

Lattice Gauge Theories - An Introduction

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- 1 Why lattice field theories
- 2 Lattice Gauge Theories
- 3 Observables in lattice gauge theories
- 4 Fermions on a Lattice

- weakly interacting systems :
 - subsystems almost independent of each other
 - weakly correlated quantum systems
 - weakly interacting effective dof (quasi particles)
 - quantum electrodynamics
 - weak interaction
 - weak field gravity
 - strong interaction at high energies
- underlying Gaussian fixed point
- perturbations theory applicable

- **strongly interacting systems:**

properties explained by strong correlations between subsystems

- strongly correlated quantum systems
- high temperature superconductivity
- ultra cold atoms in optical lattices
- spin systems near phase transitions
- strong field gravity
- strong interaction at low energies

- **underlying interacting fixes point**

- dependent on scale a theory can be weakly or strongly interacting
- needs non-perturbative methods

- **soluble models**
 - low dimensions:
exactly soluble models: Ising-, Schwinger-, Thirring model, ...
 - high symmetry:
conformal symmetry, supersymmetry, integrable systems, dualities, ...
- **approximations:**
mean field, strong coupling expansion, expansions for high/low temperature, phenomenological models, ...
- **functional methods:**
 ∞ -system of coupled Schwinger-Dyson equations
functional renormalization group
- **lattice formulation, ab-initio lattice simulation**
lattice-QFT \Rightarrow particular statistical system
powerful **simulation methods** of statistical physics

Gauge theories in continuum

- all fundamental theories = gauge theories
 - **electrodynamics**: abelian U(1) gauge theory
 - **electroweak model**: SU(2)×U(1) gauge theory
 - **strong interaction**: SU(3) gauge theory
 - **gravity**: gauge theory
- matter field $\phi(x) \in \mathcal{V}$, global gauge transform $\phi(x) \rightarrow \Omega\phi(x)$
- $\Omega \in \mathcal{G}$ **gauge group**
- invariant scalar product on \mathcal{V} : $(\Omega\phi, \Omega\phi) = (\phi, \phi)$
- invariant Lagrange density

$$\mathcal{L}(\phi, \partial_\mu\phi) = (\partial_\mu\phi, \partial_\mu\phi) - V(\phi)$$

- invariant potential $V(\Omega\phi) = V(\phi)$

- construction of **locally gauge invariant theory**

$$\phi(x) \longrightarrow \phi'(x) = \Omega(x)\phi(x), \quad \Omega(x) \in \mathcal{G}$$

- $\partial_\mu \phi$ wrong transformation property; need covariant derivative

$$D_\mu \phi = \partial_\mu \phi - igA_\mu \phi, \quad g \text{ coupling constant}$$

- needs new **dynamical field** $A_\mu \in \mathfrak{g}$ (\mathfrak{g} = Lie algebra)
- requirement: $D_\mu \phi$ transforms as ϕ does \implies

$$D'_\mu = \Omega D_\mu \Omega^{-1} \iff A'_\mu = \Omega A_\mu \Omega^{-1} - \frac{i}{g} \partial_\mu \Omega \Omega^{-1}$$

- field strength

$$F_{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{g} [D_\mu, D_\nu] = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu - ig[A_\mu, A_\nu] \in \mathfrak{g}$$

- transforms in adjoint representation

$$F_{\mu\nu}(x) \longrightarrow \Omega(x)F_{\mu\nu}(x)\Omega^{-1}(x)$$

\mathcal{L} Lorentz invariant, parity invariant, gauge invariant \Rightarrow

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}\text{tr} F^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu} + (D_\mu\phi, D^\mu\phi) - V(\phi)$$

- principle of minimal coupling:
begin with globally invariant theory, replace $\partial_\mu \rightarrow D_\mu$
add Yang-Mills term $-\frac{1}{4}\text{tr} F^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu}$ (cp. electrodynamics)
- symmetries and particle content \rightarrow Lagrange density (almost)

- C_{yx} path from x to y , parametrized $x(s)$
- parallel transport of ϕ along path:

$$0 = \dot{x}^\mu D_\mu \phi \iff \frac{d\phi(s)}{ds} = igA_\mu(s)\dot{x}^\mu(s)\phi(s), \quad \phi(s) \equiv \phi(x(s))$$

- cp. time-dependent Schrödinger equation
- let $x(0) = x$ and $x(1) = y \Rightarrow$

$$\phi(y) = \mathcal{P} \exp \left(ig \int_0^1 ds A_\mu(s) \dot{x}^\mu(s) \right) \phi(x)$$

parallel transport along path C_{yx}

$$U(C_{yx}, A) = \mathcal{P} \exp \left(ig \int_{C_{yx}} A \right) \in \mathcal{G}, \quad A = A_\mu dx^\mu$$

- paths C_{yx} and C_{zy} can be composed: $C_{zy} \circ C_{yx} = C_{zx}$

$$U(C_{zy} \circ C_{yx}, A) = U(C_{zy}, A)U(C_{yx}, A)$$

- exists (useless?) nonabelian **Stokes theorem**
- gauge transformation

$$U(C_{yx}, A') = \Omega(y) U(C_{yx}, A) \Omega^{-1}(x)$$

- from x to y parallel transport field

$$U(C_{yx})\phi(x) \quad \text{transforms as} \quad \phi(y)$$

- gauge invariant objects** (over-complete)

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{tr } U(C_{xx}) & \text{holonomies} \\ (\phi(y), U(C_{yx})\phi(x)) & \text{scalar products} \end{array}$$

- field theory in continuous spacetime \mathbb{R}^d ill-defined (UV-divergences)
- spacetime continuum \rightarrow discretize spacetime
e.g. hypercubic lattice Λ with lattice constant a
- lattice sites, lattice links, lattice plaquettes, lattice cubes, ...
- minimal momentum $p = 2\pi/a$
 \Rightarrow theory regularized in UV
- matter field $\phi(x) \rightarrow \phi_x$, $x \in \Lambda$ lattice field
- derivative \rightarrow difference operator or lattice derivative, e.g.

$$(\partial_\mu \phi)_x = \frac{1}{a} \{ \phi(x + a e_\mu) - \phi(x) \}$$

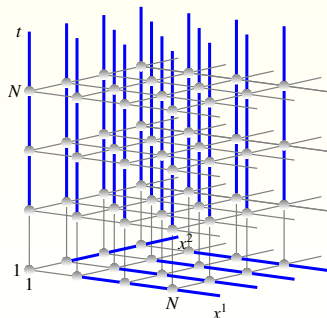
- gauge theory: covariant lattice derivative

$$(D_\mu \phi)_x \equiv \frac{1}{a} \{ \phi_{x+ae_\mu} - U_{x,\mu} \phi_x \}$$

- $U_{x,\mu}$ parallel transporter from x to $x + ae_\mu$
- lattice action for matter field ($a = 1$)

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{\text{matter}} &= \sum_{x,\mu} (D_\mu \phi_x, D_\mu \phi_x) + \sum_x V(\phi_x) \\
 &= -2 \Re \sum_{x,\mu} (\phi_{x+e_\mu} U_{x,\mu} \phi_x) + \sum_x (2d(\phi_x, \phi_x) + V(\phi_x))
 \end{aligned}$$

- IR cutoff
 - finite lattice $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}^4 \rightarrow N_t \times N^3$
 - needed in simulations
 - extrapolate to $N \rightarrow \infty$
- classical spin system
 - nearest neighbour interaction
 - S_{matter} real, positive
 - locally gauge invariant



- new dynamical compact field $U_{x,\mu} \in \mathcal{G}$
parallel transporter along link from x to $x + a\mathbf{e}_\mu$
- replaces dynamical noncompact field $A_\mu(x) \in \mathfrak{g}$
- relation via parallel transport

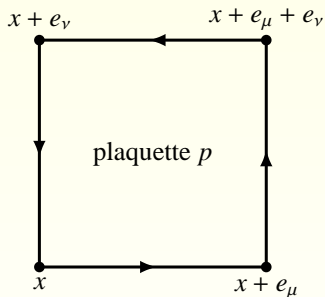
A_μ smooth on scale $a \Rightarrow$

$$U_{x,\mu} \approx e^{ig a A_\mu(x)} = \mathbb{1} + ig a A_\mu(x) + \dots$$

- covariant derivative

$$\begin{aligned} (D_\mu \phi)_x &= \frac{1}{a} \{ \phi_{x+a\mathbf{e}_\mu} - (\mathbb{1} + ig a A_\mu(x) + \dots) \phi_x \} \\ &= (\partial_\mu \phi)_x - ig (A_\mu \phi)_x + O(a) \end{aligned}$$

- there are $O(a^2)$ improved lattice derivative



transporter $U_{\mu\nu}(x)$
around plaquette

- parallel transport around plaquette
 $p \sim (x, \mu, \nu)$

$$U_p = U_{x+e_\nu, -e_\nu} U_{x+e_\mu+e_\nu, -e_\mu} U_{x+e_\mu, e_\nu} U_{x, \mu}$$

- Baker-Hausdorff formula

$$U_{x, \mu} \approx e^{iagA_\mu(x)}, \quad a \ll 1$$

$$\Rightarrow U_p = e^{ia^2 g F_{\mu\nu}(x) + O(a^3)}$$

- transforms homogeneously

$$U_p(x) \rightarrow \Omega(x) U_p(x) \Omega^{-1}(x)$$

$$U_p + U_p^\dagger \approx 2 \cdot \mathbb{1} - a^4 g^2 F_{\mu\nu}^2(x) + O(a^6)$$

- lattice action for gauge field configuration $U = \{U_{x,\mu}\}$

$$S_W(U) = \frac{1}{g^2 N} \sum_p \text{tr} \left\{ \mathbb{1} - \frac{1}{2} (U_p + U_p^\dagger) \right\} \quad (\text{Wilson}).$$

- in particular for $\mathcal{G} = SU(2)$

$$S_W = \frac{1}{2g^2} \sum_p \text{tr} (\mathbb{1} - U_p)$$

- improved lattice action (Symanzik)

$$S_{\text{YM}} - S_{\text{Sy}} = O(a^2)$$

\Rightarrow faster convergence to continuum limit $a \rightarrow 0$

- functional integral over lattice gauge fields $\{U_{x,\mu}\} = \{U_\ell\}$

$$\int \mathcal{D}A_\mu(x) \xrightarrow{?} \int \prod_{(x,\mu)} dU_{x,\mu} = \int \prod_\ell dU_\ell, \quad \ell : \text{link}$$

- action and measure must be gauge invariant
- recall $U_{x,\mu} \rightarrow \Omega_{x+e_\mu} U_{x,\mu} \Omega_x^{-1}$

gauge invariance $\Rightarrow dU_{x,\mu}$ left- and right-invariant (normalized) Haar measure

- expectation values in pure lattice gauge theory

$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int \prod_\ell dU_\ell O(U) e^{-S_W(U)}$$

- partition function

$$Z = \int \prod_\ell dU_\ell e^{-S_W(U)}$$

- consider irreducible representations $U \rightarrow \mathcal{R}(U)$ of compact \mathcal{G} , $\dim=d_{\mathcal{R}}$
- **Peter-Weyl theorem:** The functions $\{\mathcal{R}(U)^{ab}\}$ form an orthogonal basis on $L_2(dU)$, and

$$(\mathcal{R}^{ab}, \mathcal{R}'^{cd}) \equiv \int \bar{\mathcal{R}}^{ab}(U) \mathcal{R}'^{cd}(U) dU = \frac{\delta_{\mathcal{R}\mathcal{R}'}}{d_{\mathcal{R}}} \delta_{ac} \delta_{bd},$$

- **Lemma:** The characters $\chi_{\mathcal{R}}(U) = \text{tr } \mathcal{R}(U)$ form a ON-basis of invariant functions, $f(U) = f(\Omega U \Omega^{-1})$ in $L_2(dU)$, such that $(\chi_{\mathcal{R}}, \chi_{\mathcal{R}'}) = \delta_{\mathcal{R}\mathcal{R}'}$
- **identities**

orthogonality: $(\mathcal{R}^{ab}, \chi_{\mathcal{R}'}) = (\chi_{\mathcal{R}'}, \mathcal{R}^{ab}) = \frac{\delta_{\mathcal{R}\mathcal{R}'}}{d_{\mathcal{R}}} \delta_{ab}$

gluing: $\int d\Omega \chi_{\mathcal{R}}(U\Omega^{-1}) \chi_{\mathcal{R}'}(\Omega V) = \frac{\delta_{\mathcal{R}\mathcal{R}'}}{d_{\mathcal{R}}} \chi_{\mathcal{R}}(UV)$

cutting: $\int d\Omega \chi_{\mathcal{R}}(\Omega U \Omega^{-1} V) = \frac{1}{d_{\mathcal{R}}} \chi_{\mathcal{R}}(U) \chi_{\mathcal{R}}(V)$

decomposition of unity: $\sum_{\mathcal{R}} d_{\mathcal{R}} \chi_{\mathcal{R}}(U) = \delta(\mathbb{1}, U)$

- functional integral on finite d -dimensional lattice

$dV \dim(\mathcal{G})$ – dimensional integral

- SU(2) gauge theory, moderate hyper-cubic 16^4 -lattice \Rightarrow

786 432 – dimensional integral

- cannot be calculated numerically!

- **stochastic methods**

- generate many configurations
- distributed according to $e^{-\text{action}}$
- method of important sampling
- Monte Carlo (MC) algorithms (Metropolis, Heat bath, ...)
- with fermions: expensive (hybrid MC + ...)

- only gauge invariant observables (Elitzur theorem)
- traces of **parallel transporters along loops**

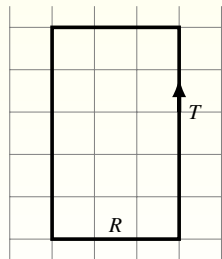
$$W[C] = \text{tr}(U_{\ell_n} \cdots U_{\ell_1}), \quad C = \ell_n \circ \cdots \circ \ell_1 \quad \text{Wilson loops}$$

- $W[R, T]$ rectangular loop, edge lengths R, T
- **static energy of a static $q\bar{q}$ -pair separated by R**

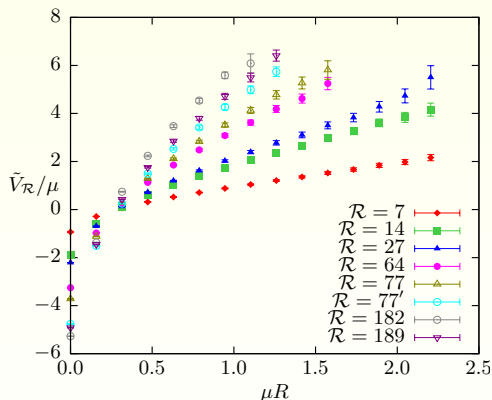
$$V_{q\bar{q}}(R) = - \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \log \langle W[R, T] \rangle$$

- string tension and Lüscher term

$$V_{q\bar{q}}(R) \sim \sigma R + \text{const.} - \frac{c}{R} + o(R^{-1})$$

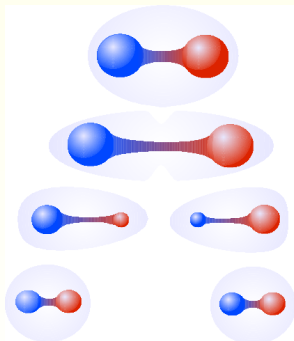


- **confinement** $\Rightarrow \sigma > 0$
 $\Rightarrow W \sim \exp(-\sigma RT)$ area law (strong coupling)
- only colorless (gauge invariant) states are seen

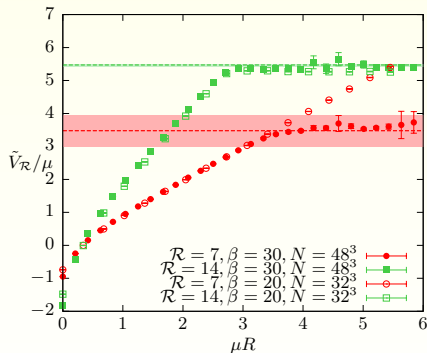


linear potentials for static quarks in different G_2 representations

- dynamical quarks
- meson, diquark $\bar{q}q \rightarrow$
2 mesons, diquarks



- charges in adjoint or G_2
- energy scale = $2 m_{\text{glueball}}$
- decay products: glue-lumps



- **confinement**: \Rightarrow only colorless (gauge invariant) states are seen
- **QCD**: confinement at low temperature, no gluons
- **glueballs** = colourless bound states of gluons
- state by acting with **interpolating operator** on vacuum

$$|\psi(\tau)\rangle = \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau)|0\rangle, \quad \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau) = e^{\tau\hat{H}}\mathcal{O}(0)e^{-\tau\hat{H}}$$

- two-point function

$$G_E(\tau) = \langle 0|T\hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau)\hat{\mathcal{O}}(0)|0\rangle = \sum_n |\langle 0|\hat{\mathcal{O}}|n\rangle|^2 e^{-E_n\tau}$$

- asymptotically large Euclidean time

$$G_E(\tau) \longrightarrow |\langle 0|\hat{\mathcal{O}}|0\rangle|^2 + |\langle 0|\hat{\mathcal{O}}|1\rangle|^2 e^{-E_1\tau} \left(1 + O(e^{-\tau(E_2-E_1)})\right)$$

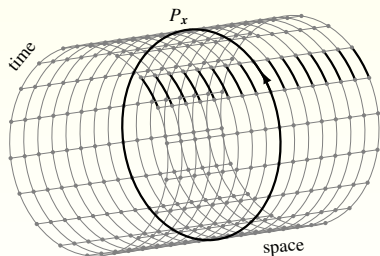
- excited state with $\langle 0|\hat{O}|1\rangle \neq 0 \rightarrow$ asymptotics
- $\hat{O}|0\rangle$ and $|1\rangle$ should have same quantum numbers
parity, angular momentum (cubic group), charge conjugation, ...
- glueballs: \mathcal{O} combination of parallel transporters
- masses of glueballs in MeV

MC-simulation of Chen et al.

J^{PC}	0^{++}	2^{++}	0^{-+}	1^{+-}	2^{-+}	3^{+-}
$m_G[\text{MeV}]$	1710	2390	2560	2980	3940	3600
J^{PC}	3^{++}	1^{--}	2^{--}	3^{--}	2^{+-}	0^{+-}
$m_G[\text{MeV}]$	3670	3830	4010	4200	4230	4780

- partition function: β -periodic gauge fields

$$Z(\beta) = \oint \prod_{(x,\mu)} dU_{x,\mu} e^{-S_w(U)}$$

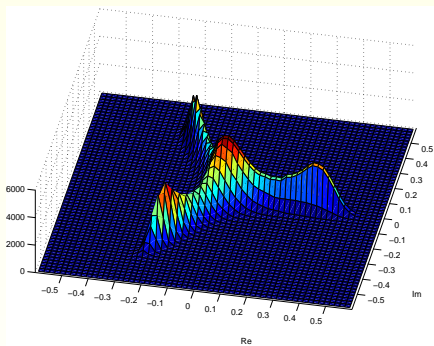


- $Z \Rightarrow$ thermodynamic potentials
- $T < T_c$: confinement \rightarrow glueballs
- $T > T_c$: deconfinement \rightarrow gluon plasma
- phase diagram, order of transition(s)
- order parameter: Polyakov loop P_x

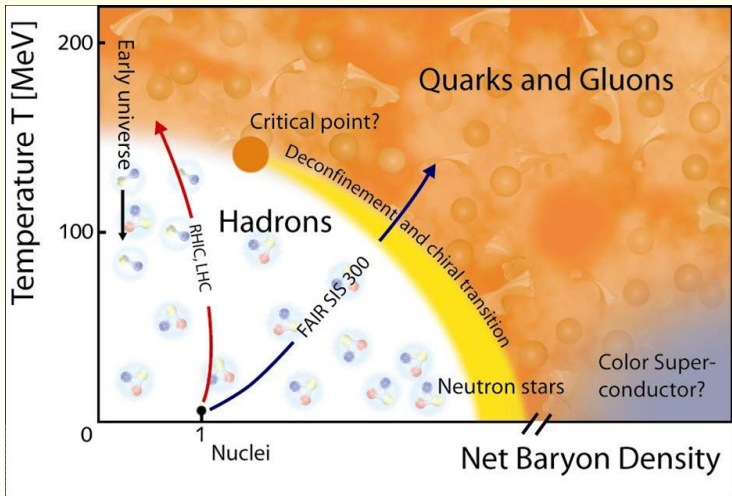
- center symmetry:
non-periodic gauge trafo
by center trafo
- order parameter:
Polyakov loop P_x

$$P_x = \text{tr} \left(\prod_{x_0=1}^{N_t} U_{(x_0, x), 0} \right)$$

- SU(3): center = \mathbb{Z}_3
- broken below T_c
- restored above T_c



histogram of Polyakov loop



expected phase diagram of QCD

fermions on the lattice

- functional approach: $\psi_\alpha(x)$ anticommuting

$$\{\psi_\alpha(x), \psi_\beta(y)\} = \{\bar{\psi}_\alpha(x), \bar{\psi}_\beta(y)\} = \{\psi_\alpha(x), \bar{\psi}_\beta(y)\} = 0$$

- fermionic integration = multi-dimensional **Grassmann integral**

$$\int \mathcal{D}\psi \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi} \dots \equiv \int \prod_x \prod_\alpha d\psi_\alpha(x) d\bar{\psi}_\alpha(x) \dots$$

- expectation value of observable \hat{A}

$$\langle 0 | \hat{A} | 0 \rangle = \frac{1}{Z_F} \int \mathcal{D}\psi \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi} A(\bar{\psi}, \psi) e^{-S_F(\psi, \bar{\psi})}$$

- partition function

$$Z_F = \int \mathcal{D}\psi \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi} e^{-S_F}$$

- bilinear classical action S_F for the fermion field

$$S_F = \int d^d x \mathcal{L}(\psi, \bar{\psi}), \quad \mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi}(x) D\psi(x)$$

- Grassmann integration \rightarrow determinant of fermion operator

$$Z_F = \int \mathcal{D}\psi \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi} \exp\left(-\int d^d x \bar{\psi}(x) D\psi(x)\right) = \det D$$

- corresponding formula for complex scalars

$$Z_B = \int \mathcal{D}\phi \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi} \exp\left(-\int d^d x \bar{\phi}(x) A\phi(x)\right) = \frac{1}{\det A}$$

- Majorana fermions (susy)

$$Z_F = \int \mathcal{D}\psi \exp\left(-\int d^d x \psi(x) D\psi(x)\right) = \text{Paff}(D)$$

- expectation values in full lattice gauge theory

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(U) \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int \mathcal{O}(U) d\mu(U), \quad d\mu(U) = \det(D) e^{-S[U]} \mathcal{D}U, \quad Z = \int d\mu(U)$$

- subtle: first order Dirac operator on lattice
- on finite lattice D (huge) matrix
- stochastic methods applicable if $\det(D) e^{-S[U]} > 0$
- usually: D is γ_5 -hermitean

$$\gamma_5 D \gamma_5 = D^\dagger$$

- eigenvalues come in complex conjugated pairs \Rightarrow determinant real

$$P(\lambda) \equiv \det(\lambda - D) = \det \gamma_5 (\lambda - D) \gamma_5 = \det (\lambda - D^\dagger) = P^*(\lambda^*)$$

- λ root $\Rightarrow \lambda^*$ root, real, not necessarily positive
- **sign problem** if $\det D$ changes sign
- example

$$D = \not{\partial} + m + \mathcal{O} \quad \gamma_5 \text{ hermitean} \iff \partial_\mu = -\partial_\mu^\dagger, \quad \mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}^\dagger, \quad [\gamma_5, \mathcal{O}] = 0$$

- natural choice

$$\left(\overset{\circ}{\partial}_\mu f \right) (x) = \frac{1}{2} (f(x + e_\mu) - f(x - e_\mu))$$

- gauge theories: **chiral symmetry for massless fermions**

$$e^{i\alpha\gamma_5} D e^{i\alpha\gamma_5} = D \iff \{\gamma_5, D\} = 0$$

- **naive Dirac operator**

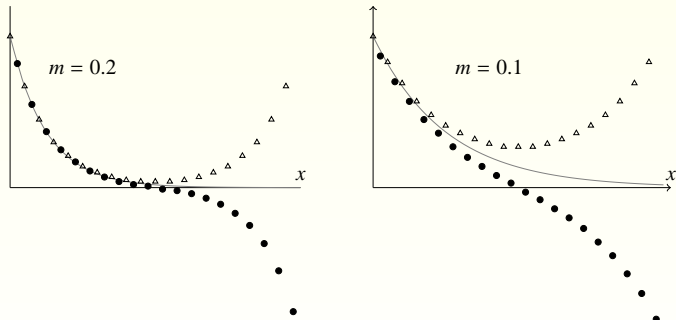
$$D = \gamma^\mu \overset{\circ}{\partial}_\mu + m$$

- γ_5 -hermitean, chirally symmetric for $m = 0$

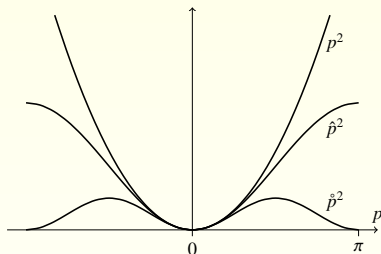
- doublers on lattice with N sites: fermion Green function

$$\langle x | \frac{1}{\partial + m} | 0 \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{e^{i p_n x}}{m + i \dot{p}_n}, \quad \dot{p}_n = \sin p_n, \quad p_n = \frac{2\pi n}{N}$$

- Green function on the lattice with 40 sites.



fermion Green function on one-dimensional lattice with $N = 40$



- dispersion relations for $-\partial^2$
- p^2 : continuum relation
- \hat{p}^2 from $\hat{\partial}$
- $\hat{\hat{p}}^2$ from nearest neighbor Laplacian (\sim Wilson operator)

$$(\hat{\Delta}f)(x) = \sum_{\mu} (f(x + e_{\mu}) - 2f(x) + f(x - e_{\mu}))$$

- $\hat{\partial}_{\mu} \Rightarrow$ chiral and γ_5 -hermitean $\hat{\partial}$
- **doublers** in spectrum

Theorem (Nielsen-Ninomiya)

exists no translational invariant D fulfilling

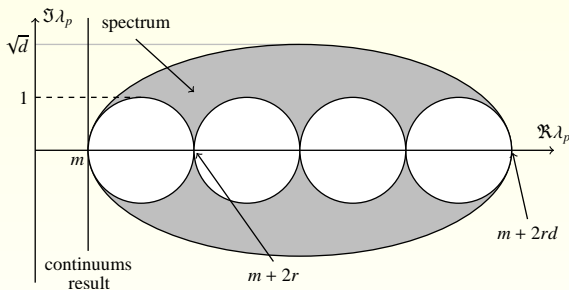
- ① *locality*: $D(x - y) \lesssim e^{-\gamma|x-y|}$,
- ② *continuum limit*: $\lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \tilde{D}(p) = \sum_{\mu} \gamma^{\mu} p_{\mu}$,
- ③ *no doublers*: $\tilde{D}(p)$ is invertible if $p \neq 0$,
- ④ *chirality*: $\{\gamma_5, D\} = 0$.

- nice **topological** proof
- give up chiral invariance: Wilson fermions

$$S_W = S_{\text{naive}} - \frac{r}{2} \sum_x \bar{\psi}_x a \hat{\Delta} \psi_x = \sum_x \bar{\psi}_x D_W \psi_x ,$$

- Wilson operator

$$D_W = \gamma^{\mu} \partial_{\mu} - \frac{ar}{2} \hat{\Delta}$$



- γ_5 hermitian
- $\{\gamma_5, D\} \neq 0$
- complex eigenvalues in thermodynamic limit ($r = 1$)
- staggered fermions, Ginsparg-Wilson fermions

- lattice action

$$S_F = \sum_x \bar{\psi}_x (D_W \psi)_x$$

- gauge invariance: first parallel transport and then compare ($r = 1$)

$$(D_W)_{xy} = (m + d)\delta_{xy} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mu} \left((1 + \gamma^{\mu}) U_{y, -\mu} \delta_{x, y - e_{\mu}} + (1 - \gamma^{\mu}) U_{y, \mu} \delta_{x, y + e_{\mu}} \right)$$

- rescaling (Wilson)

$$\psi \rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{m + d}} \psi$$

- gauge invariant action

$$S_W = \sum_x \bar{\psi}_x \psi_x - \kappa \sum_{x, \mu} \left(\bar{\psi}_{x - e_{\mu}} (1 + \gamma^{\mu}) U_{x, -\mu} \psi_x + \bar{\psi}_{x + e_{\mu}} (1 - \gamma^{\mu}) U_{x, \mu} \psi_x \right)$$

- hopping parameter $\kappa = (2m + 2d)^{-1}$

- lattice functional integrals

$$\begin{aligned}
 Z &= \int \prod_{\ell} dU_{\ell} \prod_x d\psi_x d\bar{\psi}_x e^{-S_g(U) - S_F(\psi, \bar{\psi})} \\
 &= \int \prod_{\ell} dU_{\ell} \det(D[U]) e^{-S_g(U)} \\
 &= \int \prod_{\ell} dU_{\ell} \text{sign}(\det D) (\det M)^{1/2} e^{-S_g(U)}
 \end{aligned}$$

- $M = D^{\dagger} D \Rightarrow \det M \geq 0$.
- try stochastic method with

$$d\mu(U) = (\det M)^{1/2} e^{-S_g(U)} \mathcal{D}U$$

- expectation values

$$\langle O[U] \rangle = \frac{\int d\mu(U) \text{sign}(\det D) O(U)}{\int d\mu(U) \text{sign}(\det D)}$$

- problem with re-weighting: $\text{sign}(\det D)$ may average to zero
- fermion determinant: method of pseudofermion fields

$$(\det M)^{1/2} = \int \prod_p \mathcal{D}\phi_p^\dagger \mathcal{D}\phi_p e^{-S_{\text{PF}}}, \quad S_{\text{PF}} = \sum_{p=1}^{N_{\text{PF}}} (\phi_p, M^{-q} \phi_p)$$

- $q \cdot N_{\text{PF}} = 1/2$. If $\det D > 0 \Rightarrow$

$$Z = \int \prod_\ell dU_\ell \mathcal{D}\phi \mathcal{D}\phi^* e^{-S_g(U) - S_{\text{PF}}(U, \phi, \phi^\dagger)}$$

- HMC algorithm: force given by gradient of non-local $S_g + S_{\text{PF}}$

- rHMC dynamics $M^{-q} \rightarrow$ rational approximation

$$M^{-q} \approx \alpha_0 + \sum_{r=1}^{N_R} \frac{\alpha_r}{M + \beta_r}$$

- **fermion correlators:** S_F quadratic in $\psi \Rightarrow$ Wick contraction
- e.g. interpolating operator for pion

$$\mathcal{O}_\pi(t) = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \bar{\psi}(t, \mathbf{x}) \tau \gamma_5 \psi(t, \mathbf{x})$$

- Wick-contraction

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 0 | \mathcal{O}_\pi^\dagger(t) \mathcal{O}_\pi(0) | 0 \rangle &= \frac{1}{Z} \int \prod_{\ell} dU_{\ell} G_F G_F \det(D[U]) e^{-S_g(U)} \\ &\sim \text{amplitude} \cdot e^{-m_\pi t} \end{aligned}$$

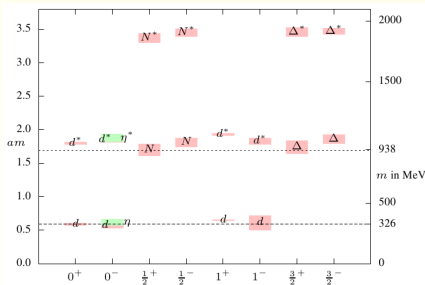
- \Rightarrow masses of bound states: mesons, baryons, glueballs, ...

mesons (baryon number 0)

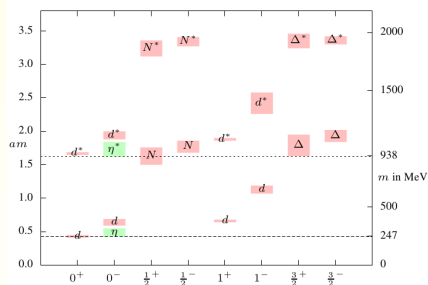
Name	\mathcal{O}	T	J	P	C
π	$\bar{u}\gamma_5 d$	SASS	0	-	+
η	$\bar{u}\gamma_5 u$	SASS	0	-	+
a	$\bar{u}d$	SASS	0	+	+
f	$\bar{u}u$	SASS	0	+	+
ρ	$\bar{u}\gamma_\mu d$	SSSA	1	-	+
ω	$\bar{u}\gamma_\mu u$	SSSA	1	-	+
b	$\bar{u}\gamma_5\gamma_\mu d$	SSSA	1	+	+
h	$\bar{u}\gamma_5\gamma_\mu u$	SSSA	1	+	+

- increase overlap with vacuum: smearing of sources and sinks
- diagonalization of correlation matrix

Ensemble	β	κ	$m_{d(0^+)}a$	m_Na	$m_{d(0^+)} [\text{MeV}]$	$a [\text{fm}]$	$a^{-1} [\text{MeV}]$	MC
Heavy	1.05	0.147	0.59(2)	1.70(9)	326	0.357(33)	552(50)	7K
Light	0.96	0.159	0.43(2)	1.63(13)	247	0.343(45)	575(75)	5K



heavy ensemble



light ensemble

Wellegehausen, Maas, Smekal, AW (2013)

- simulations: stochastic, linear algebra, programming
- works for QCD at $T = 0$ and $T > 0$ (fermions β -anti-periodic)
- but: fermions difficult and expensive
 - thermodynamic and continuum extrapolations: $N \rightarrow \infty$ and $a \rightarrow 0$
 - realistic quark masses achieved
- problem: finite baryon density, $\det(D)$ complex
 - \Rightarrow conventional MC does not work
- simulations for supersymmetric YM theories
 - lattice breaks supersymmetry
 - some results of mass spectrum of $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SYM
 - new result on $\mathcal{N} = (2, 2)$ and $\mathcal{N} = (8, 8)$
 - relevant for AdS/CFT (Gregory-Laflamme instability)
- books: Montvay-Münster, Rothe, Lang-Gattringer, AW, ...