Super-Leading Logarithms in $t-\bar{t}$ Production: Derivation

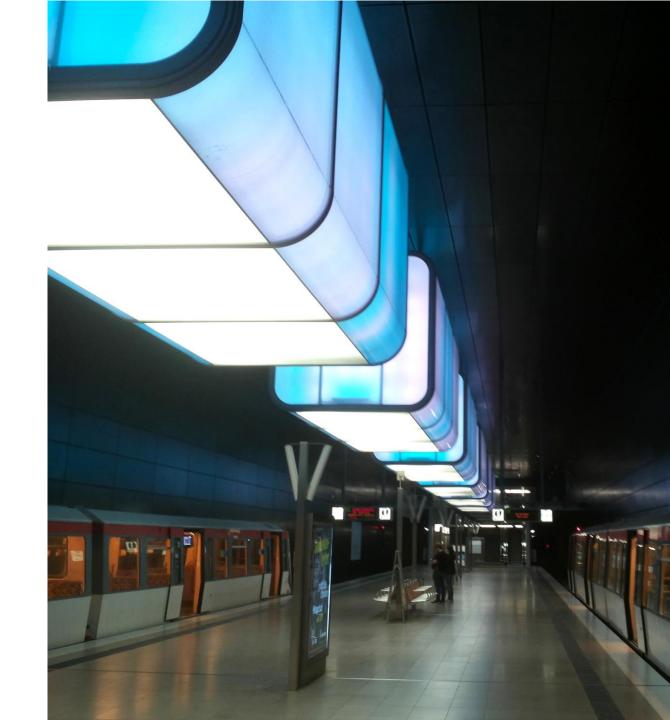
Josua Scholze | DESY Theory Workshop 24 September 2025

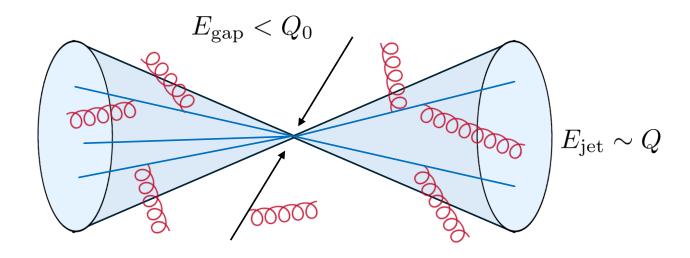






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• Large logarithms in jet processes at hardon colliders (pp → jets):

$$\sigma \sim \sigma_{\rm Born} \times \{1 + \alpha_s L + \alpha_s^2 L^2 + \alpha_s^3 L^3 + \alpha_s^4 L^5 + \alpha_s^5 L^7 + \ldots\} \qquad L = \ln(Q/Q_0) \gg 1$$
 "super-leading logarithms"

[J. R. Forshaw, A. Kyrieleis, M. H. Seymour (2006)]



• SCET factorization theorem: [T. Becher, M. Neubert, D. Shao (2021); + M. Stillger (2023)]

$$\sigma_{2\to M}(Q_0) = \int d\xi_1 \int d\xi_2 \sum_{m=2+M}^{\infty} \langle \mathcal{H}_m(\{\underline{n},\underline{v}\},\{\underline{m}\},s,\xi_1,\xi_2,\mu) \otimes \mathcal{W}_m(\{\underline{n},\underline{v}\},Q_0,\xi_1,\xi_2,\mu) \rangle$$

Hard functions

Low-energy matrix elements

• Massless partons:
$$n_i=p_i/E_i\,,\quad n_i^2=0$$
 • Massive quarks: $v_I=p_I/m_I\,,\quad v_I^2=1$

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- Massless partons: $n_i=p_i/E_i\,,\quad n_i^2=0$ Massive quarks: $v_I=p_I/m_I\,,\quad v_I^2=1$
- Hard functions:

$$\mathcal{H}_{m} = \frac{1}{2\xi_{1}\xi_{2}s} \prod_{i \neq 1,2} \int \frac{dE_{i} E_{i}^{d-3}}{\tilde{c}^{\varepsilon}(2\pi)^{2}} |\mathcal{M}_{m}(\{\underline{p}\}, \{\underline{m}\})\rangle \langle \mathcal{M}_{m}(\{\underline{p}\}, \{\underline{m}\})| \times \text{(phase-space constraints)}$$

$$\uparrow$$
multiplicity
$$\text{Momentum conservation} + \Theta_{\text{hard}}(\{\underline{n}, \underline{v}\})$$

only over massless final states, remaining in \otimes



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• For resummation, set $\mu = \mu_s \sim Q_0$

$$\mathcal{W}_m(\xi_1, \xi_2, \mu_s) = f_1(\xi_1, \mu_s) f_2(\xi_2, \mu_s) \mathbf{1} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)$$

$$\mathcal{H}_m(\mu_s) = \sum_{l \le m} \mathcal{H}_l(\mu_h) \times \mathbf{P} \exp \left[\int_{\mu_s}^{\mu_h} \frac{d\mu}{\mu} \mathbf{\Gamma}^{\mathcal{H}}(\mu) \right]_{lm}$$

Anomalous dimension matrix:

Need to include **massive** final states



Anomalous dimension

• Divergences in the hard functions $\mathcal{H}_m \propto \int d\mathcal{E}_m |\mathcal{M}_m(\{\underline{p}\}, \{\underline{m}\}, \mu)\rangle \langle \mathcal{M}_m(\{\underline{p}\}, \{\underline{m}\}, \mu)|$

• Virtual contributions:
$$\sum_{\substack{\text{contributions} \\ 2}} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{array} \right. + \left[\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{array} \right]$$

• Real contributions: $\sum_{\substack{\text{all} \\ \text{contributions}}}$



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• Real contributions: $\sum_{\substack{\text{all} \\ \text{contributions}}} \left\{ \sum_{\substack{1 \\ 2}} \mathcal{M}^{\dagger} \right\}$



• Anomalous dimension of the QCD amplitude: [T. Becher, M. Neubert (2009)]



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$$\mathbf{\Gamma}^{\mathcal{M}}(\{\underline{p}\}, \{\underline{m}\}, \mu) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{(ij)} \mathbf{T}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{T}_{j} \gamma_{\text{cusp}}(\alpha_{s}) \ln\left(\frac{\mu^{2}}{-s_{ij}}\right) + \sum_{i} \gamma^{i}(\alpha_{s})$$

$$+ \sum_{I,j} \mathbf{T}_{I} \cdot \mathbf{T}_{j} \gamma_{\text{cusp}}(\alpha_{s}) \ln\left(\frac{m_{I}\mu}{-s_{Ij}}\right)$$

$$- \frac{1}{2} \sum_{(IJ)} \mathbf{T}_{I} \cdot \mathbf{T}_{J} \gamma_{\text{cusp}}(\beta_{IJ}, \alpha_{s}) + \sum_{I} \gamma^{I}(\alpha_{s}) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_{s}^{2})$$

 $\left[egin{array}{ll} i,j\colon \mathsf{massless} \ I,J\colon \mathsf{massive} \end{array}
ight]$

Additional terms for massive states



• Anomalous dimension of the QCD amplitude: [T. Becher, M. Neubert (2009)]

$$\Gamma^{\mathcal{M}}(\{\underline{p}\}, \{\underline{m}\}, \mu) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{(ij)} \mathbf{T}_i \cdot \mathbf{T}_j \gamma_{\text{cusp}}(\alpha_s) \ln\left(\frac{\mu^2}{-s_{ij}}\right) + \sum_i \gamma^i(\alpha_s) \qquad \begin{bmatrix} i, j \colon \text{massless} \\ I, J \colon \text{massive} \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\uparrow \gamma_{\text{cusp}}(\beta_{IJ}, \alpha_s) = \gamma_{\text{cusp}}(\alpha_s) \beta_{IJ} \coth(\beta_{IJ}) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$$

$$\beta_{IJ} = \operatorname{arcosh}\left(\frac{-s_{IJ}}{2m_I m_J}\right)$$



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Real part:

$$\ln\left(\frac{\mu^2}{-s_{ij}}\right)$$

$$\ln\left(\frac{m_I\mu}{-s_{Ij}}\right)$$

$$-\beta_{IJ} \coth(\beta_{IJ})$$

$$\ln\left(\frac{\mu^2}{-s_{ij}}\right) = \ln\left(\frac{\mu}{2E_i}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{\mu}{2E_j}\right) - \int [\mathrm{d}\Omega_k] \overline{W}_{ij}^k$$

radiators

$$\ln\left(\frac{m_I\mu}{-s_{Ij}}\right) = \ln\left(\frac{\mu}{2E_j}\right) - \int [d\Omega_k] \overline{W}_{Ij}^k$$
$$-\beta_{IJ} \coth(\beta_{IJ}) = -\int [d\Omega_k] \overline{W}_{IJ}^k$$

$$= -\int [\mathrm{d}\Omega_k] \overline{W}_{IJ}^k$$

$$\overline{W}_{ij}^k = \frac{n_i \cdot n_j}{n_i \cdot n_k n_j \cdot n_k} - \frac{1}{n_i \cdot n_k} \delta(n_i - n_k) - \frac{1}{n_j \cdot n_k} \delta(n_i - n_k)$$

subtract collinear limits $n_i || n_k, n_j || n_k$

Soft dipole radiators
$$\overline{W}_{Ij}^k = \frac{v_I \cdot n_j}{v_I \cdot n_k n_j \cdot n_k} - \frac{1}{n_j \cdot n_k} \delta(n_j - n_k)$$

$$\overline{W}_{IJ}^k = \frac{v_I \cdot v_J}{v_I \cdot n_k v_J \cdot n_k}$$



$$\ln\left(\frac{\mu^2}{-s_{ij}}\right)$$

$$\ln\left(\frac{m_I\mu}{-s_{Ij}}\right)$$

$$-\beta_{IJ} \coth(\beta_{IJ})$$

$$\ln\left(\frac{\mu^2}{-s_{ij}}\right) = \ln\left(\frac{\mu}{2E_i}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{\mu}{2E_j}\right) - \int [\mathrm{d}\Omega_k] \overline{W}_{ij}^k \\ + i\pi \Pi_{ij}$$

$$\ln\left(\frac{m_I\mu}{-s_{Ij}}\right) = \ln\left(\frac{\mu}{2E_j}\right) - \int [\mathrm{d}\Omega_k] \overline{W}_{Ij}^k \\ - \beta_{IJ} \coth(\beta_{IJ}) = -\int [\mathrm{d}\Omega_k] \overline{W}_{IJ}^k \\ = -\int [\mathrm{d}\Omega_k] \overline{W}_{IJ}^k$$

$$+i\pi \frac{(v_I \cdot v_J)}{\sqrt{(v_I \cdot v_J)^2 - 1}}$$

$$= \ln\left(\frac{\mu}{2E_j}\right) - \int [\mathrm{d}\Omega_k] \overline{W}_{Ij}^k$$

$$= -\int [\mathrm{d}\Omega_k] \overline{W}_{IJ}^k$$

$$+i\pi\Pi_{ij}$$

$$+i\pi\Pi_{Ij}$$

$$+i\pi \frac{(v_I \cdot v_J)}{\sqrt{(v_I \cdot v_J)^2 - 1}}$$

$$\Pi_{\alpha\beta} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{partons both in- or outgoing} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



• For the hard functions:

$$\mathcal{H}_m(\{\underline{n},\underline{v}\},\{\underline{m}\},\varepsilon) \supset \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \left\{ -\frac{\gamma_0}{4\varepsilon} \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \left(\boldsymbol{T}_{\alpha,L} \cdot \boldsymbol{T}_{\beta,L} + \boldsymbol{T}_{\alpha,R} \cdot \boldsymbol{T}_{\beta,R} \right) \int \frac{d^2\Omega_k}{4\pi} \overline{W}_{\alpha\beta}^k \boldsymbol{\mathcal{H}}_m(\{\underline{n},\underline{v}\},\{\underline{m}\},\mu) \right. \\ \left. + \frac{\gamma_0}{\varepsilon} i\pi \left[\left(\boldsymbol{T}_{1,L} \cdot \boldsymbol{T}_{2,L} - \boldsymbol{T}_{1,R} \cdot \boldsymbol{T}_{2,R} \right) \right. \\ \left. + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{(IJ)} \left(\boldsymbol{T}_{I,L} \cdot \boldsymbol{T}_{J,L} - \boldsymbol{T}_{I,R} \cdot \boldsymbol{T}_{J,R} \right) v_{IJ} \right] \boldsymbol{\mathcal{H}}_m(\{\underline{n},\underline{v}\},\{\underline{m}\},\mu) \right. \\ \left. - \int \! d\mathcal{E}_m \sum_i \left[\gamma_0 C_i \left(\frac{1}{2\varepsilon^2} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \ln \left(\frac{\mu}{2E_i} \right) \right) - \frac{\gamma_0^i}{\varepsilon} \right] \tilde{\boldsymbol{\mathcal{H}}}_m(\{\underline{p}\},\{\underline{m}\},\mu) \right\} \right. \\ \left. \leftarrow \text{Soft+collinear} \right.$$

• With kinematical factor
$$v_{IJ} \equiv \frac{(v_I \cdot v_J)}{\sqrt{(v_I \cdot v_J)^2 - 1}} - 1$$



Includes massive monopoles

Anomalous dimension

• Divergencies in the hard functions $\mathcal{H}_m \propto \int d\mathcal{E}_m |\mathcal{M}_m(\{\underline{p}\}, \{\underline{m}\}, \mu)\rangle \langle \mathcal{M}_m(\{\underline{p}\}, \{\underline{m}\}, \mu)|$

• Virtual contributions:
$$\sum_{\substack{\text{all} \\ \text{contributions}}} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \end{array} \right. + \left[\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \end{array} \right]$$

• Real contributions: $\sum_{\substack{\text{all} \\ \text{contributions}}} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ 2 \end{array} \right\}$



Anomalous dimension: Real emissions

- In the **soft** limit, the Soft theorem holds
- Separating the soft divergence:

$$\sum_{s_q} \mathcal{H}_{m+1}(\{\underline{p},q\},\{\underline{m}\},\varepsilon) \supset \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \frac{1}{2\varepsilon} \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \theta_{\mathrm{hard}}(n_q) \overline{W}_{\alpha\beta}^q \mathbf{T}_{\alpha,L} \circ \mathbf{T}_{\beta,R} \mathcal{H}_m(\{\underline{p}\},\{\underline{m}\},\mu)$$

Color space of emitted gluon

Monopoles for massive quarks

$$\sum_{\substack{\text{all contributions}}} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \end{array} \right\}$$



Anomalous dimension: Real emissions

- Collinear limits: No additional divergences from massive quarks
- Unchanged compared to massless case:

$$\langle \mathcal{H}_{m+1}(\{\underline{n},\underline{v}\},\{\underline{m}\},\varepsilon) \otimes \mathcal{W}_{m+1}(\{\underline{n},\underline{v}\},\varepsilon) \rangle$$

$$\supset \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \int d\mathcal{E}_m \sum_{i \neq 1,2} \left[C_i \gamma_0 \left(\frac{1}{2\varepsilon^2} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \ln \left(\frac{\mu}{2E_i} \right) \right) - \frac{\gamma_0^i}{\varepsilon} \right]$$

$$\times \langle \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_m(\{\underline{\hat{n}},\underline{\hat{v}}\},\{\underline{\hat{m}}\},\mu) \otimes \mathcal{W}_m(\{\underline{\hat{n}},\underline{\hat{v}}\},\mu) \rangle + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^0)$$

- $\{\hat{n},\hat{v}\}$ and $\{\hat{m}\}$ include parent parton P instead of collinear partons α and β
- Cancellations with virtual corrections



Anomalous dimension

• RG equation:
$$\frac{d}{d\ln\mu}\mathcal{H}_m(\{\underline{n},\underline{v}\},\{\underline{m}\},s,\mu) = -\sum_{l=2+M}^m \mathcal{H}_l(\{\underline{n},\underline{v}\},\{\underline{m}\},s,\mu) * \mathbf{\Gamma}_{lm}^{\mathcal{H}}(\{\underline{n},\underline{v}\},s,\mu)$$

Infinite matrix in

multiplicity space:
$$\mathbf{\Gamma}^{\mathcal{H}}(\{\underline{n},\underline{v}\},s,\mu) = \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{V}_{2+M} & \mathbf{R}_{2+M} & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & \mathbf{V}_{2+M+1} & \mathbf{R}_{2+M+1} & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & \mathbf{V}_{2+M+2} & \mathbf{R}_{2+M+2} & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix} + \mathcal{O}\left(\alpha_s^2\right)$$

Decomposition:

$$\mathbf{\Gamma}^{\mathcal{H}}(\xi_1, \xi_2) = \delta(1 - \xi_1)\delta(1 - \xi_2)\mathbf{\Gamma}^S + \delta(1 - \xi_2)\mathbf{\Gamma}_1^C(\xi_1) + \delta(1 - \xi_1)\mathbf{\Gamma}_2^C(\xi_2)$$

Soft part: derived Purely collinear parts: subleading



Soft anomalous dimension including massive final states

$$\boldsymbol{\Gamma}^{S} = \gamma_{\text{cusp}}\left(\alpha_{s}\right)\left(\boldsymbol{\Gamma}^{c}\ln\left(\frac{\mu^{2}}{\mu_{h}^{2}}\right) + \boldsymbol{V}^{G} + \boldsymbol{V}^{\text{Coul}}\right) + \frac{\alpha_{s}}{4\pi}\overline{\boldsymbol{\Gamma}} + \mathcal{O}\left(\alpha_{s}^{2}\right)$$
Soft+collinear part Glauber and **Coulomb** phase Purely soft part

$$\mathbf{\Gamma}^c = \sum_{i=1,2} \left[C_i \mathbf{1} - \delta(n_i - n_k) \mathbf{T}_{i,L} \circ \mathbf{T}_{i,R} \right]$$

$$\boldsymbol{V}^{G} = -2\pi i \left(\boldsymbol{T}_{1,L} \cdot \boldsymbol{T}_{2,L} - \boldsymbol{T}_{1,R} \cdot \boldsymbol{T}_{2,R} \right)$$

$$\boldsymbol{V}^{\text{Coul}} = -\frac{1}{2}\pi i \sum_{(IJ)} \left(\boldsymbol{T}_{I,L} \cdot \boldsymbol{T}_{J,L} - \boldsymbol{T}_{I,R} \cdot \boldsymbol{T}_{J,R} \right) \left[\frac{(v_I \cdot v_J)}{\sqrt{(v_I \cdot v_J)^2 - 1}} - 1 \right]$$

$$\overline{\boldsymbol{\Gamma}} = \frac{1}{2} \gamma_0 \sum_{\alpha,\beta} (\boldsymbol{T}_{\alpha,L} \cdot \boldsymbol{T}_{\beta,L} + \boldsymbol{T}_{\alpha,R} \cdot \boldsymbol{T}_{\beta,R}) \int \frac{d^2 \Omega_k}{4\pi} \overline{W}_{\alpha\beta}^k - 4 \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \vartheta_{\text{hard}}(n_k) \overline{W}_{\alpha\beta}^k \boldsymbol{T}_{\alpha,L} \circ \boldsymbol{T}_{\beta,R}$$



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Vanishes for m o 0

Close to threshold $ightarrow \infty$: Sommerfeld enhancement

$$\boldsymbol{V}^{\text{Coul}} = -\frac{1}{2}\pi i \sum_{(IJ)} \left(\boldsymbol{T}_{I,L} \cdot \boldsymbol{T}_{J,L} - \boldsymbol{T}_{I,R} \cdot \boldsymbol{T}_{J,R} \right) \left[\frac{(v_I \cdot v_J)}{\sqrt{(v_I \cdot v_J)^2 - 1}} - 1 \right]$$

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Conclusion

- Anomalous dimension for massive final states
- Anomalous dimension Divergences in the hard function
 - Virtual and real contributions
 - Soft and collinear limits

•
$$\Gamma^S = \gamma_{\text{cusp}}(\alpha_s) \left(\Gamma^c \ln \left(\frac{\mu^2}{\mu_h^2} \right) + V^G + V^{\text{Coul}} \right) + \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \overline{\Gamma} + \mathcal{O}\left(\alpha_s^2\right)$$

• New Coulomb phase for massive quarks

• Contains now massive monopoles \overline{W}_{II}^k



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Resummation of Coulomb SLLs + Numerical results:

Stay tuned for the next talk by Romy Grünhofer

