

On the Electron Self-Energy to Three Loops

in

Quantum Electrodynamics

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Based on joint work w/ C. Duhr, C. Nega, L. Tancredi & S. Weinzierl
arXiv [2408.05154]

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Electron Self-Energy $\hat{\Sigma}(p, m)$ fundamental building block

$$\Pi = \frac{i}{p - m + \hat{\Sigma}(p, m)}$$

Two spinor structures

$$\hat{\Sigma}(p, m) = \Sigma_V(p, m)\not{p} + \Sigma_S(p, m) m \mathbb{I}$$

Compute in perturbation theory

$$\Sigma_{\bullet}(p, m) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi} C(\epsilon) \right)^{\ell} \Sigma_{\bullet}^{(\ell)}(p, m)$$

$\bullet = V, S$

$e = \sqrt{4\pi\alpha} \rightsquigarrow$ bare charge

$m \rightsquigarrow$ bare mass

$C(\epsilon) = \Gamma(1 + \epsilon)(4\pi)^{\epsilon}(m^2)^{-\epsilon}$

$\ell = 1$ [Textbooks]

$\ell = 2$ [Sabry; Hoenemann, Tempest & Weinzierl]

$\ell = 3$ [Duhr, FG, Nega, Tancredi & Weinzierl; In this talk focus Bare Results]

Setup

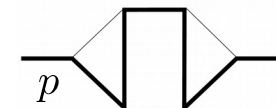
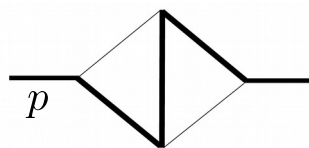
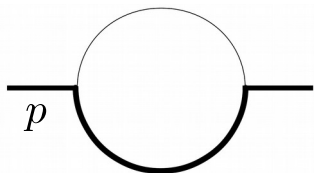
- Generation of Feynman Diagrams
- Spinor Algebra
- Integration by Parts, reduction to Master Integrals (MIs)

[QGRAF; FeynArts]

[FORM; FeynCalc]

[Kira; Reduze; LiteRed]

$\hat{\Sigma}^{(\ell)}$	# Diagrams	# MIs
$\ell = 1$	1	2
$\ell = 2$	3	8
$\ell = 3$	20	51



Evaluation of MIs via Differential Equations

$$\frac{d\mathbf{I}(x, \epsilon)}{dx} = \mathbf{A}(x, \epsilon) \mathbf{I}(x, \epsilon)$$

$$\epsilon = \frac{4-d}{2}$$
$$x = \frac{p^2}{m^2}$$

[Kotikov; Remiddi, Gehrmann & Remiddi]

Evaluation MIs via Differential Equations in ϵ -factorized form

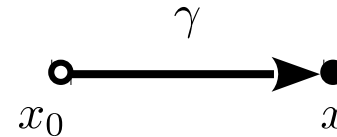
[Henn]

$$\frac{d\mathbf{J}(x, \epsilon)}{dx} = \epsilon \mathbf{G}(x) \mathbf{J}(x, \epsilon)$$

$$\mathbf{G}(x) = \sum_i \mathbf{G}_i \underbrace{\omega_i(x)}_{f_i(x)dx}$$

Solution “trivial” via Path Ordered Exponential \rightsquigarrow Iterated Integrals

$$\mathbf{J}(x, \epsilon) = \mathbb{P} \left[\epsilon \int_{\gamma} \mathbf{G}(x) \right] \mathbf{J}_0(\epsilon)$$



$\mathbf{J}_0(\epsilon) \rightsquigarrow$ Boundary Constants
Natural “truncation” in ϵ

E.g.: $\Sigma_{\bullet}^{(\ell=1)}$

$$\mathbf{J} = \left(\epsilon x \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---}, \epsilon \bigcirc \right)$$

Differential Forms?

$d \log$ forms $\{\omega_i(x)\} = \{d \log x, d \log(1 - x)\}$

Iterated Integrals?

Harmonic Polylogarithms (HPLs)

[Remiddi & Vermaseren]

What happens for the integrals needed for $\Sigma_{\bullet}^{(\ell)}$ with $\ell = 2, 3$?

How to obtain an ϵ -factorized basis?

(We assume that such a basis exists)

Paradigmatic example, “Elliptic Sunrise” ($\ell = 2$)

[Laporta & Remiddi]

$$\mathbf{I} = \left(\text{two circles touching at a point}, \text{circle with a horizontal line through its center}, \text{circle with a horizontal line through its center and a central dot} \right) \subset \text{triangle with a vertical line through its center}$$

Analyze the Maximal Cut

$$\text{circle with a vertical red line through its center} = \int \frac{dz}{\sqrt{P_4(z)}} \quad d = 2 \text{ [loop-by-loop] Baikov rep.}$$

P_4 quartic polynomial

Square Root Quartic \rightsquigarrow Elliptic Curve

$$\{(X, Y) \in \mathbb{C}^2 \mid Y^2 = (X - X_1)(X - X_2)(X - X_3)(X - X_4)\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= 0 \\ X_2 &= (1 - \sqrt{x})^2 \\ X_3 &= (1 + \sqrt{x})^2 \\ X_4 &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

Maximal Cut annihilated by Picard Fuchs operator'

(int. over proper cycles)

[Primo & Tancredi]

$$\left[\left(x \frac{d}{dx} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{x-1} + \frac{9}{x-9} + 2 \right) \left(x \frac{d}{dx} \right) + \frac{27}{4(x-9)} + \frac{1}{4(x-1)} + 1 \right] \text{circle with a vertical red line through its center} = 0$$

$x = \frac{p^2}{m^2}$

Singular points $x_0 = \{0, 1, 9, \infty\}$

The Ansatz Method ($\ell = 2$)

[Adams & Weinzierl]
[Poegel, Wang & Weinzierl]

$$d = 2 - 2\epsilon$$

$$J_1 = \epsilon^2 \text{ (two circles) }$$

$$J_2 = \epsilon^2 \frac{\pi}{\varpi(x)} \text{ (circle with horizontal line) }$$

$$J_3 = \frac{1}{2\pi i \epsilon} J(x) \frac{dJ_2}{dx} + S_{32}(x) J_2(x)$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{J}}{dx} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon(\dots) & \epsilon(\dots) \\ \epsilon(\dots) & \epsilon^{-1}(\dots) + \epsilon^0(\dots) + \epsilon(\dots) & \epsilon^0(\dots) + \epsilon(\dots) \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{J}$$

First two rows ϵ -form (tautological), $\epsilon^{-1}, \epsilon^0$ give differential constraints

$$\left[\left(x \frac{d}{dx} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{x-1} + \frac{9}{x-9} + 2 \right) \left(x \frac{d}{dx} \right) + \frac{27}{4(x-9)} + \frac{1}{4(x-1)} + 1 \right] \varpi(x) = 0$$

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cf.

$$\left[\left(x \frac{d}{dx} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{x-1} + \frac{9}{x-9} + 2 \right) \left(x \frac{d}{dx} \right) + \frac{27}{4(x-9)} + \frac{1}{4(x-1)} + 1 \right] \text{ (circle with vertical red line) } = 0$$

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$$\text{ (circle with vertical red line) } = \varpi(x) = (\dots) \text{EllipticK}[\dots] = \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{3}} \left(1 + \frac{x}{3} + \frac{5x^2}{27} + \frac{31x^3}{243} + \frac{71x^4}{729} + \mathcal{O}(x^5) \right)$$

Holomorphic sol. $x_0 = 0$

Holomorphic sol. can be obtained at any $x_0 = \{0, 1, 9, \infty\}$

The Ansatz Method ($\ell = 2$)

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$$S_{32}(x) = \frac{(3x^2 - 10x - 9) \varpi(x)^2}{24 \pi^2}$$

$$J(x) = -\frac{x(1-x)(9-x)}{6i\pi} \varpi(x)^2$$

Comments:

- J_2 normalized by “Maximal Cut” \rightsquigarrow not algebraic in this case
- Transformation depends on $\varpi(x)$ and $\partial_x \varpi(x)$

The Ansatz Method ($\ell = 2$)

[Adams & Weinzierl]
[Poegel, Wang & Weinzierl]

$$d = 2 - 2\epsilon$$

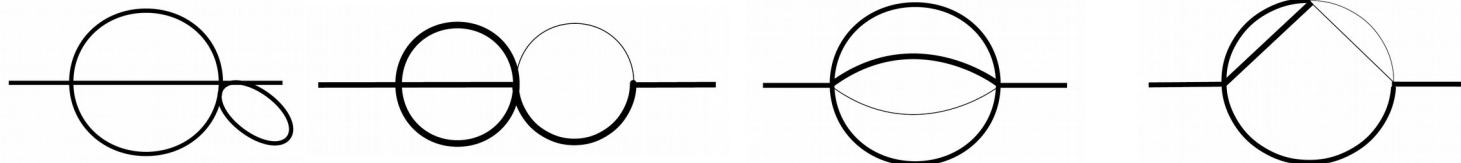
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Similar strategy works for other Elliptic Sectors ($\ell = 3$)



$(\ell = 2) \times (\ell = 1)$

3 MIs, follow idea from [Jiang, Wang, Yang & Zhao]

They all share same underlying Elliptic Curve

Alternative, yet equivalent, method [Goerges, Nega, Tancredi & Wagner]

Differential Equation in ϵ -factorized form

$$\frac{d\mathbf{J}(x, \epsilon)}{dx} = \epsilon \mathbf{G}(x) \mathbf{J}(x, \epsilon)$$

$$\mathbf{G}(x) = \sum_i \mathbf{G}_i \omega_i(x)$$

$$\omega_i(x) = f_i(x) dx$$

[Hoenemann, Tempest & Weinzierl]

$$f_i^{(\ell=2)} \in \left\{ \frac{1}{x}, \frac{1}{x-1}, \frac{1}{x-9}, \frac{\pi^2}{x(x-1)(x-9)\varpi(x)^2}, \frac{\varpi(x)}{\pi}, \frac{\varpi(x)}{\pi} \frac{1}{x-1}, \frac{(x+3)^4}{x(x-1)(x-9)} \frac{\varpi(x)^2}{\pi^2} \right\}$$

$$f_i^{(\ell=3)} \in f_i^{(\ell=2)} \cup \left\{ \frac{1}{x+3}, \frac{1}{x+1}, \frac{1}{x-2}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{(3+x)(1-x)}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{(1-x)(9-x)}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{(1-x)(9-x)}} \frac{1}{x} \right\}$$

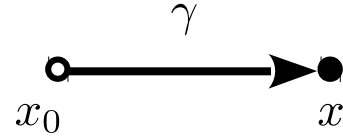
$$\cup \left\{ \frac{x-3}{\sqrt{(1-x)(9-x)}} \frac{\varpi(x)}{\pi}, \frac{(x+3)(x-1)}{x(x-9)} \frac{\varpi(x)^2}{\pi^2}, \frac{1}{(x-1)(x-9)} \frac{\varpi(x)^2}{\pi^2} \right\}$$

Always redefine $\varpi(x)$ s.t. f_i locally at most simple pole

Consider $0 < x < 1$, two interesting limits

$$x = \frac{p^2}{m^2}$$

$$\mathbf{J}(x, \epsilon) = \mathbb{P} \left[\epsilon \int_{\gamma} \mathbf{G}(x) \right] \mathbf{J}_0(\epsilon)$$



Limit $x \rightarrow x_0 = 0$, MIs expected to be finite, collapse to tadpoles (GPLs at sixth roots of unity)

$$\mathbf{J}_0(\epsilon) \rightsquigarrow G(\dots, a_i, \dots; 1) \quad a_i \in \{0, \rho^k\} \quad \text{where} \quad \rho = e^{i\pi/3} \quad \text{with} \quad 0 \leq k < 6$$

Limit $x \rightarrow x_0 = 1$, generalized series expansion

$$\mathbf{J}(x, \epsilon) = \sum_n \epsilon^n \mathbf{J}^{(n)}(x) \quad \mathbf{J}^{(n)}(x) = \sum_{a,b} \mathbf{C}_{a,b}^{(n)} (1-x)^a \log^b(1-x)$$

Match against AMFlow at $x = 1 - \delta$ ($\delta \sim 10^{-2}$) and PSLQ

$$\mathbf{J}_0(\epsilon) \rightsquigarrow \pi, \zeta(n), \text{Li}_n(1/2)$$

Self Energy $\ell = 3$ via iterated integrals

(Gauge dependent)

$$\Sigma_{\bullet}^{(\ell=3)} = \frac{\Sigma_{\bullet,-3}^{(\ell=3)}}{\epsilon^3} + \frac{\Sigma_{\bullet,-2}^{(\ell=3)}}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{\Sigma_{\bullet,-1}^{(\ell=3)}}{\epsilon} + \Sigma_{\bullet,0}^{(\ell=3)} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \quad \bullet = V, S$$

$$\Sigma_{\bullet,-3}^{(\ell=3)} \rightsquigarrow \text{const.}$$

$$\Sigma_{\bullet,-2}^{(\ell=3)} \rightsquigarrow f_i \in f_i^{(\ell=1)}$$

$$\Sigma_{\bullet,-1}^{(\ell=3)} \rightsquigarrow f_i \in f_i^{(\ell=2)} \quad (\text{i.e. poles in } \epsilon \text{ are described by lower loop kernels})$$

$$\Sigma_{\bullet,0}^{(\ell=3)} \rightsquigarrow \text{kernels w/ pos. powers } \varpi^2(x) \text{ drop out}$$

Let $\varpi(x)$ hol. solution $x_0 = 0$, iterated integrals \rightsquigarrow local series expansion for $\Sigma_{\bullet}^{(\ell=3)}$

$$\Sigma_{\bullet}^{(\ell=3)} = (\dots) + (\dots)x + (\dots)x^2 + \mathcal{O}(x^3)$$

Self Energy $\ell = 3$ via iterated integrals

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$$\Sigma_{\bullet,0}^{(\ell=3)} \rightsquigarrow \text{kernels w/ pos. powers } \varpi^2(x) \text{ drop out}$$

A peek at the result

(Gauge choice: $\xi = 0$)

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_S^{(\ell=3)} \Big|_{x=0} &= -\frac{5}{1152\epsilon^3} + \frac{1241}{3456\epsilon^2} - \left[\frac{3373}{1296} + \frac{\pi^2}{1152} + \frac{\zeta(3)}{4} + \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{16} \text{Cl}_2\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) \right] \frac{1}{\epsilon} \\ &\quad - \frac{4447957}{311040} - \frac{7031}{576} \zeta(3) + \pi^2 \left(\frac{3019}{17280} + \frac{7 \log^2(2)}{6} - \frac{3 \log^2(3)}{16} + \frac{151\pi^2}{1152} \right) \\ &\quad - \frac{21}{8} \text{Cl}_2\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right)^2 - 28 \text{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \frac{9}{4} \left[\text{Li}_4\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right) - 2 \text{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \right] - \frac{7 \log^4(2)}{6} + \frac{3 \log^4(3)}{32} \\ &\quad + \sqrt{3} \left[\frac{691\pi^3}{960} + \frac{22}{5} \text{Cl}_2\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) + \frac{129}{320} \pi \log^2(3) - \frac{387}{20} \text{Im}\left(\text{Li}_3\left(\frac{i}{\sqrt{3}}\right)\right) \right] + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \end{aligned}$$

Self Energy $\ell = 3$ via iterated integrals

(Gauge dependent)

$$\Sigma_{\bullet}^{(\ell=3)} = \frac{\Sigma_{\bullet,-3}^{(\ell=3)}}{\epsilon^3} + \frac{\Sigma_{\bullet,-2}^{(\ell=3)}}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{\Sigma_{\bullet,-1}^{(\ell=3)}}{\epsilon} + \Sigma_{\bullet,0}^{(\ell=3)} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \quad \bullet = V, S$$

$$\Sigma_{\bullet,-3}^{(\ell=3)} \rightsquigarrow \text{const.}$$

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$$\Sigma_{\bullet,0}^{(\ell=3)} \rightsquigarrow \text{kernels w/ pos. powers } \varpi^2(x) \text{ drop out}$$

A peek at the result

(Gauge choice: $\xi = 0$)

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_V^{(\ell=3)} \Big|_{x=0} &= \frac{7}{144\epsilon^2} + \left[\frac{5053}{3456} + \frac{\pi^2}{24} - \sqrt{3}\text{Cl}_2\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) \right] \frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{201881}{25920} + \frac{733\zeta(3)}{24} \\ &+ \frac{5 \log^4(2)}{3} - \frac{3 \log^4(3)}{16} - \pi^2 \left[\frac{23}{360} + \frac{5 \log^2(2)}{3} - \frac{3 \log^2(3)}{8} + \frac{1459\pi^2}{8640} \right] \\ &+ \frac{15}{4} \text{Cl}_2\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right)^2 + 40\text{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + \frac{9}{2} \left[\text{Li}_4\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right) - 2\text{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \right] \\ &- \sqrt{3} \left[\frac{1103\pi^3}{2160} + \frac{8197}{480} \text{Cl}_2\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) + \frac{23}{80} \pi \log^2(3) - \frac{69}{5} \text{Im}\left(\text{Li}_3\left(\frac{i}{\sqrt{3}}\right)\right) \right] + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \end{aligned}$$

Self Energy $\ell = 3$ via iterated integrals

(Gauge dependent)

$$\Sigma_{\bullet}^{(\ell=3)} = \frac{\Sigma_{\bullet,-3}^{(\ell=3)}}{\epsilon^3} + \frac{\Sigma_{\bullet,-2}^{(\ell=3)}}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{\Sigma_{\bullet,-1}^{(\ell=3)}}{\epsilon} + \Sigma_{\bullet,0}^{(\ell=3)} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \quad \bullet = V, S$$

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$$\Sigma_{\bullet,0}^{(\ell=3)} \rightsquigarrow \text{kernels w/ pos. powers } \varpi^2(x) \text{ drop out}$$

A peek at the result

(Gauge choice: $\xi = 0$)

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_S^{(\ell=3)} \Big|_{x \rightarrow 1^-} &= \frac{1}{x-1} \left[\frac{27}{16} \log^2(1-x) + \left(-\frac{27}{16\epsilon} - \frac{27}{8} \right) \log(1-x) + \frac{27}{32\epsilon^2} + \frac{27}{16\epsilon} + \frac{9}{2} + \frac{9\pi^2}{32} \right] \\ &\quad - \frac{3}{4} \log^3(1-x) + \left(\frac{9}{8\epsilon} + \frac{125}{128} \right) \log^2(1-x) \\ &\quad + \log(1-x) \left(-\frac{9}{8\epsilon^2} - \frac{17}{128\epsilon} - \frac{3433}{768} - \frac{53\pi^2}{32} + \frac{3}{4}\pi^2 \log(2) - \frac{9\zeta(3)}{8} \right) \\ &\quad - \frac{5}{1152\epsilon^3} + \frac{7}{108\epsilon^2} + \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left(\frac{8117}{5184} - \frac{95\pi^2}{288} + \frac{5}{24}\pi^2 \log(2) - \frac{9\zeta(3)}{16} \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{162239}{31104} - \frac{768617\pi^2}{103680} + \frac{3139}{288}\pi^2 \log(2) - \frac{13237\zeta(3)}{576} + \frac{997\pi^4}{5760} \\ &\quad - \frac{29 \log^4(2)}{48} - \frac{7}{12}\pi^2 \log^2(2) - \frac{29 \text{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{2} - \frac{\pi^2 \zeta(3)}{16} + \frac{5\zeta(5)}{16} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon). \end{aligned}$$

Self Energy $\ell = 3$ via iterated integrals

(Gauge dependent)

$$\Sigma_{\bullet}^{(\ell=3)} = \frac{\Sigma_{\bullet,-3}^{(\ell=3)}}{\epsilon^3} + \frac{\Sigma_{\bullet,-2}^{(\ell=3)}}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{\Sigma_{\bullet,-1}^{(\ell=3)}}{\epsilon} + \Sigma_{\bullet,0}^{(\ell=3)} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \quad \bullet = V, S$$

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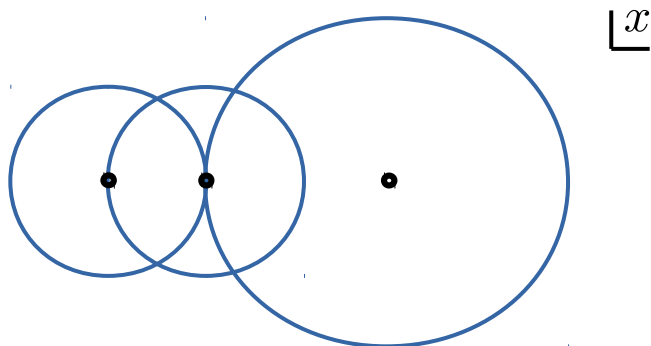
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$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_V^{(\ell=3)} \Big|_{x \rightarrow 1^-} &= \frac{27}{16} \log^3(1-x) - \frac{27 \log^2(1-x)}{32\epsilon} + \left(-\frac{27}{32\epsilon} - \frac{27}{8} + \frac{9\pi^2}{32} \right) \log(1-x) \\ &+ \frac{7}{144\epsilon^2} + \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left(\frac{5179}{3456} - \frac{139\pi^2}{576} + \frac{7}{12} \pi^2 \log(2) - \frac{7\zeta(3)}{8} \right) \\ &+ \frac{5815}{20736} - \frac{6827\pi^2}{12960} - \frac{5149\zeta(3)}{576} + \frac{373}{96} \pi^2 \log(2) + \frac{433\pi^4}{3456} - \frac{83 \log^4(2)}{144} \\ &- \frac{11}{18} \pi^2 \log^2(2) - \frac{83}{6} \text{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + \frac{5\zeta(5)}{16} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon), \end{aligned}$$

How to obtain results for $x \in \mathbb{R} + i0$?

Redo calculation at each $x_0 \in \{-3, -1, 0, 1, 2, 9, \infty\}$, fix BCs via matching against AMFlow

Local series expansion, radius of convergence \rightsquigarrow nearest singularity in DEQ (conservative)



Use matching in the overlapping region as consistency check

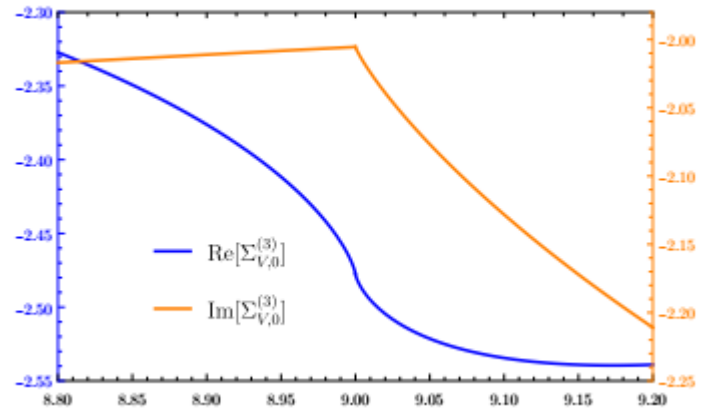
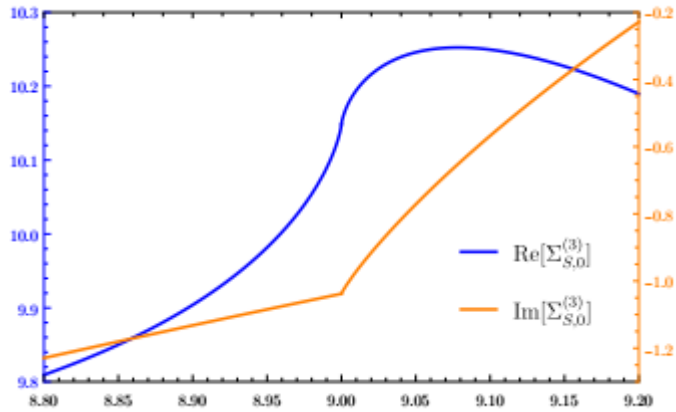
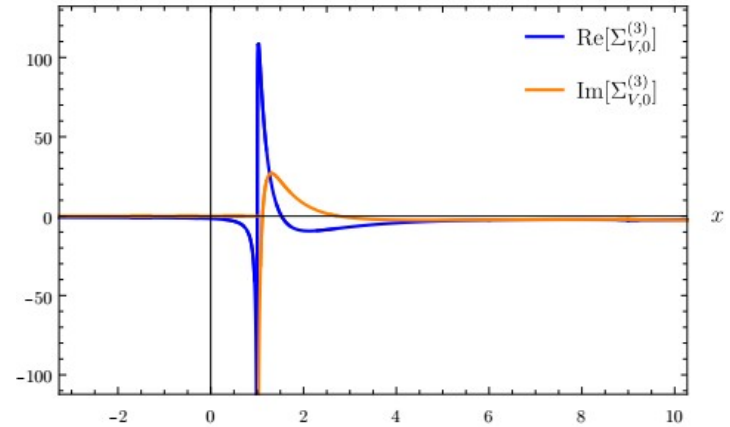
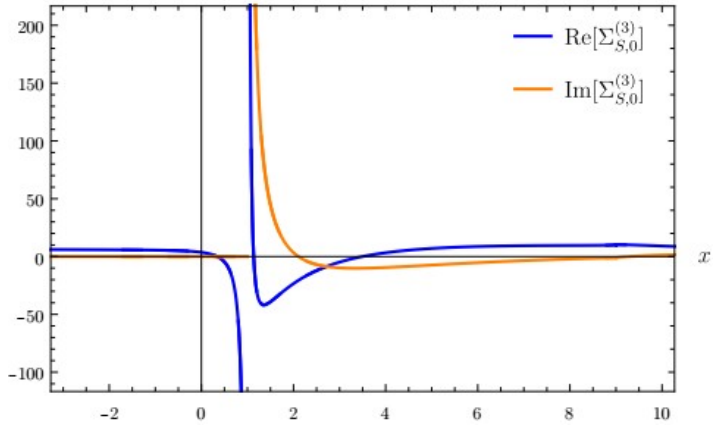
Technical details:

- Moebius transformation to increase radius of convergence
- Analytic continuation by Feynman $i\epsilon$

$$\sqrt{x_0 - x} \rightarrow -i\sqrt{x - x_0},$$

$$\log(x_0 - x) \rightarrow \log(x - x_0) - i\pi$$

How to obtain results for $x \in \mathbb{R} + i0$?



Matching and convergence of the Series (results for $\mathcal{O}(x_0 - x)^{101}$)

$$\Sigma_{S,0}^{(\ell=3)}(1/2) = -4.654743138598507 \quad (x_0 = 0)$$

$$\Sigma_{S,0}^{(\ell=3)}(1/2) = -4.654743138598507 \quad (x_0 = 1)$$

$x = 1/2$	
Truncation order	Partial Sum
10	-4.627232359131039
20	-4.654707119839225
30	-4.654743097377922
40	-4.654743138553728
50	-4.654743138598460
60	-4.654743138598507
...	-4.654743138598507
99	-4.654743138598507

Matching and convergence of the Series (results for $\mathcal{O}(x_0 - x)^{101}$)

$$\Sigma_{S,0}^{(\ell=3)}(1/2) = -4.654743138598507 \quad (x_0 = 0)$$

Bernoulli Change of Variables (improved convergence)

$$x = 1 - e^{-z}$$

$$z = -\log(1 - x)$$

$x = 1/2$	
Truncation order	Partial Sum
10	-4.627232359131039
20	-4.654707119839225
30	-4.654743097377922
40	-4.654743138553728
50	-4.654743138598460
60	-4.654743138598507
...	-4.654743138598507
99	-4.654743138598507

$z = \log(2)$	
Truncation order	Partial Sum
10	-4.654743032579379
20	-4.654743138598507
30	-4.654743138598507
40	-4.654743138598507
50	-4.654743138598507
60	-4.654743138598507
...	-4.654743138598507
99	-4.654743138598507

Conclusions

We discussed analytical and numerical aspects of the computation of $\Sigma_{\bullet}^{(\ell=3)}$ in QED

- Differential Equations in ϵ -factorized form
- Elliptic Kernels and Iterated Integrals
- Local Series Expansions and Bernoulli Change of variables

Techniques developed for Master Integrals “mature” to tackle realistic examples
beyond Polylogarithms