

Theory of Elementary Particles

homework IV (May 02)

- At the head of your report, please write your name, student ID number and a list of problems that you worked on in a report (like “II-1, II-3, IV-2”).
- Pick up any problems that are suitable for your study. **You are not expected to work on all of them!**
- Format: Reports do not have to be written neatly; hand-writing is perfectly O.K. Do not waste your time!
- Keep your own copy, if you need one. Reports will not be returned.

1. A Consequence of QED Ward Identity [B]

Wavefunction renormalization constant Z_2 of a Dirac fermion with a pole mass $p^2 = m^2$ in QED is given by

$$1 + \delta_{Z_2} =: Z_2 = \frac{(1 - A)}{(1 - A)^2 + 2(A - 1)p^2 \frac{\partial A}{\partial p^2} - 2(M + B) \frac{\partial B}{\partial p^2}} \Bigg|_{p^2=m^2}, \quad (1)$$

where $A(p^2, M^2)$ and $B(p^2, M^2)$ characterize the fermion self-energy

$$-i\Sigma(p, M) := -i [A(p^2, M^2)\not{p} + B(p^2, M^2)]. \quad (2)$$

At 1-loop ($\mathcal{O}(e^2)$) level, the fermion self-energy (Figure 1 (a)) is given by

$$\begin{aligned} -i\Sigma^{(1)}(p, M) &= \frac{-i(eQ)^2}{16\pi^2} \int_0^1 dx [-2(1-x)\not{p} + 4M] \ln \left(\frac{(1-x)\Lambda^2 + xM^2 - x(1-x)p^2}{xM^2 - x(1-x)p^2} \right), \\ &=: -i [A^{(1)}(p^2, M^2)\not{p} + B^{(1)}(p^2, M^2)] \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

in the higher covariant derivative regularization for the photon propagator in the unrenormalized perturbative calculation, and the wavefunction renormalization constant becomes

$$\delta_{Z_2}^{(1)} = \left[A^{(1)} + 2M^2 \frac{\partial A^{(1)}}{\partial p^2} + 2M \frac{\partial B^{(1)}}{\partial p^2} \right] \Bigg|_{p^2=M^2} \quad (4)$$

at this $\mathcal{O}(e^2)$ level.

On the other hand, fermion–fermion–photon vertex $-ieQ\Gamma^\mu$ —including quantum corrections—is known to be cast into the form

$$-ieQ\Gamma^\mu = -ieQ \left[V_1 \gamma^\mu - \frac{V_2}{4m} [\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu] q_\nu \right] + (***) \times (\not{p} - m) + (\not{p}' - m) \times (***) ; \quad (5)$$

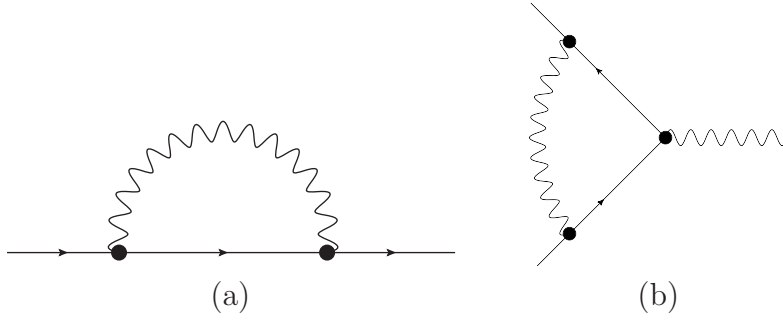


Figure 1: Fermion self-energy and fermion-photon vertex corrections at 1-loop.

here, we assume that the momentum of the fermion coming from below in Figure 1 (b) is p , that of the fermion going out to the above p' , and the photon comes from the right with momentum $q = p' - p$. As a result of tough calculation (see Peskin–Schroeder, and also the week-15 lecture note of the QFT II course), one will find, in higher covariant derivative regularization, that

$$V_1^{(1)} = \frac{(eQ)^2}{8\pi^2} \int dx dy \left\{ \ln \left(\frac{(1-x-y)\Lambda^2 + (x+y)^2 M^2 - xyq^2}{(x+y)^2 M^2 - xyq^2} \right) + [\{1 - 4(1-x-y) + (1-x-y)^2\} M^2 + (1-x)(1-y)q^2] \times \left[\frac{1}{(x+y)^2 M^2 - xyq^2} - \frac{1}{(1-x-y)\Lambda^2 + (x+y)^2 M^2 - xyq^2} \right] \right\}, \quad (6)$$

$$V_2^{(1)} = \frac{(eQ)^2}{16\pi^2} \int dx dy (1-x-y)(x+y)4M^2 \times \left[\frac{1}{(x+y)^2 M^2 - xyq^2} - \frac{1}{(1-x-y)\Lambda^2 + (x+y)^2 M^2 - xyq^2} \right] \quad (7)$$

Here, $dx dy$ integral should be carried out in a triangular region determined by $0 \leq x, y \leq 1$, $x + y \leq 1$.

Just like the wavefunction renormalization constant Z_2 characterizes partial information of self-energy diagrams, a parameter $Z_1 := 1/V_1(q^2 = 0)$ is used to capture partial information of vertex corrections $ie\Gamma^\mu$. At 1-loop,

$$\delta_{Z_1}^{(1)} = (Z_1 - 1)^{1\text{-loop}} = \left[\frac{1}{1 + V_1^{(1)}(q^2 = 0)} - 1 \right]^{1\text{-loop}} = -V_1^{(1)}(q^2 = 0). \quad (8)$$

Problem: It is known from Ward identity in QED that $Z_1 = Z_2$ at all order in perturbation theory. Verify this relation at 1-loop level. [that is, show that $\delta_{Z_2}^{(1)} = \delta_{Z_1}^{(1)}$.]

See [Peskin–Schröder] section 7.1, if necessary. It is also good to know that Mathematica is sometimes quite useful.