

# QCD with an IR Fixed Point and a Dilaton

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mostly based on

Del Debbio, RZ	JHEP'22 2112.1364	Dilaton new phase?
RZ	PRD, 2306.06752	broken $\chi$ -sym.@IRFP - pions
RZ	2306.12914	Dilaton improves Goldstones
Shifman RZ	PRD, 2310.16449	$\beta'_*$ in N=1 conformal window
RZ	PRD 2312.13761	broken $\chi$ -sym.@IRFP - pions & dilaton

**Dilaton Dynamics Workshop - Edinburgh - 26-28 June 2024**

# A collection of refs

*more refs in my papers  
and surely more as an  
old and interesting topic*

- **Pre-QCD work 69-70**

PhD thesis: **John Ellis & Rod Crewther'70** and paper resulting  
Imperial group; **Isham, Salam, Strathdee** also **Mack**

- **PDG banned  $\sigma$ -meson (dilaton candidate 20 years)**

**Pelaez et al'96** good values **Caprini, Colangelo, Leutwyler'06** good value, small error, Roy eq. with LHC

- **Pre&post LHC model building - (not attached to gauge theories)**

**Rattazi et al 1306.4601 Grinstein et al 0708.1463 Terning et al 1406.5192} ....**

Some pragmatic, some negative conclusions

- **Conformal Window lattice efforts '07 - (walking technicolor)**

**Del Debbio, Lucini, Patella, Kuti, Holland, Sannino, Pica, Appelquist, LSD, LatKMI .....**

Some results established, finding light scalars more and more

- **$\sigma$ -meson in  $\chi$ PT?** **Crewther'Tunstall, 12'-15'**

- **Dilaton (gravity explaining origin of Planck Mass)** **Wetterich, Zee, Shaposhnikov, Karananas..**

- **Crawling TC (connecting Pre-QCD work)** **Cata, Crewther'Tunstall, 18'**

- **Dilaton-EFT'15** (understand lattice results) **Appelquist, Piai, Ingolby .. Golterman & Shamir .**

# Overview

- **Constraint on operator generating dilaton mass**

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{O}} = d_{\mathcal{O}} + \gamma_{\mathcal{O}} = d - 2$$

*(model-independent - comments on QCD)*

- **QCD@IRFP**  $\gamma_* = 1$  in many ways

- **Relation to  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  SUSY gauge theories (Seiberg dualities)**

*Inspires  $\beta'_* = 0$  (also in QCD@IRFP)*

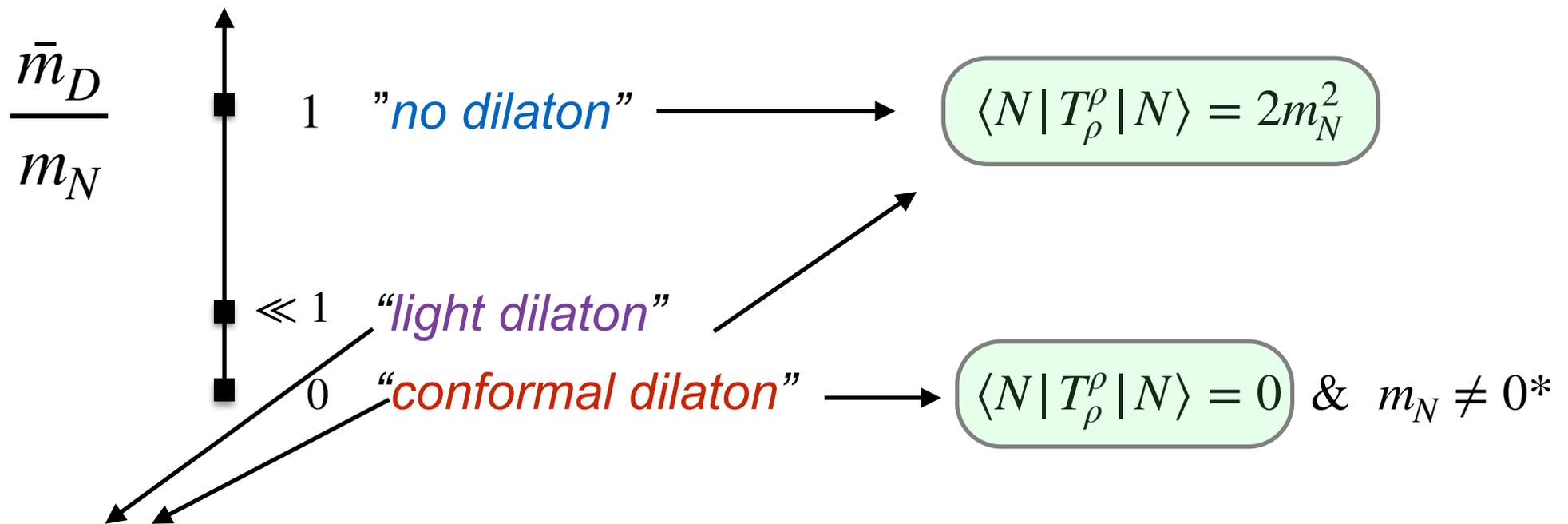
- **Outlook & Conclusions**

# Dilaton: basic picture

$|D\rangle$  : lightest State with  $J^{PC} = 0^{++}$

$|N\rangle$  : non-Goldstone state (e.g. nucleon)

- remove explicit scale breaking ...



- (pseudo) Goldstone of spontaneous scale symmetry breaking

$$\langle 0|T_{\mu\nu}|D(q)\rangle = \frac{F_D}{d-1}(m_D^2\eta_{\mu\nu} - q_\mu q_\nu)$$

decay constant  $F_D$   
order parameter

# Dilaton mass?

- Assume operator  $\mathcal{O} \subset T_\rho^\rho$  responsible for dilation mass

$$2m_D^2 = \langle D | T_\rho^\rho | D \rangle \quad (1) \quad *$$

$$F_D m_D^2 = \langle 0 | T_\rho^\rho | D(q) \rangle \quad (2)$$

← previous slide

- Idea: using soft-dilation thm  $\Rightarrow$  constraint on scaling dimension  $\Delta_{\mathcal{O}}$

RZ 2312.13761

$$\langle D(q) \beta | \mathcal{O}(0) | \alpha \rangle = -\frac{1}{F_D} \langle \beta | i[Q_D, \mathcal{O}(0)] | \alpha \rangle + \lim_{q \rightarrow 0} iq \cdot R$$

$$i[Q_D, \mathcal{O}(x)] = (\Delta_{\mathcal{O}} + x \cdot \partial) \mathcal{O}(x) \quad R_\mu = -\frac{i}{F_D} \int d^d x e^{iq \cdot x} \langle \beta | T J_\mu^D(x) \mathcal{O}(0) | \alpha \rangle$$

\* “dilaton cannot hide its own mass”, since dilation pole is needed!

## Dilaton soft theorem applied

$$2m_D^2 = \langle D | \mathcal{O}(x) | D \rangle = -\frac{1}{F_D} \langle 0 | i[Q_D, \mathcal{O}(x)] | D \rangle = -(\Delta_{\mathcal{O}} + x \cdot \partial) \langle 0 | \mathcal{O}(x) | D \rangle$$

- There is **x-dependence** in matrix element:  $\langle 0 | \mathcal{O}(x) | D(p) \rangle = F_{\mathcal{O}} e^{-ipx}$
- Interpret as distribution to be smeared out

$$\mathbb{1}_V [x \cdot \partial \langle 0 | \mathcal{O}(x) | D \rangle] = -d \frac{1}{V} \int_V d^d x \langle 0 | \mathcal{O}(x) | D \rangle$$

$$\mathbb{1}_V = \frac{1}{V} \int_V d^d x$$

**Physics:** form **wave packet** (integration by parts ok as no bdry-contribution)

... concluding

$$2m_D^2 = \frac{1}{F_D} (d - \Delta_{\mathcal{O}}) \langle 0 | T^\rho{}_\rho | D(0) \rangle = (d - \Delta_{\mathcal{O}}) m_D^2$$

$\nearrow$   
 $F_D m_D^2$  by (2)

⇒ Operator giving mass to dilation ought to be of scaling dimension

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{O}} = d - 2$$

**1st main result**

# Interpretation in dilation EFT

- Dilaton EFT (dilaton sector)  $\chi \equiv e^{-\hat{D}}, \hat{D} \equiv \frac{D}{F_D}, \kappa_d \equiv \frac{2}{(d-1)(d-2)}$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{LO}} = \frac{1}{2} \hat{\chi}^{d-4} (\partial\chi)^2 + \frac{\kappa_d}{4} R \chi^{d-2} - V_{\Delta}(\hat{\chi}) + \dots$$

- Improvement term reproduces eq (1) (RZ, 2306.12914)

$$\langle 0 | T_{\mu\nu} | D(q) \rangle = \frac{F_D}{d-1} (m_D^2 \eta_{\mu\nu} - q_{\mu} q_{\nu})$$

- Potential with  $\Delta_{\mathcal{O}} = d - 2$  reproduces eq (2) (RZ, 2312.13761)

$$\langle D | T^{\rho}_{\rho} | D \rangle = 2m_D^2$$

(corresponds dim. of 2 free fields ... can make more formal)

$$\frac{m_D^2 F_D^2}{\Delta - d} \left( \frac{1}{\Delta} \hat{\chi}^{\Delta} - \frac{1}{d} \hat{\chi}^d \right)$$

Zumino-term

## Interpretation in QCD (gauge theory) in $d=4$

$$T_{\rho}^{\rho} |_{phys} = \beta/(2g) G^2 + N_f m_q (1 + \gamma_m) \bar{q}q$$

•  $m_q = 0$ : only  $\mathcal{O} = cG^2$  with  $\Delta_{G^2} = 4 + \beta'_* = 4 \neq 2$

•  $m_q \neq 0$ : then  $\mathcal{O} = c\bar{q}q$  with  $\Delta_{\bar{q}q} = 3 - \gamma_* = 2 \Leftrightarrow \gamma_* \equiv \gamma_{m_q} |_{\mu=0} = 1$

• Concluding:

- If  $m_D = 0$ , deforming  $m_q \neq 0$  **dilation GMOR**  
(previous works 70' and 80' difference  $\gamma_* = 1$ )

$$F_D^2 m_D^2 = -4N_f m_q \langle \bar{q}q \rangle$$

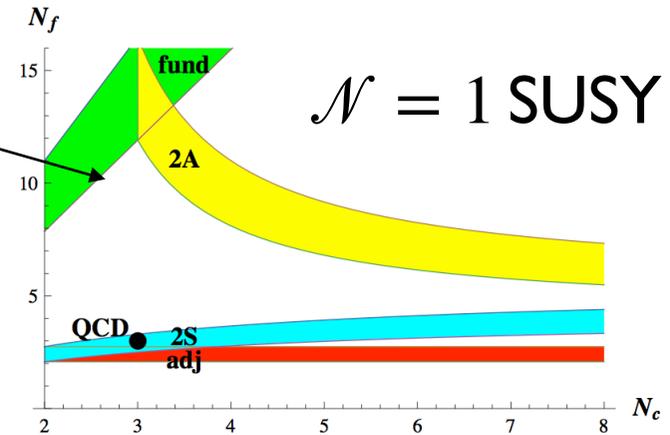
- How  $G^2$  can give mass to dilation seems unclear

**If (1) is correct**, as in **tension** with a) **soft theorem** b) standard **LO-EFT**

1. QCD:  $\langle \bar{q}q \rangle \neq 0$  **breaks** chiral & possibly scale symmetry **spontaneously**

2. @boundary of **conformal window (CW)**

SSB scale invariance is considered to lead to dilation and IR-CFT interpretation



3. **This talk:** explore IRFP interpretation in all of QCD phase

$$\bar{m}_D \neq 0,$$

deep-IR  $\Rightarrow$  standard  $\chi$ PT

$$\bar{m}_D = 0,$$

deep-IR  $\Rightarrow$  **dilaton- $\chi$ PT**

“QCD with an IRFP - pion sector”

“QCD with an IRFP and a dilaton”

# Matching scalar adjoint correlator

$$m_q = 0$$

$$S^a = \bar{q}T^a q$$

$$\langle S^a(x)S^a(0) \rangle_{\text{CD-QCD}} = \langle S^a(x)S^a(0) \rangle_{\chi\text{PT}}, \quad \text{for } x^2 \rightarrow \infty$$

deep-IR

source theory

Gasser & Leutwyler'84

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(x)\mathcal{O}^\dagger(0) \rangle_{\text{CFT}} \propto (x^2)^{-\Delta_{\mathcal{O}}}$$

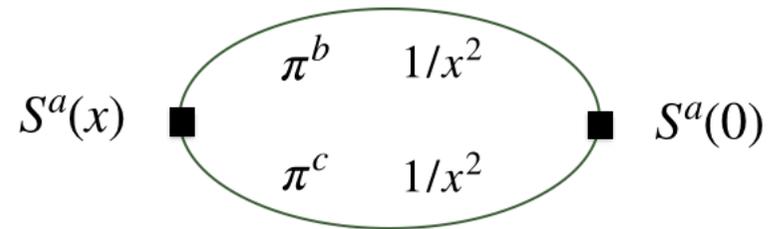
$$\Delta_{\mathcal{O}} = d_{\mathcal{O}} + \gamma_{\mathcal{O}}$$

$$\langle S^a(x)S^a(0) \rangle_{\text{CD-QCD}} \propto (x^2)^{-(3-\gamma_*)}$$

$$\Delta_{S^a} = d_{S^a} - \gamma_*$$

$$S^a|_{\text{LO}} = -\frac{F_\pi^2 B_0}{2} \text{Tr}[T^a U^\dagger + U T^a] \propto B_0 d^{abc} \pi^b \pi^c + \dots$$

$$\langle S^a(x)S^a(0) \rangle_{\chi\text{PT}} \propto B_0^2 d^{abc} d^{abc} \langle \pi^a(x)\pi^a(0) \rangle^2 \propto \frac{1}{x^4}$$



CFT-scaling

matches

Goldstone EFT

$$\gamma_* = 1$$

**2nd main result**

# Trace anomaly & Feynman-Hellmann thm

$$m_q \neq 0$$

$$2m_\pi^2 = \langle \pi^a | T_\rho^\rho | \pi^a \rangle$$

$$\partial_{\ln m_q} E_\pi = N_f m_q \langle \hat{\pi} | \bar{q}q | \hat{\pi} \rangle + \mathcal{O}(m_q^2)$$

$$T_\rho^\rho |_{phys} = \beta/(2g) G^2 + N_f m_q (1 + \gamma_m) \bar{q}q$$

main ingredient:  $\partial_{m_q} \langle \hat{\pi}(p') | \hat{\pi}(p) \rangle = 0$

rewrite using GMOR  $m_\pi^2 \propto m_q$  (QCD):

Ellis, Chanowitz, Crewther, Minkowski  
Adler, Duncan, Nielsen, Collins, Joglekar '72-75'

$$2m_\pi^2 = \langle \pi | \beta/(2g) G^2 + N_f m_q (1 + \gamma_m) \bar{q}q | \pi \rangle$$

$$2m_\pi^2 |_{m_q} = 2N_f m_q \langle \pi | \bar{q}q | \pi \rangle$$

reduces to GMOR double soft-pion thm

1. Note that these two **must equate** at  $\mathcal{O}(m_q)$ , also in standard QCD
2. Note that  $\beta \rightarrow \beta_* = 0, \gamma_m \rightarrow \gamma_* = 1$  seems a simple  $\mathcal{O}(m_q)$ -solution

$\Rightarrow \gamma_* = 1$  follows once more

\*residue  $\mathcal{O}(q^2, m_\pi^2) \Rightarrow$  pole no "dramatic" effect

## Interpretation & comments

- Works with and without dilation ( $m_D = 0$ ,  $m_D \neq 0$ ) .. check GMOR

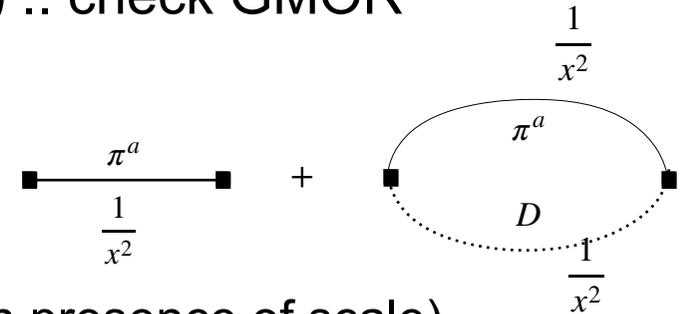
- 1) *Accidental?* can be **derived** in **other ways**

i)  $P^a = \bar{q}\gamma_5 T^a q$ -correlator

(breakdown of state-operator correspondence or RG in presence of scale)

ii) hyperscaling  $m_\pi^2 \propto m_q^{\frac{2}{1+\gamma^*}} \propto m_q$  (need to argue)

iii) low energy thm for pion gravitational form factor [RZ, 2306.12914v2](#)



- 2) *Accidental?* **consistent** with **end of conformal window** in

a)  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  SUSY gauge theories b) other approaches & lattice

Suggests: not accidental at boundary

However, does it **make sense** to **extend below CW-boundary**?

$\Rightarrow$  look at  $\mathcal{N} = 1$

**non-  
standard**

# $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SUSY gauge theories (Seiberg duality)



$SU(N)$  &  $2N_f$  chiral matter fields

$SU(N_D)$  &  $N_D = N_f - N$  .. matter &  $M_i^{\bar{j}}$  colour neutral **meson field** (adjoint)

**Dual IR?** a) **global symmetries match IR** b) some operators known to match

a) e.g.  $\langle T^\rho_\rho(x) T^\alpha_\alpha(0) \rangle_{\text{el}} \xleftrightarrow{\text{IR}} \langle T^\rho_\rho(x) T^\alpha_\alpha(0) \rangle_{\text{mag}}$

b) e.g.  $\tilde{Q}^{\bar{j}} Q_i \leftrightarrow M_i^{\bar{j}}$

**below CW**  
(chiral sym. broken)

$$N + 1 < N_f < \frac{3}{2}N$$

**IR-free**  
**magnetic phase**

$$2 - \gamma_* = \Delta_{\tilde{Q}Q} = \Delta_M = 1 \Leftrightarrow \gamma_* = 1$$

- Q: *Does it make sense to extend below CW-boundary?*

A: **At least in  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  SUSY gauge theory**

- We can get **further inspiration** from  $\mathcal{N} = 1, \dots$

$$\Delta_{G^2} = 4 + \beta'_* = \Delta_{T_\rho^\rho} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \langle T_\rho^\rho(x) T_\rho^\rho(0) \rangle_{CW} \propto \frac{1}{(x^2)^{4+\beta'_*}}$$

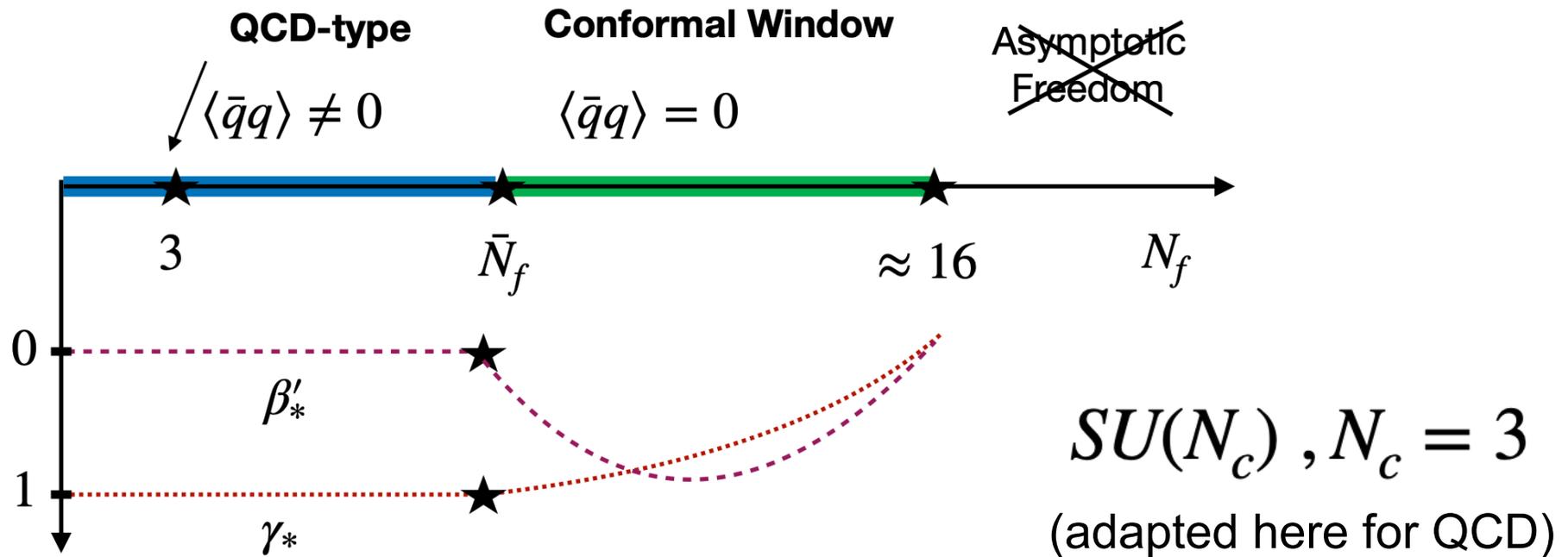
$$\langle T_\rho^\rho(x) T_\alpha^\alpha(0) \rangle_{\text{el}} \xleftrightarrow{\text{IR}} \langle T_\rho^\rho(x) T_\alpha^\alpha(0) \rangle_{\text{mag}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \left( \beta'_*|_{\text{el}} = \beta'_*|_{\text{mag}} \right)_{\text{CW}}$$

Anselmi, Grisaru, Johanson 97'  
Shifman RZ '23

- **Below CW?** Magnetic IR-free, thus  $\left( \beta'_*|_{\text{mag}} = 0 \Rightarrow \beta'_*|_{\text{el}} = 0 \right)$  **by continuity**

# $\mathcal{N} = 1$ CW-picture



• Q: Does  $\beta'_* = 0$  hold in non-SUSY (QCD) case?

RZ, 2312.13761

A: Yes

- If  $m_D \neq 0$  can show by matching  $\langle T_\rho^\rho(x) T_\rho^\rho(0) \rangle$ -correlator
- RGE (adapted hyperscaling derivation also works)

**3rd main result**

$\beta'_* = 0$  important since ..

- Power-running  $\delta g \propto \mu^{\beta'_*} \Rightarrow$  **log-running**

$$\delta g \propto \frac{1}{|\beta''_*| \ln(\mu/\lambda_{IR})}$$

$\Rightarrow$  seems can **drop**  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{anom}}(\beta'_*)$  from LO Lagrangian

as anomaly reproduced in extending “EMT in  $\chi$ Pt” Donoghue & Leutwyler 90'

$\Rightarrow$  **log-running**, sign of **mass-gap**. QCD asymptotes into Goldstone-EFT

- Makes light (or massless) dilaton more probable since:  $m_D = \mathcal{O}(\beta'_*) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\beta''_*)$

- Argument in favour of Seiberg dual for QCD (possibly hidden local symmetry)

## Conclusions & Outlook

- Three main results allow to write **LO dilaton-chiral perturbation theory**

$$\Delta_{\bar{q}q} = 3 - \gamma_* = 2, \quad V_{\Delta_{\bar{q}q}}, \quad \beta'_* = 0 \quad U = e^{i\pi^a T^a / F_\pi} \quad \hat{\chi} = e^{-D/F_D}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{LO}}^{\text{d}\chi\text{PT}} = \frac{F_\pi^2}{4} \hat{\chi}^2 \text{Tr}[\partial^\mu U \partial_\mu U^\dagger] + \frac{1}{2} (\partial\chi)^2 + \frac{1}{12} \chi^2 R + \mathcal{L}_{\text{anom}}(\beta'_*)$$

$$\frac{B_0 F_\pi^2}{2} (\text{Tr}[\mathcal{M} U^\dagger + U \mathcal{M}^\dagger] \hat{\chi}^2 - \text{Tr}[\mathcal{M} + \mathcal{M}^\dagger] \hat{\chi}^4)$$

**Integer scaling dimension seem unavoidable** when matched EFT

Compare

Bardeen, Leung Love'86,	$\gamma_*$ not fixed, not consider $\beta'_*$ ( $m_D = 0$ assumed), $+m_q$
Crewther Tunstall 12-15	$\gamma_*$ not fixed, $V_{4+\beta'_*} + m_q$
Appqelquist, Ingoldby, Piai 17'	$\gamma_*$ not fixed, $V_\Delta + m_q$ (reminimise)
Golterman, Shamir 16'	$\gamma_*$ not fixed, $V_4$ (gluon field strength) $+m_q$

- Q: *Can the dilaton remain massless when there is a flow into IRFP?*

A: yes it can d=3 model [Cresswell-Hogg Litim'23](#) and [Cresswell-Hogg Litim, RZ '24](#)

Methods presented seem to work - consistency in the dilaton-GMOR relation

- Q: *Can  $\sigma = f_0(500)$  meson be a dilaton?*

A1: likely more special than many people think (e.g. light in chiral limit)

A2: dilaton-EFT. - **width** works qualitatively ..

- **mass** issues with a) strange quark & b) convergence.

A3: efforts needed: lattice, FRG, Dyson-Schwinger, Roy equations & Bootstrap?

- Q: Can **Higgs** be a **dilaton**?

A: probably yes, if  $F_\pi/F_D \approx 1$  for  $N_f = 2$  (weak force)

- gauge theory  $G'$  with one doublet (narrow dilaton)
- one does not need massless dilaton
- coupled to SM via Yukawa-sector as EFT
- is approximately satisfied in nucleon potential models  
puzzling as there is no symmetry reason known (yet)

***Interesting open problems ...***

***Hope to learn more during workshop - thank you!***

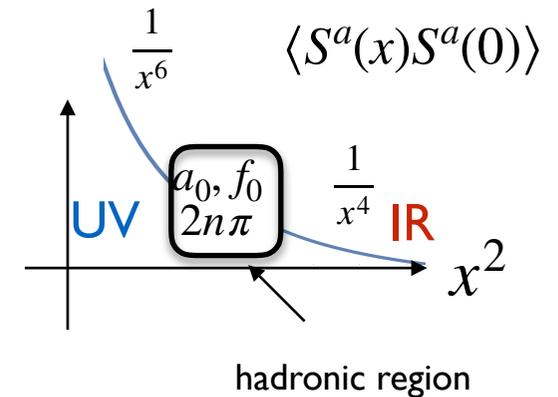
**Backup**

# An emerging picture

- Message seems to be: integer  $\gamma_*$  is special

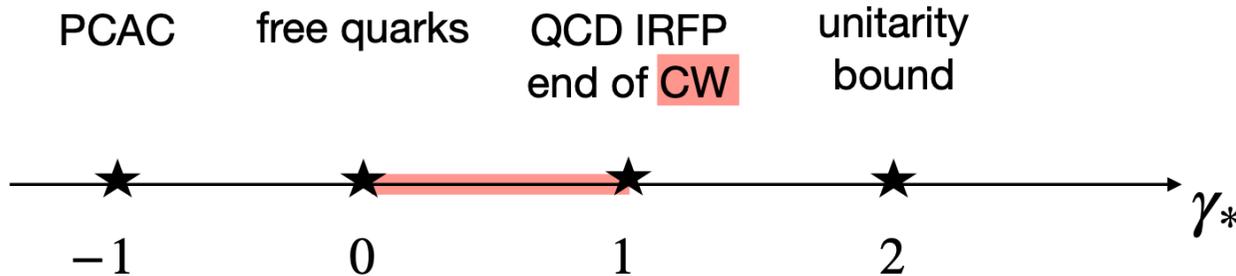
$\gamma_* = 2$  unitarity bound (Mack'77) = 1 free scalar  
 $\gamma_* = 1$  lower end of CW = 2 free scalars  $\Delta_{S^a}^{UV} = 2$   
 $\gamma_* = 0$  upper end of CW = 2 free quarks  $\Delta_{S^a}^{UV} = 3$   
 $\gamma_* = -1$  PCAC bound (Wilson'69)

$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{degenerate} \\ \mathcal{N} = 1 \text{ SUSY} \end{array} \right\}$



## QCD-like theories (no scalars)

$$\gamma_m = -\gamma_{\bar{q}q}|_{\mu=0} = \gamma_*$$



- Conformal window only uses 1/3 of allowed  $\gamma_*$ -range

## RG derivation of $\beta'_* = 0$

RG-consideration\*:  $\langle \pi | G^2 | \pi \rangle \propto m_q^{\frac{2+\beta'_*}{y_m}}$

pion-GMOR  $\langle \pi | G^2 | \pi \rangle = \mathcal{O}(m_q)$

$$y_m = 1 + \gamma_* = 2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \beta_* = 0$$

\*  $\langle \pi | G^2 | \pi \rangle \propto F_\pi^2$  since  $\langle \pi | \bar{q}q | \pi \rangle \propto F_\pi^2$  by GMOR

## The higgs boson as a dilaton

## universal part

- If  $v = 0$ , **SM conformal** (up to log-running), Higgs like a dilaton

$$\left(1 + \frac{h}{v}\right) \rightarrow \chi = e^{-\frac{D}{F_D}} \rightarrow \left(1 + \frac{h}{F_D}\right)$$

If number of **doublets** = 1  $\Rightarrow v = F_\pi$

- $r = \frac{F_\pi}{F_D} = 1$  is the Standard Model limit

- One can deduce indirectly:  $r_{QCD} = 1.0(2) \pm \text{syst}$ , **intriguing!**
  - a) **no symmetry reason** for this to happen (however, systematics...)
  - b) closeness to unity, **LO-invisible @ LHC**

# Why does the dilaton couple like the Higgs?

**non-universal part**

1. popular just before LHC

$$G_{CFT} = G_{SM} \times G' + \delta\mathcal{L}_{CFT} = c\mathcal{O}$$

Golberger et al, Terning et al etc

new-sector

in trouble:  $\delta_{SM}(gg \rightarrow h) \propto \delta_{SM}(h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) \propto \Delta\beta_{decoupled} = \text{too large}$

when it is said that “the dilaton as a Higgs has been excluded by the LHC”. then that’s what people mean.

2. another idea (Cata, Crewther’Tunstall, 18’)

$$G_{SM}^{\text{no Higgs}} \xleftrightarrow{\text{Yukawa}} G'$$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{4}v^2 \text{tr}[D^\mu U D_\mu U^\dagger] - v\bar{q}_L Y_d U \mathcal{D}_R + \dots$$

$$U = \exp(i2T^a \pi^a / F_\pi) \quad U \rightarrow V_L U V_Y, \quad V_Y = e^{iyT_3}$$

how to bring back the higgs/dilaton is not addressed in that paper, one cannot use the compensator argument as only G’ IR-CFT.

In 2312.13761 it is argued that if there is a symmetry reason for  $r_2 \approx 1$ , then same reason might enforce the right coupling aka

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{4} v^2 e^{-2D/F_D} \text{Tr}[D^\mu U D_\mu U^\dagger] - v e^{-D/F_D} \bar{q}_L Y_d U \mathcal{D}_R + \dots$$

- **Constraints?**

$$\delta_{SM}(gg \rightarrow h) = \text{NNLO}$$

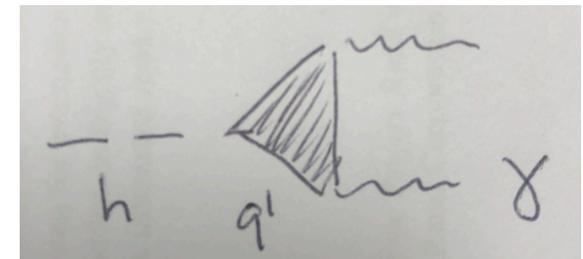
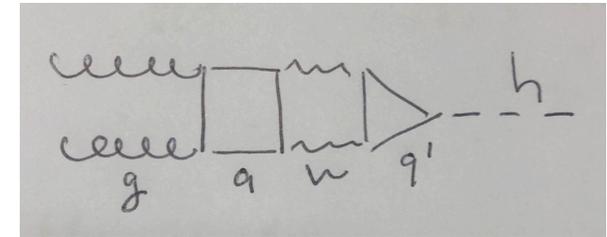
$$\delta_{SM}(h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) = \text{non-perturbative}$$

EWPO: e.g. S-parameter  $\delta S = \mathcal{O}(2\%)$  if  $r_2 = 1$

most “dangerous one” looks like  $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$   
 ... to be continued & discussed or other idea

- **Higgs-dilaton potential?**

radiatively induced aka composite Higgs with  $\Lambda_{G'} = \mathcal{O}(1) \Lambda_{EW}$



# What is a dilaton?

- Always: particle vacuum quantum numbers  $J^{PC} = 0^{++}$   
Otherwise: few different meanings
1. **Goldstone boson\*** of spontaneously **broken scale invariance** of strong interactions 1968-1970 then largely forgotten  
*(resurrected as Higgs as dilaton pre-LHC)*
  2. **Scalar component of gravity (gravi-scalar)**  
Brans-Dicke, supergravity (string theory)
  3. A **name** for a **light**  $J^P = 0^+$  **scalar** in context of approximate scale inv.  
However, it is not a Goldstone (no limit when it's massless...)

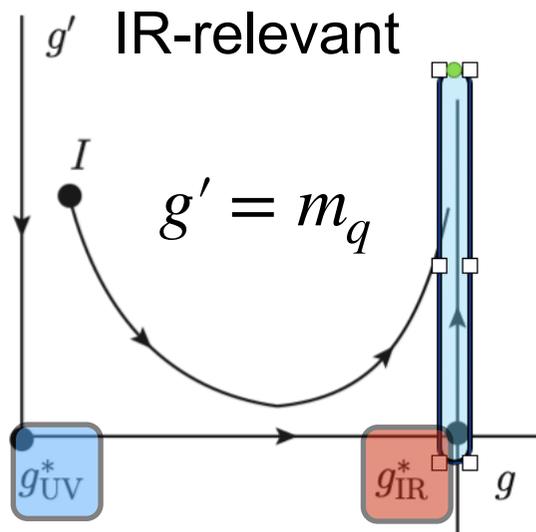
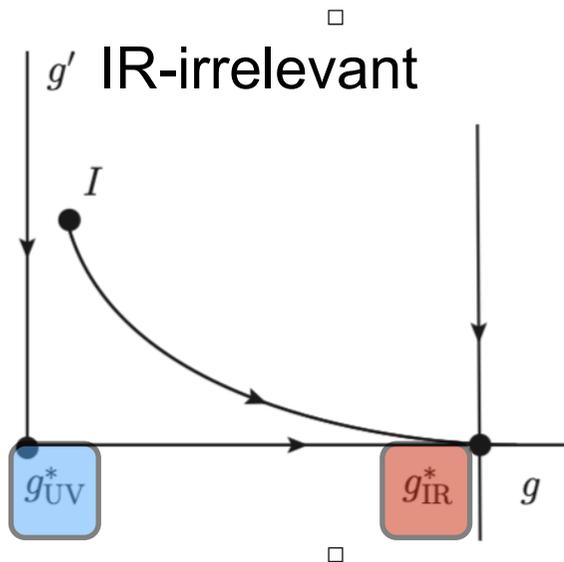
this talk

# Types of Renormalisation Group (RG)-flow

- assume UV fixed point (e.g. asymptotic freedom)  $g_{UV}^*$ , IR flow?

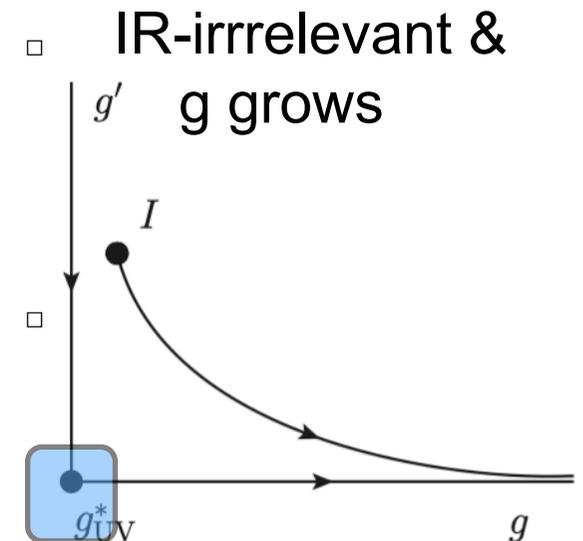
IR fixed point  $g_{IR}^*$

*conformal window*



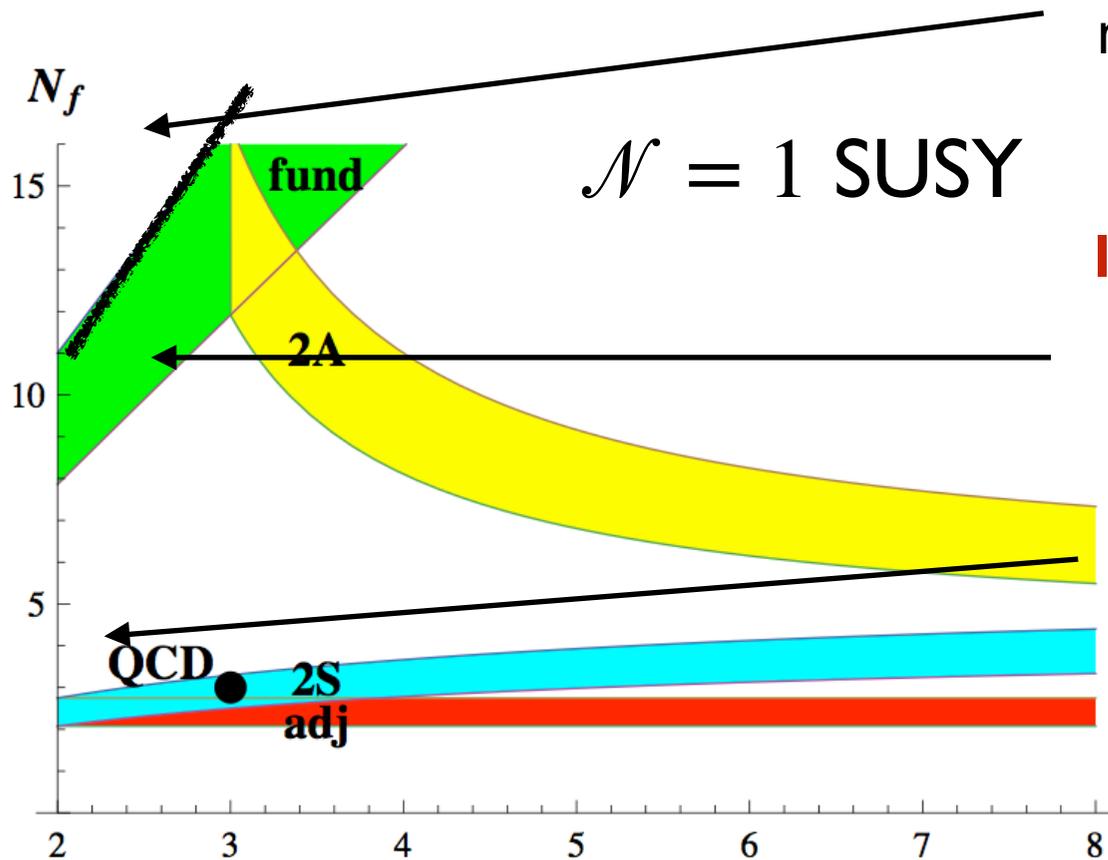
no IR fixed point

*QCD-picture*



# Phases of gauge theories - Conformal Window

- gauge theory **massless quarks** in some **irrep** (e.g. fund. of say  $SU(N_c)$ )
- Focus on **green** = fund irrep



no asymptotic freedom (ignore)

**IR** fixed point = **conformal window**

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(x)\mathcal{O}(0) \rangle_{CFT} \propto \frac{1}{(x^2)^{\Delta_{\mathcal{O}}}} \quad x^2 \rightarrow \infty$$

**QCD:** *chiral SSB* & *confinement*

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(x)\mathcal{O}(0) \rangle_{QCD} \propto \text{complicated}$$

$N_c$

# QCD@low energy: pion EFT = $\chi$ PT

isospin

- QCD  $\langle \bar{q}q \rangle \neq 0$  **breaks** chiral  $SU_L(N_f) \times SU_L(N_f) \rightarrow SU_V(N_f)$  spontaneously,  $N_f^2 - 1$  **Goldstones = pions** [ $m_\pi^2 = \mathcal{O}(m_q)$ ]

- CCWZ construction  $U = e^{i\pi^a T^a / F_\pi}$

$$\mathcal{M} \equiv \text{diag}(m_{q_1}, \dots, m_{q_{N_f}})$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{LO}^{\chi PT} = \frac{F_\pi^2}{4} \text{Tr}[\partial^\mu U \partial_\mu U^\dagger] + \frac{B_0 F_\pi^2}{2} \text{Tr}[\mathcal{M} U^\dagger + U \mathcal{M}^\dagger]$$

PCAC GMOR, Goldberger-Treiman  
 LO: Weinberg '67  
 NLO: Weinberg '79  
 Gasser Leutwyler '84,'85  
 NNLO: Bijnes, Colangelo, Gasser ...

kinetic  $\rightarrow$   $m_q$ -term (spurion technique) GMOR  $m_\pi^2 F_\pi^2 = -2m_q \langle \bar{q}q \rangle$

- QCD  $\langle \bar{q}q \rangle \neq 0$  also **breaks scale symmetry**, possibly spontaneously?  
 If yes, **1 (pseudo) Goldstones = dilaton**

$$\mathcal{L}_{LO}^{d\chi PT} = \text{later}$$

$$m_D^2 = \mathcal{O}(m_q, \beta_*')$$

does Goldstone mass remember the flow?  
 (Not settled - If CFT SSB then massless)

# IRFP-interpretation - assumptions

- scaling @IRFP with SSB:  $\langle \bar{q}q \rangle \neq 0$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(x)\mathcal{O}(0) \rangle \propto \frac{1}{(x^2)^{\Delta_{\mathcal{O}}}} + \text{GB-corrections}$$

$$x^2 \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{O}} = d_{\mathcal{O}} + \gamma_{\mathcal{O}}$$

- **assume** exists a scheme:  $\beta_* = \beta|_{\mu=0} = 0$

$$\beta = \beta'_* \delta g + \beta''_* \frac{(\delta g)^2}{2} + \mathcal{O}((\delta g)^3), \quad \delta g \equiv g - g_*$$

$$T^{\rho}_{\rho}|_{\text{phys}} = \frac{\beta}{2g} G^2 + \sum_q m_q (1 + \gamma_m) \bar{q}q$$

- idea: **QCD@IRFP  $\leftrightarrow$  EFT (dilaton)- $\chi$ PT** for  $x^2 \rightarrow \infty$

determine anomalous dimension: e.g\*  $\gamma_{m_q} = -\gamma_{\bar{q}q}|_{\mu=0} \equiv \gamma_*$

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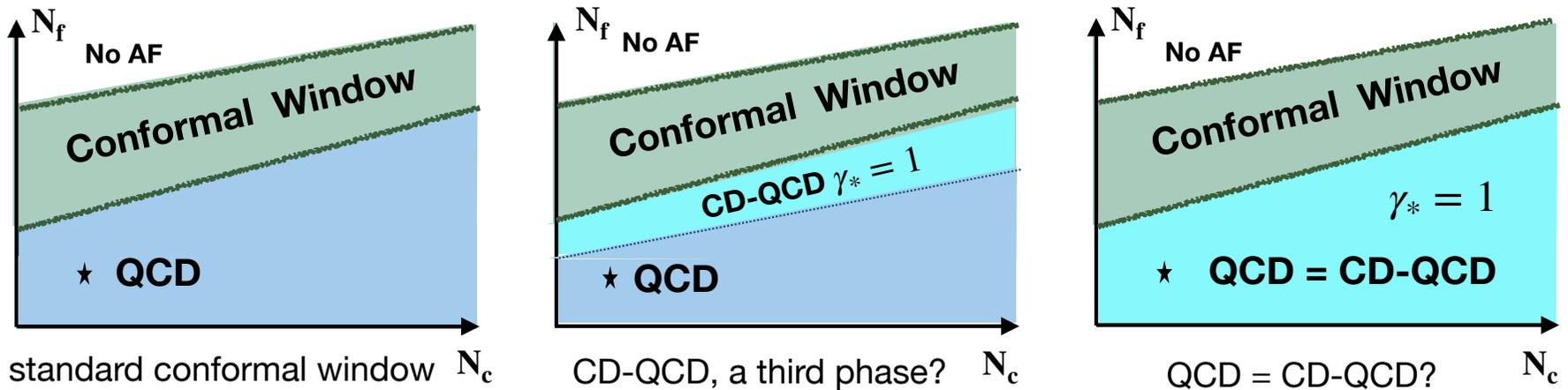
\* main quantity in CW-hunt. and Walking technicolor  $-1 \leq \gamma_* \leq 2$  allowed range

irrelevant(PCAC)

unitarity

## End of main part and ...

- At least any of these three possibilities is logically possible. Option 1 is what is taken for granted in standard view.



- Hope, convinced you that option 2 & 3 are not as absurd as .. I thought as well.
- Important: under assumptions got back consistent results.

# Before going to $T_\rho^\rho$ -correlator ...

.... pause and introduce EFT: **dilaton- $\chi$ PT**

**chiral**

$$J_{5\mu}^a = \bar{q} T^a \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 q$$

$$\langle \pi^b(q) | J_{5\mu}^a | 0 \rangle = i F_\pi q_\mu \delta^{ab}$$

$$U = e^{i\pi^a T^a / F_\pi}$$

$$U \rightarrow LUR^\dagger$$

$$(L, R) \in SU(N_f)_L \otimes SU(N_f)_R$$

**dilatation**

$$J_\mu^D(x) = x^\nu T_{\mu\nu}(x)$$

$$\langle D(q) | J_\mu^D | 0 \rangle = i F_D q_\mu$$

$$\chi \equiv F_D e^{-D / F_D}$$

$$\chi \rightarrow \chi e^{\alpha(x)}$$

$$\alpha(x) \in \mathbb{R}$$

sym. currents

decay constants=  
order parameters

coset rep.

transformation

**Isham, Salam, Strathdee,  
Mack, Zumino ca '70**

# Leading order dilaton- $\chi$ PT

- Building principle: enforce Weyl invariance

$$g_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow e^{-2\alpha} g_{\mu\nu} \quad \chi \rightarrow \chi e^{\alpha} \quad U \rightarrow U$$

$$\Delta_{\bar{q}q} = 3 - \gamma_* = 2$$

quark mass = expl. sym-breaking

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{LO}}^{\text{d}\chi\text{PT}} = \frac{F_\pi^2}{4} \hat{\chi}^2 \text{Tr}[\partial^\mu U \partial_\mu U^\dagger] + \frac{B_0 F_\pi^2}{2} \hat{\chi}^{\Delta_{\bar{q}q}} (\text{Tr}[\mathcal{M}U^\dagger + U\mathcal{M}^\dagger]) + \frac{1}{2} (\partial\chi)^2$$

standard-extend  $\chi$ PT + dilaton **global Weyl inv.**

$$- \frac{\Delta_{\bar{q}q}}{4} \text{Tr}[\mathcal{M} + \mathcal{M}^\dagger] \hat{\chi}^4 + \frac{1}{12} \chi^2 R + \mathcal{L}_{\text{anom}}(\beta'_*) + V(\chi),$$

removes tadpole  
(**Zumino-term**)

**local Weyl inv.** - solves  
Goldstone improvement problem  
(another talk [RZ 2306.12914](#))

matches  
trace anomaly  
(talk later)

potential  
(big unknown)  
last part ...

## Ready for $T_\rho^\rho$ -correlator ...

- Trace of EMT:  $T_\rho^\rho|_{\text{phys}} = \frac{\beta}{2g} G^2$

- Formally (& RG)

$$(\gamma_{G^2})_* = \beta'_* \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Delta_{T_\rho^\rho} = \Delta_{G^2} = 4 + \beta'_*$$

$$\beta = \beta'_* \delta g + \beta''_* \frac{(\delta g)^2}{2} + \mathcal{O}((\delta g)^3), \quad \delta g \equiv g - g_*$$

$$\langle T_\rho^\rho(x) T_\rho^\rho(0) \rangle \propto \left( \beta'_* \delta g + \beta''_* \frac{(\delta g)^2}{2} \right)^2 \frac{1}{(x^2)^{4+\beta'_*}}$$

- EFT difference between  $\chi$ PT and dilaton- $\chi$ PT (with improvement [RZ 2306.12914](#))

$$T_\rho^\rho|_{\chi\text{PT}}^{\text{LO}} = -\frac{1}{2} \partial^2 \pi^a \pi^a, \quad T_\rho^\rho|_{d\chi\text{PT}}^{\text{LO}} = 0$$

$$\langle T_\rho^\rho(x) T_\rho^\rho(0) \rangle_{\chi\text{PT}}^{\text{LO}} \propto \frac{1}{x^8}, \quad \langle T_\rho^\rho(x) T_\rho^\rho(0) \rangle_{d\chi\text{PT}}^{\text{LO}} \propto 0$$

- $\chi$ PT implies  $\beta'_* = 0$  for  $d\chi$ PT not obvious (need RG-tools)

**2nd main result**

$\beta'_* = 0$  seems important for consistency

- Power-running  $\delta g \propto \mu^{\beta'_*} \Rightarrow$  **log-running**  
 $\Rightarrow$  seems can **drop**  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{anom}}(\beta'_*)$  from LO Lagrangian  
as anomaly reproduced in extending “EMT in  $\chi$ P T” Donoghue & Leutwyler 90’  
 $\Rightarrow$  **log-running**, sign of **mass-gap**. QCD asymptotes into Goldstone-EFT

$$\delta g \propto \frac{1}{|\beta''_*| \ln(\mu/\lambda_{IR})}$$

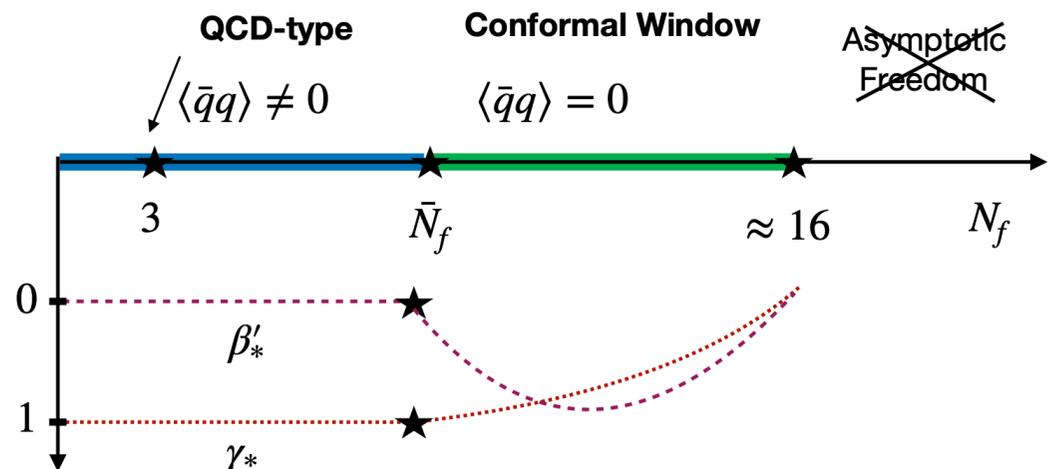
- Makes light (or massless) dilaton more probable since:  $m_D = \mathcal{O}(\beta'_*) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\beta''_*)$
- Continuous **matching** to **N=1 SUSY** conformal window  $\beta'_* \rightarrow 0$  @boundary

Anselmi, Grisaru, Johanson 97’ Shifman RZ ‘23

$$\beta'_*|_{\text{el}} = \beta'_*|_{\text{mag}}$$

$$\langle T^\rho_\rho(x) T^\alpha_\alpha(0) \rangle_{\text{mag}} \xleftrightarrow{\text{IR}} \langle T^\rho_\rho(x) T^\alpha_\alpha(0) \rangle_{\text{el}}$$

- Summary figure:  
 $SU(N_c), N_c = 3$



# The essence of QCD and the dilaton

- **A dilaton in QCD?** Who? Consensus it would be the  $\sigma \equiv f_0(500)$ -meson

$$\sqrt{s_\sigma} = m_\sigma - \frac{i}{2}\Gamma_\sigma = (441_{-8}^{+16} - i272_{-12.5}^{+9}) \text{ MeV}, \quad \text{Caprini, Colangelo, Leutwyler'06}$$

Roy-equations+input

- **Question:** does  $m_\sigma$  become massless or nearly massless in chiral limit?  
**Fact:** *nobody knows*, some indication it becomes lighter.

- using **dilaton- $\chi$ PT:**

1) can reproduce width ( $SU(3)_F$ -analysis):  $\Gamma_\sigma = 616_{+146}^{-108} \pm \text{syst}^* \text{ MeV}$

2) soft-mass even too large (EFT-convergence broken)

- **Concluding:** 1) success (already 1970's) 2) inconclusive  
Hence, not bad but there could be more to it ...

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\* notion of  $\sigma$  decay constant  $F_\sigma$  not well-defined, took model-value needs further thought

# The higgs boson as a dilaton

**Attention:** different ways to implement ...  
some universal and some not.

- If  $v = 0$ , **SM conformal** (up to log-running), Higgs like a dilaton

$$\left(1 + \frac{h}{v}\right) \rightarrow \chi = e^{-\frac{D}{F_D}} \rightarrow \left(1 + \frac{h}{F_D}\right)$$

**universal**

If number of **doublets** = 1  $\Rightarrow$   $v = F_\pi$  and  $r = \frac{F_\pi}{F_D}$  determines diff. to SM

- One can deduce indirectly:  $r_{QCD} = 1.0(2) \pm \text{syst}$ , **intriguing!**
  - no symmetry reason** for this to happen (however, systematics...)
  - closeness to unity, **LO-invisible @ LHC**
- An idea for model: **new gauge sector IRFP**,  
EWSB as in technicolor and **dilaton** as **naturally light Higgs**

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{4} v^2 e^{-2D/F_D} \text{Tr}[D^\mu U D_\mu U^\dagger] - v e^{-D/F_D} \bar{q}_L Y_d U \mathcal{D}_R + \dots$$

**non-universal**

Like SM@LO but **why** coupled in this way?

Suspect, if there is a symmetry reason for  $r \approx 1$ ,  
then same reason enforces Lagrangian as above.

to be continued ...

**BACKUP**

# Massive Hadrons in Conformal Phase

Chiral limit  $m_q \rightarrow 0$  resolve the contradiction below

$$\langle \phi(p) | T_{\mu}^{\mu} | \phi(p) \rangle \begin{cases} = 2m_{\phi}^2 & \text{standard formula} \\ = 0 & \text{with (massless) dilaton} \end{cases}$$

*“The dilaton can hide the nucleon mass”*

# Gravitational Form Factors

focus scalar  
instead of nucleon

- parameterise using Lorentz & translation invariance ( $\partial^\mu T_{\mu\nu} = 0$ )

$$\langle \phi(p') | T_{\mu\nu} | \phi(p) \rangle = 2\mathcal{P}_\mu \mathcal{P}_\nu G_1(q^2) + (q_\mu q_\nu - q^2 \eta_{\mu\nu}) G_2(q^2)$$

$$\mathcal{P} = \frac{1}{2}(p + p'), \quad q = p - p' \text{ momentum transfer}$$

- consider soft limit  $q \rightarrow 0$  then  $G_2$  drops and using  $P_\mu = \int d^3x T_\mu^0$

$$\langle \phi(p) | T_\mu^\mu | \phi(p) \rangle = 2m_\phi^2$$

$$G_1(0) = 1$$

... seems the end of the road (for massive hadrons and conformality)

- Let's have another look at\*

$$\langle \varphi(p') | T_{\mu\nu} | \varphi(p) \rangle = 2P_\mu P_\nu G_1(q^2) + (q_\mu q_\nu - q^2 \eta_{\mu\nu}) G_2(q^2)$$

$$\langle \phi(p) | T_{\mu}^{\mu} | \phi(p) \rangle = 2m_\phi^2 \quad \text{does **not** need to **hold** if}$$

$$G_2(q^2) = \frac{r}{q^2} + \dots \quad \text{Goldstone pole (the **dilaton**)}$$

- That is already a bit of a shock - can we make this quantitative?

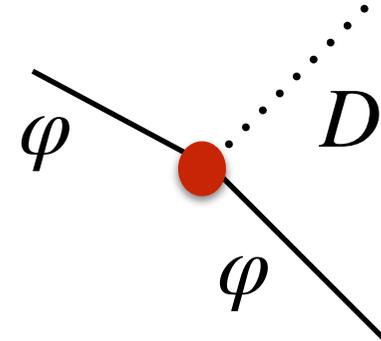
Yes in soft limit, as then can use  $G_1(0) = 1$  and vanishing trace imposes

$$r = \frac{2m_\phi^2}{(d-1)}$$

# Computation of Residue (new)

$$r = \frac{2m_\phi^2}{(d-1)}$$

- need to know  $\langle D\phi | \phi \rangle = i(2\pi)^d \delta \left( \sum p_i \right) g_{\phi\phi D}$
- can get it via **compensator trick** (Weyl scaling)



$$g_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow e^{-2\alpha} g_{\mu\nu}, \quad \phi \rightarrow e^\alpha \phi \quad \Rightarrow \quad D \rightarrow D - \alpha F_D$$

compensates  $m_\phi^2$  by dilaton, regain "conformal inv":  $\delta_\alpha \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{L}^{eff} = 0$

$$\mathcal{L}^{eff} \supset - e^{-2D/F_D} \frac{1}{2} m_\phi^2 \phi^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad g_{D\phi\phi} = \frac{2m_\phi^2}{F_D}$$

- now apply the LSZ formula (or dispersion theory)

$$r = \frac{2m_\phi^2}{(d-1)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle D\varphi|\varphi\rangle &= \lim_{q^2 \rightarrow 0} (-i) \frac{q^2}{Z_D} \int d^d x e^{iq \cdot x} P_2^{\mu\nu} T_{\mu\nu}^{(\varphi)}(p, p', x) \\ &= \lim_{q^2 \rightarrow 0} (-i) \frac{q^2}{Z_D} G_2(q^2) (2\pi)^d \delta\left(\sum p_i\right) \end{aligned}$$

use EMT as dilaton interpolator  
 $Z_D = -F_D/(d-1)$

- from where we get exactly the right residue

$$r = \lim_{q^2 \rightarrow 0} q^2 G_2(q^2) = -g_{\varphi\varphi D} Z_D = \frac{2m_\phi^2}{d-1}$$

- Rather encouraging. The **approach** is **self-consistent!**

# The dilaton improves Goldstones

based on  
2306.12914 RZ

## The standard improved scalar field

- Two terms curved space, no dim. couplings\*  $\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} ((\partial\varphi)^2 - \xi R\varphi^2)$

$$T^\rho{}_\rho = -d_\varphi(\partial\varphi)^2 + \xi(d-1)\partial^2\varphi^2 = (d-1)(\xi - \xi_d)\partial^2\varphi^2$$

↑  
eom

- Conformal  $T^\rho{}_\rho = 0$ , only for  $\xi = \xi_d \equiv \frac{(d-2)}{4(d-1)} \rightarrow \frac{1}{6}$  (d=4)

- improved EMT [Callan, Coleman, Jackiw'70](#), finite EMT (necessary as observable)
- earlier in GR: [Penrose'64](#) required by weak equivalence principle [Chernikov&Tagirov'68](#)
- finite integrated Casimir-effect [deWitt'75](#)
- Heuristically,  $\mathcal{L} \propto R\phi^2$ , not possible to write with coset field  $U = e^{i\frac{\pi^a T^a}{F_\pi}}$

[Dolgov & Voloshin'82](#) [Leutwyler-Shifman '89](#), [Donoghue-Leutwyler' 91](#)

\* may also work in flat space from start, but less elegant

## Intermezzo on relevance for flow theorems

- Focus  $d=2$  for simplicity, Weyl anomaly  $T_\rho^\rho = cR$  reveals central charge of CFT.

c-theorem (Zamolodchikov'86):  $\Delta c = c_{UV} - c_{IR} \geq 0$

Cardy'88.:  $\Delta c \propto \int d^2x x^2 \langle T_\rho^\rho(x) T_\rho^\rho(0) \rangle \Rightarrow T_\rho^\rho \rightarrow 0$  in UV and IR fast enough  
d=2 ok, Goldstone special anyway

- d=4, if **Goldstones not improvable**  $T_\rho^\rho = -\frac{1}{2}\partial^2\pi^2$ , then **log-IR divergence**  
a-thm\* &  $\square R$ -flow analogue formula IR-divergent

$\Rightarrow$  Goldstone improvement desirable

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\*for a-thm, Luty, Polchinski, Rattazzi'12' provide argument formula is IR-onvergent as inclusive enough

# The Goldstone improvement proposal

- dilaton-pion system improvement

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{LO}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{kin},4} + \mathcal{L}_4^R - V_4(\chi)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{kin},d} = \frac{F_\pi^2}{4} \hat{\chi}^{d-2} \text{Tr}[\partial^\mu U \partial_\mu U^\dagger] + \frac{1}{2} \chi^{d-4} (\partial\chi)^2$$

standard Lag.

$$\mathcal{L}_d^R = \frac{\kappa}{4} R \chi^{d-2}$$

0, no mass (later..)

**improvement term**,  $\kappa$  to be **determined**

- locally Weyl invariant**  $\Rightarrow$  conformal invariance.

$$\kappa = \kappa_d \equiv \frac{2}{(d-1)(d-2)} \xrightarrow{d \rightarrow 4} \frac{1}{3}$$

Compared to  $\xi_4 = 1/6$  like a "double improvement" (more to say)

- realises decay constant in EFT

$$\langle 0 | T_{\mu\nu} | D(q) \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{F_D}{d-1} (m_D^2 \eta_{\mu\nu} - q_\mu q_\nu) = \langle 0 | T_{\mu\nu}^R | D(q) \rangle = \langle 0 | \frac{1}{6} (\eta_{\mu\nu} \partial^2 - \partial_\mu \partial_\nu) \chi^2 | D(q) \rangle$$

### 3a. Improvement $T^\rho_\rho = 0$ use of equation of motion

- dilaton eom:  $\chi \partial^2 \chi = 2\mathcal{L}_{\text{kin},4}^\pi - \partial_{\ln \chi} V_4$

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \frac{F_\pi^2}{2} \hat{\chi}^2 \text{Tr}[\partial_\mu U \partial_\nu U^\dagger] + \partial_\mu \chi \partial_\nu \chi - \eta_{\mu\nu} (\mathcal{L}_{\text{kin},4} - V_4) + T_{\mu\nu}^R \searrow$$

$$T_{\mu\nu}^R = \frac{\kappa}{2} (g_{\mu\nu} \partial^2 - \partial_\mu \partial_\nu) \chi^2$$

$$T^\rho_\rho|_{V=0} = \frac{3}{2} \kappa \partial^2 \chi^2 - 2\mathcal{L}_{\text{kin},4}^\pi - 2\mathcal{L}_{\text{kin},4}^D$$

$$\stackrel{\text{eom}}{=} \frac{3}{2} \kappa \partial^2 \chi^2 - (\partial\chi)^2 - \chi \partial^2 \chi$$

$$= (3\kappa - 1) \{ \chi \partial^2 \chi + (\partial\chi)^2 \} = 0$$

$$\kappa = \kappa_4 = \frac{1}{3}$$

- works** as expected from **local Weyl invariance**, also works d-dim curved space