

Heaviside functions and the same-hemisphere triple-gluon contribution to the zero-jettiness soft function at N³LO QCD

Based on [2111.13594](#) & [2204.09459](#) with Daniel Baranowski, Maximilian Delto and Kirill Melnikov.

Chen-Yu Wang | 2022-04-22 | SCET Workshop 2022 @ University of Bern

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Motivation
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Motivation

- The ever-increasing experimental precision at the LHC and the HL-LHC in the future demands percent level precision from the theoretical side. *ATLAS 2019; CMS 2021*
- This requires efforts from all parts of the community.
- In particular for the hard corrections, N3LO QCD corrections become relevant:
 - $gg \rightarrow H$ *Anastasiou, Duhr, Dulat, Herzog, et al. 2015; Anastasiou, Duhr, Dulat, Furlan, et al. 2016; Mistlberger 2018*
 - $bb \rightarrow H$ *Duhr, Dulat, Hirschi, et al. 2020; Duhr, Dulat, and Mistlberger 2020*
 - Drell-Yan *Chen, Gehrmann, Glover, Huss, Yang, et al. 2022*
 - Differential Higgs production *Dulat et al. 2018, 2019; Billis et al. 2021; Chen, Gehrmann, Glover, Huss, Mistlberger, et al. 2021*
 - VBF *Dreyer and Karlberg 2016, 2018*
 - $gg \rightarrow HH$ *Chen, Li, et al. 2020*
 - ...

N3LO corrections have percent level contributions.

Motivation

- To obtain differential cross sections, one can use slicing to extract and cancel infrared divergences properly:

$$\sigma(O) = \int_0 d\tau \frac{d\sigma(O)}{d\tau} = \int_0^{\tau_0} d\tau \frac{d\sigma(O)}{d\tau} + \int_{\tau_0} d\tau \frac{d\sigma(O)}{d\tau}.$$

- q_T subtraction scheme *Catani and Grazzini 2007*
- N-jettiness subtraction scheme *Boughezal, Focke, et al. 2015; Gaunt et al. 2015*
- q_T subtraction scheme is available up to N3LO *Li and Zhu 2017; Ebert et al. 2020b; Luo et al. 2020*
- N-jettiness factorization theorem derived in SCET *Stewart et al. 2010a,b*

$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0} d\sigma(O) = B \otimes B \otimes \sum_i^N J_n \otimes S_N \otimes H.$$

- Beam function B @ N3LO *Behring et al. 2019; Ebert et al. 2020a*
- Jet function J @ N3LO *Banerjee et al. 2018; Brüser et al. 2018*
- Soft function S_N @ N2LO *Hornig et al. 2011; Kelley et al. 2011; Monni et al. 2011; Boughezal, Liu, et al. 2015; Bell et al. 2018; Campbell et al. 2018; Jin and Liu 2019*

Motivation
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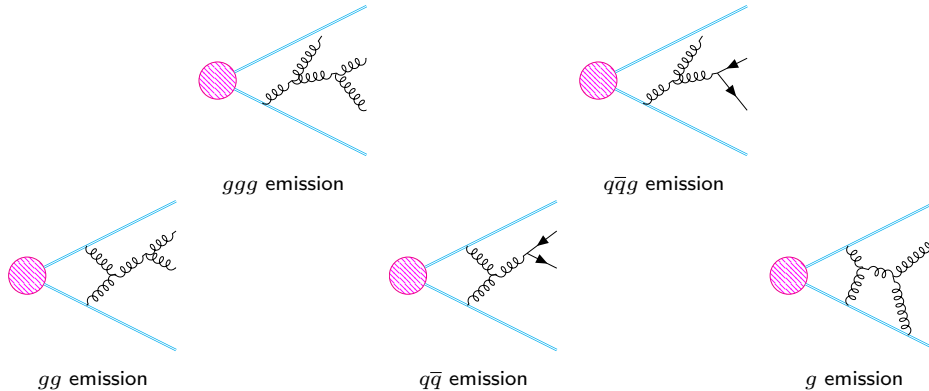
Integral reduction
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Motivation: zero-jettiness soft function at N3LO



- Single gluon emission can be extracted from the literature. *Badger and Glover 2004; Duhr and Gehrmann 2013; Li and Zhu 2013*

Definition

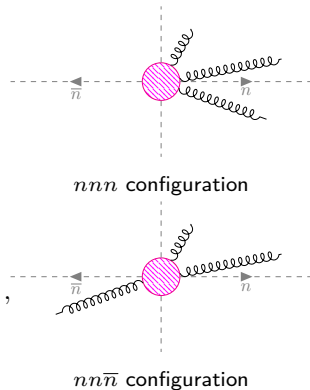
- Zero-jettiness is defined as

$$\tau = \sum_{i=1}^m \min_{j \in \{1,2\}} \left[\frac{2q_j \cdot k_i}{Q_j} \right] = \sum_{i=1}^m \min\{k_i \cdot n, k_i \cdot \bar{n}\}.$$

- By symmetry there are two independent configurations: nnn / $nn\bar{n}$.
We consider the same-hemisphere ggg contribution:

$$S_{ggg}^{nnn} = \int \left(\prod_{i=1}^3 [dk_i] \theta(k_i \cdot \bar{n} - k_i \cdot n) \right) \delta \left(\tau - \sum_{i=1}^3 k_i \cdot n \right) |J(k_1, k_2, k_3)|^2,$$

where $[dk_i]$ is the massless phase space measure.



Procedures

- Amplitude: expression available in the literature *Catani, Colferai, et al. 2020*

$$S = \sum_i C_i I_i.$$

- Reverse unitarity: transform δ functions to denominators *Anastasiou and Melnikov 2002*

$$\delta(p^2 - m^2) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[\frac{i}{p^2 - m^2 + i\varepsilon} - \frac{i}{p^2 - m^2 - i\varepsilon} \right].$$

- IBP reduction: **how to deal with θ functions?** *Chetyrkin and Tkachov 1981*

$$\int d^d k \frac{\partial}{\partial k_\mu} \left[p_\mu \frac{1}{\prod_i D_i} \right] = 0.$$

- Evaluate master integrals: **master integrals could still be hard to work out.**

$$S = \sum_i C'_i I'_i.$$

Integral reduction

Rewrite Heaviside functions as δ functions

$$\theta(k_i \cdot \bar{n} - k_i \cdot n) = \int_0^1 dz_i \delta(z_i k_i \cdot \bar{n} - k_i \cdot n) k_i \cdot \bar{n}$$

- Standard IBP programs can be used.
- Needs to integrate over 3 auxillary parameters:

$$S = \int_0^1 dz_1 dz_2 dz_3 \sum_i C'_i(z_j) I'_i(z_j).$$

- Tested at N2LO. *Baranowski 2020*
- Parametric representation based approach *Chen 2020a,b, 2021*

Implement IBP for Heaviside functions

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial k_i \cdot \bar{n}} \theta(k_i \cdot \bar{n} - k_i \cdot n) = \delta(k_i \cdot \bar{n} - k_i \cdot n)$$

- Generate IBP identities manually.
- Solve the system using Kira. *Maierhöfer et al. 2018; Klappert et al. 2020*
- Simpler master integrals:

$$S = \sum_i C'_i I'_i.$$

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Integral reduction

IBP identity

$$\int d^d k \frac{\partial}{\partial k_\mu} [p_\mu f(k)] = 0 \implies \int d^d k \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial k_\mu} p_\mu \right) + p \cdot k \frac{\partial}{\partial k^2} + p \cdot n \frac{\partial}{\partial k \cdot n} + p \cdot \bar{n} \frac{\partial}{\partial k \cdot \bar{n}} \right] f(k) = 0$$

- Example: $f(k) = \frac{\theta(k \cdot \bar{n} - k \cdot n)}{[k^2]_c^{a_1} [1 - k \cdot n]_c^{a_2} (k \cdot \bar{n})^{a_3}}$ where $[\dots]_c$ denotes a δ function.
- The partial derivative generates two contributions:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial k \cdot \bar{n}} f(k) = -a_3 \frac{\theta(k \cdot \bar{n} - k \cdot n)}{[k^2]_c^{a_1} [1 - k \cdot n]_c^{a_2} (k \cdot \bar{n})^{a_3+1}} + \frac{\delta(k \cdot \bar{n} - k \cdot n)}{[k^2]_c^{a_1} [1 - k \cdot n]_c^{a_2} (k \cdot \bar{n})^{a_3}}$$

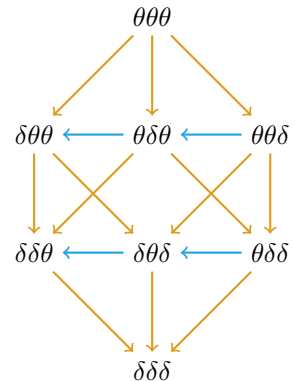
- The **homogenous** term keeps the Heaviside function intact, while the **inhomogenous** term changes it to a δ function.

Integral reduction

$$d\Phi_{f_1 f_2 f_3}^{nnn} = \left(\prod_{i=1}^3 [dk_i] f_i(k_i \cdot \bar{n} - k_i \cdot n) \right) \delta \left(1 - \sum_{i=1}^3 k_i \cdot n \right)$$

$$S_{ggg}^{nnn} \propto \int d\Phi_{\theta\theta\theta}^{nnn} |J(k_1, k_2, k_3)|^2$$

- Generate **IBP identities** and **symmetry relations** manually.
- Solve the whole system using Kira's `reduce_user_defined_system` feature. *Maierhöfer et al. 2018; Klappert et al. 2020*
- Reduce the amplitude to a set of master integrals:
 - No $\theta\theta\theta$ master integrals.
 - 40 master integrals without $1/(k_1 + k_2 + k_3)^2$ denominator: Calculate analytically using HypExp and HyperInt. *Huber and Maitre 2006; Panzer 2015*
 - 48 master integrals with $1/(k_1 + k_2 + k_3)^2$ denominator: Hard to calculate directly.



Integral evaluation

- The problematic denominator $1/k_{123}^2$

$$\frac{1}{(k_1 + k_2 + k_3)^2} \sim \frac{1}{2k_1 \cdot k_2 + 2k_2 \cdot k_3 + 2k_3 \cdot k_1}$$

involves 3 dot products \implies **it would be great if this denominator can be “removed”**

- Naively if we add an auxillary mass-like parameter m to the denominator and in the limit $m \rightarrow \infty$ the dot products drop out:

$$(k_1 + k_2 + k_3)^2 \ll m^2: \frac{1}{(k_1 + k_2 + k_3)^2 + m^2} \sim \frac{1}{m^2}$$

- The integrals are relatively simple at $m \rightarrow \infty$ and differential equation w.r.t. m^2 helps us to recover the original integral at $m \rightarrow 0$. *Liu et al. 2018*
- Similar ideas of introducing auxillary parameters can be found in the literature. *Henn et al. 2014; Papadopoulos 2014; Zhu 2015; Lee et al. 2022*

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Integral evaluation

- Modify the master integrals by adding a m^2 to $1/k_{123}^2$:

$$I_i(\epsilon) = \lim_{m \rightarrow 0} J_i(\epsilon, m) \quad J_i(\epsilon, m) = \int d\Phi_{f_1 f_2 f_3}^{nnn} \frac{1}{k_{123}^2 + m^2} \frac{\dots}{(k_1 \cdot k_2)(k_1 \cdot n) \dots}$$

- Construct a system of differential equations w.r.t. m^2 :

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial m^2} J = M J.$$

- Solve the differential equations **numerically** from $m \rightarrow \infty$ to $m \rightarrow 0$.
- Reconstruct **analytical** expression from numerical solutions.

Integral evaluation

$$J = \int d\Phi_{\delta\theta\theta}^{nnn} \frac{1}{(k_{123}^2 + m^2)(k_2 \cdot \bar{n})}$$

- Expand J around **boundary** in variable $w^2 = m^{-2} = 0$:

$$J = \sum_{i,j,k} c_{ijk}(\epsilon) w^{i+j\epsilon} \ln^k w$$

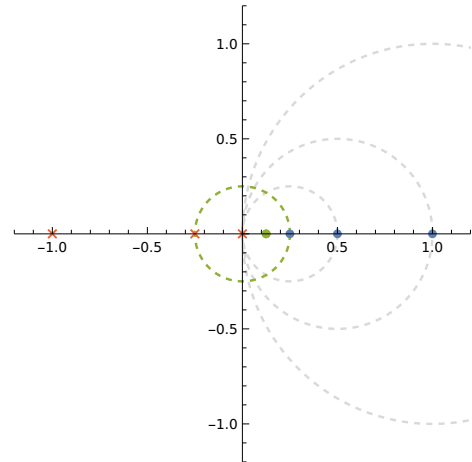
- Boundary conditions at $m \rightarrow \infty$ involves several regions as the Heaviside functions allow $k_i \cdot \bar{n}$ to be large:

$$J|_{m \rightarrow \infty} = \begin{cases} m^0 & \text{with } \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3 \ll m \\ m^{-2\epsilon} & \text{with } \alpha_1, \alpha_i \ll m, \text{ while } \alpha_j \sim m \\ m^{-4\epsilon} & \text{with } \alpha_1 \ll m, \text{ while } \alpha_2, \alpha_3 \sim m \end{cases}$$

where $\alpha_i = k_i \cdot \bar{n}$.

- Evaluate at a **regular point** $J(m = 1/w_0) = J|_{w=w_0}$.

m^2 plane



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Integral evaluation

$$J = \int d\Phi_{\delta\theta\theta}^{nnn} \frac{1}{(k_{123}^2 + m^2)(k_2 \cdot \bar{n})}$$

m^2 plane

- Expand and evaluate around **regular points**:

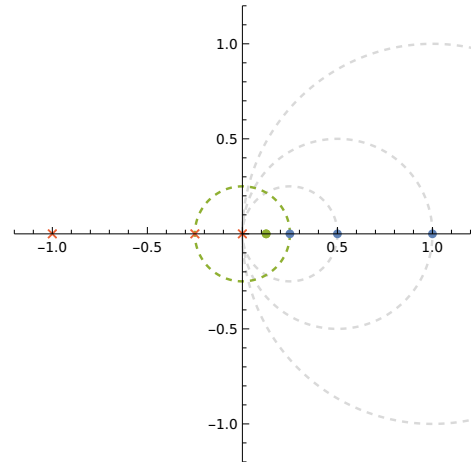
$$J = \sum_i c_i(\epsilon) m'^i$$

Repeat this procedure until we move into the radius of convergence around the **physical point** $m = 0$.

- Matching at the **physical point** $m = 0$:

$$J = \sum_{i,j,k} c_{ijk}(\epsilon) m^{i+j\epsilon} \ln^k m$$

- I corresponds to $\lim_{m \rightarrow 0} J(\epsilon, m) = c_{000}(\epsilon)$.
- Finally we reconstruct the analytical expression.



Result

Now we present the same-hemisphere *triple-gluon*-emission contribution to the N3LO zero-jettiness soft function:

$$S_{ggg}^{nnn} = \tau^{-1-6\epsilon} \frac{N_\epsilon^3}{3!} [C_a^3 S_{1+1+1}^{nnn} + C_a^2 C_A S_{1+2}^{nnn} + C_a C_A^2 S_3^{nnn}],$$

where $N_\epsilon = (4\pi)^{-2+\epsilon}/\Gamma(1-\epsilon)$, and $C_a = C_{F,A}$ for the quark (gluon) soft function. *Catani, Colferai, et al. 2020*

$$S_{1+1+1}^{nnn} = \frac{48 \Gamma^3(1-2\epsilon)}{\epsilon^5 \Gamma(1-6\epsilon)},$$

$$S_{1+2}^{nnn} = -\frac{9 \Gamma(1-4\epsilon) \Gamma(1-2\epsilon)}{\epsilon^2 \Gamma(1-6\epsilon)} \times \left[\frac{8}{\epsilon^3} + \frac{44}{3\epsilon^2} + \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left(\frac{268}{9} - 8\zeta_2 \right) + \left(\frac{1544}{27} + \frac{88}{3}\zeta_2 - 72\zeta_3 \right) \right. \\ \left. + \epsilon \left(\frac{9568}{81} + \frac{536\zeta_2}{9} + \frac{352}{3}\zeta_3 - 300\zeta_4 \right) + \epsilon^2 \left(\frac{55424}{243} + \frac{3520\zeta_2}{27} + \frac{2144\zeta_3}{9} + 352\zeta_4 + 96\zeta_2\zeta_3 - 1208\zeta_5 \right) \right. \\ \left. + \epsilon^3 \left(\frac{297472}{729} + \frac{22592\zeta_2}{81} + \frac{14080\zeta_3}{27} + \frac{2144}{3}\zeta_4 - \frac{4576}{3}\zeta_2\zeta_3 + 3696\zeta_5 + 424\zeta_3^2 - 3596\zeta_6 \right) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^4) \right].$$

- Note that only zeta values are involved.

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Result

- Reconstructed from the numerical result and verified numerically with more than 2000 digits.
- Singular terms only contain zeta values.
- Regular terms contain multiple polylogarithm G with sixth root of unity $\exp(ik\pi/3)$ letters.

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_3^{nnn} = & \frac{24}{\epsilon^5} + \frac{308}{3\epsilon^4} + \frac{1}{\epsilon^3} \left(-12\pi^2 + \frac{3380}{9} \right) + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \left(-1000\zeta_3 + \frac{440\pi^2}{9} + \frac{10048}{9} \right) \\
 & + \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left(-\frac{2377\pi^4}{45} + \frac{440\zeta_3}{3} + \frac{7192\pi^2}{27} + \frac{253252}{81} \right) \\
 & + \left(-28064\zeta_5 + \frac{1972\zeta_3\pi^2}{3} - \frac{638\pi^4}{15} + 4224 \operatorname{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 3696\zeta_3 \ln(2) - 176\pi^2 \ln^2(2) + 176 \ln^4(2) \right) \\
 & + \frac{13208\zeta_3}{3} + \frac{78848\pi^2}{81} + 96 \ln(2) + \frac{1925074}{243} \\
 & + \epsilon \left(2304 \zeta_{-5,-1} - 4464\zeta_5 \ln(2) + 25784\zeta_3^2 - \frac{67351\pi^6}{567} - 6336G_R(0,0,r_2,1,-1) \right. \\
 & - 6336G_R(0,0,1,r_2,-1) - 3168G_R(0,0,1,r_2,r_4) - 6336G_R(0,0,r_2,-1) \ln(2) + \frac{268895\zeta_5}{3} \\
 & - 45056 \operatorname{Li}_5\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - 45056 \operatorname{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \ln(2) + 176 \operatorname{Cl}_4\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) \pi - 1056\zeta_3 \operatorname{Li}_2\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) - 3982\zeta_3\pi^2 \\
 & - 21824\zeta_3 \ln^2(2) + 2112\zeta_3 \ln(2) \ln(3) - 1584 \operatorname{Cl}_2^2\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) \ln(3) - \frac{4400 \operatorname{Cl}_2\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) \pi^3}{27} + \frac{88\pi^4 \ln(2)}{45} \\
 & - \frac{616\pi^4 \ln(3)}{27} + \frac{11264\pi^2 \ln^3(2)}{9} - \frac{22528 \ln^5(2)}{15} + 8576 \operatorname{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 7504\zeta_3 \ln(2) + \frac{4174\pi^4}{27} \\
 & - \frac{1072\pi^2 \ln^2(2)}{3} + \frac{1072 \ln^4(2)}{3} + \frac{554032\zeta_3}{27} - 32\pi^2 \ln(2) + \frac{730378\pi^2}{243} - 384 \ln^2(2) + 832 \ln(2) \\
 & \left. + \frac{1408681}{81} + \sqrt{3} \left(192 \mathfrak{J} \left\{ \operatorname{Li}_3\left(\frac{\exp(i\pi/3)}{2}\right) \right\} + 160 \operatorname{Cl}_2\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) \ln(2) - 16\pi \ln^2(2) - \frac{560\pi^3}{81} \right) \right) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2).
 \end{aligned}$$

 Motivation
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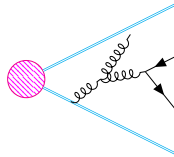
 Integral reduction
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 Integral evaluation
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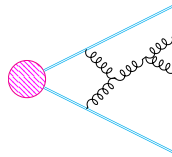
 Result
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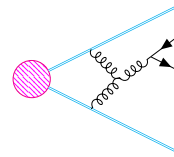
Outlook



$q\bar{q}g$ emission

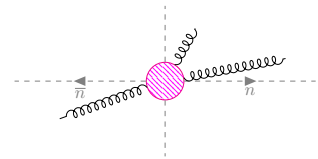


gg emission



$q\bar{q}$ emission

- The other configuration $S_{ggg}^{nn\bar{n}}$, as well as other contributions, can be calculated in the same way.
- Other objects containing Heaviside functions.



$nn\bar{n}$ configuration

Conclusion

- N3LO QCD corrections are crucial to the percent level phenomenology at LHC and HL-LHC.
- We compute the same-hemisphere triple-gluon zero-jettiness soft function at N3LO.
- **Custom IBP relations** enables reduction for integrals containing Heaviside functions.
- **Adding an auxiliary mass parameter** overcomes the technical difficulty of computing master integrals.
- Thank you!

Analytic regulator

- Although the soft function itself is regularized dimensionally, we found that an additional regulator is required to obtain a correct result

$$d\Phi_{f_1 f_2 f_3}^{nnn} \rightarrow d\Phi_{f_1 f_2 f_3}^{nnn} (k_1 \cdot n)^\nu (k_2 \cdot n)^\nu (k_3 \cdot n)^\nu.$$

- The amplitude reduces to

$$S_{ggg}^{nnn} = \sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha}(\nu) I_{\alpha}^{\nu} + \nu \sum_{\alpha} \tilde{c}_{\alpha}(\nu) \bar{I}_{\alpha}^{\nu},$$










where two of the \bar{I}_{α}^{ν} are $1/\nu$ -divergent.

- For integrals without $1/k_{123}^2$ denominator, we can proceed as before and obtain analytical results.
- For integrals with $1/k_{123}^2$ denominator, we now have two limits to take:









$$I(\epsilon) = \lim_{\nu \rightarrow 0} \lim_{m \rightarrow 0} J(\epsilon, \nu, m).$$

We find that these two limits do commute, thus we can set $\nu = 0$ beforehand and solve the equation.










References I

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