

4-GLUON AMPLITUDE AT 3-LOOPS IN QCD

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In collaboration with

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- Scattering amplitude is the basic building block in QFT
- Topic of interest for decades.
- More precise theoretical predictions are crying need at the LHC
- Necessary to reveal the underlying structures in QFT

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$$g(p_1) + g(p_2) + g(p_3) + g(p_4) \rightarrow 0$$

- Ingredient for the di-jet production
- State-of-the-art
 - 👤 1-loop: [Ellis, Sexton '86](#)
 - 👤 2-loop Helicity amplitude: [Bern, Dixon, Kosower '00](#)
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 - 1-loop: Ellis, Sexton '86
 - 2-loop Helicity amplitude: Bern, Dixon, Kosower '00
 - 2-loop full amplitude: Glover, Oleari, Yeomans '01
- Next challenging goal: go for 3-loop!
- First attempt in N=4 by Henn, Mistlberger in '16
- We address this at 3-loop for the first time in QCD



Our goal

PLAN OF THE TALK

- Tensor Structure & Projectors
- Helicity Amplitude
- Planar Limit
- Details of Computation
- Master Integrals in UT Basis
- UV Renormalisation
- IR Factorisation
- A Glimpse at the Preliminary Result (Not completed yet)

PROCESS OF INTEREST

- We consider

$$g(p_1) + g(p_2) + g(p_3) + g(p_4) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{on-shell in QCD}$$

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- General Tensor Structure

$$|\mathcal{M}(p_1, p_2, p_3)\rangle = S_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}(\{p_i\})\epsilon_1^\mu(p_1)\epsilon_2^\nu(p_2)\epsilon_3^\rho(p_3)\epsilon_4^\sigma(p_4)$$

$$S^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \propto \{g^{\mu\nu}g^{\rho\sigma}, \quad g^{\mu\nu}p_{i_1}^\rho p_{i_2}^\sigma, \quad p_{i_1}^\mu p_{i_2}^\nu p_{i_3}^\rho p_{i_4}^\sigma\}$$

138 Tensorial Structures \longrightarrow Not all of them contribute!

- Transversality Condition

$$\epsilon_i \cdot p_i = 0$$

Number of tensorial structures reduce to 43

PROJECTORS

- Ward Identities

$$S_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}(\{p_i\})p_1^\mu\epsilon_2^\nu(p_2)\epsilon_3^\rho(p_3)\epsilon_4^\sigma(p_4) = 0$$

$$S_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}(\{p_i\})\epsilon_1^\mu(p_1)p_2^\nu\epsilon_3^\rho(p_3)\epsilon_4^\sigma(p_4) = 0$$

$$S_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}(\{p_i\})\epsilon_1^\mu(p_1)\epsilon_2^\nu(p_2)p_3^\rho\epsilon_4^\sigma(p_4) = 0$$

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- Number of tensorial structures reduce to **10**
- Issue: Huge number of terms at intermediate steps
- Make specific gauge choice of external gauge bosons
- Unaffected final result due to gauge invariance

Not imposing gauge invariance on tensor structures, fix the gauge of external bosons

PROJECTORS

Gauge Fixed Tensor

$$\epsilon_1 \cdot p_2 = \epsilon_2 \cdot p_3 = \epsilon_3 \cdot p_4 = \epsilon_4 \cdot p_1 = 0$$

- Choice is arbitrary
- Number of tensorial structures reduce to **10**
- Total number is same as earlier: consistent

$$T_1 = \epsilon_1 \cdot \epsilon_2 \epsilon_3 \cdot \epsilon_4 ,$$

$$T_2 = \epsilon_1 \cdot \epsilon_3 \epsilon_2 \cdot \epsilon_4 ,$$

$$T_3 = \epsilon_1 \cdot \epsilon_4 \epsilon_2 \cdot \epsilon_3 ,$$

$$T_4 = \epsilon_1 \cdot \epsilon_2 p_1 \cdot \epsilon_3 p_3 \cdot \epsilon_4 ,$$

$$T_5 = \epsilon_1 \cdot \epsilon_3 p_1 \cdot \epsilon_2 p_3 \cdot \epsilon_4 ,$$

$$T_6 = \epsilon_1 \cdot \epsilon_4 p_1 \cdot \epsilon_2 p_1 \cdot \epsilon_3 ,$$

$$T_7 = \epsilon_2 \cdot \epsilon_3 p_3 \cdot \epsilon_1 p_3 \cdot \epsilon_4 ,$$

$$T_8 = \epsilon_2 \cdot \epsilon_4 p_3 \cdot \epsilon_1 p_1 \cdot \epsilon_3 ,$$

$$T_9 = \epsilon_3 \cdot \epsilon_4 p_1 \cdot \epsilon_2 p_3 \cdot \epsilon_1 ,$$

$$T_{10} = p_3 \cdot \epsilon_1 p_1 \cdot \epsilon_2 p_1 \cdot \epsilon_3 p_3 \cdot \epsilon_4$$

Matrix element $|\mathcal{M}\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{10} A_i(\{s_{ij}\}) T_i$ with $s_{ij} = (p_i + p_j)^2$

Goal: calculate $\{A_i\}$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, 10$

PROJECTORS

$$\sum_{pol} P(A_i) |\mathcal{M}\rangle = A_i \quad \text{Projection must be done in d-dimensions}$$

👤 Polarisation sum must be consistent with gauge choice

$$\sum_{pol} \epsilon_1^{*\mu}(p_1) \epsilon_1^\nu(p_1) = -g^{\mu\nu} + \frac{p_1^\mu p_2^\nu + p_1^\nu p_2^\mu}{p_1 \cdot p_2}$$

Projectors themselves can be decomposed in tensor basis: $P(A_i) = \sum_{j=1}^{10} X_{ij} T_j^*$

$$\sum_{pol} \sum_{j=1}^{10} X_{ij} T_j^* T_k = \delta_{ik}$$

Solve for $X_{ij}(d, s, t)$

HELICITY AMPLITUDES

- Specify the helicities of external gluons
- Choice of reference momentum must be consistent with gauge choice

$$\epsilon_1^{+,\mu}(p_1, q_1) \quad : \text{Reference momentum } q_1 = p_2$$

- All plus amplitude

$$|\mathcal{M}_{++++}\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{10} A_i T_{i,++++} = \frac{1}{4\langle 12\rangle\langle 23\rangle\langle 34\rangle\langle 41\rangle} \left\{ -4(A_1 + A_3)st - 4A_2u^2 - 2A_4stu + 2A_5su^2 - 2A_6stu \right. \\ \left. - 2A_7stu + 2A_8tu^2 - 2A_9stu - A_{10}stu^2 \right\}$$

Goal: calculate all plus helicity amplitudes

Calculate $\{A_i\}$

PERTURBATIVE EXPANSION

A_i Can be expanded in powers of strong coupling constant

$$A_i(s, t, \epsilon) = a_s \sum_{L=0}^{\infty} a_s^L A_i^{(L)}(s, t, \epsilon), \quad a_s = g_s^2 / (16\pi)^2$$
$$d = 4 - 2\epsilon$$

Goal: Calculate the **three loop** contribution $A_i^{(3)}$ in the **planar** limit

First time in QCD!

LARGE N LIMIT

- Amplitude is a tensor in Color space
- Can be decomposed in terms of traces of fundamental color generators of SU(N)
- Pure gauge amplitude can be expressed in terms of six color structures

$$C_1 = tr(1234) + tr(1432)$$

$$C_2 = tr(1243) + tr(1342)$$

$$C_3 = tr(1423) + tr(1324)$$

$$C_4 = tr(12)tr(34)$$

$$C_5 = tr(13)tr(24)$$

$$C_6 = tr(14)tr(23)$$

$$tr(T^{a_1}T^{a_2}T^{a_3}T^{a_4}) = tr(1234)$$

It can be written as

$$A_i^{(L)} = \sum_{\lambda=1}^3 \left\{ \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{L}{2} \rfloor} N^{L-2k} A_{i,\lambda}^{(L),2k} \right\} C_\lambda + \sum_{\lambda=4}^6 \left\{ \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{L-1}{2} \rfloor} N^{L-2k-1} A_{i,\lambda}^{(L),2k+1} \right\} C_\lambda$$

$A_{i,\lambda}^{(L),0}$ are leading order in N. Others are sub-leading

Only $A_{i,\lambda}^{(L),0}$ contributes in the large N-limit

Only planar diagrams contribute: Planar limit



Our goal

LARGE N LIMIT

- In presence of light fermions: planar diagrams involving fermions should be included
- n_f should be counted same as N
- Include all the terms satisfying $n_f^{a_1} N^{a_2} a_s^{a_3}$ with $a_1 + a_2 = a_3$
- Symmetry of the process: one particular color ordered amplitude is sufficient

- Age-old Feynman diagrammatic approach, however, lots of challenges!
 - Huge expressions, complicated reductions!
 - Feynman diagrams using `Qgraf`: 48723 three-loop, 39k planar topologies
 - Discard non-planar diagrams by removing sub-leading colors.
 - Cross-checked using `REDUZE2` using the liberty of shifting loop momenta
 - In-house FORM code: convert `Qgraf` raw output to FORM
- SU(N) color simplification
- Lorentz algebra
- Dirac algebra
- } in d-spacetime dimensions

Nogueira '06

Monteuffel, Studerus '12

Vermaseren

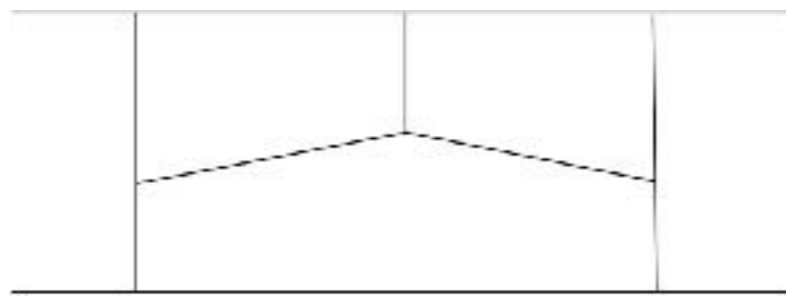
COMPUTATION

- Removing unphysical DOF of gluons: Internal: ghost loops
External: pol sum in axial gauge
- Millions of 3-loop integrals with **very high power of numerators: highest 6!**

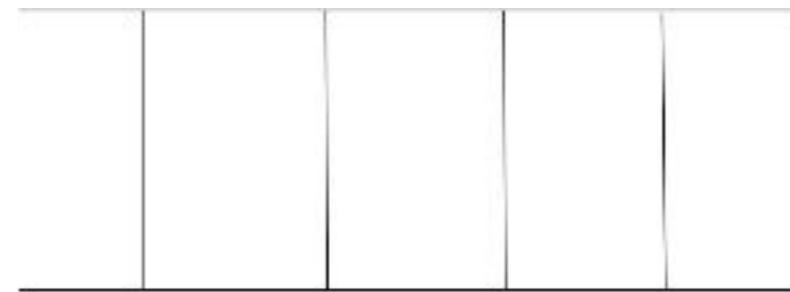
$$J[a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{15}] = \int \prod_{L=1,2,3} \left[\frac{d^d k_L}{(2\pi)^d} \right] \frac{1}{D_1^{a_1} D_2^{a_2} \dots D_{15}^{a_{15}}}$$

D are the inverse of propagators

Most complicated $\sum |a_i| = 16$



Tennis court



Tripple ladder

- IBP Reduction

`FIRE5.2 C++` along with `LiteRed1.82`

2-step reductions:

1. `LiteRed` along with `Mint`: symbolic rules & 89 MIs
2. **Non-minimal** set : Huge reduction file!
3. Reduce again using `FIRE c++`: 81 MIs
4. **Minimal** set: reduction file size reduced 1/10

Boels, Jin, Luo '18

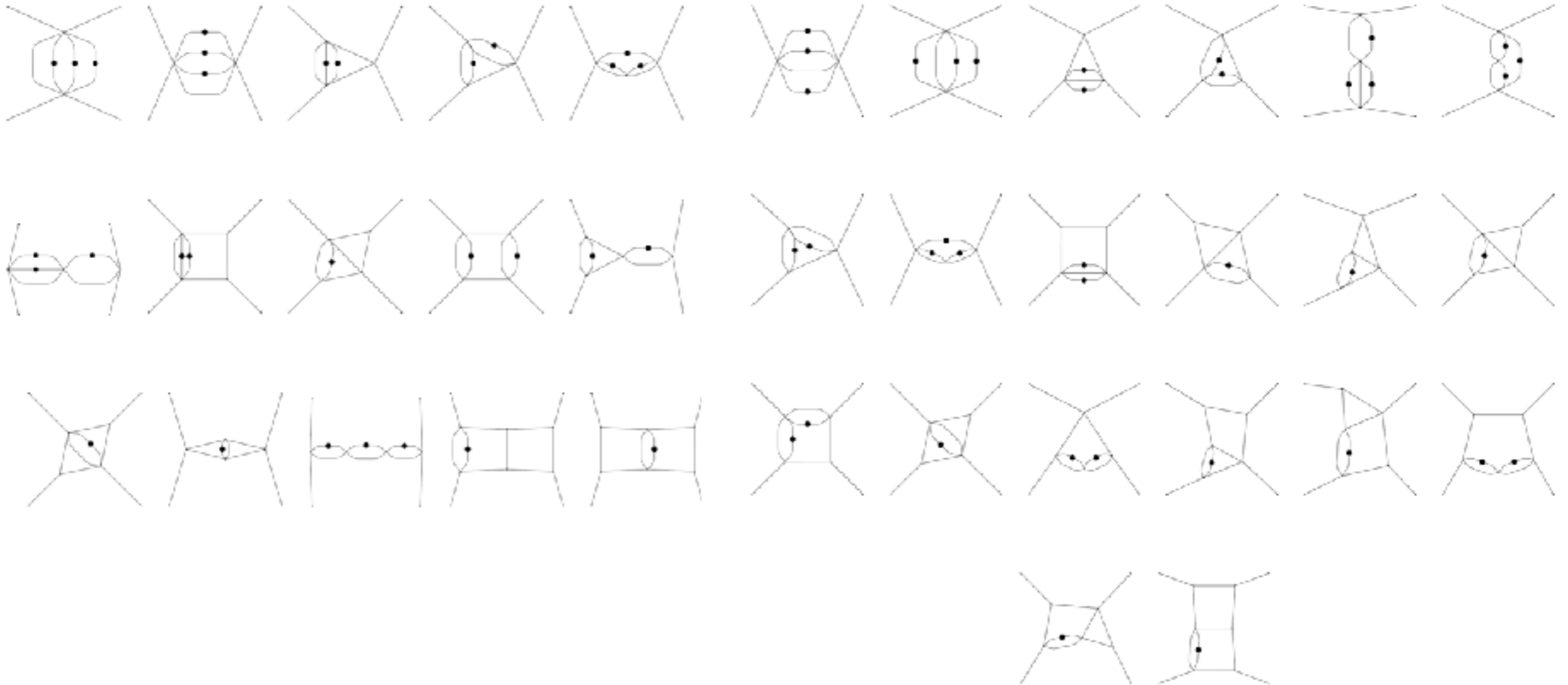
Advantage: substantial improvement of total reduction time

Comments: Non-minimal set of MIs is inefficient

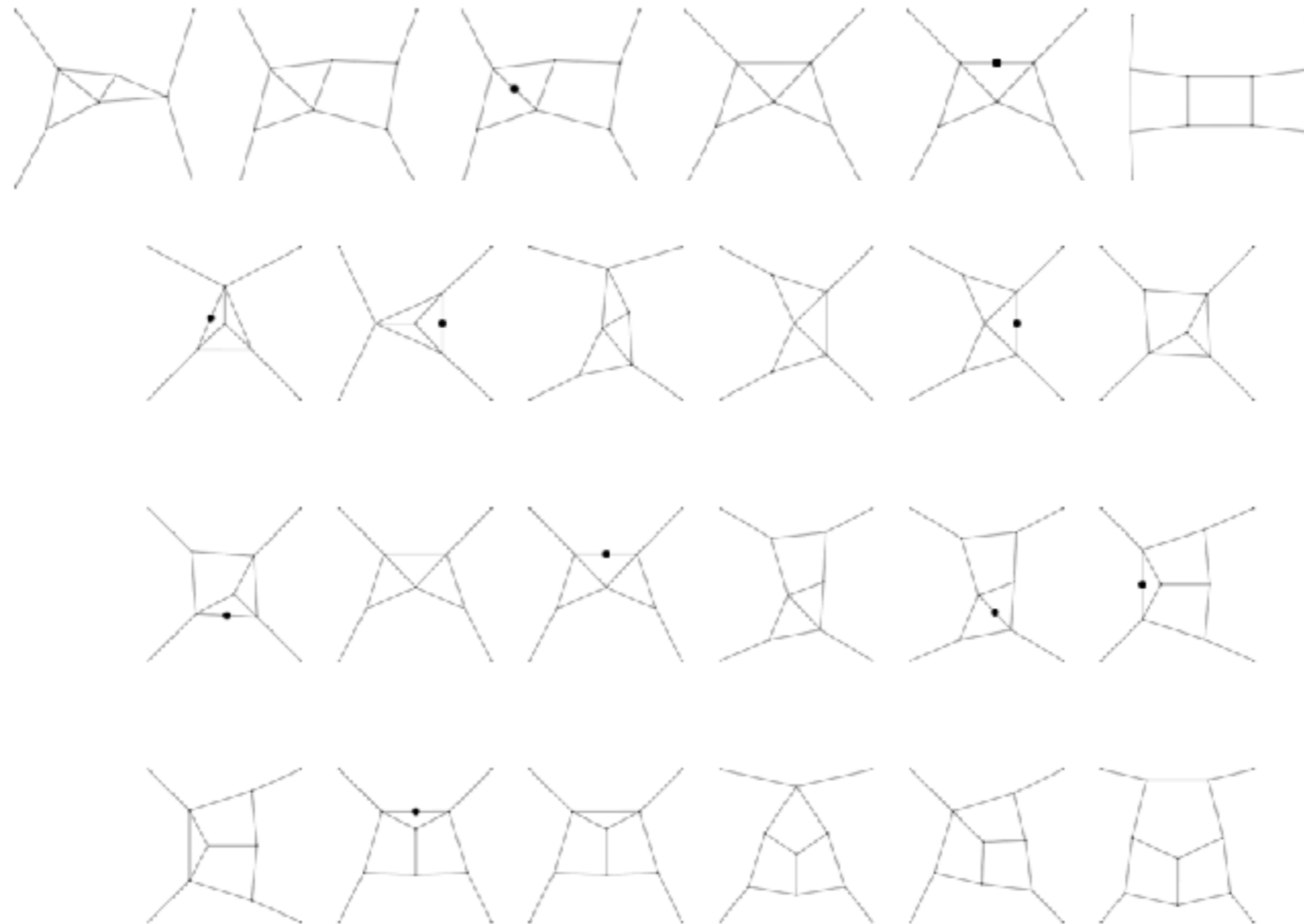
- 21 MIs with one double prop
- 2 MIs with one numerator

MIs in UT-BASIS

Henn, Smirnov, Smirnov '13



With Bubble Sub-diagrams



MIs without Bubble sub-integrals

- Remaining integrals are obtained by interchanging s & t

UV RENORMALISATION

- Dimensional regularisation: $d = 4 - 2\epsilon$
- UV structures of amplitude and all plus amplitude are different

$$\mathcal{M}^{(0)}(s, t, \epsilon) \neq 0 \quad \text{UV divergent 1-loop}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{++++}^{(0)}(s, t, \epsilon) = 0 \quad \text{All plus amplitude vanishes at tree level} \rightarrow \text{UV Finite 1-loop}$$

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- UV Renormalisation is done in $\overline{\text{MS}}$ Scheme

$$\hat{a}_s S_\epsilon = a_s(\mu_R^2) Z_{a_s}(\mu_R^2) \left(\frac{\mu^2}{\mu_R^2} \right)^{-\epsilon}$$

- Bare strong coupling constant: $\hat{a}_s = \hat{\alpha}_s / (4\pi) = \hat{g}_s^2 / (16\pi)^2$
- Renormalised: a_s
- μ : introduced to maintain the dimensionless of coupling in d-dimensions
- μ_R : renormalisation scale

$$Z_{a_s}(\mu_R^2) = 1 + a_s(\mu_R^2) \left\{ -\frac{1}{\epsilon} \beta_0 \right\} + a_s^2(\mu_R^2) \left\{ \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \beta_0^2 - \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \beta_1 \right\} + a_s^3(\mu_R^2) \left\{ -\frac{1}{\epsilon^3} \beta_0^3 + \frac{7}{6\epsilon^2} \beta_0 \beta_1 - \frac{1}{3\epsilon} \beta_2 \right\}$$

Tarasov, Vladimirov, Zharkov '80

- β_i : coefficients of QCD-beta function

IR FACTORISATION

- UV Renormalised amplitude contains soft & collinear divergences
- IR structures for the amplitude and all plus amplitude for the same reason

$$\mathcal{M}^{(L)}(s, t, \epsilon)|_{poles} = \frac{\mathcal{M}_{-2L}^{(L)}}{\epsilon^{2L}} + \dots + \frac{\mathcal{M}_{-1}^{(L)}}{\epsilon}, \quad L \geq 1$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{++++}^{(L)}(s, t, \epsilon)|_{poles} = \frac{\mathcal{M}_{-L}^{(L)}}{\epsilon^{2(L-1)}} + \dots + \frac{\mathcal{M}_{-1}^{(L)}}{\epsilon}, \quad L \geq 2$$

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Catani '98

Sterman, Yeomans '03

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- Using SCET, Becher & Neubert derived an exact formula for IR divergences for any loops & legs in massless QCD involving the single pole.


'09

- Using Wilson lines for hard partons and soft-eikonal jet functions, Gardi & Magnea
Also arrived at similar result

'09

IR FACTORISATION


- From SCET

$$\mathcal{M}^{fin}(s, t) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \mathbf{Z}^{-1}(\epsilon, s, t) \mathcal{M}(\epsilon, s, t)$$
 UV finite

All the IR divergences are governed by the matrix \mathbf{Z}

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UV finite

All the IR divergences are governed by the matrix \mathbf{Z}

The all order solution:

$$\mathbf{Z}(\epsilon, s, t, \mu) = \mathcal{P} \exp \left[\int_{\mu}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu'}{\mu'} \mathbf{\Gamma}(s, t, \mu') \right]$$

Becher & Neubert '09

Anomalous dimension matrix

$$\mathbf{\Gamma} = \sum_{i < j} \frac{\mathbf{T}_i \cdot \mathbf{T}_j}{2} \gamma_{cusp}(a_s) \log \left(\frac{\mu^2}{-s_{ij}} \right) + \sum_i \gamma^i(a_s)$$

\mathbf{T}_i Color generator matrix associated with i-th Parton

γ_{cusp} Cusp anomalous dimensions

γ^i Anomalous dimensions for partons

IR FACTORISATION

Explicit solution up to 3-loop

$$\begin{aligned} Z = & 1 + a_s \left(\frac{\Gamma'_0}{4\epsilon^2} + \frac{\Gamma_0}{2\epsilon} \right) + a_s^2 \left[\frac{(\Gamma'_0)^2}{32\epsilon^4} + \frac{\Gamma'_0}{8\epsilon^3} \left(\Gamma_0 - \frac{3}{2} \beta_0 \right) + \frac{\Gamma_0}{8\epsilon^2} (\Gamma_0 - 2\beta_0) + \frac{\Gamma'_1}{16\epsilon^2} + \frac{\Gamma_1}{4\epsilon} \right] \\ & + a_s^3 \left[\frac{(\Gamma'_0)^3}{384\epsilon^6} + \frac{(\Gamma'_0)^2}{64\epsilon^5} (\Gamma_0 - 3\beta_0) + \frac{\Gamma'_0}{32\epsilon^4} \left(\Gamma_0 - \frac{4}{3} \beta_0 \right) \left(\Gamma_0 - \frac{11}{3} \beta_0 \right) + \frac{\Gamma'_0 \Gamma'_1}{64\epsilon^4} \right. \\ & + \frac{\Gamma_0}{48\epsilon^3} (\Gamma_0 - 2\beta_0) (\Gamma_0 - 4\beta_0) + \frac{\Gamma'_0}{16\epsilon^3} \left(\Gamma_1 - \frac{16}{9} \beta_1 \right) + \frac{\Gamma'_1}{32\epsilon^3} \left(\Gamma_0 - \frac{20}{9} \beta_0 \right) \\ & \left. + \frac{\Gamma_0 \Gamma_1}{8\epsilon^2} - \frac{\beta_0 \Gamma_1 + \beta_1 \Gamma_0}{6\epsilon^2} + \frac{\Gamma'_2}{36\epsilon^2} + \frac{\Gamma_2}{6\epsilon} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Where } \Gamma' = -\gamma_{cusp}(a_s) \sum_i \mathbf{T}_i^2$$

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$$\text{Where } \Gamma' = -\gamma_{cusp}(a_s) \sum_i \mathbf{T}_i^2$$

For 3-loop all +++++ amplitude, we need up to $\mathcal{O}(a_s^2)$

However, for the full amplitude we need up to $\mathcal{O}(a_s^3)$


IR FACTORISATION: IN PLANAR LIMIT

In the planar limit, the IR factorisation simplifies

Almelid, Duhr & Gardi '15

$$\mathbf{Z}^{-1}(\epsilon, s, t) = z^{-1}(\epsilon, s)z^{-1}(\epsilon, t)$$

z are simple scalar functions

$$z(s) = \exp \left[\sum_{L \geq 1} a_s^L Y^{(L)} (-s)^{L\epsilon} \right] \quad \text{where} \quad Y^{(L)} = \log(F_g)|_{poles}$$


These are

Gluon form factor

$$Y^{(1)} = \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \left[-\frac{1}{2} C_A \gamma_{cusp}^0 \right] + \frac{1}{\epsilon} [\gamma_g^0]$$

$$Y^{(2)} = \frac{1}{\epsilon^3} \left[\frac{3}{8} \beta_0 C_A \gamma_{cusp}^0 \right] + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \left[-\frac{1}{2} \beta_0 \gamma_g^0 - \frac{1}{8} C_A \gamma_{cusp}^1 \right] + \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[\frac{\gamma_g^1}{2} \right]$$

and so on

RESULTS

- Our 1 and 2-loop results agree with the universal IR structure.
- We have checked the amplitude as well as +++++ amplitude
- They exhibit the necessary symmetry between s & t
- We have extended the 2-loop results to ϵ^5 order
- 3-loop reduction is done!
- Result in terms of Master integrals is at hand.
- Just waiting for the final result! Will be available soon!

CONCLUDING REMARKS

- We have computed the 4-gluon 3-loop amplitude in QCD in the planar limit
- Results will be available soon
- First step towards the full computation
- This result will be used as a first check-up for the full computation
- Will be used to compute the di-jet production
- First ever attempt in QCD!

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Thank you!

PRELIMINARY RESULT (PARTIAL OF COURSE)

Coefficient of $n_f^3 \text{Tr}(T^{a_1} T^{a_3} T^{a_4} T^{a_2})$ of the Amplitude (Unrenormalised)

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{\epsilon} \frac{1}{(1+x)^3} \left[T_1 \left(\frac{8x^4}{27} + \frac{28x^3}{27} + \frac{4x^2}{3} + \frac{20x}{27} + \frac{4}{27} \right) + T_2 \left(-\frac{4x^3}{27} - \frac{4x^2}{27} + \frac{4x}{27} + \frac{4}{27} \right) + T_5 \left(\frac{8}{27t} - \frac{8x^2}{27t} \right) \right. \\ & \quad \left. + T_8 \left(\frac{8}{27t} - \frac{8x^2}{27t} \right) + T_{10} \left(\frac{16}{27t^2} - \frac{16x}{27t^2} \right) \right] \\ & + \frac{1}{(1+x)^3} \left[T_1 \left\{ \left(-\frac{8x^4}{9} - \frac{28x^3}{9} - 4x^2 - \frac{20x}{9} - \frac{4}{9} \right) \left(H(\{0\}, x) + \log(-s) - 3 \right) \right\} \right. \\ & \quad + T_2 \left\{ \left(\frac{4x^3}{9} + \frac{4x^2}{9} - \frac{4x}{9} - \frac{4}{9} \right) \left(\log(-s) - 3 \right) \right\} \\ & \quad + T_5 \left\{ \left(\frac{8x^2}{9t} - \frac{8}{9t} \right) \left(\log(-s) - 3 \right) \right\} + T_8 \left\{ \left(\frac{8x^2}{9t} - \frac{8}{9t} \right) \left(\log(-s) - 3 \right) \right\} \\ & \quad \left. + T_{10} \left\{ \left(\frac{16x}{9t^2} - \frac{16}{9t^2} \right) \left(\log(-s) - 3 \right) \right\} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Up to an overall normalisation factor

$$x = \frac{u}{t}, t = 2p_1 \cdot p_3, u = 2p_2 \cdot p_3$$

Absolutely no check has been performed! Will be done soon!