

Soft-gluon effective coupling

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We consider the extension of the CMW soft-gluon effective coupling in the context of soft-gluon resummation for QCD hard-scattering observables beyond the next-to-leading logarithmic accuracy. We present two proposals of a soft-gluon effective coupling that extend the CMW coupling to all perturbative orders. Although both effective couplings are well-defined in the physical four-dimensional space time, we examine their behaviour in $\epsilon=4-2\epsilon$ space time dimensions. We uncover an all-order perturbative relation with the cusp anomalous dimension: the (four dimensional) cusp anomalous dimension is equal to the ϵ -dimensional soft-gluon effective coupling at the conformal point $\epsilon=0$. We present the explicit expressions of the two soft-gluon couplings up to $O(\alpha_s^2)$.

In the four-dimensional case we compute the two soft couplings up to $O(\alpha_s^3)$.

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