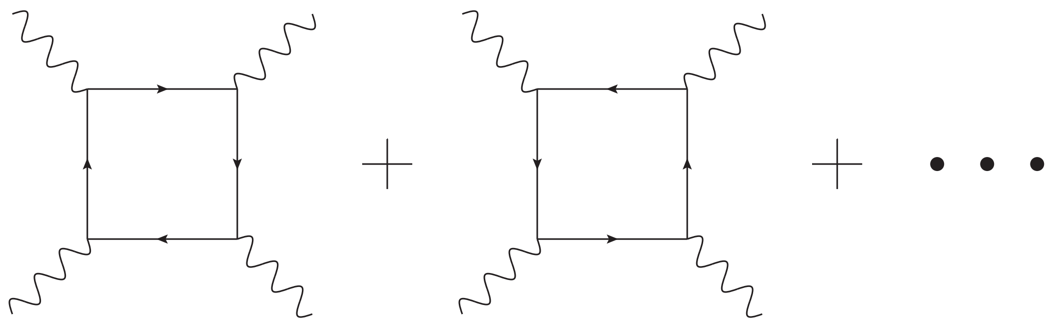
Homework Set No. 3, Physics 8808.02

Deadline – Thursday, February 21, 2013

1. (15 pts) Show that the light-by-light scattering QED diagram pictured below does not contain a UV divergence (even though naively counting powers of momenta makes it seem logarithmically divergent). The ellipsis in the figure represent all possible permutations of the vertices along the loop. (Hint: you may find formulas (A.41) and (A.42) in Appendix A.4 of Peskin and Schroeder useful.)



2. Consider φ^4 scalar theory with the Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}\,\partial_\mu\varphi\,\partial^\mu\varphi - \frac{m^2}{2}\varphi^2 - \frac{\lambda}{4!}\,\varphi^4.$$

Below use Pauli-Villars regularization with two new particles, such that the propagators of the internal lines are replaced by

$$\frac{i}{k^2 - m^2 + i\,\epsilon} \to \frac{i}{k^2 - m^2 + i\,\epsilon} + \sum_{j=1}^{2} \frac{i\,C_j}{k^2 - M_j^2 + i\,\epsilon}$$

with $C_1 = 1$, $C_2 = -2$, and $M_1^2 = m^2 + 2\,M^2$, $M_2^2 = m^2 + M^2$. M is some UV cutoff.

a. (30 pts) Calculate regularized one-loop 1PI corrections to the propagator and to the four-point Green function, keeping only divergent and finite terms at large M (i.e., dropping all terms which vanish in the $M \to \infty$ limit).

b. (15 pts) Set up the renormalization program for the ϕ^4 theory at one loop: that is, find all counterterms and coefficients in front of them using "on-shell" renormalization conditions:

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma(p^2 = m^2) \;&=\; 0, \\ \left.\frac{\partial \Sigma(p^2)}{\partial p^2}\right|_{p^2=m^2} \;&=\; 0, \\ \Gamma^4(s = 4\,m^2, t = 0, u = 0) &= -i\,\lambda. \end{aligned}$$

Here $-i\,\Sigma(p^2)$ is the sum of all 1PI corrections to the propagator, and $\Gamma^4(s,t,u)$ is the truncated 1PI 4-point Green function. Also m is the physical particle mass, and λ is the physical coupling.

In particular show that the renormalized 4-point function $\Gamma^4_R(s,t,u)$ is given by

$$\Gamma^4_R(s,t,u) \;=\; -i\left\{\lambda + \frac{\lambda^2}{32\,\pi^2}\int_0^1 dx\left[\ln\left(\frac{m^2 - s\,x\,(1-x)}{m^2 - 4\,m^2 x\,(1-x)}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{m^2 - t\,x\,(1-x)}{m^2}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{m^2 - u\,x\,(1-x)}{m^2}\right)\right] + o(\lambda^3)\right\}.$$

For a 4-point function with two external lines having incoming 4-momenta p_1^μ and p_2^μ and two other external lines having outgoing 4-momenta p_3^μ and p_4^μ we define as usual $s = (p_1 + p_2)^2$, $t = (p_1 - p_3)^2$ and $u = (p_1 - p_4)^2$. (Hint: you may find the discussion in Chapter 10.2 of Peskin and Schroeder useful, though they use dimensional regularization.)