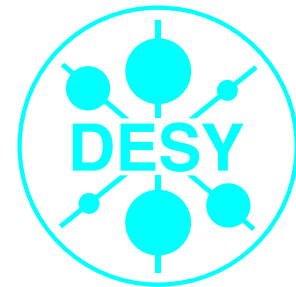


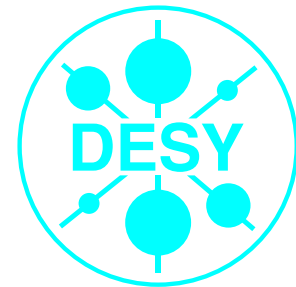
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● Introduction



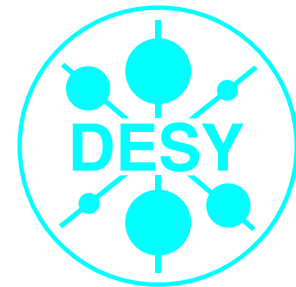
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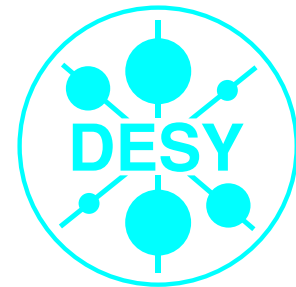
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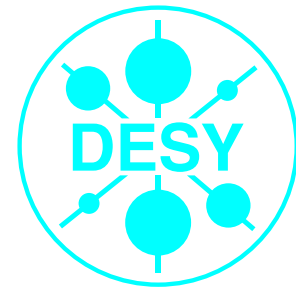
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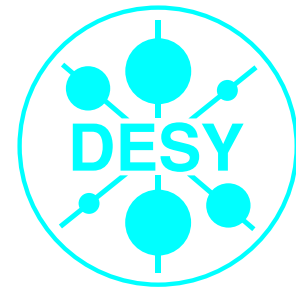
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- Harmonic Sums and Mellin Transforms



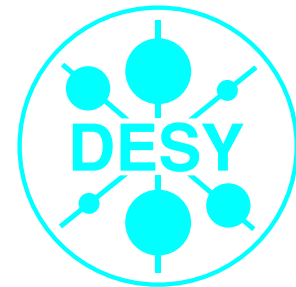
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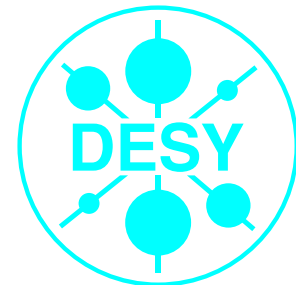
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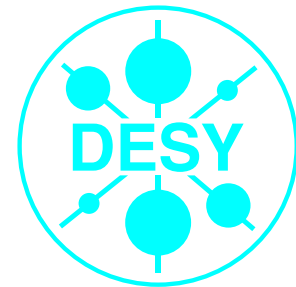
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- The Basic Functions



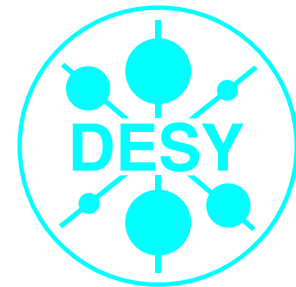
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- Analytic Continuation to Complex Arguments
- Summary



# 1. Introduction

Let us consider massless Quantum Field Theories as QED or QCD.

Integral cross sections are no scale quantities

Single differential distributions are single scale quantities

Anomalous dimensions and coefficient functions belong to the latter class.

- What are the classes of basic objects, through which these objects are built order by order in perturbation theory ?
- How can the multiple, nested integrals be expressed and simplified?
- Equivalently: Which are the basic building blocks of the above quantities in QFT ?

No Scale Quantities :  $\implies$  Basic  $\zeta$ -Values

Single Scale Quantities :  $\implies$  Basic Mellin Transforms

Consider:

- polylogarithms and Nielsen integrals of one scale
- multiple polylogarithms of one and more scales
- (multiple) harmonic polylogarithms
- multiple finite harmonic sums and their representation as integer valued Mellin transforms
- multiple infinite harmonic sums  $\equiv$  multiple  $\zeta$ -values and their relations
- Study the algebras of these quantities
- Continue the above Mellin transforms to rational, real, and complex values of the Mellin variable to obtain more relations

No Scale Quantities :  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty}$  Mellin transforms of  
Single scale quantities.

Mellin transform :

$$\int_0^1 dx x^N f(x) = \mathbf{M}[f(x)](N)$$



Mellin convolution :

$$[f_1 \otimes f_2](x) = \int_0^1 dx_1 \int_0^1 dx_2 \delta(x - x_1 x_2) f_1(x_1) f_2(x_2)$$

$$\mathbf{M}[f_1 \otimes f_2](N) = \mathbf{M}[f_1](N) \cdot \mathbf{M}[f_2](N)$$

**$\implies$  Essential Structural Simplification**

## 2. Polylogarithms and Nielsen Integrals

Feynman parameter integrals :

$$\frac{1}{ab} = \int_0^1 dx \frac{1}{(ax + b(1-x))^2}, \text{ and more involved}$$



One obtains integrals like

$$\int_0^x \frac{dz}{z} = \ln(x), \quad \int_0^x \frac{dz}{z-1} = \ln(1-x), \dots$$

⇒ LOGARITHMS

A 2nd integral (Euler, 1768) :

$$\int_0^x \frac{dz}{z} \ln(1-z) = -\text{Li}_2(x), \quad \int_x^1 \frac{dz}{z-1} \ln(z) = \text{Li}_2(1-x),$$



⇒ DILOGARITHMS  
Harmonic Sums, ...

Iterate integrals (J. Landen,  $\geq 1760$ ; W. Spence, 1809):

$$\text{Li}_n(x) = \int_0^x \frac{dz}{z} \text{Li}_{n-1}(z)$$

$\Rightarrow$  POLYLOGARITHMS

The denominators  $x^{-1}$  and  $(1-x)^{-1}$  do in general iterate in a wider class, in which the **NIELSEN INTEGRALS** occur:

$$S_{p,n}(x) = \frac{(-1)^{n+p-1}}{(n-1)!p!} \int_0^1 \frac{dz}{z} \ln^{n-1}(z) \ln^p(1-xz)$$

N. Nielsen, 1909





*Fig. 42. Den 15/2 1919 fyldte professor Zeuthen 80 år, og i den anledning gav venner og elever ham en guldmedaille. Danmarks ledende matematikere foretog overrækkelsen, og blev fotograferet til bladet Verden og Vi. Personerne er fra venstre Bonnesen, Mollerup, Juel, Harald Bohr, Niels Nielsen, Crone, Hjelmlev og J.L.W.V. Jensen. Foto, Matematisk Institut.*

courtesy C. Berg, Copenhagen

## Serial representations :

$$\text{Li}_n(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k^n}$$

$$S_{1,2}(x) = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k^2} S_1(k-1), \quad S_{2,2}(x) = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k^3} S_1(k-1)$$

Harmonic Sum :

$$S_1(k) = \sum_{l=1}^k \frac{1}{l}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} S_{n,p}(x) = S_{n-1,p}(x)$$

(some) Relations :

$$\operatorname{Li}_2(1-x) = -\operatorname{Li}_2(x) - \ln(x) \ln(1-x) + \zeta_2$$

$$\operatorname{Li}_2\left(-\frac{1}{x}\right) = -\operatorname{Li}_2(-x) - \frac{1}{2} \ln^2(x) - \zeta_2$$

$$\operatorname{Li}_3(1-x) = -S_{1,2}(x) - \ln(1-x)\operatorname{Li}_2(x) - \frac{1}{2} \ln(x) \ln^2(1-x) + \zeta_2 \ln(1-x) + \zeta_3$$

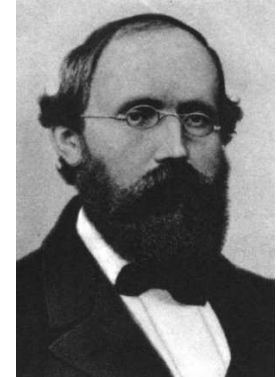
$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Li}_4\left(-\frac{x}{1-x}\right) &= \ln(1-x)[\operatorname{Li}_3(x) - S_{1,2}(x)] + S_{2,2}(x) - \operatorname{Li}_4(x) - S_{1,3}(x) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \ln^2(1-x)\operatorname{Li}_2(x) - \frac{1}{24} \ln^4(1-x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\operatorname{Li}_n(x^2) = 2^{n-1} [\operatorname{Li}_n(x) + \operatorname{Li}_n(-x)]$$

## Some values of Nielsen Integrals :

$$\text{Li}_n(1) = \zeta_n = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^n},$$

$\zeta_z$  - Riemann  $\zeta$ -function



$$\text{Li}_n(-1) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}\right) \zeta_n$$

$$\text{Li}_2\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2} [\zeta_2 - \ln^2(2)], \quad \text{Li}_3\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{7}{8}\zeta_3 - \frac{1}{2}\zeta_2 \ln(2) + \frac{1}{6} \ln^3(2)$$

These relations hold because of the above  $x \leftrightarrow (1-x)$  relations.

## Some values of Nielsen Integrals :

$$S_{1,p}(1) = \zeta_{p+1}$$

$$S_{2,2}(1) = \frac{1}{10}\zeta_2^2$$

$$S_{2,2}(-1) = -\frac{3}{4}\zeta_2^2 + 2\text{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + \frac{7}{4}\zeta_3 \ln(2) - \frac{1}{2}\zeta_2 \ln^2(2) + \frac{1}{12} \ln^4(2)$$

$$S_{1,3}(-1) = -\frac{2}{5}\zeta_2^2 + \text{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + \frac{7}{8}\zeta_3 \ln(2) - \frac{1}{4}\zeta_2 \ln^2(2) + \frac{1}{24} \ln^4(2)$$

Due to this  $\text{Li}_4(1/2)$  cannot be expressed by other constants in use.



# Basic Numbers :

$$\left\{ (\sigma_1(\infty), \ln(2)); \zeta_2; \zeta_3; \text{Li}_4(1/2); (\zeta_5, \text{Li}_5(1/2)); \right. \\ \left. (\text{Li}_6(1/2), \sigma_{-5,-1}); (\zeta_7, \text{Li}_7(1/2), \sigma_{-5,1,1}, \sigma_{5,-1,-1}); \dots \right\}$$

J. Vermaseren

$$\sigma_1(\infty) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k}$$

### 3. Poincaré iterated Integrals

Poincaré–Lappo-Danilevsky–Chen Iteration:

Let  $\varphi_i \in \{\omega_{-1}; \omega_0; \omega_1\}$  be differential forms

$$\omega_k = \frac{dz}{z - k} (-1)^{\theta(k)}$$



$$P(\{\varphi\}_k; x) := \int_0^x \varphi_1 \dots \varphi_k := \int_0^x \varphi_1(t) \int_0^t \varphi_2 \dots \varphi_k$$

Examples :

$$\text{Li}_n(x) = \int_0^x \omega_0^{n-1} \omega_1, \quad S_{p,n}(x) = \int_0^x \omega_0^p \omega_1^n, \quad H_{\vec{m}_w}(x) = \int_0^x \prod_{l=1}^{\vec{k}} \omega_{m_l}$$

# 4. Shuffle Algebra and Theory of Words

## Harmonic Sums :

$$S_{k_1, \dots, k_m}(N) = \sum_{l_1=1}^N \frac{[\text{sign}(k_1)]^{l_1}}{l_1^{|k_1|}} S_{k_2, \dots, k_m}(l_1)$$

We will explain details of the shuffle algebra for the case of harmonic sums and use this structure for other quantities later.

First relation: L. Euler, 1775

$$S_{m,n} + S_{n,m} = S_m \cdot S_n + S_{m+n}, \quad m, n > 0$$

Generalized to alternating sums:

$$\begin{aligned} S_{m,n} + S_{n,m} &= S_m \cdot S_n + S_{m \wedge n}, \\ m \wedge n &= [|m| + |n|] \text{sign}(m) \text{sign}(n) \end{aligned}$$







These & other relations hold widely independent  
of their **Value** and **Type**.

Determined by : • Index Structure  
• Multiplication Relation



Ramanujan:  
integer sums



Faa di Bruno:  
roots of multivar.  
algebraic equations

The Formalism applies as well to the Harmonic Polylogarithms.  
Remiddi, Vermaseren, 1999.

# Linear Representations of Mellin Transform by Harmonic Sums:

$$\mathbf{M}[F_w(x)](N) = S_{k_1, \dots, k_m}^w(N) + P\left(S_{k_1, \dots, k_r}^{\tau'}, \sigma_{k_1, \dots, k_p}^{\tau''}\right)$$

$$w = \sum_{i=1}^m |k_i| \quad \text{weight,} \quad \tau', \tau'' < w \quad P \text{ is a polynomial.}$$

w	#	$\Sigma$	
1	2	2	
2	6	8	
3	18	26	2 Loop anom. Dimensions
4	54	80	2 Loop Wilson Coefficients
5	162	242	3 Loop anom. Dimensions
6	486	728	3 Loop Wilson Coefficients
$2 \cdot 3^{w-1}$		$3^w - 1$	

## Shuffle Products

Depth 2:

$$S_{a_1}(N) \sqcup S_{a_2}(N) = S_{a_1, a_2}(N) + S_{a_2, a_1}(N)$$

Depth 3:

$$S_{a_1}(N) \sqcup S_{a_2, a_3}(N) = S_{a_1, a_2, a_3}(N) + S_{a_2, a_1, a_3}(N) + S_{a_2, a_3, a_1}(N)$$

Depth 4: .....

## Algebraic Equations

Depth 2:

$$S_{a_1}(N) \sqcup S_{a_2}(N) - S_{a_1}(N)S_{a_2}(N) - S_{a_1 \wedge a_2}(N) = 0$$

Depth 3:

$$S_{a_1}(N) \sqcup S_{a_2, a_3}(N) - S_{a_1}(N)S_{a_2, a_3}(N) - S_{a_1 \wedge a_2, a_3}(N) - S_{a_2, a_1 \wedge a_3}(N) = 0$$

Depth 4: ....

**# Basic Sums = # Permutations - # Independent Equations**

$$\begin{aligned}
S_{a,a,a,b,b,b} = & \\
& \frac{1}{3}S_a S_{b,a,b,a,b} - \frac{1}{6}S_{b,a \wedge a,b,b,a} - \frac{1}{6}S_{a,b,b,b,a \wedge a} + \frac{1}{3}S_{b,a \wedge a,b,a,b} - \frac{1}{6}S_{a \wedge a,b,b,b,a} \\
& + \frac{1}{3}S_{a \wedge a,b,a,b,b} + \frac{1}{3}S_{a \wedge a,b,b,a,b} + \frac{1}{3}S_{a,b,b,a \wedge a,b} + \frac{1}{3}S_{a \wedge a,a,b,b,b} + \frac{1}{3}S_{a,b,a \wedge a,b,b} \\
& - \frac{1}{6}S_{a,b,a,a \wedge b,b} - \frac{1}{6}S_{b,a \wedge b,a,b,a} - \frac{1}{6}S_{a \wedge b,b,a,a,b} - \frac{1}{6}S_{b,a \wedge b,a,a,b} + \frac{1}{3}S_{a \wedge b,b,b,a,a} \\
& + \frac{1}{3}S_{a,a \wedge b,a,b,b} - \frac{1}{6}S_{a,a,b,a \wedge b,b} + \frac{1}{3}S_{a,a,b,b,a \wedge b} + \frac{1}{3}S_{b,a,a \wedge a,b,b} + \frac{1}{3}S_a S_{a,a,b,b,b} \\
& + \frac{1}{3}S_{b,b,a \wedge b,a,a} + \frac{1}{3}S_{b,a \wedge b,b,a,a} - \frac{1}{6}S_{a,b,b,a \wedge b,a} + \frac{1}{3}S_{b,a,b,a,a \wedge b} - \frac{1}{6}S_{a,a \wedge b,b,b,a} \\
& - \frac{1}{6}S_{a,b,a \wedge b,b,a} - \frac{1}{6}S_{b,a,a \wedge b,a,b} - \frac{1}{6}S_{a,a \wedge b,b,a,b} - \frac{1}{6}S_{a,b,a \wedge b,a,b} - \frac{1}{6}S_{a \wedge b,a,b,a,b} \\
& + \frac{1}{3}S_{a,b,b,a,a \wedge b} - \frac{1}{2}S_{a,b \wedge b,a,a,b} - \frac{1}{2}S_{b \wedge b,a,a,a,b} - \frac{1}{2}S_{a,b,a,a,b \wedge b} - \frac{1}{2}S_{a,a,b \wedge b,a,b} \\
& - \frac{1}{6}S_{b,a,a \wedge b,b,a} + \frac{1}{3}S_{b,a,a,b,a \wedge b} + \frac{1}{3}S_{a,a,a \wedge b,b,b} + \frac{1}{3}S_{a,b,a,b,a \wedge b} - \frac{1}{6}S_{b,b,a,a \wedge b,a} \\
& - \frac{1}{6}S_{a \wedge b,b,a,b,a} + \frac{1}{3}S_{b,b,a,a,a \wedge b} - \frac{1}{6}S_{b,a,a,a \wedge b,b} - \frac{1}{6}S_{b,a,b,a \wedge b,a} - \frac{1}{6}S_{b,b,a,b,a \wedge a} \\
& - \frac{1}{2}S_{b,a,a,a,b \wedge b} - \frac{1}{6}S_{a \wedge b,a,b,b,a} + \frac{1}{3}S_{b,b,a,a \wedge a,b} + \frac{1}{3}S_{b,b,b,a \wedge a,a} + \frac{1}{3}S_{b,b,b,a,a \wedge a}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& -\frac{1}{6}S_{b,b,a\wedge a,b,a} + \frac{1}{3}S_{b,a,b,a\wedge a,b} + \frac{1}{3}S_{a,a\wedge a,b,b,b} + \frac{1}{3}S_{b,b,a\wedge a,a,b} + \frac{1}{3}S_{b,a\wedge a,a,b,b} \\
& -\frac{1}{2}S_{a,a,b,a,b\wedge b} - \frac{1}{6}S_{b,a,b,b,a\wedge a} - \underline{S_{b,b,b,a,a,a}} + \frac{1}{3}S_{a\wedge b,a,a,b,b} + \frac{1}{3}S_a S_{b,b,a,a,b} \\
& -\frac{1}{6}S_a S_{a,b,b,b,a} - \frac{1}{6}S_a S_{b,b,a,b,a} + \frac{1}{3}S_a S_{b,a,a,b,b} + \frac{1}{3}S_a S_{a,b,a,b,b} - \frac{1}{6}S_a S_{b,a,b,b,a} \\
& -\frac{1}{2}S_b S_{a,a,b,a,b} - \frac{1}{2}S_b S_{a,b,a,a,b} + \frac{1}{3}S_a S_{b,b,b,a,a} - \frac{1}{2}S_b S_{b,a,a,a,b} + \frac{1}{3}S_a S_{a,b,b,a,b}
\end{aligned}$$

# Theory of Words

Can we count the basis in simpler way ?  $\implies$  YES.

**Free Algebras** and Elements of the Theory of Codes

$\implies$  **Particle Physics**

**Only the multiplication relation  
and the Index structure matters**

$\mathfrak{A} = \{a, b, c, d, \dots\}$  Alphabet

$a < b < c < d < \dots$  ordered

$\mathfrak{A}^*(\mathfrak{A})$  Set of all words  $W$

$W = a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot a_{27} \dots a_{532} \equiv$  concatenation product (nc)

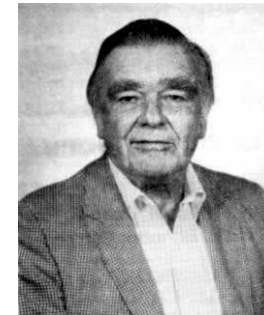
$$W = p \cdot x \cdot s$$

$p =$  prefix;  $s =$  suffix

Definition:

A **Lyndon** word is smaller than any of its suffixes.

$\implies$  lexicographic ordering



# Examples

- $\{a, a, \dots, a, b\} \implies aaa \dots ab$     1 Lyndon word for these sets  
 $(n - 1)$   $a$ 's :  $n_{basic}/n_{all} = 1/n$      $n \equiv$  depth of the sums
- $\{a, a, a, b, b, b\} \implies aaabbb, aababb, aabbab$     3 Lyndon words  
→ Symmetries lead to a smaller fraction.  $n_{Lyndon}/n_{all} = 3/20 < 1/6$
- $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}, a_i \neq a_j, \implies 1/(k-1)!$  Lyndon words
- Homework:  
construct all Lyndon words for  $\{a, a, a, a, a, a, b, b, b, b, b, b\}$  using lexicographic ordering.

## Theorem: (Radford, 1979)

The shuffle algebra  $K\langle \mathcal{A} \rangle$  is freely generated by the Lyndon words.

i.e. the number of Lyndon words yields the number of basic elements.





# Is there a general counting relation ?

E. Witt, 1937



$$l_n(n_1, \dots, n_q) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{d|n_i} \mu(d) \frac{(n/d)!}{(n_1/d)! \dots (n_q/d)!}, \quad \sum_i n_i = n$$

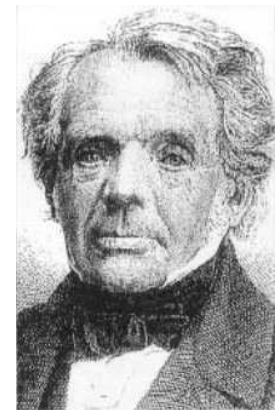
(2nd Witt formula.)

$\mu(k)$  - Möbius function

$$\mu(1) = 1$$

$\mu(p_1 p_2 \dots p_k) = 0$ , if one prime occurs twice

$\mu(p_1 p_2 \dots p_k) = (-1)^k$ , if no prime occurs twice



The Length of the Basis is a function mainly of the Depth.

# 5. Harmonic and Multiple Polylogarithms

## Definition: Harmonic Polylogarithms

Remiddi & Vermaseren, 1999

$$f(0; x) = x^{-1}, \quad f(1, x) = (1 - x)^{-1} \quad f(-1, x) = (1 + x)^{-1}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} H(a, x) = f(a; x)$$

$$\vec{m}_w = (a, \vec{m}_{w-1}), \quad H(\vec{m}_w; x) = \int_0^x dz f(a; z) H(\vec{m}_{w-1}; z)$$

$$H(\vec{0}_w; x) = \frac{1}{w!} \ln^w(x) \quad H(\vec{1}_w; x) = \frac{(-1)^w}{w!} \ln^w(1 - x) \quad H(\vec{-1}_w; x) = \frac{1}{w!} \ln^w(1 + x)$$

## Examples

$$H(0, 0, 1, 1; x) = S_{2,2}(x); \quad H(-1, 0, 0, 1; x) = \int_0^x \frac{dz}{1+z} \text{Li}_3(z)$$

## Properties:

$$H(\vec{m}_w; x) = (-1)^w H(-\vec{m}_w; x)$$

$$H(\vec{m}_p; x) \cdot H(\vec{n}_q; x) = H(\vec{n}_q; x) \sqcup \sqcup H(\vec{n}_q; x)$$

shuffle algebra  $\implies$  algebraic relations cf. sect. 4

Counting of basic HPL's vs weight:

1st Witt formula over 3 elements

$$N_{\text{basic}}(w) = \frac{1}{w+1} \sum_{d|w+1} \mu\left(\frac{w+1}{d}\right) 3^d$$

(3; 8; 18; 48; 116; 312; 810;...)

$H(\vec{m}_w; 1-x)$  is a polynomial of HPL's of highest weight  $(w-1)$   
non-negative indices

$H(\vec{m}_w; x^2)$  can be represented in terms of  $\sum H(\vec{n}_q; x)$   
 non-negative indices

Mappings:  $y \rightarrow 1/x - i\epsilon$ ;  $y \rightarrow (1-x)/(1+x)$

Mellin Transforms:

Consider :

$$\int_0^1 dx x^N \left( \frac{H_{\vec{m}_w}(x)}{1 \pm x} \right)_{(+)} \rightarrow S_{\vec{n}_{w+1}}(N) + \dots$$

$$\int_0^1 dx x^N \left( \frac{H_{0,1}(x)}{1-x} \right)_+ = S_{2,1}(N) - \zeta_2 S_1(N)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (-1)^{N+1} \int_0^1 dx x^N \frac{H_{0,1,1}(x)}{1+x} &= S_{-2,1,1}(N) - \zeta_3 S_{-1}(N) + \text{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{8} \zeta_2^2 - \frac{1}{8} \zeta_3 \ln(2) - \frac{1}{4} \zeta_2 \ln^2(2) + \frac{1}{24} \ln^4(2) \end{aligned}$$

## Shuffling of letters :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall w \in \mathfrak{A}^* \\ \forall x, y \in A, \forall u, v, \in \mathfrak{A}^*, \end{array} \right. \quad \begin{array}{l} 1 \sqcup w = w \sqcup 1 = w, \\ xu \sqcup yv = x(u \sqcup yv) + y(xu \sqcup v) \end{array}$$

## Generalized Maurer–Cartan

(Knizhnik–Zamolodchikov) Equation :

$$\begin{aligned} dL(z) &= [\omega_{-1}x_{-1} + \omega_0x_0 + \omega_1x_1] L(z) \\ L(\varepsilon) &= \exp[x_0 \ln(\varepsilon)] + o(\sqrt{\varepsilon}), \\ \varepsilon &\rightarrow 0^+, \varepsilon \in \mathbf{R} \end{aligned}$$



Drinfeld :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{A} &= \{x_{-1}, x_0, x_1\} \\ L(z) &= \sum_{w \in \mathfrak{A}^*} L_w(z)w, \quad \forall z \in \mathbf{C} \setminus \{-1, 1\} \end{aligned}$$

⇒ Monodromy around  $\{-1, 0, 1\}$

### Examples :

$$\begin{aligned}
 p &= 2\pi i \\
 \mathcal{M}_1 \text{Li}_{x_0} &= \text{Li}_{x_0} = \ln(x) \\
 \mathcal{M}_1 \text{Li}_{x_1} &= \text{Li}_{x_1} - p = -\ln(1-x) - p \\
 \mathcal{M}_1 \text{Li}_{x_{-1}} &= \text{Li}_{x_{-1}} = \ln(1+x) \\
 \mathcal{M}_1 \text{Li}_{x_0^2 x_1^2} &= \text{Li}_{x_0^2 x_1^2} - p \text{Li}_{x_0^2 x_1} + \frac{p^2}{4} \text{Li}_{x_0}^2 + p\zeta(x_0 x_1) \text{Li}_{x_0} + p\zeta_{x_0^2 x_1}
 \end{aligned}$$

One may derive directly relations between different arguments, such as :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Li}_4(1-x) &= -\text{Li}_{2,1,1}(x) + \text{Li}_1(x) \text{Li}_{2,1}(x) - \frac{1}{2} \text{Li}_1^2(x) \text{Li}_2(x) \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{6} \ln(x) \text{Li}_1^3(x) + \frac{\zeta_2}{2} \text{Li}_1^2(x) - \zeta_3 \text{Li}_1(x) + \frac{2}{5} \zeta_2^2 \\
 \text{Li}_{2,1} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{x} \right) &= -\text{Li}_3(x) + \ln(x) \text{Li}_2(x) - \frac{1}{2} \ln^2(x) \text{Li}_1(x) - \frac{1}{6} \ln^3(x) + \zeta_3
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Li}_{2,1}(x) \equiv S_{1,2}(x); \quad \text{Li}_{2,1}(x) = S_{2,2}(x); \quad \text{Li}_{2,1,1}(x) = S_{1,3}(x)$$

## Definition: Multiple Polylogarithms

A. Goncharov, 1998



$$\text{Li}_{s_k, \dots, s_1}(x_k, \dots, x_1) = \lambda \left( \begin{array}{ccc} s_1, & \dots, & s_k \\ y_1, & \dots, & y_k \end{array} \right), \quad y_j := \prod_{i=1}^j x_i^{-1}$$

## Equivalent expression:

Borwein, Bradley, Broadhurst, Lisonek, 1999

$$\lambda \left( \begin{array}{ccc} s_1, & \dots, & s_k \\ b_1, & \dots, & b_k \end{array} \right) := \sum_{\nu_1, \dots, \nu_k=1}^{\infty} \prod_{j=1}^k b_j^{-\nu_j} \left( \sum_{i=j}^k \nu_j \right)^{-s_j}$$

# Z-Sums

(Moch, Uwer, Weinzierl, 2001)

$$Z(n; \vec{m}_k; \vec{x}_k) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_1^l}{l^{m_1}} Z(l-1, \vec{m}|_2^k; \vec{x}|_2^k)$$

classical polylogs  $\implies$  Nielsen integrals  $\implies$  harmonic polylogs

$\implies$  multiple polylogs  $\implies$  Z-sums

multiple  $\zeta$ -values  $\implies$  multiple harmonic sums  $\implies$  Z-sums

PROGRAMS : **nestedsums** Weinzierl  
**xsummer** Moch, Uwer

(M.E. Hoffman, 1999)  $\implies$  **Hopf-algebra structure**





## 6. Harmonic Sums and Mellin Transforms

Apply the shuffle algebra to reduce the number of sums.

Find basic Mellin transforms for Harmonic Sums

⇒ One-dimensional integral representations :

$$S_{1,2}(N) = \mathbf{M} \left[ \frac{\text{Li}_2(1-x)}{1-x} \right] (N) + \zeta_2 S_1(N) - \zeta_3$$

$$\text{Li}_2(1-x) = -\text{Li}_2(x) - \ln(x) \ln(1-x) + \zeta_2$$

not yet minimal ⇒

$$S_{2,1}(N) = \mathbf{M} \left[ \left( \frac{\text{Li}_2(x)}{1-x} \right)_+ \right] (N) + \zeta_2 S_1(N)$$

$$S_{3,1,1}(N) = -\mathbf{M} \left[ \left( \frac{S_{2,2}(x)}{1-x} \right)_+ \right] (N) + \zeta_3 S_2(N) - \frac{\zeta_2^2}{10} S_1(N)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
S_{-1,-1,-2}(N) &= (-1)^{N+1} \mathbf{M} \left[ \frac{F_1(x) + \ln(1-x) \text{Li}_2(-x)}{x+1} \right] (N) \\
&= +(-1)^{N+1} \mathbf{M} \left[ \frac{S_{1,2}(x^2)/2 - S_{1,2}(x) - S_{1,2}(-x)}{x+1} \right] (N) \\
&\quad + \frac{\zeta_2}{2} [S_{-1,1}(N) - S_{-1,-1}(N)] \\
&\quad + \left[ \frac{9}{8} \zeta_3 - \frac{3}{2} \zeta_2 \ln(2) - \frac{1}{6} \ln^3(2) \right] S_{-1}(N) \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{10} \zeta_2^2 + \frac{17}{8} \zeta_3 \ln(2) - \frac{7}{4} \zeta_2 \ln^2(2) - \frac{1}{6} \ln^4(2)
\end{aligned}$$

with

$$\begin{aligned}
F_1(x) &= S_{12} \left( \frac{1-x}{2} \right) + S_{1,2}(1-x) - S_{1,2} \left( \frac{1-x}{1+x} \right) + S_{1,2} \left( \frac{1}{1+x} \right) \\
&\quad - \ln(2) \text{Li}_2 \left( \frac{1-x}{2} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \ln^2(2) \ln \left( \frac{1+x}{2} \right) - \ln(2) \text{Li}_2 \left( \frac{1-x}{1+x} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

⇒ can always be reduced algebraically.

Hidden, nasty Mellin convolutions.

# 7. Multiple Zeta-Values

Euler-Zagier Values :

$$\zeta(a, \vec{m}_w) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(\pm 1)^{\text{sign}(a)}}{k^{|a|}} S(\vec{m}_w; k-1)$$



$S(\vec{m}_w; N)$  denotes a multiple harmonic sum of weight  $w$ .

If  $\forall m_i > 0$  : Multiple  $\zeta$ -values

Otherwise : Colored  $\zeta$ -values

The numerators are  $(\sqrt[n]{1})^{\text{sign}(m_i)}$ . Here we consider:  $n = 2$  only.

Building blocks : Basic numbers introduced before.

What is known about these numbers ?

$\ln(2)$  is transcendental

Lindemann, 1882:  $\zeta_2$  is transcendental

Apery, 1979:  $\zeta_3$  is irrational

Zudilin, 2000: one out of  $\{\zeta_5, \zeta_7, \zeta_9, \zeta_{11}\}$  is irrational

unknown whether  $\gamma_E$  is irrational

Rivoal, 2000: infinitely many  $\zeta_{2n+1}$  values are irrational



G.H. Hardy offered his Cambridge Chair to anyone who would prove that  $\gamma_E$  is irrational.

# Basic Numbers :

$$\left\{ (\sigma_1(\infty), \ln(2)); \zeta_2; \zeta_3; \text{Li}_4(1/2); (\zeta_5, \text{Li}_5(1/2)); \right. \\ \left. (\text{Li}_6(1/2), \sigma_{-5,-1}); (\zeta_7, \text{Li}_7(1/2), \sigma_{-5,1,1}, \sigma_{5,-1,-1}); \dots \right\}$$

J. Vermaseren

$$\sigma_1(\infty) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k}$$

## Relations :

(i) Shuffle relation  $\sqcup$  :

$$\zeta_{w_1} \cdot \zeta_{w_2} = \zeta(w_1 \sqcup w_2)$$

(ii) Stuffle relation  $\star$  (M. Hoffman, 1997):

$$\zeta_{w_1} \cdot \zeta_{w_2} = \zeta(w_1 \star w_2); \quad \star : \mathfrak{A}^* \times \mathfrak{A}^* \rightarrow \mathfrak{S}$$



$$e \star w = w \star e = w$$

$$y_s u \star y_t v = y_s (u \star y_t v) + y_t (y_s u \star v) + y_{s+t} (u \star v),$$

$$s, t \in \mathbb{N}; \quad s, t > 0$$

$$\implies \zeta(w_1 \sqcup w_2 - w_1 \star w_2) = 0$$

## Examples :

**Shuffle:**  $\zeta_{2,1}\zeta_2 = 6\zeta_{3,1,1} + 3\zeta_{2,2,1} + \zeta_{2,1,2}$

**Stuffle:**  $\zeta_{2,1}\zeta_2 = 2\zeta_{2,2,1} + \zeta_{4,1} + \zeta_{2,3} + \zeta_{2,1,2}$

$\implies :$   $6\zeta_{3,1,1} + \zeta_{2,2,1} - \zeta_{4,1} - \zeta_{2,3} = 0$

## (iii) Duality :

$$(-1)^r \int_0^1 \prod_{j=1}^m \omega_0^{s_j+1} \omega_1^{r_j+1} = (-1)^s \int_0^1 \prod_{j=1}^m \omega_0^{r_j+1} \omega_1^{s_j+1}$$

Examples :  $\zeta(\{2, 1\}_n) = \zeta(\{3\}_n); \quad \zeta(2, \{1\}_n) = \zeta(n + 2)$

## (iv) Sum Theorem :

(Granville, Zagier, 1997);

$$\sum_{\substack{s_1 > 1, s_i|_{i=2}^l \geq 1 \\ s_1 + \dots + s_l = s}} \zeta(s_1, \dots, s_l) = \zeta(s)$$

(v) Hoffman's relation (1992) :

$$\sum_{k=1}^l \zeta(\vec{s}|_1^{k-1}, s_k + 1, \vec{s}|_{k+1}^l) = \sum_{k=1}^l \sum_{j=0}^{s_k-2} \zeta(\vec{s}|_1^{k-1}, s_k - j, j + 1, \vec{s}|_{k+1}^l)$$

Euler : 
$$\zeta_s = \sum_{j=1}^{s-2} \zeta_{s-j,j}, \quad s \geq 3$$

Other Theorems more :

- Le-Murakami Theorem;
- Cyclic sum Theorem;
- Derivation Theorem; and others.



Which infinite nested harmonic sums are reducible ?

Examples :

$$\zeta_{2,1} = \zeta_3, \quad \zeta_{4,1} = 2\zeta_4 - \zeta_2^2 = -\frac{1}{5}\zeta_2^2 = -\frac{\pi^4}{180}$$

$$2\zeta_{m,1} = m\zeta_{m+1} - \sum_{k=1}^{m-2} \zeta_{m-k}\zeta_{k+1}, \quad 2 \leq m$$

$$\zeta(\{2\}_n) = \frac{2(2\pi)^{2n}}{(2n+1)!} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{2n+1}$$

$$\zeta(\{10\}_n) = \frac{10(2\pi)^{2n}}{(10n+5)!} \left[ 1 + \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{10n+5} + \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{10n+5} \right]$$

$$\zeta(\{3,1\}_n) = \frac{1}{4^n} \zeta(\{4\}_n) = \frac{2\pi^{4n}}{(4n+2)!}$$

## Evaluated to :

### multiple $\zeta$ -values:

Bigotte et al.,	1998	rank 12
Broadhurst,	2000	rank 9
Vermaseren,	2000	rank 9
Minh, Petitot,	2000	rank 10
Vermaseren,	2003	rank 16
Minh, Petitot,	2003	rank 16

### $N = 2$ colored multiple $\zeta$ -values:

Gastmans & Troost,	1981	rank 4
J.B. & S. Kurth,	1998	rank 4 completed
Vermaseren,	2000	rank 9
Bigotte et al.,	2002	rank 7

Examples: (Petitot et al.)

rank 12 multiple  $\zeta$ -value:

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta(2, 1, 1, 5, 1, 2) = & -\frac{19}{4}\zeta_3^4 + \frac{511}{4}\zeta_2\zeta_5^2 - \frac{26907}{16}\zeta_5\zeta_7 + \frac{6639743}{63000}\zeta_2^6 \\ & + \frac{1377}{20}\zeta_5\zeta_3\zeta_2^2 - \frac{3740}{3}\zeta_3\zeta_9 + \frac{7723}{210}\zeta_2^3\zeta_3^2 + \frac{1943}{8}\zeta_7\zeta_2\zeta_3 \\ & + \frac{1107}{8}\zeta_2\zeta_{8,2} + \frac{1943}{40}\zeta_2^2\zeta_{6,2} + \frac{123}{2}\zeta_{8,2,1,1} - \frac{7045}{32}\zeta_{10,2} \end{aligned}$$

rank 7 ( $\pm 1$ )-colored multiple  $\zeta$ -value:

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta(-1, 1, 1, 1, -1, 2) = & \frac{295}{256}\zeta_2\zeta_5 + \frac{1469}{13440}\zeta_3\zeta_2^2 + \frac{3}{8}\zeta_{-1}\zeta_{-5,1} - \frac{23}{192}\zeta_{-1}^4\zeta_3 \\ & + \frac{85}{84}\zeta_{5,1,-1} - \frac{1}{2}\zeta_{-1}\zeta_3^2 \quad \dots \quad - \frac{5}{6}\zeta_{-1}\zeta_{3,1,1,1,-1} - \frac{5}{12}\zeta_{-1}^2\zeta_{3,1,-1} \end{aligned}$$

## Counting basic elements :

### multiple $\zeta$ -value:

Zagier; Broadhurst & Kreimer conjecture, similar to the 1st Witt relation.

$$N(w) = \frac{1}{w} \sum_{d|w} \mu\left(\frac{w}{d}\right) P_d,$$

$$P_1 = 0, P_2 = 2, P_3 = 3; \quad P_d = P_{d-2} + P_{d-3}, \quad d \geq 3$$

$P_d$  - Perrin numbers.

$$\{0; 1; 1; 0; 1; 0; 1; 0; \dots\}$$

### ( $\pm$ )-colored multiple $\zeta$ -value:

$$\{2; 1; 1; 1; 2; 2; 4; \dots\}$$

## 8. Structural Relations

To consider the Mellin variable  $N$  to be integer is not necessary.

We need analytic continuation to  $N \in \mathbf{C}$ .

Proceed as follows:

$$N \in \mathbf{N} \Rightarrow N \in \mathbf{Q} \Rightarrow N \in \mathbf{R} \Rightarrow N \in \mathbf{C}$$

(i)  $N$ , rational:

$$\frac{1}{2^{n-2}} \frac{\text{Li}_n(x^2)}{1-x^2} = \frac{\text{Li}_n(x)}{1-x} + \frac{\text{Li}_n(x)}{1+x} + \frac{\text{Li}_n(-x)}{1-x} + \frac{\text{Li}_n(-x)}{1+x}$$

Express one Mellin transform knowing  $\mathbf{M}[(\text{Li}_n(x)/(1-x))(N)$  for  $N$  and  $N/2$ .

(ii)  $N$ , real:

One may introduce differential operators  $d/dN$ .

$$\frac{d^k}{dN^k} \mathbf{M} [f(x)] (N) = \mathbf{M} \left[ \ln^k(x) f(x) \right] (N)$$

Example :

$$S_{-2,-3}(N) = \mathbf{M} \left\{ \left[ \frac{1}{1-x} \left( \frac{1}{2} \ln^2(x) \text{Li}_2(-x) - 2 \ln(x) \text{Li}_3(-x) - 3 \text{Li}_4(-x) \right) \right]_+ \right\} (N) \\ + \frac{3}{4} \zeta_3 [S_2(N) - S_{-2}(N)] + \frac{21}{8} \zeta_4 S_1(N)$$

is no basic function, neither is any of its contributions.

Map back to  $\text{Li}_4/(1 \pm x)$  and functions of lower weight.

## 9. The Basic Functions to $w=5$

Here we list all basic function contributing up to the level of the 3-loop anomalous dimensions.

Weight  $w=1,2$  :

Only weighted logarithms contribute  $\Rightarrow$  single sums

Representative :  $S_1(N) = \psi(N + 1) + \gamma_E$  and its derivatives.

Remark on the only irreducible function at  $w=2$

$$F_1(N) = \mathbf{M} \left[ \frac{\ln(1+x)}{1+x} \right] (N)$$

This function does not occur in **physical quantities** genuinely. However, it is useful in reductions of large classes of functions.

Weight w=3 :

$$F_2(N) = \mathbf{M} \left[ \frac{\text{Li}_2(x)}{1+x} \right] (N), \quad F_3(N) = \mathbf{M} \left[ \left( \frac{\text{Li}_2(x)}{1-x} \right)_+ \right] (N)$$

Yndurain et al., 1981:  $F_2(N)$

Weight w=4 :

$$F_4(N) = \mathbf{M} \left[ \frac{S_{1,2}(x)}{1+x} \right] (N), \quad F_5(N) := \mathbf{M} \left[ \left( \frac{S_{1,2}(x)}{1-x} \right)_+ \right] (N)$$

$F_3(N) - F_5(N)$ : J.B., S. Moch, 2003; J.B., V. Ravindran ,2004



Weight w=5 :

$$F_{6,7}(N) = \mathbf{M} \left[ \left( \frac{\text{Li}_4(x)}{1 \pm x} \right)_{(+)} \right] (N), \quad F_8(N) = \mathbf{M} \left[ \frac{S_{1,3}(x)}{1+x} \right] (N),$$

$$F_{9,10}(N) = \mathbf{M} \left[ \left( \frac{S_{2,2}(x)}{1 \pm x} \right)_{(+)} \right] (N), \quad F_{11}(N) = \mathbf{M} \left[ \frac{\text{Li}_2^2(x)}{1+x} \right] (N),$$

$$F_{12,13}(N) := \mathbf{M} \left[ \left( \frac{S_{2,2}(-x) - \text{Li}_2^2(-x)/2}{1 \pm x} \right)_{(+)} \right] (N)$$

$F_6(N) - F_{13}(N)$  : J.B., S. Moch, 2004.

# 10. Analytic Continuation to Complex Arguments

The basic functions need to be represented for  $N \in \mathbf{C}$ .

General behaviour for complex  $N$ :

Meromorphic functions: with poles at the non-negative integers.

Representation: through factorial series,  $\psi^{(k)}$ -functions and polynomials out of both.



$$\Omega(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{k! a_k}{x(x+1)\dots(x+k)}$$

The **basic functions** need to be represented for  $N \in \mathbf{C}$ .

Three possibilities:

(i) highly accurate semi-analytic representations through **MINIMAX polynomials** in  $x$  (J.B. 2000; J.B., S. Moch 2005.)

Example :

$$\mathbf{M} \left[ \frac{\text{Li}_2^2(-x) - \zeta_2^2/4}{1-x} \right] (N) = \sum_{k=0}^{11} \frac{b_k^{(2)}}{N+k+1}$$

Inversion for  $x \in [10^{-6}, 0.98]$  more accurate than  $5 \cdot 10^{-8}$ .

$b_0^{(2)}$	=	-0.6764520210934552D-0	$b_1^{(2)}$	=	-0.6764520137562308D-0
$b_2^{(2)}$	=	0.3235476094265664D-0	$b_3^{(2)}$	=	-0.1764446743143206D-0
$b_4^{(2)}$	=	0.1081940672246993D-0	$b_5^{(2)}$	=	-0.7181309059958118D-1
$b_6^{(2)}$	=	0.4940999469881481D-1	$b_7^{(2)}$	=	-0.3290941711692155D-1
$b_8^{(2)}$	=	0.1916664887064280D-1	$b_9^{(2)}$	=	-0.8589741767655388D-2
$b_{10}^{(2)}$	=	0.2508898780543465D-2	$b_{11}^{(2)}$	=	-0.3476710199486832D-3

(ii) Known functional forms :

Analytic continuation of single harmonic sums :

$$S_k(N) = \frac{(-1)^k}{(k-1)!} \psi^{(k)}(N+1) + c_k; \quad c_1 = \gamma_E, c_k = \zeta_k, k \geq 2$$

$$S_{-k}(N) = \frac{(-1)^{(k+N)}}{(k-1)!} \beta^{(k)}(N+1) + d_k; \quad d_1 = -\ln(2); d_k = -(1 - 1/2^{k-1})\zeta_k, k \geq 2$$

$$\beta(N) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \psi \left( \frac{N+1}{2} \right) - \left( \frac{N}{2} \right) \right]$$

Recursion relation :

$$\psi(N+1) = \psi(N) + \frac{1}{N}$$

Asymptotic representation :

$$\psi(N) = \ln(N) - \frac{1}{2N} - \frac{1}{12N^2} + \frac{1}{120N^4} - \frac{1}{256N^6} + \frac{1}{240N^8} + O\left(\frac{1}{N^{10}}\right)$$

(iii) New functions :

Example :

$$F_5(N) := \mathbf{M} \left[ \left( \frac{S_{1,2}(x)}{1-x} \right)_+ \right]; \quad S_{1,2}(x) \leftrightarrow \text{Li}_3(1-x)$$

Recursion relation :

$$F_5(N+1) = -F_5(N) + \frac{\zeta_3}{N+1} - \frac{S_1^2(N+1) + S_2(N+1)}{2(N+1)^2}$$

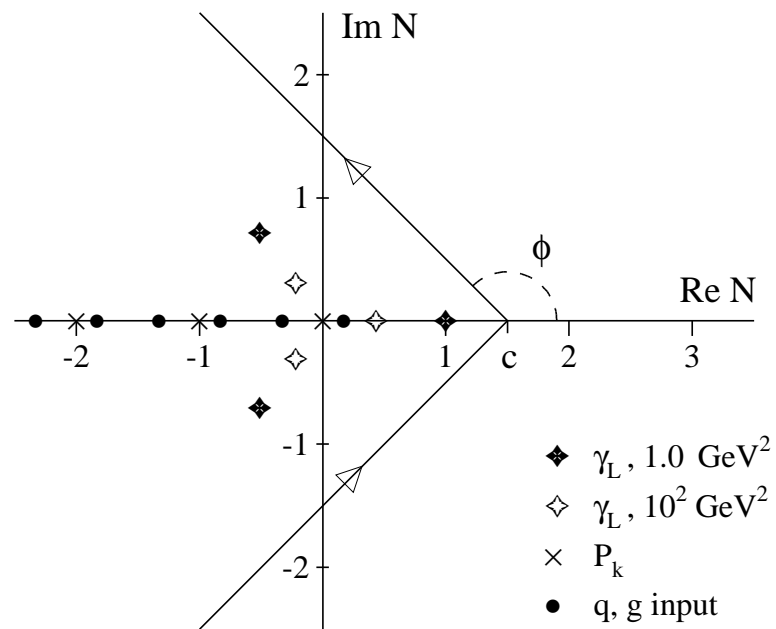
Asymptotic representation :

$$\mathbf{M} \left[ \frac{\text{Li}_3(1-x)}{1-x} \right] (N) = \frac{1}{N} + \frac{1}{8N^2} - \frac{11}{216N^3} - \frac{1}{288N^4} + \frac{1243}{54000N^5} - \frac{49}{7200N^6} + O\left(\frac{1}{N^7}\right)$$

Apply :

$$\begin{aligned} F_5(N) = & -\mathbf{M} \left[ \frac{\text{Li}_3(1-x)}{1-x} \right] (N) + \frac{\zeta_2}{2} [S_1^2 + S_2] - 2\zeta_3 S_1 + \frac{2}{5}\zeta_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} [S_1 S_3 - S_1^2 S_2] \\ & + S_4 - S_1 S_{2,1} - 2S_{3,1}, \quad S_{k_1, \dots, k_m} \equiv S_{k_1, \dots, k_m}(N). \end{aligned}$$

# Mellin inversion:



$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty dz \text{Im} \left[ e^{i\phi} x^{-C} \mathbf{M}[f](N = C) \right], \quad C = c + ze^{i\phi}.$$

# 11. Summary

- Harmonic polylogarithms are a tool to organize the results of integration for single scale quantities in  $z$  space.
- Harmonic polylogarithms are generated by a generalized Knizhnik-Zamolodchikov-Drinfeld DEQ.
- Special cases are usual polylogarithms and usual Nielsen integrals
- A high degree of simplification can be achieved expressing the results in terms of harmonic sums.
- Harmonic sums of the variable  $N$  are associated to Mellin transforms of weighted harmonic polylogarithms.
- Harmonic sums can be simplified through algebraic and structural relations.
- The number of basic functions contributing to
  - 1 loop anomalous dimensions and coefficient functions is 1,
  - 2 loop anomalous dimensions is 2,
  - 2 loop coefficient functions is 6,
  - 3 loop anomalous dimensions is 14.

- All numerator functions are polynomials of **Nielsen integrals**.
  - The analytic continuation of the **basic Mellin transforms** are known exactly and in form of highly accurate numerical representations.
  - **Multiple Zeta-values** are related by shuffle- and stuffle-algebra relations, duality, and others.
  - The conjecture that these are **all relations** was checked up to weight  $w=16$  for numerators  $\nu = 1$ . The number of basis elements is connected to the Perrin numbers.
  - A larger basis is obtained for the case of numerators  $\nu = \pm$ , with a yet unknown counting relation.
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