

# Generalised Unitarity for Massive One Loop Amplitudes

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# Introduction

- NLO QCD corrections are essential ingredients for LHC physics
  - Accurate predictions of QCD backgrounds
    - ⇒ Observation of deviations from the SM
- Aim: Provide efficient one loop matrix element generator
- Traditional Feynman techniques are extremely inefficient
- On-shell techniques exploit gauge invariance to reduce complexity
- Inclusion of arbitrary masses for one loop processes:
  - Spinor/helicity formalism for massive particles
  - Generalised Unitarity and integral coefficients
  - Application to top production through gluon fusion,  $gg \rightarrow t\bar{t}$

See talks by:

Britto,Boels,Dunbar,Kosower,Mastrolia,Maitre,Rodrigo

# Overview Of On-Shell Techniques

- Recursion relations for tree level processes  
Massive Particles  
[Britto,Cachazo,Feng,Witten]  
[SB,Glover,Khoze,Svrček]
- Recursion relations for 1-loop rational terms  
Gluon amplitudes  
Higgs amplitudes  
[Berger,Bern,Dixon,Forde,Kosower]  
[Berger,Del Duca,Dixon]  
[SB,Glover,Risager]
- D-dimensional unitarity cuts  
Massive cases, top loops :  $gggg, Hggg$   
6-point amplitudes  
[Anastasiou,Britto,Feng,Kunszt,Mastrolia]  
[Ellis,Giele,Kunszt,Melnikov]
- Automated for massless gluon amplitudes  
8-point amplitudes  
[BlackHat]

# Spinor-Helicity Basis

- Write all massless momenta and external wavefunctions as 2-component spinors

$$2p^\mu = \langle p | \gamma^\mu | p \rangle \qquad \varepsilon_\pm^\mu(p, \xi) = \pm \frac{\langle p \pm | \gamma^\mu | \xi \pm \rangle}{\sqrt{2} \langle p \mp | \xi \pm \rangle}$$

- Can also apply also to massive momenta:

[Kleiss, Stirling]

$$P^\mu = \alpha p^{b, \mu} + \beta \eta^\mu, \qquad \alpha\beta = \frac{m_P^2}{\langle \eta | P | \eta \rangle}$$

- Fermion wavefunctions

[Rodrigo; Schwinn, Weinzierl]

$$u_\pm(Q, m) = \frac{(Q + m) | \eta \mp \rangle}{\sqrt{\alpha} \langle q^b \pm | \eta \mp \rangle} \qquad v_\pm(Q, m) = \frac{(Q - m) | \eta \mp \rangle}{\sqrt{\alpha} \langle q^b \pm | \eta \mp \rangle}$$

- Set  $\alpha = 1$  but keep  $\eta$  free
- Build all amplitudes from on-shell 3-point vertices

# Three-Point $QQg$ Vertices

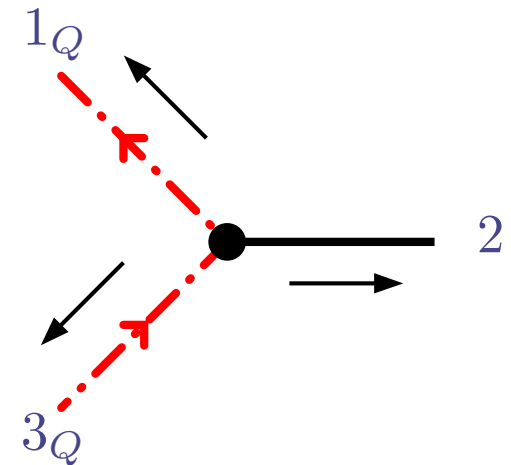
$$A_3(1_Q^+, 2^+, 3_Q^-) = \frac{\langle \eta_1 | 1 | \eta_3 \rangle \langle \xi | 3 | 2 \rangle}{\langle \eta_1 1^b \rangle [\eta_3 3^b] \langle 2 \xi \rangle}$$

$$A_3(1_Q^+, 2^+, 3_Q^+) = m \frac{\langle \eta_1 \eta_3 \rangle \langle \xi | 1 | 2 \rangle}{\langle \eta_1 1^b \rangle \langle \eta_3 3^b \rangle \langle 2 \xi \rangle}$$

$$A_3(1_Q^+, 2^-, 3_Q^-) = \frac{\langle \eta_3 | 2 | \eta_1 \rangle \langle 2 | 1 | \xi \rangle}{\langle \eta_1 1^b \rangle \langle \eta_3 3^b \rangle [2 \xi]}$$

$$A_3(1_Q^+, 2^-, 3_Q^+) = m \frac{\langle \eta_1 \eta_3 \rangle \langle 2 | 1 | \xi \rangle - \langle \eta_1 2 \rangle \langle \eta_3 2 \rangle [\xi 2]}{\langle \eta_1 1^b \rangle \langle \eta_3 3^b \rangle [\xi 2]}$$

- Independent of reference,  $\xi$ , for polarisation vector
- Non-trivial dependence on  $\eta_i$
- Convenient massless limit



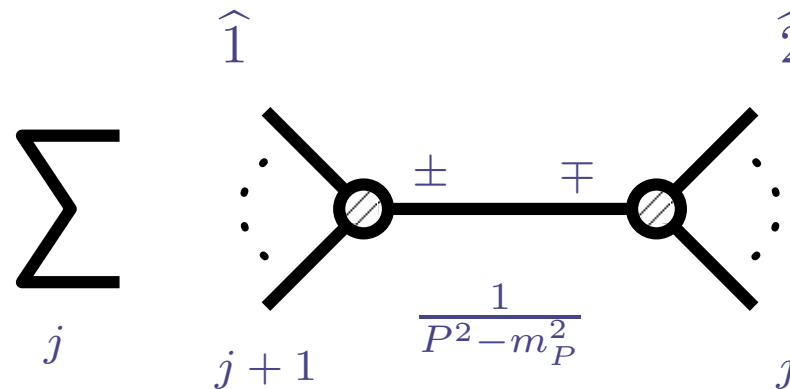
# Tree-Level Recursion

[Britto,Cachazo,Feng,Witten]

- Form higher point amplitudes from 3-point amplitudes
- Complex momentum shift

$$\hat{1} = 1 - z|1\rangle[2|$$

$$\hat{2} = 2 + z|1\rangle[2|$$



- Compact analytic representations

# One Loop Amplitudes

- General integral basis:

$$A_n^{(1)} = \sum_k C_4^k I_4^k + \sum_k C_3^k I_3^k + \sum_k C_2^k I_2^k + C_1 I_1 + R_n$$

- The basis of functions is known for arbitrary internal and external masses

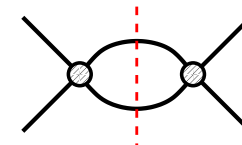
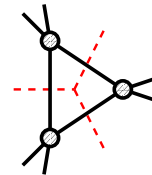
qcdloop.fnal.gov [Ellis et al.]

[Denner,Dittmaier,Scharf]

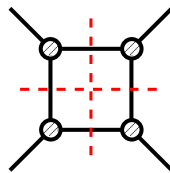
- Reconstruct coefficients from unitarity cuts

[Bern,Dixon,Dunbar,Kosower]

$$\frac{i}{p^2 - m^2} \rightarrow (2\pi)\delta(p^2 - m^2)$$



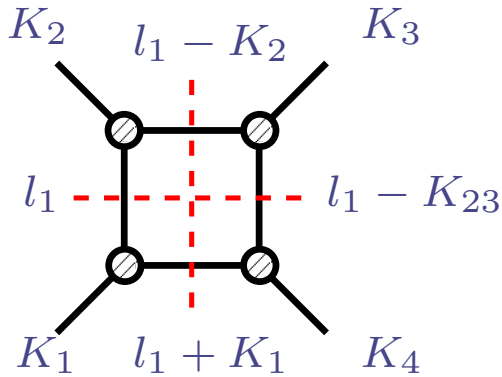
- Cutting four propagators freezes 4-dimensional loop integral



Complex momenta  $\Rightarrow$  3-point vertices non zero on-shell

[Britto,Cachazo,Feng]

# Coefficient Extraction From Generalised Cuts



Parametrise the loop momentum to find on-shell conditions [Ossala, Papadopolous, Pittau]

$$l_1 = aK_1^b + bK_2^b + c|K_1^b\rangle[K_2^b| + d|K_2^b\rangle[K_1^b|$$

$$K_1^b = K_1 - \frac{S_1}{\gamma}K_2 \quad K_2^b = K_2 - \frac{S_2}{\gamma}K_1$$

$$S_i = K_i^2 \quad \gamma = K_1 \cdot K_2 \pm \sqrt{(K_1 \cdot K_2)^2 - S_1 S_2}$$

- Solving constraints fixes all four coefficients  $\rightarrow$  2 solutions

$$\{l_1^2 = m_1^2, (l_1 - K_2)^2 = m_2^2, (l_1 - K_{23})^2 = m_3^2, (l_1 + K_1)^2 = m_4^2\}$$

- Massive internal propagators: same loop basis [Kilgore]
- Box coefficient given as sum over both solutions [Britto, Cachazo, Feng]

$$C_4 = \frac{i}{2} \sum_{c=c_{\pm}} A_1 A_2 A_3 A_4(l_1(c))$$

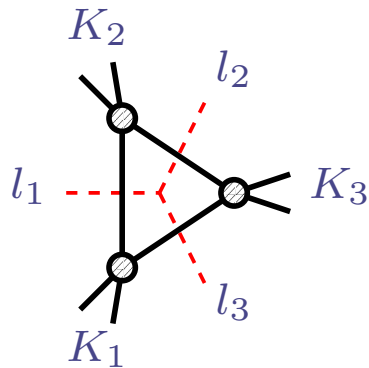


# Direct Extraction Of Triangle Coefficients

- Examine analytic behaviour of triple cut

[Ossala, Papadopolous, Pittau]

[Forde]



$$l_1 = aK_1^b + bK_2^b + t|K_1^b\rangle[K_2^b| + \frac{d}{t}|K_1^b\rangle[K_2^b|$$

$$\Rightarrow \int d^4l \Pi \delta(l_i^2) A_1 A_2 A_3 \rightarrow \int dt J_t A_1 A_2 A_3$$

- Consider  $t$  as a complex variable then one can see that

$$\int dt J_t A_1 A_2 A_3 = \int dt J_t \underbrace{\text{Inf}_t[A_1 A_2 A_3]} + \frac{\text{Res}_{t=t_i}(A_1 A_2 A_3)}{(t - t_i)}$$

- Integrals over non-zero powers of  $t$  vanish

$$C_3 = - \sum_{\gamma} \text{Inf}_t[A_1 A_2 A_3]|_{t^0}$$

Laurent series around  $t = \infty$   
 $\text{Inf}_t[X(t)] = x_0 + x_1 t + x_2 t^2 + x_3 t^3$

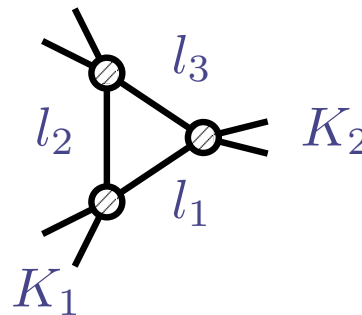
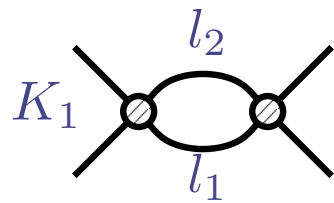
# Bubble Coefficients

- Here the two unfixed integrals can be parametrised by,

$$l = yK_1^b + a(1 - y)K_2^b + t|K_1^b\rangle[K_2^b| + by(1 - y)|K_2^b\rangle[K_1^b|$$

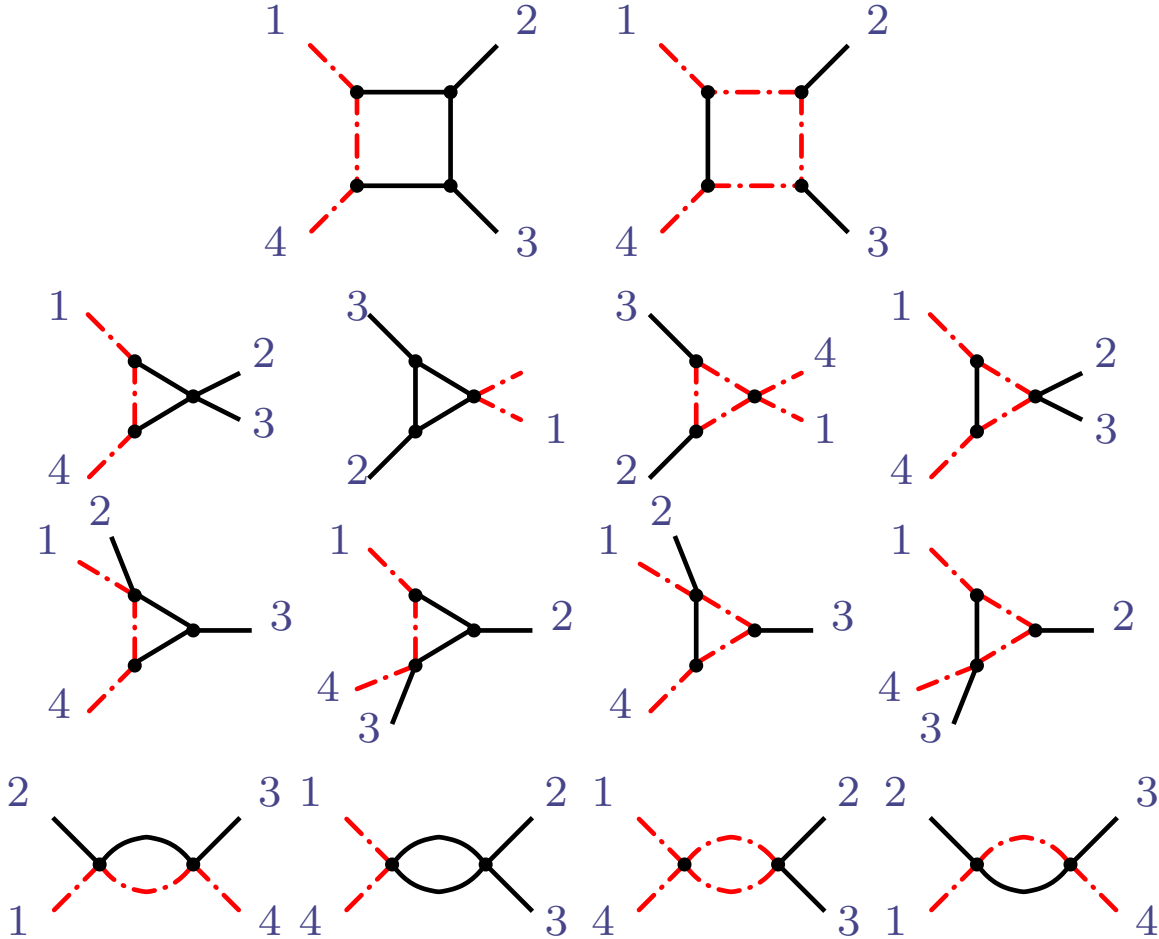
- Decomposition and complex integration similar - non-vanishing integrals
- Integrals over  $y$  and  $t$  also have mass dependence
- Final Coefficient

$$C_2 = -i\text{Inf}_t[\text{Inf}_y[A_1 A_2]]|_{t^0, y^i \rightarrow Y_i} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\{K_2\}} \sum_{y_{\pm}} \text{Inf}_t[A_1 A_2 A_3(K_2)]|_{t^i \rightarrow T_i}$$

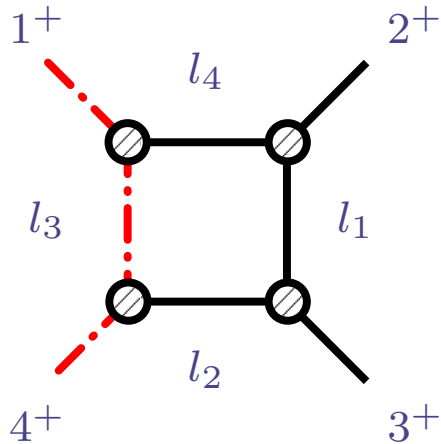


# The One Loop $t\bar{t}gg$ Amplitude

$$A_n^{(1)}(1_Q, 2, 3, 4_Q) = N_c A_n^{[L]} + \frac{1}{N_c} A_n^{[R]} + n_f A_n^{[f]} + A_n^{[t]}$$



# An Example Coefficient



$$l_1 = c|2\rangle[3|$$

$$c = -\frac{(1+2)^2 - m^2}{\langle 2|1|3\rangle}$$

$$l'_1 = d|3\rangle[2|$$

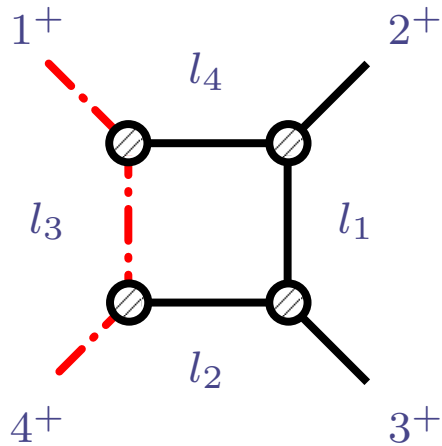
$$d = -\frac{(1+2)^2 - m^2}{\langle 3|1|2\rangle}$$

- Sum over both internal helicity configurations
- Use  $\tilde{\eta} = \eta_{1,4}$  reduce to 2 contributions

$$C_4^{000m}(1_Q^+, 2^+, 3^+, 4_Q^+) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{l_1, l'_1}$$

$$A_3(1_Q^+, l_4^+, -l_{3,Q}^-)A_3(-l_4^-, 2^+, l_1^+)A_3(-l_1^-, 3^+, l_2^+)A_3(l_{3,Q}^+, -l_2^-, 4_Q^+) \\ + A_3(1_Q^+, l_4^-, -l_{3,Q}^+)A_3(-l_4^+, 2^+, l_1^-)A_3(-l_1^+, 3^+, l_2^-)A_3(l_{3,Q}^-, -l_2^+, 4_Q^+)$$

# An Example Coefficient



$$C_4^{000m}(1_Q^+, 2^+, 3^+, 4_Q^+) = -2m^3 \frac{\langle \eta_1 \eta_4 \rangle [23]^2}{\langle \eta_1 1^b \rangle \langle \eta_4 4^b \rangle}$$



# Complete Cut-Constructible Parts

- Automated extraction for all 8 helicity configurations
- Compact analytic expressions
- Numerical comparison with Feynman results
- Numerical tests for independence of loop bases and reference vectors
- Checks for leading order poles:

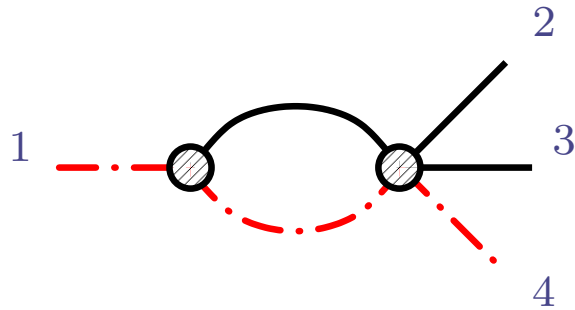
$$A_4^{(1)} = -\frac{A_4^{(0)}}{\epsilon^2} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-1})$$

$$\Rightarrow C_4^{000m} + s_{23}(C_{3;12}^{00m} + C_{3;34}^{00m}) + \langle 2|1|2 \rangle C_3^{000} = -s_{23} \langle 2|1|2 \rangle A_4^{(0)}$$

- Check for smooth massless limit  $\rightarrow$  need to fix  $\log(\mu^2/m^2)$  terms

# Fixing The $I_1$ Coefficient

- 4-dimensional unitarity cuts are cumbersome when considering wave-function renormalisation terms



$$l_1 \cdot l_2 = 0$$

$$A_5(l_{1,Q}, l_2, 2, 3, 4_Q) \sim \frac{1}{l_1 \cdot l_2}$$

- Universal IR and UV behaviour is now well understood

[Moch, Mitov]

$$A_n^{(1),CC} = (\text{boxes, triangles, bubbles}) + \frac{C_1}{\epsilon} \left( \frac{\mu^2}{m^2} \right)^\epsilon$$

- Fixing remaining  $1/\epsilon$  discrepancy gives us  $C_1$  directly

$$C_1 = \frac{5C_f}{2} A_4^{(0)} - N_c (C_{2;12}^{0m} + C_{2;23}^{00}) - \frac{1}{N_c} (C_{2;12}^{m0} + \tilde{C}_{2;23}^{mm})$$



# Summary

- On-shell methods with complex momenta are an efficient way to calculate scattering amplitudes - even including massive particles.
- Re-computation of the cut-constructible contributions to  $gg \rightarrow t\bar{t}$ 
  - Compact analytic results for all helicity configurations
- Easily automated for both numerical and analytic results
- Further study to evaluate rational pieces
  - D-dimensional cuts vs. On-shell recursion

$$l_{[D]}^2 = l_{[4]}^2 - \mu^2 = 0$$

- Future applications to higher multiplicity amplitudes:  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t} + \text{jets}$