

# Three-loop cusp anomalous dimension in QCD

A. Grozin, J. Henn, G. Korchemsky, P. Marquard

# Heavy electron effective theory

Single electron of mass  $M$  + soft photons

Ground state — electron at rest

Mass shell

$$\varepsilon(\vec{p}) = \frac{\vec{p}^2}{2M}$$
$$\vec{v} = \frac{\partial \varepsilon(\vec{p})}{\partial \vec{p}} = \frac{\vec{p}}{M}$$

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Leading order in  $1/M$

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Leading order in  $1/M$

Lagrangian

$$L = h^\dagger i \partial_0 h$$

$$\partial_0 h = 0$$

# External field

$$\varepsilon(\vec{p}) = -eA_0$$

$$D_0 h = 0 \quad D_\mu = \partial_\mu - ieA_\mu$$

$$L = h^\dagger D_0 h$$

Gauge invariant

$$h \rightarrow h e^{ie\alpha(x)} h \quad A_\mu \rightarrow A_\mu + \partial_\mu \alpha(x)$$

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+ Lagrangian of electromagnetic field

$$\partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} = j^\nu \quad j^0 = -eh^+ h$$

Interaction Lagrangian  $-j^\mu A_\mu$

# Propagator

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \rightarrow \text{---} \\ p \end{array} = iS_0(p) \quad S_0(p) = \frac{1}{p_0 + i0}$$

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Solving the equation

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Interaction  $eh^+hA_0$  — vertex

$$\begin{array}{c} \mu \\ | \\ \text{---} \rightarrow \text{---} \\ \bullet \end{array} = ie_0 v^\mu \quad v^\mu = (1, \vec{0})$$

# Wilson line

$$iD_0 S(x, x') = (i\partial_0 + eA_0(x))S(x, x') = \delta(x - x')$$

$$S(x, x') = S(x_0, x'_0)\delta(\vec{x} - \vec{x}')$$

$$S(x_0, x'_0) = S_0(x_0 - x'_0)W(x_0, x'_0)$$

$$W(x_0, x'_0) = \exp ie \int_{x'_0}^{x_0} A^\mu(t, \vec{x}) v_\mu dt$$

# Covariant notation

HEET lowest-energy state (“vacuum”)  
— single electron at rest  $\varepsilon = 0$

QED  $E = M$

For any state containing the electron

$$E = M + \varepsilon$$

$\varepsilon$  — residual energy

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$$E = M + \varepsilon$$

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$$P^\mu = Mv^\mu + p^\mu$$

$$p^\mu \ll M \quad p_i^\mu \ll M$$

$p$  — residual momentum

$p_i$  — light particles’ (photons’) momenta

# Covariant notation

$$L = h^+ i v \cdot D h$$

$$S(p) = \frac{1}{p \cdot v + i0}$$

Mass shell

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$$L = \bar{h} \not{v} \cdot D h$$

$$S(p) = \frac{1}{p \cdot v + i0} \frac{1 + \not{p}}{2}$$

Mass shell

$$p \cdot v = 0$$

Electron spin  $\not{p} h = h$

# Full theory and effective theory

## Propagator

$$S_0(Mv + p) = \frac{M + M\not{v} + \not{p}}{(Mv + p)^2 - M^2 + i0} = \frac{1}{p \cdot v + i0} \frac{1 + \not{v}}{2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{p}{M}\right)$$

$$\text{---}\overrightarrow{Mv + p}\text{---} = \text{---}\overrightarrow{p}\text{---} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{p}{M}\right)$$



# Full theory and effective theory

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$$\text{---}\xrightarrow{Mv + p}\text{---} = \text{---}\xrightarrow{p}\text{---} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{p}{M}\right)$$

## Vertex

$$\frac{1 + \not{v}}{2} \gamma^\mu \frac{1 + \not{v}}{2} = \frac{1 + \not{v}}{2} v^\mu \frac{1 + \not{v}}{2}$$

# Why

IR behavior of scattering amplitudes  $\rightarrow$  Wilson lines

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- ▶  $t\bar{t}$  production at LHC and ILC
- ▶  $t \rightarrow bW$
- ▶  $b \rightarrow c$
- ▶ ...

# Wilson lines



# Wilson lines



## Limiting cases

$\varphi \rightarrow 0$



$\varphi \rightarrow \infty$



$$\varphi_E = \pi - \delta$$



# HQET heavy-to-heavy current

$$J = h_{v'}^+ h_v = Z_J(\alpha_s(\mu); \varphi) J_r(\mu)$$

$$h_v = Z_h^{1/2}(\alpha_s(\mu)) h_{vr}(\mu)$$

$$\cosh \varphi = v \cdot v'$$

# Green functions

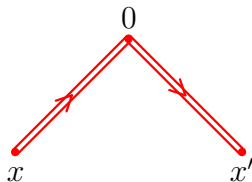


$$-i\langle h_v(x)h_v^+(0)\rangle = \delta(x_\perp)W(t) = Z_h\delta(x_\perp)W_r(t;\mu)$$

# Green functions



$$-i\langle h_v(x)h_v^+(0)\rangle = \delta(x_\perp)W(t) = Z_h\delta(x_\perp)W_r(t; \mu)$$



$$\begin{aligned}(-i)^2\langle h_{v'}(x')J(0)h_v^+(x)\rangle &= \delta(x_\perp)\delta(x'_\perp)W(t, t'; \varphi) \\ &= Z_h Z_J\delta(x_\perp)\delta(x'_\perp)W_r(t, t'; \varphi; \mu)\end{aligned}$$



# Renormalization

$$W(t, t'; 0) = W(t + t')$$

$$\log \frac{W(t, t'; \varphi)}{W(t, t'; 0)} = \log Z_J + \text{finite}$$

$$\Gamma(\alpha_s, \varphi) = \frac{d \log Z_J}{d \log \mu}$$

$$\Gamma(\alpha_s, 0) = 0$$



# Exponentiation in QED

$$0 < t_1 < t_2 < t, 0 < t'_1 < t'_2 < t$$

The diagram illustrates the exponentiation of a propagator in QED. It shows the product of two propagators with a self-energy correction, which is then expanded into a sum of diagrams representing the exponentiation of the self-energy correction.

The first row shows the product of two propagators:

$$\text{Propagator}(0, t_1, t_2, t) \times \text{Propagator}(0, t'_1, t'_2, t)$$

The second row shows the expansion of the product into a sum of diagrams:

$$= \text{Diagram 1} + \text{Diagram 2} + \text{Diagram 3}$$

The third row shows the expansion of the product into a sum of diagrams:

$$+ \text{Diagram 4} + \text{Diagram 5} + \text{Diagram 6}$$

The diagrams consist of red lines representing fermion propagators and blue wavy lines representing photon self-energy corrections. The diagrams are arranged in two rows, with the first row showing the expansion of the product into three terms, and the second row showing the expansion of the product into three terms.

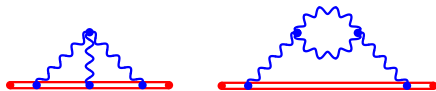
# Exponentiation in QED

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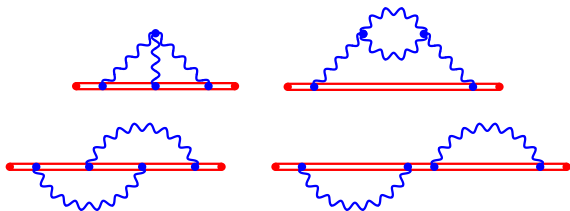
The diagram illustrates the exponentiation of a photon propagator in QED. It shows the multiplication of two diagrams, each consisting of a red double-line fermion propagator and a blue wavy photon line. The first diagram has vertices at  $0, t_1, t_2, t$  and the second at  $0, t'_1, t'_2, t$ . The result is a sum of six diagrams where the photon lines are inserted at various positions along the fermion lines. The final result is the logarithm of the sum of these diagrams, which is represented by a single diagram with a photon loop on the fermion line.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Diagram 1} \times \text{Diagram 2} \\ &= \text{Diagram 3} + \text{Diagram 4} + \text{Diagram 5} \\ &+ \text{Diagram 6} + \text{Diagram 7} + \text{Diagram 8} \\ &\log W(t) = \text{Diagram 9} \end{aligned}$$

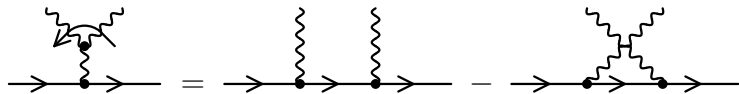
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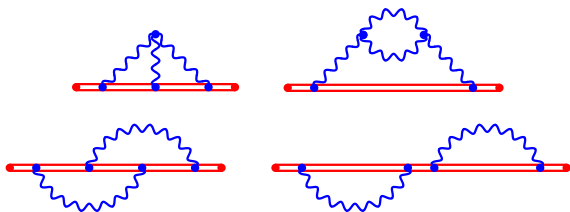


$$[t^a, t^b] = i f^{abc} t^c$$

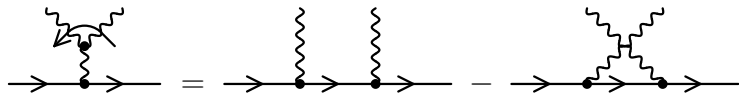


Gatheral (1983); Frenkel, Taylor (1984)

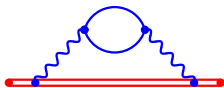
# Exponentiation in QCD



$$[t^a, t^b] = if^{abc}t^c$$



Gatheral (1983); Frenkel, Taylor (1984)



$T_F n_f \Rightarrow$  all color structures allowed

# Exponentiation in QCD

$$\log W = C_F \frac{g_0^2}{(4\pi)^{d/2}} \left[ w + (C_A w_A + T_F n_f w_f) \frac{g_0^2}{(4\pi)^{d/2}} \right. \\ \left. + (C_A^2 w_{AA} + C_F T_F n_f w_{Ff} + C_A T_F n_f w_{Af} + (T_F n_f)^2 w_{ff}) \left( \frac{g_0^2}{(4\pi)^{d/2}} \right)^2 \right]$$



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$$\Gamma = C_F \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \left[ \gamma + (C_A \gamma_A + T_F n_f \gamma_f) \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right. \\ \left. + (C_A^2 \gamma_{AA} + C_F T_F n_f \gamma_{Ff} + C_A T_F n_f \gamma_{Af} + (T_F n_f)^2 \gamma_{ff}) \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 \right]$$

# Momentum space



Vertex function  $V$ : 1PI, without external-leg propagators

$$G(\omega, \omega'; \varphi) = V(\omega, \omega'; \varphi) S_v(\omega) S_{v'}(\omega')$$

$$V(\omega, \omega'; \varphi) = Z_J Z_h^{-1} V_r(\omega, \omega'; \varphi; \mu)$$

$$\log V(\omega, \omega'; \varphi) - \log V(\omega, \omega'; 0) = \log Z_J + \text{finite}$$

Convenient to set  $\omega' = \omega$

$$\varphi = 0$$

$$V(\omega, \omega'; 0) = \frac{S^{-1}(\omega') - S^{-1}(\omega)}{\omega' - \omega} = Z_h^{-1} V_r(\omega, \omega'; 0; \mu)$$

$$\log V(\omega, \omega'; 0) = -\log Z_h + \text{finite}$$

$Z_h$  is gauge dependent;  $Z_J$  is gauge invariant

# History

1 loop

$$\Gamma(\alpha_s, \varphi) = C_F \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} (\varphi \coth \varphi - 1)$$

Follows from the soft radiation function  
in classical electrodynamics

[The Guinness Book of Records](#) The anomalous  
dimension known for a longest time  
(> 100 years)

2 loops Korchemsky, Radyushkin (1987)  
Kidonakis (2009)

3 loops here

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$\gamma_h$  at 3 loops — Chetyrkin, Grozin (2003)

# Abelian large $n_f$ structures

$$C_F(T_F n_f)^{L-1} \alpha_s^L \text{ and } C_F^2(T_F n_f)^{L-2} \alpha_s^L \quad (L \geq 3)$$



# Abelian large $n_f$ structures

$$\log W(t, t'; \varphi) - \log W(t, t'; 0)$$

$$= \text{triangle diagram} - \text{bubble diagram} = \log Z_J + \text{finite}$$

(external-leg corrections cancel). Momentum space

$$\log V(\omega, \omega; \varphi) - \log V(\omega, \omega; 0)$$

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# Abelian large $n_f$ structures

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma &= C_F \frac{\alpha_s}{6\pi} \frac{\varphi \coth \varphi - 1}{B(2+b, 2+b)\Gamma(1+b)\Gamma(1-b)} \\ &= C_F \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \left[ 1 + \frac{5}{3}b - \frac{1}{3}b^2 + \left( 2\zeta_3 - \frac{1}{3} \right) b^3 + \dots \right] (\varphi \coth \varphi - 1)\end{aligned}$$

$$b = \beta_0 \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \text{ Beneke, Braun (1995)}$$

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$$b = \beta_0 \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \text{ Beneke, Braun (1995)}$$

NL $\beta_0$

- ▶ NL photon self energy

$$\Pi = \text{[vacuum bubble]} + 2 \text{[vacuum bubble with fermion loop]} + \text{[vacuum bubble with gluon loop]}$$

- ▶ NL  $Z_\alpha$

$C_F C_A T_F n_f$ 

$$\log Z_J = \cdots + C_F \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^3$$
$$\left[ C_A^2 z_{AA} + T_F n_f (C_F z_{Ff} + C_A z_{Af}) + (T_F n_f)^2 z_{ff} \right]$$

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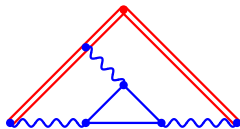
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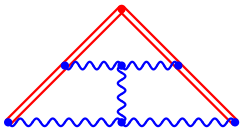
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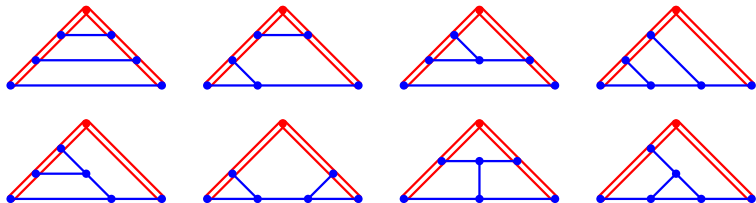
$$C_F C_A^2$$

$$N_c \rightarrow \infty \quad N_c^2 z_{AA}$$

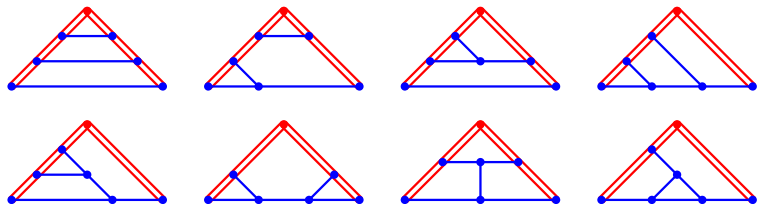


Only topologies surviving at  $N_c \rightarrow \infty$

# Topologies and master integrals



# Topologies and master integrals



71 master integrals

- ▶ 7 straight-line [Grozin (2000)]
- ▶ 8 products of lower loops
- ▶ 10 generalized triangles [Grozin, Kotikov (2011)]
- ▶ 46 nontrivial



# Differential equations

$$x = e^{-\varphi}$$

Symmetry  $x \rightarrow 1/x$

Differentiate in  $x$  and reduce to masters

Initial values at  $x = 1$

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Canonical basis  $\vec{f}$  [Henn (2013)]

$$\partial_x \vec{f}(x, \epsilon) = \epsilon \left[ \frac{a}{x} + \frac{b}{x+1} + \frac{c}{x-1} \right] \vec{f}(x, \epsilon)$$

4 singular points

- ▶  $x = 1$  ( $\varphi \rightarrow 0$ )
- ▶  $x = 0, \infty$  ( $\varphi \rightarrow \pm\infty$ )
- ▶  $x = -1$  ( $\varphi_E \rightarrow \pi$ )

Harmonic polylogarithms  $H_{n_1 \dots n_k}(x)$  ( $n_i = 0, \pm 1$ )

[Remiddi, Vermaseren (2000)]

Uniform weight functions

# Result

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma(\alpha_s, x) = & C_F \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \left\{ \tilde{A}_1 \right. \\ & + \left[ \frac{1}{2} C_A (\tilde{A}_3 + \tilde{A}_2) + \frac{1}{9} \left( \frac{67}{4} C_A - 5 T_F n_f \right) \tilde{A}_1 \right] \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \\ & + \left\{ \left[ \frac{1}{4} (\tilde{A}_5 + \tilde{A}_4 + \tilde{B}_5 + \tilde{B}_3) + \frac{67}{36} \tilde{A}_3 + \frac{29}{18} \tilde{A}_2 \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. + \frac{1}{24} \left( 11 \zeta_3 + \frac{245}{4} \right) \tilde{A}_1 \right] C_A^2 \right. \\ & - \left[ \frac{5}{9} (\tilde{A}_3 + \tilde{A}_2) + \frac{1}{6} \left( 7 \zeta_3 + \frac{209}{36} \right) \tilde{A}_1 \right] C_A T_F n_f \\ & \left. \left. + \left( \zeta_3 - \frac{55}{48} \right) \tilde{A}_1 C_F T_F n_f - \frac{1}{27} \tilde{A}_1 (T_F n_f)^2 \right\} \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 \right\}\end{aligned}$$

# Result

$$\tilde{A}_i(x) = A_i(x) - A_i(1)$$

$$A_1(x) = \frac{\xi}{2} H_1(y)$$

$$A_2(x) = \frac{1}{2} H_{1,1}(y) + \frac{\pi^2}{3} - \xi \left[ \frac{1}{2} H_{1,1}(y) - H_{1,0}(y) \right]$$

$$A_3(x) = -\xi \left[ \frac{1}{4} H_{1,1,1}(y) + \frac{\pi^2}{6} H_1(y) \right] + \xi^2 \left[ \frac{1}{4} H_{1,1,1}(y) + \frac{1}{2} H_{1,0,1}(y) \right]$$

...

$$y = 1 - x^2 \quad \xi = \frac{1 + x^2}{1 - x^2}$$

Uniform weight  $i$

$$\varphi \rightarrow \infty$$
$$x \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Gamma(\alpha_s, x) = K(\alpha_s)\varphi + \mathcal{O}(1)$$

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$$P_{q \rightarrow q}(z) = K(\alpha_s) \left( \frac{1}{1-z} \right)_+ + \dots$$

Korchemsky (1989); Korchemsky, Marchesini (1993)

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$$K(\alpha_s) = C_F \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \left\{ 1 + \left[ \frac{1}{12} \left( \pi^2 - \frac{67}{3} \right) C_A + \frac{5}{9} T_F n_f \right] \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right.$$

$$+ \left[ \frac{1}{24} \left( \frac{11}{30} \pi^4 + 11\zeta_3 - \frac{67}{9} \pi^2 + \frac{245}{4} \right) C_A^2 \right.$$

$$- \frac{1}{6} \left( 7\zeta_3 - \frac{5}{9} \pi^2 + \frac{209}{36} \right) C_A T_F n_f$$

$$\left. + \left( \zeta_3 - \frac{55}{48} \right) C_F T_F n_f - \frac{1}{27} (T_F n_f)^2 \right] \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 \left. \right\}$$

Moch, Vermaseren, Vogt (2004)

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$$+ \left[ \frac{1}{24} \left( \frac{11}{30} \pi^4 + 11\zeta_3 - \frac{67}{9} \pi^2 + \frac{245}{4} \right) C_A^2 \right.$$

$$- \frac{1}{6} \left( 7\zeta_3 - \frac{5}{9} \pi^2 + \frac{209}{36} \right) C_A T_F n_f$$

$$\left. + \left( \zeta_3 - \frac{55}{48} \right) C_F T_F n_f - \frac{1}{27} (T_F n_f)^2 \right] \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 \left. \right\} = C_F \frac{a}{\pi}$$

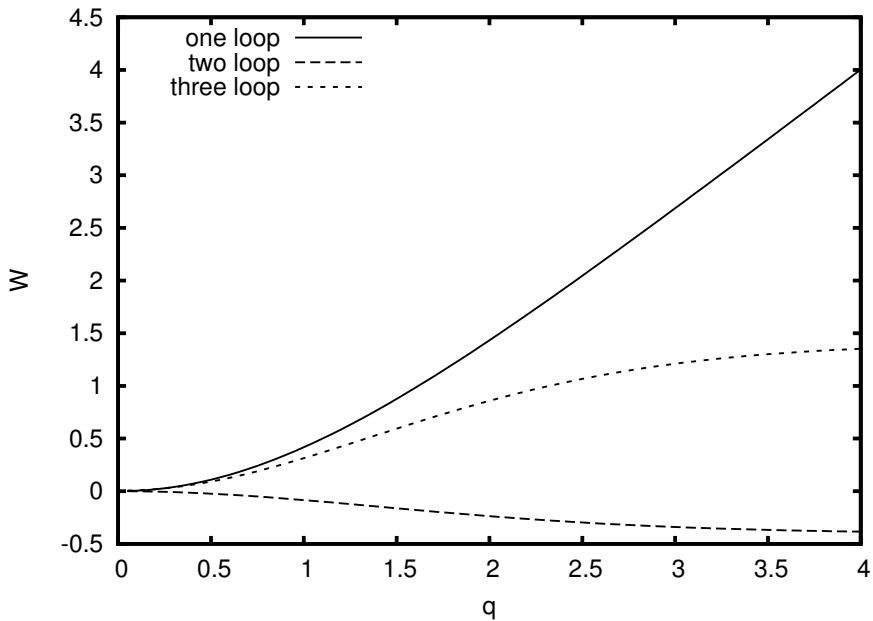
Moch, Vermaseren, Vogt (2004)



$$\Gamma(\alpha_s, x) = \Omega(a, x)$$

$$\Omega(a, x) = C_F \frac{a}{\pi} \left[ \tilde{A}_1 + \frac{1}{2} \left( \tilde{A}_3 + \tilde{A}_2 + \frac{\pi^2}{6} \tilde{A}_1 \right) C_A \frac{a}{\pi} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{1}{4} \left( \tilde{A}_5 + \tilde{A}_4 - \tilde{A}_2 + \tilde{B}_5 + \tilde{B}_3 + \frac{\pi^2}{3} \tilde{A}_3 + \frac{\pi^2}{3} \tilde{A}_2 - \frac{\pi^4}{180} \tilde{A}_1 \right) C_A^2 \left( \frac{a}{\pi} \right)^2 \right]$$

Does not contain  $n_f!$



$$\varphi_E \rightarrow \pi$$

Euclidean  $\varphi_E = \pi - \delta$

$$\Gamma = \frac{rV(r)}{\delta}$$

Kilian, Mannel, Ohl (1993)

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Euclidean space

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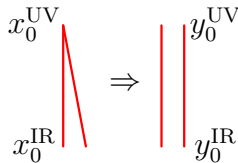
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At 3 loops  $\delta\Gamma(\pi - \delta)$  differs from  $rV(r)$  by a term  $\sim \beta_0\alpha_s^3$

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- ▶  $\varphi_E = \pi - \delta$ : the relation to  $V(r)$  which follows from conformal invariance is violated at 3 loops by a term  $\sim \beta_0 \alpha_s^3$