

Tutorial # 1

1. Regulated and Renormalized Integrals

Here's a toy model for regularization and renormalization.

a) Evaluate

$$I_2(m^2) = \int_0^\Lambda dx x^3 \frac{1}{x^2 + m^2}$$

b) Evaluate

$$I_4(m^2) = \int_0^\Lambda dx x^3 \left(\frac{1}{x^2 + m^2} \right)^2$$

c) Define “renormalized” functions by

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{I}_2(m^2) &= I_2(m^2) + \delta_2 M^2 + \tilde{\delta}_2(m^2 - M^2) \\ \tilde{I}_4(m^2) &= I_4(m^2) + \delta_4\end{aligned}$$

and choose δ_2 and δ_4 such that $\tilde{I}_2(M^2) = 0 = \tilde{I}_4(M^2)$ at the special point $m^2 = M^2$ as well as $d\tilde{I}_2/dm^2(M^2) = 0$. With these choices, find the expressions for $\tilde{I}_2(m^2)$ and $\tilde{I}_4(m^2)$ at general values of m^2 assuming that $\Lambda^2 \gg m^2, M^2$. Show that these are finite as $\Lambda \rightarrow \infty$, and look at what happens to them when m^2 becomes much larger than M^2

2. Dark Matter Thermal Freeze-Out Estimate

About 25% of the energy density in the Universe today consists of dark matter (DM). The most promising explanation is a stable new particle. Consider a theory with a Dirac-fermion DM candidate χ and a real “SM” scalar boson ϕ interacting via

$$-\mathcal{L} \supset g\phi\bar{\psi}\psi$$

a) Estimate the cross section times relative velocity (σv) for $\psi\bar{\psi} \rightarrow \phi\phi$ in the limit where the initial ψ particles are non-relativistic and much heavier than ϕ . Use dimensional analysis.

Hint: for the relative velocity part, take a look at how it appears in the cross section formula.

b) The rate for these scatterings becomes too small to maintain an equilibrium density of ψ particles when the temperature of the Universe falls below the mass of ψ . This leaves a remnant *relic density* of ψ particles that act as dark matter. The relationship between σv and the fraction of the total cosmological energy density today is approximately

$$\rho_\chi/\rho_{total} \sim (0.25) \times \left(\frac{3 \times 10^{-26} \text{cm}^3/\text{s}}{\sigma v} \right).$$

For $g \sim 0.5$, estimate the value of the ψ mass that gives the observed DM fractional relic density.

3. Higher-Dimensional Operators

These can do interesting things!

- a) Neutrino masses can arise in the SM if we add the higher-dimensional operator

$$-\mathcal{L} \supset y_N^2 \frac{(H \cdot L)(H \cdot L)}{M_N} + (h.c.)$$

where $H = (H^+, H^0)$ is the Higgs doublet, $L = (\nu_L, \ell_L)$ is written as a two-component fermion (with fermion indices contracted in the usual two-component way), and $A \cdot B = A_a B_b \epsilon^{ab}$ is a gauge-invariant contraction of $SU(2)_L$ indices. Show that this operator generates a neutrino mass after the Higgs develops a VEV. For $y_N \sim 1$, estimate the mass scale M_N that gives $m_\nu \sim 0.1 \text{ eV}$.

- b) Proton decay can occur through the operator

$$-\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{M^2} \epsilon_{ijk} (Q^i \cdot Q^j) (Q^k \cdot L),$$

where we have written everything in terms of two-component fermions, ϵ_{ijk} produces a gauge-invariant contraction of $SU(3)_c$ indices, and the $SU(2)_L$ and fermion indices are contracted as above. Find a channel for proton decay induced by this operator, and estimate its rate using dimensional analysis. Given the current limit on the proton lifetime of about 10^{33} yrs, how large must M be?

Hint: the scale for all hadronic stuff is about $m_p \sim \text{GeV}$. Also, $\hbar c = 0.197 \text{ GeV fm}$, $1 \text{ yr} \simeq \pi \times 10^7 \text{ s}$, $c \simeq 3 \times 10^{23} \text{ fm/s}$.