

Cluster Algebras for Feynman Integrals

Georgios Papathanasiou

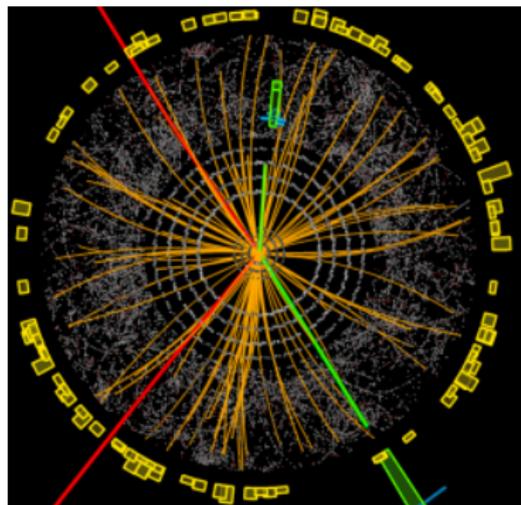
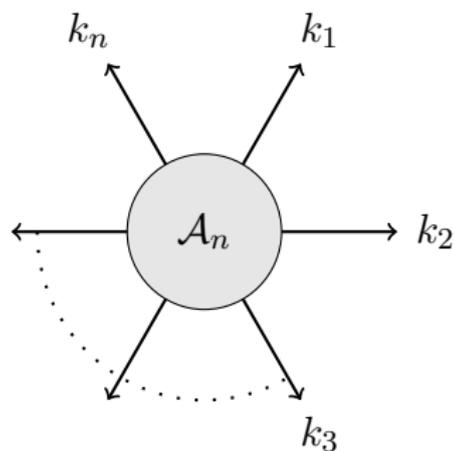


CLUSTER OF EXCELLENCE
QUANTUM UNIVERSE

CORFU2021 Workshop on the Standard Model and Beyond
August 24, 2021

Scattering amplitudes

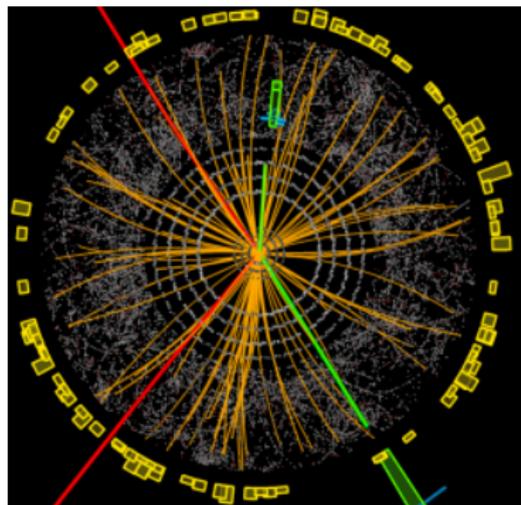
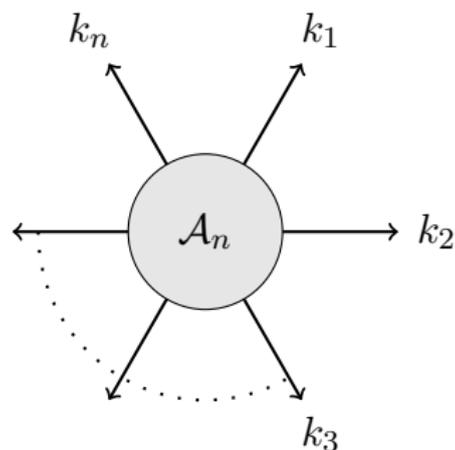
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The arena where perturbative quantum field theory confronts experiment.

High precision calculations crucial for [\[Canko Talk\]](#)

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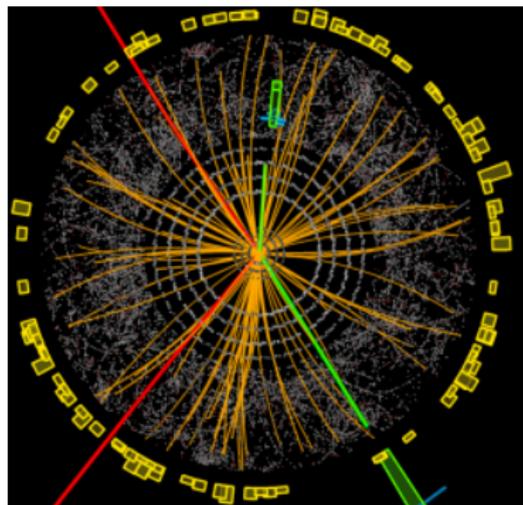
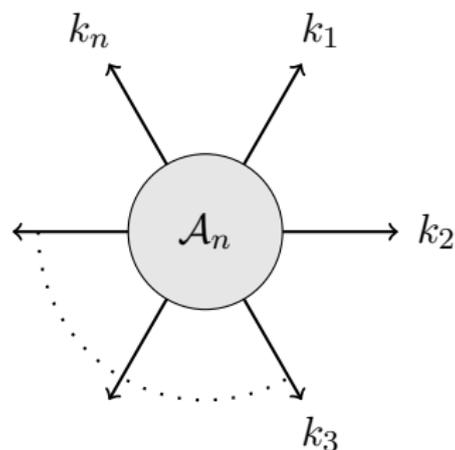


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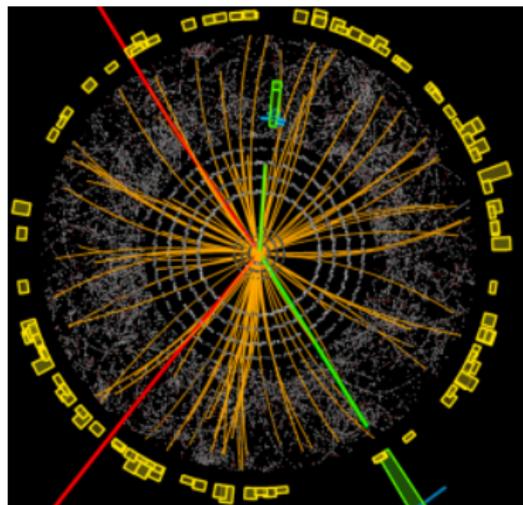
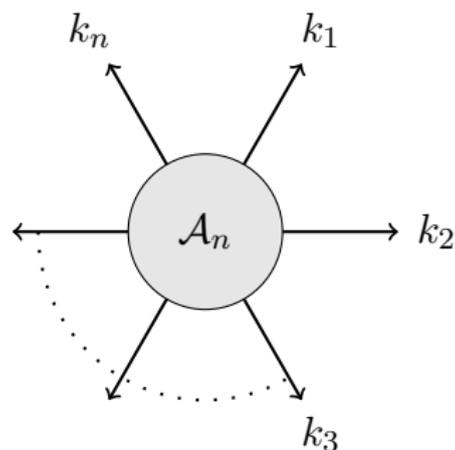


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Especially relevant in light of High-Luminosity LHC 2027-2037. [\[Zerlauth Talk\]](#)

Motivation: From $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM to the real world

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All of them vital for recent state of the art calculation of 2-loop 5-point 1-mass planar master integrals, relevant for W-boson production + 2 jets, [Abreu,Ita,Moriello,Page,Tschernow,Zeng] [Canko,Papadopoulos,Syrrakos]

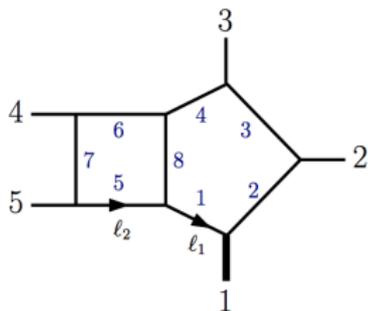


Image Credit: 2005.04195

The Role of Cluster Algebras

Tremendously successful in describing singularities of n -particle planar amplitudes \mathcal{A}_n in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM.

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Discovered cluster algebras encode singularities of a wealth of physically relevant examples, including QCD corrections to amplitudes for $pp \rightarrow \text{Higgs} + \text{jet}$!

Outline

Introduction: Cluster Algebras and $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

Cluster Algebras for Feynman Integrals

C_2 & Higgs amplitudes

Further Examples

Conclusions & Outlook

Cluster algebras [Fomin, Zelevinsky]

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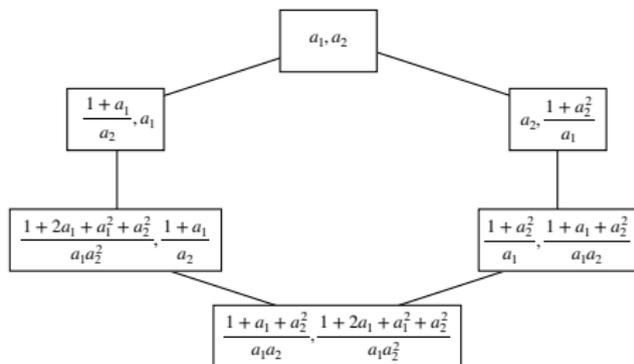
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Exchange graph: Clusters=vertices, mutations=edges

Geometric Interpretation of Cluster Algebras

Finite cluster algebras classified by Dynkin diagrams. For A_n :

- ▶ Cluster = triangulation of $(n + 3)$ -gon by noncrossing diagonals
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Example: $A_3 =$ hexagon



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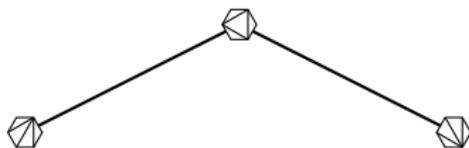


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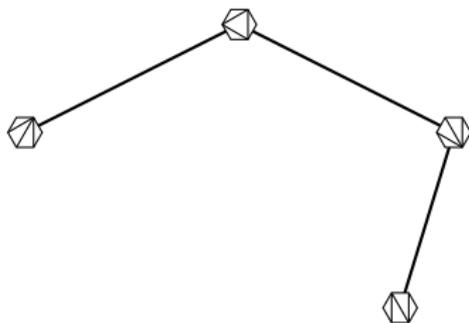


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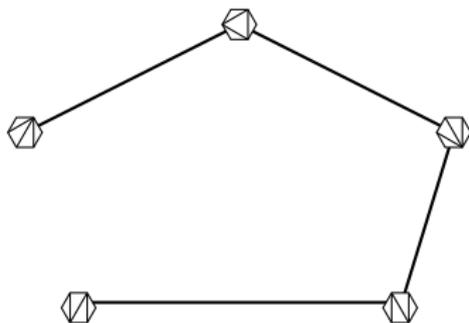


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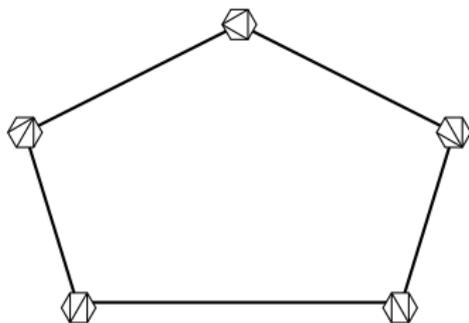


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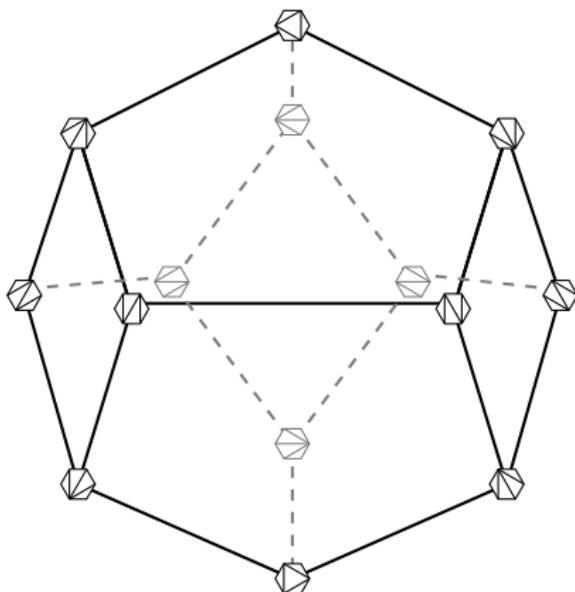


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exchange graph



Adapted from 1810.08149

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The function space of multiple polylogarithms (MPLs)

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$(- - \pm + \dots +)$ L -loop amplitudes = MPLs of *weight* $k = 2L$

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Collection of ϕ_{α_i} : **symbol alphabet** Φ

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The right variables & their applications

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Essential information for computing \mathcal{A}_n via **amplitude bootstrap**

[PoS CORFU2019 Review: Caron-Huot, Dixon, Drummond, Dulat, Foster, Gurdogan, Hippel, McLeod, GP]

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What is the symbol alphabet describing \mathcal{A}_n ? For $n = 6, 7$,

- ▶ *variables a_m of a Grassmannian $Gr(4, n)$ cluster algebra*

[Golden, Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich]

$$Gr(4, 6) \simeq A_3, \quad Gr(4, 7) \simeq E_6$$

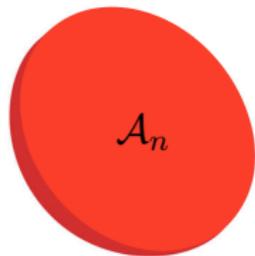
Potential amplitude singularities when cluster coordinates $a_m = 0, \infty$



Essential information for computing \mathcal{A}_n via **amplitude bootstrap**

[PoS CORFU2019 Review: Caron-Huot, Dixon, Drummond, Dulat, Foster, Gurdogan, Hippel, McLeod, GP]

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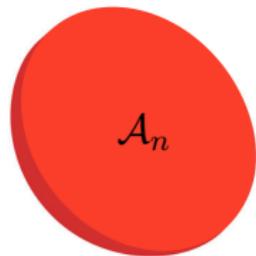


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- ▶ $n = 6$: 7 loops (MHV)
- ▶ $n = 7$: 4 loops



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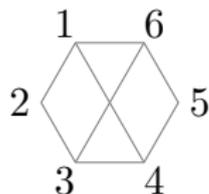
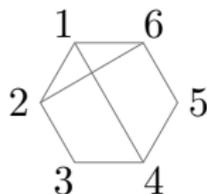
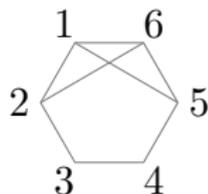
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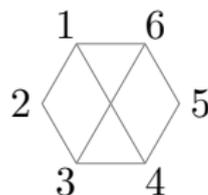
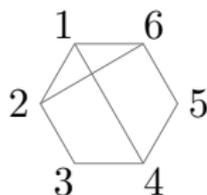
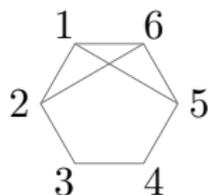
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For physical $n = 6, 7$ functions, equivalent to *extended Steinmann relations*.
Massively reduces size of function space. [Caron-Huot,Dixon,DulatMcLeod,Hippel,GP]

The Genetic Material of $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM Amplitudes

DNA

Amplitude symbol

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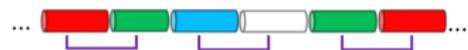


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Could cluster algebras provide the genetic material of generic quantum field theories?

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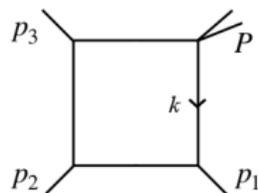
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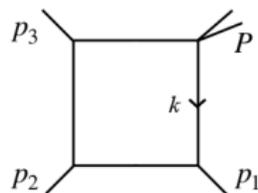
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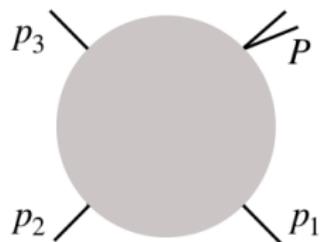
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For any given process, scalar integrals related by integration-by-parts identities. Basis in the vector space they span=master integrals.

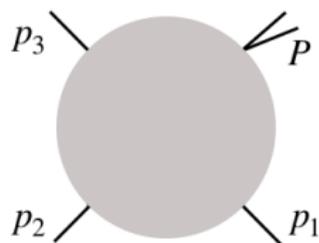
[Chetyrkin,Tkachov]

Main Example: Four-point functions with one leg offshell/massive



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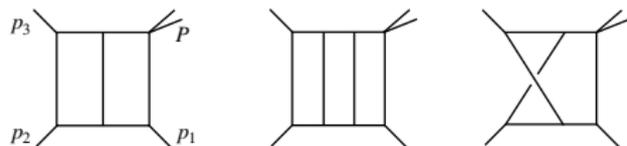
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- ▶ Kinematic variables:

$$z_1 \equiv \frac{2p_1 \cdot p_2}{P^2}, \quad z_2 \equiv \frac{2p_2 \cdot p_3}{P^2}, \quad z_3 \equiv \frac{2p_1 \cdot p_3}{P^2},$$

with $z_1 + z_2 + z_3 = 1$.

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- ▶ Alphabet of all known master integrals: [Gehrmann, Remiddi]

[Di Vita, Mastrolia, Schubert, Yundin]

$$\Phi_{2\text{dHPL}} = \{z_1, z_2, z_3, 1 - z_1, 1 - z_2, 1 - z_3\},$$

“2-dimensional HPLs” [Gehrmann, Remiddi]

Identifying Candidate Cluster Algebras

# independent variables		2dHPL		
		2		

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2dHPLs = C_2 polylogarithms!

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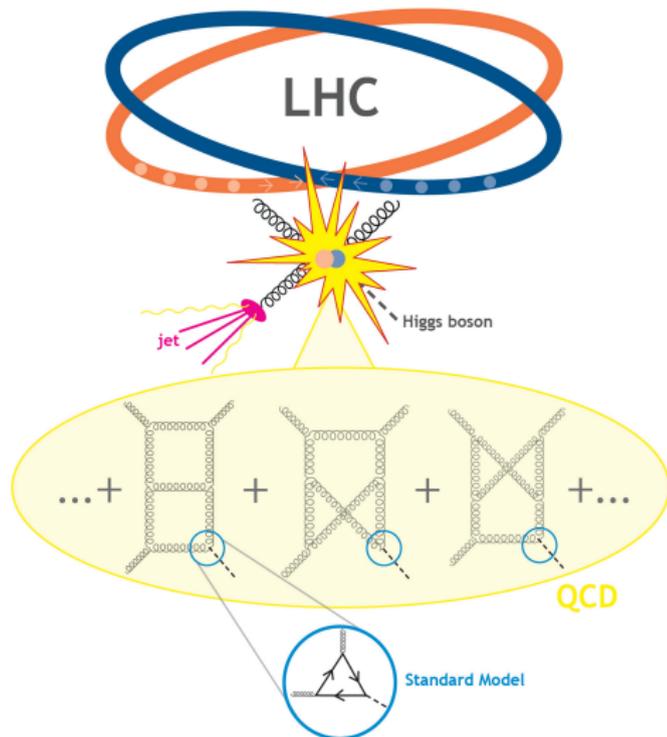
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Physical Significance: C_2 Cluster Algebra Underlies Higgs Amplitudes!

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 - ▶ $pp \rightarrow \text{Higgs} + \text{jet}$
[Gehrmann, Jaquier, Glover,
Koukoutsakis] [Duhr]
- in heavy top mass limit



What Do Cluster Algebras Buy Us? Adjacency properties of Feynman integrals

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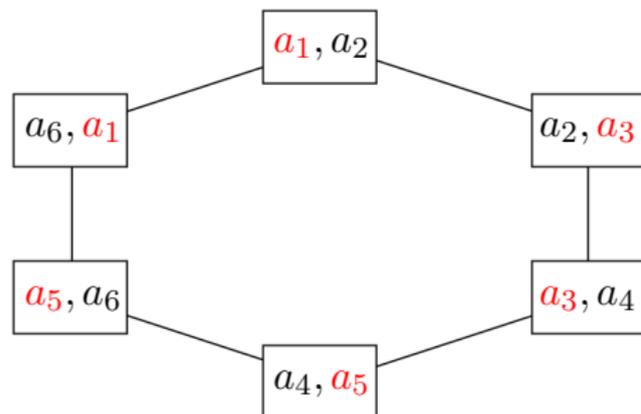
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to all orders in ϵ . Important structural information for manipulating \mathbf{f} , e.g. analytic continuation.

Observed C_2 adjacency of 4-point 1-mass integrals

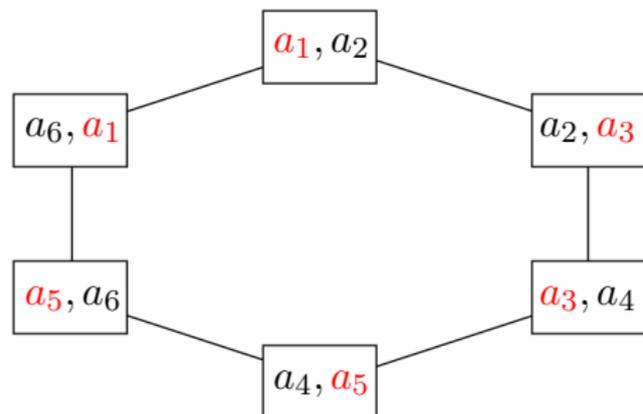
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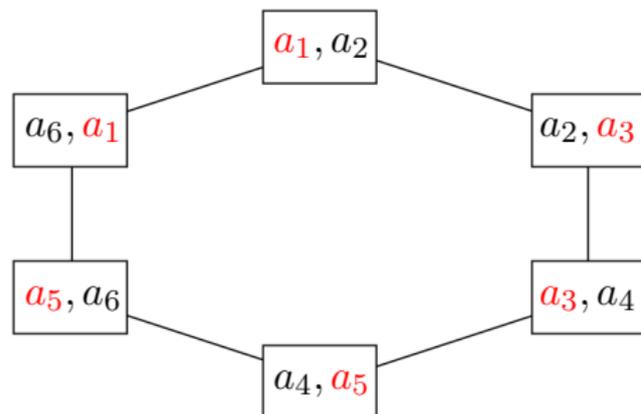
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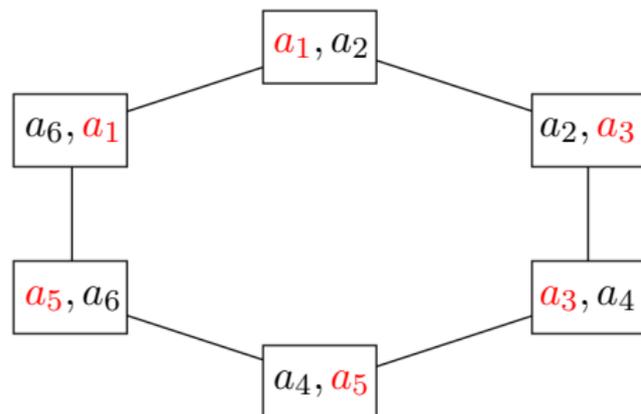
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Adjacency property significantly reduces size of C_2 symbol space:

weight	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
First entry condition	3	12	45	165	597	2143	7653	27241
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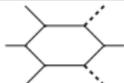
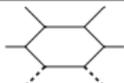
Application: In parallel work, used to bootstrap $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM analogue of Higgs amplitude through 5 loops [\[Dixon, Mcleod, Wilhelm\]](#)

More examples of cluster algebras from one-loop Feynman integrals

family	# variables	# letters	cluster algebra
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	3	10	$\subset C_3$
	4	16	$\subset C_4$

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Finite 6D integrals	# variables	# letters	cluster algebra
	4	16	D_4
	5	24	$\subset D_5$
	5	27	$\lim \text{Tr}(4, 8)$

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[Henke,GP'19][Arkani-Hamed,Lam,Spradlin'19][Drummond,Foster,Gurdogan,Kalousios'19]

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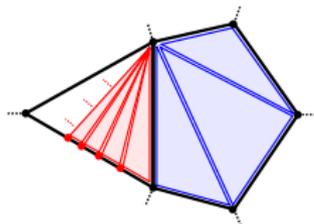
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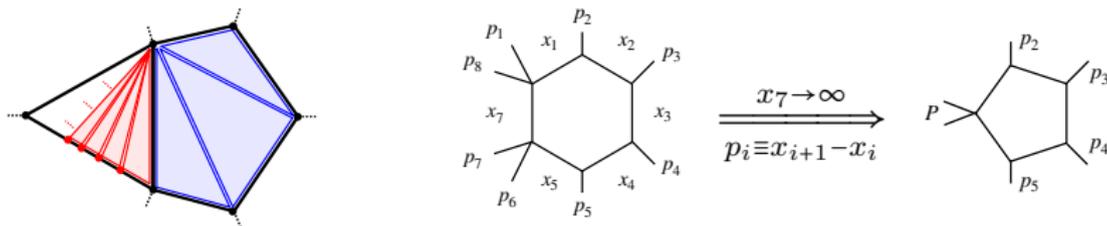
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From appropriately symmetrized limit, obtain all letters appearing in finite (hard) part of two-loop five-gluon amplitude in QCD!

Conclusions

The beautiful mathematics of cluster algebras underlie the analytic structure of several physically relevant Feynman integrals & processes!

- ▶ Higgs+jet amplitudes to all orders in ϵ
- ▶ 5-gluon planar amplitudes in QCD to finite part
- ▶ Reveal new, potentially useful properties such as adjacency

Next Stage

Very recently, predictions for symbol letters of \mathcal{A}_9 in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM.

[Henke,GP'21] \Rightarrow Limit to six-gluon amplitude letters in QCD?

- ▶ More examples & first-principle proof? Bootstrap of QCD quantities?

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Next Stage

Very recently, predictions for symbol letters of \mathcal{A}_9 in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM.

[Henke,GP'21] \Rightarrow Limit to six-gluon amplitude letters in QCD?

- ▶ More examples & first-principle proof? Bootstrap of QCD quantities?

Could cluster algebras and generalizations provide an organizing principle (“genetic material”) that simplifies future collider physics calculations?

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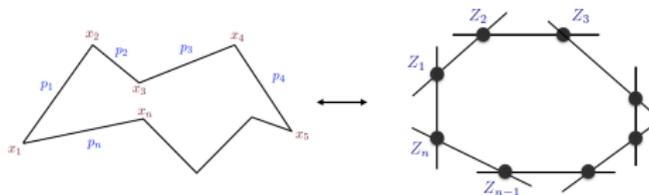
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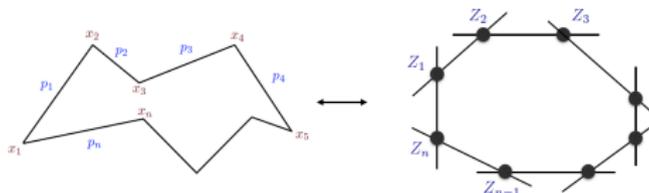
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Cluster \mathcal{A} -coordinates a_m : Certain homogeneous polynomials of $\langle ijkl \rangle$

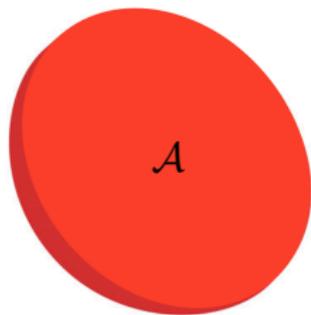
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Evade Feynman diagrams by exploiting analytic structure

QFT Property	Computation
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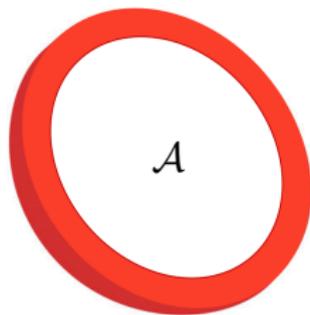
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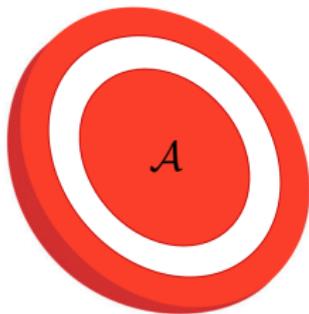
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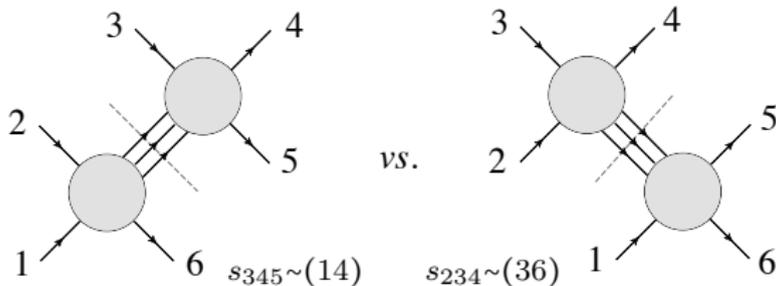
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See also $S(\mathcal{A}_n^{(2)}) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_n^{(2)}$, $S(\mathcal{A}_7) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_7$ work [Golden(,Paulos),Spradlin(,Volovich)] [Dixon,Liu] [Golden,McLeod]

Steinmann Relations

Provide physical backing to cluster adjacency, forbidding double discontinuities in overlapping channels. For A_3 , equivalent to

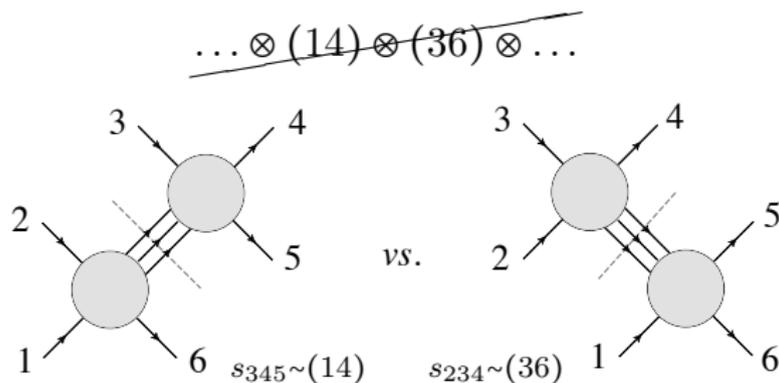
$$\cancel{(14) \otimes (36) \otimes \dots}$$



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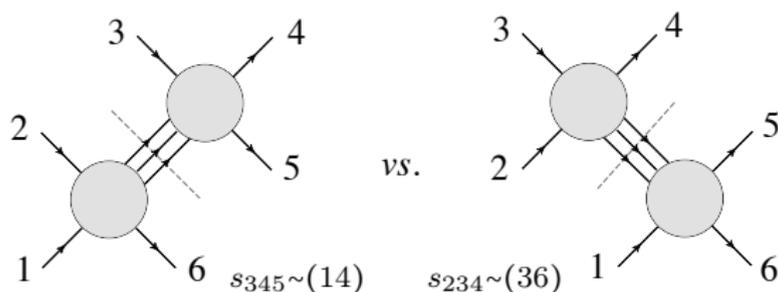
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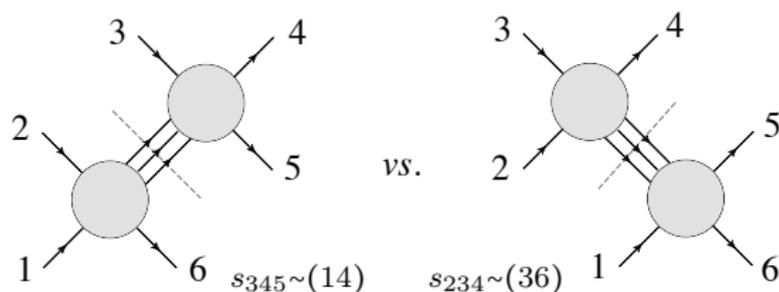


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- ▶ Recently confirmed in planar 5-pt 1-mass master integrals.

[Abreu,Ita,Moriello,Page,Tschernow,Zeng]

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Comparing the two matrices,

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

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$$\text{Mutation on } a_k : \quad a'_k = a_k^{-1} \left(\prod_{i=1}^{d+m} a_i^{[b_{ik}]_+} + \prod_{i=1}^{d+m} a_i^{[-b_{ik}]_+} \right), \quad k \leq n,$$

all other a_j unchanged. b_{ij} elements of B , which itself mutates as

$$b'_{ij} = \begin{cases} -b_{ij} & \text{for } i = k \text{ or } j = k \\ b_{ij} + [-b_{ik}]_+ b_{kj} + b_{ik} [b_{kj}]_+ & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

with $[x]_+ = \max(0, x)$.

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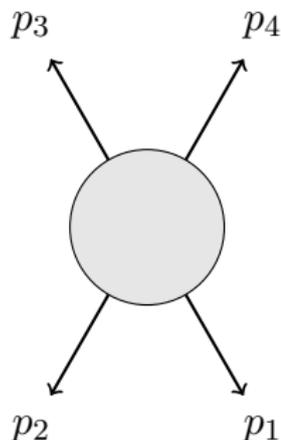
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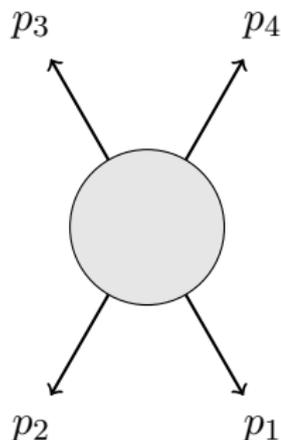
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Alphabet of known integrals:
[Henn, Smirnov²] [Panzer] [Henn, Mistlberger, Smirnov, Wasser]

$$\Phi = \{z, 1 + z\}$$

(Nonpositive) Harmonic Polylogarithms
[Remiddi, Vermaseren]

Instead, consider next-to simplest case as our main example.

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Can the $\mathcal{N} = 4$ world help us understand the observed C_2 adjacency?

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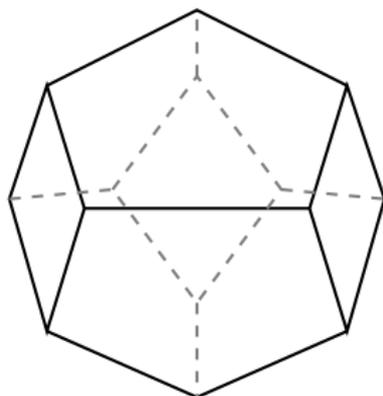
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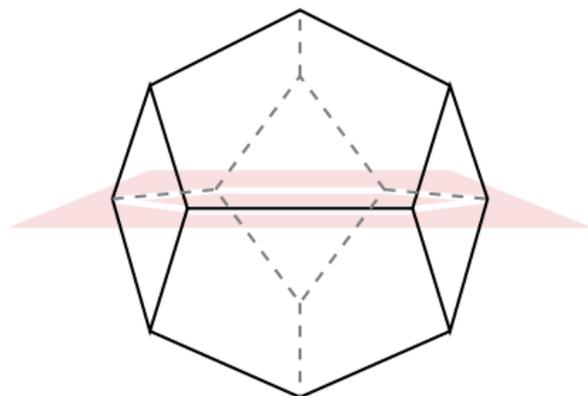
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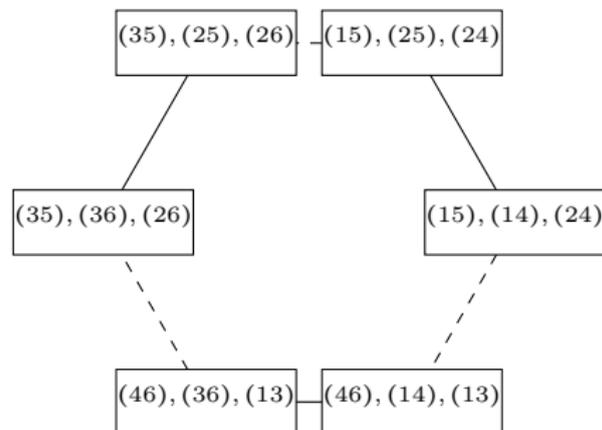
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- ▶ Nevertheless, C_2 is parity (=up-down reflection) invariant surface of A_3 !



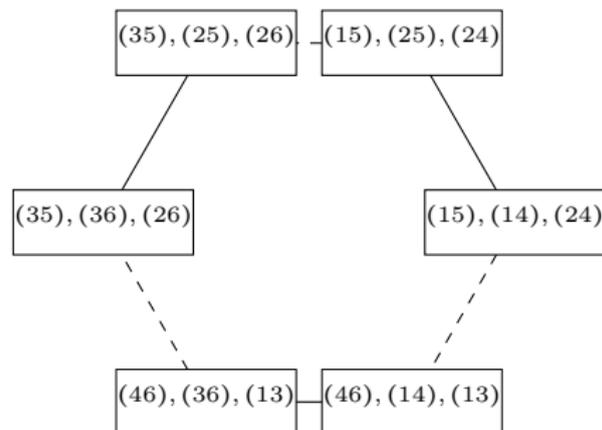
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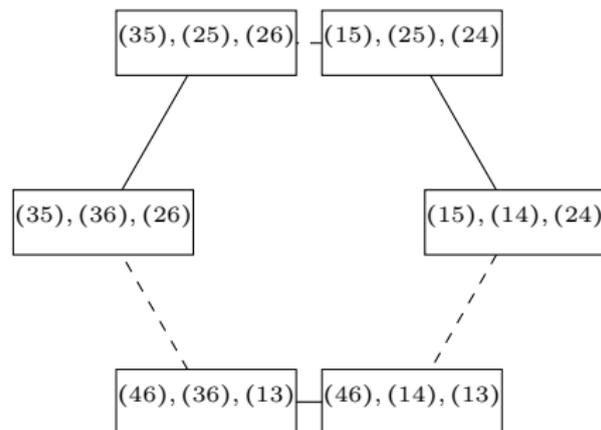


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$$P(ij) = P(i+3, j+3), \text{ e.g. } \{(35), (36), (26)\} \rightarrow \{(36), \sqrt{(26)(35)}\}$$

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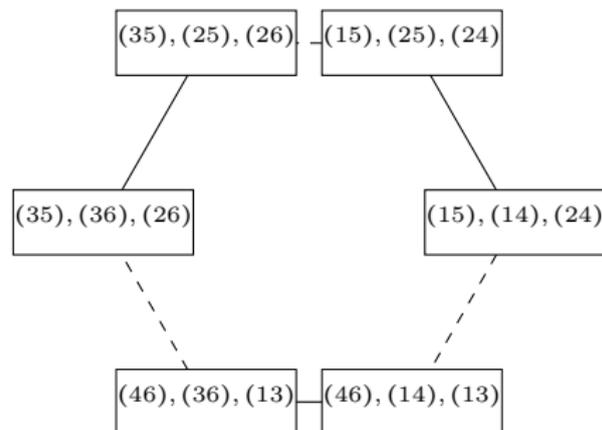
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- ▶ $a_{i-2} \sim (ii+3)$, $a_i \sim \sqrt{(ii+2)(i+1i+3)}$ for i odd, even $\Rightarrow C_2$ coords!

Adjacency Interpretation: Embedding C_2 in A_3 II

Zooming in on A_3 equator:



- ▶ Only P-invariant combinations of A_3 coordinates (ij) needed.

$$P(ij) = P(i+3, j+3), \text{ e.g. } \{(35), (36), (26)\} \rightarrow \{(36), \sqrt{(26)(35)}\}$$

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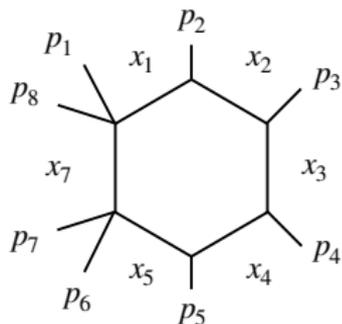
C_2 adjacency = extended Steinmann relations for \mathcal{A}_6 !

Five-particle scattering from $pTr(4, 8)$ I

1. Start from $272+18$ letter $Tr(4, 8)$ alphabet

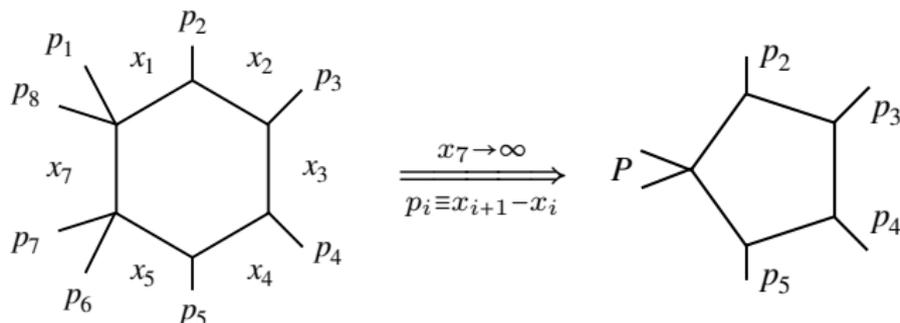
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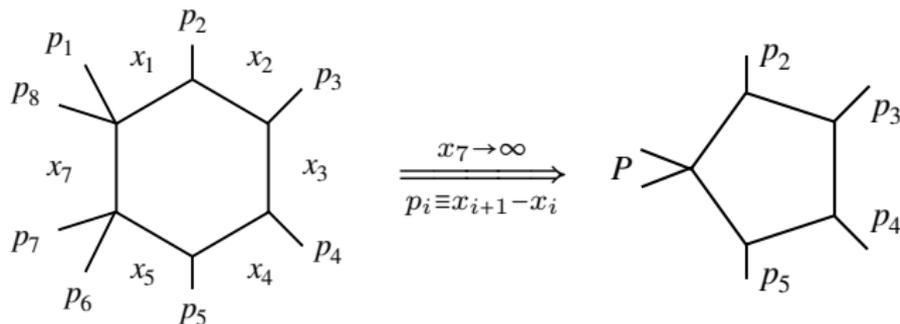


3. Taking $x_7 \rightarrow \infty$, equivalent to 1-mass pentagon kinematics: All letters contained in (57+1)-letter 1-mass 2-loop planar pentagon alphabet!

[Abreu,Ita,Moriello,Page,Tschernow][Canko,Papadopoulos,Syrrakos]

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Specifically, 27 letters of $D = 6$ 2-mass hard hexagon = 1-loop 1-mass pentagon alphabet except $\Delta_3 = \lambda(P^2, s_{23}, s_{45})$, $\Delta_5 = \det(2p_i \cdot p_j)|_{i,j \leq 4}$ + 8 2-loop letters ($\sqrt{\Delta_5}$ rationalized by mom.twistors).

Five-particle scattering from $pTr(4, 8)$ II

4. Taking $P^2 \rightarrow 0$ limit: 22 letters, or 24 after cyclic symmetrization.

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- ▶ Access to Lorentz-invariant 2-mass pentagon or 1-mass hexagon?