

# Intersection Theory and String Amplitudes

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Padova 26/05/2023

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**INFN**  
Istituto Nazionale  
di Fisica Nucleare

## The main task:

study of scattering amplitudes structure and new methods for their interpretation and evaluation by means of a modern mathematical theory: Intersection Theory.



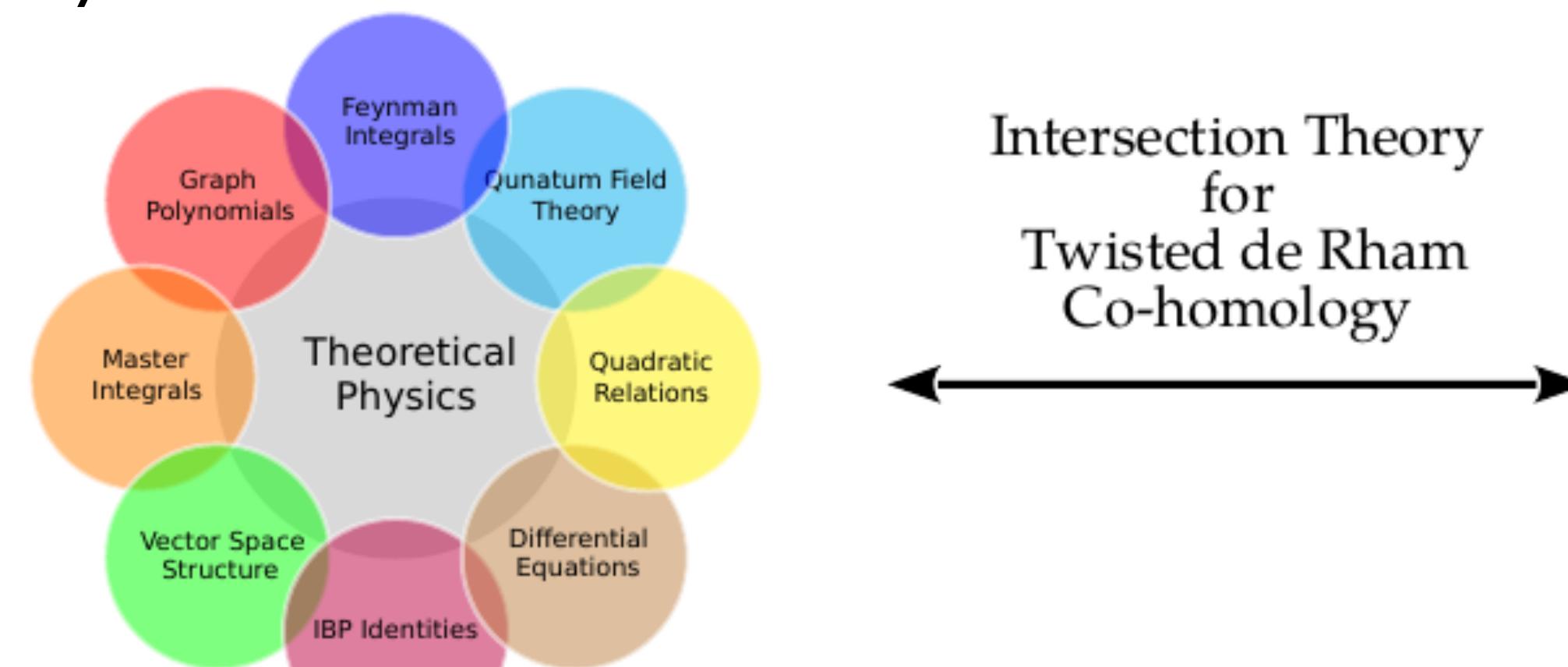
## Talk based on:

- Master thesis: **A Modern approach to String Amplitudes and Intersection Theory.**

Supervisor: Prof. Pierpaolo Mastrolia (Unipd), Prof. Co-Supervisor: Sergio Luigi Cacciatori (Uninsubria)

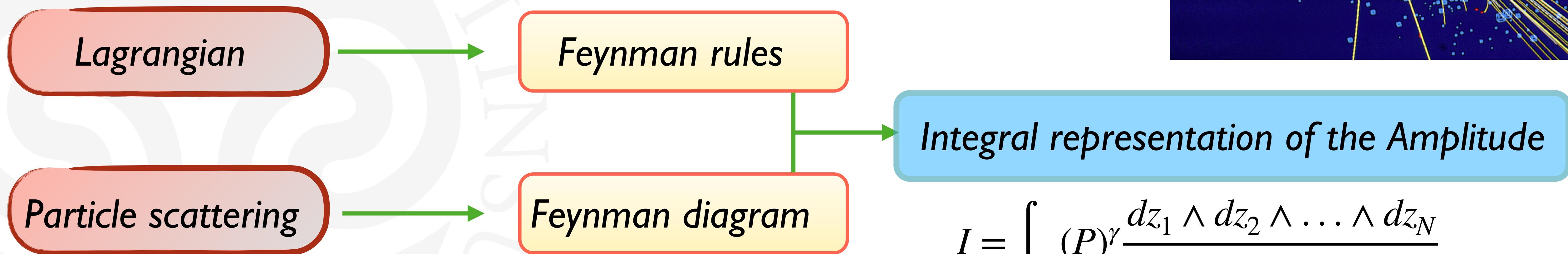
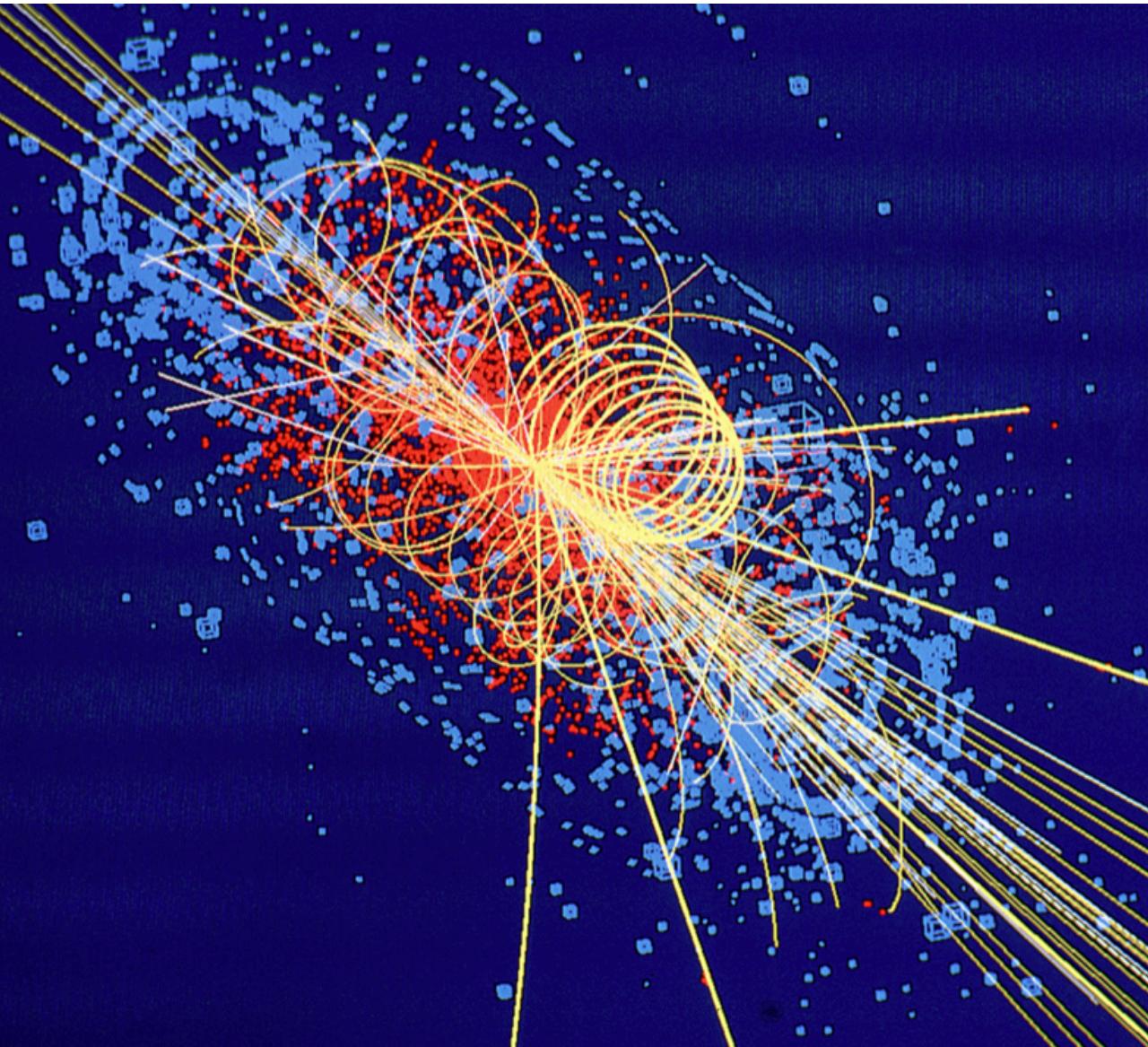
- PhD lectures: **Advanced Methods for Scattering Amplitudes**

Prof. Sergio Luigi Cacciatori (Uninsubria), Prof. Yoshiaki Goto (Kobe University ), Prof. Pierpaolo Mastrolia (Unipd),

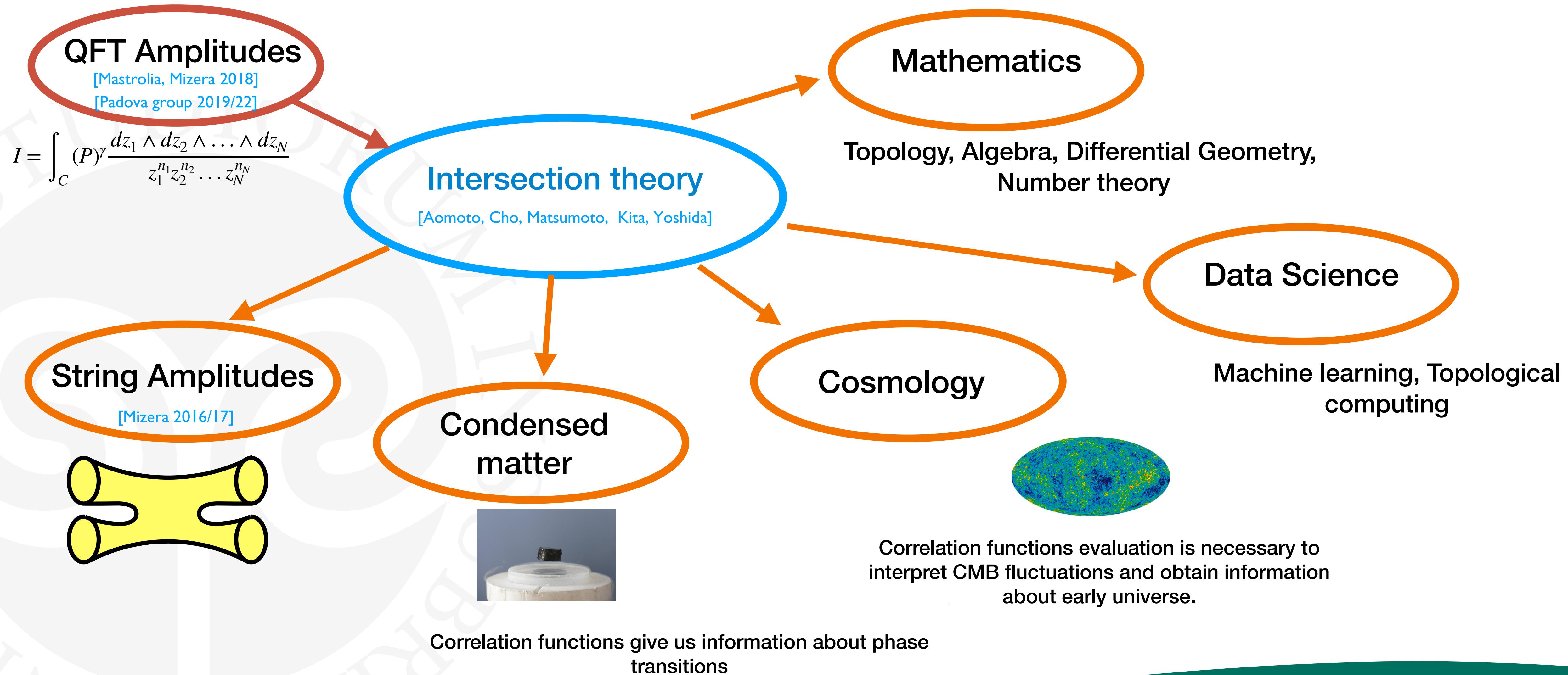


# Scattering Amplitudes

*Scattering amplitudes encode crucial information about particle collision, that, at the moment, represents the most efficient tool to investigate matter constituents and forces of Nature.*  
*Scattering Amplitudes are complex numbers related to the transition probability from a given asymptotic incoming state configuration and a given outgoing one.*



$$I = \int_C (P)^\gamma \frac{dz_1 \wedge dz_2 \wedge \dots \wedge dz_N}{z_1^{n_1} z_2^{n_2} \dots z_N^{n_N}}$$



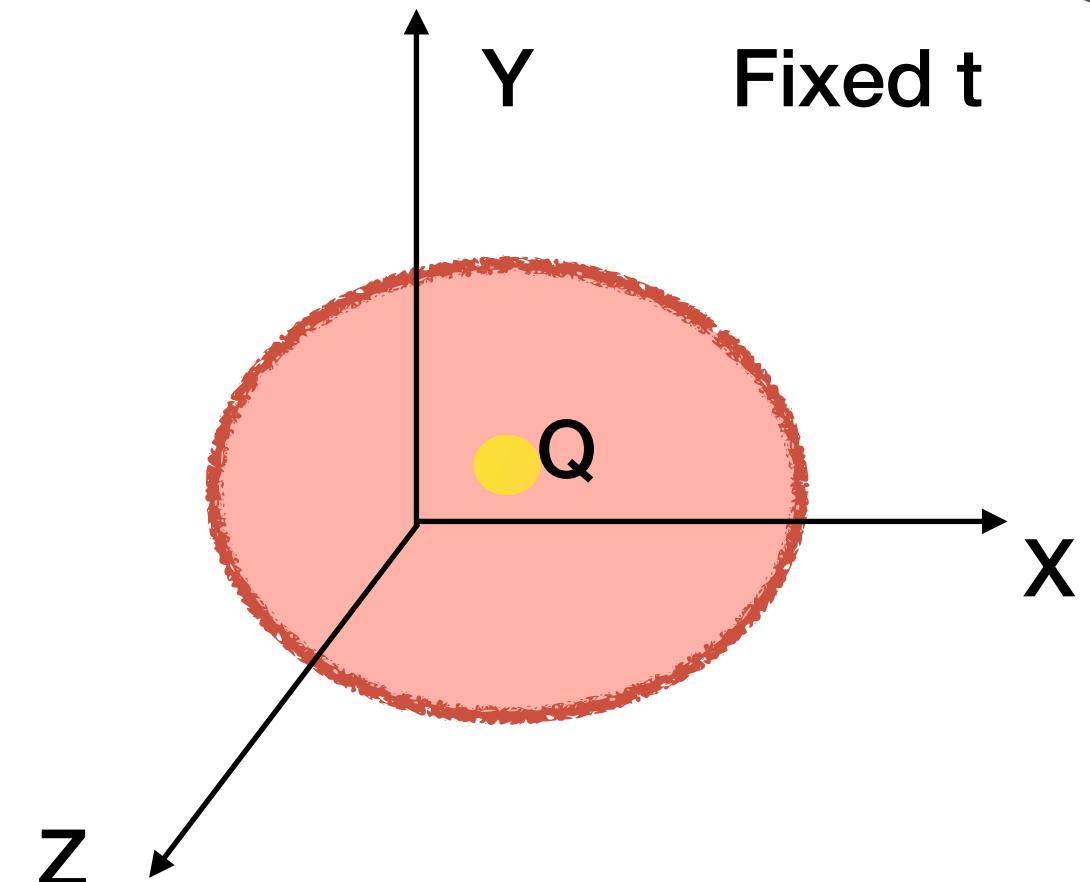
# The starting point: Stokes' Theorem

## Stokes' Theorem

$$\int_{\partial C} \varphi = \int_C d\varphi$$

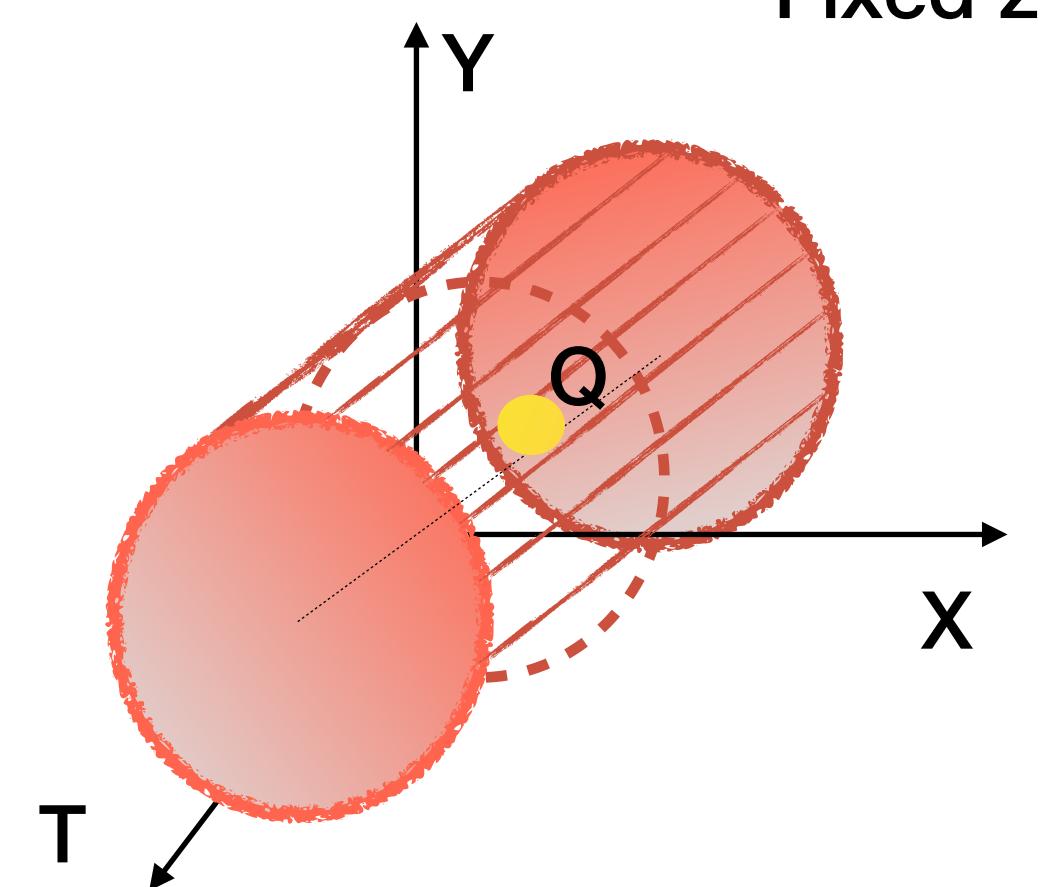
## Gauss' law

The closed surface surrounding a charge is the boundary of a 3 dimensional Manifold.



## Ampere's law

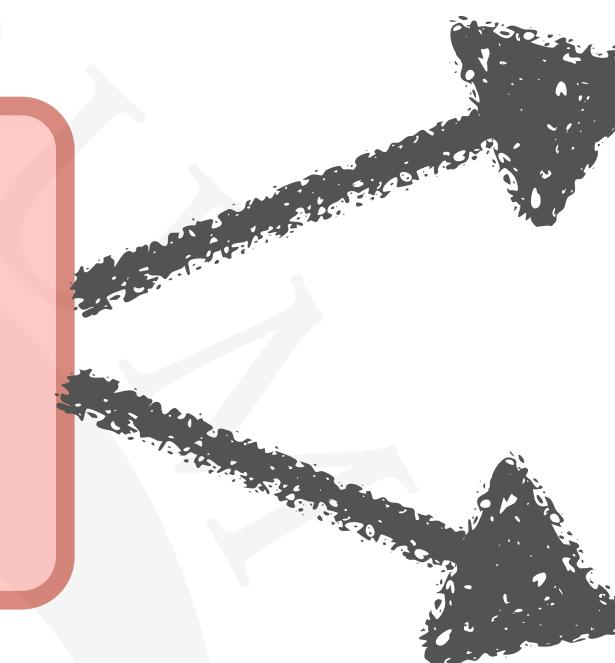
The closed curve surrounding a wire is actually a  $(1+1)$  dimensional surface around the charge, the boundary of a  $(2+1)$  dimensional Manifold



# From Stokes' theorem to De Rham Cohomology

Let  $\varphi \in \Omega^k$  be a  $k$ -form and  $\Delta_{k+1} \subset \mathbb{R}^{k+1}$  a  $(k+1)$ -simplex

$$\int_{\partial\Delta_{k+1}} \varphi = \int_{\Delta_{k+1}} d\varphi$$



$$\int_{\Delta_k} \varphi = \int_{\Delta_k} \varphi + \lambda, \quad d\lambda = 0$$

$$\int_{\Delta_k} \varphi = \int_{\Delta_k + \tilde{\Delta}_k} \varphi, \quad \partial\tilde{\Delta}_k = 0$$

$\lambda$  is a closed form

$\tilde{\Delta}_k$  is a closed contour

$$\int_C \varphi = \langle \varphi | C ]$$

Equivalence classes of forms and contours.

## Multivalued function

$$I = \int_{\Delta_k} u\varphi$$

- $\int_{\Delta_k \otimes u} u\varphi \equiv \int_{\Delta_k} u_\Delta \varphi$

- $\int_{\partial\Delta_{k+1}} u_\Delta \varphi = \int_{\Delta_{k+1}} d(u_\Delta \varphi)$

- $d(u_\Delta \varphi) = du_\Delta \wedge \varphi + u_\Delta \wedge d\varphi = u_\Delta \left( \frac{du_\Delta}{u_\Delta} \wedge \varphi + d\varphi \right)$   
 $= u_\Delta(d\varphi + \omega \wedge \varphi) \equiv u_\Delta \nabla_\omega \varphi$

$$\omega \equiv d \log u_\Delta$$

**Twisted Stokes' Theorem**

$$\int_{\Delta_{k+1} \otimes u} u \nabla_\omega \varphi = \int_{\partial_\omega \Delta_{k+1}} u_\Delta \varphi$$

## Sequences

Given a set  $\{G_p(X)\}$  of algebraic objects (groups) defined on  $X$  and a set of morphisms  $\{\Delta_p : G_p \rightarrow G_{p-1}\}$ , we call a **sequence** on  $X$  the structure:

$$(G_p, \Delta_p) : 0 \xrightarrow{\Delta_{p+1}} G_p \xrightarrow{\Delta_p} G_{p-1} \xrightarrow{\Delta_{p-1}} \dots \xrightarrow{\Delta_1} G_0 \xrightarrow{\Delta_0} 0$$

Similarly, the dual sequence is defined as

$$(G^p, \Delta^p) : 0 \xleftarrow{\Delta^{p+1}} G^p \xleftarrow{\Delta^p} G^{p-1} \xleftarrow{\Delta^{p-1}} \dots \xleftarrow{\Delta^1} G^0 \xleftarrow{\Delta^0} 0$$

If  $\{G_p(X)\}$  are abelian groups on a topological space  $X$  the sequence is called **Chain Complex** and group homomorphisms are called **Boundary Operators**.

# Homology and Cohomology Groups

If the image of one morphism equals the kernel of the next, the sequence is said to be **exact**

$$Im[\Delta_p] = Ker[\Delta_{p-1}]$$

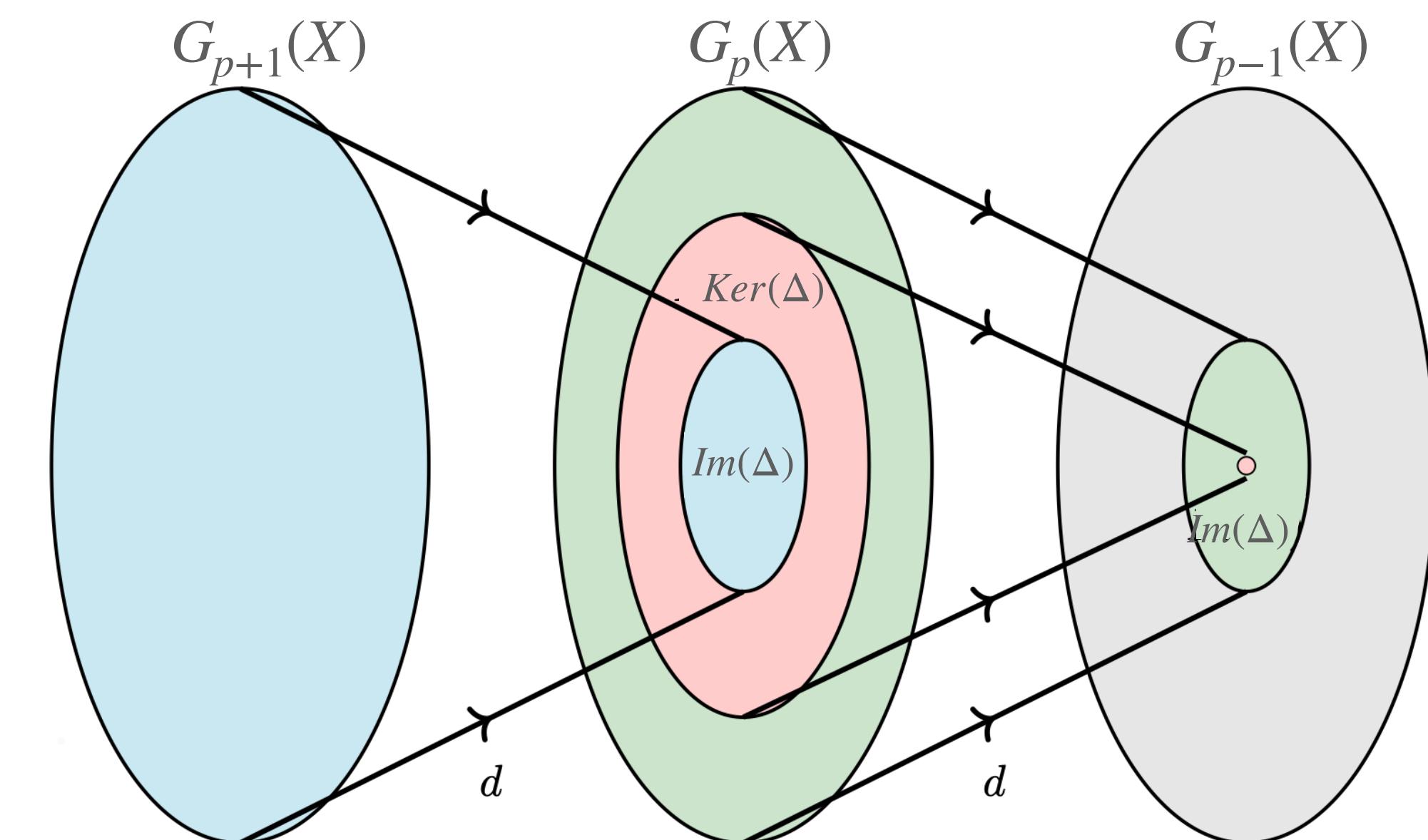
If the sequence is not exact is useful to define the groups:

The n-th homology group

$$H_p(X) = \frac{Ker[\Delta_p]}{Im[\Delta_{p+1}]}$$

The n-th Cohomology group

$$H^p(X) = \frac{Ker[\Delta^p]}{Im[\Delta^{p-1}]}$$



They describe how images are included in kernels

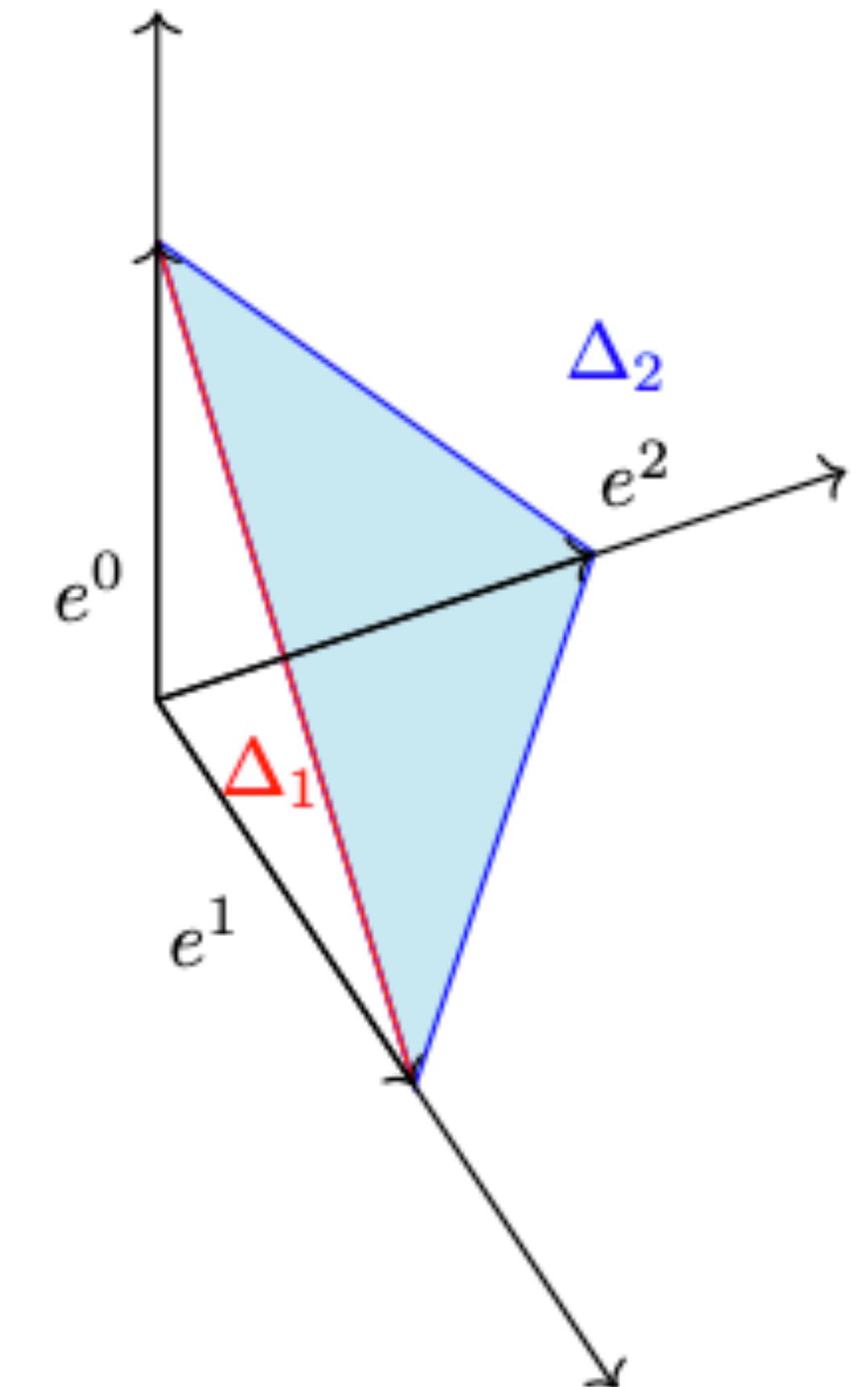
A standard  $p$ -simplex is a planar  $p$  dimensional subset of  $\mathbb{R}^{p+1}$

$$\Delta_p = \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^p \alpha_i e^i \mid \sum \alpha_i = 1, \alpha_i \geq 0 \right\}$$

Order  $p$ -simplex (fixed vertices)  $\Delta_p = \langle 012\dots p \rangle$

$p$ -chain

$$c_p = \sum_i a_i \Delta_p^i \in C_p$$

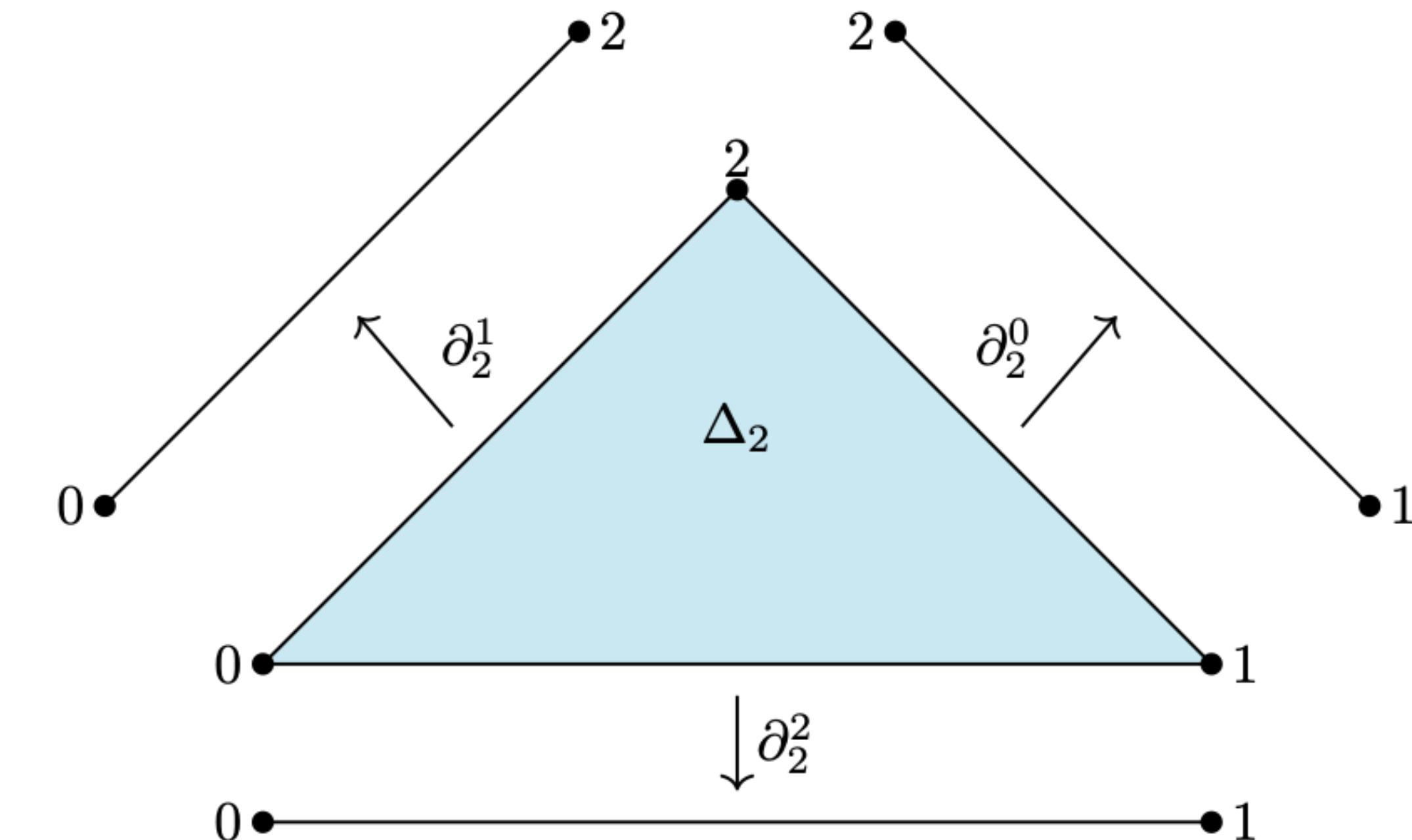


# Simplicial Homology: the boundary operator

Consider the face map:  $\partial_p^i \langle 012..i..p \rangle = \langle 012..\hat{i}..p \rangle$

Boundary Operator  $\partial_p: C_p \rightarrow C_{p-1}$

$$\partial_p = \sum_{i=0}^p (-1)^i \partial_p^i$$



Example:  $\partial_p \langle 012 \rangle = \langle 12 \rangle - \langle 02 \rangle + \langle 01 \rangle = \langle 12 \rangle + \langle 20 \rangle + \langle 01 \rangle$

A p-chain having no boundary is called p-cycle.

# Simplicial (Co)Homology groups

The chain complex of chain groups with the boundary operators define the sequence

$$0 \xrightarrow{\partial_{p+1}} C_p \xrightarrow{\partial_p} C_{p-1} \xrightarrow{\partial_{p-1}} \dots \xrightarrow{\partial_1} C_0 \xrightarrow{\partial_0} 0$$

p-th simplicial homology group

$$H_p^{simpl} = \frac{Ker[\partial_p]}{Im[\partial_{p+1}]}$$

Defining

$$Hom[-, K] : \begin{cases} Hom[C_p, K] = Hom(C_n, K) \\ Hom[\partial_p, k] = \delta_p : Hom(C_{p-1}, K) \rightarrow Hom(C_p, K) \end{cases}$$

The dual sequence

$$0 \xleftarrow{\delta_{p+1}} Hom(C_p, K) \xleftarrow{\delta_p} Hom(C_{p-1}, K) \xleftarrow{\delta_{p-1}} \dots \xleftarrow{\delta_1} Hom(C_0, K) \xleftarrow{\delta_0} 0$$

p-th simplicial cohomology group

$$H_{simpl}^p = \frac{Ker[\delta_p]}{Im[\delta_{p-1}]}$$

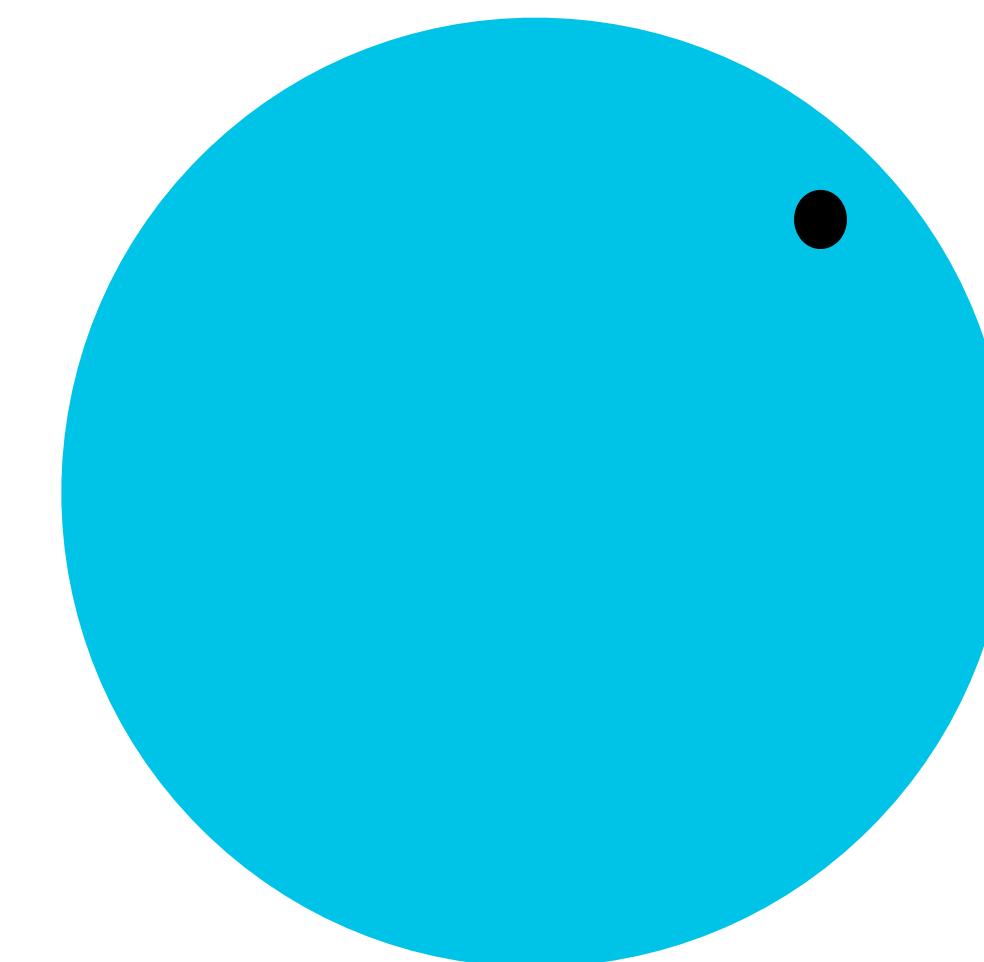
## Cellular homology: CW complexes

A closed k-cell  $e^k$  is a space homeomorphic to the ball  $B^k = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^k : |x| \leq 1\}$

A CW complex  $X$  is a topological space obtained from a 0-cell (point) by gluing k-cells via an attaching map

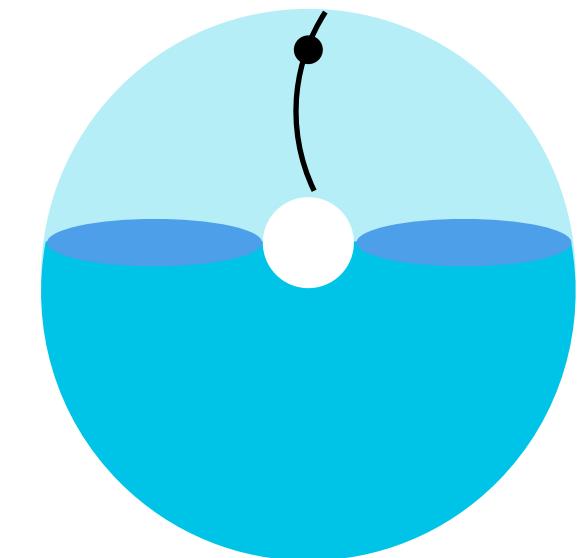
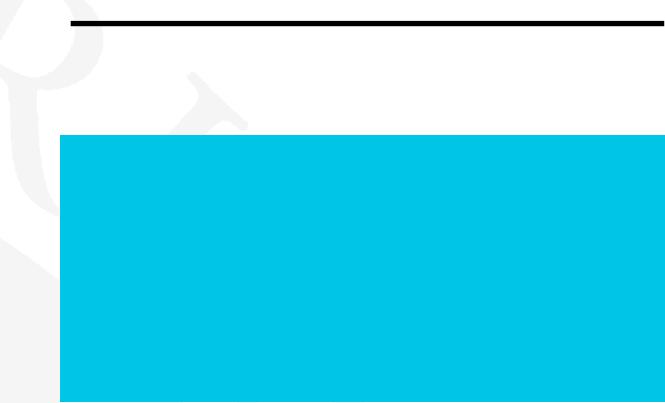
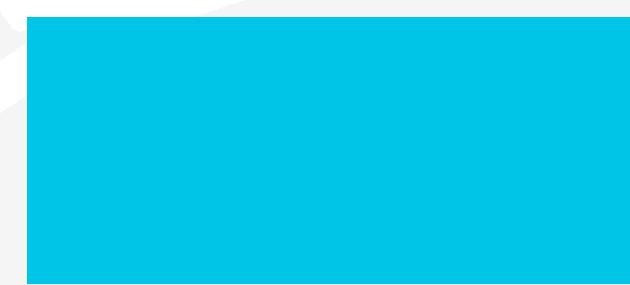
If  $X$  is a manifold its **handlebody decomposition** is a CW complex

The n-Sphere  
 $S^n = e^0 \cup e^n$



## The Torus

$$T^2 = e^0 \cup e^1 \cup e^1 \cup e^2$$



# Morse Theory

A function  $f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be a Morse function its critical points  $p_i$  are non degenerate ( $\det \partial_i \partial_j f|_{p_i} \neq 0$ )

Let  $M_s(t) = \{p \in M \mid s \leq f(p) \leq t\}$

- If  $[a, b]$  contains no critical values, then

$$M_s(a) \cong M_s(b)$$

- If  $[a, b]$  contains a critical values  $c_i = f(p_i)$  then

$$M_s(b) \cong M_s(a) \sqcup (B^m \times B^{m-\lambda})$$

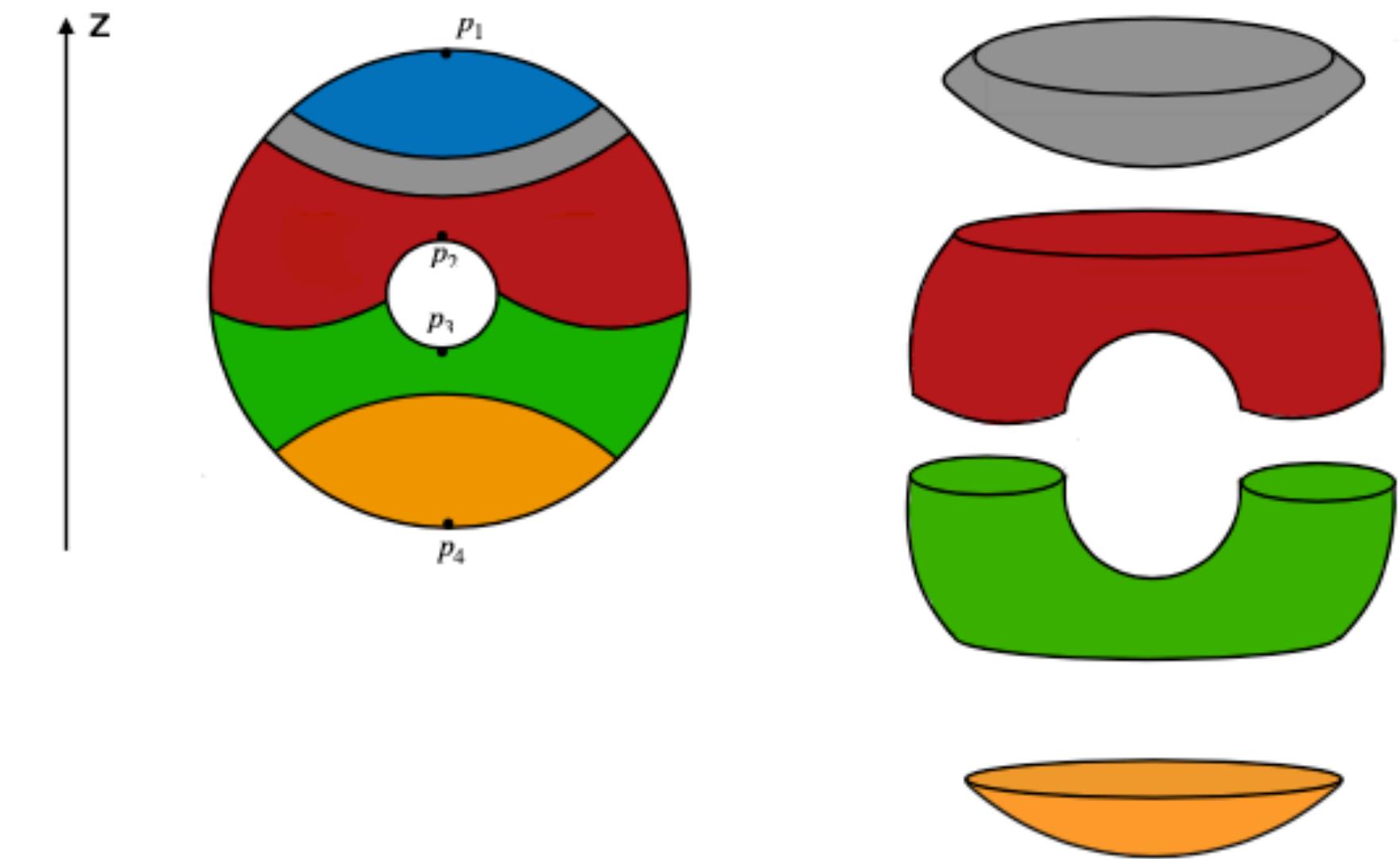
The integer  $\lambda$  is called index of the critical point

Euler-Poincarè

$$\chi = \sum (-1)^\lambda n_\lambda = \sum (-1)^\lambda b_\lambda$$

Morse Inequality

$$n_\lambda \geq b_\lambda$$



## The fundamental group

Let  $X^{(2)} = e^0 \cup_n e^1 \cup_m e^2$  be the two skeleton of a CW complex  $X$  with one 0-cell.

The fundamental group of  $X$  is generated by  $n$  generators with  $m$  relations:

$$\pi_1(X) = \pi_1(X^{(2)}) = \langle g_1, g_2 \dots g_n \mid r_1 = 1, r_2 = 1, \dots r_m = 1 \rangle$$

Circle

$$\pi_1(S^1) = \pi_1(e^0 \cup e^1) \langle g \mid 0 \rangle = \mathbb{Z}$$

n-Sphere

$$\pi_1(S^n) = \pi_1(e^0 \cup e^2 \delta_{n2}) \langle 0 \mid r = 1 \rangle = 0$$

Torus

$$\pi_1(T^2) = \pi_1(e^0 \cup e^1 \cup e^1 \cup e^2) = \langle g_1, g_2 \mid r = 1 \rangle = ?$$

Klein Bottle

$$\pi_1(\mathbb{K}) = \pi_1(e^0 \cup_i e^1 \cup_i e^1 \cup e^2) = \langle g_1, g_2 \mid r = 1 \rangle = ?$$

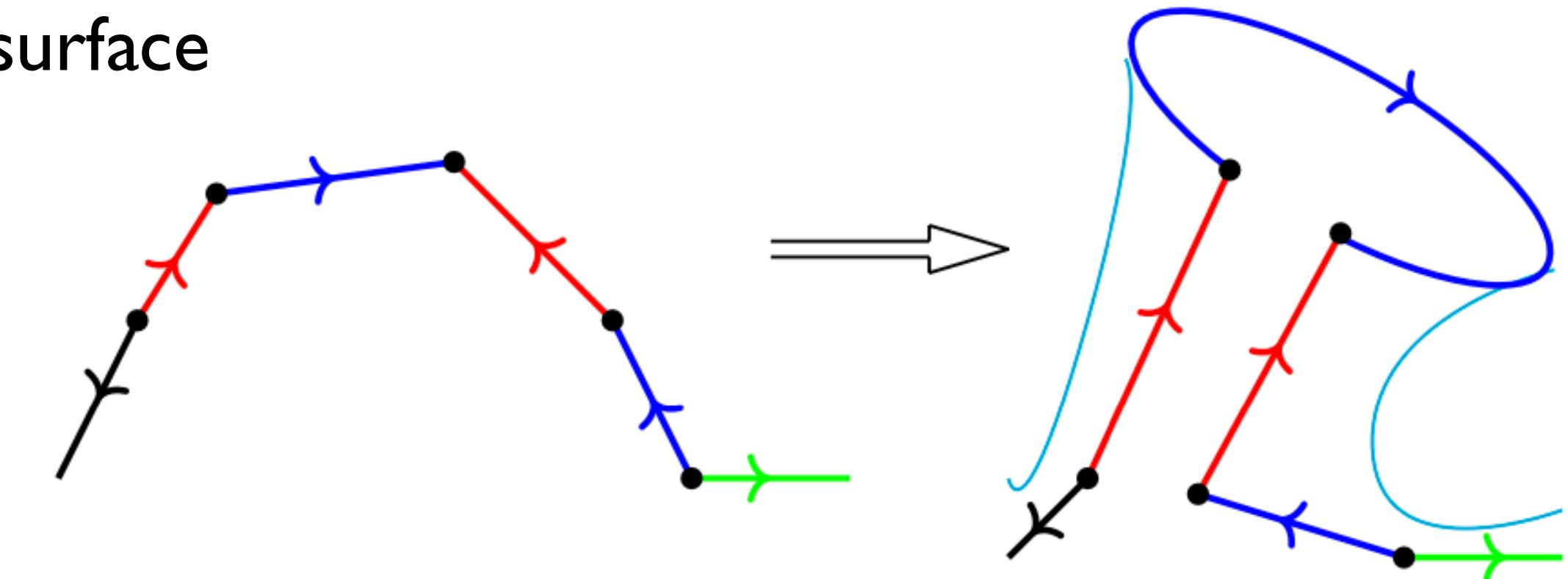
Projective plane

$$\pi_1(\mathbb{R}P^n) = \pi_1(e^0 \cup e^1 \cup e^2) = \langle g \mid r = 1 \rangle = ?$$

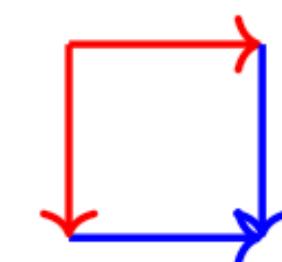
# The g-gone construction

Any Riemann surface of genus  $g$  can be realized from a planar surface with  $4g$  edges (4g-gone):  $a_i, a_i^{-1}, b_i, b_i^{-1}$  ( $i = 1, \dots, g$ )

Where  $a_i$  and  $b_i$  are clockwise oriented and  $a_i^{-1}$  and  $b_i^{-1}$  counterclockwise oriented

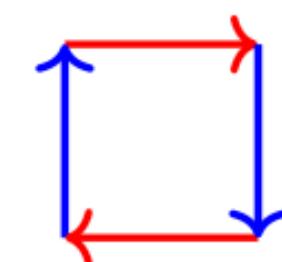


The fundamental parallelogram gives genus zero surfaces

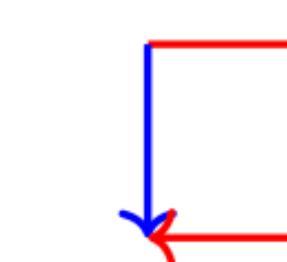


Sphere

$$abb^{-1}a^{-1}$$

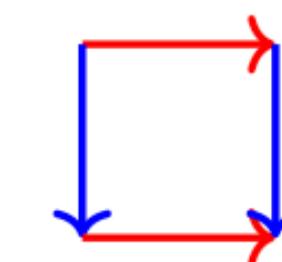


$RP^1$



Klein bottle

$$abab^{-1}$$



Torus

$$aba^{-1}b^{-1}$$

Torus

$$\pi_1(T^2) = \pi_1(e^0 \cup e^1 \cup e^1 \cup e^2) = \langle g_1, g_2 | g_1 g_2 g_1^{-1} g_2^{-1} = 1 \rangle = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$$

Klein Bottle

$$\pi_1(\mathbb{K}) = \pi_1(e^0 \cup_i e^1 \cup_i e^1 \cup e^2) = \langle g_1, g_2 | g_1 g_2 g_1 g_2^{-1} = 1 \rangle = \mathbb{Z} \rtimes \mathbb{Z}$$

Projective plane

$$\pi_1(\mathbb{R}P^n) = \pi_1(e^0 \cup e^1 \cup e^2) = \langle g | \underline{g^2} = 1 \rangle = \mathbb{Z}_2$$

# Differential forms

Let  $M$  be a differentiable manifold and  $TM$  its tangent bundle.

The cotangent bundle is

$$T^*M : TM \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Elements of the cotangent bundle are called algebraic one forms, sections of the cotangent bundle are called differential one forms.

Exterior product

$$\omega_1 \wedge \gamma_1 = -\gamma_1 \wedge \omega_1 = \omega y dx_1 \wedge dx_2$$

A k-form (differential) is a smooth section of the k-th external algebra of the cotangent bundle

$$\omega_k(x) : M \rightarrow \bigwedge^k (T^*M)$$

# De Rham Cohomology

Let  $\Omega^p(M)$  be the group of p-forms of the manifold  $M$ , and  $d : \Omega^p(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{p+1}(M)$  the external derivative

$$0 \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^0(\mathcal{M}) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^1(\mathcal{M}) \xrightarrow{d} \dots \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^n(\mathcal{M}) \xrightarrow{d} 0,$$

*De Rham Cohomology*

It turns  $H_{dR}^p \approx H_{simpl}^p$ , then

Closed forms

$$H_{dR}^p(\mathcal{M}) = \frac{\text{Ker}[d : \Omega^p(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \Omega^{p+1}(\mathcal{M})]}{\text{Im}[d : \Omega^{p-1}(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \Omega^p(\mathcal{M})]}$$

Exact forms

Non degenerate pairing:  $H_p^{simpl} \times H_{dR}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$        $\langle \omega_p | c_p ] = \int_{c_p} \omega_p$

## (Co) Homology with local coefficients: a local system

Let  $x, y \in X$  be two points of a topological space and  $\gamma_{xy}^i$  the classes of homotopically inequivalent paths having extrema in  $x$  and  $y$ .

Let  $\{G_x\}$  be a set of groups and  $\phi[\gamma_{xy}^i] : G_x \rightarrow G_y$  a group isomorphism.

The couple  $\mathcal{L} = (\{G_x\}, \phi)$  is called a **local system** if

$$\phi[\gamma_{xy}^i] \circ \phi[\gamma_{yz}^j] = \phi[\gamma_{xy}^i \gamma_{yz}^j]$$

- $\phi[i] = I$
- $\phi[\gamma_{xy}^i] = \phi[\gamma_{yx}^i]^{-1}$
- $\phi[\gamma_{xx}^i] \in Aut(G_x) \quad \rightarrow \quad \pi_x(X) \cong Aut(G_x)$
- If  $G_x$  is abelian, then  $\phi[\gamma_{xy}^i] = \phi(x, y)$

It is a fiber bundle with trivial transition function

[Steenrod, 1943]

[Zein, Snoussi, 2000]

# Twisted homology

Consider a multivalued function

$$u(z) = \prod_{j=1}^m P_j(z)^{\alpha_j}, \quad \alpha_j \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{Z}$$

The solutions of the differential equation

$$\nabla_\omega h = dh + \sum_{j=1}^m \alpha_j \frac{dP_j}{P_j} h = 0$$

define Local System .

Twisted chains are chains with coefficients in the Local System:

$$C_p(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{L}_\omega) \ni c_p = \sum_i \Delta_p^i \otimes \mathcal{L}_\omega$$

We introduce a Boundary operator:

$$\partial_\omega(\Delta \otimes u_\Delta) \equiv \sum_{j=0}^p (-1)^j \langle 01.. \hat{j} ... p \rangle \otimes u_{\langle 01.. \hat{j} ... p \rangle}$$

[Aomoto, Kita, Yoshida, Cho, Matsumoto, Goto...]

$$u(z) = z^{\alpha_1}(z-1)^{\alpha_2}$$

$$\Delta(\omega) = \frac{1}{e^{2\pi\alpha_1} - 1} S_\varepsilon^1(0) \otimes u_{S_\varepsilon^1(0)} + \langle \varepsilon, 1-\varepsilon \rangle \otimes u_{(0,1)} - \frac{1}{e^{2\pi\alpha_2} - 1} S_\varepsilon^1(1) \otimes u_{S_\varepsilon^1(1)}$$

$$\partial_\omega \Delta(\omega) = 0$$

Twisted Homology is defined as:

$$H_p(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{L}_\omega) \equiv \frac{\text{Ker } \partial_\omega}{\text{Im } \partial_\omega}$$

# Twisted Cohomology

We analogously introduce  $k$ -forms with values in the Local System

$$\Omega^k(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{L}_\omega) = \Omega^k(\mathcal{M}, \mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathcal{L}_\omega$$

And a boundary operator

$$\nabla_\omega : \Omega^k(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{L}_\omega) \rightarrow \Omega^{k+1}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{L}_\omega)$$

Twisted Cohomology is the cohomology of the sequence

$$0 \xrightarrow{\nabla_\omega^0} \Omega^0(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{L}_\omega) \xrightarrow{\nabla_\omega^1} \Omega^1(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{L}_\omega) \xrightarrow{\nabla_\omega^2} \dots \xrightarrow{\nabla_\omega^n} \Omega^n(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{L}_\omega) \xrightarrow{\nabla_\omega} 0$$

$$H^k(\mathcal{M}, \nabla_\omega) \equiv \frac{\ker[\nabla_\omega^k]}{\text{Im}[\nabla_\omega^{k+1}]}$$

[Aomoto, Kita, Yoshida, Cho, Matsumoto...]

Cycle-cocycle pairing

$$H^k(\mathcal{M}, \nabla_\omega) \times H_k(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{L}_\omega^\vee) \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \quad \langle \varphi_L | C_R \rangle = \int_{C_R} u \varphi_L$$

Cocycle-cocycle pairing

$$H_c^k(\mathcal{M}, \nabla_\omega) \times H^k(\mathcal{M}, \nabla_{-\omega}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \quad \langle \varphi_L | \varphi_R \rangle = \int \text{reg}_c(\varphi_L) \wedge \varphi_R. \quad (2)$$

Cycle-cycle pairing

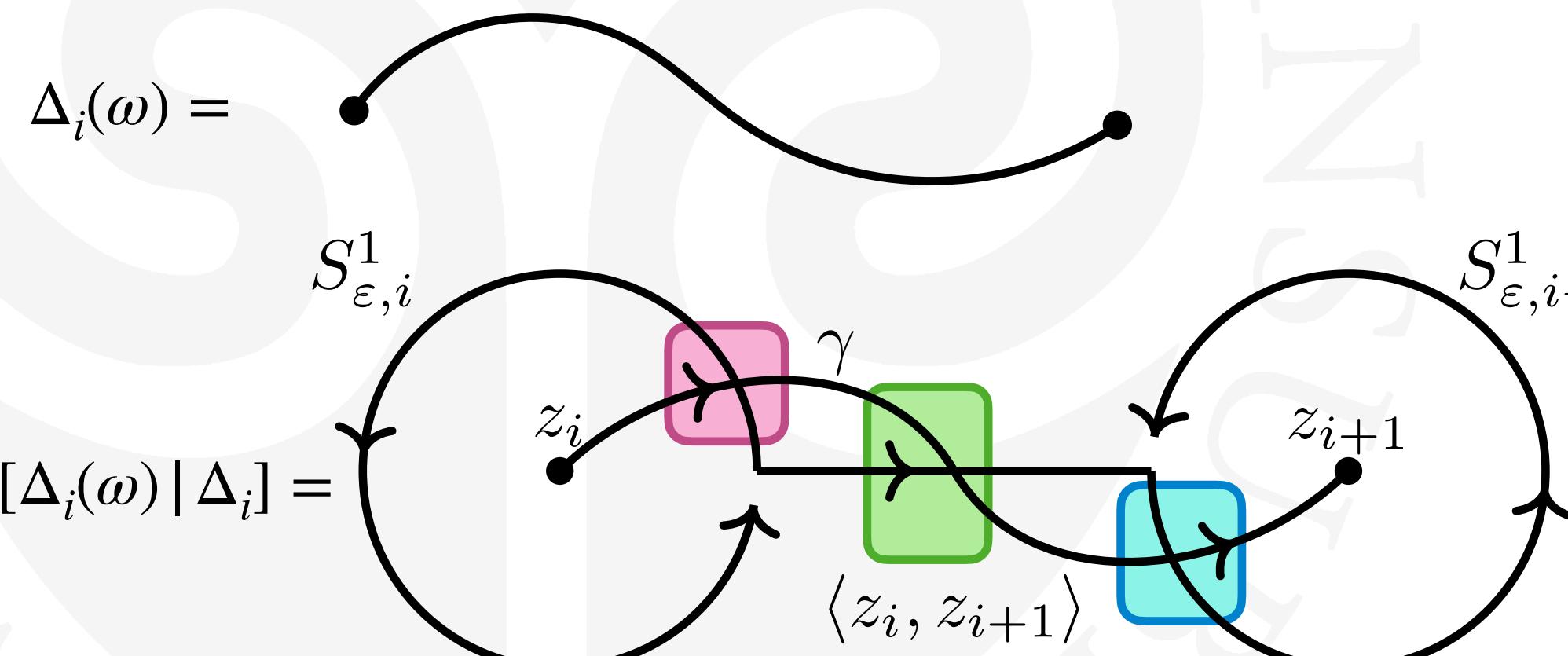
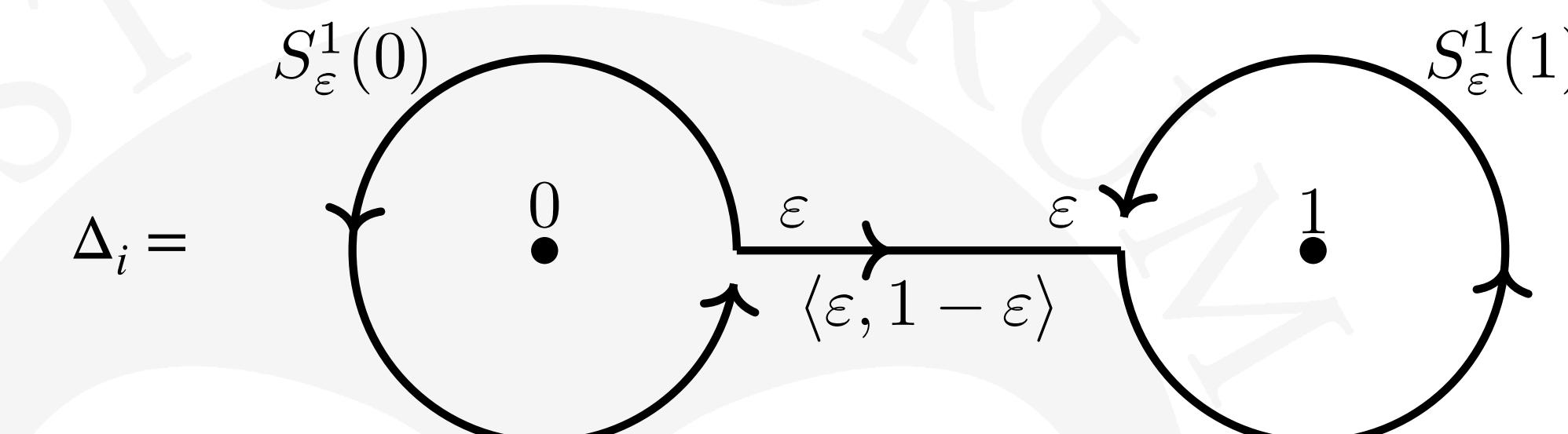
$$H_k^{lf}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{L}_\omega) \times H_k(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{L}_\omega^\vee) \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \quad [C_L | C_R] = \text{reg}_h(C_L) \cdot C_R \otimes u_L u_R. \quad (3)$$

## Intersection among contours: $[C_1 | C_2]$

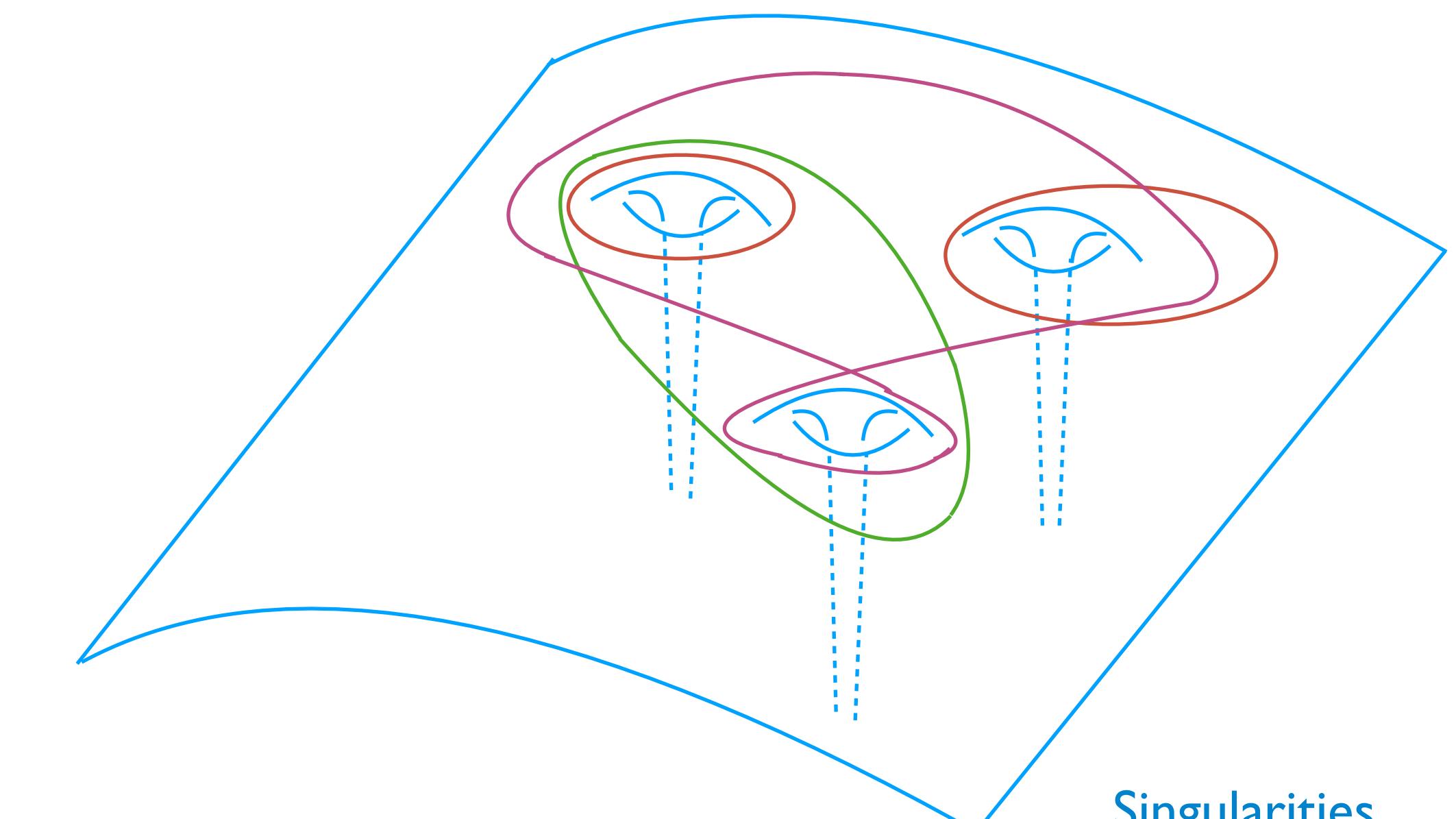
[Mimachi, Yoshida, 2003]

[Mizera, 2019]

### Diagrammatical Techniques



$$[\Delta_i(\omega) | \Delta_i] = -\frac{1}{e^{2\pi i \alpha_i} - 1} - 1 - \frac{1}{e^{2\pi i \alpha_{i+1}} - 1}$$



### Topological intersection

$$\gamma_1 \cdot \gamma_2 = \begin{array}{c} \gamma_1 \\ \diagup \\ \diagdown \\ \gamma_2 \end{array} = +1$$

$$\gamma_1 \cdot \gamma_2 = \begin{array}{c} \gamma_1 \\ \diagdown \\ \diagup \\ \gamma_2 \end{array} = -1$$

## Intersection among forms: $\langle \varphi_1 | \varphi_2 \rangle$

[Matsumoto, 1998]

[Padova group 2019/2022]

[Weinzierl, 2021]

$\mathcal{P}_\omega = \text{poles of } \omega$

$\mathcal{Z}_\omega = \text{zeros of } \omega$

$P_\omega = \text{poles of } \Omega^{(n)}$

- **Univariate forms** [Cho, Matsumoto (1995)] [Matsumoto (1998)]

$$\langle \varphi_L | \varphi_R \rangle \equiv \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \text{reg}_c(\varphi_L) \wedge \varphi_R = \sum_j \text{Res}_{z=z_j} (\psi_j \varphi_R).$$

With  $\psi_j(z)$  the local solution of  
 $\nabla_\omega \psi_j(z) = \varphi_L(z)$

- **(Multivariate) dlog forms** [Mizera (2017)]

$$\langle \varphi_L | \varphi_R \rangle = \int \prod_{i=1}^n dz_i \delta[\omega_i] \varphi_L \varphi_R = \sum_{z_{ij}^*} |\partial_i \omega_j|^{-1} \varphi_L \varphi_R \Big|_{z_i=z_{ij}^*}.$$

- **Multivariate generic forms** [Mizera (2019)] [Frellesvig, Gasparotto, Laporta, Mandal, Mastrolia, Mattiazzi, Mizera, (2019)]

$$\langle \varphi_L^{(\mathbf{n})} | \varphi_R^{((\mathbf{n}))} \rangle = \sum_{p \in P_\omega} \text{Res}_{z_n=p} \left( \psi_i^{(n)} \varphi_{Rj}^{(n)} \right)$$

# Linear and quadratic relations

Let  $\langle e_i |, | h_i \rangle, [C_{Li}], | C_{Ri} ]$  be basis for (co-homology spaces). Intersection matrices are defined as:

$$C_{ij} \equiv \langle e_i | h_j \rangle \quad H_{ij} = [C_{Li} | C_{Rj}].$$

The identity operator can be written as:

$$\sum_{ij} |h_i\rangle (C^{-1})_{ij} \langle e_j| = \mathbf{1}_c$$

$$\sum_{ij} |C_{Ri}\rangle (H^{-1})_{ij} [C_{Lj}] = \mathbf{1}_h$$

**Master decomposition formula (linear)**

$$\langle \varphi_L | C_R ] = \sum_{ij} \langle \varphi_L | h_i \rangle (C^{-1})_{ij} \langle e_j | C_R ]$$

[Mastrolia, Mizera (2019)]

[Frellesvig, Gasparotto, Laporta, Mandal, Mastrolia, Mattiazzi, Mizera, (2019-20)]

**Twisted Riemann period relations (quadratic)**

$$\langle \varphi_L | \varphi_R \rangle = \sum_{ij} \langle \varphi_L | C_{Ri} \rangle (H^{-1})_{ij} [C_{Lj} | \varphi_R \rangle$$

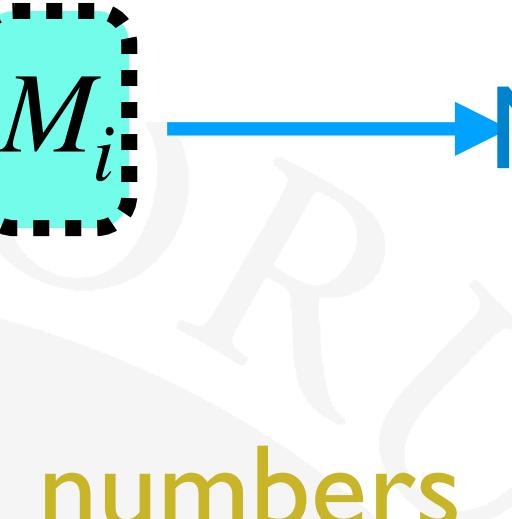
[Cho, Matsumoto (1995)]

See for review [Cacciatori, Conti, Trevisan (2021)]

# Linear relations: a vector space of Feynman Integrals

$$I = \sum_{i=1}^d c_i M_i \longrightarrow \text{Master integrals}$$

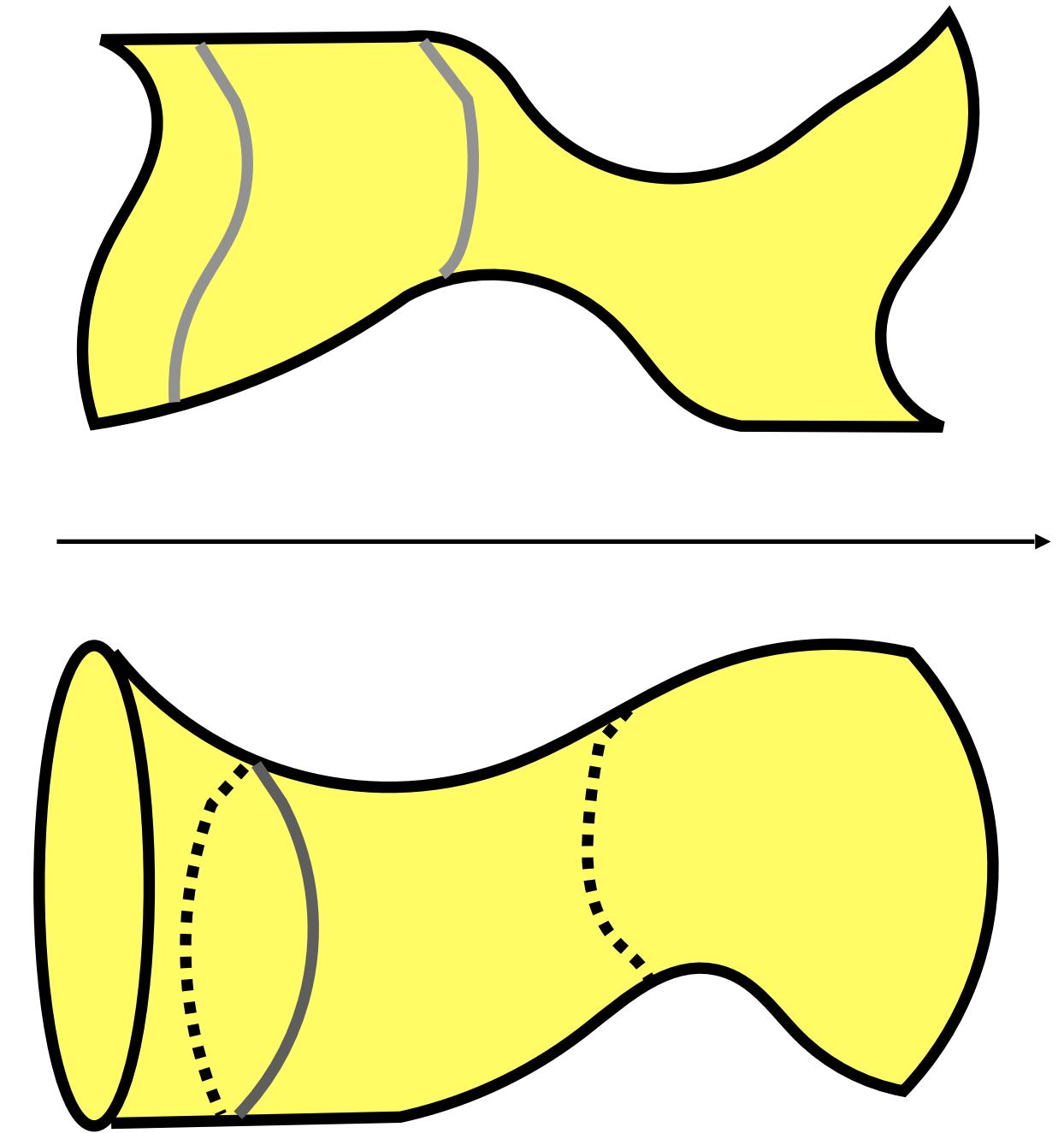
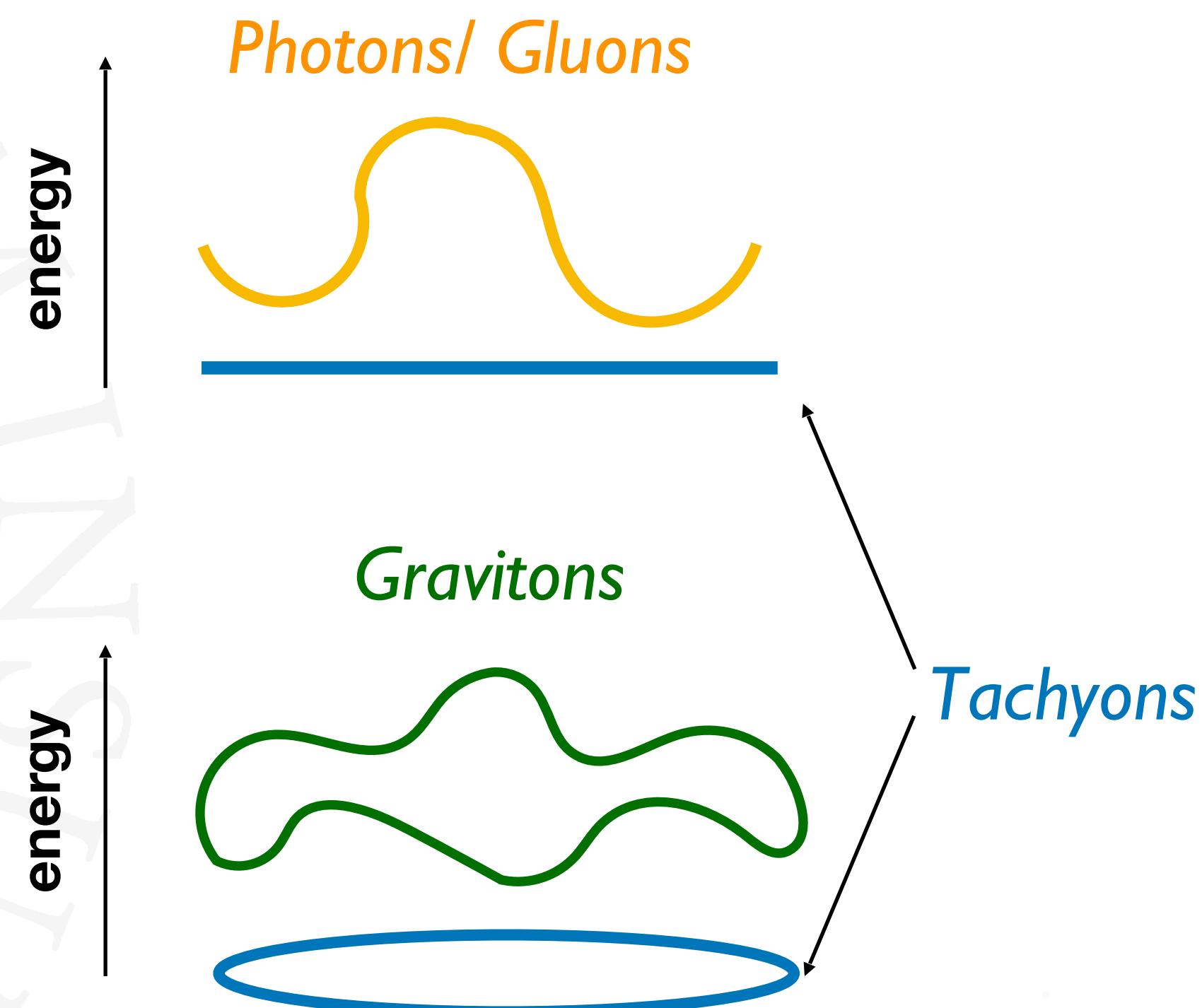
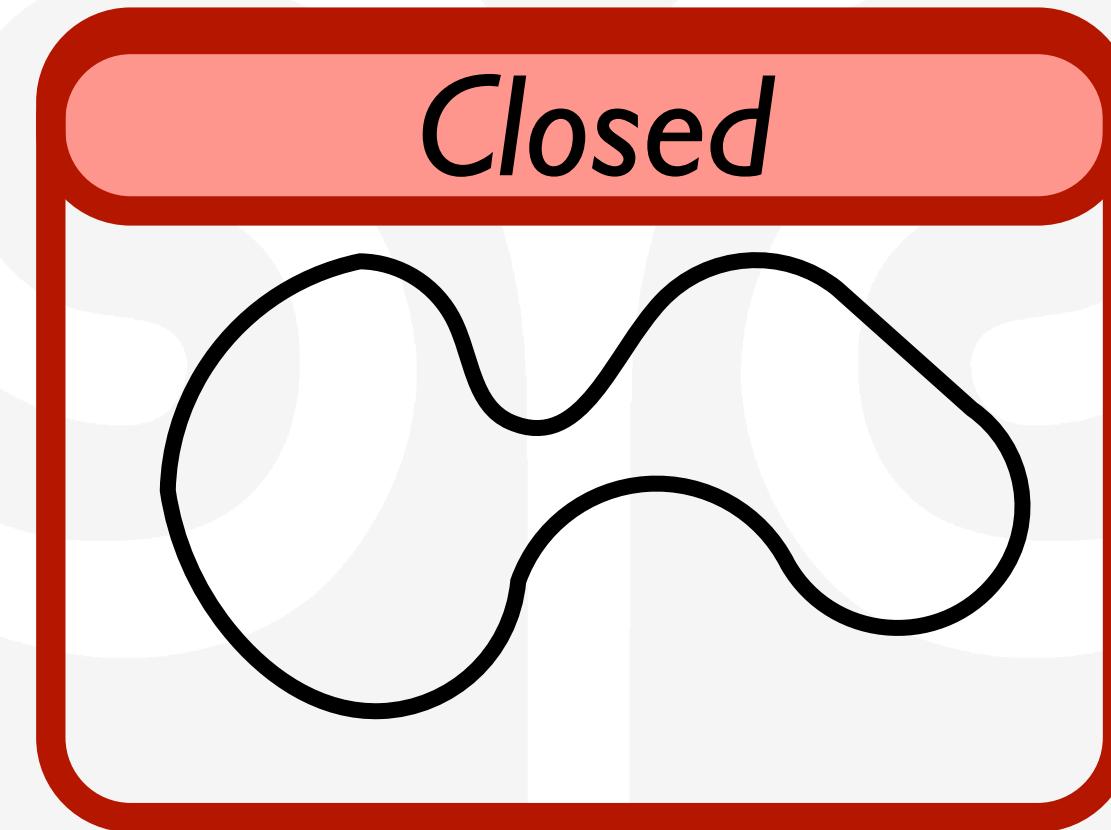
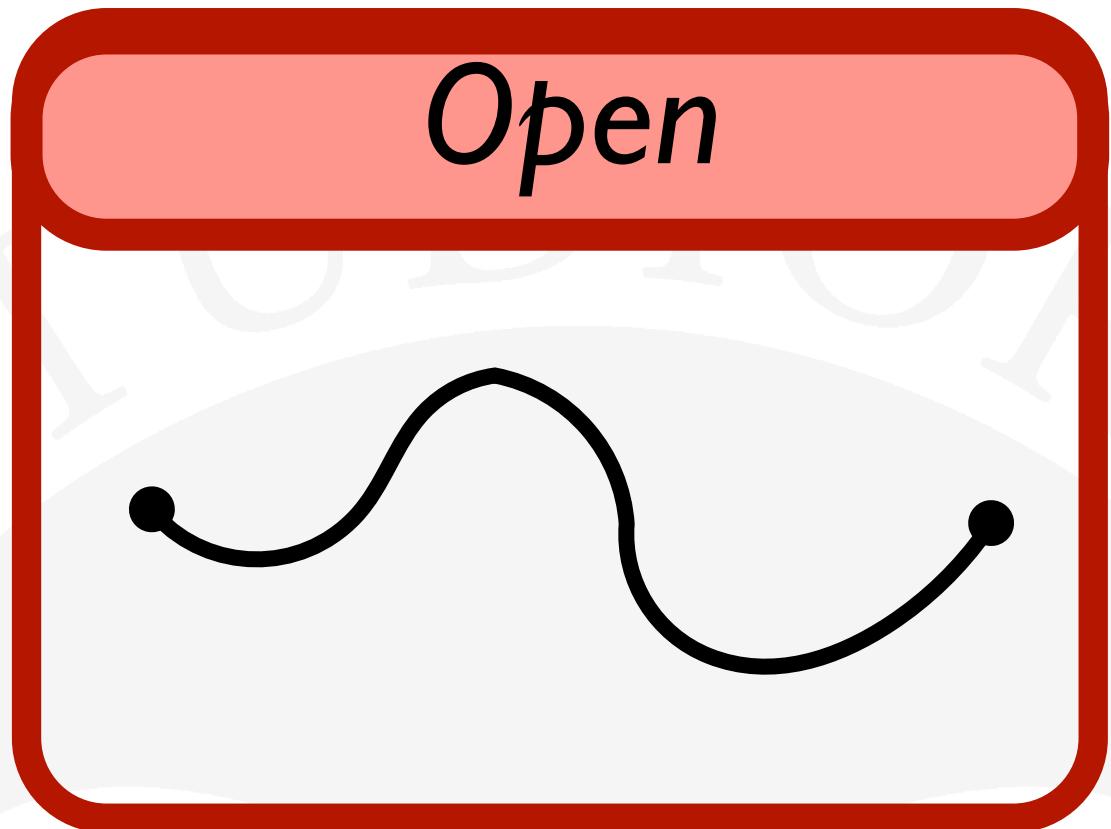
Intersection numbers



$$d = d(\chi)$$

- Any Feynman integral can be decomposed into a finite set of Master integrals
- The number of Master integral depends on the integration domain topology
- The coefficient of the expansion are intersection number.

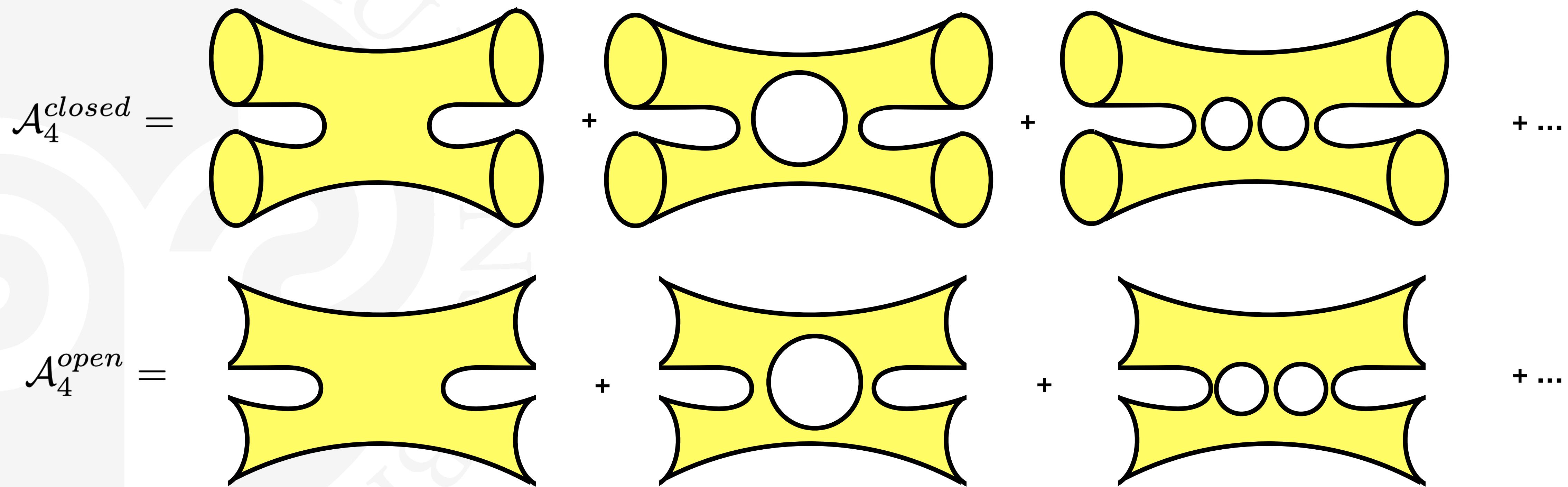
***Intersection numbers control relations among Scattering Amplitudes***



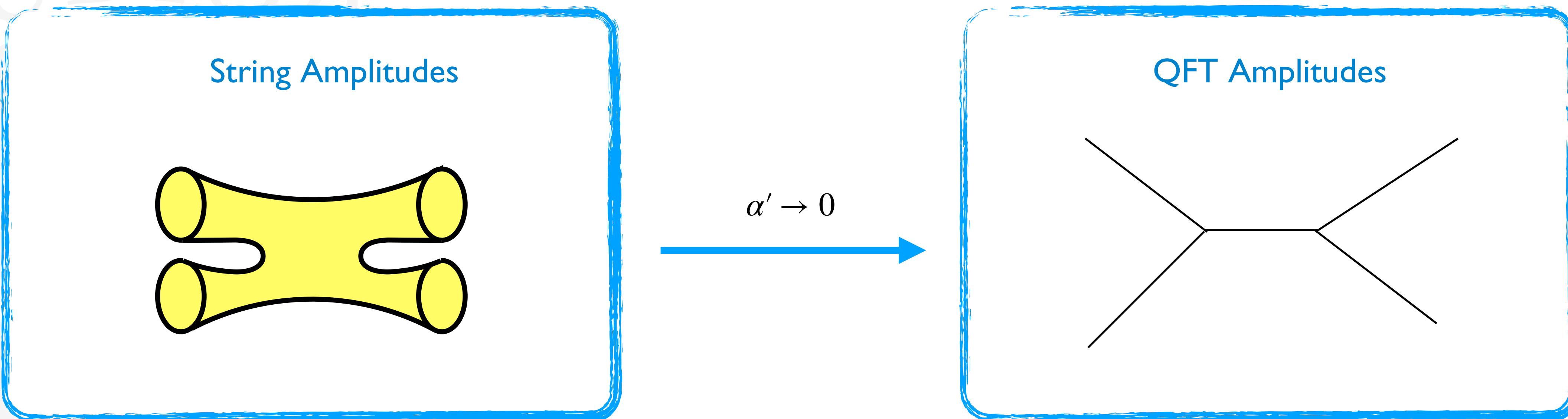
# String Amplitude

The  $n$  string amplitude is defined as:

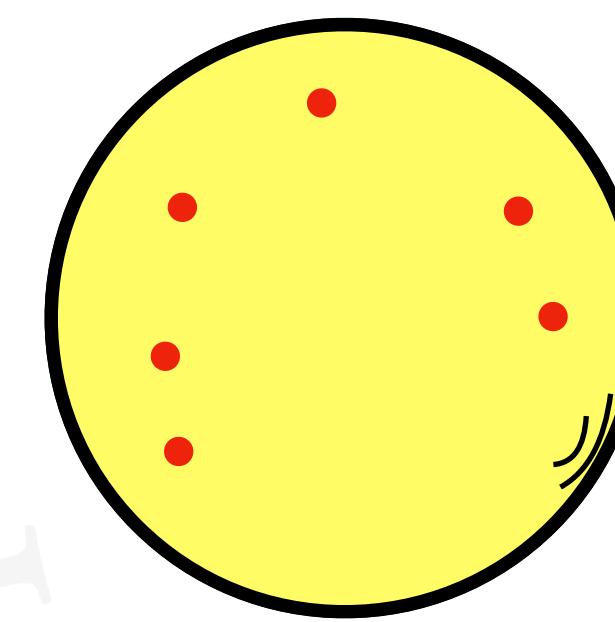
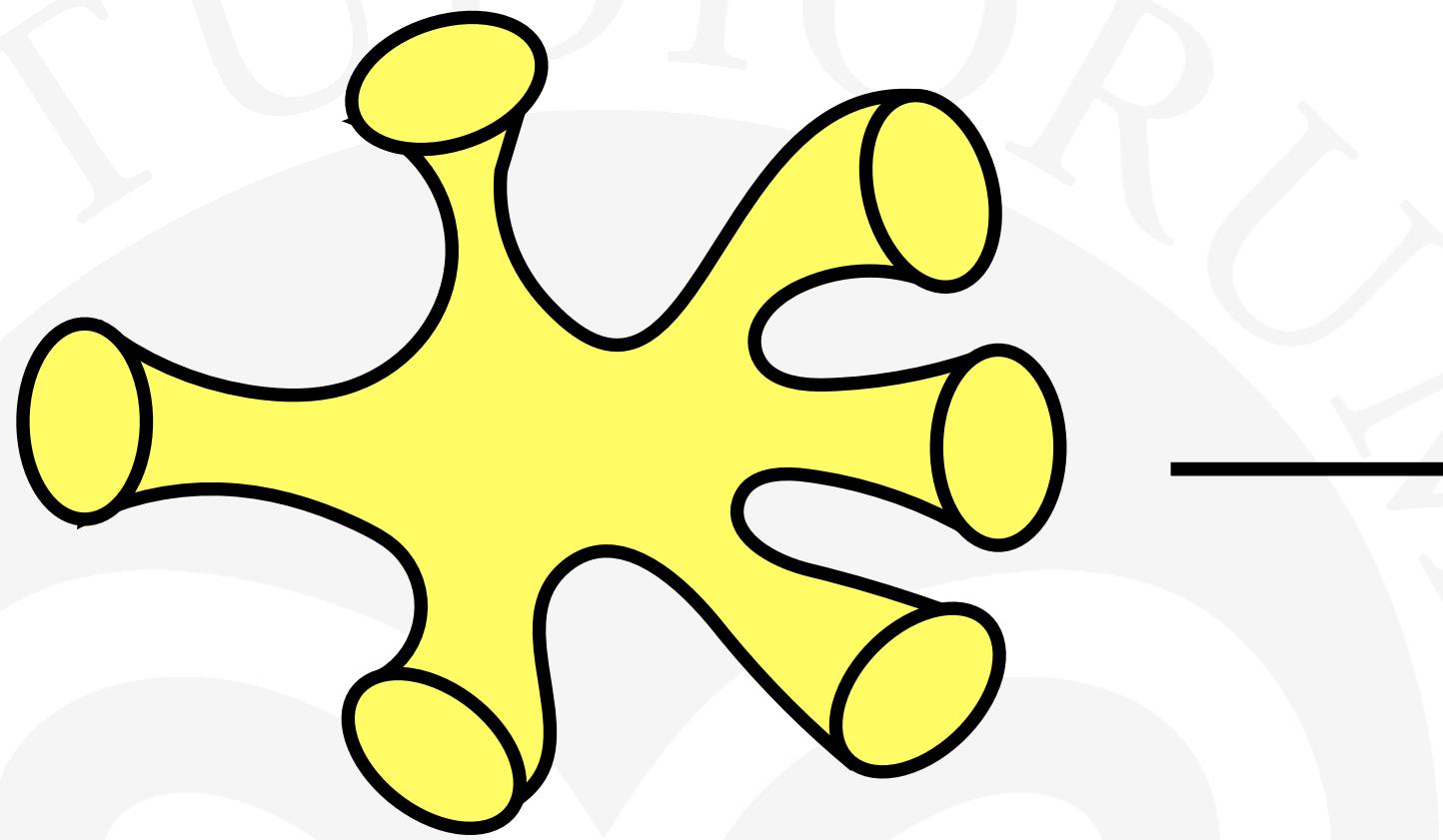
$$\mathcal{A}_n = \int_W DX Dh e^{-S_p[X,h]} \prod_{i=1}^n V_i = \sum_g e^{-\lambda \chi(g)} \int_{W_g} DX Dh e^{-S_p[X,h]} \prod_{i=1}^n V_i.$$



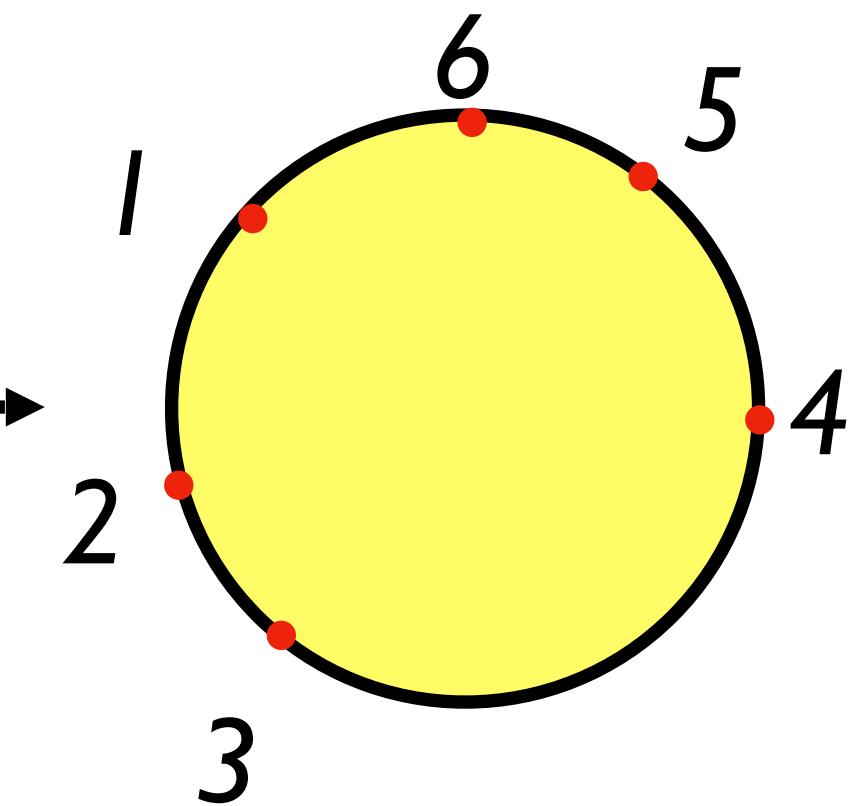
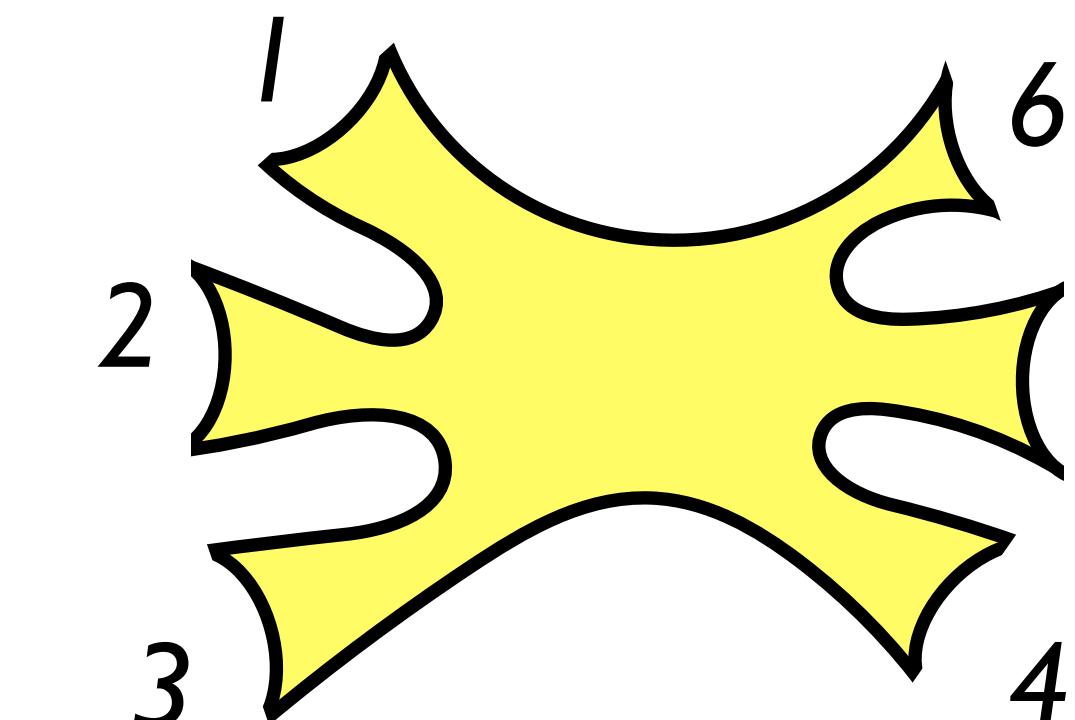
# Why String Amplitude



# String tree level Amplitudes



$$\mathcal{A}_n^{closed} = \int_{\mathcal{M}_{0,n}} \frac{1}{SL(2, \mathbb{C})} \prod_{i=1}^n d^2 z_i \prod_{i < j=1}^n |z_{ij}|^{2\alpha k_i k_j} F(z) F(\bar{z})$$

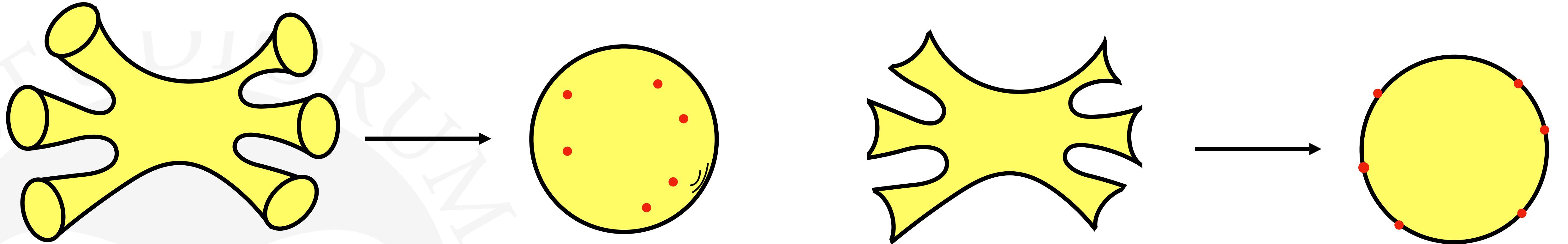


$$\mathcal{A}_n^{open} = \int_{\mathcal{D}(1,2..n)} \frac{1}{SL(2, \mathbb{R})} \prod_{i=1}^n dx_i \prod_{i < j=1}^n |x_{ij}|^{\alpha k_i k_j} F(x)$$

Where  $z_{ij} = z_i - z_j$  and  $F(z)$  is a rational function depending on the state polarization

For tachyons  $F(z) = 1$

# String tree level Amplitudes

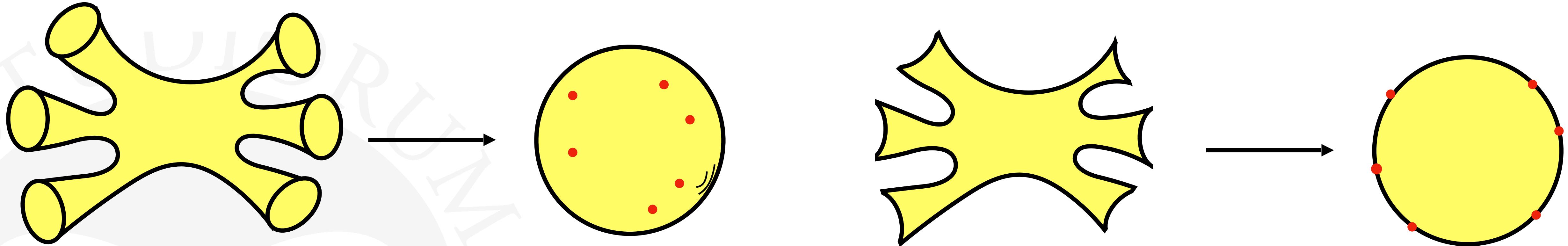


$$\mathcal{A}_n^{closed} = \int_{\mathcal{M}_{0,n}} \frac{1}{SL(2, \mathbb{C})} \prod_{i=1}^n d^2 z_i \prod_{i < j=1}^n |z_{ij}|^{2\alpha k_i k_j} F(z) F(\bar{z})$$

$$\mathcal{A}_n^{open} = \int_{\mathcal{D}(1,2..n)} \frac{1}{SL(2, \mathbb{R})} \prod_{i=1}^n dx_i \prod_{i < j=1}^n |x_{ij}|^{\alpha k_i k_j} F(x)$$

Conformal Killing group

# String tree level Amplitudes



$$\mathcal{A}_n^{closed} = \int_{\mathcal{M}_{0,n}} \frac{1}{SL(2, \mathbb{C})} \prod_{i=1}^n d^2 z_i \left[ \prod_{i < j=1}^n |z_{ij}|^{2\alpha k_i k_j} F(z) F(\bar{z}) \right]$$

$$\mathcal{A}_n^{open} = \int_{\mathcal{D}(1,2..n)} \frac{1}{SL(2, \mathbb{R})} \prod_{i=1}^n dx_i \left[ \prod_{i < j=1}^n |x_{ij}|^{\alpha k_i k_j} F(x) \right]$$

Koba-Nielsen factor

# Defining a twist

Let

$$\varphi(z) = F(z) \prod dz_i$$

$$\overline{\varphi(z)} = F(\bar{z}) \prod d\bar{z}_i$$

$$u = \prod_{i < j=1} |z_{ij}|^{ak_i k_j}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_\omega^\vee = \mathcal{L}_{\bar{\omega}}$$

The tree level  $n$  closed string amplitude can be written as

$$\mathcal{A}_n^{closed} = \int |u(z)|^2 \varphi(z) \overline{\varphi(z)} = \langle \varphi(z) | \overline{\varphi(\bar{z})} \rangle$$

Cocycle-Cocycle pairing

The tree level  $n$  open string amplitude can be written as

$$\mathcal{A}_n^{open}(\sigma) = \int_{\Delta(\sigma)} u(z) \varphi(z) = \langle \varphi(z) | \Delta_\sigma \rangle$$

Cycle-Cocycle pairing

[Mizera, 2017]

# Homology of the n-puncture sphere

The dimension of the  $(n-3)$ -(co)homology is:

$$\nu = (n - 3)!.$$

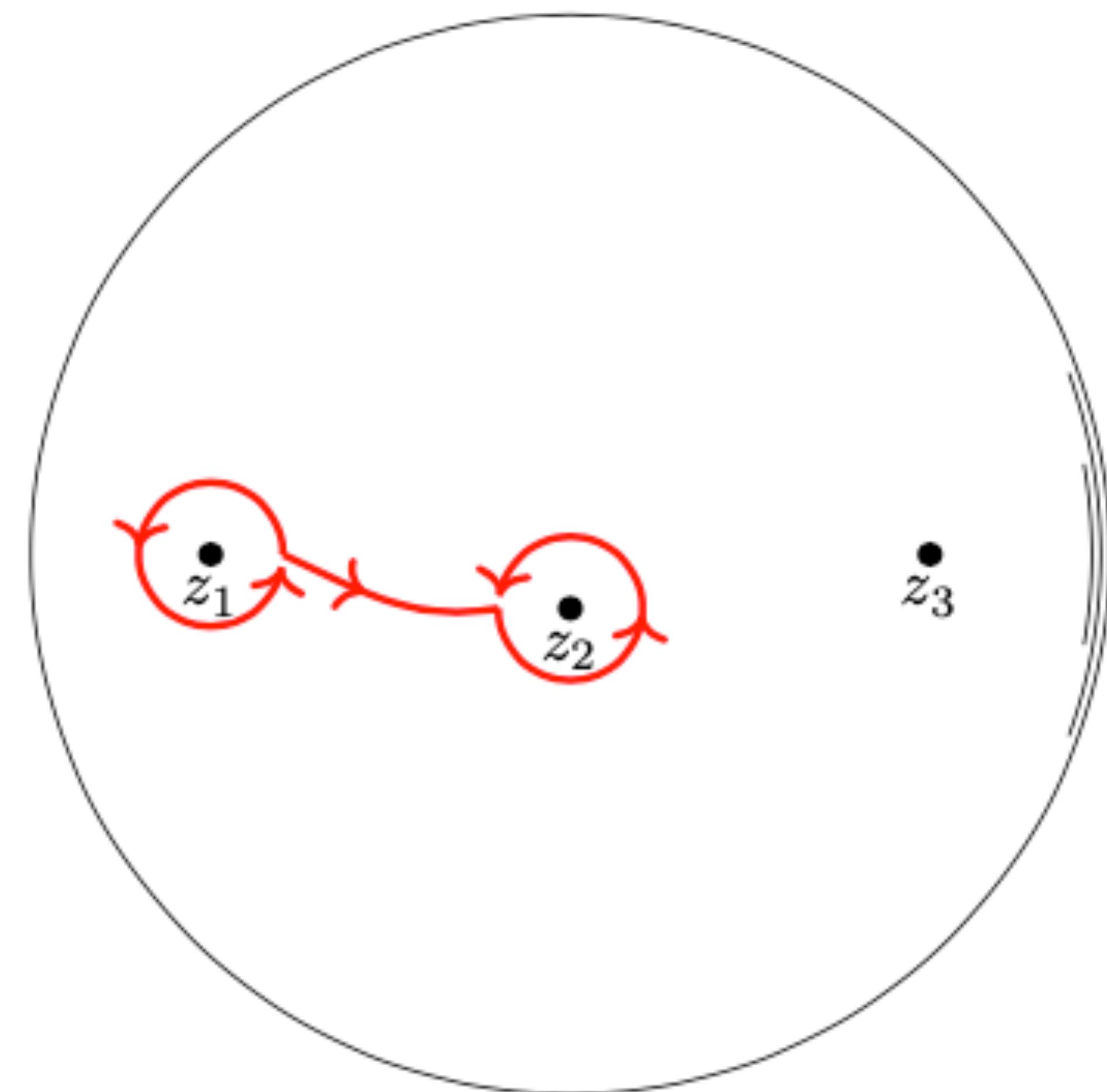
Cycles are defined as

$$\Delta(\beta) \equiv \overline{\{0 < z_{\beta(2)} < z_{\beta(3)} \dots < z_{\beta(n-2)} < 1\}}.$$

Intersection numbers among twisted cycles is

$$[\Delta(\alpha)|\Delta(\beta)] = \left(\frac{i}{2}\right)^{n-3} m(\alpha|\beta)$$

Where  $m(\alpha|\beta)$  can be diagrammatically computed



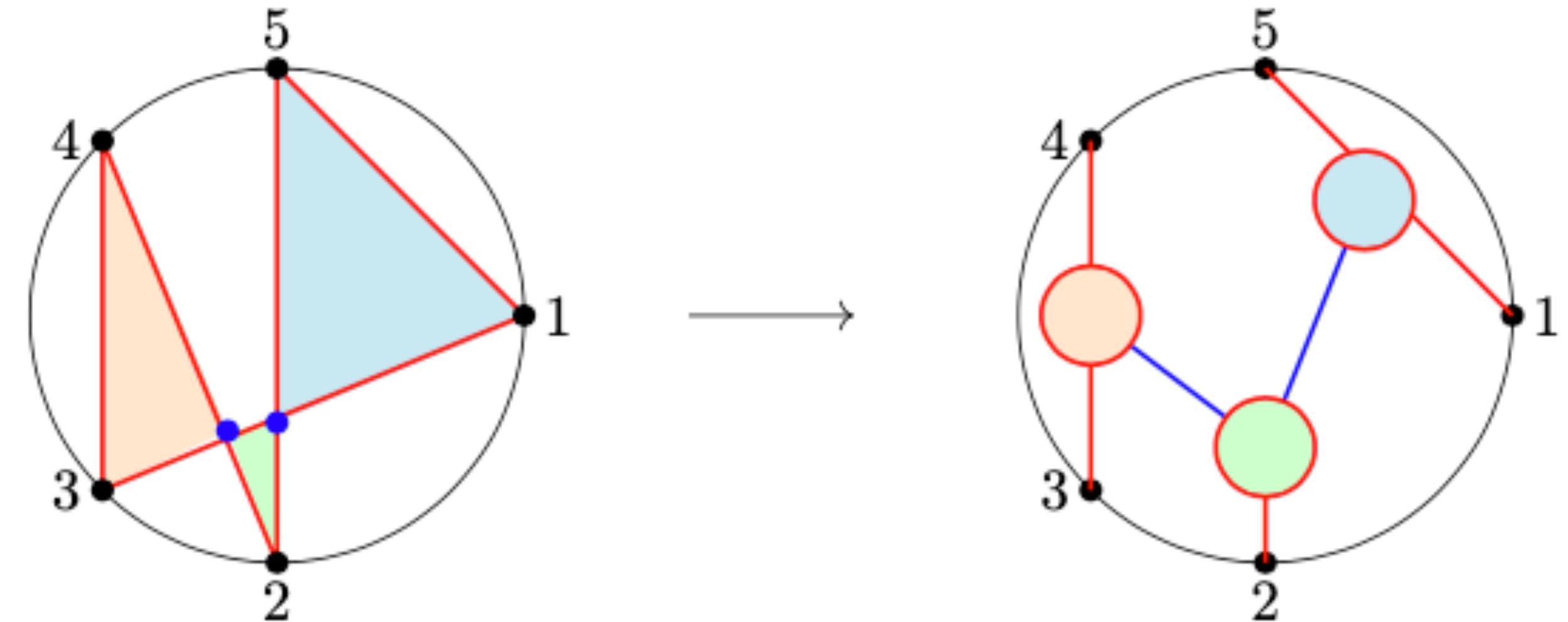
[Cachazo,He,Yuan(2014)]

[Mizera (2017)]

# Diagrammatic rule for higher order twisted cycle intersection

$$m(\alpha | \beta) = m(12345 | 13425)$$

- Draw points along a circle according to  $\alpha$  and connect them according to  $\beta$
- Draw a dual diagram
- Attach to each internal leg a propagator  $\frac{1}{\sin \pi s_{ij..}}$  with  $s_{ij..} = \alpha' \sum k_i k_j$
- Each bubble with  $n$  legs corresponds to a  $n-3$  selfintersection
- The sign is  $(-1)^{w(\alpha|\beta)+1}$



$$m(12345 | 13425) = \frac{1}{\sin \pi s_{15}} \frac{1}{\sin \pi s_{34}}$$

[Cachazo,He,Yuan(2014)]  
 [Mizera (2017)]

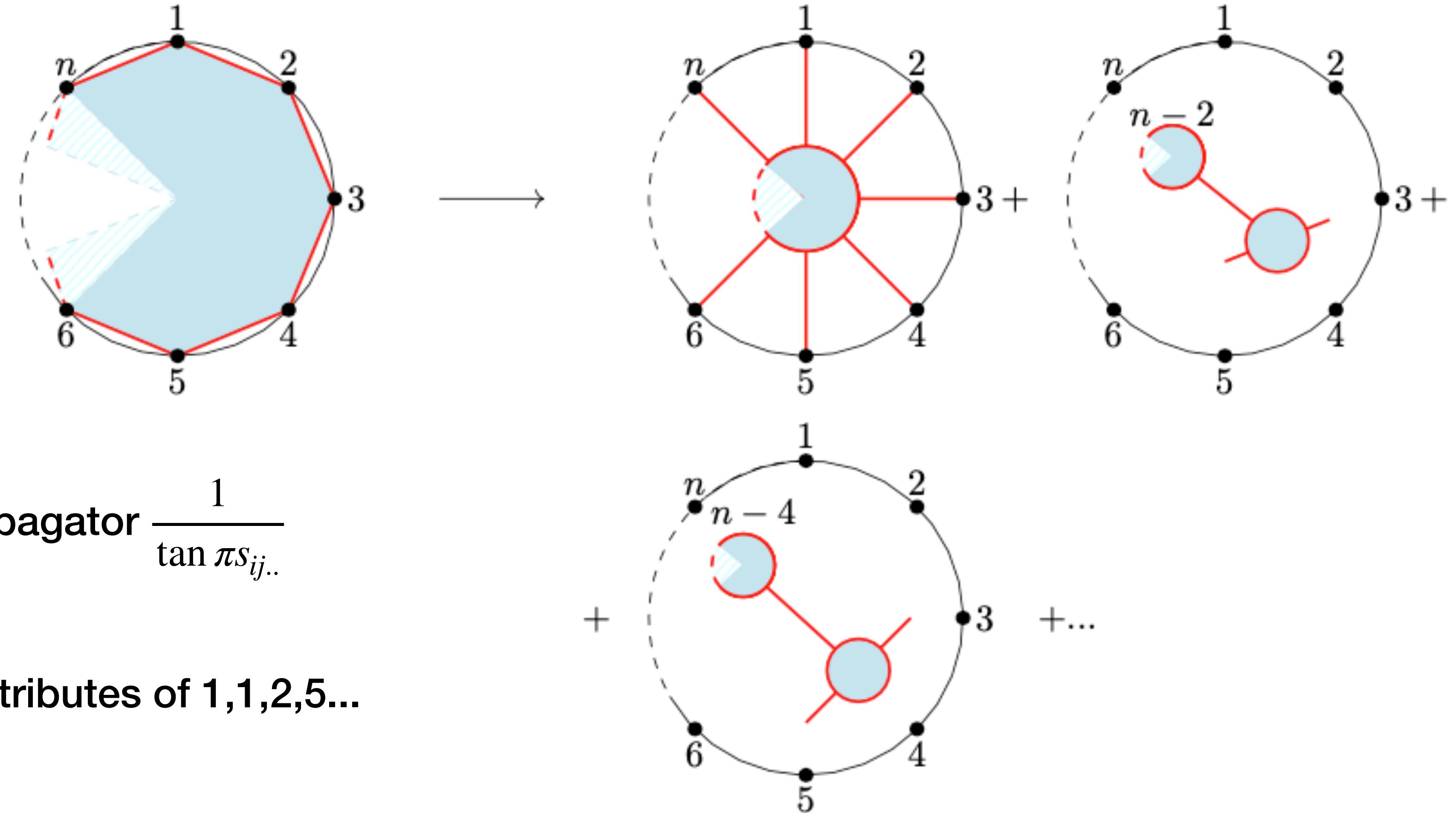
# Diagrammatic rule for higher order twisted cycle intersection

$m(\alpha | \beta)$

■ Draw all possible diagrams  
with  $n-2, n-4 \dots$  bubbles

■ Attach to each internal leg a propagator  $\frac{1}{\tan \pi s_{ij..}}$

■ One bubble diagrams give a contributes of 1, 1, 2, 5...



[Cachazo,He,Yuan(2014)]

[Mizera (2017)]

# Diagrammatic rule for higher order twisted cycle intersection

$$m(123|123) = \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of a triangle inscribed in a circle with vertices 1, 2, 3 and a shaded interior} \\ \longrightarrow \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of a triangle inscribed in a circle with vertices 1, 2, 3 and a central point connected to each vertex} \\ = 1 \end{array}$$

$$m(1234|1234) = \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of a square inscribed in a circle with vertices 1, 2, 3, 4 and a shaded interior} \\ \longrightarrow \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of a square inscribed in a circle with vertices 1, 2, 3, 4 and a central point connected to each vertex} \\ + \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of a square inscribed in a circle with vertices 1, 2, 3, 4 and a central point connected to vertices 1, 2, 3} \end{array}$$

$$[\Delta(1234)|\Delta(1234)] = \frac{i}{2} \left( \frac{1}{\tan \pi s_{12}} + \frac{1}{\tan \pi s_{23}} \right)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of a pentagon inscribed in a circle with vertices 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and a shaded interior} \\ \longrightarrow \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of a pentagon inscribed in a circle with vertices 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and a central point connected to each vertex} \\ + \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of a pentagon inscribed in a circle with vertices 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and a central point connected to vertices 1, 2, 3} \\ + \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of a pentagon inscribed in a circle with vertices 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and a central point connected to vertices 1, 2, 4} \\ + \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of a pentagon inscribed in a circle with vertices 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and a central point connected to vertices 1, 3, 4} \\ + \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of a pentagon inscribed in a circle with vertices 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and a central point connected to vertices 2, 3, 4} \\ + \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of a pentagon inscribed in a circle with vertices 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and a central point connected to vertices 1, 2, 3, 4} \end{array}$$

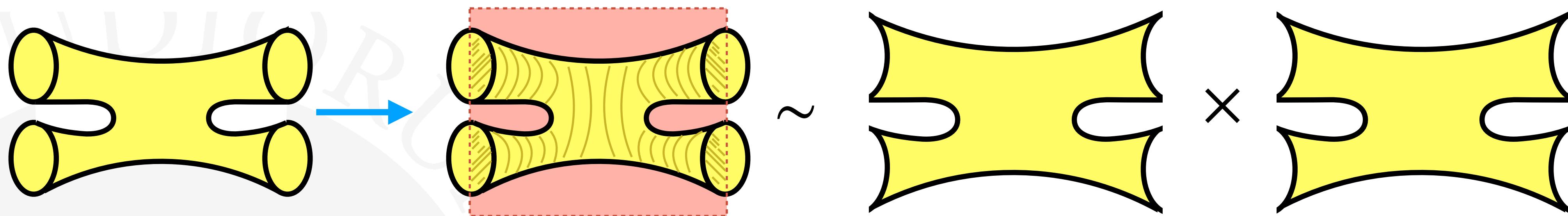
$$\begin{aligned} [\Delta(12345)|\Delta(12345)] &= -\frac{i}{4} \left( \frac{1}{\tan \pi s_{12}} \frac{1}{\tan \pi s_{45}} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{\tan \pi s_{23}} \frac{1}{\tan \pi s_{45}} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{\tan \pi s_{15}} \frac{1}{\tan \pi s_{23}} \right) + \\ &\quad + \left( \frac{1}{\tan \pi s_{15}} \frac{1}{\tan \pi s_{34}} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{\tan \pi s_{12}} \frac{1}{\tan \pi s_{34}} \right) + 1, \end{aligned}$$

[Cachazo,He,Yuan(2014)]

[Mizera (2017)]

# Kawai-Lewellen-Tye relations

Kawai-Lewellen-Tye (KLT) relations encode open/closed string duality:  $\mathcal{A}^{\text{closed}} \sim (\mathcal{A}^{\text{open}})^2$



Gravitons  $\sim$  (Gluons)  $\times$  (Gluons)

KLT as Twisted Riemann period relations

$$\langle \varphi(z) | \overline{\varphi(\bar{z})} \rangle = \sum_{\alpha\beta} \langle \varphi(z) | \Delta_\alpha ] (H^{-1})_{\alpha\beta} [ \overline{\Delta_\beta} | \varphi(\bar{z}) \rangle = \sum_{\alpha\beta} \left( \int_{\Delta(\alpha)} u(z) \varphi(z) \right) (H^{-1})_{\alpha\beta} \left( \int_{\overline{\Delta(\beta)}} \bar{u}(z) \overline{\varphi(\bar{z})} \right). \quad (5.5)$$

Example: Shapiro-Virasoro and Veneziano amplitudes

$$\mathcal{A}_4^{\text{closed}} = \frac{i}{2} \mathcal{A}^{\text{open}}(1234) \left( \frac{1}{\tan \pi \alpha' k_1 k_2} + \frac{1}{\tan \pi \alpha' k_1 k_2} \right)^{-1} \mathcal{A}^{\text{open}}(1234)$$

KLT kernel

[Kawai,Lewellen,Tye (1986)]

[Mizera (2017)]

# Cellular structure

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{A}_5^{closed} &= \int |z_2|^{2\alpha' k_1 k_2} |z_3|^{2\alpha' k_1 k_3} |z_2 - 1|^{2\alpha' k_2 k_4} |z_3 - 1|^{2\alpha' k_3 k_4} |z_2 - z_3|^{2\alpha' k_2 k_3} dz_2 \wedge dz_3 = \\ &= \int |u(z_2, z_3)|^2 dz_2 \wedge d\bar{z}_3 = \langle 1|1 \rangle.\end{aligned}$$

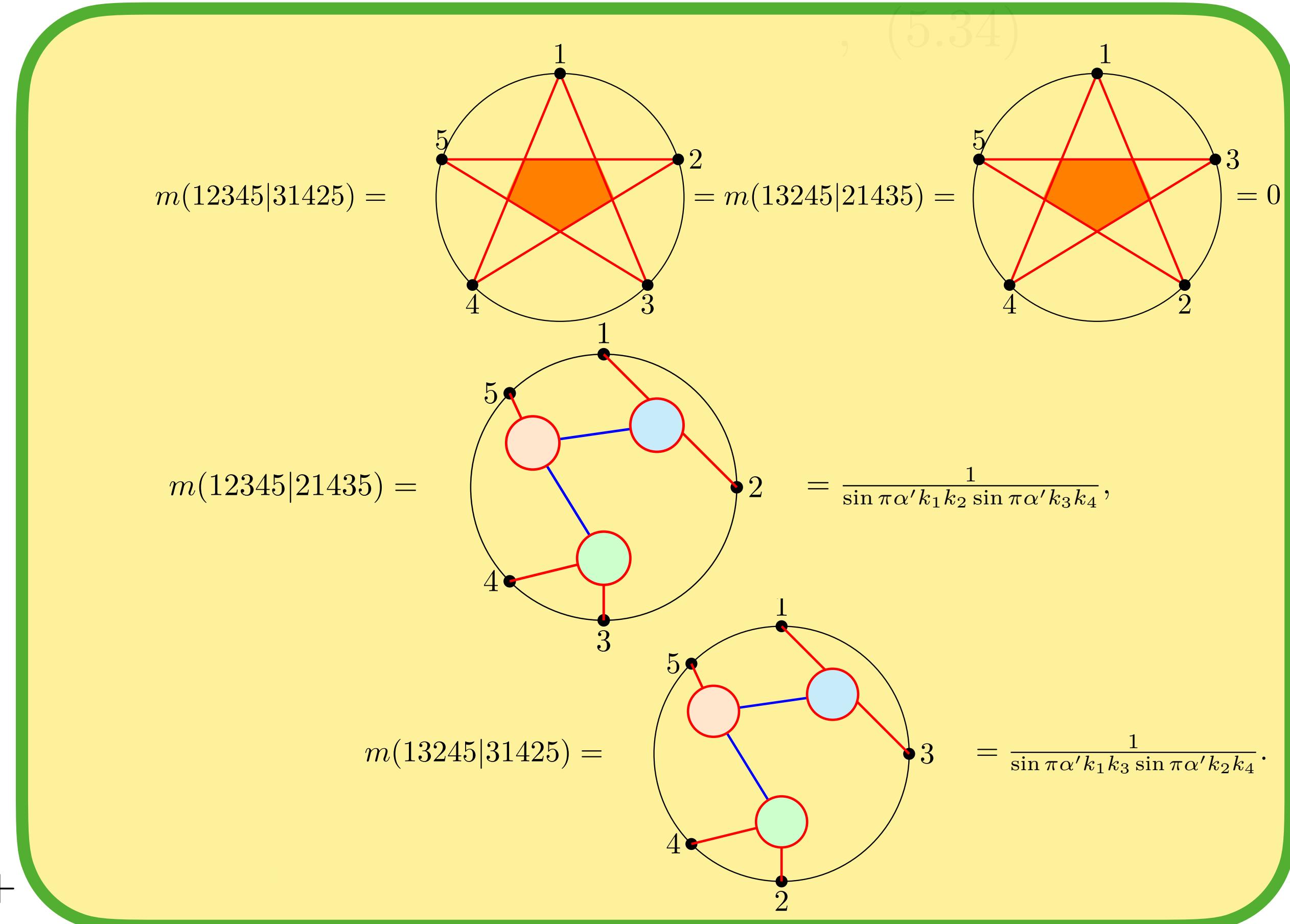
KLT decomposition reads:

$$\langle 1|1 \rangle = \sum_{\alpha\beta} \langle 1|\Delta(\alpha)] H_{\alpha\beta}^{-1} [\Delta(\beta)|1\rangle,$$

$$H_{\alpha\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} [\Delta(12345)|\Delta(21435)] & [\Delta(12345)|\Delta(31425)] \\ [\Delta(13245)|\Delta(21435)] & [\Delta(13245)|\Delta(31425)] \end{pmatrix},$$

And we finally obtained

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{A}_5^{closed} &= -4\mathcal{A}_5^{open}(12345)\bar{\mathcal{A}}_5^{open}(21435) \sin(\pi\alpha' k_1 k_2) \sin(\pi\alpha' k_3 k_4) + \\ &\quad - 4\mathcal{A}_5^{open}(13245)\bar{\mathcal{A}}_5^{open}(31425) \sin(\pi\alpha' k_1 k_3) \sin(\pi\alpha' k_2 k_4).\end{aligned}$$



# Five open tachyons Master Integral decomposition

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{A}_5^{open} &= \sum_{\beta} \mathcal{A}_5^{open}(\beta) = \sum_{\beta} \int_{\Delta(\beta)} z_2^{\alpha' k_1 k_2} z_3^{\alpha' k_1 k_3} (z_2 - 1)^{\alpha' k_2 k_4} (z_3 - 1)^{\alpha' k_3 k_4} (z_2 - z_3)^{\alpha' k_2 k_3} dz_2 \wedge dz_3 \\
&= \sum_{\beta} \int_{\Delta(\beta)} u(z_2, z_3) dz_2 \wedge dz_3 = \sum_{\beta} \langle 1 | \Delta(\beta) \otimes u \rangle.
\end{aligned} \tag{5.39}$$

*Master decomposition into Parke-Taylor basis reads:*

$$\langle 1 | \Delta_{\beta} ] = \sum_{\alpha \sigma} \langle 1 | PT(\alpha) \rangle C_{\alpha \sigma}^{-1} \langle PT(\sigma) | \Delta_{\beta} ]$$

$$C_{\alpha \beta} = \begin{pmatrix} \langle PT(12345) | PT(12345) \rangle & \langle PT(12345) | PT(12345) \rangle \\ \langle PT(13245) | PT(12345) \rangle & \langle PT(13245) | PT(13245) \rangle \end{pmatrix}$$

*For instance:*

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{A}_5^{open}(12345) &= \int_0^1 \int_0^1 z_2^{\alpha_1} z_3^{\alpha_2} (z_2 - 1)^{\alpha_3} (z_3 - 1)^{\alpha_4} (z_2 - z_3)^{\alpha_5} dz_2 \wedge dz_3 = \\
&\Lambda_1 \int_0^1 \int_0^1 z_2^{\alpha_1-1} z_3^{\alpha_2} (z_2 - 1)^{\alpha_3} (z_3 - 1)^{\alpha_4-1} (z_2 - z_3)^{\alpha_5-1} dz_2 \wedge dz_3 + \\
&+ \Lambda_2 \int_0^1 \int_0^1 z_2^{\alpha_1} z_3^{\alpha_2-1} (z_2 - 1)^{\alpha_3-1} (z_3 - 1)^{\alpha_4} (z_2 - z_3)^{\alpha_5-1} dz_2 \wedge dz_3
\end{aligned}$$

**Parke-Taylor forms**

$$\begin{aligned}
PT(12345) &= \frac{dz_2 \wedge dz_3}{z_2(z_2 - z_3)(z_3 - 1)}, \\
PT(13245) &= \frac{dz_2 \wedge dz_3}{z_3(z_3 - z_2)(z_2 - 1)}.
\end{aligned}$$

## *Future goal:*

- *Investigation of duality relations at higher order and in superstrings;*
- *Beyond Twisted De Rham Theory (Hodge structure, Stratifold, Supermoduli space);*
- *The role of boundaries in QFT and ST (Instantons, Cobordism and Distance Conjecture).*



**Thank you**