

3.2. Feynman rules

Let's briefly recapitulate how they are derived for a scalar theory (for the purpose of Feynman rules, we can view each component of the gluon field as a scalar field).

$$\begin{aligned} \text{E.g. } \mathcal{L} &= \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{m^2}{2} \phi^2 - \frac{\lambda}{4!} \phi^4 \\ &= \underbrace{\quad}_{\mathcal{L}_0} + \mathcal{L}_I \end{aligned}$$

Define

$$\langle \phi_1 \dots \phi_n \rangle = \langle \phi(x_1) \dots \phi(x_n) \rangle = \int \mathcal{D}\phi \phi(x_1) \dots \phi(x_n) e^{i \int d^4x \mathcal{L}_0}$$

Wick's theorem

$$\langle \phi_1 \dots \phi_n \rangle = \sum_{\substack{\text{all pairings} \\ i_1 \dots i_n}} \underbrace{\langle \phi_{i_1} \phi_{i_2} \rangle \langle \phi_{i_3} \phi_{i_4} \rangle \dots \langle \phi_{i_{n-1}} \phi_{i_n} \rangle}_{\text{free propagator.}}$$

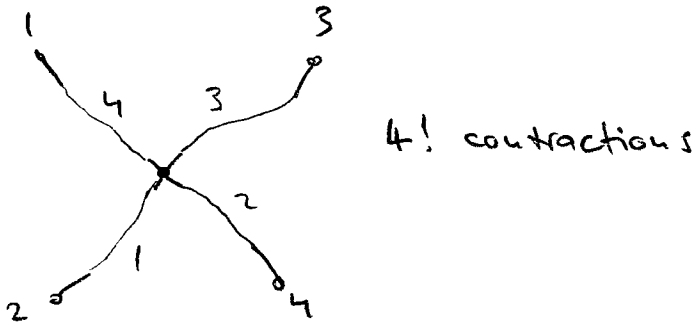
For example

$$\langle \phi_1 \dots \phi_4 \rangle = \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ | \\ 2 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 3 \\ | \\ 4 \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \circ \text{---} \circ \\ \circ \text{---} \circ \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \circ \text{---} \circ \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \circ \quad \circ \end{array}$$

Interacting theory

$$\langle \phi_1 \dots \phi_4 e^{i \int d^4x \mathcal{L}_I} \rangle = \langle \phi_1 \dots \phi_4 \rangle - i \int d^4x \frac{\lambda}{4!} \langle \phi_1 \dots \phi_4 \phi_x^4 \rangle - \frac{1}{2!} \int d^4x \int d^4y \left(\frac{\lambda}{4!} \right)^2 \langle \phi_1 \dots \phi_4 \phi_x^4 \phi_y^4 \rangle$$


At $O(\lambda)$, we have



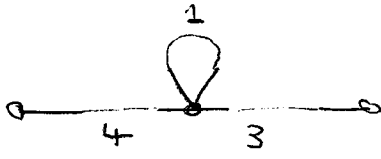
Two conventions for Feynman rules

- A.) The Feynman rule is $-i \frac{\lambda}{4!}$ and we have to count the number of contractions
- B.) The Feynman rule is $-i\lambda$. Sometimes we have to divide by a symmetry factor because not all contractions arise.

As far as I know only (B.) is used in the QCD literature.

Example: 

A.)



$$-i \frac{\lambda}{4!} 4 \cdot 3 = -i \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

B.)



$$-i\lambda \cdot \frac{1}{2} \leftarrow \text{symm. factor}$$

Most of the time, diagrams are calculated in momentum space. To obtain the Feynman rules we Fourier transform the Lagrangian

$$-\frac{\lambda}{4!} \int d^4x \phi^4(x) = -\frac{\lambda}{4!} \int \int \int \int_{k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4} d^4x e^{-i(k_1, \dots, k_4) \cdot x} \tilde{\phi}(k_1) \dots \tilde{\phi}(k_4)$$

incoming momenta
↙

$$\int_{k_1, \dots, k_4} = \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4}$$

$$= -\frac{\lambda}{4!} \int \int \int \int_{k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4} (2\pi)^4 \delta(k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + k_4) \tilde{\phi}(k_1) \dots \tilde{\phi}(k_4)$$

At tree-level all momentum integrations can be performed trivially, eliminating δ -functions.

At higher orders nontrivial integrations over loop momenta remain.

To obtain the QCD Feynman rules, we have to Fourier transform the Lagrangian.

Let's first split it into $\mathcal{L}_0 + \mathcal{L}_{int}$

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} (F_{\mu\nu}^a)^2 + \sum_f \bar{\psi}_f (i\not{D} - m_f) \psi_f - \frac{1}{23} (\partial^\mu A_\mu^a)^2 + \bar{c} (-\not{D}^{ab}) c$$

$$iD_\mu = i\partial_\mu + g A_\mu^a t^a$$


$$F_{\mu\nu}^a = \partial_\mu A_\nu^a - \partial_\nu A_\mu^a + g A_\mu^b A_\nu^c f^{abc}$$

$$D_\mu^{ab} = \partial_\mu \delta^{ab} + g f^{abc} A_\mu^c$$

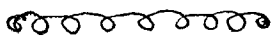
$$\mathcal{L}_0 = -\frac{1}{4} (\partial_\mu A_\nu^a - \partial_\nu A_\mu^a)^2 - \frac{1}{23} (\partial^\mu A_\mu^a)^2 + \sum_f \bar{\psi}_f (i\not{\partial} - m_f) \psi_f + \bar{c} (-\not{\partial}^2) c$$

The free propagators for these fields are obtained by Fourier transforming and inverting.


Remember that $i\partial_\mu \hat{=} k_\mu$.

$$\langle \Psi_{i\alpha}^a(x) \bar{\Psi}_{j\beta}^a(y) \rangle = \int_k \left(\frac{i}{\not{k} - m_q + i\epsilon} \right)_{\alpha\beta} \delta_{ij} e^{-ik(x-y)}$$


$$\langle A_\mu^a(x) A_\nu^b(y) \rangle = \int_k \frac{i}{k^2 + i\epsilon} \left(-g_{\mu\nu} + (1-\xi) \frac{k_\mu k_\nu}{k^2} \right) \delta^{ab} e^{-ik(x-y)}$$



... same as photon prop.

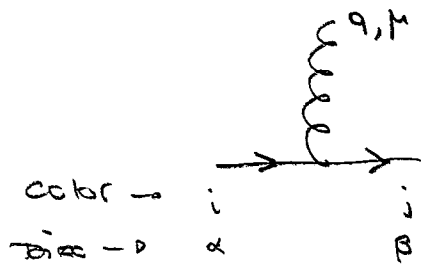
$$\langle c^a(x) \bar{c}^b(y) \rangle = \int_k \frac{i}{k^2} \delta^{ab} e^{-ik(x-y)}$$


All propagators are color diagonal.

Now let's look at the interactions

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = & g A_\mu^a \bar{\Psi} \gamma^\mu t^a \Psi - g f^{abc} (\partial^\beta A_\alpha^a) A_\beta^b A_\alpha^c \\ & - \frac{g^2}{4} f^{abe} A_\alpha^a A_\beta^b f^{cde} A_\beta^c A_\alpha^d \\ & - \bar{c}^a g f^{abc} \partial^\mu A_\mu^c c^b \end{aligned}$$

The first term gives the quark-gluon vertex

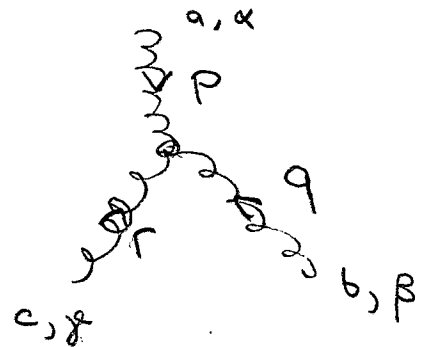


$$ig (\gamma^M)_{\beta\alpha} (t^a)_{ji}$$

The second is an interaction among three gluons,

its Fourier transform is

$$-ig \frac{f^{abc}}{i} g_{\alpha\beta}$$

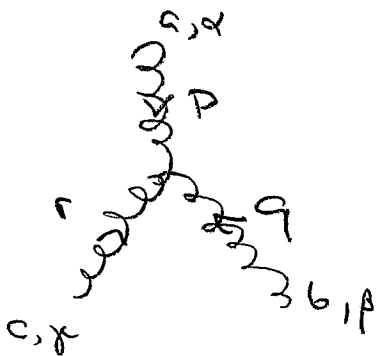


we follow convention B.), so the Feynman rule

is the sum over 3! contractions, which correspond

to the 3! permutations of the three gluon

fields



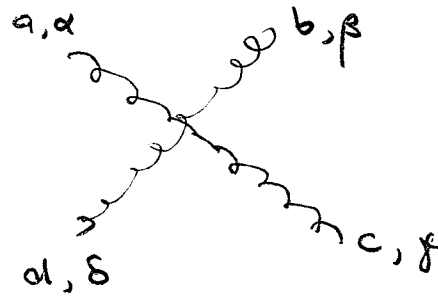
$$g f^{abc} \left[(p-q)^\beta g^{a\beta} + (q-r)^\alpha g^{\beta\alpha} + (r-p)^\beta g^{\beta\alpha} \right]$$

↑
 this is the above
 term.

Now, the four gluon term

Fourier transform is

$$-\frac{g^2}{4} f^{abe} f^{cde} g_{\alpha\gamma} g_{\beta\delta}$$



In this case, there are $4!$ permutations, of which always 4 are equivalent.

~ Feynman rule

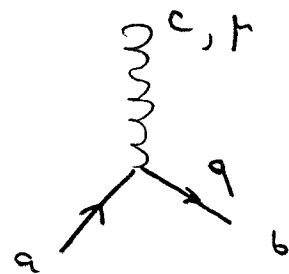
$$-ig^2 f^{abe} f^{cde} (g_{\alpha\gamma} g_{\beta\delta} - g_{\alpha\delta} g_{\beta\gamma})$$

$$-ig^2 f^{ace} f^{bde} (g_{\alpha\beta} g_{\gamma\delta} - g_{\alpha\delta} g_{\beta\gamma})$$

$$-ig^2 f^{ade} f^{bce} (g_{\alpha\beta} g_{\gamma\delta} - g_{\alpha\gamma} g_{\beta\delta})$$

~ Finally, for the gluon-ghost coupling, we find

$$-ig f^{abc} \frac{q^\mu}{i}$$



The complete set of Feynman rules are given on the next page.

[From K. Ellis, but with $g \rightarrow -g$]

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{A, } \alpha \quad p \quad \text{B, } \beta \\
 \text{~~~~~} \text{~~~~~} \\
 \text{~~~~~} \text{~~~~~}
 \end{array}
 \quad \delta^{AB} \left[-g^{\alpha\beta} + (1-\lambda) \frac{p^\alpha p^\beta}{p^2 + i\epsilon} \right] \frac{i}{p^2 + i\epsilon}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{A} \quad p \quad \text{B} \\
 \text{-----} \text{-----} \\
 \text{-----} \text{-----}
 \end{array}
 \quad \delta^{AB} \frac{i}{(p^2 + i\epsilon)}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{a, } i \quad p \quad \text{b, } j \\
 \text{-----} \text{-----} \\
 \text{-----} \text{-----}
 \end{array}
 \quad \delta^{ab} \frac{i}{(\not{p} - m + i\epsilon)_{ji}}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{B, } \beta \\
 \text{~~~~~} \\
 \text{q} \\
 \text{~~~~~} \\
 \text{A, } \alpha \quad p \quad \text{C, } \gamma \\
 \text{~~~~~} \text{~~~~~}
 \end{array}
 \quad +g f^{ABC} [(p+q)^\gamma g^{\alpha\beta} + (q-r)^\alpha g^{\beta\gamma} + (r-p)^\beta g^{\gamma\alpha}]$$

(all momenta incoming, $p+q+r=0$)

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{A, } \alpha \quad \text{B, } \beta \\
 \text{~~~~~} \text{~~~~~} \\
 \text{~~~~~} \text{~~~~~} \\
 \text{C, } \gamma \quad \text{D, } \delta \\
 \text{~~~~~} \text{~~~~~}
 \end{array}
 \quad \begin{aligned}
 & -ig^2 f^{XAC} f^{XBD} [g^{\alpha\beta} g^{\gamma\delta} - g^{\alpha\delta} g^{\beta\gamma}] \\
 & -ig^2 f^{XAD} f^{XBC} [g^{\alpha\beta} g^{\gamma\delta} - g^{\alpha\gamma} g^{\beta\delta}] \\
 & -ig^2 f^{XAB} f^{XCD} [g^{\alpha\gamma} g^{\beta\delta} - g^{\alpha\delta} g^{\beta\gamma}]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{A, } \alpha \\
 \text{~~~~~} \\
 \text{q} \\
 \text{~~~~~} \\
 \text{B} \quad \text{C}
 \end{array}
 \quad -g f^{ABC} q^\alpha$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{A, } \alpha \\
 \text{~~~~~} \\
 \text{~~~~~} \\
 \text{b, } i \quad \text{c, } j
 \end{array}
 \quad +ig (t^A)_{cb} (\gamma^\alpha)_{ji}$$