

Computation of the Static Quark-Antiquark Potential

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 - Introduction
 - Path Integrals in QM and QFT
 - Discretization

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2 Basic Remarks about Lattice QCD

- Introducing the Gauge Fields as Links
- Wilson's Gauge Action
- Wilson Loops

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3 Computation with Wilson Loops

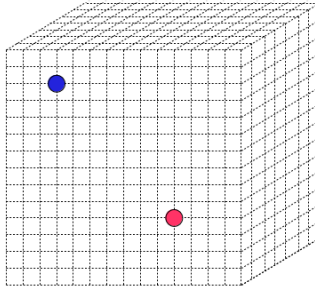
- General Aspects
- Specific Methods for the Quark Potential

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Fields on the Lattice





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- Ansatz: Use the path integral formalism



Path Integrals

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$$\begin{aligned} \langle x', t' | x, t \rangle &= \int dx_1 \dots dx_{n-1} \langle x' | e^{-iH\Delta t} | x_{n-1} \rangle \cdot \\ &\cdot \langle x_{n-1} | e^{-iH\Delta t} | x_{n-2} \rangle \dots \langle x_1 | e^{-iH\Delta t} | x \rangle \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

- Approximation for the single transition amplitudes:

$$\langle x_{k+1} | e^{-iH\Delta t} | x_k \rangle \approx \sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi i \Delta t}} \exp \left\{ i\Delta t \left[\frac{m}{2} \left(\frac{x_{k+1} - x_k}{\Delta t} \right)^2 - V(x_k) \right] \right\} \quad (4)$$

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- Using this approximation for every transition amplitude gives

$$\langle x' | x \rangle = \int \frac{dx_1 \dots dx_{n-1}}{(2\pi i \Delta t / m)^{n/2}} \exp \left\{ i \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \Delta t \left[\frac{m}{2} \left(\frac{x_{k+1} - x_k}{\Delta t} \right)^2 - V(x_k) \right] \right\} \quad (5)$$

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- In the limit $n \rightarrow \infty$ (the path is getting finer and finer) the argument is

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \Delta t \left[\frac{m}{2} \left(\frac{x_{k+1} - x_k}{\Delta t} \right)^2 - V(x_k) \right] \\ & \rightarrow \int_0^T dt \left[\frac{m}{2} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2 - V(x) \right] = \int_0^T dt L(x, \dot{x}) = S \quad (6) \end{aligned}$$

- Finally, the complete transition amplitude can be written as

$$\langle x', t' | x, t \rangle = \int \mathcal{D}x \, e^{iS} \quad (7)$$

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$$\langle 0 | \phi(x_1) \phi(x_2) \dots \phi(x_n) | 0 \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int \mathcal{D}\phi \, \phi(x_1) \phi(x_2) \dots \phi(x_n) e^{iS} \quad (8)$$



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→ strong fluctuating paths are suppressed

Lattice Discretization

- Discretization: allow only fields on a hypercubic lattice

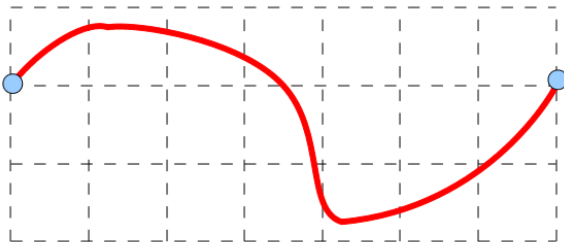
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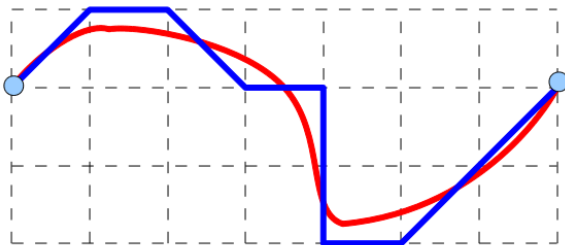
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- Functional integrals are predestinated for this discretization
- *Infinite* dimensional integrals → *finite* dimensional integrals
→ Set of allowed curves is finite on the lattice







- Discretization can be introduced by the translation rules

$$\phi(x), x \in \text{lattice}$$

$$\partial_\mu \phi \rightarrow \frac{1}{a}(\phi(x + a\hat{\mu}) - \phi(x))$$

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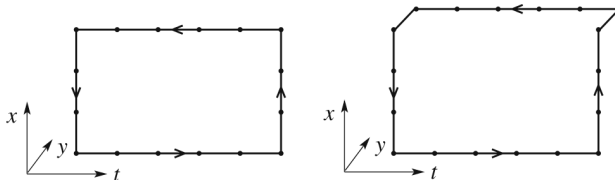
→ In principle, numerical computation is possible now

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Basic Remarks about Lattice QCD



- In QCD the free fermionic action (without flavors) is

$$S_F^0[\psi, \bar{\psi}] = \int d^4x \bar{\psi}(x)(\gamma_\mu \partial_\mu + m)\psi(x) \quad (11)$$

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$$S_F^0[\psi, \bar{\psi}] = a^4 \sum_{n \in \text{lat}} \bar{\psi}(n) \left\{ \sum_{\mu=1}^4 \gamma_\mu \frac{1}{2a} (\psi(n + \hat{\mu}) - \psi(n - \hat{\mu})) + m\psi(n) \right\} \quad (12)$$

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- Like in QCD, this is *not* gauge invariant

- Physics should be invariant under the following transformation:

$$\psi(n) \rightarrow \psi'(n) = \Omega(n)\psi(n), \quad (13)$$

$$\bar{\psi}(n) \rightarrow \bar{\psi}'(n) = \bar{\psi}(n)\Omega(n)^\dagger. \quad (14)$$

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- In contrast to continuum QCD, the action contains terms like

$$\bar{\psi}(n)\psi(n + \hat{\mu}) \rightarrow \bar{\psi}(n)\Omega(n)^\dagger\Omega(n + \hat{\mu})\psi(n + \hat{\mu}) \quad (15)$$

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→ choose gauge fields that obey

$$U_\mu(n) \rightarrow U'_\mu(n) = \Omega(n)U_\mu(n)\Omega(n + \hat{\mu})^\dagger \quad (16)$$

■ In the end

$$S_F[\psi, \bar{\psi}, U] = a^4 \sum_{n \in \text{lat}} \bar{\psi}(n) \left\{ \sum_{\mu=1}^4 \gamma_{\mu} \frac{U_{\mu}(n)\psi(n + \hat{\mu}) - U_{-\mu}(n)\psi(n - \hat{\mu})}{2a} + m\psi(n) \right\} \quad (17)$$

is gauge invariant and contains kinematics and dynamics for the fermions

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- This is the naive discretization. The so-called *wilson term* can be introduced to avoid *fermion doublers*.

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- This is the naive discretization. The so-called *wilson term* can be introduced to avoid *fermion doublers*.
- $U_{\mu}(n)$ is called *link* and can be interpreted as a connection between two lattice sites
- Note: the gauge fields are elements of $SU(3)$ (in contrast to lie algebra elements)!

Wilson's Gauge Action

- pure gauge theory: kinematics and dynamics of the gluons

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- plaquette: shortest closed loop of link variables

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$$S_G[U] = \frac{2}{g^2} \sum_{n \in \Lambda} \sum_{\mu < \nu} \text{Re tr}[\underline{1} - U_{\mu\nu}(n)] \quad (18)$$

This choice is gauge invariant with the correct continuum limit, when $a \rightarrow 0$

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- This is one possibility, there exist other - more complex - choices

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→ can be used as possible observables
- Wilson loop:

$$W_{\mathcal{L}}[U] = \text{tr}[S(m, n, n_t) T(n, n_t)^\dagger S(m, n, 0)^\dagger T(m, n_t)] \quad (19)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Wilson line: } S(m, n, n_t) &= \prod_{k, j \in \mathcal{C}_{m, n}} U_j(k, n_t) \\ \text{temp. transp.: } T(n, n_t) &= \prod_{j=0}^{n_t-1} U_4(n, j) \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

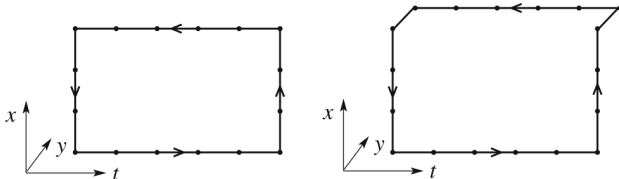
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where $r = a \cdot |m - n|$ and $t = n_t \cdot a$

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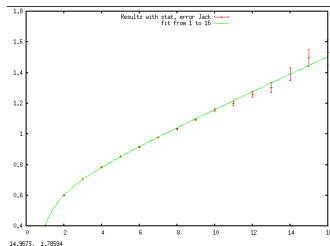
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→ computation of the expectation values allows the fitting of the potential $V(r)$

- Higher orders (excited states) are exponentially suppressed in time

Computation with Wilson Loops





Starting point for computation: data file with

$$\langle W_{\mathcal{L}} \rangle = \langle W(R, T) \rangle$$

```

1
2 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 1,1 : 6.7915869057733357119016454817028716206550598144531250e-01
3 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 2,1 : 4.52317431338058684175962298468220978975296020507812500e-01
4 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 3,1 : 3.01331717115361108483284624526277184486389160156250000e-01
5 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 4,1 : 2.00796858850142534436145069776102900505065917968750000e-01
6 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 5,1 : 1.34007792223782756790839698624040465801954269409179688e-01
7 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 6,1 : 8.93736866390599654641491156326083000749349594116210938e-02
8 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 7,1 : 5.97900366075665087861601421082013985142111778259277344e-02
9 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 8,1 : 4.00475963402988702211082738813274772837758064270019531e-02
10 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 9,1 : 2.68548059838768816975917985701016732491552829742431641e-02
11 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 10,1 : 1.82001020606441070437409024407315882854163646697998047e-02
12 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 11,1 : 1.24820425736520135284735033565084449946880340576171875e-02
13 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 12,1 : 8.61923792425791333859930176686248159967362880706787109e-03
14 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 13,1 : 6.00220354877895045930813466839026659727096557617187500e-03
15 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 14,1 : 4.18757129269957655698375376118747226428240537643432617e-03
16 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 15,1 : 2.78269084225748336569594698630680795758962631225585938e-03
17 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 16,1 : 1.93272145723536077632775942447551642544567584991455078e-03
18 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 1,2 : 5.47282621137037295078187071339925751090049743652343750e-01
19 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 2,2 : 2.9599723060719562717224562205082327127456665039062500e-01
20 (MM) : 200 : Smearred Wilson loop : 3,2 : 1.61160664749606691303895900091447401791810989379882812e-01
  
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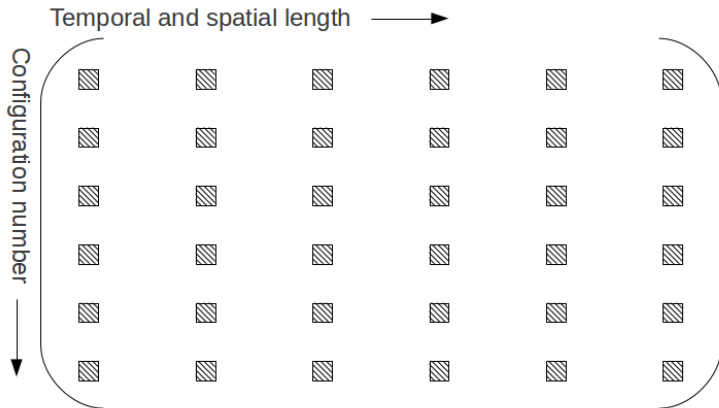
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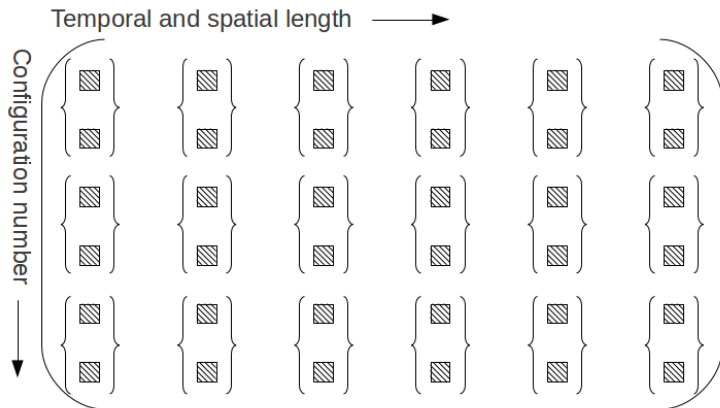
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 - Reading the raw data file
 - Binning
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 - Average over jackknifed data

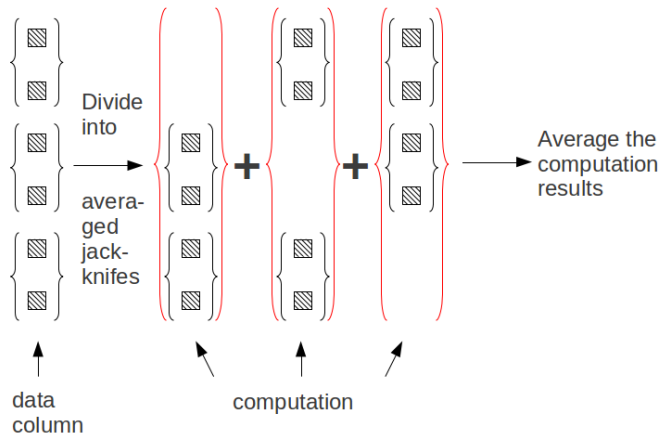
Reading:



Binning: Create bins by averaging over N_{bin} configurations for specific R and T (correlation)



Jackknifing: Create *jackknives* by averaging over all bins for (R, T) where one bin is left out for every jackknife; compute results on every jackknife (stat. method to get more realistic errors)



Two methods for the computation of the quark potential on every single jackknife

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 - Fit $V(R) = A + \frac{B}{R} + \sigma R$ to obtain potential parameters (Coloumb-type and linear rising potential expected, improvements possible)

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- As stated above: the final results are obtained by averaging over all jackknives

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- For small lattices this is problematic because the exponential decay fit is performed for only a few datapoints.

References

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