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Breakdown of the Perturbative Renormalization Group at Certain Quantum Critical Points JOERG ROLLBUEHLER, D. BELITZ, Department of Physics and Materials Science Institute, University of Oregon, T.R. KIRKPATRICK, Institute for Physical Science and Technology, and Department of Physics, University of Maryland — We show that a controlled loop expansion for critical exponents can break down if multiple time scales are present at a quantum critical point. We present a mechanism that leads to a divergence of coefficients in a controlled ϵ -expansion. This can invalidate results obtained from a finite-order perturbative renormalization group treatment. The mechanism is explained in terms of dangerous irrelevant variables. As a physically relevant example we discuss the quantum ferromagnetic transition in disordered metals.

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