

Higher symmetries and homotopy algebras: scattering amplitudes, colour–kinematics duality, BV_{∞}^{\square} -algebras, the double copy and M2-branes models.

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Work with A. Anastasiou, M.J. Duff, M. Hughes, B. Jurco, Hyungrok Kim, A. Marrani, S. Nagy, T. Macrelli, C. Saemann, M. Wolf, M. Zoccali

Introduction: Homotopy algebras, quantum field theory and colour-kinematic duality

Perturbative quantum field theory

classical BV action S
tree-level scattering amplitude for S
choice of gauge fixing
integrating out fields
semi-classical equivalence $S \sim \tilde{S}$
Feynman diagram expansion
Berends–Giele recursion relation
special properties of amplitudes
colour-stripping of amplitudes
colour–kinematics duality
manifest colour–kinematics duality
double copy

Homotopy algebraic perspective

metric L_∞ -algebra \mathfrak{L}_S
minimal model for \mathfrak{L}_S
embedding of minimal model into \mathfrak{L}_S
homotopy transfer to smaller L_∞ -algebra
quasi-isomorphism $\mathfrak{L}_S \cong \mathfrak{L}_{\tilde{S}}$
homological perturbation lemma
homological geometric series
homotopy algebraic refinement of L_∞ -algebra \mathfrak{L}_S
factorisation $\mathfrak{L}_S \cong \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{C}$ with \mathfrak{C} a C_∞ -algebra
the C_∞ -algebra is a BV_∞^\square -algebra \mathfrak{B}
 $\mathfrak{L}_S \cong \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{B}$ with \mathfrak{B} a BV^\square -algebra
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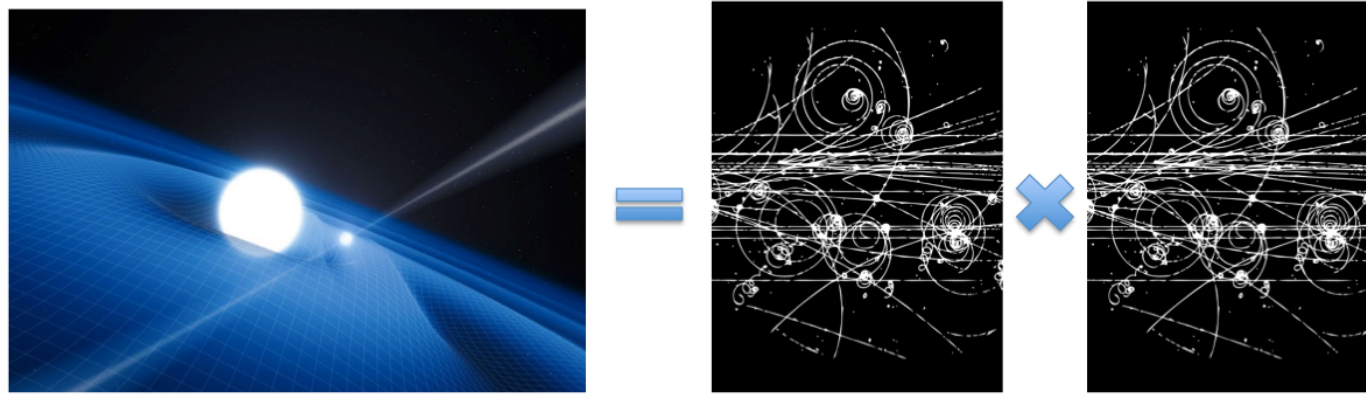
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Introduction: theme II



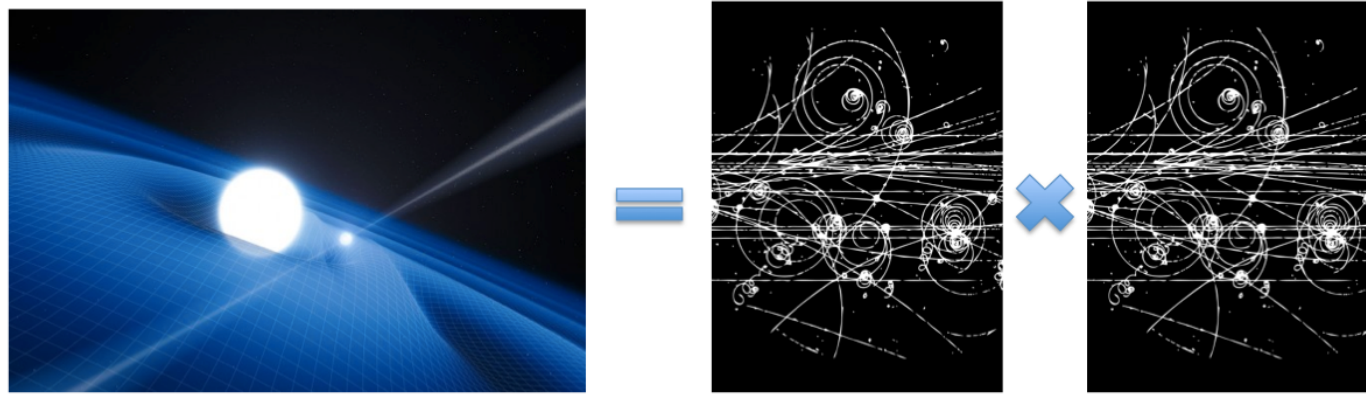
$g_{\mu\nu}$

A_{μ}^a

A_{ν}^b

- Is gravity the **double copy** of the other fundamental forces of Nature?
[Feynman; Papini; Kawai, Lewellen, Tye; Berends, Giele, Kuijf; Bern, Dixon, Dunbar, Perelstein, Rozowsky. . .]

Introduction: theme II



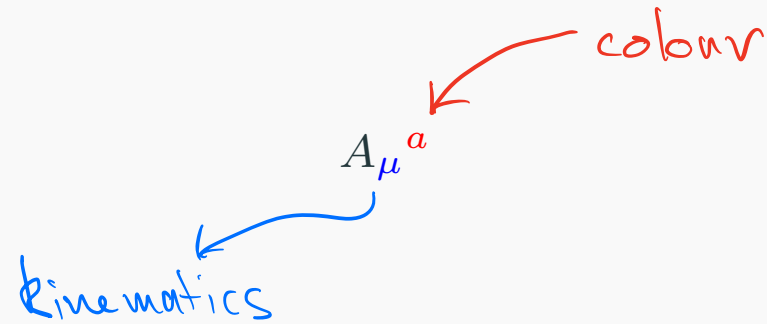
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- Is gravity the **double copy** of the other fundamental forces of Nature?
[Feynman; Papini; Kawai, Lewellen, Tye; Berends, Giele, Kuijf; Bern, Dixon, Dunbar, Perelstein, Rozowsky...]
- Renaissance: Bern–Carrasco–Johansson **Colour–Kinematics (CK) duality conjecture** and **double copy** of gauge theory and gravity **scattering amplitudes**
[Bern, Carrasco, Johansson '08, '10; Bern, Dennen, Huang, Kiermaier '10]

Colour–kinematics duality: mysterious property of scattering amplitudes



Colour–kinematics duality: mysterious property of scattering amplitudes

$$A_{\mu}^a$$

Conventional (possibly anomalous) symmetry of BV/BRST action with kinematic (homotopy) Lie algebra derived from underlying (homotopy) BV[■]-algebra

[Borsten, Jurčo, Kim, Macrelli, Saemann, Wolf (BJKMSW) '20, '21, '22]

Assuming colour-kinematics duality we can double copy scattering amplitudes

“gravity = gauge \times gauge”

Assuming colour-kinematics duality we can double copy scattering amplitudes

“gravity = gauge \times gauge”

Action double copy and tensor product of BV[■]-algebras: gravitational L_∞ -algebra

[BJKMSW '20, '23; see also Bonezzi, Chiafrino, Díaz-Jaramillo, and Hohm '23]

Closed-form BV/BRST actions that manifest/establish colour-kinematics duality **up to possible colour-kinematics duality anomalies** [BJKMSW '22, '23]:

- Self-dual (super) Yang–Mills theories in $D = 4$ (twistors, susy \Rightarrow anomaly free)
- (Super) Yang–Mills theories in all dimensions (twistors or pure spinors)
- M2-brane world–volume theories (pure spinors)

New double copy actions:

- Bi-form gravity in $D = 2 + 1$ (from double copy of Chern-Simons)
- Cubic pure spinor action for supergravity (from double copy of super Yang–Mills)

The Plan For Today

1. Homotopy algebras, quantum field theory and scattering amplitudes
Batalin–Vilkovisky formalism, homotopy Lie algebras and minimal models
2. Colour-kinematics duality and the double copy
Hidden property of gluon amplitudes: “gravity = gauge \times gauge”
3. Manifesting colour-kinematics duality in the Batalin–Vilkovisky formalism
Colour-kinematics duality as conventional (possibly anomalous) symmetry
4. Colour-kinematics duality, double copy and (homotopy) BV $^{\square}$ algebras
Confluence and conclusion: colour-kinematics was always there (up to homotopy!)
5. Examples: Chern-Simons, (self-dual) super Yang–Mills and M2-branes
New formulations: simple proofs of tree-level colour-kinematics duality

Homotopy algebras, quantum field theory and scattering amplitudes

Homotopy algebras

Consider a cochain complex (C^\bullet, d)

$$\dots \xrightarrow{d} C^i \xrightarrow{d} C^{i+1} \xrightarrow{d} C^{i+2} \xrightarrow{d} \dots$$

$d^2 = 0$ with some compatible algebraic structure (“multiplication” map m)

$$m : C^i \times C^j \rightarrow C^{i+j}; \quad (x, y) \mapsto m(x, y)$$

Homotopy algebras

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$$dm(x, y) = m(dx, y) + (-)^x m(x, dy)$$

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Example: Hodge–de Rham complex $\Omega^\bullet(M)$ of i -forms with exterior derivative

$$m(A_i, A_j) = A_i \wedge A_j = (-)^{ij} A_j \wedge A_i, \quad d(A_i \wedge A_j) = dA_i \wedge A_j + (-)^i A_i \wedge dA_j$$

is a **differential graded commutative algebra (dgca)**

Homotopy algebras

Given a morphism $\varphi : (C^\bullet, d) \rightarrow (\tilde{C}^\bullet, \tilde{d})$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \dots & \xrightarrow{d} & C^i & \xrightarrow{d} & C^{i+1} & \xrightarrow{d} & C^{i+2} & \xrightarrow{d} & \dots \\ & & \downarrow \varphi_i & & \downarrow \varphi_{i+1} & & \downarrow \varphi_{i+2} & & \\ \dots & \xrightarrow{\tilde{d}} & \tilde{C}^i & \xrightarrow{\tilde{d}} & \tilde{C}^{i+1} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{d}} & \tilde{C}^{i+2} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{d}} & \dots \end{array}$$

Q: Can the algebraic structure m on (C^\bullet, d) also be transferred to an algebraic structure \tilde{m} on $(\tilde{C}^\bullet, \tilde{d})$?

Homotopy algebras

Given a morphism $\varphi : (C^\bullet, d) \rightarrow (\tilde{C}^\bullet, \tilde{d})$

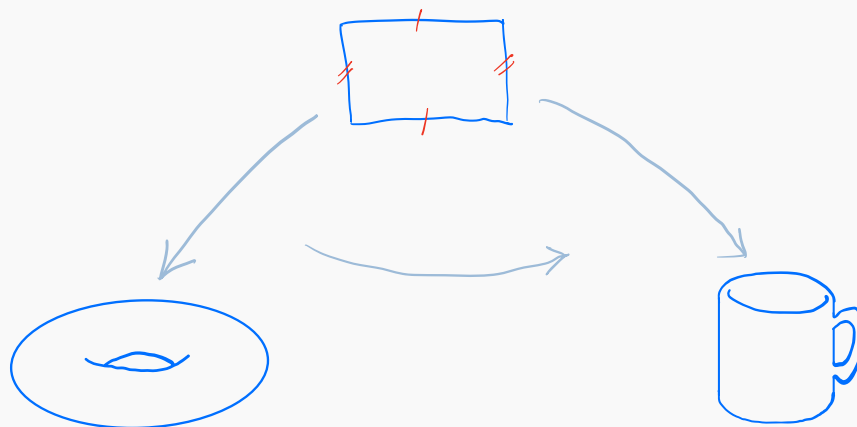
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Q: Can the algebraic structure m on (C^\bullet, d) also be transferred to an algebraic structure \tilde{m} on $(\tilde{C}^\bullet, \tilde{d})$?

A: Yes, if we allow for a richer **homotopy** algebraic structure

Homotopy algebras

Algebraic identities (e.g. associativity, commutativity or Jacobi) hold only up to cochain homotopies



→ tower of higher products $d(x) = m_1(x), m_2(x, y), m_3(x, y, z), \dots$

$$m_n : C^{i_1} \times C^{i_2} \times \dots \times C^{i_n} \rightarrow C^{i_1+i_2+\dots+i_n-n+2}$$

Informally: generalise familiar algebras to include **higher products** satisfying **higher relations** up to homotopies:

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|--|
| Associative algebras | → | homotopy associative A_∞ -algebras [Stasheff '63] |
| Commutative algebras | → | homotopy commutative C_∞ -algebras [Kadeishvili '82] |
| Lie algebras | → | homotopy Lie L_∞ -algebras [Zwiebach '93; Hinich, Schechtman '93] |

Homotopy Lie algebras

Lie algebra	L_∞ -algebra
Vector space $\mathfrak{g} = V_0$	Graded vector space $\mathfrak{L} = \bigoplus_n V_n$
Bracket $\mu_2 = [-, -]$	Higher brackets $\mu_1 = [-], \mu_2 = [-, -], \mu_3 = [-, -, -], \dots$
Relations Antisymmetry + Jacobi	Homotopy relations Graded antisymmetry + homotopy Jacobi

Homotopy Lie algebras

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Example: Semistrict Lie 2-algebra is a 2-term L_∞ -algebra $\mathfrak{L} \cong V_{-1} \oplus V_0$ with

Differential $\mu_1 = [-]$; Lie bracket $\mu_2 = [-, -]$; Jacobiator $\mu_3 = [-, -, -]$.

$$[[x, y], z] + (-1)^{x(y+z)} [[y, z], x] + (-1)^{y(x+z)} [[x, z], y] = -[[x, y, z]]$$

Homotopy Lie algebras

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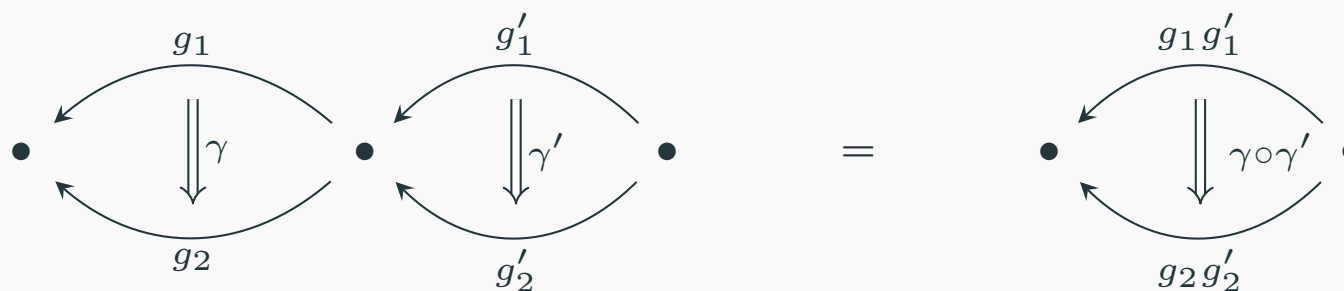
Integrate to Lie groups	Integrate to ∞ -Lie Groups
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Generalised symmetries increasingly prevalent in CMT, TQFT, QI, AdS/CFT ...

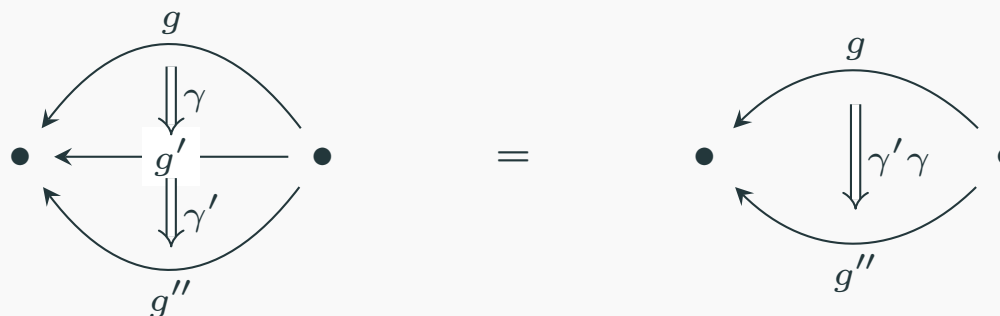
[Das, Gregory, Iqbal '21; Del Zotto, García Etxebarria, Schafer-Nameki '22; Etxebarria, Iqbal '22; Bhardwaj, Bullimore, Ferrari, Schafer-Nameki '22; Bartsch, Bullimore, Ferrari, Pearson '22; Bartsch, Bullimore, Grigoletto '23. ...]

Lie 2-Group

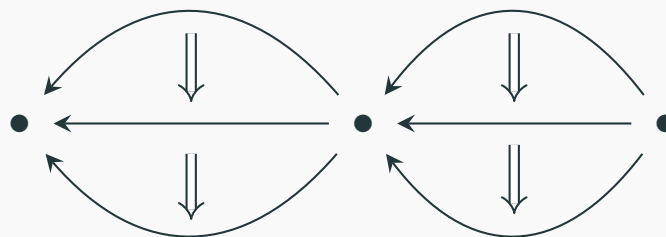
2-arrows form a **group** under horizontal composition



2-arrows form a **groupoid** under vertical composition



Interchange law: horizontal and vertical composition are coherent



Lie 2-group \rightarrow Lie 2-algebra \rightarrow strict 2-term L_∞ -algebra

Homotopy Lie algebras: higher products and relations

Operadic definition: L_∞ -algebras are given degree one differential derivations on $\mathcal{L}ie^!((V[1])^*)$ for some graded vector space V

Operads are the appropriate mathematical arena for constructing homotopy algebras

Homotopy Lie algebras: higher products and relations

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Operads are the appropriate mathematical arena for constructing homotopy algebras

Unpacking this definition: an L_∞ -algebra \mathfrak{L} is a graded vector space $V \cong \bigoplus_i V_i$ together with graded anti-symmetric i -linear maps

$$\mu_i : V \times \cdots \times V \rightarrow V$$

of degree $2 - i$ that satisfy the homotopy Jacobi identities

$$\sum_{\substack{i = j + k \\ \sigma \in \overline{\text{Sh}}(j, k; i)}} (-1)^k \chi_{(\sigma; v_1, \dots, v_i)} \mu_{k+1}(\mu_j(v_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, v_{\sigma(j)}), v_{\sigma(j+1)}, \dots, v_{\sigma(i)}) = 0$$

Homotopy Lie algebras: higher products and relations

The first three homotopy Jacobi identities are

$$\mu_1(\mu_1(v_1)) = 0$$

$$\mu_1(\mu_2(v_1, v_2)) = \mu_2(\mu_1(v_1), v_2) + (-1)^{|v_1|} \mu_2(v_1, \mu_1(v_2))$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \mu_2(\mu_2(v_1, v_2), v_3) + (-1)^{|v_1|+|v_2|} \mu_2(v_2, \mu_2(v_1, v_3)) - \mu_2(v_1, \mu_2(v_2, v_3)) \\ &= \mu_1(\mu_3(v_1, v_2, v_3)) + \mu_3(\mu_1(v_1), v_2, v_3) + (-1)^{|v_1|} \mu_3(v_1, \mu_1(v_2), v_3) \\ & \quad + (-1)^{|v_1|+|v_2|} \mu_3(v_1, v_2, \mu_1(v_3)) \end{aligned}$$

- The unary product μ_1 is a differential and a derivation with respect to the binary product μ_2
- The ternary product μ_3 captures the failure of the binary product μ_2 to satisfy the standard Jacobi identity

Morphisms of L_∞ -algebras are families of i -linear maps

$$\phi : \mathfrak{L} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathfrak{L}}, \quad \phi_i : \mathfrak{L} \times \cdots \times \mathfrak{L} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathfrak{L}}$$

that are functorial, e.g. $\phi_1 \circ \mu_1 = \tilde{\mu}_1 \circ \phi_1$

Homotopy Lie algebras: quasi-isomorphisms

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$$\phi : \mathfrak{L} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathfrak{L}}, \quad \phi_i : \mathfrak{L} \times \cdots \times \mathfrak{L} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathfrak{L}}$$

that are functorial, e.g. $\phi_1 \circ \mu_1 = \tilde{\mu}_1 \circ \phi_1$

Quasi-isomorphisms are morphisms that induce isomorphisms on the μ_1 -cohomologies

$$\phi_1 : H_{\mu_1}^\bullet(V) \xrightarrow{\sim} H_{\tilde{\mu}_1}^\bullet(\tilde{V})$$

Homotopy Lie algebras: structure theorems

Strictification (retification) theorem:

Every \mathcal{L} is quasi-isomorphic to an $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}$ with $\tilde{\mu}_i = 0$ for all $i > 2$

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Special deformation retract of complexes

$$h \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ (V, \mu_1) \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{p} \\ \xleftarrow{e} \end{array} (H_{\mu_1}^\bullet(V), \tilde{\mu}_1 = 0) , \quad 1 = \mu_1 h + h \mu_1 + e \circ p$$

Homological perturbation lemma (we can perturb the differential to include nonlinear terms) determines higher products of minimal model recursively from $\phi_1 = e$

$$\tilde{\mu}_1(\tilde{v}) = 0$$

$$\tilde{\mu}_2(\tilde{v}_1, \tilde{v}_2) = p\mu_2(e(\tilde{v}_1), e(\tilde{v}_2))$$

$$\tilde{\mu}_3(\tilde{v}_1, \tilde{v}_2, \tilde{v}_3) \sim p\mu_3(e(\tilde{v}_1), e(\tilde{v}_2), e(\tilde{v}_2)) + p\mu_2(h\mu_2(e(\tilde{v}_1), e(\tilde{v}_2)), e(\tilde{v}_3)) + \dots$$

Homotopy Lie algebras and the BV formalism

Given differential graded Lie algebra (\mathfrak{g}, d) with inner product (cf. Cartan-Killing form)

$$\langle x, dy \rangle = (-)^{1+x+y+xy} \langle y, dx \rangle, \quad \langle x, [y, z] \rangle = (-)^{z(x+y)} \langle z, [x, y] \rangle$$

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Covariant derivative, Bianchi identity and gauge transformations:

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$$\langle x_1, \mu_i(x_2, \dots, x_{i+1}) \rangle = (-)^{i+i(x_1+x_{i+1})+x_{i+1} \sum_{j=1}^i x_j} \langle x_{i+1}, \mu_i(x_1, \dots, x_i) \rangle$$

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- Yang-Mills theory $\mathcal{L}^{\text{YM}} = (V^{\text{YM}}, \mu_i)$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 V_0^{\text{YM}} & \oplus & V_1^{\text{YM}} & \oplus & V_2^{\text{YM}} & \oplus & V_3^{\text{YM}} \\
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$$S_{\text{BV}}^{\text{YM}} = \text{tr} \int A \wedge \star d^\dagger dA + A \wedge \star \mu_2(A, A) + \dots$$

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- Colour-stripping: $\mathcal{L}^{\text{YM}} = \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{e}^{\text{YM}} \leftarrow$ Yang–Mills C_∞ -algebra

- Physical equivalence (field redefinitions etc): L_∞ quasi-isomorphisms

See [Jurčo-Raspollini-Saemann-Wolf '18; Jurčo-Macrelli-Saemann-Wolf '19; BJKMSW '20 '23]

Homotopy Lie algebras and scattering amplitudes

Now consider the minimal model $(V^{\text{theory}}, \mu_i) \cong (H_{\mu_1}^\bullet(V^{\text{theory}}), \tilde{\mu}_1 = 0, \tilde{\mu}_i)$

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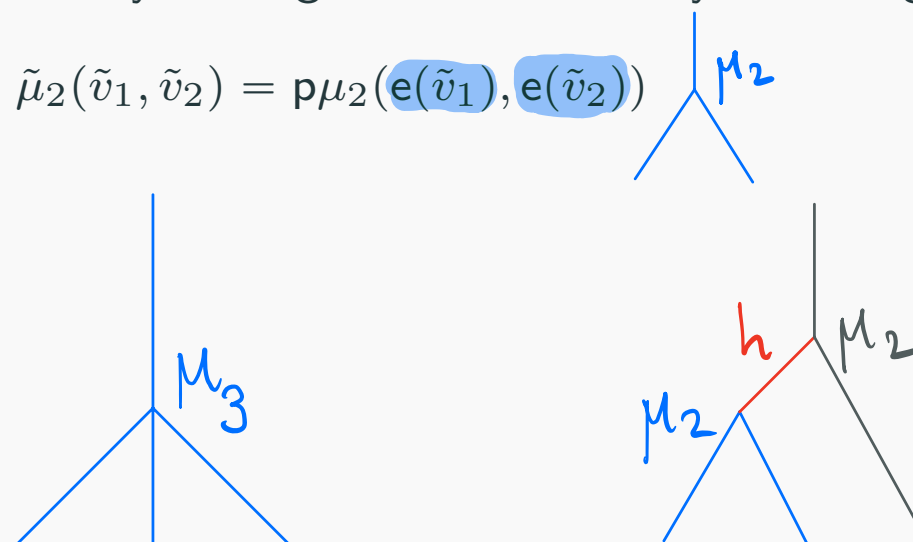
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$\Rightarrow h = \text{propagator}$

Homological perturbation lemma yields higher brackets as Feynman diagram expansion

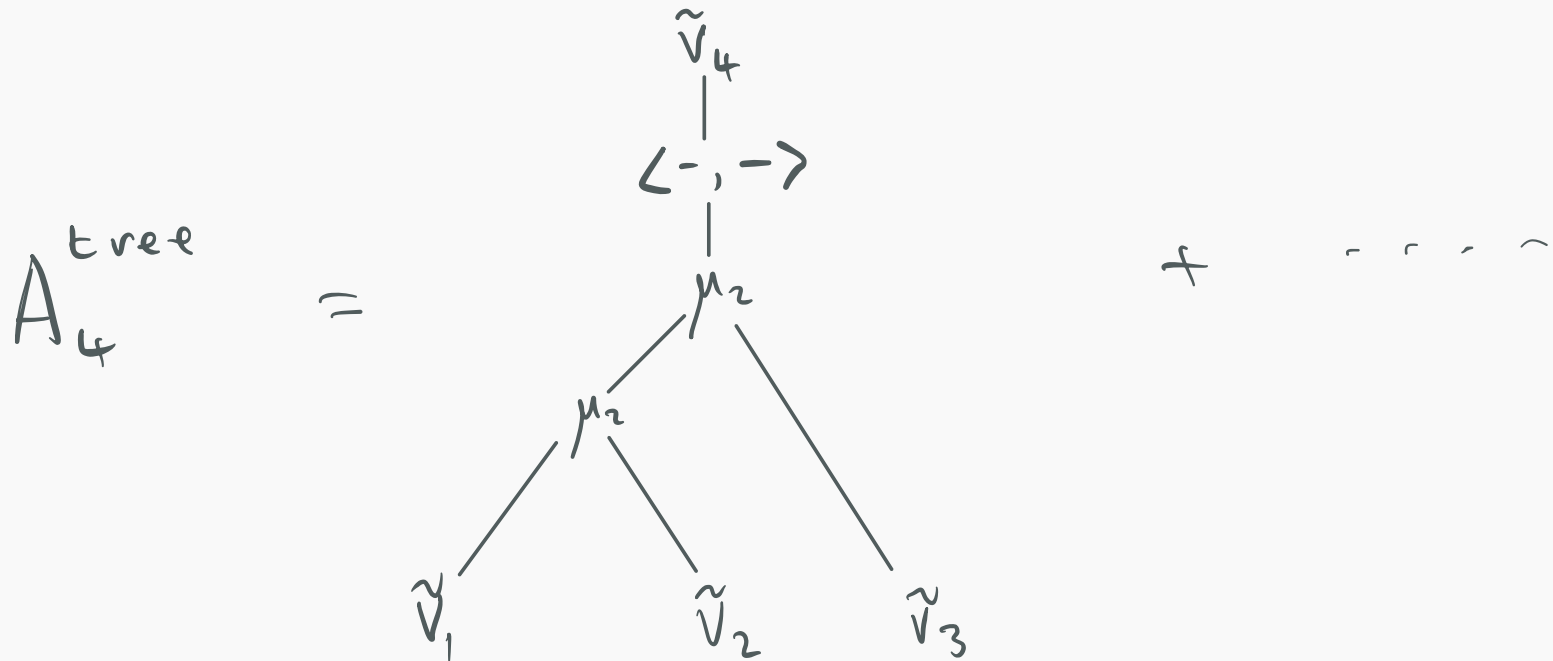


$$\tilde{\mu}_3(\tilde{v}_1, \tilde{v}_2, \tilde{v}_3) \sim p\mu_3(\mathbf{e}(\tilde{v}_1), \mathbf{e}(\tilde{v}_2), \mathbf{e}(\tilde{v}_3)) + p\mu_2(h\mu_2(\mathbf{e}(\tilde{v}_1), \mathbf{e}(\tilde{v}_2)), \mathbf{e}(\tilde{v}_3)) + \dots$$

Homotopy Lie algebras and scattering amplitudes

Cyclic structure gives tree-level amplitudes

$$A_n^{\text{tree}}(\tilde{v}_1, \tilde{v}_2, \dots, \tilde{v}_n) = \langle \tilde{v}_1, \tilde{\mu}_{n-1}(\tilde{v}_2, \dots, \tilde{v}_n) \rangle$$



Actions and amplitudes are unified as quasi-isomorphic L_∞ -algebras

Colour-kinematics duality and the double copy

Colour-kinematics duality

Amplitude for gluons to scatter schematically:

Colour numerators $c_i \sim f_{ab}^c f_{cd}^e$

Kinematic numerators $n_i \sim \varepsilon_{\mu\nu} p^\mu + \dots$

$$A_{\text{YM}}^{n,L} = \sum_{i \in \text{cubic diag}} \frac{1}{S_i} \int_L \frac{c_i n_i}{d_i}$$


Bern-Carrasco-Johansson colour-kinematics duality conjecture 2008:

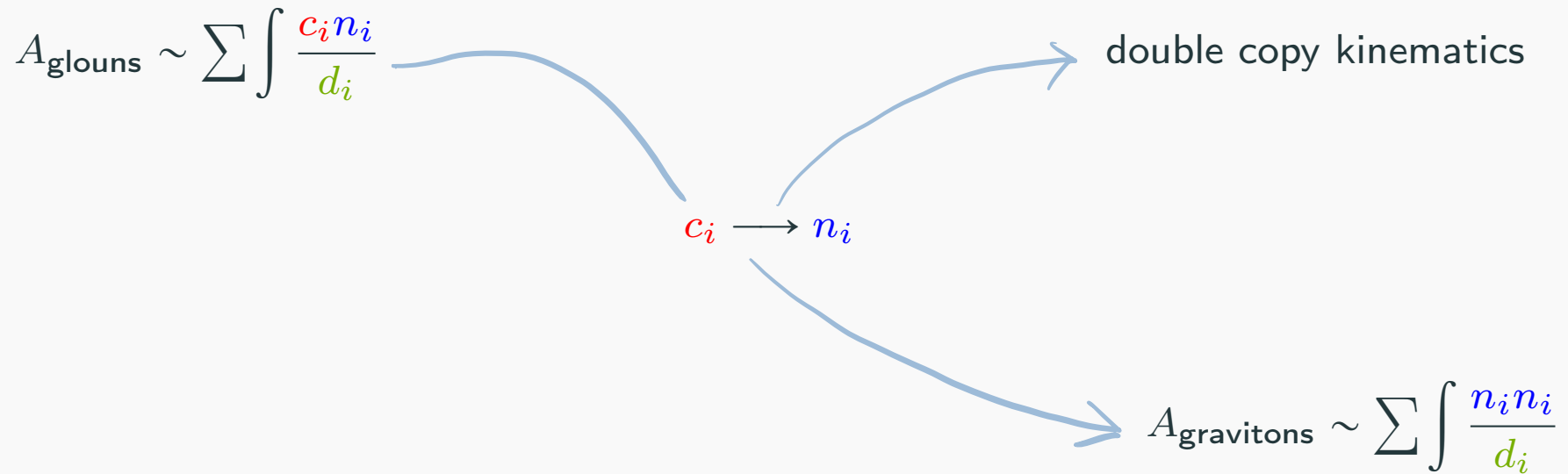
$$c_i + c_j + c_k = 0 \Rightarrow n_i + n_j + n_k = 0$$

Proven at tree level [Stieberger '09; Bjerrum, Bohr, Damgaard, Vanhove '09; Du, Teng '16; Bridges, Mafra '19; Mizera '19; Reiterer '19...]

Conjectured at loop level with highly non-trivial examples [Bern, Carrasco, Johansson '08 '10; Carrasco, Johansson '11; Bern, Davies, Dennen, Huang, Nohle '13; Bern, Davies, Dennen '14...]

Colour-kinematics duality

Assuming colour-kinematics duality is realised, gravity comes for free:



[Bern, Carrasco, Johansson '08, '10; Bern, Dennen, Huang, Kiermaier '10]

'Gluons for (almost) nothing, gravitons for free' JJ Carrasco

Manifesting colour-kinematics duality in the Batalin–Vilkovisky formalism

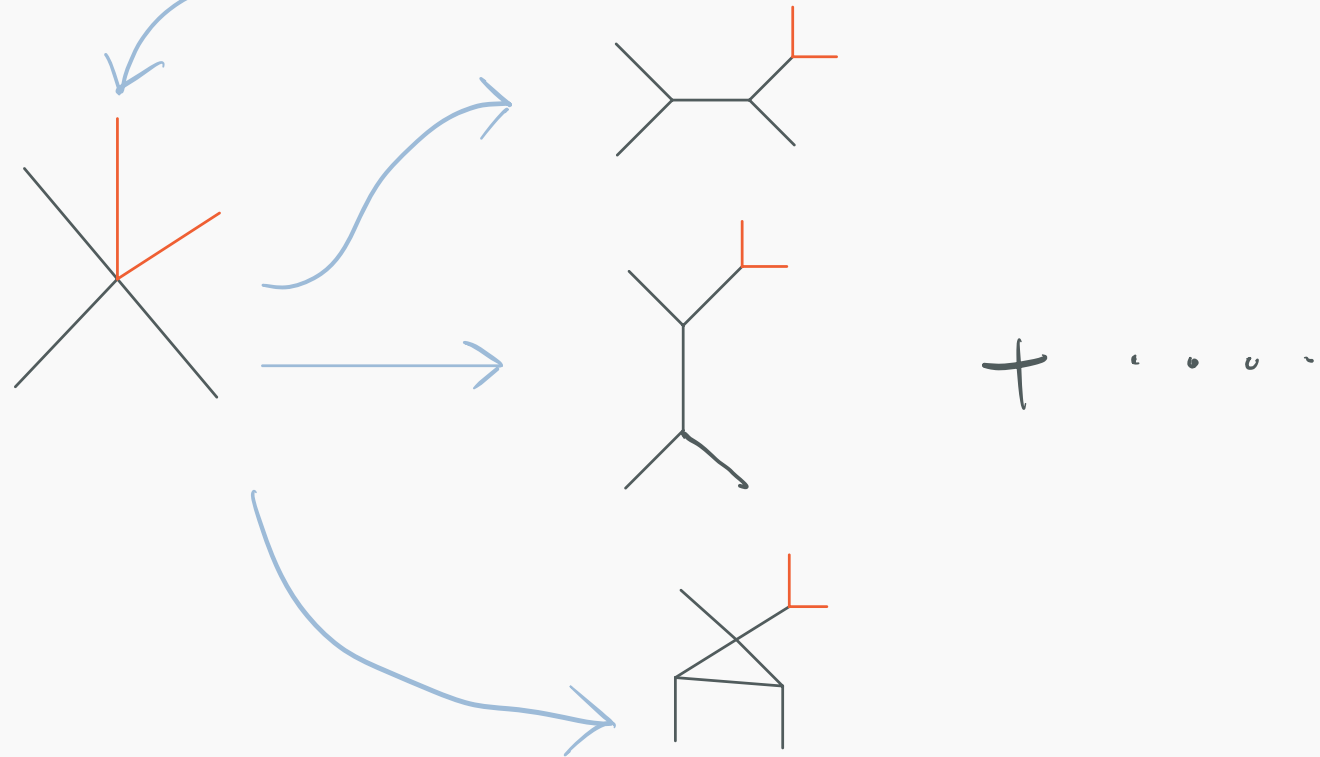
Manifest colour-kinematics duality of tree-level physical S-matrix

There is a Yang–Mills action such that the Feynman diagrams yield amplitudes manifesting colour-kinematics duality for tree-level amplitudes:

$$A \square A + \partial A A A + \frac{\square}{\square} A A A A + \frac{\partial^3}{\square^2} A A A A A + \dots$$

= 0 identically
(colour
Jacobi)

$$A_5^{tree} = A_5^{tree} +$$



[Bern, Dennen, Huang, Kiermaier '10; Tolotti, Weinzierl '13]

Manifest colour-kinematics duality of tree-level physical S-matrix

This can be **strictified** to have only cubic interactions through infinite tower of auxiliaries [Bern, Dennen, Huang, Kiermaier '10; Tolotti, Weinzierl '13; BJKMSW '21]

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{\text{on-shell CK}}^{\text{YM}} = & \text{tr} \int d^D x \left[\frac{1}{2} A_\mu \square A^\mu + \frac{1}{2} g \partial_\mu A_\nu [A^\mu, A^\nu] \right. \\
 & + \frac{1}{2} B^{\mu\nu\kappa} \square B_{\mu\nu\kappa} - g \left(\partial_\mu A_\nu + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \partial^\kappa B_{\kappa\mu\nu} \right) [A^\mu, A^\nu] \\
 & + C^{\mu\nu} \square \bar{C}_{\mu\nu} + C^{\mu\nu\kappa} \square \bar{C}_{\mu\nu\kappa} + C^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} \square \bar{C}_{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} + \\
 & + g C^{\mu\nu} [A_\mu, A_\nu] + g \partial_\mu C^{\mu\nu\kappa} [A_\nu, A_\kappa] - \frac{g}{2} \partial_\mu C^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} [\partial_{[\nu} A_{\kappa]}, A_\lambda] \\
 & \left. + g \bar{C}^{\mu\nu} \left(\frac{1}{2} [\partial^\kappa \bar{C}_{\kappa\lambda\mu}, \partial^\lambda A_\nu] + [\partial^\kappa \bar{C}_{\kappa\lambda\nu\mu}, A^\lambda] \right) + \dots \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Purely cubic colour-kinematics duality manifesting Feynman diagrams:

$$A_{\text{YM}}^{n,0} = \sum_i \frac{c_i n_i}{d_i} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad c_i + c_j + c_k = 0 \Rightarrow n_i + n_j + n_k = 0$$

Manifest colour-kinematics duality of tree-level BRST extended S-matrix

To lift to loop-level we should include **off-shell unphysical/ghost modes in the external states** so that we can glue trees into loops

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Include **off-shell unphysical/ghost modes in the external states**, the full BRST-extended state space

$$(A_{\mu}{}^a, b^a, c^a, \bar{c}^a)$$

[Anastasiou, LB, Duff, Hughes, Nagy, Zoccali '14 '18; LB, Nagy '20; BJKMSW '20, '21, '22]

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Relax transversality $p_i \cdot \varepsilon_i \neq 0$ for external states \Rightarrow

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$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{\text{BRST-extended CK}}^{\text{YM}} &= S_{\text{on-shell CK}}^{\text{YM}} + \int d^D x \frac{1}{2} b_a \square b^a - \bar{c}_a \square c^a \\
 &\quad - K_{1a}^\mu \square \bar{K}_\mu^{1a} - K_{2a}^\mu \square \bar{K}_\mu^{2a} - gf_{abc} \bar{c}^a \partial^\mu (A_\mu^b c^c) \\
 &\quad - \frac{1}{2} B_a^{\mu\nu\kappa} \square B_{\mu\nu\kappa}^a + gf_{abc} \left(\partial_\mu A_\nu^a + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \partial^\kappa B_{\kappa\mu\nu}^a \right) A^{\mu b} A^{\nu c} \\
 &\quad - gf_{abc} \left\{ K_1^{a\mu} (\partial^\nu A_\mu^b) A_\nu^c + [(\partial^\kappa A_\kappa^a) A^{b\mu} + \bar{c}^a \partial^\mu c^b] \bar{K}_\mu^{1c} \right\} \\
 &\quad + gf_{abc} \left\{ K_2^{a\mu} \left[(\partial^\nu \partial_\mu c^b) A_\nu^c + (\partial^\nu A_\mu^b) \partial_\nu c^c \right] + \bar{c}^a A^{b\mu} \bar{K}_\mu^{2c} \right\} + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

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- Strictifying yields cubic actions with tower of auxiliary fields
- Note, arguments apply to any theory with tree-level physical S-matrix colour-kinematics duality \Rightarrow

\exists on-shell BRST-extended “amplitudes” obeying colour-kinematics duality

Manifest colour-kinematics duality of off-shell BRST action

Off-shell momenta $p^2 \neq 0$: resulting CK duality violations are compensated by vertices $f \square \phi$ generated by generically non-local field redefinitions:

$$\phi \mapsto \phi + f(\phi), \quad \phi \square \phi \mapsto \phi \square \phi + f \square \phi + \dots$$

Cubic Feynman rules yield colour-kinematics duality manifesting loop amplitude integrands automatically! [BJKMSW '21]

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$$\det \left(\mathbb{1} + \frac{\delta f(\phi)}{\delta \phi} \right) = \int \mathcal{D}\bar{\chi} \mathcal{D}\chi e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} \int \left(\bar{\chi}_I \chi^I + \bar{\chi}_I \frac{\delta f^I}{\delta \phi^J} \chi^J \right)}$$

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Pure Yang–Mills: two-loop colour-kinematics duality with local lorentz-covariant cubic Feynman rule compatible numerators is impossible [Bern, Davies, Nohle '15]

We now understand this failure as a colour-kinematics duality anomaly [BJKMSW '21]

Colour-kinematics duality as a conventional (possibly anomalous) symmetry

CK duality can be realised as an infinite dimensional **anomalous** symmetry of Yang–Mills BRST action [BJKMSW '20, '21, '22]

$$C_{ij}c_{ab}A^{ia}\square A^{jb} + F_{ijk}f_{abc}A^{ia}A^{jb}A^{kc}$$

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Colour-kinematics duality as a conventional (possibly anomalous) symmetry

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∞ tower of fields

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- Agrees with constraints from 2-loop Yang–Mills amplitudes [Bern, Davies, Nohle, '15]

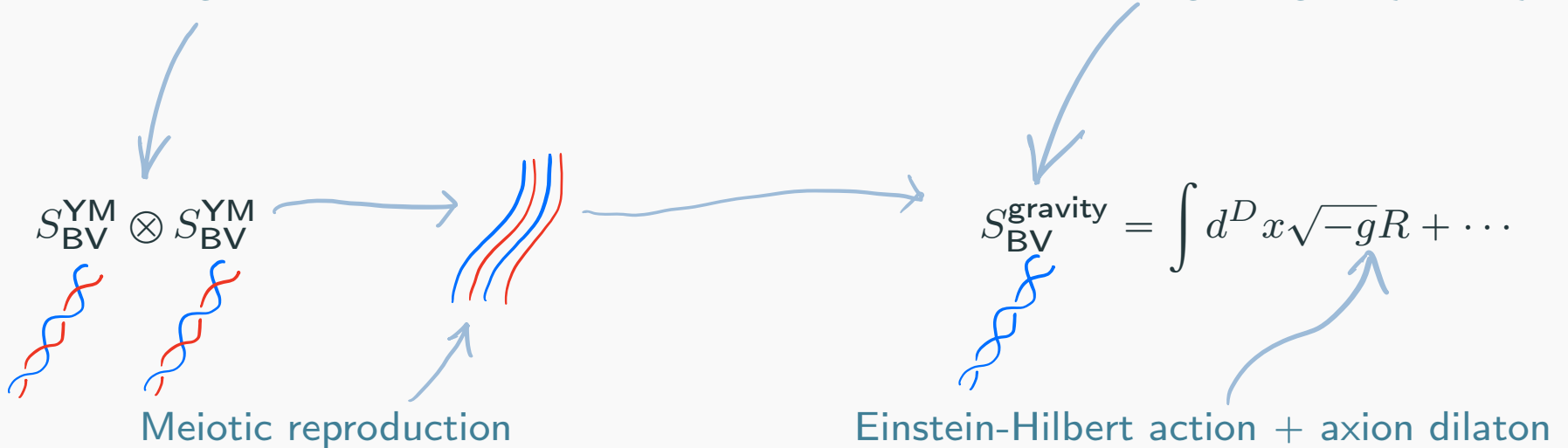
Double copy

BRST/BV action double copy [LB, Nagy '20; BJKMSW '20; '21, '22, '23]

$$C_{ij}c_{ab}A^{ia}\square A^{ja} + F_{ijk}f_{abc}A^{ia}A^{jb}A^{kc} \rightarrow C_{ij}\tilde{C}_{\tilde{i}\tilde{j}}A^{i\tilde{i}}\square A^{j\tilde{j}} + F_{ijk}\tilde{F}_{\tilde{i}\tilde{j}\tilde{k}}A^{i\tilde{i}}A^{j\tilde{j}}A^{k\tilde{k}}$$

Parent Yang–Mills theories

Daughter gravity theory



Perturbative quantum gravity + axion-dilaton is the double copy of Yang–Mills (but counter terms for unitarity required)! [BJKMSW '20]

Okay, but. . .

- Proof is constructive and inductive: no theoretical understanding/control over higher vertices or the set of auxiliary fields with cubic interactions
- No closed form of colour-kinematics duality manifesting action
- No clue (generically) about the kinematic Lie algebra
- May need non-local field redefinitions \Rightarrow colour-kinematics duality anomaly
- Double copy is mathematically opaque

So we'd like. . .

- a clear mathematical characterisation of higher vertices
- a closed form colour-kinematics duality manifesting action
- to avoid the need for non-local field redefinitions \Rightarrow perfect all-loop colour-kinematics duality
- an understanding of kinematic Lie algebra
- a tensor product of C_∞ -algebras that generates double copy

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Colour-kinematics duality, double copy and (homotopy) BV \square algebras

A clear mathematical characterisation of higher vertices: BV_{∞}^{\square} -algebras

Reiterer '18: Colour-kinematics duality of physical tree-level S-matrix is equivalent to a BV_{∞}^{\square} -algebra (deformation of BV_{∞} -algebras of [Galvez-Carrillo, Tonks, Vallette '09])

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Theory with kinematic Lie algebra $\Leftrightarrow \mathfrak{C} = \mathfrak{B}$ a BV_{∞}^{\square} -algebra [BJKMSW '21, '22]

$$\mathfrak{L} = \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{C} = \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{B} \quad (\mathfrak{C} \text{ is colour-stripped } C_{\infty}\text{-algebra})$$

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Higher products rough split into three types of vertices we introduced:

- m_i^0 Colour-stripped vertices of gauge-fixed action for BRST colour-kinematics duality
- $m_{i,j}^0$ Tolotti-Weinzierl corrections for tree on-shell colour-kinematics duality
- $m_{i,j,k}^0$ Field red. vertices correcting for off-shell colour-kinematics duality

“homotopy Jacobi relations \Leftrightarrow colour-kinematics duality ”

See also [Bonezzi, Chiaffrino, Díaz–Jaramillo, and Hohm '23]

A strict BV^{\blacksquare} -algebra \mathfrak{B} is dgca (V, d, m) with $b : V \rightarrow V$ such that

$$b^2 = 0, \quad \blacksquare := [d, b] = d \circ b + b \circ d$$

and b is second order w.r.t $m(-, -)$ so that

$$[x, y] = bm(x, y) - m(bx, y) - (-1)^x m(x, by)$$

Perfect colour-kinematics duality

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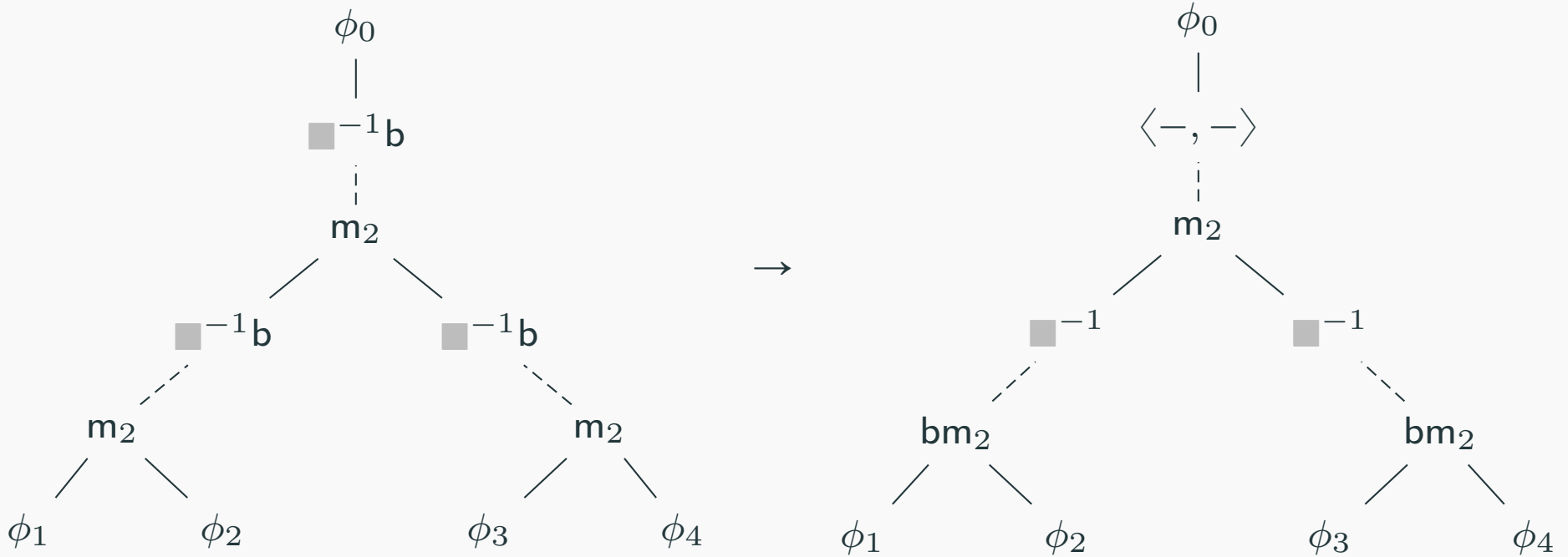
is a (shifted) Lie bracket: the kinematic Lie algebra

Perfect colour-kinematics duality

$$h = \text{id}_{\mathcal{G}} \otimes \frac{b}{\blacksquare} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{id}_{\mathcal{G}} - \Pi = d \circ h + h \circ d = d \circ b + b \circ d = \blacksquare$$

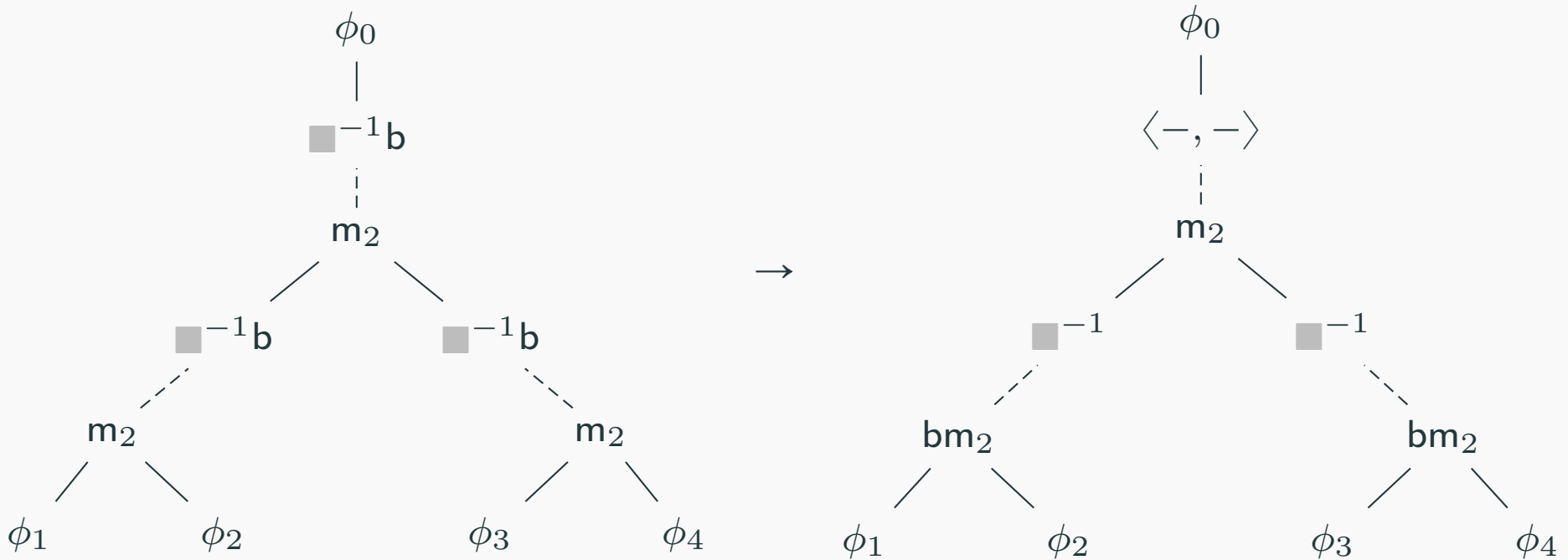
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$$\langle \phi_0, m(T_1, \text{bm}(T_2, T_3)) \rangle + \langle \phi_0, m(T_2, \text{bm}_2(T_3, T_1)) \rangle + \langle \phi_0, m(T_3, \text{bm}(T_1, T_2)) \rangle = 0$$

$\text{bm}(-, -) = [-, -]$ since “fields = $\text{im}(b) = \text{ker}(b)$ ” post gauge-fixing

The double copy as restricted tensor product

$$C_{ij}c_{ab}A^{ia}\square A^{ja} + F_{ijk}f_{abc}A^{ia}A^{jb}A^{kc} \rightarrow C_{ij}\tilde{C}_{\tilde{i}\tilde{j}}A^{i\tilde{i}}\square A^{j\tilde{j}} + F_{ijk}\tilde{F}_{\tilde{i}\tilde{j}\tilde{k}}A^{i\tilde{i}}A^{j\tilde{j}}A^{k\tilde{k}}$$

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but the tensor product of differential graded commutative algebras is again a differential graded commutative algebra (i.e. not an L_∞ -algebra as required)

$$m(a \otimes x, b \otimes y) = m_L(a, b) \otimes m_R(x, y)$$

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Let \mathfrak{H} be a restrictedly tensorable cocommutative Hopf algebra. Furthermore, let $\mathfrak{B}_L = (\mathfrak{B}_L, d_L, m_L, b_L)$ and $\mathfrak{B}_R = (\mathfrak{B}_R, d_R, m_R, b_R)$ be two gauge-fixed BV^\blacksquare -algebras over \mathfrak{H} with $\blacksquare_L = \blacksquare_R = \blacksquare \in \mathfrak{H}$ and let $\hat{\mathfrak{B}} = (\hat{\mathfrak{B}}, \hat{d}, \hat{m}_2, \hat{b}_-)$ be the restricted tensor product over \mathfrak{H} . The **syngamy of \mathfrak{B}_L and \mathfrak{B}_R** is the restricted kinematic dg Lie algebra $\mathfrak{Kin}^0(\hat{\mathfrak{B}})$

$$b = b_L \otimes \text{id} + \text{id} \otimes b_R \quad \text{and} \quad \mu_2 = [-, -]_L \otimes m_R + m_L \otimes [-, -]_R$$

See also [Bonezzi, Chiaffrino, Díaz-Jaramillo, and Hohm '23]

**Examples: Chern-Simons theory,
(self-dual) super Yang–Mills theory
and M2-brane models**

The Chern-Simons paradigm

Chern–Simons theory has off–shell CK duality \Rightarrow Chern–Simons has a BV^{\square} -algebra

[Ben–Shahar, Johansson '21; BJKMSW '22]

$$\mathcal{L}^{\text{CS}} = \Omega^0(M) \otimes \mathfrak{g} \xrightarrow{\mu_1 = d \otimes \text{id}_{\mathfrak{g}}} \Omega^1(M) \otimes \mathfrak{g} \xrightarrow{d \otimes \text{id}_{\mathfrak{g}}} \Omega^2(M) \otimes \mathfrak{g} \xrightarrow{d \otimes \text{id}_{\mathfrak{g}}} \Omega^3(M) \otimes \mathfrak{g}$$

$c \qquad\qquad\qquad A \qquad\qquad\qquad A^+ \qquad\qquad\qquad c^+$

$$S_{\text{BV}}^{\text{CS}} = \int \text{tr} \left(\frac{1}{2} A \wedge dA + \frac{1}{3!} A \wedge [A, A] + A^+ \wedge (dc + [A, c]) + \frac{1}{2} c^+ \wedge [c, c] \right)$$

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$$\mathcal{L}^{\text{CS}} = \mathfrak{e}^{\text{CS}} \otimes \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{B}^{\text{CS}} \otimes \mathfrak{g}$$

$$\mathfrak{B}^{\text{CS}} = \Omega^0 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d} \\ \xleftarrow{d^\dagger} \end{array} \Omega^1 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d} \\ \xleftarrow{d^\dagger} \end{array} \Omega^2 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d} \\ \xleftarrow{d^\dagger} \end{array} \Omega^3$$

$$dA = dA, \quad bA = d^\dagger A, \quad m(A, B) = A \wedge B$$

$$dd^\dagger + d^\dagger d = \square$$

Kinematic Lie algebra given by derived bracket

$$(-1)^p[\alpha, \beta] = -d^\dagger(\alpha \wedge \beta) + d^\dagger\alpha \wedge \beta + (-1)^p\alpha \wedge d^\dagger\beta$$

is Schouten–Nijenhuis algebra of totally antisymmetric tensor fields, the natural Gerstenhaber algebra on three-dimensional Minkowski space [BJKMSW '22]

Restricting to fields yields diffeomorphism algebra identified in [Ben-Shahar, Johansson '21]

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Look for Chern-Simons-type actions!

Holomorphic Chern-Simons theory on twistor space

Super self-dual Yang–Mills theory is equivalent to holomorphic Chern–Simons theory on super twistor space $Z \cong \mathbb{R}^{4|8} \times \mathbb{C}P^1$ with local coordinates $(x^\mu, \eta^i, \lambda^\alpha)$

$$S_{\text{hCS}} = \int \Omega \wedge \text{tr} \left(\frac{1}{2} A \wedge \bar{\partial}_{\text{red}} A + \frac{1}{3!} A \wedge [A, A] + A^+ \wedge (\bar{\partial}_{\text{red}} c + [A, c]) + \frac{1}{2} c^+ \wedge [c, c] \right),$$

$$\bar{\partial}_{\text{red}} = \hat{e}^\alpha \hat{E}_\alpha + \hat{e}^0 \hat{E}_0, \quad \mathbf{b} = -\frac{4}{|\lambda|^2} \varepsilon^{\alpha\beta} \iota_{E_\alpha} \iota_{\hat{E}_\beta} \partial_{\text{red}} + 2\varepsilon^{\alpha\beta} \iota_{\hat{E}_\alpha} \iota_{\hat{E}_\beta} \hat{e}^0 \wedge$$

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- “Kaluza–Klein” expansion on $\mathbb{C}P^1$ gives infinite tower of auxiliary fields required for colour-kinematics duality

$$A^a(x, \eta, \lambda) \sim A(x, \eta)^a + A(x, \eta)^{\alpha a} \lambda_\alpha + A(x, \eta)^{\alpha\beta a} \lambda_\alpha \lambda_\beta + \dots \leftrightarrow A^{ia}$$

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- “Kaluza–Klein” expansion on $\mathbb{C}P^1$ gives infinite tower of auxiliary fields required for colour-kinematics duality

$$A^a(x, \eta, \lambda) \sim A(x, \eta)^a + A(x, \eta)^{\alpha a} \lambda_\alpha + A(x, \eta)^{\alpha\beta a} \lambda_\alpha \lambda_\beta + \dots \leftrightarrow A^{ia}$$

- Integrate out \Rightarrow $\text{BV}_{\infty}^{\square}$ -algebra (cf. [\[Bonezzi, Diaz–Jaramillo, Nagy ‘23\]](#))

Holomorphic Chern-Simons theory on twistor space

Super self-dual Yang–Mills theory is equivalent to holomorphic Chern–Simons theory on super twistor space $Z \cong \mathbb{R}^{4|8} \times \mathbb{C}P^1$ with local coordinates $(x^\mu, \eta^i, \lambda^\alpha)$

$$S_{\text{hCS}} = \int \Omega \wedge \text{tr} \left(\frac{1}{2} A \wedge \bar{\partial}_{\text{red}} A + \frac{1}{3!} A \wedge [A, A] + A^+ \wedge (\bar{\partial}_{\text{red}} c + [A, c]) + \frac{1}{2} c^+ \wedge [c, c] \right),$$

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- Integrate out $\Rightarrow \text{BV}_{\infty}^{\square}$ -algebra (cf. [Bonezzi, Diaz–Jaramillo, Nagy ‘23])
- Manifest kinematic Lie algebra and all-point all-loop order colour-kinematics duality for maximally supersymmetric case (but only 1-loop non-trivial!)
- Gauging away $\iota_{\hat{E}_0} A$ reproduces the kinematic Lie algebra of area-preserving diffeomorphisms on \mathbb{C}^2 identified in [Monteiro, O’Connell ‘11] (cf. [Bonezzi, Diaz–Jaramillo, Nagy ‘23])

Holomorphic Chern-Simons theory on ambitwistor space

Super Yang–Mills theory is equivalent to holomorphic Chern–Simons theory on the CR ambitwistor space [Movshev '04; Mason, Skinner '05]

$$\blacksquare = \bar{\partial}_{\text{CR}} \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b} \bar{\partial}_{\text{CR}} = \square_{\mathbb{R}^4} + 8 \frac{\mu^{(\alpha} \hat{\mu}^{\beta)} \lambda^{(\dot{\alpha}} \hat{\lambda}^{\dot{\beta})}}{|\lambda|^2 |\mu|^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{\alpha \dot{\alpha}}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{\beta \dot{\beta}}}$$

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- Comparing to standard R_ξ -gauge analysis of Yang–Mills, tempting to conjecture twistorial Ward identities kill spurious K contributions \Rightarrow all-loop colour-kinematics duality (proving hard to establish or rule out)
- Can only work for supersymmetric case: twistorial anomaly for pure Yang-Mills
- Agrees with expectations from potential Jacobian counter term colour-kinematics duality anomalies

Super Yang–Mills theory as a pure spinor theory over $(x^\mu, \theta, \lambda, \bar{\lambda}, d\bar{\lambda})$:

$$\int \Omega \text{tr} \left(\Psi Q \Psi + \frac{1}{3} \Psi \Psi \Psi \right)$$

\Rightarrow tree-level colour–kinematics duality, but b -ghost divergences obstruct loop-level

[Ben–Shahar, Guillum ‘21; BJKMSW ‘23]

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Cubic double copy action for supergravity

$$S := \int \Omega_{10d \mathcal{N}=1} \wedge_{\mathbb{M}^{10|16}} \Omega_{10d \mathcal{N}=1} \langle \Psi, (Q \otimes \text{id} + \text{id} \otimes Q) \Psi + \frac{1}{3} [\Psi, \Psi] \rangle_{\mathfrak{kin}^0(\hat{\mathfrak{B}})}$$

[BJKMSW ‘23]

Conjecture: Bagger–Lambert–Gustavsson (BLG) theory has 3-Lie algebra colour-kinematics duality [[Bargheer, He, McLoughlin '12](#); [Huang, Johansson '12](#)]

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which follow from the pure spinor BLG action of [[Cederwall '08](#)]

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\Rightarrow tree-level (standard Lie algebra) colour-kinematics duality [BJKMSW '23]

A path to proving colour-kinematics duality for super Yang–Mills?

In progress [\[BJKSW\]](#)

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String (field) theory

In progress [\[BJKSW\]](#)