

Analytic Bootstrap for Holographic Correlators

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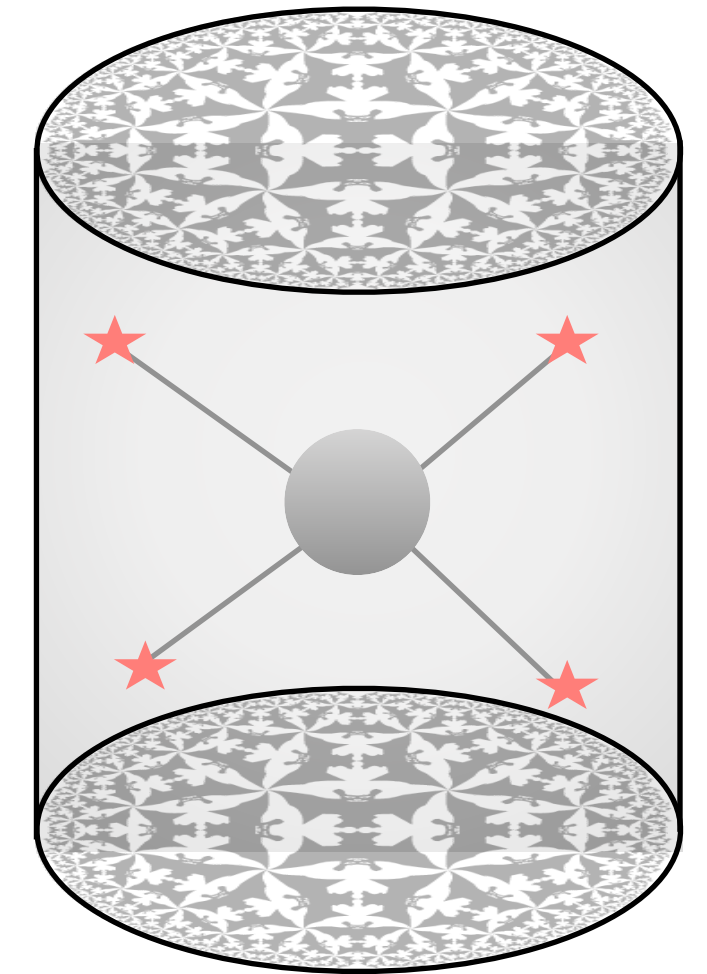
University of Chinese Academy of Sciences

Review Talk at Bootstrap, Localization and Holography

Yukawa Institute for Theoretical Physics, May 20, 2024

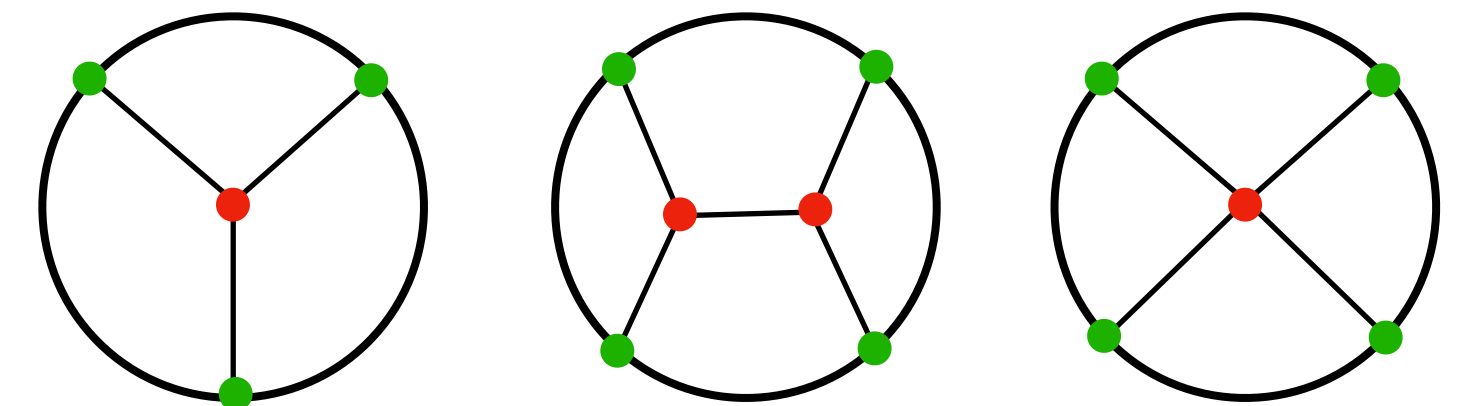
Motivations

- Holographic correlators are the most basic observables of AdS/CFT
 - Boundary: encode all the CFT data.
 - Bulk: correspond to on-shell scattering amplitudes in curved backgrounds.
 - Important objects for analytically studying strong coupling and allow us to perform precision tests of AdS/CFT.



- The study of holographic correlators has a long history and dates back to the beginning of AdS/CFT

- Witten diagrams ('98) [[Witten](#)]
- 3pt functions ('98) [[Freedman, Mathur, Matusis, Rastelli; Lee, Minwalla, Rangamani, Seiberg...](#)]



- First 4pt function for axion-dilatons ('99) [[D'Hoker, Freedman, Mathur, Matusis, Rastelli](#)]

Motivations

- However, going beyond turned out to be very difficult. The diagrammatic calculation of holographic correlators is notoriously complicated even at **leading order** in $1/N$ and for **4 pts**

- Curved backgrounds
- Infinitely many particles from KK reduction
- Very complicated vertices (15 pages!)

- Only a handful of explicit results after decades of hard work [Arutyunov, Frolov, Dolan, Osborn Sokatchev, Berdichevsky Naaijken, Uruchurtu...]



Cubic and quartic vertices of IIB SUGRA on $AdS_5 \times S^5$

[Arutyunov, Frolov]

- What are the principles that determine these vertices? Is there any underlying simplicity in holographic correlators?

Motivations

- Now we know that a more efficient approach is **bootstrap**
 - Inspired by both the **conformal bootstrap** and the **scattering amplitude program** in flat space
 - The idea: focus not on off-shell vertices but directly on “on-shell” correlators and compute them by imposing **symmetries** and **consistency conditions**.
 - An early version of these ideas appeared in a paper from 2006 [**Dolan, Nirschl, Osborn**].

Conjectures for Large N $\mathcal{N} = 4$ Superconformal Chiral Primary Four Point Functions

F.A. Dolan, M. Nirschl and H. Osborn[†]

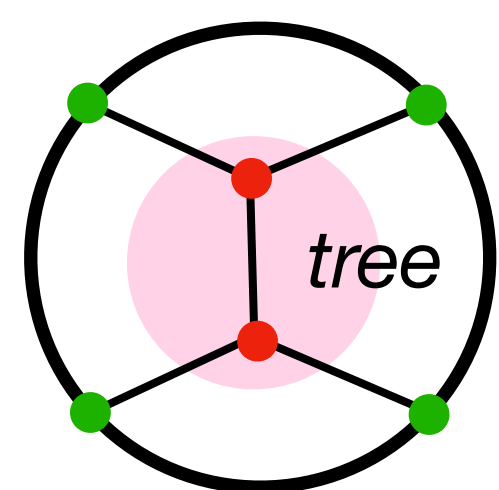
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An expression for the four point function for $\frac{1}{2}$ -BPS operators belonging to the $[0, p, 0]$ $SU(4)$ representation in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ superconformal theories at strong coupling in the large N limit is suggested for any p . It is expressed in terms of the four point integrals defined by integration over AdS_5 and agrees with, and was motivated by, results for $p = 2, 3, 4$ obtained via the AdS/CFT correspondence. **Using crossing symmetry and unitarity**, the detailed form is dictated by the requirement that at large N the contribution of long multiplets with twist less than $2p$, which do not have anomalous dimensions, should cancel corresponding free field contributions.

- A modern program of analytic bootstrap for holographic correlators was developed more recently.

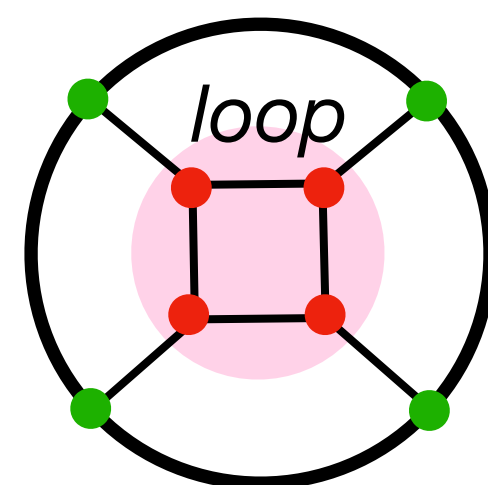
In this talk, I will survey some of the progress in studying holographic correlators.

Holographic correlators



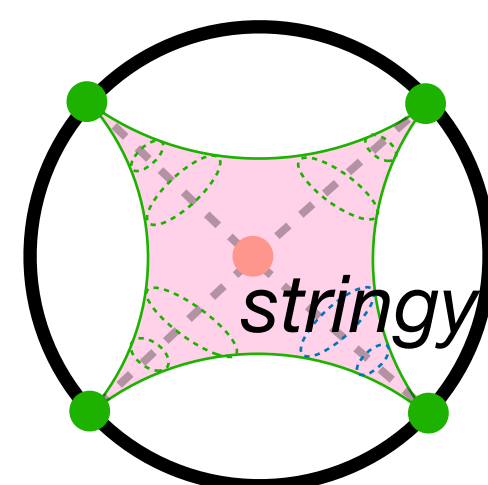
tree level

(best understood)



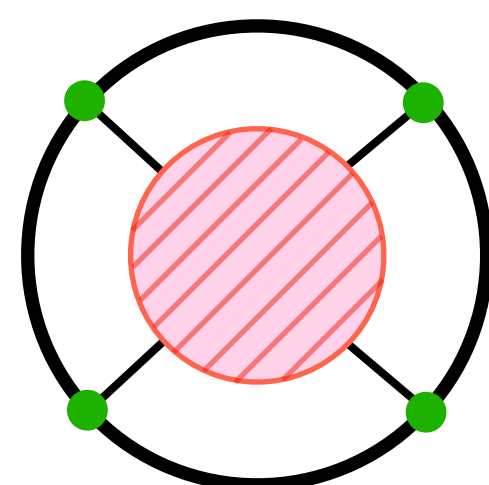
loop level

(1&2 loops)

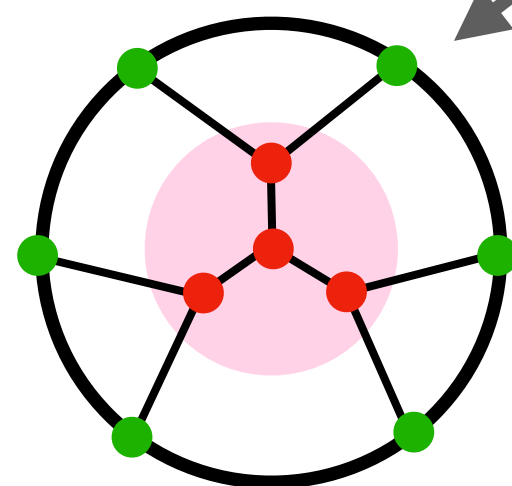


higher- d and string
amplitudes

*[cf talks by Dorigoni, Ferrero,
Hansen, Heslop, Nocchi]*

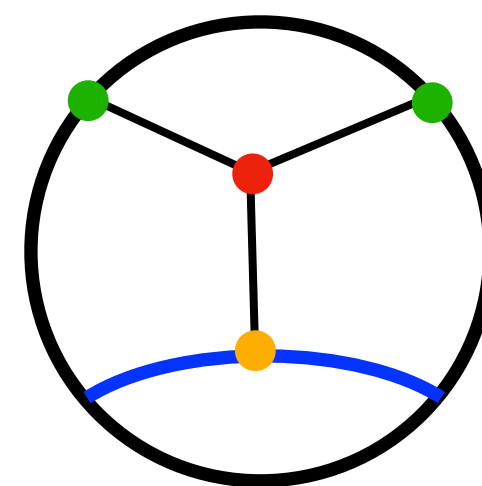


4pt functions



higher-pt functions

(only tree level)



defect correlators

(very preliminary)

Techniques used

- Position space
- Mellin space
- Momentum space
- Lorentzian inversion formula
- Localization
- Flat-space limit
- Unitarity
- Factorization
- Worldsheet
- Hidden symmetries
- ...

Testing ground

- *IIB string theory on $AdS_5 \times S^5$ dual to 4d $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM*

- Corresponds to **supergraviton** scattering
- Simple solution to superconformal Ward identities
- Spectrum leads to simple analytic structure at tree level
- Supersymmetric localization & integrability

} The simplest **maximally superconformal** theory

- *$\mathcal{N} = 1$ SYM on $AdS_5 \times S^3$*

- A subsector of 4d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SCFTs constructed from D3 branes with probe D7 branes (or probing F-theory singularities) [**Aharony, Fayyazuddin, Maldacena; Karch, Katz**]
- Corresponds to **supergluon** scattering
- The simplest among theories with **half maximal susy**
- Localization is also possible in some realizations

Although many results for many other theories!

Outline

- **Four-pt functions (position space)**
- **Four-pt functions (Mellin space)**
- **Higher-pt functions**
- **Hidden symmetries**
- **Stringy corrections**
- **Defect correlators**
- **Outlook**

4pt functions (position space)

- Are the 15 pages of SUGRA vertices arbitrary? No, they are fixed by **superconformal symmetry!**
- A concrete way to efficiently implement this is the **“position space method”** [Rastelli, XZ].
- The starting point is an ansatz which is the linear combination of all possible Witten diagrams

$$\mathcal{A} = \sum \lambda_x^{(s)} \text{Diagram } x + \lambda_y^{(t)} \text{Diagram } y + \lambda_{\mathcal{F}}^{(u)} \text{Diagram } \mathcal{F} + \lambda_c \text{Diagram } c$$

- Determined by selection rules from consistency conditions (R-symmetry,)
- $\lambda_x^{(s)}, \lambda_y^{(t)}, \lambda_{\mathcal{F}}^{(u)}$ are R-symmetry polynomials for exchanged R-symmetry irreps with unfixed overall coefficients.
- λ_c includes all R-symmetry structures and at most two derivatives can appear in the contact part.

4pt functions (position space)

- The next step is to evaluate all the Witten diagrams in the ansatz
 - For certain “nice” spectra, exchange Witten diagrams can be written as **finite** sums of contact Witten diagrams [D’Hoker, Freedman, Rastelli]

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{Exchange Witten diagram} = \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{\Delta_1 + \Delta_2 - \Delta}{2}} a_k x_{12}^{-2k} \text{D-functions} \\
 & \text{if } \Delta_1 + \Delta_2 - \Delta \in 2\mathbb{Z}_+ \\
 & \text{(more generally: } \Delta_1 + \Delta_2 - \Delta + \ell \in 2\mathbb{Z}_+)
 \end{aligned}$$

- Different D-functions are related by **differential recursion relations**

$$D_{\Delta_1 \dots \Delta_{i+1} \dots \Delta_{j+1} \dots \Delta_n} = \frac{d - \Sigma}{2\Delta_i \Delta_j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{ij}^2} D_{\Delta_1 \dots \Delta_i \dots \Delta_j \dots \Delta_n}$$

$\Sigma = \Delta_1 + \dots + \Delta_n$
 (Consistency conditions are related to the Yangian symmetry [Rigatos, XZ])

$$D_{1111} = \frac{\Phi(z, \bar{z})}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2} \propto \text{[Diagram]} \quad \Phi(z, \bar{z}) = \frac{1}{(z - \bar{z})} \left(2\text{Li}_2(z) - 2\text{Li}_2(\bar{z}) + \log(z\bar{z}) \log\left(\frac{1-z}{1-\bar{z}}\right) \right)$$

[Usykina, Davydychev]

4pt functions (position space)

- The box diagram satisfies

$$\partial_z \Phi(z, \bar{z}) = -\frac{1}{z - \bar{z}} \Phi(z, \bar{z}) + \frac{1}{(z-1)(z-\bar{z})} \log U - \frac{1}{z(z-\bar{z})} \log V$$

$$\partial_{\bar{z}} \Phi(z, \bar{z}) = \frac{1}{z - \bar{z}} \Phi(z, \bar{z}) - \frac{1}{(\bar{z}-1)(z-\bar{z})} \log U + \frac{1}{z(z-\bar{z})} \log V$$

- Then clearly $\{\Phi, \log U, \log V, 1\}$ form a **basis**, on which we can decompose the ansatz

$$\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_\Phi \Phi(z, \bar{z}) + \mathcal{A}_{\log U} \log U + \mathcal{A}_{\log V} \log V + \mathcal{A}_1$$

The coefficients are **rational** functions.

- Finally, we impose the **superconformal Ward identity** [Nirschl, Osborn]

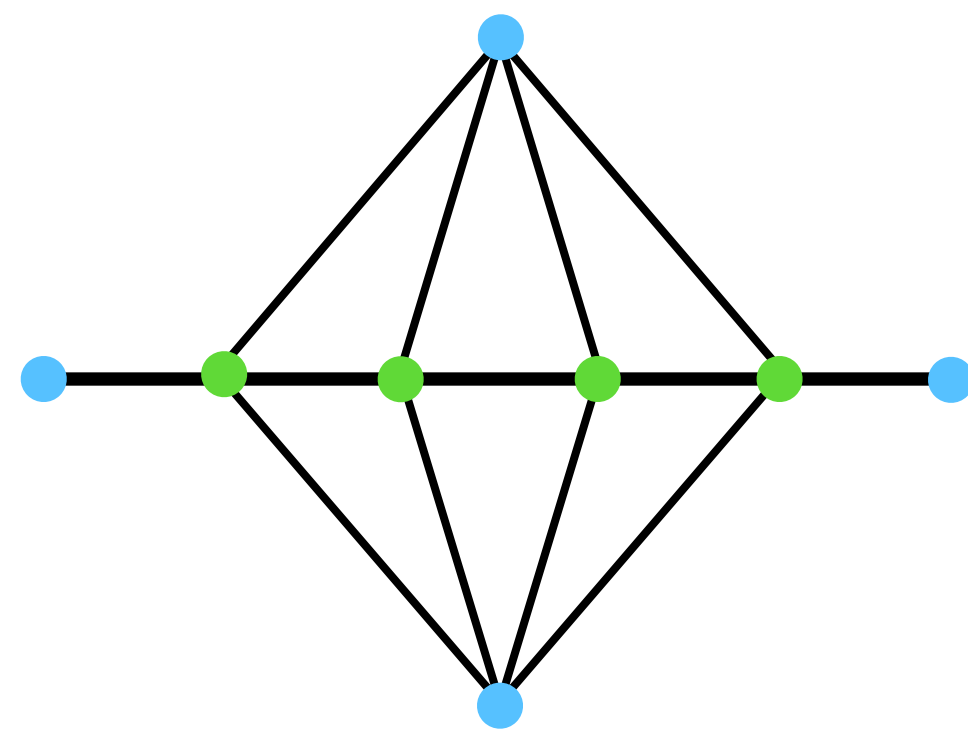
$$(z\partial_z - \alpha\partial_\alpha) \mathcal{A}(z, \bar{z}; \alpha, \bar{\alpha}) \Big|_{\alpha=1/z} = 0$$

This fixes all the unknown coefficients in the ansatz up to an overall factor.

4pt functions (position space)

- A useful lesson from tree-level bootstrap: holographic correlators in position space can be decomposed into a **basis** of building block functions.
- What are the basis functions at loop level? These are the **ladder integrals** [Aprile, Drummond, Heslop, Paul]

Also cf talk by Yuan



$$\Phi^{(l)} = -\frac{1}{z - \bar{z}} \phi^{(l)} \left(\frac{z}{z-1}, \frac{\bar{z}}{\bar{z}-1} \right)$$

$$\phi^{(l)} = \sum_{r=0}^l (-1)^r \frac{(2l-r)!}{r!(l-r)!l!} \log^r(z\bar{z}) \left(\text{Li}_{2l-r}(z) - \text{Li}_{2l-r}(\bar{z}) \right)$$

- This allows us to extend the position space method to higher genus.
- Make an ansatz in terms of the basis functions with rational coefficients. At one loop, the highest transcendental weight is 4 [Aprile, Drummond, Heslop, Paul].

4pt functions (position space)

- Fix the unknowns in the ansatz by imposing **physical conditions** (focusing on $\langle 2222 \rangle$)
 - Leading logarithmic singularities (double-discontinuity [Caron-Huot])

$$\text{Diagram with 4 legs labeled 2 and 4 internal red vertices} = \sum_p \left[\text{Diagram with 2 legs labeled 2 and 2 labeled p} \times \text{Diagram with 2 legs labeled p and 2 labeled 2} \right]$$

AdS unitarity method [Aharony, Alday, Bissi, Perlmutter]

$$g_{\Delta,\ell} = U^{\tau/2} (f_0(V) + f_1(V)U + \dots) \supset \frac{\gamma}{2} \log U g_{\Delta,\ell}$$

γ : anomalous dimension

Different orders of $1/c$, maximal powers of $\log U$:

Disconnected: $\mathcal{H}^{(0)}|_{\text{long}} = \sum_{n,\ell} \langle a_{n,\ell}^{(0)} \rangle g_{\Delta_{m,\ell},\ell}$

Tree ($\log U$): $\mathcal{H}^{(1)}|_{\log U} = \sum_{n,\ell} \frac{1}{2} \langle a_{n,\ell}^{(0)} \gamma_{n,\ell}^{(1)} \rangle g_{\Delta_{m,\ell},\ell}$

1-loop ($\log^2 U$): $\mathcal{H}^{(2)}|_{\log^2 U} = \sum_{n,\ell} \frac{1}{8} \langle a_{n,\ell}^{(0)} (\gamma_{n,\ell}^{(1)})^2 \rangle g_{\Delta_{m,\ell},\ell}$

In the SUGRA limit, all long operators are **double-particle** operators.

(For trace v.s. particle, see [Arutyunov, Frolov; Aprile, Drummond, Heslop, Pual; Alday, XZ])

At one loop, only data from **tree level** and **disconnected level** are needed.

4pt functions (position space)

- ▶ A complication is **operator mixing**

$$: \mathcal{O}_2 \square^n \partial^\ell \mathcal{O}_2 : \quad : \mathcal{O}_3 \square^{n-1} \partial^\ell \mathcal{O}_3 : \quad : \mathcal{O}_4 \square^{n-2} \partial^\ell \mathcal{O}_4 : \quad : \mathcal{O}_5 \square^{n-3} \partial^\ell \mathcal{O}_5 : \dots$$

- ▶ So the coefficients do not correspond to a particular operator.
- ▶ But we can still unmix the data by considering correlators of different KK modes [[Alday, Bissi; Aprile, Drummond, Heslop, Paul](#)].
- ▶ Studying the unmixing problem leads to interesting results
 - ▶ Surprisingly simple rational anomalous dimensions [[Aprile, Drummond, Heslop, Paul](#)]

$$\Delta_{pq} = \tau + \ell - \frac{2}{N^2} \frac{2M_t^{(4)} M_{t+\ell+1}^{(4)}}{(\ell + 2p - 2 - a - \frac{1 + (-1)^{a+\ell}}{2})_6} \quad M_t^{(4)} = (t-1)(t+a)(t+a+b+1)(t+2a+b+2)$$

- ▶ Hidden higher dimensional conformal symmetry [[Caron-Huot Trinh](#)] (more about this later).

4pt functions (position space)

- ▶ To compute $\langle 2222 \rangle^{(2)}$ unmixing is actually not necessary. We only need to use $\langle 22pp \rangle^{(1)}$ and $\langle pppp \rangle^{(0)}$. This is easy to see by organizing CFT data into matrices.

Define:

$$\Lambda^{(0)} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{22O_1} & \lambda_{22O_2} & \dots & \lambda_{22O_{M-1}} \\ \lambda_{33O_1} & \lambda_{33O_2} & \dots & \lambda_{33O_{M-1}} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \lambda_{MM,O_1} & \lambda_{MMO_2} & \dots & \lambda_{MMO_{M-1}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{l} \downarrow \\ \text{different} \\ \text{correlators} \end{array}$$

operator degeneracy \rightarrow

$$\Gamma^{(1)} = \text{diag}(\gamma_1^{(1)}, \gamma_2^{(1)}, \dots, \gamma_{M-1}^{(1)})$$

Disconnected:

$$\Lambda^{(0)}(\Lambda^{(0)})^T = \mathbf{N}^{(0)} = \begin{bmatrix} \langle 2222 \rangle^{(0)} & & & \\ & \langle 3333 \rangle^{(0)} & & \\ & & \dots & \\ & & & \langle MMMM \rangle^{(0)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Tree-level:

$$\Lambda^{(0)}\Gamma^{(1)}(\Lambda^{(0)})^T = \mathbf{\Omega}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} \langle 2222 \rangle^{(1)} & \langle 2233 \rangle^{(1)} \dots & \langle 22MM \rangle^{(1)} \\ \langle 3322 \rangle^{(1)} & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \langle MM22 \rangle^{(1)} & \dots & \dots & \langle MMMM \rangle^{(1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

One-loop:

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda^{(0)}(\Gamma^{(1)})^2(\Lambda^{(0)})^T &= \Lambda^{(0)}\Gamma^{(1)}(\Lambda^{(0)})^T(\mathbf{N}^{(0)})^{-1}\Lambda^{(0)}\Gamma^{(1)}(\Lambda^{(0)})^T \\ &= \mathbf{\Omega}^{(1)}(\mathbf{N}^{(0)})^{-1}\mathbf{\Omega}^{(1)} \end{aligned}$$

Need only the 11 component.

4pt functions (position space)

- Crossing symmetry
- Regular as $z \rightarrow \bar{z}$ (putting operators on a line)
- No twist-2 operators (no stringy states)
- These conditions **completely fix** the one-loop correlator up to a contact Witten diagram counter term [Aprile, Drummond, Heslop, Paul]. This algorithm also works for correlators of **higher KK** modes [Aprile, Drummond, Heslop, Paul].
- A similar strategy can now be used to compute correlators of supergravitons and supergluons up to **two loops** [Huang, Yuan; Drummond, Paul; Huang, Wang, Yuan, XZ].
- On the other hand, it should be noted that not much has been studied for **individual** loop-level **Witten diagrams** in position space, apart from very limited special examples [Bertan, Sachs; Heckelbacher, Sachs, Skvortsov, Vanhove; Stawinski]

4pt functions (Mellin space)

- “Momentum space” for AdS: Mellin space makes manifest the scattering amplitude nature of holographic correlators [Mack; Penedones; Paulos; Fitzpatrick, Kaplan, Penedones, Raju, van Rees]

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_1(x_1) \dots \mathcal{O}_n(x_n) \rangle = \int [d\delta_{ij}] \left(\prod_{i < j} x_{ij}^{-2\delta_{ij}} \Gamma(\delta_{ij}) \right) \mathcal{M}(\delta_{ij})$$

- Conformal symmetry:

$$\delta_{ij} = \delta_{ji}, \quad \delta_{ii} = -\Delta_i, \quad \sum_{j=1}^n \delta_{ij} = 0$$

- Solved by $\delta_{ij} = p_i \cdot p_j$ satisfying

$$p_i^2 = -\Delta_i, \quad \sum_i p_i = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \delta_{ij} \text{ are “Mandelstam variables”}$$

- The Mellin amplitude of contact diagrams are just **constants**.
- The Mellin amplitude of exchange diagrams have simple **poles** with **polynomial** residues.

4pt functions (Mellin space)

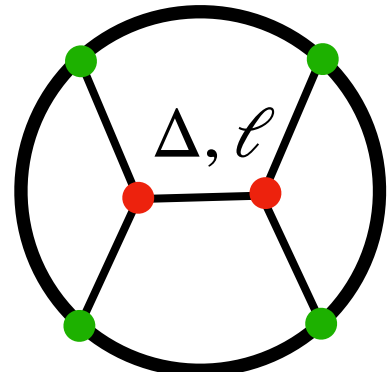
- For 4pt there are only two independent Mandelstam variables

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_1(x_1) \dots \mathcal{O}_4(x_n) \rangle = (\text{kin. factor}) \int \frac{ds dt}{(4\pi i)^2} U^{\frac{s}{2}} V^{\frac{t}{2}} \mathcal{M}(s, t) \Gamma_{1234}(s, t)$$

$$\Gamma_{1234}(s, t) = \Gamma\left(\frac{\Delta_1 + \Delta_2 - s}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{\Delta_3 + \Delta_4 - s}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{\Delta_1 + \Delta_4 - t}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{\Delta_2 + \Delta_3 - t}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{\Delta_1 + \Delta_3 - u}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{\Delta_2 + \Delta_4 - u}{2}\right)$$

$$s + t + u = \Delta_1 + \Delta_2 + \Delta_3 + \Delta_4$$

- Exchange Witten diagram

$$\mathcal{M} \left[\text{Diagram} \right] = \sum_m \frac{Q_{\ell, m}(t)}{s - (\Delta - \ell + 2m)} + P_{\ell-1}(s, t)$$


The Mack polynomials $Q_{\ell, m}$ are known from solving **EOM** (Casimir equation) in Mellin space.

- Truncation in position space is equivalent to **truncation** of the poles.

- But we can now also deal with **non-truncating** cases.

E.g., in AdS_4 ,

$$\Delta_i = \Delta = 1, \ell = 0$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{1,0} = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1-s}{2})}{\Gamma(1 - \frac{s}{2})}$$

4pt functions (Mellin space)

- Extremely useful for $AdS_5 \times S^5$ IIB SUGRA. Here we illustrate it with tree-level 4pt functions. All 4pt functions can be obtained from solving an **algebraic bootstrap problem** in Mellin space [Rastelli, XZ]

- Superconformal symmetry

$$G = G_{\text{free}} + R H \quad (\text{solution to scf Ward id})$$

full correlator $\xrightarrow{0}$ reduced correlator

$$\mathcal{M} = \widehat{R} \circ \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}$$

R is a polynomial in U, V , becomes a difference operator in Mellin space

$$U^m V^n \int U^{\frac{s}{2}} V^{\frac{t}{2}} f(s, t) = \int U^{\frac{s}{2}} V^{\frac{t}{2}} f(s-2m, t-2n)$$

- Analytic structure

\mathcal{M} has only simple poles with polynomial residues.

- Bose symmetry

Invariant under permuting the particles.

- Asymptotic growth

\mathcal{M} should grow no faster than linearly at high energy.

These conditions fix the amplitudes completely up to overall constants!

4pt functions (Mellin space)

- Mellin space is also useful for other theories. To obtain general results, we need two new ingredients

- **Superconformal Ward identities in Mellin space** [XZ]

- ▶ In general dimensions the scf Ward ids are [Dolan, Gallot, Sokatchev]

$$(z\partial_z - \epsilon\alpha\partial_\alpha)\mathcal{G}(z, \bar{z}; \alpha, \bar{\alpha})|_{z=1/\alpha} = 0$$

$$\epsilon = (d - 2)/2$$

$$(\bar{z}\partial_{\bar{z}} - \epsilon\alpha\partial_\alpha)\mathcal{G}(z, \bar{z}; \alpha, \bar{\alpha})|_{\bar{z}=1/\alpha} = 0$$

The solution is quite complicated if $\epsilon \neq 1$.

- ▶ Each equation is **asymmetric** in $z \leftrightarrow \bar{z} \Rightarrow$ not good for Mellin
- ▶ But we can take the **sum** and the **difference** to write it in polynomials of U, V

$$z^n + \bar{z}^n = 2^{1-n} \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \binom{n}{2k} ((1 + U + V)^2 - 4U)^k (1 + U - V)^{n-2k}$$

$$\frac{z^n - \bar{z}^n}{z - \bar{z}} = 2^{1-n} \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \binom{n}{2k+1} ((1 + U + V)^2 - 4U)^k (1 + U - V)^{n-2k-1}$$

- ▶ Scf Ward ids become **difference equations** for Mellin amplitudes.

4pt functions (Mellin space)

- “Maximally R-symmetry violating” configuration [Alday, XZ]

- ▶ Amplitudes drastically simplify when some of the R-symmetry polarizations are aligned $t_1 = t_3$

E.g., simplest correlator in $AdS_7 \times S^4$

$$\mathcal{M}_{2222}(s, t; \sigma, \tau) = \frac{P_{2222}(s, t; \sigma, \tau)}{4n^3(s-4)(s-6)(t-4)(t-6)(u-4)(u-6)}$$

↓ $t_1 = t_3$

$$\mathbf{MRV}_{2222}(s, t) = \frac{(u-8)(u-10)}{n^3} \left(\frac{1}{s-4} + \frac{1}{4(s-6)} + \frac{1}{t-4} + \frac{1}{4(t-6)} \right)$$

(A large red dashed arrow points from the denominator of the MRV equation to this block)

-5160960 + 2512896s - 445440s² + 34176s³ - 960s⁴ + 4386816t - 1967872st + 315008s²t - 21392s³t + 520s⁴t - 1507072t² + 609152st² - 84576s²t² + 4764s³t² - 90s⁴t² + 268800t³ - 95264st³ + 10792s²t³ - 448s³t³ + 5s⁴t³ - 26320t⁴ + 7892s⁴t⁴ - 654s²t⁴ + 15s³t⁴ + 1344t⁵ - 324st⁵ + 15s²t⁵ - 28t⁶ + 5st⁶ + 3022848σ - 2629632sσ + 655872s²σ - 61440s³σ + 1920s⁴σ - 2055168tσ + 1797632stσ - 429760s²tσ + 37120s³tσ - 1040s⁴tσ + 521984t²σ - 461760s²t²σ + 103760s²t²σ - 7840s³t²σ + 180s⁴t²σ - 61568t³σ + 55760s³t³σ - 11440s²t³σ + 680s³t³σ - 10s⁴t³σ + 3328t⁴σ - 3168s⁴t⁴σ + 568s²t⁴σ - 20s³t⁴σ - 64t⁵σ + 68st⁵σ - 10s²t⁵σ - 1916928σ² + 1222656sσ² - 279552s²σ² + 27264s³σ² - 960s⁴σ² + 1222656tσ² - 762112stσ² + 168704s²tσ² - 15728s³tσ² + 520s⁴tσ² - 279552t²σ² + 168704s²t²σ² - 35568s²t²σ² + 3076s³t²σ² - 90s⁴t²σ² + 27264t³σ² - 15728st³σ² + 3076s²t³σ² - 232s³t³σ² + 5s⁴t³σ² - 960t⁴σ² + 520s⁴t⁴σ² - 90s²t⁴σ² + 5s³t⁴σ² + 2580480t - 918528st + 57088s²t + 12416s³t - 1792s⁴t + 64s⁵t - 918528t² - 108544st² + 171200s²t² - 34256s³t² + 2592s⁴t² - 68s⁵t² + 57088t³ + 171200st³ - 74528s²t³ + 10416s³t³ - 572s⁴t³ + 10s⁵t³ + 12416t⁴ - 34256st⁴ + 10416s²t⁴ - 1008s³t⁴ + 30s⁴t⁴ - 1792t⁵ + 2592st⁵ - 572s²t⁵ + 30s³t⁵ + 64t⁶ - 68st⁶ + 10s²t⁶ + 3022848στ - 2055168sστ + 521984s²στ - 61568s³στ + 3328s⁴στ - 64s⁵στ - 2629632stστ + 1797632s²tστ - 461760s²t²στ + 55760s³t²στ - 3168s⁴t²στ + 68s³t³στ + 655872t²στ - 429760st²στ + 103760s²t²στ - 11440s³t²στ + 568s⁴t²στ - 10s⁵t²στ - 61440t³στ + 37120s³t³στ - 7840s²t³στ + 680s³t³στ - 20s⁴t³στ + 1920t⁴στ - 1040st⁴στ + 180s²t⁴στ - 10s³t⁴στ - 5160960t² + 4386816st² - 1507072s²t² + 268800s³t² - 26320s⁴t² + 1344s⁵t² - 28s⁶t² + 2512896t³ - 1967872st³ + 609152s²t³ - 95264s³t³ + 7892s⁴t³ - 324s⁵t³ + 5s⁶t³ - 445440t⁴ + 315008st⁴ - 84576s²t⁴ + 10792s³t⁴ - 654s⁴t⁴ + 15s⁵t⁴ + 34176t⁵ - 21392s³t⁵ + 4764s²t⁵ - 448s³t⁵ + 15s⁴t⁵ - 960t⁶ + 520st⁶ - 90s²t⁶ + 5s³t⁶

- ▶ The MRV limit allows only a single R-symmetry irrep to propagate in the u-channel.
- ▶ Together with scf symmetry requires the **decoupling** of certain **long operators**, manifested as the **zeroes** in the amplitude.

4pt functions (Mellin space)

- ▶ The MRV zeroes exist for the exchange of each individual scf **multiplet**. This allows us to fix the coefficients within each multiplet → implementing scf symmetry at a more **local** level.
- ▶ Moreover, there is a general **prescription** to go away from MRV limit and restore the general R-symmetry dependence.
- ▶ Remarkably, this prescription leads to **no explicit contact diagrams** in the final amplitude!

$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_s + \mathcal{M}_t + \mathcal{M}_u$$

over finitely many multiplets

$$\mathcal{M}_s = \sum_{i,j} \sigma^i \tau^j \sum_{s_0} \frac{R_s^{i,j}(t, u)}{s - s_0} \quad s_0 = \epsilon p + 2m, \quad m \in \mathbb{N} \quad p - \max\{|k_1 - k_2|, |k_3 - k_4|\} = 2, 4, \dots, 2\mathcal{E} - 2$$

- ▶ This method gives all 4pt amplitudes in **maximally scf** theories $AdS_5 \times S^5, AdS_7 \times S^4, AdS_4 \times S^7$ [Alday, XZ].
- ▶ It also gives all 4pt amplitudes in **half maximally scf** theories of the form $AdS_{d+1} \times S^3$ corresponding to **supergluon** scattering [Alday, Behan, Ferrero XZ].

4pt functions (Mellin space)

- The Mellin formalism is also useful for studying correlators at **loop level**

- Consider $\langle 2222 \rangle$ at one loop for $AdS_5 \times S^5$. The correlator has the structure *fixed by tree-level data*

$$\mathcal{H}(U, V) = f_{2,2}(U, V) \log^2 U \log^2 V + f_{2,1}(U, V) \log^2 U \log V + f_{2,0}(U, V) \log^2 U$$

$$+ f_{1,2}(U, V) \log U \log^2 V + f_{1,1}(U, V) \log U \log V + f_{1,0}(U, V) \log U$$

$$+ f_{0,2}(U, V) \log^2 V + f_{0,1}(U, V) \log V + f_{0,0}(U, V)$$

$$f_{2,2}(U, V) = \sum_{m,n=0}^{\infty} d_{nm} U^{2+n} V^m$$

The task is to complete it into a full correlator.

$$\mathcal{H} = \int \frac{ds dt}{(4\pi i)^2} U^{\frac{s}{2}} V^{\frac{t}{2}-2} \underbrace{\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}(s, t) \Gamma^2\left(\frac{4-s}{2}\right) \Gamma^2\left(\frac{4-t}{2}\right) \Gamma^2\left(\frac{4-\tilde{u}}{2}\right)}_{\text{Mellin integrand}}$$

$\log^2 U \log^2 V$ implies the Mellin integrand must

have **triple poles** at $s = 4 + 2n, t = 4 + 2m$

\Rightarrow The reduced Mellin amplitude should have **simple poles** in s and t .

4pt functions (Mellin space)

- Make a minimal assumption: only **simultaneous poles** with **constant** numerators [Alday]

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}(s, t) = \sum_{m, n=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_{mn}}{(s - 4 - 2n)(t - 4 - 2m)} + \underbrace{(su) + (tu)}_{\text{crossing symmetry}}$$

- The poles are easy to justify: we only expect long operators from **double-particle operators** at 1 loop.
- That c_{mn} are constants is an **assumption** that must be checked by calculation.
- We first compute the c_{mn} coefficients. We take residues at $s = 4 + 2n, t = 4 + 2m$. The result contains $\log^i U \log^j V$ with $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ and we focus on the $\log^2 U \log^2 V$ coefficient. Comparing it with the term $U^{2+n} V^m$ of $f_{2,2}(U, V)$, we can find c_{mn} in a closed form

$$c_{mn} = \frac{p^{(6)}(m, n)}{(m + n - 1)_5}$$

4pt functions (Mellin space)

- Then we need to check the ansatz is correct. We insert c_{mn} into the ansatz and sum over all the poles in t and u . We take residue w.r.t. s and focus on the $\log^2 U$ term, but we keep **general** V dependence.
- We find that not only $\log^2 V$ is reproduced but also **subleading powers** of $\log V$

$$\mathcal{H}(U, V) \supset \underbrace{f_{2,2}(U, V) \log^2 U \log^2 V}_{\text{input}} + \underbrace{f_{2,1}(U, V) \log^2 U \log V + f_{2,0}(U, V) \log^2 U}_{\text{check}}$$

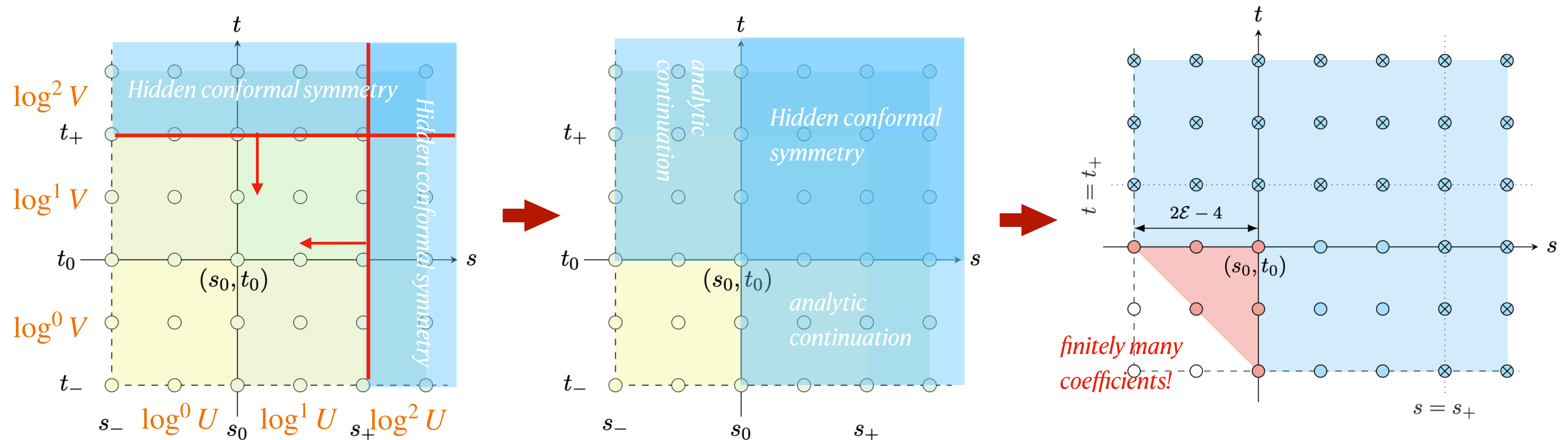
- Rules out **single poles** in s (and t, u by crossing). This fixes all singularities!
- **Regular terms** are ambiguous. But they can be fixed by the flat-space limit and can only be a constant.

$$\partial_s \partial_t \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}(s, t) \xrightarrow{\text{flat space limit}} \partial_s \partial_t I_{10\text{d box}}(s, t)$$

- The same analytic structure extends to higher KK modes [**Alday, XZ**], as well as to one-loop amplitudes of super gluons [**Alday, Bissi, XZ; Huang, Wang, Yuan, XZ**].

4pt functions (Mellin space)

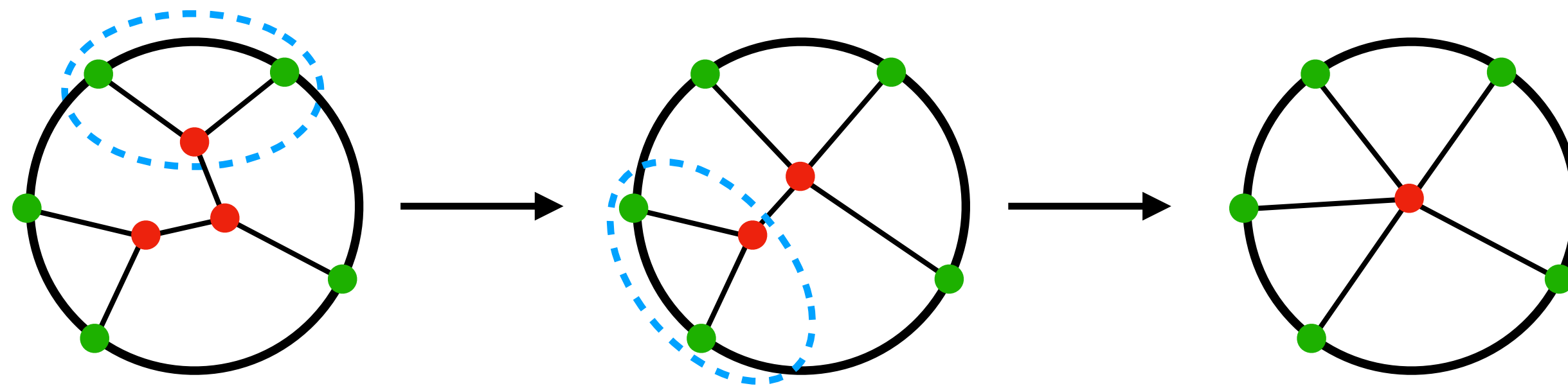
- The simplicity of Mellin makes it easier to spot patterns. Interesting higher dimensional structure at one loop [Huang, Wang, Yuan, XZ]: for higher KK modes, almost all simultaneous pole coefficients are fixed by tree-level hidden conformal symmetry [c.f. E. Yuan's talk].



General result for $\langle \mathcal{O}_{p_1} \mathcal{O}_{p_2} \mathcal{O}_{p_3} \mathcal{O}_{p_4} \rangle$ with $\mathcal{E} = \min\{p_1, \frac{1}{2}(p_1 + p_2 + p_3 - p_4)\} = 2, 3$.

Higher-pt functions

- Higher-pt holographic correlators is more challenging because of more complicated kinematics.
- For **5pt**, it is still feasible to adapt the position space method and results were obtained for supergraviton and supergluon in AdS_5 [Goncalves, Pereira, XZ; Alday, Goncalves, XZ]
- As in 4pt, we can also reduce all exchange diagrams to contact diagrams. The reduction works when we have cubic vertex

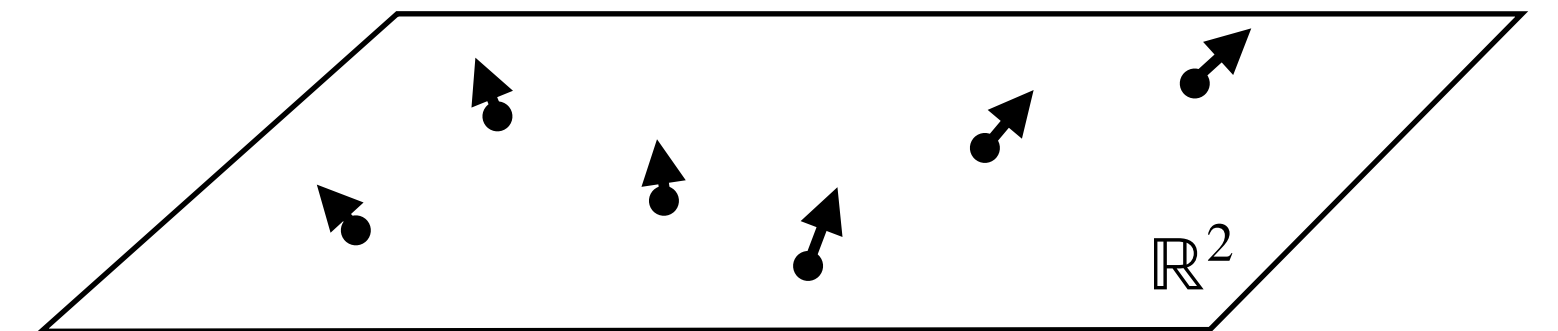


- Ultimately boils down to D_{11112} , which is the same as the **pentagon integral** in flat space and can be expressed as box diagrams [Bern, Dixon, Kosower].
- We can make an ansatz in terms of all possible diagrams and evaluate it in terms of elementary functions.

Higher-pt functions

- Scf Ward ids for more than 4 pts are not known. So far only two weaker conditions are known.
 - Chiral algebra [Beem, Lemos, Liendo, Peelaers, Rastelli, van Rees]: correlators of operators on a plane with special R-symmetry polarizations are meromorphic

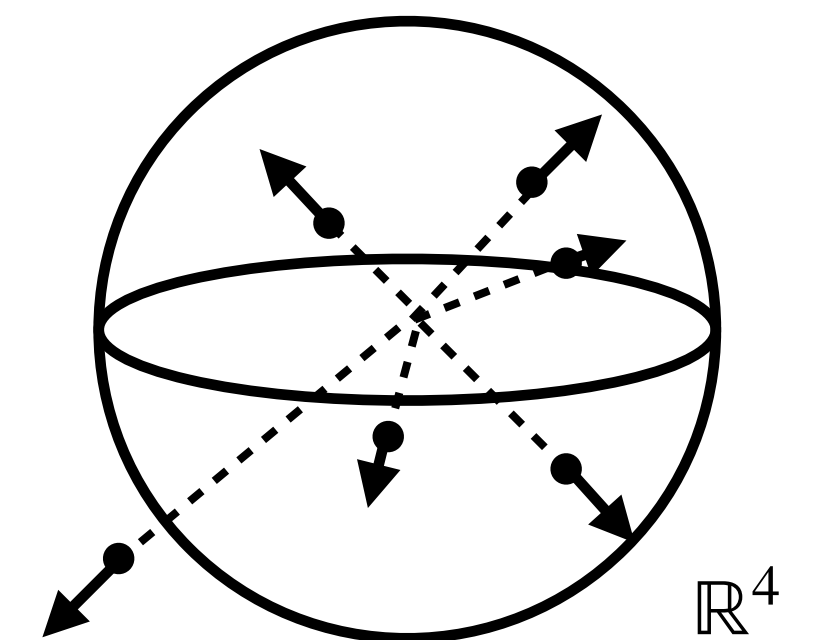
$$\langle S_1(z_1, \bar{z}_1; y_1) \dots S_n(z_n, \bar{z}_n; y_n) \rangle \Big|_{y_i = \bar{z}_i} = F(z_i)$$



y_i parameterizes an $SU(2) \subset SO(6)$ or $SO(4)$ subgroup of R-symmetry (for 4d $\mathcal{N} = 4$ or $\mathcal{N} = 2$)

- Topological twisting (for 4d $\mathcal{N} = 4$) [Drukker, Plefka]: identifying R-symmetry polarizations with the embedding space vectors make the correlator topological

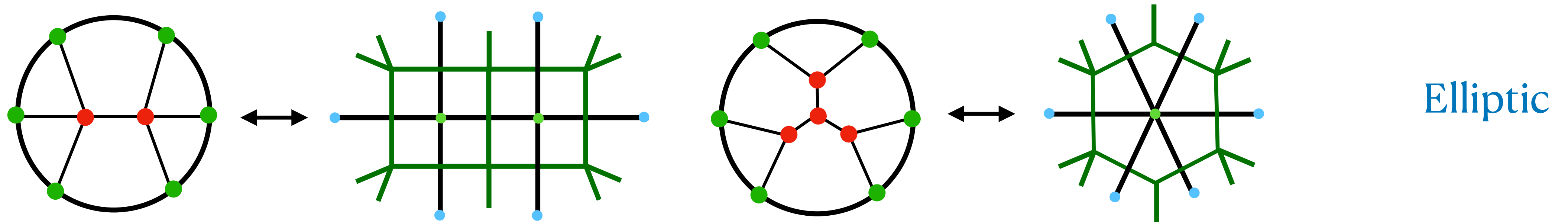
$$\langle S_1(P_1; t_1) \dots S_n(P_n; t_n) \rangle \Big|_{t_i = P_i} = \text{const} \quad t_i \text{ are null vectors of } SO(6)_R$$



- Topological twisting \subset chiral algebra for $n = 4$ but not when $n \geq 5$.
- These conditions fix the 5pt functions uniquely [Goncalves, Pereira, XZ; Alday, Goncalves, XZ].

Higher-pt functions

- However, this method fails at 6pt because we cannot reduce all exchange diagrams to contact and the basic integrals are not known



- The more suitable formalism for higher-pt is Mellin space where the Mellin amplitude is always a **rational** function.
- However, the superconformal constraints in position space are difficult to translate to Mellin space. The Mellin version of the Drukker-Plefka twisting is known [Boas, Goncalves, Meneghelli, Pereira, XZ] but not the chiral algebra twisting.
- Need an alternative approaches where superconformal symmetry plays a **less crucial** role.

Higher-pt functions

- One such approach was developed in [Alday, Goncalves, Nocchi, XZ] which makes minimal use of superconformal symmetry. Instead, it relies on two different principles.

- **Flat-space limit**

- The flat-space limit is encoded in the high energy limit of the Mellin amplitude [Penedones]

$$T(S_{ij}) \approx \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2} \sum_i \Delta_i - \frac{d}{2})}{R^{n(1-d)/2+d+1}} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma-i\infty}^{\gamma+i\infty} d\Lambda \Lambda^{-\frac{1}{2} \sum_i \Delta_i + \frac{d}{2}} e^{\Lambda} \mathcal{M} \left(s_{ij} = \frac{S_{ij} R^2}{2\Lambda} \right) \quad R \rightarrow \infty$$

- For tree-level amplitudes of massless fields the integral is trivial

$$T(s_{ij}) \propto \lim_{\beta \rightarrow \infty} \beta^p \mathcal{M}(\beta s_{ij})$$

- But supergravitons and supergluons have **polarizations** in the flat-space limit. They come from higher dimensional gravity field and gauge field pointing in the internal directions.

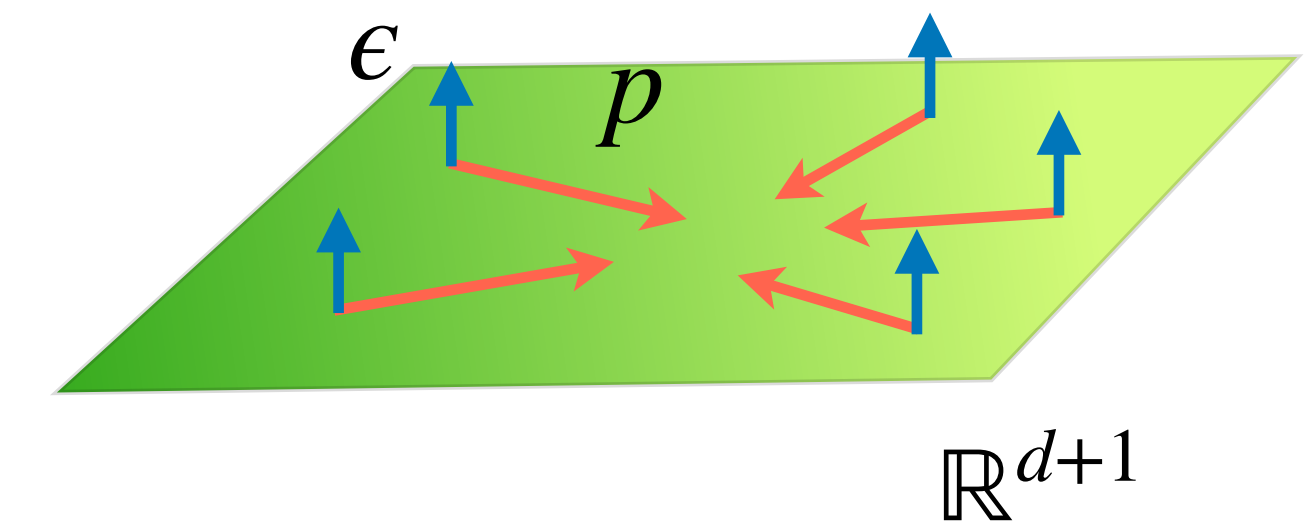
Higher-pt functions

- The flat-space polarizations are simply related to the R-symmetry polarizations

$$\epsilon \leftrightarrow t \quad (\text{and } t \sim \sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{\mu} v^{\alpha} v^{\beta} \text{ for } AdS_5 \times S^3)$$

with the important property that they are **orthogonal** to momenta

$$\epsilon_i \cdot p_j = 0 \quad \text{for all } i \text{ and } j$$



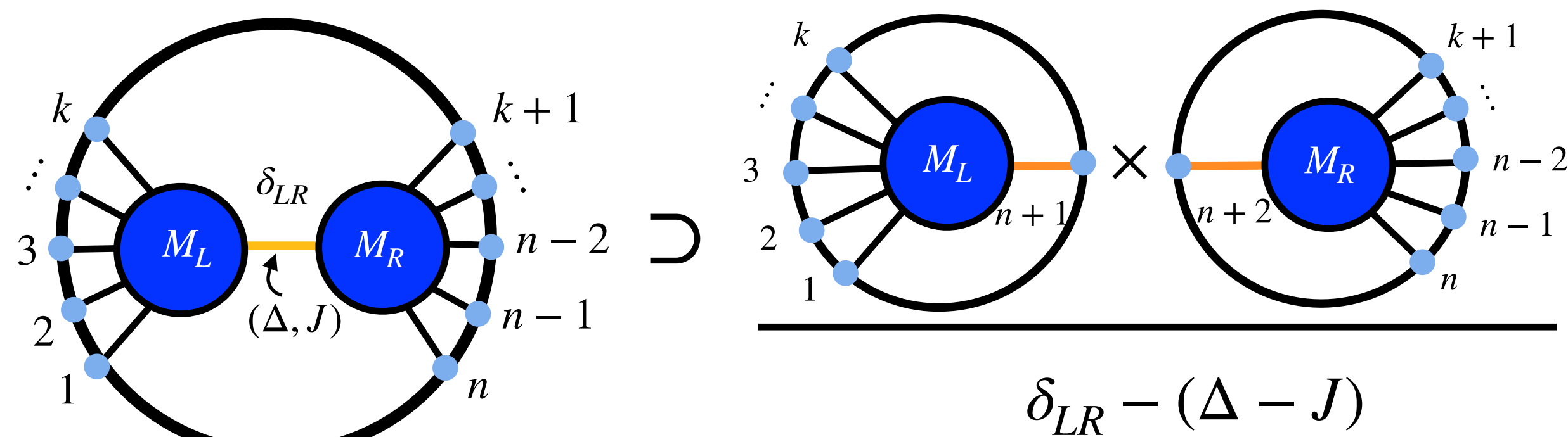
- Therefore, the flat-space condition for tree-level Mellin amplitudes is

$$\lim_{\beta \rightarrow \infty} \beta^p \mathcal{M}(\beta s_{ij}; t_i) \propto \text{Flat-space amplitudes of bosonic gluons or gravitons with polarizations } \epsilon_i = t_i \text{ satisfying } \epsilon_i \cdot p_j = 0$$

- Note the flat-space Feynman rules also **simplify** in this limit. Odd-pt gluon amplitudes vanish (cannot contract all ϵ with ϵ) and odd-pt graviton amplitudes also vanish (by double copy).
- Higher KK is proportional to the lowest one with a factor given by **Wick contractions**.

Higher-pt functions

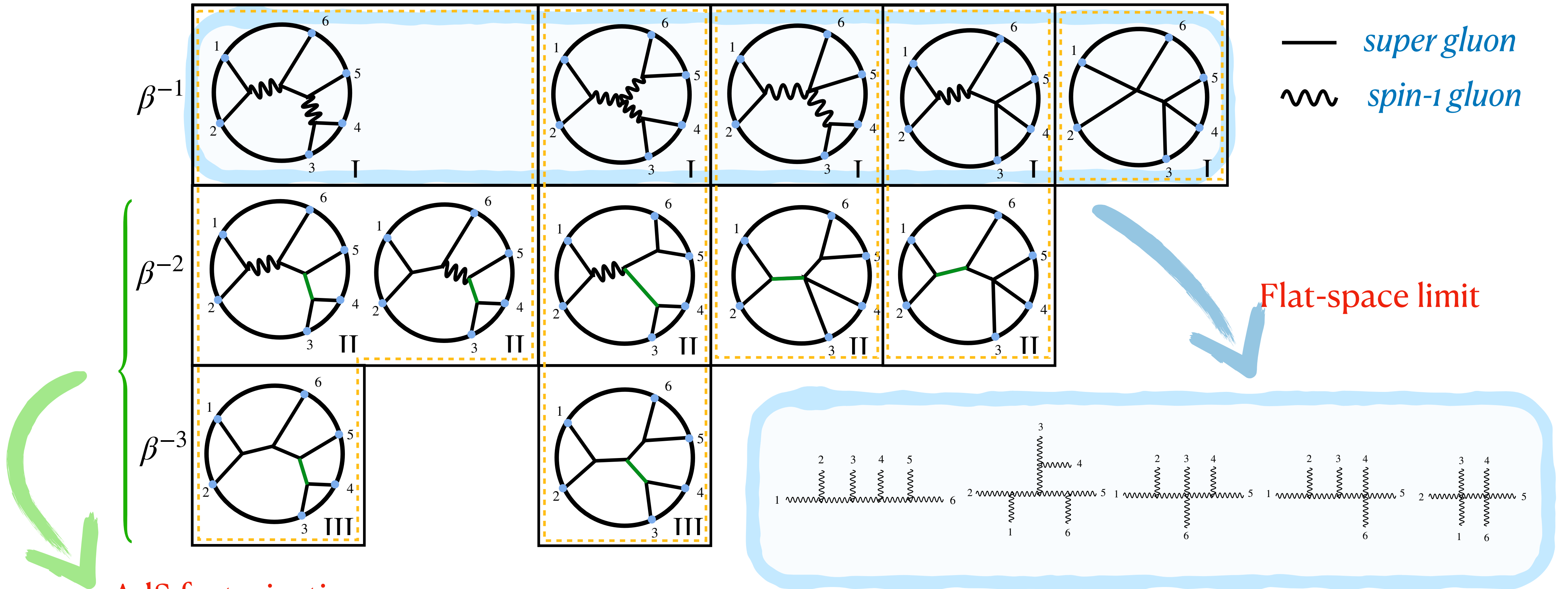
- **Mellin amplitude factorization** [Goncalves, Penedones, Trevisani]
 - Similar analytic structure as in flat space: exchange of single-trace operators of dimension Δ and spin J corresponds to poles at $\Delta - J + 2m$ with $m = 0, 1, \dots$
 - The residues factorize into “products” of **lower-point** Mellin amplitudes



- The precise form of the “product” depends on spin J and the m .
- Currently only known for correlators with at most one spinning correlator (a general Mellin formalism for **multiple** spinning operators is **not known!**).

Higher-pt functions

- A new strategy based on flat-space limit and factorization [Alday, Goncalves, Nocchi, XZ]



$$\langle 000 \rangle \times \langle 000000 \rangle$$

This algorithm led to the first 6pt super gluon amplitude in AdS_5 .

Higher-pt functions

- Amplitude **constructibility** was also recently proven for the **lowest** KK-level supergluons [**Cao, He, Tang**] by adapting more ideas and technologies from flat space

- Planar variables

$$-2\delta_{ij} = \mathcal{X}_{i,j} + \mathcal{X}_{i+1,j+1} - \mathcal{X}_{i,j+1} - \mathcal{X}_{i+1,j}$$

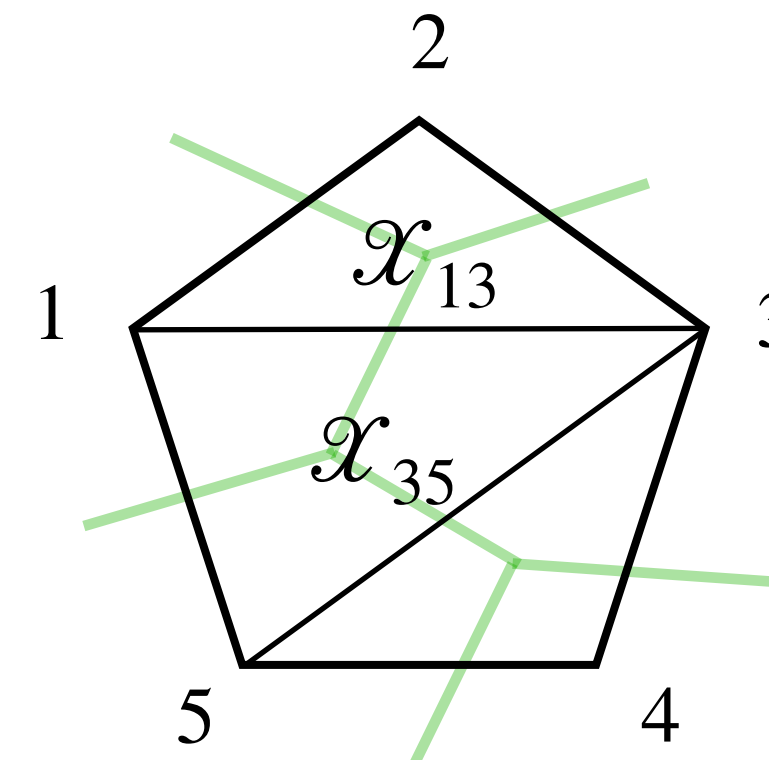
- A natural $SU(2)$ R-symmetry basis

$$V_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_r} = \langle i_1 i_2 \rangle \langle i_2 i_3 \rangle \dots \langle i_r i_1 \rangle \rightarrow \text{products of traces}$$

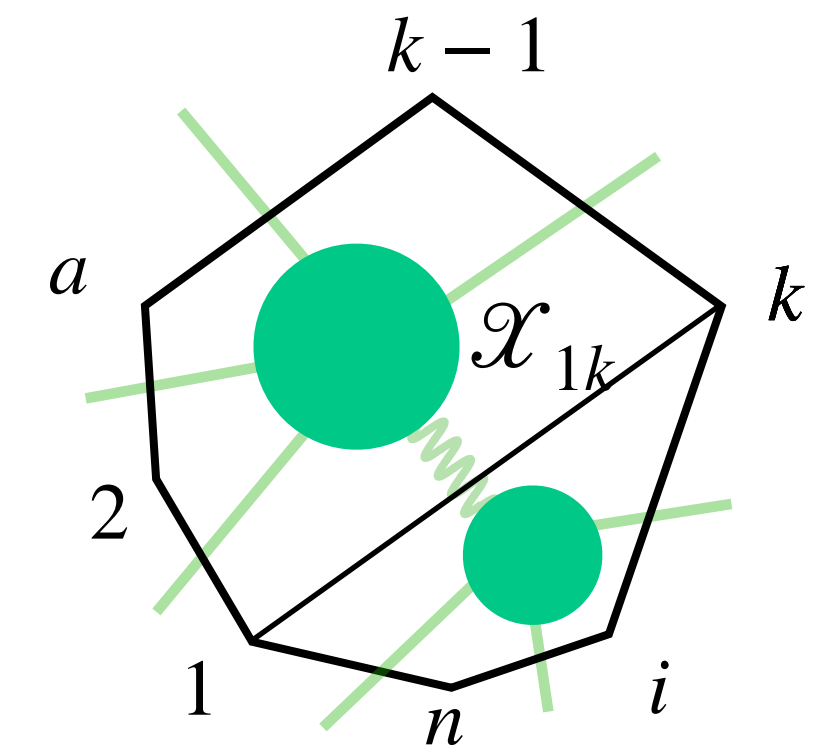
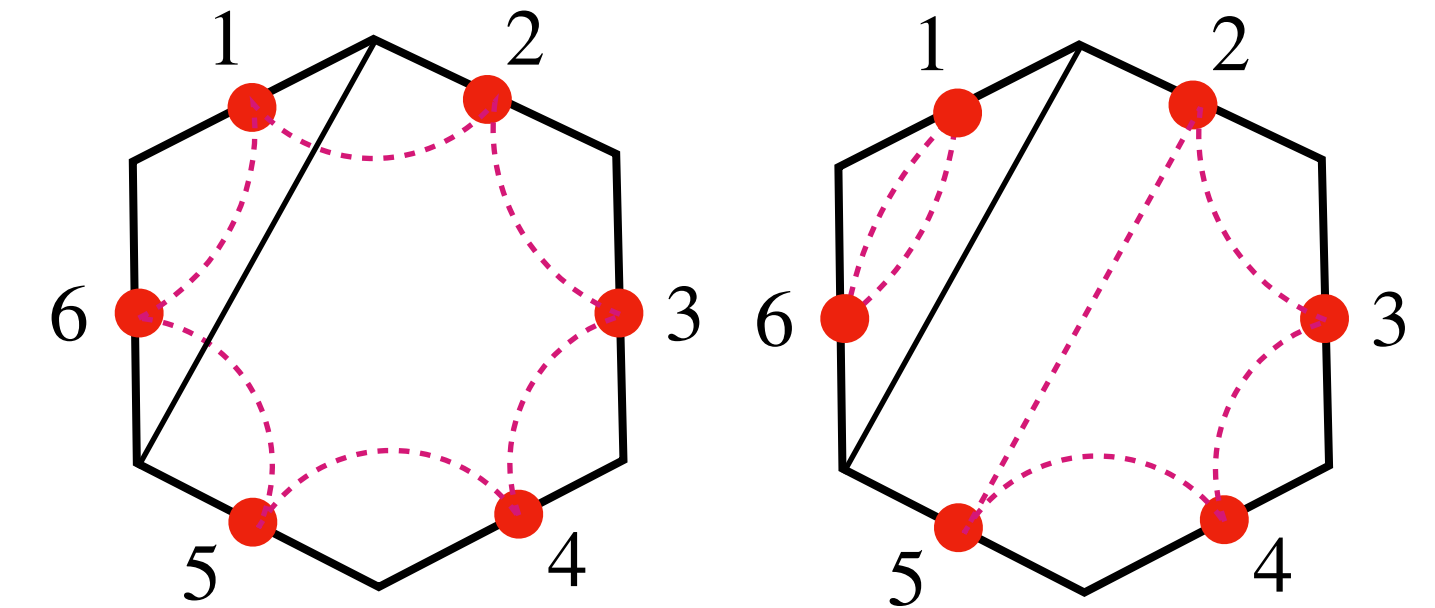
- “No-gluon” kinematics

$$\mathcal{X}_{ai} - m + 1 - \frac{\mathcal{X}_{1a} + \mathcal{X}_{1i} + \mathcal{X}_{ak} + \mathcal{X}_{ik}}{2} - \frac{(\mathcal{X}_{1a} - \mathcal{X}_{ak})(\mathcal{X}_{1i} - \mathcal{X}_{ik})}{4(m+1)} = 0$$

$$\mathcal{X}_{1k} = -2m$$



$$\mathcal{X}_{i,j} = 2 + \left(\sum_{i \leq k < j} p_k \right)^2$$



- But at the moment this proof seems difficult to generalize to SUGRA and higher KK modes.
- It would be nice to find recursion relations similar to BCFW in Mellin space (in momentum space [**Raju**]).

Hidden symmetries

- Holographic correlators also exhibit interesting **hidden properties** which can be used in their computations.

- **Hidden conformal symmetry**

- First found in tree-level 4pt functions in $AdS_5 \times S^5$ [**Caron-Huot, Trinh**] with hints from the simple form of anomalous dimensions [**Aprile, Drummond, Heslop, Paul**].
- Probably related with conformal flatness of the background but the precise physical origin is **not known**.
- All correlators can be packaged into a single **generating function** which comes from lifting the **lowest weight** 4pt function

$$\mathbf{H}(x_i, t_i) = H_{2222}(x_{ij}^2 - t_{ij})$$

- The replacement $x_{ij}^2 \rightarrow x_{ij}^2 - t_{ij}$ lifts 4D distances to conformally invariance distances in **10D**.
- All correlators of higher KK modes are obtained by **Taylor expanding** in t_{ij} and collecting all the possible R-symmetry structures.

Hidden symmetries

- Applications

- ▶ A 6D version was used to compute 4pt functions in $AdS_3 \times S^3 \times K3$ [Rastelli, Roumpedakis, XZ] where scf symmetry is not enough to completely fix the higher KK correlators.
- ▶ Useful for computing certain quantities which depends on only the tree-level data, such as the leading logarithmic singularity, to any loop level [Caron-Huot, Trinh; Bissi, Fardelli, Georgoudis].
- ▶ Although is broken, hidden conformal symmetry was useful for studying higher-derivative corrections [Abl, Heslop, Lipstein; Aprile, Drummond, Paul, Santagata].
- ▶ Also useful for integrated correlators [Brown, Heslop, Wen, Xie; cf talk by Heslop].

- Higher-pt?

Hidden symmetries

- *Double copy*

- In flat space graviton amplitudes can be obtained from gluon amplitudes by squaring the numerators [Bern, Carrasco, Johansson]

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{gluon}} = \frac{c_s n_s}{s} + \frac{c_t n_t}{t} + \frac{c_u n_u}{u} \quad \xrightarrow{c_{s,t,u} \rightarrow n_{s,t,u}} \quad \mathcal{A}_{\text{graviton}} = \frac{n_s^2}{s} + \frac{n_t^2}{t} + \frac{n_u^2}{u}$$

- In AdS, there is an almost identical realization of double copy for **4pt functions** at the level of the **reduced** Mellin amplitudes [XZ]. The $AdS_5 \times S^3$ supergluon amplitudes can be written as

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_{\mathcal{N}=2} = \sum_{i+j+k=\mathcal{E}-2} a_{jik} \sigma^i \tau^j \left(\frac{c_s n_s^{i,j}}{s - s_M + 2k} + \frac{c_t n_t^{i,j}}{t - t_M + 2j} + \frac{c_u n_u^{i,j}}{\tilde{u} - u_M + 2k} \right)$$

$$n_s^{i,j} = \frac{1}{t - t_M + 2j} - \frac{1}{\tilde{u} - u_M + 2i} \quad n_u^{i,j} = \frac{1}{s - s_M + 2k} - \frac{1}{t - t_M + 2j}$$

AdS color-kinematic duality

$$n_t^{i,j} = \frac{1}{\tilde{u} - u_M + 2i} - \frac{1}{s - s_M + 2k}$$

$$n_s^{i,j} + n_t^{i,j} + n_u^{i,j} = 0$$

Hidden symmetries

- The same operation as in flat space leads to SUGRA 4pt amplitudes in $AdS_5 \times S^5$

$$c_{s,t,u} \rightarrow n_{s,t,u}^{i,j} : \quad \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_{\mathcal{N}=2} \rightarrow \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_{\mathcal{N}=4}$$

- We can also consider $n_{s,t,u}^{i,j} \rightarrow c_{s,t,u}$, this gives all the 4pt functions in a **bosonic** theory of a conformally coupled **bi-adjoint scalar** in $AdS_5 \times S^1$.
- **BCJ relation** are also satisfied [**Drummond, Santagata**].
- But all properties require reduced amplitudes. How do they generalize to the full amplitudes?
- Do they also hold at **loop level**? This seems to require us to define an “**integrand**” for Mellin amplitudes.
- How to generalize to **higher pt**?
- Also investigations in **momentum space** [**Farrow, Lipstein, McFadden; Armstrong, Lipstein, Mei; Albayrak, Kharel, Meltzer; Mei...**] and in **position space** [**Diwakar, Herderschee, Robin, Teng; Herderschee, Robin, Teng; Bissi, Fardelli, Manetti, XZ...**], **cf talk by Lipstein**.

Hidden symmetries

- *Parisi-Sourlas dimensional reduction*

- In all the tree-level examples of 4pt functions, we find the contribution of a superconformal multiplet in AdS_{d+1} can be written in terms of a **scalar** exchange diagram in AdS_{d-1} (half maximal susy) or in AdS_{d-3} (maximal susy) acted by some **difference operator** [Behan, Ferrero, XZ; Alday, Behan, Ferrero, XZ].

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{mult. } p}^{AdS_{d+1}} = \widehat{D}_1 \circ \mathcal{M}_{\epsilon p, 0}^{AdS_{d-3}}$$

maximal susy: $AdS_4 \times S^7, AdS_5 \times S^5, AdS_7 \times S^4$

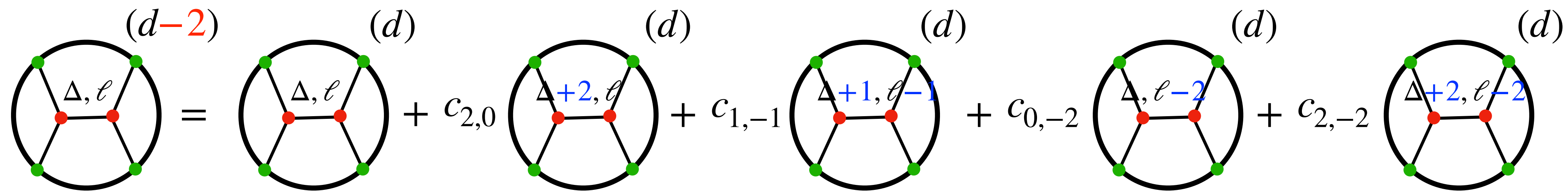
$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{mult. } p}^{AdS_{d+1}} = \widehat{D}_2 \circ \mathcal{M}_{\epsilon p, 0}^{AdS_{d-1}}$$

half maximal susy: $AdS_7 \times S^4$

- This phenomenon has been observed in all maximal and half maximal susy theories for all KK modes and is at the level of full Mellin amplitudes (not reduced).

Hidden symmetries

- Can be traced to the identities satisfied by the underlying Witten diagram, which reflects the [Parisi-Sourlas supersymmetry](#) [XZ]



Take the single-trace part

$$g_{\Delta, \ell}^{(d-2)} = g_{\Delta, \ell}^{(d)} + c_{2,0} g_{\Delta+2, \ell}^{(d)} + c_{1,-1} g_{\Delta+1, \ell-1}^{(d)} + c_{0,-2} g_{\Delta, \ell-2}^{(d)} + c_{2,-2} g_{\Delta+2, \ell-2}^{(d)}$$

A kinematic consequence of Parisi-Sourlas supersymmetry [[Kaviraj, Rychkov, Trevisani](#)]

- If it also persists at higher pt, it might be useful for computing higher KK correlators.
- Its appearance is quite curious: Parisi-Sourlas supersymmetry is [non-unitary](#)!

String corrections [cf talks by Dorigoni, Ferrero, Hansen, Heslop, Nocchi]

- At low energies, stringy or M-theory corrections appear as **higher-derivative** contact interactions. In Mellin space they are **polynomials**. The **leading** term at each order can be fixed by matching with the **flat-space amplitude** [Goncalves; Chester, Pufu, Yin]

$AdS_5 \times S^5$:

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{M}} = \frac{1}{N^2} \left[\frac{1}{stu} + \frac{\alpha_{R^4}^{(0)}}{\lambda^{3/2}} + \frac{\alpha_{D^2R^4}^{(1)}}{\lambda^2} + \frac{\alpha_{D^4R^4}^{(0)}(s^2 + t^2 + u^2) + \alpha_{D^4R^4}^{(2)}}{\lambda^{5/2}} + \frac{\alpha_{D^6R^4}^{(0)}stu + \alpha_{D^6R^4}^{(1)}(s^2 + t^2 + u^2) + \alpha_{D^6R^4}^{(3)}}{\lambda^3} + O(\lambda^{-7/2}) \right] + O(N^{-4})$$

\downarrow
 $(s, t, u) \rightarrow L^2(s, t, u), L/\ell_s \rightarrow \infty$

$g_s = \frac{g_{YM}^2}{4\pi}$

 $\frac{L^4}{\ell_s^4} = \lambda = g_{YM}^2 N$

Virasoro-Shapiro in flat space:

$$A^{(0)}(S, T) = - \frac{\Gamma(-\frac{S}{4})\Gamma(-\frac{T}{4})\Gamma(-\frac{U}{4})}{\Gamma(\frac{S}{4} + 1)\Gamma(\frac{T}{4} + 1)\Gamma(\frac{U}{4} + 1)} \quad \text{expanded in small } S, T, U$$

String corrections

- To fix the subleading terms, we can use **supersymmetric localization** [Binder, Chester, Pufu, Wang]. Taking derivatives of the S^4 partition function of the mass-deformed $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM, one obtains **integrated correlators** [cf review talk by Minahan and also talk by Billo]

$$\tau_2^2 \partial_\tau \partial_{\bar{\tau}} \partial_m^2 \log Z \Big|_{m=0} = \int \prod_{i=1}^4 dx_i \mu(\{x_i\}) \langle \mathcal{O}_2(x_1) \dots \mathcal{O}_2(x_4) \rangle \quad \tau = \tau_1 + i\tau_2 = \frac{\theta}{2\pi} + \frac{4\pi i}{g_{YM}^2}$$

This gives constraints for the unfixed coefficients. A lot of work in this direction both at planar level and higher genus [Binder, Chester, Pufu, Wang; Chester; Chester, Pufu...]

- We also consider the “**very strong coupling expansion**” ($N \rightarrow \infty$ keeping g_{YM} fixed), revealing interesting $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ invariance properties involving non-holomorphic (generalized) Eisenstein series [Binder, Chester, Pufu, Wang; Chester, Green, Pufu, Wang, Wen; Dorigoni, Green, Wen ...].
- Many studies of interesting properties of integrated correlators (e.g., differential equations relating theories with different ranks [Dorigoni, Green, Wen ...]).

String corrections

- It is also possible to consider AdS Virasoro-Shapiro amplitudes at **finite** S, T, U [Alday, Hansen, Silva]

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}(s, t) \rightarrow \lambda^{\frac{3}{2}} \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}(\sqrt{\lambda} s, \sqrt{\lambda} t) \quad \text{expanded in large } R/\ell_s = \lambda^{1/4}$$

The leading order is just Virasoro-Shapiro amplitude. At subleading order, this would require fixing **infinitely many** coefficients $\alpha_{\#}^{(1)}$ and corresponds to a small curvature expansion

$$A(S, T) = A^{(0)}(S, T) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} A^{(1)}(S, T) + O(1/\lambda)$$

- Computed using two constraints
 - **Dispersion relation** relating the correlator to the single-trace massive string operators
 - Assuming a **worldsheet integral** with additional insertions of single-valued multiple polylogarithms

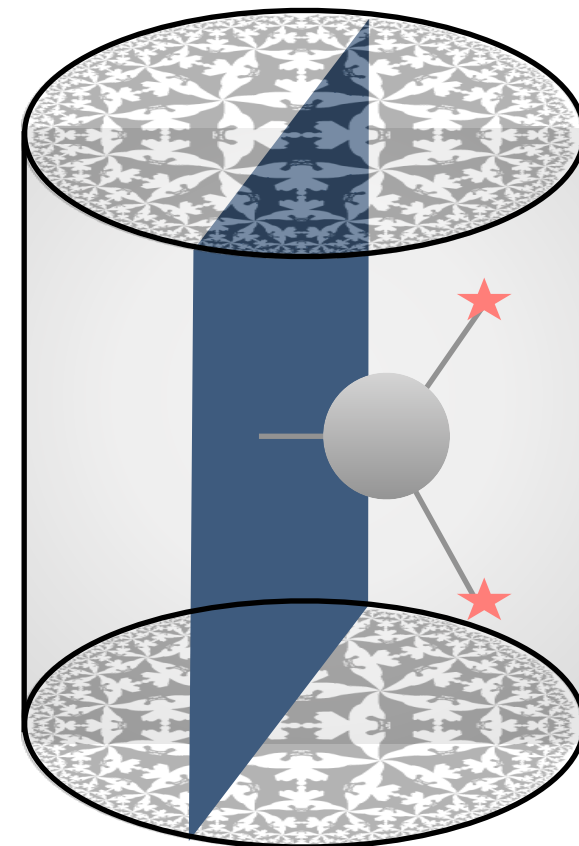
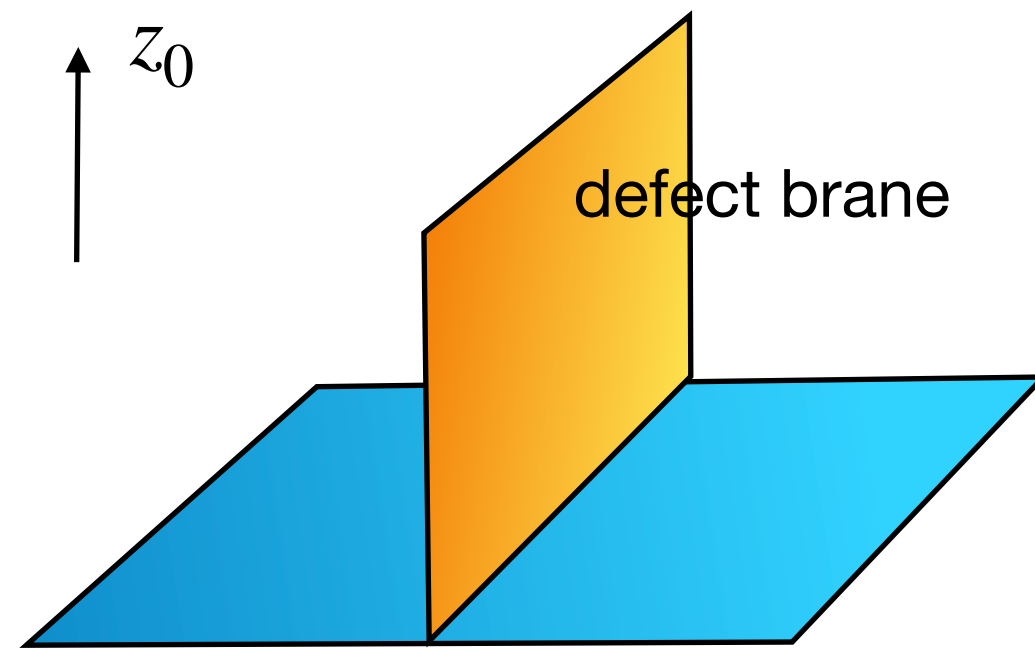
$$A^{(k)}(S, T) = \int d^2z |z|^{-2S-2} |1-z|^{-2T-2} G^{(k)}(S, T, z) \quad \text{[cf talks by Hansen and Nocchi]}$$

- The story was also be extended to open strings [Behan, Chester, Ferrero; Paul, Santagata; Alday, Chester, Hansen, Zhong; Alday, Hansen; talks by Hansen and Ferrero].

Defect correlators

- An interesting generalization is correlators in holographic defect CFTs. In the simplest setup, the defect is dual to a probe brane inside the bulk

$$AdS_{p+1} \times S^r \subset AdS_{d+1} \times S^n$$



e.g.,

$(p, r, d, n) = (1, 0, 4, 5)$: WL in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

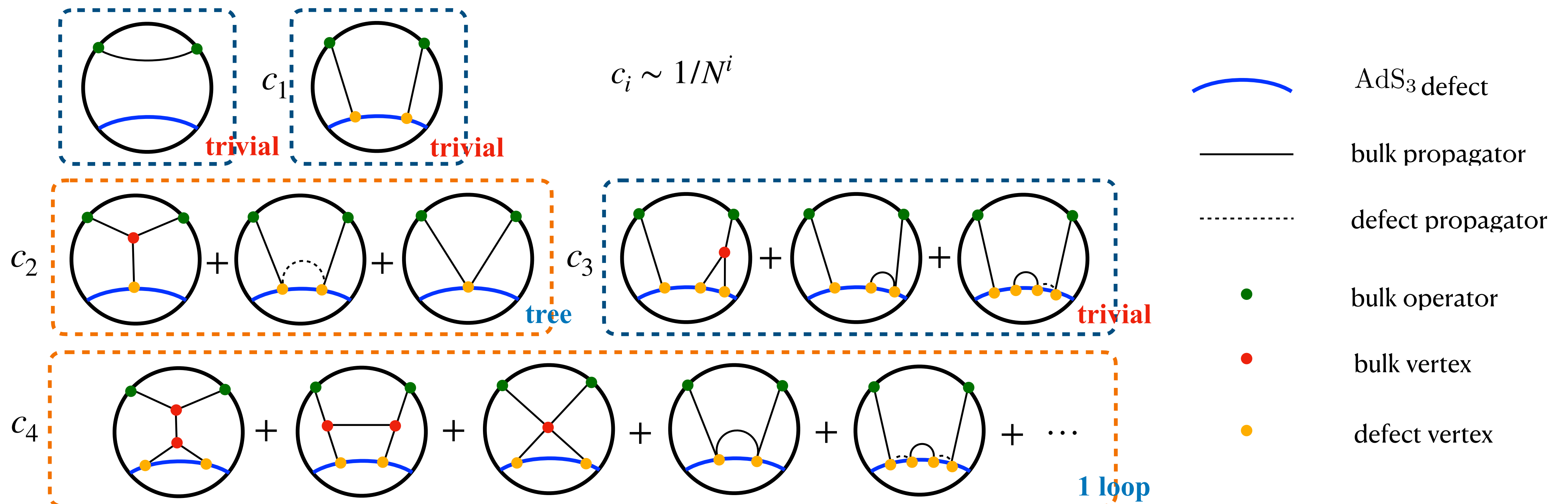
$(p, r, d, n) = (3, 2, 4, 5)$: interface in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

$(p, r, d, n) = (2, 0, 6, 4)$: surface defect 6d (2,0) theory

- When operators are all inserted on the defect, holographic correlators are kinematically similar to defect-free CFTs and the simplest case is 4pt (e.g., WL in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM [Giombi, Roiban, Tseytlin; Meneghelli, Ferrero], surface defect in 6d (2,0) theory [Drukker, Giombi, Tseytlin, XZ]).
- When operators are inserted **away** from the defect, we get interesting new observables corresponding to **form factors** of AdS particles scattering off an extended object.

Defect correlators

- The first nontrivial case is **2pt function** of bulk operators. Such holographic correlators have been studied using analytic conformal bootstrap techniques (inversion formula etc) in [Barrat, Gimenez-Grau, Liendo; Meneghelli, Trepanier]. A more direct and systematic bootstrap analysis using Witten diagrams was initiated in [Gimenez-Grau].
- At large central charge (for half-BPS surface defects in 6d (2,0) theory)



Defect correlators

- At tree-level, we can apply the position space approach [Gimenez-Grau; Chen, Gimenez-Grau, XZ]

$$\langle S_{k_1} S_{k_2} V \rangle_{\text{tree}} = \sum \mu_B \text{ (diagram 1) } + \mu_d \text{ (diagram 2) } + \mu_c \text{ (diagram 3)}$$

fixed by scf symmetry

- The results are simplest in Mellin space [Rastelli, XZ '17, Goncalves, Itsios '18]. For example, for surface defects in 6d (2,0) theory [Chen, Gimenez-Grau, XZ]

$$\mathcal{H} = \int \frac{d\delta d\gamma}{(2\pi i)^2} B^{-\delta} D^\gamma \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}(\delta, \gamma) \widetilde{\Gamma}_{k_1 k_2}(\delta, \gamma)$$

B, D : bulk & defect channel cross ratios

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}(\delta, \gamma, \sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^{2k_m-2} \sum_{j=2}^{k_m} \frac{\mathfrak{R}_{ij}(\sigma)}{(\delta+i)(\gamma-2j)}$$

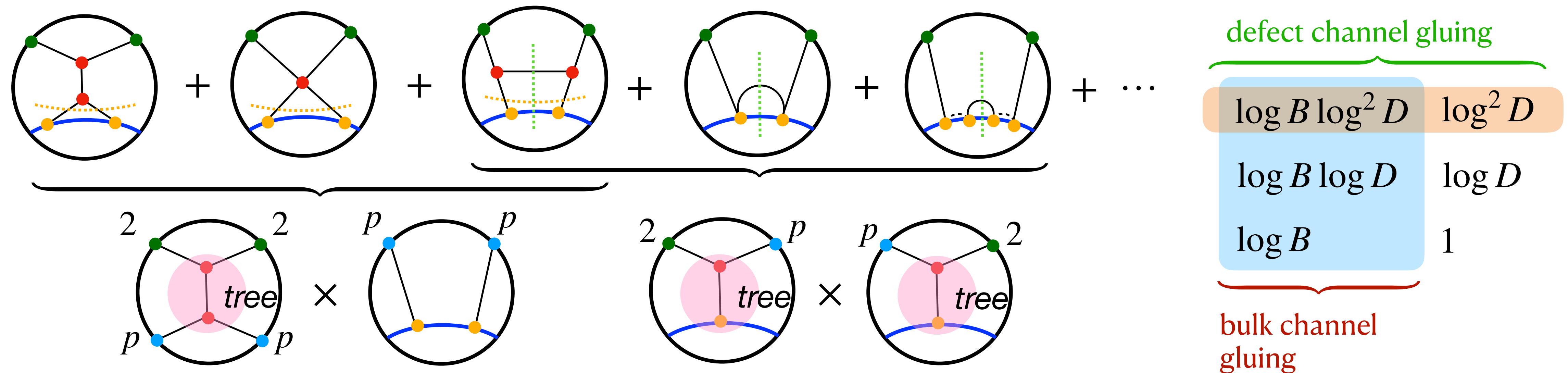
polynomial in σ

$k_m = \min\{k_1, k_2\}$

$\delta = p_1 \cdot p_2$
 $\gamma = -p_{1,\parallel}^2 = -p_{2,\parallel}^2$

Defect correlators

- At 1-loop level, we can compute them by gluing together tree-level correlators following a similar strategy as in 4pt functions [Chen, Gimenez-Grau, Paul, XZ]



- The Mellin amplitude are simultaneous poles with constant numerators.

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}(\delta, \gamma) = \sum_{m,n=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_{mn}}{(\delta + n)(\gamma - 6 - 2m)}$$

with c_{mn} given by ${}_3F_2$

Defect correlators

- Still quite preliminary
 - A zoo of theories to study: so far only WL in 4d $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM [Barrat, Gimenez-Grau, Liendo; Gimenez-Grau] and surface defect in 6d (2,0) theory [Meneghelli, Trepanier; Chen, Gimenez-Grau, XZ; Chen, Gimenez-Grau, Paul, XZ].
 - No analogue of **position space method** at loop level which will be useful for 2-loop and beyond.
 - We do not know how to rigorously take the **flat-space limit**.
 - One can also consider constraints from **localization** and **integrability** [de Leeuw, Kristjansen, Zarembo; Wang, Komatsu, Wang...]
 - Integrated 2pt functions and scattering from (p,q)-strings [Pufu, Rodriguez, Wang; Billo, Galvagno, Frau, Lerda; cf talk by Rodriguez and Billo].

Outlook

Clearly much more to do...

- Higher pts: on-shell recursion relations a la BCFW?
- More efficient tools at loop level to go to 3 loops and beyond?
- A more direct use of integrability?
- Systematic generalization of flat-space amplitude properties: what formalism? How to include more spinning operators?
- AdS string amplitudes: all order curvature corrections?

Many other interesting topics

- Finite temperature and black holes [Iliesiu, Kologlu, Mahajan, Perlmutter, Simmons-Duffin; Alday, Kologlu, Zhiboedov; Dodelson, Ooguri; also talk by Vichi]
- Correlators involving determinant operators [Jiang, Komatsu, Vescovi; Jiang, Wu, Zhang; Brown, Galvagno, Wen]
- Scattering equations and AdS CHY formalism [Eberhardt, Komatsu, Mizera; Roehrig, Skinner]
- Bootstrability [Cavaglia, Gromov, Julius, Preti; talk by Gromov]
- Correlators in dS [Sleight, Taronna; Gomez, Jusinkas, Lipstein; talk by Lipstein]

Thank you!