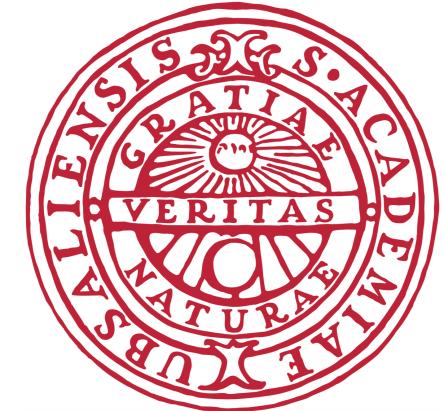




Rencontres

Théoriciennes



Modular graph forms and iterated integrals in string amplitudes

Oliver Schlotterer (Uppsala University)

based on work with E. D'Hoker, D. Dorigoni, J. Gerken,
M. Hidding, A. Kleinschmidt, C. Mafra, B. Pioline, B. Verbeek

06.01.2022

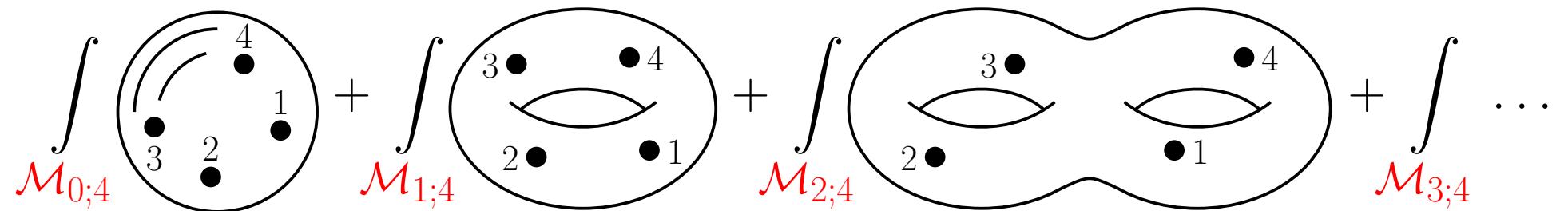
Key idea in this talk

String perturbation theory \implies generating series of ...

... iterated integrals (open strings) and

... single-valued periods / functions & modular forms (closed strings)

upon low-energy expansion w.r.t. $s_{ij} = \alpha' k_i \cdot k_j$ (with ext. momenta k_i)



$\mathcal{M}_{g;n}$ = moduli space of n -punctured compact genus- g Riemann surfaces

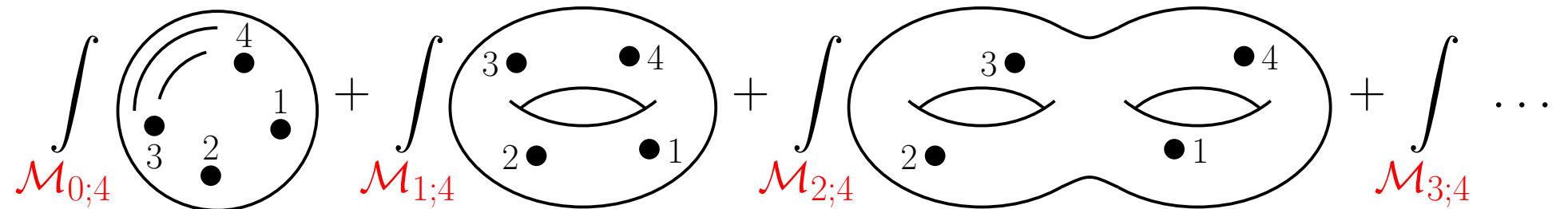
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Amplitude of genus- g surface Σ_g with moduli Ω & Green fct. \mathcal{G}_{Σ_g}

$$\mathcal{A}_{\Sigma_g}(\{1, 2, \dots, n\}) \sim \int_{\mathcal{M}_{g;n}} \exp \left(\sum_{1 \leq i < j}^n s_{ij} \mathcal{G}_{\Sigma_g}(z_i, z_j | \Omega) \right) \times \begin{pmatrix} \text{theory-} \\ \text{dependent} \end{pmatrix}$$

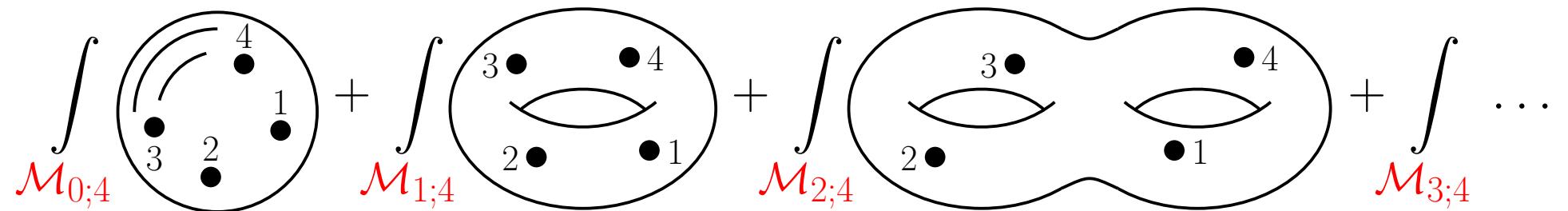
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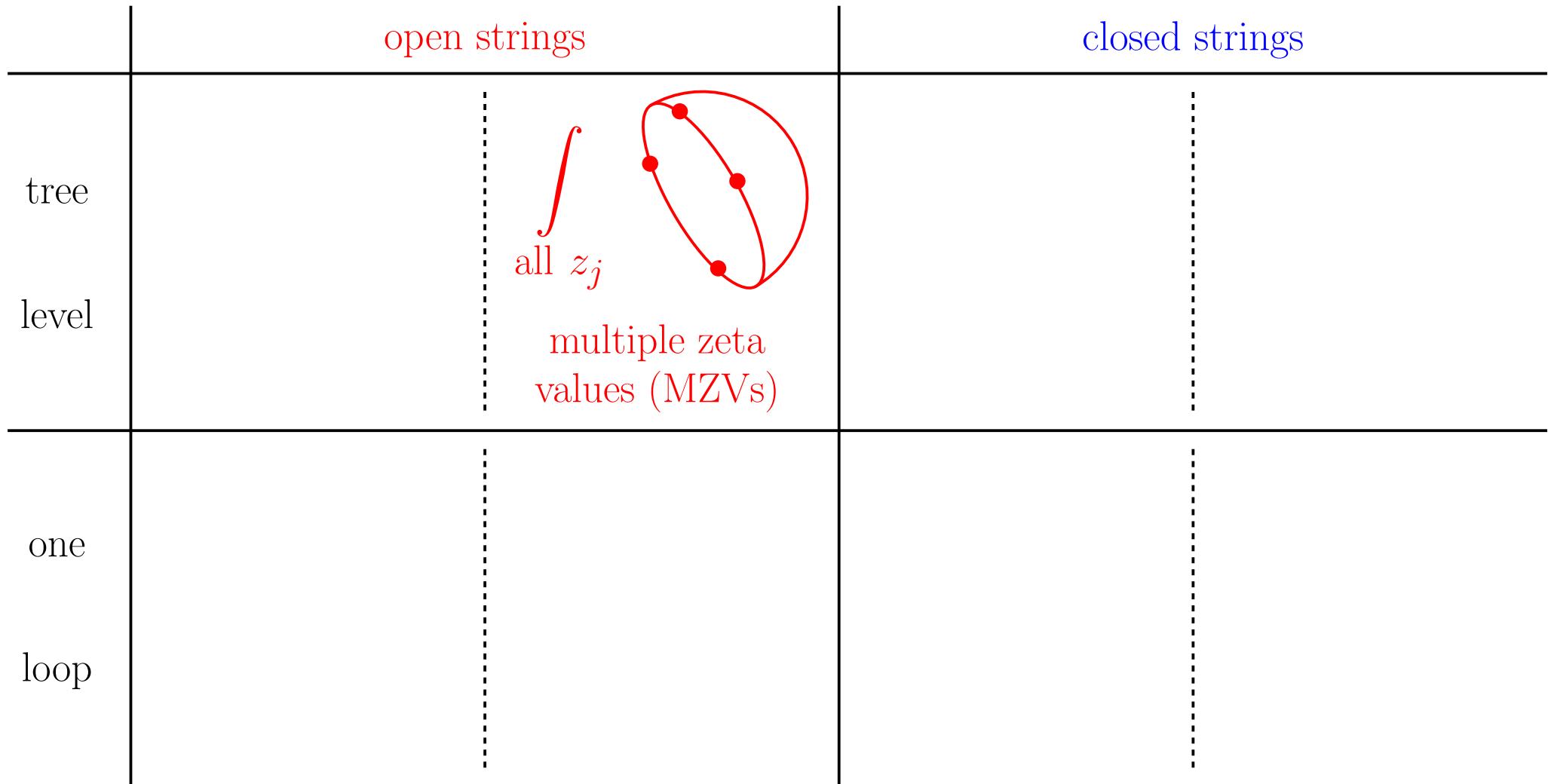


Today: String amplitudes as **mathematical laboratory**

→ apologies for not elaborating on the more physics-oriented motivations

for string amplitudes (string dualities, gravity as (gauge theory) $^{\otimes 2}$, ...)

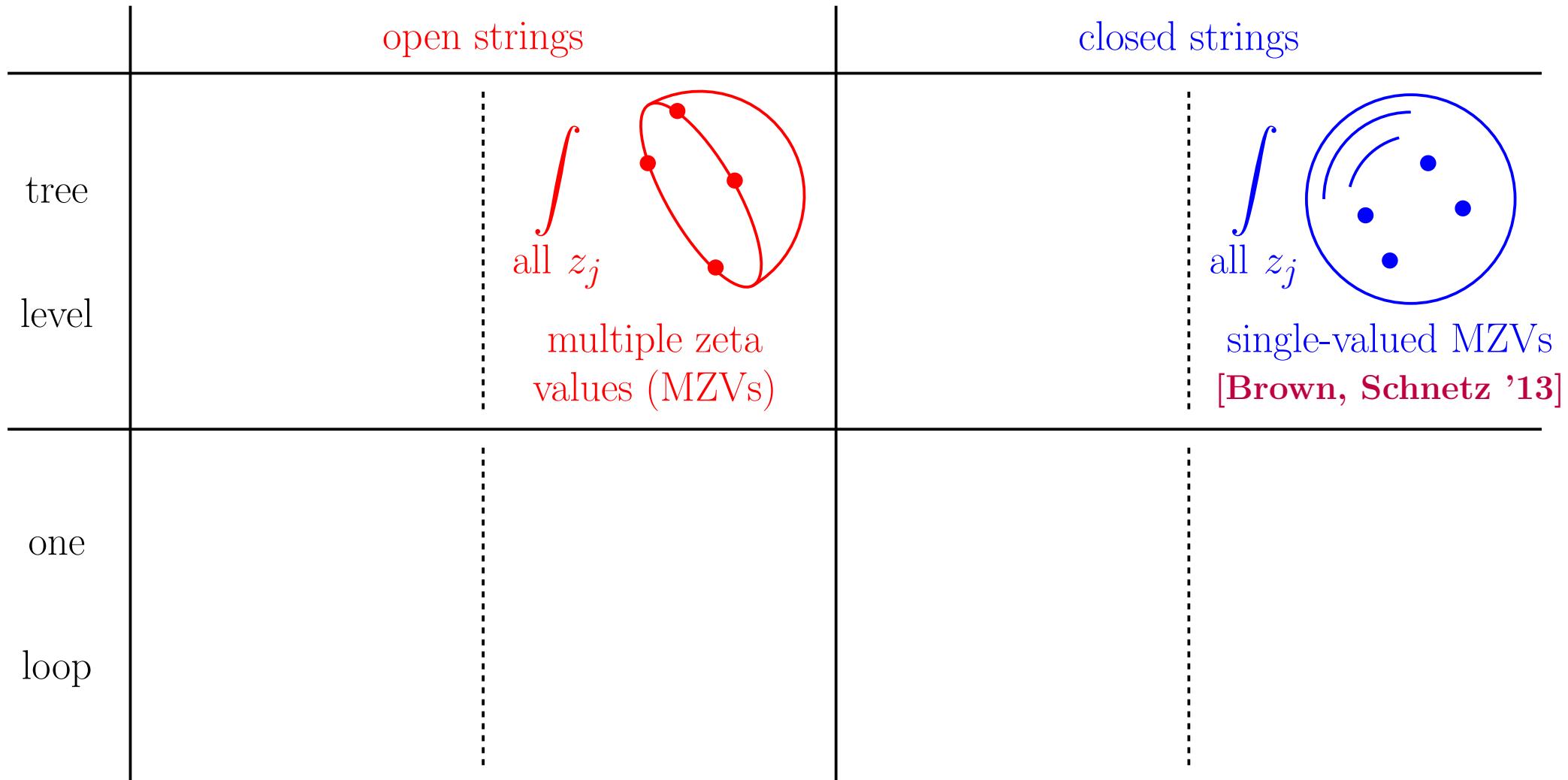
Periods of configuration spaces in α' -expansion



Definition of multiple zeta values (MZVs) with $n_j \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n_r \geq 2$

$$\zeta_{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r} = \sum_{0 < k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_r}^{\infty} k_1^{-n_1} k_2^{-n_2} \dots k_r^{-n_r}$$

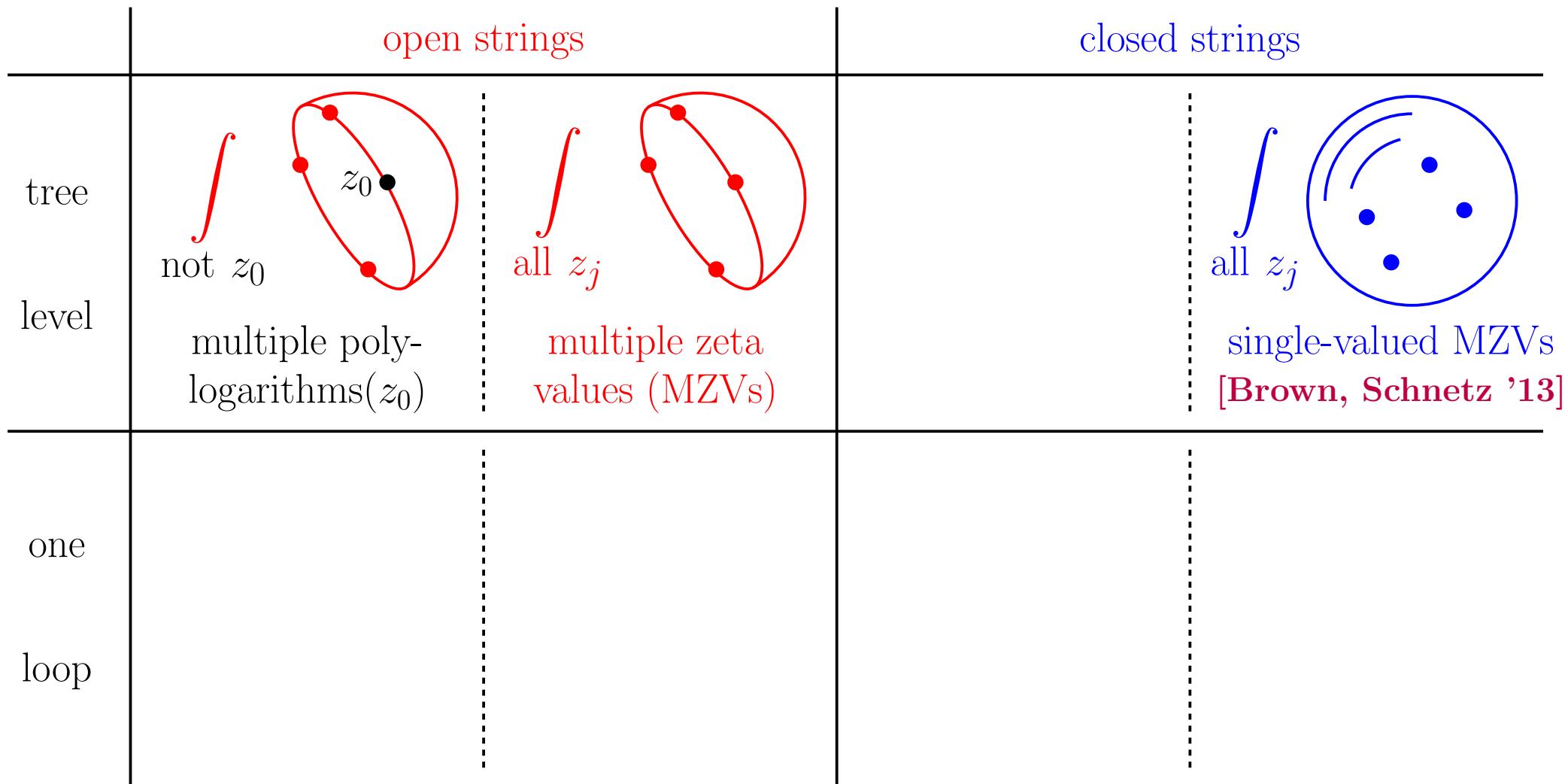
Periods of configuration spaces in α' -expansion



Examples of single-valued MZVs

$$\text{sv } \zeta_{2k} = 0, \quad \text{sv } \zeta_{2k+1} = 2\zeta_{2k+1}, \quad \text{sv } \zeta_{3,5} = -10\zeta_3\zeta_5, \quad \text{etc.}$$

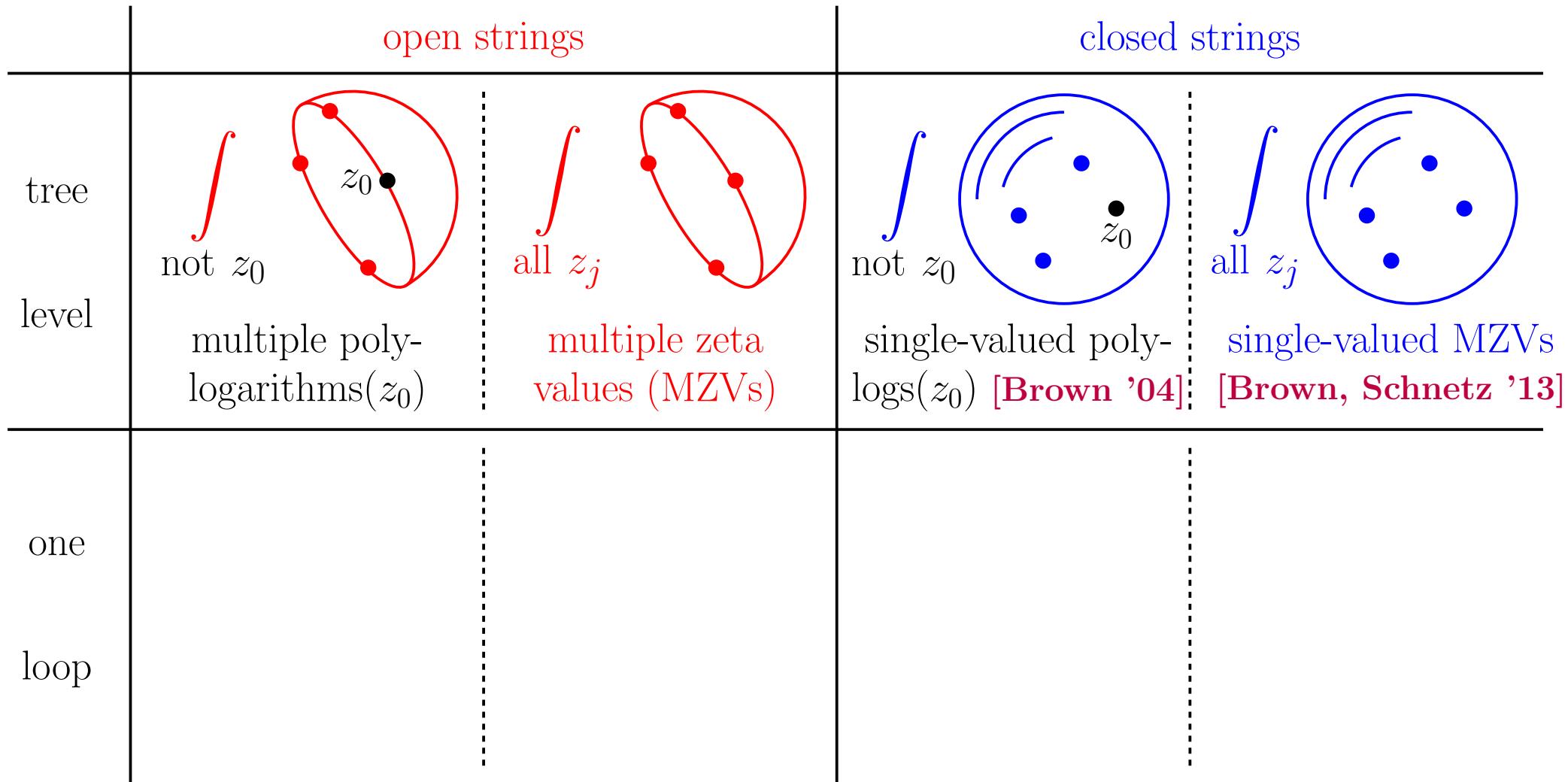
Periods of configuration spaces in α' -expansion



Not yet integrating z_0 : multiple polylogarithms (yield MZVs as $z_0 \rightarrow 1$)

$$\int_{0 < z_1 < z_2 < \dots < z_r < z_0} d \log(z_1 - a_1) d \log(z_2 - a_2) \dots d \log(z_r - a_r)$$

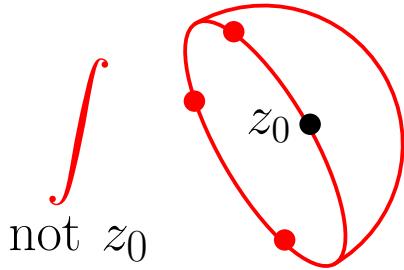
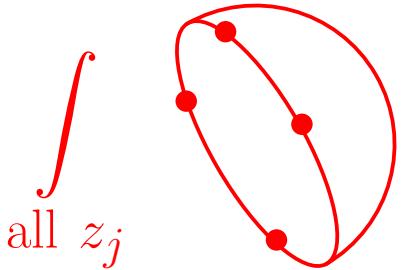
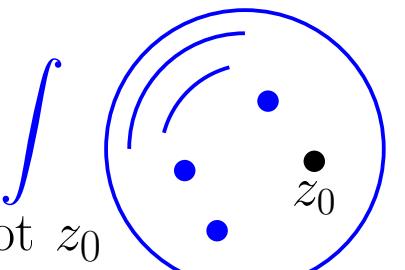
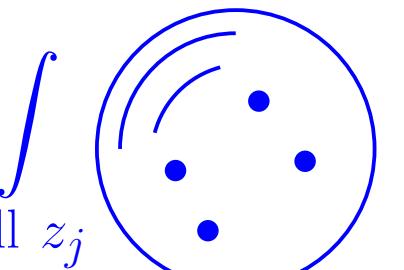
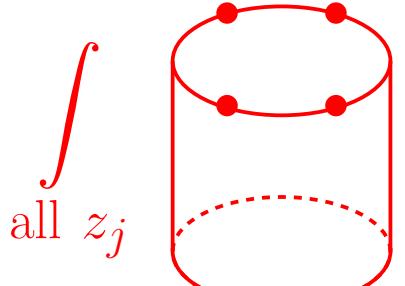
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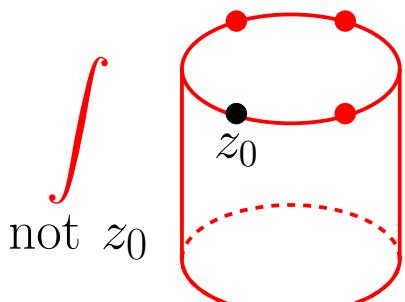
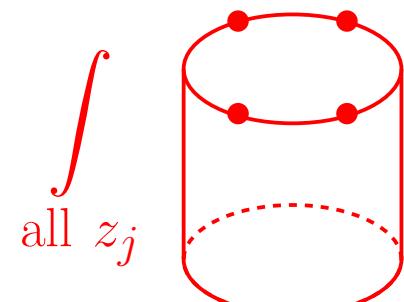
At tree level: closed strings from single-valued map of open-string data

[OS, Stieberger '12; Stieberger '13; Stieberger, Taylor '14;
 OS, Schnetz '18; Brown, Dupont '18 & '19; Vanhove, Zerbini '18]

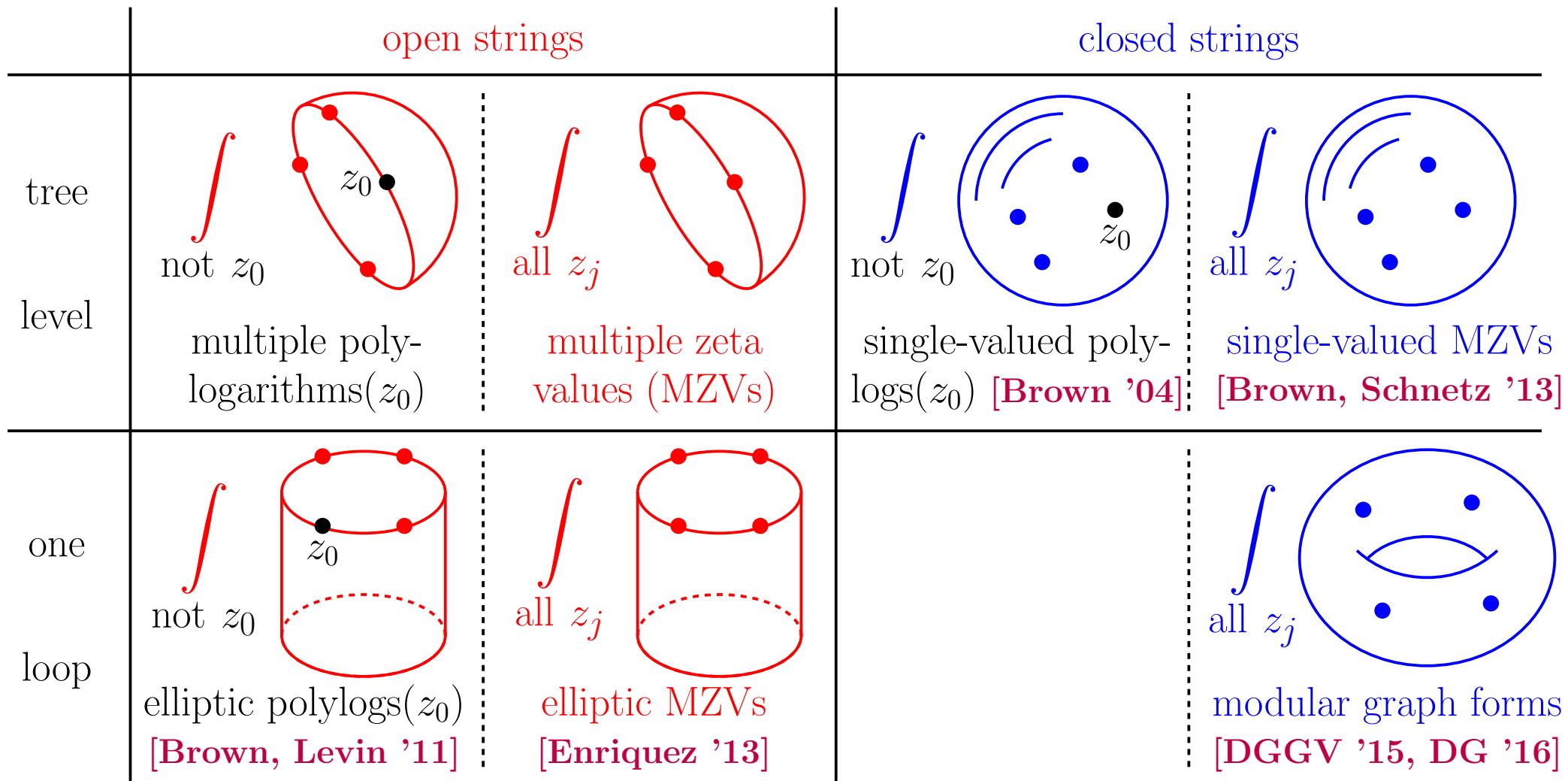
Periods of configuration spaces in α' -expansion

		open strings		closed strings	
		tree level	one loop	tree level	one loop
		 not z_0 multiple polylogarithms(z_0)	 all z_j multiple zeta values (MZVs)	 not z_0 single-valued polylogs(z_0) [Brown '04]	 all z_j single-valued MZVs [Brown, Schnetz '13]
			 all z_j elliptic MZVs [Enriquez '13]		

Periods of configuration spaces in α' -expansion

		open strings		closed strings	
		not z_0	all z_j	not z_0	all z_j
tree level		multiple polylogarithms(z_0)	multiple zeta values (MZVs)	single-valued polylogs(z_0) [Brown '04]	single-valued MZVs [Brown, Schnetz '13]
one loop		 not z_0 elliptic polylogs(z_0)	 all z_j elliptic MZVs		

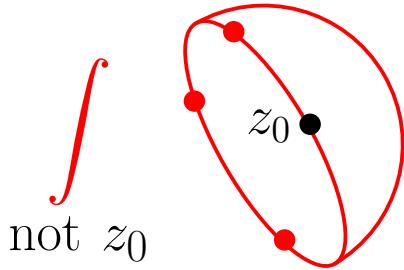
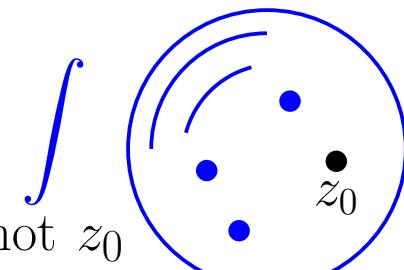
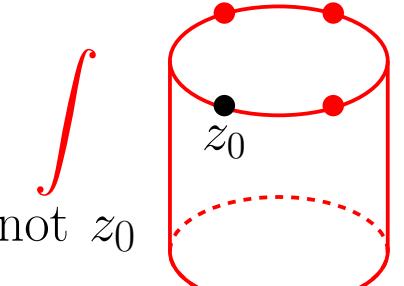
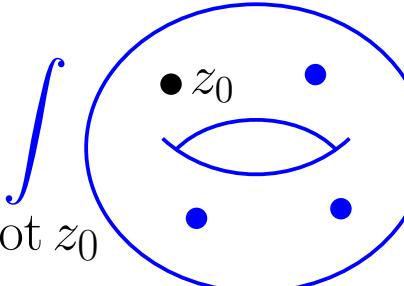
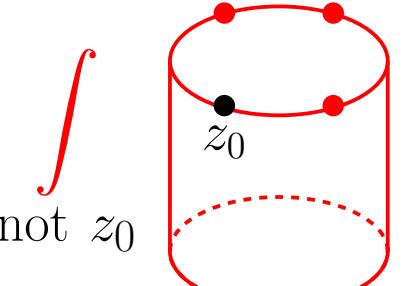
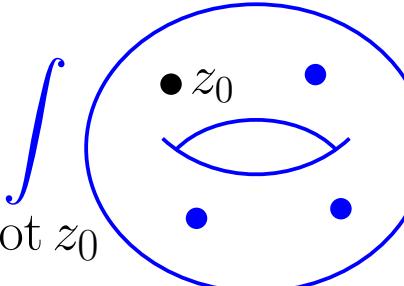
Periods of configuration spaces in α' -expansion

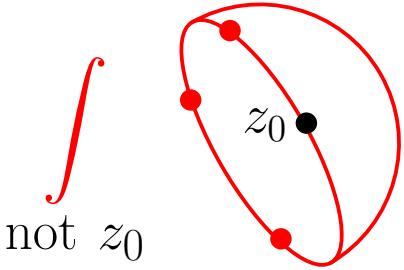
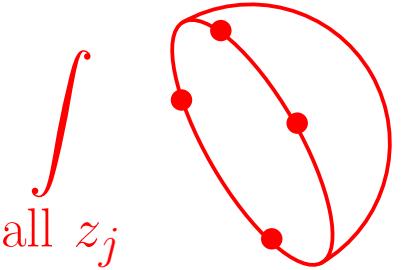
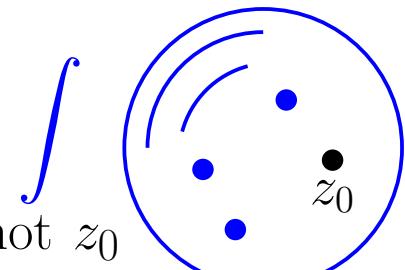
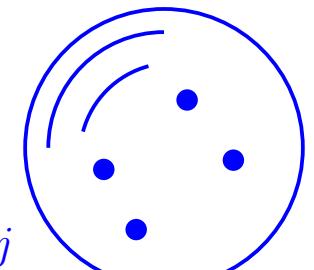
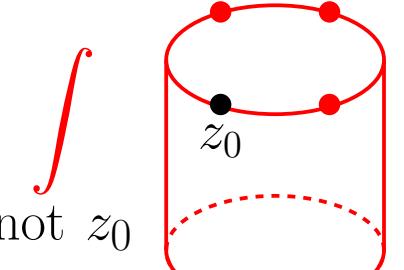
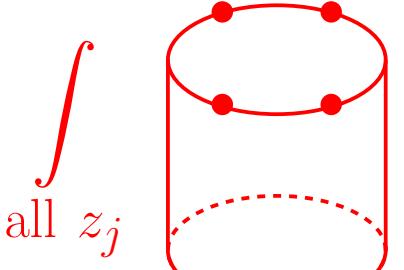
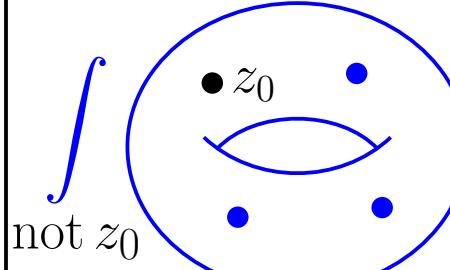
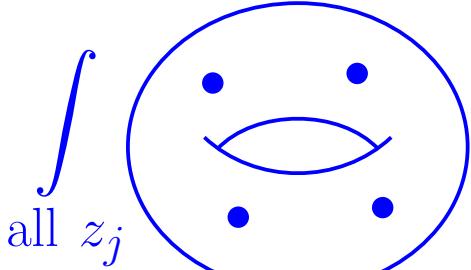
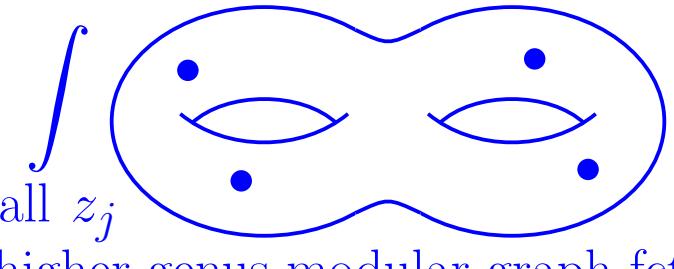
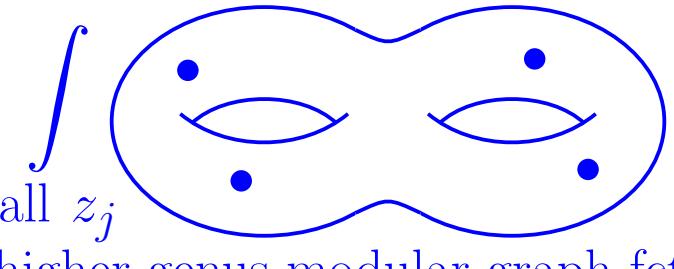


Also at genus one, \exists evidence / proposal for sv map: $\text{open} \rightarrow \text{closed}$ strings

[Brown '14/'17; Zerbini '15; Brödel, OS, Zerbini '18; Gerken, Kleinschmidt, OS '18/'20; Panzer '18; Zagier, Zerbini '19; Gerken, Kleinschmidt, Mafra, OS, Verbeek '20]

Periods of configuration spaces in α' -expansion

		open strings		closed strings	
		tree level		tree level	
level	not z_0		open strings		closed strings
	multiple polylogarithms(z_0)	\int	all z_j	\int	single-valued polylogs(z_0) [Brown '04]
loop	not z_0		one loop		closed strings
	elliptic polylogs(z_0) [Brown, Levin '11]	\int	all z_j	\int	single-valued MZVs [Brown, Schnetz '13]
loop	not z_0		one loop		closed strings
	elliptic MZVs [Enriquez '13]	\int	all z_j	\int	modular graph forms [DGGV '15, DG '16]

	open strings		closed strings	
tree level	 not z_0	 all z_j	 not z_0	 all z_j
one loop	 not z_0	 all z_j	 not z_0	 all z_j
higher loop			 all z_j	 higher-genus modular graph fct and tensors [DGP '17, DS '20]

Outline

I. Genus-zero recap

II. Elliptic polylogarithms and MZVs

[Brown, Levin 1110.6917; Brödel, Mafra, Matthes, OS 1412.5535]

III. Modular graph forms (MGFs)

[D'Hoker, Gürdgan, Green, Vanhove 1512.06779; D'Hoker, Green 1603.00839]

[Gerken, Kleinschmidt, OS 2004.05156]

IV. Elliptic modular graph forms

[D'Hoker, Green, Pioline 1806.02691; D'Hoker, Kleinschmidt, OS 2012.09198]

[D'Hoker, Hidding, Kleinschmidt, OS, Verbeek: to appear]

V. Conclusions & Outlook

I. Genus-zero recap

I. 1 Multiple polylogarithms and multiple zeta values

From the Green function on the sphere $\mathcal{G}_{S^2}(z_i, z_j) \sim \log |z_i - z_j|$,

obtain **multiple polylogarithms** and **MZVs** upon iterated integration

$$G(\underbrace{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_w}_\text{say $a_i \in \{0,1\}$}; z) = \int_0^z \frac{dt}{t - a_1} G(a_2, \dots, a_w; t)$$

with (transcendental) weight w and $G(\emptyset; z) = 1$ and

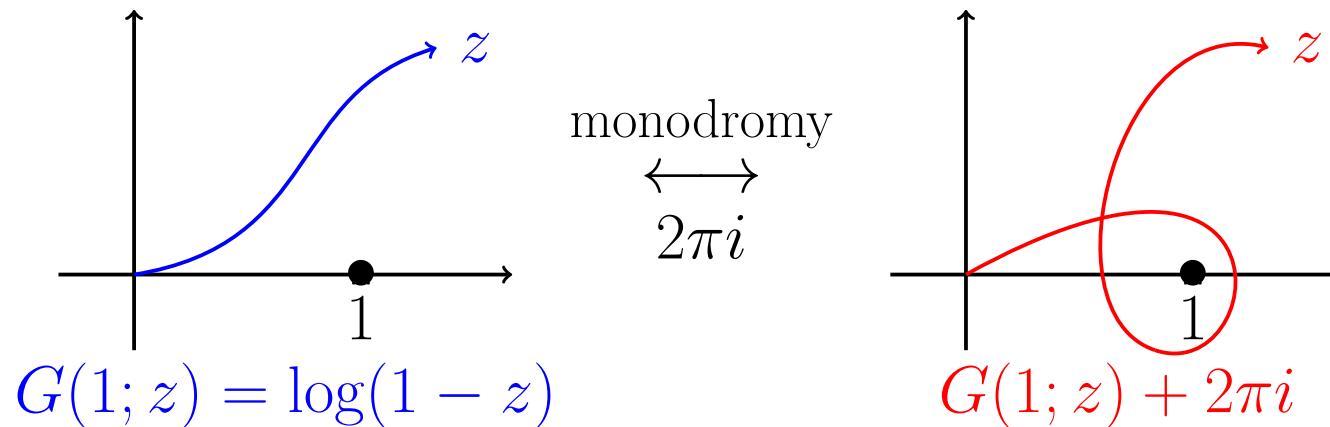
$$\begin{aligned} \zeta_{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r} &= \sum_{0 < k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_r}^{\infty} k_1^{-n_1} k_2^{-n_2} \dots k_r^{-n_r} \quad (\text{with } n_r \geq 2) \\ &= (-1)^r G(\underbrace{0, 0 \dots 0}_n, 1, \dots, \underbrace{0, 0 \dots 0}_n, 1, \underbrace{0, 0 \dots 0}_n, 1; z=1) \end{aligned}$$

Assign regularized values such as $G(0; z) = \log(z)$ compatible with

“shuffle-multiplication”, e.g. $G(a; z)G(b; z) = G(a, b; z) + G(b, a; z)$.

I. 2 Single-valued polylogarithms: construction

Polylogarithms are notoriously multivalued under monodromies:



Can cancel monodromies by adding complex conjugates

$$\text{e.g. } G^{\text{SV}}(1; z) = \log(1 - z) + \log(1 - \bar{z}) = \log |1 - z|^2$$

while preserving (only) the *holomorphic* differential equations

$$\partial_z G(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_w; z) = \frac{1}{z - a_1} G(a_2, \dots, a_w; z) \quad \text{“meromorphic”}$$

$$\partial_z G^{\text{SV}}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_w; z) = \frac{1}{z - a_1} G^{\text{SV}}(a_2, \dots, a_w; z) \quad \text{“single-valued”}$$

I. 2 Single-valued polylogarithms: construction

Explicit construction of single-valued polylogarithms via generating series

$$G^{\text{SV}}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_w; z) = \sum_{j=0}^w G(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j; z) \overline{G(a_w, a_{w-1}, \dots, a_{j+1}; z)}$$

+ corrections $\zeta \dots G(\dots; z) \overline{G(\dots; z)}$ @ $w \geq 4$

[Brown 2004]

e.g. $G^{\text{SV}}(0, 0, 1, 1; z) = G(0, 0, 1, 1; z) + G(0, 0, 1; z) \overline{G(1; z)}$

$$+ G(0, 0; z) \overline{G(1, 1; z)} + G(0; z) \overline{G(1, 1, 0; z)} + \overline{G(1, 1, 0, 0; z)} + 2\zeta_3 \overline{G(1; z)}$$

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$$G^{\text{SV}}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_w; z) = \sum_{j=0}^w G(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j; z) \overline{G(a_w, a_{w-1}, \dots, a_{j+1}; z)}$$

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[Brown 2004]

e.g. $G^{\text{SV}}(0, 0, 1, 1; z) = G(0, 0, 1, 1; z) + G(0, 0, 1; z) \overline{G(1; z)}$

$+ G(0, 0; z) \overline{G(1, 1; z)} + G(0; z) \overline{G(1, 1, 0; z)} + \overline{G(1, 1, 0, 0; z)} + 2\zeta_3 \overline{G(1; z)}$

Define single-valued MZVs (svMZVs) via evaluation $G^{\text{SV}}(\dots; z=1)$

$$\zeta_{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r}^{\text{SV}} = (-1)^r G^{\text{SV}}(\underbrace{0, 0 \dots 0}_{n_r}, 1, \dots, \underbrace{0, 0 \dots 0}_{n_2}, 1, \underbrace{0, 0 \dots 0}_{n_1}, 1; z=1)$$

e.g. $\zeta_{2k}^{\text{SV}} = 0$, $\zeta_{2k+1}^{\text{SV}} = 2\zeta_{2k+1}$, $\zeta_{3,5}^{\text{SV}} = -10\zeta_3\zeta_5$ [Brown, Schnetz '13]

I. 3 Single-valued polylogarithms: application

Single-valued polylogarithms in multiple variables @ closed-string tree level

$$\int_{\substack{z_1, z_2 \\ \text{not } z_0}} |z_i - z_j|^{s_{ij}} \prod_{0 \leq i < j}^4 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \mathbb{Q}[\text{svMZV}] \times G^{\text{sv}}(\dots; z_0) \\ @ \text{each order in } \alpha' \sim s_{ij} \end{cases}$$

Final integration over $z_0 \implies$ svMZV in α' -expansion of closed-string trees!

In fact, closed strings from single-valued map $\zeta \rightarrow \zeta^{\text{sv}}$ of open-string data

[OS, Stieberger '12; Stieberger '13; Stieberger, Taylor '14;
OS, Schnetz '18; Brown, Dupont '18 & '19; Vanhove, Zerbini '18]

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 [OS, Stieberger '12; Stieberger '13; Stieberger, Taylor '14;
 OS, Schnetz '18; Brown, Dupont '18 & '19; Vanhove, Zerbini '18]

Also in multi-Regge kinematics of $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM amplitudes, prominent

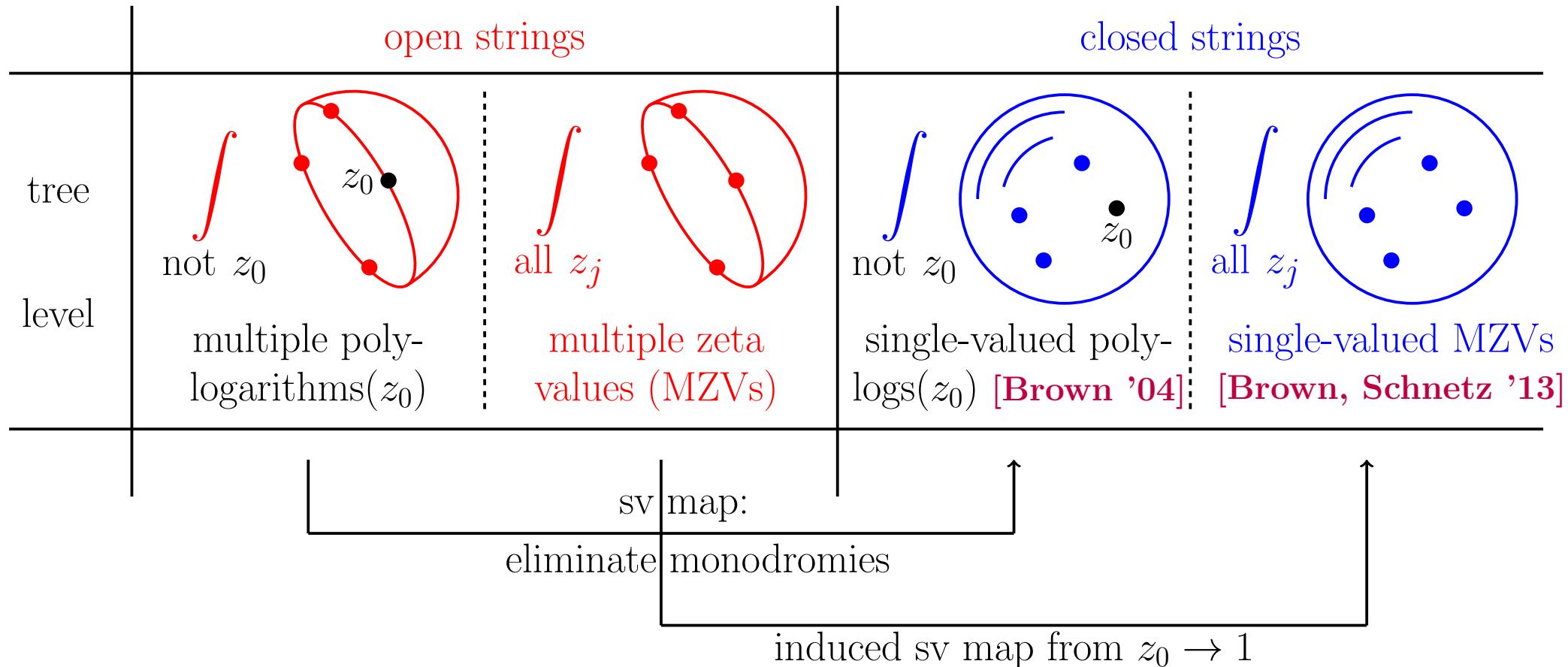
appearance of $G^{\text{sv}}(a_1, \dots, a_w; z)$, also in more variables $a_j \neq 0, 1$!

[Dixon, Duhr, Pennington '12, 13; Broedel, Sprenger '15, 16]

[DelDuca, Druc, Drummond, Duhr, Dulat, Marzucca, Papathanasiou, Verbeek '16-19]

I. 4 Genus-zero summary

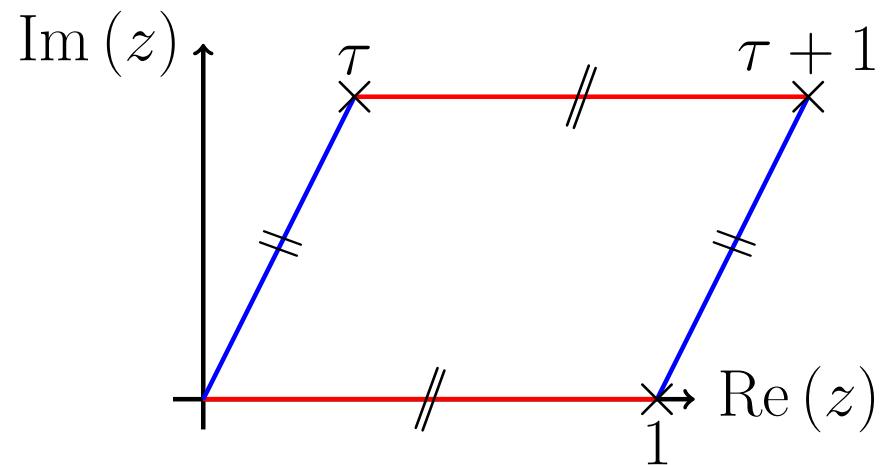
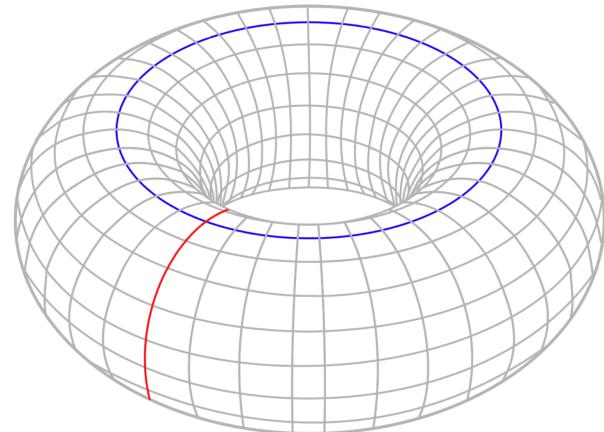
Moral: In order to integrate *all* punctures z_j in string tree-level amplitudes, it is essential to know about intermediate results with z_0 unintegrated



II. Elliptic polylogarithms and MZVs

II. 1 Basics of functions on a torus

Now study (meromorphic) interated integrals on a torus $\frac{\mathbb{C}}{\mathbb{Z} + \tau\mathbb{Z}}$ @ $\text{Im } \tau > 0$



Kernels $\frac{1}{z-a}$ of genus-zero polylogs generalize to ∞ many $f^{(k=0,1,2,\dots)}(z-a, \tau)$

subject to periodicities $f^{(k)}(z+1, \tau) = f^{(k)}(z, \tau) = f^{(k)}(z+\tau, \tau)$

and modularity $f^{(k)}(\frac{z}{c\tau+d}, \frac{a\tau+b}{c\tau+d}) = (c\tau+d)^k f^{(k)}(z, \tau)$,

i.e. weight $(k, 0)$ under modular group $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}) \ni \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$

II. 2 Kronecker-Eisenstein series

Generating function of kernels $f^{(k)}(z-a, \tau)$ that generalize $\frac{1}{z-a}$:

non-holomorphic Kronecker-Eisenstein series

$$\exp\left(2\pi i n \frac{\operatorname{Im} z}{\operatorname{Im} \tau}\right) \frac{\theta_1'(0, \tau) \theta_1(z+\eta, \tau)}{\theta_1(z, \tau) \theta_1(\eta, \tau)} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \eta^{k-1} f^{(k)}(z, \tau)$$

with the odd Jacobi theta function ($q = e^{2\pi i \tau}$)

$$\theta_1(z, \tau) = 2q^{1/8} \sin(\pi z) \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n)(1 - e^{2\pi iz}q^n)(1 - e^{-2\pi iz}q^n)$$

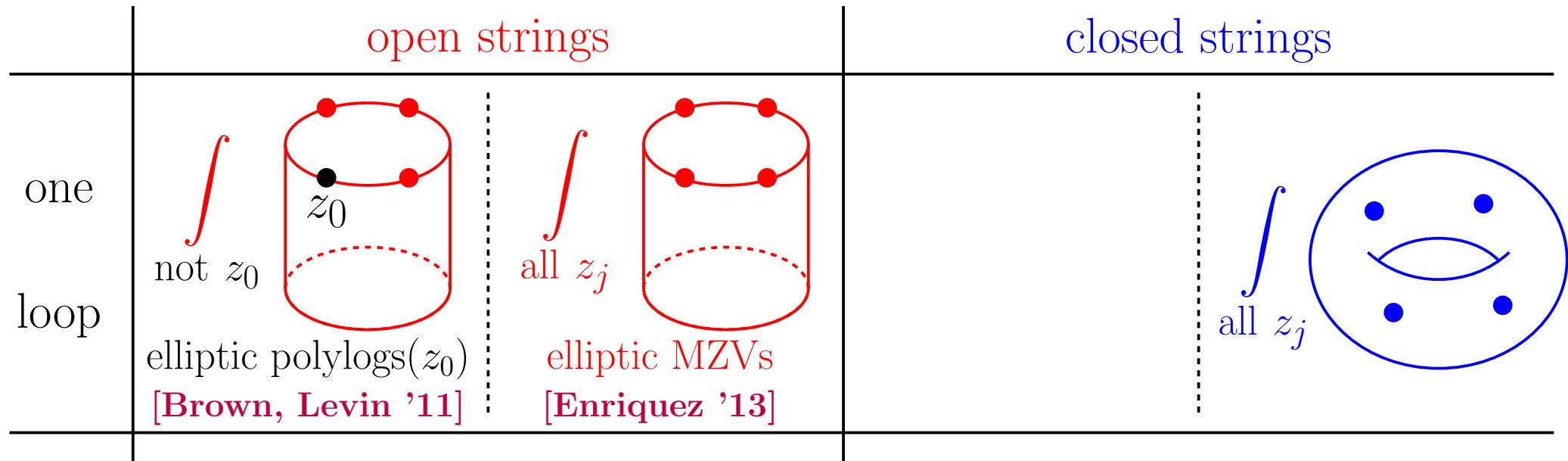
[Brown, Levin 1110.6917]

Simplest examples $f^{(0)}(z, \tau) = 1$ and $f^{(1)}(z, \tau) = \partial_z \log \theta_1(z, \tau) + 2\pi i \frac{\operatorname{Im} z}{\operatorname{Im} \tau}$

such that $f^{(1)}(z, \tau) = \frac{1}{z} + \mathcal{O}(z, \bar{z})$ and all $f^{(k \neq 1)}$ are non-singular on \mathbb{C} .

Note: non-holomorphicity as a price for double-periodicity.

II. 3 Elliptic polylogarithms and MZV: construction



Open strings at one loop \Rightarrow elliptic polylogarithms $\Gamma(\dots; z, \tau)$

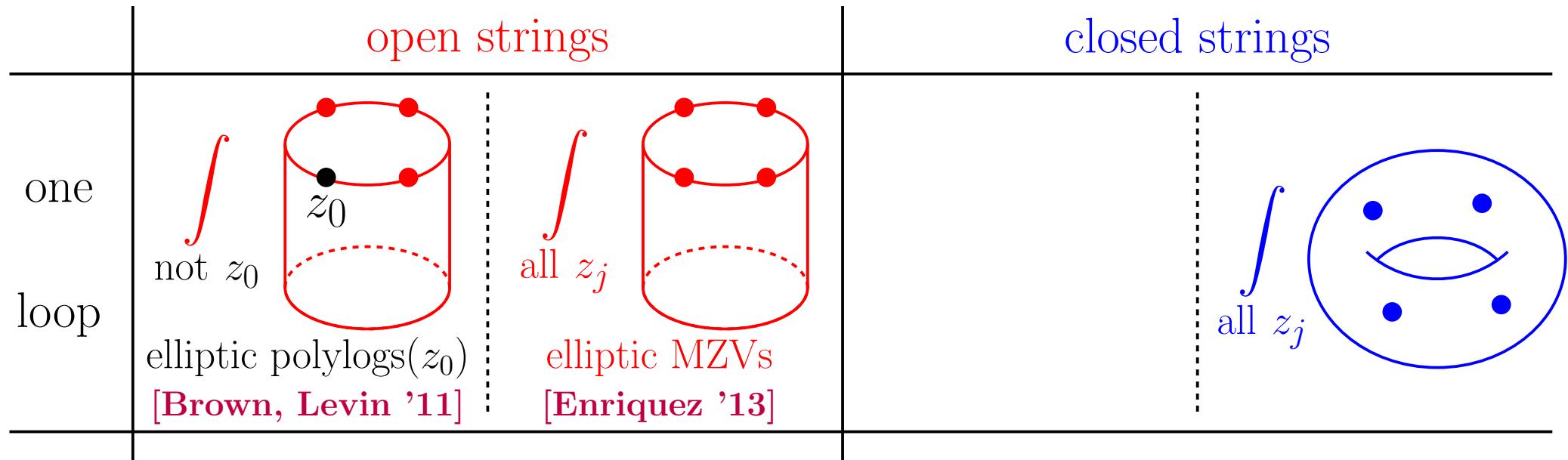
restricted to A-cycle $z \in (0, 1) \equiv$ cylinder boundary

$$\Gamma\left(\frac{n_1}{a_1} \frac{n_2}{a_2} \dots \frac{n_r}{a_r}; z, \tau\right) = \int_0^z dt f^{(n_1)}(t-a_1, \tau) \Gamma\left(\frac{n_2}{a_2} \dots \frac{n_r}{a_r}; t, \tau\right)$$

ubiquitous in state-of-the-art evaluations of Feynman integrals

[e.g. Bloch, Kerr, Vanhove; Brödel, Duhr, Dulat, Penante, Tancredi;
 Abreu, Adams, Bogner, Chaubey, Marzucca, Müller-Stach, Walden, Weinzierl etc.]

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Open strings at one loop \Rightarrow elliptic polylogarithms $\Gamma(\dots; z, \tau)$

restricted to A-cycle $z \in (0, 1) \equiv$ cylinder boundary

$$\Gamma\left(\frac{n_1}{a_1} \frac{n_2}{a_2} \dots \frac{n_r}{a_r}; z, \tau\right) = \int_0^z dt f^{(n_1)}(t-a_1, \tau) \Gamma\left(\frac{n_2}{a_2} \dots \frac{n_r}{a_r}; t, \tau\right)$$

Evaluation at $z = 1 \Rightarrow$ (A-cycle) elliptic multiple zeta values (eMZVs)

$$\omega(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r | \tau) = \Gamma\left(\frac{n_r}{0} \dots \frac{n_2}{0} \frac{n_1}{0}; z=1, \tau\right)$$

II. 4 Elliptic polylogarithms and string amplitudes

Appearance of $\Gamma(\dots; z, \tau)$ in one-loop open-string amplitude

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{cyl}}(\{1, 2, \dots, n\}) \sim \int_{\mathcal{M}_{1;n}} \exp \left(\sum_{1 \leq i < j}^n s_{ij} \mathcal{G}_{\text{cyl}}(z_i, z_j | \tau) \right) \times \begin{pmatrix} \text{theory-} \\ \text{dependent} \end{pmatrix}$$

- cylinder Green function \rightarrow elliptic polylogs & eMZV

$$\mathcal{G}_{\text{cyl}}(z_i, z_j | \tau) = \omega(1, 0 | \tau) - \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{z_j}; z_i, \tau\right) - \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{0}; z_j, \tau\right)$$

- theory-dependent factor is a polynomial in Kronecker-Eisenstein kernels

$f^{(n)}(z_i - z_j, \tau)$ and holomorphic Eisenstein series $G_k(\tau)$

$$G_k(\tau) = \sum_{(m,n) \neq (0,0)} \frac{1}{(m\tau + n)^k} = -f^{(k)}(z=0, \tau)$$

(true for bosonic and supersymmetric strings & het. strings on torus)

[Brödel, Mafra, Matthes, OS 1412.5535; Gerken, Kleinschmidt, OS 1811.02548]

II. 5 Elliptic MZVs as iterated Eisenstein integrals

Instead of **iterated z_j -integral** representation inherited from $\Gamma(\dots; z, \tau)$

$$\omega(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r | \tau) = \int_{0 < z_1 < \dots < z_r < 1} dz_1 f^{(n_1)}(z_1, \tau) dz_2 f^{(n_2)}(z_2, \tau) \dots dz_r f^{(n_r)}(z_r, \tau)$$

can write eMZVs as **iterated τ_j -integrals** over holo. Eisenstein series

$$\text{eMZVs} \leftrightarrow \mathbb{Q}[\text{MZV}] \int_{\tau}^{i\infty} d\tau_1 G_{k_1}(\tau_1) \tau_1^{j_1} \int_{\tau_1}^{i\infty} d\tau_2 G_{k_2}(\tau_2) \tau_2^{j_2} \int_{\tau_2}^{i\infty} \dots$$

[Enriquez 1301.3042; Brödel, Matthes, OS 1507.02254]

- expose all relations among eMZVs (with coefficients in $\mathbb{Q}[\text{MZV}]$)
- powers of τ_i bounded by $0 \leq j_\ell \leq k_\ell - 2 \implies$ good modular properties
- tangential base point regularization $\int_{\tau}^{i\infty} \tau_\ell^j d\tau_\ell = \frac{-\tau^{j+1}}{j+1}$

for zero-mode contribution $G_k(\tau) = 2\zeta_k + \mathcal{O}(q)$ [Brown 1407.5167]

III. Modular graph forms (MGFs)

III. 1 MGFs as discretized Feynman integrals on torus

Expose double-periodicity $z \cong z+1 \cong z+\tau$ of functions on a torus via double Fourier expansion in comoving coord's $u, v \in (0, 1)$ of $z = u\tau + v$

- Kronecker-Eisenstein coefficients

$$f^{(k)}(z, \tau) = - \sum_{(m,n) \neq (0,0)} \frac{e^{2\pi i(nu-mv)}}{(m\tau+n)^k}$$

- torus Green function $\mathcal{G}(z, \tau) = \mathcal{G}_{T^2}(z, 0 | \tau)$

$$\mathcal{G}(z, \tau) = \frac{\text{Im } \tau}{\pi} \sum_{(m,n) \neq (0,0)} \frac{e^{2\pi i(nu-mv)}}{|m\tau+n|^2}$$

III. 1 MGFs as discretized Feynman integrals on torus

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$$f^{(k)}(z, \tau) = - \sum_{p \in \Lambda'} \frac{e^{2\pi i \langle p, z \rangle}}{p^k}$$

- torus Green function $\mathcal{G}(z, \tau) = \mathcal{G}_{T^2}(z, 0 | \tau)$

$$\mathcal{G}(z, \tau) = \frac{\text{Im } \tau}{\pi} \sum_{p \in \Lambda'} \frac{e^{2\pi i \langle p, z \rangle}}{|p|^2}$$

Gather $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ in discrete torus momentum $p = m\tau + n$ on lattice

$\Lambda' = (\mathbb{Z} + \tau\mathbb{Z}) \setminus \{0\}$ and abbreviate exponents via $\langle p, z \rangle = nu - mv$

III. 2 Modular graph forms from closed strings @ 1 loop

Four-point closed-string amplitude at one loop (gravitons in type IIA/B)

$$\mathcal{A}_{T^2}(\{1, 2, 3, 4\}) = |s_{12}s_{23}A_{\text{YM}}^{\text{tree}}(1, 2, 3, 4)|^2 \int_{\mathcal{F}} \frac{d^2\tau}{(\text{Im } \tau)^2} J(s_{ij}, \tau)$$

$$J(s_{ij}, \tau) = \left(\prod_{j=1}^4 \int_{T^2} \frac{d^2z_j}{\text{Im } \tau} \right) \exp \left(\sum_{i < j}^4 s_{ij} \mathcal{G}(z_i - z_j, \tau) \right)$$

modular invariant

[Brink, Green, Schwarz 1982]

- fund. domain \mathcal{F} of modular group $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ and torus $T^2 = \frac{\mathbb{C}}{\mathbb{Z} + \tau\mathbb{Z}}$

- as before: Fourier expansion of the Green function

$$\mathcal{G}(z, \tau) = \frac{\text{Im } \tau}{\pi} \sum_{p \in \Lambda'} \frac{e^{2\pi i \langle p, z \rangle}}{|p|^2}$$

- coeff's in α' -expansion of $J(s_{ij}, \tau)$ are dubbed modular graph forms

[Green, Vanhove 9910056; Green, Russo, Vanhove 0801.0322]

[D'Hoker, Gürdögen, Green, Vanhove 1512.06779]

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[Brink, Green, Schwarz 1982]

- fund. domain \mathcal{F} of modular group $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ and torus $T^2 = \frac{\mathbb{C}}{\mathbb{Z} + \tau\mathbb{Z}}$

- disclaimer: α' -expanding $J(s_{ij}, \tau)$ at fixed τ does not capture

discontinuities $\sim \log(\alpha' s_{ij})$ of \mathcal{A}_{T^2} from $\tau \rightarrow i\infty$,

need separate expansion method for “non-analytic part”

[Green, Russo, Vanhove 0801.0322; D’Hoker, Green, Vanhove 1502.06698]

[D’Hoker, Green 1906.01652; Edison, Guillen, Johansson, OS, Teng 2107.08009]

III. 3 Simplest examples and relations of MGFs

MGFs \ni integrate polynomials in $\underbrace{\mathcal{G}(z_{ij} = z_i - z_j, \tau)}_{\text{edge } z_i \rightarrow z_j}$ over $\underbrace{z_1, z_2, \dots \in T^2}_{\text{vertices}}$

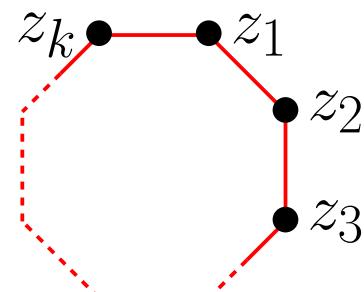
- by the absence of zero-modes in $p \in \Lambda' = (\mathbb{Z} + \tau\mathbb{Z}) \setminus \{0\}$, 1-particle

reducible graphs vanish $\int d^2z \mathcal{G}(z, \tau) = 0$, so simplest nonzero MGF is

$$\int \frac{d^2z}{\text{Im } \tau} \mathcal{G}(z, \tau)^2 = \left(\frac{\text{Im } \tau}{\pi} \right)^2 \sum_{p \in \Lambda'} \frac{1}{|p|^4}$$



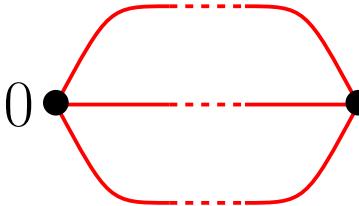
- more generally, 1-loop graphs on $T^2 \Rightarrow$ non-holo. Eisenstein series E_k



$$\begin{aligned} & \int \left(\prod_{j=1}^k \frac{d^2z_j}{\text{Im } \tau} \right) \mathcal{G}(z_{12}, \tau) \mathcal{G}(z_{23}, \tau) \dots \mathcal{G}(z_{k1}, \tau) \\ &= \left(\frac{\text{Im } \tau}{\pi} \right)^k \sum_{p \in \Lambda'} \frac{1}{|p|^{2k}} = E_k(\tau) \end{aligned}$$

III. 3 Simplest examples and relations of MGFs

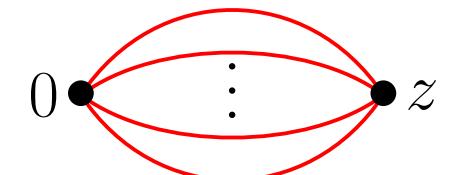
Beyond 1-loop graphs on the torus, get nested lattice sums, e.g.



$$C_{a,b,c}(\tau) = \left(\frac{\text{Im } \tau}{\pi} \right)^{a+b+c} \sum_{p_1, p_2, p_3 \in \Lambda'} \frac{\delta(p_1 + p_2 + p_3)}{|p_1|^{2a} |p_2|^{2b} |p_3|^{2c}}$$

Higher-loop graphs often simplify to lower loop and MZVs, e.g.

$$\int \frac{d^2 z}{\text{Im } \tau} \mathcal{G}(z, \tau)^3 = C_{1,1,1}(\tau) = E_3(\tau) + \zeta_3$$



$$\int \frac{d^2 z}{\text{Im } \tau} \mathcal{G}(z, \tau)^4 = 24C_{2,1,1}(\tau) - 18E_4(\tau) + 3E_2(\tau)^2$$

$$\int \frac{d^2 z}{\text{Im } \tau} \mathcal{G}(z, \tau)^5 = 60C_{3,1,1}(\tau) + 10E_2(\tau)C_{1,1,1}(\tau) - 48E_5(\tau) + 16\zeta_5$$

[Zagier '08; D'Hoker, Green, Vanhove '15; D'Hoker, Green '16; D'Hoker, Kaidi '16]

Problem: How to anticipate such relations?

What is the set of independent MGFs (over $\mathbb{Q}[\text{MZV}]$)?

III. 4 MGFs from iterated Eisenstein integrals

Recall: eMZV relations are exposed by holo. iterated Eisenstein integrals

$$\text{eMZVs} \leftrightarrow \mathbb{Q}[\text{MZV}] \int_{\tau}^{i\infty} d\tau_1 G_{k_1}(\tau_1) \tau_1^{j_1} \int_{\tau_1}^{i\infty} d\tau_2 G_{k_2}(\tau_2) \tau_2^{j_2} \int_{\tau_2}^{i\infty} \dots$$

Repeat strategy for MGFs: $\mathcal{G}(z, \tau)$ is real analytic \Rightarrow also need cplx. conj.

depth one: for $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, k-2$ and $k \geq 4$, define

$$\beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{matrix} j \\ k \end{matrix}; \tau \right] = \frac{(2\pi i)^{-1}}{(4\pi \text{Im } \tau)^{k-2-j}} \left\{ \int_{\tau}^{i\infty} d\tau_1 (\tau - \tau_1)^{k-2-j} (\bar{\tau} - \tau_1)^j G_k(\tau_1) \right. \\ \left. - \int_{\bar{\tau}}^{-i\infty} d\bar{\tau}_1 (\tau - \bar{\tau}_1)^{k-2-j} (\bar{\tau} - \bar{\tau}_1)^j \overline{G_k(\tau_1)} \right\}$$

→ recover non-holomorphic Eisenstein series via

$$E_k(\tau) = \frac{(2k-1)!}{(k-1)!^2} \left\{ -\beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{matrix} k-1 \\ 2k \end{matrix}; \tau \right] + \underbrace{\frac{2\zeta_{2k-1}}{(2k-1)(4\pi \text{Im } \tau)^{k-1}}}_{\text{mod. invariant completion of } \beta^{\text{sv}}} \right\}$$

III. 4 MGFs from iterated Eisenstein integrals

depth two: mimic genus-zero formula for sv polylogs at weight two

$$G^{\text{sv}}(a_2, a_1; z) = \color{red}G(a_2, a_1; z) + G(a_2; z)\overline{G(a_1; z)} + \overline{\color{teal}G(a_1, a_2; z)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} j_1 & j_2 \\ k_1 & k_2 \end{smallmatrix}; \tau \right] &= \text{“}\zeta\text{ – corrections”} + \frac{(2\pi i)^{-2}}{(4\pi \text{Im } \tau)^{k_1+k_2-4-j_1-j_2}} \\ &\times \left\{ \int_{\tau}^{i\infty} d\tau_2 (\tau - \tau_2)^{k_2-2-j_2} (\bar{\tau} - \tau_2)^{j_2} G_{k_2}(\tau_2) \int_{\tau_2}^{i\infty} d\tau_1 (\tau - \tau_1)^{k_1-2-j_1} (\bar{\tau} - \tau_1)^{j_1} G_{k_1}(\tau_1) \right. \\ &- \int_{\tau}^{i\infty} d\tau_2 (\tau - \tau_2)^{k_2-2-j_2} (\bar{\tau} - \tau_2)^{j_2} G_{k_2}(\tau_2) \int_{\bar{\tau}}^{-i\infty} d\bar{\tau}_1 (\tau - \bar{\tau}_1)^{k_1-2-j_1} (\bar{\tau} - \bar{\tau}_1)^{j_1} \overline{G_{k_1}(\tau_1)} \\ &\left. + \int_{\bar{\tau}}^{-i\infty} d\bar{\tau}_1 (\tau - \bar{\tau}_1)^{k_1-2-j_1} (\bar{\tau} - \bar{\tau}_1)^{j_1} \overline{G_{k_1}(\tau_1)} \int_{\bar{\tau}_1}^{-i\infty} d\bar{\tau}_2 (\tau - \bar{\tau}_2)^{k_2-2-j_2} (\bar{\tau} - \bar{\tau}_2)^{j_2} \overline{G_{k_2}(\tau_2)} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{e.g. } C_{2,1,1}(\tau) = \left(\frac{\text{Im } \tau}{\pi} \right)^4 \sum_{p_1, p_2, p_3 \in \Lambda'} \frac{\delta(p_1 + p_2 + p_3)}{|p_1|^4 |p_2|^2 |p_3|^2}$$

$$= -18\beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 4 & 4 \end{smallmatrix}; \tau \right] + 12\zeta_3 \beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 0 \\ 4 \end{smallmatrix}; \tau \right] + \frac{5\zeta_5}{12\pi \text{Im } \tau} - \frac{\zeta_3^2}{4\pi^2 \text{Im } \tau^2} + \frac{9}{10} E_4(\tau)$$

III. 4 MGFs from iterated Eisenstein integrals

Concerning the “ ζ – corrections” in

$$\begin{aligned} \beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} j_1 & j_2 \\ k_1 & k_2 \end{smallmatrix}; \tau \right] = & \text{“}\zeta\text{ – corrections”} + \frac{(2\pi i)^{-2}}{(4\pi \text{Im } \tau)^{k_1+k_2-4-j_1-j_2}} \\ & \times \left\{ \int_{\tau}^{i\infty} d\tau_2 (\tau - \tau_2)^{k_2-2-j_2} (\bar{\tau} - \tau_2)^{j_2} G_{k_2}(\tau_2) \int_{\tau_2}^{i\infty} d\tau_1 (\tau - \tau_1)^{k_1-2-j_1} (\bar{\tau} - \tau_1)^{j_1} G_{k_1}(\tau_1) \right. \\ & - \int_{\tau}^{i\infty} d\tau_2 (\tau - \tau_2)^{k_2-2-j_2} (\bar{\tau} - \tau_2)^{j_2} G_{k_2}(\tau_2) \int_{\bar{\tau}}^{-i\infty} d\bar{\tau}_1 (\tau - \bar{\tau}_1)^{k_1-2-j_1} (\bar{\tau} - \bar{\tau}_1)^{j_1} \overline{G_{k_1}(\tau_1)} \\ & \left. + \int_{\bar{\tau}}^{-i\infty} d\bar{\tau}_1 (\tau - \bar{\tau}_1)^{k_1-2-j_1} (\bar{\tau} - \bar{\tau}_1)^{j_1} \overline{G_{k_1}(\tau_1)} \int_{\bar{\tau}_1}^{-i\infty} d\bar{\tau}_2 (\tau - \bar{\tau}_2)^{k_2-2-j_2} (\bar{\tau} - \bar{\tau}_2)^{j_2} \overline{G_{k_2}(\tau_2)} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

→ genus-1 analogue of the MZV corrections in G^{sv} , e.g.

$$\beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 4 & 4 \end{smallmatrix}; \tau \right] \Big|_{\zeta\text{– corrections}} = \frac{-\zeta_3}{24\pi^3 \text{Im } \tau} \int_{\bar{\tau}}^{-i\infty} d\tau_1 (\tau + \bar{\tau} - 2\bar{\tau}_1) (\overline{G_4(\tau_1)} - 2\zeta_4)$$

III. 4 MGFs from iterated Eisenstein integrals

Concerning the “ ζ – corrections” in

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Key result: all MGFs are expressible via $\mathbb{Q}[\text{MZV}, (\pi \text{Im } \tau)^{-1}]$ combinations

of $\beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} j_1 & j_2 & \dots & j_r \\ k_1 & k_2 & \dots & k_r \end{smallmatrix}; \tau \right]$, exposing all algebraic relations and q, \bar{q} -expansions!

III. 5 MGFs as single-valued eMZVs

Above real-analytic β^{SV} related to holo. iterated Eisenstein integrals

$$\beta \left[\begin{matrix} j \\ k \end{matrix}; \tau \right] = \frac{(2\pi i)^{-1}}{(-2\pi i \tau)^{k-j-2}} \int_{\tau}^{i\infty} d\tau_1 (\tau - \tau_1)^{k-j-2} (-\tau_1)^j G_k(\tau_1)$$

obtained from formally setting $\bar{\tau} \rightarrow 0$ and $\overline{G_k} \rightarrow 0$ in

$$\begin{aligned} \beta^{\text{SV}} \left[\begin{matrix} j \\ k \end{matrix}; \tau \right] = & \frac{(2\pi i)^{-1}}{(4\pi \text{Im } \tau)^{k-2-j}} \left\{ \int_{\tau}^{i\infty} d\tau_1 (\tau - \tau_1)^{k-2-j} (\bar{\tau} - \tau_1)^j G_k(\tau_1) \right. \\ & \left. - \int_{\bar{\tau}}^{-i\infty} d\bar{\tau}_1 (\tau - \bar{\tau}_1)^{k-2-j} (\bar{\tau} - \bar{\tau}_1)^j \overline{G_k(\tau_1)} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Same relation $\beta^{\text{SV}}[\dots] \rightarrow \beta[\dots]$ at higher depth (without ζ -corrections)

Conversely, \exists explicit proposal for single-valued map at genus 1 such that

$$\text{SV} : \quad \tau \rightarrow \tau - \bar{\tau}, \quad \beta[\dots] \rightarrow \beta^{\text{SV}}[\dots]$$

III. 6 Modular graph forms with modular weight

Lattice sums with different holomorphic / antiholomorphic exponents

$$\frac{(\text{Im } \tau)^{k+m}}{\pi^k} \sum_{p \in \Lambda'} \frac{1}{p^{k+m} \bar{p}^{k-m}} = \frac{(k-1)!}{(k+m-1)!} \nabla_\tau^m E_k(\tau)$$

→ modular form of weight $(0, -2m)$, hence MGF = modular graph *form*

- from Maass operators $\nabla_\tau = 2i(\text{Im } \tau)^2 \partial_\tau$ @ modular invariant MGFs
[D'Hoker, Green 1603.00839]
- from torus integrals over $f^{(n)}(z_{ij}, \tau)$ and $\overline{f^{(n)}(z_{ij}, \tau)}$ besides $\mathcal{G}(z_{ij}, \tau)$
[Gerken, Kleinschmidt, OS 1811.02548]

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[Gerken, Kleinschmidt, OS 1811.02548]

→ β^{sv} with more general $j = 0, 1, \dots, k-2$, e.g.

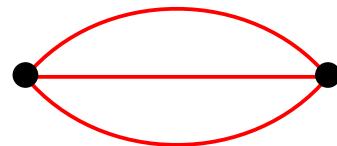
$$(-4\pi \nabla_\tau)^m E_k = \frac{(2k-1)!}{(k-1)!(k-1-m)!} \left\{ -\beta^{\text{sv}} \begin{bmatrix} k-1+m \\ 2k \end{bmatrix} + \frac{2\zeta_{2k-1}}{(2k-1)(4\pi \text{Im } \tau)^{k-1-m}} \right\}$$

[Gerken, Kleinschmidt, OS 2004.05156]

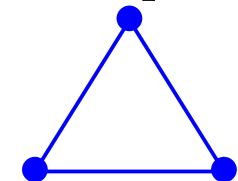
III. 7 Counting modular graph forms

How many $\mathbb{Q}[\text{MZV}]$ independent MGFs \exists @ given $\underbrace{\text{transcendental weight } w}_{\text{roughly, } \# \text{ of integrated } \mathcal{G}(z, \tau)}$?

- consider all partitions $w = k_1 + k_2 + \dots$ with integers $k_j \geq 2$
- write down all $\beta^{\text{SV}} \left[\frac{j_1}{2k_1} \frac{j_2}{2k_2} \dots \frac{j_r}{2k_r} \right]$ subject to $\sum_{\ell=1}^r j_\ell = \sum_{\ell=1}^r (k_\ell - 1)$
for modular invariance (other choices of $0 \leq j_\ell \leq 2k_\ell - 2$ cover their ∇_τ 's)
- at $w = 3$, for instance, only one admissible choice $\beta^{\text{SV}} \left[\frac{2}{6} \right]$, anticipating



$$\int \frac{d^2 z}{\text{Im } \tau} \mathcal{G}(z, \tau)^3 = E_3(\tau) + \zeta_3$$



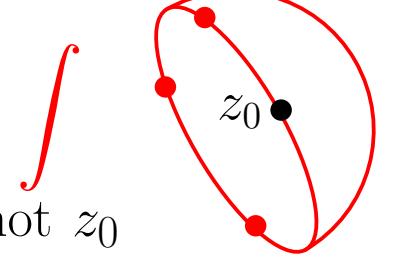
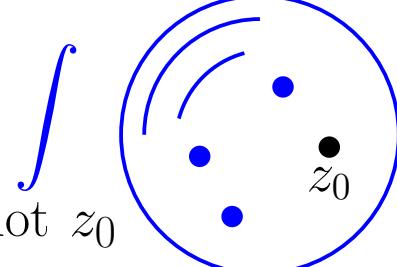
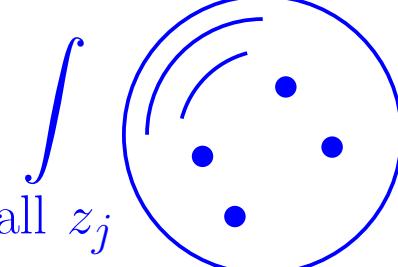
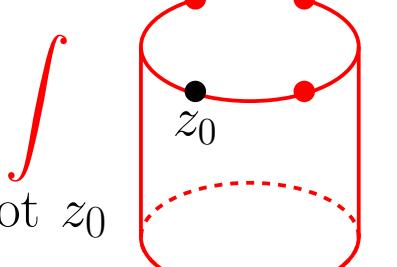
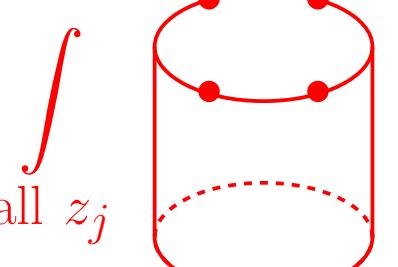
- also products $\sim (\nabla_\tau E_m)(\bar{\nabla}_\tau E_n)$ of total mod. weight $(0, 0)$ are counted
- starting from $w = 7$, \exists dropouts of certain β^{SV} from MGFs governed by

rel's $[\epsilon_4, \epsilon_{10}] = 3[\epsilon_6, \epsilon_8]$ among generators $\{\epsilon_{k \in 2\mathbb{N}}\}$ [Tsunogai, Pollack, ...]
[Gerken, Kleinschmidt, OS 2004.05156; Dorigoni, Kleinschmidt, OS 2109.05017/18]

IV. Elliptic modular graph forms

IV. 1 Elliptic MGFs and the bigger picture

[Back to the cast of characters](#)

open strings		closed strings		
tree level	 not z_0 multiple polylogarithms(z_0)	 all z_j multiple zeta values (MZVs)	 not z_0 single-valued polylogs(z_0) [Brown '04]	 all z_j single-valued MZVs [Brown, Schnetz '13]
one loop	 not z_0 elliptic polylogs(z_0) [Brown, Levin '11]	 all z_j elliptic MZVs [Enriquez '13]		 all z_j modular graph forms [DGGV '15, DG '16]
			to be thought of as single-valued eMZVs	

IV. 1 Elliptic MGFs and the bigger picture

Back to the cast of characters

		open strings		closed strings	
		tree level		tree level	
level	not z_0		multiple polylogarithms(z_0)		multiple zeta values (MZVs)
					single-valued polylogs(z_0) [Brown '04]
loop	not z_0		elliptic polylogs(z_0) [Brown, Levin '11]		elliptic MZVs [Enriquez '13]
					elliptic MGFs [DGP '18, DKS '20]
			by analogy: single-valued elliptic polylogarithms		
			to be thought of as single-valued eMZVs		

IV. 2 Zagier's single-valued elliptic polylogarithms

Simplest elliptic MGF is the torus Green function

$$\mathcal{G}(z, \tau) = \frac{\operatorname{Im} \tau}{\pi} \sum_{p \in \Lambda'} \frac{e^{2\pi i \langle p, z \rangle}}{|p|^2}, \quad \langle p, z \rangle = nu - mv, \quad \begin{cases} z = u\tau + v \\ p = m\tau + n \end{cases}$$

More general exponents of $p, \bar{p} \Rightarrow$ Zagier's single-valued elliptic polylogs

$$\mathcal{D}^+ \left[\begin{matrix} a \\ b \end{matrix} \right] (z, \tau) = \frac{(\operatorname{Im} \tau)^a}{\pi^b} \sum_{p \in \Lambda'} \frac{e^{2\pi i \langle p, z \rangle}}{p^a \bar{p}^b} \quad [\text{Zagier 1990}]$$

- expressible via (meromorphic versions of) $\Gamma \left(\begin{matrix} n_1 & \dots & n_r \\ a_1 & \dots & a_r \end{matrix}; z, \tau \right)$ & cplx. conj.
[Broedel, Kaderli 1906.11857]
- special choices of a, b yield

$$\mathcal{D}^+ \left[\begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right] (z, \tau) = \mathcal{G}(z, \tau), \quad \mathcal{D}^+ \left[\begin{matrix} a \\ 0 \end{matrix} \right] (z, \tau) = -(\operatorname{Im} \tau)^a f^{(a)}(z, \tau)$$

- evaluation at $z = 0$ yields $\nabla_\tau^m E_k \longrightarrow$ MGFs as single-valued eMZVs
[D'Hoker, Green, Gürdögean, Vanhove 1512.06779]

IV. 3 General definition and properties of elliptic MGFs

General **elliptic MGFs** → torus integrals of $f^{(k)}(z_{ij}, \tau), \overline{f^{(k)}(z_{ij}, \tau)}, \mathcal{G}(z_{ij}, \tau)$

over *subsets* of the torus punctures $z_i, z_j, \dots \Rightarrow$ fcts. of τ & unintegrated z' s

- mod. forms transforming with $(c\tau+d)^r(c\bar{\tau}+d)^s$ under $(z, \tau) \rightarrow (\frac{z}{c\tau+d}, \frac{a\tau+b}{c\tau+d})$
- in general obtain nested lattice sums with insertions of **characters** $e^{2\pi i \langle p_j, z_k \rangle}$,

e.g. simplest generalization of Zagier's $\mathcal{D}^+ \left[\begin{matrix} a \\ b \end{matrix} \right]$ are

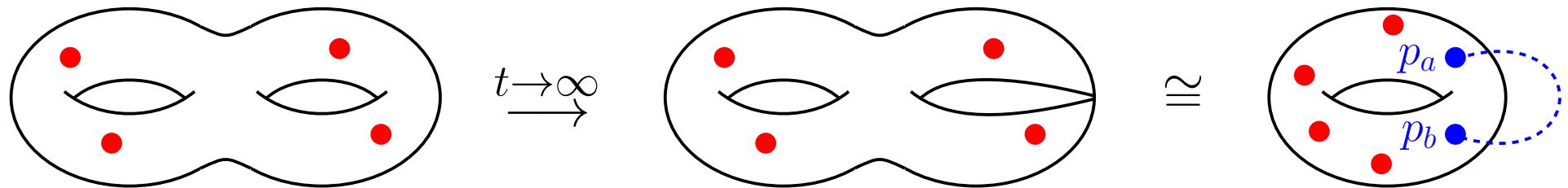
$$\mathcal{C}^+ \left[\begin{matrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ z_1 & z_2 & z_3 \end{matrix} \right] = \frac{(\text{Im } \tau)^{a_1+a_2+a_3}}{\pi^{b_1+b_2+b_3}} \sum_{p_1, p_2, p_3 \in \Lambda'} \frac{\delta(p_1+p_2+p_3) \prod_{k=1}^3 e^{2\pi i \langle p_k, z_k \rangle}}{p_1^{a_1} \bar{p}_1^{b_1} p_2^{a_2} \bar{p}_2^{b_2} p_3^{a_3} \bar{p}_3^{b_3}}$$

- (repeated) z -derivatives yield $f^{(k)}(z_{ij}, \tau)$ times simpler elliptic MGFs
→ view them as single-valued elliptic polylogs at arbitrary depth

IV. 3 General definition and properties of elliptic MGFs

- elliptic MGFs firstly discussed in non-separating degeneration of genus-two MGFs ($z = p_b - p_a \leftrightarrow$ off-diagonal entry Ω_{12} of period matrix)

[D'Hoker, Green, Pioline 1806.02691]



- like MGFs, \exists rich network of algebraic & differential rel's over $\mathbb{Q}[\text{MZV}]$

– follow from degenerations of genus-two relations

[D'Hoker, Mafra, Pioline, OS 2008.08687]

– growing body of genus-one techniques to derive relations

[Basu 2009.02221, 2010.08331; D'Hoker, Kleinschmidt, OS 2012.09198]

[D'Hoker, Hidding, Kleinschmidt, OS, Verbeek: to appear]

IV. 4 Iterated-integral representations of elliptic MGFs

τ -derivatives of elliptic MGFs at fixed u, v (rather than fixed $z = u\tau + v$)

→ $G_k(\tau)$ or $f^{(k)}(u\tau + v, \tau)$ times simpler elliptic MGFs

⇒ can find **iterated-integral representations similar to β^{sv}** for MGFs

Need **additional kernels $f^{(k)}(u\tau + v, \tau)$** besides $G_k(\tau)$, for instance

$$\beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{matrix} j \\ k \\ z \end{matrix} \right] = \frac{-(2\pi i)^{-1}}{(4\pi \text{Im } \tau)^{k-2-j}} \left\{ \int_{\tau}^{i\infty} d\tau_1 (\tau - \tau_1)^{k-2-j} (\bar{\tau} - \tau_1)^j f^{(k)}(u\tau_1 + v, \tau_1) \right. \\ \left. - \int_{\bar{\tau}}^{-i\infty} d\bar{\tau}_1 (\tau - \bar{\tau}_1)^{k-2-j} (\bar{\tau} - \bar{\tau}_1)^j \overline{f^{(k)}(u\tau_1 + v, \tau_1)} \right\}$$

reproduces Zagier's single-valued elliptic polylogs (integrating at fixed u, v)

$$\mathcal{D}^+ \left[\begin{matrix} a \\ b \end{matrix} \right] (z, \tau) = - \frac{(2i)^{b-a} (a+b-1)!}{(a-1)! (b-1)!} \beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{matrix} a-1 \\ a+b \\ z \end{matrix} \right]$$

[D'Hoker, Hidding, Kleinschmidt, OS, Verbeek: to appear]

IV. 4 Iterated-integral representations of elliptic MGFs

With similar definition for depth-two integrals $\beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} j_1 & j_2 \\ k_1 & k_2 \\ z & z \end{smallmatrix} \right]$

or $\beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} j_1 & j_2 \\ k_1 & k_2 \\ z & z \end{smallmatrix} \right]$ & $\beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} j_1 & j_2 \\ k_1 & k_2 \\ z & z \end{smallmatrix} \right]$ in case of mixed kernels G_k and $f^{(k)}$

find canonical representations at higher depth such as

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{\text{Im } \tau}{\pi} \right)^4 \sum_{p_1, p_2, p_3 \in \Lambda'} \frac{\delta(p_1 + p_2 + p_3) e^{2\pi i \langle p_1, z \rangle}}{|p_1|^4 |p_2|^2 |p_3|^2} = & 14\beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \end{smallmatrix} \right] - 140\beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 3 \\ z \end{smallmatrix} \right] \\ & - 18\beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 4 & 4 \\ z & z \end{smallmatrix} \right] - 18\beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 4 & 4 \\ z & z \end{smallmatrix} \right] + 18\beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 4 & 4 \\ z & z \end{smallmatrix} \right] \\ & + 12\zeta_3 \beta^{\text{sv}} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 0 \\ 4 \\ z \end{smallmatrix} \right] - \frac{(u^2 - u + \frac{1}{6})\zeta_5}{2\pi \text{Im } \tau} - \frac{\zeta_7}{16(\pi \text{Im } \tau)^3} \end{aligned}$$

Again exposes counting of independent elliptic MGFs, all algebraic rel's

and q, \bar{q} -expansions including powers of q^u, \bar{q}^u with $z = u\tau + v$.

Conclusion & Outlook

- string amplitudes as natural habitat of polylogs on Riemann surfaces
- modular graph forms (MGFs) = rich family of non-holo. modular forms arising from integrating closed-string Green functions over the torus
- rewriting MGFs via iterated Eisenstein integrals & their cplx. conjugates
 \implies expose systematics of their relations / counting / q -expansions
- for computer algebra and introductory reading on MGFs, see
[**Mathematica package: Gerken 2007.05476, PhD thesis Gerken 2011.08647**]
- work in progress: relate MGFs to Browns non-holo. modular forms
[**Brown 1407.5167, 1707.01230, 1708.03354**]

and special thanks to BioNTtech!

