

3.2.3 Running coupling (26.6)

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Renormalized Lagrangian for quark-gluon interaction:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mu^{\frac{4-d}{2}} g_s^2 A_\mu^a \bar{\psi}_i \gamma^\mu T_{ij}^a \psi_j = \mu^{\frac{4-d}{2}} g_R \frac{z_1}{z_2 \sqrt{z_3}} A_\mu^a \bar{\psi}_i^{(0)} \gamma^\mu T_{ij}^a \psi_j^{(0)}$$

Bare coupling:

$$g_0 = g_R \frac{z_1}{z_2 \sqrt{z_3}} \mu^{\frac{4-d}{2}}$$

Must be μ -independent, since there was no μ in the unrenormalized Lagrangian, i.e.:

$$0 = \mu \frac{d}{d\mu} g_0 = \mu \frac{d}{d\mu} \left[g_R \frac{z_1}{z_2 \sqrt{z_3}} \mu^{\frac{4-d}{2}} \right] = g_R \frac{z_1}{z_2 \sqrt{z_3}} \mu^{\frac{d}{2}} \left[\frac{d}{2} + \frac{1}{g_R} \frac{d}{d\mu} g_R + \frac{1}{z_1 / (z_2 \sqrt{z_3})} \frac{d}{d\mu} \frac{z_1}{z_2 \sqrt{z_3}} \right]$$

Expanding perturbatively and counting the δ_i as $O(g_R^2)$, this gives

$$\beta(g_R) := \mu \frac{d}{d\mu} g_R = g_R \left[\left(-\frac{d}{2}\right) + \frac{d}{d\mu} (g_R - \delta_1 - \delta_2 - \frac{\delta_3}{2}) \right] + \dots$$

Solving this iteratively with $\mu \frac{d\delta_i[g_R(\mu)]}{d\mu} = \mu \frac{\partial \delta_i}{\partial g_R} \frac{\partial g_R}{\partial \mu} = \frac{d\delta_i}{dg_R} g_R \left(-\frac{d}{2}\right) + \dots$,

we have:

$$\beta(g_R) = -\frac{d}{2} g_R + \frac{d}{2} g_R^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial g_R} \left(\delta_1 - \delta_2 - \frac{\delta_3}{2} \right)$$

where one usually sets $d \rightarrow 4$.

Using the one-loop counter terms above, we find:

$$\beta(g_R) = -\frac{g_R^3}{16\pi^2} \left[\frac{11}{3} C_A - \frac{4}{3} n_f T_F \right] =: -\frac{g_R^3}{16\pi^2} \beta_0$$

Note that the ξ - (gauge-) dependence has canceled.

Renormalized Lagrangian for the triple-gluon interaction:

$$\beta(g_R) = -\frac{d}{2} g_R + \frac{d}{2} g_R^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial g_R} \left(\delta_{A^3} - \frac{3}{2} \delta_3 \right)$$

Leads to the same answer, as it must due to gauge invariance.

Strong "fine structure constant":

$$\mu \frac{d}{d\mu} \alpha_s = \mu \frac{d}{d\mu} \left(\frac{g_s^2}{4\pi} \right) = \frac{g_s}{2\pi} \beta(g_s) = -\frac{\alpha_s^2}{2\pi} \beta_0$$

Since $n_f = 6 < 17$, $\beta_0 = 11 - \frac{2n_f}{3} > 0$, and therefore α_s decreases with $\mu \Rightarrow$
"asymptotic freedom" of QCD.

Solution:

$$\alpha_s = \frac{2\pi}{\beta_0} \frac{1}{\ln \frac{\mu}{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}}$$

Landau pole at Λ_{QCD} introduced through dimensional transmutation

as a boundary condition set by the renormalization condition at a particular scale.
dimensionless like Λ_{QCD}

measuring α_s fix Λ_{QCD} .

Higher orders:

$$\beta(\alpha_s) = -\epsilon \alpha_s - 2\alpha_s \left[\left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \right) \beta_0 + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \right)^2 \beta_1 + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \right)^3 \beta_2 + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \right)^4 \beta_3 + O(\alpha_s^5) \right]$$

The QCD β -function is currently known to fourth order [van Ritbergen et al., 1997].

Charge universality:

In QED, $z_1 = z_2$ exactly in the on-shell scheme due to gauge invariance.

Thus, z_e related to z_3 .

Similar condition in QCD:

$$\frac{z_1}{z_2} = \frac{z_{ac}}{z_{13}} = \frac{z_{A^2}}{z_3} = \frac{\sqrt{z_{A^4}}}{\sqrt{z_3}}$$

Using the one-loop QCD renormalization constants, we have

$$\delta_1 - \delta_2 = \delta_{ac} - \delta_{3c} = \delta_{13} - \delta_3 = \frac{1}{2} (\delta_{A^2} - \delta_3) = -\frac{1}{\epsilon} \frac{g_s^2}{32\pi^2} C_A \left(\frac{5}{3} + 3 \right)$$

i.e. the condition is indeed satisfied.

3.2.4 Running mass (23.2)

Bare mass $m_0 = z_m m_R$ should be μ -independent, since there was no μ in unren. Z , i.e.

$$0 = \mu \frac{d}{d\mu} m_0 = \mu \frac{d}{d\mu} [z_m m_R] = z_m m_R \left[\frac{\mu}{m_R} \frac{dm_R}{d\mu} + \frac{\mu}{z_m} \frac{dz_m}{d\mu} \right]$$

'Anomalous mass dimension' (name from Callan-Symanzik equation, see below)

$$\gamma_m := \frac{\mu}{m_R} \frac{dm_R}{d\mu} = -\frac{\mu}{z_m} \frac{dz_m}{d\mu} = -\frac{1}{z_m} \frac{dz_m}{dg_s} \mu \frac{dg_s}{d\mu} = -\frac{1}{1+\delta_m} \left(\frac{2}{g_s} \delta_m \right) \left(-\frac{\epsilon}{2} g_s \right) = \delta_m \epsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow \gamma_m = -\frac{3g_s^2}{8\pi^2} C_F$$

3.2.5 Renormalization group equation (23.4)

Bare Green's functions:

$$G_{n,m}^{(0)} = \langle 0 | T [A_{\mu_1}^{(0)} \dots A_{\mu_n}^{(0)} \varphi_1^{(0)} \dots \varphi_m^{(0)}] | 0 \rangle$$

Must be μ -independent. Related to the renormalized Green's function by

$$G_{n,m}^{(0)} = z_3^{n/2} z_2^{m/2} G_{n,m}$$

Renormalized Green's functions:

$$G_{n,m}(\mu, p, g_R, m_R) = \langle 0 | T [A_{\mu_1} \dots A_{\mu_n} \varphi_1 \dots \varphi_m] | 0 \rangle$$

Finite, but depends on μ explicitly and implicitly through renormalized parameters.

Renormalized group equation:

$$0 = \mu \frac{d}{d\mu} G_{n,m}^{(0)} = z_3^{n/2} z_2^{m/2} \left(\mu \frac{d}{d\mu} + \frac{n}{2} \frac{\mu}{z_3} \frac{dz_3}{d\mu} + \frac{m}{2} \frac{\mu}{z_2} \frac{dz_2}{d\mu} + \mu \frac{dg_R}{d\mu} \frac{\partial}{\partial g_R} + \mu \frac{dm_R}{d\mu} \frac{\partial}{\partial m_R} \right) G_{n,m}$$

Defining:

$$\gamma_3 = \frac{\hbar}{2} \frac{d^2 \gamma_2}{d\mu} \quad , \quad \gamma_2 = \frac{\hbar}{2} \frac{d^2 \gamma_1}{d\mu}$$

leads to the Callan-Symanzik equation

$$\left(\mu \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} + \frac{n}{2} \gamma_2 + \frac{m}{2} \gamma_2 + \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial g_R} + \delta_m m_R \frac{\partial}{\partial m_R} \right) G_{n,m} = 0$$

3.2.6 Renormalizability (21.2)

In natural units, action S has ^{mass} dimension 0 (like Planck action $\hbar$).

$\Rightarrow$ Lagrangian density, which must be integrated over 4 space-time $\dim^4$, has dimension 4.

$\Rightarrow$ Dimensions of fields: $[\phi] = 1$, $[A_\mu] = 1$, $[\psi] = \frac{3}{2}$, since $[\partial_\mu] = 1$.

Index of divergence:

For a general interaction Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_i = g_i (\partial_\mu)^{d_i} (\phi_i)^{b_i} (\psi_i)^{f_i}$$

the index of divergence is defined as

$$\delta_i := d_i + b_i + \frac{3}{2} f_i - 4$$

Superficial degree of divergence:

$$D_i = 4L - 2B_E - F_E + \sum_i n_i d_i$$

for a Feynman diagram with L loops, each with $\int d^4 k$, B_E internal bosons (each with k^{-2}), F_E internal fermions (each with k^{-1}), and n_i vertices of type d_i .

Number of loops is

$$L = B_E + F_E - \sum_i n_i + 1$$

(check for $2 \rightarrow 2$ at tree-level and one-loop)

Each external line connects to only one vertex, but internal line with two, so

$$\sum_i n_i b_i = B + 2B_E \quad , \quad \sum_i n_i f_i = F + 2F_E$$

where B and F are number of external boson and fermion lines.

Therefore:

$$D = 4 - B - \frac{3}{2} F + \sum_i n_i \delta_i$$

Renormalizability:

Case $\delta_i < 0$: Super-renormalizable theory. D decreases as number of vertices increases, so only lowest order diagrams are divergent.

Example: Scalar field theory with $\mathcal{L}_i = \lambda \phi^3$, where $\delta_i = 3 - 4 = -1$

Case $\delta_i = 0$: Renormalizable theory. Coupling is dimensionless.

Logarithmic divergences in all orders. Example: QFT.

Case $d_f > 0$: Non-renormalizable theory.

Example: Fermi's 4-fermion interaction.