

Yang-Baxter operators and scattering amplitudes in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ super-Yang-Mills theory

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Based on work in collaboration with

S. Derkachov and R. Kirschner

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Outline

- Basic facts about scattering amplitudes in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ super-Yang-Mills theory and their hidden symmetries. Dual super conformal symmetry and Yangian symmetry (Drinfeld's formulation)
- Basic constructions of Quantum Inverse Scattering Method. Spin chain. Yangian symmetry
- R-operator construction of Yangian invariants
- Cyclic symmetry, Inverse Soft Limit, link integral representation
- On-shell diagrams and R-operator factorization
- Super-twistor variables
- Conclusions

Scattering amplitudes in a gauge theory

Color decomposition. $SU(N_c)$

$$M(\{p_i, a_i, h_i\}) = \epsilon_{h_1}^{\mu_1} \cdots \epsilon_{h_n}^{\mu_n} \langle A_{\mu_1}(p_1) \cdots A_{\mu_n}(p_n) \rangle = \text{Tr} (T^{a_1} \cdots T^{a_n}) M(\{p_i, h_i\}) + \text{Bose}$$

$$p^{\alpha\dot{\alpha}} = (\sigma_\mu)^{\alpha\dot{\alpha}} p^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} p^0 + p^3 & p^1 - i p^2 \\ p^1 + i p^2 & p^0 - p^3 \end{pmatrix} ; \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{massless} \\ \text{particle} \end{array} \quad p^{\alpha\dot{\alpha}} = \lambda^\alpha \tilde{\lambda}^{\dot{\alpha}} ; \quad \langle ij \rangle = \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \lambda_i^\alpha \lambda_j^\beta$$

Parke-Taylor amplitude

$$\text{MHV}_n = \frac{\langle ij \rangle^4 \delta^4(p)}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \cdots \langle n1 \rangle} \quad 1^+ 2^+ \cdots i^- \cdots j^- \cdots n^+$$

$\mathcal{N}=4$ SYM. PCT self-conjugate multiplet. η^A ($A = 1, \dots, 4$) Grassmann variable

$$\Phi(\eta) = G_+ + \text{fermions} + \text{scalars} + (\eta)^4 G_-$$

$$\text{MHV}_n = \frac{\delta^4(p) \delta^8(q)}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \cdots \langle n1 \rangle} \quad \text{supercharge } q^{\alpha A} = \lambda^\alpha \eta^A$$

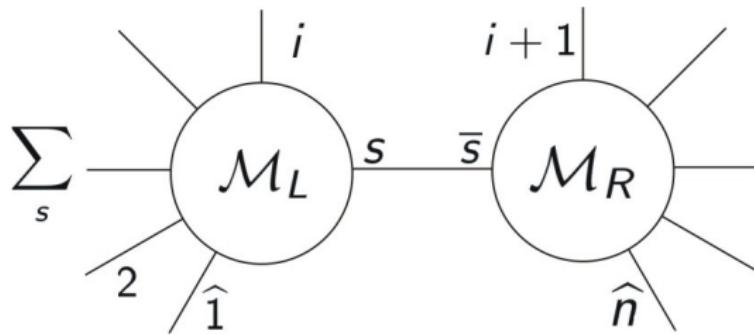
General superamplitude

$$M_n = \text{MHV}_n [\mathcal{P}_{0,n} + \mathcal{P}_{4,n} + \cdots + \mathcal{P}_{4n-16,n}]$$

BCFW recursion for tree amplitudes

$M = \delta^4(p) \mathcal{M}$, \mathcal{M} – rational function

$$\mathcal{M}_n = \sum_{L,R} \int d^4\eta \mathcal{M}_L(\hat{1}(z_*), \dots, i, -P_{1\dots i}(z_*)) \frac{1}{P_{1\dots i}^2} \mathcal{M}_R(P_{1\dots i}(z_*), i+1, \dots, \hat{n}(z_*))$$



$$\lambda_1(z) = \lambda_1 - z\lambda_n, \quad \tilde{\lambda}_n(z) = \tilde{\lambda}_n + z\tilde{\lambda}_1, \quad \eta_n(z) = \eta_n + z\eta_1$$

$$P_{1\dots i} = p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_i, \quad P_{1\dots i}(z) = P_{1\dots i} - z\lambda_n\tilde{\lambda}_1, \quad z_* = \frac{P_{1\dots i}^2}{\lambda_n^\alpha (P_{1\dots i})_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}} \tilde{\lambda}_{\dot{1}}^{\dot{\alpha}}}$$

Building blocks

$$\text{MHV}_3 = \frac{\delta^4(p)\delta^8(q)}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 31 \rangle} ; \quad \text{anti-MHV}_3 = \frac{\delta^4(p)\delta^4([12]\eta_3 + \text{cycl})}{[12][23][31]}$$

Hidden symmetry

- $psu(2, 2|4)$. Superconformal symmetry (**Lagrangian** origin). Generators – sum of **local** differential operators acting on the space $\{\lambda_i, \tilde{\lambda}_i, \eta_i\}$

$$J_a = \sum_{i=1}^n J_{i,a}$$

- Dual superconformal symmetry (**Dynamical**). Dual coordinates x, θ

$$x_i - x_{i+1} = p_i ; \quad p_1 + \cdots + p_n = 0 \leftrightarrow x_1 \equiv x_{n+1}$$

Covariance of tree amplitudes

$$\text{inversion } x^\mu \rightarrow -\frac{x^\mu}{x^2} \quad M_n \rightarrow (x_1^2 \cdots x_n^2) M_n$$

$psu(2, 2|4)$ – infinitesimal form. Generators – sum of **local** differential operators on the space $\{x_i, \theta_i, \lambda_i, \tilde{\lambda}_i, \eta_i\}$ → Sum of **bilocal** differential operators on the space $\{\lambda_i, \tilde{\lambda}_i, \eta_i\}$

$$J_a^{(1)} = f_a{}^{bc} \sum_{i < k} J_{i,b} J_{k,c}$$

- Closure of two algebras → Yangian algebra $Y(psu(2, 2|4))$. Infinite-dimensional

$$[J_a, J_b] = f_{ab}{}^c J_c \quad [J_a, J_b^{(1)}] = f_{ab}{}^c J_c^{(1)} \quad + \text{ Serre relations } + \text{ Higher levels}$$

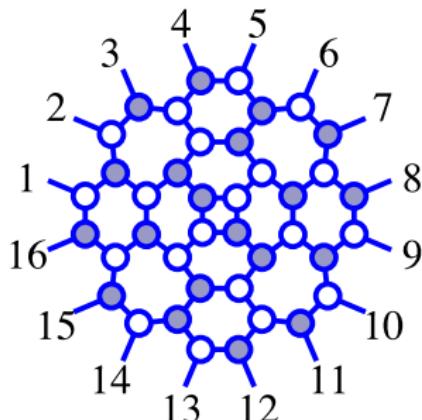
Why Quantum Inverse Scattering Method ?

Why spin chain ?

Yangian symmetry

Basic idea of QISM: Complicated nonlocal objects (like Hamiltonian and higher integrals of motion) are constructed from simple local building blocks according to simple local rule → dynamic is integrable

BCFW: Construct superamplitudes from 3-point amplitudes



Basic constructions of QISM. $g\ell(N|M)$ spin chain

- Dynamical variables. $\mathbf{x} = (x_a)_{a=1}^N$ and $\mathbf{p} = (p_a)_{a=1}^N$

$$[x_a, p_b] = -\delta_{ab} \quad \text{Heisenberg pairs}$$

Basic constructions of QISM. $g\ell(N|M)$ spin chain

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$$\{ x_a, p_b \} = -\delta_{ab} \quad \begin{array}{l} \# \text{ bosonic} = N \\ \# \text{ fermionic} = M \end{array}$$

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- Jordan-Schwinger type representation of symmetry algebra $g\ell(N|M)$.
Non-compact representation

$$J_{ab} = x_a p_b$$

- L-operator. u – spectral parameter. Matrix $(N+M) \times (N+M)$

$$[L(u)]_{ab} = u \delta_{ab} + x_a p_b = \begin{array}{c|c} \text{a} & \text{b} \\ \hline & \end{array}$$

- Fundamental commutation relation (FCR)

$$\mathcal{R}_{ab,ef}(u-v) [L(u)]_{ec} [L(v)]_{fd} = [L(v)]_{bf} [L(u)]_{ae} \mathcal{R}_{ef,cd}(u-v)$$

$\# \text{ quantum spaces} = 1, \# \text{ auxiliary spaces} = 2$

Yang's \mathcal{R} -matrix $(N+M)^2 \times (N+M)^2$

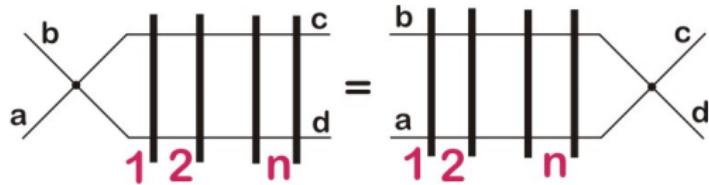
$$\mathcal{R}_{ab,cd}(u) = u + P = u \begin{array}{c} \text{a} \quad \text{c} \\ \hline \text{b} \quad \text{d} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{a} \quad \text{c} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \text{b} \quad \text{d} \end{array}$$

- The spin chain – quantum-mechanical system with many degrees of freedom.
 $\# \text{ sites} = n$
 $(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n)$ and $(\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_n)$
 - Homogeneous monodromy matrix

quantum spaces = n , # auxiliary spaces = 1

- Co-multiplication property

$$\mathcal{R}_{ab,ef}(u-v) \left[T(u) \right]_{ec} \left[T(v) \right]_{fd} = \left[T(v) \right]_{bf} \left[T(u) \right]_{ae} \mathcal{R}_{ef,cd}(u-v)$$



Yangian algebra

$T(u)$ – "generating function" – polynomial in spectral parameter u

$$[T(u)]_{ab} = \sum_{m=0}^n u^{n-m+1} J_{ab}^{(m)}$$

FCR is equivalent to a set of commutation relations for generators $J_{ab}^{(m)}$

$$J_{ab}^{(0)} = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} x_{a,i} p_{b,i} , \quad J_{ab}^{(1)} = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} x_{a,i} p_{c,i} x_{c,j} p_{b,j}$$

Yangian symmetry condition (M – Yangian invariant)

$$[T(u)]_{ab} M(x_1, \dots, x_n) = C \delta_{ab} M(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

Main result: Solving the eigenvalue problem for the monodromy matrix formulated in appropriate variables we recover crucial constructions for SYM scattering amplitudes: link integral representation, Inverse Soft Limit, on-shell diagrams, R-invariants.

R-operator (bilocal)

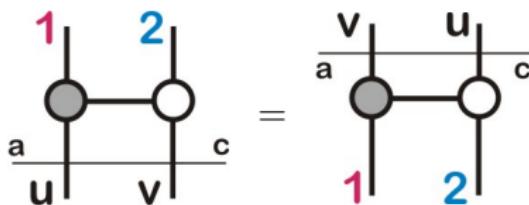
We use R-operator as the main building block in the construction of scattering amplitudes (Yangian invariants)

Defined by RLL-relation (intertwining relation)

$$R_{12}(u-v) \left[L_1(u) \right]_{ab} \left[L_2(v) \right]_{bc} = \left[L_1(v) \right]_{ab} \left[L_2(u) \right]_{bc} R_{12}(u-v)$$

quantum spaces = 2 , # auxiliary spaces = 1

$$R_{12}(u) = (\mathbf{p}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_2)^{-u}$$



R-operator (bilocal)

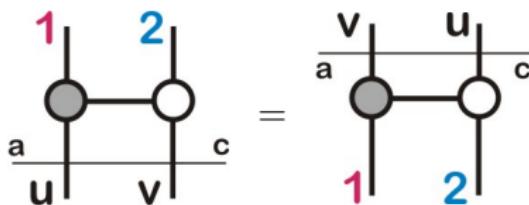
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quantum spaces = 2 , # auxiliary spaces = 1

$$R_{12}(u) = (\mathbf{p}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_2)^{-u} = \frac{\Gamma(1-u)}{2\pi i} \int_{\mathcal{C}} \frac{dz}{z^{1-u}} e^{-z(\mathbf{p}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_2)}$$



$sl(4|4)$ symmetry algebra

Spin chain
dynamical variables $p_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}} = \lambda_\alpha \tilde{\lambda}_{\dot{\alpha}}$; η_A ($A=1, \dots, 4$)
 = **Spinor-helicity** variables for asymptotic
states of scattering particles

$$\mathbf{x} \rightarrow (\lambda_\alpha, \partial_{\tilde{\lambda}_{\dot{\alpha}}}, \partial_{\eta_A}) ; \quad \mathbf{p} \rightarrow (\partial_{\lambda_\alpha}, -\tilde{\lambda}_{\dot{\alpha}}, -\eta_A)$$

Reproduce BCFW-shift applying R-operator to arbitrary function

$$[R_{ij}(u)F](\lambda_i, \tilde{\lambda}_i, \eta_i | \lambda_j, \tilde{\lambda}_j, \eta_j) = \int \frac{dz}{z^{1-u}} F(\lambda_i - z\lambda_j, \tilde{\lambda}_i, \eta_i | \lambda_j, \tilde{\lambda}_j + z\tilde{\lambda}_i, \eta_j + z\eta_i)$$

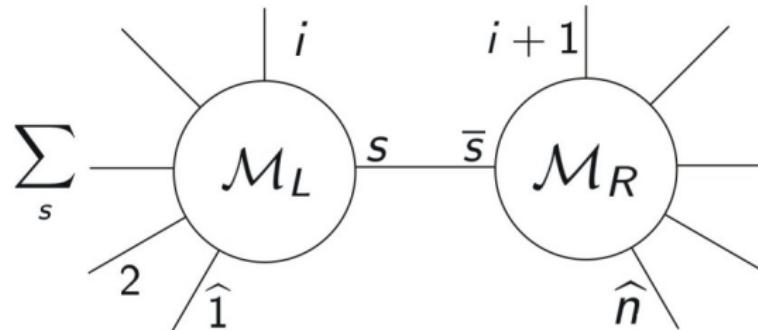
BCFW-recursion and BCFW-bridge

$$M_n = R_{1n} \int d^4\eta_0 d^4P_0 \delta(P_0^2) M_L(\eta_1, \lambda_1, \tilde{\lambda}_1; \eta_0, -P_0) M_R(\eta_n, \lambda_n, \tilde{\lambda}_n; \eta_0, P_0)$$

Yangian symmetry of
scattering amplitudes \Leftrightarrow Eigenvalue relation
for monodromy matrix

BCFW recursion for tree amplitudes

$$\mathcal{M}_n = \sum_{L,R} \int d^4\eta \mathcal{M}_L(\hat{1}(z_*), \dots, i, -P_{1\dots i}(z_*)) \frac{1}{P_{1\dots i}^2} \mathcal{M}_R(P_{1\dots i}(z_*), i+1, \dots, \hat{n}(z_*))$$



$$\lambda_1 \rightarrow \lambda_1 - \mathbf{z}\lambda_n , \quad \tilde{\lambda}_n \rightarrow \tilde{\lambda}_n + \mathbf{z}\tilde{\lambda}_1 , \quad \eta_n \rightarrow \eta_n + \mathbf{z}\eta_1$$

We start with the simplest solution of eigenvalue problem – **Basic state**

(Not entangled degrees of freedom)

$$\Omega_{k,n} = \cdots \delta^2(\lambda_i) \cdots \underbrace{\delta^2(\tilde{\lambda}_j) \delta^4(\eta_j) \cdots \delta^2(\tilde{\lambda}_l) \delta^4(\eta_l)}_k \cdots \delta^2(\lambda_m) \cdots$$

n particles (n -site monodromy), Grassmann degree $4k$

- 3-particle anti-MHV. $\Omega_{1,3} = \delta^2(\lambda_1) \delta^2(\lambda_2) \delta^2(\tilde{\lambda}_3) \delta^4(\eta_3)$

$$L_1(u) L_2(u) L_3(u) \Omega_{1,3} = u(u-1)^2 \Omega_{1,3}$$

Introduce interaction in integrable way (entangling degrees of freedom)

$$R_{12} R_{23} \Omega_{1,3} = \text{anti-MHV}_3 = \text{Diagram}$$

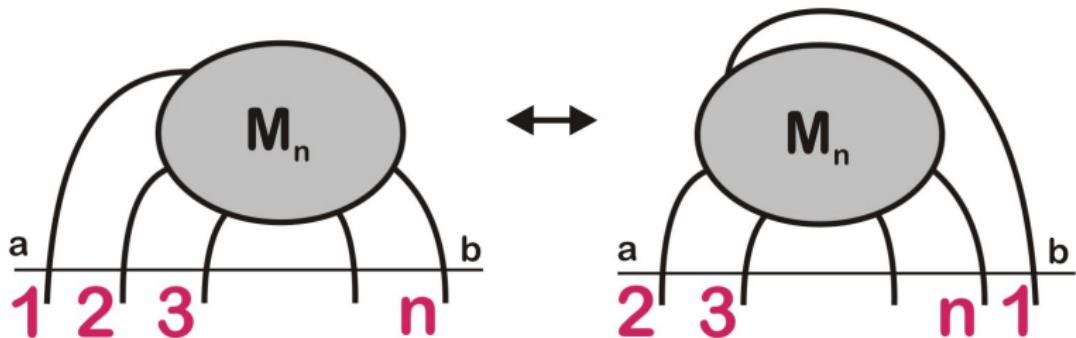
- 3-particle MHV. $\Omega_{2,3} = \delta^2(\lambda_1) \delta^2(\tilde{\lambda}_2) \delta^4(\eta_2) \delta^2(\tilde{\lambda}_3) \delta^4(\eta_3)$

$$R_{23} R_{12} \Omega_{2,3} = \text{MHV}_3 = \text{Diagram} \implies T(u) \text{Diagram} = u^2(u-1) \text{Diagram}$$

- General tree superamplitude of the type $N^{k-2} \text{MHV}_n$

$$T(u) M_{k,n} = u^k (u-1)^{n-k} M_{k,n}$$

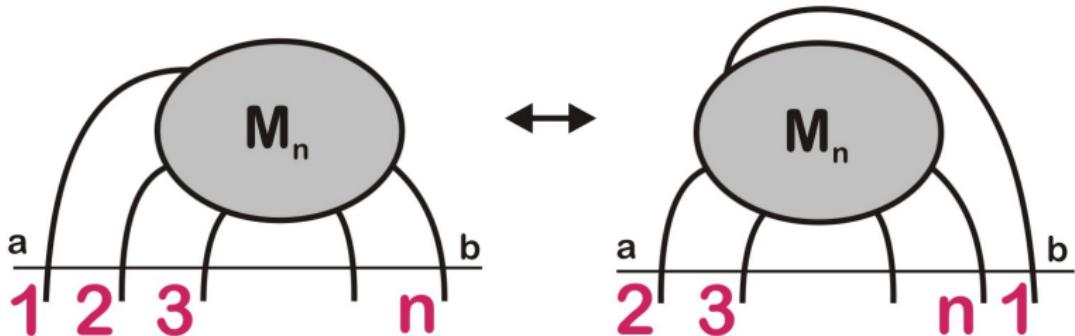
- Cyclicity of superamplitudes = cyclicity of the spin chain



$$L_1(u) \cdots L_n(u) M = C M \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad L_{\sigma_1}(u) \cdots L_{\sigma_n}(u) M = C M$$

where $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$ is a cyclic permutation of $1, 2, \dots, n$

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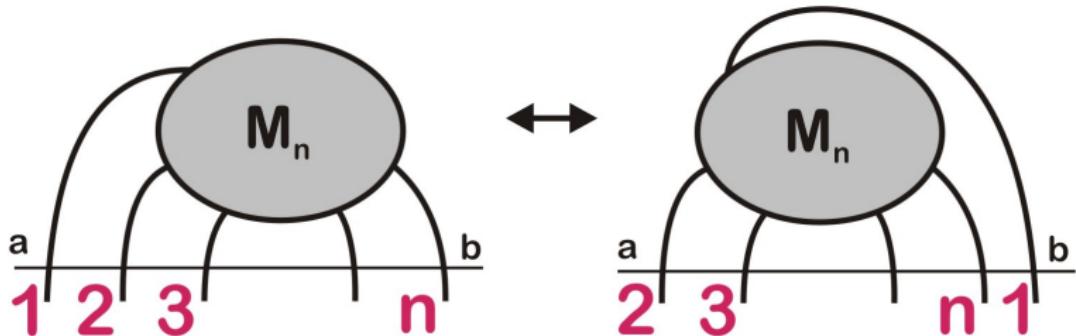
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- **Reflection** of the particle ordering = reflection of the spin chain sites

$$L_1(u) \cdots L_n(u) M = C M \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad L_n(u') \cdots L_1(u') M = C' M$$

- Cyclicity of superamplitudes = cyclicity of the spin chain



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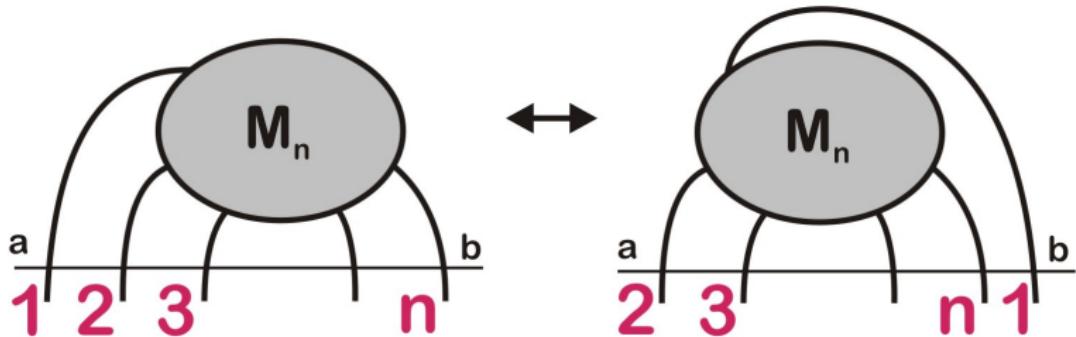
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Inverse Soft Limit. Recursive construction of BCFW terms (Yangian invariants)

- $R_{n1} R_{nn-1} M_{k,n-1} \delta^2(\lambda_n) = M_{k,n} = S^+(\underline{n-1}, \underline{n}, \underline{1}) M_{k,n-1}(\underline{1'}, \underline{2}, \dots, \underline{(n-1)'})$

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Inverse Soft Limit. Recursive construction of BCFW terms (Yangian invariants)

- $R_{n1} R_{nn-1} M_{k,n-1} \delta^2(\lambda_n) = M_{k,n} = S^+(\textcolor{red}{n-1}, \textcolor{red}{n}, \textcolor{red}{1}) M_{k,n-1}(\textcolor{red}{1'}, \textcolor{red}{2}, \dots, \textcolor{red}{(n-1)'})$
- $R_{1n} R_{n-1n} M_{k,n-1} \delta^2(\tilde{\lambda}_n) \delta^4(\eta_n) = M_{k+1,n} = S^-(\textcolor{red}{n-1}, \textcolor{red}{n}, \textcolor{red}{1}) M_{k,n-1}(\textcolor{red}{1'}, \textcolor{red}{2}, \dots, \textcolor{red}{(n-1)'})$

Momentum and supercharge conservation

$$L(u) = \begin{pmatrix} u \cdot 1 + \dots & -\lambda \otimes \tilde{\lambda} & -\lambda \otimes \eta \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{u^{n-1} J^{(1)}} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_\alpha \tilde{\lambda}_{\dot{\alpha}} M = 0, \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_\alpha \eta_A M = 0$$
$$M \sim \delta^{4|0} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i \right) \delta^{0|8} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n q_i \right)$$

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4-point amplitude.

$$M_{2,4} = \frac{\delta^4(p) \delta^8(q)}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 41 \rangle}$$

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4-point amplitude. Unitary cut

$$M_{2,4} = \frac{[43]\delta^4(p)\delta^8(q)}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 41 \rangle} \cdot \frac{1}{(p_3 + p_4)^2} \rightarrow \frac{[43]\delta^4(p)\delta^8(q)}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 41 \rangle} \cdot \delta((p_3 + p_4)^2) = \mathcal{M}_{2,4}$$

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$$\mathcal{M}_{2,4} = R_{12} \underbrace{R_{34} R_{23} \Omega_{2,4}}_{\delta^2(\lambda_1) \text{ MHV}_3}$$

$$M_{2,4} = R_{14} \underbrace{R_{12} R_{34} R_{23} \Omega_{2,4}}_{\mathcal{M}_{2,4}}$$

Momentum and supercharge conservation

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=

Kernels of integral operators

$\int \mathcal{M}_{2,4} \leftrightarrow R_{23}$

$\int M_{2,4} \leftrightarrow R_{32} R_{23}$

$$T(u_4, u_1, u_2, u_3) M = C M \leftrightarrow L_2(u_2) L_3(u_3) \hat{M} = C \hat{M} L_2(u'_1) L_3(u'_4) \text{ Yang-Baxter type relation}$$

Super-twistor variables

Super momentum twistors and the general tree superamplitude of the type
 $N^{k-2} \text{MHV}$

$$M_{k,n} = \text{MHV}_n \mathcal{P}_{4k-8,n}$$

Let us choose another dynamical variables for the spin chain

$$\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z} = (\underbrace{\lambda, \mu}_{\text{twistor } Z}, \chi) \quad ; \quad \mathbf{p} \rightarrow \partial_{\mathcal{Z}} = (\partial_Z, -\partial_{\chi})$$

R-operator

$$[R_{ij}(u)F](\mathcal{Z}_i | \mathcal{Z}_j) = \int \frac{d\mathbf{z}}{\mathbf{z}^{1-u}} F(\mathcal{Z}_i - \mathbf{z}\mathcal{Z}_j | \mathcal{Z}_j)$$

Basic state

$$\Omega = \prod_i \delta^{4|4}(\mathcal{Z}_i)$$

For example, the simplest R-invariant

$$[1, 2, 3, 4, 5] = R_{45} R_{34} R_{23} R_{12} \delta^{4|4}(\mathcal{Z}_1) \qquad \text{Analogue of Grassmannian construction}$$

The construction is compatible with monodromy eigenvalue relation

$$T(u)[1, 2, 3, 4, 5] = u^4(u-1)[1, 2, 3, 4, 5]$$

Scattering amplitudes in a gauge theory

Color decomposition. $SU(N_c)$

$$M(\{p_i, a_i, h_i\}) = \epsilon_{h_1}^{\mu_1} \cdots \epsilon_{h_n}^{\mu_n} \langle A_{\mu_1}(p_1) \cdots A_{\mu_n}(p_n) \rangle = \text{Tr} (T^{a_1} \cdots T^{a_n}) M(\{p_i, h_i\}) + \text{Bose}$$

$$p^{\alpha\dot{\alpha}} = (\sigma_\mu)^{\alpha\dot{\alpha}} p^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} p^0 + p^3 & p^1 - i p^2 \\ p^1 + i p^2 & p^0 - p^3 \end{pmatrix} ; \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{massless} \\ \text{particle} \end{array} \quad p^{\alpha\dot{\alpha}} = \lambda^\alpha \tilde{\lambda}^{\dot{\alpha}} ; \quad \langle ij \rangle = \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \lambda_i^\alpha \lambda_j^\beta$$

Parke-Taylor amplitude

$$\text{MHV}_n = \frac{\langle ij \rangle^4 \delta^4(p)}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \cdots \langle n1 \rangle} \quad 1^+ 2^+ \cdots i^- \cdots j^- \cdots n^+$$

$\mathcal{N}=4$ SYM. PCT self-conjugate multiplet. η^A ($A = 1, \dots, 4$) Grassmann variable

$$\Phi(\eta) = G_+ + \text{fermions} + \text{scalars} + (\eta)^4 G_-$$

$$\text{MHV}_n = \frac{\delta^4(p) \delta^8(q)}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \cdots \langle n1 \rangle} \quad \text{supercharge } q^{\alpha A} = \lambda^\alpha \eta^A$$

General superamplitude

$$M_n = \text{MHV}_n [\mathcal{P}_{0,n} + \mathcal{P}_{4,n} + \cdots + \mathcal{P}_{4n-16,n}]$$

Conclusions

- Yangian symmetry of super Yang-Mills amplitudes is formulated in terms of an eigenvalue problem involving the monodromy matrix
- The Quantum Inverse Scattering Method on which this approach is based provides convenient tools for calculation and investigation of amplitudes
- Jordan-Schwinger type representations \rightarrow L-operator \rightarrow R-operator
- Homogeneous monodromy \leftrightarrow scattering amplitudes in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ super Yang-Mills theory
- Less supersymmetric theory \rightarrow Inhomogeneous monodromy
- Representations of other types ?