

Renormalization

Daniel Lechner

University of Vienna

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Origin of UV-Divergences

Perturbation Theory

- Quantum-Field-theoretic correlation functions and S-matrix elements calculated in Perturbation theory
- E.g.: with $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_0 + \mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}$, and $\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = O(\lambda)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \tilde{0} | T \phi(x_1) \dots \phi(x_n) | \tilde{0} \rangle &= \\ &= \frac{\langle 0 | T \phi_I(x_1) \dots \phi_I(x_n) \exp\{i \int d^4x \mathcal{H}_{\text{int}}^I(x)\} | 0 \rangle}{\langle 0 | \int d^4x \exp\{i \int d^4x \mathcal{H}_{\text{int}}^I(x)\} | 0 \rangle} \sim \\ &\sim \langle 0 | T \phi_I(x_1) \dots \phi_I(x_n) | 0 \rangle + \\ &+ i \int d^4x \langle 0 | T \phi_I(x_1) \dots \phi_I(x_n) \mathcal{H}_{\text{int}}^I(x) | 0 \rangle + O(\lambda^2) \end{aligned}$$

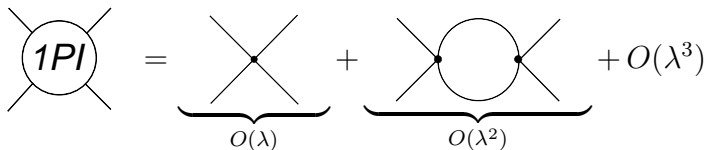
Locality and UV-Divergences

- QFT is based on concept of locality,
- $\implies \mathcal{L}_0$ and \mathcal{L}_{int} do only contain local operators , i.e. at same space-time point
- Examples:

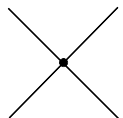
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}^{\phi^4} = -\frac{\lambda}{4!} \phi^4(x), \quad \mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}^{\text{QED}} = e \bar{\psi}(x) \not{A}(x) \psi(x)$$

- Locality leads to divergent integrals for higher order corrections to tree-level results (in configuration + Fourier space)

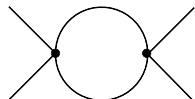
Example: 4-Point Vertex Function of ϕ^4 -theory


$$\text{1PI} = \underbrace{\text{tree}}_{O(\lambda)} + \underbrace{\text{one-loop}}_{O(\lambda^2)} + O(\lambda^3)$$

- Tree-level:


$$\sim -i\lambda$$

- One-loop:


$$\sim$$

$$\sim \frac{(-i\lambda)^2}{2} \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{i}{[k^2 - m_0^2 + i\epsilon]} \frac{i}{[(p_1 + p_2 - k)^2 - m_0^2 + i\epsilon]}$$

Locality and UV-Divergences

Observations:

- 1 High-energy processes are encoded in value of λ (not resolved, pointlike interaction)
→ locality
- 2 Accuracy of λ is obviously different at various orders in perturbation theory
- 3 Loop-integral is UV-divergent, i.e. at large k -values
- 4 Divergent integrals will also appear in other loop-diagrams

Looks like an unsurmountable problem...

Locality and UV-Divergences

BUT: this is to be expected!

- We are trying to use a theory for all energies which is only valid up to energies where a certain amount of detail of the local interaction can be resolved
- Characteristic quantity: cutoff Λ
- Processes at $E > \Lambda$ effectively encoded in λ
- For $E > \Lambda$ new theory might take over (e.g. new particles)

Important conclusion (*running coupling*)

Coupling λ will be energy-dependent, $\lambda = \lambda(\Lambda)$, where Λ is an energy scale (*cutoff*), up to which the theory is valid. Similar for the mass, $m = m(\Lambda)$, and the field(s), $\phi = \phi(\Lambda)$.

A few points have to be tackled now:

- Categorize the UV-divergences in the various theories
- Find a convenient way to regularize the divergent integrals
- Extract the finite parts, get rid of the divergent parts
- Rewrite the infinite (*bare*) parameters of the theory in terms of new, finite (*renormalized*) ones
- Extract information about the running of the parameters

Classification of UV-Divergences

Superficial Degree of Divergence

As a first step define the naive degree of divergence of a diagram:

Superficial degree of divergence D :

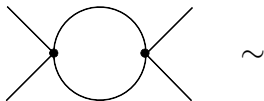
$$D = \text{powers of loop-momenta in numerator} \\ - \text{powers of loop-momenta in denominator}$$

when **all** loop-momenta of that diagram become large.

- $D < 0$: not superficially divergent
- $D = 0$: logarithmic divergence
- $D = 1$: linear divergence
- ...

Example

- Assume for the moment that loop-integral is regularized with a hard cutoff Λ :



$$\sim \frac{(-i\lambda)^2}{2} \int^{\Lambda} \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{i}{[k^2 - m_0^2 + i\varepsilon]} \frac{i}{[(p_1 + p_2 - k)^2 - m_0^2 + i\varepsilon]}$$

$$\xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} c \int^{\Lambda} dk \frac{k^3}{k^4} = c \int^{\Lambda} dk \frac{1}{k} = c \log(\Lambda)$$

- $D = 0$ as expected

Superficial Degree of Divergence

- Divergent part of a diagram $\approx \Lambda^D$
- For every diagram D can be obtained in a systematic way by virtue of the Feynman rules (in every theory)
- Momentum dependence of propagators is fixed
- Ingredients to quantify D for a diagram:
 - Number of external lines
 - Number of vertices (loops)
 - Space-time dimension
 - Number of lines meeting at each vertex

Example: ϕ^n -theory

- Example: ϕ^n -theory in d space-time dimensions

$$D_{\phi^n} = d + \left[n \binom{d-2}{2} - d \right] V - \binom{d-2}{2} N$$

where

- N ... number of external lines
- n ... degree of self-interaction polynomial
- V ... number of vertices
- d ... space-time dimension

Example: ϕ^n -theory

$$D_{\phi^n} = d + \underbrace{\left[n \left(\frac{d-2}{2} \right) - d \right]}_{\eta} V - \left(\frac{d-2}{2} \right) N$$

Observation: the prefactor η of V plays a crucial role:

- $\eta > 0$: D grows with number of vertices
→ **Non-renormalizable theory**
- $\eta = 0$: D independent of number of vertices
→ **Renormalizable theory**
- $\eta < 0$: D decreases with number of vertices
→ **Super-renormalizable theory**

Dimensional Analysis of ϕ^n -theory

- Some dimensional analysis (in d dimensions) reveals an interesting feature ($[\partial_\mu] = 1$):

$$[S] = \left[\int d^4x \mathcal{L}(x) \right] \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad [\mathcal{L}] \stackrel{!}{=} d$$

- Concretely: $\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial^\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{m^2}{2}\phi^2 - \frac{\lambda}{n!}\phi^n$:

$$[\phi] = \frac{d}{2} - 1, \quad [m^2] = 2, \quad [\lambda] = -n\frac{d-2}{2} + d$$

- Surprisingly: $[\lambda] = -\eta$

Operator Dimension and Renormalizability

- This is valid for the couplings of every theory
- Allows to classify the renormalizability of a theory by:
 - a) Mass-dimension of the coupling: $[\lambda] = -\eta$
 - b) Operator-dimension of \mathcal{L}_{int} , since

$$[\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}] = [\lambda \hat{O}] \stackrel{!}{=} d \quad \Rightarrow \quad [\hat{O}] = d - [\lambda]$$

Renormalizability of a theory

$$[\hat{O}] = \begin{cases} > d, & \text{non-renormalizable} \\ = d, & \text{renormalizable} \\ < d, & \text{super-renormalizable} \end{cases}$$

Renormalizable Physical Theories in $d = 4$

| Theory | \mathcal{L} |
|------------------|--|
| ϕ^4 | $\frac{1}{2}(\partial^\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{m^2}{2}\phi^2 - \frac{\lambda}{4!}\phi^4$ |
| Yukawa | $\frac{1}{2}(\partial^\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{m^2}{2}\phi^2 + i\bar{\psi}(\not{\partial} - m)\psi - g\bar{\psi}\phi\psi$ |
| Scalar QED | $(D^\mu \phi^\dagger)(D_\mu \phi) - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} - \lambda(\phi^\dagger \phi)^2$ |
| QED | $\bar{\psi}(i\not{D} - m)\psi - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}$ |
| GWS-Electro-Weak | $(D^\mu \phi^\dagger)(D_\mu \phi) + \mu\phi^\dagger \phi - \lambda(\phi^\dagger \phi)^2$ |
| QCD | $\bar{Q}(i\not{D} - m)Q - \frac{1}{4}G_{\mu\nu}^a G_a^{\mu\nu}$ |
| Standard Model | |

Explicit Renormalization

Explicit Renormalization - An Example

- As an illustrative example: ϕ^4 -theory in 4 dimensions
- Referring to superficial degree of divergence for $d = 4, n = 4$:

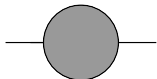
$$D = d - [\lambda]V - \left(\frac{d-2}{2}\right)N = 4 - N$$

- Only diagrams with up to 4 external legs should superficially diverge

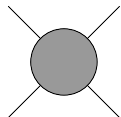
Divergent amplitudes in ϕ^4 -theory



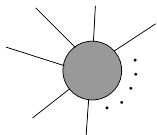
$D = 4$: (unobservable vacuum shift)



$D = 2$: $\sim \Lambda^2 + p^2 \log(\Lambda) + (\text{finite terms})$



$D = 0$: $\sim \log(\Lambda)$



$D < 0$: (finite)

Multiplicative Renormalization

- ϕ^4 -Lagrangian in d space-time dimensions (setting $4 - d = 2\varepsilon$):

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial^\mu \phi_0)^2 - \frac{m_0^2}{2}\phi_0^2 - \frac{\lambda_0}{4!}\phi_0^4$$

- Unobservable *bare* quantities ϕ_0, m_0, λ_0 are infinite
- Rewrite in terms of new, finite quantities ϕ, m, λ :

Renormalized parameters

$$\phi_0 \equiv \sqrt{Z_\phi} \phi, \quad Z_\phi = 1 + \delta Z_\phi^{(1)} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)$$

$$m_0^2 \equiv Z_m m^2, \quad Z_m = 1 + \delta Z_m^{(1)} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)$$

$$\lambda_0 \equiv \tilde{\mu}^{2\varepsilon} Z_\lambda \lambda, \quad Z_\lambda = 1 + \delta Z_\lambda^{(1)} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)$$

Expansion of the Lagrangian

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} &= Z_\phi \frac{1}{2}(\partial^\mu \phi)^2 - Z_m Z_\phi \frac{m^2}{2}\phi^2 - Z_\lambda Z_\phi^2 \tilde{\mu}^{2\epsilon} \frac{\lambda}{4!}\phi^4 = \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}(\partial^\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{m^2}{2}\phi^2 - \tilde{\mu}^{2\epsilon} \frac{\lambda}{4!}\phi^4}_{\mathcal{L}_{\text{renormalized}}} + \\ &+ \underbrace{\frac{\delta Z_\phi^{(1)}}{2}(\partial^\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{\delta Z_\phi^{(1)} + \delta Z_m^{(1)}}{2}m^2\phi^2 - \tilde{\mu}^{2\epsilon} \frac{2\delta Z_\phi^{(1)} + \delta Z_\lambda^{(1)}}{4!}\lambda\phi^4}_{\mathcal{L}_{\text{counter}}} + \\ &+ \underbrace{\mathcal{O}(\delta Z_i^{(1)}\delta Z_j^{(1)}, \delta Z_i^{(2)})}_{\mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)}\end{aligned}$$

Renormalized Feynman Rules

$$\text{---} = \frac{i}{p^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon}$$

$$\text{X} = -i\tilde{\mu}^{2\epsilon} \lambda$$

$$\text{---} \otimes \text{---} = i(p^2 - m^2) \delta Z_\phi^{(1)} - im^2 \delta Z_m^{(1)}$$

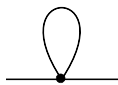
$$\text{X} \otimes \text{---} = -i\tilde{\mu}^{2\epsilon} \left(2\delta Z_\phi^{(1)} + \delta Z_\lambda^{(1)} \right) \lambda$$

Example: Scalar- ϕ^4 at 1-loop Level

Using **dimensional regularization**:

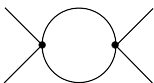
$$\int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} \longrightarrow \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d}$$

2 divergent graphs at one-loop:



A diagram showing a horizontal line with a loop attached to a single vertex on the line.

$$= \frac{-i\lambda\tilde{\mu}^{2\epsilon}}{2} \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{i}{[k^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon]}$$



A diagram showing two external lines meeting at two vertices, with a bubble (loop) connecting the two vertices.

$$=$$
$$= \frac{(-i\lambda\tilde{\mu}^{2\epsilon})^2}{2} \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{i}{[(p_1 + p_2 + k)^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon]} \frac{i}{[k^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon]}$$

Strategy for Computation

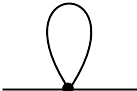
- Combine denominators with Feynman-parameter x
- Shift the integration variable: $k \rightarrow l = k + xp$
- Wick-rotate: $l^0 = il_E^0, \quad l^2 = -l_E^2$
- Separate radial part from the d -dimensional angular part:

$$\int \frac{d^d l}{(2\pi)^d} = \int \frac{d\Omega_d}{(2\pi)^d} \int_0^\infty dl l^{d-1} = \frac{2}{(4\pi)^{\frac{d}{2}} \Gamma(\frac{d}{2})} \int_0^\infty dl l^{d-1}$$

- Map $l \in [0, \infty)$ to $z \in [0, 1]$, and read of the Beta-Function

1-Loop Contribution of 2-Pt-Fct.

Tadpole value:


$$= -\frac{i\lambda}{2} \frac{\tilde{\mu}^{2\varepsilon}}{(4\pi)^{2-\varepsilon}} \frac{\Gamma(\varepsilon - 1)}{(m^2)^{\varepsilon-1}}$$

Expand around $\varepsilon \sim 0$: (note: $\mu^2 = 4\pi e^{-\gamma_E} \tilde{\mu}^2$)

$$\dots = \frac{i\lambda}{32\pi^2} m^2 \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon} + \log \left[\frac{\mu^2}{m^2} \right] + 1 + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon) \right)$$

Observation:

- Divergence has been isolated ($\frac{1}{\varepsilon}$)
- Tadpole is independent of momentum

1-Loop Contribution of 2-Pt-Fct.

Including the counterterm should give a finite result:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} &= \text{---} \times \text{---} + \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} + \text{---} \otimes \text{---} + \\ &+ \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2) \stackrel{!}{=} \text{finite to } \mathcal{O}(\lambda) \end{aligned}$$

Counterterm value still undefined

$$\text{---} \otimes \text{---} = i(p^2 - m^2) \delta Z_\phi^{(1)} - im^2 \delta Z_m^{(1)}$$

→ must be used to cancel the divergence of $\mathcal{O}(\lambda)$

1-Loop Contribution of 2-Pt-Fct.

Quantitatively:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{---} \textcircled{1PI} \text{---} &= i(p^2 - m^2) + \frac{i\lambda}{32\pi^2} m^2 \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon} + \log \left[\frac{\mu^2}{m^2} \right] + 1 \right) + \\ &+ i(p^2 - m^2) \delta Z_\phi^{(1)} - im^2 \delta Z_m^{(1)} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2) \end{aligned}$$

Since the tadpole is independent of p^2 , the first counterterm can be fixed:

Field strength 1-loop correction

$$\delta Z_\phi^{(1)} = 0$$

Renormalization Schemes

Choice for $\delta Z_m^{(1)}$ is ambiguous however!

→ have to pick a **renormalization scheme**

a) $\overline{\text{MS}}$ -**scheme**: only divergent terms are sucked in by counterterms

Mass 1-loop correction in $\overline{\text{MS}}$

$$\delta Z_m^{(1)} = \frac{\lambda}{32\pi^2\epsilon}$$

- All parameters **indirectly** fixed by experiment (e.g. mass parameter \neq physical mass!!)
- Easy-to-handle counterterms (suitable for RG-analysis)

Renormalization Schemes

b) **On-shell-scheme:** renormalization conditions

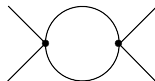
$$\left. \text{Diagram 1} \right|_{p^2=m^2} \stackrel{!}{=} \frac{i}{p^2 - m^2 + i\varepsilon}, \quad \left. \text{Diagram 2} \right|_{\substack{s=4m^2 \\ t=u=0}} \stackrel{!}{=} -i\lambda$$

Mass 1-loop correction in On-shell-scheme

$$\delta Z_m^{(1)} = \frac{\lambda}{32\pi^2} \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon} + \log \left[\frac{\mu^2}{m^2} \right] + 1 \right)$$

- Mass parameter is physical
- Simplifies application of LSZ-formalism (no Z -factors)

1-Loop Contribution of 4-Pt-Fct.


$$= \frac{i\tilde{\mu}^{4\epsilon}\lambda^2}{2(4\pi)^{2-\epsilon}} \int_0^1 dx \frac{\Gamma(\epsilon)}{[m^2 - x(1-x) \underbrace{(p_1 + p_2)^2}_{=s}]^\epsilon}$$

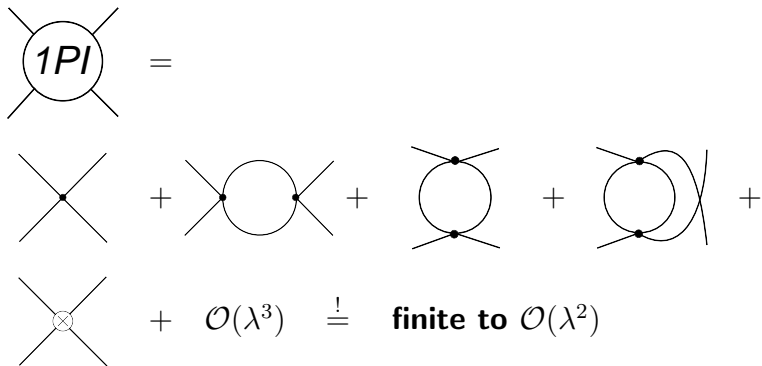
Expand around $\epsilon \sim 0$: (note: $\mu^2 = 4\pi e^{-\gamma_E} \tilde{\mu}^2$)

$$\dots = \frac{i\tilde{\mu}^{2\epsilon}\lambda^2}{32\pi^2} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \int_0^1 dx \log \left[\frac{\mu^2}{m^2 - x(1-x)s} \right] + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \right)$$

Similar contributions from t - and u -channel

1-Loop Contribution of 4-Pt-Fct.

Including the vertex counter term should give finite results:



The diagram shows the 1-loop contribution to the 4-point function. On the left, a circle with four external lines is labeled $1PI$. This is equal to the sum of several diagrams: a tree-level four-point vertex, a circle with two external lines and two vertices, a circle with two external lines and two vertices with a self-energy loop on the top line, a circle with two external lines and two vertices with a self-energy loop on the bottom line, and a circle with two external lines and two vertices with a self-energy loop on the right line. Below this, a tree-level four-point vertex with a cross inside is added to $\mathcal{O}(\lambda^3)$, which is then equated to a finite result $\mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)$.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{1PI} = \\ & \text{tree} + \text{circle} + \text{circle with self-energy} + \text{circle with self-energy} + \\ & \text{tree with cross} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^3) \stackrel{!}{=} \text{finite to } \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2) \end{aligned}$$

1-Loop Contribution of 4-Pt-Fct.

Quantitatively:

$$\begin{aligned} \dots = & \underbrace{-i\lambda}_{\text{tree level}} + \underbrace{\frac{3i\tilde{\mu}^{2\varepsilon}\lambda^2}{32\pi^2\varepsilon}}_{\substack{\text{divergence} \\ \text{same for s,t,u}}} + \frac{i\tilde{\mu}^{2\varepsilon}\lambda^2}{32\pi^2} \int_0^1 dx \left(\log \left[\frac{\mu^2}{m^2 - x(1-x)s} \right] + \right. \\ & \left. + \log \left[\frac{\mu^2}{m^2 - x(1-x)t} \right] + \log \left[\frac{\mu^2}{m^2 - x(1-x)u} \right] \right) + \\ & - i\tilde{\mu}^{2\varepsilon} \delta Z_\lambda^{(1)} \lambda - i\tilde{\mu}^{2\varepsilon} 2 \underbrace{\delta Z_\phi^{(1)}}_{=0} \lambda \end{aligned}$$

Coupling 1-loop correction in $\overline{\text{MS}}$

$$\delta Z_\lambda^{(1)} = \frac{3\lambda}{32\pi^2\varepsilon}$$

Counterterm Values in \overline{MS}

$$\delta Z_\phi^{(1)} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \phi_0 = (1 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)) \phi$$

$$\delta Z_m^{(1)} = \frac{\lambda}{32\pi^2\varepsilon} \quad \Rightarrow \quad m_0^2 = \left(1 + \frac{\lambda}{32\pi^2\varepsilon} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)\right) m^2$$

$$\delta Z_\lambda^{(1)} = \frac{3\lambda}{32\pi^2\varepsilon} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lambda_0 = \left(1 + \frac{3\lambda}{32\pi^2\varepsilon} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)\right) \tilde{\mu}^{2\varepsilon} \lambda$$

Renormalization Group

Renormalization-Group Equations

Possible to extract further information by following observations:

- Mass scale μ introduced just to keep $[\lambda] = 0 \rightarrow$ exact value arbitrary
- Observables/ unrenormalized quantities should be independent of μ :

$$\frac{d\lambda_0}{d \log[\mu^2]} = \frac{d\phi_0}{d \log[\mu^2]} = \frac{dm_0^2}{d \log[\mu^2]} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

- Above conditions will enforce μ -dependences of λ, m, ϕ (*RG-dependence*)

Renormalized parameters

$$\phi_0 \equiv \sqrt{Z_\phi} \phi, \quad Z_\phi = 1 + \delta Z_\phi^{(1)} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)$$

$$m_0^2 \equiv Z_m m^2, \quad Z_m = 1 + \delta Z_m^{(1)} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)$$

$$\lambda_0 \equiv \tilde{\mu}^{2\epsilon} Z_\lambda \lambda, \quad Z_\lambda = 1 + \delta Z_\lambda^{(1)} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)$$

\implies ODEs for $\lambda(\mu), m^2(\mu), \phi(\mu)$

RG-Equation for λ at 1-loop

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{d \log[\mu^2]} \lambda_0 &\stackrel{!}{=} 0 = \\ &= \frac{d}{d \log[\mu^2]} [\tilde{\mu}^{2\varepsilon} Z_\lambda \lambda] = \frac{d}{d \log[\mu^2]} \left[\tilde{\mu}^{2\varepsilon} \left(1 + \frac{3\lambda}{32\pi^2\varepsilon} \right) \lambda \right] = \\ &= \varepsilon \tilde{\mu}^{2\varepsilon} \left(1 + \frac{3\lambda}{32\pi^2\varepsilon} \right) \lambda + \tilde{\mu}^{2\varepsilon} \left(1 + \frac{6\lambda}{32\pi^2\varepsilon} \right) \underbrace{\frac{d\lambda}{d \log[\mu^2]}}_{\equiv \beta_\lambda^\varepsilon}\end{aligned}$$

$$\beta_\lambda^\varepsilon = \frac{d\lambda}{d \log[\mu^2]} = -\varepsilon\lambda + \frac{3\lambda^2}{32\pi^2} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^3)$$

RG-Equation for m^2 at 1-loop

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{d \log[\mu^2]} m_0^2 &\stackrel{!}{=} 0 = \\ &= \frac{d}{d \log[\mu^2]} [Z_m m^2] = \frac{d}{d \log[\mu^2]} \left[\left(1 + \frac{\lambda}{32\pi^2 \varepsilon} \right) m^2 \right] = \\ &= \left(1 + \frac{\lambda}{32\pi^2 \varepsilon} \right) \underbrace{\frac{dm^2}{d \log[\mu^2]}}_{\equiv m^2 \gamma_m} + \frac{1}{32\pi^2 \varepsilon} \frac{d\lambda}{d \log[\mu^2]} m^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\gamma_m = \frac{1}{m^2} \frac{dm^2}{d \log[\mu^2]} = \frac{\lambda}{32\pi^2} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)$$

RG-Equation for ϕ at 1-loop

$$\frac{d}{d \log[\mu^2]} \phi_0^2 \stackrel{!}{=} 0 = \frac{d}{d \log[\mu^2]} [Z_\phi \phi^2] = \frac{d}{d \log[\mu^2]} \phi^2$$

$$\gamma_\phi = \frac{1}{\phi^2} \frac{d\phi^2}{d \log[\mu^2]} = 0 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)$$

Field is RG-invariant at 1-loop level (not anymore at higher orders)

Solutions to the RGE's

Straightforward solution with initial conditions at scale μ_0 :

$$\lambda(\mu) = \frac{\lambda(\mu_0)}{1 - \frac{3}{32\pi^2} \lambda(\mu_0) \log \left[\frac{\mu^2}{\mu_0^2} \right]}$$

$$m^2(\mu) = m^2(\mu_0) \left(\frac{\lambda(\mu)}{\lambda(\mu_0)} \right)^{\gamma_m/\beta_\lambda}$$

$$\phi(\mu) = \phi(\mu_0)$$

Relation between \overline{MS} - and On-Shell mass m_{on}^2

$$m_0^2 = Z_m m^2, \quad m_0^2 = Z_m^{\text{on}} m_{\text{on}}^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad m_{\text{on}}^2 = m^2 Z_m (Z_m^{\text{on}})^{-1}$$

Plug in + expand:

On-shell mass

$$m_{\text{on}}^2 = m^2(\mu) \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{32\pi^2} \left(\log \left[\frac{\mu^2}{m^2} \right] + 1 \right) + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2) \right)$$

- m_{on}^2 is actually RG-invariant (like every observable)
- \Rightarrow can be evaluated at any convenient scale μ

m_{on}^2 at scale $\mu \sim m$

$$m_{\text{on}}^2 = m^2(m) \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{32\pi^2} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2) \right)$$

Running Coupling

- Coupling obviously energy dependent:

$$\lambda(\mu) = \frac{\lambda_0}{1 - \frac{3}{32\pi^2} \lambda_0 \log \left[\frac{\mu^2}{\mu_0^2} \right]}$$

- RG interpolates between processes measured at different energies
- Expansion:

$$\lambda(\mu) = \lambda_0 \left(1 + \frac{3}{32\pi^2} \lambda_0 \log \left[\frac{\mu^2}{\mu_0^2} \right] + \left(\frac{3}{32\pi^2} \right)^2 \lambda_0^2 \log^2 \left[\frac{\mu^2}{\mu_0^2} \right] \right) + \dots$$

- Ideal scale: $\mu \sim \mu_0 \Rightarrow$ no large log's

- Diverges if denominator vanishes:

$$1 - \frac{3}{32\pi^2} \lambda(\mu_0) \log \left[\frac{\mu^2}{\mu_0^2} \right] \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mu_\infty^2 = (\mu_0)^2 e^{\frac{32\pi^2}{3\lambda(\mu_0)}}$$

→ needs input from experiment: $\lambda(\mu_0)$

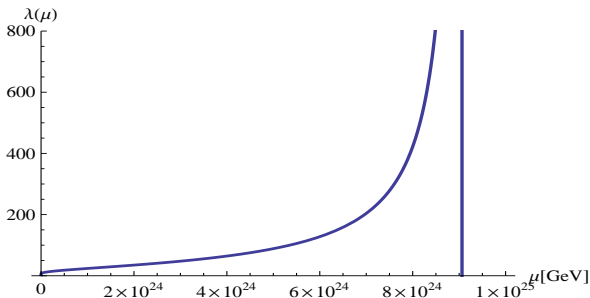


Figure: Running coupling of ϕ^4 -theory at 1-loop ($\mu_0 = 125$ GeV, $\lambda_0 = 1$)

Running Coupling

- Conclusion: although introduced just for dimensional reasons, μ plays the role of a cutoff!!
- At fixed loop-level predictions give reliable answers if scales are of the order of μ
- Theory breaks down for $\mu_0^2 \gg \ll \mu^2$ (perturbative expansion invalid, large log's)
- Smart choice simplifies computation of quantum corrections
- Problematic scenario: process with widely varying scales

Example: $e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$ at $E_{cm} = \sqrt{s} \gg m_q$

- RG-equation for the strong coupling α_s :

$$\frac{d\alpha_s}{d \log[\mu^2]} = -\frac{\alpha_s^2}{4\pi} \beta_0 - \frac{\alpha_s^3}{(4\pi)^2} \beta_1 - \frac{\alpha_s^4}{(4\pi)^3} \beta_2 + \dots$$

- Solution at 1-loop:

$$\alpha_s(\mu) = \frac{\alpha_s(\mu_0)}{1 + \frac{\alpha_s(\mu_0)}{4\pi} \beta_0 \log \left[\frac{\mu^2}{\mu_0^2} \right]}$$

Example: $e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$ at $E_{cm} = \sqrt{s} \gg m_q$

$$R(s) = \frac{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons})}{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)} =$$
$$= N_c \sum_q Q_q^2 \left[1 + \frac{\alpha_s(\mu_0)}{\pi} + \frac{\alpha_s^2(\mu_0)}{\pi^2} \left(f_3 - \frac{\beta_0}{4} \log \left[\frac{s}{\mu_0^2} \right] \right) + \dots \right]$$

- $\mu_0^2 \gg, \ll s$ would spoil perturbative expansion
- Reliable pert. prediction only for $\mu_0^2 \sim s$
- Way around this potential problem: Use the RG-solution to evolve $\alpha_s(\mu_0)$ to $\alpha_s(\sqrt{s})$
- Then: $\mu_0 = \sqrt{s}$, and $\log \left[\frac{s}{\mu_0^2} \right] = 0!$

Summary

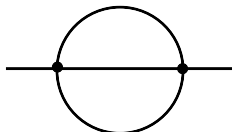
Summarizing

We saw/achieved:

- Origin of UV-divergences \longrightarrow locality
- Classification of UV-divergences
- Explicit renormalization of ϕ^4 -theory:
 - Regularization schemes (Dim. reg.)
 - Multiplicative Renormalization: $q_0 = Z_q q$
 - Counterterms to cancel infinities
 - Renormalization (Subtraction) schemes
 $\longrightarrow \overline{\text{MS}}$ vs. On-shell
- Derivation RGE's by μ -dependence
- Solution \longrightarrow energy-dependent (*running*) parameters
- μ as "cutoff" (determines quality of pert. expansion)

Further Intricacies

- Renormalization of theories with different particle species (QED,...)
- Symmetries (e.g. gauge-invariance) influencing the procedure
- Multi-loop calculations such as



→ overlapping (*nested, non-local*) divergences

- Non-renormalizable theories

References

- Lecture Notes Prof. Hoang
- M. Peskin, D. Schroeder: *An Introduction to Quantum Field Theory*,
- J. Collins: *Renormalization*
- M. Schwartz: *QFT and the Standard Model*