Contents

List of Figures xi

Preface xiii

The Authors xv

CHAPTER 1 ▪ INTRODUCTION 1

1.1 QUANTUM ELECTRODYNAMICS 1
1.2 UNITS AND OTHER CONVENTIONS. 3

CHAPTER 2 ▪ THE FEYNMAN PATH INTEGRAL 5

2.1 CALCULATION OF THE TRANSITION AMPLITUDE 5
2.2 THE LATTICE APPROXIMATION 8
2.3 THE CLASSICAL LIMIT 9
2.4 TIME AS A COMPLEX VARIABLE 9
2.5 STATISTICAL MECHANICS 11
2.6 GREEN'S FUNCTIONS 12

CHAPTER 3 ▪ TOWARDS A FIELD THEORY 17

3.1 THE GENERATING FUNCTIONAL 20
3.2 THE HARMONIC OSCILLATOR 23
3.3 FREE SCALAR FIELDS: PROPAGATOR AND GENERATING FUNCTIONAL 28
3.4 FREE SCALAR FIELD: ONE-PARTICLE STATES 31
3.5 CREATION AND DESTRUCTION OPERATORS 33

CHAPTER 4 ▪ EQUATIONS OF MOTION, SYMMETRIES AND WARD'S IDENTITY 37

4.1 SUM OVER PATHS AND OPERATORS 38
4.1.1 Derivatives 39

4.2 THE FUNDAMENTAL IDENTITY 39
4.3 QUANTUM MECHANICS 41
4.3.1 Equations of motion and commutation rules 41
4.3.2 Symmetries 43
4.3.3 The Hamiltonian function 45
4.4 FIELD THEORY 46
4.4.1 Symmetries in field theory 47
4.4.2 Ward's identity 49
4.5 THE SYMMETRIES OF THE VACUUM 52

CHAPTER 5 ▪ THE ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD 55

5.1 THE CHOICE OF GAUGE 56
5.2 GENERATING FUNCTIONAL AND PROPAGATOR 58
5.3 SINGLE PHOTON STATES 59
5.4 VIRTUAL PHOTONS 62

CHAPTER 6 ▪ FERMION FIELDS 67

6.1 HARMONIC AND FERMI OSCILLATORS 67
6.1.1 Anticommuting variables 69
6.1.2 Sum over paths for the two oscillators 70
6.1.3 Gaussian integrals for commuting and anticommuting variables 74
6.2 QUANTISATION OF THE DIRAC FIELD 76
6.2.1 Fermion propagator 79
6.2.2 The spin-statistics theorem 79
6.2.3 One-particle states of the Dirac field 81

CHAPTER 7 ▪ SCATTERING PROCESSES AND THE S-MATRIX 85

7.1 "IN" STATES AND "OUT" STATES 86
7.2 SCATTERING AMPLITUDES AND THE S-MATRIX 89
7.3 CONSERVED QUANTITIES 90
7.4 THE LSZ REDUCTION FORMULAE 91

CHAPTER 8 ▪ PERTURBATIVE GREEN'S FUNCTIONS IN $\lambda\phi^4$ 99

8.1 THE PERTURBATIVE GENERATING FUNCTIONAL 100
8.2 FEYNMAN RULES FOR GREEN'S FUNCTIONS 104

8.3 CONNECTED PARTS AND VACUUM DIAGRAMS 110
8.4 PERTURBATIVE TWO-POINT GREEN'S FUNCTION 112

CHAPTER 9 ■ S-MATRIX FEYNMAN DIAGRAMS IN $\lambda\phi^4$ 117

9.1 ONE-PARTICLE IRREDUCIBLE DIAGRAMS 117
9.2 FEYNMAN RULES FOR THE S-MATRIX ELEMENTS 120

CHAPTER 10 ■ QUANTUM ELECTRODYNAMICS 123

10.1 FEYNMAN DIAGRAMS FOR THE GENERATING FUNCTIONAL 125
10.2 TWO-POINT FUNCTIONS 128
10.3 REDUCTION FORMULAE 130
10.4 FEYNMAN DIAGRAMS FOR THE S-MATRIX 132
10.5 COMBINATORIALS 136

CHAPTER 11 ■ RENORMALISATION OF QED 139

11.1 THE PHOTON PROPAGATOR 142
11.2 RENORMALISATION OF THE CHARGE 145
11.3 THE ELECTRON PROPAGATOR 146
11.3.1 The propagator to all orders 149
11.4 THE VERTEX 151
11.5 WARD'S IDENTITY 153

CHAPTER 12 ■ APPLICATIONS OF QED 155

12.1 SCATTERING IN AN EXTERNAL FIELD 155
12.2 BREMSSTRAHLUNG AND INFRARED DIVERGENCE 158
12.3 THE LAMB SHIFT 162
12.4 VACUUM POLARISATION 166
12.4.1 Calculation of the tensor $\Pi^{\mu\nu}(k)$ to one loop 166
12.5 THE ANOMALOUS MAGNETIC MOMENT 169
12.5.1 Preliminaries 169
12.5.2 The calculation 171

CHAPTER 13 ■ RENORMALISATION GROUP OF QED 175

13.1 EFFECTIVE ELECTRIC CHARGE 176
13.2 THE GELL–MANN AND LOW EQUATION 179

13.3 THE QED β FUNCTION 180
13.4 ASYMPTOTIC VARIATION OF THE EFFECTIVE CHARGE 181

CHAPTER 14 ▪ QUANTISING A NON-ABELIAN THEORY 183

14.1 FUNDAMENTALS 183
14.2 QUARKS IN QUANTUM CHROMODYNAMICS 186
14.3 THE FADDEEV–POPOV DETERMINANT 188
14.4 FEYNMAN RULES 192

CHAPTER 15 ▪ THE β FUNCTION IN QCD 195

15.1 VACUUM POLARISATION 195
15.2 CORRECTIONS TO QUARK PROPAGATOR AND VERTEX 200
15.3 ASYMPTOTIC FREEDOM 202

CHAPTER 16 ▪ UNITARITY AND GHOSTS 205

16.1 THE CUTKOSKY RULE 206
16.2 THE INELASTIC REACTION $u + \bar{u} \to d + \bar{d}$ 207
16.3 THE CASE OF QED 210
16.4 NON-ABELIAN GAUGE THEORIES 212

CHAPTER 17 ▪ EFFECTIVE CONSTANTS AT HIGH ENERGY AND GRAND UNIFICATION 217

17.1 THE DETERMINATION OF α_s 217
17.2 THE LANDAU POLE AND THE CONTINUUM LIMIT 218
17.3 EFFECTIVE CONSTANTS OF THE STANDARD THEORY 220
17.4 GRAND UNIFICATION AND OTHER HYPOTHESES 224

CHAPTER 18 ▪ LIMITS ON THE MASS OF THE HIGGS BOSON 229

18.1 SCALAR FIELDS IN THE STANDARD THEORY 229
18.2 LIMITS ON THE MASS OF THE HIGGS BOSON 234

CHAPTER 19 ▪ THE WEAK MUON ANOMALY 239

19.1 THE R_ξ GAUGE 240
19.2 MUON ANOMALY: W EXCHANGE 244
19.3 Z AND HIGGS BOSON EXCHANGE 247
19.4 COMPARISON WITH DATA 248

CHAPTER 20 ■ EFFECTIVE POTENTIAL AND NATURALNESS 251

20.1 EFFECTIVE POTENTIAL 251
20.2 EXPANSION AROUND THE CLASSICAL LIMIT 253
20.3 LOOP EXPANSION OF THE POTENTIAL 257
20.4 ONE LOOP POTENTIAL IN THE STANDARD THEORY 258
20.5 NON-NATURALNESS OF THE STANDARD THEORY 264

APPENDIX A ■ Transition Amplitude Calculation 269

A.1 TRANSITION AMPLITUDE FOR ZERO POTENTIAL 269

APPENDIX B ■ Connected Diagrams 271

B.1 GENERATING FUNCTIONAL OF CONNECTED DIAGRAMS 271

APPENDIX C ■ Lorentz invariance and one-particle states 275

C.1 RENORMALISATION CONSTANTS 275

APPENDIX D ■ Reduction formulae 279

D.1 REDUCTION FORMULAE FOR THE COMPTON SCATTERING AMPLITUDE 279

APPENDIX E ■ Integrals 283

E.1 INTEGRATION IN D DIMENSIONS 283
E.2 FEYNMAN PARAMETERS 285

APPENDIX F ■ $\beta(\lambda)$ and $\beta(g_t)$ functions 287

F.1 CALCULATION OF THE $\beta(\lambda)$ AND $\beta(g_t)$ FUNCTIONS 287
F.2 $\beta(\lambda)$ 287
F.3 $\beta(g_t)$ 293

Bibliography 295

Index 299