

Solving Master Integrals Via Numerical Differential Equations

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圈积分及相空间积分计算系列讲座
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I. Introduction

II. Numerical differential equations

III. Application – auxiliary mass flow

IV. Summary and outlook

Era of precision physics

➤ Physics at Large Hadron Collider

- improving requirements on theoretical predictions
- new NNLO and N3LO cross sections
- bottleneck problems: integrals reduction, master integrals calculation

➤ Integrals reduction

- prohibitive algebraic complexity
 - non-planar contribution of $pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\gamma$ missed [Chawdhry, et al, 20']
- “basis” of special functions not fully known
 - elliptic sectors in H+jet production in QCD [Bonciani, et al, 16'] [Bonciani, et al, 20]
[Frellesvig, et al, 20']

➤ Integrals reduction

- integration-by-parts [Chetyrkin, Tkachov, 81'] [Laporta, 00']
- syzygy equation [Gluza, Kajda, Kosower, 11'] [Schabinger, 12'] [Larsen, Zhang, 16']
- finite field interpolation [Manteuffel, Schabinger, 15'] [Peraro, 16']
- intersection numbers [Mastrolia, Mizera, 19'] [Frellesvig, et al, 19']
- matching [Liu, Ma, 19'] [Wang, Li, Basat, 19'] [Guan, Liu, Ma, 20'] [Basat, Li, Wang, 21']

➤ Master integrals calculation

- differential equation and its canonical form [Kotikov, 91'] [Henn, 13']
- Mellin-Barnes representation [Smirnov, 99']
- sector decomposition [Binoth, Heinrich, 00']
- difference equation [Tarasov, 96'] [Laporta, 00'] [Lee, 09']
- **numerical differential equation** [Caffo, et al, 08'] [Czakon, 08'] [Lee, et al, 17']
- **auxiliary mass flow** [Liu, Ma, Wang, 18']

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Overview

➤ Dimensional regulated integral family

$$I(\epsilon, \vec{s}) \equiv \int \prod_{i=1}^L \frac{d^{4-2\epsilon} \ell_i}{i\pi^{2-\epsilon}} \frac{1}{\mathcal{D}_1^{\nu_1} \cdots \mathcal{D}_N^{\nu_N}}$$

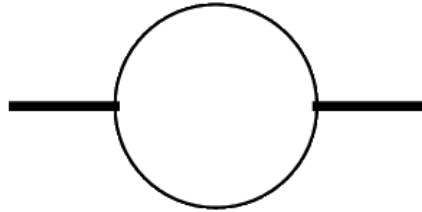
- $\{D_1, \dots, D_N\}$ with $N = \frac{L(L+1)}{2} + L E$
- $\vec{s} = \{p_i^2, p_i \cdot p_j, m_i^2\}$
- integration-by-parts identities \rightarrow master integrals \vec{I}
- derivatives + IBP identities \rightarrow differential equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s_i} \vec{I} = A_i \vec{I}$$

- general solution + boundary condition \rightarrow final solution

Simple Examples

➤ One-loop two-point



$$\mathcal{D}_1 = \ell^2 - m^2, \quad \mathcal{D}_2 = (\ell + p)^2 - m^2$$

$$\vec{I} = \{I(1, 0), I(1, 1)\}$$

- $s := p^2 = 1, m^2 = x$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \vec{I} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{\epsilon-1}{x} & 0 \\ \frac{2(\epsilon-1)}{x(4x-1)} & -\frac{2(2\epsilon-1)}{4x-1} \end{pmatrix} \vec{I}$$

- basic features:
 - block-triangular
 - rational functions with only first-order poles: $x = 0, x = 1/4$

Simple Examples

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \vec{I} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{\epsilon-1}{x} & 0 \\ \frac{2(\epsilon-1)}{x(4x-1)} & -\frac{2(2\epsilon-1)}{4x-1} \end{pmatrix} \vec{I}$$

- general solution for $I_1 \rightarrow c_1 x^{1-\epsilon}$
- general solution for $I_2 \rightarrow c_2(x)(1-4x)^{1/2-\epsilon}$, with

$$c_2'(x) = -2c_1(\epsilon-1)(1-4x)^{\epsilon-\frac{3}{2}}x^{-\epsilon}$$



$$I_2 = c_2(1-4x)^{\frac{1}{2}-\epsilon} + 2c_1x^{1-\epsilon} {}_2F_1\left(\frac{1}{2}(3-2\epsilon), 1-\epsilon; 2-\epsilon; 4x\right) (1-4x)^{\frac{1}{2}-\epsilon}$$

- Hypergeometric functions encountered

Simple Examples

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \vec{I} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{\epsilon-1}{x} & 0 \\ \frac{2(\epsilon-1)}{x(4x-1)} & -\frac{2(2\epsilon-1)}{4x-1} \end{pmatrix} \vec{I}$$

- numerical solution: power series expansion of I_2 near $x = x_0$
- x_0 regular: $I_2 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n(x - x_0)^n$
 - all $f_n (n \geq 1)$ can be reduced to f_0 by differential equation
- $x_0 = 0$: $I_2 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n x^n + x^{1-\epsilon} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} g_n x^n$
 - left part: homogeneous, right part: non-homogeneous
- $x_0 = 1/4$: $I_2 = (1/4 - x)^{1/2-\epsilon} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n (1/4 - x)^n + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} g_n (1/4 - x)^n$
 - left part: homogeneous, right part: non-homogeneous

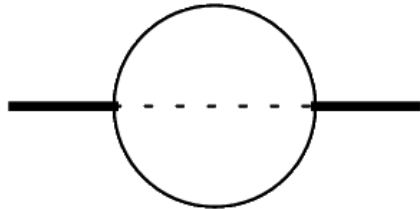
Simple Examples

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \vec{I} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{\epsilon-1}{x} & 0 \\ \frac{2(\epsilon-1)}{x(4x-1)} & -\frac{2(2\epsilon-1)}{4x-1} \end{pmatrix} \vec{I}$$

- example of calculation: the analytic part near $x = 1/4$
- $I_1 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} h_n (1/4 - x)^n$, h_n known to us
- How to calculate the expansion of $2(\epsilon - 1)I_1 / (x(4x - 1))$?
 - first expand the coefficients to $\sum_{n=-1}^{\infty} a_n (1/4 - x)^n$, then perform series multiplication? $\sim O(N^2)$
 - $2(\epsilon - 1)I_1 = (x(4x - 1)) \sum_{n=-1}^{\infty} b_n (1/4 - x)^n$, then solve via matching. $\sim O(N)$
 - in general, $\frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} \times I(x) \sim [\deg(P) + \deg(Q)]N$

Simple Examples

➤ Two-loop two-point



$$\mathcal{D}_1 = \ell_1^2 - m^2, \mathcal{D}_2 = \ell_2^2 - m^2, \mathcal{D}_3 = (\ell_1 + \ell_2 + p)^2,$$

$$\mathcal{D}_4 = (\ell_1 + p)^2, \mathcal{D}_5 = (\ell_2 + p)^2$$

$$\vec{I} = \{I(1, 1, 0, 0, 0), I(1, 1, 1, 0, 0), I(1, 1, 1, 0, -1)\}$$

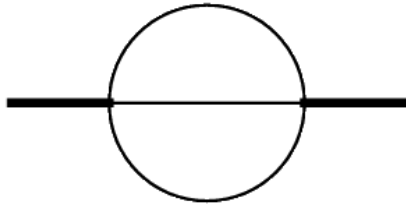
- $s := p^2 = 1, m^2 = x$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \vec{I} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{2(\epsilon-1)}{x} & 0 & 0 \\ -\frac{2(\epsilon-1)}{x(4x-1)} & -\frac{2(5\epsilon x - 4x + \epsilon - 1)}{x(4x-1)} & \frac{6(\epsilon-1)}{x(4x-1)} \\ -\frac{2(\epsilon-1)}{4x-1} & \frac{2\epsilon x^2 - \epsilon x - \epsilon + 1}{x(4x-1)} & -\frac{3(2x-1)(\epsilon-1)}{x(4x-1)} \end{pmatrix} \vec{I}$$

- asymptotic behavior: the eigenvalues of residue matrix near $x = 0$
 - for the block of I_2 and I_3 , the behaviors are $0, 1 - \epsilon$ (homogeneous) and $2 - 2\epsilon$ (non-homogeneous)

Simple Examples

➤ Example with second order poles



$$\mathcal{D}_1 = \ell_1^2 - m^2, \mathcal{D}_2 = \ell_2^2 - m^2, \mathcal{D}_3 = (\ell_1 + \ell_2 + p)^2 - m^2,$$

$$\mathcal{D}_4 = (\ell_1 + p)^2, \mathcal{D}_5 = (\ell_2 + p)^2$$

$$\vec{I} = \{I(1, 1, 0, 0, 0), I(1, 1, 1, 0, 0), I(2, 1, 1, 0, 0)\}$$

- $s := p^2 = 1, m^2 = x$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \vec{I} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{2(\epsilon-1)}{x} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \\ \frac{2(\epsilon-1)^2}{(x-1)x^2(9x-1)} & -\frac{(3x-1)(2\epsilon-1)(3\epsilon-2)}{(x-1)x(9x-1)} & -\frac{45\epsilon x^2 - 18x^2 - 30\epsilon x + 10x + \epsilon}{(x-1)x(9x-1)} \end{pmatrix} \vec{I}$$

- second-order pole: removable through a basis transformation
 - $\vec{I} = \text{diag}\{1, 1, x^{-1}\} \cdot \vec{J}$
 - for more general cases, see [Lee, 14']

The algorithm

➤ Power expansion near a point $x = x_0$

- determine the asymptotic behaviors from the normalized differential equation : homogenous + nonhomogeneous

$$I_i = \sum_{\mu \in S} (x - x_0)^\mu \sum_{k=0}^{k_\mu} \log(x - x_0)^k \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_{i,\mu,k,n} (x - x_0)^n$$

- regular: $S = \{0\}, k_0 = 0$
- singular: $S = \{-2\epsilon, 1 + \epsilon, \dots\}, k_\mu \geq 0$
- reduce the higher-order coefficients in the expansion to lowest one via the differential equation
- determine the lowest order coefficient by the boundary condition (input)

The algorithm

➤ Error estimation

- consider a Taylor expansion $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n x^n$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \sum_{n=0}^N f_n x^n + \sum_{n=N+1}^{\infty} f_n x^n \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^N \tilde{f}_n x^n + \sum_{n=0}^N \delta_n x^n + \sum_{n=N+1}^{\infty} f_n x^n \\ &\equiv \tilde{f}(x) + E_1(x) + E_2(x) \end{aligned}$$

- note: $\delta_n \sim \delta_0/r^n$, $f_n \sim f_0/r^n$, with r the convergence radius
- $E_1(x) \sim \delta_0(1 - (x/r)^{N+1})/(1 - x/r)$
- $E_2(x) \sim f_0(x/r)^{N+1}/(1 - x/r)$
- a reasonable choice: $x/r = 1/2$, then $e := (E_1 + E_2)/f_0 \sim \delta_0/f_0 + 2^{-N}$
- precision $p \sim N \sim t$, totally in proportion to the time consumption

Boundary condition

➤ Boundary condition

- singular point: $I(x) \sim c_1(x - x_0)^{\mu_1} + c_2(x - x_0)^{\mu_2} + \dots$
 - method of region [Beneke, Smirnov, 98'] [Smirnov, 99']
 - parametric representation
- regular point: $I(x_0)$
 - sector decomposition
 - auxiliary mass flow (recommended!) (can also be used to calculate integrals point-by-point, see [Yang, Zhang, et al, 20'] [Hansen, Wang, 20'] [Hansen, Wang, 21'])

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Feynman integrals

➤ Dimensional regulated integral family

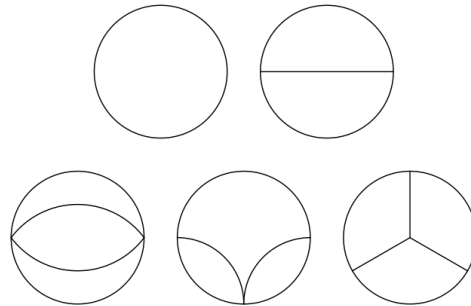
$$I(\epsilon, \vec{s}, \eta) \equiv \int \prod_{i=1}^L \frac{d^{4-2\epsilon} \ell_i}{i\pi^{2-\epsilon}} \prod_{\alpha=1}^N \frac{1}{(\mathcal{D}_\alpha + \eta)^{\nu_\alpha}}$$

- η : the auxiliary mass parameter

$$I_{\text{phy}}(\epsilon, \vec{s}) \equiv \lim_{\eta \rightarrow i0^+} I(\epsilon, \vec{s}, \eta)$$

- near $\eta = \infty$: $\frac{1}{(\ell+p)^2 - m^2 + \eta} = \frac{1}{\ell^2 + \eta} + \dots$

- vacuum integrals:



[Davydychev, Tausk, 93']
 [Broadhurst, 99']
 [Kniehl, Pikelner, Veretin, 17']
 [Pikelner, 18']

- * auxiliary mass expansion:

$$I(\epsilon, \vec{s}, \eta) = \eta^{(2-\epsilon)L - \sum \nu_\alpha} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} M_n(\epsilon, \vec{s}) \eta^{-n}$$

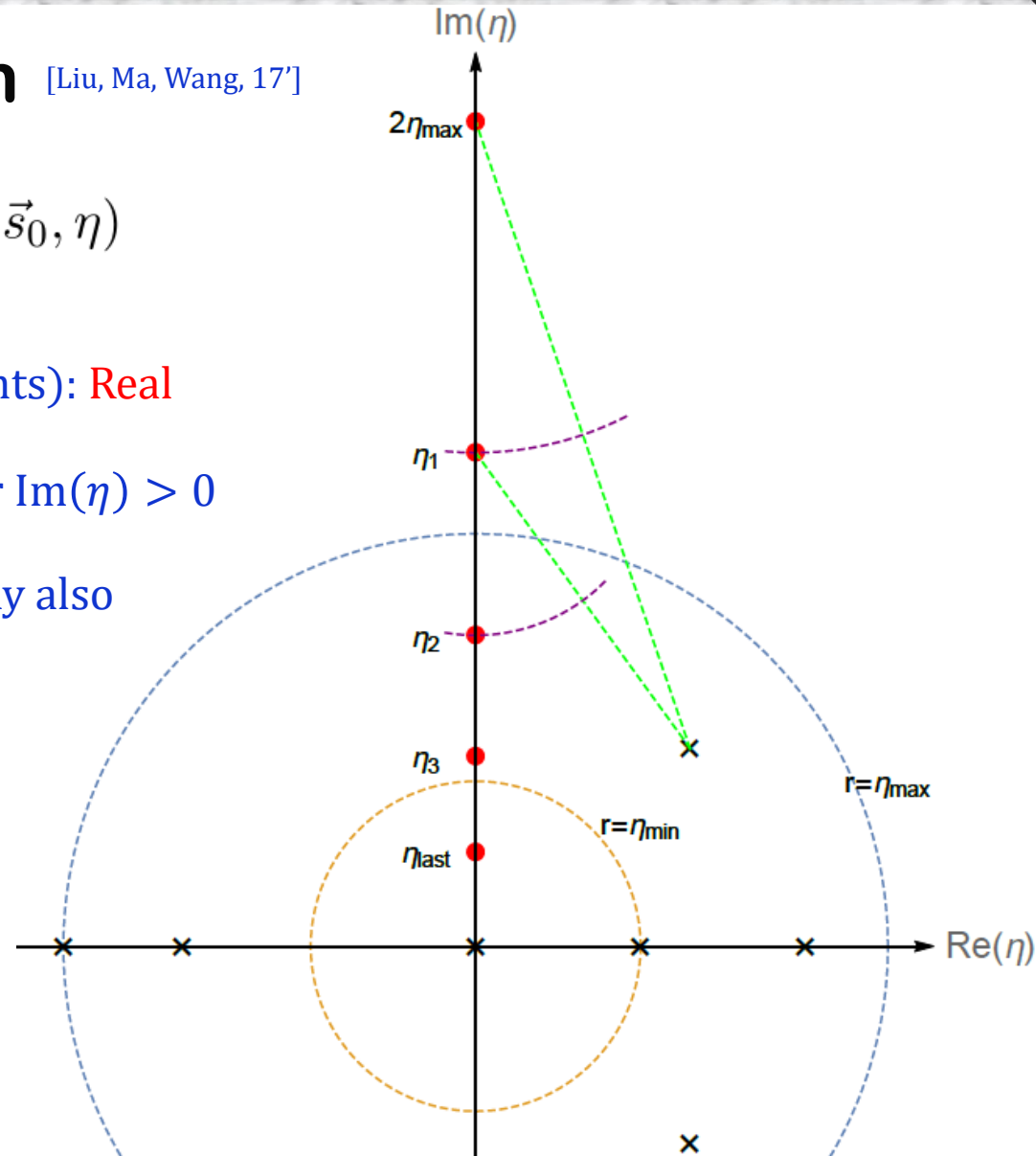
[Liu, Ma, 19']
 [Wang, Li, Basat, 19']
 [Basat, Li, Wang, 21']

Auxiliary mass flow

➤ Differential equation [Liu, Ma, Wang, 17']

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} \vec{I}(\epsilon, \vec{s}_0, \eta) = A(\epsilon, \eta) \vec{I}(\epsilon, \vec{s}_0, \eta)$$

- physical singularities (branch points): **Real**
- $\frac{1}{(\ell+p)^2 - m^2 + \text{Re}(\eta) + i \text{Im}(\eta)}$ off-shell for $\text{Im}(\eta) > 0$
- singularities far from real axis: may also affect the convergence of solution
- evaluate at η_{next} : $(\eta_{\text{next}} - \eta_0) \sim \frac{r}{2}$



Infrared Divergences

➤ Example: one-loop four-point integral



$$s = 10, t = -3, m^2 = 1$$

- eta-reg: $-0.1309 i \sqrt{\eta} + (0.0665971 - 0.101394 i) \log(\eta) - (0.29347 - 0.0201092 i)$
- dim-reg: $\eta^{-\epsilon} f_1(\epsilon) + f_2(\epsilon) + \eta^{\frac{1}{2}-\epsilon} f_3(\epsilon)$
 - $f_1(\epsilon) = (-0.0665971 + 0.101394 i)\epsilon^{-1} + (-0.280099 - 0.267748 i)$
 - $f_2(\epsilon) = (0.0665971 - 0.101394 i)\epsilon^{-1} + (-0.0133705 + 0.287857 i)$
 - $f_3(\epsilon) = -0.1309 i$
 - take $\eta \rightarrow 0$, only $f_2(\epsilon)$ survives

➤ Advantages

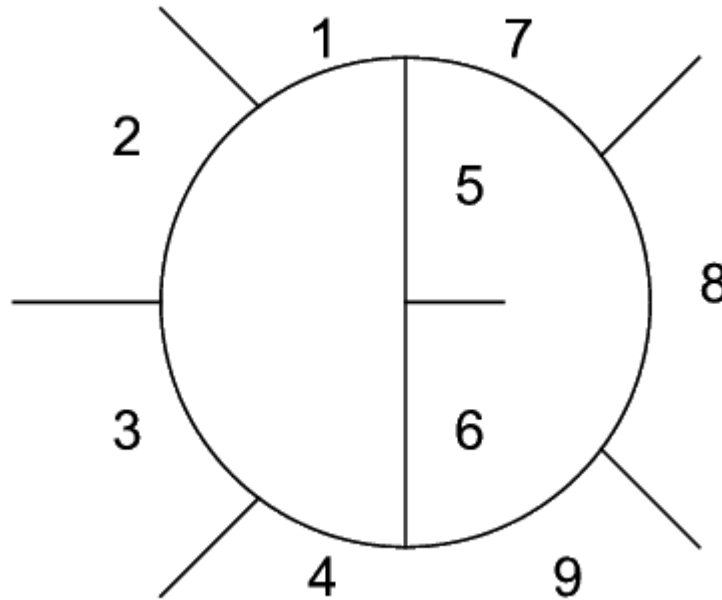
- systematic: in principle can be applied to any process
- efficient: $p \sim t$
- not sensitive to the choice of \vec{S}_0

➤ Problems

- effect of the extra mass scale: many more master integrals, hard to set up differential equation for complicated problems
 - develop much more powerful integral reduction method
 - reduce the effect of extra mass scale

Strategy to introduce η

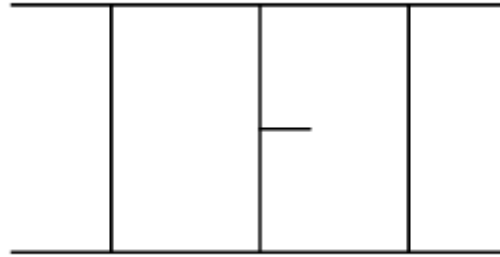
➤ Structure of Feynman diagrams



- loop: $\{1,2,3,4,5,6\}$, $\{1,2,3,4,7,8,9\}$, $\{5,6,7,8,9\}$
- branch: $\{1,2,3,4\}$, $\{5,6\}$, $\{7,8,9\}$
- possible mode: “all”, “loop”, “branch”, “propagator”

Strategy to introduce η

➤ Example: two-loop double-pentagon

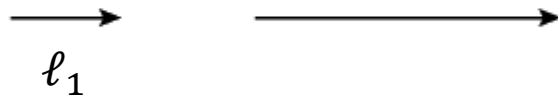


- before introducing η : 108
- all: 476
- loop: 305, 319
- branch: 233, 234
- propagator: 176, 178, 220
- propagator mode seems to be the cheapest

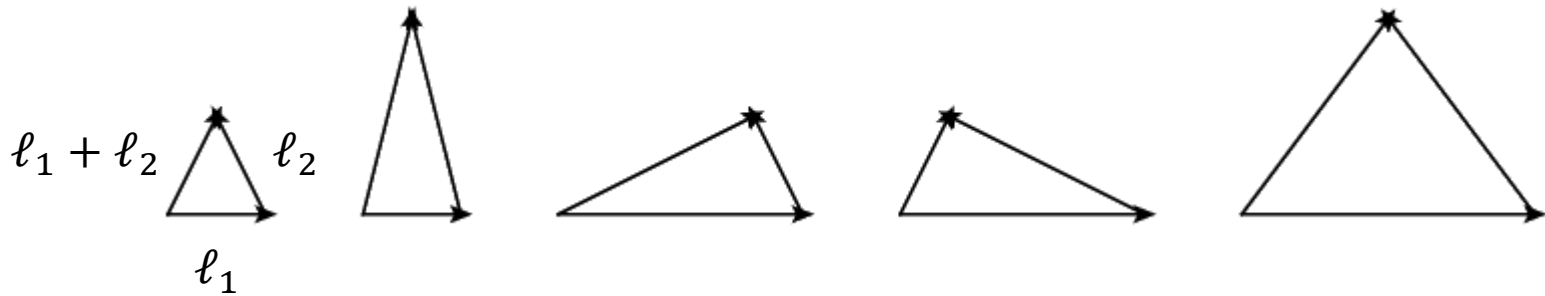
Integration regions

➤ General integration region

- loop momentum of each branch can be either $O(1)$ or $O(\sqrt{\eta})$
- momentum conservation



- regions for one-loop: (S), (L)



- regions for two-loop: (S,S,S), (S,L,L), (L,S,L), (L,L,S), (L,L,L)
- $R_1 = 2, R_2 = 5, R_3 = 15, \dots$

Expansion

➤ Expansion in each region

- all large: single-mass vacuum integrals

$$\frac{1}{(\ell + p)^2 - m^2 + \eta} \sim \frac{1}{\ell^2 + \eta}$$

- mixed: factorized integrals with a factor being vacuum integrals

$$\frac{1}{(\ell_S + \ell_L + p)^2 - m^2 + \eta} \sim \frac{1}{\ell_L^2 + \eta}$$

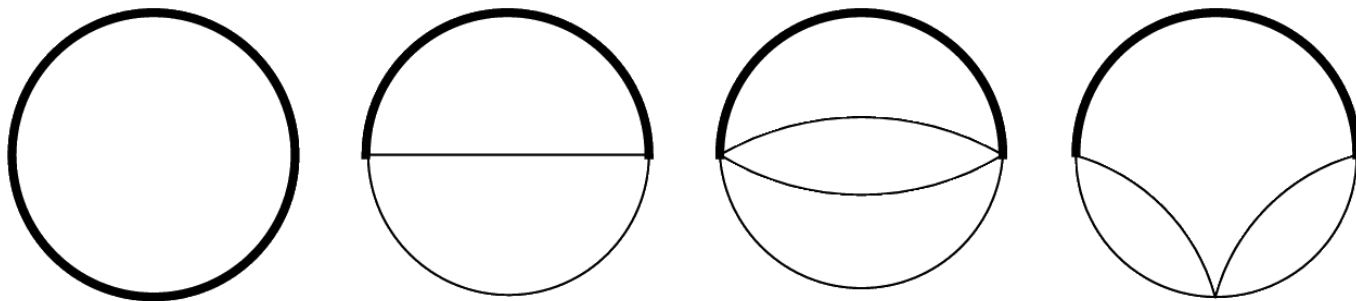
- all small: integrals with fewer propagators

$$\frac{1}{(\ell + p)^2 - m^2 + \eta} \sim \frac{1}{\eta}$$

Recursively set up

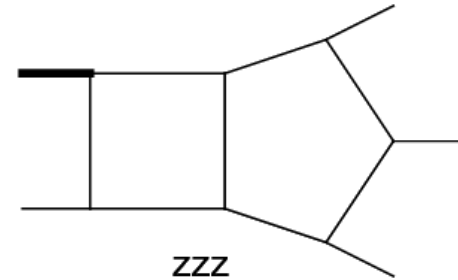
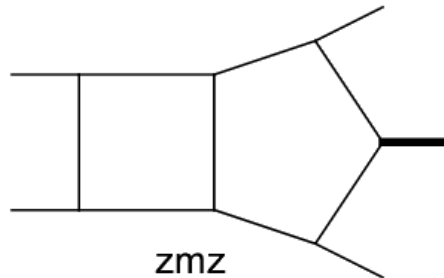
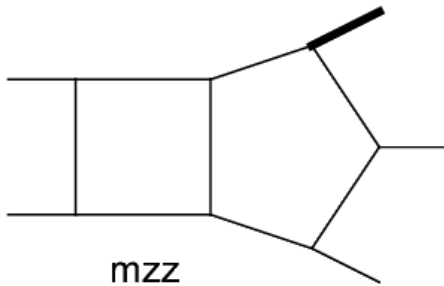
➤ Algorithm (propagator mode)

1. Introduce auxiliary mass to a propagator for target family
2. Reduce boundary integrals to boundary master integrals
3. If boundary master integrals are **known to us**, stop; else, set family which contains unknown integrals to be target and return to step 1



Examples

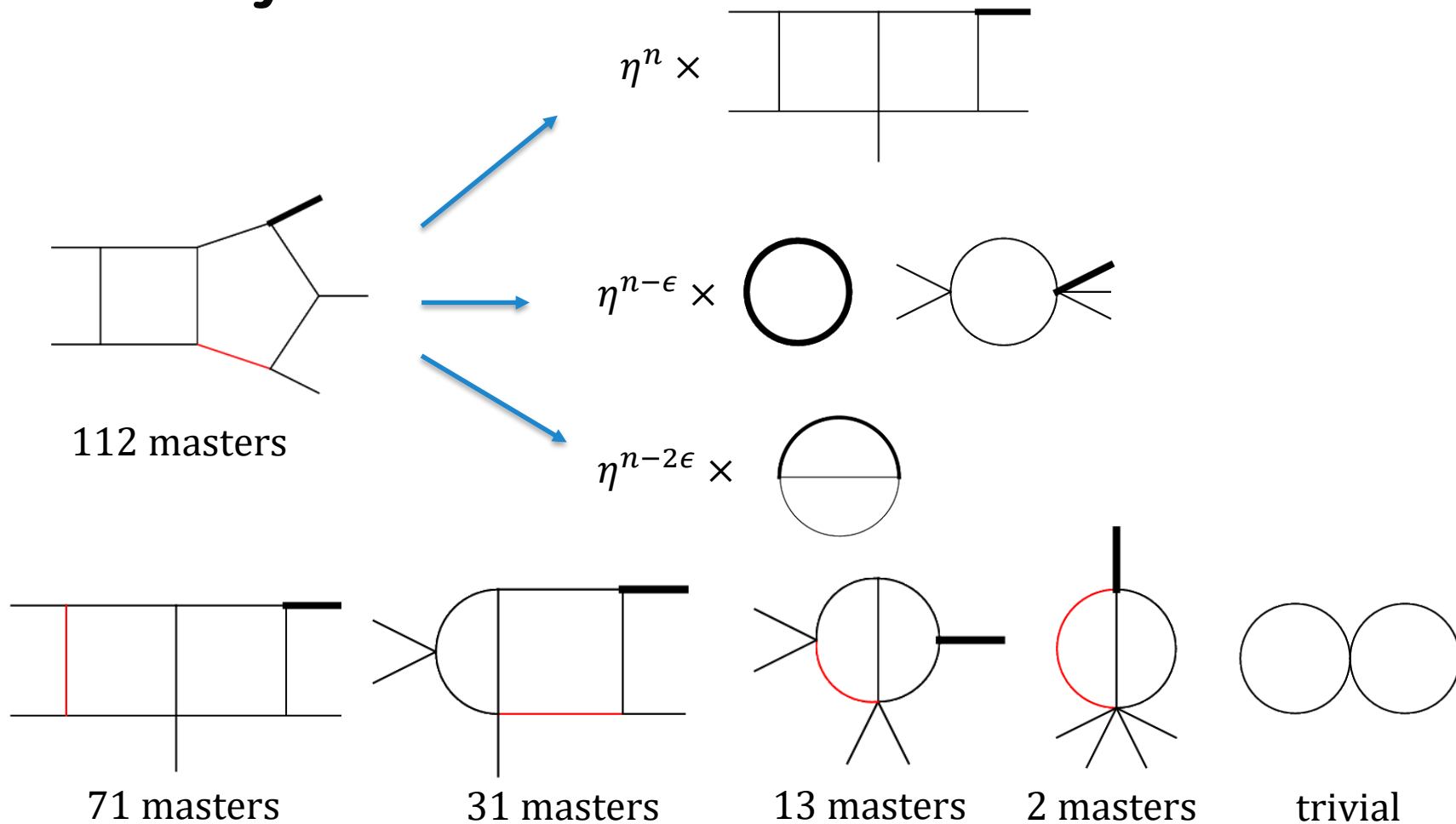
➤ Example: two-loop five-point one-mass [Abreu, Ita, Moriello et al, 20'] [Canko, et al, 20']



- $\vec{s} = \{m^2, s_{12}, s_{23}, s_{34}, s_{45}, s_{15}\}$
- master integrals: 74, 75, 86

Examples

➤ The family “mzz”



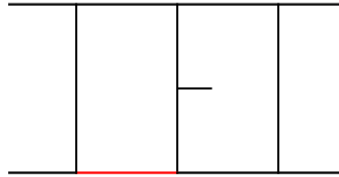
Examples

- $\vec{s}_0 = \left\{ \frac{137}{50}, -\frac{22}{5}, \frac{241}{25}, -\frac{377}{100}, \frac{13}{50}, \frac{249}{50} \right\}$
- solve systems to get 16 correct digits: 10 h + 4 h
- $I_{\text{phy}}[1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,0,0,-1]$:

$$\frac{1.419205041065608 + 0. \times 10^{-36} i}{\text{eps}^4} + \frac{2.712069420001789 + 9.486868391456017 i}{\text{eps}^3} - \frac{23.64601796152245 - 17.39902613661114 i}{\text{eps}^2} - \frac{38.52314440274530 + 23.56371708766445 i}{\text{eps}} - (5.79127129445584 + 16.41879693197834 i) - (217.3029986433433 + 26.8459329371091 i) \text{eps} + \mathcal{O}(\text{eps}^2)$$

Examples

➤ Example: two-loop double-pentagon [Chicherin, Gehrmann, Henn et al. 18'] [Chicherin, Sotnikov, 20']

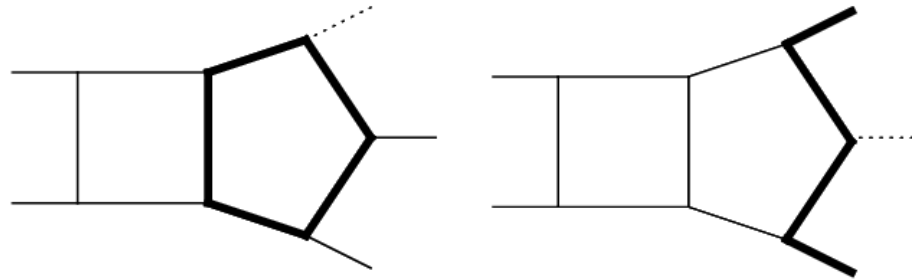


- $\vec{s} = \{s_{12}, s_{23}, s_{34}, s_{45}, s_{15}\} \rightarrow \{4, -\frac{113}{47}, \frac{281}{149}, \frac{349}{257}, -\frac{863}{541}\}$
- master integrals: 108 \rightarrow 176
- time consumption: 40 h + 9 h
- $I_{\text{phy}}[1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,0,0,0]$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & -\frac{0.06943562517263776 + 0. \times 10^{-36} i}{\text{eps}^4} + \frac{1.162256636711287 + 1.416359853446717 i}{\text{eps}^3} + \frac{37.82474332116938 + 15.91912443581739 i}{\text{eps}^2} + \\
 & \frac{86.2861798369034 + 166.8971535711277 i}{\text{eps}} - (4.1435965578662 - 333.0996040071305 i) - (531.834114822928 - 1583.724672502141 i) \text{eps} + \mathcal{O}(\text{eps}^2)
 \end{aligned}$$

Examples

➤ Example: massive two-loop five-point integrals



- $\vec{s} = \{s_{12}, s_{13}, s_{14}, s_{23}, s_{24}, m_h^2, m_t^2\}$

- mass mode: 173 \rightarrow 173

- 110 h + 3.5 h

- $\vec{s}_0 = \{-(11/29), -(83/111), 9/14, 5/54, 11/23, 13/25, 1\}$

- $I_{\text{phy}}^L[1,1,1,1,1,1,1,0,0,0]:$

$$\frac{0.2423817728289377 + 0. \times 10^{-17} i}{\text{eps}^2} + \frac{0.4053317523924661 + 0. \times 10^{-17} i}{\text{eps}} +$$

$$(0.2495153176904204 + 0. \times 10^{-17} i) - (0.3871860805812495 + 0. \times 10^{-17} i) \text{eps} + O(\text{eps}^2)$$

- $I_{\text{phy}}^R[1,1,1,1,1,1,1,0,0,0]:$

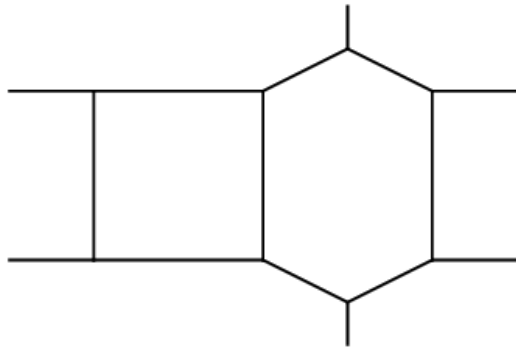
$$-\frac{1.733862437148516 + 0. \times 10^{-35} i}{\text{eps}^4} - \frac{1.253769351252980 + 2.991960008727288 i}{\text{eps}^3} -$$

$$\frac{0.536738276646420 + 10.343102095089467 i}{\text{eps}^2} + \frac{43.05062327842895 - 44.17661124884178 i}{\text{eps}} +$$

$$(307.6203997981029 - 189.8119294459303 i) + (1213.425315637774 - 812.997107316634 i) \text{eps} + O(\text{eps}^2)$$

Examples

➤ Example: two-loop six-point integrals



- $\vec{s} = \{s_{12}, s_{13}, s_{14}, s_{15}, s_{23}, s_{24}, s_{25}, s_{34}, s_{35}\}$
with D-dim external legs
- $211 \rightarrow 289$
- $400 \text{ h} + 23 \text{ h}$

- $\vec{s}_0 = \{1, 19/25, -11/10, -11/25, 71/26, 66/31, -13/24, -76/29, -85/28\}$

- $I_{\text{phy}}[1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,0,0,0,0]:$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & -\frac{0.05548129894682673 + 0. \times 10^{-36} i}{\text{eps}^4} - \frac{0.572584535428102 + 3.105682821655971 i}{\text{eps}^3} + \frac{9.33557823385437 - 13.03316413285356 i}{\text{eps}^2} + \\
 & \frac{32.39125016729625 - 16.23642338083992 i}{\text{eps}} + (59.40191683114858 - 28.11177133669424 i) + (143.4862936844010 - 28.3073224401266 i) \text{eps} + O(\text{eps}^2)
 \end{aligned}$$

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Summary and outlook

- Numerical differential equation is a powerful tool to solve master integrals.
- As an application, the auxiliary mass flow method, can be to calculate master integrals systematically and efficiently.
- In future, we believe these methods could be applied to cutting-edge problems: $t\bar{t}H$, $t\bar{t}j$, ...

Thank you!