



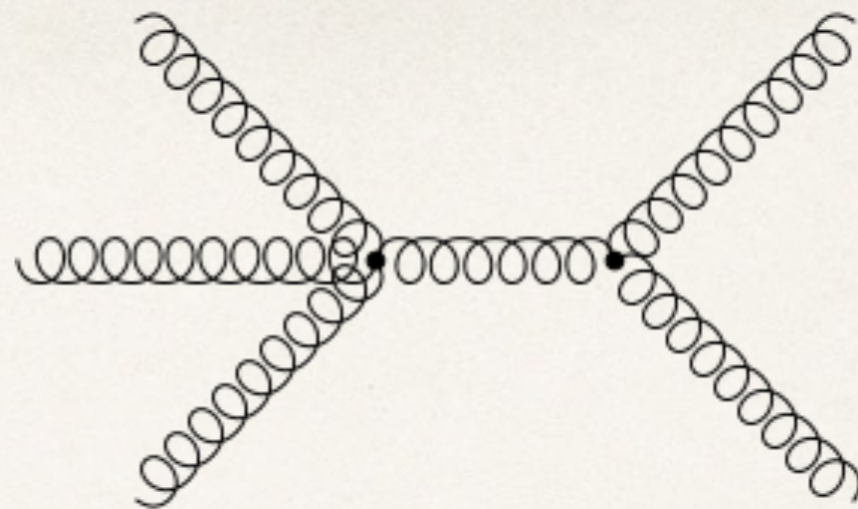
# Positive Geometry of Scattering Amplitudes

Jaroslav Trnka (California Institute of Technology)

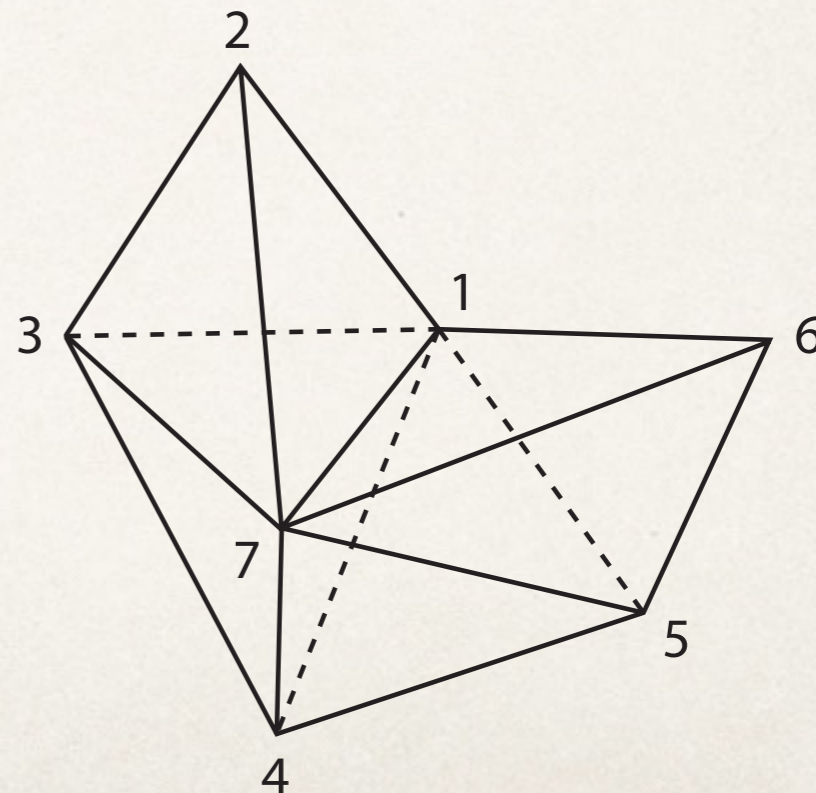
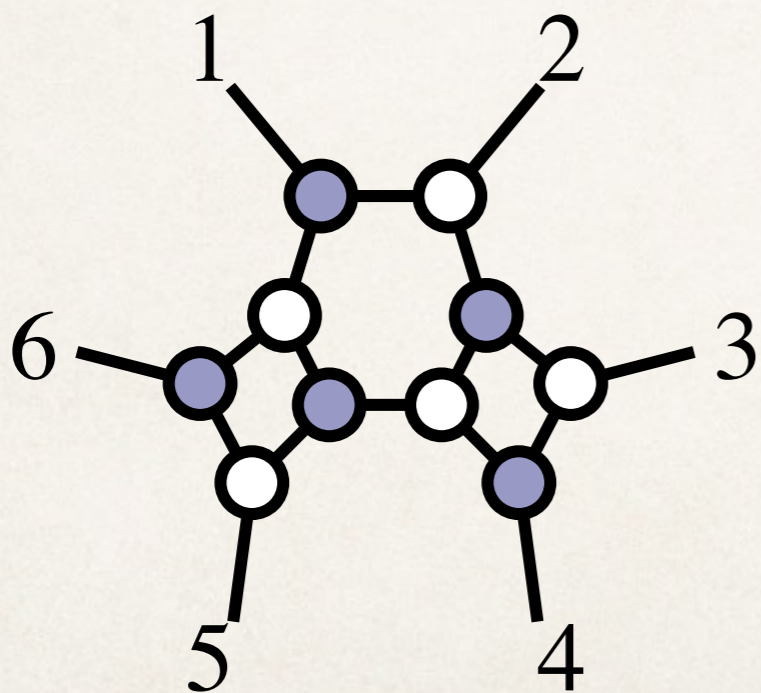
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*UC Davis, March 2, 2015*





# Scattering amplitudes





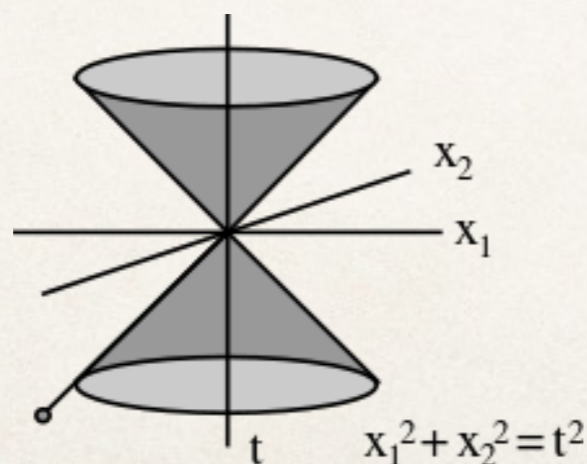
# Quantum Field Theory (QFT)

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- ❖ Our theoretical framework to describe Nature
- ❖ Compatible with two principles

Special relativity

Quantum mechanics



$$H(t)|\psi(t)\rangle = i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\psi(t)\rangle$$



# Standard formulation

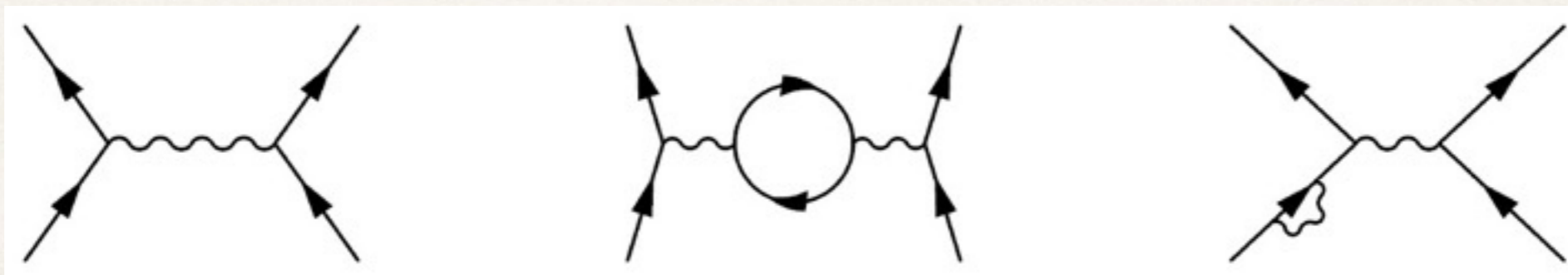
(Dirac, Heisenberg, Pauli; Feynman, Dyson, Schwinger)



- ❖ Fields, Lagrangian, Path integral

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} + i\bar{\psi}\not{D}\psi - m\bar{\psi}\psi \quad \int \mathcal{D}A \mathcal{D}\psi \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi} e^{iS(A,\psi,\bar{\psi},J)}$$

- ❖ Feynman diagrams: pictures of particle interactions  
Perturbative expansion: trees, loops





# Great success of QFT

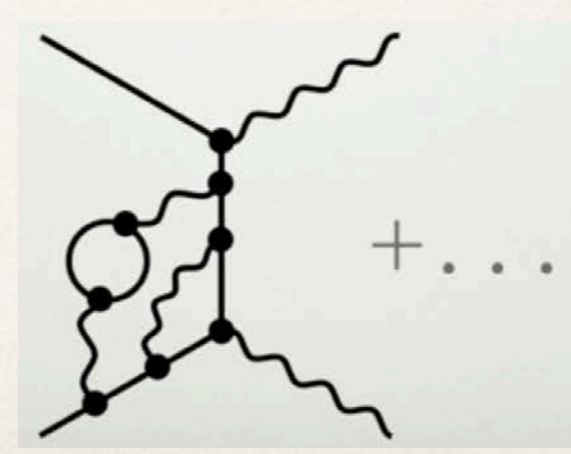
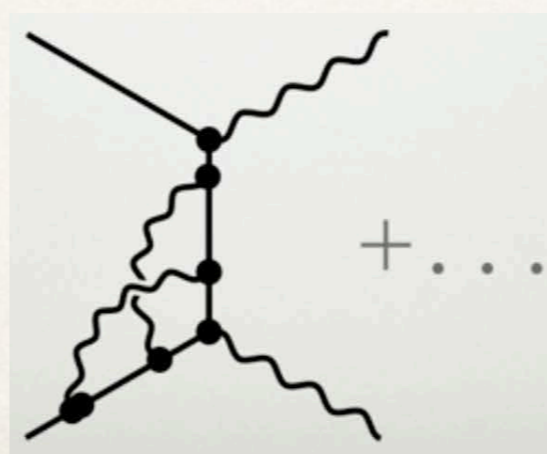
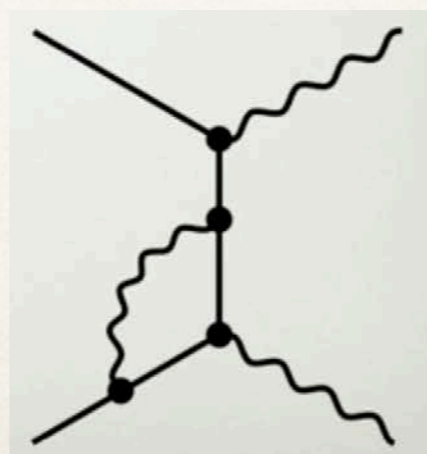
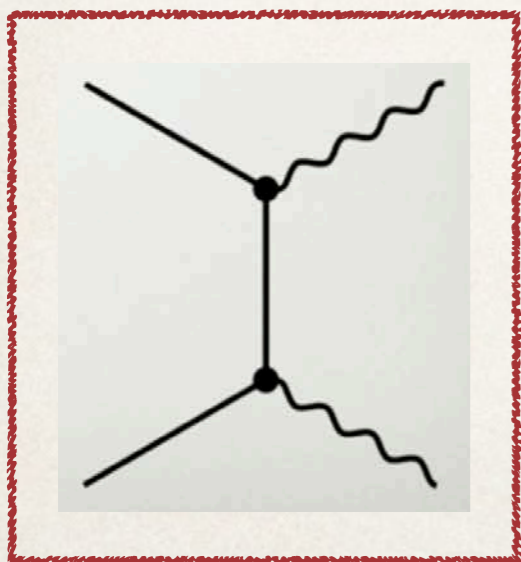
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- ❖ QFT has passed countless tests in last 70 years
- ❖ Example: Magnetic dipole moment of electron

1928

Theory:  $g_e = 2$

Experiment:  $g_e \sim 2$





# Great success of QFT

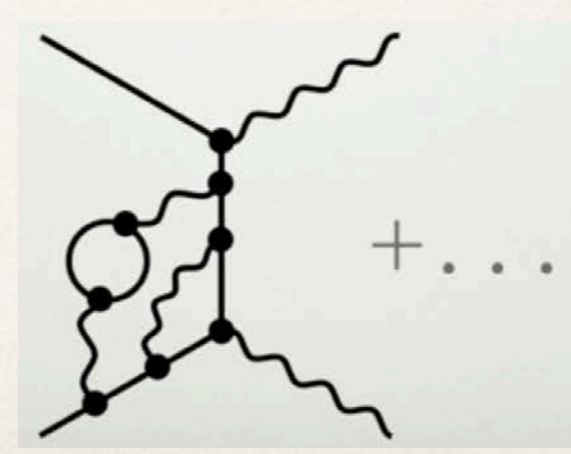
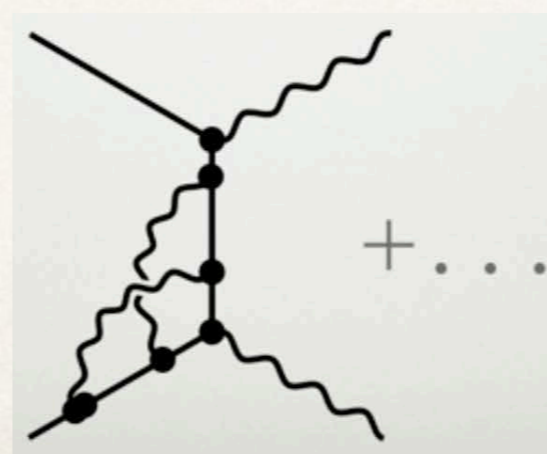
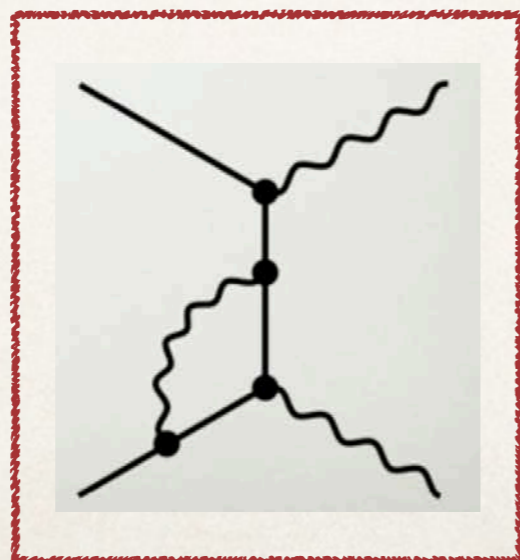
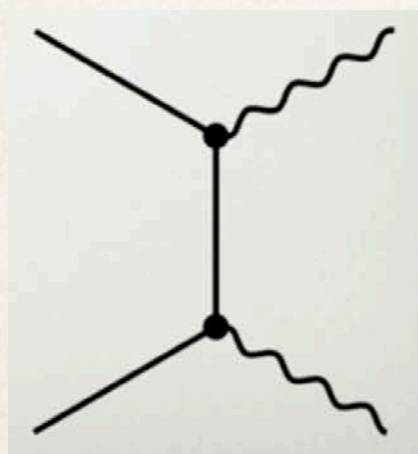
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- ❖ QFT has passed countless tests in last 70 years
- ❖ Example: Magnetic dipole moment of electron

1947

Theory:  $g_e = 2.00232$

Experiment:  $g_e = 2.0023$





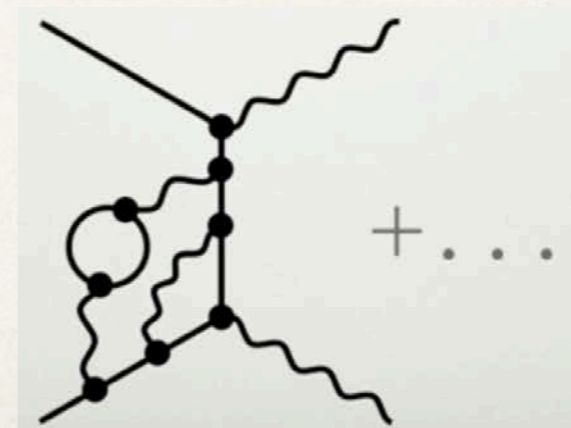
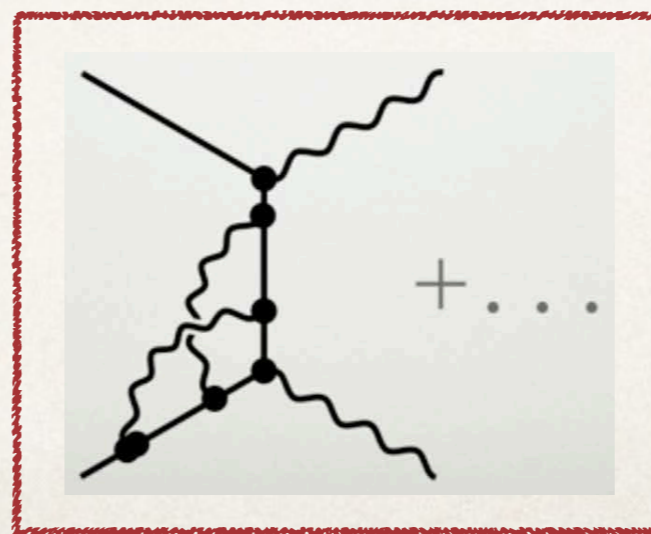
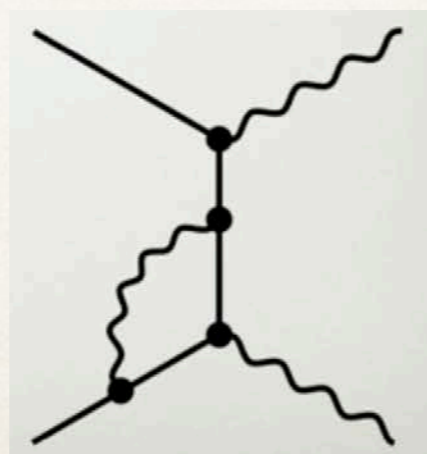
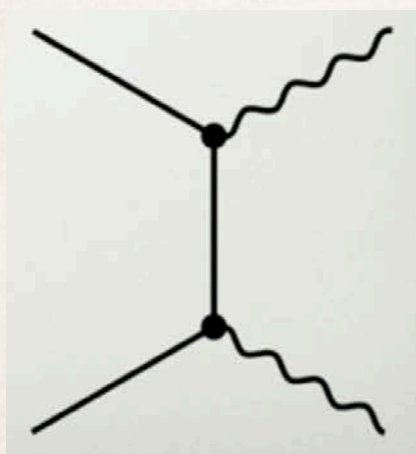
# Great success of QFT

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- ❖ QFT has passed countless tests in last 70 years
- ❖ Example: Magnetic dipole moment of electron

1957 Theory:  $g_e = 2.0023193$

1972 Experiment:  $g_e = 2.00231931$





# Great success of QFT

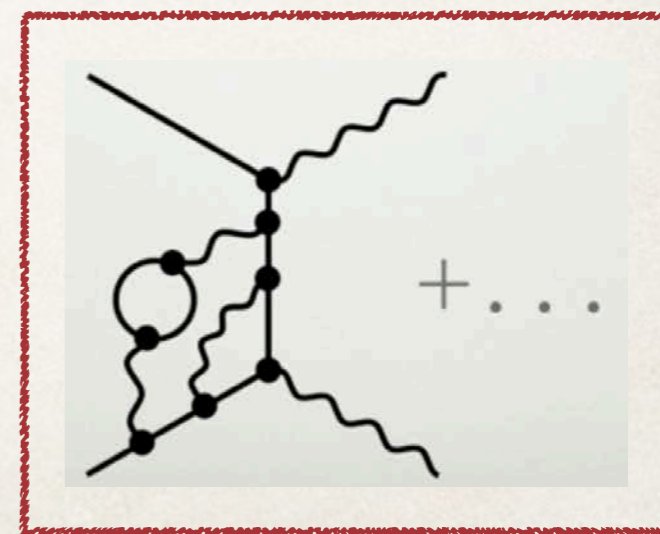
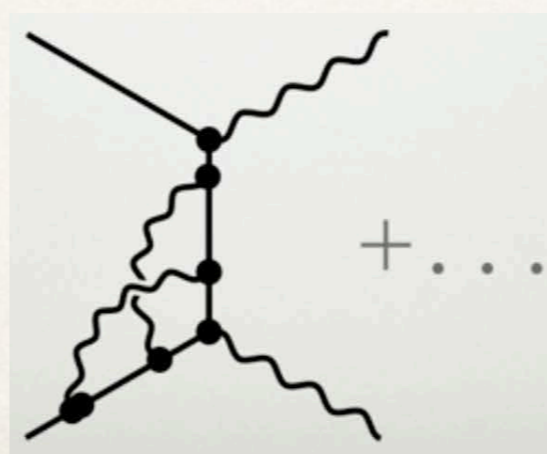
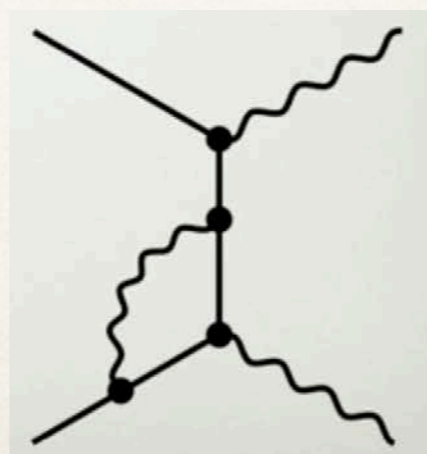
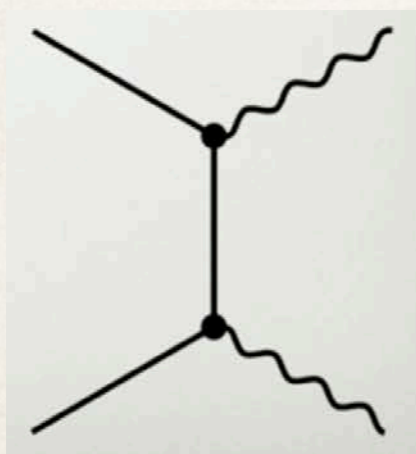
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- ❖ QFT has passed countless tests in last 70 years
- ❖ Example: Magnetic dipole moment of electron

1990

Theory:  $g_e = 2.0023193044$

Experiment:  $g_e = 2.00231930438$





# Dualities

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❖ At strong coupling: perturbative expansion breaks



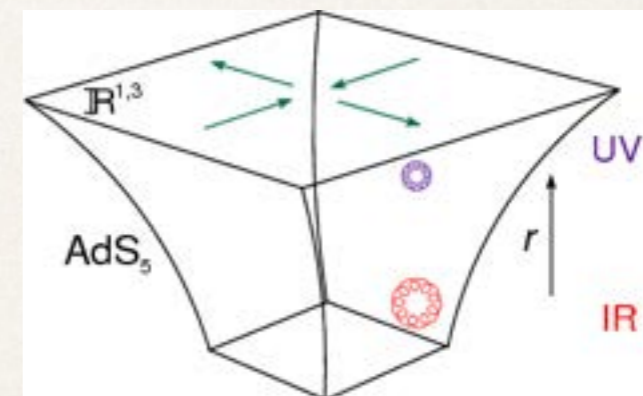
❖ Surprises: dual to weakly coupled theory

- Gauge-gauge dualities

(Montonen-Olive 1977, Seiberg-Witten 1994)

- Gauge-gravity duality

(Maldacena 1997)





# Motivation

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- ❖ Our picture of QFT is incomplete
- ❖ Also, tension with gravity and cosmology

If there is a new way of thinking about QFT,  
it must be seen even at weak coupling

- ❖ Explicit evidence: scattering amplitudes



# Hidden simplicity in scattering amplitudes

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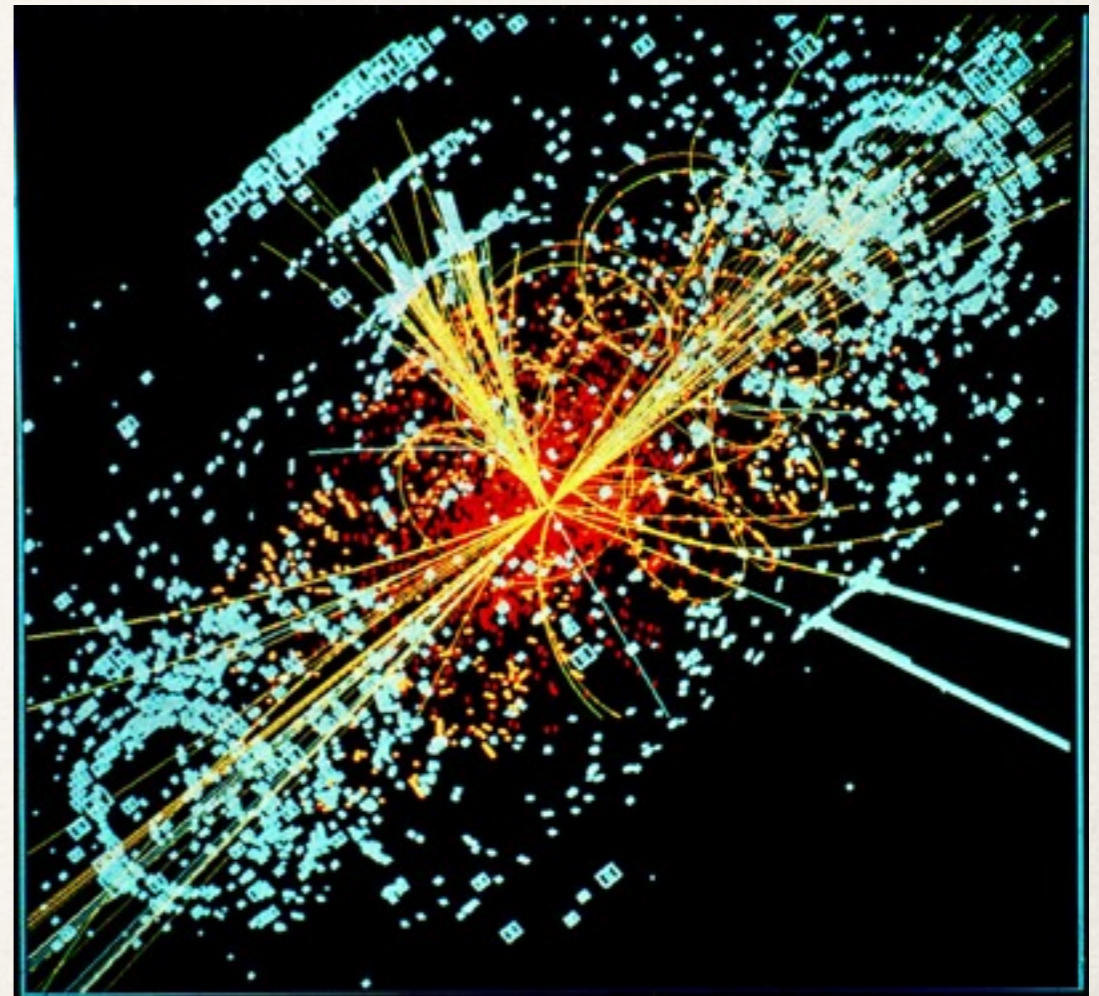


# Scattering amplitudes

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- ❖ Function of spin and external kinematics  $\mathcal{M}(p, s, \dots)$
- ❖ Probability of a given process during a particle collision
- ❖ Experimentalists measure cross-section

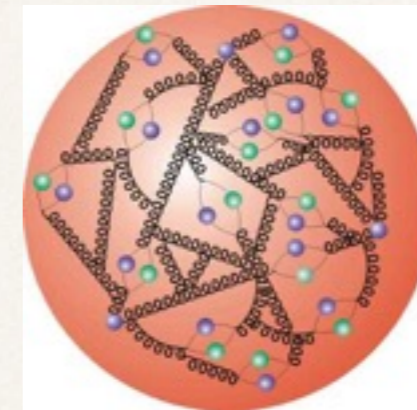
$$\sigma = \int d\Omega |\mathcal{M}|^2$$





# Colliders at high energies

- ❖ Proton scattering at high energies

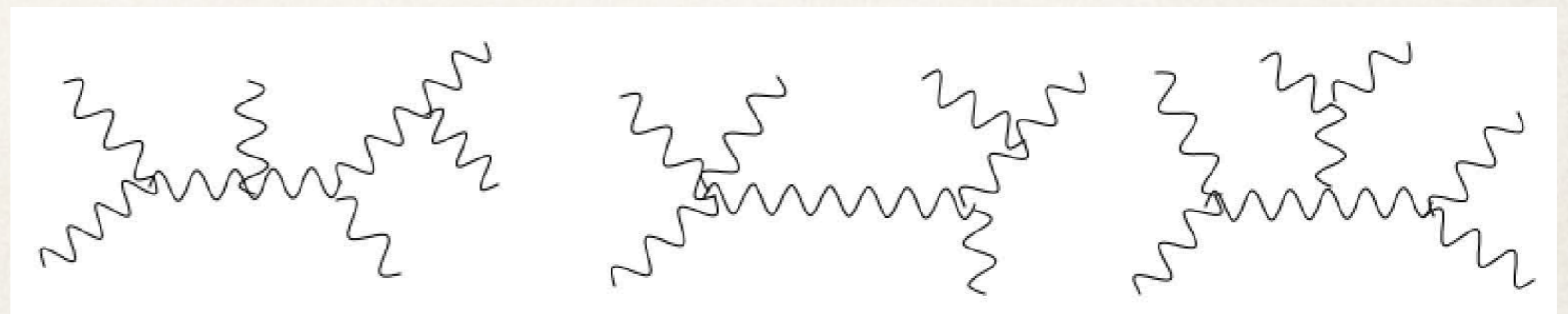


LHC - gluonic factory

- ❖ Needed: amplitudes of gluons for higher multiplicities

$$gg \rightarrow gg \dots g$$

Two helicities: + -





# Early 80s

❖ Status of the art:  $gg \rightarrow ggg$

Brute force calculation  
24 pages of result



$$(k_1 \cdot k_4)(\epsilon_2 \cdot k_1)(\epsilon_1 \cdot \epsilon_3)(\epsilon_4 \cdot \epsilon_5)$$



# New collider

---

- ❖ 1983: Superconducting Super Collider approved
- ❖ Energy 40 TeV: many gluons!



- ❖ Demand for calculations, next on the list:  $gg \rightarrow gggg$



# Parke-Taylor formula



- ❖ Process  $gg \rightarrow gggg$
- ❖ 220 Feynman diagrams,  $\sim 100$  pages of calculations
- ❖ 1985: Paper with 14 pages of result

GLUONIC TWO GOES TO FOUR

Stephen J. Parke and T.R. Taylor  
Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory  
P.O. Box 500, Batavia, IL 60510  
U.S.A.

ABSTRACT

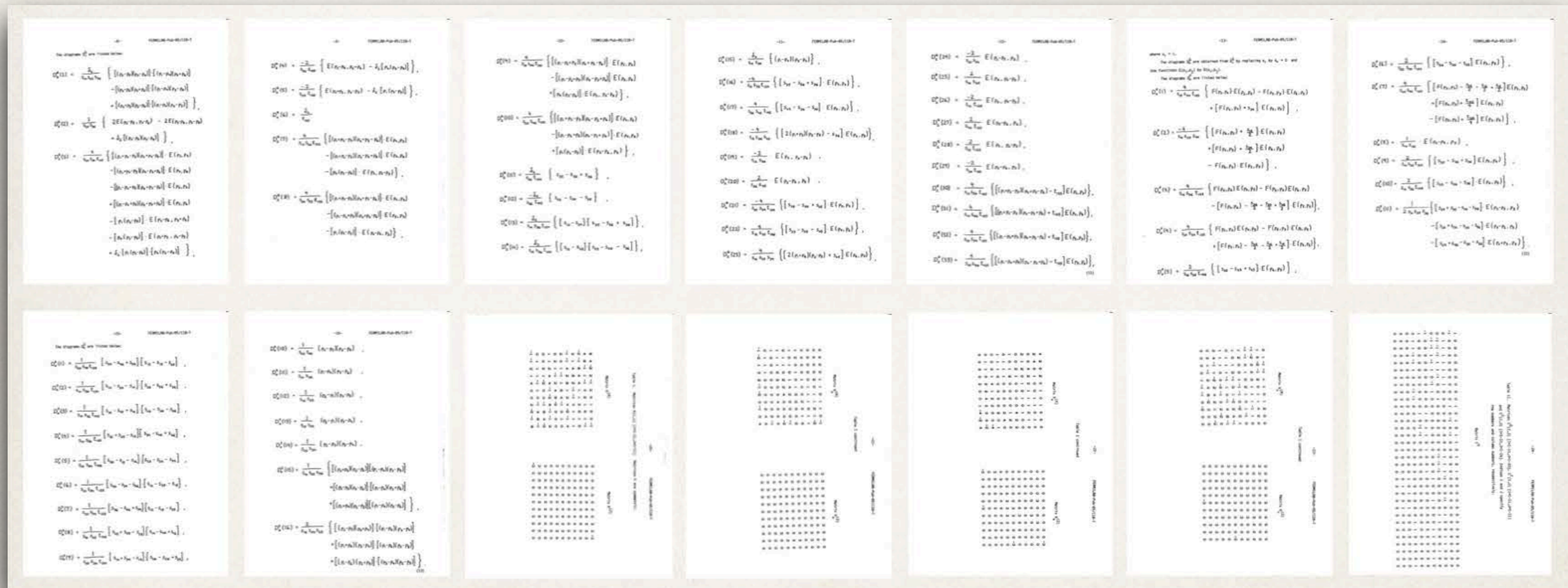
The cross section for two gluon to four gluon scattering is given in a form suitable for fast numerical calculations.



# Parke-Taylor formula



- ❖ Process  $gg \rightarrow gggg$
- ❖ 220 Feynman diagrams,  $\sim 100$  pages of calculations





# Parke-Taylor formula

---



Our result has successfully passed both these numerical checks.

Details of the calculation, together with a full exposition of our techniques, will be given in a forthcoming article. Furthermore, we hope to obtain a simple analytic form for the answer, making our result not only an experimentalist's, but also a theorist's delight.



# Parke-Taylor formula



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❖ Within a year they realized

$$\mathcal{M}_6 = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^3}{\langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle \langle 56 \rangle \langle 61 \rangle}$$

Spinor-helicity variables

$$\begin{aligned} p^\mu &= \sigma_{a\dot{a}}^\mu \lambda_a \tilde{\lambda}_{\dot{a}} \\ \langle 12 \rangle &= \epsilon_{ab} \lambda_a^{(1)} \lambda_b^{(2)} \\ [12] &= \epsilon_{\dot{a}\dot{b}} \tilde{\lambda}_{\dot{a}}^{(1)} \tilde{\lambda}_{\dot{b}}^{(2)} \end{aligned}$$

(Mangano, Parke, Xu 1987)



# Parke-Taylor formula



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❖ Within a year they realized

$$\mathcal{M}_n = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^3}{\langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle \dots \langle n1 \rangle}$$

AN AMPLITUDE FOR  $n$  GLUON SCATTERING

STEPHEN J. PARKE and T. R. TAYLOR

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory  
P.O. Box 500, Batavia, IL 60510.



# Gauge redundancy

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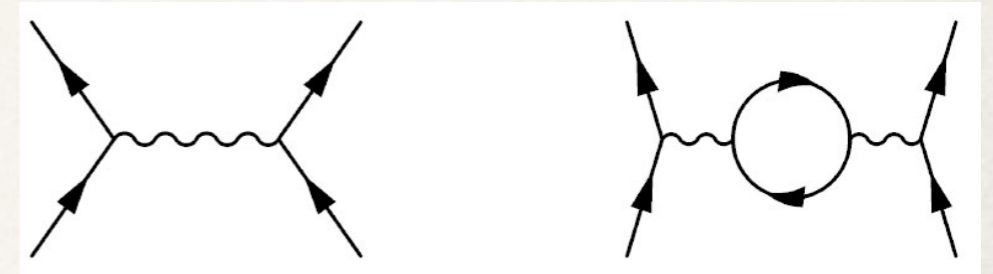
- ❖ Where is the problem? Massless particles
- ❖ Particles with spin: gauge redundancy  $\epsilon^\mu \rightarrow \epsilon^\mu + \alpha p^\mu$
- ❖ Individual Feynman diagrams not gauge invariant  
Huge cancellations among diagrams



# Locality and unitarity

❖ Redundancy: local interaction picture, off-shell particles

❖ Two principles manifest:



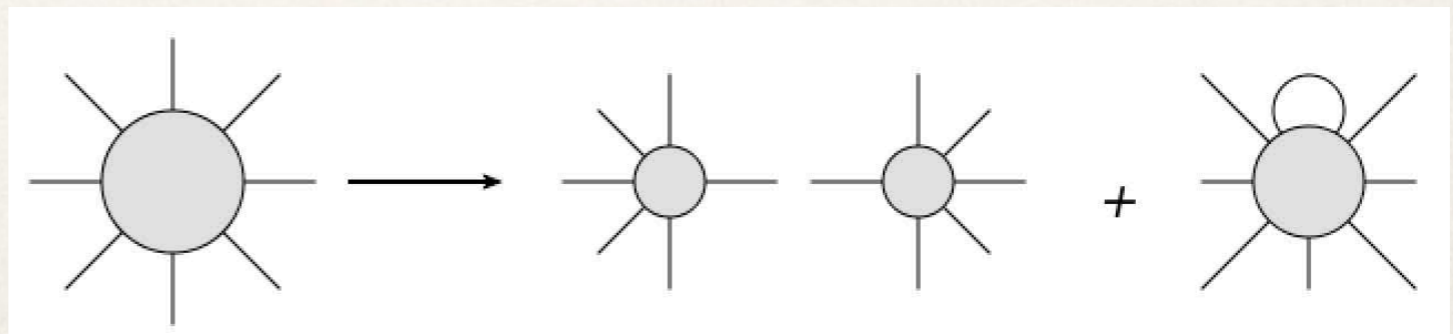
I) Locality: particles interact point-like

Amplitude:  
only poles

$$\frac{1}{P^2} \rightarrow \infty \quad P = \sum_{i \in \sigma} p_i$$

II) Unitarity: sum of probabilities is 1

Amplitude:  
factorization





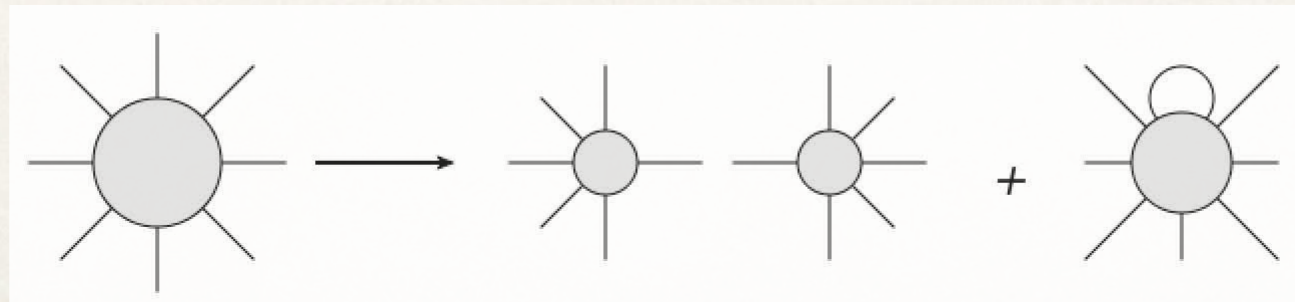
# Modern methods for amplitudes

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- ❖ Lessons from Parke-Taylor calculation:

Gauge invariance + physical states

- ❖ No fields, Lagrangians or path integrals
- ❖ Exploit locality and unitarity: fix the amplitude



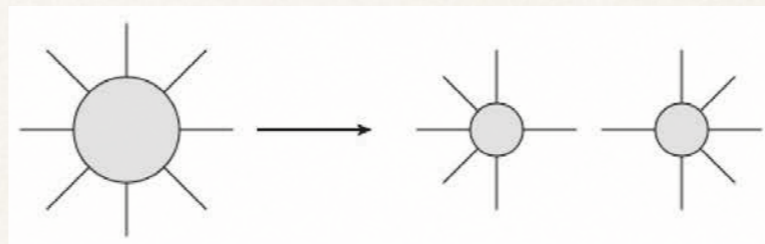


# Recursion relations

(Britto-Cachazo-Feng-Witten 2005)

- ❖ Large class of theories at tree-level

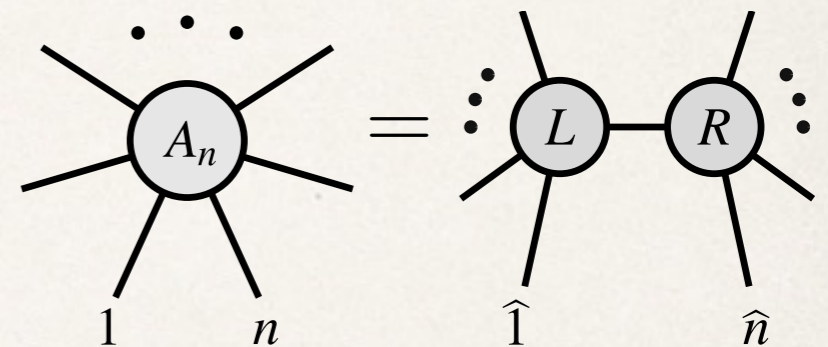
- ❖ Tree-level unitarity



- ❖ Shift momenta + Cauchy formula

$$p_1 \rightarrow p_1 + zq$$

$$p_2 \rightarrow p_2 - zq$$



- ❖ Very efficient method:

	$gg \rightarrow 4g$	$gg \rightarrow 5g$	$gg \rightarrow 6g$
Feynman diagrams	220	2485	34300
Recursion relations	3	6	20

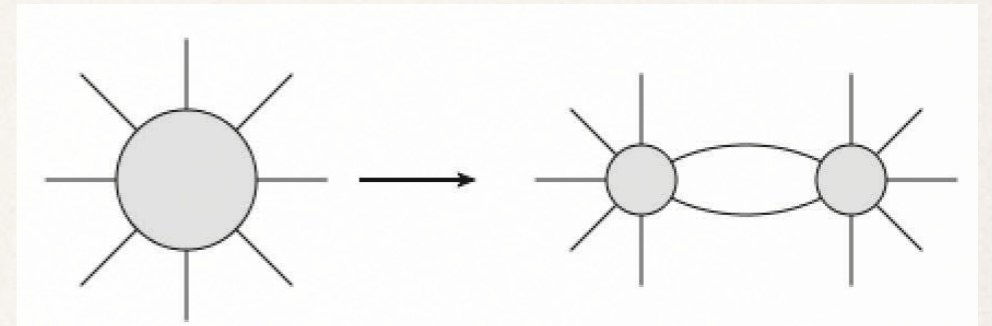


# Unitarity methods

(Bern-Dixon-Kosower)



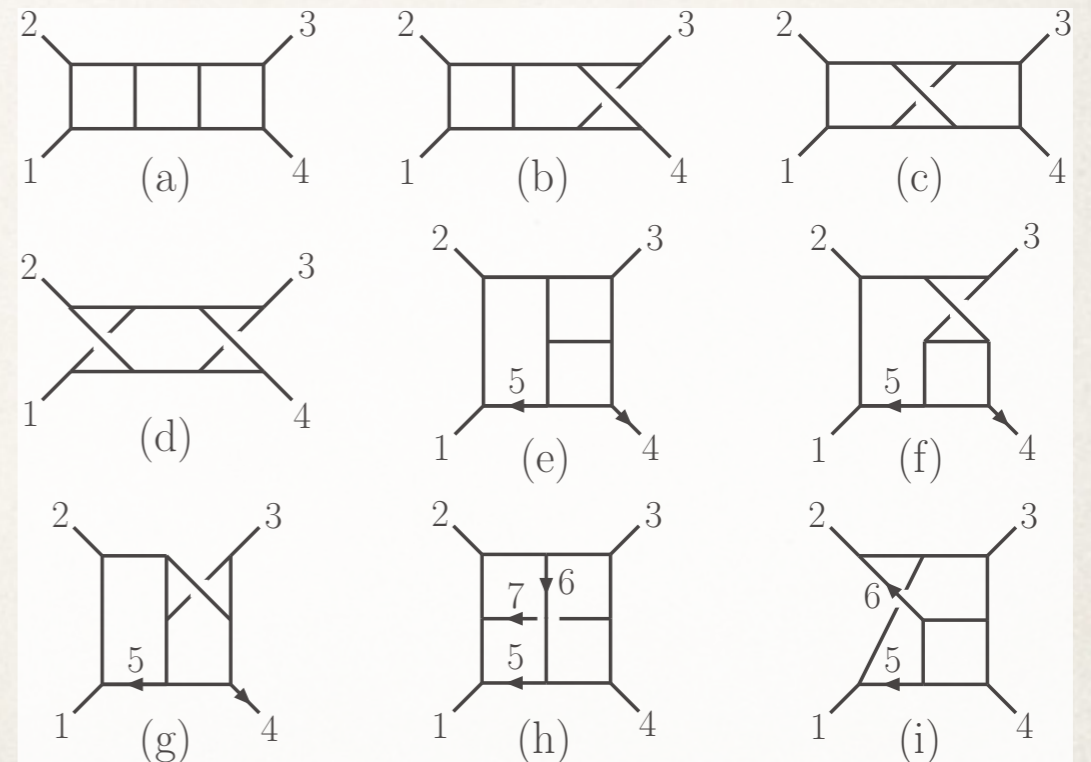
- ❖ Iterative use of the unitary cut



- ❖ Generate basis of integrals, fixing coefficients from cuts

- ❖ Tremendous success in calculations in 1990-today

Example: Four point 3-loop amplitudes in supersymmetric Yang-Mills theory and gravity





# Unitarity methods

(Bern-Dixon-Kosower)

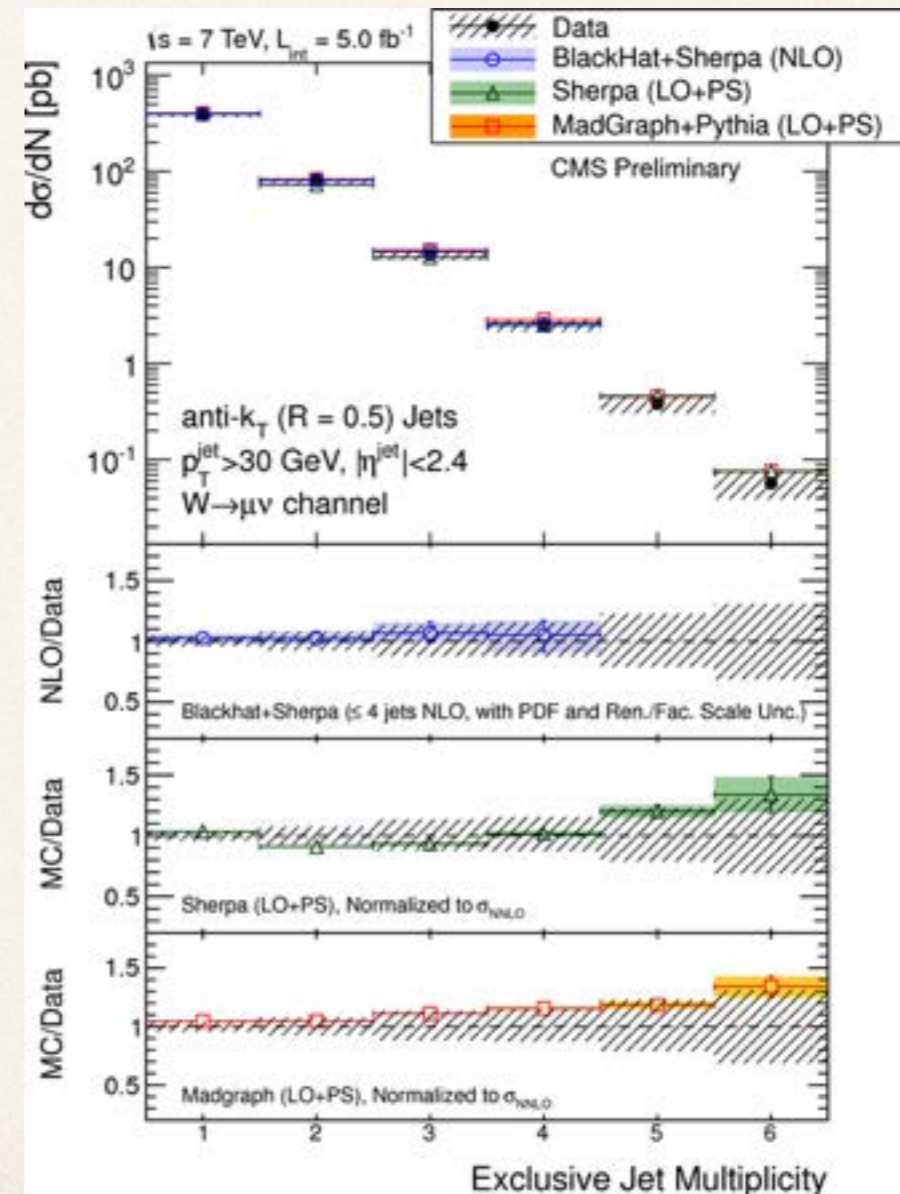


❖ QCD background at LHC

❖ BlackHat collaboration



❖ Huge efficiency in NLO calculations



Used by CMS  
in comparison  
to data,  
March 2014



# Toy model

---

- ❖ This is a great success; is there a deeper structure?
- ❖ Time-proven method: study a toy model first

## Wish list:

- Four-dimensional interacting theory
- Close to the real world (QCD) as much as possible
- Ability to generate plenty of explicit results



# Maximally supersymmetric Yang-Mills theory in planar limit

---

(Brink-Scherk-Schwarz 1977)

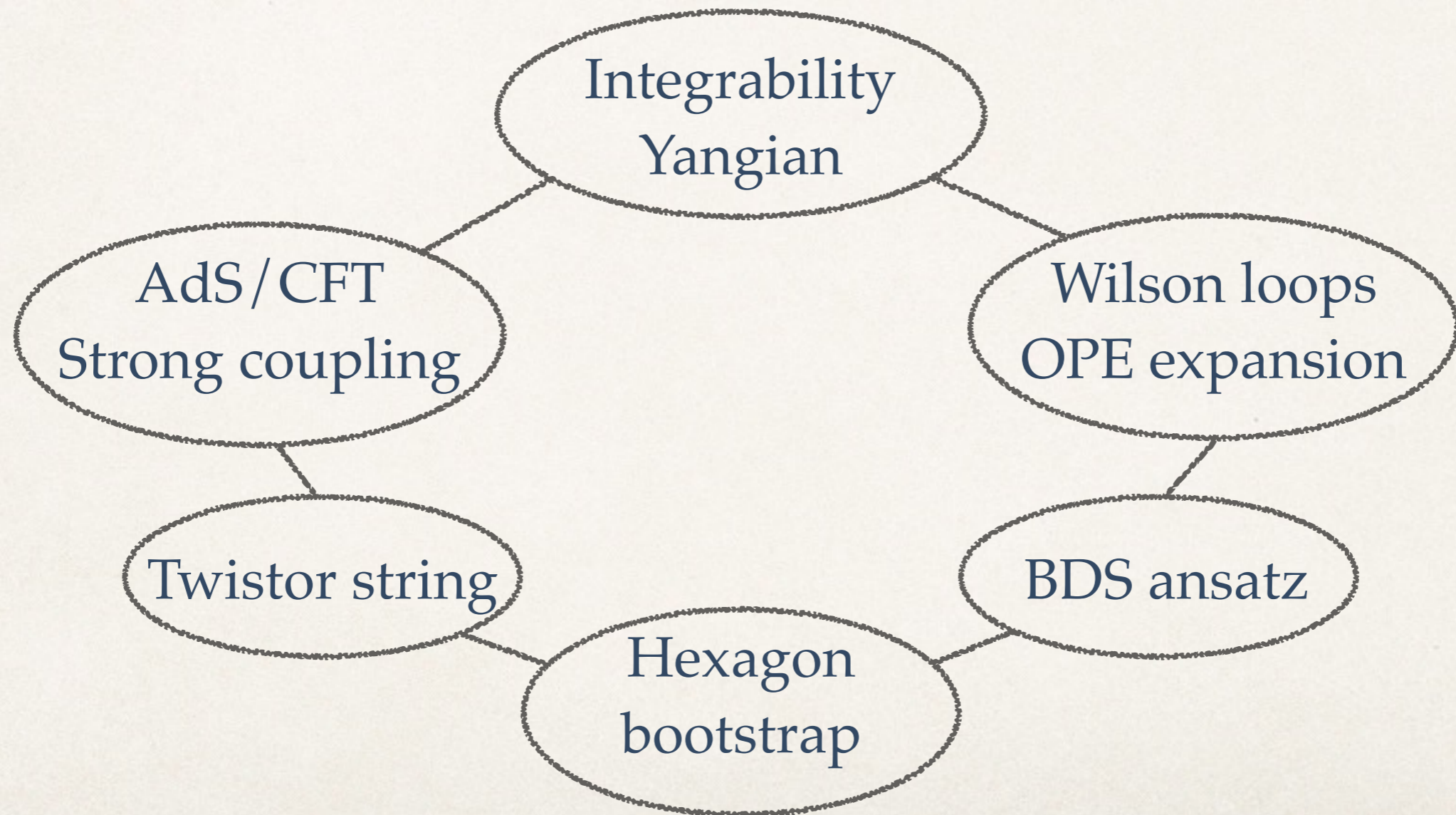
- ❖ Conformal, convergent series
- ❖ Great toy model for QCD
  - Tree-level amplitudes identical
  - Loop amplitudes simpler, structures similar
  - But, no confinement :(
- ❖ Past: new methods for amplitudes originated here



# Many faces of the theory

---

- ❖ Useful playground for many theoretical ideas





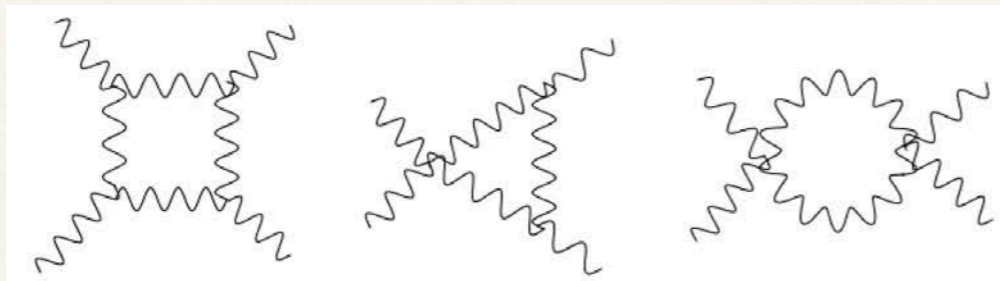
# Simple amplitudes

---

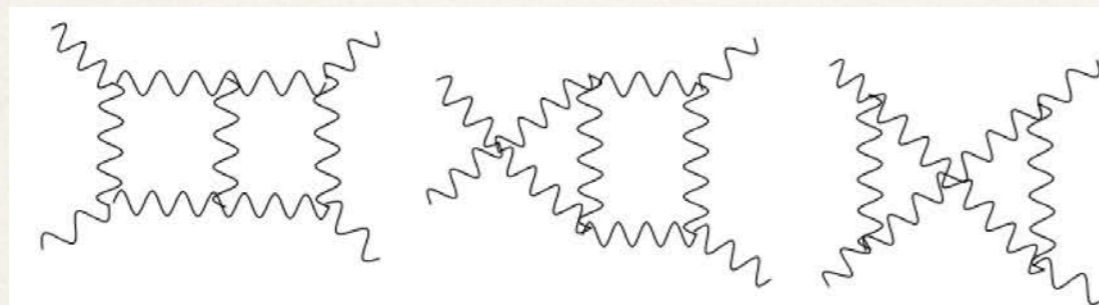
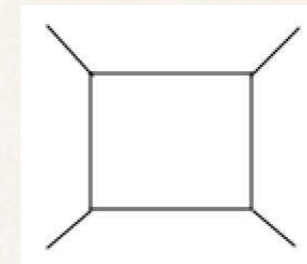
## ❖ Comparison: Feynman diagrams vs unitary methods

$gg \rightarrow gg$

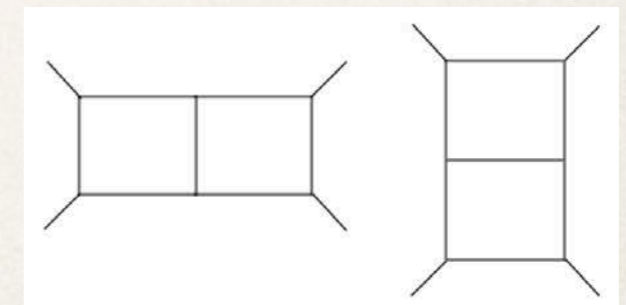
Number of  
graphs



87 vs 1



$\sim 1000$  vs 2





# What is the amplitude?

---

## New definition of the amplitude

- ❖ Standard: Function consistent with locality and unitarity
- ❖ Our goal: Different definition
  - No fields, Lagrangians, path integrals
  - Unitarity, locality emergent from other principles
  - Powerful method for calculations



# Prelude

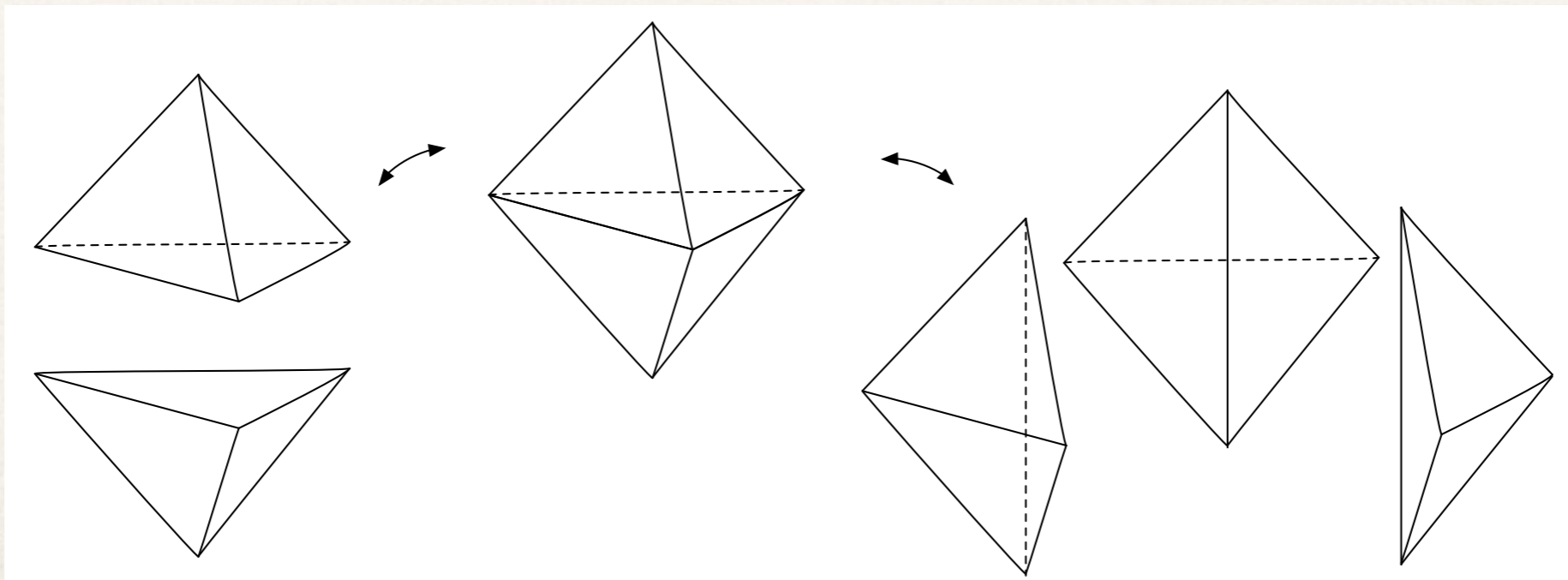
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# Volume of polyhedron

(Hodges 2009)

- ❖ New kinematical variables — momentum twistors  
 $Z \in \mathbb{C}^3$
- ❖ Tree-level process:  $gg \rightarrow 5g$
- ❖ Comparison of two calculations of recursion relations

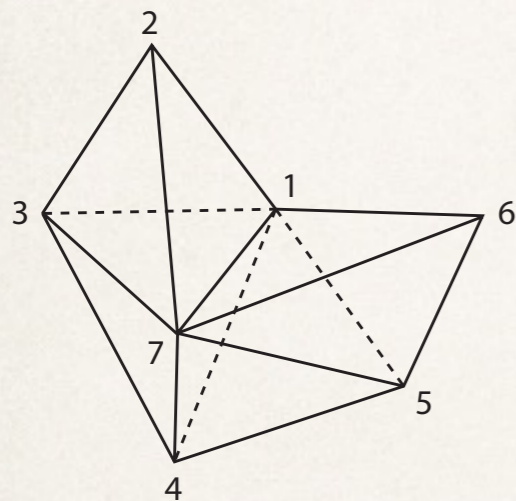


(Picture by Stavros Garoufalidis)



# Evidence for a new structure

## Volume of polyhedron



$gg \rightarrow gg \dots g$   
at tree-level

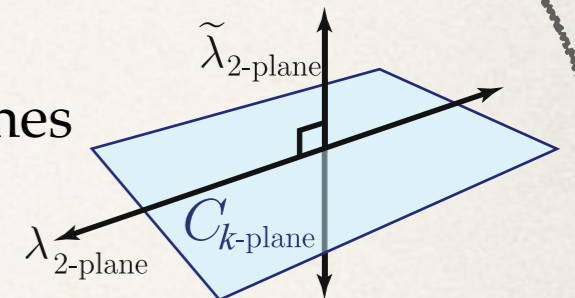
$$\int_{\tilde{P}_n} \frac{D^4 \mathcal{W}}{(\mathcal{Z}_0 \cdot \mathcal{W})^5}$$

Amplitude = volume

(Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachazo, Hodges, JT 2010)

## Grassmannian

Configurations of  $k$ -planes  
in  $n$  dimensions



$$\int_{C \in \Gamma_\sigma} \frac{d^{k \times n} C}{\text{vol}(GL(k))} \frac{\delta^{k \times 4}(C \cdot \tilde{\eta})}{(1 \dots k) \dots (n \dots k-1)} \delta^{k \times 2}(C \cdot \tilde{\lambda}) \delta^{2 \times (n-k)}(\lambda \cdot C^\perp)$$

All-loop order information

(Arkani-Hamed, Cachazo, Cheung, Kaplan 2009)



# “Conjecture”

---

Amplitudes are volumes  
of *some regions in some space*



# The Amplituhedron

---

(Arkani-Hamed, JT 2013)



# Strategy

---

- ❖ Simple intuitive geometric ideas: use equations
- ❖ Generalization:
  - More complicated geometry
  - Higher dimensions
- ❖ Same equations persist

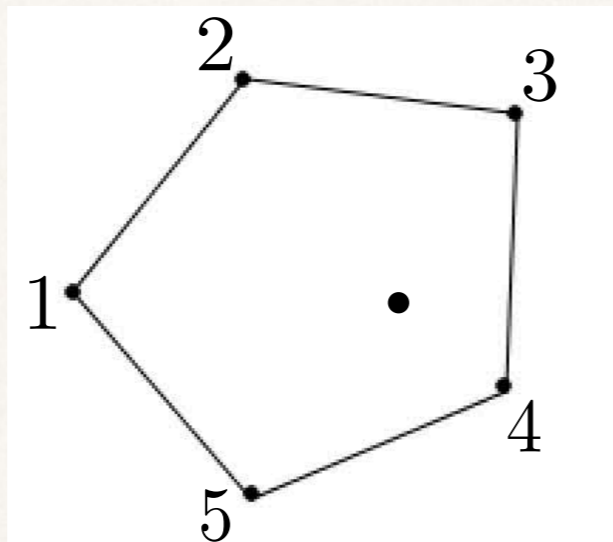


# Road to Amplituhedron

---

Start:

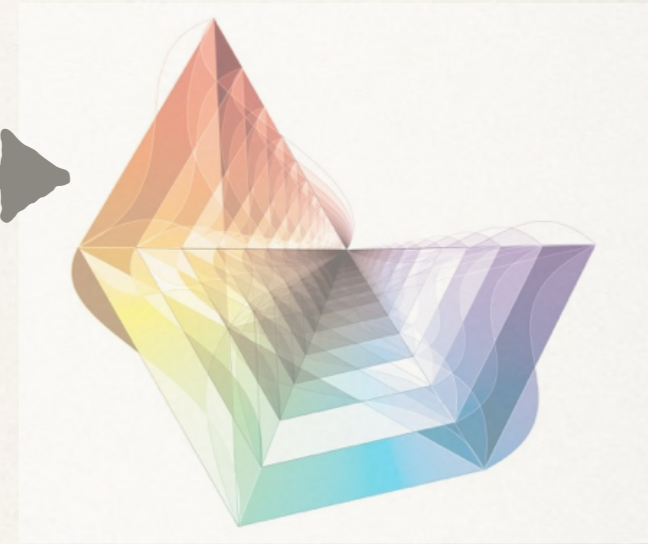
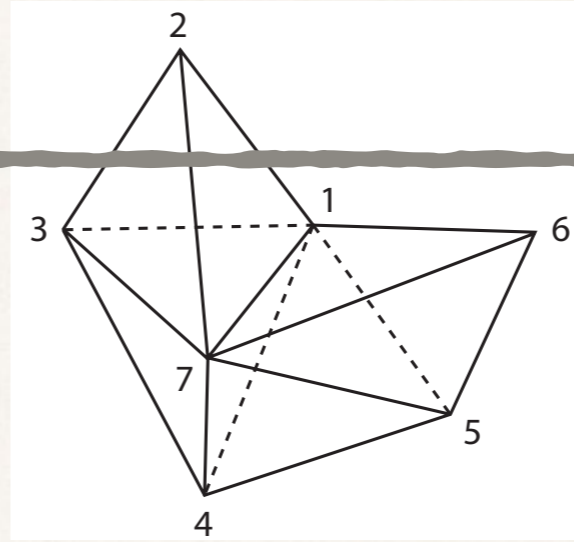
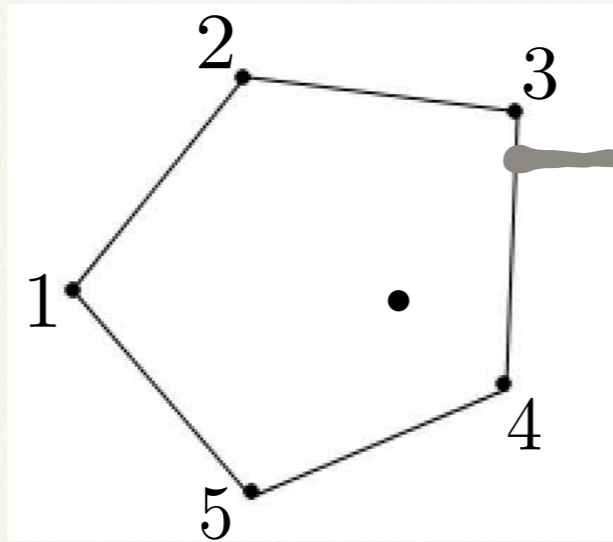
Point inside a  
convex polygon





# Road to Amplituhedron

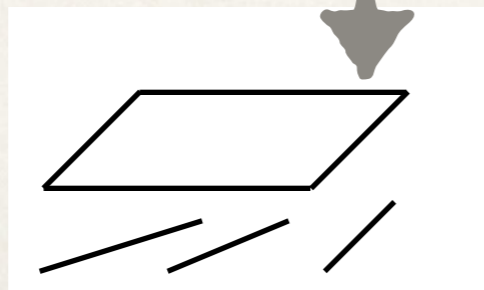
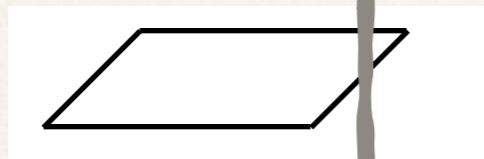
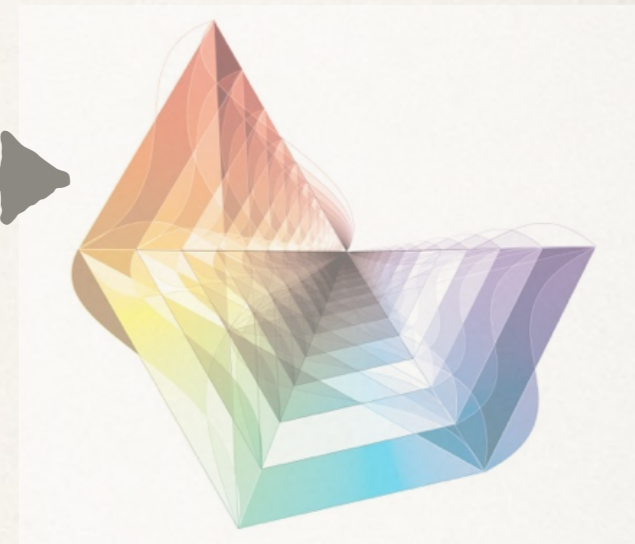
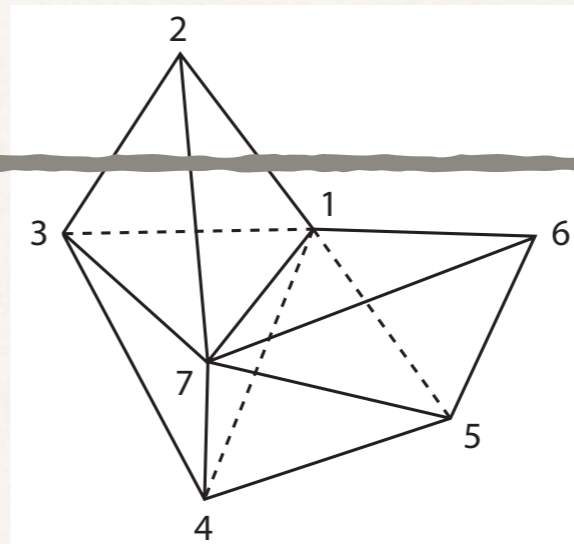
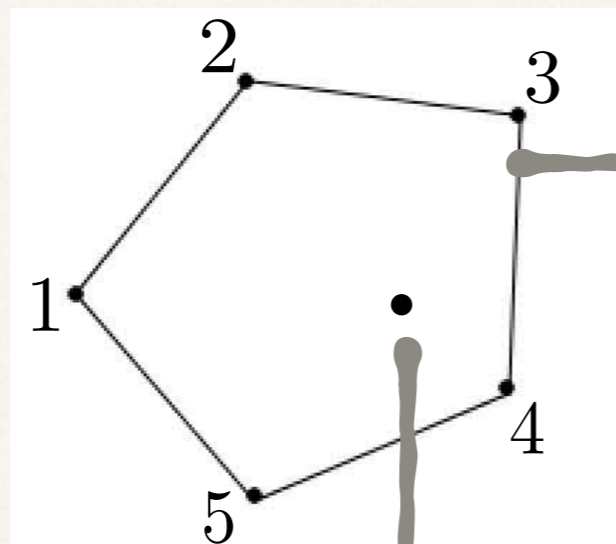
Start:  
Point inside a  
convex polygon





# Road to Amplituhedron

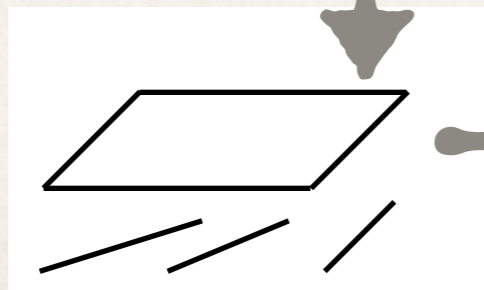
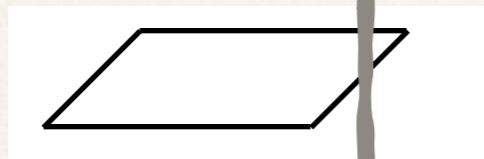
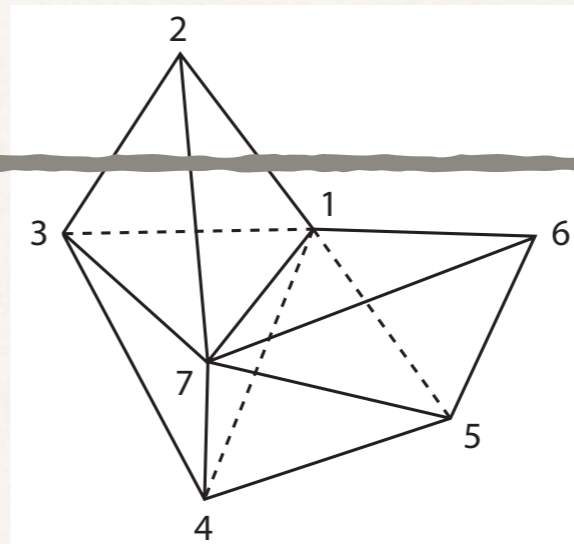
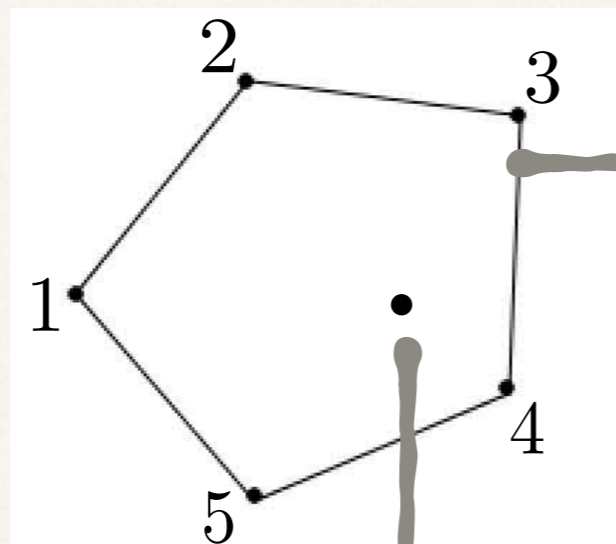
Start:  
Point inside a  
convex polygon





# Road to Amplituhedron

Start:  
Point inside a  
convex polygon



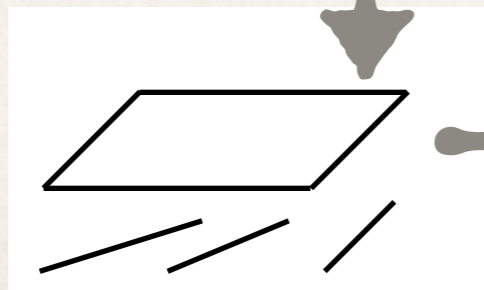
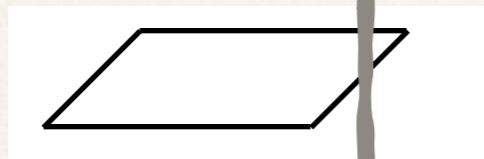
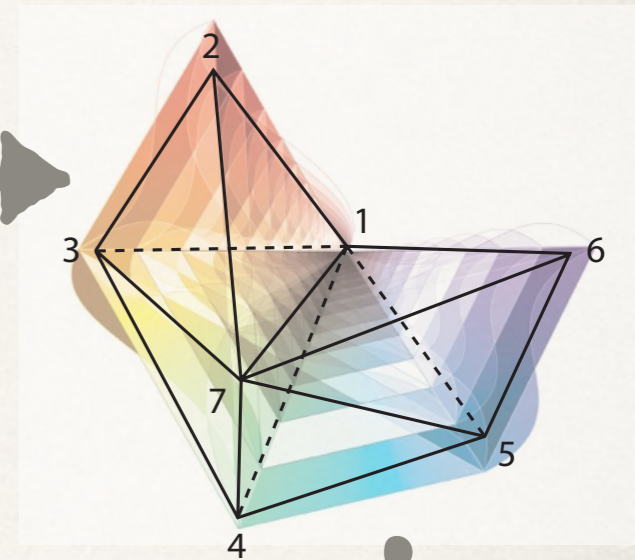
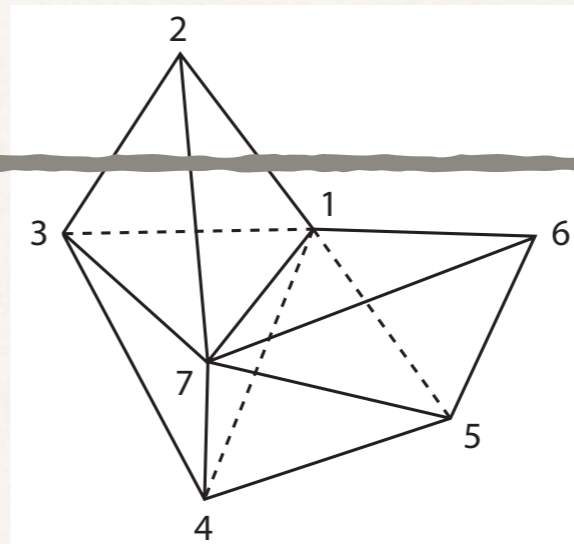
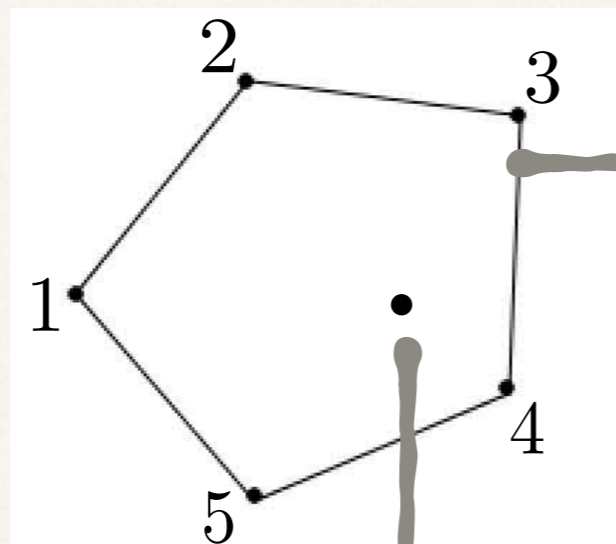
Amplituhedron  $\mathcal{A}_{n,k,\ell}$

A  $k$ -dim plane and  $\ell$  lines  
inside a  $(k + 4)$ -dim convex  
space defined by  $n$  vertices



# Road to Amplituhedron

Start:  
Point inside a  
convex polygon



Amplituhedron  $\mathcal{A}_{n,k,\ell}$

A  $k$ -dim plane and  $\ell$  lines  
inside a  $(k + 4)$ -dim convex  
space defined by  $n$  vertices



# Amplituhedron conjecture

- ❖ Volume of  $\mathcal{A}_{n,k,\ell}$ :

Amplitudes in maximally supersymmetric Yang-Mills theory

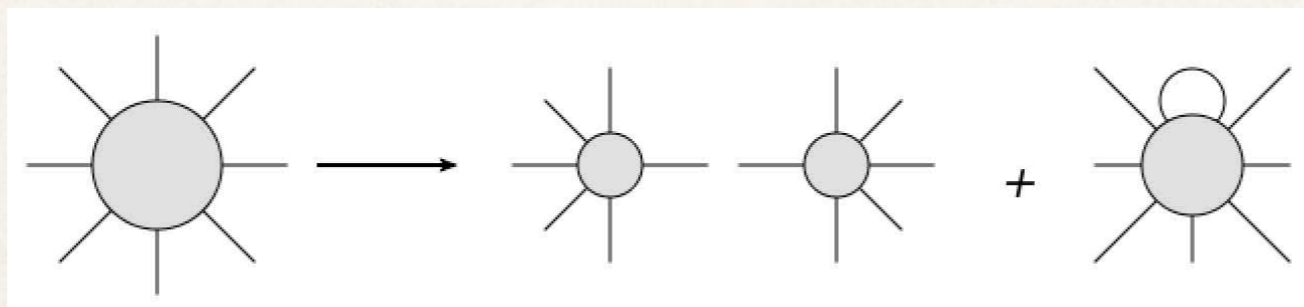
$\ell = 0$ : Amplitudes of gluons in QCD

$n$   
number of particles

$k$   
helicity information

$\ell$   
number of loops

- ❖ Consistency check: Locality and Unitarity



- ❖ Explicit checks against reference theoretical data



# Volume of the space

---

❖ Set of inequalities: Volume = differential form

❖ Simple examples:  $x > 0$  :  $\text{Vol} = \frac{dx}{x}$

$y > 0, x > 0$  :  $\text{Vol} = \frac{dx}{x} \frac{dy}{y}$

$y > x > 0$  :  $\text{Vol} = \frac{dx}{x} \frac{dy}{y-x}$

❖ Amplituhedron for amplitude  $gg \rightarrow gg$

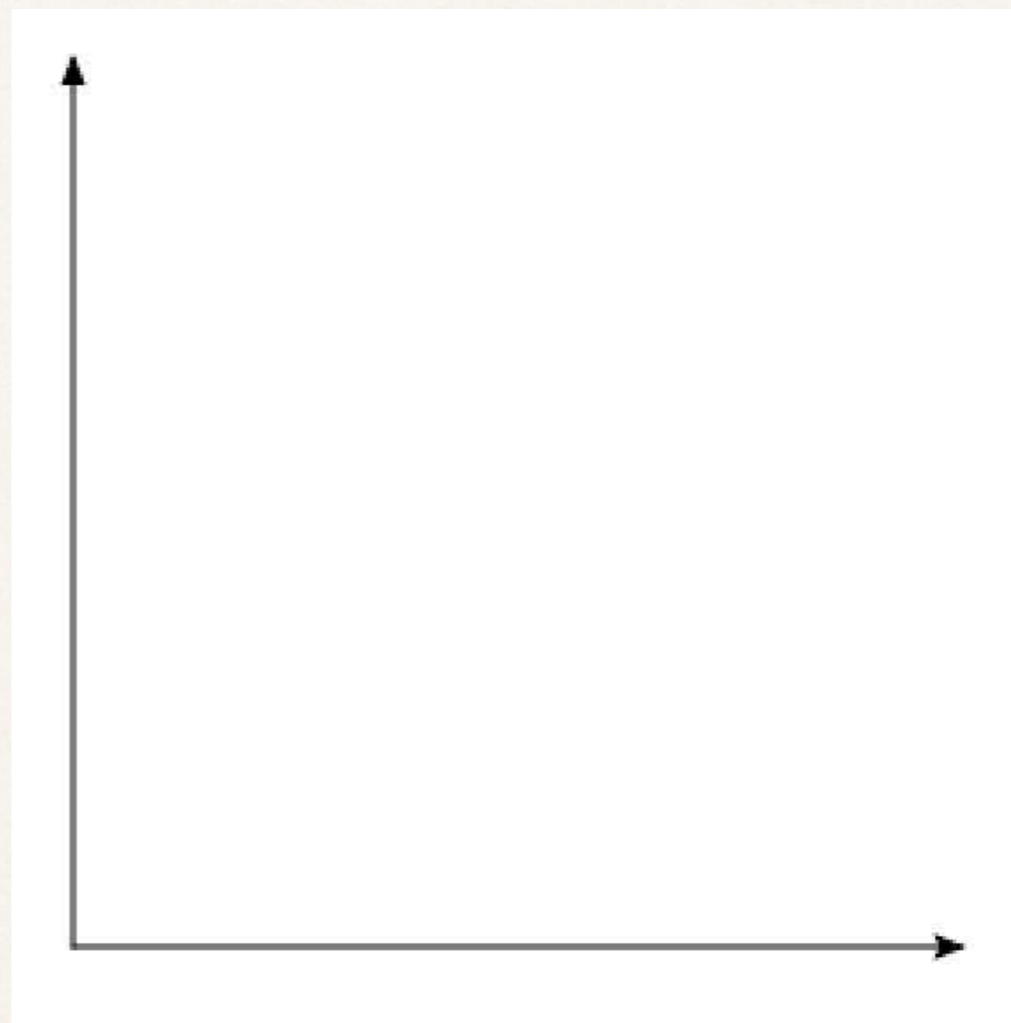
- Nice interpretation: Configuration of vectors on a plane
- Easy to state, hard to solve — “High school problem”



# High school problem $gg \rightarrow gg$

---

❖ Positive quadrant



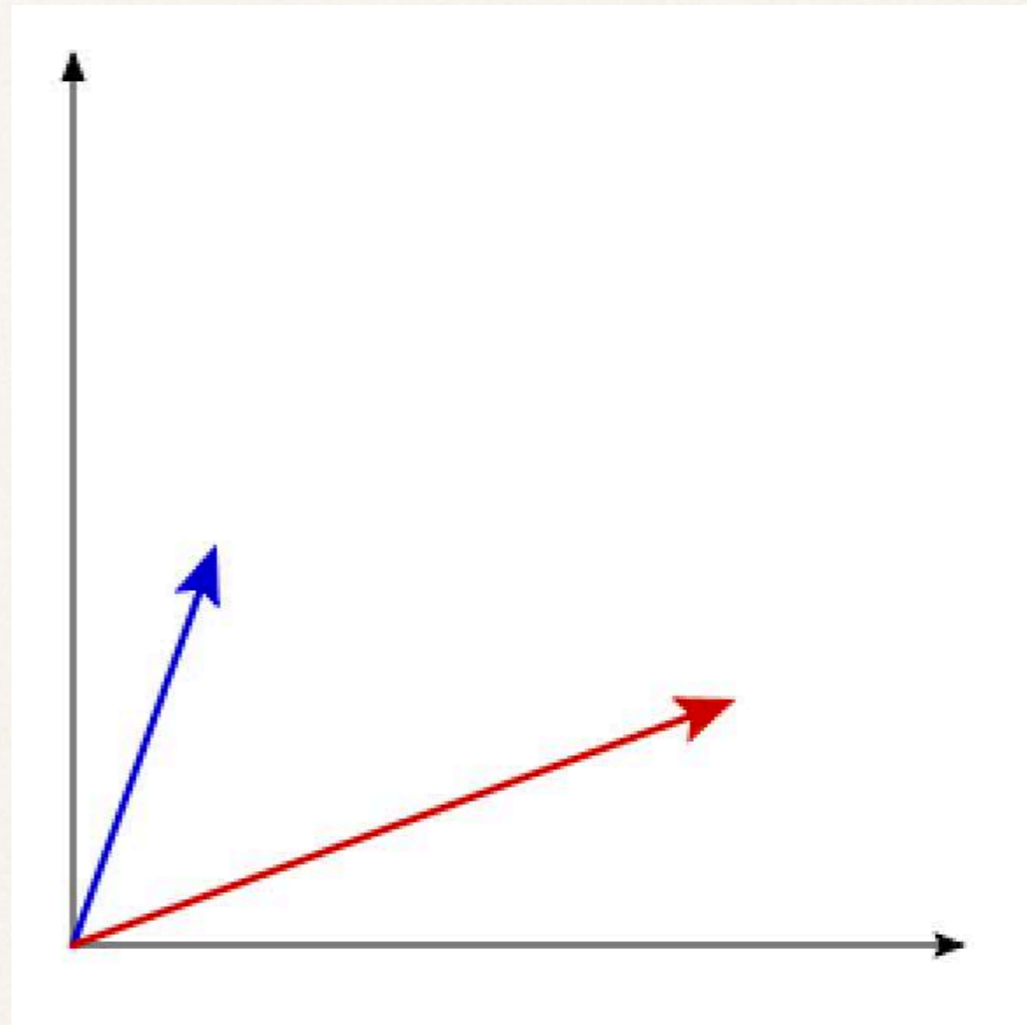


# High school problem $gg \rightarrow gg$

❖ Positive quadrant

❖ Vectors

$$\vec{a}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{b}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ w_1 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\text{Vol}(1) = \frac{dx_1}{x_1} \frac{dy_1}{y_1} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dw_1}{w_1} = \text{Diagram of a square with outward-pointing lines at each corner}$$

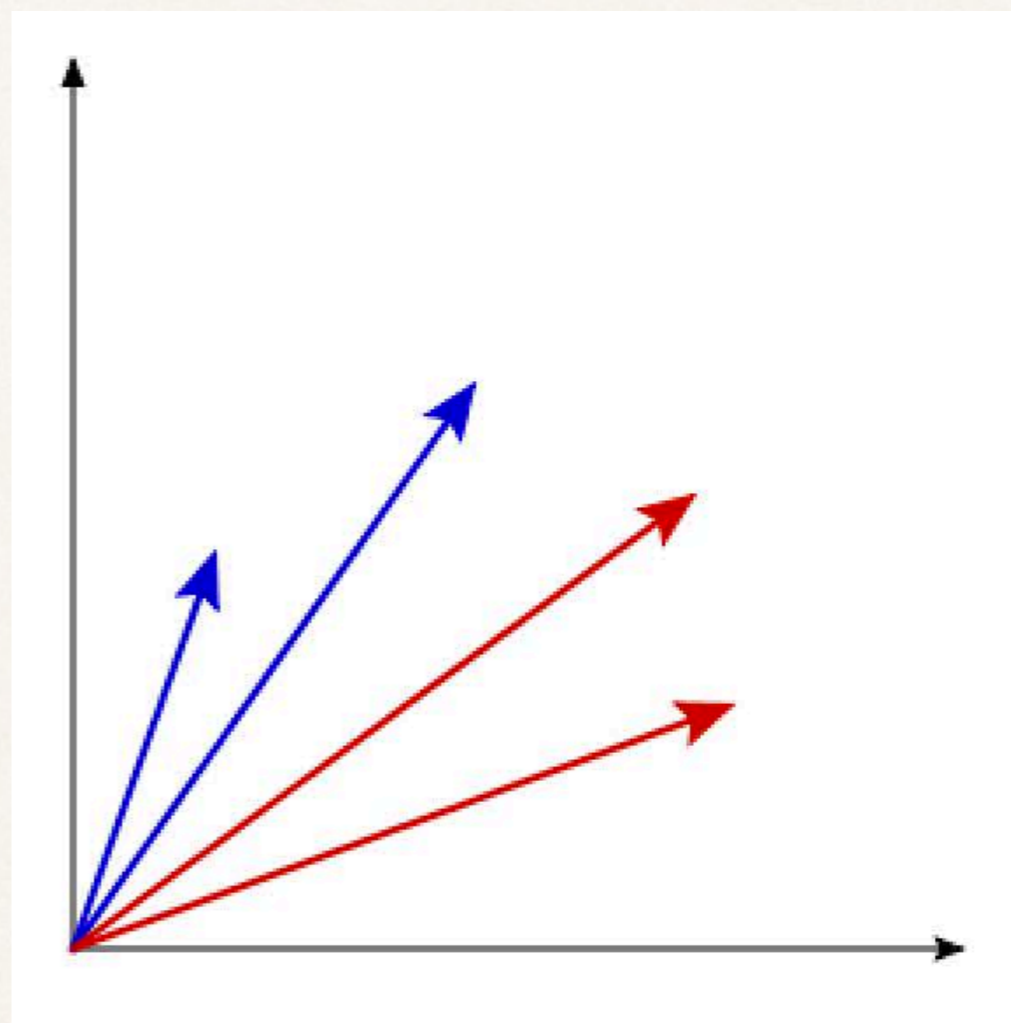


# High school problem $gg \rightarrow gg$

❖ Positive quadrant

❖ Vectors

$$\vec{a}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{b}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ w_1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\vec{a}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{b}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} z_2 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$[\text{Vol}(1)]^2 = \frac{dx_1}{x_1} \frac{dy_1}{y_1} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dw_1}{w_1} \frac{dx_2}{x_2} \frac{dy_2}{y_2} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} \frac{dw_2}{w_2} = \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \square \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \end{array} \times \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \square \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \end{array}$$

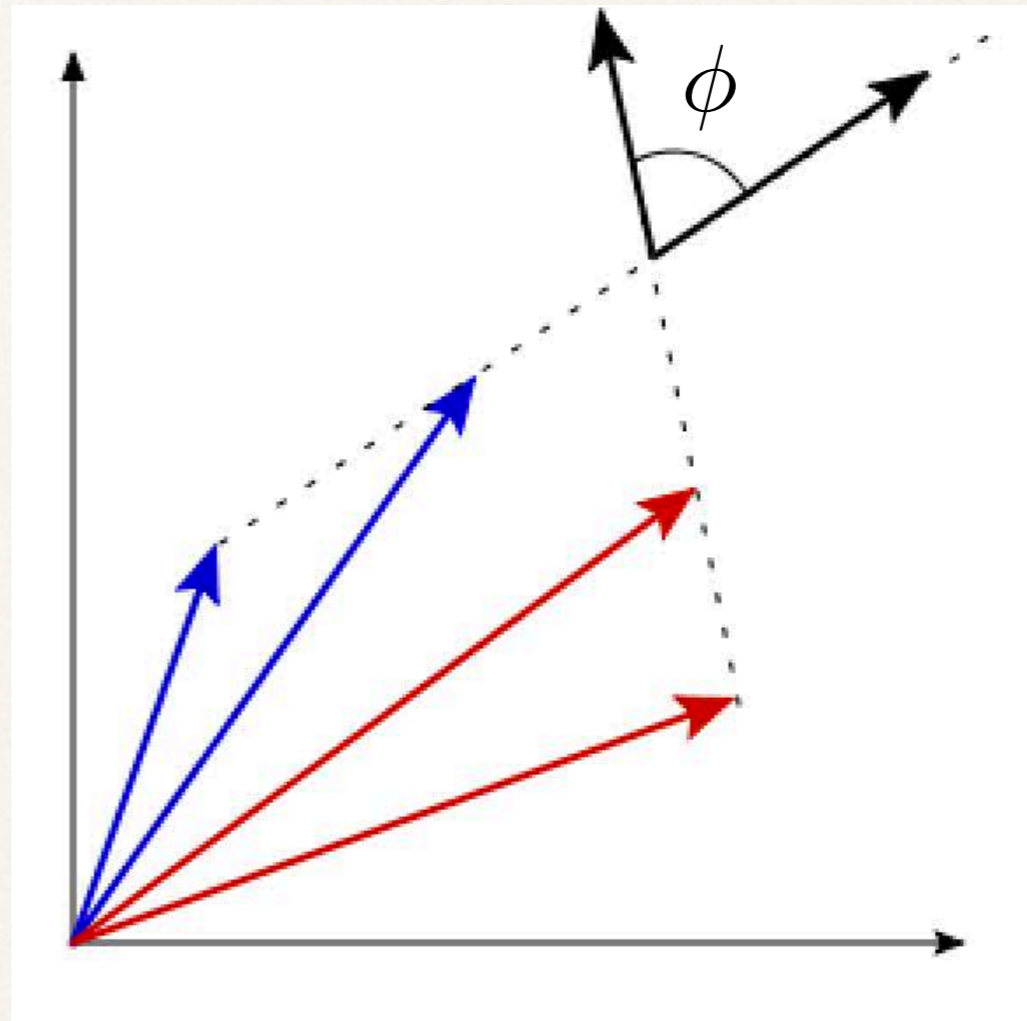
# High school problem $gg \rightarrow gg$

❖ Positive quadrant

❖ Vectors

$$\vec{a}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{b}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ w_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{a}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{b}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} z_2 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix}$$



❖ Impose:  $(\vec{a}_2 - \vec{a}_1) \cdot (\vec{b}_2 - \vec{b}_1) \leq 0 \quad \phi > 90^\circ$

Subset of configurations allowed



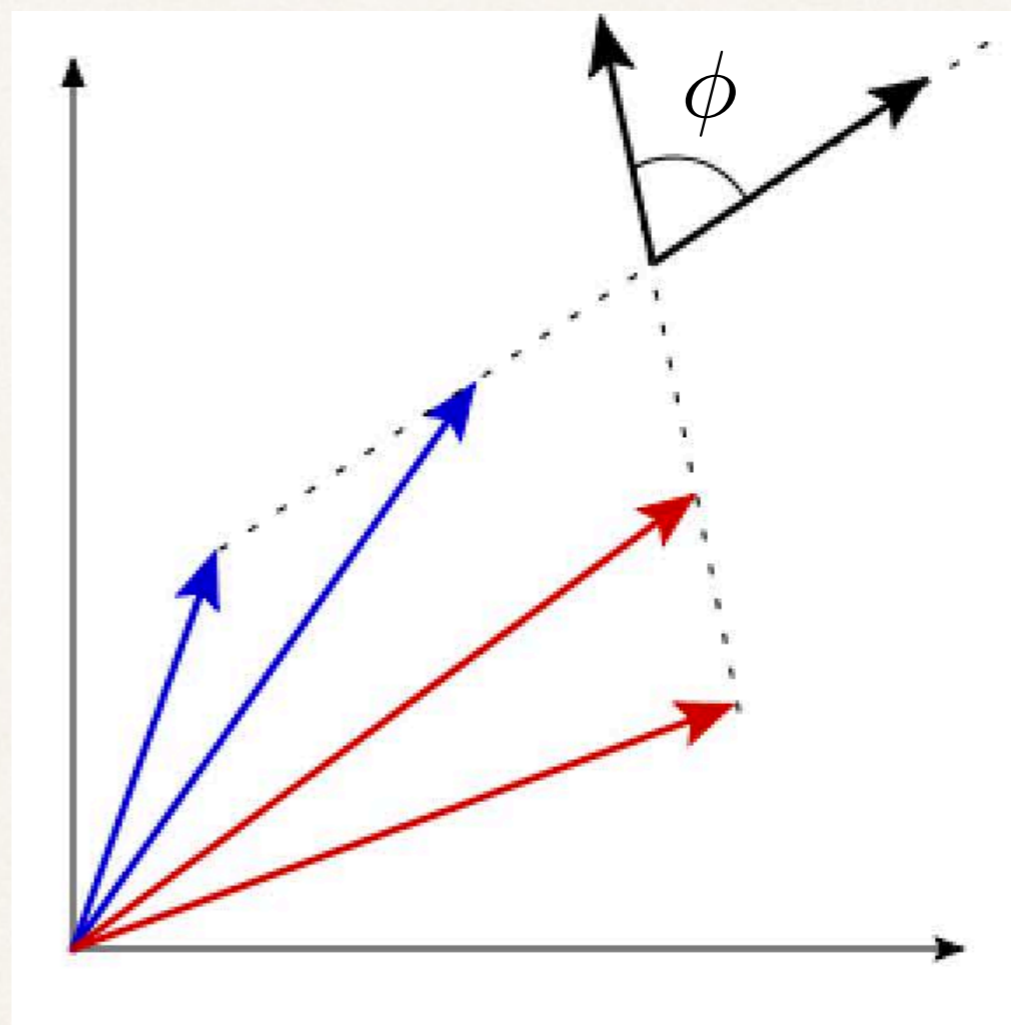
# High school problem $gg \rightarrow gg$

❖ Positive quadrant

❖ Vectors

$$\vec{a}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{b}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ w_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{a}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{b}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} z_2 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\text{Vol (2)} = \frac{dx_1}{x_1} \frac{dy_1}{y_1} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dw_1}{w_1} \frac{dx_2}{x_2} \frac{dy_2}{y_2} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} \frac{dw_2}{w_2} \left[ \frac{\vec{a}_1 \cdot \vec{b}_2 + \vec{a}_2 \cdot \vec{b}_1}{(\vec{a}_2 - \vec{a}_1) \cdot (\vec{b}_2 - \vec{b}_1)} \right]$$

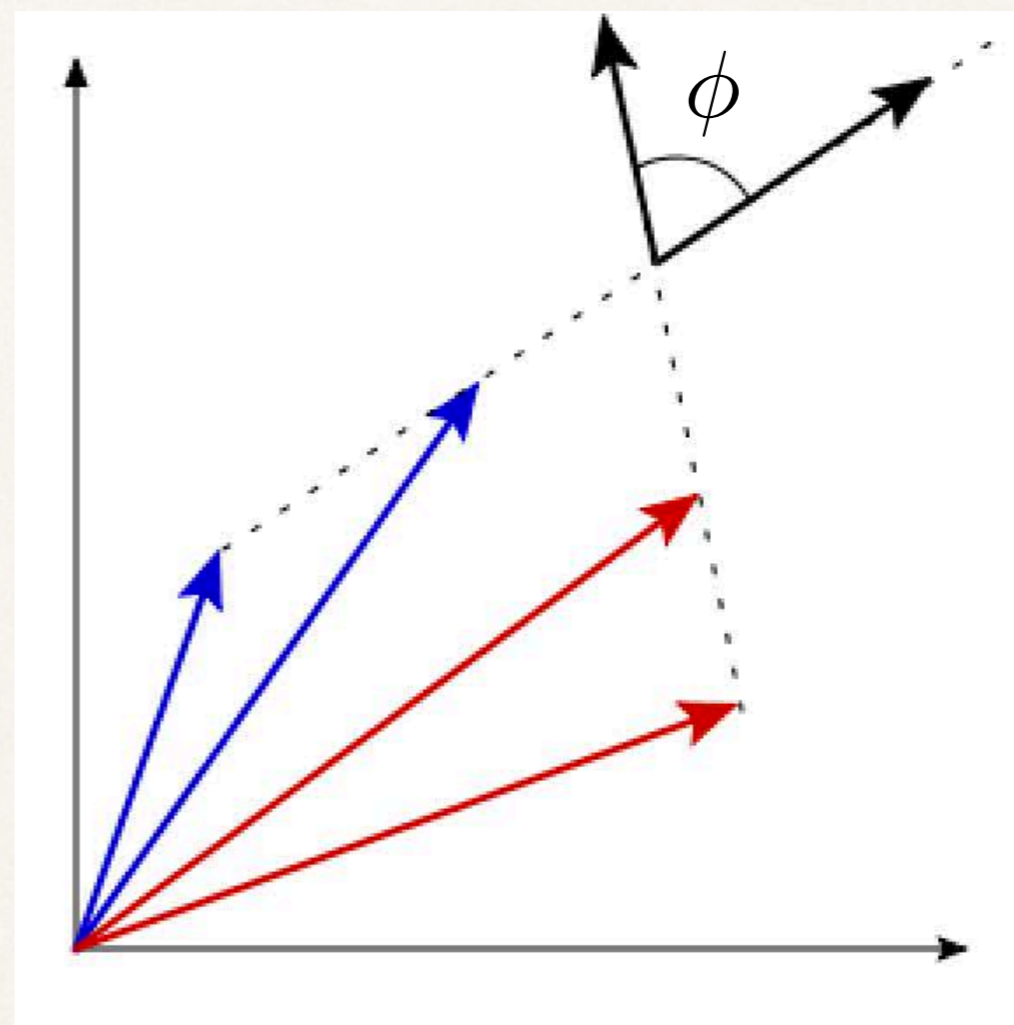
# High school problem $gg \rightarrow gg$

❖ Positive quadrant

❖ Vectors

$$\vec{a}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{b}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ w_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{a}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{b}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} z_2 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\text{Vol}(2) = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline & \\ \hline & \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \\ \hline \\ \hline \end{array}$$



# High school problem $gg \rightarrow gg$

❖ Positive quadrant

❖ Vectors

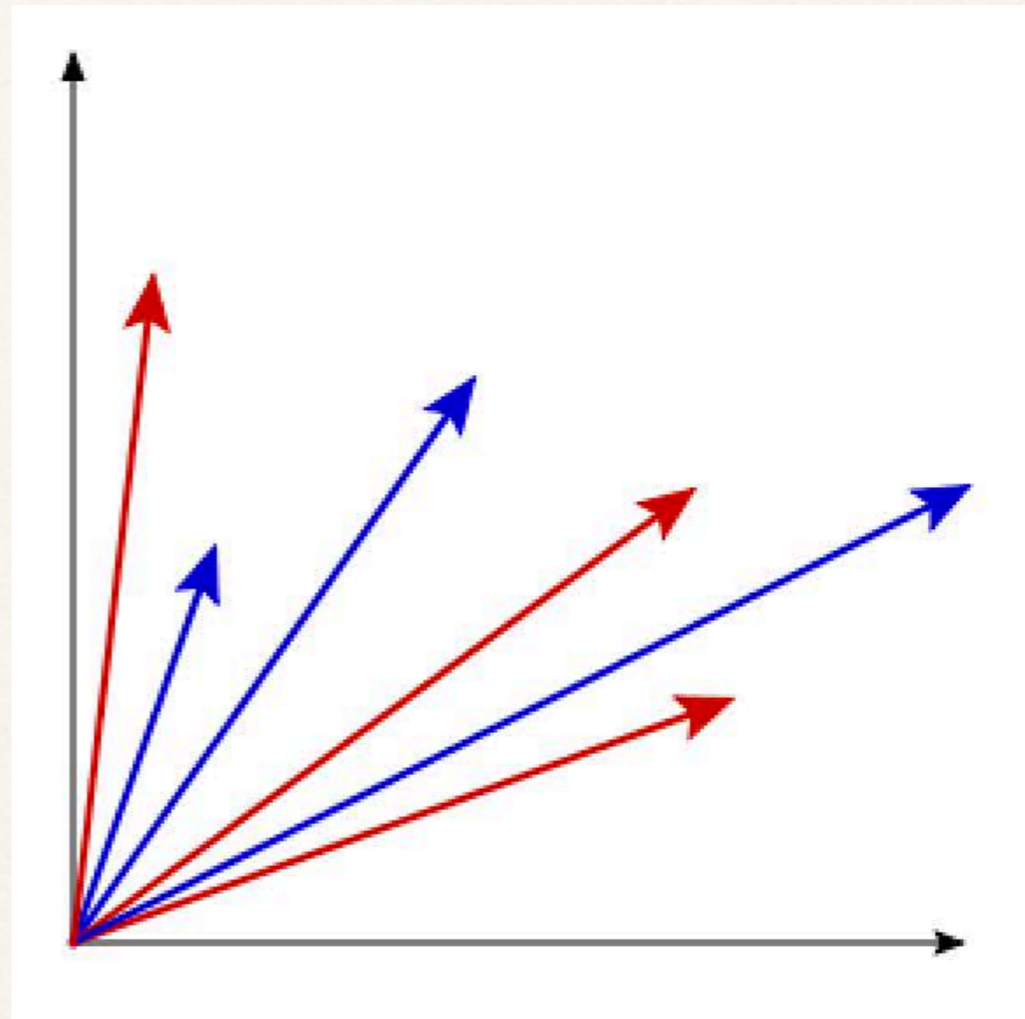
$$\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \vec{a}_3 \quad \vec{b}_1, \vec{b}_2, \vec{b}_3$$

❖ Conditions

$$(\vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_2) \cdot (\vec{b}_1 - \vec{b}_2) \leq 0$$

$$(\vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_3) \cdot (\vec{b}_1 - \vec{b}_3) \leq 0$$

$$(\vec{a}_2 - \vec{a}_3) \cdot (\vec{b}_2 - \vec{b}_3) \leq 0$$



$$\text{Vol}(3) = \begin{array}{ccc} \square & \square & \square \\ \square & \square & \square \end{array}$$

# High school problem $gg \rightarrow gg$

❖ Positive quadrant

❖ Vectors

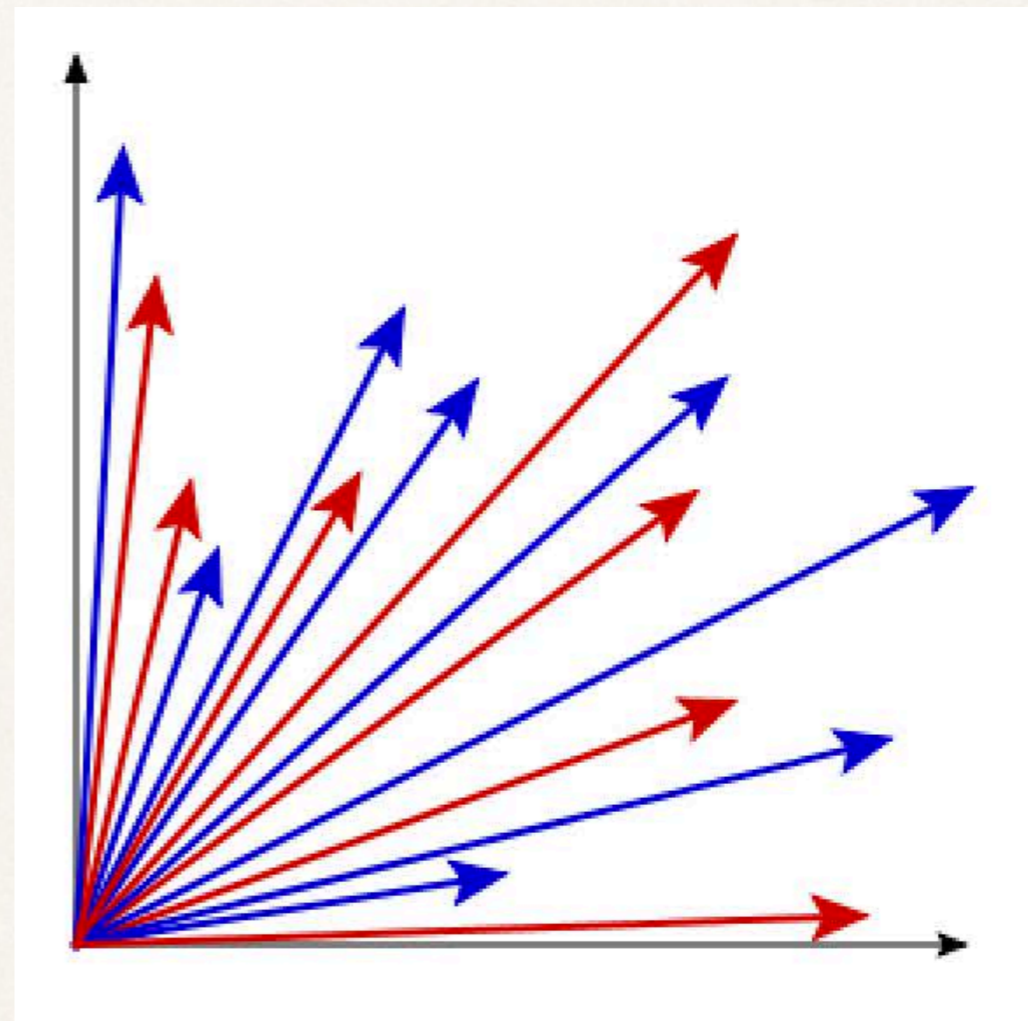
$$\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \dots, \vec{a}_\ell \quad \vec{b}_1, \vec{b}_2, \dots, \vec{b}_\ell$$

❖ Conditions

$$(\vec{a}_i - \vec{a}_j) \cdot (\vec{b}_i - \vec{b}_j) \leq 0$$

for all pairs  $i, j$

Let me know if you solve it!



$$\text{Vol}(\ell) = \dots\dots\dots$$



# Positivity

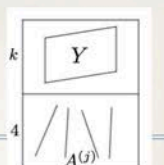
- ❖ In the definition of Amplituhedron

$$\mathcal{Y} = \mathcal{C} \cdot \mathcal{Z}$$

Amplituhedron

Positive matrices:  
Minors are positive  $\begin{vmatrix} * & * \\ * & * \end{vmatrix} > 0$

Full definition of Amplituhedron



$\mathcal{Y} = \mathcal{C} \cdot \mathcal{Z}$

❖ Definitions of objects:
 
$$\mathcal{Y} = \begin{pmatrix} Y \\ A^{(1)} \\ A^{(2)} \\ \vdots \\ A^{(\ell)} \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathcal{C} = \begin{pmatrix} C \\ D^{(1)} \\ D^{(2)} \\ \vdots \\ D^{(\ell)} \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathcal{Z} = \begin{pmatrix} z \\ \eta \cdot \phi_1 \\ \vdots \\ \eta \cdot \phi_k \end{pmatrix}$$

Positivity conditions:
 
$$\begin{matrix} Z \in M_+(k+4, n) \\ C \in G_+(k, n) \\ \in G_+(k+2m, n) \\ D^{(j)} = G(2, n) \end{matrix}$$

❖  $\Omega_{n,k,\ell}$ : form with logarithmic singularities on boundaries of  $\mathcal{Y}$

❖ The amplitude is:  $\mathcal{M}_{n,k,\ell} = \int d^4\phi_1 d^4\phi_2 \dots d^4\phi_k \Omega_{n,k,\ell} \Big|_{Y=(1,0,\dots,0)}$

- ❖ Positivity: crucial property of geometry

- Locality, unitarity, even planarity derived from it
- Hidden symmetry of this theory (Yangian) manifest



# Question for mathematicians

---

How to make big positive matrices?

For the case  $\ell = 0$  solved by Alexander Postnikov in 2006

Positive Grassmannian  $G_+(k, n)$

$$\begin{pmatrix} * & * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * & * \end{pmatrix} \quad \left| \begin{array}{ccc} * & * & * \\ * & * & * \\ * & * & * \end{array} \right| > 0$$



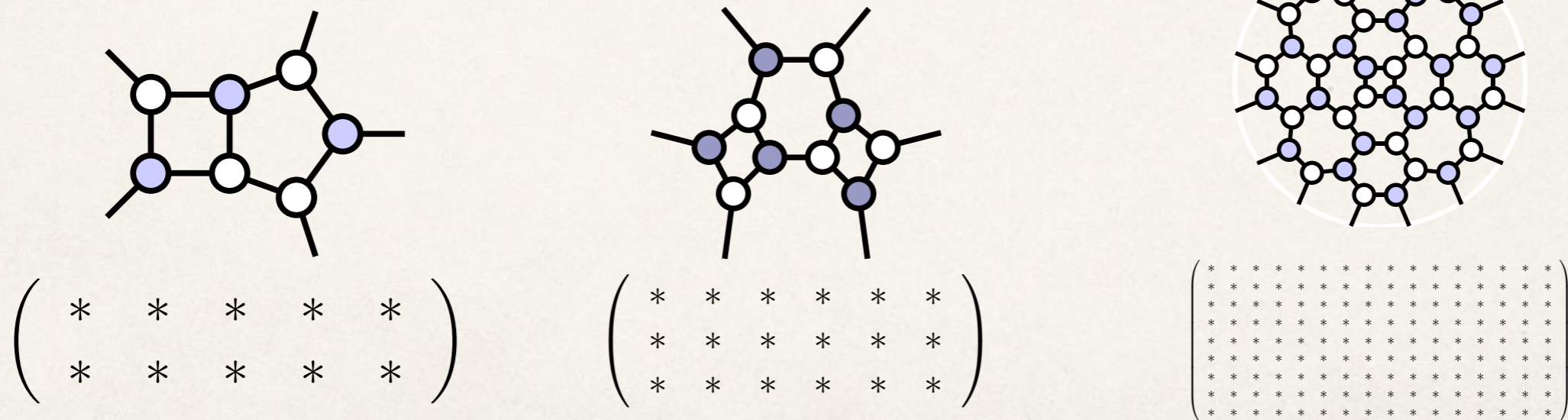
# Gluing procedure

- ❖ Construct big positive matrix from small ones



Gluing preserves  
positivity of minors

- ❖ Arbitrary graph: positive matrix

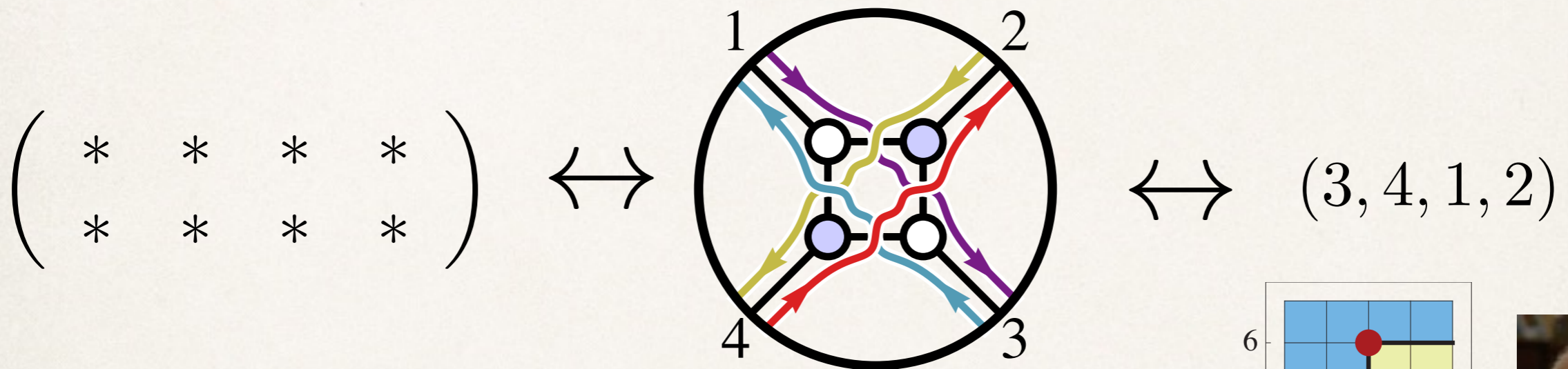


- ❖ Triangulation of Amplituhedron: set of these diagrams



# Permutations

- ❖ “Basis” of these matrices: labeled by permutations



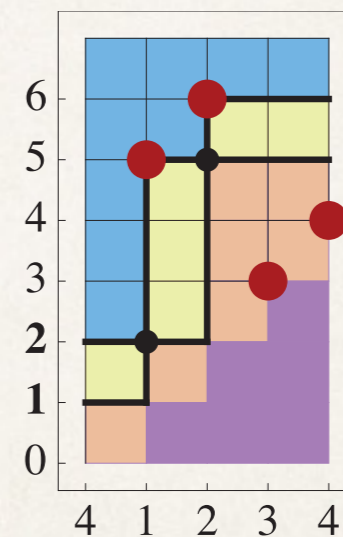
- ❖ Juggling patterns

Allen Knutson (Cornell U.)

1990-1995 world record in juggling (12 balls)

POSITROID VARIETIES I: JUGGLING AND GEOMETRY

ALLEN KNUTSON, THOMAS LAM, AND DAVID E SPEYER



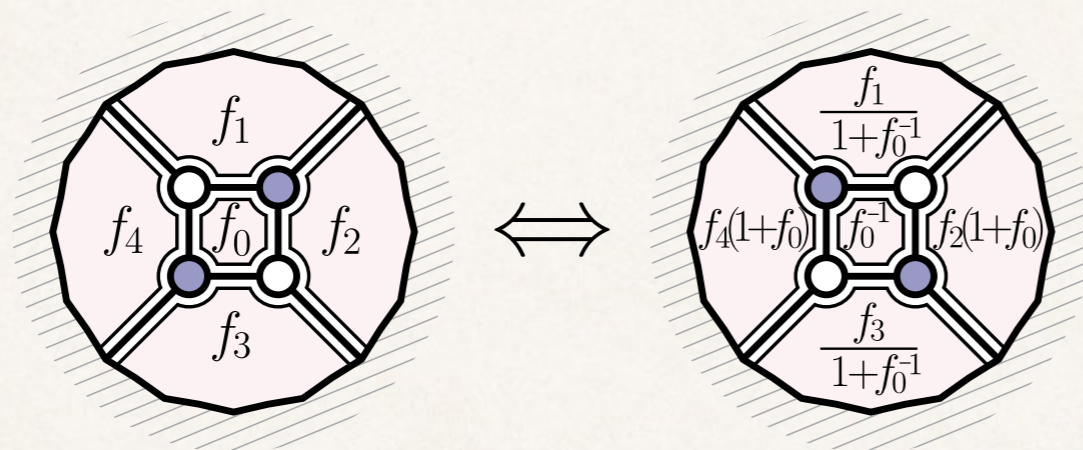
Deligne table



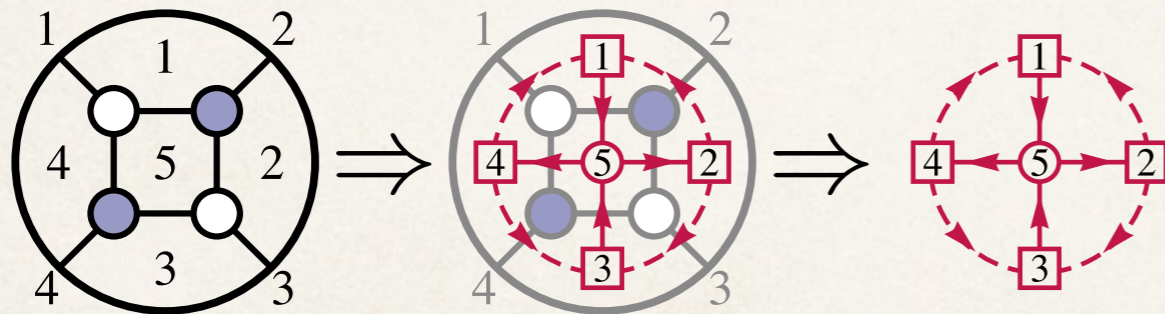
# Other appearances of graphs

- Cluster variables associated with each graph

(Fock-Goncharov 2003)



- Dual graphs: quivers, Seiberg duality, shallow water waves,...



(Kodama-Williams 2011)



# On-shell diagrams

- ❖ Same diagrams: radically different interpretation
- ❖ Physical on-shell processes: product of 3pt amplitudes

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum \mathcal{M}_3 \cdot \overline{\mathcal{M}}_3 \cdot \mathcal{M}_3 \dots \overline{\mathcal{M}}_3 \cdot \mathcal{M}_3 \\
 &= \text{Volume}(\mathcal{A}) \qquad \text{Tree-level} \\
 & \qquad \qquad \qquad gg \rightarrow gggg
 \end{aligned}$$

- ❖ Detailed study of this connection

[arXiv:1212.5605](https://arxiv.org/abs/1212.5605) [pdf, other]

## Scattering Amplitudes and the Positive Grassmannian

Nima Arkani-Hamed, Jacob L. Bourjaily, Freddy Cachazo, Alexander B. Goncharov, Alexander Postnikov, Jaroslav Trnka

Comments: 158 pages, 264 figures

Subjects: High Energy Physics - Theory (hep-th); Algebraic Geometry (math.AG); Combinatorics (math.CO)

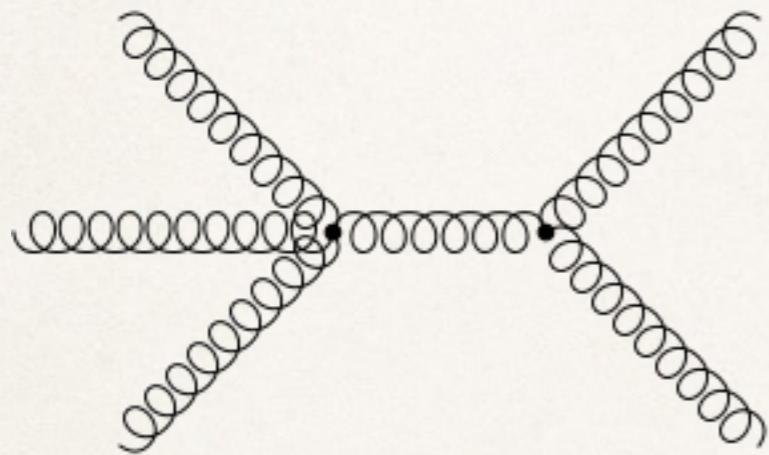
Record on arxiv?



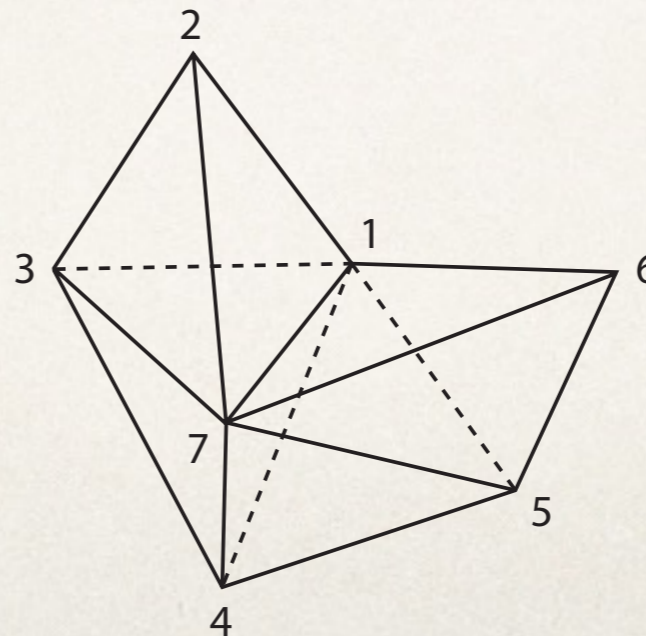
# Physics vs geometry

---

- ❖ Dynamical particle interactions in 4-dimensions



- ❖ Static geometry in high dimensional space

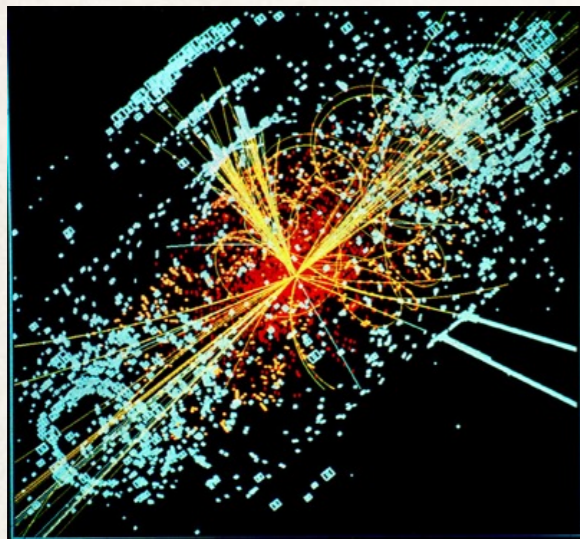


Real process  
at LHC



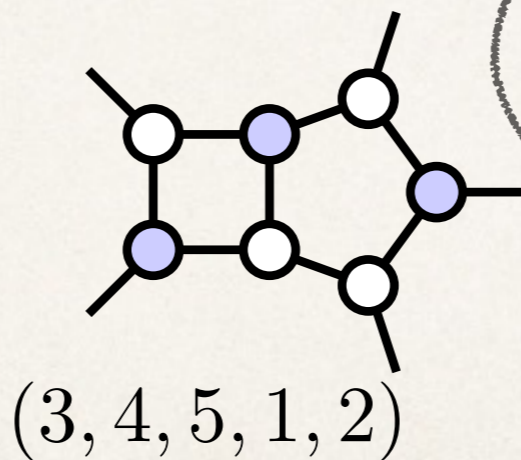
# At the intersection

- ❖ Fascinating connection between fields which have never interacted so far



Predictions of particle collisions for experiments

Combinatorics  
Algebraic geometry  
Cluster algebras

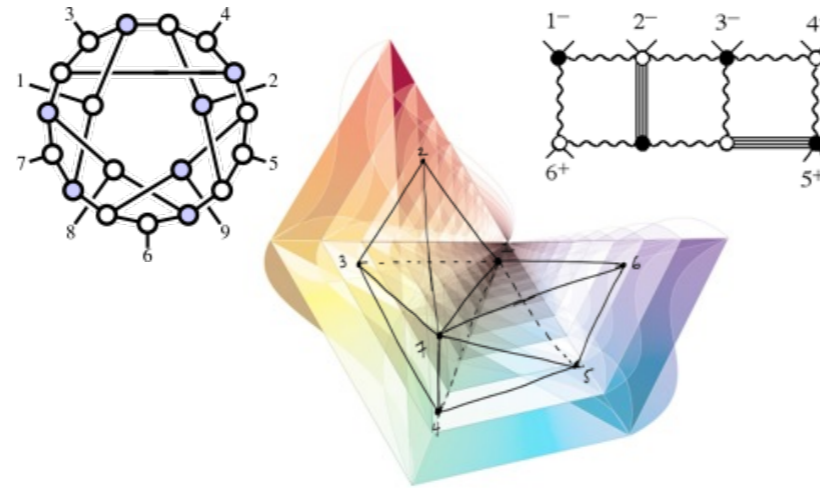


$$\begin{pmatrix} * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \end{pmatrix} \in G_+(2, 5)$$

$$A_{n,k} : G_+(k, n) \xrightarrow{\mathbb{Z}} G(k, k+4)$$



Walter Burke Institute Workshop  
Grassmannian Geometry  
of Scattering Amplitudes



California Institute of Technology  
December 8-12, 2014

*Invited speakers:* Nima Arkani-Hamed, Till Bargheer, Zvi Bern, Jacob Bourjaily, Johannes Broedel, Lance Dixon, Nick Early, Davide Forcella, Sebastian Franco, Daniele Galloni, Song He, Johannes Henn, Andrew Hodges, Thomas Lam, Sangmin Lee, Tomasz Lukowski, Lionel Mason, Timothy Olson, David Speyer, Matthias Staudacher, Anastasia Volovich, Lauren Williams, Dan Xie.

Organizers: Hirosi Ooguri, Jaroslav Trnka

<https://burkeinstitute.caltech.edu/workshops/Grassmannian2014>



CENTRE  
DE RECHERCHES  
MATHÉMATIQUES

Positive Grassmannians: Applications to integrable systems and  
super Yang-Mills scattering amplitudes

July 27-31, 2015

$$s > 0$$



# Back to Parke-Taylor formula

---

- ❖ Scattering  $gg \rightarrow ggg \dots gg$   
in our toy model

$$\mathcal{M}_n^{tree} = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^3}{\langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle \dots \langle n1 \rangle}$$



# Back to Parke-Taylor formula

---

- ❖ Scattering  $gg \rightarrow ggg \dots gg$   
in our toy model

$$\mathcal{M}_n = \mathcal{M}_n^{tree} \left\{ 1 + \dots \right\}$$

Tree-level  
(1985)

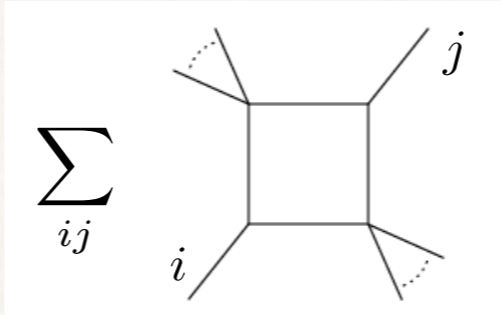
# Back to Parke-Taylor formula

---

- ❖ Scattering  $gg \rightarrow ggg \dots gg$   
in our toy model

$$\mathcal{M}_n = \mathcal{M}_n^{tree} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 \\ + \sum_{ij} \text{diagram} \\ + \dots \end{array} \right.$$

Tree-level (1985)      One-loop (1994)





# Back to Parke-Taylor formula

❖ Scattering  $gg \rightarrow ggg \dots gg$   
in our toy model

$$\mathcal{M}_n = \mathcal{M}_n^{tree} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 \\ + \sum_{ij} \text{[Diagram]} \\ + \text{[Diagram]} \end{array} \right.$$

Tree-level (1985)
One-loop (1994)
Two-loop (2009)

The figure displays 11 pages of mathematical results, including Feynman diagrams, equations, and tables. The pages are numbered 1 through 11. The diagrams show various topologies of gluon interactions, and the equations represent the corresponding mathematical expressions for the scattering amplitudes. The tables provide numerical data for different values of n.

11 pages of result

# Back to Parke-Taylor formula

❖ Scattering  $gg \rightarrow ggg \dots gg$   
in our toy model

$$\mathcal{M}_n = \mathcal{M}_n^{tree} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 \\ + \sum_{ij} \text{[Diagram]} \\ + \text{[Diagram]} \end{array} \right.$$

Tree-level (1985)
One-loop (1994)
Two-loop (2009)

The grid contains 11 pages of mathematical results, including Feynman diagrams, equations, and tables. A large red question mark is overlaid on the second page from the top row.

11 pages of result



# Back to Parke-Taylor formula

- ❖ Scattering  $gg \rightarrow ggg \dots gg$   
in our toy model

$$\mathcal{M}_n = \mathcal{M}_n^{tree} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 \\ + \sum_{ij} \text{[One-loop diagram]} \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i < j < k < l < i} \text{[Two-loop diagram]} \end{array} \right.$$

Tree-level (1985)
One-loop (1994)

(Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachazo, JT 2010)

# Back to Parke-Taylor formula

- ❖ Scattering  $gg \rightarrow ggg \dots gg$   
in our toy model

$$\mathcal{M}_n = \mathcal{M}_n^{tree} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 \\ + \sum_{ij} \text{[One-loop diagram]} \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i < j < k < l < i} \text{[Two-loop diagram]} \\ + \frac{1}{3} \sum_{\substack{i_1 \leq i_2 < j_1 \leq \\ \leq j_2 < k_1 \leq k_2 < i_1}} \text{[Three-loop diagram]} \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{i_1 \leq j_1 < k_1 < \\ < k_2 \leq j_2 < i_2 < i_1}} \text{[Three-loop diagram]} \\ + \dots \end{array} \right\}$$

Tree-level (1985)      One-loop (1994)      (Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachazo, JT 2010)



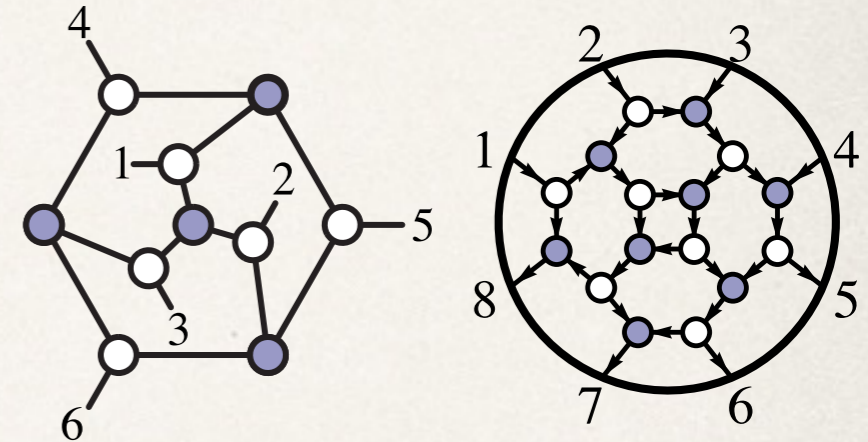
# Outlook: Beyond the toy model

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- ❖ Amplituhedron: Geometric picture for amplitudes
- ❖ Next step: non-planar, gravity, string amplitudes, QCD


- ❖ Evidence beyond the toy model

- On-shell diagram: non-planar, no susy  
(Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachazo, Postnikov, JT 2014)



- Amplituhedron-type construction beyond the planar limit  
(Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily, Cachazo, JT 2014) (Bern, Hermann, Litsey, Stankowicz, JT 2014)
- Connection to EFTs (NL $\sigma$ M, DBI, Galileon) via soft limits  
(Cheung, Kampf, Novotny, JT 2014)





Thank you for your attention