

**Problem 1:**

First of all, we need the Feynman rules. The Scalar QED has a charged scalar field  $\Phi$ , the EM field  $A^\mu$  and the bare Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{bare}} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} + D_\mu\Phi^* D^\mu\Phi - m_0^2\Phi^*\Phi - \frac{1}{4}\lambda_0(\Phi^*\Phi)^2 \quad (\text{S.1})$$

where for the scalar field of charge  $-e$ ,

$$D_\mu\Phi^* D^\mu\Phi \equiv \partial^\mu\Phi^* \partial_\mu\Phi + e_0A^\mu (-i\Phi^* \partial_\mu\Phi + i\partial_\mu\Phi^* \Phi) + e_0^2A^\mu A_\mu\Phi^*\Phi. \quad (\text{S.2})$$

The Feynman rules follow from the above Lagrangian. In the bare-field picture, we have the (bare) propagators

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi \text{ } \cdots \cdots \cdots \text{ } \Phi^* &= \frac{i}{p^2 - m_0^2 + i0} \\ A^\mu \text{ } \text{~~~~~} \text{ } A^\nu &= \frac{i}{k^2 + i0} \left( -g^{\mu\nu} + (1 - \xi) \frac{k^\mu k^\nu}{k^2} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{S.3})$$

and the (bare) vertices

$$\begin{aligned} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} &= ie_0(p + p')^\mu, & \text{---} \bullet \text{---} &= -2ie_0^2 g^{\mu\nu}, & \text{---} \bullet \text{---} &= -i\lambda_0. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{S.4})$$

At this point, we can see that there are indeed two one-loop Feynman diagrams contributing to the 1PI two-photon amplitude, namely

$$\begin{aligned} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} &\text{ and } \text{---} \bullet \text{---}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{S.5})$$

which respectively yield

$$\begin{aligned}
-i\Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{first}} &= \int \frac{d^4p}{(2\pi)^4} [ie_0(p+p')_\alpha] \frac{i}{p^2 - m_0^2 + i0} [ie_0(p+p')_\alpha] \frac{i}{p'^2 - m_0^2 + i0}, \\
-i\Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{second}} &= \int \frac{d^4p}{(2\pi)^4} [-2e_0^2 i g_{\alpha\beta}] \frac{i}{p^2 - m_0^2 + i0}.
\end{aligned} \tag{S.6}$$

For the first diagram, we have  $p' = p + k$  and hence

$$\begin{aligned}
\Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{first}}(k) &= \int \frac{d^4p}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{ie_0^2 (2p+k)_\alpha (2p+k)_\beta}{(p^2 - m_0^2 + i0)((p+k)^2 - m_0^2 + i0)} \\
&= ie_0^2 \int_0^1 dx \int \frac{d^4\ell}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{(2\ell + (1-2x)k)_\alpha (2\ell + (1-2x)k)_\beta}{(\ell^2 - \Delta + i0)^2}
\end{aligned} \tag{S.7}$$

where as usual  $\ell = p + xk$  and  $\Delta = m_0^2 - x(1-x)k^2$ . The numerator in the second integral is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned}
(2\ell + (1-2x)k)_\alpha (2\ell + (1-2x)k)_\beta &\cong 4\ell_\alpha \ell_\beta + (1-2x)^2 k_\alpha k_\beta \\
&\cong \frac{4\ell^2}{D} g_{\alpha\beta} + (1-2x)^2 k_\alpha k_\beta \\
&= \left(\frac{4}{D}\ell^2 + (1-2x)^2 k^2\right) g_{\alpha\beta} \\
&\quad + (1-2x)^2 (k_\alpha k_\beta - g_{\alpha\beta} k^2)
\end{aligned} \tag{S.8}$$

and hence

$$\Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{first}}(k) = (k_\alpha k_\beta - g_{\alpha\beta} k^2) \times \mathcal{B}^{(1)}(k^2) + g_{\alpha\beta} \times \mathcal{F}^{(1)}(k^2) \tag{S.9}$$

where

$$\mathcal{B}^{(1)}(k^2) = e_0^2 \int_0^1 dx (1-2x)^2 \int \frac{d^4\ell}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{i}{(\ell^2 - \Delta + i0)^2} \tag{S.10}$$

and

$$\mathcal{F}^{(1)}(k^2) = e_0^2 \int_0^1 dx \int \frac{d^4\ell}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{i\left(\frac{4}{D}\ell^2 + (1-2x)^2 k^2\right)}{(\ell^2 - \Delta + i0)^2}. \tag{S.11}$$

Our first task is to verify the tensor structure of the two-photon amplitude, so let us

focus on the coefficient  $\mathcal{F}$  of the wrong tensor. Applying Wick rotation and dimensional regularization to the momentum integral in eq. (S.11), we calculate

$$\begin{aligned}
\int \frac{d^4\ell}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{i\left(\frac{4}{D}\ell^2 + (1-2x)^2k^2\right)}{(\ell^2 - \Delta + i0)^2} &= \mu^{4-D} \int \frac{d^D\ell_E}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{(1-2x)^2k^2 - \frac{4}{D}\ell_E^2}{(\ell_E^2 + \Delta)^2} \\
&= \mu^{4-D} \int_0^\infty dt t \int \frac{d^D\ell_E}{(2\pi)^D} \left((1-2x)^2k^2 - \frac{4}{D}\ell_E^2\right) e^{-t(\ell_E^2 + \Delta)} \\
&= \mu^{4-D} \int_0^\infty dt t e^{-t\Delta} \left((1-2x)^2k^2 + \frac{4}{D} \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right) \int \frac{d^D\ell_E}{(2\pi)^D} e^{-t\ell_E^2} \\
&= \frac{\mu^{4-D}}{(4\pi)^{D/2}} \int_0^\infty dt t e^{-t\Delta} \left((1-2x)^2k^2 \times t^{-D/2} - 2t^{-(D/2)-1}\right) \\
&= \frac{\mu^{4-D}}{(4\pi)^{D/2}} \left( (1-2x)^2k^2 \times \Gamma\left(2 - \frac{D}{2}\right) \Delta^{\frac{D}{2}-2} \right. \\
&\quad \left. - 2\Gamma\left(1 - \frac{D}{2}\right) \Delta^{\frac{D}{2}-1} \right) \\
&= \frac{\mu^{4-D}}{(4\pi)^{D/2}} \Gamma\left(1 - \frac{D}{2}\right) \times \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( (1-2x) \Delta^{\frac{D}{2}-1} \right)
\end{aligned} \tag{S.12}$$

where the last equality follows from

$$\frac{\partial \Delta}{\partial x} = -(1-2x)k^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \left(\frac{D}{2} - 1\right) \Gamma\left(1 - \frac{D}{2}\right) = -\Gamma\left(2 - \frac{D}{2}\right).$$

Consequently, the integrand of the  $\int dx$  integral in eq. (S.11) is a total derivative and hence

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{F}^{(1)}(k^2) &= \frac{e_0^2 \mu^{4-D}}{(4\pi)^{D/2}} \Gamma\left(1 - \frac{D}{2}\right) \times \left( (1-2x) \Delta^{\frac{D}{2}-1} \right)_{x=0}^{x=1} \\
&= \frac{e_0^2 \mu^{4-D}}{(4\pi)^{D/2}} \Gamma\left(1 - \frac{D}{2}\right) \times \left( -(m_0^2)^{\frac{D}{2}-1} - (m_0^2)^{\frac{D}{2}-1} \right) \\
&= -2\Gamma\left(1 - \frac{D}{2}\right) e_0^2 m_0^{D-2} \mu^{4-D} (4\pi)^{-D/2}.
\end{aligned} \tag{S.13}$$

Note that thanks to  $\Delta(x=1) = \Delta(x=0) = m_0^2$ , the right hand side of eq. (S.13) is independent of the photon's momentum  $k$ . Since the second diagram's contribution  $\Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{second}}$

is also  $k$ -independent, this allows for the cancellation of the wrong tensor structure of the two-photon amplitude between the two diagrams.

Indeed, for the second diagram we have

$$\Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{second}} = g_{\alpha\beta} \times \mathcal{F}^{(2)} \quad (\text{S.14})$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}^{(2)} &= \int \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{2ie_0^2}{p^2 - m^2 + i0} = \int \frac{d^4 p_E}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{2e_0^2}{p_E^2 + m_0^2} \\ &\longrightarrow 2e_0^2 \int \frac{d^D p_E}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{\mu^{4-D}}{p_E^2 + m_0^2} \\ &= 2e_0^2 \mu^{4-D} \int_0^\infty dt e^{-tm_0^2} \times (4\pi t)^{-D/2} \\ &= 2e_0^2 \mu^{4-D} (4\pi)^{-D/2} \times \Gamma\left(1 - \frac{D}{2}\right) m_0^{D-2} \\ &= -\mathcal{F}^{(1)}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{S.15})$$

which means that

$$\Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{1\text{ loop}}(k) = \Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{first}}(k) + \Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{second}} = (k_\alpha k_\beta - g_{\alpha\beta} k^2) \times \mathcal{B}^{(1)}(k^2) + g_{\alpha\beta} \times 0. \quad (\text{S.16})$$

This completes part (a) of the problem.

Our next task is to calculate the  $\mathcal{B}^{1\text{ loop}} = \mathcal{B}^{(1)}$  as a function of  $k^2$ . The momentum integral in eq. (S.10) should be rather familiar after so much related class- and home-work, so let me simply write down the result:

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{d^4 \ell}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{i}{(\ell^2 - \Delta + i0)^2} &\xrightarrow{DR} \int \frac{d^D \ell_E}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{-\mu^{4-D}}{(\ell_E^2 + \Delta)^2} \\ &= \frac{-1}{16\pi^2} \Gamma\left(2 - \frac{D}{2}\right) \left(\frac{4\pi\mu^2}{\Delta}\right)^{2-(D/2)} \\ &\xrightarrow{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{-1}{16\pi^2} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \log \frac{\mu^2}{\Delta}\right), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{S.17})$$

and consequently,

$$\mathcal{B}^{1\text{ loop}}(k^2) = -\frac{e_0^2}{16\pi^2} \int_0^1 dx (1-2x)^2 \left( \frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} + \log \frac{\mu^2}{\Delta} \right). \quad (\text{S.18})$$

It remains to substitute  $\Delta(x) = m^2 - x(1-x)k^2$  where the difference between the physical scalar mass  $m$  and the bare mass  $m_0$  can be ignored as being  $O(\alpha)$ . Thus,

$$\mathcal{B}^{1\text{ loop}}(k^2 = 0) = -\frac{e_0^2}{16\pi^2} \int_0^1 dx (1-2x)^2 \left( \frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} + \log \frac{\mu^2}{m^2} \right) = -\frac{e_0^2}{16\pi^2} \times \frac{1}{6} \left( \frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} + \log \frac{\mu^2}{m^2} \right) \quad (\text{S.19})$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}^{1\text{ loop}}(k^2) - \mathcal{B}^{1\text{ loop}}(0) &= -\frac{e_0^2}{16\pi^2} \int_0^1 dx (1-2x)^2 \log \frac{m^2}{m^2 - x(1-x)k^2} \\ &\xrightarrow{-k^2 \gg m^2} +\frac{e_0^2}{16\pi^2} \int_0^1 dx (1-2x)^2 \left( \log \frac{-k^2}{m^2} + \log x(1-x) \right) \\ &= \frac{e_0^2}{16\pi^2} \left( \frac{1}{6} \log \frac{-k^2}{m^2} - \frac{4}{9} \right) \\ &= \frac{\alpha_0}{12\pi} \left( \log \frac{-k^2}{m^2} - \frac{8}{3} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{S.20})$$

It remains to draw conclusions from eqs. (S.19) and (S.20). As explained in class,

$$\begin{aligned} Z_3 &= \frac{1}{1 - \mathcal{B}(0)} = 1 + \mathcal{B}^{1\text{ loop}}(0) + O(\alpha^2) \\ &= 1 - \frac{\alpha_0}{12\pi} \left( \frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} + \log \frac{\mu^2}{m^2} \right) + O(\alpha^2), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{S.21})$$

while  $e_{\text{phys}} = e_0 \sqrt{Z_3}$  and hence

$$\frac{1}{\alpha_{\text{phys}}} = \frac{1}{\alpha_0} - \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \mathcal{B}(0) = \frac{1}{\alpha_0} + \frac{1}{12\pi} \left( \frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} + \log \frac{\mu^2}{m^2} \right) + O(\alpha_0). \quad (\text{S.22})$$

Finally, the effective QED coupling at high energies is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\alpha_{\text{eff}}(k^2)} &= \frac{1}{\alpha_0} - \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \mathcal{B}(k^2) = \frac{1}{\alpha_{\text{eff}}(0)} - \frac{1}{\alpha_0} [\mathcal{B}(k^2) - \mathcal{B}(0)] \\ &\approx \frac{1}{\alpha_{\text{eff}}(0)} - \frac{1}{12\pi} \left( \log \frac{-k^2}{m^2} - \frac{8}{3} \right) \end{aligned} \tag{S.23}$$

where  $\alpha_{\text{eff}}(0)$  is the same as  $\alpha_{\text{phys}}$  in eq. (S.22).