# Advanced field theory

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## ELTE

Lecture 1 or: How I learnt to stop worrying and love renormalisation

#### Why quantum field theory?

- want a quantum-mechanical description of processes at relativistic energies
- need to take into account the principles of both special relativity (SR) and quantum mechanics (QM)
  - SR: locality and Poincaré invariance
  - ► QM: superposition principle, uncertainty principle

Use **fields**  $\phi(x)$ , objects associated with spacetime points x

- use local and Poincaré-invariant field interactions ⇒ SR satisfied (easier if fields transform in a simple way)
- $\bullet\,$  make fields generally non-commuting linear operators  $\Rightarrow\,$  QM satisfied

How do we build a quantum field theory? E.g., canonical quantisation

**(**) impose canonical commutation relations (CCR)  $\Rightarrow$  field operators

 $[\hat{\phi}(t,\vec{x}),\hat{\pi}(t,\vec{y})] = i\delta^{(3)}(\vec{x}-\vec{y}) \qquad [\hat{\phi}(t,\vec{x}),\hat{\phi}(t,\vec{y})] = [\hat{\pi}(t,\vec{x}),\hat{\pi}(t,\vec{y})] = 0$ 

What do we gain?

- CCR imply locality: observables commute at spacelike separation
- Noether's theorem ⇒ conserved charges that generate unitary representations of Poincaré symmetry, and of other symmetries of the classical Lagrangian

Conditions may apply: symmetries can be spontaneously broken or anomalous

Small practical obstacle: cannot generally solve EOM, proceed by approximations - e.g., **perturbation theory** 

Interaction picture: relate interacting (canonical) field  $\phi(t)$  to free (canonical) field  $\phi_{\text{IP}}(t)$  by unitary transformation  $U_{\text{IP}}(t) = e^{iH_0t}e^{-iHt}$ 

$$\begin{split} H[\phi,\pi] &= \int d^3x \left( \pi(x)\partial_0\phi(x) - \mathcal{L}(\phi,\vec{\nabla}\phi,\partial_0\phi(\phi,\pi)) \right) \\ H[\phi(t),\pi(t)] &= H[\phi(0),\pi(0)] = H_0[\phi(0),\pi(0)] + V_{\rm I}[\phi(0),\pi(0)] \\ \phi(t,\vec{x}) &= e^{iHt}\phi(0,\vec{x})e^{-iHt} & \pi(t,\vec{x}) = e^{iHt}\pi(0,\vec{x})e^{-iHt} \\ \phi_{\rm IP}(t,\vec{x}) &= e^{iH_0t}\phi(0,\vec{x})e^{-iH_0t} & \pi_{\rm IP}(t,\vec{x}) = e^{iH_0t}\pi(0,\vec{x})e^{-iH_0t} \\ \phi(x) &= U_{\rm IP}(t)^{\dagger}\phi_{\rm IP}(x)U_{\rm IP}(t) & \pi(x) = U_{\rm IP}(t)^{\dagger}\pi_{\rm IP}(x)U_{\rm IP}(t) \end{split}$$

Now solve the theory iteratively in powers of the interaction

$$egin{aligned} H\Psi &= E\Psi \Rightarrow (H_0+V_I)(\Psi_0+\Psi_1+\ldots) = (E_0+E_1+\ldots)(\Psi_0+\Psi_1+\ldots)\ &H_0\Psi_0 &= E_0\Psi_0\ &V_I\Psi_0+H_0\Psi_1 = E_1\Psi_0+E_0\Psi_1 \end{aligned}$$

• S-matrix, Green's functions (= time-ordered correlation functions) divergent beyond lowest perturbative order

 $\langle 0|T\{\hat{\phi}(x_1)\dots\hat{\phi}(x_n)\}|0\rangle$ 



0-loop 
$$\propto g$$
  
1-loop  $\propto g^2 \int \frac{d^4q}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{1}{q^2 + m^2 - i\epsilon} \frac{1}{(p-q)^2 + m^2 - i\epsilon} = \infty$ 

• require renormalisation of field  $\phi = Z_{\phi}\phi_R$ , mass  $m = Z_m m_R$ , and coupling  $g = Z_g g_R$  to get finite quantities when removing cutoff  $\Rightarrow$  renormalised field is not canonical anymore

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$$\begin{array}{l} 0\text{-loop} \propto g\\ 1\text{-loop} \propto g^2 \int^{\Lambda} \frac{d^4q}{(2\pi)^4} \, \frac{1}{q^2 + m^2 - i\epsilon} \frac{1}{(p-q)^2 + m^2 - i\epsilon} \qquad \propto g^2 \log \frac{\Lambda}{\mu} \end{array}$$

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$$g = Z_g g_R \equiv g_R - g_R^2 \log \frac{\Lambda}{\mu}$$
  
oop + 1-loop = g + g<sup>2</sup> log  $\frac{\Lambda}{\mu} = g_R - g_R^2 \log \frac{\Lambda}{\mu} + g_R^2 \log \frac{\Lambda}{\mu} + O(g_R^3)$ 

0-1

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$$g = Z_g g_R \equiv g_R - g_R^2 \log \frac{\Lambda}{\mu}$$
  
0-loop + 1-loop =  $g + g^2 \log \frac{\Lambda}{\mu} = g_R - \frac{g_R^2 \log \Lambda}{g_R^2 \log \frac{\Lambda}{\mu}} + \frac{g_R^2 \log \Lambda}{\mu} + O(g_R^3)$ 

Is this a problem?

- canonical procedure not written in stone if it need to be supplemented by renormalisation, so be it
- canonical procedure useful to enforce locality and Poincaré symmetry, not spoiled by renormalisation if we do it right
- our real purpose is to obtain finite Green's functions with suitable locality and symmetry properties and build the *S*-matrix, how we do that is irrelevant after all we still need to check against experiment

Field operators can be reconstructed from their Green's functions (Wightman's theorem)

Need for renormalisation is actually a feature if we are to build an interacting theory

- Haag's theorem: if unitary transformation to interaction picture exists then the interacting field is actually a free field...
- ... but renormalised field  $\phi_R$  is not unitarily related to  $\phi_{\rm IP}$  ( $Z_{\phi} \neq 1$ ), theorem evaded

Quantisation procedure perturbatively equivalent to canonical procedure: path integral quantisation

Generating functional

$$Z[J] = \int \mathrm{D}\phi \, e^{i \int d^4 \times \mathcal{L}[\phi] + i \int d^4 \times J\phi} = \int \mathrm{D}\phi \, e^{iS[\phi] + iJ \cdot \phi} \qquad \mathrm{D}\phi = \prod_{x} d\phi(x)$$

Green's function obtained by functional derivatives

$$-i\frac{\delta \log Z[J]}{\delta J(x)}\Big|_{J=0} = \langle \phi(x) \rangle = \langle 0|\hat{\phi}(x)|0\rangle$$
  
$$(-i)^2 \frac{\delta^2 \log Z[J]}{\delta J(x)\delta J(y)}\Big|_{J=0} = \langle \phi(x)\phi(y) \rangle - \langle \phi(x) \rangle \langle \phi(y) \rangle$$
  
$$= \langle 0|T\{\hat{\phi}(x)\hat{\phi}(y)\}|0\rangle - \langle 0|\hat{\phi}(x)|0\rangle \langle 0|\hat{\phi}(y)|0\rangle$$

• [-] Path-integral ill-defined (what is the measure?)

. . .

- [=] Perturbative expansion needs regularisation and renormalisation as in canonical procedure
- [+] More intuitive, allows for non-perturbative approaches (lattice)

Renormalisation conceptually independent of divergences

- start with Z = Z[J; m, g] and regularise by some UV cutoff Λ (momentum cutoff, inverse lattice spacing,...)
   ⇒ Z = Z[J; m, g; Λ], finite and adequate for p ≪ Λ
- *m*, *g* are thought of as mass and coupling but are they?

We want to describe the collision of particles initially far away from each other ( $\approx$  free), so  $\phi$  must describe free particles in some suitable limit

• at  $t=\mp\infty$  Green's functions should describe free particles, we need

Fields should be smeared over small regions in time and space

- $m_{\rm phys}$  must be matched to the particles we want to describe
- $Z_{\phi}$  accounts for interacting field creating also multiparticle states

Is  $m_{\rm phys} = m$ ? Generally <u>no</u>: what particles are described at asymptotic times is for the theory to decide after interactions are taken into account

Exercise: compute the two-point function exactly for the interaction Lagrangian  $\mathcal{L}_I = K \phi^2$  by resumming diagrams — and also the other way

For 
$$g: \sigma_{2\to2}^{\text{elastic}} \propto |\mathcal{M}_{2\to2}|^2$$
, from  $\langle \phi(x_1)\phi(x_2)\phi(x_3)\phi(x_4) \rangle$  (LSZ formula)  
 $i\mathcal{M}_{2\to2} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^6 Z_{\phi}^4} \int d^4 x_1 \int d^4 x_2 \int d^4 x_3 \int d^4 x_4 \, e^{ip'_1 \cdot x_1} e^{ip'_2 \cdot x_2} e^{-ip_1 \cdot x_3} e^{-ip_2 \cdot x_4}$   
 $\times (\Box_{x_1} + m_{\text{phys}}^2)(\Box_{x_2} + m_{\text{phys}}^2)(\Box_{x_3} + m_{\text{phys}}^2)(\Box_{x_4} + m_{\text{phys}}^2)$   
 $\times \langle \phi(x_1)\phi(x_2)\phi(x_3)\phi(x_4) \rangle$   
Define  $g_{\text{phys}}$  from  $\mathcal{M}_{2\to2}(\vec{p}_i = 0) = g_{\text{phys}}$  (arbitrary, but reasonable)  
 $\sigma_{2\to2}^{\text{elastic}}(\vec{p}_i \to 0) \propto g_{\text{phys}}^2$ 

m and g must be tuned so that  $m_{\rm phys}$ ,  $g_{\rm phys}$  match experiments

$$\begin{cases} m_{\rm phys} = f_m(m,g) \\ g_{\rm phys} = f_g(m,g) \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} m = F_m(m_{\rm phys},g_{\rm phys}) \\ g = F_g(m_{\rm phys},g_{\rm phys}) \end{cases}$$

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Divergences complicate the picture technically, not conceptually:

in the regulated theory 
$$egin{cases} m_{
m phys} = f_m(m,g;\Lambda) \ g_{
m phys} = f_g(m,g;\Lambda) \end{cases}$$
, limits  $\Lambda o \infty$  do not exist

If the theory is renormalisable

$$\begin{cases} m_{\rm phys} = f_m(m,g;\Lambda) = f_m(Z_m(\Lambda)m_R, Z_g(\Lambda)g_R;\Lambda) \underset{\Lambda \to \infty}{\to} f_m^{(R)}(m_R,g_R) \\ g_{\rm phys} = f_g(m,g;\Lambda) = f_g(Z_m(\Lambda)m_R, Z_g(\Lambda)g_R;\Lambda) \underset{\Lambda \to \infty}{\to} f_g^{(R)}(m_R,g_R) \end{cases}$$

have finite limits  $\Lambda \to \infty$  at  $m_R$ ,  $g_R$  fixed for suitable  $Z_{m,g}$ 

$$\left\{ egin{aligned} m_R &= F_m^{(R)}(m_{
m phys},g_{
m phys}) \ g_R &= F_g^{(R)}(m_{
m phys},g_{
m phys}) \end{aligned} 
ight.$$

— so tune

$$\left\{ egin{aligned} m=m(\Lambda)=Z_m(\Lambda)F_m^{(R)}(m_{
m phys},g_{
m phys})=ar{Z}_m(\Lambda)m_{
m phys}\ g=g(\Lambda)=Z_g(\Lambda)F_g^{(R)}(m_{
m phys},g_{
m phys})=ar{Z}_g(\Lambda)g_{
m phys} \end{aligned} 
ight.$$

last step is a finite renormalisation

Last step not necessary:  $m_R, g_R$  need not be identified with  $m_{\rm phys}, g_{\rm phys}$ , can be chosen arbitrarily

• most physical choice:  $(m_R, g_R) = (m_{
m phys}, g_{
m phys})$ 

$$\tilde{D}(p) = \frac{i}{p^2 - m^2 - \Sigma(p^2) + i\epsilon} \xrightarrow{p^2 \to m_{\rm phys}^2} \frac{iZ_{\phi}^2}{p^2 - m_{\rm phys}^2 + i\epsilon}$$
$$\mathcal{M}_{2\to2}(\vec{p}_i = 0) = g_{\rm phys}$$

• in general we can put as much finite part as we want with divergences

$$\begin{split} p^2 &- m^2 - \Sigma_1^{\text{div}} p^2 - \Sigma_2^{\text{div}} m^2 - \Sigma_3^{\text{div}} - \Sigma_3^{\text{fin}} (p^2) \\ &= Z_{\phi}^{-2} (p^2 - m_R^2) - \Sigma_R^{\text{fin}} (p^2) \\ Z_{\phi}^{-2} &= 1 - \Sigma_1^{\text{div}} - C_1 \qquad Z_{\phi}^{-2} m_R^2 = (1 + \Sigma_2^{\text{div}}) Z_m^2 m_R^2 + C_0 + \Sigma_3^{\text{div}} \\ \Sigma_R^{\text{fin}} (p^2) &= \Sigma^{\text{fin}} (p^2) - C_0 - C_1 p^2 \end{split}$$

- $C_0, C_1$  arbitrary, fixed by conditions on  $\Sigma_R^{fin}(p^2)$  at  $p^2 = \mu^2$  for some renormalisation scale  $\mu$  similarly with g
- renormalised quantities depend on  $\mu$ : "running"  $m_R, g_R$

Renormalisation is not bad — but still a big nuisance for symmetries

- classical Lagrangian has a set of symmetries
- regulator required for quantisation may break one or more of them
  - momentum cutoff  $\rightarrow$  breaks Lorentz symmetry, gauge symmetries
  - $\blacktriangleright$  lattice  $\rightarrow$  breaks Lorentz and translation symmetry, gauge symmetries can be preserved

discrete subgroups of Poincaré symmetry are preserved

► dimensional regularisation → all spacetime symmetries are fine, gauge symmetries are fine

but internal chiral symmetry of massless fermions is spoiled

- must make sure that desired symmetries spoiled by regulator are recovered after renormalisation but hard
  - better not to spoil them in the first place

Perturbatively most convenient renormalisation scheme: dimensional regularisation + minimal subtraction (MS) scheme

- 4 dimensions ightarrow d dimensions, dimensionless "cutoff" arepsilon=4-d
- divergences = poles in  $\varepsilon$ , renormalised by subtracting them only

$$\overline{\mathrm{MS}}$$
 scheme includes also a fixed constant

- generally, divergences must be polynomial in momenta and masses, and polynomial or logarithmic in (physical) cutoff
- in dimensional regularisation, only logarithmic divergences appear (= poles in  $\varepsilon$ ), independent of masses

$$g = \mu^{c\varepsilon} Z_g(g_R, \varepsilon) g_R \qquad m = Z_m(g_R, \varepsilon) m_R$$

 $[g] = 0 \text{ in } d = 4 \Rightarrow [g] = c\varepsilon \text{ in dimension } d \\ \text{mass scale } \mu \text{ required to account for this}$ 

ullet at fixed physical  $g_{\rm phys}, m_{\rm phys}$  , bare g,m depend on  $\varepsilon$  but not on  $\mu$ 

$$g = g(\varepsilon; g_{\mathrm{phys}}, m_{\mathrm{phys}})$$
  $m = m(\varepsilon; g_{\mathrm{phys}}, m_{\mathrm{phys}})$ 

 $\Rightarrow$  running  $g_{R}(\mu), m_{R}(\mu),$  with  $\mu$  dependence determined by

$$\mu \frac{dg}{d\mu} = 0 \qquad \mu \frac{dm}{d\mu} = 0$$

When is a theory renormalisable?

Take

$$S=rac{1}{2}(\partial_{\mu}\phi)(\partial^{\mu}\phi)-rac{1}{2}m^{2}\phi^{2}+\sum_{i}V_{i}(\phi,\partial\phi)$$

with vertices  $V_i = g_i \partial^{k_i}_{\mu} \phi^{n_i}$ , quantise perturbatively

• redefining 
$$\phi = Z_{\phi}\phi_R$$
,  $m = Z_m m_R$ ,  $g_i = Z_{g_i}g_{iR}$ 

 $S(\phi; m, g) = S(\phi_R; m_R, g_R) + \delta S(\phi_R; m_R, g_R)$ 

with  $\delta S$  containing  $Z_{\phi}^2 - 1$ ,  $Z_m^2 - 1$ ,  $Z_{g_i} - 1$ 

• at every  $g_i$  order new divergences are polynomial in m and momenta

Example: 
$$I = \int \frac{d^4p}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{1}{(p+q)^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon} \frac{1}{p^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon} \sim \log \Lambda$$
$$\frac{dI}{dq_{\mu}} = \int \frac{d^4p}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{-2(p+q)_{\mu}}{[(p+q)^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon]^2} \frac{1}{p^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon} \to \text{ convergent}$$

 $\Rightarrow$  equivalent to contribution of local vertices  $V_i$  with (divergent) coefficient  $\delta Z_i$ ; if not contained in *S*, they must be added

• <u>choose</u>  $Z_{g_i} - 1 = \delta Z_i \Rightarrow$  contributions from  $\delta S$  cancel the divergences, finite result

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General case: divergences appear if the integral is not convergent for large momenta

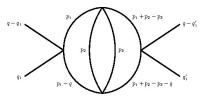
- overall divergence: when scaling  $p_i \rightarrow \kappa p_i$ ,  $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$
- subdivergences: when  $p_i \rightarrow \kappa p_i$ ,  $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$  with certain linear combination  $\Delta p$  of momenta kept fixed
- other possible large-momentum limits (e.g., rescaling  $p_i \rightarrow \kappa_i p_i$ ) can be reduced to the two above
- if no Δp is fixed, taking sufficiently many derivatives w.r.t. masses and/or external momenta the integrand is made better behaved

$$\mathsf{integrand} = P(p) \prod_i \frac{1}{(p_i + q_i)^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon} \prod_j \frac{1}{(p_j + \Delta q_j)^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon}$$

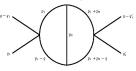
$$rac{\partial \, ext{integrand}}{\partial q_{\mu}} \sim rac{-2 p_{\mu} \, ext{integrand}}{p^2} \qquad rac{\partial \, ext{integrand}}{\partial m} \sim rac{-2 m \, ext{integrand}}{p^2}$$

 $\Rightarrow$  overall divergence is local (= polynomial in  $q_{\mu} \rightarrow \partial_{\mu}$  and m)

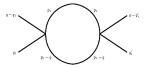
Example: 3-loop diagram



- no constraint  $\sim$  new overall divergence
- one of  $p_1$ ,  $p_2$ ,  $p_3$ ,  $p_1 + p_2 p_3$  fixed  $\sim$  same div. as 2-loop diagram (contains subdivs.  $\rightarrow$  1-loop diagram)



ullet two of them fixed  $\sim$  same div. as 1-loop diagram



What can possibly go wrong?

- combinatorics of terms and counterterms always match, not a problem
- overall divergences always local, not a problem if enough terms are present in the Lagrangian...

Subdivergences are taken care of by lower-order counterterms

• ... but number of required terms may be increasing with the perturbative order!

Power counting: given diagram G

- internal bosonic/fermionic line  $\rightarrow p^{-d_B}, p^{-d_F}$ , integral  $d^4p$ (usually  $d_B = 2, d_F = 1$ )
- vertex  $ightarrow \delta(\sum p)$ , one used for overall momentum conservation
- *i*-th type of vertex (schematic):  $\partial_{\mu}^{k_i} \phi^{n_{B_i}} \overline{\psi}^{\overline{o}_{F_i}} \psi^{n_{F_i} \overline{o}_{F_i}} \rightarrow p^{k_i}$

$$D_G = (4 - d_B)I_B + (4 - d_F)I_F + 4 - 4\sum_i V_i + \sum_i V_i k_i$$

Degree of overall divergence of G is  $\omega_G \leq D_G$  (cancellations may happen) Dimension of *i*-th coupling  $d_{g_i} = 4 - k_i - n_{Bi} - \frac{3}{2}n_{Fi} < 4$  Topological relations:  $E_{B,F} + 2I_{B,F} = \sum_i V_i n_{B,Fi}$ 

$$D_{G} = \frac{4 - d_{B}}{2} \left( \sum_{i} V_{i} n_{Bi} - E_{B} \right) + \frac{4 - d_{F}}{2} \left( \sum_{i} V_{i} n_{Fi} - E_{F} \right)$$
$$+ 4 - 4 \sum_{i} V_{i} + \sum_{i} V_{i} k_{i}$$
$$= 4 - \frac{4 - d_{B}}{2} E_{B} - \frac{4 - d_{F}}{2} E_{F}$$
$$+ \sum_{i} V_{i} \left( k_{i} - 4 + \frac{4 - d_{B}}{2} n_{Bi} + \frac{4 - d_{F}}{2} n_{Fi} \right)$$
$$= f(E_{B}, E_{F}) + \sum_{i} V_{i} \left( k_{i} - f(n_{Bi}, n_{Fi}) \right)$$
$$f(n_{B}, n_{F}) = 4 - \frac{4 - d_{B}}{2} n_{B} - \frac{4 - d_{F}}{2} n_{F}$$
$$\boxed{\text{If } k_{i} \leq f(n_{Bi}, n_{Fi}) \forall i \Rightarrow \omega_{G} \leq f(E_{B}, E_{F})}$$

## If $k_i \leq f(n_{Bi}, n_{Fi}) \ \forall i \Rightarrow \omega_G \leq f(E_B, E_F)$

If all the interactions satisfying  $k_i \leq f(n_{Bi}, n_{Fi})$  are included in the action then the required counterterm must be of the same form of one of them  $\Rightarrow$  all divergences can be cancelled by renormalisation as outlined above

$$k \le 4 - \frac{4 - d_B}{2}n_B - \frac{4 - d_F}{2}n_F$$
$$\frac{2 - d_B}{2}n_B + \frac{1 - d_F}{2}n_F \le 4 - k - n_B - \frac{3}{2}n_F = d_g < 4$$

In the standard case if  $d_B=$  2,  $d_F=$  1  $\Rightarrow$   $d_g \ge$  0 is required

#### $\Rightarrow$ renormalisable theory (by power counting)

If  $k_{\overline{i}} > f(n_{B\overline{i}}, n_{F\overline{i}})$ , increasing  $V_{\overline{i}}$  any  $\omega_G$  is possible, and in general new types of vertices are required at each perturbative order  $\Rightarrow$  <u>non-renormalisable theory</u> Example 1: real scalar field  $\phi$ 

$$V(\phi) = \sum g_n \phi^n + \sum_{k \ge 1, n \ge 1} g_{k,n} (\partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi)^k \phi^n$$
$$d_{g_n} = 4 - n \ge 0 \qquad \text{if } n \le 4$$
$$d_{g_{k,n}} = 4 - 4k - n < 0 \qquad \text{if both } n, k > 1$$
$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 + h\phi + \frac{c}{3!} \phi^3 + \frac{\lambda}{4!} \phi^4$$

If h = c = 0 counterterms odd in  $\phi$  are forbidden by symmetry  $\phi \to -\phi$ If h = 0,  $c \neq 0$  (resp.  $h \neq 0$ , c = 0) counterterm linear (resp. cubic) in  $\phi$  can (almost certainly will) be generated by the renormalisation procedure

Example 2: Fermi theory

$$\mathcal{L}_{I} = \sum_{i} G_{i}(\bar{\psi}\Gamma_{\mu}\psi)(\bar{\psi}\Gamma^{\mu}\psi)$$

Since  $d_{G_i} = 4 - 4\frac{3}{2} = -2$ , the theory is non-renormalisable

Example 3: Proca field  $A^{\mu}$  (massive vector field) Propagator:

$$D^{\mathrm{Proca}}_{\mu
u}(p) = rac{-i(\eta_{\mu
u} - rac{p_{\mu}p_{
u}}{m^2})}{p^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon} \Rightarrow d_B = 0 \Rightarrow n_B \le d_g < 4$$

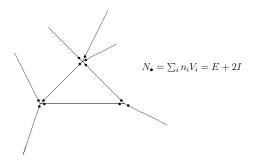
$$\begin{array}{ll} n_B = 1 & \mbox{requires one derivative for Lorentz invariance} \\ g \partial_\mu A^\mu \Rightarrow d_g = 2 > 1 = n_B \\ J_\mu A^\mu \Rightarrow n_B = 1 \le d_J = 3 \\ n_B = 2 & \mbox{are the kinetic and mass terms} \\ n_B = 3 & \mbox{requires one derivative for Lorentz invariance} \\ g (\partial_\mu A^\nu) A_\nu A^\mu, \ g (\partial_\mu A^\mu) A_\nu A^\nu \\ \Rightarrow d_g = 0 < 3 = n_B & \mbox{forbidden} \end{array}$$

No renormalisable self-interaction exists

References:

- D. Anselmi, "Renormalization"
- J. Collins, "Renormalization"
- M.E. Peskin and D.V. Schroeder, "An Introduction to Quantum Field Theory"

Addendum: topological relation for diagrams



Dots can be counted in two ways: as a property of vertices, or as a property of internal and external lines

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