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## From multileg loops to trees (by-passing Feynman's Tree Theorem)

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ArXiv:0804.3170 [hep-ph]

# next-to-leading order (NLO) cross-sections

NLO @ LHC for 2→3 (many recent results)  
and 2→4 (not yet a cross section)  
(talk by T. Binoth)

$$\sigma^{NLO} = \int_{m+1} d\sigma^R + \int_m d\sigma^V$$

new feature wrt LO:  
combine m with m+1



real radiation



virtual contribution

# real radiation

kinematics: momentum conservation + observable dependent function

$$\int_{m+1} d\sigma^R = \int d\Phi^{(m+1)}(\{p_i\}) \underbrace{M^{(m+1)}(\{p_i\}) F^{(m+1)}(\{p_i\})}_{\text{kinematics: momentum conservation + observable dependent function}}$$

several well known/tested working methods (subtraction, dipole, slicing, mixed, ...)

split phase-space integrand in two parts:

$$(\dots)_{\text{fin}} + (\dots)_{\text{div}}$$

IR finite: computable numerically as LO

IR singular: analytically computable up to  $O(\epsilon)$

# virtual contribution


$$\int_m d\sigma^V = \int d\Phi^{(m)}(\{p_i\}) \underbrace{\int d^d q M^{(m)}(\{p_i\})}_{\text{loop integral}} F^{(m)}(\{p_i\})$$

**loop integral:** in multiparton processes ( $m \geq 5$ ) regarded as main practical bottleneck many new developments in recent years

# general goal

I transform loop integral into customary phase space integral for real radiation (loop  $\Leftrightarrow$  phase-space duality)

$$\int_{loop} d^d q \, M^{(m)}(\{p_i\}, q) = \int d\Phi(q) \, M^{(m+q)}(\{p_i\}, q)$$

  $d^d q \, \delta_+(q^2)$

II then treat  $\int_{m+q}(\dots)$   
similarly to the real emission contribution  $\int_{m+1}(\dots)$

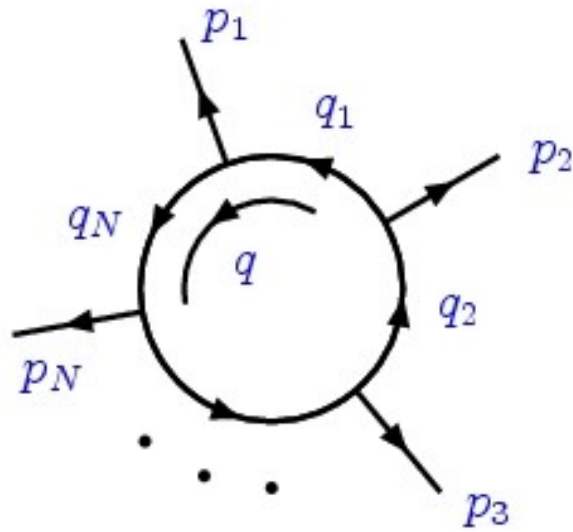
III Monte Carlo integration

# Outline

- The Feynman Tree Theorem
- A duality theorem between one-loop integrals and single-cut phase-space integrals
- Relating the FTT and the duality relation
- Massive integrals and unstable particles
- Gauge poles
- Duality at the amplitude level
- Final remarks

# Notation

To simplify the presentation: massless internal lines only (more on massive particles later)



Scalar one-loop integral

$$L^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N) = -i \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^d} \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{q_i^2 + i0}$$

$q^\mu$  is the loop momentum (anti-clockwise)

internal lines

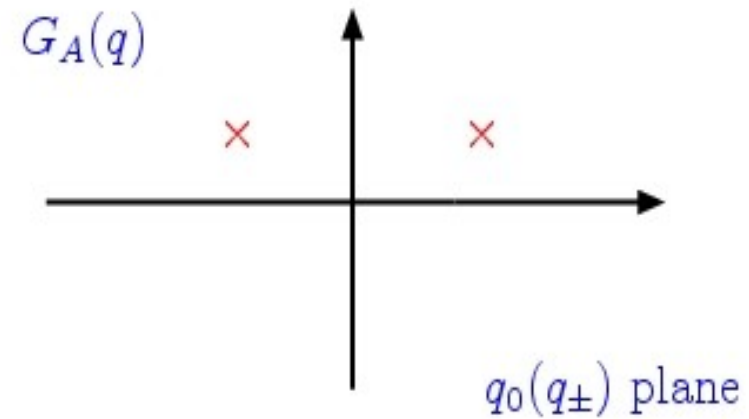
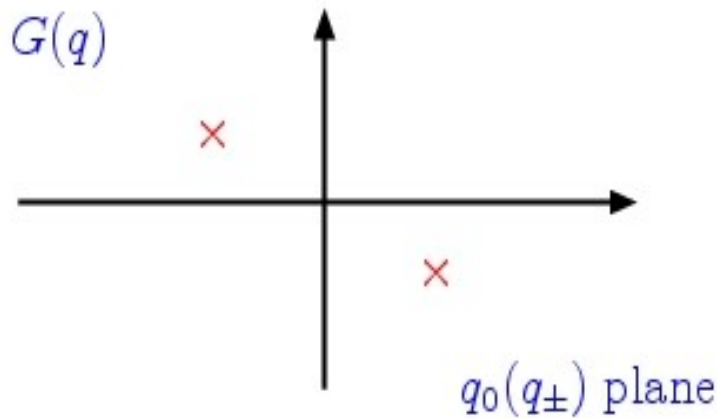
$$q_i = q + \sum_{k=1}^i p_k, \quad \sum_{i=1}^N p_i = 0, \quad p_{N+i} = p_i.$$

shorthand notation:

$$-i \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^d} \dots \equiv \int_q \dots, \quad -i \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dq_0 \int \frac{d^{d-1} \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^{d-1}} \dots \equiv \int dq_0 \int_q \dots$$

$$\tilde{\delta}(q) \equiv 2\pi i \delta_+(q^2)$$

# Feynman and Advanced propagators



## Feynman propagator

$$G(q) \equiv \frac{1}{q^2 + i0}$$

+i0: positive frequencies are propagated forward in time, and negative frequencies backward

## Advanced propagator

$$G_A(q) \equiv \frac{1}{q^2 - i0 q_0}$$

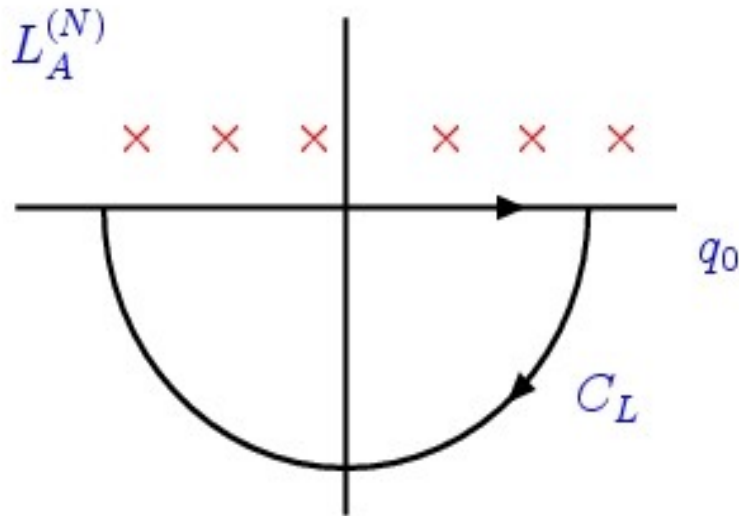
both poles displaced above the real axis (independently of the sign of the energy)

and are related by

$$\frac{1}{x \pm i0} = PV\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \mp i\pi \delta(x)$$

$$G_A(q) = G(q) + \tilde{\delta}(q)$$

# Feynman Tree Theorem



**Advanced one-loop integral:**  
Feynman propagators replaced by advanced propagators

$$L_A^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N) = \int_q \prod_{i=1}^N G_A(q_i)$$

Cauchy residue theorem

$$L_A^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N) = 0$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} L_A^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N) &= \int_q \prod_{i=1}^N [G(q_i) + \tilde{\delta}(q_i)] \\ &= L^{(N)} + L_{1-cut}^{(N)} + L_{2-cut}^{(N)} + \dots + L_{N-cut}^{(N)} \end{aligned}$$

in four-dimensions, 4-cut maximum



# Feynman Tree Theorem

$$L^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N) = - \left[ L_{1-cut}^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N) + \dots + L_{N-cut}^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N) \right]$$

The single-cut contribution

$$\left[ \text{Diagram} \right]_{1\text{-cut}} = - \sum_{i=1}^N \text{Diagram} \frac{1}{(q + p_i)^2 + i0}$$

# FTT for scattering amplitudes

For **relativistic, local and unitary** quantum field theories

$$\mathcal{A}^{(1-loop)} = - \left[ \mathcal{A}_{1-cut}^{(1-loop)} + \mathcal{A}_{2-cut}^{(1-loop)} + \dots \right]$$

$\mathcal{A}^{(1-loop)}$  is a linear combination of one-loop integrals that differ from  $L^{(N)}$  only by the inclusion of interaction vertices and, eventually, particle masses

- **particle masses:** real masses (unitary theories) do not affect the imaginary part of the poles

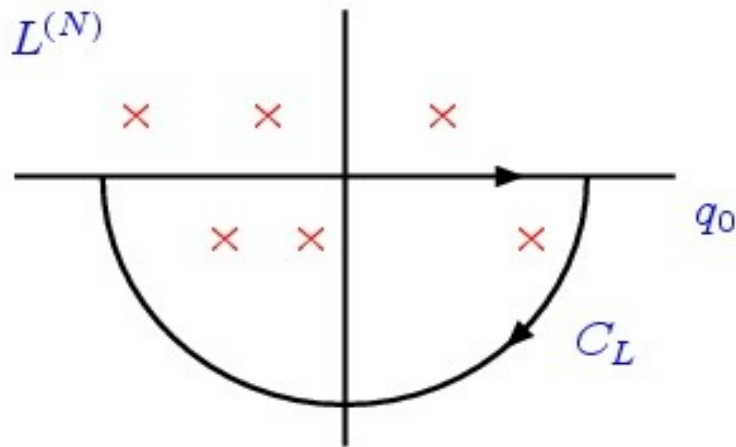
$$\tilde{\delta}(q_i) \rightarrow \tilde{\delta}(q_i, M_i) = 2\pi i \delta_+(q_i^2 - M_i^2)$$

- **interaction vertices:** introduce numerator factors

in local theories at worst polynomials in the loop momentum  $\Rightarrow$  no additional singularities (more on gauge poles later)

unitary constrains the convergence of the  $q_0$  integration at infinity

# Duality Theorem



## Cauchy residue theorem

close the contour at  $\infty$  on the lower half plane  
 ↗ select residues with **positive** definite energy

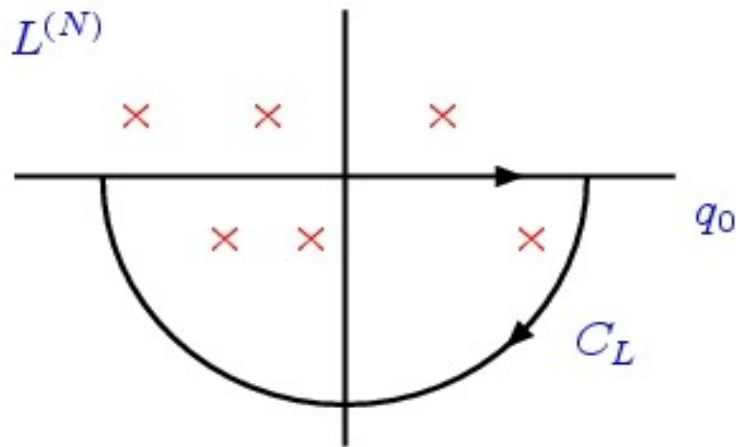
$$L^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N) = -2\pi i \int_q \sum \text{Res}_{\text{Im } q_0 < 0} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^N G(q_i) \right]$$

$$\text{Res}_{\text{ith-pole}} \left[ \prod_{j=1}^N G(q_j) \right] = [\text{Res}_{\text{ith-pole}} G(q_i)] \left[ \prod_{j \neq i}^N G(q_j) \right]_{\text{ith-pole}}$$

$$\text{Res}_{\text{ith-pole}} \frac{1}{q_i^2 + i0} = \int dq_0 \delta_+(q_i^2)$$

- equivalent to cut that line and set it on-shell
- one-loop integral represented as a linear combination of  $N$  single-cut phase-space integrals
- shift  $q_i \rightarrow q$  in each term  $\Leftrightarrow$  single phase-space integral over  $N$  terms

# Duality Theorem



## Cauchy residue theorem

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$$\text{Res}_{\text{ith-pole}} \frac{1}{q_i^2 + i0} = \int dq_0 \delta_+(q_i^2)$$

$$\left[ \prod_{j \neq i}^N \frac{1}{q_j^2 + i0} \right]_{\text{ith-pole}} = \prod_{j \neq i}^N \frac{1}{q_j^2 - i0 \eta (q_j - q_i)}$$

- the customary  $+i0$  prescription is modified
- analytic continuation:  $s_{ij} \rightarrow s_{ij} - i0$  **wrong**
- **Lorentz covariant dual prescription**
- **$\eta$  is a future-like vector:  $\eta_0 > 0, \eta^2 \geq 0$**

The calculation is elementary, but involves some **subtle points**

$$\left[ \frac{1}{(q + k_j)^2 + i0} \right]_{q^2 = -i0, q_0 = q_0^{(+)}} = \frac{1}{2q_0^{(+)}k_{j0} - 2\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{k}_j + k_j^2}$$

where  $q_0^{(+)} = \sqrt{\mathbf{q}^2 - i0}$

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where  $q_0^{(+)} = \sqrt{\mathbf{q}^2 - i0} \simeq |\mathbf{q}| - \frac{i0}{2|\mathbf{q}|} + \mathcal{O}(i0^2)$

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$$= \frac{1}{2qk_j+k_j^2-i0k_{j0}/|\mathbf{q}|}$$

$$q_0^{(+)} = \sqrt{\mathbf{q}^2-i0} \simeq |\mathbf{q}| - \frac{i0}{2|\mathbf{q}|}$$

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$$= \frac{1}{2qk_j + k_j^2 - i0 k_{j0}/|\mathbf{q}|}$$

$$q_0^{(+)} = \sqrt{\mathbf{q}^2 - i0} \simeq |\mathbf{q}| - \frac{i0}{2|\mathbf{q}|}$$

- only the sign matters:

$$-i0 k_{j0}/|\mathbf{q}| \rightarrow -i0 k_{j0} \rightarrow -i0 \eta k_j \text{ where } \eta^\mu = (\eta_0, 0) \text{ with } \eta_0 > 0$$

- *different choices of the future-like vector  $\eta$  is equivalent to different choices of the coordinate system*



# Duality theorem

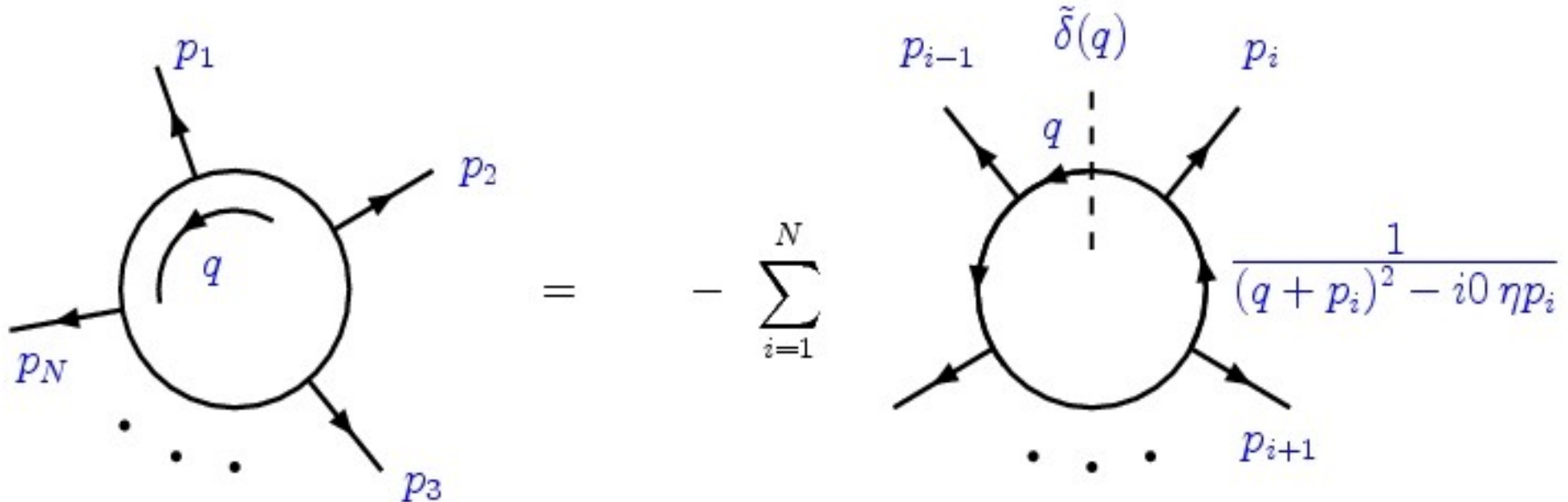
Duality relation between one-loop integrals and phase-space integrals

$$L^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N) = - \tilde{L}^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N) \\ = - \left[ I^{(N-1)}(p_1, p_{12}, \dots, p_{1, N-1}) + \text{cyclic perms.} \right]$$

where

$$I^{(n)}(k_1, \dots, k_n) = \int_q \tilde{\delta}(q) \prod_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{2qk_j + k_j^2 - i0 \eta k_j}$$

$N$  one-particle phase-space integrals  $\Leftrightarrow$  one phase-space integral over  $N$  tree quantities



# FTT-duality relation

- multiple-cut contributions ( $m \geq 2$ ) are absent in the duality relation, only single-cut contributions are involved
- Feynman propagators ( $+i0$ ) replaced by dual propagators ( $-i0 \eta k_j$ )
- individual cut integrals depend on the future-like vector  $\eta^\mu$ , it has to be the same for all, then it cancels

# Relating FTT with duality

## an algebraic proof

Feynman and dual propagators are related by

$$\tilde{\delta}(q) \frac{1}{2qk + k^2 - i0} = \tilde{\delta}(q) [G(q+k) + \theta(\eta k) \tilde{\delta}(q+k)]$$

proof:

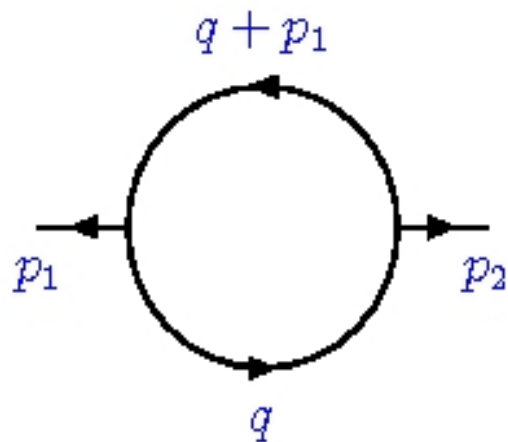
$$\frac{1}{x \pm i0} = PV\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \mp i\pi \delta(x)$$

from  $q^2=0$  and  $q_0>0$  thus  $\eta q>0$   
 plus  $\theta(\eta k)$

$$\eta(q+k)>0 \quad \text{and} \quad (q+k)^2=0$$

$$\delta((q+k)^2) \rightarrow \delta_+((q+k)^2)$$

# Two-point function



$$\tilde{L}^{(2)}(p_1, p_2) = \int_q \tilde{\delta}(q) \left[ \left[ G(q+p_1) + \theta(\eta p_1) \tilde{\delta}(q+p_1) \right] + [1 \Leftrightarrow 2] \right]$$

$$= L_{1-cut}^{(2)}(p_1, p_2) + \underbrace{\left[ \theta(\eta p_1) + \theta(\eta p_2) \right]}_{\text{momentum conservation}} L_{2-cut}^{(2)}(p_1, p_2)$$

momentum conservation

$$p_1 + p_2 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{1} \quad \checkmark$$

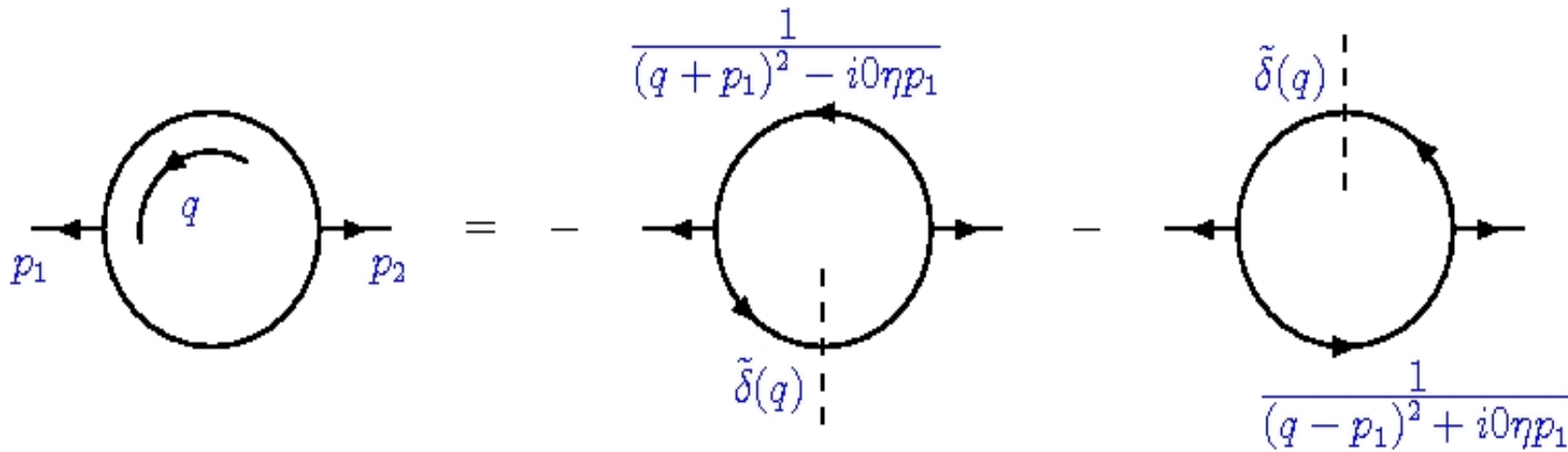
# N-point function

The key ingredient is to prove (e.g. by induction) the following algebraic identity

$$\theta(\eta p_1)\theta(\eta p_{12}) \cdots \theta(\eta p_{1,N-1}) + \text{cyclic perms.} = 1$$

which follows from momentum conservation

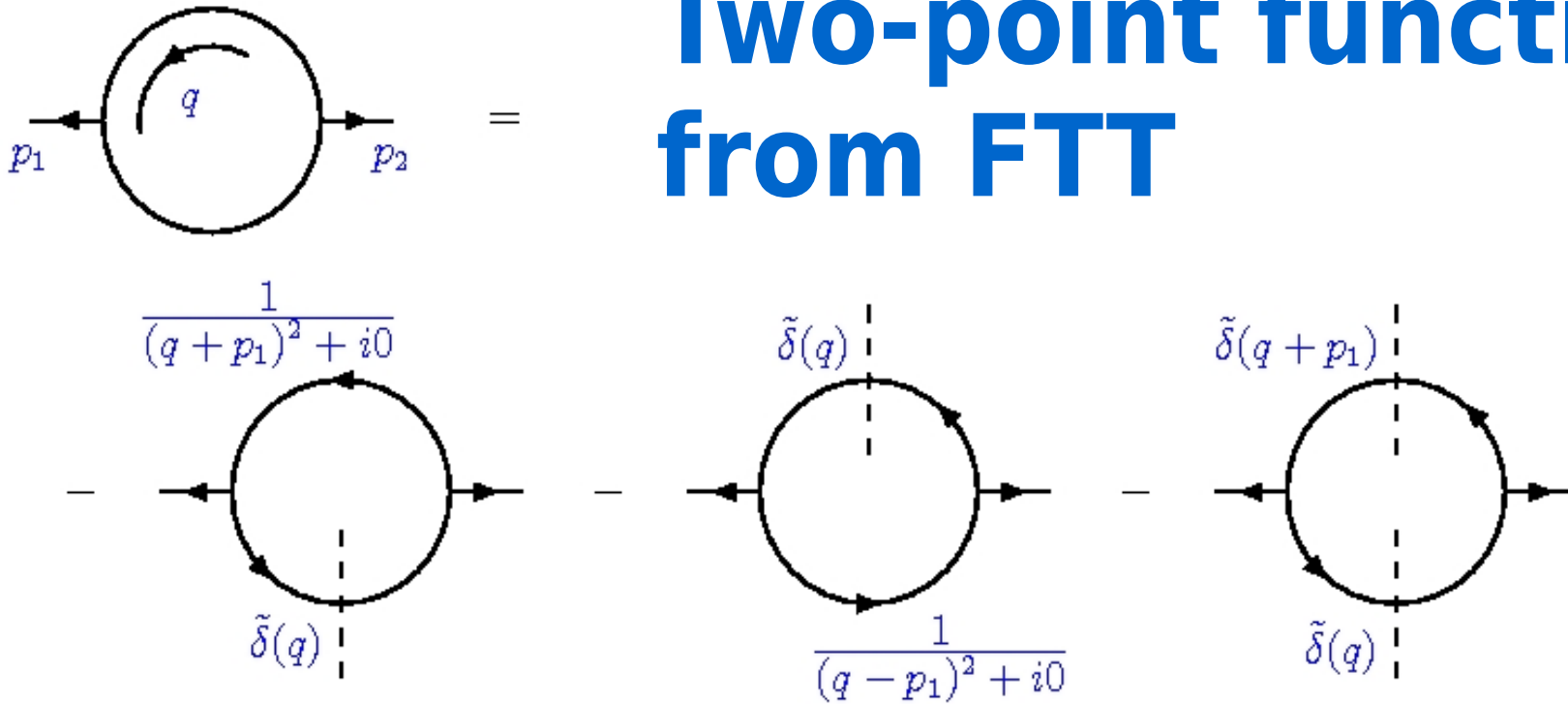
# Two-point function from duality



$$\tilde{L}^{(2)}(p_1, p_2) = I^{(1)}(p_1) + (p_1 \Leftrightarrow -p_1)$$

$$I^{(1)}(k) = -\frac{c_\Gamma}{2} \frac{(-k^2 - i0)^{-\epsilon}}{\epsilon(1-2\epsilon)} \left[ 1 - i \frac{\sin(\pi\epsilon)}{\cos(\pi\epsilon)} \text{sign}(k^2 \eta k) \right]$$

# Two-point function from FTT

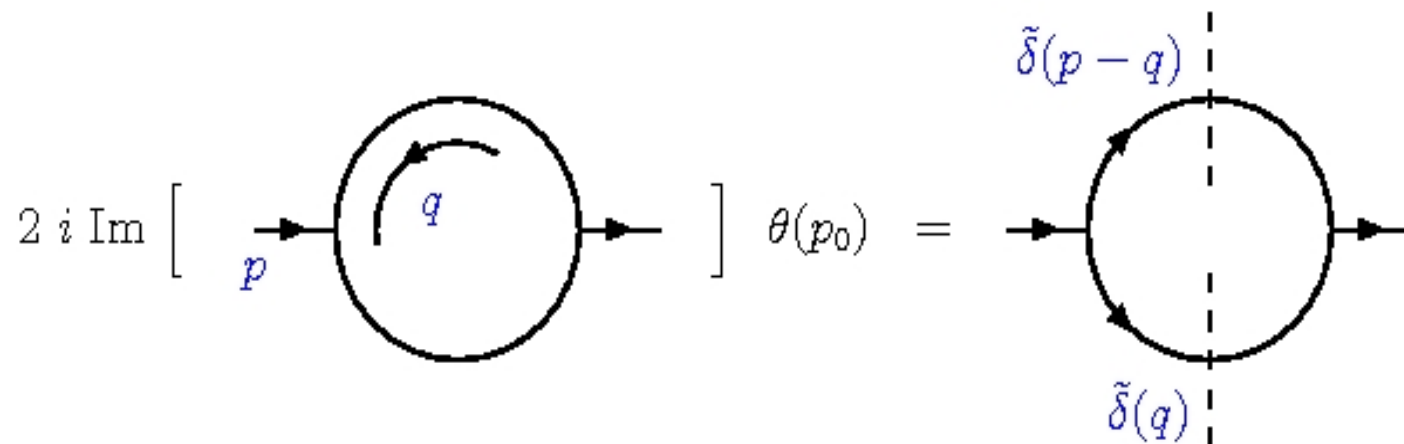


$$L_{1-cut}^{(2)}(p_1, p_2) = I_{1-cut}^{(1)}(p_1) + (p_1 \leftrightarrow -p_1)$$

$$I_{1-cut}^{(1)}(k) = -\frac{c_\Gamma}{2} \frac{(-k^2 - i0)^{-\epsilon}}{\epsilon(1-2\epsilon)} \left[ 1 - i \frac{\sin(\pi\epsilon)}{\cos(\pi\epsilon)} \left[ \theta(-k^2) + \theta(k^2) \text{sign}(k_0) \right] \right]$$

$$L_{2-cut}^{(2)}(p_1, p_2) = -i c_\Gamma \frac{(|p_1^2|)^{-\epsilon}}{\epsilon(1-2\epsilon)} \frac{\sin(\pi\epsilon)}{\cos(\pi\epsilon)} \theta(-p_1^2)$$

# Two-point function: Cutkosky



The double-cut contribution from the FTT is different from the **unitarity cut** contribution that gives the imaginary part

$$2 i \operatorname{Im} [Bub(p^2)] \theta(p_0) = \int_q \tilde{\delta}(q) \tilde{\delta}(p-q) = i c_r \frac{(|p^2|)^{-\epsilon}}{\epsilon(1-2\epsilon)} 2 \sin(\pi \epsilon) \theta(p^2) \theta(p_0)$$

due to the different positive-energy flow in the internal lines



# Massive integrals, complex masses and unstable particles

**Real masses:** do not affect the dual prescription  $\tilde{\delta}(q_i) \rightarrow \tilde{\delta}(q_i, M_i)$

$$\frac{1}{q_j^2 - M_j^2 - i0 \eta(q_j - q_i)}$$

# Massive integrals, complex masses and unstable particles

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$$\frac{1}{q_j^2 - M_j^2 - i0 \eta(q_j - q_i)}$$

**Unstable particles:** Dyson summation produces finite-width effects that lead to the introduction of finite imaginary contributions in the propagators. In the complex mass scheme

$$G_C(q; s) = \frac{1}{q^2 - s}$$

$$s = \text{Re } s + i \text{Im } s \quad \text{with} \quad \text{Re } s > 0 > \text{Im } s$$

produces poles in the  $q_0$  plane that are located far from the real axis

# Unstable particles

Duality relation

$$\tilde{L}^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N) \rightarrow \tilde{L}^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N) + \underbrace{\tilde{L}_C^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N)}$$

From the poles of the complex-mass propagators

where

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{L}_C^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N) &= \int_q \sum_{i \in C} \tilde{\delta}(q_i, s_i) \left[ \prod_{j \neq i} \dots \right] \\ &= \int \frac{d^{d-1} \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^{d-1}} \sum_{i \in C} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\mathbf{q}_i^2 + s_i}} \left[ \prod_{j \neq i} \dots \right]_{q_{i0} = \sqrt{\mathbf{q}_i^2 + s_i}}\end{aligned}$$

pole has a finite negative imaginary part  $\Rightarrow$  the  $+i0$  prescription of Feynman propagators can be removed

- FTT: modify the 1-cut contribution, but do not produce additional m-cut contributions
- complex mass  $s(q^2)$ , but always at a finite imaginary distance from real axis

# Gauge poles

Quantization of gauge theories requires a gauge-fixing procedure

**fictitious particles:** Faddeev-Popov ghosts in unbroken non-Abelian gauge theories, or would-be Goldstone bosons in spontaneously broken gauge theories

⇒ *cut exactly as physical particles*

**gauge bosons:** polarization tensor

't Hooft-Feynman gauge ✓

$$d^{\mu\nu} = -g^{\mu\nu} + (\xi - 1) l^{\mu\nu}(q) G_G(q)$$

$l^{\mu\nu}(q)$  propagates longitudinal polarizations, harmless polynomial dependence on  $q$

## ● **Spontaneously-broken gauge theories**

$$G_G(q) = \frac{1}{\xi(q^2 + i0) - M^2}$$

unitary gauge ( $\xi=0$ ) ✓

## ● **Un-broken gauge theories**

covariant gauge  $G_G(q) = \frac{1}{q^2 + i0}$

second order pole ✗

physical gauge  $G_G(q) = \frac{1}{(n \cdot q)^k}$ ,  $k=1,2$

if  $n \cdot \eta = 0$  ✓

# Loop-tree duality for amplitudes

In analogy with the FTT, in unitary and local field theories

$$\mathcal{A}^{(1-loop)} = - \tilde{\mathcal{A}}^{(1-loop)}$$

- starting from  $\mathcal{A}^{(1-loop)}$ , consider all single cuts
- replace uncut propagators by dual propagators

$$\mathcal{A}^{(1-loop)} \simeq - \int_q \sum_P \tilde{\delta}(q; M_P) \sum_{dof(P)} \mathcal{A}_P^{(tree)}$$

# Green's functions

Off-shell Green's function with  $N$  external legs

$$\mathcal{A}_N^{(1-loop)}(\dots) = + \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^{d-1}} \sum_P \delta_+(q^2 - M_P^2) \sigma(P) \underbrace{\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_{N+2}^{(tree)}(P(q) \leftarrow P(q), \dots)}$$

- $\sigma(P) = \pm 1$  Bose-Fermi statistics factor
- $\sum_P$  sums over particles and antiparticles

Tree-level amplitude for the forward scattering process  $P(q) \rightarrow P(q)$  in the field of  $N$  external legs

e.g.

$$\mathcal{A}_{N+2}^{(tree)}(g(q) \leftarrow g(q), \dots) = \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{a,b} \left( \epsilon_{a,\mu}^{(\lambda)}(q) \right)^* \left[ \mathcal{A}_{N+2}(g(q), g(-q), \dots) \right]_{ab}^{\mu\nu} \epsilon_{b,\nu}^{(\lambda)}(q)$$

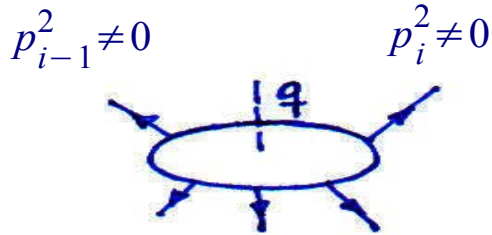
**Scattering amplitudes:** only relevant point is the on-shell limit of the corresponding Green's function (wave function factors of the external lines)

# Summary

- Derived a duality relation between one-loop integrals and **single-cut** phase space integrals.
- Duality relation realized by a modification of the customary  $+i0$  prescription of the Feynman propagators.
- The new prescription, written in a Lorentz covariant form, compensates for the absence of multiple-cut contributions that appear in the FTT.
- Valid for any relativistic, local and unitary field theory, in arbitrary space-time dimensions.
- Suitable for analytical calculations of one-loop scattering amplitudes, and for numerical evaluation of cross-sections at NLO
- natural extension to two-loops, under investigation

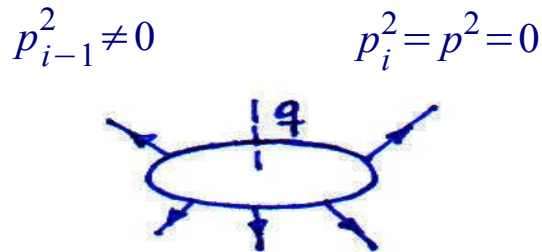
# IR classification of dual integrals

IR behaviour depends on the two external momenta joined by the cut line



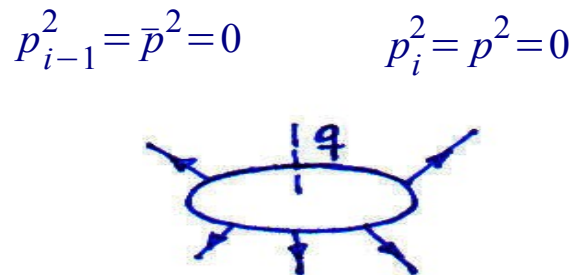
$$I_{finite}^{(N-1)} = \int_q \delta_+(q^2) \left[ \prod_{j=1}^{N-1} \frac{1}{2q \cdot k_j + k_j^2} \right]$$

IR finite (numerically integrable in d=4)



$$I_{collinear}^{(N-2)} = \int_q \delta_+(q^2) \frac{1}{p \cdot q} \left[ \prod_{j=1}^{N-2} \frac{1}{2q \cdot k_j + k_j^2} \right]$$

IR divergent in collinear region  $q \parallel p$ ,  
single  $1/\epsilon$  poles



$$I_{soft}^{(N-3)} = \int_q \delta_+(q^2) \frac{p \cdot \bar{p}}{p \cdot q \bar{p} \cdot q} \left[ \prod_{j=1}^{N-3} \frac{1}{2q \cdot k_j + k_j^2} \right]$$

IR divergent in collinear regions  $q \parallel p$  and  $q \parallel \bar{p}$   
double  $1/\epsilon^2$  and single  $1/\epsilon$  poles