# **QCD Relics of Astrophysical Relevance**

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# Acknowledgments

This set of results is due to the effort of many authors among whom I cite:

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- Next, we summarize the highlights of the GNJL formalism, namely how to use Valatin-Bogoliubov pseudo-unitary transformations to obtain exact solution for fermion condensates. A concrete example of a Mass-Gap equation is given. Multiple solutions-one for each Landau level-are given.

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- Finally we discuss the possibility of a gravity stabilized domains-extra solutions of mass gap equation. A Tolman-Oppenheimer-Volkoff calculation of gravitationally stable such domains will be presented. They are shown to be dark

#### Effective Action-A simple example: Small loops

An NJL-type model (P. Bicudo, N. Brambilla, J.E.F.T.R., A. Vairo, '98):

$$S = \int_{x} \bar{\psi}(\gamma_{\mu}\partial_{\mu} + m)\psi + \frac{1}{2} \int_{x,y} j^{a}_{\mu}(x) \left\langle g^{2}A^{a}_{\mu}(x)A^{b}_{\nu}(y) \right\rangle j^{b}_{\nu}(y),$$

where  $j^a_{\mu} \equiv \bar{\psi} \gamma_{\mu} T^a \psi$  and  $\left\langle g^2 A^a_{\mu}(x) A^b_{\nu}(y) \right\rangle \simeq \frac{1}{4} x_{\lambda} y_{\rho} \left\langle g^2 F^a_{\mu\lambda} F^b_{\nu\rho} \right\rangle$ .

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Bosonization of the four-quark interaction

$$\left\langle g^2 A^a_\mu(x) A^b_\nu(y) \right\rangle = x_\lambda y_\rho \cdot \frac{\left\langle G^2 \right\rangle}{48(N_c^2 - 1)} \cdot \delta^{ab}(\delta_{\mu\nu}\delta_{\lambda\rho} - \delta_{\mu\rho}\delta_{\lambda\nu})$$

goes via an auxiliary Abelian-like field  $\mathcal{A}^a_\mu(x) = \frac{1}{2} x_\nu n^a \mathcal{F}_{\nu\mu}$ , where  $\mathcal{F}_{\nu\mu}$  and  $n^a$  are constant, and  $n^a n^b = \delta^{ab}$ .

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The resulting one-loop Euler–Heisenberg–Schwinger Lagrangian in the  $\mathcal{A}^a_{\mu}$ -field,

$$\operatorname{tr} \ln \frac{\gamma_{\mu} D_{\mu}[\mathcal{A}] + M}{\gamma_{\mu} \partial_{\mu} + M} = -2N_{\mathrm{f}} \cdot \operatorname{tr} \left(T^{a} T^{a}\right) \cdot \int_{0}^{\infty} ds \, \frac{\mathrm{e}^{-M^{2}s}}{(4\pi s)^{2}} \left[abs^{2} \cot(as) \coth(bs) - 1\right],$$

where  $a^2 - b^2 = \mathbf{E}^2 - \mathbf{H}^2$ ,  $ab = |\mathbf{EH}|$ , can be expanded at large M in the number of external  $\mathcal{A}^a_{\mu}$ -lines  $\Rightarrow$  an NJL-based derivation of  $\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle_{\text{heavy}; N_c=3} = -N_{\text{f}} \cdot \frac{\alpha_s \langle (F^a_{\mu\nu})^2 \rangle}{12\pi M}$ .

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For the starting idea is to get  $\langle ar{\psi}\psi
angle$  from the one-loop quark effective action:

$$\left\langle \bar{\psi}\psi\right\rangle = -\frac{\partial}{\partial m}\left\langle \Gamma[A^a_{\mu}]\right\rangle,$$

assuming for the Wilson loop entering  $\langle \Gamma[A^a_\mu] \rangle$  an area law.

\_

$$\left\langle \Gamma[A^a_{\mu}] \right\rangle = -(2S+1)N_{\rm f} \int_0^\infty \frac{ds}{s} {\rm e}^{-m^2 s} \int_P \mathcal{D} z_{\mu} \int_A \mathcal{D} \psi_{\mu} {\rm e}^{-\int_0^s d\tau \left(\frac{1}{4} \dot{z}^2_{\mu} + \frac{1}{2} \psi_{\mu} \dot{\psi}_{\mu}\right)} \times \\ \times \left\{ \left\langle {\rm tr} \, \mathcal{P} \, \exp \left[ ig \int_0^s d\tau T^a \left( A^a_{\mu} \dot{z}_{\mu} - \psi_{\mu} \psi_{\nu} F^a_{\mu\nu} \right) \right] \right\rangle - N_c \right\}.$$

$$\begin{split} \left\langle \Gamma[A^a_{\mu}] \right\rangle &= -(2S+1)N_{\rm f} \int_0^\infty \frac{ds}{s} {\rm e}^{-m^2 s} \int_P \mathcal{D} z_{\mu} \int_A \mathcal{D} \psi_{\mu} {\rm e}^{-\int_0^s d\tau \left(\frac{1}{4} \dot{z}^2_{\mu} + \frac{1}{2} \psi_{\mu} \dot{\psi}_{\mu}\right)} \times \\ & \times \left\{ \left\langle {\rm tr} \, \mathcal{P} \, \exp \left[ ig \int_0^s d\tau T^a \left( A^a_{\mu} \dot{z}_{\mu} - \psi_{\mu} \psi_{\nu} F^a_{\mu\nu} \right) \right] \right\rangle - N_c \right\}. \end{split}$$

• Only when  $\int_P \mathcal{D}z_\mu \int_A \mathcal{D}\psi_\mu[\cdots] \to \frac{\text{const}}{\sqrt{s}}$  at  $s \to \infty$ , we have a finite quark condensate in the chiral limit:

$$\left\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \right\rangle \propto \frac{\partial}{\partial m} \int_0^\infty \frac{ds}{s} \mathrm{e}^{-m^2 s} \cdot \frac{\mathrm{const}}{\sqrt{s}} = -2\sqrt{\pi} \cdot \mathrm{const}$$

(T. Banks and A. Casher, '80).

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The second idea: Parametrize via  $z_{\mu}(\tau)$  the minimal area  $S_{\min}$ , entering the area law:

$$\langle W[z_{\mu}] \rangle = \left\langle \operatorname{tr} \mathcal{P} \exp\left(ig \int_{0}^{s} d\tau T^{a} A^{a}_{\mu} \dot{z}_{\mu}\right) \right\rangle \to N_{c} \cdot \mathrm{e}^{-\sigma(s) \cdot S_{\min}}$$

Find an ansatz for  $S_{\min}[z_{\mu}]$  so to enable the analytic calculation of  $\langle \Gamma[A^a_{\mu}] \rangle$ , and impose the  $\int_P \mathcal{D}z_{\mu} \int_A \mathcal{D}\psi_{\mu}[\cdots] \to 1/\sqrt{s}$  asymptotic behavior  $\Rightarrow \sigma(s)$ .

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- A cone-shaped surface in 3D can be generalized to 4D as

$$S_{3d} = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^s d\tau |\mathbf{z} \times \dot{\mathbf{z}}| \rightarrow S_{4d} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \int_0^s d\tau |\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda\rho} z_\lambda \dot{z}_\rho| \ge \frac{1}{4\sqrt{3}} |\Sigma_{\mu\nu}| := S_{\min}[z_\mu],$$

where  $\Sigma_{\mu\nu}(s) = \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda\rho} \int_0^s d\tau z_\lambda \dot{z}_\rho$ .

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The simple exponential ansatz for the Wilson loop at all distances,

$$\langle W[z_{\mu}] \rangle = N_c \cdot e^{-\tilde{\sigma}|\Sigma_{\mu\nu}|}, \text{ where } \tilde{\sigma}(s) = \frac{\sigma(s)}{4\sqrt{3}},$$

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yields for  $\langle \Gamma[A^a_{\mu}] \rangle$  the Euler–Heisenberg–Schwinger Lagrangian in an auxiliary constant Abelian field  $B_{\mu\nu}$ , to be averaged with the weight  $1/\left(1+\frac{B^2_{\mu\nu}}{4\tilde{\sigma}^2}\right)^{7/2}$ .

The quark condensate becomes:

$$\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle = -\frac{3N_{\rm f}}{4\pi^2} \cdot m \int_0^\infty ds \, {\rm e}^{-m^2s} \cdot \tilde{\sigma}^2 \cdot f[A(s)],$$

where

$$A(s) \equiv \frac{1}{2\tilde{\sigma}^2 s^2}$$
 and  $f[A] = \frac{\left(\sqrt{1+A}-1\right)^4 \cdot \left(5A+4\sqrt{1+A}+6\right)}{(1+A)^{5/2}}$ .

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Then, we obtain the chiral condensate:

$$\left\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \right\rangle \simeq -rac{3N_{\mathrm{f}}}{4\pi^{3/2}} \cdot \sigma_{0}^{3/2} = -\mathcal{N}, \ \mathcal{N} = (250 \,\mathrm{MeV})^{3} \Rightarrow \ m \gtrsim 2\sqrt{\pi} \left(rac{\mathcal{N}}{3N_{\mathrm{f}}G_{\mathrm{max}}}
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The Hamiltonian of a relativistic fermion in an external field  $A_{\mu}$  has the following form in 2+1 dimensions:

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Let us use a Bogoliubov-Valatin transformation to obtain the known results

$$B \langle 0 | \psi^{\dagger}(\boldsymbol{x}) \psi(\boldsymbol{x}) | 0 \rangle_{B} = -\frac{|eB|}{2\pi},$$
$$E_{n} = \sqrt{m^{2} + 2n|eB|}$$

with n standing for the Landau levels

#### A simple case for Valatin-Bogoliubov Transformations

We need just three steps to construct the wave-function of a particle in a magnetic field. From,

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{p}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{y}}}} \left\{ \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{p}) \ \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{p}} + \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{p}) \ \mathbf{b}_{-\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} 
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$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{p}) &= \sqrt{\frac{\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{p}} + \mathbf{m}}{2\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{p}}}} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\ \frac{p_y - ip_x}{E_{\mathbf{p}} + m} \end{bmatrix}; \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{p}) &= \sqrt{\frac{\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{p}} + \mathbf{m}}{2\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{p}}}} \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{p_y + ip_x}{E_{\mathbf{p}} + m}\\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{I} &= \left\{ a_{\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger}, a_{\mathbf{p}'} \right\} = \left\{ b_{\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger}, \ b_{\mathbf{p}'} \right\} = \delta_{p_x p'_x} \delta_{p_y p'_y}, \quad E_{\mathbf{p}} &= \sqrt{m^2 + |\mathbf{p}|^2}. \end{aligned}$$

The u and v spinors are the solutions of the Dirac equation for positive and negative energy respectively. (with  $\cos \phi = \sqrt{\frac{E_{\mathbf{p}} + m}{2E_{\mathbf{p}}}}$ ,  $\sin \phi = \sqrt{\frac{E_{\mathbf{p}} - m}{2E_{\mathbf{p}}}}$ .)

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The u and v spinors are the solutions of the Dirac equation for positive and negative energy respectively. (with  $\cos \phi = \sqrt{\frac{E_{\mathbf{p}} + m}{2E_{\mathbf{p}}}}$ ,  $\sin \phi = \sqrt{\frac{E_{\mathbf{p}} - m}{2E_{\mathbf{p}}}}$ .)

Step 1: perform the following canonical transformation,
$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{a}_{\mathbf{p}} \\ \tilde{b}_{-\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} \end{bmatrix} = R_{\phi}(\mathbf{p}) \begin{bmatrix} a_{\mathbf{p}} \\ b_{-\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{u} \\ \tilde{v} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{R}_{\phi}^{*}(\mathbf{p}) \begin{bmatrix} u(\mathbf{p}) \\ v(\mathbf{p}) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{R}_{\phi}(\mathbf{p}) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\phi & -\sin\phi (\hat{p}_{y} + i\hat{p}_{x}) \\ \sin\phi (\hat{p}_{y} - i\hat{p}_{x}) & \cos\phi \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{\hat{p}} = \frac{\mathbf{p}}{|\mathbf{p}|}$$

## A simple example of a non-trivial vacuum

- The vacuum associated to the new operators  $\tilde{a}$  and  $\tilde{b}$  is given by  $|\tilde{0}\rangle = S|0\rangle = \prod_{p} (\cos \phi + \sin \phi \, a_{p}^{\dagger} b_{-p}^{\dagger})|0\rangle$
- $\ \, {} {\pmb I} = 0 \ \ \, , \ \ \, {\hat b} {\pmb I} = 0$

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- We should think of  $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{p}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{x}}\mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{y}}}} \left\{ \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{p}) \ \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{p}} + \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{p}) \ \mathbf{b}_{-\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} \right\} \mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{i}\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}}$  as an inner product between the Hilbert space spanned by the spinors  $\{u, v\}$  and the Fock space generated by  $\{a, b\}$
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- Choose  $\phi$  as to ensure that the new spinors  $\tilde{u}$  and  $\tilde{v}$  are momentum independent:  $\tilde{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \tilde{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  so that all the momentum dependence of  $\psi$  is stored in  $\{\tilde{a}_{\mathbf{p}}, \tilde{b}_{\mathbf{p}}\} = S\{\hat{a}, \hat{b}\}S$

## Landau Levels

Use the Landau level representation
Use e<sup>ipyy</sup> = e<sup>-il<sup>2</sup>p<sub>x</sub>p<sub>y</sub></sup> \sqrt{2\pi} \sum\_{n=0}^{\infty} i^n \omega\_n(\xi) \omega\_n(\ell p\_y)  $\omega_n(x) = (2^n n! \sqrt{\pi})^{-1/2} e^{-x^2/2} H_n(x)$   $l = \sqrt{|eB|}, \ \xi = \frac{y}{l} + lp_x$ 

#### Landau Levels

The wave function can now be written in the following way:  $\psi(\boldsymbol{x}) = \sum_{n p_x} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\ell L_x}} \left\{ \hat{u}_{np_x}(y) \ \hat{a}_{np_x} + \hat{v}_{np_x}(y) \ \hat{b}_{n-p_x}^{\dagger} \right\} e^{ip_x x}$   $\begin{bmatrix} \hat{a}_{np_x} \\ \hat{b}_{n-p_x}^{\dagger} \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{p_y} \frac{i^n \sqrt{2\pi\ell}}{\sqrt{L_y}} \begin{bmatrix} \omega_n(\ell p_y) & 0 \\ 0 & -\omega_{n-1}(\ell p_y) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{a}_{\boldsymbol{p}} \\ \tilde{b}_{-\boldsymbol{p}}^{\dagger} \end{bmatrix}$   $\begin{bmatrix} \hat{u}_{np_x}(y) \\ \hat{v}_{np_x}(y) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_n(\xi) & 0 \\ 0 & i\omega_{n-1}(\xi) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{u} \\ \tilde{v} \end{bmatrix}$ 

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### **Landau Levels**

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The new operators satisfy the anticommutation relations:  $\left\{ a_{np_{x}}^{\dagger}, a_{n'p'_{x}} \right\} = \left\{ b_{np_{x}}^{\dagger}, b_{n'p'_{x}} \right\} = \delta_{nn'} \ \delta_{p_{x}p'_{x}}$ 

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Use the Landau level representation

The vacuum is invariant under this change of basis, i.e.,  $\hat{a}_{np_x}|\tilde{0}
angle=0$  ,  $\hat{b}_{np_x}|\tilde{0}
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## **An example of Mass Gap Equation**

There are several approaches one can use:

- 1-consider the Ward identity or;
- 2-get rid of anomalous Bogoliubov terms or;
- 3-Derive it as the condition for the vacuum energy to be a minimum or;
- 4-use a Dyson equation for the fermion propagator,

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Setting the the anomalous terms in the Hamiltonian to zero finds  $\theta_n$ . We can obtain the following mass gap equations,  $\begin{cases} (\ell m \cos \theta_0 + \sin \theta_2 / \sqrt{2}) \sin \theta_0 = 0, & n = 0, \\ \ell m \sin 2\theta_n - \sqrt{2n} \cos 2\theta_n = 0, & n > 0, \end{cases}$ 

For any *n* have the following solution:  $\tan 2\theta_n = \frac{\sqrt{2n|eB|}}{m}$ ,  $E_n = \sqrt{m^2 + 2n|eB|}$ 

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- A fermion condensate occurs even in the absence of any additional interaction between fermions. This is an inherent property of the 2+1 dimensional Dirac theory in an external magnetic field.
- In 3+1 Dimensions with quartic interactions we can perform these very same 3-steps.

## **A class of Hamiltonians**

Consider now the simplest Hamiltonian containing the ladder-Dyson-Schwinger machinery for chiral symmetry.

In any case most of the results presented here do not depend on the kernel choice

$$H = \int d^3x \, q^+(x) \left( -i\overrightarrow{\alpha} \cdot \overrightarrow{\nabla} \right) q(x) + \int \frac{d^3x \, d^3y}{2} J^a_\mu(x) K^{ab}_{\mu\nu}(x-y) J^b_\nu(y)$$

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This class of Hamiltonians has rich phenomenological consequences enabling us to study a variety of hadronic phenomena controlled by global symmetries

- Reproduces in a non-trivial manner the low energy properties of pion physics like, for instance,  $\pi \pi$  Weinberg results for the scattering lengths together with Oakes-Renner, Goldberger-Treiman....
- Possesses the mechanism of pole-doubling in what concerns scalar decays (Unitarization).

### **Bogoliubov Transformations**

We can rotate the creation and annihilation Fock space operators. It is canonical !

$$|\widetilde{0}\rangle = Exp\left\{\widehat{Q}_{0}^{+} - \widehat{Q}_{0}\right\}|0\rangle$$

$$\widehat{Q}_{0}^{+}(\Phi) = \sum_{cf} \int d^{3}p \, \Phi(p) \, M_{ss'}(\theta,\phi) \widehat{b}_{fcs}^{+}(\overrightarrow{p}) \, \widehat{d}_{fcs'}^{+}(-\overrightarrow{p})$$

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With, the  ${}^{3}P_{0}$  Coupling (Parity +):

$$M_{ss'}(\theta,\phi) = -\sqrt{8\pi} \sum_{m_l m_s} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 1 & |0 \\ m_l & m_s & |0 \end{array} \right] \times \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} 1/2 & 1/2 & |1 \\ s & s' & |m_s \end{array} \right] y_{1m_l}(\theta,\phi)$$

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The functions  $\Phi(p)$  classify the infinite set of possible Fock spaces:





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If then we can consider the fermion field  $\Psi_{fc}(\vec{x})$  as an inner product between the Hilbert space spanned by the spinors {u,v} and the Fock space spanned by the operators  $\{\hat{b},\hat{d}\}$ :

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The {u,v}, contain now the information on the angle  $\phi(p)$ .

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The equation for the mass operator  $\Sigma$  is non-linear,  $i\Sigma(\vec{p}) = \hbar \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi\hbar)^4} V(\vec{p} - \vec{k}) \gamma_0 \frac{1}{S_0^{-1}(k_0, \vec{k}) - \Sigma(\vec{k})} \gamma_0,$ 

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- In the Fourier transform of the linear potential σ|x̄| is (with L. Glozman and A. Nefediev):  $V(\vec{p}) = \int d^3x e^{i\frac{\vec{p}\vec{x}}{\hbar}} \sigma |\vec{x}| = -\frac{8\pi\sigma\hbar^4}{p^4} = \hbar^4 \tilde{V}(\vec{p}),$ where  $\tilde{V}(\vec{p})$  does not contain  $\hbar$ .

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  - Parametrize  $\Sigma(\vec{p})$ , in the form,  $\Sigma(\vec{p}) = [A_p m] + (\vec{\gamma}\hat{\vec{p}})[B_p p]$ , to obtain the dressed–quark Green's function:  $S^{-1}(\vec{p}, p_0) = \gamma_0 p_0 - (\vec{\gamma}\hat{\vec{p}})B_p - A_p$ .

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- The functions  $A_p$  and  $B_p$  represent the scalar part and the space-vectorial part of the effective Dirac operator.
- Finally tan  $φ_p = \frac{A_p}{B_p}$   $φ_{p→∞} → 0$ : only the vectorial part survives
    $φ_{p→0} → π/2$ : only the scalar part survives

## Breakdown of the expansion for $\varphi_p$ in powers of $\hbar$

• The mass gap equation  $A_p \cos \varphi_p - B_p \sin \varphi_p = 0$ , with  $A_p = m + \frac{\hbar}{2} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \tilde{V}(\vec{p} - \vec{k}) \sin \varphi_k, \quad B_p = p + \frac{\hbar}{2} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} (\hat{\vec{p}k}) \tilde{V}(\vec{p} - \vec{k}) \cos \varphi_k$
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- I-Introduce dimensionless variables in the integral,  $\vec{p} = \mu c \vec{x}$  and  $\vec{k} = \mu c \vec{y}$ ;
- **2**-define  $\mu$  such that the resulting equation does not contain any scale at all. We have  $\mu = \sqrt{\sigma \hbar c}/c^2$  and expand  $\varphi_p$  in low-momentum,  $\varphi_p \approx \frac{\pi}{2} \text{const} \frac{pc}{\mu c^2} + \ldots = \frac{\pi}{2} \text{const} \frac{pc}{\sqrt{\sigma \hbar c}} + \ldots$

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- Solution We cannot build an action S out of the string tension  $\sigma$  and the speed of light c to obtain an expansion  $\varphi_p = \frac{\hbar}{S} \times f_1(p) + \frac{\hbar^2}{S^2} \times f_2(p) + \dots$

# $\hbar$ expansions: $m \neq 0$

With  $m \neq 0$  things change: the classical action  $S \sim \frac{m^2 c^3}{\sigma}$ ; we have an expansion parameter  $\frac{\sigma \hbar c}{(mc)^2}$  and the mass–gap admits a solution in the form of a "perturbative" series in powers of  $\hbar$ ,  $\varphi_p = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\sigma \hbar c}{(mc^2)^2}\right)^n \tilde{f}_n\left(\frac{p}{mc}\right)$ .

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- To sum it up: we have two different regimes according to the parameter  $m/\sqrt{\sigma}$ : The spontaneous breaking of chiral symmetry is relevant for  $m \ll \sqrt{\sigma}$ , with heavy quark physics relevant for the opposite

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The V.B. transformations constitute an Abelian Group:
$$S_{\varphi} \begin{bmatrix} b^{\dagger} \\ d \end{bmatrix} S_{-vp} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_{[\varphi]} \begin{bmatrix} b^{\dagger} \\ d \end{bmatrix}, \ \mathcal{R}_{[\varphi]}\mathcal{R}_{[\tilde{\varphi}]} = \mathcal{R}_{[\varphi + \tilde{\varphi}]}.$$

The true vacuum, with the minimal vacuum energy, contains an infinite set of strongly correlated  ${}^{3}P_{0}$  quark-antiquark pairs

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Regardless of the particular form of the  $K_{\mu\nu}(x, y)$  these class of models have phenomenologically nice features:

- 1. For massless quarks it possesses a massless pion. (As an instance of the Mass Gap )
- 2. It is at least qualitatively successful in describing hadronic scattering, namely the issue of  $\pi \pi$  scattering: (The Adler zeros)

#### The pion: An example of Mass Gap



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FIG. 1. Pion Salpeter equation. In terms of the Dirac matrices  $\beta$  and  $\vec{\alpha}$ , the projection operators for the quark propagator, with momentum  $\vec{k}$ , are  $\Lambda^{\pm} = (1 \pm \sin(\phi)\beta \pm \cos(\phi)\alpha \cdot \hat{\mathbf{k}})/2$ , and denoted in the figure by  $\{+, -\}$ . Note that  $\Phi^{\pm}$  is consistent with the normalization condition, Eq. (**b**), and should contain the cluster propagators obtained after integrating the quark propagator energy,  $E_q$ . This is the reason the propagator cuts are displayed in the figure. Two such cluster propagators are needed for the two  $\Phi$ 's but only one is generated per integration loop. This necessitates multiplying and dividing the diagrams by the missing cluster propagator leading to the factors  $\pm m_{\pi} + E_q + E_{\bar{q}}$  appearing in the diagram.









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- $\varepsilon_{vac}(T) = \varepsilon_R(T) \varepsilon_0(T)$ : the difference of the internal-energy density of the excited vacuum, corresponding to a replica state inside the domain, and the internal-energy density of the unexcited vacuum outside the domain
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Use the known temperature-dependent gluonic and chiral condensates, which at temperatures  $T \ll m_{\pi}$  of interest read

$$\left\langle G^2 \right\rangle_T = \left\langle G^2 \right\rangle - \frac{24m_\pi^3 T}{b} S_1\left(\frac{m_\pi}{T}\right), \quad \left\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \right\rangle_T = \left\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \right\rangle \left[1 - \frac{3m_\pi T}{4\pi^2 f_\pi^2} S_1\left(\frac{m_\pi}{T}\right)\right].$$

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Using the Gell-Mann–Oakes–Renner relation we have

$$\varepsilon_0(T) = \varepsilon_0(0) + \frac{3m_\pi^3 T}{8\pi^2} S_1\left(\frac{m_\pi}{T}\right),$$

where we used the expansion  $S_{\nu}(x) \equiv \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{K_{\nu}(nx)}{n^{\nu}}$ .

For the internal-energy density of the excited vacuum (GMOR rules), we must have an expression similar:

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 $m_{\pi_R} = 250 \text{ MeV}, \quad \langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle_R = -(100 \text{ MeV})^3, \quad \varepsilon \simeq (250 \text{ MeV})^4, \quad m_{\pi} = 140 \text{ MeV}$  we plot these quantities. Up to the temperatures  $\sim 20 \text{ MeV}$  we can disregard hadronic contributions









The mass of a replica-filled domain grows with the volume as  $\varepsilon \times V^{(3)}$ , so that the problem of stability with respect to the gravitational collapse becomes relevant.



# Gravitational field of a spherical object with constant energy density

Assume that the matter forming a star is a perfect fluid: This implies the energy-momentum tensor of the form  $T^{\mu\nu} = (p + \varepsilon)u^{\mu}u^{\nu} - pg^{\mu\nu}$ , with  $u^{\mu}(x)$  being the four-velocity of the fluid, such that  $g_{\mu\nu}u^{\mu}u^{\nu} = 1$ .

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The function a(r) inside the star can be found from the covariant conservation of the energy-momentum tensor,  $\nabla_{\mu}T^{\mu\nu} = 0$ ,

$$-\partial_{\mu}p \cdot g^{\mu\nu} + \partial_{\mu}\left[(p+\varepsilon)u^{\mu}u^{\nu}\right] + (p+\varepsilon)\left(\Gamma^{\mu}_{\lambda\mu}u^{\lambda}u^{\nu} + \Gamma^{\nu}_{\lambda\mu}u^{\mu}u^{\lambda}\right) = 0.$$

Assume an hydrostatic-equilibrium condition, yielding  $\partial_{\mu}[(p+\varepsilon)u^{\mu}u^{\nu}] = \partial_{0}[(p+\varepsilon)u^{0}u^{0}] = 0.$  We get  $\frac{d \ln g_{00}}{dr} = -2 \cdot \frac{dp/dr}{p+\varepsilon}.$ 

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That yields the so-called Tolman–Oppenheimer–Volkoff equation for p(r):

$$-\frac{dp}{dr} = \frac{G\varepsilon\mathcal{M}}{r^2} \left(1 - \frac{2G\mathcal{M}}{r}\right)^{-1} \left(1 + \frac{p}{\varepsilon}\right) \left(1 + \frac{4\pi r^3 p}{\mathcal{M}}\right)$$

Together with  $\frac{d\mathcal{M}}{dr} = 4\pi r^2 \varepsilon$  and the equation of state, they form a set of three equations for the three unknown functions:  $p, \varepsilon$ , and  $\mathcal{M}$ .

- Assume an hydrostatic-equilibrium condition, yielding  $\partial_{\mu}[(p+\varepsilon)u^{\mu}u^{\nu}] = \partial_{0}[(p+\varepsilon)u^{0}u^{0}] = 0.$  We get  $\frac{d \ln g_{00}}{dr} = -2 \cdot \frac{dp/dr}{p+\varepsilon}.$
- The solution is  $g_{00}(r) = g_{00}(R) \cdot \exp\left[2\int_r^R dr' \frac{dp/dr'}{p+\varepsilon}\right], \ g_{00}(R) = 1 \frac{r_g}{R}.$  We have  $a(r) = \ln g_{00}(r). \ b(r)$  and a(r) interpolate smoothly r < R and r > R.
- The equation for p(r) can be obtained from the Einstein equation  $\mathcal{R}^{1}_{1} \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{R} = 8\pi GT^{1}_{1}$ , that is

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In the particular case  $\varepsilon = \text{const}$  with the boundary condition p(R) = 0 we can define an upper limit for the star radius:  $R \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{3\pi\varepsilon G}}$ 

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- Since one can also argue for the stability of the coherent pionic states against the strong and weak decays, such encapsulated domains can have had a chance to survive till the present time, remaining however dark to external observers.