

**BLTP, JINR** 





and self-dual solitons

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Thanks to my collaborators: C.Adam, I.Perapechka, A.Samoilenka and A. Wereszczynski

Dubna, 7.03 2018

# Outline

- Skyrme models and Skyrmions
- Generalized Skyrme model
- Self-dual Skyrme models
- Skyrme crystals
- Summary



### **Skyrme model**

• QCD: 
$$L = -\frac{1}{4}F^a_{\mu\nu}F^{a\mu\nu} + \bar{\psi}_i[i\gamma^{\mu}D_{\mu} - m\delta_{ij}]\psi_j$$
  
• Low energy meson theory:

$$L = rac{f_\pi^2}{4} {
m Tr} \left( \partial_\mu U \partial^\mu U 
ight) + \dots$$

Skyrmes' motivations (1962):

- The idea of unifying bosons and fermions in a common framework
- Consideration of localised field configurations instead of point-like particles
- The desire to eliminate fermions from a fundamental formulation of theory



Tony Hilton Royle Skyrme



## **Baby Skyrmions in action: Condensed Matter Systems**





*Rößler et al. Nature 442 (2006) 797* 

Chiral Skyrmions in noncentrosymmetric magnets

*J. Garaud, J. Carlström, and E. Babaev, Phys. Rev. Lett.* 107, 197001 (2011);



Three-component superconductors

#### Yu, Onose et al. Nature 465, 901 (2010)

Experimental realization in a thin film of  $Fe_{0.5}Co_{0.5}Si$ 



### Skyrme model

(Skyrme, 1961)



### **Skyrme model**



### **Skyrmions from instantons**

*M.Atiyah and N.Manton, Phys. Lett. B* 222, 438 (1989)



## **Skyrme model**

Spherically symmetric skyrmion:

 $U(r)=\exp\left[i au^a\hat{r}^aF(r)
ight]
ight)$ 







### **Skyrmions: asymptotic field**

• Field equations:  $\begin{array}{l} (1 - \partial_{\nu}\phi^{b}\partial^{\nu}\phi^{b})\partial_{\mu}\partial^{\mu}\phi^{a} + (\partial_{\mu}\phi^{b}\partial_{\nu}\partial^{\nu}\phi^{b} - \partial^{\nu}\phi^{b}\partial_{\mu}\partial_{\nu}\phi^{b})\partial^{\mu}\phi^{a} \\ + \partial^{\mu}\phi^{b}\partial^{\nu}\phi^{b}\partial_{\mu}\partial_{\nu}\phi^{a} + m^{2}\phi^{a}_{\infty} = 0 \,. \end{array}$ 

For a Hedgehog:

$$(r^{2} + 2\sin^{2} F)F'' + 2rF' - \sin 2F\left(1 - {F'}^{2} + \frac{\sin^{2} F}{r^{2}}\right) + m^{2}\sin F = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathsf{m=0:} & F(r)\sim \frac{d}{4\pi r^2}+ \ O\left(\frac{1}{r^8}\right)\,, \quad \pi_i=\sin F(r)\hat{r}_i=\frac{dr_i}{4\pi r^3}, \quad \mathrm{as} \ r\to\infty \end{array}$$

The field of a Skyrmion represents a triplet of orthogonal scalar dipoles



## **Rotating Skyrmions**



<u>Note</u>: the currents  $R_{\mu}$ ,  $L_{\mu}$  satisfy the zero curvature equation (Maurer–Cartan identity)

- $\partial_{\mu}R_{\nu} \partial_{\nu}R_{\mu} + [R_{\mu}, R_{\nu}] = 0$   $\partial_{\mu}L_{\nu} \partial_{\nu}L_{\mu} + [L_{\mu}, L_{\nu}] = 0$
- Collective coordinates:  $U(r,t) = A(t)U(r)A^{\dagger}(t);$   $A(t) \in SU(2)$  ( Isorotations )

• Spacial rotations:  $\vec{r} \rightarrow O(t)\vec{r}$ ;  $O(t) \in SO(3)$ 

Rotating SkyrmionsThe angular velocities
$$\Omega_k = -i \operatorname{Tr} (\tau_k \dot{O} O^{\dagger});$$
 $\omega_k = -i \operatorname{Tr} (\tau_k \dot{A} A^{\dagger})$ Spacial rotationsIsorotationsEffective Lagrangian: $L = \frac{1}{2} \omega_i U_{ij} \omega_j + \frac{1}{2} \Omega_i V_{ij} \Omega_j - \omega_i W_{ij} \Omega_j - M$ Moments of inertiaThe body-fixed spin and isospin angular momenta $L_i = -W_{ij} \omega_j + V_{ij} \Omega_j;$  $K_i = U_{ij} \omega_j - W_{ij} \Omega_j$  $J_i = -O_{ij}^{\dagger} L_j;$  $I_i = -A_{ij} K_j$ Integrals of motionFor the hedgehog ansatz any spatial rotation is equivalent to a group rotation because $O_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Tr}(A\tau_i A^{\dagger} \tau_j)$ 

## **Spinning a hedgehog**

Q=1  $U(r) = \exp\left[i\tau^a \hat{r}^a F(r)\right]$ 

Spacial rotations can be absorbed into the group rotations:

$$\begin{split} U(r) &\to A(t)U(Or)A^{\dagger}(t) = \widetilde{A}(t)U(r)\widetilde{A}(t) & \text{where } \widetilde{A} = OA \in SU(2) \\ \hline \text{The angular velocities} & \Omega_L^a = i \operatorname{Tr}(A^{\dagger}\dot{A}\tau^a) & \Omega_R^a = i \operatorname{Tr}\dot{A}A^{\dagger}\tau^a) \\ \hline \text{Note:} & L = M + \frac{I}{2}\Omega_L^2 = M + \frac{I}{2}\Omega_R^2 = M + I \operatorname{Tr} \dot{A}^{\dagger}\dot{A} & \text{Spherical top} \\ & I = \frac{8\pi}{3} \int_0^{\infty} r^2 dr \sin^2 f(r) \left[ \frac{F_{\pi}^2}{4} + \frac{1}{e^2} \left( f'(r)^2 + \frac{\sin^2 f(r)}{r^2} \right) \right] \\ \hline \text{The moment of inertia of the Skyrmion} \end{split}$$

The canonical quantization procedure: Introduce two sets of angular momenta,  $J_L$  (canonically conjugate to  $\Omega_L$ ) and  $J_R$  (conjugate to  $\Omega_R$ ).

 $J_{L,R} = I \,\Omega_{L,R}$ 



### 1980s-2000s: Everybody knows that..

- The Skyrme model can be considered as a low-energy effective theory of hadrons
- its solitonic solutions are identified with nucleons
- the topological charge is identified with baryon number
- it can thus be used to study the structure of nuclear matter at high densities

## **Rigid body?**

• <u>J=1/2, S=1/2:</u> Nucleon • <u>J=3/2, S=3/2:</u>  $\Delta$ -resonance  $m_n = 939 \ MeV$   $m_\Delta = 1232 \ MeV$ 

2010.. But... Skyrme model requires for ~20% accuracy

- $f_{\pi}(p) / f_{\pi}(\pi) \sim 1/2$
- Rigid body approximation
- $m_n / m_\pi \sim 2$
- "Nuclei" do not at all look like nuclei
- Binding energy of nucleons if too high

The usual Skyrme model with pion fields only does not work

## **Rational map Skyrmions**

The Skyrme field is effectively a map  $U: S_3 \rightarrow SU(2) \sim S_3$ 



The idea of the rational map ansatz:

Separate the radial and the angular dependence of the Skyrme field as

 $U = \exp\left\{if(r)\hat{\mathbf{n}}_Z \cdot \sigma\right\}$ 

 $\bigcirc$  Identify spheres  $S_2$  with concentric spheres in compactified  $R_3$ 

 $\bigcirc$  Identify target space  $S_2$  with spheres

of latitude on  $S_3$ 

(N.S. Manton, C.Houghton & P.Sutcliffe, 1998)

Stereographic Projection  $z = \tan(\theta/2)e^{i\varphi}$ 

$$\hat{\mathbf{n}}_{z} = \frac{1}{1+|z|^{2}} \left( \frac{z+\bar{z}}{1+z\bar{z}}, \ i\frac{z^{*}-z}{1+z\bar{z}}, \frac{1-z\bar{z}}{1+\bar{z}} \right)$$
$$= (\sin\theta\cos\phi, \sin\theta\sin\phi, \cos\theta)$$

(0)  $\psi$ ,  $\beta$  (0)  $\psi$ ,  $\beta$  (0)  $\psi$ ,  $\psi$  (0)  $\psi$ 

 $\hat{n}_Z = \left(rac{Z+Z}{1+Z\bar{Z}}, \ irac{Z-Z}{1+Z\bar{Z}}, \ rac{1-ZZ}{1+Z\bar{Z}}
ight)$ Z = P(z)/Q(z)

Target space

Domain space

## **Rational map approximation**

• Static energy: 
$$E = 4\pi \int \left(r^2 {f'}^2 + 2Q({f'}^2 + 1)\sin^2 f + W \frac{\sin^4 f}{r}\right) dr$$
  
 $4\pi Q = \int \left(\frac{1+|z|^2}{1+|Z|^2} \left|\frac{dZ}{dz}\right|\right)^2 \frac{dz d\overline{z}}{(1+|z|^2)^2} \qquad W = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int \left(\frac{1+|z|^2}{1+|Z|^2} \left|\frac{dZ}{dz}\right|\right)^4 \frac{dz d\overline{z}}{(1+|z|^2)^2}$ 

#### The holomorphic maps of degree Q:

**Q=4:** 
$$Z(z) = \frac{z^4 + 2i\sqrt{3}z^2 + 1}{z^4 - 2i\sqrt{3}z^2 + 1}$$

(Octahedral Skyrmions)

**Q=7:** 
$$Z(z) = \frac{z^7 - 7z^5 - 7z^2 - 1}{z^7 + 7z^5 - 7z^2 + 1}$$

(Icosahedral Skyrmions)

## **Skyrmions**













### **Crystalline structure of nucleons**

#### R. A. Battye, N. S. Manton, C.Houghton and P. Sutcliffe (1996,2004)



Shell vs. Crystal



Shell wins for  $m \ge 0.16$ 



### Skyrme crystals: $L_2 + L_4 + L_0$

(Klebanov, Kugler, Shtrikman, Manton..)

simple cubic lattice

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3) \longrightarrow (\sigma, \pi^1, \pi^2, \pi^3); \quad x_i = 2n_i L$$
  
 $U(x_1 + L, x_2, x_3) = \tau^2 U(x_1, x_2, x_3) \tau^2$  etc

Atractive channel of interaction between 6 nearest neighbors

face-centred cubuc lattice

$$\begin{aligned} &(x_1, x_2, x_3) \mapsto (-x_1, x_2, x_3); \quad (\sigma, \pi^1, \pi^2, \pi^3) \mapsto (\sigma, -\pi^1, \pi^2, \pi^3) \\ &(x_1, x_2, x_3) \mapsto (x_2, x_3, x_1); \quad (\sigma, \pi^1, \pi^2, \pi^3) \mapsto (\sigma, \pi^2, \pi^3, \pi^1), \\ &(x_1, x_2, x_3) \mapsto (x_1, x_3, -x_2); \quad (\sigma, \pi^1, \pi^2, \pi^3) \mapsto (\sigma, \pi^1, \pi^3, -\pi^2), \end{aligned}$$

Atractive channel of interaction between 12 nearest neighbors

Low density phase

 $(x_1, x_2, x_3) \mapsto (x_1 + L, x_2 + L, x_3); (\sigma, \pi^1, \pi^2, \pi^3) \mapsto (\sigma, -\pi^1, -\pi^2, \pi^3)$ 

## Skyrme crystals: $L_2 + L_4 + L_0$

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma &= \mp \cos \xi_1 \cos \xi_2 \cos \xi_3 \,; \\ \pi^1 &= \pm \sin \xi_1 \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{2} \sin^2 \xi_2 - \frac{1}{2} \sin^2 \xi_3 + \frac{1}{3} \sin^2 \xi_2 \, \sin^2 \xi_3} \quad \xi_i = \pi x_i / L \end{aligned}$$

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3) \mapsto (x_1 + L, x_2, x_3); \quad (\sigma, \pi^1, \pi^2, \pi^3) \mapsto (-\sigma, -\pi^1, \pi^2, \pi^3)$$



## Skyrme crystals: $L_2 + L_4 + L_0$



**Generalized Skyrme model** 

(C.Adam, J.Sánchez-Guillén and A.Wereszczynski..)

Poincare invariance & standard Hamiltonian (quadratic in time derivatives):

$$L = aL_2 + bL_4 + cL_6 + L_0 \qquad \qquad E \ge \pm Q$$

$$L_2 = rac{f_\pi^2}{4} {
m Tr} \left( U^\dagger \partial_\mu U U^\dagger \partial^\mu U 
ight) \quad {
m L}_4 = rac{1}{32e^2} {
m Tr} \left( \left[ U^\dagger \partial_\mu U, U^\dagger \partial_
u U 
ight]^2 
ight) \quad L_0 = \mu^2 V$$

$$L_6 = -\frac{\lambda^2}{24\pi^2} \text{Tr} \left( \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} U^{\dagger} \partial_{\mu} U U^{\dagger} \partial_{\nu} U U^{\dagger} \partial_{\rho} U \right)^2 = B_{\mu} B^{\mu}$$

• Submodel:  $L_6 + L_0$ 

Self-duality equation:  $\operatorname{Tr}\left(\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho}U^{\dagger}\partial_{\mu}UU^{\dagger}\partial_{\nu}UU^{\dagger}\partial_{\rho}U\right) = \pm C\sqrt{L_{0}}$  $\pi^{2}Q \pm \mu\sqrt{V} = 0$ 

## **BPS Skyrmions - Compactons**

Hedgehog parametrization: 
$$U(r) = \exp\left[i\tau^a \hat{r}^a F(r)\right]$$
  $z = \frac{2\mu r^3}{3}$ 

Field equation:

$$\cos^3 rac{F}{2} = \pm rac{3}{4}(z-z_0)$$



$$F(z) = egin{cases} 2 \arccos \sqrt[3]{rac{3z}{4}}; & z \in [0,rac{4}{3}] \ 0\,, & z \geq rac{4}{3}, \end{cases}$$

More compactons (non-BPS):

$$L = L_0 + L_4 + L_6$$

### Skyrme crystals: submodels of $L_2 + L_4 + L_6 + L_0$



#### Yet another self-dual Skyrme model

(L.A. Ferreira and Ya Shnir)

 $U = \phi_0 \mathbb{I} + i\sigma^a \cdot \phi^a$   $\longrightarrow$   $Z_1 = \phi_1 + i\phi_2; \quad Z_2 = \phi_0 + i\phi_3; \quad Z_a^* Z_a = 1$  $A_{\mu}=rac{i}{2}\left(Z_{a}^{*}\partial_{\mu}Z_{a}-Z_{a}\partial_{\mu}Z_{a}^{*}
ight); \qquad H_{\mu
u}=\partial_{\mu}A_{
u}-\partial_{
u}A_{\mu}$  $\mathcal{L} = \frac{m^2}{2} A_{\mu}^2 - \frac{1}{Ae^2} H_{\mu\nu}^2; \qquad \mathcal{E} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3x \left( m^2 A_n^2 + \frac{1}{e^2} B_n^2 \right)$  $Q = rac{1}{12\pi^2} \int d^3x \; arepsilon_{abcd} arepsilon^{ijk} \phi^a \partial_i \phi^b \partial_j \phi^c \partial_k \phi^d = rac{1}{4\pi^2} \int d^3x \; A_n B_n$  $\mathcal{E} = rac{1}{2} \int d^3x \left( mA_n \pm rac{1}{e} B_n 
ight)^2 \mp rac{m}{e} \int d^3x A_n B_n \, ,$ • Energy bound:  $E \ge 4\pi^2 \frac{m}{e} |Q|$  • Self-duality eqs:  $m\vec{A} = \frac{1}{e}\vec{B} = \frac{1}{e}\nabla \times \vec{A}$ 

### Yet another self-dual Skyrme model

The model is invariant w.r.t group of conformal transformations in 3d

Ansatz: 
$$Z_1 = \sqrt{F(z)}e^{In\varphi}; \qquad Z_2 = \sqrt{1 - F(z)}e^{Im\xi}$$

## Yet another self-dual Skyrme model

Energy density and topological charge:

$${\cal E}={16mn\over a^3}\;{(r/a)^2+1\over [4(
ho/a)^2(m^2-n^2)+n^2((r/a)^2+1)^2]^2};\qquad Q=mn$$



### Summary

• Usual Skyrme model supports variety of different solitons which do not saturate the topological bound

Construction of Skyrme crystal allows us to approach the self-duality bound

Self-dual reduction of Skyrme models is possible

New exact self-dual Skyrme model is constructed

