

# Three-loop cusp anomalous dimension in QCD

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

# Why

IR behavior of scattering amplitudes  $\rightarrow$  Wilson lines

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IR behavior of scattering amplitudes  $\rightarrow$  Wilson lines

- ▶  $t\bar{t}$  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

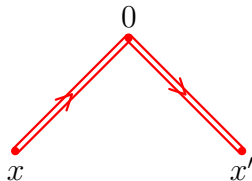


$$-i\langle h_v(x)h_v^+(0)\rangle = \delta(x_\perp)W(t) = Z_h\delta(x_\perp)W_r(t;\mu)$$

# Green functions



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



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



# Renormalization

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

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

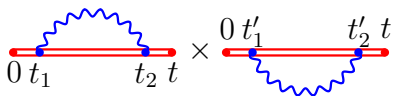
$$\Gamma(\alpha_s, \varphi) = \frac{d \log Z_J}{d \log \mu}$$

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



# Exponentiation in QED

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



$$\times$$

$$=$$

$$+$$

$$+$$

$$+$$

$$+$$

$$+$$

$$+$$

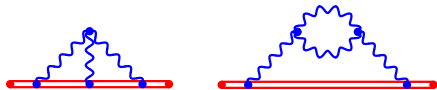
# Exponentiation in QED

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

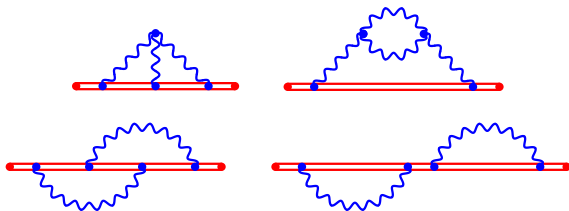
$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{Diagram 1} \times \text{Diagram 2} \\
 &= \text{Diagram 3} + \text{Diagram 4} + \text{Diagram 5} \\
 &+ \text{Diagram 6} + \text{Diagram 7} + \text{Diagram 8} \\
 &\log W(t) = \text{Diagram 9}
 \end{aligned}$$

The diagrams represent Feynman diagrams for photon exchange between two fermion lines (red lines with blue dots). Diagram 1 is a single photon exchange between points  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  on the first fermion line. Diagram 2 is a single photon exchange between points  $t'_1$  and  $t'_2$  on the second fermion line. Diagrams 3 through 8 show the expansion of the product of these two diagrams into a sum of diagrams with multiple photon exchanges. Diagram 9 shows a single photon exchange between points  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  on the first fermion line, representing the logarithm of the sum of all diagrams.

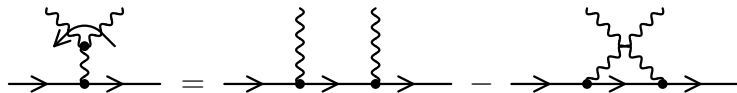
# Exponentiation in QCD



# Exponentiation in QCD

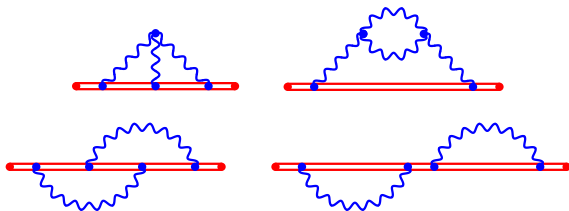


$$[t^a, t^b] = if^{abc}t^c$$

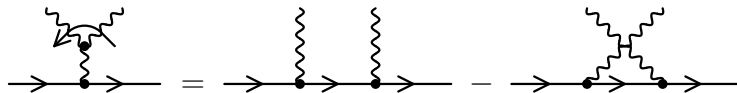


Gatheral (1983); Frenkel, Taylor (1984)

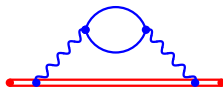
# Exponentiation in QCD



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



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)

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

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

QED with  $n_f$  flavors  $C_F = 1$ ,  $C_A = 0$ ,  $T_F = 1$ ,  $\beta_0 = -\frac{4}{3}n_f$

At  $L\beta_0$  and  $NL\beta_0$ , the Wilson line of any shape

$$\log W = \text{[Diagram: A red horizontal line with a blue wavy arc above it, representing a Wilson line with a gluon loop.]}$$

with



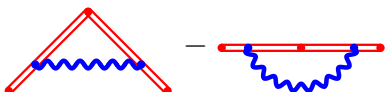
up to  $NL\beta_0$ . First broken at  $NNL\beta_0$



$$n_f^{L-3} \alpha_s^L \quad (L \geq 4)$$

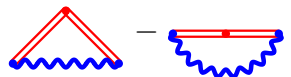
# Abelian large $n_f$ structures

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

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


(external-leg corrections cancel). Momentum space

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

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




# Abelian large $n_f$ structures

$$L\beta_0$$

$$\log \frac{V(\varphi)}{V(0)} = \frac{1}{\beta_0} \sum_{L=1}^{\infty} a_L b_0^L = \frac{1}{\beta_0} \sum_{L=1}^{\infty} \frac{F(\epsilon, L\epsilon)}{L} \left( \frac{b}{\epsilon + b} \right)^L$$

$$b_0 = \frac{\beta_0 e_0^2}{(4\pi)^{d/2}} = b Z_\alpha(b) e^{\gamma\epsilon} \mu^{2\epsilon} \quad b = \frac{\beta_0 \alpha}{4\pi} \quad Z_\alpha = \frac{1}{1 + b/\epsilon}$$

$$F(\epsilon, u) = \sum_{n,m=0}^{\infty} F_{nm} \epsilon^n u^m \quad \log Z_J = \frac{Z_1}{\epsilon} + \frac{Z_2}{\epsilon^2} + \dots$$

$$\beta_0 Z_1 = F_{00} b - F_{10} \frac{b^2}{2} + F_{20} \frac{b^3}{3} - F_{30} \frac{b^4}{4} + \dots$$

$$\Gamma = -2 \frac{dZ_1}{d \log b} = -2 \frac{b}{\beta_0} F(-b, 0)$$

# Abelian large $n_f$ structures

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

Beneke, Braun (1995)

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Beneke, Braun (1995)

NL $\beta_0$

- NL  $a_L$ . 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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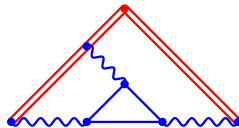
$$N_c \rightarrow \infty \qquad N_c \left( \frac{z_{Ff}}{2} + z_{Af} \right)$$

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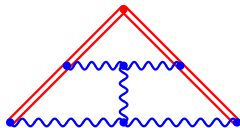
$$\left[ C_A^2 z_{AA} + T_F n_f (C_F z_{Ff} + C_A z_{Af}) + (T_F n_f)^2 z_{ff} \right]$$

$$N_c \rightarrow \infty \quad N_c \left( \frac{z_{Ff}}{2} + z_{Af} \right)$$



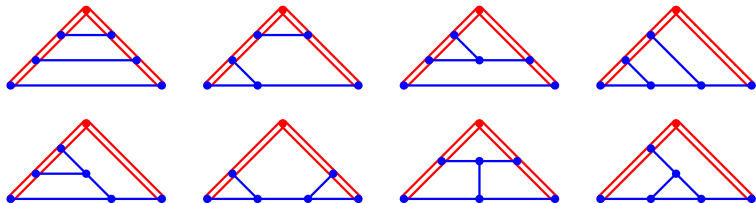
$$C_F C_A^2$$

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



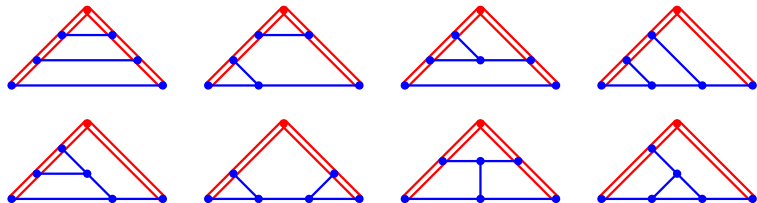
Only topologies surviving at  $N_c \rightarrow \infty$

# 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.

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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

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

# 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  $i$

$$\varphi \rightarrow \infty$$

$$x \rightarrow 0$$

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

Korchemsky (1989); Korchemsky, Marchesini (1993)

$$\varphi \rightarrow \infty$$

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

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$$\begin{aligned} K(\alpha_s) = C_F \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} & \left\{ 1 + \left[ \frac{1}{12} \left( \pi^2 - \frac{67}{3} \right) C_A + \frac{5}{9} T_F n_f \right] \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right. \\ & + \left[ \frac{1}{24} \left( \frac{11}{30} \pi^4 + 11 \zeta_3 - \frac{67}{9} \pi^2 + \frac{245}{4} \right) C_A^2 \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \frac{1}{6} \left( 7 \zeta_3 - \frac{5}{9} \pi^2 + \frac{209}{36} \right) C_A T_F n_f \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \left( \zeta_3 - \frac{55}{48} \right) C_F T_F n_f - \frac{1}{27} (T_F n_f)^2 \right] \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 \Big\} \end{aligned}$$

Moch, Vermaseren, Vogt (2004)

Let's define  $a$

$$K(\alpha_s) = C_F \frac{a}{\pi}$$

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



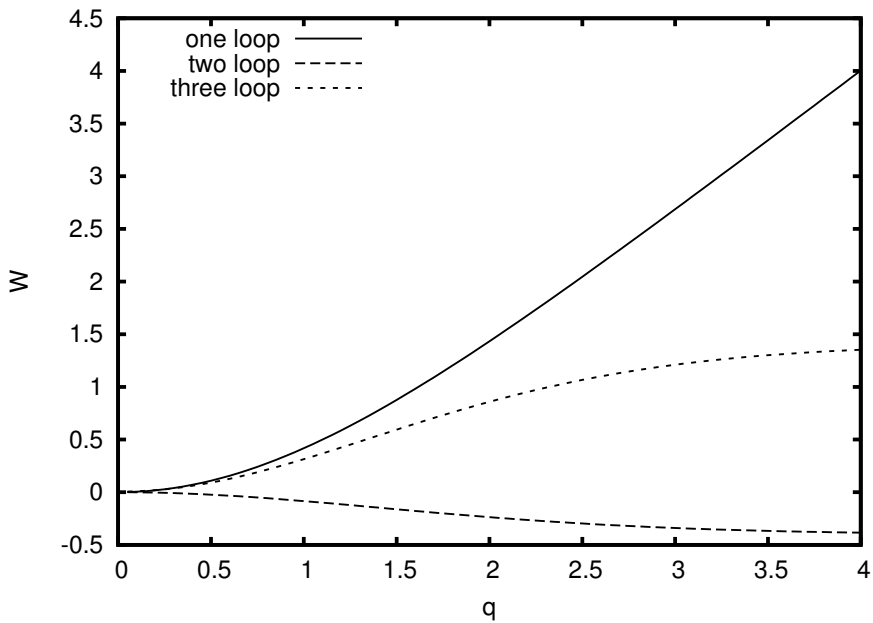
Let's define  $a$

$$K(\alpha_s) = C_F \frac{a}{\pi}$$

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

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

Does not contain  $n_f!$



$$\varphi_E \rightarrow \pi$$

Euclidean  $\varphi_E = \pi - \delta$

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

Kilian, Mannel, Ohl (1993)

# Conformal symmetry

Euclidean space

$$ds^2 = dx_0^2 + d\vec{x}^2$$

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Spherical coordinates

$$x_0 = r \cos \delta \quad \vec{x} = r \vec{n} \sin \delta$$

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$$\delta \ll 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}r &= e^{y_0} & \vec{y} &= \delta \vec{n} \\ ds^2 &= e^{2y_0} (dy_0^2 + d\vec{y}^2)\end{aligned}$$

# Conformal symmetry

Euclidean space

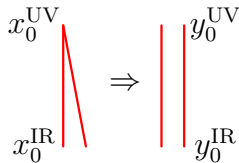
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# Conformal symmetry

$$\log W = \Gamma \log \frac{x_0^{\text{IR}}}{x_0^{\text{UV}}} = V(\vec{y}) (y_0^{\text{IR}} - y_0^{\text{UV}})$$

$$\Gamma = \frac{yV(y)}{\delta}$$



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In QCD conformal symmetry is anomalous  $\Rightarrow \beta$  function

$$\beta_0 = 0 : \quad \delta\Gamma(\alpha_s, \pi - \delta) - rV(r, \alpha_s) = 0$$

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$$\delta\Gamma(\alpha_s, \pi - \delta) - rV(r, \alpha_s(\mu)) = C\beta_0\alpha_s^2$$

Choosing the right  $\mu$  in 1-loop  $\Gamma$

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Choosing the right  $\mu$  in 1-loop  $\Gamma$

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

# Conclusion

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- ▶  $C_F(T_F n_f)^{L-1}$  and  $C_F^2(T_F n_f)^{L-2}$  ( $L \geq 3$ ) in  $\Gamma$  and  $\gamma_h$  are known to all loops

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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  $\sim \beta_0 \alpha_s^3$