

# New results from lattice $\mathcal{N} = 4$ super Yang–Mills

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[arXiv:1410.6971](https://arxiv.org/abs/1410.6971), [arXiv:1411.0166](https://arxiv.org/abs/1411.0166), [arXiv:1505.03135](https://arxiv.org/abs/1505.03135) & more to come  
with Simon Catterall, Poul Damgaard, Tom DeGrand and Joel Giedt

## Brief review of motivations for lattice supersymmetry

- Much interesting physics in 4D supersymmetric gauge theories: dualities, holography, confinement, conformality, BSM, ...
- Lattice promises non-perturbative insights from first principles

**Problem:** Discrete spacetime breaks supersymmetry algebra

$$\left\{ Q_{\alpha}^I, \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}^J \right\} = 2\delta^{IJ} \sigma_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}}^{\mu} P_{\mu} \text{ where } I, J = 1, \dots, \mathcal{N}$$

⇒ Impractical fine-tuning generally required to restore susy, especially for scalar fields (from matter multiplets or  $\mathcal{N} > 1$ )

**Solution:** Preserve (some subset of) the susy algebra on the lattice  
Possible for  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  supersymmetric Yang–Mills (SYM)

## Brief review of $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

$\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM is a particularly interesting theory

- Context for development of AdS/CFT correspondence
- Testing ground for reformulations of scattering amplitudes
- Arguably simplest non-trivial field theory in four dimensions

Basic features:

- $SU(N)$  gauge theory with four fermions  $\Psi^I$  and six scalars  $\Phi^{IJ}$ ,  
all massless and in adjoint rep.
- Action consists of kinetic, Yukawa and four-scalar terms  
with coefficients related by symmetries
- Supersymmetric: 16 supercharges  $Q_\alpha^I$  and  $\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}^I$  with  $I = 1, \dots, 4$   
Fields and  $Q$ 's transform under global  $SU(4) \simeq SO(6)$  R symmetry
- Conformal:  $\beta$  function is zero for any 't Hooft coupling  $\lambda$

# Topological twisting $\longrightarrow$ exact susy on the lattice

## What is special about $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

The 16 spinor supercharges  $Q_\alpha^I$  and  $\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}^I$  fill a Kähler–Dirac multiplet:

$$\begin{pmatrix} Q_\alpha^1 & Q_\alpha^2 & Q_\alpha^3 & Q_\alpha^4 \\ \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}^1 & \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}^2 & \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}^3 & \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}^4 \end{pmatrix} = Q + Q_\mu \gamma_\mu + Q_{\mu\nu} \gamma_\mu \gamma_\nu + \bar{Q}_\mu \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 + \bar{Q} \gamma_5 \\ \longrightarrow Q + \gamma_a Q_a + \gamma_a \gamma_b Q_{ab} \\ \text{with } a, b = 1, \dots, 5$$

$Q$ 's transform with **integer spin** under “twisted rotation group”

$$\text{SO}(4)_{tw} \equiv \text{diag} \left[ \text{SO}(4)_{\text{euc}} \otimes \text{SO}(4)_R \right] \quad \text{SO}(4)_R \subset \text{SO}(6)_R$$

This change of variables gives a susy subalgebra  $\{Q, Q\} = 2Q^2 = 0$

**This subalgebra can be exactly preserved on the lattice**

# Formal supersymmetric lattice action

Directly transcribe twisted continuum action:

$$S = \frac{N}{2\lambda_{\text{lat}}} \mathcal{Q} \left( \chi_{ab} \mathcal{F}_{ab} + \eta \bar{\mathcal{D}}_a \mathcal{U}_a - \frac{1}{2} \eta d \right) - \frac{N}{8\lambda_{\text{lat}}} \epsilon_{abcde} \chi_{ab} \bar{\mathcal{D}}_c \chi_{de}$$

- Twisting reorganizes fermions  $\Psi^I \longrightarrow \eta, \psi_a, \chi_{ab}$ ,  
combines gauge & scalar fields into complexified links  $\mathcal{U}_a, \bar{\mathcal{U}}_a$
- Complexification  $\longrightarrow \text{U}(N) = \text{SU}(N) \otimes \text{U}(1)$  gauge invariance
- Nilpotent  $\mathcal{Q}$  directly interchanges bosonic  $\longleftrightarrow$  fermionic d.o.f.
- Susy ( $\mathcal{Q}S = 0$ ) follows from  $\mathcal{Q}^2 \cdot = 0$  and **Bianchi identity**

**Not quite suitable for numerical calculations**

Exact zero modes and flat directions must be regulated,  
especially important in U(1) sector

- Scalar potential  $V = \frac{1}{2N\lambda_{\text{lat}}} (\text{Tr} [U_a \bar{U}_a] - N)^2$  lifts SU(N) flat directions
- Constraint on plaquette det. lifts U(1) zero mode & flat directions

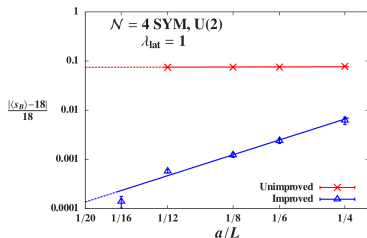
New development — supersymmetric plaquette det. deformation:

$$S = \frac{N}{2\lambda_{\text{lat}}} \mathcal{Q} \left( \chi_{ab} \mathcal{F}_{ab} + \downarrow - \frac{1}{2} \eta d \right) - \frac{N}{8\lambda_{\text{lat}}} \epsilon_{abcde} \chi_{ab} \bar{\mathcal{D}}_c \chi_{de} + \mu^2 V$$

$$\eta \left( \bar{\mathcal{D}}_a U_a + G \sum_{\mathcal{P}} [\det \mathcal{P} - 1] \mathbb{I}_N \right)$$

Scalar potential **softly** breaks  $\mathcal{Q}$ ,  
 much less than **old non-susy det  $\mathcal{P}$**   
 ( $\sim 500\times$  smaller lattice artifacts for  $L = 16$ )

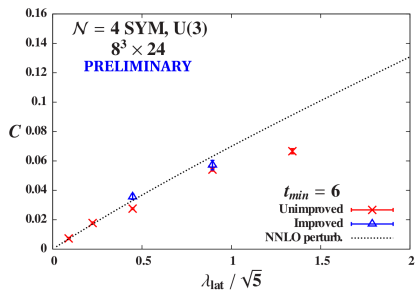
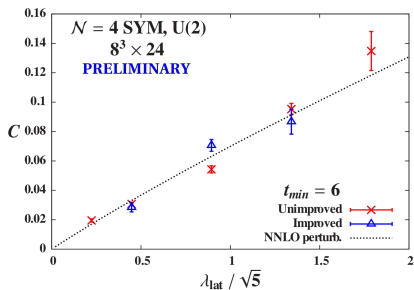
Effective  $\mathcal{O}(a)$  improvement  
 since  $\mathcal{Q}$  forbids all dim-5 operators



# Brief update on the static potential

Previously reported Coulombic static potential  $V(r)$  at all  $\lambda$

Currently confirming and extending with improved action



**Left:** Agreement with perturbation theory for  $N = 2$ ,  $\lambda \lesssim 2$

**Right:** Tantalizing  $\sqrt{\lambda}$ -like behavior for  $N = 3$ ,  $\lambda \gtrsim 1$ ,  
possibly approaching large- $N$  AdS/CFT prediction  $C(\lambda) \propto \sqrt{\lambda}$

## Konishi operator scaling dimension

$\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM is conformal at all  $\lambda$

→ power-law decay for all correlation functions

The Konishi operator is the simplest conformal primary operator

$$\mathcal{O}_K = \sum_I \text{Tr} [\Phi^I \Phi^I] \quad C_K(r) \equiv \mathcal{O}_K(x+r) \mathcal{O}_K(x) \propto r^{-2\Delta_K}$$

There are many predictions for the scaling dim.  $\Delta_K(\lambda) = 2 + \gamma_K(\lambda)$

- From weak-coupling perturbation theory,  
related to strong coupling by  $\frac{4\pi N}{\lambda} \longleftrightarrow \frac{\lambda}{4\pi N}$  S duality
- From holography for  $N \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$  but  $\lambda \ll N$
- Upper bounds from the conformal bootstrap program

Only lattice gauge theory can access nonperturbative  $\lambda$  at moderate  $N$



## Konishi scaling dimension on the lattice

Extract scalar fields from polar decomposition of complexified links

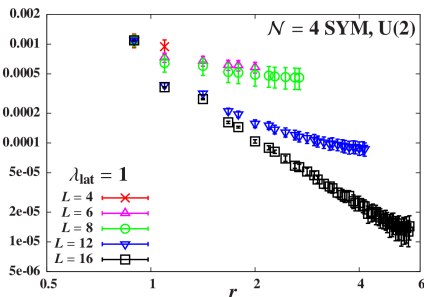
$$U_a \simeq U_a (\mathbb{I}_N + \varphi_a) \quad \hat{O}_K = \sum_a \text{Tr} [\varphi_a \varphi_a] \quad \bar{O}_K = \hat{O}_K - \langle \hat{O}_K \rangle$$

$$\bar{C}_K(r) = \bar{O}_K(x+r) \bar{O}_K(x) \propto r^{-2\Delta_K}$$

Obvious sensitivity to volume  
as desired for conformal system  $C_K$

$\Rightarrow$  finite-size scaling to find  $\Delta_K$ ,

$$\int r^{n+3} \bar{C}_K^{(L)}(r) dr \propto L^{4+n-2\Delta_K}$$



# Konishi scaling dimension on the lattice

Extract scalar fields from polar decomposition of complexified links

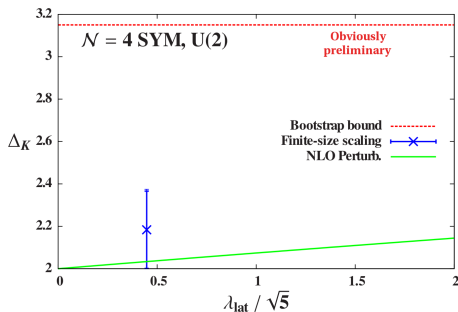
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- Work in progress to add more points & reduce uncertainties
- Also carrying out complementary MCRG analyses...

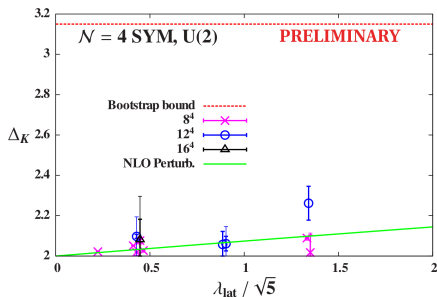
# Konishi scaling dimension from Monte Carlo RG

Eigenvalues of MCRG stability matrix  $\rightarrow$  scaling dimensions

RG blocking parameter  $\xi$  set by matching plaquettes for  $L$  vs.  $L/2$

Horizontally displaced points use different auxiliary couplings  $\mu$  &  $G$

Currently running larger  $\lambda_{\text{lat}}$  and larger  $N = 3, 4$



Uncertainties from weighted histogram of results from...

- \* 1 & 2 RG blocking steps
- \* Blocked volumes  $3^4$  through  $8^4$
- \* 1–5 operators in stability matrix

## Revisiting the sign problem

Pfaffian can be complex for lattice  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM,  $\text{pf } \mathcal{D} = |\text{pf } \mathcal{D}| e^{i\alpha}$

Previously found  $1 - \langle \cos(\alpha) \rangle \ll 1$ , independent of lattice volume

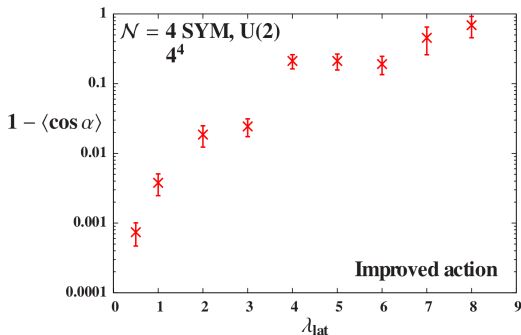
Now extending with improved action, which allows access to larger  $\lambda$

Finding much larger phase fluctuations at stronger couplings

Parallel  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$  algorithm

Typical  $4^4$  measurement  
requires  $\sim 60$  hours,  
 $\sim 4$ GB memory

Filling in more volumes &  $N$



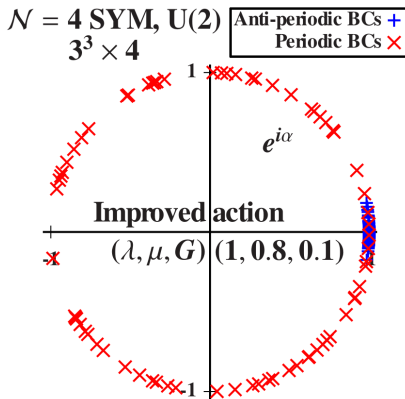
## Two puzzles posed by the sign problem

- With **periodic temporal boundary conditions** for the fermions we have an obvious sign problem,  $\langle e^{i\alpha} \rangle$  consistent with zero
- With **anti-periodic BCs** and all else the same  $\langle e^{i\alpha} \rangle \approx 1$ , phase reweighting not even necessary

Why such sensitivity to the BCs?

Also, other observables  
are nearly identical  
for these two ensembles

Why doesn't the sign problem  
have observable effects?



# Recapitulation

- Rapid progress in lattice  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM
- New improved action dramatically reduces lattice artifacts
- $N = 3$  static potential apparently approaching AdS/CFT prediction
- Promising initial results for Konishi anomalous dimension
- New information on origin and effects of sign problem

# Advertisement: Public code for lattice $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

so that the full improved action becomes

$$\begin{aligned} S_{\text{imp}} &= S'_{\text{exact}} + S_{\text{closed}} + S'_{\text{soft}} \tag{3.10} \\ S'_{\text{exact}} &= \frac{N}{2\lambda_{\text{lat}}} \sum_n \text{Tr} \left[ -\bar{\mathcal{F}}_{ab}(n) \mathcal{F}_{ab}(n) - \chi_{ab}(n) \mathcal{D}_a^{(+)} \psi_b(n) - \eta(n) \bar{\mathcal{D}}_a^{(-)} \psi_a(n) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} \left( \bar{\mathcal{D}}_a^{(-)} \mathcal{U}_a(n) + G \sum_{a \neq b} (\det \mathcal{P}_{ab}(n) - 1) \mathbb{1}_N \right)^2 \right] - S_{\text{det}} \\ S_{\text{det}} &= \frac{N}{2\lambda_{\text{lat}}} G \sum_n \text{Tr} [\eta(n)] \sum_{a \neq b} [\det \mathcal{P}_{ab}(n)] \text{Tr} [\mathcal{U}_b^{-1}(n) \psi_b(n) + \mathcal{U}_a^{-1}(n + \hat{\mu}_b) \psi_a(n + \hat{\mu}_b)] \\ S_{\text{closed}} &= -\frac{N}{8\lambda_{\text{lat}}} \sum_n \text{Tr} [\epsilon_{abcd} \chi_{de}(n + \hat{\mu}_a + \hat{\mu}_b + \hat{\mu}_c) \bar{\mathcal{D}}_c^{(-)} \chi_{ab}(n)], \\ S'_{\text{soft}} &= \frac{N}{2\lambda_{\text{lat}}} \mu^2 \sum_n \sum_a \left( \frac{1}{N} \text{Tr} [\mathcal{U}_a(n) \bar{\mathcal{U}}_a(n)] - 1 \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

The lattice action is obviously very complicated

(the fermion operator involves  $\gtrsim 100$  gathers)

To reduce barriers to entry our parallel code is publicly developed at

[github.com/daschaich/susy](https://github.com/daschaich/susy)

Evolved from MILC code, presented in [arXiv:1410.6971](https://arxiv.org/abs/1410.6971)

# Thank you!



# Thank you!

## Collaborators

Simon Catterall, Poul Damgaard, Tom DeGrand and Joel Giedt

## Funding and computing resources



## Backup: Failure of Leibnitz rule in discrete space-time

Given that  $\{Q_\alpha, \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}\} = 2\sigma_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}}^\mu P_\mu = 2i\sigma_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}}^\mu \partial_\mu$  is problematic,  
why not try  $\{Q_\alpha, \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}\} = 2i\sigma_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}}^\mu \nabla_\mu$  for a discrete translation?

Here  $\nabla_\mu \phi(x) = \frac{1}{a} [\phi(x + a\hat{\mu}) - \phi(x)] = \partial_\mu \phi(x) + \frac{a}{2} \partial_\mu^2 \phi(x) + \mathcal{O}(a^2)$

Essential difference between  $\partial_\mu$  and  $\nabla_\mu$  on the lattice,  $a > 0$

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_\mu [\phi(x)\chi(x)] &= a^{-1} [\phi(x + a\hat{\mu})\chi(x + a\hat{\mu}) - \phi(x)\chi(x)] \\ &= [\nabla_\mu \phi(x)] \chi(x) + \phi(x) \nabla_\mu \chi(x) + a [\nabla_\mu \phi(x)] \nabla_\mu \chi(x)\end{aligned}$$

We only recover the Leibnitz rule  $\partial_\mu(fg) = (\partial_\mu f)g + f\partial_\mu g$  when  $a \rightarrow 0$   
 $\implies$  “Discrete supersymmetry” breaks down on the lattice

(Dondi & Nicolai, “Lattice Supersymmetry”, 1977)

## Backup: Twisting $\longleftrightarrow$ Kähler–Dirac fermions

The Kähler–Dirac representation is related to the spinor  $Q_\alpha^I, \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}^I$  by

$$\begin{pmatrix} Q_\alpha^1 & Q_\alpha^2 & Q_\alpha^3 & Q_\alpha^4 \\ \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}^1 & \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}^2 & \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}^3 & \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}^4 \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{Q} + \mathcal{Q}_\mu \gamma_\mu + \mathcal{Q}_{\mu\nu} \gamma_\mu \gamma_\nu + \bar{\mathcal{Q}}_\mu \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 + \bar{\mathcal{Q}} \gamma_5$$

$$\longrightarrow \mathcal{Q} + \gamma_a \mathcal{Q}_a + \gamma_a \gamma_b \mathcal{Q}_{ab}$$

with  $a, b = 1, \dots, 5$

The  $4 \times 4$  matrix involves R symmetry transformations along each row and (euclidean) Lorentz transformations along each column

$\implies$  Kähler–Dirac components transform under “twisted rotation group”

$$\mathrm{SO}(4)_{tw} \equiv \mathrm{diag} \left[ \mathrm{SO}(4)_{\mathrm{euc}} \otimes \mathrm{SO}(4)_R \right]$$

$\uparrow$   
 only  $\mathrm{SO}(4)_R \subset \mathrm{SO}(6)_R$

## Backup: Twisted $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM fields and $\mathcal{Q}$

Everything transforms with **integer spin** under  $SO(4)_{tw}$  — **no spinors**

$$Q_{\alpha}^I \text{ and } \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}^I \longrightarrow \mathcal{Q}, \mathcal{Q}_a \text{ and } \mathcal{Q}_{ab}$$

$$\Psi^I \text{ and } \bar{\Psi}^I \longrightarrow \eta, \psi_a \text{ and } \chi_{ab}$$

$$A_{\mu} \text{ and } \Phi^{IJ} \longrightarrow \mathcal{A}_a = (A_{\mu}, \phi) + i(B_{\mu}, \bar{\phi}) \text{ and } \bar{\mathcal{A}}_a$$

The twisted-scalar supersymmetry  $\mathcal{Q}$  acts as

$$\mathcal{Q} \mathcal{A}_a = \psi_a$$

$$\mathcal{Q} \psi_a = 0$$

$$\mathcal{Q} \chi_{ab} = -\bar{\mathcal{F}}_{ab}$$

$$\mathcal{Q} \bar{\mathcal{A}}_a = 0$$

$$\mathcal{Q} \eta = d$$

$$\mathcal{Q} d = 0$$

↙ bosonic auxiliary field with e.o.m.  $d = \bar{\mathcal{D}}_a \mathcal{A}_a$

1  $\mathcal{Q}$  directly interchanges bosonic  $\longleftrightarrow$  fermionic d.o.f.

2 The susy subalgebra  $\mathcal{Q}^2 \cdot = 0$  is manifest

## Backup: Lattice $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM fields and $Q$

The lattice theory is very nearly a direct transcription

- Covariant derivatives  $\longrightarrow$  finite difference operators
- Gauge fields  $\mathcal{A}_a \longrightarrow$  gauge links  $\mathcal{U}_a$

$$\begin{aligned} Q \mathcal{A}_a &\longrightarrow Q \mathcal{U}_a = \psi_a & Q \psi_a &= 0 \\ Q \chi_{ab} &= -\overline{\mathcal{F}}_{ab} & Q \overline{\mathcal{A}}_a &\longrightarrow Q \overline{\mathcal{U}}_a = 0 \\ Q \eta &= d & Q d &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

- Formal lattice action retains same form as continuum action and remains supersymmetric,  $QS = 0$

### Geometrical formulation facilitates discretization

$\eta$  live on lattice sites

$\psi_a$  live on links

$\chi_{ab}$  connect opposite corners of oriented plaquettes

Orbifolding / dimensional deconstruction produces same lattice system

## Backup: $A_4^*$ lattice with five links in four dimensions

$A_a = (A_\mu, \phi)$  may remind you of dimensional reduction

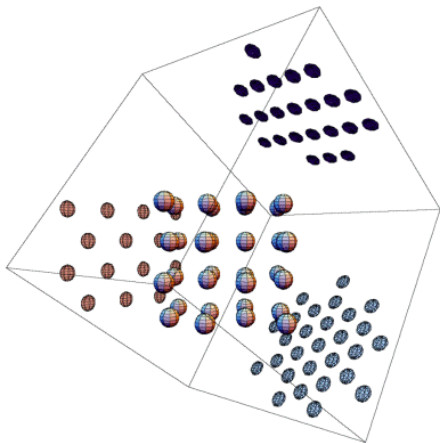
On the lattice we want to treat all five  $\mathcal{U}_a$  symmetrically

to obtain  $S_5 \rightarrow \text{SO}(4)_{tw}$  symmetry

—Start with hypercubic lattice  
in 5d momentum space

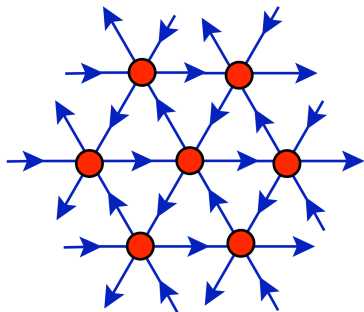
—**Symmetric** constraint  $\sum_a \partial_a = 0$   
projects to 4d momentum space

—Result is  $A_4$  lattice  
→ dual  $A_4^*$  lattice in real space



# Backup: $A_4^*$ lattice point group symmetry

- Can picture  $A_4^*$  lattice as 4d analog of 2d triangular lattice
- Preserves  $S_5$  point group symmetry
- Basis vectors are non-orthogonal and linearly dependent



$S_5$  irreps precisely match onto irreps of twisted  $SO(4)_{tw}$

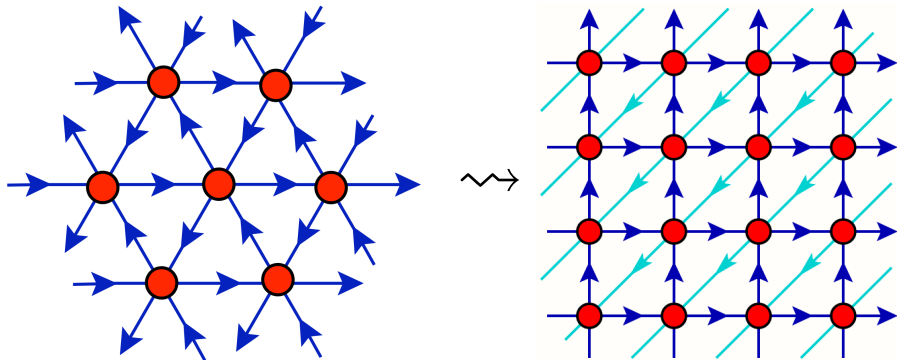
$$\mathbf{5} = \mathbf{4} \oplus \mathbf{1} : \mathcal{U}_a \longrightarrow A_\mu + iB_\mu, \quad \phi + i\bar{\phi}$$

$$\psi_a \longrightarrow \psi_\mu, \quad \bar{\eta}$$

$$\mathbf{10} = \mathbf{6} \oplus \mathbf{4} : \chi_{ab} \longrightarrow \chi_{\mu\nu}, \quad \bar{\psi}_\mu$$

# Backup: Hypercubic representation of $A_4^*$ lattice

In the code it is very convenient to represent the  $A_4^*$  lattice as a hypercube with a backwards diagonal





## Backup: More on flat directions

- 1 Complex gauge field  $\implies U(N) = SU(N) \otimes U(1)$  gauge invariance  
U(1) sector decouples only in continuum limit
- 2  $Q \mathcal{U}_a = \psi_a \implies$  gauge links must be elements of algebra  
Resulting **flat directions** required by supersymmetric construction  
but must be lifted to ensure  $\mathcal{U}_a = \mathbb{I}_N + \mathcal{A}_a$  in continuum limit

We need to add two deformations to regulate flat directions

$$SU(N) \text{ scalar potential} \propto \mu^2 \sum_a (\text{Tr} [\mathcal{U}_a \bar{\mathcal{U}}_a] - N)^2$$

$$U(1) \text{ plaquette determinant} \sim G \sum_{a \neq b} (\det \mathcal{P}_{ab} - 1)$$

Scalar potential **softly** breaks  $Q$  supersymmetry

← susy-violating operators vanish as  $\mu^2 \rightarrow 0$

Plaquette determinant can be made  $Q$ -invariant  $\longrightarrow$  improved action

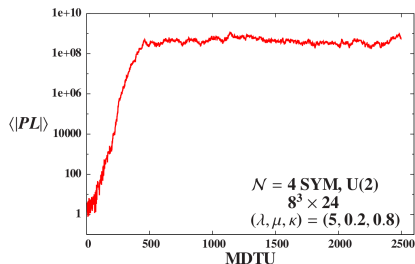
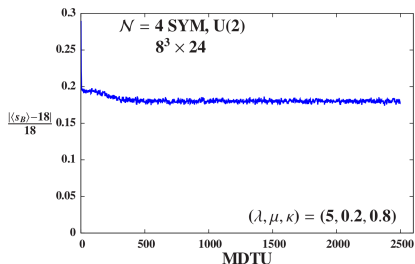
## Backup: One problem with flat directions

Gauge fields  $\mathcal{U}_a$  can move far away from continuum form  $\mathbb{I}_N + \mathcal{A}_a$   
if  $N\mu^2/(2\lambda_{\text{lat}})$  becomes too small

Example for two-color  $(\lambda_{\text{lat}}, \mu, \kappa) = (5, 0.2, 0.8)$  on  $8^3 \times 24$  volume

**Left:** Bosonic action is stable  $\sim 18\%$  off its supersymmetric value

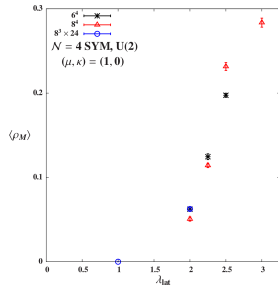
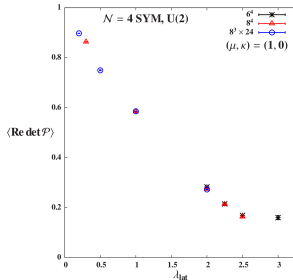
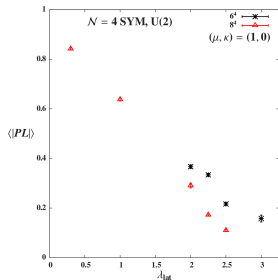
**Right:** Polyakov loop wanders off to  $\sim 10^9$



# Backup: Another problem with U(1) flat directions

Flat directions in U(1) sector can induce transition to confined phase

This lattice artifact is not present in continuum  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM



Around the same  $\lambda_{\text{lat}} \approx 2 \dots$

**Left:** Polyakov loop falls towards zero

**Center:** Plaquette determinant falls towards zero

**Right:** Density of U(1) monopole world lines becomes non-zero

# Backup: Soft susy breaking

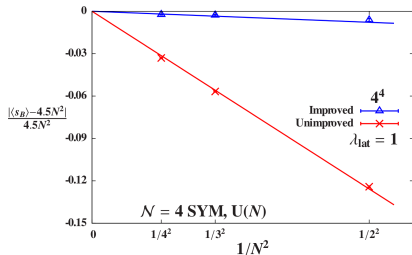
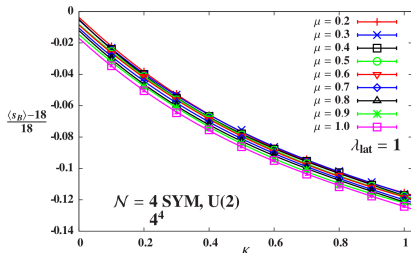
The unimproved action directly adds to the lattice action

$$S_{\text{soft}} = \frac{N}{2\lambda_{\text{lat}}} \mu^2 \left( \frac{1}{N} \text{Tr} [\mathcal{U}_a \bar{\mathcal{U}}_a] - 1 \right)^2 + \kappa |\det \mathcal{P}_{ab} - 1|^2$$

Both terms explicitly break  $\mathcal{Q}$  but  $\det \mathcal{P}_{ab}$  effects dominate

**Left:** The breaking is **soft** — guaranteed to vanish as  $\mu, \kappa \rightarrow 0$

**Right:** Soft  $\mathcal{Q}$  breaking also suppressed  $\propto 1/N^2$



# Backup: More on supersymmetric constraints

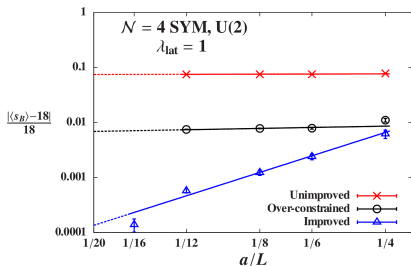
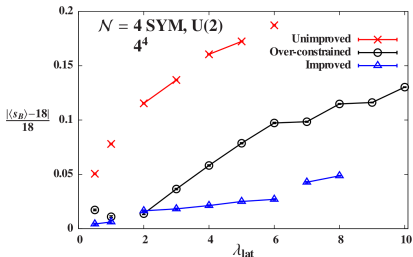
Improved action from [arXiv:1505.03135](https://arxiv.org/abs/1505.03135)

imposes  $\mathcal{Q}$ -invariant plaquette determinant constraint

Basic idea: Modify the equations of motion  $\longrightarrow$  moduli space

$$d(n) = \overline{\mathcal{D}}_a^{(-)} \mathcal{U}_a(n) \longrightarrow \overline{\mathcal{D}}_a^{(-)} \mathcal{U}_a(n) + G \sum_{a \neq b} [\det \mathcal{P}_{ab}(n) - 1]$$

Produces much smaller violations of  $\mathcal{Q}$  Ward identity  $\langle s_B \rangle = 9N^2/2$

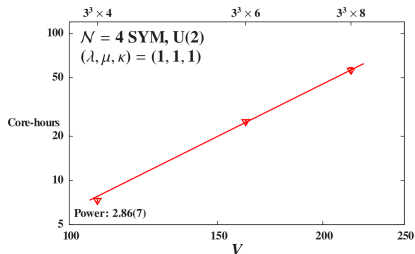
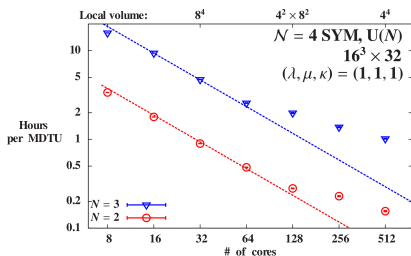


# Backup: Code performance—weak and strong scaling

Results from [arXiv:1410.6971](https://arxiv.org/abs/1410.6971) using the unimproved action

**Left:** Strong scaling for U(2) and U(3)  $16^3 \times 32$  RHMC

**Right:** Weak scaling for  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$  pfaffian calculation (fixed local volume)  
 $n \equiv 16N^2L^3N_T$  is number of fermion degrees of freedom



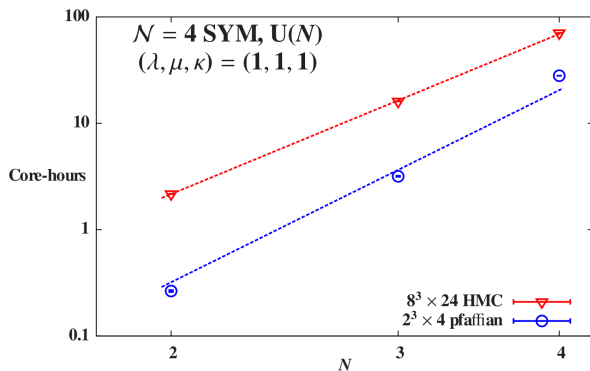
Both plots on log–log axes with power-law fits

## Backup: Numerical costs for 2, 3 and 4 colors

**Red:** Find RHMC cost scaling  $\sim N^5$  (recall adjoint fermion d.o.f.  $\propto N^2$ )

**Blue:** Pfaffian cost scaling consistent with expected  $N^6$

Additional factor of  $\sim 2\times$  from improved action, but same scaling

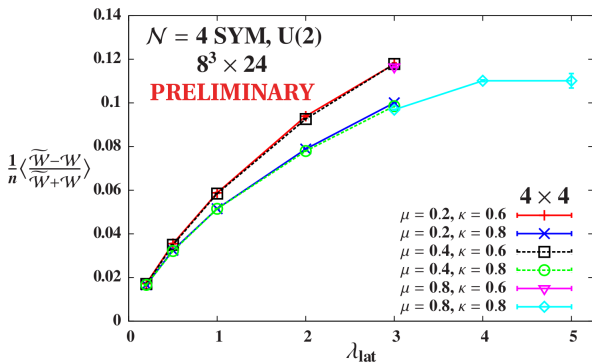


# Backup: Restoration of $\mathcal{Q}_a$ and $\mathcal{Q}_{ab}$ supersymmetries

Restoration of the other 15  $\mathcal{Q}_a$  and  $\mathcal{Q}_{ab}$  in the continuum limit follows from restoration of R symmetry (motivation for  $A_4^*$  lattice)

Modified Wilson loops test R symmetries at non-zero lattice spacing

Results from [arXiv:1411.0166](https://arxiv.org/abs/1411.0166) to be revisited with the improved action





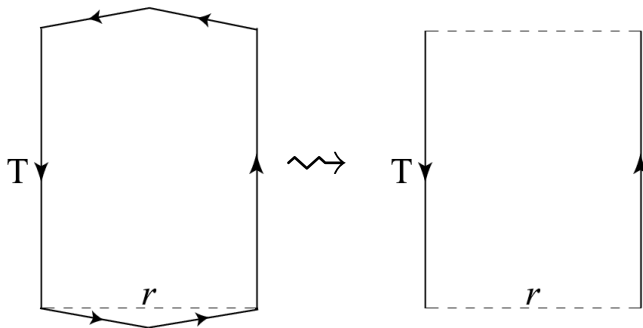
## Backup: $\mathcal{N} = 4$ static potential from Wilson loops

Extract static potential  $V(r)$  from  $r \times T$  Wilson loops

$$W(r, T) \propto e^{-V(r) T}$$

$$V(r) = A - C/r + \sigma r$$

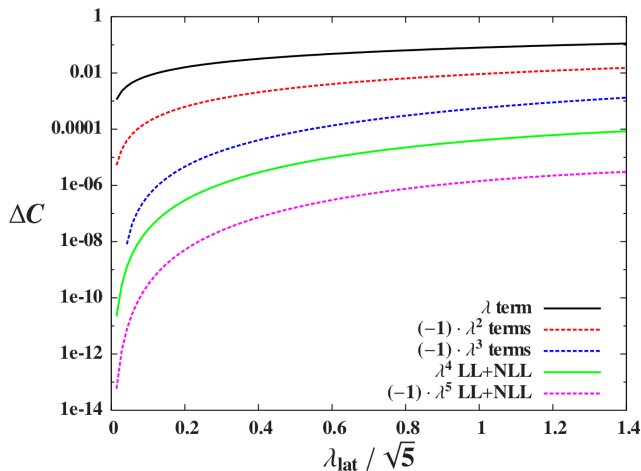
Coulomb gauge trick from lattice QCD reduces  $A_4^*$  lattice complications



# Backup: Perturbation theory for Coulomb coefficient

For range of  $\lambda_{\text{lat}}$  currently being studied

perturbation theory for the Coulomb coefficient is well behaved

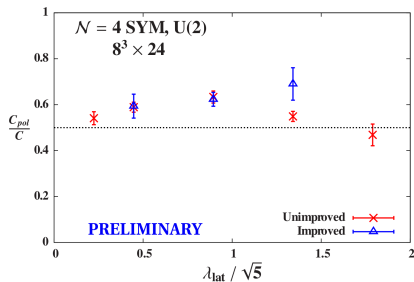
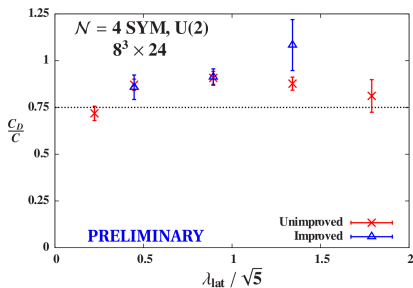


# Backup: More tests of the U(2) static potential

**Left:** Projecting Wilson loops from U(2)  $\longrightarrow$  SU(2)

$$\implies \text{factor of } \frac{N^2-1}{N^2} = 3/4$$

**Right:** Unitarizing links removes scalars  $\implies$  factor of 1/2



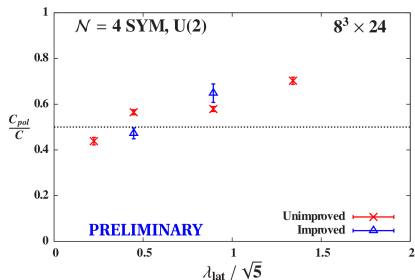
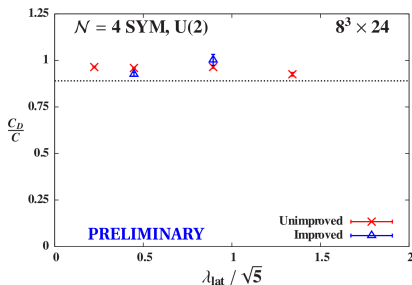
Some results slightly above expected factors,  
may be related to non-zero auxiliary couplings  $\mu$  and  $\kappa / G$

# Backup: More tests of the U(3) static potential

**Left:** Projecting Wilson loops from U(3)  $\longrightarrow$  SU(3)

$$\implies \text{factor of } \frac{N^2-1}{N^2} = 8/9$$

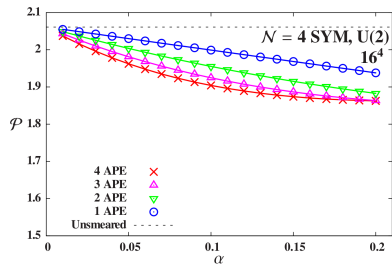
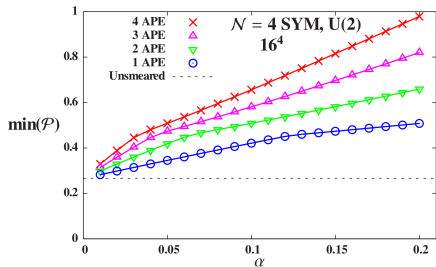
**Right:** Unitarizing links removes scalars  $\implies$  factor of 1/2



Some results slightly above expected factors,  
may be related to non-zero auxiliary couplings  $\mu$  and  $\kappa / G$

# Backup: Smearing for Konishi analyses

- As in glueball analyses, operator basis enlarged through smearing
- Use APE-like smearing  $(1 - \alpha) \text{---} + \frac{\alpha}{8} \sum \square$ ,  
with staples built from unitary parts of links but no final unitarization  
(unitarized smearing — e.g. stout — doesn't affect Konishi)
- Average plaquette is stable upon smearing (**right**)  
even though minimum plaquette steadily increases (**left**)



## Backup: Scaling dimensions from Monte Carlo RG

Write system as (infinite) sum of operators  $\mathcal{O}_i$  with couplings  $c_i$

Couplings  $c_i$  flow under RG blocking transformation  $R_b$

$n$ -times-blocked system is  $H^{(n)} = R_b H^{(n-1)} = \sum_i c_i^{(n)} \mathcal{O}_i^{(n)}$

Consider linear expansion around fixed point  $H^*$  with couplings  $c_i^*$

$$c_i^{(n)} - c_i^* = \sum_j \left. \frac{\partial c_i^{(n)}}{\partial c_j^{(n-1)}} \right|_{H^*} (c_j^{(n-1)} - c_j^*) \equiv \sum_j T_{ij}^* (c_j^{(n-1)} - c_j^*)$$

$T_{ij}^*$  is the stability matrix

Eigenvalues of  $T_{ij}^* \rightarrow$  scaling dimensions of corresponding operators

## Backup: The sign problem

In lattice gauge theory we compute operator expectation values

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int [dU][d\bar{U}] \mathcal{O} e^{-S_B[U, \bar{U}]} \text{pf } \mathcal{D}[U, \bar{U}]$$

$\text{pf } \mathcal{D} = |\text{pf } \mathcal{D}| e^{i\alpha}$  can be complex for lattice  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM

→ Complicates interpretation of  $[e^{-S_B} \text{pf } \mathcal{D}]$  as Boltzmann weight

Instead absorb  $e^{i\alpha}$  into phase-quenched (pq) observables  $\mathcal{O} e^{i\alpha}$

and reweight using  $Z = \int e^{i\alpha} e^{-S_B} |\text{pf } \mathcal{D}| = \langle e^{i\alpha} \rangle_{pq}$

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle_{pq} = \frac{1}{Z_{pq}} \int [dU][d\bar{U}] \mathcal{O} e^{-S_B} |\text{pf } \mathcal{D}| \qquad \langle \mathcal{O} \rangle = \frac{\langle \mathcal{O} e^{i\alpha} \rangle_{pq}}{\langle e^{i\alpha} \rangle_{pq}}$$

**Sign problem:** This breaks down if  $\langle e^{i\alpha} \rangle_{pq}$  is consistent with zero

# Backup: Pfaffian phase volume dependence

No indication of a sign problem at  $\lambda_{\text{lat}} = 1$  with anti-periodic BCs

- Results from [arXiv:1411.0166](https://arxiv.org/abs/1411.0166) using the unimproved action
- Fluctuations in pfaffian phase don't grow with the lattice volume
- Insensitive to number of colors  $N = 2, 3, 4$

