

I am having a little trouble proving wick's theorem. I'll start from the last step that I know is correct. We define

$$\left\langle \prod_{j=1}^{2m} x_{i_j} \right\rangle := \frac{\partial^{2m}}{\prod_{j=1}^{2m} \partial J_{i_j}} \frac{1}{2^m} \frac{1}{m!} \left( \vec{J} \cdot A^{-1} \vec{J} \right)^m \Big|_{\vec{J}=0},$$

where  $A$  is a symmetric  $N \times N$  matrix and  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \vec{J} \cdot A^{-1} \vec{J} \right)^m &= \left( \sum_{k,l=1}^N J_k A_{kl}^{-1} J_l \right)^m = \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m, l_1, \dots, l_m=1}^N \prod_{j=1}^m J_{k_j} A_{k_j l_j}^{-1} J_{l_j} \\ &= \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m, l_1, \dots, l_m=1}^N \prod_{j=1}^m A_{k_j l_j}^{-1} \prod_{j=1}^m J_{k_j} J_{l_j}. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\left\langle \prod_{j=1}^{2m} x_{i_j} \right\rangle = \frac{1}{2^m} \frac{1}{m!} \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m, l_1, \dots, l_m=1}^N \prod_{j=1}^m A_{k_j l_j}^{-1} \frac{\partial^{2m}}{\prod_{j=1}^{2m} \partial J_{i_j}} \prod_{j=1}^m J_{k_j} J_{l_j} \Big|_{\vec{J}=0}.$$

The differential operator is going to annihilate the polynomial in  $\vec{J}$  unless it contains exactly the components with respect to which the operator is differentiating the exact same amount of times. Any more are going to be killed when we put  $\vec{J} = 0$  while any less are going to get killed by the derivatives. We can thus restrict the sum to  $(k_1, \dots, k_m, l_1, \dots, l_m) = (i_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, i_{\sigma(2m)})$  for some permutation  $\sigma \in S_{2m}$ . We thus have

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle \prod_{j=1}^{2m} x_{i_j} \right\rangle &= \frac{1}{2^m} \frac{1}{m!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{2m}} \prod_{j=1}^m A_{i_{\sigma(j)} i_{\sigma(j+m)}}^{-1} \frac{\partial^{2m}}{\prod_{j=1}^{2m} \partial J_{i_j}} \prod_{j=1}^m J_{i_{\sigma(j)}} J_{i_{\sigma(j+m)}} \Big|_{\vec{J}=0} \\ &= \frac{1}{2^m} \frac{1}{m!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{2m}} \prod_{j=1}^m A_{i_{\sigma(j)} i_{\sigma(j+m)}}^{-1} \frac{\partial^{2m}}{\prod_{j=1}^{2m} \partial J_{i_j}} \prod_{j=1}^{2m} J_{i_{\sigma(j)}} \Big|_{\vec{J}=0} \\ &= \frac{1}{2^m} \frac{1}{m!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{2m}} \prod_{j=1}^m A_{i_{\sigma(j)} i_{\sigma(j+m)}}^{-1} \frac{\partial^{2m}}{\prod_{j=1}^{2m} \partial J_{i_j}} \prod_{j=1}^{2m} J_{i_j} \Big|_{\vec{J}=0}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, for every  $r \in \{1, \dots, N\}$  define  $I_r = \{j \in \{1, \dots, 2m\} | r = i_j\}$ . Then  $\{I_r | r \in \{1, \dots, N\}\}$  is a partition of  $\{1, \dots, 2m\}$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^{2m}}{\prod_{j=1}^{2m} \partial J_{i_j}} \prod_{j=1}^{2m} J_{i_j} &= \prod_{j=1}^{2m} \frac{\partial}{\partial J_{i_j}} J_{i_j} = \prod_{r=1}^N \prod_{j \in I_r} \frac{\partial}{\partial J_r} \prod_{r=1}^N \prod_{j \in I_r} J_r = \prod_{r=1}^N \frac{\partial^{|I_r|}}{\partial J_r^{|I_r|}} \prod_{r=1}^N J_r^{|I_r|} \\ &= \prod_{r=1}^N \frac{\partial^{|I_r|}}{\partial J_r^{|I_r|}} J_r^{|I_r|} = \prod_{r=1}^N |I_r|!. \end{aligned}$$

We then have

$$\left\langle \prod_{j=1}^{2m} x_{i_j} \right\rangle = \prod_{r=1}^N |I_r|! \frac{1}{2^m} \frac{1}{m!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{2m}} \prod_{j=1}^m A_{i_{\sigma(j)} i_{\sigma(j+m)}}^{-1}.$$

If this is correct so far, the rest should be combinatorics. Let  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in S_{2m}$ . We say  $\sigma_1 \sim \sigma_2$  if there exists a permutation  $\mu \in S_m$  such that  $\sigma_2(j) = \sigma_1(\mu(j))$  and  $\sigma_2(j+m) = \sigma_1(\mu(j) + m)$  for all  $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ . This is an equivalence relation, for every  $[\sigma] \in S_{2m}/\sim$  we have  $|\sigma| = |s_m| = m!$ , and for every  $\tilde{\sigma} \in [\sigma]$  we have

$$\prod_{j=1}^m A_{i_{\tilde{\sigma}(j)} i_{\tilde{\sigma}(j+m)}}^{-1} = \prod_{j=1}^m A_{i_{\sigma(\mu(j))} i_{\sigma(\mu(j)+m)}}^{-1} = \prod_{j=1}^m A_{i_{\sigma(j)} i_{\sigma(j+m)}}^{-1}$$

for some  $\mu \in S_m$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle \prod_{j=1}^{2m} x_{i_j} \right\rangle &= \prod_{r=1}^N |I_r|! \frac{1}{2^m} \frac{1}{m!} \sum_{[\sigma] \in S_{2m}/\sim} \sum_{\tilde{\sigma} \in [\sigma]} \prod_{j=1}^m A_{i_{\tilde{\sigma}(j)} i_{\tilde{\sigma}(j+m)}}^{-1} \\ &= \prod_{r=1}^N |I_r|! \frac{1}{2^m} \frac{1}{m!} \sum_{[\sigma] \in S_{2m}/\sim} \sum_{\tilde{\sigma} \in [\sigma]} \prod_{j=1}^m A_{i_{\sigma(j)} i_{\sigma(j+m)}}^{-1} \\ &= \prod_{r=1}^N |I_r|! \frac{1}{2^m} \sum_{[\sigma] \in S_{2m}/\sim} \prod_{j=1}^m A_{i_{\sigma(j)} i_{\sigma(j+m)}}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

Now let  $[\sigma_1], [\sigma_2] \in S_{2m}/\sim$ . We say  $[\sigma_1] \sim' [\sigma_2]$  if there exists a set  $I \subset \{1, \dots, m\}$  such that  $\sigma_1(j) = \sigma_2(j)$  and  $\sigma_1(j+m) = \sigma_2(j+m)$  for all  $j \in I$ , while  $\sigma_1(j) = \sigma_2(j+m)$  and  $\sigma_1(j+m) = \sigma_2(j)$  for all  $j \in I^c$ . It is easily checked that this is a well defined equivalence relation and for every  $[[\sigma]] \in S_{2m}/\sim/\sim'$  we have both that  $|[[\sigma]]| = |2^{\{1, \dots, m\}}| = 2^m$  and for every  $\tilde{\sigma} \in S_{2m}/\sim/\sim'$

$$A_{i_{\tilde{\sigma}(j)} i_{\tilde{\sigma}(j+m)}}^{-1} = A_{i_{\tilde{\sigma}(j+m)} i_{\tilde{\sigma}(j)}}^{-1} = A_{i_{\sigma(j)} i_{\sigma(j+m)}}^{-1}.$$

We then have

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle \prod_{j=1}^{2m} x_{i_j} \right\rangle &= \prod_{r=1}^N |I_r|! \frac{1}{2^m} \sum_{[[\sigma]] \in S_{2m}/\sim/\sim'} \sum_{\tilde{\sigma} \in [[\sigma]]} \prod_{j=1}^m A_{i_{\tilde{\sigma}(j)} i_{\tilde{\sigma}(j+m)}}^{-1} \\ &= \prod_{r=1}^N |I_r|! \frac{1}{2^m} \sum_{[[\sigma]] \in S_{2m}/\sim/\sim'} \sum_{\tilde{\sigma} \in [[\sigma]]} \prod_{j=1}^m A_{i_{\sigma(j)} i_{\sigma(j+m)}}^{-1} \\ &= \prod_{r=1}^N |I_r|! \sum_{[[\sigma]] \in S_{2m}/\sim/\sim'} \prod_{j=1}^m A_{i_{\sigma(j)} i_{\sigma(j+m)}}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

The final result should be a summation over all pairings of the indices  $(i_1, \dots, i_{2m})$  of the product of the elements of  $A^{-1}$  corresponding to every pair in the pairing. However, the way that I understand it this is already  $\sum_{[[\sigma]] \in S_{2m}/\sim/\sim'} \prod_{j=1}^m A_{i_{\sigma(j)} i_{\sigma(j+m)}}^{-1}$ . Unless there is any more symmetry which I haven't seen and cancels the factor  $\prod_{r=1}^N |I_r|!$ , I must have done a mistake above.