

# Non-Abelian dualities and quantum criticality in square lattice antiferromagnets

## SudipFest

A workshop in honor of  
Sudip Chakravarty's  
70th birthday  
UCLA, April 5, 2019



Subir Sachdev

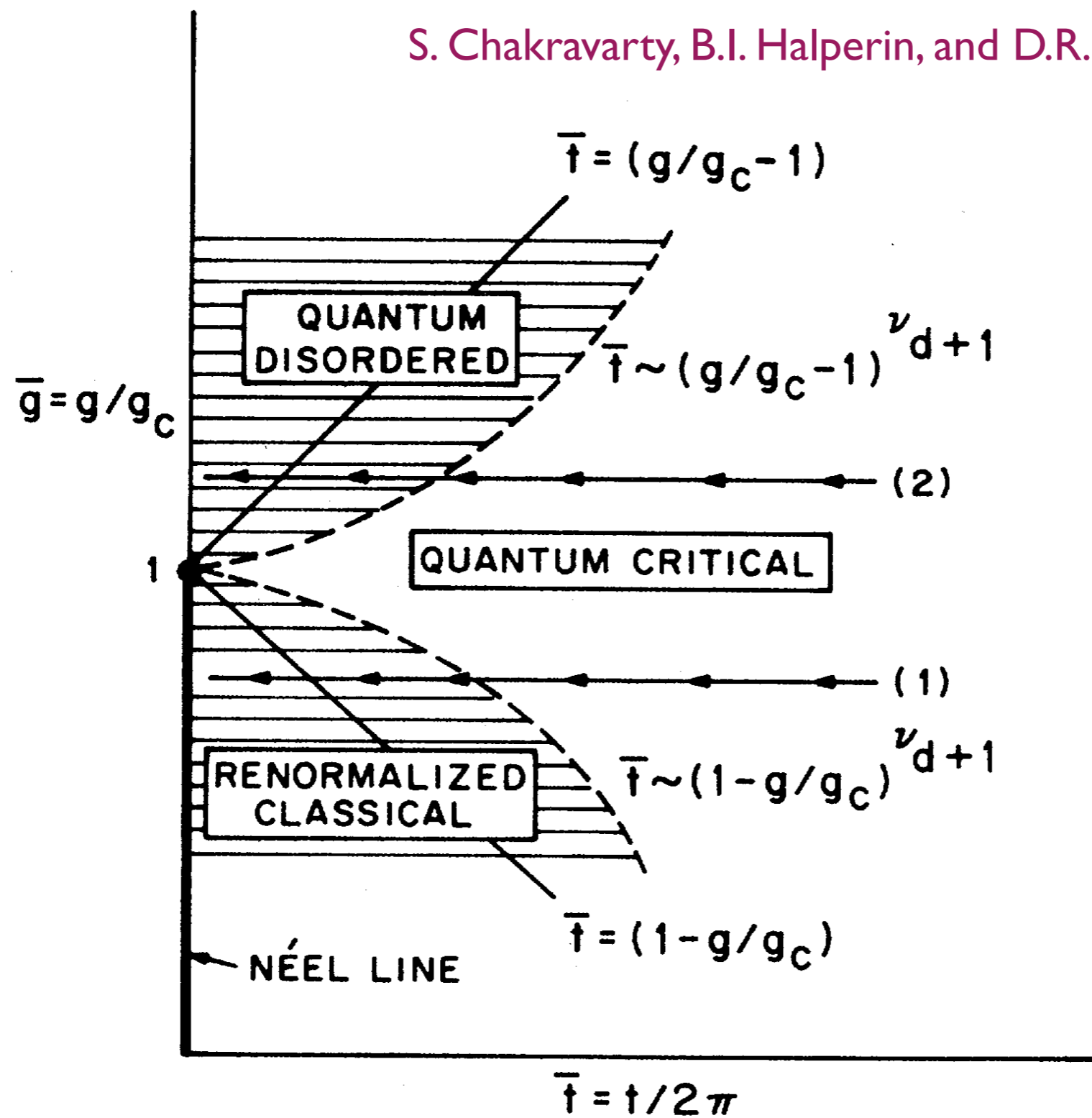
Talk online: [sachdev.physics.harvard.edu](http://sachdev.physics.harvard.edu)

PHYSICS



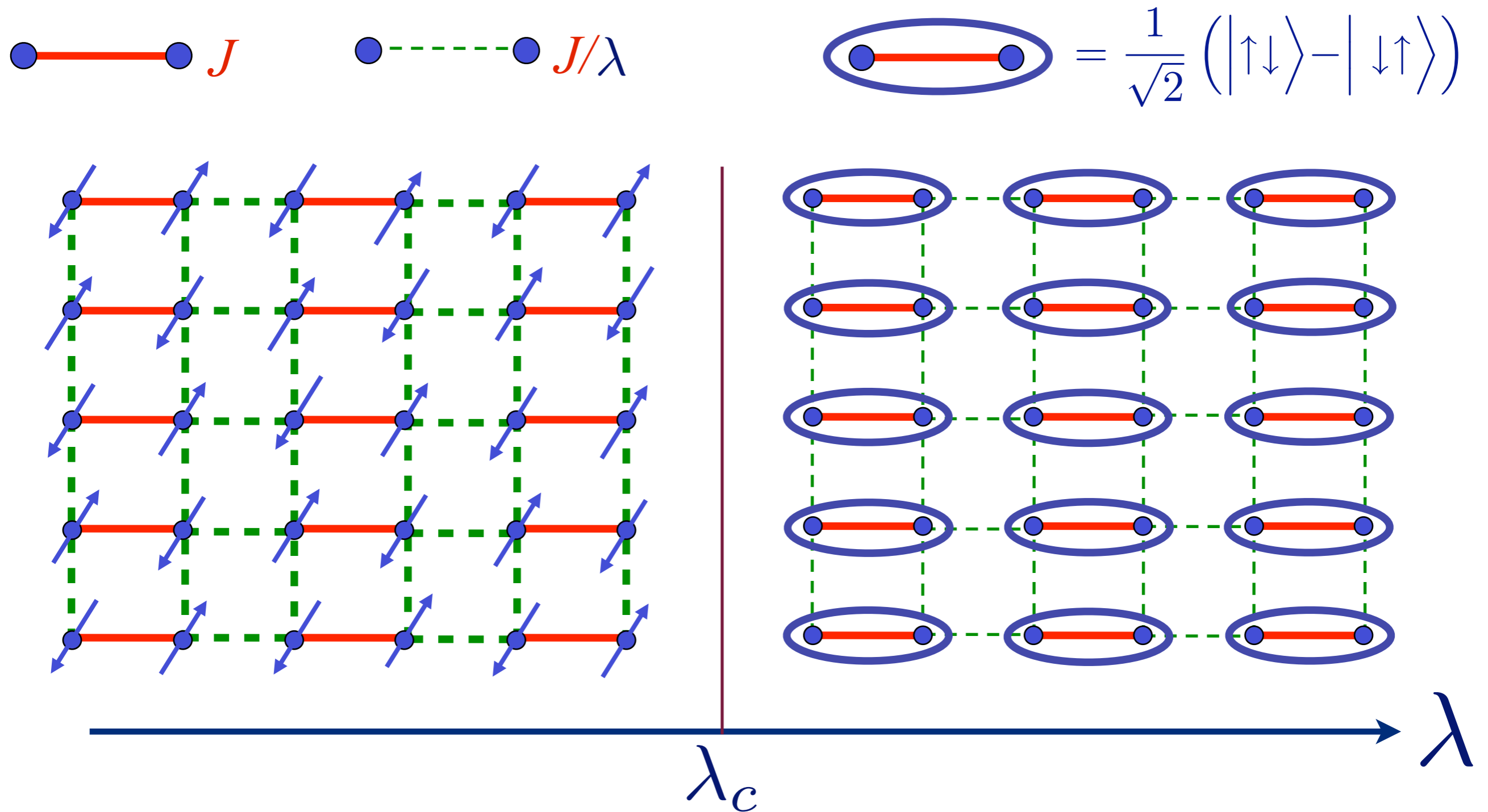
HARVARD





Quantum criticality of LGW theory of Néel order,  $N_a$ ,  $a = x, y, z$

$$\mathcal{S}_N = \int d^2r d\tau \left[ (\partial_\mu N_a)^2 + s N_a^2 + u (N_a^2)^2 \right]$$



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1. Neel-VBS criticality in square lattice antiferromagnets
2. Recent experimental and numerical results
3. Critical theory for onset of semion topological order
4. More non-Abelian dualities

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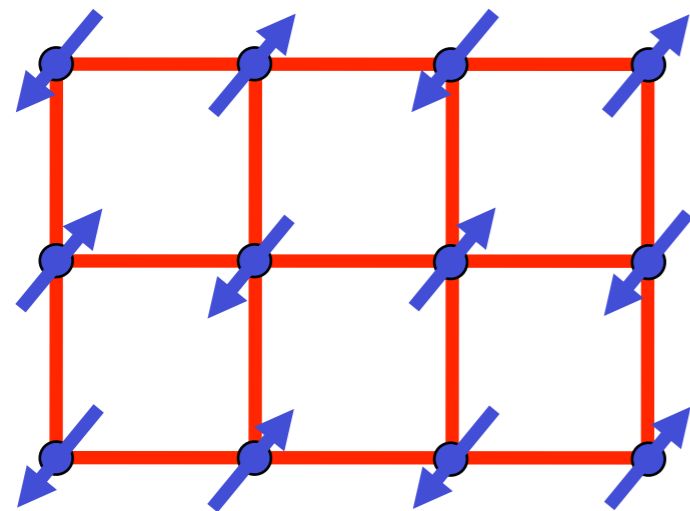
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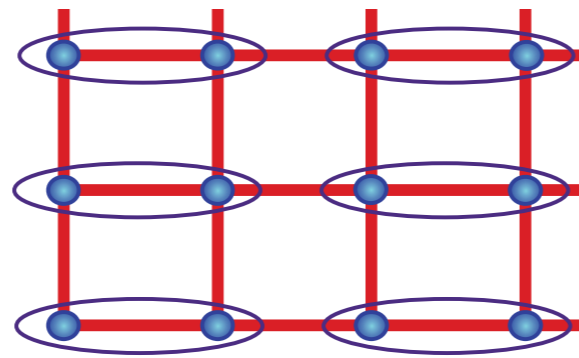
# Quantum criticality in a frustrated square lattice antiferromagnet

N. Read and S. Sachdev, PRL **62**, 1694 (1989)

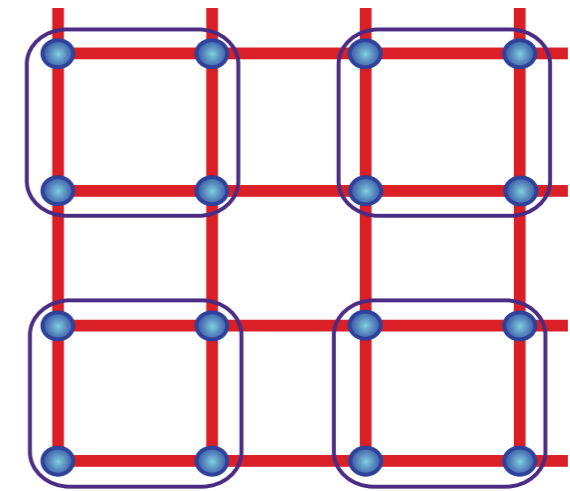


$$\langle z_\alpha \rangle \neq 0$$

Néel state



or



$$\langle z_\alpha \rangle = 0$$

Valence bond solid (VBS) state  
with a nearly gapless, emergent “photon”

$s_c$

$s$

Critical  $\mathbb{CP}^1$  theory for photons and deconfined spinons:

$$\mathcal{S}_z = \int d^2r d\tau \left[ |(\partial_\mu - ia_\mu)z_\alpha|^2 + s|z_\alpha|^2 + u(|z_\alpha|^2)^2 + \frac{1}{2e_0^2} (\epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda} \partial_\nu a_\lambda)^2 \right]$$

O.I. Motrunich and A. Vishwanath, *Phys. Rev. B* **70**, 075104 (2004).

T. Senthil, A. Vishwanath, L. Balents, S. Sachdev and M.P.A. Fisher, *Science* **303**, 1490 (2004).

# Quantum criticality in a frustrated square lattice antiferromagnet

SU(2) gauge theory of rotating reference frame  
in spin space (similar to Schwinger bosons):

Write the lattice electron operator  $c_{i\alpha}$  as

$$C_i = \begin{pmatrix} c_{i\uparrow} & -c_{i\downarrow}^\dagger \\ c_{i\downarrow} & c_{i\uparrow}^\dagger \end{pmatrix}, \quad C_i = R_{si} \Psi_i$$
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$\Psi$  are fermionic ‘chargons’,  $R_s$  is a SU(2) rotation. Spin rotations are *left* multiplication of  $R_s$ , while *right* multiplication is an emergent SU(2) gauge symmetry:

$$\Psi \rightarrow U\Psi, \quad R_s \rightarrow R_s U^\dagger.$$

We Higgs the SU(2) down to U(1) by condensing  $(-1)^i \psi_i^\dagger \sigma^z \psi_i$ , and the chargons are then gapped, fully filling the lower band. The resulting low energy theory is a U(1) gauge theory for the bosonic spinons  $z_\alpha$ .

# Quantum criticality in a frustrated square lattice antiferromagnet

SU(2) gauge theory of rotating reference frame in spin space  
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The valence bond solid (VBS) order parameter is the monopole operator,  $\mathcal{M}_1$  of the U(1) gauge theory. Lattice symmetries allow source terms only for quadrupled monopoles,  $\mathcal{M}_4$  in the action. Condensation of monopoles in the confining phase of the U(1) gauge theory breaks a  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  lattice rotation symmetry.

Critical  $\mathbb{CP}^1$  theory for photons and deconfined spinons:

$$\mathcal{S}_z = \int d^2r d\tau \left[ |(\partial_\mu - ia_\mu)z_\alpha|^2 + s|z_\alpha|^2 + u(|z_\alpha|^2)^2 + \frac{1}{2e_0^2} (\epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda} \partial_\nu a_\lambda)^2 + \lambda \mathcal{M}_4 + \text{c.c.} \right]$$

N. Read and S. Sachdev, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **62**, 1694 (1989)

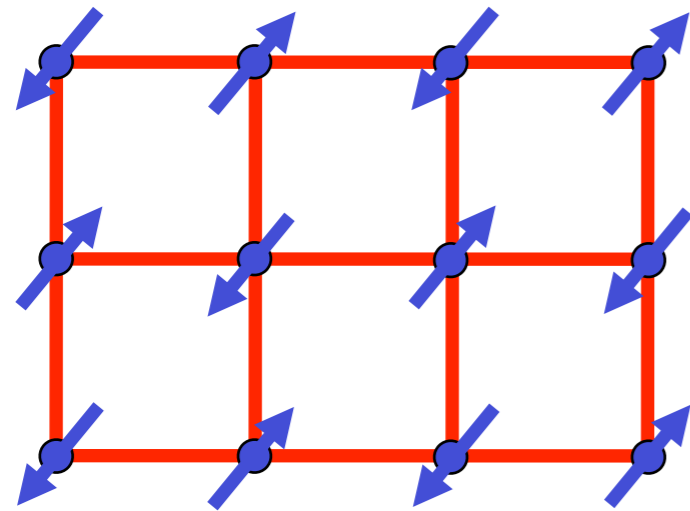
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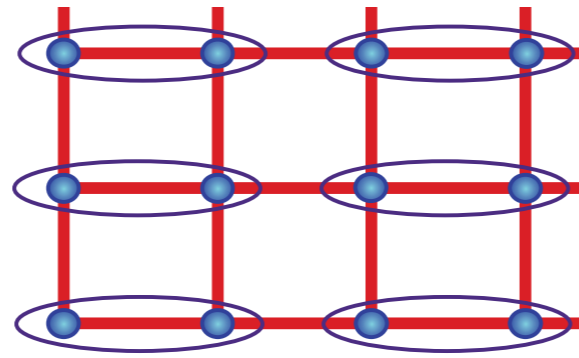
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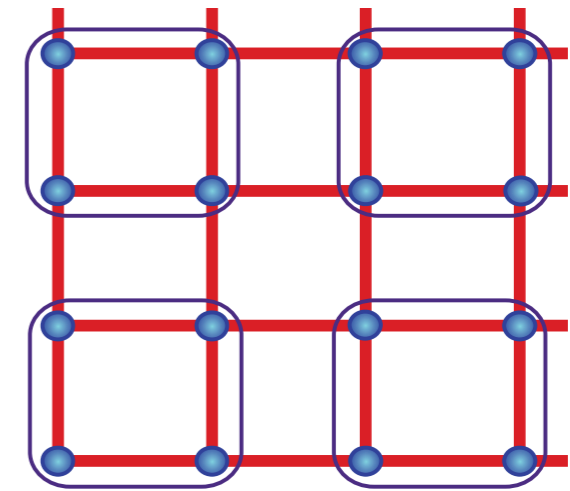


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# Quantum criticality in a frustrated square lattice antiferromagnet

SU(2) gauge theory of rotating reference frame  
in pseudospin space (similar to Schwinger fermions):

Write the lattice electron operator  $c_{i\alpha}$  as

$$C_i = \begin{pmatrix} c_{i\uparrow} & -c_{i\downarrow}^\dagger \\ c_{i\downarrow} & c_{i\uparrow}^\dagger \end{pmatrix}, \quad C_i = F_i R_{ci}$$
$$F_i = \begin{pmatrix} f_{i\uparrow} & -f_{i\downarrow}^\dagger \\ f_{i\downarrow} & f_{i\uparrow}^\dagger \end{pmatrix}, \quad R_{ci} = \begin{pmatrix} b_{i1} & b_{i2} \\ -b_{i2}^* & b_{i1}^* \end{pmatrix}$$

$F$  are fermionic spinons,  $R_c$  is a SU(2) rotation. Pseudospin rotations are *right* multiplication of  $R_c$ , while *left* multiplication is an emergent SU(2) gauge symmetry:

$$F \rightarrow FU, \quad R_c \rightarrow U^\dagger R_c.$$

The  $F$  spinons move in a  $\pi$ -flux background, while the  $b_{1,2}$  are gapped charginos. The low energy theory is a SU(2) gauge theory of  $N_f = 2$  Dirac fermions,  $f$

## A non-Abelian duality

Critical U(1) gauge ( $a_\mu$ ) theory of  $N_b = 2$  relativistic bosons  
is dual to

SU(2) gauge ( $A_\mu$ ) theory of  $N_f = 2$  Dirac fermions.

$$\mathcal{S}_z = \int d^2r d\tau \left[ |(\partial_\mu - ia_\mu)z_\alpha|^2 + s|z_\alpha|^2 + u(|z_\alpha|^2)^2 + \frac{1}{2e_0^2} (\epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda} \partial_\nu a_\lambda)^2 \right]$$

$$\mathcal{S}_f = \int d^2r d\tau \left[ \bar{f} \gamma^\mu (\partial_\mu - iA_\mu) f \right]$$

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The fermion theory has a SO(5) global flavor symmetry, and the gauge-invariant fermion bilinears form a SO(5) vector which transforms as the Néel and VBS order parameters!

$$(N_x, N_y, N_z, \text{Re}(\mathcal{M}_1), \text{Im}(\mathcal{M}_1))$$

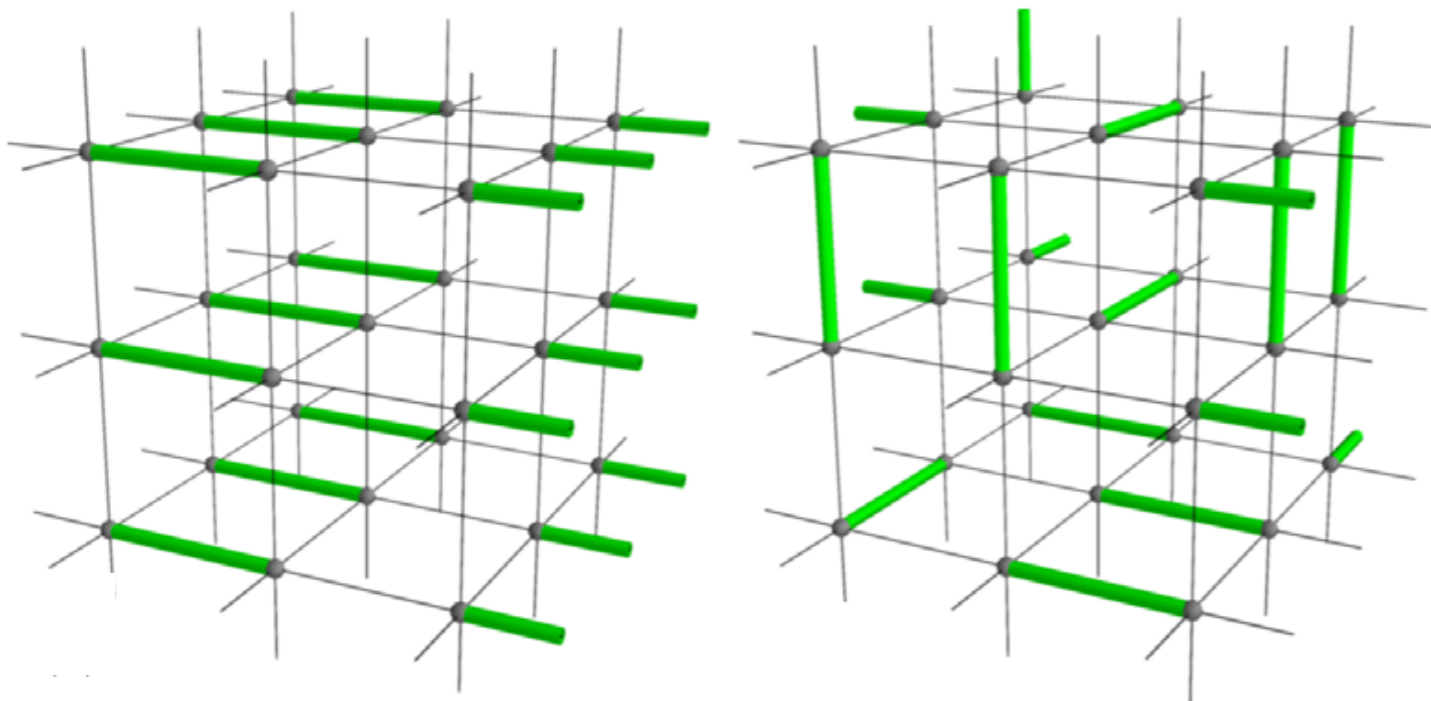
Akihiro Tanaka and Xiao Hu, PRL **95**, 036402 (2005).

T. Senthil and M.P.A. Fisher, PRB **74**, 064405 (2006)

Chong Wang, A. Nahum, M.A. Metlitski, Cenke Xu, and T. Senthil, PRX **7**, 031051 (2017)

# Emergent $SO(5)$ Symmetry at the Columnar Ordering Transition in the Classical Cubic Dimer Model

“Studying linear system sizes up to  $L=96$ , we find that this symmetry applies with an excellent precision, consistently improving with system size over this range. It is remarkable that  $SO(5)$  emerges in a system as basic as the cubic dimer model, with only simple discrete degrees of freedom. Our results are important evidence for the generality of the  $SO(5)$  symmetry that has been proposed for the noncompact  $CP^1$  field theory. We describe an interpretation for these results in terms of a consistent hypothesis for the renormalization-group flow structure, allowing for the possibility that  $SO(5)$  may ultimately be a near-symmetry rather than exact.”



G.J. Sreejith, Stephen Powell, and Adam Nahum  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **122**, 080601 (2019)

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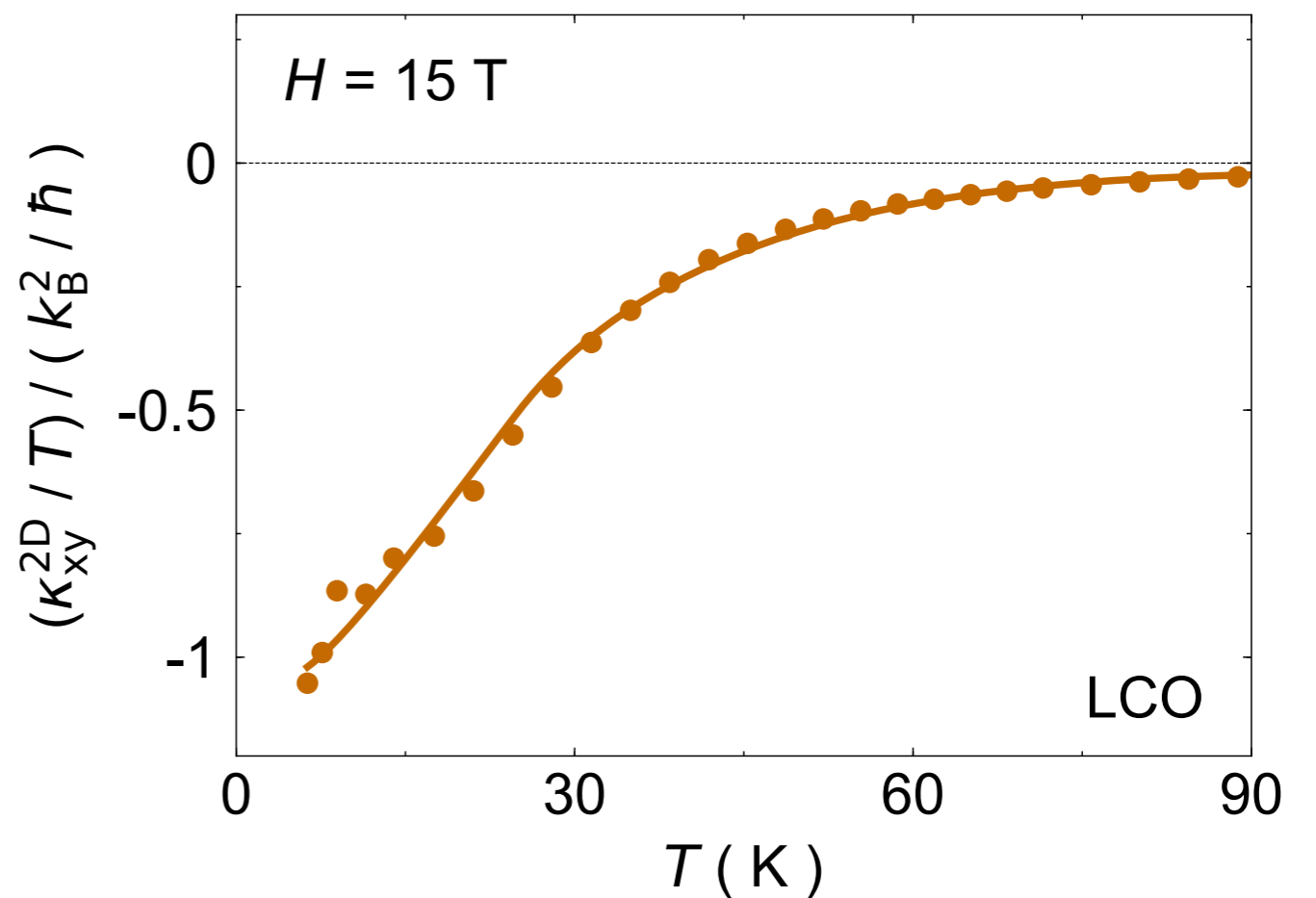
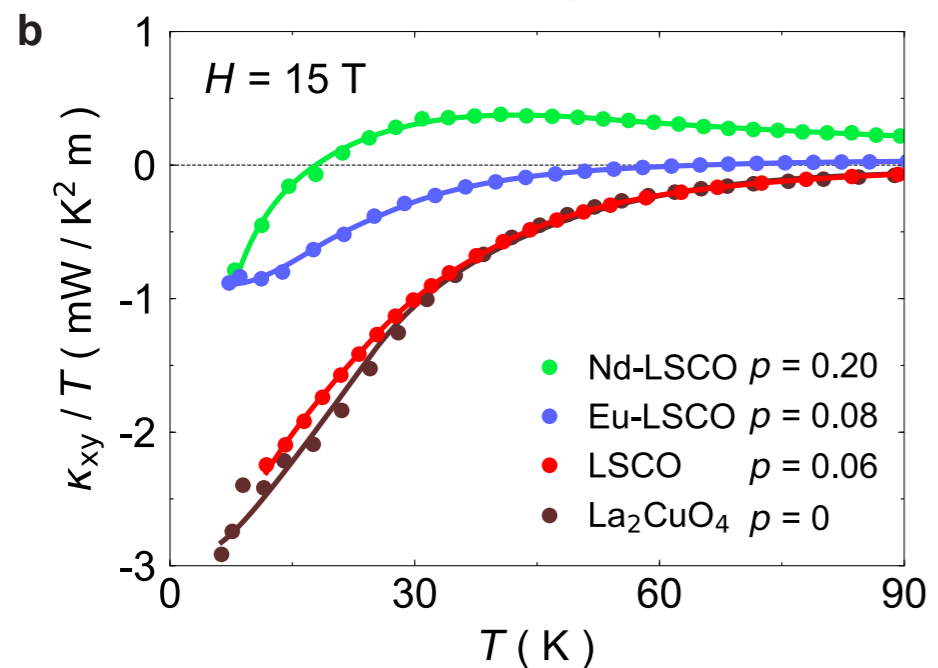
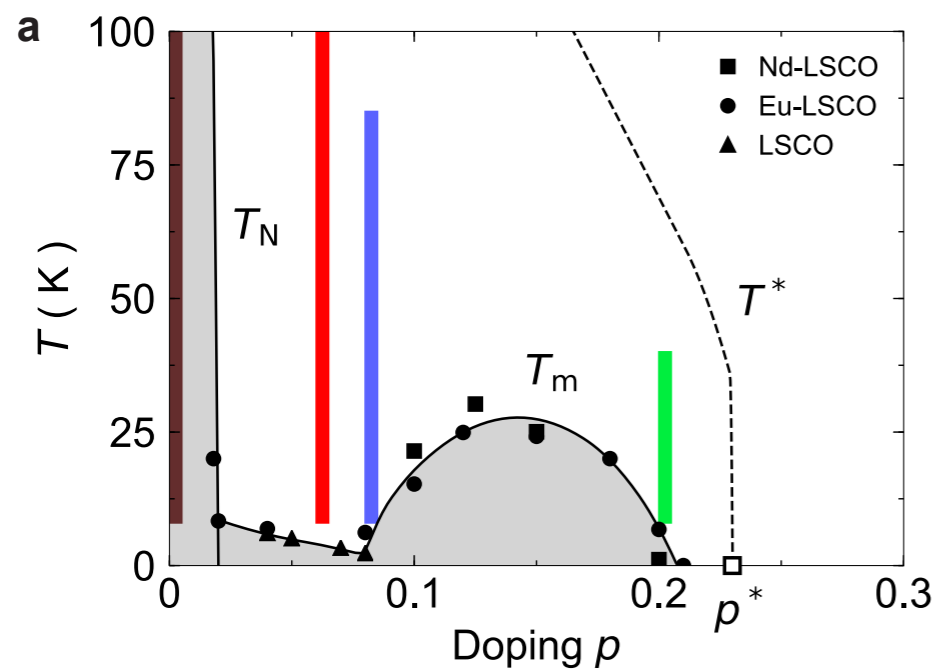
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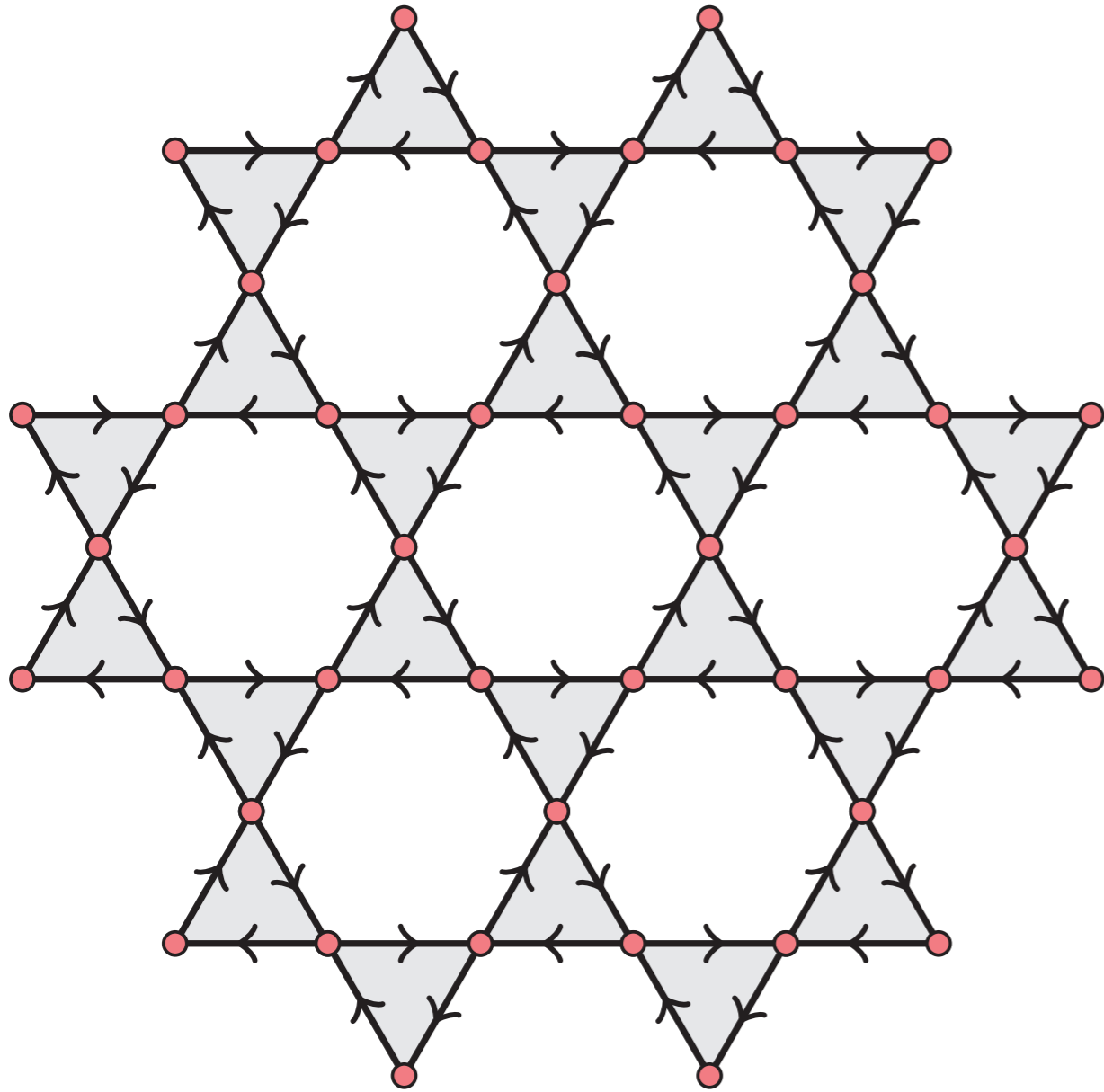
4. More non-Abelian dualities

# Giant thermal Hall conductivity from neutral excitations in the pseudogap phase of cuprates

G. Grissonnanche, A. Legros, S. Badoux, E. Lefrancois, V. Zlatko, M. Lizaire, F. Laliberte, A. Gourgout, J. Zhou, S. Pyon, T. Takayama, H. Takagi, S. Ono, N. Doiron-Leyraud, and L. Taillefer, arXiv:1901.03104







$$H = H_1 + H_B$$

$$H_1 = \sum_{i < j} J_{ij} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + \dots$$

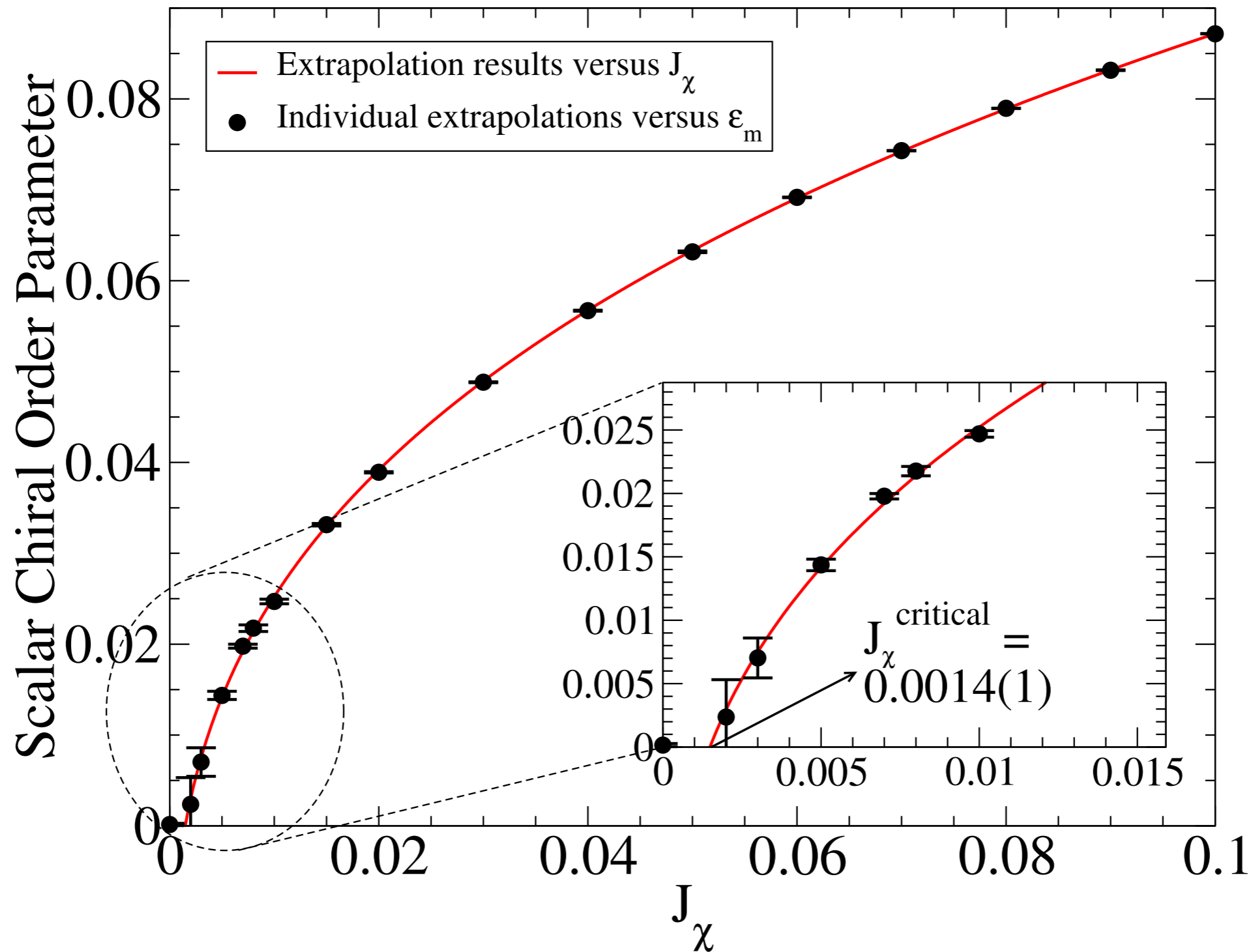
$$H_B = J_\chi \sum_{\Delta} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot (\mathbf{S}_j \times \mathbf{S}_k) - \sum_i \mathbf{B}_Z \cdot \mathbf{S}_i.$$

B. Bauer, L. Cincio, B.P. Keller, M. Dolfi, G.Vidal, S.Trebst and A.W.W. Ludwig,  
Nature Communications **5**, 5137 (2014)

Semion topological order,  
*i.e.* the Kalmeyer-Laughlin chiral spin liquid,  
appears for  $J_\chi/J > 0.01$  ( $\mathbf{B}_Z = 0$ ).

R. Haghshenas, Shou-Shu Gong, and D.N. Sheng, arXiv:1812.11436

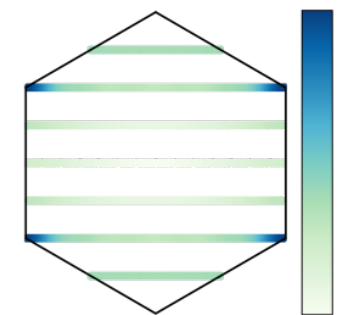
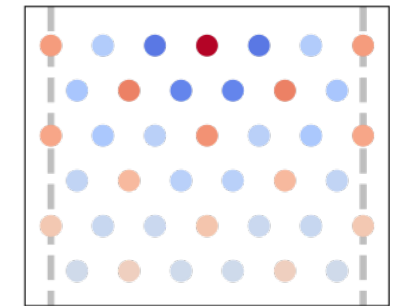
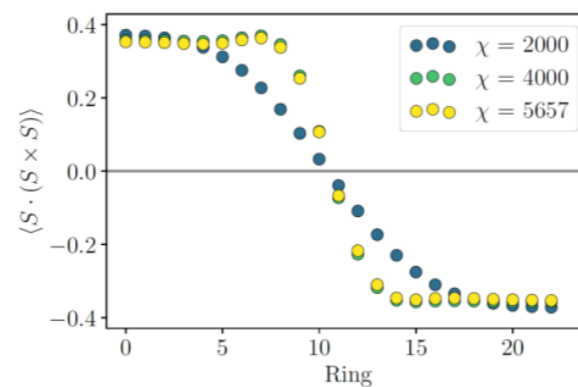
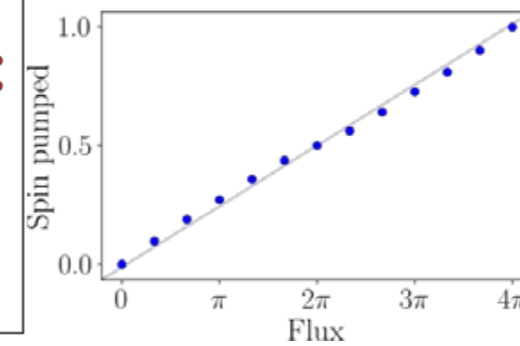
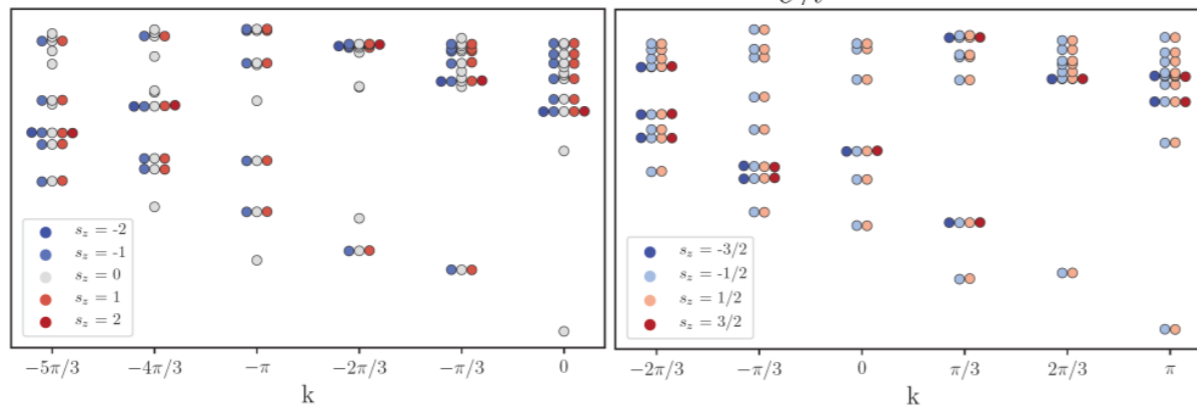
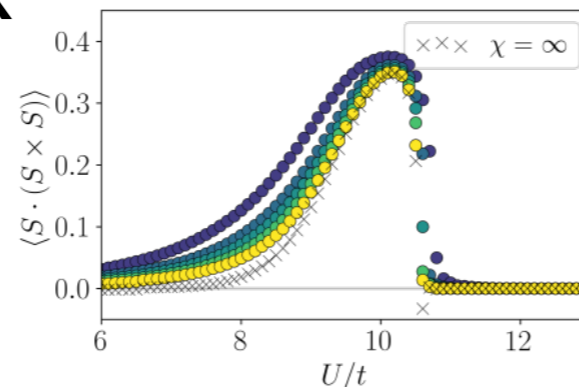
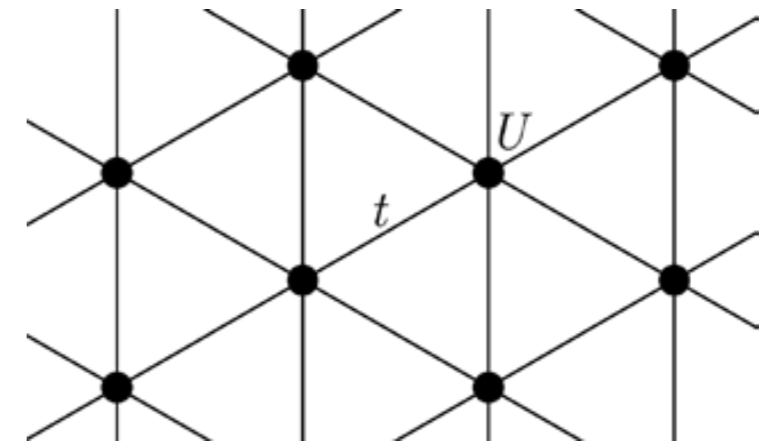
# Triangular lattice antiferromagnet



$$J_2/J_1 = 1/8; \text{ critical } J_\chi = 0.0014$$

# Hubbard model:

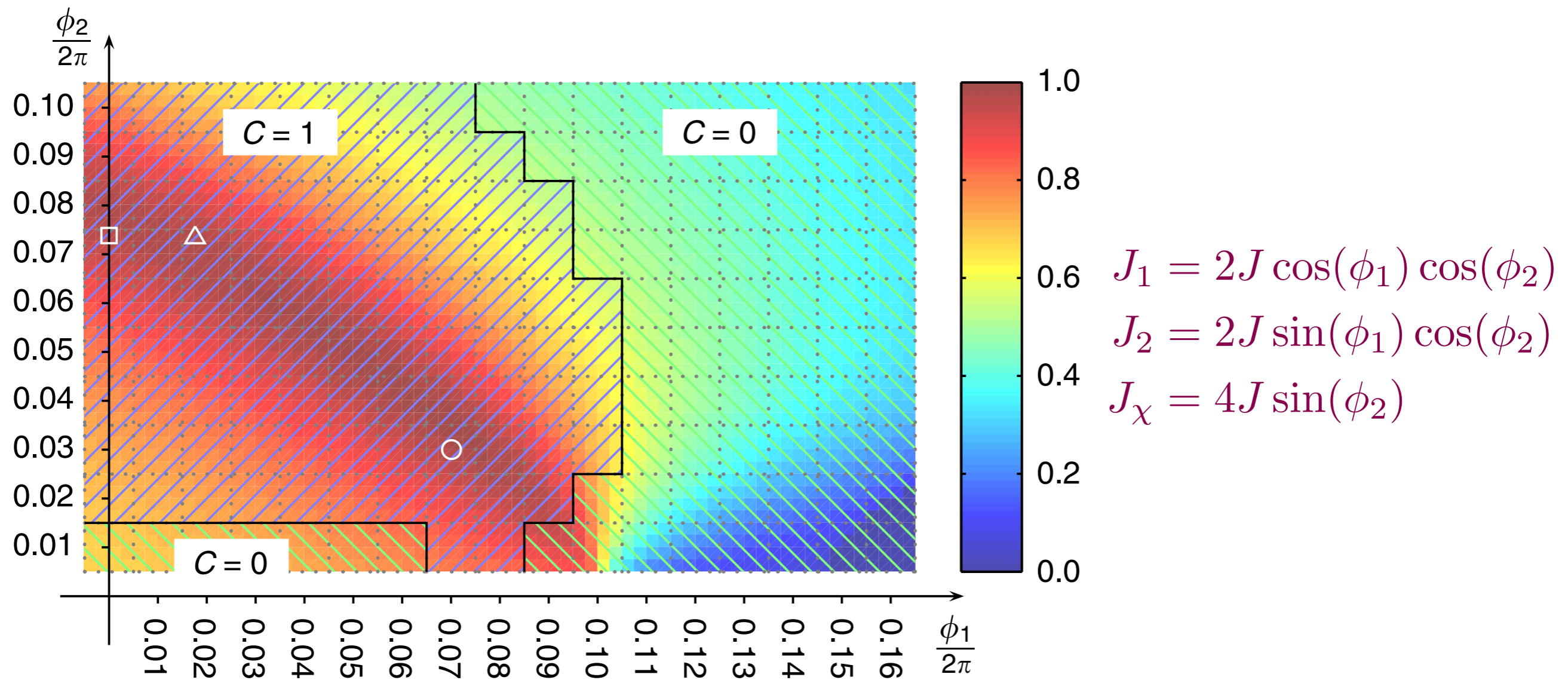
$$H = -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} (c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + \text{h.c.}) + U \sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$$



A. Szasz, J. Motruk, M. P. Zaletel, and J. E. Moore, arXiv: 1808.00463

(from slides by Aaron Szasz)

# Square lattice antiferromagnet



Anne E.B. Nielsen, German Sierra, and J. Ignacio Cirac,  
Nature Communications **4**, 2864 (2013)

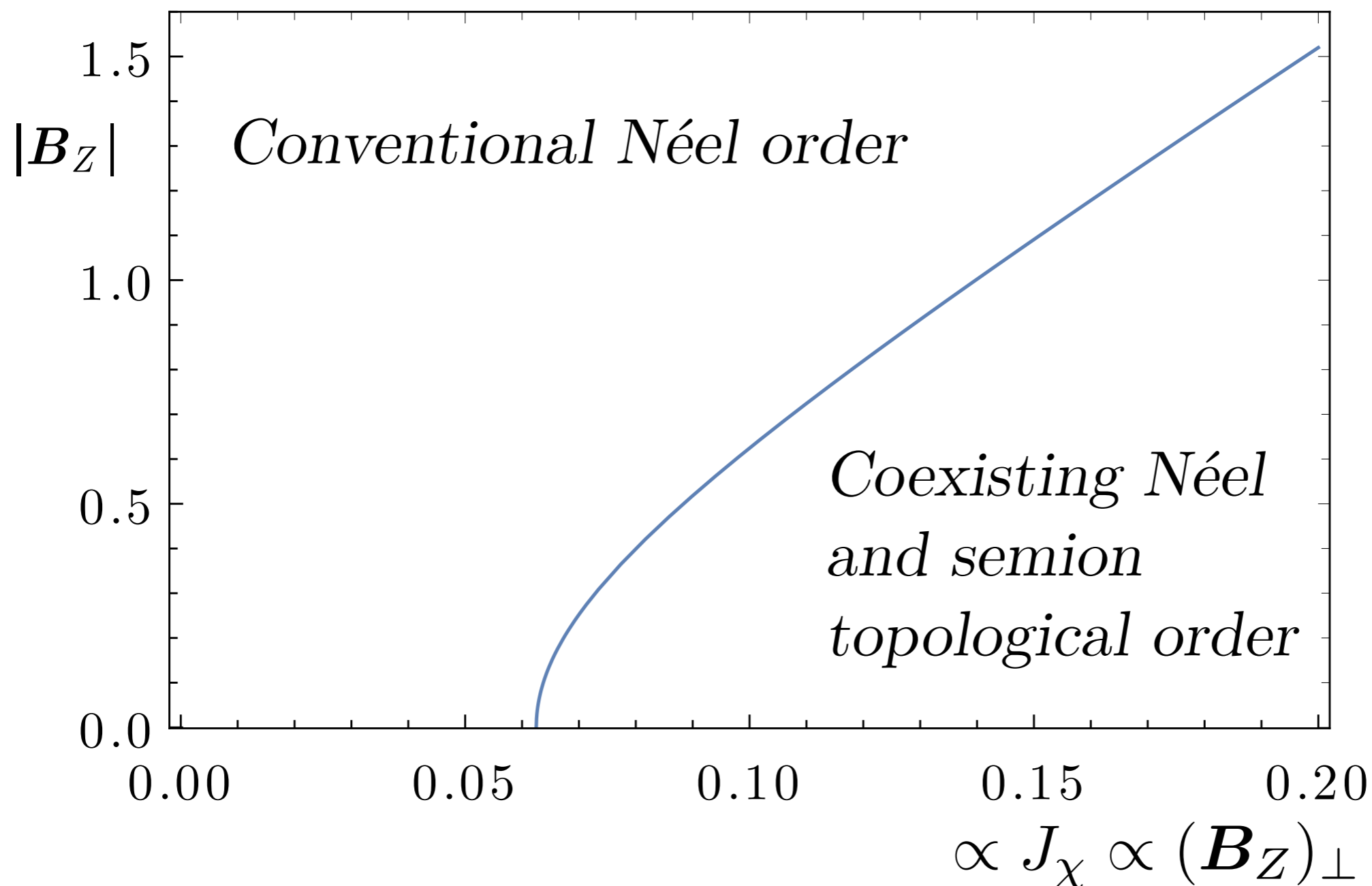
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$$H_B = J_\chi \sum_{\triangle} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot (\mathbf{S}_j \times \mathbf{S}_k)$$

$$H_1 = \sum_{i < j} J_{ij} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + \dots$$

$$- \sum_i \mathbf{B}_Z \cdot \mathbf{S}_i .$$



**SU(2) gauge theory of rotating reference frame  
in pseudospin space** (similar to Schwinger fermions):

Write the lattice electron operator  $c_{i\alpha}$  as

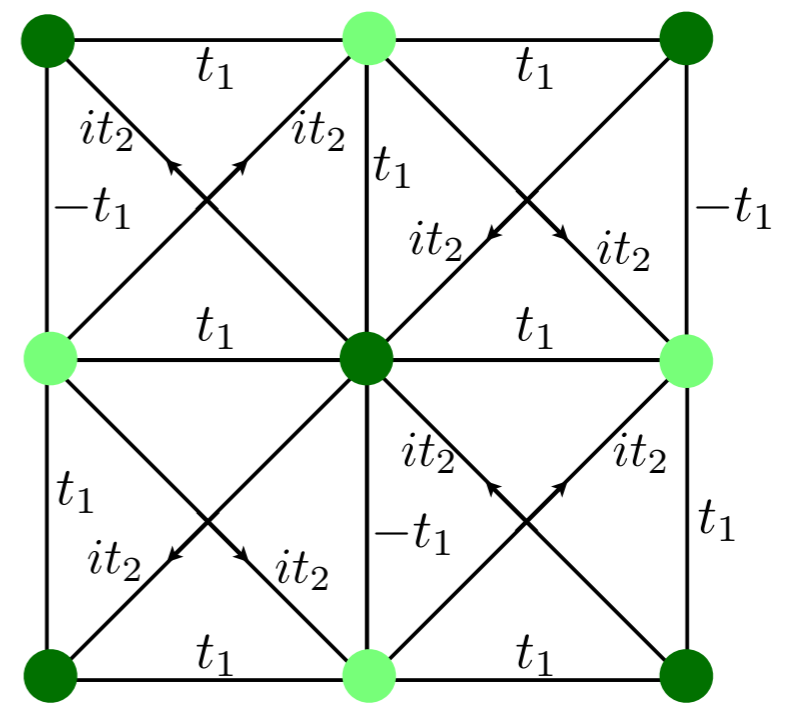
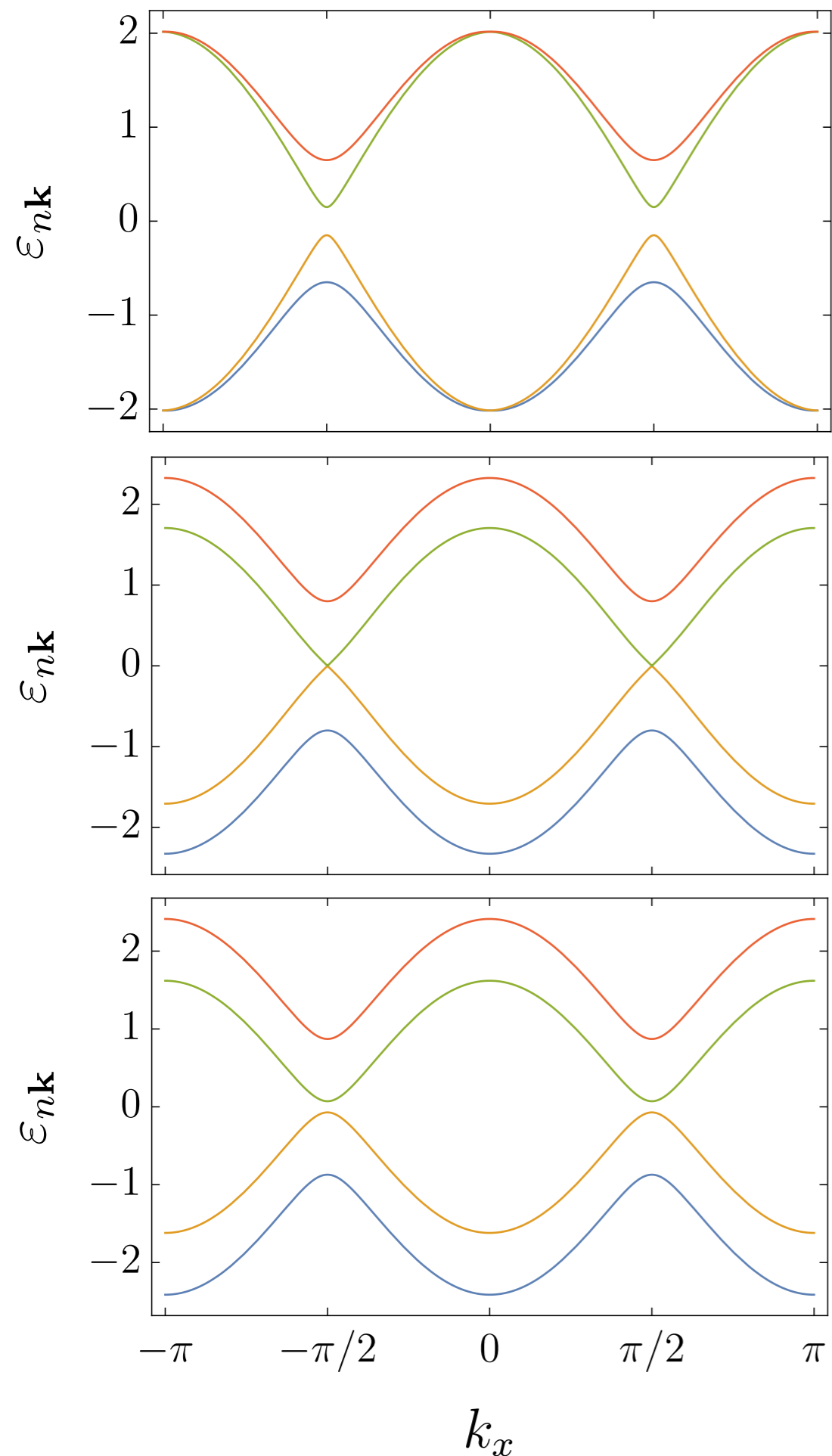
$$C_i = \begin{pmatrix} c_{i\uparrow} & -c_{i\downarrow}^\dagger \\ c_{i\downarrow} & c_{i\uparrow}^\dagger \end{pmatrix}, \quad C_i = F_i R_{ci}$$

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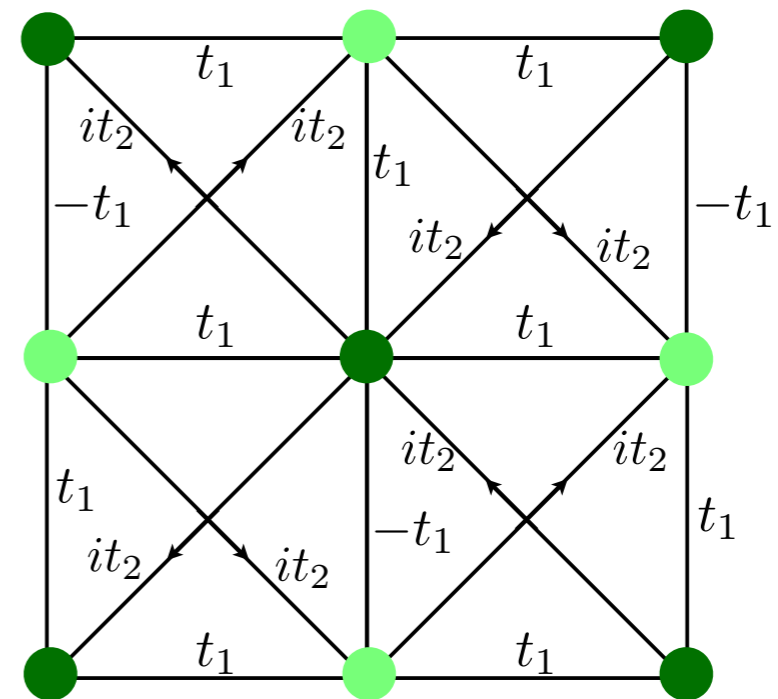
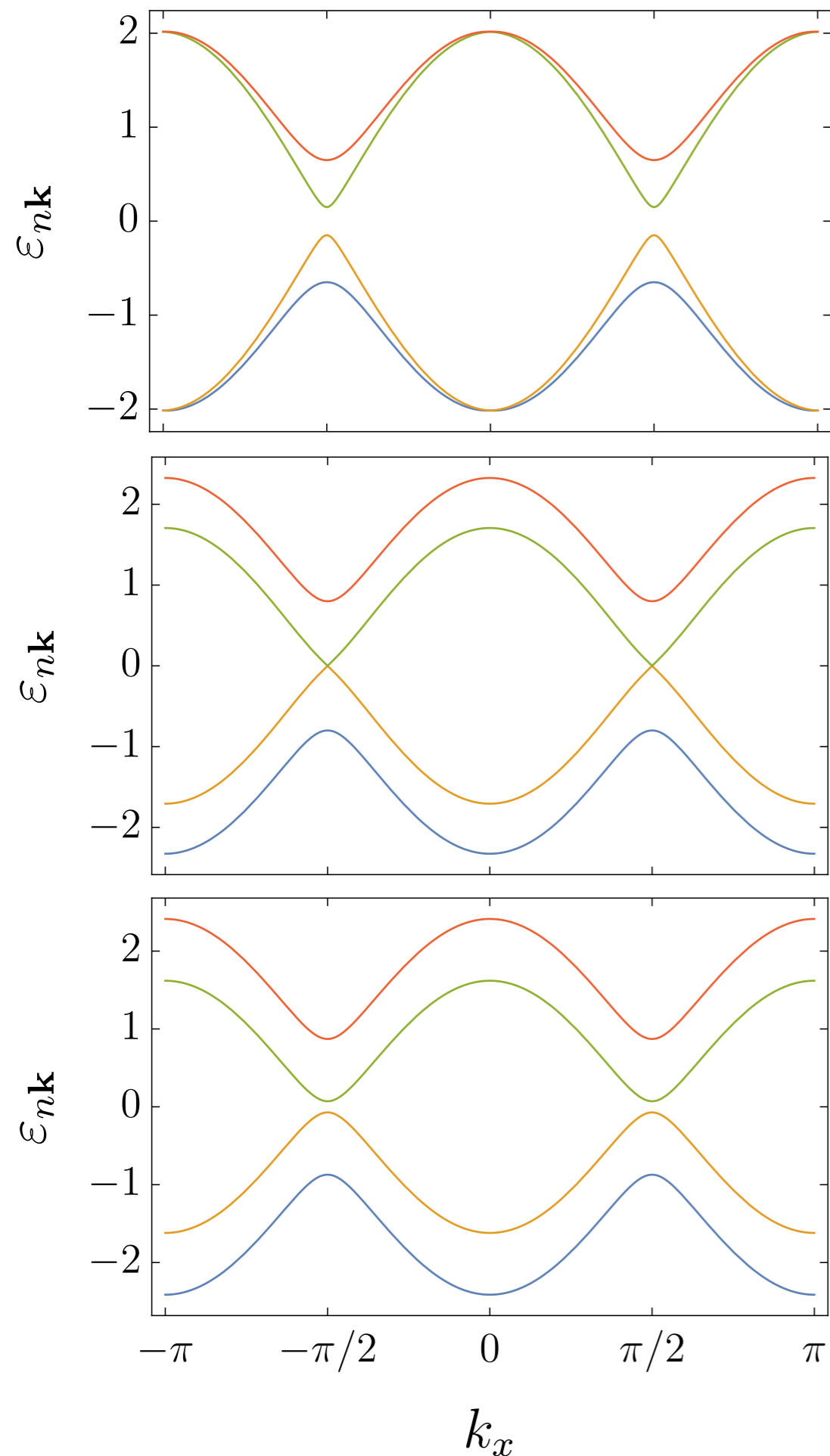
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The  $F$  spinons move in a  $\pi$ -flux background, while the  $b_{1,2}$  are gapped charginos. The low energy theory is a SU(2) gauge theory of  $N_f = 2$  Dirac fermions,  $f$



We focus on two possible mass terms for the Dirac fermions:  $m_1$ , induced by Néel order, and  $m_2$  induced by chiral topological order. There is a line in the  $m_1, m_2$  plane where the occupied bands switch from Chern numbers  $\{1, -1\}$  (the Néel state) to  $\{1, 1\}$  (Néel order co-existing with semion topological order).

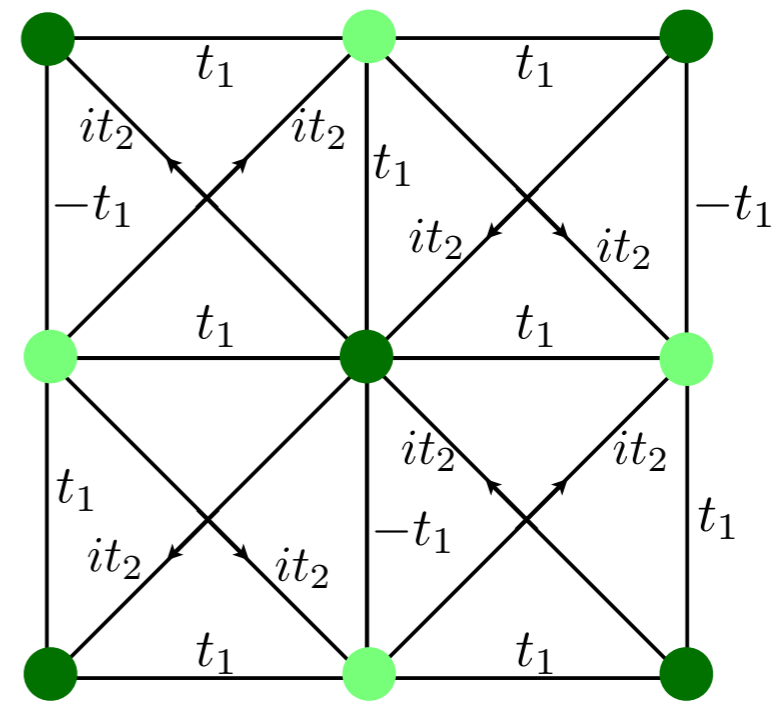
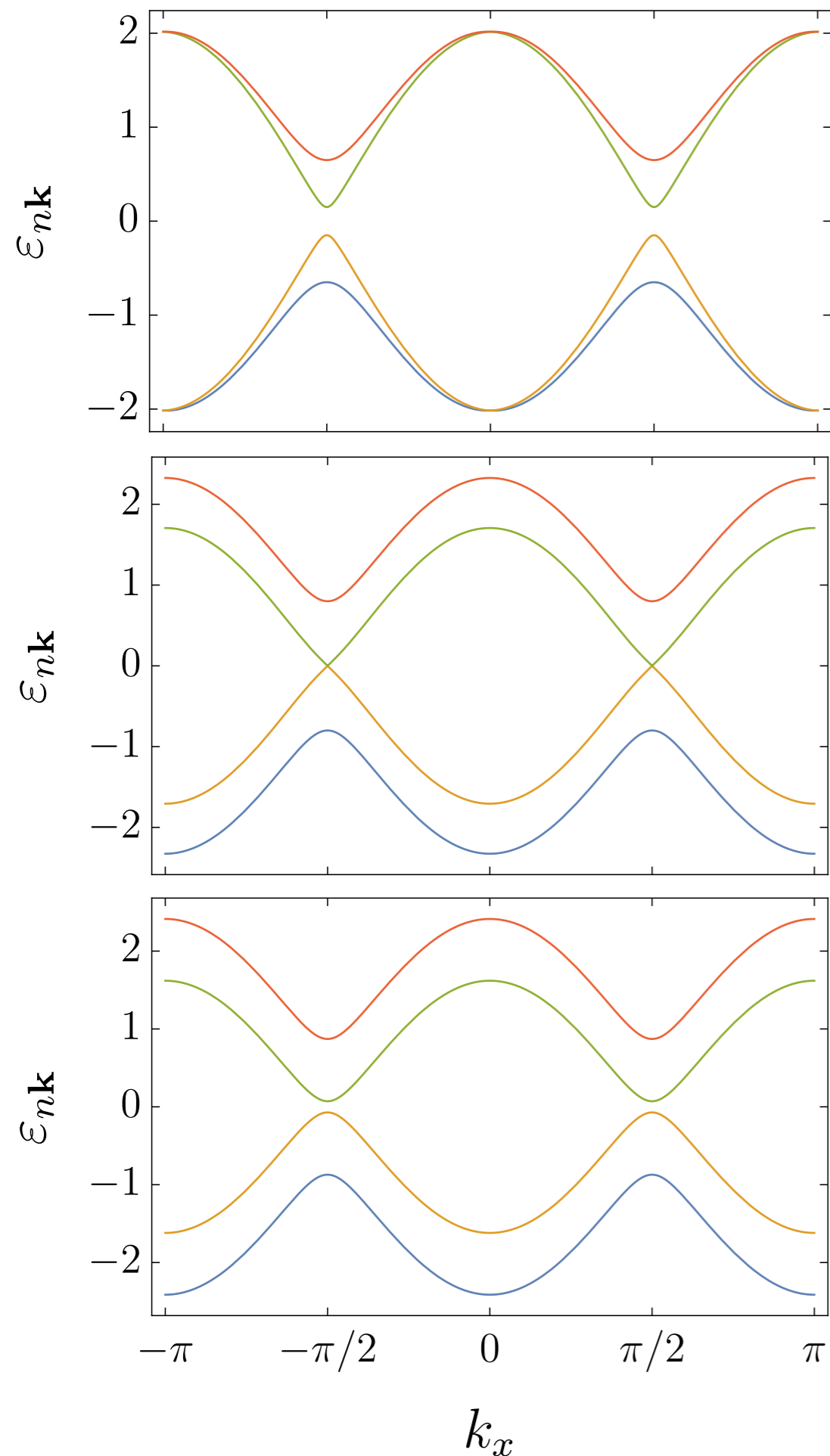




The vicinity of the critical point is described by  $N_f = 1$  Dirac fermion coupled to a  $SU(2)$  gauge field  $A_\mu$  at level  $-1/2$

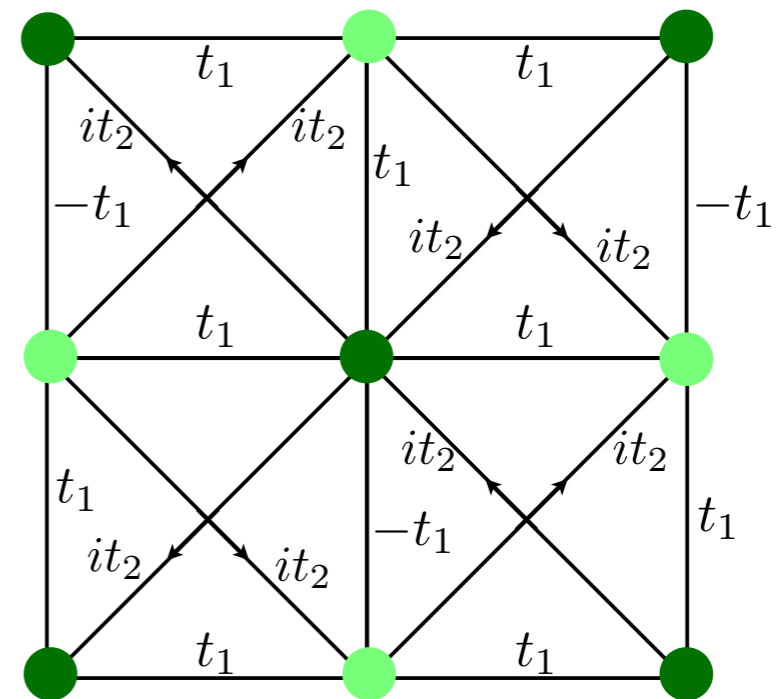
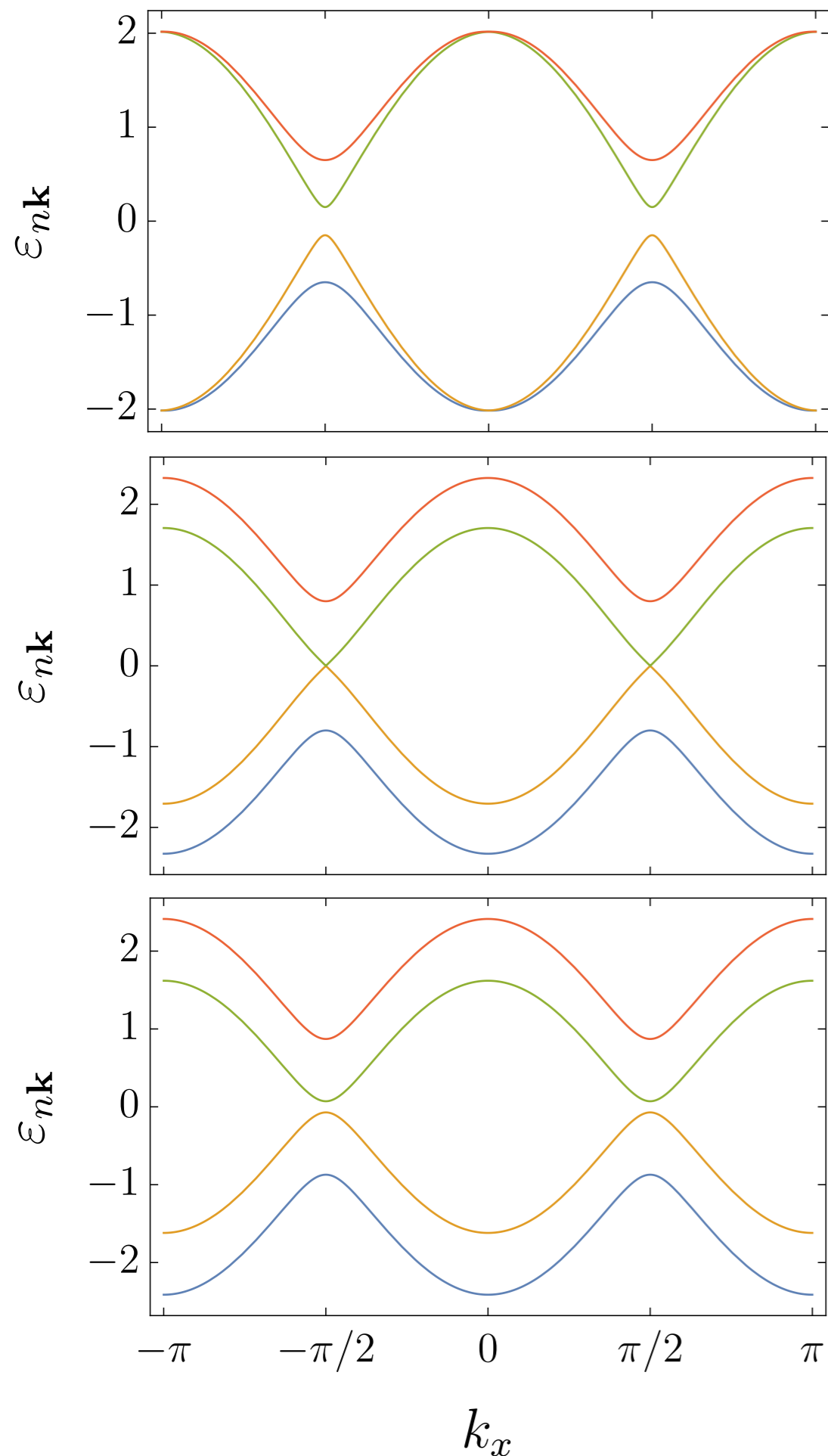
$$\mathcal{L}_f = \bar{f} \gamma^\mu (\partial_\mu - i A_\mu) f + m \bar{f} f - \frac{1}{2} \text{CS}[A_\mu]$$

The transition is tuned by the change in sign of  $m$ .



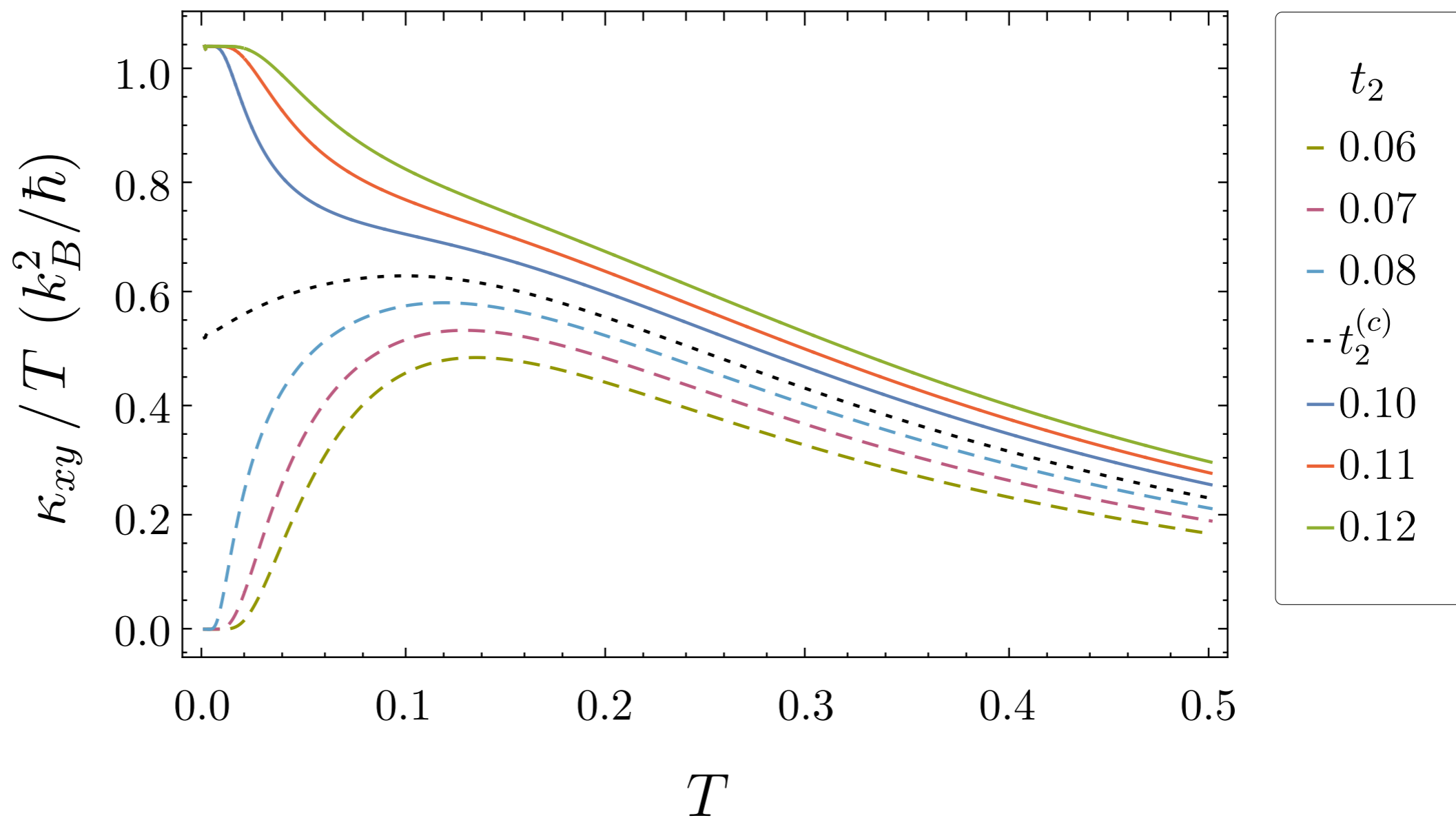
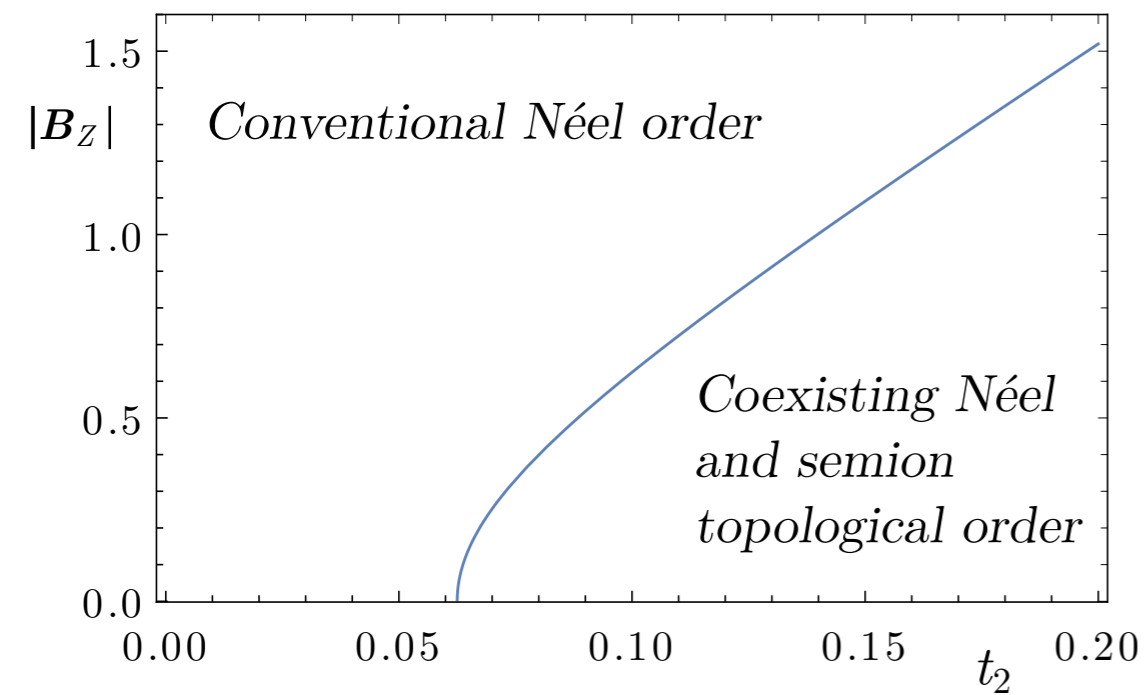
$$\mathcal{L}_f = \bar{f} \gamma^\mu (\partial_\mu - i A_\mu) f + m \bar{f} f - \frac{1}{2} \text{CS}[A_\mu]$$

When  $m > 0$ , we can integrate out  $f$  and there is no net CS term. The SU(2) gauge theory confines, and we obtain Néel order.



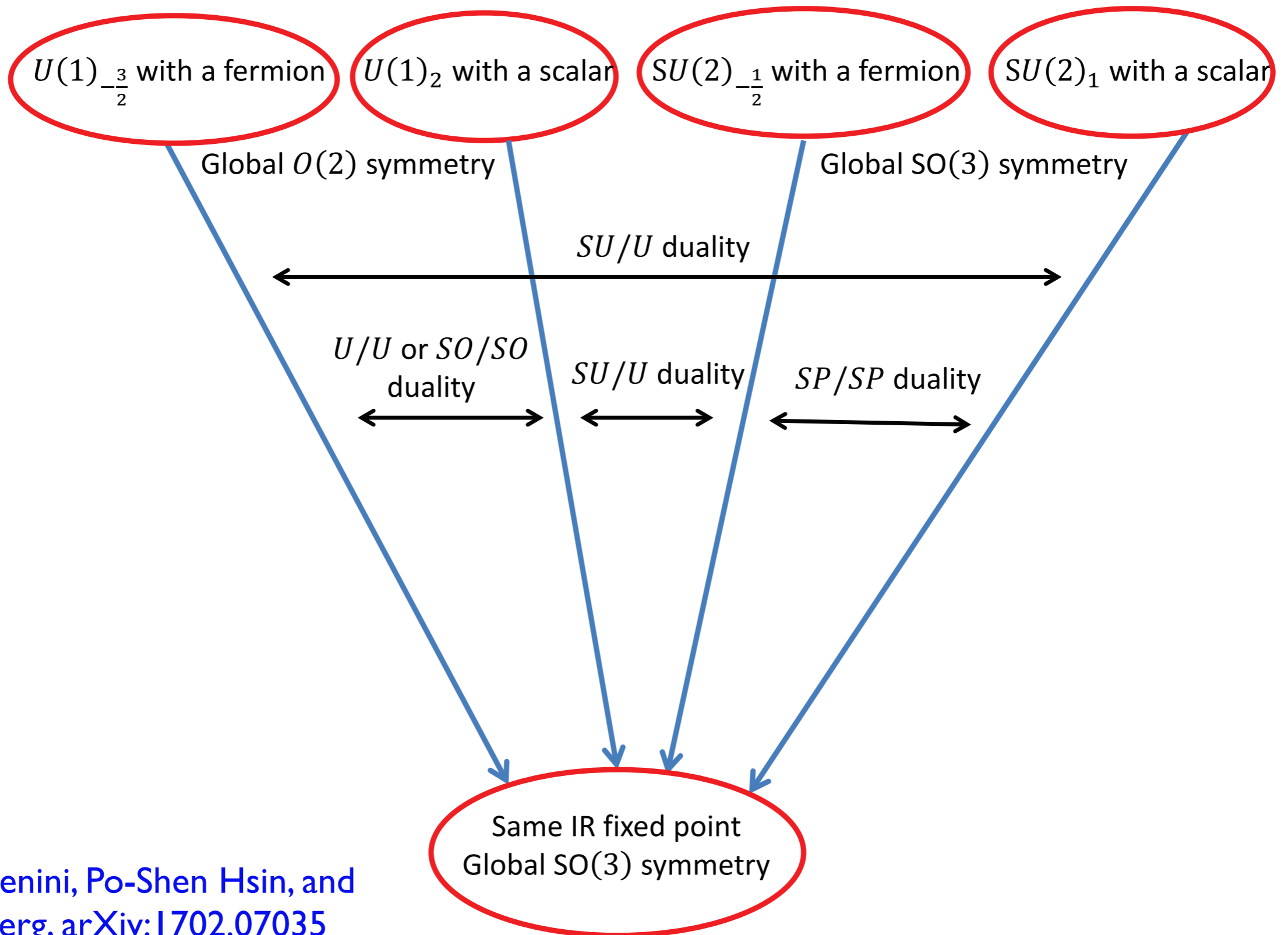
$$\mathcal{L}_f = \bar{f} \gamma^\mu (\partial_\mu - i A_\mu) f + m \bar{f} f - \frac{1}{2} \text{CS}[A_\mu]$$

When  $m < 0$ , we can integrate out  $f$  and we obtain a net CS term at level  $-1$ . The  $SU(2)$  gauge theory at level  $-1$  describes the semion topological phase.



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Pseudospin rotating reference frame

$U(1)_{-\frac{3}{2}}$  with a fermion    $U(1)_2$  with a scalar    $SU(2)_{-\frac{1}{2}}$  with a fermion    $SU(2)_1$  with a scalar

Global  $O(2)$  symmetry

Global  $SO(3)$  symmetry

$SU/U$  duality

$U/U$  or  $SO/SO$  duality

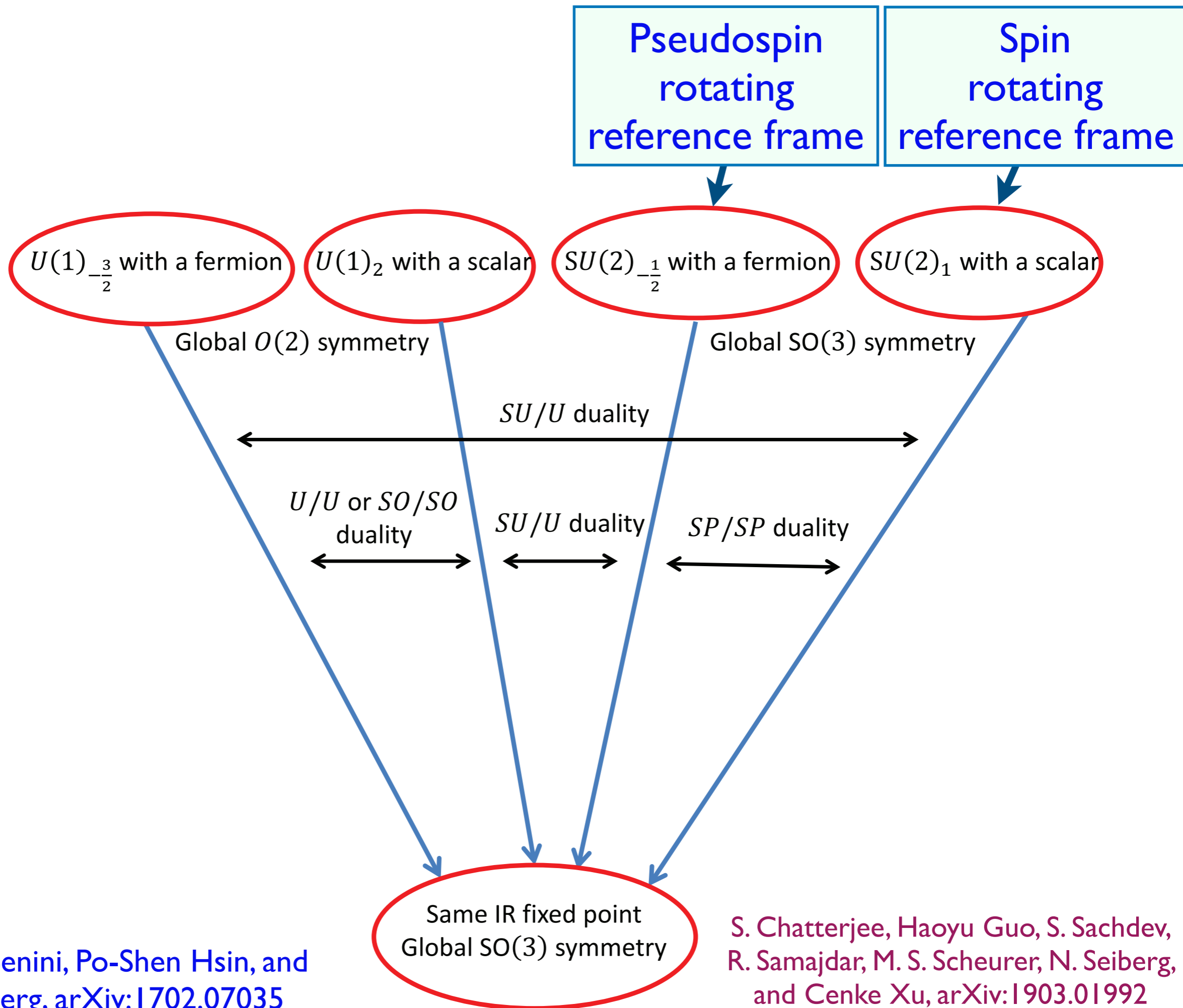
$SU/U$  duality

$SP/SP$  duality

Same IR fixed point  
Global  $SO(3)$  symmetry

Francesco Benini, Po-Shen Hsin, and Nathan Seiberg, arXiv:1702.07035

S. Chatterjee, Haoyu Guo, S. Sachdev, R. Samajdar, M. S. Scheurer, N. Seiberg, and Cenke Xu, arXiv:1903.01992



Francesco Benini, Po-Shen Hsin, and Nathan Seiberg, arXiv:1702.07035

S. Chatterjee, Haoyu Guo, S. Sachdev, R. Samajdar, M. S. Scheurer, N. Seiberg, and Cenke Xu, arXiv:1903.01992



## SU(2) gauge theory of rotating reference frame in pseudospin space (similar to Schwinger fermions):

Write the lattice electron operator  $c_{i\alpha}$  as

$$C_i = \begin{pmatrix} c_{i\uparrow} & -c_{i\downarrow}^\dagger \\ c_{i\downarrow} & c_{i\uparrow}^\dagger \end{pmatrix}, \quad C_i = F_i R_{ci}$$
$$F_i = \begin{pmatrix} f_{i\uparrow} & -f_{i\downarrow}^\dagger \\ f_{i\downarrow} & f_{i\uparrow}^\dagger \end{pmatrix}, \quad R_{ci} = \begin{pmatrix} b_{i1} & b_{i2} \\ -b_{i2}^* & b_{i1}^* \end{pmatrix}$$

$F$  are fermionic spinons,  $R_c$  is a SU(2) rotation. Pseudospin rotations are *right* multiplication of  $R_c$ , while *left* multiplication is an emergent SU(2) gauge symmetry:

$$F \rightarrow FU, \quad R_c \rightarrow U^\dagger R_c.$$

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$$C_i = \begin{pmatrix} c_{i\uparrow} & -c_{i\downarrow}^\dagger \\ c_{i\downarrow} & c_{i\uparrow}^\dagger \end{pmatrix}, \quad C_i = R_{si} \Psi_i$$
$$\Psi_i = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_{i+} & -\psi_{i-}^\dagger \\ \psi_{i-} & \psi_{i+}^\dagger \end{pmatrix}, \quad R_{si} = \begin{pmatrix} z_{i\uparrow} & -z_{i\downarrow}^* \\ z_{i\downarrow} & z_{i\uparrow}^* \end{pmatrix}$$

$\Psi$  are fermionic ‘chargons’,  $R_s$  is a SU(2) rotation. Spin rotations are *left* multiplication of  $R_s$ , while *right* multiplication is an emergent SU(2) gauge symmetry:

$$\Psi \rightarrow U\Psi, \quad R_s \rightarrow R_s U^\dagger.$$

## SU(2) gauge theory of rotating reference frame

in spin space (similar to Schwinger bosons):

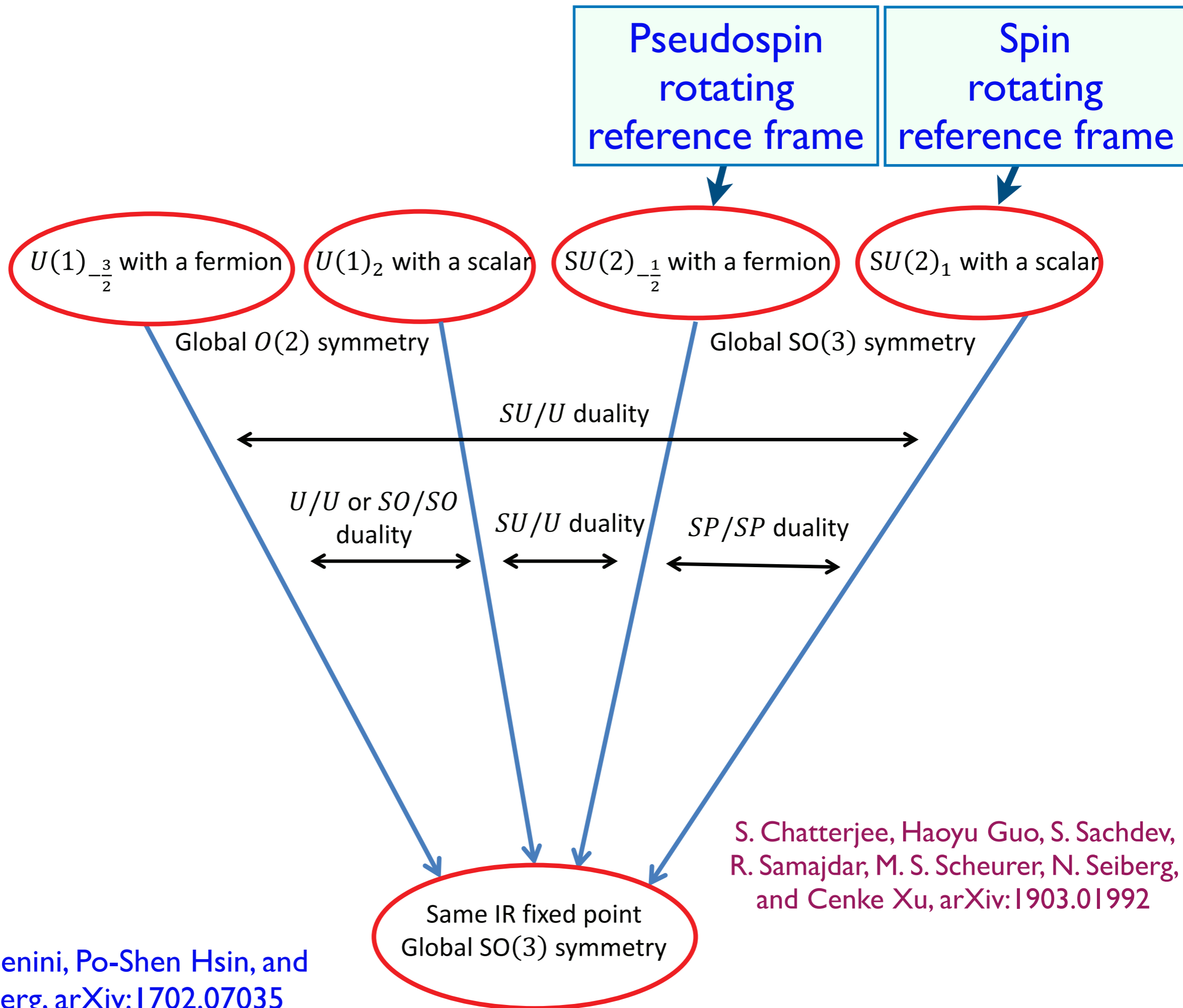
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$\Psi$  are fermionic ‘chargons’,  $R_s$  is a SU(2) rotation. Spin rotations are *left* multiplication of  $R_s$ , while *right* multiplication is an emergent SU(2) gauge symmetry:

$$\Psi \rightarrow U\Psi, \quad R_s \rightarrow R_s U^\dagger.$$

The fermionic chargons  $\Psi$  fully occupy a band with Chern number 1, and are gapped. When the  $R$  bosons are also gapped, we obtain the state with semion topological order. When the bosons condense, we obtain a trivial state. The critical theory is a SU(2) gauge theory at level 1 coupled to massless self-interacting scalar.



S. Chatterjee, Haoyu Guo, S. Sachdev,  
R. Samajdar, M. S. Scheurer, N. Seiberg,  
and Cenke Xu, arXiv:1903.01992

Francesco Benini, Po-Shen Hsin, and  
Nathan Seiberg, arXiv:1702.07035

## Another non-Abelian duality

Critical SU(2) gauge theory of  $N_1 = 2$  relativistic bosons  
at CS level 1

is dual to

SU(2) gauge theory of  $N_f = 1$  Dirac fermion  
at CS level  $-1/2$ .

$$\mathcal{L}_z = |(\partial_\mu - iA_\mu)z|^2 + s|z|^2 + u(|z|^2)^2 + \text{CS}[A_\mu]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_f = \bar{f}\gamma^\mu(\partial_\mu - iA_\mu)f + m\bar{f}f - \frac{1}{2}\text{CS}[A_\mu]$$

Both theories have an emergent global SO(3) symmetry

Composite bosons

Pseudospin rotating reference frame

Spin rotating reference frame

$U(1)_{-\frac{3}{2}}$  with a fermion

$U(1)_2$  with a scalar

$SU(2)_{-\frac{1}{2}}$  with a fermion

$SU(2)_1$  with a scalar

Global  $O(2)$  symmetry

Global  $SO(3)$  symmetry

$SU/U$  duality

$U/U$  or  $SO/SO$  duality

$SU/U$  duality

$SP/SP$  duality

Identify  $S_+ = b^\dagger$ , as in Kalmeyer-Laughlin, and the bosons form a  $\nu = 1/2$  FQH state. Perform the Dasgupta-Halperin boson-vortex duality, and the relativistic scalar is the dual quasiparticle ('vortex') operator

Same IR fixed point  
Global  $SO(3)$  symmetry

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Composite fermions

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$SU/U$  duality

$SP/SP$  duality

Write  $S_+ = f_1 f_2$ . Both fermions fill bands with Chern number 1 in the topological state. One of the fermions occupies a band with Chern number 0 in the trivial state.

M. Barkeshli and J. McGreevy, PRB **89**, 235116 (2014)

Francesco Benini, Po-Shen Hsin, and Nathan Seiberg, arXiv:1702.07035

Same IR fixed point  
Global  $SO(3)$  symmetry

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## A quadrilarity

$$\mathcal{L}_z = |(\partial_\mu - iA_\mu)z|^2 + s|z|^2 + u(|z|^2)^2 + \text{CS}[A_\mu]$$

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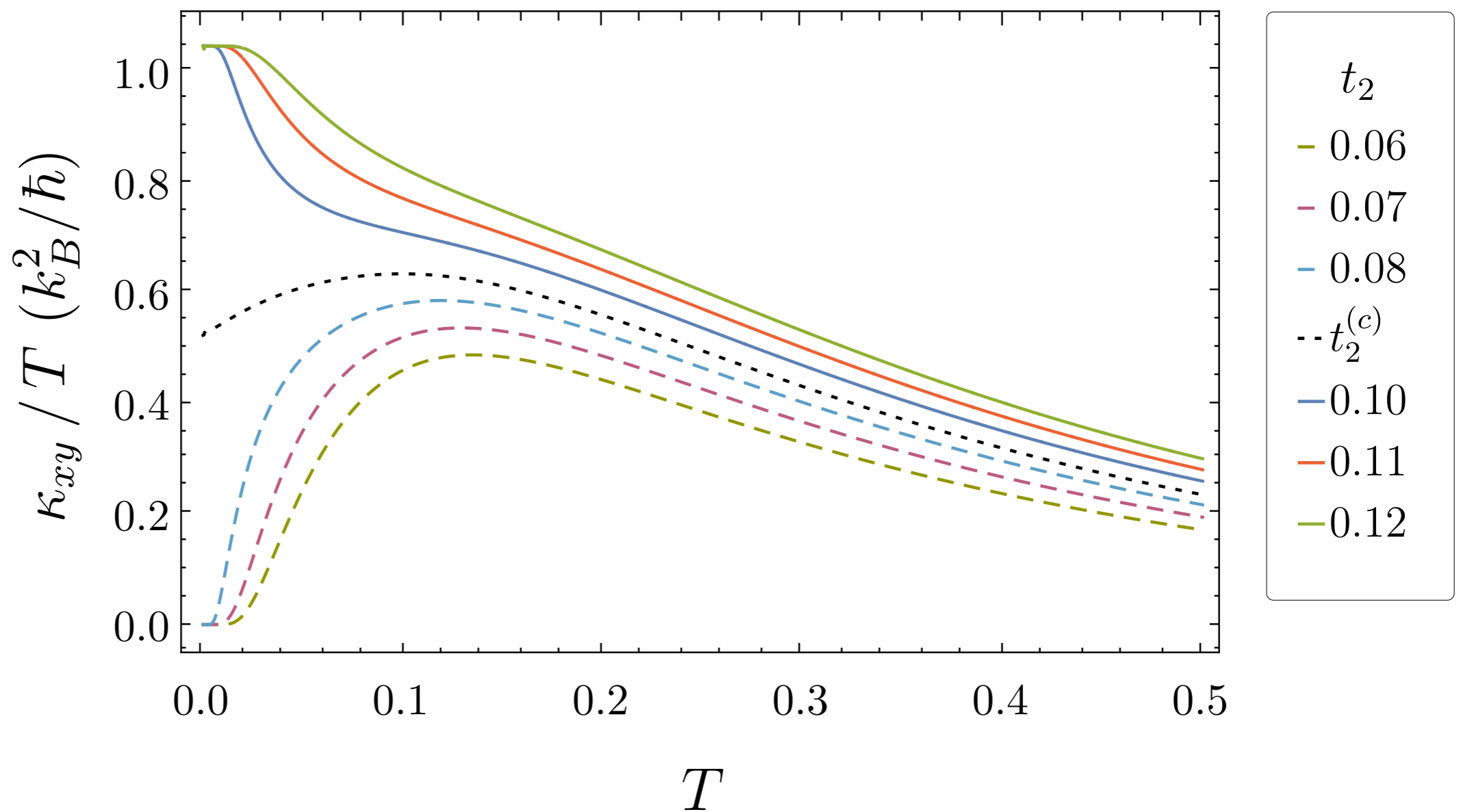
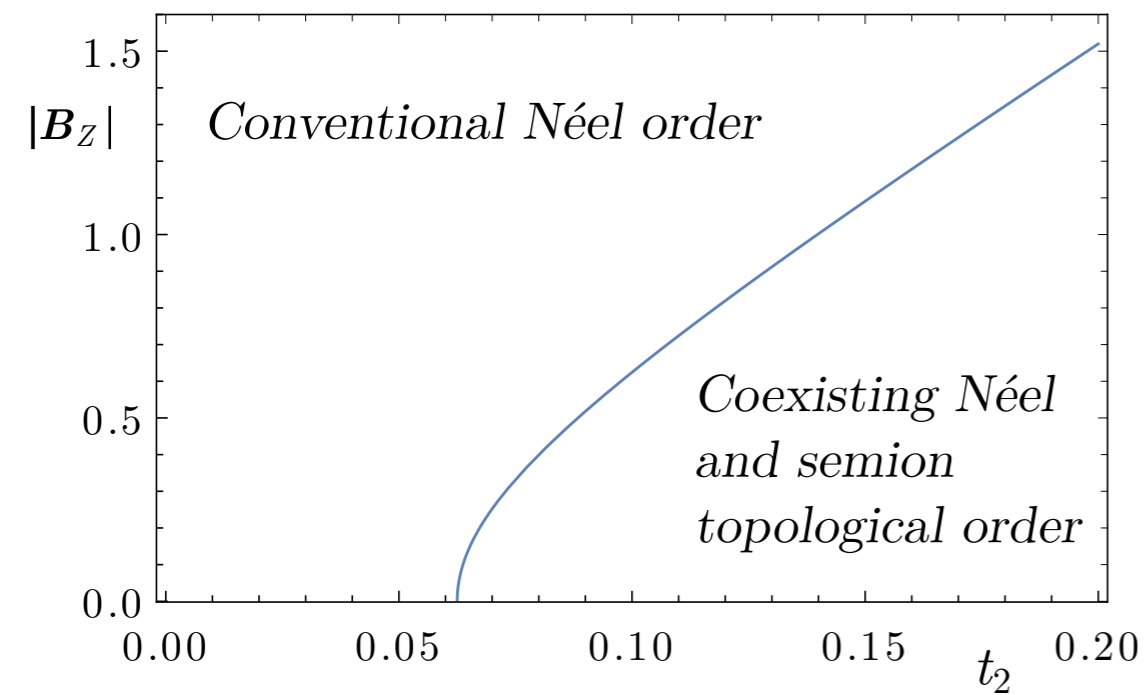
$$\mathcal{L}_\phi = |(\partial_\mu - ia_\mu)\phi|^2 + s|\phi|^2 + u(|\phi|^2)^2 + 2\text{CS}[a_\mu]$$

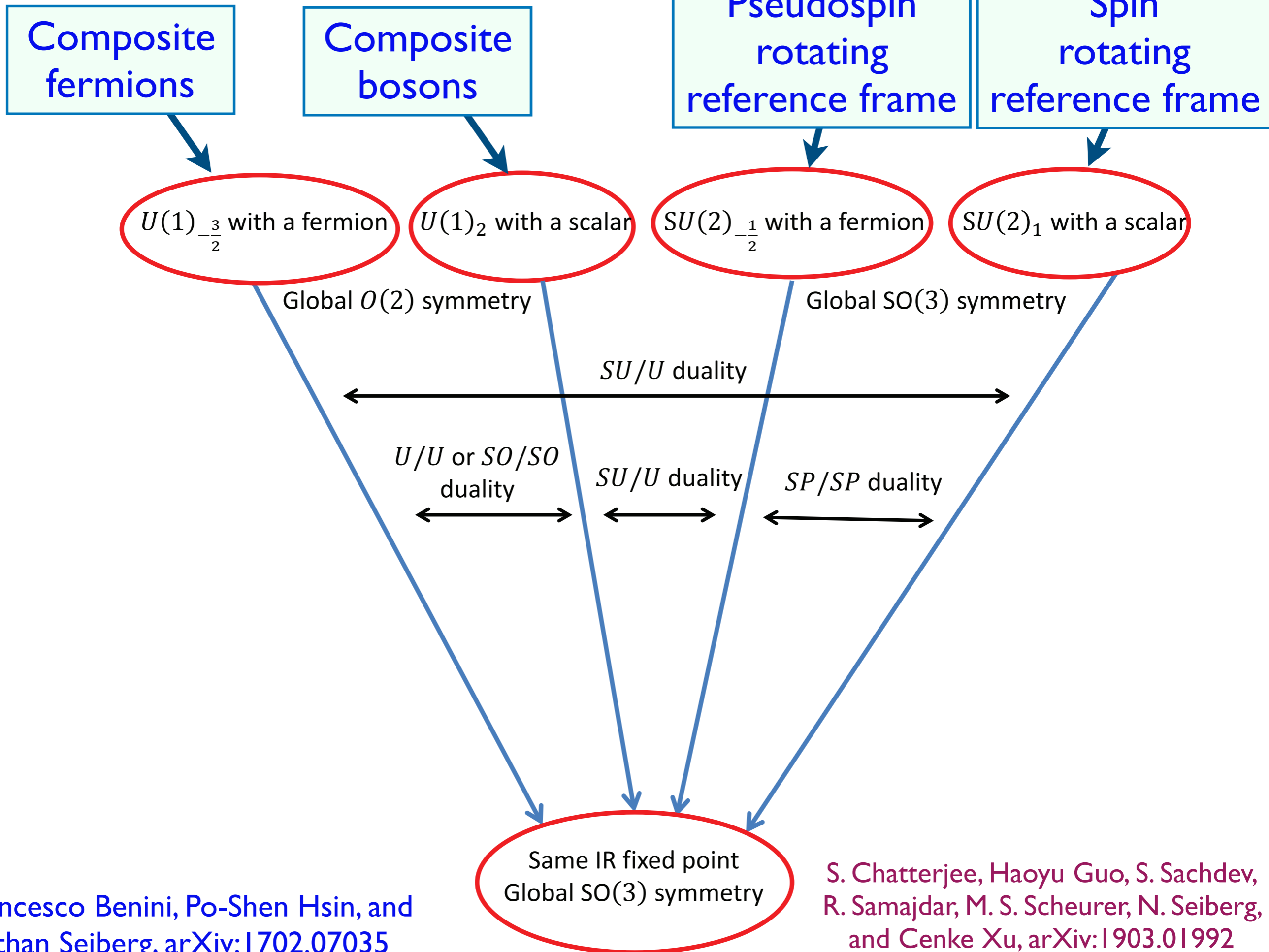
$$\mathcal{L}_g = \bar{g}\gamma^\mu(\partial_\mu - ia_\mu)g + m\bar{g}g - \frac{3}{2}\text{CS}[a_\mu]$$

Francesco Benini, Po-Shen Hsin, and Nathan Seiberg, arXiv:1702.07035

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