

Dimensional regularization and spurious gauge-invariance

Luca Vecchi



Based on JHEP 12 (2024) 080 and JHEP 02 (2023) 244

9/4/2025

Outline

- Introduction and motivation
- Spurious axial invariance
- Applications at 1-loop
- Conclusions

Introduction

QFTs require regularization and renormalization.

Dimensional regularization is the most popular scheme because:

- It is efficiently applicable to high order calculations
- It regulates both UV and IR divergences
- It is a mass-independent scheme
- It is compatible with gauge invariance

Definition

1) Extend to d-dimensions (formally, d is complex!)

$$S \supset \int d^4x \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi \rightarrow \int d^d x \left[\frac{1}{2} \partial_{\bar{\mu}} \phi \partial^{\bar{\mu}} \phi + \frac{1}{2} \partial_{\hat{\mu}} \phi \partial^{\hat{\mu}} \phi \right]$$

4-dimensions (d-4)-dimensions

2) Compute amplitudes in d-dimensions: they are meromorphic functions of $d=4-\epsilon$.

$$e^{i\Gamma_{\text{reg}}[\xi_c]} = \int_{\text{1PI}} \mathcal{D}\xi e^{iS[\xi+\xi_c] + iS_{\text{ct}}[\xi+\xi_c]}$$

Removes all $1/\epsilon$ poles

3) Take the 4-dimensional limit where $d \rightarrow 4$ and all evanescent terms disappear

$$\Gamma[\xi_c] \equiv \text{LIM}_{d \rightarrow 4} \Gamma_{\text{reg}}[\xi_c]$$

**Systematically
applicable at all loops!**

Why does it work?

$$\mathcal{L} = (\partial\phi)^2 + \bar{\psi}i\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu\psi - y\bar{\psi}\psi\phi - \lambda\phi^4$$

$$[\phi] = \frac{d-2}{2}$$

$$[\psi] = \frac{d-1}{2}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} [y] &= 2 - \frac{d}{2} \\ [\lambda] &= 4 - d \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

For $d < 4$ all couplings are relevant:
control on UV divergences

Analogously, $d > 4$ all couplings are irrelevant:
control on IR divergences

**Complex d regulates
both UV and IR divergences!**

It is a mass-independent scheme: Great for Effective Field Theories!!!

No power-law divergences $\int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} (k^2)^\alpha = 0$

→ no contamination from higher-dimensional operators $\frac{c_6}{\Lambda^2} \phi^6 \not\rightarrow \delta\lambda \phi^4$

→ RG evolution constrained by dimensional analysis

Respects QCD and QED

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} i \gamma^\mu (\partial_\mu - i T^A A_\mu^A) \psi - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^A F^{A\mu\nu}$$

By extending this theory to d dimensions we have
d-dimensional gauge-invariance and
d-dimensional Lorentz invariance

Chirality?!

The notion of chirality does not exist at arbitrary d.

The γ_5 problem:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \{\gamma_\mu, \gamma_5\} &= 0 \\ \text{Tr}(\gamma_\mu \gamma_\nu \gamma_\alpha \gamma_\beta \gamma_5) &= -4i \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \\ \text{Tr}(\Gamma_1 \Gamma_2) &= \text{Tr}(\Gamma_2 \Gamma_1) \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow (d-4) \text{Tr}(\gamma_\mu \gamma_\nu \gamma_\alpha \gamma_\beta \gamma_5) = 0$$

**d=4 is “singular”: we cannot
analytically continue these properties!**

Solution!

Levi-Civita and γ_5 are 4-dimensional objects

$$\gamma_5 \equiv \frac{i}{4!} \epsilon_{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}\bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta}} \gamma^{\bar{\mu}} \gamma^{\bar{\nu}} \gamma^{\bar{\alpha}} \gamma^{\bar{\beta}}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \gamma_5 \equiv \frac{i}{4!} \epsilon_{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}\bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta}} \gamma^{\bar{\mu}} \gamma^{\bar{\nu}} \gamma^{\bar{\alpha}} \gamma^{\bar{\beta}} \\ \{\gamma_\mu, \gamma_\nu\} = 2g_{\mu\nu} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \{\gamma_{\bar{\mu}}, \gamma_5\} = 0 \\ [\gamma_{\hat{\mu}}, \gamma_5] = 0 \end{array}$$

γ_5 is not
anti-commuting

Breitenlohner and Maison showed that the above definition implies a consistent regularization at all orders in perturbation

A nuisance !

Consider a chiral transformation

$$\psi \rightarrow e^{i\alpha\gamma_5} \psi$$

$$\bar{\psi} \rightarrow \bar{\psi} e^{i\alpha\gamma_5}$$

$$S = \int d^d x \bar{\psi} i\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \psi = \int d^d x [\bar{\psi} i\gamma^{\hat{\mu}} \partial_{\hat{\mu}} \psi + \bar{\psi} i\gamma^{\hat{\mu}} \partial_{\hat{\mu}} \psi]$$
$$\int d^d x [\bar{\psi} i\gamma^{\hat{\mu}} \partial_{\hat{\mu}} \psi + \bar{\psi} e^{2i\alpha\gamma_5} i\gamma^{\hat{\mu}} \partial_{\hat{\mu}} \psi]$$

Chiral symmetries are explicitly broken, even if gauged!!!

A classical anomaly!

$$\delta S = - \int d^d x \alpha \left[2\bar{\psi} \gamma_5 \gamma^{\hat{\mu}} \partial_{\hat{\mu}} \psi \right]$$

Unavoidable: d-dim kinetic term mixes L with R \rightarrow explicit breaking of chiral symmetry.

Evanescent: the anomaly must vanish as $d \rightarrow 4$.

Is it strange that chiral symmetries are broken by the classical action?
No, it had to be this way!

$$e^{i\Gamma[\xi_c]} = \int_{1\text{PI}} \mathcal{D}\xi \, e^{iS[\xi+\xi_c]}$$

Let us prove Ward identities: $\xi' = e^{iT\alpha}\xi$

$$e^{i\Gamma[\xi'_c]} = \int_{1\text{PI}} \mathcal{D}\xi \, e^{iS[\xi+\xi'_c]} = \int_{1\text{PI}} \mathcal{D}\xi' \, e^{iS[\xi'+\xi'_c]}$$

Crucially, in Dimensional Regularization the measure is always invariant:

$$\mathcal{D}\xi' = e^{i \int d^d x \alpha J} \mathcal{D}\xi$$

$$J = \text{Tr}[T] \delta^{(d)}(0)$$

$$\delta^{(d)}(0) = \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \mathcal{D}\xi' = \mathcal{D}\xi \\ e^{i\Gamma[\xi'_c]} = \int_{\text{1PI}} \mathcal{D}\xi e^{iS[\xi+\xi_c]+i\delta S[\xi+\xi_c]} \end{cases}$$

1) Anomalies (ex: chiral anomaly in QCD) \Leftrightarrow non-invariance of the regularised action

$$\delta\Gamma[\xi_c] = \frac{\int_{1\text{PI}} \mathcal{D}\xi e^{iS[\xi+\xi_c]} \delta S[\xi + \xi_c]}{\int_{1\text{PI}} \mathcal{D}\xi e^{iS[\xi+\xi_c]}}$$

At infinitesimal level the variation of the 1PI effective action is given by the matrix elements of the classical anomaly (Quantum Action Principle)

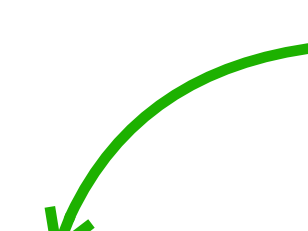
- Symmetries of the classical action hold at all orders (4-dim Lorentz, vector-like, CP, P).
- What happens to anomalous symmetries?
Spurious (gauge, non-abelian axial) or Physical (abelian axial, scale invariance)

**2) For axial symmetries δS is evanescent (ϵ), the anomaly must be multiplied by $1/\epsilon$ div:
→ it is finite and local → may be removed by a counterterm.**

When a consistent regularization breaks a symmetry, we have a spurious anomaly

$$\delta\Gamma_{\text{reg}}|_{(n)} = \mathcal{A}|_{(n)}$$

Spurious anomaly



We can define a symmetric 1PI effective action as

$$\Gamma_{\text{inv}}[\xi_c]|_{(n)} = \Gamma_{\text{reg}}[\xi_c]|_{(n)} + \Delta S_{\text{ct}}^{\text{Fin}}[\xi_c]|_{(n)}$$

$$\delta(\Delta S_{\text{ct}}^{\text{Fin}}|_{(n)}) = -\mathcal{A}|_{(n)}$$

An appropriate counterterm exists as long as

$$D^{abc} = \text{tr}(T_L^a \{T_L^b, T_L^c\}) - \text{tr}(T_R^a \{T_R^b, T_R^c\}) = 0. \quad \text{Georgi-Glashow (1972)}$$

No new anomalies emerge in perturbation theory (even beyond renormalizable). See, e.g., Gomis-Weinberg (1995)
Luscher (1999)

Breaking due to Dim-Reg is artificial \Rightarrow the anomaly can be removed via counterterms.
Tonin et al. (1977)

Another “nuisance”!

Consider a chiral gauge theory

$$A_{\mu}^A \bar{\psi} \gamma^{\mu} (T_L^A P_L + T_R^A P_R) \psi$$

Different by def.


$$P_L = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \gamma_5)$$
$$P_R = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \gamma_5)$$


These are still projectors,
But they do not commute with the
Lorentz generators.


d-dimensional Lorentz is broken
Only 4-dimensional Lorentz is preserved (real world)

Implications

The BMHV (Breitenlohner, Maison, 't Hooft, Veltman) prescription is perfectly consistent but

- 1) γ_5 is not always anti-commuting 

More care in loop computations
- 2) We have to add appropriate counterterms order by order 

Rather annoying procedure
(Only chiral symmetry, Lorentz is fine)
- 3) The constraining power of symmetries is lost in intermediate steps 

A nuisance:
Symmetry is no more of any guidance?!

Many alternatives have been proposed to avoid these implications:

None of them has a definition of γ_5

None of them has been shown to be consistent at all orders

Most popular:

Naive Dimensional Regularization: γ_5 is anti-commuting, but diagrams are treated differently.

Kreimer's scheme (KKS): γ_5 is anti-commuting, but the trace is not cyclic.

$$\{\gamma_\mu, \gamma_5\} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{Naive} \\ 2\gamma_{\hat{\mu}}\gamma_5 & \text{BMHV} \end{cases}$$

They differ by an evanescent term (Compensated by loops)

They are supposed to be a “trick” to avoid the introducing the counterterms.

You can “use them if you know what you are doing” (Altarelli?)

Do we?!

Alternatives imply ambiguities:

- 1) At 4-loops (!!!) the QCD beta function in the SM can acquire different values... [Zoller \(2015\)](#)
[Bednyakov, Pikelner \(2016\)](#)
- 2) In QCD, the Chern-Simons current mixes with the axial current at 2-loops
(must add a new counterterm anyway!) [Chen \(2023\)](#)
- 3) Disagreement already at 1-loop in the evaluation of g_1 (deep inelastic scattering) [Manohar](#)
(Private communication)

We cannot implement these alternative prescriptions on a code and be done with it!

Implications

The BMHV (Breitenlohner, Maison, 't Hooft, Veltman) prescription is perfectly consistent but

- 1) γ_ϵ is not always anti-commuting
- 2) We have to add appropriate counterterms order by order
- 3) The constraining power of symmetries is lost in intermediate steps

Spurious axial-invariance

Explicitly broken symmetries are still useful,
if we know how they are broken.

In massive QCD, the chiral $SU(3)_L \times SU(3)_R$ symmetry can be restored
treating the quark mass as a field (spurion)

$$M \rightarrow LMR^\dagger$$

We can do the same in
Dimensional Regularization

Under a (global) chiral symmetry

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} P_L \psi \rightarrow L P_L \psi \\ P_R \psi \rightarrow R P_R \psi \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \bar{\psi} \gamma^{\bar{\mu}} \psi \rightarrow \bar{\psi} \gamma^{\bar{\mu}} \psi \\ \bar{\psi} \gamma^{\hat{\mu}} \psi \rightarrow \bar{\psi} \gamma^{\hat{\mu}} (R^\dagger L P_L + L^\dagger R P_R) \psi \end{cases}$$

We therefore introduce a new field (spurion) Ω that transforms as

$$\Omega \rightarrow L \Omega R^\dagger$$

We have thus formally recovered the axial symmetries:

$$\bar{\psi} i \gamma^{\bar{\mu}} \partial_{\bar{\mu}} \psi + \bar{\psi} i \gamma^{\hat{\mu}} (\Omega^\dagger P_L + \Omega P_R) \partial_{\hat{\mu}} \psi$$

In the end what matters
is the 4-dimensional limit

Under a local chiral symmetry

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} P_L \psi \rightarrow L(\bar{x}) P_L \psi \\ P_R \psi \rightarrow R(\bar{x}) P_R \psi \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \bar{\psi} \gamma^{\bar{\mu}} \psi \rightarrow \bar{\psi} \gamma^{\bar{\mu}} \psi \\ \bar{\psi} \gamma^{\hat{\mu}} \psi \rightarrow \bar{\psi} \gamma^{\hat{\mu}} (R^\dagger L P_L + L^\dagger R P_R) \psi \end{cases}$$

We therefore introduce a new field (spurion) Ω that transforms as

$$\Omega \rightarrow L(\bar{x}) \Omega R^\dagger(\bar{x})$$

We have thus formally recovered the axial symmetries:

$$\bar{\psi} i \gamma^{\bar{\mu}} D_{\bar{\mu}} \psi + \bar{\psi} i \gamma^{\hat{\mu}} (\Omega^\dagger P_L + \Omega P_R) \partial_{\hat{\mu}} \psi$$

Finally, the regularised action is written as

Dynamical fields

$$S^{\text{Reg}}[\xi, \Omega] = S_{\text{Bos}} + S_{\text{Yuk}} + \frac{1}{2} \int d^d x \left\{ \bar{\psi} i \gamma^{\bar{\mu}} D_{\bar{\mu}} \psi + \bar{\psi} i \gamma^{\hat{\mu}} (\Omega^\dagger P_L + \Omega P_R) \partial_{\hat{\mu}} \psi + \text{hc} \right\}$$

Pure boson part
(No issues)

Yukawa sector
(No issues)

The standard BMHV action is recovered setting $\Omega = 1$.

Conserved global symmetries:

- **SO(1,3)xSO(d-4)**. There is no need of Lorentz-restoring counterterms.
- **Spurious CP and P** (under which generators transform)
- **Spurious chiral rotations**

What do we gain?!

Adopting the background gauge (with gauge-covariant gauge-fixing),
all symmetries are linearly realized by construction:

$$\int_{1\text{PI}} \mathcal{D}\xi \, e^{iS^{\text{Reg}}[\xi + \xi_c, \Omega]}$$

- the divergences are symmetric
- the associated counterterms are symmetric
- the symmetry-restoring counterterms are symmetric

Alternatively:

Gauge-fixing leaves BRST \rightarrow (non-linear) Slavnov-Taylor Identities.

$$e^{i\Gamma_{\text{inv}}[\xi_c, \Omega]} \equiv \int_{\text{1PI}} \mathcal{D}\xi \, e^{iS^{\text{Reg}}[\xi + \xi_c, \Omega] + S_{\text{ct}}^{\text{Div}}[\xi + \xi_c, \Omega] + S_{\text{ct}}^{\text{Fin}}[\xi + \xi_c, \Omega]}$$

The “Divergent counterterms” are derived as usual:

Non-symmetric divergent 1PI diagrams have external Ω 's

The “Finite counterterms” are defined so that the result is symmetric even if $\Omega = 1$. How is it done concretely?

Iteratively:

Assume we have found the symmetry-restoring counterterm at order \hbar^{n-1} :

$$e^{i\Gamma[\xi_c, \Omega]|_{(n)}} = \int_{1\text{PI}} \mathcal{D}\xi \, e^{iS^{\text{Reg}}[\xi + \xi_c, \Omega] + S_{\text{ct}}^{\text{Div}}[\xi + \xi_c, \Omega]|_{(n)} + S_{\text{ct}}^{\text{Fin}}[\xi + \xi_c, \Omega]|_{(n-1)}}$$

$$\Gamma[\xi_c, 1]|_{(n)}$$

This is the object that standard BMHV gives.
It has a spurious anomaly

$$\delta(\Gamma[\xi_c, 1]|_{(n)}) = \mathcal{A}|_{(n)}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{inv}}[\xi_c, 1]|_{(n)} \equiv \Gamma[\xi_c, 1]|_{(n)} + \Delta S_{\text{ct}}^{\text{Fin}}[\xi, 1]|_{(n)}$$

We want to find this

On the other hand, with Ω turned on, all chiral symmetries are preserved:

$$\Gamma[\xi_c, \Omega]|_{(n)} = \Gamma_{\emptyset}[\xi_c]|_{(n)} + \Gamma_{\Omega}[\xi_c, \Omega]|_{(n)}$$

No dependence on Ω

$$\delta(\Gamma_{\emptyset}[\xi_c]|_{(n)}) = 0$$

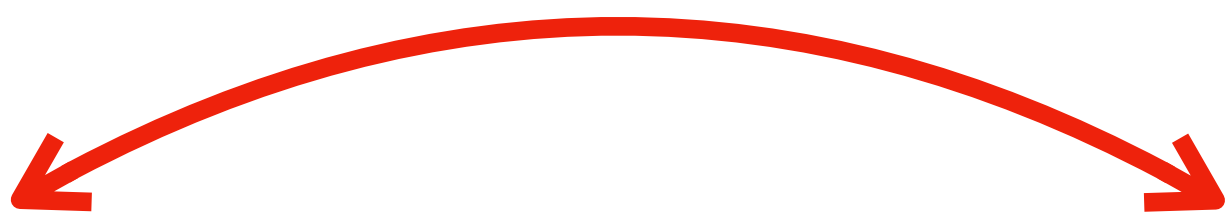
This is invariant ONLY because of Ω

$$\delta(\Gamma_{\Omega}[\xi_c, \Omega]|_{(n)}) = 0$$

The ξ variation is compensated by that of Ω

They are separately invariant under the symmetries of the theory

What does this mean for the $\Omega = 1$ theory?!


$$\delta(\Gamma[\xi_c, 1]|_{(n)}) = \delta(\Gamma_\Omega[\xi_c, 1]|_{(n)}) = \mathcal{A}|_{(n)} \equiv -\delta(\Delta S_{\text{ct}}^{\text{Fin}}[\xi_c, 1]|_{(n)})$$

The “symmetry-restoring counterterm” is just the opposite of the Ω -dependent part of the 1PI action

$$\Delta S_{\text{ct}}^{\text{Fin}}[\xi_c, 1]|_{(n)} = -\Gamma_\Omega[\xi_c, 1]|_{(n)}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{inv}}[\xi_c, 1]|_{(n)} = \Gamma_\Omega[\xi_c]|_{(n)}$$

Symmetry-restoring
counterterms at 1-loop

Consider a general renormalizable gauge theory with scalars and fermions:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{Bos}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Yuk}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Kin}}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Bos}} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^A F^{A\mu\nu} + (D_\mu \phi)_a^\dagger (D^\mu \phi)_a - V(\phi)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yuk}} = -Y_{ij}^a \bar{\Psi}_i P_R \Psi_j \phi_a + \text{hc}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Kin}} = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \bar{\Psi} i \gamma^{\hat{\mu}} D_{\hat{\mu}} \Psi + \bar{\Psi} i \gamma^{\hat{\mu}} (\Omega^\dagger P_L + \Omega P_R) \partial_{\hat{\mu}} \Psi + \text{hc} \right\}$$

The non-symmetric counterterms (Finite and Divergent) are found among the operators involving Ω (analogy with pions in QCD!)

Operators with vectors
and no Levi-Civita

D^4	
$\langle L_{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}}\Omega R^{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}}\Omega^\dagger \rangle$	0
$i\langle L_{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}}D^{\bar{\mu}}\Omega D^{\bar{\nu}}\Omega^\dagger + R_{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}}D^{\bar{\mu}}\Omega^\dagger D^{\bar{\nu}}\Omega \rangle$	$-\frac{1}{2}$
$\langle D_{\bar{\mu}}\Omega D^{\bar{\mu}}\Omega^\dagger D_{\bar{\nu}}\Omega D^{\bar{\nu}}\Omega^\dagger + D_{\bar{\mu}}\Omega^\dagger D^{\bar{\mu}}\Omega D_{\bar{\nu}}\Omega^\dagger D^{\bar{\nu}}\Omega \rangle$	$-\frac{1}{6}$
$\langle D_{\bar{\mu}}\Omega D_{\bar{\nu}}\Omega^\dagger D^{\bar{\mu}}\Omega D^{\bar{\nu}}\Omega^\dagger \rangle$	$+\frac{1}{12}$
$\langle D_{\bar{\mu}}D^{\bar{\mu}}\Omega D_{\bar{\nu}}D^{\bar{\nu}}\Omega^\dagger \rangle$	0
$\langle D_{\bar{\mu}}D_{\bar{\nu}}\Omega D^{\bar{\mu}}D^{\bar{\nu}}\Omega^\dagger \rangle$	$+\frac{1}{6}$

$$\times \frac{1}{16\pi^2}$$

$\psi^2 D$		$\psi^2 \phi$	
$\bar{\Psi}\gamma^{\bar{\mu}}T_L^A\Omega iD_{\bar{\mu}}\Omega^\dagger T_L^A P_L\Psi + \text{P.c.}$	1	$[\bar{\Psi}T_R^A\Omega^\dagger\Phi\Omega^\dagger T_L^A P_L\Psi + \text{P.c.}] + \text{h.c.}$	-2
$\bar{\Psi}\gamma^{\bar{\mu}}Y^a\Omega^\dagger iD_{\bar{\mu}}\Omega[Y^a]^\dagger P_L\Psi + \text{P.c.}$	$\frac{1}{2}$		

Operators with
fermions

ϕ^4		$\phi^2 D$	
$\langle (\Phi\Omega^\dagger)^4 \rangle + \text{h.c.}$	$-\frac{1}{12}$	$\langle \Phi D_{\bar{\mu}}\Omega^\dagger \Phi D^{\bar{\mu}}\Omega^\dagger \rangle + \text{h.c.}$	$+\frac{1}{3}$
$\langle (\Phi\Omega^\dagger)^2\Phi\Phi^\dagger \rangle + \text{h.c.}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$	$\langle (\Phi\Omega^\dagger)^2 D_{\bar{\mu}}\Omega D^{\bar{\mu}}\Omega^\dagger \rangle + \text{h.c.}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$
		$\langle \Phi\Phi^\dagger D_{\bar{\mu}}\Omega D^{\bar{\mu}}\Omega^\dagger + \Phi^\dagger\Phi D_{\bar{\mu}}\Omega^\dagger D^{\bar{\mu}}\Omega \rangle$	$-\frac{1}{3}$
		$\langle \Phi\Omega^\dagger D_{\bar{\mu}}\Omega\Phi^\dagger\Omega D^{\bar{\mu}}\Omega^\dagger \rangle$	$+\frac{1}{3}$
		$\langle D_{\bar{\mu}}\Phi D^{\bar{\mu}}\Omega^\dagger\Phi\Omega^\dagger + D_{\bar{\mu}}\Phi\Omega^\dagger\Phi D^{\bar{\mu}}\Omega^\dagger \rangle + \text{h.c.}$	$+\frac{2}{3}$
		$\langle D_{\bar{\mu}}\Phi\Omega^\dagger D^{\bar{\mu}}\Phi\Omega^\dagger \rangle + \text{h.c.}$	$+\frac{1}{6}$
		$\langle \Phi \overleftrightarrow{D}_{\bar{\mu}}\Phi^\dagger\Omega D^{\bar{\mu}}\Omega^\dagger + \Phi^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_{\bar{\mu}}\Phi\Omega^\dagger D^{\bar{\mu}}\Omega \rangle$	$+\frac{1}{3}$

Operators with scalars
and no fermions

$$\Phi_{ij} \equiv Y_{ij}^a \phi_a$$

Annoying
But systematic

Operators with Levi-Civita

As in the chiral Lagrangian, the only term involving Levi-Civita is the Wess-Zumino-Witten term:

$$S_{\text{ct}}^{\text{Fin}}[\xi, \Omega] \Big|_{\text{WZW}} = \frac{n}{48\pi^2} \left\{ \int d^4x \epsilon^{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}\bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta}} Z_{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}\bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta}} + \dots \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}\bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta}} = & \langle -\Omega^\dagger \partial_{\bar{\mu}} L_{\bar{\nu}} L_{\bar{\alpha}} \Omega R_{\bar{\beta}} + \Omega \partial_{\bar{\mu}} R_{\bar{\nu}} R_{\bar{\alpha}} \Omega^\dagger L_{\bar{\beta}} \\ & - \partial_{\bar{\mu}} R_{\bar{\nu}} \Omega^\dagger L_{\bar{\alpha}} \Omega R_{\bar{\beta}} + \partial_{\bar{\mu}} L_{\bar{\nu}} \Omega R_{\bar{\alpha}} \Omega^\dagger L_{\bar{\beta}} \\ & + i\Omega^\dagger L_{\bar{\mu}} L_{\bar{\nu}} L_{\bar{\alpha}} \Omega R_{\bar{\beta}} - i\Omega R_{\bar{\mu}} R_{\bar{\nu}} R_{\bar{\alpha}} \Omega^\dagger L_{\bar{\beta}} \\ & + \frac{i}{2} \Omega^\dagger L_{\bar{\mu}} \Omega R_{\bar{\nu}} \Omega^\dagger L_{\bar{\alpha}} \Omega R_{\bar{\beta}} + \mathcal{O}(\partial\Omega) \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

Here $n=1$ cannot be affected by radiative corrections: exact at all orders

In the Standard Model (excluding H, for simplicity):

- QCD & QED are vector-like and manifest
- no terms with Levi-Civita, peculiarity of SU(2)xU(1)
- Contains all interactions that respect QCD & QED but violate SU(2)xU(1)

VVDD: $D_\mu W_\nu^- D^\mu W^{+\nu} \quad \partial_\mu Z_\nu \partial^\mu Z^\nu$

VVVD: $iF^{\mu\nu} W_\mu^+ W_\nu^- \quad iD^\mu W_\mu^- W_\nu^+ Z^\nu \quad iD^\nu W_\mu^- W_\nu^+ Z^\mu \quad iD_\nu W_\mu^- W^{+\mu} Z^\nu \quad +\text{hc}$

VVVV: $(W_\mu^- W^{+\mu})^2 \quad (W_\mu^- W^{-\mu})(W_\nu^+ W^{+\nu}) \quad (Z_\mu Z^\mu)^2 \quad (W_\mu^+ Z^\mu)(W_\nu^- Z^\nu) \quad (W_\mu^+ W^{-\mu})(Z_\nu Z^\nu)$

ffW: $W_\mu^+ \bar{f}_u \gamma^\mu P_L f_d \quad W_\mu^+ \bar{f}_u \gamma^\mu P_R f_d \quad +\text{hc}$

ffZ: $Z_\mu \bar{f} \gamma^\mu P_L f \quad Z_\mu \bar{f} \gamma^\mu P_R f \quad +\text{hc}$

Example, fermion-gauge counterterms
in the Standard Model:

$$\begin{aligned}
& - \frac{g^3}{16\pi^2} \left\{ \frac{9 - t_w^2}{36\sqrt{2}} [\bar{u}_L \gamma^\mu W_\mu^+ d_L + \bar{d}_L \gamma^\mu W_\mu^- u_L] \right. \\
& \quad + \frac{9 - t_w^2}{72c_w} [\bar{u}_L \gamma^\mu Z_\mu u_L - \bar{d}_L \gamma^\mu Z_\mu d_L] \\
& \quad + \frac{1 - t_w^2}{4\sqrt{2}} [\bar{\nu}_L \gamma^\mu W_\mu^+ e_L + \bar{e}_L \gamma^\mu W_\mu^- \nu_L] \\
& \quad + \frac{1 - t_w^2}{8c_w} [\bar{\nu}_L \gamma^\mu Z_\mu \nu_L - \bar{e}_L \gamma^\mu Z_\mu e_L] \\
& \quad + \frac{2t_w^2}{9\sqrt{2}} [\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu W_\mu^+ d_R + \bar{d}_R \gamma^\mu W_\mu^- u_R] \\
& \quad - \frac{t_w^2}{18c_w} [4\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu Z_\mu u_R - \bar{d}_R \gamma^\mu Z_\mu d_R] \\
& \quad \left. + \frac{t_w^2}{2c_w} \bar{e}_R \gamma^\mu Z_\mu e_R \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

Spurious d-dimensional Lorentz

Technically, the $SU(N)_L \times SU(N)_R \times U(1)_A$ symmetry is broken by $\gamma^{\hat{\mu}}$,
 an invariant tensor of $H = SU(3)_{L+R}$: $\gamma^{\hat{\mu}} = h\gamma^{\hat{\mu}}h^\dagger$.

The axial part is recovered introducing a coset representative

$$\sqrt{\Omega} \rightarrow L\sqrt{\Omega}h^\dagger = h\sqrt{\Omega}R^\dagger$$

and defining $\sigma = \sqrt{\Omega}^\dagger P_L + \sqrt{\Omega} P_R$, so that

$$\sigma\gamma^{\hat{\mu}}\sigma = \Omega^\dagger P_L + \Omega P_R$$

is covariant.

Technically, the $SO(1, d - 1) \rightarrow SO(1, 3) \times SO(d - 4)$ symmetry is broken by γ_5 , an invariant tensor of $H = SO(1, 3)$: $\gamma_5 = S(\Lambda_4)\gamma_5 S^{-1}(\Lambda_4)$.

Lorentz is recovered introducing a coset representative

$$\Omega' \rightarrow \Lambda \Omega' \Lambda_4^{-1}(\Pi')$$

and defining $\Gamma_5 = S(\Omega')\gamma_5 S^{-1}(\Omega') \rightarrow S(\Lambda)\Gamma_5 S^{-1}(\Lambda)$, so that

$$\mathcal{P}_L = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \Gamma_5), \quad \mathcal{P}_R = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \Gamma_5) \quad \text{and} \quad \Sigma = \sqrt{\Omega^\dagger} \mathcal{P}_L + \sqrt{\Omega} \mathcal{P}_R$$

are covariant.

The following fermionic action is fully symmetric:

$$\int d^d x \left[\frac{1}{2} \bar{\Psi}_j \Sigma \gamma^\mu \Sigma i \mathcal{D}_\mu \Psi_j + Y_{ij}^a \bar{\Psi}_i \mathcal{P}_R \Psi_j \phi_a + \text{hc} \right]$$

Conclusions

- ☑ BMHV is the only rigorous approach: safely automatized
- ☑ A spurious symmetry can be restored → some order!
- ☑ Outcome:
 - * Very efficient way of determining the symmetry-restoring counterterms
 - * Some of these counterterms are 1-loop exact
 - * ...
- ☑ Much still to be done...