

Dualities for amplitudes in $\mathcal{N}=4$ SYM

Paul Heslop

Durham University

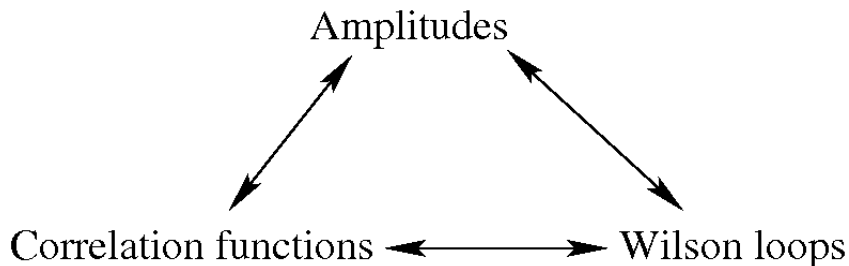
Paris

7th June 2011

based on work with: Khoze (1007.1805)
Eden, Korchemsky, Sokatchev (1103.4353, 1103.3714)
Previous work with: Anastasiou, Brandhuber, Khoze, Spence, Travaglini

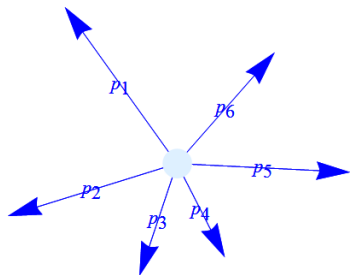
Introduction

- Three objects of interest in $N = 4$ SYM: **Amplitudes** (S-matrix), **Correlation functions of gauge invariant operators**, **Wilson loops**
- **AdS/CFT**: can now consider all at **strong coupling**
- Increasing evidence of a **trianlity** between all three objects in $\mathcal{N}=4$ SYM



Amplitude/Wilson loop duality

[Alday Maldacena 2007, Drummond Korchemsky Sokatchev 2007, Brandhuber Travaglini PH]



planar **MHV** amplitude \mathcal{R}_n
($D = 4 - 2\epsilon$)

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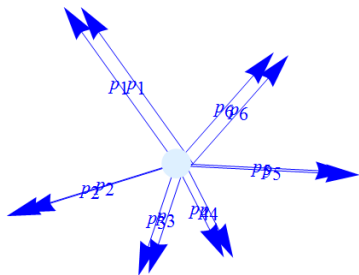
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($D = 4 + 2\epsilon$)

- Wilson loop over the polygonal contour \mathcal{C}_n

vertices, region momenta $p_i = x_{i+1} - x_i$

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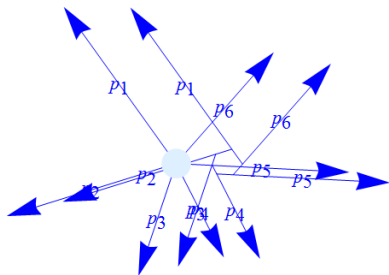
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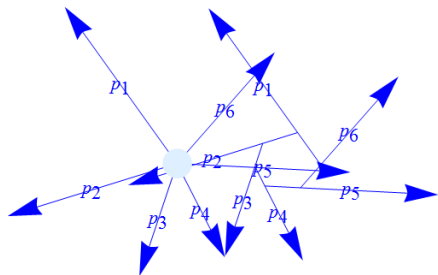
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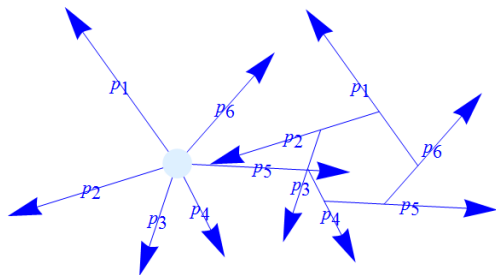
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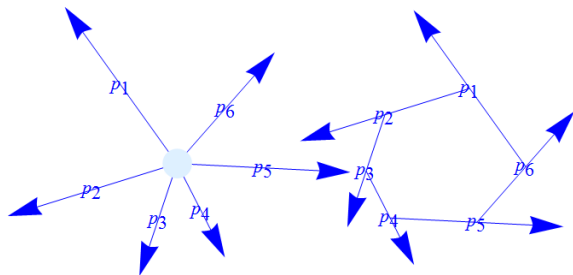
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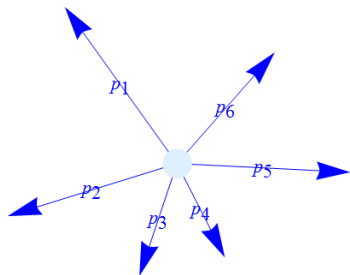
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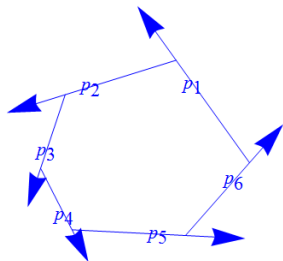
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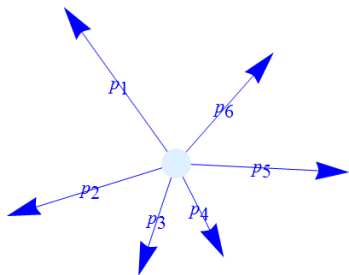
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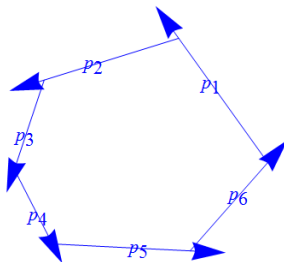
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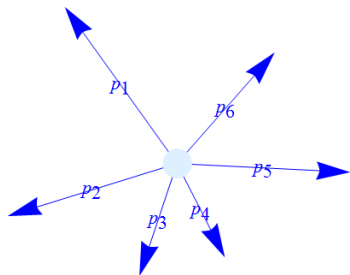
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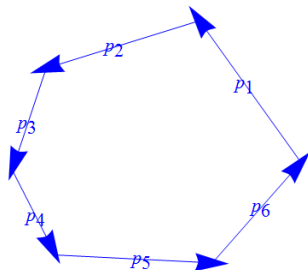
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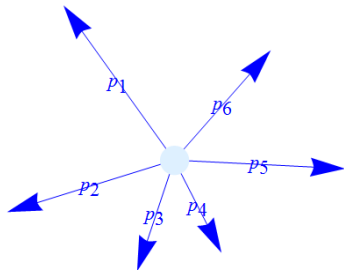
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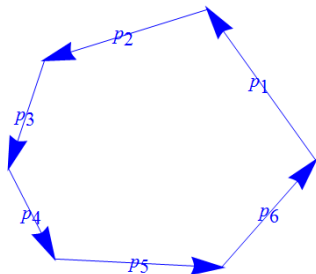
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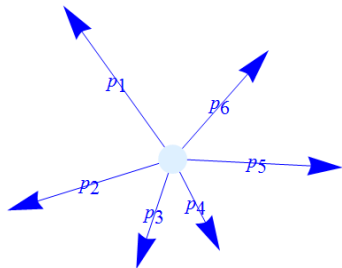
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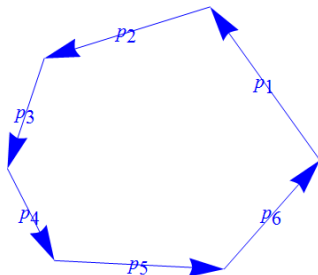
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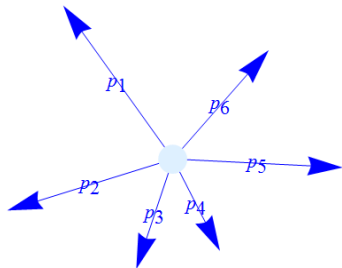
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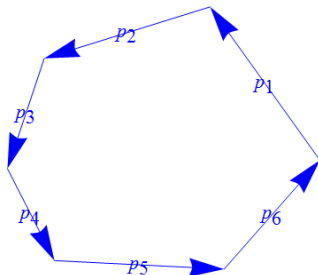
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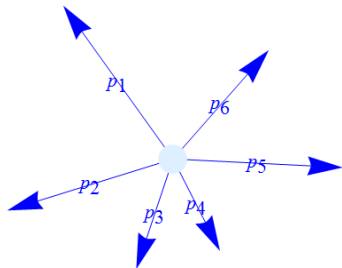
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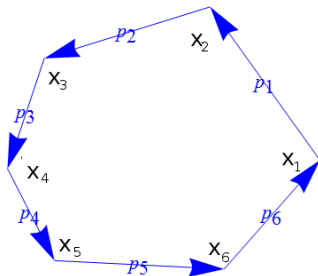
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Evidence for the WL/ MHV amplitude duality

- AdS/CFT: amplitudes = Wilson loops at **strong coupling**
[Alday Maldacena 2007]
- **1 loop** amplitudes = Wilson loops
[Drummond Henn Korchemsky Sokatchev, Brandhuber Travaglini PH]
- **2 loop** amplitudes = Wilson loops 4,5,6 points
[Drummond Henn Korchemsky Sokatchev, Bern Dixon Kosower Roiban Spradlin Vergu Volovich]
- **duality derived and generalised** in twistor space
[Adamo Bullimore Mason Skinner] and Minkowski space [Caron-Huot] at the integrand level.
(Somewhat formal however, leaves several questions unanswered (regularisation issues))

Consequences/uses of the duality

New hidden symmetry of amplitudes

[Drummond Henn Korchemsky Sokatchev, Brandhuber Travaglini PH]

- Wilson loops conformally invariant \rightarrow new hidden symmetry of planar amplitudes **dual conformal symmetry**
- Lead to **many new developments** (momentum twistors, new formulae for amplitude integrands, correlation function duality etc.)

New results for perturbative amplitudes

- dual conformal symmetry \Rightarrow 4,5 point MHV amplitude “trivial” (given by BDS [Bern Dixon Smirnov 2005], to all orders)
- non-trivial from **two-loop six-points**, but
- Wilson loop at two loops yields n -point integrands (**completely different - easier - than the amplitude integrands**)
- Integrals written down and done **numerically**: Numerical algorithm gives two loop MHV amplitudes for any number of points n

[Anastasiou Brandhuber Khoze Spence Travaglini P. H.]

Analytic results: Six points 2 loops Wilson loop/MHV amplitude

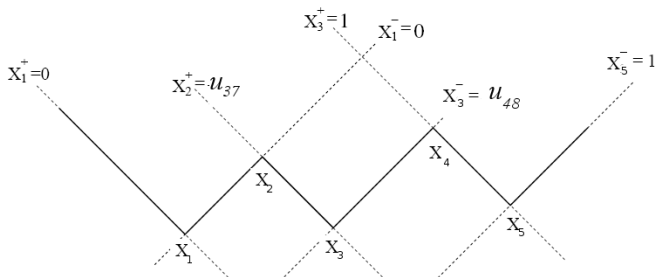
[Del Duca Duhr Smirnov, Goncharov Spradlin Vergu Volovich]

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

2 line result simplified down from 15 pages of Goncharov polylogs using the “**Symbol**” (see talks by **Vittorio del Duca and Claude Duhr**)

Further analytic results: 8 point special kinematics

- The first non-trivial result at strong coupling: Alday and Maldacena considered the **8-point amplitude** at **strong coupling** via string theory
- special kinematics lying in $1 + 1$ dimensions

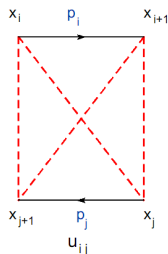


- depends on only two parameters (up to conformal transformations)
- u_{15}, u_{26} with $u_{37} = 1 - u_{15}, u_{48} = 1 - u_{26}$

Weak coupling

- The corresponding weak coupling result was found by [Del Duca Duhr Smirnov]
- It has the amazingly simple form:

$$R_8^{\text{DDS}} = -\frac{1}{2} \log(u_{15}) \log(u_{26}) \log(u_{37}) \log(u_{48}) - \frac{\pi^4}{18} .$$

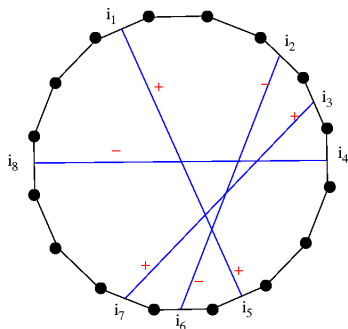


$$u_{ij} = \frac{x_{ij+1}^2 x_{ji+1}^2}{x_{ij}^2 x_{i+1j+1}^2}$$

- Can we generalise this result for higher numbers of points?

2 loops n -point MHV amplitudes in 1+1 kinematics

[Khoze PH]



$$R_n = -\frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_S \log(u_{i_1 i_5}) \log(u_{i_2 i_6}) \log(u_{i_3 i_7}) \log(u_{i_4 i_8}) \right) - \frac{\pi^4}{72} (n-4),$$

$$S = \left\{ i_1, \dots, i_8 : 1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_8 \leq n, \quad i_k - i_{k-1} = \text{odd} \right\}$$

How the result is obtained

Major assumption:

We assume the result is written in terms of $\log(u_{ij})$

- $\mathcal{R}_n(u)$ should satisfy all collinear limits
- For k lines becoming collinear

$$\mathcal{R}_n \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_{n-k+1} + \mathcal{R}_{k+3}$$

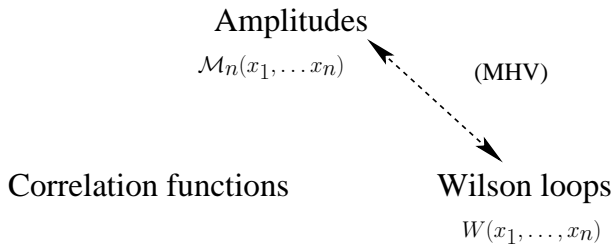
Higher loops

- Satisfies **all** collinear limits - highly non-trivial (only the simplest was used as input, **the other limits remarkably came for free.**)
- **natural higher loop generalisation**
- But it is not present at 8 points
- Thus disagrees with strong coupling (although not by much!)
[Brandhuber Khoze Travaglini PH])
- Confirmed by OPE method [Gaiotto Maldacena Sever Vieira]
- also confirmed by recent n -point 2 loop **symbol** [Caron-Huot]

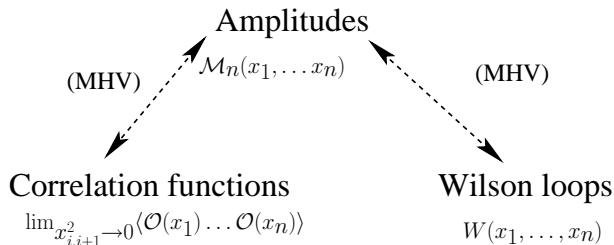
amplitudes versus integrands

- so far focussed on the **amplitude itself**
- analytic results up to two-loop, MHV amplitudes
- Wilson loop gave **completely different integrals** - easier to evaluate
- Other big recent developments involve new expressions for the **integrand** of loop level amplitudes
[Arkani-Hamed Bourjaily Cachazo Trnka + Caron-Huot]
- Goes **much further** (arbitrary helicity, higher loop) but the integrals themselves are **hard to evaluate**
- **Duality/triality** can be expressed in terms of integrands ...

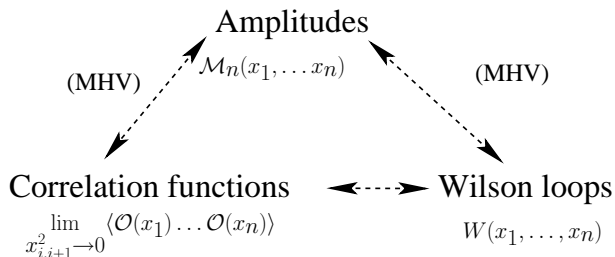
Triality



The story so far...



Last summer, [Eden Korchemsky Sokatchev]. Tests, later integrand identity. Dual conformal symmetry \rightarrow conformal symmetry of correlators



The same day, [Alday Eden Korchemsky Maldacena Sokatchev]. Regularisation:
correlators as regularised Wilson loops/amplitudes?

Correlation function / MHV amplitude duality

- The easiest correlator to test is

$$G_{n;0} := \langle \mathcal{O}(x_1) \tilde{\mathcal{O}}(x_2) \dots \mathcal{O}(x_{n-1}) \tilde{\mathcal{O}}(x_n) \rangle$$

- half BPS, energy momentum supermultiplet
 $\mathcal{O} = \text{Tr}(\phi_{12}\phi_{12}), \quad \tilde{\mathcal{O}} = \text{Tr}(\bar{\phi}^{12}\bar{\phi}^{12})$

conjectured duality

$$\lim_{x_{i,i+1}^2 \rightarrow 0} \left(G_{n;0} / G_{n;0}^{(0)} \right) = \left(A_{n;0} / A_{n;0}^{(0)} \right)^2$$

- Viewed as an integrand identity (everything is then finite, well-defined and rational even in the light-like limit)

Integrands = correlators with Lagrangian insertions

- Loop corrections \Rightarrow Lagrangian insertions.

1 loop correlator

$$G_{n;0}^{(1)} = \int d^4 x_0 \langle \mathcal{L}(x_0) \mathcal{O}(x_1) \dots \mathcal{O}(x_n) \rangle^{(0)}$$

- so the *Born-level* $(n + 1)$ -point correlator with Lagrangian inserted at new point x_0 defines the 1 loop integrand
- l -loops $\Rightarrow l$ Lagrangian insertions

Example 1: 4-points 1 loop

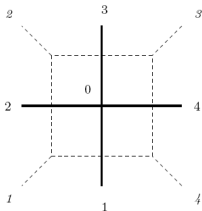
$$G_{4;0}^{(1)}(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) \sim \frac{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2}{x_{12}^2 x_{23}^2 x_{34}^2 x_{41}^2} (1 - u - v) g(1, 2, 3, 4)$$

$$(u = \frac{x_{12}^2 x_{34}^2}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2}, \quad v = \frac{x_{14}^2 x_{23}^2}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2})$$

- light-like limit: $\lim_{x_{i,i+1}^2 \rightarrow 0} \frac{G_{4;0}^{(1)}}{G_{4;0}^{\text{tree}}} = 2x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2 g(1, 2, 3, 4)$

- amplitude: $\frac{A_4^{(1)}}{A_4^{(0)}} = x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2 g(1, 2, 3, 4)$

$$g(1, 2, 3, 4) = \text{1 loop box} = \int d^D x_0 \frac{1}{x_{01}^2 x_{02}^2 x_{03}^2 x_{04}^2} =$$



(Divergent in limit \Rightarrow consider integrand)

- The MHV duality has been further checked at the **integrand** level: [Eden Korchemsky Sokatchev]
- **All n -point 1 loop** (reproduce 2me box functions, but also parity odd part - momentum twistor pentagons found recently by Arkani-Hamed et al)
- **4,5,6 point 2 loop**
- See **Burkhard Eden**'s talk for more details.

beyond MHV: superduality

[Eden Korchemsky Sokatchev PH]

- So far, specific amplitude (MHV) \leftrightarrow specific correlation function
- **How general** is the duality?
- amplitude \rightarrow **super**amplitude
- MHV \rightarrow N^k MHV
- Correlation functions \rightarrow **super**correlation functions

Superspaces: superamplitudes

- Use Nair's $\mathcal{N}=4$ on-shell superspace, all particles \rightarrow superparticle

super-particle

$$\Phi(p, \theta) = G^+(p) + \theta\psi + \theta^2\phi(p) + \theta^3\bar{\psi}(p) + \theta^4G^-(p)$$

- All amplitudes \rightarrow superamplitudes

$$A(x_i) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(x_i, \theta_i)$$

super-amplitude structure

$$\mathcal{A}(x, \theta) = A^{MHV} + \theta^4 A^{NMHV} + \theta^8 A^{NNMHV} + \dots$$

Superspace: correlation functions

Similarly for correlation functions:

energy momentum supermultiplet

$$\mathcal{T}(x, \theta, \bar{\theta}) = \mathcal{O} + \dots + \theta^4 \mathcal{L} + \dots + \bar{\theta}^4 \bar{\mathcal{L}} + \dots + (\theta \sigma^\mu \bar{\theta})(\theta \sigma^\nu \bar{\theta}) T_{\mu\nu} + \dots,$$

- **correlation function of \mathcal{T} s**: θ -expansion organised in powers of $\theta^m \bar{\theta}^n$ with $m - n = 4k$ (non-chiral)
- How can we compare with the amplitude?

- Simply set $\bar{\theta} = 0$. Somewhat unnatural, but...
- then

$$\begin{aligned} G_n &:= \langle \mathcal{I}(1)\mathcal{I}(2)\dots\mathcal{I}(n) \rangle \\ &= G_{n;0} + \theta^4 G_{n;1} + \theta^8 G_{n;2} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

very similar to the amplitude

- Correlation functions have full superconformal symmetry, but \bar{Q} , S is explicitly broken by setting $\bar{\theta} = 0$

Superamplitude/ supercorrelation function duality

We conjecture that (a =t'Hooft coupling)

Superduality

$$\lim_{x_{i+1}^2 \rightarrow 0} \frac{\langle \mathcal{T}(1) \dots \mathcal{T}(n) \rangle}{\langle \mathcal{T}(1) \dots \mathcal{T}(n) \rangle_{n;0}^{\text{tree}}} (x, a^{-1/4} \theta, \bar{\theta} = 0) = \left(\frac{\mathcal{A}_n}{\mathcal{A}_{n;\text{MHV}}^{\text{tree}}} (x, \theta) \right)^2$$

- duality considered at the level of the **integrand...**
- technical difficulty in identifying the superspaces on the two sides solved

Lagrangian insertions are also T-correlators!

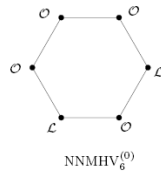
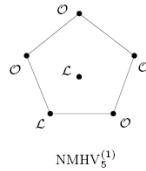
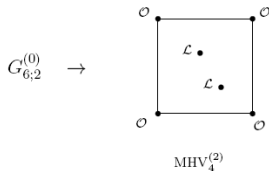
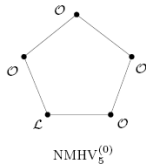
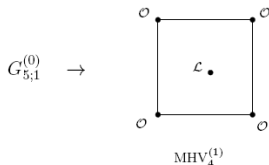
- Defined integrands of loop level correlators via insertion of \mathcal{L}
- But we saw that \mathcal{L} is part of \mathcal{T} (at $O(\theta^4)$!)
- Therefore **integrand of loop level correlators** of \mathcal{T} 's are in fact **Born level correlators** of \mathcal{T} 's

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \mathcal{T}(1) \dots \mathcal{T}(n) \rangle^{(l)} &= \int d^4 x_{0_1} \dots d^4 x_{0_l} \langle \mathcal{L}(0_1) \dots \mathcal{L}(0_l) \mathcal{T}(1) \dots \mathcal{T}(n) \rangle^{(0)} \\ &= \int d\mu_{0_1} \dots d\mu_{0_l} \langle \mathcal{T}(0_1) \dots \mathcal{T}(0_l) \mathcal{T}(1) \dots \mathcal{T}(n) \rangle^{(0)},\end{aligned}$$

- $d\mu := d^4 x d^4 \theta$

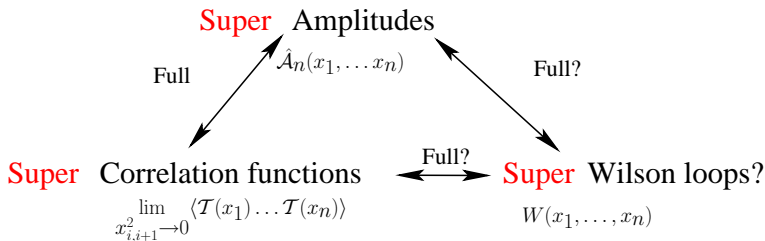
All loop amplitude integrands from Born level correlators

- Putting all these facts together we predict that **all loop amplitude integrands** can be obtained from **Born level correlators**
- Same correlator gives rise to different amplitudes



Further checks beyond MHV

- tree level: all n -point NMHV and 6 point NNMHV
- 1 loop: 5,6 points NMHV
- **6 point 1-loop NMHV integrand** in particular has a highly non-trivial parity odd sector [Arkani-Hamed Bourjaily Cachazo Trnka + Caron-Huot] which is reproduced exactly (shown numerically)



- **Super Wilson loop** on twistor space: [Adamo Bullimore Mason Skinner]
- **Super Wilson loop** on Minkowski space: [Caron-Huot]
- Correlation functions on twistor space \leftrightarrow super Wilson loop on twistor space (finite N_C adjoint rep.) [Adamo Bullimore Mason Skinner]
- However at the moment the super Wilson loop is **formal**, not regularised (even integrands are divergent).
- Only attempt so far to regularise (dim reg) lead to an anomaly [Belitsky Korchemsky Sokatchev]

Questions

- Correlation functions of other operators?
- **Reconstruction** of correlators from amplitudes?
- Traces of x 's versus momentum twistors?
- Implications for AdS/CFT?
- Off-light cone regularisation?
- Relation to **OPE**
- **Form factors**/ operators between states (see **Gang Yang**'s talk)
[Alday Maldacena Zhiboedov, Brandhuber Spence Travaglini Yang, Raju]
- Turning on $\bar{\theta}$? [Caron-Huot]



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Gatherel





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