Precision Phenomenology and Collider Physics

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$\textbf{Collider-physics} \equiv \textbf{perturbative QCD}$

1. Precise predictions for hard *pp* processes involving "standard particles" like W, Z, jets, top, Higgs

NNLO partonic cross sections

- few particles, but high order

2. Predictions for multiparticle final states that occur at a high rate and form background to New Physics

New methods for computing tree-amplitudes

- many particles, but low order

1. Precise Predictions

Hard processes in perturbative QCD

Example: inclusive deep-inelastic scattering (DIS)



Kinematic variables $Q^2 = -q^2$ $x = Q^2/(2P \cdot q)$ Lowest order : $x = \xi$

Structure functions F_a [up to $\mathcal{O}(1/Q^2)$]

$$F_{a}^{p}(x,Q^{2}) = \sum_{i} \left[c_{a,i}(\alpha_{s}(\mu^{2}),\mu^{2}/Q^{2}) \otimes f_{i}^{p}(\mu^{2}) \right](x)$$

Coefficient functions $c_{a,i}$, renormalization/factorization scale μ

Hard processes in perturbative QCD

Parton distributions f_i : evolution equations

$$\frac{d}{d\ln\mu^2} f_i(\xi,\mu^2) = \sum_k \left[P_{ik}(\alpha_s(\mu^2)) \otimes f_k(\mu^2) \right](\xi)$$

Initial conditions incalculable in pert. QCD.

Splitting functions P, Coefficient functions c_a

$$P = \alpha_s P^{(0)} + \alpha_s^2 P^{(1)} + \alpha_s^3 P^{(2)} + \dots$$
$$c_a = \alpha_s^{n_a} \left[c_a^{(0)} + \alpha_s c_a^{(1)} + \alpha_s^2 c_a^{(2)} + \dots \right]$$

NLO: standard approximation NNLO: new emerging standard

Moch, Vermaseren, Vogt

The running coupling in perturbative QCD

$$d\alpha_s/d\ln\mu^2 = -\beta_0 \,\alpha_s^2 \,-\beta_1 \,\alpha_s^3 \,-\beta_2 \,\alpha_s^4 \,-\beta_3 \,\alpha_s^5 \,-\ldots$$

Four-loop coeff.:



Parton evolution from HERA to LHC

Kinematics: parton momenta $\xi_{-} < \xi < 1$ probed



HERA \rightarrow **LHC**: Q^2 evolution across up to three orders of magnitude

Parton evolution at large x

 $A(N) = \int_0^1 dx \ x^{N-1} A(x) \ . \qquad \text{Non-singlet:} \ u + \bar{u} - (d + \bar{d}) \ \text{etc}$



Moch, Vermaseren, Vogt

Parton evolution at large x

 $A(N) = \int_0^1 dx \, x^{N-1} A(x) \,. \qquad \text{Non-singlet: } u + \bar{u} - (d + \bar{d}) \text{ etc}$



Moch, Vermaseren, Vogt Perturbative expansion very benign: expect < 1% beyond NNLO

Parton evolution at small \boldsymbol{x}

Scale derivatives of quark and gluon distributions at $Q^2 \approx 30$ GeV²



Moch, Vermaseren, Vogt

Parton evolution at small \boldsymbol{x}

Scale derivatives of quark and gluon distributions at $Q^2 \approx 30$ GeV²



Expansion very stable except for very small momenta $x \lesssim 10^{-4}$

Higgs boson production at the LHC



Higgs boson production at the LHC



Total cross section

Harlander, Kilgore; Anastasiou, Melnikov, Petriello; ...

Fully differential

Anastasiou, Melnikov, Petriello

NNLO needed for reliable predictions

Gauge boson production at the LHC



Gauge boson production at the LHC



Gold-plated process

Anastasiou, Dixon, Melnikov, Petriello

NNLO perturbative accuracy better than 1% ⇒ use to determine parton-parton luminosities at the LHC

Jet production at NNLO

 pp → jet+X requires matrix elements for

 2 → 2 at two-loops, 2 → 3 at one-loop and 2 → 4 at
 tree-level

 Two-loop amplitudes solved in past five years thanks to

Smirnov, Tausk

Techniques for handling infrared singularities Phase-space sector decomposition

Binoth, Heinrich; Anastasiou, Melnikov, Petriello

Subtraction terms

Kosower; Weinzierl; Gehrmann-De Ridder, Gehrmann + NG; ...

✓ First NNLO results for jets in e^+e^- annihilation Leading jet energy distribution in $e^+e^- \rightarrow 2$ jets

Anastasiou, Melnikov, Petriello

 C_F^3 part of first moment of Thrust distribution

Gehrmann-De Ridder, Gehrmann-Phenomenology and Collider Physics - p.16

2. Multiparticle Production

Multiparticle production

In many cases the backgrounds to New Physics are standard model multiparticle final states

 \Rightarrow Whole raft of automated tree-level packages for generating cross section

e.g. MadEvent, ALPGEN, HELAC/PHEGAS, CompHEP, GRACE, ...

Example: Multi-jet production at the LHC using HELAC/PHEGAS Draggiotis, Kleiss, Papadopoloulos

# of jets	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
# of dist.processes	10	14	28	36	64	78	130
total # of processes	126	206	621	861	1862	2326	4342
$\sigma(nb)$	-	91.41	6.54	0.458	0.030	0.0022	0.00021
% Gluonic	-	45.7	39.2	35.7	35.1	33.8	26.6

Sizeable cross sections for multi-jet events

Large uncertainty since $\sigma(n \text{ jets}) \sim \alpha_s^n$

Multiparticle production

The number of tree Feynman diagrams for an n gluon process increases very quickly with n

n	diagrams	
4	4	
5	25	
6	220	
7	2485	
8	34300	
9	559405	
10	10525900	

⇒ Feynman diagram evaluation is very inefficient for many legs
 too many diagrams, terms per diagram, kinematic variables

Insight from Twistor Space

In a recent paper Witten made a striking proposal to relate perturbative gauge theory amplitudes to topological string theory in twistor space

Witten, hep-th/0312171

⇒ Advance in calculating tree amplitudes in massless gauge theories:

Cachazo, Svrcek and Witten, hep-th/0403047

Amplitudes constructed from scalar propagators and tree-level maximal helicity violating (MHV) amplitudes which are interpreted as new scalar vertices

⇒ New type of on-shell recursion relations

Britto, Cachazo and Feng, hep-th/0412308

 $\Rightarrow \quad \text{Recent developments in computing one-loop amplitudes in} \\ \mathcal{N} = 4 \text{ SuperYang Mills theory (as well as } \mathcal{N} = 1 \text{ and} \\ \text{maybe even QCD)} \quad \text{Precision Phenomenolog}$

Colour Ordered Amplitudes

$$\mathcal{A}_n(1,\ldots,n) = \sum_{perms} Tr(T^{a_1}\ldots T^{a_n})A_n(1,\ldots,n)$$

Colour-stripped amplitudes A_n : cyclically ordered permutations

Order of external gluons fixed

The subamplitudes A_n are(a) gauge invariant(b) have nice properties in the infrared limits.



Can reconstruct the full amplitude A_n from A_n . In the large N limit,

$$|\mathcal{A}_n(1,\ldots,n)|^2 \sim N^{n-2}(N^2-1) \sum_{perms} |A_n(1,\ldots,n)|^2$$

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Colour Ordered Feynman Rules





i.e. 10 diagrams rather than 25

Power of colour ordering

n	diagrams	colour ordered diagrams
4	4	3
5	25	10
6	220	36
7	2485	133
8	34300	501
9	559405	1991
10	10525900	7335

 \Rightarrow Big reduction in number of diagrams

but still too many diagrams

Spinor for a massless fermion, momentum p:

$$p u(p) = 0,$$
 $|p \pm \rangle = u_{\pm}(p) = \frac{1}{2} (1 \pm \gamma_5) u(p)$

Spinor products:

$$\langle ij \rangle = \langle p_i - |p_j + \rangle = \overline{u_-(p_i)}u_+(p_j)$$

$$[ij] = \langle p_i + |p_j - \rangle = \overline{u_+(p_i)}u_-(p_j)$$



Dot products

$$s_{ij} = (p_i + p_j)^2 = 2 p_i \cdot p_j = \langle ij \rangle [ji]$$

Polarisation vector for a massless gauge boson, momentum p:

$$\epsilon^{\pm}_{\mu}(p,\eta) = \pm \frac{\langle p \pm |\gamma_{\mu}|\eta \pm \rangle}{\sqrt{2} \langle \eta \mp |p \pm \rangle}$$

Easy to show that:

 $\epsilon^{\pm} \cdot \epsilon^{\pm *} = -1, \qquad p \cdot \epsilon(p, \eta) = 0, \qquad \epsilon^{\pm} \cdot \epsilon^{\mp *} = 0.$

 \square η is a light-like axial gauge vector

$$\sum \epsilon_{\mu}^{\pm}(p,\eta)\epsilon_{\nu}^{\pm}(p,\eta) = -g_{\mu\nu} + \frac{p_{\mu}\eta_{\nu} + p_{\nu}\eta_{\mu}}{p\cdot\eta}$$

amplitudes are η independent sensible choice kills many diagrams

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In Weyl (chiral) representation, each helicity state is represented by a bi-spinor (a = 1, 2)

$$u_{+}(p) = \lambda_{pa}, \qquad u_{-}(p) = \tilde{\lambda}_{p}^{\dot{a}},$$
$$\overline{u_{+}(p)} = \tilde{\lambda}_{p\dot{a}}, \qquad \overline{u_{-}(p)} = \lambda_{p}^{a}$$

so that

We can write massless vector

$$p_{a\dot{a}} \equiv p_{\mu}\sigma^{\mu}_{a\dot{a}} = \lambda_{pa}\tilde{\lambda}_{p\dot{a}}$$

 \checkmark Polarisation vectors for particle *i*:

$$\varepsilon_{ia\dot{a}}^{-} = \frac{\lambda_{ia}\tilde{\eta}_{\dot{a}}}{[\tilde{\lambda}_i\tilde{\eta}]}, \qquad \varepsilon_{ia\dot{a}}^{+} = \frac{\eta_a\tilde{\lambda}_{i\dot{a}}}{\langle\eta\lambda_i\rangle}$$

For real momenta in Minkowski space,

$$\tilde{\lambda} = \lambda^*$$

✓ For space-time signature
$$(+, +, -, -)$$
, $\tilde{\lambda}$, λ are real and independent

Amplitudes are functions of the λ_i and $\tilde{\lambda}_i$

Recursion relations

Full amplitudes can be built up from simpler amplitudes with fewer particles



Purple gluons are off-shell, green gluons are on-shell. This is a recursion relation built from off-shell currents.

Berends, Giele

Particularly suited to numerical solution

ALPGEN, HELAC/PHEGAS



Each row describes scattering with n_+ positive helicities and n_- negative helicities.

Each circle represents an allowed helicity configuration - from all positive on the right to all negative on the left

For example, the result of computing the 25 diagrams for the five-gluon process yields

$$A_{5}(1^{\pm}, 2^{+}, 3^{+}, 4^{+}, 5^{+}) = 0$$

$$A_{5}(1^{-}, 2^{-}, 3^{+}, 4^{+}, 5^{+}) = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^{4}}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle \langle 51 \rangle}$$

In fact, for *n* point amplitudes,

$$A_n(1^{\pm}, 2^+, 3^+, \dots, n^+) = 0$$

$$A_n(1^-, 2^-, 3^+, \dots, n^+) = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^4}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \cdots \langle n1 \rangle}$$

Maximally helicity violating (MHV) amplitudes

Parke, Taylor; Berends, Giele



$$A_n(1^{\pm}, 2^+, 3^+, \dots, n^+) = 0$$

effective tree-level supersymmetry



Specific helicity amplitudes

For phenomenological purposes, all possible helicity amplitudes are needed - and which are usually much more complicated. For example, the 220 six gluon diagrams contributing to NMHV amplitudes (3- and 3+ helicities) can be written as

$$A_{6} = 8g^{4} \left[\frac{\alpha^{2}}{s_{123}s_{12}s_{23}s_{34}s_{45}s_{56}} + \frac{\beta^{2}}{s_{234}s_{23}s_{34}s_{45}s_{56}s_{61}} + \frac{\gamma^{2}}{s_{345}s_{34}s_{45}s_{56}s_{61}s_{12}} + \frac{s_{123}\beta\gamma + s_{234}\gamma\alpha + s_{345}\alpha\beta}{s_{12}s_{23}s_{34}s_{45}s_{56}s_{61}} \right]$$

where for $A_6(1^-, 2^-, 3^-, 4^+, 5^+, 6^+)$,

 $\alpha = 0, \qquad \beta = \langle 23 \rangle [56] \langle 4 | \mathbf{2} + \mathbf{3} | 1 \rangle, \qquad \gamma = \langle 12 \rangle [45] \langle 6 | \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{2} | 3 \rangle,$

Hidden structure is uncovered in twistor space

Twistor Space

Twistor space:

Penrose, 1967

Amplitudes in twistor space obtained by Fourier transform with respect to positive helicity spinors,

$$\tilde{A}(\lambda_i, \mu_{\dot{i}}) = \int \prod_i \frac{d^2 \tilde{\lambda}_i}{(2\pi)^2} \exp\left(i \sum_j \mu_j^{\dot{a}} \tilde{\lambda}_{j\dot{a}}\right) A(\lambda_i, \tilde{\lambda}_i)$$

Witten observed that in twistor space external points lie on certain algebraic curves → degree of curve is related to the number of negative helicities and loops

 $d = n_{-} - 1 + l$

Twistor Space



MHV rules

Start from MHV amplitude and define off-shell vertices Cachazo, Svrcek and Witten

$$V(1^{-}, 2^{-}, 3^{+}, \dots, n^{+}, P^{+}) = \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^{4}}{\langle 12 \rangle \cdots \langle n-1n \rangle \langle nP \rangle \langle P1 \rangle} \qquad \xrightarrow{P+} \qquad \xrightarrow{1-} 3+$$

and
$$V(1^{-}, 2^{+}, 3^{+}, \dots, n^{+}, P^{-}) = \frac{\langle 1P \rangle^{4}}{\langle 12 \rangle \cdots \langle n-1n \rangle \langle nP \rangle \langle P1 \rangle} \qquad \xrightarrow{P-} \qquad \xrightarrow{3+} 3+$$

Crucial step is off-shell continuation $P^2 \neq 0$:

$$\langle iP \rangle = \frac{\langle i^- |P|\eta^- \rangle}{[P\eta]} = \sum_j \frac{\langle i^- |j|\eta^- \rangle}{[P\eta]}$$

where $P = \sum_{j} j$ and η is lightlike auxiliary vector

n+

MHV rules

Must connect up a positive helicity off-shell line with a negative helicity off-shell line



Connecting two MHV's \Rightarrow amplitude with 3 negative helicities Connecting three MHV's \Rightarrow amplitude with 4 negative helicities etc.

As an example, lets use the MHV rules to calculate one of the first non-MHV amplitudes

$$A_6(1^-, 2^-, 3^-, 4^+, 5^+, 6^+)$$

Step 1 Draw all the allowed MHV diagrams

There are six MHV graphs



Some graphs are not allowed e.g.



As an example, lets use the MHV rules to calculate one of the first non-MHV amplitudes

 $A_6(1^-, 2^-, 3^-, 4^+, 5^+, 6^+)$

Step 1 Draw all the allowed MHV diagramsStep 2 Apply MHV rules to each diagram

Example: six gluon scattering: diagram 1



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Example: six gluon scattering: diagram 2



As an example, lets use the MHV rules to calculate one of the first non-MHV amplitudes

 $A_6(1^-, 2^-, 3^-, 4^+, 5^+, 6^+)$

Step 1 Draw all the allowed MHV diagrams

- Step 2 Apply MHV rules to each diagram
- Step 3 Add up diagrams and check η independence

Next-to MHV amplitude for *n* **gluons**

Simplest case: $A_n(1^-, 2^-, 3^-, 4^+, \dots, n^+)$ 2(n-3) graphs

Cachazo, Svrcek and Witten



where $(k, i) = k + \cdots + i$ and the off-shell continuation is suppressed

 \rightarrow Lorentz invariant and gauge invariant expressions

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Generating all the tree amplitudes

Amplitudes with i- and j+ helicities



 MHV rules always adds one negative helicity and any number of positive helicities
 maps out all allowed tree amplitudes

Other processes

MHV rules have been generalised to many other processes

with massless fermions - quarks, gluinos

Georgiou and Khoze; Wu and Zhu; Georgiou, EWNG and Khoze

with massless scalars - squarks

Georgiou, EWNG and Khoze; Khoze

with an external Higgs boson

Dixon, EWNG, Khoze; Badger, EWNG, Khoze

 $\sqrt{}$ with an external weak boson

Bern, Forde, Kosower and Mastrolia

Has provided new results for *n*-particle amplitudes Also useful for studying infrared properties of amplitudes Birthwright, EWNG, Khoze and Marquard

Processes with fermions

Similar colour decomposition

$$\mathcal{A}_n(1,\ldots,\Lambda_r,\Lambda_s,\ldots,n) = \sum_{perms} (T^{a_1}\ldots T^{a_n})_{r,s} \mathcal{A}_n(\Lambda_r,1,\ldots,n,\Lambda_s)$$

MHV amplitude with 2 fermions and n-2 gluons

$$A_n(g_t^-, \Lambda_r^-, \Lambda_s^+) = \frac{\langle tr \rangle^3 \langle ts \rangle}{\prod_{i=1}^n \langle i \ i+1 \rangle}$$

MHV amplitude with 4 fermions and n-4 gluons

$$A_n(\Lambda_r^-, \Lambda_s^+, \Lambda_t^-, \Lambda_u^+) = \frac{\langle rt \rangle^3 \langle su \rangle}{\prod_{i=1}^n \langle i \ i+1 \rangle}$$

⇒ similar scalar graph construction for fermionic amplitudes Georgiou and Khoze; Wu and Zhu; Georgiou, EWNG and Khoze

Recursive MHV amplitudes

As the number of negative helicity legs grows, the number of MHV diagrams grows → Use previously computed on-shell NMHV amplitudes as building blocks for recursion relation

Bena, Bern and Kosower



connected by same off-shell continuation as before. Each blob is an amplitude with fewer particles and fewer negative helicities.

 \Rightarrow easily programmed

BCF recursion relations

Based on experience with one-loop amplitudes, Britto, Cachazo and Feng proposed a new set of on-shell recursion relations



Britto, Cachazo and Feng Britto, Cachazo, Feng and Witten

hatted momenta are shifted to put on-shell

$$\hat{i} = i + z\eta, \qquad \hat{j} = j - z\eta, \qquad \hat{P} = P + z\eta$$

 \Rightarrow each vertex is an on-shell amplitude

BCF recursion relations

It turns out that the shift η is not a momentum, but

$$\eta = \lambda_i \tilde{\lambda}_j \qquad OR \qquad \eta = \lambda_j \tilde{\lambda}_i$$

 \checkmark The parameter z is given by

$$z = \frac{P^2}{\langle jPi]}$$

- Easy to prove that recursion relation is valid using complex analysis
- Requires on-shell three-point vertex contributions both MHV and $\overline{\mathrm{MHV}}$.

BCF - six gluon example

If we select 3 and 4 to be the special gluons, there are only three diagrams (for any helicities)



For this helicity assignment, the middle one is zero!. $A_6(1^-, 2^-, 3^-, 4^+, 5^+, 6^+)$

$$=\frac{1}{\langle 5|\not\!\!3+\not\!\!4|2\rangle}\left(\frac{\langle 1|\not\!\!2+\not\!\!3|4\rangle^3}{[23][34]\langle 56\rangle\langle 61\rangle s_{234}}+\frac{\langle 3|\not\!\!4+\not\!\!5|6\rangle^3}{[61][12]\langle 34\rangle\langle 45\rangle s_{345}}\right)$$

Extremely compact (and correct) results for up to 8 gluons

Other processes

BCF recursion relations have been generalised to other processes

 \checkmark with massless fermions - quarks, gluinos

Luo and Wen

 $\sqrt{}$ gravitons

Bedford, Brandhuber, Spence and Travaglini; Cachazo and Svrcek

There is nothing (in principle) to stop this approach being applied to particles with mass.

One loop amplitudes

- So far, supersymmetry was not a major factor tree level amplitudes same for $\mathcal{N} = 4$ $\mathcal{N} = 1$ and QCD
- Not true at the loop level due to circulating states

$$\begin{aligned} A_n^{\mathcal{N}=4} &= A_n^{[1]} + 4A_n^{[1/2]} + 3A_n^{[0]} \\ A_n^{\mathcal{N}=1,chiral} &= A_n^{[1/2]} + A_n^{[0]} \\ A_n^{glue} &= A_n^{\mathcal{N}=4} - 4A_n^{\mathcal{N}=1,chiral} + A_n^{[0]} \end{aligned}$$

- All plus and nearly all-plus amplitudes do not vanish for non-supersymmetric QCD
- A lot of progress by a lot of people

SUSY QCD loops

 $\sqrt{ \mathcal{N} = 4 } and \mathcal{N} = 1 one-loop amplitudes are constructible$ from their 4-dimensional cuts $<math>\Rightarrow$ employ unitarity techniques

Bern, Dixon, Dunbar, Kosower

 \checkmark For $\mathcal{N} = 4$ all amplitudes are a linear combination of known box integrals



Twistor space interpretation

Coefficients of boxes have very interesting structures.

Bern, Del Duca, Dixon, Kosower; Britto, Cachazo, Feng



Twistor space interpretation

Four mass box first appears in eight-point amplitude with four negative and four positive helicities

Bern, Dixon, Kosower



QCD loops

QCD amplitudes more complicated

- (a) Not 4-dimensional cut constructible. Rational function contribution not probed by 4-d cut
- (b) All plus and almost all plus amplitudes not zero but rational functions. Not protected by SWI.

Nevertheless, all four-point and five-point amplitudes known: Recent progress

 On-shell recurrence relations for all plus and almost all plus amplitudes

Bern, Dixon and Kosower

Recursion relations complicated by double pole terms and boundary terms

Scalar six-point NMHV amplitudes

Bidder, Bjerrum-Bohr, Dunbar and Perkins

Computed parts of six-point QCD amplitudes that are obtainable using 4-dimensional cut constructibility

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Summary - Precise predictions

Last few years has seen substantial progress in pQCD NNLO pQCD for collider phenomenology is becoming new standard

- Inclusive DIS coefficient functions completed
- Unpolarised three-loop splitting functions completed
- Differential distributions for Higgs and gauge bosons completed
- NNLO Jet cross sections on horizon for e^+e^- and then pp/ep
- NNLO heavy quarks still a long way away

Summary - New rules for tree-level amplitudes

MHV rules

Cachazo, Svrcek and Witten

- New way of computing amplitudes with gluons and massless quarks
- \checkmark Higgs coupling to massless quarks and gluons

Dixon, EWNG, Khoze; Badger, EWNG, Khoze

 \checkmark Vector bosons coupling to massless quarks

Bern, Forde, Kosower and Mastrolia

BCF recursion relations

Britto, Cachazo and Feng; Britto, Cachazo, Feng and Witten

 \checkmark Extended to quarks

Luo and Wen



Bedford, Brandhuber, Travaglini, Spence; Cachazo, Svrcek

Summary - New rules for one-loop amplitudes

 $\checkmark \mathcal{N} = 4 \text{ amplitudes}$

almost at the point where coefficients of boxes can be read off - using quadruple cuts and holomorphic anomaly

Britto, Cachazo and Feng

⇒ All NMHV amplitudes

Bern, Dixon and Kosower

- \checkmark $\mathcal{N}=1$ MHV amplitudes and 6-point NMHV amplitudes
- \checkmark Application to one-loop gravity

Bern, Bjerrum-Bohr, Dunbar

? QCD amplitudes

Bedford, Brandhuber, Spence and Travaglini; Bern, Dixon and Kosower; Bidder, Bjerrum-Bohr, Dunbar and Perkins

A very exciting and rapidly developing field Expect more important results soon