

Read Chapters 6 through 9 of Srednicki.

1. Consider the Dirac equation for an electron with mass  $m$  and charge  $e$  moving in the presence of a background electromagnetic potential  $A_\mu(x)$ . Assume that  $|eA_0| \ll mc$  and (for simplicity) that  $A_\mu(x)$  is static. Focus attention on stationary solutions to the Dirac equation with energy  $E$  close to  $mc^2$  (i.e., solutions where the magnitude of the non-relativistic energy  $E_{\text{NR}} \equiv E - mc^2$  is small compared to  $mc^2$ ). For such solutions, show that the Dirac equation reduces to the non-relativistic Schrodinger equation, with the correct magnetic moment for the electron.
2. Let  $I_N(g^2) \equiv \int d^N \phi e^{-S[\vec{\phi}]/g^2}$  with  $\vec{\phi}$  an  $N$ -component real vector and  $S[\vec{\phi}]$  a real-valued quartic polynomial of the form  $S[\vec{\phi}] = \frac{1}{2} \phi_i M_{ij} \phi_j + \frac{1}{4!} \lambda_{ijkl} \phi_i \phi_j \phi_k \phi_l$ , with  $M \equiv \|M_{ij}\|$  symmetric and positive definite (and implied sums over repeated indices). Assume that the coefficients  $\lambda_{ijkl}$  have values which make the quartic term bounded below by zero.
  - (a) Let  $I_N^{(0)}$  denote the leading saddle-point approximation to  $I_N(g^2)$ . What is it?
  - (b) Evaluate the first three sub-leading corrections in powers of  $g^2$ . That is, write  $I_N(g^2) \sim I_N^{(0)} [1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k g^{2k}]$  and evaluate  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$ , and  $c_3$ . Show how every (distinct) term may be naturally represented by a Feynman diagram in which each line is labeled by two indices (one at either end) and represents the indicated component of the matrix  $M^{-1}$ , and each quartic vertex is proportional to the indicated component of  $\lambda_{ijkl}$ . What is the symmetry factor of each diagram?
  - (c) You should find both “connected” and “disconnected” diagrams. Show that, through the order evaluated,  $\sum_{\text{all diagrams}} = \exp\{\sum_{\text{connected diagrams}}\}$ . Can you explain why this is true in general?
  - (d) Specialize your results to the case where  $S[\vec{\phi}] = \frac{m}{2} \vec{\phi} \cdot \vec{\phi} + \frac{1}{4} (\vec{\phi} \cdot \vec{\phi})^2$ . What is  $\lambda_{ijkl}$ ? What is  $\ln[I_N(g^2)/I_N^{(0)}]$  through  $O(g^6)$ ?
  - (e) Show, through the order which you have evaluated, that  $W \equiv \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \ln I_N(g^2/N)$  exists and is non-trivial. (Note the rescaling of the coupling:  $g^2 \rightarrow g^2/N$ .) Which diagrams survive in this limit?  
Optional food for thought: Can you identify, and sum, the diagrams (to all orders in  $g^2$ ) which survive in this  $N \rightarrow \infty$  limit? Can you evaluate the limit defining  $W$  without first doing a diagrammatic expansion in powers of  $g^2$ ?