

# New Frontiers of the Nested Soft-Collinear Subtraction Scheme

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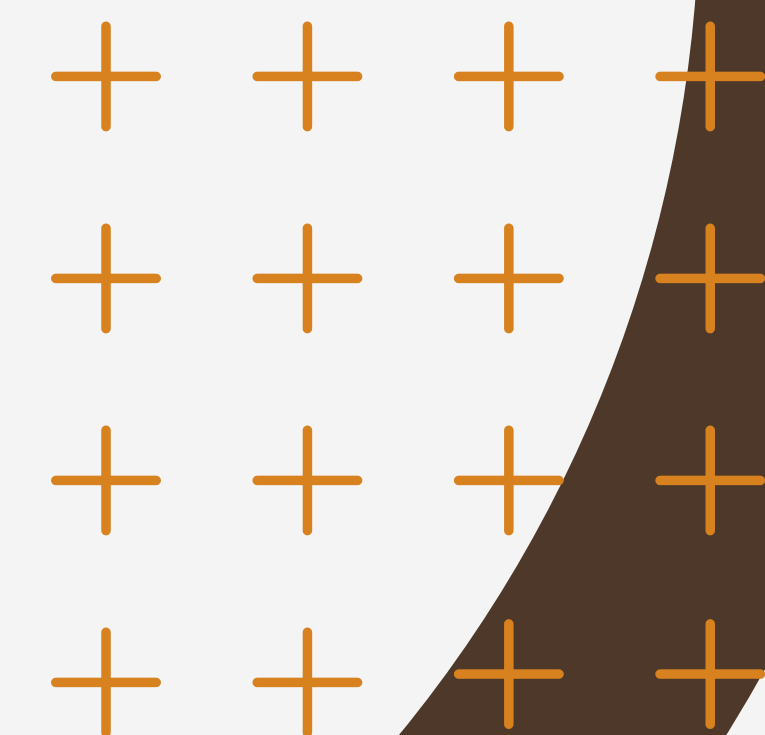
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UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI MILANO



1 The problem of **subtracting IR singularities** at **NLO** is **solved**. But what does “solved” means?

1.1 We can take papers on **Catani-Seymour** and **FKS** subtractions and find general procedures to cancel IR poles at NLO

1.2 These formulas are transparent and can be used to **cancel**  $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-2})$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-1})$  **poles explicitly**

1.3 These formulas, at least in principle, can be applied to compute NLO cross sections of **every process** at LHC

2 Question: Do we have the same kind of **generality at NNLO** as well?

Answer: **NO**

2.1 Numerous collaborations are actively working on this challenge (highly topical issue)

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Question: Do we have the same kind of **generality at NNLO** as well?

Answer: **NO**

2.1 Numerous collaborations are actively working on this challenge (highly topical issue)

2.2 Currently, the community knows how to compute NNLO corrections to an arbitrary process with a **colorless initial state**

2.3 Remarkable calculations have been performed, for instance, the NNLO corrections to the process  $pp \rightarrow X + 3 \text{ Jets}$ , but the **big picture is still missing**

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Even though the problem was solved in a general way at NLO more than two decades ago, there are reasons why **the solution is still lacking at NNLO**

3.1 At NNLO, we face the plague of overlapping singularities, which implies

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3.1 At NNLO, we face the plague of overlapping singularities, which implies to **partition and sector the phase space**

3.2 Sectoring the phase space allows us to perform the integrals but, at the same time, smashes the physics transparency of the calculation

**4** We have to **identify the building blocks** of the class of QCD processes  $pp \rightarrow X + N \text{ Jets}$ . A good starting point is the process  $\mathcal{A}_0 : q\bar{q} \rightarrow X + N g$  (see [\[2310.17598\]](#))

4.1 From the **subtraction** point of view, it is the **most complicated channel**

4.2 From a **combinatorial** perspective, it is the **simplest channel**, as it is symmetric in both the initial and final states

## Main Features of NSC at NNLO

$$\langle \Delta^{(\mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{n})} F_{\text{LM}}^{ab}[\dots | \mathfrak{m}, \mathfrak{n}] \rangle$$

# Main Features of NSC at NNLO

$$\langle \Delta^{(mn)} F_{LM}^{ab}[\dots | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}] \rangle = \underbrace{\langle S_{mn} F_{LM}^{ab}[\dots | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}] \rangle}_{\text{Double-Soft Counterterm}} + \underbrace{\langle \bar{S}_{mn} S_n \Delta^{(mn)} F_{LM}^{ab}[\dots | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}] \rangle}_{\text{Single-Soft Counterterm}} + \underbrace{\langle \bar{S}_{mn} \bar{S}_n \Delta^{(mn)} F_{LM}^{ab}[\dots | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}] \rangle}_{\text{Soft-Regulated Term}}$$

Can be integrated over the phase spaces  $[dp_m]$  and  $[dp_n]$   
 [Caola, Delto, Frellesvig, Melnikov '18]

It contains **TRIPLE-** and **SINGLE-COLLINEAR** singularities

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# Main Features of NSC at NNLO

## Double-Soft Counterterm

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$$\langle \Delta^{(mn)} F_{LM}^{ab}[\dots | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}] \rangle = \langle S_{mn} F_{LM}^{ab}[\dots | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}] \rangle + \langle \bar{S}_{mn} S_n \Delta^{(mn)} F_{LM}^{ab}[\dots | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}] \rangle + \langle \bar{S}_{mn} \bar{S}_n \Delta^{(mn)} F_{LM}^{ab}[\dots | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}] \rangle$$

## Single-Soft Counterterm

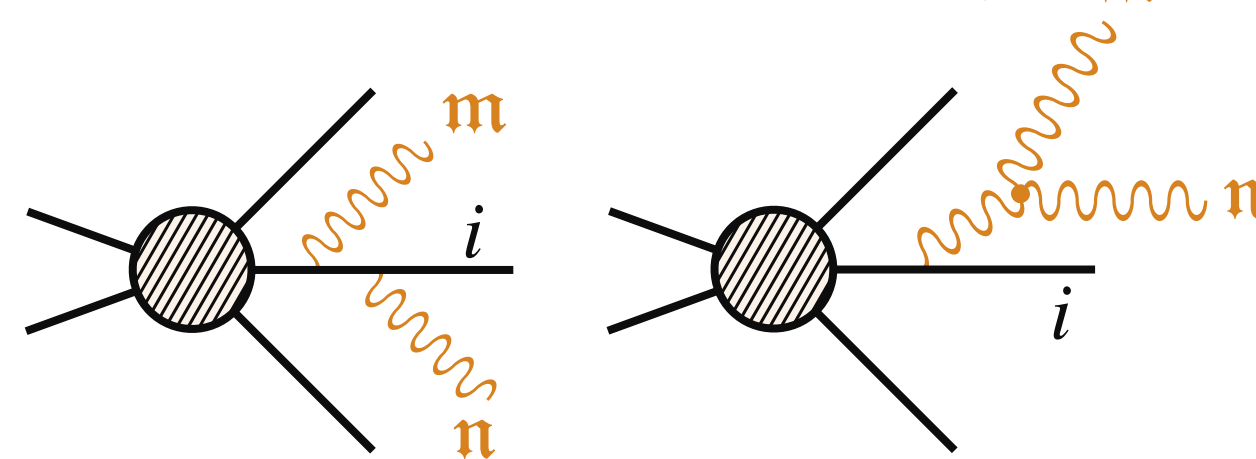
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### Problem of Overlapping Singularities

$$1 = \sum_{i,j \in \mathcal{H}_f} \omega^{mi,nj}$$

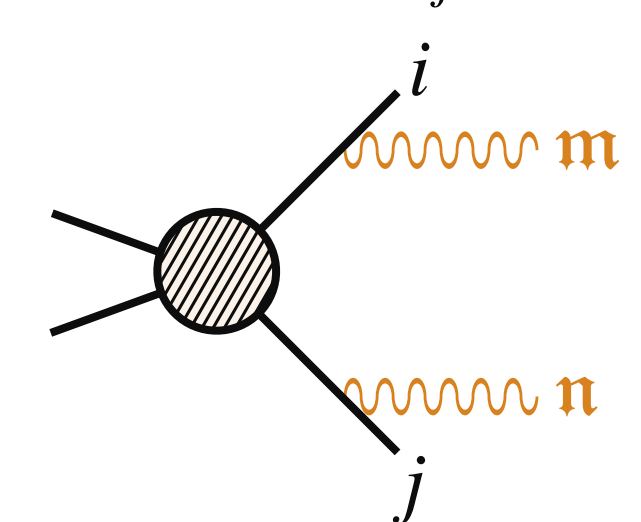
#### Triple-Collinear Sector

$$C_{im} - C_{in} - C_{mn} - C_{mn,i}$$



#### Double-Collinear Sector

$$C_{im} - C_{jn}$$





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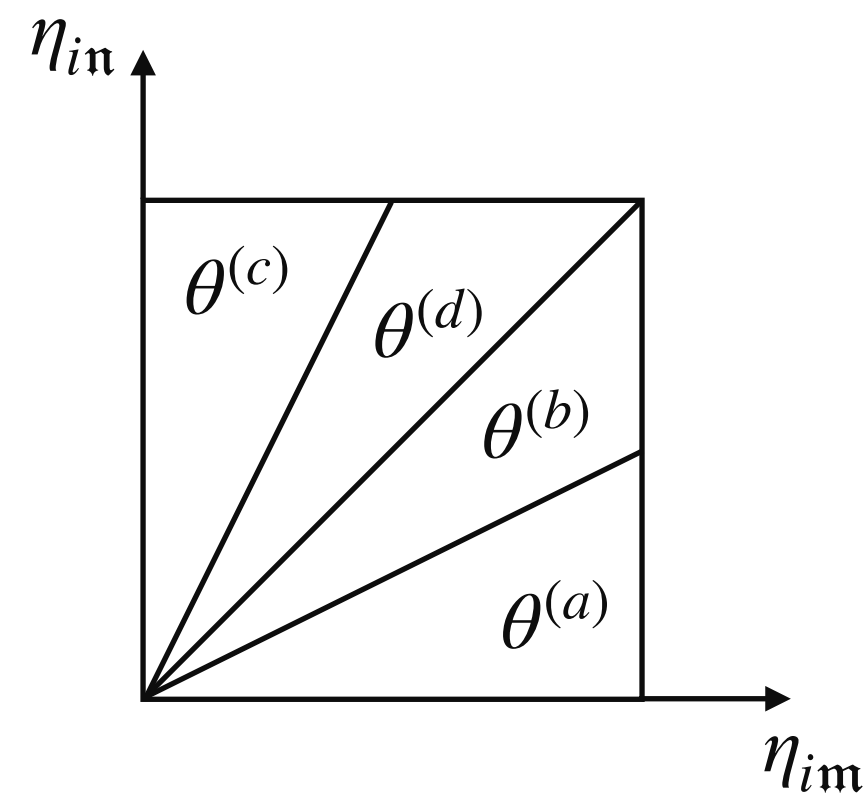
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## Sector Decomposition

[Czakon '10]

$$\eta_{ij} = (1 - \cos \theta_{ij})/2$$



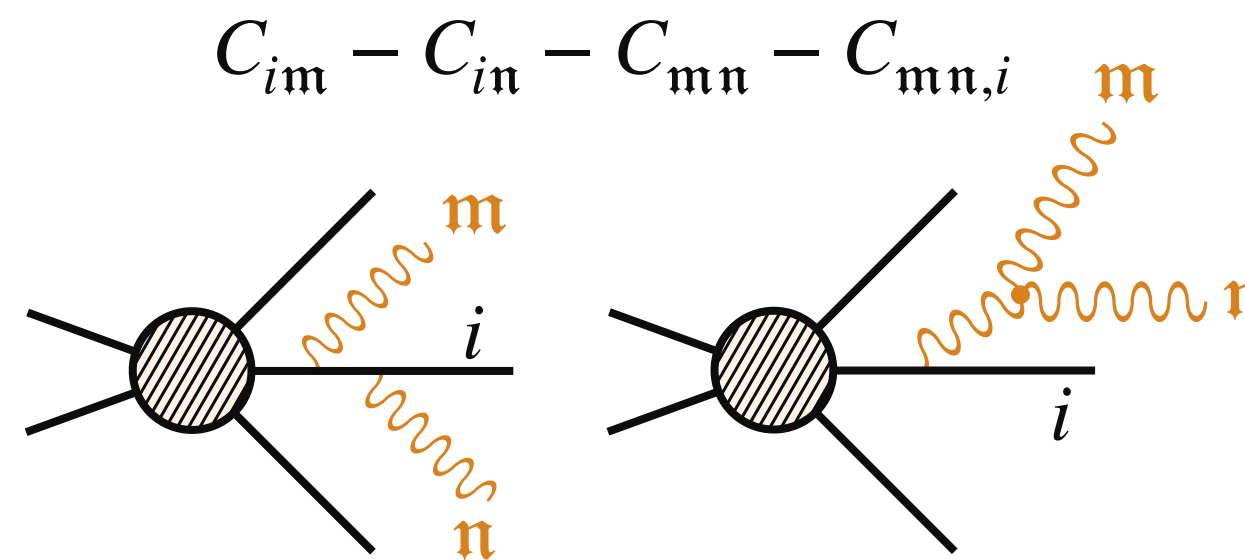
## Angular Ordering

$$\begin{aligned} \theta^{(a)} &= \Theta(\eta_{in} < \eta_{im}/2) \\ \theta^{(c)} &= \Theta(\eta_{im} < \eta_{in}/2) \\ \theta^{(b)} &= \Theta(\eta_{im}/2 < \eta_{in}/2 < \eta_{im}) \\ \theta^{(d)} &= \Theta(\eta_{in}/2 < \eta_{im}/2 < \eta_{in}) \end{aligned}$$

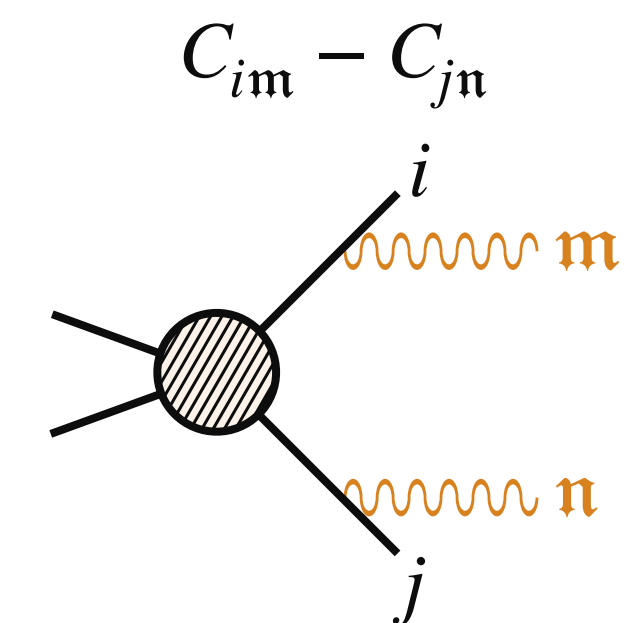
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In **principle**, this formula can be applied to any process at the LHC.

In **practice**, identifying structures that can be combined with the VV and RV contributions becomes nearly impossible, rendering the calculation heavily process-dependent.

$$\Omega_1 = \sum_{(ij)} \bar{C}_{im} \bar{C}_{jn} [dp_m][dp_n] \omega^{mi,nj} + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}} [\bar{C}_{in} \theta^{(a)} + \bar{C}_{mn} \theta^{(b)} + \bar{C}_{im} \theta^{(c)} + \bar{C}_{mn} \theta^{(d)}] [dp_m][dp_n] \bar{C}_{mn,i} \omega^{mi,ni}$$

$$\Omega_2 = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}} [\bar{C}_{in} \theta^{(a)} + \bar{C}_{mn} \theta^{(b)} + \bar{C}_{im} \theta^{(c)} + \bar{C}_{mn} \theta^{(d)}] [dp_m][dp_n] C_{mn,i} \omega^{mi,ni}$$

$$\Omega_3 = - \sum_{(ij)} C_{jn} C_{im} [dp_m][dp_n] \omega^{mi,nj}$$

$$\Omega_4 = \sum_{(ij)} [C_{im} [dp_m] + C_{jn} [dp_n]] \omega^{mi,nj} + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}} [C_{in} \theta^{(a)} + C_{mn} \theta^{(b)} + C_{im} \theta^{(c)} + C_{mn} \theta^{(d)}] [dp_m][dp_n] \omega^{mi,ni}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^4 \langle \bar{S}_{mn} \bar{S}_n \Omega_i \Delta^{(mn)} F_{LM}^{ab}[\dots | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}] \rangle$$

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## Soft and Collinear Regularizations in FKS/NSC

$$\langle \Delta^{(m)} F_{LM}^{\mathcal{A}_1}[\mathbf{m}_g] \rangle = \underbrace{\langle S_m \Delta^{(m)} F_{LM}^{\mathcal{A}_1}[\mathbf{m}_g] \rangle}_{\text{Soft Counterterm}} + \underbrace{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}} \langle \bar{S}_m C_{im} \Delta^{(m)} F_{LM}^{\mathcal{A}_1}[\mathbf{m}_g] \rangle}_{\text{Hard-Collinear Counterterm}} + \langle \mathcal{O}_{\text{NLO}}^{(m)} \Delta^{(m)} F_{LM}^{\mathcal{A}_1}[\mathbf{m}_g] \rangle$$

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## The Soft Operator

$$\langle S_m \Delta^{(m)} F_{LM}^{\mathcal{A}_1}[\mathbf{m}_g] \rangle \sim \langle I_S(\epsilon) \cdot F_{LM}^{\mathcal{A}_0} \rangle$$

$$I_S(\epsilon) = - \frac{(2E_{\text{max}}/\mu)^{-2\epsilon}}{\epsilon^2} \sum_{i \neq j} \eta_{ij}^{-\epsilon} K_{ij}(\mathbf{T}_i \cdot \mathbf{T}_j)$$

Color - Correlations

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## The Virtual Operator

$$2s_{ab} d\hat{\sigma}_{\mathcal{A}_0}^V \equiv \langle F_{LV}^{\mathcal{A}_0} \rangle \sim \langle I_V(\epsilon) \cdot F_{LM}^{\mathcal{A}_0} \rangle$$

$$I_V(\epsilon) = \bar{I}_1(\epsilon) + \bar{I}_1^\dagger(\epsilon)$$

$$\bar{I}_1(\epsilon) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{\gamma_i}{\epsilon T_i^2} \right) \left( \frac{\mu^2 e^{i\pi\lambda_{ij}}}{s_{ij}} \right)^\epsilon (\mathbf{T}_i \cdot \mathbf{T}_j)$$

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$$I_S(\epsilon) + I_V(\epsilon) = - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{\epsilon} (2T_i^2 L_i + \gamma_i) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^0)$$

- The pole of  $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-2})$  **vanishes**
- No **color - correlations** at  $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-1})$
- **Trivially dependent on** the number of hard partons  $N$



# Soft and Collinear Regularizations in FKS/NSC

Soft Counterterm	Hard-Collinear Counterterm
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$$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}} \langle \bar{S}_m C_{im} \Delta^{(m)} F_{LM}^{\mathcal{A}_1}[\mathbf{m}_g] \rangle \sim \langle I_C(\epsilon) \cdot F_{LM}^{\mathcal{A}_0} \rangle$$

$$I_C(\epsilon) = \frac{\Gamma_{a,g} + \Gamma_{b,q}}{\epsilon} + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}_{fg}} \frac{\Gamma_{i,g \rightarrow gg}}{\epsilon}$$

# Soft and Collinear Regularizations in FKS/NSC

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$$I_T(\epsilon) = I_S(\epsilon) + I_V(\epsilon) + I_C(\epsilon) = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^0)$$

### The Total Operator

- It does not contain poles
- General procedure for **color - correlations**
- **Trivially dependent on** the number of hard partons

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## The Final Result at NLO

$$2s_{ab} d\hat{\sigma}_{\mathcal{A}_0}^{\text{NLO}} = [\alpha_s] \langle I_T^{(0)} \cdot F_{LM}^{\mathcal{A}_0} \rangle + [\alpha_s] \left[ \langle \mathcal{P}_{aa}^{\text{NLO}} \otimes F_{LM}^{\mathcal{A}_0} \rangle + \langle F_{LM}^{\mathcal{A}_0} \otimes \mathcal{P}_{bb}^{\text{NLO}} \rangle \right] + \langle \mathcal{O}_{NLO}^{(m)} \Delta^{(m)} F_{LM}^{\mathcal{A}_1}[\mathbf{m}_g] \rangle + \langle F_{LV, \text{fin}}^{\mathcal{A}_0} \rangle$$

### Total Operator at $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^0)$

$$I_T^{(0)} = - \sum_{i \neq j} (\mathbf{T}_i \cdot \mathbf{T}_j) \left[ \left( 2L_{\max} + \frac{1}{2} \log \eta_{ij} \right) \log \eta_{ij} - \frac{1}{2} L_{ij} \left( L_{ij} + \frac{2\gamma_i}{T_i^2} \right) \right. \\ \left. + \text{Li}_2(1 - \eta_{ij}) + \frac{\pi^2}{2} \lambda_{ij} \right] + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}} T_i^2 \left[ 2L_{\max}^2 - \frac{\pi^2}{6} - (2\tilde{L}_i \tilde{\gamma}_i^{(0)} - \tilde{\gamma}_i^{(1)}) \theta_{\mathcal{H}_f} \right. \\ \left. - 2 \left( L_i^2 + 2L_i \tilde{L}_i + \tilde{L}_i \frac{\gamma_i}{T_i^2} \right) \bar{\theta}_{\mathcal{H}_f} \right]$$

NB

$$\beta_0 \equiv \frac{11}{6} C_A$$

These operators also describe the NNLO

$$Y_{\text{RR}}^{(\text{ss})} = \left\langle \frac{1}{2} I_{\text{S}}^2 \cdot F_{\text{LM}}^{\mathcal{A}_0} \right\rangle + \dots$$

$$Y_{\text{VV}} = \left\langle \frac{1}{2} I_{\text{V}}^2 \cdot F_{\text{LM}}^{\mathcal{A}_0} \right\rangle + \dots$$

$$Y_{\text{RR}}^{(\text{cc})} = \left\langle \frac{1}{2} I_{\text{C}}^2 \cdot F_{\text{LM}}^{\mathcal{A}_0} \right\rangle + \dots$$

$$d\sigma^{\text{NNLO}} \sim \left\langle \frac{1}{2} I_{\text{T}}^2 \cdot F_{\text{LM}}^{\mathcal{A}_0} \right\rangle + \dots$$

$$Y_{\text{RV}}^{(\text{s})} = \left\langle I_{\text{V}} I_{\text{C}} \cdot F_{\text{LM}}^{\mathcal{A}_0} \right\rangle + \dots$$

$$Y_{\text{RR}}^{(\text{shc})} = \left\langle I_{\text{S}} I_{\text{C}} \cdot F_{\text{LM}}^{\mathcal{A}_0} \right\rangle + \dots$$

$$Y_{\text{RV}}^{(\text{shc})} = \left\langle \frac{1}{2} (I_{\text{S}} I_{\text{V}} + I_{\text{V}} I_{\text{S}}) \cdot F_{\text{LM}}^{\mathcal{A}_0} \right\rangle + \dots$$

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**6** We add the corrections proportional to  $n_f$  to the processes  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{B}_0$

5.1 We complete  $\beta_0$

5.2 We can see how the final-state **gluon anomalous dimension** arises

5.3 We complete the operator  $I_T$  for the processes  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{B}_0$



WE START FROM THE FOLLOWING BORN PROCESS:

$$\mathcal{B}_0 : a_g b_q \rightarrow X + (N - 1)g + q$$

$$2s_{ab} d\hat{\sigma}_{\mathcal{B}_0}^{\text{LO}} = \langle F_{\text{LM}}^{gq}[\{g\}_{N-1}, q] \rangle = \langle F_{\text{LM}}^{\mathcal{B}_0} \rangle$$

### Main Channel at NLO

It contains the soft singularities that will combine with the virtual ones

$$\overline{\mathcal{B}}_1 : a_g b_q \rightarrow X + N g + q$$

$$2s_{ab} d\hat{\sigma}_{\overline{\mathcal{B}}_1}^{\text{R}} = \langle F_{\text{LM}}^{gq}[\{g\}_N, q] \rangle$$

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**Damping Factors**

They select the final-state parton that is potentially unresolved

$$2s_{ab} d\hat{\sigma}_{\mathcal{B}_1}^{\text{R}} = \langle F_{\text{LM}}^{gq}[\{g\}_N, q] \rangle = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}_f} \langle \Delta^{(i)} F_{\text{LM}}^{gq}[\{g\}_N, q] \rangle$$

WE START FROM THE FOLLOWING BORN PROCESS:

$$\mathcal{B}_0 : a_g b_q \rightarrow X + (N - 1)g + q$$

$$2s_{ab} d\hat{\sigma}_{\mathcal{B}_0}^{\text{LO}} = \langle F_{\text{LM}}^{gq}[\{g\}_{N-1}, q] \rangle = \langle F_{\text{LM}}^{\mathcal{B}_0} \rangle$$

Main Channel at NLO

It contains the soft singularities that will combine with the virtual ones

$$\mathcal{B}_1 : a_g b_q \rightarrow X + N g + q$$

Damping Factors

They select the final-state parton that is potentially unresolved

$$2s_{ab} d\hat{\sigma}_{\mathcal{B}_1}^{\text{R}} = \langle F_{\text{LM}}^{gq}[\{g\}_N, q] \rangle = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}_f} \langle \Delta^{(i)} F_{\text{LM}}^{gq}[\{g\}_N, q] \rangle$$

$$= \langle \Delta^{(m)} \left( F_{\text{LM}}^{gq}[\{g\}_{N-1}, q | \mathbf{m}_g] + F_{\text{LM}}^{gq}[\{g\}_N | \mathbf{m}_q] \right) \rangle$$

Rename the Damping Factors

Two contributions identified

- Unresolved gluon
- Unresolved quark

### Damping Factors

They select the final-state parton that is potentially unresolved

$$2s_{ab} d\hat{\sigma}_{\mathcal{B}_1}^R = \langle F_{LM}^{gq}[\{g\}_N, q] \rangle = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}_f} \langle \Delta^{(i)} F_{LM}^{gq}[\{g\}_N, q] \rangle$$

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### Two contributions identified

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$$I_S(\epsilon) + I_V(\epsilon) = - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{\epsilon} (2T_i^2 L_i + \gamma_i) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^0)$$

- The pole of  $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-2})$  vanishes
- No **color - correlations** at  $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-1})$
- **Trivially dependent on the number of hard partons  $N$**

$$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}} \langle \bar{S}_m C_{im} \Delta^{(m)} F_{LM}^{\mathcal{B}_1}[\mathbf{m}_g] \rangle \sim \langle I_C^{inc}(\epsilon) \cdot F_{LM}^{\mathcal{B}_0} \rangle$$

$$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}} \langle C_{im} \Delta^{(m)} F_{LM}^{\mathcal{B}_1}[\mathbf{m}_q] \rangle \sim \left\langle \frac{\Gamma_{q \rightarrow gq}}{\epsilon} \cdot F_{LM}^{\mathcal{B}_0} \right\rangle$$

$$I_C^{inc}(\epsilon) = \frac{\Gamma_{a,g} + \Gamma_{b,q}}{\epsilon} + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}_{fg}} \frac{\Gamma_{i,g \rightarrow gg}}{\epsilon} + \frac{\Gamma_{q \rightarrow qg}}{\epsilon}$$

$$I_C(\epsilon)$$

### Damping Factors

They select the final-state parton that is potentially unresolved

$$2s_{ab} d\hat{\sigma}_{\mathcal{B}_1}^R = \langle F_{\text{LM}}^{gq}[\{g\}_N, q] \rangle = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}_f} \langle \Delta^{(i)} F_{\text{LM}}^{gq}[\{g\}_N, q] \rangle$$
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Rename the Damping Factors

### Two contributions identified

- Unresolved gluon
- Unresolved quark

$$I_T(\epsilon) = I_S(\epsilon) + I_V(\epsilon) + I_C(\epsilon) = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^0)$$

NB

$$\beta_0 \equiv \frac{11}{6} C_A$$

symmetric in both the initial and final states

4.3 For NLO and NNLO corrections, we add only **gluons**

**5** Now we want to **break** the **initial- and final-state symmetry** of process  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . Thus we consider  $\mathcal{B}_0 : gq \rightarrow X + (N - 1)g + q$

5.1 It contains all the IR divergences of the process  $\mathcal{A}_0$

5.2 From a **combinatorial** perspective, it is **more complex** than  $\mathcal{A}_0$

5.3 We can see how the final-state **quark anomalous dimension** arises

**6** We add the corrections proportional to  $n_f$  to the processes  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{B}_0$

5.1 We complete  $\beta_0$

5.2 We can see how the final-state **gluon anomalous dimension** arises

5.3 We complete the operator  $I_T$  for the processes  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{B}_0$

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At this point, generalizing the calculation for  $pp \rightarrow X + N \text{ Jets}$  becomes merely a matter of **combinatorics**

7.1 We expect  $I_C$  to work precisely as in processes  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{B}_0$

7.2 Our final result will be a general formula analogous to that we currently have for NLO corrections



## How to complete the Collinear Operator

$$I_C^{\text{inc}}(\epsilon) = \frac{\Gamma_{a,g} + \Gamma_{b,q}}{\epsilon} + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}_{fg}} \frac{\Gamma_{i,g \rightarrow gg}}{\epsilon} + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}_{fq}} \frac{\Gamma_{i,q \rightarrow qg}}{\epsilon}$$

$$gq \rightarrow X + (N-1)g + q + gg$$



$$gq \rightarrow X + (N-1)g + q' + q''\bar{q}''$$

$$gq \rightarrow X + (N-3)g + q' + q''\bar{q}'' + q'''\bar{q}'''$$

# How to complete the Collinear Operator

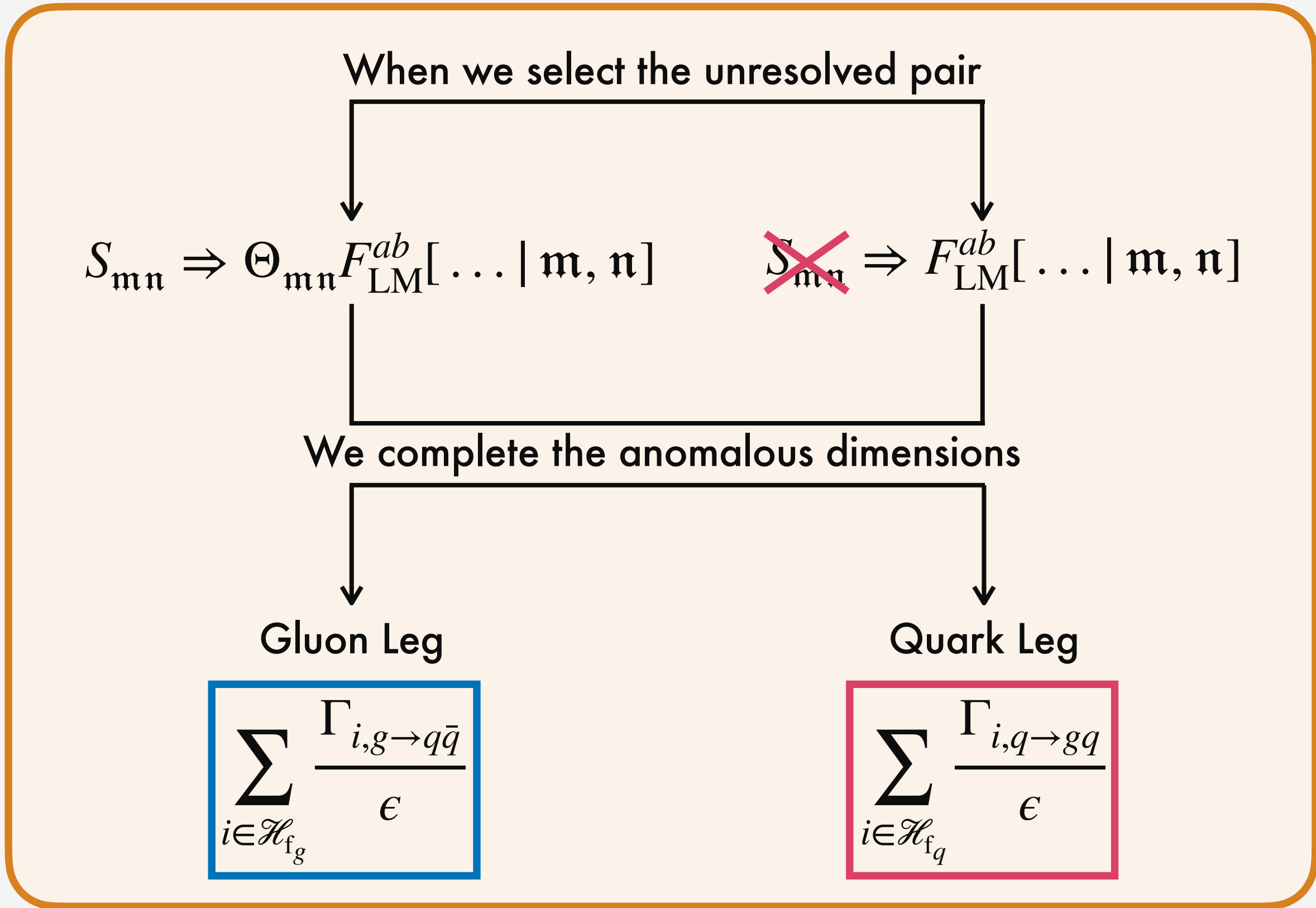
$$I_C^{inc}(\epsilon) = \frac{\Gamma_{a,g} + \Gamma_{b,q}}{\epsilon} + \boxed{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}_{fg}} \frac{\Gamma_{i,g \rightarrow gg}}{\epsilon}} + \boxed{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}_{fq}} \frac{\Gamma_{i,q \rightarrow qg}}{\epsilon}}$$

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+

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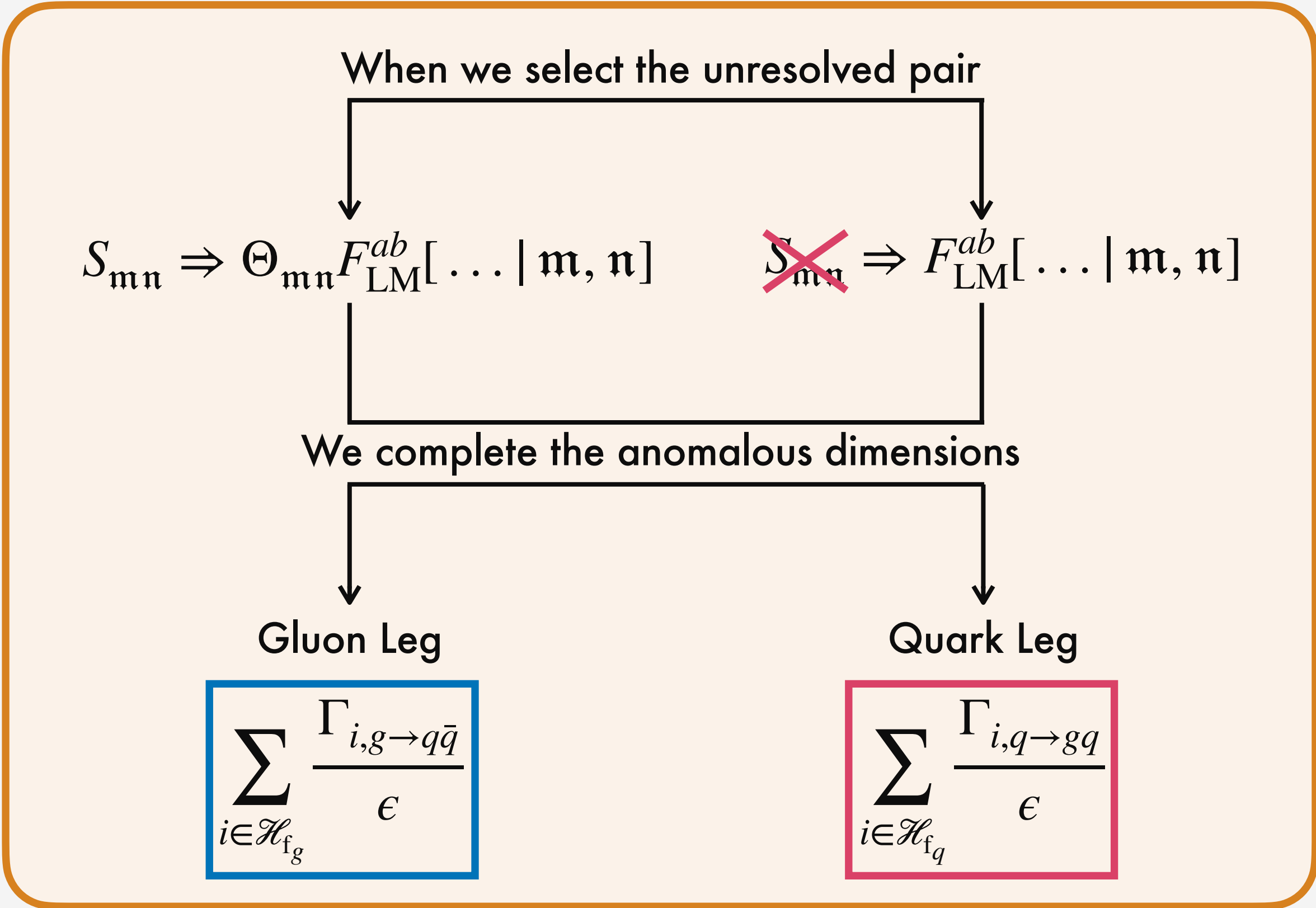
$$I_C(\epsilon) = \frac{\Gamma_{a,g} + \Gamma_{b,q}}{\epsilon} + \boxed{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}_{fg}} \frac{\Gamma_{i,g}}{\epsilon}} + \boxed{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{H}_{fq}} \frac{\Gamma_{i,q}}{\epsilon}}$$

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We add the corrections proportional to  $n_f$  to the processes  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{B}_0$

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At this point, generalizing the calculation for  $pp \rightarrow X + N \text{ Jets}$  becomes merely a matter of **combinatorics**

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At this point, generalizing the calculation for  $pp \rightarrow X + V$  jets becomes merely a matter of **combinatorics**

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**