



Coulomb Gauge QCD on the Lattice

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Hadron spectrum

- QCD hard to solve
- Exotic hadrons
- Mechanisms of confinement unknown



Plot from https://home.cern/news/news/physics/59-new-hadrons-and-counting

Why Coulomb Gauge Lattice QCD?

- LQCD is the only way to probe quark-level interactions currently
- LQCD allows for gluonic probes of hadronic structure, support for EIC
- Can understand QCD through analogy to QED in Coulomb Gauge
- Some questions remain about specifics of origin of Cornell potential, and flux tubes ¹²³ on the Lattice

$$V(r) = A + \frac{B}{r} + \sigma r$$



[3] S. Dawid and A. P. Szczepaniak , Phys. Rev.D100, 074508 (2019)



QCD Coulomb Potential vs Wilson Potential





- Wilson potential = potential of static quark antiquark pair in ground state
- Coulomb potential = potential of static quark antiquark pair interacting *instantaneously* in Coulomb gauge
- Both potentials parameterized by Cornell potential $V(r) = A + \frac{B}{r} + \sigma r$
- Confining behavior of Coulomb potential is necessary for Wilson confinement⁴

[4] D. Zwanziger, Phys. Rev. Lett.90, 102001 (2003), arXiv:hep-lat/0209105 [hep-lat]. Plot from: J. Greensite and A. P. Szczepaniak, Phys. Rev. D91, 034503(2015).



• The static quark-antiquark state which produces the coulomb potential is *not* the ground state!

$$\begin{split} H_{QCD} |q\bar{q}_{true}\rangle &= \sigma_W r |q\bar{q}_{true}\rangle \\ |q\bar{q}_{true}\rangle &= |q\bar{q}\rangle + |q\bar{q}g\rangle + |q\bar{q}gg\rangle + \cdots \end{split}$$

SU(N) Lattice QCD



• Links are SU(N) matrices representing gauge transporters between lattice sites

$$U_{\mu}(n) = e^{iaA_{\mu}(n)}$$

• Wilson action for SU(N) LQCD:

$$S = \frac{\beta}{N} \sum_{n} \sum_{\mu < \nu} \operatorname{Re} \operatorname{Tr} \left[1 - U_{\mu\nu}(n) \right] \qquad \beta = 2N/g^2$$

$$U_{\mu\nu}(n) = U_{\mu}(n)U_{\nu}(n+\hat{\mu})U_{\mu}^{\dagger}(n+\hat{\nu}) U_{\nu}^{\dagger}(n)$$



• In Coulomb gauge $(\partial_i A^i = 0)$, calculate the potential from correlation of two time-like Wilson lines

$$V(r) = A + \frac{B}{r} + \sigma_C r$$

- $T \rightarrow \infty$ should recover the (minimal) Wilson Potential.
- $T \rightarrow 0$ gives the lattice version of the Coulomb potential
- Can calculate energy density by inserting "probe" above the Wilson lines



Lattice Setup

- Use anisotropic lattice to access $T \rightarrow 0$: Different couplings for spatial/time directions
- Quenched Lattice QCD: $N_f = 0$, no fermion determinant (pure gauge action)
- SU(2) and SU(3) (in progress)



Preliminary Results: SU(2)



Summary

- Improvements in methods/algorithms and theoretical calculations necessary for Coulomb Gauge LQCD
- Coulomb Gauge Physics is important for understanding hadron spectrum, confinement
- LQCD will continue to work in tandem with EIC, probing mesonic and hadronic structure



Backup Slides

Coulomb Gauge Hamiltonian:



Shape of the Electric Field's Energy Distribution

- Bowman, Szczepaniak prediction: The Energy distribution has a power-law fall off in the transverse direction¹
- Greensite, Chung calculation: The distribution decays exponentially in the transverse direction ("Flux tube")²
- Dawid, Szczepaniak calculation: There might be some evolution between the two with increasing coupling strength³
- How does it really decay?



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- [2] K. Chung and J. Greensite, Phys. Rev.D96, 034512 (2017), arXiv:1704.08995 [hep-lat].
- [3] S. Dawid and A. P. Szczepaniak, Phys. Rev.D100, 074508 (2019)

^[1] P. O. Bowman and A. P. Szczepaniak, Phys. Rev.D70, 016002 (2004), arXiv:hep-ph/0403075[hep-ph].

- Basic idea: Equilibrate a 4D matrix of link variables according to the QCD action and calculate observables from link variables
- "Wilson loops" are oriented closed loops on the lattice from which we can extract the potential between heavy static quarks



$$W(R,T) = \operatorname{Tr} \prod_{(n,\mu)\in C} U_{\mu}(n) \qquad V(R,T) = \ln \frac{\langle W(R,T) \rangle}{\langle W(R,T+1) \rangle}$$

• In the limit $T \rightarrow \infty$ we identify the static quark potential

$$V(r) = A + \frac{B}{r} + \sigma r$$

• σ is the "string tension"

• One def of energy density observable:



$$Q_T(R,Y) = \frac{\left\langle \operatorname{Tr} \left[L_T(0) L_T^{\dagger}(R) \right] \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Tr} \left[U_P(y,T) \right] \right\rangle}{\left\langle \operatorname{Tr} \left[L_T(0) L_T^{\dagger}(R) \right] \right\rangle} - \frac{1}{2} \left\langle \operatorname{Tr} U_P \right\rangle$$

• Extra plaquette acts as a probe for E_x^2



• $T \rightarrow 0$ gives the lattice version of the Coulomb potential, an instantaneous "chromoelectric" interaction ("bare" state)

Chromo-electric Energy Density

• The energy density profile of this chromoelectric interaction in the bare state corresponds to observable

$$Q_T(R,Y) = \frac{\left\langle \operatorname{Tr} \left[L_T(0) L_T^{\dagger}(R) \right] \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Tr} \left[U_P(y,T) \right] \right\rangle}{\left\langle \operatorname{Tr} \left[L_T(0) L_T^{\dagger}(R) \right] \right\rangle} - \frac{1}{2} \left\langle \operatorname{Tr} U_P \right\rangle$$

• Theory predicts a power-law fall off.

- Chung and Greensite found bare state has flux-tube characteristics (exponential fall-off) [ref]
- Dawid and Szczepaniak found power-law fall off with increasing β with issues at small y [ref]



Lattice Setup

• Forced to use an anisotropic lattice to access $T \rightarrow 0$. Must introduce β_s , β_t : different couplings for spatial/time directions

$$S = \sum_{n} \left[\beta_{s} \sum_{j > i=1}^{3} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Tr} U_{ij}(n) \right) + \beta_{t} \sum_{i=1}^{3} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Tr} U_{0i}(n) \right) \right]$$

- Quenched Lattice QCD: $N_f = 0$, no fermion determinant (pure gluodynamics, infinitely heavy quarks)
- SU(2) Lattices: $\beta = 2.25, 2.5, 2.7, 3.249, \ \xi = 1, \dots, 8$, $N^3 \times T = 24^3 \times 96$, $32^3 \times 128$
- SU(3) Lattices: $\beta = 6.0 \quad \xi = 1, \dots, 4 \quad N^3 \times T = 24^3 \times 96$ (in progress)

String tension, β =2.25, V=32³×128





Gauge-Fixing

