

# EFFECTIVE FIELD THEORY

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# Outline

## 1) General Aspects of Effective Field Theory

- Dimensional Analysis
- Relevant, Irrelevant and Marginal
- Quantum Loops
- Decoupling. Matching. Scaling

## 2) Chiral Perturbation Theory

- Goldstone Theorem
- Chiral Symmetry
- Effective Goldstone Theory
- Massive States

# The Euler-Heisenberg Lagrangian

Light-by-light scattering in QED at very low energies ( $E_\gamma \ll m_e$ )

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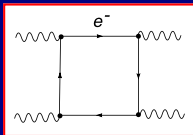
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = -\frac{1}{4}F^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu} + \frac{a}{m_e^4}(F^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu})^2 + \frac{b}{m_e^4}F^{\mu\nu}F_{\nu\sigma}F^{\sigma\rho}F_{\rho\mu} + \mathcal{O}(F^6/m_e^8)$$

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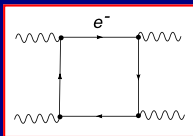
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$$\sigma(\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) \propto \frac{\alpha^4 E^6}{m_e^8}$$

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Low-energy scattering of photons with neutral atoms

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**Blue light is scattered more strongly than red one**

# Dimensions

$$S = \int d^4x \mathcal{L}(x) \quad \rightarrow \quad [\mathcal{L}] = E^4$$

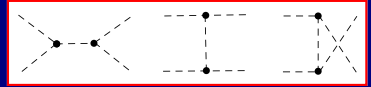
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{KG}} = \partial_\mu \phi^\dagger \partial^\mu \phi - m^2 \phi^\dagger \phi \quad \rightarrow \quad [\phi] = [V^\mu] = [A^\mu] = E$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Dirac}} = \bar{\psi} (i\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu - m) \psi \quad \rightarrow \quad [\psi] = E^{3/2}$$

$$[\sigma] = E^{-2} \quad , \quad [\Gamma] = E$$

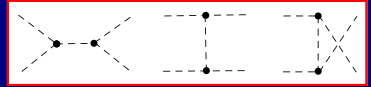
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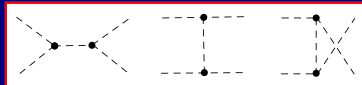
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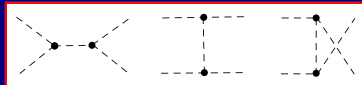
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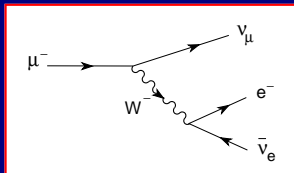
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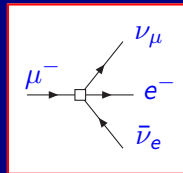
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# Fermi Theory of Weak Interactions

$$\frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{g^2}{8M_W^2}$$



$$\frac{-g_{\mu\nu} + q_\mu q_\nu / M_W^2}{q^2 - M_W^2} \xrightarrow{q^2 \ll M_W^2} \frac{g_{\mu\nu}}{M_W^2}$$

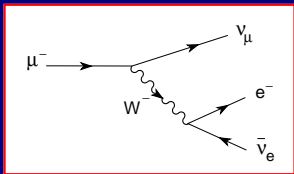


$$\mathcal{L}_I = \frac{g}{2\sqrt{2}} \{ W_\mu^\dagger \mathcal{J}^\mu + \text{h.c.} \}$$

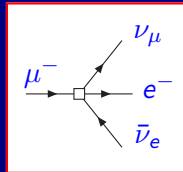
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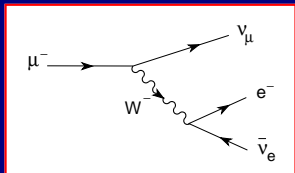
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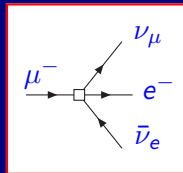
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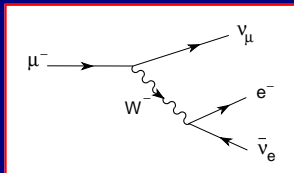
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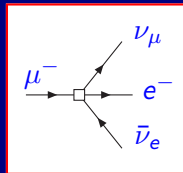
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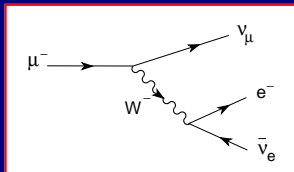
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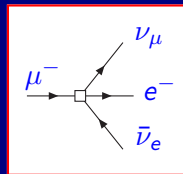
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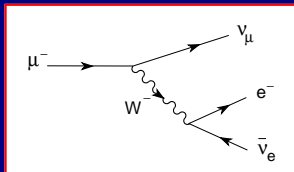
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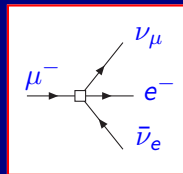
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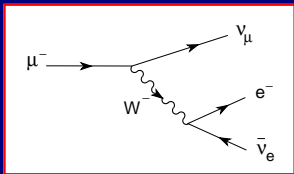
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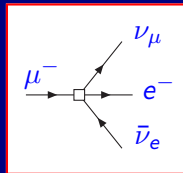
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**Violates unitarity at high energies**



# Relevant, Irrelevant & Marginal

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_i c_i O_i \quad , \quad [O_i] = d_i \quad \longrightarrow \quad c_i \sim \frac{1}{\Lambda^{d_i-4}}$$

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## Low-energy behaviour:

- **Relevant ( $d_i < 4$ ):** Enhanced by  $(\Lambda/E)^{4-d_i}$

$$I, \phi^2, \phi^3, \bar{\psi}\psi$$

- **Marginal ( $d_i = 4$ )**

- **Irrelevant ( $d_i > 4$ ):** Suppressed by  $(E/\Lambda)^{d_i-4}$

$$\alpha(Q^2) = \frac{\alpha(Q_0^2)}{1 - \beta_1 \frac{\alpha(Q_0^2)}{2\pi} \log(Q^2/Q_0^2)}$$

**QED:**

$$\beta_1^{\text{QED}} = \frac{2}{3} \sum_f Q_f^2 N_f > 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \lim_{Q^2 \rightarrow 0} \alpha(Q^2) = 0$$

Quantum corrections make **QED irrelevant** at low energies

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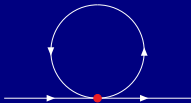
**QCD:**

$$\beta_1^{\text{QCD}} = \frac{2 N_F - 11 N_C}{6} < 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \lim_{Q^2 \rightarrow 0} \alpha_s(Q^2) = \infty$$

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# QUANTUM LOOPS

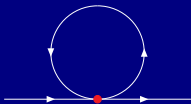
$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} (i\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu - m) \psi - \frac{a}{\Lambda^2} (\bar{\psi}\psi)^2 - \frac{b}{\Lambda^4} (\bar{\psi} \square \psi) (\bar{\psi}\psi) + \dots$$



$$\delta m \sim 2i \frac{a}{\Lambda^2} m \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{1}{k^2 - m^2}$$

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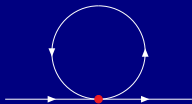


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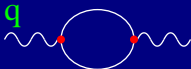
- **Cut-off regularization:**  $\delta m \sim \frac{m}{\Lambda^2} \Lambda^2 \sim m$  **Not suppressed!**
- **Dimensional regularization:**

$$\delta m \sim 2a m \frac{m^2}{16\pi^2 \Lambda^2} \mu^{2\epsilon} \left\{ \frac{1}{\epsilon} + \gamma_E - \log(4\pi) + \log\left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}\right) - 1 + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \right\}$$

**Well-defined expansion**

# VACUUM POLARIZATION ( $m_f \neq 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{\hat{\epsilon}} \equiv \frac{2}{D-4} + \gamma_E - \ln 4\pi$$



$$i\Pi^{\mu\nu}(q) = i(-q^2 g^{\mu\nu} + q^\mu q^\nu) \Pi(q^2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi(q^2) &= -\frac{\alpha Q_f^2}{3\pi} \left\{ \frac{\mu^{2\epsilon}}{\hat{\epsilon}} + 6 \int_0^1 dx x(1-x) \log \left( \frac{m_f^2 - q^2 x(1-x)}{\mu^2} \right) \right\} \\ &\equiv \Delta\Pi_\epsilon(\mu^2) + \Pi_R(q^2/\mu^2) \end{aligned}$$



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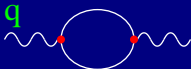
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$$\alpha_0 \{1 - \Delta\Pi_\epsilon(\mu^2) - \Pi_R(q^2/\mu^2)\} \equiv \alpha_R(\mu^2) \{1 - \Pi_R(q^2/\mu^2)\}$$

# VACUUM POLARIZATION ( $m_f \neq 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{\hat{\epsilon}} \equiv \frac{2}{D-4} + \gamma_E - \ln 4\pi$$



$$i\Pi^{\mu\nu}(q) = i(-q^2 g^{\mu\nu} + q^\mu q^\nu) \Pi(q^2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi(q^2) &= -\frac{\alpha Q_f^2}{3\pi} \left\{ \frac{\mu^{2\epsilon}}{\hat{\epsilon}} + 6 \int_0^1 dx x(1-x) \log\left(\frac{m_f^2 - q^2 x(1-x)}{\mu^2}\right) \right\} \\ &\equiv \Delta\Pi_\epsilon(\mu^2) + \Pi_R(q^2/\mu^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\alpha_0 \{1 - \Delta\Pi_\epsilon(\mu^2) - \Pi_R(q^2/\mu^2)\} \equiv \alpha_R(\mu^2) \{1 - \Pi_R(q^2/\mu^2)\}$$

$$\mu \frac{d\alpha}{d\mu} \equiv \alpha \beta(\alpha) = \alpha \left\{ \beta_1 \frac{\alpha}{\pi} + \beta_2 \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^2 + \dots \right\}$$



$$\alpha(Q^2) \approx \frac{\alpha(Q_0^2)}{1 - \beta_1 \frac{\alpha(Q_0^2)}{2\pi} \log(Q^2/Q_0^2)}$$

Mass-Dependent Scheme:

$$\Delta\Pi_\epsilon(\mu^2) \equiv \Pi(-\mu^2)$$

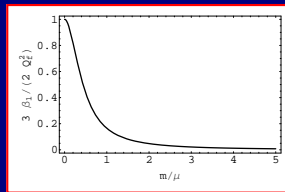
$$\Pi_R(q^2/\mu^2) = -Q_f^2 \frac{\alpha}{3\pi} 6 \int_0^1 dx x(1-x) \log \left[ \frac{m_f^2 - q^2 x(1-x)}{m_f^2 + \mu^2 x(1-x)} \right]$$

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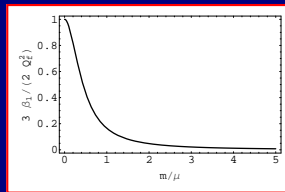


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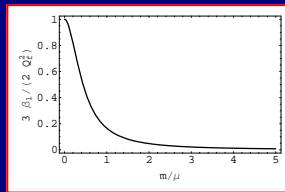
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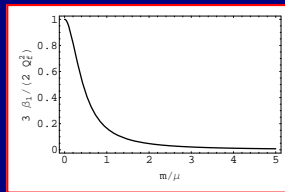
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- $m_f^2 \gg \mu^2, q^2$ :  $\beta_1 \sim \frac{2}{15} Q_f^2 \frac{\mu^2}{m_f^2}$  ,  $\Pi_R(q^2/\mu^2) \sim Q_f^2 \frac{\alpha}{15\pi} \frac{q^2 + \mu^2}{m_f^2}$

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**DECOUPLING**

(Appelquist-Carazzone Theorem)

$\overline{\text{MS}}$  Scheme:

$$\Delta\Pi_\epsilon(\mu^2) \equiv -Q_f^2 \frac{\alpha_0 \mu^{2\epsilon}}{3\pi} \frac{1}{\epsilon}$$

$$\Pi_R(q^2/\mu^2) = -Q_f^2 \frac{\alpha}{3\pi} 6 \int_0^1 dx x(1-x) \log \left[ \frac{m_f^2 - q^2 x(1-x)}{\mu^2} \right]$$



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Independent of  $m_f$

**Heavy fermions do not decouple**

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Perturbation theory breaks down

**SOLUTION:**

Integrate Out Heavy Particles

# MATCHING



- Two different EFTs (with and without the heavy fermion  $f$ )
- Same S-matrix elements for light-particle scattering at  $\mu = m_f$

## EFFECTIVE FIELD THEORY

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\partial\Phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2}m^2\phi^2 - \frac{1}{2}M^2\Phi^2 - \frac{\lambda}{2}\phi^2\Phi$$

## EFFECTIVE FIELD THEORY

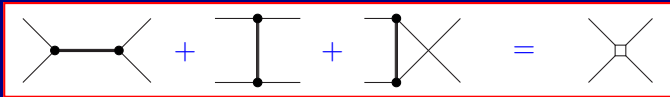
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$$\sigma(\phi\phi \rightarrow \phi\phi) \sim \frac{1}{E^2} \times \begin{cases} (\lambda/E)^4, & (m \ll M \ll E) \\ (\lambda/M)^4, & (m, E \ll M) \end{cases}$$

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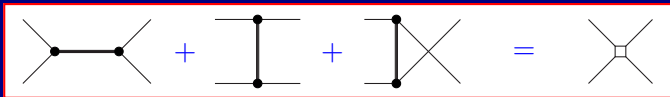
$E, m \ll M$

$$\frac{\lambda^2}{s - M^2} = -\frac{\lambda^2}{M^2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{s^n}{M^{2n}} \quad \rightarrow \quad \mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}(\phi) = \sum_i c_i O_i(\phi)$$

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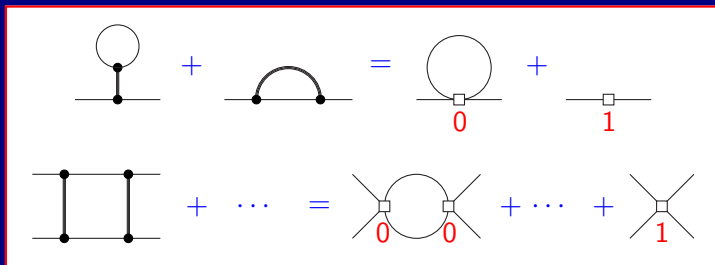
$$[O_i] = d_i \quad ; \quad c_i \sim \frac{\lambda^2}{M^2} \frac{1}{M^{d_i-4}}$$



One-Loop:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{2} a (\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} b \phi^2 + c \frac{\lambda^2}{8M^2} \phi^4 + \dots$$

MATCHING



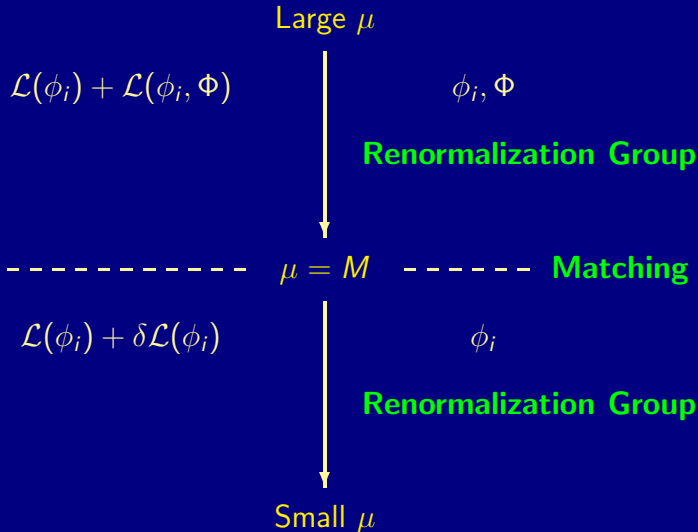
$$a = 1 + a_1 \frac{\lambda^2}{16\pi^2 M^2} + \dots \quad ; \quad b = m^2 + b_1 \frac{\lambda^2}{16\pi^2} + \dots$$

$$c = 1 + c_1 \frac{\lambda^2}{16\pi^2 M^2} + \dots \quad ; \quad \dots$$

# PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE FIELD THEORY

- **Low-energy dynamics** independent of details at high energies
- Appropriate physics description at the analyzed scale (**degrees of freedom**)
- **Energy gaps:**  $0 \leftarrow m \ll E \ll M \rightarrow \infty$
- Non-local heavy-particle exchanges replaced by a **tower of local interactions** among the light particles
- **Accuracy:**  $(E/M)^{(d_i-4)} \gtrsim \epsilon \iff d_i \lesssim 4 + \frac{\log(1/\epsilon)}{\log(M/E)}$
- **Same infrared** (but different ultraviolet) **behaviour** than the underlying fundamental theory
- The only remnants of the high-energy dynamics are in the **low-energy couplings** and in the **symmetries** of the EFT

# Evolution from High to Low Scales



# QCD MATCHING

$(\mu > M)$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}}^{(N_F)}$$



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}}^{(N_F-1)} + \sum_{d_i > 4} \frac{c_i}{M^{d_i-4}} O_i$$

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# QCD MATCHING

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$(\mu < M)$

$$\alpha_s^{(N_F)}(\mu^2) = \alpha_s^{(N_F-1)}(\mu^2) \left\{ 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} C_k(L) \left[ \frac{\alpha_s^{(N_F-1)}(\mu^2)}{\pi} \right]^k \right\}$$

$L \equiv \ln(\mu^2/m_q^2)$

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- Matching conditions known to 4 (3) loops:  $C_{1,2,3,4}$ ,  $H_{1,2,3}$   
(Chetyrkin et al, Larin et al)
- $L$  dependence known to 4 loops:  $H_4(L)$
- $\alpha_s(\mu^2)$  is not continuous at threshold

Wilson Coefficients:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_i \frac{c_i}{\Lambda^{d_i-4}} O_i$$

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$$\begin{aligned} c_i(\mu) &= c_i(\mu_0) \exp \left\{ \int_{\alpha_0}^{\alpha} \frac{d\alpha}{\alpha} \frac{\gamma_{O_i}(\alpha)}{\beta(\alpha)} \right\} \\ &= c_i(\mu_0) \left[ \frac{\alpha(\mu^2)}{\alpha(\mu_0^2)} \right]^{\gamma_{O_i}^{(1)}/\beta_1} \left\{ 1 + \dots \right\} \end{aligned}$$

# Evolution from High to Low Scales

