Evaluating Feynman Integrals with the Help of the Landau Equations

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Motivation: Scattering Amplitudes A_n in Quantum Field Theory





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- Theoretical predictions for outcome of elementary particle collisions, central for experiments such as the LHC & High-Luminosity upgrade
- Exhibit remarkably deep mathematical structures

E.g. for
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 gluons: $\mathcal{A}_4 = g_{YM}^2 \sum_{L=0,1...} g_{YM}^{2L} \mathcal{A}_4^{(L)}$, g_{YM} coupling const.

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- 4. Evaluate basis of master FI

Of the form
$$f_1 = \int \prod_{l=1}^L \frac{d^D k_l}{i \pi^{D/2}} \prod_{i=1}^E \frac{1}{D_i^{\nu_i}},$$

where $D_i = -q_i^2 + m_i^2$ and $D = D_0 - 2\epsilon$.

 $= c_1$

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For polylogarithmic FI, find basis transformation $\vec{g} = T \cdot \vec{f}$ such that [Gehrmann,Remiddi'99][Henn'13]

constant matrices

$$d\vec{g} = \epsilon \, d\widetilde{M} \, \vec{g}, \qquad \widetilde{M} \equiv \sum_{i} \overbrace{\tilde{a}_{i}}^{i} \log \underbrace{W_{i}}_{\text{letters}},$$

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In line with strategy of state of the art precision calculations, e.g. [Abreu.Ita,Moriello.Page,Tschernov.Zeng'20]

The Landau equations

Yield specific values of (kinematic) parameters of any (Feynman) integral, for which it may become singular. ^[Landau'59]

$$f_{1} = \int \prod_{l=1}^{L} \frac{d^{D}k_{l}}{i\pi^{D/2}} \int_{0}^{\infty} \prod_{i=1}^{E} dx_{i} \frac{\delta(\sum_{j} x_{j} - 1)}{(\sum_{j} x_{j} D_{j})^{\sum_{k} \nu_{k}}}$$

where $D_i = -q_i^2 + m_i^2$.

 $\begin{aligned} x_i D_i &= 0 \ \forall i = 1, \dots E \\ \text{Landau equations:} \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial k_l} \sum_{i=1}^E x_i D_i &= 0, \ \forall l = 1, \dots, L. \end{aligned}$

Formulated as conditions for the contour of integration to become trapped between two poles of integrand.

Believed for long to only provide information on where $W_i = 0$.

This work

Evidence through two loops: Rational letters of polylogarithmic FI captured by Landau equations, when recast as polynomial of the kinematic variables of integral, known as the *principal A-determinant* E_A !

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Example: 'Two-mass easy' box with $p_2^2 = p_4^2 = 0$, $p_1^2, p_3^2 \neq 0$:



 E_A equipped with natural factorization, $(s = (p_1 + p_2)^2, t = (p_1 + p_4)^2)$ $E_A = (p_1^2 p_3^2 - st) p_1^2 p_3^2 st (p_1^2 + p_3^2 - s - t) (p_3^2 - t) (p_3^2 - s) (p_1^2 - t) (p_1^2 - s).$ where each factor is indeed a letter of the integral!

Outline

Introduction and Motivation

Feynman integrals, Landau singularities & GKZ systems

One-loop principal A-determinants and symbol letters

Conclusions and Outlook

Feynman integrals in the Lee-Pomeransky representation:

$$f_1 = \frac{\Gamma(D/2)}{\Gamma((L+1)D/2 - \sum_i \nu_i)} \int_0^\infty \prod_{i=1}^E \left(\frac{x^{\nu_i - 1} dx_i}{\Gamma(\nu_i)}\right) \frac{1}{\mathcal{G}^{D/2}}$$

where $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{U} + \mathcal{F}$, and for graph G associated to integral f_1 ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{U} &= \sum_{\substack{T \text{ a spanning} \\ \text{tree}^1 \text{ of } G}} \prod_{e \notin T} x_e, \\ \mathcal{F} &= \mathcal{U} \sum_{e \in E} m_e^2 x_e - \sum_{\substack{F \text{ a spanning} \\ 2-\text{forest}^2 \text{ of } G}} p(F)^2 \prod_{e \notin F} x_e, \end{aligned}$$

are the 1^{st} and 2^{nd} Symanzik polynomials, of degree L, L+1 in the x_i .

In this form, f_1 is special case³ of A-hypergeometric function as defined by Gelfand, Graev, Kapranov & Zelevinsky (GKZ). [de la Cruz'19][Klausen'19]

¹Connected subgraph of G containing all vertices but no loops.

²Defined similarly, but with 2 connected components.

³Generic case: All \mathcal{G} polynomial coefficients are variables, different from each other.

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Singularities of GKZ-systems

Let
$$\mathcal{G} = \sum_{j=1}^{m} c_j \prod_{i=1}^{E} x_i^{a_{ij}}$$
, c_j all independent variables.

Values of c_i for which GKZ-system becomes singular are solutions to

$$E_A(\mathcal{G}) = 0$$

where $E_A(\mathcal{G})$ is the *principal A-determinant of* \mathcal{G} : Polynomial in c_j with integer coefficients, that vanishes whenever the system of equations

$$\mathcal{G} = x_1 \frac{\partial \mathcal{G}}{\partial x_1} = \ldots = x_E \frac{\partial \mathcal{G}}{\partial x_E} = 0$$
 has a solution for $\vec{x} \in (\mathbb{C}^*)^E$.

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In practice, compute via theorem factorizing it into contributions from each face Γ of polytope with vertices (a_{1j}, \ldots, a_{Ej}) , $j = 1, \ldots, m$

$$E_A(\mathcal{G}) = \prod_{\Gamma} \Delta_{\Gamma}(\mathcal{G})$$

where the A-discriminant $\Delta_{\Gamma}(\mathcal{G})$ also polynomial in c_i , that vanishes when

$$\mathcal{G} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{G}}{\partial x_1} = \ldots = \frac{\partial \mathcal{G}}{\partial x_E} = 0$$
 has a solution for $\vec{x} \in (\mathbb{C}^*)^E$.

Example: Principal A-determinant of bubble



Interpretation of $E_A(\mathcal{G})$ polytope

Newt($E_A(\mathcal{G})$), built out of exponents of $E_A(\mathcal{G})$ polynomial: Keeps track of *triangulations* of Newt(\mathcal{G}).



Interpretation of $E_A(\mathcal{G})$ polytope

Newt($E_A(\mathcal{G})$), built out of exponents of $E_A(\mathcal{G})$ polynomial: Keeps track of *triangulations* of Newt(\mathcal{G}).



Cluster algebras also describe triangulations of geometric spaces [Fomin,Zelevinsky'01][Felikson,Shapiro,Tumarkin'11]

First-principle derivation of observed cluster-algebraic structure of Feynman integrals? ^{[Chicherin,Henn,Papathanasiou'20]... [He,Liu,Tang,Yang'22]}

Generic *n*-point 1-loop integrals All $m_i, p_i^2 \neq 0$ and different from each other



¹Where all $x_i \neq 0$

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because A-discriminants reduce to usual determinants:

- $\Delta_{\mathsf{Newt}(\mathcal{F})}(\mathcal{F}) = \det Y$: Leading¹ Landau singularity of type I (finite k)
- $\Delta_{\mathsf{Newt}(\mathcal{G})}(\mathcal{G}) = \det \mathcal{Y}$: Leading¹ Landau singularity of type II $(k \to \infty)$
- Subleading Landau singularity where x_{i1},..., x_{im} = 0 ~ Leading singularity of subgraph where internal edges i₁,..., i_m removed [Klausen'21]

¹Where all $x_i \neq 0$

Minors of modified Cayley matrix

For any matrix A with elements a_{mn} , let (j,k)-th minor of A be

$$A \begin{bmatrix} j \\ k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & a_{1,3} & \cdots & a_{1,k-1} & k & a_{1,k+1} & \cdots & a_{1,N} \\ a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} & a_{2,3} & \cdots & a_{2,k-1} & & a_{2,k+1} & \cdots & a_{2,N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \\ a_{j-1,1} & a_{j-1,2} & a_{j-1,3} & \cdots & a_{j-1,k-1} & & & a_{j-1,k+1} & \cdots & a_{j-1,N} \\ j & & & & & \\ a_{j+1,1} & a_{j+1,2} & a_{j+1,3} & \cdots & a_{j+1,k-1} & & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \\ a_{N,1} & a_{N,2} & a_{N,3} & \cdots & a_{N,k-1} & & & a_{N,k+1} & \cdots & a_{N,N} \\ \end{bmatrix},$$

where shading indicates removal of row and column. Similarly $A\begin{bmatrix} i_1 \dots i_k \\ j_1 \dots j_k \end{bmatrix}$, $A\begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix} = \det A$.

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where shading indicates removal of row and column. Similarly $A\begin{bmatrix} i_1 \dots i_k \\ j_1 \dots j_k \end{bmatrix}$, $A\begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix} = \det A.$ $\mathcal{Y}\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} & & & \\ p_1 & & & \\ p_2 & & & \\ p_3 & & & \\ p_4 & & & \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{Y}\begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} & & & & \\ p_1 & & & & \\ p_2 & & & & \\ p_3 & & & & \\ p_4 & & & & \end{pmatrix}$

Principal A-determinant of generic 1-loop graphs

Gathering previous bits of information, arrive at

$$E_A(\mathcal{G}) = \mathcal{Y}\left[\begin{array}{c} \cdot \\ \cdot \end{array} \right] \prod_{i=1}^{n+1} \mathcal{Y}\left[\begin{array}{c} i \\ i \end{array} \right] \cdots \prod_{i_{n-1} > \ldots > i_1 = 1}^{n+1} \mathcal{Y}\left[\begin{array}{c} i_1 \ldots i_{n-1} \\ i_1 \ldots i_{n-1} \end{array} \right] \prod_{i=2}^{n+1} \mathcal{Y}_{ii} \, .$$

Product of all diagonal k-dimensional minors of \mathcal{Y} with k = 1, ..., n + 1, except $\mathcal{Y}_{11} = 0$.

 $2^{n+1} - n - 2$ factors, e.g. 1, 4, 11, 26, 57, 120 factors for $n = 1, \dots, 6$.

From 1-loop rational to square-root letters

Working assumption: Square-root letters produced by re-factorizing E_A using Jacobi determinant identities of the form

$$p \cdot q = f^2 - g = (f - \sqrt{g})(f + \sqrt{g}),$$

where

- 1. p,q factors of E_A , i.e. rational letters.
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Motivated by interpretation of 1-loop integrals as volumes of spherical simplices. ^[Davydychev,Delbourgo'99] Jacobi identities,

$$A\begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ i \end{bmatrix} A\begin{bmatrix} i & j \\ i & j \end{bmatrix} = A\begin{bmatrix} i \\ i \end{bmatrix} A\begin{bmatrix} j \\ j \end{bmatrix} - A\begin{bmatrix} i \\ j \end{bmatrix} A\begin{bmatrix} j \\ i \end{bmatrix} A\begin{bmatrix} j \\ z \end{bmatrix}^{A=A^{T}} A\begin{bmatrix} i \\ i \end{bmatrix} A\begin{bmatrix} j \\ j \end{bmatrix} - A\begin{bmatrix} i \\ j \end{bmatrix}^{2}$$

crucial for their computation. Point 2 adopts widely observed pattern in 1and 2-loop computations.

All 1-loop letters I

Need only ratio $\frac{f-\sqrt{g}}{f+\sqrt{g}}$, as product already contained in rational alphabet. Letting $D = D_0 - 2\epsilon$, obtain N letters of type,

All 1-loop letters II

In addition, n(n-1)/2 letters of type,

All 1-loop letters III

Our procedure also predicts $\mathcal{Y}[:]$ and $\mathcal{Y}[\frac{1}{1}]$ as individual rational letters, but in fact only the ratio

$$W_{1,2,\ldots,n} = \frac{\mathcal{Y}\begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix}}{\mathcal{Y}\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}},$$

appears, as we'll get back to in next slide.

All 1-loop letters III

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Total letter count: Assuming $n \le d+1$ for external kinematics dimension d,

$$|W| = 2^{n-3} \left(n^2 + 3n + 8 \right) - \frac{1}{6} \left(n^3 + 5n + 6 \right) ,$$

e.g. |W| = 1, 5, 18, 57, 166 for $n = 1, \dots, 5$ and D_0 even.

Verification through differential equations & comparison with literature

From letter prediction, derived canonical differential equations through numeric IBP identities \Rightarrow confirmation.

By explicit computation up to n = 10, infer general form, e.g. $n + D_0$ even:

$$\begin{split} d\mathcal{J}_{1\dots n} = & \epsilon \ d\log W_{1\dots n} \ \mathcal{J}_{1\dots n} \\ &+ \epsilon \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} (-1)^{i + \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor} d\log W_{1\dots(i)\dots n} \ \mathcal{J}_{1\dots \widehat{i}\dots n} \\ &+ \epsilon \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (-1)^{i + j + \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor} d\log W_{1\dots(i)\dots(j)\dots n} \ \mathcal{J}_{1\dots \widehat{i}\dots \widehat{j}\dots n}. \end{split}$$

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Furthermore, compared to previous results for D_0 even based on

- 1. the diagrammatic coaction ^[Abreu,Britto,Duhr,Gardi'17]
- 2. the Baikov representation ^[Chen,Ma,Yang'22]

Agreement in form of CDE, as well as in letters for orientations presented in 2, see also. ^[Jiang,Yang'23]

Limits of generic to non-generic graphs

Proved that E_A has well-defined limit when any $m_i^2, p_j^2 \rightarrow 0$, namely it is unique regardless of the order with which we send them to zero.

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Limit of E_A when single parameter x takes value a may be defined as

$$\lim_{x \to a} E_A = \left. \frac{\partial^l \widetilde{E_A}}{\partial x^l} \right|_{x=a} \neq 0, \text{ with } \left. \frac{\partial^{l'} E_A}{\partial x^{l'}} \right|_{x=a} = 0 \text{ for } l' = 0, \dots, l-1,$$

While multivariate generalization straightforward, highly nontrivial that limit does not depend on order. E.g. triangle Cayley in limit $p_i^2 \rightarrow 0$:

$$\det Y = 0 + 2\sum_{i=1}^{3} p_i^2 (m_i^2 - m_{i-1}^2) (m_{i+1}^2 - m_{i-1}^2) + \mathcal{O}(p_j^2 p_k^2),$$

While limits of individual factors in E_A depend on limit order, E_A as a whole does not, since different orders produce factors it already contains.

Strong evidence that alphabet of non-generic FI correctly obtained as limit of generic one, in line with previous observations.

Mathematica Notebook

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0 0 -w(1, (2), (3)) w(1, (2), (3)) + w((1), (2), 3)	-w[3, (4)] -w[(1), (2), 3]	w[{3}, 4] n	0 -w(1, 2, (3))	8 w(1, (2), 3)	0 0	0 -w((1), 2, 3)	0 0	w[3, 4]	

Two-loop example of principal A-determinant-alphabet relation



Agrees precisely with (2dHPL) alphabet known to describe 2-loop master integrals with these kinematics! $^{\rm [Gehrmann, Remiddi'00]}$

Evidence that rational letters of polylogarithmic FI captured by polynomial form of Landau equations in terms of *principal A-determinant* E_A !

- Through 2 loops
- ▶ 1 loop: Also obtain square-root letters from Jacobi identities + CDE
- Strong evidence for well-defined limits to non-generic kinematics
- Easy-to-use Mathematica file with our results

Next Stage

- 1. More efficient evaluation of E_A + more 2-loop checks
- 2. New predictions for pheno, e.g. letters for $2 \rightarrow 3$ with 2 massive legs [Les Houches Standard Model Precision Wishlist'21]
- 3. Explore implications for beyond-polylogarithmic case

Further mathematical properties of Feynman integrals:Cohen-Macauley

Guarantees that

master integrals = volume of Newt(G)

Proved it for currently largest known class of 1-loop integrals, including completely on-shell/massless. For earlier work, see ^{[Tellander,Helmer'21][Walther'22]}

Relation to other properties:



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Further mathematical properties of Feynman integrals :Generalized permutohedron (GP) property

A polytope $P \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is GP if and only if every edge is parallel to $\mathbf{e}_i - \mathbf{e}_j$, where \mathbf{e}_i is unit vector on coordinate axis, for some $i, j \in \{1, \ldots, n\}$. E.g.



Practical utility: This property facilitates new methods for fast Monte Carlo evaluation of Feynman integrals. ^{[Borinsky'20][Borinsky,Munch,Tellander'23]}

Previously proven for generic kinematics. ^[Schultka'18] Here: Generalized to any graph where all external vertices joined by massive path.