

# Goncharov depth conjecture and volumes of orthoschemes

- Plan:
- 1) Polylogarithms and Mixed Tate Motives.
  - 2) Orthoschemes
  - 3) Formula for  $QL_i$  and Volume.

## Periods of mixed Tate motives

are numbers  $\int_{\gamma} \omega \in \mathbb{C}$ , where

$\omega$  is an algebraic differential form

$$[\omega] \in H_{\text{dR}}^*(\underline{X} \setminus \underline{D}_1)$$

$\gamma$  is a cycle  $[\gamma] \in H_{\bullet, \mathbb{B}}(X, D_2)$

so that  $H^*(X \setminus D_1, D_2 \setminus (D_1 \cap D_2))$  carries

a mixed Hodge structure of mixed

Tate type.

Examples:

1)  $2\pi i = \int_{\odot} \frac{dt}{t}$

2)  $\log(a) = \int_1^a \frac{dt}{t}$

$$\int \left[ \frac{dt}{t} \right] \in H^1(\mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{0, \infty\})$$

$$\int \left[ \overset{a}{\sim} \right] \in H_1(\mathbb{P}^1, \{a\})$$

and  $\underbrace{H^1(\mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{0, \infty\}, \{a\})}_{\text{is mixed Tate.}}$

$$3) \operatorname{Li}_2(a) = - \int_0^a \int_0^{t_2} \frac{dt_1}{1-t_1} \frac{dt_2}{t_2} \quad \text{"="}$$


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$$\text{"="} \sum_{m>0} \frac{a^m}{m^2} \quad \text{for } |a| < 1,$$

4) Classical polylogarithms

$$\operatorname{Li}_n(a) = \sum_{m>0} \frac{a^m}{m^n}, \quad |a| < 1.$$


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5) Iterated integrals  
on  $\mathbb{P}^1$  (also called  
Hyperlogarithms)

$$\mathcal{I}(a_0; a_1, \dots, a_n; a_{n+1}) =$$


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$$\int_{a_0}^{a_{n+1}} \underbrace{\frac{dt}{t-a_1}} \circ \underbrace{\frac{dt}{t-a_2}} \circ \dots \circ \underbrace{\frac{dt}{t-a_n}} =$$

$$\int \frac{dt_1}{t_1 - a_1} \wedge \frac{dt_2}{t_2 - a_2} \wedge \dots \wedge \frac{dt_m}{t_m - a_m}$$

$$a_0 \leq t_1 \leq t_2 \leq t_3 \leq \dots \leq t_m \leq a_{m+1}$$

6) Multiple polylogarithms -  
(introduced by Goncharov)

For  $n_1, \dots, n_k \in \mathbb{N}$  :

$$\| \zeta_{i, n_1, \dots, n_k}(a_1, \dots, a_k) = \sum_{m_1 > m_2 > \dots > m_k > 0} \frac{a_1^{m_1} a_2^{m_2} \dots a_k^{m_k}}{m_1^{n_1} m_2^{n_2} \dots m_k^{n_k}}$$

$n_1 + \dots + n_k$  - weight

$k$  - depth

Remark: Iterated integrals and multiple polylogarithms are related by a simple change of variable:

$$\| \zeta_{i, 1}(a, b) = I(0; 1, a; ab)$$



## Conjecture 1 (Universality)

Every period of mixed Tate motives is a linear combination of multiple polylogarithms.

## Conjecture 2 (A part of "Depth Conjecture")

Every multiple polylogarithm of weight  $n$  is a linear combination of multiple polylogarithm of depth  $\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$ .

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Li}_{1,1,1} &= \text{Li}_3 \\ \text{Li}_4 &= \text{Li}_{3,1} + \text{Li}_4 \\ \text{Li}_{1,1}(a_1, a_2) &= \text{Li}_2\left(\frac{1-a_1}{1-a_2}\right) - \text{Li}_2\left(\frac{a_2}{a_2-a_1}\right) \\ &\quad - \text{Li}_2(a_1 a_2) \end{aligned}$$

Remark: Full Depth conjecture

gives a necessary and sufficient condition for a multiple polylogarithm to be a linear combination of multiple polylogarithms of depth  $\leq d$ .

It would imply:

1) Zagier conjecture: special values of the zeta function of a number field is a sum of products of classical polylogarithms.

2) Volumes of hyperbolic manifolds are linear combinations of classical polylogarithms.

**Goal:** explain the proof of Conjecture 2.

**Idea of the proof:**

Let  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{2n+1} \in \mathbb{P}^1$  be a collection of distinct points. We will construct a function

$QLi_{n,k}(x_0, \dots, x_{2n+1})$  ← period of mixed Tate motives.

It has weight  $\underline{n+k}$  and depth  $\underline{n}$

I) On one hand it is universal:

every iterated integral (and thus)  $(MP)$

can be expressed via

$QLi_{n,n}$  and  $QLi_{n,n+1}$ .

↑  
bec  $2n$   
rnyduuy  $n$

↑  
bec  $2n+1$   
rnyduuy  $n$ .

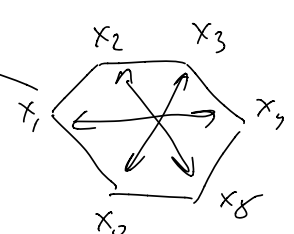
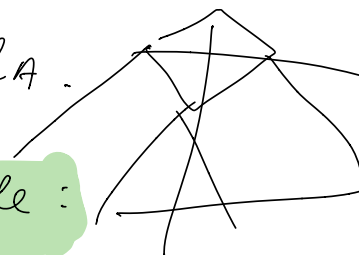
II) On the other hand it can be expressed via multiple polylogarithms of depth  $= \lfloor \frac{\text{weight}}{2} \rfloor$ .

I) + II) imply conjecture 2,

Part II) is based on explicit

formula.

Example:

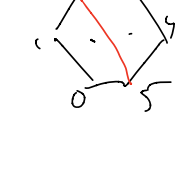
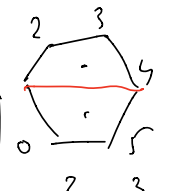
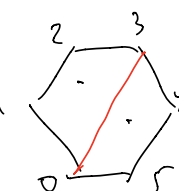


$M_{9,6}$

$\mathbb{P}^1(\{x_0, \dots, x_5\})$

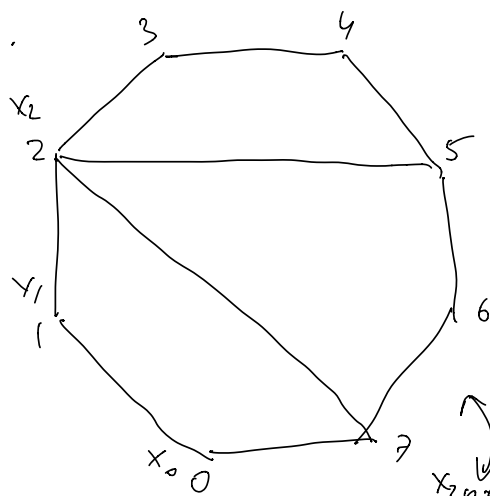
$$\underline{\underline{QLi_{2,0}(x_0, \dots, x_5) =$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \underline{\underline{\angle i_{1,1} \left( \left[ x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5 \right], \left[ x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3 \right] \right)}} \\ &- \underline{\underline{\angle i_{1,1} \left( \left[ x_0, x_1, x_4, x_5 \right], \left[ x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \right]^{-1} \right)}} \\ &+ \underline{\underline{\angle i_{1,1} \left( \left[ x_0, x_1, x_2, x_5 \right], \left[ x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5 \right] \right)}} \end{aligned}$$



In general, the formula for  $Li_{n,k}$  involves a summation over all "quadrangulations" of a polygon  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{2n+1}$  of multiple polylogarithms, evaluated at cross-ratios of points in the squares.

$$\frac{(3n)!}{n!(2n+1)!}$$



$$Li_{1,1}([\underbrace{[0,1,2,7]}, \underbrace{[2,5,6,7]}, \underbrace{[2,3,4,5]})$$

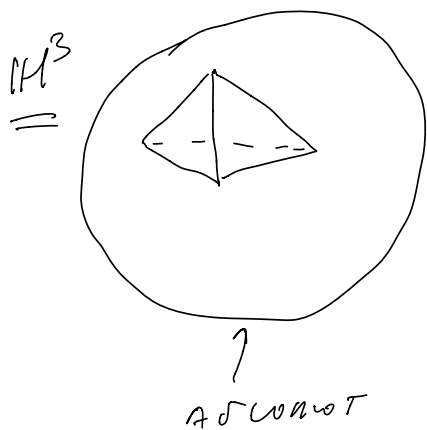
**Goal:** explain, where it comes from.

# Orthoschemes

Origin: work of Gauss,  
Lobachevsky and Coxeter.

Volumes of non-Euclidean  
polytopes are examples of  
mixed Tate motives.

$\mathbb{H}^{2n-1} \cong \mathbb{T}^1 \leftarrow$  polytope in Klein's  
model.



Let  $\mathbb{P}^{2n-1} =$  complexification  
of  $\mathbb{R}^{2n-1} \cong \mathbb{H}^{2n-1}$

$\mathbb{Q} =$  complexification  
of  $\partial \mathbb{H}^{2n-1}$ .

$x_0^2 - x_1^2 - x_2^2 - x_3^2 = 0.$

$H_0, \dots, H_{2n} =$  complexification  
of faces.

Easy to see:

$\text{Vol}(\mathbb{T})$  is a period of

$$\underbrace{H^{2n-1} \left( \mathbb{P}^{2n-1} \setminus \mathbb{Q} ; \underbrace{(H^0 \cup \dots \cup H^{2n+1}) \setminus \mathbb{Q}} \right)}_{\text{ii}} \quad \Bigg] \\ H(\mathbb{T})$$

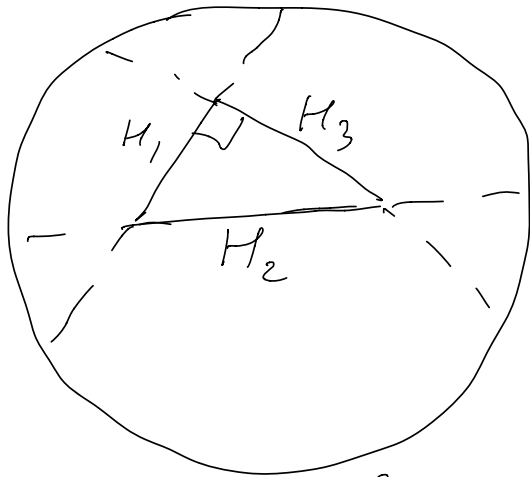
$H(\mathbb{T})$  is a mixed Hodge structure  
of mixed Tate type (Gondimarov).  
 $\Rightarrow \text{Vol}(\mathbb{T})$  should be a linear  
combination of multiple polylogs.

This was shown by  
Lobachevsky for  $\mathbb{T} \subseteq \mathbb{H}^3$ .

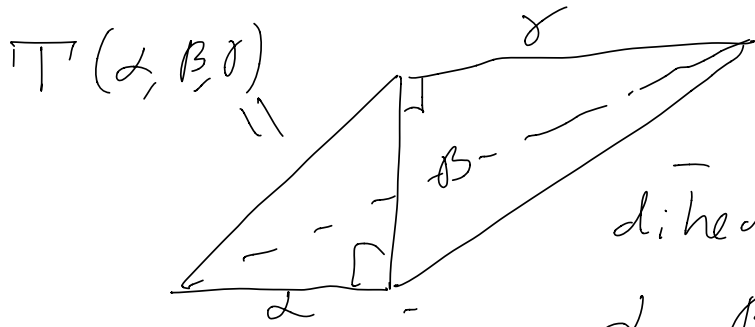
Orthoscheme: is a simplex in  $\mathbb{H}^{n-1}$  with faces  $H_1, \dots, H_n$  such that  $H_i \perp H_j$  for  $\underline{|i-j| > 1}$ .

Examples: 1) Right triangle

in  $\mathbb{H}^2$



2) in  $\mathbb{H}^3$



has three dihedral angles ( $\neq \frac{\pi}{2}$ ):  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ .



## Formula of Lobachevsky:

$$\text{Let } \delta = \arctg \left( \frac{\sqrt{\cos^2 \beta - \sin^2 \alpha \sin^2 \gamma}}{\cos \alpha \cos \gamma} \right).$$

$$\text{Vol} (T(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)) =$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{8} \left[ \text{Li}_2 \left( e^{2i(\alpha+\delta)} \right) - \text{Li}_2 \left( e^{2i(\alpha-\delta)} \right) \right. \\ &\quad + \text{Li}_2 \left( e^{2i(\gamma+\delta)} \right) - \text{Li}_2 \left( e^{2i(\gamma-\delta)} \right) \\ &\quad - \text{Li}_2 \left( -e^{2i(\delta-\beta)} \right) + \text{Li}_2 \left( -e^{2i(\delta+\beta)} \right) \\ &\quad \left. + 2 \text{Li}_2 \left( -e^{-2i\delta} \right) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Every polytope in  $\mathbb{H}^3$   
can be dissected into  
orthoschemes  $\Rightarrow$  volume  
of a hyperbolic polytope  
is a sum of dilogarithms.

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What happens  
in higher dimensions?

## (Forgotten) theorem of Böhm

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One can extract  
from works of Böhm  
that volumes of  
hyperbolic polytopes  
are linear combinations  
of multiple polylogarithms,  
but his proof is not  
very explicit (and  $\approx 70$  pages).

My goal is to  
give an explicit formula  
for volume of an orthoscheme  
in an arbitrary dimension.

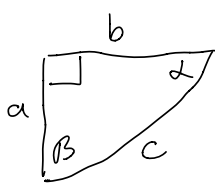
A slight modification of  
it gives a formula for

$\mathbb{Q} \langle i_{n,k} \rangle$

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Orthoschemes and  
configurations of points.

Consider a right triangle in  $S^2$



with angles  $\alpha, \beta$ , and sides  $a, b, c$ .

**Thm. (Gauss)** } a configuration of 5 points on  $IP^1$   $(x_1, \dots, x_5)$  such that:

$$\begin{cases} \cot^2(\alpha), \tan^2(\alpha), \cos^2(\alpha) \\ \sin^2(\alpha), \sec^2(\alpha), \csc^2(\alpha) \end{cases}$$

$x_1, \dots, x_5 \in IP^1$

$$\cot^2(\alpha) = [x_1, x_2, x_3, x_5]$$

$$\cot^2\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \beta\right) = [x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5]$$

$$\cot^2\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - c\right) = [x_3, x_4, x_5, x_1]$$

$$\cot^2\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha\right) = [x_4, x_5, x_1, x_2]$$

$$\cot^2(b) = [x_5, x_1, x_2, x_3]$$

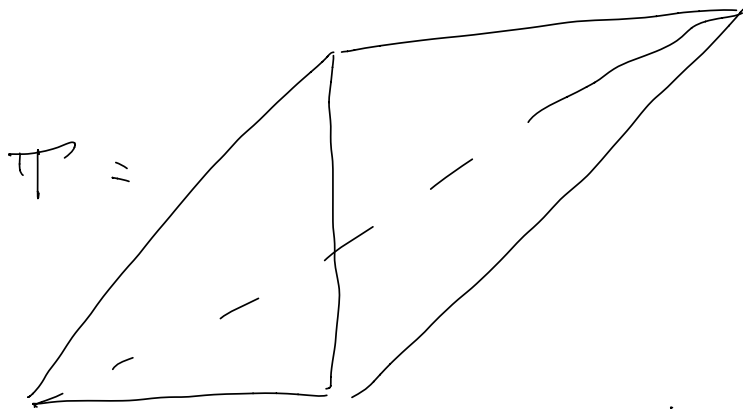
$$[a, b, c, d] = \frac{1}{z}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc} z, & 1/z, & 1-z, & \frac{1}{1-z} \\ \frac{z}{z-1}, & & & 1 - \frac{1}{z} \end{array} \right]$$

So we have a "triangle" over each point of  $M_{0,5}$ .

Coxeter generalized it to an arbitrary dimension.

Faces of an orthoscheme  
are also orthoschemes.



Orthoscheme  $\mathbb{T}$  has  $\binom{n+2}{4}$  interesting

"parameters" : lengths of edges,

dihedral angles, other angles:

dihedral angles of its faces.

These are periods of

$H(\mathbb{T})$  coming from extension

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}(-k) \rightarrow ? \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}(-k-1) \rightarrow 0,$$

## Theorem (Coxeter)

For every orthoscheme  
there exists a unique configuration  
of points  $(x_0, \dots, x_{n+1}) \in \mathcal{M}_{0, n+2}$   
such that for every parameter  
 $d_i =$  there exist four points such that  
 $i \in \{1, \dots, \binom{n+2}{4}\}$

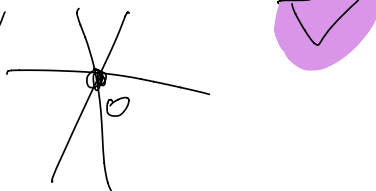
$$d_i^2 = [x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, x_{i_3}, x_{i_4}]$$

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So, we get a variation  
of mixed Tate motives  
over  $\mathcal{M}_{0, n+2}$ .

# Construction: (Maslov index)

Consider  $L_0, \dots, L_{n+1}$  - lines in  $\mathbb{C}^2$ .  
 " " " " " "  
 $x_0, \dots, x_{n+1} \in \mathbb{D}$



Let

$$\underline{E} = \text{Ker} \left( \bigoplus_{i=0}^{n+1} L_i \rightarrow \mathbb{V} \right)$$

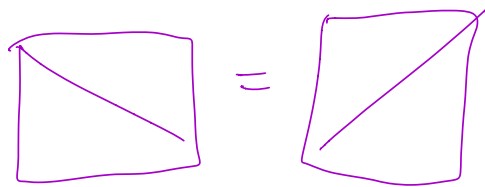
SPACE of Linear dependences.

Choose an "Area" form  $\omega \in \wedge^2 \mathbb{V}^*$ .

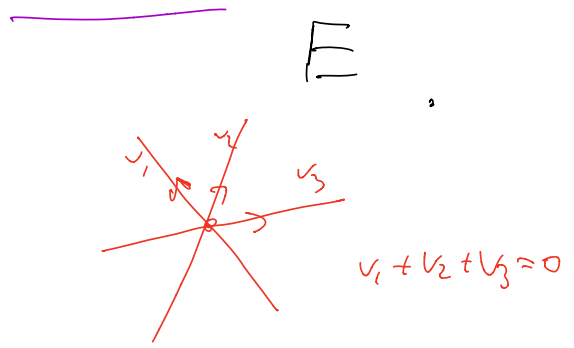
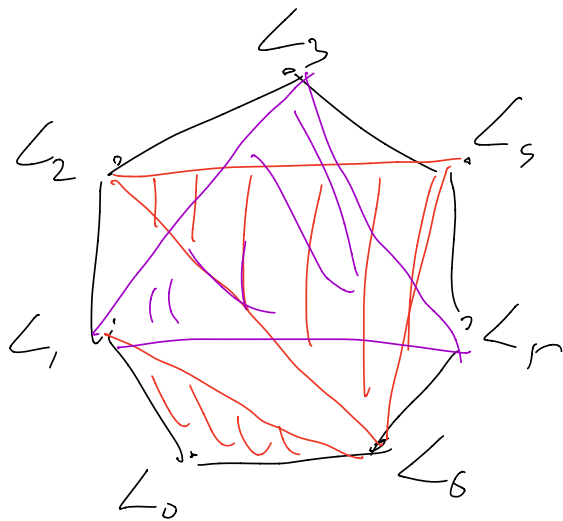
Then  $E$  carries a quadratic

form:

$$q \left( \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ E}}{(v_0, \dots, v_{n+1})} \right) = \sum_{0 \leq i < j \leq n+1} \omega(v_i, v_j)$$







Every "triangle"  $L_i L_j L_k$

defines a line  $E_{ijk} \subseteq E$

"linear dependence between  
 $v_i, v_j, v_k$ "

Lines  $E_{ijk}$  are orthogonal  
 $\Leftrightarrow$  triangles don't intersect.

Every triangulation of a  
polygon  $\rightsquigarrow$  an orthogonal

decomposition of  $E_0$

Configurations of points

↓ ort.

Orthoschemes

$(x_0, \dots, x_{n+1})$

↓

$(L_0, \dots, L_{n+1})$

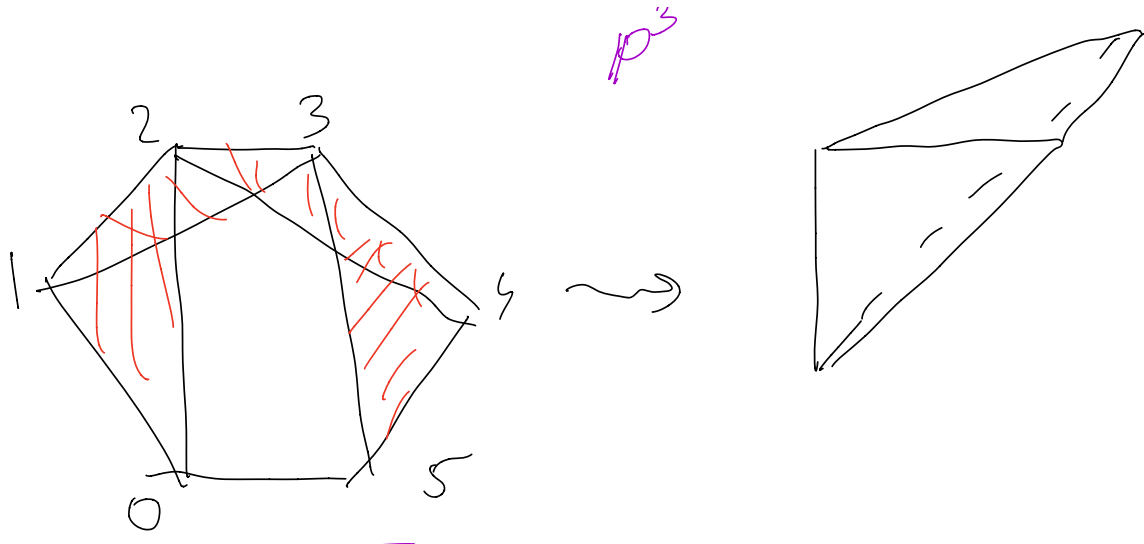
↓

triple:  $\frac{IP[E^v]}{IP^{n-1}}$ ,  $\frac{\text{quadric } Q}{\{q=0\}}$

hyperplanes

$H_1 = E_{012}^v, H_2 = E_{123}^v, \dots, H_n = E_{n-1, n, n+1}^v$

↑  
"ears"



Our goal is to understand motive

$H(\mathbb{T})$ , where  $\mathbb{T}$  is an orthoscheme

$$\text{ort}((x_0, \dots, x_{2n+1}))$$


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$$\mathcal{M}_{2, 2n+2}$$

Example:  $(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3) \in \mathcal{M}_{0,4}$

$$\text{Vol}(\text{ort}(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3)) =$$

$$= \log \left( \frac{1 + \sqrt{[x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]}}{1 - \sqrt{[x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]}} \right)$$

Correction:  $\text{Vol}(\text{ort}(\pi))$  is

A period of a variation  
of mixed Tate motives

over a finite cover of  $\mathcal{M}_{0,2n+2}$ :

$\mathcal{M}_{0,2n+2}^S$ , where square roots

of cross-ratios are  
defined.

Consider (finally!) the abelian  
category of mixed Tate motives

over  $F$ .  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{For } F\text{-number field it} \\ \text{exists and for other fields} \\ \text{is conjectured.} \end{array} \right.$

$\mathcal{M}_T^F$  is a Tannakian category,

$\mathcal{H}_\bullet^F$  (graded) - Hopf algebra of framed objects,

$\mathcal{L}_\bullet^F$  = Lie coalgebra of indecomposables:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{H} / \mathcal{H}_{\geq 0} \cdot \mathcal{H}_{\geq 0}$$

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Elements of  $\mathcal{H}_F$  are

"periods of motives of mixed Tate type".

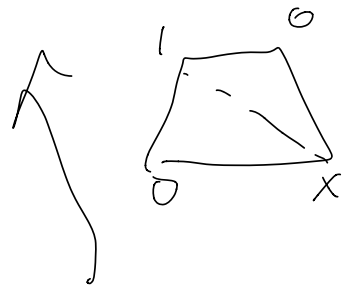
The main ingredient we need is the coproduct.

$$\Delta : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \wedge^2 \mathcal{L}.$$

### Examples:

1)  $\Delta(\langle i_2(x) \rangle) = \log(x) \wedge \log(1-x)$

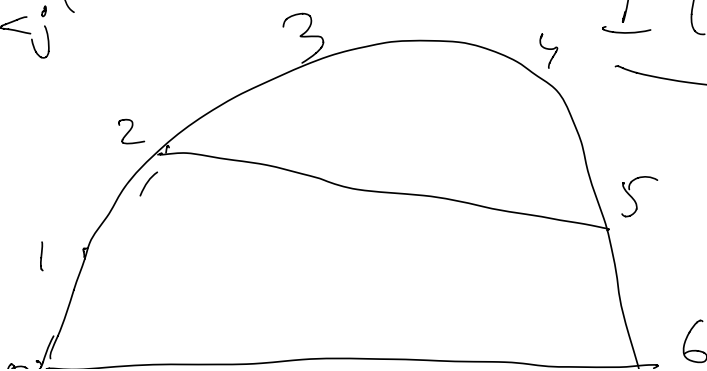
2)  $\mathbb{I}(0, 1, 0; x)$



$$\Delta(\mathbb{I}(\underline{a_0}, a_1, \dots, a_m, \underline{a_{m+1}})) =$$

$$= \sum_{i < j} \mathbb{I}(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_i, a_j, \dots, a_{m+1}) \wedge$$

$$\mathbb{I}(a_i, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_j)$$



$i = 2$
$j = 5$

Quite surprisingly,  
 the coproduct for  
 $H(\text{ort}(x_0, \dots, x_{2n+1}))$  is given  
 by the same formula!

But the motives are very different:

$$\underline{I(x_0, x_1, x_2) = \log\left(\frac{x_1 - x_2}{x_1 - x_0}\right)}$$

vs

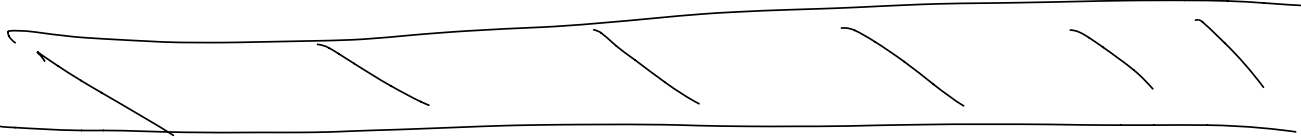
$$\underline{\text{ort}(x_0, x_1, x_2) = 0}$$

$$\underline{I(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3) = \text{Li}_{1,1}\left(\frac{x_2 - x_0}{x_1 - x_0}, \frac{x_3 - x_0}{x_2 - x_0}\right)}$$

vs

$$\underline{\text{ort}(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3) = \log\left(\frac{1 + \sqrt{[x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]}}{1 - \sqrt{[x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]}}\right)}$$

And so on,



The goal is to  
find a linear combination  
of multiple polylogarithms  
with coproduct matching  
that for orthoschemes.



Example: ( $\mathbb{H}^3$  compare to Lobachevsky)

$$\text{Vol}(\text{ort}(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5)) =$$

$$= \sum_{\pm} \left( \angle_{i,j} \left( \sqrt{[0,3,4,5]}, \sqrt{[0,1,2,3]} \right) \right)$$

signs of  
square  
roots

$$- \angle_{i,j} \left( \sqrt{[0,1,4,5]}, \sqrt{[0,2,3,4]} \right)$$

$$+ \angle_{i,j} \left( \sqrt{[0,1,2,5]}, \sqrt{[2,3,4,5]} \right)$$

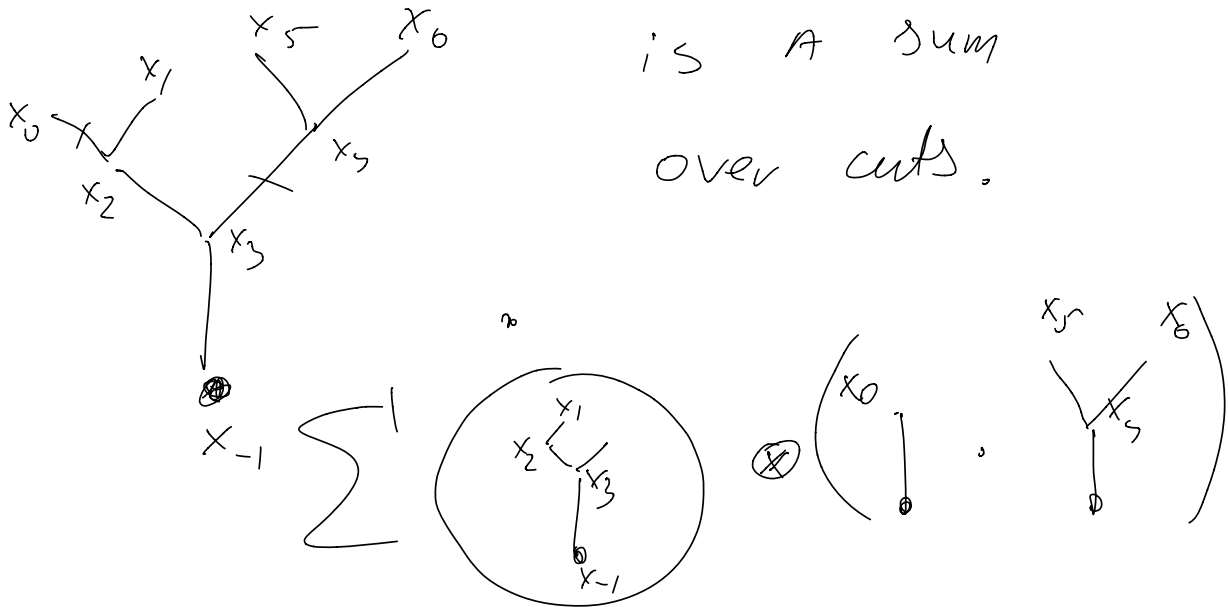
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# Formula for a general orthoscheme.

Consider Connes - Kreimer

Hopf algebra of rooted trees  $\mathcal{T}^F$  labelled by  $x_i \in F$ .

Coproduct is a sum over cuts.



One can define a map  $\underline{Li}$

$\underline{\mathbb{F}}$  to the Hopf algebra  
of mixed Tate motives.

$$x \xrightarrow{\underline{Li}} Li_1(x) = \underline{-\log(1-x)}$$

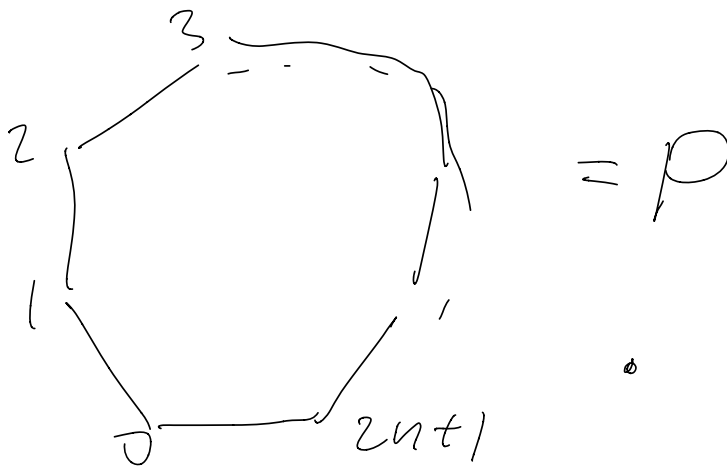
$$\begin{array}{c} y \\ \downarrow \\ x \end{array} \xrightarrow{\underline{Li}} Li_1(x, y)$$

etc., using the  
universal property of

$\underline{\mathbb{F}}$ .

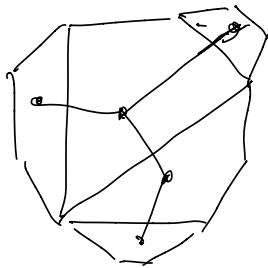
$$\underline{x_0, \dots, x_{2n+1} \in \mathbb{P}^1.}$$

Consider a polygon



Let  $Q(P)$  - set of  
quadrangulations.

$D \in Q(P) \rightsquigarrow T_D$  - dual



tree of the  
quadrangulation

marked by  
square roots  
of cross ratios.

Then

$$\text{Vol}(\mathbb{Z}_D) = \sum_{\pm} \left( \sum_{D \in Q(P)} \underline{L^i(\mathbb{Z}_D)} \right)$$

signs  
of

square  
roots

If one takes away  
the signs and uses  
cross-ratios instead  
of their square roots,  
the same formula gives  
a formula for  $Q_{L_{n,k}}$ ,  
which is used in the  
proof of the depth  
conjecture.