

Differential Vertex Operations in Lagrangian Field Theory*

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Abstract. A general framework is derived for studying differential operations in renormalized perturbation theory. The method makes possible a simple, unified derivation of the renormalization group and Callan-Symanzik equations, as well as a direct test for broken symmetries (including broken scale invariance), without the necessity of defining currents and deriving their generalized Ward identities. A second-order differential equation of the Callan-Symanzik type is derived using similar methods.

I. Introduction

Various differential operations on the Green's functions of Lagrangian field theory have proven to be useful tools in investigating the renormalization properties [1, 2] and short-distance behavior [3, 4] of these functions. The aim of the present article is to formulate a simple general framework for studying differential operations (e. g. derivatives with respect to masses and coupling constants) within the context of *BPHZ* [1, 5] renormalized perturbation theory (see [5] for further references). The method of differential vertex operations to be developed in Sections II through IV will make possible (a) a simple and unified derivation of the renormalization group [6, 1] and generalized Callan-Symanzik [3, 4] equations (Sections III B, C) (b) a method for verifying directly whether a given theory possesses broken symmetry (i. e. its truncated Green's functions are symmetric asymptotically for small distances), without introducing currents and generalized Ward identities (Section III D) and (c) the generalization of the Callan-Symanzik equations to second order, thus providing the basis a more detailed description of the asymptotic short-distance behavior of vertex functions (Section IV).

II. Basic Concepts

A. Definition of Differential Vertex Operations

Given a theory with basic fields $A^{(i)}(x)$ and effective Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFF}} = \mathcal{L}_0 + \mathcal{L}_I$$

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as a functional of the $A^{(i)}$, the Gell-Mann-Low formula [7]

$$\begin{aligned} G_{i_1 \dots i_N}^{(N)}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N) \\ \equiv \langle 0 | T \prod_k A^{(i_k)}(x_k) | 0 \rangle = \text{Finite part of } \langle 0 | T \prod_k A_0^{(i_k)}(x_k) \\ \cdot e^{i \int : \mathcal{L}_I[A_0^{(i)}] : d^4 x} | 0 \rangle^{(0)} \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

where $A_0^{(i)}$ is the free field (specified by \mathcal{L}_0) corresponding to $A^{(i)}$ and the finite-part prescription is given by the *BPHZ* [1, 5] subtraction procedure, gives an unambiguous prescription for calculating the Green's functions (covariant time-ordered functions) of the theory to arbitrary order. We now wish to define, using Zimmermann's normal products [5], certain differential operations on the Green's functions. This will be accomplished by means of simple modifications of the Feynman rules specified by (2.1).

Suppose $P_i(x)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots$, is a covariant polynomial in the basic fields and their derivatives (usually contracted over all tensor and spinor indices) of dimension

$$D_i = b_i + \frac{3}{2} f_i + d_i$$

where b_i and f_i are the numbers of boson and fermion fields, respectively, and d_i is the number of derivatives in $P_i(x)$. In the language of momentum-space Feynman diagrams, $P_i(x)$ corresponds to a vertex V_i with f_i fermion and b_i boson legs, and includes a polynomial of degree d_i in the momenta of those legs. The momentum p_i entering at V_i is the variable conjugate to x under Fourier transformation, and clearly vanishes if V_i is an internal vertex. Following Zimmermann [5], we define time-ordered functions involving normal products by means of the modified Gell-Mann-Low formula,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 0 | T \prod_{j=1}^M N_{\delta_j} [P_j(y_j)] A^{(i_1)}(x_1) \dots A^{(i_N)}(x_N) | 0 \rangle \\ = \text{Finite part of } \langle 0 | T \prod_{j=1}^M : P_{0_j}(y_j) : A_0^{(i_1)}(x_1) \dots A_0^{(i_N)}(x_N) \\ \cdot \exp \{ i \int : \mathcal{L}_I[A_0^{(i)}] : d^4 x \} | 0 \rangle^{(0)} \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

where $A_0^{(i)}$ is the free field (specified by \mathcal{L}_0) corresponding to $A^{(i)}$ and $:P_{0_j}:$ is the Wick polynomial in the $A_0^{(i)}$ corresponding to P_j . The finite-part prescription is again that of *BPHZ* [5], with the number of subtractions required for each proper subdiagram γ governed by the degree function

$$\delta(\gamma) = 4 - B - \frac{3}{2} F - \sum_k (4 - \delta_k) \quad (2.3)$$

where B and F are the numbers of external boson and fermion lines of γ , respectively, δ_k is the degree of vertex V_k (an integer \geq the dimension D_k) and the summation is over all vertices, internal as well as external, of γ . For a renormalizable theory one can always choose $\delta_k = 4$ for all vertices arising from the interaction Lagrangian in (2.2), in which case the summation in (2.3) would only involve the normal-product vertices.

In the present article we shall be principally concerned with *differential vertex operations* (DVO 's) defined by

$$\prod_i \Delta_{V_i}^{\delta_i} G_{j_1 \dots j_N}^{(N)}(x_1, \dots, x_N) = \langle 0 | T \prod_i \int dy_i N_{\delta_i} [P_i(y_i)] A^{(j_1)}(x_1) \dots A^{(j_N)}(x_N) | 0 \rangle. \quad (2.4)$$

By keeping only the contributions of connected (resp. proper) diagrams to the righthand side of (2.4), one may equally well define DVO 's on the truncated Green's (resp. vertex) functions, $G_{i_1 \dots i_N}^{(N)}(x_1, \dots, x_N)^T$ (resp. $\Gamma_{i_1 \dots i_N}^{(N)}(x_1, \dots, x_N)$). In the following we shall often use the symbol $F^{(N)}$ as a generic label for $G^{(N)}$, $G^{(N)T}$ and $\Gamma^{(N)}$.

B. Differential Properties of DVO 's

The differential character of the DVO 's becomes evident if one examines the effect on the Green's functions of an infinitesimal change of the Lagrangian density

$$\mathcal{L}_I(x) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_I^\varepsilon(x) = \mathcal{L}_I(x) + \sum_k \varepsilon_k P_k(x) \quad (2.5)$$

where the vertices V_k corresponding to the scalar polynomials P_k are assigned degrees δ_k in the $BPHZ$ subtraction procedure of the theory with modified Lagrangian. In zeroth order (in the ε_k), the Green's functions of the modified and unmodified Lagrangians coincide. The first-order contribution to $G_{i_1 \dots i_N}^{(N)\varepsilon}(x_1, \dots, x_N)$ is given by the sum of Feynman diagrams containing one and only one of the special vertices V_i . In terms of definition (2.4) this may be expressed as,

$$\left. \frac{\partial G^{(N)\varepsilon}}{\partial \varepsilon^k} \right|_{\varepsilon_j=0, \text{ all } j} = i \Delta_{V_k}^{\delta_k} G^{(N)}.$$

Extending the above reasoning to higher orders and to the other types of N -point functions yields

$$\left. \frac{\partial^m F^{(N)\varepsilon}}{\partial \varepsilon_{k_1} \dots \partial \varepsilon_{k_m}} \right|_{\varepsilon_j=0, \text{ all } j} = i^m \Delta_{V_{k_1}}^{\delta_{k_1}} \dots \Delta_{V_{k_m}}^{\delta_{k_m}} F^{(N)}. \quad (2.6)$$

Of special importance is the case in which (2.5) arises from an infinitesimal increment in one of the parameters g_i of the theory: $g_i \rightarrow g_i + \varepsilon$. Without loss of generality we may choose $\mathcal{L}_0^\varepsilon = \mathcal{L}_0$. Then, assuming analyticity of \mathcal{L} in g_i ,

$$\mathcal{L}_I \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_I^\varepsilon = \mathcal{L}_I + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\varepsilon^n}{n!} \frac{\partial^n \mathcal{L}}{\partial g_i^n} \quad (2.7)$$

If $\mathcal{L}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i Q_i(x)$, where the Q_i are field products (corresponding to vertices V_i) and the a_i are functions of the parameters g_j , then the same sort of reasoning which led to (2.6) gives us

$$\frac{\partial F^{(N)}}{\partial g_k} = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\partial a_i}{\partial g_k} \Delta_{V_i}^{\delta_i} F^{(N)} \quad (2.8)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial g_k} (\Delta_{V_1}^{\delta_1})^{n_1} \dots (\Delta_{V_m}^{\delta_m})^{n_m} F^{(N)} = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\partial a_i}{\partial g_k} (\Delta_{V_1}^{\delta_1})^{n_1} \dots (\Delta_{V_i}^{\delta_i})^{n_i+1} \dots (\Delta_{V_m}^{\delta_m})^{n_m} F^{(N)}.$$

Note that the vertices of \mathcal{L}_0 must be assigned degree 4 in order not to affect the number of *BPHZ* subtractions. Formulas (2.8) may be used to calculate derivatives of arbitrary order with respect to the parameters g_i .

C. Operational Properties of *DVO*'s

In what sense, if any, does $\prod_i \Delta_{V_i}^{\delta_i}$ operate on $F^{(N)}$? From the definition (2.4) alone the answer to this question is not obvious. Certainly a *DVO* does not define a mapping on the space of tempered distributions $\mathcal{S}'(R^{4N})$, or even on a special subspace. Actually, if one studies the method by which we defined *DVO*'s, he will find that the latter act on the $F^{(N)}$ only via the Feynman rules used to construct these functions. Let us now make this notion more precise.

The set of free fields $A_i^{(0)}$, with propagators specified by \mathcal{L}_0 , determines a set Σ of possible Lorentz-invariant vertices V , each assigned an appropriate *BPHZ* degree δ . Let V be the vector space of all formal linear combinations of

$$\{V_1, \dots, V_n\}, \quad V_k \in \Sigma, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

and

$$\{ \} \quad (\text{notational convention: } n = 0).$$

The Abelian algebra of *DVO*'s is represented as an algebra of linear operators in V , with

$$\prod_{i=1}^l \Delta_{W_i}^{\delta_i} \{V_1, \dots, V_n\} = \{V_1, \dots, V_n, W_1, \dots, W_l\}, \quad l = 1, 2, \dots, \quad n = 0, 1, \quad (2.9)$$

and the action on other elements given by linearity.

We now consider the linear mapping

$$\phi_F^{(N)} : V \rightarrow \mathcal{S}'(R^{4N})$$

defined by

i) $\phi_F^{(N)}(\{ \})$ is the free $F^{(N)}$ -function.

ii) If $\mathcal{V} \in V$, $\mathcal{V} = \{V_1, \dots, V_n\}$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$, then $\phi_F^{(N)}(\mathcal{V})$ is the $F^{(N)}$ -function calculated using the available free propagators and the vertices V_1, \dots, V_n , with the requirement that each diagram contain each V_k once and only once. $\phi_F^{(N)}$ is defined on an arbitrary element of V by linearity. In this notation the Gell-Mann-Low formula (2.1) takes the form

$$F^{(N)} = \Phi_F^{(N)} \left(\exp \left[\sum_i \Delta_{U_i}^{\delta_i} \right] \{ \} \right), \quad (2.10)$$

where the U_i are the interaction vertices, and (2.4) becomes

$$\prod_j \Delta_{V_j}^{\delta_j} F^{(N)} = \Phi_F^{(N)} \left(\prod_j \Delta_{U_j}^{\delta_j} \exp \left[\sum_i \Delta_{U_i}^{\delta_i} \right] \{ \} \right). \quad (2.11)$$

Eq. (2.10) and (2.11) give the precise formulation of the statement that $\prod \Delta_{V_j}^{\delta_j} F^{(N)}$ is constructed by successive application of the operators $\Delta_{V_j}^{\delta_j}$ to the Feynman rules used to construct $F^{(N)}$.

D. Counting Identities

In Section II b we saw that derivatives of Green's and vertex functions may conveniently be expressed in terms of differential vertex operations. In this section we shall see that the DVO 's are equally useful in expressing the "counting identities" which are direct consequences of the "topological" structure of Feynman diagrams.

Let us suppose that the free propagators specified by \mathcal{L}_0 are classified into "types" labeled by an index $k = 1, 2, \dots$. As far as the counting identities are concerned this classification may be any grouping of the free propagators into convenient subsets. If U_1, \dots, U_m are the interaction vertices corresponding to $i\mathcal{L}_j$, and v_{ki} is the number of lines of type k attached to a vertex of type U_i , then counting the number of line-ends of type k in any diagram γ gives

$$N_k + 2n_k = \sum_i^m c_i v_{ki} \quad (2.12)$$

where

c_i = number of vertices of type U_i in γ .

N_k = number of external lines of γ of type k .

n_k = number of internal lines of γ of type k .

We now observe that $\Delta_{U_j}^{\delta_j}$ serves as a counting operator for interaction vertices of type U_j :

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{U_j}^{\delta_j} \exp \left[\sum_{i=1}^m \Delta_{U_i}^{\delta_i} \right] \{ \} &= \sum_{c_i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{c_1! \dots c_m!} (\Delta_{U_1}^{\delta_1})^{c_1} \dots (\Delta_{U_j}^{\delta_j})^{c_j+1} \dots (\Delta_{U_m}^{\delta_m})^{c_m} \{ \} \\ &= \sum_{c_i=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_j}{c_1! \dots c_m!} (\Delta_{U_1}^{\delta_1})^{c_1} \dots (\Delta_{U_m}^{\delta_m})^{c_m} \{ \} . \end{aligned} \quad (2.13)$$

Thus if

$$F^{(N)} = \sum_{\gamma} F_{\gamma}^{(N)} \quad (\text{sum over Feynman diagrams})$$

then

$$\Delta_{U_j}^{\delta_j} F^{(N)} = \sum_{\gamma} c_j^{\gamma} F_{\gamma}^{(N)} .$$

Similarly, if W_1, \dots, W_l are the 2-vertices corresponding to $i\mathcal{L}_0$ (assigned *BPHZ* degree four), then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{W_k}^4 \Gamma^{(N)} &= - \sum_{\gamma} n_k^{\gamma} \Gamma^{(N)} \\ \Delta_{W_k}^4 G^{(N)} &= - \sum_{\gamma} (n_k^{\gamma} + N_k) G^{(N)} \\ \Delta_{W_k}^4 G^{(N)T} &= - \sum_{\gamma} (n_k^{\gamma} + N_k) G^{(N)T} . \end{aligned} \quad (2.14)$$

Eqs. (2.12), (2.13) and (2.14) may be combined to give us the identities

$$\begin{aligned} (N_k - 2\Delta_{W_k}^4) \Gamma^{(N)} &= \sum_{i=1}^m v_{ki} \Delta_{U_i}^{\delta_i} \Gamma^{(N)} \\ (-N_k - 2\Delta_{W_k}^4) G^{(N)} &= \sum_{i=1}^m v_{ki} \Delta_{U_i}^{\delta_i} G^{(N)} \\ (-N_k - 2\Delta_{W_k}^4) G^{(N)T} &= \sum_{i=1}^m v_{ki} \Delta_{U_i}^{\delta_i} G^{(N)T} . \end{aligned} \quad (2.15)$$

For $\prod_i \Delta_{V_i}^{\delta_i} F^{(N)}$ the topological relation becomes

$$N_k + 2n_k = \sum_i c_i v_{ki} + \sum_j \mu_{kj} \quad (2.16)$$

where μ_{kj} is the number of lines of type k attached to a vertex of type V_j , and the counting identities (2.15) are modified by the addition of the terms $\sum_j \mu_{kj} \Delta_{V_j}^{\delta_j} F^{(N)}$ to the righthand members.

III. First Order Differential Operations

A. First Order Vertex Operations in the A^4 Model

An excellent testing ground for the methods of differential vertex operations is provided by the A^4 model, whose effective Lagrangian is given [5] by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{EFF}} = & \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu A \partial^\mu A - \frac{1}{2} m^2 A^2 - \frac{g}{4!} A^4 + \frac{1}{2} a A^2 \\ & + \frac{1}{2} b \partial_\mu A \partial^\mu A + \frac{1}{4!} c A^4 \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

where a, b and c are power series in the coupling constant g and are defined implicitly by the normalization conditions

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma^{(2)}(p, -p)|_{p^2=m^2} &= 0 \\ \Gamma^{(2)}(p, -p)|_{p^2=\mu^2} &= i(\mu^2 - m^2) \\ \Gamma^{(4)}(p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4)|_{\text{symmetry point}} &= -ig \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

where

$$(2\pi)^4 \delta\left(\sum_i p_i\right) \Gamma^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N) = \int dx_1 \dots \int dx_N \exp\left[i \sum_k p_k \cdot x_k\right] \Gamma^{(N)}(x_1, \dots, x_N)$$

and the symmetry point is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} p_i^2 &= \mu^2 & i = 1, 2, 3, 4, \\ (p_i + p_j)^2 &= \frac{4}{3} \mu^2 & i \neq j. \end{aligned}$$

In the *BPHZ* subtraction procedure each of the interaction vertices is assigned degree four, so that the only renormalization parts are the self-energy diagrams with degree two and the four-vertex diagrams with degree zero. $\Gamma^{(2)}$ and $\Gamma^{(4)}$ have been normalized at $p^2 = \mu^2$ rather than on the mass shell in order that we might be able to make finite renormalizations by changing the values of μ^2 and g with m^2 fixed (see Section III C).

The form of the effective Lagrangian (3.1) leads us to consider the following differential vertex operations of degree four:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_1 &= \frac{i}{2} \int d^4 x N_4[A^2(x)] \\ \mathcal{A}_2 &= \frac{i}{2} \int d^4 x N_4[\partial_\mu A(x) \partial^\mu A(x)] \\ \mathcal{A}_3 &= \frac{i}{4!} \int d^4 x N_4[A^4(x)]. \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

From (2.8), (2.15) and Zimmermann's formula [5] relating normal products of different degrees (see Appendix), one readily obtains the following identities:

$$\frac{\partial \Gamma^{(N)}}{\partial m^2} = \left(\left(\frac{\partial a}{\partial m^2} - 1 \right) \Delta_1 + \frac{\partial b}{\partial m^2} \Delta_2 + \frac{\partial c}{\partial m^2} \Delta_3 \right) \Gamma^{(N)}, \quad (3.4a)$$

$$\frac{\partial \Gamma^{(N)}}{\partial \mu^2} = \left(\frac{\partial a}{\partial \mu^2} \Delta_1 + \frac{\partial b}{\partial \mu^2} \Delta_2 + \frac{\partial c}{\partial \mu^2} \Delta_3 \right) \Gamma^{(N)}, \quad (3.4b)$$

$$\frac{\partial \Gamma^{(N)}}{\partial g} = \left(\frac{\partial a}{\partial g} \Delta_1 + \frac{\partial b}{\partial g} \Delta_2 + \left(\frac{\partial c}{\partial g} - 1 \right) \Delta_3 \right) \Gamma^{(N)}, \quad (3.4c)$$

$$N\Gamma^{(N)} = (2(a - m^2) \Delta_1 + 2(1 + b) \Delta_2 + 4(c - g) \Delta_3) \Gamma^{(N)}, \quad (3.4d)$$

$$\Delta_0 \Gamma^{(N)} = (\Delta_1 + r \Delta_2 + s \Delta_3) \Gamma^{(N)}, \quad (3.4e)$$

where

$$\Delta_0 = \frac{i}{2} \int N_2[A^2(x)] d^4x,$$

$$r = -i \left[\frac{d}{dp^2} \Delta_0 \Gamma^{(2)}(p, -p) \right]_{p=0},$$

$$s = -i \Delta_0 \Gamma^{(4)}(0, 0, 0, 0).$$

We see that the five quantities $\frac{\partial \Gamma^{(N)}}{\partial m^2}$, $\frac{\partial \Gamma^{(N)}}{\partial \mu^2}$, $\frac{\partial \Gamma^{(N)}}{\partial g}$, $N\Gamma^{(N)}$ and $\Delta_0 \Gamma^{(N)}$ are all linear combinations of the $\Delta_i \Gamma^{(N)}$ $i = 1, 2, 3$. Since the latter are linearly independent, it is clear that there will be two independent linear relations among the five operations. These may be conveniently chosen to be the generalized Callan-Symanzik equations and the renormalization group equations, to which we shall turn our attention in Sections III B and III C.

B. Generalized Callan-Symanzik Equations

From (3.4a–e) it follows that the four operations $\left(m^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} \right)$, $\frac{\partial}{\partial g}$, $N\Gamma$ and Δ_0 are linearly dependent. That is,

$$\alpha m^2 \Delta_0 \Gamma^{(N)} = \left(m^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} + \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial g} - N\gamma \right) \Gamma^{(N)} \quad (3.5)$$

where α , β and γ are, on dimensional grounds, functions of g and the ratio m^2/μ^2 . To solve for these quantities, we equate coefficients of the basic DVO 's Δ_i , $i = 1, 2, 3$, making use of the scaling equations (ordinary

dimensional analysis):

$$\begin{aligned} m^2 \frac{\partial a}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial a}{\partial \mu^2} &= a \\ m^2 \frac{\partial b}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial b}{\partial \mu^2} &= 0 = m^2 \frac{\partial c}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial c}{\partial \mu^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha m^2 &= a - m^2 + \frac{\partial a}{\partial g} \beta - 2(a - m^2) \gamma \\ \alpha m^2 r &= \frac{\partial b}{\partial g} \beta - 2(1 - b) \gamma \\ \alpha m^2 s &= \left(\frac{\partial a}{\partial g} - 1 \right) \beta - 4(c - g) \gamma. \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

Since the determinant of the coefficients of α , β and γ is nonzero in zeroth order, a solution always exists in perturbation theory. Eq. (3.5) is a generalization of the Callan-Symanzik equations, which correspond to the case $\mu^2 = m^2$.

More concise expressions for the coefficients may be obtained by employing the normalization conditions (3.2) at m^2 and at μ^2 . For the latter it is convenient to introduce (notation of [2])

$$d\left(\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) = i(p^2 - m^2) [\Gamma^{(2)}(p, -p)]^{-1} \quad (3.8)$$

and

$$q\left(\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) = \text{id} \left(\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g \right)^2 \Gamma^{(4)}(p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4) \Big|_{\text{sym.pt.}(p^2)}$$

which satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} d\left(1, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) &= 1 \\ q\left(1, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) &= g \end{aligned} \quad (3.9)$$

and, from (3.5)

$$\begin{aligned} \left(m^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} + \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial g} + 2\gamma \right) d &= \xi d \\ \left(m^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} + \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial g} \right) q &= nq \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$

where

$$\xi\left(\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) = -m^2 \left[\frac{\alpha \Delta_0 \Gamma^{(2)}(p, -p)}{\Gamma^{(2)}(p, -p)} + \frac{1}{p^2 - m^2} \right],$$

$$\eta\left(\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) = \frac{\alpha m^2 \Delta_0 \Gamma^{(4)}(p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4)|_{\text{sym.pt.}(p^2)}}{\Gamma^{(4)}(p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4)|_{\text{sym.pt.}(p^2)}} + 2\xi\left(\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right).$$

From (3.10) evaluated at $p^2 = \mu^2$, we get

$$2\gamma\left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) = d_1\left(1, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) + \xi\left(1, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) \quad (3.11a)$$

$$\beta\left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) = q_1\left(1, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) + g\eta\left(1, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right), \quad (3.11b)$$

where the index “1” indicates differentiation with respect to the first argument. Eq. (3.5) for $N = 2$, evaluated at $p^2 = m^2$, then yields

$$\alpha\left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) = \left[-im^2 \Delta_0 \Gamma^{(2)}(p, -p)|_{p^2=m^2} d\left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) \right]^{-1}. \quad (3.11c)$$

The reader is referred to Refs. [3, 4] for discussions of how Eq. (3.5) may be used to describe the short-distance behavior of vertex functions. The crucial point is that for $p_i = \lambda r_i$, $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ (a certain set of measure zero excluded) the ratio

$$\frac{\Delta_0 \Gamma^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N)}{\Gamma^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N)}$$

can be shown by power-counting arguments to vanish like λ^{-2} (up to logarithms), and thus the asymptotic vertex functions satisfy (3.5) with the lefthand side set equal to zero. More delicate restrictions on the asymptotic behavior will be discussed in Section IV with the aid of second-order *DVO*'s.

C. Renormalization Group Equations

The identities (3.4a–e) will now be used to derive the following differential equations for the vertex functions of the A^4 theory,

$$\left(\mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} + \sigma\left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial g} - N\tau\left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) \right) \Gamma^{(N)}(p_1, \dots; p_N; m^2, \mu^2, g) = 0 \quad (3.12)$$

where the dependence of $\Gamma^{(N)}$ on all parameters has been displayed explicitly. The one-dimensional Lie group of transformations on the

half-plane $\{(\mu^2, g) : \mu^2 > 0\}$ generated by

$$\mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} + \sigma \left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial g}$$

is the renormalization group [1, 6], and (3.12) expresses the invariance property of the vertex functions with respect to this group. We see that if the normalization mass μ^2 undergoes an infinitesimal dilation, $\mu^2 \rightarrow \mu^2(1 + \varepsilon)$, and the coupling constant g is changed at the same time to $g + \varepsilon \sigma \left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g \right)$, then the effect on the vertex (and Green's) functions is the same as if we had simply multiplied each field by the infinitesimal "Z factor", $1 - \varepsilon \tau \left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g \right)$.

Referring to (3.4b, c, d), we see that in order to satisfy (3.12) it must be possible to select σ and τ in such a way that

$$\mu^2 \frac{\partial a}{\partial \mu^2} + \frac{\partial a}{\partial g} \sigma - 2(a - m^2) \tau = 0, \quad (3.13a)$$

$$\mu^2 \frac{\partial b}{\partial \mu^2} + \frac{\partial b}{\partial g} \sigma - 2(1 + b) \tau = 0, \quad (3.13b)$$

$$\mu^2 \frac{\partial c}{\partial \mu^2} + \left(\frac{\partial c}{\partial g} - 1 \right) \sigma - 4(c - g) \tau = 0, \quad (3.13c)$$

are fulfilled. The crucial point in verifying (3.13) is that none of the operations $\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2}$, $\frac{\partial}{\partial g}$, 1 changes the position of the propagator pole at $p^2 = m^2$. Hence

$$\left[\left(\mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} + \sigma \frac{\partial}{\partial g} - 2\tau \right) \Gamma^{(2)}(p, -p) \right]_{p^2 = m^2} = 0. \quad (3.14)$$

Once we have chosen σ and τ to satisfy (3.13b) and (3.13c) - which is always possible, thanks to the nonvanishing of the determinant of coefficients - we may use (3.4b-d) to rewrite (3.14) as

$$\left(\mu^2 \frac{\partial a}{\partial \mu^2} + \sigma \frac{\partial a}{\partial g} - 2\tau(a - m^2) \right) \Delta_1 \Gamma^{(2)}(p, -p) \Big|_{p^2 = m^2} = 0. \quad (3.15)$$

The trivial nonvanishing of $\Delta_1 \Gamma^{(2)}$ in zeroth order then gives (3.13a).

Before proceeding to the more familiar integrated form of the renormalization group equations, let us use the normalization conditions at μ^2 to derive convenient expressions for σ and τ . Applying (3.12) to the auxiliary functions $d \left(\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g \right)$ and $q \left(\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g \right)$ defined in (3.8),

one readily verifies

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} + \sigma \frac{\partial}{\partial g} + 2\tau \right) d &= 0 \\ \left(\mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} + \sigma \frac{\partial}{\partial g} \right) q &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.16)$$

Note that $q\left(\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right)$ is invariant under the renormalization group transformations (it is sometimes referred to as the *invariant charge* [1, 2]). Evaluating (3.16) at $\mu^2 = p^2$ and applying (3.8) then yield

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma\left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) &= q_1\left(1, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) \\ 2\tau\left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) &= d_1\left(1, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) \end{aligned} \quad (3.17)$$

where the index “1” indicates differentiation with respect to the first argument.

Referring back to (3.11a, b), we see that the Callan-Symanzik and renormalization group coefficients are related by

$$\begin{aligned} \beta\left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) &= \sigma\left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) + g\eta\left(1, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) \\ \gamma\left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) &= \tau\left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) + \frac{1}{2}\xi\left(1, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right). \end{aligned} \quad (3.18)$$

For $m \rightarrow 0$ the coefficients are expected, by the arguments of Gell-Mann and Low [6], to approach finite limits. In this case both ξ and η vanish and we obtain, as expected,

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(0, g) &= \sigma(0, g) \\ \gamma(0, g) &= \tau(0, g). \end{aligned} \quad (3.19)$$

The differential Eq. (3.16) for $q\left(\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right)$ may be readily integrated using standard mathematical methods [8]. One considers the one-parametric family of curves \mathcal{C} (characteristic curves) in the halfplane $\{(\mu^2, g) : \mu^2 > 0\}$ with the property that a characteristic curve passing through the point (μ^2, g) has an unnormalized tangent vector (μ^2, β) . Clearly one and only one curve in \mathcal{C} passes through each point of the half-plane. From (3.16) and (3.18) it is clear that $q\left(\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right)$ is constant along each characteristic curve C , with its value determined by the

intercept of C with $\mu^2 = p^2$ if $p^2 > 0$. Thus, for $p^2 > 0, \mu^2 > 0, \mu'^2 > 0$ and all g ,

$$q\left(\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) = q\left(\frac{p^2}{\mu'^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu'^2}, q\left(\frac{\mu'^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right)\right). \quad (3.20)$$

Only continuous differentiability of $q\left(\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right)$ was assumed in the derivation of (3.20), but we must resort to its full analytic properties in order to extend this equation to include negative values of p^2 . Eq. (3.20), thus extended, is the traditional form of the renormalization group equation for the invariant charge q .

To obtain the global equations for $d\left(\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right)$ and $\Gamma^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N; m^2, \mu^2, g)$ it is convenient to make a change of variables,

$$(\mu^2, g) \rightarrow (\mu^2, q)$$

with $\mu^2 > 0$ and m^2 and all momentum variables fixed. This is permissible, since the Jacobian

$$J = \frac{\partial q}{\partial g}$$

can vanish only at a point which is traversed by more than one characteristic curve, i.e. only where $\mu^2 = 0 = \sigma$. In terms of the new variables, Eq. (3.12) and (3.16) take the form

$$\begin{aligned} \mu^2 \frac{\partial \hat{d}}{\partial \mu^2} &= -2\tau\left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, \hat{g}\right) \hat{d} \\ \mu^2 \frac{\partial \hat{\Gamma}}{\partial \mu^2} &= N\tau\left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, \hat{g}\right) \hat{\Gamma} \end{aligned} \quad (3.21)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{d}(p^2; m^2, \mu^2, q) &= d\left(\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, q\right), \\ \hat{\Gamma}^{(N)}(p_1 \dots p_N; m^2, \mu^2, q) &= \Gamma^{(N)}(p_1 \dots p_N; m^2, \mu^2, g), \\ \hat{g}(p^2, m^2, \mu^2, q) &= g = q\left(\frac{\mu^2}{p^2}, \frac{m^2}{p^2}, q\right). \end{aligned}$$

These may be integrated directly and exponentiated, giving

$$\hat{d}(p^2; m^2, \mu^2, q) = \exp\left[2 \int_{\mu^2}^{p^2} \frac{d\mu'^2}{\mu'^2} \left(\frac{m^2}{\mu'^2}, q\left(\frac{\mu'^2}{p^2}, \frac{m^2}{p^2}, q\right)\right)\right] \quad (3.22)$$

$$\hat{\Gamma}^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N; m^2, \mu^2, q) = \hat{\Gamma}^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N; m^2, p^2, q) \hat{d}(p^2, m^2, \mu^2, q)^{-N/2}$$

from which follow, using (3.20), the global renormalization group equations,

$$\begin{aligned} d\left(\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) &= d\left(\frac{\mu'^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right) d\left(\frac{p^2}{\mu'^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu'^2}, q\left(\frac{\mu'^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right)\right) \\ \Gamma^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N, m^2, \mu^2, g) &= \Gamma^{(N)}\left(p_1, \dots, p_N; m^2, \mu'^2, q\left(\frac{\mu'^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right)\right) \\ &\quad \cdot d\left(\frac{\mu'^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, g\right)^{-N/2}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.23)$$

As pointed out by Gell-Mann and Low [6], the renormalization group equations for the theory with $m = 0$ give some information concerning the asymptotic behavior of vertex functions of the theory with $m \neq 0$ and $\mu^2 = m^2$. It should be noted, however, that the asymptotic region is not (unless one is lucky) the same as that where the homogeneous Callan-Symanzik equations are applicable, namely where all momenta become uniformly large with the coupling constant fixed; rather it is where the momenta become large with the *invariant charge* fixed. Specifically, if $p = \lambda r$, $p_i = \lambda r_i$ with $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ and q fixed, then (3.22) gives

$$\begin{aligned} \left(-p^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial p^2} + \beta(0, q) \frac{\partial}{\partial q} + \lambda \tau(0, q)\right) \hat{d}(p^2; m^2, m^2, q) &\sim 0 \quad (3.24) \\ \hat{\Gamma}^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N; m^2, m^2, q) \hat{d}(p^2; m^2, m^2, q)^{N/2} &\sim \hat{\Gamma}(p_1, \dots, p_N; 0, p^2, q). \end{aligned}$$

From the work of Gell-Mann and Low [6] one expects that the indicated passage to the zero-mass limit may be performed without encountering divergences.

D. Testing for Broken Symmetry

A theory is said to possess a broken symmetry if its Green's (or vertex) functions become asymptotically invariant under a certain group of transformations in the short-distance limit (in momentum space, $p_i = \lambda r_i$, $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$) [9, 10]. The use of first-order *DVO's* provides the most direct means of testing a given Lagrangian model for the presence of broken symmetries. The principal advantage of the method is that it avoids the necessity of explicitly specifying a current and of deriving a generalized Ward identity for that current (compare with [9]).

The first application of our method will be to the investigation of broken scale invariance in the A^4 model. The starting point is the scaling equation

$$\left[\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} p_i^\mu \frac{\partial}{\partial p_i^\mu} + m^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} - \frac{1}{2} (4 - N) \right] \Gamma^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N) = 0, \quad (3.25)$$

which, using (3.4) and (3.6), may be written as

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\sum_{i=1}^{N-1} p_i^\mu \frac{\partial}{\partial p_i^\mu} - 4 + Nd \right] \Gamma^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N) \\ &= [2(m^2 - a)A_1 + (d-1)(2(a-m^2)A_1 + 2(1+b)A_2 + 4(c-g)A_3)] \\ & \quad \cdot \Gamma^{(N)}(p_1, \dots, p_N). \end{aligned} \quad (3.26)$$

The parameter d has been inserted to allow for anomalous Wilson dimension [11]. For broken scale invariance the three DVO 's of degree four would have to conspire to give a righthand side which becomes negligible in the asymptotic region. The only known way of doing this is via (3.4e). However, a simple second-order calculation [9] shows this to be impossible: the two parameters available (Wilson dimension and normalization) are simply not sufficient to fix the three coefficients of (3.4e).

As a second example we consider the model of a two-component scalar field with effective Lagrangian

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{EFF}} = & \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu A_i \partial^\mu A_i - \frac{1}{2} m_1^2 A_1^2 - \frac{1}{2} m_2^2 A_2^2 - \frac{g}{8} (A_i A_i)^2 \\ & + \frac{1}{2} a_1 A_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} a_2 A_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} Z_{ij} \partial_\mu A_i \partial^\mu A_j - \frac{1}{4!} g_{ijkl} A_i A_j A_k A_l, \end{aligned} \quad (3.27)$$

where g , m_1 and m_2 are given and the other coefficients (power series in g) are to be adjusted to fix various normalization conditions and the requirement of asymptotic orthogonal symmetry (compare Section V of [9]).

In order to study the effect of “ i -spin” rotations on the truncated Green’s functions, we start with a symmetric free Lagrangian, writing

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_0 = & \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu A_i \partial^\mu A_i - \frac{1}{2} m^2 A_i A_i \\ \mathcal{L}_I = & -\frac{1}{2} m_{ij} A_i A_j - \frac{g}{8} (A_i A_i)^2 + \frac{1}{2} Z_{ij} \partial_\mu A_i \partial^\mu A_j \\ & - \frac{1}{4!} g_{ijkl} A_i A_j A_k A_l \end{aligned} \quad (3.28)$$

where m^2 is an average of m_1^2 and m_2^2 whose precise choice is not critical. Then, by the Gell-Mann-Low formula (2.1) and the i -spin invariance of the free vacuum, the effects of an i -spin rotation

$$R_{ij}(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

can be thrown over onto \mathcal{L}_I :

$$\prod_{k=1}^N R_{ikjk} G_{j_1 \dots j_N}(x_1 \dots x_N) \quad (3.29)$$

$$= \text{Finite part of } {}^{(0)}\langle 0 | T A_{i_1}(x_1) \dots A_{i_N}(x_N) \exp[i \int : \mathcal{L}_I^{\theta} : d^4 x] | 0 \rangle$$

where

$$\mathcal{L}_I^{\theta} = -\frac{g}{8} (A_i A_i)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m_{ij}(\theta) A_i A_j + \frac{1}{2} Z_{ij}(\theta) \partial_{\mu} A_i \partial^{\mu} A_j$$

$$- \frac{1}{4!} g_{ijkl}(\theta) A_i A_j A_k A_l$$

$$m_{ij}(\theta) = R_{ik}(\theta) R_{jl}(\theta) m_{kl},$$

$$Z_{ij}(\theta) = R_{ik}(\theta) R_{jl}(\theta) Z_{kl},$$

$$g_{ijkl}(\theta) = R_{im}(\theta) R_{jn}(\theta) R_{kp}(\theta) R_{lq}(\theta) g_{mnpq}.$$

The structure of each Feynman diagram contributing to the Gell-Mann-Low formula is unchanged by the rotation, so that the *BPHZ* subtraction procedure defining the finite part in (3.29) is unaltered.

Differentiating (3.29) with respect to θ at $\theta=0$ and applying (2.8), we obtain

$$\sum_{k=1}^N \tau_{ikj} G_{i_1 \dots j \dots i_N}^{(N)}(x_1, \dots, x_k, \dots, x_N)^T \quad (3.30)$$

$$= (-m'_{ij} \Delta_{lij} + Z'_{ij} \Delta_{2ij} - g'_{ijkl} \Delta_{3ijkl}) G^{(N)}(x_1, \dots, x_N)^T$$

where

$$\tau_{ij} = \frac{d}{d\theta} R(\theta)|_{\theta=0}, \quad m'_{ij} = \frac{d}{d\theta} m_{ij}(\theta)|_{\theta=0}, \quad \text{etc.}$$

$$\Delta_{lij} = \frac{i}{2} \int N_4[A_i(x) A_j(x)] d^4 x,$$

$$\Delta_{2ij} = \frac{i}{2} \int N_4[\partial_{\mu} A_i(x) \partial^{\mu} A_j(x)] d^4 x,$$

$$\Delta_{3ijkl} = \frac{i}{4!} \int N_4[A_i(x) A_j(x) A_k(x) A_l(x)] d^4 x.$$

This is precisely the “integrated Ward identity” derived in with the aid of a “broken-symmetry current” in Ref. [9]. The condition of broken invariance under *i*-spin rotations is that the righthand side of (3.30) be “soft” in the short-distance region. In Ref. [9] it is shown that this may be accomplished by so choosing the m_{ij} , Z_{ij} and g_{ijkl} that the

righthand side of (3.30) becomes proportional to $\Delta_{0ij}G^{(N)T}$, where

$$\Delta_{0ij} = \frac{i}{2} \int N_2 [A_i(x) A_j(x)] d^4x.$$

The method employed in this example can obviously be applied to any perturbative model which one wishes to test for broken *internal* symmetry.

IV. Higher Order Differential Operations in the A^4 Model

Eqs. (3.4) are easily generalized to apply to arbitrary $\Gamma_{n_1, n_2, n_3}^{(N)} = \Delta_1^{n_1} \Delta_2^{n_2} \Delta_3^{n_3} \Gamma^{(N)}$:

$$\left(m^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} \right) \Gamma_{n_1, n_2, n_3}^{(N)} = (a - m^2) \Gamma_{n_1 + 1, n_2, n_3}, \quad (4.1a)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial g} \Gamma_{n_1, n_2, n_3}^{(N)} = \left(\frac{\partial a}{\partial g} \Delta_1 + \frac{\partial b}{\partial g} \Delta_2 + \left(\frac{\partial c}{\partial g} - 1 \right) \Delta_3 \right) \Gamma_{n_1, n_2, n_3}^{(N)}, \quad (4.1b)$$

$$(N - 2n_1 - 2n_2 - 4n_3) \Gamma_{n_1, n_2, n_3}^{(N)} = (2(a - m^2) \Delta_1 + 2(1 + b) \Delta_2 + 4(c - g) \Delta_3) \Gamma_{n_1, n_2, n_3}^{(N)}, \quad (4.1c)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} \Gamma_{n_1, n_2, n_3}^{(N)} = \left(\frac{\partial a}{\partial \mu^2} \Delta_1 + \frac{\partial b}{\partial \mu^2} \Delta_2 + \frac{\partial c}{\partial \mu^2} \Delta_3 \right) \Gamma_{n_1, n_2, n_3}^{(N)}. \quad (4.1d)$$

One readily verifies that the determinant of the coefficients of $\Gamma_{n_1 + 1, n_2, n_3}^{(N)}$, $\Gamma_{n_1, n_2 + 1, n_3}^{(N)}$ and $\Gamma_{n_1, n_2, n_3 + 1}^{(N)}$ in the righthand members of (4.1 a–c) is nonzero in zeroth order, so that these equations may be used recursively to write

$$\Gamma_{n_1, n_2, n_3}^{(N)} = \mathcal{P}_{n_1, n_2, n_3} \left(m^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2}, \frac{\partial}{\partial g} \right) \Gamma^{(N)} \quad (4.2)$$

where $\mathcal{P}_{n_1, n_2, n_3}$ is a polynomial of degree $n_1 + n_2 + n_3$.

From Eqs. (4.1), (3.7) and (3.13) follow immediately the renormalization group and generalized Callan-Symanzik equations for the $\Gamma_{n_1, n_2, n_3}^{(N)}$

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} + \sigma \frac{\partial}{\partial g} - (N - 2n_1 - 2n_2 - 4n_3) \tau \right) \Gamma_{n_1, n_2, n_3}^{(N)} &= 0 \\ \left(m^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} + \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial g} - (N - 2n_1 - 2n_2 - 4n_3) \gamma \right) \Gamma_{n_1, n_2, n_3}^{(N)} &= \alpha m^2 (\Delta_1 + r \Delta_2 + s \Delta_3) \Gamma_{n_1, n_2, n_3}^{(N)}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

As a final application of *DVO*'s, let us derive a second-order refinement of the generalized Callan-Symanzik equations. From (4.3) we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[m^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} + \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial g} - (N-2) \gamma \right] \Delta_0 \Gamma^{(N)} \\ &= \alpha m^2 (\Delta_1 + r \Delta_2 + s \Delta_3)^2 \Gamma^{(N)} + \left(m^2 \frac{\partial r}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial r}{\partial \mu^2} + \beta \frac{\partial r}{\partial g} \right) \Delta_2 \Gamma^{(N)} \\ &+ \left(m^2 \frac{\partial s}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial s}{\partial \mu^2} + \beta \frac{\partial s}{\partial g} - 2\gamma s \right) \Delta_3 \Gamma^{(N)}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.4)$$

On the other hand, a two-fold application of Zimmermann's formula relating normal products of different degrees (see Appendix) gives

$$\Delta_0^2 \Gamma^{(N)} = [(\Delta_1 + r \Delta_2 + s \Delta_3)^2 + t \Delta_1 + u \Delta_2 + v \Delta_3] \Gamma^{(N)} \quad (4.5)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} t &= -i \Delta_0^2 \Gamma^{(2)}(0, 0), \\ u &= -i \left[\frac{d}{dp^2} \Delta_0^2 \Gamma^{(2)}(p, -p) \right]_{p=0}, \\ v &= -i \Delta_0^2 \Gamma^{(4)}(0, 0, 0, 0). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[m^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} + \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial g} - (N-2) \gamma \right] \Delta_0 \Gamma^{(N)} \\ &= \alpha m^2 [\Delta_0^2 \Gamma^{(N)} - t \Delta_1 - u \Delta_2 - v \Delta_3] \Gamma^{(N)} \\ &+ \left[\left(m^2 \frac{\partial r}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial r}{\partial \mu^2} + \beta \frac{\partial r}{\partial g} \right) \Delta_2 + \left(m^2 \frac{\partial s}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial s}{\partial \mu^2} + \beta \frac{\partial s}{\partial g} - 2\gamma s \right) \Delta_3 \right] \Delta^{(N)}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.6)$$

If we now go to the region of large momenta, $p_i = \lambda r_i$, $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$, power counting [12, 13] gives

$$\frac{\Delta_0 \Gamma^{(N)}}{\Gamma^{(N)}} \sim \lambda^{-2} \log^a \lambda, \quad \frac{\Delta_0^2 \Gamma^{(N)}}{\Gamma^{(N)}} \sim \lambda^{-2} \log^b \lambda.$$

This implies that the linear terms in (4.6) must be proportional to $\Delta_0 \Gamma^{(N)}$, so that we obtain, finally,

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[m^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} + \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial g} - (N-2) \gamma - \alpha m^2 t \right] [\alpha m^2]^{-1} \\ & \cdot \left[m^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial m^2} + \mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} + \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial g} - N \gamma \right] \Gamma^{(N)} = \alpha m^2 \Delta_0^2 \Gamma^{(N)}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.7)$$

For $N=2$ this result has been derived by Symanzik [13] by other methods. In order to apply Eq. (4.7) in short-distance analysis, further knowledge of the inhomogeneous term is required¹. The reader is referred to Ref. [13] for an appropriate treatment of this problem.

Appendix

Derivation of the Expansion Formulas for $\Delta_0\Gamma^{(N)}$ and $\Delta_0^2\Gamma^{(N)}$

We wish to express $\Delta_0\Gamma^{(N)}$ and $\Delta_0^2\Gamma^{(N)}$ (defined in Sections III A and IV) in terms of the differential vertex operations Δ_i and $\Delta_i\Delta_j$, $i, j=1, 2, 3$. The expansions are based on a useful formula of Zimmermann [5].

Suppose I_G is the unrenormalized integrand corresponding to a Feynman diagram G containing a special vertex V . Suppose further that R_ϕ and R_δ , $\phi < \delta$, are two alternative renormalized integrands derived from I_G by the prescription [5]

$$R_\chi = \sum_{U \in \mathcal{F}} \prod_{\gamma \in U} (-t_\chi^\gamma) I_G, \quad \chi = \phi, \delta, \quad (\text{A.1})$$

where \mathcal{F} is the set of ‘‘forests’’ (families of nonoverlapping renormalization parts of G) and t_χ^γ is the Taylor operator on the external momenta of γ with degree determined by χ . The only difference between R_ϕ and R_δ is that in calculating the former the special vertex V is assigned degree ϕ , whereas for the latter V has degree δ . For all other vertices the degrees are identical in the two cases. Then

$$R_\phi = R_\delta + \sum_{\tau} \sum_{U \in M(\tau)} \prod_{\gamma \in U} (-t_\delta^\gamma) (t_\delta^\tau - t_\phi^\tau) \sum_{U' \in m(\tau)} \prod_{\gamma' \in U'} (-t_\phi^{\gamma'}) I_G \quad (\text{A.2})$$

where the first sum is over all renormalization parts containing V , $M(\tau)$ is the set of all forests whose elements either contain τ properly or are disjoint from τ , and $m(\tau)$ is the set of all forests whose elements are properly contained in τ .

In the case of $\Delta_0\Gamma^{(N)}$, Eq. (A.2) with $\phi=2, \delta=4$, summed over all relevant Feynman diagrams, gives

$$\Delta_0\Gamma^{(N)} = (\Delta_1 + r\Delta_2 + s\Delta_3)\Gamma^{(N)} \quad (\text{A.3})$$

where use has been made of Lorentz invariance to eliminate DVO 's with only one derivative and to contract those with two derivatives. The coefficients may be deduced from (A.2) or, more quickly, from the

¹ The author is indebted to Symanzik for calling this to his attention.

normalization conditions

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_1 \Gamma^{(2)}(0, 0) &= \frac{d}{dp^3} \Delta_2 \Gamma^{(2)}(p, -p) \Big|_{p=0} = \Delta_3 \Gamma^{(4)}(0, 0, 0, 0) = i \\ \Delta_2 \Gamma^{(2)}(0, 0) &= \Delta_3 \Gamma^{(2)}(0, 0) = \Delta_1 \Gamma^{(4)}(0, 0, 0, 0) = \Delta_2 \Gamma^{(4)}(0, 0, 0, 0) \quad (\text{A.4}) \\ &= \frac{d}{dp^2} \Delta_1 \Gamma^{(2)}(p, -p) \Big|_{p=0} = \frac{d}{dp^2} \Delta_3 \Gamma^{(2)}(p, -p) \Big|_{p=0} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

From (A.3) and (A.4) one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} r &= -i \frac{d}{dp^2} \Delta_0 \Gamma^{(2)}(p, -p) \Big|_{p=0} \\ s &= -i \Delta_0 \Gamma^{(4)}(0, 0, 0, 0). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.5})$$

By similar reasoning we have in the case of two special vertices, V_1 and V_2 , with $\phi_1 = 2, \phi_2 = \delta_1 = \delta_2 = 4$ (since only V_1 changes its degree, Zimmermann's formula (A.2) is still applicable),

$$\Delta_0 \Delta_i \Gamma^{(N)} = [(\Delta_1 + r \Delta_2 + s \Delta_3) \Delta_i + u_i \Delta_2 + v_i \Delta_3] \Gamma^{(N)}, \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \quad (\text{A.6})$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} u_i &= -i \frac{d}{dp^2} \Delta_0 \Delta_i \Gamma^{(2)}(p, -p) \Big|_{p=0}, \\ v_i &= -i \Delta_0 \Delta_i \Gamma^{(4)}(0, 0, 0, 0). \end{aligned}$$

Here the second and third quadratic terms on the righthand side arise from the cases $V_1 \in \tau, V_2 \notin \tau$ (τ as in (A.2)), whereas the linear terms correspond to $V_1 \in \tau, V_2 \in \tau$.

Proceeding one step further, we may now treat the case $\phi_1 = \phi_2 = \delta_2 = 2, \delta_1 = 4$:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_0^2 \Gamma^{(N)} &= [(\Delta_1 + r \Delta_2 + s \Delta_3) \Delta_0 + t \Delta_1] \Gamma^{(N)} \\ &= [(\Delta_1 + r \Delta_2 + s \Delta_3)^2 + t \Delta_1 + u \Delta_2 + v \Delta_3] \Gamma^{(N)} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.7})$$

where the term $t \Delta_1 \Gamma^{(N)}$ comes from renormalization parts τ in (A.2) which contain both special vertices. Again the normalization conditions may be applied to give

$$\begin{aligned} t &= -i \Delta_0^2 \Gamma^{(2)}(0, 0) \\ u &= -i \frac{d}{dp^2} \Delta_0^2 \Gamma^{(2)}(p, -p) \Big|_{p=0} \\ v &= -i \Delta_0^2 \Gamma^{(4)}(0, 0, 0, 0). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.8})$$

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