



**Master Programme Computer Simulation in Science
Application for Admission to the Master Thesis**

According to § 15 of the examination regulations dated 17.12.2020 I apply for a subject of the master thesis. The proof of at least 70 credit points in the programme Computer Simulation in Science is available acc. to a.m. examination regulations.

Name: KARIPPACHERIL JACOB First name: JAY Student ID.: 2130800

Wuppertal, (date) 13/05/2024 Signature: 

Name First Reviewer: Prof. Dr. ANDREAS FROMMER

Name Second Reviewer: Dr. GUSTAVO ALONSO RAMÍREZ HIDALGO

I agree to review and assess the master thesis of a.m. candidate with the title*

ACCELERATING THE COMPUTATION OF ^{THE} _✓ MATRIX SIGN
FUNCTION

title of the thesis (in block letters)


Signature First reviewer

i.V. Gustavo Ramirez
(in Elternzeit seit 15.5.24)
Signature Second reviewer

Admission by the head of the examination board: _____
Date/Signature

*In case of changing the title a form signed by the first reviewer has to be submitted to confirm the final title of the master thesis.

May 21, 2024

Thesis title: Accelerating the computation of the matrix sign function

Content: The matrix sign function arises in computations in lattice QCD. We look at the computation of the action $\text{sign}(Q)x$ of the sign function of the matrix Q on a vector x . In our application, Q is the symmetrized Wilson-Dirac operator. This is a Hermitian matrix if the chemical potential is 0, otherwise it is non-Hermitian. Actually, we will always consider the inverse square root function, since $\text{sign}(Q)x = (Q^2)^{-1/2}Qx$.

The Arnoldi Krylov subspace approximation is the basic method to approximate $\text{sign}(Q)x$. There are several ways to accelerate the convergence of this basic scheme:

1. Restarts (in the non-hermitian case). This avoids to have too many inner products in the Arnoldi orthogonalization.
2. Deflation (explicit and implicit). This makes the matrix better conditioned and thus reduces the number of iterations. Explicit deflation uses the smallest left and right eigenvectors, implicit deflation is present in the thick restart approach of Eiermann and Güttel; see also the funm Matlab code.
3. Polynomial preconditioning. This also makes the matrix better conditioned and this reduces the number of iterations. We have a recent paper on this and numerical results for QCD on a parallel machine.
4. Sketching. This is a randomized approach where we save orthogonalizations and sketch the Arnoldi matrix. The relevant paper is by Güttel and Schweitzer.

The purpose of the thesis is to consider the following combination of the above approaches:

- 2 + 1 (as is already done in funmat)
- 2 + 3 (building on existing work and code of Gustavo)
- 2 + 4 (this is new, but Stefan Güttel just gave a talk on it at a conference in Paris)

Tasks:

- Understand and describe the individual methods (1-4)
- Describe, formulate algorithmically and discuss the combined methods (2+1, 2+3, 2+4)
- Test the combined methods, both in Matlab on small configurations and in C on large configurations and in parallel (using existing code)