

The on-shell expansion: from Landau equations to the Feynman polytope

High Precision for Hard Processes (HP2 2022)

September 20-22, 2022

Yao Ma

University of Edinburgh

in collaboration with E. Gardi, F. Herzog, S. Jones and J. Schlenk



OUTLINE

- Review of the method of regions (MoR)
 - Traditional approach in momentum space
 - The Newton polytope approach
- The Landau equations and the regions
- Criteria for the regions
- An algorithm to obtain the regions
- Conclusion
- Outlook



Review of the method of regions (MoR)

Traditional approach in momentum space

$$\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{I}^{(R_1)} + \mathcal{I}^{(R_2)} + \dots + \mathcal{I}^{(R_n)}$$







(from "Introduction to Soft-Collinear Effective Theory" by Becher, Broggio, Ferroglia)

$$I = i\pi^{-d/2}\mu^{4-d} \int d^d k \frac{1}{(k^2 + i0) \left[(k+l)^2 + i0\right] \left[(k+p)^2 + i0\right]} \,,$$

Kinematic limit:

$$p^{\mu} \sim Q(\lambda, 1, \lambda^{\frac{1}{2}}), \quad l^{\mu} \sim Q(1, \lambda, \lambda^{\frac{1}{2}})$$

$$p^2/Q^2 \sim l^2/Q^2 \sim \lambda \ll 1$$





In terms of the method of regions:

The Feynman integral can be regarded as a sum over contributions from the corresponding regions.





In terms of the method of regions:

The Feynman integral can be regarded as a sum over contributions from the corresponding regions. $p^2/Q^2 \sim l^2/Q^2 \sim \lambda \ll 1$

Hard region : $k^{\mu} \sim (1, 1, 1)Q$ Collinear region to $p : k^{\mu} \sim (\lambda, 1, \lambda^{\frac{1}{2}})Q$ Collinear region to $l : k^{\mu} \sim (1, \lambda, \lambda^{\frac{1}{2}})Q$ Soft region : $k^{\mu} \sim (\lambda, \lambda, \lambda)Q$



In terms of the method of regions:

Hard region : $k^{\mu} \sim (1, 1, 1)Q$ Collinear region to $p:k^{\mu}\sim (\lambda,1,\lambda^{\frac{1}{2}})Q$ Collinear region to $l:k^{\mu}\sim (1,\lambda,\lambda^{rac{1}{2}})Q$ Soft region : $k^{\mu} \sim (\lambda, \lambda, \lambda)Q$

The hard region, for example:

$$I = i\pi^{-d/2}\mu^{4-d} \int d^d k \frac{1}{(k^2 + i0) \left[(k+l)^2 + i0\right] \left[(k+p)^2 + i0\right]},$$





In terms of the method of regions:

Hard region : $k^{\mu} \sim (1, 1, 1)Q$ Collinear region to $p: k^{\mu} \sim (\lambda, 1, \lambda^{\frac{1}{2}})Q$ Collinear region to $l: k^{\mu} \sim (1, \lambda, \lambda^{\frac{1}{2}})Q$ Soft region : $k^{\mu} \sim (\lambda, \lambda, \lambda)Q$

The hard region, for example:

$$I = i\pi^{-d/2}\mu^{4-d} \int d^d k \frac{1}{(k^2 + i0) \left[(k+l)^2 + i0\right] \left[(k+p)^2 + i0\right]},$$

$$I_h = i\pi^{-D/2}\mu^{4-D} \int d^D k \frac{1}{(k^2 + i0)(k^2 + 2k_- \cdot l_+ + i0)(k^2 + 2k_+ \cdot p_- + i0)} + \cdot$$





In terms of the method of regions:

 $\begin{array}{l} \text{Hard region}: \ k^{\mu} \sim (1,1,1)Q\\ \text{Collinear region to } p:k^{\mu} \sim (\lambda,1,\lambda^{\frac{1}{2}})Q\\ \text{Collinear region to } l:k^{\mu} \sim (1,\lambda,\lambda^{\frac{1}{2}})Q\\ \text{Soft region}: k^{\mu} \sim (\lambda,\lambda,\lambda)Q \end{array}$

$$\begin{split} I_{h} &= i\pi^{-D/2}\mu^{4-D} \int d^{D}k \frac{1}{(k^{2}+i0)(k^{2}+2k_{-}\cdot l_{+}+i0)(k^{2}+2k_{+}\cdot p_{-}+i0)} + \cdots \\ I_{c} &= i\pi^{-D/2}\mu^{4-D} \int d^{D}k \frac{1}{(k^{2}+i0)(2k_{-}\cdot l_{+}+i0)((k+p)^{2}+i0)} + \cdots \\ I_{c} &= i\pi^{-D/2}\mu^{4-D} \int d^{D}k \frac{1}{(k^{2}+i0)((k+l)^{2}+i0)(2k_{-}\cdot l_{+}+i0)} + \cdots \\ I_{s} &= i\pi^{-D/2}\mu^{4-D} \int d^{D}k \frac{1}{(k^{2}+i0)(2k_{-}\cdot l_{+}+l^{2}+i0)(2k_{+}\cdot p_{-}+p^{2}+i0)} + \cdots \end{split}$$





In terms of the method of regions:

 $\begin{array}{l} \text{Hard region}: \ k^{\mu} \sim (1,1,1)Q\\ \text{Collinear region to } p:k^{\mu} \sim (\lambda,1,\lambda^{\frac{1}{2}})Q\\ \text{Collinear region to } l:k^{\mu} \sim (1,\lambda,\lambda^{\frac{1}{2}})Q\\ \text{Soft region}:k^{\mu} \sim (\lambda,\lambda,\lambda)Q \end{array}$

$$I = I_h + I_l + I_p + I_s = \frac{1}{Q^2} \left(\ln \frac{Q^2}{(-l^2)} \ln \frac{Q^2}{(-p^2)} + \frac{\pi^2}{3} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda) \right)$$

Actually, this equality holds to all orders of λ !

(More examples can be find in Smirnov's book "Applied Asymptotic Expansions in Momenta and Masses".)



To summarize:

 The original integral can be approximated, or even restored, by the sum over contributions from each region.



To summarize:

- The original integral can be approximated, or even restored, by the sum over contributions from each region.
- The integration measure is the entire space for each term.



To summarize:

- The original integral can be approximated, or even restored, by the sum over contributions from each region.
- The integration measure is the entire space for each term.
- The regions are chosen using heuristic methods based on examples and experience.



Review of the method of regions (MoR)





Lee-Pomeransky representation of the Feynman integral

$$\mathcal{I}(G) = \frac{\Gamma(D/2)}{\Gamma((L+1)D/2 - \nu) \prod_{e \in G} \Gamma(\nu_e)} \int_0^\infty \left(\prod_{e \in G} dx_e x_e^{\nu_e - 1}\right) \left(\mathcal{P}\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{s}\right)\right)^{-D/2},$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{s}) \equiv \mathcal{U}(\boldsymbol{x}) + \mathcal{F}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{s}),$$

$$\mathcal{U}(\boldsymbol{x}) = \sum_{T^1} \prod_{e \notin T^1} x_e, \qquad \mathcal{F}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{s}) = -\sum_{T^2} s_{T^2} \prod_{e \notin T^2} x_e + \mathcal{U}(\boldsymbol{x}) \sum_{e} m_e^2 x_e$$



Lee-Pomeransky representation of the Feynman integral

Our work focuses on the on-shell expansion for wide-angle scattering:

on-shell expansion: $p_i^2 \sim \lambda Q^2$, $q_j^2 \sim Q^2$, $m^2 = 0$ wide-angle scattering: $p_k \cdot p_l \sim Q^2$ ($\forall k \neq l$).

where $\lambda \ll 1$ is a small scaling vector.



Lee-Pomeransky representation of the Feynman integral Example:





Lee-Pomeransky representation of the Feynman integral Example:



Lee-Pomeransky representation of the Feynman integral Example:



Hard region : $x_1, x_2, x_3 \sim \lambda^0$

 $\mathcal{I}_{h} = \mathcal{C} \int_{0}^{\infty} dx_{1} dx_{2} dx_{3} x_{1}^{\nu_{1}-1} x_{2}^{\nu_{2}-1} x_{3}^{\nu_{3}-1} \cdot \left(x_{1} + x_{2} + x_{3} - q_{1}^{2} x_{1} x_{2}\right)^{-D/2}, + \cdots$



Lee-Pomeransky representation of the Feynman integral Example:



Collinear region to $p_1: x_1, x_3 \sim \lambda^{-1}, x_2 \sim \lambda^0$ $\mathcal{I}_{p_1} = \mathcal{C} \int_0^\infty dx_1 dx_2 dx_3 x_1^{\nu_1 - 1} x_2^{\nu_2 - 1} x_3^{\nu_3 - 1} \cdot (x_1 + x_3 - p_1^2 x_1 x_3 - q_1^2 x_1 x_2)^{-D/2},$



Lee-Pomeransky representation of the Feynman integral Example:



Collinear region to $p_2: x_1 \sim \lambda^0, x_2, x_3 \sim \lambda^{-1}$ $\mathcal{I}_{p_2} = \mathcal{C} \int_0^\infty dx_1 dx_2 dx_3 x_1^{\nu_1 - 1} x_2^{\nu_2 - 1} x_3^{\nu_3 - 1} \cdot (x_2 + x_3 - p_2^2 x_2 x_3 - q_1^2 x_1 x_2)^{-D/2},$



Lee-Pomeransky representation of the Feynman integral Example:



Soft region : $x_1, x_2 \sim \lambda^{-1}, x_3 \sim \lambda^{-2}$ $\mathcal{I}_s = \mathcal{C} \int_0^\infty dx_1 dx_2 dx_3 x_1^{\nu_1 - 1} x_2^{\nu_2 - 1} x_3^{\nu_3 - 1} \cdot (x_3 - p_1^2 x_1 x_3 - p_2^2 x_2 x_3 - q_1^2 x_1 x_2)^{-D/2},$



A systematic way to determine these regions:

To construct the Newton polytope associated to the Lee-Pomeransky polynomial:

$$\mathcal{P}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{s}) = x_1 + x_2 + x_3 - p_1^2 x_1 x_3 - p_2^2 x_2 x_3 - q_1^2 x_1 x_2$$

More precisely, the Newton polytope is the convex hull of the exponents of the Lee-Pomeransky polynomial, which is (N+1)-dimensional.

(N: the number of propagators of G)



A systematic way to determine these regions:

To construct the Newton polytope associated to the Lee-Pomeransky polynomial:



The Newton polytope is the convex hull of the exponents of the Lee-Pomeransky polynomial.

Suppose a graph has N propagators, then the Newton polytope is (N+1)-dimensional.

The regions are identified as the lower facets of the Newton polytope.



Coming back to our example:

Each region is considered as a specific facet containing certain points of the polytope.



Coming back to our example:

These points are in the hard facet:



Coming back to our example:

These points are in the hard facet:

Hard region : $x_1, x_2, x_3 \sim 1$

 $\mathcal{I}_{h} = \mathcal{C} \int_{0}^{\infty} dx_{1} dx_{2} dx_{3} x_{1}^{\nu_{1}-1} x_{2}^{\nu_{2}-1} x_{3}^{\nu_{3}-1} \cdot \left(x_{1} + x_{2} + x_{3} - q_{1}^{2} x_{1} x_{2}\right)^{-D/2},$ $+ \cdots$



The points **r** on a lower facet are those with the minimum value of $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{R}$, where \mathbf{v}_{R} is the vector normal to the facet.

Hard region vector $\mathbf{v}_{h}=(0,0,0,1)$

These points are in the hard facet:



Coming back to our example:

These points are in the collinear-p1 facet:

Collinear region to $p_1: x_1, x_3 \sim 1, x_2 \sim \lambda$ $\mathcal{I}_{p_1} = \mathcal{C} \int_0^\infty dx_1 dx_2 dx_3 x_1^{\nu_1 - 1} x_2^{\nu_2 - 1} x_3^{\nu_3 - 1} \cdot (x_1 + x_3 - p_1^2 x_1 x_3 - q_1^2 x_1 x_2)^{-D/2},$



Coming back to our example:

These points are on the collinear-p2 facet:

Collinear region to $p_2: x_1 \sim \lambda, x_2, x_3 \sim 1$ $\mathcal{I}_{p_2} = \mathcal{C} \int_0^\infty dx_1 dx_2 dx_3 x_1^{\nu_1 - 1} x_2^{\nu_2 - 1} x_3^{\nu_3 - 1} \cdot (x_2 + x_3 - p_2^2 x_2 x_3 - q_1^2 x_1 x_2)^{-D/2},$



Coming back to our example:

These points are on the soft facet:

Soft region : $x_1, x_2 \sim \lambda, \ x_3 \sim 1$

 $\mathcal{I}_{s} = \mathcal{C} \int_{0}^{\infty} dx_{1} dx_{2} dx_{3} x_{1}^{\nu_{1}-1} x_{2}^{\nu_{2}-1} x_{3}^{\nu_{3}-1} \cdot \left(x_{3} - p_{1}^{2} x_{1} x_{3} - p_{2}^{2} x_{2} x_{3} - q_{1}^{2} x_{1} x_{2}\right)^{-D/2},$



The Newton polytope is the convex hull of the exponents of the Lee-Pomeransky polynomial.

The regions are identified as the lower facets of the Newton polytope.

There have been computer codes based on this approach, such as Asy2, ASPIRE and pySecDec.

We aim to find an analytic way to determine the regions, by relating them to the Landau equations.



ON THE ANALYTIC PROPERTIES OF VERTEX PARTS IN QUANTUM FIELD THEORY

L. D. LANDAU

Institute of Physical Problems, Academy of Sciences, U.S.S.R. Submitted to JETP editor February 19, 1959; resubmitted April 7, 1959 J. Exptl. Theoret. Phys. (U.S.S.R.) 37, 62-70 (July, 1959)

A general method is developed, on the basis of the diagram technique, for finding the singularities of quantities involved in quantum field theory.



In the Feynman parameterized integral

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}(s) &= \frac{\Gamma(\nu)}{\prod_{e \in G} \Gamma(\nu_e)} \int_0^\infty \left(\prod_{e \in G} d\alpha_e \alpha_e^{\nu_e - 1} \right) \delta\left(\sum_{e \in G} \alpha_e - 1 \right) \int [dk] \frac{1}{[\mathcal{D}(k, p, q; \alpha)]^{\nu}}. \end{aligned}$$
with $\mathcal{D}(k, p, q; \alpha) &= \sum_{e \in G} \alpha_e \left(-l_e^2(k, p, q) + m_e^2 - i\epsilon \right), \end{aligned}$



In the Feynman parameterized integral

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}(s) &= \frac{\Gamma(\nu)}{\prod_{e \in G} \Gamma(\nu_e)} \int_0^\infty \left(\prod_{e \in G} d\alpha_e \alpha_e^{\nu_e - 1} \right) \delta\left(\sum_{e \in G} \alpha_e - 1 \right) \int [d\mathbf{k}] \frac{1}{[\mathcal{D}(k, p, q; \alpha)]^{\nu}}. \end{aligned}$$
with $\mathcal{D}(k, p, q; \alpha) &= \sum_{e \in G} \alpha_e \left(-l_e^2(k, p, q) + m_e^2 - i\epsilon \right), \end{aligned}$

The Landau equations read:

$$\alpha_e l_e^2(k, p, q) = 0 \quad \forall e \in G$$
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial k_a} \mathcal{D}(k, p, q; \alpha) = 0 \quad \forall a \in \{1, \dots, L\}.$$



There are other representations of the Landau equations.

The solution(s) of the Landau equations are called the "pinch surfaces", which are like

H: hard subgraph J₁, J₂,..., J_K: jet subgraphs S: soft subgraph





Given an amplitude G some external momenta on-shell $p_i^2 = 0$ (i = 1, ..., K)

the submanifold of the momentum space

Hard:
$$k_{H}^{\mu} = (k_{H}^{t}, k_{H}^{x}, k_{H}^{y}, k_{H}^{z}) \sim Q(1, 1, 1, 1),$$

Jet: $k_{J_{i}}^{\mu} = (k_{J_{i}} \cdot \overline{\beta}_{i}, k_{J_{i}} \cdot \beta_{i}, k_{J_{i}} \cdot \beta_{i\perp}) \sim Q(1, 0, 0),$
Soft: $k_{S}^{\mu} = (k_{S}^{t}, k_{S}^{x}, k_{S}^{y}, k_{S}^{z}) \sim Q(0, 0, 0, 0).$

is a solution of the Landau equations

$$\alpha_e l_e^2(k, p, q) = 0 \quad \forall e \in G$$
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial k_a} \mathcal{D}(k, p, q; \alpha) = 0 \quad \forall a \in \{1, \dots, L\}.$$



Observation: if we take the on-shell expansion condition $p_i^2 \sim \lambda Q^2$ (i = 1, ..., K),

the vicinity of the pinch surface in momentum space Hard: $k_{H}^{\mu} = (k_{H}^{t}, k_{H}^{x}, k_{H}^{y}, k_{H}^{z}) \sim Q(1, 1, 1, 1),$ Jet: $k_{J_{i}}^{\mu} = (k_{J_{i}} \cdot \overline{\beta}_{i}, k_{J_{i}} \cdot \beta_{i}, k_{J_{i}} \cdot \beta_{i\perp}) \sim Q(1, \lambda, \lambda^{1/2}),$ Soft: $k_{S}^{\mu} = (k_{S}^{t}, k_{S}^{x}, k_{S}^{y}, k_{S}^{z}) \sim Q(\lambda, \lambda, \lambda, \lambda).$

and modify the Landau equations to

$$\alpha_e l_e^2(k, p, q) \lesssim \lambda \qquad \forall e \in G$$
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial k_a} \mathcal{D}(k, p, q; \alpha) \lesssim \lambda \qquad \forall a \in \{1, \dots, L\}.$$



The scaling of the Lee-Pomeransky parameters reads $x^{[H]} \lesssim \lambda^0, \quad x^{[J]} \lesssim \lambda^{-1}, \quad x^{[S]} \lesssim \lambda^{-2}$

Therefore, it is natural to propose the following region vector for G:

$$\boldsymbol{v}_{R} = (u_{R,1}, u_{R,2}, \dots, u_{R,N}; 1), \qquad u_{R,e} \in \{0, -1, -2\},$$
$$u_{R,e} = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad e \in H$$
$$u_{R,e} = -1 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad e \in J \equiv \bigcup_{i=1}^{K} J_{i}$$
$$u_{R,e} = -2 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad e \in S$$



Coming back to our example again:

$$\mathcal{P}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{s}) = x_1 + x_2 + x_3 - p_1^2 x_1 x_3 - p_2^2 x_2 x_3 - q_1^2 x_1 x_2$$



Four regions in total:

 $v_H = (0, 0, 0; 1),$ $v_{C_1} = (-1, 0, -1; 1),$ $v_{C_2} = (0, -1, -1; 1),$ $v_S = (-1, -1, -2; 1).$

compatible to the proposition.



Question: is the proposition true in general?

At higher loops:

1. Does each solution of the Landau equations correspond to a particular region?

2. Does each region correspond to a particular solution of the Landau equations?







The all order result: a solution of the Landau equations corresponds to one of the regions, if and only if the following requirements on the subgraphs H, J, S are satisfied:

- Requirement of H: the integral over any hard loop momentum is not scaleless after we set all the jet and soft momenta entering H to be exactly on-shell.⁵
- Requirement of J: the total momentum flowing into (and out of) each 1VI component of \widetilde{J}_i must be equal to the jet momentum p_i^{μ} .⁶
- Requirement of S: every connected component of S must be attached to at least two different jet subgraphs J_i and J_j .



An equivalent graph-theoretical set of requirements:

- 1. For any i = 1, ..., K, the subgraph $H \cup J \setminus J_i$ is mojetic.
- 2. Every connected component of S must be attached to at least two different jets J_i and J_j .

Mojetic (invented from "motic"): a graph is called mojetic if it is one-vertex irreducible (1VI) after contracting all its external vertices to one vertex.



The following examples are NOT regions



because the requirements on the subgraphs are not satisfied.



In order that R is a region of G, several requirements on the subgraphs of G must be met.

These requirements rule out the scaleless integrals that possibly appear in the on-shell expansion.

These requirements can be translated into a graphtheoretical language.

From this graph-theoretical language, we can design an algorithm to find the regions of G directly.





- Step 1: For each i = 1, ..., K, construct the one-external subgraph γ_i in the p_i channel, such that the subgraph $H_i \equiv G \setminus \gamma_i$ is mojetic.
- Step 2: Consider all possible sets $\{\gamma_1, \ldots, \gamma_K\}$. For each such set focus on each edge of G. If it has been assigned to two or more γ_i 's, it belongs to the soft subgraph S; if it has been assigned to exactly one γ_i , it belongs to the jet subgraph J_i ; if it has not been assigned to any γ_i 's, it belongs to H. We also denote $J \equiv \bigcup_{i=1}^K J_i$.
- Step 3: We now check the obtained result from three aspects: (i) each jet subgraph J_i is connected; (ii) each hard subgraph H is connected; (iii) each of the K subgraphs H ∪ J \ J_i (i = 1,...,K) is mojetic. The region would be ruled out if any of these conditions are not satisfied.



Roughly speaking,

Step 1: For every on-shell momentum p_i , construct a jet J_i that includes p_i , such that all the propagators in $G \setminus J_i$ are hard;

Step 2: Examine each propagator of G; if it has been assigned to more than one jets in the step above, then it should be soft; if it is assigned to exactly one jet J_i, it should be part of J_i; otherwise (if assigned to no jet) it is hard;

Step 3: Exclude some "bad results" according to some graphtheoretical rules.

























Step 2:











Step 2:









Conclusions

In this talk, we have

1, introduced two approaches to the method of regions (momentum space & parameter space)

2, related the Landau equations to the region vectors;

3, found a set of criteria for the subgraphs of a region;

4, constructed and explained the algorithm to obtain the set of regions.



Conclusions

In this work, we also

5, studied the action of consecutive expansions, and derived a criterion for the commutativity of two expansions;

6, related the expansion by regions to the infrared forest formula.



Outlook

Here are some interesting topics:

- 1. For the on-shell expansion, does each region correspond to a particular solution of the Landau equations?
- 2. What will the conclusions be in some other expansions/processes?
- 3. There may be a geometric interpretation of the (infrared) forest formula.
- 4. Can the method of regions be justified with the help of this approach?





Thank you!