

# FACTORISATION AND SUBTRACTION BEYOND NLO

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University of Torino - INFN Torino

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# Outline

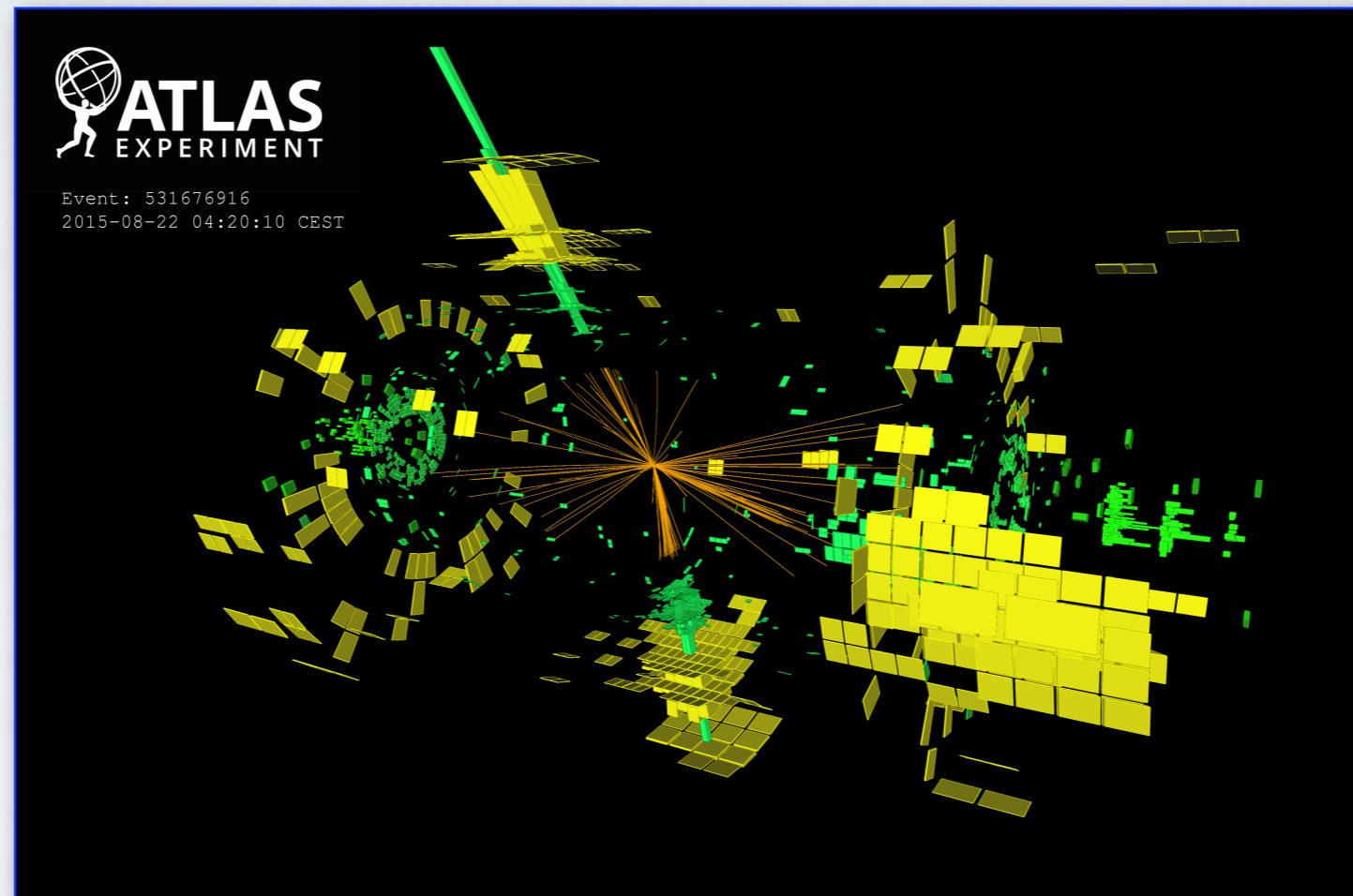
- Introduction
- Algorithms
- Factorisation
- Counterterms
- Outlook

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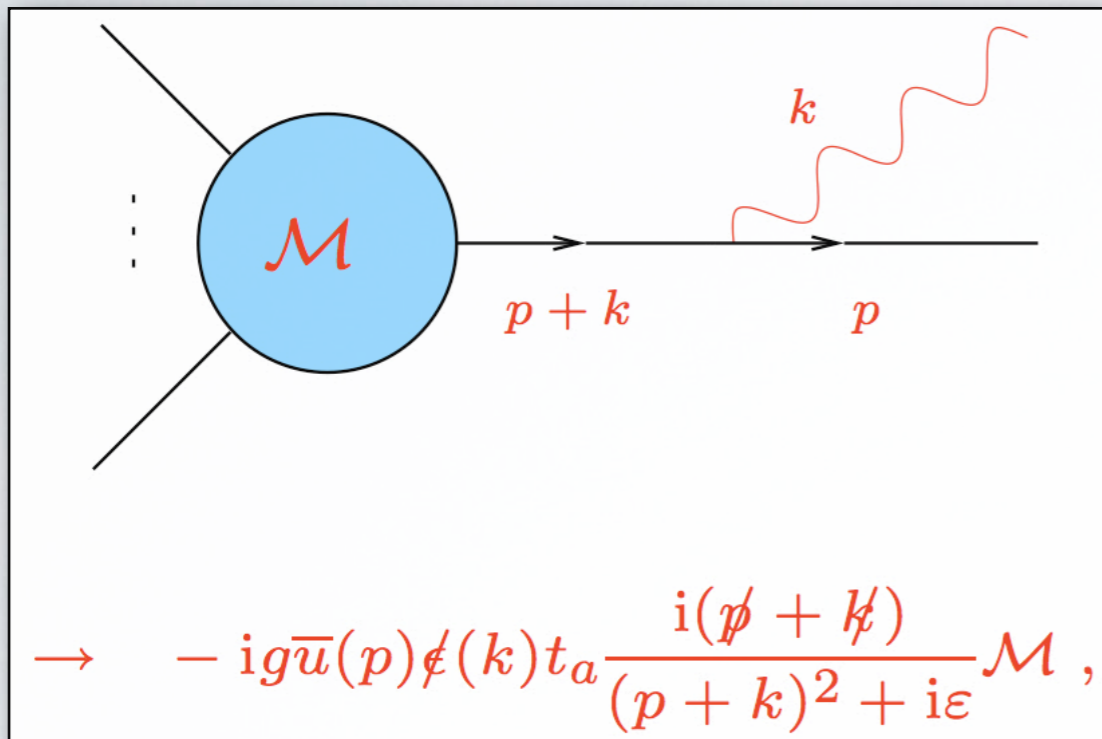
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Chiara Signorile-Signorile  
Paolo Torrielli  
Sandro Uccirati

# INTRODUCTION



# Textbook infrared



**Singularities** arise only when propagators go **on shell**

$$2p \cdot k = 2p_0 k_0 (1 - \cos \theta_{pk}) = 0,$$

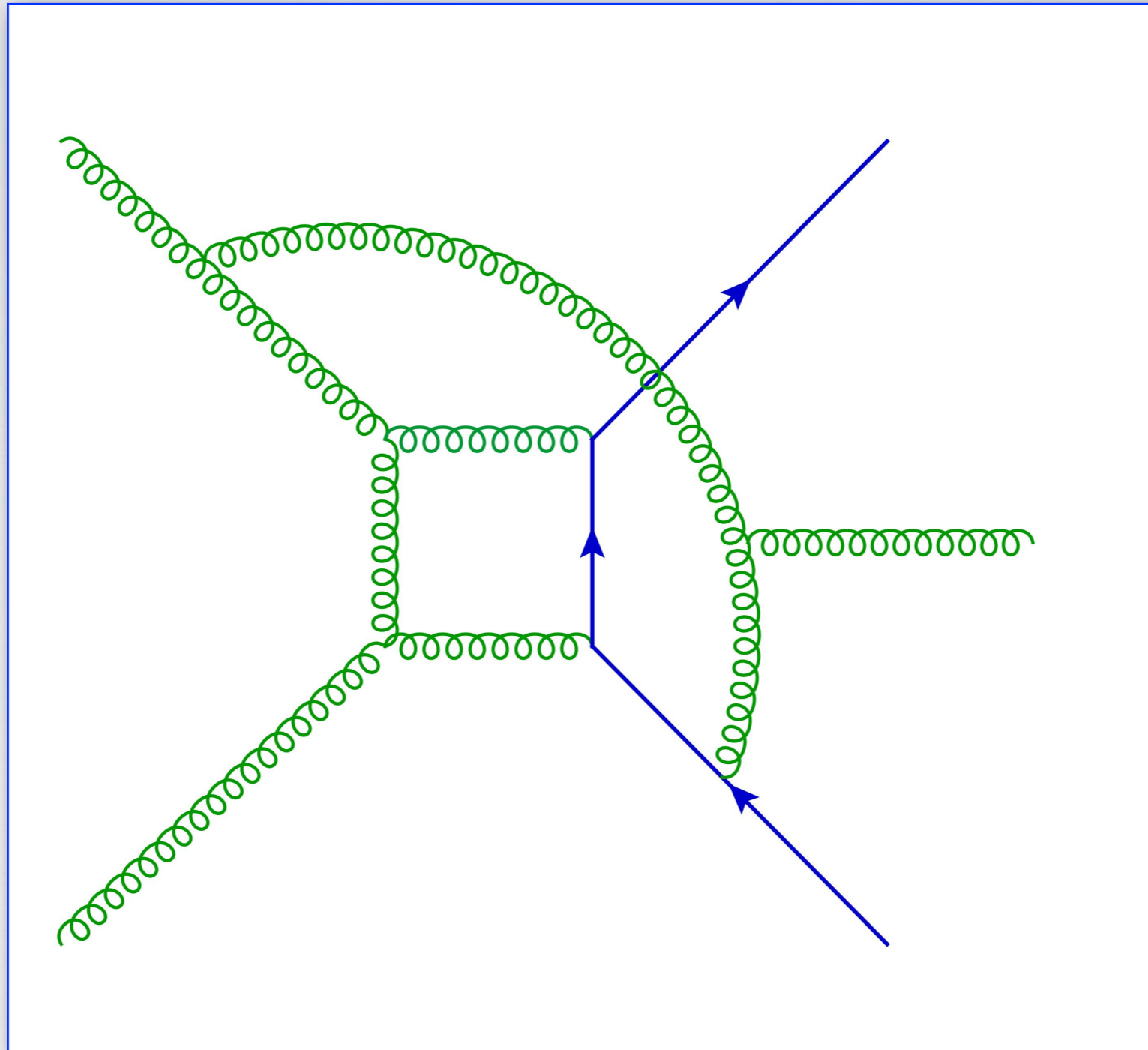
$$\rightarrow k_0 = 0 \text{ (IR)}; \quad \cos \theta_{pk} = 1.$$

- ➔ Emission is **not suppressed** at long distances
- ➔ Isolated charged particles are **not true asymptotic states** of unbroken gauge theories

- 📌 A serious **problem**: the S matrix **does not exist** in the usual Fock space
- 📌 Possible **solutions**: construct finite transition probabilities (**KLN theorem**)  
construct better asymptotic states (**coherent states**)
- 📌 Long-distance singularities obey a pattern of **exponentiation**

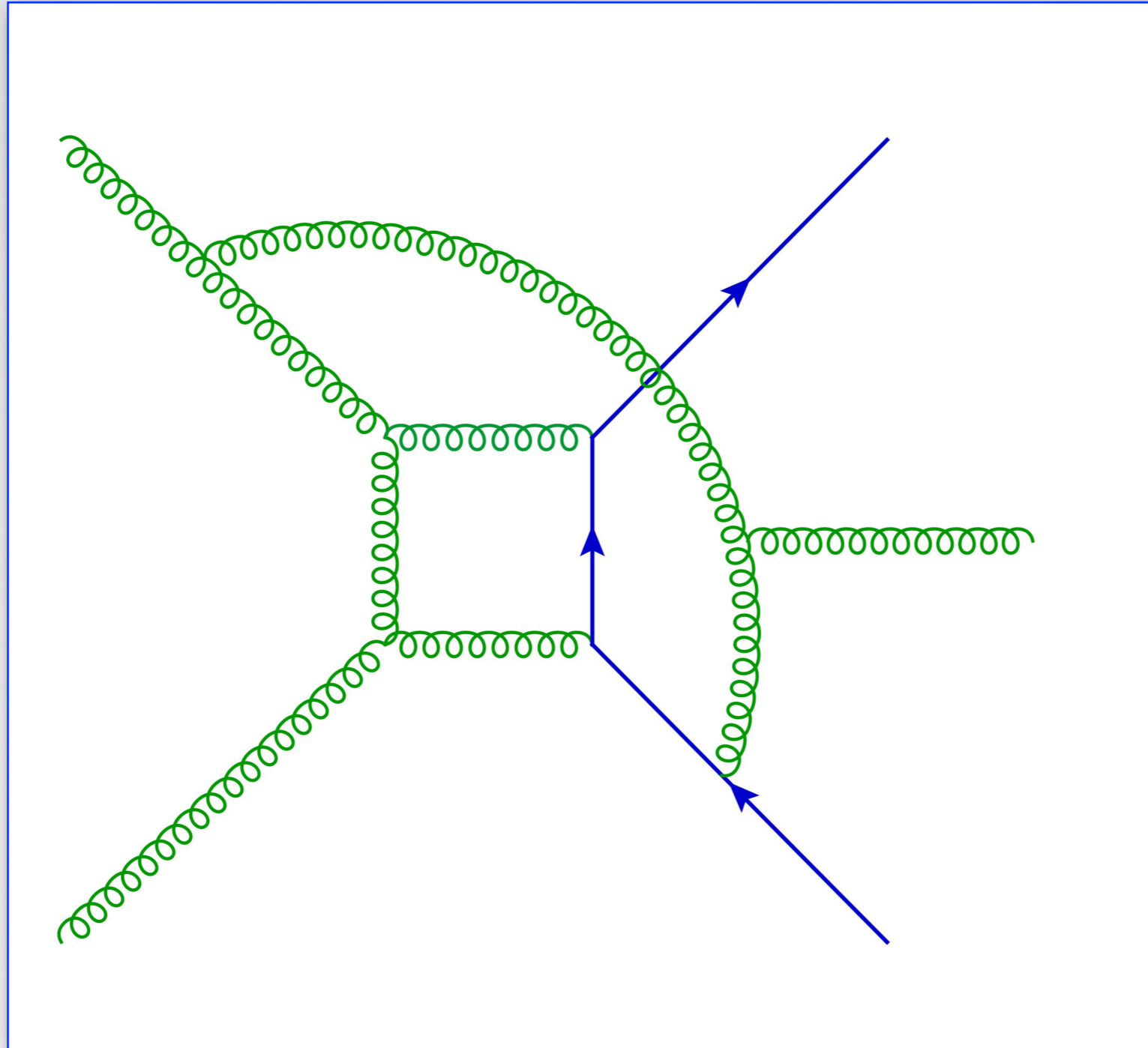
$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_0 \left[ 1 - \kappa \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \frac{1}{\epsilon} + \dots \right] \Rightarrow \mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_0 \exp \left[ -\kappa \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \frac{1}{\epsilon} + \dots \right]$$

# Pictorial infrared



A diagram contributing a double-virtual NNLO correction to  $t$ - $\bar{t}$ -jet production

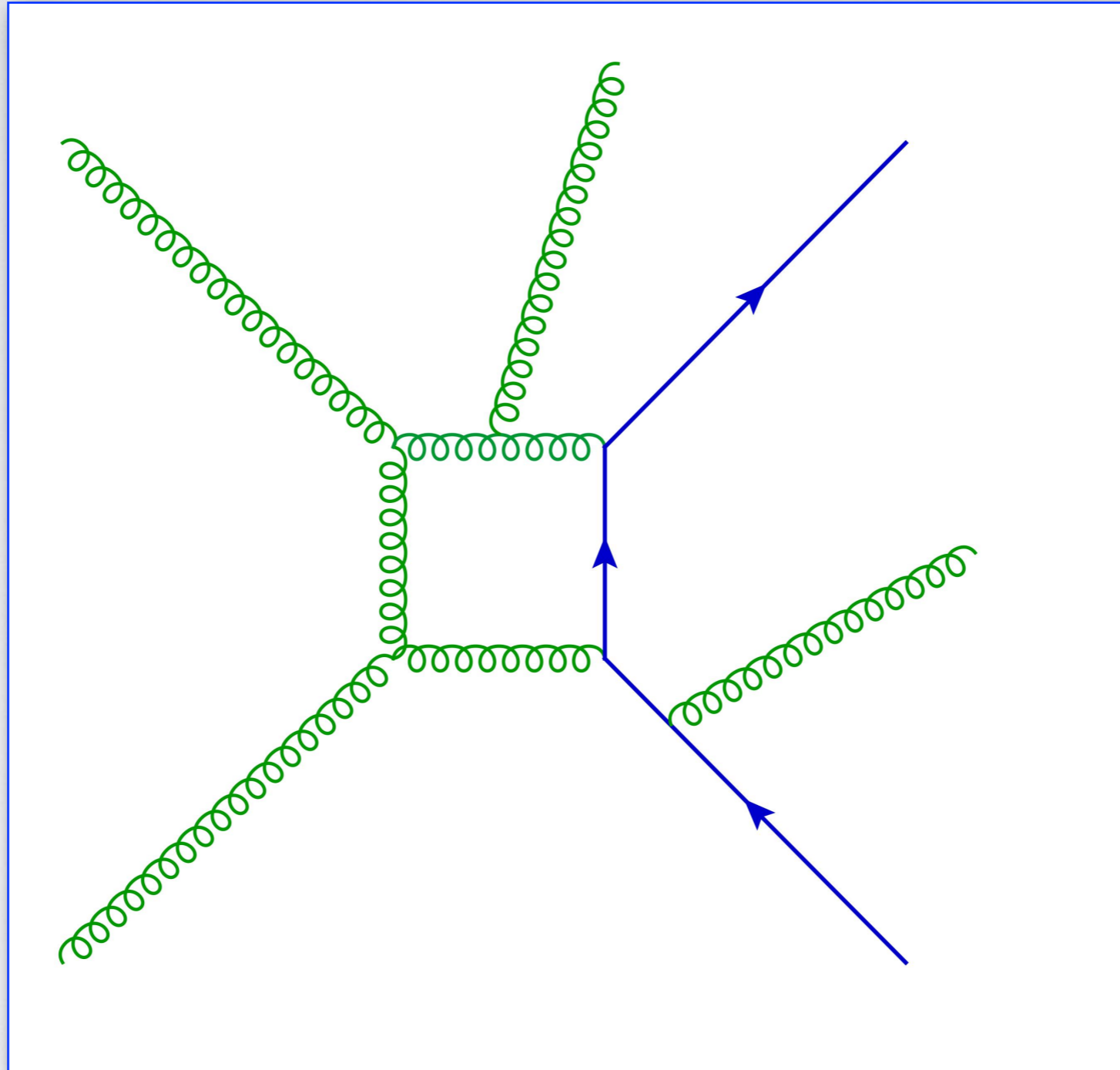
# Pictorial infrared



$$\frac{1}{\epsilon^4}$$

A diagram contributing a double-virtual NNLO correction to t-tbar-jet production

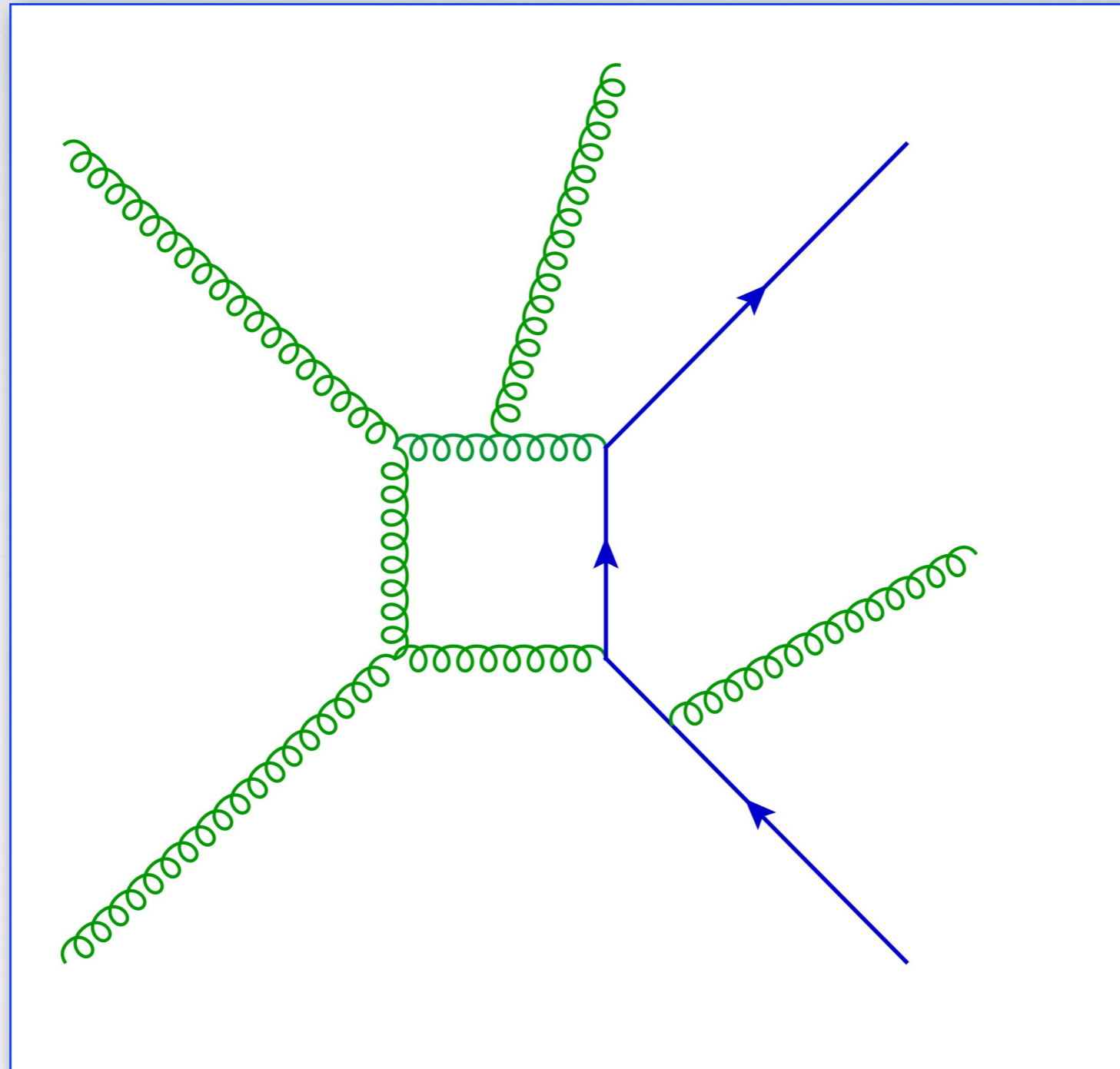
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A diagram contributing a real-virtual NNLO correction to  $t$ -bar-jet production



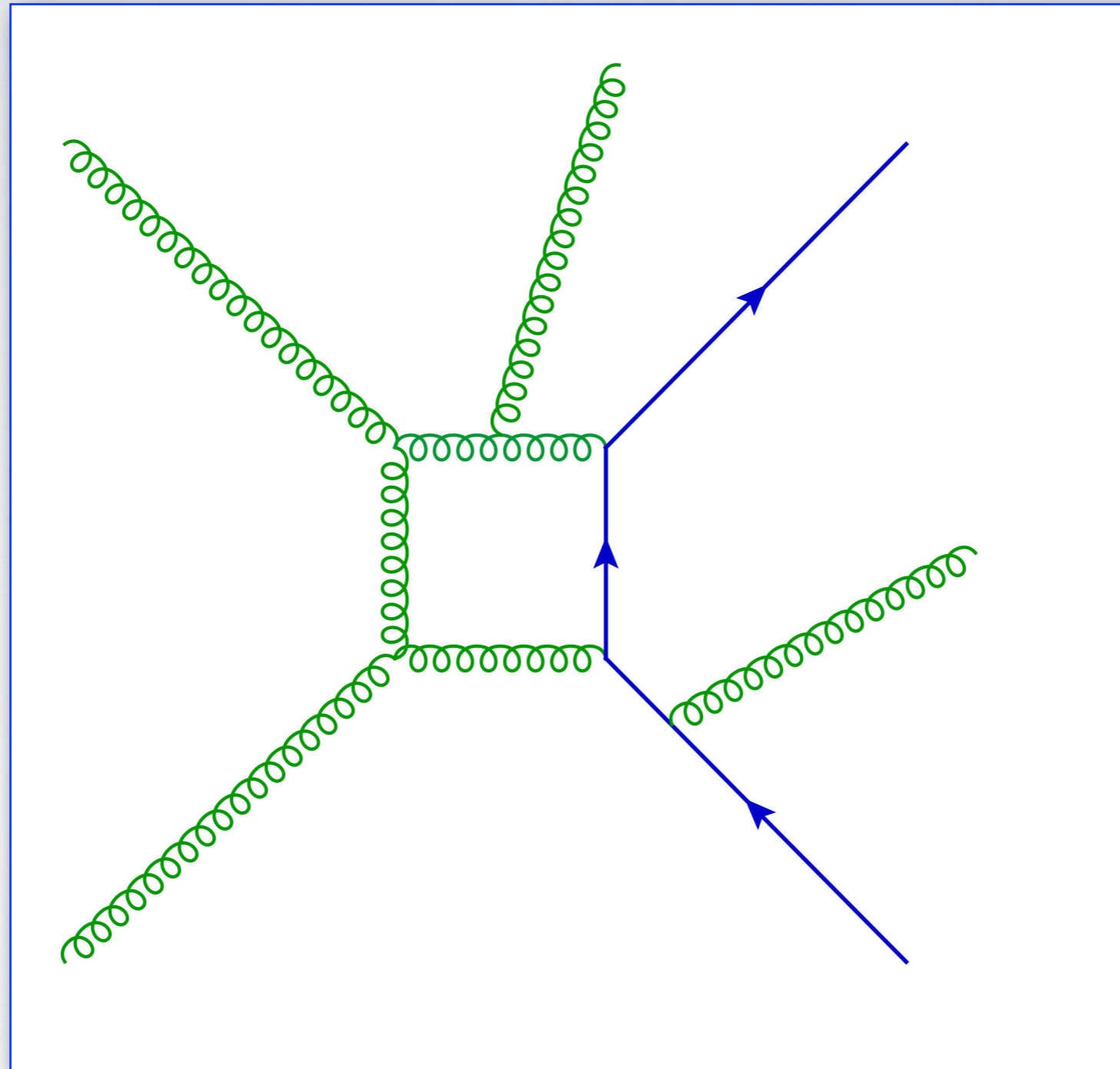
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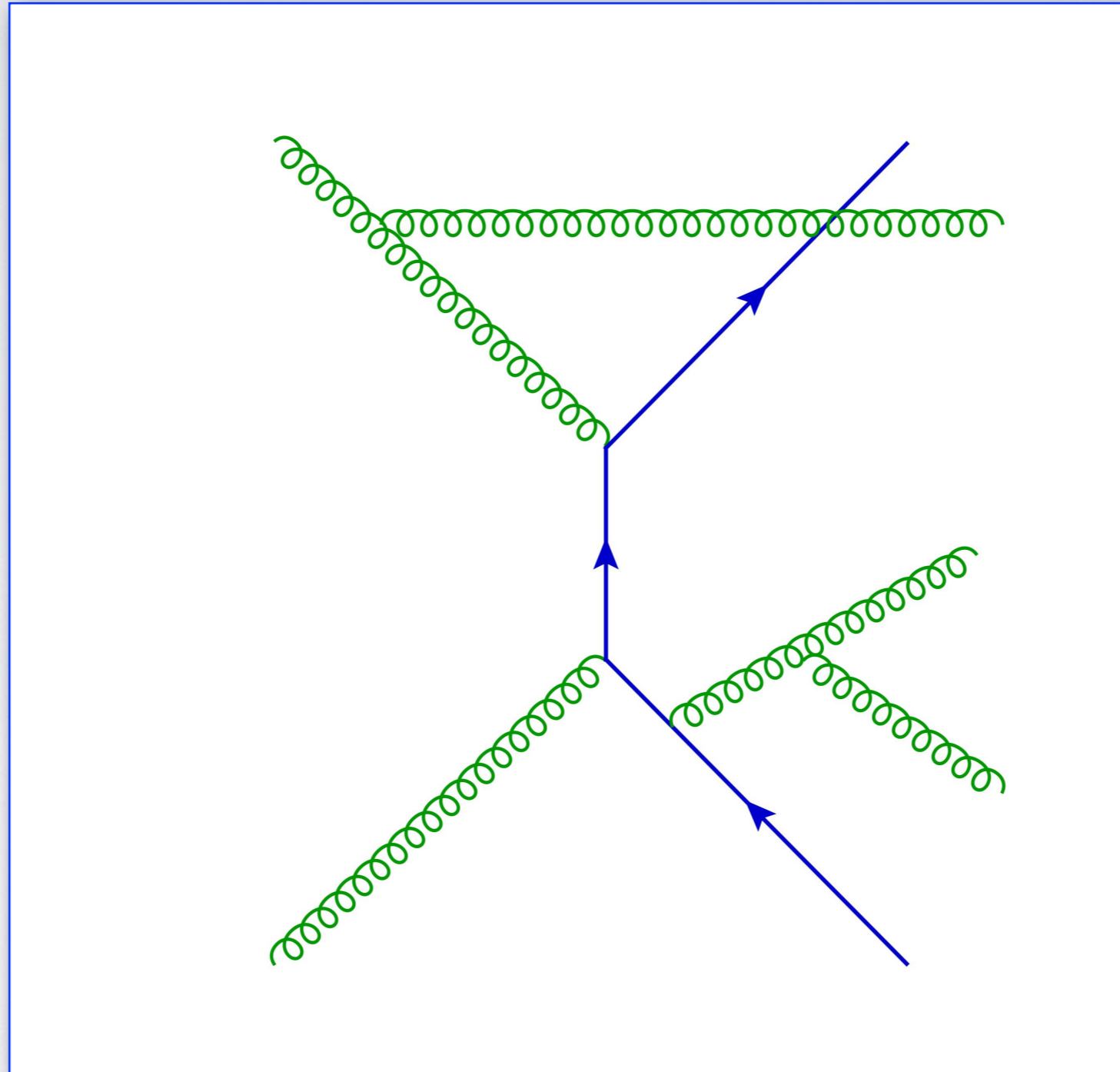


$$\frac{1}{\epsilon^2}$$

$$\frac{dE}{E} \frac{dk_{\perp}}{k_{\perp}}$$

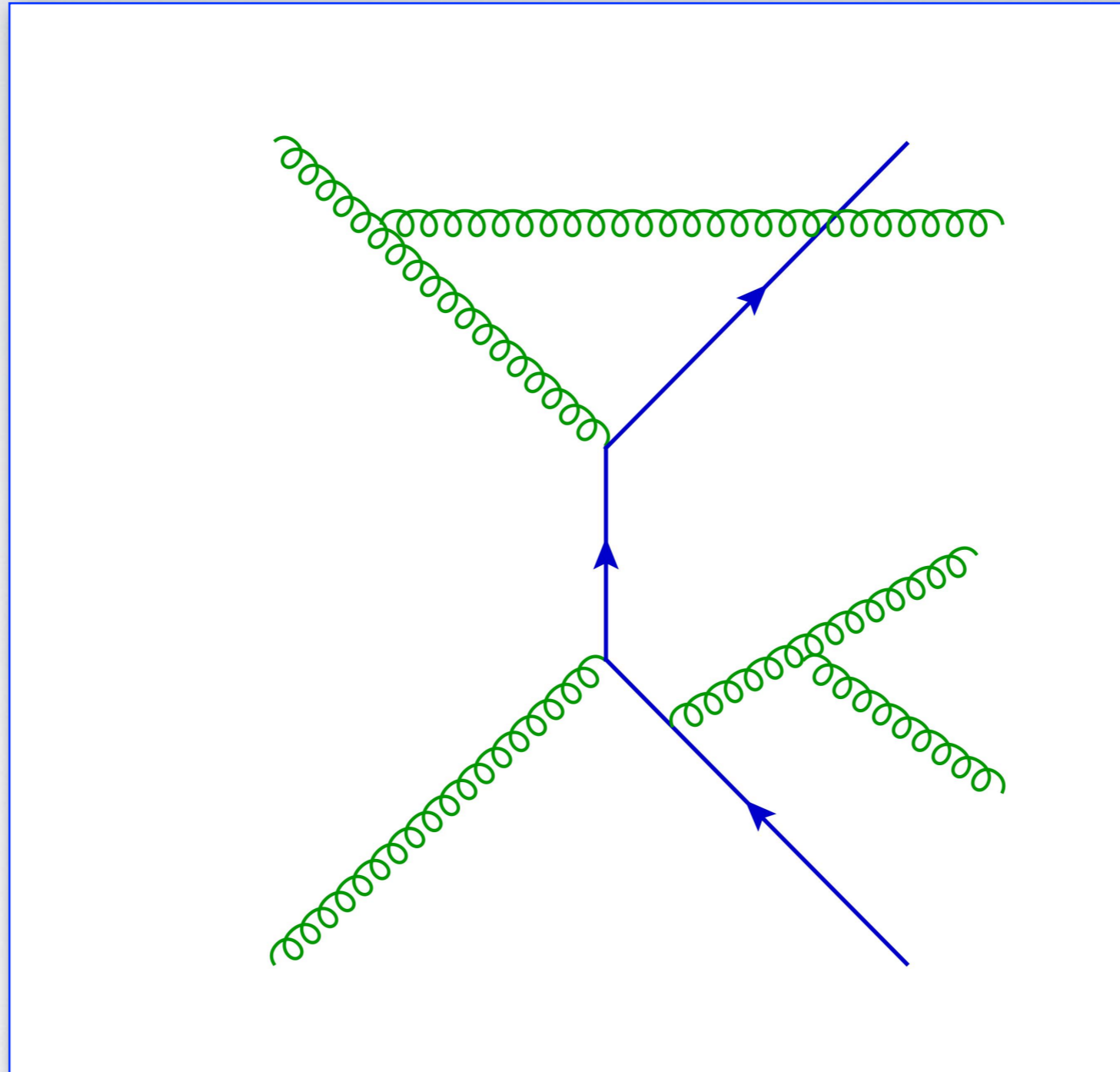
A diagram contributing a real-virtual NNLO correction to t-bar-jet production

# Pictorial infrared



A diagram contributing a double-real NNLO correction to t-tbar-jet production

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$$\left( \frac{dE}{E} \frac{dk_{\perp}}{k_{\perp}} \right)^2$$

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- We are **interested** in subtraction for **complicated** process at very **high orders**.
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  - **Exponentiation** ties together high orders to low orders.
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- Can one **use** the **structure** of **virtual** singularities as an **organising principle** for subtraction?
- Can the **simplifying features** of **virtual** corrections be **exported** to real radiation?

# A multi-year effort

The **subtraction problem** at **NLO** is **completely solved**, with efficient algorithms applicable to **any process** for which matrix elements are **known**.

At **NNLO** after **fifteen years** of efforts several groups have **working algorithms**, successfully applied to **'simple' process** with up to **four legs**. Heavy **computational costs**.

- 📌 Antenna Subtraction.
- 📌 Stripper
- 📌 Nested Soft-Collinear Subtractions.
- 📌 ColourfulNNLO.
- 📌 N-Jettiness Slicing.
- 📌  $Q_T$  Slicing.
- 📌 Projection to Born.
- 📌 Unsubtraction.
- 📌 Geometric Slicing.
- 📌 Finite Subtraction ...

# ALGORITHMS



# NLO Subtraction

The computation of a **generic IRC-safe** observable at **NLO** requires the **combination**

$$\langle O \rangle_{\text{NLO}} = \lim_{d \rightarrow 4} \left\{ \int d\Phi_n [B_n + V_n] O_n + \int d\Phi_{n+1} R_{n+1} O_{n+1} \right\}$$

The necessary **numerical integrations** require **finite ingredients** in **d=4**. Define **counterterms**

$$\langle O \rangle_{\text{ct}} = \int d\Phi_n d\hat{\Phi}_1 K_{n+1} O_n.$$

$$I_n = \int d\hat{\Phi}_1 K_{n+1},$$

**Add and subtract** the same quantity to the observable: **each** contribution is now **finite**.

$$\langle O \rangle_{\text{NLO}} = \int d\Phi_n \left[ B_n^{(4)} + \underline{(V_n + I_n)^{(4)}} \right] O_n + \int d\Phi_n \left[ \int d\hat{\Phi}_1^{(4)} R_{n+1}^{(4)} O_{n+1} - \underline{\int d\hat{\Phi}_1^{(4)} K_{n+1}^{(4)} O_n} \right]$$

Search for the **simplest fully local integrand**  $K_{n+1}$  with the correct **singular limits**.

# NNLO Subtraction

The **pattern** of cancellations is more **intricate** at **higher orders**

$$\langle O \rangle_{\text{NNLO}} = \lim_{d \rightarrow 4} \left\{ \int d\Phi_n [B_n + V_n + VV_n] O_n + \int d\Phi_{n+1} [R_{n+1} + RV_{n+1}] O_{n+1} + \int d\Phi_{n+2} RR_{n+2} O_{n+2} \right\}.$$

More counterterm **functions** need to be **defined**

$$I_{n+1}^{(1)} = \int d\hat{\Phi}'_1 K_{n+2}^{(1)},$$

$$I_n^{(2)} = \int d\hat{\Phi}_2 K_{n+2}^{(2)} = \int d\hat{\Phi}_1 d\hat{\Phi}'_1 K_{n+2}^{(2)},$$

$$I_n^{(\text{RV})} = \int d\hat{\Phi}_1 K_{n+1}^{(\text{RV})}.$$

A **finite expression** for the observable in **d=4** must combine **several ingredients**

$$\begin{aligned} \langle O \rangle_{\text{NNLO}} &= \int d\Phi_n \left[ B_n^{(4)} + \underbrace{(V_n + I_n)^{(4)}}_{\text{green}} + \left( \underbrace{VV_n}_{\text{red}} + \underbrace{I_n^{(2)}}_{\text{orange}} + \underbrace{I_n^{(\text{RV})}}_{\text{blue}} \right)^{(4)} \right] O_n \\ &+ \int d\Phi_n \left[ \int d\Phi_1^{(4)} R_{n+1}^{(4)} O_{n+1} - \int \underbrace{d\hat{\Phi}_1^{(4)} K_{n+1}^{(4)}}_{\text{green}} O_n \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int d\Phi_1^{(4)} \left( \underbrace{RV_{n+1} + I_{n+1}^{(1)}}_{\text{purple}} \right)^{(4)} O_{n+1} - \int \underbrace{d\hat{\Phi}_1^{(4)} K_{n+1}^{(\text{RV})}}_{\text{blue}} O_n \right] \\ &+ \int d\Phi_n \left[ \int d\Phi_2^{(4)} RR_{n+2}^{(4)} O_{n+2} - \int \underbrace{d\Phi_1^{(4)} d\hat{\Phi}'_1^{(4)} K_{n+2}^{(1)(4)}}_{\text{purple}} O_{n+1} - \int \underbrace{d\hat{\Phi}_2^{(4)} K_{n+2}^{(2)(4)}}_{\text{red}} O_n \right] \end{aligned}$$



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A **finite expression** for the observable in **d=4** must combine **several ingredients**

$$\frac{d\sigma_{\text{NNLO}}}{dX} = \int d\Phi_n \left( VV + I^{(2)} + I^{(\text{RV})} \right) \delta_n$$

$$+ \int \left[ \left( d\Phi_{n+1} RV + d\hat{\Phi}_{n+1} I^{(1)} \right) \delta_{n+1} - d\hat{\Phi}_{n+1} \left( \bar{K}^{(\text{RV})} - I^{(12)} \right) \delta_n \right]$$

$$+ \int \left[ d\Phi_{n+2} RR \delta_{n+2} - d\hat{\Phi}_{n+2} \bar{K}^{(1)} \delta_{n+1} - d\hat{\Phi}_{n+2} \left( \bar{K}^{(2)} + \bar{K}^{(12)} \right) \delta_n \right].$$

# NLO Sectors

**Minimize** complexity: **split** phase space in **sectors** with sector function  $\mathcal{W}_{ij}$  in order to have at most **one soft** and **one collinear** singularity in each sector (**FKS**).

- Sector functions must form a partition of unity.
- In order not to appear in analytic integrations, sector functions must obey **sum rules**. Denoting with  $\mathbf{S}_i$  the soft limit for parton  $i$  and  $\mathbf{C}_{ij}$  the collinear limit for the  $ij$  pair,

$$\mathbf{S}_i \sum_{k \neq i} \mathcal{W}_{ik} = 1, \quad \mathbf{C}_{ij} \sum_{ab \in \text{perm}(ij)} \mathcal{W}_{ab} = 1, \quad \longleftarrow \text{sum rules}$$

- Sector functions are defined in terms of **Lorentz invariants** before choosing an explicit **parametrisation** of phase space. A possible choice is

$$\mathcal{W}_{ij} = \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{\sum_{k, l \neq k} \sigma_{kl}}, \quad \text{with} \quad \sigma_{ij} = \frac{1}{e_i w_{ij}}, \quad e_i = \frac{s_{qi}}{s}, \quad w_{ij} = \frac{s s_{ij}}{s_{qi} s_{qj}}.$$

- In each sector one can now define a **candidate counterterm**

$$K_{ij} = (\mathbf{S}_i + \mathbf{C}_{ij} - \mathbf{S}_i \mathbf{C}_{ij}) R \mathcal{W}_{ij}$$

# Phase-space mappings at NLO

In order to **factorise** a **Born** matrix element  $B_n$  with  $n$  **on-shell** particles **conserving momentum**, we need a **mapping** from the  $(n+1)$ -particle to the Born phase spaces. We use **(CS)**

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{k}_i^{(abc)} &= k_i, \quad \text{if } i \neq a, b, c, \\ \bar{k}_b^{(abc)} &= k_a + k_b - \frac{s_{ab}}{s_{ac} + s_{bc}} k_c, & \bar{k}_c^{(abc)} &= \frac{s_{abc}}{s_{ac} + s_{bc}} k_c,\end{aligned}$$

We can now **redefine** soft and collinear **limits** to include the **re-parametrisation**. Explicitly

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\mathcal{S}}_i R(\{k\}) &= -\mathcal{N}_1 \sum_{l,m} \delta_{fig} \frac{s_{lm}}{s_{il} s_{im}} B_{lm}(\{\bar{k}\}^{(ilm)}), \\ \bar{\mathcal{C}}_{ij} R(k) &= \frac{\mathcal{N}_1}{s_{ij}} \left[ P_{ij} B(\{\bar{k}\}^{(ijr)}) + Q_{ij}^{\mu\nu} B_{\mu\nu}(\{\bar{k}\}^{(ijr)}) \right], \\ \bar{\mathcal{S}}_i \bar{\mathcal{C}}_{ij} R(\{k\}) &= 2\mathcal{N}_1 C_{fj} \delta_{fig} \frac{s_{jr}}{s_{ij} s_{ir}} B(\{\bar{k}\}^{(ijr)}),\end{aligned}$$

Note that we have **assigned** parametrisation triplets **differently** in different **terms**. Then

$$\bar{K} = \sum_{i,j \neq i} \bar{K}_{ij}, \quad \bar{K}_{ij} \equiv (\bar{\mathcal{S}}_i + \bar{\mathcal{C}}_{ij} - \bar{\mathcal{S}}_i \bar{\mathcal{C}}_{ij}) R \mathcal{W}_{ij},$$

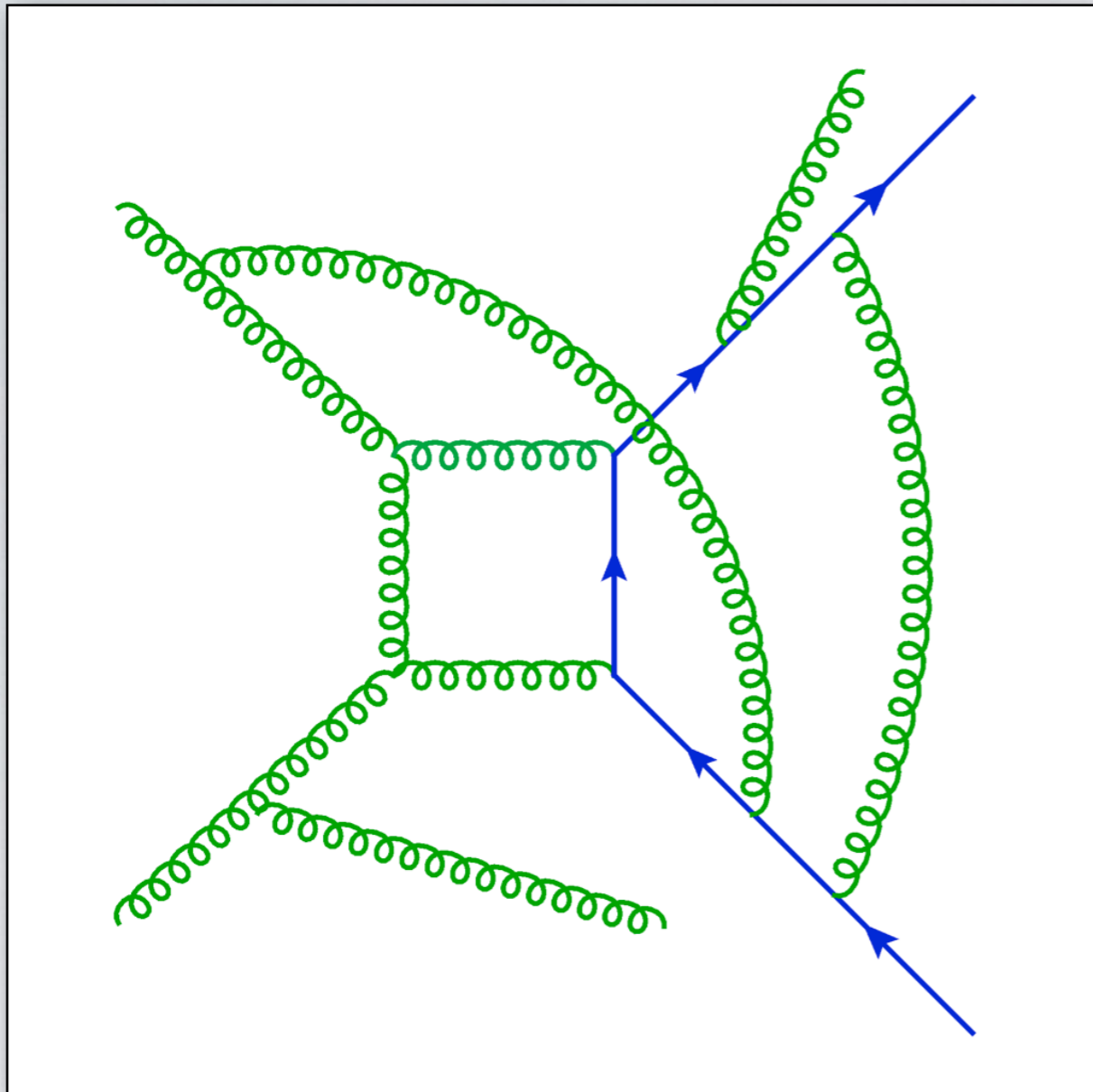
# NNLO status

- So far we have applied the formalism to **massless final state** radiation.
- For this case, at **NLO** we have a full-fledged **subtraction** formalism, and **simple integrals**.
- A simple **proof-of-concept** case (double-quark-pair production) has been **completed**.
- A complete set of **NNLO sector functions** with the desired **sum rules** is available.
- **Flexible** phase space **mappings** for single and double **unresolved limits** exist.
- **Checks** that phase-space mappings do not **misalign nested limits** are near completion.
- All **integrals** for final state radiation are **done/doable**, possibly without IBP techniques.
- The development of a **differential code** for **NNLO** subtraction is **under way**.
- Generalisation to **initial state** radiation requires (hard) **work** but no new concepts.
- More **'interesting' integrals** may arise with **massive** partons.

# FACTORISATION



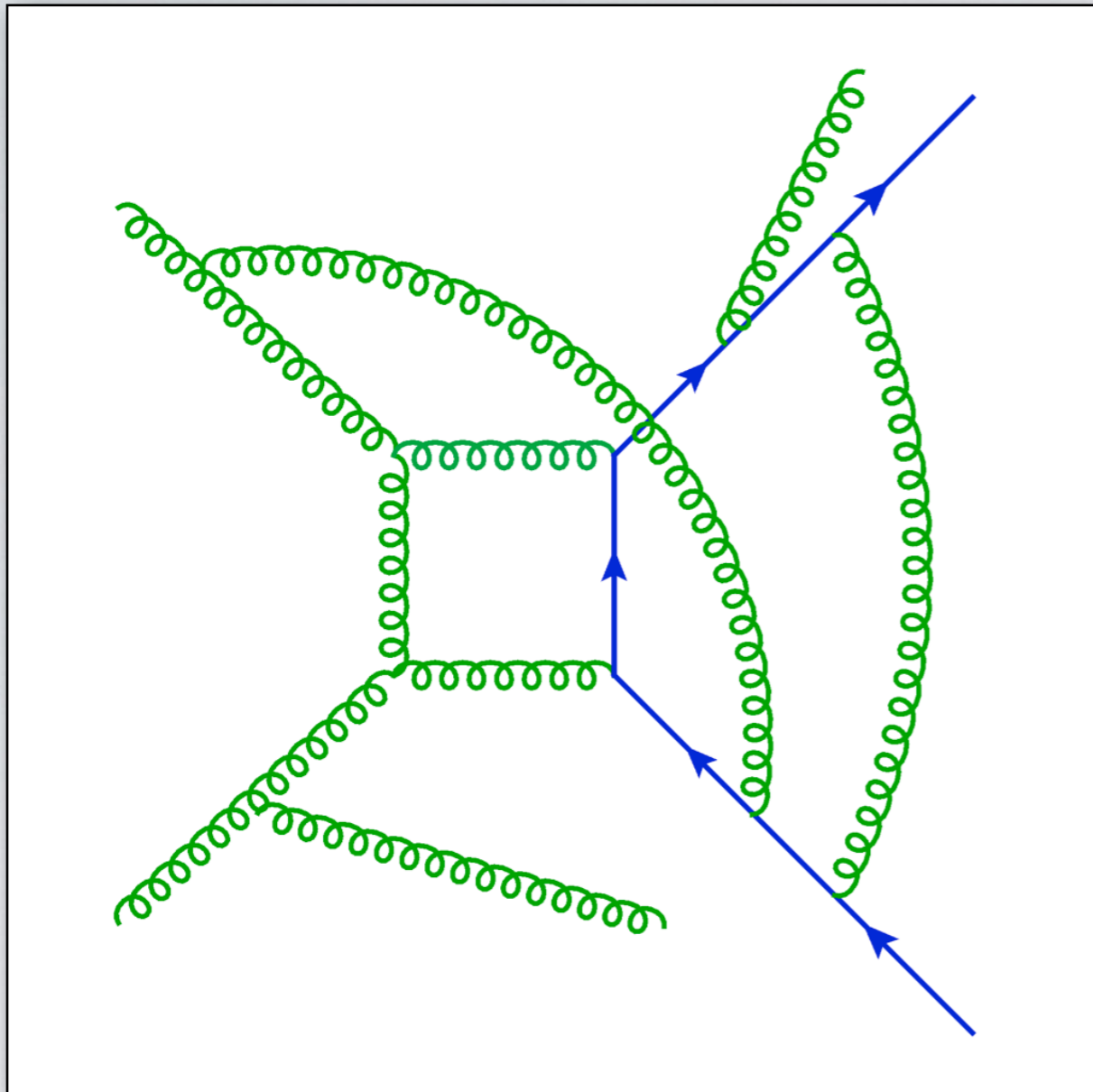
# Soft-collinear factorisation



A gauge theory Feynman diagram with potential soft and collinear enhancements

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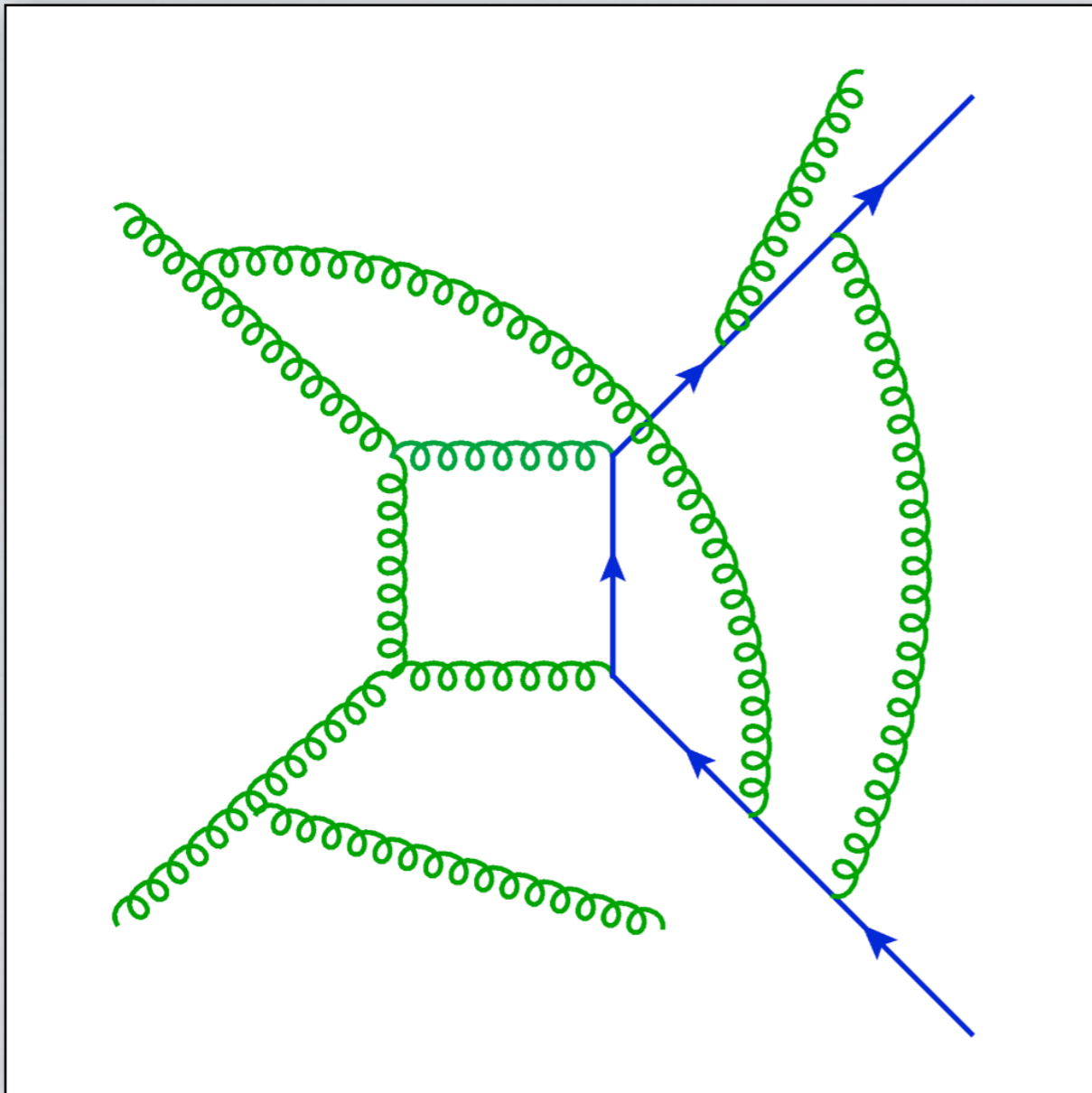
- **Divergences** arise in scattering amplitudes from **leading regions** in loop momentum space.



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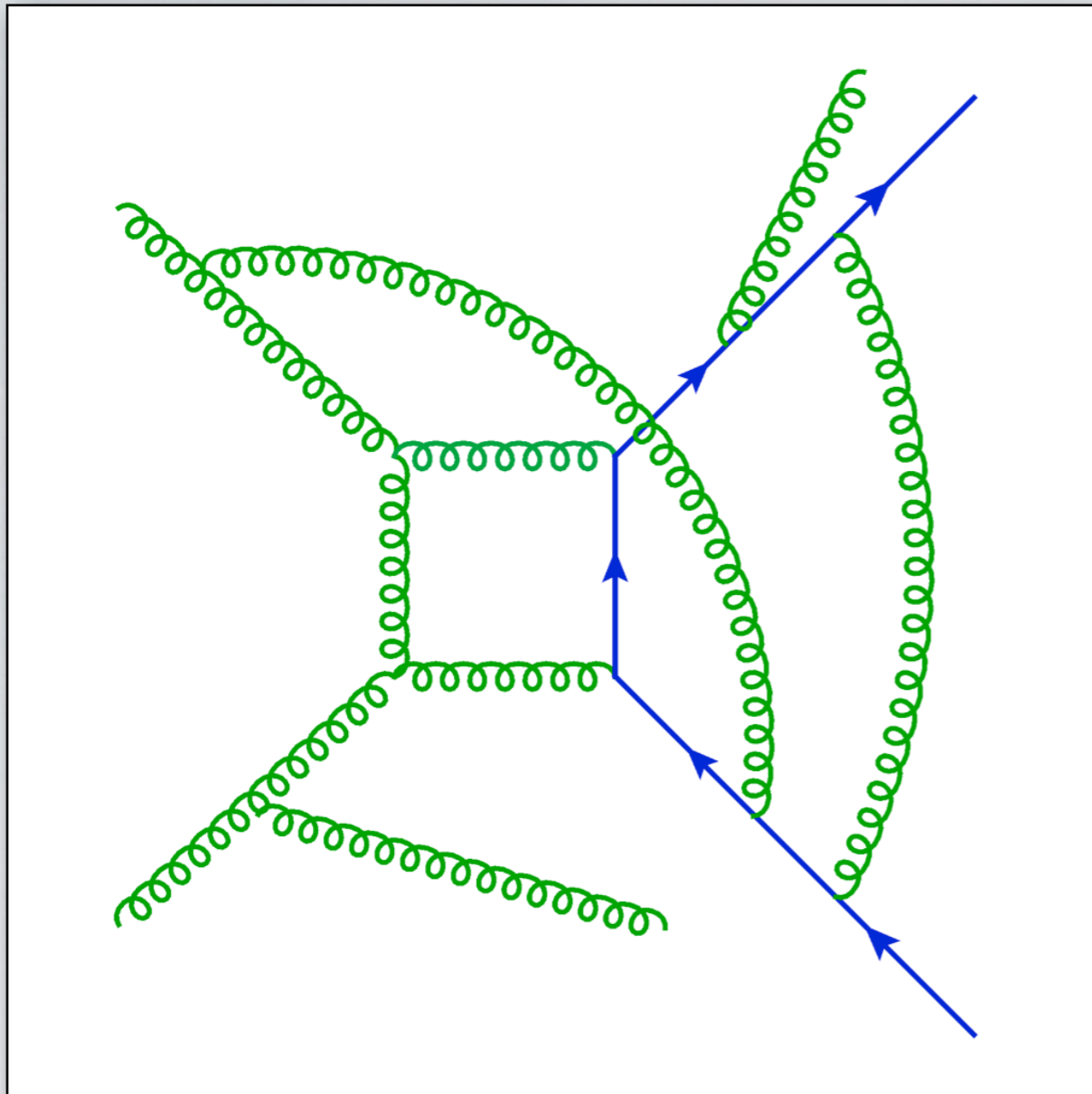
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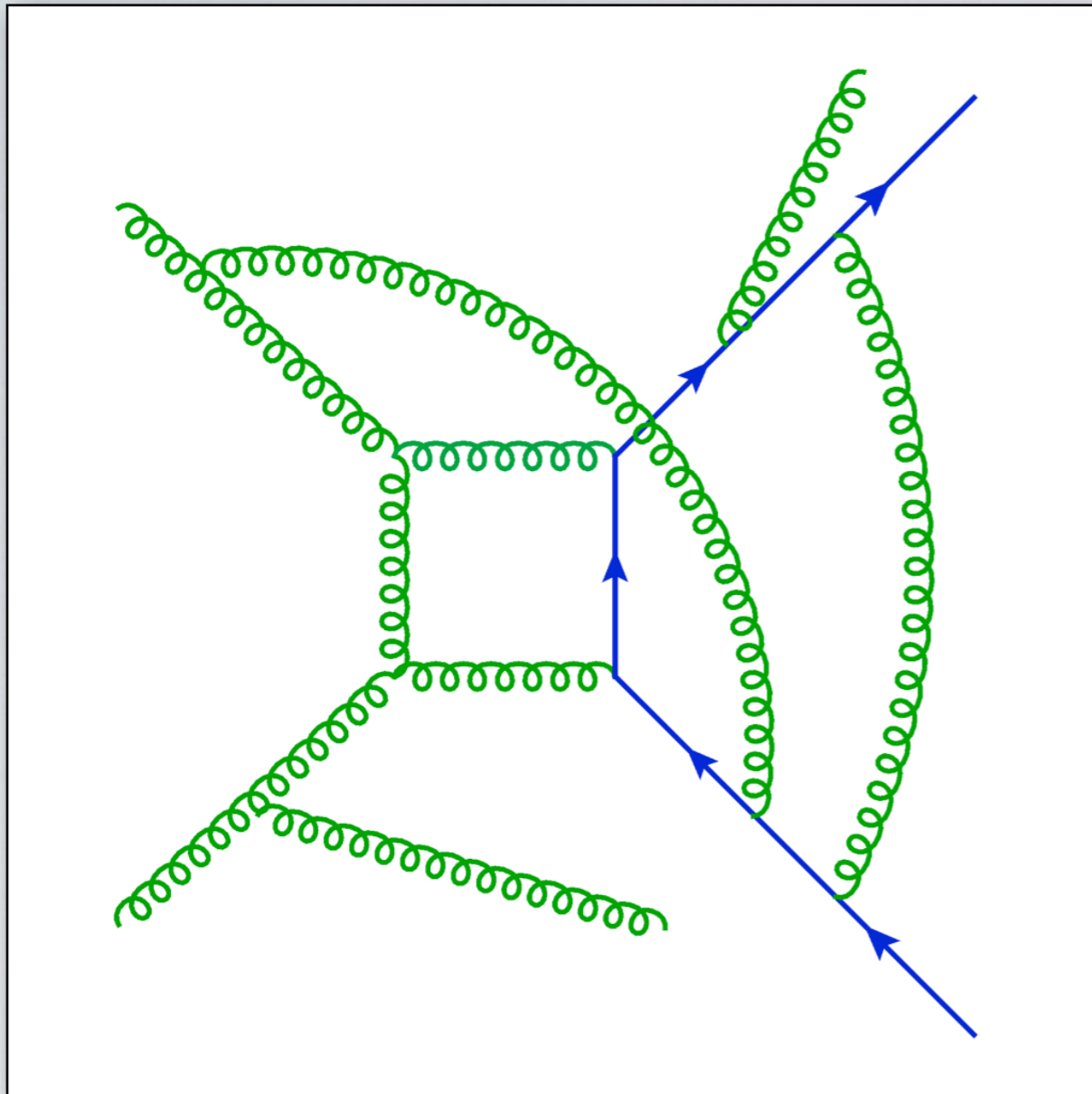
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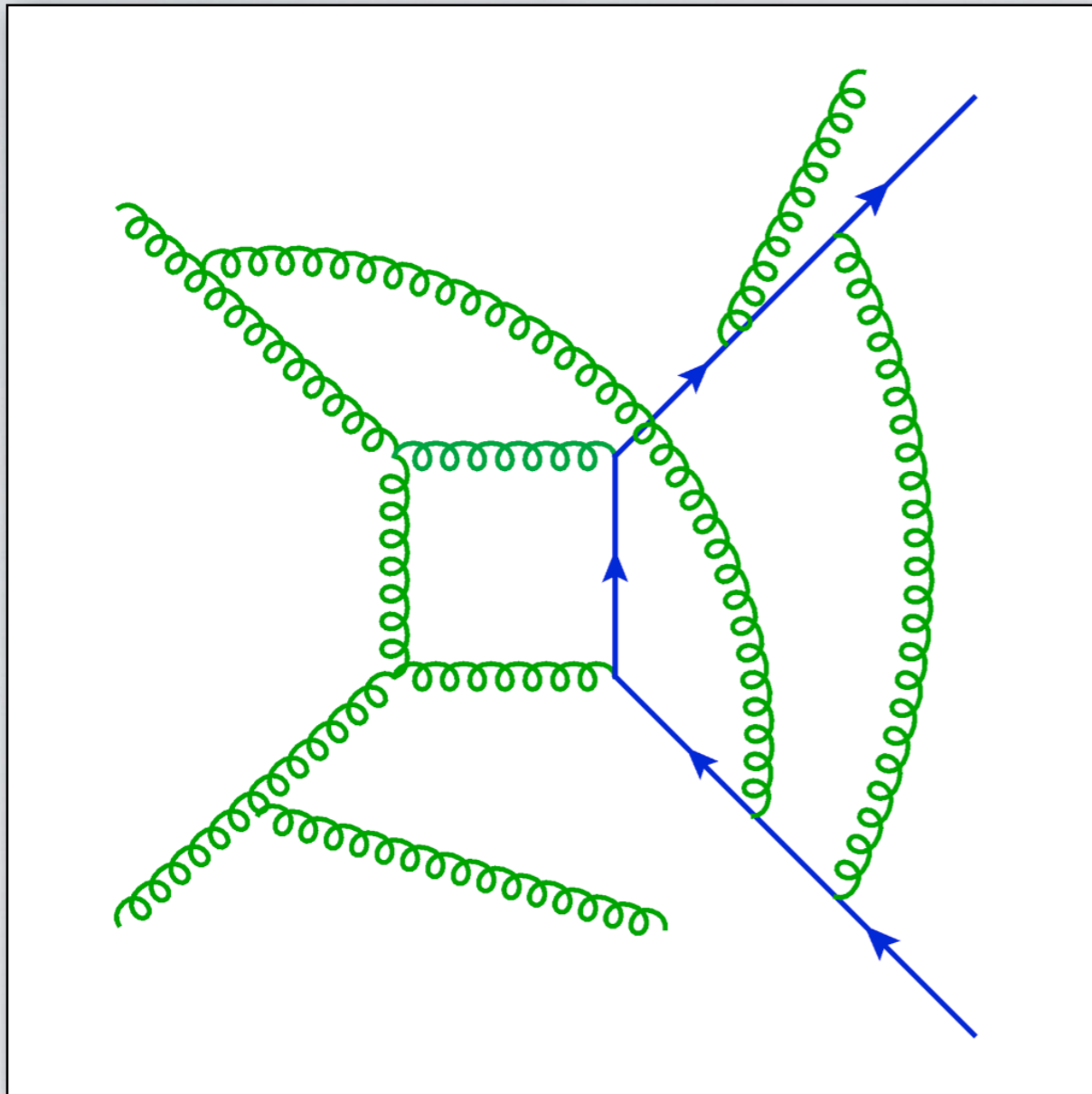
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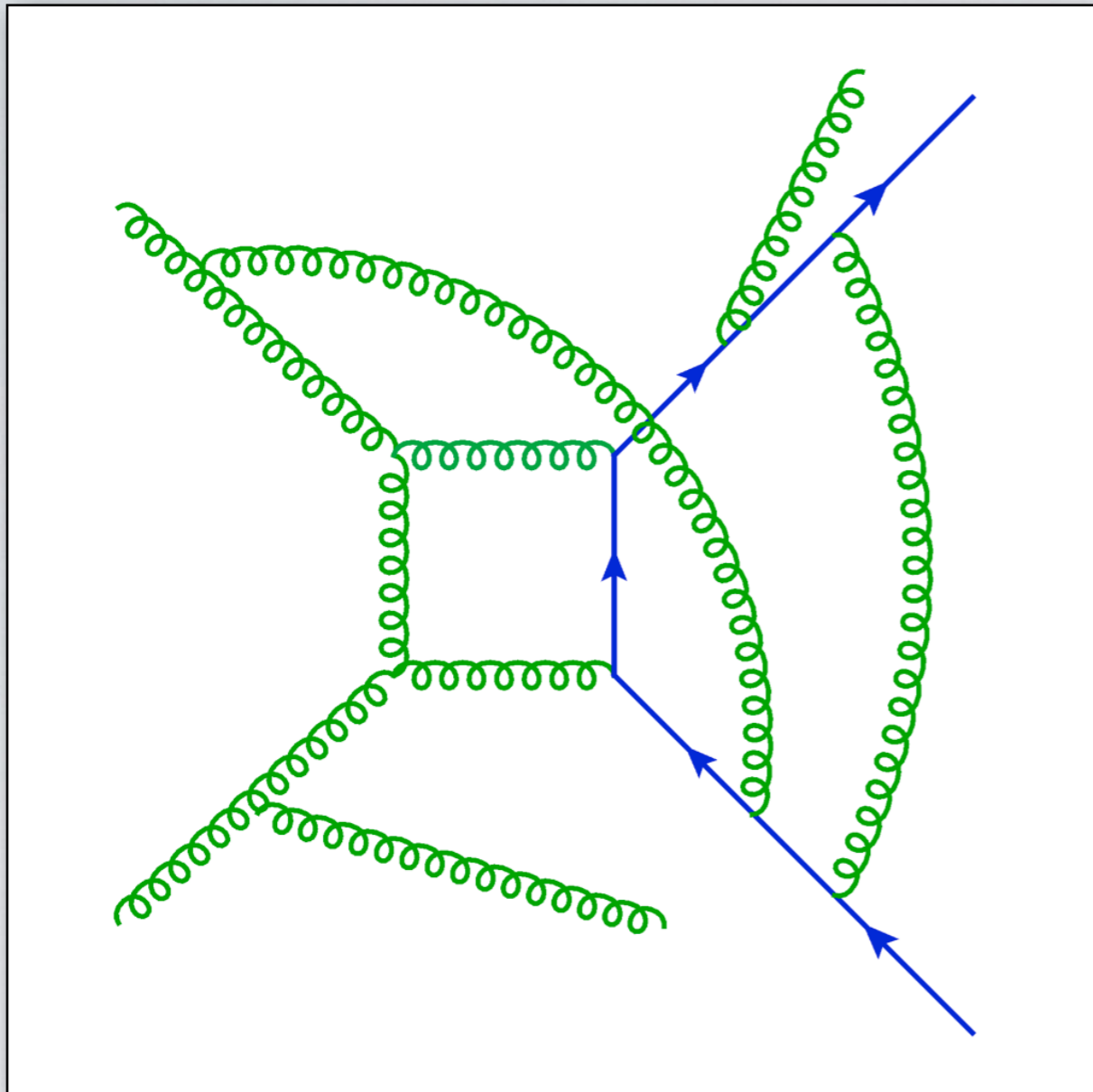
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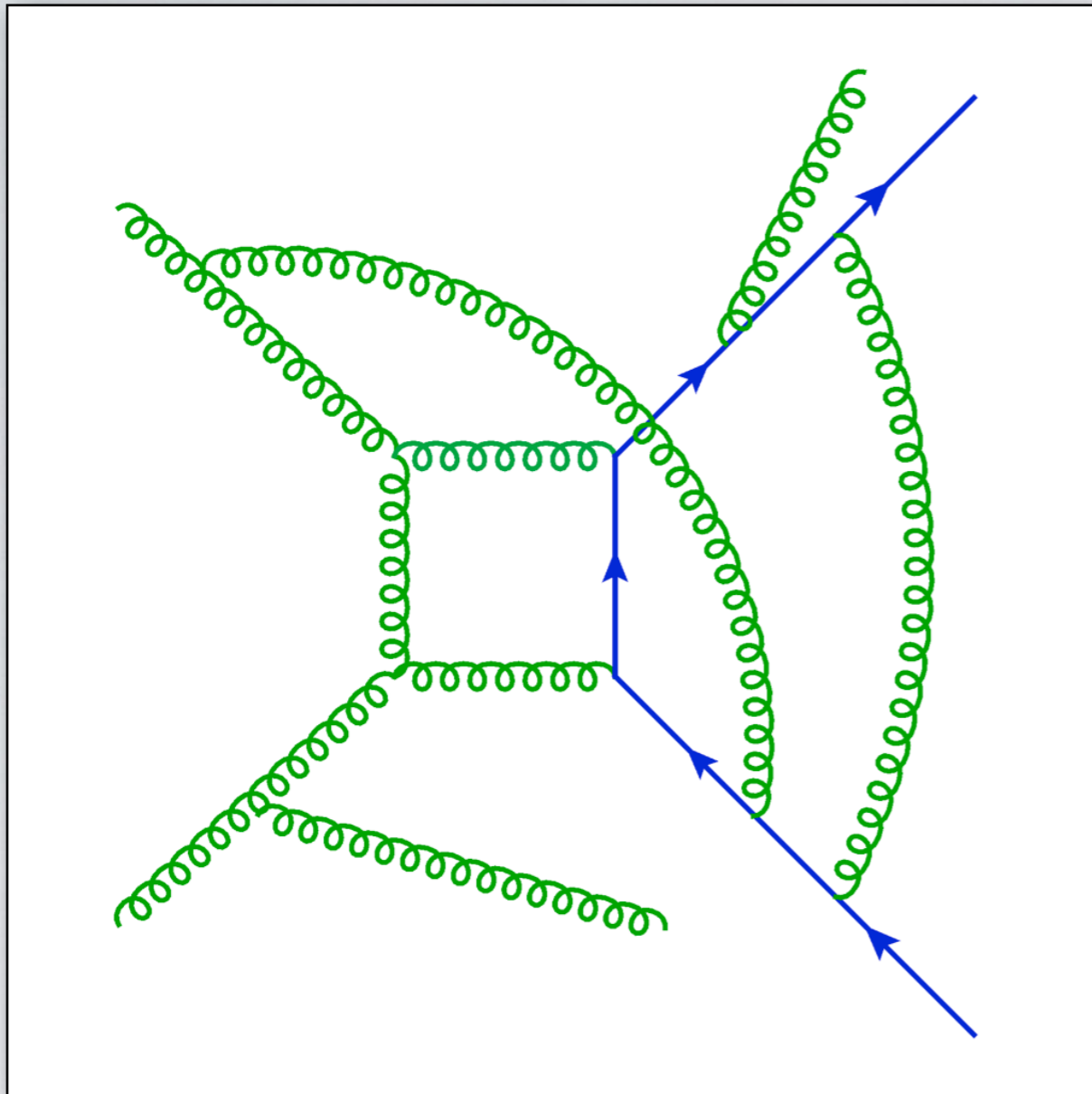
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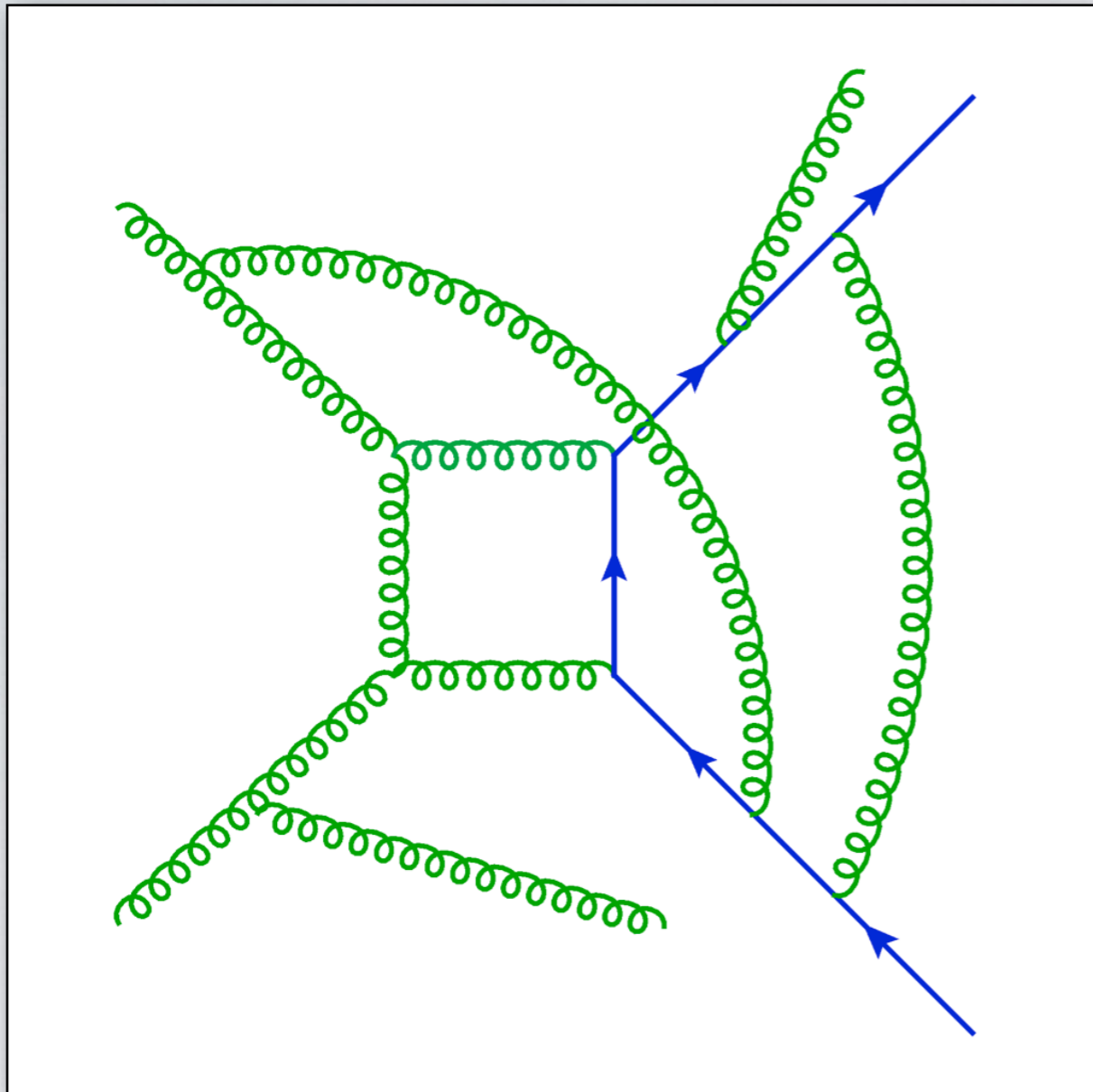
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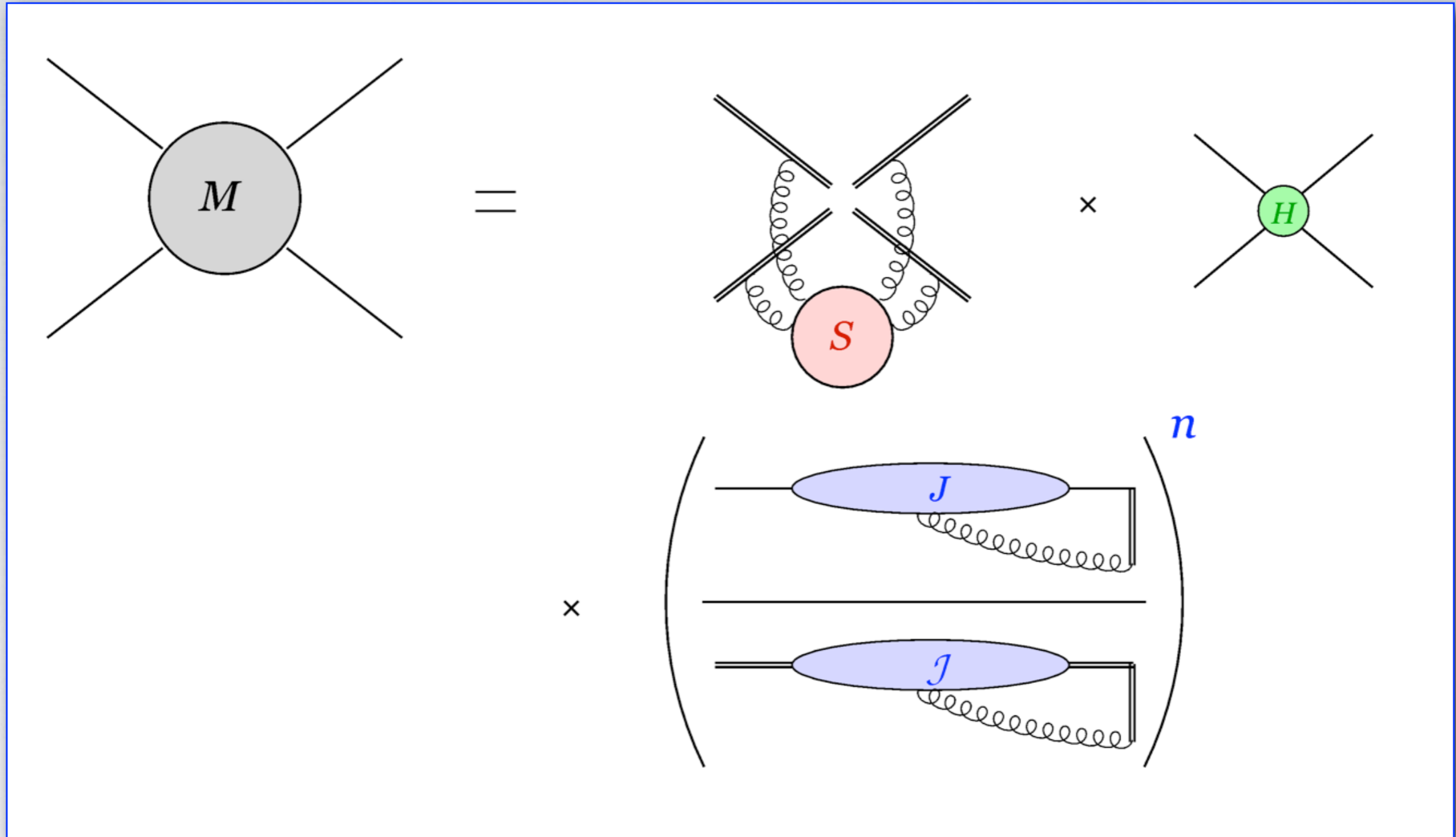
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- **Ward identities** can be used to prove **decoupling** of soft and collinear factors to **all orders**.
- A **soft-collinear factorisation** theorem for **multi-particle** matrix elements follows.
- **Similar** factorisation theorems hold for **inclusive** (soft and collinear safe) **cross sections**.

# Virtual factorisation: pictorial



A pictorial representation of soft-collinear factorisation for fixed-angle scattering amplitudes

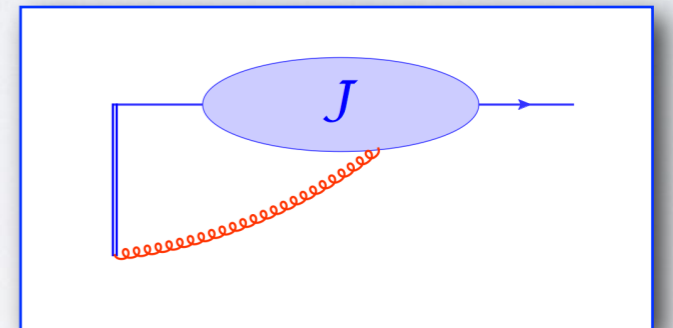
# Operator Definitions

The precise **functional form** of this graphical factorisation is

$$\mathcal{A}_n \left( \frac{p_i}{\mu} \right) = \prod_{i=1}^n \left[ \frac{\mathcal{J}_i \left( (p_i \cdot n_i)^2 / (n_i^2 \mu^2) \right)}{\mathcal{J}_{E,i} \left( (\beta_i \cdot n_i)^2 / n_i^2 \right)} \right] \mathcal{S}_n (\beta_i \cdot \beta_j) \mathcal{H}_n \left( \frac{p_i \cdot p_j}{\mu^2}, \frac{(p_i \cdot n_i)^2}{n_i^2 \mu^2} \right)$$

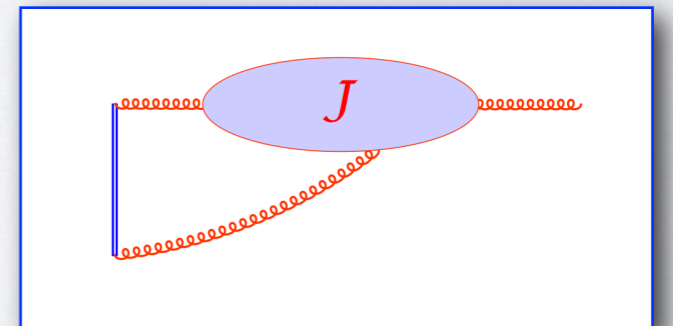
Here we introduced dimensionless **four-velocities**  $\beta_i = p_i/Q$ , and **factorisation vectors**  $n_i^\mu$ ,  $n_i^2 \neq 0$  to define the jets in a **gauge-invariant** way. For **outgoing quarks**

$$\bar{u}_s(p) \mathcal{J}_q \left( \frac{(p \cdot n)^2}{n^2 \mu^2} \right) = \langle p, s | \bar{\psi}(0) \Phi_n(0, \infty) | 0 \rangle$$



where  $\Phi_n$  is the **Wilson line** operator along the direction  $n$ . For **outgoing gluons**

$$g_s \varepsilon_\mu^{*(\lambda)}(k) \mathcal{J}_g^{\mu\nu} \left( \frac{(k \cdot n)^2}{n^2 \mu^2} \right) \equiv \langle k, \lambda | \left[ \Phi_n(\infty, 0) iD^\nu \Phi_n(0, \infty) \right] | 0 \rangle ,$$

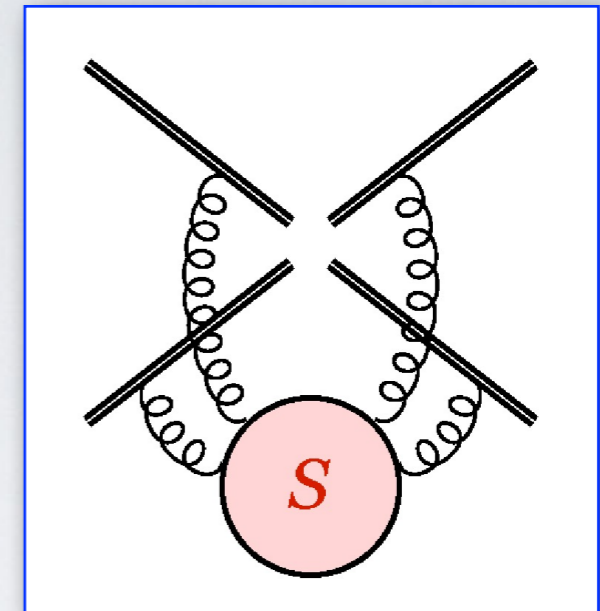




# Wilson line correlators

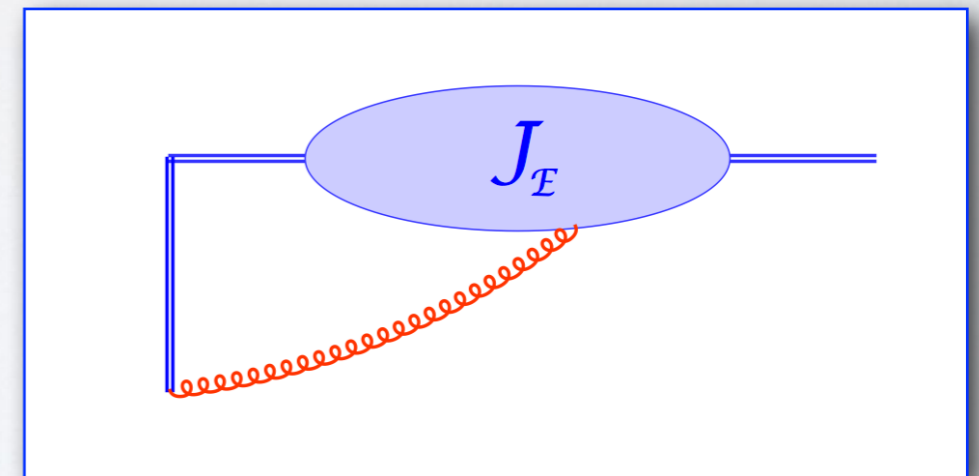
The **soft function**  $S$  is a **color operator**, mixing the available color tensors. It is defined by a correlator of **Wilson lines**.

$$\mathcal{S}_n(\beta_i \cdot \beta_j) = \langle 0 | \prod_{k=1}^n \Phi_{\beta_k}(\infty, 0) | 0 \rangle$$



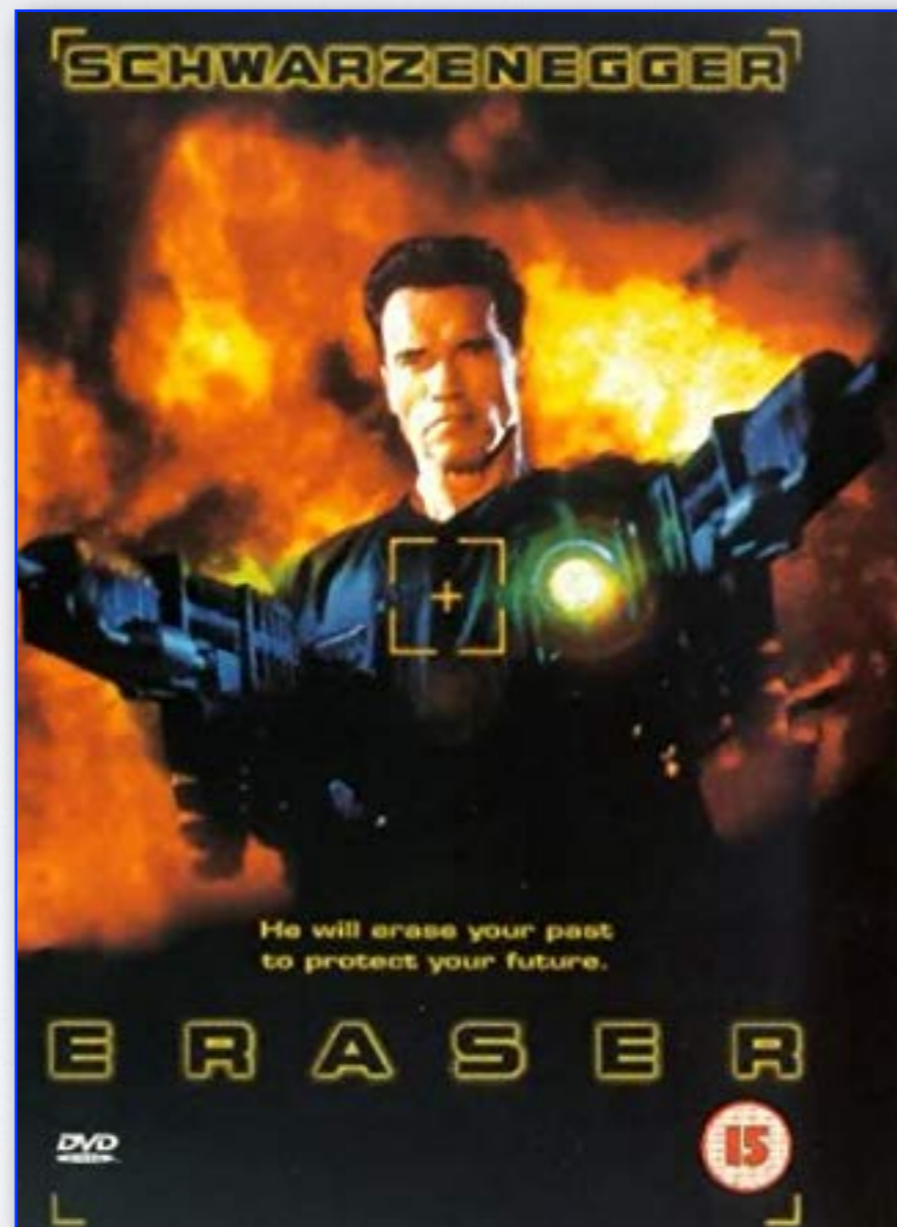
The soft jet function  $J_E$  contains **soft-collinear** poles: it is defined by **replacing** the **field** in the ordinary jet  $J$  with a **Wilson line** in the appropriate **color representation**.

$$\mathcal{J}_E \left( \frac{(\beta \cdot n)^2}{n^2} \right) = \langle 0 | \Phi_{\beta}(\infty, 0) \Phi_n(0, \infty) | 0 \rangle$$



**Wilson-line** matrix elements **exponentiate** non-trivially and have **tightly constrained** functional **dependence** on their arguments. They are **known** to **three loops**.

# COUNTERTERMS



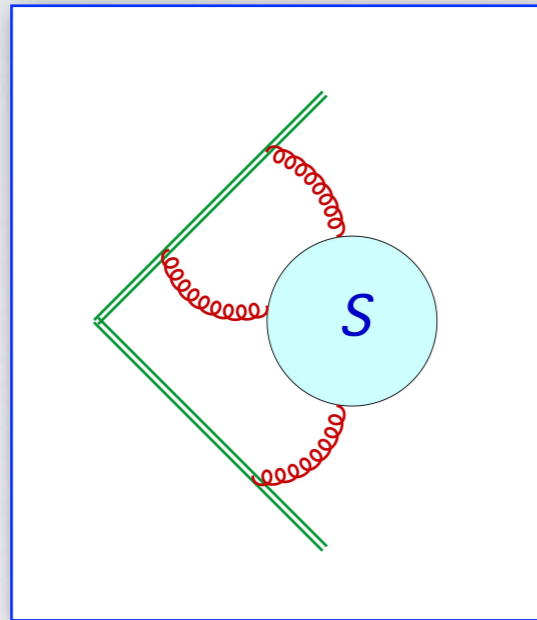
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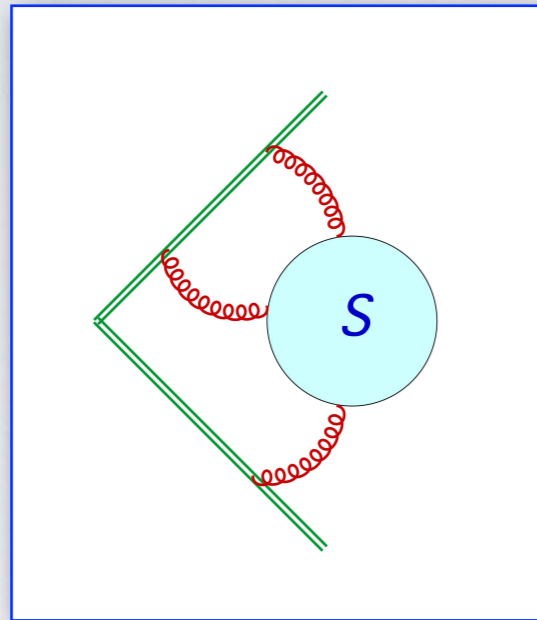
At **amplitude level** poles factorise and exponentiate.



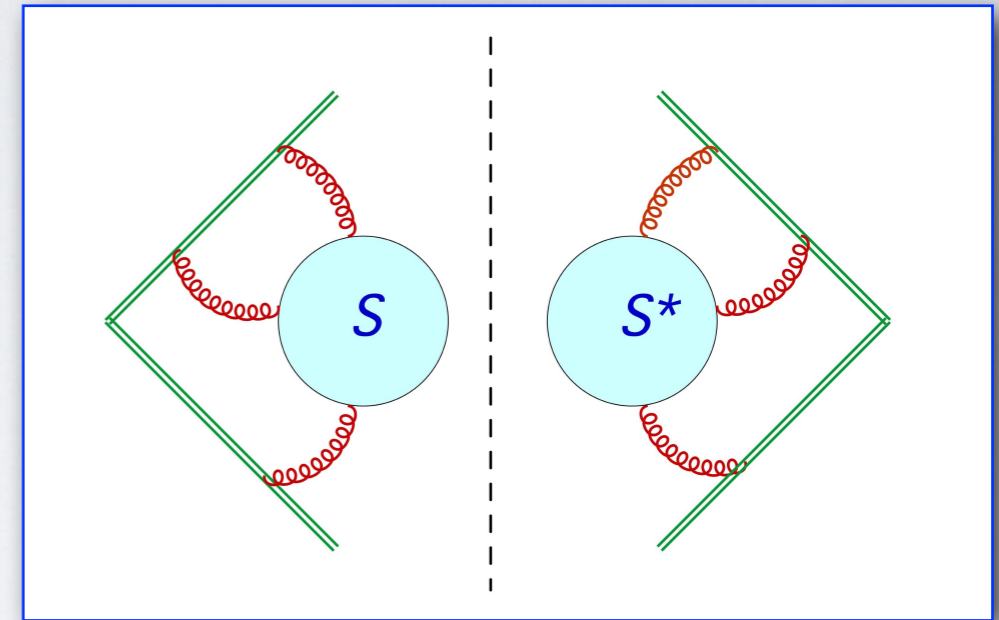
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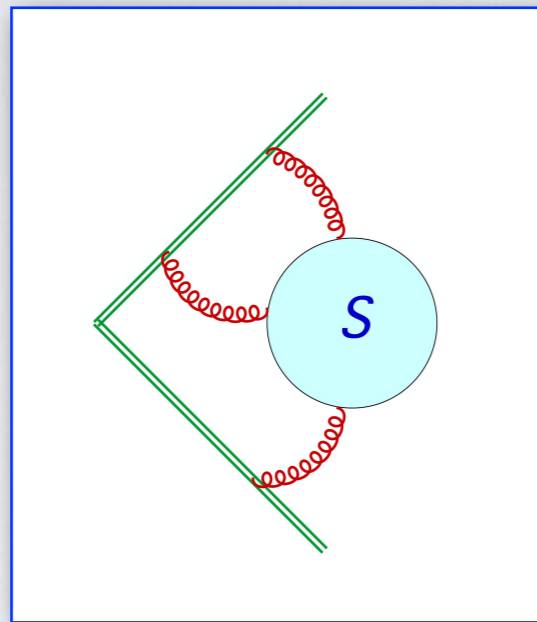
We need to build **cross-section level** quantities.



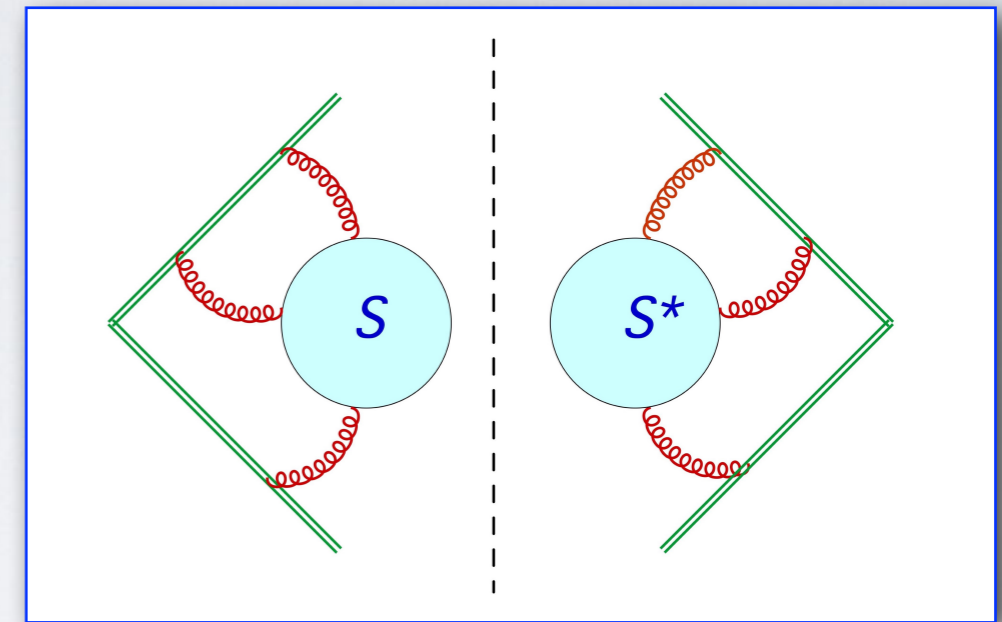
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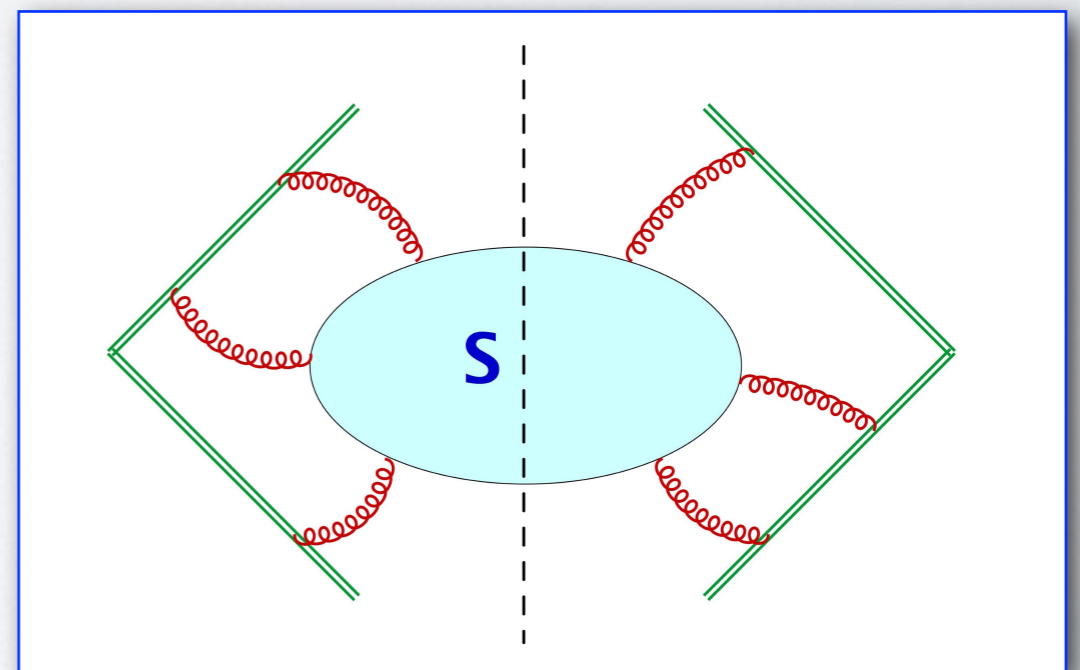
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- **Inclusive** eikonal cross sections are **finite**.
- They are **building blocks** for threshold and  $Q_T$  resummations.
- They are defined by **gauge-invariant** operator **matrix elements**.
- **Fixing** the quantum numbers of particles **crossing the cut** one obtains **local IR** counterterms.



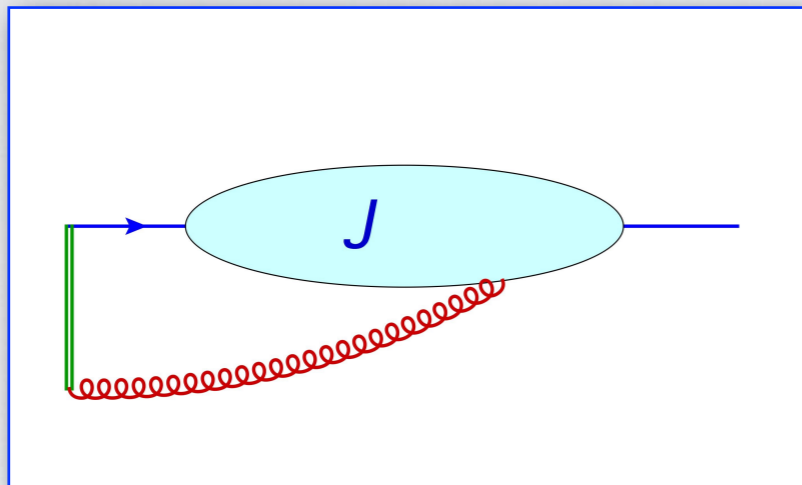
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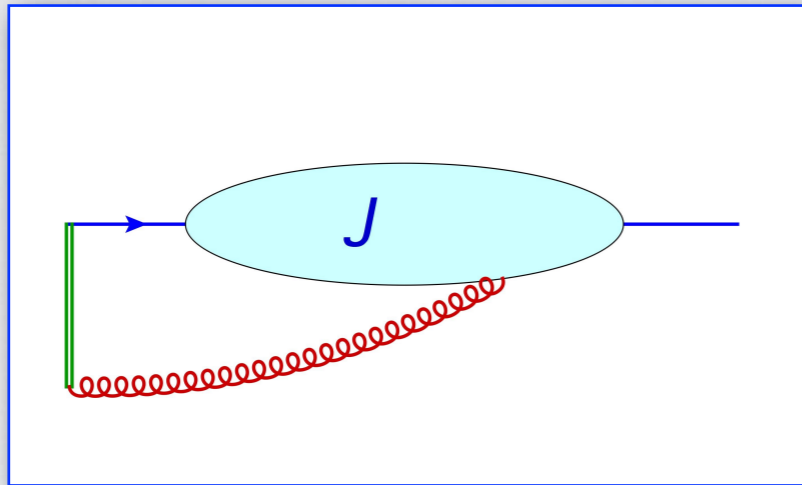




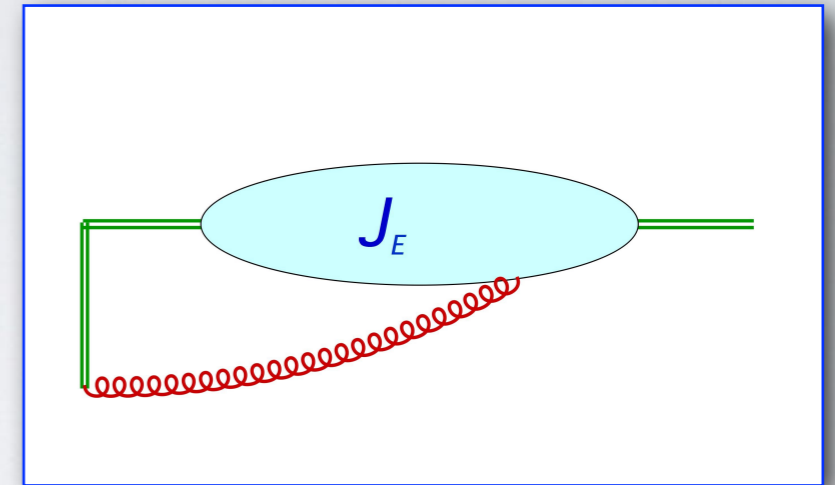
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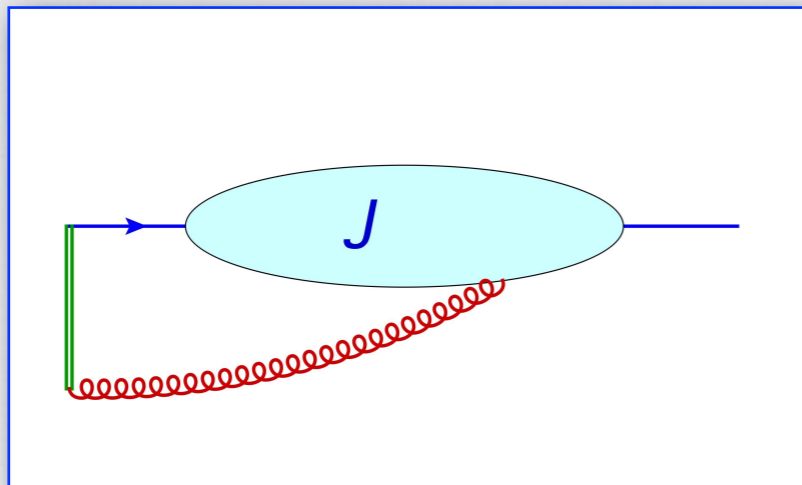
**Soft-collinear** poles can be **subtracted**



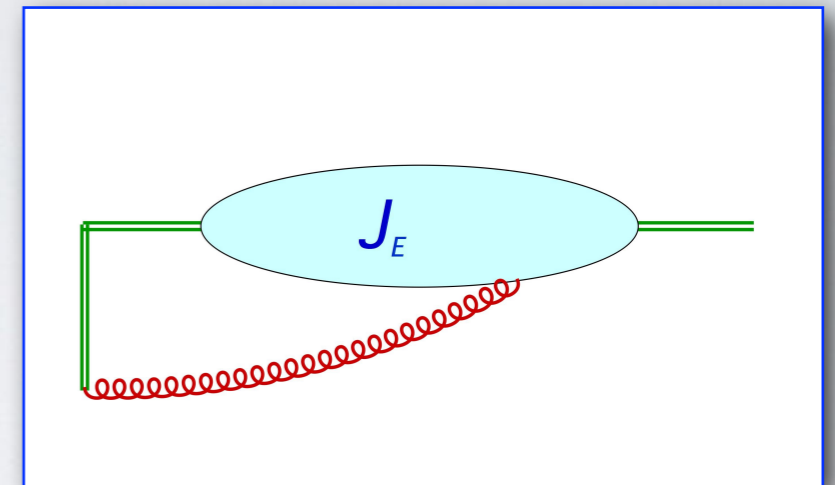
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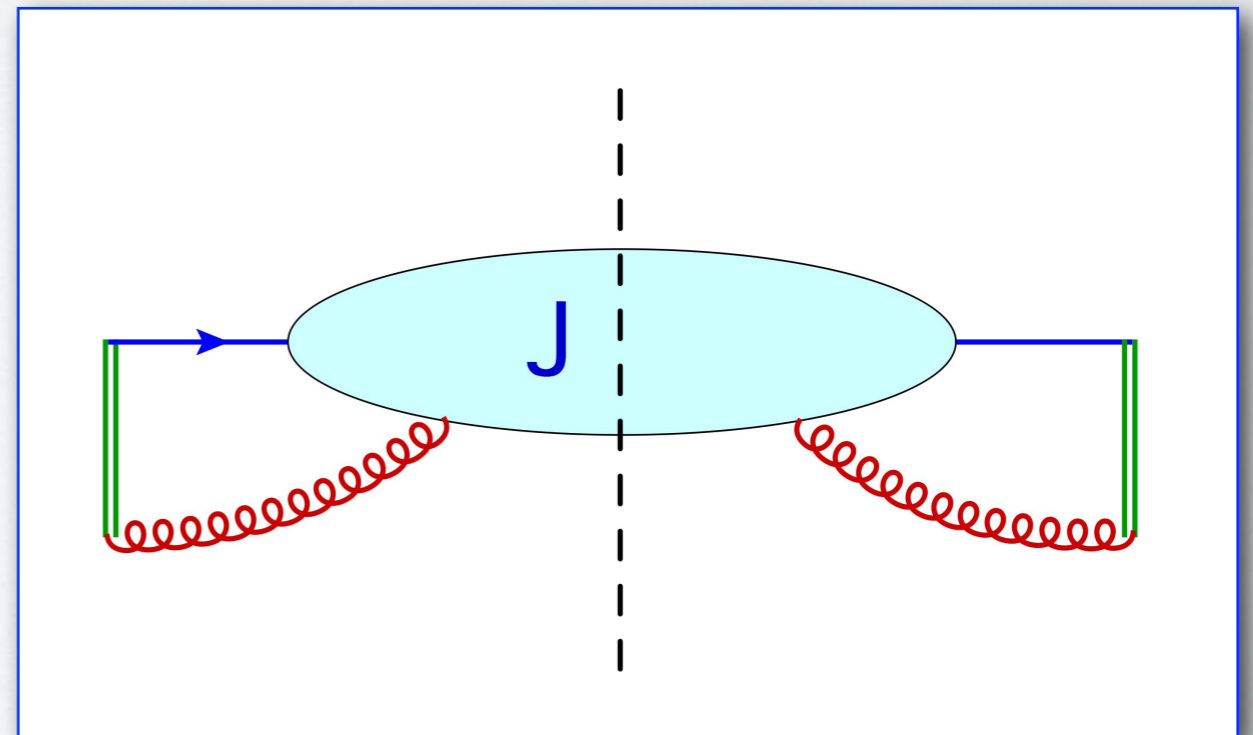
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**Soft-collinear** poles can be **subtracted**



- **Inclusive** jet cross sections are **finite**.
- They are **building blocks** for threshold and  $Q_T$  **resummations**.
- They are defined by **gauge-invariant** operator **matrix elements**.
- **Fixing** the quantum numbers of particles **crossing the cut** one obtains **local collinear** counterterms.
- **Eikonal jet** cross sections **subtract** the soft-collinear **double counting**.



# Soft counterterms: all orders

Introduce **eikonal form factors** for the emission of **m soft** partons from **n hard** ones.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{S}_{n,m}(k_1, \dots, k_m; \beta_i) &\equiv \langle k_1, \lambda_1; \dots; k_m, \lambda_m | \prod_{i=1}^n \Phi_{\beta_i}(\infty, 0) | 0 \rangle \\ &\equiv \epsilon_{\mu_1}^{*(\lambda_1)}(k_1) \dots \epsilon_{\mu_m}^{*(\lambda_m)}(k_m) J_S^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_m}(k_1, \dots, k_m; \beta_i) \\ &\equiv \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{S}_{n,m}^{(p)}(k_1, \dots, k_m; \beta_i)\end{aligned}$$

These matrix elements **define** soft gluon **multiple emission currents**. They are **gauge invariant** and they contain **loop corrections** to all orders.

**Existing** finite order **calculations** and all-order **arguments** are **consistent** with the **factorisation**

$$\mathcal{A}_{n,m}(k_1, \dots, k_m; p_i) = \mathcal{S}_{n,m}(k_1, \dots, k_m; \beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n(p_i) + \mathcal{R}_{n,m}(k_1, \dots, k_m; p_i)$$

with **corrections** that are **finite** in dimensional regularisation, and **integrable** in the soft gluon phase space. It is a **working assumption**: a formal all-order proof is still **lacking**.

# Soft counterterms: all orders

The factorisation is reflected at **cross-section level**, for **fixed** final state **quantum numbers**.

$$\sum_{\lambda_i} |\mathcal{A}_{n,m}(k_1, \dots, k_m; p_i)|^2 \simeq \mathcal{H}_n^\dagger(p_i) S_{n,m}(k_1, \dots, k_m; \beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n(p_i)$$

The cross-section level **“radiative soft functions”** are Wilson-line squared matrix elements

$$\begin{aligned} S_{n,m}(k_1, \dots, k_m; \beta_i) &\equiv \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} S_{n,m}^{(p)}(k_1, \dots, k_m; \beta_i) \\ &\equiv \sum_{\lambda_i} \langle 0 | \prod_{i=1}^n \Phi_{\beta_i}(0, \infty) |k_1, \lambda_1; \dots; k_m, \lambda_m\rangle \langle k_1, \lambda_1; \dots; k_m, \lambda_m | \prod_{i=1}^n \Phi_{\beta_i}(\infty, 0) |0\rangle . \end{aligned}$$

These functions provide **a complete list** of **local soft** subtraction **counterterms**, to **all orders**. Indeed, **summing** over particle numbers and **integrating** over the soft phase space one finds

$$\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \int d\Phi_m S_{n,m}(k_1, \dots, k_m; \beta_i) = \langle 0 | \prod_{i=1}^n \Phi_{\beta_i}(0, \infty) \prod_{i=1}^n \Phi_{\beta_i}(\infty, 0) |0\rangle$$

This is a **finite** fully **inclusive** soft **cross section**, order by order in perturbation theory.

# Soft current at tree level

At **NLO**, only the **tree-level single-emission** current is required, simply **defined** by

$$\epsilon^{*(\lambda)}(k) \cdot J_S^{(0)}(k, \beta_i) = \mathcal{S}_{n,1}^{(0)}(k; \beta_i) = \left. \langle k, \lambda | \prod_{i=1}^n \Phi_{\beta_i}(\infty, 0) | 0 \rangle \right|_{\text{tree}}$$

One obviously **recovers** all the well-known **results** for the **leading-order** soft gluon current

$$\mathcal{A}_{n,1}^{(0)}(k, p_i) = \epsilon^{*(\lambda)}(k) \cdot J_S^{(0)}(k, \beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)}(p_i) + \mathcal{O}(k^0)$$

$$J_S^{\mu(0)}(k, \beta_i) = g \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\beta_i^\mu}{\beta_i \cdot k} \mathbf{T}_i .$$

For the **cross-section**, the tree-level single-radiation soft function acts as a **local counterterm**.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\lambda} \left| \mathcal{A}_{n,1}^{(0)}(k, p_i) \right|^2 &\simeq \mathcal{H}^{(0)\dagger}(p_i) \mathcal{S}_{n,1}^{(0)}(k; \beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)}(p_i) \\ &= -4\pi\alpha_s \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{\beta_i \cdot \beta_j}{\beta_i \cdot k \beta_j \cdot k} \mathcal{A}_n^{(0)\dagger}(p_i) \mathbf{T}_i \cdot \mathbf{T}_j \mathcal{A}_n^{(0)}(p_i) \end{aligned}$$

- The **single-radiative soft function** acts as a color **operator** on the **color-correlated** Born.
- Beyond **NLO**, **tree-level multiple gluon** emission currents also **follow** from this definition.

# Soft currents at NLO

At **one loop**, for **single radiation**, our definition of the soft currents **gives**

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{A}_{n,1}(k; p_i) &\simeq \mathcal{S}_{n,1}(k; \beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n(p_i) \\ &= \mathcal{S}_{n,1}^{(0)}(k; \beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(1)}(p_i) + \mathcal{S}_{n,1}^{(1)}(k; \beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)}(p_i)\end{aligned}$$

The **factorisation** proposed in the classic work by **Catani-Grazzini** appears **different**

$$\mathcal{A}_{n,1}(k; p_i) \simeq \epsilon^{*(\lambda)}(k) \cdot J_{\text{CG}}(k, \beta_i) \mathcal{A}_n(p_i)$$

but it is easily matched using the **factorisation** of the **non-radiative** amplitude

$$\mathcal{A}_n(p_i) \simeq \mathcal{S}_n(\beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n(p_i) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathcal{H}_n^{(1)}(p_i) = \mathcal{A}_n^{(1)}(p_i) - \mathcal{S}_n^{(1)}(\beta_i) \mathcal{A}_n^{(0)}(p_i)$$

**Recombining**, we get an **explicit** eikonal **expression** for the **CG** one-loop soft current

$$\epsilon^{*(\lambda)}(k) \cdot J_{\text{CG}}^{(1)}(k, \beta_i) = \mathcal{S}_{n,1}^{(1)}(k; \beta_i) - \mathcal{S}_{n,1}^{(0)}(k; \beta_i) \mathcal{S}_n^{(1)}(\beta_i)$$

The two calculations are **easily matched**: same diagrammatic **content**, **cancellations** and **result**.

# Soft currents beyond NLO

The procedure is **easily generalised** to generic higher orders. At **two loops** one finds

$$\mathcal{A}_{n,1}^{(2)}(k; p_i) \simeq \mathcal{S}_{n,1}^{(0)}(k; \beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(2)}(p_i) + \mathcal{S}_{n,1}^{(1)}(k; \beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(1)}(p_i) + \mathcal{S}_{n,1}^{(2)}(k; \beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)}(p_i)$$

To **map** to the **CG definition**, express the two-loop hard part in terms of the amplitude

$$\mathcal{H}_n^{(2)}(p_i) = \mathcal{A}_n^{(2)}(p_i) - \mathcal{S}_n^{(1)}(\beta_i) \mathcal{A}_n^{(1)}(p_i) + \left[ \mathcal{S}_n^{(1)}(\beta_i) \right]^2 \mathcal{A}_n^{(0)}(p_i) - \mathcal{S}_n^{(2)}(\beta_i) \mathcal{A}_n^{(0)}(p_i)$$

**Recombining**, we get an **explicit eikonal expression** for the **two-loop** single-gluon soft current

$$\epsilon^{*(\lambda)}(k) \cdot J_{\text{CG}}^{(2)}(k, \beta_i) = \mathcal{S}_{n,1}^{(2)}(k; \beta_i) - \mathcal{S}_{n,1}^{(1)}(k; \beta_i) \mathcal{S}_n^{(1)}(\beta_i) - \mathcal{S}_{n,1}^{(0)}(k; \beta_i) \left[ \mathcal{S}_n^{(2)}(\beta_i) - \left( \mathcal{S}_n^{(1)}(\beta_i) \right)^2 \right]$$

For the **two-leg case**, this was computed in (Badger, Glover 2004) to  $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^0)$  and by (Duhr, Gehrmann 2013) to  $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2)$ , by taking **soft limits** of full matrix elements. This definition allows to **extend the calculation** to the general case.

A similar definition **emerges** for the **double-gluon soft current** at **one** and **two loops**. Based on eikonal Feynman rules, one can begin the process of **systematising** these calculations.

# Collinear counterterms: all orders

For **collinear** poles, introduce **jet matrix elements** for the emission of **m** partons. For **quarks**

$$\bar{u}_s(p) \mathcal{J}_{q,m}(k_1, \dots, k_m; p, n) \equiv \langle p, s; k_1, \lambda_1; \dots; k_m, \lambda_m | \bar{\psi}(0) \Phi_n(0, \infty) | 0 \rangle$$

At cross-section level, “**radiative jet functions**” can be defined as **Fourier transforms** of squared matrix elements, to account for the **non-trivial momentum flow**. We propose

$$\begin{aligned} J_{q,m}(k_1, \dots, k_m; l, p, n) &\equiv \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} J_{q,m}^{(p)}(k_1, \dots, k_m; l, p, n) \\ &\equiv \int d^d x e^{il \cdot x} \sum_{\{\lambda_j\}} \langle 0 | \Phi_n(\infty, x) \psi(x) | p, s; k_j, \lambda_j \rangle \langle p, s; k_j, \lambda_j | \bar{\psi}(0) \Phi_n(0, \infty) | 0 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

These functions provide a **complete list** of **local collinear counterterms**, to **all orders**. **Summing** over particle numbers and **integrating** over the collinear phase space one finds

$$\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \int d\Phi_{m+1} J_{q,m}(k_1, \dots, k_m; l, p, n) = \text{Disc} \left[ \int d^d x e^{il \cdot x} \langle 0 | \Phi_n(\infty, x) \psi(x) \bar{\psi}(0) \Phi_n(0, \infty) | 0 \rangle \right]$$

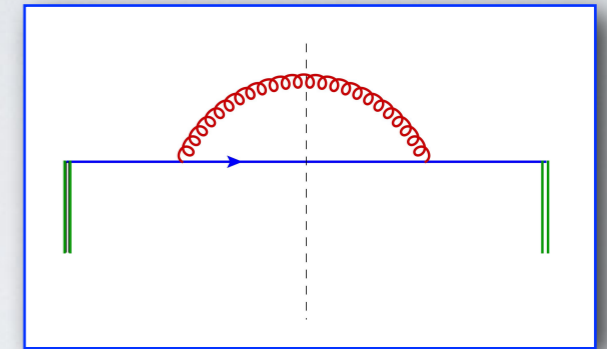
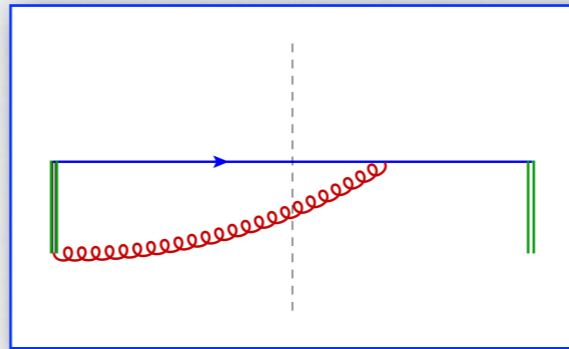
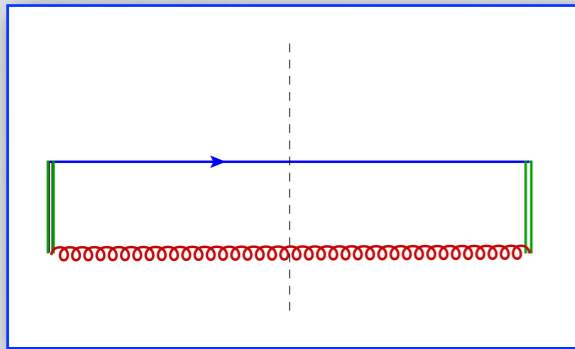
A “**two-point function**”, **finite** order by order in perturbation theory. Note **however**

- The collinear limit **must still be taken** (as  $l^2 \rightarrow 0$ ), **unlike** the case of radiative **soft** functions.
- Working with  $n^2 \neq 0$  eliminates **spurious** collinear **poles**, but is **cumbersome** in practice.



# Collinear counterterms: NLO

At NLO, only **tree-level single-emission** contributes, resulting (for quarks) in **three** diagrams



Summing over helicities, and taking the  $n^2 \rightarrow 0$  limit, one finds a **spin-dependent kernel**

$$\sum_s J_{q,1}(k; l, p, n) = \frac{4\pi\alpha_s C_F}{l^2} (2\pi)^d \delta^d(l - p - k) \left[ -l\gamma_\mu \not{p} \gamma^\mu l + \frac{1}{k \cdot n} (l\not{n} \not{p} + \not{p} \not{n} l) \right]$$

With a **Sudakov decomposition**

$$p^\mu = z l^\mu + \mathcal{O}(l_\perp), \quad k^\mu = (1 - z) l^\mu + \mathcal{O}(l_\perp), \quad n^2 = 0$$

and taking  $l_\perp \rightarrow 0$ , one recovers the **full unpolarised DGLAP LO splitting kernel**.

$$\sum_s J_{q,1}(k; l, p, n) = \frac{8\pi\alpha_s C_F}{l^2} (2\pi)^d \delta^d(l - p - k) \left[ \frac{1 + z^2}{1 - z} - \epsilon(1 - z) + \mathcal{O}(l_\perp) \right]$$

- The three diagrams **map precisely** to the **axial gauge** calculation by **Catani, Grazzini**.
- **All LO DGLAP** kernels are easily **reproduced**, **triple collinear** limits are **under way**.

# NLO subtraction

The **outlines** of a **subtraction procedure** emerge. Begin by **expanding** the **virtual** matrix element

$$\mathcal{A}_n(p_i) = \left[ \mathcal{S}_n^{(0)}(\beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)}(p_i) + \mathcal{S}_n^{(1)}(\beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)}(p_i) + \mathcal{S}_n^{(0)}(\beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(1)}(p_i) + \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \mathcal{J}_i^{(1)}(p_i) - \mathcal{J}_{E,i}^{(1)}(\beta_i) \right) \mathcal{S}_n^{(0)}(\beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)}(p_i) \right] \left( 1 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2) \right)$$

From the **master formula**, get the **virtual poles** of the **cross section** in terms of virtual **kernels**

$$V_n \equiv 2 \mathbf{Re} \left[ \mathcal{A}_n^{(0)*} \mathcal{A}_n^{(1)} \right] \simeq \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)\dagger}(p_i) \mathcal{S}_{n,0}^{(1)}(\beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)}(p_i) + \sum_i \left( J_{i,0}^{(1)}(p_i) - J_{E,i,0}^{(1)}(\beta_i) \right) \left| \mathcal{A}_n^{(0)}(p_i) \right|^2$$

**Go through the list** of proposed soft and collinear **counterterms** to **collect** the relevant ones

$$\mathcal{S}_{n,0}^{(1)}(\beta_i) + \int d\Phi_1 \mathcal{S}_{n,1}^{(0)}(k, \beta_i) = \text{finite}$$

$$J_{i,0}^{(1)}(l, p, n) + \int d\Phi_1 J_{i,1}^{(0)}(k; l, p, n) = \text{finite}$$

**Construct** the appropriate **local** functions.

$$K_{n+1}^{\text{NLO},s} = \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)\dagger}(p_i) \mathcal{S}_{n,1}^{(0)}(k, \beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)}(p_i)$$

$$K_{n+1}^{\text{NLO},c} = \sum_{i=1}^n J_{i,1}^{(0)}(k_i; l, p_i, n_i) \left| \mathcal{A}_n^{(0)}(p_1, \dots, p_{i-1}, l, p_{i+1}, \dots, p_n) \right|^2$$

with a **similar** expression for the anti-subtraction of the **soft-collinear** region in terms of  $J_E$ .

# Tracing soft and collinear at NNLO

As an **example** of the **detailed structure** of soft and collinear subtractions at high orders, consider the “**jet factor**” in the factorised **virtual** matrix element.

# Tracing soft and collinear at NNLO

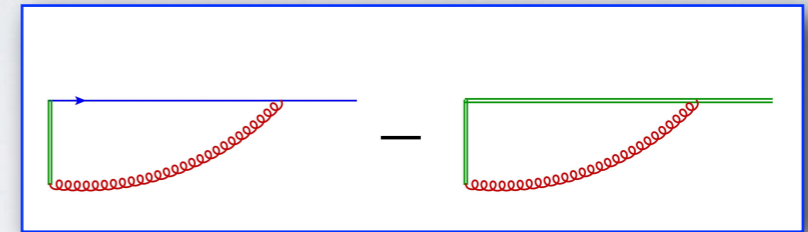
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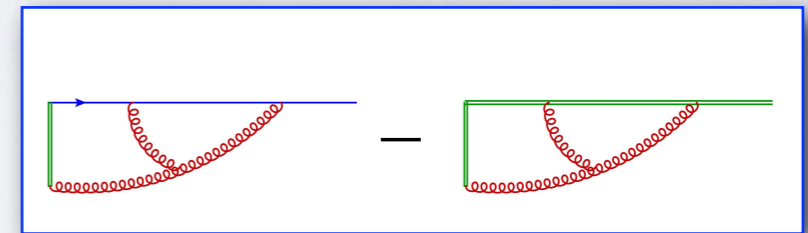
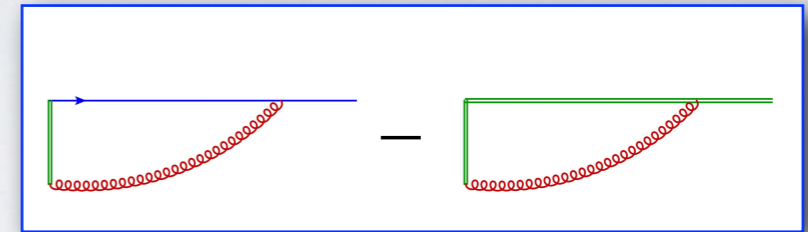
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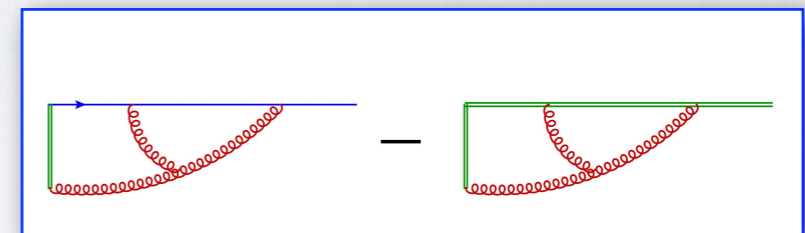
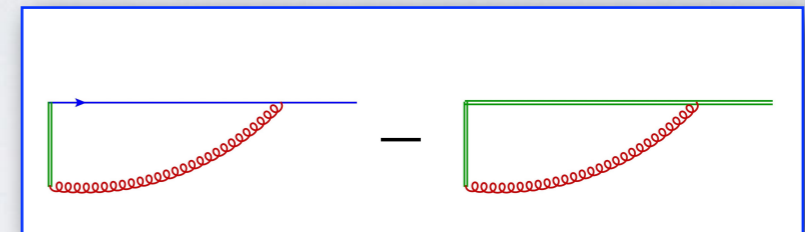
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# Tracing soft and collinear at NNLO

As an **example** of the **detailed structure** of soft and collinear subtractions at high orders, consider the **“jet factor”** in the factorised **virtual** matrix element.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n \mathcal{J}_0(p_i)}{\prod_{i=1}^n \mathcal{J}_0^E(\beta_i)} &= 1 + g^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \mathcal{J}_0^{(1)}(p_i) - \mathcal{J}_0^{E(1)}(\beta_i) \right] \\ &+ g^4 \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \mathcal{J}_0^{(2)}(p_i) - \mathcal{J}_0^{E(2)}(\beta_i) \right] \\ &+ g^4 \sum_{i < j=1}^n \left[ \mathcal{J}_0^{(1)}(p_i) - \mathcal{J}_0^{E(1)}(\beta_i) \right] \left[ \mathcal{J}_0^{(1)}(p_j) - \mathcal{J}_0^{E(1)}(\beta_j) \right] \\ &- g^4 \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{J}_0^{E(1)}(\beta_i) \left[ \mathcal{J}_0^{(1)}(p_i) - \mathcal{J}_0^{E(1)}(\beta_i) \right] \end{aligned}$$

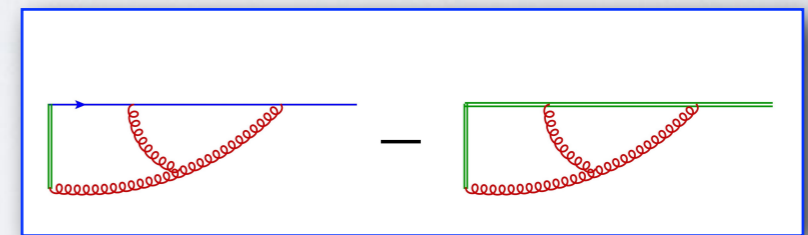
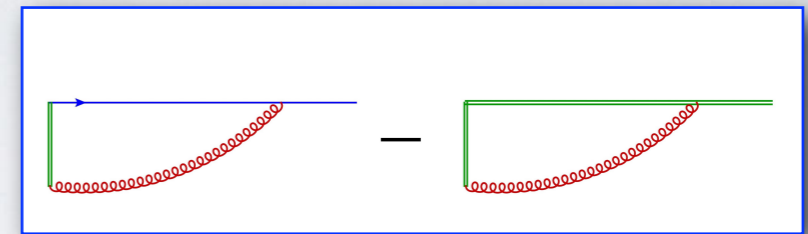


Independent **hard collinear** poles

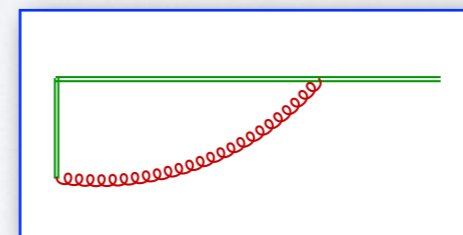
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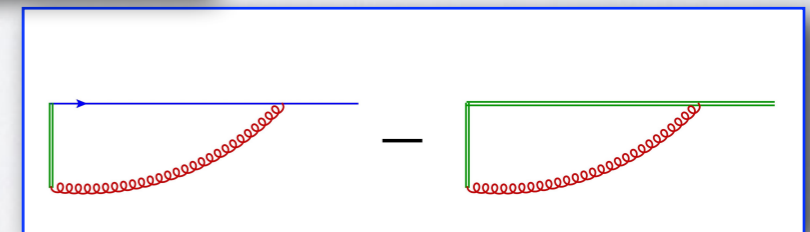
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n \mathcal{J}_0(p_i)}{\prod_{i=1}^n \mathcal{J}_0^E(\beta_i)} &= 1 + g^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \mathcal{J}_0^{(1)}(p_i) - \mathcal{J}_0^{E(1)}(\beta_i) \right] \\ &+ g^4 \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \mathcal{J}_0^{(2)}(p_i) - \mathcal{J}_0^{E(2)}(\beta_i) \right] \\ &+ g^4 \sum_{i < j=1}^n \left[ \mathcal{J}_0^{(1)}(p_i) - \mathcal{J}_0^{E(1)}(\beta_i) \right] \left[ \mathcal{J}_0^{(1)}(p_j) - \mathcal{J}_0^{E(1)}(\beta_j) \right] \\ &- g^4 \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{J}_0^{E(1)}(\beta_i) \left[ \mathcal{J}_0^{(1)}(p_i) - \mathcal{J}_0^{E(1)}(\beta_i) \right] \end{aligned}$$



Independent **hard collinear** poles



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The contributions of a **single soft gluon** accompanied by a **hard collinear** one **factor out** and are **automatically** taken into account.



# NNLO subtraction

Let us follow the **same procedure** at **NNLO**. Collect the poles of the **virtual** amplitude

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{A}_n^{(2)}(p_i) &= \mathcal{S}_n^{(2)}(\beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)}(p_i) + \mathcal{S}_n^{(0)}(\beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(2)}(p_i) + \mathcal{S}_n^{(1)}(\beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(1)}(p_i) \\
 &+ \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \mathcal{J}_i^{(2)}(p_i) - \mathcal{J}_{\text{E},i}^{(2)}(\beta_i) - \mathcal{J}_{\text{E},i}^{(1)}(\beta_i) \left( \mathcal{J}_i^{(1)}(p_i) - \mathcal{J}_{\text{E},i}^{(1)}(\beta_i) \right) \right] \mathcal{A}_n^{(0)}(p_i) \\
 &+ \sum_{i < j=1}^n \left( \mathcal{J}_i^{(1)}(p_i) - \mathcal{J}_{\text{E},i}^{(1)}(\beta_i) \right) \left( \mathcal{J}_j^{(1)}(p_j) - \mathcal{J}_{\text{E},j}^{(1)}(\beta_j) \right) \mathcal{A}_n^{(0)}(p_i) \\
 &+ \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \mathcal{J}_i^{(1)}(p_i) - \mathcal{J}_{\text{E},i}^{(1)}(\beta_i) \right) \left[ \mathcal{S}_n^{(1)}(\beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)}(p_i) + \mathcal{S}_n^{(0)}(\beta_i) \mathcal{H}_n^{(1)}(p_i) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

**Cross-section level** soft and jet functions have **non-trivial structure** starting at **NNLO**

$$\mathcal{S}_n^{(2)} = \mathcal{S}_n^{(0)\dagger} \mathcal{S}_n^{(2)} + \mathcal{S}_n^{(2)\dagger} \mathcal{S}_n^{(0)} + \mathcal{S}_n^{(1)\dagger} \mathcal{S}_n^{(1)}$$

$$J_{q,m}^{(2)} = \int d^d x e^{i l \cdot x} \sum_{\{\lambda_j\}} \left[ \mathcal{J}_{q,m}^{(1)\dagger}(x) \not{p} \mathcal{J}_{q,m}^{(1)}(0) + \mathcal{J}_{q,m}^{(0)\dagger}(x) \not{p} \mathcal{J}_{q,m}^{(2)}(0) + \mathcal{J}_{q,m}^{(0)}(x) \not{p} \mathcal{J}_{q,m}^{(2)\dagger}(0) \right]$$

All **poles** of the **squared virtual** amplitude can nonetheless be **expressed** in terms of **squared jets** and **eikonal** correlators, which leads to the **identification** of **local NNLO counterterms**.

# NNLO subtraction: double collinear

Cross-section level **double-virtual** poles originate from **a number** of **different** configurations

$$(VV)_n \equiv (VV)_n^{(2s)} + (VV)_n^{(1s)} + \sum_{i=1}^n (VV)_{n,i}^{(2hc)} + \sum_{i<j=1}^n (VV)_{n,ij}^{(2hc)} + \sum_{i=1}^n (VV)_{n,i}^{(1hc,1s)} + \sum_{i=1}^n (VV)_{n,i}^{(1hc)}$$

Focus on **double collinear** radiation along the direction of a **selected hard particle**. One finds

$$(VV)_{n,i}^{(2hc)} = \left[ J_{i,0}^{(2)} - J_{E,i,0}^{(2)} - J_{E,i,0}^{(1)} \left( J_{i,0}^{(1)} - J_{E,i,0}^{(1)} \right) \right] \left| \mathcal{A}_n^{(0)} \right|^2$$

It is easy to **identify finite combinations** of **virtual** and **real** (hard) collinear radiation

$$J_{i,0}^{(2)} + \int d\Phi_1 J_{i,1}^{(1)} + \int d\Phi_2 J_{i,2}^{(0)} = \text{finite}$$

$$\left[ J_{E,i,0}^{(1)} + \int d\Phi_1 J_{E,i,1}^{(0)} \right] \left[ J_{i,0}^{(1)} - J_{E,i,0}^{(1)} + \int d\Phi'_1 \left( J_{i,1}^{(0)} - J_{E,i,1}^{(0)} \right) \right] = \text{finite}$$

Real radiation **naturally organises** into **single** and **double** unresolved, and **real-virtual** terms

$$\begin{aligned} K_{n+2,i}^{\text{NNLO},(\mathbf{2},\text{hc})} &= \left[ J_{i,2}^{(0)} - J_{E,i,2}^{(0)} - J_{E,i,1}^{(0)} \left( J_{i,1}^{(0)} - J_{E,i,1}^{(0)} \right) \right] \left| \mathcal{A}_n^{(0)} \right|^2 \\ K_{n+2,i}^{\text{NNLO},(\mathbf{1},\text{hc})} &= \left( J_{i,1}^{(0)} - J_{E,i,1}^{(0)} \right) \left| \mathcal{A}_{n+1}^{(0)} \right|^2 \\ K_{n+1,i}^{\text{NNLO},(\mathbf{RV},\text{hc})} &= \left[ J_{i,1}^{(1)} - J_{E,i,1}^{(1)} - J_{i,0}^{(1)} J_{E,i,1}^{(0)} - J_{E,i,0}^{(1)} J_{i,1}^{(0)} + 2J_{E,i,0}^{(1)} J_{E,i,1}^{(0)} \right] \left| \mathcal{A}_n^{(0)} \right|^2. \end{aligned}$$

# NNLO subtraction: soft

Cross-section level **double-virtual** poles originate from **a number** of **different** configurations

$$(VV)_n \equiv (VV)_n^{(2s)} + (VV)_n^{(1s)} + \sum_{i=1}^n (VV)_{n,i}^{(2hc)} + \sum_{i<j=1}^n (VV)_{n,ij}^{(2hc)} + \sum_{i=1}^n (VV)_{n,i}^{(1hc,1s)} + \sum_{i=1}^n (VV)_{n,i}^{(1hc)}$$

Focus on **double soft** and **single soft** radiation. One finds

$$(VV)_n^{(2s)} = \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)\dagger} S_{n,0}^{(2)} \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)}$$

$$(VV)_n^{(1s)} = \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)\dagger} S_{n,0}^{(1)} \mathcal{H}_n^{(1)} + \mathcal{H}_n^{(1)\dagger} S_{n,0}^{(1)} \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)}$$

It is easy to **identify finite combinations** of **virtual**, **real-virtual** and **double real** soft radiation

$$S_{n,0}^{(2)}(\beta_i) + \int d\Phi_1 S_{n,1}^{(1)}(k, \beta_i) + \int d\Phi_2 S_{n,2}^{(0)}(k_1, k_2, \beta_i) = \text{finite}.$$

Real radiation **naturally organises** into **single** and **double** unresolved, and **real-virtual** terms

$$\begin{aligned} K_{n+2}^{\text{NNLO}, (\mathbf{2}, s)} &= \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)\dagger} S_{n,2}^{(0)} \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)} \\ K_{n+2}^{\text{NNLO}, (\mathbf{1}, s)} &= \mathcal{H}_{n+1}^{(0)\dagger} S_{n+1,1}^{(0)} \mathcal{H}_{n+1}^{(0)} \\ K_{n+1}^{\text{NNLO}, (\mathbf{RV}, s)} &= \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)\dagger} S_{n,1}^{(0)} \mathcal{H}_n^{(1)} + \mathcal{H}_n^{(1)\dagger} S_{n,1}^{(0)} \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)} + \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)\dagger} S_{n,1}^{(1)} \mathcal{H}_n^{(0)} \end{aligned}$$

# OUTLOOK



# Outlook

- A number of **successful NNLO** subtraction **algorithms** are **available**.
- They are **computationally expensive**, either analytically, or numerically, or both.
- **Extensions** to **multi-leg** processes or **higher orders** is expected to be useful but **hard**.
- Work on **refining** existing tools to find the '**minimal toolbox**' is necessary and **under way**.
- The **factorisation** of soft and collinear **virtual** amplitudes contains **important information**.
- A general **all-order definition** of soft and/or collinear **counterterms** has been **proposed**.
- Existing **results** at **NLO** and **beyond** are **reproduced** and **systematised**.
- **Tracing** the **real** emission counterterms starting **from virtual** poles is a **useful strategy**.
- A **parallel effort** to construct a detailed **analytic** subtraction **algorithm** is **under way**.
- What we have is **promising preliminary evidence**: a lot of work remains **to be done**.

THANK YOU !