

Symbol Alphabet from Plabic Graphs and Tensor Diagrams

Anastasia Volovich

Brown University

Mago, Ren, Schreiber, Spradlin, Yellespur Srikant

2007.00646, 2012.15812, 2106.01405, 2106.01406



Introduction

- Planar $N=4$ Yang-Mills scattering amplitudes have been computed to very high loop order.
- They have many remarkable properties, that have sparked interest from mathematicians working on combinatorics, algebraic geometry and number theory.
- At the same time, several methods that have been developed for $N=4$ Yang-Mills are directly applicable to, and have greatly aided, QCD computations.
- In this talk, I will review some recent developments in $N=4$ Yang-Mills amplitudes and describe some approaches that hope to explain their properties using various mathematical constructions.

Outline

- Introduction
- Status and tools for amplitudes computations
- 6 and 7-point amplitudes: cluster algebras
- 8 and 9-point amplitudes: new features
- Symbol alphabet from plabic graphs
- Symbol alphabet from tensor diagrams
- Conclusions

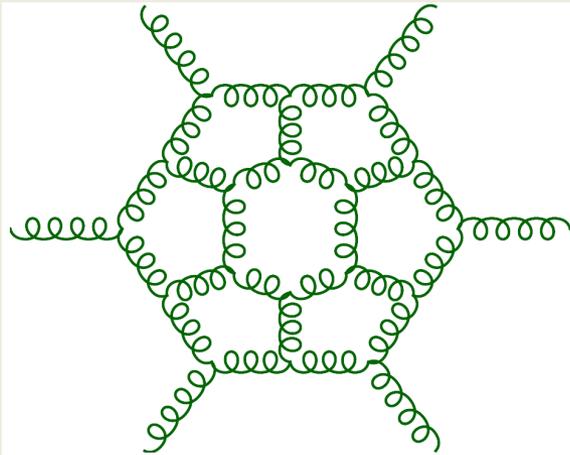
Status: n-point amplitudes in N=4 planar Yang-Mills

- $n < 6$ all loops [Bern, Dixon, Smirnov '05](#)
- $n = 6$ through 7-loops [Caron-Huot, Dixon, Drummond, Dulat, Foster, Gurdogan, von Hippel, McLeod, Papathanasiou, review: 2005.06735](#)
- $n = 7$ through 4-loops [Caron-Huot, Dixon, Drummond, Dulat, Foster, Gurdogan, von Hippel, McLeod, Papathanasiou, review: 2005.06735](#)
- $n = 8$ MHV through 3-loop [Li, Zhang \[to appear: poster session\]](#)
- $n = 8, 9$ MHV, NMHV through 2-loops [He, Li, Zhang '19'20](#)
- All n MHV through 2-loops [Caron-Huot '11](#)

Method: Amplitudes Bootstrap

Write down the answer as linear combo of functions and
determine the coefficients
by solving a system of linear constraints.

Remaining number of parameters in the ansatz for (MHV, NMHV) $n=6$ amplitude
after each constrain is applied at each loop order:



Constraint	$L = 1$	$L = 2$	$L = 3$	$L = 4$	$L = 5$	$L = 6$
1. \mathcal{H}_6	6	27	105	372	1214	3692?
2. Symmetry	(2,4)	(7,16)	(22,56)	(66,190)	(197,602)	(567,1795?)
3. Final-entry	(1,1)	(4,3)	(11,6)	(30,16)	(85,39)	(236,102)
4. Collinear	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0*,0*)	(0*,2*)	(1* ³ ,5* ³)	(6* ² ,17* ²)
5. LL MRK	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0*,0*)	(1* ² ,2* ²)
6. NLL MRK	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0*,0*)	(1*,0* ²)
7. NNLL MRK	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(1,0*)
8. N ³ LL MRK	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(1,0)
9. Full MRK	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(1,0)
10. T^1 OPE	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(1,0)
11. T^2 OPE	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)

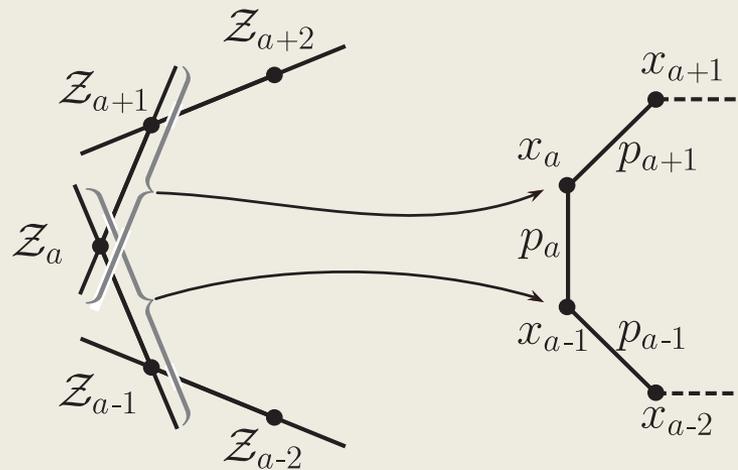
[Caron-Huot, Dixon, Drummond,
Dulat, Foster, Gurdogan, von Hippel,
McLeod, Papathanasiou 2005.06735]

Tools: Momentum Twistors

Momentum \rightarrow Momentum Twistors

$$Z_i^A = (Z_i^1, Z_i^2, Z_i^3, Z_i^4) \in \mathbb{P}^3$$

$$\langle ijkl \rangle \equiv \langle Z_i Z_j Z_k Z_l \rangle = \det(Z_i Z_j Z_k Z_l)$$



Tools: Symbol Alphabet

“Dogma”: MHV and NLMV L-loop amplitudes
can be expressed in terms of
multiple polylogarithms of weight $m=2L$

$$dF_m = \sum_{\phi_{\alpha_1} \in \Phi} F_{m-1}^{\phi_{\alpha_1}} d \log \phi_{\alpha_1}$$

$$dF_{m-1}^{\phi_{\alpha_1}} = \sum_{\phi_{\alpha_2} \in \Phi} F_{m-2}^{\phi_{\alpha_2}, \phi_{\alpha_1}} d \log \phi_{\alpha_2}$$

SYMBOL

$$\mathbf{S}[F_m] = \sum_{\phi_{\alpha_1}, \phi_{\alpha_2}, \dots, \phi_{\alpha_m} \in \Phi} F_0^{\phi_{\alpha_m}, \phi_{\alpha_{m-1}}, \dots, \phi_{\alpha_2}, \phi_{\alpha_1}} [\phi_{\alpha_m} \otimes \phi_{\alpha_{m-1}} \otimes \dots \otimes \phi_{\alpha_2} \otimes \phi_{\alpha_1}]$$

$$dLi_2(z) = -\log(1-z)d \log(z) \rightarrow \mathbf{S}[Li_2(z)] = -(1-z) \otimes z$$

SYMBOL ALPHABET

$$\phi_{\alpha} \in \Phi$$

- encodes singularities
- input in bootstrap

n=6

n=6 symbol alphabet is given by 15 letters

[9 DCI ratios]

all Gr(4,6) Plucker coordinates

$\langle a \ a+1 \ b \ c \rangle$

$$R_6^{(2)} = \text{Li}_4 \left(-\frac{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 2356 \rangle}{\langle 1236 \rangle \langle 2345 \rangle} \right) - \frac{1}{4} \text{Li}_4 \left(-\frac{\langle 1246 \rangle \langle 1345 \rangle}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 1456 \rangle} \right) + \dots$$

Del Duca, Duhr, Smirnov;
Goncharov Spradlin Vergu AV

n=7

n=7 symbol alphabet is given by 49 letters

[42 DCI ratios]

all Gr(4,7) Plucker coordinates $\langle a \ a+1 \ b \ c \rangle$

7 cyclic images $\langle 1(23)(45)(67) \rangle$ and $\langle 1(27)(34)(56) \rangle$

$$R_7^{(2)} = \frac{1}{4} \text{Li}_{2,2} \left(\frac{\langle 1267 \rangle \langle 2345 \rangle}{\langle 1237 \rangle \langle 2456 \rangle}, -\frac{\langle 2456 \rangle \langle 1(23)(45)(67) \rangle}{\langle 1267 \rangle \langle 1456 \rangle \langle 2345 \rangle} \right) - \frac{1}{2} \text{Li}_{2,2} \left(\frac{\langle 1267 \rangle \langle 1345 \rangle}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 1567 \rangle}, \frac{\langle 1(27)(34)(56) \rangle}{\langle 1267 \rangle \langle 1345 \rangle} \right) + \dots$$

$$\langle a(bc)(de)(fg) \rangle \equiv \langle abde \rangle \langle acfg \rangle - \langle abfg \rangle \langle acde \rangle$$

Caron-Huot;

Golden Goncharov Spradlin Vergu AV

n=8

180 RATIONAL LETTERS

He, Li, Zhang '19

- 68 Plücker coordinates of the form $\langle a \ a+1 \ b \ c \rangle$,
- 8 cyclic images of $\langle 12\bar{4} \cap \bar{7} \rangle$,
- 40 cyclic images of $\langle 1(23)(45)(78) \rangle$, $\langle 1(23)(56)(78) \rangle$, $\langle 1(28)(34)(56) \rangle$, $\langle 1(28)(34)(67) \rangle$, $\langle 1(28)(45)(67) \rangle$,
- 48 dihedral images of $\langle 1(23)(45)(67) \rangle$, $\langle 1(23)(45)(68) \rangle$, $\langle 1(28)(34)(57) \rangle$,
- 8 cyclic images of $\langle \bar{2} \cap (245) \cap \bar{8} \cap (856) \rangle$,
- and 8 distinct dihedral images of $\langle \bar{2} \cap (245) \cap \bar{6} \cap (681) \rangle$.

$$\bar{a} \equiv (a-1 \ a \ a+1)$$

$$\langle ab(cde) \cap (fgh) \rangle = \langle acde \rangle \langle b f g h \rangle - \langle bcde \rangle \langle a f g h \rangle$$

$$\langle \bar{x} \cap (abc) \cap \bar{y} \cap (def) \rangle \equiv \langle a, (bc) \cap \bar{x}, d, (ef) \cap \bar{y} \rangle$$

$$\langle a, b, c, (de) \cap (fgh) \rangle \equiv \langle abcd \rangle \langle e f g h \rangle - \langle abce \rangle \langle d f g h \rangle$$

2 x 9 ALGEBRAIC LETTERS (SQUARE ROOTS)

$$\Delta_{1357} = (\langle 1256 \rangle \langle 3478 \rangle - \langle 1278 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle - \langle 1234 \rangle \langle 5678 \rangle)^2 - 4 \langle 1234 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle \langle 5678 \rangle \langle 1278 \rangle$$

and 1 cyclic

n=8

180 RATIONAL LETTERS

He, Li, Zhang '19

- 68 Plücker coordinates of the form $\langle a \ a+1 \ b \ c \rangle$,
- 8 cyclic images of $\langle 12\bar{4} \cap \bar{7} \rangle$,
- 40 cyclic images of $\langle 1(23)(45)(78) \rangle$, $\langle 1(23)(56)(78) \rangle$, $\langle 1(28)(34)(56) \rangle$, $\langle 1(28)(34)(67) \rangle$,
 $\langle 1(28)(45)(67) \rangle$,
- 48 dihedral images of $\langle 1(23)(45)(67) \rangle$, $\langle 1(23)(45)(68) \rangle$, $\langle 1(28)(34)(57) \rangle$,
- 8 cyclic images of $\langle \bar{2} \cap (245) \cap \bar{8} \cap (856) \rangle$,
- and 8 distinct dihedral images of $\langle \bar{2} \cap (245) \cap \bar{6} \cap (681) \rangle$.

Additional 24 letters were very recently found for 3-loop MHV

$\langle 1(23)(46)(78) \rangle$, $\langle \bar{2} \cap \bar{4} \cap (568) \cap \bar{8} \rangle$ and $\langle \bar{2} \cap \bar{4} \cap \bar{6} \cap (681) \rangle$

2 x 9 ALGEBRAIC LETTERS (SQUARE ROOTS)

Li, Zhang [to appear: poster session]

$$\Delta_{1357} = (\langle 1256 \rangle \langle 3478 \rangle - \langle 1278 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle - \langle 1234 \rangle \langle 5678 \rangle)^2 - 4 \langle 1234 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle \langle 5678 \rangle \langle 1278 \rangle$$

and 1 cyclic

n=9

He, Li, Zhang '20

59 x 9 RATIONAL LETTERS

- 13 cyclic classes of $\langle 12kl \rangle$ for $3 \leq k < l \leq 8$ but $(k, l) \neq (6, 7), (7, 8)$;
- 7 cyclic classes of $\langle 12(ijk) \cap (lmn) \rangle$ for $3 \leq i < j < k < l < m < n \leq 9$;
- 8 cyclic classes of $\langle \bar{2} \cap (245) \cap \bar{6} \cap (691) \rangle$, $\langle \bar{2} \cap (346) \cap \bar{6} \cap (892) \rangle$, $\langle \bar{2} \cap (346) \cap \bar{2} \cap (782) \rangle$, $\langle \bar{2} \cap (245) \cap \bar{7} \cap (791) \rangle$, $\langle \bar{2} \cap (245) \cap (568) \cap \bar{8} \rangle$, $\langle \bar{2} \cap (245) \cap (569) \cap \bar{9} \rangle$, $\langle \bar{2} \cap (245) \cap (679) \cap \bar{9} \rangle$, $\langle \bar{2} \cap (256) \cap (679) \cap \bar{9} \rangle$;
- 10 cyclic classes of $\langle 1(i i+1)(j j+1)(k k+1) \rangle$ for $2 \leq i, i+1 < j, j+1 < k \leq 8$;
- 6 cyclic classes $\langle 1(2i)(j j+1)(k9) \rangle$ for $3 \leq i < j, j+1 < k \leq 8$, but $(i, k) \neq (3, 8), (4, 7)$;
- 14 cyclic classes of $\langle 1(29)(ij)(k k+1) \rangle$ for $3 < i < j \leq 8, 3 \leq k \leq i-2$ or $j+1 \leq k \leq 7$;
- 1 cyclic class of $\langle 1, (56) \cap \bar{3}, (78) \cap \bar{3}, 9 \rangle$.

11 x 9 ALGEBRAIC LETTERS (SQUARE ROOTS)

$$\Delta_{1357} = (\langle 1256 \rangle \langle 3478 \rangle - \langle 1278 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle - \langle 1234 \rangle \langle 5678 \rangle)^2 - 4 \langle 1234 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle \langle 5678 \rangle \langle 1278 \rangle \quad \text{and 8 cyclic}$$

So far I told you about
the results of amplitude calculations.

Is there an independent
mathematical description of
symbol letters?

So far I told you about
the results of amplitude calculations.

Is there an independent
mathematical description of
symbol letters?

Yes: Cluster Algebras.

We observed that symbol alphabets are
given by subsets of cluster coordinates of
Grassmannian Cluster Algebra

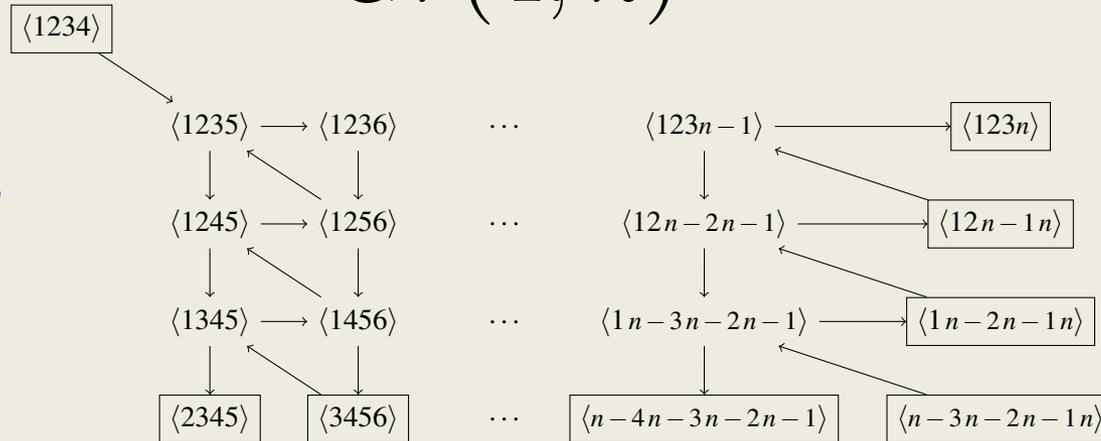
$$Gr(4, n)$$

Golden, Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu, AV

Grassmannian Cluster Algebra

$$Gr(4, n)$$

Initial Quiver



Mutation Rule

$$a_k \rightarrow a'_k = \frac{1}{a_k} \left(\prod_{\text{arrows } i \rightarrow k} a_i + \prod_{\text{arrows } k \rightarrow j} a_j \right)$$

Cluster Coordinates

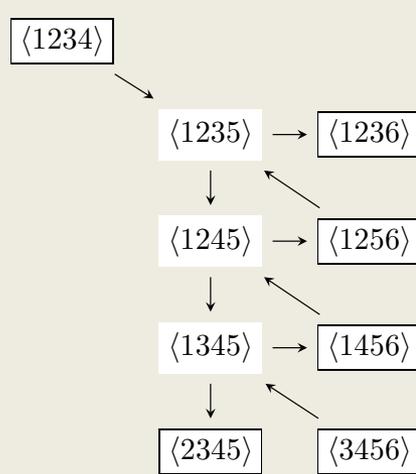
$$\{a_k\}$$

Fomin, Zelevinsky '02; Scott; Gekhtman, Shapiro, Vainshtein

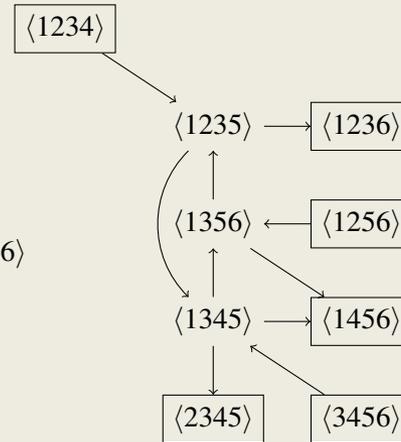
Cluster Algebra Portal: <http://www.math.lsa.umich.edu/~fomin/cluster.html>

Cluster Coordinates: $n=6$ and $n=7$

$n=6$

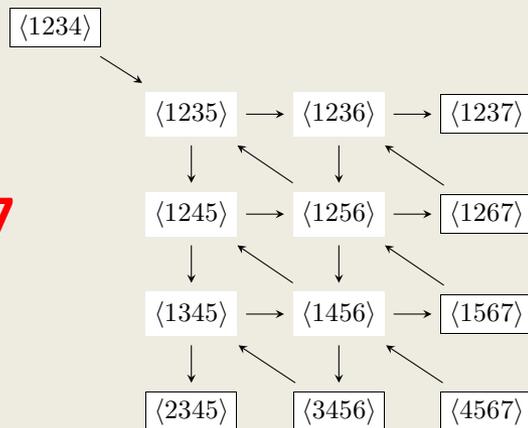


Mutate
 $\langle 1245 \rangle \rightarrow \langle 1356 \rangle$



14 quivers give
 15 cluster coordinates:
 $\langle a \ a+1 \ b \ c \rangle$

$n=7$



833 quivers give 49 cluster coordinates:
 35 Plucker coordinates $\langle a \ a+1 \ b \ c \rangle$,
 7 cyclic images $\langle 1(23)(45)(67) \rangle, \langle 1(27)(34)(56) \rangle$

Matches symbol alphabets for $n=6, 7$ amplitudes!

Caron-Huot; Golden, Goncharov, Spradlin, Vergu, AV



New Features at $n > 7$

- $\text{Gr}(4, n)$ cluster algebra is infinite for $n > 7$

Fomin, Zelevinsky

- Symbol letters involve square roots

He, Li, Zhang

New Features at $n > 7$

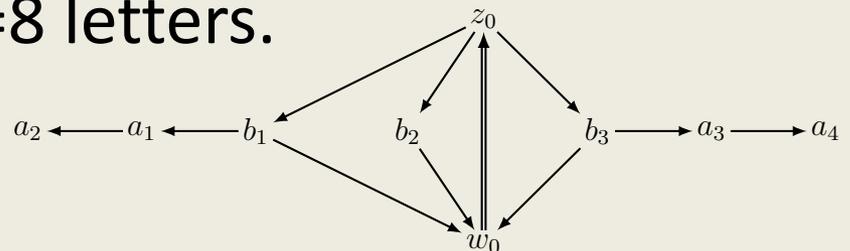
- $\text{Gr}(4, n)$ cluster algebra is infinite for $n > 7$
- Symbol letters involve square roots

Is there a mathematical description?

1. Tropical Geometry Drummond, Foster, Gurdogan, Kalousios '19
Henke, Papathanasiou '19 '21
2. Dual Polytopes Arkani-Hamed, Lam, Spradlin '19
3. Plabic Graphs Mago, Schreiber, Spradlin, Yelleshpur, AV '20 '21 He Li'20
4. Tensor Diagrams Ren, Spradlin, AV '21
5. Scattering Diagrams Herderschee '21

1. Tropical Geometry

- **Speyer-Williams'03** associated a fan to the positive Grassmanian by solving **tropicalized** Plucker relations (multiplication \rightarrow addition, addition \rightarrow minimum).
- Building on this idea **Drummond, Foster, Gurdogan, Kalousios'19** looked at a “smaller” version of $\text{Gr}(4,8)$ fan by looking at particular Plucker coordinates.
- This fan has 272 rays that are g-vectors for cluster coordinates that include 180 rational $n=8$ letters.
- There are 2 exceptional rays from which they reproduced 18 algebraic $n=8$ letters.



2. Dual Polytopes

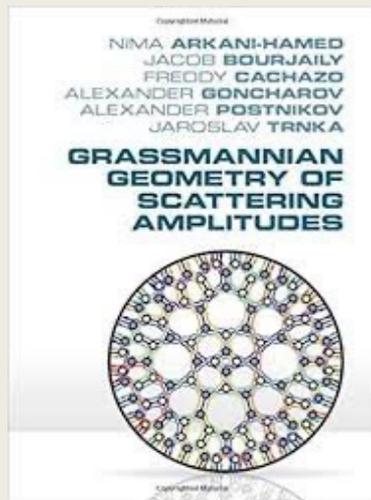
- Arkani-Hamed, Lam and Spradlin'19 looked at polytopes dual to these fans.
- To compute variables associated to the exceptional rays they used the method of Chang, Duan, Fraser, Li'19 and found evidence for the expected type of square roots.
- They conjectured these variables come from a generating function of the form

$$\frac{1}{1 - At + Bt^2}$$

$$A = \langle 1256 \rangle \langle 3478 \rangle - \langle 1278 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle - \langle 1234 \rangle \langle 5678 \rangle$$

$$B = \langle 1234 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle \langle 5678 \rangle \langle 1278 \rangle.$$

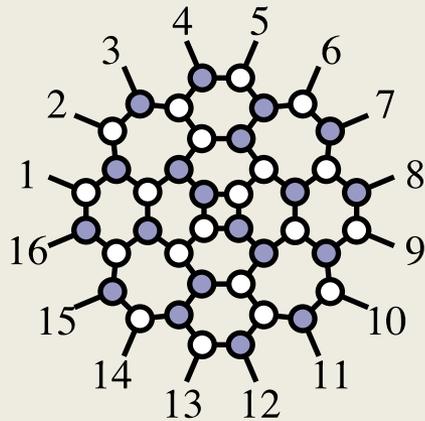
Poles at $A \pm \sqrt{A^2 - 4B}$



3. Plabic Graphs

The building blocks of N=4 SYM amplitudes are Yangian invariants which are given by integrals

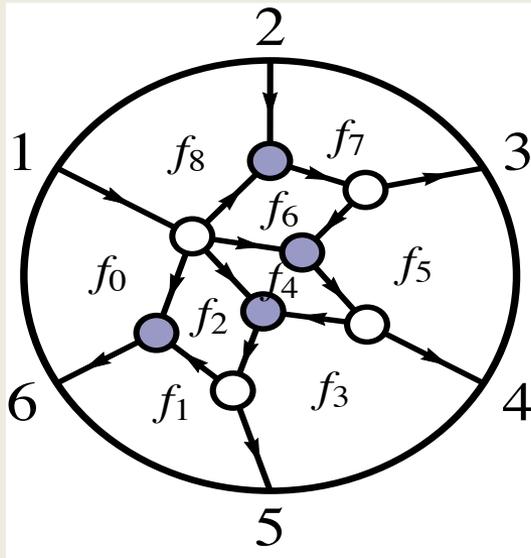
$$\mathcal{Y}_{n,k}(\mathcal{Z}) = \frac{1}{\text{vol}[\text{GL}(k)]} \int \frac{d^{k \times n} C_{\alpha a}}{(1 \cdots k)(2 \cdots k+1) \cdots (n \cdots k-1)} \prod_{\alpha=1}^k \delta^{4|4}(C_{\alpha a} \mathcal{Z}_a)$$



The **matrix C** parameterizes a cell of the positive Grassmannian; such cells are in correspondence with (equivalence classes) of **plabic graphs**.

Our Strategy: start with plabic graph, solve $CZ=0$, compare with known symbol letters.

Example: n=6, k=2



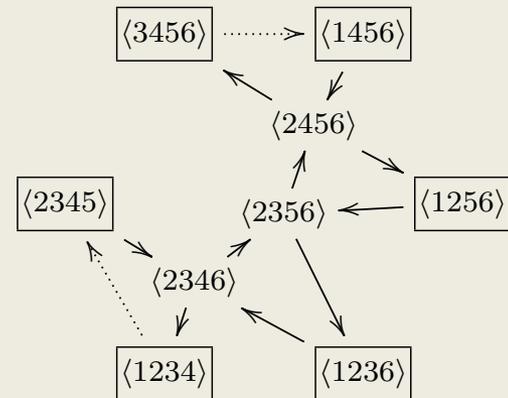
Solution to C Z=0

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_0 &= -\frac{\langle 1234 \rangle}{\langle 2346 \rangle}, & f_1 &= -\frac{\langle 2346 \rangle}{\langle 2345 \rangle}, & f_2 &= \frac{\langle 2345 \rangle \langle 1236 \rangle}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 2356 \rangle}, \\
 f_3 &= -\frac{\langle 2356 \rangle}{\langle 2346 \rangle}, & f_4 &= \frac{\langle 2346 \rangle \langle 1256 \rangle}{\langle 2456 \rangle \langle 1236 \rangle}, & f_5 &= -\frac{\langle 2456 \rangle}{\langle 2356 \rangle}, \\
 f_6 &= \frac{\langle 2356 \rangle \langle 1456 \rangle}{\langle 3456 \rangle \langle 1256 \rangle}, & f_7 &= -\frac{\langle 3456 \rangle}{\langle 2456 \rangle}, & f_8 &= -\frac{\langle 2456 \rangle}{\langle 1456 \rangle},
 \end{aligned}$$

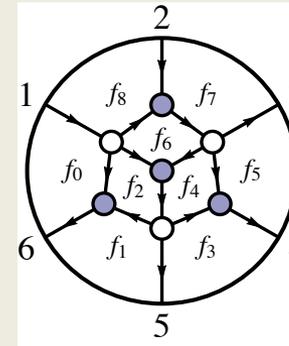
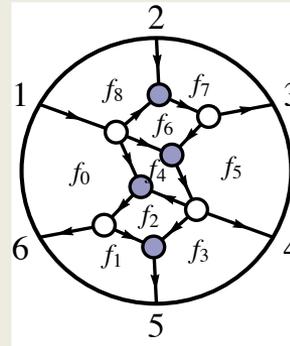
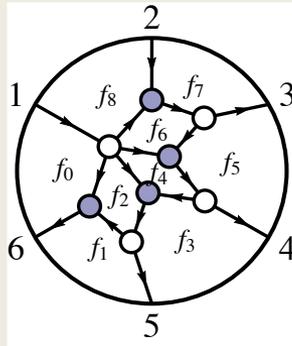
$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & c_{13} & c_{14} & c_{15} & c_{16} \\ 0 & 1 & c_{23} & c_{24} & c_{25} & c_{26} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 c_{13} &= -f_0 f_1 f_2 f_3 f_4 f_5 f_6, & c_{23} &= f_0 f_1 f_2 f_3 f_4 f_5 f_6 f_8, \\
 c_{14} &= -f_0 f_1 f_2 f_3 f_4 (1 + f_6), & c_{24} &= f_0 f_1 f_2 f_3 f_4 f_6 f_8, \\
 c_{15} &= -f_0 f_1 f_2 (1 + f_4 + f_4 f_6), & c_{25} &= f_0 f_1 f_2 f_4 f_6 f_8, \\
 c_{16} &= -f_0 (1 + f_2 + f_2 f_4 + f_2 f_4 f_6), & c_{26} &= f_0 f_2 f_4 f_6 f_8.
 \end{aligned}$$

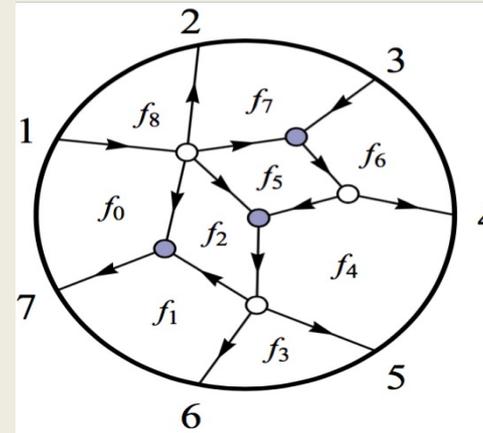
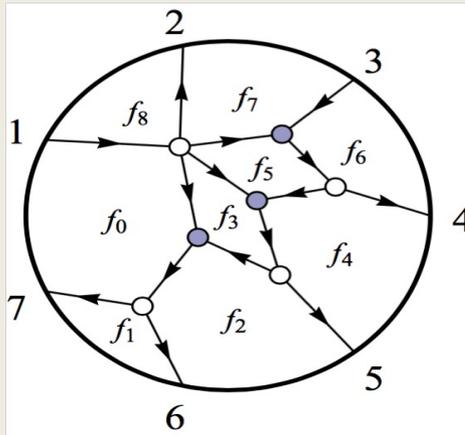
Letters corresponding to this graph can be summarized by quiver:



n=6 and n=7



We exactly reproduce n=6 symbol alphabet

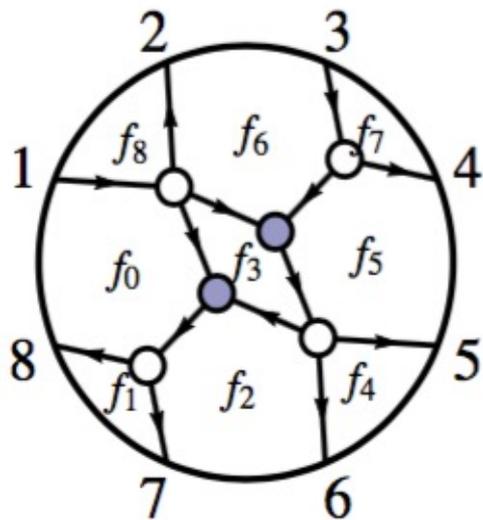


We exactly reproduce n=7 symbol alphabet



Algebraic letters: n=8

This graph gives 8 algebraic letters:



$$\begin{aligned}
 f_0 &= \sqrt{\frac{\langle 7(12)(34)(56) \rangle \langle 1234 \rangle}{a_5 \langle 2(34)(56)(78) \rangle \langle 3478 \rangle}}, & f_5 &= \sqrt{\frac{a_1 a_6 a_9 \langle 3(12)(56)(78) \rangle \langle 5678 \rangle}{a_4 a_7 \langle 6(12)(34)(78) \rangle \langle 3478 \rangle}}, \\
 f_1 &= -\sqrt{\frac{a_7 \langle 8(12)(34)(56) \rangle}{\langle 7(12)(34)(56) \rangle}}, & f_6 &= -\sqrt{\frac{a_3 \langle 1(34)(56)(78) \rangle \langle 3478 \rangle}{a_2 \langle 4(12)(56)(78) \rangle \langle 1278 \rangle}}, \\
 f_2 &= -\sqrt{\frac{a_4 \langle 5(12)(34)(78) \rangle \langle 3478 \rangle}{a_8 \langle 8(12)(34)(56) \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle}}, & f_7 &= -\sqrt{\frac{a_2 \langle 4(12)(56)(78) \rangle}{a_1 \langle 3(12)(56)(78) \rangle}}, \\
 f_3 &= \sqrt{\frac{a_8 \langle 1278 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle}{a_9 \langle 1234 \rangle \langle 5678 \rangle}}, & f_8 &= -\sqrt{\frac{a_5 \langle 2(34)(56)(78) \rangle}{a_3 \langle 1(34)(56)(78) \rangle}}, \\
 f_4 &= -\sqrt{\frac{\langle 6(12)(34)(78) \rangle}{a_6 \langle 5(12)(34)(78) \rangle}},
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sqrt{\Delta_{1357}}$$

To obtain the 9th: square move on f3.

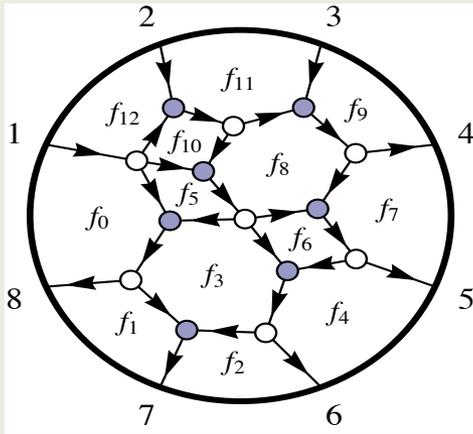
Cycling by one:

we reproduce all n=8 algebraic letters.



Rational Letters

- It is not possible to obtain all rational symbol letters from just plabic graphs.
- We have to consider non-plabic C-matrices.



Mutation of face f_8 gives non-plabic C'

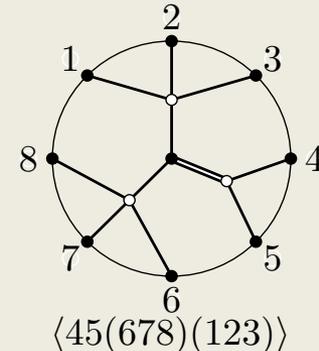
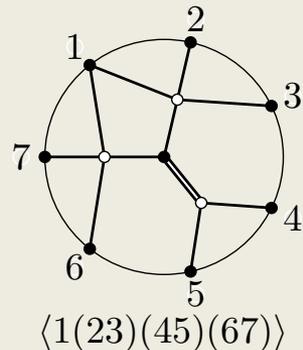
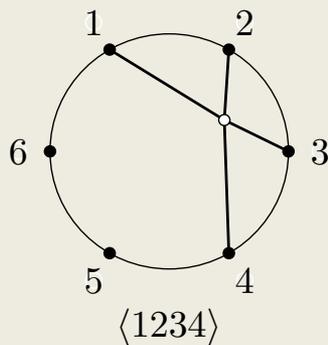
- In some cases, solutions involve non-cluster coordinates.
- We showed that restricting to the top cell ($k=n-4$) of the Grassmannian but allowing arbitrary non-plabic C-matrices, we will always produce cluster variables.

Symbol Alphabet from Plabic Graphs

- We identified set of graphs that reproduced all known $n=8$ and $n=9$ symbol alphabets.
- We do not have a theory to explain the pattern of which cells are associated to which symbol letter observed in amplitudes.
- We provided some “phenomenological” data in hope that future work will shed more light on this interesting problem.

4. Tensor Diagrams

Cluster variables can be represented by tensor diagrams Fomin Pilyavsky'16

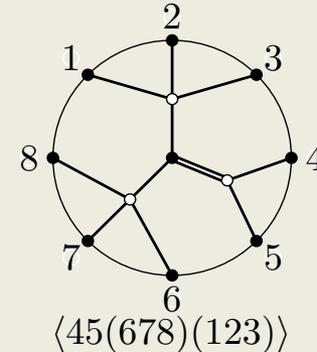
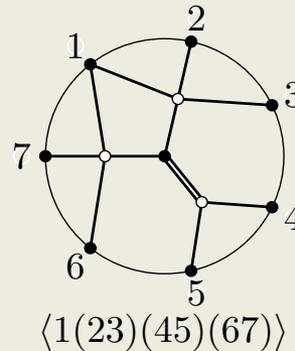
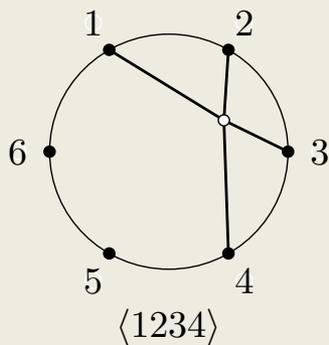


An n -point sl_k tensor diagram is a finite graph drawn inside a circle with n marked points along its boundary, satisfying

- ▶ all boundary vertices are colored black, and can have arbitrary valence
- ▶ each internal vertex may be black or white, but must have valence k
- ▶ each edge must connect a black and white vertex

4. Tensor Diagrams

Cluster variables can be represented by tensor diagrams Fomin Pilyavsky'16



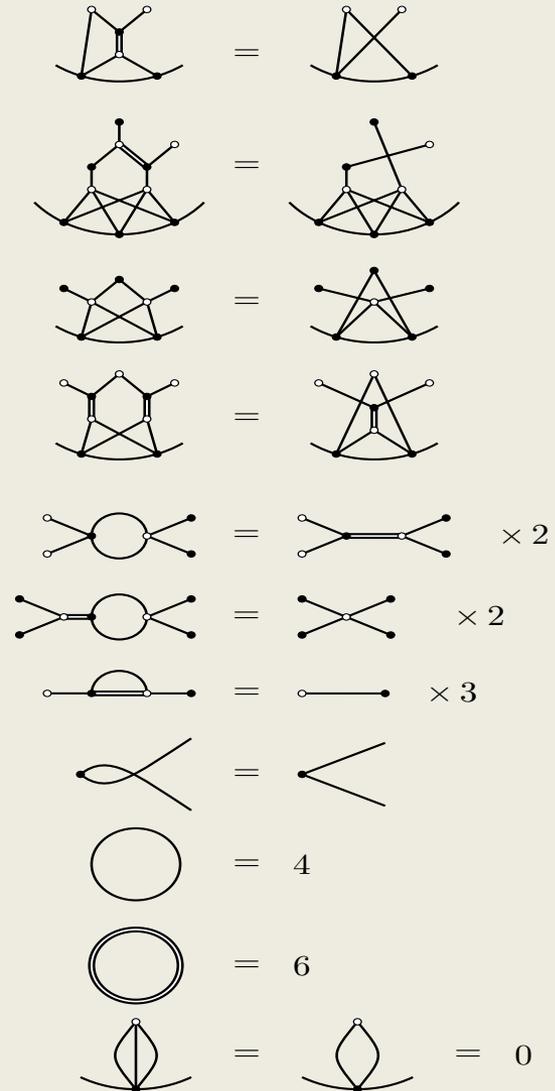
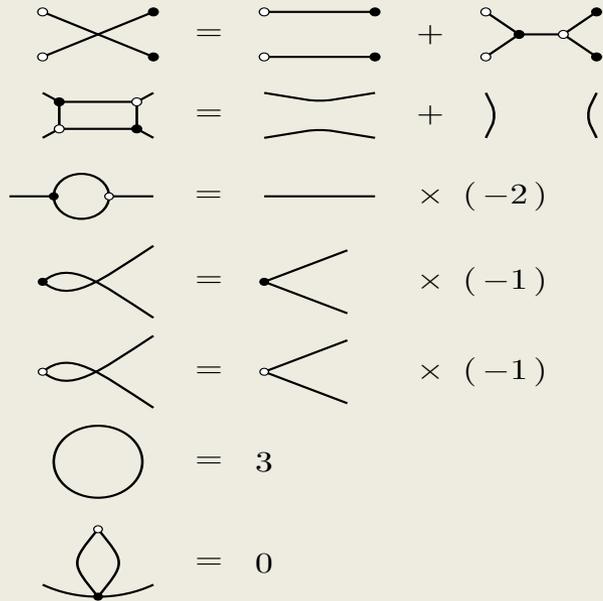
To each diagram D one associates an invariant $[D]$ by assigning

- ▶ a momentum twistor Z_i
- ▶ $\epsilon^{i_1 \dots i_k}$ to each white vertex
- ▶ $\epsilon_{i_1 \dots i_k}$ to each black vertex

and then contract the indices together as indicated by the edges.

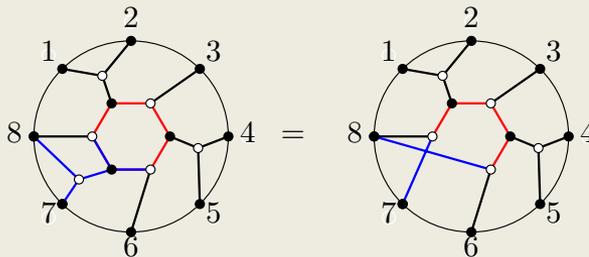
Skein Relations

Tensor invariants [D] are invariant under graphical moves called skein relations.



Fomin-Pylyavsky Conjecture

- A **web** is a planar tensor diagram.
- An **arborizable web** is a web that can be turned into a tree diagram using skein relations.



$$\begin{array}{c} \circ \quad \circ \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \circ \quad \circ \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \circ \quad \circ \\ \text{---} \quad \text{---} \\ \circ \quad \circ \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \circ \quad \circ \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \circ \quad \circ \end{array}$$

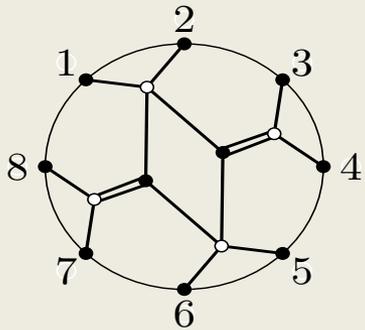
$$\begin{array}{c} \circ \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \circ \end{array} = 0$$

- **Fomin-Pilyavsky '16 conjecture:**
tensor invariants for an arborizable web are in one-to-one correspondence with cluster variables.

[Proven by Fraser '17 for $\text{Gr}(3,9)$ and $\text{Gr}(4,8)$.]

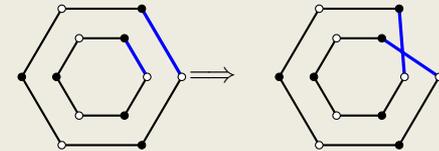
Algebraic Letters from Tensor Diagrams

- We proposed to look at **almost aborizable webs** (that can be reduced to having one inner loop), and assign to them a “web series”



$$\mathcal{W} = 1 + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} t^m W_m$$

the coefficients can be derived graphically by twisting the inner loop



- We showed that the series takes the form:

$$\frac{1 - B t^2}{1 - A t + B t^2}$$

$$A = \langle 1256 \rangle \langle 3478 \rangle - \langle 1278 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle - \langle 1234 \rangle \langle 5678 \rangle$$

$$B = \langle 1234 \rangle \langle 3456 \rangle \langle 5678 \rangle \langle 1278 \rangle.$$

- We observe square roots in the poles: $A \pm \sqrt{A^2 - 4B}$
- We reproduce square roots up to n=9.**



Conclusions

- Symbol Alphabet of $N=4$ Yang-Mills amplitudes is described by $\text{Gr}(4,n)$ cluster algebras for $n=6, 7$.
- Starting with $n=8$ one needs a mechanism producing finite subsets in $\text{Gr}(4,n)$ and square roots.
- We studied candidate mechanisms coming from plabic graphs and tensor diagrams.
- Future: more systematics, more examples, cluster adjacency, cluster functions, non-SYM.....