

IBP Bottlenecks

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1. Introduction: Feynman integrals and integration by parts (IBP)
2. Master Integrals (MIs) and differential equations
3. The Laporta algorithm and technical challenges
4. Unitarity cuts ([blackboard](#))
5. Algebraic structure of the IBP relations
6. Summary

Each Feynman diagram with loops is specified in terms of a Feynman **integrand** which, after some (computer) algebra, can be written as a linear combination of expressions of the form:

$$J_{n_1 n_2 \dots n_k} = \frac{1}{A_1^{n_1} A_2^{n_2} \dots A_k^{n_k}},$$

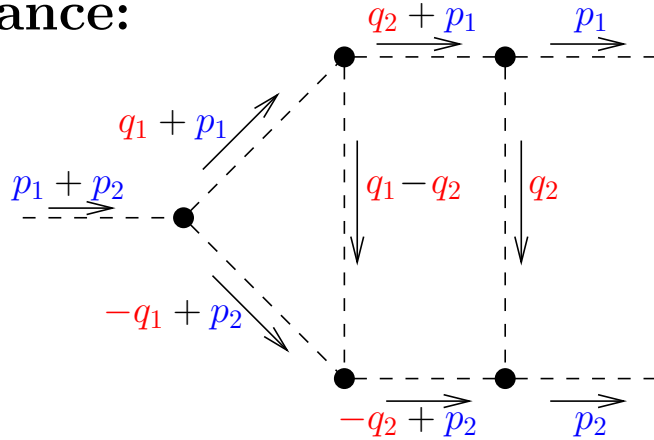
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For instance:



$$A_1 = M_1^2 - (q_1 + p_1)^2$$

$$A_2 = M_2^2 - (q_1 - q_2)^2$$

$$A_3 = M_3^2 - (-q_1 + p_2)^2$$

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$$A_5 = M_5^2 - q_2^2$$

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$$A_7 = M_7^2 - q_1^2$$

$$M_j^2 = m_j^2 - i\varepsilon$$

$$\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}_+, \underbrace{m_j \in \mathbb{R}_+ \cup \{0\}}_{\text{physical masses}}$$

$$m_7 = 0$$

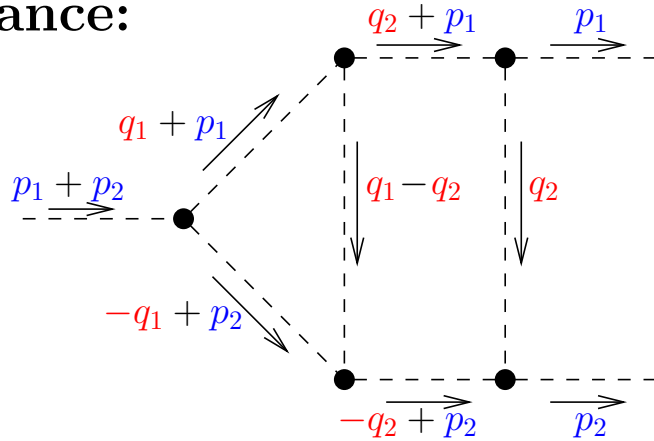
$$\text{Bases: } \{A_1, \dots, A_7\} \leftrightarrow \{q_1^2, q_2^2, q_1 q_2, q_1 p_1, q_1 p_2, q_2 p_1, q_2 p_2\}$$

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Within **dimensional regularization**, we find contributions to scattering amplitudes by replacing

$$\mathbf{J}_{n_1 n_2 \dots n_k} \rightarrow \mathbf{I}_{n_1 n_2 \dots n_k} \equiv F[D, \mathbf{J}_{n_1 n_2 \dots n_k}],$$

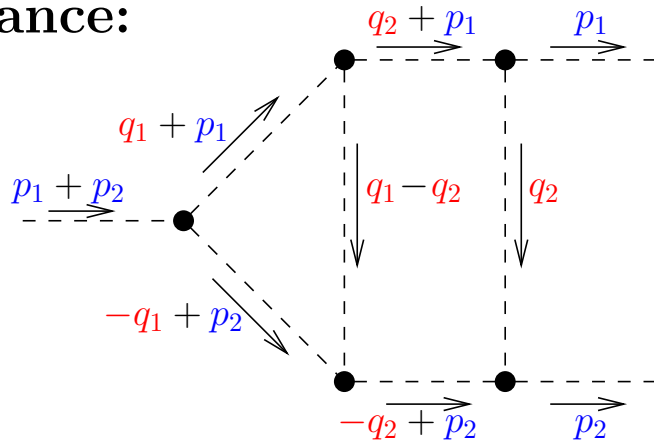
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The mapping F has the following properties:

- (i) $F[D, X]$ is linear in X , while X is a rational function of momentum products and M_j^2 .
- (ii) $F[D, X] = 0$ when X depends neither on the external momenta nor on $m_j^2 \neq 0$.
- (iii) For $D \in \mathbb{N}$, $F[D, X] = \int (d^D q_1) \dots (d^D q_L) X$ when the integral is finite and (ii) does not apply.
- (iv) $F[D, X] = 0$ when X is a total derivative w.r.t. any of the loop momenta.

$$\text{In our example } F\left[D, \frac{\partial}{\partial q_i^\alpha} (r^\alpha J)\right] = 0, \text{ where } r \in \{q_1, q_2, p_1, p_2\}.$$

Vanishing of F for total derivatives provides useful identities. Let us consider, for instance,

$$F \left[D, \frac{\partial}{\partial q_1^\alpha} (q_1^\alpha J_{11111110}) \right] = 0.$$

A straightforward calculation gives

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial q_1^\alpha} (q_1^\alpha J_{11111110}) &= m^2 (J_{21111110} - J_{12111110} + J_{11211110}) + \\ &+ (D - 3) J_{11111110} + J_{12111010} - J_{21111(-1)} - J_{12111(-1)} - J_{11211(-1)}, \end{aligned}$$

where, for simplicity, $p_1^2 = p_2^2 = m_2^2 = 0$, while all the other masses m_i have been set to m .

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We can view $I_{n_1 n_2 \dots n_k}$ as a mapping

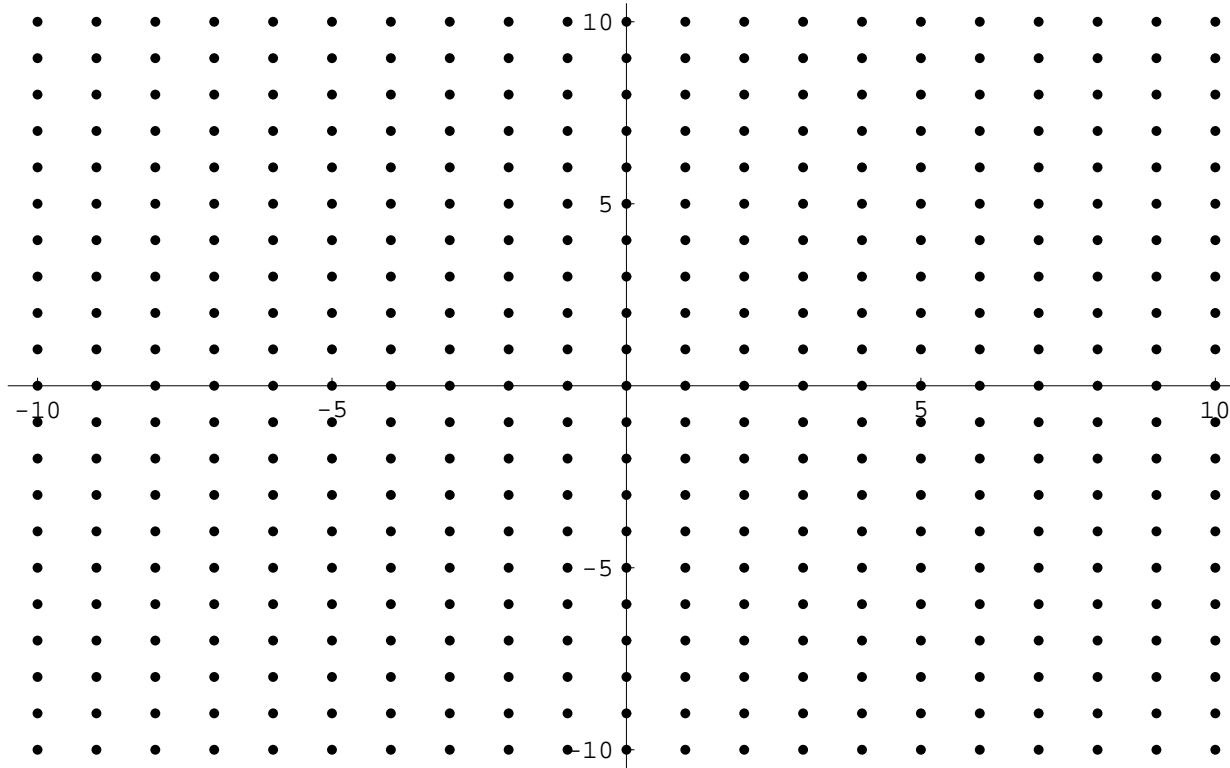
$$I: \mathbb{Z}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{C}^N) \quad [\text{Complex-valued functions of } D, M_j^2 \in \mathbb{C} \text{ and products of external momenta (treated as complex)}]$$

The IBP identities give us linear relations between values of I at several nearest-neighbour points.

Naively, we get “more relations than integrals”.

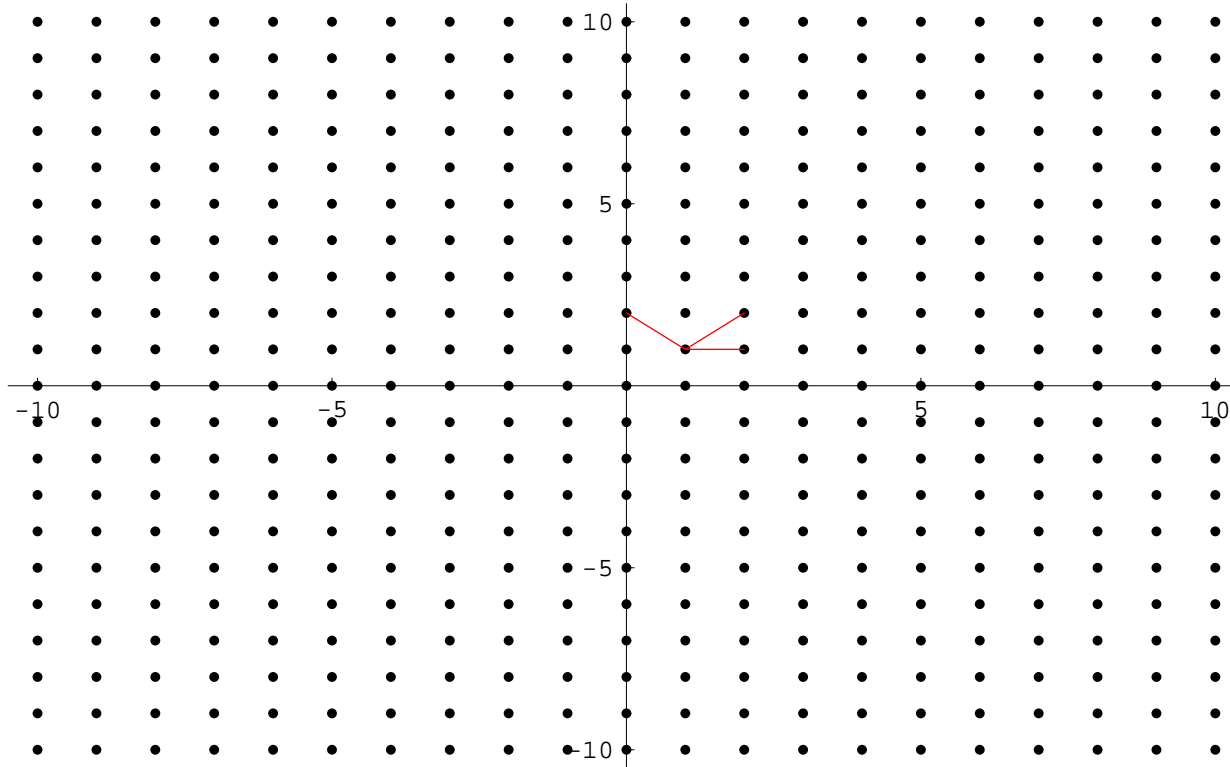
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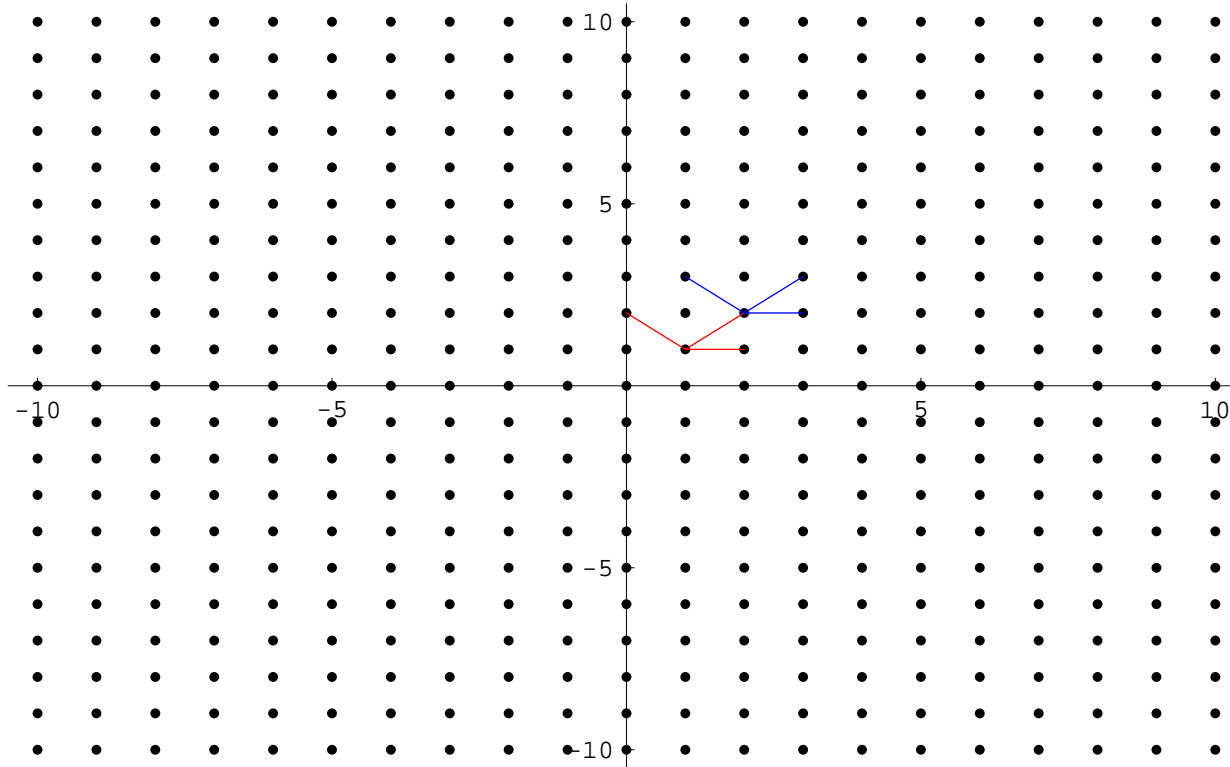
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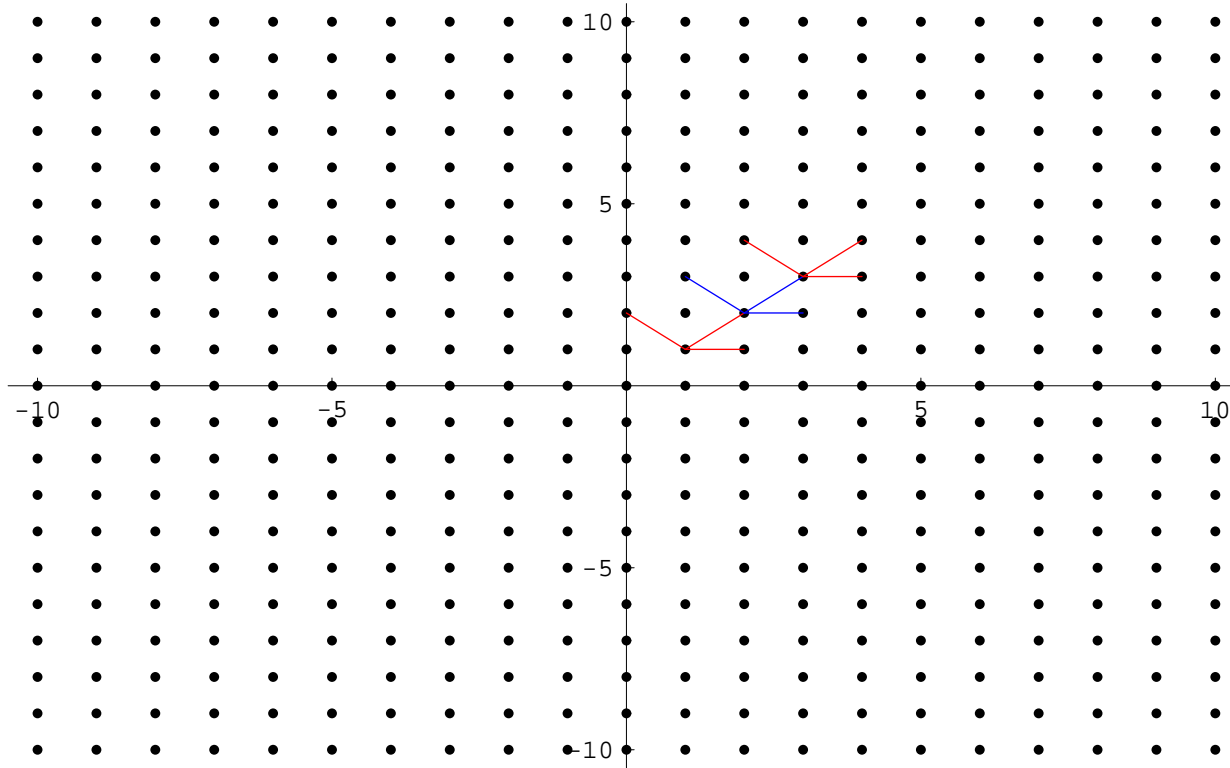
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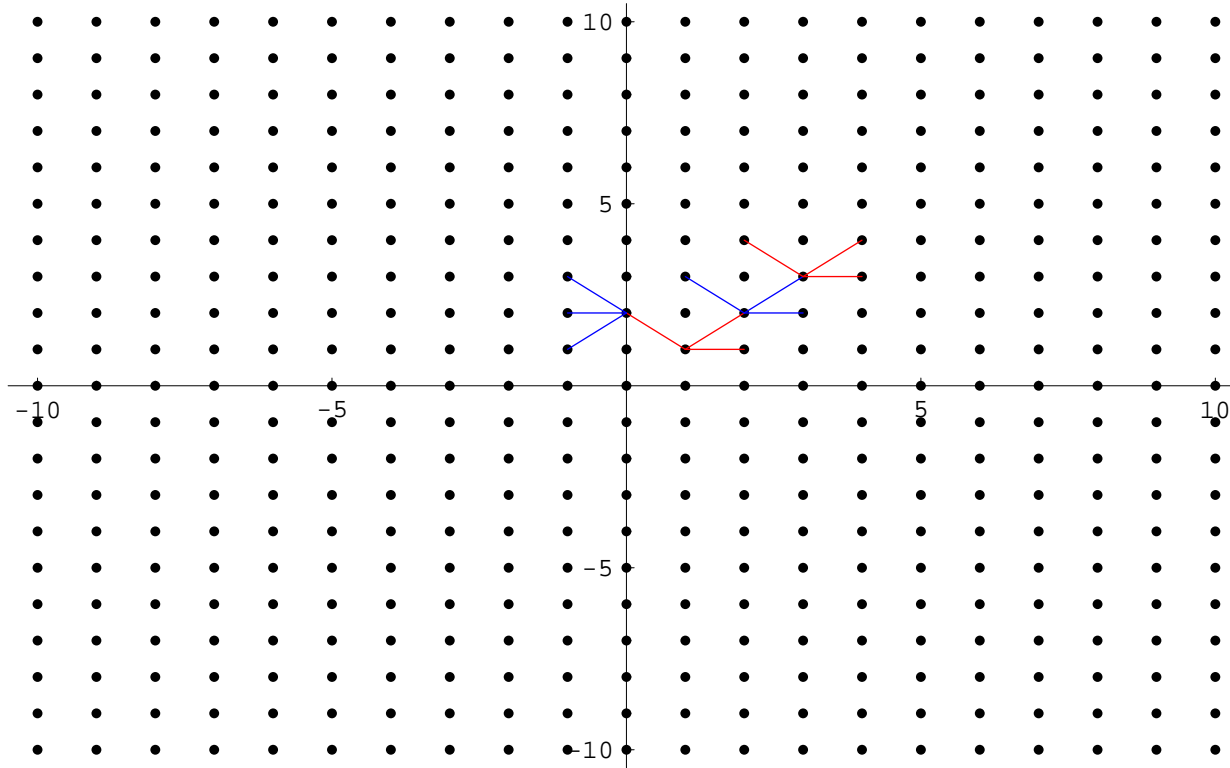
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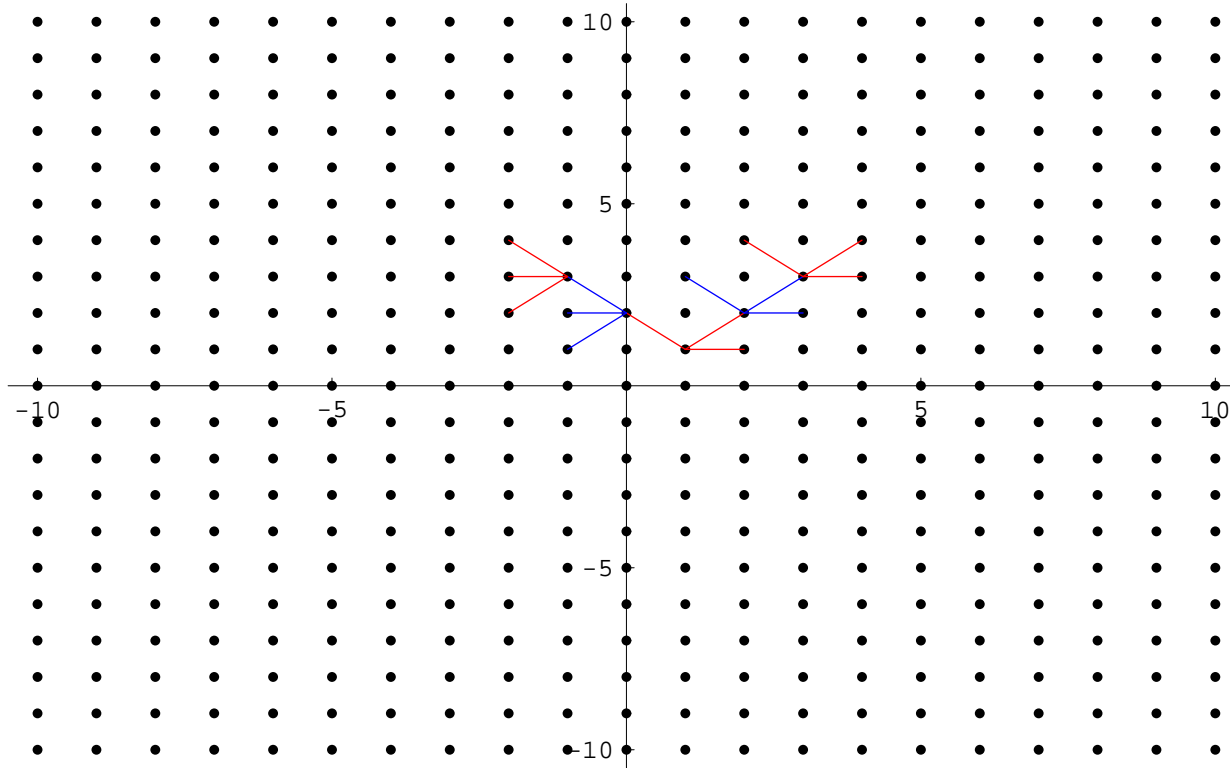
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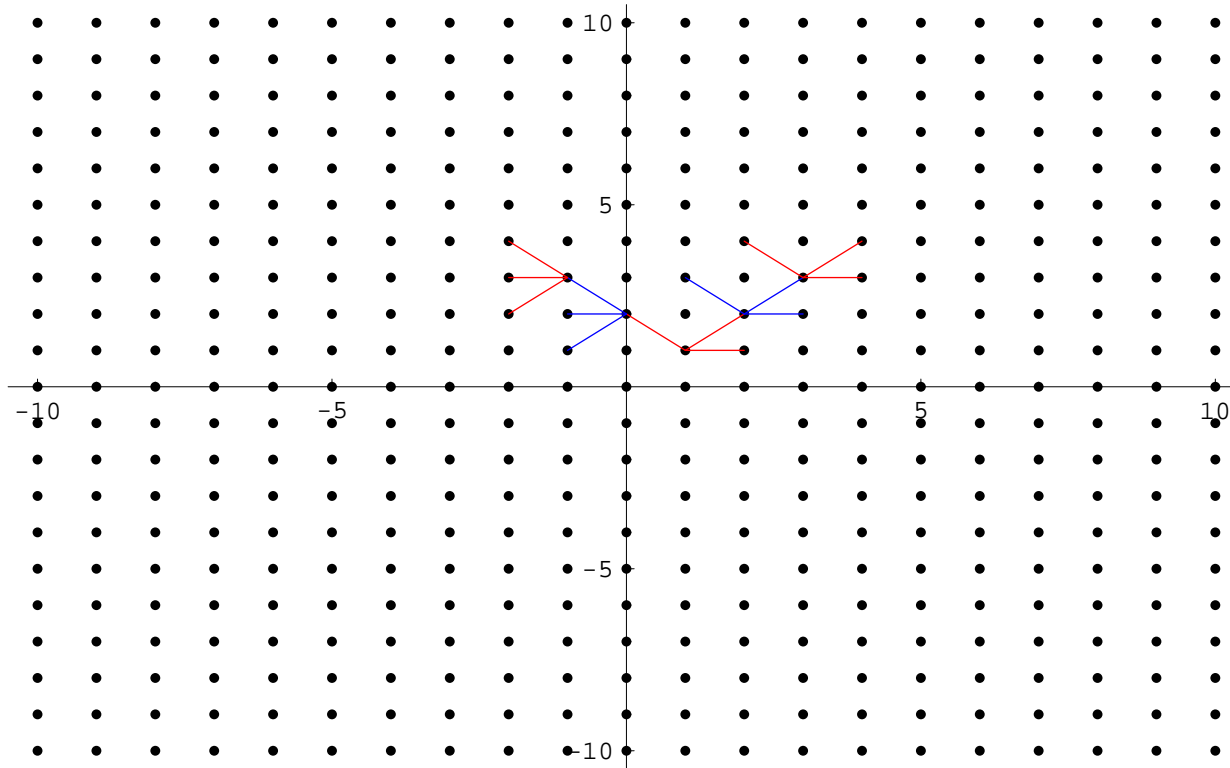
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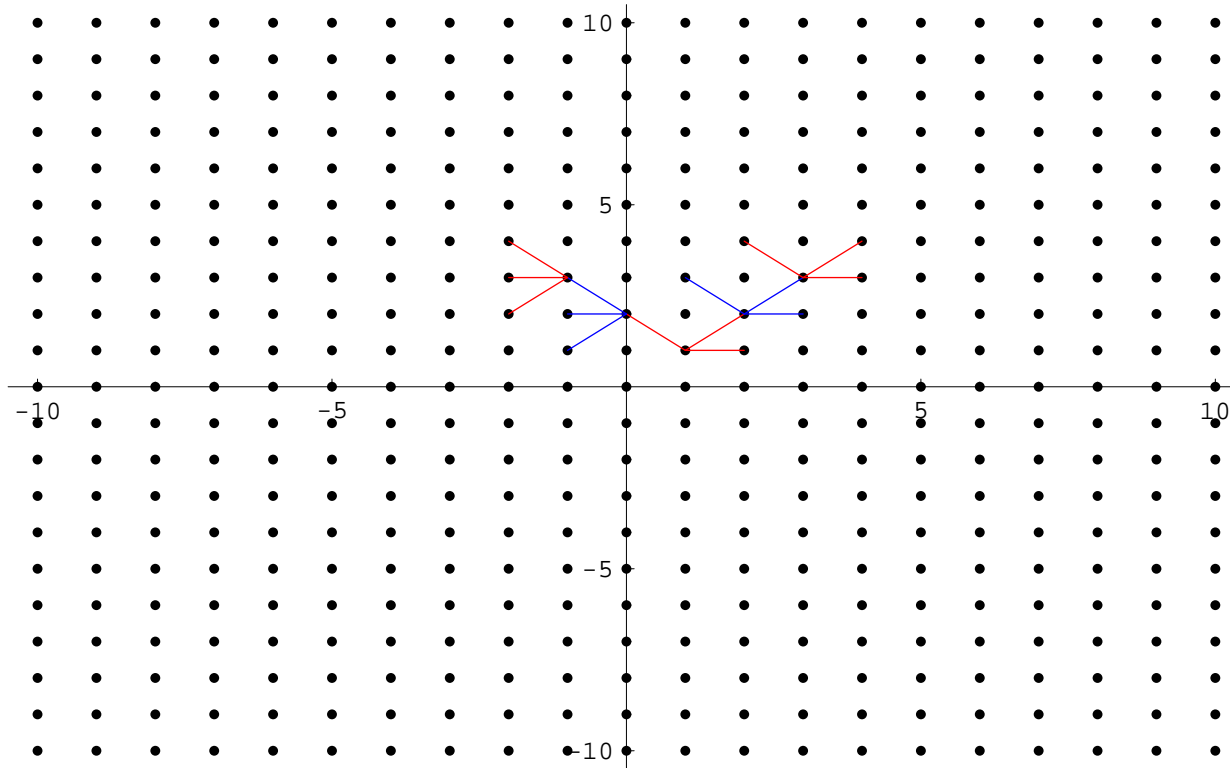


We get infinitely many linear relations among infinitely many functions.

This is similar to a linear recurrence relation, e.g., $H_{n+1}(z) = 2zH_n(z) - 2nH_{n-1}(z)$.
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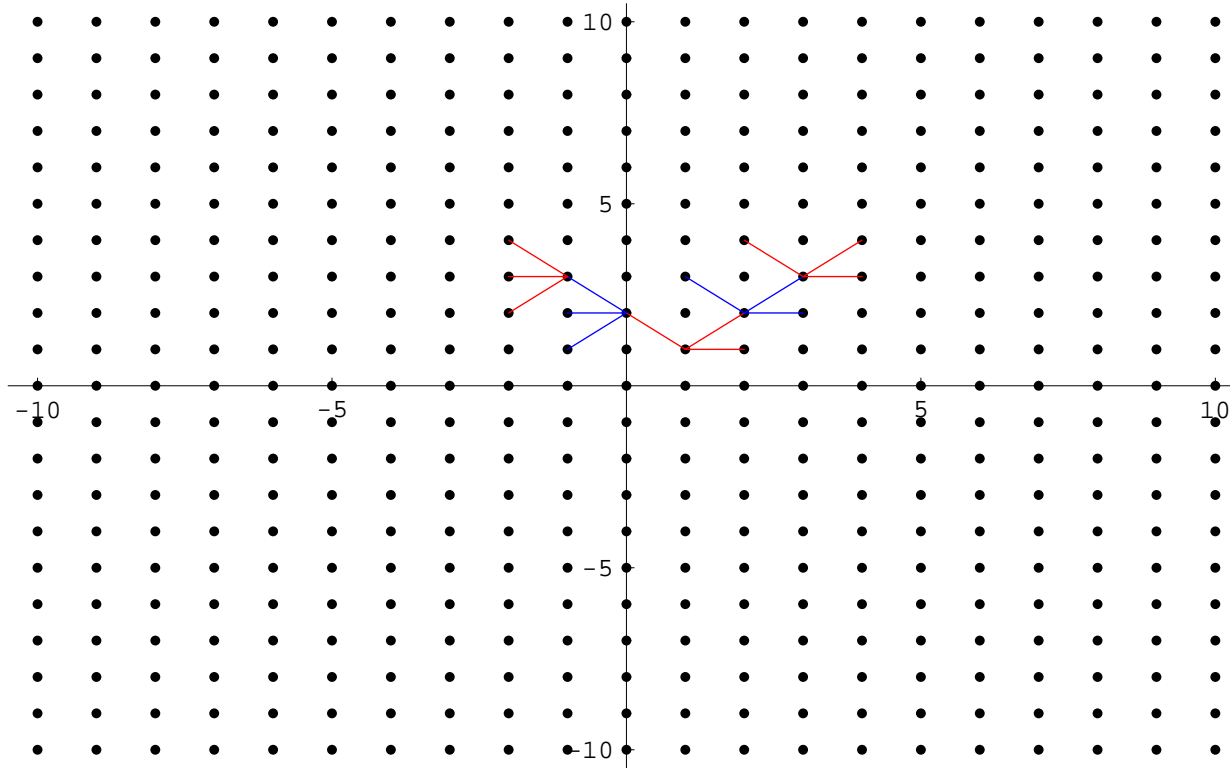
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Do the IBP give us a recurrence relation? Does a **finite set of $I_{n_1 n_2 \dots n_k}$** determine all of these functions?

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Answer: **Yes!**

Proof: A. V. Smirnov and A. V. Petukhov,
 “The Number of Master Integrals is Finite,”
 Lett. Math. Phys. 97 (2011) 37 [arXiv:1004.4199].

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In our example, when the integrand $J_{11111110}$ is differentiated w.r.t. m^2 , we get:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial(m^2)} J_{11111110} = -J_{21111110} - J_{11211110} - J_{11121110} - J_{11112110} - J_{11111120}.$$

Thus:

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Writing such derivatives for all the MIs and expressing the r.h.s. in terms of the MIs (using the IBP identities), we obtain a **closed** set of linear DEs for the MIs.

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Initial conditions for the DEs are set in regions where the evaluation of MIs is easier, e.g., for (masses) \gg (products of external momenta).

The recurrence relations following from the IBP have been solved analytically in several cases [e.g., K.G. Chetyrkin and F.V. Tkachov, Nucl. Phys. B192 (1981) 159; F.V. Tkachov, Phys. Lett. B100 (1981) 65].

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Consider a family of integrals $I_{n_1 \dots n_k}$ defined by a set of denominators $\{A_1, \dots, A_k\}$. In any particular physical calculation only a finite set of them is relevant.

- (i) We extend this set by including all the integrals with
(sum of positive indices) $\leq N_1$ and $|\text{sum of negative indices}| \leq N_2$,
with N_j fixed in a quasi-intuitive manner.
- (ii) Derive all the IBP relations involving *only* the selected integrals.
- (iii) Establish an absolute “simplicity” ordering in the selected set. Roughly:
First criterion: number of positive indices,
Second criterion: sum of positive indices,
Third criterion: $|\text{sum of negative indices}|$,
Next criteria: values of indices at particular positions.
- (iv) Solve the system of linear equations, expressing the
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Publicly available IBP codes:

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Unfortunately, this method is computationally heavy.

My current project: 451 families with $\mathcal{O}(1000)$ integrals each, depending on two variables: D and m_1/m_2 . For some families, few weeks with 1TB RAM and 2TB disk space are insufficient for FIRE 5.7. 6

Structure of the IBP relations [\[see R.N. Lee, arXiv:0804.3008\]](#)

Let us consider the operators $O_{ik} = \frac{\partial}{\partial q_i} r_k$ acting on the integrands J , where $r_k \in \{q_1, \dots, q_L, p_1, \dots, p_E\}$.

They form a closed Lie algebra with the commutation relations

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A one-dimensional analogy:

$$\begin{aligned} f_\eta(x) &= (1 + \eta) g[(1 + \eta)x + 2\eta] \quad \Rightarrow \quad \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f_\eta(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(x) dx. \\ f_\eta(x) &= g(x) + \eta \frac{d}{dx} [(x + 2)g(x)] + \mathcal{O}(\eta^2). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we may consider the IBP relations as following from the fact that the integrals are constant on the orbits corresponding to the generators Q_{ik} .

Structure of the IBP relations [\[see R.N. Lee, arXiv:0804.3008\]](#)

Let us consider the operators $O_{ik} = \frac{\partial}{\partial q_i} r_k$ acting on the integrands J , where $r_k \in \{q_1, \dots, q_L, p_1, \dots, p_E\}$.

They form a closed Lie algebra with the commutation relations

$$[O_{ik}, O_{jl}] = \delta_{il} O_{jk} - \delta_{jk} O_{il}.$$

They are related to infinitesimal redefinitions of loop momenta $q_i \rightarrow q'_i = q_i + \eta_{ik} r_k$ with constant η_{ik} , under which the integrals are invariant:

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Algorithms and codes for solving the IBP relations based on their “group structure” have been developed. [R.N. Lee, arXiv:1212.2685, 1310.1145]. However, they are not general. 7

Description in terms of functions on \mathbb{Z}^k

Change of notation: $I_{n_1, \dots, n_k} = f(n_1, \dots, n_k)$

Keep the external momenta and parameters fixed, so now

[see: [R.N. Lee, arXiv:0804.3008](#)]

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We introduce two types of operators acting on such functions:

$$(A_\alpha f)(n_1, \dots, n_k) = n_\alpha f(n_1, \dots, n_\alpha + 1, \dots, n_k)$$

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Let \mathcal{W} be the (Weyl) algebra of all possible polynomials in such operators.

Let \mathcal{L} be the left ideal in \mathcal{W} generated by $P_{ij} : (P_{ij} f)(n_1, \dots, n_k) = F[D, O_{ij} J_{n_1, \dots, n_k}]$.

It consists of all operators of the form $\sum_{ij} C_{ij} P_{ij}$ with $C_{ij} \in \mathcal{W}$.

All the P_{ij} have the form $a_{ij}^{\alpha\beta} A_\alpha B_\beta + b_{ij}^\alpha A_\alpha + c_{ij}$, with $a_{ij}^{\alpha\beta}, b_{ij}^\alpha, c_{ij} \in \mathbb{C}$.

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For any $R \in \mathcal{R}$, we have $(Rf)(1, \dots, 1) = 0$.

Description in terms of functions on \mathbb{Z}^k

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Our goal is to find a decomposition $w = L + R + r$ for any $w \in \mathcal{W}$ such that $L \in \mathcal{L}$, $R \in \mathcal{R}$, and r is the simplest possible.

Next, we focus on such w that $(wf)(1, \dots, 1) = f(n_1, \dots, n_k)$ for all the indices of interest.

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[see: R.N. Lee, arXiv:0804.3008]

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To my knowledge, this problem still awaits a solution for generic $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $a_{ij}^{\alpha\beta}, b_{ij}^\alpha, c_{ij} \in \mathbb{C}$. 8

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- High parallelization of the IBP reduction can be achieved with methods employing modular algebra → next talk.

BACKUP SLIDES

Structure of the differential equations [\[see J.M. Henn, arXiv:1412.2296\]](#)

Suppose our MIs depend only on two parameters: $\epsilon = (4 - D)/2$ and a single dimensionless ratio t of two kinematical variables (masses or momentum products).

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$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi(t, \epsilon) = H(t, \epsilon) \psi(t, \epsilon),$$

where the $N \times N$ matrix H is a **rational** function of t and ϵ .

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Dedicated codes (see, e.g., arXiv:1705.06252) search (often successfully) for such matrices X that

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This is advantageous because in practice we are interested in Laurent expansions

$$\tilde{\psi}(t, \epsilon) = \sum_{n=n_{\min}}^{\infty} \epsilon^n \tilde{\psi}_n(t).$$

Next: Getting $\tilde{\psi}_n(t)$ via iterative integration. Harmonic Polylogarithms (HPLs).