# Mathematical structures and tools for Feynman amplitudes

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## Ideal and realistic scattering amplitudes

## • N=4 SYM is 'hydrogen atom of quantum field theory'

dualities, dual conformal/Yangian symmetry, AdS/CFT, integrability, twistor space, simple integrands...

what further surprises does it hold for us? what can we learn from it for QCD?

• Higgs discovery at the LHC

more theory predictions needed for precision measurements!





this talk: tools for loop-level scattering amplitudes (building on tree/integrand insights)

## Techniques for loop integrands

• unitarity cut based techniques [Bern, Dixon, Dunbar, Kosower] [...] cf. talks by Badger, Britto, Larsen, Mastrolia, Penante, Roiban, Yang,...

used for many I-loop phenomenological studies; multi-loop in super Yang-Mills and supergravity

• on-shell recursion relations and diagrams

[Britto, Cachazo, Feng, (Witten)] [Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachazo, Caron-Huot, Trnka] very useful, compact answers, helps make symmetries manifest challenges for the future: apply to N<4 SYM, non-planar, D=4-2eps recent development: 'amplituhedron' [Arkani-Hamed, Trnka]

• physical properties of loop integrands

make infrared (IR) properties manifest [Arkani-Hamed et al.] [Drummond, J.M.H. ][Bourjaily, DiRe, Shaikh, Spradlin, Volovich] closely related to (generalized) cut structure

UV properties, anomalies [Chen, Huang, McGady]

## Scattering amplitudes at loop level

- What functions are needed to describe them?
- Example: integral appearing in Higgs production

$$\int \frac{d^4k}{i\pi^2} \frac{1}{(m_t^2 - k^2)(m_t^2 - (k + p_1)^2)(m_t^2 - (k - p_2)^2)}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2s} \log^2 \left( \frac{\sqrt{1 - 4m_t^2/s} - 1}{\sqrt{1 - 4m_t^2/s} + 1} \right)$$

$$s = (p_1 + p_2)^2$$

- multivalued function; two-particle threshold
- more generally: need integrals in a Laurent series about D = 4 2 eps.
- At one loop, only logarithm and dilogarithm needed

$$\log z = \int_{1}^{z} \frac{dt}{t} \qquad \qquad \text{Li}_{2}(z) = \int_{0}^{z} \frac{dt_{1}}{t_{1}} \int_{0}^{t_{1}} \frac{dt_{2}}{1 - t_{2}}$$

- what functions will appear at higher loops?
- how to compute them in an efficient way?



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## Feynman integrals as iterated integrals (1)

• Logarithm and dilogarithm are first examples of iterated integrals with special ``d-log`` integration kernels

$$\frac{dt}{t} = d\log t$$
  $\frac{-dt}{1-t} = d\log(1-t)$   $\frac{dt}{1+t} = d\log(1+t)$ 

• these are called harmonic polylogarithms (HPL) [Remiddi, Vermaseren]

e.g. 
$$H_{1,-1}(x) = \int_0^x \frac{dx_1}{1-x_1} \int_0^{x_1} \frac{dx_2}{1+x_2}$$

- shuffle product algebra
- coproduct structure
- Mathematica implementation [Maitre]
- weight: number of integrations
- special values related to multiple zeta values (MZV) [cf. Duhr's talk]

$$\zeta_{i_1,i_2,\ldots,i_k} = \sum_{a_1 > a_2 > \ldots a_k \ge 1} \frac{1}{a_1^{i_1} a_2^{i_2} \ldots a_k^{i_k}}$$
  
e.g.  $H_{0,1}(1) = \operatorname{Li}_2(1) = \zeta_2$ 

cf. e.g. [Bluemlein, Broadhurst, Vermaseren]

## Feynman integrals as iterated integrals (2)

• Natural generalization: multiple polylogarithms

 $G_{a_1,\dots,a_n}(z) = \int_0^z \frac{dt}{t - a_1} G_{a_2,\dots,a_n}(t)$ 

allow kernels  $w = d \log(t - a)$ 

[also called hyperlogarithms; Goncharov polylogarithms]

• Chen iterated integrals 
$$\int_C \omega_1 \omega_2 \dots \omega_n \qquad C: [0,1] \longrightarrow M \quad \text{(space of kinematical variables)}$$

Alphabet: set of differential forms  $\omega_i = d \log \alpha_i$ 

integrals we discuss will be monodromy invariant on  $\ M \setminus S$ 

S (set of singularities)

more flexible than multiple polylogarithms!

• Uniform weight functions (pure functions):

 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{Q}}$  -linear combinations of functions of the same weight

## Goncharov weight four conjecture

rewrite any multiple polylogarithm in terms of function basis [Goncharov]
 e.g. at weight 4 (important for NNLO computations)

 $\{\log(x)\log(y)\log(z)\log(w),\log(x)\log(y)\mathrm{Li}_2(z),$ 

 $Li_2(x)Li_2(y), log(x)Li_3(y), Li_4(x), Li_{2,2}(x, y)\}$ 

for set of arguments (to be found - symbol/coproduct provides guidance) [in N=4 SYM related to cluster coordinates? cf.Vergu's talk]

minimal set of integration kernels vs. minimal set of function arguments

• practical tool: ``symbol`` useful projections [Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich] [Brown] [Goncharov] [Duhr, Gangl, Rhodes]

e.g. project on  $\operatorname{Li}_{2,2}(x,y)$  part e.g. project out all products

lecture notes: [Vergu] [Brown][Zhao]

• ``symbol`` = Chen iterated integral without boundary information diff. eqs. or other information can be used to fix this

# d-log representations

• Can we make  $n_{p_1}^{p_1}$  it manifest when integrals evaluate to pure functions?

$$\mathcal{A}_{4}^{\ell=0} \times \underbrace{\int_{p_{1}}^{\ell=0} \times \int_{p_{4}}^{\ell=0} \times \int_{q_{4}}^{\ell=0} \times \int_{p_{4}}^{d^{4}\ell} \frac{(p_{1}+p_{2})^{2}(p_{1}+p_{3})^{2}}{\ell^{2}(\ell+p_{1})^{2}(\ell+p_{1}+p_{2})^{2}(\ell-p_{4})^{2}}$$

[Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachzo, Goncharov, Postnikov, Trnka, 2012]

[Caron-Huot, talk at Trento, 2012] [Lipstein, Mason, 2013]

$$\frac{d^4\ell \ (p_1+p_2)^2(p_1+p_3)^2}{\ell^2(\ell+p_1)^2(\ell+p_1+p_2)^2(\ell-p_4)^2} = d\log\left(\frac{\ell^2}{(\ell-\ell^*)^2}\right) d\log\left(\frac{(\ell+p_1)^2}{(\ell-\ell^*)^2}\right) d\log\left(\frac{(\ell+p_1+p_2)^2}{(\ell-\ell^*)^2}\right) d\log\left(\frac{(\ell-p_4)^2}{(\ell-\ell^*)^2}\right)$$

very suggestive! New ways of performing loop integrations?

 amplitude/Wilson loop duality: relation between momentum space spacetime integrals and position space line integrals



right number of d-logs for weight 2 function

algorithm for evaluating (multiple) Wilson line integrals with any propagator exchanges

[J.M.H., Huber, 2013]

## Cuts and integrated integrands

- discontinuities usually simpler than full answer cf. talks by Badger, Britto, Mastrolia,...
- contain important information

dispersive representations, e.g. Mandelstam, optical theorem

maximal cuts, leading singularities

[Cachzao, Skinner]

 integrals with simple cuts are expected to integrate to uniform weight functions

idea: any cut that completely localizes the integral should give just a rational number

 use cuts of integrals as guiding principle for finding convenient integral basis

[J.M.H., 2013]

## A word of caution: more exotic objects

- mathematicians like to consider single-scale Feynman integrals
- conjecture that certain periods only evaluate to multiple zeta values (MZV) appear disproven by [Brown, Schnetz]

## • Elliptic functions

relevant e.g. in top quark physics Czakon et al. also appear in massless N=4 SYM [Caron-Huot, Larsen]

recent work Elliptic polylogairthms [Brown, Levin]
 [Bloch, Vanhove] [Vanhove] [Remiddi, Tancredi] [Adams, Bogner, Weinzierl]
Note: weight property generalizes weight n -> (n/2,n/2) mixed Hodge theory

systematic and practical way for dealing with them for practical applications?

• Here: cases where Chen iterated integrals are sufficient

# differential equations, uniform weight basis

# Strategy for computing Feynman integrals using differential equations

cf. Smirnov's talk

## • Useful facts:

(1) For a given problem, one can choose a finite basis of Feynman integrals

cf. Zhang's talk

(2) Basis integrals satisfy coupled first-order differential equations

(3) many classes of Feynman integrals evaluate to iterated integrals

• Idea: choose basis such that the differential equations are simple, and such that (3) is made obvious

## Key points of the method

#### [JMH, PRL 110 (2013) 25]

- ullet differential equations for master integrals  $ec{f}$
- crucial: choose convenient basis (systematic procedure)  $\longrightarrow$  makes solution trivial to obtain
- elegant description: Feynman integrals specified by:
  - (1) set of 'letters' (related to singularities  $x_k$  )

(2) set of constant matrices  $A_k$ 

Example: one dimensionless variable 
$$x$$
;  $D = 4 - 2\epsilon$   
 $\partial_x \vec{f}(x;\epsilon) = \epsilon \sum_k \frac{A_k}{x - x_k} \vec{f}(x;\epsilon)$ 

• expansion to any order in  $\epsilon$  is linear algebra answer: multiple polylogarithms of uniform weight ('transcendentality')

- asymptotic behavior  $\vec{f}(x;\epsilon) \sim (x-x_k)^{\epsilon A_k} \vec{f_0}(\epsilon)$
- natural extension to multi-variable case

- (regular) singular points s = 0, t = 0, u = -s t = 0
- $\bullet$  asymptotic behavior governed by matrices  $\ a,b$
- Solution: expand to any order in  $\epsilon$

 $f = \sum_{k \ge 0} \epsilon^k f^{(k)} \qquad f^{(k)} \qquad \text{is k-fold iterated integral (uniform weight)}$ alphabet  $\{d \log x, d \log(1+x)\}$  or equivalently  $\{x, 1+x\}$ • same eqs. at 2,3 loops, only bigger matrices a,b (!)

## Multi-variable case and the alphabet

• Natural generalization to multi-variable case

$$d\vec{f}(\vec{x};\epsilon) = \epsilon d \left[ \sum_{k} A_k \log \alpha_k(\vec{x}) \right] \vec{f}(\vec{x};\epsilon)$$
  
constant matrices letters (alphabet)

• Examples of alphabets:

4-point on-shell

$$\alpha = \{x, 1+x\}$$

two-variable example (from I-loop Bhabha scattering):

``hexagon functions`` in N=4 SYM

$$\label{eq:alpha} \begin{split} \alpha = \{x\,,1\pm x\,,y\,,1\pm y\,,x+y\,,1+xy\} \\ \text{[J.M.H., Smirnov]} \end{split}$$

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

[Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich][Caron-Huot, He][Dixon, Drummond, J.M.H.][Dixon et al.][cf. Dixon's talk]

Matrices and letters determine solution

Immediate to solve in terms of Chen iterated integrals

## The alphabet and perfect bricks (I)

Can we parametrize variables such that alphabet is rational? Not essential, but nice feature.

• Example: Higgs production

encounter  $\sqrt{1-4m^2/s}$ choose  $-m^2/s = x/(1-x)^2$  $\alpha = \{x, 1-x, 1+x\}$  (to two loops)



Note: this is a purely kinematical question. Independent of basis choice.

Related to diophantine equations
 e.g. find rational solutions to equations such as

 $1 + 4 a = b^2$ 

here we found a 1-parameter solution

$$a = \frac{x}{(1-x)^2}$$
  $b = \frac{1+x}{1-x}$ 

## The alphabet and perfect bricks (2)

• Classic example: Euler brick problem Find a brick with sides a, b, c  $a^2 + b^2 = d^2$ , and diagonals d, e, f integers smallest solution (P. Halcke): (a,b,c)=(44,117,240)  $b^2 + c^2 = f^2$ . c a

Perfect cuboid (add eq.  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = g^2$ ): open problem in mathematics!

• Similar equations for particle kinematics e.g encountered in 4-d light-by-light scattering  $u = -4m^2/s$   $v = -4m^2/t$   $\beta_u = \sqrt{1+u}, \ \beta_v = \sqrt{1+v}, \ \beta_{uv} = \sqrt{1+u+v}$ Need two-parameter solution to  $\beta_u^2 + \beta_v^2 = \beta_{uv}^2 + 1$ 

$$\text{e.g.} \quad \beta_u = \frac{1 - wz}{w - z} \,, \quad \beta_v = \frac{w + z}{w - z} \,, \quad \beta_{uv} = \frac{1 + wz}{w - z}$$

more roots in D-dim and at 3 loops! - in general alphabet changes with the loop order! Find such solutions systematically? Minimal polynomial order?

# Equiv<sub> $p_4</sub>lent representations$ </sub>

• version I: Chen iterated integrals

$$g_6 = \int_{\gamma} d \log \frac{\beta_u - 1}{\beta_u + 1} d \log \frac{\beta_{uv} - \beta_u}{\beta_{uv} + \beta_u} + \int_{\gamma} d \log \frac{\beta_v - 1}{\beta_v + 1} d \log \frac{\beta_{uv} - \beta_v}{\beta_{uv} + \beta_v}$$

[2 loops: 10 terms]

• version 2: Goncharov polylogarithms

(if alphabet rational in at least one variable)  $g_6 = -G_{-1,0}(w) + G_{0,-1}(w) - G_{0,1}(w) + G_{1,0}(w) + H_{-1,0}(z) - H_{0,-1}(z) - H_{0,1}(z) + H_{1,0}(z) - G_0(w)H_{-1}(z) + G_{-1}(w)H_0(z) - G_1(w)H_0(z) - G_0(w)H_1(z).$ 

[2 loops: 2-3 pages]

[2 loops: several pages]

• version 3: minimal function basis  $g_6 = -\beta_{uv}/2I_1$ 

$$I_{1} = \frac{2}{\beta_{uv}} \left\{ 2\log^{2} \left( \frac{\beta_{uv} + \beta_{u}}{\beta_{uv} + \beta_{v}} \right) + \log \left( \frac{\beta_{uv} - \beta_{u}}{\beta_{uv} + \beta_{u}} \right) \log \left( \frac{\beta_{uv} - \beta_{v}}{\beta_{uv} + \beta_{v}} \right) - \frac{\pi^{2}}{2} \right. \\ \left. + \sum_{i=1,2} \left[ 2\operatorname{Li}_{2} \left( \frac{\beta_{i} - 1}{\beta_{uv} + \beta_{i}} \right) - 2\operatorname{Li}_{2} \left( -\frac{\beta_{uv} - \beta_{i}}{\beta_{i} + 1} \right) - \log^{2} \left( \frac{\beta_{i} + 1}{\beta_{uv} + \beta_{i}} \right) \right] \right\}$$

[most compact] [flexible: analytic continuation, limits] [easy to see DE, cuts]

[ideas for numerics: J.M.H., Caron-Huot]

[longer expressions; requires rational alphabet; GINAC numerical evaluation]

[arbitraryness; usually long expressions; good at low weight; fast numerical evaluation]

$$\beta_u = \sqrt{1+u}, \ \beta_v = \sqrt{1+v}, \ \beta_{uv} = \sqrt{1+u+v}$$

• some examples from literature: [Goncharov et al.] [Duhr] [Gehrmann et al.] ...

## Important points differential equations

- Uniform weight basis can be found systematically using cuts (related to d-log representations) [Arkani-Hamed et al.] [J.M.H.] other algebraic ideas [Mastrolia et al.] [Caron-Huot, J.M.H.] [Gehrmann et al.]
- DE provide information about integrals in compact form (alphabet, matrices)
- contain more information than epsilon expansion: exact limits
- boundary conditions often for free (e.g. finiteness in certain limits)
   [applications to single-scale integrals: cf. Smirnov's talk]
- Chen iterated integrals give most compact form of answer
- To given weight, answer can be rewritten in terms of minimal function basis [Goncharov]

# On the QCD cusp anomalous dimension

#### based on work in progress with



A. Grozin



G. Korchemsky



P. Marquard



• Cusp anomalous dimension descrit

(a) [cf. L. Magnea's talk on Friday]

•  $\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}(\phi)$  governs UV divergences at  $(\psi_{\text{angle}})$  Wilson line that makes a turn by an angle map, the same line is mapped to a quark anti-quark configuration of  $\pi$  are sitting at two points of  $\mathcal{S}_{\text{angle}}$  and  $\pi$  and  $\pi$ 

along the time direction.

$$\langle W \rangle \sim e^{-|\ln \frac{\mu_{UV}}{\mu_{IR}}| \Gamma_{\rm cusp}}$$

The cusp anomalous dimension is an interesting quar

- relation to light-like anomalous dimension K [Korchemsky et al] Originally it was defined in [12] as the logarithmic d
  - Originally it was defined in [12] as the logarithmic d  $\Gamma_{\rm cusp}^{x} \stackrel{i\phi}{(\phi, \lambda, N)^{x \to 0}} \lim_{X \to 0} \Gamma_{\rm cusp} \stackrel{=}{\to} \stackrel{=}{\to} \stackrel{=}{\to} \stackrel{Kplong of }{\to} \stackrel{Kplong of }{\to} \stackrel{=}{\to} \stackrel{=}{\to} \stackrel{=}{\to} \stackrel{Kplong of }{\to} \stackrel{=}{\to} \stackrel{=}$
- N=4 SYM susy/non-susy Wilsom to be not the form

 $\xi = \frac{\cos \theta - \cos \phi}{i \sin \phi} \qquad \qquad \theta = \frac{\pi}{2} \longrightarrow \qquad \xi = \frac{1 + x^2}{1 - x^2} \qquad \langle W \rangle \sim e^{-\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}(\phi, \lambda) \log \frac{L}{\tilde{\epsilon}}} \\ \text{where } L \text{ is an IR cutoff and } \tilde{\epsilon} \text{ a UV cutoff. One can also that now } \varphi \text{ is a boost angle in Lorentzian signature.}$ 

## Beautiful answers

- Observation: constants in N=4 SYM anomalous dimensions have uniform 'transcendentality' [Kotikov, Lipativ, Velizhanin]
- generalize: pure functions of uniform weight (UT)
- suggests iterative differential structure
- what about QCD?

ref. [JMH, PRL 110 (2013)] suggests QCD integrals can also be chosen UT

do physical results look nice when expressed in a good basis?

## Perturbative results in N=4 SYM

• I loop  $A^{(1)}(\phi) = -\xi \log x$ 

• 2 loops

[Makeenko, Oleson, Semenoff (2006)] [Drukker, Forini (2012)]

$$-\xi^{2} \left[ \zeta_{3} + \zeta_{2} \log x + \frac{1}{3} \log^{3} x + \log x \operatorname{Li}_{2}(x^{2}) - \operatorname{Li}_{3}(x^{2}) \right]$$

[JMH, Huber (2013)]

bosonic Wilson loop in N=4 SYM, 2 loops

 $A^{(2)}(\phi) = \frac{1}{3}\xi \left[\pi^2 \log x + \log^3 x\right]$ 

$$\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}^{(2)g}(\phi) = A^{(2)}(\phi) - A^{(2)}(0) + B^{(2)}(\phi) - B^{(2)}(0), \qquad \theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$$
$$B^{(2)}(\phi) = \left[\log^2 x + \frac{1}{3}\pi^2\right] - \xi \left[\zeta_2 + \log^2 x + 2\log x \text{Li}_1(x^2) - \text{Li}_2(x^2)\right].$$

- 3 loops;  $\xi$  term at any loop order [Correa, JMH, Maldacena, Sever (2012)]
- 4 loops planar; nonplanar  $\xi^4$  term;
- d-log algorithm for ladder integrals

## A new look at two loops in QCD

• QCD result

[Korchemsky, Radyushkin (1987)] nf [Braun, Beneke, 1995] [Kidonakis (2009)]

$$\Gamma^{(1)} = C_F \left[ A^{(1)}(\phi) - A^{(1)}(0) \right]$$

$$\Gamma^{(2)} = C_F C_A \left[ A^{(2)}(\phi) - A^{(2)}(0) + B^{(2)}(\phi) - B^{(2)}(0) \right]$$

$$+ \left( -\frac{5}{9} C_F T_F n_f - \frac{67}{36} C_F C_A \right) \left[ A^{(1)}(\phi) - A^{(1)}(0) \right]$$
[Kidonakis (2009)]

## Only functions from N=4 SYM needed!

- $A^{(1)}$  uniform weight I : from susy WL
- $B^{(2)}$  uniform weight 2 : from bosonic WL
- $A^{(2)}$  uniform weight 3 : from susy WL
- what happens at 3 loops?
- why functions of uniform weight?

# Why should we get pure functions?

- For Wilson line integrals, this is easy to see [JMH, Huber, JHEP 1309 (2013) 147]
  - key: 'd-log representations' first correction appear at four loops - make it obvious that result is given by pure functions  $\sim \xi^4 \times I_{\text{NP,four-loop}}(x)$ - provides algorithm for computing the answer  $I_{\text{NP,four-loop}}(x) = -2\zeta_2(18H_{1,1,2} + 24H_{1,1,2,1} + 18H_{1,2,1,1} + 30H_{1,1,1,1})$  $+ 48H_{1,1,1,4} + 64H_{1,1,2,3} + 64H_{1,1,3,2} + 48H_{1,2,1,3}$  $+ 48H_{1,2,2,2} + 80H_{1,1,1,1,3} + 80H_{1,1,1,2,2} + 24H_{1,1,1,3,1}$  $+ 64H_{1,1,2,1,2} + 32H_{1,1,2,1,1} + 62H_{1,1,1,1,1} + 48H_{1,2,1,1,2}$  $+ 24H_{1,2,1,2,1} + 24H_{1,2,2,1,1} + 62H_{1,1,1,1,1} + H_{1,1,1,1,1,1}$  $H_{\text{NP,four-loop}}(x) = -2\zeta_2(18H_{1,1,1,2,1,1} + 6H_{1,2,1,1,1,1} + H_{1,1,1,1,1,1,1})$
- note: implies that all functions of this family have this property!  $\lim_{x \to 0} I_{\text{NP,four-loop,NP}} = -\frac{8}{315}L^7 - \frac{8}{15}L^5\zeta_2 - 16L^3\zeta_4 - 102L_{\text{see}} \stackrel{\text{his}}{3} \text{more generally: [JMH, PRL 110} (1013) \stackrel{\text{hos}}{25} \stackrel{\text{hos}}{15} \stackrel{\text{hos}}{10} \stackrel{\text{hos}}{15} \stackrel{\text{hos}}{10} \stackrel{\text{hos}}{15} \stackrel{\text{hos}}{15} \stackrel{\text{hos}}{15} \stackrel{\text{hos}}{15} \stackrel{\text{hos}}{10} \stackrel{\text{hos}}{15} \stackrel{\text{hos}}{15} \stackrel{\text{hos}}{10} \stackrel{\text{hos$

$$\lim_{t \to 0} I_{\rm NP, four-loop, NP} = -\frac{8}{315}L^7 - \frac{8}{10}L^7 - \frac{1}{10}L^2 \left[16\zeta_2\zeta_3\right]$$

## Master integrals

• abelian eikonal exponentiation: need only planar integrals



- 71 master integrals  $\vec{f}(x;\epsilon)$   $D = 4 2\epsilon$   $x = e^{i\phi}$
- differential equations in suitable basis  $\partial_x \vec{f}(x;\epsilon) = \epsilon \left[ \frac{a}{x} + \frac{b}{x-1} + \frac{c}{x+1} \right] \vec{f}(x;\epsilon)$

a, b, c constant 71x71 matrices

- boundary conditions trivially from x = 1
- solution in terms of harmonic polylogarithms

one integral: [Chetyrkin, Grozin, NP B666 (2003)]

[method: see JMH, PRL 110 (1013) 25]

[cf.V. Smirnov's talk for applications to multi-scale cases]

## Example





$$f_{44} = \epsilon^4 \left[ -\frac{1}{6} \pi^2 H_{0,0}(x) - \frac{2}{3} \pi^2 H_{1,0}(x) - 4H_{0,-1,0,0}(x) + 2H_{0,0,-1,0}(x) + 2H_{0,0,0}(x) - 4H_{1,0,0,0}(x) + 4\zeta_3 H_0(x) - \frac{17\pi^4}{360} \right] + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^5)$$

- all basis integrals are pure functions of uniform weight
- numerical checks with FIESTA
- confirmed previously known `N=4 SYM` result

## Calculation at three loops

(I) compute proper vertex function

(2) take into account renormalization of Lagrangian

- (3) compute vertex renormalization
- (4) extract Gamma cusp  $\Gamma_{\text{cusp}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \log \mu} \log Z$
- color structures  $\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}^{(3)}: c_1 C_F C_A^2 + c_2 C_F (T_f n_f)^2 + c_3 C_F^2 T_f n_f + c_4 C_F C_A T_F n_f$

 $C_{F}(T_{F}n_{f})^{2}$   $C_{F}^{2}T_{F}n_{f}$   $C_{F}C_{A}T_{F}n_{f}$   $C_{F}C_{A}^{2}$ this talk  $C_{F}C_{A}^{2}$ stay tuned!

**Results** 
$$\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}^{(3)}: c_1 C_F C_A^2 + c_2 C_F (T_f n_f)^2 + c_3 C_F^2 T_f n_f + c_4 C_F C_A T_F n_f$$

$$c_{2} = -\frac{1}{27}A^{(1)} \qquad c_{3} = \left(\zeta_{3} - \frac{55}{48}\right)A^{(1)}$$
$$c_{4} = -\frac{5}{9}\left(A^{(2)} + B^{(2)}\right) - \frac{1}{6}\left(7\zeta_{3} + \frac{209}{36}\right)A^{(1)}$$

 $A = A(\phi) - A(0) \quad \text{Only functions from N=4 SYM needed!}$ 

• Checks: expected divergence structure

$$\log Z = -\frac{1}{2\epsilon} \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{\pi}\right) \Gamma^{(1)} + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{\pi}\right)^2 \left[\frac{\beta_0}{16\epsilon^2} \Gamma^{(1)} - \frac{1}{4\epsilon} \Gamma^{(2)}\right] + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{\pi}\right)^3 \left[-\frac{\beta_0^2 \Gamma^{(1)}}{96\epsilon^3} + \frac{\beta_1 \Gamma^{(1)} + 4\beta_0 \Gamma^{(2)}}{96\epsilon^2} - \frac{\Gamma^{(3)}}{6\epsilon}\right] \,.$$

• Known limit  $\lim_{x \to 0} \Gamma_{\text{cusp}} = -K \log x + \mathcal{O}(x^0)$ 

$$K^{(3)} = \frac{1}{4} C_F C_A^2 \left( \frac{245}{24} - \frac{67}{9} \zeta_2 + \frac{11}{6} \zeta_3 + \frac{11}{5} \zeta_2^2 \right) + C_F^2 n_f T_F \left( -\frac{55}{48} + \zeta_3 \right)$$
$$+ \frac{1}{2} C_F C_A n_f T_F \left( -\frac{209}{108} + \frac{10}{9} \zeta_2 - \frac{7}{3} \zeta_3 \right) + C_F n_f^2 T_F^2 \left( -\frac{1}{27} \right)$$

[Vogt (2001)] [Berger (2002)] [Moch, Vermeaseren, Vogt (2004)]

## Iterative structure of loop integrals cf. [Caron-Huot, J.M.H. (2014)

- The physical result is finite as  $D \rightarrow 4$
- Obtain it from a subset of finite integrals/functions?



- Note: functions appear already in `simpler` N=4 SYM calculations!
- top-down vs. bottom-up approach

Massive scattering amplitudes in N=4 SYM

# Massive scattering amplitudes in N=4 SYM

 $\bullet$  define analog of light-by-light scattering  $s,t,m^2$ 

 $a_2$ 

- natural for dual conformal symmetry
- previously studied only in limits:

use mass as regulator  $m^2 \ll s, t$ 

Regge limit  $s \gg m^2, t$  related to cusp anomalous dimension

Systematic analysis for generic kinematics

[Caron-Huot, J.M.H., 2014]

[J.M.H., Naculich, Schnitzer, Spradlin]

[Schabinger]

one loop: 
$$I_{1} = \frac{2}{\beta_{uv}} \left\{ 2\log^{2} \left( \frac{\beta_{uv} + \beta_{u}}{\beta_{uv} + \beta_{v}} \right) + \log \left( \frac{\beta_{uv} - \beta_{u}}{\beta_{uv} + \beta_{u}} \right) \log \left( \frac{\beta_{uv} - \beta_{v}}{\beta_{uv} + \beta_{v}} \right) - \frac{\pi^{2}}{2} \right. \\ \left. + \sum_{i=1,2} \left[ 2\operatorname{Li}_{2} \left( \frac{\beta_{i} - 1}{\beta_{uv} + \beta_{i}} \right) - 2\operatorname{Li}_{2} \left( -\frac{\beta_{uv} - \beta_{i}}{\beta_{i} + 1} \right) - \log^{2} \left( \frac{\beta_{i} + 1}{\beta_{uv} + \beta_{i}} \right) \right] \right\}.$$
$$u = -4m^{2}/s \quad v = -4m^{2}/t \qquad \beta_{u} = \sqrt{1 + u}, \ \beta_{v} = \sqrt{1 + v}, \ \beta_{uv} = \sqrt{1 + u + v}$$

two-loop and three-loop answer now also known.



[Alday, J.M.H., Plefka, Schuster]



# Iterative structure for finite loop integrals

[Caron-Huot, J.M.H. (2014)

• block triangular matrix structure (weight grading)

• algorithm for finding this form

## Discussion and outlook

#### • iterative structure of finite loop integrals

perfect for finite physical objects, e.g.

- similar to structure for MHV and NMHV hexagon functions in N=4 SYM cf. [Dixon, Drummond, J.M.H. (2012)

- possible application: correlation functions in CFT [cf. e.g. Sokatchev's talk]
- integrals and cross sections for light-by-like scattering in N=4 SYM



3 loops and 3 scales!

full calculation, no guesses

similar integrals appear in QCD for finite top quark mass

results for Regge trajectories

[Caron-Huot, J.M.H., to appear], [cf. Caron-Huot's talk]

• dual conformal symmetry is generalization of conservation of Laplace-Runge-Lenz-(Pauli) vector for hydrogen atom!

## Conclusions

- exciting results and techniques
- some already applicable in QCD
   (e.g. uniform weight basis, Chen iterated integrals)
- more work needed for elliptic functions and generalizations
- New results:
  - 3-loop QCD cusp anomalous dimension
  - 3-loop light-by-light scattering in N=4 SYM

Thank you!