

Heavy quark form factors at three loops

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We present results for the heavy-fermionic corrections to the non-singlet heavy-quark form factors at three-loop order recently obtained in [1].

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1. Introduction

The knowledge of the massive three-loop form factor is an essential ingredient to the calculation for a series of massive processes at e^+e^- and hadron colliders, determined by vector, axialvector, scalar and pseudoscalar currents. It has been calculated to two-loop order in Refs. [2–7]. At three-loop order the color planar contributions have been computed in Refs. [8–13] and its asymptotic behaviour has been studied in [14, 15], including partial results at four-loop order.

In this proceedings, we review the computation of the non-singlet heavy-fermionic contributions of the massive three-loop form factor for vector, axialvector, scalar and pseudoscalar currents recently obtained in [1].

The basic structure of the massive form factors has been described in Ref. [7] before. We consider vector, axialvector, scalar and pseudoscalar currents coupling to a heavy quark pair of mass m

$$\bar{u}_c(q_1)X_{cd}v_d(q_2), \quad (1.1)$$

with $q = q_1 + q_2$. The main variable considered is x given by

$$\frac{q^2}{m^2} = z = -\frac{(1-x)^2}{x}. \quad (1.2)$$

We work in $D = 4 - 2\epsilon$ dimensions. In the axialvector and pseudoscalar case we can use an anticommuting γ_5 since we only consider the non-singlet contributions.

We consider the decay amplitude (Γ^μ) of the Z-boson into a pair of heavy quarks. The general structure of Γ^μ consists of six form factors, two of which are CP odd. As we consider only higher order QCD effects and Standard Model (SM) neutral current interactions to lowest order, the CP invariance holds. This implies that Γ^μ has four form factors $F_{V,i}(s), F_{A,i}(s)$ $i = 1, 2$ comprising the following general form

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{cd}^\mu &= \Gamma_{V,cd}^\mu + \Gamma_{A,cd}^\mu \\ &= -i\delta_{cd} \left[v_Q \left(\gamma^\mu F_{V,1} + \frac{i}{2m} \sigma^{\mu\nu} q_\nu F_{V,2} \right) + a_Q \left(\gamma^\mu \gamma_5 F_{A,1} + \frac{1}{2m} q^\mu \gamma_5 F_{A,2} \right) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (1.3)$$

where $\sigma^{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{2}[\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu]$, $q = q_1 + q_2$, and v_Q and a_Q are the SM vector and axial-vector coupling constants as defined by

$$v_Q = \frac{e}{\sin\theta_w \cos\theta_w} \left(\frac{T_3^Q}{2} - \sin^2\theta_w Q_Q \right), \quad a_Q = -\frac{e}{\sin\theta_w \cos\theta_w} \frac{T_3^Q}{2}. \quad (1.4)$$

e is the charge of positron, θ_w is the weak mixing angle, T_3^Q is the third component of the weak isospin, and Q_Q is the charge of the heavy quark.

Furthermore, we consider a general neutral particle h that couples to heavy quarks through the following Yukawa interaction

$$\mathcal{L}_{int} = -\frac{m}{v} \left[s_Q \bar{Q}Q + i p_Q \bar{Q} \gamma_5 Q \right] h, \quad (1.5)$$

where m denotes the heavy quark mass, $v = (\sqrt{2}G_F)^{-1/2}$ is the SM Higgs vacuum expectation value, with G_F being the Fermi constant, s_Q and p_Q are the scalar/pseudoscalar coupling, respectively, and Q and h are the heavy quark and scalar and pseudoscalar field, respectively. The decay amplitude of $h \rightarrow \bar{Q} + Q$, $X_{cd} \equiv \Gamma_{cd}$, consists of two form factors with the following general structure

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_{cd} &= \Gamma_{S,cd} + \Gamma_{P,cd} \\ &= -\frac{m}{v}\delta_{cd} \left[s_Q F_S + i p_Q \gamma_5 F_P \right],\end{aligned}\tag{1.6}$$

where F_S and F_P denote the renormalized scalar and pseudoscalar form factors, respectively. The form factors obey the expansion

$$F_{i,l}(x, a_s) = \delta_{l,1} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_s^k F_i^{(k)}(x),\tag{1.7}$$

with $i = V, A, S, P$ and $l = 1, 2$ for $i = A, V$ and $a_s = \alpha_s/(4\pi)$ denotes the strong coupling constant.

2. Calculation and Results

To calculate the form factors for the various currents we follow to a large extent the commonly used approach. The diagrams are generated using `qgraf` [16], the resulting diagrams are mapped on prototypes using `q2e/exp` [17, 18], projectors are applied and the expressions are simplified using `(T)FORM` [19, 20]. The resulting scalar integrals are reduced to a small set of master integrals using integration-by-parts identities [21] implemented in the program `Crusher` [22]. This procedure allows to represent the form factors as a linear combination of 103 master integrals, which still have to be calculated. The calculation of the individual master integrals is a difficult task since they involve elliptic or even more complicated structures. Therefore, we continue using the method of arbitrarily large moments [23]. Compared to the complete analytic representation their expansion about $x = 1$ can be fairly easily calculated. Therefore we first calculate the master integrals in an expansion about $x = 1$. To obtain this expansion we insert a suitable ansatz into the coupled system of differential equations for the master integrals thus obtaining a system of coupled linear equations for the expansion coefficient. From these linear equations we can either calculate a (small) number of expansion coefficients by directly solving the system of equations. Likewise one may deduce recursions using `SolveCoupledSystems` [23] which allow for the calculation of arbitrary many. Having obtained the expansions for the master integrals we can now calculate the corresponding expansion of the full expressions for the form factors. In the final step, working under the assumption that the sum is simpler than the parts, we try to obtain a closed analytic form for the form factors by summing the obtained power series. To achieve this, we first determine a recurrence using guessing [24] for the different parts corresponding to the constants introduced by the boundary conditions. In the case that the recurrence is first-order factorizing it can be solved using `Sigma` [25–27], i.e. an explicit representation of the n -th expansion coefficient can be given. Once this representation is available it is possible to sum up the power series and find a closed analytic solution. The resulting infinite sums were then converted into harmonic polylogarithms using the package `HarmonicSums` [28–36]. In the case of the first-order factorizable recurrences the

corresponding solutions are in general given by iterated integrals, cf. [37]. Here, we encounter only harmonic polylogarithms (HPLs) [38]. We needed at most 8000 moments to obtain the recursions for the various parts of the form factors. For details of the method and its implementation we refer the reader to [1].

Let us illustrate the procedure with an example:

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

$$\left\{ -2, 0, -\frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6}, -\frac{3}{20}, -\frac{2}{15}, -\frac{5}{42}, -\frac{3}{28}, -\frac{7}{72}, -\frac{4}{45}, -\frac{9}{110}, -\frac{5}{66}, -\frac{11}{156}, -\frac{6}{91}, \right. \\ \left. -\frac{13}{210}, -\frac{7}{120}, -\frac{15}{272}, -\frac{8}{153}, -\frac{17}{342}, -\frac{9}{190}, -\frac{19}{420}, \dots \right\} \quad (2.1)$$

- guess the recurrence

$$n^2 C_n - (n-1)(n+2)C_{n+1} = 0 \quad (2.2)$$

- find a solution for the recurrence

$$C_n = \frac{1-n}{n(n+1)} \quad (2.3)$$

which in this case is valid starting from $n = 1$

- finally, performing the sum over $n = 1, \dots, \infty$ and adding the constant term C_0 yields

$$-2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1-n}{n(n+1)} y^n = -\frac{(y-2)\log(1-y)}{y} \stackrel{y \rightarrow 1-x}{=} \frac{(1+x)\log(x)}{1-x}. \quad (2.4)$$

For many parts including all pole contributions we have been able to obtain closed analytic results. In Table 1 we summarize the properties of the recurrences which are not first-order factorizing and thus we could not solve at this point.

The analytic results are too lengthy to be reproduced here in closed form and we refer the reader to [1], where all results have been presented. For illustration we show in Fig. 1 the results for the vector form factor $F_{V,1}$ in the regions $x \in [0, 1]$, which corresponds to $q^2 \in [-\infty, 0]$, and $q^2 \in [0, 4m^2]$, which corresponds to the upper half circle in x space.

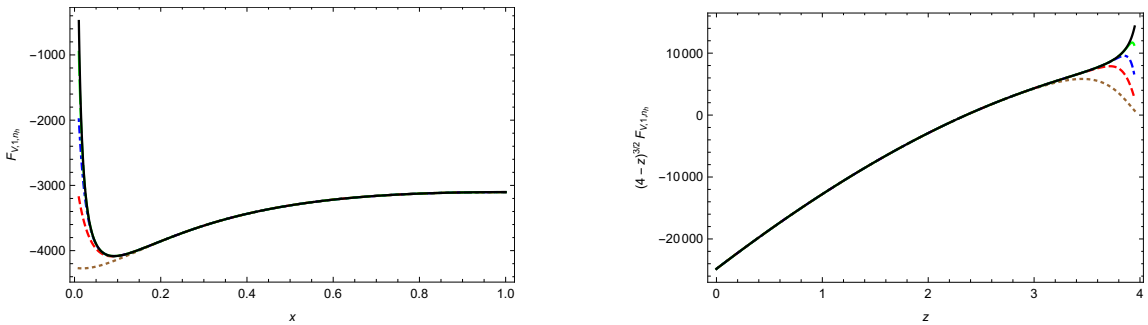


Figure 1: Vector form factor $F_{V,1}(\varepsilon^0 n_h^1)$, the approximation with 20, 50, 100, 200, 500 terms is shown in brown, red, blue, green and black, respectively, [1].

In Fig 2 we show again the result for the vector form factor but to better illustrate the convergences we normalize the different approximations to the most precise one.

Our results for the poles have been verified by comparing to predictions obtained from the general infrared structure of QCD amplitudes and renormalization group arguments.

	color	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_A	$g_1 n_h$	1314	54	15
	$g_1 n_h \zeta_3$	419	29	10
	$g_1 n_h \zeta_2$	280	23	6
	$g_2 n_h$	1130	52	15
	$g_2 n_h \zeta_3$	352	28	10
	$g_2 n_h \zeta_2$	232	23	6
F_S	n_h	1114	50	15
	$n_h \zeta_3$	350	27	10
	$n_h \zeta_2$	230	22	6
F_P	n_h	1130	52	15
	$n_h \zeta_3$	352	28	10
	$n_h \zeta_2$	232	23	6

Table 1: Structure of the recurrences for the remaining non-first-order contributions.

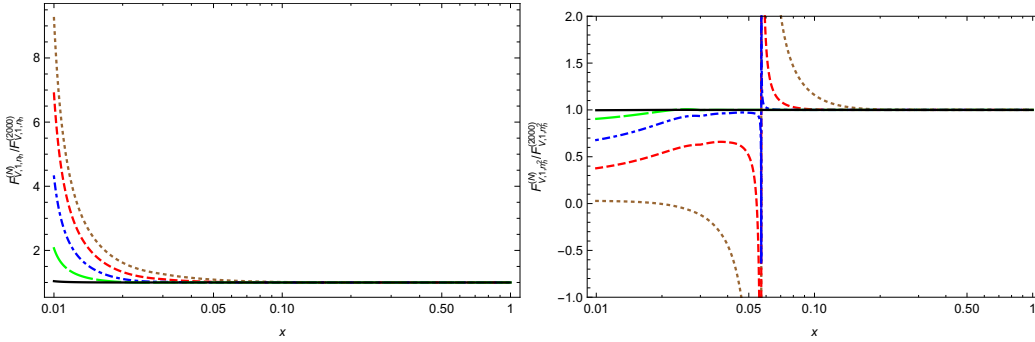


Figure 2: Ratios of the approximations with 20, 50, 100, 200, 500 terms and our best approximation using 2000 terms for the vector form factor $F_{V,1}$. Left $\epsilon^0 n_h^1$, right $\epsilon^0 n_h^2$. The ratio using 20, 50, 100, 200, 500 terms is shown in brown, red, blue, green and black, respectively, [1].

3. Conclusions

We calculated the heavy-fermionic non-singlet three-loop contributions to the heavy quark form factors for vector, axial-vector, scalar and pseudoscalar currents. We applied the method of large moments to obtain deep series expansions for the final expressions, which for all pole terms and a number of finite terms could be resummed. For the remaining structures series expansions with an in principle infinite number of terms are available. A closed analytic form for these contri-

butions remains to be found and will be discussed in future work.

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