

# The superstring 3-loop amplitude

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(Collaboration with Humberto Gomez: arXiv 1308.6567)

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# Introduction

- Compute the  $N$ -point superstring amplitude for any number of loops
- The 4-point amplitude at 1- and 2-loops already computed by Berkovits with his pure spinor formalism (Berkovits '04, '05)
- The 4-point 3-loop amplitude was the next step. Developed some techniques, learned a few tricks and we should be better prepared for the difficulties ahead
- The overall coefficient was determined from first principles and compared with a prediction by Green and Vanhove from 2005 (based on S-duality arguments)
- Naive mismatch by a factor 3.

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# Pure spinor formalism (Berkovits '00, '05)

$$S = \frac{1}{2\pi\alpha'} \int_{\Sigma_g} d^2z (\partial x^m \bar{\partial} x_m + \alpha' p_\alpha \bar{\partial} \theta^\alpha - \alpha' w_\alpha \bar{\partial} \lambda^\alpha - \alpha' \bar{w}^\alpha \bar{\partial} \bar{\lambda}_\alpha + \alpha' s^\alpha \bar{\partial} r_\alpha)$$

- Pure spinors  $\lambda^\alpha$ ,  $\bar{\lambda}_\alpha$  with conjugate momenta  $w_\alpha$ ,  $\bar{w}^\alpha$ :

$$\lambda^\alpha \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^m \lambda^\beta = 0$$

- $r_\alpha$  constrained by  $\bar{\lambda} \gamma^m r = 0$
- Manifest spacetime SUSY, pure spinor superspace (PSS):  $(\lambda^\alpha, \theta^\alpha)$
- Covariant BRST Quantization:  $Q = \lambda^\alpha d_\alpha + \bar{w}^\alpha r_\alpha$
- Free CFT, simple OPEs

- Massless vertex operators

$$V = \lambda^\alpha A_\alpha(x, \theta), \quad QV = 0$$

$$U = \partial\theta^\alpha A_\alpha + A_m \Pi^m + d_\alpha W^\alpha + \frac{1}{2} N^{mn} \mathcal{F}_{mn}, \quad QU = \partial V$$

- $[A_\alpha, A_m, W^\alpha, \mathcal{F}_{mn}]$  are 10D superfields describing gluon and gluino



- Simple spectrum: gluon  $A_m$  and gluino  $\chi^\alpha$

$$S = \int F^2 + \chi^\alpha \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^m D_m \chi^\beta$$

- Compactification leads to lower-dim SYMs, eg  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  in 4D
- Contained in the low-energy limit of the open superstring
- Long-term goal: derive all the  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  and  $\mathcal{N} = 8$  amplitudes from string theory
- Recall that the 4-point amplitudes at 1-loop in both  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  and  $\mathcal{N} = 8$  were firstly computed from string theory ([Brink, Green, Schwarz '81](#))

- Covariant description using 10D superfields (Siegel '79, Witten '86)

$$A_\alpha(x, \theta), A_m(x, \theta), W^\alpha(x, \theta), \mathcal{F}_{mn}(x, \theta)$$

- Linearized equations of motion (for one-particle states)

$$D_\alpha A_\beta + D_\beta A_\alpha = \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^m A_m, \quad D_\alpha A_m = (\gamma_m W)_\alpha + \partial_m A_\alpha$$

$$D_\alpha W^\beta = \frac{1}{4} (\gamma^{mn})_\alpha{}^\beta \mathcal{F}_{mn}, \quad D_\alpha \mathcal{F}_{mn} = 2\partial_{[m} (\gamma_n] W)_\alpha$$

where  $D_\alpha$  is covariant derivative,  $\{D_\alpha, D_\beta\} = \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^m \partial_m$ .

- In computing higher-point string amplitudes, need to evaluate OPEs among vertex operators
- Recall integrated vertex

$$U = \partial\theta^\alpha A_\alpha + A_m \Pi^m + d_\alpha W^\alpha + \frac{1}{2} N^{mn} F_{mn}$$

- The idea is to note that the simple pole in the OPE  $U^1(z_1)U^2(z_2)$  can be written as

$$U_{12} \equiv \partial\theta^\alpha A_\alpha^{12} + \Pi^m A_m^{12} + d_\alpha W_{12}^\alpha + \frac{1}{2} N^{mn} \mathcal{F}_{mn}^{12}$$

# Multiparticle SYM equations of motion

where

$$A_\alpha^{12} = -\frac{1}{2} [A_\alpha^1 (k^1 \cdot A^2) + A_m^1 (\gamma^m W^2)_\alpha - (1 \leftrightarrow 2)]$$

$$A_m^{12} = \frac{1}{2} [A_p^1 \mathcal{F}_{pm}^2 - A_m^1 (k^1 \cdot A^2) + (W^1 \gamma_m W^2) - (1 \leftrightarrow 2)]$$

$$W_{12}^\alpha = \frac{1}{4} (\gamma^{mn} W^2)^\alpha \mathcal{F}_{mn}^1 + W_2^\alpha (k^2 \cdot A^1) - (1 \leftrightarrow 2)$$

$$\mathcal{F}_{mn}^{12} = k_m^{12} A_n^{12} - k_n^{12} A_m^{12} - (k^1 \cdot k^2) (A_m^1 A_n^2 - A_n^1 A_m^2).$$

satisfy the following equations of motion

$$2D_{(\alpha} A_{\beta)}^{12} = \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^m A_m^{12} + (k^1 \cdot k^2) (A_\alpha^1 A_\beta^2 + A_\beta^1 A_\alpha^2)$$

$$D_\alpha A_m^{12} = (\gamma_m W^{12})_\alpha + k_m^{12} A_\alpha^{12} + (k^1 \cdot k^2) (A_\alpha^1 A_m^2 - A_\alpha^2 A_m^1)$$

$$D_\alpha W_{12}^\beta = \frac{1}{4} (\gamma^{mn})_\alpha{}^\beta \mathcal{F}_{mn}^{12} + (k^1 \cdot k^2) (A_\alpha^1 W_2^\beta - A_\alpha^2 W_1^\beta)$$

$$D_\alpha F_{mn}^{12} = k_m^{12} (\gamma_n W^{12})_\alpha - k_n^{12} (\gamma_m W^{12})_\alpha + (k^1 \cdot k^2) (A_\alpha^1 \mathcal{F}_{mn}^2 - A_\alpha^2 \mathcal{F}_{mn}^1)$$

# Multiparticle SYM equations of motion and BRST blocks

- Straightforward to generalize (without computing OPEs)
- Example at rank-three

$$\hat{A}_\alpha^{123} = -\frac{1}{2} [A_\alpha^{12}(k^{12} \cdot A^3) + A_m^{12}(\gamma^m W^3)_\alpha - (12 \leftrightarrow 3)]$$

$$\begin{aligned} D_\beta \hat{A}_\alpha^{123} + D_\alpha \hat{A}_\beta^{123} &= \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^m \hat{A}_m^{123} \\ &+ (k^1 \cdot k^2) [A_\alpha^1 A_\beta^{23} + A_\alpha^{13} A_\beta^2 - (1 \leftrightarrow 2)] \\ &+ (k^{12} \cdot k^3) [A_\alpha^{12} A_\beta^3 - (12 \leftrightarrow 3)] \end{aligned}$$

- Recursive construction of BRST blocks  $K_B \in \{A_\alpha^B, A_m^B, W_B^\alpha, \mathcal{F}_B^{mn}\}$  with multiparticle label  $B$  obeying generalized SYM equations of motion

# BRST blocks and BCJ identities

- The BRST blocks  $K_B$  satisfy Lie symmetries

$$0 = K_{12} + K_{21}, \quad (\text{antisymmetry})$$

$$0 = K_{123} + K_{231} + K_{312}, \quad (\text{Jacobi identity})$$

$$0 = K_{1234} - K_{1243} + K_{3412} - K_{3421}$$

$$0 = \text{general pattern known}$$

- One can associate

$$K_{1234\dots p} \leftrightarrow f^{12a_2} f^{a_2 3a_3} f^{a_3 4a_4} \dots f^{a_{p-1} p a_p}$$

- Lie symmetries in the fundamentals of SYM theory!
- Connection with BCJ identities ([Bern, Carrasco, Johansson '08](#))
- Hint of a kinematic algebra from OPEs of string theory?

# Loop amplitude prescription

$$\mathcal{A}_g = S_g \kappa^4 e^{4\lambda} \int_{\mathcal{M}_g} \prod_{j=1}^{3g-3} d^2 \tau_j \int_{\Sigma_4} |\langle \mathcal{N}(b, \mu_j) U^1(z_1) \dots U^4(z_4) \rangle|^2$$

- b-ghost insertion

$$(b, \mu_j) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int d^2 y_j b_{zz} \mu_j^z \bar{z}, \quad j = 1, \dots, 3g - 3$$

$$b = \frac{1}{2(\lambda\bar{\lambda})} \Pi^m(\bar{\lambda}\gamma_m d) + \frac{(\bar{\lambda}\gamma^{mnp} r)}{192(\lambda\bar{\lambda})^2} \frac{\alpha'}{2} (d\gamma_{mnp} d) + \dots$$

- Zero-mode regulator

$$\mathcal{N} = \sum_{l=1}^g e^{-(\lambda\bar{\lambda}) - (w^l \bar{w}^l) - (r\theta) + (s^l d^l)}$$

# Loop amplitude prescription

- Zero-mode integrations

$$\langle \dots \rangle = \int [d\theta][dr][d\lambda][d\bar{\lambda}] \prod_{l=1}^3 [dd^l][ds^l][d\bar{w}^l][dw^l]$$

- with measures (CM, Gomez '10)

$$[d\lambda] T_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_5} = \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right)^{-2} \frac{1}{11!} \left(\frac{A_g}{4\pi^2}\right)^{11/2} \epsilon_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_{16}} d\lambda^{\alpha_6} \dots d\lambda^{\alpha_{16}}$$

$$[d\bar{\lambda}] \bar{T}^{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_5} = \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right)^2 \frac{2^6}{11!} \left(\frac{A_g}{4\pi^2}\right)^{11/2} \epsilon^{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_{16}} d\bar{\lambda}_{\alpha_6} \dots d\bar{\lambda}_{\alpha_{16}}$$

- Gaussian integration over pure spinors (Gomez '09)

$$\int [d\lambda][d\bar{\lambda}] (\lambda\bar{\lambda})^n e^{-(\lambda\bar{\lambda})} = \left(\frac{A_g}{2\pi}\right)^{11} \frac{\Gamma(8+n)}{7! 60}$$



# String amplitudes versus S-duality

4-point amplitudes at 0-, 1- and 2-loops (CM, Gomez '10):

$$\mathcal{A}_0 = \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right)^3 K \bar{K} \kappa^4 e^{-2\lambda} \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2^{16} \pi^5} \left[ \frac{3}{\sigma_3} + 2\zeta_3 + \zeta_5 \sigma_2 + \frac{2}{3} \zeta_3^2 \sigma_3 + \dots \right]$$

$$\mathcal{A}_1 = \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right)^3 K \bar{K} \kappa^4 \frac{1}{2^{10} 3\pi} \left[ 1 + \frac{\zeta_3}{3} \sigma_3 + \dots \right]$$

$$\mathcal{A}_2 = \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right)^3 K \bar{K} \kappa^4 e^{2\lambda} \frac{\sqrt{2} \pi^3}{2^6 3^3 5} \left[ \sigma_2 + \dots \right]$$

confirm the predictions based on S-duality (Green, Gutperle, Vanhove)

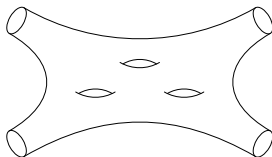
$$S^{\alpha'^3} = C_1 \int d^{10}x \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{R}^4 (2\zeta_3 e^{-2\phi} + \frac{2\pi^2}{3})$$

$$S^{\alpha'^5} = C_2 \int d^{10}x \sqrt{-g} D^4 \mathcal{R}^4 (2\zeta_5 e^{-2\phi} + \frac{8}{3} \zeta_4 e^{2\phi})$$

# String amplitudes versus S-duality

- Agreement up to 2-loops is very non-trivial
- What about 3-loops?

# The 3-loop amplitude



The pure spinor formalism:

$$\mathcal{A}_3 = \frac{1}{3} \kappa^4 e^{4\lambda} \int_{\mathcal{M}_3} \prod_{j=1}^6 d^2 \tau_j \int_{\Sigma_4} |\langle \mathcal{N}(b, \mu_j) U^1(z_1) \dots U^4(z_4) \rangle|^2$$

S-duality (Green, Vanhove '05)

$$S^{\alpha'6} = C_3 \int d^{10}x \sqrt{-g} D^6 \mathcal{R}^4 (4\zeta_3^2 e^{-2\phi} + 8\zeta_2 \zeta_3 + \frac{48}{5} \zeta_2^2 e^{2\phi} + \frac{8}{9} \zeta_6 e^{4\phi})$$

# The 3-loop amplitude

- The computation is guided by the saturation of the  $(16, 16, 16)$   $d_\alpha$  zero-modes

$$d_\alpha(z) = \hat{d}_\alpha(z) + d'_\alpha w_l(z), \quad l = 1, 2, 3$$

- $s^\alpha$  has  $(11, 11, 11)$  zero modes (instead of 16) and appears only in  $\mathcal{N}$

$$\int \prod_{l=1}^3 [ds^l] e^{-(d^l s^l)} = \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right)^6 \frac{(2\pi)^{33/2} Z_3^{11}}{R^3 2^{18} (11! 5!)^3 (\lambda \bar{\lambda})^9} \prod_{l=1}^3 (\epsilon \cdot T \cdot d^l)$$

$$Z_g = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(2\text{Im}\Omega)}}, \quad T_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3 \alpha_4 \alpha_5} = (\lambda \gamma^m)_{\alpha_1} (\lambda \gamma^n)_{\alpha_2} (\lambda \gamma^p)_{\alpha_3} (\gamma_{mnp})_{\alpha_4 \alpha_5}$$

- Brings down  $(11, 11, 11)$  zero modes of  $d_\alpha$
- Need to saturate the remaining  $(5, 5, 5)$  d zero modes

# The b-ghost sector

Two possible contributions from  $\int \prod_{j=1}^6 d^2\tau_j \left| (b, \mu_j) \right|^2$ :

- (4, 4, 4):

$$= c_{b_1}^2 \int d^2\Omega_{IJ} \left| \frac{B_{(4,4,4)}}{(\lambda\bar{\lambda})^{12}} \right|^2$$

- (3, 4, 4), (4, 3, 4) or (4, 4, 3):

$$= c_{b_2}^2 \int d^2\Omega_{IJ} \left| \frac{1}{(\lambda\bar{\lambda})^{11}} \left( \Pi_m^1 B_{(3,4,4)}^m + \Pi_m^2 B_{(4,3,4)}^m + \Pi_m^3 B_{(4,4,3)}^m \right) \right|^2$$

# The b-ghost sector

$$\begin{aligned} B_{(4,4,4)} &= (\bar{\lambda} r d^1 d^1)(\bar{\lambda} r d^1 d^2)(\bar{\lambda} r d^1 d^3)(\bar{\lambda} r d^2 d^2)(\bar{\lambda} r d^2 d^3)(\bar{\lambda} r d^3 d^3) \\ B_{(3,4,4)}^m &= + 2(\bar{\lambda} \gamma^m d^1)(\bar{\lambda} r d^1 d^2)(\bar{\lambda} r d^1 d^3)(\bar{\lambda} r d^2 d^2)(\bar{\lambda} r d^2 d^3)(\bar{\lambda} r d^3 d^3) \\ &\quad - (\bar{\lambda} \gamma^m d^2)(\bar{\lambda} r d^1 d^1)(\bar{\lambda} r d^1 d^3)(\bar{\lambda} r d^2 d^2)(\bar{\lambda} r d^2 d^3)(\bar{\lambda} r d^3 d^3) \\ &\quad + (\bar{\lambda} \gamma^m d^3)(\bar{\lambda} r d^1 d^1)(\bar{\lambda} r d^1 d^2)(\bar{\lambda} r d^2 d^2)(\bar{\lambda} r d^2 d^3)(\bar{\lambda} r d^3 d^3) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(\bar{\lambda} r d^I d^J) \equiv (\bar{\lambda} \gamma^{mnp} r)(d^I \gamma_{mnp} d^J)$$

- Teichmüller parameters  $\rightarrow$  period matrix

$$\int d^2 z w_I(z) w_J(z) \mu_i(z) = \frac{\delta \Omega_{IJ}}{\delta \tau_i}$$
$$\int \prod_{j=1}^6 d^2 \tau_j \left| \epsilon_{i_1 \dots i_6} \frac{\delta \Omega_{11}}{\delta \tau_{i_1}} \dots \frac{\delta \Omega_{33}}{\delta \tau_{i_6}} \right|^2 = \int \prod_{I \leq J}^3 d^2 \Omega_{IJ}$$

# The 3-loop amplitude

Up to now

$$A_{12} = c_{12} \int \frac{d^2 \Omega_{IJ}}{Z_3^{22}} \int_{\Sigma_4} \left\langle \prod_{j=1}^4 e^{ik^j \cdot x^j} \right\rangle \left| \langle D_{(15,15,15)} U^1 U^2 U^3 U^4 \rangle_{(-9)} \right|^2$$

$$A_{11} = c_{11} \int \frac{d^2 \Omega_{IJ}}{Z_3^{22}} \int_{\Sigma_4} \left\langle \prod_{j=1}^4 e^{ik^j \cdot x^j} \right\rangle$$

$$\times \left| \langle (\Pi_m^1 D_{(14,15,15)}^m + \Pi_m^2 D_{(15,14,15)}^m + \Pi_m^3 D_{(15,15,14)}^m) U^1 U^2 U^3 U^4 \rangle_{(-8)} \right|^2$$

with coefficients

$$c_{12} = \frac{\sqrt{2} 2^{-101} \kappa^4 e^{4\lambda}}{\pi^{42} 3^{13} (11! 5!)^6} \left( \frac{\alpha'}{2} \right)^{24}$$

$$c_{11} = \frac{\sqrt{2} 2^{-93} \kappa^4 e^{4\lambda}}{\pi^{42} 3^{11} (11! 5!)^6} \left( \frac{\alpha'}{2} \right)^{22}$$

# The b-ghost sector

- The b-ghost sector with  $D_{(15,15,15)}$  requires  $(1, 1, 1)$  d zero modes from the vertices;  $U_1 U_2 U_3 U_4 =$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right)^4 [(dW_{12})(dW_3)(dW_4) \eta_{12} + (1, 2|1, 2, 3, 4) \\ &+ \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right)^3 \sum_{l=1}^3 \Pi_l^m w_l(z_1) A_m^1(dW^2)(dW^3)(dW^4) + (1 \leftrightarrow 2, 3, 4) \end{aligned}$$

- $W_{ij}$  is a rank-two BRST block and  $\eta_{ij}$  is proportional to the worldsheet derivative of the Green's function



# 3-loop kinematic factors

Use the operator  $D_{(p+11,q+11,r+11)}^m \equiv \int \prod_{l=1}^3 [dd^l](\epsilon \cdot T \cdot d^l) B_{(p,q,r)}^m$  to integrate remaining  $(1, 1, 1)$  zero modes to get

$$D_{(15,15,15)}(dW_{ij})(dW_k)(dW_l) = (11! 5!)^3 96^3 c_d^3 T_{ij,k,l}(\lambda, \bar{\lambda}, r) \Delta(z_j; z_k; z_l)$$
$$D_{(15,15,15)}(dW_i)(dW_j)(dW_k) A_l^m = (11! 5!)^3 96^3 c_d^3 L_{ijkl}^m(\lambda, \bar{\lambda}, r) \Delta(z_j; z_k; z_l)$$

where  $\Delta(z_i; z_j; z_k) \equiv \epsilon^{IJK} w_I(z_i) w_J(z_j) w_K(z_k)$  and

$$T_{ij,k,l}(\lambda, \bar{\lambda}, r) = (\bar{\lambda} \gamma^{abc} r)(\bar{\lambda} \gamma^{def} r)(\bar{\lambda} \gamma^{ghi} r)(\bar{\lambda} \gamma^{mnp} r)(\bar{\lambda} \gamma^{qrs} r)(\bar{\lambda} \gamma^{tuv} r)$$
$$\times (\lambda \gamma^{adefm} \lambda)(\lambda \gamma^{bghit} \lambda)(\lambda \gamma^{uqrsn} \lambda)(\lambda \gamma^c W_{ij})(\lambda \gamma^p W_k)(\lambda \gamma^v W_l),$$
$$L_{ijkl}^m(\lambda, \bar{\lambda}, r) = (\bar{\lambda} \gamma^{abc} r)(\bar{\lambda} \gamma^{def} r)(\bar{\lambda} \gamma^{ghi} r)(\bar{\lambda} \gamma^{mnp} r)(\bar{\lambda} \gamma^{qrs} r)(\bar{\lambda} \gamma^{tuv} r)$$
$$\times (\lambda \gamma^{adefm} \lambda)(\lambda \gamma^{bghit} \lambda)(\lambda \gamma^{uqrsn} \lambda)(\lambda \gamma^c W_i)(\lambda \gamma^p W_j)(\lambda \gamma^v W_k) A_l^m$$

# 3-loop amplitude

After analogous treatment of the  $b(11)$  sector:

$$\mathcal{A}_3 = c \int_{\mathcal{M}_3} \frac{d^2 \Omega_{IJ}}{(\det(2 \operatorname{Im} \Omega))^5} \int_{\Sigma_4} [\langle |\mathcal{F}|^2 \rangle + \langle |\mathcal{T}|^2 \rangle] \mathcal{I}(s_{ij})$$

$$c = (2\pi)^{10} \delta^{(10)}(k) \frac{\kappa^4 e^{4\lambda}}{2^{31} 3^9 5^2 7^2} \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right)^5$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F} = & T_{12,3,4} \Delta(z_2; z_3; z_4) \eta_{12} + T_{13,2,4} \Delta(z_3; z_2; z_4) \eta_{13} + T_{14,2,3} \Delta(z_4; z_2; z_3) \eta_{14} \\ & + T_{23,1,4} \Delta(z_3; z_1; z_4) \eta_{23} + T_{24,1,3} \Delta(z_4; z_1; z_3) \eta_{24} + T_{34,1,2} \Delta(z_4; z_1; z_2) \eta_{34} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{T} = & T_{1234}^m \Delta^m(z_1, z_2; z_3; z_4) + T_{1324}^m \Delta^m(z_1, z_3; z_2; z_4) + T_{1423}^m \Delta^m(z_1, z_4; z_2; z_3) \\ & + T_{2314}^m \Delta^m(z_2, z_3; z_1; z_4) + T_{2413}^m \Delta^m(z_2, z_4; z_1; z_3) + T_{3412}^m \Delta^m(z_3, z_4; z_1; z_2) \end{aligned}$$

$$T_{1234}^m = L_{1342}^m + L_{2341}^m + \frac{5}{2} S_{1234}^m$$

# Low energy limit

- Kinematic factors  $|\mathcal{F}|^2$  and  $|\mathcal{T}|^2$  of order  $D^8 R^4$  and  $D^6 R^4$  respectively
- Integrals inside  $|\mathcal{F}|^2$  have kinematic poles. Integration by parts identities generate  $D^6 R^4$  contributions.
- Set Koba-Nielsen factor to 1 and use Riemann relations

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{\Sigma_4} \langle |\mathcal{F}|^2 \rangle \mathcal{I}(s_{ij}) &= -\pi \left( \frac{\alpha'}{2} \right) \langle \mathcal{K} \rangle \int_{\Sigma_4} \Omega_{12} \Delta(z_2; z_3; z_4) \bar{\Delta}(z_1; z_3; z_4) \\ &= -36\pi \left( \frac{\alpha'}{2} \right) \langle \mathcal{K} \rangle \det(2 \operatorname{Im} \Omega)\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mathcal{K} = \frac{|T_{23,1,4}|^2 + |T_{14,2,3}|^2}{s_{23}} + \frac{|T_{24,1,3}|^2 + |T_{13,2,4}|^2}{s_{24}} + \frac{|T_{34,1,2}|^2 + |T_{12,3,4}|^2}{s_{34}}$$

- This is how one gets  $D^6 R^4$  contributions from the “ $D^8 R^4$ ” sector!

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Similarly,

$$\int_{\Sigma_4} \Delta^m(z_1, z_2; z_3; z_4) \bar{\Delta}^n(\bar{z}_1, \bar{z}_2; \bar{z}_3; \bar{z}_4) = -12\pi\eta^{mn} \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right) \det(2 \operatorname{Im} \Omega),$$

$$\int_{\Sigma_4} \Delta^m(z_1, z_2; z_3; z_4) \bar{\Delta}^n(\bar{z}_1, \bar{z}_3; \bar{z}_2; \bar{z}_4) = +12\pi\eta^{mn} \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right) \det(2 \operatorname{Im} \Omega),$$

$$\int_{\Sigma_4} \Delta^m(z_1, z_2; z_3; z_4) \bar{\Delta}^n(\bar{z}_3, \bar{z}_4; \bar{z}_1; \bar{z}_2) = 0$$

leads to

$$\int_{\Sigma_4} |\mathcal{T}|^2 = -36\pi \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right) \det(2 \operatorname{Im} \Omega) \mathcal{L} \cdot \tilde{\mathcal{L}}$$

where  $\mathcal{L}^m$  is some linear combination of  $T_{ijkl}^m$ .

# Low energy limit

- Factor of  $\det(2 \operatorname{Im} \Omega)$  leads to modular invariant measure with volume

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}_3} \frac{d^2 \Omega_{IJ}}{(\det(2 \operatorname{Im} \Omega))^4} = \frac{3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7}{2^6 \cdot 3^6} \zeta_6$$

- Amplitude in low energy limit becomes

$$\mathcal{A}_3 = -(2\pi)^{10} \delta^{(10)}(k) \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right)^6 \langle \mathcal{K} + \mathcal{L} \cdot \tilde{\mathcal{L}} \rangle \kappa^4 e^{4\lambda} \frac{\pi \zeta_6}{2^{35} 3^{10} 5^3 7^2}$$

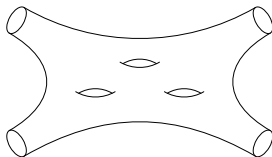
- Component expansion in pure spinor superspace gives

$$\langle \mathcal{K} + \mathcal{L} \cdot \tilde{\mathcal{L}} \rangle = -2^{35} 3^7 5^3 7^2 (s_{12}^3 + s_{13}^3 + s_{14}^3) K \bar{K}$$

where

$$K = -2^3 2880 A_{1234}^{\text{YM}} s_{12} s_{23}$$

# 3-loop amplitude



$$= \frac{1}{3} (2\pi)^{10} \delta^{(10)}(k) \kappa^4 e^{4\lambda} \frac{\pi \zeta_6}{32} \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right)^6 (s_{12}^3 + s_{13}^3 + s_{14}^3) K \bar{K}$$

# S-duality prediction versus amplitude calculation

- From the effective action, ratio of tree-level and 3-loop  $D^6 R^4$  interaction:

$$\frac{2\zeta_6}{9\zeta_3^2} e^{6\phi} = \frac{\sqrt{2}2^{14}\pi^6\zeta_6}{9\zeta_3^2} e^{6\lambda}$$

- This ratio is equal to the ratio of the tree-level and 3-loop amplitudes

$$\frac{\mathcal{A}_3^{\alpha'6}}{\mathcal{A}_0^{\alpha'6}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}2^{14}\pi^6\zeta_6}{9\zeta_3^2} e^{6\lambda}$$

- provided one includes the  $\frac{1}{3}$  symmetry factor



- The end

# The $Z_3$ argument

- Recall that both the 1- and 2-loop amplitudes require a factor  $1/2$
- Every genus-1 and genus-2 surface is hyperelliptic

$$y^2 = z(z-1)(z-a), \quad g = 1,$$

$$y^2 = z(z-1)(z-a_1)(z-a_2)(z-a_3), \quad g = 2,$$

- where  $a$  and  $a_1, a_2, a_3$  parametrize the moduli space. These curves have the  $Z_2$  symmetry  $y \leftrightarrow -y$ , implying the symmetry factor  $1/2$
- Every genus-three Riemann surface can be embedded in  $CP^2$  as a quartic curve. The number of free parameters is (after some considerations) 6, therefore one is free to choose

$$xy^3 + a_1zy^3 + a_2x^4 + a_3x^3z + a_4x^2z^2 + a_5xz^3 + a_6z^4 = 0,$$

- $Z_3$  symmetry over  $y$  coordinate implying a  $1/3$  symmetry factor