

Infrared Limits for the N^3 LO Era

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ABSTRACT: We collect all necessary soft and collinear limits for the construction of a next-to-next-to-next-to-leading order subtraction scheme. We recompute and test all known infrared limits. Additionally, we identify any missing ingredients and evaluate them. New results include squared currents for the double-soft one loop asymptotic and the evanescent parts of the two loop soft current.

KEYWORDS: QCD, Scattering Amplitudes, Higher-Order Perturbative Calculations

Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Definitions and Conventions	1
3	Soft Gluon Limits	1
3.1	Squared Currents	2
3.1.1	One-Loop Double-Soft Limit	2
4	Soft Quark Limits	3
4.1	Squared Currents	3

1 Introduction

2 Definitions and Conventions

3 Soft Gluon Limits

$$\langle a_1 \lambda_1, \dots, a_n \lambda_n | M(q_1, \dots, q_n, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) \rangle \sim \epsilon_{\lambda_1}^{\alpha_1 *} (q_1) \dots \epsilon_{\lambda_n}^{\alpha_n *} (q_n) \mathbf{J}_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^{a_1 \dots a_n} (q_1, \dots, q_n, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) | M(\{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) \rangle, \quad (3.1)$$

$$\mathbf{J} = (g_s^B)^n \left(\mathbf{J}^{(0)} + \frac{\mu^{-2\epsilon} \alpha_s^B}{(4\pi)^{1-\epsilon}} \mathbf{J}^{(1)} + \dots \right), \quad \alpha_s^B \equiv \frac{(g_s^B)^2}{4\pi}, \quad (3.2)$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{\alpha}^{(0)a} (q, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) = \sum_i \mathbf{T}_i^a j_{\alpha} (q; p_i), \quad j_{\alpha} (q; p_i) = -\frac{p_{i\alpha}}{p_i \cdot q}. \quad (3.3)$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{\alpha}^{(1)a} (q, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) = \sum_{i \neq j} i f^{abc} \mathbf{T}_i^b \mathbf{T}_j^c \gamma_{\alpha}^{(1)} (q; p_i, p_j), \quad (3.4)$$

$$\gamma_{\alpha}^{(1)} (q; p_i, p_j) = r_{\Gamma} \frac{\Gamma(1-\epsilon) \Gamma(1+\epsilon)}{\epsilon^2} \left(\frac{p_{i\alpha}}{p_i \cdot q} - \frac{p_{j\alpha}}{p_j \cdot q} \right) \left(\frac{\mu^2 s_{ij}}{s_{qi} s_{qj}} \right)^{\epsilon} e^{i\pi \epsilon \sigma_{ij}} \quad (3.5)$$

$$r_{\Gamma} = \frac{\Gamma^2(1-\epsilon) \Gamma(1+\epsilon)}{\Gamma(1-2\epsilon)} \quad (3.6)$$

$$\sigma_{ij} = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } i \text{ and } j \text{ incoming} \\ +1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (3.7)$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}^{(0)a_1 a_2} (q_1, q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \mathbf{J}_{\alpha_1}^{(0)a_1} (q_1, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m), \mathbf{J}_{\alpha_2}^{(0)a_2} (q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) \right\} + \Gamma_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}^{(0)a_1 a_2} (q_1, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) \quad (3.8)$$

$$\Gamma_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}^{(0)a_1 a_2} (q_1, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) = \sum_i i f^{a_1 a_2 c} \mathbf{T}_i^c \gamma_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}^{(0)} (q_1, q_2; p_i) \quad (3.9)$$

$$\gamma_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}^{(0)} (q_1, q_2; p_i) = \frac{p_{i\alpha_1} q_{1\alpha_2} - p_{i\alpha_2} q_{2\alpha_1}}{(q_1 \cdot q_2)(p_i \cdot (q_1 + q_2))} - \frac{p_i \cdot (q_1 - q_2)}{2p_i \cdot (q_1 + q_2)} \left(\frac{p_{i\alpha_1} p_{i\alpha_2}}{(p_i \cdot q_1)(p_i \cdot q_2)} + \frac{g_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}}{q_1 \cdot q_2} \right) \quad (3.10)$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}^{(1)a_1a_2}(q_1, q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) \quad (3.11)$$

$$= \mathbf{J}_{\alpha_1}^{(1)a_1}(q_1, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) \mathbf{J}_{\alpha_2}^{(0)a_2}(q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) + \mathbf{J}_{\alpha_2}^{(1)a_2}(q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) \mathbf{J}_{\alpha_1}^{(0)a_1}(q_1, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) \quad (3.12)$$

$$+ \Gamma_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}^{(1)a_1a_2}(q_1, q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) \quad (3.13)$$

$$\Gamma_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}^{(1)a_1a_2}(q_1, q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) = \frac{1}{q_1 \cdot q_1} f^{a_1bd} f^{a_2cd} \sum_{i \neq j} \mathbf{T}_i^b \mathbf{T}_j^c \gamma_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) \quad (3.14)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) &\equiv \tilde{J}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) [\tilde{g}_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}] + \hat{J}_{++}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) [\hat{g}_{\perp\alpha_1\alpha_2}] \\ &+ J_{++}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) \left[\frac{q_1 \cdot q_2}{(p_i \cdot q_1)(p_j \cdot q_2)} (p_{i\perp\alpha_1} p_{j\perp\alpha_2} - p_{j\perp\alpha_1} p_{i\perp\alpha_2}) \right] \\ &+ J_{+-}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) \left[\hat{g}_{\perp\alpha_1\alpha_2} - \frac{2 p_{i\perp\alpha_1} p_{i\perp\alpha_2}}{p_{i\perp}^2} \right] + J_{+-}(q_2, q_1, p_j, p_i) \left[\hat{g}_{\perp\alpha_1\alpha_2} - \frac{2 p_{j\perp\alpha_1} p_{j\perp\alpha_2}}{p_{j\perp}^2} \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (3.15)$$

3.1 Squared Currents

$$|\mathbf{J}^{(0)}(q, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m)|^2 = - \sum_{i,j} j(q, p_i) \cdot j(q, p_j) \mathbf{T}_i^a \mathbf{T}_j^a \quad (3.16)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathbf{J}^{(0)\dagger}(q, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) \cdot \mathbf{J}^{(1)}(q, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) + \text{h.c.} \\ &= \sum_{i \neq j} \mathbf{T}_i \cdot \mathbf{T}_j \, 2 \text{Re}(j(q, p_i) \cdot \gamma^{(1)}(q, p_i, p_j)) + \sum_{(i,j,k)} f^{abc} \mathbf{T}_i^a \mathbf{T}_j^b \mathbf{T}_k^c \, 2 \text{Im}(j(q, p_i) \cdot \gamma^{(1)}(q, p_j, p_k)) \end{aligned} \quad (3.17)$$

$$|\mathbf{J}^{(0)}(q_1, q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m)|^2 = \left(\mathbf{J}^{(0)}(q_1, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) \mathbf{J}^{(0)}(q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) \right)_{sym} + W^{(0)}(q_1, q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) \quad (3.18)$$

$$W^{(0)}(q_1, q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) = -C_A \sum_{i,j} \mathbf{T}_i \cdot \mathbf{T}_j S^{(0)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) \quad (3.19)$$

$$\begin{aligned} S^{(0)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) &= -\gamma_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}^{(0)}(q_1, q_2, p_i) \gamma^{(0)\alpha_1\alpha_2}(q_1, q_2, p_j) - \gamma_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}^{(0)}(q_1, q_2, p_i) j^{\alpha_1}(q_1, p_i) j^{\alpha_2}(q_2, p_j) \\ &+ \gamma_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}^{(0)}(q_1, q_2, p_i) j^{\alpha_1}(q_1, p_i) j^{\alpha_2}(q_2, p_j) - \frac{3}{4} (j(q_1, p_i) \cdot j(q_1, p_j)) (j(q_2, p_i) \cdot j(q_2, p_j)) \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} j(q_1, p_i)^2 (j(q_2, p_i) \cdot j(q_2, p_j)) + \frac{1}{2} j(q_2, p_j)^2 (j(q_1, p_i) \cdot j(q_1, p_j)) \end{aligned} \quad (3.20)$$

3.1.1 One-Loop Double-Soft Limit

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathbf{J}^{(0)\dagger}(q_1, q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) \cdot \mathbf{J}^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) + \text{h.c.} \\ &= \left\{ \left[|\mathbf{J}^{(0)}(q_1, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m)|^2 \left(\mathbf{J}^{(0)\dagger}(q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) \cdot \mathbf{J}^{(1)}(q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) + \text{h.c.} \right) \right]_{sym} + (q_1 \longleftrightarrow q_2) \right\} \\ &+ \sum_{i,j,k,l} \left(f^{ade} f^{bce} \mathbf{T}_i^a \{ \mathbf{T}_j^b, \mathbf{T}_k^c \} \mathbf{T}_l^d + \text{h.c.} \right) S^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j, p_k, p_l) \\ &+ \sum_{(i,j,k)} f^{abc} \mathbf{T}_i^a \mathbf{T}_j^b \mathbf{T}_k^c S^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j, p_k) + \sum_{(i,j)} \mathbf{T}_i \cdot \mathbf{T}_j S^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) \end{aligned} \quad (3.21)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &S^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j, p_k, p_l) \\ &= 2 \text{Re} \left\{ -\frac{1}{4} \left(\gamma^{(1)}(q_1, p_k, p_l) \cdot j(q_1, p_i) \right) (j(q_2, p_i) \cdot j(q_2, p_j)) - \frac{1}{4} \gamma_{\alpha}^{(1)}(q_1, p_j, p_k) \gamma^{(0)\alpha\beta}(q_1, q_2, p_i) j_{\beta}(q_2, p_l) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{8} \left(\gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) - \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_i) \right) j^{\alpha}(q_1, p_l) j^{\beta}(q_2, p_k) + (q_1 \longleftrightarrow q_2) \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (3.22)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& S^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j, p_k) \\
&= 2C_A \text{Im} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \gamma_\alpha^{(1)}(q_1, p_j, p_k) \gamma^{(0)\alpha\beta}(q_1, q_2, p_i) j_\beta(q_2, p_i) - \frac{1}{2} \gamma_\alpha^{(1)}(q_1, p_j, p_k) \gamma^{(0)\alpha\beta}(q_1, q_2, p_i) j_\beta(q_2, p_j) \right. \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{2} \gamma_\alpha^{(1)}(q_1, p_j, p_k) \gamma^{(0)\alpha\beta}(q_1, q_2, p_j) j_\beta(q_2, p_i) + \frac{1}{4} \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)}(q_1, q_2, p_i) \gamma^{(1)\alpha\beta}(q_1, q_2, p_j, p_k) \\
&\quad - \frac{3}{4} \left(\gamma^{(1)}(q_1, p_j, p_k) \cdot j(q_1, p_i) \right) (j(q_2, p_i) \cdot j(q_2, p_j)) - \frac{1}{2} \left(\gamma^{(1)}(q_1, p_j, p_k) \cdot j(q_1, p_i) \right) (j(q_2, p_j) \cdot j(q_2, p_k)) \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{4} \left(\gamma^{(1)}(q_1, p_j, p_k) \cdot j(q_1, p_j) \right) (j(q_2, p_i) \cdot j(q_2, p_j)) + \frac{1}{2} \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) j^\alpha(q_1, p_i) j^\beta(q_2, p_k) \\
&\quad \left. - \frac{1}{4} \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) j^\alpha(q_1, p_j) j^\beta(q_2, p_k) + (q_1 \longleftrightarrow q_2) \right\}
\end{aligned} \tag{3.23}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& S^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) \\
&= 2C_A^2 \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{1}{8} \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) j^\alpha(q_1, p_i) j^\beta(q_2, p_i) - \frac{1}{8} \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) j^\alpha(q_1, p_i) j^\beta(q_2, p_j) \right. \\
&\quad - \left(\gamma^{(1)}(q_1, p_i, p_j) \cdot j(q_1, p_i) \right) (j(q_2, p_i) \cdot j(q_2, p_j)) + \frac{1}{4} \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) \gamma^{(0)\alpha\beta}(q_1, q_2, p_i) \\
&\quad \left. + (q_1 \longleftrightarrow q_2) \right\}
\end{aligned} \tag{3.24}$$

4 Soft Quark Limits

$$\mathbf{J}_{a_1 a_2}^{(0)}(q_1, q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) = - \sum_i T_{a_1 a_2}^c \mathbf{T}_i^c \frac{\bar{u}(q_1, \lambda_1) \not{p}_i v(q_2, \lambda_2)}{2(q_1 \cdot q_2)(p_i \cdot (q_1 + q_2))}. \tag{4.1}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{J}_{a_1 a_2}^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) &= \frac{1}{q_1 \cdot q_2} \sum_{i \neq j} (T^b T^c)_{a_1 a_2} \mathbf{T}_i^b \mathbf{T}_j^c \\
&\times \left[\bar{u}(q_1, \lambda_1) \left(\frac{\not{p}_i}{p_i \cdot (q_1 + q_2)} J_{q\bar{q}}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) - \frac{\not{p}_j}{p_j \cdot (q_1 + q_2)} J_{q\bar{q}}(q_2, q_1, p_j, p_i) \right) v(q_2, \lambda_2) \right]
\end{aligned} \tag{4.2}$$

4.1 Squared Currents

$$|\mathbf{J}^{(0)}(q_1, q_2)|^2 = T_F \sum_{i,j} \mathbf{T}_i \cdot \mathbf{T}_j \mathcal{I}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) \tag{4.3}$$

$$\mathcal{I}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) = \frac{p_i \cdot q_1 p_j \cdot q_2 + p_i \cdot q_2 p_j \cdot q_1 - p_i \cdot p_j q_1 \cdot q_2}{(q_1 \cdot q_2)^2 p_i \cdot (q_1 + q_2) p_j \cdot (q_1 + q_2)} \tag{4.4}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbf{J}^{(0)\dagger}(q_1, q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) \mathbf{J}^{(1)}(q_1, q_2, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^m) + \text{h.c.} \\
&= -2T_F \sum_{(i,j,k)} d^{abc} \mathbf{T}_i^a \mathbf{T}_j^b \mathbf{T}_k^c \mathcal{I}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) \text{Re}\{J_{q\bar{q}}(q_1, q_2, p_j, p_k) - J_{q\bar{q}}(q_2, q_1, p_j, p_k)\} \\
&\quad - 2T_F \sum_{(i,j,k)} f^{abc} \mathbf{T}_i^a \mathbf{T}_j^b \mathbf{T}_k^c \mathcal{I}(q_1, q_2, p_i, p_j) \text{Im}\{J_{q\bar{q}}(q_1, q_2, p_j, p_k) + J_{q\bar{q}}(q_2, q_1, p_j, p_k)\}
\end{aligned} \tag{4.5}$$