Twistor inspired developments in perturbative QCD

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Collider Physics



Concentrate on multiparticle final states that occur at high rate and form background to New Physics

High multiplicity, but low order - typically LO or NLO

For example, $pp \rightarrow V + 4$ jets is background to $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}$ and other new physics.

Relative Order	$2 \rightarrow 1$	$2 \rightarrow 2$	$2 \rightarrow 3$	$2 \rightarrow 4$	$2 \rightarrow 5$	$2 \rightarrow 6$
1	LO					
α_s	NLO	LO				
α_s^2	NNLO	NLO	LO			
α_s^3		NNLO	NLO	LO		
α_s^4				NLO	LO	
α_s^5					NLO	LO

- LO \checkmark matrix elements automatically generated up to $2 \rightarrow 8$ or more
 - ✓ plus automatic integration over phase space HELAC/PHEGAS, MADGRAPH/MADEVENT, SHERPA/AMEGIC++, COMPHEP, GRACE, ...
 - ✓ able to interface with parton showers CKKW
 - very good for estimating importance of various processes in different models properly populate phase space with multiple hard objects
 - **×** rate very dependent on choice of renormalisation/factorisation scales

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α_s^3		NNLO	NLO	LO		
α_s^4				NLO	LO	
α_s^5					NLO	LO

- NLO \checkmark parton level integrators available for most $2 \rightarrow 2$ Standard Model and MSSM processes for some time
 - extensively used at LEP, TEVATRON and HERA EVENT, JETRAD, MCFM, DISENT, etc
 - reduced renormalisation scale uncertainty
 - ✓ can be matched with parton shower MC@NLO Frixione, Webber

Relative Order	$2 \rightarrow 1$	$2 \rightarrow 2$	$2 \rightarrow 3$	$2 \rightarrow 4$	$2 \rightarrow 5$	$2 \rightarrow 6$
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α_s^4				NLO	LO	
α_s^5					NLO	LO

- NLO \checkmark some 2 \rightarrow 3 processes available at NLO e.g. backgrounds $pp \rightarrow 3$ jets, V + 2 jets, $\gamma\gamma + \text{jet}, V + b\bar{b}$ as well as signals $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$, $b\bar{b}H$, H+2 jets, HHH, $t\bar{t}+\text{jet}$
 - **×** many still missing VV + jet, $t\bar{t}$ + jet, etc
 - understood how to do, but tedious and painstaking

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α_s^5					NLO	LO

NLO \times no 2 \rightarrow 4 LHC cross sections known

- × need to extend range of available calculations to e.g. $pp \rightarrow W+$ multijets, $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$, $t\bar{t}+2$ jets, VV+2 jets that are backgrounds to New Physics
 - ✓ 4 gluons@one-loop, Ellis, Sexton, 1986, σ_{2j} , 1992
 - ✓ 5 gluons@one-loop, Bern, Dixon, Kosower, 1993, σ_{3j} , 2000
 - ✓ 6 gluons@one-loop, many authors, 2006 σ_{4j} , 20??
- \times need a more efficient way of evaluating loop contributions and constructing σ

How to calculate scattering amplitudes

1. Off-shell methods

Traditional Feynman diagram approach

- improved analytic methods
- ✓ semi-numerical methods
- purely numerical methods

2. On-shell methods

Based on S-matrix ideas of 1960's but recently inspired by Witten's proposal to relate perturbative gauge theory amplitudes to topological string theory in twistor space

Witten, hep-th/0312171

 \Rightarrow new ways to calculate amplitudes in massless gauge theories:

Off-shell methods

Traditional Feynman diagram approach for off-shell Greens functions

- ✓ Direct link to Lagrangian
- Easy to adapt to any model
- Easy to include massive particles with/without spin
- Easy to automate
 - \Rightarrow tree-level packages
- ✓ Off-shell Berends-Giele recursion relations
 - ⇒ tree-level packages
- X Many Feynman diagrams
- X Large cancellations between diagrams
- X Loop amplitudes manpower intensive

Madgraph/Grace/CompHep/...

Alpgen/HELAC/PHEGAS/...

On-shell methods

- ✓ New (and puzzling) insights into field theory amplitudes
 ⇒ new ways to calculate amplitudes in massless gauge theories:
 - ✓ MHV rules

Cachazo, Svrcek and Witten

- \Rightarrow NEW analytic results for some QCD tree amplitudes with any number of legs
- ✓ BCF on-shell recursion relations
 ⇒ NEW compact results for some multileg QCD tree amplitudes
- Unitarity and cut-constructibility

Bern, Dixon, Dunbar, Kosower; Britto, Cachazo and Feng; ...

- ⇒ NEW analytic one-loop amplitudes in massless supersymmetric theories
- Recursive derivation of rational terms

Bern, Dixon, Kosower + Berger, Forde; Xiao, Yang, Zhu

⇒ NEW analytic one-loop amplitudes for multigluon amplitudes

Gluonic helicity amplitudes

For example, the result of computing the 25 diagrams for the colour-ordered five-gluon process yields

$$A_{5}(1^{\pm}, 2^{+}, 3^{+}, 4^{+}, 5^{+}) = 0$$

$$A_{5}(1^{-}, 2^{-}, 3^{+}, 4^{+}, 5^{+}) = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^{4}}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle \langle 51 \rangle}$$

In fact, for *n* point colour-ordered amplitudes,

$$A_{n}(1^{\pm}, 2^{+}, 3^{+}, \dots, n^{+}) = 0$$

$$A_{n}(1^{-}, 2^{-}, 3^{+}, \dots, n^{+}) = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^{4}}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \cdots \langle n1 \rangle}$$

$$A_{n}(1^{-}, 2^{+}, 3^{-}, \dots, n^{+}) = \frac{\langle 13 \rangle^{4}}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \cdots \langle n1 \rangle}$$

Maximally helicity violating (MHV) amplitudes

Parke, Taylor; Berends, Giele Twistor inspired developments in perturbative QCD - p.10

Twistor Space

Witten, hep-th/0312171

Witten observed that in twistor space external points lie on certain algebraic curves

 \Rightarrow degree of curve is related to the number of negative helicities and loops

 $d = n_- - 1 + l$



Twistor Space



MHV rules

Start from on-shell MHV amplitude and define off-shell vertices

$$V(1^-, 2^-, 3^+, \dots, n^+, P^+) = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^4}{\langle 12 \rangle \cdots \langle n-1n \rangle \langle nP \rangle \langle P1 \rangle}$$

and

$$V(1^{-}, 2^{+}, 3^{+}, \dots, n^{+}, P^{-}) = \frac{\langle 1P \rangle^{4}}{\langle 12 \rangle \cdots \langle n - 1n \rangle \langle nP \rangle \langle P1 \rangle}$$

Crucial step is off-shell continuation $P^2 \neq 0$:

$$\langle iP \rangle = \frac{\langle i^- | \mathcal{P} | \eta^-]}{[P\eta]} = \sum_j \frac{\langle i^- | \mathcal{j} | \eta^-]}{[P\eta]}$$

where $P = \sum_{j} j$ and η is lightlike auxiliary vector



2-

Cachazo, Svrcek and Witten

P+



MHV rules

Must connect up a positive helicity off-shell line to a negative helicity off-shell line with a scalar propagator



Connecting two MHV's \Rightarrow amplitude with 3 negative helicities Connecting three MHV's \Rightarrow amplitude with 4 negative helicities etc.

Example: six gluon scattering



Each graph is $MHV \times 1/P^2 \times MHV$ e.g. diagram 1

$$\frac{\langle 12 \rangle^4}{\langle 56 \rangle \langle 61 \rangle \langle 12 \rangle \langle 2|P|\eta \rangle \langle 5|P|\eta \rangle} \times \frac{1}{s_{34}} \times \frac{\langle 3|P|\eta \rangle^4}{\langle 34 \rangle \langle 4|P|\eta \rangle \langle 3|P|\eta \rangle}$$

with P = 3 + 4 = -(1 + 2 + 5 + 6) +five analogous terms

Example: Next-to MHV amplitude for *n* **gluons**

Simplest case: $A_n(1^-, 2^-, 3^-, 4^+, \dots, n^+)$

2(n-3) graphs

Cachazo, Svrcek and Witten



where $(k, i) = k + \dots + i$ is the off-shell momentum \Rightarrow Lorentz invariant and gauge invariant expressions

Other processes

MHV rules have been generalised to many other processes

✓ with massless fermions - quarks, gluinos

Georgiou and Khoze; Wu and Zhu; Georgiou, EWNG and Khoze

✓ with massless scalars - squarks

Georgiou, EWNG and Khoze; Khoze

✓ with an external Higgs boson

Dixon, EWNG, Khoze; Badger, EWNG, Khoze

✓ with an external weak boson

Bern, Forde, Kosower and Mastrolia

Has provided **new** analytic results for *n*-particle amplitudes Also useful for studying infrared properties of amplitudes

Birthwright, EWNG, Khoze and Marquard

Links with lagrangian

Mansfield; Ettle, Morris

BCFW on-shell recursion relations

Britto, Cachazo, Feng, Witten; Roiban, Spradlin, Volovich

Based on elementary complex analysis - Cauchy Integral Formula





provided that $A(z) \rightarrow 0$ as $z \rightarrow \infty$

sum of residues = $A(0) + \ldots$

Simple enough, but how is this related to scattering amplitudes?

BCFW on-shell recursion relations

Britto, Cachazo, Feng; Roiban, Spradlin, Volovich Lets consider an *n* particle amplitude A(0).



hatted momenta are shifted to put on-shell

$$\hat{i} = i + z\eta, \qquad \hat{j} = j - z\eta, \qquad \hat{P} = P + z\eta$$

 \Rightarrow each vertex is an on-shell amplitude

BCFW recursion relations

It turns out that the shift η is not a momentum, but

$$\eta = \lambda_i \tilde{\lambda}_j \qquad OR \qquad \eta = \lambda_j \tilde{\lambda}_i$$

• The parameter z is fixed by $\hat{P}^2 = 0$

$$z = \frac{P^2}{\langle j|P|i]}$$

Solution Easy to prove that by complex analysis based on fact that only simple poles in z occur and that A(z) vanishes as $z \to \infty$

Britto, Cachazo, Feng and Witten

Sequires on-shell three-point vertex contributions - both MHV and \overline{MHV}

BCFW - six gluon example

If we select 3 and 4 to be the special gluons, there are only three diagrams (for any helicities)



For this helicity assignment, the middle diagram is zero!. $A_6(1^-, 2^-, 3^-, 4^+, 5^+, 6^+)$

$$=\frac{1}{\langle 5|\vec{\beta}+\vec{4}|2\rangle}\left(\frac{\langle 1|\vec{2}+\vec{\beta}|4\rangle^{3}}{[23][34]\langle 56\rangle\langle 61\rangle s_{234}}+\frac{\langle 3|\vec{4}+\vec{\beta}|6\rangle^{3}}{[61][12]\langle 34\rangle\langle 45\rangle s_{345}}\right)$$

Extremely compact analytic results for up to 8 gluons

Other processes

BCF recursion relations have been generalised to other processes

✓ with massless fermions - quarks, gluinos

Luo and Wen



Bedford, Brandhuber, Spence and Travaglini; Cachazo and Svrcek

There is nothing (in principle) to stop this approach being applied to particles with mass.

✓ massive coloured scalars

Badger, EWNG, Khoze and Svrcek

massive vector bosons and heavy quarks

Badger, EWNG and Khoze

One loop amplitudes

Loop amplitudes contain both poles and cuts

$$A_n^1 \sim (\text{poly}) \log s + \text{rational}$$



e.g. log(x) has cut for negative x

Cut contributions are fully constructible by using unitarity
 - Cut lines are on-shell



Unitarity Bootstrap

1 Cut contributions are fully constructible by using 4-dimensional unitarity and exploiting the tree-level helicity amplitudes known in 4-dimensions

Bern, Dixon, Dunbar, Kosower; Britto, Cachazo, Feng

2 Pole contributions can be constructed using BCFW type recursion and knowledge of factorisation properties

Berger, Bern, Dixon, Forde, Kosower, ...

or by direct evaluation of (ultraviolet) parts of Feynman graphs

Xiao, Yang, Zhu; Binoth, Guillet, Heinrich; Ossola, Papadopoulos, Pittau, ...

3 Both contributions can be reconstructed simultaneously using *d*-dimensional unitarity

Anastasiou, Britto, Feng, Kunzst, Mastrolia

$$1+2\equiv 3$$

4-d cut constructible parts

At least three different methods - all based on connecting on-shell 4-dimensional vertices

Bern, Dixon, Dunbar, Kosower; Britto, Cachazo, Feng; Brandhuber, Spence, Travaglini



- Reconstruct coefficients of basis set of integrals boxes, triangles, bubbles
 - 1. Classic double cut + collinear factorisation (triple cut)

Bern, Dixon, Dunbar, Kosower (94)

2. Generalised (quadruple cut) unitarity and holomorphic anomaly

Britto, Cachazo, Feng

Reconstruct full amplitude by doing phase space and dispersion integrals

Brandhuber, Spence, Travaglini

SUSY QCD loops

- So far, supersymmetry was not a major factor tree level amplitudes same for $\mathcal{N} = 4$ and $\mathcal{N} = 1$ and QCD
- Not true at the loop level due to circulating states

$$A_n^{\mathcal{N}=4} = A_n^{[1]} + 4A_n^{[1/2]} + 3A_n^{[0]}$$
$$A_n^{\mathcal{N}=1,chiral} = A_n^{[1/2]} + A_n^{[0]}$$
$$A_n^{glue} = A_n^{\mathcal{N}=4} - 4A_n^{\mathcal{N}=1,chiral} + A_n^{[0]}$$

- ✓ $\mathcal{N} = 4$ and $\mathcal{N} = 1$ one-loop amplitudes are fully constructible from their 4-dimensional cuts
- ✓ For N = 4 all amplitudes are a linear combination of known box integrals

$$A_{\Pi} = \Sigma + a + b + c + c + d + e + f + f$$

Generalised unitarity

Coefficients of box graphs fixed uniquely - one at a time - by taking the four particle cut



Coefficients of boxes are products of MHV's subject to constraint that propagators are on-shell

Twistor space interpretation

Coefficients of boxes have very interesting structures.

Bern, Del Duca, Dixon, Kosower; Britto, Cachazo, Feng



Twistor space interpretation

Four mass box first appears in eight-point amplitude with four negative and four positive helicities

Bern, Dixon, Kosower

e.g.





QCD loops

- X QCD amplitudes more complicated because they are not 4-dimensional cut constructible and have a rational contribution
- X All plus and almost all plus amplitudes no longer zero but pure rational functions. Not protected by SWI.
- ✓ Rational parts of infrared divergent amplitudes computed using
 - ✓ on-shell recursion relation

Bern, Dixon and Kosower

Recursion relations complicated by double pole terms and boundary terms

✓ direct Feynman diagram evaluation of rational part

Xiao, Yang, Zhu

✓ *d*-dimensional cuts

Anastasiou, Britto, Feng, Kunszt, Mastrolia

Six gluon amplitude

✓ Analytic computation

Bedford, Berger, Bern, Bidder, Bjerrum-Bohr, Brandhuber, Britto, Buchbinder, Cachazo, Dixon, Dunbar, Feng, Forde, Kosower, Mastrolia, Perkins, Spence, Travaglini, Xiao, Yang, Zhu

Amplitude	$\mathcal{N}=4$	$\mathcal{N} = 1$	$\mathcal{N}=0$ (cut)	$\mathcal{N}=0$ (rat)
++++	BDDK (94)	BDDK (94)	BDDK (94)	BDK (94)
-+-+++	BDDK (94)	BDDK (94)	BBST (04)	BBDFK (06), XYZ (06)
-++-++	BDDK (94)	BDDK (94)	BBST (04)	BBDFK (06), XYZ (06)
+++	BDDK (94)	BDDK (94)	BBDI (05), BFM (06)	BBDFK (06), XYZ (06)
+-++	BDDK (94)	BBDP (05), BBCF (05)	BFM (06)	XYZ (06)
-+-+-+	BDDK (94)	BBDP (05), BBCF (05)	BFM (06)	XYZ (06)

✓ Numerical evaluation Ellis, Giele, Zanderighi (06)

Summary - I

- ✓ On-shell techniques are a very exciting and rapidly developing field
- MHV rules for tree-level
 Very simple way of deriving *n*-point amplitudes for massless partons
- BCFW recursion relations for tree-level
 Very powerful method for deriving amplitudes for both massless and massive particles
- **X** Berends-Giele recursion still looks to be numerically faster
- Generalised unitarity and one-loop amplitudes SUSY amplitudes 4-d cut constructible - coefficients of loop integrals can be *read off* from graphs QCD amplitudes contain 4-d cut-non constructible parts. These simple pole terms can be attacked using the BCFW relations

Bern, Dixon, Kosower

or by direct evaluation using Feynman diagrams

Xiao, Yang, Zhu

Summary - II

- New methods already competitive with traditional methods for loop amplitudes with massless particles - gluons, quarks
- ✓ Will definitely see all six parton one-loop amplitudes in next few months
- Not necessarily the most interesting phenomenologically
- ? Will new methods be useful for amplitudes with heavy particles top quarks, susy particles, Higgs bosons, vector bosons
- ✓ In principle heavy particles not a problem but certainly a complication.
- ✓ yes for one vector boson plus multiparton e.g. V + multijet
- \checkmark probable for two vector boson plus multiparton e.g. VV + multijet
- ? much more difficult for $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$
 - ✓ ✓ Expect more progress in 2007



Berends-Giele : Off-shell recursion relations

Full amplitudes can be built up from simpler amplitudes with fewer particles



Purple gluons are off-shell, green gluons are on-shell. This is a recursion relation built from off-shell currents.

Berends, Giele

Particularly suited to numerical solution

ALPGEN, HELAC/PHEGAS

Common methods : Colour Ordered Amplitudes

$$\mathcal{A}_n(1,\ldots,n) = \sum_{perms} Tr(T^{a_1}\ldots T^{a_n})A_n(1,\ldots,n)$$

Colour-stripped amplitudes A_n : cyclically ordered

Order of external gluons fixed

The subamplitudes A_n have nice properties in the infrared limits.



Can reconstruct the full amplitude A_n from A_n . In the large N limit,

$$|\mathcal{A}_n(1,\ldots,n)|^2 \sim N^{n-2} \sum_{perms} |A_n(1,\ldots,n)|^2$$

Spinor Helicity Formalism

In Weyl (chiral) representation, each helicity state is represented by a bi-spinor (a = 1, 2)

$$u_{+}(p) = \lambda_{pa}, \qquad u_{-}(p) = \tilde{\lambda}_{p}^{\dot{a}},$$
$$\overline{u_{+}(p)} = \tilde{\lambda}_{p\dot{a}}, \qquad \overline{u_{-}(p)} = \lambda_{p}^{a}$$

so that

$$p_{a\dot{a}} \equiv p_{\mu}\sigma^{\mu}_{a\dot{a}} = \lambda_{pa}\tilde{\lambda}_{p\dot{a}}$$

Spinor Helicity Formalism

Polarisation vectors for particle i:

$$\varepsilon_{ia\dot{a}}^{-} = \frac{\lambda_{ia}\tilde{\eta}_{\dot{a}}}{[\tilde{\lambda}_{i}\tilde{\eta}]}, \qquad \varepsilon_{ia\dot{a}}^{+} = \frac{\eta_{a}\tilde{\lambda}_{i\dot{a}}}{\langle\eta\lambda_{i}\rangle}$$

Solution For real momenta in Minkowski space,

 $\tilde{\lambda}=\lambda^*$

$$\langle ij \rangle^* = -[ij]$$

- For space-time signature (+, +, -, -), $\tilde{\lambda}$, λ are real and independent
- Amplitudes are functions of the λ_i and $\tilde{\lambda}_i$

Twistor Space

Penrose, 1967

Amplitudes in twistor space obtained by Fourier transform with respect to positive helicity spinors,

$$\tilde{\lambda}_{\dot{a}} = i \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^{\dot{a}}}, \qquad \qquad \mu^{\dot{a}} = i \frac{\partial}{\partial \tilde{\lambda}_{\dot{a}}}$$

Momentum conservation yields

$$\delta\left(\sum k_j\right) = \int d^4x \exp\left(i\sum_j x \cdot k_j\right) = \int d^4x \exp\left(ix^{a\dot{a}}\sum_j \lambda_{ja}\tilde{\lambda}_{j\dot{a}}\right)$$

so that the amplitude in twistor space is

$$\tilde{A}(\lambda_i,\mu_{\dot{i}}) = \int d^4x \int \prod_i \frac{d^2 \tilde{\lambda}_i}{(2\pi)^2} \exp\left(i \sum_j \left(\mu_j^{\dot{a}} + x^{a\dot{a}} \lambda_{ja}\right) \tilde{\lambda}_{j\dot{a}}\right) A(\lambda_i,\tilde{\lambda}_i)$$

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- NNLO ✓ (inclusive) Drell-Yan and Higgs total cross sections Anastasiou, Dixon, Melnikov, Petriello
 - (inclusive) Drell-Yan and Higgs rapidity distributions Anastasiou, Dixon, Melnikov, Petriello
 - ✓ NNLO evolution Moch, Vogt, Vermaseren
 - × need full set of NNLO observables for global fit. DIS and Drell-Yan will not be enough

Gauge boson production at the LHC



Gauge boson production at the LHC



Gold-plated process

Anastasiou, Dixon, Melnikov, Petriello

At LHC NNLO perturbative accuracy better than 1%

⇒ may be able to use to determine parton-parton luminosities at the LHC

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α_s^4				NLO	LO	
α_s^5					NLO	LO

- **NNLO** \checkmark want to calculate $2 \rightarrow 2$ to few percent accuracy and use as standard candle to determine pdfs and α_s more accurately
 - ✓ with global pdf fit, gives impact on all observables
 - **×** still not available