

Tropical field theory

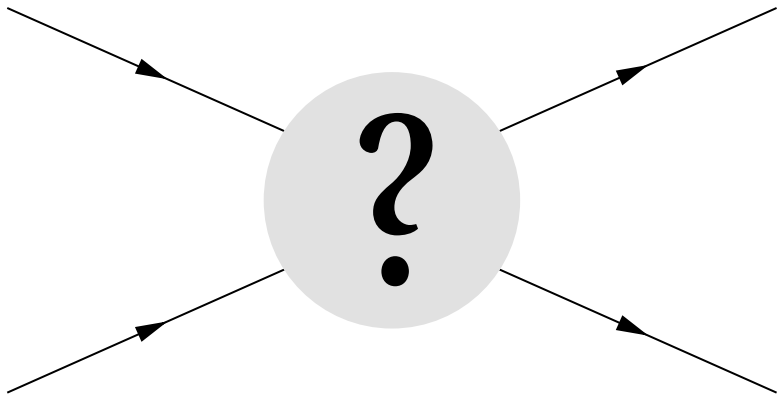
Erik Panzer

Royal Society University Research Fellow (Oxford)

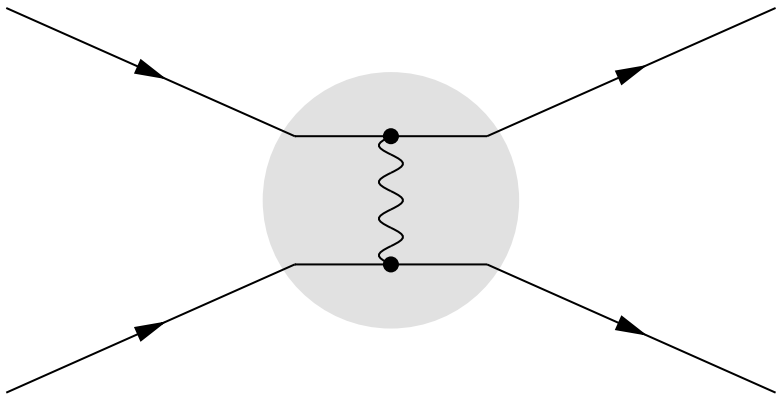
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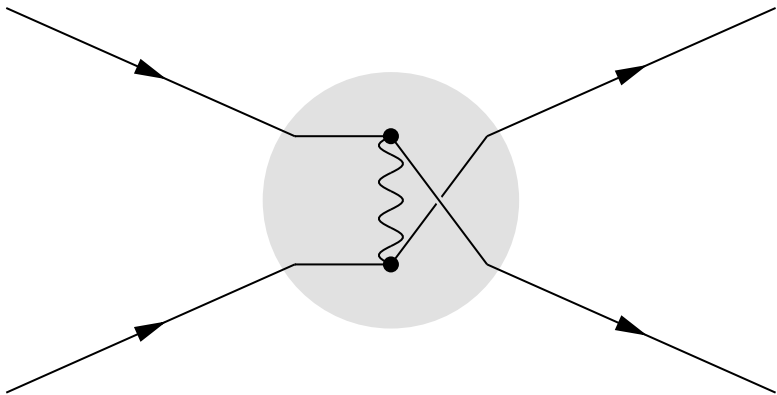
Perturbative Quantum Field Theory



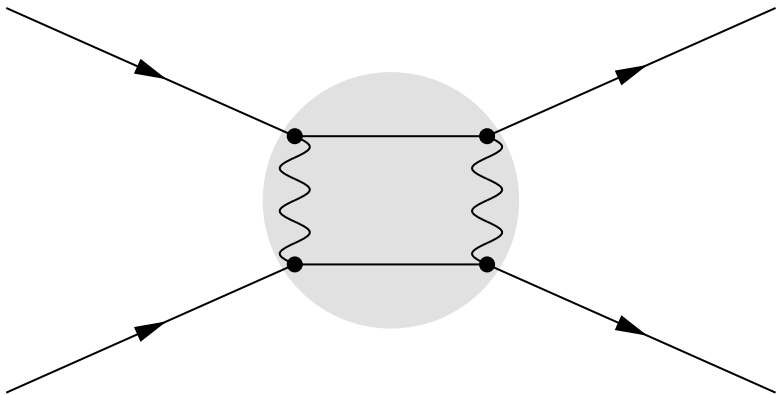
Perturbative Quantum Field Theory



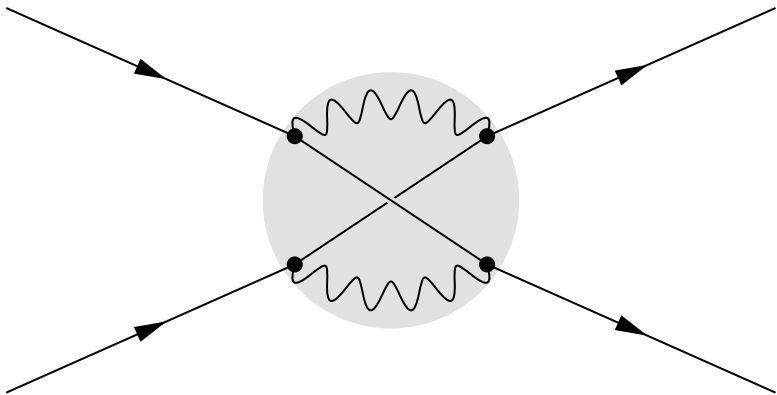
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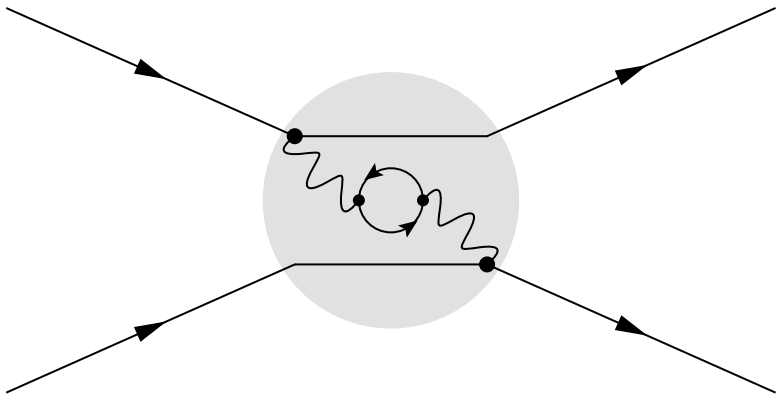
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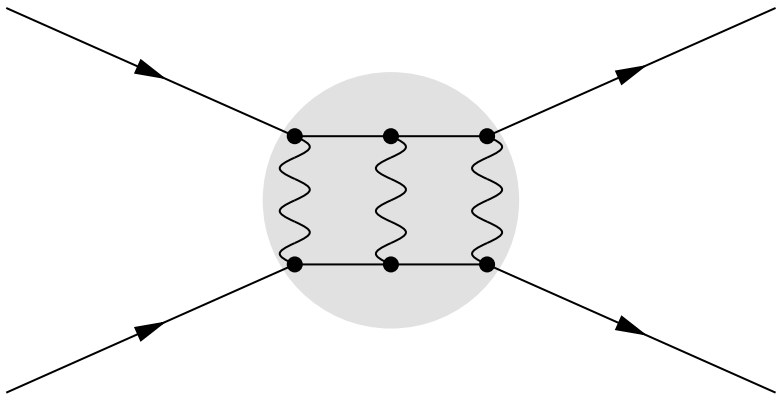
Perturbative Quantum Field Theory



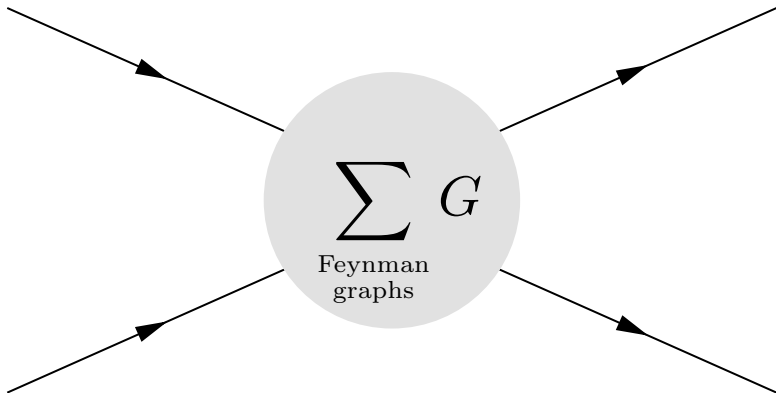
Perturbative Quantum Field Theory



Perturbative Quantum Field Theory



Perturbative Quantum Field Theory



- Feynman graph $G \mapsto$ Feynman integral $\Phi(G, \{m_i^2, \vec{p}_i \cdot \vec{p}_j\})$
- compute more graphs $\sum_G \Phi(G) \Rightarrow$ higher precision

Problems:

- ① $\Phi(G)$ extremely complicated

➔ *polylogarithms, iterated elliptic integrals, modular forms, K3 surfaces, Calabi-Yau manifolds, ...*

- ② $\sum_G \Phi(G) = \infty$

➔ *factorial growth $A \cdot n! \cdot c^n \cdot n^\alpha$, resummation, Borel transformation, resurgence, ...*

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perturbation series are very poorly understood in QCD, QED, ϕ^4

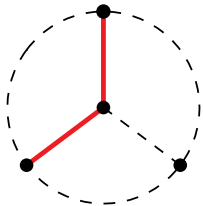
Problems:

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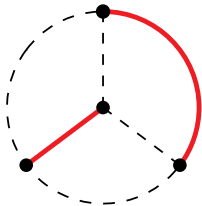
perturbation series are very poorly understood in QCD, QED, ϕ^4

Simplifications:

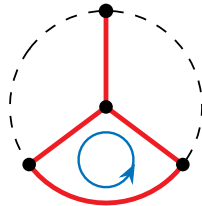
- 1 integrable models
➔ $\Phi(G)$ *simplify somewhat, full $\sum_G \Phi(G)$, **convergent expansion***
- 2 truncated Dyson-Schwinger equations
➔ *factorial growth possible, **sums very restricted class of diagrams***
- 3 tropical limit
➔ *all $\Phi(G)$ **simplify drastically, asymptotics unchanged***



not spanning



not connected



has a loop

Definition

A **spanning tree** $T \subset G$ is a spanning, simply connected subgraph.

$$\text{ST} \left(\left(\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \right) \right) = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \right\}, \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \right\}, \dots \left. \right\}$$

Definition

The **graph polynomial** \mathcal{U} and **Feynman period** of G are

$$\mathcal{U} = \sum_{T \in \text{ST}(G)} \prod_{e \notin T} x_e \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{P}(G) = \left(\prod_{e > 1} \int_0^\infty dx_e \right) \frac{1}{\mathcal{U}^2|_{x_1=1}}$$

$$G = \text{circle with two vertices} \Rightarrow \mathcal{U} = x_1 + x_2 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{P}(\text{circle with two vertices}) = \int_0^\infty \frac{dx_2}{(1+x_2)^2} = 1$$

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- contribute to the β -function

➔ *renormalization constants, running coupling, critical exponents*

- very hard to compute, **even numerically**

Example

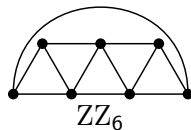
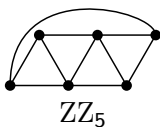
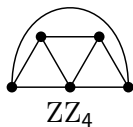
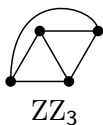
$$\mathcal{P} \left(\text{circle with three vertices} \right) = \int_{\mathbb{R}_+^5} \frac{dx_2 dx_3 dx_4 dx_5 dx_6}{(x_1 x_2 x_3 + 15 \text{ more terms})^2|_{x_1=1}} = 6\zeta(3) = 6 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3}$$

Only one *infinite* family of periods is known in ϕ^4 :

Theorem (Brown & Schnetz 2012)

$$\mathcal{P}(\text{ZZ}_n) = 4 \frac{(2n-2)!}{n!(n-1)!} \left(1 - \frac{1 - (-1)^n}{2^{2n-3}}\right) \zeta(2n-3)$$

conjectured by Broadhurst & Kreimer



- > 1000 periods are known in ϕ^4 [Broadhurst, Kreimer, Schnetz, Panzer]
- complete only up to 7 loops

Hepp bound

$$\mathcal{H}(G) = \left(\prod_{e>1} \int_0^\infty dx_e \right) \frac{1}{\mathcal{U}_{\max|x_1=1}^2} \quad \text{where} \quad \mathcal{U}_{\max} = \max_{T \in \text{ST}} \prod_{e \notin T} x_e$$

Example:

$$\mathcal{H} \left(\text{circle with two dots} \right) = \int_0^\infty \frac{dx_2}{(\max\{1, x_2\})^2} = \int_0^1 dx_2 + \int_1^\infty \frac{dx_2}{x_2^2} = 2$$

Hepp bound

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Properties:

- $\mathcal{H}(G) > \mathcal{P}(G) > \mathcal{H}(G)/|\text{ST}(G)|^2 \Rightarrow$ same asymptotics up to $\mathcal{O}(c^\ell)$
- $\mathcal{H}(G) \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$
- computable for all G
- correlates with $\mathcal{P}(G)$
- respects symmetries of $\mathcal{P}(G)$
- generalizes to $\Phi(G, m_e^2, p_i \cdot p_j)$

$$\omega(\gamma_\ell) = |\gamma| - 2\ell$$

Theorem

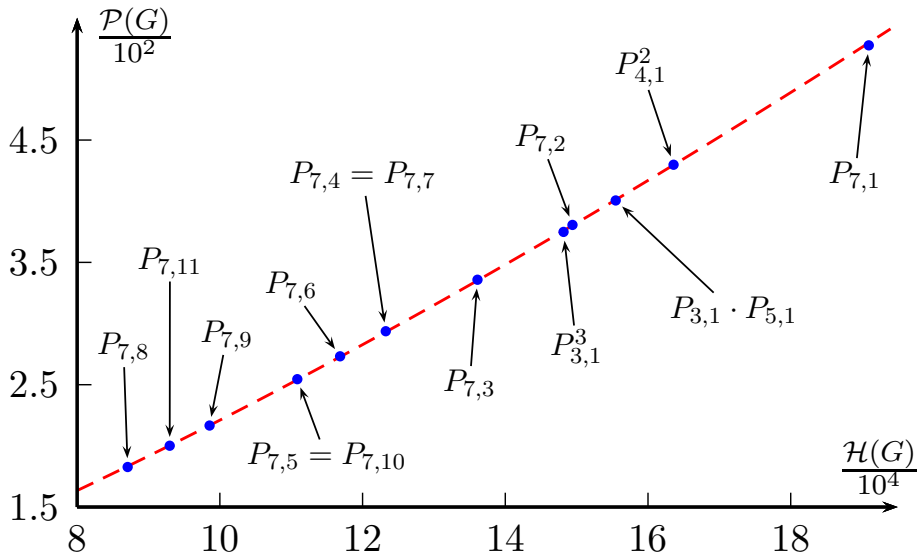
$$\mathcal{H}(G) = \sum_{\substack{\gamma_1 \subset \gamma_2 \subset \dots \subset \gamma_\ell = G \\ \text{each } \gamma_i \text{ is 1PI}}} \frac{|\gamma_1| \cdot |\gamma_2 \setminus \gamma_1| \cdots |G \setminus \gamma_{\ell-1}|}{\omega(\gamma_1) \cdots \omega(\gamma_{\ell-1})}$$

γ_1	\subset	γ_2	summand	#	Σ
	\subset		$\frac{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{1 \cdot 1} = 6$	12	72
	\subset		$\frac{4 \cdot 1 \cdot 1}{2 \cdot 1} = 2$	6	12

} $\Rightarrow \mathcal{H} \left(\text{circle with three spokes} \right) = 84$

7 loops in ϕ^4 :

G	$\mathcal{P}(G \setminus v)$	$\mathcal{H}(G \setminus v)$
$P_{7,1}$	527.7	190952
$P_{4,1} \cdot P_{4,1}$	430.1	163592
$P_{3,1} \cdot P_{5,1}$	400.9	155484
$P_{7,2}$	380.9	149426
$P_{3,1} \cdot P_{3,1} \cdot P_{3,1}$	375.2	148176
$P_{7,3}$	336.1	136114
$\{P_{7,4}, P_{7,7}\}$	294.0	123260
$P_{7,6}$	273.5	116860
$\{P_{7,5}, P_{7,10}\}$	254.8	110864
$P_{7,9}$	216.9	98568
$P_{7,11}$	200.4	92984
$P_{7,8}$	183.0	87088



Michael Borinsky:

Tropical Monte Carlo quadrature for Feynman integrals

➔ numeric evaluation at large loop orders

Symmetries

When is $\mathcal{P}(G_1) = \mathcal{P}(G_2)$?

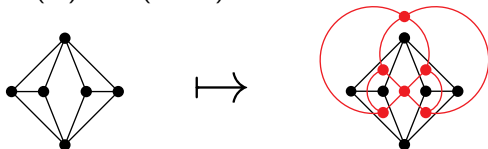
① Product:

$$\mathcal{P} \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \vdots \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \end{array} \right) = \mathcal{P} \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \vdots \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \end{array} \right) \cdot \mathcal{P} \left(\begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \vdots \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \end{array} \right)$$

Example

$$\mathcal{P} \left(\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \vdots \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \end{array} \right) = \mathcal{P} \left(\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \vdots \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \end{array} \right)^2 = (6\zeta(3))^2$$

② Planar duality: $\mathcal{P}(G) = \mathcal{P}(G^{\text{dual}})$

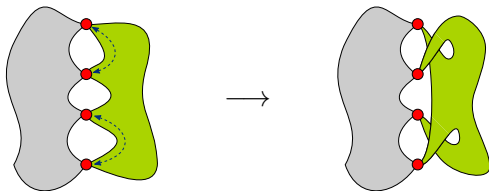


3 Completion: $\mathcal{P}(G \setminus v) = \mathcal{P}(G \setminus w)$

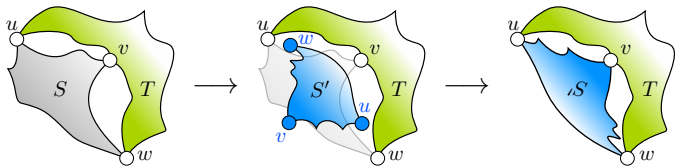
Example

$$\mathcal{P}\left(\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \end{array}\right) = \mathcal{P}\left(\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \\ \text{---} w \text{---} \\ \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \\ \text{---} v \text{---} \end{array}\right) = \mathcal{P}\left(\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \\ \text{---} w \text{---} \\ \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \\ \text{---} v \text{---} \end{array}\right) = \mathcal{P}\left(\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \end{array}\right)$$

4 Twist:



5 Fourier split:



Goal:

Construct simpler graph invariants with those symmetries.

- ① point count

[Schnetz]

$$c_2(p) = \frac{1}{p^2} \left| \left\{ \vec{x} \in (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^N : \mathcal{U}(\vec{x}) = 0 \right\} \right| \pmod{p}$$

- ② extended graph permanent

[Crump]

$P_{7,11}$

	p	2	3	5	7	11	13	17	19	23
$c_2(p)$		1	0	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1
Perm(p)			0	1	1	1	11	5	0	22

- ③ \mathcal{H} ($\in \mathbb{Q}$)
- ④ # {minimal 6-cuts} ($\in \mathbb{Z}$)
- ⑤ $O(-2)$ symmetry factor ($\in \mathbb{Z}$)

Conjecture (ϕ^4)

$$\mathcal{H}(G_1) = \mathcal{H}(G_2) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \mathcal{P}(G_1) = \mathcal{P}(G_2)$$

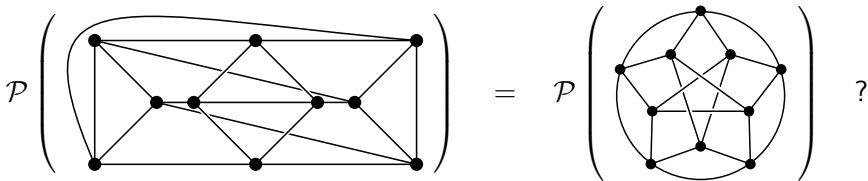
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Example:

- $\mathcal{H}(P_{8,30}) = \frac{1724488}{3} = \mathcal{H}(P_{8,36})$
- $\mathcal{P}(P_{8,30}) \approx 505.5 \approx \mathcal{P}(P_{8,36})$

(exact period unknown)



➔ there are further symmetries of Feynman integrals

Spanning tree polytope and its polar (relevant for **sector decomposition**):

$$\vec{v}_T = \vec{T} - \vec{T}^c \in \{1, -1\}^{E_G}$$

$$\mathcal{N}_G = \text{conv} \{ \vec{v}_T : T \in \text{ST} \} \subset \mathbb{R}^{E_G}$$

$$\mathcal{N}_G^\circ = \bigcap_{T \in \text{ST}} \{ \vec{a} : \vec{a} \cdot \vec{v}_T \leq 1 \}$$

The Hepp bound is the volume of the polar polytope

$$\mathcal{H}(G) = (E_G - 1)! \cdot \text{Vol}(\mathcal{N}_G^\circ \cap \{a_1 = 0\})$$

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$$\mathcal{H}(G) = (E_G - 1)! \cdot \text{Vol}(\mathcal{N}_G^\circ \cap \{a_1 = 0\})$$

Facets of \mathcal{N}_G /vertices of \mathcal{N}_G° are indexed by subgraphs:

$$\{ \gamma \subset G : \gamma \text{ and } G/\gamma \text{ are 2-vertex connected} \}$$

Factorisation of the facets:

$$\mathcal{N}_G \cap \{ \vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{a} = \omega_\gamma \} \cong \mathcal{N}_\gamma \times \mathcal{N}_{G/\gamma}$$

Roughly, \mathcal{N}_G looks like a cube, and \mathcal{N}_G° is a cross-polytope: very “spikey” and all volume concentrated near the centre.

Multivariate version & canonical form

Now consider arbitrary indices:

$$\mathcal{H}(G; \vec{a}) := \left(\prod_{e>1} \int_0^\infty x_e^{a_e-1} dx_e \right) \frac{1}{\mathcal{U}_{\max|x_1=1}^{D/2}}$$

The dimension is fixed by $\omega(G) = \sum_e a_e - (D/2) \cdot \ell(G) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$.

Example

The flag formula generalizes to this case, e.g.

$$\mathcal{H} \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram: A graph with 4 vertices. The leftmost vertex is connected to the top and bottom vertices on the right by edges labeled 1 and 2. The top and bottom vertices on the right are connected to each other by two edges labeled 3 and 4.} \\ \text{Diagram: } \bullet \text{---} \begin{array}{l} \text{1} \\ \text{3} \\ \text{2} \end{array} \text{---} \begin{array}{l} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array} \text{---} \text{4} \end{array} ; \vec{a} \right) = \frac{1}{a_1 a_2 a_3 a_4} \times \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{(a_1 + a_2 + a_3) a_4}{a_1 + a_2 + a_3 - D/2} \\ + \frac{(a_1 + a_2 + a_4) a_3}{a_1 + a_2 + a_4 - D/2} + \frac{(a_3 + a_4)(a_1 + a_2)}{a_3 + a_4 - D/2} \end{array} \right\}$$

Consider the Hepp bound $\mathcal{H}(G; \vec{a})$:

- it is a rational function in \vec{a}
- it has simple poles
- at hyperplanes $\omega(\gamma) = 0$ for 1PI subgraphs γ

Factorization of residues

$$\operatorname{Res}_{\omega(\gamma)=0} \mathcal{H}(G; \vec{a}) = \mathcal{H}(\gamma; \vec{a}_\gamma) \Big|_{\omega(\gamma)=0} \cdot \mathcal{H}(G/\gamma; \vec{a}_{G/\gamma}) \Big|_{\omega(G/\gamma)=0}$$

Example: edge contraction

$$\operatorname{Res}_{a_e=0} \mathcal{H}(G; \vec{a}) = \mathcal{H}(G/e; \vec{a}_{G/e})$$

- it is the volume of a polytope:

$$\mathcal{H}(G; \vec{a}) = (E - 1)! \cdot \operatorname{Vol} \left(\left(\mathcal{N}_G + (\vec{a} - \vec{1}) \right)^\circ \cap \{a_1 = 0\} \right)$$

\Rightarrow canonical form

Summary

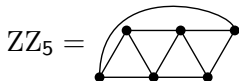
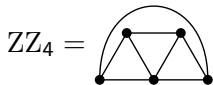
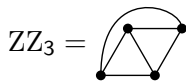
- There is a rational version of Feynman periods.
- It captures identities and gives numeric estimates.
- Volume of a polytope with factorizing residues.
- Generalizes to matroids.

Outlook

- add kinematics
- dimensional regularization
- renormalization
- tropical field theory
- asymptotics
- numerics for Feynman integrals

Theorem (Brown & Schnez)

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Z}_n) = 4 \frac{(2n-2)!}{n!(n-1)!} \left(1 - \frac{1 - (-1)^n}{2^{2n-3}}\right) \zeta(2n-3) \sim \frac{4^n}{n\sqrt{\pi n}}.$$



Theorem (Panzer)

The Hepp bound of $\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Z}_n$ is the coefficient of x^n in the power series

$$\frac{1}{(1-x)(5x+3)} \left[\frac{5x+28}{3} - \frac{2}{1+x} - \frac{1}{x} \sqrt{\frac{1-9x}{1-x}} \right] - 4x^2 \log(1-x^2).$$

Asymptotics:

$$\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Z}_n) \sim \frac{3^7}{2^{10}\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{9^n}{n^{3/2}} \approx 0.852 \frac{9^n}{n^{3/2}}.$$

Hepp-Period correlation

