INTRODUCTION TO tmQCD AND ITS APPLICATIONS to WMEs

> STRONGnet Summer School ZIF Bielefeld

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Basic references

- Reviews
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Lesson I:tmQCD action and symmetries

Generalities

- tmQCD is a relative newcomer in the family of lattice fermion regularizations
- it consists in modifying the standard Wilson fermion matrix by adding a mass term, which is "twisted" in chiral space

$$i\mu \ \psi \ \tau^3 \gamma_5 \ \psi$$

Pauli matrix in SU(2) flavour space

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there are several advantages in such a choice:

natural infrared cutoff enables a safer approach to the chiral limit (and keeps us safe from exceptional configurations in the quenched approximation)

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- in many cases the renormalization properties of WMEs are simplified
- in most cases of interest observable quantities are improved "automatically" (i.e. without Symanzik counter-terms in the action and the operators)

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there are several advantages in such a choice:

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- in many cases the renormalization properties of WMEs are simplified
- in most cases of interest observable quantities are improved "automatically" (i.e. without Symanzik counter-terms in the action and the operators)
- there is a price to pay: flavour symmetry is lost and so are parity and time reversal (recovered in the continuum limit)

- for simplicity consider with two degenerate flavours $~~ar{\psi}~=~(~~ar{u}~~~ar{d}~)$
- the classical QCD theory with SU(2) flavour symmetry is:

- **apparently** this is not QCD! (parity breaking? isospin braking? extra mass term?)
- **but** this theory is form invariant under chiral transformations in 3rd isospin direction, combined with spurionic transformations of the two mass parameters
- to see this, define first an **invariant mass** and a **twist angle**:

$$M = \sqrt{m^2 + \mu^2} \qquad \tan(\omega) = \frac{\mu}{m}$$

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• in terms of these the theory may be written as:

$$\mathcal{L} = ar{\psi} \left[
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- redefine fermionic fields through chiral rotations [$I_3(\alpha)$ rotations]:

$$\psi \to \psi' = \exp\left[i\frac{\alpha}{2}\gamma_5\tau^3\right]\psi \quad \bar{\psi} \to \bar{\psi}' = \bar{\psi}\exp\left[i\frac{\alpha}{2}\gamma_5\tau^3\right]$$

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Transformation angle

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$$\overline{\psi} = (\overline{u} \quad \overline{d})$$

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• redefine mass parameters through spurionic transformations are:

$$m \rightarrow m' = m \cos(\alpha) + \mu \sin(\alpha)$$

 $\mu \rightarrow \mu' = \mu \cos(\alpha) - m \sin(\alpha)$

• the form invariance of the theory is:

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} \left[\mathcal{D} + m + i \mu \tau^{3} \gamma_{5} \right] \psi = \bar{\psi} \left[\mathcal{D} + M \exp[i\omega\tau^{3}\gamma_{5}] \right] \psi$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\mathcal{L}' = \bar{\psi}' \left[\mathcal{D} + m' + i \mu' \tau^{3} \gamma_{5} \right] \psi' = \bar{\psi}' \left[\mathcal{D} + M \exp[i\omega'\tau^{3}\gamma_{5}] \right] \psi'$$
• with the same invariant mass and a new twist angle
$$M' = M \qquad \tan(\omega') = \frac{\mu'}{m'}$$

$$\omega' = \omega - \alpha$$

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- we have a family of theories, prametrised by their twist angle
- they are **equivalent**, as they are linked by field and mass redefinitions
- the quark mass is given by the invariant mass $M = \sqrt{(m^2 + \mu^2)}$

• the form invariance of the theory is:

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} \left[\mathcal{D} + m + i \mu \tau^{3} \gamma_{5} \right] \psi = \bar{\psi} \left[\mathcal{D} + M \exp[i\omega\tau^{3}\gamma_{5}] \right] \psi$$

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• with the same invariant mass
$$M' = M \qquad \tan(\omega') = \frac{\mu'}{m'}$$

$$\omega' = \omega - \alpha$$

- with $I_3(\alpha = \omega)$ rotations we obtain $\omega' = \mathbf{0} \Leftrightarrow \mu' = \mathbf{0}$ and m' = M
- i.e. the special case of zero twist angle is **QCD** !!

• the form invariance of the theory is:

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} \left[\mathcal{D} + m + i \mu \tau^{3} \gamma_{5} \right] \psi = \bar{\psi} \left[\mathcal{D} + M \exp[i\omega\tau^{3}\gamma_{5}] \right] \psi$$

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$$\mathcal{L}' = \bar{\psi}' \left[\mathcal{D} + m' + i \mu' \tau^{3} \gamma_{5} \right] \psi' = \bar{\psi}' \left[\mathcal{D} + M \exp[i\omega'\tau^{3}\gamma_{5}] \right] \psi'$$
• with the same invariant mass and a new twist angle
$$M' = M \qquad \tan(\omega') = \frac{\mu'}{m'}$$

$$\omega' = \omega - \alpha$$

• with $I_3(\alpha = \omega - \pi/2)$ - rotations we obtain $\omega' = \pi/2 \Leftrightarrow m' = 0$ and $\mu' = M$

 this special case of interest is known as fully twisted QCD or maximally twisted QCD!!

- symmetries are lost only **apparently**, since at the classical level QCD ↔ tmQCD
- parity breaking? isospin braking?

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} \left[\mathcal{D} + m + i \mu \tau^3 \gamma_5 \right] \psi = \bar{\psi} \left[\mathcal{D} + M \exp[i\omega\tau^3\gamma_5] \right] \psi$$

• QCD is obtained from tmQCD (defined at fixed ω) with chiral transformations in 3rd isospin direction [I₃(ω)-rotations], combined with spurionic transformations of the two mass parameters:

$$\tan(\omega) = \frac{\mu}{m}$$

$$\psi \to \psi' = \exp\left[i\frac{\omega}{2}\gamma_5\tau^3\right]\psi \quad \bar{\psi} \to \bar{\psi}' = \bar{\psi}\exp\left[i\frac{\omega}{2}\gamma_5\tau^3\right]$$

 $\begin{array}{rrr} m & \rightarrow & m' = M \\ \mu & \rightarrow & \mu' = 0 \end{array}$

• the symmetry transformations of the fermion fields in the tmQCD formalism are obtained by performing the opposite $I_3(-\omega)$ -rotations to the standard symmetry transformations of the fields in QCD

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• twisted parity is P_{ω}

$$\begin{aligned} \tan(\omega) &= \frac{\mu}{m} \\ x &= (x^0, \mathbf{x}) &\to x' = (x^0, -\mathbf{x}) \\ A_0(x) &\to A_0(x') \\ A_k(x) &\to -A_k(x') \\ \psi(x) &\to \gamma_0 \exp\left[i\omega\gamma_5\tau^3\right]\psi(x') \\ \bar{\psi}(x) &\to \bar{\psi}(x') \exp\left[i\omega\gamma_5\tau^3\right]\gamma_0 \end{aligned}$$

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• twisted time-reversal is similarly T_{ω}

$$x = (x^{0}, \mathbf{x}) \rightarrow x' = (-x^{0}, \mathbf{x})$$

$$A_{0}(x) \rightarrow -A_{0}(x')$$

$$A_{k}(x) \rightarrow A_{k}(x')$$

$$\psi(x) \rightarrow i\gamma_{0}\gamma_{5} \exp\left[i\omega\gamma_{5}\tau^{3}\right]\psi(x')$$

$$\overline{\psi(x)} \rightarrow -i\,\overline{\psi(x')}\exp\left[i\omega\gamma_{5}\tau^{3}\right]\gamma_{5}\gamma_{0}$$

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$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} \left[\mathcal{D} + m + i \mu \tau^3 \gamma_5 \right] \psi = \bar{\psi} \left[\mathcal{D} + M \exp[i\omega\tau^3\gamma_5] \right] \psi$$

• NB: instead of twisted parity P_{ω} we may have standard parity P_{0} , combined with (spurionic) twisted mass sign flip: $P_{0} \otimes [\mu \rightarrow -\mu]$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} x = (x^{0}, \mathbf{x}) & \rightarrow & x' = (x^{0}, -\mathbf{x}) \\ & A_{0}(x) & \rightarrow & A_{0}(x') \\ & A_{k}(x) & \rightarrow & -A_{k}(x') \\ & \psi(x) & \rightarrow & \gamma_{0} \ \psi(x') \\ & \bar{\psi}(x) & \rightarrow & \bar{\psi}(x') \ \gamma_{0} \\ & \mu & \rightarrow & -\mu \end{array}$$

• similarly for time-reversal $T_0 \otimes [\mu \rightarrow -\mu]$

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• twisted vector symmetry (isospin) is $SU_v(2)_{\omega}$

 $\tan(\omega) = \frac{\mu}{m}$

$$\psi(x) \rightarrow \exp\left[-i\frac{\omega}{2}\gamma_{5}\tau^{3}\right] \exp\left[i\frac{\theta^{a}}{2}\tau^{a}\right] \exp\left[i\frac{\omega}{2}\gamma_{5}\tau^{3}\right] \psi(x)$$

$$\bar{\psi}(x) \rightarrow \bar{\psi}(x) \exp\left[i\frac{\omega}{2}\gamma_{5}\tau^{3}\right] \exp\left[-i\frac{\theta^{a}}{2}\tau^{a}\right] \exp\left[-i\frac{\omega}{2}\gamma_{5}\tau^{3}\right]$$

• vector symmetry transformation angles are θ^a

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 $\tan(\omega) = -\frac{\mu}{2}$

• twisted vector symmetry (isospin) is $SU_v(2)_{\omega}$



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 $\tan(\omega) = \frac{\mu}{m}$

• by analogy, twisted axial symmetry is $SU_A(2)_{\omega}$

$$\psi(x) \rightarrow \exp\left[-i\frac{\omega}{2}\gamma_{5}\tau^{3}\right] \exp\left[i\frac{\theta^{a}}{2}\tau^{a}\gamma_{5}\right] \exp\left[i\frac{\omega}{2}\gamma_{5}\tau^{3}\right] \psi(x)$$

$$\bar{\psi}(x) \rightarrow \bar{\psi}(x) \exp\left[i\frac{\omega}{2}\gamma_{5}\tau^{3}\right] \exp\left[i\frac{\theta^{a}}{2}\tau^{a}\gamma_{5}\right] \exp\left[-i\frac{\omega}{2}\gamma_{5}\tau^{3}\right]$$

- axial symmetry transformation angles are θ^a
- "extra" twist angle is ω
- axial symmetry valid at M = 0

• the $I_3(\omega)$ -rotations relating QCD \leftrightarrow tmQCD give operator correspondences



$$\tan(\omega) = \frac{\mu}{m}$$

• the $I_3(\omega)$ -rotations relating QCD \leftrightarrow tmQCD give operator correspondences

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \mathcal{V}^{a}_{\mu} & = & \cos(\omega) \, V^{a}_{\mu} \, + \, \epsilon^{3ab} \, \sin(\omega) \, A^{b}_{\mu} & a = 1,2 \\ \mathcal{A}^{a}_{\mu} & = & \cos(\omega) \, A^{a}_{\mu} \, + \, \epsilon^{3ab} \, \sin(\omega) \, V^{b}_{\mu} & a = 1,2 \\ \mathcal{V}^{a}_{\mu} & = & V^{3}_{\mu} & & & \\ \mathcal{A}^{a}_{\mu} & = & A^{3}_{\mu} & & & \\ \mathcal{A}^{a}_{\mu} & = & A^{a}_{\mu} & & & & \\ \mathcal{P}^{a} & = & P^{a} & & & a = 1,2 \\ \mathcal{P}^{a} & = & P^{a} & & & a = 1,2 \\ \mathcal{P}^{3} & = & \cos(\omega) \, P^{3} \, + \, \frac{i}{2} \, \sin(\omega) \, S^{0} & & \\ \mathcal{S}^{0} & = & \cos(\omega) \, S^{0} \, + \, 2i \, \sin(\omega) \, P^{3} & & \\ \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \mathrm{defined} \, \mathrm{in} \, (\omega) = \frac{\mu}{m} \end{array}$$

- similar correspondences occur in Ward identities
- in tmQCD the "PCVC" is

$$\partial_{\mu}V^{a}_{\mu} = -2\mu \,\epsilon^{3ab} \,P^{b}$$

• in tmQCD the "PCAC" is

$$\partial_{\mu}A^{a}_{\mu} = 2mP^{a} + i\mu\delta^{3a}S^{0}$$
$$Q^{a}_{\Gamma} = \bar{\psi}\Gamma\frac{\tau^{a}}{2}\psi$$
$$S^{0} = \bar{\psi}\psi$$

• in terms of the QCD currents and densities, they become the standard expressions

Alpha Collab., R. Frezzotti, P.A. Grassi, S. Sint and P.Weisz, JHEP08 (2001) 058

- $QCD \leftrightarrow tmQCD$ equivalence carries over to the renormalized quantum level
- Ingredients:
 - chiral symmetry of Ginsparg-Wilson (GW) fermions
 - mass-independent renormalization scheme
 - universality of different lattice regularizations in the continuum limit
 - twist angle tuned to ratio of <u>renormalized</u> masses $an(\omega) = \mu_{
 m R} \,/\, m_{
 m R}$
- QCD ↔ tmQCD equivalence proceeds through linear mapping between <u>renormalized</u>
 Green functions
- regularize QCD and tmQCD with GW fermions

1

$$\mathcal{Z}_{\mathrm{GW}}^{\mathrm{QCD}} = \int \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi}\mathcal{D}\psi\mathcal{D}U\exp\left[-\mathcal{S}_{\mathrm{GW}}^{\mathrm{QCD}}
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QCD: discretization of mass term

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$$\mathcal{Z}_{\rm GW}^{\rm QCD} = \int \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi}\mathcal{D}\psi\mathcal{D}U \exp\left[-\mathcal{S}_{\rm GW}^{\rm QCD}\right]$$

GW: discretization of kinetic term

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$$\left[\left\langle Q \right\rangle \right]_{\rm GW}^{\rm QCD} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}_{\rm GW}^{\rm QCD}} \int \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi}\mathcal{D}\psi\mathcal{D}U \exp\left[-\mathcal{S}_{\rm GW}^{\rm QCD} \right] Q$$

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 Green functions
- regularize QCD and tmQCD with GW fermions
- GW chiral symmetry guarantees the same considerations of a trivial QCD ↔ tmQCD equivalence as in the classical case are valid (with minor caveats)
- example: **bare** Green function of the scalar operator (chiral condensate)

$$\left[< \cdots S^0 \cdots > \right]_{\rm GW}^{\rm QCD} = \left[\cos(\omega) < \cdots S^0 \cdots > + i \, \sin(\omega) < \cdots P^3 \cdots > \right]_{\rm GW}^{\rm tmQCD}$$

● QCD ↔ tmQCD equivalence between bare Green functions with GW regularization

$$\left[< \cdots S^0 \cdots > \right]_{\rm GW}^{\rm QCD} = \left[\cos(\omega) < \cdots S^0 \cdots > + i \, \sin(\omega) < \cdots P^3 \cdots > \right]_{\rm GW}^{\rm tmQCD}$$

● QCD ↔ tmQCD equivalence between bare Green functions with GW regularization

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• QCD \leftrightarrow tmQCD equivalence carries over to renormalized quantities, due to mass independent renormalization schemes (i.e. S^0 and P^3 in both QCD and tmQCD have the same renormalization constant $Z_S = Z_P = Z$)

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● QCD ↔ tmQCD equivalence between bare Green functions with GW regularization

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$$\left[< \cdots S^0 \cdots >_{\mathbf{R}} \right]^{\mathbf{QCD}} = \left[\cos(\omega) < \cdots S^0 \cdots >_{\mathbf{R}} + i \sin(\omega) < \cdots P^3 \cdots >_{\mathbf{R}} \right]^{\mathrm{tmQCD}}$$

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• $QCD \leftrightarrow tmQCD$ equivalence amounts to operator transcriptions in lattice tmQCD

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} \left[\frac{1}{2} \gamma_{\mu} (\nabla_{\mu} + \nabla^{*}_{\mu}) + \frac{1}{2} a r \nabla^{*}_{\mu} \nabla_{\mu} + m_{0} + i \mu_{q} \tau^{3} \gamma_{5} \right] \psi$$
$$= \bar{\psi} \left[\frac{1}{2} \gamma_{\mu} (\nabla_{\mu} + \nabla^{*}_{\mu}) + \frac{1}{2} a r \nabla^{*}_{\mu} \nabla_{\mu} + M_{0} \exp[i \omega_{0} \tau^{3} \gamma_{5}] \right] \psi$$

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naive derivative

lattice tmQCD definition: Wilson fermions + twisted mass term:

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Wilson term

• Wilson term cures the fermion doubling problem

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} \left[\frac{1}{2} \gamma_{\mu} (\nabla_{\mu} + \nabla^{*}_{\mu}) + \frac{1}{2} ar \nabla^{*}_{\mu} \nabla_{\mu} + m_{0} + i\mu_{q} \tau^{3} \gamma_{5} \right] \psi$$

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$$bare$$
standard

- mass
- bare standard mass renormalizes as in standard Wilson fermions:

$$m_{\rm R} = Z_{m^0} \left[m_0 - m_{\rm cr} \right] = Z_{S^0}^{-1} \left[m_0 - m_{\rm cr} \right]$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} \left[\frac{1}{2} \gamma_{\mu} (\nabla_{\mu} + \nabla^{*}_{\mu}) + \frac{1}{2} ar \nabla^{*}_{\mu} \nabla_{\mu} + m_{0} + i \mu_{g} \tau^{3} \gamma_{5} \right] \psi$$

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• bare twisted mass renormalizes multiplicatively, due to the **exact** tmQCD vector Ward identity:
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{bare twisted mass renormalizes multiplicatively, due to the exact tmQCD vector Ward identity: \\ & \mu_{q} \leftrightarrow \mu \end{array}$$

$$\mu_{\rm R} = Z_{\mu} \, \mu_q = Z_{\rm P}^{-1} \, \mu_q$$

lattice tmQCD definition: Wilson fermions + twisted mass term:

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} \left[\frac{1}{2} \gamma_{\mu} (\nabla_{\mu} + \nabla^{*}_{\mu}) + \frac{1}{2} a r \nabla^{*}_{\mu} \nabla_{\mu} + m_{0} + i \mu_{q} \tau^{3} \gamma_{5} \right] \psi$$
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• Wilson term causes loss of twisted symmetries: P_{ω}, T_{ω}

•
$$\mathbf{P}_{\omega}$$
:
 $x = (x^{0}, \mathbf{x}) \rightarrow x' = (x^{0}, -\mathbf{x})$
 $A_{0}(x) \rightarrow A_{0}(x')$
 $A_{k}(x) \rightarrow -A_{k}(x')$
 $\psi(x) \rightarrow \gamma_{0} \exp\left[i\omega\gamma_{5}\tau^{3}\right]\psi(x')$
 $\bar{\psi}(x) \rightarrow \bar{\psi}(x') \exp\left[i\omega\gamma_{5}\tau^{3}\right]\gamma_{0}$

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} \left[\frac{1}{2} \gamma_{\mu} (\nabla_{\mu} + \nabla^{*}_{\mu}) + \frac{1}{2} a r \nabla^{*}_{\mu} \nabla_{\mu} + m_{0} + i \mu_{q} \tau^{3} \gamma_{5} \right] \psi$$
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- Wilson term causes loss of twisted symmetries: P_{ω}, T_{ω}
- **Parity** survives if combined either with flavour exchange (defined as P_F^1 , P_F^2) ...

$$\psi(x) \to i \gamma_0 \tau^1 \psi(x') \qquad \qquad \bar{\psi}(x) \to -i \bar{\psi}(x') \gamma_0 \tau^1 \psi(x) \to i \gamma_0 \tau^2 \psi(x') \qquad \qquad \bar{\psi}(x) \to -i \bar{\psi}(x') \gamma_0 \tau^2$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} \left[\frac{1}{2} \gamma_{\mu} (\nabla_{\mu} + \nabla^{*}_{\mu}) + \frac{1}{2} a r \nabla^{*}_{\mu} \nabla_{\mu} + m_{0} + i \mu_{q} \tau^{3} \gamma_{5} \right] \psi$$
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- ... or with a sigh flip of the twisted mass (defined as $\mathbf{P} \otimes [\mu \rightarrow -\mu]$)

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$$\mu_q \quad \to \quad -\mu_q$$

lattice tmQCD definition: Wilson fermions + twisted mass term:

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 $\mu_q \quad \to \quad -\mu_q$

• The same holds for time reversal: T_F^1 , T_F^2 , $T \otimes [\mu \rightarrow -\mu]$ are symmetries

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} \left[\frac{1}{2} \gamma_{\mu} (\nabla_{\mu} + \nabla^{*}_{\mu}) + \frac{1}{2} a r \nabla^{*}_{\mu} \nabla_{\mu} + m_{0} + i \mu_{q} \tau^{3} \gamma_{5} \right] \psi$$
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- Wilson term causes loss of twisted vector symmetry: SU_V(2)_ω; i.e. flavour symmetry is hard-broken (Wilson term) in tmQCD
- However it is not completely broken; upon setting $\theta^1 = \theta^2 = 0$, the subgroup $U_V^3(I)$ survives (NB: ω -dependence drops out!)

$$\psi(x) \rightarrow \exp\left[-i\frac{\omega}{2}\gamma_{5}\tau^{3}\right] \exp\left[i\frac{\theta^{a}}{2}\tau^{a}\right] \exp\left[i\frac{\omega}{2}\gamma_{5}\tau^{3}\right] \psi(x)$$

$$\bar{\psi}(x) \rightarrow \bar{\psi}(x) \exp\left[i\frac{\omega}{2}\gamma_{5}\tau^{3}\right] \exp\left[-i\frac{\theta^{a}}{2}\tau^{a}\right] \exp\left[-i\frac{\omega}{2}\gamma_{5}\tau^{3}\right]$$

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- this hard $SU_{v}(2)_{\omega} \rightarrow U_{v}^{3}(I)$ breaking causes a lack of degeneracy between the neutral pion π^{0} and the two charged pions π^{\pm}
- It is a discretization effect which vanishes in the continuum limit ($SU_v(2)$ restoration)

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- axial symmetry $SU_A(2)_{\omega}$, broken **softly** by mass term M₀, also **hard**-broken by Wilson term in standard fashion
- also this symmetry is restored in the continuum and chiral limits

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 $\bar{\psi} \rightarrow \bar{\psi}\exp\left[-i\frac{\theta^{1}}{2}\tau^{2}\right]$

NB: this is called an **axial** symmetry, 'though it has a **vector** form, because it is softly broken by the twisted mass term!

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NB: analogously, for $\theta^1 = \theta^3 = 0$, obtain the subgroup $U_A^2(I)$

• Aftermath: we are left with the following symmetry structure: $U_V^3(I) \otimes U_A^1(I) \otimes U_A^2(I) \approx SU(2)$

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- This is **SU(2)** with one "vector" and two "axial" generators.
- Not surprising, since in the chiral limit standard and tmQCD Wilson regularizations coincide.
- Interpretation of symmetry as "vector" or "axial" depends on how the mass term is introduced in the action.

Shortcoming: loss of flavour symmetry

- it generates mass splittings between, say, neutral and charged pions
- it is a discretization effect, which should vanish in the continuum
- preliminary studies suggest that this is a big effect in the quenched approximation, but diminishes significantly in the $N_f = 2$ unquenched case
- the quenched case offers an interesting playing-field for explorative studies of flavour breaking, as it is possible (and cheap) to compare, on the same ensemble, mesons with the following valence quark content:
 - 2 twisted flavours from same isospin multiplet
 - 2 twisted flavours from different isospin multiplets
 - 2 untwisted flavours (the standard Wilson case, without flavour breaking)
 - I twisted and I untwisted flavour

- mass splittings between, say, neutral and charged Kaons
- 4 quenched flavours organized in two maximally twisted, mass degenerate doublets
- K⁺ made of an "up" and a "strange" twisted flavour
- K⁰ made of a "down" and a "strange" twisted flavour
- at the smallest lattice spacing, neutral-charged Kaon splitting is $m_{K0} m_{K+} \sim 50 \text{ MeV}$



 $s\leftrightarrow\textbf{-}\mu$

 $s \leftrightarrow -\mu$



 $u \leftrightarrow \mu$

 $d \leftrightarrow -\mu$

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- pseudoscalars made of twisted (u-d), untwisted (s-c) and mixed (s-d) valence quarks
- NB: the untwisted (s-c) case is the standard Wilson one, without flavour breaking
- comparison at a several lattice spacings, for quark masses "above" strangeness



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- further detailed unquenched studies are required
- the main difficulty is an accurate and efficient computation of disconnected diagrams for neutral pions; cf. C. Michael et al. in various papers and conference proceedings
- result so far for $N_f = 2$ unquenched case is:

$$1 - \frac{m_{\pi^0}}{m_{\pi^+}} \sim 0.2$$
 @ $a = 0.09 \text{fm}$

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