

# **Baryons in V-QCD**

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**Holographic perspectives on chiral transport**

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**based on ArXiv:2209.05869, 2212.06747 with**

**E. Kiritsis, M. Jarvinen, E. Preau**

# Introduction

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- Essential ingredients: Chern-Simons terms.

## Outline

- Review of the V-QCD model
- Chern-Simons Terms
- Constructing Baryons

# States in holography

Finite energy configuration on the gravity side



Gauge-singlet (composite) state in the Hilbert space of the QFT

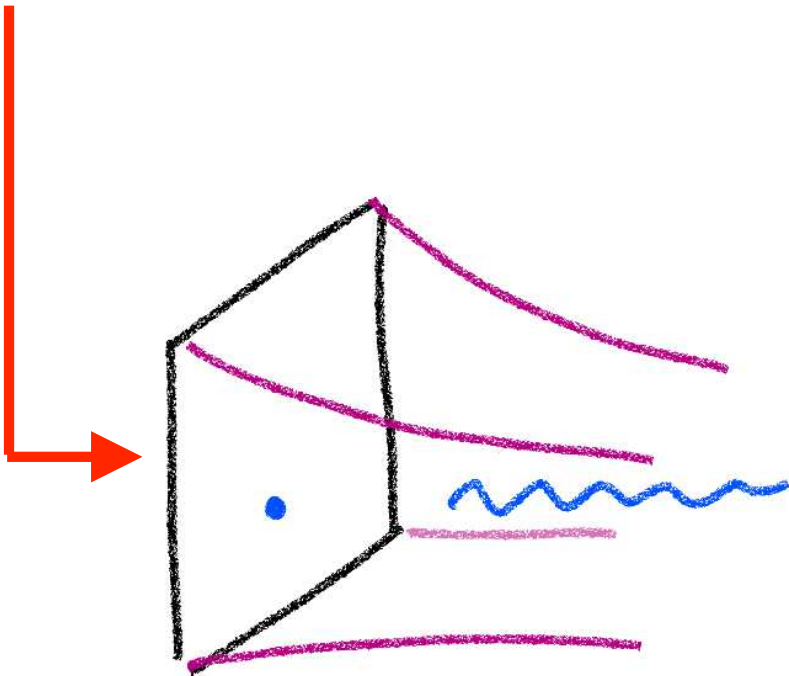
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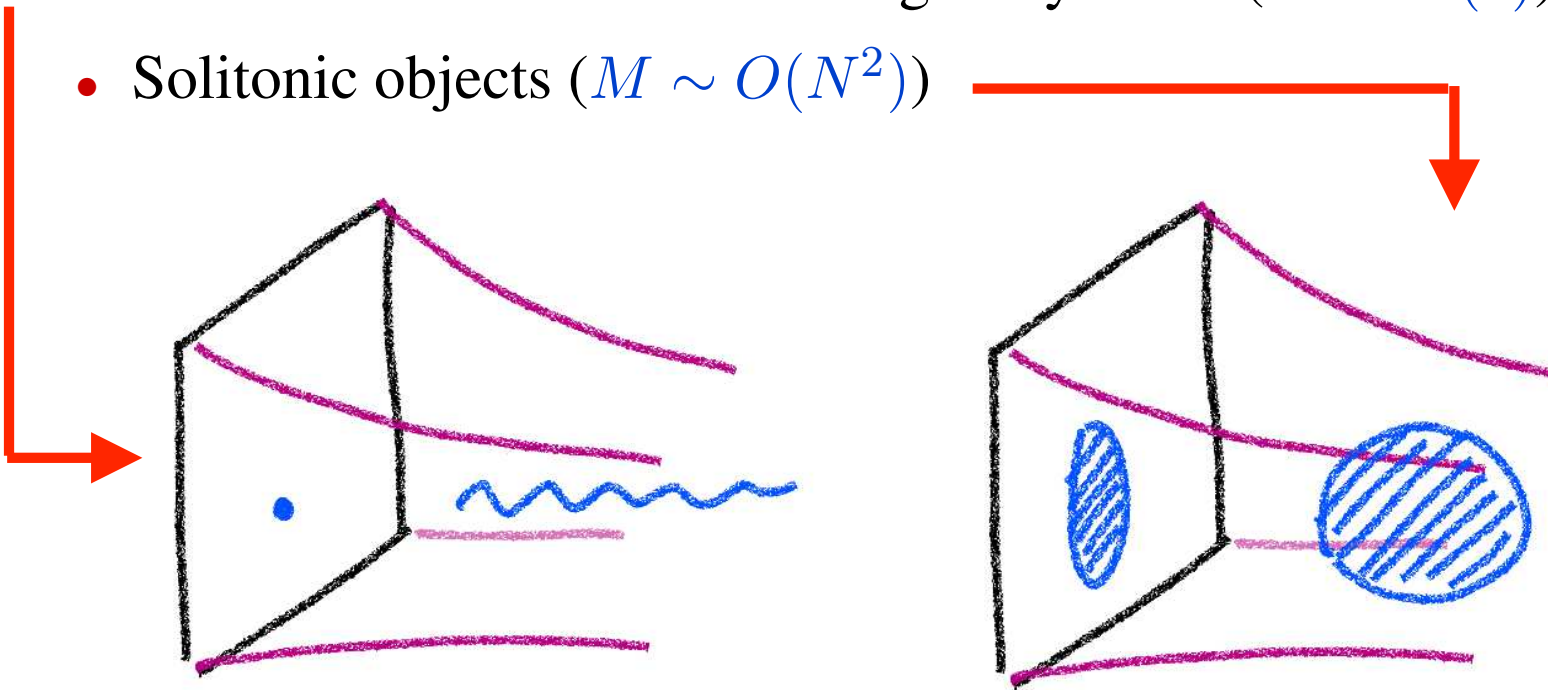
# States in holography

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Gauge-singlet (composite) **state** in the Hilbert space of the QFT

- Perturbative excitations of the gravity fields ( $M \sim O(1)$ )
- Solitonic objects ( $M \sim O(N^2)$ )



# Minimal holographic YM

- The bulk theory is five-dimensional ( $x^\mu$  + RG coordinate  $r$ )
- Include only lowest dimension YM operators ( $\Delta = 4$ )

4D Operator		Bulk field	Coupling
$Tr F^2$	$\Leftrightarrow$	$\Phi$	$N \int e^{-\Phi} Tr F^2$
$T_{\mu\nu}$	$\Leftrightarrow$	$g_{\mu\nu}$	$\int g_{\mu\nu} T^{\mu\nu}$

$$\lambda = N g_{YM}^2 = e^\Phi \text{ (finite in the large } N \text{ limit).}$$



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$\lambda = Ng_{YM}^2 = e^\Phi$  (finite in the large  $N$  limit).

- Breaking of conformal symmetry, mass gap, confinement, and all non-perturbative dynamics driven by the dilaton dynamics (aka the Yang-Mills coupling).
- (Eventually: add axion field  $a \Rightarrow Tr F \tilde{F}$ )

# 5-D Einstein-Dilaton Theory

Gursoy, Kiritsis, FN, 2007

Bulk dynamics described by a 2-derivative action:

$$S_c = -M_p^3 N_c^2 \int d^5x \sqrt{-g} \left[ R + \frac{4}{3} \frac{(\partial\lambda)^2}{\lambda^2} - V(\lambda) \right]$$

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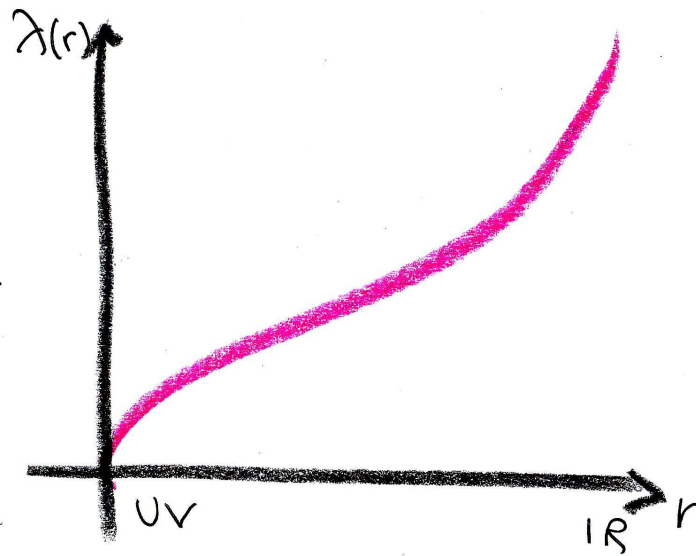
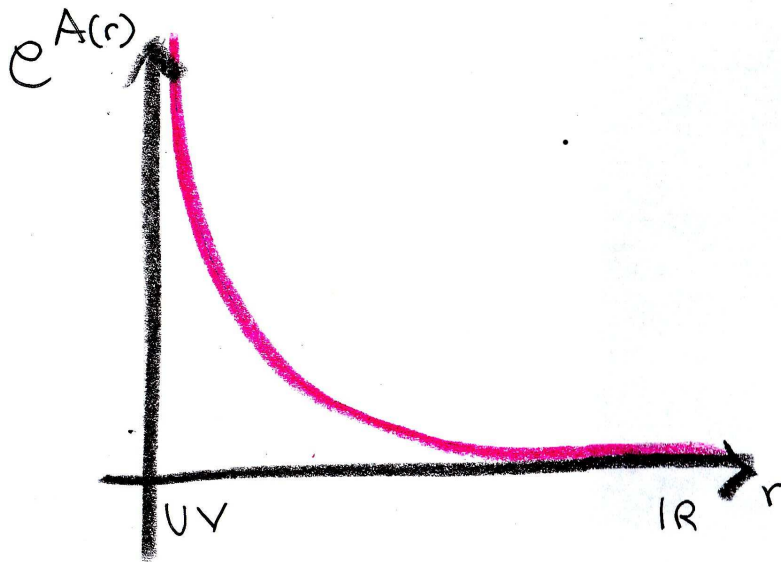
- $V(\Phi)$  fixed phenomenologically. It should parametrize our ignorance of the “true” five-dimensional string theory
- Effective Planck scale  $\sim N_c^2$  is large.
- Features: asymptotic freedom, confinement, discrete linear glueball spectrum, correct thermodynamics and phase diagram

# Five dimensional setup: Yang-Mills

The Poincaré-invariant vacuum solution has the general form:

$$ds^2 = e^{2A(r)}(dr^2 + dx_\mu dx^\mu), \quad \lambda = \lambda(r), \quad 0 < r < +\infty$$

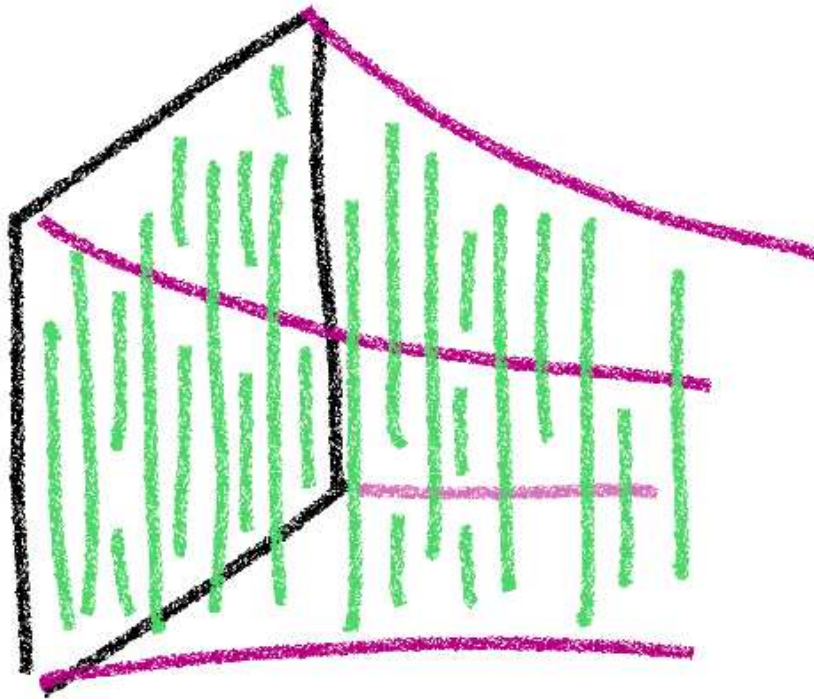
- $e^A(r) \propto$  4D energy scale
- $\lambda(r) \propto$  running 't Hooft coupling



# Adding Flavor: V-QCD

Jarvinen, Kiritsis 2011

$N_f$  quark flavors  $\Leftrightarrow N_f$  space-filling branes-antibranes.



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Jarvinen, Kiritsis 2011

Flavor brane worldvolume fields:

- $U(N_f)_L \times U(N_f)_R$  gauge fields

$$A_B^{a;L}, A_B^{a;R} \Leftrightarrow J_\mu^{a;L,R} \equiv \bar{q}^i \gamma_\mu (\tau^a)_i^j (1 \pm \gamma_5) q_j$$

$$a = 1 \dots N_f^2, \quad i, j = 1 \dots N_f$$

$$U_B(1) \text{ current} \Leftrightarrow \text{abelian vector } A_\mu^{(L)} + A_\mu^{(R)}$$

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- Bi-fundamental scalars Scalars

$$\mathcal{T}_j^i \Leftrightarrow \bar{q}^i q_j \quad m^2 = -3 \Leftrightarrow \Delta = 3$$



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- Bi-fundamental scalars Scalars

$$\mathcal{T}_j^i \Leftrightarrow \bar{q}^i q_j \quad m^2 = -3 \Leftrightarrow \Delta = 3$$

$$S_{VQCD} = S_c + S_{DBI} + S_{CS}$$

## Action: DBI term

$$S_{DBI} = -M_p^3 N_c \text{Tr} \int d^5x V_f(\lambda, \mathcal{T}^\dagger \mathcal{T}) \left[ \sqrt{-\det \mathbf{A}^{(L)}} + \sqrt{-\det \mathbf{A}^{(R)}} \right]$$

$$\mathbf{A}_{ab} = g_{ab} + w(\lambda, \mathcal{T}^\dagger \mathcal{T}) F_{ab} + \kappa(\lambda, \mathcal{T}^\dagger \mathcal{T}) (D_a \mathcal{T})^\dagger D_b \mathcal{T} + h.c.$$

Inspired by Sen's brane-antibrane action

# Vacuum and chiral symmetry breaking

- $V_f \sim -3\mathcal{T}^\dagger\mathcal{T}$  as  $\mathcal{T} \rightarrow 0$
- $V_f \sim \exp[-\mathcal{T}^\dagger\mathcal{T}]$  as  $\mathcal{T} \rightarrow \infty$  ;

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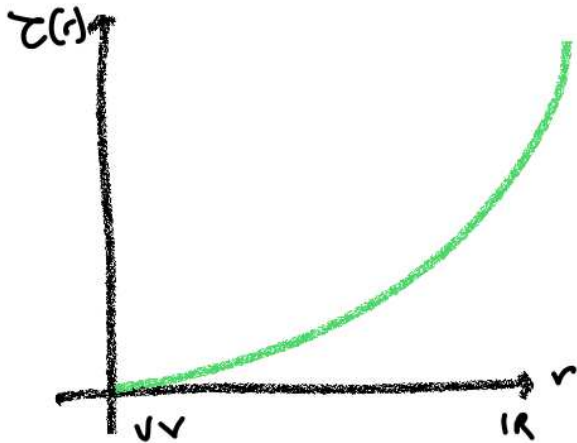
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- Chiral symmetry breaking:  $\tau \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $r \rightarrow +\infty$

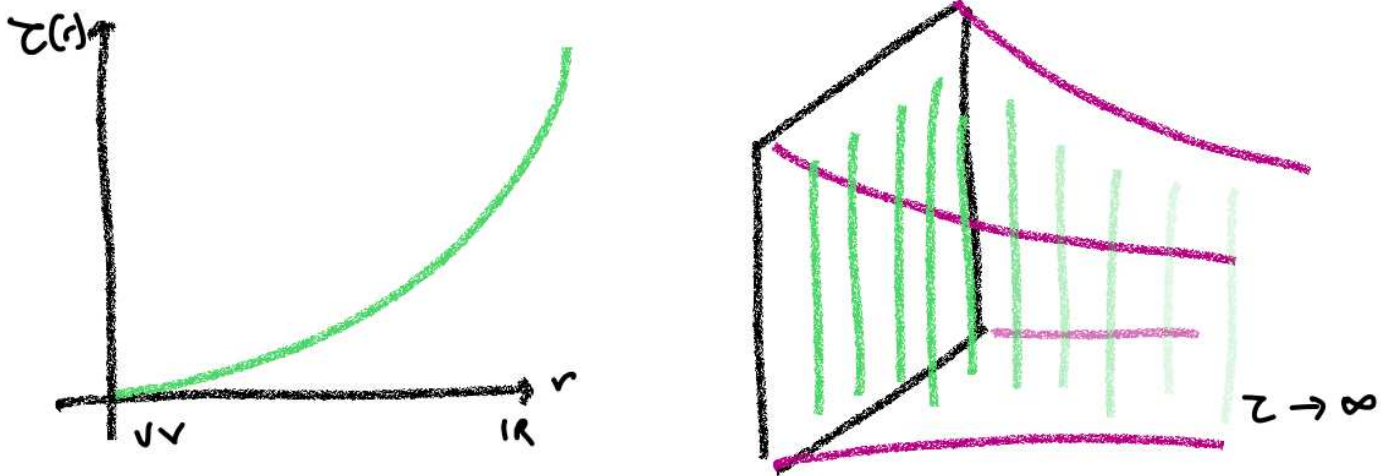


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- IR:  $S_{DBI} \propto V_f \rightarrow 0$ , flavor disappear, color remains.

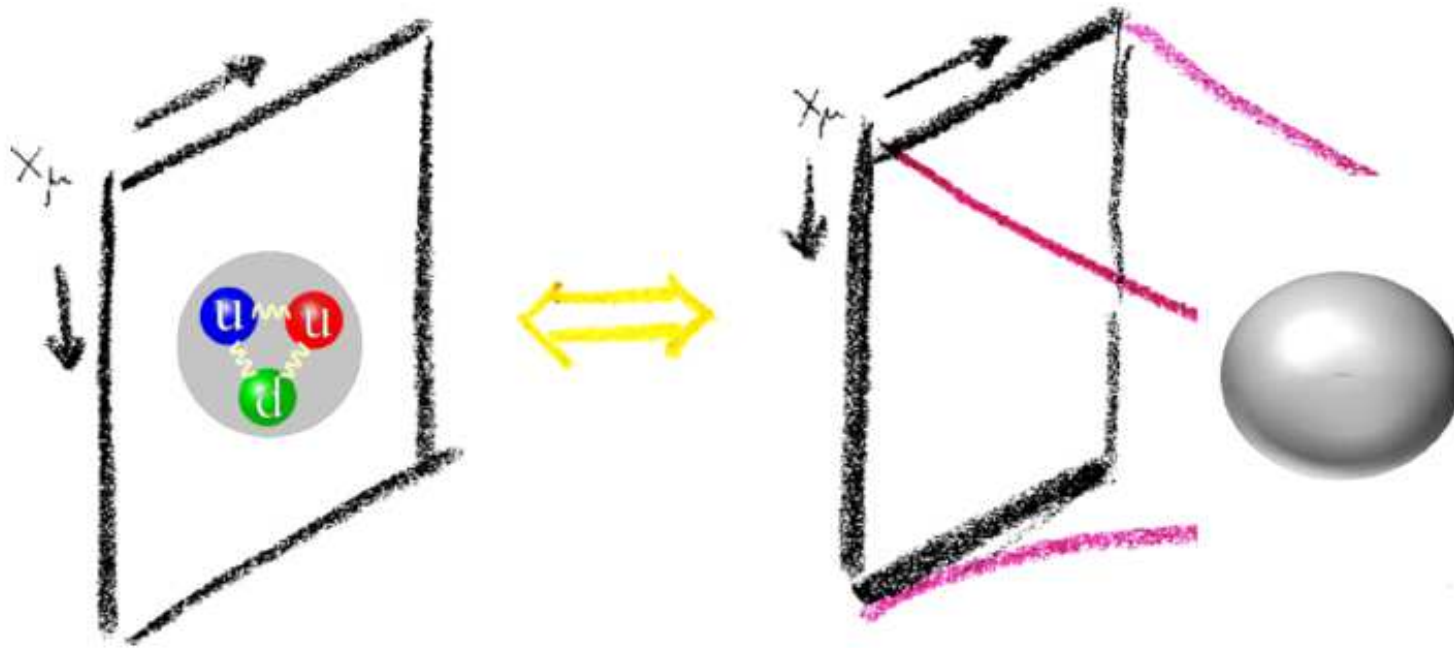
# Action: Chern-Simons terms

$$S_{CS} = \frac{iN_c}{4\pi^2} \int \Omega_5(\mathcal{T}, \mathbf{A}^{(L,R)})$$

- EoM vanish on homogeneous configurations  $\Rightarrow$  does not affect the background
- Starts at (at least) cubic order in the fields  $\Rightarrow$  No contribution to the background, 2-point functions
- Possible contribution to 3- and higher-point function (possibly interesting)
- Crucial for constructing baryon states

# Baryons in Holography

A **single baryon** is a solitonic object in the bulk, charged under the flavor gauge-fields.





# Baryons as axial bulk instantons

Schematically:

$$S_{CS} \supset \int \omega_5(\mathbf{A}^{(L)}) - \int \omega_5(\mathbf{A}^{(R)}), \quad \omega_5(\mathbf{A}) = \text{Tr}(\mathbf{A} \wedge F + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{A}^3 \wedge F - \frac{1}{10} \mathbf{A}^5)$$

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Constant baryon chemical potential: abelian  $A_0^{(V)} = \mu$

$$S_{CS} = \int dt \mu \int d^3x dr \left[ \text{Tr} \left( F^{(L)} \wedge F^{(L)} \right) - \text{Tr} \left( F^{(R)} \wedge F^{(R)} \right) \right]$$

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$\mathbf{N}_B$

Baryon is a **euclidean instanton** of the  $SU(N_f) \times SU(N_f)$  gauge fields, extended in the spatial + holographic directions

# CS action in V-QCD

$$S_{CS} = \frac{iN_c}{4\pi^2} \int \Omega_5 \left( \mathcal{T}, \mathbf{A}^{(L,R)} \right)$$

Find most general  $\Omega_5$  such that:

- Parity invariant ( $x^\mu \rightarrow -x^\mu$  and  $L \leftrightarrow R$ )
- Invariant under bulk flavor gauge transformations  $U(N_f)_L \times U(N_f)_R$  **up to a boundary term**
- The boundary variation matches the QCD chiral anomalies

$$\int d^5x \delta_\Lambda \Omega_5 = \int d^4x \left( \Lambda^{(L)} D_\mu J_L^\mu + \Lambda^{(R)} D_\mu J_R^\mu \right)$$

# CS action in V-QCD

Work in the special case of zero quark masses (**chiral limit**) and set:

$$\mathcal{T} = \tau U$$

The diagram illustrates the decomposition of the topological term  $\mathcal{T}$  into a real scalar  $\tau$  and a unitary matrix  $U$ . Two red curved arrows point from the labels "Real scalar" and "Unitary Nf x Nf matrix" towards the terms  $\tau$  and  $U$  in the equation  $\mathcal{T} = \tau U$ .

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Real scalar      Unitary  $N_f \times N_f$  matrix

- near the boundary  $\tau \sim \sigma r^3$
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- Build  $\Omega_5$  out of  $\mathbf{A}^{(L,R)}$ ,  $U$  and  $\tau$

$$\Omega_5 = \Omega_5^0 + \Omega_5^c + dG_4$$

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Closed  
Fixed by anomalies  
Does not contribute to  
instanton EOM

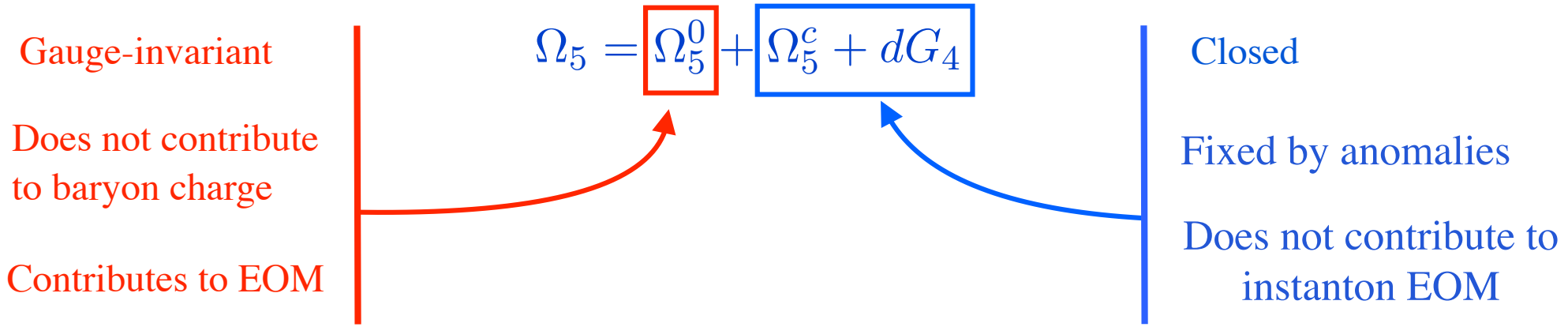


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# The V-QCD Baryon

Look for solutions to the EoM with following features:

- Finite energy (UV: normalizable boundary conditions, IR: regular)
- Static, axially symmetric (depend only on  $r, |\vec{x}|$ )
- Unit baryon charge

$$\frac{1}{8\pi^2} \int_{r, \vec{x}} \text{Tr} (F^L \wedge F^L - F^R \wedge F^R) = 1$$

# The V-QCD Baryon

Ansatz:  $SU(2) \subset SU(N_f)$  instanton,  $U(1)_B$  turned on:

$$A_{L,i}^a = h_1(\xi, r)\epsilon_{iak}x^k + h_2(\xi, r)(\delta_{ia} - x_ix_a) + h_3(\xi, r)x_ix_a \quad \xi \equiv |\vec{x}|$$

$$A_{L,z}^a = A(\xi, r)x^a, \quad A_{L,0} = \Phi(\xi, r), \quad U = \exp\left(i\theta(\xi, r)\frac{\vec{x} \cdot \vec{\sigma}}{\xi}\right)$$

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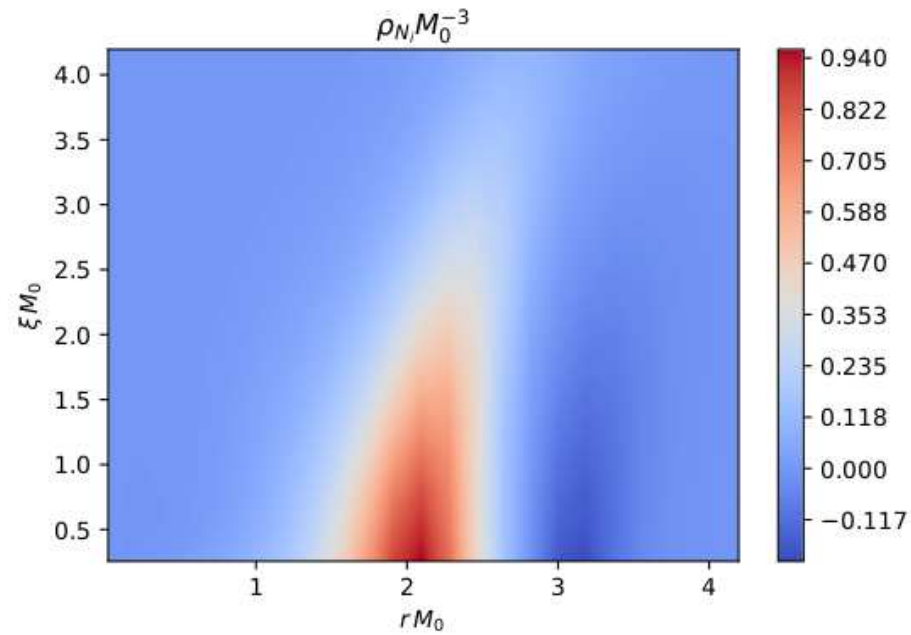
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- Ignore backreaction on metric, dilaton and tachyon background profile  $\mathcal{T} = \bar{\tau}(r)U(r, \xi)$  (corrections  $\sim O(1/N_f, 1/N_c)$ ).
- 2d problem in  $(\xi, r)$
- Instanton number = 2d winding number
- Impose normalizability in the UV, regularity in the IR.

# Numerical Solution

Jarvinen, Kiritsis, FN, Préau, 2212.06747

Solution found using relaxation method.

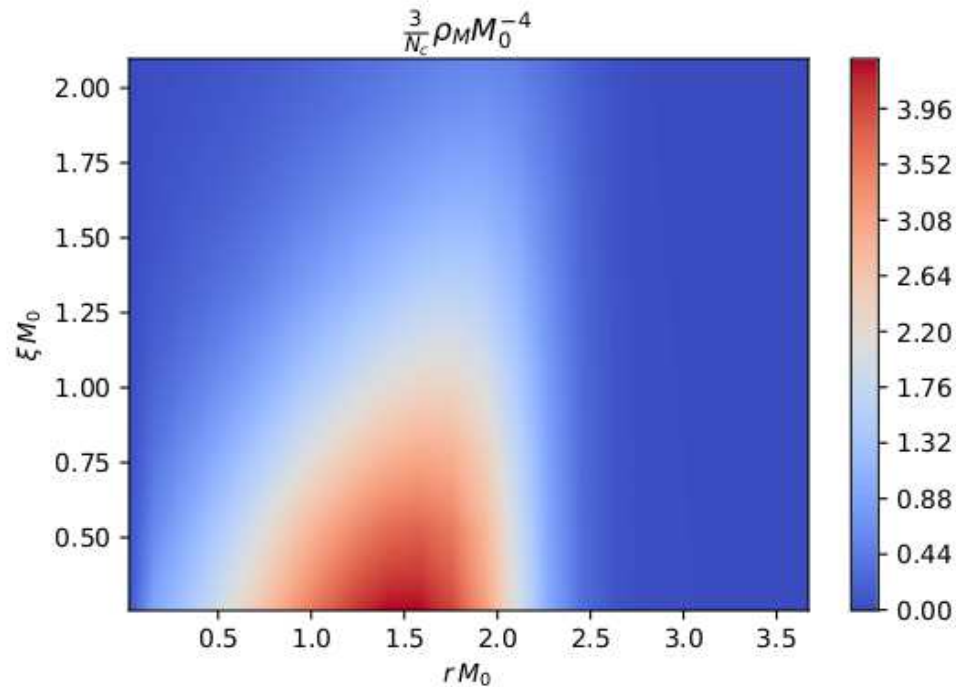


Instanton number density

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Jarvinen, Kiritsis, FN, Préau, 2212.06747

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Baryon energy density

$$M_{class} = S_{on-shell} \approx 1 \text{ GeV}$$

# Conclusion

More: (see [2212.06747](#))

- Excited state (rotations, isospin)

Next:

- More excited states (vibrations in *r*-direction);
- CS action and Baryon for non-zero quark masses;
- Use features of single baryon solution to construct more precise description of hadronic matter:
  - holographic fluid of baryons with **bulk** equation of state.
  - Understand particle/interface approximation

THANK YOU !

# CS form: closed part

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- completely fixed by matching the QCD chiral anomalies. It reproduces the WZW action.
- Non-exact part is the ungauged WZW term:

$$\Omega_5^c = g_0 \text{Tr}(U^\dagger dU)^5$$

- The boundary value of the exact part is the gauging of the WZW term by left and right gauge fields  $\mathbf{A}^{(L,R)}$  (it depends only on the boundary pion matrix  $U(x, r = 0)$ )

# CS form: gauge-invariant part

$$\Omega_5 = \boxed{\Omega_5^0} + \Omega_5^c + dG_4$$

Most general gauge-invariant 5-form consistent with the discrete symmetries of QCD:

$$\Omega_5^0 = \sum_{i=1}^4 f_i(\tau) \Omega_i^0$$

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- $\Omega_i^0$ : four gauge-invariant 5-forms built out of  $F^{L,R}$  and  $U$ ;
- $f_i(\tau)$  four new potentials.

$$f_i(\tau) \sim e^{-b\tau^2} \quad \tau \rightarrow \infty \quad f_i(\tau) \rightarrow \text{const.} \quad \tau \rightarrow 0$$

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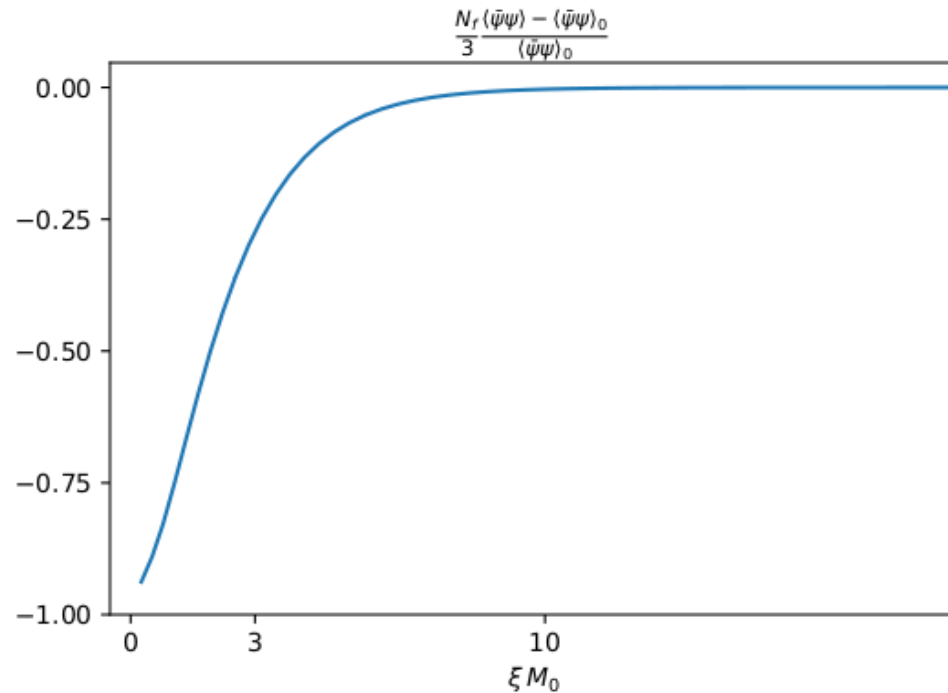
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- It **does not contribute** to anomalies nor to baryon charge.

# Backreaction

We computed the leading ( $\sim O(1/N_f)$ ) backreaction on the tachyon profile.



Qualitatively: the chiral condensate **decreases** inside the baryon.

# Excited states

Turning on rotational modes produces excited states.

- Slowly rotating solution:

$$E = M_0 + \frac{1}{2}\lambda\vec{\omega}^2$$

$\lambda$  = moment of inertia (can compute numerically)

- Quantize the rotational modes:

$$M_s = M_0 + \frac{1}{\lambda}s(s+1) \quad s = 1/2, 3/2$$

Spin	V-QCD mass	Experimental mass
$s = \frac{1}{2}$	$M_N \simeq 1170 \text{ MeV}$	$M_N = 940 \text{ MeV}$
$s = \frac{3}{2}$	$M_\Delta \simeq 1260 \text{ MeV}$	$M_\Delta = 1234 \text{ MeV}$

(for  $N_c = 3, N_f = 2$ ).

# Baryon number is quantized

$$N_{inst}^{(A)} = \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \int_{r, \vec{x}} \text{Tr} (F^L \wedge F^L - F^R \wedge F^R) = N_L - N_R$$

Boundary baryon number:

$$N_B = \frac{1}{24\pi^2} \int d^3x [dUU^\dagger \wedge dUU^\dagger \wedge dUU^\dagger]_{UV} = N_{inst} + [\Delta N]_{IR}$$

$$U(r, \xi) = \exp \left( i\theta(r, \xi) \frac{x^a \sigma^a}{\xi} \right)$$

- IR regularity:  $[\Delta N]_{IR} = 0$
- Finite energy:  $N_L = -N_R = n/2$  or equivalently  
 $\theta(\xi = \infty) - \theta(\xi = 0) = 2n\pi$
- $N_B = \frac{1}{\pi} [\theta(r = 0, \xi = \infty) - \theta(r = 0, \xi = 0)]$

# Baryons in the WSS model

Witten '98, Sakai and Sugimoto '05, Hata, Sakai, Sugimoto, Yamato '07

More realistic top-down model: 10d Witten-Sakai-Sugimoto

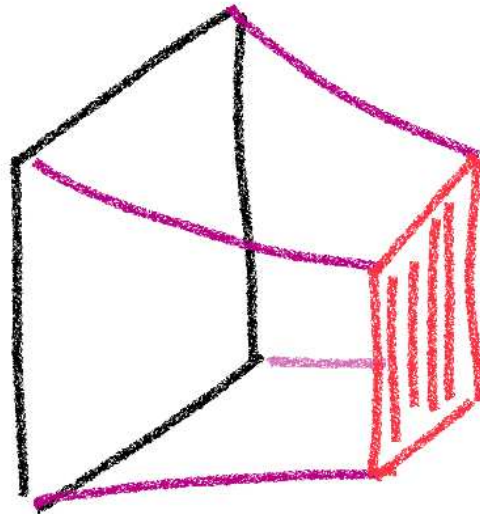
- $N_c$  D4 branes (color) +  $N_f$  D8/anti-D8 branes (flavor)
- Gravity dual = near-horizon geometry created by the color branes.
- Geometry closes off in the IR: mass gap and confinement
- Flavor branes merge at the bottom: chiral symmetry breaking
- Baryons = instanton of worldvolume gauge field



# Baryons in the Hard-Wall model

Erlich, Katz, Son, Stephanov '05, Da Rold and Pomarol '05

Hard-wall model: phenomenological 5d model implementing confinement



- 5d metric is AdS<sub>5</sub> down to the IR walll;

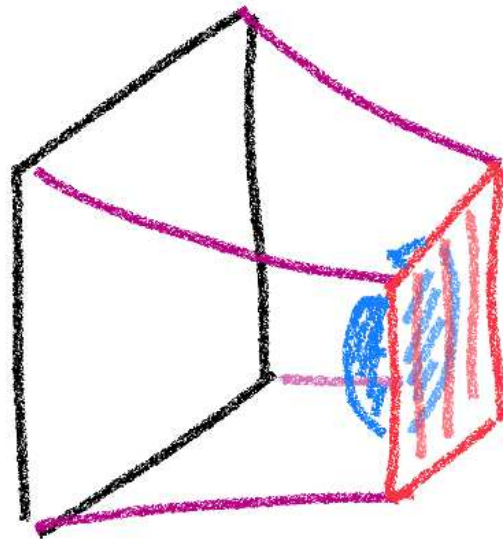
$$ds^2 = \frac{\ell^2}{r^2} (dr^2 + \eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu), \quad 0 < r < r_{IR}$$

- Dynamical 5d Fields: flavor gauge fields  $\mathbf{A}^{(L,R)}$ , tachyon  $\mathcal{T}$

# Baryons in the Hard-Wall model

Pomarol and Wulzer, '07

- Look for an axially symmetric instanton configurations in AdS with a hard wall.
- The core of the bulk instanton is **near the IR wall** : solution sensitive to details of the IR physics.



- In a more realistic model, the interplay between geometry, CS and other interactions (dilaton and tachyon profiles) should stabilise the instanton.

# Baryons in the WSS model

Witten '98, Sakai and Sugimoto '05, Hata, Sakai, Sugimoto, Yamato '07

More realistic top-down model: 10d Witten-Sakai-Sugimoto

- $N_c$  D4 branes (color) +  $N_f$  D8/anti-D8 branes (flavor)
- Gravity dual = near-horizon geometry created by the color branes.
- Geometry closes off in the IR: mass gap and confinement
- Flavor branes merge at the bottom: chiral symmetry breaking
- Baryons = instanton of worldvolume gauge field
- Drawbacks
  - No tachyon in the chiral limit
  - Really a single worldvolume gauge field (D8 branes merge)