

$N = 4$ supersymmetric Yang-Mills thermodynamics to order λ^2

Thursday, August 11, 2022 2:15 PM (15 minutes)

We calculate the resummed perturbative free energy of $N = 4$ supersymmetric Yang-Mills in four spacetime dimensions $SYM_{4,4}$ through second order in the 't Hooft coupling λ at finite temperature and zero chemical potential. Our final result is ultraviolet finite and all infrared divergences generated at three-loop level are canceled by summing over $SYM_{4,4}$ ring diagrams. Non-analytic terms at $\mathcal{O}(\lambda^{3/2})$ and $\mathcal{O}(\lambda^2 \log)$ are generated by dressing the A_0 and scalar propagators. The gauge-field Debye mass m_D and the scalar thermal mass M_D are determined from their corresponding finite-temperature self-energies. Based on this, we obtain the three-loop thermodynamic functions of $SYM_{4,4}$ to $\mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)$.

Summary

By comparing our final result with prior results obtained in the weak- and strong-coupling limits and construct a generalized Padé approximant that interpolates between the weak-coupling result and the large- N_c strong-coupling result. Our results suggest that the $\mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)$ weak-coupling result for the scaled entropy density is a quantitatively reliable approximation to the scaled entropy density for $0 \leq \lambda \lesssim 2$.

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Session Classification: Parallel Session IX (1): TeV and BSM Physics

Track Classification: TeV 物理和超出标准模型新物理