

R -, R^{-1} - and R^* -operations and multiloop RG calculations

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Main topic of the talk:

discussion of the current status of the multiloop RG calculations and methods in QCD and general gauge theories (mainly their *algebraic* aspects) in connection to the classical Bogolyubov-Parasiyuk **R-operation** and its generalizations (R^{-1} - and R^* -operations)

MULTI-LOOP-2017, UPMC, Paris, 07.06.2017

**GGT/QCD Running Today: FIVE-loop level has been
done!
(after \approx 20 Years since the first 4-loop results)**

- fermion(quark) mass anomalous dimension

P. Baikov, K.Ch. and J. Kühn (2013 /QCD₀/ , 2017 /GGT₀/)

T. Luthe, A. Maier and P. Marquard (2016, /GGT_M/)

- β -function

P. Baikov, K.Ch. and J. Kühn (2016 /QCD₀/)

F. Herzog, B. Ruijl, T. Ueda, J. Vermaseren and A. Vogt
(2017, /GGT₀/)

- Both approaches, the massless and the massive ones would be not possible without **sophisticated** use of the R -operation + (only for the massless approach) its relatives R^* and R^{-1}

Consider a simple theory, the ϕ^4 -model with the Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}^r = \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 - \frac{g}{4!} \phi^4$$

and let

$$\Gamma[\mathcal{L}, \phi] = S_{cl} + \delta\Gamma[\mathcal{L}, \phi] \quad \text{with} \quad S_{cl} = \int \mathcal{L}(\phi(x)) dx$$

is the the generating functional of all 1PI Green functions corresponding to the Lagrangian \mathcal{L}

Renormalizability



$$\Gamma_R[\phi] \equiv \Gamma[\mathcal{L}^R, \phi] \equiv \Gamma[\mathcal{L}^B, \phi_B] \Big|_{\phi_B = \sqrt{Z_2} \phi}$$

with $g_B = Z_4/Z_2^2 g$, $m_B = Z_m m$

$$\mathcal{L}^R = \frac{1}{2} Z_2 (\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} Z_m Z_2 m^2 \phi^2 - \frac{g}{4!} Z_4 \phi^4$$

$$\mathcal{L}^B = \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \phi^2 - \frac{g}{4!} \phi^4$$

produces finite (after regularization is removed) Green functions in every order of PT in the coupling g .

To prove the renormalizability Bogolyubov and Parasyuk invented the R-operation. Let's remind some definitions.

Let $\langle \Gamma \rangle$ be a Feynman integral (FI) corresponding to a diagram Γ , then R-operation is defined as

$$R \langle \Gamma \rangle = \sum_{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_j} \prod_i \Delta(\gamma_i) \langle \Gamma \rangle = R' \langle \Gamma \rangle + \Delta(\Gamma) \langle \Gamma \rangle$$

1. sum goes over all sets $\{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_j\}$ of (pairwise) disjoint 1PI subgraphs, with $\Delta(\emptyset) = 1$
2. $\Delta(\gamma)$ is a counterterm (c-) operation which acts as follows:

$$\Delta(\gamma) \langle \Gamma \rangle = P_\gamma^* \langle \Gamma/\gamma \rangle$$

3. $P_\gamma = \Delta \langle \gamma \rangle$ is a polynomial in external momenta (mandatory) and masses (desirable) of FI $\langle \gamma \rangle$ which is inserted into the vertex v_γ inside of the reduced graph Γ/γ
4. a specific choice of the c-operator \longleftrightarrow choice of a renormalization scheme

Main (analytical) theorem of the R-operation:

If $\text{FI} \langle \Gamma \rangle$ does not contain IR divergences then the *renormalized FI* $R \langle \Gamma \rangle$ is finite in the limit of removed *UV regularization* with a proper choice of the c-operation. For instance, for the Dim. reg. + $\overline{\text{MS}}$ -scheme

$$\Delta(\gamma) \langle \gamma \rangle = -K_\epsilon R' \langle \gamma \rangle, \quad K_\epsilon \left[\sum_i f_i \epsilon^i \right] = \sum_{i < 0} f_i \epsilon^i$$

In terms of the R-operation the generating functional of the renormalized Green function is written as:

$$\Gamma_R[\phi] = \Gamma[\mathcal{L}^R, \phi] \equiv R\Gamma[\mathcal{L}, \phi]$$

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There should be a connection between the Lagrangian with Z-factors \mathcal{L}^R and *R-operation* (both lead to the same renormalized Green functions). It is given by

Main (combinatorial) theorem of the R-operation:

$$\mathcal{L}^c \equiv S_{cl} + \Delta \delta\Gamma[\mathcal{L}, \phi] \equiv \Delta \Gamma[\mathcal{L}, \phi] \quad (\text{assuming } \Delta S_{cl} \equiv S_{cl})$$

The theorem

+ commutativity of K_ϵ (and, hence, the very c-operation Δ) with differentiations w.r.t. masses and (external) momenta /Collins (1975)/

+ (resulting from it) polynomiality of ($\overline{\text{MS}}$) UV counterterms in momenta and masses

provides us with a very convenient and flexible way of computing of contributions to Z-factors from *separate diagrams*.

It is the starting point of the “IR reduction”

/A. Vladimirov (1978), K. Ch., V. Smirnov (1983), ... /

which is a method to reduce the general task of evaluation of (L+1)-loop UV counterterms to a well-defined and clearly posed purely mathematical problem: the calculation of L-loop p -integrals (that is massless propagator-type Feynman

integrals) \equiv **L-loop Problem**

L-loop Problem: from L=2 to L=4 in about forty years

1. 1-loop Problem is trivial
2. the 2-loop Problem was solved after inventing and developing the Gegenbauer polynomial technique in x -space (GPTX) K.Ch.,F. Tkachov(1979)/, later /D. Broadhurst, . . . A. Kotikov/

An impressive example of GPTX in action (8 loops!!)

$$\bar{I}_{8d} = \left[\text{Diagram} \right] = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^8} \left(-\frac{1}{2048 \varepsilon^4} + \frac{1}{192 \varepsilon^3} - \frac{1}{64 \varepsilon^2} - \frac{11}{192 \varepsilon} \right),$$
$$\bar{I}_{8e} = \left[\text{Diagram} \right] = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^8} \left(-\frac{1}{6144 \varepsilon^4} + \frac{1}{256 \varepsilon^3} - \frac{19}{384 \varepsilon^2} + \frac{5}{16 \varepsilon} \right).$$

For their evaluation, we used the *Gegenbauer polynomials x -space technique* (GPXT). We briefly review this technique in Appendix C.

+ many more similar integrals

copied from “The Leading Order Dressing Phase in ABJM Theory” Andrea Mauri, Alberto Santambrogio, Stefano Scoleri, arXiv:1301.7732 [hep-th]

The main breakthrough at the three loop level happened with elaborating the method of integration by parts (IBP) of **dimensionally regulated** integrals.

Historical references:

1 loop: At one loop, IBP (for DR integrals) was used in Hooft and M. Veltman (1979)

2 loops: crucial step — an appropriate modification of the *integrand* before IBP was first made by A. Vasiliev, Yu. Pis'mak and Yu. Khonkonen (1981)

3 loops (complete algorithm): F. Tkachov (1981); K. Ch. and F. Tkachov (1981)

3-Loop Problem

With the use of IBP identities the 3-loop Problem was completely solved and corresponding (manually constructed) algorithm was effectively implemented first in SCHOONSCHIP CAS (Gorishny, Larin, Surguladze, and Tkachov) and then with FORM (Vermaseren, Larin, Tkachov, /1991/ ... Vermaseren 2000–2012).

Note that all (nontrivial) masters for MINCER were provided by GPTX.

This achievement resulted to a host of various important 3- and 4-loop calculations performed by different teams during 80-th and 90-th.

Note that the 4-loop correction to the QCD β function was done only as late as in 1996 and using “massive” way /van Ritbergen, Vermaseren, and Larin/; the reason was too complicated combinatorics of the IR reduction (see later).

4-Loop Problem

It tooks around 15 years for the full solution (reduction + masters) of the 4-Loop Problem (2001 -2017). Main pieces of the solution:

- the Baikov's way of doing reduction with the help of $1/D$ expansion of the corresponding coefficient functions in front of masters (2001-2006) /implemented as FORM-program BAICER/
- all 28 masters have been performed analytically with three(!) independent calculations
K.Ch, P. Baikov (2010); /IB+ + gluing/;
R. Lee, V. Smirnov (2012) /IBP + recurrence relation w.r.t. D + /
E. Panzer (2013) /no IBP, "direct" parametric integration with hyperlogs/
- reduction rules automatically derived by LitRed (R. Lee (2014)) (their effective implementation is not trivial!)
- any sufficiently powerful Laporta machine (e.g. FIRE by A. Smirnov (2008-...) or, CRUSHER by P. Marquard and D. Seidel, (2004- ...) or ...)

Last but NOT the least:

Forcer, a FORM program for the parametric reduction of four-loop massless propagator diagrams,

B. Ruijl, T. Ueda, J.A.M. Vermaseren, [arXiv:1704.06650](https://arxiv.org/abs/1704.06650)

- The FORM program performs parametric IBP reductions similar to the three-loop Mincer program.
- Unlike many others tools it works “out of the box”, even topologies are recognized automatically
- FORCER is publically available (unlike BAICER and CRUSHER)
- First calculations demonstrate that with FORCER one could do 4-loop propagators *significantly faster* than, say, with BAICER and, probably, the current Laporta-based tools (with characteristic times weeks, not years ...)

Starting point of Infrared Reduction /A. Vladimirov (1978)/

Let $\langle \Gamma \rangle$ be a $(L+1)$ -loop diagram with UV index of divergency $\omega(\Gamma) = 0$. Then

$$\Delta \langle \Gamma \rangle = \text{pure polynomial in } 1/\epsilon$$

without any dependence of dimensionfull parameters. To simplify calculations we set first zero *all masses* and ext. momenta. This would give zero due to IR poles cancelling UV ones (which we want to find). So we take an internal line ℓ with (loop) momentum p and multiply integrand by an m -factor

$$p^2 / (m^2 + p^2)$$

with the result:

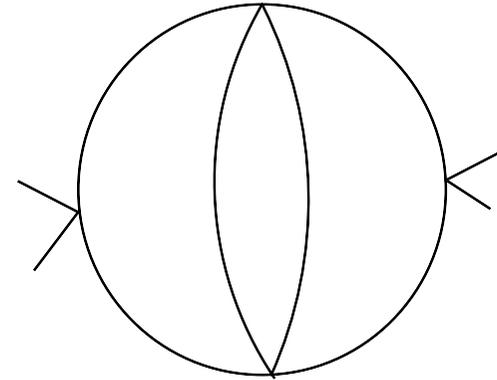
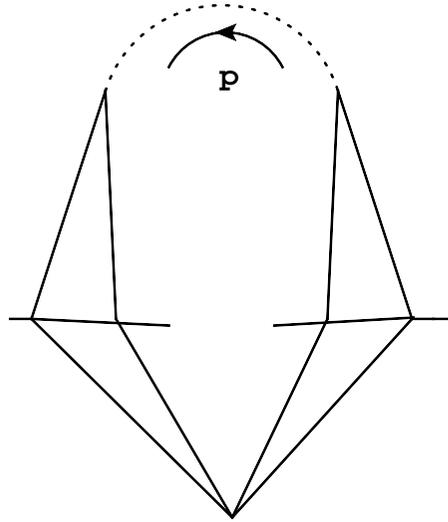
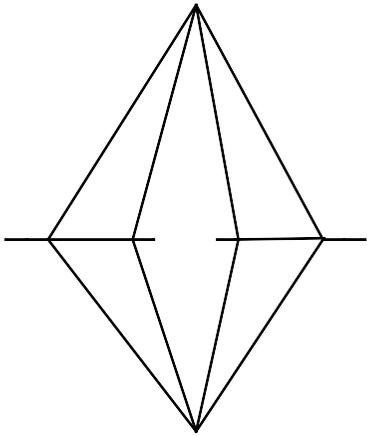
$$\langle \Gamma \rangle (m) = \int \langle \Gamma \setminus \ell \rangle (p) dp \frac{1}{(m^2 + p^2)}$$

As $\langle \Gamma \setminus \ell \rangle (p) = P(\epsilon) (p^2)^{-L\epsilon}$ we need to know $P(\epsilon)$ to $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^0)$ in order to find the pole part of $\langle \Gamma \rangle (m)$, which is the most complicated piece of $\Delta \langle \Gamma \rangle (m) \equiv -K_\epsilon R' \langle \Gamma \rangle (m)$

The above construction is valid if and only if the IR rearranged amplitude $\langle \Gamma \rangle (m)$ is free from IR poles!

The complexity of the L -loop p -integral depends on the choice of the line ℓ !

Good choice (if possible!) makes life easier



IRR works



No Chance !!!

Milestones /not all!/ of IRR (+ GPT(x) + IBP + uniqueness)

- ϕ^4 at four loops /D. Kazakov, O. Tarasov, A. Vladimirov (1979)/
- Adler function in QCD at 3 loops /K. Ch., A. Kataev, ,F. Tkachov (1979)/
- QCD β at 3 loops /O. Tarasov, A. Vladimirov, A. Zharkov (1979)/
- Adler function in QCD at 4 loops /S. Gorishny, A. Kataev, S. Larin, (1991)/
- “ Five-loop Konishi in N=4 SYM”, B. Eden, P. Heslop, G. Korchemsky, V. Smirnov, E. Sokatchev, (2012)

R^* - and \tilde{R} -operations

The requirement of IR-finiteness significantly limits the power of IRR and makes next to impossible its automatization. Solution: to subtract the unwanted IR poles with a new “infrared” \tilde{R} -operation /K. Ch., Smirnov (1984), ..., K. Ch. (1991), D. Batkovich, M. Kompaniets (2014), F. Herzog, B.Ruijl (2017)/

The main statement is that for any (euclidean!) Feynman integral $\langle \Gamma \rangle$

$$\Delta \langle \Gamma \rangle = -K_\epsilon \tilde{R} R' \langle \Gamma \rangle$$

and

$$R^* \langle \Gamma \rangle \quad \text{is finite with } R^* \equiv \tilde{R} R$$

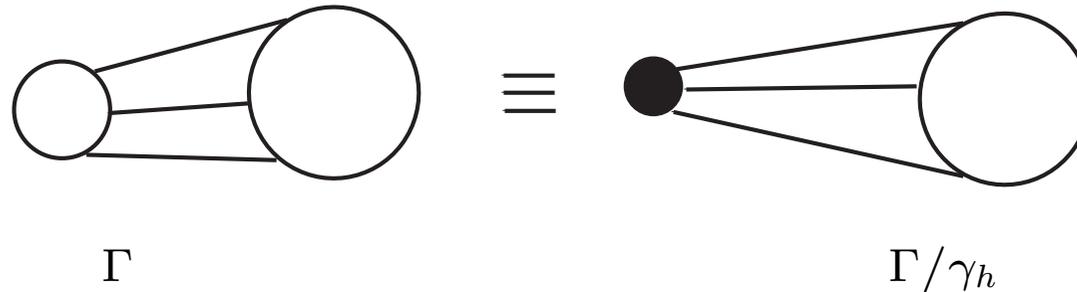
without any requirements IR finiteness

($\langle \Gamma \rangle$ might be even a massless vacuum graph!)

\tilde{R} -operation: some technical details

Let us consider a typical situation: we are given a log-divergent (and Euclidean!) 1PI FI $\langle \Gamma \rangle$ without external momenta and with only one massive line ℓ_h . How to identify and remove all possible IR poles from it? What is an IR analog of a 1PI UV divergent subgraphs?

Let $\gamma_h \subset \Gamma$ be a hard subgraph of Γ : that is $\ell_h \in \gamma$ and the graph γ/ℓ_h is 1PI. It is useful to consider two decompositions:



graph decomposition: $\Gamma \equiv \gamma_h \star \Gamma/\gamma_h$ and FI decomposition: $\langle \Gamma \rangle \equiv \langle \gamma_h \rangle \star \langle \Gamma/\gamma_h \rangle$

A *co-subgraph* $\tilde{\gamma}_h$ is defined as Γ/γ_h ; the corresponding FI $\langle \tilde{\gamma}_h \rangle$ is, obviously, 1PI massless tadpole. It is a full IR analog of a UV divergent 1PI subgraph with IR index of divergence $\tilde{\omega}(\langle \tilde{\gamma}_h \rangle) = -\omega_{UV}(\langle \tilde{\gamma}_h \rangle)$.

IR c-operator is defined as (assuming that $\tilde{\omega}(\langle \tilde{\gamma}_h \rangle) = 0$, which is essentially a general case)

$$\tilde{\Delta} \langle \tilde{\gamma}_h \rangle = \tilde{Z}_{\gamma_h},$$

with \tilde{Z}_{γ_h} being some pure polynomial in $1/\epsilon$.

Now we define the the IR \tilde{R} operation as follows:

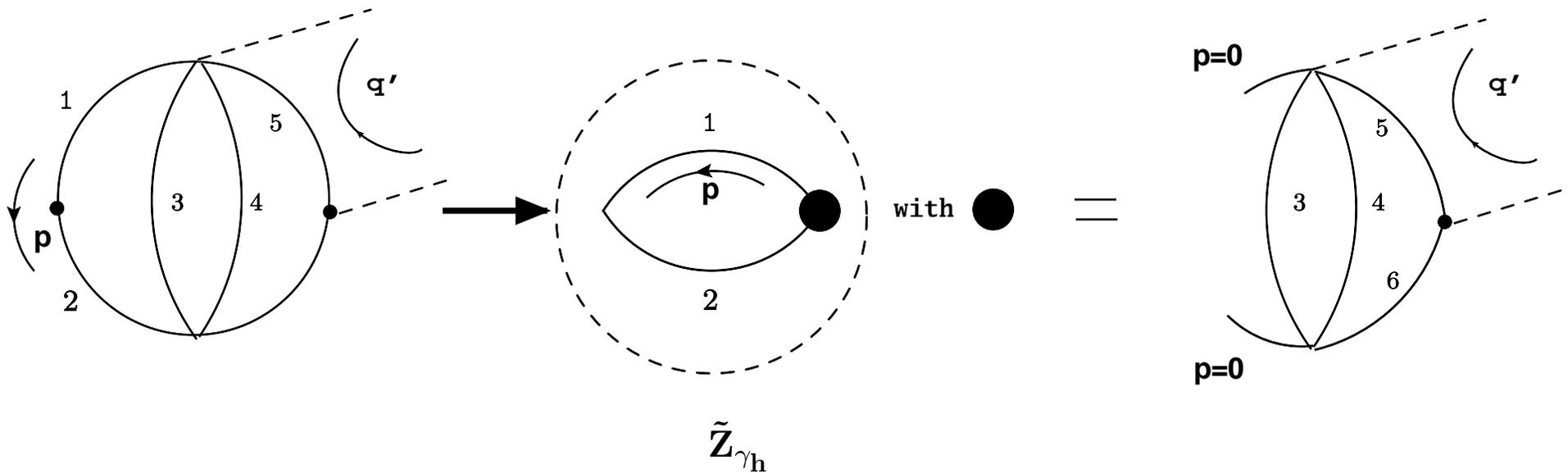
$$\tilde{R} \langle \Gamma \rangle = \langle \Gamma \rangle + \sum_{\gamma_h} T_0 \langle \gamma_h \rangle \tilde{\Delta} \langle \tilde{\gamma}_h \rangle$$

where the operator T_0 set zero the external momenta of the FI $\langle \gamma_h \rangle$ which are (soft) *loop* momenta the co-subgraph $\tilde{\gamma}_h$. Our scalar example now looks:

$$\Gamma = \{123456\}$$

$$\tilde{\gamma}_h = 1, 2$$

$$\gamma_h = \{3456\}$$



An important particular case: if $\langle \Gamma \rangle$ is a massless vacuum graph, then

$$\tilde{R} \langle \Gamma \rangle = \langle \Gamma \rangle + \tilde{\Delta} \langle \Gamma \rangle = \tilde{\Delta} \langle \Gamma \rangle$$

Comments:

1. the main theorem of \tilde{R} -operation is that a proper choice of IR counterterms makes $\tilde{R} \langle \Gamma \rangle$ completely IR finite and, correspondingly, the combination $\tilde{R}R \langle \Gamma \rangle$ completely finite.

2. For any massless tadpole $\langle \gamma_0 \rangle$ the IR counterterm $\tilde{\Delta} \langle \gamma_0 \rangle$ could be found in terms of UV counterterms for $\langle \gamma_0 \rangle$ and its UV subgraphs.

For instance,

$$R \langle \tilde{\gamma}_h \rangle \equiv \langle \tilde{\gamma}_h \rangle + \Delta \langle \tilde{\gamma}_h \rangle + \tilde{\Delta} \langle \tilde{\gamma}_h \rangle$$

whence we infer:

$$\tilde{\Delta} \langle \tilde{\gamma}_h \rangle = -\Delta \langle \tilde{\gamma}_h \rangle = -\left(-\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right) = +\frac{1}{\epsilon}$$

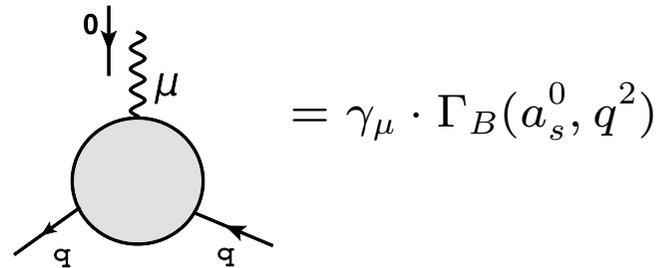
3. main formula for UV Z-factors:

$$Z_\Gamma = -K\tilde{R} \cdot R' \langle \Gamma \rangle \quad (\star)$$

If $\langle \Gamma \rangle$ has at least 1 massive line then all IR Z-factors appearing on the rhs of (\star) will come from co-subgraphs with loop number *strictly* less than that of original FI $\langle \Gamma \rangle$. This nicely explains why we can not start from a purely massless tadpole.

Example of global calculation of an IR Z-factor

Let us consider vertex function $\Gamma_B(a_s^0, q^2) = 1 + \delta\Gamma_B(a_s^0, q^2)$ of a vector quark current:



$$= \gamma_\mu \cdot \Gamma_B(a_s^0, q^2)$$

Its renormalized (and, hence, *finite*) version reads (note that $Z_V \equiv Z_2$, like in QED):

$$\Gamma_R(a_s, q^2) = Z_V \Gamma_B(a_s^0, q^2) = Z_V + Z_V \delta\Gamma_B(a_s^0, q^2)$$

In fact, the combination $Z_V \delta\Gamma_B(a_s^0, q^2) = -KR' \Gamma(a_s, q^2)$. Now we set $q \equiv 0$, then the vertex function $\Gamma_R(a_s, q = 0)$ will be *not* zero but Z_V !

Now if we apply, in addition, the IR \tilde{R} operation everything should be finite. Natural normalization of R^* operation is $R^* < \text{massless tadpole} > \equiv 0$.

Thus, we have:

$$Z_V + Z_V \tilde{\Delta} \delta\Gamma_B(a_s^0, q = 0) = 1$$

and, consequently,

$$\tilde{\Delta} \delta\Gamma_B(a_s^0, q = 0) = -1 + \frac{1}{Z_V}$$

By defining that $\tilde{\Delta}(1) = 1$ we arrive to a beautiful formula

$$\tilde{\Delta} \Gamma_B(a_s^0, q = 0) = \frac{1}{Z_V}$$

Note that the appearance of an inverted Z-factor in the above formula is not by chance: in fact, the \tilde{R} operation is intimately related to so-called R^{-1} -operation (F. Tkachov, G. Pivovarov (1986); K. Ch. (1989)) defined by the equation:

$$R^{-1} \cdot R = 1$$

where R^{-1} is another R-operation with its own c-operator Δ^{-1} .

Given a c-operator Δ , one can always construct corresponding Δ^{-1} one via a recursive procedure. For instance, in 1-loop case

$$\Delta^{-1} \langle \gamma \rangle = -\Delta \langle \gamma \rangle$$

For experts in R-operation, forest technique, Hopf algebras and all that

In 1-loop case $\Delta^{-1} \equiv \tilde{\Delta}$. In fact, this is not by chance. One could prove (assuming the natural normalization $R^* < \text{massless tadpole} \geq 0$ and using purely combinatorial arguments) that the operator

$$\tilde{\Delta} \equiv \Delta^{-1}$$

and that the R^{-1} and Δ^{-1} can be explicitly expressed in terms of Δ as follows*:

$$\Delta^{-1}(\Gamma) = -\Delta(\Gamma) \sum_{F \in F_U\{\Gamma\}} (-)^{|F|} \Delta(F)$$

$$R^{-1}(\Gamma) = \sum_{F \in F_U\{\Gamma\}} (-1)^{|F|} \Delta(F)$$

where F_U stands for the set of all UV *forests* of the graph Γ

* K. Ch. "Combinatorics OF \mathbf{R} -, \mathbf{R}^{-1} -, and \mathbf{R}^* -Operations and Asymptotic Expansions of Feynman Integrals in the Limit of Large Momenta AND Masses", preprint MPI-Ph/PTh 13/91 (1991); arXiv:1701.08627

For experts in R-operation, forest technique, Hopf algebras and all that

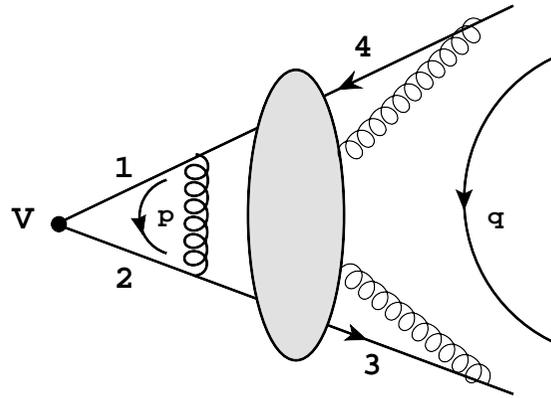
In a sense R^{-1} operation serves a role for minimally renormalized Feynman amplitudes similar to that of *Zimmerman identities* for the momentum subtracted ones. For instance, one could derive, in purely combinatorial way, the following RG equation for a *single* minimally renormalized FI

$$-\mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} R \langle \Gamma \rangle + \epsilon \cdot L(\Gamma) R \langle \Gamma \rangle = \sum_{\gamma} L(\gamma) \Delta(\gamma)_{\text{rsp}} \star R \langle \Gamma/\gamma \rangle,$$

where $L(\Gamma)$ is the the loop number of graph Γ and $\Delta(\gamma)_{\text{rsp}}$ stand for the *coefficient* in front of the single pole part of the (UV) counterterm $\Delta(\gamma)$

The equation easily leads to the standart RG evolution eqs. for minimally renormalized full Green functions *without* any use of the language of bare charges ([Bonnenuau, \(1980\)](#))

Global IR-reduction: a simple example $Z_V = Z_2$



$$\begin{aligned}
 R\Gamma^V(a_s, q^2) &= Z_V + R' \delta\Gamma^V(a_s, q^2) = Z_V + Z_V R'' \delta\Gamma^V(a_s, q^2) \\
 &= Z_V + Z_V \delta\Gamma_B^V(a_s^0, q^2) = Z_V + Z_V \delta\Gamma_B^V(a_s^0, q^2)
 \end{aligned}$$

From finitness we have two equivalent formulas to compute Z_V (the operator K extracts the pole part in ϵ)

$$Z_V = 1 - K R' \delta\Gamma^V(a_s, q^2) \quad \text{and} \quad Z_V = 1 - K Z_V \delta\Gamma_B^V(a_s^0, q^2)$$

Now we introduce an auxiliary mass by multiplying the *integrand* of if every FI from Γ^V by a magic m-factor: $\frac{-p^2}{m^2 - p^2}$. The second eq. (with bare parametrers), **STOPS** to work, while the first is still operative (due to flexibility of R-operation!).

Global IR-reduction: a simple example $Z_V = Z_2$

And now we set $q = 0$ and add \tilde{R} to kill unwanted IR poles:

$$Z_V = 1 - K \tilde{R} R' \delta\Gamma^V(a_s, q = 0, m)$$

Most important now is understand how to write R' in a global form (that is in terms of bare parameters).

The 2 key observations:

(i) UV counterterms which include the V-vertex kill m-factor and transform the diagram with a massive line into a completely massive one;

(ii) Such counterterms are always (by definition) those from Z_V and, thus, R'' contains no such terms at all!

As a result ($Z_V \equiv 1 + \delta Z_V$)

$$\begin{aligned} R' \delta\Gamma^V(a_s, m) &= R'' \delta\Gamma^V(a_s^0, m) + \delta Z_V \delta\Gamma^V(a_s^0, m = 0) \\ &= \delta\Gamma_B^V(a_s^0, m) + \delta Z_V \delta\Gamma_B^V(a_s^0, m = 0) \end{aligned}$$

The application of \tilde{R} -operation to remove all IR divergent pieces from the above eq. leads to:

$$\tilde{R} R' \delta\Gamma^V(a_s, m) = \delta\Gamma_B^V(a_s^0, m) + (\delta\Gamma_B^V(a_s^0, m) + \delta Z_V) \cdot \boxed{\left(\frac{1}{Z_V} - 1\right)},$$

where we have boxed the IR Z-factor.

The final closed formula for Z_V reads:

$$Z_V = 1 - K_\epsilon \left\{ \delta\Gamma_B^V(a_s^0, m) \frac{1}{Z_V} - \frac{(Z_V - 1)^2}{Z_V} \right\}$$

Here the simplicity of the treatment comes from the simple renormalization properties of the V vertex. Similar compact global formulas can be easily derived for the ghost propgator (to find Z_2^{gh}) and for the ghost-ghost gluon vertex.

The really difficult problems are sitting in the gluon self-energy (the only way to find Z_3 !).

In this case we encounter formally "infinite" UV mixing (for GGT only)

That is in higher orders of PT operators like

$$\bar{\psi} t^a \gamma_\mu A_\mu^a \psi$$

starts to mix with more and more complicated 4-gluon operators like

$$K(a, b, c, d) (A_\mu^a A_\mu^b) (A_\nu^c A_\nu^d)$$

with $K(a, b, c, d)$ being a color tensor of rank 4. The # of such color structures increases with # of loops. This leads to enormous problems...

In direct calculations (without IR reduction) we do not see this problem as we always sum over all couplings of 2 external gluons of the gluon self-energy. With IR rearranged diagrams the corresponding cancellations do not exist any more and we should deal with them somehow ...

Theory versus practice: issues with automated IR-reduction

Practical application of the IR-reduction (for not too many diagrams, of course!) is always possible in “manual mode”. This is exactly how the first 3- and 4-loop QCD calculations (and even 5-loop ones for the scalar ϕ^4 -model) were done in 1979 – 1991.

In general, it is certainly should be possible, though not very simple, to implement the R^* -operation locally (that is diagram-wise). For the scalar theories it was done recently in /D.V. Batkovich, M. Kompaniets (2014)/ and for the more general “tensor” amplitudes appearing in GGT by F. Herzog, B.Ruijl (2017)/

But direct generalization for the GGT encounters *serious* problems (essentially non-existent for the “massive” way, where the global solution of combinatorics is very simple and well-known!

Even if we do solve global combinatorics of the IR-reduction and apply R^* locally severe problems still remain.

Conclusions

- IRR based on R^* operation significantly simplifies RG calculations. It reduces $(L+1)$ -loop RG function in any model to a combination of properly constructed p-integrals; the latter include not only standard UV- but also IR subtractions. It is always possible to do at the level of *separate* diagrams.
- IR counterterms are expressible diagramwise (locally or globally) through UV-ones.
- The existence of few reduction tools for 4-loop massless propagators (especially) FORCER + known 4-loop masters \implies the 5-loop RG functions are *in principle* doable in *any* model.
- But: global representation of necessary IR subtractions (that is on the level of Green functions) strongly depends on the problem and not always easy.
- The local R^* approach is more universal and (significantly) more automated than the the global one. It requires more computer/time resources and significantly less human intervention. But it is not (in its current form) applicable to every RG-problem.