

# Complex Langevin analysis of four-dimensional SU(2) gauge theory with a theta term

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# Gauge theory with a $\theta$ term

☆  $\theta$  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  $\theta$  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**

# Phase structure at $\theta = \pi$

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

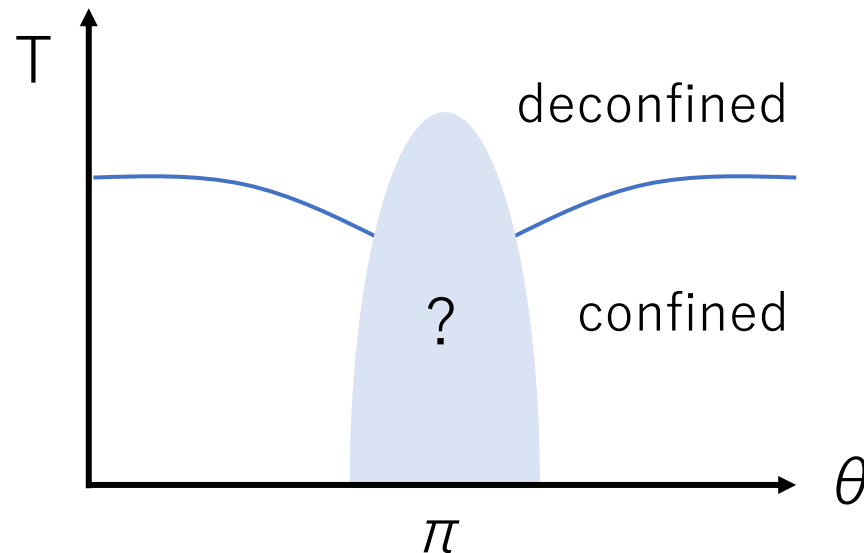
→ constrain the phase structure at  $\theta = \pi$

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

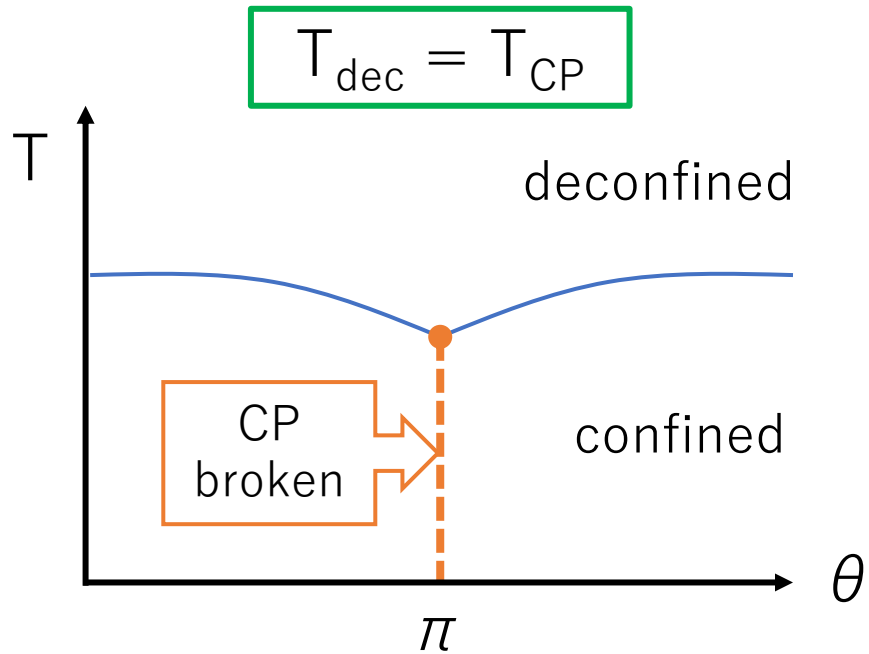
[D. Gaiotto, A. Kapustin, Z. Komargodski, N. Seiberg (2017)]



# $T_{\text{dec}}$ VS $T_{\text{CP}}$

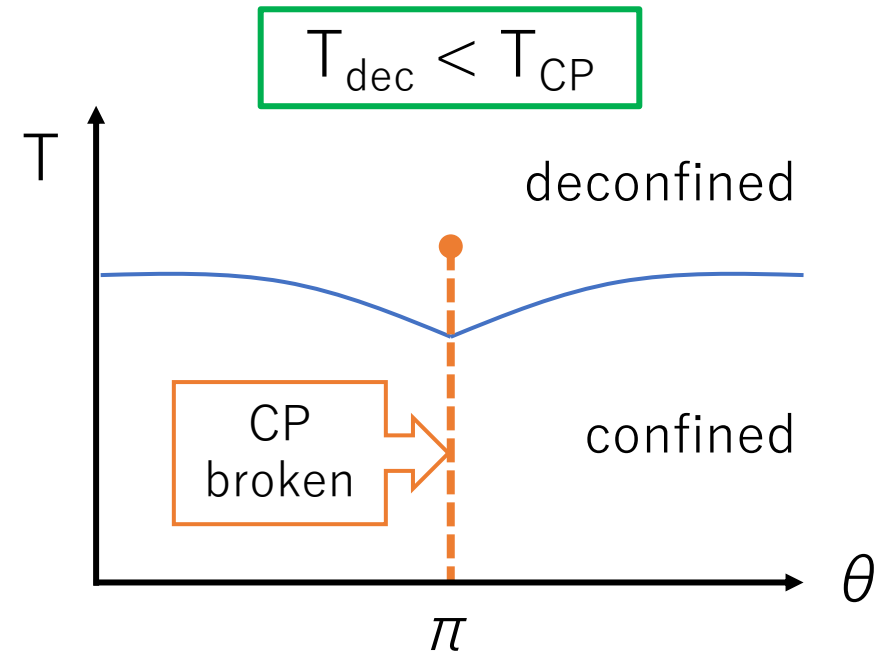
☆ anomaly matching  $\rightarrow T_{\text{dec}} \leq T_{\text{CP}}$  (assuming SSB of CP at  $T = 0$ )

examples of possible  $(\theta, T)$  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)]

# Numerical study of the $\theta$ term

Monte Carlo simulation of the lattice gauge theory with a  $\theta$  term

- $\theta$  term is purely imaginary  $\rightarrow$  **sign problem**
- ordinary reweighting method does not work when  $\theta$  or  $V$  is large
  
- many approaches
  - Lefschetz thimble
  - density of states  $\leftarrow$  talk by C. Gattringer and O. Orasch
  - tensor renormalization group
  - **complex Langevin**  $\leftarrow$  this work
  - ...

# Complex Langevin method

## complex Langevin method (CLM)

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

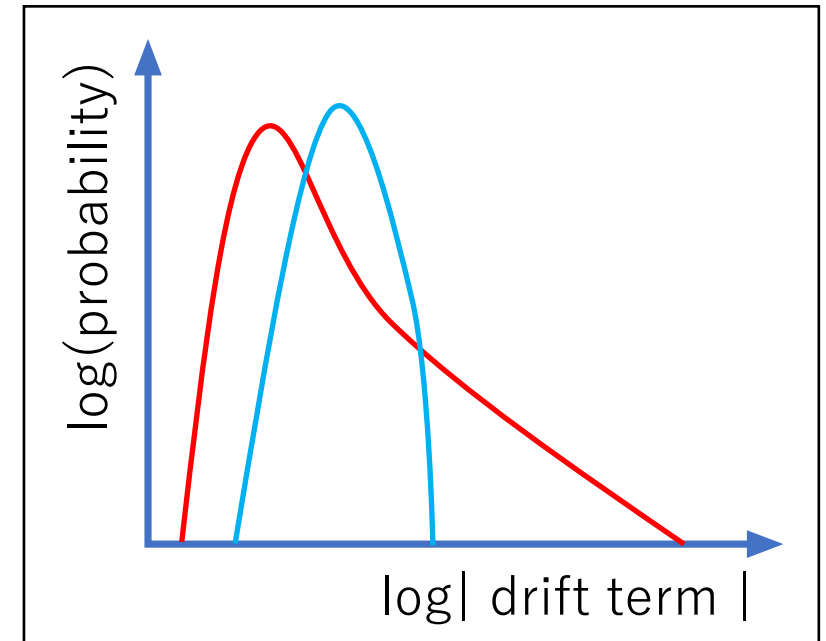
- Langevin equation: fictitious time evolution of dynamical variables
- real variable  $\rightarrow$  complex variable

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

Diagram illustrating the Langevin equation components:

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

# CLM for the lattice gauge theory

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

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

$$U_{n,\mu} \in \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})$$

drift term

- gauge group is extended:  $\text{SU}(2) \rightarrow \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})$

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

- 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)]

# Outline

1. Introduction

2. 2D  $U(1)$  gauge theory with a theta term

➤ previous work

3. 4D  $SU(2)$  gauge theory with a theta term

➤ ongoing work

4. Summary



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# 2D U(1) lattice gauge theory

- exactly solvable on a finite lattice → good test ground

- kinetic term

$$S_g = -\frac{\beta}{2} \sum_n (P_n + P_n^{-1}) \quad \beta = \frac{1}{(ga)^2}$$

- topological charge ... two definitions

$$Q_{\sin} = -\frac{i}{4\pi} \sum_n (P_n - P_n^{-1}) \quad \text{integer value in the continuum limit}$$

$$Q_{\log} = -\frac{i}{2\pi} \sum_n \log P_n \quad \text{integer value for a finite lattice spacing}$$

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

# CLM of 2D U(1) on the torus

[M. Hirasawa, A. Matsumoto, J. Nishimura, A. Yosprakob, (JHEP 2020)]

- small  $\beta$  (coarse lattice): wrong convergence of CLM

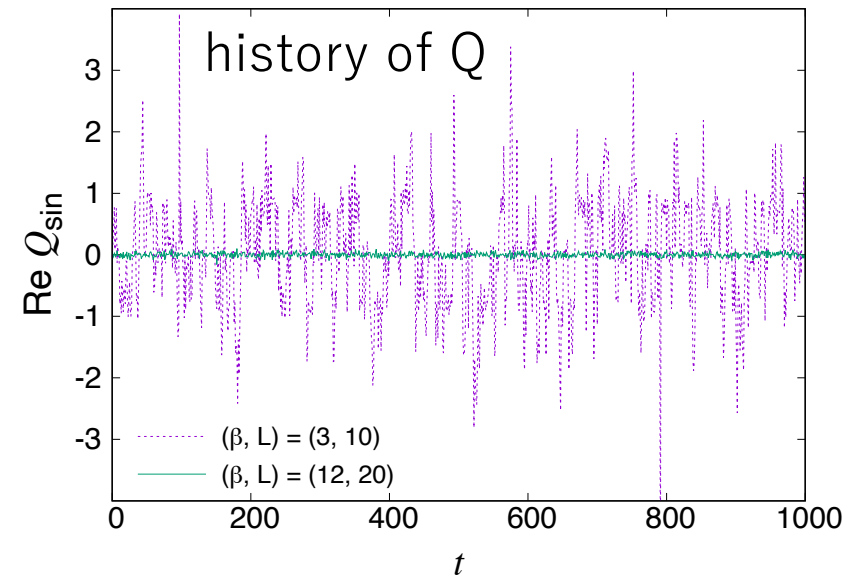
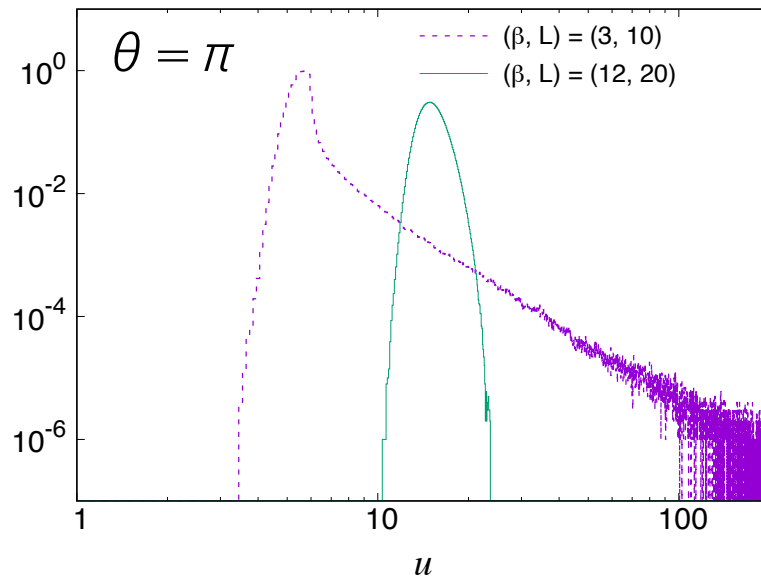
- The condition for correct convergence is not satisfied.

↕ trade-off

- large  $\beta$  (fine lattice): “freezing” of the topological charge

- The configuration is confined in a single topological sector.

distribution of  
the drift term



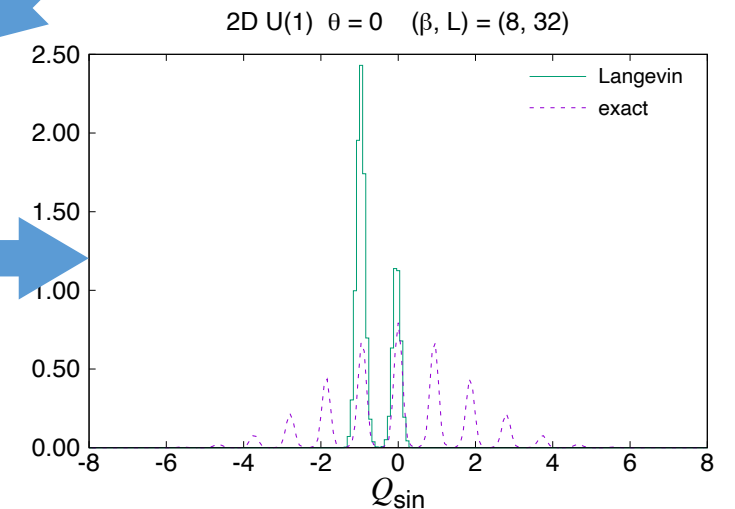
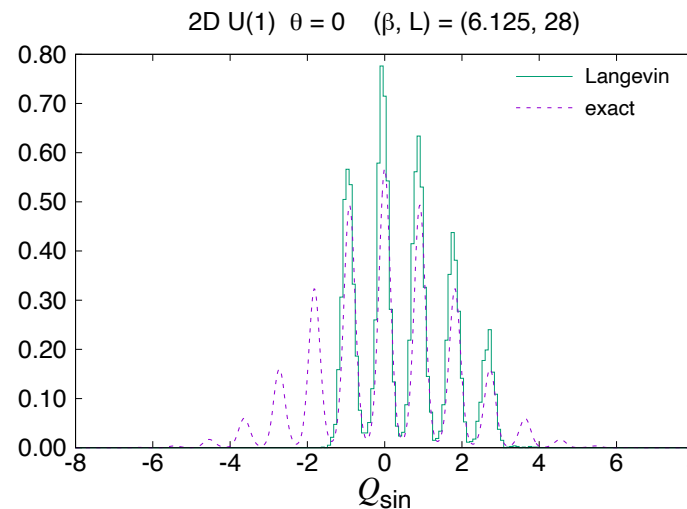
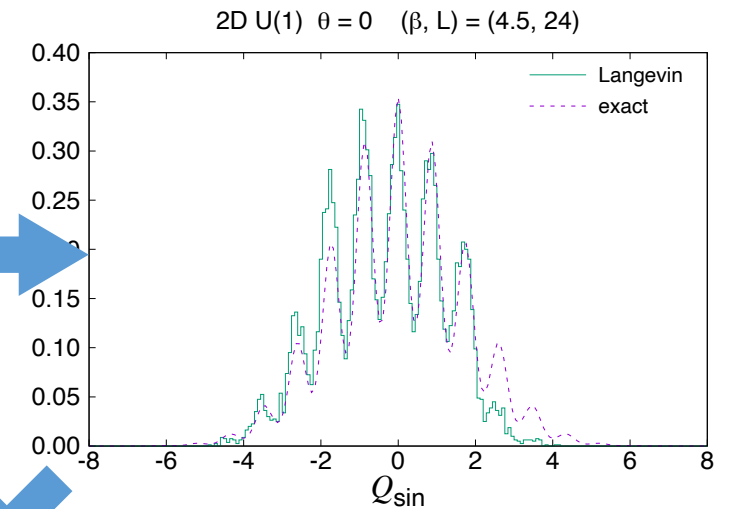
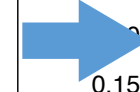
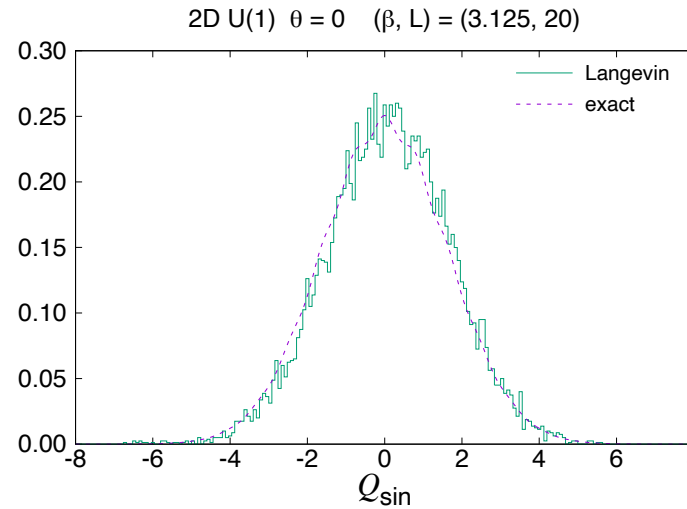
# Behavior of the topological charge

- distribution of  $Q_{\text{sin}}$  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

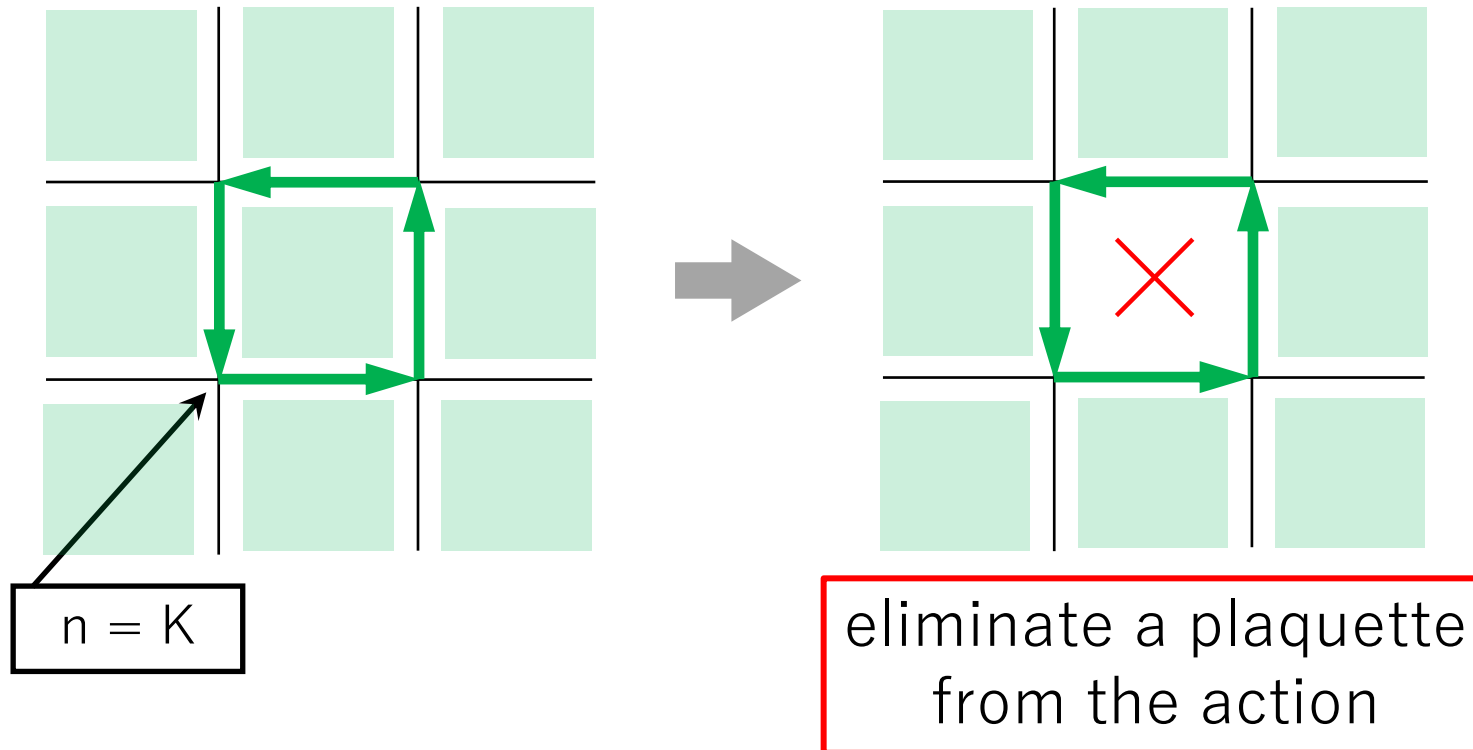
- $Q_{\text{sin}} \rightarrow \text{integer}$
- **topology freezing**



# 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



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

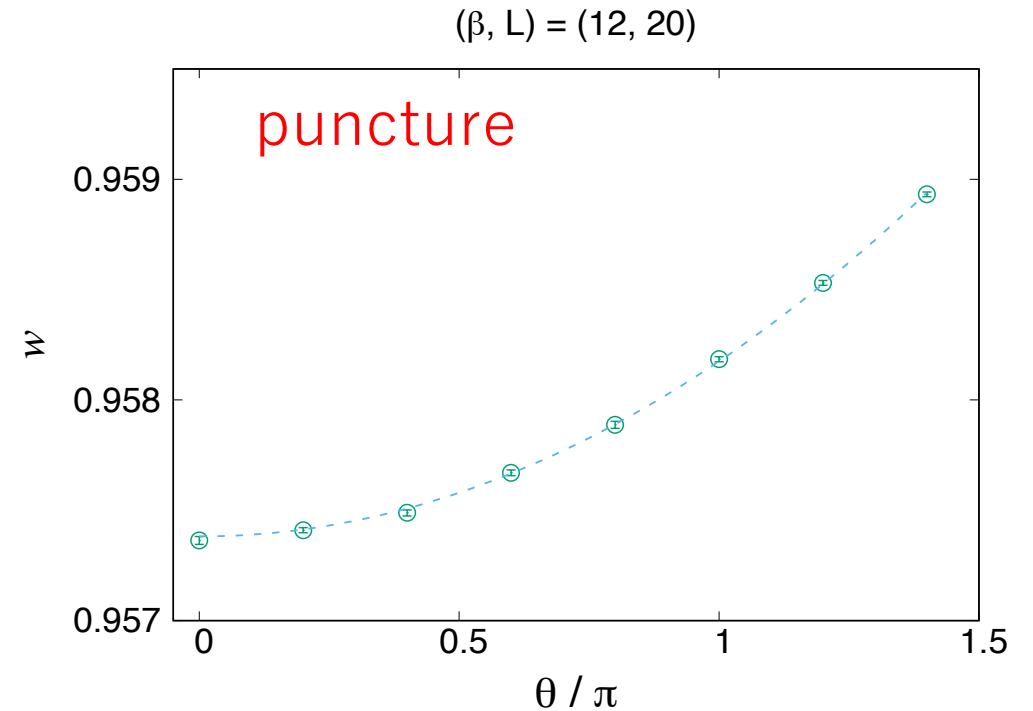
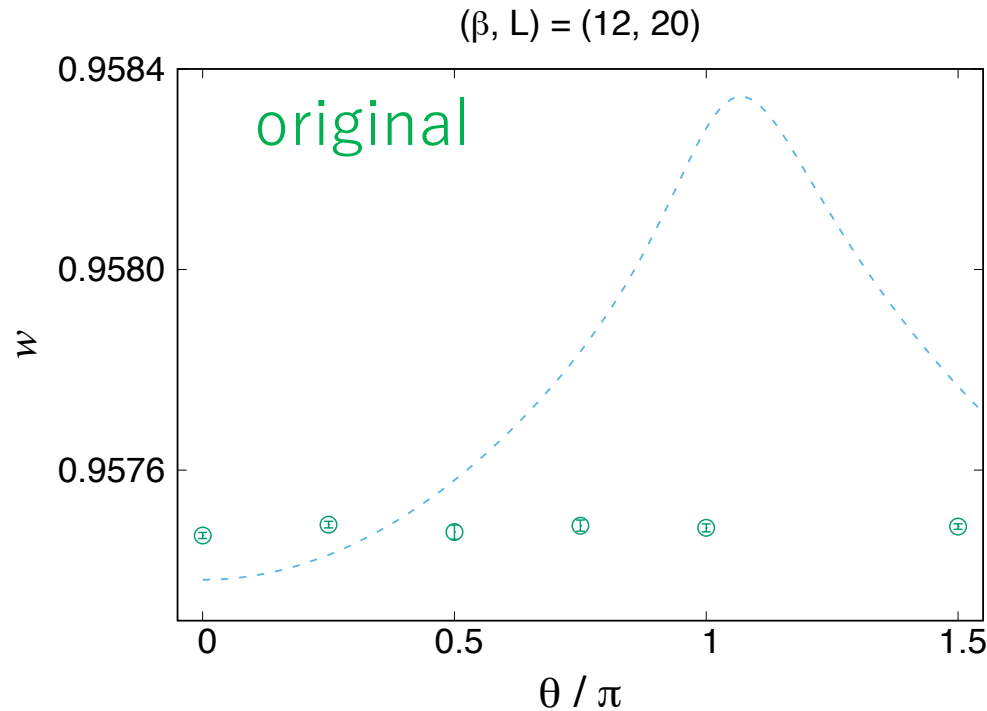
$$Q_{\sin} = -\frac{i}{4\pi} \sum_{n \neq K} (P_n - P_n^{-1})$$

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

# Improvement of CLM

average plaquette

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



freezing of topological charge

CLM works well

effect of the puncture disappears in  $V \rightarrow \infty$  limit for  $|\theta| < \pi$

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# Lattice setup of 4D SU(2) gauge theory

- **kinetic term** : standard Wilson action

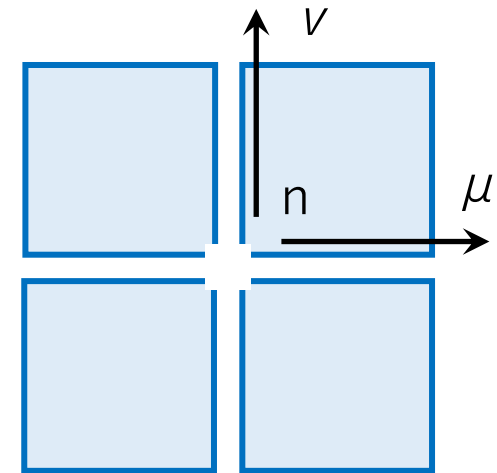
$$S_\beta = -\frac{\beta}{4} \sum_n \sum_{\mu \neq \nu} \text{Tr} [P_n^{\mu\nu}] \quad P_n^{\mu\nu} : \text{plaquette} \quad \beta = \frac{4}{g^2}$$

- **topological charge** : clover leaf (symmetrized “figure 8”)

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

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

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

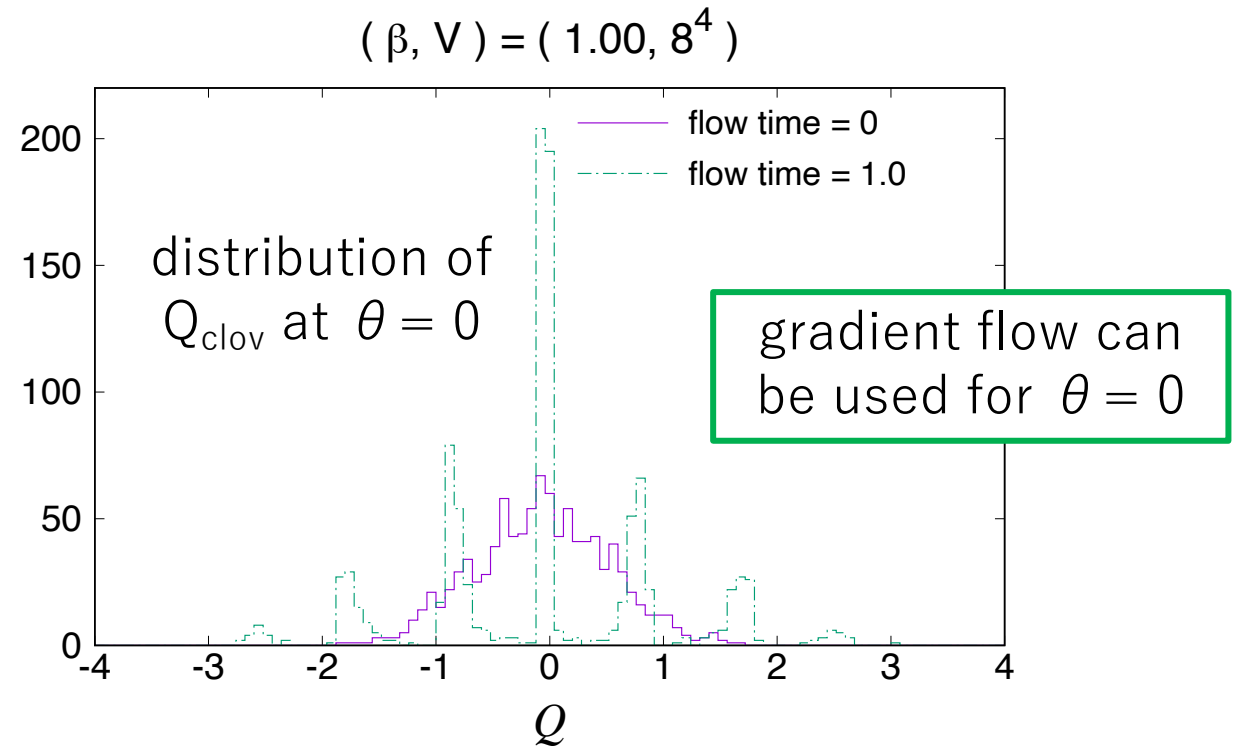
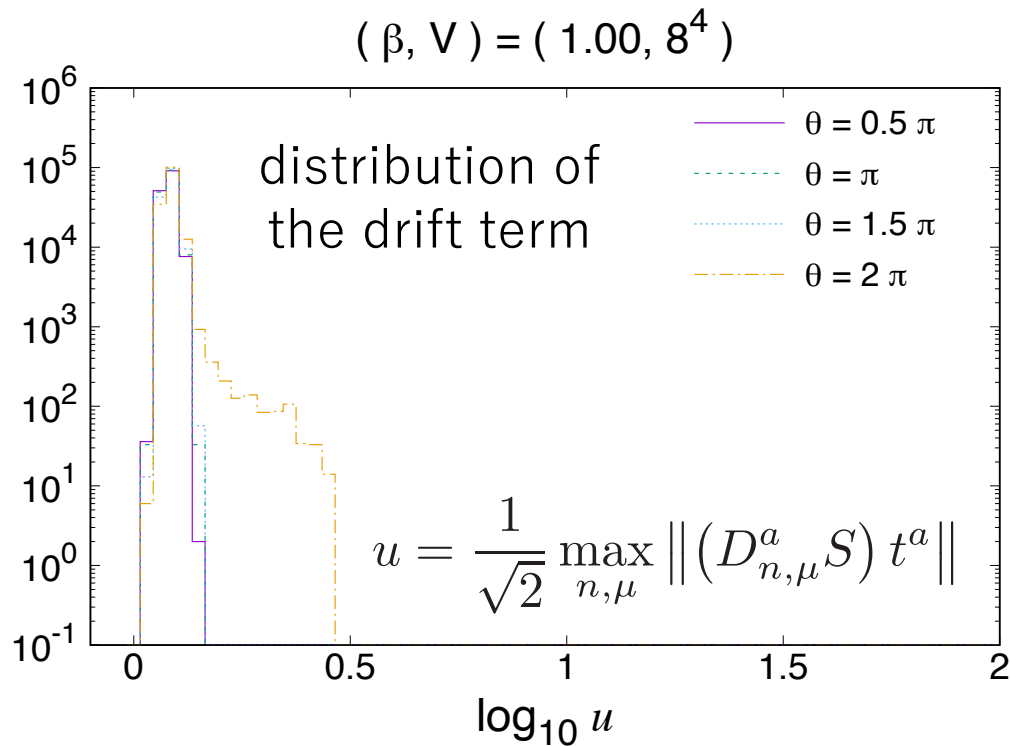




# Validity of CLM

- The condition for the correct convergence is satisfied even for a small  $\beta$ .

☆ CLM works in a wide parameter region for 4D SU(2).



# Result for small $\beta$

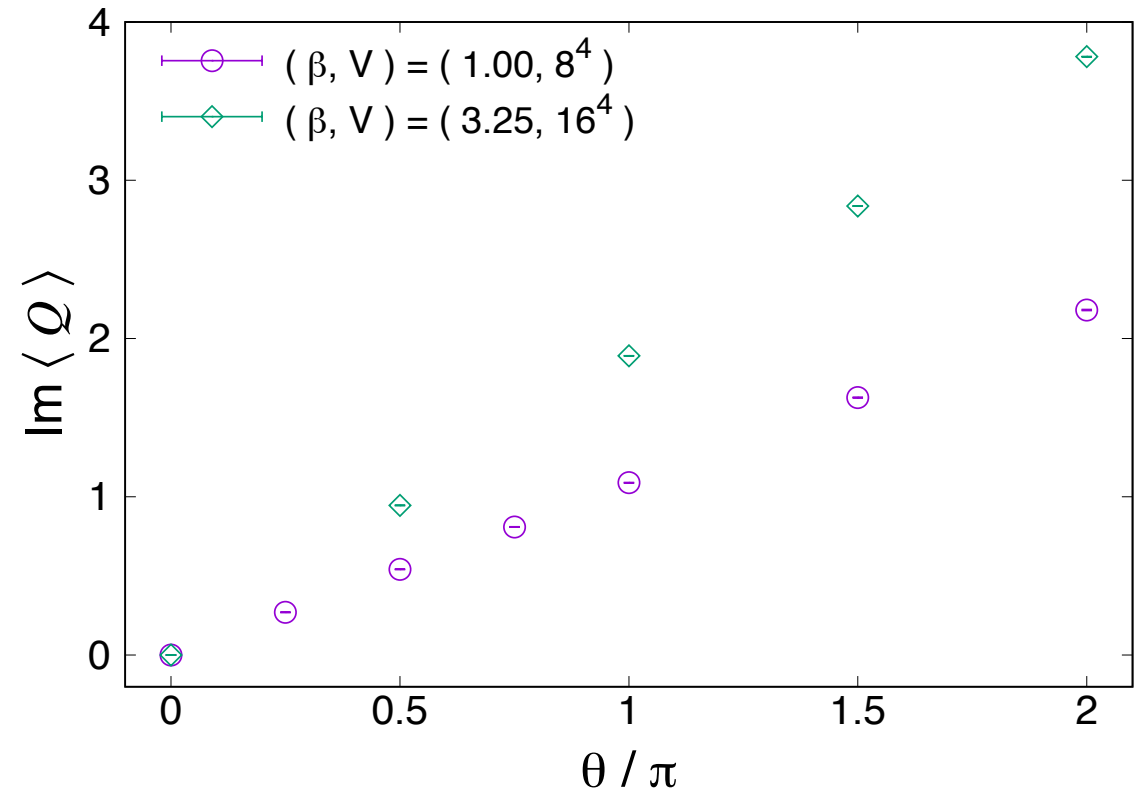
- ☆ topological charge (CP odd)  $\langle Q \rangle = -i \frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial \theta}$
- linearly depend on  $\theta$

$2\pi$ -periodicity is absent



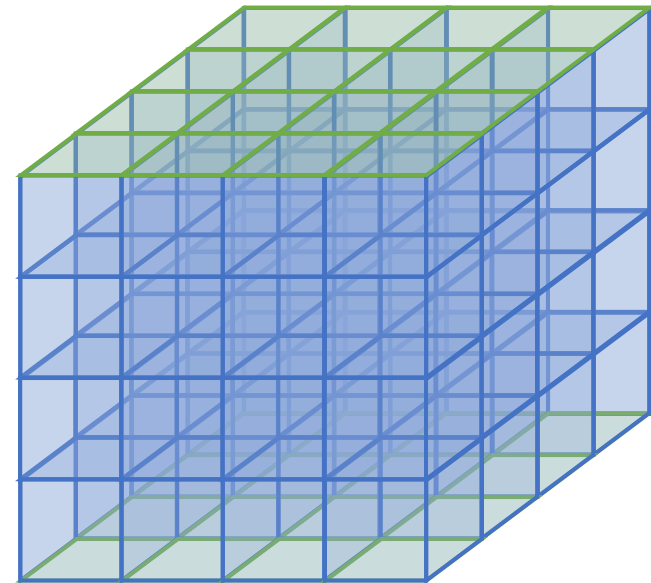
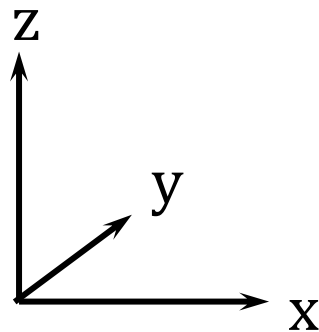
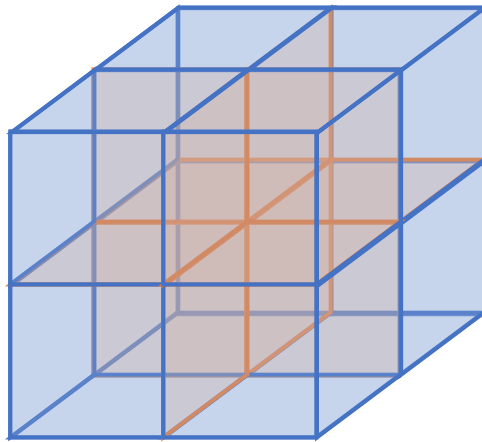
$Q_{\text{clov}}$  is not an integer  
on a finite lattice

- We need to approach the continuum limit.



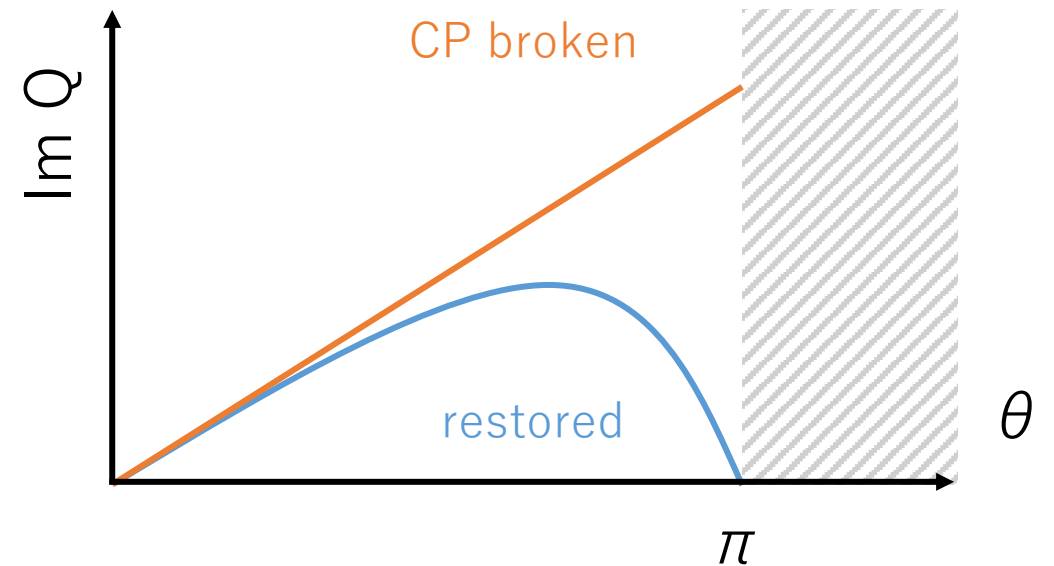
# Solving the freezing problem

- How can we approach the continuum limit avoiding the freezing ?
  - (1) spatially localized defect (puncture)
  - (2) open boundary for the spatial direction [M. Luscher, S. Schaefer (2011)]
- The translational symmetry for the temporal direction should be respected.



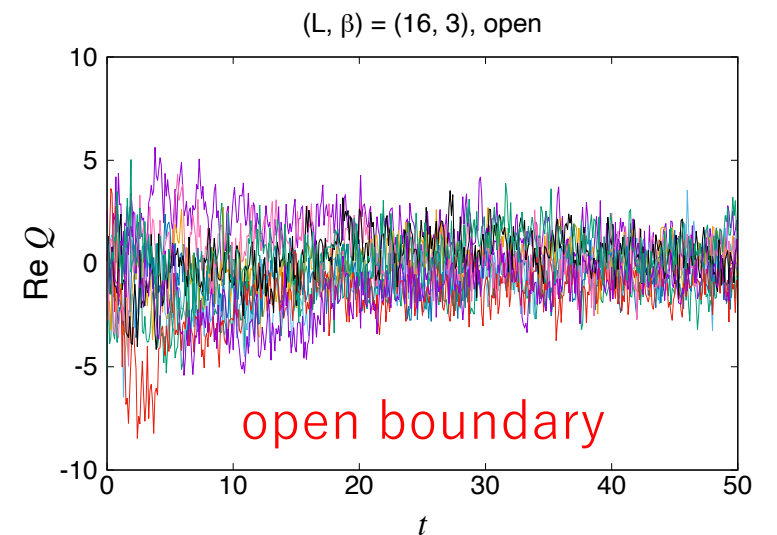
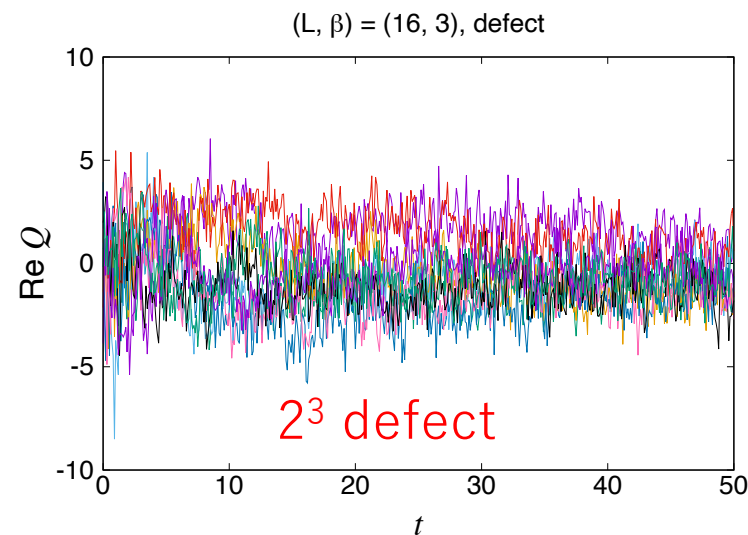
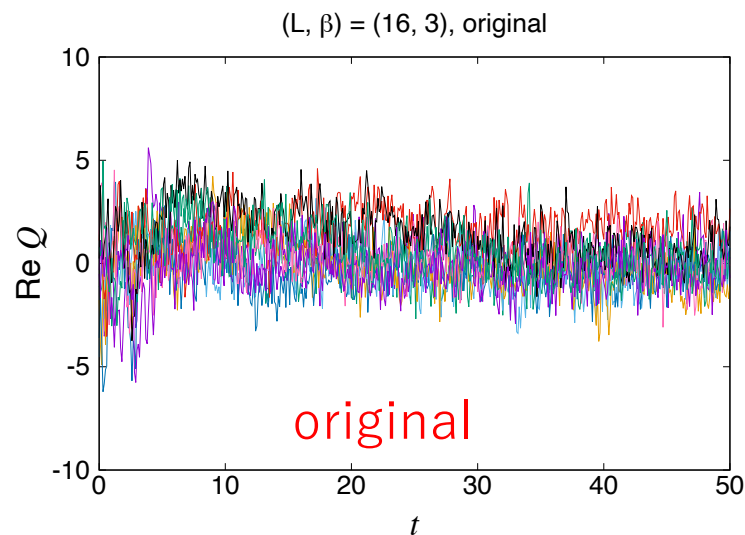
# Investigate the phase structure

- modification of the boundary condition
  - $Q$  is not an integer
  - $2\pi$  periodicity is broken
- For  $|\theta| < \pi$ , the effect of the modification will disappear by taking the infinite volume limit.
- We can investigate the phase structure from the behavior of  $\text{Im } Q$  at  $\theta \rightarrow \pi$ .



# Effect of the modification

- start from random configurations (hot start)
- check the initial configuration dependence of  $\text{Re } Q$
- $L = 16, \theta = 0$   
 $\beta = 3.0$  :  $Q$  is far from an integer

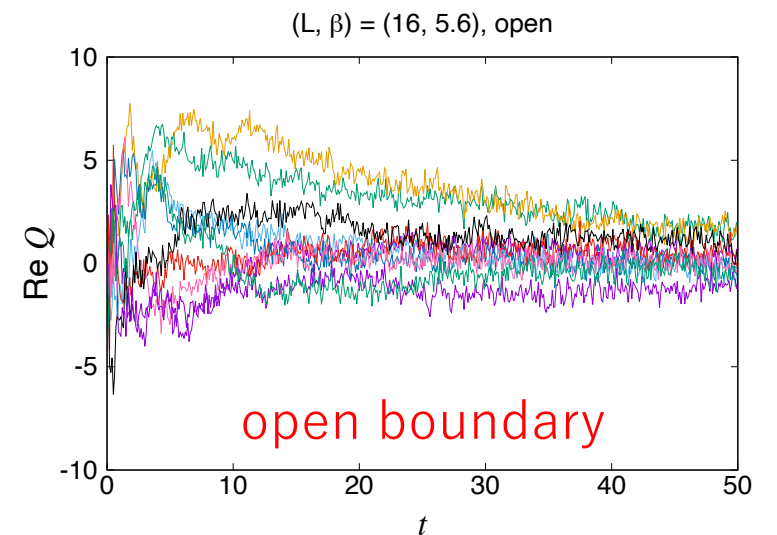
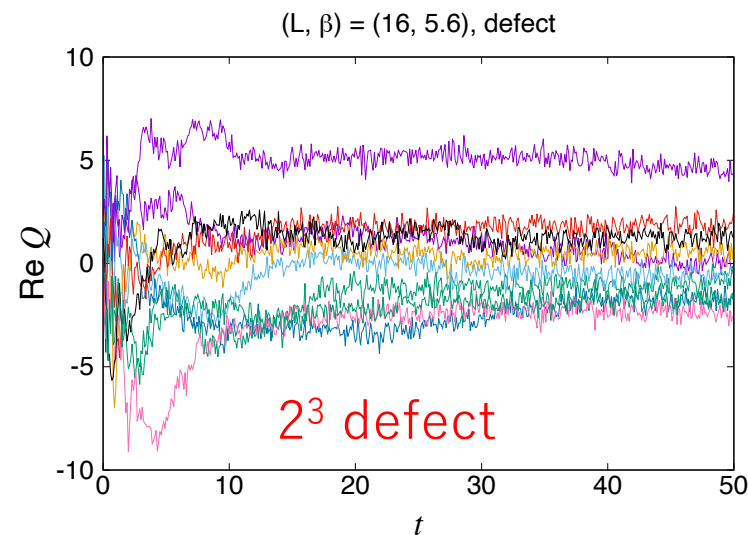
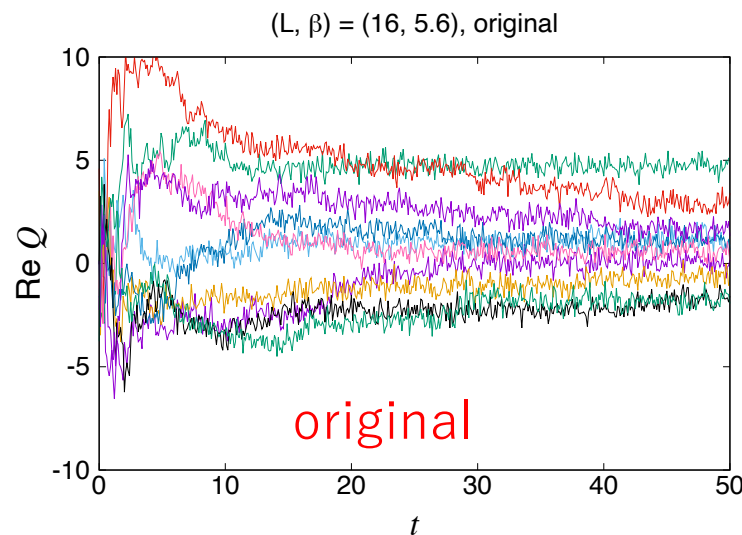


# Effect of the modification

$\beta = 5.6$  : freezing in different topological sectors

- defect : severe autocorrelation still exists
- open boundary (one spatial direction) : thermalize slowly

Setting all the spatial boundaries open will be better ?



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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  $\theta$  term, avoiding the sign problem.
- We need to approach the continuum limit in order to introduce the effect of the theta term appropriately.
- Modification of the boundary condition is necessary to overcome the severe topology freezing.



# Future prospect

- The open boundary for one direction is not enough to solve the topology freezing.
- The open boundary for **all the spatial direction** will be better.  
[Y. Burnier, A. Florio, O. Kaczmarek, L. Mazur (2018)]
- It is important to take the continuum limit and the infinite volume limit appropriately.  
→ ongoing work

Thank you!

# 4D SU(2) gauge theory with a theta term

- simple example of a gauge theory with a  $\theta$  term in 4D
- nevertheless it has a nontrivial phase structure at  $\theta = \pi$

$$S = S_g + S_\theta$$

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

- topological charge

$$Q = \frac{1}{32\pi^2} \int d^4x \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \text{Tr} [F_{\mu\nu} F_{\rho\sigma}]$$

integer value on a compact manifold

# 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

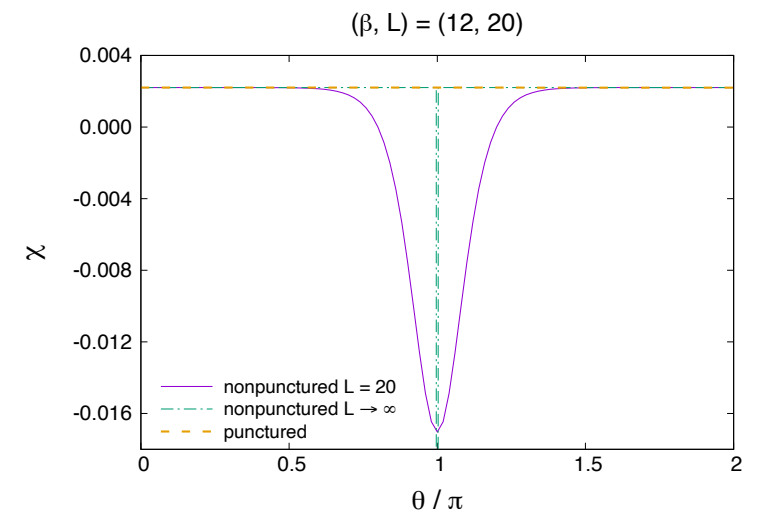
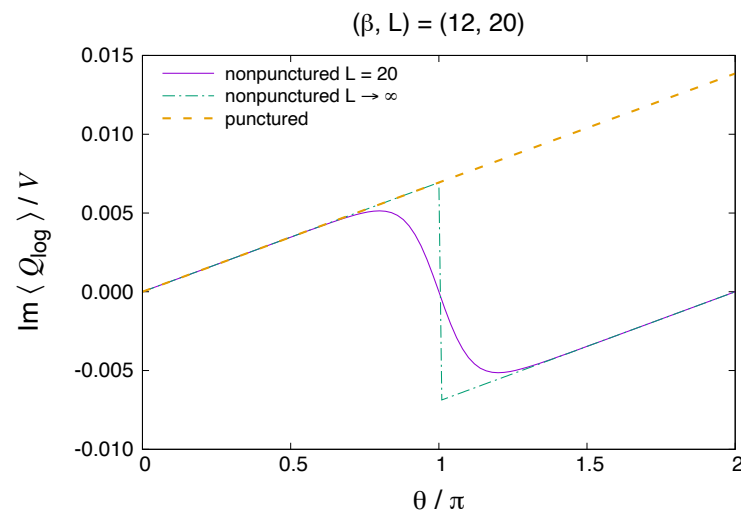
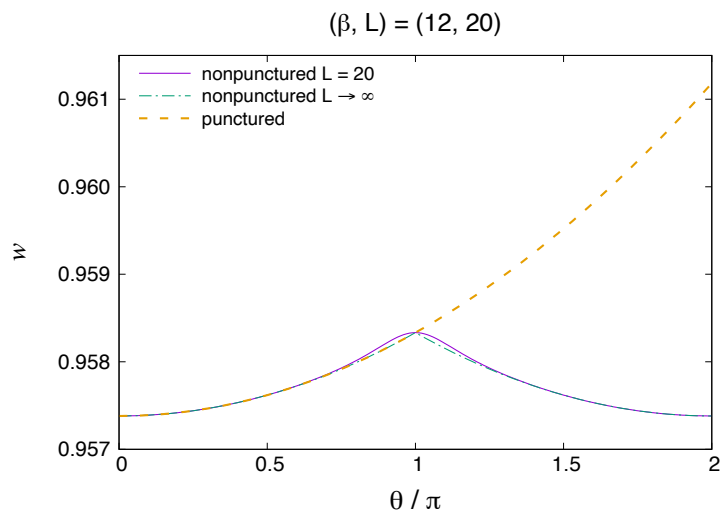
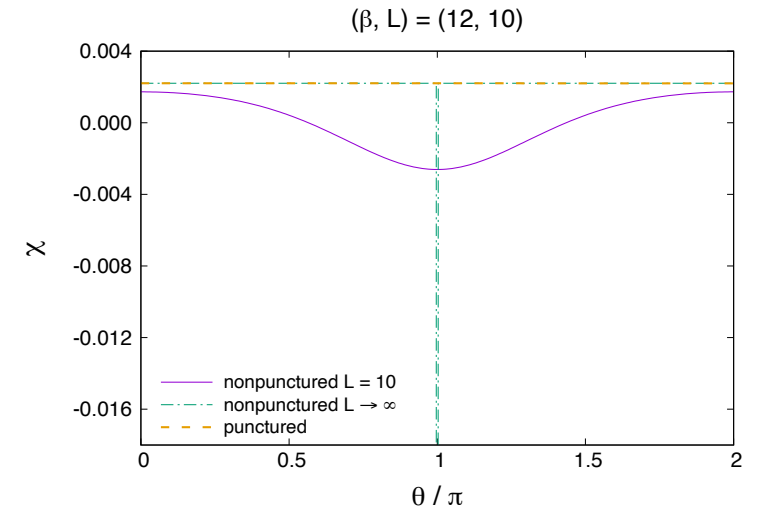
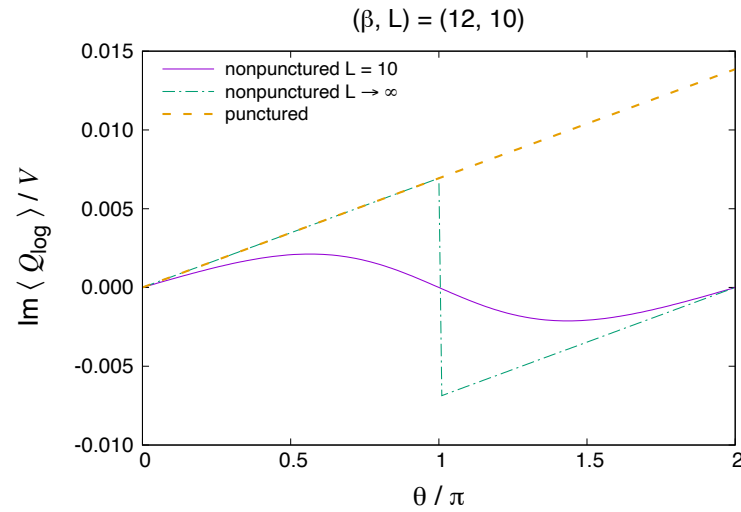
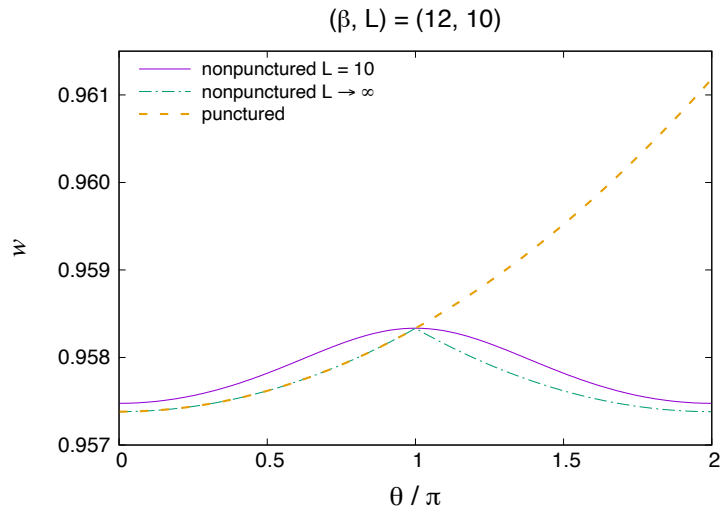
- reduce the phase oscillation by deforming the integral path from the real axis to the complex plane

## ➤ Complex Langevin method

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

## ➤ Tensor renormalization group, Density of state, ...

# Exact result of 2D U(1)



The partition function for the non-punctured model is given by (See appendix [A.2](#) for derivation.)

$$Z_{\text{nonpunc}} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} [\mathcal{I}(n, \theta, \beta)]^V \quad (4.1)$$

for finite  $V = L^2$ , where the function  $\mathcal{I}(n, \theta, \beta)$  is defined by

$$\mathcal{I}(n, \theta, \beta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\phi e^{\beta \cos \phi + i(\frac{\theta}{2\pi} - n)\phi} . \quad (4.2)$$

Let us take the infinite volume limit  $V \rightarrow \infty$ , in which the sum over  $n$  in (4.1) is dominated by the term that gives the largest absolute value  $|\mathcal{I}(n, \theta, \beta)|$ . This corresponds to the  $n$  that minimizes  $|\frac{\theta}{2\pi} - n|$ . Thus in the infinite volume limit, the free energy is obtained as

$$\lim_{V \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{V} \log Z_{\text{nonpunc}} = \log \mathcal{I}(0, \tilde{\theta}, \beta) , \quad (4.3)$$

where  $\tilde{\theta}$  is defined by  $\tilde{\theta} = \theta - 2\pi k$  with the integer  $k$  chosen so that  $-\pi < \tilde{\theta} \leq \pi$ .

On the other hand, the partition function for the punctured model is given by (See appendix [A.3](#) for derivation.)

$$Z_{\text{punc}} = [\mathcal{I}(0, \theta, \beta)]^V \quad (4.4)$$

for finite  $V = L^2 - 1$ , which implies that the free energy

$$\frac{1}{V} \log Z_{\text{punc}} = \log [\mathcal{I}(0, \theta, \beta)] \quad (4.5)$$

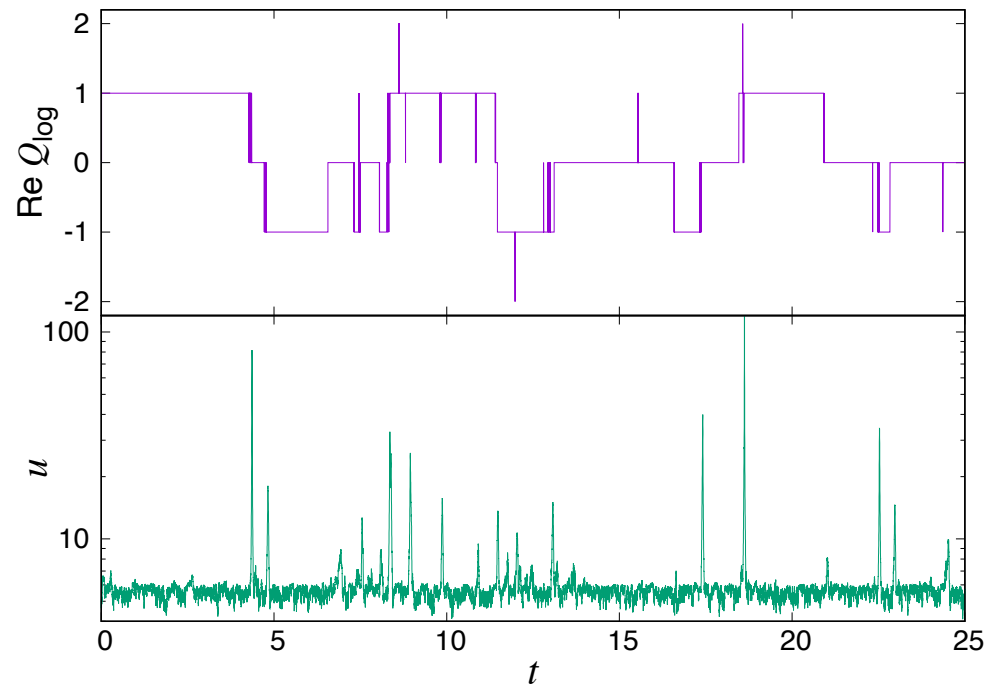
# Appearance of large drift and topology change

- 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



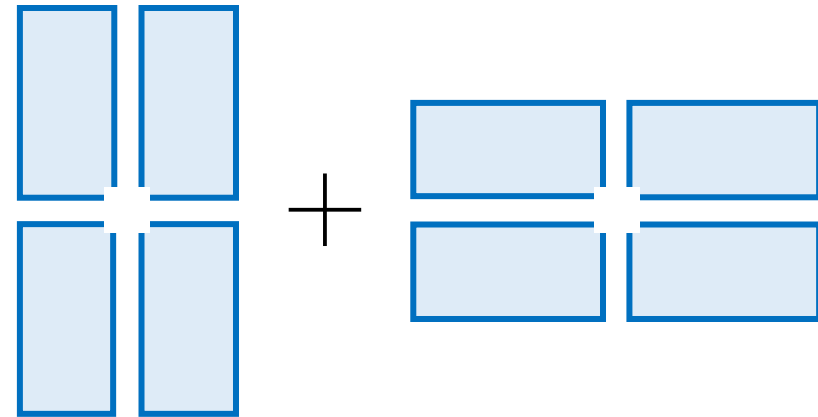
history of  
Re  $Q_{\log}$

history of  
max |drift term|

# Strategy to recover “topology on the lattice”

- gradient flow / cooling  
→ may not be justified for CLM ( $\theta \neq 0$ )  
[L. Bongiovanni, G. Aarts, E. Seiler, D. Sexty (2014)]
- approach the continuum limit (increase  $V$  and  $\beta$ )  
→ We increased  $V$  to  $32^4$  but  $Q_{\text{clov}}$  is still not close to an integer.

- improve the action by introducing  $1 \times 2$  and  $2 \times 1$  Wilson loops



[Y. Iwasaki (1983)] [P. Weisz (1983)]