (1, 1, 1)

$$R_6^{(2)}(1,1,1) = -(\zeta_2)^2 = -\frac{5}{2}\zeta_4$$

$$R_6^{(3)}(1,1,1) = \frac{413}{24}\zeta_6 + (\zeta_3)^2$$

$$R_6^{(4)}(1,1,1) = -\frac{3}{2}\zeta_2(\zeta_3)^2 - \frac{5}{2}\zeta_3\zeta_5 - \frac{471}{4}\zeta_8 + \frac{3}{2}\zeta_{5,3}$$

First irreducible MZV

On the line (u,u,1), everything ^{*R*₆^{*u*}(collapses to HPLs of *u*. In a linear representation, and a very compressed notation,}

 $H_1^u H_{2,1}^u = H_1^u H_{0,1,1}^u = 3H_{0,1,1,1}^u + H_{1,0,1,1}^u \to 3h_7^{[4]} + h_{11}^{[4]}$

The 2 and 3 loop answers are:

$$\begin{split} R_6^{(2)}(u,u,1) &= h_1^{[4]} - h_3^{[4]} + h_9^{[4]} - h_{11}^{[4]} - \frac{5}{2}\zeta_4 \,, \\ R_6^{(3)}(u,u,1) &= -3h_1^{[6]} + 5h_3^{[6]} + \frac{3}{2}h_5^{[6]} - \frac{9}{2}h_7^{[6]} - \frac{1}{2}h_9^{[6]} - \frac{3}{2}h_{11}^{[6]} - h_{13}^{[6]} - \frac{3}{2}h_{17}^{[6]} \\ &\quad + \frac{3}{2}h_{19}^{[6]} - \frac{1}{2}h_{21}^{[6]} - \frac{3}{2}h_{23}^{[6]} - 3h_{33}^{[6]} + 5h_{35}^{[6]} + \frac{3}{2}h_{37}^{[6]} - \frac{9}{2}h_{39}^{[6]} \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2}h_{41}^{[6]} - \frac{3}{2}h_{43}^{[6]} - h_{45}^{[6]} - \frac{3}{2}h_{49}^{[6]} + \frac{3}{2}h_{51}^{[6]} - \frac{1}{2}h_{53}^{[6]} - \frac{3}{2}h_{55}^{[6]} \\ &\quad + \zeta_2 \Big[-h_1^{[4]} + 3h_3^{[4]} + 2h_5^{[4]} - h_9^{[4]} + 3h_{11}^{[4]} + 2h_{13}^{[4]} \Big] \\ &\quad + \zeta_4 \Big[-2h_1^{[2]} - 2h_3^{[2]} \Big] + \zeta_3^2 + \frac{413}{24}\zeta_6 \,, \end{split}$$

And the 4 loop answer is:

 $R_{6}^{(4)}(u, u, 1) = 15h_{1}^{[8]} - 41h_{3}^{[8]} - \frac{31}{2}h_{5}^{[8]} + \frac{105}{2}h_{7}^{[8]} - \frac{7}{2}h_{9}^{[8]} + \frac{53}{2}h_{11}^{[8]} + 12h_{13}^{[8]} - 42h_{15}^{[8]} - 42h_{15}^{[8]$ $+\frac{5}{2}h_{17}^{[8]}+\frac{11}{2}h_{19}^{[8]}+\frac{9}{2}h_{21}^{[8]}-\frac{41}{2}h_{23}^{[8]}+h_{25}^{[8]}-13h_{27}^{[8]}-7h_{29}^{[8]}-5h_{31}^{[8]}$ $+ 6h_{33}^{[8]} - 11h_{35}^{[8]} - 3h_{37}^{[8]} + 3h_{39}^{[8]} - 4h_{43}^{[8]} - 4h_{45}^{[8]} - 11h_{47}^{[8]} + \frac{3}{2}h_{49}^{[8]} - \frac{3}{2}h_{51}^{[8]}$ $-3h_{53}^{[8]} - 5h_{55}^{[8]} + \frac{3}{2}h_{57}^{[8]} - \frac{3}{2}h_{59}^{[8]} + 9h_{65}^{[8]} - 25h_{67}^{[8]} - 9h_{69}^{[8]} + 27h_{71}^{[8]} - 2h_{73}^{[8]} - 2h_{73}^{[8]} + 27h_{71}^{[8]} - 2h_{73}^{[8]} - 2h_{73}^{[8]$ $+9h_{75}^{[8]}+2h_{77}^{[8]}-23h_{79}^{[8]}+2h_{81}^{[8]}-h_{85}^{[8]}-8h_{87}^{[8]}+2h_{89}^{[8]}-3h_{91}^{[8]}+\frac{5}{2}h_{97}^{[8]}$ $-\frac{7}{2}h_{99}^{[8]} - \frac{1}{2}h_{101}^{[8]} + \frac{5}{2}h_{103}^{[8]} + \frac{1}{2}h_{105}^{[8]} + \frac{1}{2}h_{107}^{[8]} + \frac{1}{2}h_{109}^{[8]} - \frac{5}{2}h_{111}^{[8]} + 15h_{129}^{[8]}$ $-41h_{131}^{[8]} - \frac{31}{2}h_{133}^{[8]} + \frac{105}{2}h_{135}^{[8]} - \frac{7}{2}h_{137}^{[8]} + \frac{53}{2}h_{139}^{[8]} + 12h_{141}^{[8]} - 42h_{143}^{[8]}$ $+\frac{5}{2}h_{145}^{[8]}+\frac{11}{2}h_{147}^{[8]}+\frac{9}{2}h_{149}^{[8]}-\frac{41}{2}h_{151}^{[8]}+h_{153}^{[8]}-13h_{155}^{[8]}-7h_{157}^{[8]}$ $-5h_{159}^{[8]}+6h_{161}^{[8]}-11h_{163}^{[8]}-3h_{165}^{[8]}+3h_{167}^{[8]}-4h_{171}^{[8]}-4h_{173}^{[8]}$ $-11h_{175}^{[8]} + \frac{3}{2}h_{177}^{[8]} - \frac{3}{2}h_{179}^{[8]} - 3h_{181}^{[8]} - 5h_{183}^{[8]} + \frac{3}{2}h_{185}^{[8]} - \frac{3}{2}h_{187}^{[8]}$ $+9h_{103}^{[8]} - 25h_{105}^{[8]} - 9h_{107}^{[8]} + 27h_{109}^{[8]} - 2h_{201}^{[8]} + 9h_{203}^{[8]} + 2h_{205}^{[8]} - 23h_{207}^{[8]}$ $+2h_{209}^{[8]}-h_{213}^{[8]}-8h_{215}^{[8]}+2h_{217}^{[8]}-3h_{219}^{[8]}+\frac{5}{2}h_{225}^{[8]}-\frac{7}{2}h_{227}^{[8]}-\frac{1}{2}h_{229}^{[8]}$ $+\frac{5}{2}h_{231}^{[8]}+\frac{1}{2}h_{233}^{[8]}+\frac{1}{2}h_{235}^{[8]}+\frac{1}{2}h_{237}^{[8]}-\frac{5}{2}h_{239}^{[8]}$ $+\zeta_{2}\left[2h_{1}^{[6]}-14h_{3}^{[6]}-\frac{15}{2}h_{5}^{[6]}+\frac{37}{2}h_{7}^{[6]}-\frac{5}{2}h_{9}^{[6]}+\frac{25}{2}h_{11}^{[6]}+7h_{13}^{[6]}-\frac{1}{2}h_{17}^{[6]}\right]$ $+\frac{5}{2}h_{19}^{[6]}+\frac{7}{2}h_{21}^{[6]}+\frac{9}{2}h_{23}^{[6]}-3h_{25}^{[6]}+3h_{27}^{[6]}+2h_{33}^{[6]}-14h_{35}^{[6]}-\frac{15}{2}h_{37}^{[6]}$ $+\frac{37}{2}h_{39}^{[6]}-\frac{5}{2}h_{41}^{[6]}+\frac{25}{2}h_{43}^{[6]}+7h_{45}^{[6]}-\frac{1}{2}h_{49}^{[6]}+\frac{5}{2}h_{51}^{[6]}+\frac{7}{2}h_{53}^{[6]}$ $+\frac{9}{2}h_{55}^{[6]}-3h_{57}^{[6]}+3h_{59}^{[6]}$ $+\zeta_{4}\left[\frac{15}{2}h_{1}^{[4]}-\frac{55}{2}h_{3}^{[4]}-\frac{41}{2}h_{5}^{[4]}+\frac{15}{2}h_{9}^{[4]}-\frac{55}{2}h_{11}^{[4]}-\frac{41}{2}h_{13}^{[4]}\right]$ $+\left(\zeta_{2}\zeta_{3}-\frac{5}{2}\zeta_{5}\right)\left[h_{3}^{[3]}+h_{7}^{[3]}\right]-\left(\zeta_{3}^{2}-\frac{73}{4}\zeta_{6}\right)\left[h_{1}^{[2]}+h_{3}^{[2]}\right]$ $-\frac{3}{2}\zeta_2\zeta_3^2-\frac{5}{2}\zeta_3\zeta_5-\frac{471}{4}\zeta_8+\frac{3}{2}\zeta_{5,3}.$ Amplitudes 2014, June 12 62

"beyond-the-symbol" parameters for $R_6^{(4)}$

k	MZVs of weight k	Functions of weight $8 - k$	Total parameters
2	ζ_2	38	38
3	ζ_3	14	14
4	ζ_4	6	6
5	$\zeta_2\zeta_3,\ \zeta_5$	2	4
6	ζ_3^2,ζ_6	1	2
7	$\zeta_2\zeta_5,\zeta_3\zeta_4,\zeta_7$	0	0
8	$\zeta_2\zeta_3^2,\zeta_3\zeta_5,\zeta_8,\zeta_{5,3}$	1	4
			68

- Collinear limit fixes all but 10
- Near-collinear limit at order T^1 fixes all but 1
- Near-collinear limit at order T^2 fixes the last 1



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Integration contours in (*u*,*v*,*w*)

$$F(u, v, w) = -\sqrt{\Delta} \int_1^u \frac{du_t}{v_t [u(1-w) + (w-u)u_t]} \frac{\partial F}{\partial \ln y_v}(u_t, v_t, w_t)$$



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