

# How special are black holes?

Correspondence with objects saturating unitarity bounds in  
generic theories

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PASCOS 2022, July 27<sup>th</sup> 2022

Based on: Phys. Rev. D **105**, 056013 (2022)  
Dvali, OK, Valbuena-Bermúdez

See also talk by: Valbuena-Bermúdez

# Outline

A brief review of saturons

A saturon model

Vacuum structure

Bubble solutions

Stability of bubbles

Microscopic picture

Entropy of bubbles

Stabilization via memory burden

Summary and outlook

# Saturons

Saturon:  $n$ -particle composite classical object with  $S = S_{\max}$

Non-perturbative saturation of unitarity by  $2 \rightarrow n$  particle scattering amplitudes at the point of optimal truncation

$$S_{\max} = \frac{1}{\alpha} = \frac{\text{Area}}{G_{\text{Gold}}}$$

$\alpha$ : eff. running coupling evaluated at mom.-transfer scale  $1/R$

$G_{\text{Gold}}$ : coupling of Goldstone field of a spont. broken symmetry

Dvali: JHEP 03, 126 (2021) & refs. therein

## A saturon model

Theory of a scalar field  $\phi$  in the adjoint rep. of  $SU(N)$ ,  $N \geq 3$

$\phi_\alpha^\beta$  is an  $N \times N$  traceless Hermitian matrix

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} &= \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} [(\partial_\mu \phi)(\partial^\mu \phi)] - V[\phi] \\ V[\phi] &= \frac{\alpha}{2} \text{tr} \left[ \left( f\phi - \phi^2 + \frac{I}{N} \text{tr} [\phi^2] \right)^2 \right]\end{aligned}$$

't Hooft coupling:  $\lambda_t \equiv \alpha N \lesssim 1$  (non-perturbative bound)

Saturation:  $\lambda_t \sim 1$

Dvali: JHEP 03, 126 (2021)

## Vacua

Vacuum equations

$$f\phi_\alpha^\beta - (\phi^2)_\alpha^\beta + \frac{\delta_\alpha^\beta}{N} \text{tr} [\phi^2] = 0$$

admit various solutions degenerate in energy, corresponding to vacua with different unbroken symmetries

$$SU(N) \rightarrow SU(N-K) \times SU(K) \times U(1) , \quad 0 < K < N$$

Consider 2 vacua:

- (1) unbroken  $SU(N)$  symmetry,  $\phi = 0$
- (2)  $K = 1$

$\ln K = 1$  vacuum, only the component

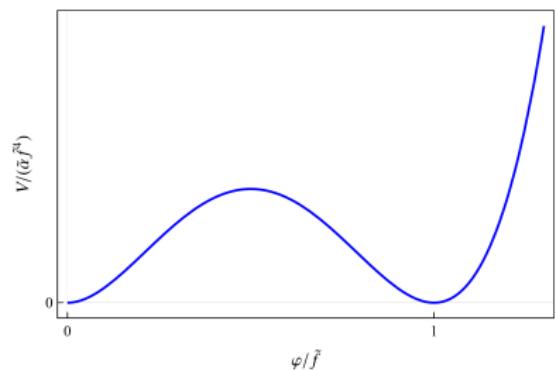
$$\phi_\alpha^\beta = \frac{\varphi(x)}{\sqrt{N(N-1)}} \text{diag} [(N-1), -1, \dots, -1]$$

has a non-zero expectation value

$$\langle \phi \rangle \equiv \tilde{f} = f \frac{\sqrt{N(N-1)}}{(N-2)} \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} f$$

$$V[\phi] = \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{2} \varphi^2 \left( \varphi - \tilde{f} \right)^2 ,$$

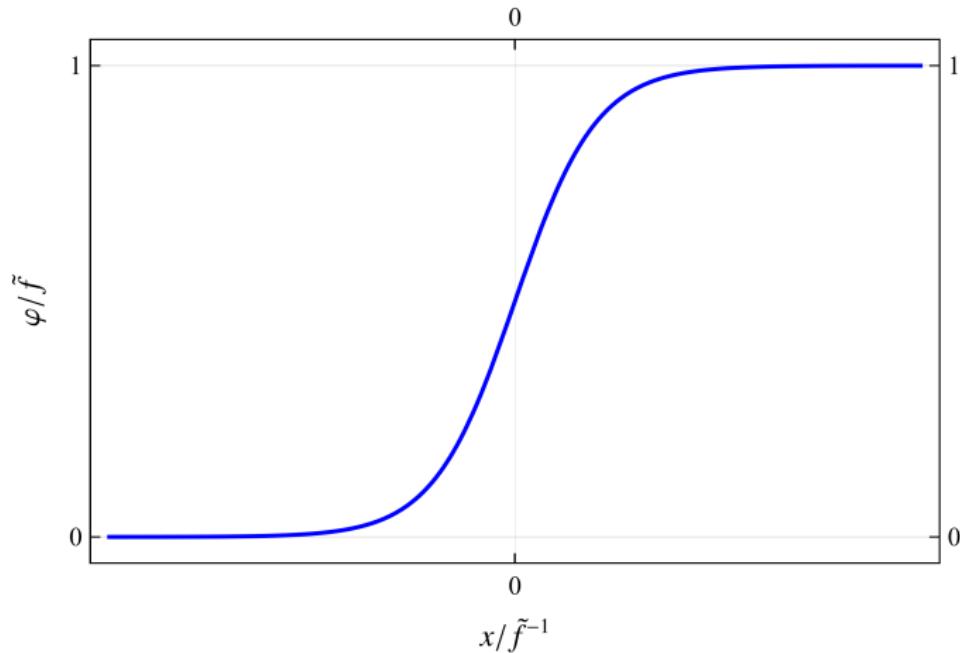
$$\tilde{\alpha} \equiv \alpha \frac{(N-2)^2}{N(N-1)} \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} \alpha$$



minimized by  $\varphi = \begin{cases} 0, & SU(N); \text{ unbroken phase} \\ \tilde{f}, & SU(N-1) \times U(1); \text{ broken phase} \end{cases}$

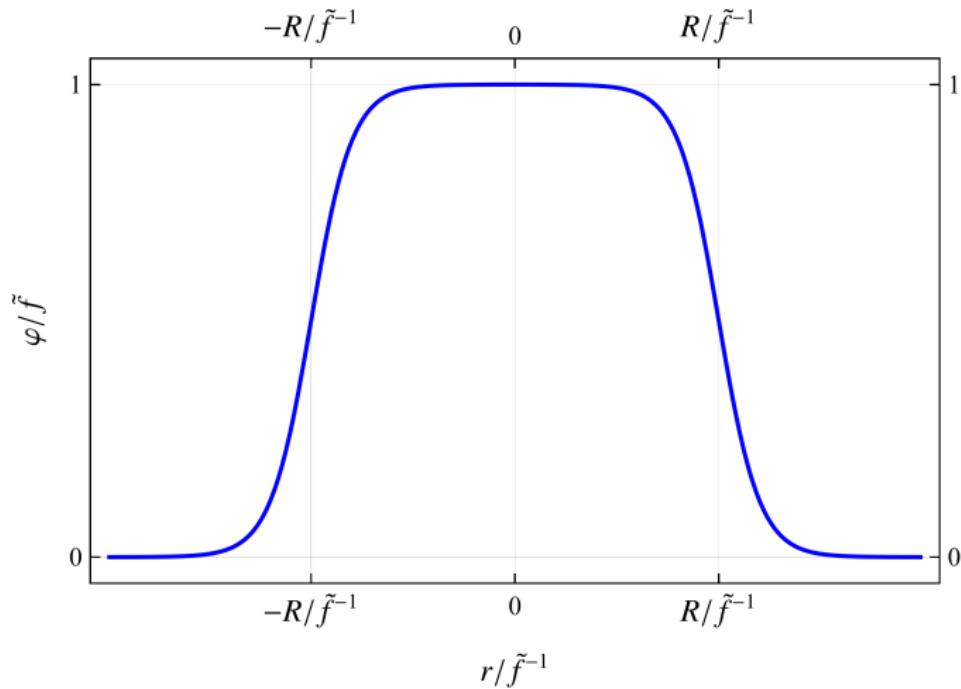
## Domain wall

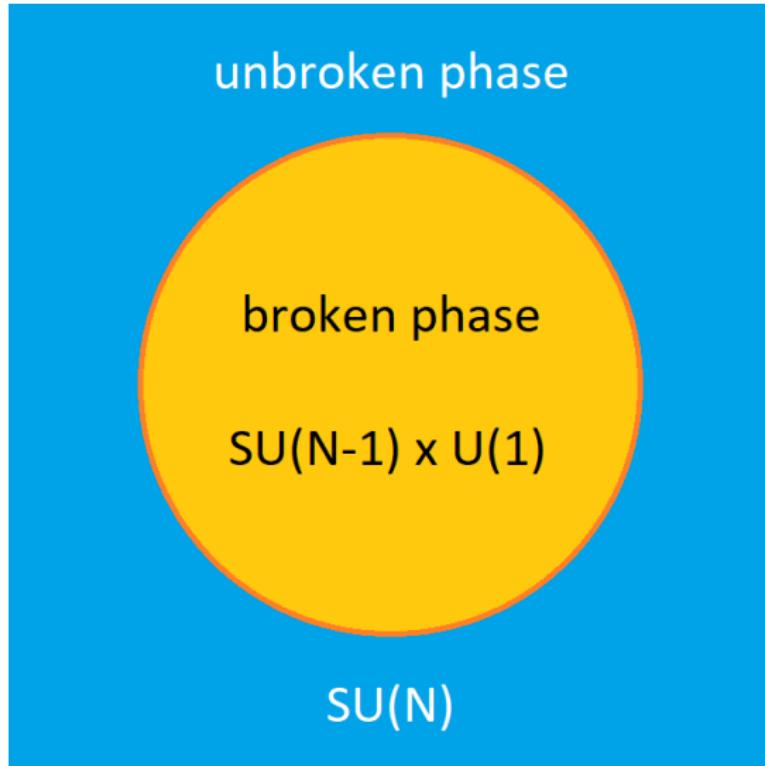
$$\varphi(x) = \frac{\tilde{f}}{2} \left[ 1 + \tanh \left( \frac{mx}{2} \right) \right] , \quad \delta_w \sim m^{-1} , \quad m \equiv \sqrt{\alpha} f = \sqrt{\tilde{\alpha}} \tilde{f}$$



## Bubble

$$\varphi(r) = \frac{\tilde{f}}{2} \left[ 1 + \tanh \left( \frac{m(R-r)}{2} \right) \right]$$





$SU(N)$  phase: mass gap  $m = \sqrt{\alpha}f$

$SU(N - 1) \times U(1)$  phase:  $N_{\text{Gold}}$  massless Goldstones

## Goldstone excitations

$$\phi_\alpha^\beta = \left( U^\dagger \Phi U \right)_\alpha^\beta$$

$$\Phi_\alpha^\beta = \frac{\varphi(t, \vec{x})}{\sqrt{N(N-1)}} \text{diag} [(N-1), -1, \dots, -1]$$

$$U = \exp [-i\theta^a T^a] , \quad \theta^a = \theta(t, \vec{x}) \delta^{a1}$$

$$\Rightarrow U = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\theta/2) & -i \sin(\theta/2) & & & \\ -i \sin(\theta/2) & \cos(\theta/2) & & & \\ & & 1 & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \varphi) (\partial^\mu \varphi) + \frac{N}{4(N-1)} \varphi^2 (\partial_\mu \theta) (\partial^\mu \theta) - \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{2} \varphi^2 (\varphi - \tilde{f})^2$$

Memory burden is a **collective** effect

## Re-formulation

$$\Psi \equiv \frac{\varphi}{\sqrt{2}} e^{i\chi/\tilde{f}}, \quad \chi \equiv \sqrt{\frac{N}{2(N-1)}} \tilde{f} \theta$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L} = (\partial_\mu \Psi^*) (\partial^\mu \Psi) - \tilde{\alpha} |\Psi|^2 \left( \sqrt{2} |\Psi| - \tilde{f} \right)^2$$

EOM:  $\boxed{\square \Psi + \tilde{\alpha} \Psi \left( \sqrt{2} |\Psi| - \tilde{f} \right) \left( 2\sqrt{2} |\Psi| - \tilde{f} \right) = 0}$

$$\varphi = \sqrt{2} |\Psi|, \quad \theta = \sqrt{\frac{2(N-1)}{N}} \text{Arg}(\Psi)$$

## Time evolution

Initial conditions:

$$\Psi(t, r)|_{t=0} = \frac{\tilde{f}}{2\sqrt{2}} \left[ 1 + \tanh \left( \frac{m(R - r)}{2} \right) \right]$$

$$\partial_t \Psi(t, r)|_{t=0} = i\tilde{\omega} \frac{\tilde{f}}{2\sqrt{2}} \left[ 1 + \tanh \left( \frac{m(R - r)}{2} \right) \right]$$

Or, equivalently:

$$\varphi(t, r)|_{t=0} = \frac{\tilde{f}}{2} \left[ 1 + \tanh \left( \frac{m(R - r)}{2} \right) \right]$$

$$\dot{\theta} \equiv \partial_t \theta(t, r)|_{t=0} = \sqrt{\frac{2(N-1)}{N}} \tilde{\omega}$$

$$\tilde{\omega} = \sqrt{\frac{N}{2(N-1)}} \omega$$

# Stability

Balance: wall tension  $\leftrightarrow$  interior pressure due to internal rotation

$$R \gg m^{-1} : E = \frac{2\pi}{3\alpha} m^3 R^2 (1 - \underbrace{\dot{R}^2}_{=0})^{-1/2} + \frac{2\pi}{3\alpha} m^2 \omega^2 R^3$$

$$\dot{Q} = 0 \text{ with } Q = -i \int r^2 dr (\Psi^* \partial_t \Psi - \Psi \partial_t \Psi^*) = \frac{2\pi}{3\alpha} m^2 \omega R^3$$

$$\Rightarrow E = \frac{2\pi}{3\alpha} m^3 R^2 + \frac{3\alpha Q^2}{2\pi m^2 R^3} \Rightarrow \frac{dE}{dR} \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \Leftrightarrow \boxed{R = \frac{2m}{3\omega^2}}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} E_{\text{int}} &= \omega N_G , \quad N_G \equiv \frac{1}{\alpha} \frac{m^5}{\omega^5} \left( \frac{16\pi}{81} \right) \\ E_{\text{wall}} &= m N_\varphi , \quad N_\varphi \equiv \frac{1}{\alpha} \frac{m^4}{\omega^4} \left( \frac{8\pi}{27} \right) \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \frac{N_G}{N_\varphi} = \frac{2m}{3\omega} \gg 1$$

Goldstone  $SU(N)$  charge is conserved

Same amount of charge costs more energy in the exterior vacuum

## Microscopic picture

$$\text{SSB: } SU(N) \rightarrow SU(N-1) \times U(1)$$

$\Rightarrow$  broken vacuum (bubble interior) contains

$$N_{\text{Gold}} = N^2 - 1 - [(N-1)^2 - 1 + 1] = 2(N-1) \simeq 2N$$

species of massless Goldstones  $\theta^a$

$$N_G \simeq \sum_{a=1}^{2N} n^a$$

$$n_{\text{st}} \simeq \binom{N_G + 2N}{2N} \sim \left(1 + \frac{2N}{N_G}\right)^{N_G} \left(1 + \frac{N_G}{2N}\right)^{2N}$$

$$S = \ln(n_{\text{st}}) \simeq 2N \ln \left[ (1 + \lambda)^{\frac{1}{\lambda}} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\lambda}\right) \right] \text{ with } \lambda \equiv 2N/N_G$$

## Entropy of bubbles

$$S = \ln(n_{\text{st}}) \simeq 2N \ln \left[ (1 + \lambda)^{\frac{1}{\lambda}} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\lambda} \right) \right] \text{ with } \lambda = 2N/N_G$$

**Thin-wall bubbles:**  $R \gg \delta_w \sim m^{-1}$

$$\Leftrightarrow \omega \ll m \Leftrightarrow N_G \gg \alpha^{-1} \sim N \Leftrightarrow \lambda \ll 1$$

**⇒ under-saturated state:**

$$S \simeq 2N \ln \left( \frac{e}{\lambda} \right) \sim \frac{1}{\alpha} \ln \left( \frac{m^{10}}{\omega^{10}} \right) \ll S_{\text{max}} \sim \frac{1}{\alpha} \frac{m^6}{\omega^6}$$

**Thick-wall bubbles:**  $R \sim \delta_w \sim m^{-1}$

$$\Leftrightarrow \omega \sim m \Leftrightarrow N_G \sim \alpha^{-1} \sim N \Leftrightarrow \lambda \sim 1$$

**⇒ saturon:**  $S \sim S_{\text{max}} \sim \frac{1}{\alpha}$

## Stabilization via memory burden

<b>Memory burden effect</b>	<b>Bubble stabilization</b>
Many memory patterns	Many bubble micro-states
Stored quantum information	Excitations of Goldstone modes
Impediment of system's evolution	Impediment of bubble's decay

## Summary

Saturons:  $S = S_{\max}$

BHs are not special

Memory burden is an important, collective effect

Outlook:

BH-like properties:  $G_{\text{Gold}}$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $S$ ,  $T$ ,  $t_{\min}$ , information horizon

Bubble dynamics, interaction

Dvali, OK, Valbuena-Bermúdez: Phys. Rev. D **105**, 056013 (2022)

Dvali: JHEP **03**, 126 (2021); Phil. Trans. A **380**, 20210071 (2022);  
Fortschr. Phys. **69**, 2000090 (2021); Fortschr. Phys. **69**, 2000091 (2021)

Dvali, Kühnel, Zantedeschi: [2112.08354]

Dvali, Sakhelashvili: Phys. Rev. D **105**, 065014 (2022)

Dvali, Venugopalan: Phys. Rev. D **105**, 056026 (2022)

# Saturons

Saturon:  $n$ -particle composite classical object with  $S = S_{\max}$

Non-perturbative saturation of unitarity by  $2 \rightarrow n$  particle scattering amplitudes at the point of optimal truncation

$$2 \rightarrow n \text{ cross-section: } \sigma_{2 \rightarrow n} = \underbrace{c_n}_{\mathcal{O}(1)} n! \alpha^n$$

Stop series expansion in  $\alpha$  when  $\sigma_{2 \rightarrow n}$  reaches minimum in  $n$ :  
at  $n = \alpha^{-1}$ , i.e. at  $\lambda_c \equiv \alpha n = 1 \Rightarrow \sigma_{2 \rightarrow n} = n! n^{-n}$

Can only be trusted for  $n \leq \alpha^{-1}$

Stirling's approximation:  $\ln(n!) = n \ln(n) - n + \Theta[\ln(n)]$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\sigma_{2 \rightarrow n} = e^{-n} = e^{-1/\alpha}}$$

Dvali: JHEP 03, 126 (2021)

## Entropy saturation

Total cross-section:  $\sigma = \sum_{\text{micr. st.}}^{n_{\text{st}}} \sigma_{2 \rightarrow n} = \underbrace{\sigma_{2 \rightarrow n}}_{e^{-1/\alpha}} \underbrace{n_{\text{st}}}_{e^S} = e^{-\frac{1}{\alpha} + S}$

Non-perturbative methods<sup>1</sup>: for  $n \gg \alpha^{-1}$ :  $\sigma_{2 \rightarrow n} \lesssim n! n^{-n} \sim e^{-n}$

$$S_{\max} = \frac{1}{\alpha} = \frac{\text{Area}}{G_{\text{Gold}}}$$

$\alpha$ : eff. running coupling evaluated at mom.-transfer scale  $1/R$

$G_{\text{Gold}}$ : coupling of Goldstone field of a spont. broken symmetry

Bonus: Bekenstein bound<sup>2</sup>:  $S_{\max} = 2\pi MR$

<sup>1</sup> Dvali: [1804.06154]; JHEP **03**, 126 (2021) & refs. therein

<sup>2</sup> Bekenstein: Phys. Rev. D **23**, 287 (1981)

## Enhanced memory capacity

Want: system with high capacity to store information

$$[\hat{a}_j, \hat{a}_k^\dagger] = \delta_{jk}$$

Memory pattern: micro-state  $|n_1, \dots, n_K\rangle$

$n_{\text{st}}$ -many micro-states degenerate in energy  $\Rightarrow$  entropy  $S = \ln(n_{\text{st}})$

$$\hat{H} = \varepsilon \sum_{k=1}^K \hat{n}_k$$

Dvali: [1810.02336]

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$$\hat{H} = \left(1 - \frac{\hat{n}_a}{N}\right) \varepsilon \sum_{k=1}^K \hat{n}_k$$

Assisted gaplessness: highly occupied master mode  $\hat{n}_a$  interacts attractively with memory modes  $\hat{n}_k$ , lowers their energy gaps

Dvali: [1810.02336]

## Memory burden

$$\hat{H} = \left(1 - \frac{\hat{n}_a}{N}\right) \varepsilon \sum_{k=1}^K \hat{n}_k + C_b (\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{b} + \text{H.c.})$$

Memory burden: stored information stabilizes system

$$|in\rangle = |n_a, n_b, n_1, \dots, n_K\rangle = |N, 0, n_1, \dots, n_K\rangle$$

$$\mu = -\frac{1}{N} \varepsilon \sum_{k=1}^K \langle \hat{n}_k(t) \rangle$$

$$\langle \hat{n}_a(t) \rangle = N \left[ 1 - \frac{C_b^2}{C_b^2 + \left(\frac{\mu}{2}\right)^2} \sin^2 \left( \sqrt{C_b^2 + \left(\frac{\mu}{2}\right)^2} t \right) \right]$$