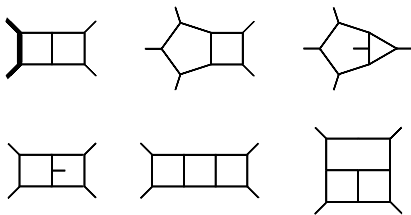


# Differential equations for loop integrals without squared propagators

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Based on 1712.03760  
with Jorrit Bosma and Yang Zhang

Differential equations: **powerful tool for computing loop integrals.**

Given a basis  $\mathcal{I} = (\mathcal{I}_1, \dots, \mathcal{I}_N)$ , differentiate wrt. an external invariant  $x_m$   
[T. Gehrmann and E. Remiddi, Nucl. Phys., **B580**, 485 (2000)]

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_m} \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{x}, \epsilon) = A_m(\mathbf{x}, \epsilon) \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{x}, \epsilon)$$

To determine  $A_m$ , use integration-by-parts reductions.

The differential operators typically produce doubled propagators

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial p^\mu} \frac{1}{(\ell - p)^2} = \frac{2(\ell - p)_\mu}{((\ell - p)^2)^2}$$

Doubled propagators  $\implies$  larger linear systems to row reduce.

Question: **can we avoid integrals with squared propagators?**

$\longrightarrow$  Talks by **Ben Page**  
**Fernando Febres-Cordero**  
**Mao Zeng**

# Baikov representation

Consider a generic loop integral,

$$I(N; \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m; D) = \int \prod_{j=1}^L \frac{d^D \ell_j}{i\pi^{D/2}} \frac{\overbrace{D_{k+1}^{\alpha_{k+1}} \dots D_m^{\alpha_m}}^N}{D_1^{\alpha_1} \dots D_k^{\alpha_k}}$$

Let  $\{v_1, \dots, v_{E+L}\} \equiv \{p_1, \dots, p_E, \ell_1, \dots, \ell_L\}$  and, with  $x_{i,j} = v_i \cdot v_j$

$$U = \begin{vmatrix} x_{1,1} & \cdots & x_{1,E} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_{E,1} & \cdots & x_{E,E} \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad F = \begin{vmatrix} x_{1,1} & \cdots & x_{1,E+L} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_{E+L,1} & \cdots & x_{E+L,E+L} \end{vmatrix}.$$

The Baikov variables are the inverse propagators ( $m = LE + \frac{L(L+1)}{2}$ )

$$z_\alpha = D_\alpha = \sum_{\beta=1}^m A_{\alpha\beta} x_\beta + \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq E} (B_\alpha)_{ij} \lambda_{ij} \quad \text{with} \quad A_{\alpha\beta}, (B_\alpha)_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}$$

The Baikov representation is

$$I(N; \alpha; D) \propto U^{\frac{E-D+1}{2}} \int dz_1 \dots dz_m \frac{z_{k+1}^{\alpha_{k+1}} \dots z_m^{\alpha_m}}{z_1^{\alpha_1} \dots z_k^{\alpha_k}} F^{\frac{D-L-E-1}{2}}$$

# Differential equations in Baikov representation

Differentiating the Baikov representation

$$I(N; \alpha; D) \propto U^{\frac{E-D+1}{2}} \int dz_1 \cdots dz_m \frac{z_{k+1}^{\alpha_{k+1}} \cdots z_m^{\alpha_m}}{z_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots z_k^{\alpha_k}} F^{\frac{D-L-E-1}{2}}$$

wrt. any external invariant  $\chi$  produces

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \chi} I(N; \alpha; D) = \frac{E-D+1}{2U} \frac{\partial U}{\partial \chi} I(N; \alpha; D) + \frac{D-L-E-1}{2} I\left(\frac{1}{F} \frac{\partial F}{\partial \chi} N; \alpha; D\right)$$

(D-2)-dimensional

The dimension shift can be avoided if  $\exists$  polynomial  $(a_i, b)$  s.t.

[H. Frellesvig and C. G. Papadopoulos, JHEP 04, 083 (2017)]

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \chi} = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_i} + bF$$

Namely, integration by parts in  $z_i$  then yields

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \chi} I(N; \alpha; D) &= \frac{E-D+1}{2U} \frac{\partial U}{\partial \chi} I(N; \alpha; D) - \sum_{i=1}^m I\left(z_i^{\alpha_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial z_i} \frac{a_i N}{z_i^{\alpha_i}}; \alpha; D\right) \\ &\quad + \frac{D-L-E-1}{2} I(bN; \alpha; D) \end{aligned}$$

# Differential equations in Baikov representation

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# Fundamental ideal membership

We refer to the property

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \chi} = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_i} + bF$$

as the *fundamental ideal membership*.

General solution for the cofactors  $(a_i, b)$ :

$$a_{ik,\alpha} = -\frac{\partial z_\alpha}{\partial \lambda_{ik}} - \sum_{j=1}^E \sum_{q=E+1}^{E+L} (1+\delta_{iq}) \frac{\partial z_\alpha}{\partial x_{iq}} (G_i^{-1})_{kj} x_{jq}$$
$$b_{ik} = 2(G_i^{-1})_{ki}$$

where  $G_i$  is  $\text{Gram}(p_1, \dots, p_E)$  with the  $i$ th column multiplied by 2.

Thus, differential equations can always be expressed in Baikov representation without involving dimension shifts.

# Differential equations without squared propagators

We have established the fundamental ideal membership

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \chi} \in \left\langle \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_m}, F \right\rangle.$$

If the following *enhanced* membership ideal property holds,

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \chi} \in \left\langle z_1 \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_1}, \dots, z_k \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_k}, \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_{k+1}}, \dots, \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_m}, F \right\rangle$$

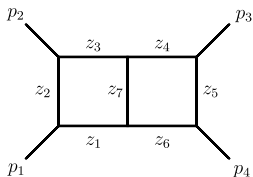
then the corresponding decomposition of  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial \chi}$  leads to diff. eqs. without squared propagators,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \chi} I(N; \alpha; D) &= \frac{E-D+1}{2U} \frac{\partial U}{\partial \chi} I(N; \alpha; D) - \sum_{i=1}^k I\left(z_i \frac{\partial}{\partial z_i} (b_i N) + (1-\alpha_i) b_i N; \alpha; D\right) \\ &\quad - \sum_{i=k+1}^m I\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_i} (a_i N) - \frac{\alpha_i a_i N}{z_i}; \alpha; D\right) + \frac{D-L-E-1}{2} I(bN; \alpha; D) \end{aligned}$$

“linking formula”

as only non-negative powers  $z_i^{\alpha_i \geq 0}$  are affected by **the red term**.

# Example 1: massless planar double box (1 of 2)



Set  $P_{12} = p_1 + p_2$  and

$$z_1 = \ell_1^2, \quad z_2 = (\ell_1 - p_1)^2, \quad z_3 = (\ell_1 - P_{12})^2$$

$$z_4 = (\ell_2 + P_{12})^2, \quad z_5 = (\ell_2 - p_4)^2, \quad z_6 = \ell_2^2$$

$$z_7 = (\ell_1 + \ell_2)^2, \quad z_8 = (\ell_1 + p_4)^2, \quad z_9 = (\ell_2 + p_1)^2$$

The Baikov polynomial satisfies the enhanced ideal membership,

$$F = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & \frac{s}{2} & -\frac{s+t}{2} & \frac{z_1-z_2}{2} & \frac{z_9-z_6}{2} \\ \frac{s}{2} & 0 & \frac{t}{2} & \frac{z_2-z_3+s}{2} & \frac{z_4-z_9-s}{2} \\ -\frac{s+t}{2} & \frac{t}{2} & 0 & \frac{z_3-z_8-s}{2} & \frac{z_5-z_4+s}{2} \\ \frac{z_1-z_2}{2} & \frac{z_2-z_3+s}{2} & \frac{z_3-z_8-s}{2} & z_1 & \frac{z_7-z_1-z_6}{2} \\ \frac{z_9-z_6}{2} & \frac{z_4-z_9-s}{2} & \frac{z_5-z_4+s}{2} & \frac{z_7-z_1-z_6}{2} & z_6 \end{vmatrix}, \quad \frac{\partial F}{\partial \chi} = \sum_{i=1}^9 b_i z_i \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_i} + bF$$

The cofactors are, setting  $\mathbf{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_9)$ ,

$$\mathbf{b} = \left( \frac{z_3-z_8}{\chi(\chi+1)s}, \frac{z_3-z_8-\chi s-s}{\chi(\chi+1)s}, \frac{z_3-z_8-s}{\chi(\chi+1)s}, \frac{z_4-z_5-s}{\chi(\chi+1)s}, \frac{z_4-z_5-s}{\chi(\chi+1)s}, \frac{z_4-z_5}{\chi(\chi+1)s}, \frac{z_3+z_4-z_5-z_8-s}{\chi(\chi+1)s}, \frac{z_3-z_8-s}{\chi(\chi+1)s}, \frac{z_4-z_5-\chi s-s}{\chi(\chi+1)s} \right)$$

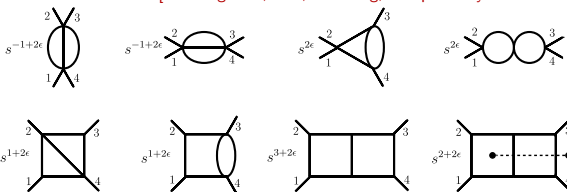
$$b = -\frac{2z_3+2z_4-2z_5-2z_8-2\chi s-3s}{\chi(\chi+1)s}$$



# Example 1: massless planar double box (2 of 2)

We insert these **b** into the linking formula and reduce to the basis

[A. Georgoudis, KJL, Y. Zhang, *Comput. Phys. Commun.* **221** (2017) 203]



and use Fuchsia to find a transformation to a canonical basis, yielding

[J. Henn, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **110** (2013) 251601]

[O. Gituliar, V. Magerya, *Comput. Phys. Commun.* **219** (2017) 329]

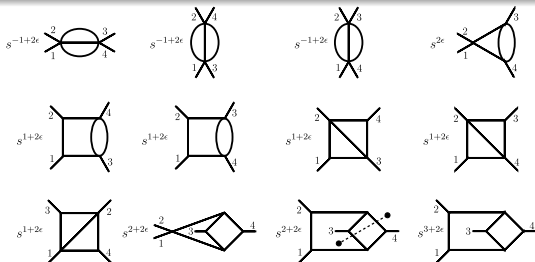
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \chi} \mathcal{J}(\chi, \epsilon) = \widehat{A}(\chi, \epsilon) \mathcal{J}(\chi, \epsilon), \quad \widehat{A} = \epsilon \left( \frac{a_0}{\chi} + \frac{a_{-1}}{\chi + 1} \right)$$

where  $a_0$  and  $a_{-1}$  are matrices with integer entries,

$$a_0 = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -60 & -60 & 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 20 & 0 & -4 & 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 \\ -360 & 360 & 72 & 0 & 12 & 36 & -2 & 0 \\ 540 & -360 & -90 & -9 & -18 & -36 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad a_{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -20 & 0 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 360 & -720 & -36 & 18 & -12 & -36 & 2 & 2 \\ -540 & 360 & 90 & -9 & 18 & 36 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Example 2: massless non-planar double box

From the basis



we find

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \chi} \mathcal{J}(\chi, \epsilon) = \widehat{A}(\chi, \epsilon) \mathcal{J}(\chi, \epsilon), \quad \widehat{A} = \epsilon \left( \frac{\mathbf{a}_0}{\chi} + \frac{\mathbf{a}_{-1}}{\chi + 1} \right)$$

with

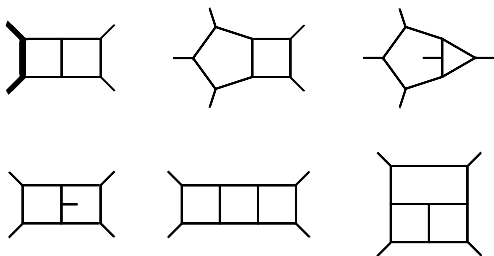
$$\mathbf{a}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 20 & 0 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 20 & -4 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -60 & 0 & -60 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -60 & -60 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -360 & -60 & 660 & -360 & -18 & -4 & -16 & -6 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ -120 & 420 & 420 & -360 & -18 & -16 & -12 & 6 & 0 & 0 & -2 & -2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{a}_{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -20 & 0 & -4 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -20 & 4 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 60 & -60 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 60 & 60 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -360 & -180 & -180 & -36 & -18 & 0 & 12 & 0 & 6 & 0 & -2 & -2 \\ -600 & -660 & 60 & -36 & -18 & 0 & 24 & -4 & -6 & 1 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Further examples of enhanced ideal membership

The enhanced ideal membership

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \chi} \in \left\langle z_1 \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_1}, \dots, z_k \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_k}, \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_{k+1}}, \dots, \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_m}, F \right\rangle$$

holds true for a large set of non-trivial diagrams.



[S. Badger, C. Brønnum-Hansen, H. Hartanto, T. Peraro, 1712.02229]

[S. Abreu, F. Cordero, H. Ita, B. Page, M. Zeng, 1712.03946]

[D. Chicherin, J. Henn, V. Mitev, 1712.09610]

In all of these examples it is possible to set up differential equations without involving doubled propagators.

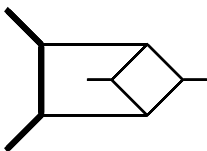
# Counterexample of enhanced ideal membership

However, the enhanced ideal membership

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \chi} \in \left\langle z_1 \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_1}, \dots, z_k \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_k}, \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_{k+1}}, \dots, \frac{\partial F}{\partial z_m}, F \right\rangle$$

is not a general property of the Baikov polynomial.

This diagram provides a counterexample.



Letting  $G$  denote a Gröbner basis of the ideal, polynomial division of  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial \chi}$  wrt.  $G$  leaves a non-vanishing remainder.

# Conclusions and Outlook

- Differential equations for loop integrals can be studied in Baikov representation without dimension shifts.
- For a large class of non-trivial diagrams it is possible to avoid integrals with doubled propagators in intermediate stages.  
This limits the set of integrals for which IBP reductions must be determined.
- For the future: classify diagrams for which the enhanced ideal membership holds.