

# Cuts and Feynman Integrals beyond multiple polylogarithms

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LHC and the Standard Model: Physics and Tools  
CERN - 26 June 2017

Based on collaboration with *A. von Manteuffel, A. Primo, E. Remiddi*

[\[arXiv:1602.01481\]](#), [\[arXiv:1610.08397\]](#), [\[arXiv:1701.05905\]](#), [\[arXiv:1704.05465\]](#)

## Computation of multiloop Feynman Integrals is an essential step towards precise theoretical predictions in the **Standard Model**

1. The **Higgs discovery** at the LHC opened a window on the *electroweak symmetry breaking mechanism*
2. Thorough investigation of the consequences of *LHC measurements* requires **theoretical control** of different  $2 \rightarrow 2$  and  $2 \rightarrow 3$  processes, with very high precision (typically requires **2-loop calculations**)

$$VV, Hjet, HH, 2jet, 3jet, t\bar{t}, \dots$$

3. In presence of **massive loops** and/or **high multiplicities** ( $2 \rightarrow 3!$ ), many of these calculations are **practically impossible**
4. This, in spite of great advancement of our **computational techniques** and our understanding of the mathematics of scattering amplitudes...

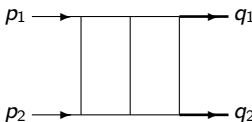
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Any **Feynman Diagrams** is (after some tedious but elementary algebra!) nothing but a collection of scalar **Feynman Integrals**

$$\mathcal{I}(p_1, p_2, q_1) =$$


with  $q_2 = p_1 + p_2 - q_1$

$$\mathcal{I}(p_1, p_2, q_1) = \int \frac{\mathcal{D}^d k \mathcal{D}^d l}{k^2 l^2 (k-l)^2 (k-p_1)^2 (k-p_{12})^2 (l-p_{12})^2 (l-q_1)^2}$$

Typical **2-loop** Feynman Integral required for the computation of a  $2 \rightarrow 2$  scattering process.

**Dimensionally regularised** Feynman Integrals fulfil **differential equations!**  
 [Kotikov '90, Remiddi '97, Gehrmann-Remiddi '00,..., C. Papadopoulos '14]



Direct consequence of **Integration-by-parts (IBPs)** identities in  $d$ -dimensions!

$$\int \prod_{j=1}^l \frac{d^d k_j}{(2\pi)^d} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial k_j^\mu} v_\mu \frac{S_1^{\sigma_1} \dots S_s^{\sigma_s}}{D_1^{\alpha_1} \dots D_n^{\alpha_n}} \right) = 0, \quad v^\mu = k_j^\mu, p_k^\mu$$

Reduced to **N master integrals**,  $l_i(d; x_k)$  with  $i = 1, \dots, N$ .



**Differentiating** the masters and using the **IBPs** we get a system of  
**N coupled differential equations**

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} l_i(d; x_k) = \sum_{j=1}^N c_{ij}(d; x_k) l_j(d; x_k).$$

A revolution in multi-loop calculations has started when physicists have re-discovered the so-called **multiple polylogarithms**  
 [E.Remiddi, J.Vermaseren '99; T. Gehrmann, E.Remiddi '00; ...]

$$G(0; x) = \ln(x), \quad G(a; x) = \ln\left(1 - \frac{x}{a}\right) \quad \text{for } a \neq 0$$

$$G(\underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_n; x) = \frac{1}{n!} \ln^n(x), \quad G(a, \vec{w}; x) = \int_0^x \frac{dy}{y-a} G(\vec{w}; y).$$



Multiple polylogarithms are *special* because they satisfy **first order differential equations** with rational coefficients

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} G(a, \vec{w}; x) = \frac{1}{x-a} G(\vec{w}; x) \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{purely non-homogeneous equation!}$$

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Interestingly enough, many multiloop Feynman integrals (mostly with massless propagators) satisfy **first order differential equations** in the mandelstam invariants, **at least in the limit  $d \rightarrow 4$ !**



As a result, the coefficients of their **Laurent series** for  $d \approx 4$  can be written as linear combinations of *rational functions* and *multiple polylogarithms*!

We understand almost everything about these functions now

[Goncharov '01, Duhr, Gangle, Rodes '12, Duhr '13, Panzer '14...]



**Explosion** of **phenomenologically important NNLO calculations** for the LHC, all required solving effectively only **first order differential equations**.

Exceptions (numerically!):

- $t\bar{t}$  at NNLO [Czakon et al, '13]
- $HH$  at NLO [Borowka et al, '16]



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Important development was the introduction of a **Canonical Basis** [Henn '13]

→ Rotate to a new basis of master integrals of **unit leading singularities**

The equations become

$$d\vec{I}(d; x) = \epsilon A(x)\vec{I}(d; x)$$

with  $A(x)$  in  $d$ -log form. In this case, master integrals are obviously (almost!) MPLs at every order in  $\epsilon$ .



In the present formulation, this is therefore limited to cases that integrate to **multiple-polylogarithms** (and fulfil therefore first order differential equations).

Let's look more in detail - *we should recall* that equations are in block form

$$I_j(d; x_k) = (m_j(d; x_k), \text{sub}_j(d; x_k))$$

↓

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} m_i(d; x_k) = \sum_{j=1}^N h_{ij}(d; x_k) m_j(d; x_k) + \sum_{j=1}^M n h_{ij}(d; x_k) \text{sub}_j(d; x_k).$$

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homogeneous piece is MAIN  
source of complexity - whether  
differential equations are coupled

⇓

No way to solve this in general...  
Use some "physical" insight...

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**non-homogeneous piece** is the second source of complexity – we must **integrate over it!**

⇓

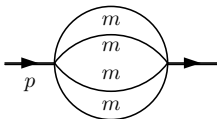
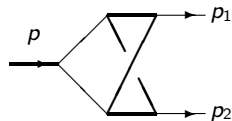
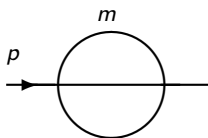
Can be simplified using **dispersion relations** [E.Remiddi, LT '16]

A canonical basis, when it exists, makes our life much easier  
→ integration in terms of multiple polylogarithms!

As a matter of fact, in many cases the equations remain **coupled** in  $d = 4$  and a canonical basis in the sense above **does not exist**.

It's enough to start putting some **masses in the loops** or to increase the **final state multiplicity**

We know a more and more examples now




What all these examples have **in common** is a **bulk  $2 \times 2$**  (or  $3 \times 3$ )  
irreducible system of differential equations



**How do we solve them?**

I want to go back to an older idea, in the context of the Sunrise graph  
[\[S.Laporta, E.Remiddi '04\]](#)

$$\left( \frac{d^2}{d s^2} + A(d; s) \frac{d}{d s} + B(d; s) \right)^p \rightarrow \text{Sunrise}(m) + G(d; s) \text{Tad}(d; m^2) = 0.$$


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They realized that the **imaginary part** of the sunrise is precisely **ONE** solution of homogeneous equation, since the Tadpole doesn't have a branch cut in  $s$ !

$$\left( \frac{d^2}{ds^2} + A(d; s) \frac{d}{ds} + B(d; s) \right) \text{Im} \left( \text{Sunrise}(m) \right) = 0.$$

How do we generalize this?

Computing the imaginary part means **cutting *maximally* the graph!**

$$\text{Im} \left( \text{Diagram} \right) \propto \text{Cut} \left( \text{Diagram} \right) = \text{Diagram with cut}$$

$$\text{Diagram with cut} = \oint_C \mathcal{D}^d k \mathcal{D}^d l \delta(k^2 - m^2) \delta(l^2 - m^2) \delta((k - l - p)^2 - m^2)$$

Clearly, any cut of a graph will fulfil a similar (*simpler*) differential equation

But, since all subtopologies have fewer propagators, if we **cut all propagators** (**maximal cut**) we are necessarily left only with the **homogeneous equation!**

The **Maximal Cut** provides us with **ONE solution** of the homogeneous system!  
[A. Primo, L. T. '16]

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The **Maximal Cut** provides us with **ONE solution** of the homogeneous system!

---

[A. Primo, L. T. '16]

↓

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \text{Cut}(m_i(d; x_k)) = \sum_{j=1}^N h_{ij}(d; x_k) \text{Cut}(m_j(d; x_k))$$

We can use **Baikov representation** [Baikov '96] in order to compute the cuts very efficiently [Frellesvig, Papadopoulos '17] (*See Costas' Talk tomorrow!*)

...But we need a way to find all independent solutions...

Main Idea:

cutting along different (independent) contours that don't cross any branch cuts of the integrand, we can get all different homogeneous solutions.

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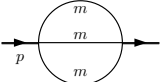
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Let's see how this works for the sunrise graph (with  $u = p^2/m^2$ )



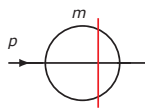
$$= S(d; u) = \int \frac{\mathfrak{D}^d k_1 \mathfrak{D}^d k_2}{[k_1^2 - m^2][k_2^2 - m^2][(k_1 - k_2 - p)^2 - m^2]},$$

For  $\epsilon = (2 - d)/2$  the sunrise fulfils a 2 **system of diff. equations**

$$\frac{d}{du} \begin{pmatrix} S_1(u) \\ S_2(u) \end{pmatrix} = B(u) \begin{pmatrix} S_1(u) \\ S_2(u) \end{pmatrix} + \epsilon D(u) \begin{pmatrix} S_1(u) \\ S_2(u) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} N_1(u) \\ N_2(u) \end{pmatrix}$$

We need to find a matrix of  $2 \times 2$  **independent homogeneous solutions!**

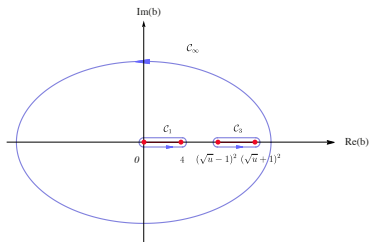
But cutting the graph maximally we find



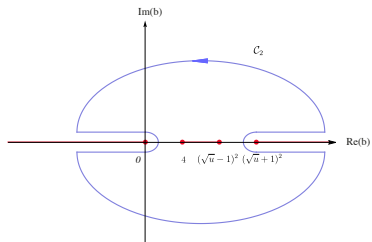
$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \oint_C \frac{db}{\sqrt{\pm b(b-4)(b-(\sqrt{u}-1)^2)(b-(\sqrt{u}+1)^2)}} \\
 &= \oint_C \frac{db}{\sqrt{\pm R_4(b,u)}}
 \end{aligned}$$

We want to get *independent homogeneous solutions*  
by integrating along **different contours**

The problem of how many independent contours exist is a **cohomology problem**, recent renewed interest from physics community  
[... ; Abreu, Britto, Duhr, Gardi '17 ]



(a)



(b)

(a)

$$\oint_{C_\infty} \frac{db}{\sqrt{R_4(b, u)}} = 0 \longrightarrow \oint_{C_1} \frac{db}{\sqrt{R_4(b, u)}} = - \oint_{C_3} \frac{db}{\sqrt{R_4(b, u)}}$$

(b)

$$\oint_{C_2} \frac{db}{\sqrt{-R_4(b, u)}}$$

Other two solutions by *differentiation* [or cutting the **second master integral**]

$$J_1(u) \propto \oint_{C_1} \frac{db}{\sqrt{R_4(b, u)}} \quad I_1(u) \propto \oint_{C_2} \frac{db}{\sqrt{-R_4(b, u)}}$$

$$J_2(u) \propto \oint_{C_1} \frac{db b^2}{\sqrt{R_4(b, u)}} \quad I_2(u) \propto \oint_{C_2} \frac{db b^2}{\sqrt{-R_4(b, u)}}$$

*And by construction we find*

$$\frac{d}{du} \begin{pmatrix} I_1(u) & J_1(u) \\ I_2(u) & J_2(u) \end{pmatrix} = B(u) \begin{pmatrix} I_1(u) & J_1(u) \\ I_2(u) & J_2(u) \end{pmatrix}$$



Matrix of solutions can be therefore written as the [matrix of the maximal cuts](#)

$$G(u) = \begin{pmatrix} I_1(u) & J_1(u) \\ I_2(u) & J_2(u) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \text{Cut}_{C_1}(S_1(u)) & \text{Cut}_{C_2}(S_1(u)) \\ \text{Cut}_{C_1}(S_2(u)) & \text{Cut}_{C_2}(S_2(u)) \end{pmatrix}$$

and recall that

$$G^{-1}(u) = \frac{1}{W(u)} \begin{pmatrix} J_2(u) & -J_1(u) \\ -I_2(u) & I_1(u) \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow W(u) = \det(G(u)) = I_1(u)J_2(u) - I_2(u)J_1(u)$$

where  $W(u)$  is the Wronskian of the solutions!

Let's rotate the system to a more convenient form

$$G(u) = \begin{pmatrix} I_1(u) & J_1(u) \\ I_2(u) & J_2(u) \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} S_1(u) \\ S_2(u) \end{pmatrix} = G(u) \begin{pmatrix} m_1(u) \\ m_2(u) \end{pmatrix}$$

Such that

$$\frac{d}{du} \begin{pmatrix} m_1(u) \\ m_2(u) \end{pmatrix} = \epsilon \underbrace{G^{-1}(u)D(u)G(u)} \begin{pmatrix} m_1(u) \\ m_2(u) \end{pmatrix} + G^{-1}(u) \begin{pmatrix} N_1(u) \\ N_2(u) \end{pmatrix}$$

↓

**Iterated integrals** over products of **two** elliptic integrals and rational functions!

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Interestingly, the iteration matrix can be written as a **total differential!**

$$M(u) = G^{-1}(u)D(u)G(u),$$

$$M_{11}(u) = -\frac{d}{du} \left[ \left( \frac{(u+3)^2}{6} I_1(u) J_1(u) \right) + \frac{\pi}{4} (2 \ln(u-9) + 2 \ln(u-1) - \ln(u)) \right],$$

$$M_{12}(u) = -\frac{d}{du} \left( \frac{(u+3)^2}{6} I_1(u) I_1(u) \right),$$

$$M_{21}(u) = +\frac{d}{du} \left( \frac{(u+3)^2}{6} J_1(u) J_1(u) \right),$$

$$M_{22}(u) = +\frac{d}{du} \left[ \left( \frac{(u+3)^2}{6} I_1(u) J_1(u) \right) + \frac{\pi}{4} (2 \ln(u-9) + 2 \ln(u-1) - \ln(u)) \right],$$

## Physical interpretation of this rotation

$$\begin{pmatrix} m_1(u) \\ m_2(u) \end{pmatrix} = G^{-1}(u) \begin{pmatrix} S_1(u) \\ S_2(u) \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{W(u)} \begin{pmatrix} J_2(u)S_1(u) - J_1(u)S_2(u) \\ -l_2(u)S_1(u) + l_1(u)S_2(u) \end{pmatrix}$$

Let **maximal-cut** it along the two **independent contours** that we found earlier

$$\text{Cut}_{\mathcal{C}_1} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} m_1(u) \\ m_2(u) \end{pmatrix} \right] = \frac{1}{W(u)} \begin{pmatrix} J_2(u)l_1(u) - J_1(u)l_2(u) \\ -l_2(u)l_1(u) + l_1(u)l_2(u) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\text{Cut}_{\mathcal{C}_2} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} m_1(u) \\ m_2(u) \end{pmatrix} \right] = \frac{1}{W(u)} \begin{pmatrix} J_2(u)J_1(u) - J_1(u)J_2(u) \\ -I_2(u)J_1(u) + J_1(u)I_2(u) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Physical interpretation of this rotation

$$\begin{pmatrix} m_1(u) \\ m_2(u) \end{pmatrix} = G^{-1}(u) \begin{pmatrix} S_1(u) \\ S_2(u) \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{W(u)} \begin{pmatrix} J_2(u)S_1(u) - J_1(u)S_2(u) \\ -I_2(u)S_1(u) + I_1(u)S_2(u) \end{pmatrix}$$

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You see what is happening here...

Remember, given a system of differential equations, the matrix of the maximal cuts is the matrix of the homogeneous solutions!

What about our new basis? For  $\epsilon = 0$  it's homogeneous equations is

$$\frac{d}{du} \begin{pmatrix} m_1(u) \\ m_2(u) \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

And indeed

$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{Cut}_{C_1}(m_1(u)) & \text{Cut}_{C_2}(m_1(u)) \\ \text{Cut}_{C_1}(m_2(u)) & \text{Cut}_{C_2}(m_2(u)) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \text{The **identity** !!!!}$$

**Unit leading singularity!!!** Generalization (?) of [Henn '13]



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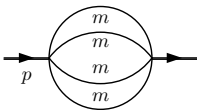
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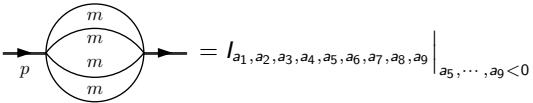
It turns out to be a formidable tool to simplify the solution of differential equations, even **beyond** the  $2 \times 2$  cases which give rise to **elliptic integrals**!



Let's see how it works for a  $3 \times 3$  example



We consider the three-loop two-point integral family defined by



$$= I_{a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5, a_6, a_7, a_8, a_9} \Big|_{a_5, \dots, a_9 < 0}$$

$$= \int \frac{\mathcal{D}^d k_1 \mathcal{D}^d k_2 \mathcal{D}^d k_3 (k_3^2)^{-a_5} (k_1 \cdot p)^{-a_6} (k_2 \cdot p)^{-a_7} (k_3 \cdot p)^{-a_8} (k_1 \cdot k_2)^{-a_9}}{[k_1^2 - m^2]^{a_1} [k_2^2 - m^2]^{a_2} [(k_1 - k_3)^2 - m^2]^{a_3} [(k_2 - k_3 - p)^2 - m^2]^{a_4}},$$

Has three master integrals (for simplicity  $\epsilon = (2 - d)/2$ )

$$\mathcal{I}_1(\epsilon; s) = (1 + 2\epsilon)(1 + 3\epsilon)(m^2)^{-2} I_{1,1,1,1,0,0,0,0,0},$$

$$\mathcal{I}_2(\epsilon; s) = (1 + 2\epsilon)(m^2)^{-1} I_{2,1,1,1,0,0,0,0,0},$$

$$\mathcal{I}_3(\epsilon; s) = I_{2,2,1,1,0,0,0,0,0},$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{I}_1(\epsilon; x) \\ \mathcal{I}_2(\epsilon; x) \\ \mathcal{I}_3(\epsilon; x) \end{pmatrix} = B(x) \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{I}_1(\epsilon; x) \\ \mathcal{I}_2(\epsilon; x) \\ \mathcal{I}_3(\epsilon; x) \end{pmatrix} + \epsilon D(x) \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{I}_1(\epsilon; x) \\ \mathcal{I}_2(\epsilon; x) \\ \mathcal{I}_3(\epsilon; x) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -\frac{1}{2(4x-1)} \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $B(x)$  and  $D(x)$  are  $3 \times 3$  matrices, with  $x = 4m^2/p^2$

$$B(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{x} & \frac{4}{x} & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{4(x-1)} & \frac{1}{x} - \frac{2}{x-1} & \frac{3}{x} - \frac{3}{x-1} \\ \frac{1}{8(x-1)} - \frac{1}{8(4x-1)} & \frac{1}{x-1} - \frac{3}{2(4x-1)} & \frac{1}{x} - \frac{6}{4x-1} + \frac{3}{2(x-1)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$D(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{x} & \frac{12}{x} & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{x-1} & \frac{2}{x} - \frac{6}{x-1} & \frac{6}{x} - \frac{6}{x-1} \\ \frac{1}{2(x-1)} - \frac{1}{2(4x-1)} & \frac{3}{x-1} - \frac{9}{2(4x-1)} & \frac{1}{x} - \frac{12}{4x-1} + \frac{3}{x-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

We need to find now three independent solutions, i.e. a matrix

$$G(x) = \begin{pmatrix} H_1(x) & J_1(x) & I_1(x) \\ H_2(x) & J_2(x) & I_2(x) \\ H_3(x) & J_3(x) & I_3(x) \end{pmatrix} \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{d}{dx} G(x) = B(x) G(x).$$

Or, if our idea is correct, there should exist **three independent** integration contours  $\mathcal{C}_1$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_2$  and  $\mathcal{C}_3$  such that (for  $\epsilon = 0$ )

$$G(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \text{Cut}_{\mathcal{C}_1}(\mathcal{I}_1(x)) & \text{Cut}_{\mathcal{C}_2}(\mathcal{I}_1(x)) & \text{Cut}_{\mathcal{C}_3}(\mathcal{I}_1(x)) \\ \text{Cut}_{\mathcal{C}_1}(\mathcal{I}_2(x)) & \text{Cut}_{\mathcal{C}_2}(\mathcal{I}_2(x)) & \text{Cut}_{\mathcal{C}_3}(\mathcal{I}_2(x)) \\ \text{Cut}_{\mathcal{C}_1}(\mathcal{I}_3(x)) & \text{Cut}_{\mathcal{C}_2}(\mathcal{I}_3(x)) & \text{Cut}_{\mathcal{C}_3}(\mathcal{I}_3(x)) \end{pmatrix}$$

It is very easy to compute the maximal cut of  $\mathcal{I}_1(x)$  (at least it's integrand!)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cut}(\mathcal{I}_1(x)) &= x \oint_{C'} \frac{da db}{\sqrt{ab(ab-x)}\sqrt{(a+1)(b+1)((a+1)(b+1)-x)}} \\ &= x \oint_{C'} \frac{da db}{\sqrt{R(a,b,x)}}, \end{aligned}$$

$$R(a,b,x) = ab(ab-x)(a+1)(b+1)((a+1)(b+1)-x).$$

It is relatively easy to verify that there are only 3 possible independent integration contours, that can in turn be shrunk to three **two-dimensional real integrals**

$$f_1^V(x) = x \oint_{C_1} \frac{da db}{\sqrt{R(a, b, x)}} = x \int_0^\infty db \int_{-1}^{x/(b+1)-1} \frac{da}{\sqrt{-R(a, b, x)}}$$

$$f_2^V(x) = x \oint_{C_2} \frac{da db}{\sqrt{R(a, b, x)}} = x \int_0^\infty db \int_{x/(b+1)-1}^0 \frac{da}{\sqrt{R(a, b, x)}},$$

$$f_1^{IV}(x) = x \oint_{C_3} \frac{da db}{\sqrt{R(a, b, x)}} = x \int_{x-1}^0 db \int_{x/b}^{-1} \frac{da}{\sqrt{-R(a, b, x)}}$$



Interestingly enough, with some effort, and following:

[Bailey, Borwein, Broadhurst '08]

$$f_1^V(x) = 2x K(k_-^2) K(k_+^2)$$

$$f_2^V(x) = 4x \left( K(k_-^2) K(1 - k_+^2) + K(k_+^2) K(1 - k_-^2) \right),$$

$$k_{\pm} = \frac{\sqrt{(\gamma + \alpha)^2 - \beta^2} \pm \sqrt{(\gamma - \alpha)^2 - \beta^2}}{2\gamma} \quad \text{with} \quad k_- = \left( \frac{\alpha}{\gamma} \right) \frac{1}{k_+} = \frac{2\alpha}{k_+}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{x(1-x)}}{2}, \quad \beta = \frac{\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{x(1-x)}}{2}, \quad \gamma = \frac{1}{2}$$

Result expected from studies of [Joyce '73](#) on cubic lattice Green functions!  
Elliptic Tri-Log by [Bloch, Kerr, Vanhove '14](#)

We choose as three independent functions

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{H}_1(x) &= x \, \mathbb{K} \left( k_+^2 \right) \mathbb{K} \left( k_-^2 \right) , \\ \mathcal{J}_1(x) &= x \, \mathbb{K} \left( k_+^2 \right) \mathbb{K} \left( 1 - k_-^2 \right) , \\ \mathcal{I}_1(x) &= x \, \mathbb{K} \left( 1 - k_+^2 \right) \mathbb{K} \left( k_-^2 \right) ,\end{aligned}$$

where the remaining rows of the matrix  $G(x)$  can be obtained by differentiation. With this choice we have

$$W(x) = - \frac{\pi^3 x^3}{512 \sqrt{(1-4x)^3(1-x)}}$$

We can perform the same rotation as for the sunrise, but now  $3 \times 3$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{I}_1(x) \\ \mathcal{I}_2(x) \\ \mathcal{I}_3(x) \end{pmatrix} = G(x) \begin{pmatrix} M_1(x) \\ M_2(x) \\ M_3(x) \end{pmatrix}$$

which by construction fulfil the system

$$\frac{d}{dx} \begin{pmatrix} M_1(x) \\ M_2(x) \\ M_3(x) \end{pmatrix} = \epsilon \underbrace{G^{-1}(x)D(x)G(x)} \begin{pmatrix} M_1(x) \\ M_2(x) \\ M_3(x) \end{pmatrix} + G^{-1}(x) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -\frac{1}{2(4x-1)} \end{pmatrix}$$

↓

Iterated integrals over products of **6** elliptic integrals!

The method works!  
It allows us to write **integral representations** for the solutions.  
It is **NOT** limited to the **elliptic case** !

Still problem remains, what are these functions???

Different approaches to **Elliptic Polylogarithms** for the sunrise case

[Adams, Bogner, Weinzierl, Bloch, Vanhove, ....]

Topic of a totally different talk !

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## CONCLUSIONS

- 1- Computation of multiloop Feynman integrals is essential ingredient towards **precision physics** (at LHC and beyond).
- 2- Last years developments allowed us to compute huge number of new processes in terms of **multiple polylogarithms**  
→ **NNLO pheno revolution is starting...**
- 3- Multiple polylogarithms are not the end of the story at two-loops. All our techniques would break down when approaching this case:  
**Elliptic functions** (and maybe beyond?) → *hic sunt leones*
- 4- I think we can say, today we understand something more: maximal cut can be practically used to solve the homogeneous solution: it is a **fundamental step towards a complete solution!**

## 5- What is missing?

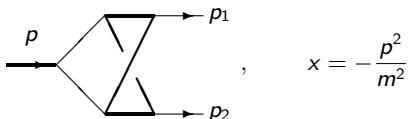
- a) Understanding of these new functions –
  - some promising steps have been taken
  - [S. Weinzierl et al. '14,'15,'16, '17]
  
- b) Handling the algebraic complexity and swell of expressions at intermediate stages –
  - brute force (more RAM, faster CPUs,... ?)
  - more clever reduction codes?
  - finite fields? [A.Manteuffel, R.Schabinger '15; T.Peraro '16]
  - Two- (multi-)loop unitarity? [S.Badger et al '13,'14,'15; H. Ita '16; P.Mastrolia et al '11,'13,'16; ....]



THANKS!

## Backup slides

An explicit example [A.von Manteuffel, L.T. '17]



There are **11 MIs**  $m_j$   $j=1,\dots,11$ .

All **9 subtopologies** can be written in terms of polylogs (*not trivial!*)

$$\ln(f(l_j)), \quad \text{Li}_n(f(l_j)), \quad \text{Li}_{2,2}(f(l_j), g(l_j)),$$

with

$$l_j = \{\sqrt{x}, \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{x+4}), \sqrt{x+4}, \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{x-4}), \sqrt{x-4}\}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \begin{pmatrix} m_{10} \\ m_{11} \end{pmatrix} = B(x) \begin{pmatrix} m_{10} \\ m_{11} \end{pmatrix} + \epsilon D(x) \begin{pmatrix} m_{10} \\ m_{11} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} N_{10}(\epsilon; x) \\ N_{11}(\epsilon; x) \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $B(x)$  and  $D(x)$  are two  $2 \times 2$  **matrices** that **do not depend on  $\epsilon$** ,

$$B(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2(x-16)} - \frac{1}{2x} \\ \frac{1}{2x} & \frac{1}{x} \end{pmatrix}, \quad D(x) = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{2}{x} & \frac{1}{x-16} - \frac{1}{x} \\ \frac{2}{x} & \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x-16} \end{pmatrix},$$

$N_{10}(\epsilon; x)$  and  $N_{11}(\epsilon; x)$  are **subtopologies (polylogs)**

$$N_{10}^{(j)}(x) = 0, \quad N_{11}^{(j)}(x) = 0, \quad j = 0, 1, 2, 3$$

$$N_{10}^{(4)}(x) = 0$$

$$N_{11}^{(4)}(x) = 5 \ln^2(l_2) - l_1 \frac{3/2 \zeta_2 + 3 \ln^2(l_4) + 3 \text{Li}_2(-1/l_4^2)}{l_5},$$

**First step:** Solve homogeneous system for  $\epsilon = 0$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \begin{pmatrix} m_{10} \\ m_{11} \end{pmatrix} = B(x) \begin{pmatrix} m_{10} \\ m_{11} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \text{complete solution is a } 2 \times 2 \text{ matrix}$$

First two solutions from **second order differential equation** for  $m_{10}$

$$\frac{d^2 m_{10}(x)}{dx^2} + \left( \frac{1}{x-16} \right) \frac{d m_{10}(x)}{dx} + \frac{1}{64} \left( \frac{1}{x} + \frac{16}{x^2} - \frac{1}{x-16} \right) m_{10}(x) = 0$$

Use the **maximal cut** so find it's **two independent solutions** (as for sunrise!)

$$\text{Cut}_1(m_{10}) = h_1(x) = \sqrt{x} K\left(\frac{x}{16}\right), \quad \text{Cut}_2(m_{10}) = J_1(x) = \sqrt{x} K\left(1 - \frac{x}{16}\right).$$

From the system of differential equations the other two solutions are obtained

$$I_2(x) = -\sqrt{x} E\left(\frac{x}{16}\right), \quad J_2(x) = \sqrt{x} \left[ E\left(1 - \frac{x}{16}\right) - K\left(1 - \frac{x}{16}\right) \right],$$

where  $E(x)$  is the complete elliptic integral of the second kind.

$$E(x) = \int_0^1 dt \sqrt{\frac{1 - x t^2}{1 - t^2}}$$

They correspond to the maximal cut of the second master integral  $m_{11}$ !

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They correspond to the **maximal cut** of the **second master integral**  $m_{11}$ !

Writing integral representation is now straightforward. The **two master integrals** can be written as

$$m_{10}^{(4)}(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ J_1(x) \int_0^x dt l_1(t) Q(t) - l_1(x) \int_0^x dt J_1(t) Q(t) \right],$$

$$m_{11}^{(4)}(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ J_2(x) \int_0^x dt l_1(t) Q(t) - l_2(x) \int_0^x dt J_1(t) Q(t) \right].$$

All building blocks are well understood functions

$$Q(t) = 5 \ln^2(l_2) - l_1 \frac{3/2 \zeta_2 + 3 \ln^2(l_4) + 3 \text{Li}_2(-1/l_4^2)}{l_5}$$

$$l_1(t) = \sqrt{x} K\left(\frac{x}{16}\right), \quad J_1(x) = \sqrt{x} K\left(1 - \frac{x}{16}\right).$$

$$l_2(x) = -\sqrt{x} E\left(\frac{x}{16}\right), \quad J_2(x) = \sqrt{x} \left[ E\left(1 - \frac{x}{16}\right) - K\left(1 - \frac{x}{16}\right) \right],$$



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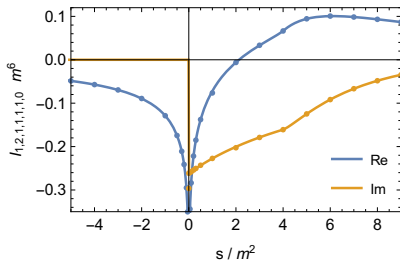
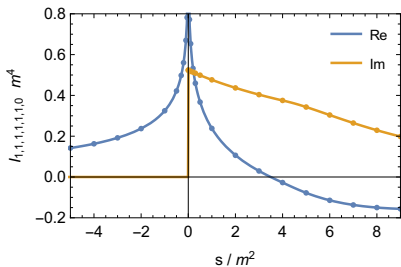
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$$l_1(t) = \sqrt{x} K\left(\frac{x}{16}\right), \quad J_1(x) = \sqrt{x} K\left(1 - \frac{x}{16}\right).$$

$$l_2(x) = -\sqrt{x} E\left(\frac{x}{16}\right), \quad J_2(x) = \sqrt{x} \left[ E\left(1 - \frac{x}{16}\right) - K\left(1 - \frac{x}{16}\right) \right],$$

The integral representation of the solution is well suited for analytic continuation and, **very importantly**, **fast and precise numerical evaluation**



Comparison against SecDec 3 [S.Borowka et al., '15] for the two masters