A Solitonic Approach to Holographic Nuclear Physics

Based on the recent work: S.Baldino, S.Bolognesi, S.B.Gudnason, D.Koksal, Phys.Rev.D 96 (2017) 034008 [arXiv:1703.08695v2 [hep-th]].

Pre-thesis

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Sakai-Sugimoto Model



10 dim

• Holographic dual of QCD = flows to QCD at low energies.





An effective theory of mesons and hadrons

- Probe approximation: (Nc >> Nf) ____ weakly coupled gravity
- Large t'Hooft coupling: $(\lambda >>1)$ \longrightarrow Low- enery effective

Low- enery effective theory on the conformal boundary.

Leading terms are considered in: $1/N_c$ & $1/\lambda$ expansions.

• Kaluza-Klein scale: $M_{KK} = 1$ GeV, in order to include the physical meson spectrum.

(UV cut-off for the boundary theory)

• Global chiral symmetry is realized between the adjacent flavor brane configurations. Their meeting on the flat space limit demonstrates spontaneous breaking of chiral symetry:

$$U(N_f)_L \times U(N_f)_R \rightarrow U(N_f)_D$$
 with $N_f = 2$.

• At ow energy, quarks + pion are massless.

Global gauge symmetry:

<u>5D Yang-Mills + Chern-Simons Action</u>(2) = $SU(2) \times U(1)$

$$S_{5dim} \simeq S_{YM} + S_{CS}$$
 $k(z) = 1 + z^2$ $h(z) = (1 + z^2)^{-1/3}$ $\kappa = \frac{\lambda N_c}{216\pi^3}$

$$S_{\mathsf{YM}} = \kappa \int d^4 x dz \operatorname{Tr}\left(\frac{1}{2}h(z)F_{\mu\nu}^2 + k(z)F_{\mu z}^2\right) = -\frac{\kappa}{2} \int_{5\mathrm{dim}} \operatorname{Tr}(F \wedge *F)$$

$$\delta_{\Lambda}\omega_{5}(A) = d\omega_{4}^{1}(\Lambda, A) \quad \text{:WZW term on the boundary.} \\ \text{[Witten 1998]} \qquad S_{\text{CS}} = \frac{N_{c}}{24\pi^{2}} \int_{5} \omega_{5}(A)$$

$$\omega_{4}^{1}(A) = \text{Tr}\left(\Lambda d\left(AdA + \frac{1}{2}A^{3}\right)\right)$$
Reproduces the chiral anomaly:
$$\omega_{5}(A) = \text{Tr}\left(AF^{2} - \frac{1}{2}A^{3}F + \frac{1}{10}A^{5}\right)$$

Reproduces the chiral anomaly:

$$\delta_{\Lambda} S_{\rm CS} = \frac{N_c}{24\pi^2} \int_{M_4} \left(\omega_4^1(\Lambda, A)|_{z=+\infty} - \omega_4^1(\Lambda, A)|_{z=-\infty} \right)$$
 Not gauge invariant

Meson Theory

 4D Effective action is extracted from the gauge in the bullk by expanding the fields by complete sets of eigenfunctions on the holographic direction = Kaluza-Klein expansion:

 ∞

$$A_{\mu}(x^{\mu}, z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_{\mu}^{(n)}(x^{\mu})\psi_n(z),$$

$$A_{z}(x^{\mu}, z) = \varphi^{(0)}(x^{\mu})\phi_0(z) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \varphi^{(n)}(x^{\mu})\phi_n(z).$$
From the motion equations, k_n are interpreted as meson masses

$$\phi_n(z) \propto \partial_z \psi_n(z) \qquad S = -\frac{1}{2} \int d^4 x \, \text{tr} \Big[(\partial_\mu \varphi^{(0)} \partial^\mu \varphi^{(0)}) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \Big(\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu(n)} F^{\mu\nu(n)} + \frac{1}{2} k_n^2 B_\mu^{(n)} B^{\mu(n)} \Big) \Big]$$

 $\varphi^{(0)} \sim \text{pion} \quad B^{(1)}_{\mu} \sim \rho \text{ meson} \quad B^{(2)}_{\mu} \sim a_1 \text{ meson} \quad \cdots \quad S_{5\dim}(A) = S_{4\dim}(\pi, \rho, a_1, \rho', a_1', \cdots)$

• Gauge fields in the bulk are related to the residual gauge symmetry on the infinity boundary by:

• The pion is given by the holonomy between the chiral branes ______ and scales with...

$$\mathcal{U}(x^{\mu}) = \mathcal{P} \exp\left(-i \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathrm{d}z \,\mathcal{A}_{z}(x^{\mu}, z)\right) \equiv \exp\left(\frac{2i}{f_{\pi}}\pi^{a}(x^{\mu})T^{a}\right)$$

 $\operatorname{Tr}(T^a T^b) = \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ab}$

$$\phi_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\kappa\pi}} \frac{1}{k(z)}$$

which is the nomalizable/massless Nambu-Goldstone mode of χ SB.

• $\psi_0 \propto \arctan z$; on the other hand is non-normalizable and not included in the expansion.

• Reproduces the Skyrme model, vector meson dominance, hidden local symmetry results at the relative limits.

Classical Baryon Solution

• Gauge fields respresent the homotopy group: $\mathcal{A} : \mathbb{R}^{4|1} \rightarrow U(N_f)$, with the metric:

$$g = H(z)\eta_{\mu\nu}dx^{\mu}dx^{\nu} + \frac{1}{H(z)}dz^{2}, \qquad H(z) = \left(1 + M_{\rm KK}^{2}z^{2}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}}$$
Taking the
static ansatz: $A_{I} = A_{I}(x_{J}), \qquad A_{0} = 0, \qquad \hat{A}_{I} = 0, \qquad \hat{A}_{0} = \hat{A}_{0}(x_{I}) \qquad \Lambda = \frac{8\lambda}{27\pi}$

$$\mathcal{S} = \int \left(\frac{1}{2H^{\frac{1}{2}}}(\partial_{i}\hat{A}_{0})^{2} + \frac{H^{\frac{3}{2}}}{2}(\partial_{z}\hat{A}_{0})^{2} - \frac{1}{2H^{\frac{1}{2}}}\operatorname{tr}(F_{ij}^{2}) - H^{\frac{3}{2}}\operatorname{tr}(F_{iz}^{2})\right)d^{4}xdz$$

$$+ \frac{1}{\Lambda}\int \hat{A}_{0}\operatorname{tr}(F_{IJ}F_{KL})\epsilon_{IJKL}d^{4}xdz,$$

• For the finite action instanton, gauge fields must approach pure gauge configuration on the world-sphere at infinity :

$$A_I(x^I)|_{S^3_{\infty}} = g^{\dagger} \partial_I g, \qquad g :$$

$$g: S^3_{\infty} \to SU(2)$$

$$\pi_3(SU(2)) = \mathbb{Z} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad$$

We have a discrete but infinite # of topological sectors, labeled by the topological charge:

$$\mathbf{B} = \int B^0(x,z) d^3x dz = -\frac{1}{32\pi^2} \int \operatorname{tr}(F_{IJ}F_{KL})\epsilon_{IJKL} d^3x dz$$

• We make the self-dual t'Hooft ansatz for the gauge field:

$$A_{I} = \frac{1}{2}\sigma_{IJ}\partial_{J}\log\left(1 + \frac{\mu^{2}}{\rho^{2}}\right) \qquad \stackrel{\text{linearize for the}}{=} A_{I}^{(1)} = -\sigma_{IJ}\frac{x_{J}\mu^{2}}{\rho^{4}} = \frac{\mu^{2}}{2}\sigma_{IJ}\partial_{J}\frac{1}{\rho^{2}}$$

and approximate with 4D-spherically symmetric radial ansatz for the B=1 [Bolognesi, 2007]

$$b(\rho) = \frac{1}{\Lambda(\rho^2 + \mu^2)} \qquad A_I = -\sigma_{IJ}\partial_J b(\rho), \qquad A_0 = a(\rho)$$

with b.c.'s.
$$\lim_{\rho \to \infty} \rho^2 b(\rho) = 1, \qquad b'(0) = 0$$

Gives us the BPST instanton from the classical action, which scales as Λ⁰. The rescaled self-energy is given by;

$$\mathcal{E} = 2\pi^2 \left(4 + \frac{2}{3}\mu^2 + \frac{256}{5\Lambda^2\mu^2} \right)$$

which is minimized by the classical instanton size: $\mu = \frac{4}{\sqrt{\Lambda}} \left(\frac{3}{10}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}}$

[Hata, 2007]

- Λ^{-1} corrections scale the stabilizing effects on the instanton configuration = μ is not a modulus!
- Form of the electric field from the minimization of the energy functional to the flat-space BPST instanton

$$a(\rho) = \frac{8}{\Lambda} \frac{\rho^2 + 2\mu^2}{(\rho^2 + \mu^2)^2}$$

• Rescaled energy: $E = M = \frac{N_c \Lambda}{8} + \sqrt{\frac{2}{15}} N_c$ Soliton rest mass • Linear expansion: $A_I^{(n)} \sim 1/\Lambda^n$ (linear zone: $\rho > 1/\sqrt{\Lambda}$) $A_I = A_I^{(1)} + A_I^{(2)} + \dots$ Flat-space B=1 / Curvature+electrostatic field.= Large Λ validates the small instanton (linearization).

Linear regime

• Equations of motion from the 5D YM-CS Lagrangian + linearized: $(D_{\mu} \rightarrow D_{\mu})$

$$\frac{1}{H^{\frac{1}{2}}} D_{j}F_{ji} + D_{z}(H^{\frac{3}{2}}F_{zi}) = \frac{1}{\Lambda} \epsilon_{iJKL}F_{KL}\partial_{J}\hat{A}_{0}, \qquad \begin{cases} \partial_{I}A_{I}^{(1)} = 0 & \partial_{J}\partial_{J}A_{I}^{(1)} = 0. \\ F_{IJ}^{(1)} = & \partial_{I}A_{J}^{(1)} - \partial_{J}A_{I}^{(1)} \end{cases} \\
\frac{1}{H^{\frac{1}{2}}} \partial_{i}\partial_{i}\hat{A}_{0} + \partial_{z}(H^{\frac{3}{2}}\partial_{z}\hat{A}_{0}) = \frac{1}{\Lambda} \operatorname{tr}(F_{IJ}F_{KL})\epsilon_{IJKL}, \qquad \qquad \frac{\partial_{i}\partial_{i}}{H^{\frac{1}{2}}}\hat{A}_{0} + \partial_{z}(H^{\frac{3}{2}}\partial_{z}A_{0}) = \operatorname{source1}, \\ \frac{\partial_{j}\partial_{j}}{H^{\frac{1}{2}}}A_{i}^{+} + \partial_{z}(H^{\frac{3}{2}}\partial_{z}A_{i}^{+}) = \operatorname{source2}, \end{cases}$$

Source terms are derived from the • boundary theory currents, which in the linear approximation are delta functions for the localization of the fields...

$$H^{\frac{3}{2}}(\partial_i \partial_i A_z^+ - \partial_i \partial_z A_i^-) = \text{source3},$$

$$\frac{\partial_j \partial_j A_i^- - \partial_j \partial_i A_j^-}{H^{\frac{1}{2}}} - \partial_z (H^{\frac{3}{2}}(\partial_i A_z^+ - \partial_z A_i^-)) = \text{source4},$$

0

 ∂_{μ}

• Separation of variables + Fourier expansion:

$$\frac{1}{\rho^2} = \frac{1}{r^2 + z^2} = \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-kr}}{r} \cos(kz) \, dk$$

• Can express delta functions in terms of our KK-expansion modes:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\psi_n(z)\psi_n(z')}{H^{\frac{1}{2}}(z)c_n} = \delta(z-z'),$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} H^{\frac{3}{2}}(z)\frac{\phi_n(z)\phi_n(z')}{d_n} = \delta(z-z').$$

$$G(x,z,x',z') = -\frac{1}{4\pi}\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\psi_n(z)\psi_n(z')}{d_n}\frac{e^{-k_n|x-x'|}}{|x-x'|},$$

$$L(x,z,x',z') = -\frac{1}{4\pi}\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\phi_n(z)\phi_n(z')}{d_n}\frac{e^{-k_n|x-x'|}}{|x-x'|}.$$

$$H^{1/2}\partial_{z}(H^{3/2}\partial_{z}\psi_{(k)}^{\pm}) + k^{2}\psi_{(k)}^{\pm} = 0$$

$$\partial_{z}(H^{\frac{1}{2}}\partial_{z}(H^{\frac{3}{2}}\phi_{n}(z))) + k_{n}^{2}\phi_{n}(z) = 0.$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial_{i}\partial_{i}G}{H^{\frac{1}{2}}(z)} + \partial_{z}(H^{\frac{3}{2}}(z)\partial_{z}G) &= \delta^{3}(x-x')\delta(z-z') , \\ \partial_{i}\partial_{i}L - \partial_{z}\partial_{z'}G &= \delta^{3}(x-x')\delta(z-z') , \\ \partial_{z}(H^{\frac{3}{2}}(z)L) + H^{-\frac{1}{2}}(z)\partial_{z'}G &= 0 . \end{cases}$$

$$\hat{A}_{0}(x,z) = -\frac{32\pi^{2}}{\Lambda}G(x,z,0,0) ,$$

$$A_{i}^{+}(x,z) = -2\pi^{2}\mu^{2}\epsilon_{ijk}\sigma_{k}\partial_{j}G(x,z,0,0) ,$$

$$A_{i}^{-}(x,z) = -2\pi^{2}\mu^{2}\sigma_{i}\partial_{z'}G(x,z,0,z')|_{z'=0} ,$$

$$A_{z}^{+}(x,z) = -2\pi^{2}\mu^{2}\sigma_{i}\partial_{i}L(x,z,0,0) .$$
• Gauge field are generalized by moving the instanton center on \mathbb{R}^{3} :
$$G(x,z,0,0) \longrightarrow G(x,z,X,0) ,$$

$$\sigma_{i} \longrightarrow G\sigma_{i}G^{\dagger}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial_i \partial_i}{H^{\frac{1}{2}}} \hat{A}_0 + \partial_z (H^{\frac{3}{2}} \partial_z \hat{A}_0) &= -\frac{32\pi^2}{\Lambda} \delta^3(x) \delta(z) , \\ \frac{\partial_j \partial_j}{H^{\frac{1}{2}}} A_i^+ + \partial_z (H^{\frac{3}{2}} \partial_z A_i^+) &= -2\pi^2 \mu^2 \epsilon_{ijk} \sigma_k \partial_j \delta^3(x) \delta(z) , \\ H^{\frac{3}{2}} (\partial_i \partial_i A_z^+ - \partial_i \partial_z A_i^-) &= -2\pi^2 \mu^2 \sigma_i \partial_i \delta^3(x) \delta(z) , \\ \frac{\partial_j \partial_j A_i^- - \partial_j \partial_i A_j^-}{H^{\frac{1}{2}}} - \partial_z (H^{\frac{3}{2}} (\partial_i A_z^+ - \partial_z A_i^-)) &= 2\pi^2 \mu^2 \sigma_i \delta^3(x) \partial_z \delta(z) . \end{aligned}$$

Nucleon-nucleon Potential

• B=1

$$\mathcal{E} = \int \left(\frac{1}{2H^{\frac{1}{2}}}\operatorname{tr}\left(F_{ij}^{2}\right) + H^{\frac{3}{2}}\operatorname{tr}\left(F_{iz}^{2}\right) - \frac{1}{2}\hat{A}_{0}\left(\frac{\partial_{i}\partial_{i}}{H^{\frac{1}{2}}} + \partial_{z}(H^{\frac{3}{2}}\partial_{z})\right)\hat{A}_{0}\right)d^{3}xdz$$

• B=2 / Neglecting self energies and linearly superimposing the two monopole terms (localized at the opposing nuclei cores):

 $\hat{A}^{p}_{0} \Box \hat{A}^{q}_{0} = -32\pi^{2}\Lambda^{-1}\hat{A}^{p}B^{0,q}. \quad B^{0,q} \simeq \delta^{3}(x-R)\delta(z)$



 $\mu = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\Lambda}}\right)$ P $R = \mathcal{O}(1)$

 $\mathcal{E}_2 = -\int \frac{1}{2}\hat{A}_0 \Box \hat{A}_0 d^3 x dz$

$$\mathcal{V}_{mp} = \frac{16\pi^2}{\Lambda} (\hat{A}_0^p(R,0) + \hat{A}_0^q(0,0)) = \frac{256\pi^3}{\Lambda^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{c_{2n-1}} \frac{e^{-k_{2n-1}R}}{R}$$

core 2

B = 2 / Dipole Interaction

1. Divide the topological sector of B=2into three sectors: 2 core + linear zone:

$$\int_{\mathcal{R}} = \int_{P} + \int_{Q} + \int_{LZ}$$

2. Add distant instanton effects as a perturbation:

3. Integrals over the core contribute to self-energies/ we are iterested in the variations wrt. the field perturbations:

$$\delta \int \operatorname{tr}(F_{IJ}^p F_{IJ}^p) d^3x dz = 4 \int \operatorname{tr}(F_{IJ}^p D_I^p A_J^q) d^3x dz$$

4. Using Stokes', we integrate the field strenghts in the linear zone + come back into ns:

 $\delta A_I^p = A_I^q$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}_{d} &= 2 \int_{P} \operatorname{tr} \left(A_{i}^{+,q} \left(\frac{\partial_{j} \partial_{j} A_{i}^{+,p}}{H^{\frac{1}{2}}} + \partial_{z} (H^{\frac{3}{2}} \partial_{z} A_{i}^{+,p}) \right) \right) d^{3}x dz & \text{strenghts in the linear zone + come to core region using the Green function} \\ &+ 2 \int_{P} H^{\frac{3}{2}} \operatorname{tr} \left(A_{z}^{+,q} \left(\partial_{i} \partial_{i} A_{z}^{+,p} - \partial_{i} \partial_{z} A_{i}^{-,p} \right) \right) d^{3}x dz & \partial P = -\partial (Q \cup LZ) \\ &+ 2 \int_{P} \operatorname{tr} \left(A_{i}^{-,q} \left(\frac{\partial_{j} \partial_{j} A_{i}^{-,p} - \partial_{j} \partial_{i} A_{j}^{-,p}}{H^{\frac{1}{2}}} - \partial_{z} (H^{\frac{3}{2}} (\partial_{i} A_{z}^{+,p} - \partial_{z} A_{i}^{-,p})) \right) \right) d^{3}x dz & \partial P = -\partial (Q \cup LZ) \end{aligned}$$

- Composite SU(2) configuration:
- Along with the spatial rotation tensor:

$$\begin{split} P_{ij}(r,k) &= \delta_{ij}((rk)^2 + rk + 1) - \frac{r_i r_j}{r^2}((rk)^2 + 3rk + 3) \\ V(r,B^{\dagger}C) &= \frac{4\pi N_c}{\Lambda} \Big[\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \Big(\frac{1}{c_{2n-1}} \frac{e^{-\sqrt{k_{2n}^2 + k_0^2} r}}{r} \\ &+ \frac{6}{5} \frac{1}{c_{2n-1}} M_{ij}(B^{\dagger}C) P_{ij} \Big(r, \sqrt{k_{2n}^2 + k_0^2}, r \Big) \Big) \frac{e^{-\sqrt{k_{2n}^2 + k_0^2} r}}{r^3} \Big) \\ d_0 &= \pi \\ P_{ij}(r,0) &= \delta_{ij} - 3(\frac{r_i r_j}{r^2}) \\ &- \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{6}{5} \frac{1}{d_{2n}} \frac{e^{-\sqrt{k_{2n}^2 + k_0^2} r}}{r^3} M_{ij}(B^{\dagger}C) P_{ij} \Big(r, \sqrt{k_{2n}^2 + k_0^2} \Big) \Big] \end{split}$$

 $M_{ij}(G) = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{tr} \left(\sigma_i G \sigma_j G^{\dagger} \right)$

 $B^{\dagger}C$

B = 2, Bound state



Nucleon-nucleon potential in the attractive channel.

Moduli space for B=2

• Linear approximation allows to combine two single charge fields as:

$$BA_I \left(x - X_1 \right) B^{\dagger} + CA_I \left(x - X_2 \right) C^{\dagger}$$

• This gives us the manifold of the zero mode symmetries:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{R}^3 \times SU(2)_I \times SU(2)_J \times \mathcal{P}^{\text{(Parity: x \to -x.)}}$$

• Acts on the fields by: $(M(U)_{ij})$ and $(M(E)_{ij})$ where: $U \in SU(2)_I, E \in SU(2)_J$

$$\mathcal{A}_{I} = UE^{\dagger}A_{I}\left(x - (-)^{P}M(E)\frac{R}{2}, z\right)(UE^{\dagger})^{\dagger}$$
$$+ Ui\sigma_{3}E^{\dagger}A_{I}\left(x + (-)^{P}M(E)\frac{R}{2}, z\right)(Ui\sigma_{3}E^{\dagger})^{\dagger},$$

• Gives us the stabilizing topolgy:

 $\mathcal{Z} = SU(2)_I \times SU(2)_J / \{1, \mathcal{O}_{11}, \mathcal{O}_{12}, \mathcal{O}_{03}\}$

Right/Left handed transformations coincide due to spherical symmetry.

- Zero-manifold metric: $g|_{\mathcal{M}} = dX_1^i dX_1^i + 2\mu^2 d\Omega_{SU(2),B} + dX_2^i dX_2^i + 2\mu^2 d\Omega_{SU(2),C}$
- Kinetic energy and the zero manifold Lagrangian:

$$\omega_{B,i} = -i \mathrm{tr}(B^{\dagger} \dot{B} \sigma_i)$$

 $\begin{cases} r_i = M(E)_{ij}R_j, \\ B = UE^{\dagger}, \\ C = Ui\sigma_3 E^{\dagger}. \end{cases}$

$$T = \frac{1}{4}M\left(\dot{r}^i\dot{r}^i + \mu^2\omega_{B,i}\omega_{B,i} + \mu^2\omega_{C,i}\omega_{C,i}\right) \qquad L|_{\mathcal{Z}} = T|_{\mathcal{Z}} - V_{\min} - 2M.$$

- For the static configuration, we fix the SU(2) axes to the combined spin/isospin moduli:
- Spherical harmonics on 4D + FR constraints:

 $|\psi\rangle = |k, k_3, i_3, l, l_3, j_3\rangle$ 'Deuteron' as a minimum config. in phase opposition.

$$\begin{aligned} |D\rangle &= |0, 0, 0, 1, 0, j_3\rangle, \quad |I_0\rangle = |1, 0, i_3, 0, 0, 0\rangle, \\ |I_1\rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|1, 1, i_3, 0, 0, 0\rangle + |1, -1, i_3, 0, 0, 0\rangle). \end{aligned}$$

First three min. energy states are degenerate due to spherical symmetry!

Further Remarks

- Quantization on the moduli space using harmonic approximation adds subleading order corrections in Λ and $N_c,$
- $N_c \to \infty$ and $\Lambda \to \infty$ limits do not commute.
- For the classical baryon solution, we need: $N_c \gg \sqrt{\Lambda}$.
- Calculated classical binding ratios/masses are two orders of magnitude higer than the experimenta values.
- We do find classical bound states for up to B=8, with the correct geometries + sensible binding ratios.
- We need higher order Lambda/quantum corrections (within the range of validity) in order to extrapolate to physical results ($N_c = 3$, $\Lambda_{ss} = 1.569$ from AQCD.)

Adding pion mass (in progress)

• In the SS-model, it is proposed as an excitation of the flavor branes, given by the holonomy:

$$S_m = \frac{\Lambda^{\frac{3}{2}}}{16\sqrt{2}\pi^{\frac{3}{2}}} \int P \operatorname{tr}[(M \exp(-i \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} A_z dz) - \mathbf{1}) + c.c.] d^3x dz$$

• Pion matrix:
$$U(x,z) = P \exp(-i \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} A_z dz) = \exp[2i\pi(x)/f_{\pi}]$$

• Quark (degenerate) mass as a chiral perturbation (symmetry breaking identical to the Skyrme term):

$$\delta S = \int d^4x \, \delta L \,, \quad \delta L \equiv c \, \mathrm{tr} \left[M (U + U^{\dagger} - 2\mathbf{1}_2) \right]$$

Open questions

- How to include the pion mass without changing the gauge symmetry?
- Self-energy/potential modifications due to quark masses in the degenerate/ non-degenerate cases...
- Quantization of the approximate moduli (μ and Z) and the consequent finite Λ corrections.

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