

Discrete anomaly matching and high-T “center vortices” in QCD(adj)

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with **Mohamed Anber**, Lewis & Clark College, 1807.00093[hep-th]
& in progress

Discrete anomaly matching and high-T “center vortices” in QCD(adj)

Our work is inspired by a series of papers of Gaiotto, Kapustin, Komargodski, Seiberg, Willet (in combinations) during 2014-2017. Features well-known to the lattice community are put in a new light, leading to constraints on the IR behavior of strongly coupled theories: new “t Hooft anomaly matching” conditions.

Existence of center-symmetry (“1-form” symmetry) at the same time as other discrete (“0-form”) symmetries [CP, for pure-YM at $\theta = \pi$; discrete chiral symmetry for QCD(adj)] lead to new mixed 1-form/0-form ‘t Hooft anomalies. Like continuous ‘t Hooft anomalies, these can be computed in the UV and must be matched by the IR theory. Through “anomaly inflow” they also affect the domain walls (between vacua with broken discrete chiral or center symmetry), leading to rather nontrivial behavior on their worldvolume.

New “t Hooft anomaly matching” conditions don’t appear all the time, so I decided to focus on them: new nontrivial constraints on IR behavior!

(tangential: new phases of QCD(adj)? Anber, EP 1805.12990, Cordova, Dumitrescu 1806.09592 - **not this talk**)

Discrete anomaly matching and high-T “center vortices” in QCD(adj)

The choice of QCD(adj) for this study of new 't Hooft anomalies motivated by:

- As zero-N-ality, QCD(adj) has obvious 1-form center symmetry
(because there are fermions, a step more complex than pure YM with $\theta = \pi$ [Gaiotto et al])
- QCD(adj) offers a **rare regime** where confinement and chiral symmetry breaking can be analytically understood in a theoretically controlled way:
 $R^3 \times S^1$ small- S^1 limit, periodic fermions - so anomaly matching implications can be seen explicitly!
[Unsal+... 2007-]
on a personal level in '15 we found properties - now understood as due to these anomaly matchings [Anber, Sulejmanpasic, EPJ 1501.06673] - so revisit
- In short, a good “lab” for better understanding new anomaly matching!

-
- Finally: do these anomaly matchings apply only to such ‘exotic’ theories? - NO!

but more involved: i.e. in massless QCD with fundamentals center symmetries w/ anomalies appear after gauging B, $SU(N_f)_V \dots$ [eg Tanizaki '18] (...“two group” discrete version...)

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Outline:

- 1.) new “t Hooft anomaly” between discrete chiral symmetry and center symmetry:
the simplest example in QFT is the charge- q massless 2d Schwinger model
- 2.) the charge-2 Schwinger model appears as the worldvolume theory of high-T domain walls - which are a type of center vortex - between center-breaking vacua in SU(2) QCD(adj) with a single Weyl massless adjoint (& multi-flavor generalizations if more adjoints)
- 3.) Schwinger model results imply that (& perhaps can be seen on lattice):
 - fermion condensate nonzero on the high-T center vortex
 - Wilson loop inside center vortex (spacelike!) obeys perimeter law

1,2,3 all in Anber, EP 1807.00093

Thus, high-T center vortex worldvolume (2d) mirrors behavior of low-T (4d) theory:
4d bulk chiral symmetry broken and quarks deconfined on domain walls!

All tied by the anomalies!

↙ seen earlier on $R^3 \times S^1$ in
Anber, Sulejmanpasic, EP 1501.06673

I.) new “t Hooft anomaly” between discrete chiral symmetry and center symmetry:
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$$L = -\frac{1}{4e^2} f_{kl} f^{kl} + i\bar{\psi}_+(\partial_- + iqA_-)\psi_+ + i\bar{\psi}_-(\partial_+ + iqA_+)\psi_- \quad \partial_{\pm} \equiv \partial_t \pm \partial_x, \quad A_{\pm} \equiv A_t \pm A_x,$$

“0-form” symmetries:

$$U(1)_V: \quad \psi_{\pm} \rightarrow e^{iq\alpha} \psi_{\pm} \quad \text{gauged}$$

$$U(1)_A: \quad \psi_{\pm} \rightarrow e^{\pm i\chi} \psi_{\pm} \quad \text{anomalous: } \mathbf{Z}_{\text{ferm.}} \rightarrow e^{i2q\chi T} \mathbf{Z}_{\text{ferm.}}$$

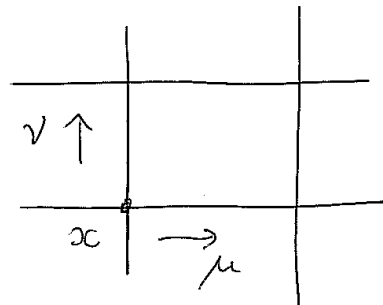
topological charge:

$$T = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int f_{12} d^2x \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_{2q}^{d\chi} : \quad \psi_{\pm} \rightarrow e^{\pm i\frac{\pi}{q}} \psi_{\pm} \quad \left(\chi = \frac{2\pi}{2q} \text{ gives anomaly-free subgroup} \right)$$

“1-form” symmetry:

$$\mathbb{Z}_q^C \quad \text{center symmetry}$$



$$U_{x,\mu} \rightarrow z_{\mu} U_{x,\mu}$$

a \mathbb{Z}_q phase, one per
spacetime direction
(global symmetry)

easy to see on lattice: plaquette term in action invariant,
fermion hopping as well, since integer charge $q > 1$

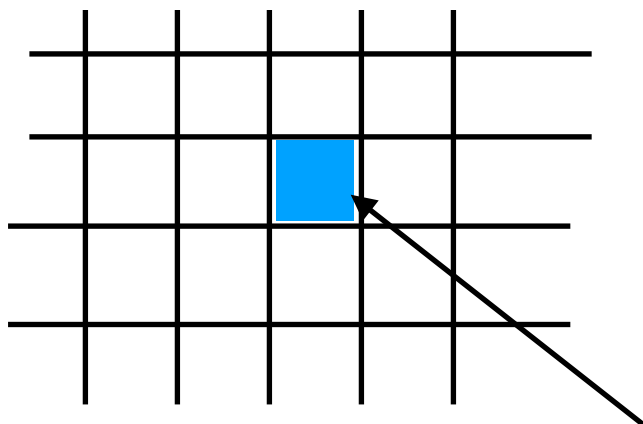
“1-form” symmetry only acts on line operators (hence name):

$$\mathbb{Z}_q^C : \quad e^{i \oint A_x dx} \rightarrow \omega_q e^{i \oint A_x dx}, \quad \omega_q \equiv e^{i \frac{2\pi}{q}}.$$

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“0-form” $\mathbb{Z}_{2q}^{d\chi}$ & “1-form” \mathbb{Z}_q^C have a mixed anomaly!

also easy(er!) to see on the lattice! Let us gauge the 1-form center symmetry:



for symmetries acting on links (1-form center symmetry), introduce plaquette-based (“2-form”) \mathbb{Z}_q gauge field to make \mathbb{Z}_q center symmetry local

to see the anomaly a background 2-form field suffices;
in 2d, there is no field strength of the 2-form (no cubes!);
introduce a \mathbb{Z}_q background phase on a single plaquette =
“ \mathbb{Z}_q center vortex” [i.e. any 2-form \mathbb{Z}_q background topological...
can move around shaded square by changing link variables]

now recall:

$$U_{\text{plaquette}} = \prod_{\text{link} \in \text{plaquette}} U_{\text{link}} = e^{ia^2 F_{\text{plaquette}}} \longrightarrow$$

$\longrightarrow \text{flux thru } T^2 = 2\pi n, n \in \mathbb{Z} = \text{integer T (top. charge) from before!}$

But in the background of a single \mathbb{Z}_q center vortex, we have instead

$$\prod_{\text{all plaquettes}} U_{\text{plaquette}} e^{i\frac{2\pi}{q}} = e^{i\text{flux thru } T^2} = e^{i\frac{2\pi}{q}} = \text{fractional T (top. charge)!}$$

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So, after we introduce a center 2-form background (center vortex), we have

$$\prod_{\text{all plaquettes}} U_{\text{plaquette}} e^{i\frac{2\pi}{q}} = e^{i\text{flux thru } T^2} = e^{i\frac{2\pi}{q}} = \text{fractional T (top. charge)!}$$

But recall that under a 0-form discrete chiral $\mathbb{Z}_{2q}^{d\chi}$ we have that

$$\mathbf{Z}_{\text{ferm.}} \rightarrow e^{i2\pi T} \mathbf{Z}_{\text{ferm.}} \text{ and } \mathbf{Z}_{\text{ferm.}} \text{ is invariant if } T \text{ is integer, but not otherwise.}$$

We conclude that if center 1-form symmetry is gauged, the discrete chiral symmetry ceases to be a symmetry, in other words, we have a $\mathbb{Z}_{2q}^{d\chi} - \mathbb{Z}_q^C$ ‘t Hooft anomaly!

$$\mathbb{Z}_{2q}^{d\chi} : \mathbf{Z}_{\text{ferm.}} \rightarrow e^{i\frac{2\pi}{q}} \mathbf{Z}_{\text{ferm.}}$$

- phase in the chiral transform (in the center vortex bckgd) **IS** mixed ‘t Hooft anomaly
- phase independent on T^2 volume, RG invariant, same on all scales: UV & IR
- like for continuous symmetry ‘t Hooft anomalies must be matched by IR theory:
 - IR CFT, or
 - one or both symmetries should be broken (“Goldstone” mode), or/and
 - IR TQFT

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Gaiotto et al, ’14-’17

The 0-form/1-form mixed anomaly was computed by Gaiotto et al by turning on discrete gauge backgrounds (as I showed you in the 2d case). A ’t Hooft anomaly, however, should be a property of the theory without any backgrounds; it does not require turning on fields. Continuous symmetry ’t Hooft anomalies are seen in $\langle j j j \rangle$ three-point global symmetry current correlators, as $1/q^2$ poles [Frishman et al, Coleman et al, 1980s].

Expect the “same” should be true here. The anomalies should involve properties of the quantum operators representing the discrete symmetries. General statements are so far not known, but examples exist, notably in QM [Gaiotto et al] and 2d QFT [our work].

I will spare you the details and simply state the result:

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In the 2d QFT case (Schwinger model [our work]) and various QM examples [Gaiotto et al] the anomaly can be seen at the operator level and the IR matching decided upon:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Z}_{2q}^{d\chi} & & \mathbb{Z}_q^C \\ \text{operator} & \searrow & \text{operator} \\ & \hat{X}_{2q} \hat{Y}_q = \omega_q \hat{Y}_q \hat{X}_{2q} & \quad (\omega_q = e^{i\frac{2\pi}{q}}). \end{array}$$

Classically, center and discrete chiral symmetries commute, but they do not in the QFT: anomaly!

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$\mathbb{Z}_{2q}^{d\chi}$ operator \mathbb{Z}_q^C operator

↘ ↘

$$\hat{X}_{2q} \hat{Y}_q = \omega_q \hat{Y}_q \hat{X}_{2q} \quad \left(\omega_q = e^{i \frac{2\pi}{q}} \right).$$

↖ This is the famous ‘t Hooft-loop/Wilson-loop algebra for $SU(q)$: q -dimensional reps!

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Finally, we also showed that both discrete chiral symmetry is broken (q discrete vacua, fermion condensate) and the 1-form center is broken (=perimeter law for $q=1$ Wilson loop).

Used Manton ’86, Iso-Murayama ’90 Hamiltonian solution

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2.), 3.): ... wordvolume theory of high-T domain walls - which are a type of center vortex - between center-breaking vacua...

$SU(2)$ Yang-Mills theory endowed with n_f adjoint Weyl fermions $T \gg \Lambda_{QCD}$

$$S_{3D}^{\text{boson}} = \frac{\beta}{g^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \left(\frac{1}{2} \text{tr} (F_{ij} F_{ij}) + \text{tr} (D_i A_4)^2 + g^2 V(A_4) + \mathcal{O}(g^4) \right) \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} V(A_4) = -\frac{1}{12\pi\beta^4} \left[-6\pi (\beta A_4^3)^2 + 4 (\beta A_4^3)^3 \right], \quad \text{for } \beta A_4^3 \in [0, \pi] \\ \text{(shown for nf=1 SYM)} \end{array} \right.$$

- **two vacua** $\beta A_4^3 = 0, 2\pi$ **broken center** (“0-form”, along x_4) $\frac{1}{2} \langle \text{Tr}_F \exp \left[i \oint_{S^1_\beta} A_4 \right] \rangle = \pm 1$
- Z_2 “domain walls”, or “interfaces”, or “center vortices” of width $\sim 1/gT$ Bhattacharya et al 1991
- Z_2 0-form center restored on DW ...
- $U(1)$ unbroken on wall (Polyakov loop not ~ 1) Cartan of $SU(2)$ massless; W-boson mass $\sim T$
 localized 2d $U(1)$ on wall not very interesting except $\theta = \pi$ pure YM! Gaiotto et al 2017

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- **SYM has Z_2 center 1-form and Z_4 chiral 0-form w/ mixed ‘t Hooft anomaly!**
story similar as in Schwinger model: fractional topological charge in 4d (here: 1/2)
background of two center vortices intersecting at a point (one along x_1 - x_2 , the other along x_3 - x_4)
 - at $T < T_c$, Z_4 chiral broken to Z_2 , matching the anomaly (assume $T_{\text{chi}} = T_c$)
 - at $T > T_c$, Z_2 center broken, matching the anomaly (... > or =)
- **domain walls, in either phase, are “nontrivial”: anomaly inflow!** Gaiotto et al 2014-17
- high-T center vortices have mixed Z_4 chiral/ Z_2 center anomaly on 2d worldvolume
- can be seen in the high-T theory quite explicitly:

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localized 2d U(1) on wall not very interesting except $\theta = \pi$ pure YM! Gaiotto et al 2017
& even richer in QCD(adj)!

- adjoint fermions at high-T have zero modes on the wall for $n_f=1$, two normalizable:

$$\mathcal{L}_{DW}^{\text{axial}} = \frac{1}{4e^2} F_{kl} F_{kl} + i\bar{\lambda}_+ [\partial_1 + i\partial_2 - i2(A_1 + iA_2)] \lambda_+ + i\bar{\lambda}_- [\partial_1 - i\partial_2 + i2(A_1 - iA_2)] \lambda_-$$

← axial Schwinger model of charge-2!
L and R have opposite charge

- In 2d axial and vector easily mapped to each other: Z_4 chiral symmetry and Z_2 center.

From $q=2$ Schwinger model results, chiral and center broken, so:

- **nonzero fermion condensate + Wilson loop perimeter law on the high-T “center vortex”!**

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1,2,3 in Anber, EP 1807.00093

Finally:

... high- T center vortex worldvolume (2d) mirrors behavior of low- T (4d) theory:
4d bulk chiral symmetry broken and quarks deconfined on domain walls!

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low T

in bulk:

Z_4 chiral broken

Z_2 center unbroken
(area law for W loop in bulk)

on DWs:

quarks are deconfined

Z_2 center broken on DW
(perimeter law for W loop on DW
while area law in bulk)



explicit confinement on $R^3 \times S^1$ in
Anber, Sulejmanpasic, EP 1501.06673

assumed $T_{\text{chi}} = T_{\text{dec.}}$
($>$ or $=$)

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Z_2 0-form center broken

Z_2 1-form center unbroken
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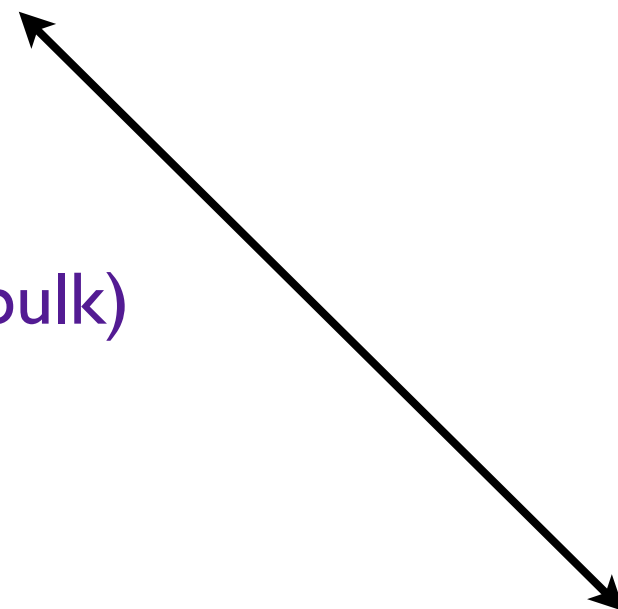
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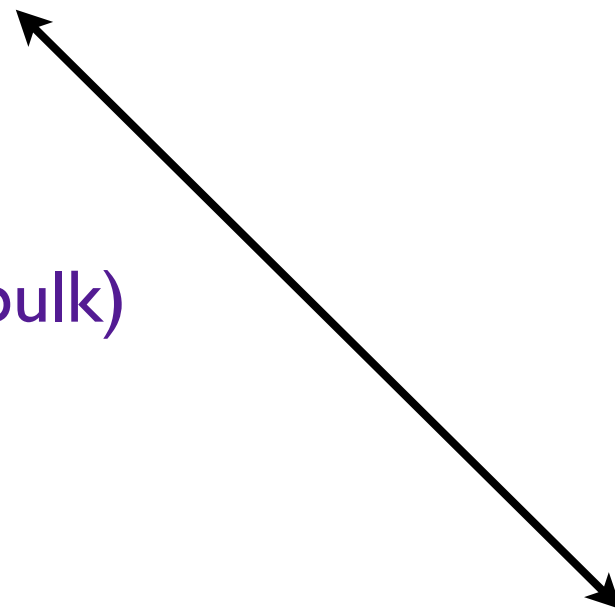
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**High-T DW properties mirror low-T bulk and low-T DW properties
in a way really required by (rather, consistent with) anomaly...**

FUTURE?

One wonders if $n_f > 1$ high-T DWs teach us about QCD(adj) $n_f > 1$ unknown low-T phase?

on DW: multi-flavor Schwinger models with classically marginal 4-fermi terms (reducing symmetries, generated by W-boson loops)?
symmetry realization vs 4d low-T?

Other theories with center symmetries: two-index S, AS flavors?

eg Kuti et al on lattice '17

and some specific 3-, 4- index ones

Anber, Vincent-Genot 1704.08277

(discrete chiral/ $Z_{\{2,3,4\}}$ center symmetries not paid attention to, so far)

Is this nontrivial DW (low-T as well as high-T) physics accessible on lattice?

possible issues: twisting b.c. OK; but pinning down the DW? avoid averaging condensate over DWs (histograms?)

How are these new discrete anomalies, found by turning on sometimes very unusual backgrounds, (e.g. non-spin manifolds for $n_f=2$ QCD(adj)! Cordoba, Dumitrescu 1806.09592) reflected in the operator algebra of the discrete symmetries involved?

In other words, reaching the level of understanding we have for continuous symmetry 't Hooft anomalies would be nice!

e.g. continuum: Frishman, Schwimmer, Banks, Yankielowicz; Coleman, Grossman '80s

continuum "2-group" (0-form/1-form) case:

Cordoba, Dumitrescu, Intriligator; Benini, Cordoba, Hsin '18

THANK YOU!

Extra slides:

Extra technical slide I.I: Discrete anomalies and anomaly inflow from “the bulk”

anomalous variation of partition function

= **variation of a 3d bulk CS term** (3d space w/ boundary = 2d spacetime); e.g. our Schwinger example:

$$S_{3d\ CS} = i \frac{2\pi}{q} \int_{M_3(\partial M_3=M_2)} \frac{2q A_\chi^{(1)}}{2\pi} \wedge \frac{q B_C^{(2)}}{2\pi}$$

continuum description of a \mathbb{Z}_{2q} 1-form gauge field (gauging 0-form discrete symmetry)= pair A^1, A^0 :

$$2q A^{(1)} = dA^{(0)} , \quad \oint dA^{(0)} \in 2\pi\mathbb{Z} \implies \oint A^{(1)} \in \frac{2\pi\mathbb{Z}}{2q} \quad \text{ensures } \mathbb{Z}_{2q} \text{ Wilson loop } e^{i \oint A^{(1)}} = e^{i \frac{2\pi}{2q} \mathbb{Z}}$$

$$\delta_{\mathbb{Z}_{2q}^{d\chi}} A_\chi^{(1)} = d\phi , \quad \oint d\phi \in 2\pi\mathbb{Z} \quad \text{so that closed Wilson loop gauge } \mathbb{Z}_{2q} \text{ gauge invariant}$$

continuum description of a \mathbb{Z}_q 2-form gauge field (gauging 1-form discrete symmetry)= pair B^2, B^1 :

$$q B^{(2)} = dB^{(1)} , \quad \oint dB^{(1)} \in 2\pi\mathbb{Z} \implies \oint B^{(2)} \in \frac{2\pi\mathbb{Z}}{q} \quad \text{ensures that for closed 2 surface } e^{i \oint B^{(2)}} = e^{i \frac{2\pi}{q} \mathbb{Z}}$$

$$\delta_{\mathbb{Z}_q^C} B_C^2 = d\lambda^{(1)} , \quad \oint d\lambda^{(1)} \in 2\pi\mathbb{Z} \quad \text{so that } e^{i \oint B^{(2)}} \text{ is 1-form gauge invariant}$$

On a closed M_3 , S_{CS} is gauge invariant, but $e^{S_{CS}}$ is not unity.

Its $\mathbb{Z}_{2q}^{d\chi}$ variation is nonzero on the boundary where $\phi|_{M_2} = \frac{2\pi}{2q}$

$$\delta_{\mathbb{Z}_{2q}^{d\chi}} S_{3dCS} = i \frac{2\pi}{q} \frac{2q \phi|_{M_2}}{2\pi} \int_{\partial M_3=M_2} \frac{q B_C^{(2)}}{2\pi} \in i \frac{2\pi}{q} \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{same as we found before} \quad \mathbb{Z}_f \rightarrow e^{i \frac{2\pi}{q}} \mathbb{Z}_f$$

similar story for 5d CS relevant for 4d theories, one extra power of B^2 ; also useful to show anomaly inflow on DW

Extra technical slide I.II: Discrete anomalies and anomaly inflow from “the bulk”

anomaly ‘inflow’ 3d bulk to 2d boundary:

$$S_{3d\,CS} = i \frac{2\pi}{q} \int_{M_3(\partial M_3=M_2)} \frac{2q A_\chi^{(1)}}{2\pi} \wedge \frac{q B_C^{(2)}}{2\pi} \quad \text{its } \mathbb{Z}_{2q}^{d\chi} \text{ variation is nonzero on boundary where } \phi|_{M_2} = \frac{2\pi}{2q}$$

$$\delta_{\mathbb{Z}_{2q}^{d\chi}} S_{3dCS} = i \frac{2\pi}{q} \frac{2q \phi|_{M_2}}{2\pi} \int_{\partial M_3=M_2} \frac{q B_C^{(2)}}{2\pi} \in i \frac{2\pi}{q} \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{same as we found before } \mathbf{Z_f} \rightarrow e^{i \frac{2\pi}{q}} \mathbf{Z_f}$$

$$\text{its } \mathbb{Z}_q^C \text{ variation is } \oint \frac{q \lambda^{(1)}}{2\pi} |_{M_2} \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ so a charge-1 Wilson line } e^{i \oint a} \rightarrow e^{i \oint \lambda^{(1)}} e^{i \oint a} = e^{i \frac{2\pi}{q}} e^{i \oint a}$$

$$\delta_{\mathbb{Z}_q^C} S_{3dCS} = i \frac{2\pi}{q} \mathbb{Z} \oint \frac{q A^{(1)}}{2\pi} \quad \text{for nonzero } \oint \frac{q A^{(1)}}{2\pi} \text{ (in broken phase, such holonomy induces DW)}$$

anomaly ‘inflow’ to DW: consider nonzero $\oint \frac{q A^{(1)}}{2\pi}$ (inside M2 boundary) in broken phase;

then 3d bulk term reduces to 2d CS, whose boundary is the DW worldvolume (1-dim)

$$S_{2dCS} = i \frac{2\pi}{q} \oint_{\Gamma_2; \partial \Gamma_2 = \Gamma_{DW}} \frac{q B^{(2)}}{2\pi} \quad \text{whose center variation localizes on DW}$$

$$\delta_{\mathbb{Z}_q^C} S_{2dCS} = i \frac{2\pi}{q} \oint_{\Gamma_{DW}} \frac{q \lambda^{(1)}}{2\pi} = i \frac{2\pi}{q}$$

and shows DW has center charge-1, exactly as a $q=1$ Wilson loop

Extra technical slide I.III: Discrete anomalies and anomaly inflow from “the bulk”

broken phase long distance theory and anomaly matching:

The long-distance theory of the $\mathbb{Z}_{2q}^{d\chi}$ - broken Schwinger model

a sort of “ \mathbb{Z}_q sigma model”: “**chiral lagrangian**” yielding q degenerate states and nothing else (as theory is gapped); this **is a topological theory, as no dynamics or d.o.f.: only captures vacuum states and symmetries in IR!** IR theory can be coupled to background gauge fields for the global symmetries, reproducing the ’t Hooft anomalies of the UV theory.

lattice description: a \mathbb{Z}_q topological Ising model, equiv. \mathbb{Z}_q topological GT [w/ global 0-form \mathbb{Z}_q and a 1-form \mathbb{Z}_q]

continuum description: a \mathbb{Z}_q topological BF theory 0-form ϕ and 1-form $a^{(1)}$ both compact: $\phi \equiv \phi + 2\pi$

$$iS_{IR} = i \frac{q}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}_t \times S^1} \phi da^{(1)}$$

0-form global \mathbb{Z}_q : $\phi \rightarrow \phi + \frac{2\pi}{q}$ $\oint da^{(1)} = 2\pi\mathbb{Z}$

1-form global \mathbb{Z}_q : $a^{(1)} \rightarrow a^{(1)} + \lambda^{(1)}$ (recall $\delta_{\mathbb{Z}_q^C} B_C^2 = d\lambda^{(1)} \quad \oint d\lambda^{(1)} \in 2\pi\mathbb{Z}$)

EOMs imply both fields are flat (topological). On $\mathbb{R}_t \times S^1$ fix $a_0=0$ gauge (Gauss law=constant ϕ on S^1).

a_x only d.o.f. (or rather $a = \oint_{S^1} a_x dx$). Lagrangian for ϕ, a is QM:

$$iS_{IR} = i \frac{q}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}_t} dt \phi \dot{a}$$

both variables are angular (2π period inherited from compactness)
Hamiltonian=0

quantize: $[\phi, a] = -i \frac{2\pi}{q}$ $e^{i\phi} e^{ia} = e^{i\frac{2\pi}{q}} e^{ia} e^{i\phi}$ (+ $e^{iqa} = 1$ $e^{iq\phi} = 1$, trivial as operators)

treating ϕ as coordinate $e^{i\phi} |P\rangle = |P\rangle e^{i\frac{2\pi P}{q}}$ $e^{i\phi}$ order parameter of broken 0-form \mathbb{Z}_q

$e^{ia} |P\rangle = |P + 1(\text{mod } q)\rangle$ e^{ia} “DW” between vacua (not local: spatial charge-1 Wilson loop)

q degenerate states = the q vacua, $|P\rangle$, of the SM

(if a treated as coordinate: topological \mathbb{Z}_q gauge theory)

Extra technical slide I.IV: Discrete anomalies and anomaly inflow from “the bulk”

broken phase long distance theory and anomaly matching:

$$iS_{IR} = i \frac{q}{2\pi} \int \phi (da^{(1)} - B^{(2)}) \quad \text{: IR action with gauged 1-form center}$$

recalling $\oint B^{(2)} \in \frac{2\pi\mathbb{Z}}{q}$ then: $\delta_{\mathbb{Z}_{2q}^{d\chi}} iS_{IR} = i \int_{\mathbb{R}_t \times S^1} (da^{(1)} - B^{(2)}) = i \frac{2\pi}{q} \mathbb{Z}$ anomaly matching!

(the anomaly matching part can be done rather nicely on the lattice, too)

continuum description: a \mathbb{Z}_q topological BF theory 0-form ϕ and 1-form $a^{(1)}$ both compact: $\phi \equiv \phi + 2\pi$

$$iS_{IR} = i \frac{q}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}_t \times S^1} \phi da^{(1)}$$

0-form global \mathbb{Z}_q : $\phi \rightarrow \phi + \frac{2\pi}{q}$ $\oint da^{(1)} = 2\pi\mathbb{Z}$

1-form global \mathbb{Z}_q : $a^{(1)} \rightarrow a^{(1)} + \lambda^{(1)}$ (recall $\delta_{\mathbb{Z}_q^C} B_C^2 = d\lambda^{(1)} \quad \oint d\lambda^{(1)} \in 2\pi\mathbb{Z}$)

EOMs imply both fields are flat (topological). On $\mathbb{R}_t \times S^1$ fix $a_0=0$ gauge (Gauss law=constant ϕ on S^1).

a_x only d.o.f. (or rather $a = \oint_{S^1} a_x dx$). Lagrangian for ϕ, a is QM:

$$iS_{IR} = i \frac{q}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}_t} dt \phi \dot{a}$$

both variables are angular (2π period inherited from compactness)

quantize: $[\phi, a] = -i \frac{2\pi}{q}$ $e^{i\phi} e^{ia} = e^{i \frac{2\pi}{q}} e^{ia} e^{i\phi}$ (+ $e^{iqa} = 1$ $e^{iq\phi} = 1$, trivial as operators)

anomaly matching!

q degenerate states = the q vacua, $|P\rangle$, of the SM

Extra technical slide II.I: Schwinger model discrete-symmetries operator algebra

Use Manton '86, Iso-Murayama '90 Hamiltonian solution. $A_0 = 0$ gauge, antiperiodic fermions on spatial circle, L:

$\oint A_x dx \equiv cL$ spatial holonomy only gauge variable

$$\mathbb{Z}_q^C : cL \rightarrow cL + \frac{2\pi}{q}$$

G: large gauge transforms shift cL by 2π

$|n\rangle$: Dirac sea states obeying Gauss' law (zero charge on circle) **explicit construction**

$Q_5 |n\rangle = |n\rangle \left(2n - \frac{qcL}{\pi}\right)$ axial U(1) charge of Dirac sea depends on holonomy - anomaly!

$\tilde{Q}_5 \equiv Q_5 + \frac{qcL}{\pi}$ can define axial U(1) charge which does not depend on holonomy but not invariant under large gauge transforms

$G : \tilde{Q}_5 \rightarrow \tilde{Q}_5 + 2q$ but then, clearly:

$X_{2q} \equiv e^{i\frac{2\pi}{2q}\tilde{Q}_5}$ is invariant under G: operator performing $\mathbb{Z}_{2q}^{d\chi}$ chiral transforms

$G|n\rangle = |n + q\rangle$ under large gauge transforms n shifts by q units

$Y_q|n\rangle = |n + 1\rangle$ center symmetry shifts n by 1 units

Extra technical slide II.II: Schwinger model discrete-symmetries operator algebra

$X_{2q} \equiv e^{i\frac{2\pi}{2q}\tilde{Q}_5}$ is invariant under large gauge transforms: $\mathbb{Z}_{2q}^{d\chi}$ chiral symmetry

$G|n\rangle = |n+q\rangle$ under large gauge transforms n shifts by q units

$Y_q|n\rangle = |n+1\rangle$ \mathbb{Z}_q^C center symmetry Y_q shifts n by 1 units

Construct q theta-vacua, eigenstates of G (theta shown for convenience, not observable with $m=0$):

$$|\theta, k\rangle \equiv \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{i(k+qn)\theta} |k+qn\rangle, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, q-1$$

Iso-Murayama '90

$$\phi(x) \equiv \bar{\psi}_+(x)\psi_-(x)$$

The linear combinations

$$|P, \theta\rangle \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{q}} \sum_{k=0}^{q-1} \omega_q^{kP} |\theta, k\rangle, \quad P = 0, \dots, q-1,$$

$$\langle n' | \phi(x) | n \rangle = \delta_{n', n+1} C' e^{-i\frac{2\pi x}{L}}$$

have diagonal condensate and obey cluster decomposition:

$$\langle P', \theta | \phi(x) | P, \theta \rangle = e^{-i\theta} \omega_q^{-P} \delta_{P, P'} C'$$

further, from above, discrete chiral and center act as “shift” and “clock” matrices

$$X_{2q} |P, \theta\rangle = |P+1(\text{mod } q), \theta\rangle$$

$Y_q |P, \theta\rangle = |P, \theta\rangle \omega_q^{-P} e^{-i\theta}$ the famous q -dim representation of the 't Hooft algebra

$$X_{2q} Y_q = \omega_q Y_q X_{2q} \quad \left(\omega_q = e^{i\frac{2\pi}{q}} \right)$$

Extra technical slide II.III: Schwinger model discrete-symmetries operator algebra

$$X_{2q} |P, \theta\rangle = |P + 1(\text{mod } q), \theta\rangle$$

$$Y_q |P, \theta\rangle = |P, \theta\rangle \omega_q^{-P} e^{-i\theta} \quad \text{the famous } q\text{-dim representation of the 't Hooft algebra}$$

$$X_{2q} Y_q = \omega_q Y_q X_{2q} \quad (\omega_q = e^{i\frac{2\pi}{q}})$$

Discrete chiral symmetry: clearly broken, q -vacua (1st relation above).

Breaking of center symmetry:

perimeter law for $q=1$ Wilson loop - all charges are screened in the massless Schwinger model due to vacuum polarization.

Screening length at infinite L is $\sim 1/e$.

Iso-Murayama '90

This establishes all claims in the 2d part of the talk.

Extra technical slide III: further properties of charge-q Schwinger model

$$X_{2q} |P, \theta\rangle = |P + 1(\text{mod } q), \theta\rangle$$

$$Y_q |P, \theta\rangle = |P, \theta\rangle \omega_q^{-P} e^{-i\theta}$$

- I Center symmetry and chiral symmetries broken, at any T in the 2d charge-q model:
 - at $T \gg qe$, condensate still nonzero, exponential $e^{(-T/qe)}$ falloff
 - at $T \gg qe$, A_0 component has a center-breaking vev, “GPY” potential
- 2 Using Shifman/Smilga '94, one can see, in $eL \ll 1$ weak coupling semiclassical limit, quite explicitly **fractional-1/fractional-1* pairs (“fractons”)** contributing to bilinear condensate
essentially: $\langle \bar{\psi}_+ \psi_-(x) \bar{\psi}_- \psi_+(0) \rangle \Big|_{x \rightarrow \infty} \neq 0$ + clustering: $\langle \bar{\psi}_+ \psi_- \rangle \neq 0$
+ $eL \ll 1$ weak coupling:
fracton/anti-fracton (each of charge $|1/q|$) saddle point (x-apart)
- 3 There are no dynamical DWs between the $|P\rangle$ vacua (these would be new particles in this 1d world);
a $q=1$ Wilson static loop instead serves the purpose (**)
[see also older work by Hansson, Nielsen, Zahed '94,
no mention of chiral symmetry or anomalies, but breaking of Z_q center discussed]
- 4 The story flows into the $\theta=\pi$ pure YM upon adding mass (with right phase).
[(**) also matches with discussion of Gaiotto et al '17]

Extra technical slide IV: nonabelian/multiflavor case - richness...

center breaking vacua for SU(N) QCD(adj) labeled by $w_0=0, w_1, \dots, w_r$ ($r=N-1, w_k=k$ -th fund. weight)

DWs labeled by: $k, k=1, \dots, N-1: w_0 \rightarrow w_k$

		gauge group on k-wall				anomalous
matter	fermion	$SU(N - k)_{gauge}$	$SU(k)_{gauge}$	$U(1)_{gauge}$	$U(1)_{A,global}$	
	λ_+	\square	\square	N	1	
	λ_-	$\overline{\square}$	$\overline{\square}$	-N	1	

There is a Z_N 1-form center symmetry on the 2d k-wall (min. U(1) charge is 1)

Again, inherits bulk chiral/center 't Hooft anomaly...

[...centers of worldvolume gauge groups,
+ emergent 1-form 2d worldvolume center...]

Presumably saturated on the wall by

$$\langle \lambda_+ \lambda_- \rangle \neq 0 \quad (\text{for } n_f=1, \text{ as in the low-T 4d bulk})$$

but remains to be shown...

n_f dependence?

[2d-4d relations...?]