

CP CONSERVATION IN THE STRONG INTERACTIONS

BJÖRN GARBRECHT, TUM

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Outline

- Introduction: QCD θ -parameter, EFT, topology, neutron EDM
- Functional quantization and path integral contour
- Canonical quantization and θ -vacua

INTRODUCTION

CP-odd terms in effective field theories

Topology

CP violation in the strong interactions?

No empirical evidence—neutron electric dipole moment (EDM) strongly constrained:

$$d_n = (0.0 \pm 1.1_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.2_{\text{sys}}) \times 10^{-26} e \text{ cm} \quad [2020 @ \text{PSI}]$$

QCD with massive quarks

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2g^2} \text{tr} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \sum_{j=1}^{N_f} \bar{\psi}_j \left(i \not{D} - m_j e^{i\alpha_j \gamma^5} \right) \psi_j + \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \theta \text{tr} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

Believed to cause a neutron electric dipole moment (EDM) $d_n \sim 10^{-15} e \text{ cm} \left(\theta + \sum_j \alpha_j \right)$
[Baluni (1979); Crewther, Di Vecchia, Veneziano, Witten (1979)]

Or does it?

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$\propto \vec{E}^2 + \vec{B}^2$ γ^5 , parity-odd $\propto \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}$
parity-odd

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Or does it?

Effective interactions with θ

$SU(N_f)_L \times SU(N_f)_R$ global symmetry in the limit of massless quarks

Chiral $U(1)_A$ symmetry of the quarks is **anomalous** however

$\longrightarrow \mathcal{L}$ invariant under [Fujikawa (1979,80)]

chiral trafo

$$\begin{aligned}\psi &\rightarrow e^{i\beta\gamma_5}\psi \\ \bar{\psi} &\rightarrow \bar{\psi}e^{i\beta\gamma_5}\end{aligned}$$

plus

“spurion” trafo

$$\begin{aligned}m_j e^{i\alpha_j\gamma_5} &\rightarrow m_j e^{i(\alpha_j - 2\beta)\gamma_5} \\ \theta &\rightarrow \theta + 2N_f\beta\end{aligned}$$

Spurions break the symmetries explicitly. \longrightarrow Approximate symmetries

This pattern should be replicated by any effective theory.

Rephasing invariant: $\bar{\theta} = \theta + \bar{\alpha}$, where $\bar{\alpha} = \sum_{j=1}^{N_f} \alpha_j$, $\longrightarrow \theta$ is an angle

Integrating out gauge fields: Effective interactions

Topological effects described by effective 't Hooft vertex (Γ_{N_f} some coefficient) ['t Hooft (1976,86)]
[Kaplan, Sen ('24)]

$$\mathcal{L} + \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \theta \text{tr} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \rightarrow \mathcal{L} - \Gamma_{N_f} e^{i\xi} \prod_{j=1}^{N_f} (\bar{\psi}_j P_L \psi_j) - \Gamma_{N_f} e^{-i\xi} \prod_{j=1}^{N_f} (\bar{\psi}_j P_R \psi_j)$$

As a spurion, $\xi \rightarrow \xi + 2N_f \beta \longrightarrow$

Two options: $\xi = \theta$ (in general misaligned with masses) $\rightarrow CP$ violation
 $\xi = -\bar{\alpha}$ (present claim, aligned with mass terms) \rightarrow no CP violation

χ PT at low energies

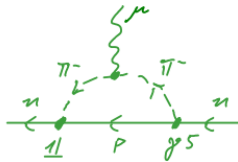
$$U = U_0 e^{\frac{i}{f_\pi} \Phi} \quad U_0: \text{chiral condensate} \quad \Phi = \begin{bmatrix} \pi^0 + \eta' & \sqrt{2} \pi^+ \\ \sqrt{2} \pi^- & -\pi^0 + \eta' \end{bmatrix}$$

$\xi = \theta$: χ ral condensate aligned with θ
 $\xi = -\bar{\alpha}$: χ ral condensate aligned with quark mass phases

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{f_\pi^2}{4} \text{Tr} \partial_\mu U \partial^\mu U^\dagger + \frac{f_\pi^2 B_0}{2} \text{Tr} (\mathbf{M} U + U^\dagger \mathbf{M}^\dagger) + |\lambda| e^{-i\xi} f_\pi^4 \det U + |\lambda| e^{i\xi} f_\pi^4 \det U^\dagger \quad \mathbf{M} = \text{diag}\{m_u e^{i\alpha_u}, m_d e^{i\alpha_d}\}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{neutron}} \supset -\frac{c_1}{f_\pi} \partial_\mu \pi^a \bar{N} T^a \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 N \quad CP \text{ even}$$

$$\mathcal{N} = \begin{pmatrix} p \\ n \end{pmatrix} + \frac{c_2 \bar{m}}{f_\pi} (\xi + \alpha_u + \alpha_d + \alpha_s) \bar{N} \pi^a T^a N \quad CP \text{ odd}$$



Topology in four-dimensional spacetime—winding number Δn

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} a_R + ia_I & -b_R + ib_I \\ b_R + ib_I & a_R - ia_I \end{pmatrix} \in \text{SU}(2) \text{ for } a_R^2 + a_I^2 + b_R^2 + b_I^2 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Homotopy: } \text{SU}(3) \supset \text{SU}(2) \cong S^3 \longrightarrow \pi_3(\text{SU}(2)) = \pi_3(S^3) = \mathbb{Z}$$

Theta-term/topological term is a total divergence:

gauge
invariant

$$\frac{1}{4} \text{tr} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu K_\mu$$

$$K_\mu = \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \text{tr} \left[\frac{1}{2} A_\nu \partial_\alpha A_\beta + \frac{1}{3} A_\nu A_\alpha A_\beta \right]$$

gauge
dependent

Topological quantization for pure gauge $A_\mu \rightarrow -\frac{i}{g}(\partial_\mu U)U^{-1}$ at $\partial\Omega \cong S^3$

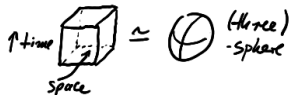
$$\Delta n = \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \int_\Omega d^4x F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \oint_{\partial\Omega} d^3\sigma K_\perp \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Haar measure for pure gauge

$$K_\mu = \frac{1}{6} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda\rho} \text{tr}[(U^{-1}\partial_\nu U)(U^{-1}\partial_\lambda U)(U^{-1}\partial_\rho U)]$$

[see e.g. Coleman, "Aspects of symmetry" (1985)]

E.g. take boundary of $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^4$ as a sphere S^3 :



Or $\Omega = T^4(\text{lattice})$, $\Omega = S^4(\text{Euclidean dS})$: $\Delta n \in \mathbb{Z}$ based on slightly more involved argument

Topology on spatial hypersurfaces—point compactification, large gauge transformations

Consider temporal gauge $A^0 = 0$ (in view of canonical quantization)

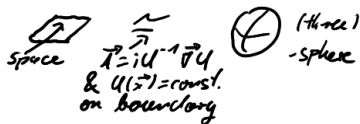
Chern–Simons functional:

$$W[\vec{A}] = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \epsilon_{ijk} \int_V d^3x \operatorname{tr} \left[\frac{1}{2} A_i \partial_j A_k - \frac{i}{3} A_i A_j A_k \right] \equiv \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \int_V d^3x K_0$$

Define $\vec{A}_U = U \vec{A} U^{-1} + i U^{-1} \vec{\nabla} U$ (residual gauge freedom in temporal gauge)

With extra constraint $U(\vec{x}) \rightarrow \text{const. on } \partial V$ (periodic on T^3)

→ Point compactification, homotopy $V \cong S^3$ ($V \cong T^3$)



$U^{(\nu)}$: equivalence classes of “large” ($\nu \neq 0$) gauge transformation on spacelike ($\tau = \text{const.}$) hypersurface $V \simeq S^3$ ($V \simeq T^3$) with $W[\vec{A}_{U^{(\nu)}}] - W[\vec{A}] = \nu \in \mathbb{Z}$

However: Extra constraint not enforced by $A^0 = 0$ —would require extra provisions

FUNCTIONAL QUANTIZATION

Take time to infinity before summing over topological sectors

Euclidean path integral & topology

Topological term $F\tilde{F}$ total derivative—how can it contribute?

Does interference of sectors have a material effect?

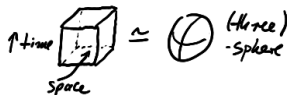
Recall: Euclidean path integral projects on ground state

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{-HT}}{e^{-E_0 T}} \quad \text{or} \quad \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{-iHT(1-i\epsilon)}}{e^{-iE_0 T(1-i\epsilon)}} \quad \begin{array}{l} H: \text{ Hamiltonian} \\ E_0: \text{ ground state energy} \end{array}$$

→ Consider $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^4$ (or different *spatial* topologies)

Finite action → pure gauge at infinity

→ Topological quantization → Phases $e^{i\Delta n\theta}$



No reason for topological quantization in finite $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^4$ (finite temperature, see below)

Must take $T \rightarrow \infty$ before
summing over sectors:

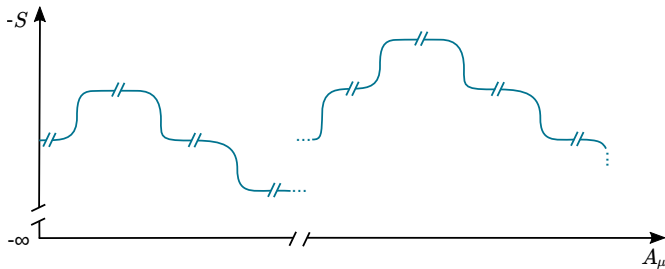
$$Z = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{\Delta n = -N}^N \lim_{VT \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Delta n} \mathcal{D}\phi e^{-S_E[\phi]}$$

More technically: Integration contour from Lefschetz thimbles

Parametrization of the path integral through steepest descent contours about classical saddle points \longrightarrow Contour integration on Lefschetz thimbles

$$\frac{\partial \phi(x; u)}{\partial u} = \frac{\overline{\delta S_E[\phi(x; u)]}}{\delta \phi(x; u)} \implies -\frac{\partial \text{Re} S_E[\phi(x; u)]}{\partial u} \leq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial \text{Im} S_E[\phi(x; u)]}{\partial u} = 0$$

Each thimble emerges from a critical point and corresponds to one $\Delta n \in \mathbb{Z}$



Keeping VT finite while summing over different Δn (\Leftrightarrow different boundary conditions, infinite distance in field space) does *not* correspond to a nonsingular deformation of the Cauchy contour

Integration contour sweeps over full thimbles first, i.e. $VT \rightarrow \infty$ before sum over Δn

So is it $\xi = -\bar{\alpha}$ or $\xi = \theta$?

- Take $\langle F(x) \tilde{F}(x) \rangle$ as measure for CP violation
- Each element in the sequence over N vanishes (not so when limits ordered the other way around):

$$\langle F(x) \tilde{F}(x) \rangle = \lim_{\substack{N \rightarrow \infty \\ N \in \mathbb{N}}} \lim_{VT \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{\Delta n = -N}^N \frac{\Delta n}{VT} Z_{\Delta n}}{\sum_{\Delta n = -N}^N Z_{\Delta n}} = 0$$

- Index theorem: Δn is the difference of the numbers of right and left chiral zero modes

- Left/right chiral quasi-zero modes in spectral representation of fermion correlation regulated by $1/(m e^{\mp i\alpha})$

$$S(x, x') = \underbrace{\frac{\hat{\psi}_{0L}(x) \hat{\psi}_{0L}^\dagger(x')}{m e^{-i\alpha}}}_{\Delta n = -1} + \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{E} \neq 0} \frac{\hat{\psi}_\lambda(x) \hat{\psi}_\lambda^\dagger(x')}{\lambda}$$

- Contributions from discrete modes to correlation function vanish for $VT \rightarrow \infty \rightarrow$ Quark correlations remain aligned with quark mass after interference of Δn -sectors

$$\rightarrow \xi = -\bar{\alpha}$$

- Order of limits matters because series is not positive definite due to phases $e^{i\Delta n \theta}$, not absolutely summable

CANONICAL QUANTIZATION

Done consistently without extra gauge constraint, point compactification

Properly normalizable physical states

Theta vacuum, standard story

Take, $A^0 = 0$, *assume* in addition:

For $|\vec{x}| \rightarrow \infty$: $\vec{A}(\vec{x}) = iU^{-1}(\vec{x})\vec{\nabla} U(\vec{x})$ and $U(\vec{x}) \rightarrow \text{const.}$

But why? [cf. Jackiw (1980)]

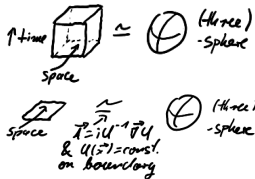
Consider initial and final states, taking $x_4 \rightarrow \pm\infty$

→ *Ansatz*: Construct from pure gauge configurations on these surfaces, with

$$n_{\pm\infty} = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \int_{x^4=\pm\infty} d^3\sigma K_{\perp} \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Chern–Simons number
not gauge invariant

point com-
pactification



Prevacua: $n_{-\infty} \rightarrow |n\rangle$
 $n_{\infty} \rightarrow \langle n|$ (field eigenstates)

Gauge invariant (up to phase) state $|\theta\rangle = \sum_n e^{-in\theta} |n\rangle$

[Callan, Dashen, Gross (1976);

Jackiw, Rebbi (1976); Jackiw (1980)]

⚠ States not normalizable in the proper sense: $\langle \theta^{(i)} | \theta^{(j)} \rangle = \sum_n \delta(\theta^{(i)} - \theta^{(j)} + 2\pi n)$
[cf. e.g. Callan, Dashen, Gross (1976); issue taken by Okubo, Marshak (1992)]

Without ado, this contradicts 1st Dirac–von Neumann axiom of quantum mechanics.

[Dirac 1932, von Neumann 1932]

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$$n_{-\infty}$$

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B. STATEMENT OF THE POSTULATES

1. Description of the state of a system

In chapter I, we introduced the concept of the quantum state of a particle. We first characterized this state at a given time by a **square-integrable** wave function. Then, in chapter II, we associated a ket of the state space \mathcal{E}_r with each wave function: choosing $|\psi\rangle$ belonging to \mathcal{E}_r is equivalent to choosing the corresponding function $\psi(\mathbf{r}) = \langle \mathbf{r} | \psi \rangle$. Therefore, the quantum state of a particle at a fixed time is characterized by a ket of the space \mathcal{E}_r . In this form, the concept of a state can be generalized to any physical system.

First Postulate: At a fixed time t_0 , the state of a physical system is defined by specifying a ket $|\psi(t_0)\rangle$ belonging to the state space \mathcal{E} .

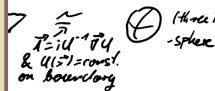
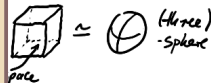
[Cohen-Tanoudji, Diu, Laloë]

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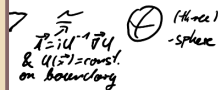
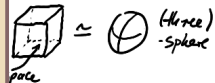
Prevacua:

$$\begin{matrix} n_{-\infty} \\ n_{\infty} \end{matrix}$$



[cf. Jackiw (1980)]

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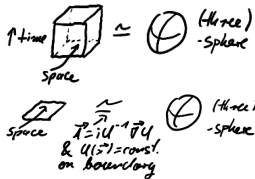
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Canonical quantization of the gauge field

Minkowski spacetime, temporal gauge $A^0 = 0$, no sources \longrightarrow

$$g\vec{E}^a = -\partial/\partial t \vec{A}^a$$

$$g\vec{B}^a = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}^a - 1/2 f^{abc} \vec{A}^a \times \vec{A}^b$$

Canonical momentum conjugate to \vec{A}^a :

$$g\vec{\Pi}^a = -\vec{E}^a + \frac{g^2}{8\pi^2} \theta \vec{B}^a$$

The corresponding operator must observe the commutation relations:

$$[A^{a,i}(\vec{x}), \Pi^{b,j}(\vec{x}')] = i\delta^{ij}\delta^{ab}\delta^3(\vec{x} - \vec{x}'), \quad [\Pi^{a,i}(\vec{x}), \Pi^{b,j}(\vec{x}')] = 0, \quad \text{take e.g. } \vec{\Pi}^a = \frac{\delta}{i\delta \vec{A}^a}$$

Hamiltonian density:

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{2} \left((\vec{E}^a)^2 + (\vec{B}^a)^2 \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\left(g \frac{\delta}{i\delta \vec{A}^a} - \frac{g^2}{8\pi^2} \theta \vec{B}^a \right)^2 + (\vec{B}^a)^2 \right)$$

[e.g. Jackiw (1980)]

Since $[U^{(\nu)}, H] = 0$, can find states $\Psi_{\theta^{(i)}}[\vec{A}_{(U^{(1)})^\nu}] = e^{i\nu\theta^{(i)}} \Psi_{\theta^{(i)}}[\vec{A}]$

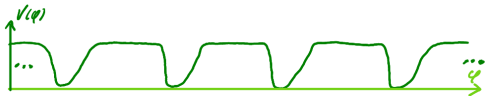
- No constraints on ∂V accounted for \longrightarrow
 $\Psi[\vec{A}]$ must be defined for $U(\vec{x}) \neq \text{const.}$ on ∂V
- Residual gauge dofs.: Throw out unphysical states
“First quantize, then constrain”

Crystal or circle?

Functionals $\Psi_\theta(\vec{A})$ with above periodicity properties can be compared with Bloch states

Bloch states live on a crystal:

$\vec{A}_{U_4^{(1)}}$ is a *different* site than \vec{A}



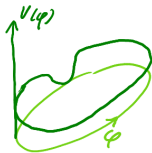
In contrast: In gauge theory

$\vec{A}_{U_4^{(1)}}$ is a *redundant*

description of the configuration

\vec{A} —corresponding to

$\varphi \rightarrow \varphi + 2\pi n$ on a circle



On a crystal: Bloch states do not correspond to normalized wave functions, these are rather wave packets made up of Bloch states. Packets, however, not translation (gauge) invariant

On a circle: Truncation of the inner product according to a single period leads to properly normalizable states, corresponding here to *gauge fixing* $\vec{A} \in \mathcal{A}$ so that each physical configuration appears one time and one time only:

$$\int_{\mathcal{A}} \underbrace{\mathcal{D}\vec{A} f_{\mathcal{A}}[\vec{A}]}_{\text{gauge invariant under change of } \mathcal{A}} \Psi_{\theta^{(i)}}^{(a)*}[\vec{A}] \Psi_{\theta^{(j)}}^{(b)}[\vec{A}]$$

Note: Under gauge fixed inner product, $\Psi_{\theta^{(i)}}^{(a)}$, $\Psi_{\theta^{(j)}}^{(b)}$ no longer orthogonal for $\theta^{(i)} \neq \theta^{(j)}$

Form of the wave functional & Constraining the Hilbert space

Require: Gauge invariance & $\frac{\delta}{i\delta\vec{A}(\vec{x})}$ should remain Hermitian under restricted inner product

$\Rightarrow \Psi^{(a)}[\vec{A}] \stackrel{(*)}{=} \Psi^{(a)}[\vec{A}]_{\text{g.i.}} \exp(i\varphi[\vec{A}])$ valid for *all* $U(\vec{x})$ (also nonconstant on boundary)

gauge invariant

independent of state (a)

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Now $\int d^3x \operatorname{tr} \vec{B} \cdot \frac{\delta}{i\delta\vec{A}}$ leads to mixing of pure gauge and other directions \rightarrow Separation?

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Now $\int d^3x \text{tr} \vec{B} \cdot \frac{\delta}{i\delta\vec{A}}$ leads to mixing of pure gauge and other directions \rightarrow Separation?

\rightarrow "Diagonalize" H : $\Psi'[\vec{A}] = e^{-i\theta W[\vec{A}]} \Psi[\vec{A}]$,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\delta}{\delta\vec{A}(\vec{x})} W[\vec{A}] &= \frac{g}{8\pi^2} \vec{B}(\vec{x}) \\ H' &= e^{-i\theta W[\vec{A}]} H e^{i\theta W[\vec{A}]} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3x \text{tr} \left[-g^2 \frac{\delta^2}{\delta\vec{A}^2} + \vec{B}^2 \right] \\ &= -\frac{g^2}{2} \oint_{\sigma} \frac{\delta^2}{\delta A^2(\sigma)} + \frac{1}{2} \int d^3x \text{tr} \vec{B}^2, \quad \sigma \in \{\sigma_{\text{gauge}}, \sigma_{\parallel}\} \end{aligned}$$

Form of the wave functional & Constraining the Hilbert space

Require: Gauge invariance & $\frac{\delta}{i\delta\vec{A}(\vec{x})}$ should remain Hermitian under restricted inner product

$\Rightarrow \Psi^{(a)}[\vec{A}] \stackrel{(*)}{=} \Psi^{(a)}[\vec{A}]_{\text{g.i.}} \exp(i\varphi[\vec{A}])$ valid for *all* $U(\vec{x})$ (also nonconstant on boundary)

gauge invariant

independent of state (a)

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Only trivial one-dimensional representations of $SU(2)$

$$\Psi[\vec{A}_U] = e^{i\varphi[\vec{A}_U]} \Psi[\vec{A}] \quad (\text{eigenstate of } U), \quad U_3 = U_2 U_1$$

$$e^{i\varphi[\vec{A}_{U_3}]} = e^{i\varphi[\vec{A}_{U_2}]} e^{i\varphi[\vec{A}_{U_1}]} \Rightarrow e^{i\varphi[\vec{A}_{U_2 U_1}]} - e^{i\varphi[\vec{A}_{U_1 U_2}]} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \Psi'[\vec{A}] \text{ is gauge invariant } (**)$$

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$\Rightarrow \Psi'[\vec{A}]$ is gauge invariant (**)

Throw states not satisfying $(*, **)$ out of the Hilbert space
 $\rightarrow CP$ conserved
 No "dark backgrounds"

Nondiagonal basis

Redefining derivatives w.r.t. \vec{A} as

$$\vec{D}_{\vec{A}} \Psi[\vec{A}] = i \left(\frac{\delta}{i \delta \vec{A}} - \theta \frac{g}{8\pi^2} \vec{B} \right) \Psi[\vec{A}]$$

corresponds to a canonical transformation of the momentum operator.

Induces translation as

$$T[\Delta \vec{A}] \Psi[\vec{A}] = e^{-i\theta(W[\vec{A} + \Delta \vec{A}] - W[\vec{A}])} \Psi[\vec{A} + \Delta \vec{A}]$$

For a shift $\Delta \vec{A}_{\text{gauge}}$ corresponding to a *general* gauge transformation: gauge invariant

$$T[\Delta \vec{A}_{\text{gauge}}] \Psi[\vec{A}] = \Psi[\vec{A}] \quad \text{if} \quad \Psi[\vec{A}] = e^{i\theta W[\vec{A}]} \Psi_{\text{g.i.}}[\vec{A}]$$

Agrees with reasoning & result in the diagonal basis

θ in Ψ_θ is pinned to θ in H so that CP is conserved

Conclusion

There is no CP violation in QCD.

Challenges to the standard calculation and resolutions:

- Taking $T \rightarrow \infty$ after summing over sectors corresponds to an inequivalent deformation of the integration contour
Maintain Cauchy contour and order of limits
- No point compactification/topology in temporal gauge (w/o extra constraint)
Drop the constraint, define Ψ for all temporal gauges
- θ -vacua are not properly normalizable \rightarrow not physical states according to postulates of QM
Giving up point compactification can integrate over each physical configuration one time and one time only
 \rightarrow No need to give up Dirac-von Neumann axioms

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THANK YOU!

For hearing me out and to the organizers

Effective chiral Lagrangian (χ PT)

$$U = U_0 e^{\frac{i}{f_\pi} \Phi} \quad U_0: \text{chiral condensate}$$

$$\Phi = \begin{bmatrix} \pi^0 + \eta' & \sqrt{2} \pi^+ \\ \sqrt{2} \pi^- & -\pi^0 + \eta' \end{bmatrix}$$

Chiral Lagrangian (lowest order terms) inherits “**spurious**” symmetries:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & \frac{f_\pi^2}{4} \text{Tr} \partial_\mu U \partial^\mu U^\dagger + \frac{f_\pi^2 B_0}{2} \text{Tr}(\textcolor{brown}{M} U + U^\dagger \textcolor{brown}{M}^\dagger) + |\lambda| e^{-i\xi} f_\pi^4 \det U + |\lambda| e^{i\xi} f_\pi^4 \det U^\dagger \\ & + i\bar{N} \not{\partial} N - \left(m_N \bar{N} \tilde{U} P_L N + i c \bar{N} \tilde{U}^\dagger \not{\partial} P_L \tilde{U} N + d \bar{N} \tilde{M}^\dagger P_L N + e \bar{N} \tilde{U} \tilde{M} \tilde{U} P_L N + \text{h.c.} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} M = & \text{diag}\{m_u e^{i\alpha_u}, m_d e^{i\alpha_d}, m_s e^{i\alpha_s}\} \\ \tilde{M}, \tilde{U} = & \text{reduced to subspace } (u, d) \end{aligned} \quad \text{nucleon doublet } N = \begin{pmatrix} p \\ n \end{pmatrix}$$

Effective interaction $\propto \det U$ cannot be quantitatively reliably handled in χ PT but yet represents pattern of broken axial symmetry.

Neutron electric dipole moment

$$i\mathcal{M} = -2iD(q^2)\varepsilon_\mu^*(\vec{q})\bar{u}_{s'}(\vec{p}')\frac{i}{4}[\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu]q_\nu i\gamma_5 u_s(\vec{p})$$

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = D(0)\bar{n} \underbrace{F_{\mu\nu}\frac{i}{4}[\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu]i\gamma_5 n}_{\subset \vec{S} \cdot \vec{E}}$$



- χ PT value: $d_n = 3.2 \times 10^{-16}(\xi + \bar{\alpha})e \text{ cm}$
- Experimental bound: $|d_n| < 1.8 \times 10^{-26}e \text{ cm}$ (90% c.l.) [nEDM/PSI (2020)]
- Calculations e.g. of neutron EDM implicitly *assume* $\xi = \theta$
[e.g. Baluni (1979); Crewther, Di Vecchia, Veneziano, Witten (1979)]
- However $\xi = -\bar{\alpha}$ also perfectly valid by arguments used to this end
- Another signature—weaker bounds: $\eta' \rightarrow \pi\pi$

Why $T \rightarrow \infty$

(Implying $\Omega = VT \rightarrow \infty$ as opposed to a finite spacetime volume)

To evaluate amplitudes at finite T , project path integral on the state in terms of a wave function(al) $\Psi[\phi(\vec{x})] = \langle \phi(\vec{x}) | \Psi \rangle$ (more on this later):

$$\langle \Psi_f, t_f | \Psi_i, t_i \rangle = \int \mathcal{D}\phi_f \mathcal{D}\phi_i \langle \Psi_f, t_f | \phi_f \rangle \int \mathcal{D}\phi e^{iS[\phi]} \langle \phi_i | \Psi_i, t_i \rangle$$

$|\phi_{i,f}\rangle$ field eigenstates, not energy eigenstates

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(t_f, \vec{x}) &= \phi_f(\vec{x}) \\ \phi(t_i, \vec{x}) &= \phi_i(\vec{x})\end{aligned}$$

Problem: Neither know $\Psi[\phi(\vec{x})]$ nor kernels of Schrödinger equation

Way out: Euclidean path integral/project on ground state

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{-HT}}{e^{-E_0 T}} \quad \text{or} \quad \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{-iHT(1-i\epsilon)}}{e^{-iE_0 T(1-i\epsilon)}} \quad \begin{array}{l} H: \text{ Hamiltonian} \\ E_0: \text{ ground state energy} \end{array}$$

→ Obtain vacuum correlations without bothering about $\Psi[\phi(\vec{x})]$

Boundary configurations & topological quantization

The parameter θ can be viewed as an angular variable
(forced by the anomalous chiral current). \rightarrow

Requires $\Delta n \in \mathbb{Z}$ (“topological quantization”) $\rightarrow \exp(iS)|_{\theta} = \exp(iS)|_{\theta+2\pi}$

Readily built into the path integral for $VT \rightarrow \infty$ without constraining boundary conditions by hand:

(Relatively) nonvanishing contributions in *infinite* spacetime only from classical local minima of the Euclidean action & fluctuations about these—these configurations must go to pure gauges at ∞

Indeed, for pure gauge configurations at $\infty \rightarrow \Delta n \in \mathbb{Z}$ (as discussed above)

There is no such restriction/principle to fixed physical bcs. for finite VT .

Consequence: $\Delta n \in \mathbb{Z}$ requires $T \rightarrow \infty$ first \rightarrow In the path integral, take $T \rightarrow \infty$, **then** sum over all topological sectors Δn weighted $\exp(i\Delta n\theta)$

Fermion correlations

The effective vertex generates the following **correlation functions** at tree level:

$$\langle \prod_{j=1}^{N_f} \psi_j(x_j) \bar{\psi}_j(x'_j) \rangle_{\text{inst}} = \left(e^{-i\xi} \prod_{j=1}^{N_f} P_{Lj} + e^{i\xi} \prod_{j=1}^{N_f} P_{Rj} \right) \bar{H}(x_1, \dots, x'_1, \dots)$$

Goal: Compute correlation function and compare with EFT answer above to fix ξ

Cf. leading contribution to two-point function

$$\langle \psi_i(x) \psi_j(x') \rangle = i S_{0\text{inst } ij}(x, x')$$

$$i S_{0\text{inst } ij}(x, x') = (-\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu + i m_i e^{-i\alpha_i \gamma^5}) \int \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} e^{-ip(x-x')} \frac{\delta_{ij}}{p^2 - m_i^2 + i\epsilon}$$

So $\xi = \theta/\xi = -\bar{\alpha}$ implies *CP*-violation/no *CP*-violation

Only one explicit calculation based on dilute instanton gas (DIGA) finding $\xi = \theta$

[t Hooft (1986)]

Fermion correlations

- Obtain correlation functions from Green's functions in fixed background of instantons and anti-instantons
- Interfere all instanton configurations
 - First, within one topological sector
 - Then over the different sectors

DIGA to determine CP phase of 't Hooft vertex—not quantitatively accurate for actual QCD

Green's function in n -instanton, \bar{n} -anti-instanton background (DIGA)

$$iS_{n,\bar{n}}(x, x') \approx iS_{0\text{inst}}(x, x') + \sum_{\bar{\nu}=1}^{\bar{n}} \frac{\hat{\psi}_{0L}(x - x_{0,\bar{\nu}}) \hat{\psi}_{0L}^\dagger(x' - x_{0,\bar{\nu}})}{m e^{-i\alpha}} + \sum_{\nu=1}^n \frac{\hat{\psi}_{0R}(x - x_{0,\nu}) \hat{\psi}_{0R}^\dagger(x' - x_{0,\nu})}{m e^{i\alpha}}$$

$\hat{\psi}_{0L,R}$: 't Hooft zero modes

Comments:

- For small masses, zero modes dominate close to the cores of instantons, far away from instantons the solution goes to the zero-instanton configuration [Diakonov, Petrov (1986)]
- **Alignment** of phase α between Lagrangian mass and instanton-induced χSB \rightarrow No indication of CP violation here

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Interferences within the topological sectors

Within a topological sector, interfere/sum/integrate over

- all instanton/anti-instanton numbers $n + \bar{n}$ with $\Delta n = n - \bar{n}$ fixed
- locations of all instantons/anti-instantons
- remaining collective coordinates

→ Dilute instanton gas approximation (skip technicalities)

Can also obtain coincident fermion correlations using the index theorem and anomalous current only

Correlation function for fixed Δn

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \psi(x) \bar{\psi}(x') \rangle_{\Delta n} &= \sum_{\substack{\bar{n}, n \geq 0 \\ n - \bar{n} = \Delta n}} \frac{1}{\bar{n}! n!} \left[\bar{h}(x, x') \left(\frac{\bar{n}}{m e^{-i\alpha}} P_L + \frac{n}{m e^{i\alpha}} P_R \right) (VT)^{\bar{n}+n-1} + i S_{0\text{inst}}(x, x') (VT)^{\bar{n}+n} \right] \\ &\quad \times (i\kappa)^{\bar{n}+n} (-1)^{n+\bar{n}} e^{i\Delta n(\alpha+\theta)} \\ &= \left[(e^{i\alpha} I_{\Delta n+1}(2i\kappa VT) P_L + e^{-i\alpha} I_{\Delta n-1}(2i\kappa VT) P_R) \frac{i\kappa}{m} \bar{h}(x, x') + I_{\Delta n}(2i\kappa VT) i S_{0\text{inst}}(x, x') \right] \\ &\quad \times (-1)^{\Delta n} e^{i\Delta n(\alpha+\theta)}\end{aligned}$$

Instantons per spacetime volume: $i\kappa \propto e^{-S_E}$

χ SB rank-two spinor-tensor from integrating quark zero-modes over the locations of the instantons: $\bar{h}(x, x')$

Modified Bessel function: $I_\nu(x)$

Sum is dominated by particular value of $n \approx \bar{n}$: [Diakonov, Petrov (1986)]

$$\langle n \rangle = \frac{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n \frac{(\kappa VT)^n}{n!}}{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\kappa VT)^n}{n!}} = \kappa VT, \quad \frac{\sqrt{\langle (n - \langle n \rangle)^2 \rangle}}{\langle n \rangle} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\kappa VT}}, \quad \text{cf. } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{I_{\Delta n}(ix e^{-i0^+})}{I_{\Delta n'}(ix e^{-i0^+})} = 1$$

→ No relative CP phase between mass and instanton induced breaking of χ ral symmetry—**alignment** in infinite-volume limit

Correspondingly, partition function for fixed Δn : [cf. Leutwyler, Smilga (1992)]

$$Z_{\Delta n} = I_{\Delta n}(2i\kappa VT) (-1)^{\Delta n} e^{i\Delta n(\alpha+\theta)}$$

Note: The topological phase $e^{i\Delta n(\alpha+\theta)}$ multiplies $\langle \psi(x) \bar{\psi}(x') \rangle_{\Delta n}$ and $Z_{\Delta n}$ entirely—not just the contributions induced by instantons.

Other correlation functions (n point, stress-energy, for some observer,...) are calculated from the Feynman diagram with the Green's function in the n instanton, \bar{n} anti-instanton background.

Then it remains to average over n , \bar{n} , locations and remaining collective coordinates.

There is no CP violation/misalignment of phases to this end. It remains to consider the interference between the topological sectors.

Interferences among topological sectors (are immaterial)

Topological quantization \leftrightarrow Interference between sectors for $VT \rightarrow \infty$

Fermion correlator

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \psi(x) \bar{\psi}(x') \rangle &= \lim_{\substack{N \rightarrow \infty \\ N \in \mathbb{N}}} \lim_{VT \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{\Delta n = -N}^N \langle \psi(x) \bar{\psi}(x') \rangle_{\Delta n}}{\sum_{\Delta n = -N}^N Z_{\Delta n}} \\ &= iS_{0\text{inst}}(x, x') + i\kappa \bar{h}(x, x') m^{-1} e^{-i\alpha \gamma^5} \quad (\text{same as for fixed } \Delta n)\end{aligned}$$

Recall: $iS_{0\text{inst}}(x, x') = (-\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu + i m e^{-i\alpha \gamma^5}) \int \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} e^{-ip(x-x')} \frac{1}{p^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon}$

\longrightarrow No relative CP -phase between mass and instanton term

$$\longrightarrow \xi = -\alpha$$

$\longrightarrow CP$ is conserved

Limits ordered the other way around

First sum over all Δn as well:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\bar{n}, n \geq 0} \frac{1}{\bar{n}! n!} \left[\bar{h}(x, x') (\bar{n} m^{-1} e^{i\alpha} P_L + n m^{-1} e^{-i\alpha} P_R) (VT)^{\bar{n}+n-1} + i S_{0\text{inst}}(x, x') (VT)^{\bar{n}+n} \right] \\ & \quad \times (-mi\kappa)^{\bar{n}+n} e^{i\Delta n(\alpha+\theta)} \\ &= \left[- (e^{-i\theta} P_L + e^{i\theta} P_R) \frac{i\kappa}{m} \bar{h}(x, x') + i S_{0\text{inst}}(x, x') \right] e^{-2i\kappa VT \cos(\alpha+\theta)} \end{aligned}$$

$$Z \rightarrow \sum_{n, \bar{n}} \frac{1}{n! \bar{n}!} (-i\kappa VT)^{\bar{n}+n} e^{-i(\bar{n}-n)(\alpha+\theta)} = e^{-2i\kappa VT \cos(\alpha+\theta)}$$

Then, $VT \rightarrow \infty$ trivial as VT -dependence cancels

→ Relative CP phase leading to CP -violating observables

However: Changing the order does not correspond to a nonsingular integration contour.

Gauß' law in the constrained Hilbert space

For $\Omega(\vec{x})$ an infinitesimal generator of gauge transformations

→ Noether charge:

$$\begin{aligned} Q(\Omega) &= \frac{1}{g} \int d^3x \operatorname{tr} \left[\Pi^i (D^i \Omega) \right] = \int_V d^3x \operatorname{tr} \left[\left(-E^i + \frac{g^2}{8\pi^2} \theta B^i \right) D^i \Omega \right] \\ &= \int d^3x \operatorname{tr} \left[\Omega D^i \left(E^i - \frac{g^2}{8\pi^2} \theta B^i \right) \right] + \int_{\partial V} da^i \operatorname{tr} \left[\Omega \left(-E^i + \frac{g^2}{8\pi^2} \theta B^i \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

For $\Omega(\vec{x}) = 0$ when $\vec{x} \in \partial V$ and since Ψ' is gauge invariant

→ Gauß' law: $\vec{D} \cdot \vec{E} \Psi'[\vec{A}] = 0$

Usually, the argument is made the other way around: Impose Gauß' law to throw states out of the Hilbert space

Since $[Q(\Omega), W[\vec{A}]] = 0$ for $\Omega(\vec{x}) = 0$ when $\vec{x} \in \partial V$ this also holds when $\Psi'[\vec{A}] \rightarrow e^{i\tilde{\theta} W[\vec{A}]} \Psi'[\vec{A}]$, so imposing Gauß' law does not fix $\tilde{\theta}$, does not tell us about large gauge transformations