

Topological structure of the QCD vacuum seen by overlap fermions

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November 18, 2005

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Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Simulations at $T=0$
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Motivation

Topological excitations, phenomenologically modeled as an **interacting ensemble of instantons and anti-instantons**, are believed to play a prominent role in the low energy behaviour of QCD:

- U(1)-anomaly, η' mass (Witten-Veneziano)
- θ -dependence
- chiral symmetry breaking; Banks-Casher-formula:
 $\langle \bar{\Psi}\Psi \rangle = -\pi\rho(0)$

Motivation

- Goal: directly clarify from first principles whether the **instanton picture** realistically describes the QCD vacuum
- Overlap fermions are an appropriate tool to investigate the topological structure of QCD from first principles:
 - **exact chiral symmetry on the lattice**, given by the **Ginsparg-Wilson-Relation**: $\gamma_5 D + D \gamma_5 = a D \gamma_5 D$ (P.H. Ginsparg and K.G. Wilson 1982)
 - **index theorem exactly valid on the lattice**

The overlap operator

The massive overlap operator

$$D = \left(1 - \frac{am_q}{2\rho}\right) D_N + m_q,$$

$$D_N = \frac{\rho}{a} \left(1 + \frac{X}{\sqrt{X^\dagger X}}\right), X = D_W - \frac{\rho}{a},$$

- D_W Wilson-Dirac operator
- $0 \leq \rho \leq 2$ additional irrelevant parameter
- D_N has $n_- + n_+$ exact zero modes, n_- (n_+) being the number of modes with negative (positive) chirality.
- Index of D_N is thus given by $\nu = n_- - n_+$.
- 'Continuous' modes λ , $D_N \psi_\lambda = \lambda \psi_\lambda$, having $(\psi_\lambda^\dagger, \gamma_5 \psi_\lambda) = 0$, come in complex conjugate pairs λ, λ^* .

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2 Simulations at $T=0$

- Simulation parameters
- Spectral density
- Localisation of eigenmodes
- The local structure of the topological charge density

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$T=0$ simulation parameters

The Gauge action: quenched Luescher-Weisz

$$S[U] = \frac{6}{g^2} \left[c_0 \sum_{\text{plaquette}} \frac{1}{3} \text{Re Tr} (1 - U_{\text{plaquette}}) \right. \\ \left. + c_1 \sum_{\text{rectangle}} \frac{1}{3} \text{Re Tr} (1 - U_{\text{rectangle}}) \right. \\ \left. + c_2 \sum_{\text{parallelogram}} \frac{1}{3} \text{Re Tr} (1 - U_{\text{parallelogram}}) \right]$$

(coefficients c_1, c_2 ($c_0 + 8c_1 + 8c_2 = 1$) taken from tadpole improved perturbation theory.)

Fermions: overlap ($\rho = 1.4$)

$T=0$ simulation parameters

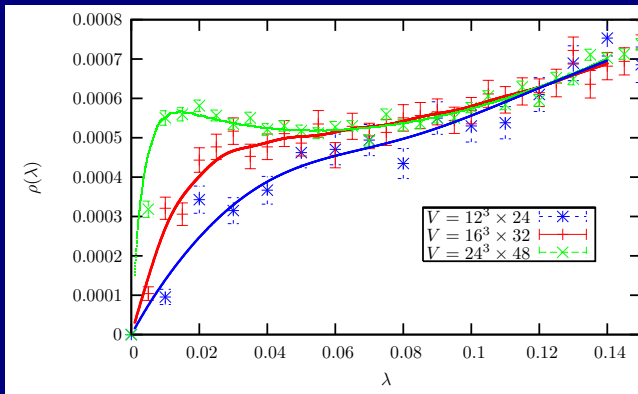
Configurations

β	a [fm]	V	(fm^4)	# of confs	# of modes
8.45	0.095	$12^3 \times 24$	(3.38)	500	O(50)
8.45	0.095	$16^3 \times 32$	(10.6)	267	O(140)
8.45	0.095	$24^3 \times 48$	(54.0)	186	O(160)
8.10	0.125	$12^3 \times 24$	(10.1)	254	O(140)

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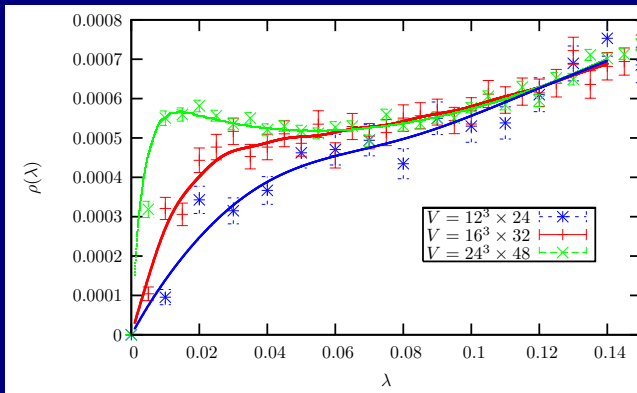
Volume dependence of the spectral density ($\beta = 8.45$)



$$\rho(\lambda) = V \Sigma_{\text{eff}}(\lambda) \sum_Q w(Q) \rho_Q(V \Sigma_{\text{eff}}(\lambda) \lambda)$$

$$\rho_Q(x) = \frac{x}{2} (J_{|Q|}^2(x) - J_{|Q|+1}(x) J_{|Q|-1}(x))$$

Volume dependence of the spectral density ($\beta = 8.45$)



From the fit:

$$\delta = 0.20(3), \Sigma = (238(20)\text{MeV})^3$$

$$\rightarrow \Sigma^{\overline{MS}}(2\text{GeV}) = (258(21)\text{MeV})^3 \quad (Z_S = 1.27(1))$$

The effective chiral condensate

Quenched Finite Volume Logarithms (Damgaard, 2001):

$$\Sigma_{\text{eff}}(V) = \Sigma(1 - 16\pi^2\delta\partial_{M^2}\bar{\Delta}(M^2))$$

with $\delta = \frac{m_0^2}{48\pi^2 f^2}$ $\bar{\Delta}(M^2) = \Delta(M^2) - \frac{1}{M^2 V}$ $\Delta(M^2) = \frac{1}{V} \sum_p \frac{1}{p^2 + M^2}$

Hasenfratz and Leutwyler (1990) : Propagator and any derivative thereof separates into UV divergent + volume independent terms and additional finite volume-dependent terms.

$$\Delta(M^2) = \frac{M^2}{16\pi^2} (\ln(M^2) + c_1) + g_1(M^2, L_i)$$

$$\lim_{M^2 \rightarrow 0} \Sigma_{\text{eff}} = \Sigma(1 + 2\delta \ln(L) + 16\pi^2\delta\beta_2(\frac{L_i}{L}))$$

$\beta_2(\frac{L_i}{L})$: „shape coefficient“, $L = V^{1/4}$

→ Logarithmic divergence of the effective chiral condensate

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Connection to the Anderson transition

Spectral properties of the QCD Dirac operator resemble those of an **disordered conductor at the Anderson transition**:

solid state physics: conductivity produced by **electrons** that are initially bound to an **impurity**, but may become delocalised by overlapping with nearby impurities.

QCD: **zero modes** initially bound to a **topological excitation**, but may become delocalised by overlapping with other excitations.

Characteristic critical features:

- eigenvectors multifractal
- spectral correlations well described by critical statistics

Localisation of eigenmodes

Inverse Participation Ratio I

$$I = V \sum_x \rho(x)^2$$

with the scalar density

$$\rho(x) = \Psi^{\lambda\dagger}(x)\Psi^\lambda(x)$$

using normalised eigenfunctions $\sum_x \rho(x) = 1$.

Characteristic Features:

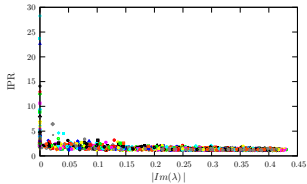
$I = V$ localised $\rho(x) = \delta_{x,x'}$ support only on one lattice point x'

$I = 1$ nonlocalised $\rho(x) = \frac{1}{V}$ maximally spread on all sites

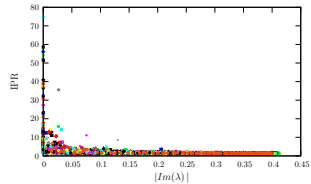
$I = \frac{1}{f}$ localised on fraction f of sites

$I = \frac{\pi}{2}$ Gaussian fluctuations

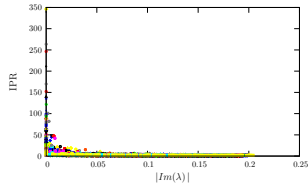
Localisation of eigenmodes



$$\text{vol}=12^3 \times 24$$

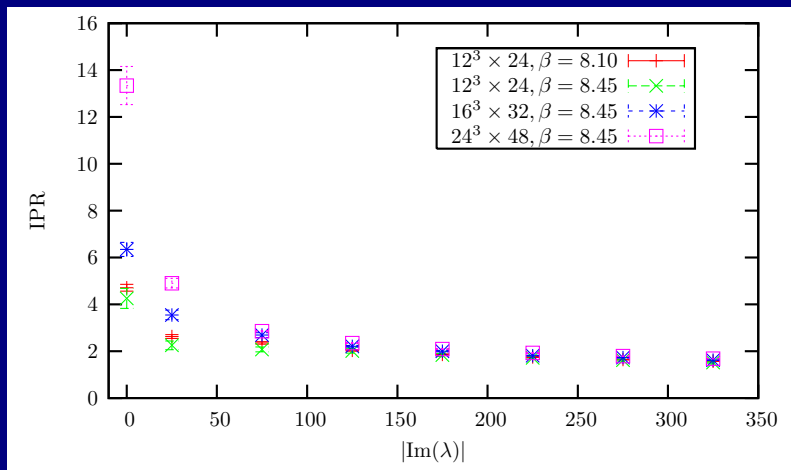


$$\text{vol}=16^3 \times 32$$



$$\text{vol}=24^3 \times 48$$

Lattice spacing and volume dependence of IPR



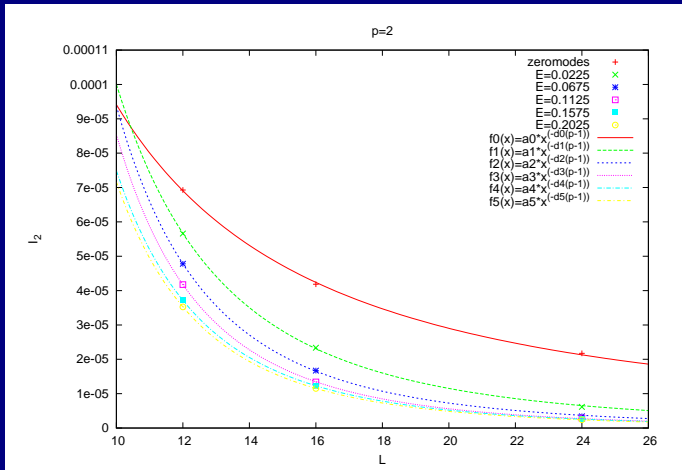
Multifractality and moments of inverse participation ratio

Moments of IPR

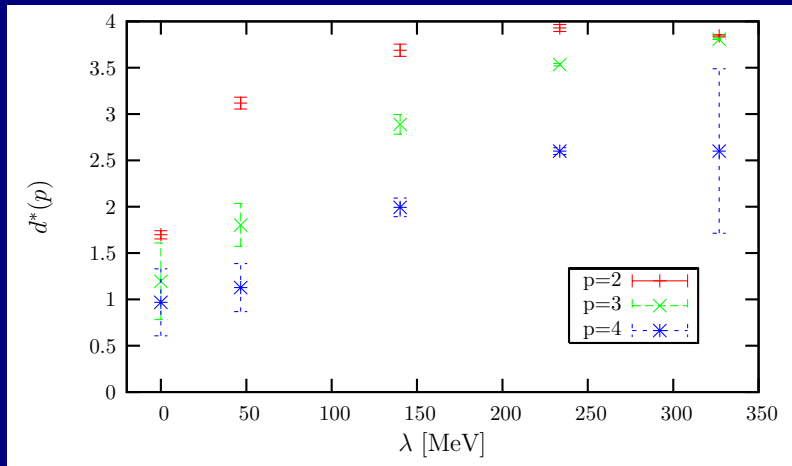
$$I_p(\lambda) = \sum_x \langle |\Psi_n(x)|^{2p} \delta(\lambda - \lambda_n) \rangle \propto \begin{cases} L^{-d(p-1)} & \text{metal} \\ L^{-d^*(p)(p-1)} & \text{critical} \\ \text{const} & \text{insulator} \end{cases}$$

$d^*(p) < d$ characterises the fractal dimensionality of the cluster where $|\Psi_n(x)|$ is larger than a certain value that increases with increasing p .

L-dependence of the moments of IPR ($p=2$)



$d^*(p)$ derived from the L-dependence of I_p



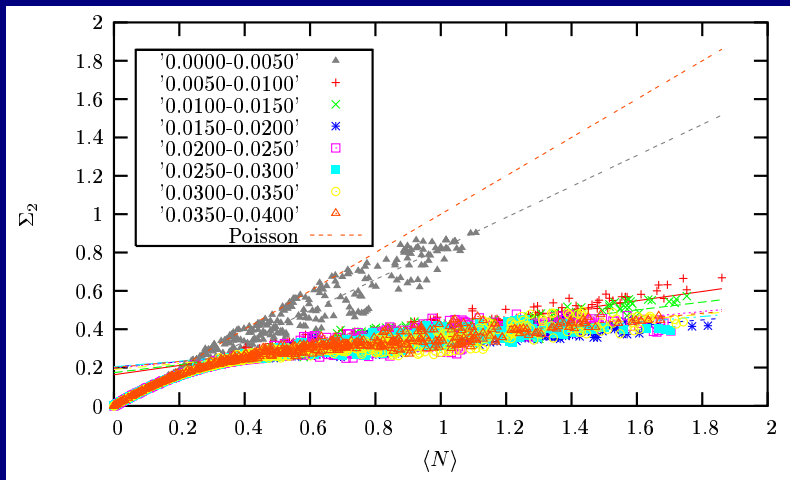
The level number variance $\Sigma_2(\langle N \rangle)$

Level number variance

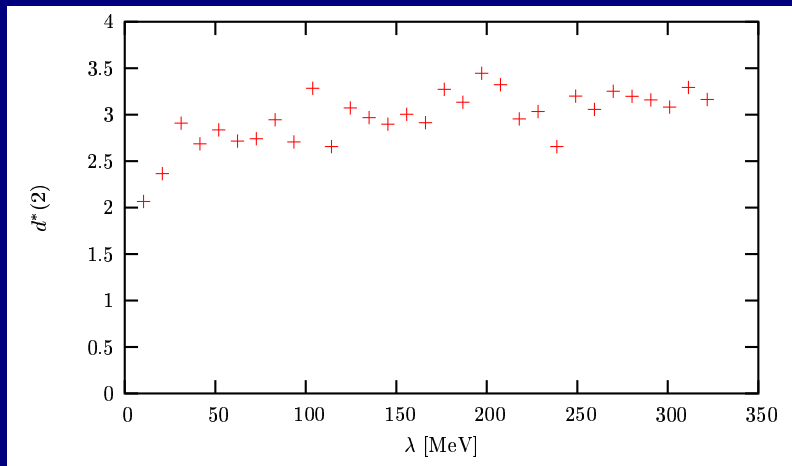
$$\Sigma_2(\langle N \rangle) = \langle (N - \langle N \rangle)^2 \rangle \begin{cases} \propto \ln(\langle N \rangle) & \text{metal} \\ = \alpha \langle N \rangle & \text{critical} \\ = \langle N \rangle & \text{insulator} \end{cases}$$

level compressibility: $\alpha = \frac{d-d^*(2)}{2d}$

Level number variance



$d^*(2)$ derived from $\Sigma_2(\langle N \rangle)$



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The topological charge density

The topological charge density for any γ_5 -Hermitian Dirac operator satisfying the Ginsparg-Wilson relation is defined as (Hasenfratz, Laliena, Niedermayer 1998):

$$q(x) = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \gamma_5 D(x, x), \quad Q = \sum_x q(x)$$

Since $\text{Tr} \gamma_5 = 0$ one can also write $q(x) = -\text{Tr} \gamma_5 (1 - \frac{1}{2} D(x, x))$

Using the spectral representation of the Dirac operator $D = \sum_\lambda \lambda |\Psi^\lambda\rangle \langle \Psi^\lambda|$ the topological charge

$$q_\lambda(x) = -\sum_\lambda \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{2}\right) c^\lambda(x), \quad c^\lambda(x) = \langle \Psi^\lambda(x) | \gamma_5 | \Psi^\lambda(x) \rangle$$

satisfies the index theorem for arbitrary truncation.

Methods of determining $q(x)$

- full charge density
 - we directly compute the trace of the Overlap-operator \rightarrow numerically very expensive, only done on 2-5 configurations
 - involves charge fluctuations at all scales, including physical QCD short-distance fluctuations and unphysical artifacts
- charge density based on $\mathcal{O}(150)$ low lying modes
 - low energy truncation, non-local representation of $q(x)$
 - filters out unphysical fluctuations at the scale of the cutoff \rightarrow UV-filter
 - gauge invariant approach, leaves the lattice scale unchanged in contrast to the cooling method

The local structure of the topological charge density

Visualisation of sign-coherent domains:

Isosurfaces of topological of topological charge density with $|q(x)|/q_{max} = 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5$, with red (green) surfaces indicating positive (negative) charges in 1 timeslice on 1 configuration

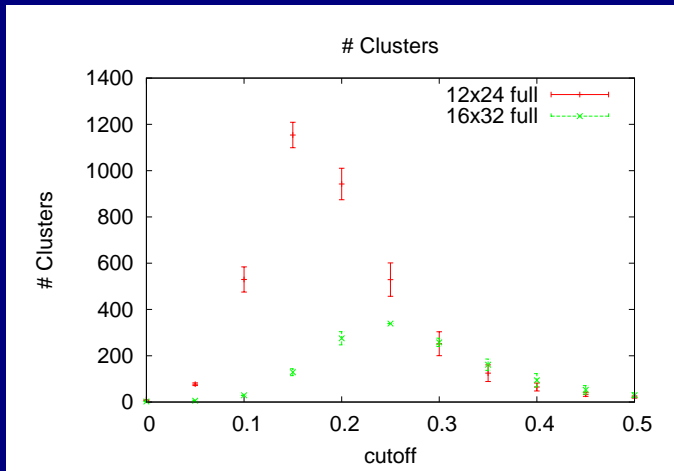
<http://www.cip.physik.uni-muenchen.de/~weinberg/topdens>

Cluster analysis

- clusters formed by connected neighbours with $q(x) > \text{cutoff} = \{0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5\} * q_{max}$
- Analysis of:
 - number of clusters
 - fractional volume of clusters
 - total charge of the clusters
 - correlation function of the largest cluster
 - distance between the 2 leading clusters
 - cumulative clustercharge as a function of R

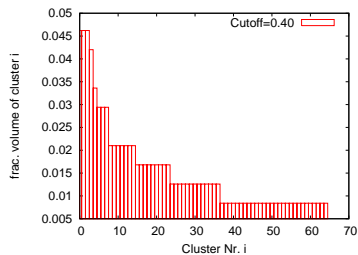
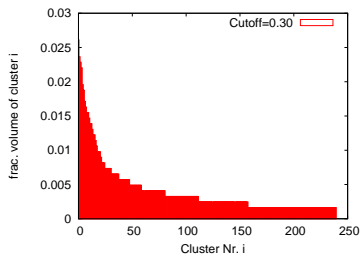
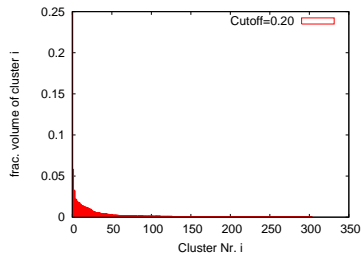
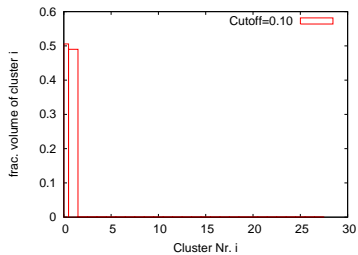
Data based on the eigenmode-expanded/full charge-density is based on $\mathcal{O}(100)/\mathcal{O}(3)$ configurations.

Number of clusters



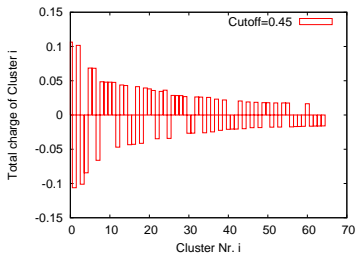
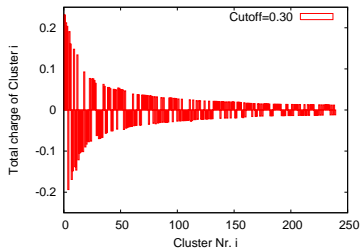
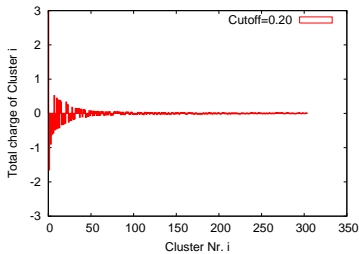
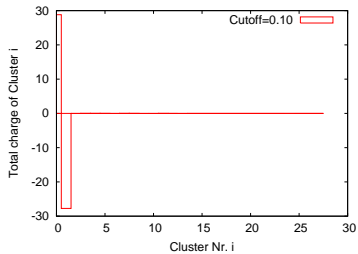
Fractional volume of the clusters

16×32 , conf=03_0126, full charge density



Total charge of the clusters

16×32 , conf=03_0126, $|Q| = 0$, full charge density

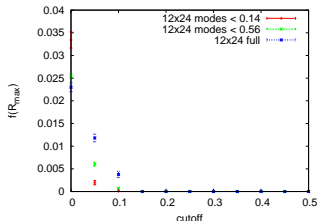


Correlation function of the largest cluster

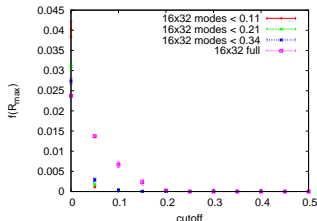
Cluster Correlation Function $f_c(R)$:

$$f_c(R) = \frac{\sum_{x_1} \sum_{x_2} \theta_c(x_1) \theta_c(x_2) \delta(|x_1 - x_2| - R)}{\sum_{x_1} \sum_{x_2} \delta(|x_1 - x_2| - R)}$$

Probability to be in the same cluster at distance R . Percolation iff $f(R_{max}) > 0$.



$12^3 \times 24$

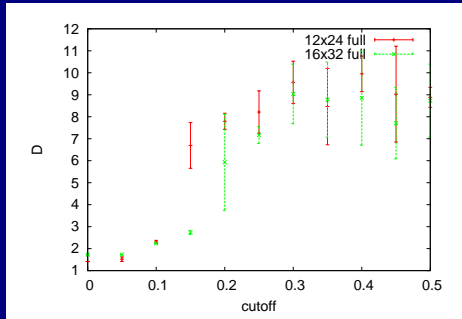


$16^3 \times 32$

Distance D between the 2 leading clusters

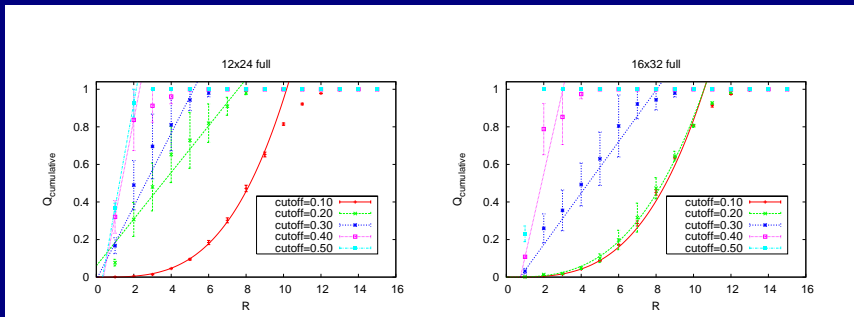
For each point i of a cluster calculate the distances to every point of the other cluster and take the minimum $distmin_i$ of these distances.

The distance D is defined as $\max(distmin_i)$



Cumulative clustercharge as a function of the radius R

R =radius of a 4-D sphere around the center of the leading cluster
 $Q_{cumulative}$ =cumulative charge of the leading cluster with the given threshold inside the sphere relative to the full clustercharge



non-percolative regime: linear, percolative regime: power like ax^b

cutoff=0.10 \rightarrow $b=3.3(1)$

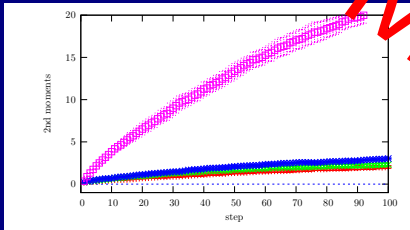
cutoff=0.10 \rightarrow $b=3.2(1)$

cutoff=0.20 \rightarrow $b=2.9(1)$

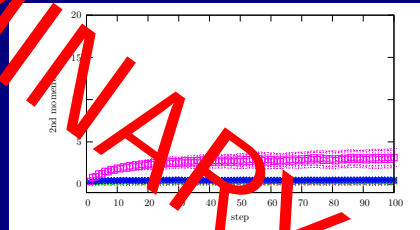
Exploring the largest cluster with random walkers

Distance travelled by 1000 random walkers in the directions of the principal axes reconstructed from the second moments

$$\begin{pmatrix} \langle xx \rangle & \langle xy \rangle & \langle xz \rangle & \langle xt \rangle \\ \langle yx \rangle & \langle yy \rangle & \langle yz \rangle & \langle yt \rangle \\ \langle zx \rangle & \langle zy \rangle & \langle zz \rangle & \langle zt \rangle \\ \langle tx \rangle & \langle ty \rangle & \langle tz \rangle & \langle tt \rangle \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{principal axis transformation}} \begin{pmatrix} \langle \bar{x}\bar{x} \rangle & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \langle \bar{y}\bar{y} \rangle & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \langle \bar{z}\bar{z} \rangle & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \langle \bar{t}\bar{t} \rangle \end{pmatrix}$$



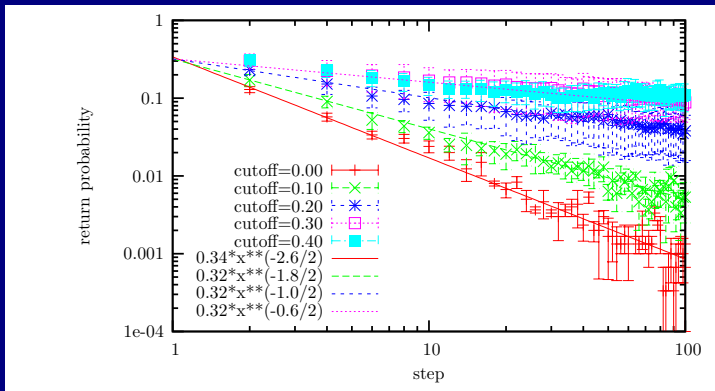
cutoff=0.10



cutoff=0.40

Return probability of random walkers

return probability $\propto \text{step}^{-\dim/2}$



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Summary

- Since overlap fermions have exact zero modes and fulfill the index theorem exactly on the lattice, they offer the opportunity to **probe the topological properties of gauge fields**
- The **spectral density** is consistent with volume dependence predicted by quenched chiral perturbation theory
- Analysing the **volume dependence of the IPRs** of eigenmodes, we conclude that the zeromodes (low lying modes) extend in 2 (3) dimensions, while the higher modes seem to be objects extending in 4 dimensions.
- Performing a cluster analysis in dependence of the cutoff of the topological charge of the sites taken into account, we identify **1-D highly charged small laminar clusters** on top of **2 dominating sign coherent percolating clusters of opposite charge**, which are tangled and intertwined in a complex way.
- The QCD vacuum **model with 4D coherent (anti)instantons** with a typical instanton radius of 0.3 – 0.4 fm is **strongly modified** by quantum fluctuations.

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