

# Static-light mesons (and string breaking)

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# Outline

- Simulation setup.
- The static quark antiquark potential.
- Static-light mesons:
  - The static-light pseudoscalar meson.
  - The static-light meson spectrum.
- Smearing techniques:
  - Smearing of links in time direction (fat links, HYP1, HYP2).
  - APE smearing of spatial links.
  - Jacobi smearing of light quark operators.
- Summary and outlook.

# Simulation setup

- $N_f = 2$ ,  $\beta = 3.9$ ,  $24^3 \times 48$  lattice.
- Twisted mass Dirac operator

$$Q^{(\chi)} = \gamma_\mu D_\mu + m + i\mu\gamma_5 \quad , \quad m + 4 = \frac{1}{2\kappa}$$

with  $\kappa = 0.160856$ ,  $\mu = 0.0040$ .

- Identifying  $r_0 = 5.18$  with 0.5 fm sets the physical scale yielding a spatial lattice extension of 2.32 fm.
- The pseudoscalar meson mass  $m_{\text{ps}} = 0.136$  amounts to  $m_{\text{ps}} \approx 280$  MeV.
- At the moment, I only use 48 gauge configurations (1 out of 50 available)  
→ **Statistical errors will be reduced by a factor of  $\approx 7$ .**

# The static quark antiquark potential (1)

- Static quark antiquark potential  $V(R)$ : the energy of the lowest state containing an infinitely heavy quark and an infinitely heavy antiquark, separated by a distance  $R$ .
- In principle  $V(R)$  can be computed via Wilson loops  $W_{(R,T)}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 0 | \left( \bar{Q}(\mathbf{x}, T) U(\mathbf{x}, T; \mathbf{y}, T) Q(\mathbf{y}, T) \right)^\dagger \bar{Q}(\mathbf{x}, 0) U(\mathbf{x}, 0; \mathbf{y}, 0) Q(\mathbf{y}, 0) | 0 \rangle &= \\ &= \dots = \# \langle W_{(R,T)} \rangle \\ V(R) &= -\frac{1}{a} \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \left( \ln \langle W_{(R,T)} \rangle - \ln \langle W_{(R,T-1)} \rangle \right). \end{aligned}$$

# The static quark antiquark potential (2)

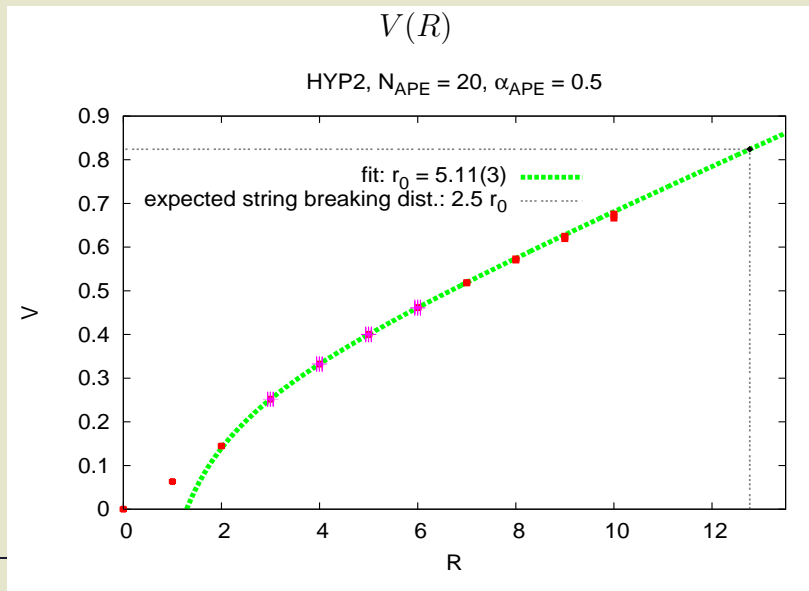
- In practice we have “moderate  $T$  separations” instead of  $T \rightarrow \infty$ :
  - Wilson loops work well for  $R < R_{\text{sb}}$  ( $R_{\text{sb}}$ : string breaking distance).
  - Wilson loops fail for  $R > R_{\text{sb}}$ :
    - \* The potential is still linearly rising, i.e. there seems to be no string breaking.
    - \* Reason:  $\bar{Q}(\mathbf{x}, 0)U(\mathbf{x}, 0; \mathbf{y}, 0)Q(\mathbf{y}, 0)|0\rangle$  has poor overlap to the lowest state for  $R > R_{\text{sb}}$  (a “two meson state”).
  - Solution:
    - \* Instead of a single state use a whole set of states containing not only “string states” but also two meson states, i.e.  
 $\bar{Q}(\mathbf{x}, 0)\gamma_5 q(\mathbf{x}, 0)\bar{q}(\mathbf{y}, 0)\gamma_5 Q(\mathbf{y}, 0)|0\rangle$ .
    - \* Extract the potential from the corresponding correlation matrix.

# The static quark antiquark potential (3)

- Nevertheless, the “pure Wilson loop potential” is a useful quantity:
  - Determine  $r_0$  (set the physical scale).
  - Obtain an estimate of the mass of the lightest static-light meson  $M_{\text{ps}}$ :
    - \* Assume a value for the string breaking distance, e.g.  $R_{\text{sb}} \approx 1.25 \text{ fm}$ .
    - \*  $M_{\text{ps}} \approx V(R_{\text{sb}})/2$ .
- To obtain an acceptable signal-to-noise ratio smearing techniques are indispensable:
  - HYP2 smearing of links in time direction to reduce the static quark self energy.
  - APE smearing of spatial links to enhance the ground state overlap of  $\bar{Q}(\mathbf{x}, 0)U(\mathbf{x}, 0; \mathbf{y}, 0)Q(\mathbf{y}, 0)|0\rangle$  (create a state with a flux tube resembling that of the lowest lying state).

# The static quark antiquark potential (4)

- Fit with  $V(R) = V_0 - \alpha/R + \sigma R$ :
  - $r_0 = 5.11(3)$  (consistent with the “official ETMC value”  $r_0 = 5.18(6)$ ).
  - Estimate of the static-light pseudoscalar meson mass, when assuming  $R_{\text{sb}} = 1.25 \text{ fm}$ :  $M_{\text{ps}} \approx 0.412$ .



# The static-light pseudoscalar meson (1)

- Determine the mass of the static-light pseudoscalar meson from the exponential fall off of the correlation function

$$\mathcal{C}^{(\bar{q}\gamma_5 Q)}(T) = \langle 0 | \left( \bar{q}(\mathbf{x}, T) \gamma_5 Q(\mathbf{x}, T) \right)^\dagger \bar{q}(\mathbf{x}, 0) \gamma_5 Q(\mathbf{x}, 0) | 0 \rangle.$$

- The propagator of the static quark is analytically known (essentially a Wilson line):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}^{(\bar{q}\gamma_5 Q)}(T) &\propto \\ &\propto \left\langle \text{Tr} \left( \frac{1 + \gamma_0}{2} P \left\{ \exp \left( \pm i \int_0^T dz_0 A_0(\mathbf{x}, z_0) \right) \right\} \left( (D^{(q)})^{-1}(\mathbf{x}, T; \mathbf{x}, 0) \right) \right) \right\rangle \end{aligned}$$

( $\text{Tr}(\dots)$  denotes the trace in spin and color space).

- **Note that  $(D^{(q)})^{-1}$  is a propagator in the physical basis; just using a propagator in the twisted basis yields incorrect results (in contrast to light-light mesons)!**



# The static-light pseudoscalar meson (2)

- Use stochastic propagators  $\phi^{(\alpha)}(x) = ((D^{(q)})^{-1})(x, y)\xi^{(\alpha)}(y)$ , where  $\xi^{(\alpha)}(x)$  are  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -spin diluted timeslice sources:

$$((D^{(\chi,1)})^{-1})(\mathbf{x}, T; \mathbf{x}, 0) \approx \sum_{\alpha} \phi^{(\alpha)}(\mathbf{x}, T)(\xi^{(\alpha)})^{\dagger}(\mathbf{x}, 0).$$

- The information contained in the gauge configurations is exploited more fully, compared to using point sources, when performing the same number of inversions; this in turn significantly reduces statistical errors.
- To double statistics, compute the correlation function both in positive and in negative time direction.

# The static-light pseudoscalar meson (3)

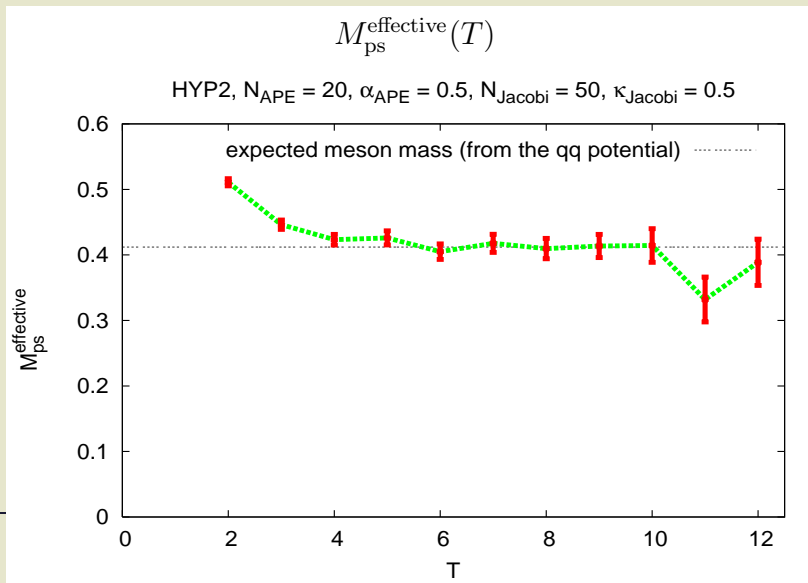
- Again, smearing is indispensable:
  - HYP2 smearing of links in time direction to reduce the static quark self energy.
  - Jacobi smearing of light quark operators and APE smearing of spatial links to enhance the ground state overlap of  $\bar{q}(\mathbf{x}, 0)\gamma_5 Q(\mathbf{x}, 0)|0\rangle$  (create a state resembling the lightest static-light pseudoscalar meson).

# The static-light pseudoscalar meson (4)

- Effective static-light pseudoscalar meson mass:

$$M_{\text{ps}}^{\text{effective}}(T) = -\frac{1}{a} \left( \ln \left( \mathcal{C}^{(\bar{q}\gamma_5 Q)}(T) \right) - \ln \left( \mathcal{C}^{(\bar{q}\gamma_5 Q)}(T-1) \right) \right).$$

- Excellent agreement with the estimate obtained by considering the pure Wilson loop potential and assuming  $R_{\text{sb}} \approx 1.25$  fm.



# The static-light meson spectrum (1)

- To compute the static light spectrum, consider extended “meson creation operators” with different spatial structure and different spin structure, yielding “well defined” total angular momentum.
- Static-light meson masses are degenerate with respect to the “heavy spin”.
- Therefore, it is common to label static-light mesons by  $L_{\pm}$ , where  $L$  is the angular momentum quantum number and  $\pm$  describes the coupling of the “light spin”, i.e.  $J = L \pm 1/2$ .
- Of course, parity is also a good quantum number.
- Since static-light mesons are made from non-identical quarks, charge conjugation is not a useful quantum number (static-light meson masses are degenerate with respect to charge conjugation).

# The static-light meson spectrum (2)

- General form of meson creation operators (continuum version):

$$\bar{Q}(\mathbf{x}) \int d\hat{n} \Gamma(\hat{n}) U(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{x} + d\hat{n}) q(\mathbf{x} + d\hat{n}),$$

where  $\Gamma$  is a combination of spherical harmonics ( $\rightarrow$  angular momentum) and  $\gamma$ -matrices ( $\rightarrow$  spin).

- For any given  $\Gamma$  the total angular momentum quantum number(s) can be obtained by applying the Wigner-Eckart theorem.
- In this talk:

common notation	$\Gamma(\mathbf{x})$	$L^P$	spin	total angular momentum	$J^P$
$S_+$	$\gamma_5$	$0^+$	$0^-$	$0^-$	$(1/2)^-$
$P_-$	$\gamma_j x_j$	$1^-$	$1^-$	$0^+$	$(1/2)^+$
$P_+$	$\gamma_1 x_1 - \gamma_2 x_2$	$1^-$	$1^-$	$2^+$	$(3/2)^+$
$D_\pm$	$\gamma_5(x^2 - y^2)$	$2^+$	$0^-$	$2^-$	$(3/2)^-, (5/2)^-$

# The static-light meson spectrum (3)

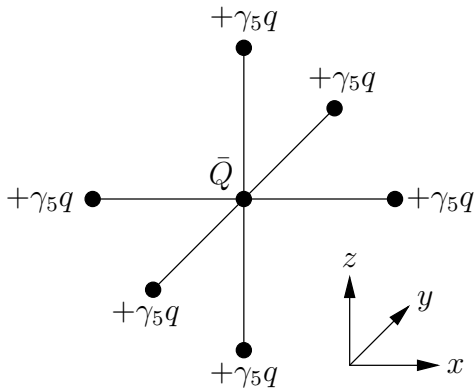
- General form of meson creation operators (lattice version):

$$\bar{Q}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\hat{\mathbf{n}}=\pm\mathbf{e}_1,\pm\mathbf{e}_2,\pm\mathbf{e}_3} \Gamma(\hat{\mathbf{n}})U(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{x} + d\hat{\mathbf{n}})q(\mathbf{x} + d\hat{\mathbf{n}}) \quad , \quad d \in \mathbb{N}_+.$$

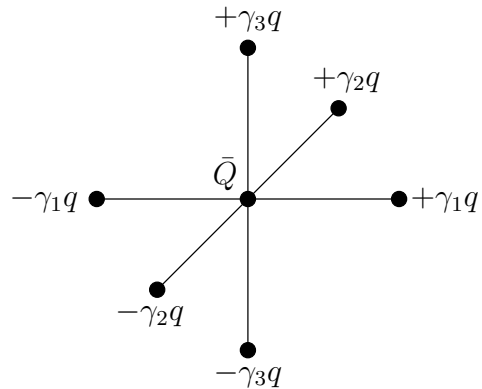
- To determine the total angular momentum quantum numbers,  $\Gamma$  has to be expanded in terms of spherical harmonics, which is always an infinite sum.
- Therefore, lattice operators have no well defined total angular momentum quantum numbers; they always create an infinite superposition of total angular momentum eigenstates (literature: discrete rotation group  $O_h$ , representations  $A_1, A_2, E, T_1, T_2$ ).

# The static-light meson spectrum (4)

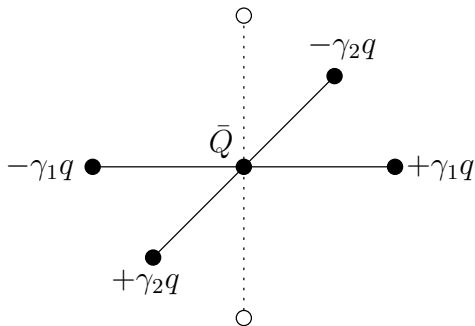
$S_+$  operator ( $J^P = (1/2)^-$ )



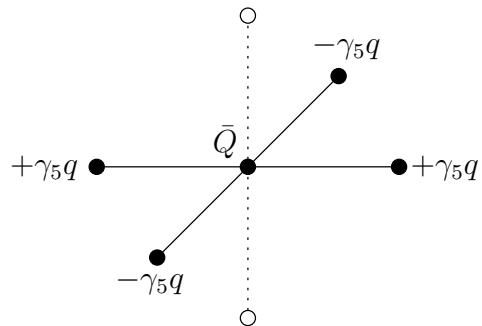
$P_-$  operator ( $J^P = (1/2)^+$ )



$P_+$  operator ( $J^P = (3/2)^+$ )



$D_{\pm}$  operator ( $J^P = (3/2)^-, (5/2)^-$ )

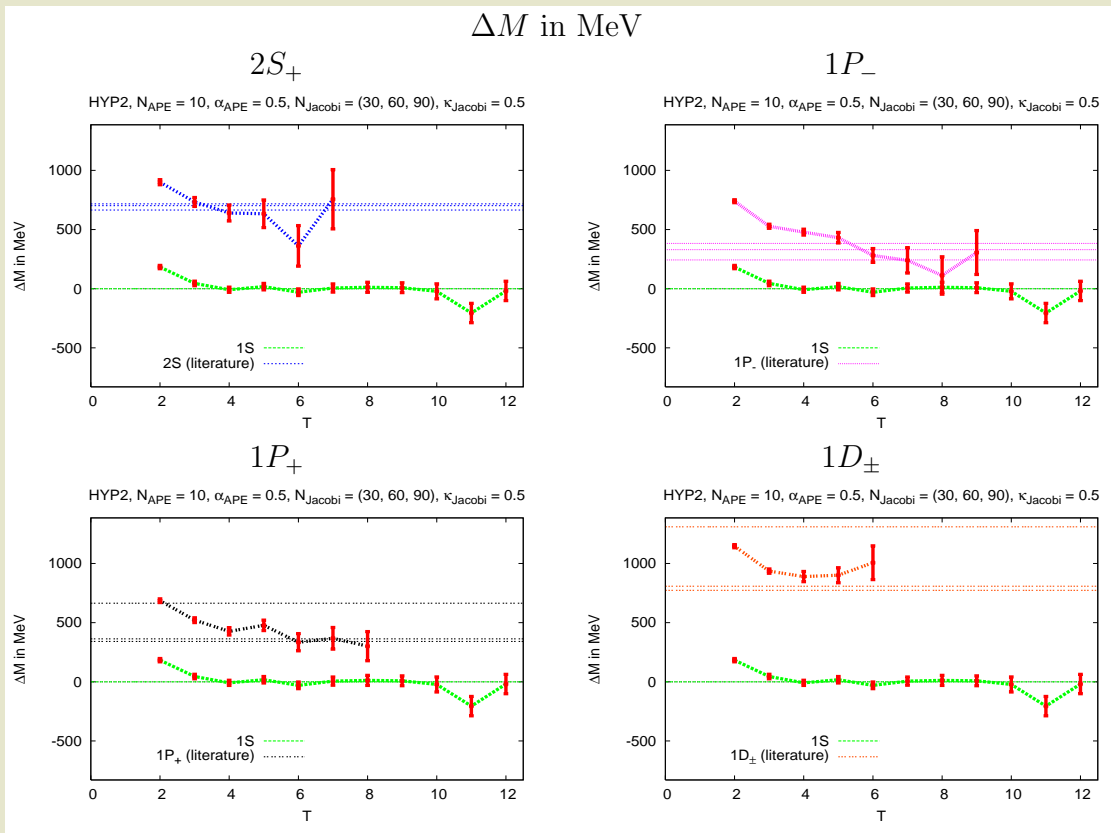


# The static-light meson spectrum (5)

- To increase the ground state overlap and to compute excited states, use a whole set of states (usually three states obtained by applying the same operator with different smearing levels).
- Effective static-light meson masses are in qualitative agreement with results from literature:
  - A. M. Green, J. Koponen, C. McNeile, C. Michael and G. Thompson [UKQCD Collaboration], Phys. Rev. D **69**, 094505 (2004) [arXiv:hep-lat/0312007].
  - T. Burch and C. Hagen, Comput. Phys. Commun. **176**, 137 (2007) [arXiv:hep-lat/0607029].



# The static-light meson spectrum (6)



# Smearing of links in time direction (1)

- There is some freedom regarding the choice of the static quark action.
- Exploit this freedom to reduce the static quark self energy.
- In the following two different techniques will be compared:
  - Fat links in time direction:

$$U(x, x + e_0) \rightarrow P_{\text{SU}(3)} \left( \epsilon U(x, x + e_0) + \sum_{j=\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3} U(x, x + e_j) \right. \\ \left. U(x + e_j, x + e_j + e_0) U(x + e_j + e_0, x + e_0) \right).$$

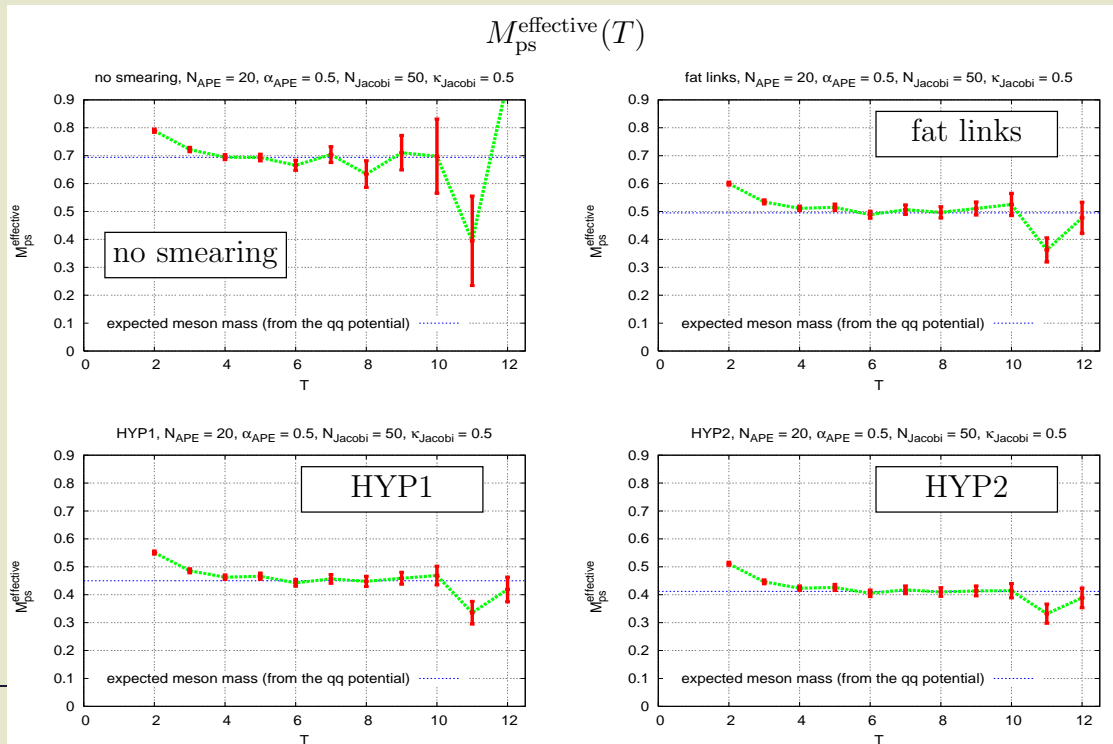
\* Optimal weight (from lattice perturbation theory):  $\epsilon = 0.0$ .

# Smearing of links in time direction (2)

- HYP links in time direction:
  - \* Rather “complicated formulas”.
  - \* Essentially three smearing steps similar to the fat link case, but do not allow links, which are separated more than one lattice site from the original link (HYP  $\rightarrow$  smearing inside a HYPercube).
  - \* Three parameters ( $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$ ) (weights of the three smearing steps):
    - HYP1 ( $\alpha_1 = 0.75, \alpha_2 = 0.60, \alpha_3 = 0.30$ ):  
approximate maximization of the average of the smallest plaquette.
    - HYP2 ( $\alpha_1 = 1.00, \alpha_2 = 1.00, \alpha_3 = 0.50$ ):  
approximate minimization of the noise-to-signal ratio of the static-light pseudoscalar correlation function.

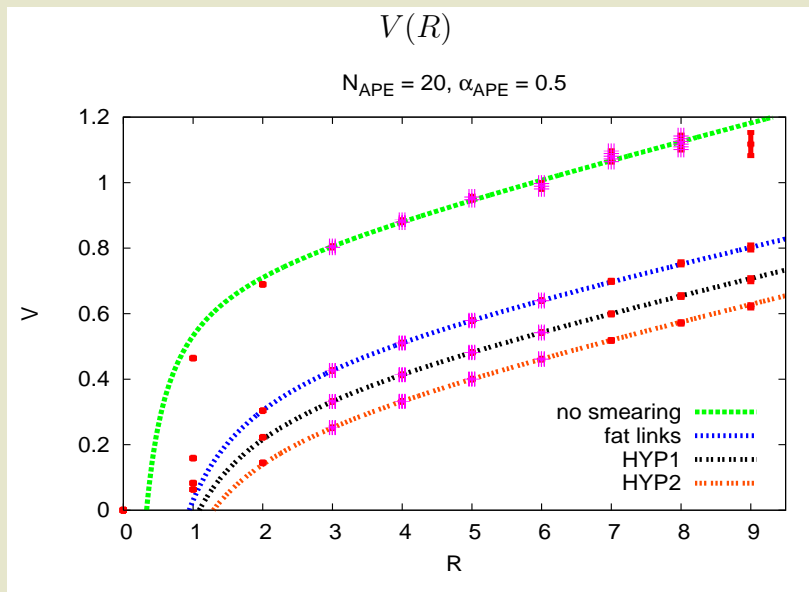
# Smearing of links in time direction (3)

- The static quark self energy is significantly reduced, when using smeared links in time direction; this in turn reduces statistical errors for effective meson masses.



# Smearing of links in time direction (4)

- The static quark self energy is significantly reduced, when using smeared links in time direction; this in turn reduces statistical errors for the static quark antiquark potential.

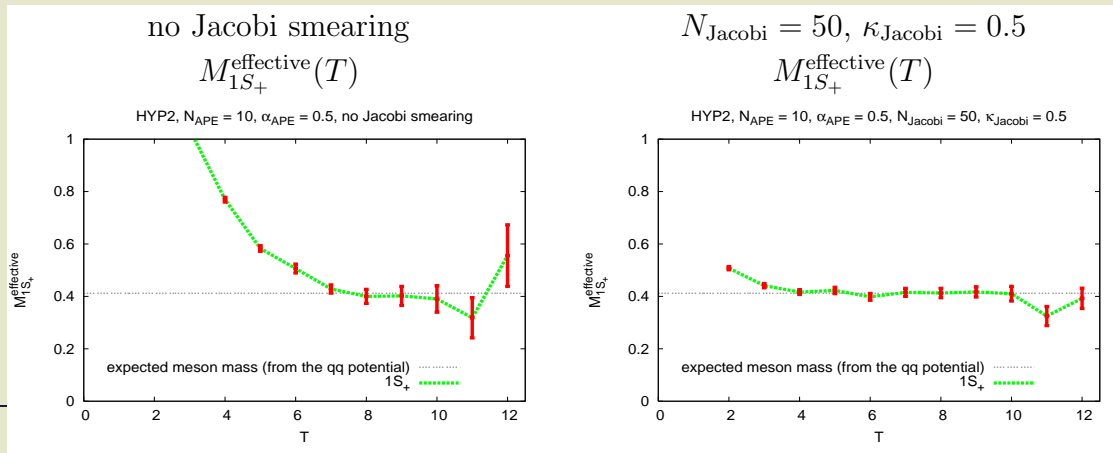


# Jacobi smearing of light quark operators

- Enhance the ground state overlap by using Jacobi smeared light quark operators, i.e. create a state with a certain extension, which is similar to the corresponding meson:

$$q^{(N)}(x) = q^{(N-1)}(x) + \kappa \sum_{j=\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3} U(x, x + e_j) q^{(N-1)}(x + e_j).$$

- Effective meson masses reach their plateaux for significantly smaller  $T$ , when Jacobi smearing is applied.



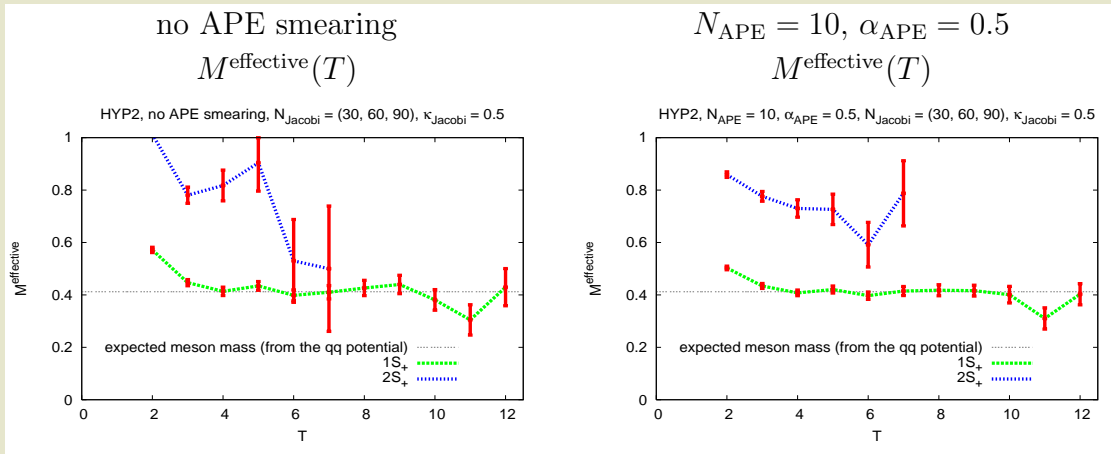
# APE smearing of spatial links (1)

- Enhance the ground state overlap by using APE smeared spatial links, i.e. create a state with a certain extension, which is similar to the corresponding meson:

$$U^{(N)}(x, x + e_k) = P_{\text{SU}(3)} \left( U^{(N-1)}(x, x + e_k) + \alpha \sum_{j=\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, j \neq \pm k} U^{(N-1)}(x, x + e_j) U^{(N-1)}(x + e_j, x + e_j + e_k) U^{(N-1)}(x + e_j + e_k, x + e_k) \right).$$

# APE smearing of spatial links (2)

- Effective meson masses reach their plateaux for smaller  $T$ , when APE smearing is applied; moreover, statistical errors are significantly reduced.





# Summary

- There is consistency between the pure Wilson loop static quark antiquark potential and the mass of the static-light pseudoscalar meson, i.e. a string breaking distance of  $\approx 1.25$  fm can be expected.
- The static-light meson spectrum is in qualitative agreement with results from literature.
- Extensive use of smearing techniques is necessary, to obtain an acceptable signal-to-noise ratio.

# Outlook

- Reduce statistical errors by a factor of  $\approx 7$  by considering all available gauge configurations:
  - Computing a rather precise low lying static-light meson spectrum should be possible.
- Static-light meson spectrum:
  - Compute further static-light meson masses by considering operators with a more complex spatial structure (L-shaped and/or U-shaped paths instead of straight paths).
  - Apply  $D^2$ ,  $(D^2)^2$ , ... to the light quark operators to create nodes in the corresponding trial states; this should increase the overlap to low lying excited states.
- String breaking:
  - Compute correlation matrices both from string states and from two meson states and extract the “full” static quark antiquark potential.