

Recent progress in intersection theory for Feynman integrals decomposition

Seva Chestnov



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI PADOVA



Based on joined work with:

Hjalte Frellesvig, Federico Gasparotto, Manoj Mandal, Pierpaolo Mastrolia, Henrik Munch

[2209.01997]

Mainz
September 13, 2022

1 Introduction

2 Intersection theory

3 Iterative method

4 n PDE method

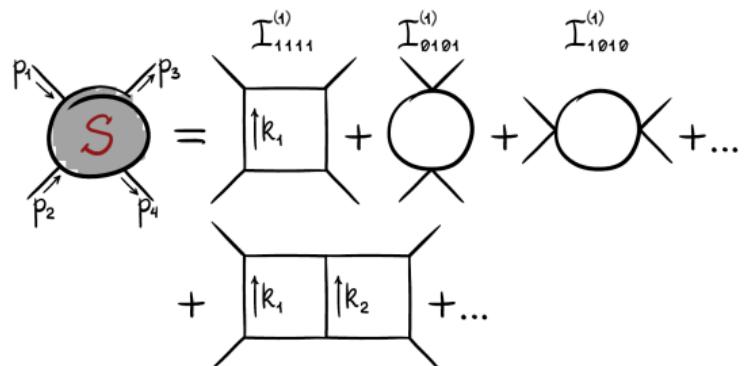
5 Conclusions

Introduction

Feynman integrals

$$\mathcal{I}_{a_1 \dots a_n}^{(\ell)}(p_1, \dots, p_{E+1}) = \int \prod_{j=1}^{\ell} d^d k_j \frac{1}{\mathcal{D}_1^{a_1} \dots \mathcal{D}_n^{a_n}}$$

1. E independent external momenta
2. Exponents $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}$
3. Dimensional regularization: $d = 4 - 2\varepsilon$
4. \mathcal{D}_i is either propagator or scalar product:
e.g. $k^2 - m^2$ or $k \cdot p$
5. Number of factors $n = \ell(\ell + 1)/2 + E\ell$



Integration by Parts Identities (IBP)

Linear relations among Feynman integrals ~ 40 years and many applications:

[Tkachov] [Chetyrkin
Tkachov] [Kotikov] [Remiddi] [Laporta] [Gehrmann
Remiddi] [Henn] [Papadopoulos] ...

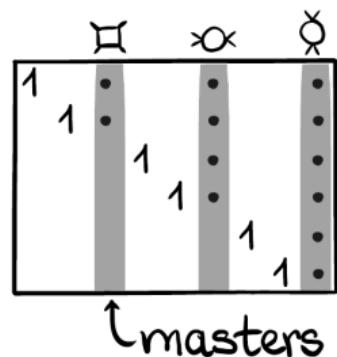
$$0 = \int d^d k_j \frac{\partial}{\partial k_j^\mu} \left(v^\mu \frac{1}{\mathcal{D}_1^{a_1} \dots \mathcal{D}_n^{a_n}} \right), \quad \text{for some } v^\mu = v^\mu(p, k)$$

Decompose \mathcal{I} in terms of a finite set of master integrals.

“Laporta algorithm”: row reduction of a big linear system. [Laporta]

Some questions:

- What is the number of master integrals?
- How to compute the decomposition coefficients?
- Can we avoid row reductions of huge systems?



Baikov representation

Parametric representation of Feynman integrals:

[Baikov]

$$\mathcal{I} = \int \prod_{j=1}^{\ell} d^d k_j \frac{1}{\mathcal{D}_1^{a_1} \dots \mathcal{D}_n^{a_n}} \implies \int_{\mathcal{C}} \mathcal{B}(z)^{\gamma} \frac{d^n z}{z_1^{a_1} \dots z_n^{a_n}}$$

Features:

1. $d^n z := dz_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dz_n$
2. Baikov polynomial $\mathcal{B}(z) \in \mathbb{C}[z, p_i \cdot p_j]$
3. $\gamma = (d - \ell - E - 1)/2 \in \mathbb{C} \implies \mathcal{B}^{\gamma}$ is multivalued!
4. Integration contour $\mathcal{C} \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ such that $\mathcal{B}(\partial \mathcal{C}) = 0$

Intersection theory

Basics of Intersection theory (from “physicist” POV)

$$\mathcal{I} = \int_{\mathcal{C}} u(z) \varphi(z)$$

Twisted cycle $\int_{\mathcal{C}} u(z)$: contour \mathcal{C} & branch of the multivalued $u(z)$

[Cho, Matsumoto] [Matsumoto]

Twisted cocycle: holomorphic n -form $\varphi(z) = \hat{\varphi}(z) dz_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dz_n$

Stokes theorem:

$$0 = \int_{\mathcal{C}} d(u \xi) = \int_{\partial \mathcal{C}} u \xi = \int_{\mathcal{C}} u (d\xi + d \log u \wedge \xi)$$

Covariant derivative: $\nabla_{\omega} := d + \omega \wedge$ and

$$\omega := d \log u$$

Linear relation between integrals:

$$\int_{\mathcal{C}} u \varphi \equiv \int_{\mathcal{C}} u (\varphi + \nabla_{\omega} \xi)$$

Dual integrals are similar: $\mathcal{I} \mapsto \mathcal{I}^{\vee}$, $u \mapsto u^{-1}$, $\nabla_{\omega} \mapsto \nabla_{-\omega}$

A quick example

$${}_2F_1(\alpha - n, \beta, \gamma; x) \approx \int_0^1 \underbrace{z^\alpha (1-z)^\beta (x-z)^\gamma}_{\text{multivalued } u} \underbrace{\frac{dz}{z^n}}_{\text{cocycle } \varphi}$$

De Rham twisted cohomology

Equivalence class of forms: $\langle \varphi \rangle : \varphi \sim \varphi + \nabla_\omega \xi$

Twisted cohomology groups:

[Aomoto]

$$\langle \varphi \rangle \in \mathbb{H}_\omega^n := \{n \text{ forms} \mid \nabla_\omega \varphi = 0\} / \{\nabla_\omega \xi\}$$

Equivalence class of dual forms: $|\psi\rangle : \psi \sim \psi + \nabla_{-\omega} \xi$

Dual twisted cohomology groups:

$$|\psi\rangle \in \mathbb{H}_{-\omega}^n := \{n \text{ forms} \mid \nabla_{-\omega} \psi = 0\} / \{\nabla_{-\omega} \xi\}$$

Also see nice reviews: [MathemAmplitudes'19] [Cacciatori
Conti, Trevisan] [Abreu
Britto, Duhr] [Mathieu's talk
talk on Thursday?]

Features of twisted cohomology

Relates various fields of mathematics to Feynman Integrals.

Many ways to count master integrals m :

0. The number is finite
1. Laporta algorithm
2. Number of critical points $d \log u = \omega = 0$
3. Number of independent cycles
4. Number of independent cocycles $= \dim(\mathbb{H}_{\pm\omega}^n)$
5. Holonomic rank of GKZ system (volumes of polytopes)

[Smirnov
Petukhov]

[Laporta]

[Baikov] [Lee
Pomeransky]

[Bosma, Sogaard
Zhang] [Primo
Tancredi] [Hjalte's talk
on Thursday]

[Mastrolia
Mizera] [FGLMMMM]

[de la Cruz] [Klausen] [2204.12983]

A quick example

$$\int_C u \varphi := \int_0^1 z^\alpha (1-z)^\beta (x-z)^\gamma \frac{dz}{z^n} \approx {}_2F_1(\alpha - n, \beta, \gamma; x)$$

The number of master integrals

$$\omega = d \log u = \left(\frac{\alpha}{z} + \frac{\beta}{1-z} + \frac{\gamma}{x-z} \right) dz = 0 \implies 2 \text{ solutions}$$

Now let's turn to the decomposition coefficients.

Cohomology intersection numbers

Fix contour $\mathcal{C} \implies$ finite dimensional vector space of integrals:

[FGMMMM] [Agostini, Fevola
Sattelberger, Telen]

$$\mathcal{I} = \langle \varphi | \mathcal{C} \rangle = \int_{\mathcal{C}} u \varphi , \quad \mathcal{I}^{\vee} = [\mathcal{C} | \psi \rangle = \int_{\mathcal{C}} u^{-1} \psi$$

Master integrals form basis: $\langle e_{\lambda} |$ for $\lambda \in \{1, \dots, m\}$

Cohomology intersection number = scalar product of integrals:

$$\langle \varphi | \psi \rangle = \frac{1}{(2\pi i)^n} \int_X \iota(\varphi) \wedge \psi \in \mathbb{C}(\varepsilon, p_i \cdot p_j)$$

is a rational function of kinematics and ε . Think of X as $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n \setminus \{\text{singularities}\}$

How to use it?

Master decomposition formula

Allows to directly decompose $\mathcal{I} = \sum_{\lambda=1}^m c_{\lambda} \mathcal{J}_{\lambda}$ in a basis of master integrals $\mathcal{J}_{\lambda} = \langle e_{\lambda} | \mathcal{C} \rangle$

Master decomposition formula:

[Mastrolia
Mizera] [FGLMMMM]

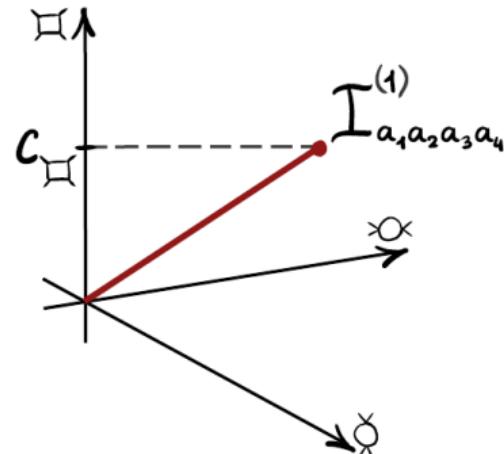
$$\langle \varphi | = \sum_{\lambda=1}^m c_{\lambda} \langle e_{\lambda} | , \quad c_{\lambda} \in \mathbb{C}(\varepsilon, p_i \cdot p_j)$$

The coefficients (independent of $|h_{\mu}\rangle$):

$$c_{\lambda} = \sum_{\mu=1}^m \langle \varphi | h_{\mu} \rangle (C^{-1})_{\mu\lambda} \quad \text{with} \quad C_{\lambda\mu} = \langle e_{\lambda} | h_{\mu} \rangle$$

⇒ learn how to compute $\langle \varphi | \psi \rangle$ first!

Another important connection: diagrammatic coaction



[Abreu, Britto
Duhr, Gardi] [Abreu, Britto
Duhr, Gardi] [Abreu, Britto, Duhr
Gardi, Matthew]

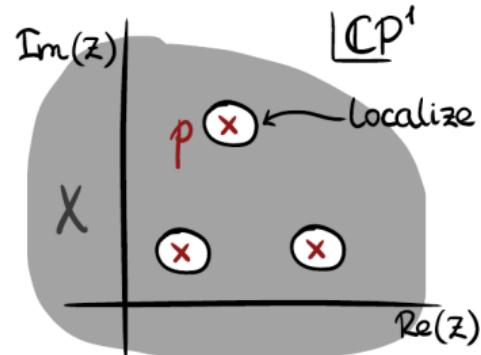
Iterative method

Univariate intersection numbers $n = 1$

Localize on poles of ω (= zeros of u):

[Cho, Matsumoto] [Matsumoto] [Mastrolia
Mizera] [FGLMMMM]

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \varphi | \psi \rangle &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_X \iota(\varphi) \wedge \psi \\ &\equiv \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_X \left(\varphi - \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_\omega} \nabla_\omega (\theta(|z-p|) f_p) \right) \wedge \psi \\ &= \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_\omega} \text{Res}_{z=p} (f_p \psi)\end{aligned}$$



- Integrate over $X = \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{\text{singularities}\}$
- $\mathcal{P}_\omega := \{\text{poles of } \omega\}$, including ∞
- Regulate using local potential $\nabla_\omega f_p \equiv (d + \omega \wedge) f_p = \varphi$ around p

Solving strategies: ansatz vs integral formula

$$\langle \varphi | \psi \rangle = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_\omega} \text{Res}_{z=p} (f_p \psi) , \quad \nabla_\omega f_p = \varphi \quad \text{around } p$$

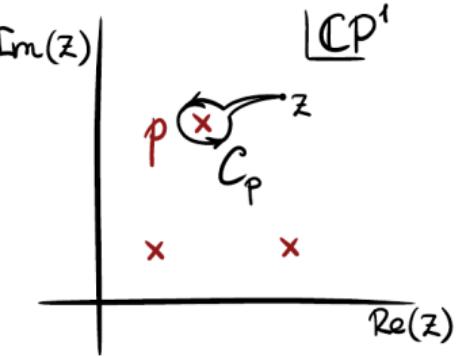
Ansatz $f_p = (z - p)^{\min} f_{p,\min} + \dots + (z - p)^{\max} f_{p,\max} \implies$ solve linear system for $f_{p,n}$

Alternatively, series expand the integral formula:

$$f_p(z) = \frac{1}{(1-\lambda_p)} u(z)^{-1} \int_{C_p} u \varphi = u^{-1} \int_p^z u \varphi$$

Plugging back:

$$\langle \varphi | \psi \rangle = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_\omega} \text{Res}_{z=p} \left(\psi u^{-1} \int_p^z u \varphi \right)$$



A quick example

$$\int_{\mathcal{C}} u \varphi := \int_0^1 z^\alpha (1-z)^\beta (x-z)^\gamma \frac{dz}{z^n} \approx {}_2F_1(\alpha - n, \beta, \gamma; x)$$

Singularities are $\mathcal{P}_\omega = \{0, 1, x, \infty\}$

$$\left\langle dz/z \middle| dz/z^2 \right\rangle = \text{Res}_{z=0} \left(dz/z^2 \ u^{-1} \int_0^z u(t) dt/t \right) + 0 + 0 + 0 = -\frac{\gamma + \beta x}{\alpha(\alpha + 1)x}$$

How? Use series expansion

$$u(z) = z^\alpha (x^\gamma - x^{\gamma-1}(\gamma + \beta x)z + \mathcal{O}(z^2))$$

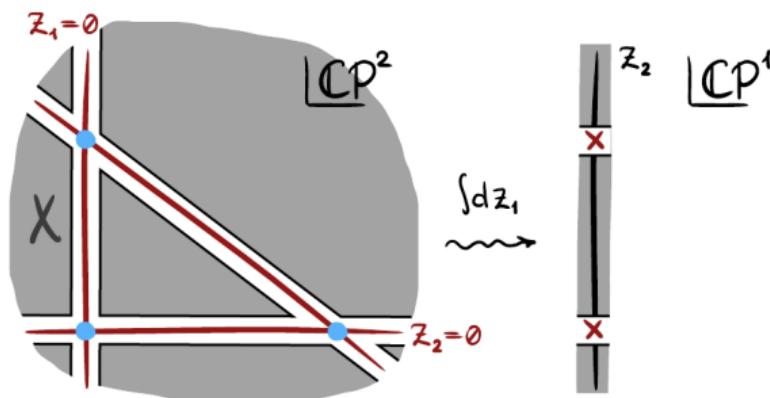
integrate $\int_0^z t^\alpha dt = z^{\alpha+1}/(\alpha + 1)$, and collect the residue terms $\sim z^{-1}$

Multivariate intersection numbers $n > 1$

Recursive method: apply the univariate procedure one variable at a time.

[Ohara] [Mizera] [Mastrolia
Mizera] [FGLMMMM] [Weinzierl]

So given $\varphi(z_1, z_2)$, $\psi(z_1, z_2)$ to compute $\langle \varphi | \psi \rangle \rightsquigarrow$ integrate out z_1 first, then z_2



Multivariate intersection numbers $n > 1$

Pick $\langle e_\lambda |$ and $| h_\mu \rangle$ bases for z_1 -intersections & project φ, ψ onto them:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \varphi | &= \langle e_\lambda | \wedge \langle \varphi_\lambda | , \quad \langle \varphi_\lambda | = \langle \varphi | h_\mu \rangle (C^{-1})_{\mu\lambda} \\ |\psi\rangle &= |h_\mu\rangle \wedge |\psi_\mu\rangle , \quad |\psi_\mu\rangle = (C^{-1})_{\mu\lambda} \langle e_\lambda | \psi \rangle\end{aligned}$$

Integration over z_1 can be seen as insertion of identity operator \mathbb{I}_c :

$$\langle \varphi | \psi \rangle = \underbrace{\langle \varphi | h_\mu \rangle (C^{-1})_{\mu\lambda} \langle e_\lambda |}_{\mathbb{I}_c} \psi \rangle = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_\Omega} \text{Res}_{z_2=p} (f_{p,\lambda} C_{\lambda\mu} \psi_\mu)$$

Requires a local vector potential $\vec{f}_p \equiv f_{p,\lambda}$:

$$\partial_{z_2} \vec{f}_p + \Omega \vec{f}_p = \vec{\varphi} \quad \text{around pole } p , \quad \Omega_{\lambda\nu} := \langle (\partial_{z_2} + \omega_2) e_\lambda | h_\mu \rangle (C^{-1})_{\mu\nu}$$

Solving via ansatz: what to row reduce?

Solve for ρ :

$$\begin{cases} [\partial_z + \Omega] \vec{f} = \vec{\varphi} \\ \rho = \text{Res}_{z=0} (\vec{\psi} \cdot \vec{f}) \end{cases} \quad \begin{aligned} \Omega &= z^{-1} \Omega_{-1} + \Omega_0 + \dots \\ \vec{\varphi} &= z^{-n} \vec{\varphi}_{-n} + \dots, \quad \vec{\psi} = z^{-k} \vec{\varphi}_{-k} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Row reduce to find this element



1	$\vec{\psi}_1^T$	$\vec{\psi}_0^T$	$\vec{\psi}_{-1}^T$	$\vec{\psi}_{-2}^T$	$\vec{\psi}_{-3}^T$	\dots
.	$\Omega_{-1} - 2$	$\vec{\varphi}_{-3}$
.	Ω_0	$\Omega_{-1} - 1$.	.	.	$\vec{\varphi}_{-2}$
.	Ω_1	Ω_0	Ω_{-1}	.	.	$\vec{\varphi}_{-1}$
.	Ω_2	Ω_1	Ω_0	$\Omega_{-1} + 1$.	$\vec{\varphi}_0$
.	Ω_3	Ω_2	Ω_1	Ω_0	$\Omega_{-1} + 2$	$\vec{\varphi}_1$

Nuances and remarks

- The system is triangular and is *much* smaller than in the Laporta algorithm
- If Ω has only simple poles \implies apply the global residue theorem
- Spectral issues: Ω_{-1} may have integer eigenvalues \implies unfixed coefficients
- Higher order poles of Ω (luckily, so far are always Moser-reducible)

[Weinzierl]

Open questions:

- Make use of the relative dual basis
- Ω has simple pole and Ω_{-1} has “good spectrum” \implies integral formula for \vec{f}

[Matsumoto]

[Caron-Huot
Pokraka]

[Caron-Huot
Pokraka]

*n*PDE method

From hyperplane arrangement ...

Consider $u(z_1, z_2) = (z_1 z_2 (z_1 + z_2 - 1))^\gamma$ with singularities along hyperplanes.

[Matsumoto]

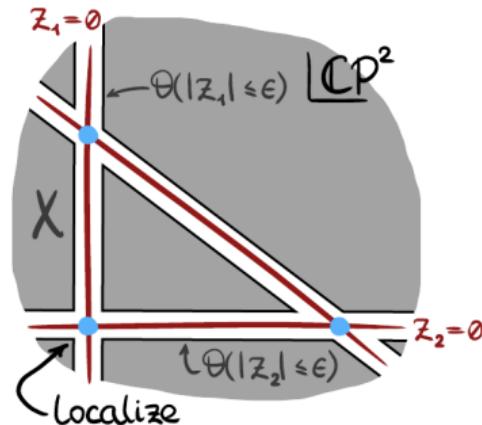
Define three potentials:

$$\nabla(\hat{f}_1 dz_2) = \varphi \quad \text{near } z_1 = 0$$

$$\nabla(\hat{f}_2 dz_1) = \varphi \quad \text{near } z_2 = 0$$

$$\nabla f_{12} = f_1 - f_2 \quad \text{near } z_1 = z_2 = 0$$

$$\langle \varphi | \psi \rangle = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_\omega} \operatorname{Res}_{z_1=p_1} \operatorname{Res}_{z_2=p_2} (f_{12} \psi)$$



Localize on “poles of ω ” (= zeros of u): $\mathcal{P}_\omega := \{\text{intersection points of singularities}\}$
Can we do better than hyperplanes?

... to multivariate residues and n -th order PDE

$$\langle \varphi | \psi \rangle = \int_X \iota(\varphi) \wedge \hat{\psi} \, dz_1 \wedge dz_2$$

where $X = \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2 \setminus \{\text{singularities}\}$ and ι -regulator is:

[Matsumoto]

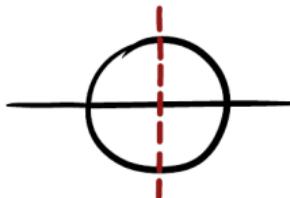
$$\begin{aligned}\iota(\varphi) &= \varphi - \nabla(\theta_1 f_1 + \theta_2(1 - \theta_1)f_2 + \theta_2 d\theta_1 f_{12}) \\ &= \dots - \underbrace{d\theta_1 \wedge d\theta_2}_{\text{gives Res Res}} f_{12}\end{aligned}$$

Define partial derivative $\nabla_i := dz_i \partial_i + \hat{\omega}_i \, dz_i \wedge \rightsquigarrow n\text{PDE}:$

$$\boxed{\nabla_1 \nabla_2 f_{12} = \varphi} \iff [2209.01997]$$

Use f_{12} to localize $\langle \varphi | \psi \rangle$ on intersection points of general singular hypersurfaces.

Sanity check: massless sunrise



$$\rightsquigarrow u(z_1, z_2) = (z_1 z_2 (z_1 + z_2 - s))^\gamma$$

Singular hyperplanes:

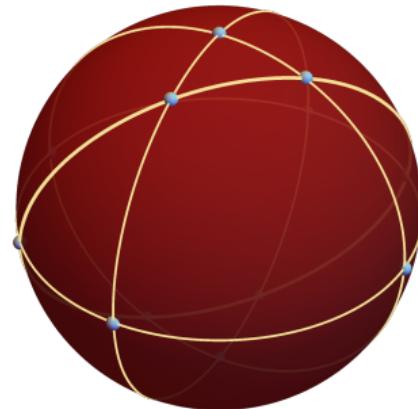
$$\{z_1 = 0, z_2 = 0, z_1 + z_2 - s = 0\}$$

\Rightarrow 6 intersection points in \mathbb{CP}^2

Consider $\varphi = \psi = \frac{dz_1 dz_2}{z_1 z_2} \rightsquigarrow$ residues:

$$\langle \varphi | \psi \rangle = \frac{-1}{3\gamma^2} + \frac{-1}{3\gamma^2} + \frac{1}{\gamma^2} + 0 + 0 + 0 = \frac{1}{3\gamma^2}$$

Reproduce results of the iterative method.



Solving via an ansatz

Consider $p = 0$ contribution to

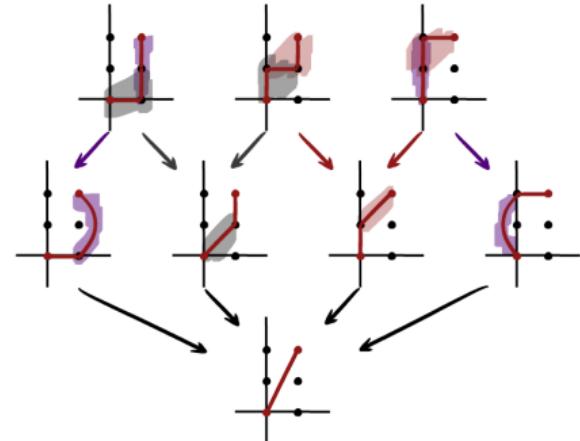
$$\langle \varphi | \psi \rangle = \sum_p \text{Res}_{z=p} (f_p \psi) , \quad \nabla_n \dots \nabla_1 f_p = \varphi$$

Expansions:

$$\varphi = \sum_{i \geq \mu_\varphi} \varphi_i z^i , \quad \psi = \sum_{i \geq \mu_\psi} \psi_i z^i$$

$$w := \log(u) = \sum_{i \geq \mu_w} w_i z^i + \sum_{j=1}^n \gamma_j \log(z_j)$$

\implies explicit rational kernel $Y(h, \tau, \sigma) \in \mathbb{C}(w_i, \gamma_i)$ in



Vector Compositions $\binom{1}{2}$

$$\text{Res}(f_p \psi) = \sum_{\tau=0}^{n\mu_w - \mu_L - \mu_R - 2} \sum_{\sigma \in \text{VC}(\tau)} \sum_{h=\mu_L - n\mu_w + 1}^{-\mu_R - \tau - 1} Y(h, \tau, \sigma) \varphi_{h+n\mu_w - 1} \psi_{-h-\tau-1}$$

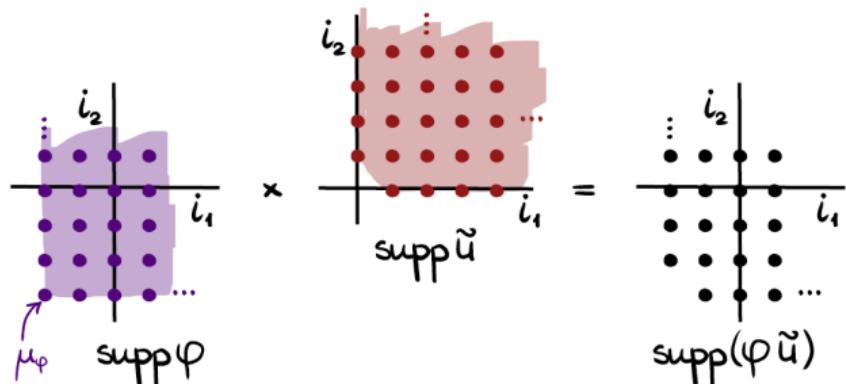
Solving via integral formula

Consider $p = 0$ contribution to

$$\langle \varphi | \psi \rangle = \sum_p \text{Res}_{z=p} (\psi u^{-1} \int_p^z u \varphi)$$

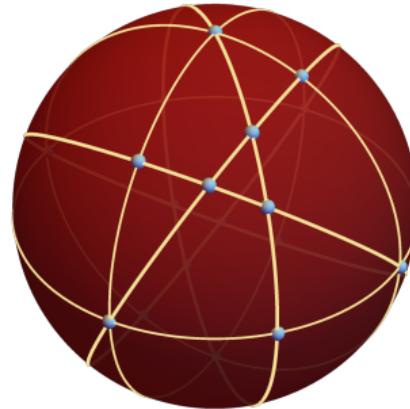
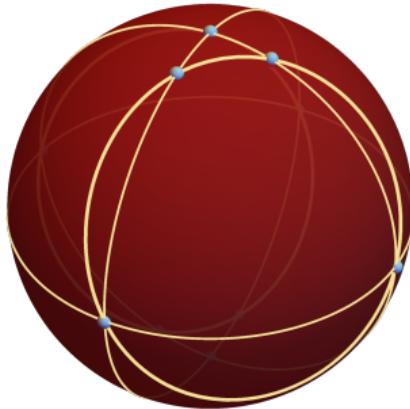
$$\varphi = \sum_{i \geq \mu_\varphi} \varphi_i z^i, \quad \psi = \sum_{i \geq \mu_\psi} \psi_i z^i$$

$$u = z^\gamma (1 + \sum_{i \geq 1} u_i z^i)$$

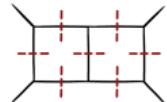


1. Geometric series for u^{-1}
2. Integrate termwise $\int_0^z t^\alpha dt = z^{\alpha+1}/(\alpha+1)$
3. Multiply series expansions
4. Take the residue

Other examples: degenerate intersection points



Double box



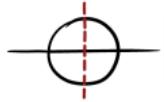
$$u = (z_1 z_2 (st + z_1 z_2 + s(z_1 + z_2)))^\gamma$$

${}_3F_2$ hypergeometric function

$$u = z_1^{\gamma_1} z_2^{\gamma_2} (1 - z_1)^{\gamma_3} (s - z_2)^{\gamma_4} (z_1 - z_2)^{\gamma_5}$$

Points with 3 curves going through \implies resolution of singularities.

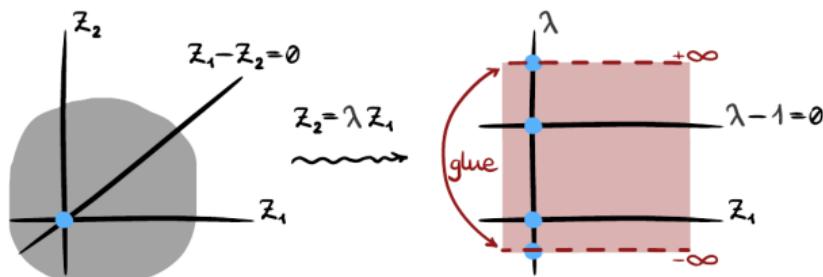
Resolution of singularities


$$\Big|_{\substack{z_1 \rightarrow z_1 + s \\ z_2 \rightarrow -z_2}} = ((z_1 + s)z_2(z_1 - z_2))^\gamma \quad \text{focus on } z = 0$$

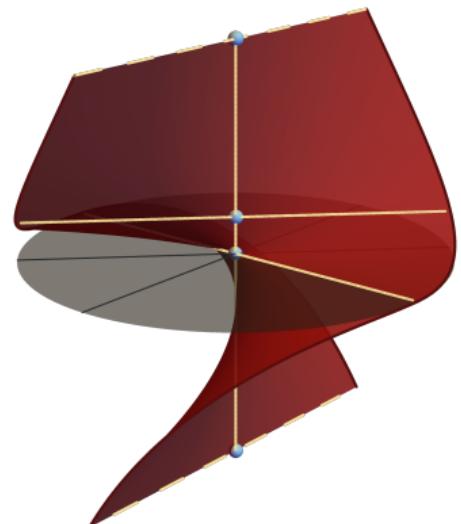
Problem: expansion depends on the order

$$1/(z_1 - z_2) = \begin{cases} -z_2^{-1} - z_1 z_2^{-2} - \dots & \text{first } z_1, \text{ then } z_2 \\ z_1^{-1} + z_1^{-2} z_2 + \dots & \text{first } z_2, \text{ then } z_1 \end{cases}$$

New variable: $z_2 = \lambda z_1 \implies$ new intersection points!



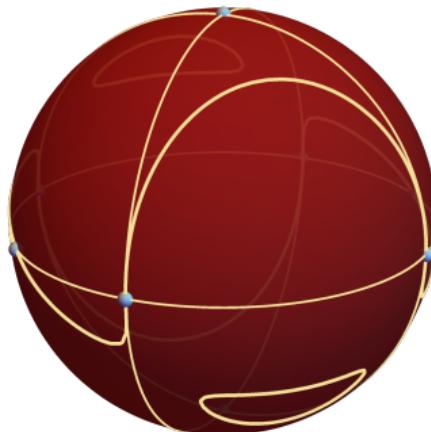
Closely related to sector decomposition $\begin{bmatrix} \text{pySecDec} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \text{Bogner} \\ \text{Weinzierl} \end{bmatrix}$



More examples



Cubic with self-intersection
 $u = (z_1 z_2 (z_1^2 - (1 + z_2) z_2^2))^\gamma$



Equal mass sunrise
 $u = (z_1 z_2 (s^2 - z_1 z_2 (4 + s + z_1 + z_2)))^\gamma$

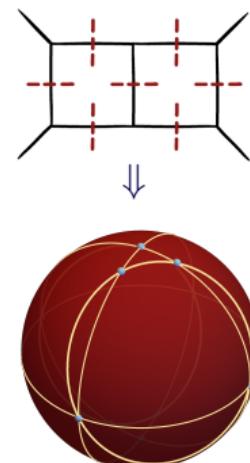
Conclusions

Conclusions

1. Twisted cohomology unites areas of math related to Feynman integrals
2. Intersection number = scalar product \rightsquigarrow direct projection onto basis of master integrals
3. n PDE method:
 - ▶ Localizes on intersection points of singular surfaces
 - ▶ At the moment requires resolution of singularities (sector decomposition)
 - ▶ No ansatz is needed: explicit formulas for residues are available

Outlook:

- Avoid resolution of singularities somehow?
- Higher dimensions $n \geq 3$ for n PDE method
- Incorporate relative twisted cohomology
- Canonical bases, less cuts, more loops and legs, coaction, twisted period relations ...



Bonus slides

Riemann twisted period relations

(a slide for David)

Quadratic relations between Feynman Integrals.

Two identity operators: cohomological

$\begin{bmatrix} \text{Broadhurst} \\ \text{Roberts} \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} \text{Zhou} \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} \text{Broadhurst} \\ \text{Mellit} \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} \text{Lee} \end{bmatrix}$
 $\begin{bmatrix} \text{Cho, Matsumoto} \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} \text{Mastrolia} \\ \text{Mizera} \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} \text{FGLMMMM} \end{bmatrix}$

$$\mathbb{I}_c = \sum_{\lambda, \mu} |h_\mu\rangle (C^{-1})_{\mu\lambda} \langle e_\lambda| , \quad C_{\lambda\mu} = \langle e_\lambda | h_\mu \rangle ,$$

($C_{\lambda\mu}$ from, say, intersections or GKZ systems) and homological

[2204.12983]

$$\mathbb{I}_h = \sum_{\lambda, \mu} |\mathcal{C}_\mu] (H^{-1})_{\mu\lambda} [\mathcal{D}_\lambda| , \quad H_{\lambda\mu} = [\mathcal{D}_\lambda | \mathcal{C}_\mu] .$$

Twisted Riemann Period Relations:

$$\langle \varphi | \psi \rangle = \langle \varphi | \mathbb{I}_h | \psi \rangle = \sum_{\lambda, \mu} \underbrace{\langle \varphi | \mathcal{C}_\mu]}_{\text{Feyn. Int.}} \underbrace{(H^{-1})_{\mu\lambda}}_{\text{Feyn. Int.}} \underbrace{[\mathcal{D}_\lambda | \psi \rangle}_{\text{Feyn. Int.}} .$$

Can continue inserting \mathbb{I}_h and $\mathbb{I}_c \rightsquigarrow$ higher order identities, coaction?

[Abreau, Britto
Duhr, Gridi]