

# Shortcuts to String Amplitudes

**Eric D'Hoker**

Mani L. Bhaumik Institute for Theoretical Physics  
Department of Physics and Astronomy, UCLA

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## Perturbative string amplitudes

- Sums over Riemann surfaces

- ★ expansion in the string coupling  $g_s$   
= expansion in the genus or equivalently number of loops

$$g_s^{-2} \begin{array}{c} z_1 \\ \bullet \\ \bullet \\ z_2 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} z_4 \\ \bullet \\ \bullet \\ z_3 \end{array} + g_s^0 \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \bullet \\ \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array} + g_s^2 \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \bullet \\ \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array} + \dots$$

- ★ each vertex point  $z_i$  represents an incoming or outgoing string
- ★ for a given physical process, the number of vertex points  $N$  is fixed

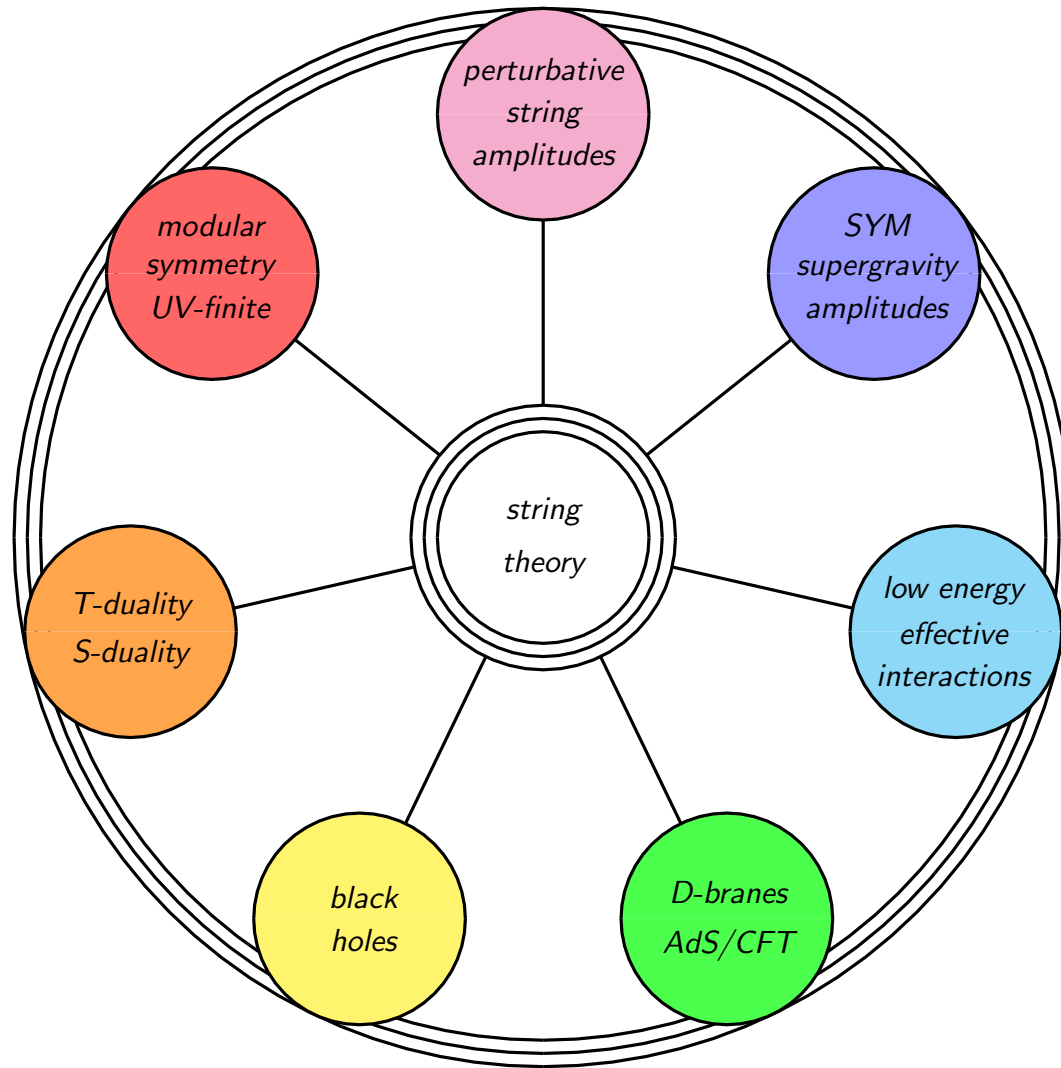
- For each genus  $h$  integrate

- ★ the  $N$  vertex points over the compact Riemann surface
- ★ over the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_h$  of compact Riemann surfaces
- ★  $N \leq 3$  amplitudes vanish by supersymmetry

- Complexity increases rapidly with both  $h$  and  $N$

## Motivation

- **High energy behavior of strings**
  - ★ UV-finiteness of quantum gravity
- **Effective interactions induced by strings on supergravity**
  - ★ Interplay with non-perturbative dynamics of string theory
  - ★ Matching S-duality and supersymmetry predictions in Type IIB
  - ★ Experimentally observable corrections ?
- **Interplay with QFT amplitudes**
  - ★ super-Yang-Mills
  - ★ supergravity
  - ★ gravitational waves
- **Mathematical aspects of string theory**
  - ★ modular forms
  - ★ super-moduli space



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experiment – NATURE

## What's new ?

- **Two-loop superstring amplitudes for 5 massless strings**
  - ★ Chiral splitting and pure spinors [ED, Mafra, Pioline, Schlotterer 2020]
  - ★ RNS first principles calculation [ED, Schlotterer 2021] in preparation
- **Known earlier**
  - ★ tree-level and one-loop 4-string amplitudes
    - Type II [Green, Schwarz 1982]
    - Heterotic [Gross, Harvey, Martinec, Rohm 1985]
  - ★ tree-level and one-loop amplitudes for more external states  
e.g. [Schlotterer, Stieberger 2012; Mafra, Schlotterer 2018]
  - ★ two-loop 4-string amplitudes
    - Type II and Heterotic [D'Hoker, Phong 2001-2005]
    - with external fermions [Berkovits 2005; Berkovits, Mafra 2005]

## Tree-level amplitudes

- The Riemann surface is a sphere  $\bar{\mathbb{C}} = \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$

- ★ Type II tree-level 4-string amplitude

$$\mathcal{A}_4^{(0)} = \frac{1}{g_s^2} \frac{t_8 \tilde{t}_8}{stu} \frac{\Gamma(1-s)\Gamma(1-t)\Gamma(1-u)}{\Gamma(1+s)\Gamma(1+t)\Gamma(1+u)}$$

- ★  $s, t, u$  are dimensionless Mandelstam  $s = s_{12} = -\frac{\alpha'}{4}(k_1 + k_2)^2$  etc
- ★ in a basis of polarization tensors  $\varepsilon_i^\mu \tilde{\varepsilon}_i^\nu$  with  $f_i^{\mu\nu} = \varepsilon_i^\mu k_i^\nu - \varepsilon_i^\nu k_i^\mu$

$$t_8 = \text{tr}(f_1 f_2 f_3 f_4) - \frac{1}{4} \text{tr}(f_1 f_2) \text{tr}(f_3 f_4) + \text{cycl}(2, 3, 4)$$

- ★ in terms of the Riemann tensor  $\mathcal{R}$  we have  $t_8 \tilde{t}_8 \sim \mathcal{R}^4$

- Low energy expansion

$$\mathcal{A}_4^{(0)} = \frac{1}{g_s^2} \frac{t_8 \tilde{t}_8}{stu} \left[ \frac{1}{stu} + 2\zeta(3) + \zeta(5)(s^2 + t^2 + u^2) + 2\zeta(3)^2 stu + \dots \right]$$

$\mathcal{R}$              $\mathcal{R}^4$              $D^4 \mathcal{R}^4$              $D^6 \mathcal{R}^4$

- ★ normalizes S-duality invariant effective interactions [Green, Gutperle 1997]
- ★ exhibits uniform transcendentality

## One-loop amplitudes

- **Type II one-loop four-graviton amplitude** (Green, Schwarz, 1982)

$$\mathcal{A}_4^{(1)} = t_8 \tilde{t}_8 \int_{\mathcal{M}_1} \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2^2} \prod_{k=1}^4 \int_{\Sigma} \frac{d^2z_k}{\tau_2} \exp \left\{ \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq 4} s_{ij} g(z_i - z_j | \tau) \right\}$$

- ★ Moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_1 = \{\tau \in \mathbb{C}, \tau_2 = \text{Im } \tau > 0\} / SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$
  - ★ Torus  $\Sigma = \mathbb{C} / (\mathbb{Z}\tau + \mathbb{Z})$  with local complex coordinates  $z, \bar{z}$
  - ★ Scalar Green function on the torus  $g(z|\tau)$
- **The integral cannot be evaluated explicitly**
    - ★ is absolutely convergent only for  $\text{Re}(s_{ij}) = 0$
    - ★ analytic continuation to  $s_{ij} \in \mathbb{C}$  exists  $\implies$  branch cuts [ED, Phong 1994]
  - **Low energy expansion** [Green, Russo Vanhove 2008]

$$\mathcal{A}_4^{(1)} = \frac{t_8 \tilde{t}_8}{stu} \left[ \underbrace{\frac{0}{stu}}_{\mathcal{R}} + \underbrace{\frac{2\pi^2}{3}}_{\mathcal{R}^4} + \underbrace{0 \cdot (s^2 + t^2 + u^2)}_{D^4 \mathcal{R}^4} + \underbrace{\frac{2\pi^2}{9} \zeta(3) stu}_{D^6 \mathcal{R}^4} + \underbrace{s^4 \ln(s) + \dots}_{\text{branch cuts}} \right]$$

- ★ matches S-duality invariant effective interactions [Green, Gutperle, Vanhove 1997]
- ★ exhibits uniform transcendentality [ED, Green 2019], [ED, Geiser 2021] in preparation

## Higher number of loops/genus

- How to generalize the genus-one construction to higher genus ?
  - ★ recall the genus-one generating function

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}_1} \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2^2} \prod_{i=1}^4 \int_{\Sigma} \frac{d^2z_i}{\tau_2} \exp \left\{ \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq 4} s_{ij} g(z_i - z_j | \tau) \right\}$$

- Compact Riemann surface  $\Sigma$  of genus  $h \geq 2$  and  $N$  external states
  - ★ we need a scalar Green function  $G(z_i, z_j | \Sigma)$
  - ★ a measure  $d\mu_N$  on  $\Sigma^N$
  - ★ a measure  $d\mu_{\Sigma}$  on moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_h$  (for RNS on super-moduli space)

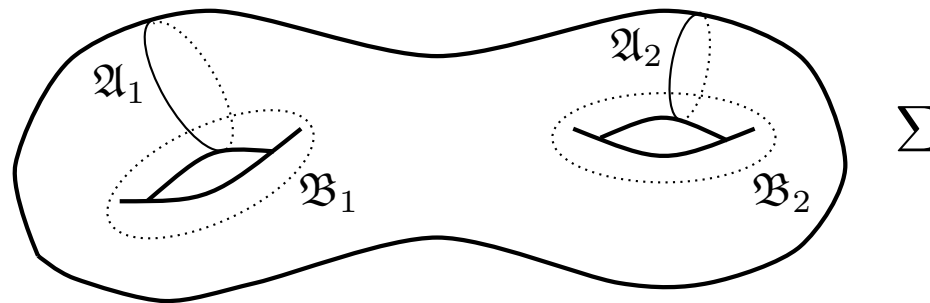
$$\int_{\mathcal{M}_2} d\mu_{\Sigma} \int_{\Sigma^N} d\mu_N \exp \left\{ \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq N} s_{ij} G(z_i, z_j | \Sigma) \right\}$$

## Compact Riemann surfaces $\Sigma$ of genus $h$

- Homology and cohomology

- ★ One-cycles  $H_1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}) \approx \mathbb{Z}^{2h}$  with intersection pairing  $\mathfrak{J}(\cdot, \cdot) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$

- ★ Canonical basis  $\mathfrak{J}(\mathfrak{A}_I, \mathfrak{A}_J) = \mathfrak{J}(\mathfrak{B}_I, \mathfrak{B}_J) = 0$ ,  $\mathfrak{J}(\mathfrak{A}_I, \mathfrak{B}_J) = \delta_{IJ}$  for  $1 \leq I, J \leq h$



- Modular group  $Sp(2h, \mathbb{Z})$

- ★ map  $H_1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H_1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z})$  which leaves  $\mathfrak{J}(\cdot, \cdot)$  invariant

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \quad M^t \mathfrak{J} M = \mathfrak{J} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \mathfrak{B} \\ \mathfrak{A} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow M \begin{pmatrix} \mathfrak{B} \\ \mathfrak{A} \end{pmatrix}$$

## Compact Riemann surfaces $\Sigma$ of genus $h$ (cont'd)

- Canonical dual basis of holomorphic one-forms  $\omega_I$  in  $H^{(1,0)}(\Sigma)$

$$\oint_{\mathfrak{A}_I} \omega_J = \delta_{IJ} \qquad \oint_{\mathfrak{B}_I} \omega_J = \Omega_{IJ}$$

- ★ Period matrix  $\Omega$  obeys Riemann relations  $\Omega^t = \Omega$ ,  $\text{Im}(\Omega) > 0$

- Siegel half space

- ★ The space of all  $h \times h$  positive symmetric matrices with complex entries (not necessarily arising as a period matrix of a Riemann surface)

$$\mathcal{H}_h = \{\Omega \in \mathbb{C}^{h^2}, \Omega^t = \Omega, \text{Im}(\Omega) > 0\} = Sp(2h, \mathbb{R})/U(h)$$

- ★ possesses a unique  $Sp(2h, \mathbb{R})$ -invariant Kähler metric and measure  $d\mu_\Omega$

- Moduli spaces

- ★  $\mathcal{M}_2 = \mathcal{H}_2/Sp(4, \mathbb{Z})$  (minus diagonal  $\Omega$ ) so that  $d\mu_\Omega \rightarrow d\mu_\Sigma$
- ★  $\mathcal{M}_3 = \mathcal{H}_3/Sp(6, \mathbb{Z})$  (minus diagonal, orbifold hyper-elliptic) so that  $d\mu_\Omega \rightarrow d\mu_\Sigma$
- ★ for  $h \geq 4$  we have  $\mathcal{M}_h \neq \mathcal{H}_h/Sp(2h, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{Schottky problem}$

## Two-loop four-graviton Type II amplitude

- **Computed in RNS formulation** [ED & Phong 2001-2005]

- ★ The final result is remarkably simple

$$\mathcal{A}_4^{(2)} = g_s^2 t_8 \tilde{t}_8 \int_{\mathcal{M}_2} d\mu_\Sigma \int_{\Sigma^4} \frac{\mathcal{Y} \wedge \bar{\mathcal{Y}}}{(\det \operatorname{Im} \Omega)^2} \exp \left\{ \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq 4} s_{ij} G(z_i, z_j | \Omega) \right\}$$

- ★ Measure on  $\Sigma^4$  interlaces kinematic and worldsheet data

$$\mathcal{Y} = t \Delta(z_1, z_2) \Delta(z_3, z_4) - s \Delta(z_1, z_4) \Delta(z_2, z_3)$$

$$\Delta(z, w) = \omega_1(z) \omega_2(w) - \omega_2(z) \omega_1(w)$$

$$G(z, w | \Omega) = -\ln |E(z, w | \Omega)|^2 + 2\pi (\operatorname{Im} \Omega)_{IJ}^{-1} \operatorname{Im} \int_w^z \omega_I \operatorname{Im} \int_w^z \omega_J$$

- ★ prime form  $E(z, w) \sim z - w$  is holomorphic [Fay 1973]

- **Low energy expansion**

$$\mathcal{A}_4^{(2)} = g_s^2 t_8 \tilde{t}_8 \left[ 0 + \frac{2\pi^4}{135} (s^2 + t^2 + u^2) + \frac{2\pi^4}{15} stu + \dots \right]$$

- ★ vanishing of  $\mathcal{R}^4$  [ED, Phong 2005]

- ★ coefficient of  $D^4 \mathcal{R}^4$  [ED, Gutperle, Phong 2005]

- ★ coefficient of  $D^6 \mathcal{R}^4$  [ED, Green, Pioline, Russo 2014]

# Beyond

- **More external states**

- ★ tree-level and one-loop: general construction available  
[Mafrá, Stieberger, Schlotterer 2011; Mafrá, Schlotterer 2018]
- ★ two-loop 5-string amplitude: leading low energy effective interaction  
[Gomez, Mafrá, Schlotterer 2015]
  - limited by the inability to evaluate correlators in the pure spinor formulation
  - full amplitude was not available

- **Higher number of loops**

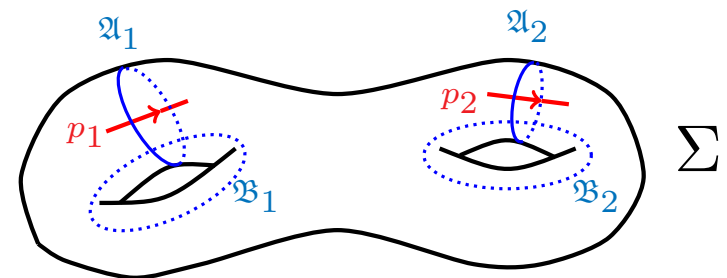
- ★ three-loop 4-string amplitude
  - guessing the RNS measure [ED, Phong 2006], [Matone, Volpato 2008]  
[Cacciatori, Della Piazza, van Geemen [2008]
  - attempt at “guessing” the amplitude failed [ED, Phong 2011] unpublished
  - leading low energy effective interaction via pure spinors [Gomez, Mafrá 2014]  
but divergences in zero-mode integrations in the pure spinor formulation
  - attempt at “guessing” the amplitude partially successful [ED, Pioline 2019] unpublished
  - very recently proposal [Geyer, Monteiro, Stark-Muchão] to appear

## Chiral splitting and loop momenta

- **Loop momenta**

- ★ Momentum flowing through a curve is the line integral of the  $\partial_z x^\mu$
- ★ Given a canonical homology basis there is a natural choice of loop momenta

$$p_I^\mu = \frac{1}{2\pi} \oint_{\mathcal{A}_I} \partial_z x^\mu = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \oint_{\mathcal{A}_I} \partial_{\bar{z}} x^\mu$$



- **Chiral splitting theorem** [ED, Phong 1988-89]

- ★ The physical amplitude is given by pairing left and right chiral blocks

$$\mathcal{A}_N^{(2)} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^{20}} dp \int_{\mathcal{M}_2} d^6 \Omega \int_{\Sigma^N} \mathcal{F}_N(\varepsilon, k, p|z, \Omega) \overline{\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_N(\tilde{\varepsilon}, k, p|z, \Omega)}$$

- ★ chiral blocks  $\mathcal{F}_N$  and  $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_N$  **meromorphic** in  $z_i$  and moduli  $\Omega$   
(actually on super-Riemann surface and supermoduli space in RNS)

- ★ factorize  $\mathcal{F}_N = \mathcal{K}_N \mathcal{I}_N$  into the “chiral Koba-Nielsen factor”  $\mathcal{I}_N$

$$\mathcal{I}_N = \exp \left\{ i\pi \Omega_{IJ} p_I \cdot p_J + 2\pi i \sum_j k_j \cdot p_I \int_{z_0}^{z_j} \omega_I - \sum_{i < j} s_{ij} \ln E(z_i, z_j | \Omega) \right\}$$

## Properties of chiral blocks

- **The exponential factor  $\mathcal{I}_N$  is universal** (bosonic, Type II, Heterotic)
  - ★ holomorphic in  $z_i$  (away from  $z_i = z_j$ ) and  $\Omega$  (away from degeneration nodes)
  - ★ invariant under  $N!$  permutations of  $z_i$
  - ★ Green function  $G$  and measure are recovered upon integrating out  $p_I$  and combining the prime form  $E(z_i, z_j)$  with the Abelian integrals

- **Invariance under homology shifts** [ED, Phong 1988-89]

- ★ Moving a vertex point  $z_i$  around an  $\mathfrak{A}_I$  or  $\mathfrak{B}_I$  cycle

$$e^{-2\pi i k_j \cdot p^J} \mathcal{F}_N(\varepsilon, k_i, p | z_i + \delta_{ij} \mathfrak{A}_J, \Omega) = \mathcal{F}_N(\varepsilon, k_i, p^I | z_i, \Omega)$$

$$\mathcal{F}_N(\varepsilon, k, p^I - \delta_J^I k_j | z_i + \delta_{ij} \mathfrak{B}_J, \Omega) = \mathcal{F}_N(\varepsilon, k_i, p^I | z_i, \Omega)$$

- ★ Physical amplitude  $\mathcal{A}_N^{(2)}$  is invariant, using translation invariance of  $\int dp$

- **The prefactor  $\mathcal{K}_N$  depends on the specific string theory**

- ★ meromorphic  $(1, 0)$ -form in each vertex  $z_i$
- ★ invariant under homology shifts acting on both  $z_i$  and  $p$
- ★ invariant under  $N!$  permutations of  $z_i$

## Obtaining $\mathcal{K}_N$

- **Direct calculation in the RNS formulation**

- ★ For 4-string amplitude  $\mathcal{K}_4 = t_8 \mathcal{Y}$  [ED, Phong 2005]
- ★ For 5-string amplitude  $\mathcal{K}_5$  [ED, Schlotterer 2021] - in preparation

- **Could one have guessed/restricted the general form of  $\mathcal{K}_4$  ?**

- ★ From supersymmetry  $\mathcal{K}_4 = t_8 \mathcal{Y}$  with  $\mathcal{Y}$  independent of  $p$
- ★ No poles at  $s_{ij} = 0$  realized for  $\mathcal{Y}$  holomorphic
- ★ Identity  $\Delta(1, 2)\Delta(3, 4) + \text{cycl}(2, 3, 4) = 0$  implies  $\mathcal{Y}$  must depend on  $s_{ij}$
- ★ Unique holomorphic, permutation-invariant, combination

$$\mathcal{Y} \sim (k_1 - k_2) \cdot (k_3 - k_4) \Delta(1, 2)\Delta(3, 4) + \text{cycl}(2, 3, 4)$$

- **One can similarly guess/restrict the general form of  $\mathcal{K}_5^{\text{odd Parity}}$**

- ★ Zero-mode counting in RNS  $\mathcal{K}_5^{\text{odd P}} \sim \epsilon_{10}^\mu(\varepsilon_1, f_2, f_3, f_4, f_5)$
- ★ Only possible contraction is with loop momenta and Abelian differential

$$\mathcal{K}_5^{\text{odd P}} \sim (k_4 \cdot k_5) p_I^\mu \epsilon_{10}^\mu(\varepsilon_1, f_2, f_3, f_4, f_5) \omega_I(1) \Delta(2, 3)\Delta(4, 5) + \text{perms}$$

- ★ would vanish without  $k_3 \cdot k_4$  factor due to identities
- ★ borne out by explicit calculation – see the sequel

## Ingredients of the pure spinor formulation

- **The Green-Schwarz formulation** [Green, Schwarz 1983]
  - ★ Space-time vector  $x^\mu$  and spinor  $\theta^\alpha$ ; manifestly supersymmetric
  - ★ Second class constraints; quantized only in light-cone gauge
- **The (non-minimal) pure spinor fields** [Berkovits 2000-2005]
  - ★ free-field theory of space-time vector  $x^\mu$  and spinors  $\theta^\alpha$  or  $d_\alpha$  etc.
  - ★ worldsheet  $(0,0)$ -forms: matter  $x^\mu, \theta^\alpha$ ; ghosts  $\lambda^\alpha, \bar{\lambda}_\alpha, r_\alpha$
  - ★ worldsheet  $(1,0)$ -forms: matter  $d_\alpha$ ; ghosts  $w_\alpha, \bar{w}^\alpha, s^\alpha$
  - ★ pure spinor relations  $\lambda\gamma^\mu\lambda = \bar{\lambda}\gamma^\mu\bar{\lambda} = \bar{\lambda}\gamma^\mu r = 0$ 
    - “linearized” by decomposing  $\mathbf{16}_{\text{SO}(10)} = (\mathbf{1} \oplus \bar{\mathbf{5}} \oplus \mathbf{10})_{\text{SU}(5)}$

- **BRST operator**  $Q^2 = 0$

$$Q = \oint \left( \lambda^\alpha d_\alpha + \bar{w}^\alpha r_\alpha \right) \quad \begin{cases} Q\theta^\alpha = \lambda^\alpha \\ Qx^\mu = \lambda\gamma^\mu\theta \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} Q\lambda^\alpha = 0 \\ Q^2x^\mu = \lambda\gamma^\mu\lambda \end{cases}$$

- ★ vertex operators

$$U = \partial_z \theta^\alpha A_\alpha(x, \theta) + d_\alpha W^\alpha(x, \theta) + \dots$$

- ★ BRST-invariance implies space-time supersymmetry

## Ingredients of the pure spinor formulation (cont'd)

- ★ Composite  $b$ -ghost defined by  $\{Q, b\} = T$ 
  - Easy to solve for  $G^\alpha$  defined by  $\{Q, G^\alpha\} = \lambda^\alpha T$
  - The field  $b$  is obtained using terminating descent [Berkovits 2005]

$$b = s^\alpha \partial \bar{\lambda}_\alpha + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_\alpha G^\alpha}{(\lambda \bar{\lambda})} + \frac{(\bar{\lambda} \gamma^{\mu\nu\rho} r)}{192(\lambda \bar{\lambda})^2} (d \gamma_{\mu\nu\rho} d) + \text{three terms}$$

- ★ Difficulties:  $\lambda^\alpha$  and  $\bar{\lambda}_\alpha$  are independent holomorphic fields
  - singularities due to vanishing  $(\lambda \bar{\lambda})$  and integration as  $\lambda^\alpha, \bar{\lambda}_\alpha \rightarrow \infty$
  - general Wick contractions exceedingly complicated
- ★ Zero modes come to the rescue for low genus and few external states
  - $(0, 0)$ -forms  $\theta^\alpha, \lambda^\alpha, \bar{\lambda}_\alpha, r_\alpha$  have **16** zero modes (modulo constraints)
  - $(1, 0)$ -forms  $d_\alpha, w_\alpha, \bar{w}^\alpha, s^\alpha$  have **16** $\times h$  zero modes (modulo constraints)
  - The zero modes of  $\lambda^\alpha$  and  $\bar{\lambda}_\alpha$  may be identified as complex conjugates  $\implies$  denominators positive definite
- ★ Perform Wick contractions leaving only zero modes integrations
  - governed by non-trivial BRST cohomology of ghost number 3

$$\langle (\lambda \gamma^\mu \theta) (\lambda \gamma^\nu \theta) (\lambda \gamma^\rho \theta) (\theta \gamma_{\mu\nu\rho} \theta) \rangle = 1$$

## Two-loop four-string amplitude (revisited)

- **The four-string amplitude** [Berkovits 2005]

$$\mathcal{K}_4 = T_{1,2|3,4}\Delta(1,3)\Delta(2,4) + \text{cycl}(2,3,4)$$

- ★ BRST-invariant
- ★ Fully permutation invariant using properties of  $T$  and  $\Delta$
- ★ For external gravitons reduces to

$$T_{1,2|3,4} = (k_1 - k_3) \cdot (k_2 - k_4) t_8(f_1, f_2, f_3, f_4)$$

## Two-loop five-string amplitude

- **Counting of zero modes shows**  $\mathcal{K}_5 = \mathcal{K}_5^V + \mathcal{K}_5^S$ 
    - $\mathcal{K}_5^V$  linear in  $p$
    - $\mathcal{K}_5^S$  independent of  $p$
    - $\mathcal{K}_5^V$  evaluated using zero mode integrations and BRST closure
    - $\mathcal{K}_5^S$  involves Wick contractions that are not available
- [Gomez, Mafra, Sclotterer 2015]

- **Use pure spinor cohomology to evaluate**  $\mathcal{K}_5^V$

$$\mathcal{K}_5^V = 2\pi i p_I^\mu T_{1,2,3|4,5}^\mu \omega_I(2) \Delta(3, 4) \Delta(5, 1) + \text{cycl}(1, 2, 3, 4, 5)$$

- ★ construct  $T_{1,2,3|4,5}^\mu$  by using factorization

$$T_{1,2,3|4,5}^\mu = A_1^\mu T_{2,3|4,5} + A_2^\mu T_{3,1|4,5} + A_3^\mu T_{1,2|4,5} + W_{1,2,3|4,5}^\mu$$

- ★ determine  $W$  by vanishing BRST modulo gauge transformations

$$QT_{1,2,3|4,5}^\mu = ik_1^\mu T_{2,3|4,5} + ik_2^\mu T_{3,1|4,5} + ik_3^\mu T_{1,2|4,5}$$

## Two-loop five-string amplitude (cont'd)

- While  $\mathcal{K}_5^V$  is BRST invariant, it is not invariant under homology shifts
  - ★ Consider the derivative  $\partial_{z_i} \ln \mathcal{I}_5 = ik_i \cdot \mathcal{P}(z_i)$  of chiral Koba-Nielsen

$$\mathcal{P}(z_i) = 2\pi i p_I \omega(z_i) + \sum_{j \neq i} k_j \partial_i \ln E(z_i, z_j)$$

- ★  $\mathcal{P}(z_i)$  invariant under all homology shifts
- Promote  $2\pi i p_I \omega(z_i) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(z_i)$  in the expression for  $\mathcal{K}_5^V$ 

$$\mathcal{K}_5^V \rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_5^V = \mathcal{P}(z_2) T_{1,2,3|4,5}^\mu \Delta(3,4) \Delta(5,1) + \text{cycl}(1,2,3,4,5)$$
  - ★ While  $\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_5^V$  is homology shift invariant, it is no longer BRST-invariant
- Determine  $\mathcal{K}_5^S$  by requiring BRST closure of  $\mathcal{K}_5 = \mathcal{K}_5^V + \mathcal{K}_5^S = \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_5^V + \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_5^S$ 
  - ★ Require that  $\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_5^S$  satisfy
    - independence of  $p$
    - BRST closure  $Q\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_5^V + Q\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_5^S = 0$

$\implies$  unique solution [ED, Mafra, Pioline, Schlotterer 2020]

## Space-time structure of the amplitude

- Chiral blocks of the amplitude

$$\mathcal{F}_5 = \mathcal{K}_5 \mathcal{I}_5 \qquad \mathcal{K}_5 = \mathcal{K}_5^V + \mathcal{K}_5^S$$

- The difference between Type IIA and Type IIB

$$\begin{aligned} \text{IIA :} \quad \mathcal{K}_5 &= \mathcal{K}_5^{\text{even}} + \mathcal{K}_5^{\text{odd}} & \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_5 &= \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_5^{\text{even}} - \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_5^{\text{odd}} \\ \text{IIB :} \quad \mathcal{K}_5 &= \mathcal{K}_5^{\text{even}} + \mathcal{K}_5^{\text{odd}} & \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_5 &= \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_5^{\text{even}} + \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_5^{\text{odd}} \end{aligned}$$

- Kinematic structure of NS-NS bosonic part  $\{i, j, \ell, m, n\} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$

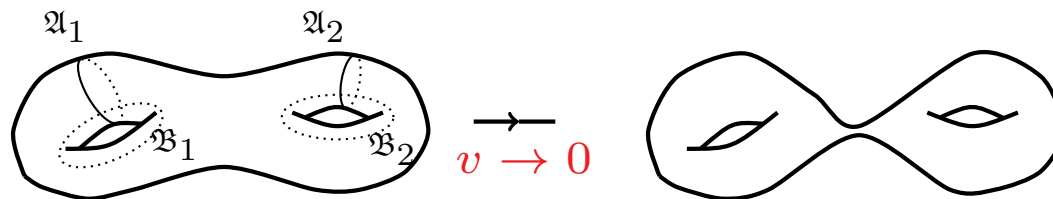
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K}_5^{V \text{ even}} &\supset (p_I \varepsilon_i k_i k_j) t_8(k_j, k_\ell, k_m, k_n) \\ \mathcal{K}_5^{V \text{ odd}} &\supset p_I \cdot \varepsilon_{10}(\varepsilon_i, f_j, f_\ell, f_m, f_n) (k_m \cdot k_n) \\ \mathcal{K}_5^S &\supset f_i^{\mu\nu} k_j^\mu k_\ell^\nu t_8(f_j, f_\ell, f_m, f_n), \\ &\quad t_8([f_i, f_j], f_\ell, f_m, f_n) \end{aligned}$$

$\implies$  confirms our guess for  $\mathcal{K}_5^{\text{odd P}}$

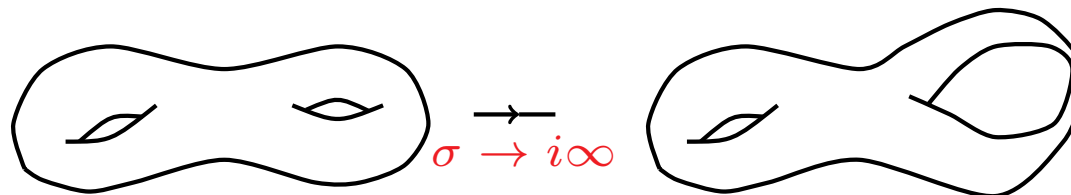
## Degenerations of genus-two Riemann surfaces

- Locally parametrize  $\mathcal{M}_2$  by period matrix  $\Omega = \begin{pmatrix} \tau & v \\ v & \sigma \end{pmatrix}$  with  $\tau, v, \sigma \in \mathbb{C}$

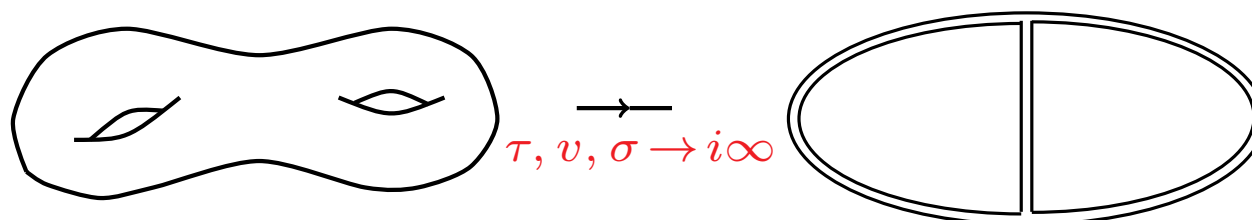
– *Separating degeneration*



– *Non-separating degeneration*



– *Maximal degeneration (or "tropical limit") to QFT*



## Non-separating degeneration

- $\Sigma$  degenerates to torus  $\Sigma_1$  of modulus  $\tau$  with punctures  $p_a, p_b$ 
  - ★ keep the cycles  $\mathfrak{A}_1, \mathfrak{B}_1, \mathfrak{A}_2$  fixed, and let  $\mathfrak{B}_2 \rightarrow \infty$  as  $\text{Im}(\sigma) \rightarrow \infty$
- Modular group  $Sp(4, \mathbb{Z})$  reduces to  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \times \mathbb{Z}^3$  Fourier-Jacobi group
  - = the subgroup that leaves  $\mathfrak{B}_2$  invariant

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z}); m, n, r \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \begin{cases} \tau \rightarrow \tau' = (\alpha\tau + \beta)/(\gamma\tau + \delta) \\ v \rightarrow v' = (v + m\tau + n)/(\gamma\tau + \delta) \\ \sigma \rightarrow \sigma' = \sigma + r - \gamma v^2/(\gamma\tau + \delta) \end{cases}$$

- ★ The degeneration parameter  $\sigma$  is not invariant under  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$
- ★ Siegel modular forms degenerate to Jacobi forms (Eichler & Zagier 1985)
- There exists a real-valued  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \times \mathbb{Z}^3$  invariant parameter  $t > 0$

$$t = \frac{\det(\text{Im } \Omega)}{\text{Im } \tau} = \text{Im } \sigma - \frac{(\text{Im } v)^2}{\text{Im } \tau} \quad \Omega = \begin{pmatrix} \tau & v \\ v & \sigma \end{pmatrix}$$

- ★ the non-separating node is characterized by  $t \rightarrow \infty$ 
  - (an analogous invariant parameter exists for arbitrary genus)

## Degeneration of the integrand on moduli

- Recall e.g. the integrand of genus-two 4-string amplitude

$$\int_{\Sigma^4} \frac{\mathcal{Y} \wedge \bar{\mathcal{Y}}}{(\det Y)^2} \exp \left\{ \sum_{i < j} s_{ij} G(z_i, z_j) \right\} = \sum_{w=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{w!} \mathcal{B}_w(s_{ij} | \Omega)$$

- ★ Taylor series in  $s_{ij}$  into terms of degree  $w$

$$\mathcal{B}_w(s_{ij} | \Omega) = \int_{\Sigma^4} \frac{\mathcal{Y} \wedge \bar{\mathcal{Y}}}{(\det Y)^2} \left( \sum_{i < j} s_{ij} G(z_i, z_j) \right)^w$$

- The expansion of  $\mathcal{B}_w(s_{ij} | \Sigma)$  near the non-separating node is given by a Laurent polynomial of finite degree  $(w, -w)$  in  $t$  [ED, Green, Pioline 2017]

$$\mathcal{B}_w(s_{ij} | \Omega) = \sum_{k=-w}^w \mathcal{B}_w^{(k)}(s_{ij} | v, \tau) t^k + \mathcal{O}(e^{-2\pi t})$$

The coefficients are invariant under  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \ltimes \mathbb{Z}^2 \subset Sp(4, \mathbb{Z})$

$$\mathcal{B}_w^{(k)}(s_{ij} | v', \tau') = \mathcal{B}_w^{(k)}(s_{ij} | v, \tau)$$

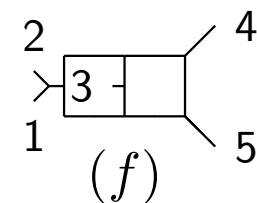
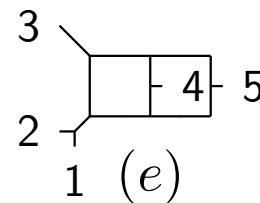
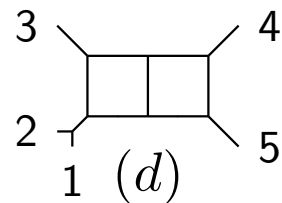
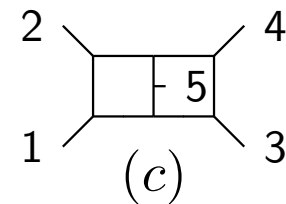
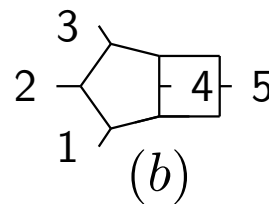
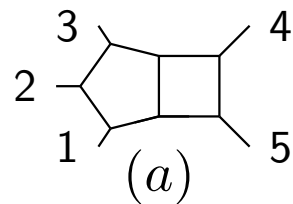
These are “elliptic modular graph functions”. [ED, Kleinschmidt, Schlotterer 2020]

- Readily generalizes to the 5-string amplitude

# The supergravity limit of the five-string amplitude

- **Graphs contributing in maximally supersymmetric QFTs**

- ★  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM and  $\mathcal{N} = 8$  supergravity [Carrasco, Johansson 2011]
  - double copy and color kinematic duality [Bern, Carrasco, Johansson 2008, 2010]
  - pure spinor methods [Mafrà, Schlotterer 2015]



- ★ Perfect match with the tropical limit of the string amplitude

- **Type IIB string kinematics decomposes onto SYM field theory kinematics**

- ★ for  $U(1)_Y$ -conserving amplitudes only

$$\mathcal{A}_5^{(2)} \Big|_{U(1)_Y} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{A}_{\text{SYM}}(1, 2, 3, 5, 4) \\ \tilde{A}_{\text{SYM}}(1, 3, 2, 5, 4) \end{pmatrix}^t \mathcal{M} \begin{pmatrix} A_{\text{SYM}}(1, 2, 3, 4, 5) \\ A_{\text{SYM}}(1, 3, 2, 4, 5) \end{pmatrix}$$

## Summary and outlook

- **Effective Interactions induced on supergravity** [ED, Mafrá, Pioline, Schlotterer 2020]
  - ★ Implications of (non-linear) supersymmetry
    - coefficient of  $D^2\mathcal{R}^5$  and  $D^4\mathcal{R}^4$  match, as at tree-level and one-loop
    - coefficient of  $D^4\mathcal{R}^5$  and  $D^6\mathcal{R}^4$  match, as at tree-level and one-loop
  - ★ Appearance of  $U(1)_Y$  violating effective interactions
    - absent at tree-level since Type IIB supergravity is  $U(1)_Y$  invariant
    - generated at one and two loops e.g.  $\phi\mathcal{R}^4$  and  $\mathcal{G}^2\mathcal{R}^3$

⇒ much remains to be done ! (we only scratched the surface)
- **The odd-parity 5-string amplitude**
  - ★ in RNS involves super-moduli space for odd spin structures  
= very little understood, but now we have the final answer !
- **Modular graph tensors** [Kawazumi 2010], [ED, Schlotterer 2020]
  - ★ generalize modular graph forms from the genus-one case
  - ★ new types of identities relating them
- **Toroidal compactifications**
  - ★ In chiral splitting formulas  $\int dp \rightarrow \sum_p$  over space-time torus momenta