

From Permutations To

Scattering Amplitudes

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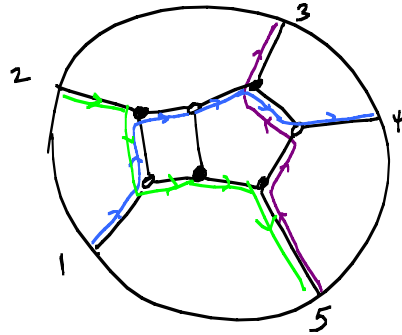
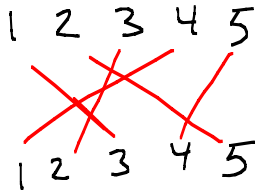
A. Goncharov

A. Postnikov

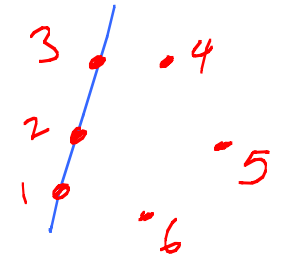
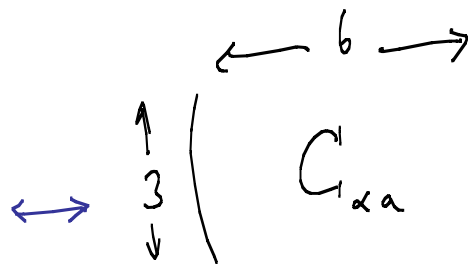
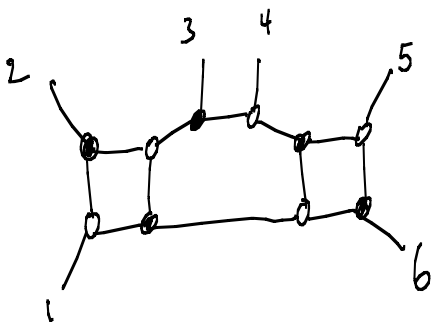
J. Trnka

Outline

(0) Drawings for Permutations: a Vignette



(1) From On-Shell Diagrams \rightarrow Grassmannian



(2) Planar $N=4$ SYM:

* Complete classification/explicit formula/# of sol's
for all on-shell diagrams + their relations

Permutations \leftrightarrow Conf. of Vectors \leftrightarrow Positive Grassm.

* BCFW + Permutations

* Invariant top form \leftrightarrow D.C.I.,
Yangian \leftrightarrow "Positive" Diffs.

* All-loop integrand in the Grassmannian;
d log form [\rightsquigarrow "doing integrals"]

(3) Beyond Planar $\mathcal{N}=4$ SYM amps:

- * ABJM
- * Non-planar $\mathcal{N}=4$
- * $\mathcal{N}=0$, planar/non-planar
- * Gravity ...

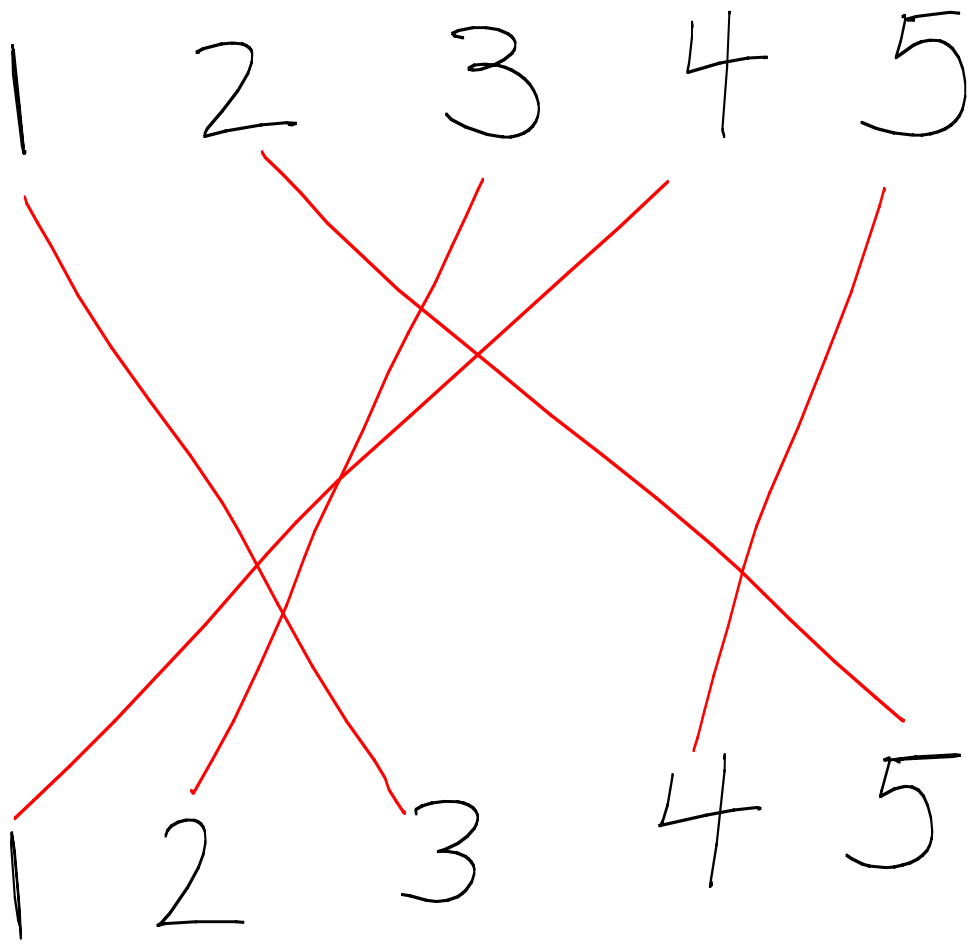
(4) Beyond Scattering Amplitudes

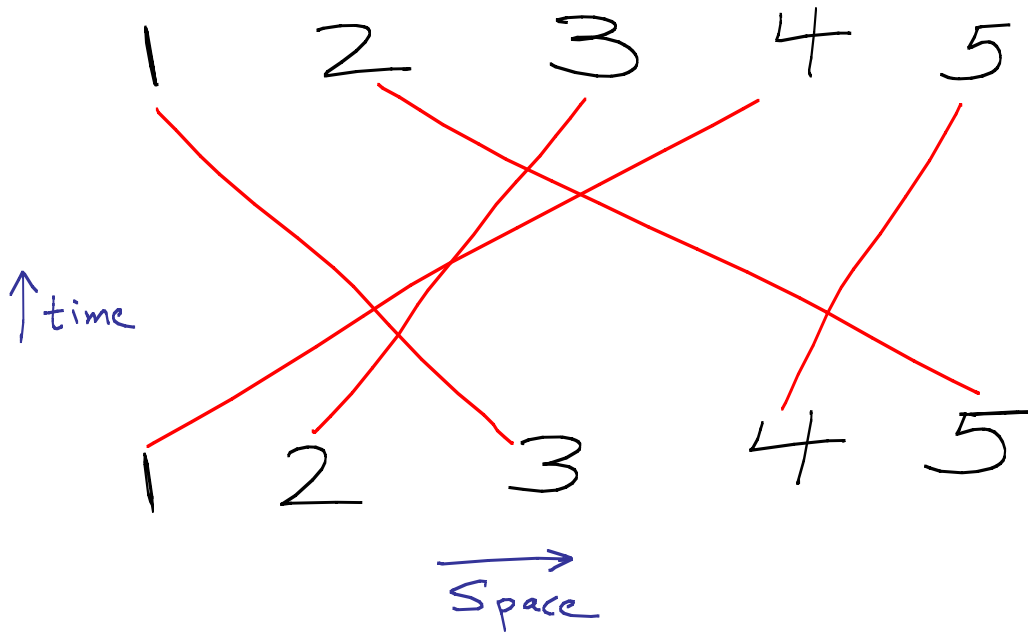
Drawings of Permutations

to

Pictures of Scattering

1 2 3 4 5 \rightarrow 3 5 2 1 4

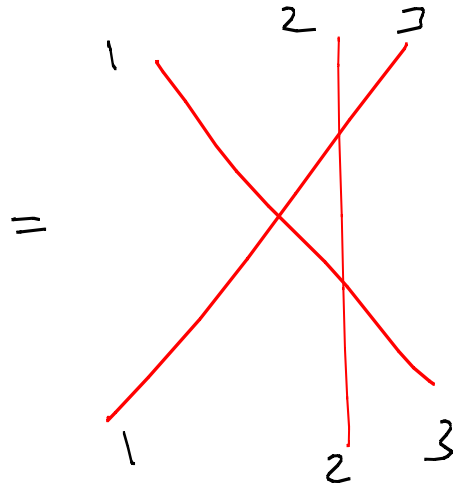
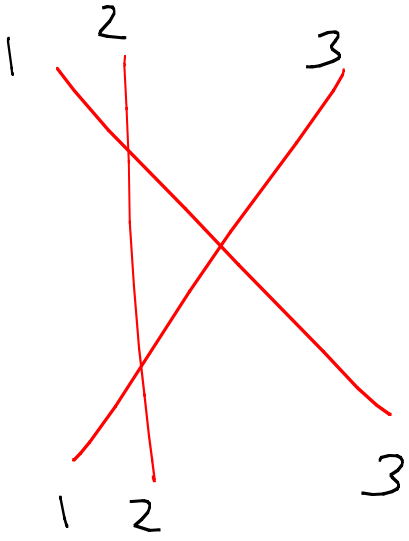




Breaking up permutation
 into product of adjacent
 transpositions [non-unique]

3	5	2	1	4
3	2	5	1	4
3	2	1	5	4
3	1	2	5	4
1	3	2	5	4
1	2	3	5	4
1	2	3	4	5





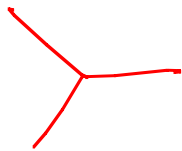
Yang - Baxter

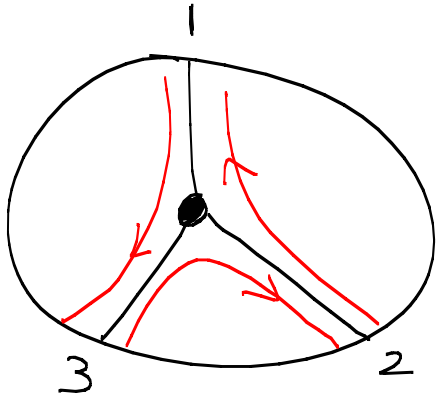
Can't Apply to (3+1)-d

- No particle creation/destruction

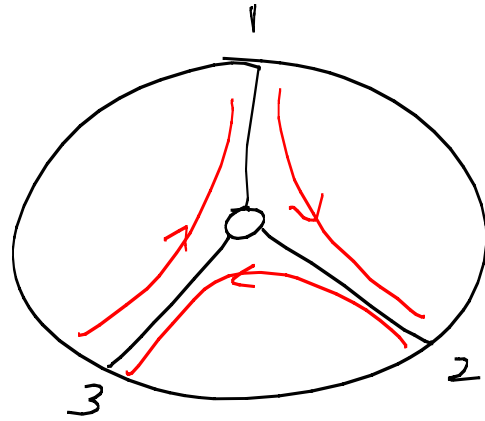
- Fundamental interaction ~~X~~,

not

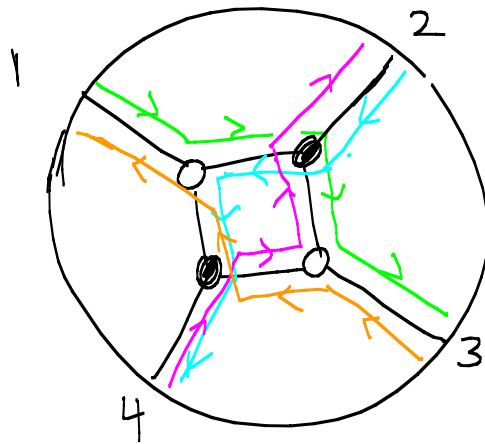




$1 \rightarrow 3$
 $2 \rightarrow 1$
 $3 \rightarrow 2$



$1 \rightarrow 2$
 $2 \rightarrow 3$
 $3 \rightarrow 1$



$1 \rightarrow 3$
 $2 \rightarrow 4$
 $3 \rightarrow 1$
 $4 \rightarrow 2$

"Affine" or "Decorated" Permutation

$$1 \rightarrow 3$$

$$2 \rightarrow 4$$

$$3 \rightarrow 1+4=5$$

$$4 \rightarrow 2+4=6$$

$$a \rightarrow p(a), a+n \geq p(a) \geq a$$

$p(a) \bmod n$ is a perm.

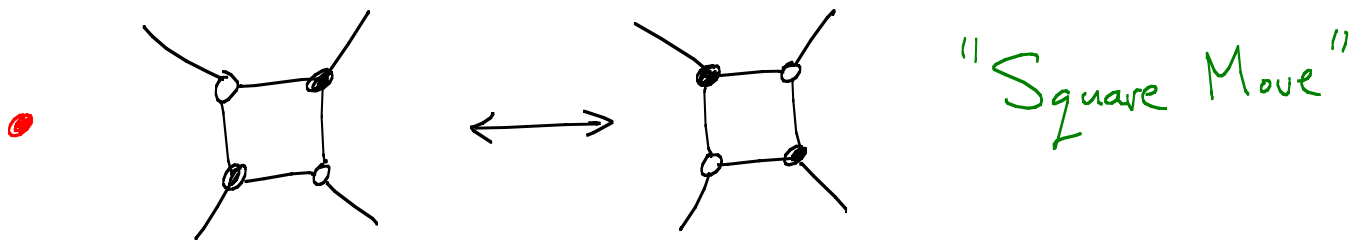
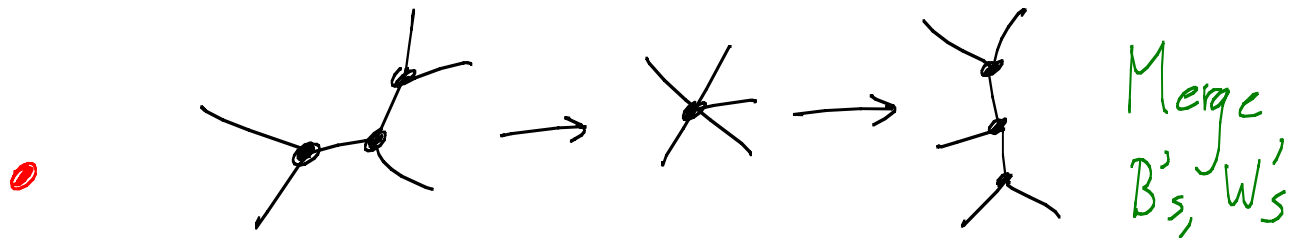
$$"K" = \# \text{ that jump back} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_a (p(a) - a)$$

So, a set of permutation for (n, k)

Enormous Redundancy

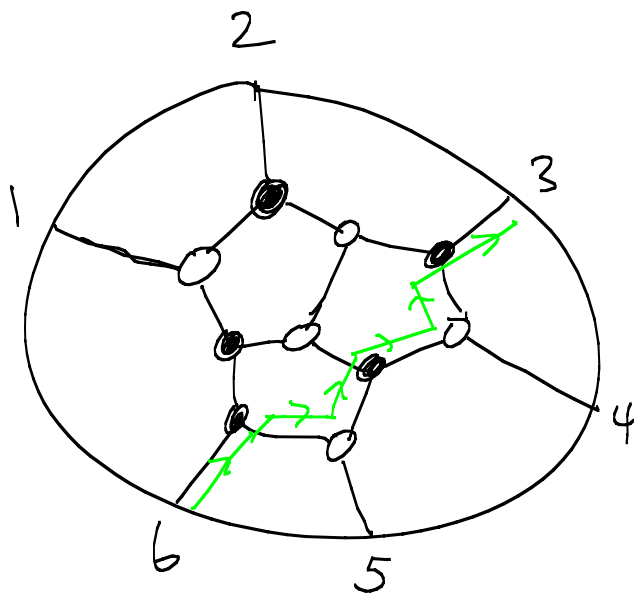
- * First - can have infinitely many loops/faces! "Reduced" graphs \rightarrow representing permutation with minimum # of faces.

* Even reduced graphs are far from unique, two "moves":

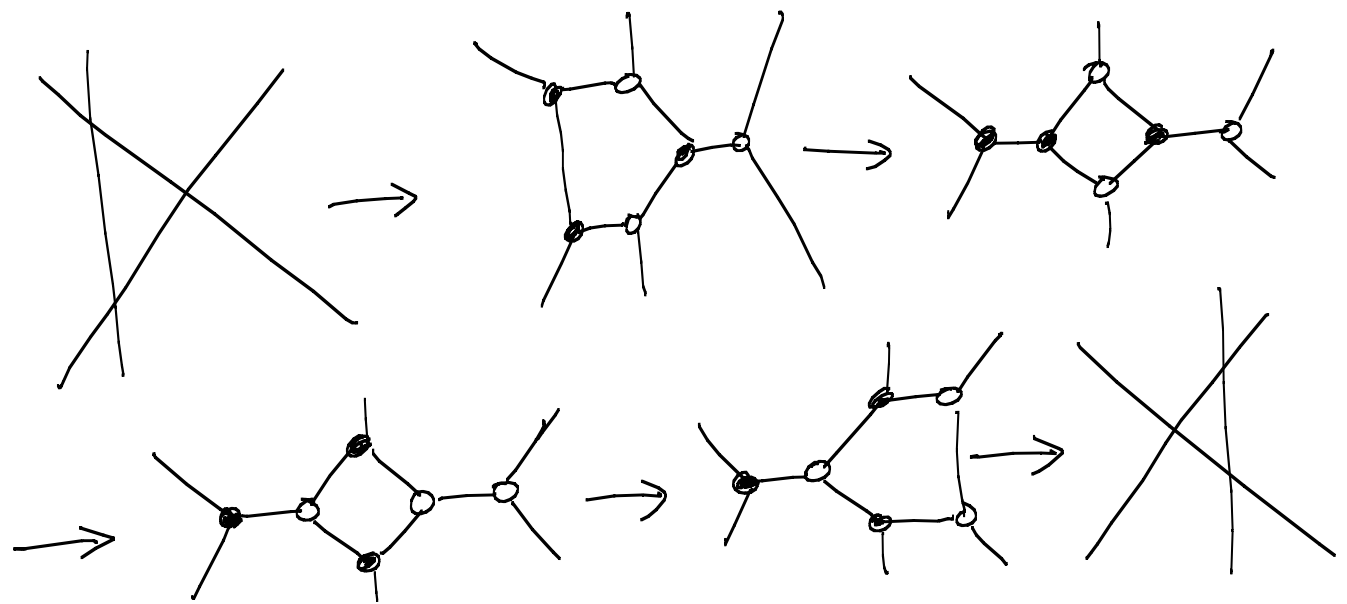
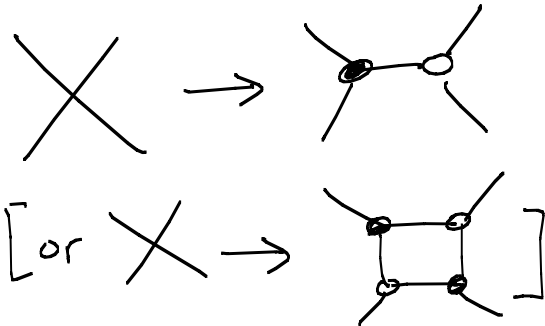
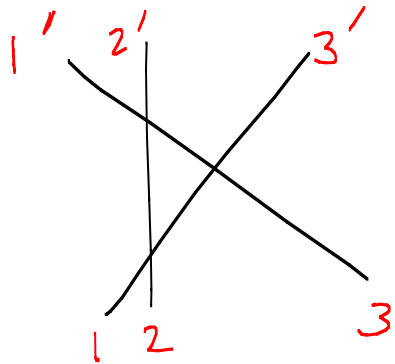


* Every perm. can be represented like this

1 → 4
2 → 6
3 → 5
4 → 7
5 → 8
6 → 9



Old Perm. \subset New Perm.



Yang-Baxter consequence of more
"atomic" square move

Permutations \leftrightarrow Config. of Vectors

Positive Grassmannian

The Positive Grassmannian

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & c_2 & \dots & c_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \leftarrow n \rightarrow \\ \uparrow k \\ \downarrow \end{matrix} \quad n \text{ } k\text{-vectors.}$$

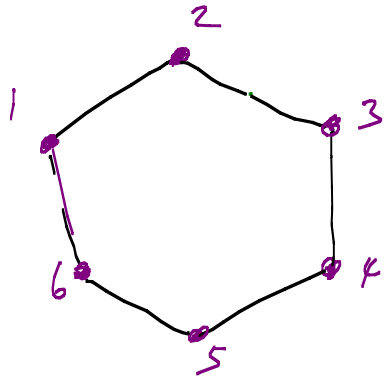
“Positive Part”: $(c_{i_1} \dots c_{i_k}) > 0$ for $i_k > \dots > i_1$.

[“All minors positive”].

Note: (twisted) cyclic structure

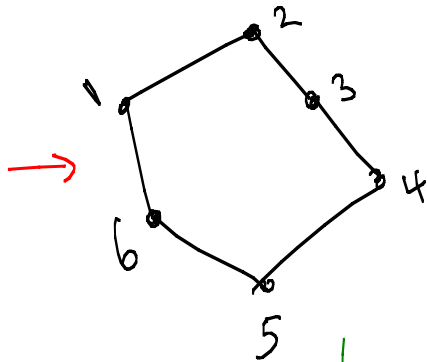
$$c_1 \rightarrow c_2, c_2 \rightarrow c_3, \dots, c_n \rightarrow (-1)^{k+1} c_1$$

Positivity \leftrightarrow Convexity

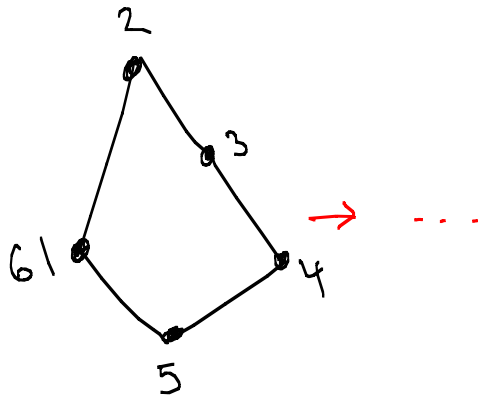


→ Convex Polygon

Boundaries:




→




→ Consecutive linear dependencies → Permutations

From On-Shell Diagrams

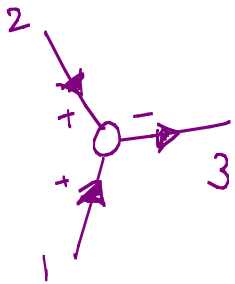


to

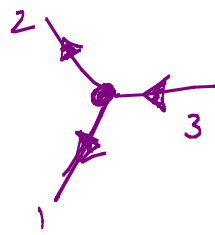
The Grassmannian



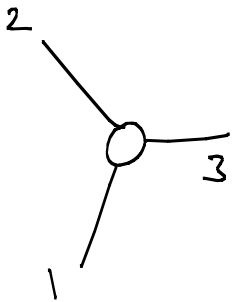
3-pt Vertices



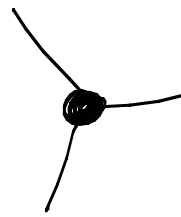
$$\frac{[12]^3 \delta^4(\sum_a p_a)}{[12][23]}$$



$$\frac{\langle 12 \rangle^3 \delta^4(\sum_a p_a)}{\langle 13 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle}$$

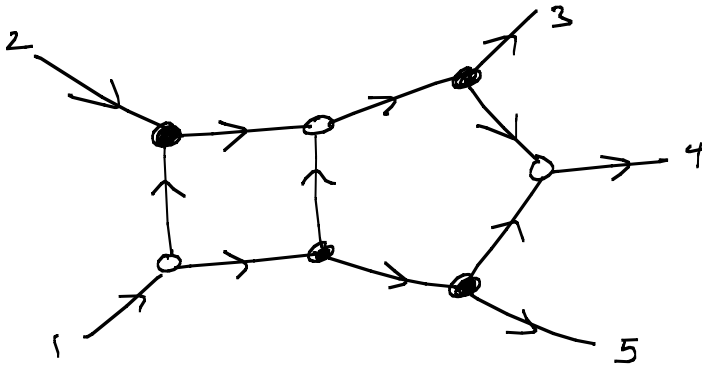


$$\frac{\delta^8(\sum_a \tilde{\lambda}_a \gamma_a) \delta^4(\sum_a p_a)}{[12][23][31]}$$



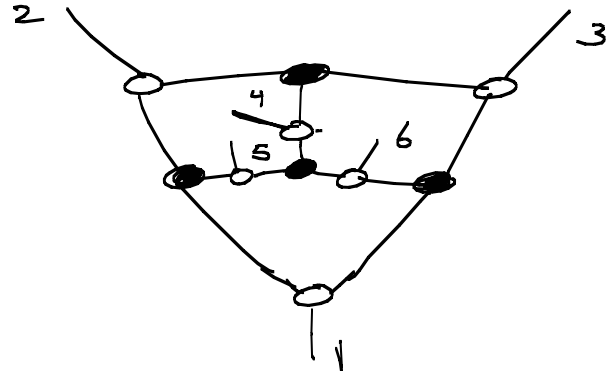
$$\frac{\delta^8(\sum_a \lambda_a \tilde{\gamma}_a) \delta^4(\sum_a p_a)}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 31 \rangle}$$

On-Shell Diagrams



$$\mathcal{N} = 0$$

$$\int \frac{d^2 \lambda d^2 \tilde{\lambda}}{GL(1)}, \int \frac{d^4 W}{GL(1)}$$

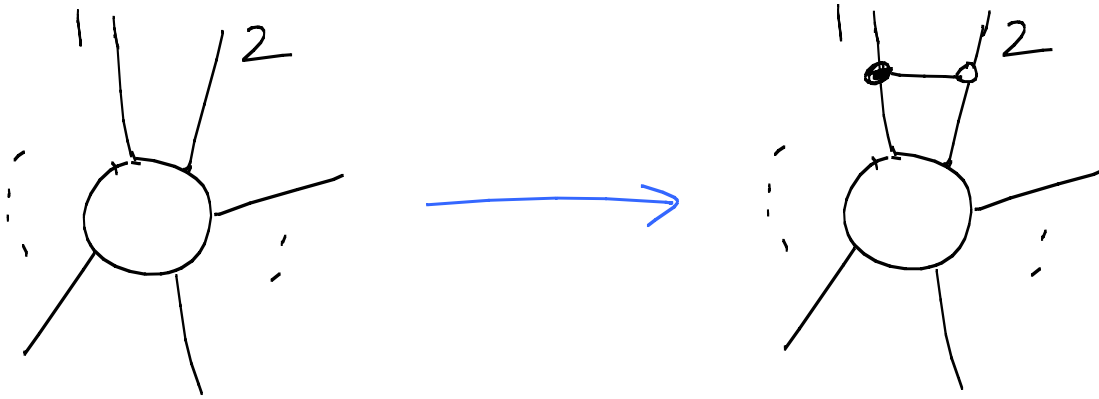


$$\mathcal{N} = 4$$

$$\int \frac{d^2 \lambda d^2 \tilde{\lambda} d^4 \tilde{\eta}}{GL(1)}, \int d^4 W$$

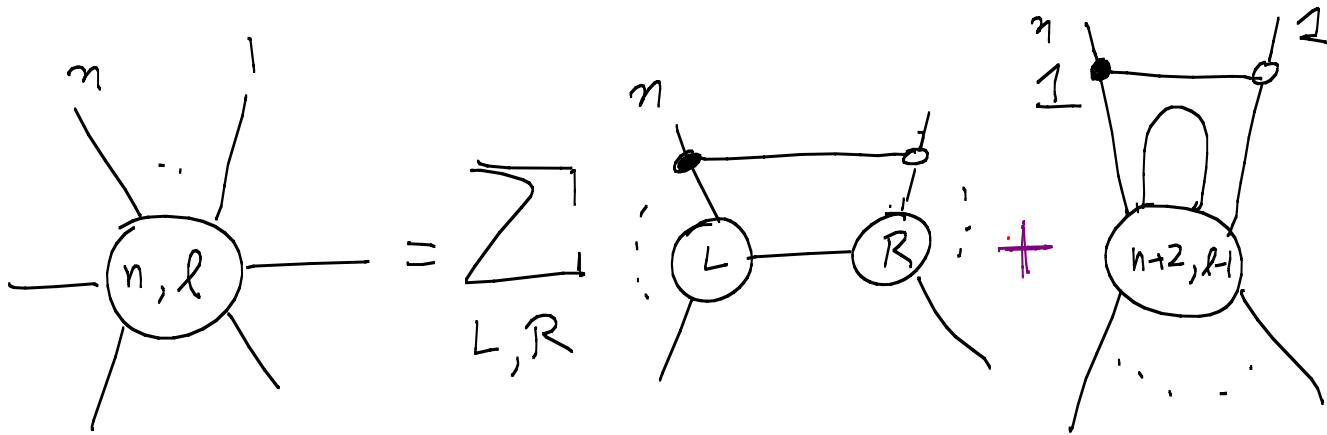
In general, a differential form

Ex: BCFW Deformation

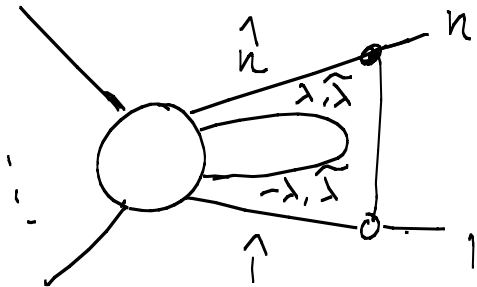


$$F[1, 2, \dots, n] \rightarrow \frac{d\tau}{\tau} F[\hat{1}, \hat{2}, \dots, n]$$

All-Loop Recursion for Planar $N=4$

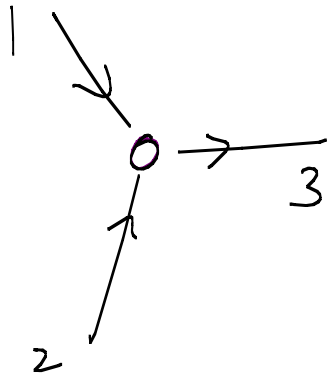


On-shell loops



$$\int \frac{d^2 \lambda d^2 \tilde{\lambda}}{\Omega(\lambda)} \frac{d\tau}{\tau} \rightarrow \int d^4 \mathcal{L}$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \lambda \tilde{\lambda} + \tau \lambda_1 \tilde{\lambda}_2$$



$$\frac{[12]^3}{[13][23]}$$

$$\delta^4\left(\sum_a p_a\right)$$

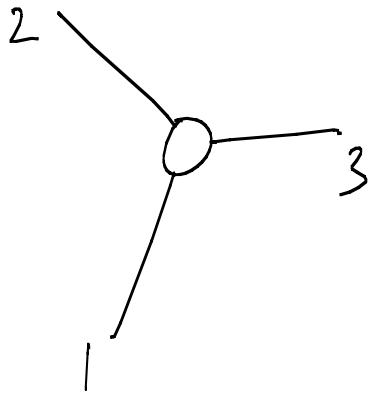
||

$$\int \frac{dt_1}{t_1} \frac{dt_2}{t_2}$$

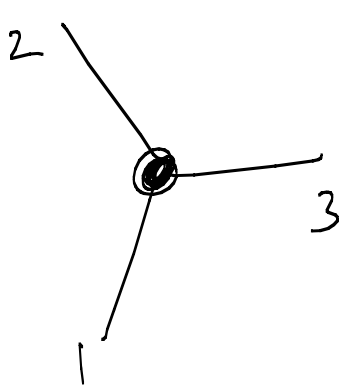
$$\delta^2[\tilde{\lambda}_3 + t_2 \tilde{\lambda}_2 + t_1 \tilde{\lambda}_1]$$

$$\delta^2[\lambda_3 - t_1 \lambda_1]$$

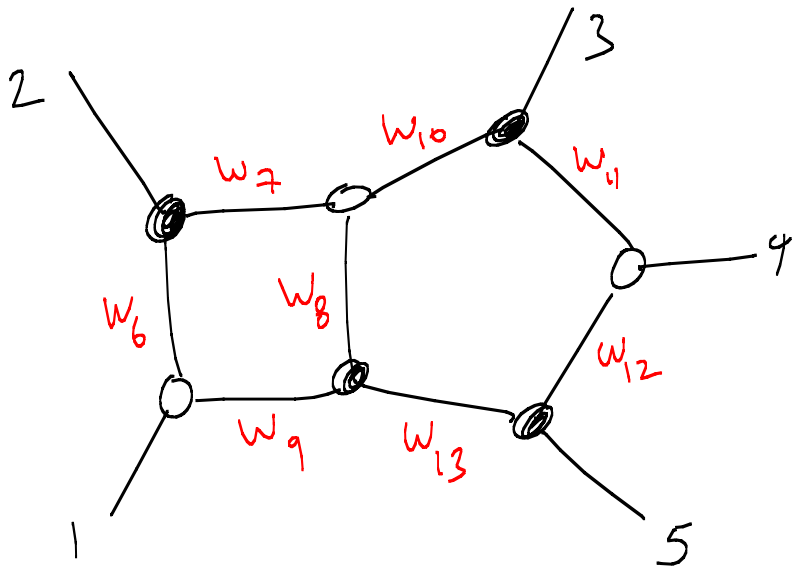
$$\delta^2[\lambda_3 - t_2 \lambda_2]$$



$$= \int \frac{dt_1}{t_1} \frac{dt_2}{t_2} \frac{dt_3}{t_3} / GL(1) \delta^{4|4}(t_i N_i)$$

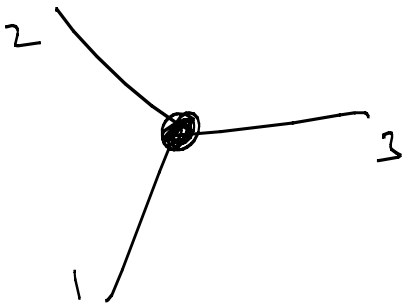


$$= \int d^2 \vec{u}_1 d^2 \vec{u}_2 d^2 \vec{u}_3 / GL(2) \delta^{4|4}(\vec{u}_i N_i)$$

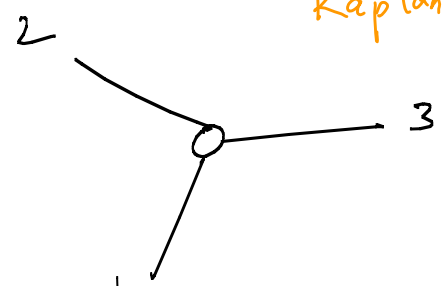


$$\int \frac{d^{4|4} W_{\text{cut}}}{\text{GLCI}'s}$$

trivial
 { Mason + Skinner,
 Kaplan }



$$t_1 W_1 + t_2 W_2 + t_3 W_3 = 0$$



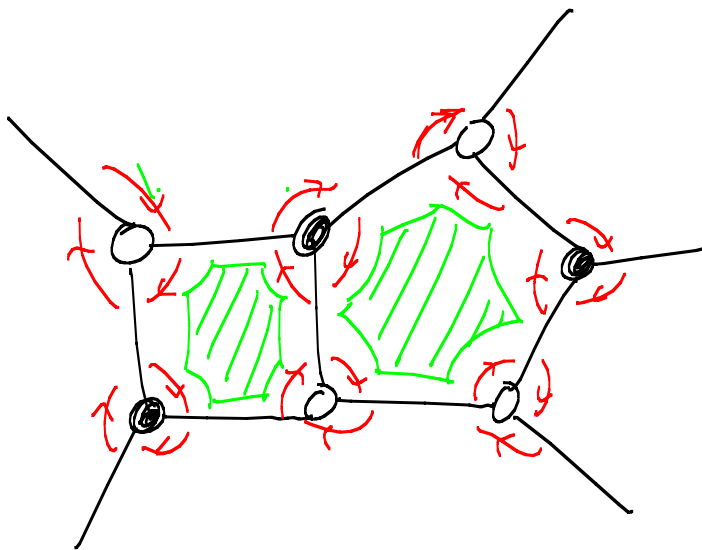
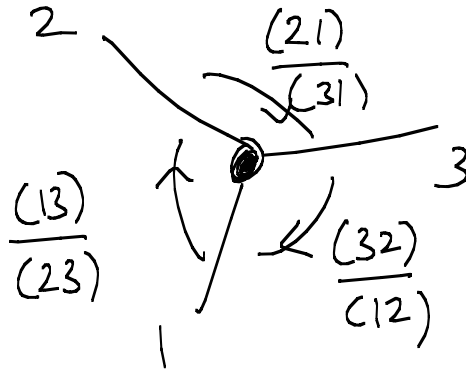
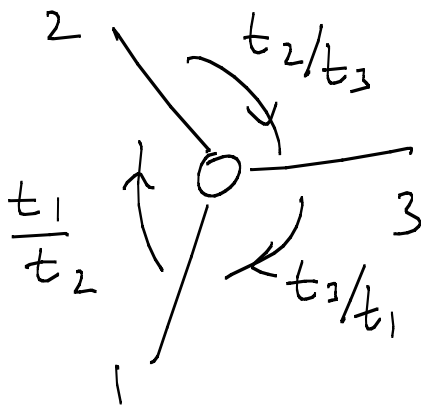
$$\vec{u}_1 W_1 + \vec{u}_2 W_2 + \vec{u}_3 W_3 = 0$$

Now eliminate W_{internal} 's!

$$\rightarrow \frac{k}{11} \delta^{4/4} [C_{\alpha a} [t'_s, \vec{u}'_s] W_a]$$

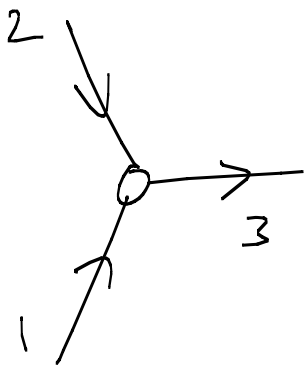
$\alpha=1$

Point in $G(K, n)$

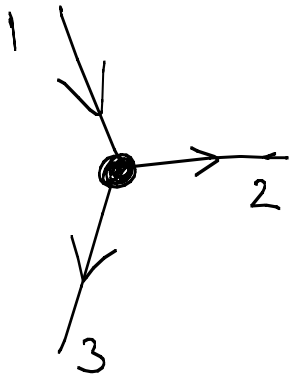


Variables associated with Faces

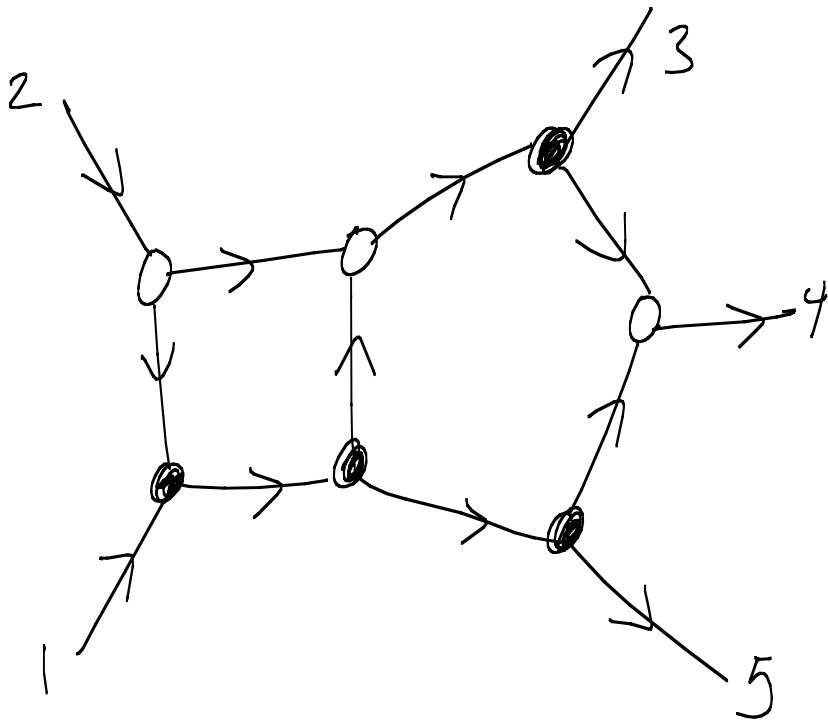
Convenient GFing + Explicit Co-ord.



$$\alpha_3 W_3 = \alpha_1 W_1 + \alpha_2 W_2$$



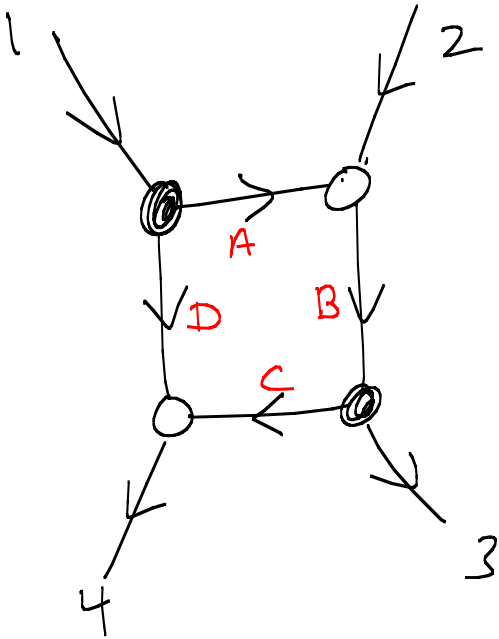
$$\gamma_1 W_1 = \gamma_2 W_2 = \gamma_3 W_3$$



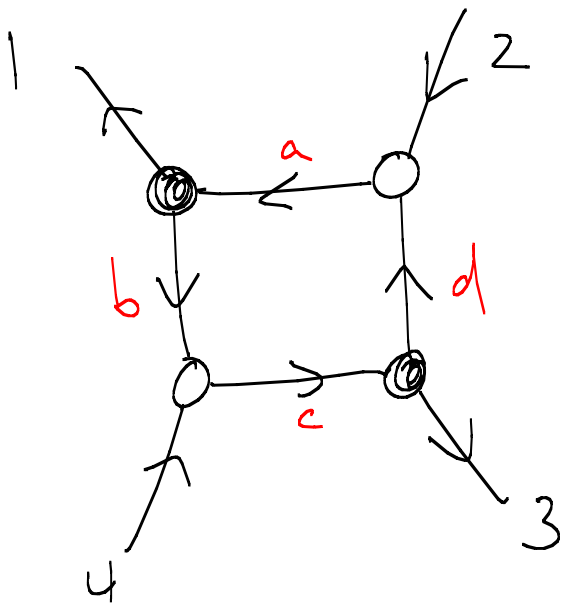
* Edge Var.
 \leftrightarrow U(1) Gauge
 Field on Graph

* Face Var:
 Flux through
 faces

$$C_{ij} = \sum_{\text{all paths } i \rightarrow j} \prod_{\text{edges along path}} e_x$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 0 & AB & D+ABC \\ 0 & 1 & B & BC \end{bmatrix}$$



$$2 \rightarrow 1 \quad a + a(abcd) + a(abcd)^2 + \dots = \frac{a}{1 - abcd}$$

So, we have explicitly

$$\prod \text{edges} \quad \frac{de_\alpha}{e_\alpha / \text{GLC(1)'s}}$$

or

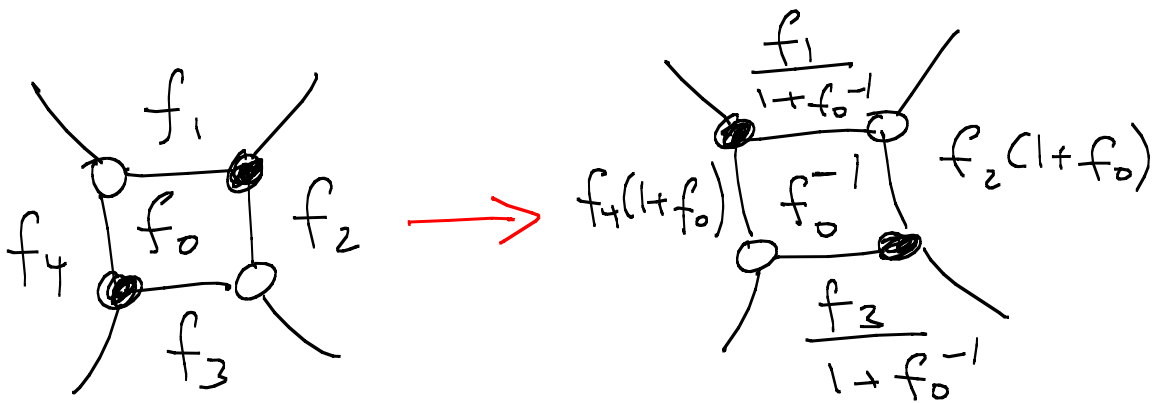
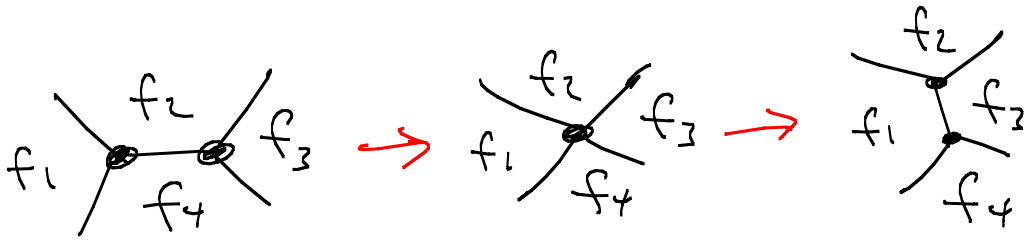
$$\prod \text{faces} \quad \frac{df_i}{f_i}$$

$$\prod_{\alpha=1}^4 \delta [C_{\alpha} [f] N_{\alpha}]$$

The map from On-Shell-
Diagrams \rightarrow Grassmannian
is natural + Universal.

The measure depends on
the theory.....

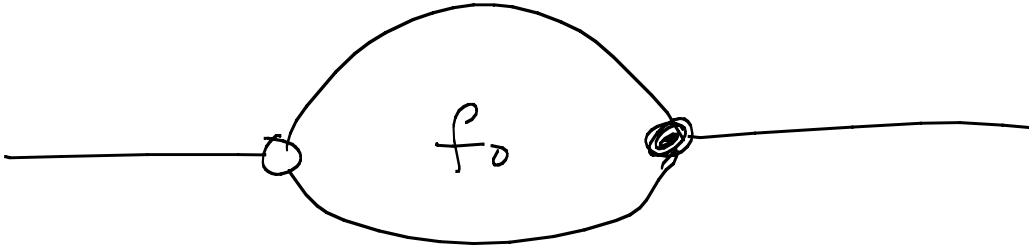
" Moves "



"Reduction"



f_1



f_2

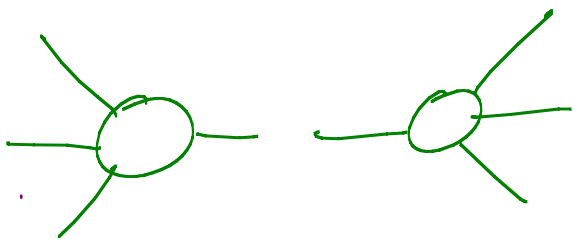


$$f_1 (1 + f_0)$$

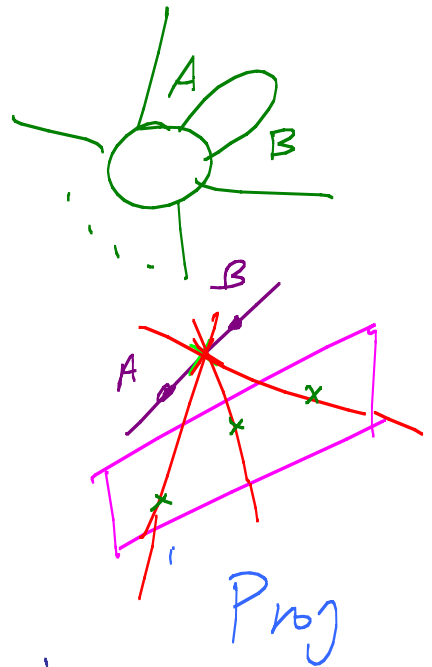
$$\frac{f_2}{1 + f_0^{-1}}$$

"Local" Picture

* Basic operations:

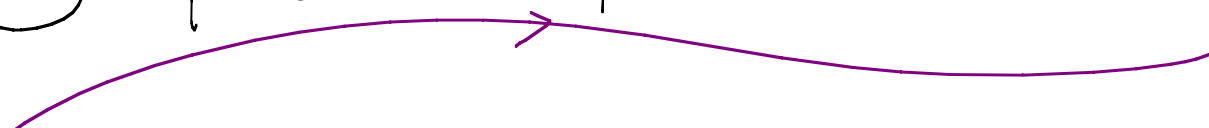


Direct Product




* Moves, Reductions Obvious

Planar $\mathcal{N}=4$ SYM

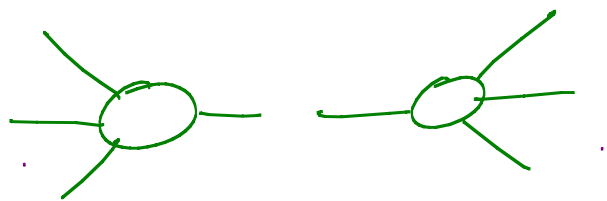


and

The Positive Grassmannian

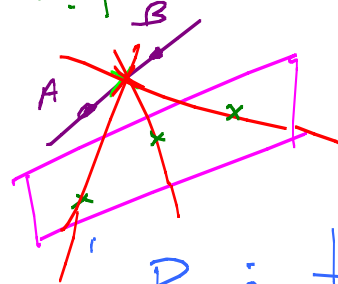
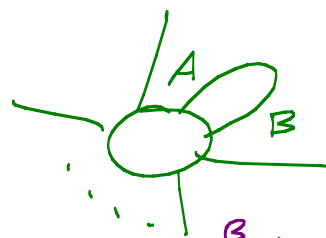


* Basic operations:



$$[(\quad) (\quad)]$$

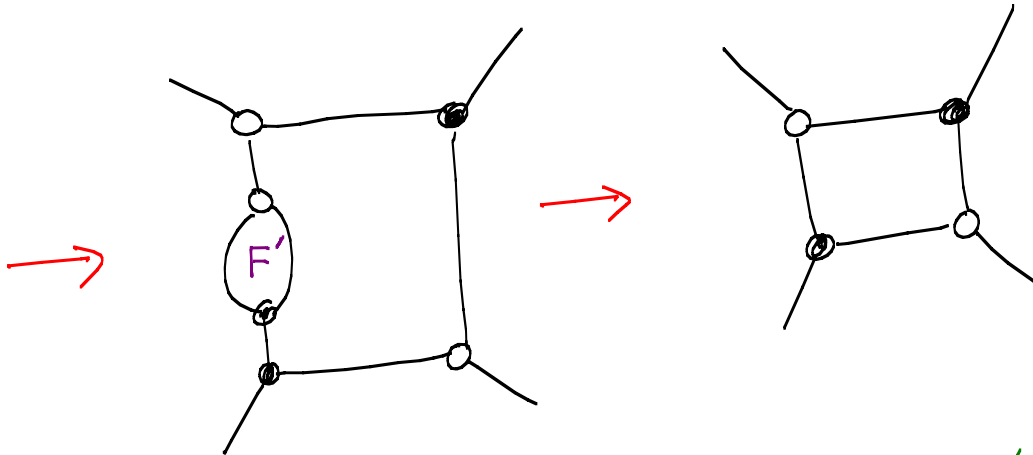
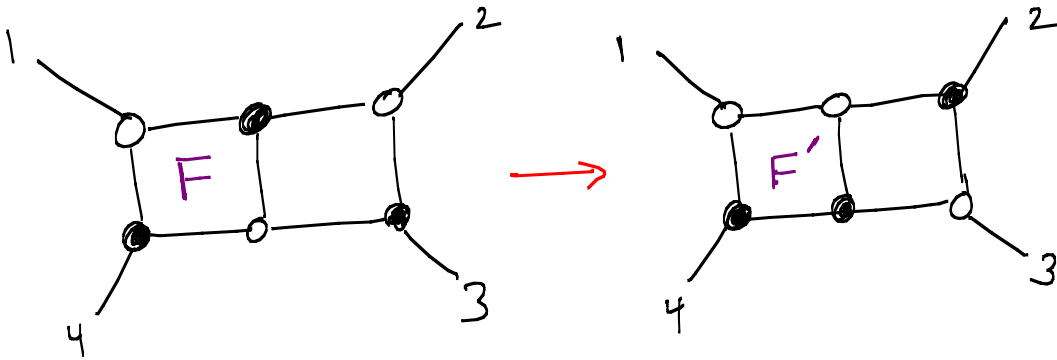
Direct Product



Projection

→ "Positive" Grassmannian
Manifest for Planar Graphs from
"local" picture

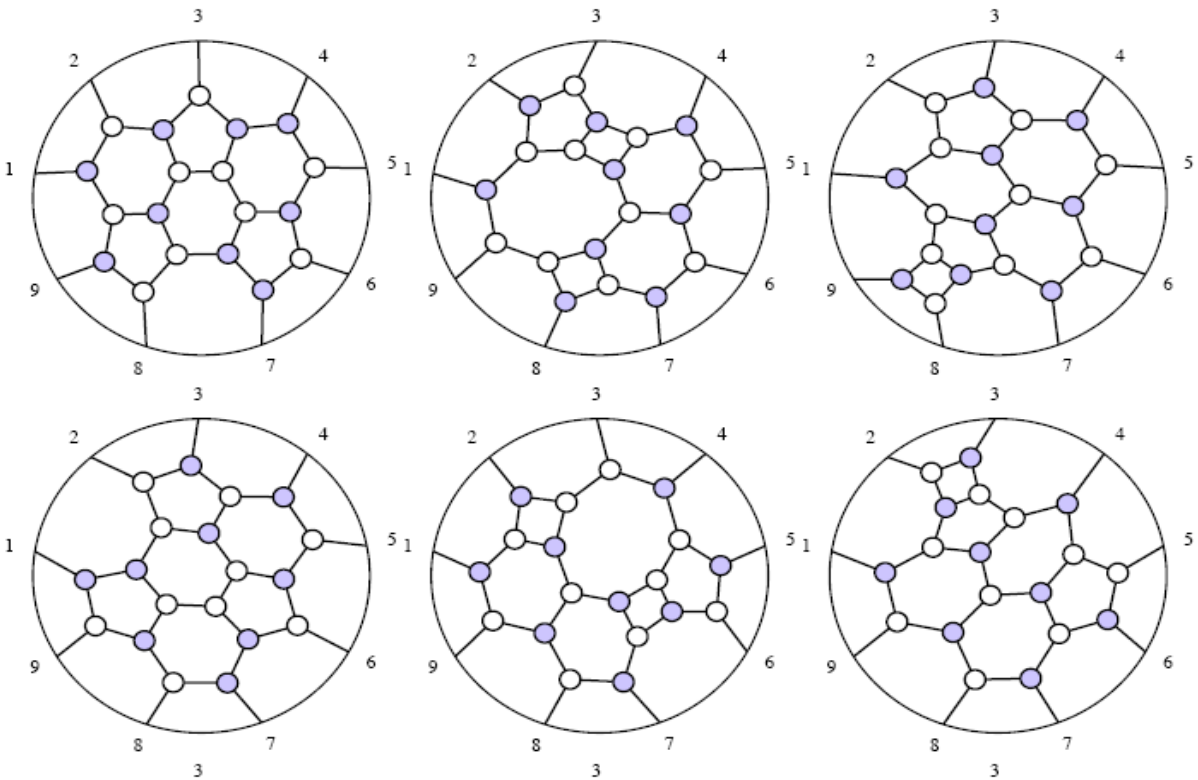
Reduction



$$\frac{dF}{F} \quad \prod_a \frac{df_a}{f_a} \rightarrow \left(\frac{dF'}{F'} \right) \prod_a \frac{df'_a}{f'_a}$$

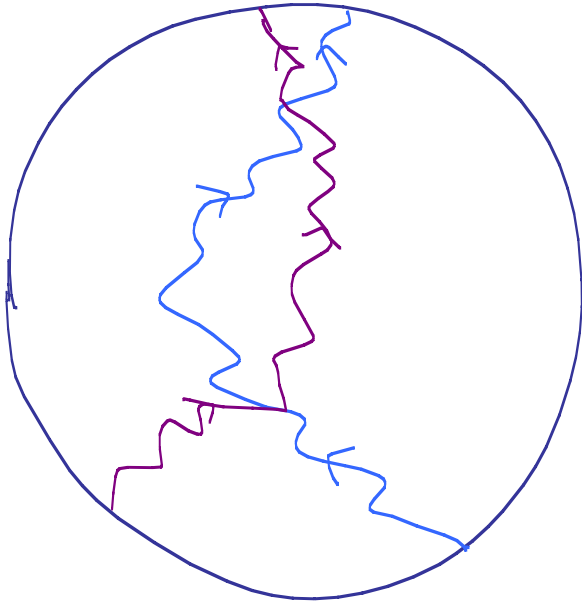
~~~~~  
factors  
out

# Invariants: Global Properties of LR Paths!

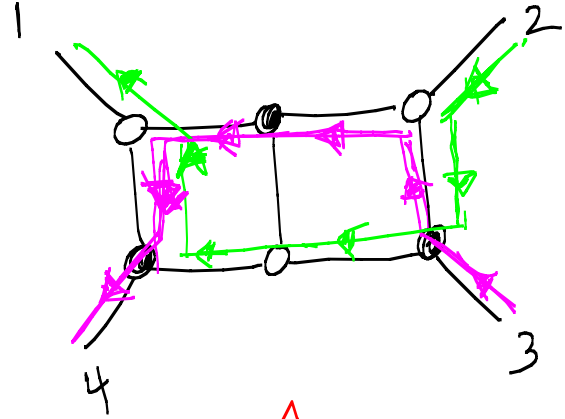


Reduced? Same, different?

# Reducible Graphs



“Bad double Crossing”



# Once Reduced

\* All content is in L-R  
path permutation

↳ which gives lin dependencies  
of Grassmannian

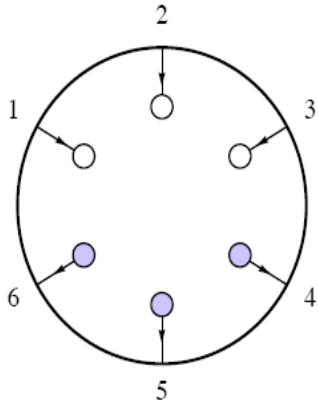
↳ And Specifies cell of Positive Gr.



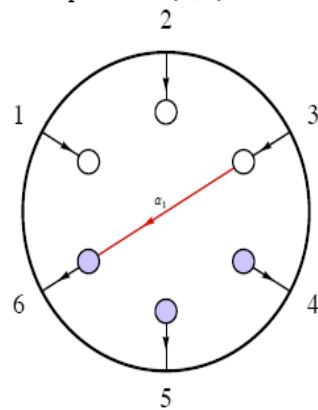
# BCFW Perm. Decomp.

|     |   | (12) | (23) | (34) | (23) | (35) | (12) | (23) | (36) |
|-----|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1 → | 4 | 6    | 6    | 6    | 6    | 6    | 7    | 7    | 7    |
| 2 → | 6 | 4    | 5    | 5    | 7    | 7    | 6    | 8    | 8    |
| 3 → | 5 | 5    | 4    | 7    | 5    | 8    | 8    | 6    | 9    |
| 4 → | 7 | 7    | 7    | 4    | 4    | 4    | 4    | 4    | 4    |
| 5 → | 8 | 8    | 8    | 8    | 8    | 5    | 5    | 5    | 5    |
| 6 → | 9 | 9    | 9    | 9    | 9    | 9    | 9    | 9    | 6    |

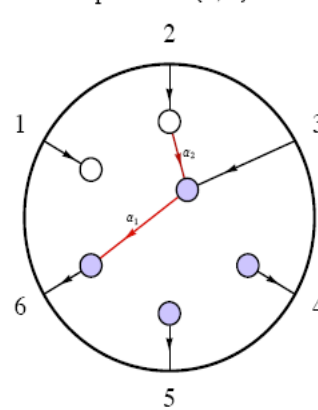
Sequence of Adjacent Transpositions



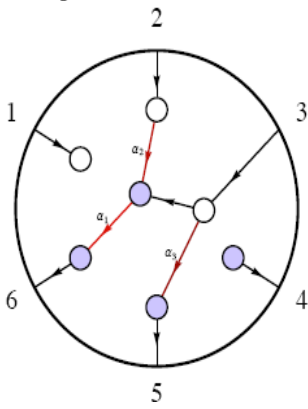
Transposition: {3, 6}



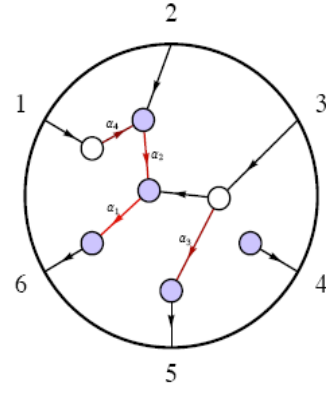
Transposition: {2, 3}



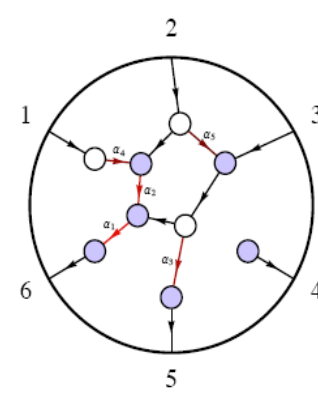
Transposition: {3, 5}



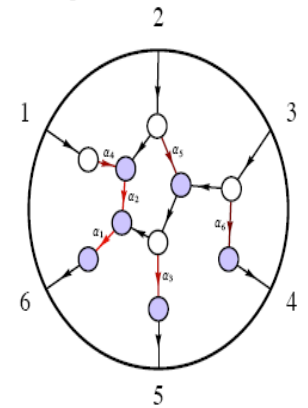
Transposition: {1, 2}



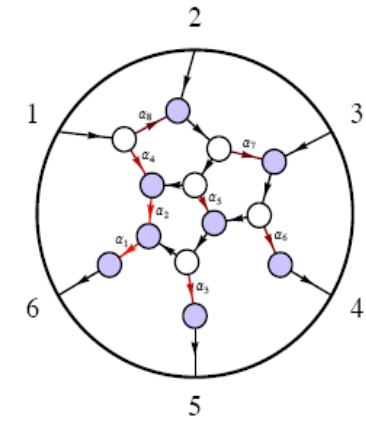
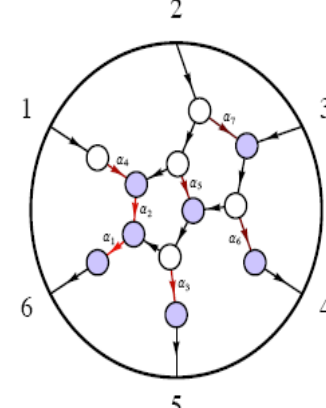
Transposition: {2, 3}

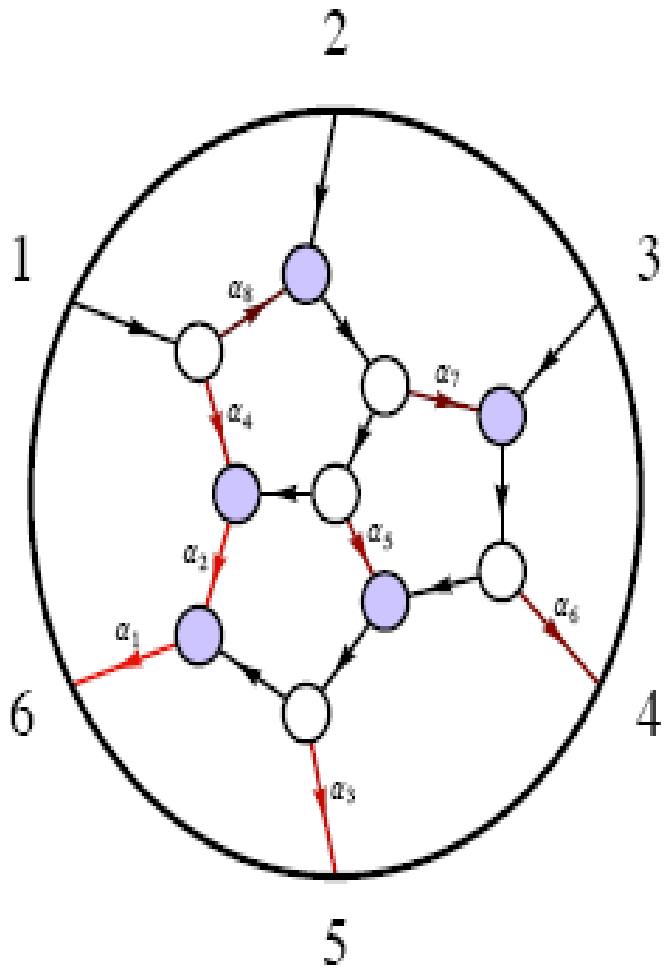


Transposition: {3, 4}



Transposition: {2, 3}







$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow[\substack{(36) \\ 6 \rightarrow 6+z_1 3}]{\quad} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & z_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

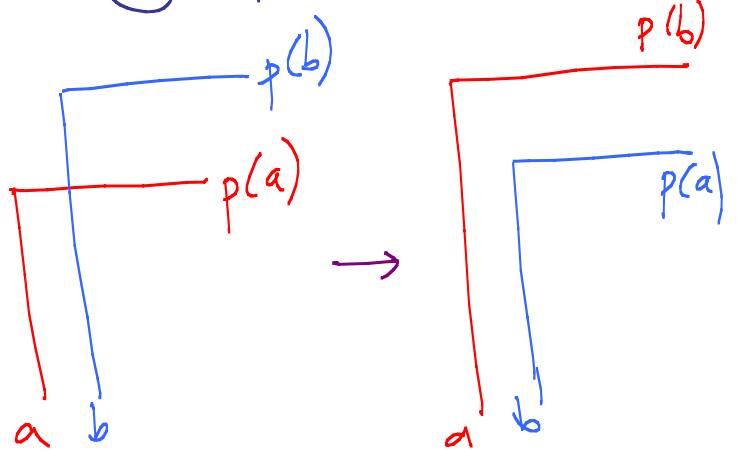
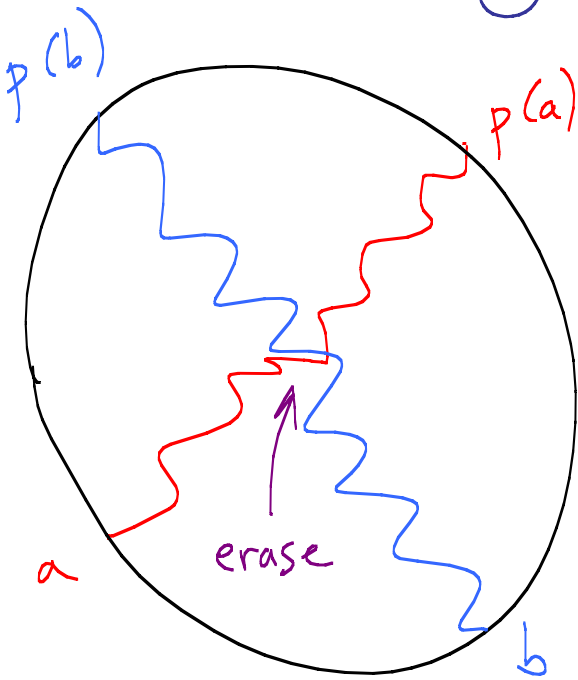
$$\xrightarrow[\substack{(23) \\ 3 \rightarrow 3+z_2 2}]{\quad} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & z_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & z_1 \end{bmatrix} \dots$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & z_4+z_8 & z_4 z_5+z_4 z_7 & z_4 z_5 z_6 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & z_2+z_5+z_7 & (z_2+z_5) z_6 & z_2 z_5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & z_6 & z_3 & z_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

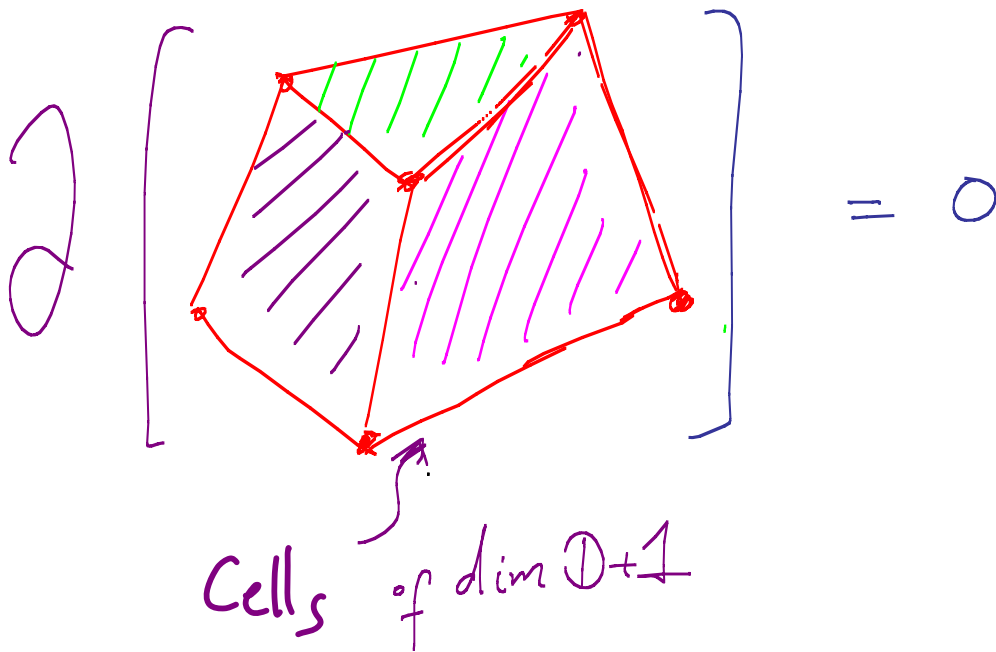
(Manifestly Positive)

# Singularities / Residues

Erase an edge [so graph still reducible!]



# Relations



Ex: 14-term identity involving rationals,  $\sqrt{\quad}$ 's,  $\sqrt[3]{\quad}$ 's:

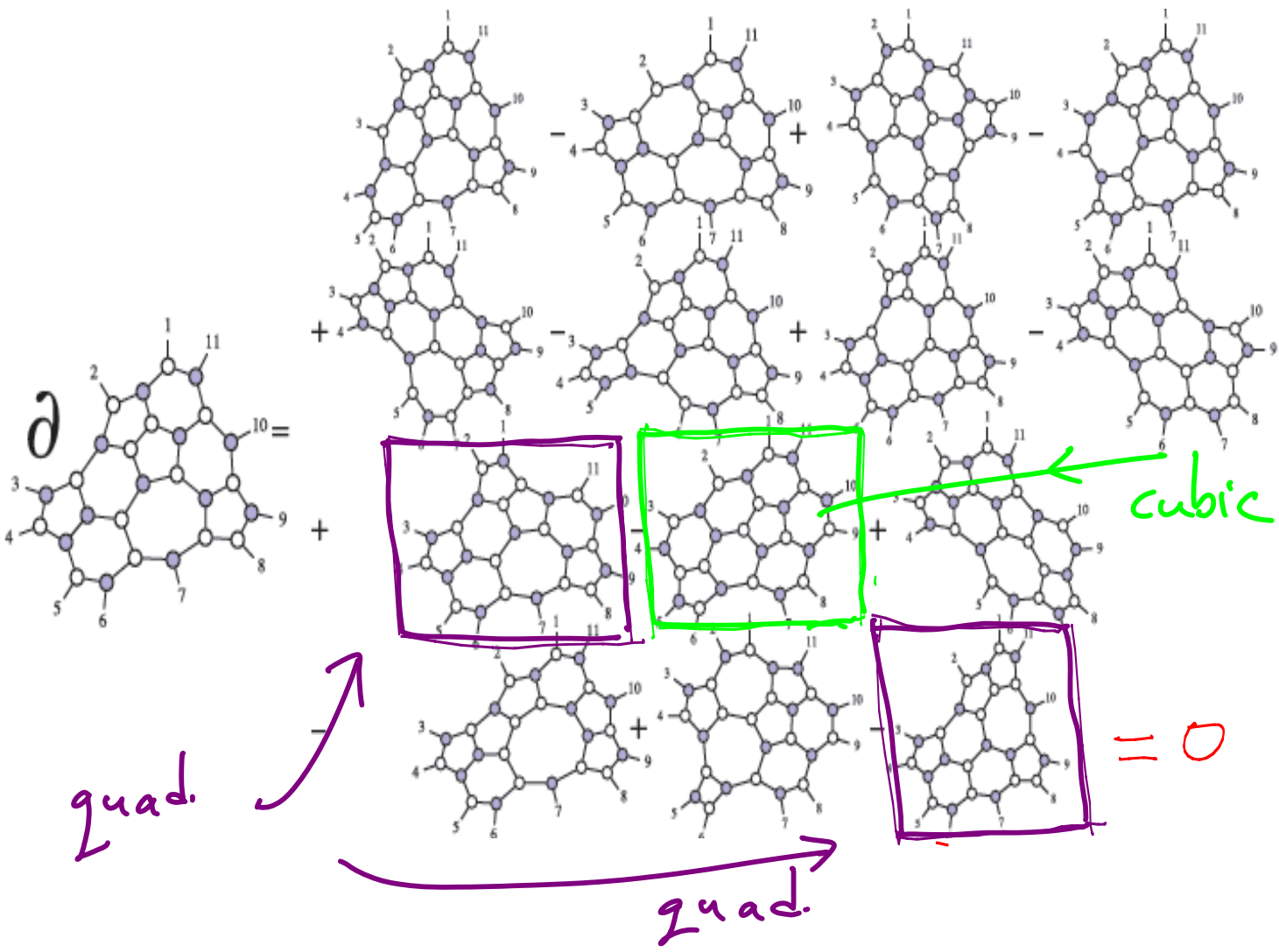
$\partial$

quadratic (2 roots)

Cubic (3 roots)

quadratic (2 roots)

$= 0$



# Invariant Top Form

$$\frac{d^{k \times n} C}{\text{vol GL}(k) (1 \dots k) \dots (n-1 \dots k-1)} = \frac{df_1}{f_1} \dots \frac{df_{k(n-k)}}{f_{k(n-k)}}$$

↳ Logarithmic singularities  
only on boundary of positive part!

Purpose in life : Makes

Dual. Conf. Inv. Manifest

At level of permutation

$$a \rightarrow p(a)$$

Original space

$$a \rightarrow p(a) - 2$$
$$(k \rightarrow k - 2)$$

Dual Space

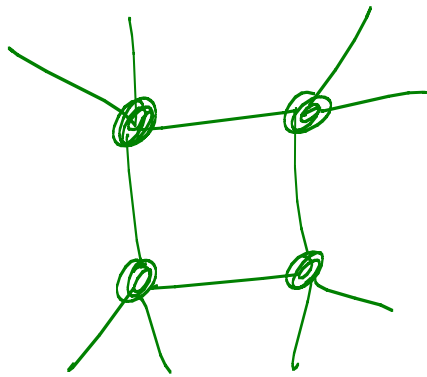
Yangian =  $\mathcal{D}$ iffs on Positive Part

Obvious symmetry of Geometry  
Beautiful action of BCFW vars.

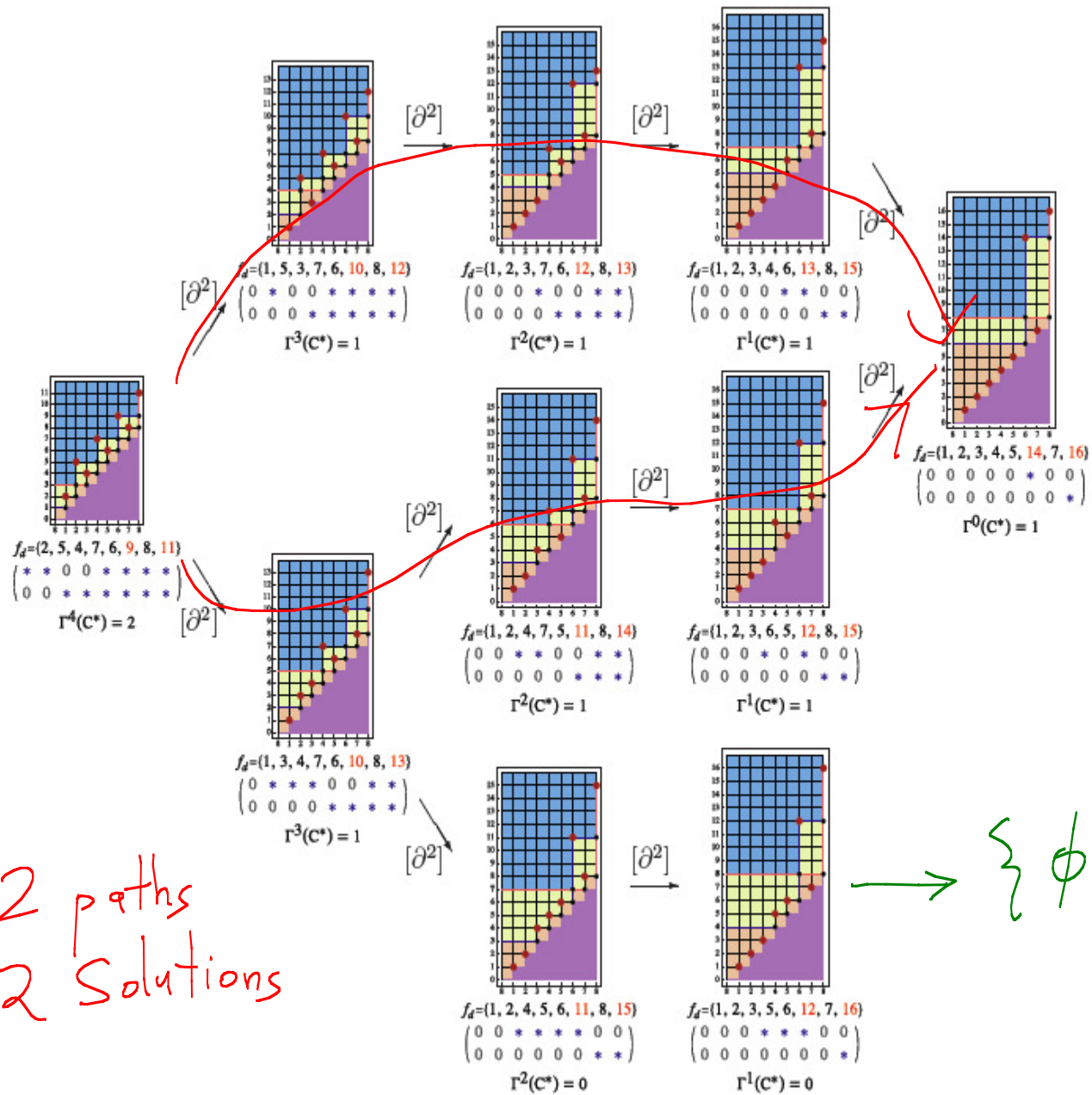


# Enumerative Geometry for Counting Solns

e.g

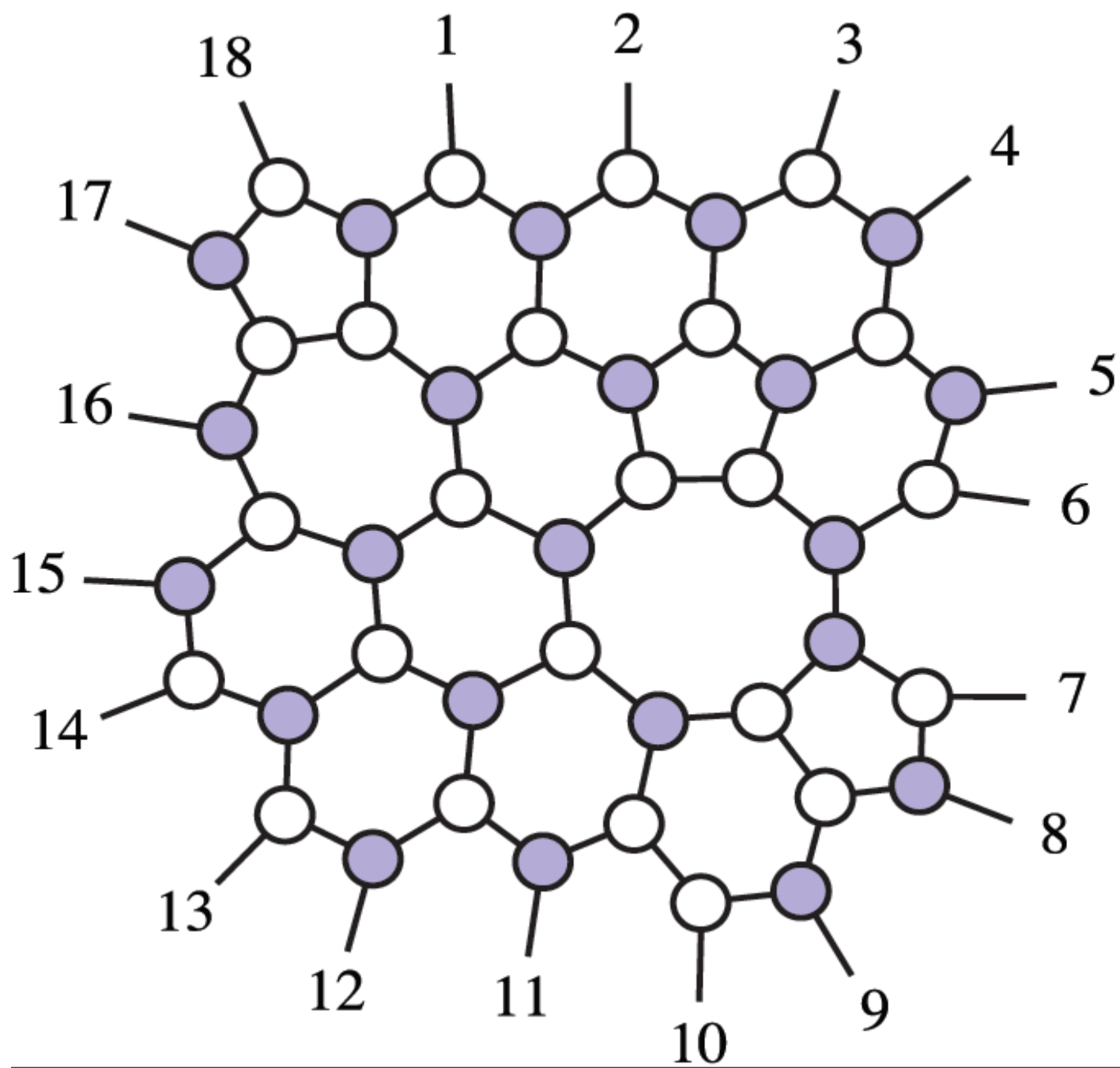


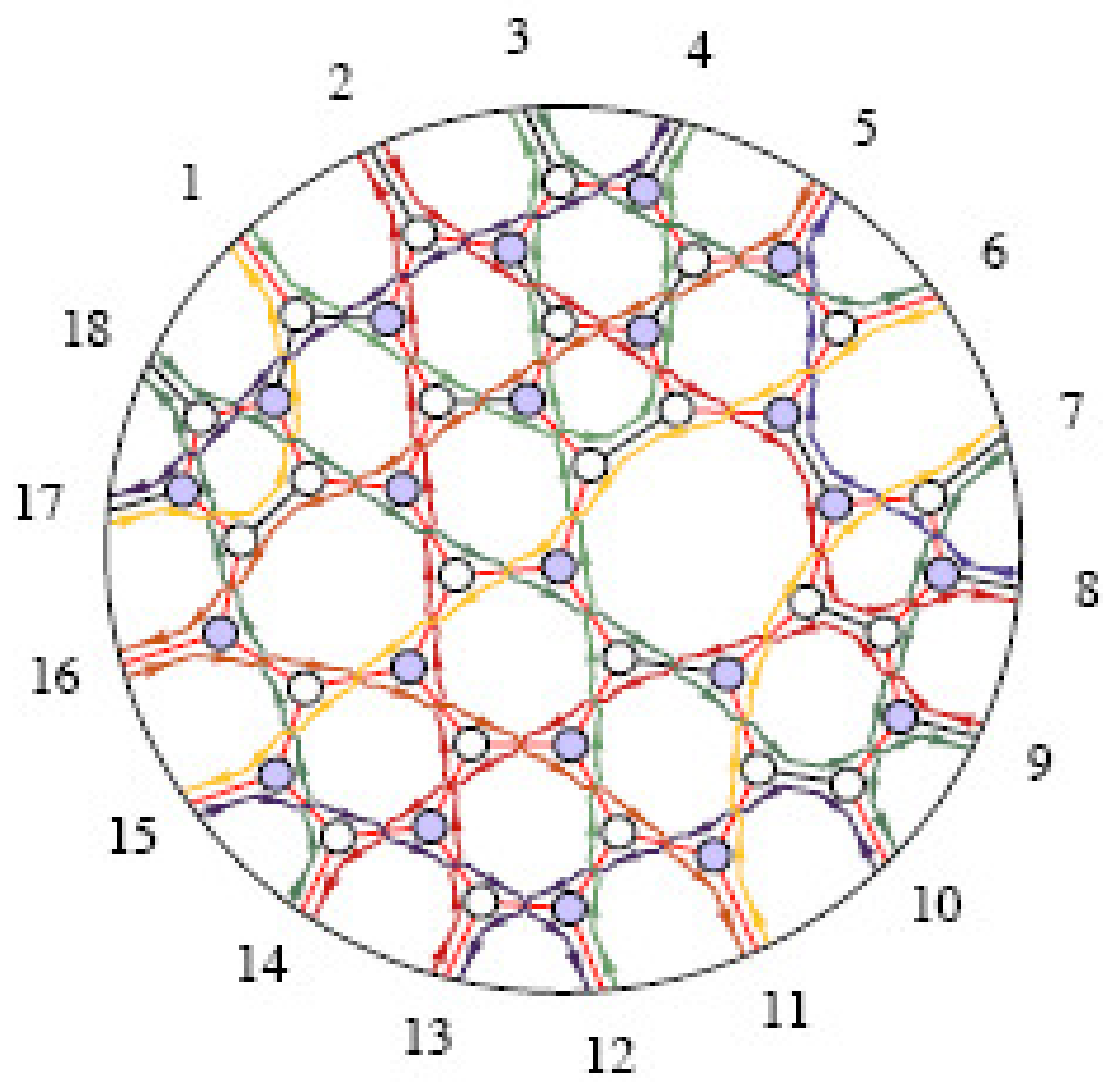
2 solutions  
[some work!]

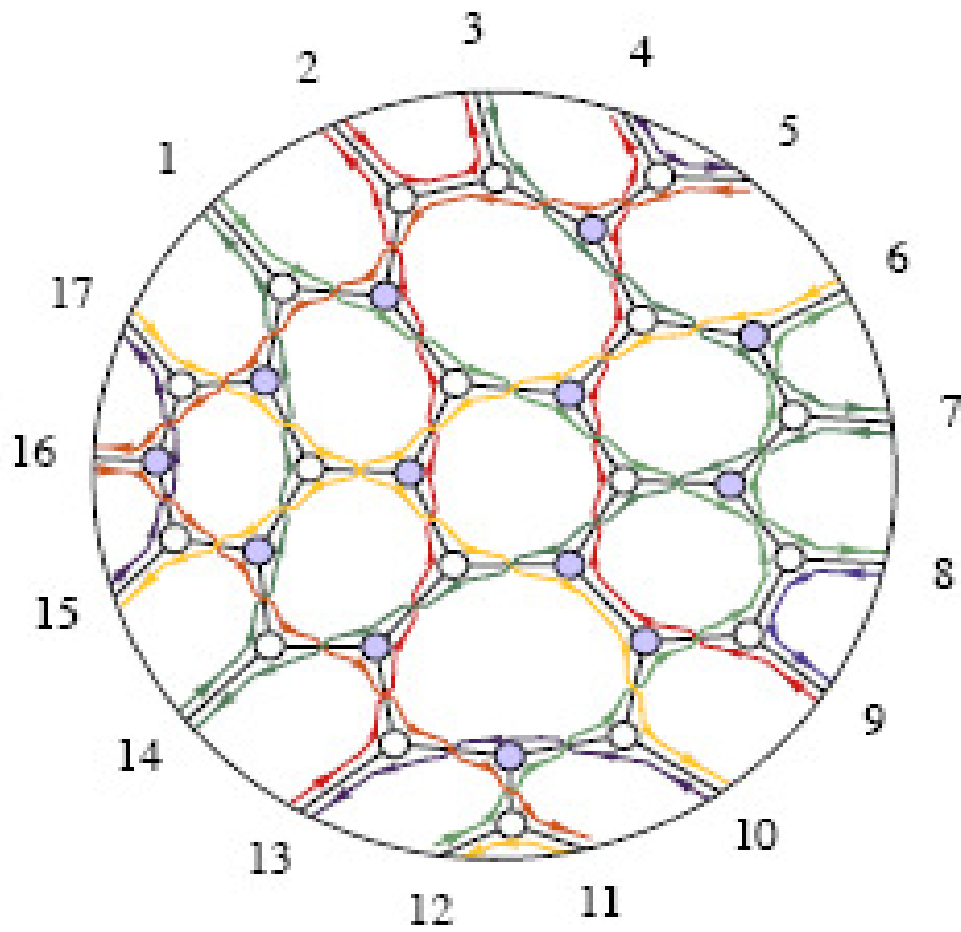


2 paths  
2 solutions

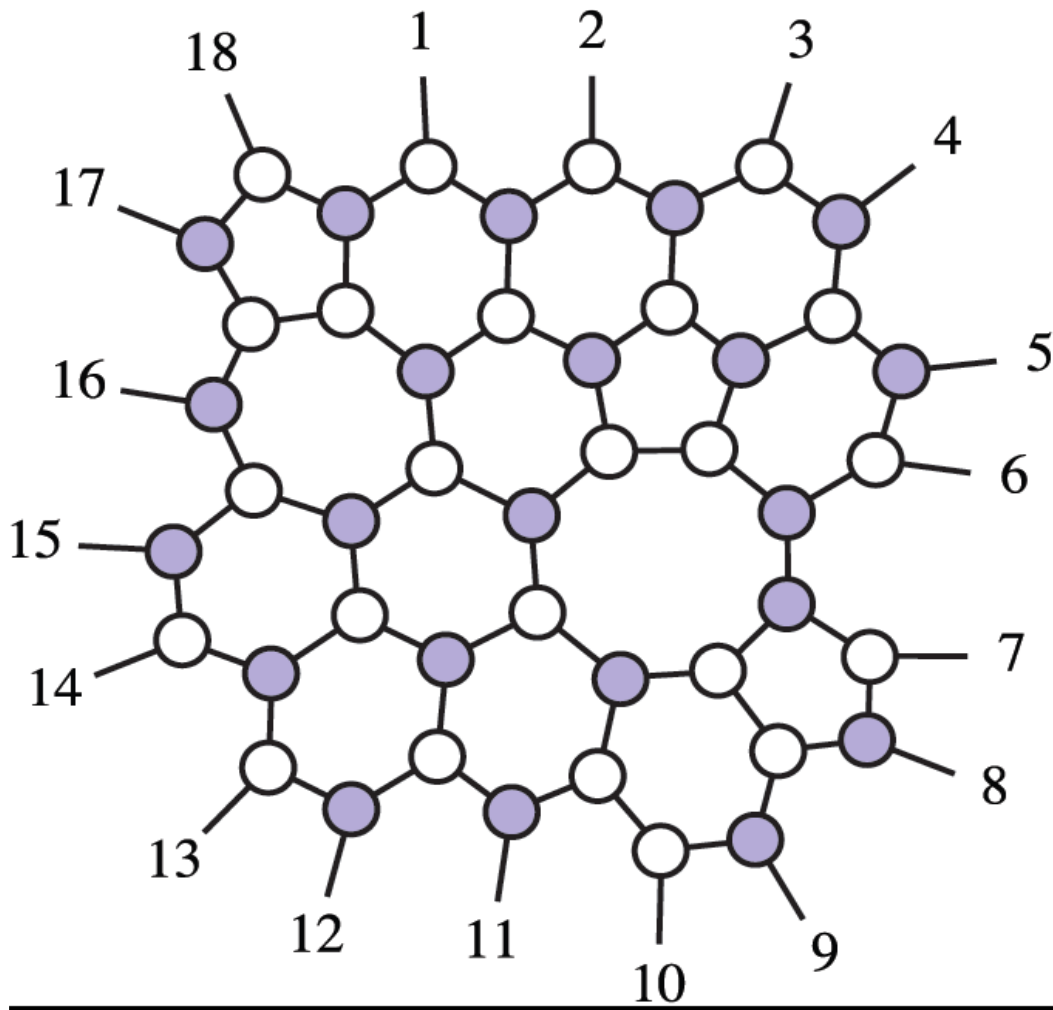
$\rightarrow \{ \phi \}$







In Minkowski Space



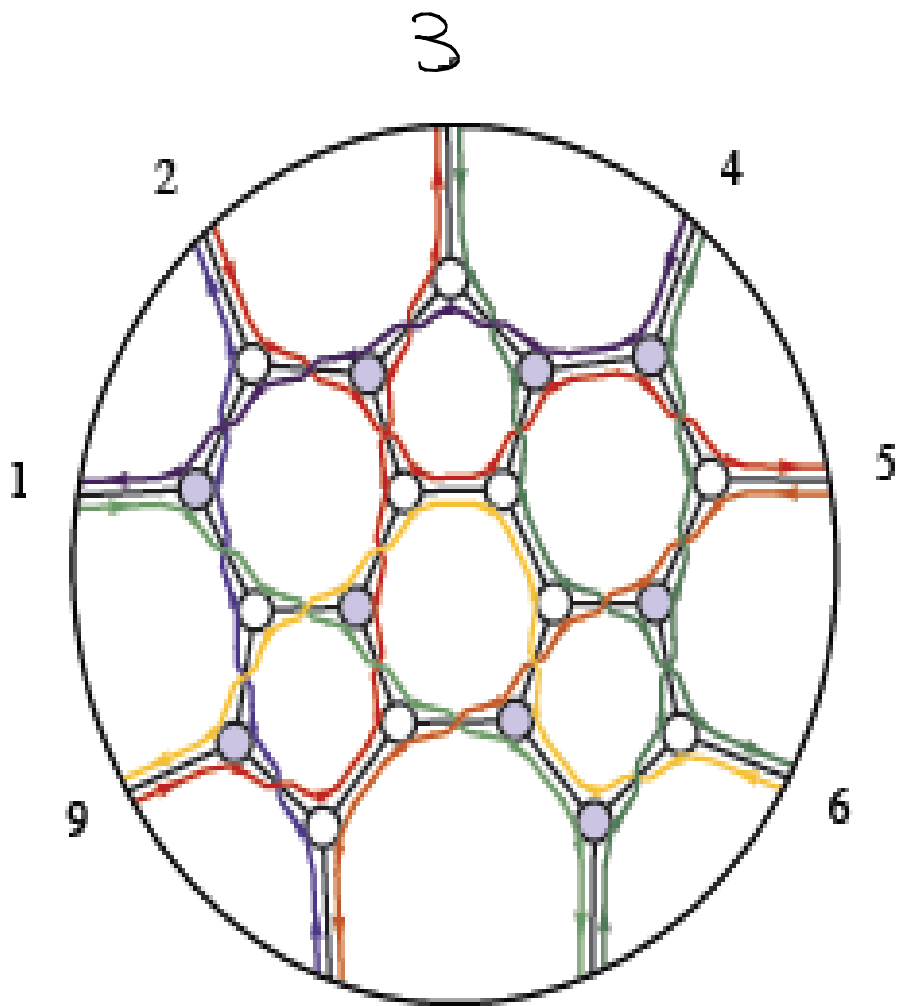
13 Solutions

Easy to see, for LS, and  
generic external data :

No new objects for  $n \geq 5(k-2)$

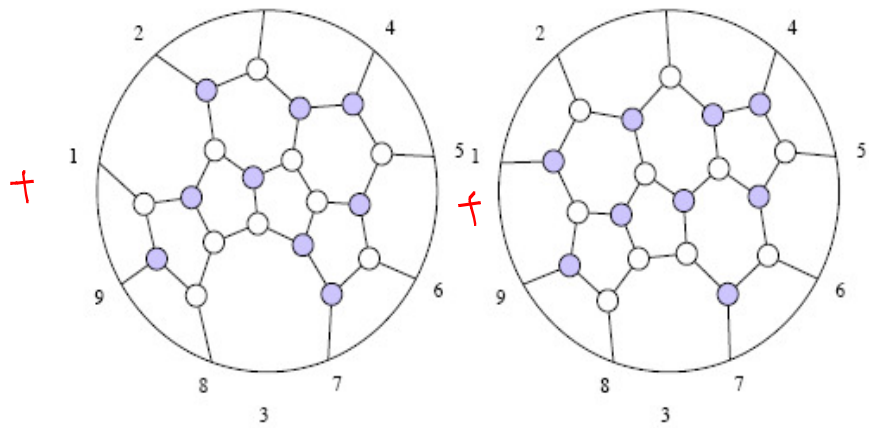
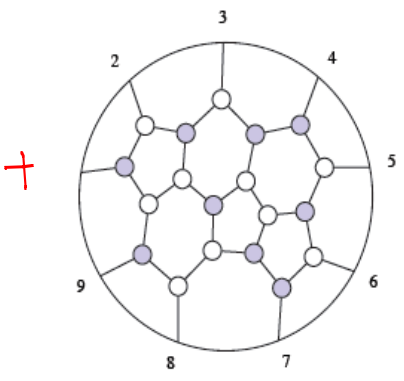
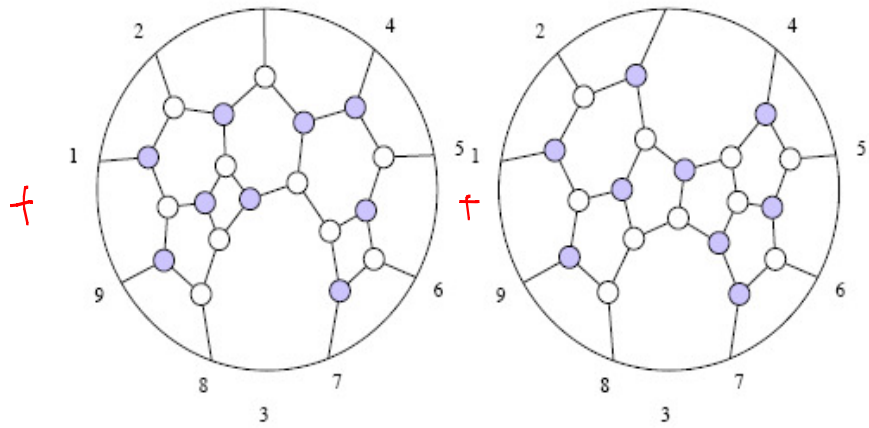
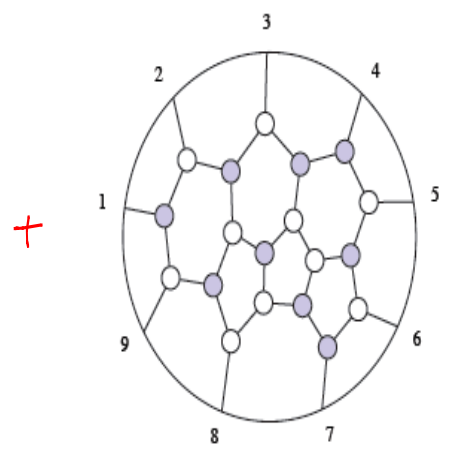
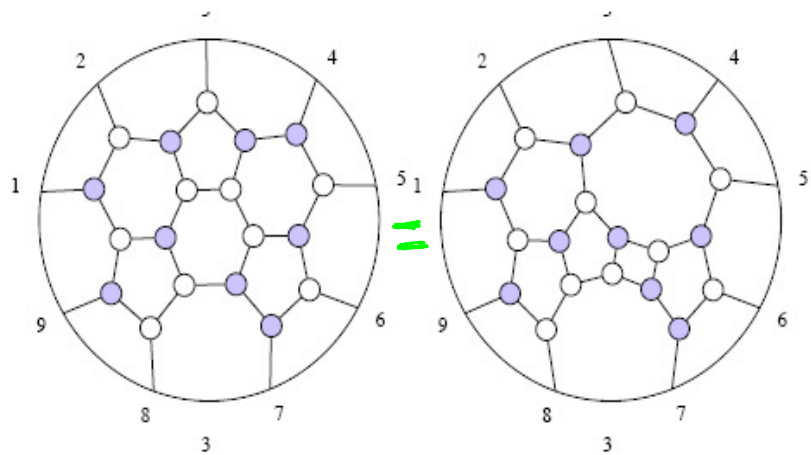
e.g. for  $k=2$  : BCFW terms,

4 m box and ....

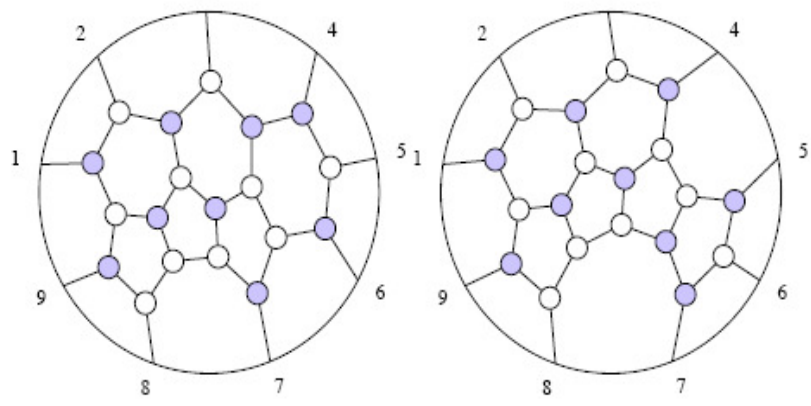


« Spunion »

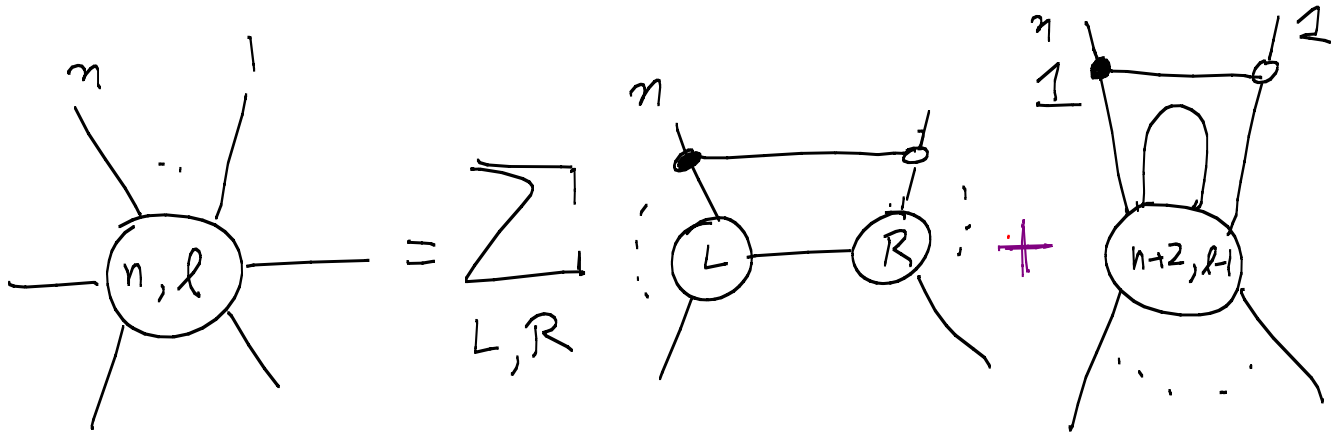




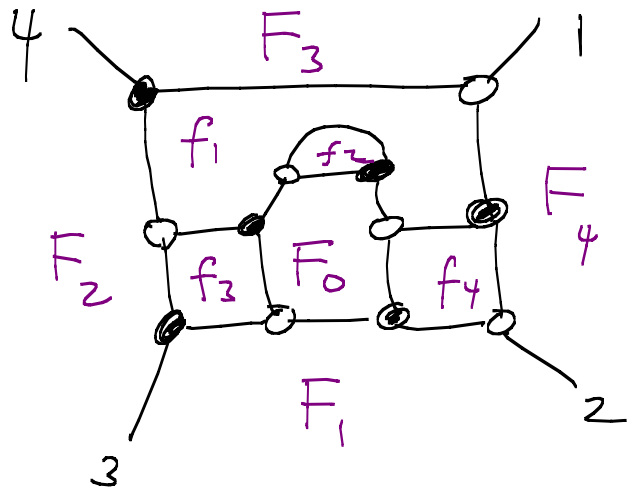
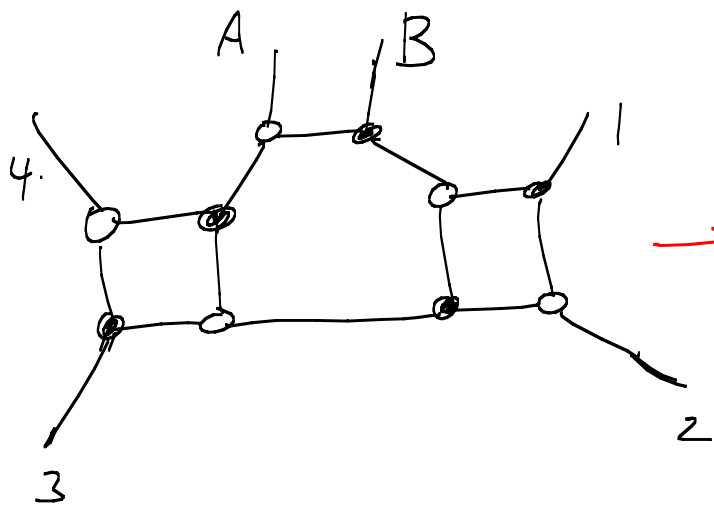
[All on RHS are BCFW terms]



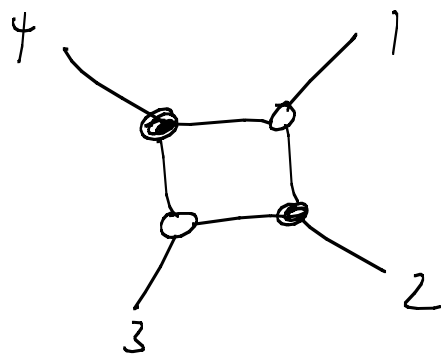
# All-Loop Integrand in Grassm.

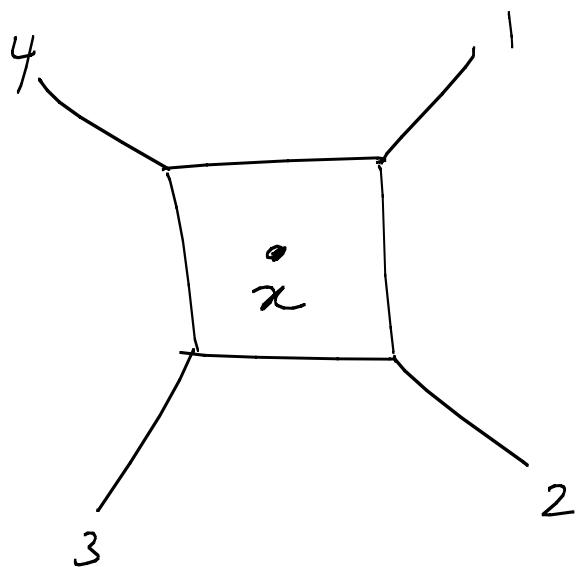


→ Explicitly,  $\sum$ 's of  $d \log$ 's!



$\rightarrow$   $d \log f_1 \dots d \log f_4$   
└────────────────────────────────────────┘  
Loop Integrand





$$\frac{d^4 x}{(x-x_1)^2 (x-x_2)^2 (x-x_3)^2 (x-x_4)^2}$$

$$= d \log \frac{(x-x_3)^2}{(x-x_3)^2} \quad d \log \frac{(x-x_2)^2}{(x-x_3)^2} \quad d \log \frac{(x-x_3)^2}{(x-x_1)^2} \quad d \log \frac{(x-x_4)^2}{(x-x_1)^2}$$

$$MHV^{1-loop} = \sum_{i,j} \text{Diagram}$$

$$= \sum_i d \log \frac{\langle AB|i \rangle}{\langle AB|i-1 \rangle} d \log \frac{\langle AB|i \rangle}{\langle AB|i+1 \rangle} d \log \frac{\langle AB|i \rangle}{\langle AB|i+1 \rangle} d \log \frac{\langle AB|i+1 \rangle}{\langle AB|i+1 \rangle}$$

$$+ \sum_{j > i+1} d \log \frac{\langle AB|i \rangle}{\langle AB|i+1 \rangle} d \log \frac{\langle AB|i+1 \rangle}{\langle AB|i+1 \rangle} d \log \frac{\langle AB|j \rangle}{\langle AB|j+1 \rangle} d \log \frac{\langle AB|j+1 \rangle}{\langle AB|j+1 \rangle}$$

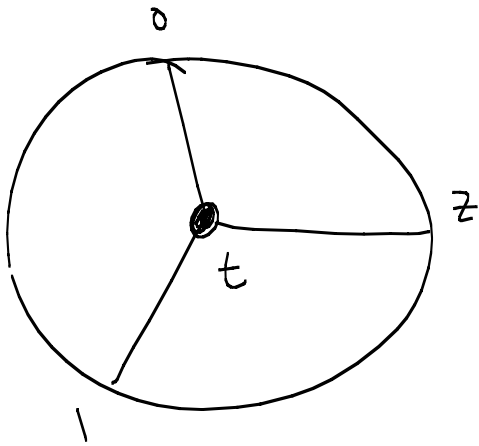
↑  
Finite

Non-trivial only because of reality

$$\sum_{A,B} \quad \sum_{A,B} = 0$$

# Generalizing Goncharov's Theory of Polylogs

Goncharov Polylogs = Tree-level correlators  
of  $(\partial\phi)^2 + \phi(\partial\phi)^2$   
in  $(l+1)-d$



$$\int_{\mathbb{C}P^1} \log|t| \, d\log|t-1| \, d\log|t-z|$$

$$= \int_{\mathbb{C}P^1 \times \mathbb{C}P^1} d\log |t'| \, d\log |t'-t| \, d\log |t-1| \, d\log |t-z|$$

In general

$$G^{(d+1)}(a_1, \dots, a_d) = \int \underbrace{d\log(\cdot) \, d\log(\cdot) \, \dots \, d\log(\cdot)}_{2(d+1)}$$

Reality condition  $\tilde{\lambda} \lambda^* = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda^* = \tilde{\lambda}$



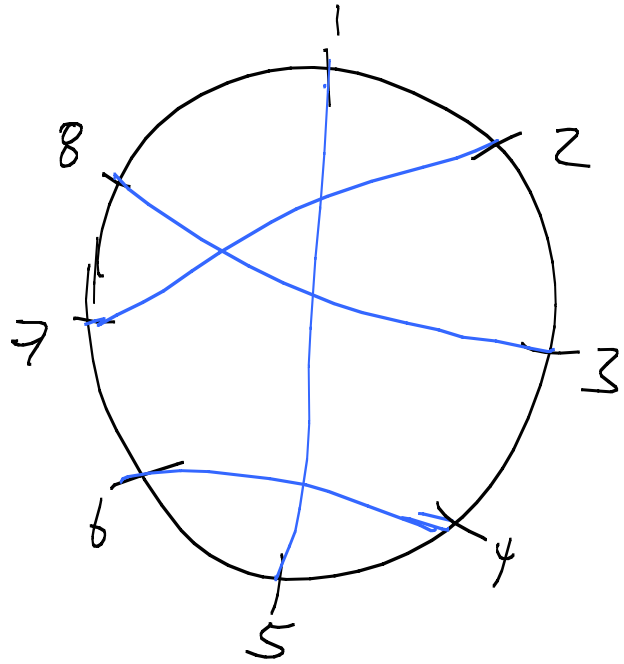
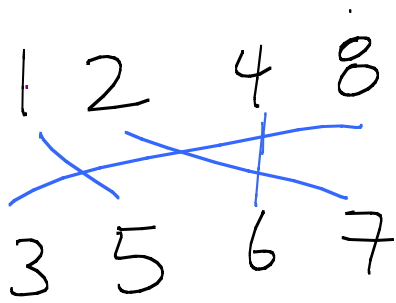
We have a generalization, with  
a more non-linear reality  
condition  $\rightsquigarrow$  Good, because  
we must get much richer  
functions than Polylogs!

[Elliptic integrals + more ...]

Beyond

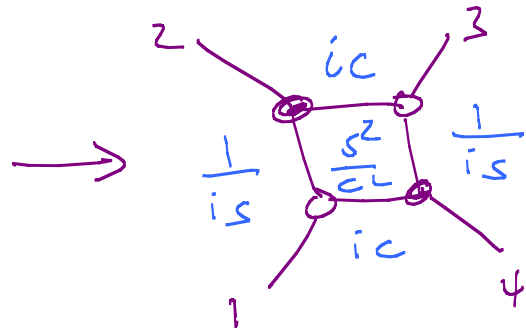
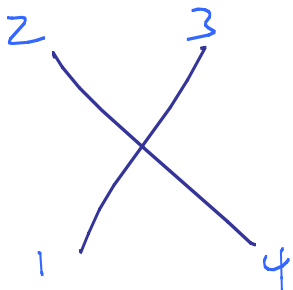
Planar  $N = 4$

# Back to Permutations



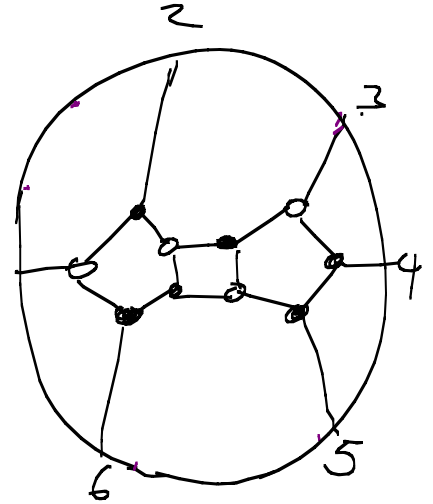
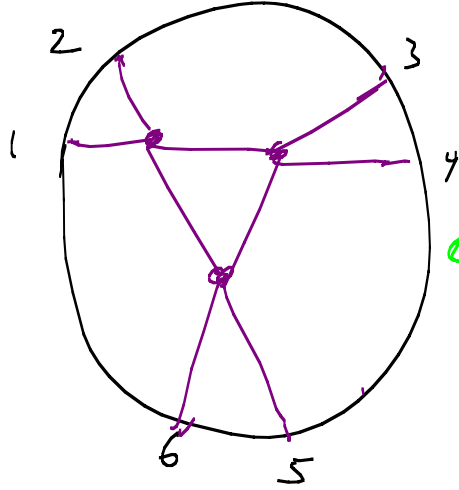
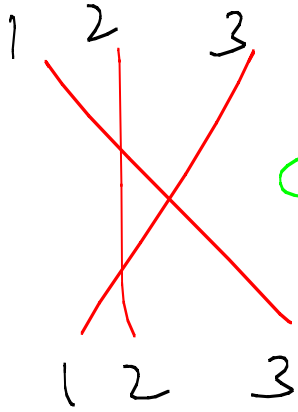
On-shell diagrams for ABJM

# ABJM $C/N=4$ SYM



$$\begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & ic & is \\ 0 & 1 & -is & ic \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

"Orthogonal"  
Grassmannian

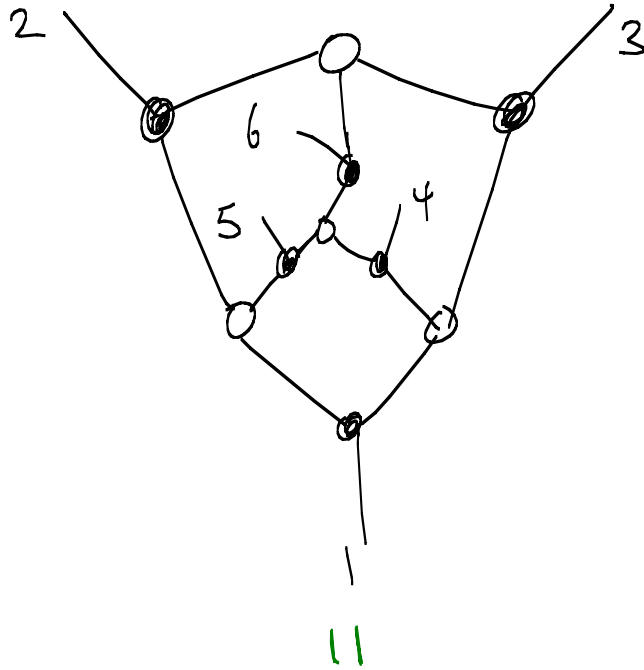


$$1+1-d \subset 2+1-d \subset 3+1-d$$

$$Y-B \subset \text{ABJM} \subset \mathcal{N}=4 \text{ SYM}$$

# On-shell diagrams for Non-planar amplitudes

- \* Solved for MHV:
  - Reduction
  - Computing reduced graphs



$$\left( \langle 14 \rangle \langle 36 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle - \langle 15 \rangle \langle 26 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \right)^2$$

---


$$\langle 12 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \langle 14 \rangle \langle 15 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 25 \rangle \langle 26 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 36 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle \langle 46 \rangle \langle 56 \rangle$$

= Sum of PT factors!

# On-Shell Diagrams for $N < 4$

$$\left( \prod \frac{de_i}{e_i} \right) \int^{\mathcal{N}-4} \prod_{\alpha=1}^{\mathcal{K}} \delta^{4/\mathcal{N}} [C_{\alpha a}[e]W_a]$$

↑ New

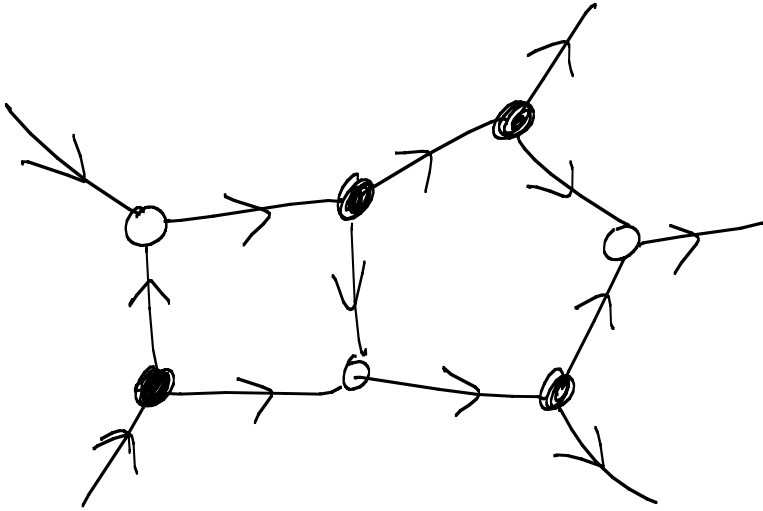
} Universal



$$J = \det(I - A)$$

$$A_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if no } i \rightarrow j \\ e_{ij} & \text{if } i \rightarrow j \end{cases}$$

"Spectrum" of Graph



$J = 1$  if no "orientation  
loops"



\* Some residues

$$\prod_i \frac{de_i}{e_i} \delta^4(\text{C.W.})$$

residues  
here

$$J^{N-4}$$

↑  
multiplicative  
factor on  
 $N=4$  answer

\* More interesting

$$\prod \frac{de_i}{e_i}$$

$$J_{N-4}$$

$$\delta^{4(N)}(C.W)$$

also use  
these singularities!

These correspond to "Poles at  $\infty$ "

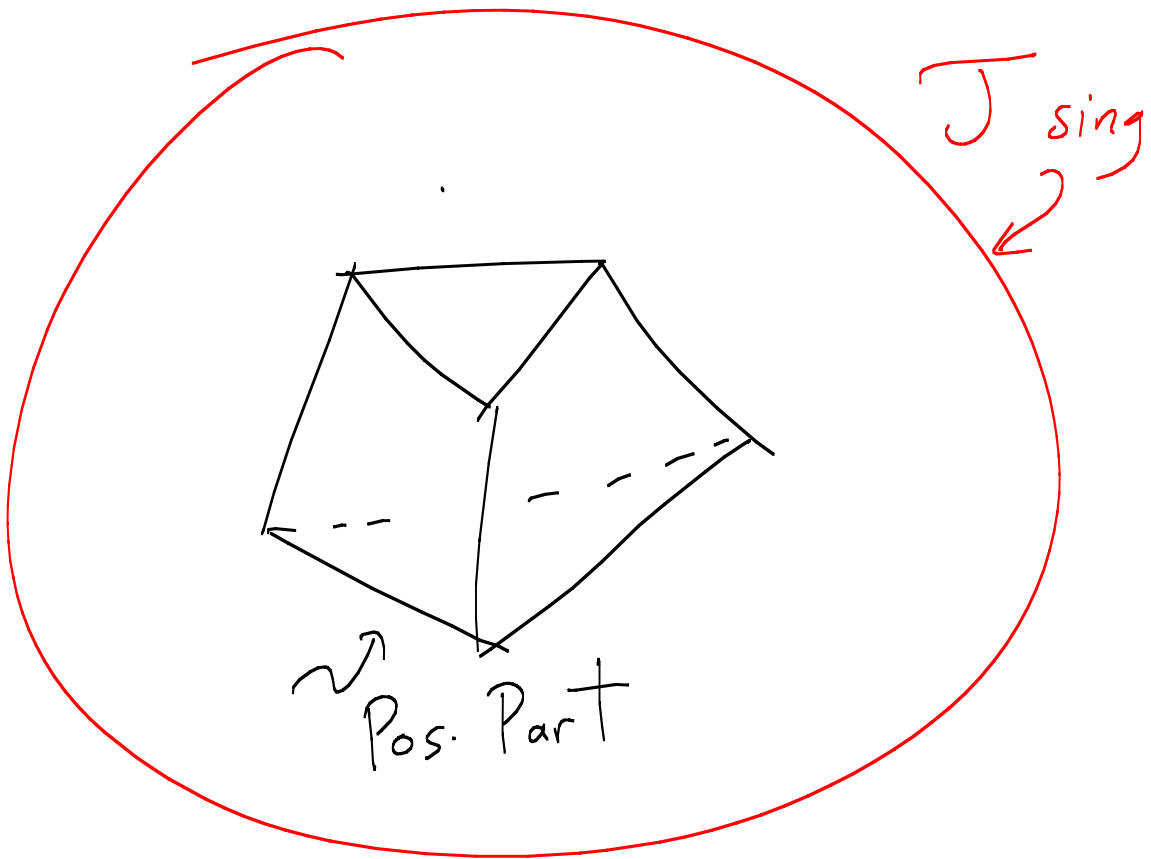
\* Triangles ....

\* BCFW residues @  $\infty$  for:

“bad shifts”

⋮

Remarkably



Locus of  $J = 0$  "UV"

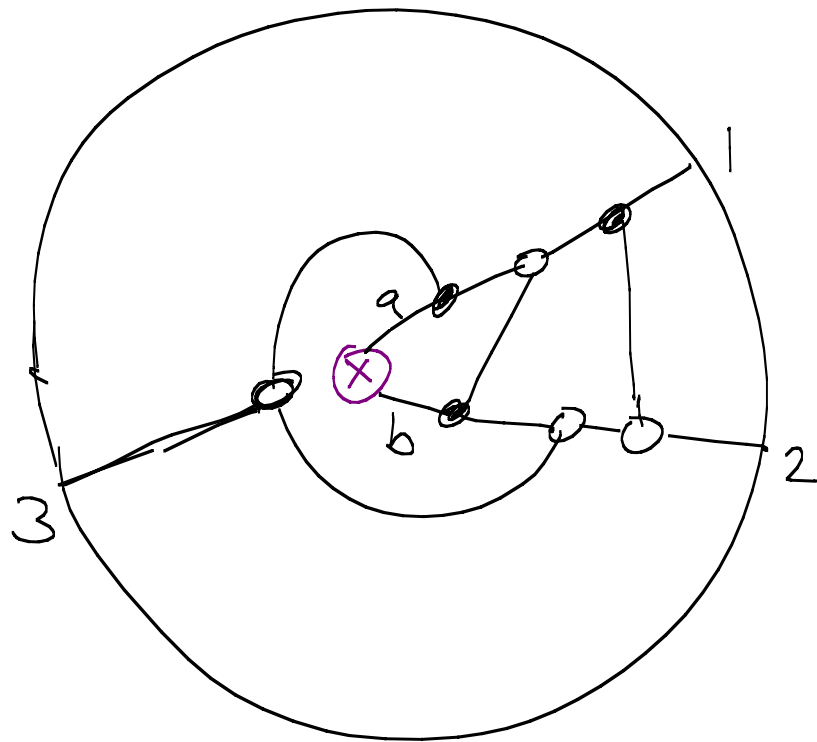
Positive Grassmannian "IR"

Naturally Paired

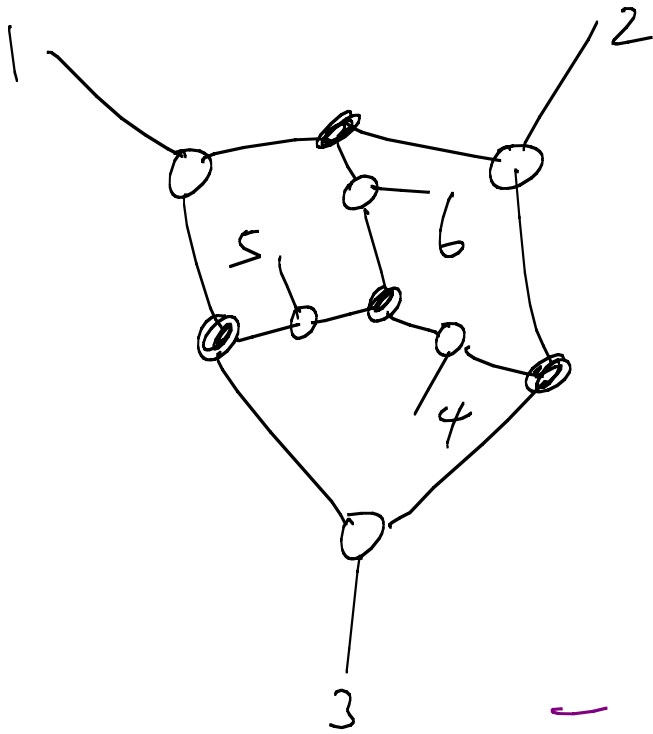


Beyond

Scattering Amplitudes



On-shell diagram for form factors  
[correlators ...] {Huang, Xie, ... in progress}



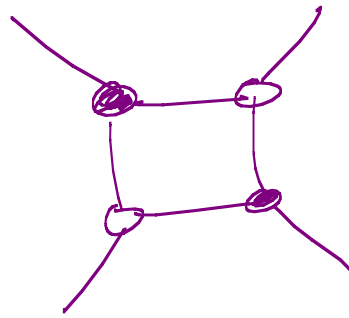
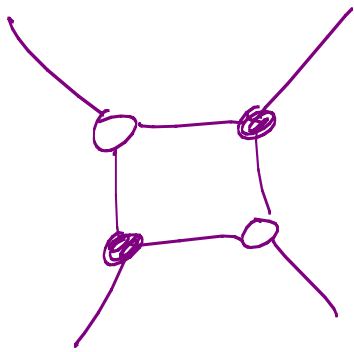
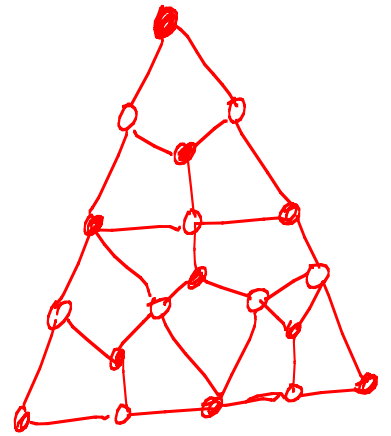
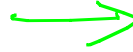
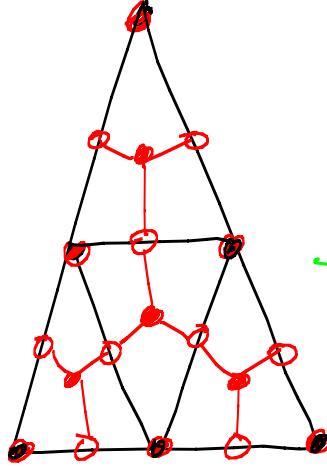
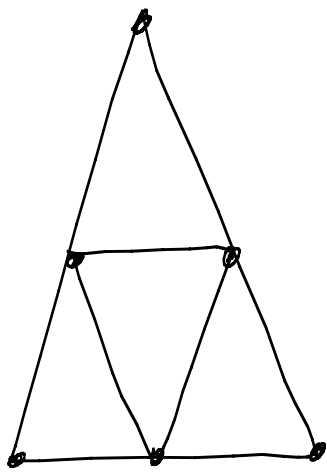
Depending on  
how external  
legs are connected

- O.S. diagram for

Amp, Form Factors, Corr.

@ diff orders in  $1/N_c$

\* Amazingly — *exactly* the  
same mathematical structure  
shows up in wall-crossing for  
Gaiotto  $\mathcal{N}=2$  theories, and amps  
@ strong coupling



Square Move

Seiberg Duality

# Open Questions

\* Complete On-Shell/Grassmannian connection:

Non-planar  $\mathcal{N}=4$  [Beyond MHV]

$\mathcal{N}=0$ , Gravity, ....

\* Can we use the on-shell  
information to systematically  
construct non-planar amps/form  
factors / correlators { is there  
any useful notion of "integrand" ? }

\* Can we use

$$\int \underbrace{d \log(\ ) \ d \log(\ ) \ \dots \ d \log(\ )}_{4L}$$



Transcendental Functions  
(Well beyond Polylogs/Symbol...)



# Most Fascinating (to me) Questions

(1) We have seen enormous amounts of magic associated with the still mysterious  $(2,0)$  theory in 6D.

\* The remarkable mathematical structures we are seeing are clearly intimately tied to the

(2,0) theory  $\rightarrow$  S-duality

(in wall-crossing) and T-duality

(in scattering amps)

\* Can we see these  
structures in action directly

in GDP?

