



Scattering Amplitudes in multi-Regge kinematics in planar N=4 SYM

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- Supersymmetric cousin of $SU(N_c)$ Yang-Mills theory.
- Spectrum:
 - ➡ Gluon (spin 1, 2 pol.)
 - Gluino (spin 1/2, 2 pol., 4 kinds)
 - Scalar (spin 0, 6 kinds)

8 bosonic and 8 fermionic d.o.f.

- Conformal at the quantum level.
- Expected to be dual to string theory on $AdS_5 \times S^5$ via AdS/CFT correspondence.
 - Allows to explore strongly coupled regime.
- Could be looking at the first exactly solvable gauge theory in 4D.
 - ➡ N=4 SYM is the 'hydrogen atom of the 21st centruy'.





- In the planar limit $N_c \rightarrow \infty$ scattering amplitudes in N=4 SYM have additional symmetries.
 - Result of a duality between amplitudes and Wilson loops.



→ Dual conformal symmetry = conformal symmetry in the x_i .

- Closes with ordinary conformal symmetry into an infinitedimensional Yangian symmetry. [Drummond, Henn, Plefka]
- Sign of integrability!?





- Symmetry fixes 4 & 5-point amplitudes completely.
- From 6 points: amplitude determined up to a function of conformally invariant cross ratios ('remainder function').

$$u_{ijkl} = \frac{x_{ik}^2 x_{jl}^2}{x_{ij}^2 x_{kl}^2} \qquad \qquad x_{ij} = x_i - x_j$$

- 6-point remainder function:
 - ➡ MHV (--+++) known through 7 loops.
 - ➡ NMHV (---++) known through 5 loops.
- [Caron-Huot, Del Duca, Dixon, CD, Dulat, Drummond, Goncharov, Henn, von Hippel, McLeod, Smirnov, Spradlin, Pennington, Vergu, Volovich, ...]

- 7-point remainder function:
 - ➡ MHV (---+++) known through 2 loops (+3&4-loop symbol).
- [Golden, Spradlin; Drummond, Papathansiou, Spradlin] Some results at strong and finite coupling.

[Alday, Maldacena; Alday, Gaiotto, Madacena, Sever, Vieira; Basso, Sever, Vieira]





- Mysterious property: 'Maximal transcendentality'
 - An L loop amplitude only contains polylogarithms of 'transcendentality'/weight 2L.

$$\mathcal{A}_{4}^{(1)} \sim \frac{1}{2} \log^{2} \frac{s}{t} + \frac{2\pi^{2}}{3} \qquad G(\underbrace{a_{1}, \dots, a_{n}}_{\text{weight } n}; z) = \int_{0}^{z} \frac{dt}{t - a_{1}} G(a_{2}, \dots, a_{n}; t)$$
$$G(0; z) = \log z \qquad \log(-1) = i\pi$$

- MHV (--++...) amplitudes are 'pure': coefficients in front of polylogarithms are rational numbers (not functions!)
- Currently there is no explanation or proof.
- It is known to hold for very large classes of amplitudes, correlation functions, form factors, anomalous dimension, ...



Multi-Regge kinematics



• Definition of MRK:

 $p_3^+ \gg p_4^+ \gg \dots p_{N-1}^+ \gg p_N^+, \quad |\mathbf{p}_3| \simeq \dots \simeq |\mathbf{p}_N| \quad \mathbf{p}_k = p_k^x + i p_k^y$

- We know all remainder functions in the Euclidean region in MRK:
 - ➡ For all multiplicities and helicity configurations.
 - ➡ For all values of the coupling.





• This is no longer true if we go to other Riemann sheets!



- Origin: Taking the multi-Regge limit does not commute with analytic continuation.
 [Bartels, Lipatov, Sabio-Vera]
 - First $u \to 1$, then $1 u \to e^{2\pi i}(1 u)$:

$$\mathrm{Li}_2(1-u) \to 0 \to 0$$

First $1 - u \rightarrow e^{2\pi i}(1 - u)$, then $u \rightarrow 1$: $\operatorname{Li}_2(1 - u) \rightarrow \operatorname{Li}_2(1 - u) + 2\pi i \log(1 - u) \rightarrow 2\pi i \log 0$





• The remainder is described by a BFKL-type equation.



[Bartels, Lipatov, Sabio-Vera; Lipatov, Prygaryn, Schnitzer; Bartels, Lipatov, Kormilitzin, Prygaryn; Del Duca, Druc, Drummond, CD, Dulat, Marzucca, Papathanasiou, Verbeek]

BFKL eigenvalue (octet)

$$\sim \prod_{j=1,2} \sum_{n_j} \left(\frac{z_j}{\bar{z}_j} \right)^{n_j/2} \int \frac{d\nu_j}{2\pi} |z_j|^{2i\nu_j} \chi_1^{h_3} \tau_1^{\omega_1} C_{12}^{h_4} \tau_2^{\omega_2} \chi_2^{-h_5}$$
Impact factor Central emission vertex
$$\tau_i \sim \frac{s_i}{t_i}, \qquad z_i \sim \text{transverse d.o.f.}$$

Obvious generalisation to higher points.

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- The Fourier-Mellin space story:
 - Integrability and all order results.
- The momentum-space story:
 - ➡ The geometry of multi-Regge kinematics.
- The perturbative story:
 - A complete picture of MRK to all orders.
 - See also Robin's talk!

The Fourier-Mellin space story

Integrability and all order results



Flux tube picture



• The sides of the polygon source a flux tube.



[Alday, Gaiotto, Madacena, Sever, Vieira]

• Can describe the Wilson loop/amplitude via the excitations of the flux tube.

→ The spectrum of excitations is known from integrability.

[Basso]





• In principle: Fully non-perturbative description of amplitudes.



Transition probability $P(\psi_1|\psi_2)$ known from integrability.

In practise: Hard to make it concrete.

- So far only used for low numbers of points to obtain a series expansion around the collinear limit.
- But first results on 6-point amplitude at finite coupling!

[Basso, Sever, Vieira]



MRK vs Flux Tube



• BFKL-type equation very reminiscent of flux tube formula!

BFKL eigenvalue Impact factor & central emission block Spectrum of excitations Transition probability $P(\psi_1|\psi_2)$





$$\sum_{n} \left(\frac{z}{\bar{z}}\right)^{n/2} \int \frac{d\nu}{2\pi} |z|^{2i\nu} \chi_1^{h_3} \tau_1^{\omega_1} \chi_1^{-h_4} \qquad \sum_{\psi} \int d\mu \, P(0|\psi) \, e^{-E\tau + ip + im\phi_1} \, P(\psi|0)$$



MRK vs Flux Tube





- Flux-tube building blocks obtained from integrability for all values of the coupling.
- BFKL building blocks obtained by analytically continuing the flux-tube building blocks.
- In a landmark paper Basso, Caron-Huot and Sever have determined the octet BFKL eigenvalue and impact factors for all values of the coupling!
 - ➡ Sufficient to compute 6-point amplitude to all orders in MRK.



Central emission vertex



• We have recently determined the central emission vertex to all orders in the coupling. [Del Duca, Druc, Drummond, CD, Dulat, Marzucca, Papathanasiou, Verbeek, to appear]

Basic idea:

- Write all-orders ansatz inspired by all order formulas for eigenvalue and impact factor.
- ➡ Match ansatz to available perturbative data through 3 loops.
- Extrapolate beyond 3-loops.
- This conjecturally provides the last missing building block for all order formula for amplitudes in MRK.



Convolutions



• Next step: what happens in momentum space?



$$\sim \prod_{j=1,2} \sum_{n_j} \left(\frac{z_j}{\bar{z}_j}\right)^{n_j/2} \int \frac{d\nu_j}{2\pi} |z_j|^{2i\nu_j} \chi^{h_3} \tau_1^{aE_{\nu_1n_1}} C^{h_4} \tau_2^{aE_{\nu_2n_2}} \chi^{-h_5}$$

$$\sim \sum_{i_1,i_2} \frac{a^{i_1+i_2}}{i_1!i_2!} \log^{i_1} \tau_1 \log^{i_2} \tau_2 g^{(i_1,i_2)}_{h_3h_4h_5}(z_1, z_2)$$
[Bartels, Lipatov, Sabio-Vera; Lipatov, Prygaryn, Schnitzer; Bartels, Lipatov, Kormilitzin, Prygaryn]

• Fourier-Mellin transform: $\mathcal{F}[F(\nu,n)] = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \left(\frac{z}{\overline{z}}\right)^{n/2} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{d\nu}{2\pi} |z|^{2i\nu} F(\nu,n)$

• Which $F(\nu, n)$ can appear?



FM building blocks



 Integrability: In perturbation theory, integrand is a polynomial in multiple zeta values and

$$\begin{split} E(\nu,n) &= -\frac{1}{2} \frac{|n|}{\nu^2 + \frac{n^2}{4}} + \psi \left(1 + i\nu + \frac{|n|}{2} \right) + \psi \left(1 - i\nu + \frac{|n|}{2} \right) - 2\psi(1) \\ F(\nu,n) &= -2\psi(1) + \psi \left(1 + i\nu - \frac{n}{2} \right) + \psi \left(1 - i\nu - \frac{n}{2} \right), \\ V(\nu,n) &= \frac{i\nu}{\nu^2 + \frac{n^2}{4}}, \qquad N(\nu,n) = \frac{n}{\nu^2 + \frac{n^2}{4}}, \qquad D_{\nu}^n \equiv (-i)^n \partial_{\nu}^n, \\ M(\nu_k, n_k, \nu_l, n_l) &= \psi \left(i(\nu_k - \nu_l) - \frac{n_k - n_l}{2} \right) + \psi \left(1 - i(\nu_k - \nu_l) - \frac{n_k - n_l}{2} \right), \end{split}$$

• Example: NLO BFKL eigenvalue

$$E_{\nu,n}^{(1)} = -\frac{1}{4} D_{\nu}^2 E_{\nu,n} + \frac{1}{2} V D_{\nu} E_{\nu,n} - \zeta_2 E_{\nu,n} - 3 \zeta_3$$

$$E_{\nu,n}^{(2)} = \frac{1}{8} \left\{ \frac{1}{6} D_{\nu}^{4} E_{\nu,n} - V D_{\nu}^{3} E_{\nu,n} + (V^{2} + 2\zeta_{2}) D_{\nu}^{2} E_{\nu,n} - V (N^{2} + 8\zeta_{2}) D_{\nu} E_{\nu,n} + \zeta_{3} (4 V^{2} + N^{2}) + 44\zeta_{4} E_{\nu,n} + 16\zeta_{2}\zeta_{3} + 80\zeta_{5} \right\},$$





• Conclusion: We only need to understand how to compute FM transforms that involve products of these building blocks.

• FM transform maps products into convolutions: $\mathcal{F}[F \cdot G] = \mathcal{F}[F] * \mathcal{F}[G] = f * g = \frac{1}{\pi} \int \frac{d^2w}{|w|^2} f(w) g\left(\frac{z}{w}\right)$

• What can we say about these integrals...?

The momentum-space story

The geometry of multi-Regge kinematics



Multi-Regge kinematics



• Non-trivial kinematical dependence in transverse plane.



→ Kinematics encoded into N - 2 points in transverse plane.

- Dual conformal invariance in transverse plane:
 - Functional dependence only on N-5 cross ratios in transverse plane:

$$z_{i} = \frac{(\mathbf{x}_{1} - \mathbf{x}_{i+3}) (\mathbf{x}_{i+2} - \mathbf{x}_{i+1})}{(\mathbf{x}_{1} - \mathbf{x}_{i+1}) (\mathbf{x}_{i+2} - \mathbf{x}_{i+3})}$$



The moduli space $\mathfrak{M}_{0,n}$



- $\mathfrak{M}_{0,n}$ = moduli space space of Riemann spheres with *n* marked points.
 - = space of configurations of *n* points on the Riemann sphere.



• For $n = N - 2 : \mathfrak{M}_{0,N-2}$ is 'phase space' of MRK.



- Fix 3 points to $0, 1, \infty$.
- $ightarrow \dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathfrak{M}_{0,n} = n 3$
- Coordinates are collection of n 3 = N 5cross ratios $(\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_{i+3}) (\mathbf{x}_{i+2} - \mathbf{x}_{i+1})$

$$z_{i} = \frac{(\mathbf{x}_{1} - \mathbf{x}_{i+3}) (\mathbf{x}_{i+2} - \mathbf{x}_{i+1})}{(\mathbf{x}_{1} - \mathbf{x}_{i+1}) (\mathbf{x}_{i+2} - \mathbf{x}_{i+3})}$$



The moduli space $\mathfrak{M}_{0,n}$



- Fix three points to $0, 1, \infty$.
- $\mathfrak{M}_{0,4}$ = complex plane with the points $0, 1, \infty$ removed.





- Singularities: 'Degenerate' configurations of points.
 - = 2 points become equal.
 - ➡ Physically: momentum is soft.
 - Physically: momentum is soft. **x**₆ What are 'natural integrals' on this space?
 - \rightarrow Should have singularities at most when $\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{x}_j$.
 - All iterated integrals on $\mathfrak{M}_{0,n}$ can be written in terms of polylogarithms. [Brown] \

$$G(a_1, \dots, a_n; z) = \int_0^z \frac{dt}{t - a_1} G(a_2, \dots, a_n; t) \qquad \begin{array}{l} G(a_1; z) = \log\left(1 - \frac{z}{a_1}\right) \\ G(0, 1; z) = -\text{Li}_2(z) \end{array}$$

- Consequence: Amplitudes in MRK can be written in terms of polylogarithms.
 - Must have branch cuts dictated by unitarity!



Hopf algebras



- The geometry of $\mathfrak{M}_{0,n}$ and polylogarithms are well studied in modern mathematics.
- Polylogarithms form a Hopf algebra. [Goncharov; Brown]
 - Algebra: Vector space with an operation that allows one to 'fuse' two elements into one (multiplication).
 - → Coalgebra: Vector space with an operation that allows one to break one element apart (coproduct Δ).
 - A Hopf algebra is
 - ➡ at the same time an algebra & a coalgebra
 - such that the product and coproduct are compatible

 $\Delta(a \cdot b) = \Delta(a) \cdot \Delta(b)$

together with an antipode, a linear map S such that $m(S \otimes id)\Delta(x) = 0$, if $x \notin \mathbb{Q}$







• Polylogarithms form a Hopf algebra. [Goncharov; Brown]

 $\Delta(G(1;z)) = G(1;z) \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes G(1;z) \qquad \qquad G(1;z) = \log(1-z)$

 $\Delta(G(0,1;z)) = G(0,1;z) \otimes 1 + G(1;z) \otimes G(0;z) + 1 \otimes G(0,1;z)$

- Meaning of the two entries: discontinuities and derivatives. $\Delta Disc = (Disc \otimes id)\Delta \qquad \Delta \partial_z = (id \otimes \partial_z)\Delta$
- Example: $G(0, 1; z) = -\text{Li}_2(z)$
 - → G(0,1;z) has a branch cut starting at $z = 1 \dots$
 - ... but not at z = 0.

Polylogarithms & Amplitudes



- Branch cuts are dictated by unitarity:
 - Coproduct of amplitudes must 'know' about unitarity.
- Optical theorem: branch cuts can only start at $x_{ij}^2 = (x_i x_j)^2 = 0$.
- Consequence: Logarithms that appear in first factor of coproduct are highly constrained!
 - $\Delta(\mathcal{A}) \sim \log x_{ij}^2 \otimes \dots \qquad \Delta \text{Disc} = (\text{Disc} \otimes \text{id})\Delta$
- Consequence for MRK:

$$\Delta(\mathcal{A}^{MRK}) \sim \log |\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j|^2 \otimes \dots \implies \text{Single-valued function!}$$

• Conclusion:

N-point scattering amplitudes in planar N=4 SYM in MRK are single-valued iterated integrals on $\mathfrak{M}_{0,N-2}$.





- Single-valued polylogarithms = combinations of polylogarithms and their complex conjugates such that all branch cuts cancel.
- One way to construct them: A map s that assigns to each polylogarithm its single-valued version:

$$\mathbf{s}=\mu(ilde{S}\otimes\mathrm{id})\Delta$$
 [cf. Bro

[cf. Brown for MZV case]

 $\mu = \text{ multiplication}$ $\tilde{S} = \begin{array}{l} \text{Complex conjugate of the} \\ \Delta = \text{coproduct} \end{array}$ $\tilde{S} = \begin{array}{l} \text{Complex conjugate of the} \\ \text{antipode (up to a sign)} \end{array}$

• Examples:

$$\mathcal{G}_{a}(z) = \mathbf{s}(G(a;z)) = G(a;z) + G(\bar{a};\bar{z}) = \log\left|1 - \frac{z}{a}\right|^{2}$$

$$\mathcal{G}_{a,b}(z) = \mathbf{s}(G(a,b;z)) = G(a,b;z) + G(\bar{b},\bar{a};\bar{z}) + G(b;a) G(\bar{a};\bar{z}) + G(\bar{b};\bar{a}) G(\bar{a};\bar{z}) - G(a;b) G(\bar{b};\bar{z}) + G(a;z) G(\bar{b};\bar{z}) - G(\bar{a};\bar{b}) G(\bar{b};\bar{z})$$



Single-valued functions



- Preserves multiplication: $\mathbf{s}(a \cdot b) = \mathbf{s}(a) \cdot \mathbf{s}(b)$
- Preserves relations among polylogarithms.
- Commutes with holomorphic differentiation: $\partial_z \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{s} \partial_z$
- Antipode corresponds to complex conjugation: s̄ = s S̃
 → Example:

 $\mathcal{G}(\bar{a}, \bar{b}; \bar{z}) = \bar{\mathbf{s}}(G(a, b; z)) = \mathcal{G}(b, a; z) + \mathcal{G}(b; a) \mathcal{G}(a; z) - \mathcal{G}(a; b) \mathcal{G}(b; z)$

Does not commute with anti-holomorphic differentiation:
 Example:

$$\bar{\partial}_z \mathcal{G}(a,b;z) = \frac{1}{\bar{z} - \bar{a}} \mathcal{G}(b;a) + \frac{1}{\bar{z} - \bar{b}} (\mathcal{G}(a;z) - \mathcal{G}(a;b))$$

The perturbative story

A complete picture of MRK to all orders



Single-valued functions



• The theory of single-valued polylogarithms almost trivialises the computation of the convolution integrals.

Main idea:

Recursive structure in the loop order (for fixed log accuracy).

$$\mathcal{F}[\chi_{\nu n}^{+} E_{\nu n}^{\ell+1} \chi_{\nu n}^{-}] = \mathcal{F}[\chi_{\nu n}^{+} E_{\nu n}^{\ell} \chi_{\nu n}^{-}] * \mathcal{F}[E_{\nu n}]$$

$$\mathcal{F}[E_{\nu n}] = -\frac{z+\bar{z}}{2|1-z|^2}$$

- Convolution integral is a simple residue computation.
- ➡ See Robin's talk!
- Here: Focus on general consequences.



Factorisation



• Consequence 1: Convolutions imply a factorisation theorem!



numbers of legs.





- Consequence: At *L* loops an MHV amplitudes in MRK is determined by amplitudes with at most L + 4 external legs.
- Two loops, LLA: Reduces to known factorisation:

 $\mathcal{R}_{+...+}^{(2)} = \sum_{1 \le i \le N-5} \log \tau_i \, g_{++}^{(1)}(\rho_i) \quad \text{[Prygarin, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich; Bartels, Prygarin, Lipatov]}$

• Three loops, LLA:

$$\mathcal{R}_{+\ldots+}^{(3)} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{1 \le i \le N-5} \log^2 \tau_i \, g_{++}^{(2)}(\rho_i) + \sum_{1 \le i < j \le N-5} \log \tau_i \, \log \tau_j \, g_{+++}^{(1,1)}(\rho_i,\rho_j) \, .$$



• Factorisation theorem still holds for non-MHV amplitudes.



Unlike MHV: infinite number building blocks per loop.
Example:

$$\mathcal{R}_{-+\dots}^{(2)} = \log \tau_1 g_{-+}^{(1)}(\rho_1) + \sum_{j=2}^{N-5} \log \tau_j g_{-++}^{(0,1)}(\rho_1, \rho_j)$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{+-+\dots}^{(2)} = \log \tau_1 g_{+-+}^{(1,0)}(\rho_1, \rho_2) + \log \tau_2 g_{+-+}^{(0,1)}(\rho_1, \rho_2) + \sum_{j=3}^{N-5} \log \tau_j g_{+-++}^{(0,0,1)}(\rho_1, \rho_2, \rho_j)$$



Helicity flips



• Consequence 2: Non-MHV amplitudes from MHV ones.



• Helicity flip kernel: $\mathcal{F}[\chi^-/\chi^+] = -\frac{z}{(1-z)^2}$

• Helicity flips on central emission block are similar.



Transcendentality



- Consequence 3: Complete characterisation of the function space.
- Integrability: In perturbation theory, integrand is a polynomial of milfiple zetagladues and

$$E_{\nu n} N(\nu, n) V(\nu, n) M(\nu_1, n_1, \nu_2, n_2) F(\nu, n) D_{\nu}$$
 weight 1

• Example: NLO BFKL eigenvalue

$$E_{\nu,n}^{(1)} = -\frac{1}{4} D_{\nu}^{2} E_{\nu,n} + \frac{1}{2} V D_{\nu} E_{\nu,n} - \zeta_{2} E_{\nu,n} - 3 \zeta_{3}$$
weight 3

$$E_{\nu,n}^{(2)} = \frac{1}{8} \left\{ \frac{1}{6} D_{\nu}^{4} E_{\nu,n} - V D_{\nu}^{3} E_{\nu,n} + (V^{2} + 2\zeta_{2}) D_{\nu}^{2} E_{\nu,n} - V (N^{2} + 8\zeta_{2}) D_{\nu} E_{\nu,n} + \zeta_{3} (4 V^{2} + N^{2}) + 44\zeta_{4} E_{\nu,n} + 16\zeta_{2}\zeta_{3} + 80\zeta_{5} \right\},$$
weight 5





- Theorem: If $\mathcal{A}(z)$ is a pure combination of SVMPLs of uniform weight n, then $\mathcal{A}(z) * \mathcal{F}[X]$, with $X \in \{E, V, N, M, F, D\}$, is a pure combination of SVMPLs of uniform weight n + 1.
- All two-loop MHV amplitudes in MRK are known, e.g., at LLA:

 $\mathcal{R}_{+...+}^{(2)} = \sum_{1 \le i \le N-5} \log \tau_i \, g_{++}^{(1)}(\rho_i) \quad \text{[Prygarin, Spradlin, Vergu, Volovich; Bartels, Prygarin, Lipatov]}$

[NLLA: Bargheer, Papathanasiou, Schomerus; Del Duca, Druc, Drummond, CD, Dulat, Marzucca, Papathanasiou, Verbeek; Del Duca, CD, Dulat, Penante]

They are all pure functions of uniform weight!

• We can recursively characterise the function space to all orders.



Transcendentality



Theorem: All amplitudes in MRK in planar N=4 SYM are combinations of uniform weight of SVMPLs, (single-valued) multi zeta values and powers of $2\pi i$. In addition:

- MHV amplitudes are pure functions (no rational prefactors).
- Non-MHV amplitudes are not pure.

[Del Duca, Druc, Drummond, CD, Dulat, Marzucca, Papathanasiou, Verbeek, to appear]

• Why are MHV amplitudes not pure?

$$\mathcal{F}\left[\chi^{-}/\chi^{+}\right] * \mathcal{F}\left[\chi^{+}\tau_{1}^{aE}C^{+}\tau_{2}^{aE}\chi^{-}\right] \qquad \mathcal{F}\left[\chi^{-}/\chi^{+}\right] = -\frac{z}{(1-z)^{2}}$$

Requires residues at double pole ~ derivative





- We have a solution of scattering amplitudes of planar N=4 SYM in MRK in this Mandelstam region to all orders in the coupling.
 - (Conjectural) all-order formula for BFKL eigenvalue, impact factor & central emission vertex.
 - Geometric picture of the kinematics.
 - Algorithmic way of doing all Fourier-Melling integrals
- Applications: (see Robin's talk)
 - ➡ Explicit results.
 - ➡ Complete description of MRK function space.