

# Lefschetz Thimbles in $(1+1)d$ QED

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with C. Schmidt

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- Approach to deal with the sign problem
- Interested in expectation values of observables:

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle = \frac{\int \mathcal{D}\Phi \mathcal{O}[\Phi] e^{-S[\Phi]}}{\int \mathcal{D}\Phi e^{-S[\Phi]}}$$

- The partition function in lattice qcd looks like:

$$Z = \int \left( \prod_{x,\nu} dU_\nu(x) \right) \det[M(U_\nu(x), \mu_B)] e^{-S_G(U_\nu(x))}$$

with: Haar-measure  $dU_\nu(x)$ , fermionmatrix  $M$ , link variable  $U \in SU(3)$ , baryon chemical potential  $\mu_B$ , gauge action  $S_G$

- if  $\mu_B$  is complex, the fermion determinant is not positive definite; cannot be interpreted as a probability density
- no Markov Chain Monte Carlo methods possible

- Lefschetz Thimbles are real manifolds embedded in a complex space (Solomon Lefschetz ca. 1930s)
- Pham:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-i\theta(x_1, \dots, x_n)} f(x_1, \dots, x_n) dx_1 \dots dx_n \\ = \sum_{\sigma} n_{\sigma} \int_{J_{\sigma}} e^{-i\theta(z_1, \dots, z_n)} f(z_1, \dots, z_n) dz_1 \dots dz_n$$

with: Lefschetz Thimbles  $J_{\sigma}$ , intersection numbers  $n_{\sigma} \in \mathbb{Z}$ , a Morse function  $\theta$

- Morse function: smooth function  $g$  with only nondegenerate critical points  $p$ , i.e.  $\nabla g(p) = 0$  and  $Hess(g(p)) = \left( \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right)_{ij}$  is regular
- $S_I = \text{const}$ :

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle = \frac{\sum_{\sigma} n_{\sigma} e^{-S_I} \int_{J_{\sigma}} e^{-S_R(z_1, \dots, z_n)} \mathcal{O} dz_1 \dots dz_n}{\sum_{\sigma} n_{\sigma} e^{-S_I} \int_{J_{\sigma}} e^{-S_R(z_1, \dots, z_n)} dz_1 \dots dz_n}$$

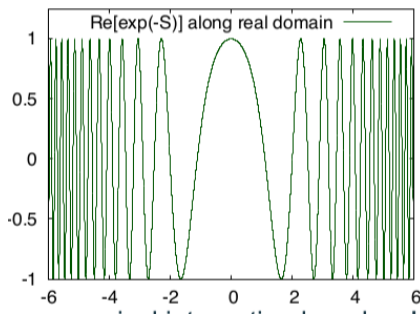
- Why? Thimble transformation yields an integral similar to a normal distribution, easy to integrate, positive definite, can be interpreted as probability distribution

- Problem: how to find thimbles and intersection numbers
- Comprehensive paper by E. Witten
- Thimbles are attached to the critical points of the morse function
- At the critical point, the action is minimal
- Thimble through equation of steepest ascent:

$$\frac{\omega_J}{d\tau} = \frac{\partial \bar{S}}{\partial \omega_J}$$

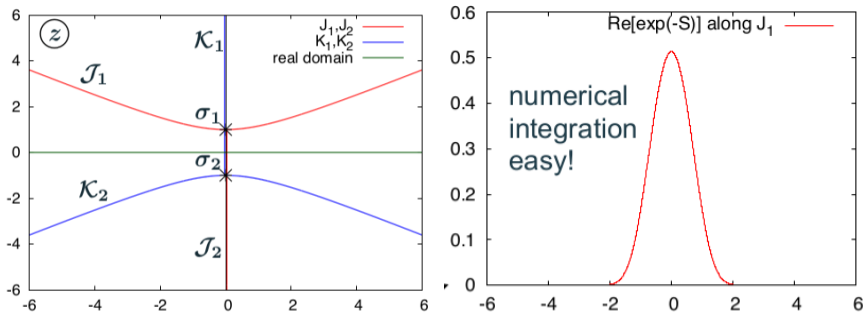
- Airy function:

$$\text{Ai}(x) = \int_0^{\infty} \cos\left(\frac{t^3}{3} + xt\right) dt = e^{\text{Im}\left(\left(\frac{t^3}{3} + xt\right)\right)} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{\text{Re}\left(\left(\frac{t^3}{3} + xt\right)\right)} dt$$



Highly oscillating integrand, not positive definite [C. Schmidt]

# Example: Airy function



left: original integration domain and Thimble structure, Anti-Thimbles also connected to the critical points [C. Schmidt]

right: integrand along the Thimble, resembling a normal distribution [C. Schmidt]

- easy to compute intersection number in the case of an Airy-function
- in general not easy or even clear, how to compute the intersection numbers
- if possible: manifolds near Lefschetz Thimbles with a significantly reduced sign problem, e.g. contraction algorithm [*Alexandru et. al.*], tangential space [*F. Ziesché*]



- Idea:
  - Path optimization with Lefschetz Thimbles [*priv. comm. C. Schmidt*]
- find the critical configuration structure
- look at one single link as if it was isolated
- use the local action, which is generated by this link, to calculate the new integration path

- Action:  $S = -\log \det M$
- the fermionmatrix can be decomposed into:  $M = A_{x,\nu} + u_{x,\nu} v_{x,\nu}^T$ ,

$$\text{with: } u_j = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -U_{x,\nu}^{-1} \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad v_j = (0 \quad \dots \quad 0 \quad 1 \quad U_{x,\nu} \quad 0 \quad \dots \quad 0)$$

- Now consider a change in the action, generated by updating one link (local action)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta S &= S_{x,\nu}(U') - S_{x,\nu}(U) \\
 &= -\ln \det(A_{x,\nu} + u'_{x,\nu} v_{x,\nu}'^T) + \ln \det(A_{x,\nu} + u_{x,\nu} v_{x,\nu}^T) \\
 &= -\ln[(1 + v_{x,\nu}'^T A_{x,\nu}^{-1} u'_{x,\nu}) \det(A_{x,\nu})] + [\ln(1 + v_{x,\nu}^T A_{x,\nu}^{-1} u_{x,\nu}) \det(A_{x,\nu})] \\
 &= -\ln(1 + v_{x,\nu}'^T A_{x,\nu}^{-1} u'_{x,\nu}) + \ln(1 + v_{x,\nu}^T A_{x,\nu}^{-1} u_{x,\nu})
 \end{aligned}$$

- $u, v$  are sparse vectors with only two entries
- this saves a lot of computation time, because we only need to now four entries of each  $A_{x,\nu}^{-1}$

- Complexification of the variables:  
 $e^{i\phi} = U \rightarrow U' = R \cdot e^{i\phi}$
- domain not a unit circle any more
- assume that the modulus of the link is a function of the phase:  
 $U' = U \cdot \Delta U = U \cdot |\Delta U| e^{-i\phi}$
- To find a rule, apply necessary condition for the action on the Lefschetz Thimble:  $S_l = \text{const.}$
- This yields:

$$|\Delta U|(\phi) = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

with:

$$a = \text{Im}[a_{21} U_{x,\nu} e^{i\phi} / S_{loc}(U_{x,\nu})]$$

$$b = \text{Im}[(1 + a_{11} - a_{22}) / S_{loc}(U_{x,\nu})]$$

$$c = \text{Im}[-a_{12} U_{x,\nu}^{-1} e^{-i\phi} / S_{loc}(U_{x,\nu})]$$

- First model: compact QED<sub>2</sub>, (1+1)d, U(1) symmetry, with staggered fermions, in the strong coupling limit
- lattice regularized partition function:

$$Z = \int_{\bigoplus^{2V} U(1)} \left( \prod_{x,\nu} dU_\nu(x) \right) \det[M(U_\nu(x))]$$

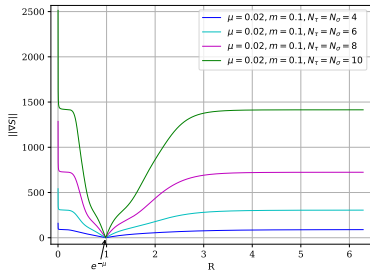
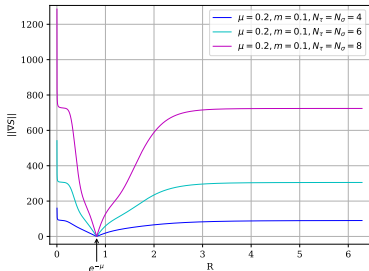
with: lattice volume  $V = N_\tau \cdot N_\sigma$ , link variables  $U_\nu(x)$ , Haar-measure  $dU_\nu(x)$

- Fermion Matrix:

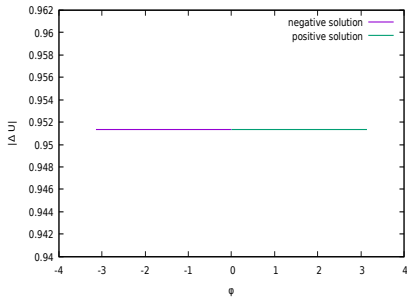
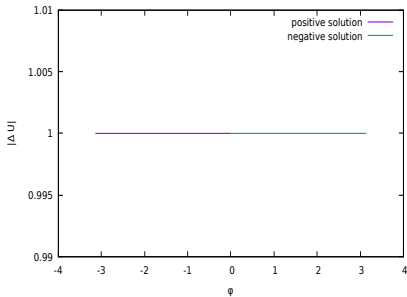
$$M_{x,y} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x,\nu} \eta_\nu(x) \left( e^{\mu\delta_{\nu,0}} U_\nu(x) \delta_{x+\hat{\nu},y} - e^{-\mu\delta_{\nu,0}} U_\nu^{-1}(x - \hat{\nu}) \delta_{x-\hat{\nu},y} \right) + \sum_x m \delta_{x,y}$$

with: staggered phases  $\eta_\nu(x)$ , chemical potential  $\mu$ , fermion mass  $m$

- find critical configurations
- start from unit config, check if  $\nabla S = 0 \implies \|\nabla S\| = 0$
- if not, scale time links (they 'carry' the  $\mu$ )



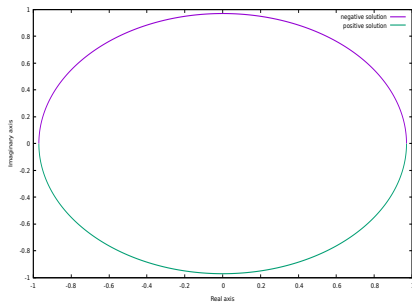
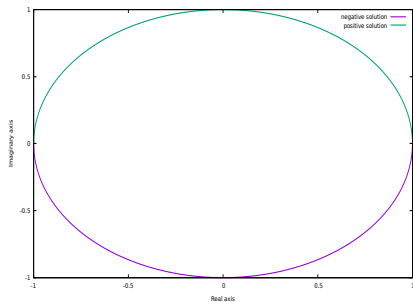
$\|\nabla S\|$  depending on the scaling of the time links for different lattice sizes,  $\mu = 0.2$  (left),  $\mu = 0.02$  (right). The graphs reach zero for  $R = e^{-\mu}$



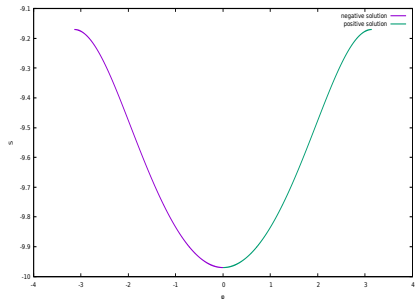
$|\Delta U|(\phi)$  for a space link (left) and a time link (right)

- each graph is a combination of the two solutions of the polynomial root equation
- gained: parameterization of the thimble without solving flow equation





Complex plane and thimble composed of the positive and negative solution according to  $|\Delta U|(\phi)$  for a space link (left) and a time link (right)



Action  $S(\phi)$  on the local thimble for the space link (left)

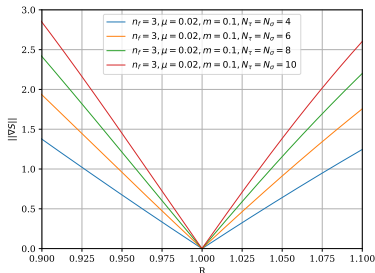
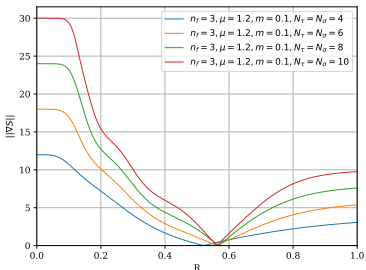
- now 3 flavours, to get a harder sign problem
- Fermionmatrix [collaboration C. Schmidt, A. Lindemeier, P. Hegde, S. Singh]:

$$M_{x,y}^{(i)} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x,\nu} \eta_\nu(x) \left( e^{q_i \mu \delta_{\nu,0}} U_\nu(x) \delta_{x+\hat{\nu},y} - e^{-q_i \mu \delta_{\nu,0}} U_\nu^{-1}(x - \hat{\nu}) \delta_{x-\hat{\nu},y} \right) + \sum_x m \delta_{x,y}$$

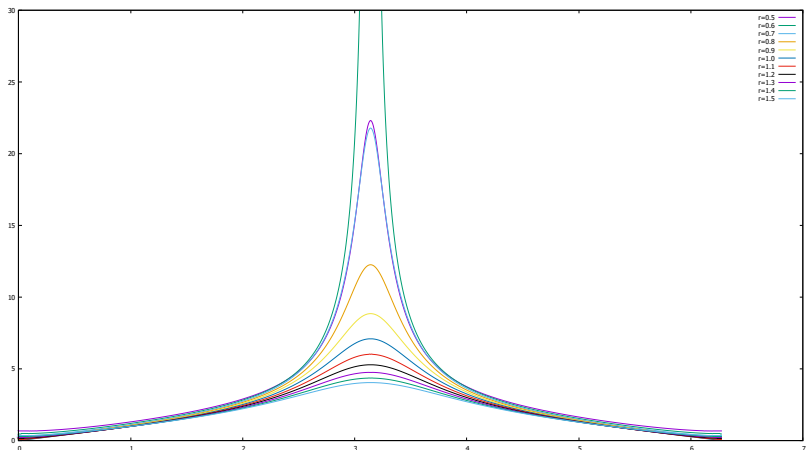
with: staggered phases  $\eta_\nu(x)$ , chemical potential  $\mu$ , fermion mass  $m$ ,  $q_1 = -1$ ,  $q_2 = -1$ ,  $q_3 = +2$

- Action:  $S = - \sum_i \ln \det(M_{x,\nu}^{(i)})$

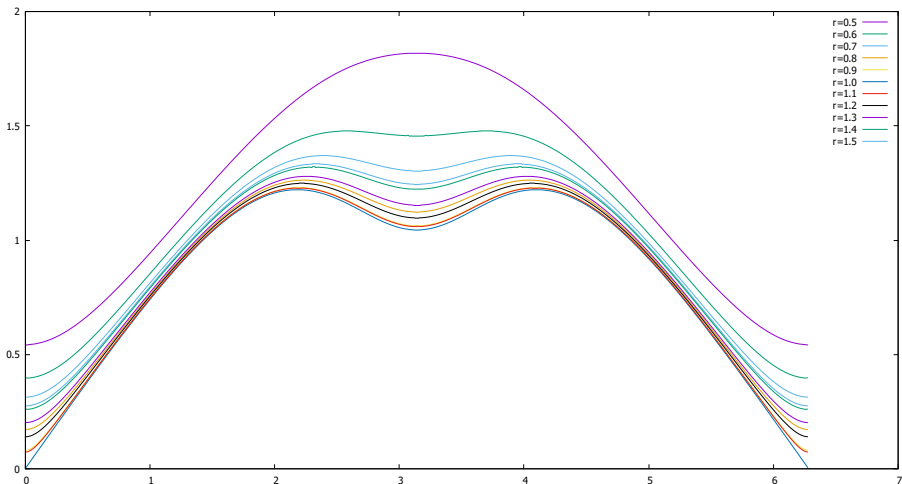
- Again: find the critical configurations and calculate thimbles from there
- To find  $|\Delta U|(\phi)$ , now need to find roots of 6th order polynomial
- numerical solver, still cheaper than matrix inversion



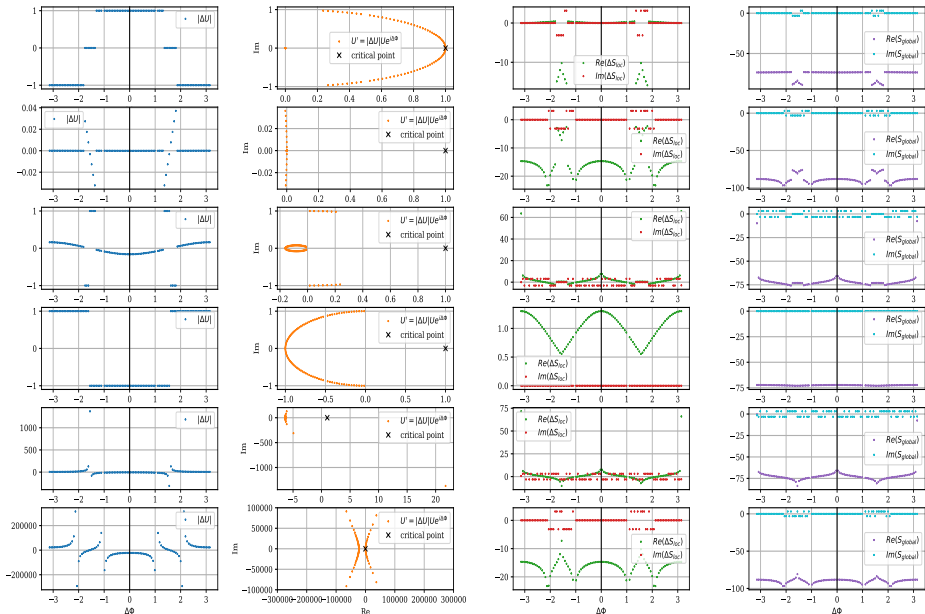
Scaling of time links for different lattice sizes for  $\mu = 1.2$  (left) and  $\mu = 0.02$  (right)



- rotate one link in hope of finding another critical point at  $\phi = \pi$
- unfortunately that is not the case, only for all links rotated for  $\phi = \pi$
- Plot: One space link rotated with different radii



- Plot: One time link rotated with different radii



- found critical points for 1 flavour/3 flavour
- complete critical point structure for  $QED_2$  3 flavour (analytic, otherwise brute force)
- compute observables
- merge results with gauge action



**Thank you for your attention!**

$$\otimes : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times m},$$

$$x \otimes y = xy^T = (x_i y_j)_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 y_1 & \dots & x_1 y_m \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ x_n y_1 & \dots & x_n y_m \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $A$  be a regular square matrix of dimension  $m$  and  $u, v$  vectors of length  $m$ , then:

$$\det(A + uv^T) = (1 + v^T A^{-1} u) \det(A)$$

$$\text{Im}(\Delta S) = 0$$

$$\implies \text{Im} \ln[(1 + v'_{x,\nu} A_{x,\nu}^{-1} u'_{x,\nu}) / (1 + v_{x,\nu}^T A_{x,\nu}^{-1} u_{x,\nu})] = 0$$

$$\implies \text{Arg}[(1 + v'_{x,\nu} A_{x,\nu}^{-1} u'_{x,\nu}) / (1 + v_{x,\nu}^T A_{x,\nu}^{-1} u_{x,\nu})] = 0 \text{ mod } 2\pi$$

$$\implies \text{Im}[(1 + v'_{x,\nu} A_{x,\nu}^{-1} u'_{x,\nu}) / (1 + v_{x,\nu}^T A_{x,\nu}^{-1} u_{x,\nu})] = 0$$

$$\implies \text{Im}[(1 + a_{11} - a_{22} - a_{21} U'_{x,\nu} + a_{12}) - a_{21} U_{x,\nu}'^{-1} / (S_{loc})] = 0$$

If we solve this for  $U'$  and enter the assumption for  $U'$  from above, we get:

$$|\Delta U| = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

with:

$$a = \text{Im}[a_{21} U_{x,\nu} e^{i\phi} / S_{loc}(U_{x,\nu})]$$

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