

Perturbative improvement of SU(2) gauge theory with two Wilson fermions in the adjoint representation

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We present a perturbative calculation of the improvement coefficients of SU(2) gauge theory with adjoint representation Wilson-clover fermions and using Schrödinger functional boundary conditions. The computation of the boundary improvement terms is necessary for the full $O(a)$ improvement. With two flavours of adjoint representation fermions this theory is called Minimal Walking Technicolor model.

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1. Introduction

Recently, there has been a lot of interest in gauge theories which are conformal or near conformal. This is in particular due to their applications in beyond the Standard Model model building, most notably Technicolor and unparticle physics. In particular, for non-supersymmetric Yang-Mills theories with higher fermion representations it has been suggested [1] that an ideal candidate for a walking technicolor theory would be the one with just two (techni)quark flavours in two-index symmetric representation of $SU(2)$ or $SU(3)$. The former of these two is called the Minimal Walking Technicolor (MWT) model, and is the subject of the study presented in this paper. Initial studies of both of these theories have been performed on the lattice already [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8]. For a related study of a QCD-like theory with fundamental representation fermions see ref. [9].

The initial lattice studies of MWT using the Schrödinger functional method to measure the evolution of the coupling suggest that the theory has an infrared stable fixed point [7, 10]. However, the initial investigations with Wilson fermions used unimproved actions and are therefore subject to large $\mathcal{O}(a)$ discretization errors. These can be removed using Wilson-clover action with a suitably tuned clover (Sheikholeslami-Wohlert) coefficient and introducing a set of Schrödinger functional boundary counterterms, following the methods introduced in refs. [11, 12, 13, 14, 15] for QCD.

We improve the theory in two distinct stages: first, the Sheikholeslami-Wohlert coefficient is evaluated with non-perturbative methods. This computation is described in ref. [16]. In this paper we present the results of the perturbative computation of the coefficients of the boundary improvement terms. The results of the physics simulations will be presented elsewhere.

2. Model and $\mathcal{O}(a)$ improvement

We use the basic Wilson lattice action

$$S_0 = S_G + S_F, \quad (2.1)$$

where the standard Wilson plaquette action is

$$S_G = \frac{\beta_L}{4} \sum_p \text{tr}(1 - U(p)), \quad (2.2)$$

for the gauge part. The sum runs over all oriented plaquettes p , and $U(p)$ is the parallel transporter around the plaquette p written in terms of the link matrices $U_\mu(x)$.

The Wilson fermion action, S_F , for N_f (degenerate) Dirac fermions in the fundamental or adjoint representation of the gauge group is

$$S_F = a^4 \sum_x \bar{\psi}(x) (D + m_{q,0} \mathbb{1}) \psi(x), \quad (2.3)$$

where the usual Wilson-Dirac operator is

$$D = \frac{1}{2} (\gamma_\mu (\nabla_\mu^* + \nabla_\mu) - a \nabla_\mu^* \nabla_\mu), \quad (2.4)$$

involving the gauge covariant lattice derivatives ∇_μ and ∇_μ^* defined as

$$\nabla_\mu \psi(x) = \frac{1}{a} [\tilde{U}_\mu(x) \psi(x + a\hat{\mu}) - \psi(x)], \quad (2.5)$$

$$\nabla_\mu^* \psi(x) = \frac{1}{a} [\psi(x) - \tilde{U}_\mu^{-1}(x - a\hat{\mu}) \psi(x - a\hat{\mu})]. \quad (2.6)$$

Here \tilde{U} is the parallel transporter in the appropriate fermion representation.

It is well known that this action suffers from $\mathcal{O}(a)$ discretization errors. These errors can be removed by introducing the Sheikholeslami-Wohlert-term [17] in the action

$$S_{\text{impr}} = S_0 + \delta S_{\text{sw}}, \quad (2.7)$$

$$\delta S_{\text{sw}} = a^5 \sum_x c_{\text{sw}} \bar{\psi}(x) \frac{i}{4} \sigma_{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}(x) \psi(x), \quad (2.8)$$

and tuning the coefficient c_{sw} so that the $\mathcal{O}(a)$ effects in on-shell quantities cancel. To the lowest order in perturbation theory $c_{\text{sw}} = 1$ [18]. Here $\sigma_{\mu\nu} = i[\gamma_\mu, \gamma_\nu]/2$ and $F_{\mu\nu}(x)$ is the symmetrised lattice field strength tensor.

In the Schrödinger functional scheme the fixed spatially constant boundary conditions at times $t = 0$ and $t = T$ will introduce further $\mathcal{O}(a)$ errors. These errors can also be removed by introducing new terms to the action and fine tuning the corresponding coefficients so that the $\mathcal{O}(a)$ contributions cancel. Complete analysis of all necessary counterterms has been presented in [19]. Here we only list the needed counterterms, which are

$$\delta S_V = \frac{ia^5}{4} c_{\text{sw}} \sum_{x_0=a}^{L-a} \sum_{\vec{x}} \bar{\psi}(x) \sigma_{\mu\nu} \hat{F}_{\mu\nu}(x) \psi(x), \quad (2.9)$$

$$\delta S_{G,b} = \frac{1}{2g_0^2} (c_s - 1) \sum_{p_s} \text{Tr}[1 - U(p_s)] + \frac{1}{g_0^2} (c_t - 1) \sum_{p_t} \text{Tr}[1 - U(p_t)], \quad (2.10)$$

$$\delta S_{F,b} = a^4 (\tilde{c}_s - 1) \sum_{\vec{x}} [\hat{O}_s(\vec{x}) + \hat{O}'_s(\vec{x})] + a^4 (\tilde{c}_t - 1) \sum_{\vec{x}} [\hat{O}_t(\vec{x}) - \hat{O}'_t(\vec{x})]. \quad (2.11)$$

Here we have introduced the operators

$$\hat{O}_s(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \bar{\psi}(0, \vec{x}) P_- \gamma_k (\nabla_k^* + \nabla_k) P_+ \psi(0, \vec{x}), \quad (2.12)$$

$$\hat{O}'_s(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \bar{\psi}(L, \vec{x}) P_+ \gamma_k (\nabla_k^* + \nabla_k) P_- \psi(L, \vec{x}), \quad (2.13)$$

$$\hat{O}_t(\vec{x}) = \left\{ \bar{\psi}(y) P_+ \nabla_0^* \psi(y) + \bar{\psi}(y) \overleftarrow{\nabla}_0^* P_- \psi(y) \right\}_{y=(a, \vec{x})}, \quad (2.14)$$

$$\hat{O}'_t(\vec{x}) = \left\{ \bar{\psi}(y) P_- \nabla_0 \psi(y) + \bar{\psi}(y) \overleftarrow{\nabla}_0 P_+ \psi(y) \right\}_{y=(T-a, \vec{x})}, \quad (2.15)$$

where the projection operators are $P_\pm = (1 \pm \gamma_0)/2$. By tuning the coefficients $c_{\text{sw}}, c_s, c_t, \tilde{c}_s, \tilde{c}_t$ to their proper values we can remove all the $\mathcal{O}(a)$ errors from our action.

The coefficient c_{sw} can be determined non-perturbatively and its computation for SU(2) and adjoint fermions is described in ref. [16]. For the electric background field which we consider, the terms proportional to c_s do not contribute. Also, we set the fermionic fields to zero on the boundaries, and then the counterterm proportional to \tilde{c}_s vanishes.

3. Perturbative analysis of the boundary improvement

All boundary coefficients have a perturbative expansion of the form

$$c_x = 1 + c_x^{(1)} g_0^2 + \mathcal{O}(g_0^4). \quad (3.1)$$

Here we will determine the coefficients \tilde{c}_t and c_t to one-loop order in perturbation theory.

3.1 Coefficient $\tilde{c}_t^{(1)}$

We follow the analysis performed in [15] for the fundamental representation. The result of [15] is

$$\tilde{c}_t^{(1)} = -0.0135(1)C_F, \quad (3.2)$$

and this generalises to other fermion representations simply by replacing the fundamental representation Casimir operator C_F with Casimir operator C_R of the representation R under consideration. In the case of MWT we have fermions transforming in the adjoint representation of $SU(2)$, hence $C_R = C_A = 2$. The results for different gauge groups and fermion representations are shown in table 1.

3.2 Coefficient $c_t^{(1)}$

The coefficient $c_t^{(1)}$ can be split into gauge and fermionic parts

$$c_t^{(1)} = c_t^{(1,0)} + c_t^{(1,1)}N_f. \quad (3.3)$$

The contribution $c_t^{(1,0)}$ is entirely due to gauge fields and has been evaluated in [12] for $SU(2)$ and in [13] for $SU(3)$. The fermionic contribution $c_t^{(1,1)}$ to c_t has been evaluated for fundamental fermions in [14] both for $SU(2)$ and $SU(3)$. We have extended these computations for $SU(2)$ and $SU(3)$ gauge theory with higher representation fermions and for $SU(4)$ gauge theory with fundamental representation fermions. The results for the nonzero improvement coefficients are tabulated in table 1. The numbers beyond the fundamental representation are new, while those for the fundamental representation provide a good check on our computations. For the application to MWT, the relevant numbers are the ones on the second line of table 1.

Our results are consistent with the generic formula

$$c_t^{(1,1)} \approx 0.019141(2T(R)), \quad (3.4)$$

where $T(R)$ is the normalization of the representation R , defined as $\text{Tr}(T_R^a T_R^b) = T(R)\delta^{ab}$. For the details of the numerical method used to determine coefficient $c_t^{(1,1)}$, we refer to the original literature where the method was developed and applied first for the pure gauge theory case in [12], and later for fundamental representation fermions in [12, 14].

We have also plotted our results of $c_t^{(1,1)}$ scaled with $1/(2T(R))$ against (3.4) in figure 1. Although we were unable to achieve the accuracy of the original work [14], our results are fully compatible for fundamental representation fermions. The figure also clearly indicates that $c_t^{(1,1)}$ scales with $2T(R)$.

N_c	rep.	$c_t^{(1,0)}$	$c_t^{(1,1)}$	$\tilde{c}_t^{(1)}$
2	2	-0.0543(5)	0.0192(2)	-0.0101(3)
2	3	-0.0543(5)	0.075(1)	-0.0270(2)
3	3	-0.08900(5)	0.0192(4)	-0.0180(1)
3	8	-0.08900(5)	0.113(1)	-0.0405(3)
3	6	-0.08900(5)	0.0946(9)	-0.0450(3)
4	4		0.0192(5)	-0.0253(2)

Table 1: The nonzero improvement coefficients for Schrödinger functional boundary conditions with electric background field for various gauge groups and fermion representations.

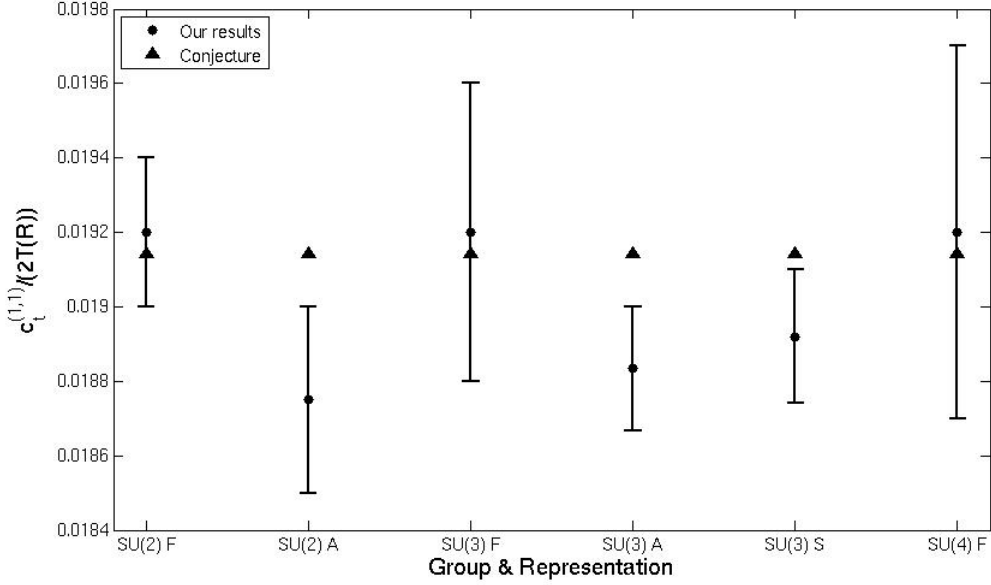


Figure 1: Our results of $c_t^{(1,1)}$ scaled with $2T(R)$ compared with conjectured value of $c_t^{(1,1)} / (2T(R))$.

4. Conclusions and outlook

The search for conformal or near conformal gauge theories is phenomenologically motivated by the applications in model building beyond the Standard Model. Gauge theories with gauge groups $SU(2)$ or $SU(3)$ and with two Dirac fermions transforming under the two index symmetric representation are investigated by several lattice collaborations. When using Wilson fermions, the use of $\mathcal{O}(a)$ improved actions is desired. We have carried out this program for $SU(2)$ gauge theory with two Wilson fermions in the adjoint representation, i.e. the MWT model. In this paper we presented the perturbative results for the improvement coefficients.

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