

# Towards higher multiplicity string amplitudes

– GSO projection and modular tensors –

**Eric D'Hoker**

Mani L. Bhaumik Institute for Theoretical Physics, UCLA

in collaboration with Martijn Hidding and Oliver Schlotterer

Paolo Di Vecchia-80 Fest

Nordita, 15-16 May 2023



# String Amplitudes

## Program to understand structure of perturbative string amplitudes

- ★ kinematic structure and relation to QFT amplitudes
  - e.g. KLT, double copy, BCJ, monodromy relations
- ★ modular structure of integrands
- ★ matching low energy expansion with susy and S-duality predictions

## A subject dear to Paolo

- 1969 – *Lorentz expansion for the Veneziano amplitude*, with S. Ferrara
- 1972 – *General properties of the dual resonance model, “DDF”*, with E. Del Giudice, S. Fubini
- 1975 – *Soft Dilations and Scale Renormalization in Dual Theories*, with M. Ademollo, et al.
- 1976 – *A Locally Supersymmetric ... Action for the Spinning String*, with L. Brink, J. Scherk
- 1979 – *Chiral Estimate of the Electric Dipole Moment of the neutron ...*, with R.J. Crewther, G. Veneziano, E. Witten
- 1987 – *N String Vertex and Loop Calculation in the Bosonic String*, with M. Frau, A. Lerda, S. Sciuto
- 1988 – *N String, g Loop Vertex for the Fermionic String*, with M. Frau, K. Hornfeck, A. Lerda, S. Sciuto
- 2016 – *Soft Theorems from String Theory*, with R. Marotta, M. Mojaza
- 2020 – *Universality of ultra-relativistic gravitational scattering*, with C. Heissenberg, R. Russo, G. Veneziano

## The RNS formulation of superstrings

- **The RNS formulation is based on two sectors**
  - ★ Ramond – space-time spinors and fermions [Ramond 1971]
  - ★ Neveu-Schwarz – space-time bosons [Neveu, Schwarz 1971]
  - globally supersymmetric worldsheet action [Gervais, Sakita 1971]
- **Decoupling of negative norm states requires local symmetries**
  - ★ Diffeomorphism invariance on the worldsheet [Nambu 1970; Goto 1971]
  - ★ Local supersymmetry on the worldsheet [Brink, Di Vecchia, Howe 1976; Deser, Zumino 1976]

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & -\frac{1}{2}g^{mn}\partial_m x^\mu\partial_n x_\mu - \frac{i}{2}\bar{\psi}^\mu\gamma^m\partial_m\psi_\mu \\ & + \frac{i}{2}\bar{\chi}_m\gamma^n\gamma^m\psi^\mu\partial_n x_\mu + \frac{1}{8}(\bar{\chi}_m\gamma^n\gamma^m\psi^\mu)(\bar{\chi}_n\psi_\mu) \end{aligned}$$

- ★ Weyl invariance in the critical dimension  $d = 10$  [Polyakov 1981]

**A LOCALLY SUPERSYMMETRIC AND REPARAMETRIZATION INVARIANT ACTION  
FOR THE SPINNING STRING**

L. BRINK<sup>1</sup>

*Institute of Theoretical Physics, Göteborg, Denmark*

P. Di VECCHIA

*Nordita, Copenhagen, Denmark*

and

P. HOWE<sup>2</sup>

*Niels Bohr Institute, Copenhagen, Denmark*

Received 23 September 1976

We construct an action for the spinning string which is locally supersymmetric and reparametrization invariant using the techniques of supergravity. In a special gauge it is shown that the equations of motion and the constraints are those of the Neveu-Schwarz-Ramond model.

- Gauge fixing local worldsheet symmetries leaves equivalence classes
  - ★ metric  $g_{\mu\nu} \implies$  moduli [Alessandrini, Amati 1970; Mandelstam 1974; ED, Phong 1985]
  - ★ gravitino  $\chi_\mu \implies$  super-moduli [Friedan 1985; Moore, Nelson, Polchinski 1986; ED, Phong 1986]
  - ★ BRST formulation [Friedan, Martinec, Shenker 1985]; Alberto Lerda's talk
- Functional integrals over  $g_{\mu\nu}$  and  $\chi_\mu$  reduce to supermoduli space  $\mathfrak{M}_h$ 

$$\dim \mathfrak{M}_h = \begin{cases} (0|0) & h = 0 \\ (1|0) \text{ or } (1|1) & h = 1 \text{ even or odd spin structure} \\ (3h - 3|2h - 2) & h \geq 2 \end{cases}$$
- Supermoduli enter non-trivially starting at genus 2

## The Gliozzi-Scherk-Olive projection

- **The GSO projection selects the superstrings** [Gliozzi, Scherk, Olive 1977]
  - ★ worldsheet spinors  $\psi, \chi$  require specifying a spin structure  $\kappa$
  - ★ GSO projection = summation over spin structures  $\kappa$ 
    - consistently with modular invariance of the amplitudes
- **inequivalent summations project to different string theories**
  - ★ Type IIA versus Type IIB [Green, Schwarz 1982]
  - ★ Heterotic  $E_8 \times E_8$  versus  $Spin(32)/\mathbb{Z}_2$  [Gross, Harvey, Martinec, Rohm 1985]
- **independently for left and right movers**
  - ★ cancellation of the holomorphic anomaly [Belavin, Kniznik 1986]
  - ★ via loop momenta and chiral splitting [Verlinde, Verlinde 1988; ED, Phong 1988]

## Status of superstring amplitudes

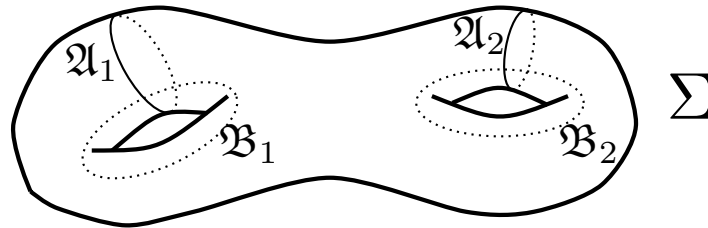
- **Tree-level: general amplitudes are known** eg [Mafra, Schlotterer 2022]
- **One-loop: spin structure summations using Riemann relations**  
eg Snowmass White paper [Berkovits, ED, Green, Johansson, Schlotterer, 2022]
- **Two loops: some low multiplicity amplitudes are known**
  - ★ four massless string amplitudes [ED, Phong 2005]; pure spinors [Berkovits 2005]
  - ★ five massless string amplitudes [ED, Mafra, Pioline, Schlotterer 2020; ED, Schlotterer 2021]
- **Three loops: no first principles construction realized so far**
  - ★ both RNS and pure spinor approaches present obstacles
  - ★ coefficient of  $D^6\mathcal{R}^4$  low energy effective interaction [Gomez, Mafra 2014]
  - ★ conjectured RNS measure [Cacciatori, Dalla Piazza, van Geemen 2008]
  - ★ conjectured four string amplitude [Geyer, Monteiro, Stark-Muchao 2021 ]

## This talk: **GSO projection and modular tensors**

- **Spin structure summations for higher multiplicity and higher genus**
  - ★ spin structure summation implements space-time supersymmetry via GSO
  - ★ space-time supersymmetry greatly simplifies amplitudes
  - ★ what is the mathematical structure of spin structure summations ?
- **For genus 2**
  - ★ Explicit spin structure summation [ED, Hidding, Schlotterer 2022]
  - ★ Full six massless NS amplitude [ED, Hidding, Schlotterer] in progress
- **For arbitrary genus**
  - ★ Reduce to summation over **modular tensors** [ED, Hidding, Schlotterer] in progress

## Compact Riemann surfaces of genus $g$

- **Homology**  $H_1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}) \approx \mathbb{Z}^{2g}$  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  $I, J = 1, \dots, g$



- **Modular group**  $Sp(2g, \mathbb{Z})$  acts on  $H_1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z})$  leaving  $\mathfrak{J}(\cdot, \cdot)$  invariant

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

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

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

- ★ Period matrix  $\Omega$  obeys Riemann relations  $\Omega^t = \Omega$ ,  $\text{Im}(\Omega) > 0$
- ★ Moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_2 = \{\Omega^t = \Omega, \text{Im}(\Omega) > 0\} / Sp(4, \mathbb{Z})$  (minus the diagonal)
- $\mathcal{M}_3 = \{\Omega^t = \Omega, \text{Im}(\Omega) > 0\} / Sp(6, \mathbb{Z})$  (modulo hyperelliptic)
- $\mathcal{M}_g, g \geq 4$  Schottky problem



## Modular tensors

- **Modular tensors transform under  $Sp(2g, \mathbb{Z})$**

- ★ tensor  $\mathcal{T}$  of rank  $r = (r, 0)$  and weight  $(w, 0)$

- ★ transforms under  $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \in Sp(2g, \mathbb{Z})$  by

$$\mathcal{T}^{I_1 \cdots I_r} \rightarrow (\det R)^w R^{I_1}_{J_1} \cdots R^{I_r}_{J_r} \mathcal{T}^{J_1 \cdots J_r} \quad R = C\Omega + D$$

- ★  $\mathcal{T}$  is a section of a holomorphic vector bundle over Torelli space

- ★ May be generalized to tensors of rank  $(r, \bar{r})$  and weight  $(w, \bar{w})$

- **Siegel modular forms are holomorphic with rank  $r = 0$  and weight  $w$**

- ★  $Sp(4, \mathbb{Z})$ : polynomial ring generated by  $\Psi_4, \Psi_6, \Psi_{10}, \Psi_{12}, \Psi_{35}$  [Igusa 1960's]

- ★  $Sp(6, \mathbb{Z})$ : polynomial ring with 19 generators [Tsuyumine 1986; Lercier, Ritzenthaler 2019]

- **Modular tensors** in mathematics and physics

- ★ holomorphic [van der Geer 2015]; non-holomorphic [Kawazumi 2016]

- ★ modular graph tensors [ED, Schlotterer 2020]

- generalizing genus 1 modular graph forms [ED, Green, 2016]

- generalizing higher genus modular graph functions [ED, Green, Pioline 2018]

(both of which arise in the  $\alpha'$  expansion of string amplitudes)

## Two-loop amplitudes for four massless strings

- **Type II in the RNS formulation** (similarly Heterotic) [ED, Phong 2001-2005]

$$\mathcal{A}_4^{(2)} = g_s^2 t_8 \tilde{t}_8 \int_{\mathcal{M}_2} \frac{|d\Omega^3|^2}{(\det \operatorname{Im} \Omega)^5} \int_{\Sigma^4} \mathcal{Y} \wedge \bar{\mathcal{Y}} \exp \left\{ \sum_{i < j} s_{ij} G(z_i, z_j | \Omega) \right\}$$

- ★ Kinematics  $s_{ij} = -\frac{\alpha'}{4}(k_i + k_j)^2$  with factorized  $\varepsilon_i^\mu \tilde{\varepsilon}_i^\nu$  with  $f_i^{\mu\nu} = \varepsilon_i^\mu k_i^\nu - \varepsilon_i^\nu k_i^\mu$
- ★  $t_8(f_1, f_2, f_3, f_4) \tilde{t}_8(\tilde{f}_1, \tilde{f}_2, \tilde{f}_3, \tilde{f}_4) \sim \mathcal{R}^4$  where  $\mathcal{R}$  stands for the Riemann tensor
- ★ Measure on  $\Sigma^4$  interlaces kinematic and worldsheet data

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

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

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

- ★ The prime form  $E(z, w | \Omega)$  generalizes  $\vartheta_1(z - w | \tau)$  to higher genus

- **Type II in the pure spinor formulation** [Berkovits 2005; Berkovits, Mafra 2005]

- ★ generalized to include full supergravity multiplet of external strings

## Two-loop amplitude for five massless strings

- **Amplitude for massless NS strings (conserving parity)** [ED, Schlotterer 2021]

$$\mathcal{A}_5^{(2)} = g_s^2 \int dp^I \int_{\mathcal{M}_2} |d\Omega^3|^2 \int_{\Sigma^5} \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_5 \mathcal{F}_5$$

- ★ the chiral amplitude is given by

$$\mathcal{F}_5 = \mathcal{I}_5 \sum_i \left\{ \mathfrak{P}^I(z_i) \cdot (\varepsilon_i t_i \mathcal{Y}_I + k_i \mathfrak{T}_{iI}) - \sum_{j \neq i} \mathcal{Y}_I t_{ij} g_{i,j}^I \right\}$$

- ★ in terms of the universal chiral Koba-Nielsen factor

$$\mathcal{I}_5 = \exp \left\{ i\pi \Omega_{IJ} p^I p^J + 2\pi i p^I \sum_i k_i \int_{z_0}^{z_i} \omega_I + \sum_{i < j} s_{ij} \ln E(z_i, z_j) \right\}$$

- ★ and universal meromorphic combinations

$$\mathfrak{P}^I(z_i) = 2\pi i p^I + \sum_{j \neq i} g_{i,j}^I k_j \quad g_{i,j}^I = \partial^I \ln \vartheta[\nu](z_j - z_i | \Omega)$$

- ★ kinematic factors adapted to the five-point amplitude

$$t_1 = t_8(f_2, f_3, f_4, f_5) \quad t_{12} = t_8([f_1, f_2], f_3, f_4, f_5) \quad \& \quad \text{cyclic}$$

- ★ and holomorphic forms generalizing those of the four-point amplitude

$$\mathcal{Y}_I = 4s_{12} \omega_I(4) \Delta(5, 1) \Delta(2, 3) + \text{cycl}(1, 2, 3, 4, 5)$$

$$\mathfrak{T}_{iI} = (t_{12} - 2t_1 \varepsilon_1 \cdot k_2) \left\{ \omega_I(3) \Delta(1, 5) \Delta(2, 4) + \text{cycl}(3, 4, 5) \right\} + \text{cycl}(2, 3, 4, 5)$$

## Spin structure sums for higher multiplicity

- Major efforts go into carrying out the spin structure sums
  - ★ for the four and five genus two string amplitudes using
    - the Riemann identities
    - the Fay trisecant identity (cfr bosonization)
    - and every other trick we could think of
  - ★ for higher multiplicity these methods alone do not appear promising
    - the problem was also considered in [Tsuchiya 2012; 2017; 2022]

- Fermion correlator for spin structure  $\delta$  is given by the Szegő kernel

- ★ Restrict to even spin structures and NS external states

$$-\langle \psi(z)\psi(w) \rangle = S_\delta(z, w) = \frac{\vartheta[\delta](\int_w^z \omega | \Omega)}{\vartheta[\delta](0 | \Omega) E(z, w)}$$

- the Riemann  $\vartheta$ -function for spin structure  $\delta = [\delta' | \delta''] \in \{0, \frac{1}{2}\}^{2g}$  is defined by

$$\vartheta[\delta](\zeta | \Omega) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \exp \left\{ i\pi(n + \delta')^t \Omega (n + \delta') + 2\pi i(n + \delta')^t (\zeta + \delta'') \right\}$$

- ★ String amplitude integrands involve cyclic products of Szegő kernels

$$C_\delta(z_1, \dots, z_n) = S_\delta(z_1, z_2) S_\delta(z_2, z_3) \cdots S_\delta(z_{n-1}, z_n) S_\delta(z_n, z_1)$$

- they also involve other products that may be treated similarly

## Spin structure sums for genus 2

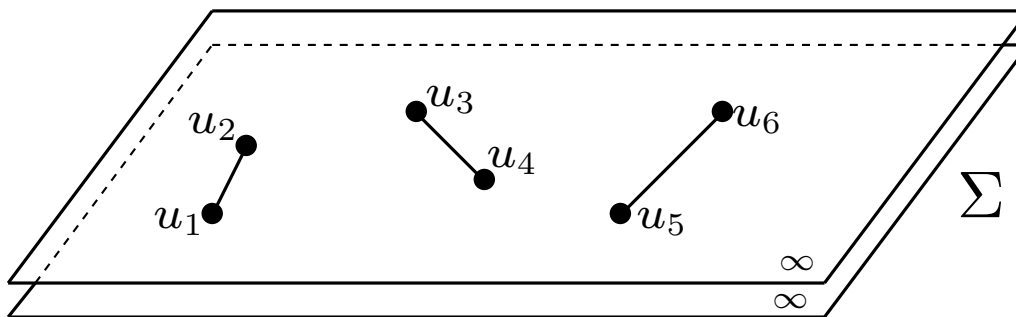
- **Theorem 1** [ED, Hidding, Schlotterer 2022]

The spin structure sum of  $C_\delta(z_1, \dots, z_n)$  for genus 2 and arbitrary  $n$  reduces to the spin structure sums for the cases  $n = 0, 2, 3, 4$

- The proof is constructive and formulated in the hyper-elliptic formulation
- The result will be translated into the  $\vartheta$ -function formulation
- The spin structure sums for  $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$  are well-known

- **Every genus two surface  $\Sigma$  is hyper-elliptic**

- ★ namely a double cover of the Riemann sphere  $\hat{\mathbb{C}} = \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$
- ★ ramified over 6 branch points  $u_1, \dots, u_6$
- ★ points  $z \in \Sigma$  parametrized by  $z = (x, s)$  where  $s^2 = (x - u_1) \cdots (x - u_6)$
- ★ Moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_2$  isomorphic to  $\{u_1, \dots, u_6\} / \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C}) \times \mathfrak{S}_6$



## Sketch of proof of the Theorem

- ★ An even spin structure  $\delta$  is isomorphic to a 3 + 3 partition of branch points

$$\{u_1, \dots, u_6\} = A \cup B \quad A \cap B = \emptyset \quad |A| = |B| = 3$$

(an odd spin structure is isomorphic to a 1+5 partition)

- ★ The Szegő kernel is given in terms of this partition by

$$S_\delta(z_1, z_2) = \frac{s_A(x_1)s_B(x_2) + s_B(x_1)s_A(x_2)}{2(x_1 - x_2)} \left[ \frac{dx_1 dx_2}{s(x_1) s(x_2)} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

where  $s_A(x)s_B(x) = s(x)$  and  $s_A(x)^2$  and  $s_B(x)^2$  are polynomials given by

$$s_A(x)^2 = \prod_{r \in A} (x - u_r) \quad s_B(x)^2 = \prod_{r \in B} (x - u_r)$$

- ★ The cyclic product of Szegő kernels is thus given by (using  $x_{n+1} = x_1$ )

$$C_\delta(z_1, \dots, z_n) = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n (s_A(x_i)s_B(x_{i+1}) + s_B(x_i)s_A(x_{i+1}))}{2^n x_{12}x_{23} \cdots x_{n1}} \frac{dx_1 \cdots dx_n}{s(x_1) \cdots s(x_n)}$$

- ★ All spin structure dependence is contained in polynomials with  $2m \leq n$

$$Q_\delta(i_1, \dots, i_m | j_1, \dots, j_m) = \prod_{\alpha=1}^m s_A(x_{i_\alpha})^2 s_B(x_{j_\alpha})^2 + (A \leftrightarrow B)$$

## Sketch of proof of the Theorem (cont'd)

- **Lemma 1**

All spin structure dependence of  $Q_\delta$  is polynomial in  $\ell_\delta^{11}, \ell_\delta^{12} = \ell_\delta^{21}, \ell_\delta^{22}$

$$\ell_\delta^{11} = \frac{1}{4}\alpha_2\beta_2 - \frac{3}{20}\mu_4$$

$$s_A(x)^2 = x^3 - \alpha_1x^2 + \alpha_2x - \alpha_3$$

$$\ell_\delta^{12} = \frac{1}{4}(\alpha_1\beta_2 + \alpha_2\beta_1) - \frac{9}{40}\mu_3$$

$$s_B(x)^2 = x^3 - \beta_1x^2 + \beta_2x - \beta_3$$

$$\ell_\delta^{22} = \frac{1}{4}\alpha_1\beta_1 - \frac{3}{20}\mu_2$$

$$s(x)^2 = x^6 - \mu_1x^5 + \cdots - \mu_5x + \mu_6$$

- **Lemma 2: The trilinear relations**

Every trilinear  $\ell_\delta^{a_1a_2} \ell_\delta^{a_3a_4} \ell_\delta^{a_5a_6}$  may be expressed as a polynomial of total degree two in the combinations  $\ell_\delta^{11}, \ell_\delta^{12}$  and  $\ell_\delta^{22}$  whose coefficients are polynomials in  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_6$

- Combining Lemmas 1 and 2 implies that all spin structure dependence of  $Q_\delta$  and  $C_\delta$  is given by a quadratic polynomial in  $\ell_\delta^{11}, \ell_\delta^{12}, \ell_\delta^{22}$  with coefficients that depend only on  $\mu_i$ .

- The spin structure sums of the linears  $\ell_\delta^{a_1a_2}$  and of the bilinears  $\ell_\delta^{a_1a_2} \ell_\delta^{a_3a_4}$  are determined by  $n$ -point functions with  $n \leq 4$ , which concludes the proof of the Theorem.

## SL(2, ℂ) tensorial structure of the trilinear relations

- Component form of the trilinear relations e.g.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\ell_\delta^{11})^3 = & \frac{\mu_4(\ell_\delta^{11})^2}{20} - \frac{\mu_5\ell_\delta^{11}\ell_\delta^{12}}{4} + \mu_6\ell_\delta^{11}\ell_\delta^{22} - \frac{\mu_6(\ell_\delta^{12})^2}{4} + \frac{\mu_4^2\ell_\delta^{11}}{50} - \frac{9\mu_3\mu_5\ell_\delta^{11}}{160} + \frac{3\mu_2\mu_6\ell_\delta^{11}}{20} + \frac{\mu_4\mu_5\ell_\delta^{12}}{40} \\
 & - \frac{9\mu_3\mu_6\ell_\delta^{12}}{80} - \frac{\mu_5^2\ell_\delta^{22}}{16} + \frac{3\mu_4\mu_6\ell_\delta^{22}}{20} - \frac{3\mu_4^3}{2000} + \frac{9\mu_3\mu_4\mu_5}{1600} - \frac{3\mu_2\mu_5^2}{320} - \frac{81\mu_3^2\mu_6}{6400} + \frac{9\mu_2\mu_4\mu_6}{400}
 \end{aligned}$$

- The  $\ell_\delta^{ab}$  transform under the 3-dimensional irrep of SL(2, ℂ) by

$$\ell_\delta^{ab} \rightarrow J g_c^a g_d^b \ell_\delta^{cd} \quad g = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \in \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C}) \quad J = \prod_{j=1}^6 (\gamma u_j + \delta)^{-1}$$

- The trilinear relations in SL(2, ℂ) tensorial form

$$\mathbf{7} \quad \ell_\delta^{(a_1 a_2} \ell_\delta^{a_3 a_4} \ell_\delta^{a_5 a_6)} = \mathbf{M}_1^{b_1 b_2 (a_1 \cdots a_4} \ell_\delta^{a_5 a_6)} \ell_\delta^{c_1 c_2} \varepsilon_{b_1 c_1} \varepsilon_{b_2 c_2} + \cdots$$

$$\mathbf{3} \quad (\det \ell_\delta) \ell_\delta^{a_1 a_2} = \frac{3}{2} \mathbf{M}_1^{a_1 a_2 b_1 \cdots b_4} \ell_\delta^{c_1 c_2} \ell_\delta^{c_3 c_4} \varepsilon_{b_1 c_1} \cdots \varepsilon_{b_4 c_4} + \cdots$$

★ where  $\mathbf{M}_1$  is the symmetric rank 6 tensor under SL(2, ℂ) with components

$$\mathbf{M}_1^{111111} = \mu_6 \quad \mathbf{M}_1^{111112} = \frac{\mu_5}{6} \quad \mathbf{M}_1^{111122} = \frac{\mu_4}{15} \cdots$$



## Sp(4, Z) tensorial structure of the trilinear relations

- Correspondence between hyper-elliptic and  $\vartheta$ -function formulations

★ via standard Thomae formulas and holomorphic 1-forms  $\omega_I$

$$\varpi_1 = \frac{dx}{s(x)} \quad \varpi_2 = -\frac{x dx}{s(x)} \quad \omega_I(z) = \varpi_a(z) \sigma^a_I$$

★ we obtain the modular tensors  $\mathfrak{L}_\delta$  and  $\mathfrak{M}_1$  ( $\delta$  transforms)

$$\mathfrak{L}_\delta^{ab} = \sigma^a_I \sigma^b_J \mathfrak{L}_\delta^{IJ} \quad \mathfrak{M}_1^{a_1 \dots a_6} = (\det \sigma)^{-2} \sigma^{a_1}_{I_1} \dots \sigma^{a_6}_{I_6} \mathfrak{M}_1^{I_1 \dots I_6}$$

$$\mathfrak{L}_\delta^{IJ} = \frac{\pi}{5i} \partial^{IJ} \ln \left\{ \frac{\vartheta[\delta](0)^{20}}{\Psi_{10}} \right\} \quad \mathfrak{M}_1^{I_1 \dots I_6} = \Psi_{10}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \partial^{(I_1} \vartheta[\nu_1](0) \dots \partial^{I_6)} \vartheta[\nu_6](0)$$

★ where  $\nu_1, \dots, \nu_6$  are the six (distinct) odd spin structures

- Trilinear relations are between  $Sp(4, Z)$  modular tensors

$$\mathfrak{L}_\delta^{(I_1 I_2} \mathfrak{L}_\delta^{I_3 I_4} \mathfrak{L}_\delta^{I_5 I_6)} = \mathfrak{M}_1^{J_1 J_2 (I_1 \dots I_4} \mathfrak{L}_\delta^{I_5 I_6)} \mathfrak{L}_\delta^{K_1 K_2} \varepsilon_{J_1 K_1} \varepsilon_{J_2 K_2} + \dots$$

$$(\det \mathfrak{L}_\delta) \mathfrak{L}_\delta^{I_1 I_2} = \frac{3}{2} \mathfrak{M}_1^{I_1 I_2 J_1 \dots J_4} \mathfrak{L}_\delta^{K_1 K_2} \mathfrak{L}_\delta^{K_3 K_4} \varepsilon_{J_1 K_1} \dots \varepsilon_{J_4 K_4} + \dots$$

## Spin structure sums for genus $g \geq 2$

- **Generic surfaces for genus  $g \geq 3$  are no longer hyper-elliptic**
  - **Theorem 2** [ED, Hidding, Schlotterer] in progress  
*The spin structure sum of  $C_\delta(z_1, \dots, z_n)$  for arbitrary genus and arbitrary  $n$  reduces to the spin structure sums of  $z_i$ -independent modular tensors*
- ★ *Proof:* is constructive by a descent method

## Summary and outlook

- **Two-loop superstring amplitudes**
  - ★ explicit summation over even spin structures
  - ★ paves the way to higher multiplicity amplitudes
  - ★ relate kinematics to QFT amplitudes ?
- **Higher loops**
  - ★ even spin structure dependence reduced to modular tensors
  - ★ what is the dimension and structure of modular tensor spaces ?
  - ★ which subspace is needed for string amplitudes ?
  - ★ can one build an efficient library ?

**Happy Birthday Paolo**