



# Generating QCD Gauge Configurations

The Fourth International Workshop on  
Numerical Analysis and Lattice QCD

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## Talk Outline

- Introduction
- Hybrid Monte Carlo
- Algorithm Improvement
- “Non-local” Algorithms
- Conclusion





## Introduction

- Lattice QCD path integral

$$\langle \Omega \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int [dU] e^{-S_g(U)} [\det \mathcal{M}(U)]^\alpha \Omega(U)$$

$\alpha = \frac{N_f}{2}$  ( $\frac{N_f}{4}$ ) for Wilson (staggered) fermions,  $\mathcal{M} = M^\dagger M$

- $10^8 - 10^9$  degrees of freedom  $\Rightarrow$  Monte Carlo integration
- Interpret  $e^{-S_g} \det \mathcal{M}^\alpha$  as a Boltzmann weight, and use importance sampling

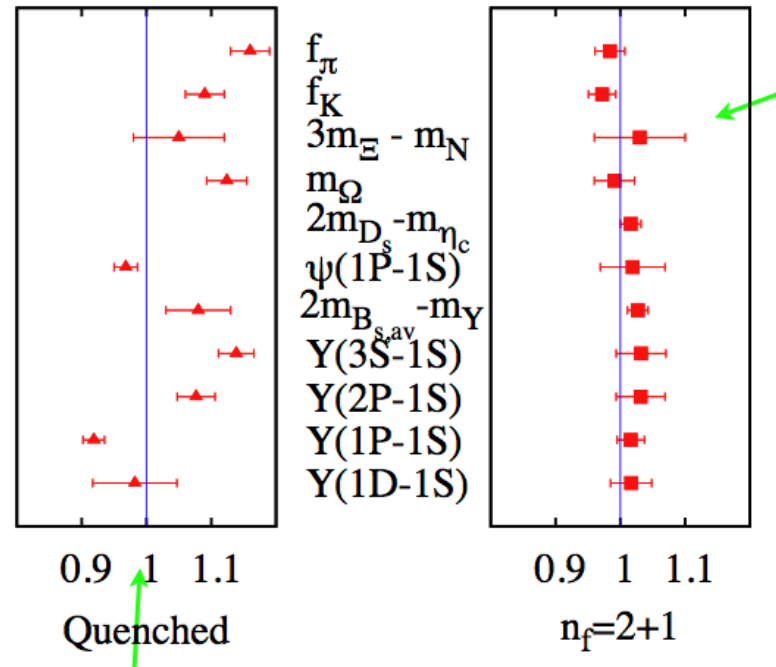
$$\langle \Omega \rangle \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \Omega(U_i)$$





## Quenched Approximation

- Fermion determinant extremely non-local object
- Quenched approximation: set  $\det \mathcal{M} = 1$
- Gauge action local: over relaxed heatbath algorithms very efficient
- Just plain wrong!



⇒ Must include dynamical fermions to obtain QCD





## The HMC Algorithm (Duane *et al*)

- *De facto* algorithm for including dynamical fermions
- Rewrite determinant in terms of pseudo-fermions

$$\det \mathcal{M} = \int D\phi^\dagger D\phi e^{-\phi^\dagger \mathcal{M}^{-1} \phi} = \int D\phi^\dagger D\phi e^{-S_f}$$

- Need global updates since pseudofermion action is non-local
- Introduce fictitious momentum field  $\pi$  and define a Hamiltonian

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \pi^2 + S_g + S_f = T + S$$

- Integrate Hamilton's equations to propose a new configuration
- Global Accept / Reject to obtain desired probability distribution

$$P(U, \phi) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-S_g - S_f}$$





## The HMC Algorithm (Duane *et al*)

- Each update consists of
  - Hybrid Molecular Dynamics Trajectory
    - \* Momentum refreshment heatbath ( $P(\pi) \propto e^{-\pi^* \pi / 2}$ ).
    - \* Pseudo-fermion heatbath ( $\phi \propto M^\dagger \xi$ , where  $P(\xi) \propto e^{-\xi^* \xi}$ ).
    - \* MD trajectory with  $\tau / \delta\tau$  steps.
  - Metropolis Acceptance Test  $P_{\text{acc}} = \min(1, e^{-\delta H})$





## Molecular Dynamics

- Hamilton's equations  $\frac{dU}{d\tau} = \frac{dT}{d\pi} = \pi$  and  $\frac{d\pi}{d\tau} = -\frac{dS}{dU} = F$
- Must discretize the "fictitious time"  $\tau$  and integrate numerically
- Define integrators in terms of evolution operators  $Q$  and  $P$

$$Q \equiv \frac{dT}{d\pi} \frac{\partial}{\partial U} \quad \text{with} \quad e^{\delta\tau Q} : f(U, \pi) \rightarrow f(U + \delta\tau T'(\pi), \pi)$$

$$P \equiv -\frac{dS}{dU} \frac{\partial}{\partial \pi} \quad \text{with} \quad e^{\delta\tau P} : f(U, \pi) \rightarrow f(U, \pi - \delta\tau S'(U))$$

- Metropolis requires Detailed Balance
  - Integration must be reversible and area preserving
  - Use Symmetric Symplectic Integrators, e.g., leapfrog

$$U(\delta\tau)^{\tau/dt} = \left( e^{\delta\tau P/2} e^{\delta\tau Q} e^{\delta\tau P/2} \right)^{\tau/\delta\tau} + O(\delta\tau^2)$$





## Molecular Dynamics Forces

- Pure Gauge Force ( $\frac{dS_g}{dU}$ ) local analytic quantity
  - CHEAP
- Fermion force

$$\frac{dS_f}{dU} = \frac{d}{dU} \phi^\dagger \mathcal{M}^{-1} \phi = -\phi^\dagger \mathcal{M}^{-1} \frac{d\mathcal{M}}{dU} \mathcal{M}^{-1} \phi$$

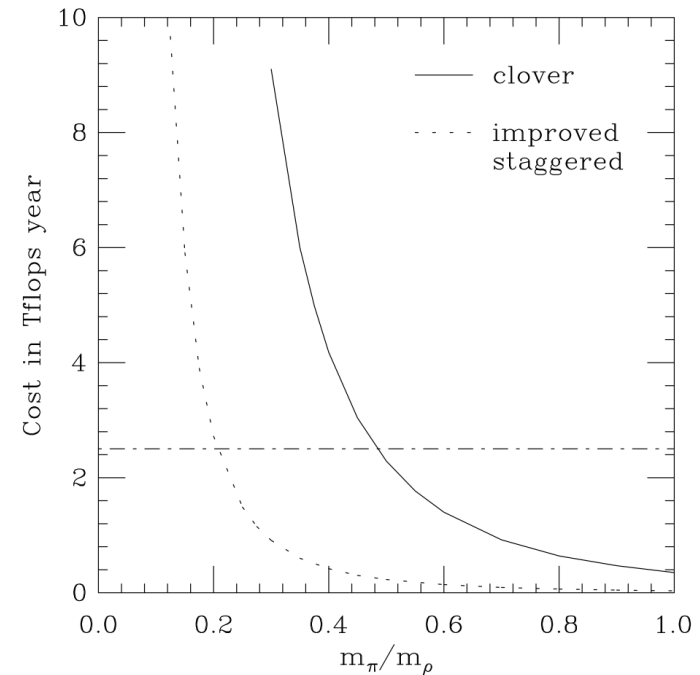
- Each update to the momentum requires solution to  $\mathcal{M}\chi = \phi$
- Generally calculated using a Krylov solver, e.g., CG
- EXPENSIVE





## Cost of HMC

- Condition number blows up as  $m \rightarrow 0$
- Force  $\propto 1/m$ , requires  $\delta\tau \rightarrow 0$  to maintain acceptance rate
- Also, as  $m \rightarrow 0$ , correlation lengths diverge
- $C \propto \left(\frac{m_\pi}{m_\rho}\right)^{-6} L^5 a^{-7}$   
CP-PACS and JLQCD, 2002



⇒ Require huge computers OR better algorithms





## Chronological Inverter

- Solution  $\chi(\tau) = \mathcal{M}(\tau)^{-1}\phi$  is a smooth function
- Idea: Use previous solutions to act as an initial guess
- Minimize over the space of previous solutions (Brower et al) :  
for

$$x_0 = \sum_i c_i \mathcal{M} \chi_i$$

solve

$$\chi_j^\dagger \phi = \sum_i c_i \chi_j^\dagger \mathcal{M} \chi_i$$

- Requires high precision solutions to maintain reversibility
- Gain around a factor of 2





## Higher Order Integrator

- Potential for gain from using  $O(\delta\tau^4)$  integrator, e.g., Campostrini

$$U(\delta\tau)^{\tau/dt} = \left( e^{\delta\tau \epsilon P/2} e^{\delta\tau \epsilon Q} e^{\delta\tau (1-\sigma)P/2} e^{-\delta\tau \epsilon \sigma Q} e^{\delta\tau (1-\sigma)P/2} e^{\delta\tau \epsilon Q} e^{\delta\tau \epsilon P/2} \right)^{\tau/\delta\tau} + O(\delta\tau^4)$$

- Better volume scaling  $V^{9/8}$  vs.  $V^{5/4}$
- Constructed from sub-leapfrog steps with  $\delta\tau^{sub} > \delta\tau$
- Sub-leapfrog integrator can go unstable much sooner than  $\delta\tau$  suggests (Joó *et al*)
- Higher order integrators are very unstable
- $O(\delta\tau^2)$  usually found to be optimal





## Multiple Timescale Integration (Sexton/Weingarten, 1992)

- For Hamiltonians of the form  $H = T + S_1 + S_2$
- Integrate  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  force contributions on different timescales

$$U(\delta\tau)^{\tau/\delta\tau} = \left( \left( e^{\delta\tau P_1/4m} e^{\delta\tau Q/2m} e^{\delta\tau P_1/4m} \right)^m e^{\delta\tau P_2} \right)^{\tau/\delta\tau}$$

- Two separate timescales  $\delta\tau^{S_1} = \delta\tau/m$ ,  $\delta\tau^{S_2} = \delta\tau$
- Large and cheap force =  $P_1$ , Small and expensive force =  $P_2$ ,
- Naïve partitioning:  $S_1 = S_g, S_2 = S_f$  fails as  $m \rightarrow 0$
- Can extend this recursively for  $N$  timescales

$$H = T + S_1 + \dots + S_N$$

- Great idea, but dormant for 10 years...





## Multiple Pseudofermions with Mass Preconditioning

- Mass-precondition the fermion determinant (Hasenbusch)

$$\det(M^\dagger M) = \det(\widehat{M}^\dagger \widehat{M}) \det(\widehat{M}(M^\dagger M)^{-1} \widehat{M}^\dagger)$$

with  $m(\widehat{M}) > m(M)$

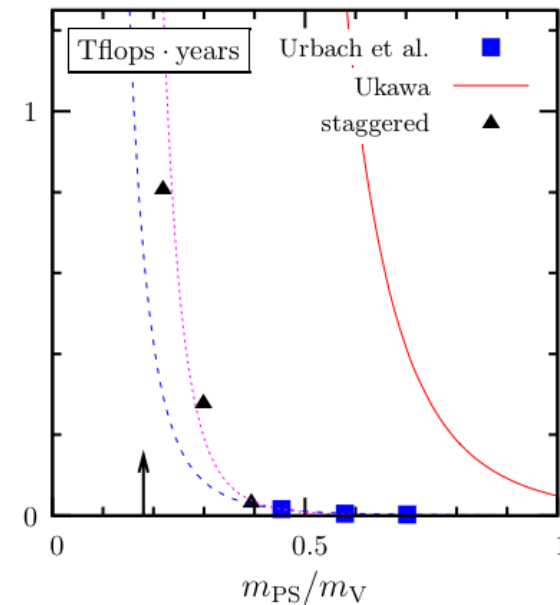
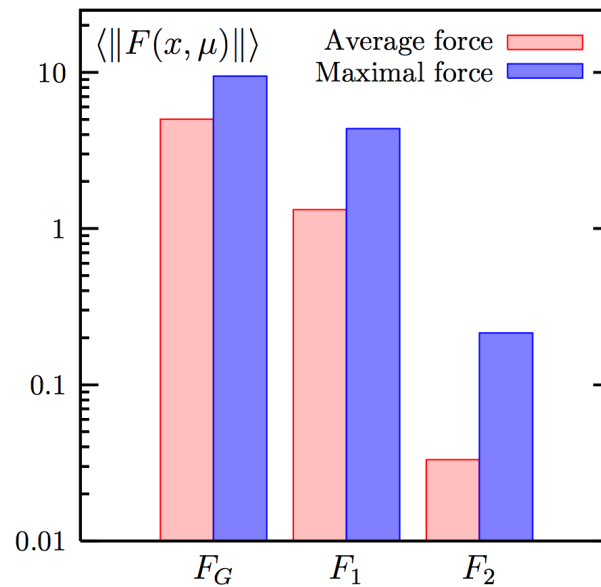
- Tune  $\kappa(\widehat{M}^\dagger \widehat{M}) \approx \kappa(\widehat{M}(M^\dagger M)^{-1} \widehat{M}^\dagger) \approx \sqrt{\kappa(M^\dagger M)}$  (Hasenbusch-Jansen)
- Why does this work?
  - Better sampling of Gaussian integral using multiple pseudo-fermions
  - This reduces fluctuations in the fermion force
  - Fermion force  $F \propto \kappa^\nu$
- Factor 2 improvement through  $\delta\tau$  increase
- Use more than one dummy operator
- Gain increases as  $m_l \rightarrow 0$



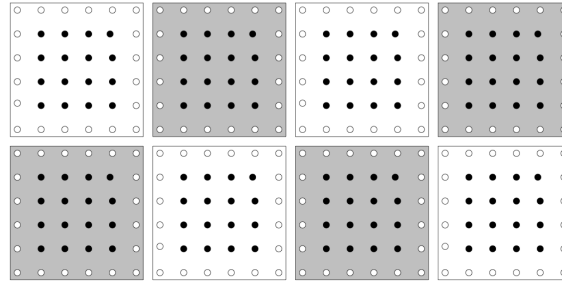


## Multi-timescale Mass Preconditioning (QCDSF, Urbach *et al*)

- Tune dummy operators so that most expensive (preconditioned) force contributes the least
- Use multi-timescale integrator ( $S_1 = S_g$ ,  $S_2 = \hat{S}$ ,  $S_3 = S_f$ )
- Factor 10 improvement at light quark mass



## Domain Decomposition (Lüscher)



- Can rewrite the Dirac operator  $M = \begin{pmatrix} D_{\Omega} & D_{\delta\Omega} \\ D_{\delta\Omega'} & D_{\Omega'} \end{pmatrix}$
  - $D_{\Omega}$  ( $D_{\Omega'}$ ) is Dirac operator on black (white) blocks with Dirichlet boundaries
  - $D_{\delta\Omega}$  and  $D_{\delta\Omega'}$  is the Dirac operator connecting these blocks
  - Rewrite determinant
- $$\det M = \det \begin{pmatrix} D_{\Omega} & 0 \\ 0 & D_{\Omega'} \end{pmatrix} \det \begin{pmatrix} D_{\Omega} & D_{\delta\Omega} \\ D_{\delta\Omega'} & D_{\Omega'} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} D_{\Omega}^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & D_{\Omega'}^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$
- Separation into large and cheap, and small but expensive  
 $\Rightarrow$  multi timescale integrator
  - Large speed up over naive algorithm





## Determinant Preconditioning is Key

- Other methods
  - U.V. Filtering ([de Forcrand](#))
  - Polynomial filtering ([Peardon and Sexton](#))
  - Multistep stochastic correction ([see talk by Enno](#))
- All improvements rely on determinant preconditioning





## Non-local Actions

- Strange quark inclusion requires  $\det \mathcal{M}^{\frac{1}{2}}$
- Finite temperature calculations typically use staggered quarks
  - Remnant chiral symmetry important here
  - Non-local action:  $\det \mathcal{M}^{\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}$
- HMC cannot be applied for these cases
- Inexact algorithms traditionally used
- Is using exact algorithms more expensive?
- Are the improvements in “Local actions” applicable here?





## The $R$ Algorithm (Gottlieb *et al*)

- Rewrite fermionic determinant:

$$\det \mathcal{M}^\alpha = \exp(\alpha \operatorname{tr} \ln \mathcal{M}) = \exp(-S_{\text{eff}})$$

- Integrate Hamilton's equations as before
- Use noisy estimator  $\xi$  for trace  $\equiv$  pseudo-fermion force
- Leading order error term  $O(\delta\tau)$ !
- Recover  $O(\delta\tau^2)$  with  $N_f$  dependent  $\xi$  updating
  - Non-reversible
  - Jacobian  $\neq 1$
- Cannot include Metropolis acceptance test  
 $\Rightarrow$  Algorithm is inexact
- Naïve cost = HMC, but requires extrapolation to zero stepsize
- Stepsize rule of thumb  $\delta\tau \sim \frac{2}{3}m_1$





## Polynomial Hybrid Monte Carlo (de Forcrand-Takaishi, Frezzotti-Jansen)

- Write in pseudo-fermion notation

$$\begin{aligned} \det \mathcal{M}^\alpha &= \int \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi} \mathcal{D}\psi e^{-\bar{\psi} \mathcal{M}^{-\alpha} \psi} \\ &\approx \int \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi} \mathcal{D}\psi e^{-\bar{\psi} P(\mathcal{M}) \psi}, \end{aligned}$$

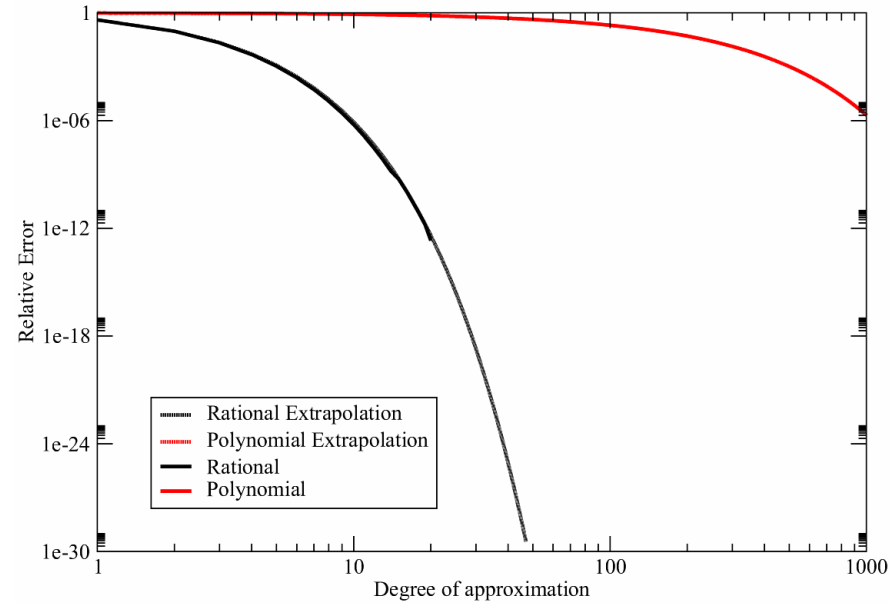
where  $P(\mathcal{M})$  is valid over spectrum

- Pseudo-fermion heatbath easily realised  $P(\mathcal{M}) = p^\dagger(\mathcal{M})p(\mathcal{M})$
- Use standard MD leapfrog  $\Rightarrow$  exact
- Generally polynomial degree  $m > N_{\text{iter}}$  CG iterations
- Use low degree polynomial
  - Reweight acceptance test or observable
- Use high degree polynomial
  - $\alpha \neq 1$  derivative uses Leibniz rule  $\Rightarrow$  Memory, rounding





## Optimal rational approximations



- Generated using Remez algorithm
- Real non-degenerate roots (poles are always +ve)
- Partial fractions -  $r(x) = \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{\alpha_k}{x + \beta_k}$
- Evaluate using multi-shift solver
- Numerically stable ( $\alpha_k$  have same sign)





## Rational Hybrid Monte Carlo (Clark-Kennedy)

- Rewrite fermionic determinant

$$\begin{aligned} \det \mathcal{M}^\alpha &= \int \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi} \mathcal{D}\phi e^{-\bar{\phi} \mathcal{M}^{-\alpha} \phi} \\ &\approx \int \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi} \mathcal{D}\phi e^{-\bar{\phi} r^2(\mathcal{M}) \phi}, \end{aligned}$$

with  $r(x) = x^{-\alpha/2}$

- Precision is cheap: Conventional Metropolis
- RHMC:
  - Hybrid Molecular Dynamics Trajectory
    - \* Momentum refreshment heatbath ( $P(\pi) \propto e^{-\pi^* \pi/2}$ ).
    - \* Pseudo-fermion heatbath ( $\phi \propto r(\mathcal{M})^{-1} \xi$ , where  $P(\xi) \propto e^{-\xi^* \xi}$ ).
    - \* MD trajectory with  $\tau/\delta\tau$  steps.
  - Metropolis Acceptance Test  $P_{\text{acc}} = \min(1, e^{-\delta H})$





## Rational Hybrid Monte Carlo (Clark-Kennedy)

- MD trajectory
  - Double inversion from  $r^2(\mathcal{M})$
  - Use low degree approx  $\bar{r} \approx \mathcal{M}^{-\alpha} \approx r^2$
  - Pseudo-fermion force

$$S'_{\text{pf}} = - \sum_{i=1}^{\bar{m}} \bar{\alpha}_i \phi^\dagger (\mathcal{M} + \bar{\beta}_i)^{-1} \mathcal{M}' (\mathcal{M} + \bar{\beta}_i)^{-1} \phi.$$

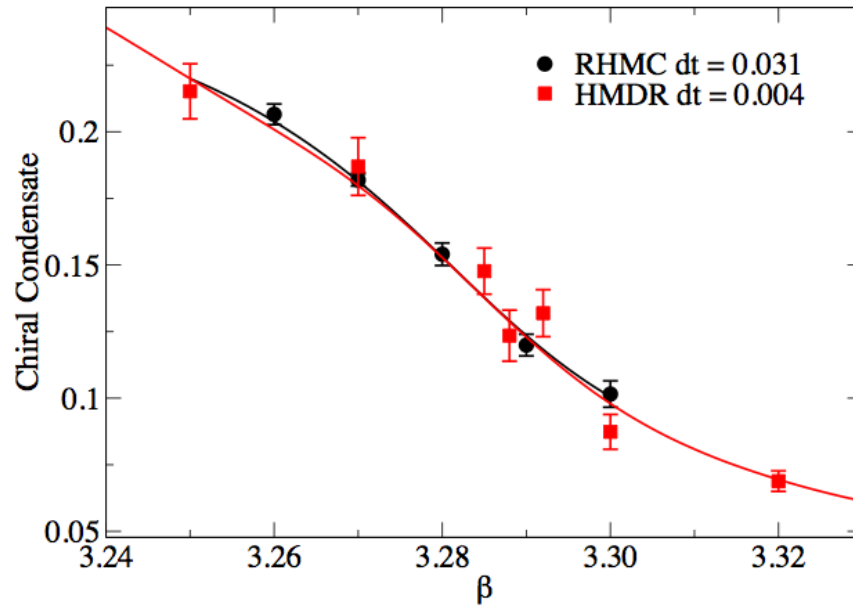
- CG cost per trajectory  $\approx$  HMC
  - One extra inversion required for heatbath



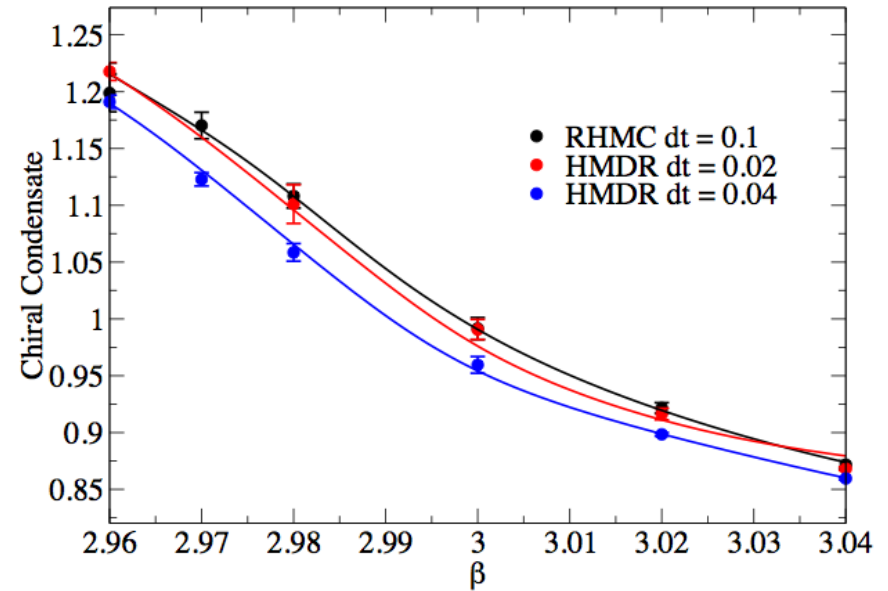


## Exact vs. Inexact (RBC-Bielefeld)

RHMC vs. HMDR, p4fat3  $m_q=0.01, 8^3 \times 4$



RHMC vs. HMDR, p4fat7,  $m_q=0.1, 8^3 \times 4$

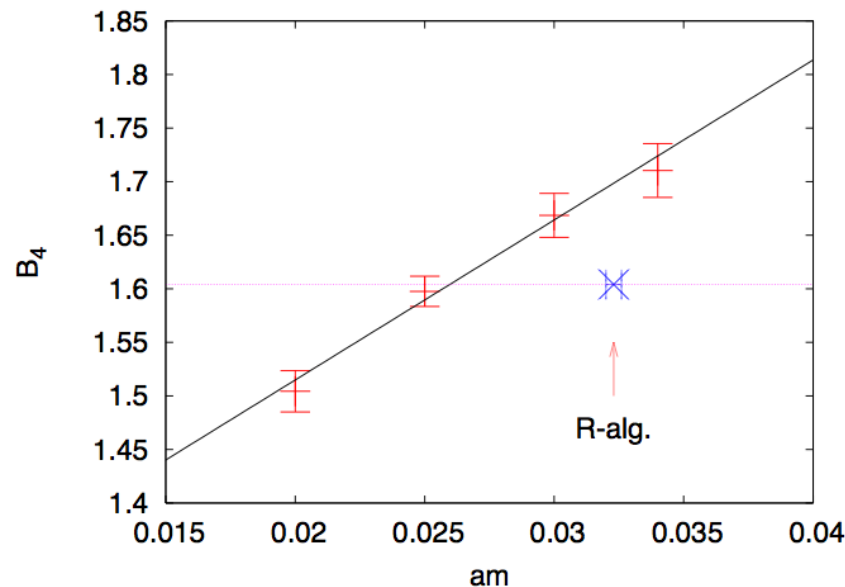
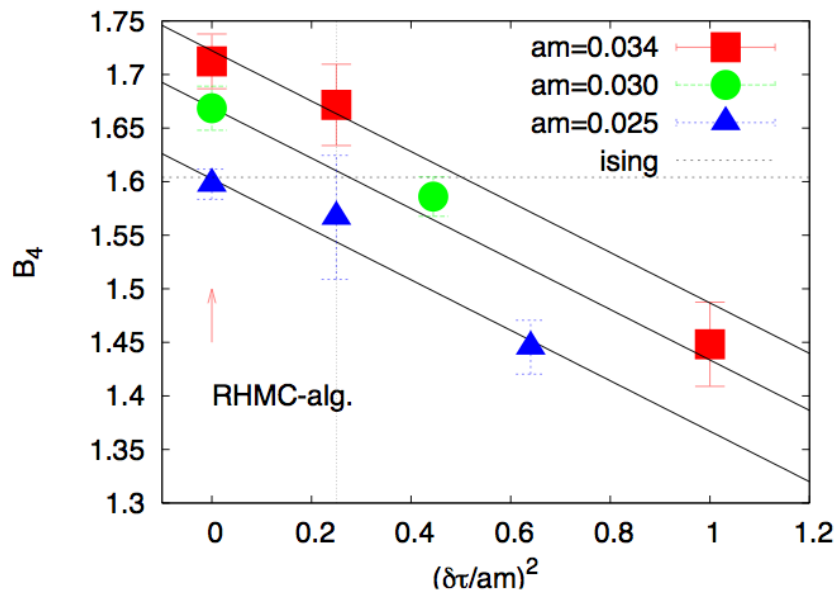


- P4 staggered fermions
- RHMC allows an  $O(10)$  increase in stepsize
- Speedup greater as  $m_l \rightarrow 0$





## Exact vs. Inexact (de Forcrand-Philipsen)



(Naïve Staggered Fermions,  $N_f = 3$ ,  $V = 8^3 4$ )

- Results:
  - Binder cumulant increases
  - Stepsize extrapolation is vital for R algorithm
  - 25% reduction in critical quark mass at  $\delta\tau^R = \frac{1}{2}m_l$
  - 20% change in renormalised quark mass
- Conclusion: “an exact algorithm is mandatory”





## Multiple Pseudofermions with RHMC (Clark-Kennedy)

- Rewrite determinant

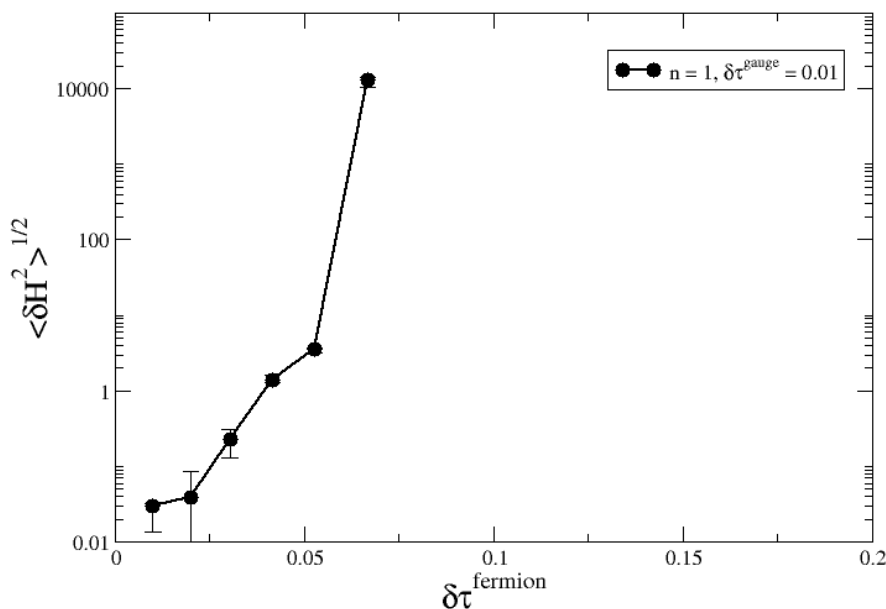
$$\begin{aligned} \det \mathcal{M} &= [\det \mathcal{M}^{1/n}]^n \\ &\propto \prod_{j=1}^n d\phi_j d\phi_j^\dagger \exp\left(-\phi_j^\dagger \mathcal{M}^{-1/n} \phi_j\right), \end{aligned}$$

- So called  $n^{\text{th}}$  root trick
- Speedup through  $\delta\tau$  increase
- No dummy mass parameters to tune  $\Rightarrow$  easy to increase  $n$
- Single fermion timescale





## Integrator Instability (Clark-Kennedy)



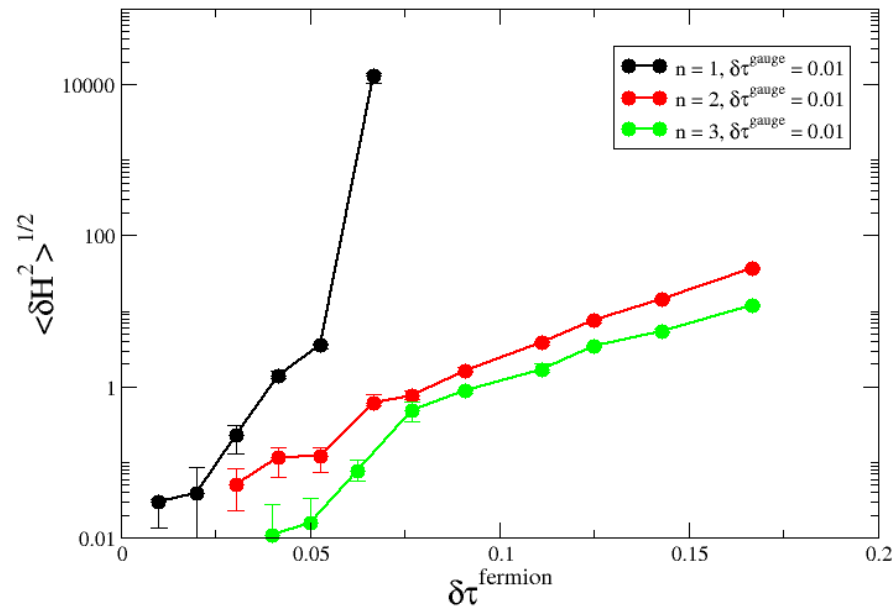
(Staggered fermions,  $V = 16^4$ ,  $\beta = 5.6$ ,  $N_f = 2$ ,  $m = 0.005$ )

- With  $n = 1$  integrator breaks down as  $\delta\tau$  is increased
- Instability “tickled” by low fermion modes  $\sim O(\frac{1}{m_l})$  (Joó *et al*)
- Higher order integrators are more ticklish
- What happens with multiple pseudofermions?





## Integrator Instability (Clark-Kennedy)



(Staggered fermions,  $V = 16^4$ ,  $\beta = 5.6$ ,  $N_f = 2$ ,  $m = 0.005$ )

- Removes instability in the integrator!
- Why does this work? Lowest modes now  $O(\frac{1}{m_1})^{1/n}$
- Force now bulk dominated
- Higher order integrators now beneficial





## Who's the fastest of them all? ( $N_f = 2$ Wilson)

- Compare multi-timescale mass preconditioning and high order RHMC
- Use popular testing parameters ( $V = 24^3.32$ ,  $\beta = 5.6$ , Plaquette + Wilson fermions)
- Use measure  $C = \tau_{\text{int}}^{\text{plaq}} \cdot N_{\text{mv}} \cdot 10^{-4}$

	$C$		
$\kappa$	RHMC	Urbach <i>et al</i>	Orth <i>et al</i>
0.15750	9.6	9.0	19.1
0.15800	29.9*	17.4	128
0.15825	52.5*	56.5	-

\*Using 4MN5 fourth order integrator (de Forcrand and Takaishi)

- RHMC similar in cost to mass preconditioning
- Look at integrator stability with mass preconditioning
  - Gain from higher order integrators also?





## 2+1 QCD

- e.g. Domain Wall 2+1 flavour determinant

$$\left( \frac{\det M_l^\dagger M_l}{\det M_{pv}^\dagger M_{pv}} \right) \left( \frac{\det M_s^\dagger M_s}{\det M_{pv}^\dagger M_{pv}} \right)^{1/2} = \left( \frac{\det M_l^\dagger M_l}{\det M_s^\dagger M_s} \right) \left( \frac{\det M_s^\dagger M_s}{\det M_{pv}^\dagger M_{pv}} \right)^{3/2}$$

- Mass Precondition using the strange quark
- Use  $n^{th}$  root trick for triple strange
- NOT mutually exclusive improvements
- Use multi-timescale integrator (gauge, triple strange, light)
- Light quark mass constitutes around 10% CG cost
- Cost dependence on mass comes mostly from autocorrelation

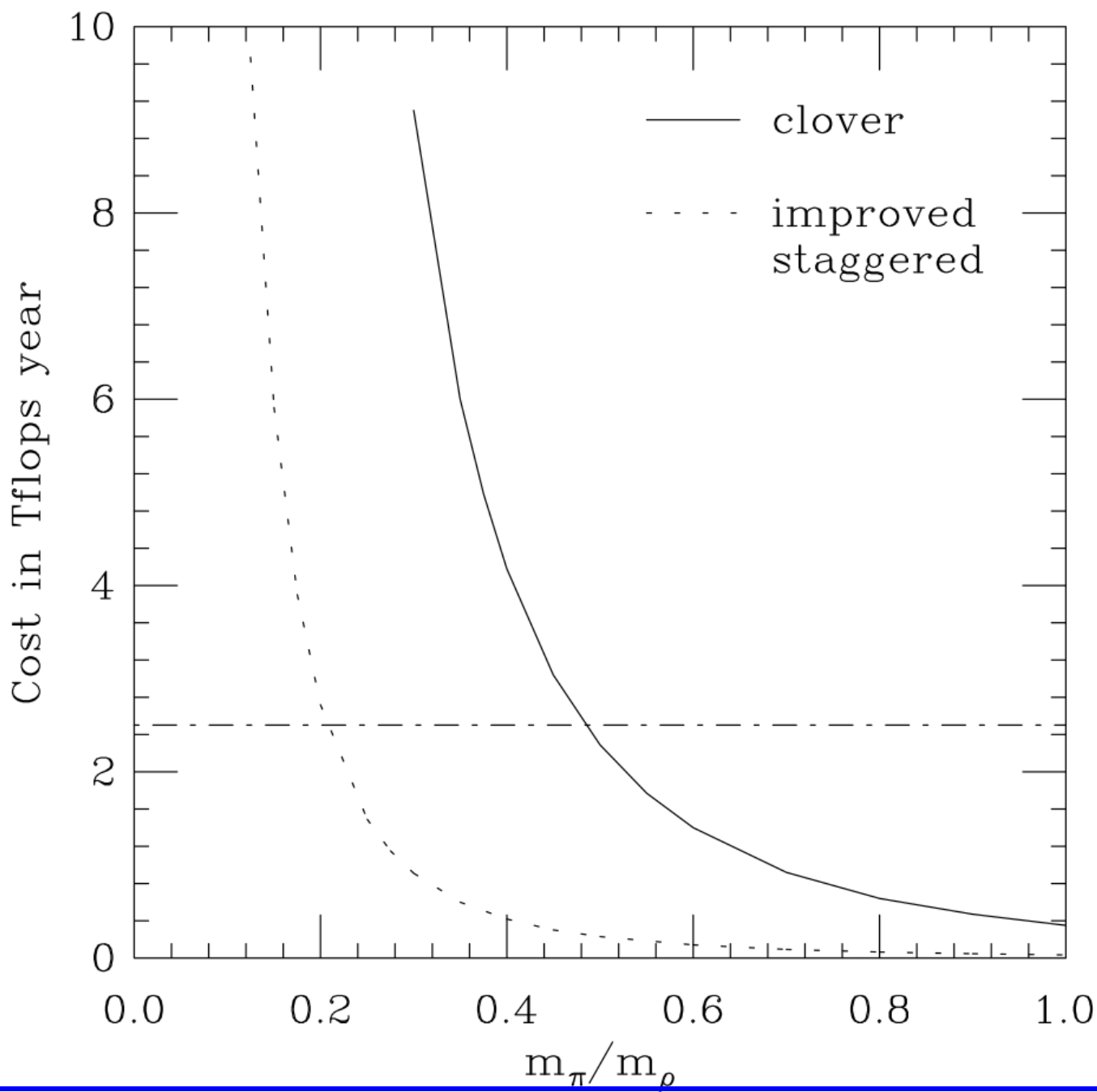


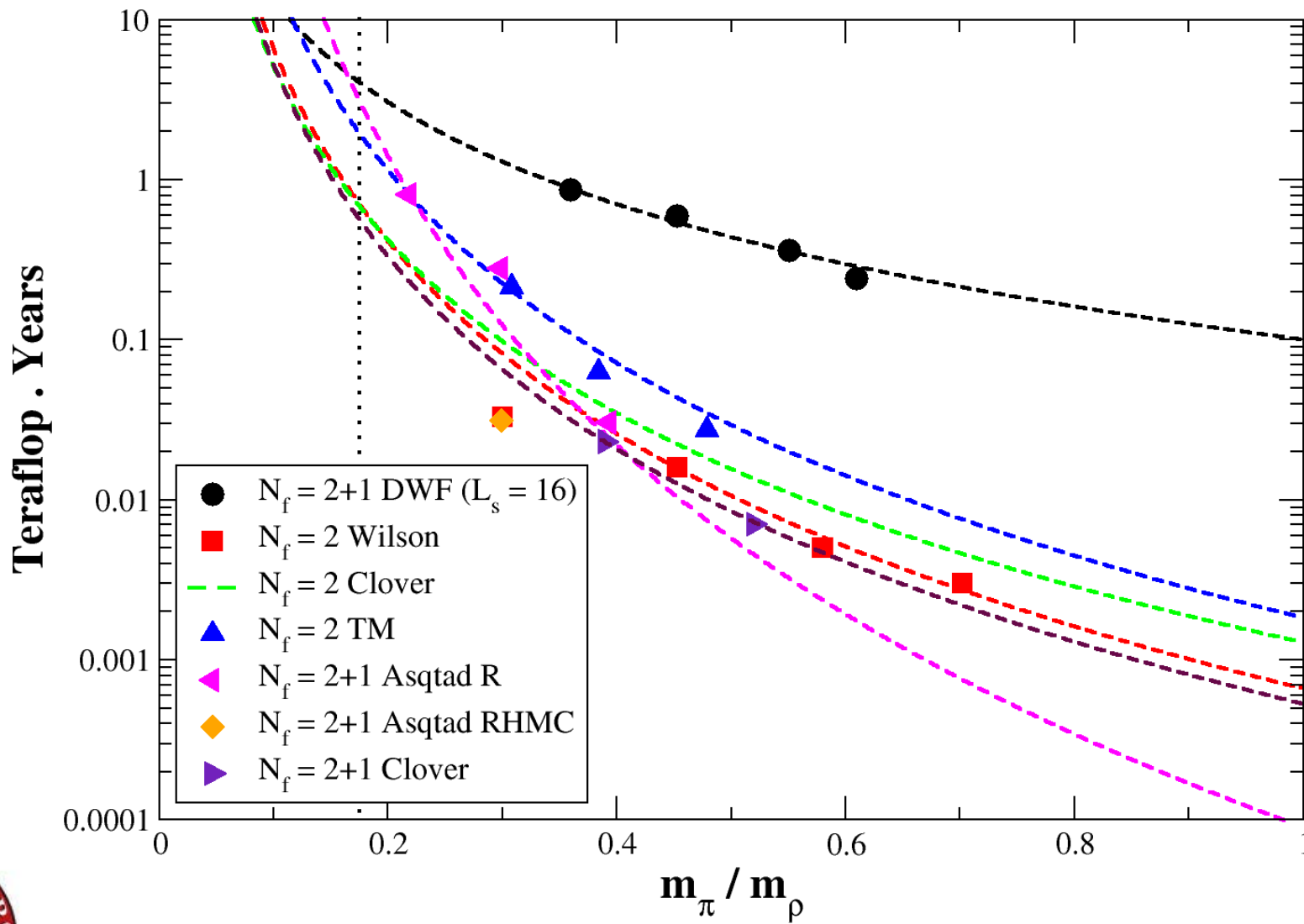


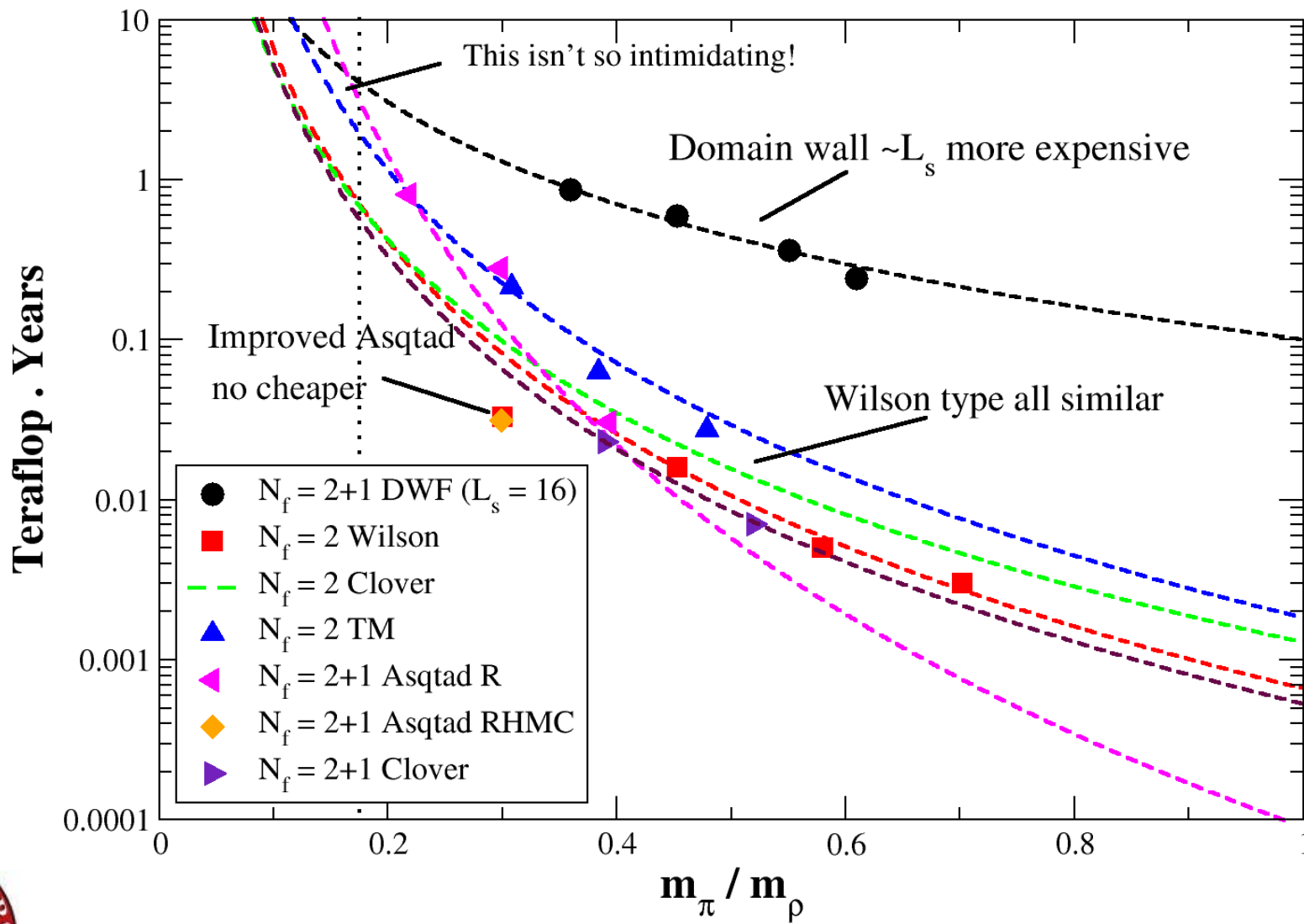
## Berlin Wall Plot

- Compare the cost of fermion formulations and/or algorithms
  - $N_f = 2 + 1$  DWF RHMC (RBC-UKQCD)
  - $N_f = 2$  Mass preconditioned Wilson (Urbach *et al*)
  - $N_f = 2$  Mass preconditioned Clover (QCDSF)
  - $N_f = 2 + 1$  Mass preconditioned Clover + RHMC (Wuppertal-Jülich)
  - $N_f = 2$  Mass preconditioned Twisted Mass (ETM)
  - $N_f = 2 + 1$  AsqTad R (MILC)
  - $N_f = 2 + 1$  AsqTad RHMC (Clark-Kennedy)
- All data scaled to  $V = 24^3 \times 40$ ,  $a = 0.08$
- Box is too small and too coarse











## Conclusions

- After 20 years HMC is still the best dynamical algorithm
- The last 5 years has seen an explosion in HMC improvement
- Determinant preconditioning is the key behind all improvement
- Non-local actions are no problem
- Pick and mix the most appropriate algorithm
  - Multiple time scale mass preconditioning
  - Domain decomposition
  - $n^{th}$  rootary with RHMC
- HMC cost is now  $C \propto \left(\frac{m_\pi}{m_\rho}\right)^{-2} L^5 a^{-6}$  (Lüscher)
- Physical point no longer a pipedream
- Further improvement must come from autocorrelation?

