

SINGULARITY STRUCTURE OF THE FOUR POINT CELESTIAL LEAF AMPLITUDES

Annual Review Talk

by

Raju Mandal

Supervisor : Prof. Shamik Banerjee

NISER, Bhubaneswar

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Previous work?

- 📖 “All OPEs invariant under the infinite symmetry algebra for gluons on the celestial sphere” is published in Phys.Rev.D 110 (2024) 2, 026020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.110.026020>

This talk

- 📖 based on “Singularity Structure of the Four Point Celestial Leaf Amplitudes” with Partha Paul(IMSC), Sagnik Misra(NISER) and Baishali Roy(RKMVU).

arXiv: [2410.13969](https://arxiv.org/abs/2410.13969) [hep-th]

OUTLINE

① OUR GOAL

What do we want to do?

② MOTIVATION

Why do we want to do that?

③ CELESTIAL HOLOGRAPHY

$QG \leftrightarrow CCFT$

④ BRIEF REVIEW:

What are these?

- ➡ The celestial amplitudes
- ➡ The Klein space
- ➡ Celestial leaf amplitudes

⑤ ACHIEVING THE GOAL

How do we do it?

⑥ OUTLOOK

What do we expect now?

GOAL

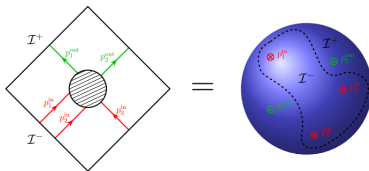
- ① Singularity structure of the 4-point celestial leaf amplitudes
- ② Constraints on the leaf amplitudes coming from the decoupling of the null states

MOTIVATION

- ✎ Holographic principle in AdS spacetime is well understood.
- ✎ Celestial leaf amplitudes have a natural holographic interpretation given by AdS_3/CFT_2 correspondence
- ✎ Shiraz and collaborators' construction in [2311.03443](#),
Boundary correlator \rightarrow S -matrix of a QFT \rightarrow massless scattering in Minkowski spacetime \rightarrow simple pole-type singularity in the 4-point correlators in cross-ratio space at $z = \bar{z}$
- ✎ In the AdS/CFT context, pole type singularity also appeared in the Lorentzian 4-point boundary correlators.

QUICK REVIEW OF CELESTIAL CFT :

A quantum theory of gravity in (3+1)D AFS \equiv A 2D Celestial CFT on CS^2 at null infinity



$$\langle out | S | in \rangle \quad \langle \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_1}^{\pm}(z_1, \bar{z}_1) \dots \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_n}^{\pm}(z_n, \bar{z}_n) \rangle \quad (1)$$

Null momentum in split signature $(-, -, +, +)$:

Klein space

$$p_k^{\mu} = \epsilon_k \omega_k (1 - z_k \bar{z}_k, z_k + \bar{z}_k, 1 + z_k \bar{z}_k, z_k - \bar{z}_k) \quad (2)$$

$$ds^2 = -(dX^0)^2 - (dX^1)^2 + (dX^2)^2 + (dX^3)^2,$$

$$SO(2,2) \cong SL(2,\mathbb{R})_L \times SL(2,R)_R/\mathbb{Z}_2$$

$$\downarrow X^0 + iX^1 = qe^{i\psi}, X^2 + iX^3 = re^{i\phi}$$

$$ds^2 = -dq^2 - q^2 d\psi^2 + dr^2 + r^2 d\phi^2$$

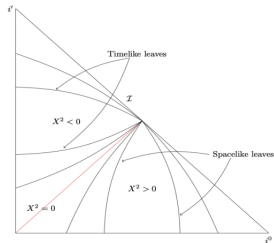
$$\downarrow q - r = \tan U, q + r = \tan V$$

$$ds^2 = \frac{1}{\cos^2 U \cos^2 V} \left(-dU dV - \frac{1}{4} \sin^2(V+U) d\psi^2 + \frac{1}{4} \sin^2(V-U) d\phi^2 \right)$$

$$\downarrow \text{null infinity } \mathcal{I} \text{ at } V = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\tilde{ds}^2 = -d\psi^2 + d\phi^2, \quad \psi \sim \psi + 2\pi, \phi \sim \phi + 2\pi \quad \text{Lorentzian torus}$$

(3)



FOLIATION OF THE KLEIN SPACE

👉 The lightcone $X^2 = 0$ divides the Klein space into two regions

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Timelike: } X^\mu &= \tau \hat{x}_+^\mu, \quad \hat{x}_+^2 = -1 & \tau \in (0, \infty) \\ \text{Spacelike: } X^\mu &= \tau \hat{x}_-^\mu, \quad \hat{x}_-^2 = +1\end{aligned}\tag{4}$$

In global coordinates,

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Timelike wedge } ds^2 &= -d\tau^2 + \tau^2(-\cosh^2 \rho d\psi^2 + \sinh^2 \rho d\phi^2 + d\rho^2) \\ \text{Spacelike wedge } ds^2 &= d\tau^2 - \tau^2(-\cosh^2 \rho d\psi^2 + \sinh^2 \rho d\phi^2 + d\rho^2)\end{aligned}\tag{5}$$

👉 each constant τ leaf gives a metric on AdS_3/\mathbb{Z}

👉 conformal boundary is reached by taking $\rho \rightarrow \infty$, which is a Celestial torus(\mathcal{CT}^2)

👉 null coordinates(global coordinates), $\sigma = \frac{\psi+\phi}{2}$, $\bar{\sigma} = \frac{\psi-\phi}{2}$

👉 planar coordinates, $z = \tan \sigma$, $\bar{z} = \tan \bar{\sigma}$

CELESTIAL AMPLITUDE :

(Pasterski,Shao,Strominger '17)

$$\langle \prod_{i=1}^n \mathcal{O}_{h_i, \bar{h}_i}^{a_i}(z_i, \bar{z}_i) \rangle = \prod_{i=1}^n \int_0^\infty d\omega_i \omega_i^{\Delta_i-1} \boxed{\mathcal{S}_n(\{\omega_i, z_i, \bar{z}_i, \sigma_i, a_i\})} \quad (6)$$

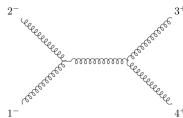
Mellin transform

Momentum space amplitude

MHV 4-GLUON CELESTIAL AMPLITUDE (COLOR STRIPPED) :

$$\mathcal{A}(1^- 2^- 3^+ 4^+)$$

$$= \prod_{j=1}^4 \int_0^\infty d\omega_j \omega_j^{\Delta_j-1} \boxed{\frac{\langle 12 \rangle^3}{\langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 41 \rangle} \delta\left(\sum_{i=1}^4 p_i^\mu\right)}$$



Parke-Taylor Formula 1986

$$= \prod_{j=1}^4 \int_0^\infty d\omega_j \omega_j^{\Delta_j-1} \mathcal{F}(\{\omega_i\}) \delta(\omega_1 - \omega_1^*) \delta(\omega_2 - \omega_2^*) \delta(\omega_3 - \omega_3^*) \delta(z_{12} z_{34} \bar{z}_{13} \bar{z}_{24} - z_{13} z_{24} \bar{z}_{12} \bar{z}_{34})$$

(7)

$$\mathcal{A}(1^- 2^- 3^+ \dots n^+) = \prod_{j=1}^n \int_0^\infty d\omega_j \omega_j^{\Delta_j-1} \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^3}{\langle 23 \rangle \dots \langle n1 \rangle} \boxed{\int \frac{d^4 X}{(2\pi)^4} e^{\sum_j \omega_j (i \hat{p}_j \cdot X - \epsilon)}}$$

$$= \frac{s_{12}^3}{s_{23} \dots s_{n1}} \int \frac{d^4 X}{(2\pi)^4} \prod_{i=1}^n \Phi_{2\bar{h}_i}(X, \hat{p}_i)$$

scalar conformal primary wavefunction

↓ break the integral over Klein space

$$= \frac{s_{12}^3}{s_{23} \dots s_{n1}} \int_0^\infty d\tau \tau^3$$

$$\times \left\{ \int_{\hat{x}_+^2 = -1} d^3 \hat{x}_+ \prod_{i=1}^n \Phi_{2\bar{h}_i}(\tau \hat{x}_+, \hat{p}_i) + \int_{\hat{x}_+^2 = +1} d^3 \hat{x}_- \prod_{i=1}^n \Phi_{2\bar{h}_i}(\tau \hat{x}_-, \hat{p}_i) \right\}$$

$s_{ij} := \sin \sigma_{ij}$

↓ τ integral

$$\mathcal{A}(1^- 2^- 3^+ \dots n^+) = \frac{\delta(\beta)}{8\pi^3} \left(\mathcal{L}(\sigma_i, \bar{\sigma}_i) + \mathcal{L}(\sigma_i, -\bar{\sigma}_i) \right), \quad \beta = \sum_{k=1}^n (\Delta_k - 1)$$

↑
Timelike leaf

↑
Spacelike leaf

LEAF AMPLITUDE:

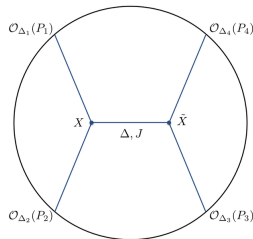
$$\mathcal{L}(\sigma_i, \bar{\sigma}_i) = \frac{s_{12}^3}{s_{23} \cdots s_{n1}} \int_{AdS_3/\mathbb{Z}} d^3 \hat{x}_+ \prod_{i=1}^n \Phi_{2\bar{h}_i}(\hat{x}_+, \hat{p}_i) \quad (9)$$

INTERPRETATION:

$$\Phi_{\Delta}(X, \hat{p}) = \int_0^{\infty} d\omega \omega^{\Delta-1} e^{i\omega \hat{p} \cdot X - \epsilon \omega} = \frac{\Gamma(\Delta)}{(-i\hat{p} \cdot X + \epsilon)^{\Delta}}$$

↓
hyperbolic coordinates

bulk-to-boundary propagator on Lorentzian AdS_3/\mathbb{Z}



PROPERTIES...

- Non-distributional, unlike celestial amplitudes
- Celestial amplitudes are obtained by adding the TL and SL leaf amplitudes
- Governed by the same infinite-dimensional soft “ S algebra” + Lorentz/conformal sym.

Melton, Sharma, Strominger '24

- 4-point massless scalar and gluon leaf amplitudes have a simple pole-type singularity in cross-ratio space

Paul, Roy, Misra, RM '24

- Constrained by the same BG equations

4-POINT MASSLESS SCALAR AMPLITUDE: ϕ^4 Theory

contact diagram:

$$A_4(p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4) = -i(2\pi)^4 \tilde{\lambda} \delta^4(p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + p_4) \quad (10)$$

4-point scalar leaf amplitudes:

$$\mathcal{L}_4^s(\sigma_i, \bar{\sigma}_i) = -i(2\pi)^4 \tilde{\lambda} \mathcal{C}_4(\sigma_i, \bar{\sigma}_i), \quad \mathcal{L}_4^s(\sigma_i, -\bar{\sigma}_i) = -i(2\pi)^4 \tilde{\lambda} \mathcal{C}_4(\sigma_i, -\bar{\sigma}_i) \quad (11)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}(\sigma_i, \bar{\sigma}_i) &= \int_{\hat{x}_+^2 = -1} d^3 \hat{x}_+ \prod_{j=1}^4 \int_0^\infty d\omega_j \omega_j^{2\bar{h}_j - 1} e^{\sum_{k=1}^4 \epsilon_k \omega_k q_k \cdot \hat{x}_+ - \epsilon \omega_k} \\ &\quad \downarrow \text{go to the planar coordinates} \quad \lambda_i = \lambda, \forall i \text{ (for simplicity)} \\ \mathcal{C}_4(z_i, \bar{z}_i) & \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

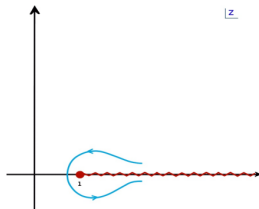
$$\text{conformal transformations} \left| \begin{array}{l} z_1, \bar{z}_1 \rightarrow \infty; z_2 = \bar{z}_2 = 1; z_3 = z, \bar{z}_3 = \bar{z}; z_4 = \bar{z}_4 = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}_4(z, \bar{z}) &= \frac{i\pi}{2} \Gamma(1 + 2i\lambda) e^{2\pi\lambda} H(1 + i\lambda, 1 + i\lambda, 1 + 2i\lambda, 2 + 2i\lambda; u_+, v_+) \\ &\quad - \frac{i\pi}{2} \Gamma(1 + 2i\lambda) e^{-2\pi\lambda} H(1 + i\lambda, 1 + i\lambda, 1 + 2i\lambda, 2 + 2i\lambda; u_-, v_-) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& H(2\bar{h}_1, \bar{h}_1 + \bar{h}_2 - \bar{h}_3 + \bar{h}_4, 1 + \bar{h}_1 - \bar{h}_2 - \bar{h}_3 + \bar{h}_4, 2\bar{h}_1 + 2\bar{h}_4; \tilde{u}, \tilde{v}) \\
&= \int_{-c-i\infty}^{-c+i\infty} \frac{ds}{2\pi i} \int_{-c'-i\infty}^{-c'+i\infty} \frac{dr}{2\pi i} \Gamma(-s)\Gamma(-r)\Gamma(2\bar{h}_1 + r + s)\Gamma(-\bar{h}_1 + \bar{h}_2 + \bar{h}_3 - \bar{h}_4 - s) \\
&\quad \times \Gamma(\bar{h}_1 + \bar{h}_2 - \bar{h}_3 + \bar{h}_4 + r + s)\Gamma(-\bar{h}_1 - \bar{h}_2 + \bar{h}_3 + \bar{h}_4 - r)\tilde{u}^r \tilde{v}^s
\end{aligned}
\tag{13}$$

- scalar case

$$\begin{aligned}
& \delta(\lambda)H(1 + i\lambda, 1 + i\lambda, 1 + 2i\lambda, 2 + 2i\lambda; u_{\pm}, v_{\pm}) \\
&= \frac{\delta(\lambda)}{\bar{z} - z \pm i\epsilon} \left[\left\{ \log(z \mp i\epsilon) + \log(\bar{z} \pm i\epsilon) \right\} \left\{ \log(1 - \bar{z} \mp i\epsilon) + \log(1 - z \pm i\epsilon) \right\} \right. \\
&\quad \left. - 2Li_2(z \mp i\epsilon) + 2Li_2(\bar{z} \pm i\epsilon) \right]
\end{aligned}
\tag{14}$$



CELESTIAL AMPLITUDE FROM LEAF AMPLITUDES:

📖 simple pole-type singularity as $z \rightarrow \bar{z}$

Timelike leaf

$$\delta(\lambda)\mathcal{S}_4(z, \bar{z}) = \frac{i\pi}{2} \frac{\delta(\lambda)}{\bar{z} - z + i\epsilon} \left[4\pi^2 + 2\pi i \ln \left(\frac{z}{\bar{z}} \frac{1 - \bar{z}}{1 - z} \right) \right], \quad z, \bar{z} > 1 \quad (15)$$

📖 spacelike leaf

$$\delta(\lambda)\bar{\mathcal{S}}_4(z, \bar{z}) = \frac{i\pi}{2} \frac{\delta(\lambda)}{\bar{z} - z - i\epsilon} \left[-4\pi^2 - 2\pi i \ln \left(\frac{z}{\bar{z}} \frac{1 - \bar{z}}{1 - z} \right) \right], \quad z, \bar{z} > 1 \quad (16)$$

📖 celestial amplitude is recovered by adding the timelike and spacelike leaf amplitudes

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_4(z, \bar{z}) &= ((-2\pi)^4 \tilde{\lambda}) \frac{\delta(\lambda)}{16} \Theta(z - 1) \left[\frac{i}{\bar{z} - z + i\epsilon} - \frac{i}{\bar{z} - z - i\epsilon} \right] \\ &= ((-2\pi)^4 \tilde{\lambda}) \delta(\lambda) \frac{\pi}{8} \Theta(z - 1) \delta(z - \bar{z}) \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$



4-point tree level scalar celestial amplitude

MHV GLUON LEAF AMPLITUDES

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{G}_4(z, \bar{z}) &= \lim_{z_1, \bar{z}_1 \rightarrow \infty} z_1^{2h_1} \bar{z}_1^{2\bar{h}_1} \mathcal{L}_4^g(z_i, \bar{z}_i) \\
 &= \frac{i\pi}{2} \Gamma(1 + 2i\lambda) e^{2\pi\lambda} \frac{z \bar{z}^2}{z - 1} H(2 + i\lambda, 2 + i\lambda, 3 + 2i\lambda, 4 + 2i\lambda; u_+, v_+) \\
 &\quad - \frac{i\pi}{2} \Gamma(1 + 2i\lambda) e^{-2\pi\lambda} \frac{z \bar{z}^2}{z - 1} H(2 + i\lambda, 2 + i\lambda, 3 + 2i\lambda, 4 + 2i\lambda; u_-, v_-) \quad (18)
 \end{aligned}$$

\downarrow using the identities of H functions

$$= \mathcal{G}_4^{sing}(z, \bar{z}) + \mathcal{G}_4^{reg}(z, \bar{z})$$

where,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{G}_4^{sing}(z, \bar{z}) &= \frac{i\pi}{2} \Gamma(1 + 2i\lambda) e^{2\pi\lambda} \frac{\bar{z}}{z - 1} \underbrace{H(1 + i\lambda, 1 + i\lambda, 1 + 2i\lambda, 2 + 2i\lambda; u_+, v_+)}_{\text{same H function that appeared in scalar case}} \\
 &\quad - \frac{i\pi}{2} \Gamma(1 + 2i\lambda) e^{-2\pi\lambda} \frac{\bar{z}}{z - 1} \underbrace{H(1 + i\lambda, 1 + i\lambda, 1 + 2i\lambda, 2 + 2i\lambda; u_-, v_-)}_{\text{same H function that appeared in scalar case}} \quad (19)
 \end{aligned}$$

same H function that appeared in scalar case

- $\mathcal{G}_4^{reg}(z, \bar{z})$ is not singular at $z = \bar{z}$

MHV GLUON LEAF AMPLITUDES...

Timelike gluon leaf:

$$\delta(\lambda)\mathcal{G}_4(z, \bar{z}) = \frac{i\pi}{2} \frac{\bar{z}}{z-1} \frac{\delta(\lambda)}{\bar{z}-z+i\epsilon} \left[4\pi^2 + 2\pi i \ln \left(\frac{z}{\bar{z}} \frac{1-\bar{z}}{1-z} \right) \right] + \delta(\lambda) \text{Reg}^t(\text{as } z \rightarrow \bar{z}) \quad (20)$$

Spacelike gluon leaf:

$$\delta(\lambda)\bar{\mathcal{G}}_4(z, \bar{z}) = \frac{i\pi}{2} \frac{\bar{z}}{z-1} \frac{\delta(\lambda)}{\bar{z}-z-i\epsilon} \left[-4\pi^2 - 2\pi i \ln \left(\frac{z}{\bar{z}} \frac{1-\bar{z}}{1-z} \right) \right] + \delta(\lambda) \text{Reg}^s(\text{as } z \rightarrow \bar{z}) \quad (21)$$

MHV GLUON CELESTIAL AMPLITUDE

Adding them we get,

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_4^g(z, \bar{z}) = \delta(\lambda) \frac{\pi}{8} \Theta(z-1) \frac{z}{z-1} \delta(z-\bar{z}) + \delta(\lambda) \text{Reg}(\text{as } z \rightarrow \bar{z}). \quad (22)$$

BG EQUATIONS FOR MHV GLUON LEAF AMPLITUDES

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{L}_4^g(1_{\Delta_1}^{-,a_1}, 2_{\Delta_2}^{-,a_2}, 3_{\Delta_3}^{+,a_3}, 4_{\Delta_4}^{+,a_4}) &= -g_{YM}^2 \frac{z_{12}^3}{z_{23}z_{34}z_{41}} \left[f^{a_1 a_2 x} f^{x a_3 a_4} - \frac{z_{12}z_{34}}{z_{13}z_{24}} f^{a_1 a_3 x} f^{x a_2 a_4} \right] \\
 &\quad \int_{\hat{x}_+^2=+1} d^3 x_+ \left(\prod_{j=1}^2 \Phi_{\Delta_j+1,-}(\hat{x}_+, q_j) \right) \left(\prod_{j=3}^4 \Phi_{\Delta_j-1,+}(\hat{x}_+, q_j) \right) \\
 &\quad \downarrow \text{collinear factorisation} \\
 &\mathcal{O}_{\Delta_3}^{+,a_3}(z_3, \bar{z}_3) \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_4}^{+,a_4}(z_4, \bar{z}_4) \\
 &= -\frac{g_{YM}}{2} \frac{1}{z_{34}} B(\Delta_3 - 1, \Delta_4 - 1) i f^{a_3 a_4 x} \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_3+\Delta_4-1}^{+,x}(z_4, \bar{z}_4) \\
 &\quad + \frac{g_{YM}}{2} \left[B(\Delta_3, \Delta_4 - 1) (-i f^{x a_3 a_4}) L_{-1} \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_3+\Delta_4-1}^{+,x}(z_4, \bar{z}_4) + B(\Delta_3 - 1, \Delta_4 - 1) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \times \left[\frac{\Delta_4 - 1}{\Delta_3 + \Delta_4 - 2} R_{-1,0}^{1,a_3} \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_3+\Delta_4-1}^{+,a_4}(z_4, \bar{z}_4) \right] + \frac{\Delta_3 - 1}{\Delta_3 + \Delta_4 - 2} R_{-1,0}^{1,a_4} \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_3+\Delta_4-1}^{+,a_3}(z_4, \bar{z}_4) \right] + \dots
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{23}$$

- Take sub-leading soft limit($\Delta \rightarrow 0$) in (23)
- check consistency with the sub-leading soft gluon theorem
- Obtain the $\mathcal{O}(1)$ null state

$$if^{abc}L_{-1}\mathcal{O}_{\Delta-1,+}^{+,c}(z,\bar{z}) + R_{-\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2}}^{0,a}\mathcal{O}_{\Delta,+}^{+,b}(z,\bar{z}) - R_{-1,0}^{1,b}\mathcal{O}_{\Delta-1,+}^{+,a}(z,\bar{z}) \\ + (\Delta - 1)R_{-1,0}^{1,a}\mathcal{O}_{\Delta-1,+}^{+,b}(z,\bar{z}) = 0 \quad (24)$$

- It is the same null state obtained for the celestial MHV amplitude
- Decoupling of these null states will give the same BG equations for leaf amplitudes.

Banerjee, Ghosh 2021

OUTLOOK

- ✉ What happens to our conclusion without the constraints coming from bulk scale invariance?
- ✉ What about the singularity structure of the other bulk scattering processes?

Thank you for your attention !!