

# Landau Singularities from Whitney Stratifications



Mathematical  
Institute

FELIX TELLANDER  
*Mathematical Institute*  
*University of Oxford*

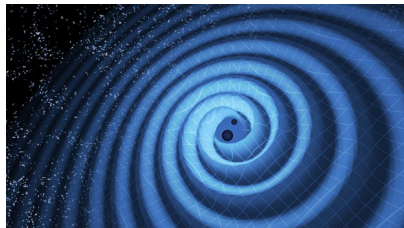
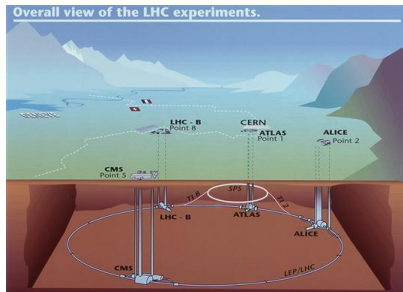
Partikeldagarna, 22 October 2024



Oxford  
Mathematics



# Feynman integrals: one integral but much physics



**Many other:** shadow integrals for conformal blocks, Witten diagrams, cosmological correlators...

Collinear factorization:

$$\sigma_{h_1 h_2 \rightarrow n} = \sum_{a,b} \int_0^1 dx_a dx_b f_{a/h_1}(x_a, \mu_F) f_{b/h_2}(x_b, \mu_F) \hat{\sigma}_{h_1 h_2 \rightarrow n}(\mu_F, \mu_R) + \mathcal{O}(\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}/Q)$$

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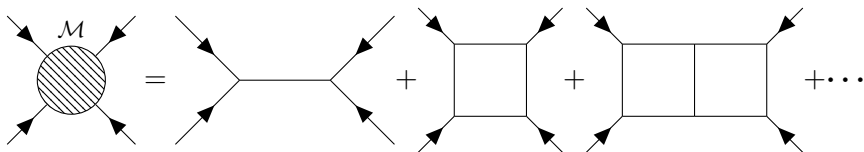
$$\hat{\sigma}_{h_1 h_2 \rightarrow n}(\mu_F, \mu_R) = \frac{1}{2\hat{s}} \int d\Phi_n |\mathcal{M}_{ab \rightarrow n}|^2$$

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$\mathcal{M}$  is the **matrix element** and is calculated as a sum of **Feynman diagrams**:



# Feynman integrals

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Every (scalar) Feynman integral is an integral of a “rational” function:

$$\mathcal{I}(D, \nu_1, \dots, \nu_n; z) = \int_{\mathbb{R}_+^n} \frac{x_1^{\nu_1} \cdots x_n^{\nu_n}}{\mathcal{G}(z, x)^{D/2}} \frac{dx_1}{x_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge \frac{dx_n}{x_n}$$

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## Questions?

- ▶ Mathematical structure - function class, PDE, associated polytopes
- ▶ Singularity structure - Landau singularities, symbol alphabets
- ▶ Efficient evaluation - closed form and numerical

Singularities are a **core** ingredient in deriving the CDE [Henn 2013]:

- ▶ singularities  $\Rightarrow$  symbol alphabet  $\Rightarrow$  bootstrap PDE  $\Rightarrow$  solve PDE



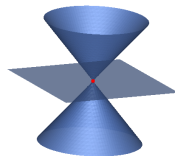
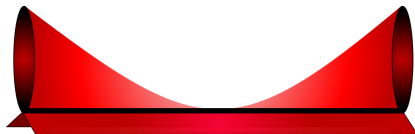
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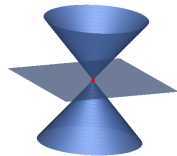
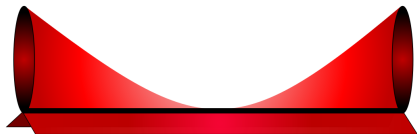
Idea to derive singularities:

- ▶ Integrals:  $\{\text{kinematic variables}\} \times \{\text{integration variables}\} \rightarrow \{\text{kinematic variables}\}$
- ▶ Topological changes of integrand + map = **singularities**

**Objects of interest:** singular spaces defined by polynomials, such as the figures below.



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We seek to **stratify** these spaces by **separating them into smooth manifolds** which join in a nice way.

# Stratifying Singular Varieties

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More precisely, for  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ , we will consider algebraic varieties

$$X = \mathbf{V}(I_X) = \mathbf{V}(f_1, \dots, f_r) = \{p \in \mathbb{K}^n \mid f_1(p) = \dots = f_r(p) = 0\}.$$

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When  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$  a point  $p \in X$  is **singular** if the Jacobian matrix of the  $f_i$  drops rank at  $p$ .

A **stratification** is a filtration,  $X_\bullet$ ,  $\emptyset = X_{-1} \subset X_0 \subset \dots \subset X_d = X$  of  $X$  s.t.  $X = \cup_i X_i$  and s.t. each  $\mathcal{M}_i = X_i - X_{i-1}$  is either empty or **smooth**, i.e. is a manifold, and has **pure dimension**.

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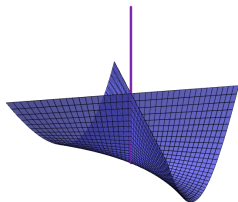
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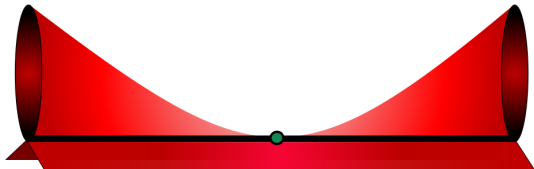
We call the connected components of  $\mathcal{M}_i$  **strata**.

**Additionally:** want decomposition  $X = \sqcup_i \mathcal{M}_i$  to be **equisingular**, i.e. the neighbourhood in  $X$  of any 2 points of a strata are “similar”.



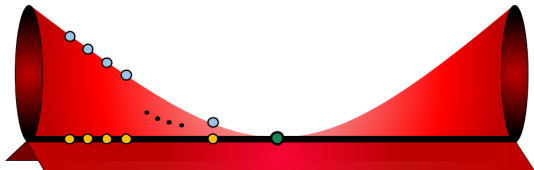
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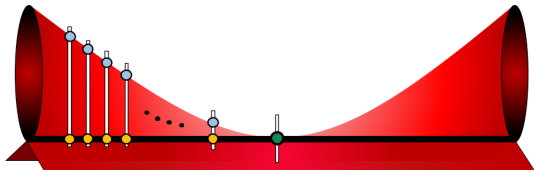
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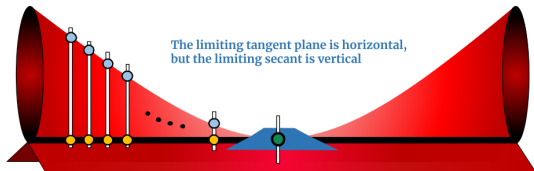
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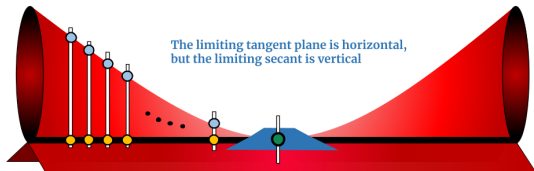
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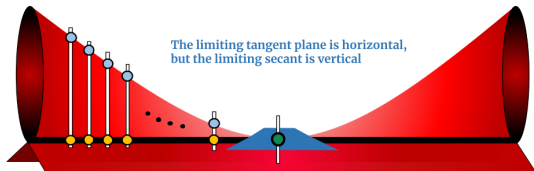


**Theorem (H. Whitney, *Annals of Math.*, 1965)**

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**Goal:** given equations defining  $X$  **efficiently compute** a Whitney stratification (compute = find equations for each  $X_i$ ).

# Example: Algorithm Applied to the Whitney Umbrella

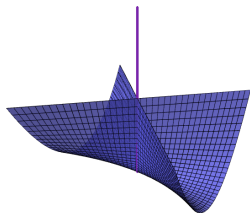
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Several algorithms to compute Whitney stratification have been proposed in the past [Mostowski & Rannou 1991, Rannou 1998, Dinh & Jelonek 2021]; previous methods have proved impractical on even the smallest examples. <http://martin-helmer.com/Software/WhitStrat/index.html>

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```
1  needsPackage "WhitneyStratifications"
2  R = ZZ/10007[x,y,z]
3  I = ideal(x^2*z-y^2)
4  time ws = whitneyStratify I
```

```
o5 = MutableHashTable{0 => {ideal (z, y, x)}
                       1 => {ideal (y, x)}
                       2   2
                       2 => {ideal(x z - y )}}
```

**Time:** 0.09 seconds, new unpublished improvements, 0.03 seconds

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## Map Stratification:

Let  $X, Y$  be algebraic varieties and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  an algebraic map. A **stratification of  $f$** , is a Whitney stratification of  $X$  and  $Y$  so that for every strata  $S$  of  $X$  there is a strata  $R$  of  $Y$  such that  $f(S) \subset R$  and the derivative,  $d(f|_S)$ , is surjective where  $f|_S$  is the restriction  $f|_S : S \rightarrow R$ .



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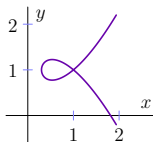
**Consequence\*:** If  $f$  is proper: for  $q, q'$  in the same stratum  $N$  of  $Y$  the fibers  $f^{-1}(q)$  and  $f^{-1}(q')$  have the same topology (i.e. stratified homeomorphism type). This can also be extended to certain dominant maps  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  in a reasonable way.

# Detecting Topological Change in Fibers

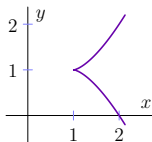
Suppose we wish to study the **changes in topology of the curve in  $\mathbb{R}^2$**  defined by the parametric polynomial

$$f_z(x, y) = (y - 1)^2 - (x - z)(x - 1)^2$$

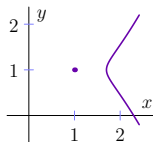
in variables  $x, y$  with **parameter  $z$** .



$z < 1$



$z = 1$



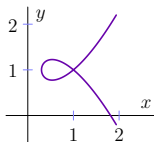
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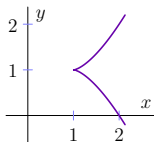
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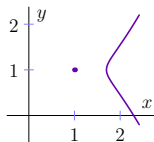
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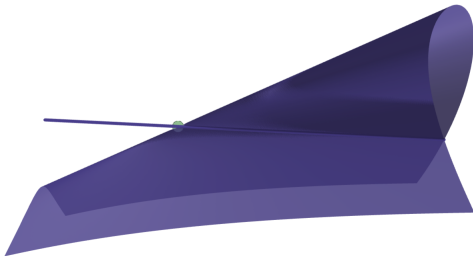


$z > 1$

Take  $X = \mathbf{V}(f) \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ . It is **equivalent** to ask when the **fibers of the projection map  $\pi : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_z$**  change topology.

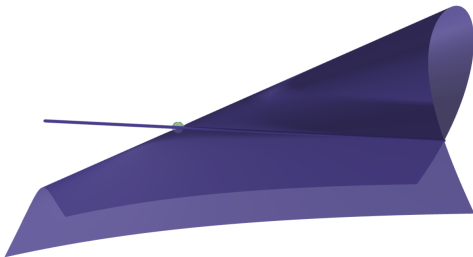
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It's Whitney stratification is

$$\{(1, 1, \mathbf{1})\} \subset \mathbf{V}(x - 1, y - 1) \subset X.$$

Hence the topology of the curve changes at  $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{1}$ .

# Singularities of Feynman Integrals

The **Landau singularities** of a Feynman integral is a variety in the space of parameters  $z$  for which the solution to the Feynman integral fails to be an analytic function.

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}_+^{|E|}} \frac{1}{\mathcal{G}^{D/2}} \left( \prod_{e \in E} \frac{x_e^{\nu_e - 1}}{\Gamma(\nu_e)} dx_e \right)$$

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For  $\mathcal{G}_h := \mathcal{U}x_0 + \mathcal{F}$  we define:

**Definition** (Helmer, Papathanasiou, FT, 2024)

Set  $X = \mathbf{V}(x_0 \cdots x_E \mathcal{G}_h) \subset \mathbb{P}_x^{|E|} \times \mathbb{C}_z^m$ , set  $Y := \mathbb{C}_z^m$  and consider the projection map  $\pi : X \rightarrow Y$ .

The **Landau variety** is the variety  $Y_{m-1}$  appearing in the unique minimal **Whitney stratification**  $(X_\bullet, Y_\bullet)$  of the map  $\pi$ .

**Note\***: We are compactifying the integration domain by moving from  $\mathbb{R}_+^{|E|}$  to the projective simplex

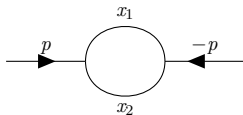
$$\mathbb{P}_+^{|E|} := \{[x_0 : \cdots : x_{|E|}] \in \mathbb{P}^{|E|} \mid x_e \geq 0 \forall e = 0, 1, \dots, |E|\}.$$

## Example: one-loop bubble

For the bubble graph we have:

$$\mathcal{G}_h = x_0(x_1 + x_2) + (m_1^2 + m_2^2 - p^2)x_1x_2 + m_1^2x_1^2 + m_2^2x_2^2.$$

Take  $X = \mathbf{V}(x_0x_1x_2\mathcal{G}_h) \subset \mathbb{P}^2 \times \mathbb{C}^3$  and let  $Y = \mathbb{C}^3$  be the space of kinematic parameters.



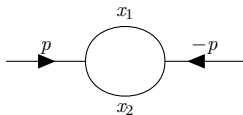


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The (minimal) Whitney stratification  $(X_\bullet, Y_\bullet)$  of the corresponding projection map  $\pi : X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^3$  gives  $Y_3 = Y = \mathbb{C}^3$  and,

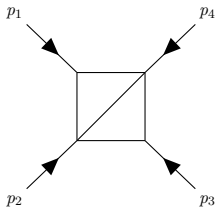
$$Y_2 = \mathbf{V}(m_1^2) \cup \mathbf{V}(m_2^2) \cup \mathbf{V}(p^2) \cup \mathbf{V}(p^4 + m_1^4 + m_2^4 - 2p^2m_1^2 - 2p^2m_2^2 - 2m_1^2m_2^2),$$

$$Y_1 = \mathbf{V}(p^2, m_1^2 - m_2^2) \cup \mathbf{V}(m_2^2 - p^2, m_1^2) \cup \mathbf{V}(m_2^2, m_1^2 - p^2) \\ \cup \mathbf{V}(p^2, m_1^2) \cup \mathbf{V}(p^2, m_2^2) \cup \mathbf{V}(m_2^2, m_1^2),$$

$$Y_0 = \mathbf{V}(p^2, m_1^2, m_2^2).$$

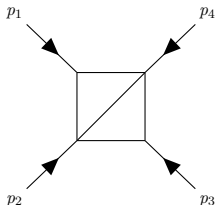
$Y_2$  is the **Landau variety**.

# Example: two-loop slashed box



All  $m_e = 0$ ,  $p_1^2 = p_2^2 = 0$  and  $p_3^2, p_4^2 \neq 0$ .

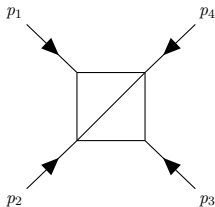
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$$Y_3 = \mathbf{V}(p_3^2) \cup \mathbf{V}(s) \cup \mathbf{V}(st + t^2 - tp_3^2 - tp_4^2 + p_3^2 p_4^2) \cup \mathbf{V}(p_4^2 - s - t) \cup \mathbf{V}(t - p_3^2) \\ \cup \mathbf{V}(t - p_4^2) \cup \mathbf{V}(s^2 - 2sp_3^2 + p_3^4 - 2sp_4^2 - 2p_3^2 p_4^2 + p_4^4) \cup \mathbf{V}(t) \cup \mathbf{V}(p_4^2).$$

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The component  $p_4^2 - s - t$  is missed by the recently proposed *principal Landau determinant*.

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# Thank you!