# 2 Flavor Formulation for Strong Coupling LQCD

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# ETH

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#### The QCD $(\mu, T)$ phase diagram:



- rich phase structure conjectured
- chiral and deconfinement transition
- QGP at high temperatures
- exotic matter at high density



#### The QCD $(\mu, T)$ phase diagram:



- because of the sign problem: very little is known
- so far: agreement on crossover temperature  $T_c$  at zero density

QCD has a severe sign problem for non-zero chemical potential  $\mu = \frac{1}{3}\mu_B$ :

• fermions anti-commute:

 $\gamma_5(i\not\!\!p+m+\mu\gamma_0)\gamma_5=(i\not\!\!p+m+\mu\gamma_0)^{\dagger}$ 

the fermion determinant det M(μ) becomes complex!

 $e^{-S_f} = \det M(\mu) = \overline{\det M(-\overline{\mu})}$ 

- little hope that it can be circumvented:
  - Taylor expansion,
  - imaginary  $\mu$  with analytic continuation,
  - reweighting method

are all limited to small  $\mu/T \lesssim 1$ 

Look at Lattice QCD in a regime where the sign problem can be made mild: Strong Coupling Limit:  $\beta = \frac{2N_c}{\sigma^2} \rightarrow 0$ 

- allows to integrate out the gauge fields completely, as link integration factorizes  $\Rightarrow$  no fermion determinant
- drawback: strong coupling limit is converse to asymptotic freedom, lattice is maximally coarse

Strong coupling LQCD shares important features with QCD:

- exhibits confinement, i.e. only color singlet degrees of freedom survive:
  - mesons (represented by monomers and dimers)
  - baryons (represented by oriented self-avoiding loops)
- and spontaneous chiral symmetry breaking/restoration: (restored at  $T_c$ )  $\Rightarrow$  SC-LQCD is a great laboratory to study the full ( $\mu$ , T) phase diagram
- SC-LQCD is a useful toymodel for nuclear matter

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SC-LQCD is a 1-parameter deformation of QCD

#### SC-LQCD at finite temperature

How to vary the temperature?

•  $aT = 1/N_{\tau}$  is discrete with  $N_{\tau}$  even

•  $aT_c \simeq 1.5$ , i.e.  $N_\tau^c < 2 \implies$  we cannot address the phase transition! Solution: introduce an anisotropy  $\gamma$  in the Dirac couplings:

$$\mathcal{Z}(m_q, \mu, \gamma, N_{\tau}) = \sum_{\{k, n, \ell\}} \prod_{b=(x, \mu)} \frac{(3-k_b)!}{3!k_b!} \gamma^{2k_b \delta_{\mu 0}} \prod_x \frac{3!}{n_x !} (2am_q)^{n_x} \prod_{\ell} w(\ell, \mu) \\ k_b \in \{0, \dots, N_c\}, \ n_x \in \{0, \dots, N_c\}$$

Should we expect  $a/a_{\tau} = \gamma$ , as suggested at weak coupling?

- No: meanfield predicts  $a/a_{\tau} = \gamma^2$ , since  $\gamma_c^2 = N_{\tau} \frac{(d-1)(N_c+1)(N_c+2)}{6(N_c+3)}$ 
  - $\Rightarrow$  sensible,  $N_{\tau}$ -independent definition of the temperature:

aT 
$$\simeq rac{\gamma^2}{N_{ au}}$$

• Moreover, SC-LQCD partition function is a function of  $\gamma^2$ 

However: precise correspondence between  $a/a_{\tau}$  and  $\gamma^2$  not known

#### SC-LQCD at finite Temperature and Continuous Time:



$$N_{ au} o \infty, \qquad \gamma o \infty, \qquad \gamma^2/N_{ au} \equiv aT \quad {
m fixed}$$

• same as in analytic studies:  $a_{\tau} = 0$ ,  $aT = \beta^{-1} \in \mathbb{R}$ 



#### SC-LQCD at finite Temperature and Continuous Time:

Strategy for unambiguous answer: the continuous Euclidean time limit (CT-limit):

$$N_{ au} o \infty, \qquad \gamma o \infty, \qquad \gamma^2/N_{ au} \equiv aT \quad {
m fixed}$$

• same as in analytic studies:  $a_{\tau} = 0$ ,  $aT = \beta^{-1} \in \mathbb{R}$ 

Several advantages of continuous Euclidean time approach:

- ambiguities arising from the functional dependence of observables on the anisotropy parameter will be circumvented, only one parameter setting the temperature
- ullet no need to perform the continuum extrapolation  $N_ au o \infty$
- allows to estimate critical temperatures more precisely, with a faster algorithm (about 10 times faster than  $N_t = 16$  at  $T_c$ )
- baryons become static in the CT-limit, the sign problem is completely absent!

#### **Continuous Time Partition Function, 1 flavor**

Partition function in inverse temperature  $\beta = 1/aT$  and in the chiral limit:

$$\mathcal{Z}(\beta,\mu) = \sum_{\kappa \in 2\mathbb{N}} \frac{(\beta/2)^{\kappa}}{\kappa!} \sum_{\mathcal{C} \in \Gamma_{\kappa}} v_{L}^{n_{L}(\mathcal{C})} v_{T}^{n_{T}(\mathcal{C})} e^{3\beta\mu B(\mathcal{C})}, \quad v_{L} = 1, v_{T} = 2/\sqrt{3}$$

Typical (2-dimensional) configurations in discrete and continuous time at the same temperature:

- multiple spatial dimer become resolved into single spatial dimers as a<sub>t</sub> → 0
- **baryons** become **static** in continuous time!



- $\kappa = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x} n_L(x) + n_T(x)$  is the number of spatial dimers, *B* is baryon number
- weight of configuration given by number of spatial dimers and vertices v<sub>L</sub>, v<sub>T</sub> regardless of time coordinates

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• sum over all spatial dimer time coordinates  $\sim N_{\tau}/2 \Rightarrow$  expansion in  $\beta = N_{\tau}/\gamma^2$ 

•  $\Gamma_{\kappa}$  is the set of equivalence classes of configurations with  $\kappa$  spatial dimers, time coordinates of spatial dimers irrelevant

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- each term  $\Gamma_{\kappa}$  is represented by a world line configuration
- allows to apply QMC techniques: continuous time worm (Beard & Wiese), loop cluster algorithm (Evertz et al.), stochastic series expansion (Sandvik)

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# Mapping of 1-flavor $SU(N_c)$ to a spin system

Continuous time methods can be applied to any gauge group  $SU(N_c)$ :

- $\bullet\,$  baryons become static for  $\mathit{N}_{\rm c} \geq 3$
- mesonic discrete time chains classified by parity:



• generalizes to arbitrary  $U(N_c)$ 

#### **Stochastic Series Expansion**

Idea: rewrite partition function, based on decomposition in diagonal and non-diagonal elements  $H = H_1 + H_2$ , truncation *L*:

$$\mathcal{Z}(\beta) = \operatorname{Tr}\left\{e^{-\beta\mathcal{H}}\right\} = \sum_{\chi} \sum_{S_{L}} \frac{\beta^{\kappa}(L-\kappa)!}{L!} \left\langle \chi \left| \prod_{i=1}^{L} \mathcal{H}_{a_{i},b_{i}} \right| \chi \right\rangle, \qquad \mathcal{H}_{1,b} = \varepsilon \mathbb{1}, \, \varepsilon \ge 0$$
$$\mathcal{H}_{2,b} = \frac{1}{2} S_{x}^{+} S_{y}^{-}$$

with  $S_L$  a time-ordered sequence of operator-indices:  $S_L = [a_1, b_1], [a_2, b_2], \dots [a_L, b_L]$ 

- $a_i = 0$ : identity,  $a_i = 1, 2$ : diagonal/non-diagonal matrix element
- $b_i = \langle x, y \rangle \in Vd$  denotes a bond

Two kinds of **updates**:

$$\begin{array}{c} \textbf{L} \quad \textbf{changing order in } \beta, \quad \kappa \mapsto \kappa \pm 1: \\ P([1, b]_{\rho} \mapsto [0, 0]_{\rho}) = \frac{L - \kappa + 1}{\sqrt{L - \kappa}}, \quad P([0, 0]_{\rho} \mapsto [1, b]_{\rho}) = \frac{\sqrt{L - \kappa}}{L - \kappa} \end{array}$$

**2** operator loop: visit bonds  $b_i$  successively from an input leg, determine output leg with heatbath probability  $\langle \chi_x \chi_y | \mathcal{H}_{a_i b_i} | \chi'_x \chi'_y \rangle$ 

*L* is set larger than  $\kappa_{\max} \Rightarrow$  **SSE** is approximation free (like CT-Worm)

## SSE applied to SC-LQCD

Strong Coupling U(1) is identical to XY Model in zero field! Extension to  $U(N_c)$  for SC-LQCD straightforward:

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\langle x, y \rangle} J_x^+ J_y^- \qquad \text{with } J^+ = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & \\ v_1 & 0 & & \\ & v_2 & 0 & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & v_{N_c} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad v_k = \sqrt{\frac{k(1+N_c-k)}{N_c}}$$
  
and  $J^- = (J^+)^T$  for absorption/emission

• 
$$N_c = 3$$
:  $v_L \equiv v_1 = v_3 = 1$ ,  $v_T \equiv v_2 = 2/\sqrt{3}$ 

• state vector characterizing time slice:

 $|S^z
angle(t)\in\left\{igotimes_{ec{x}\in V}S^z_{ec{x}}|S^z_{ec{x}}\in\{-N_{
m c}/2,\ldots N_{
m c}/2\}
ight\}$ 

- oriented spatial dimers act at time  $t_i$  on  $|S_x\rangle$  by raising/lowering spin at absorption/emission site
- lowest/highest weight:  $J^+|N_{
  m c}/2
  angle=0,~~J^-|-N_{
  m c}/2
  angle=0$
- $S^z$  counts net number of (odd-even) time like meson sites at each site

• 
$$\frac{N_c}{2}[J^+, J^-] = J^z = \text{diag}(-N_c/2, \dots, N_c/2)$$
 fulfilled,  $J^z|S^z\rangle = S^z|S^z\rangle$ 

• new observable: spin susceptibility  $\chi_{S} = \beta \left\langle \left(\sum_{i} S_{i}^{z}\right)^{2} \right\rangle / N$ 

#### **Observables for the Chiral Transition**

- CT-Worm: energy density/specific heat, chiral susceptibility
- SSE: energy density/specific heat, "spin" susceptibility



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## 1-flavor SC-QCD Phase Diagram



# Application: Generalization of SC-LQCD to 2 chiral flavors!

Aim: obtain phase diagram for 2-flavor SC-LQCD, where **pion exchange** may play a crucial role for nuclear transition, but:

- at present, no 2-flavor formulation for staggered SC-LQCD suitable for MC
- already the mesonic sector has a severe sign problem (worse than for finite  $\mu$  HMC)
- 2 new types of mixed dimers give negative sign in mesonic loops already for U(2):



Observation in continuous time formulation:

- static lines for 2 staggered flavors have all postive weight!
- again: only single spatial dimers (no  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  spatial dimers)
- Hamiltonian formulation feasible

# Continuous Time Transition Rules for $N_{\rm f}=2$

Flavored static lines:

- new classification in terms of quantum numbers  $|S^z, Q_{\pi^0}, Q_{\pi^+}\rangle$
- $N_c = 2$ : in total 19 types of lines, 18 have weight 1/4 per  $a_t$ , "vacuum state"  $|0, 0, 0\rangle$  has weight  $1/\sqrt{8}$

- state multiplicities =  $N_{\rm c} + 1 + rac{2}{3}N_{\rm c}(N_{\rm c}+1)(N_{\rm c}+2)$ , 44 states for  $N_{\rm c}=3$
- "spin"  $S^z$  counts number of emission/absorption events (remnant of even/odd decomposition of lattice for staggered fermions)  $S^z = -\frac{1}{2}N_cN_f, \ldots, +\frac{1}{2}N_cN_f$

₹.... |-2,0)

- $\bullet$  two "charges"  $\mathit{Q}_i = -\mathit{N}_{\mathrm{c}}, \ldots, +\mathit{N}_{\mathrm{c}}$  denote the flavor content
- spin/charge conservation: transitions at spatial dimers, raising charges at one site, lowering at a neighboring site:

$$|\Delta S^z|=1, \quad |\Delta Q_{\pi^0}|+|\Delta Q_{\pi^+}|=1$$



$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\langle x, y \rangle} \left( J_{\pi^{0}(x)}^{+} J_{\pi^{0}(y)}^{-} + J_{\pi^{0}(x)}^{+} J_{\pi^{0}(y)}^{-} + J_{\pi^{+}(x)}^{+} J_{\pi^{+}(y)}^{-} + J_{\pi^{+}(x)}^{+} J_{\pi^{-}(y)}^{-} \right)$$

Absorption  $(J_{\pi_i}^+, \text{ lower left triangle})$  and Emission  $(J_{\pi_i}^-, \text{ upper triangle})$ , state vector:  $\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\pi^0 & \pi^0 & \pi^+ & \pi^- & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & \pi^0 & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^+ & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^+ & & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^- & & & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & & & & & \\ \pi^0 & & & &$ 



• vertex weights are  $v_{\pi_i} = 1$  for vertices not mixing the two charges  $Q_i$ and  $v_{\hat{\pi}_i} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$  for vertices mixing the charges

#### Preliminary Result for 2-flavor SC-LQCD



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# Summary

#### Achievements:

- CT partition function: new formulation as a quantum spin system!
- "spin" formulation and Hamiltonian follow from conservation laws for even/odd chains of time-like dimers and flavors this generalizes to arbitrary  $N_c$ ,  $N_f$
- new observable: spin susceptibility, sensitive to chiral transition
- quantum Monte Carlo applicable: e.g. continuous time worm or **stochastic series** expansion (most convenient)
- $\bullet$  now also applied to U(2) with two flavors (incorporates pion exchange)
- extension to SU(3) with finite baryon chemical potential straightforward (Hamiltonian worked out, but no simulations yet)

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Soon: obtain full 2-flavor SC-LQCD phase diagram in  $(\mu, T)$ -plane!

## **Comparison of SSE and CT-Worm**



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#### Static Line Rules

Combine temporal dimers of alternating orders in  $\gamma^2$  (here for  $N_c = 2$ ):

- first: consider (a, b) and (c, d) dimers sepaterely
- then: resum them to obtain flux representation



#### Static Line Rules

Combine temporal dimers of alternating orders in  $\gamma^2$  (here for  $N_c = 2$ ):

- resummation of a b a and b a b chains
- resummation of  $ab + cd + \alpha + \beta$  into  $\Box$  dimers



#### Static Line Rules

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- in total: 19 types of lines, 18 have weight 1/16 per 2a,  $|0,0,0\rangle$  has weight 1/8





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# The Transition Rules Encoded in $J^{\pm}$



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Summary

Backup Slides

# Why Study Strong Coupling QCD on the Lattice?

Two possible scenarios for the relation between SC-LQCD (back) and the (L)QCD phase diagram for four flavors (front):

