

Complex Langevin analysis of gauge theories with a theta term

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Contents

- Introduction

- 2D U(1) gauge theory

with M. Hirasawa, J. Nishimura, A. Yosprakob

[https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP09\(2020\)023](https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP09(2020)023) [arXiv:2004.13982]

- 4D SU(2) gauge theory (ongoing work)

with K. Hatakeyama, M. Hirasawa, M. Honda, Y. Ito, J. Nishimura, A. Yosprakob

- Summary and discussion

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Gauge theory with a θ term

☆ θ term: **topological** property of the gauge theory, **nonperturbative**

$$S_\theta = -i\theta Q = -\frac{i\theta}{32\pi^2} \int d^4x \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \text{Tr} [F_{\mu\nu} F_{\rho\sigma}]$$

- **strong CP problem** of QCD

The experimental bound of θ is extremely small: $|\theta| < 10^{-10}$

→ no reason for it theoretically

- phase structure of 4D SU(N) YM around $\theta = \pi$

interesting prediction by the 't Hooft **anomaly matching**

Numerical study of the θ term

Monte Carlo simulation of the lattice gauge theory with a θ term

- θ term is purely imaginary \rightarrow the action “ S ” is complex
- impossible to interpret Boltzmann weight “ e^{-S} ” as a probability
 \rightarrow sign problem

- It arises in various cases...
 - finite density QCD
 - chiral fermion
 - real time dynamics
 - etc.

Approach to complex action systems

➤ Reweighting method

- treat the phase of e^{-S} as an observable
- does not work if the phase oscillates rapidly

➤ Lefschetz thimble method

- reduce the phase oscillation by deforming the integral path in the complex plane

➤ Complex Langevin method

- low computational cost
- has to meet a condition to justify the result

➤ Tensor renormalization group

- easy to increase the system size
- higher dimension is difficult

Complex Langevin method

complex Langevin method (CLM)

[G. Parisi (1983)] [J. R. Klauder (1983)]

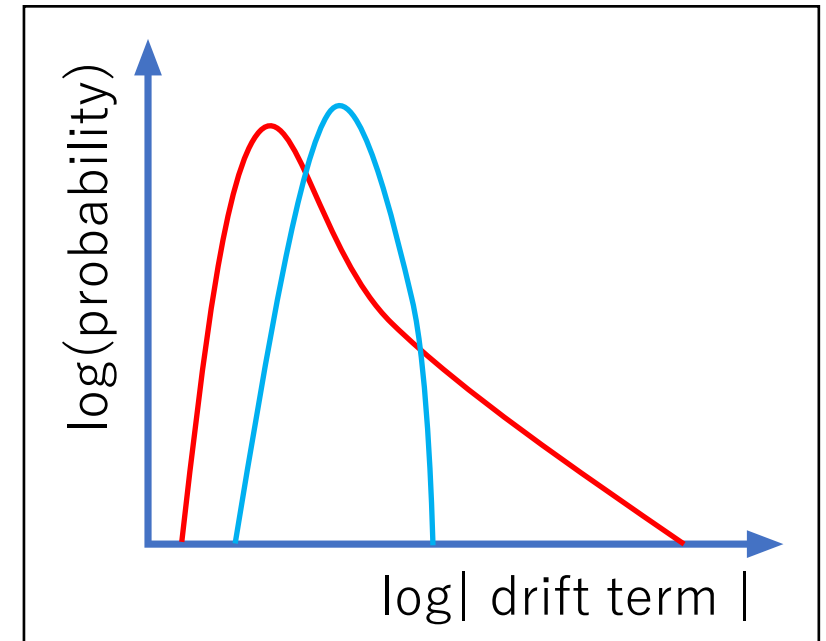
- Langevin equation: fictitious time evolution of dynamical variables
- real variable \rightarrow complex variable

$$\frac{dz(t)}{dt} = -\frac{\partial S(t)}{\partial z} + \eta(t) \quad x \mapsto z = x + iy$$

Diagram illustrating the Langevin equation components:

- The term $-\frac{\partial S(t)}{\partial z}$ is labeled "drift term".
- The term $\eta(t)$ is labeled "Gaussian noise".

- do not use "probability" \rightarrow ~~sign problem~~
- condition required to be satisfied



The distribution of the drift term falls off exponentially or faster.

[K. Nagata, J. Nishimura, S. Shimasaki (2016)]

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2D U(1) gauge theory

- total action = kinetic term + θ term

$$S_g = \frac{1}{4g^2} \int d^2x F_{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} \quad S_\theta = -i\theta Q \quad Q = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^2x \epsilon_{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}$$

- exactly solvable on a finite lattice \rightarrow good test ground
- lattice gauge action

$$S_g = -\frac{\beta}{2} \sum_n (P_n + P_n^{-1}) \quad P_n = U_{n,\hat{1}} U_{n+\hat{1},2} U_{n+\hat{2},1}^{-1} U_{n,2}^{-1} = e^{ia^2 F_{n,12}} \quad \beta = \frac{1}{(ga)^2}$$

- topological charge \cdots two types of definition

Topological charge on a 2D lattice

- exactly integer for a finite lattice spacing

$$Q_{\log} := -\frac{i}{2\pi} \sum_n \log P_n = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_n a^2 \epsilon_{\mu\nu} F_{n,\mu\nu}$$

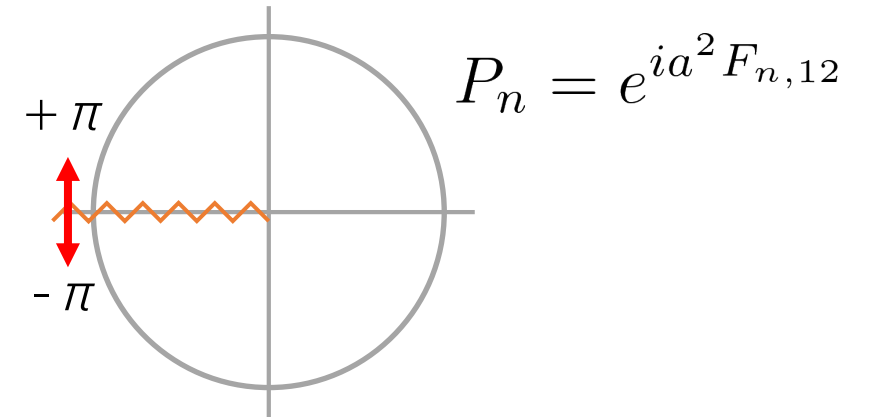
← changes discontinuously at the branch cut ($\arg P_n = \pi$)

$$\log z = \log |z| + i \arg z \quad -\pi < \arg z \leq \pi$$

$$\sum_n \log P_n = \log \prod_n P_n + 2\pi i \mathbb{Z} \quad \prod_n P_n = 1$$

- approaches integer in the continuum limit

$$Q_{\sin} = -\frac{i}{4\pi} \sum_n (P_n - P_n^{-1}) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_n \sin(a^2 F_{n,12})$$



← analogy of “clover leaf” in the 4D lattice

CLM for the lattice gauge theory

- discretized **complex Langevin equation** for the link variable $U_{n,\mu}$

$$U_{n,\mu}(t + \epsilon) = \exp \left[-i\epsilon D_{n,\mu} S(t) + i\sqrt{\epsilon}\eta_{n,\mu}(t) \right] U_{n,\mu}(t)$$

$$U_{n,\mu} \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$$

drift term

- gauge group is extended: $U(1) \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$

$$U_{n,\mu}^\dagger \rightarrow U_{n,\mu}^{-1}$$

- drift term and observables have to respect **holomorphicity**
- control the non-unitarity by **gauge cooling**
 - gauge transformation to keep the link variable close to unitary
 - not affect gauge invariant observables

[E. Seiler, D. Sexty, I.-O. Stamatescu (2013)] [K. Nagata, J. Nishimura, S. Shimasaki (2016)]

Drift term from S_θ

on a torus...

definition	value	drift term
$\log : Q_{\log}$	integer for a finite lattice spacing	ill-defined
$\sin : Q_{\sin}$	approaches an integer in the continuum limit	well-defined

If we use $S_\theta = -i\theta Q_{\log} \dots D_{n,\mu} S_\theta$ is ill-defined on the branch cut and is always zero elsewhere.

→ We use $S_\theta = -i\theta Q_{\sin}$ naively for CLM on a 2D torus.

Result of the naive implementation

- small β (coarse lattice): wrong convergence of CLM

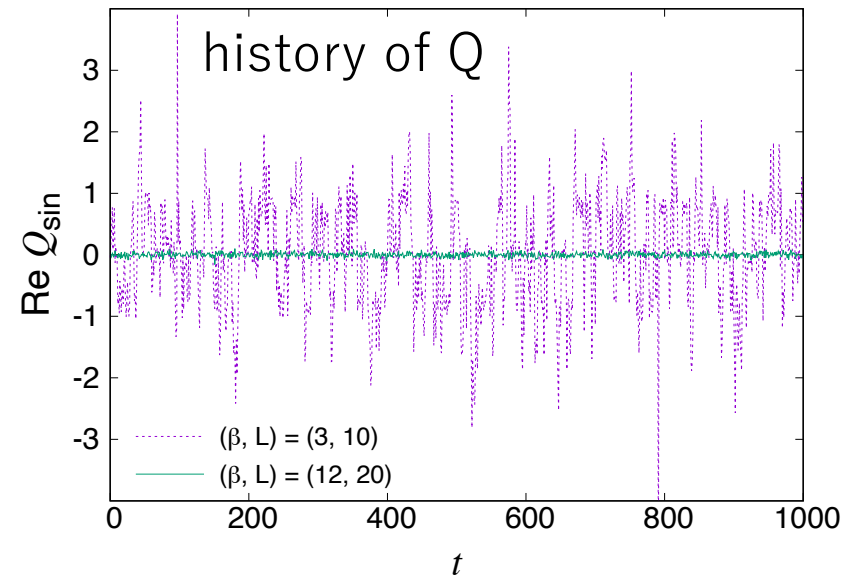
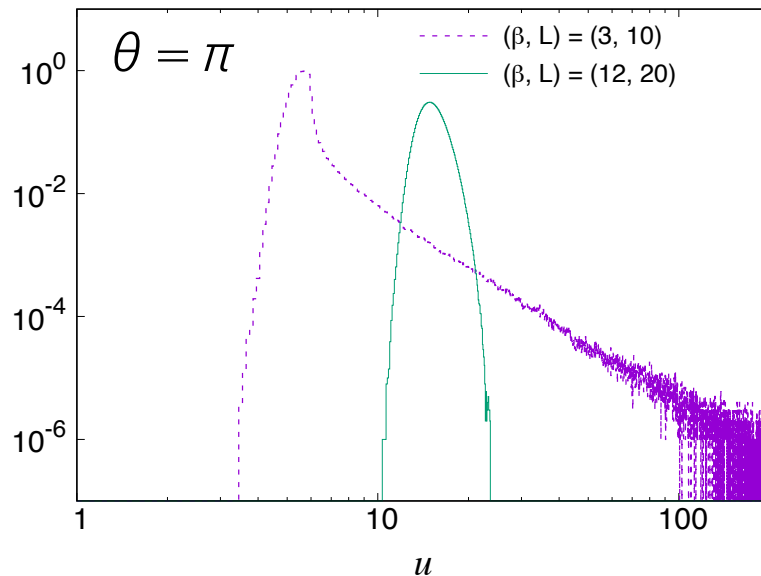
- The condition for correct convergence is not satisfied.

↕ trade-off

- large β (fine lattice): “freezing” of the topological charge

- The configuration is confined in a single topological sector.

distribution of the drift term



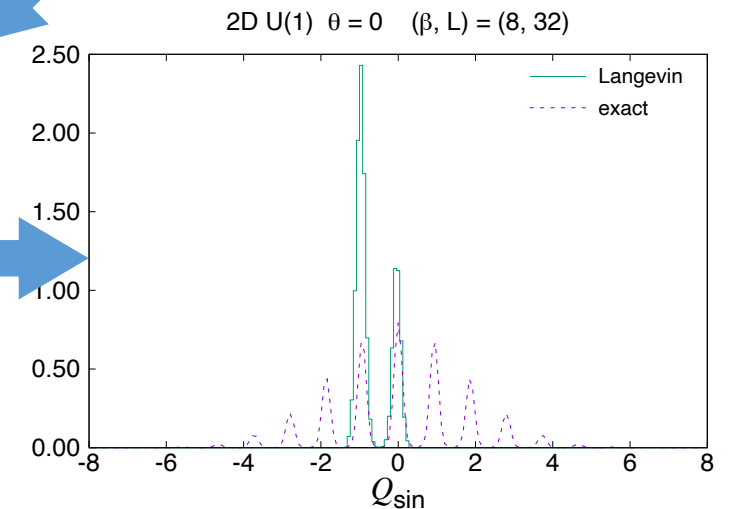
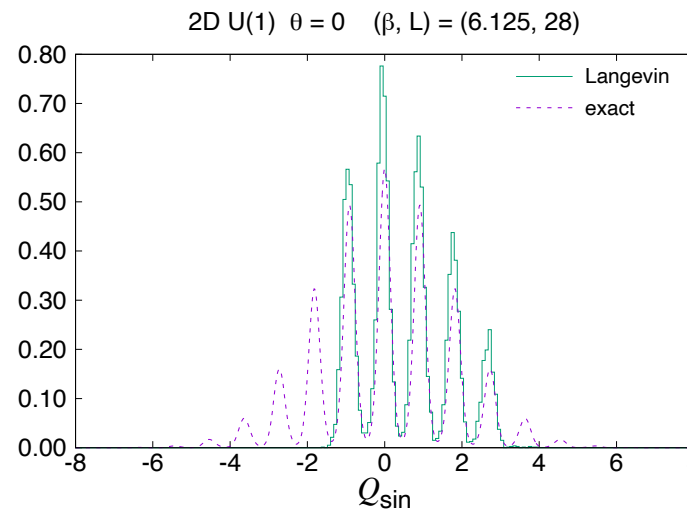
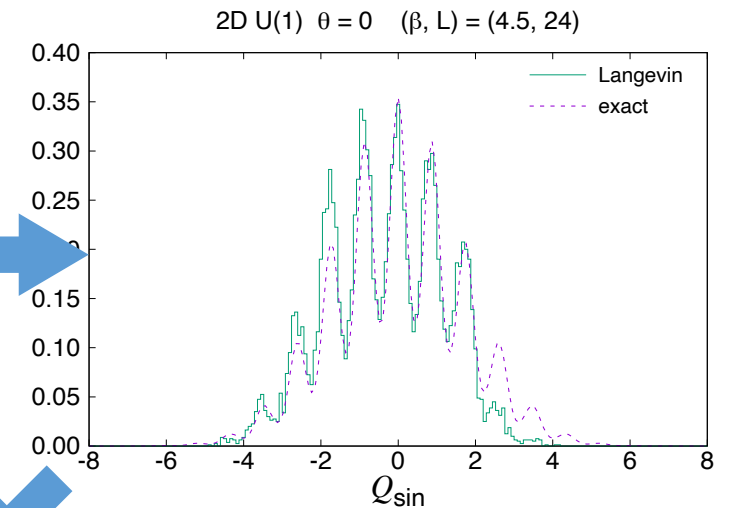
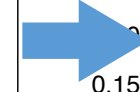
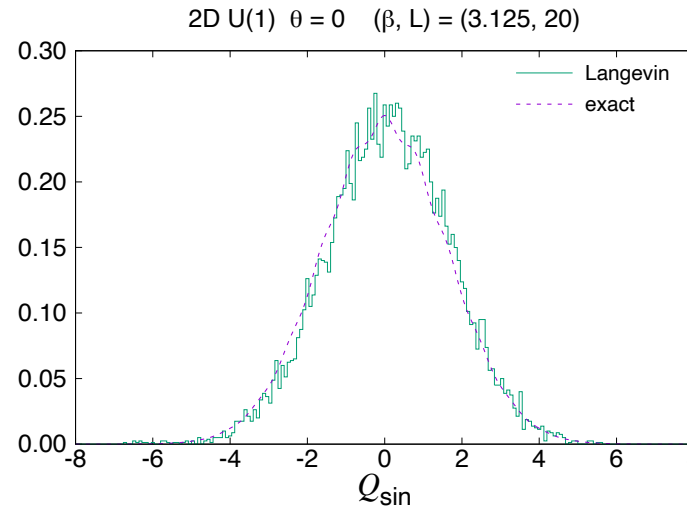
Behavior of the topological charge

- distribution of Q_{sin} at $\theta = 0$ for the fixed physical volume $V / \beta = 128$

$$Q_{\text{sin}} = -\frac{i}{4\pi} \sum_n (P_n - P_n^{-1})$$

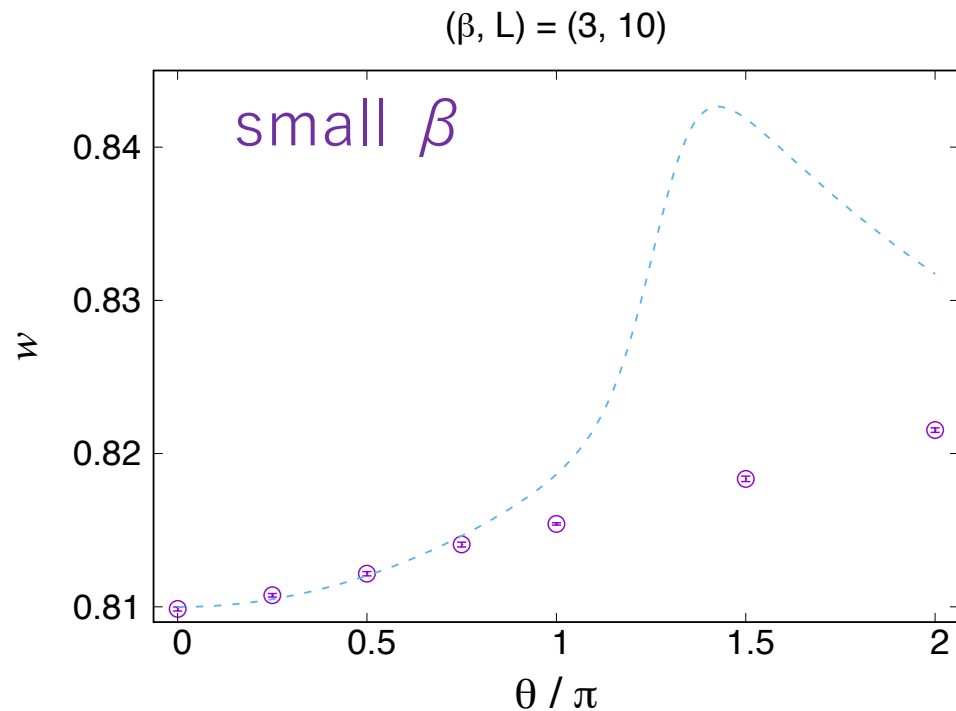
in the continuum limit

- $Q_{\text{sin}} \rightarrow \text{integer}$
- **topology freezing**

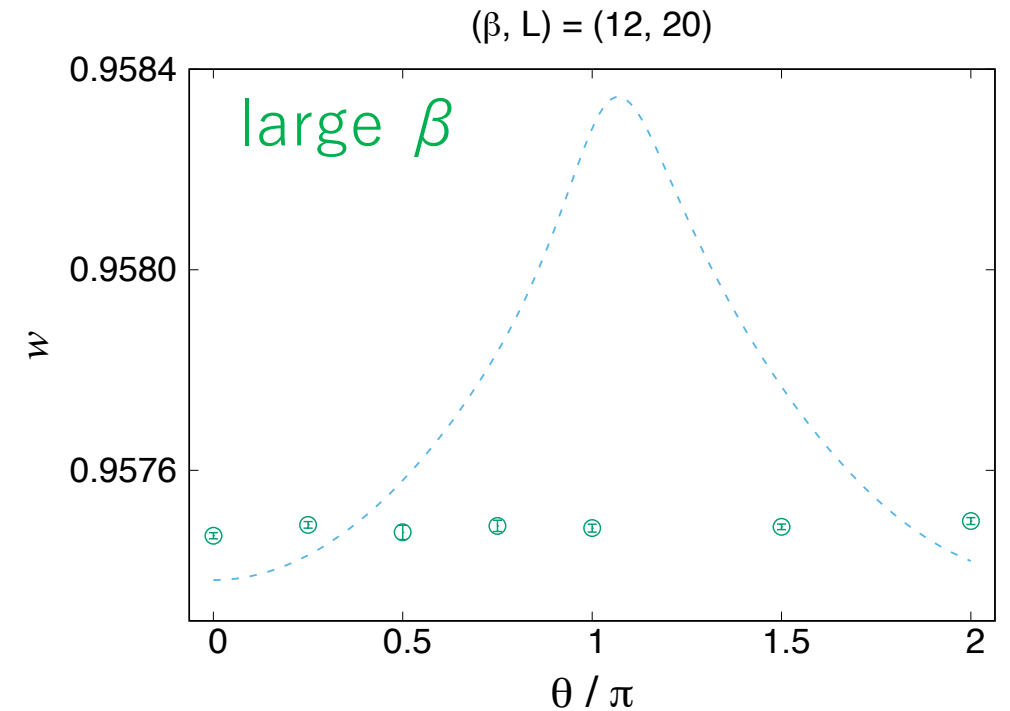


Observable

average plaquette $w = \frac{1}{V} \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \log Z = -\frac{1}{\beta V} \langle S_g \rangle$



condition is not satisfied for $\theta \neq 0$



freezing of topological charge

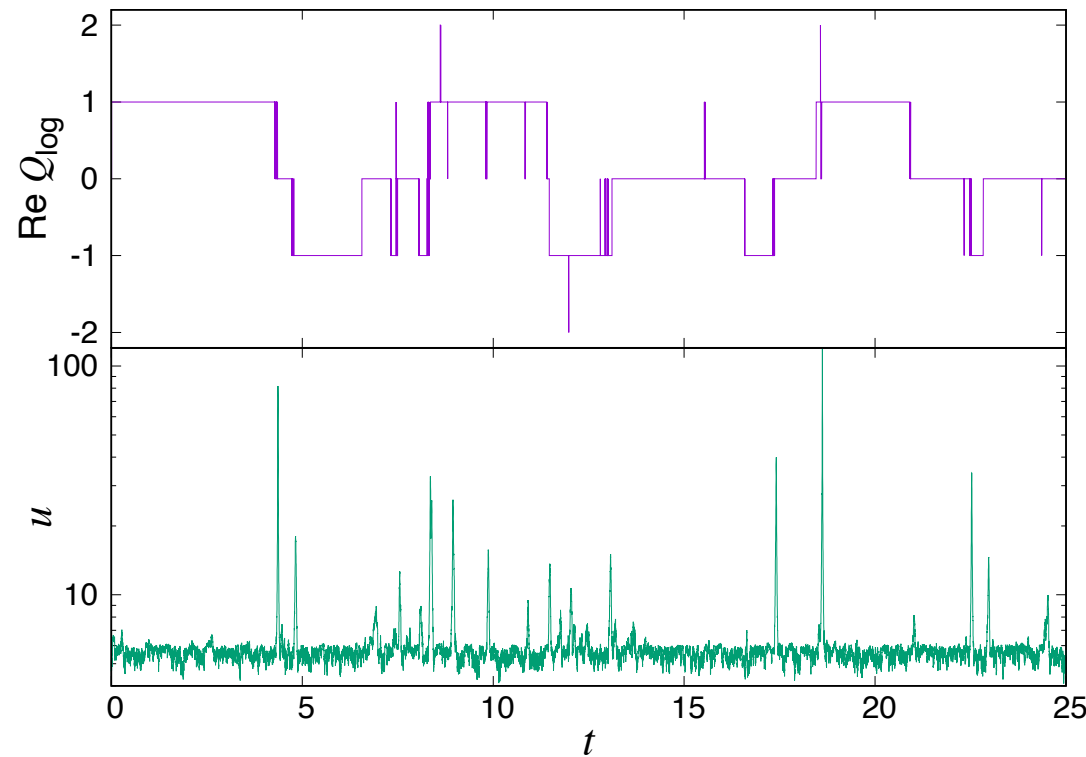
Large drift term and topology change

- Each configuration can be classified into **topological sectors** by measuring Q_{\log} .
- transition among topological sectors = change of Q_{\log}

change of Q_{\log}

correlation

large drift term

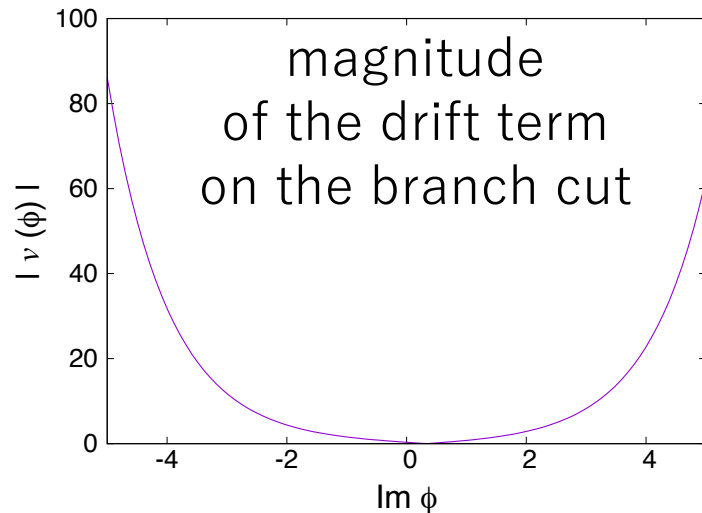


history of
 $\text{Re } Q_{\log}$

history of
 $\max |drift\ term|$

Origin of large drift terms

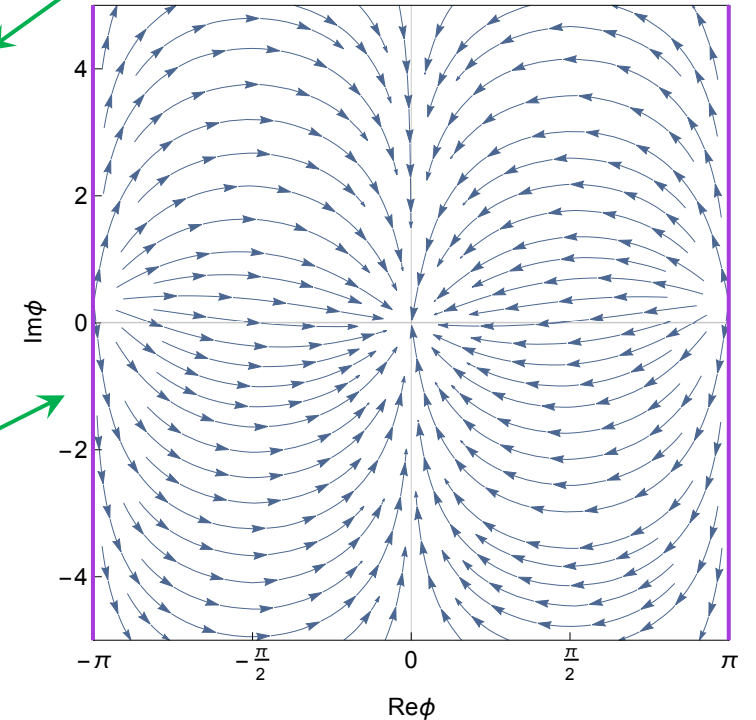
- Transition among topological sectors is caused by **branch crossing** of the phase of plaquette $\phi = -i \log P_n$.
- When ϕ approaches the branch cut, it flows to the imaginary direction.
- As $\text{Im } \phi$ increases, $|\text{drift term}|$ increases exponentially.



$$P_n = e^{i\phi}$$

$$P_{n-2} = 1$$

flow diagram of ϕ
(drift of $U_{n,1}$)



drift force pushing ϕ away from the real axis

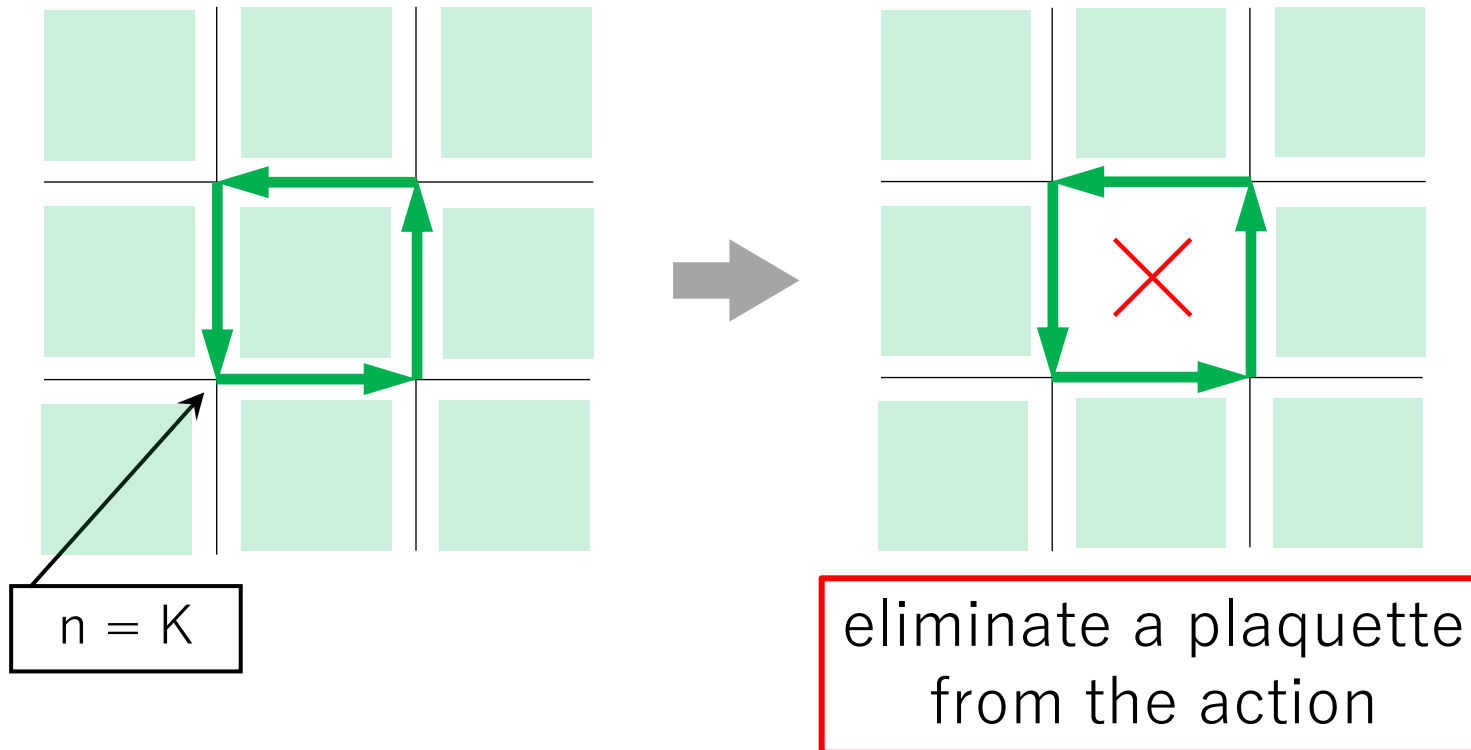
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Introducing a puncture on the torus

prescription for avoiding the freezing of Q

★ introduce a puncture on the torus $\rightarrow Q$ is no longer an integer
 topological charge can change frequently \rightarrow freezing is resolved



$$S_g = -\frac{\beta}{2} \sum_{n \neq K} (P_n + P_n^{-1})$$

$$Q_{\sin} = -\frac{i}{4\pi} \sum_{n \neq K} (P_n - P_n^{-1})$$

$$Q_{\log} = -\frac{i}{2\pi} \sum_{n \neq K} \log P_n$$

Drift term for the punctured model

on a punctured torus...

definition	value	drift term
$\log : Q_{\log}$	not an integer	well-defined (if β is large enough)
$\sin : Q_{\sin}$	not an integer	well-defined

- We can use $S_{\theta} = -i \theta Q_{\log}$ on the punctured torus.
- The links around the puncture get non-zero drift terms.

Property of the punctured model

- The punctured model does not have 2π -periodicity of θ .
 - since the topological charge is not an integer
- The punctured model is equivalent to the **infinite volume limit** of the original (non-punctured) model for $|\theta| < \pi$.

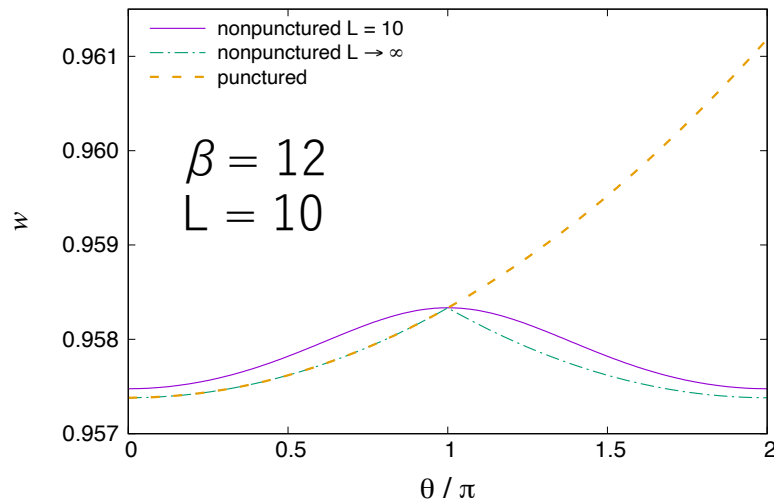
$$Z_{\text{nonpunc}} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} [\mathcal{I}(n, \theta, \beta)]^V$$

(β, L) = (12, 10)

$$Z_{\text{punc}} = [\mathcal{I}(0, \theta, \beta)]^V$$

$$\mathcal{I}(n, \theta, \beta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\phi e^{\beta \cos \phi + i(\frac{\theta}{2\pi} - n)\phi}$$

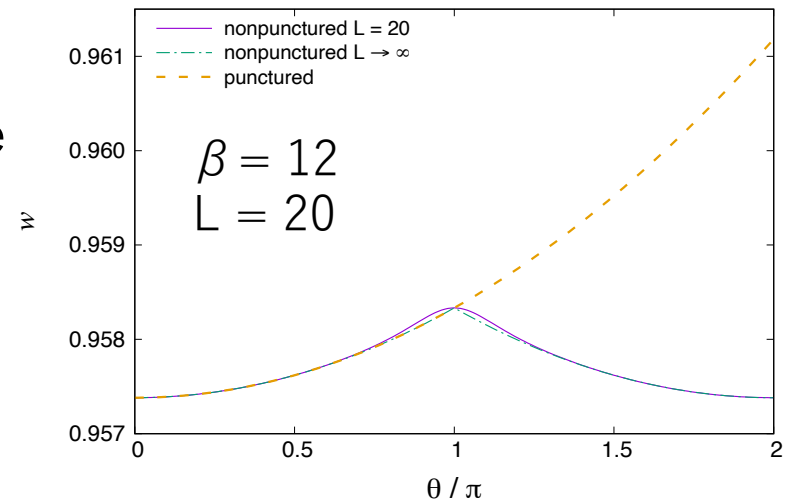
(β, L) = (12, 20)



analytic solution of
the average plaquette

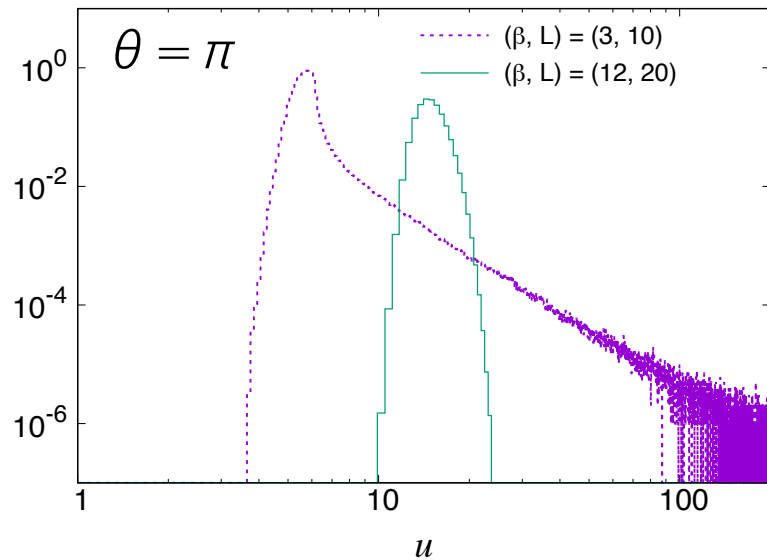


increase the volume

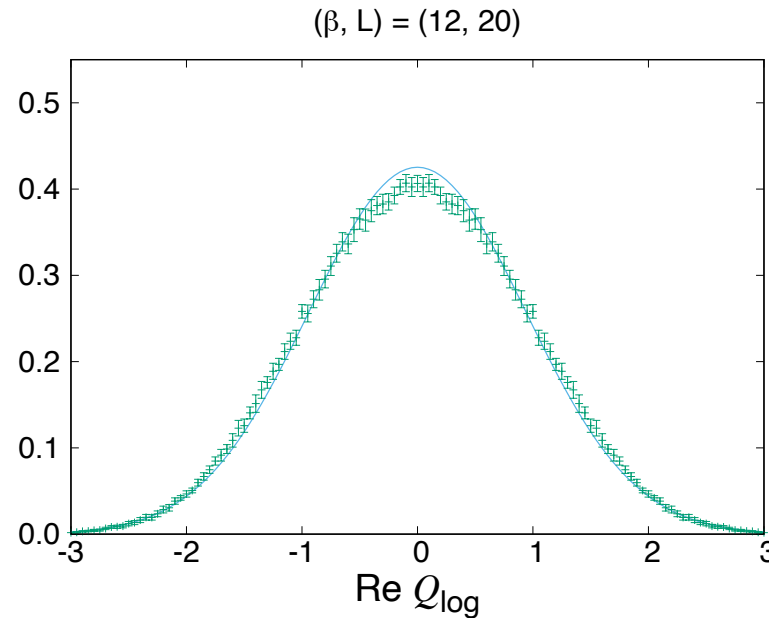


Result of the punctured model

- The condition for the correct convergence is satisfied for large β .
 - The topology freezing does not occur.
- ☆ Both of the problem are resolved if β is large enough.



distribution of the drift term

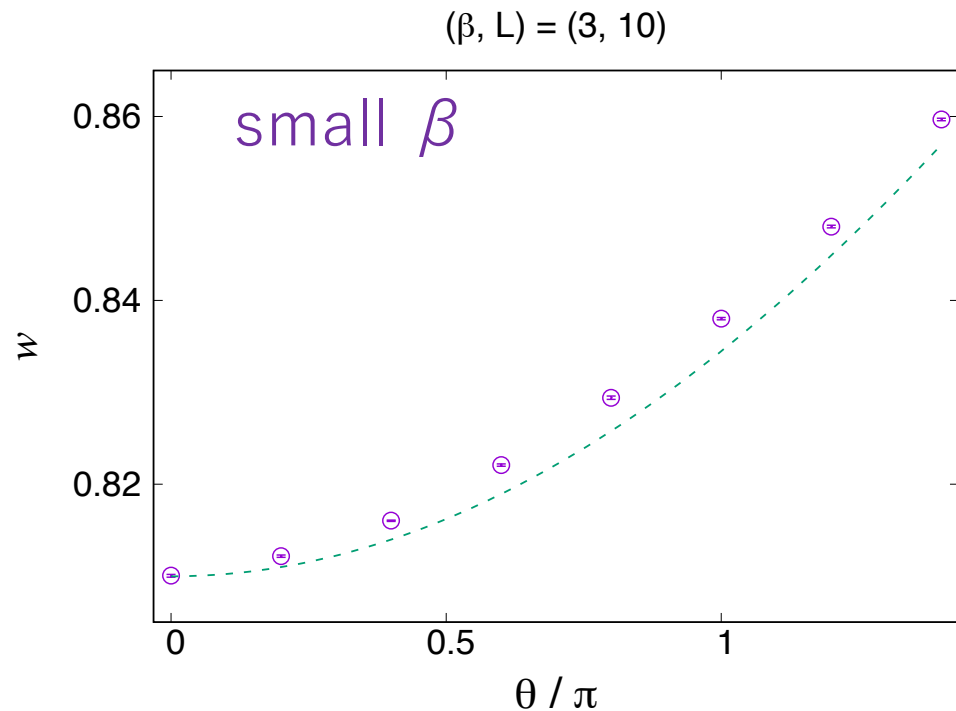


distribution of Q_{\sin}

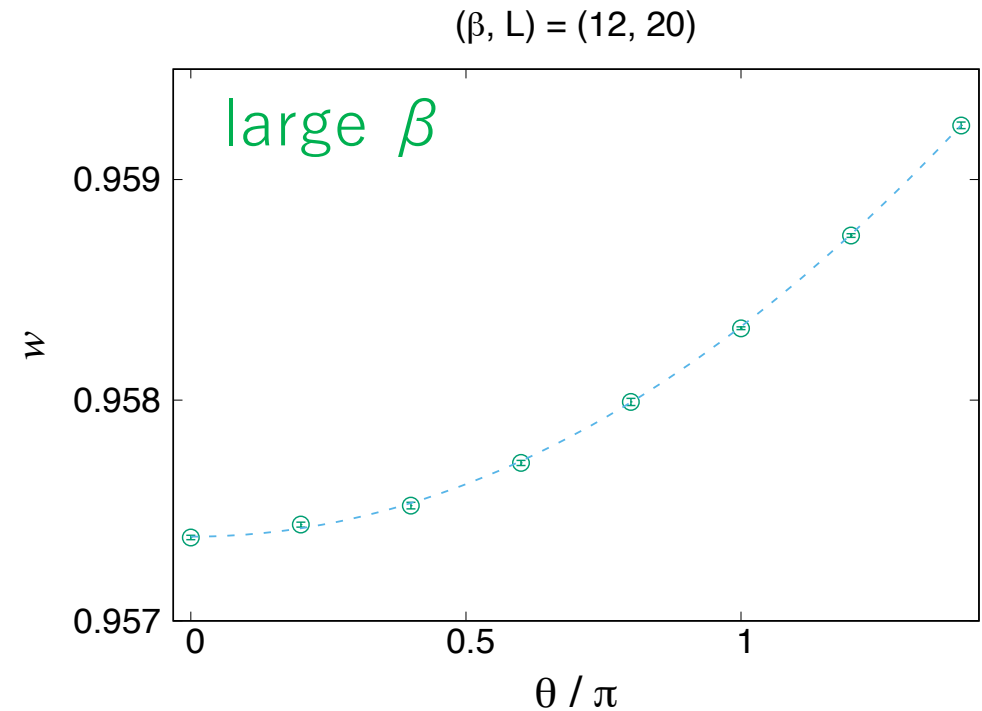
agrees with
the analytical result
(at $\theta = 0$)

Result of the punctured model

average plaquette $w = \frac{1}{V} \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \log Z = -\frac{1}{\beta V} \langle S_g \rangle$



condition is not satisfied for $\theta \neq 0$

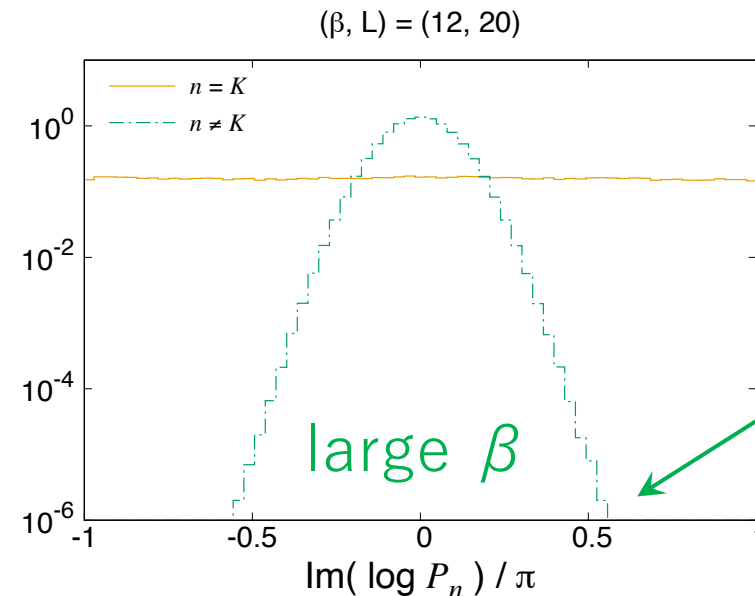
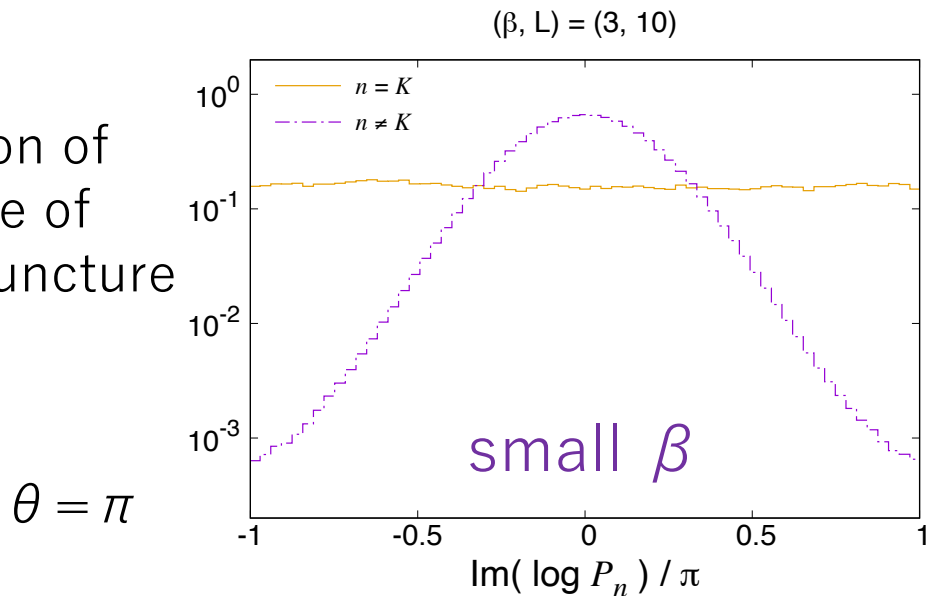


CLM works well

Effect of the puncture

- The phase of the puncture (eliminated plaquette) changes freely.
→ The topological charge can change easily.
- If β is large enough, branch crossing of the plaquettes included in the action is suppressed.
→ The source of large drift is absent.

distribution of
the phase of
plaquette/puncture



does not
approaches
the branch cut

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Phase structure at $\theta = \pi$

☆ 't Hooft anomaly matching of 4D $SU(2)$ YM

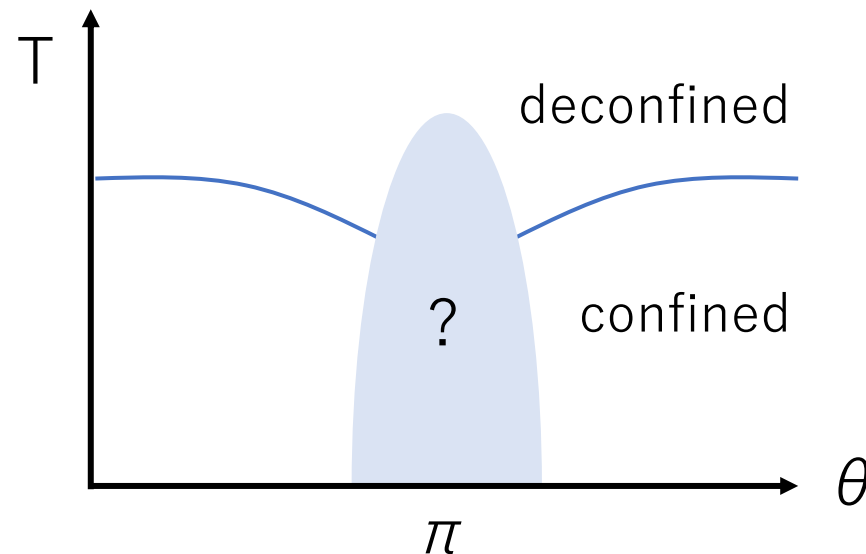
→ constrain the phase structure at $\theta = \pi$

mixed 't Hooft anomaly between
CP symmetry & Z_2 1-form center symmetry at $\theta = \pi$



- SSB of CP
- SSB of $Z_2^{(1)}$
- gapless
- topological QFT

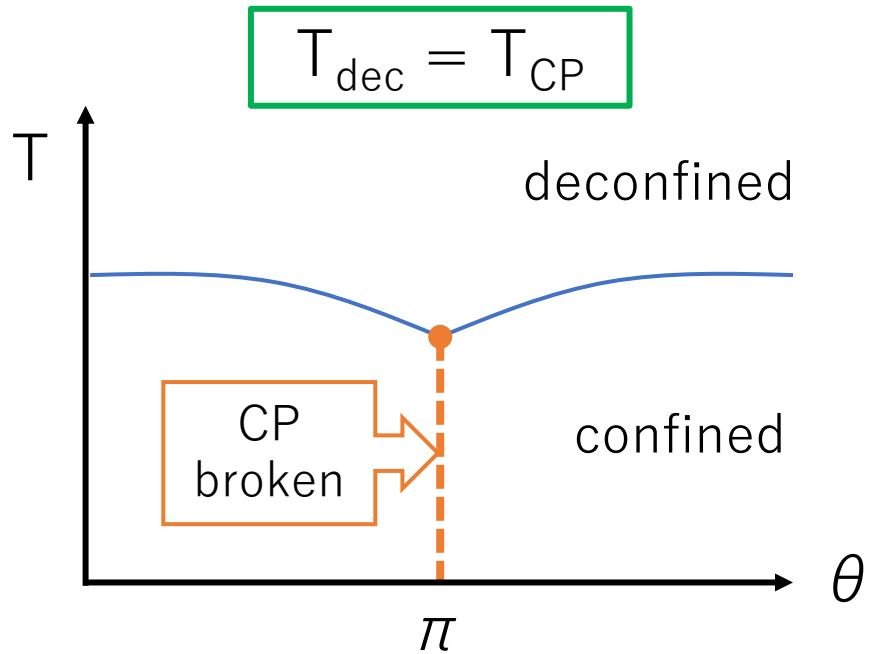
[D. Gaiotto, A. Kapustin, Z. Komargodski, N. Seiberg (2017)]



T_{dec} VS T_{CP}

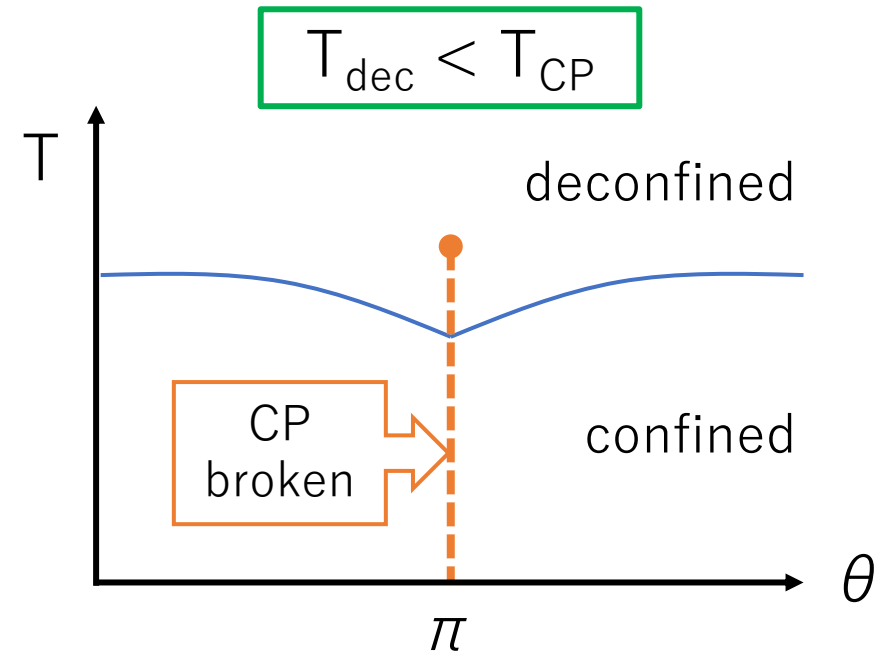
☆ anomaly matching $\rightarrow T_{\text{dec}} \leq T_{\text{CP}}$ (assuming SSB of CP at $T = 0$)

examples of possible (θ, T) phase diagram



holography for large N supports

[F. Bigazzi, A. L. Cotrone, R. Sisca (2015)]



soft SUSY breaking of SYM supports

[S. Chen, K. Fukushima, H. Nishimura, Y. Tanizaki (2020)]

4D SU(2) lattice gauge theory

- kinetic term : standard Wilson action

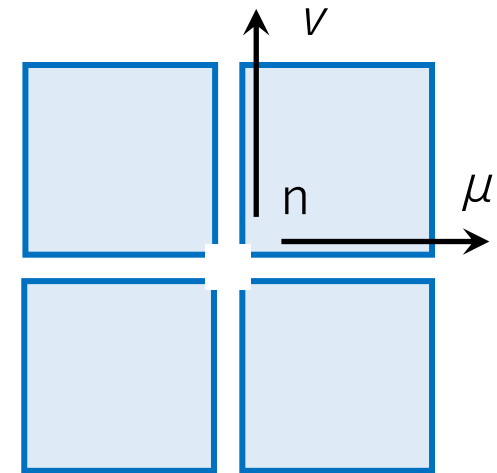
$$S_\beta = -\frac{\beta}{4} \sum_n \sum_{\mu \neq \nu} \text{Tr} [P_n^{\mu\nu}] \quad P_n^{\mu\nu} : \text{plaquette} \quad \beta = \frac{4}{g^2}$$

- topological charge : clover leaf

[P. Di Vecchia, K. Fabricius, G. C. Rossi, G. Veneziano (1981)]

$$Q_{\text{clov}} = -\frac{1}{32\pi^2} \sum_n \frac{1}{16} \sum_{\mu, \nu, \rho, \sigma=1}^4 \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \text{Tr} [\bar{P}_n^{\mu\nu} \bar{P}_n^{\rho\sigma}]$$

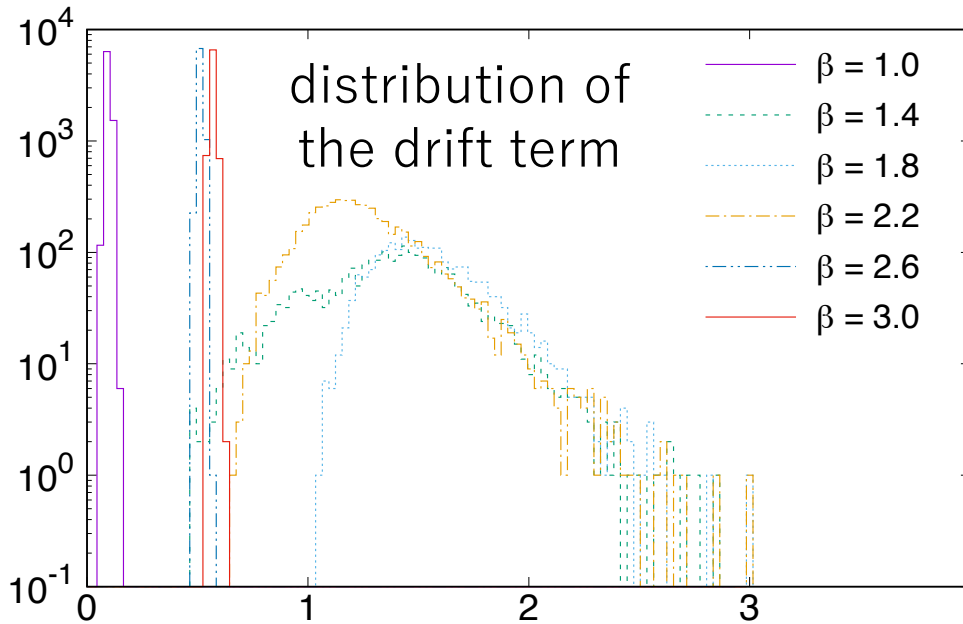
$$\bar{P}_n^{\mu\nu} = P_n^{\mu\nu} - P_n^{-\mu\nu} - P_n^{\mu-\nu} + P_n^{-\mu-\nu}$$



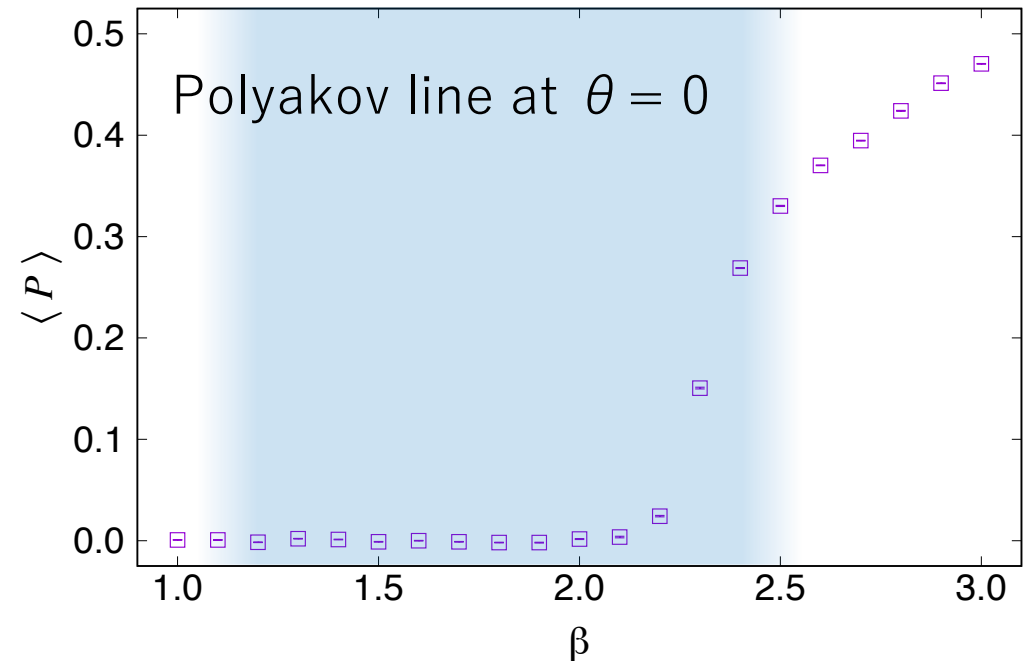
CLM on the 4D periodic lattice

- The condition for the correct convergence is not satisfied around the critical β .
 → try to see **the high temperature (large β) region first**

$(L_s, L_t, \theta/\pi) = (16, 4, 1.0)$



$(L_s, L_t, \theta/\pi) = (16, 4, 0.0)$, periodic



$$u = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \max_{n,\mu} \left\| (D_{n,\mu}^a S) t^a \right\| \log_{10} u$$

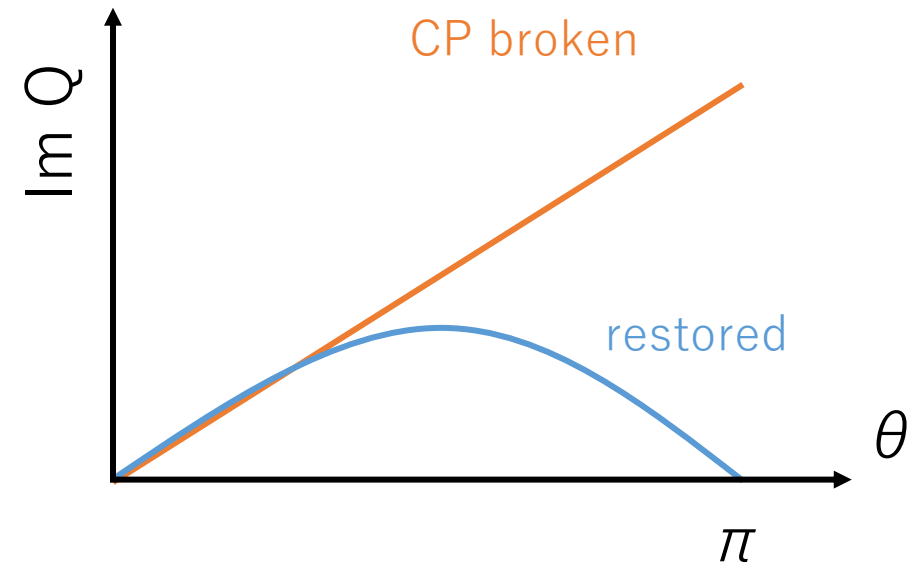
CP symmetry at $\theta = \pi$

- In the high temperatures region, CP is expected to be restored at $\theta = \pi$.
- The topological charge is CP odd.
→ $\langle Q \rangle = 0$ if CP is restored
- dilute instanton gas approximation

$$\text{Im}\langle Q \rangle \simeq \chi \sin \theta$$

$$\chi = \frac{1}{V} (\langle Q^2 \rangle - \langle Q \rangle^2) = -\frac{1}{V} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \log Z$$

$$\langle Q \rangle = -i \frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial \theta}$$



Boundary condition of the 4D lattice

- large $\beta \rightarrow$ topology freezing

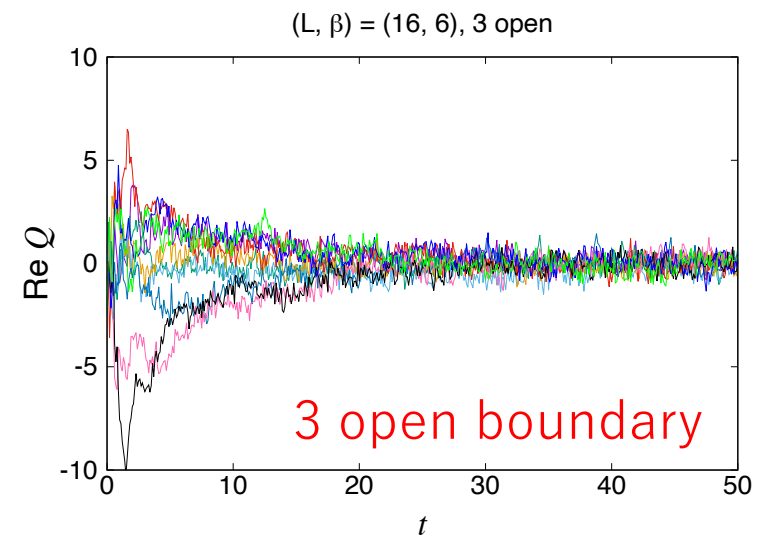
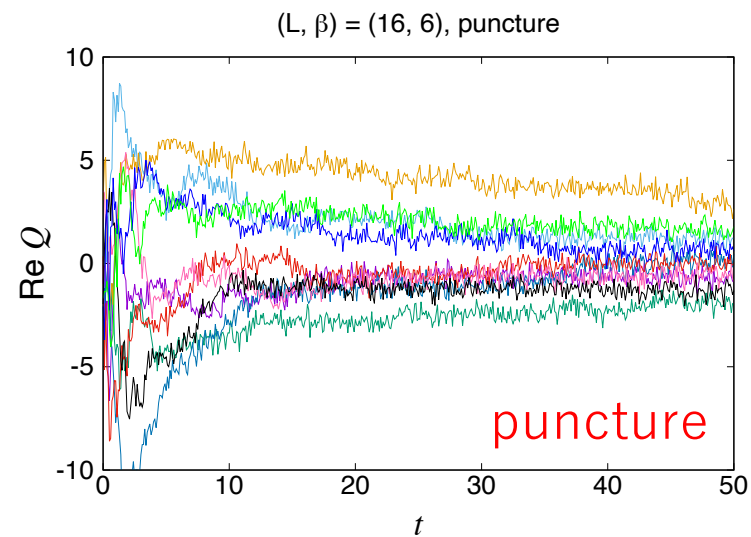
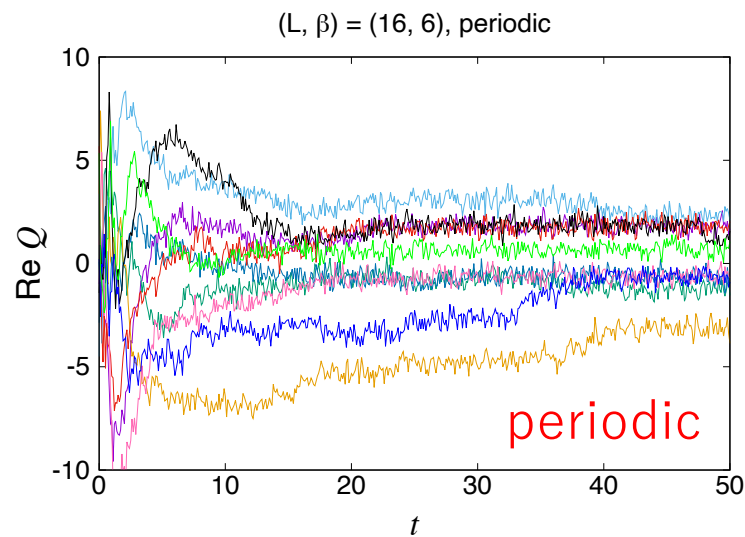
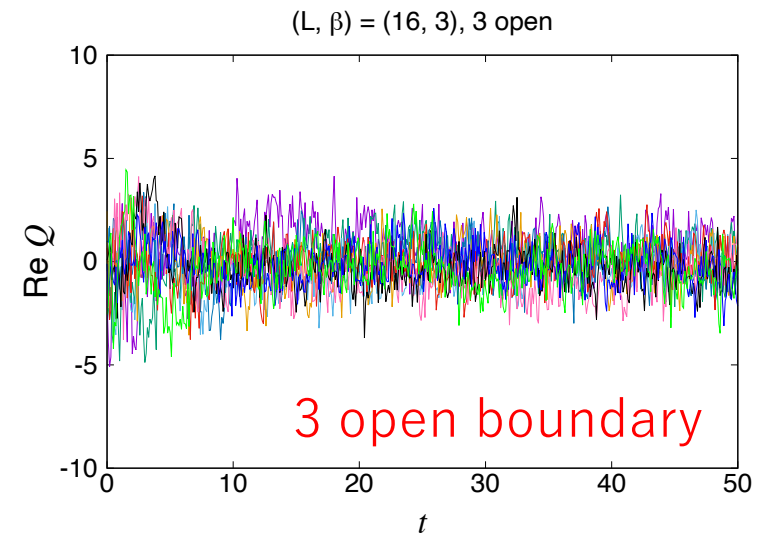
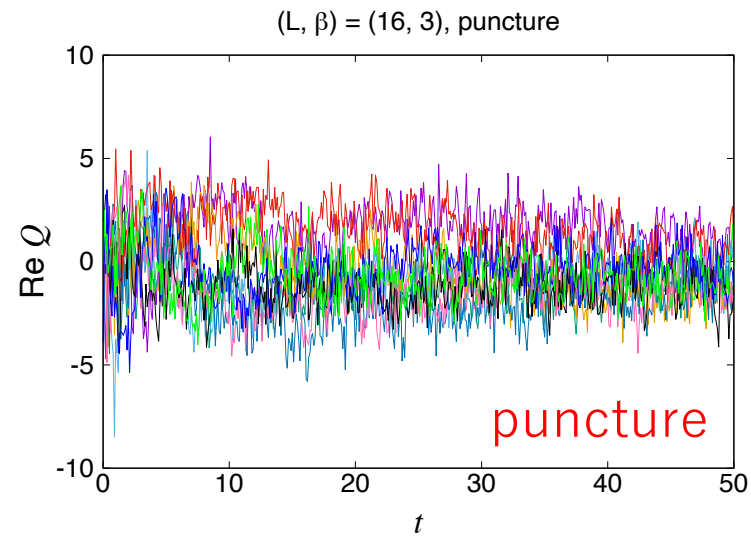
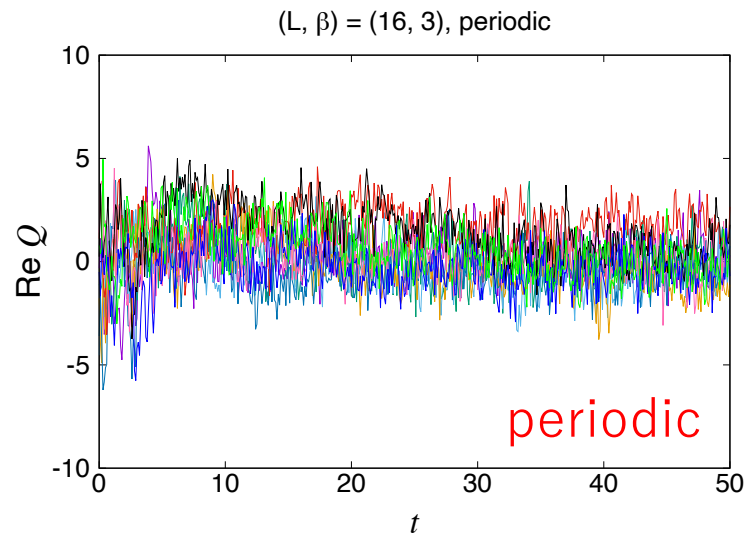
★ consider three types of boundary condition

- ① periodic
- ② spatially localized 2^3 puncture
- ③ open boundary for three spatial directions

The translational symmetry for the temporal direction is respected.

- start from random configurations (hot start)
- check the initial configuration dependence of Q at $\theta = 0$

Behavior of the topological charge



Behavior of the topological charge

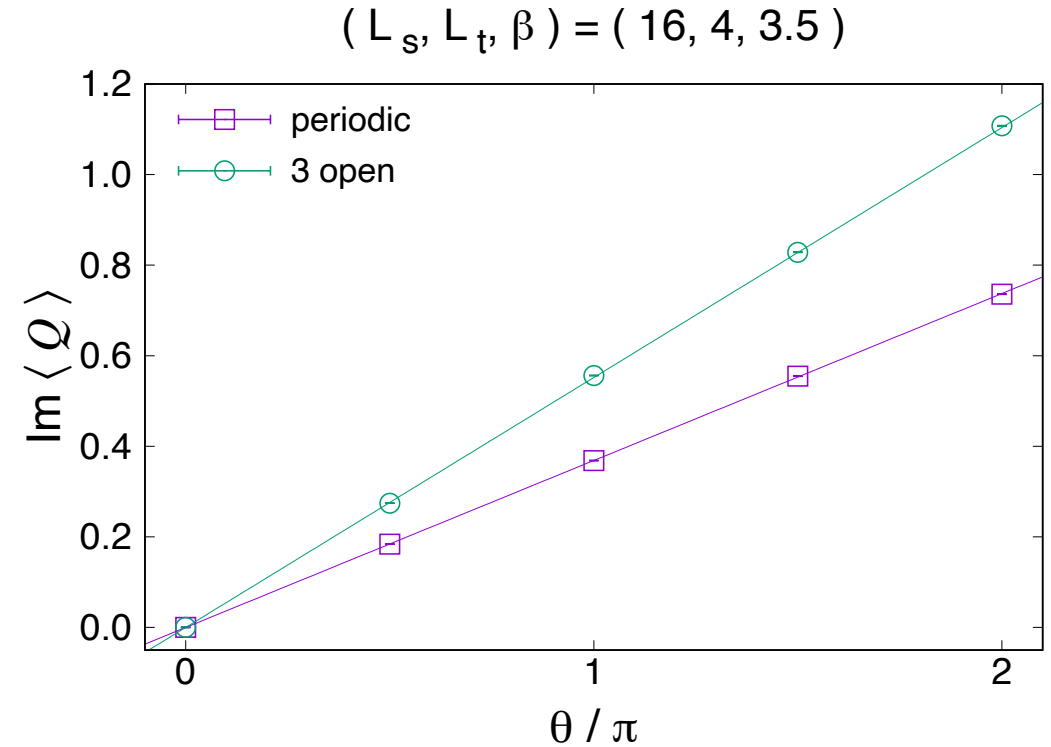
- $\beta = 3.0$
- Q is far from an integer
- no significant difference

- $\beta = 6.0$
- periodic \rightarrow frozen in different topological sectors
- puncture \rightarrow severe autocorrelation still exists
- open boundary \rightarrow thermalize slowly

Result for large β

- We found $\text{Im } Q \propto \theta$ in most cases.
- $\text{Im } Q$ is related to the topological susceptibility

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \text{Im} \langle Q \rangle = \chi V$$
- The result for open boundary satisfies this relation.
- 2π -periodicity is absent in both cases.



	periodic	3 open
gradient of $\text{Im } Q$	0.11733(14)	0.17567(48)
χV at $\theta = 0$	0.1015(47)	0.184(14)

Problem

- CLM works only in the large β region (and $\beta \leq 1.0$).

periodic lattice

- topology freezing for large β

open lattice

- severe finite volume effect
- Q is not an integer \rightarrow CP symmetry at $\theta = \pi$ is manifestly broken

\rightarrow a new technique is necessary

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Summary

- The recent work on 't Hooft anomaly matching for 4D SU(2) YM predicted a nontrivial phase structure at $\theta = \pi$.
- We use the complex Langevin method to simulate the theory with the θ term, avoiding the sign problem.
- For 2D U(1), CLM works on the punctured torus where the topology freezing is absent.
- For 4D SU(2), CLM works in some cases, but it seems to be difficult to investigate the phase structure using the usual periodic or open lattice.

Discussion

new technique

- The distinct topological sectors need be **smoothly connected**.
 - avoid the topology freezing
 - well-defined drift terms
- The **2π -periodicity** of θ should be respected.
 - CP symmetry at $\theta = \pi$
- Modify the boundary condition
but recover the 2π -periodicity somehow ?

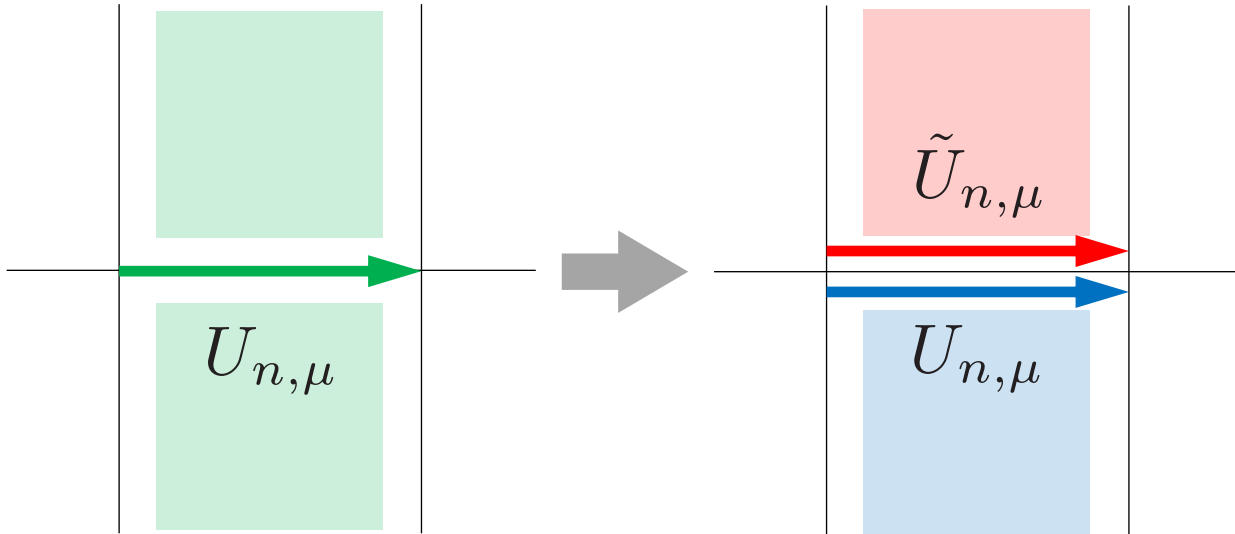
New technique

- Introduce an additional d.o.f. x which makes two adjacent plaquettes independent.
- Constrain x by the delta function.

$$\tilde{U}_{n,\mu} = M(x) U_{n,\mu} \quad M(0) = 1$$

$$\delta(x) = \int \frac{dk}{2\pi} e^{ikx}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int dU e^{-S(0)} &= \int dU dx e^{-S(x)} \delta(x) \\ &= \int dU dx dk e^{-S(x) + ikx} \end{aligned}$$



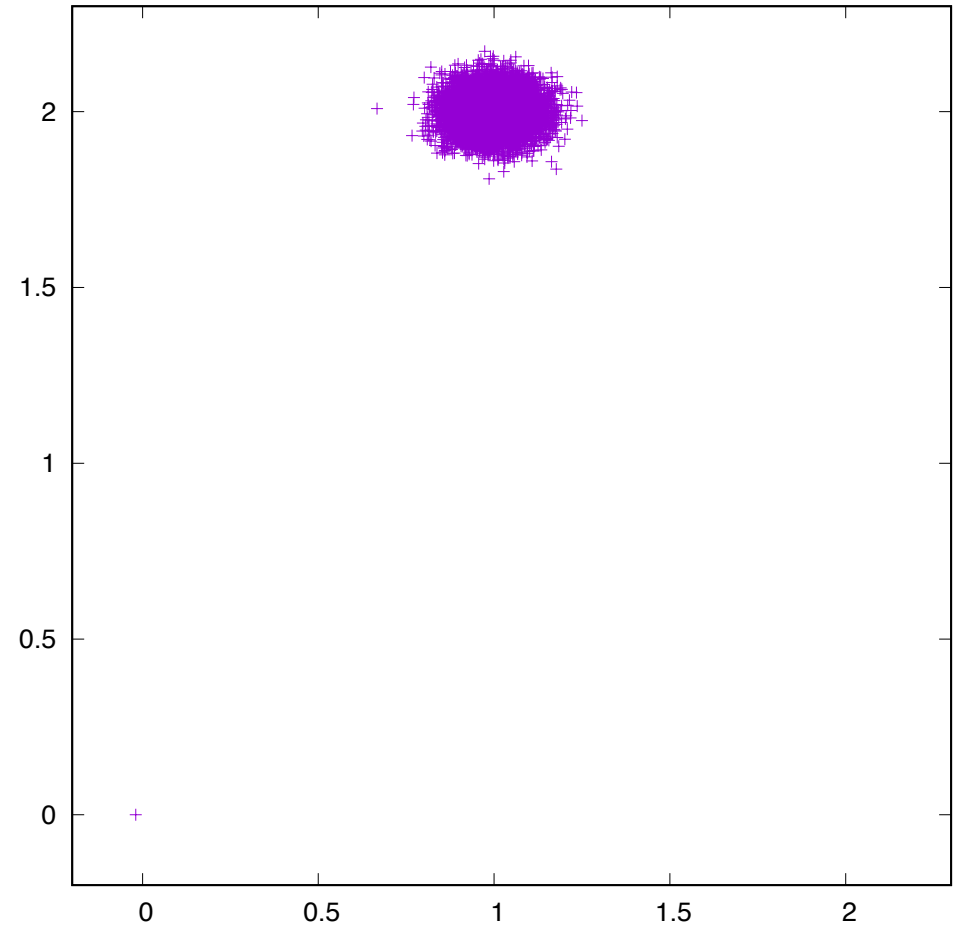
Toy model

- Gaussian + delta function

$$S = mx^2 + ik(x - a)$$

- $m = 1.0$

- $a = 1 + 2i$



Thank you!