

# Heavy-quark form factors

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in collaboration with

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Calculation
- 3 Results
- 4 Full kinematic range

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# Introduction

Considering form factors at three-loop order for the process

$$X \rightarrow Q + \bar{Q}$$

coupling through one of the vertices

$$\{1, \gamma_5, \gamma^\mu, \gamma^\mu \gamma_5\}$$

here:

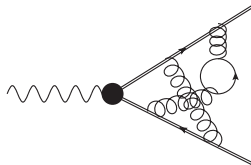
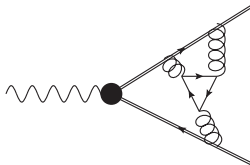
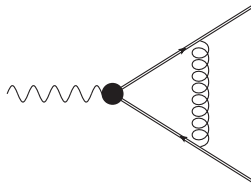
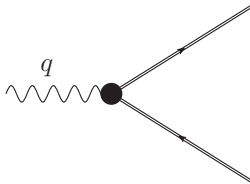
- only **non-singlet** contributions, i.e. the heavy-quark pair couples directly to the external current.
- at least **one heavy-quark loop**

# Motivation

- heavy quark production
  - continuum production  $e^+ e^- \rightarrow t\bar{t}$
- particle decays
  - $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$
  - $Z \rightarrow b\bar{b}$
  - $A \rightarrow t\bar{t}$
- technology development

# Example: Vector case

$$\bar{\Psi}\Gamma_V^\mu\Psi = -i\bar{\Psi}\left(\gamma^\mu F_{V,1} + \frac{i}{2m}\sigma^{\mu\nu}q_\nu F_{V,2}\right)\Psi$$



# History / Previous works

- two loop

[Bernreuther,Bonciani,Gehrmann,Heinesch,Leineweber,Mastrolia,Remiddi '05]

[Gluza,Mitov,Moch,Riemann '09]

[Ablinger,Behring,Blümlein,Falcioni,De Freitas,PM,Rana,Schneider '18]

- three loop

- light-fermionic contributions (HPLs)

[Lee,Smirnov,Smirnov,Steinhauser'18]

[Ablinger,Blümlein,PM,Rana,Schneider'18]

- color-planar contributions (HPLs + cyclotomic HPLs)

[Henn,Smirnov,Smirnov,Steinhauser '17]

[Ablinger,Blümlein,PM,Rana,Schneider'18]

- heavy-fermionic contributions

[Blümlein,PM,Rana,Schneider'19]

- full result including singlet/anomaly contributions [talk by K. Schönwald]

[Fael,Lange,Schönwald,Steinhauser '22/'23]

- general infrared and high-energy structure

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# Calculation

For the calculation of the form factors use the well-established multi-loop toolbox

- ✓ QGRAF for the generation of the diagrams
- ✓ use **projectors** to obtain scalar integrals
- ✓ FORM for the algebra
- ✓ use **integration-by-parts** identities [Chetyrkin,Tkachov]  
to reduce to an integral basis using Crusher [Seidel,PM]  
**14 families, 104 master integral**

??? calculate the required master integrals

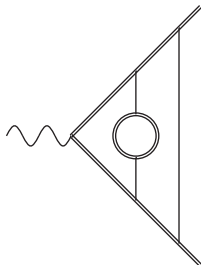
- ✓ put everything together and renormalize
- ✓ final result still IR divergent – can be absorbed in cusp anom. dim.

# Calculation / Strategy

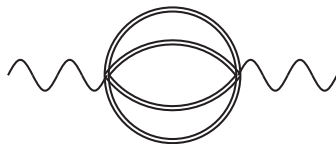
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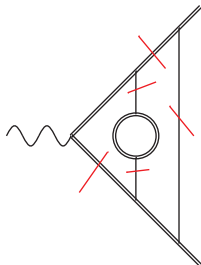
Reduction  
→



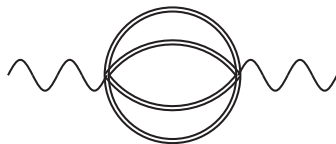
[see talk by S.Weinzierl]

# Calculation / Strategy

Calculation of master integrals problematic since the heavy-fermionic and non-planar contributions contain structures beyond harmonic polylogarithms



Reduction  
→



[see talk by S.Weinzierl]

# Calculation / Strategy

- Strategy: Sum simpler than the individual parts!
- turn everything into recurrences by considering the expansion around  $q^2 = 0$
- try to derive a recurrence for the whole form factor and find an analytic solution for that

[Blümlein, Schneider '17]

# Method

- choose a more appropriate variable

$$\frac{q^2}{m^2} = -\frac{(1-x)^2}{x}$$

$$q^2 \rightarrow \pm\infty \equiv x \rightarrow 0_{\mp}$$

$$q^2 \rightarrow 0 \equiv x \rightarrow 1$$

- around  $q^2 = 0$ , i.e.  $x = 1$  the non-singlet form factors can be expanded in a simple power series

$$\mathcal{F} = \sum_{n=0} C_n \left( \frac{q^2}{m^2} \right)^n \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{F} = \sum_{n=0} D_n (1-x)^n = \sum_{n=0} D_n y^n$$

# Method

- start from the coupled system of diff. eqn. for the master integrals
- insert the power series ansatz

$$\mathcal{M}_i = \sum_{j=0} M_j^{(i)} y^j$$

and obtain recurrences for the coefficients  $M_j^{(i)}$

- calculate 2,000 - 8,000 terms in the expansion for the **master integrals**
- use these to obtain 2,000 - 8,000 terms in the expansions of the **full form factors**
- as initial condition we need the values at  $x = 1$ ,  
i.e. **on-shell propagators**

[MeNikov,v.Ritbergen]



# Method

- the final expansion for the form factors has the form

$$\mathcal{F} = 1(\dots) + \zeta_2(\dots) + \zeta_3(\dots) + \ln(2)(\dots) + \text{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)(\dots) + \dots$$

where  $(\dots)$  denote power series in  $y$  with **rational** coefficients

- this representation is unique
- can we do better?
  - Guess a recurrence [Kauers, Jaroschek, Johansson '15]
  - and try to solve it using `Sigma` [Schneider '07]
- if recurrence can be solved, i.e. first-order factorizing, one obtains (generalized) harmonic sums, which can be resummed using `HarmonicSums` [Ablinger '13]

# Example

- start with the sequence for  $C_i$  in  $\sum C_i y^i$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & -2, 0, -\frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6}, -\frac{3}{20}, -\frac{2}{15}, -\frac{5}{42}, -\frac{3}{28}, -\frac{7}{72}, -\frac{4}{45}, -\frac{9}{110}, -\frac{5}{66}, -\frac{11}{156}, \\
 & -\frac{6}{91}, -\frac{13}{210}, -\frac{7}{120}, -\frac{15}{272}, -\frac{8}{153}, -\frac{17}{342}, -\frac{9}{190}, -\frac{19}{420}, \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

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- guess recurrence

$$n^2 C_n - (n-1)(n+2) C_{n+1} = 0$$

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- solve the recurrence

$$C_n = -\frac{n-1}{n(n+1)}$$

# Example

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- guess recurrence

$$n^2 C_n - (n-1)(n+2) C_{n+1} = 0$$

- solve the recurrence

$$C_n = -\frac{n-1}{n(n+1)}$$

- sum it

$$-2 - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n-1}{n(n+1)} y^n = -\frac{(y-2)\log(1-y)}{y} \stackrel{y \rightarrow 1-x}{=} \frac{(1+x)\log(x)}{1-x}$$

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# Results

We could find analytic results for all terms but for  $n_h$   $n_h\zeta_2$   $n_h\zeta_3$

		degree	order	remaining order
$F_V$	$g_1 n_h$	1288	54	15
	$g_1 n_h \zeta_3$	409	29	10
	$g_1 n_h \zeta_2$	295	24	6
	$g_2 n_h$	1324	55	15
	$g_2 n_h \zeta_3$	430	30	10
	$g_2 n_h \zeta_2$	273	23	6
$F_S$	$n_h$	1114	50	15
	$n_h \zeta_3$	350	27	10
	$n_h \zeta_2$	230	22	6

For leading color we could also solve the term  $\propto N_c^2 n_h \zeta_2$

# Results – Scalar form factor

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_S = & -\frac{1}{\epsilon^3} \frac{1}{2(1+x)^2} \left\{ n_h^2 \left[ -\frac{64}{27}(1+x)^2 + \frac{64(1+x)(1+x^2)}{27(1-x)} H_0 \right] \right. \\
 & + n_h \left[ \frac{4}{27}(997 + 1418x + 997x^2) - \frac{32 H_0 P_8^{(5)}}{27(1-x^2)} \right. \\
 & \left. \left. - n_l \left[ \frac{32}{9}(1+x)^2 - \frac{64(1+x)(1+x^2)}{27(1-x)} H_0 \right] + \frac{256(1+x^2)^2}{27(1-x)^2} H_0^2 \right] \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$



# Results – Scalar form factor cont'd

$$\begin{aligned}
& -\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} \frac{1}{2(1+x)^2} \left\{ n_h^2 \left[ -\frac{832}{81} (1+x)^2 - \frac{256x(1+x)H_0}{27(1-x)} - \frac{128(1+x)(1+x^2)}{27(1-x)} H_{-1}H_0 \right. \right. \\
& + \frac{32(1+x)(1+x^2)}{27(1-x)} H_0^2 + \frac{128(1+x)(1+x^2)}{27(1-x)} H_{0,-1} - \left. \frac{64(1+x)(1+x^2)}{27(1-x)} \zeta_2 \right] \\
& + n_h \left[ \frac{16}{27} (897 + 1786x + 897x^2) + n_l \left[ -\frac{64}{3} (1+x)^2 + \frac{64(1+x)(5-24x+5x^2)}{81(1-x)} H_0 \right. \right. \\
& - \frac{256(1+x)(1+x^2)}{27(1-x)} H_{-1}H_0 + \frac{64(1+x)(1+x^2)}{27(1-x)} H_0^2 + \frac{256(1+x)(1+x^2)}{27(1-x)} H_{0,-1} \\
& - \left. \frac{128(1+x)(1+x^2)}{27(1-x)} \zeta_2 \right] + \left( \frac{128H_{-1}P_7^{(5)}}{27(1-x^2)} - \frac{16P_{13}^{(5)}}{27(1-x^2)} \right) H_0 + \left( \frac{64P_{26}^{(5)}}{27(1-x)^2(1+x)} \right. \\
& - \left. \frac{1024(1+x^2)^2}{27(1-x)^2} H_{-1} \right) H_0^2 - \frac{128(-2+x^2)(1+x^2)}{27(1-x)^2} H_0^3 - \frac{128(1+x)(1+x^2)}{3(1-x)} H_0H_1 \\
& + \left( \frac{128(1+x)(1+x^2)}{3(1-x)} - \frac{128(1+x^2)^2}{3(1-x)^2} H_0 \right) H_{0,1} - \left( \frac{128P_7^{(5)}}{27(1-x^2)} - \frac{2176(1+x^2)^2}{27(1-x)^2} H_0 \right) \\
& \times H_{0,-1} + \frac{256(1+x^2)^2}{3(1-x)^2} H_{0,0,1} - \frac{256(1+x^2)^2}{3(1-x)^2} H_{0,0,-1} + \left( \frac{64P_5^{(5)}}{27(1-x^2)} \right. \\
& \left. - \frac{64(1+x^2)(-1+35x^2)}{27(1-x)^2} H_0 \right) \zeta_2 - \frac{64(1+x^2)^2}{3(1-x)^2} \zeta_3 \left. \right\}
\end{aligned}$$

# Results – Scalar form factor – unsolved recurrences

$$F_S = \dots + n_h F_{S,1}^{(0)}(x) + n_h \zeta_2 F_{S,2}^{(0)}(x) + n_h \zeta_3 F_{S,3}^{(0)}(x)$$

$$F_{S,1}^{(0)}(x) = -\frac{874750}{243} - \frac{731018}{729}y^2 - \frac{731018}{729}y^3 - \frac{316061833}{437400}y^4 - \frac{96756433}{218700}y^5 + \dots + O(y^{2001})$$

$$F_{S,2}^{(0)}(x) = \frac{343864}{81} + \frac{2421832}{3645}y^2 + \frac{2421832}{3645}y^3 + \frac{16041283}{36450}y^4 + \frac{3932123}{18225}y^5 + \dots + O(y^{2001})$$

$$F_{S,3}^{(0)}(x) = \frac{62968}{27} - \frac{22516}{81}y^2 - \frac{22516}{81}y^3 - \frac{21262303}{97200}y^4 - \frac{7752703}{48600}y^5 + \dots + O(y^{2001}).$$

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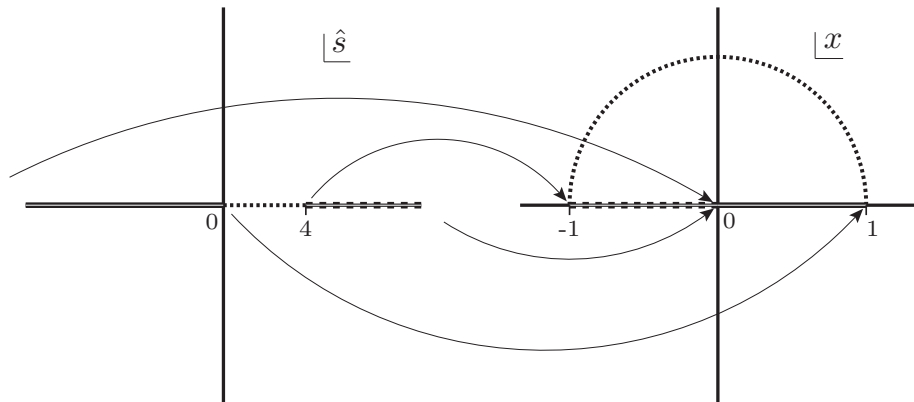
What to do with them?

- Expansions about  $x = 0$
- Expansions about  $x = -1 \leftrightarrow q^2 = 4m^2$

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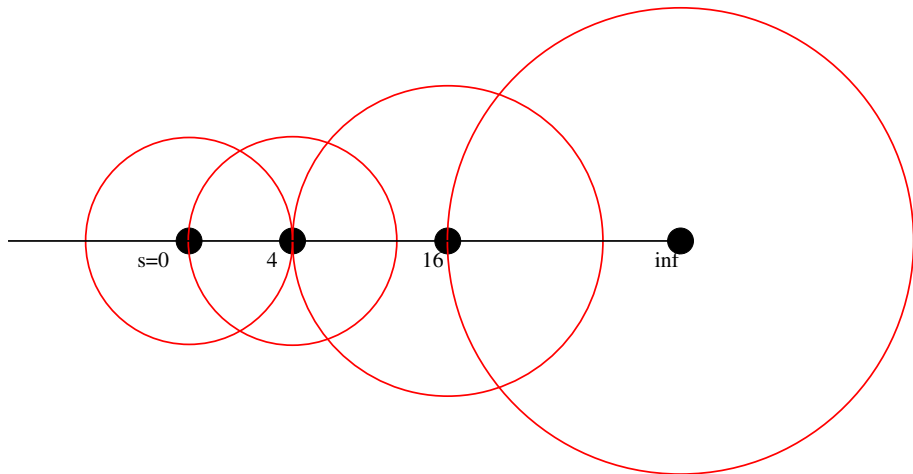
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# Change of variable

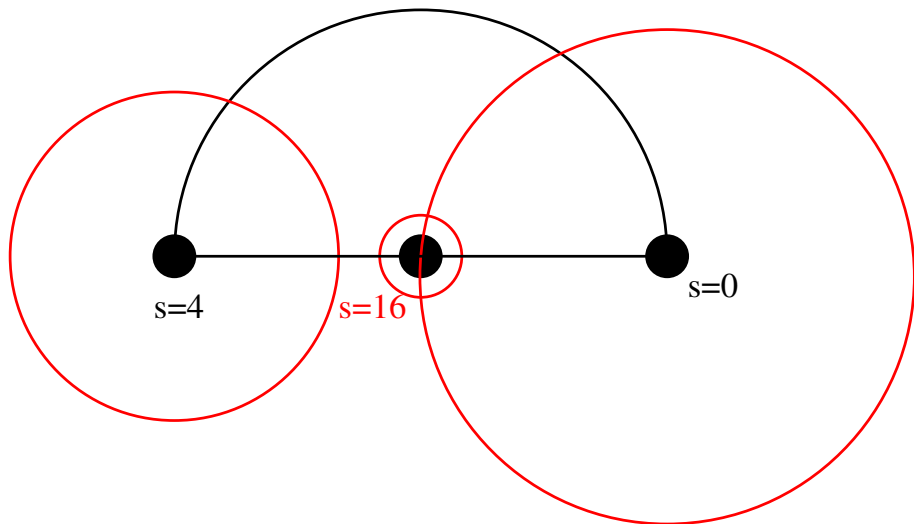


$$\hat{s} = \frac{q^2}{m^2} = -\frac{(1-x)^2}{x}$$

# Radii of convergence: $\hat{s}$ space



# Radii of convergence: $x$ space



# Expansions about other points

Take two points  $x_1$  and  $x_2$

Expansions about  $x_1$  known

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^N C_n (x - x_1)^n$$



# Expansions about other points

Take two points  $x_1$  and  $x_2$

Expansions about  $x_1$  known

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^N C_n (x - x_1)^n$$

need to determine expansion coefficients at other point  $x_2$

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^N D_n (x - x_2)^n$$

$$D_n = ?$$

# Expansions about other points

- both series should have some overlap in their range of convergence
- equate the two series at number of points  $y_i$

$$f(y_i) = \sum_{n=0}^N C_n (y_i - x_1)^n = \sum_{n=0}^M D_n (x - x_2)^n$$

- fit  $D_n$

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- fit  $D_n$   
 $\mathcal{O}(1000)C_n \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(1000)D_n$  ?

# Example cont'd

Recurrence fixed to the expansion point  
⇒ but can also guess a differential equation

$$f''(x) = \left( -\frac{1}{x-1} - \frac{2}{x} + \frac{2}{x-2} \right) f'(x) + \left( -\frac{2}{x-1} + \frac{2}{x-2} - \frac{2}{(x-2)^2} \right) f(x)$$

Solving this diff. eqn. gives the same result as before.

## Example cont'd

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Here, we can perform variable transformation to any kinematic point and insert the appropriate expansions and obtain the corresponding recurrences.

# Example cont'd

Recurrence fixed to the expansion point  
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Solving this diff. eqn. gives the same result as before.

Here, we can perform variable transformation to any kinematic point and insert the appropriate expansions and obtain the corresponding recurrences.

Need only (degree of diff eqn) initial conditions for the recurrences

# Diff. eqs. for the non-solvable rec

Orders of the diff eqns obtained

$i$	$F_{v,1,i}^{(0)}$	$F_{v,2,i}^{(0)}$	$F_{a,1,i}^{(0)}$	$F_{a,2,i}^{(0)}$	$F_{s,i}^{(0)}$	$F_{p,i}^{(0)}$
1	46	48	46	43	43	43
2	20	22	20	18	18	18
3	25	26	25	23	23	23

⇒ Need to fit at most 48 coefficients.

# High-energy region: $x = 0$

Input:

- 500 000 terms in the expansion about  $x = 1$
- ansatz with 3 000 terms in the expansion about  $x = 0$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  converges only up to  $x = 7 - 4\sqrt{3} \approx 0.072$

Fit to

$$\sum_k \ln^k x \sum_i C_{k,i} x^i$$



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Fit to

$$\sum_k \ln^k x \sum_i C_{k,i} x^i$$

Output:

- $\mathcal{O}(1\,000)$  digits for the coefficients fitted
- use PSLQ to fit to set of constants

$$\zeta_2, \zeta_3, \zeta_4, \zeta_5, \zeta_6, \zeta_2\zeta_3, \zeta_3^2, \ln^4 2, \zeta_2 \ln^4 2, \zeta_2 \ln^2 2, \zeta_4 \ln^2 2, \\ \zeta_3 \ln 2, \zeta \text{Li}_4(1/2) \ln 2, \zeta_2\zeta_3 \ln 2, \text{Li}_4(1/2), \zeta_2 \text{Li}_4(1/2), \dots$$

# Result: high-energy limit

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_S^{\text{non-sol}} = & +\ln(x) \left( \frac{512\text{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{9} - \frac{51260\zeta(3)}{81} + \frac{22184}{27} - \frac{2938\pi^2}{729} \right. \\
 & + \frac{5432\pi^4}{1215} - \frac{256}{27}\pi^2\ln^2(2) + \frac{64\ln^4(2)}{27} + \frac{6704}{81}\pi^2\ln(2) \Big) \\
 & + \ln^2(x) \left( -\frac{512\zeta(3)}{9} + \frac{77548}{243} + \frac{760\pi^2}{243} + \frac{64}{27}\pi^2\ln(2) \right) \\
 & - \frac{176}{81}\ln^5(x) + \frac{2888\ln^4(x)}{243} + \left( \frac{5452}{81} - \frac{16\pi^2}{9} \right) \ln^3(x) \\
 & + \frac{3964\zeta(5)}{9} - \frac{820\pi^2\zeta(3)}{27} + \frac{107668\zeta(3)}{81} + \frac{2581\pi^4}{405} + \frac{914054\pi^2}{729} \\
 & - \frac{1676170}{243} - \frac{304\ln^4(2)}{243} - \frac{128}{243}\pi^2\ln^2(2) - \frac{256}{9}\pi^4\ln(2) \\
 & + \frac{104800}{243}\pi^2\ln(2) - \frac{2432\text{Li}_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{81} + \mathcal{O}(x)
 \end{aligned}$$

Agrees numerically with [\[Fael,Lange,Schönwald,Steinhauser '22\]](#)

# Threshold region: $\hat{s} = 4 \leftrightarrow x = -1$

- use same procedure
- but: expansion about  $x = 1$  does not converge on the arc  
 $\hookrightarrow$  go back to expansion about  $\hat{s} = q^2/m^2 \approx 0$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  converges up to threshold

- fit to

$$\sum_k \ln^k(z) \sum_i C_{ki} z^i, \quad z = \sqrt{4 - \hat{s}}$$

- 100 000 / 3 000 terms  $\rightarrow \mathcal{O}(1800)$  digits
- fit works, but PSLQ reconstruction fails due to unknown basis of constants  $\rightarrow \tilde{\kappa}_j$

# $s = 4$ : new constants

$\tilde{\kappa}_1$	=	-1264.94322242780923299577505233621720067624211086209986111296,
$\tilde{\kappa}_2$	=	-26176.4667608724683949216820111127329755051498931864672207674,
$\tilde{\kappa}_3$	=	-2729.29921775058112000342259069251066915697435521878829616461,
$\tilde{\kappa}_4$	=	55185.6670430603029362317458218280389428429637759659305766923,
$\tilde{\kappa}_5$	=	-231417.543320624197335029133354832277513762956642168670916934,
$\tilde{\kappa}_6$	=	27058.0674155939392402733850737674942036176399269710732266681,
$\tilde{\kappa}_7$	=	37228.1393096283192321319569484136035748028723926780936227023,
$\tilde{\kappa}_8$	=	-13339.4468993806410955294285663003095854470302119871183700172,
$\tilde{\kappa}_9$	=	36376.0677825693690120778060832493123585788086425881920483389,
$\tilde{\kappa}_{10}$	=	44168.3670154020748917804528969924640054915510728808520969412,
$\tilde{\kappa}_{11}$	=	216837.119105601604298423515472074350527268068308535384925274,
$\tilde{\kappa}_{12}$	=	-5730.87155843894481719264039344225664636604380605461996009706,
$\tilde{\kappa}_{13}$	=	-135665.066806256268480389800559366792285769481271731824723568,
$\tilde{\kappa}_{14}$	=	25026.2194317039528218591802514512389969169209802143192666245.

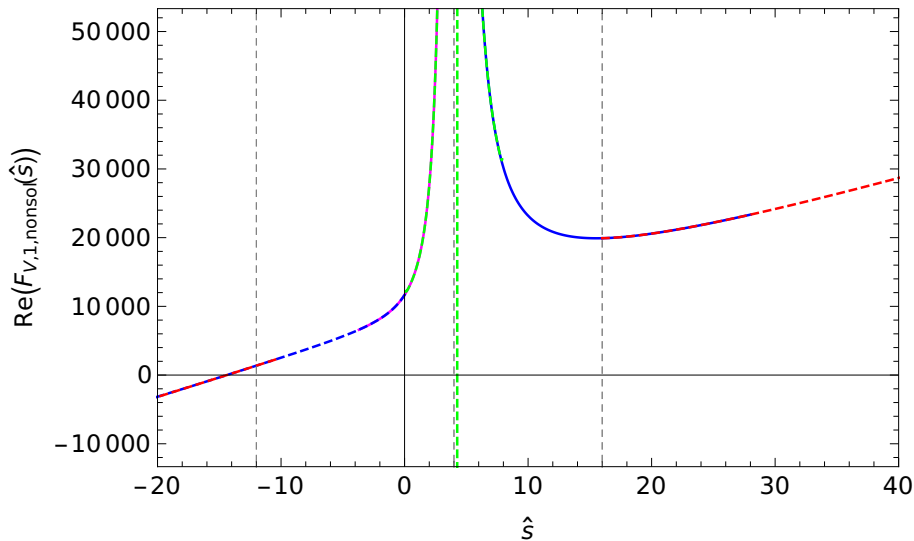
# 4-particle threshold: $\hat{s} = 16 \leftrightarrow x \approx -0.072$

- fit to

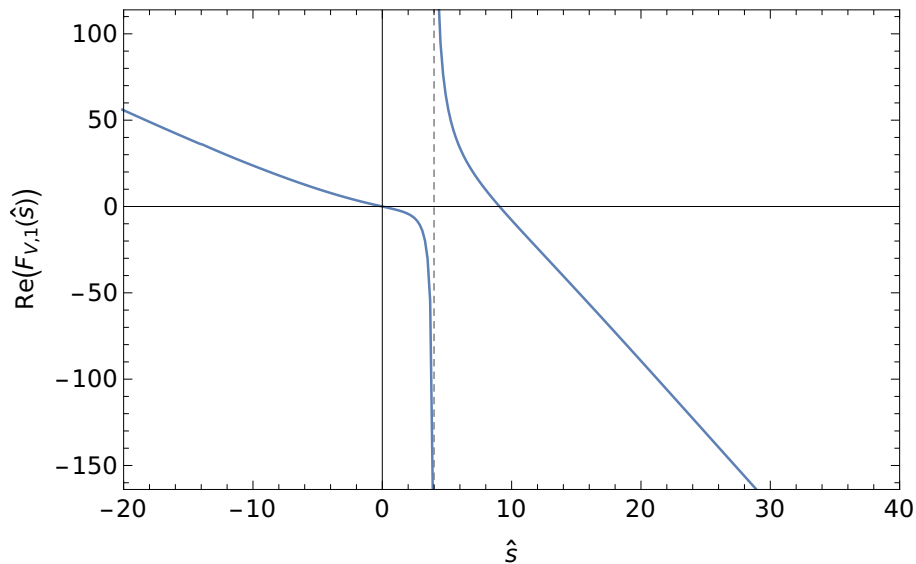
$$\sum_i c_i \bar{z}^i, \quad \bar{z} = \sqrt{16 - \hat{s}}$$

- match with expansion at  $x = 0$
- no intermediate  $\bar{z}^{-n}, \ln \bar{z}$
- constants from the solvable part indicate constants  $H(\{\dots\}, 4\sqrt{3} - 7)$
- did not try PSLQ fit

# Results



# Results



# Conclusions

- Extended the results for the heavy-fermionic contributions to the massive form factors to cover the whole kinematic range
- Expansions about  $\hat{s} = 0, 4, 16, \infty$  are sufficient
- High-energy expansion with analytic coefficients
- Numerical agreement with [Fael,Lange,Schönwald,Steinhauser '22]
- ToDo: missing gluonic contributions
  - ↪ For  $\hat{s} = 0$  agreement with [Fael,Lange,Schönwald,Steinhauser '22]



# LOOPS AND LEGS IN QUANTUM FIELD THEORY

17th Workshop on Elementary Particle Physics,  
Wittenberg, Germany, April 14 - 19, 2024



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