

The Refined Gribov-Zwanziger scenario beyond the Landau gauge

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Outline

- 1 Overview of the Gribov problem
- 2 The Gribov-Zwanziger solution
- 3 BRST symmetry
- 4 Extension to linear covariant gauges and more
- 5 Conclusions

Overview of the Gribov problem

- Yang-Mills theories are invariant under *gauge* transformations.
- It implies that for a given field configuration A_μ^a , there are infinitely many equivalent configurations connected through gauge transformations.
- Possible treatment of such redundancy: gauge-fixing.
- In the path integral formulation we employ the Faddeev-Popov procedure, which seems to work quite well at the perturbative level.

The Faddeev-Popov procedure

Choosing the gauge condition $F[A] = 0$, we rewrite the path integral in flat Euclidean space-time (and $SU(N)$ gauge group) as

$$\mathcal{Z} = \int \mathcal{D}g \mathcal{D}A \delta[F[A]] \Delta_{\text{FP}} e^{-S_{\text{YM}}}, \quad (1)$$

where Δ_{FP} is the Faddeev-Popov determinant. To do so, we assumed:

- $F[A] = 0$ has a unique solution *i.e.*, for each gauge orbit, the gauge condition picks just one representative.
- Δ_{FP} does not contain zero-modes and is positive, so that we can eliminate the absolute value.

To check if the previous assumptions are reasonable for a specific gauge choice, we start with Landau gauge, namely, $\partial_\mu A_\mu^a = 0$.

Uniqueness

- Let us consider a gauge field configuration A_μ^a which satisfies the Landau gauge condition $\partial_\mu A_\mu^a = 0$.
- Now, we perform a gauge transformation on $A_\mu^a \rightarrow A_\mu^{\prime a}$.
- If the gauge condition is ideal, then $\partial_\mu A_\mu^{\prime a} \neq 0$.
- However, if we restrict ourselves to infinitesimal gauge transformations, $A_\mu^{\prime a} = A_\mu^a - D_\mu^{ab} \xi^b$, with $D_\mu^{ab} = \delta^{ab} \partial_\mu - gf^{abc} A_\mu^c$ being the covariant derivative in the adjoint representation of the gauge group and ξ^b , the infinitesimal parameter of the transformation, we see that

$$\partial_\mu A_\mu^{\prime a} = 0 \Rightarrow \underbrace{-\partial_\mu D_\mu^{ab}}_{FP \text{ operator}} \xi^b = -(\delta^{ab} \partial^2 - gf^{abc} A_\mu^c \partial_\mu) \xi^b = 0. \quad (2)$$

- Therefore, at the infinitesimal level, the gauge condition selects one representative per orbit if the FP operator does not develop zero-modes.

WARNING!

- In his seminal paper, V. Gribov proved $-\partial_\mu D_\mu^{ab}$ has zero-modes. [Gribov '78](#)
- The presence of zero-modes tells us that Landau gauge is not ideal. So, we have a residual gauge freedom.
- Such configurations, present after the imposition of the gauge condition, are known as Gribov copies and their appearance define the so-called Gribov problem.
- To implement the Faddeev-Popov procedure consistently, we should be able to remove these copies.

The Gribov region

Gribov's proposal

- Gribov pointed out the existence of copies, but *also* introduced a way to eliminate them!
- The idea is simple: We should define a suitable region in field space where the Faddeev-Popov operator is positive and, thus, does not develop zero-modes and contains all physical configurations (\Rightarrow All gauge orbits must cross this region) and restrict the path integral domain to this region.
- A first proposal is known as the Gribov region and is defined by

$$\Omega = \left\{ A_\mu^a, \partial_\mu A_\mu^a = 0 \mid -\partial_\mu D_\mu^{ab} > 0 \right\}. \quad (3)$$

Properties of Ω

- **Remark 1:** The operator $-\partial_\mu D_\mu^{ab}$, in the Landau gauge, is Hermitian. This makes the definition of a region where it is positive a meaningful task. [Dell'Antonio and Zwanziger '91](#)
- The Gribov region Ω has very nice geometrical features: (i) *It is bounded in every direction*, (ii) *it is convex* and (iii) *All gauge orbits cross it*.
- Therefore, Ω is a suitable candidate to implement Gribov's idea.
- **Remark 2:** This region is NOT free of all Gribov copies, but at least of all infinitesimal ones. [van Baal '92](#)

The action free of (infinitesimal) copies

- Imposing the restriction to Ω , it is possible to lift the modification in the path integral measure to the action.
- The new action is known as the Gribov-Zwanziger action and is given by [Zwanziger '89](#), [Vandersickel and Zwanziger '12](#)

$$S_{GZ} = S + \gamma^4 H(A) - dV \gamma^4 (N^2 - 1), \quad (4)$$

where γ is the so-called Gribov parameter and H , the horizon function,

$$H(A) = g^2 \int d^d x d^d y f^{abc} A_\mu^b(x) [\mathcal{M}^{-1}(x, y)]^{ad} f^{dec} A_\mu^e(y), \quad (5)$$

where $\mathcal{M}^{ab} \equiv -\partial_\mu D_\mu^{ab}$ is the FP operator.

- The Gribov parameter is not free and is fixed by a gap equation,

$$\langle H(A) \rangle = dV (N^2 - 1). \quad (6)$$

- The horizon function is non-local \Rightarrow the Gribov-Zwanziger action is non-local!

Local Gribov-Zwanziger action

- Remarkably, the Gribov-Zwanziger action can be cast in local form by the introduction of auxiliary fields. [Zwanziger '89](#)
- One introduces a pair of bosonic $(\varphi_\mu^{ab}, \bar{\varphi}_\mu^{ab})$ and fermionic fields $(\omega_\mu^{ab}, \bar{\omega}_\mu^{ab})$.
- The local Gribov-Zwanziger action is

$$S_{\text{GZ}} = S + \int d^d x \left(\bar{\varphi}_\mu^{ac} \mathcal{M}^{ab} \varphi_\mu^{bc} - \bar{\omega}_\mu^{ac} \mathcal{M}^{ab} \omega_\mu^{bc} + g\gamma^2 f^{abc} A_\mu^a (\varphi + \bar{\varphi})_\mu^{bc} \right) - dV\gamma^4(N^2 - 1). \quad (7)$$

- This action is local and renormalizable to all orders in perturbation theory. [Zwanziger '89](#)

- On top of the Gribov-Zwanziger framework, one can take into account further non-perturbative effects as the formation of condensates. [Dudal, Gracey, Sorella, Vandersickel and Verschelde '08](#)
- Taking into account those effects leads to the *Refined Gribov-Zwanziger* action, which reproduces a *decoupling like* gluon propagator.
- The Refined Gribov-Zwanziger action expressed as

$$S_{\text{RGZ}} = S_{\text{GZ}} + \frac{m^2}{2} \int d^d x A_\mu^a A_\mu^a - M^2 \int d^d x \left(\bar{\varphi}_\mu^{ab} \varphi_\mu^{ab} - \bar{\omega}_\mu^{ab} \omega_\mu^{ab} \right).$$

BRST symmetry

FP action

- A very important concept in the FP quantization is the invariance of the gauge fixed Yang-Mills action under BRST transformations.
- This symmetry plays a very important role in the proof of perturbative renormalizability of the FP action and perturbative unitarity.

- The BRST transformations are given by

$$\begin{aligned} sA_\mu^a &= -D_\mu^{ab} c^b, & sc^a &= \frac{g}{2} f^{abc} c^b c^c, \\ s\bar{c}^a &= b^a, & sb^a &= 0, \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

with $s^2 = 0$ and

$$sS = s(S_{\text{YM}} + S_{\text{gf}} + S_{\text{ghosts}}) = 0. \quad (9)$$

Considering the local form of the Gribov-Zwanziger action, we have the following transformations,

$$\begin{aligned}
 sA_\mu^a &= -D_\mu^{ab} c^b, & sc^a &= \frac{g}{2} f^{abc} c^b c^c, \\
 s\bar{c}^a &= b^a, & sb^a &= 0, \\
 s\varphi_\mu^{ab} &= \omega_\mu^{ab}, & s\omega_\mu^{ab} &= 0, \\
 s\bar{\omega}_\mu^{ab} &= \bar{\varphi}_\mu^{ab}, & s\bar{\varphi}_\mu^{ab} &= 0.
 \end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

and

$$sS_{\text{GZ}} = \gamma^2 \int d^d x \left(gf^{abc} D_\mu^{ae} c^e (\bar{\varphi}_\mu^{bc} + \varphi_\mu^{bc}) + gf^{abc} A_\mu^a \omega_\mu^{bc} \right). \tag{11}$$

- *The Gribov-Zwanziger action breaks BRST symmetry explicitly!*
- Although explicit, the breaking is *soft*. In the UV, $\gamma \rightarrow 0$ and we recover BRST invariance.
- However, when γ is not negligible, *i.e.*, when we are far from the UV regime, standard BRST symmetry seems to be broken within the Gribov-Zwanziger scenario. [Cucchieri](#), [Dudal](#), [Lavrov](#), [Lechtenfeld](#), [Kondo](#), [Maggiore](#), [Mendes](#), [Reshetnyak](#), [Serreau](#), [Schaden](#), [Sorella](#), [Tissier](#), [Tresmontant](#), [Vandersickel](#), [Zwanziger](#),...

Gauge invariant A^h field

- Let us consider the transverse field A^h , $\partial_\mu A_\mu^h = 0$, obtained from the minimization of

$$\text{Tr} \int d^d x A_\mu^U A_\mu^U. \quad (12)$$

Zwanziger '90, M. Lavelle and D. McMullan '97

- This field is gauge invariant order by order in g and can be formally written as

$$A_\mu^h = \left(\delta_{\mu\nu} - \frac{\partial_\mu \partial_\nu}{\partial^2} \right) \left(A_\nu - ig \left[\frac{1}{\partial^2} \partial A, A_\nu \right] + \frac{ig}{2} \left[\frac{1}{\partial^2} \partial A, \partial_\nu \frac{1}{\partial^2} \partial A \right] \right) + O(A^3). \quad (13)$$

- Its gauge invariance implies $sA^h = 0$.
- The form of the horizon function $H(A)$ and of A^h allow us to write the following expression [Phys.Rev. D92 \(2015\) no.4, 045039](#)

$$H(A) = H(A^h) - R(A)(\partial A). \quad (14)$$

The “new” Gribov-Zwanziger action

The non-local Gribov-Zwanziger action is rewritten as

$$\check{S}_{\text{GZ}} = S_{\text{YM}} + \int d^d x \left(b^{h,a} \partial_\mu A_\mu^a + \bar{c}^a \partial_\mu D_\mu^{ab} c^b \right) + \gamma^4 H(A^h), \quad (15)$$

with

$$b^{h,a} = b^a - \gamma^4 R^a(A) \quad (16)$$

and

$$H(A^h) = g^2 \int d^d x d^d y f^{abc} A_\mu^{h,b}(x) \left[\mathcal{M}^{-1}(A^h) \right]^{ad} f^{dec} A_\mu^{h,e}(y). \quad (17)$$

As before, we introduce the localizing auxiliary fields. The resulting action is

$$\begin{aligned} S_{\text{GZ}} &= S_{\text{YM}} + \int d^d x \left(b^{h,a} \partial_\mu A_\mu^a + \bar{c}^a \partial_\mu D_\mu^{ab} c^b \right) \\ &+ \int d^d x \left(\bar{\varphi}_\mu^{ac} \left[\mathcal{M}(A^h) \right]^{ab} \varphi_\mu^{bc} - \bar{\omega}_\mu^{ac} \left[\mathcal{M}(A^h) \right]^{ab} \omega_\mu^{bc} + g \gamma^2 f^{abc} A_\mu^{h,a} (\varphi + \bar{\varphi})_\mu^{bc} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

BRST invariance

- We define the BRST transformations, as follows

$$\begin{aligned}
 sA_\mu^a &= -D_\mu^{ab} c^b, & sc^a &= \frac{g}{2} f^{abc} c^b c^c, \\
 s\bar{c}^a &= b^{h,a}, & sb^{h,a} &= 0, \\
 s\varphi_\mu^{ab} &= 0, & s\omega_\mu^{ab} &= 0, \\
 s\bar{\omega}_\mu^{ab} &= 0, & s\bar{\varphi}_\mu^{ab} &= 0.
 \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

- These transformations define a symmetry of the Gribov-Zwanziger action, namely,

$$sS_{\text{GZ}} = 0. \tag{20}$$

- However, due to the presence of A^h , S_{GZ} is still a non-local action.

An important check is that

$$\frac{\partial S_{GZ}}{\partial \gamma^2} \neq s(\text{something}), \quad (21)$$

i.e., the Gribov parameter is not akin to a gauge parameter. Therefore, it will enter in correlation functions of physical quantities. Also, written in terms of A^h , the equation that fixes γ , the gap equation, is

$$\langle H(A^h) \rangle = dV(N^2 - 1), \quad (22)$$

which is *gauge invariant!*

Local action

It is possible to cast the BRST-invariant action in local form through the introduction of a Stueckelberg-like field ξ . [PRD 94 \(2016\) no.2, 025035](#), [PRD 95 \(2017\) no.4, 045011](#), [PRD 96 \(2017\) no.5, 054022](#)

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{\text{GZ}} = & S_{\text{YM}} + S_{\text{FP}} - \int d^4x \left(\bar{\varphi}_\mu^{ac} \mathcal{M}^{ab}(A^h) \varphi_\mu^{bc} - \bar{\omega}_\mu^{ac} \mathcal{M}^{ab}(A^h) \omega_\mu^{bc} \right) \\
 & - \gamma^2 \int d^4x g f^{abc} (A^h)_\mu^a (\varphi + \bar{\varphi})_\mu^{bc} + \int d^4x \tau^a \partial_\mu (A^h)_\mu^a - \int d^4x \bar{\eta}^a \mathcal{M}^{ab}(A^h) \eta^b
 \end{aligned} \tag{23}$$

The field A^h is now written as

$$A_\mu^h = h^\dagger A_\mu h + \frac{i}{g} h^\dagger \partial_\mu h, \tag{24}$$

with

$$h = e^{ig\xi^a T^a} \equiv e^{ig\xi}. \tag{25}$$

Note: The GZ action is written in local form, but it is not polynomial on the local fields.

The complete BRST transformations are given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 sA_\mu^a &= -D_\mu^{ab} c^b, & sc^a &= \frac{g}{2} f^{abc} c^b c^c, \\
 s\bar{c}^a &= b^a, & sb^a &= 0, \\
 s\varphi_\mu^{ab} &= 0, & s\omega_\mu^{ab} &= 0, \\
 s\bar{\omega}_\mu^{ab} &= 0, & s\bar{\varphi}_\mu^{ab} &= 0, \\
 sh^{ij} &= -igc^a (T^a)^{ik} h^{kj}, & sA_\mu^{h,a} &= 0, \\
 s\tau^a &= 0, & s\bar{\eta}^a &= 0, \\
 s\eta^a &= 0, & s^2 &= 0.
 \end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

The Gribov-Zwanziger expressed in the new variables is local, renormalizable to all orders in perturbation theory and BRST-symmetric. Also, for gauge-invariant operators \mathcal{O} one has

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(x)\mathcal{O}(y) \rangle \Big|_{\text{Original GZ}}^{\text{Landau}} = \langle \mathcal{O}(x)\mathcal{O}(y) \rangle \Big|_{\text{"New" GZ}}^{\text{Landau}} \tag{27}$$

Linear covariant gauges

Linear covariant gauges

- This class of gauges contains a gauge parameter α and is defined by

$$\partial_\mu A_\mu^a = -i\alpha b^a. \quad (28)$$

- In this case, the construction of a Gribov region is not as clear as in the Landau gauge.
- For general α (different from zero), the Faddeev-Popov operator is not Hermitian.

Proposal

- We propose to restrict the path integral to Ω^h ,

$$\Omega^h = \left\{ A_\mu^a \mid \partial_\mu A_\mu^a = -i\alpha b^a, \mathcal{M}^{ab}(A^h) > 0 \right\}. \quad (29)$$

- This region is free of “regular” zero-modes and

$$\lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 0} \Omega^h = \Omega^{\text{Landau}} \quad (30)$$

- In view of the results discussed before in the Landau gauge, we extend our results to linear covariant gauges. [PRD 92 \(2015\) no.4, 045039](#), [PRD 93 \(2016\) no.6, 065019](#),

Gribov-Zwanziger action in linear covariant gauges

The BRST symmetric Gribov-Zwanziger action in linear covariant gauges is constructed as [PRD 96 \(2017\) no.5, 054022](#)

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{\text{GZ}}^{\text{LCG}} &= S_{\text{LCG}}^{\text{FP}} - \int d^4x \left(\bar{\varphi}_\mu^{ac} \mathcal{M}^{ab}(A^h) \varphi_\mu^{bc} - \bar{\omega}_\mu^{ac} \mathcal{M}^{ab}(A^h) \omega_\mu^{bc} \right) \\
 &- \gamma^2 \int d^4x \, gf^{abc} (A^h)_\mu^a (\varphi + \bar{\varphi})_\mu^{bc} + \int d^4x \, \tau^a \partial_\mu (A^h)_\mu^a - \int d^4x \, \bar{\eta}^a \mathcal{M}^{ab}(A^h) \eta^b.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{31}$$

- This action is local, BRST-invariant and renormalizable to all orders in perturbation theory. [PRD 96 \(2017\) no.5, 054022](#)
- It effectively restricts the path integral domain to a region which removes a class of copies in linear covariant gauges.

- As in the Landau gauge, further non-perturbative effects can be taken into account in this case. [PRD 93 \(2016\) no.6, 065019](#), [PRD 96 \(2017\) no.5, 054022](#)
- In $d = 3, 4$ the Gribov-Zwanziger action in linear covariant gauges can be “refined” by the inclusion of the following operators.

$$\frac{m^2}{2} \int d^d x A_\mu^{h,a} A_\mu^{h,a} \quad \text{and} \quad -M^2 \int d^d x \left(\bar{\varphi}_\mu^{ab} \varphi_\mu^{ab} - \bar{\omega}_\mu^{ab} \omega_\mu^{ab} \right). \quad (32)$$

The BRST invariance allows for the following proofs: [PRD 95 \(2017\) no.4, 045011](#)

- Correlation functions of gauge-invariant operators are independent of α .
- The mass parameters (γ^2, m^2, M^2) are α -independent and can enter physical correlators.
- The longitudinal part of the gluon propagator is tree-level exact.
- The pole mass of the transverse component of the gluon propagator is α -independent.
- The poles of the gauge-invariant correlation function $\langle A_\mu^{h,a}(-p)A_\nu^{h,b}(p) \rangle$ are the same as those of the transverse part of the gluon propagator.
- Also,

$$\langle A_\mu^{h,a}(-p)A_\nu^{h,b}(p) \rangle = \langle A_\mu^{h,a}(-p)A_\nu^{h,b}(p) \rangle_{\alpha=0} = \langle A_\mu^a(-p)A_\nu^b(p) \rangle_{\text{Landau}}. \quad (33)$$

Universality

One can consider more general covariant, color invariant and renormalizable gauges as [1802.04582](#) (to appear in PLB)

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{gf} &= \int d^4x \, s \left(\bar{c}^a (\partial_\mu A_\mu^a - \mu^2 \xi^a + \frac{g}{2} \beta f^{abc} \bar{c}^b c^c) - i \frac{\alpha}{2} \bar{c}^a b^a \right) \\
 &= \int d^4x \left(i b^a \partial_\mu A_\mu^a + \frac{\alpha}{2} b^a b^a - i \mu^2 b^a \xi^a + i g \beta f^{abc} b^a \bar{c}^b c^c \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{g^2}{4} \beta f^{abc} f^{cmn} \bar{c}^a \bar{c}^b c^m c^n \right) + \int d^4x \left(\bar{c}^a \partial_\mu D_\mu^{ab}(A) c^b + \mu^2 \bar{c}^a g^{ab}(\xi) c^b \right),
 \end{aligned}$$

and the following action

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{S} &= S_{\text{YM}} + S_{gf} - \int d^4x \left(\bar{\varphi}_\mu^{ac} \mathcal{M}^{ab}(A^h) \varphi_\mu^{bc} - \bar{\omega}^{ac} \mathcal{M}^{ab}(A^h) \omega_\mu^{bc} \right) \\
 &\quad - \gamma^2 \int d^4x \, g f^{abc} (A^h)_\mu^a (\varphi + \bar{\varphi})_\mu^{bc} + \int d^4x \left(\tau^a \partial_\mu (A^h)_\mu^a - \bar{\eta}^a \mathcal{M}^{ab}(A^h) \eta^b \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

For gauge invariant local operators $\mathcal{O}(x)$, one has

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(x)\mathcal{O}(y) \rangle \Big|_{\bar{\xi}} = \left(\langle \mathcal{O}(x)\mathcal{O}(y) \rangle \Big|_{\bar{\xi}} \right)_{\sigma_i=0} = \langle \mathcal{O}(x)\mathcal{O}(y) \rangle \Big|_{\text{"new" GZ}}^{\text{Landau}} = \langle \mathcal{O}(x)\mathcal{O}(y) \rangle \Big|_{\text{GZ}}^{\text{Landau}}$$

with $\sigma_i = (\alpha, \beta, \mu^2)$.

In this sense, Zwanziger's horizon function gains universal character.

Conclusions

- A reformulation of the Gribov-Zwanziger action in Landau gauge with gauge invariant variables was proposed.
- The action enjoys a BRST symmetry which is compatible with its refinement.
- The reformulation puts the Gribov parameter and the refining parameters as manifestly gauge invariant quantities.
- It is possible to use the gauge invariant horizon function to eliminate Gribov copies in linear covariant gauges.
- This leads to gauge parameter control, exactness of the longitudinal component of the gluon propagator, gauge parameter independent pole mass,...
- The BRST symmetric (R)GZ action can be expressed in local form. It is renormalizable to all orders in perturbation theory.
- Such a symmetry enables a universal character to the horizon function.

Thank You!