#### CEP of glueballs and their decay Predictions from holographic QCD

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EMMI Workshop on CEP at the LHC, Heidelberg, February 6, 2019





Glueballs

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#### Ever elusive: Glueballs

Spectrum of *bare* glueballs (prior to mixing with  $q\bar{q}$  states) more or less known from lattice:

 $\begin{array}{l} m_{0^{++}} \sim 1.7 \,\, {\rm GeV} \\ m_{2^{++}} \sim 2.4 \,\, {\rm GeV} \\ m_{0^{-+}} \sim 2.6 \,\, {\rm GeV} \end{array}$ 

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Morningstar & Peardon hep-lat/9901004



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Interactions of glueballs still unclear:

- Are glueballs broad or narrow?
- Do they mix with  $q\bar{q}$  strongly or weakly?
- $\rightarrow$  no conclusive identification of any glueball in meson spectrum



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most discussed lowest  $0^{++}$  candidates:

narrow  $f_0(1500)$  or  $f_0(1710)$  vs. very broad background ("red dragon") various phenomenological models describe  $f_0(1500)$  or  $f_0(1710)$ alternatingly as  $\sim$ 50-70% or  $\sim$ 75-90% glue

[G and two isoscalar  $q\bar{q}$  states  $u\bar{u} + d\bar{d}$  and  $s\bar{s}$  can be shared by  $f_0(1370)$ ,  $f_0(1500)$ ,  $f_0(1710)$ ]



#### Even more elusive: Pseudoscalar glueball

Pseudoscalar glueball  $(\tilde{G})$ :

- $\bullet\,$  closely related to  $\eta'$  and the  $U(1)_A$  problem
- in 1980: first glueball candidate the isoscalar pseudoscalar  $\iota(1440),$  now listed as two states  $\eta(1405)$  and  $\eta(1475)$  in PDG
- together with  $\eta(1295) \Rightarrow$  a supernumerary state beyond the first radial excitations of the  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$  mesons, with  $\eta(1405)$  singled out as glueball candidate
- BUT: lattice predicts  $m(\tilde{G}) \sim 2.6 \text{ GeV} ! \Rightarrow$  Still to be discovered indeed: evidence for three  $\eta$  states between 1.2 and 1.5 GeV under dispute  $(\eta(1405) \text{ and } \eta(1475) \text{ could after all be one state } \eta(1440); \text{ also } \eta(1295) \text{ sometimes questioned})$

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## Strategy

#### Seeking help from closest (top-down) holographic model of (large- $N_c$ ) low-energy QCD: the **Witten-Sakai-Sugimoto model**

for guessing (qualitatively, semi-quantitatively) glueball production and decay pattern:

 $\rightarrow$  estimates (educated guesses) of glueball vertices:

- K. Hashimoto, C.-I. Tan, S. Terashima, PRD77 (2008) 086001
- Scalar and Tensor Glueballs: F. Brünner, D. Parganlija, AR, PRD91 (2015) 106002
- F. Brünner, AR, PRL115 (2015) 131601; PRD92 (2015) 121902
- (Pure) Pseudoscalar Glueball: F. Brünner, AR, PLB770 (2017) 124
- Pseudovector Glueball: F. Brünner, J. Leutgeb, AR, PLB788 (2019) 431
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High-energy scattering outside of regime of supergravity approximation in holographic QCD (higher spin states require quantum strings in curved background — prohibitively difficult)

#### Possible strategy for CEP:

hybrid approach with vertices taken from WSS model,

but propagators of tensor glueballs Reggeized

Anderson, Domokos, Harvey, Mann 2014; Iatrakis, Ramamurti, Shuryak 2016

## Large- $N_c$ QCD

Lattice: glueball spectrum at  $N_c = 3$  rather similar to large  $N_c$ 

- 't Hooft limit (1974):  $N_c \rightarrow \infty$  with  $\lambda = g^2 N_c$  (and  $N_f$ ) fixed
- If confining,  $N \to \infty$  QCD free theory of (infinite no. of) stable mesons and glueballs

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Finite, large N: — mixing of mesons and glueballs at most  $\sim N^{-1/2}$ 

- meson decay rates  $\sim N^{-1}$
- glueball decay rates  $\sim N^{-2}$

If large-N limit appropriate starting point for approximations:

glueballs should be weakly mixed and relatively stable

(though in Veneziano limit  $N_c \sim N_f \gg 1$  strong mixing!)

 $1/N_c$  expansion may, occasionally, be numerically good expansion even at  $N_c = 3$ 

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## $\mathsf{Large-}N_c \mathsf{\ QCD} \to \mathsf{Holographic\ QCD}$

Celebrated AdS/CFT duality relates strongly coupled large- $N_c$  supersymmetric Yang-Mills theories to supergravity on anti-de Sitter space in 5 dimensions (AdS<sub>5</sub>×S<sup>5</sup>)

Holographic QCD: generalization to nonconformal nonsupersymmetric case Options:

- Bottom-up: breaking of conformal invariance (necessary for confinement) by hand and matching to QCD with holographic dictionary, e.g. hard-wall model (Erlich-Katz-Son-Stephanov 2005) soft-wall model (Karch-Katz-Son-Stephanov 2006)
- **Top-down**: first-principles constructions from superstring theory with nonconformal D-branes
  - here: Witten[1998]-Sakai-Sugimoto[2004] model

Both approaches surprisingly successful quantitative description of low-energy QCD with minimal set of parameters

WSS model: almost parameter-free (1 coupling at a certain mass scale)!

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## Original AdS/CFT correspondence

J. M. Maldacena, Adv. Theor. Math. Phys. 2, 231 (1998) "pedestrian's guide": S. S. Gubser and A. Karch, Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part . Sci. 59, 145 (2009)

D3-branes



(type IIB) string theory on 5D anti-de Sitter space ( $\times S_5$ )

$$\frac{({\rm curvature\ radius})^4}{({\rm string\ length})^4} = \frac{R^4}{\ell_s^4}$$

supergravity limit  $\ell_s \ll R$  relatively easy

 $\mathcal{N} = 4 \text{ SU}(\infty)$  super-YM theory on 4D boundary of AdS<sub>5</sub>

$$g_{
m YM}^2 N_c \equiv \lambda$$
 't Hooft coupling

strong coupling limit  $\lambda \gg 1$ impossibly difficult

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## Witten model: Holographic nonsupersymmetric QCD



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Type-IIA string theory with  $N_c \rightarrow \infty$  D4 branes dual to 4 + 1-dimensional super-Yang-Mills theory



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supersymmetry completely broken by compactification on "thermal-like" circle  $x_4 \equiv x_4 + 2\pi/M_{\rm KK \ (Kaluza-Klein)}$ 

- $\bullet$  antisymmetric b.c. for adjoint fermions: masses  $\sim M_{\rm KK}$
- ullet adjoint scalars not protected by gauge symmetry: also masses  $\sim M_{\rm KK}$ 
  - ightarrow dual to pure-glue YM theory 3+1-dimensional at scales  $\ll M_{\rm KK}$

but supergravity approximation needs weak curvature, cannot take limit  $M_{\rm KK} \to \infty$ 

#### Glueballs in confined phase

 $\exists$  scalar and tensor glueballs corresponding to 5D dilaton  $\Phi$  and graviton  $G_{ij}$  Csaki, Ooguri, Oz & Terning 1999

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Type-IIA supergravity compactified on  $x_4$ -circle many more modes: Constable & Myers 1999; Brower, Mathur & Tan 2000

| Mode         | $S_4$    | $T_4$           | $V_4$    | $N_4$    | $M_4$     | $L_4$                 |
|--------------|----------|-----------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Sugra fields | $G_{44}$ | $\Phi, G_{ij}$  | $C_1$    | $B_{ij}$ | $C_{ij4}$ | $G^{\alpha}_{\alpha}$ |
| $J^{PC}$     | $0^{++}$ | $0^{++}/2^{++}$ | $0^{-+}$ | $1^{+-}$ | 1         | $0^{++}$              |
| n=0          | 7.30835  | 22.0966         | 31.9853  | 53.3758  | 83.0449   | 115.002               |
| n=1          | 46.9855  | 55.5833         | 72.4793  | 109.446  | 143.581   | 189.632               |
| n=2          | 94.4816  | 102.452         | 126.144  | 177.231  | 217.397   | 277.283               |
| n=3          | 154.963  | 162.699         | 193.133  | 257.959  | 304.531   | 378.099               |
| n=4          | 228.709  | 236.328         | 273.482  | 351.895  | 405.011   | 492.171               |

Lowest mode not from dilaton, but from "exotic polarization" - in 11D notation:

#### Lattice glueballs vs. supergravity glueballs



(mass scales matched on  $2^{++}$ )  $\rightarrow$  seemingly good qualitative agreement!

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Glueballs

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#### Sakai-Sugimoto model: Adding chiral quarks

T. Sakai, S. Sugimoto, Prog. Theor. Phys. 113, 843 (2005) add  $N_f$  D8- and  $\overline{\text{D8}}$ -branes, separated in  $x_4$ ,  $N_f \ll N_c$  (probe branes)

|                    | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D4                 | x | x | х | x | x |   |   |   |   |   |
| $D8/\overline{D8}$ | × | х | х | x |   | x | x | × | х | × |



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4-8, 4- $\overline{8}$  strings  $\rightarrow$  fundamental, massless chiral fermions

flavor symmetry  $U(N_f)_L \times U(N_f)_R$ 

spontaneously broken because  $D8-\overline{D8}$  have to join in cigar-shaped topology

for now: maximal separation in  $x_4$  (antipodal on  $x_4$  circle):  $L=\pi/M_{
m KK}$ 

## Quantitative predictions

| Isotriplet Meson   | $\lambda_n = m^2 / M_{\rm KK}^2$ | $m/m_ ho$ | $(m/m_{ ho})^{ m exp.}$ | $(m/m_{\rho})^{N \to \infty}$ |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| $1^{}(\rho)$       | 0.669314                         | 1         | 1                       | 1                             |
| $1^{++}(a_1)$      | 1.568766                         | 1.531     | 1.59(5)                 | 1.86(2)                       |
| $1^{}(\rho^*)$     | 2.874323                         | 2.072     | 1.89(3)                 | 2.40(4)                       |
| $1^{++}$ $(a_1^*)$ | 4.546104                         | 2.606     | 2.12(3)                 | 2.98(5)                       |

Parameter-free prediction of (axial-)vector meson mass pattern:

(last column from lattice study by Bali et al. JHEP 06, 071 (2013))

agreement within  $\lesssim 20\%$ 

not bad, given that WSS is not yet large-N QCD (in particular at scales  $\gtrsim M_{
m KK}$ )

(near-perfect agreement for  $m_{a_1}/m_{\rho}$  with real QCD certainly fortuitous)

#### Quantitative predictions

Other predictions depend on value of 't Hooft coupling  $\lambda$  at scale  $M_{
m KK}$ 

Matching

- $m_{\rho} \approx 776 \text{ MeV} \text{ fixes } \overline{M_{\text{KK}} = 949 \text{ MeV}} \ (\Rightarrow T_{deconf} = 151 \text{ MeV})$
- $f_{\pi}^2 = \frac{\lambda N_c}{54\pi^4} M_{\text{KK}}^2$  gives  $\lambda = g_{\text{YM}}^2 N_c \approx 16.63$  [Sakai&Sugimoto 2005-7] (matching instead large- $N_c$  lattice result [Bali et al. 2013] for  $m_\rho/\sqrt{\sigma}$  gives  $\lambda \approx 12.55$ )

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yields (for  $N_c = 3$  and  $\lambda = 16.63...12.55$ ):

- LO decay rate of  $\rho$  meson  $\sim \lambda^{-1} N_c^{-1}$  $\Gamma_{\rho \to 2\pi}/m_{\rho} = 0.1535 \dots 0.2034$  (exp.: 0.191(1))
- decay rate for  $\omega \to 3\pi$  (from Chern-Simons part of D8 action)  $\sim \lambda^{-4} N_c^{-2}$  $\Gamma_{\omega \to 3\pi}/m_{\omega} = 0.0033...0.0102$  (exp.: 0.0097(1))
- gluon condensate [Kanitscheider, Skenderis & Taylor JHEP 0809]  $C^{4} \equiv \langle \frac{\alpha_{s}}{\pi} F_{\mu\nu}^{2} \rangle = \frac{4}{3^{7}\pi^{4}} N_{c} \lambda^{2} M_{KK}^{4} \simeq 0.0126 \dots 0.0072 \text{ GeV}^{4}$ classical SVZ value: 0.012 GeV<sup>4</sup> (lattice higher but with large subtraction ambiguities)

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#### Lattice vs. supergravity glueballs

seemingly good qualitative agreement by matching up  $2^{++}$ 

(but AdS spectrum

somewhat stretched and slightly too many  $0^{++}$ )

Morningstar & Peardon hep-lat/9901004: Brower, Mathur & Tan 2000: 12 12 1 10 10 4 8 8 3 n<sub>g</sub> (GeV) 0.... r<sub>o</sub>m<sub>g</sub> 6 6 4 4 1 2 2 4d QCD AdS Glueball Spectrum 0 ٥ 0 ++ ++ PC PC

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Sakai-Sugimoto model: glueball masses  $\propto M_{\rm KK} = 949$  MeV fixed by  $m_{
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Glueball

Should exotic polarization ( $\delta G_{44}$  with  $x_4$  the compactified direction of SYM<sub>4+1</sub>) be excluded as lowest glueball mode?

- possibly not part of spectrum of holographic QCD in limit  $M_{\rm KK} \to \infty, \lambda \to 0$  (already asked by Constable & Myers)
- $\bullet\,$  simpler bottom-up AdS/QCD have dilaton mode as dual for lowest glueball

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- next lowest scalar mode  $\sim 1487$  MeV is (predominantly) dilaton mode (induces metric perturbations other than  $\delta G_{44}$ )

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Unrealistic degeneracy of dilatonic  $0^{++}$  and tensor  $2^{++}$  suggests that supergravity approximation insufficient for masses

Take good results for (dimensionless) mesonic  $\Gamma/m$  as encouragement for calculation of relative width of glueballs

## Glueball decay rates in Sakai-Sugimoto model

F. Brünner, D. Parganlija, AR, PRD91 (2015) 106002

Full decay pattern of scalar (Dilatonic, as opposed to Exotic) glueball  $G_D$ 

decay  $G_D \to 4\pi$  suppressed (below  $2\rho$  threshold):  $\Gamma_{G \to 4\pi}/\Gamma_{G \to 2\pi} \sim \lambda^{-1} N_c^{-1}$ , while  $f_0(1500) \to 4\pi$  dominant:

| decay                         | $\Gamma/M$ (PDG) | $\Gamma/M[G_D]$ |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| $f_0(1500)$ (total)           | 0.072(5)         | 0.0270.037      |
| $f_0(1500) \rightarrow 4\pi$  | 0.036(3)         | 0.003 0.005     |
| $f_0(1500) \rightarrow 2\pi$  | 0.025(2)         | 0.0090.012      |
| $f_0(1500) \rightarrow 2K$    | 0.006(1)         | 0.0120.016      |
| $f_0(1500) \rightarrow 2\eta$ | 0.004(1)         | 0.0030.004      |

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 $f_0(1710) \rightarrow \pi\pi$  OK:  $\Gamma^{(ex)}(f_0(1710) \rightarrow \pi\pi)/(1722 \text{MeV}) \sim 0.01$ but  $f_0(1710)$  decays predominantly into  $K\bar{K}!$ 

 not reproduced by (chiral=flavor-symmetric) WSS model, but may be due to mechanism of "chiral suppression of scalar glueball decay"

(Chanowitz 2005)

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#### Nonchiral enhancement in mass-deformed WSS?

F. Brünner & AR, PRL 115 (2015) 131601 [1504.05815]

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Current quark masses can be introduced through deformations of the WSS model by world-sheet instantons [Hashimoto, Hirayama, Liu & Yee 2008] yielding

$$\int d^4x \int_{u_{\rm KK}}^{\infty} du \, h(u) \, {\rm Tr} \, \left( \mathcal{T}(u) \underbrace{\operatorname{P} e^{-i \int dz A_z(z,x)}}_{U(x) \, ({\rm pseudoscalars})} + h.c. \right),$$

where h(u) includes metric (glueball) fields

Choosing appropriate boundary conditions for  $\mathcal{T}$ , the quark mass matrix arises through

$$\int_{u_{\rm KK}}^{\infty} du \, h(u) \, \mathcal{T}(u) \propto \mathcal{M} = {\rm diag}(m_u, m_d, m_s),$$

thereby realizing a Gell-Mann-Oakes-Renner relation.

#### Witten-Veneziano mass term

Already in chiral model:

WSS contains (fully determined) Witten-Veneziano mass term for singlet  $\eta_0$  pseudoscalar from U(1)<sub>A</sub> anomaly contributions ~  $1/N_c$ 

$$m_0^2 = \frac{N_f}{27\pi^2 N_c} \lambda^2 M_{\rm KK}^2$$

from 
$$S_{C_1} = -\frac{1}{4\pi (2\pi l_s)^6} \int d^{10}x \sqrt{-g} |\tilde{F}_2|^2$$
 with  
 $\tilde{F}_2 = \frac{6\pi u_{\rm KK}^3 M_{\rm KK}^{-1}}{u^4} \left(\theta + \frac{\sqrt{2N_f}}{f_\pi}\eta_0\right) du \wedge dx^4,$ 

where  $\theta$  is the QCD theta angle and  $\eta_0(x)=\frac{f\pi}{\sqrt{2N_f}}\int dz\,{\rm Tr} A_z(z,x).$ 

With  $N_f = N_c = 3$ ,  $M_{\rm KK} = 949$  MeV,  $\lambda = 16.63 \dots 12.55$ :  $m_0 = 967 \dots 730$  MeV

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#### Witten-Veneziano mass term

With finite quark masses  $\eta_0$  and  $\eta_8$  no longer mass eigenstates. Diagonalizing:

 $N_f = N_c = 3, M_{\rm KK} = 949 \text{ MeV}, \lambda = 16.63 \dots 12.55: \left| m_0 = 967 \dots 730 \text{ MeV} \right|,$ (with  $\mathcal{M} = {\rm diag}(\hat{m}, \hat{m}, m_s)$ , fixing  $m_{\pi} = 140 \text{ MeV}$  and  $m_K = 497 \text{ MeV}) \rightarrow$ 

$$m_{\eta} = 518\dots 476 \text{ MeV}, \quad m_{\eta'} = 1077\dots 894 \text{ MeV},$$
  
 $\theta_P = -14.4^{\circ}\dots -24.2^{\circ},$ 



#### Nonchiral enhancement in mass-deformed WSS!

Holographic realization of mass terms leads to: additional vertices between glueballs and pseudoscalars

rigorously calculable for  $G_D \eta_0^2$ :

$$\mathcal{L}_{G_D \eta_0 \eta_0}^{\text{chiral}} = \frac{3}{2} d_0 m_0^2 \eta_0^2 G_D, \qquad d_0 \approx \frac{17.915}{\lambda^{1/2} N_c M_{\text{KK}}}$$

but not (yet) fixed for octet

Parametrize uncertainty by free parameter x:

$$\mathcal{L}_{G_D\pi\pi}^{\text{massive}} = \frac{3}{2} d_m G_D \mathcal{L}_m^{\mathcal{M}}, \qquad d_m \equiv x d_0$$

Most symmetric choice x = 1 ( $\Leftrightarrow$  no  $G_D \rightarrow \eta \eta'$ )  $\rightarrow$  relatively strong enhancement factor for kaons and  $\eta$  mesons:

$$\Gamma^{\rm chiral}_{G \to PP} \to \Gamma^{\rm chiral}_{G \to PP} \times \left(1 - 4 \frac{m_P^2}{M_G^2}\right)^{1/2} \left(1 + 8.480 \frac{m_P^2}{M_G^2}\right)^2$$

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# Comparison with $f_0(1710)$

| decay  | $\Gamma/M$ (PDG)       | $\Gamma/M[G_D]$ (chiral) | $\Gamma/M[G_D]$ (massive) |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| $f_0(1710)$ (total)  | 0.081(5)               | 0.0590.076               | 0.0830.106                |
| $f_0(1710) \rightarrow 2K$                                 | (*) 0.029(10)          | 0.0120.016               | 0.0290.038                |
| $f_0(1710) \rightarrow 2\eta$                              | 0.014(6)               | 0.0030.004               | 0.0090.011                |
| $f_0(1710) \to 2\pi$                                       | $0.012(^{+5}_{-6})$    | 0.0090.012               | 0.0100.013                |
| $f_0(1710) \rightarrow 2\rho, \rho\pi\pi \rightarrow 4\pi$ | ?                      | 0.0240.030               | 0.0240.030                |
| $f_0(1710) \rightarrow 2\omega$                            | $0.010(^{+6}_{-7})$    | 0.0110.014               | 0.0110.014                |
| $f_0(1710) \to \eta \eta'$                                 | ?                      | 0                        | if 0 : ↑                  |
| $\Gamma(\pi\pi)/\Gamma(K\bar{K})$                          | $0.41^{+0.11}_{-0.17}$ | $\mathbf{3/4}$           | 0.35                      |
| $\Gamma(\eta\eta)/\Gamma(K\bar{K})$                        | $0.48 \pm 0.15$        | 1/4                      | 0.28                      |

\* PDG ratios for decay rates +  $Br(f_0(1710) \rightarrow KK) = 0.36(12)$  [Albaladejo&Oller 2008]

- decays into 2 pseudoscalars: massive WSS perfectly compatible with PDG data!
- significant decay into 4 pions (after extrapolation to beyond  $2\rho$  threshold): falsifiable prediction of this model!  $(f_0(1710) \rightarrow 2\rho^0$  hopefully from CEP experiments at LHC!)

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## Tensor glueball decay rates in Sakai-Sugimoto model

Tensor glueball in WSS, and extrapolated to higher mass:

| decay                    | М    | $\Gamma/M[T(M)]$          |
|--------------------------|------|---------------------------|
| $T \rightarrow 2\pi$     | 1487 | 0.0130.018                |
| $T \rightarrow 2K$       | 1487 | 0.004 0.006               |
| $T \rightarrow 2\eta$    | 1487 | 0.00050.0007              |
| T (total)                | 1487 | $\approx 0.02 \dots 0.03$ |
| $T \to 2\rho \to 4\pi$   | 2000 | 0.1350.178                |
| $T \to 2K^* \to 2(K\pi)$ | 2000 | 0.119 0.177               |
| $T \to 2\omega \to 6\pi$ | 2000 | 0.0450.059                |
| $T \to 2\pi$             | 2000 | 0.0140.018                |
| $T \rightarrow 2K$       | 2000 | 0.010 0.013               |
| $T \rightarrow 2\eta$    | 2000 | 0.00180.0024              |
| T (total)                | 2000 | $\approx 0.3 \dots 0.45$  |
| T (total)                | 2400 | $\approx 0.45 \dots 0.6$  |

Very broad tensor glueball, if at 2.4 GeV (probably unobservable)

With a mass of 2 GeV, width larger but perhaps comparable with that of the rather broad tensor meson  $f_2(1950)$ , which has  $\Gamma/M = 0.24(1)$ .

Very narrow (unconfirmed) candidate  $f_J(2220)$  not compatible with WSS

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Glueballs

#### Pseudoscalar glueball in Witten-Sakai-Sugimoto model

Pseudoscalar glueballs described by fluctuations of

RR field 
$$\tilde{F}_2 = dC'_1 + \frac{c}{U^4} \left( \theta + \frac{\sqrt{2N_f}}{f_\pi} \eta_0(x) \right) dU \wedge d\tau$$
 (anomaly inflow)  
If no mixing with  $\eta_0$ :

only relevant vertex  $G - \tilde{G} - \eta_0 \propto \sqrt{\frac{N_f}{N_c}} \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{N_c}$  from  $-\frac{1}{4\pi (2\pi\ell_s)^6} \int d^{10}x \sqrt{-g} |\tilde{F}_2|^2$ 

ightarrow very narrow (pure) pseudoscalar glueball with dominant decay pattern

 $\tilde{G} \rightarrow G(=f_0(1710)) + \eta(\prime) \rightarrow PP\eta(\prime)$ 

KKn(') -----  $\pi\pi n(')$  ----- nnn(') -----



$$\lambda = (12.55 + 16.63)/2$$
  
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Glueball

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## Pseudoscalar glueball production

As with decay, production of (nonmixing)  $\tilde{G}$  involves  $G+\eta(')$  or G+another  $\tilde{G}$ (would explain why not yet observed in radiative  $J/\psi$  decays; needs excited  $\psi$  or  $\Upsilon$ ?)

• Another possibility: Central Exclusive Production in high-energy hadron collisions!

Parametric orders of the production amplitudes of pseudoscalar glueballs in double Pomeron or double Reggeon exchange



(in the uppermost diagram the full line stands for G or  $G_T$ )

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# Production of $\tilde{G}\tilde{G}$ and $\tilde{G}\eta'$ pairs versus $\eta'\eta'$

Production from a virtual scalar glueball

(plotted as functions of the c.o.m. energy of the produced pair, assuming  $m(\tilde{G})=2.6~{
m GeV}$ )



The full line gives  $N(\tilde{G}\tilde{G})/N(\eta'\eta')$ , which is independent of the 't Hooft coupling; upper and lower dashed lines correspond to  $N(\tilde{G}\eta')/N(\eta'\eta')$  with 't Hooft coupling 12.55 and 16.63, respectively.

CEP of  $\eta'\eta'$  in Durham model [Harland-Lang et al. 2013]:  $\sigma(\eta'\eta')/\sigma(\pi^0\pi^0)\sim 10^3\dots 10^5 \text{ at } \sqrt{s}=1.96 \text{ TeV}$ 

# Kinetic mixing of pseudoscalar glueball $\tilde{G}$ with $\eta, \eta'$

J. Leutgeb, AR, in preparation:

Indeed no mixing from topological susceptibility terms in potential, but (parametrically small, numerically important) kinetic mixing of  $\tilde{G}$  and  $\eta_0$ 

$$\begin{split} & \sin(\theta)\partial_\mu\eta_0\partial^\mu\tilde{G}\\ \text{with }\theta = 0.0056\sqrt{\frac{N_f}{N_c}}\lambda = 0.070\dots0.093~(4.0^\circ\dots5.3^\circ) \end{split}$$

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• dominant decay through natural-parity violating  $\eta_0 \rho \rho$  and  $\eta_0 \omega \omega$  coupling

 $\rightarrow$  relatively broad decay width into 4 and 6 pions esp. when (naively) extrapolated to larger glueball mass predicted by lattice



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• CEP additionally through: natural-parity violating vertex  $\eta_0 G_T G_T$ 

in preparation: production rate calculation along the lines of

N. Anderson, S. K. Domokos, N. Mann: "Central production of  $\eta$  via double Pomeron exchange and double Reggeon exchange in the Sakai-Sugimoto model", PRD96 (2017) 046002  $\Box$  +  $\langle \Box \rangle$  +

# CEP cross section of mixed pseudoscalar glueball from holographic QCD

N. Anderson, S. K. Domokos, N. Mann: "Central production of  $\eta$  via double Pomeron exchange and double Reggeon exchange in the Sakai-Sugimoto model", PRD96 (2017) 046002

Holographic QCD prediction for CEP cross section of  $\eta$ :

(protons by skyrmions in SS model, couplings as in SS model,

but Reggeized Pomeron and Reggeon propagators with slopes and intercepts from pheno)



#### for pseudoscalar glueball mixing with $\eta_0$ expect similar shape but larger values

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## Conclusions - mesons and glueballs

• With just one dimensionless parameter, top-down holographic QCD model of Witten, Sakai and Sugimoto very predictive and surprisingly successful quantitatively:

Meson spectrum and dynamics:

— vector and axial vector mesons masses,  $\rho$  and  $\omega$  decay rates, anomalous  $m'_\eta,\ldots$  with typically 10–30% errors

Glueball spectrum:

— if "exotic mode" discarded, scalar glueball mass close to lattice QCD prediction tensor and pseudoscalar glueball  $\sim 30$  % too light

• WSS model also perhaps good guide for glueball signatures

Scalar glueball decay pattern consistent with  $f_0(1710)$  as nearly pure glueball, if predictions for  $4\pi$  and  $\eta\eta'$  decays confirmed

Tensor glueball predicted as perhaps unobservably broad if at 2.4 GeV (if at 2 GeV, marginally consistent with glueball candidate  $f_2(1950)$ )

Particularly interesting: Pseudoscalar glueball and its interplay with  $U(1)_A$ 

CEP production calculation with couplings from WSS model in preparation

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#### Constraints on $\eta\eta'$ rates for $f_0(1710)$ as $\approx$ pure glueball

Relaxing x = 1: [F. Brünner & AR, PRD92, 1510.07605]

WSS model gives *flavor asymmetries* consistent with experimental results for  $f_0(1710)$  in as long as  $\Gamma(G \to \eta \eta')/\Gamma(G \to \pi \pi) \lesssim 0.04$  (upper limit from WA102: < 0.18)



#### Pseudovector glueball

Next heavier glueball:  $1^{+-}$  (lattice prediction  $\sim$  3 GeV)

In Witten model: Kalb-Ramond tensor field, lowest mass eigenvalue 2.3 GeV

coupling to D8 branes and thus mesons determined by DBI+CS structure, dominant decays from Chern-Simons terms (DBI negligible):

| decay channel   | $\Gamma/M$    |            |
|-----------------|---------------|------------|
| $\pi \rho$      | 0.3624 0.4803 |            |
| $KK^*$          | 0.1945 0.2578 |            |
| $\eta\omega$    | 0.0530 0.0941 |            |
| $\eta\phi$      | 0.0086 0.0076 |            |
| $\eta'\omega$   | 0.0168 0.0203 |            |
| $\eta'\phi$     | 0.0020 0.0079 |            |
| $\pi \rho \rho$ | 0.2595 0.4556 |            |
| $\pi K^* K^*$   | 0.0213 0.0375 |            |
| $KK^*\rho$      | 0.0032 0.0056 |            |
| $KK^*\omega$    | 0.0011 0.0019 |            |
| total           | 0.9225 1.3685 |            |
|                 | very broad    | resonance! |

[F. Brünner, J. Leutgeb, AR, PLB788 (2019) 431]