# News on the loop-tree duality

Matter To The Deepest Recent Developments In Physics Of Fundamental Interactions, Ustron, 1-6 Sep 2013

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#### Loop radiative corrections



- Main bottleneck in higher-order calculations for many years, in particular for large number of external particles
- Huge progress and gain in efficiency from experienced
   Feynmanists (stable tensor reduction [next talks] ) and
   Generalized Unitarity (OPP, ...): multiple-cuts over a loop basis (at one-loop and even higher-orders)
- Still a great effort to cancel IR (and UV) divergences with real corrections

### Loop radiative corrections



To fix the notation:  

$$q_i = \ell + k_i$$
 with  $k_i = p_1 + \dots + p_i$   
 $G_F(q_i) = \frac{1}{q_i^2 - m_i^2 + i0}$  and  $\int_{\ell} = -i \int \frac{d^d \ell}{(2\pi)^d}$ 

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#### Single cuts only (by-passing the Feynman Tree Theorem)



**duality relation** between one-loop integrals (one-loop scattering amplitudes) with an arbitrary number of external legs (momenta) and corresponding **single-cut** bremsstrahlung integrals.

[Catani, Gleisberg, Krauss, GR, Winter, JHEP 09(2008)064]



• the duality relation is realised by modifying the customary **+i0 prescription** of the Feynman propagators;

- the new +i0 prescription thus compensates for the absence of multiple-cut contributions that appear in the Feynman Tree Theorem;
- in any relativistic, local and unitary quantum field theory;
- recast virtual corrections in a form that closely parallels the contribution of real corrections.

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#### The loop-tree duality theorem



Cauchy residue theorem in the loop energy complex plane



**Feynman Propagator +i0:** positive frequencies are propagated forward in time, and negative backward

selects residues with definite **positive** energy and negative imaginary part (indeed in any coordinate system)

### The loop-tree duality theorem



 the one-loop integral represented as a linear combination of N single-cut phase-space integrals

$$\int_{\ell} \prod G_F(q_i) = -\int_{\ell} \sum \tilde{\delta}(q_i) \prod_{j \neq i} G_D(q_i; q_j)$$

• where  $\tilde{\delta}(q_i) = 2\pi i \, \delta_+ (q_i^2 - m_i^2)$  sets internal line on-shell;

• 
$$G_D(q_i; q_j) = \frac{1}{q_j^2 - m_j^2 - i0\eta(q_j - q_i)}$$
 dual propagator;

• Lorentz-covariant dual prescription with  $\eta$  is a **future-like** vector:  $\eta^2 \ge 0$  with  $\eta_0 > 0$ ;

• different choices of  $\eta$  are equivalent to different choices of the coordinate system;

• the dependence on  $\eta$  cancels in the sum of dual integrals.

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### Master topology at two loops

[Bierenbaum, Catani, Draggiotis, GR, JHEP 10(2010)073]

[Bierenbaum, Buchta, Draggiotis, Malamos, GR, JHEP 03(2013)025]

- $p_l$  $p_{l-1}$  $q_l$  $q_0$  $p_{l-2}$  $q_1$  $p_2$  $q_{l-1}$  $q_{l+1}$  $q_{l+2}$  $q_{l-2}$  $q_2$  $p_{l+2}$  $\ell_2$  $\ell_1$  $q_N$  $q_{r+1}$  $q_r$  $p_{r+1}$  $p_r$  $p_N$
- Iterative application of the duality theorem

#### Loop lines:

$$\alpha_{1} = \{0, 1, \dots, r\}$$

$$\alpha_{2} = \{r + 1, \dots, l\}$$

$$\alpha_{3} = \{l + 1, \dots, N\}$$

$$G_{D}(\alpha_{k}) = \sum_{i \in \alpha_{k}} \tilde{\delta}(q_{i}) \prod_{j \neq i} G_{D}(q_{i}; q_{j})$$

$$G_{F}(\alpha_{k}) = \prod_{i \in \alpha_{k}} G_{F}(q_{i})$$

 duality applies to Feynman propagators depending on the same loop momentum

 $G_D(\alpha_1 \cup \alpha_2) = G_D(\alpha_1)G_D(\alpha_2) + G_D(\alpha_1)G_F(\alpha_2) + G_F(\alpha_1)G_D(\alpha_2)$ 

• Two cuts only: open any two-loop diagram to a tree-level diagram (sign in  $-\alpha_1$  indicates a change of momentum flow)

$$L^{(2)}(p_1, \dots, p_N)$$
  
=  $\int_{\ell_1} \int_{\ell_2} \left[ -G_D(\alpha_1) G_F(\alpha_2) G_D(\alpha_3) + G_D(\alpha_1) G_D(\alpha_2 \cup \alpha_3) + G_D(\alpha_1 \cup \alpha_2) G_D(\alpha_3) \right]$ 



• at one-loop the complex dual prescription depends on external momenta only, however, at two loops it might depend on the integration momenta: complex dual prescription on external momenta only requires to introduce disconnected diagrams

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### Master topologies at three loops



 Three cuts only: such that the three-loop diagrams are open to a tree-level diagram

 Or multiple cuts (starting from three) leading to disconnected tree diagrams, with complex dual prescription depending on external momenta only.

One single cut per "loop line"

### Singularities of the loop integrand

[Buchta, Chachamis, Malamos, in preparation]

- The loop-momentum space approach is attractive because it allows a direct physical interpretation of loop singularities.
- Loop singularities arise when subsets of internal lines go on-shell. (assuming UV singularities have been subtracted)
- Although the existence of singular points in the loop momentumspace is not enough to ensure the presence of singularities:
  - threshold singularities are integrable: contour deformation for numerically stable integration [Soper, Nagy, Weinzierl, ...]
  - IR singularities remain and are cancelled by coherent sum with real emission partonic configurations [subtraction methods at NLO and higher orders]

#### Singularities of the loop integrand



The loop integrand becomes singular

$$G_F^{-1}(q_i) = q_i^2 - m_i^2 + i\mathbf{0} = \mathbf{0}$$

at **hyperboloids** with origin in  $-k_{i,\mu}$ 

Forward light-cone (solid)

 $q_{i,0}^{(+)} = \sqrt{\vec{q}_i^2 + m_i^2 - i0}$ Backward light-cone (dashed)  $q_{i,0}^{(-)} = -q_{i,0}^{(+)}$ 

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- Integrating along the forward light-cone  $\tilde{\delta}(q_1)$  one pass **from outside to inside** the light-cone hyperboloid of  $-k_3$
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• Only singular along the forward light-cone  $\tilde{\delta}(q_1)$  but not along the forward light-cone  $\tilde{\delta}(q_2)$ 

#### **IR singularities**



- Massless internal line and on-shell adjacent external momenta
- The light-cone hyperboloids intersect tangentially over an infinite interval

• e.g. 
$$e^+e^- \to q(p_1)\overline{q}(p_2)$$
  
with  $k_1 = p_1$ ,  $k_2 = p_1 + p_2$ 

#### **IR** singularities



#### Forward with forward light-cone:

 collinear singular behaviour cancels among dual integrals

#### **IR** singularities



#### Forward with forward light-cone:

collinear singular behaviour cancels among dual integrals

#### Forward with backward light-cone:

- Collinear and soft singular behaviour remains, and
- Is restricted to a **finite region** of the loop-momentum space, which is of the order of the magnitude of external momenta
- Mapping with finite real emission phase-space

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### Factorization in the collinear limit

[Catani, de Florian, GR, PLB586(2004), JHEP 07(2012)026]



dual scattering amplitude

$$\begin{split} \boldsymbol{M}_{N}^{(1)} (p_{1}, \dots, p_{N}) \rangle &\to \left| \boldsymbol{M}_{N+2}^{(0)} (\dots, p_{i}, -q_{i}, q_{i}, \dots) \right\rangle \\ &\simeq \boldsymbol{Sp}^{(0)} (p_{i}, -q_{i}; -\tilde{Q}_{i-1}) \left| \boldsymbol{\overline{M}}_{N+1}^{(0)} (\dots, p_{i-1}, -\tilde{Q}_{i-1}, q_{i}, \dots) \right\rangle \end{split}$$

tree-level scattering amplitude

$$\begin{split} \left| \boldsymbol{M}_{N+1}^{(\boldsymbol{0})}\left(\boldsymbol{p'}_{1},\ldots,\boldsymbol{p'}_{N+1}\right) \right\rangle \\ &\simeq \boldsymbol{S}\boldsymbol{p}^{(0)}\left(\boldsymbol{p'}_{i},\boldsymbol{p'}_{N+1};\tilde{P}_{i,N+1}\right) \left| \boldsymbol{\overline{M}}_{N}^{(\boldsymbol{0})}\left(\ldots,\boldsymbol{p'}_{i-1},\tilde{P}_{i,N+1},\boldsymbol{p'}_{i+1},\ldots\right) \right\rangle \\ \text{with on-shell momenta } \boldsymbol{\widetilde{Q}}_{i-1}^{2} = \boldsymbol{0}, \, \boldsymbol{\widetilde{P}}_{i,N+1}^{2} = \boldsymbol{0}, \\ \text{and restricted loop momenta } \boldsymbol{q}_{i,0}^{(+)} < \boldsymbol{p}_{i,0} \end{split}$$

## **Conclusions and outlook**

the loop-tree duality method exhibits attractive theoretical issues and nice properties

 threshold and infrared singularities occurring in the intersection of forward light-cones cancel among dual integrals

remaining loop singularities are restricted to a finite region of the loop momentum space, which is of the size of external momenta

Outlook

- numerical implementation at one-loop
- singularities at higher orders