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Unified theory in the worldline approach. (English) Zbl 1364.81254
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Summary: We explore unified field theories based on the gauge groups $SU(5)$ and $SO(10)$ using the worldline approach for chiral fermions with a Wilson loop coupling to a background gauge field. Representing path ordering and chiral projection operators with functional integrals has previously reproduced the sum over the chiralities and representations of standard model particles in a compact way. This paper shows that for $SU(5)$ the $\bar{5}$ and 10 representations – into which the Georgi-Glashow model places the left-handed fermionic content of the standard model – appear naturally and with the familiar chirality. We carry out the same analysis for flipped $SU(5)$ and uncover a link to $SO(10)$ unified theory. We pursue this by exploring the $SO(10)$ theory in the same framework, the less established unified theory based on $SU(6)$ and briefly consider the Pati-Salam model using $SU(4) \times SU(2) \times SU(2)$.

MSC:

81V22 Unified quantum theories

81R05 Finite-dimensional groups and algebras motivated by physics and their representations

81T13 Yang-Mills and other gauge theories in quantum field theory

Cited in 4 Documents

Keywords:

quantum electrodynamics; standard model; unification; Wilson loop

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