

# Center-vortex ensembles and the asymptotic Casimir law

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# The asymptotic properties of pure YM

- **$N$ -ality**

- Center-vortex condensates: 't Hooft (1978), Mack & Petkova (1979), Nielsen & Olesen (1979), Cornwall (1979)...
- Center dominance: Del Debbio, Faber, Greensite & Olejnik (1997), Langfeld, Reinhardt & Tennert (1998), de Forcrand & D'Elia (1999) ...
- Center-vortex models with stiffness: Engelhardt & Reinhardt (2000), Engelhardt, Quandt & Reinhardt (2004)

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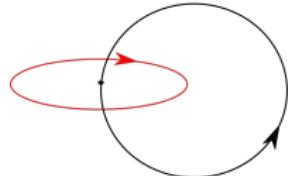
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(the  $k$ -antisymmetric). In 4d the Casimir law competes with the sine law
- **Abelian Nielsen-Olesen profiles in 4d**: Cea, Cosmai, Cuteria & Papa (2017), Yanagihara, R.; Iritani, T.; Kitazawa, M.; Asakawa, M.; Hatsuda, 2019, Yanagihara, R.; Kitazawa, 2019

# Simplest center-vortex ensembles in 3d

$$\mathcal{W}_D[\mathcal{A}] = \frac{1}{\mathcal{D}} \text{Tr} D \left( P \left\{ e^{i \oint_{C_e} dx_\mu A_\mu(x)} \right\} \right)$$



$$\mathcal{W}_D(\mathcal{C}_e) = \mathcal{Z}_D(\mathcal{C}_e) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{D}} \text{Tr} \left[ D \left( e^{i \frac{2\pi}{N}} I \right) \right]^{L(\omega, \mathcal{C}_e)}$$

Models for the Wilson loop average at asymptotic distances:

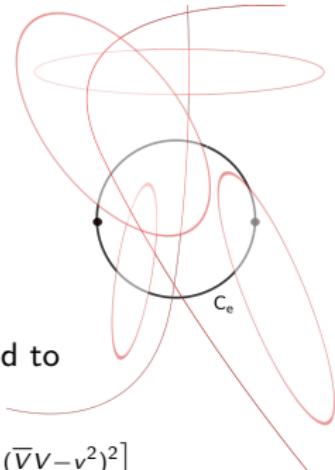
$$\langle \mathcal{Z}_D(\mathcal{C}_e) \rangle = \mathcal{N} \sum_{\omega} e^{-S(\omega)} \frac{1}{\mathcal{D}} \text{Tr} \left[ D \left( e^{i \frac{2\pi}{N}} I \right) \right]^{L(\omega, \mathcal{C}_e)}$$

- Diluted gas of closed worldlines: LEO & H. Reinhardt, 2018  
 $S(\omega)$  contains center-vortex tension ( $\mu$ ) and stiffness ( $1/\kappa$ ) terms

# 3d percolating center vortices

For fundamental quarks,

$$\mathcal{Z}_F(\mathcal{C}_e) = \left[ e^{i \frac{2\pi}{N}} \right]^{L(\omega, \mathcal{C}_e)}$$



Small positive stiffness and repulsive contact interactions lead to

$$\langle \mathcal{Z}_F(\mathcal{C}_e) \rangle = \mathcal{N} \int [\mathcal{D}V][\mathcal{D}\bar{V}] e^{- \int d^3x \left[ \frac{1}{3\kappa} \overline{D_\mu V} D_\mu V + \frac{1}{2\zeta} (\bar{V}V - v^2)^2 \right]}$$

$$v^2 \propto -\mu\kappa > 0 \quad , \quad D_\mu = \partial_\mu - i \frac{2\pi}{N} s_\mu \quad , \quad s_\mu \text{ is localized on } S(\mathcal{C}_e)$$

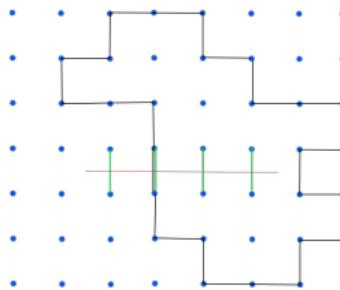
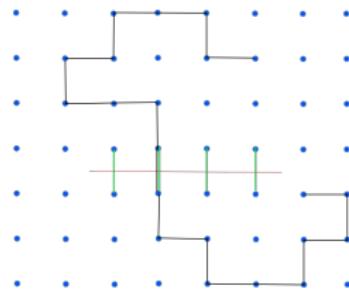
- Percolation ( $\mu < 0$ ) implies  $v^2 > 0 \rightarrow$  the dynamics can be approximated by soft degrees of freedom (Goldstone modes  $\gamma$ ,  $V = v e^{i\gamma}$ )

# 3d percolating center vortices

## Frustrated 3d XY

$$S_{\text{latt}}^{(3)} = \beta \sum_{x,\mu} \text{Re} \left[ 1 - e^{-i\alpha_\mu(x)} e^{i\gamma(x+\hat{\mu})} e^{-i\gamma(x)} \right]$$

- $e^{i\alpha_\mu(x)} = e^{i\frac{2\pi}{N}}$ , if  $S(\mathcal{C}_e)$  is crossed by the link and is trivial otherwise
- $\prod_x \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\gamma(x)$  keeps the contribution of  $e^{i\gamma(x+\hat{\mu})} e^{-i\gamma(x)}$  on links that form closed loops  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_F(\mathcal{C}_e)$



- $\beta_c \approx 0.454 \Rightarrow$ 
  - large loops are favored
  - in detriment of multiple small
  - multiple links are disfavored

(negative tension)  
(positive stiffness)  
(excluded volume effects)

# Extended ensembles

(David R. Junior, LEO & Gustavo M. Simões (JHEP, 2020))

**Additional labels:** For oriented center vortices,  $A_\mu$  can be characterized by

$$S_0 = e^{-i\chi\beta \cdot T} \quad , \quad \beta \cdot T \equiv \beta|_q T_q$$

- For elementary vortices,  $\beta$  is one of the magnetic fundamental weights  $\beta_i$
- $\chi$  changes by  $2\pi$  when going around  $\omega$
- $T_q$ ,  $q = 1, \dots, N - 1$  are the Cartan generators

$$\mathcal{Z}_D(\mathcal{C}_e) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{D}} \text{Tr} \left[ D \left( e^{i \frac{2\pi}{N}} I \right) \right]^{L(\omega, \mathcal{C}_e)} = \frac{1}{N} \text{Tr} \left[ e^{i \int_{\omega} dx_{\mu} b_{\mu}} \right]$$

- $b_{\mu} = 2\pi\beta_e \cdot T s_{\mu}$
- $\beta_e$  is a magnetic weight of  $D$

# Extended ensembles: effective description

$$\langle \mathcal{Z}_D(\mathcal{C}_e) \rangle = \left( e^{\int_0^\infty \frac{dL}{L} \int dx \int du \text{Tr } Q(x, u, x, u, L)} \right)^N$$

- $Q(x, u; x_0, u_0)$  satisfies a diffusion equation in  $(x, u)$ -space
- small stiffness limit

$$Q(x, u, x_0, u_0, L) \approx \langle x | e^{-LO} | x_0 \rangle \quad , \quad O = -\frac{1}{3\kappa} D_\mu D_\mu + \mu I_N \quad , \quad D_\mu = \partial_\mu - i b_\mu$$

$$\int [D\Phi^\dagger][D\Phi] e^{- \int d^3x \left[ \frac{1}{3\kappa} \text{Tr}((D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D_\mu \Phi) + \mu \text{Tr}(\Phi^\dagger \Phi) \right]}$$

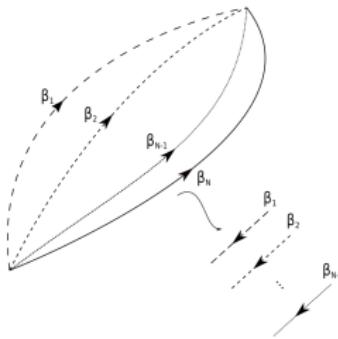
- $\Phi$  is a complex  $N \times N$  matrix,  $\Phi_{ij} = \phi_j|_i$
- $\phi_i$  is a set of  $N$  emergent complex scalar fields in the fundamental irrep

# Matching rules

**Center-vortex matching:**

$$S_0 = e^{-i\chi_1 \beta_1 \cdot T} \dots e^{-i\chi_{N-1} \beta_{N-1} \cdot T}$$

$\sum_i \beta_i = 0 \rightarrow N$  center-vortex guiding centers with different weights  $\beta_i$  can be matched



$$\mathcal{Z}_D(\mathcal{C}_e) = \frac{1}{N!} \epsilon_{i_1 \dots i_N} \epsilon_{i'_1 \dots i'_N} \Gamma_{\gamma_1}[b_\mu]|_{i_1 i'_1} \dots \Gamma_{\gamma_N}[b_\mu]|_{i_N i'_N} , \quad \Gamma_\gamma[b_\mu] = e^{i \int_\omega dx_\mu b_\mu}$$

# Matching rules: effective description

Weighting with  $e^{-E(\gamma_i)}$ , integrating over  $\gamma_i$  with fixed endpoints, and then over  $L_i$ ,  $x_0$  and  $x$ , we obtained

$$\mathcal{Z}_D(\mathcal{C}_e) \rightarrow \int d^3x \, d^3x_0 \, \epsilon_{i_1 \dots i_N} \, \epsilon_{j_1 \dots j_N} \, G(x, x_0)_{i_1 j_1} \dots G(x, x_0)_{i_N j_N}$$

$$O \, G(x, x_0) = \delta(x - x_0) \, I_N$$

- a vertex  $\det \Phi + \text{c.c.}$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mathcal{Z}_D(\mathcal{C}_e) \rangle &\approx \mathcal{N} \int [D\Phi^\dagger][D\Phi] \times \\ &\times e^{-\int d^3x \left[ \frac{1}{3\kappa} \text{Tr}((D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D_\mu \Phi) + \mu \text{Tr}(\Phi^\dagger \Phi) + \frac{\lambda_0}{2} \text{Tr}(\Phi^\dagger \Phi)^2 - \xi_0 (\det \Phi + \det \Phi^\dagger) \right]} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi &\rightarrow S_c(x) \Phi \quad , \quad b_\mu \rightarrow S_c(x) b_\mu S_c^{-1}(x) + i S_c(x) \partial_\mu S_c^{-1}(x) , \\ \Phi &\rightarrow \Phi S_f \quad , \quad S_f, S_c(x) \in SU(N) \end{aligned}$$

# Matching rules in the lattice

- $\mu < 0, \xi_0 = 0 \rightarrow \frac{\lambda}{2} \text{Tr}(\Phi^\dagger \Phi - a^2 I_N)^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{M} = U(N)$

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- Goldstone modes  $V(x) \in SU(N)$  in the lattice

$$S_{\text{latt}}^{(3)}(b_\mu) = \beta \sum_{x,\mu} \text{Re} \left[ \mathbb{I} - U_\mu^\dagger V(x + \hat{\mu}) V^\dagger(x) \right]$$

$U_\mu(x) = e^{i 2\pi \beta_e \cdot T} \in Z(N)$ , , if  $S(\mathcal{C}_e)$  is crossed by the link and is trivial otherwise  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_F(\mathcal{C}_e)$

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singlets in the products of  $N$   $V(x)$  or  $V^\dagger(x)$
- Up to this point, there is a continuum set of classical vacua  $\mathcal{M} = SU(N)$  which precludes the formation of the stable domain wall

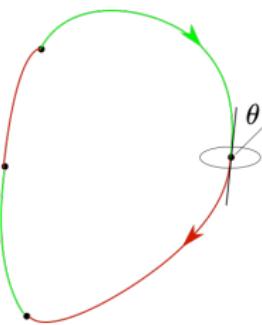
# Including nonoriented center vortices

- In 4d, chains → 97% of the cases: Ambjorn, Giedt & Greensite (2000)

## Nonoriented center vortices

- In the continuum, the Lie algebra flux orientation of center vortices in 4d changes at the monopole worldlines: Reinhardt, 2002
- In 3d the change is at the instantons

$$S_0 = e^{-i\varphi \beta \cdot T} W(\theta) \quad , \quad W(\theta) = e^{i\theta \sqrt{N} T_\alpha}$$



Center-vortex components with different weights  $\beta, \beta'$  are interpolated by instantons that carry adjoint weight  $\beta' - \beta$

# Nonoriented component: effective description

$$S_{\text{eff}}(\Phi, b_\mu) = \int d^3x \left( \text{Tr} (D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D_\mu \Phi + V(\Phi, \Phi^\dagger) \right)$$

$$V(\Phi, \Phi^\dagger) = \frac{\lambda}{2} \text{Tr}(\Phi^\dagger \Phi - a^2 I_N)^2 - \xi (\det \Phi + \det \Phi^\dagger) - \vartheta \text{Tr} (\Phi^\dagger T_A \Phi T_A)$$

- For small  $\vartheta \rightarrow$  soft modes in the lattice ( $V(x) \in \text{SU}(N)$ ):

$$S_{\text{latt}}^{(3)}(b_\mu) \rightarrow \beta \sum_{x, \mu} \text{Re} \left[ \mathbb{I} - U_\mu^\dagger V(x + \hat{\mu}) V^\dagger(x) \right] + \text{const.} \sum_x \text{Tr} (\text{Ad}(V(x))$$

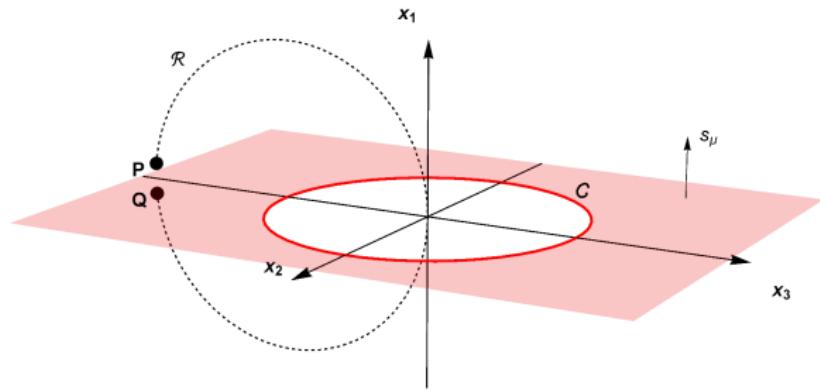
New contribution from the singlet formed with  $V(x)$ ,  $V^\dagger(x)$ , and  
 $\text{Tr} (\text{Ad}(V(x))) \rightarrow$  nonoriented center vortices

- The new term is also generated from a weighted nonoriented component

# Domain wall

- For  $\lambda, \xi, \vartheta > 0$

$$\mathcal{M} = \{\Phi_n = v e^{i \frac{2\pi n}{N}} I_N , ; n = 0, 1, \dots, N-1\}$$



$$\lim_{x_1 \rightarrow -\infty} \Phi(x_1, x_2, x_3) = v I_N \quad , \quad \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow \infty} \Phi(x_1, x_2, x_3) = v e^{i 2\pi \beta_e \cdot T} \quad , \quad (0, x_2, x_3) \in S(\mathcal{C}_e)$$

- For large Wilson loops, and for any weight of an antisymmetric irrep, we computed the soliton with the ansatz

$$\Phi = (\eta I_N + \eta_0 \beta_e \cdot T) e^{i\theta \beta_e \cdot T} e^{i\alpha}$$

- This closes the eqs. for any  $N$ -ality  $k$
- Due to the relation  $e^{i2\pi\beta_e \cdot T} = e^{-i\frac{2k\pi}{N}}$

-  $\alpha$  varies with  $\theta \approx \text{const.}$  (closely related to the 't Hooft model (1978))

$$\Phi = V I_N, \quad V = \eta e^{i\alpha}$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \partial^\mu \bar{V} \partial_\mu V + m^2 \bar{V} V + \frac{\lambda}{2} (\bar{V} V)^2 + \xi (V^N + \bar{V}^N)$$

However, there is no dynamical reason for the path-integral to favor this type of restricted configuration

-  $\theta$  varies with  $\alpha \approx \text{const.}$

- For  $\lambda a^2, \xi v^{N-2} \gg \vartheta \rightarrow$  second case, only  $\theta$  is not frozen

$$\partial_{x_1}^2 \theta = \frac{3\vartheta}{2} \sin(\theta)$$

- We obtained the asymptotic Casimir Law

$$\epsilon_k = \frac{k(N-k)}{N-1} \epsilon_1$$

- Collective transverse fluctuations of the domain wall  $\rightarrow$  Lüscher term

# 4d Ensemble measure in the lattice

LEO (2018)

$$Z_{\text{mix}}^{\text{latt}}[s_{\mu\nu}] = \int [\mathcal{D}V_\mu] e^{-S_{\text{latt}}^{(4)}} \times$$

$$( 1 + \begin{array}{c} \text{square} \\ \text{shape} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{square} \\ \text{shape} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{triangle} \\ \text{shape} \end{array} + \dots )$$

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$$+ \dots + \begin{array}{c} \text{square} \\ \text{shape} \end{array} + \dots + \begin{array}{c} \text{square} \\ \text{shape} \end{array} + \dots + \dots )$$

# Emergent Yang-Mills-Higgs description

$$V_\mu(x) = e^{ia\Lambda_\mu(x)} \quad , \quad \Lambda_\mu \in \mathfrak{su}(N)$$

$$Z_{\text{mix}}[s_{\mu\nu}] = \int [\mathcal{D}\Lambda_\mu] e^{-\int d^4x \frac{1}{4g^2} (F_{\mu\nu}(\Lambda) - 2\pi s_{\mu\nu} \beta_e \cdot T)^2} \times$$

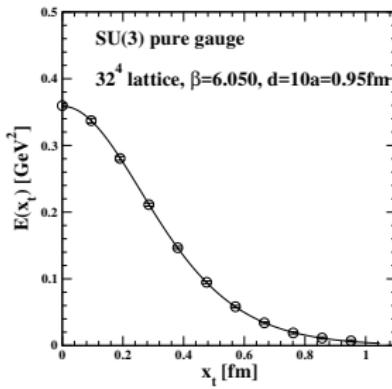
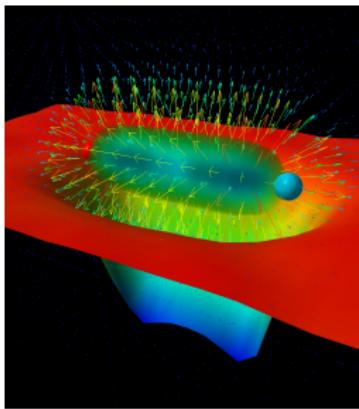
$$\left( 1 + \text{---} + \text{---} + \dots \right)$$

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$$Z_{\text{mix}}[s_{\mu\nu}] = \int [\mathcal{D}\Lambda_\mu][\mathcal{D}\psi] e^{-\int d^4x \left[ \frac{1}{4g^2} (F_{\mu\nu}(\Lambda) - 2\pi s_{\mu\nu} \beta_e \cdot T)^2 + \frac{1}{2} (D_\mu \psi_I, D_\mu \psi_I) + V_H(\psi) \right]}$$

- The system can easily undergo  $SU(N) \rightarrow Z(N)$  SSB

# Abelian profiles, $N$ -ality and the Casimir law



**Figure:** D. Leinweber simulation, University of Adelaide - Interpolation of the longitudinal chromoelectric field with an Abelian-like model vs. the transverse distance in  $SU(3)$ , Cea, Cosmai, Cuteria & Papa (2017)

- Abelianization for all  $N$  and Casimir law, LEO & G. M. Simões (2019)
- BPS point: Completing the proof of Casimir law: D. R. Junior, LEO & G. M. Simões (2020)

# Conclusions

We followed a road that leads from 3d/4d ensembles with

- percolating center-vortex worldlines/worldsurfaces
- attached instantons/monopole worldlines with fusion

to confining asymptotic properties

- domain wall/flux tube with  $N$ -ality
- Lüscher term
- Casimir law
- Sine-Gordon/Nielsen-Olesen profiles

- The new term is also generated from a weighted nonoriented component

$$\mathcal{W}_D(\mathcal{C}_e)|_{\text{loop}} \propto \int d\mu(g) \langle g, \omega | \Gamma_I[b_\mu] | g, \omega \rangle \quad , \quad |g, \omega \rangle = g|\omega\rangle \quad , \quad g \in SU(N)$$

$$\mathcal{W}_D(\mathcal{C}_e)|_{N-\text{lines}} \propto \int d\mu(g)d\mu(g_0) \langle g, \omega_1 | \Gamma_{\gamma_1}[b_\mu] | g_0, \omega_1 \rangle \dots \langle g, \omega_N | \Gamma_{\gamma_N}[b_\mu] | g_0, \omega_N \rangle$$

$$C_4 = \int d\mu(g_1) \dots \int d\mu(g_4) \text{Tr} \left( |g_1, \omega' \rangle \langle g_1, \omega| |g_2, \omega \rangle \langle g_2, \omega'| \dots |g_4, \omega \rangle \langle g_4, \omega'| \right) \times \\ \times \langle g_1, \omega' | \Gamma_{\gamma_n}[b_\mu] | g_4, \omega' \rangle \dots \langle g_3, \omega' | \Gamma_{\gamma_2}[b_\mu] | g_2, \omega' \rangle \langle g_2, \omega | \Gamma_{\gamma_1}[b_\mu] | g_1, \omega \rangle .$$