

# Approaching finite density QCD using Complex Langevin Simulation

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Results in the frame of common work with:

G. Aarts (Swansea), E. Seiler (Munich) and D. Sexty (Heidelberg)

and further collaboration with

L. Bongiovanni and J. Pawłowski (Heidelberg).

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Two main topics: **Set Up** and **Applications**.

Summarize and give some further results to Denes Sexty's and Erhard Seiler's talks.

### Items of the discussion

1. (Very) brief introduction
2. CLE: set up, proofs and problems
3. Tests in effective models
4. Gauge Cooling
5. Analysis of HDQCD
6. Discussion

# 1. Introduction

# Langevin Equation.

Real Langevin simulations are comparable with MC, step size dependence is below statistical errors.

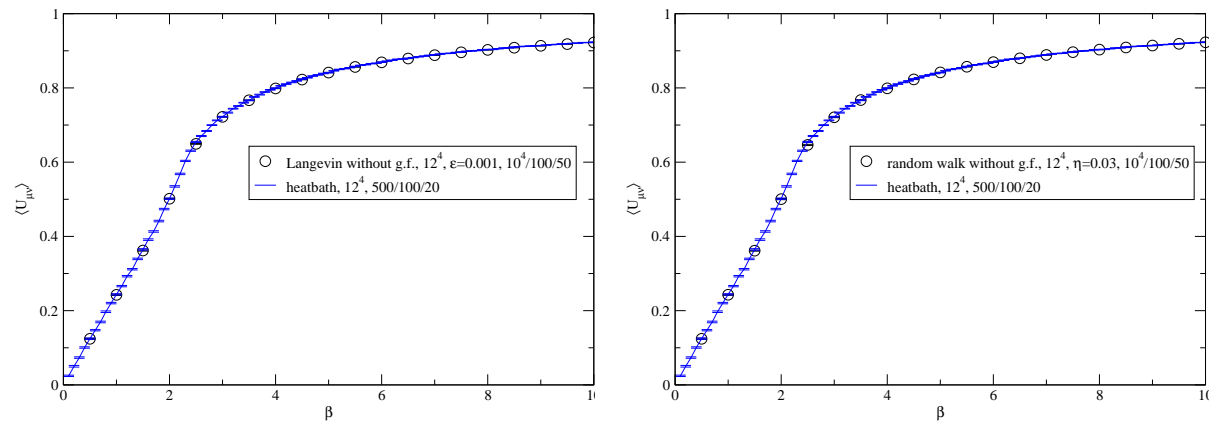


Figure 1: Plaquette averages by LE and RW compared with MC

General discussion and application to Gauge Theory: *G. Batrouni, G. Katz, A. Kronfeld, G. Lepage, B. Svetitsky, K. Wilson (1985)*

Extension to Complex Langevin is possible, since the process needs no probability interpretation of the measure.

*Much work* since the original papers of *Parisi* and of *Klauder (1983)*, both theoretical and applicative, here only a few:

*H. Hueffel, H. Rumpf, PLB 1984; F. Karsch, H. Wyld, PRL 1985; H. Gausterer, J. Klauder, PRD 1986; T. Matsui, A. Nakamura, 1986; J. Ambjorn, M. Flensburg, C. Peterson, NPhB 1986; J. Flower, S. Otto, S. Callahan, PRD 1986; M. Fukugita, Y. Oyanagi, A. Ukawa, PRD 1987; K. Okano, L. Schulke, B. Zheng PLB 1991; K. Fujimura, K. Okano, L. Schulke, K. Yamagishi, B. Zheng, NPhB 1994; ...*

Interest went down when difficulties appeared.

New interest in connection with problems for which no other general solution is available: non-equilibrium QFT, QCD at non-zero density, ...

The present general work and our **working programme** :

1. Theoretical discussion [A, 3].
2. Study the various aspects of the problem on simple, soluble models used as effective models, Random matrices, Thirring model [A, 1, 2, 4].
3. Extend the analysis to more complex models with non-trivial phase structure  $XY$ -model,  $SU(3)$  spin model [A].
4. Extend the analysis to full QCD-approximations (HDQCD) [A, 5].
5. Study full QCD [A].

*Our group* [A, many papers since 2008] and *beyond*: C. Pehlevan, G. Guralnik, *NPhB* 2009 [1]; J. Pawłowski, C. Zielinski, *PRD* 2013 [2]; A. Duncan, M. Niedermaier, *Ann.Ph.* 2013 [3]; A. Mollgaard, K. Splittorff, 2013 [4]; M. Fromm, J. Langelage, S. Lottini, O. Philipsen, *JHEP* 2012 [5] ...

## 2. CLE: the drunkard's complex walk ...

Complex action  $\longrightarrow$  complex drift  $K(z) = -\nabla_z S$ ,  $\longrightarrow$  imaginary parts for the variables  $\longrightarrow$  **Process on the complex extension of the original manifold**:  $z(t) = x(t) + i y(t)$ ,  $x \in \mathcal{M}_r$ ,  $z \in \mathcal{M}_c$

The process realizes a **positive probability distribution**  $P(x, y)$ .

**Formal equivalence theorem**: for analytic observables  $O(x, y)$  the averages over the process reproduce the ensemble averages with the (complex!) distribution  $\rho(x) = \exp(-S(x))$ :  $\langle O \rangle_{P(t)} = \langle O \rangle_{\rho(t)}$ ,

**As with every numerical method the formal proof of equivalence relies on certain conditions to be fulfilled**, here in particular:

- 1) holomorphy of the drift and of the observables,
- 2) sufficient fall off of  $P(x, y)$  in the  $y$ -direction.

*Cf Erhard Seiler's talk.*

**Notice**: there are many processes  $K(z)$  ( $P(x, y)$ ) leading formally to the desired EV's. This can be used in controlling the method.



## Possible sources of wrong evolution:

### ” Practical problems” :

1. Accumulation of numerical errors. Typical effect: run-aways, divergence of some quantities.  $K(z)$  becomes unbounded.
2. Unprecize sampling - in the presence of trajectories of  $K(z)$  going far in the  $y$  direction.

### “Problems of principle” :

3. Unsufficient fall off of  $P(x, y)$  in the  $y$  direction - can spoil the formal proof of equivalence.
4. Non-holomorphy of the drift. Can invalidate the formal proof of equivalence. Typical for us: poles of  $K(z)$  (zeroes of  $\rho(z)$ ).

We have approached these problems one after the other.

We defined *Consistency Conditions* and other signals of wrong evolution.

We found solutions to most of the problems what allowed us to start physical applications.

### Solutions:

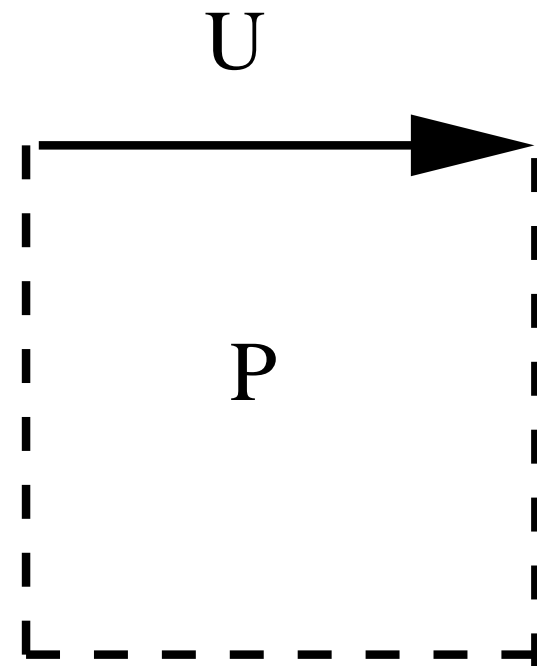
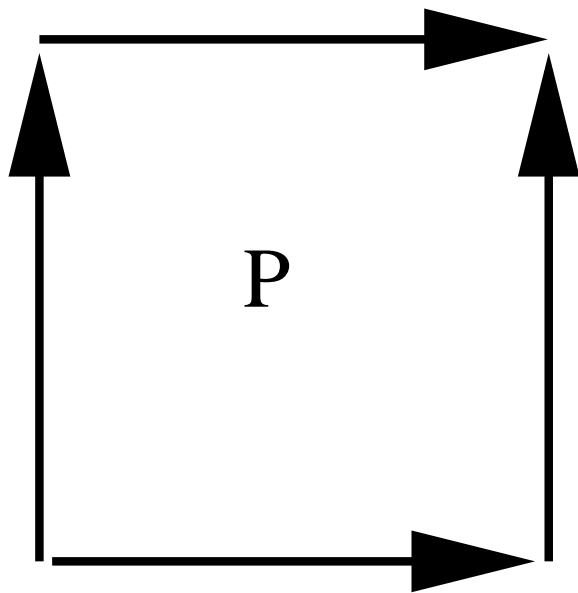
1. **Run-aways**: efficiently eliminated by adaptive step size.
- 2./3. **Unprecize sampling** and **Skirts**- insufficient fall off of  $P(x, y)$ : constrain the distribution  $P(x, y)$  by performing allowed changes of the process (without affecting the expectation values).
4. **Meromorphic drift**: In realistic cases (e.g., QCD) the poles do not seem to raise difficulties, at least in the region of physical interest. However, we want to arrive at a systematic way to handle this problem, (at present: only partial results). (*cf E. Seiler's talk*)

### 3. Learning from tests in effective models

#### Skirts and numerical imprecisions

In the following we shall stick to  $SU(3) \longrightarrow SL(3,C)$ . aiming at QCD with chemical potential.

The one link  $SU(3)$  reduced model



Effective model for QCD: one link in the field of its neighbors.

$$-S = \frac{\beta}{2} (\text{tr}UA + \text{tr}A^{-1}U^{-1}) + \ln D + \ln \tilde{D} \quad (1)$$

$$D = 1 + C\text{tr}U + C^2\text{tr}U^{-1} + C^3, \quad C = 2\kappa e^\mu \quad (2)$$

$$\tilde{D} = 1 + \tilde{C}\text{tr}U^{-1} + \tilde{C}^2\text{tr}U + \tilde{C}^3, \quad \tilde{C} = 2\kappa e^{-\mu} \quad (3)$$

The matrices  $A \in GL(3, C)$  simulate the staples,  $D\tilde{D}$  the determinant.

After "Cartan" reduction:

$$-S = \frac{\beta}{2} \sum_{i=1}^3 (\alpha_i e^{i w_i} + \alpha_i^{-1} e^{-i w_i}) + \ln D + \ln \tilde{D} + f \ln H \quad (4)$$

$$H = \sin^2 \frac{w_2 - w_3}{2} \sin^2 \frac{w_3 - w_1}{2} \sin^2 \frac{w_1 - w_2}{2}, \quad w_1 + w_2 + w_3 = 0$$

Effect of the neighbors: coded in the complex coefficients  $\alpha$ .

Observables and CC conditions :

$$O_n = \text{tr}(\hat{U}^n) = e^{i n w_1} + e^{i n w_2} + e^{i n w_3} \quad (5)$$

$$E_n = (\nabla^2 + K \nabla) O_n, \quad K = -\nabla S \quad (6)$$

The process runs in three or (equivalently) two angles, with correspondingly three (two) noise terms.

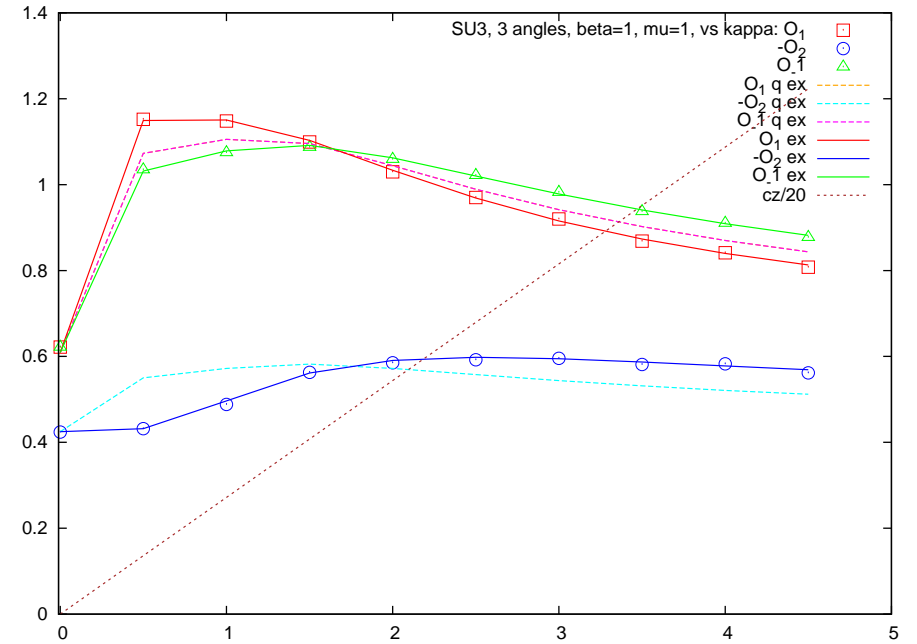
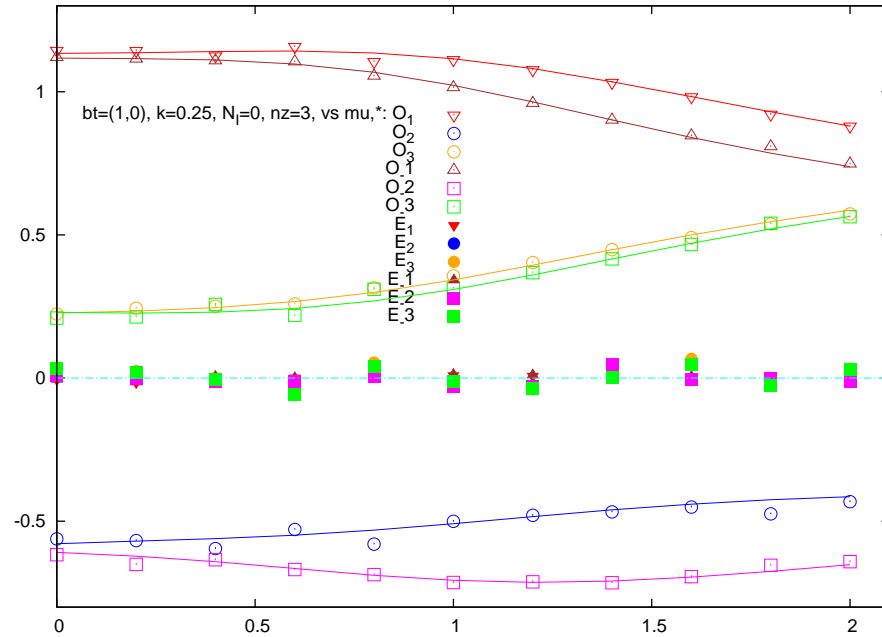


Figure 2: Effective model,  $\alpha = 1$ . *Left*: Dependence of the observables and CC's on  $\mu$ . *Right* Dependence of the observables on  $\kappa$ .  $O_n = \text{Tr}U^n$ .

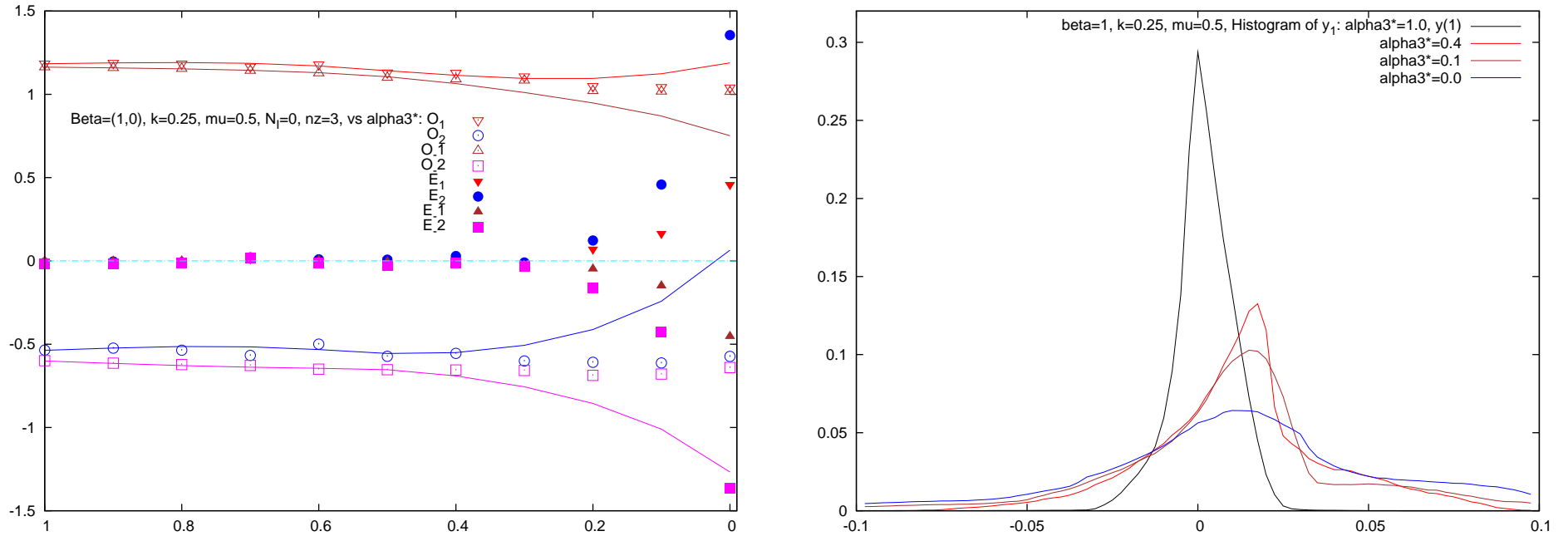
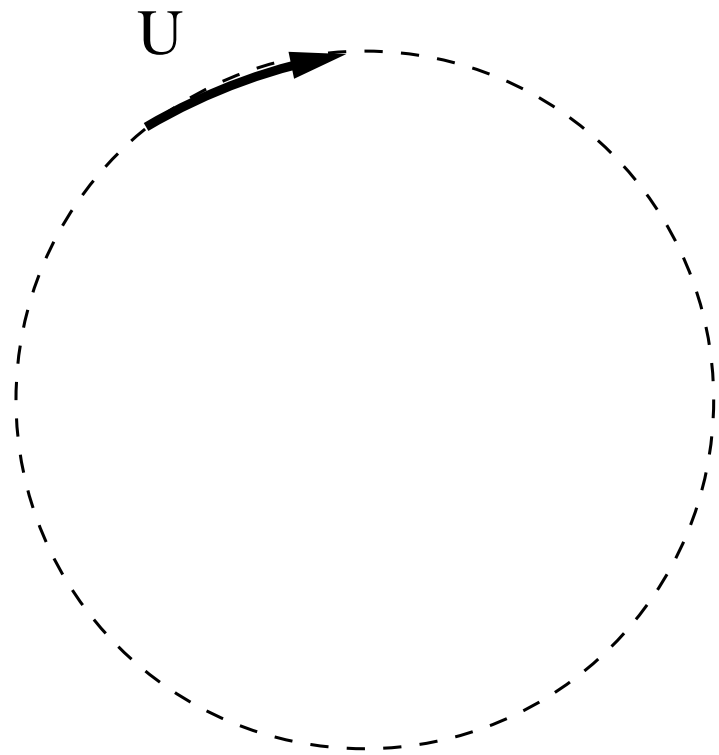
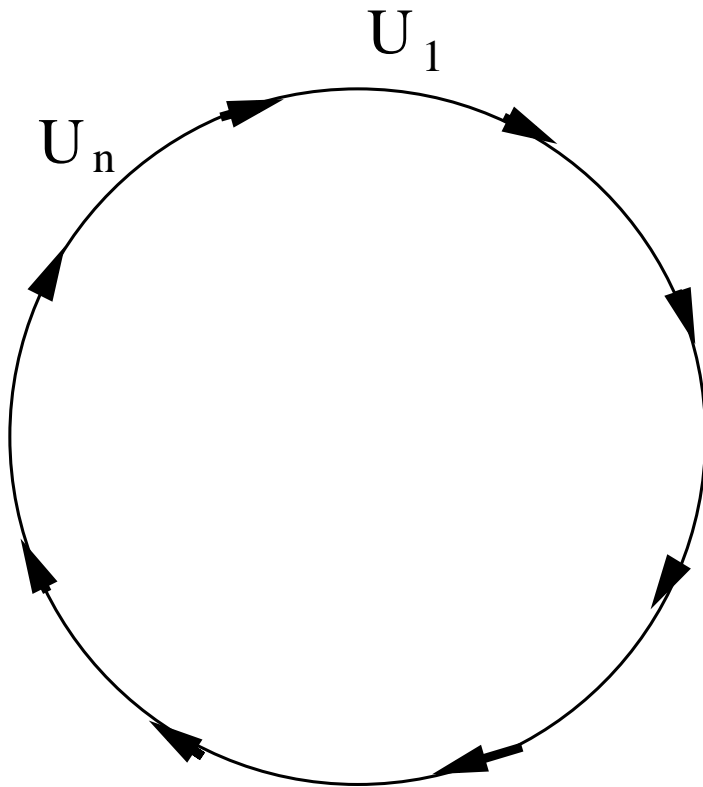


Figure 3: Effective model. *Left*: Dependence of the observables and CC's on  $\text{Re } \alpha_3$  ( $\text{Im } \alpha_3$  increases correspondingly,  $\alpha_{1,2}$  kept fixed at some arbitrary complex values). The violation of the CC's signalizes discrepant results. *Right*:  $\text{Im } w$ -histograms of the equilibrium measure for different  $\text{Re } \alpha_3$ . Discrepant results correlate with wide skirts.



## The Polyakov chain



Many variables (as in lattice theory): closed Polyakov line with  $n$  links.

*The model is soluble (gauge transformation to 1 link model), but the process is done in  $n$  links.*

Action :

$$-S = (\beta + 2\kappa e^\mu) \text{Tr} (U_1 \cdots U_n) + (\beta + 2\kappa e^{-\mu})^* \text{Tr} (U_n^{-1} \cdots U_1^{-1})$$

The process runs in all  $8n$  (complex) angles, with real noise:

$$\Delta A_{i,\mu}^a = \epsilon K_{i,\mu}^a(U) + \sqrt{\epsilon} \eta, \quad U_{i,\mu} \longrightarrow e^{i \sum_a \lambda_a \Delta A_{i,\mu}^a} U_{i,\mu} \quad (7)$$

We observe wrong evolution setting in for large  $n$  even for values of the parameters for which at  $n = 1$  everything works fine! This effect correlates with wide skirts of the  $y$ -distributions.

We learn from these exercises that:

- Wide skirts of the distributions (far diffusing scatter plots) lead to wrong results.
- These effects apparently come from
  - incorrect sampling and accumulation of numerical errors
  - violation of the equivalence proof by boundary terms.
- For *gauge theories* a clear signal of wrong evolution is *uncontrolled departure* from the **unitary manifold**.
- This suggests using *gauge symmetry* to redesign the process such that it stays as near as possible to the **unitary manifold**.

## 4. Gauge cooling

For a correctly evolving process a "unitarity norm" such as  $\text{tr} U U^\dagger - 3$  should *converge* to some (generally non-zero) value.

Since the clear symptom of incorrect evolution is the *divergence of the unitarity norm (UN)* we introduce a **gauge cooling** to minimize the unitarity norm

$$UN \equiv \sum_{\text{links}} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} (U U^\dagger + U^{-1} U^{-1\dagger}) - 3 \right] \quad (8)$$

This succeeds by successive gauge transformations of the links

$$R_k = e^{-\alpha \epsilon dS_G}, \quad U_k \longrightarrow R_k U_k, \quad U_{k-1} \longrightarrow U_{k-1} R_k^{-1} \quad (9)$$

$dS_G$  : the gradient of the UN

$\alpha$  : the strength of the gaugeforce,  $\epsilon$  : step size.

*Cf. also Denes Sexty's talk.*

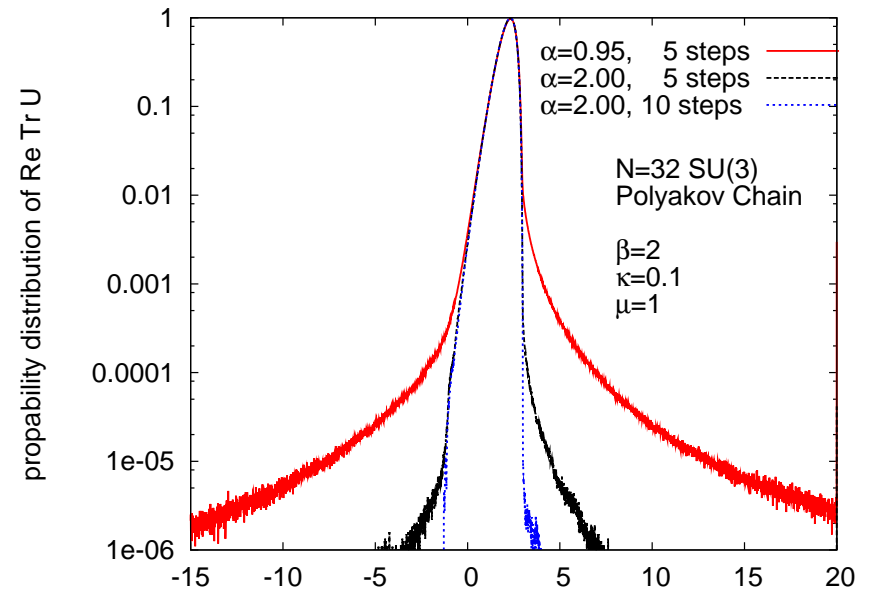
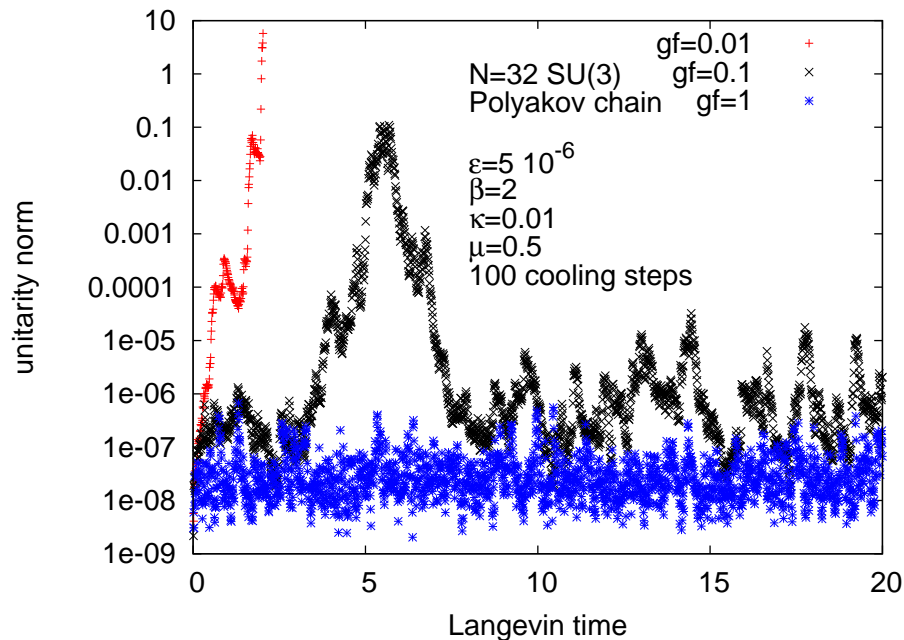


Figure 4: Polyakov chain,  $n = 32$ . Evolution of the  $UN$  (*left*), and  $y$ -distributions (*right*) for various coolings ( $gf \equiv \alpha$ ). Divergent  $UN$  correlates with wide skirts in the distributions.

## Notice:

- **Gauge Cooling** is a general method for  $SL(n, C)$  gauge theories.
- It *modifies* the **CLE** process. It can be realized as gauge transformations interspersed with the CLE process or as additional drift in the process *along* the gauge orbits - akin with stochastic gauge fixing.
- It does not change the observables but "*repairs*" the process, that is, the sampling of the observables.
- It must not be confused with usual cooling, since it does not change gauge independent quantities, in particular the action.

**5. Lattice QCD with chemical potential,  
HD approximation, Wilson fermions**



## Hopping parameter expansion (loop expansion)

*Smit, Kawamoto (1982), IOS (1982):*

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Det } W &= \exp(\text{Tr} \ln W) \\
 &= \exp \left[ - \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sum_{\{C_l\}} \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \frac{(\kappa_{\lambda}^l g_{C_l})^s}{s} \text{Tr}_{D,C} \mathcal{L}_{C_l}^s \right] \\
 &= \prod_{l=1}^{\infty} \prod_{\{C_l\}} \text{Det}_{D,C} \left( 1 - (\kappa_{\lambda})^l g_{C_l} \mathcal{L}_{C_l} \right)
 \end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

with  $C_l$  a closed, non-self-repeating path,  $\lambda$  the links on  $C_l$  and

$$\mathcal{L}_{C_l} = \left( \prod_{\lambda \in C_l} \Gamma_{\lambda} U_{\lambda} \right)^s, \quad g_{C_l} = \left( \epsilon e^{\pm N_{\tau} \mu_f} \right)^r \tag{11}$$

with non-trivial  $g_{C_l}$  for loops winding  $r$  times in the  $\pm 4$  direction with periodic(antiperiodic) b.c. ( $\epsilon = +1(-1)$ ) and  $\kappa_{\lambda} = \kappa$  or  $\kappa \gamma$ .

The lattice HDM-QCD model *I. Bender, T. Hashimoto, F. Karsch, V. Linke, A. Nakamura, M. Plewnia, IOS, W. Wetzel, 1991:*

In the limit  $\kappa \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\mu \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\zeta = \kappa e^\mu$  : *fixed* only Polyakov loops survive in the loop expansion and the determinant factorizes.

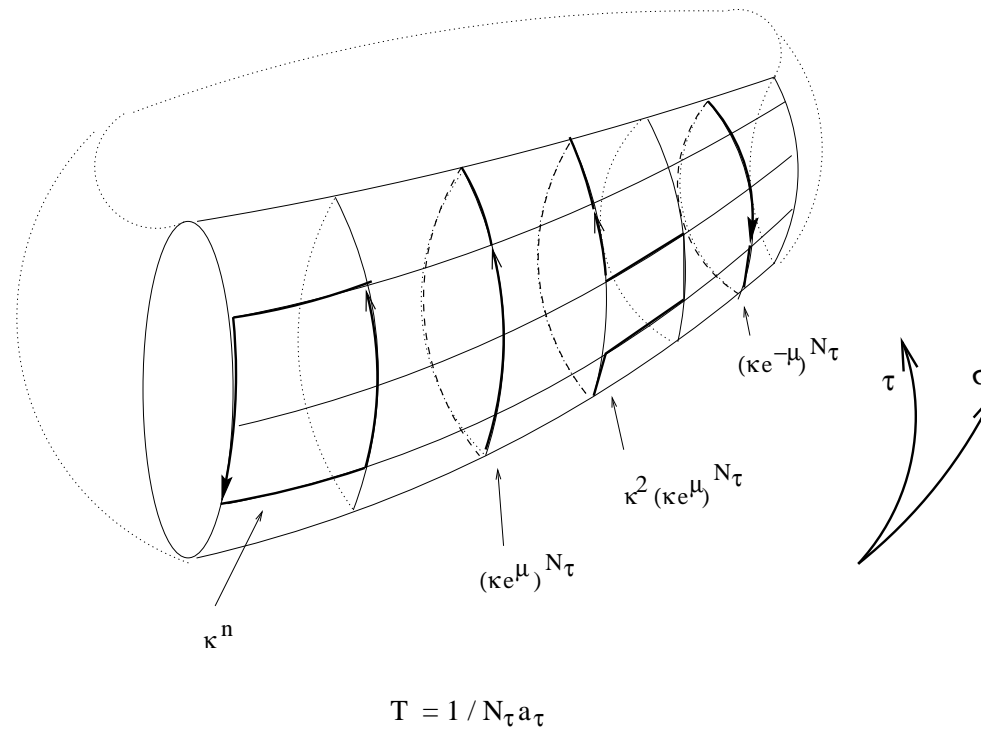


Figure 5: The HDM - QCD model: 0-th and 2-nd order.  $\kappa^2$ ,  $\kappa^4$  orders: straightforward (beware combinatorics).

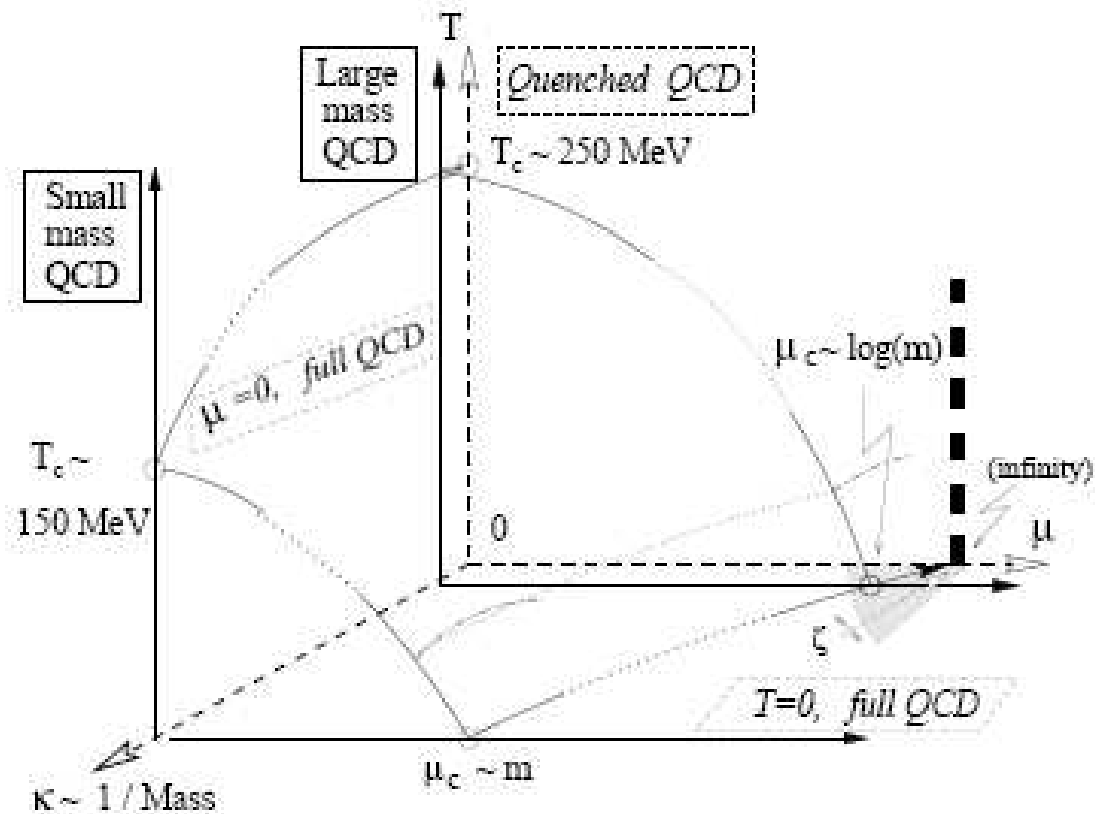


Figure 1. Tentative phase diagram.

Figure 6: HDM-QCD: Tentative phase structure.

Recent applications:

### HDM-QCD:

- Fixed charge ("quenched finite density QCD"), *J. Engels, O. Kaczmarek, F. Karsch, E. Laermann NPhProc 1999*
- Explicite formulae, colour condensate (full Y-M action, phase reweighting) *R. Hofmann and IOS, NPhProc 2004*
- Phase diagram, quark prop., (full Y-M action, ph. RW; compare MF and order  $\beta$  s.c.) *R. De Pietri, A. Feo, E. Seiler, IOS, PRD 2007*

### HD-QCD (symmetrized HDM, *G. Aarts and IOS, JHEP 2008*) :

- Strong coupling expansion, reweighting and CLE *P. de Forcrand, M. Fromm, PRL 2010, M. Fromm, J. Langelage, S. Lottini, M. Neuman, O. Philipsen, PRL 2012*
- CLE, full Y-M action *E. Seiler, D. Sexty, IOS, PLB 2013*

**Further:** Gluons and light quarks on heavy dense background,  
Upper corner of Columbia plot, Dense matter, Neutron stars, ..

# HDM-QCD: reweighting results

RW, *De Pietri et al* (phase reweighting, temporal gauge).

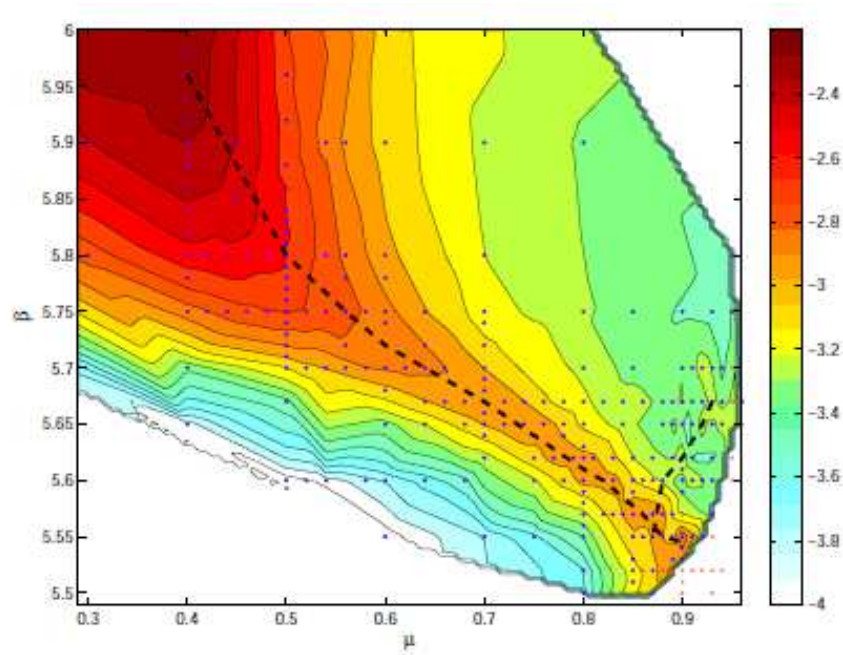


FIG. 15: Landscape of the Polyakov loop susceptibility. The color scale (left) is based on  $\log_{10}(\chi_P)$

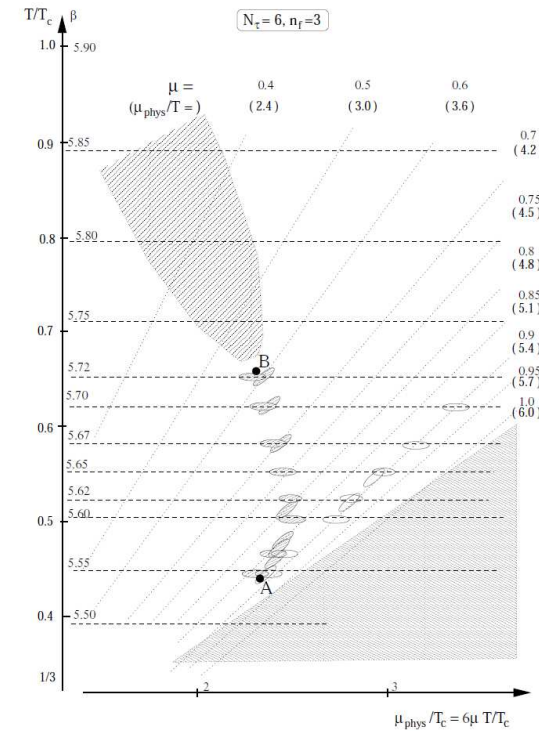


FIG. 17: Phase diagram in the  $\beta$  (or  $T/T_c$ ) -  $\mu_{\text{phys}}/T_c$  QCD plane. The dotted straight lines correspond to constant  $\mu$ , the dashed ones to constant  $\beta$ . The blobs, shadowing and other features are explained in the text.

Figure 7: HDM-QCD, 3 flavours, order  $\kappa^2$ : Polyakov loop susceptibility and phase structure.

## HDQCD: CLE and RW results

HDQCD ("symmetrized" HDM), Wilson fermions, full Y-M action.  
 Order  $(\kappa N_t)^2$  and higher corrections: decorated Polyakov loops.

$$S = \frac{\beta}{6} S_{YM}(\{U\}) + \ln \det \mathbf{M}(\mu) \quad (12)$$

$$\det \mathbf{M}(\mu) \equiv \prod_x \text{Det}(\mathbf{1} + C\mathcal{P}_x)^2 \text{Det}(\mathbf{1} + C'\mathcal{P}_x^{-1})^2 \quad (13)$$

$$\text{Det}(\mathbf{1} + C\mathcal{P}_x)^2 = (1 + C^3 + 3CP_x + 3C^2P'_x)^2 \quad (14)$$

$$C = [2\kappa \exp(\mu)]^{N_t}, \quad C' = [2\kappa \exp(-\mu)]^{N_t} \quad (15)$$

$$\mathcal{P}_x = \prod_{\tau=0}^{N_\tau-1} U_{x+r\hat{0},0}, \quad P_x = \frac{1}{3} \text{tr} \mathcal{P}_x; \quad P'_x = \frac{1}{3} \text{tr} \mathcal{P}_x^{-1}. \quad (16)$$

We measure also plaquettes, density and the average phase factor

$$\langle n \rangle = \frac{1}{V} \frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial \mu}, \quad \langle e^{2i\phi} \rangle \equiv \left\langle \frac{\det \mathbf{M}(\mu)}{\det \mathbf{M}(-\mu)} \right\rangle \quad (17)$$

# RW for HDQCD.

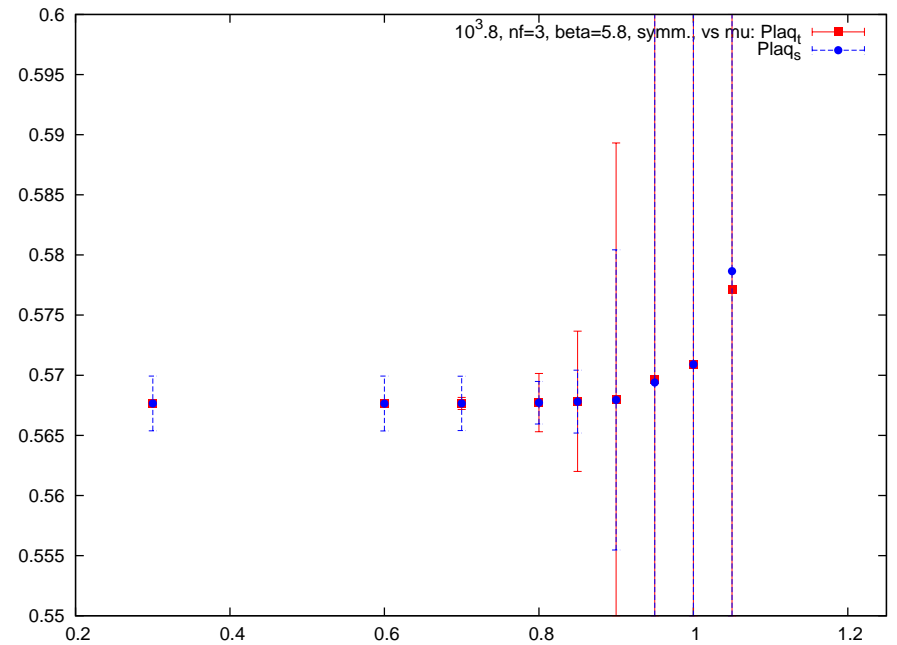
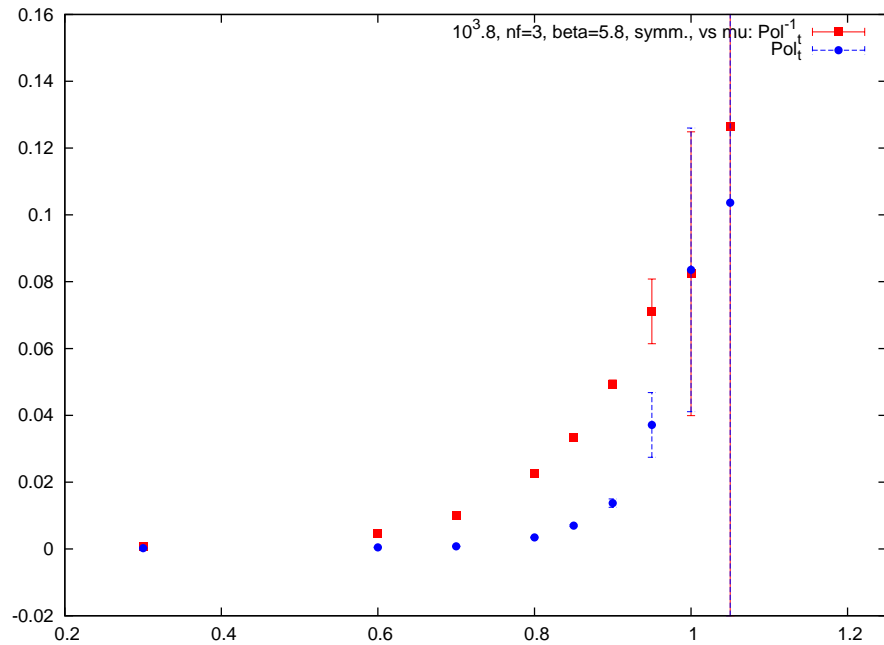


Figure 8: HD-QCD, 3 flavours: Polyakov loops and Plaquettes (10<sup>3</sup>8,  $\beta = 5.8$ , reweighting).

## CLE for HDQCD using cooling.

We observe the same behaviour as in the Polyakov chain model. The effect of cooling is dramatic.

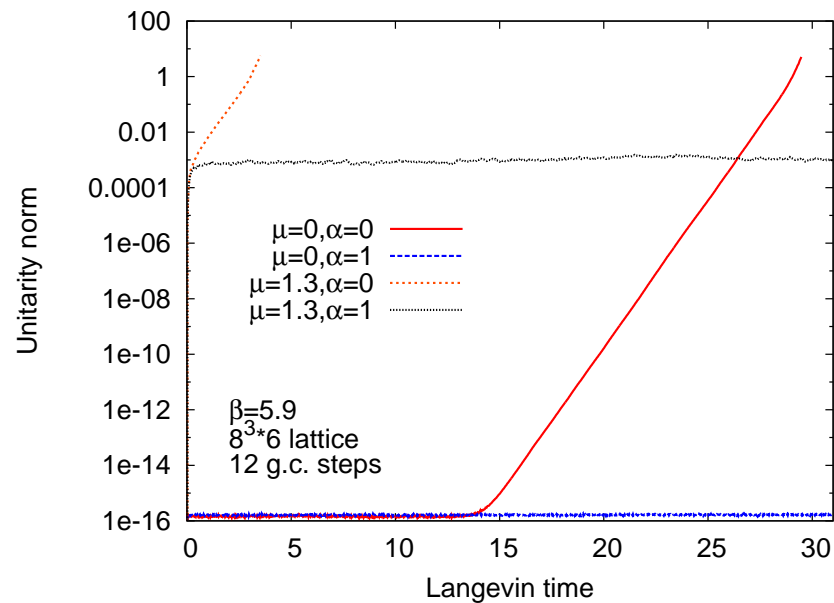


Figure 9: HDQCD: evolution of the unitarity norm with and without g.c. for  $\beta = 5.9$ ,  $8^3 \times 6$  lattice.



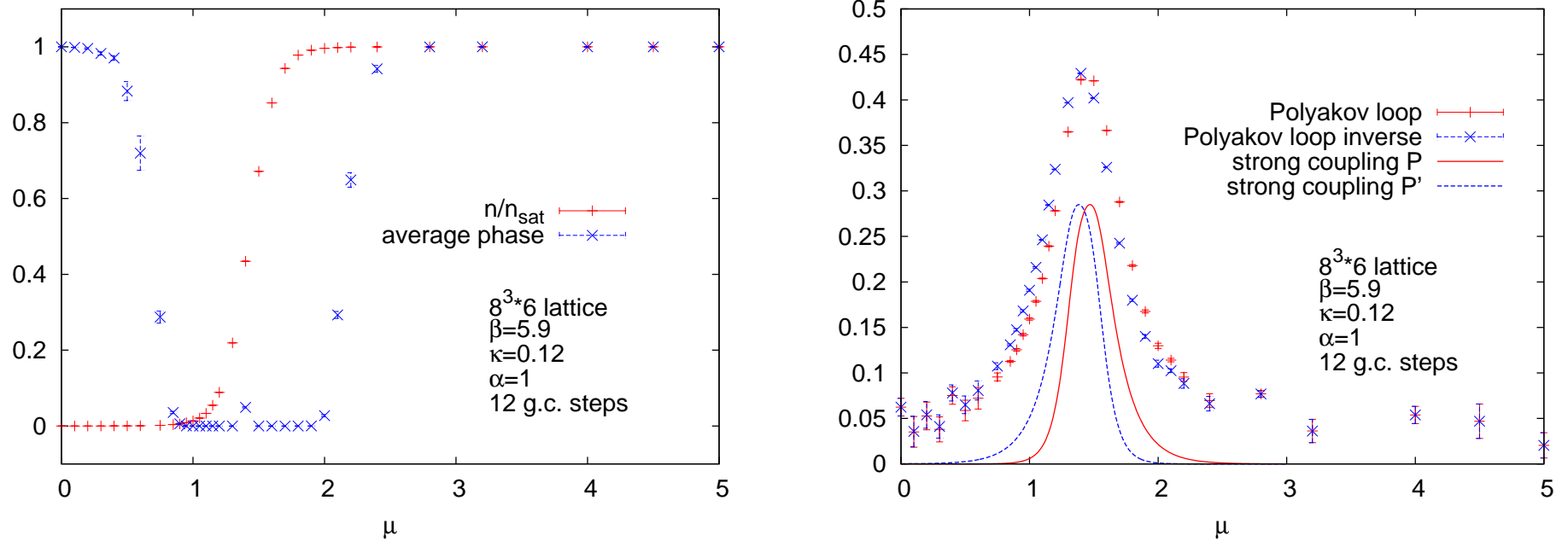


Figure 10: HDQCD. *Left*: Baryon density and average phase for  $\beta = 5.9$ ,  $8^3 \times 6$  lattice. *Right*:  $\langle \mathcal{P} \rangle$ ,  $\langle \mathcal{P}' \rangle$  vs.  $\mu$  at  $\beta = 5.9$  on a  $8^3 \times 6$  lattice; solid lines: analytic strong coupling result.

# HDQCD: comparison CLE with RW.

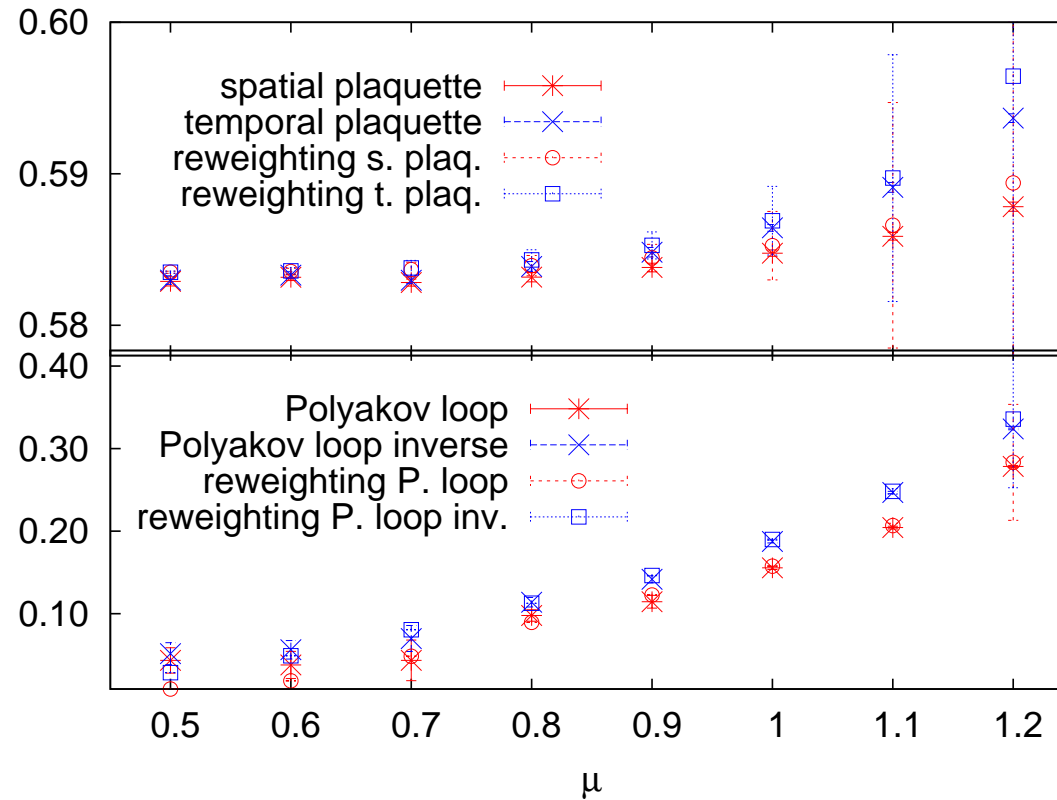


Figure 11: HDQCD:  $\langle P \rangle$ ,  $\langle P' \rangle$  and plaquettes for CLE and RW ( $6^4$  lattice,  $\alpha = 1$ , 12 g.c. steps, adaptive step size) at  $\beta = 5.9$  vs  $\mu$ . Large errors only affect RW at large  $\mu$ .

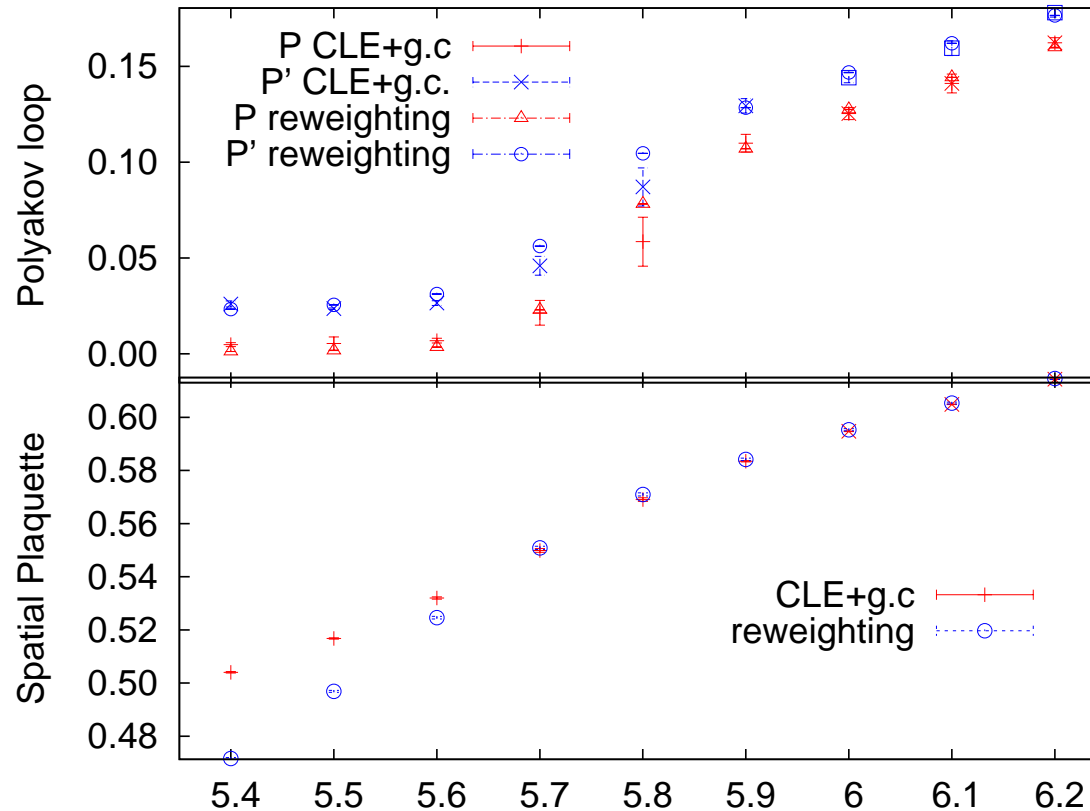


Figure 12: HDQCD:  $\langle P \rangle$ ,  $\langle P' \rangle$  and plaquettes for CLE and RW ( $6^4$  lattice,  $\alpha = 1$ , 12 g.c. steps, adaptive step size) at  $\mu = 0.85$  vs  $\beta$ ).

Good agreement, only discrepancy in the plaquettes below  $\beta \sim 5.6$ .

The *deterioration threshold* at  $\beta \sim 5.6$  appear to be independent on the lattice size and only weakly dependent on  $\mu$ , and thus stay well below the phase transition on large lattices. A continuum limit would thus be safe both in the deconfined and in the confined phase.

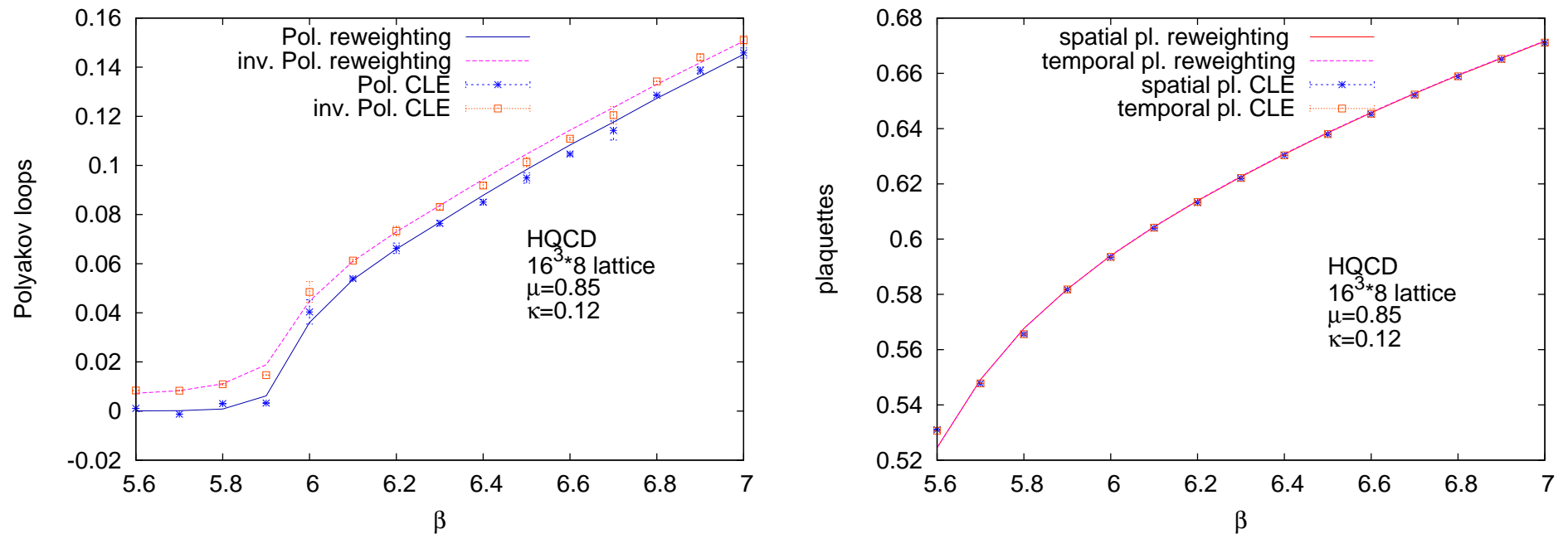


Figure 13: HDQCD: CLE and RW on  $16^3 \times 8$  lattices, Polyakov loops (*left*) and plaquettes (*right*).

## CLE: HDQCD, comparison with Full QCD

The comparison is done for 1 flavour, Wilson fermions,  $8^3.6$  lattice.

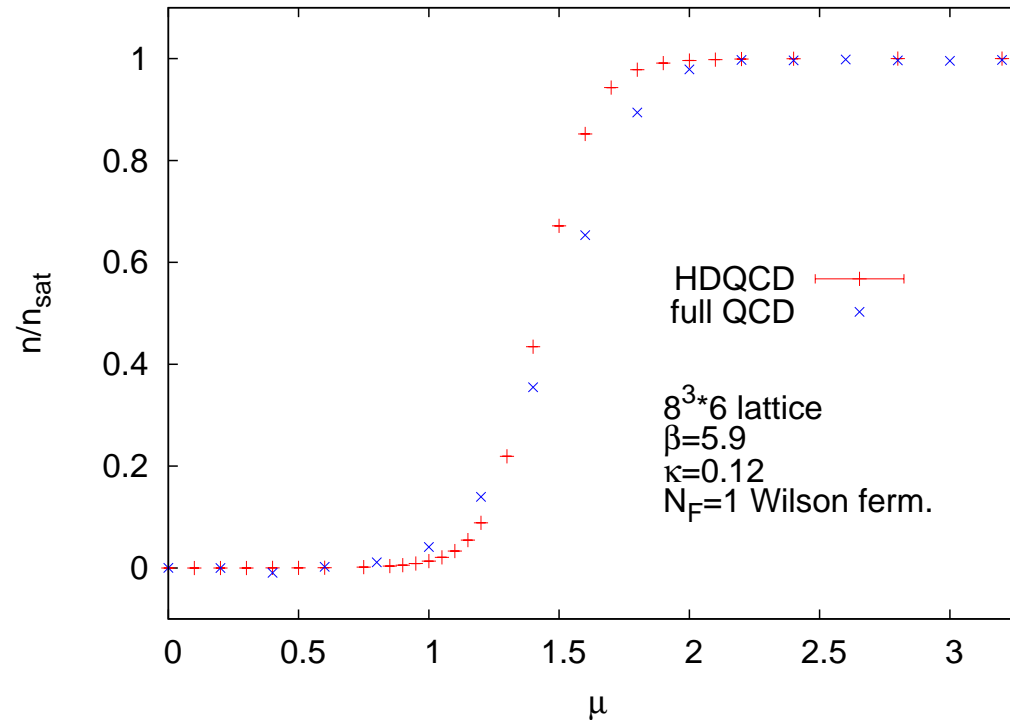


Figure 14: Comparison HDQCD and full QCD, CLE, Wilson fermions,  $\kappa = 0.12$ : baryonic density (normalized to saturation) vs  $\mu$ .

HDQCD and full QCD: similar behaviour already at intermediary mass!

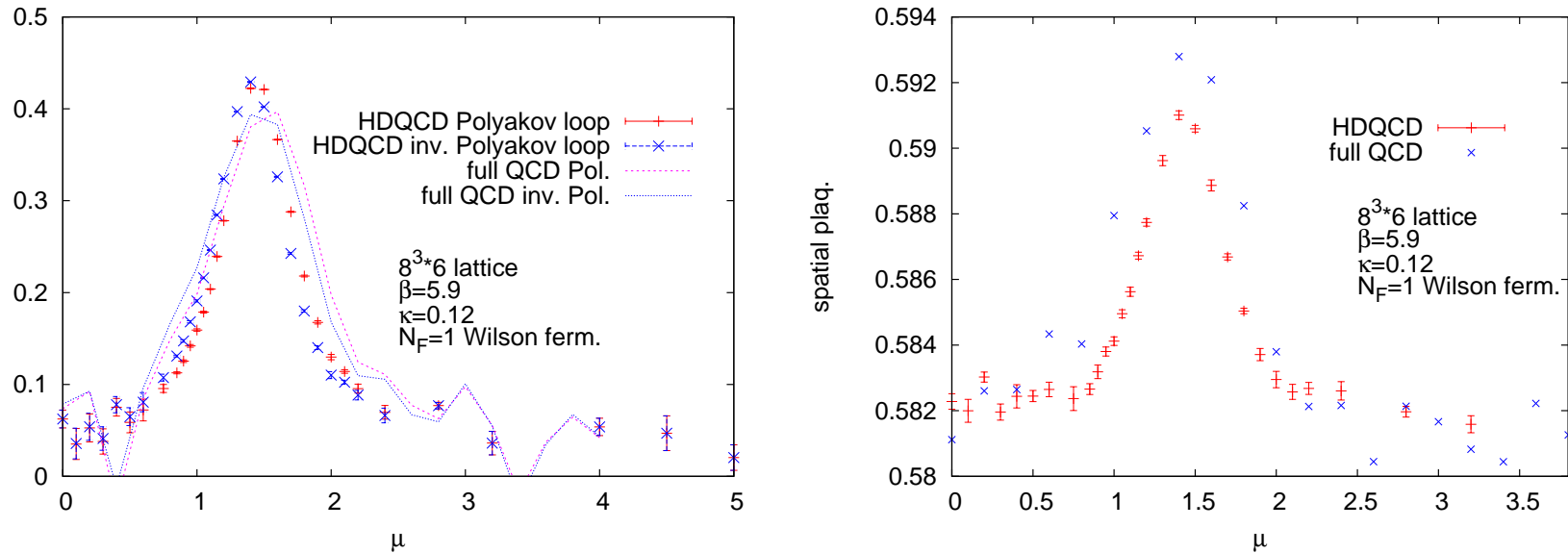


Figure 15: Comparison HDQCD and full QCD, **CLE**, Wilson fermions,  $\kappa = 0.12$ : Polyakov loops (*left*) and plaquettes (*right*) vs  $\mu$ .

**HDQCD** reproduces the features of full QCD at semi-quantitative level. It may be used therefore for answering physical questions, at least at intermediary masses. Low temperatures may be reached (in work).

## 6. Summary

## Insights, problems and solutions:

- Some problems seem to originate from a combination of the particularities of the drift flow and of numerical imprecisions.
- We could relate these problems to the behaviour of  $P(x, y)$  in the imaginary direction and solve them for gauge theories (**gauge cooling**), fulfilling thereby one of the equivalence proof conditions.
- A remaining possible source of trouble can affect non-holomorphic drift. In realistic cases this does not seem to have significant effects. But we want to reach a systematic understanding.
- **CLE with gauge cooling** allowed us to analyze a QCD-model with direct physical applications, **HDQCD**, and especially **full QCD** aiming at **physical results in the whole region of interest**.



- **CLE** has the chance to become a versatile, general method for solving the problem of complex action (QCD with chemical potential, non-equilibrium QFT and real time evolution, etc).
- The method does not suffer of cancellations and of the overlap problem.
- The method works in a parameter range unreachable by any other method.
- The volume dependence for **CLE** is comparable with **MC** (and differs essentially from that of **RW**).
- The **HD-QCD** model reproduces many features of **full QCD** and may be very useful to describe physics for intermediary quark mass, all way to high density and down to low temperature. It is well amenable to **CLE** analysis.

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Some publications in our group, various combinations:

- Lattice simulations of real-time quantum fields, J. Berges, Sz. Borsanyi, D. Sexty, I.-O. S.
- Stochastic quantization at finite chemical potential, G. Aarts, I.-O. S.
- The Complex Langevin method: When can it be trusted? G. Aarts, E. Seiler, I.-O. S.
- Complex Langevin: Etiology and Diagnostics of its Main Problems, G. Aarts, F. A. James, E. Seiler, I.-O. S.
- Complex Langevin dynamics: criteria for correctness, G. Aarts, F. A. James, E. Seiler, I.-O. S.
- Complex Langevin dynamics in the  $SU(3)$  spin model at nonzero chemical potential revisited, G. Aarts, F. A. James

- Stability of complex Langevin dynamics in effective models G. Aarts, F. A. James, J.. Pawłowski, E. Seiler, D. Sexty, I.-O. S.
- Gauge cooling in complex Langevin for QCD with heavy quarks, E. Seiler, D. Sexty, I.-O. S.
- Controlling complex Langevin dynamics at finite density, G. Aarts, L. Bongiovanni, E. Seiler, D. Sexty, I.-O. S.
- Adaptive gauge cooling for complex Langevin dynamics, G. Aarts, L. Bongiovanni, E. Seiler, D. Sexty, I.-O. S.
- Localised distributions and criteria for correctness in complex Langevin dynamics, G. Aarts, P. Giudice, E. Seiler - Simulating full QCD at nonzero density using complex Langevin equation D. Sexty