

Advanced Quantum Field Theory

1^o Semester 2016/2017

I give here a brief description of the proposed topics. You should write a small text on the chosen topic and make an oral presentation. This will be organized in February, with a maximum duration of the oral presentation shall be 20-30 minutes.

IST, 3 of December, 2016
Jorge C. Romão

1 Renormalization Group and Unified Theories

Objective: Evaluate the evolution of the coupling constants using the renormalization group, for the Standard Model and for the MSSM. The student should do the explicit calculations that are needed.

Bibliography:

- *Advanced Quantum Field Theory* , Jorge C. Romão, Chapter 7.

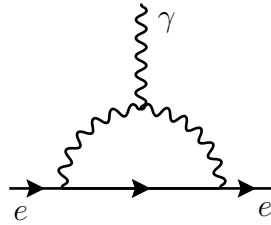
Student: Débora Barreiros

2 QED in a non-linear gauge

Consider QED with a non-linear gauge condition,

$$F = \partial_\mu A^\mu + \frac{\lambda}{2} A_\mu A^\mu .$$

1. Write \mathcal{L}_{eff} and show that $s\mathcal{L}_{eff} = 0$, where s is the Slavnov operator.
2. Write the Feynman rules for the new vertices and propagators. Then evaluate at tree level $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma$. Compare with the results in the usual linear gauge.
3. Evaluate the vacuum polarization at one-loop.
4. Show that the diagram of the figure, that would be potentially dangerous for the anomalous magnetic moment of the electron (would be proportional to λ) vanishes.



Student:

3 Vacuum Polarization in QCD

Consider the theory that describes the interactions of quarks with gluons (QCD) given by the Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^a F^{\mu\nu a} + \sum_{\alpha=1}^n \bar{\psi}_i^\alpha (i\not{D} - m_\alpha)_{ij} \psi_j^\alpha$$

where

$$F_{\mu\nu}^a = \partial_\mu A_\nu^a - \partial_\nu A_\mu^a + gf^{abc} A_\mu^b A_\nu^c$$

$$(D_\mu)_{ij} = \delta_{ij} \partial_\mu - ig \left(\frac{\lambda^a}{2} \right)_{ij} A_\mu^a .$$

The index $\alpha = 1, 2, \dots, n$ denotes the different quark flavours (*up, down, ..., top*). In order to quantize the theory use the linear gauge condition,

$$\mathcal{L}_{GF} = -\frac{1}{2\xi} (\partial_\mu A^{\mu a})^2 ,$$

that gives the following Lagrangian for the ghosts,

$$\mathcal{L}_G = \partial_\mu \bar{\omega}^a \partial^\mu \omega^a + gf^{abc} \partial^\mu \bar{\omega}^a A_\mu^b \omega^c$$

To renormalize the theory one needs the following counter-term Lagrangian,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\mathcal{L} = & -\frac{1}{4}(Z_3 - 1) (\partial_\mu A_\nu^a - \partial_\nu A_\mu^a)^2 - (Z_4 - 1)gf^{abc} \partial_\mu A_\nu^a A^{\mu b} A^{\nu c} \\ & -\frac{1}{4}g^2(Z_5 - 1)f^{abc} f^{ade} A_\mu^b A_\nu^c A^{\mu d} A^{\nu e} + \sum_{\alpha} (Z_2 - 1)i\bar{\psi}_i^\alpha \gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \psi_i^\alpha \\ & - \sum_{\alpha} m_\alpha (Z_{m_\alpha} - 1)\bar{\psi}_i^\alpha \psi_i^\alpha + (Z_1 - 1)g \sum_{\alpha} \bar{\psi}_i^\alpha \gamma^\mu \left(\frac{\lambda^a}{2} \right)_{ij} \psi_j^\alpha A_\mu^a \\ & + (Z_6 - 1)\partial_\mu \bar{\omega}^a \partial^\mu \omega^a + (Z_7 - 1)gf^{abc} \partial^\mu \bar{\omega}^a A_\mu^b \omega^c . \end{aligned}$$

1. Verify the expression for \mathcal{L}_G .
2. Verify the Feynman rules given in the text.
3. Evaluate the vacuum polarization.

Student: Gonalo Quinta

4 Renormalization of QCD

Consider the theory that describes the interactions of quarks with gluons (QCD) given by the Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^a F^{\mu\nu a} + \sum_{\alpha=1}^n \bar{\psi}_i^\alpha (i\not{D} - m_\alpha)_{ij} \psi_j^\alpha$$

where

$$F_{\mu\nu}^a = \partial_\mu A_\nu^a - \partial_\nu A_\mu^a + gf^{abc} A_\mu^b A_\nu^c$$

$$(D_\mu)_{ij} = \delta_{ij} \partial_\mu - ig \left(\frac{\lambda^a}{2} \right)_{ij} A_\mu^a .$$

The index $\alpha = 1, 2, \dots, n$ denotes the different quark flavours (*up, down, ..., top*). In order to quantize the theory use the linear gauge condition,

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To renormalize the theory one needs the following counter-term Lagrangian,

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1. Show that the following relations must be true

$$\frac{Z_1}{Z_2} = \frac{Z_4}{Z_3} = \frac{Z_7}{Z_6} = \frac{\sqrt{Z_5}}{\sqrt{Z_3}}$$

2. Evaluate Z_1, Z_2, Z_3, Z_4, Z_6 e Z_7 using Minimal Subtraction (MS). Show explicitly that $Z_1 Z_6 = Z_2 Z_7$.
3. Evaluate the contribution of the fermions to Z_4 and Z_5 . Show that they are in agreement with the previous relations.

Student: Bernardo Gonçalves

5 Renormalization of Scalar Electrodynamics

Consider Scalar Electrodynamics, that is the gauge theory of interactions of photons with charged scalar particles.

1. Write the Lagrangian for this theory.
2. Derive the Feynman rules.
3. Identify the divergent diagrams.
4. Do the on-shell renormalization for the self-energies of the photon and charged scalar particle.

Student: Sofia Freitas

6 Renormalization of the Wess-Zumino Model

Consider the Wess-Zumino model described by the Lagrangian

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu A\partial^\mu A + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu B\partial^\mu B + \frac{i}{2}\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu\psi - \frac{1}{2}m^2A^2 - \frac{1}{2}m^2B^2 - \frac{1}{2}m\bar{\psi}\psi \\ & - \frac{\lambda^2}{4}(A^2 + B^2)^2 - \frac{m\lambda}{\sqrt{2}}A(A^2 + B^2) - \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{2}}A\bar{\psi}\psi + \frac{i\lambda}{\sqrt{2}}B\bar{\psi}\gamma_5\psi \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where the fermion ψ is a Majorana particle and A and B are real scalar fields.

1. Derive the Feynman rules. Do not forget that the fermion is a Majorana fermion.
2. Identify the divergent diagrams.
3. Evaluate the self-energy of the scalar fields and show that the quadratic divergences cancel.
4. To renormalize this model it is necessary a counter-term Lagrangian of the form,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\mathcal{L} = & \frac{1}{2}\delta Z_A\partial_\mu A\partial^\mu A + \frac{1}{2}\delta Z_B\partial_\mu B\partial^\mu B + \frac{i}{2}\delta Z_\psi\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu\psi \\ & - \frac{1}{2}m^2(2\delta Z_m + \delta Z_A)A^2 - \frac{1}{2}m^2(2\delta Z_m + \delta Z_B)B^2 - \frac{1}{2}m(\delta Z_m + \delta Z_\psi)\bar{\psi}\psi \\ & - \frac{\lambda^2}{4}(2\delta Z_\lambda + 2\delta Z_A)A^4 - \frac{\lambda^2}{4}(2\delta Z_\lambda + 2\delta Z_B)B^4 \\ & - 2\frac{\lambda^2}{4}(2\delta Z_\lambda + \delta Z_A + \delta Z_B)A^2B^2 \\ & - \frac{m\lambda}{\sqrt{2}}(\delta Z_m + \delta Z_\lambda + \frac{3}{2}\delta Z_A)A^3 - \frac{m\lambda}{\sqrt{2}}(\delta Z_m + \delta Z_\lambda + \frac{1}{2}\delta Z_A + \delta Z_B)AB^2 \\ & - \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{2}}(\delta Z_\lambda + \frac{1}{2}\delta Z_A + \delta Z_\psi)A\bar{\psi}\psi + \frac{i\lambda}{\sqrt{2}}(\delta Z_\lambda + \frac{1}{2}\delta Z_B + \delta Z_\psi)B\bar{\psi}\gamma_5\psi \end{aligned}$$

Show that the six renormalization constants are related and that there is only one independent, the wave function renormalization. to show this evaluate the renormalization constants in Minimal Subtraction.

Student: Miguel Levy

7 Unitarity in Non-Abelian Gauge Theories

Consider the theory that describes the interactions of quarks with gluons (QCD) given by the Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^a F^{\mu\nu a} + \sum_{\alpha=1}^n \bar{\psi}_i^\alpha (i\not{D} - m_\alpha)_{ij} \psi_j^\alpha$$

where

$$F_{\mu\nu}^a = \partial_\mu A_\nu^a - \partial_\nu A_\mu^a + gf^{abc} A_\mu^b A_\nu^c$$

$$(D_\mu)_{ij} = \delta_{ij} \partial_\mu - ig \left(\frac{\lambda^a}{2} \right)_{ij} A_\mu^a .$$

The index $\alpha = 1, 2, \dots, n$ denotes the different quark flavours (*up, down, ..., top*). In order to quantize the theory use the linear gauge condition,

$$\mathcal{L}_{GF} = -\frac{1}{2\xi} (\partial_\mu A^{\mu a})^2 ,$$

that gives the following Lagrangian for the ghosts,

$$\mathcal{L}_G = \partial_\mu \bar{\omega}^a \partial^\mu \omega^a + gf^{abc} \partial^\mu \bar{\omega}^a A_\mu^b \omega^c$$

1. Verify the expression for \mathcal{L}_G .
2. Show explicitly that the action is BRS invariant.

Consider now the amplitudes

The diagrams show two ghost amplitudes, $iT_{\mu\nu}^{ab}$ and iT^{ab} . Both diagrams feature a ghost loop represented by a circle with horizontal lines. In the left diagram, two external ghost lines with momenta p_1 and p_2 enter and exit the loop. Two external gluon lines with momenta k_1 and k_2 also enter and exit the loop. The right diagram is similar but the external lines are ghost lines with momenta k_1 and k_2 .

3. Evaluate $T_{\mu\nu}^{ab}$ at tree level. Verify that, for off-shell gluons, we have $k_1^\mu T_{\mu\nu}^{ab} \neq 0$. What happens for on-shell gluons?
4. Verify, at tree level, the Ward identities

$$k_1^\mu T_{\mu\nu}^{ab} = k_2^\nu T^{ab}$$

5. Use the above results to explicitly prove unitarity at one-loop level, showing that the optical theorem holds in this case.

Student:

8 Feynman Rules for QED using the Path Integral

The generating functional for the Green functions in QED is given by,

$$Z(J_\mu, \eta, \bar{\eta}) = \int \mathcal{D}(A_\mu, \psi, \bar{\psi}) e^{i \int d^4x (\mathcal{L}_{QED} + \mathcal{L}_{GF} + J^\mu A_\mu + \bar{\eta}\psi + \bar{\psi}\eta)} . \quad (2)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{QED} &= -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \bar{\psi}(i\not{D} - m)\psi \\ \mathcal{L}_{GF} &= -\frac{1}{2\xi} (\partial \cdot A)^2 \\ D_\mu &= \partial_\mu + ieA_\mu . \end{aligned}$$

a) Determine $Z_0[J^\mu, \eta, \bar{\eta}]$

b) Show that

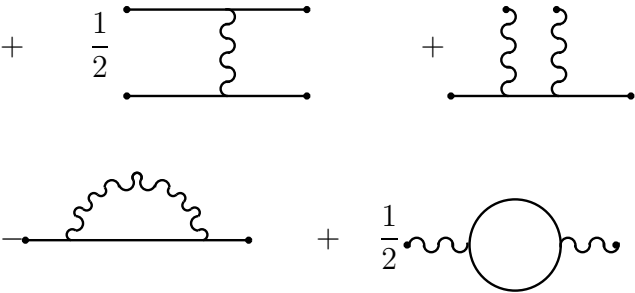
$$Z[J^\mu, \eta, \bar{\eta}] = \exp \left\{ (-ie) \int d^4x \frac{\delta}{\delta \eta_\alpha(x)} (\gamma^\mu)_{\alpha\beta} \frac{\delta}{\delta \bar{\eta}_\beta(x)} \frac{\delta}{\delta J_\mu(x)} \right\} Z_0[J^\mu, \eta, \bar{\eta}] . \quad (3)$$

c) Expand

$$Z = Z_0 [1 + (-ie)Z_1 + (-ie)^2 Z_2 + \dots] \quad (4)$$

where we have subtracted the vacuum-vacuum amplitudes in Z_i , that is, $Z_i[0] = 0 \rightarrow Z[0] = 1$. Show that

$$Z_1 = - \text{diagram} \quad (5)$$


$$Z_2 = \frac{1}{2} Z_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} \text{diagram} + \text{diagram} + \text{diagram} + \frac{1}{2} \text{diagram} \quad (6)$$


d) Discuss the numerical factors and signs of the previous diagrams.

e) Evaluate in lowest order

$$\langle 0 | T A^\mu(x) \psi_\beta(y) \bar{\psi}_\alpha(z) | 0 \rangle = \frac{\delta^3 Z}{i \delta \eta_\alpha(z) i \delta \bar{\eta}_\beta(y) i \delta J_\mu(x)} \quad (7)$$

and verify that it coincides with the Feynman rules for the vertex

f) Determine the amplitude for the Compton scattering in lowest order, that is,

$$\langle 0|TA^\mu(x)A^\nu(y)\psi_\beta(z)\bar{\psi}_\alpha(w)|0\rangle = \frac{\delta^4 Z}{i\delta\eta_\alpha(w)i\delta\bar{\eta}_\beta(z)i\delta J_\nu(y)i\delta J_\mu} \quad (8)$$

and verify that it reproduces the result obtained from the usual Feynman rules.

Student: Miguel Bento

9 β Function in a general $SU(N)$ gauge theory

9.1 Definitions

We define here the theory to have all conventions consistent. Notice that some of these conventions differ from the textbook.

Classical Theory

Consider the non-abelian $SU(N)$ gauge theory defined by its classical Lagrangian,

$$\mathcal{L}_{SU(n)} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^a F^{\mu\nu a} + \bar{\psi}_i (i\not{D} - m_F)_{ij} \psi_j + (D_\mu \phi)_i^\dagger D^\mu \phi_i - m_S^2 \phi_i^\dagger \phi_i \quad (9)$$

where

$$F_{\mu\nu}^a = \partial_\mu A_\nu^a - \partial_\nu A_\mu^a - gf^{abc} A_\mu^b A_\nu^c \quad (10)$$

$$(D_\mu)_{ij} = \delta_{ij} \partial_\mu + ig (T^a)_{ij} A_\mu^a . \quad (11)$$

and T_{ij}^a are the generators in the representation to which the fermion and scalar belong (possibly different ones). To quantify the theory we have to introduce the gauge fixing term, that we choose to be of the form,

$$\mathcal{L}_{GF} = -\frac{1}{2\xi} (\partial_\mu A^{\mu a})^2 , \quad (12)$$

for which we have the following ghost Lagrangian,

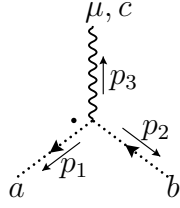
$$\mathcal{L}_G = \partial_\mu \bar{\omega}^a \partial^\mu \omega^a - gf^{abc} \partial^\mu \bar{\omega}^a A_\mu^b \omega^c . \quad (13)$$

Counterterm Lagrangian

To renormalize the theory we need the following counterterm Lagrangian

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\mathcal{L} = & -\frac{1}{4}(Z_A - 1) (\partial_\mu A_\nu^a - \partial_\nu A_\mu^a)^2 + (Z_{AAA} - 1)gf^{abc}\partial_\mu A_\nu^a A^{\mu b} A^{\nu c} \\ & -\frac{1}{4}g^2(Z_{AAAA} - 1)f^{abc}f^{ade}A_\mu^b A_\nu^c A^{\mu d} A^{\nu e} + (Z_F - 1)i\bar{\psi}_i \gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \psi_i - m_F(Z_{m_\psi} - 1)\bar{\psi}_i \psi_i \\ & -(Z_{\psi\psi A} - 1)g\bar{\psi}_i \gamma^\mu (T^a)_{ij} \psi_j A_\mu^a + (Z_G - 1)\partial_\mu \bar{\omega}^a \partial^\mu \omega^a - (Z_{GGA} - 1)gf^{abc}\partial^\mu \bar{\omega}^a A_\mu^b \omega^c \\ & +(Z_S - 1)\partial_\mu \phi_i^* \partial^\mu \phi_i - m_S^2(Z_S - 1)\phi_i^* \phi_i - (Z_{SSA} - 1) \left[igA_\mu^a \phi_i^\dagger T_{ij}^a \partial^\mu \phi_j - igA_\mu^a \partial^\mu \phi_i^\dagger T_{ij}^a \phi_j \right] \\ & +(Z_{SSAA} - 1)g^2 \phi_i^\dagger T_{ij}^a \phi_j A_\mu^a \phi_k^\dagger T_{km}^b \phi_m A^{b\mu} . \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

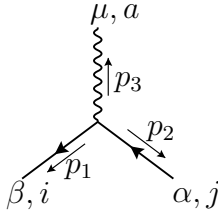
iii) Ghost-Gauge boson interaction



$$-g f^{abc} p_1^\mu \equiv \Gamma_{abc}^\mu(p_1) \quad (20)$$

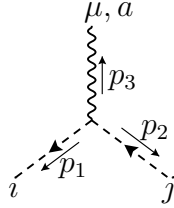
$$p_1 + p_2 + p_3 = 0$$

iv) Fermion-Gauge boson interaction



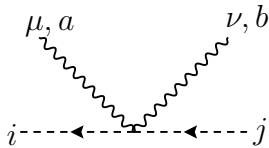
$$-ig(\gamma^\mu)_{\beta\alpha} T_{ij}^a \quad (21)$$

v) Scalar-Gauge boson interaction: Cubic term



$$-ig(p_1 - p_2)^\mu T_{ij}^a \equiv V_S^\mu(p_1, p_2) T_{ij}^a \quad (22)$$

vi) Scalar-Gauge boson interaction: Quartic term



$$ig^2 g_{\mu\nu} \{T^a, T^b\}_{ij} \quad (23)$$

Notice that in the definition of $\Gamma_{abc}^{\mu\nu\rho}(p_1, p_2, p_3)$ in Eq. (18) all the momenta are outgoing. This explains the different sign when comparing with Ref.[1].

Group factors

We summarize here some useful formulas for dealing with some group theory factors. Our generators obey the defining commutation relations,

$$[T^a, T^b] = i f^{abc} T^c \quad (24)$$

where the structure constants of the Lie group G are completely antisymmetric, and the generators in a representation R of G are normalized as follows,

$$\text{Tr}[T^a T^b] = T_R \delta^{ab} \quad (25)$$

The structure constants obey the Jacobi identity

$$f^{abd} f^{dce} + f^{bcd} f^{dae} + f^{cad} f^{dbe} = 0 \quad (26)$$

and we define the two Casimir invariants

$$f^{abd} f^{dbc} = C_A \delta^{ad}, \quad T^a T^a = C_R \mathbf{1}. \quad (27)$$

Useful relations are,

$$T_R r = d_R C_A \quad (28)$$

$$\text{Tr}[T^a T^b T^c] - \text{Tr}[T^a T^c T^b] = i T_R f^{abc} \quad (29)$$

$$T^{abcd} + T^{abdc} + T^{acdb} + T^{adcb} - 2T^{acbd} - 2T^{adbc} = T_R (f^{ade} f^{bce} + f^{ace} f^{bde}), \quad (30)$$

where r is the dimension of G , d_R the dimension of the representation R of G and $T^{abcd} \equiv \text{Tr}[T^a T^b T^c T^d]$. For $SU(N)$ we have,

$$r = N^2 - 1 \quad d_N = N \quad (31)$$

$$T_N = \frac{1}{2} \quad C_N = \frac{N^2 - 1}{2N} \quad (32)$$

$$C_A = T_{Adj} = N \quad . \quad (33)$$

9.2 Calculate the β function

The β function can be obtained in many ways. Here use as starting point

$$Z_g = Z_{AAA} Z_A^{-3/2} \quad (34)$$

In all calculations consider the gauge with $\xi = 1$ and evaluate the counter-terms using the MS scheme (just consider the coefficient of the pole).

1. Calculate the pure gauge contribution to Z_A at one loop.
2. Calculate the pure gauge contribution to Z_{AAA} at one loop.
3. Calculate the fermion contribution to Z_A and Z_{AAA} at one loop.
4. Calculate the scalar contribution to Z_A and Z_{AAA} at one loop.
5. Finally evaluate the β function for this theory. Check that you recover Eq. 7.179 of the textbook.

Student:

References

- [1] J. C. Romao and J. P. Silva, *Int.J.Mod.Phys.* **A27**, 1230025 (2012), [1209.6213].