

QFT II

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Lecture 3

April 27, 2020

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Last time: More LSZ reduction.

Wavefun. renormalization.

Källén-Lehmann spectral density as generalization of
1-particle 2-pt. correlation fun. for interacting theories.

Renormalization conditions.

Today: Categories of renormalizability

Superficial / Naïve degree of divergence

Optical theorem + connection between loops + tree in
interacting theories.

In renormalized perturbation theory, we include counterterms with
Feynman rules; fix counterterms by renormalization conditions.

How many counterterms are needed?

In general, renormalizable theories require finite # of counterterms.

As a corollary, all UV divergences can be cancelled with
finite # of counterterms.

Schwartz
p. 385

Weinberg
Vol. 1,
p. 512-3

Remark: Bogdanov, Porasiuk, Hepp, Zimmermann proved all
UV divergences can be removed by counterterms corresponding
to superficial divergences of 1PI amplitudes.

Following Peskin + Schroeder, Chap. 10, we can count UV divergences
by external legs + loops. This is the superficial degree
of divergence.

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QED, 4D: N_e external e , N_γ external photons

P_e prop. e , P_γ prop. photons, V vertices, L loops

Lecture exercise: Draw 1-loop & 2-loop QED diagrams & sketch the loop momenta integrals.

$$\text{m} \bigcirc \text{m} \quad D=2 \Leftrightarrow \int d^4k \left(\frac{k+m}{k^2-m^2} \right)^2$$

$$\text{m} \bigcirc \text{m} \quad \int d^4k_1 d^4k_2 \left(\frac{k_1+m}{k_1^2-m^2} \right)^4 \frac{1}{k_2^2} \Rightarrow D=2$$

$$D = 4L - P_e - 2P_\gamma$$

= superficial deg. of divergence.

$$L = P_e + P_\gamma - V + 1$$

Each prop. contributes momentum integral. Each V gives $\delta^{(4)}$.

One overall momentum conservation (adds 1 back).

$$V = 2P_\gamma + N_\gamma = \frac{1}{2}(2P_e + N_e)$$

$$D = 4 - N_\gamma - \frac{3}{2}N_e \quad \text{or} \quad D = d + \left(\frac{d-4}{2}\right)V - \left(\frac{d-2}{2}\right)N_\gamma - \left(\frac{d-1}{2}\right)N_e$$

for d dimensions.

Operators and Lagrangians can be categorized by divergence behavior.

① Super-renormalizable:

Only finite # of diagrams superficially diverge

$\Leftrightarrow$ coupling has pos. mass dimension. $\left(L = m \bar{\Psi} \Psi, \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 \right)$

② Renormalizable:

Only finite of amps. diverge, but divergences occur

at all orders in pert. theory $\Leftrightarrow$ coupling is dimensionless.

③ Non-renormalizable: All amps. at sufficiently high order in pert. theory. $\Leftrightarrow$ coupling const. has neg. mass dimension.

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Optical Theorem:

Another deep connection between tree + loop amplitudes occurs by the unitarity requirement of the S-matrix.

Recall $S = 1 + iT$, where $S^\dagger S = 1$. Note T is not Hermitian

$$1 = (1 - iT^\dagger)(1 + iT) = 1 - iT^\dagger + iT + T^\dagger T$$

$$\text{So } i(T^\dagger - T) = T^\dagger T$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then, } \langle f | i(T^\dagger - T) | i \rangle &= i \langle i | T | f \rangle^* - i \langle f | T | i \rangle \\ &= i (2\pi)^4 \delta^{(4)}(p_i - p_f) (M^*(f \rightarrow i) - M(i \rightarrow f)) \end{aligned}$$

Use completeness relationship

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f | T^\dagger T | i \rangle &= \sum_x \prod_{j \in x} \int \frac{d^3 p_j}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{2E_j} \langle f | T^\dagger | x \rangle \langle x | T | i \rangle \\ &\quad \text{single + multiparticle states of Hilbert space} \\ &= \sum_x (2\pi)^4 \delta^{(4)}(p_f - p_x) (2\pi)^4 \delta^{(4)}(p_i - p_x) \\ &\quad \prod_{j \in x} \int \frac{d^3 p_j}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{2E_j} M(i \rightarrow x) M^*(f \rightarrow x) \end{aligned}$$

Equating from above, we get the generalized optical theorem:

$$\begin{aligned} M(i \rightarrow f) - M^*(f \rightarrow i) \\ = i \sum_x \prod_{j \in x} \int \frac{d^3 p_j}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{2E_j} (2\pi)^4 \delta^{(4)}(p_i - p_x) M(i \rightarrow x) M^*(f \rightarrow x) \end{aligned}$$

Interpretation:

Consider LHS and RHS in context of perturbation theory,

LHS is linear in coupling @ tree-level, quadratic @ loop-level.

RHS is quadratic @ tree-level.

Equivalence holds order by order in coupling $\Rightarrow$ Imaginary

parts of ~~the~~ loop amplitudes are determined by tree-level amps.

Bluntly, unitarity requires loops for interacting theories.

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We can specialize to same particle.

$$2i \operatorname{Im} \mathcal{M}(A \rightarrow A) = i \sum_x \int \prod_{j \in x} \frac{d^3 p_j}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{2E_j} (2\pi)^4 \delta^{(4)}(p_A - p_x) |\mathcal{M}(A \rightarrow x)|^2$$

$$= 2i m_A \sum_x \Gamma(A \rightarrow x)$$

We get $\operatorname{Im} \mathcal{M}(A \rightarrow A) = m_A \sum_x \Gamma(A \rightarrow x) = m_A \Gamma_{\text{tot}}$

Interpretation: Imaginary part of amplitude for exact propagator is equal to mass times decay rate

Recall $\text{-----} = \frac{i}{p^2 - m_A^2 + \Sigma(p^2) + i\epsilon}$

Want $m_p^2 - m_A^2 + \Sigma(p^2 = m_p^2) = 0$

$$\frac{1}{m_p} \operatorname{Im} \Sigma(p^2 = m_p^2) + \dots = \Gamma_{\text{tot}} = \frac{1}{m_p} \operatorname{Im}(\text{---} \bigcirc \text{---})$$

Refine $m_p^2 - m_A^2 + \operatorname{Re} \Sigma(p^2 = m_p^2) = 0$

for real pole mass / Breit-Wigner mass.

Near pole, $\Gamma_{\text{tot}} \ll m_p \Rightarrow \frac{i}{p^2 - m_p^2 + i m_p \Gamma_{\text{tot}}} \Rightarrow \sigma \sim \frac{g^4}{(p^2 - m_p^2)^2 + (m_p \Gamma_{\text{tot}})^2}$

Contrast complex pole mass:

$$m_c^2 - m_A^2 + \Sigma(m_c^2) = 0$$

Contrast $\overline{\text{MS}}$: set finite parts of counterterms to 0.

We can also specialize to two-particle state.

$$\operatorname{Im} \mathcal{M}(A, h_2 \rightarrow A, h_2) = 2E_{\text{cm}} |\vec{p}_i| \sum_x \sigma(A, h_2 \rightarrow x)$$

Imaginary part of forward scattering amplitude is proportional to total cross section. [Forward scattering is same initial & final state.]

Since imaginary parts of loop amplitudes correspond to intermediate particles going on-shell, the optical theorem provides tool for calculating amplitudes. Very active area of research these days in algebraic properties of amps. Example: Discontinuity of amp. as fcn. of complex momenta given by cutting rules / Cutkosky, 1960.