



# Facts of life with $\gamma_5$ :

## Treatment of $\gamma_5$ in Dimensionally-Regularized Chiral Yang-Mills Theory. What can we learn from it?

**Main reference:** Bélusca-Maïto, H., Ilakovac, A., Madjar-Božinović, M. and Stöckinger, D.  
*Dimensional regularization and Breitenlohner-Maison/'t Hooft-Veltman scheme for  $\gamma_5$   
applied to chiral YM theories: full one-loop counterterm and RGE structure.* *J. High  
Energ. Phys.* 2020, 24 (2020). [https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP08\(2020\)024](https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP08(2020)024)



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# Context & Motivations of main Ref.

- **Motivations of the authors:** The existence of chiral fermions is a fundamental fact of nature. There are numerous schemes in DReg for treating  $\gamma_5$ . In the reference, they study the application of a DS at the one-loop level in a massless chiral Yang-Mills theory.
- **The Big Picture:** Application to chiral gauge theories such as the electroweak Standard Model.
- **Problem with  $\gamma_5$ :** Regularisation involving  $\gamma_5$  is problematic. In DS starting from the standard SM-Lagrangian and using  $\gamma_5$ , which does not anticommute with the other Dirac matrices  $\gamma_\mu$  leads to “spurious anomalies” which violate chiral symmetry and hence gauge invariance.
- **Scheme they proposed for treating chiral theories:** Propose using algebraic renormalization techniques in *Dimensional Regularization (DReg)* with the *'t Hooft-Veltman-Breitenlohner-Maison scheme (BMHV)*.
- **Objectives:** Apply BMHV scheme to general chiral gauge theories without compromises and work out its properties in detail. Obtain a treatment of  $\gamma_5$  and other related intrinsically 4-dimensional Lorentz objects that is consistent by construction at any loop order.
- **What they obtained?:** They obtain a symmetry-restoring counterterm to restore the breaking of the gauge and BRST invariance by the BMHV (the main complication of the method).
- **Disclaimer (what this presentation/discussion is about):** the Right-Handed(R) model and the BRST invariance of the R-model in 4-dim (section 3 of the paper).

# Outline

**01**

**Introduction:  
 $\gamma_5$  in 4-dim**

**03**

**BRST  
invariance in  
4-dim**

**02**

**The R-Model  
in 4-dim**

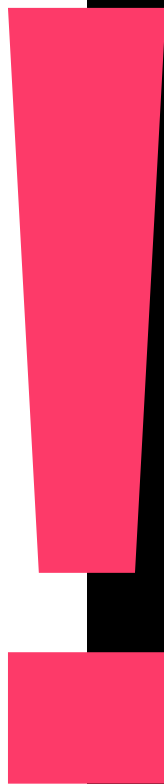
**04**

**Last comments:  
BMHV vs IREG**



# Introduction

Realistic models in 4D  
contains chiral fermions.



Problems do appear when attempting to extend the definition of genuinely intrinsically 4-dimensional objects, like  $\gamma_5$  or Levi-Civita symbol. These two objects appear in **chiral theories**.



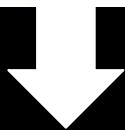
## Dimensional method

DReg works for bosonic fields and also 4-component fermions, and also for  $\gamma\mu$  matrices.

DReg formally extends a 4-dim space-time in  $d=4-2\epsilon$  dimensions.

**Metric:**

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} + \hat{g}_{\mu\nu}$$



**Evanescent object**

$$\begin{aligned} \{\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu\} &= 2g^{\mu\nu} \mathbb{1}, & \{\gamma^\mu, \bar{\gamma}^\nu\} &= \{\bar{\gamma}^\mu, \bar{\gamma}^\nu\} = 2\bar{g}^{\mu\nu} \mathbb{1} \\ \{\bar{\gamma}^\mu, \hat{\gamma}^\nu\} &= 0, & \{\gamma^\mu, \hat{\gamma}^\nu\} &= \{\hat{\gamma}^\mu, \hat{\gamma}^\nu\} = 2\hat{g}^{\mu\nu} \mathbb{1} \end{aligned}$$

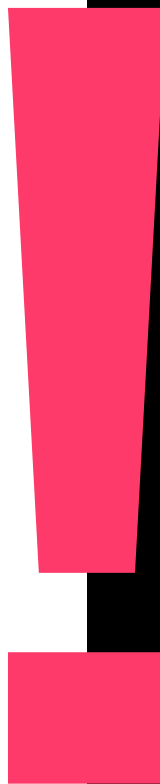
$$\text{Tr } \gamma^\mu = 0$$

$$\text{Tr } \bar{\gamma}^\mu = 0$$

$$\text{Tr } \hat{\gamma}^\mu = 0$$



What about  $\gamma_5$   
in DReg?



Inconsistent if  $\gamma_5$   
anticommute.

$$\text{Tr}(\gamma_5 \gamma_{\mu_1} \cdots \gamma_{\mu_4})$$

$$\propto$$

$$d \rightarrow 4$$

$$(d - 4) \text{Tr}(\gamma_5 \gamma_{\mu_1} \cdots \gamma_{\mu_4}) = 0 \quad \times$$

Instead of

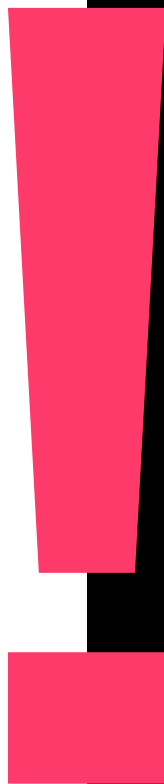
$$4i\epsilon_{\mu_1\mu_2\mu_3\mu_4}$$



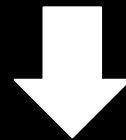
[For more detailed information, check:  
Bruque, A.M., **Cherchiglia, A.L.** & Pérez-Victoria, M.  
*Dimensional regularization vs methods in fixed dimension with  
and without  $\gamma_5$ . J. High Energy. Phys.* 2018, 109 (2018).  
[https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP08\(2018\)109](https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP08(2018)109)]



**So, how to get  
consistency?**



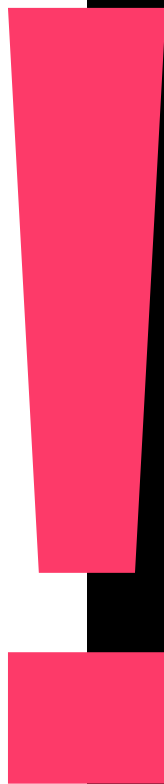
't Hooft - Veltman -  
Breitenlohner - Maison  
scheme (BMHV scheme)



- Scheme proved to be axiomatically consistent at all orders by Breitenlohner and Maison  
[\[Breitenlohner,Maison1975, Breitenlohner,Maison1977\]](#).
- Together with  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  subtraction (subtracting the poles, possibly with some finite part)  $\rightarrow$  **Dimensional renormalization** (DimRen).



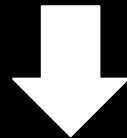
**So, how to get consistency?**



The **BMHV** scheme for  $\gamma_5$ , defines  $\gamma_5$  to be anticommuting with Dirac matrices in the 4-dimensional subspace, and commuting in the  $(2\epsilon)$ -dimensional subspace:

$$\{\gamma_5, \bar{\gamma}^\mu\} = 0, \quad [\gamma_5, \hat{\gamma}^\mu] = 0,$$

$$\{\gamma_5, \gamma^\mu\} = \{\gamma_5, \hat{\gamma}^\mu\} = 2\gamma_5 \hat{\gamma}^\mu, \quad [\gamma_5, \gamma^\mu] = [\gamma_5, \bar{\gamma}^\mu] = 2\gamma_5 \bar{\gamma}^\mu$$



Otherwise  $\gamma_5$  keeps its usual **4-dimensional** behaviour

$$\gamma_5 = \frac{-i}{4!} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu \gamma^\rho \gamma^\sigma$$

$$\gamma_5^2 = \mathbb{1}$$



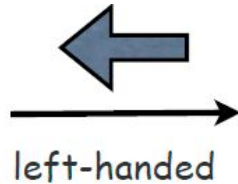
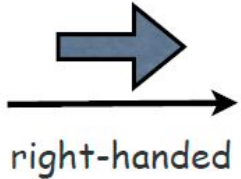


# **The Right-Handed Model ® in 4-dim**



# The R-model in 4-dim

- Model with generic gauge group  $\mathcal{G}$  (usually  $SU(N)$ ) with **right-handed (RH) fermions** in right (R) rep. of  $\mathcal{G}$  and scalars in S rep. of  $\mathcal{G}$ , both coupling to gauge bosons.
- Originally defined in 4 dimensions, using either Weyl, or Dirac fermions with projectors.



for a massless particle: chirality= helicity



# The R-model in 4-dim

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- Originally defined in 4 dimensions, using either Weyl, or Dirac fermions with projectors.

$$\mathbb{P}_{R/L} = (1 \pm \gamma_5)/2$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{fermions}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{scalars}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Yukawa}}$$



# DEFINING $S_0$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{fermions}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{scalars}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Yukawa}}$$

$$F_{\mu\nu}^a = \partial_\mu G_\nu^a - \partial_\nu G_\mu^a + gf^{abc}G_\mu^b G_\nu^c$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge}} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^a F^{a\mu\nu}$$

Weyl spinor  
(2 components)

Matrix

$$D_{ij\mu} = \partial_\mu \delta_{ij} - igG_\mu^a T_{Rij}^a$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{fermions}} = i\xi\sigma^\mu D_\mu\bar{\xi}$$

Dynamics

It will contribute in the perturbative part (?)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{scalars}} = \frac{1}{2}(D_\mu\Phi^m)^2 - \frac{\lambda^{mnop}}{4!}\Phi_m\Phi_n\Phi_o\Phi_p$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yukawa}} = -\frac{(Y_R)^m_{ij}}{2}\Phi_m\bar{\xi}_i\bar{\xi}_j + \text{h.c.}$$

Right-handed Weyl  
fermion

# Weyl spinor $\rightarrow$ Dirac spinor in d-dim

$$\bar{\xi} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}_R \psi \equiv \psi_R$$

$$\overline{\psi_R} = \overline{\psi_L} \equiv \overline{\psi} \mathbb{P}_L$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{fermions}} = i \overline{\psi_{Ri}} \not{D}^{ij} \psi_{Rj} = i \overline{\psi_{Ri}} \not{\partial} \psi_{Ri} + g T_{Rij}^a \overline{\psi_{Ri}} G^a \psi_{Rj}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yukawa}} = -\frac{(Y_R)_{ij}^m}{2} \Phi_m \overline{\psi_{Ri}^C} \psi_{Rj} - \frac{(Y_R)_{ij}^{m*}}{2} \Phi_m \overline{\psi_{Ri}} \psi_{Rj}^C$$



**BRST invariance in  
4-dim**

# Gauge fixing and ghost terms

$$sG_\mu^a = D_\mu^{ab} c^b = \partial_\mu c^a + g f^{abc} G_\mu^b c^c$$

$$s\psi_i = s\psi_{Ri} = ic^a g T_{Rij}^a \psi_{Rj} ,$$

$$s\bar{\psi}_i = s\bar{\psi}_{Ri} = +i\bar{\psi}_{Rj} c^a g T_{Rji}^a ,$$

$$s\psi_{Li} = 0 ,$$

$$s\bar{\psi}_{Li} = 0 ,$$

$$s\Phi_m = ic^a g \theta_{mn}^a \Phi_n .$$

There remains a residual symmetry even after fixing the gauge: BRST

$$sc^a = -\frac{1}{2} g f^{abc} c^b c^c \equiv igc^2$$

$$s\bar{c}^a = B^a ,$$

$$sB^a = 0 .$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{ghost}} = \partial^\mu \bar{c}_a \cdot D_\mu^{ab} c_b \equiv -\bar{c}_a \partial^\mu D_\mu^{ab} c_b$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{g-fix}} = \frac{\xi}{2} B^a B_a + B^a \partial^\mu G_\mu^a$$

Any BRST-invariant term built from the existing fields can be added to  $S_0$

$$S_0^{(4D)} = \int d^4 x \left( \mathcal{L}_{\text{YM}}^{(4D)} + \mathcal{L}_{\Psi}^{(4D)} + \mathcal{L}_{\Phi}^{(4D)} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Yuk}}^{(4D)} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{gh}}^{(4D)} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{g-fix}}^{(4D)} \right)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{YM}}^{(4D)} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^a F^{a\mu\nu}, \quad \mathcal{L}_{\Phi}^{(4D)} = \frac{1}{2} (D_\mu \Phi^m)^2 - \frac{\lambda_H^{mnop}}{4!} \Phi_m \Phi_n \Phi_o \Phi_p,$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\Psi}^{(4D)} = i \bar{\Psi}_i \not{D} \mathbb{P}_R \Psi_i + g_S T_{Rij}^a \bar{\Psi}_i \not{G}^a \mathbb{P}_R \Psi_j \equiv i \bar{\Psi}_i \not{D}_R^{ij} \Psi_j,$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yuk}}^{(4D)} = -(Y_R)_{ij}^m \Phi_m \bar{\Psi}_i^C \mathbb{P}_R \Psi_j + \text{h.c.},$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gh}}^{(4D)} = \partial_\mu \bar{c}_a \cdot D^{ab\mu} c_b, \quad \mathcal{L}_{\text{g-fix}}^{(4D)} = \frac{\xi}{2} B^a B_a + B^a \partial^\mu G_\mu^a.$$

Final tree-level action in 4 dimensions



$$S_0^{(4D)} = \int d^4 x \left( \mathcal{L}_{\text{YM}}^{(4D)} + \mathcal{L}_{\Psi}^{(4D)} + \mathcal{L}_{\Phi}^{(4D)} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Yuk}}^{(4D)} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{gh}}^{(4D)} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{g-fix}}^{(4D)} \right)$$

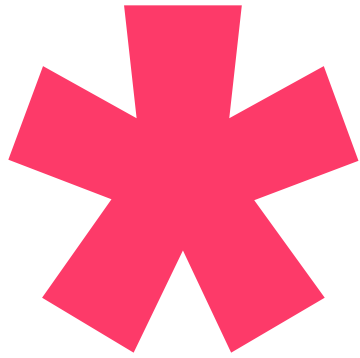
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Final tree-level action in 4 dimensions



# **Last comments: BMHV vs IREG**

# R-model action So in d-dim

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{fermions}}^{(4D)} = i\overline{\psi}_{Ri}\not{D}^{ij}\psi_{Rj} = \boxed{i\overline{\psi}_{Ri}\not{\partial}\psi_{Ri}} + \boxed{gT_{Rij}^a\overline{\psi}_{Ri}\not{G}^a\psi_{Rj}} \xrightarrow{\text{d-dim}} ?$$

## D-dim extension

Trivially done for bosonic fields.

## Problem 1

Kinetic term projects only the purely 4-dim derivative → a purely 4-dim propagator

$$i\overline{\psi}_i\mathbb{P}_L\not{\partial}\mathbb{P}_R\psi_i$$

## Problem 2

How to promote the interaction term?

$$\overline{\Psi}\not{G}\Psi$$

## Contrast

Fermionic fields need some care.

## Solution

Consider a Dirac fermion and use the fully d-dim covariant term:

$$i\overline{\Psi}_i\not{D}\Psi_i$$

## Solution

$$\mathbb{P}_L\gamma^\mu \neq \gamma^\mu\mathbb{P}_R$$

(inequivalent choices)

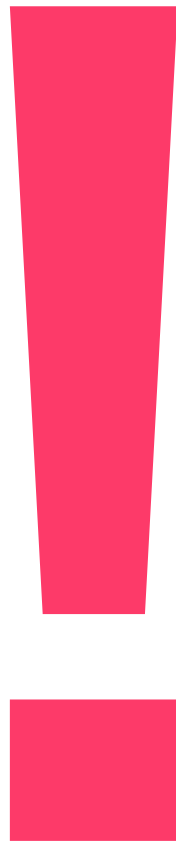
Use the interaction term that makes calculations the most simple.

$$\overline{\psi}_i\gamma^\mu\mathbb{P}_R\psi_j$$

$$\overline{\psi}_i\mathbb{P}_L\gamma^\mu\psi_j$$

$$\overline{\psi}_i\mathbb{P}_L\gamma^\mu\mathbb{P}_R\psi_j$$

**NO unique way of  
extending the  
model to  $d$ -dim**



# What would happen if we use IREG?

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{fermions}}^{(4D)} = i\overline{\psi}_{Ri}\not{D}^{ij}\psi_{Rj} = \boxed{i\overline{\psi}_{Ri}\not{\partial}\psi_{Ri}} + \boxed{gT_{Rij}^a\overline{\psi}_{Ri}\not{G}^a\psi_{Rj}}$$

**D-dim extension problems**

**1**

Kinetic term in  $S_0$  is chiral.

$$i\overline{\psi}_i\mathbb{P}_L\not{\partial}\mathbb{P}_R\psi_i$$

**2**

Interaction term

$$\overline{\Psi}\not{G}\Psi$$

**Carolina & Yuri speculations**

Purely 4-dim propagator

$$\Delta(p) = \mathbb{P}_R i\not{p} \mathbb{P}_L / \bar{p}^2$$

Regularized loop diagrams still possible (?)

In 4-dim:

$$\gamma_\mu \mathbb{P}_R = \mathbb{P}_L \gamma_\mu = \mathbb{P}_L \gamma_\mu \mathbb{P}_R$$

We won't have differences by evanescent terms.



# Cause and Effect-BMHV

**Cause 1**

$$i\overline{\psi}_{Ri}\not{D}\psi_{Ri}$$

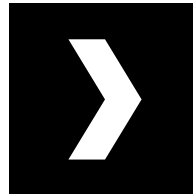


**Effect 1**

$$i\overline{\psi}_i\not{D}\psi_i$$

**Cause 2**

$$gT_{Rij}^a\overline{\psi}_{Ri}\not{G}^a\psi_{Rj}$$



**Effect 2**

$$g_S T_{Rij}^a \overline{\Psi}_i \textcolor{red}{P}_L \not{G}^a \textcolor{red}{P}_R \Psi_j$$

# Cause and Effect-BMHV (re-write)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{fermions}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{fermions,inv}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{fermions,evan}}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{fermions,inv}} = i\bar{\psi}_i \not{\partial} \psi_i + g T_{Rij}^a \bar{\psi}_{Ri} \not{G}^a \psi_{Rj}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{fermions,evan}} = i\bar{\psi}_i \hat{\not{\partial}} \psi_i.$$



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{fermions,evan}} = i\bar{\psi}_{Li} \hat{\not{\partial}} \psi_{Ri} + i\bar{\psi}_{Ri} \hat{\not{\partial}} \psi_{Li}, \quad (3.32)$$

which highlights the fact that it mixes left- and right-chiral fields which have different gauge transformation properties. This causes the breaking of gauge and BRST invariance — the central difficulty of the BMHV scheme.  $\Rightarrow$  In IREG, as we'll work in 4D the model is BRST-invariant at tree-level.

The rest of the model is straightforwardly extended to  $d$  dimensions: we define the  $d$ -

# Problem vs Solution

## **If this is the problem...**

The model is not BRST-invariant in  $d$ -dimensions due to the evanescent part. This breaking generates some Feynman Rules.

## **... This is the solution**

Determine the symmetry restoring counterterms required in the BMHV scheme at 1-loop

...But then again, this is not the objective of this presentation.





# Thanks

Do you have any questions?

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**Backup slides**

# External sources



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{ext}} = \rho_a^\mu s G_\mu^a + \zeta_a s c^a + \bar{R}^i s \psi_{R_i} + R^i s \overline{\psi}_{R_i} + \mathcal{Y}^m s \Phi_m$$

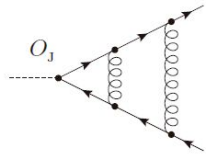
$$s\mathcal{J} = 0 \text{X}$$

$$\mathcal{J} = \rho_a^\mu, \zeta_a, R, \bar{R}, \mathcal{Y}^m$$

# Pseudo-scalar form factors in FDH (from Signer's article-EXTRA)

- pseudoscalar form factor at two loops in FDH

(i)  $\gamma_5^{\text{BM}}$ , e.g.



$$O_3 = \partial_\mu (\bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \psi) \rightarrow \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \left\{ \partial_\mu (\bar{\psi} \gamma_\nu \gamma_\rho \gamma_\sigma \psi) \right\}_{[d]}$$

- as before: non-trivial operator renormalization:  $O_{3,\text{ren.}} = \left( Z_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{\text{BM}} Z_5^{\text{BM}} \right) O_{3,\text{bare}}$

→ results in FDH [Signer, CG '17]

$$Z_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{\text{BM}} = 1 + \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \right) C_F \frac{n_\epsilon}{\epsilon} + \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \right)^2 \left\{ C_A C_F \left[ \frac{22}{3\epsilon} + n_\epsilon \left( -\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{11}{3\epsilon} \right) + n_\epsilon^2 \left( \frac{1}{2\epsilon^2} + \frac{1}{4\epsilon} \right) \right] \right. \\ \left. + C_F^2 \left[ n_\epsilon \left( -\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} - \frac{4}{\epsilon} \right) - \frac{3n_\epsilon^2}{4\epsilon} \right] + C_F N_F \left[ \frac{5}{3\epsilon} + n_\epsilon \left( \frac{1}{2\epsilon^2} - \frac{1}{4\epsilon} \right) \right] \right\} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$$

$$Z_5^{\text{BM}} = 1 + \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \right) \left\{ -4 C_F \right\} + \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \right)^2 \left\{ 22 C_F^2 - \frac{107}{9} C_A + \frac{31}{18} C_F N_F \right\} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$$

- $Z_5^{\text{BM}}$  usually obtained by imposing

$$\partial_\mu j_5^\mu = 2m j_5 + \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} G_{\mu\nu}^a G_{\rho\sigma}^a$$

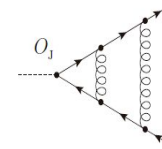
anomalous term of  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s) \Rightarrow (L+1)$ -loop calculation needed to obtain  $L$ -loop value of  $Z_5^{\text{BM}}$  (known up to two loops)

- pseudoscalar form factor at two loops in FDH

(ii)  $\gamma_5^{\text{AC}}$  → distinguish two classes of diagrams

Type A:

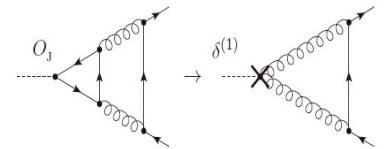
$\gamma_5$  attached to external quark line, e.g.



- no  $\gamma_5$ -odd traces → use  $\gamma_5^{\text{AC}}$
- then: trivial op. ren.  $O_{3,\text{ren.}}^{\text{AC}} = O_{3,\text{bare}}^{\text{AC}}$

Type B:

$\gamma_5$  attached to quark loop, e.g.



- vanishes for  $\gamma_5^{\text{AC}}$  and standard trace
- however: value of anomaly known from before ( $\gamma_5^{\text{BM}}$ , FDF, ...)
- op. ren. effectively reduced by one order

Comparing this approach with  $\gamma_5^{\text{BM}}$ , the  $L$ -loop value of  $Z_5^{\text{BM}}$  can be obtained from a genuine  $L$ -loop calculation.