Monodromy Relations in Higher-Loop String Amplitudes



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Scattering Amplitudes: from Gauge Theory to Gravity Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics University of California, Santa Barbara April 17- 21, 2017 based on:

S. Hohenegger, St.St.:

• Monodromy Relations in Higher-Loop String Amplitudes, [arXiv:1702.04963]

work in progress



I. Tree-level amplitude relations $A(1,...,N) = V_{\mathsf{CKG}}^{-1} \int_{z_1 < ... < z_N} \left(\prod_{j=1}^N dz_j \right) \sum_{\mathcal{K}_I} \mathcal{K}_I \prod_{i < j}^N |z_i - z_j|^{s_{ij}} (z_i - z_j)^{n_{ij}^I}$



 $A(1,2,...,N) + e^{i\pi s_{12}} A(2,1,3,...,N-1,N) + e^{i\pi(s_{12}+s_{13})} A(2,3,1,...,N-1,N) + ... + e^{i\pi(s_{12}+s_{13}+...+s_{1N-1})} A(2,3,...,N-1,1,N) = 0$ monodromy relations

- proof does not rely on any kinematic properties of subamplitudes
- for any open string state: **boson or fermion**
- \bullet these relations hold in any space-time dimensions D
- for any amount of supersymmetry

Take
$$\alpha' \to 0$$
 limit: $e^{\pi i s_{ij}} = 1 + \pi i s_{ij} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^2)$

(real part) field-theory relations (Kleiss-Kuijf relations):

 $A_{YM}(1,2,\ldots,N) + A_{YM}(2,1,3,\ldots,N-1,N) + \ldots + A_{YM}(2,3,\ldots,N-1,1,N) = 0$

(imaginary part) field-theory relations (BCJ relations):

 $s_{12} A_{YM}(2,1,3,\ldots,N-1,N) + \ldots + (s_{12} + s_{13} + \ldots + s_{1N-1}) A_{YM}(2,3,\ldots,N-1,1,N) = 0$



proof of BCJ relations from string theory !

St.St., arXiv:0907.2211 Bjerrum-Bohr, Damgaard, Vanhove, arXiv:0907.1425

subamplitude relations in string theory

$$\underbrace{E.g. \ N = 4:}_{A(1,2,4,3)} = \frac{\sin(\pi u)}{\sin(\pi t)} , \quad \frac{A(1,3,2,4)}{A(1,2,3,4)} = \frac{\sin(\pi s)}{\sin(\pi t)}$$
As a result these relations allow to express all six partial amplitudes in terms of **one**, say $A(1,2,3,4)$:
 $A(1,4,3,2) = A(1,2,3,4)$;
 $A(1,2,4,3) = A(1,3,4,2) = \frac{\sin(\pi u)}{\sin(\pi t)} A(1,2,3,4) ,$
 $A(1,3,2,4) = A(1,4,2,3) = \frac{\sin(\pi s)}{\sin(\pi t)} A(1,2,3,4) .$

generic N:



these relations allow for a **complete reduction** of the full string subamplitudes to a **minimal basis** of (N-3)! dimensional basis of subamplitudes

II. One-loop amplitude relations

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{A}_{N}^{(1)} &= g_{YM}^{N} \left\{ N_{c} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{N-1}} \operatorname{Tr}(T^{a_{\sigma(1)}} \dots T^{a_{\sigma(N)}}) A^{(1)}(\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(N)) \right. \\ &+ \sum_{c=2}^{\lfloor \frac{N}{2} \rfloor + 1} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{N}/S_{N;c}} \operatorname{Tr}(T^{a_{\sigma(1)}} \dots T^{a_{\sigma(c-1)}}) \operatorname{Tr}(T^{a_{\sigma(c)}} \dots T^{a_{\sigma(N)}}) \\ &\times A^{(1)}(\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(c-1) | \sigma(c), \dots, \sigma(N)) \right. \end{aligned}$$

<u>One-loop cylinder world-sheet:</u>



dual (closed string) channel:



bosonic Green functions:

$$G(z,\tau) = \ln \left| \frac{\theta_1(z,\tau)}{\theta_1'(0,\tau)} \right|^2$$
$$G_T(z,\tau) = \ln \left| \frac{\theta_4(z,\tau)}{\theta_1'(0,\tau)} \right|^2$$

$$A^{(1)}(1,\ldots,N) = \delta(k_1 + \ldots k_N) \int_0^\infty dl \ V_{\text{CKG}}^{-1} \int_{\mathcal{I}_1} \prod_{i=1}^N dz_i \ P_N(z_1,\ldots,z_N,\tau) \ \exp\left\{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{1 \le i < j \le N} s_{ij} \ G(z_{ji},\tau)\right\}$$

elliptic functions (Jacobi theta functions):

$$\theta_1(z,\tau) = \theta \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} (z,\tau) \quad , \quad \theta_4(z,\tau) = \theta \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} (z,\tau)$$



$$\ln \frac{\theta_4(z + \frac{\tau}{2}, \tau)}{\theta_1'(0, \tau)} = \ln \frac{\theta_1(z, \tau)}{\theta_1'(0, \tau)} - \frac{1}{4} i\pi\tau + \frac{1}{2} i\pi - i\pi z$$

planar monodromy relation:

consider contour integral w.r.t. holomorphic coordinate x_1 :





$$a^{(1)}(i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4) = V_{\text{CKG}}^{-1} P_4 \int_0^1 dx_{i_4} \int_0^{x_{i_4}} dx_{i_3} \int_0^{x_{i_3}} dx_{i_2} \int_0^{x_{i_2}} dx_{i_1} \prod_{1 \le a < b \le 4} \left(\frac{\theta_1(x_{i_b i_a}, i\ell)}{\theta_1'(0, i\ell)} \right)^{s_{i_a i_b}}$$

$$\tilde{a}^{(1)}(i_1, i_2, i_3 | j) = V_{\text{CKG}}^{-1} P_4 \int_0^1 dx_{i_3} \int_0^{x_{i_3}} dx_{i_2} \int_0^{x_{i_2}} dx_{i_1} \int_0^{x_{i_1}} dx_j \exp\left\{i\pi \sum_{l=1}^3 s_{ji_l} x_{ji_l}\right\}$$
$$\times \prod_{a=1}^3 \left(\frac{\theta_4(x_{ji_a}, il)}{\theta_1'(0, il)}\right)^{s_{ji_a}} \prod_{1 \le a < b \le 3} \left(\frac{\theta_1(x_{i_b i_a}, il)}{\theta_1'(0, il)}\right)^{s_{i_a i_b}}$$

Monodromy relations

planar monodromy relation:

$$A^{(1)}(1,2,3,4) + e^{i\pi s_{12}} A^{(1)}(2,1,3,4) + e^{i\pi(s_{12}+s_{13})} A^{(1)}(2,3,1,4)$$

= $\tilde{A}^{(1)}(2,3,4|1) + e^{i\pi s_{12}} \tilde{A}^{(1)}(3,4,2|1) + e^{i\pi(s_{12}+s_{13})} \tilde{A}^{(1)}(4,2,3|1)$

generalization to arbitrary N is straightforward

see also: Tourkine, Vanhove, arXiv:1608.01665 for related, but <u>differing</u> findings

non-planar monodromy relation:

consider contour integral w.r.t. holomorphic coordinate x_1 :



generalization to arbitrary N is straightforward

$$A_{YM}^{(1)}(1|2,3,4) = -A_{YM}^{(1)}(1,2,3,4) - A_{YM}^{(1)}(2,1,3,4) - A_{YM}^{(1)}(2,3,1,4)$$

$$A_{YM}^{(1)}(1,2|3,4) = A_{YM}^{(1)}(1,2,3,4) + A_{YM}^{(1)}(1,3,2,4) + A_{YM}^{(1)}(2,1,3,4) + A_{YM}^{(1)}(2,3,1,4) + A_{YM}^{(1)}(3,1,2,4) + A_{YM}^{(1)}(3,2,1,4)$$

corresponds to leading order in field-theory (real part or KK like relations) agrees with Bern, Dixon, Dunbar, Kosower (1994)



We have performed various *checks* by computing α' - expansions in *two* regimes:

• <u>field-theory limit</u>: non-analytic terms, branch cuts in kinematic invariants stemming from boundaries of moduli space of Riemann surface effects can be decoupled in the limit $\tau \to i\infty$

lowest order yields N=4 SYM

Brink, Green, Schwarz 1982

• finite τ : perform α' - expansion and get analytic terms

$$\exp\left\{\frac{1}{2}\sum_{\substack{1 \le i < j \le N\\ N_1+1 \le j \le N_2}} s_{ij} G(z_j - z_i, \tau)\right\} = 1 + \frac{1}{2}\sum_{\substack{1 \le i < j \le N\\ N_1+1 \le j \le N_2}} s_{ij} G_T(z_j - z_i + \frac{il}{2}, \tau)\right\} = 1 + \frac{1}{2}\sum_{\substack{1 \le i \le N\\ N_1+1 \le j \le N_2}} s_{ij} G_T(x_j - x_i, \tau) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^2)$$

 $x_l \in [0,1]$

yields iterated integrals over elliptic polylogarithms (elliptic iterated integrals)

$$\int_0^z \omega^{(n_1)}(z_1) \int_0^{z_1} \omega^{(n_2)}(z_2) \dots \int_0^{z_{r-1}} \omega^{(n_r)}(z_r)$$

 $\omega^{(k)}$ = family of one-forms on E_{τ}^{\times}

This program has been accomplished for

planar-amplitude in: Broedel, Mafra, Matthes, Schlotterer, arXiv:1412.5535

non-planar amplitude in: Hohenegger, St.St, arXiv:1702.04963 Broedel, Matthes, Richter, Schlotterer, arXiv:1704.03449 Example:

$$A^{(1)}(2,3,4|1) = (s_{12}s_{14}) A^{(0)}_{YM}(1,2,3,4) \int_0^\infty dl \left[g(s,u) + g(t,s) + g(u,t) \right]$$

$$g(s,u) = \int_0^1 dx_4 \int_0^{x_4} dx_3 \int_0^{x_3} dx_2 \exp\left\{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{2 \le i < j \le 4} s_{ij} \ G(x_j - x_i, \tau)\right\} \exp\left\{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=2}^4 s_{1j} \ G_T(x_j - x_1, \tau)\right\}$$

$$\exp\left\{\frac{1}{2}\sum_{2\leq i< j\leq 4} s_{ij} \ G(x_j - x_i, \tau)\right\} \ \exp\left\{\frac{1}{2}\sum_{j=2}^4 s_{1j} \ G_T(x_j - x_1, \tau)\right\}$$
$$= 1 + \frac{1}{2} \ s \ \left[\ G_T(x_{21}) + G(x_{43}) - G_T(x_{31}) - G(x_{42}) \ \right]$$
$$+ \frac{1}{2} \ u \ \left[\ G_T(x_{41}) + G(x_{32}) - G_T(x_{31}) - G(x_{42}) \ \right] + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^2)$$

e.g.:
$$\frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 dz_4 \int_0^{z_4} dz_3 \int_0^{z_3} dz_2 \ G_T(z_2) = -\frac{1}{6} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{1}{48} \ln q + \sum_{m \ge 1} \frac{q^{m/2}}{1 - q^m} \left(\frac{1}{3m} - \frac{1}{2\pi^2 m^3} \right) + \frac{1}{6} Q_3$$

$$g(s,u) = \frac{1}{6} - (s+u) \left\{ \frac{3}{4\pi^2} \zeta_3 + \frac{3}{2\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\mathcal{L}i_3(q^n) + \mathcal{L}i_3(q^{n-1/2}) \right] \right\} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^2)$$

field-theory limit (II):

$$A^{(1)}(1,2,3,4) + e^{i\pi s_{12}} A^{(1)}(2,1,3,4) + e^{i\pi(s_{12}+s_{13})} A^{(1)}(2,3,1,4)$$

= $\tilde{A}^{(1)}(2,3,4|1) + e^{i\pi s_{12}} \tilde{A}^{(1)}(3,4,2|1) + e^{i\pi(s_{12}+s_{13})} \tilde{A}^{(1)}(4,2,3|1)$

consider field-theory expansion:

use:
$$A^{(1)}(1,2,3,4) = A^{(1)}_{YM}(1,2,3,4) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha')$$
,
 $\tilde{A}^{(1)}(2,3,4|1) = \tilde{A}^{(1)}_{YM}(2,3,4|1) + i\pi \ \tilde{A}^{(1)}_{YM}(1,2,3,4)[k_1] + \mathcal{O}(\alpha')$

with:
$$A_{YM}^{(1)}(2,3,4|1) = \tilde{A}_{YM}^{(1)}(2,3,4|1) + \tilde{A}_{YM}^{(1)}(3,4,2|1) + \tilde{A}_{YM}^{(1)}(4,2,3|1)$$

 $\tilde{A}_{YM}^{(1)}(1,2,3,4)[k_1] = s_{12}s_{23} A_{YM}^{(0)}(1,2,3,4) \tilde{g}_{YM}(s_{12},s_{23})$

with field-theory object:

$$\tilde{g}_{YM}(s,u) = \int_0^\infty \frac{d\lambda}{\lambda^{D/2-3}} \int_0^1 \left(\prod_{i=1}^4 d\eta_i\right) \delta\left(1 - \sum_{i=1}^4 \eta_i\right) (\eta_3 s - \eta_4 u) \ e^{-\lambda} (s\eta_1 \eta_3 + u\eta_2 \eta_4) \\ = \frac{1}{2} \ \frac{(1+\gamma) \ \Gamma(1+\gamma)^2 \ \Gamma(-\gamma)}{(2+\gamma) \ \Gamma(2\gamma+4)} \ \left(s^{\gamma+1} - u^{\gamma+1}\right) \ , \ \gamma = \frac{D}{2} - 4$$

altogether:

$$\begin{split} \tilde{A}_{YM}^{(1)}(1,2,3,4)[k_1] &= s_{12}s_{23} \ A_{YM}^{(0)}(1,2,3,4) \ \tilde{g}_{YM}(s_{12},s_{23}) \ , \\ \tilde{A}_{YM}^{(1)}(1,3,4,2)[k_1] &= s_{12}s_{23} \ A_{YM}^{(0)}(1,2,3,4) \ \tilde{g}_{YM}(s_{13},s_{34}) \ , \\ \tilde{A}_{YM}^{(1)}(1,4,2,3)[k_1] &= s_{12}s_{23} \ A_{YM}^{(0)}(1,2,3,4) \ \tilde{g}_{YM}(s_{14},s_{24}) \ . \end{split}$$

"new" field-theory relation:

$$\tilde{A}_{YM}^{(1)}(1,2,3,4)[k_1] + \tilde{A}_{YM}^{(1)}(1,3,4,2)[k_1] + \tilde{A}_{YM}^{(1)}(1,4,2,3)[k_1] = 0$$

$$\tilde{g}_{YM}(s,u) + \tilde{g}_{YM}(t,s) + \tilde{g}_{YM}(u,t) = 0$$

let us understand, what this relation does mean in field-theory

box diagram with momentum insertion lk_i :

$$\Box_{i}(s,u) := \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2\pi}\right)^{\gamma} \int d^{D}l \, \frac{lk_{i}}{l^{2}(l+k_{1})^{2} \, (l+k_{1}+k_{2})^{2} \, (l-k_{4})^{2}} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{d\lambda}{\lambda^{D/2-3}} \int_{0}^{1} \left(\prod_{j=1}^{4} d\eta_{j}\right)$$
$$\times \delta \left(1 - \sum_{i=1}^{4} \eta_{i}\right) \, \left[\eta_{4}s_{4i} - \eta_{3}(s_{1i} + s_{2i}) - \eta_{2}s_{1i}\right] \, e^{-\lambda(s\eta_{1}\eta_{3} + u\eta_{2}\eta_{4})} \, , \, i = 1, \dots, 4 \, .$$

actually we have:

$$\begin{split} \tilde{g}_{YM}(s,u) &= -2 \ \Box_1(s,u) &= -\Delta_1(s,u) + \Delta_4(s,u) ,\\ \tilde{g}_{YM}(t,s) &= -2 \ \Box_2(s,t) - s \ \Box(s,t) &= -\Delta_2(s,t) + \Delta_1(s,t) ,\\ \tilde{g}_{YM}(u,t) &= -2 \ \Box_3(u,t) + u \ \Box(u,t) &= -\Delta_3(u,t) + \Delta_2(u,t) . \end{split}$$

h:
$$\Delta_i = \int d^D l \ \frac{d_i}{d_1 d_2 d_3 d_4} \quad , \quad i = 1, \dots, 4 \ ,$$
$$d_i = (l + q_i)^2$$

with:

i.e.:
$$\tilde{g}_{YM}(s,u) + \tilde{g}_{YM}(t,s) + \tilde{g}_{YM}(u,t) = 0$$

turns into:

 $\Delta_1(s, u) - \Delta_4(s, u) + \Delta_2(s, t) - \Delta_1(s, t) + \Delta_3(u, t) - \Delta_2(u, t) = 0$

identity between triangles

this is just the (integrated) integrand relation:

$$2 \Box_1(s, u) + 2 \Box_2(s, t) + s \Box(s, t) + 2 \Box_3(u, t) - u \Box(u, t) = 0$$

 $s_{1l} I(1,2,3,4) + (s_{12} + s_{1l}) I(2,1,3,4) + (s_{12} + s_{13} + s_{1l}) I(2,3,1,4) = 0$

$$I(1,2,3,4) = \frac{1}{l^2 (l+k_1)^2 (l+k_1+k_2)^2 (l-k_4)^2} = \frac{1}{d_1 d_2 d_3 d_4}$$

Boels, Isermann (2011) Du, Luo (2012)

III. Amplitudes in non-commutative background

introduce constant background B-field (metric g) $\Theta^{\mu\nu} = \left(-2\pi\alpha'\right) \left(\frac{1}{q+B} B \frac{1}{q-B}\right)^{\mu\nu}$ open string anti-symmetric tensor: $G^{\mu\nu} = \left(\frac{1}{q+B} g \frac{1}{q-B}\right)^{\mu\nu}$

open string metric:

Seiberg, Witten (1999)

$$[x^{\mu}, x^{\nu}] = i \Theta^{\mu\nu} , \quad \mu, \nu = 0, \dots, p$$

$$A_{NC}^{(0)}(1,\ldots,N) = A^{(0)}(1,\ldots,N) \exp\left\{-\frac{i}{2}\sum_{1 \le i < j \le N} k_i \times k_j\right\}$$
 Filk (1996)

$$k \cdot p := k_{\mu} G^{\mu\nu} p_{\nu} \qquad \qquad k_i \times k_j = k_{i\mu} \Theta^{\mu\nu} k_{j\nu}$$

one-loop open string theory:

$$\begin{aligned} A^{(1)}(2,3,4|1) &= -i\sqrt{\det G} \frac{g_o^4}{4\alpha'^2} (2\alpha')^4 (2\pi)^{p-3} \,\delta^{(p+1)} \left(\sum_{q=1}^4 k_q\right) \mathcal{K} \int_0^\infty \frac{dl}{2} \, l^{-5} \\ &\times \left(\frac{8\pi^2 \alpha'}{l}\right)^{-\frac{p+1}{2}} \exp\left\{\frac{k_\mu (\Theta G \Theta)^{\mu\nu} k_\nu \, l}{8\pi\alpha'}\right\} \left(\prod_{q=1}^4 \int_0^1 dx_q\right) \prod_{2 \le i < j \le 4} \left|\frac{\theta_1 \left(x_{ij}, il\right)}{\theta_1'(0, il)}\right|^{2\alpha' k_i \cdot k_j} \\ &\times \prod_{i=2}^4 \left|\frac{\theta_4 \left(x_{1i}, il\right)}{\theta_1'(0, il)}\right|^{2\alpha' k_1 \cdot k_i} \exp\left\{-i\sum_{2 \le i < j \le 4} \left(k_i \times k_j\right) \left[x_{ij} - \frac{1}{2}\right]\right\} \end{aligned}$$

Liu, Michelson (2001)

$$k = k_2 + k_3 + k_4 = -k_1$$
 = non-planar momentum

equate:

$$-i\pi \sum_{i=2}^{4} s_{1i} \ x_i \stackrel{!}{=} -i \sum_{2 \le i < j \le 4} (k_i \times k_j) \ (x_i - x_j)$$

yields:

$$k_{1\mu} \left(2\pi \alpha' G^{\mu\nu} - \Theta^{\mu\nu} \right) = 0$$

has solution:

$$\Theta^{\mu\nu} = 2\pi\alpha' \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ & \vartheta^{mn} \end{pmatrix}$$

for the choice:
$$k_{1\mu} = (k, k, 0, ..., 0)$$
, $G^{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}(-1, 1, ..., 1)$

IV. Monodromy relations at g-loop

E.g. only n boundaries involved: \mathbf{Z}_2 involution of Riemann surface of genus g=n-1



$$A^{(g)}(1,2,\ldots,N) + e^{i\pi s_{12}} A^{(g)}(2,1,\ldots,N) + \ldots + e^{i\pi \sum_{j=2}^{N-1} s_{1j}} A^{(g)}(2,\ldots,1,N)$$

= $\tilde{A}^{(g)}(2,3,\ldots,N|1) + e^{i\pi s_{12}} \tilde{A}^{(g)}(3,4,\ldots,N,2|1) + \ldots + e^{i\pi \sum_{j=2}^{N-1} s_{1j}} \tilde{A}^{(g)}(N,2,\ldots,N-1|1)$

Concluding remarks

- correct monodromy relations for N-point at g-loop
- additional "boundary" terms necessary to cancel tachyonic poles
- expansion in terms of elliptic multiple zeta values
- interpretation in terms of scattering in non-commutative background
- subamplitude relations play crucial role for KLT at higher loops !
- basis of independent subamplitudes ?
 - include closed strings ?