



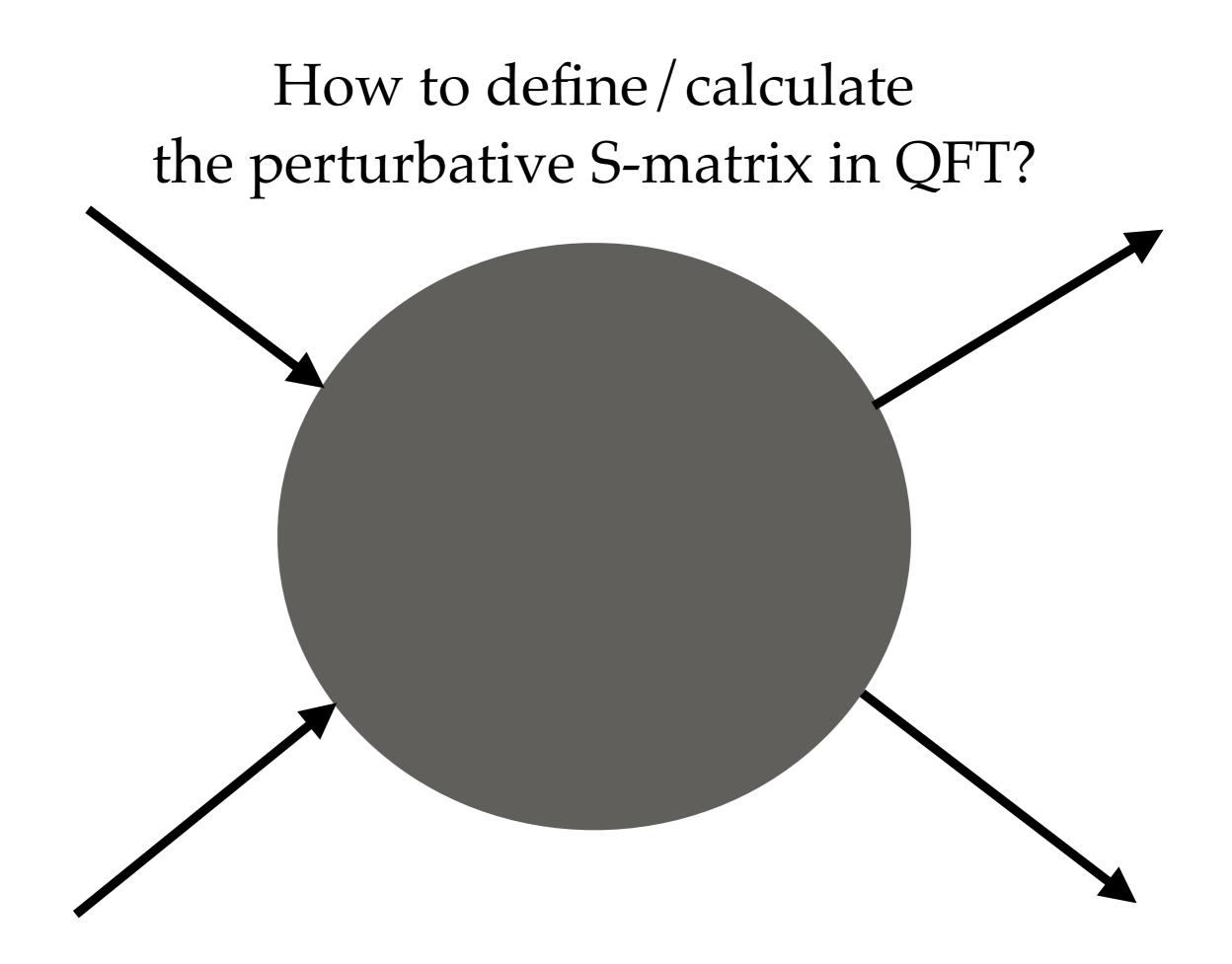
Deep into the Amplituhedron

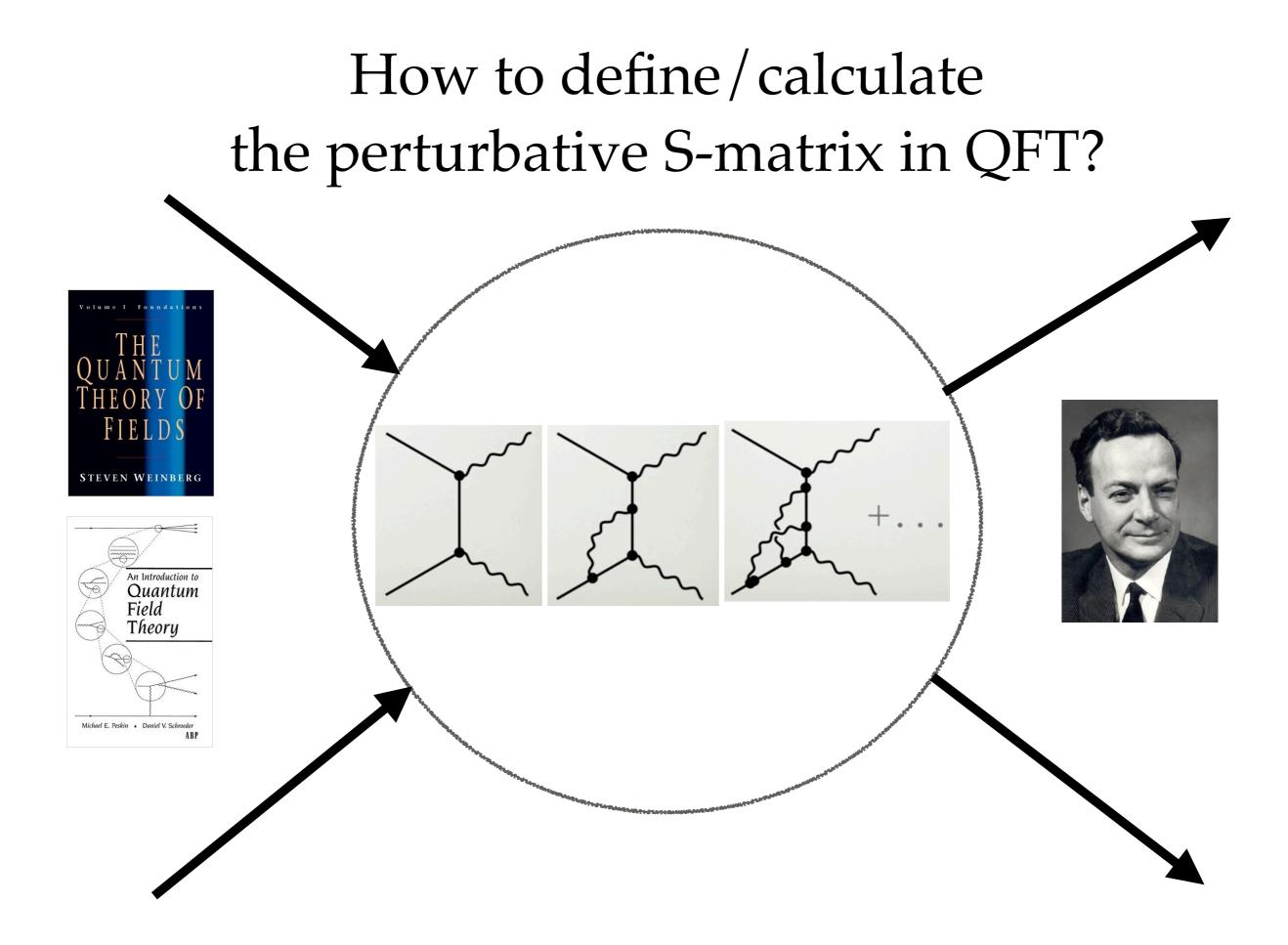
Jaroslav Trnka

Center for Quantum Mathematics and Physics (QMAP), University of California, Davis, USA

work with Nima Arkani-Hamed, Hugh Thomas, Cameron Langer, Akshay Yelleshpur Srikant, Enrico Herrmann, Minshan Zheng, Ryota Kojima

IPMU Mathematics/String Theory seminar, Dec 5, 2019

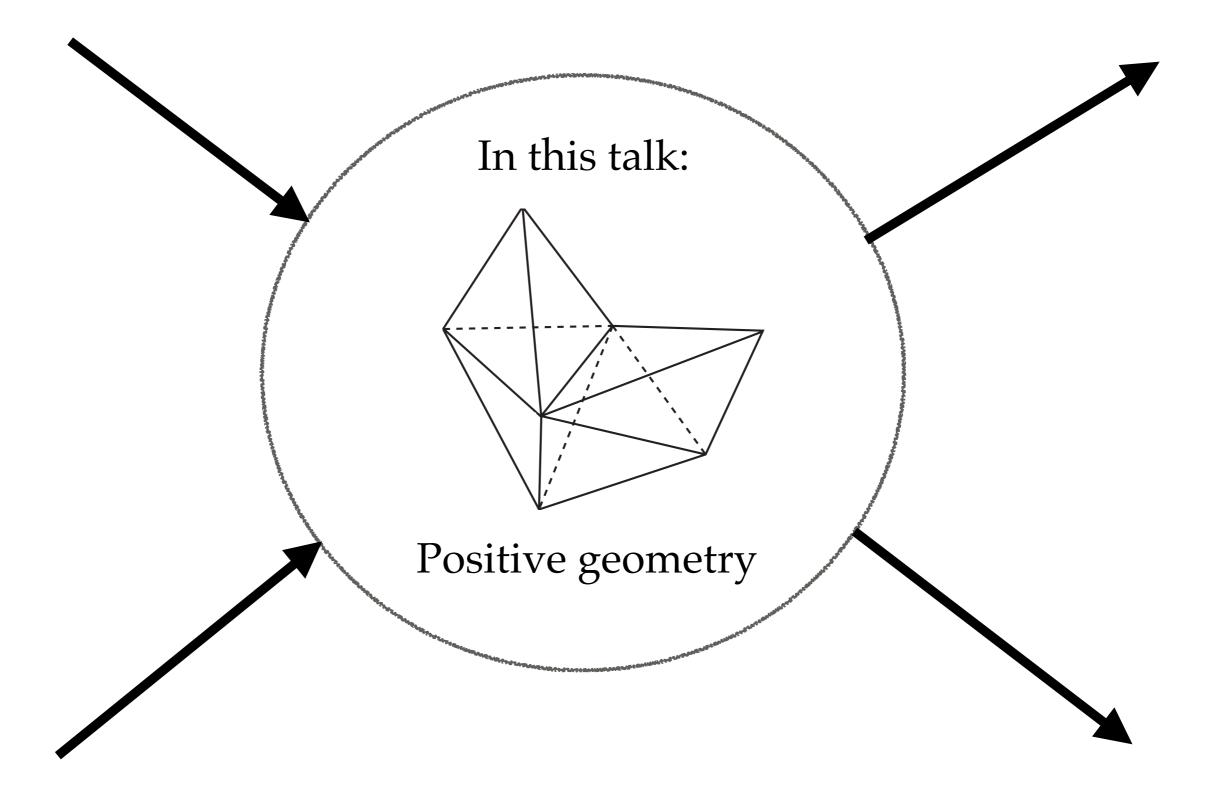




New picture?

Unitarity methods Recursion relations Integrability Strings, world-sheet models Color-kinematics duality Bootstrap approaches

New picture?

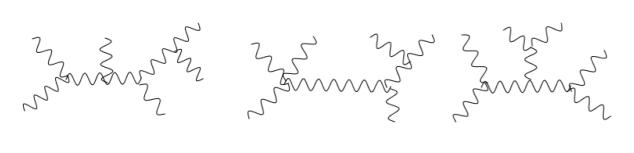


Motivation

- Practical approach: efficient computational method
- Theoretical motivation: understand all-loop order Smatrix, find a completely new framework
- Indirect way to attack bigger problems such as quantum gravity

Unexpected simplicity

- Need for new understanding: simplicity in scattering amplitudes invisible in Feynman diagrams
- Famous example: 2->4 gluon amplitudes in QCD



120 Feyman diagrams



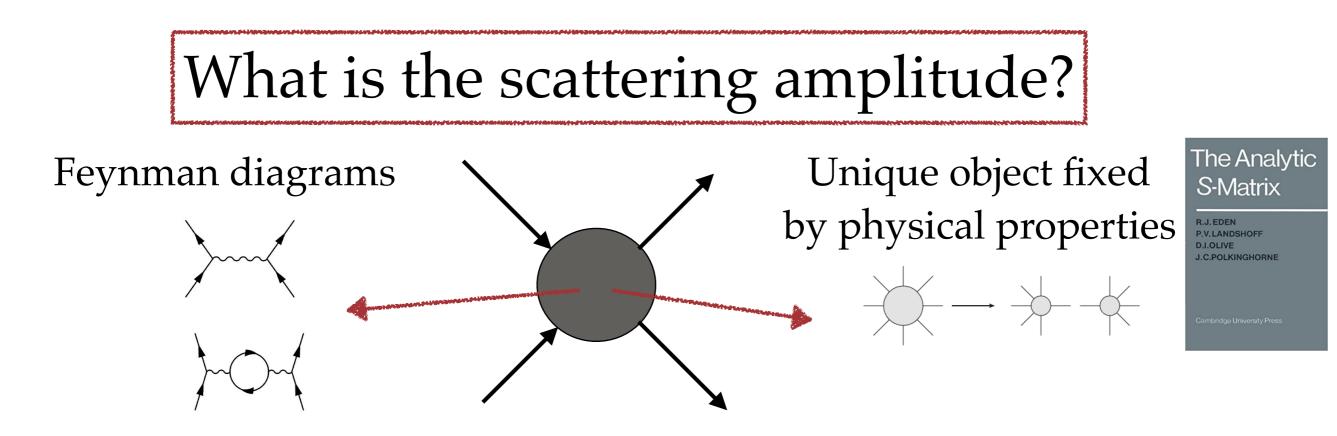
 $(k_1 \cdot k_4)(\epsilon_2 \cdot k_1)(\epsilon_1 \cdot \epsilon_3)(\epsilon_4 \cdot \epsilon_5)$

100 pages

Unexpected simplicity

- Need for new understanding: simplicity in scattering amplitudes invisible in Feynman diagrams
- Famous example: 2->4 gluon amplitudes in QCD
 (Parke, Taylor 1985)
 Helicity amplitude $M_6(1^-2^-3^+4^+5^+6^+)$ Color ordering $M_6 = \sum \operatorname{Tr}(T^{a_1}T^{a_2}\dots T^{a_6})A_6(123456)$ $A_6 = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^4}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle \langle 56 \rangle \langle 61 \rangle}$ Maximal-helicity (MHV) violating amplitude

Change of strategy



Modern methods use both:

- Calculate the amplitude directly
- Use perturbation theory

Lesson from Parke-Taylor:

- On-shell gauge invariant objects
- Helicity amplitudes $A_{n,k}$

Modern methods

- Very rich playground of ideas
 - Use of physical constraints: unitarity methods, recursion relations
 - Calculating loop integrals, study mathematical functions, symbols
 - Symmetries of N=4 SYM, UV of N=8 SUGRA, string amplitudes
- Connection between amplitudes and geometry
 - Canonical example is the geometry of worldsheet
 - CHY formula: write QFT amplitudes on worldsheet

(Cachazo, He, Yuan 2013)

$$A_n = \int \frac{dz_1 \dots dz_n}{\operatorname{Vol}[SL(2,C)]} \delta\left(\sum_{b \neq a} \frac{s_{ab}}{z_a - z_b}\right) \mathcal{I}_n$$

Positive geometry

Geometric space defined using a set of inequalities

polynomials parametrize kinematics

• Define the differential form on this space $\Omega(x_i)$

 $F_k(x_i) \ge 0$

• Special form: logarithmic singularities on the boundaries

$$\Omega(x_i) \sim \frac{dx_i}{x_i}$$
 near boundary $x_i = 0$

Simple examples

Example: 1d interval

$$F(x) = x > 0$$

$$x = 0$$
 $x = \infty$

form:
$$\Omega = \frac{dx}{x} \equiv \operatorname{dlog} x$$

$$F_1(x) = x - x_1 > 0$$

 $F_2(x) = x_2 - x > 0$

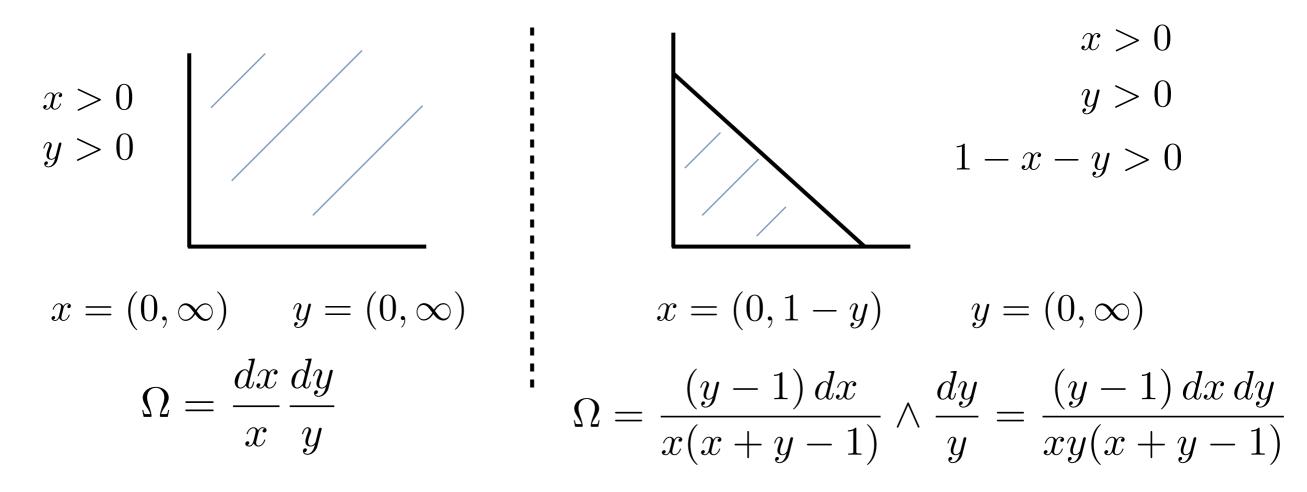
$$x = x_1 \qquad \qquad x = x_2$$

normalization: singularities are unit

$$\Omega = \frac{dx (x_1 - x_2)}{(x - x_1)(x - x_2)} = d\log\left(\frac{x - x_1}{x - x_2}\right)$$

Simple examples

Example: 2d region



General positive geometry: more than just boundaries

Positive Grassmannian

- Consider space of (2x4) matrices modulo GL(2)
 Real Grassmannian G(2,4) $\begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & a_4 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 & b_4 \end{pmatrix}$
- Positive Grassmannian $G_+(2,4)$ All (2x2) minors $(ij) > 0 \longrightarrow$ not all of them are boundaries

Positive Grassmannian

- Consider space of (2x4) matrices modulo GL(2)
 Real Grassmannian G(2,4) $\begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & a_4 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 & b_4 \end{pmatrix}$
- ★ Positive Grassmannian G₊(2, 4) All (2x2) minors (ij) > 0 → not all of them are boundaries Shouten identity (13)(24) = (12)(34) + (14)(23) ↓ product positive all positive (13)=0 (13), (24) > 0 ▲ (13), (24) < 0 unless set several others to zero</p>

Positive Grassmannian

• Positive Grassmannian $G_+(2,4)$

Fix GL(2): choose
parametrization $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & x & 0 & -y \\ 0 & w & 1 & z \end{pmatrix}$ x, y, z, w > 0

• Boundaries: (12), (23), (34), (14) = 0

Logarithmic form:

$$\Omega = \frac{dx}{x}\frac{dy}{y}\frac{dz}{z}\frac{dw}{w} = \frac{d^{2\times4}C}{\text{vol}[GL(2)]}\frac{1}{(12)(23)(34)(14)}$$

Positive geometry for amplitudes

- Amplituhedron: planar N=4 SYM
- (Arkani-Hamed, JT) (Arkani-Hamed, Thomas, JT)

- Tree-level and all-loop integrand
- Associahedron: biadjoint scalar at tree-level

(Arkani-Hamed, Bai, He, Yan)

- Connection to CHY, recent work on 1-loop
- More: cosmological polytopes, CFT, EFT
 (Arkani-Hamed, Benincasa, Huang, Shao)
- ✤ Gravituhedron: tree-level GR??? (JT, in progress)

Note: at the moment, no work on the final (integrated) loop amplitudes space of functions is too complicated, we can not play this game

Amplituhedron

(Arkani-Hamed, JT 2013)

(Arkani-Hamed, Thomas, JT 2017)

Amplitudes in planar N=4 SYM

Large N limit: only planar diagrams, cyclic ordering

*
$$\mathcal{N} = 4$$
 superfield: $\Phi = G_+ + \tilde{\eta}_A \Gamma_A + \dots + \epsilon_{ABCD} \tilde{\eta}^A \tilde{\eta}^B \tilde{\eta}^C \tilde{\eta}^D G_-$

* Superamplitudes: $A_n = \sum_{k=2}^{n-2} A_{n,k}$ K = 2Component amplitudes
with power $\tilde{\eta}^{4k}$ Contains $A_n(-\cdots + + \cdots +)$

k

 $N^{k-2}MHV$ amplitude

Tree-level + loop integrand

- conformal invariant \ Yangian
- dual conformal invariant $\int PSU(2,2|4)$

broken after integration due to IR divergencies

Amplitudes in planar N=4 SYM

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Tree-level + loop integrand

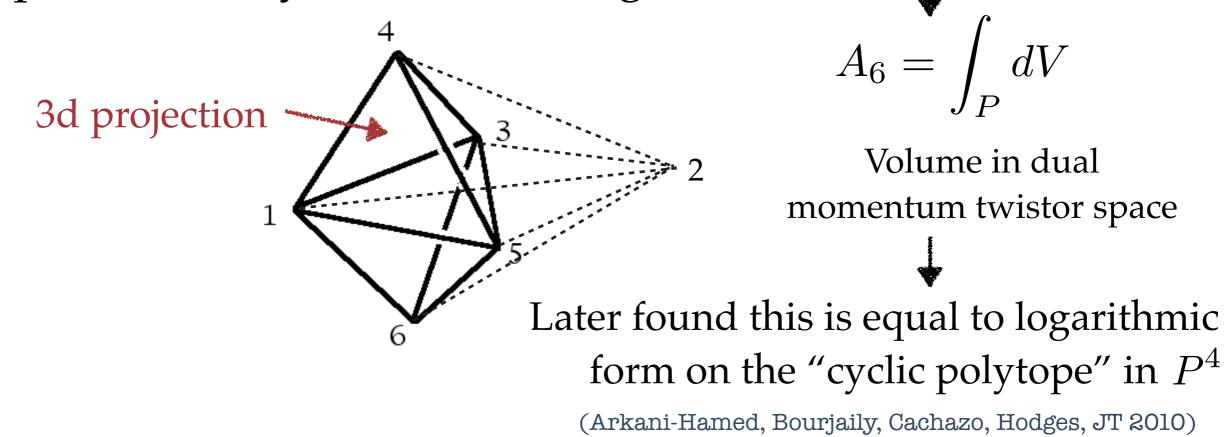
- conformal invariant
 Yangian
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broken after integration due to IR divergencies

ns $A_n(--+++\cdots+)$ k k^{k-2} MHV amplitude denote $k-2 \rightarrow k$ MHV amplitude: k=0

Amplitudes as volumes of polytopes

The simplest example is the 6pt NMHV amplitude
 pioneered by Andrew Hodges in 2009





 Calculation: triangulation in terms of elementary building blocks

> Divide into two simplices by cutting the polyhedron with (1235) plane The first only depends on (12345) and second on (12356)

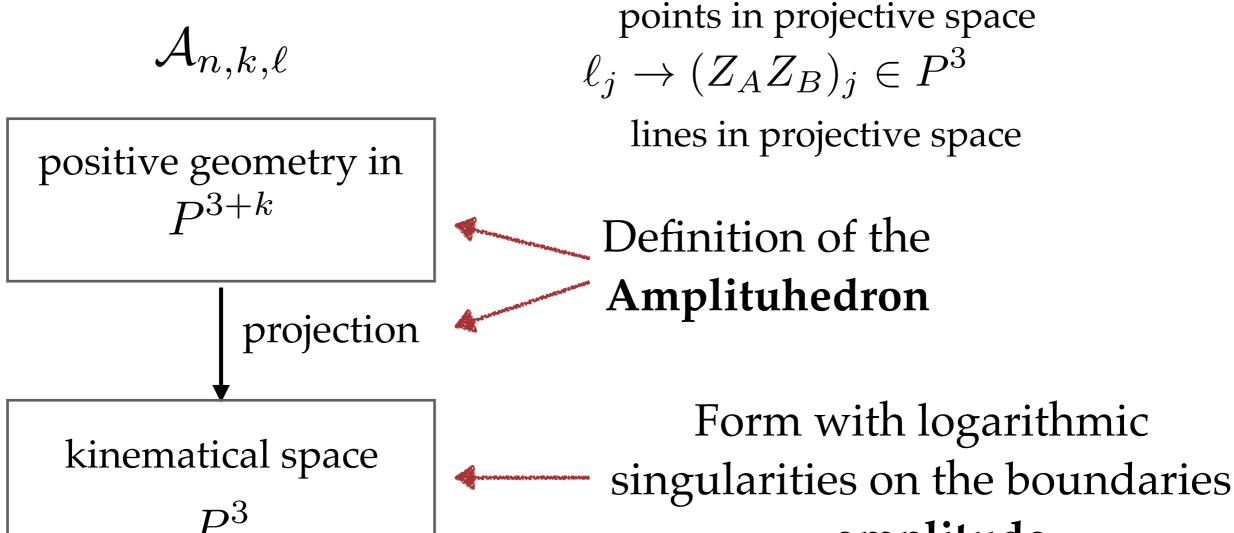
 $A_6 = [12345] + [12356]$

each simplex is associated with "R-invariant" this correctly reproduces amplitude

From kinematics to geometry

(Arkani-Hamed, Thomas, JT 2017)

• Change of kinematics: $p_i, \epsilon_j \to Z_k \in P^3$ k = 1, 2, ..., n

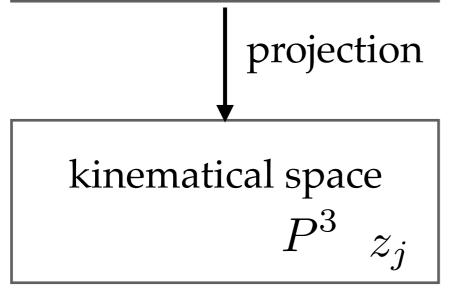


= amplitude

Back to 6pt NMHV amplitude

* Definition of the space: (5x5) determinants $\langle Z_1 Z_2 Z_3 Z_4 Z_5 \rangle, \langle Z_1 Z_2 Z_3 Z_4 Z_6 \rangle, \dots > 0$ convex hall of points

positive geometry in		
convex	P^4	Z_j



projection: $Y : P^4 \to P^3$ such that $\langle z_i z_{i+1} z_j z_{j+1} \rangle > 0$

these are boundaries: poles in S-matrix $\sim (p_{i+1} + p_{i+2} + \dots p_j)^2$

> In this case (boundaries)>0 completely specifies the projection, hence the space in P^3

Back to 6pt NMHV amplitude

Triangulation -> differential form -> amplitude $\Omega_{6} = [12345] + [12356] \quad \text{two simplicies}$ $\Omega_{6} = [12345] + [12356] \quad \text{two simplicies}$ $\Omega_{6} = [12345] + [12356] \quad \text{two simplicies}$ $\Omega_{1} = \frac{dx_{1}}{4} \frac{dx_{2}}{x_{2}} \frac{dx_{3}}{x_{3}} \frac{dx_{4}}{dx_{4}}$ $\Omega_{1} = \frac{(\langle 1234 \rangle dz_{5} + \langle 2345 \rangle dz_{1} + \langle 3451 \rangle dz_{2} + \langle 4512 \rangle dz_{3} + \langle 5123 \rangle dz_{4})^{4}}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 2345 \rangle \langle 3451 \rangle \langle 4512 \rangle \langle 5123 \rangle}$

 $[12356] = \frac{\langle \langle 1235 \rangle dz_6 + \langle 2356 \rangle dz_1 + \langle 3561 \rangle dz_2 + \langle 5612 \rangle dz_3 + \langle 6123 \rangle dz_5)^4}{\langle 1235 \rangle \langle 2356 \rangle \langle 3561 \rangle \langle 5612 \rangle \langle 6123 \rangle}$

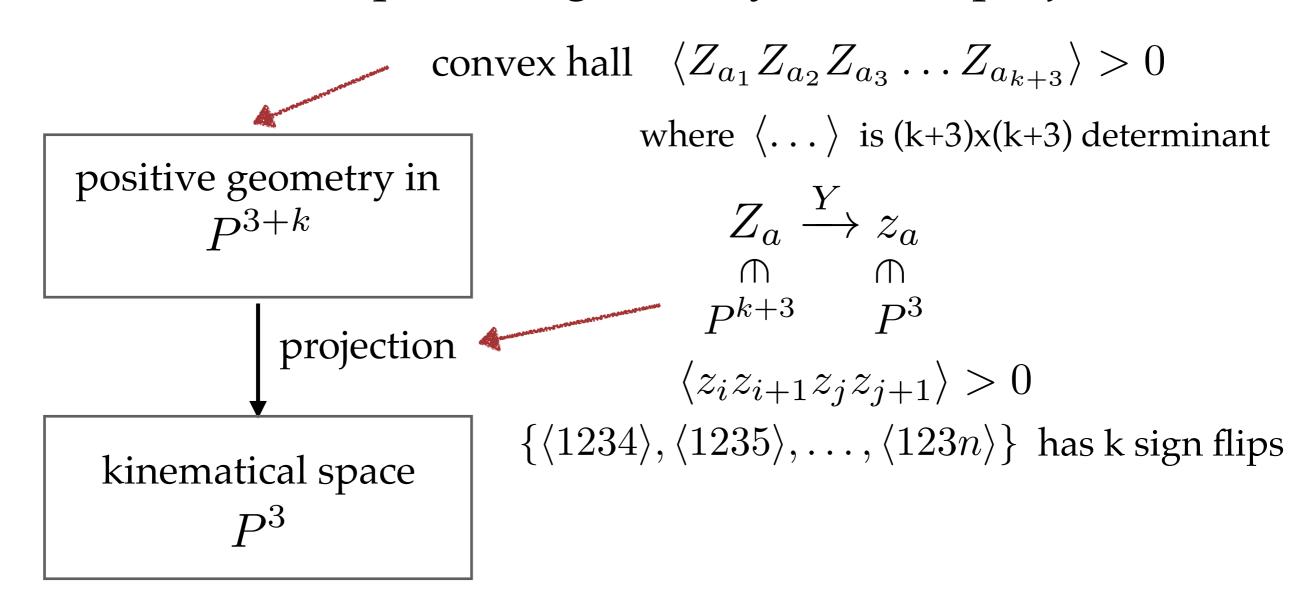
where $\langle 1234 \rangle \equiv \langle z_1 z_2 z_3 z_4 \rangle$

Back to 6pt NMHV amplitude

Triangulation -> differential form -> amplitude $A_6 = [12345] + [12356]$ two simplicies \longrightarrow project to P^3 Differential form Replace: $dz_i \rightarrow \eta_i$ Superfunction $[12345] = \frac{(\langle 1234 \rangle \eta_5 + \langle 2345 \rangle \eta_1 + \langle 3451 \rangle \eta_2 + \langle 4512 \rangle \eta_3 + \langle 5123 \rangle \eta_4)^4}{\langle 1234 \rangle \langle 2345 \rangle \langle 3451 \rangle \langle 4512 \rangle \langle 5123 \rangle}$ compare to amplitude to amplitude the compare to amplitude the compare to amplitude the compare to amplitude the compare the compare to amplitude the compare the compa to amplitude $[12356] = \frac{(\langle 1235 \rangle \eta_6 + \langle 2356 \rangle \eta_1 + \langle 3561 \rangle \eta_2 + \langle 5612 \rangle \eta_3 + \langle 6123 \rangle \eta_5)^4}{\langle 1235 \rangle \langle 2356 \rangle \langle 3561 \rangle \langle 5612 \rangle \langle 6123 \rangle}$ where $\langle 1234 \rangle \equiv \langle z_1 z_2 z_3 z_4 \rangle$

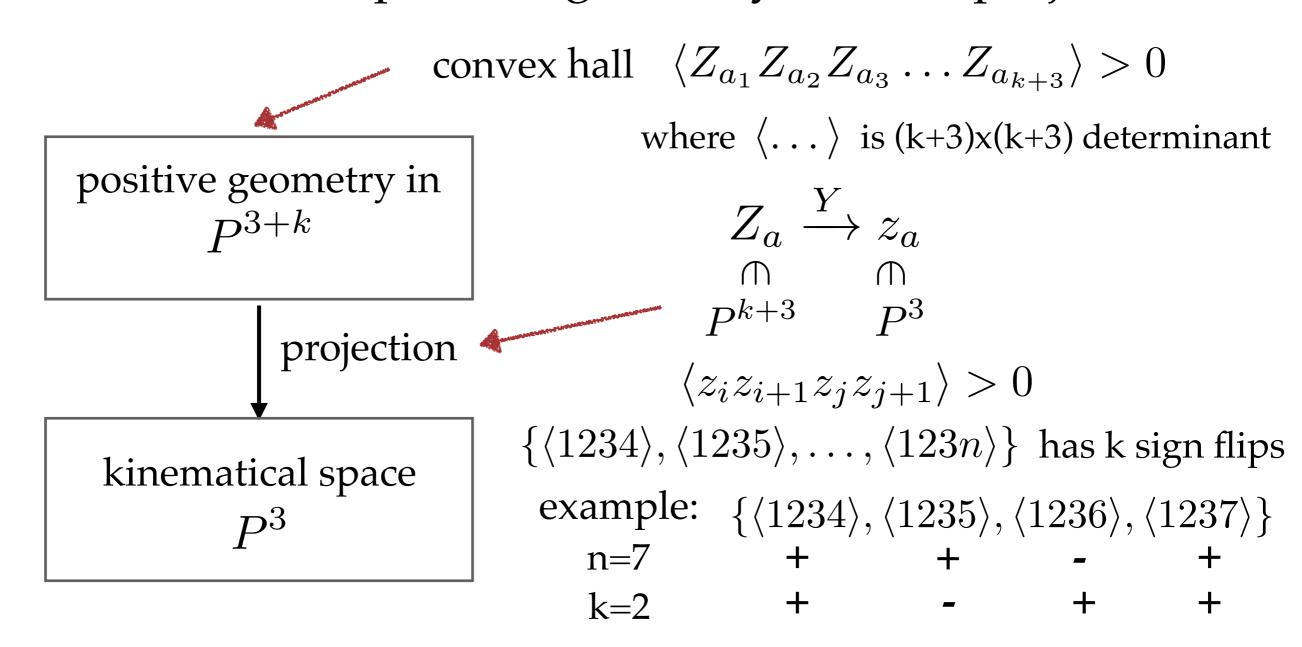
(Arkani-Hamed, Thomas, JT 2017)

Constraints on positive geometry and the projection



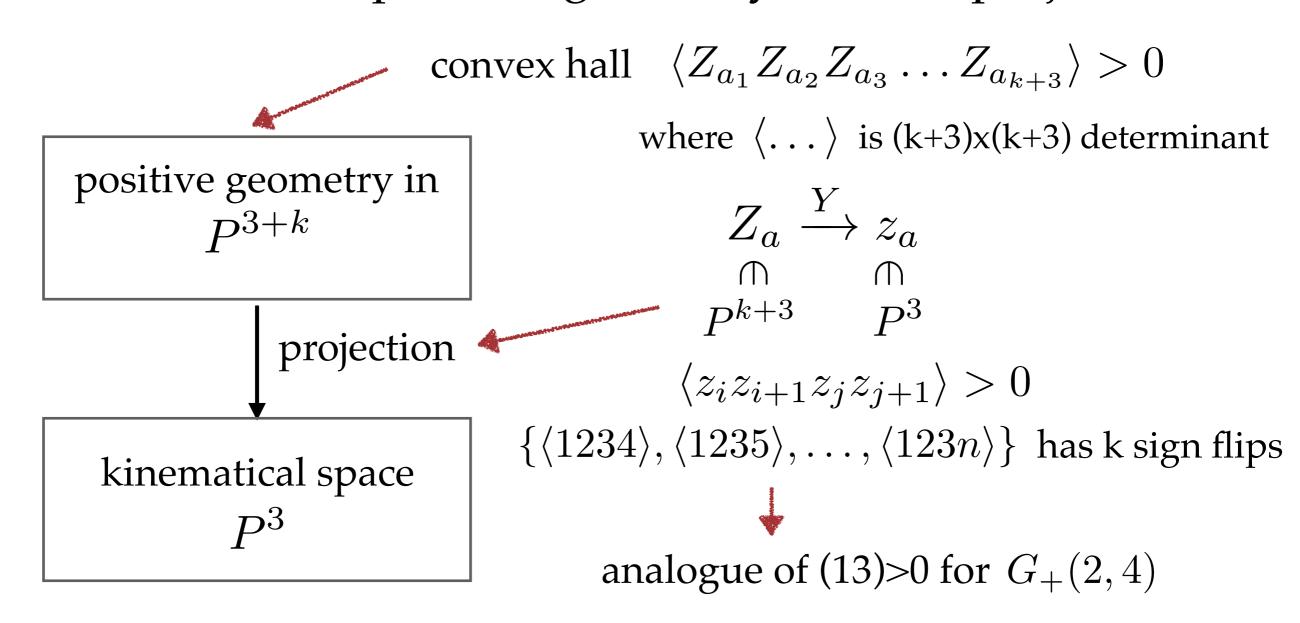
(Arkani-Hamed, Thomas, JT 2017)

Constraints on positive geometry and the projection



(Arkani-Hamed, Thomas, JT 2017)

Constraints on positive geometry and the projection



(Arkani-Hamed, Thomas, JT 2017)

★ Tree-level A_{n,k,ℓ=0} $\langle Z_{a_1} Z_{a_2} Z_{a_3} \dots Z_{a_{k+3}} \rangle > 0$ $\langle z_i z_{i+1} z_j z_{j+1} \rangle > 0$ $\{ \langle 1234 \rangle, \langle 1235 \rangle, \dots, \langle 123n \rangle \} \text{ has k sign flips}$ $4k \text{ form } \longrightarrow \Omega_{n,k}(z_j) \rightarrow A_{n,k}(z_j, \tilde{\eta}_j) \leftarrow \text{tree-level}$ amplitude

• Loop integrand $A_{n,k,\ell}$

for each line (loop momentum): $\langle (AB)_j z_i z_{i+1} \rangle > 0$ $\{\langle (AB)_j 12 \rangle, \langle (AB)_j 13 \rangle, \dots \langle (AB)_j 1n \rangle \}$ has (k+2) sign flips for each pair of lines: $\langle (AB)_j (AB)_k \rangle > 0$

loop integrand

 $4k + 4\ell$ form

From geometry to amplitudes

- Amplituhedron: space of points and lines in projective space
 - triangulate the space into "simplices" = elementary regions for which the form is trivial dlog form and sum them

$$\Omega = \frac{dx_1}{x_1} \frac{dx_2}{x_2} \dots \frac{dx_{4k+4\ell}}{x_{4k+4\ell}} \quad \text{where} \quad x_k = f(z_i, (AB)_j)$$

- Turn the physics problem of calculating scattering amplitudes to a math problem of triangulations
- Same S-matrix: physics properties are consequences of positivity geometry of Amplituhedron

Exploring Amplituhedron

(Arkani-Hamed, JT 2013) (Arkani-Hamed, Thomas, JT 2017)
(Arkani-Hamed, Langer, Yelleshpur Srikant, JT 2018) (Rao 2017, 2018) (Kojima 2018)
(Langer, Kojima to appear) (Herrmann, Langer, Zheng, JT, to appear)

Triangulations

- Systematic approach to triangulating the Amplituhedron is still missing
- A number of non-trivial explicit calculations
 - higher k and higher ℓ complicated
 - known results up to 2-loop (for MHV configuration) for any n (Arkani-Hamed, Rao, Kojima, Langer, JT)
- All-loop order data for boundaries (cuts of integrand)

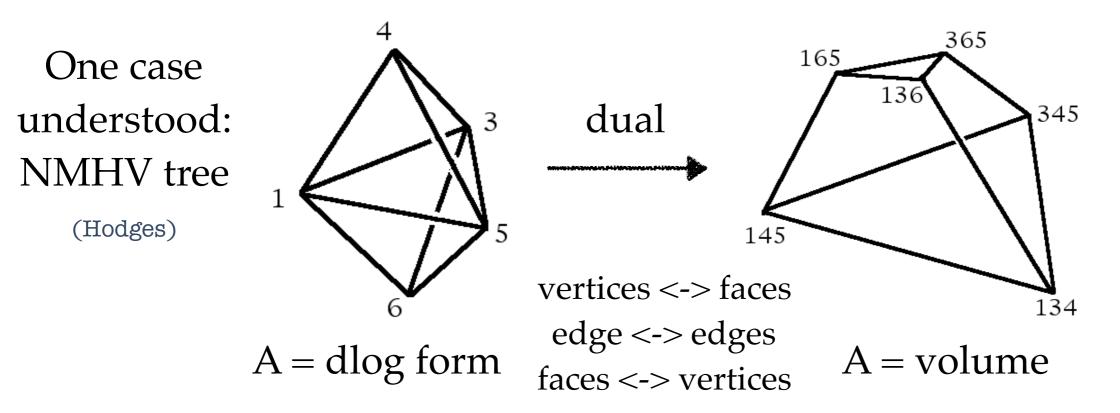
(Arkani-Hamed, Yellshpur, Langer, JT)

 Recent work on the rigorous understanding of Amplituhedron for simple cases

(Williams, Lam, Postnikov, Karp, Galashin)

Dual Amplituhedron

Original idea: amplitude = volume -> much desired



We do not know how to dualize Amplituhedron

Dual Amplituhedron

- Internal triangulations of Amplituhedron = external triangulations of dual Amplituhedron
 - Explicit triangulations -> deduce the dual Amplituhedron

(Langer, Zhen, JT, in progress)

Four point problem

For MHV amplitudes (k=0) there is no projection

$$Z_j = z_j \qquad \begin{array}{c} \text{positive geometry} \\ = \text{kinematical space} \ P^3 \end{array}$$

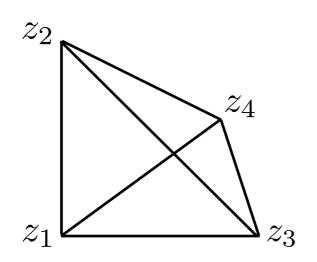
$$\langle z_{a_1} z_{a_2} z_{a_3} z_{a_4} \rangle > 0$$

4pt only: $\langle 1234 \rangle > 0$

* For 4pt (2->2 scattering) the all-loop problem can be phrased in a simple way: geometry of ℓ lines in P^3 for each: $\langle (AB)_j 12 \rangle, \langle (AB)_j 23 \rangle, \langle (AB)_j 34 \rangle, \langle (AB)_j 14 \rangle > 0$ boundaries $\{\langle (AB)_j 12 \rangle, \langle (AB)_j 13 \rangle, \langle (AB)_j 14 \rangle\} \longrightarrow \langle (AB)_j 13 \rangle < 0$ $+ - - + \langle (AB)_j 24 \rangle < 0$ not boundaries

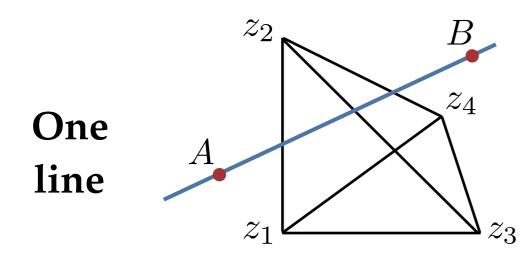
inequalities needed

• Geometry of ℓ lines in P^3 $\langle 1234 \rangle > 0 \longrightarrow$ fix



 $z = (z_1 \quad z_2 \quad z_3 \quad z_4) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ draw in 3-d space $v = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \vec{v} \end{pmatrix}$ space of z is completely fixed

• Geometry of ℓ lines in P^3 $\langle 1234 \rangle > 0 \longrightarrow$ fix



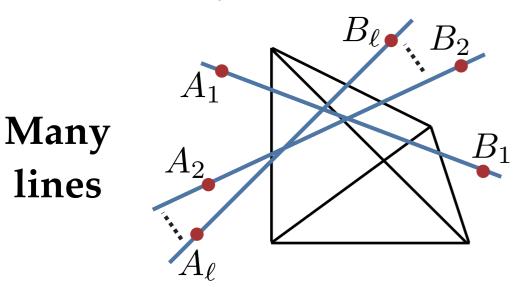
 $P^{3} \quad \langle 1234 \rangle > 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{fix}$ $z = \left(\begin{array}{ccc} z_{1} & z_{2} & z_{3} & z_{4} \end{array}\right) = \left(\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array}\right)$ $\text{draw in 3-d space} \quad v = \left(\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \vec{v} \end{array}\right) \qquad \text{space of } z \text{ is} \\ \text{completely fixed} \end{cases}$

Line in this space $A = z_1 + xz_2 + -yz_3$ $B = z_3 + wz_2 + zz_4$

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{matrix of} \\ \text{coefficients} \end{array} D = \left(\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & x & 0 & -y \\ 0 & w & 1 & z \end{array} \right)$

positive constraints: x,y,z,w>0

• Geometry of ℓ lines in P^3



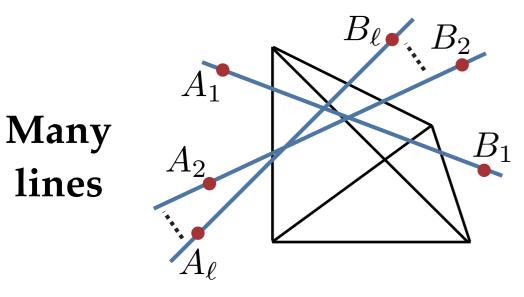
each line $D_j = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_j & 0 & -y_j \\ 0 & w_j & 1 & z_j \end{pmatrix}$ $x_j, y_j, w_j, z_j > 0$ mutual positivities

$$(x_j - x_k)(z_j - z_k) + (w_j - w_k)(y_j - y_k) < 0$$

Triangulation: break the space into elementary regions

$$x \in (x_{min}, x_{max}) \rightarrow \Omega = \frac{(x_{max} - x_{min}) dx}{(x - x_{min})(x - x_{max})}$$
 for each parameter

• Geometry of ℓ lines in P^3



each line
$$D_j = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_j & 0 & -y_j \\ 0 & w_j & 1 & z_j \end{pmatrix}$$

 $x_j, y_j, w_j, z_j > 0$
mutual positivities
 $(x_j - x_k)(z_j - z_k) + (w_j - w_k)(y_j - y_k) < 0$

Triangulation: break the space into elementary regions

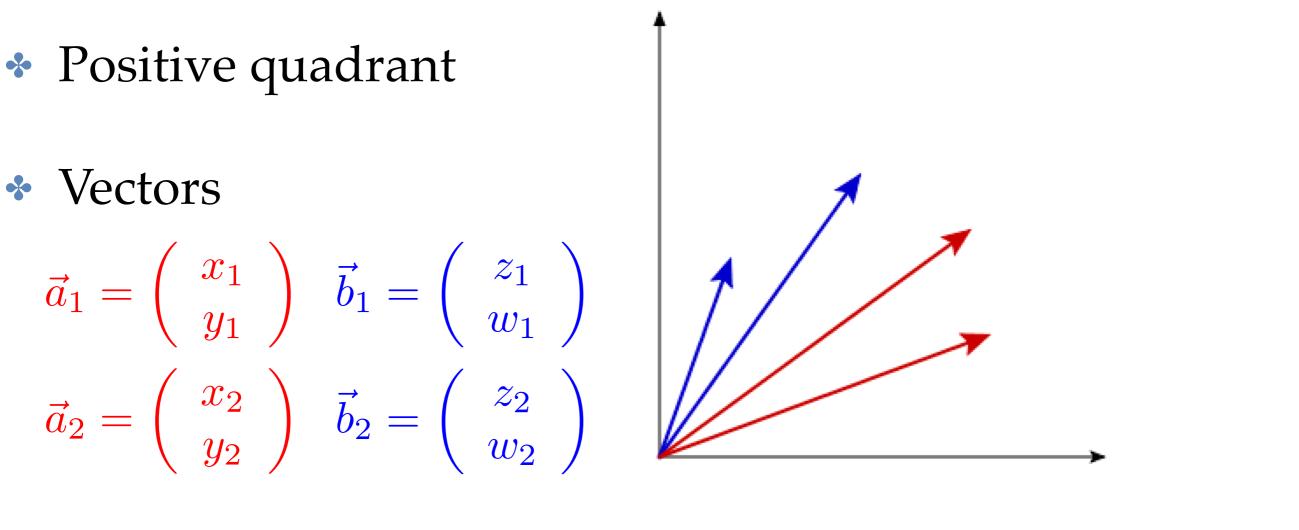
$$x \in (x_{min}, x_{max}) \rightarrow \Omega = \frac{(x_{max} - x_{min}) dx}{(x - x_{min})(x - x_{max})}$$
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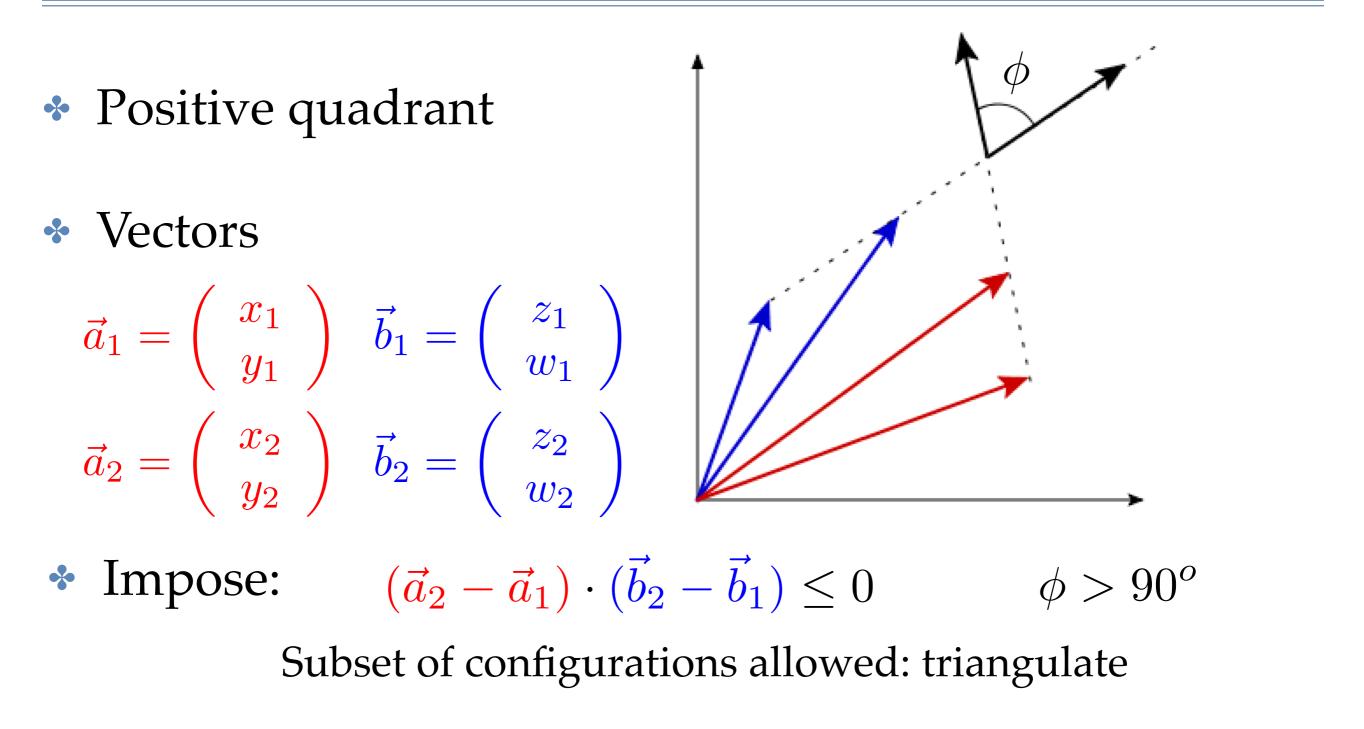
Quadratic conditions: hard to solve

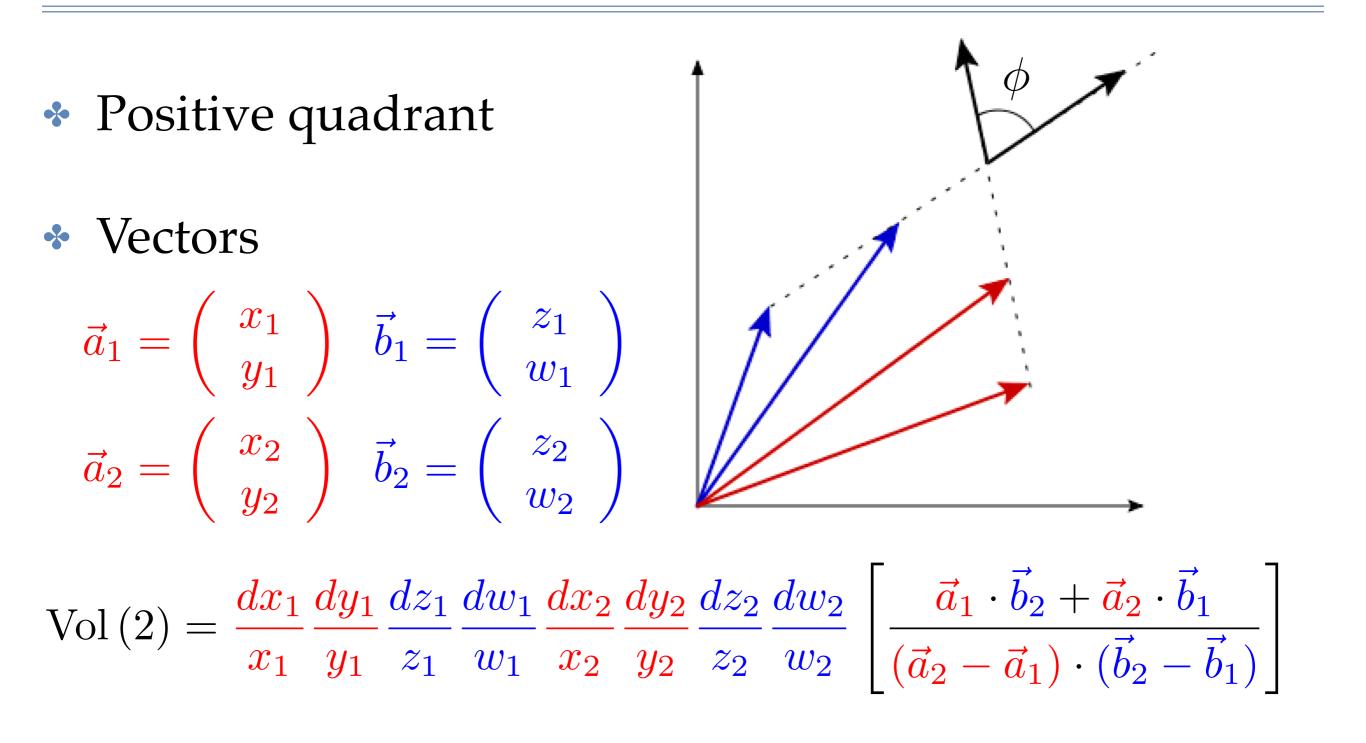
Positive quadrant

 Positive quadrant Vectors $\vec{a}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{b}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ w_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \left| \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{1} \\ \mathbf{1}$ $\operatorname{Vol}(1) = \frac{dx_1}{x_1} \frac{dy_1}{y_1} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dw_1}{w_1}$

 Positive quadrant Vectors $\vec{a}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{b}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ w_1 \end{pmatrix}$ $\operatorname{Vol}(1) = \frac{dx_1}{x_1} \frac{dy_1}{y_1} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dw_1}{w_1} =$

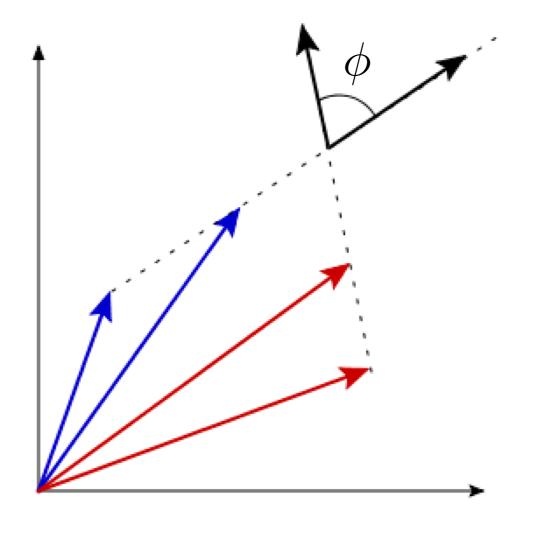






- Positive quadrant
- Vectors

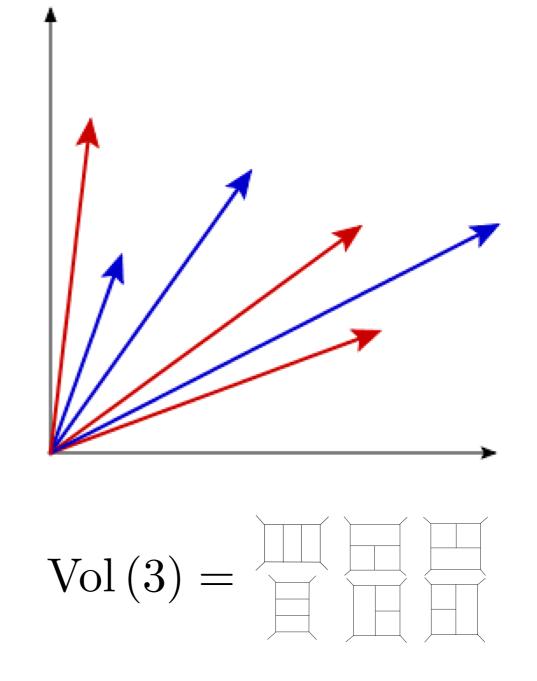
$$\vec{a}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{b}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ w_1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\vec{a}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{b}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} z_2 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\operatorname{Vol}(2) = \square$$

- Positive quadrant
- Vectors $\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \vec{a}_3$ $\vec{b}_1, \vec{b}_2, \vec{b}_3$
- Conditions

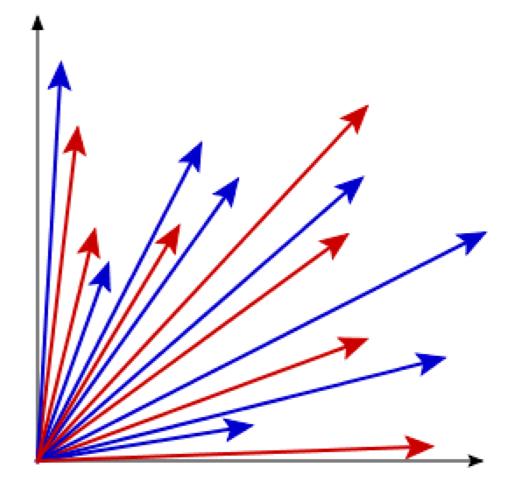
$$(\vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_2) \cdot (\vec{b}_1 - \vec{b}_2) \le 0$$
$$(\vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_3) \cdot (\vec{b}_1 - \vec{b}_3) \le 0$$
$$(\vec{a}_2 - \vec{a}_3) \cdot (\vec{b}_2 - \vec{b}_3) \le 0$$



- Positive quadrant
- Vectors $\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \dots, \vec{a}_{\ell} \quad \vec{b}_1, \vec{b}_2, \dots, \vec{b}_{\ell}$
- Conditions

$$(\vec{a}_i - \vec{a}_j) \cdot (\vec{b}_i - \vec{b}_j) \le 0$$

for all pairs i, j



$$\operatorname{Vol}\left(\ell\right) = \ldots$$

Amplituhedron recap

- Calculating perturbative amplitudes (tree-level, integrand) in this theory is reduced to the math problem
 - Define geometry, kinematical data are input
 - Triangulations and calculating differential forms
- Can not derive Amplituhedron from QFT
 - We can prove that the volume function satisfies all properties of scattering amplitudes: factorization etc.
- ✤ For planar N=4 SYM this is a new definition for the S-matrix
- General: no dictionary between Lagrangian and geometry

Step 1.1.1. in the program

- Maybe this is very special and no reformulation exists in general, maybe it exists but it is something else
- Right/wrong: analyze "theoretical data", look for new structures, make proposals and check them
- Step-by-step process, all steps require new ideas
 - Lower supersymmetry, other theories, spins, masses
 - Final (integrated) amplitudes
 - UV physics, renormalization

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Thank you!