Exploring the spectrum of QCD using a space-time lattice

Coin Morningstar (Carnegie Mellon University) New Theoretical Tools for Nucleon Resonance Analysis Argonne National Laboratory August 31, 2005

August 31, 2005

# Outline

- **spectroscopy** is a powerful tool for distilling key degrees of freedom
- calculating spectrum of QCD  $\rightarrow$  introduction of space-time lattice
  - spectrum determination requires extraction of excited-state energies
  - discuss how to extract excited-state energies from Monte Carlo estimates of correlation functions in Euclidean lattice field theory
- applications:
  - Yang-Mills glueballs
  - heavy-quark hybrid mesons
  - □ baryon and meson spectrum (work in progress)

### Monte Carlo method with space-time lattice

 introduction of space-time lattice allows Monte Carlo evaluation of path integrals needed to extract spectrum from QCD Lagrangian



hadron spectrum, structure, transitions

tool to search for better ways of calculating in gauge theories
 what dominates the path integrals? (instantons, center vortices,...)
 construction of effective field theory of glue? (strings,...)

### **Energies from correlation functions**

- stationary state energies can be extracted from asymptotic decay rate of temporal correlations of the fields (in the imaginary time formalism)
- evolution in Heisenberg picture  $\phi(t) = e^{Ht} \phi(0) e^{-Ht}$  (*H* = Hamiltonian)
- spectral representation of a simple correlation function
  - □ assume transfer matrix, ignore temporal boundary conditions
  - focus only on one time ordering  $\langle 0 | \phi(t)\phi(0) | 0 \rangle = \sum_{n} \langle 0 | e^{Ht}\phi(0) e^{-Ht} | n \rangle \langle n | \phi(0) | 0 \rangle$  insert complete set of energy eigenstates (discrete and continuous)  $= \sum_{n}^{n} |\langle n | \phi(0) | 0 \rangle|^2 e^{-(E_n - E_0)t} = \sum_{n} A_n e^{-(E_n - E_0)t}$

• extract  $A_1$  and  $E_1 - E_0$  as  $t \to \infty$ 

(assuming  $\langle 0 | \phi(0) | 0 \rangle = 0$  and  $\langle 1 | \phi(0) | 0 \rangle \neq 0$ )

August 31, 2005

### **Effective mass**

- the "effective mass" is given by  $m_{\text{eff}}(t) = \ln \left( \frac{C(t)}{C(t+1)} \right)$
- notice that (take  $E_0 = 0$ )  $\lim_{t \to \infty} m_{\text{eff}}(t) = \ln \left( \frac{A_1 e^{-E_1 t} + A_2 e^{-E_2 t} + \cdots}{A_1 e^{-E_1 (t+1)} + \cdots} \right) \to \ln e^{-E_1} = E_1$
- the effective mass tends to the actual mass (energy) asymptotically
- effective mass plot is convenient visual tool to see signal extraction
  - □ seen as a plateau
- plateau sets in quickly for good operator
- excited-state
   contamination before
   plateau



# **Reducing contamination**

- statistical noise generally increases with temporal separation *t*
- effective masses associated with correlation functions of simple local fields do <u>not</u> reach a plateau before noise swamps the signal
  - need better operators
  - better operators have reduced couplings with higher-lying contaminating states
- recipe for making better operators
  - crucial to construct operators using *smeared* fields
    - link variable smearing
    - quark field smearing
  - spatially extended operators
  - use large *set* of operators (variational coefficients)

### Principal correlators

- extracting excited-state energies described in
  - □ C. Michael, NPB **259**, 58 (1985)
  - □ Luscher and Wolff, NPB **339**, 222 (1990)
- can be viewed as exploiting the variational method
- for a given  $N \times N$  correlator matrix  $C_{\alpha\beta}(t) = \langle 0 | O_{\alpha}(t) O_{\beta}^{\dagger}(0) | 0 \rangle$  one defines the *N* principal correlators  $\lambda_{\alpha}(t,t_0)$  as the eigenvalues of  $C(t_0)^{-1/2}C(t) C(t_0)^{-1/2}$

where  $t_0$  (the time defining the "metric") is small

- can show that  $\lim_{t\to\infty} \lambda_{\alpha}(t,t_0) = e^{-(t-t_0)E_{\alpha}} (1+e^{-t\Delta E_{\alpha}})$  N principal effective masses defined by  $m_{\alpha}^{\text{eff}}(t) = \ln\left(\frac{\lambda_{\alpha}(t,t_0)}{\lambda_{\alpha}(t+1,t_0)}\right)$ now tend (plateau) to the N lowest-lying stationary-state energies

### **Principal effective masses**

- just need to perform single-exponential fit to each principal correlator to extract spectrum!
  - $\Box$  can again use sum of two-exponentials to minimize sensitivity to  $t_{\min}$
- note that principal effective masses (as functions of time) can cross, approach asymptotic behavior from below
- final results are independent
   of t<sub>0</sub>, but choosing larger values
   of this reference time can introduce
   larger errors



# Unstable particles (resonances)

- our computations done in a periodic box
  - momenta quantized
  - □ discrete energy spectrum of stationary states → single hadron, 2 hadron, ...



- scattering phase shifts → resonance masses, widths (in principle)
   deduced from finite-box spectrum
  - **B**. DeWitt, PR **103**, 1565 (1956) (sphere)
  - □ M. Luscher, NPB**364**, 237 (1991) (cube)
- more modest goal: "ferret" out resonances from scattering states
  - must differentiate resonances from multi-hadron states
  - avoided level crossings, different volume dependences
  - know masses of decay products → placement and pattern of multi-particle states known
  - □ resonances show up as extra states with little volume dependence

### Resonance in a toy model (I)

• O(4) non-linear  $\sigma$  model (Zimmerman et al, NPB(PS) **30**, 879 (1993))  $S = -2\kappa \sum_{x} \sum_{\mu=1}^{4} \Phi_a(x) \Phi_a(x+\hat{\mu}) + J \sum_{x} \Phi^4(x), \qquad \sum_{a=1}^{4} \Phi_a^2(x) = 1$ 



### Resonance in a toy model (II)

• coupled scalar fields: (Rummukainen and Gottlieb, NPB450, 397 (1995))  $S = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4 x \left( \left( \partial_\mu \phi \right)^2 + m_\pi^2 \phi^2 + \lambda \phi^4 + \left( \partial_\mu \rho \right)^2 + m_\pi^2 \rho^2 + \lambda_\rho \rho^4 + g \rho \phi^2 \right)$   $g = 0 \qquad g = 0.021$ 



Figure 2. The center of mass energy levels for sectors  $\vec{P} = 0$  (top now) and  $\vec{P} = 2\pi/L$  (bottom) for cases A, B and C (see table 1).

# Yang-Mills SU(3) Glueball Spectrum

- pure-glue mass spectrum known
   still needs some "polishing"
   improve scalar states
- "experimental" results in simpler world (no quarks) to help build models of gluons
- mass *ratios* predicted, overall scale is not
- mass gap with \$1 million bounty (Clay mathematics institute)
- glueball structure
  - constituent gluons vs flux loops?

#### C. Morningstar and M. Peardon, Phys. Rev. D 60, 034509 (1999)



 $r_0^{-1} = 410(20)$  MeV, states labeled by  $J^{PC}$ 

# Glueballs (bag model)

- qualitative agreement with bag model
  - constituent gluons are TE or TM modes in spherical cavity
  - Hartree modes with residual perturbative interactions
  - center-of-mass correction

	1983	1993	
	light baryon spectroscopy	static-quark potential	
$\alpha_{s}$	1.0	0.5	
$B^{\frac{1}{4}}$	230 MeV	280 MeV	

 recent calculation using another constituent gluon model shows qualitative agreement

Szczepaniak, Swanson, PLB577, 61 (2003)

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Exploring spectrum (C. Morningstar)

Carlson, Hansson, Peterson, PRD27, 1556 (1983); J. Kuti (private communication)



# Glueballs (flux tube model)

• disagreement with one particular string model



• future comparisons:

• with more sophisticated string models (soliton knots)

□ AdS theories, duality

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### Inclusion of quark loops

- scalar glueball results 2002
  - quark masses near strange
- still exploratory
- difficult to get adequate statistics
- light quarks problematic
- mixing, resonances
  - no correlation matrices

SESAM: PRD62, 054503 (2000) UKQCD: PRD65, 014508 (2002) HEMCGC: PRD44, 2090 (1991)



### Unquenched masses

- *un*quenched analysis (Hart, Teper, PRD65, 034502 (2002))
- Wilson gauge, clover fermion action  $N_f = 2$ ,  $a \approx 0.1 \,\text{fm}$ ,  $m_q \ge \frac{1}{2} m_s$
- tensor glueball mass same as pure-gauge
- scalar mass suppression: 0.85 of pure-gauge
  - not finite volume effect
  - independent of quark mass!
     → lattice artifact (another "curve ball")
  - most likely explanation: fermion action adds "adjoint piece"
- quarkonium states ignored



## Excitations of static quark potential

- gluon field in presence of static quark-antiquark pair can be *excited*
- classification of states: (notation from molecular physics)
  - □ magnitude of glue spin

projected onto molecular axis  $\Lambda = 0, 1, 2, ...$ 

 $=\Sigma,\Pi,\Delta,\dots$ 

 charge conjugation + parity about midpoint
 η = g (even)
 = u (odd)
 chirality (reflections in plane containing axis) Σ<sup>+</sup>, Σ<sup>-</sup>
 Π,Δ,...doubly degenerate
 (Λ doubling)



Juge, Kuti, Morningstar, PRL 90, 161601 (2003)

### Initial remarks

- viewpoint adopted:
  - the nature of the confining gluons is best revealed in its *excitation spectrum*
- robust feature of any bosonic string description:
  - $\square$   $N\pi/R$  gaps for large quark-antiquark separations
- details of underlying string description encoded in the fine structure
- study different gauge groups, dimensionalities
- several lattice spacings, finite volume checks
- very large number of fits to principal correlators → web page interface set up to facilitate scrutinizing/presenting the results

### String spectrum

- spectrum expected for a non-interacting bosonic string at large R
  - □ standing waves: m = 1, 2, 3, ... with circular polarization  $\pm$
  - $\Box$  occupation numbers:  $n_{m+}, n_{m-}$
  - $\Box$  energies *E*
  - $\Box$  string quantum number N
  - $\Box$  spin projection  $\Lambda$
  - $\Box$  CP  $\eta_{CP}$

$$E = E_0 + N\pi / R$$
$$N = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (n_{m+} + n_{m-})$$
$$\Lambda = \left| \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (n_{m+} - n_{m-}) \right|$$
$$\eta_{CP} = (-1)^N$$

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# String spectrum (*N*=1,2,3)

• level orderings for *N*=1,2,3

N = 0:	$\Sigma_g^+$	0>	
N = 1:	Π <sub>t</sub>	$a^{\dagger}_{1+} 0 angle$	$a_{1+}^{\dagger} 0 angle$
N = 2:	$\Sigma_g^{+\prime}$	$a^{\dagger}_{1+}a^{\dagger}_{1-} 0 angle$	
	$\Pi_g$	$a^{\dagger}_{2+} 0 angle$	$a^{\dagger}_{2+} 0 angle$
	$\Delta_g$	$(a^{\dagger}_{1+})^2 0 angle$	$(a_{1+}^{\dagger})^2 0 angle$
N = 3:	$\Sigma_{ts}^+$	$(a_{1+}^{\dagger}a_{2-}^{\dagger}+a_{1-}^{\dagger})$	$ a_{2+}^{\dagger}) 0\rangle$
	$\Sigma_{ts}^{+}$	$(a_{1+}^{\dagger}a_{2-}^{\dagger}-a_{1-}^{\dagger})$	$ a_{2+}^{\dagger}) 0\rangle$
	$\Pi'_{u}$	$a^{\dagger}_{3+} 0 angle$	$a^{\dagger}_{3+} 0 angle$
	$\Pi'_{u}$	$(a^{\dagger}_{1+})^2a^{\dagger}_{1+} 0 angle$	$a^{\dagger}_{1+}(a^{\dagger}_{1-})^2 0 angle$
	$\Delta_{\mu}$	$a^{\dagger}_{1+}a^{\dagger}_{2+} 0 angle$	$a^{\dagger}_{1\perp}a^{\dagger}_{2\perp} 0 angle$
	$\Phi_{u}$	$(a^{\dagger}_{1+})^3 0 angle$	$(a_{1+}^{\dagger})^{3} 0 angle$

# String spectrum (*N*=4)

• N=4 levels

## Generalized Wilson loops

- gluonic terms extracted from generalized Wilson loops
- large set of gluonic operators  $\rightarrow$  correlation matrix
- link variable smearing, blocking
- anisotropic lattice, improved actions



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### Ground state



### First-excited state



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### First-excited state gap



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### Three scales

- studied the energies of 16 stationary states of gluons in the presence of static quark-antiquark pair
- small quark-antiquark separations *R* excitations consistent with states from multipole OPE
- crossover region 0.5fm < *R* < 1fm</li>
   dramatic level rearrangement
- large separations R > 1 fm
  - excitations consistent with expectations from string models



Juge, Kuti, Morningstar, PRL 90, 161601 (2003)

# Gluon excitation gaps (N=1,2)

#### • comparison of gaps with $N\pi/R$ and Nambu-Goto



# Gluon excitation gaps (N=1,2)

#### • comparison of gaps with $N\pi/R$ and Nambu-Goto



# Gluon excitation gaps (N=3)

### • comparison of gaps with $N\pi/R$ and Nambu-Goto



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# Gluon excitation gaps (N=4)

### • comparison of gaps with $N\pi/R$ and Nambu-Goto











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# **Possible interpretation**

### small *R*

- strong *E* field of *qq*-pair repels physical vacuum (dual Meissner effect) creating a *bubble*
- □ separation of degrees of freedom
  - gluonic modes inside bubble (low lying)
  - bubble surface modes (higher lying)
- large *R* 
  - □ bubble stretches into thin tube of flux
  - □ separation of degrees of freedom
    - collective motion of tube (low lying)
    - internal gluonic modes (higher lying)
  - □ low-lying modes described by an effective string theory ( $N\pi/R$  gaps Goldstone modes)





# Heavy-quark hybrid mesons

- more amenable to theoretical treatment than light-quark hybrids
- early work: Hasenfratz, Horgan, Kuti, Richard (1980), Michael, Griffiths, Rakow (1983)
- possible treatment like diatomic molecule (Born-Oppenheimer)
  - $\Box$  slow heavy quarks  $\leftarrow \rightarrow$  nuclei
  - □ fast gluon field  $\leftarrow \rightarrow$  electrons (and light quarks)
- gluons provide adiabatic potentials  $V_{Q\overline{Q}}(r)$ 
  - gluons fully relativistic, interacting
  - potentials computed in lattice simulations
- nonrelativistic quark motion described in *leading* order by solving Schrodinger equation for each  $V_{o\overline{o}}(r)$

 $\left\{\frac{\overline{p^2}}{2\mu} + V_{Q\overline{Q}}(r)\right\} \psi_{Q\overline{Q}}(r) = E \psi_{Q\overline{Q}}(r)$ 

• conventional mesons from  $\Sigma_g^+$ ; hybrids from  $\Pi_u, \Sigma_u^-, \dots$ 



# Leading Born-Oppenheimer

- replace covariant derivative  $\vec{D}^2$  by  $\vec{\nabla}^2 \rightarrow$  neglects retardation
- neglect quark spin effects
- solve radial Schrodinger equation

$$\frac{-1}{2\mu}\frac{d^2u(r)}{dr^2} + \left\{\frac{\left\langle L_{q\bar{q}}^2\right\rangle}{2\mu r^2} + V_{q\bar{q}}(r)\right\}u(r) = Eu(r)$$

• angular momentum

$$\vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S}$$
  $\vec{S} = \vec{s}_q + \vec{s}_{\overline{q}}$   $\vec{L} = \vec{L}_{q\overline{q}} + \vec{J}_g$ 

- in LBO, *L* and *S* are good quantum numbers
- centrifugal term  $\langle \vec{L}_{q\bar{q}}^2 \rangle = L(L+1) - 2\Lambda^2 + \langle \vec{J}_g^2 \rangle$ •  $J^{PC}$  eigenstates  $\rightarrow$  Wigner rotations  $|LSJM; \Lambda \eta \rangle + \varepsilon |LSJM; -\Lambda \eta \rangle$   $\langle \vec{J}_g^2 \rangle = 0 \quad (\Sigma_g^+)$  $= 2 \quad (\Pi_u, \Sigma_u^-)$

 $\Box \eta$  is CP,  $\varepsilon = \pm 1$  for  $\Lambda \ge 1$ ,  $\varepsilon = \pm 1$  for  $\Sigma^{\pm}$ 

• LBO allowed  $J^{PC} \rightarrow P = \varepsilon (-1)^{L+\Lambda+1}, \quad C = \eta \varepsilon (-1)^{L+S+\Lambda}$ 

### Leading Born-Oppenheimer spectrum

- results obtained (in absence of light quark loops)
- good agreement with experiment below BB threshold
- plethora of hybrid states predicted when light quark loops ignored
- but is a Born-Oppenheimer treatment valid?



LBO degeneracies:  $\Sigma_{g}^{+}(S): 0^{-+}, 1^{--}$   $\Sigma_{g}^{+}(P): 0^{++}, 1^{++}, 2^{++}, 1^{+-}$   $\Pi_{u}(P): 0^{-+}, 0^{+-}, 1^{++}, 1^{--},$  $1^{+-}, 1^{-+}, 2^{+-}, 2^{-+}$ 

Juge, Kuti, Morningstar, Phys Rev Lett 82, 4400 (1999)

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### Charmonium LBO

• same calculation, but for charmonium



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# Testing LBO

- test LBO by comparison of spectrum with NRQCD simulations
  - □ include retardation effects, but no quark spin, no  $\vec{p}$ , no light quarks
  - □ allow possible mixings between adiabatic potentials
- dramatic evidence of validity of LBO
  - □ level splittings agree to 10% for 2 conventional mesons, 4 hybrids



$$H_{1,}H_{1}^{'} = 1^{--}, 0^{-+}, 1^{-+}, 2^{-+}$$
  
 $H_{2} = 1^{++}, 0^{+-}, 1^{+-}, 2^{+-}$   
 $H_{3} = 0^{++}, 1^{+-}$ 

$J^{PC}$		Degeneracies	Operator
0-+	S wave	1	$\hat{\chi}^{\dagger} \left[ \hat{\Delta}^{(2)}  ight]^{p} \hat{\psi}$
1+-	P wave	0^++, 1^++, 2^++	$\hat{\chi}^{\dagger} \; \tilde{\Delta} \; \hat{\psi}$
1	H <sub>1</sub> hybrid	0^+,1^+,2^+	$\hat{\chi}^{\dagger} \; \hat{\mathbf{B}} \left[ \hat{\Delta}^{(2)}  ight]^{p}  \hat{\chi}^{\dagger}$
1++	H <sub>2</sub> hybrid	0^+-, 1^+-, 2^+-	$\hat{\chi}^{\dagger} \ \hat{\mathbf{B}} \times \hat{\boldsymbol{\Delta}} \ \hat{\psi}$
0++	Ha hybrid	1+-	$ ilde{oldsymbol{\chi}}^\dagger   ilde{f B} \cdot  ilde{oldsymbol{\Delta}}   ilde{\psi}$

lowest hybrid 1.49(2)(5) GeV above 1S

# Light quark spoiler?

- spoil B.O.?  $\rightarrow$  unknown
- light quarks change  $V_{Q\overline{Q}}(r)$ 
  - $\Box$  small corrections at small *r* 
    - fixes low-lying spectrum
  - □ large changes for r > 1 fm → fission into  $(Q\overline{q})(\overline{Q}q)$
- states with diameters over 1 fm
  - most likely *cannot exist* as observable resonances
- dense spectrum of states from pure glue potentials will not be realized
  - survival of a few states conceivable given results from Bali *et al*.
- discrepancy with experiment above BB
   most likely due to light quark effects





### Baryon blitz (mesons, too)

- charge from the late Nathan Isgur to use Monte Carlo method to extract the spectrum of baryon resonances (Hall B at JLab)
- formed the Lattice Hadron Physics Collaboration (LHPC) in 2000
- current collaborators:
  - Subhasish Basak, Robert Edwards, George Fleming,
     Adam Lichtl, David Richards, Ikuro Sato, Steve Wallace
- to extract spectrum of resonances
  - need sets of extended operators (correlator matrices)
  - multi-hadron operators needed too
  - deduce resonances from finite-box energies
  - $\Box$  anisotropic lattices  $(a_t < a_s)$
  - inclusion of light-quark loops

## **Operator design issues**

- must facilitate spin identification
  - shun the usual method of operator construction which relies on cumbersome continuum space-time constructions
  - focus on constructing operators which transform irreducibly under the symmetries of the lattice
- one eye on maximizing overlaps with states of interest, other eye on minimizing number of quark-propagator sources
- use building blocks useful for mesons, multi-hadron operators as well

### Three stage approach

- concentrate on baryons at rest (zero momentum)
- operators classified according to the irreps of  $O_h$

 $G_{1g}, G_{1u}, G_{2g}, G_{2u}, H_g, H_u$ 

- (1) basic building blocks: smeared, covariant-displaced quark fields  $(\widetilde{D}_{j}^{(p)}\widetilde{\psi}(x))_{Aa\alpha}$  *p*-link displacement (*j* = 0,±1,±2,±3)
- (2) construct elemental operators (translationally invariant)
   B<sup>F</sup><sub>i</sub>(x) = φ<sup>F</sup><sub>ABC</sub> ε<sub>abc</sub> (D̃<sup>(p)</sup><sub>j</sub> ψ̃(x))<sub>Aaα</sub> (D̃<sup>(p)</sup><sub>j</sub> ψ̃(x))<sub>Bbβ</sub> (D̃<sup>(p)</sup><sub>j</sub> ψ̃(x))<sub>Ccγ</sub>

   flavor structure from isospin, color structure from gauge invariance
- (3) group-theoretical projections onto irreps of  $O_h$   $B_i^{\Lambda\lambda F}(t) = \frac{d_\Lambda}{g_{O_h^D}} \sum_{R \in O_h^D} D_{\lambda\lambda}^{(\Lambda)}(R)^* U_R B_i^F(t) U_R^+$ • wrote Grassmann package in Maple to do these calculations

## Incorporating orbital and radial structure

- displacements of different lengths build up radial structure
- displacements in different directions build up orbital structure



- operator design minimizes number of sources for quark propagators
- useful for mesons, tetraquarks, pentaquarks even!
- can even incorporate hybrid mesons operator (in progress)

# Spin identification and other remarks

### • spin identification possible by pattern matching

J	$n_{G_1}^J$	$n_{G_2}^J$	$n_{H}^{J}$
$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0	0
$\frac{3}{2}$	0	0	1
<u>5</u> 2	0	1	1
$\frac{7}{2}$	1	1	1
<u>9</u> 2	1	0	2
$\frac{11}{2}$	1	1	2
$\frac{13}{2}$	1	2	2
$\frac{15}{2}$	1	1	3
$\frac{17}{2}$	2	1	3

total numbers of operators assuming two different displacement lengths

Irrep	$\Delta, \Omega$	N	$\Sigma, \Xi$	Λ
$G_{1g}$	221	443	664	656
$G_{1u}$	221	443	664	656
$G_{2g}$	188	376	564	556
$G_{2u}$	188	376	564	556
$H_g$	418	809	1227	1209
$H_u$	418	809	1227	1209

• total numbers of operators is huge  $\rightarrow$  uncharted territory

• ultimately must face two-hadron scattering states

# Old preliminary results

principal effective masses for small set of 10 operators



G<sub>1q</sub> on left, other irreps on right.

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### Current status and next step

- Development of software to carry out the baryon computations has been completed and thoroughly tested (at long last!)
  - □ gauge-invariant three-quark propagators as intermediate step
  - □ baryon correlators are superpositions of *qqq*-propagator
     components → superposition coefficients precalculated
  - □ source-sink rotations to minimize source orientations
- Next step: smearing optimization and operator pruning
  - optimize link-variable and quark-field smearings
  - remove dynamically redundant operators
  - remove ineffectual operators
  - low statistics runs needed
  - □ monitor progress at <u>http://enrico.phys.cmu.edu</u>

### Quark-field smearing

use smeared quark and gluon fields fields  $\rightarrow$  dramatically reduced coupling with short wavelength modes  $\tilde{\psi}(x) = \left(1 + \frac{\sigma_s}{4n_{\sigma}}\tilde{\Delta}^2\right)^{n_{\sigma}}\psi(x)$ 





# Quark-field smearing (2)

#### Nucleon G1g channel



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### Link variable smearing

• link variables: add staples with weight, project onto gauge group

define  

$$C_{\mu}(x) = \sum_{\pm (\nu \neq \mu)} \rho_{\mu\nu} U_{\nu}(x) U_{\mu}(x + \hat{\nu}) U_{\nu}^{+}(x + \hat{\mu})$$

common 3-d spatial smearing \$\rho\_{jk} = \rho, \$\rho\_{4k} = \rho\_{k4} = 0\$
 APE smearing \$U\_{\mu}^{(n+1)} = P\_{SU(3)}(U\_{\mu}^{(n)} + C\_{\mu}^{(n)})\$
 or new analytic stout link method (hep-lat/0311018)

$$\begin{split} \Omega_{\mu} &= C_{\mu} U_{\mu}^{+} \\ Q_{\mu} &= \frac{i}{2} \left( \Omega_{\mu}^{+} - \Omega_{\mu} \right) - \frac{i}{2N} \operatorname{Tr} \left( \Omega_{\mu}^{+} - \Omega_{\mu} \right) \\ U_{\mu}^{(n+1)} &= \exp \left( i Q_{\mu}^{(n)} \right) U_{\mu}^{(n)} \end{split}$$

• iterate 
$$U_{\mu} \rightarrow U_{\mu}^{(1)} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow U_{\mu}^{(n)} \equiv \widetilde{U}_{\mu}$$

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# Link variable smearing (2)



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### Quark-field with link variable smearing



Nucleon G1g channel

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# Quark-field with link variable smearing (2)



Nucleon G1g channel

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# Triply-displaced operator





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## Operator plethora (pruning needed!)



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# Summary

- described a few explorations of QCD spectrum using lattice Monte Carlo methods
- glueball mass spectrum in pure gauge theory
- stationary states of gluons in presence of static quark-antiquark pair as a function of separation *R*
  - □ unearthed the effective QCD string for R>1 fm for the first time
  - $\Box$  tantalizing fine structure revealed  $\rightarrow$  effective string action clues
  - □ dramatic level rearrangement between small and large separations
- heavy-quark hybrid mesons (Born-Oppenheimer treatment)
- outlined ongoing efforts of LHPC to extracting baryon spectrum with large sets of extended operators
  - □ applications to mesons (and hybrids), tetraquark, pentaquark