

Algebraic Structures in Multi-Scale Scattering Amplitudes

Seva Chestnov



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA



Theory and Phenomenology
of Fundamental Interactions
UNIVERSITY AND INFN - BOLOGNA



Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare



Based on joined work with:

Matteo Becchetti, Dhimiter Canko, Tiziano Peraro, Mattia Pozzoli, Simone Zoia

[2504.13011]

MathemAmplitudes, Mainz
September 23, 2025

1 Introduction

2 Top-pair production with a W-boson

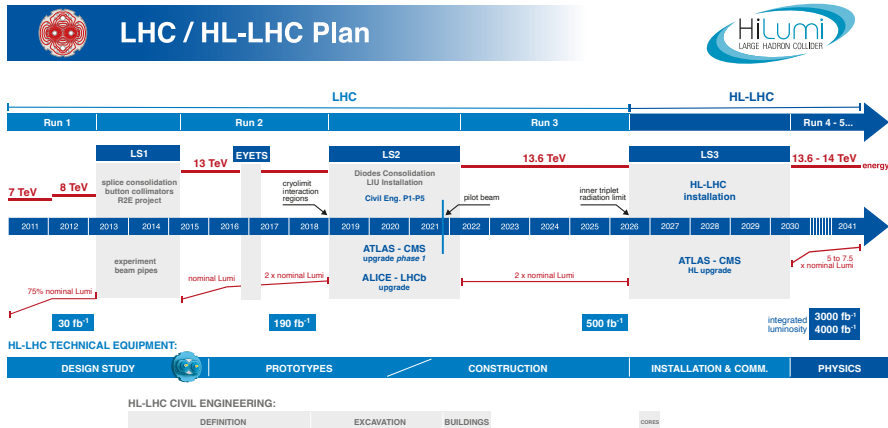
3 Example of algebraic complexity

4 Conclusions

Introduction

Precision era of High-Luminosity LHC

- Future 14 TeV HL-LHC runs $\Rightarrow$ observables measured at $\mathcal{O}(1\%)$ by early 2040s



- Theory must keep pace! $\Rightarrow$ NNLO (and more) QCD plus EW corrections

Next-to-next-to-leading order corrections

- Cross sections are basic collider observables

$$\sigma_{\text{in} \rightarrow \text{out}} = \int [\text{dPS}] |\mathcal{M}_{\text{in} \rightarrow \text{out}}|^2$$

- Probability of process is measured by scattering amplitude

$$|\mathcal{M}_{\text{in} \rightarrow \text{out}}|^2 = |\mathcal{M}^{LO}|^2 + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi}\right) |\mathcal{M}^{NLO}|^2 + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi}\right)^2 |\mathcal{M}^{NNLO}|^2 + \dots$$

- Strong coupling constant $\alpha_s(m_W^2) = 0.12$

[Review of Particle Physics '24] [RunDec.m]

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gives order
of magnitude

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[Review of Particle Physics '24] [RunDec.m]

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$\mathcal{O}(10\%)$
uncertainty

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[Review of Particle Physics '24] [RunDec.m]

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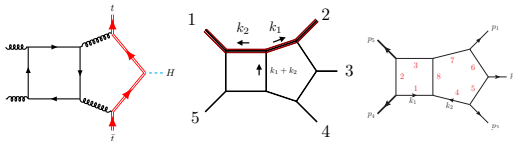
$\mathcal{O}(1\%)$
uncertainty

- Strong coupling constant $\alpha_s(m_W^2) = 0.12$
- Next-to-next-to leading order (NNLO) QCD corrections = 2-loop integrals

[Review of Particle Physics '24] [RunDec.m]

Current frontier of two-loop integral families

- Five particles with external and internal masses $\Rightarrow$ 6-7 scales

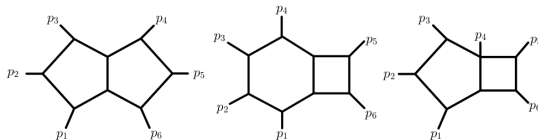


[Febres Cordero, Figueiredo
Kraus, Page, Reina '23]

[Badger, Becchetti
Giraud, Zoia '24]

[Abreu, Chicherin
Sotnikov, Zoia '24]

- Six external massless particles $\Rightarrow$ 8 scales (in 4 dimensions)

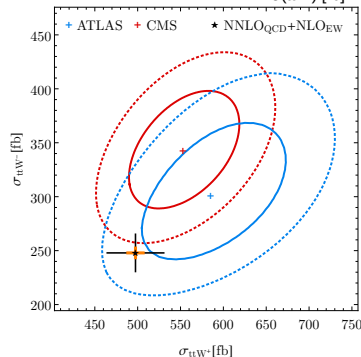
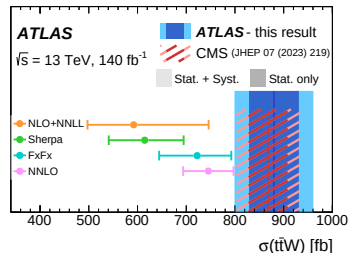


[Abreu, Monni
Page, Usovitsch '24]

[Henn, Matijašić, Miczajka
Peraro, Xu, Zhang '25]

Tension in $t\bar{t}W$ production at NNLO

- Relevant background for Standard Model processes with top quark $t\bar{t}H$ and $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$
- Multi-lepton signature important for Beyond the SM searches
- Recent measurements at LHC [CMS '23] [ATLAS '24]
- Current theoretical prediction: NLO QCD and EW corrections [Badger, Campbell, Ellis '11] [Campbell, Ellis '12] [Maltoni, Pagani, Tsinikos '15] [Frixione, Hirschi, Pagani, Shao, Zaro '15] [Frederix, Pagani, Zaro '17]
- NNLO predictions available in soft approximation in tension with experimental results [Buonocore, Devoto, Grazzini, Kallweit, Mazzitelli, Rottoli, Savoini '23]



Top-pair production with a W-boson

5-point kinematics and its complexity

- $\bar{t}(p_1) + t(p_2) + \bar{d}(p_3) + W(p_4) + u(p_5) \rightarrow 0$
- 7 invariants $\vec{x} = \{s_{12}, s_{23}, s_{34}, s_{45}, s_{15}, m_t^2, m_W^2\}$
with $s_{ij} = (p_i + p_j)^2$
- Dimensional regularization: $d = 4 - 2\epsilon$
- Physical channel for $t\bar{t}W$ production ($35 \rightarrow 124$)

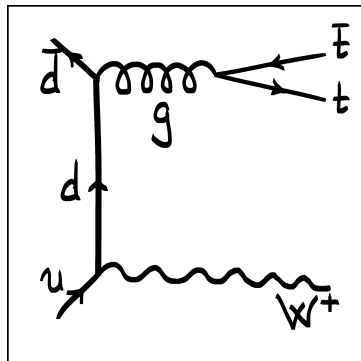
$$p_3 \cdot p_1, p_3 \cdot p_2, p_3 \cdot p_4, p_5 \cdot p_1, p_5 \cdot p_2, p_5 \cdot p_4 < 0$$

$$p_3 \cdot p_5, p_1 \cdot p_2, p_1 \cdot p_4, p_2 \cdot p_4 > 0$$

$$p_1^2 = p_2^2 = m_t^2 > 0$$

$$p_4^2 = m_W^2 > 0$$

$$p_3^2 = p_5^2 = 0$$



- Can we describe all the star-shaped strata? [Bernd's talk yesterday]

Example of integral family

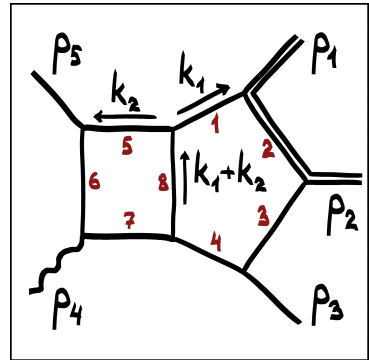
$$I_{a_1 \dots a_{11}} = \int d^d k_1 d^d k_2 \frac{D_9^{a_9} D_{10}^{a_{10}} D_{11}^{a_{11}}}{D_1^{a_1} \dots D_8^{a_8}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} D_1 &= k_1^2, \quad D_2 = (k_1 - p_1)^2 - m_t^2 \\ D_3 &= (k_1 - p_{12})^2, \quad D_4 = (k_1 - p_{123})^2 \\ D_5 &= k_2^2, \quad D_6 = (k_2 + p_{1234})^2 \\ D_7 &= (k_2 + p_{123})^2, \quad D_8 = (k_1 + k_2)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Denominators

$$\begin{aligned} D_9 &= (k_1 - p_{1234})^2, \quad D_{10} = (k_2 + p_1)^2 - m_t^2 \\ D_{11} &= (k_2 + p_{12})^2 \end{aligned}$$

ISPs



Integration-by-parts and reduction to master integrals

- IBPs for Feynman integrals is an old story

[Tkachov '81] [Chetyrkin
Tkachov '81]

$$0 = \int d^d k_j \frac{\partial}{\partial k_j^\mu} \left(v^\mu \frac{1}{D_1^{a_1} \dots D_n^{a_n}} \right)$$

$$I_j = \sum_k c_{jk} G_k$$

master integrals

rational coefficients

- The Laporta algorithm: non-commutative analog of the Macaulay system

[Stefano Laporta 2000] [Francis Sowerby Macaulay 1902]

Some more modern takes on this motive:

- Finite field arithmetics and rational function reconstruction

[von Manteuffel] [Peraro '16]
[Schabinger '14]

- FINITEFLOW computational framework

[Peraro '19]

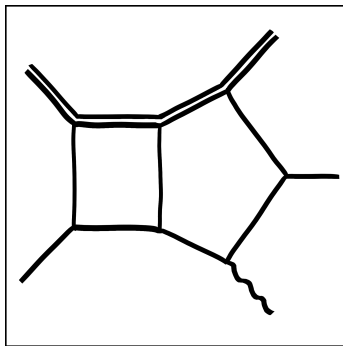
- NEATIBP: syzygies, Gröbner bases

[Wu, Boehm, Ma] [SINGULAR] [Rourou's talk on Thursday]
[Xu, Zhang '23]

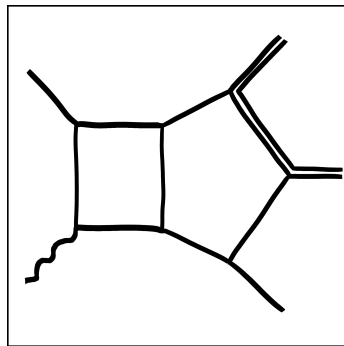
- CALICO: parametric annihilators, syzygies from linear algebra

[Bertolini, Fontana] [Gaia's talk tomorrow]
[Peraro '25]

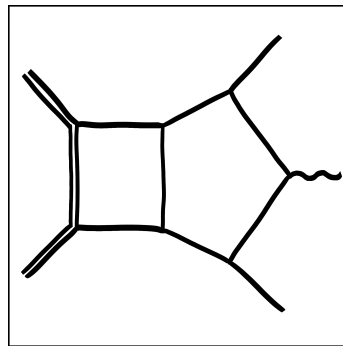
Integral families of $t\bar{t}W$



F1: 141 MIs



F2: 122 MIs



F3: 131 MIs

Method of differential equations

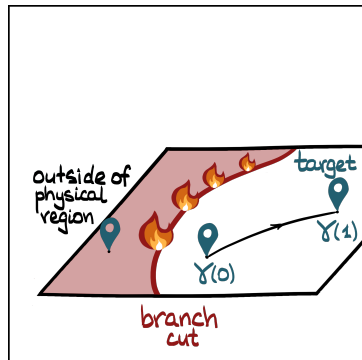
- Feynman integrals are holonomic functions. They satisfy integrable linear first-order PDEs (Pfaffian systems) [Regge '67] [Kashiwara Kawai '77] [Nicolas' talk today]
- In perturbative QFT, this is one of the main computational tools [Kotikov '91] [Bern, Dixon Kosower '94] [Remiddi '97] [Gehrmann Remiddi '00] ... [Henn '13] ...
- Idea: use IBPs to find connection 1-form Ω in the differential equations

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_x G_i(\vec{x}, \varepsilon) &= \sum_{\vec{a}} c_{i,\vec{a}}(\vec{x}, \varepsilon) I_{\vec{a}}(\vec{x}, \varepsilon) \\ d\vec{G}(\vec{x}, \varepsilon) &= \Omega(\vec{x}, \varepsilon) \cdot \vec{G}(\vec{x}, \varepsilon)\end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\sum_{\vec{a}}} \right\} \text{IBP reduction}$$

- Our contribution: set of differential equations [Tiziano's talk on Thursday]
- Mystery:** degree 14 polynomial appears among the denominators of Ω . Is it spurious?

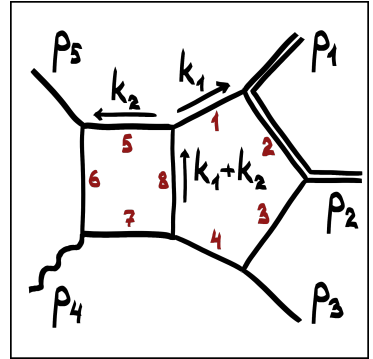
Integrating differential equation along lines

- Numerical method for solving systems of DEs
- Linear path $\gamma(t)$: boundary $\gamma(0)$ to target $\gamma(1)$
- Expand, solve, and glue together patches
- Boundary conditions from AMFLOW [Liu, Ma '22]
- Solvers: DIFFEXP, SEASYDE, LINE
[Hidding '20] [Armadillo, Bonciani, Devoto
Rana, Vicini '22] [Prisco, Ronca
Tramontano '25]

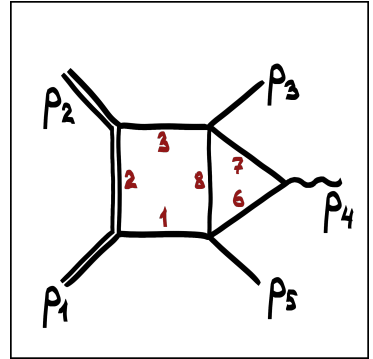


Example of algebraic complexity

The 5-point $t\bar{t}W$ elliptic curve

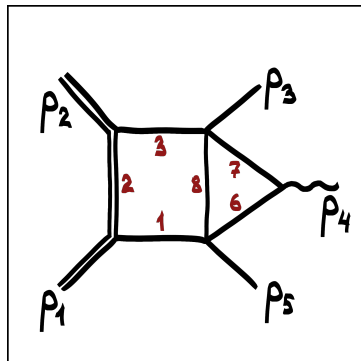


The 5-point $t\bar{t}W$ elliptic curve



The 5-point $t\bar{t}W$ elliptic curve

- Elliptic curve for a 5-point kinematics with dependence on all 7 invariants
- 7 MIs, only the first two couple in $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$



$$d\vec{G} = \begin{bmatrix} * + \varepsilon* & * + *\varepsilon + *\varepsilon^2 & *\varepsilon + *\varepsilon^2 & *\varepsilon + *\varepsilon^2 & *\varepsilon + *\varepsilon^2 & *\varepsilon + *\varepsilon^2 & *\varepsilon + *\varepsilon^2 \\ * & * + *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon \\ * & * + *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon \\ * & * + *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon \\ * & * + *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon \\ 0 & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon & *\varepsilon \end{bmatrix} \cdot \vec{G}$$

Leading singularity analysis: parametric representation

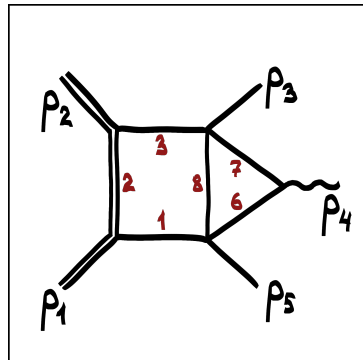
- We've been promised that  is elliptic

[Hjalte's talk yesterday]

- Loop-by-loop Baikov parametrization

[Baikov '96] [Frellesvig '17] [BAIKOVPACKAGE] [Frellesvig '24]

$$\text{Diagram} = \int \frac{dz_{123678}}{z_{123678}} \wedge dz_4 \wedge dz_9 \frac{G_2^{-1/2+\varepsilon}}{G_3^\varepsilon} \frac{G_4^{1/2+\varepsilon}}{G_5^{1+\varepsilon}}$$



- Gram determinants after taking maximal cut $z_{123678} \rightarrow 0$ are either quadratic

$$G_2 = G(p_4, k_1 + p_5) = -m_W^4 - (z_4 - z_9)^2 + 2m_W^2(z_4 + z_9)$$

$$G_5 = G(k_1, p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4) = \dots + \dots z_4 + \dots z_9 + \dots z_4 z_9 + \dots z_4^2 + \dots z_9^2$$

or constant

$$G_4 = G(p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4) = -4m_t^4 m_W^2 s_{12} + \dots 40 \text{ other terms } \dots + s_{34}^2 s_{45}^2$$

Leading singularity analysis: towards the elliptic curve

- To integrate the leading singularity in z_9

$$\text{LS}\left(\text{diagram}\right) = \sqrt{G_4} \int dz_4 \wedge dz_9 \frac{1}{\sqrt{G_2(z_4, z_9)} G_5(z_4, z_9)}$$

we find the roots of $G_5(z_4, z_9)$ using the discriminant

$$\text{Disc}_{z_9}(G_5) = G_4 \cdot s_{12} \cdot (\dots z_4^2 + \dots z_4 + \dots)$$

- Rationalizing the square root $\sqrt{\text{Disc}_{z_9}(G_5)}$ we arrive

$$\text{LS}\left(\text{diagram}\right) = \int \frac{dz}{\sqrt{Q_4(z)}} \wedge d \log(\alpha(y, z)) + \frac{dz}{\sqrt{Q_4(z)^\dagger}} \wedge d \log(\alpha(y, z)^\dagger)$$

with $f^\dagger = f|_{\sqrt{G_4} \rightarrow -\sqrt{G_4}}$

- $Q_4(z)$ is quartic in z and degree 14 in $\vec{x}$, has $\sqrt{G_4}$ and 2787 terms

The elliptic curve and its discriminant

- An implicit Möbius transformation

$$z \rightarrow \frac{a_1 + a_2 z}{a_3 + a_4 z}$$

brings both quartics $\mathcal{Q}_4(z)$ and $\mathcal{Q}_4(z)^\dagger$ to the same Weierstraß form

$$\mathcal{Q}^W(z) = 4z^3 + g_1 z + g_0$$

- No hope to find the root(s)!
- Compute the discriminant (or j -invariant) to find a degree-14 singularity $\mathcal{P}_{14}$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}_{14} = & -16m_t^{12}m_W^{12}s_{12}^2 + 64m_t^{14}m_W^8 + 32m_t^{12}m_W^{10}s_{12}^3 + 8m_t^{10}m_W^{12}s_{12}^3 - 16m_t^{12}m_W^8s_{12}^4 \\ & + 2542 \text{ terms} \end{aligned}$$

with integer coefficients ranging from -576 to 744 .

Polynomial Reduction and Singularities of Integrals

- Fubini reduction algorithm [Brown '08] [Brown '09] [Panzer '15] [Erik's lectures at Amplitudes'23 summer school]

- For  we find the $\mathcal{P}_{14}$ factor in

$$\text{Disc}_{z_9} \left(\text{Res}_{z_4} (G_2, G_5) \right) = \text{const} \cdot m_W^4 \cdot s_{12}^2 \cdot G_4^2 \cdot (16m_t^{10} m_W^6 s_{12}^3 + 1183 \text{ terms})^2 \cdot \mathcal{P}_{14}$$

- Implemented in HYPERINT and SOFIA [Panzer '14] [Correia, Giroux, Mizera '25]

- In practice: taking resultants and discriminants. Can be done pleasantly with SPQR [SPQR ] [Giulio's talk today]

Nested square root

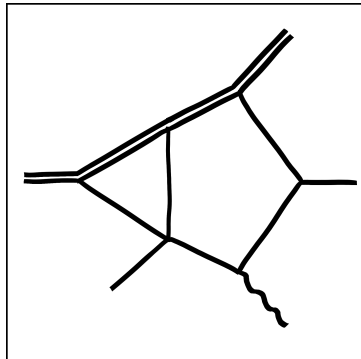
- Leading singularities with nested square roots observed for $t\bar{t}H$ and $t\bar{t}j$

[Cordero, Figueiredo] [Badger, Becchetti] [Becchetti
Kraus, Page, Reina '23] [Giraud, Zoia '24] [Dlapa, Zoia '25]

- Also the case for $t\bar{t}W$

$$\text{NR}_{\pm} = \sqrt{q_1(\vec{x}) \pm q_2(\vec{x}) \sqrt{G_4}}$$

- Currently not supported by differential equation solvers, so we do not use it



One approach to algebraic complexity

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MATHEMATICS AND ITS APPLICATIONS

Solving Polynomial Equation Systems I

The Kronecker–Duval Philosophy

TEO MORA
University of Genoa

The most effective way for solving polynomial equation systems is just to interpret such a system as a tool for solving itself . . .

Therefore, the best way for solving is to return the equations. . . shouting sufficiently loudly that that is the solution. . .

That is the Kronecker–Duval Philosophy.

— R.F. Ree, The foundational crisis, a crisis of computability?

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computability?

J. Symbolic Computation (1994) **18**, 497–501

**Why You Cannot Even Hope to use Gröbner Bases
in Public Key Cryptography:
An Open Letter to a Scientist Who Failed and a
Challenge to Those Who Have Not Yet Failed**

BOO BARKEE, DEH CAC CAN, JULIA ECKS,
THEO MORIARTY, R. F. REE*
Math White Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca NY 14853, USA.
(Received 4 March, 1993)

... of Steganography, there is nothing frivolous, nor contrary to
... nor have we taught superstitious beliefs. Ev-
... principles; the mystery which veils
... 17618

Conclusions

Conclusions

- Achieving percent-level precision in theoretical predictions is essential to match the accuracy of modern collider experiments
- Basis of master integrals and differential equations for integral families relevant for $t\bar{t}W$ production at 2-loop and leading color
- New level of algebraic complexity from 5-point kinematics and elliptic geometry interplay requires new computational ideas