

Title: Gapless Spin Liquids in Two Dimensions

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Abstract: Many crystalline materials predicted by band theory to be metals are insulators due to strong electron interactions. Both experiment and theory suggest that such Mott-insulators can exhibit exotic gapless spin-liquid ground states, having no magnetic or any other order. Such "critical spin liquids" will possess power law spin correlations which oscillate at various wavevectors. In a sub-class dubbed "Spin Bose-Metals" the singularities reside along surfaces in momentum space, analogous to a Fermi surface but without long-lived quasiparticle excitations. I will describe recent theoretical progress in accessing such states via controlled numerical and analytical studies on quasi-1d model systems.

# Gapless Spin Liquids in Two dimensions

MPA Fisher (with O. Motrunich, D. Sheng and Matt Block)

Perimeter Institute 05/27/10

Focus - Quantum Phases of 2d electrons (spins) with  
**emergent** rather than broken **symmetry**

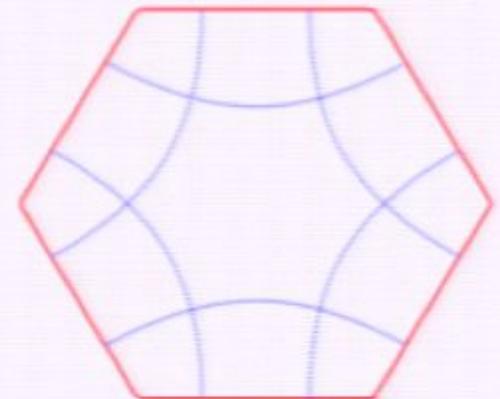
Outline:

Quantum theory of solids; Metals and Band Insulators

Mott insulators

Spin liquids

**Gapless** spin liquids



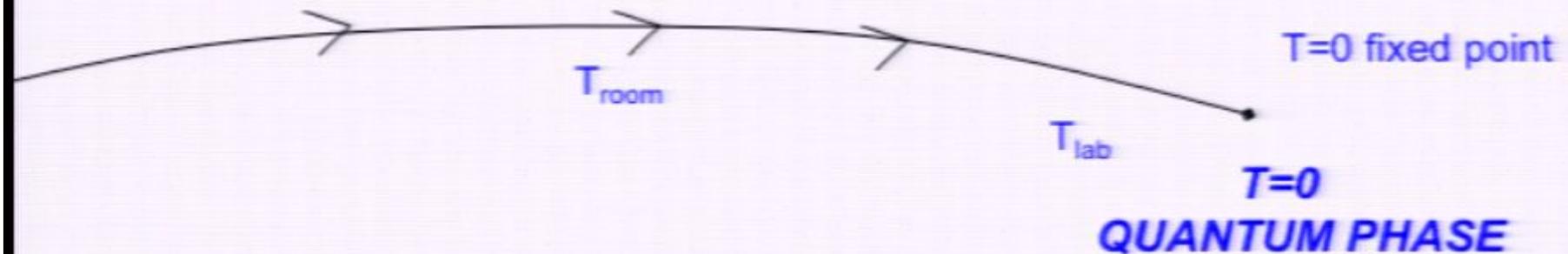
# “Simplicity” of Electrons in solids

separation of energy scales for the electrons;

kinetic energy  
and Coulomb energy:

$$E_{\text{KE}}, E_{\text{coul}} \gg T_{\text{room}} \gg T_{\text{lab}}$$

RG Flows



# Quantum Theory of Solids: 2 dominant phases

Odd number of electrons/cell



Metals

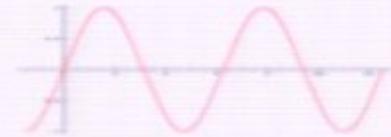
Even number of electrons/cell



Band Insulators

## Band Theory: Metals versus insulators

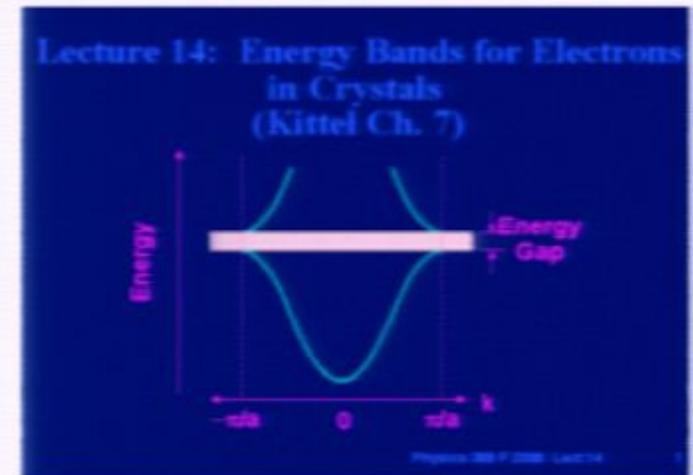
$$H = \sum_j \frac{\mathbf{p}_j^2}{2m} + \sum_i V(\mathbf{r}_i)$$



Energy Bands

**Band insulators:** Filled bands

**Metals:** Partially filled highest energy band



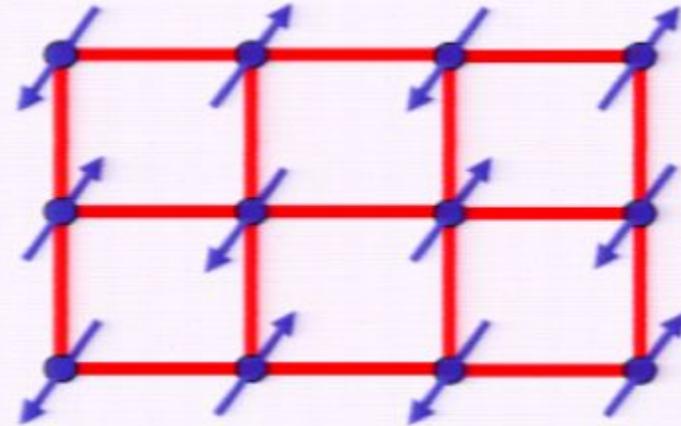
Even number of electrons/cell - (usually) a band insulator

Odd number per cell - always a metal

But most d and f shell crystals with odd number of electrons are NOT metals

Due to Coulomb repulsion  
electrons get stuck on atoms

“Mott Insulators”



Mott Insulators:  
Insulating materials with odd  
number of electrons/unit cell



# Quantum Phases of Electrons

Odd number of electrons/cell  
(from atomic s or p orbitals) → Metal

Even number of electrons/cell → Band Insulator

Even number of electrons/cell  
(from atomic d or f orbitals) → Mott insulator

# Spin Physics in Mott insulators

Toy model - Hubbard with one electron/site

$$\mathcal{H} = -t \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} [c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha} + h.c.] + U \sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$$

For  $U \gg t$  electrons get self localized - residual  $s=1/2$  operator per site

Generalized Heisenberg spin model:

$$H_{spin} = \sum_{ij} J_{ij} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j + \dots$$

**Global symmetry:  $SU(2)$  spin symmetry**

**Discrete lattice point/space group**

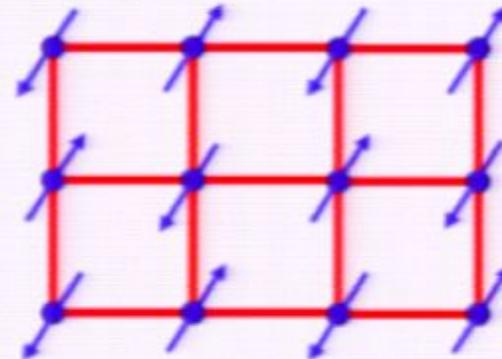
# Symmetry breaking in Mott insulators

Mott Insulator  $\rightarrow$  Unit cell doubling (“Band Insulator”)

Symmetry  
breaking

2 electrons/cell

Ex: 2d square Lattice AFM



# Quantum Phases of Electrons

Odd number of electrons/cell  
(from atomic s or p orbitals)



Metal

Even number of electrons/cell



Band Insulator

Even number of electrons/cell  
(from atomic d or f orbitals)



Mott  
insulator



Symmetry breaking  
eg AFM



???

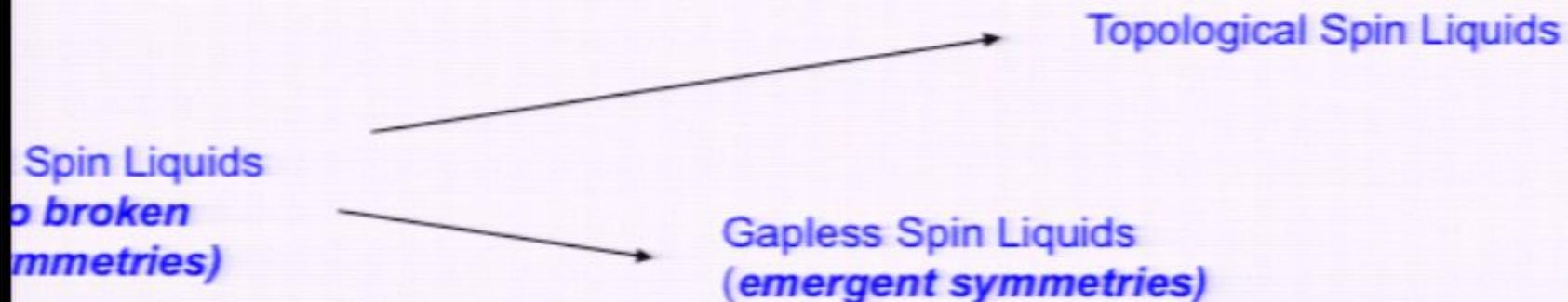
# 2d Spin liquids

## *Mott insulators with no broken symmetries*

Theorem (Matt Hastings, 2005): Mott insulators on an  $L$  by  $L$  torus have a low energy excitation with  $(E_1 - E_0) < \ln(L)/L$ .

Remarkable implication: 2d spin liquids come in two flavors

- 1) Topological Spin Liquids
- 2) Gapless Spin liquids



# Topological Spin Liquids

Topological Spin liquids are time reversal invariant analogs of the Fractional Quantum Hall effect states

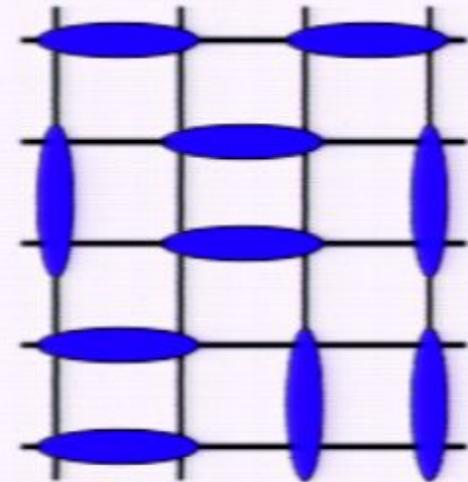
*Gap to all bulk excitations*

*Ground state degeneracies on a torus*

*“Particle” excitations with fractional quantum numbers, eg spinon*

*Simplest is short-ranged RVB,  $Z_2$  Gauge structure*

RVB state (Anderson)



No example (yet) of a physically reasonable  $SU(2)$  spin model with a topological spin liquid ground state

# Gapless Spin liquids

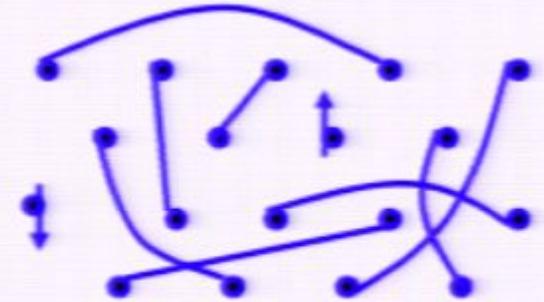
**Stable gapless phases** with no broken symmetries

no free particle description

Power-law correlations with anomalous exponents

**Emergent symmetries** at low energies

Lattice scale physics manifest in IR



Valence bonds on all length scales

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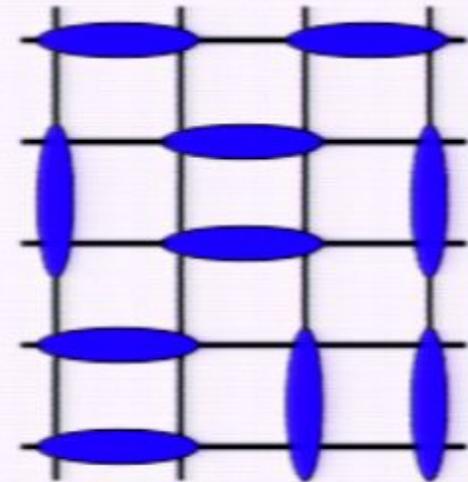
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# Gapless Spin liquids

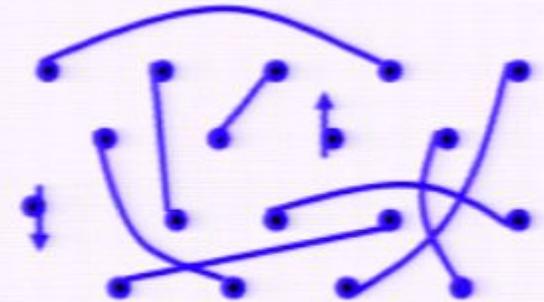
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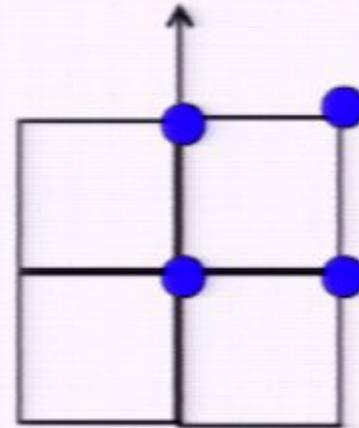


Valence bonds on all length scales

## 2 classes of gapless SL's

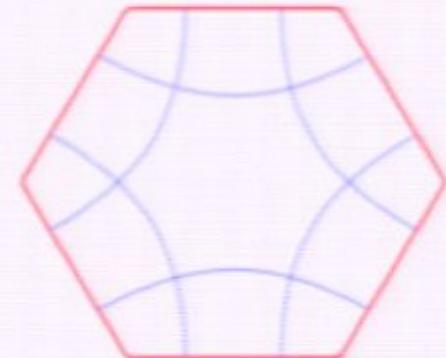
### *Algebraic Spin Liquids*

Power law correlations at a  
*finite set of discrete momenta*



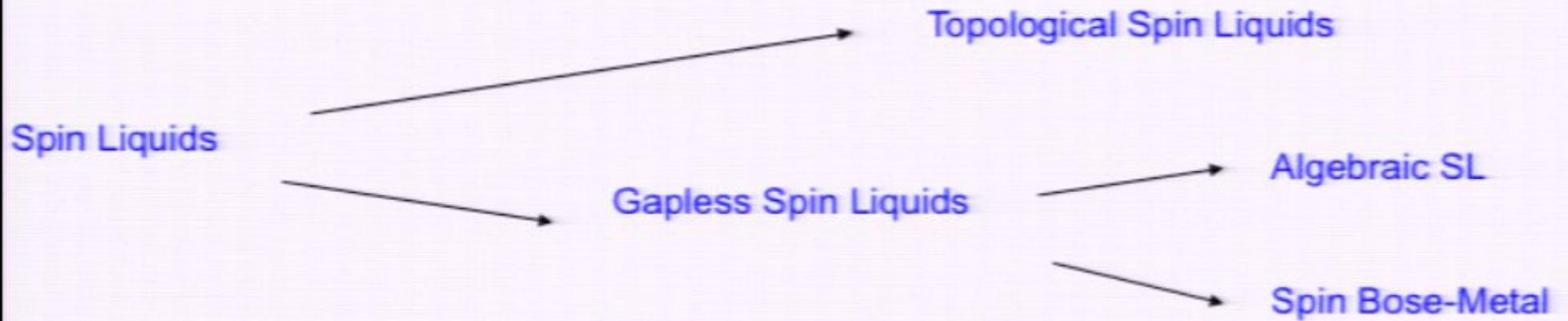
### *“Spin Bose-Metals”*

Spin correlation functions singular along  
*surfaces in momentum space*



### *“Bose Surfaces”*

# 2d Spin liquids

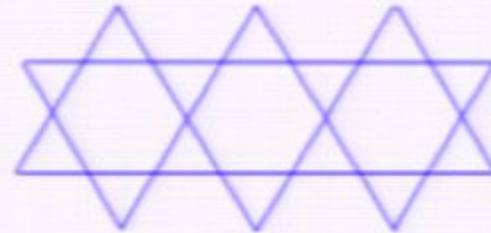


# Access gapless spin liquids?

## 1) Algebraic spin liquids

- Frustration
- low spin ( $s=1/2$ )
- low coordination number (Kagome lattice)

Kagome lattice AFM

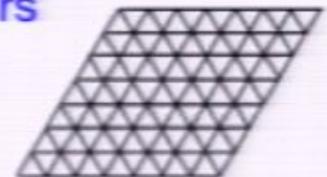


- Volborthite  $\text{Cu}_3\text{V}_2\text{O}_7(\text{OH})_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$   $\text{Cu}^{2+}$   $s=1/2$
- Herbertsmithite  $\text{ZnCu}_3(\text{OH})_6\text{Cl}_2$   $\text{Cu}^{2+}$   $s=1/2$

## 2) Spin Bose-Metals

- Quasi-itinerancy
- "Weak" Mott insulator
- Small charge gap, comparable to  $J$

Triangular lattice based  
Organic Mott insulators



# Theoretical route to Gapless SL's: Slave-fermions

Generalized Heisenberg  $s=1/2$  model

$$\mathcal{H} = J \sum_{\langle rr' \rangle} \mathbf{S}_r \cdot \mathbf{S}_{r'} + \dots$$

Fermionic representation of spin-1/2

$$\mathbf{S}_i = f_i^\dagger \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}{2} f_i; \quad f_{i\alpha}^\dagger f_{i\alpha} = 1;$$

General "Hartree-Fock" in the singlet channel

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{trial}} = - \sum_{ij} t_{ij} f_{i\alpha}^\dagger f_{j\alpha}$$

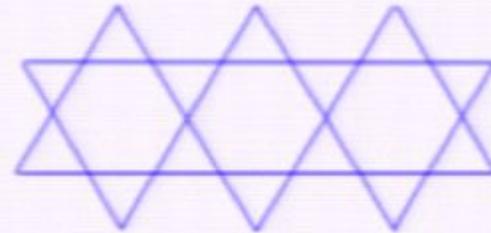
$$\longrightarrow |\Psi_0\rangle \longrightarrow |\Psi_{\text{spin}}\rangle = P_G(|\Psi_0\rangle)$$

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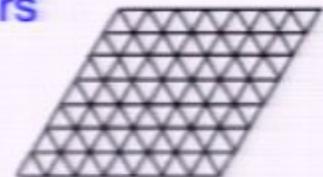


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# Gutzwiller-projected "Spinon" determinant

$$P_G ( |\text{Fermi Sea}\rangle = \prod_{k < k_F} c_{k\uparrow}^\dagger c_{k\downarrow}^\dagger |vac\rangle )$$

$$= a |(\uparrow) (\uparrow) (\downarrow) (\uparrow) (\downarrow) (\uparrow)\rangle + b |(\uparrow\downarrow) (0) (\uparrow) (\uparrow) (\downarrow)\rangle + c |(\uparrow) (\downarrow) (\uparrow\downarrow) (\uparrow) (0)\rangle + d |(\downarrow) (\uparrow) (\uparrow) (\downarrow) (\uparrow) (\downarrow)\rangle + \dots$$

real-space configurations

Arrive at a spin wavefunction

# Gauge Theory

Gauge redundancy:

$$f_{i\alpha} \rightarrow e^{i\theta_i} f_{i\alpha} \quad \text{leaves spin invariant} \quad \vec{S}_i = f_{i\alpha}^\dagger \vec{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} f_{i\beta}$$

Introduce gauge field to eliminate redundancy

$$\mathcal{H} = -t \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} e^{a_{ij}} f_{i\alpha}^\dagger f_{j\alpha} + \mathcal{H}_a$$

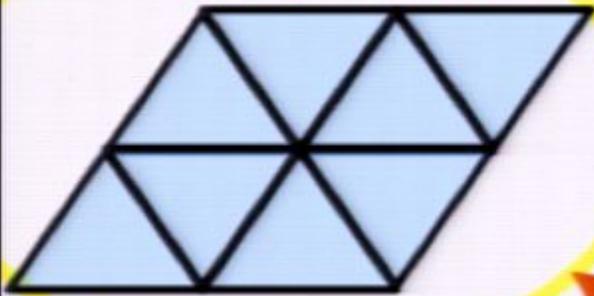
Must treat  $a_{ij}$  as a dynamical variable

$$\mathcal{H}_a = h \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} e_{ij}^2 - K \sum_{\text{squares}} \cos(\nabla \times \vec{a}) \quad (\nabla \cdot \vec{e})_i + f_i^\dagger f_i = 1$$

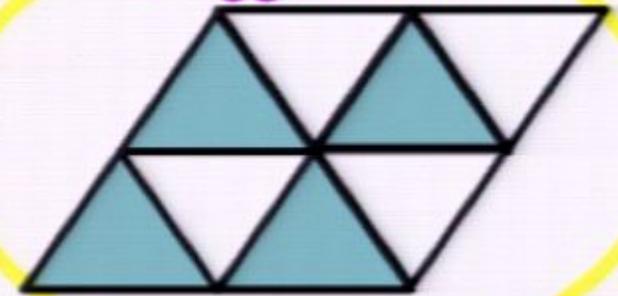
**Fermionic spinons minimally coupled to compact U(1) gauge field;**

# Examples of “fermionic” spin liquids

uniform flux

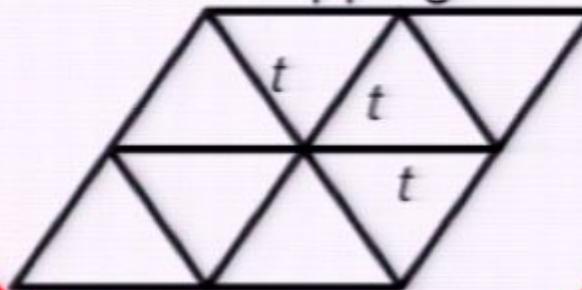


staggered flux



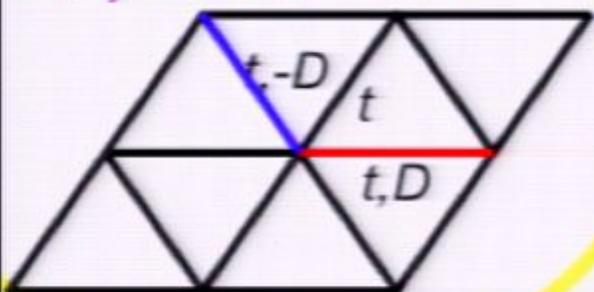
uRVB

real hopping

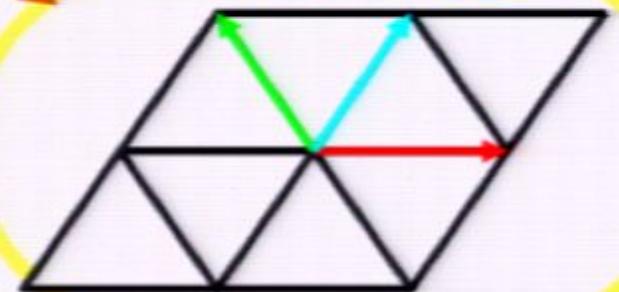


Kalmeyer  
-Laughlin

$d_{x-y}^2$  Z<sub>2</sub> spin liquid



d+id chiral SL



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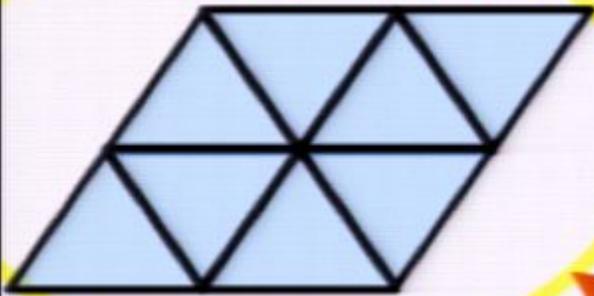
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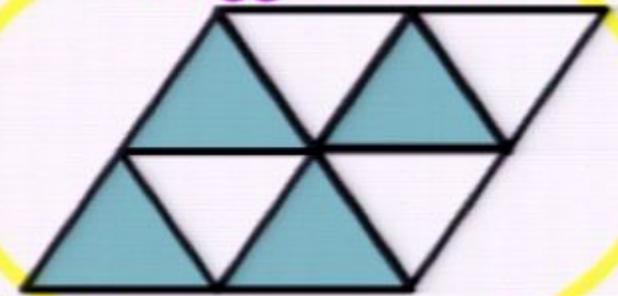
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# Examples of “fermionic” spin liquids

uniform flux

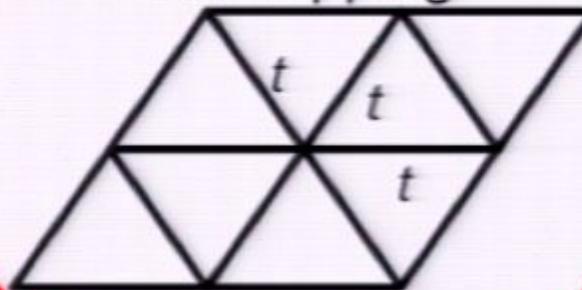


staggered flux



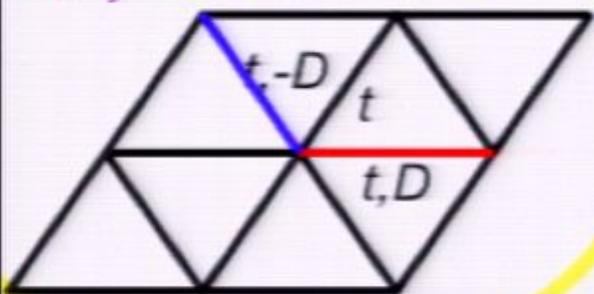
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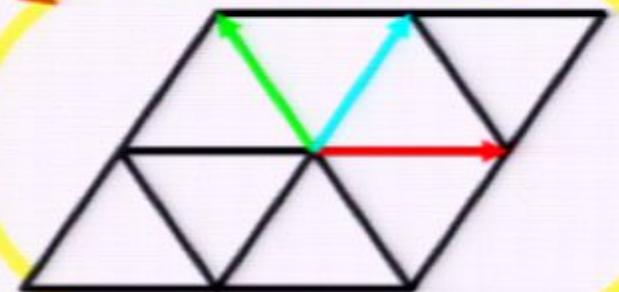


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$d_{x-y}^2$  Z<sub>2</sub> spin liquid



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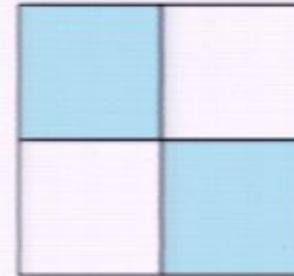


# Algebraic Spin Liquid (example)

*Staggered flux state on 2d square lattice*

Mean field Hamiltonian:

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{SF}}^0 = - \sum_{r \in A} \sum_{r' \text{ NN } r} \{ [it + (-1)^{(r_y - r'_y)} \Delta] f_{r\alpha}^\dagger f_{r'\alpha} + \text{H.c.} \},$$



Band structure has relativistic dispersion with four 2-component Dirac fermions



Effective field theory is non-compact QED3

$$\mathcal{L}_E = \bar{\Psi} [-i\gamma^\mu (\partial_\mu + ia_\mu)] \Psi + \frac{1}{2e^2} \sum_{\mu} (\epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda} \partial_\nu a_\lambda)^2 + \dots,$$

Note: can argue that the monopoles are irrelevant due to massless Fermions, cf Polyakov confinement argument for pure compact U(1) gauge theory

# Emergent symmetry in Algebraic spin liquid

Spin Hamiltonian has **global SU(2)** spin symmetry

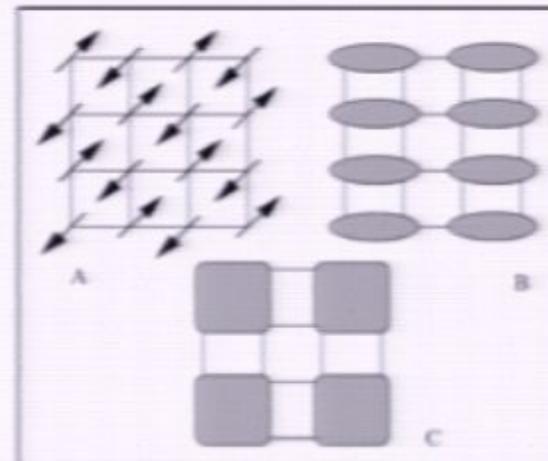
$$\mathcal{H} = J \sum_{\langle rr' \rangle} \mathbf{S}_r \cdot \mathbf{S}_{r'} + \dots$$

Low energy effective field theory is non-compact QED3 with **SU(4) flavor symmetry** and **U(1) flux conservation symmetry**

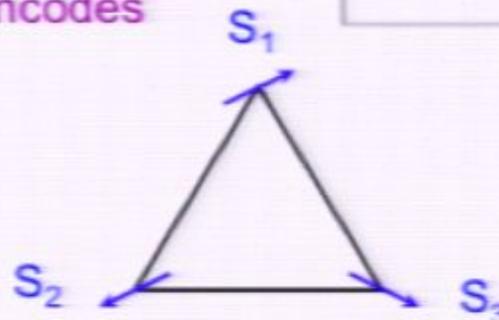
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The SU(4) symmetry encodes slowly varying competing order parameters

The U(1) flux conservation symmetry encodes a conserved spin chirality



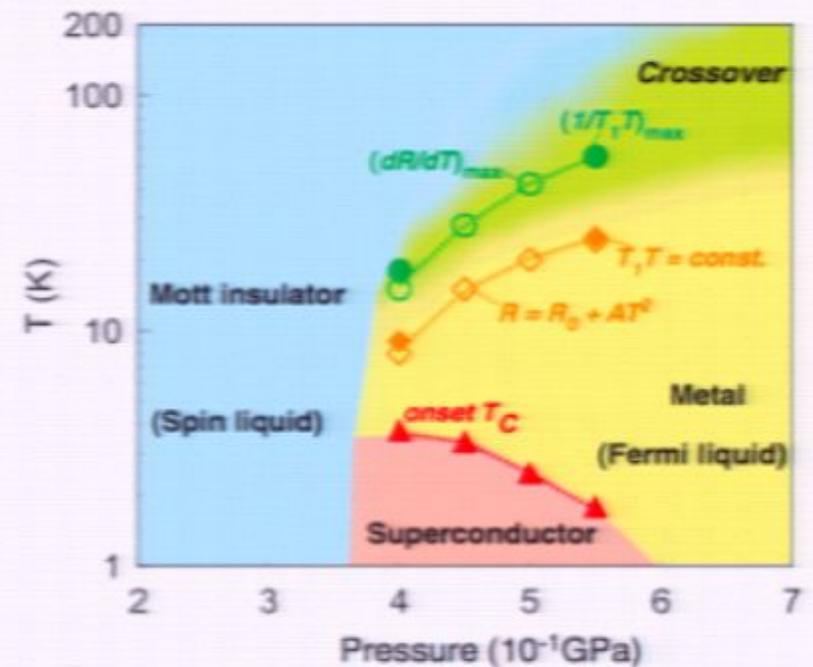
$$\nabla \times a \sim \vec{S}_1 \cdot (\vec{S}_2 \times \vec{S}_3)$$



# Candidate Spin Bose-Metal: $k-(ET)_2Cu_2(CN)_3$

Kanoda et. al. PRL 91, 177001 (2005)

Modelled as triangular Hubbard at half filling  
Weak Mott insulator - metal under pressure  
No magnetic order down to 20mK  $\sim 10^{-4}$  J  
Large entropy – more than in a metal  
“Metallic” specific heat,  $C \sim T$



Motrunich (2005) , S. Lee and P.A. Lee (2005)  
suggested spin liquid with “spinon Fermi surface”

# Hubbard on triangular lattice

At half filling

$$\hat{H}_{\text{Hubbard}} = -t \sum_{ij} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha} + U \sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$$

metal

???

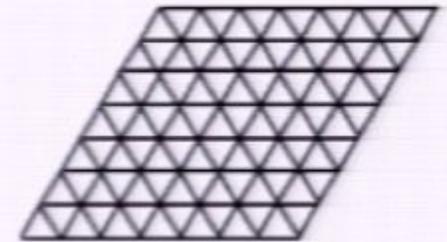
insulator

Neel order for nn  
Heisenberg model

U/t

Fermi liquid

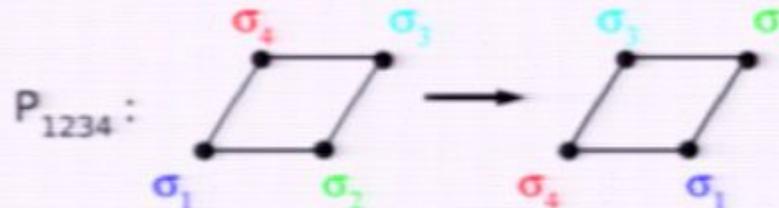
Weak Mott insulator with  
small charge gap



Weak Mott Insulator --> spin model with *ring exchange*

$$\hat{H}_{\text{eff}} = \frac{2t^2}{U} \sum_{ij} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + \frac{20t^4}{U^3} \sum_{\text{rhombi}} (P_{ijkl} + \text{h.c.}) + \dots$$

Ring exchange mimics  
charge fluctuations



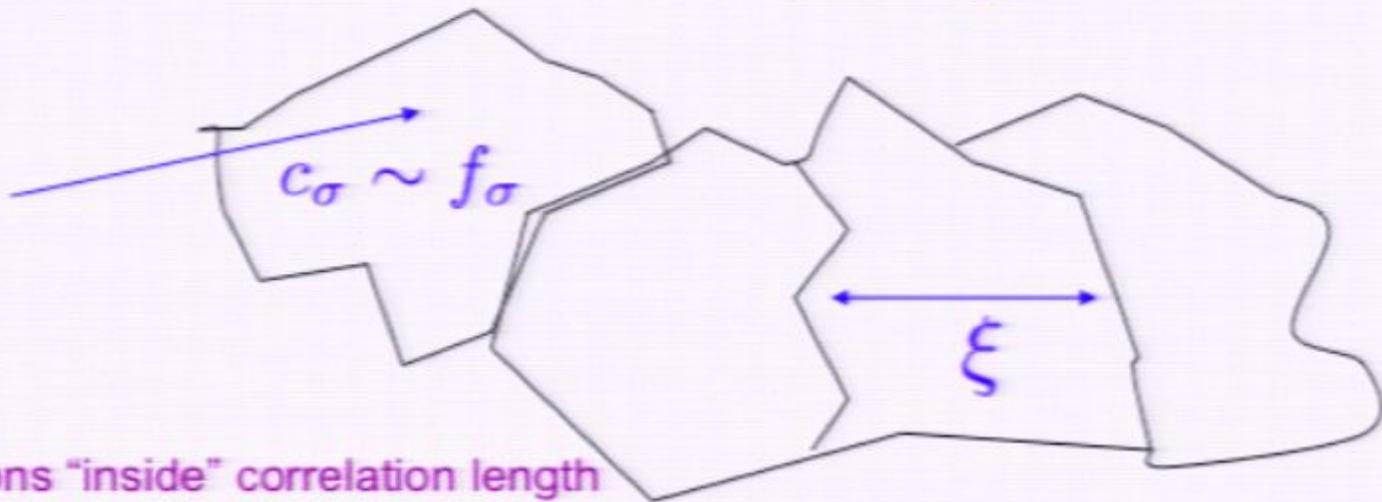
# Weak Mott insulator: Which spin liquid?

Motrunich (2005)

Long charge correlation length,

$$\langle c_\sigma(x) c_\sigma^\dagger(0) \rangle \sim e^{-x/\xi} \quad \xi \gg a$$

Inside correlation region electrons do not "know" they are insulating

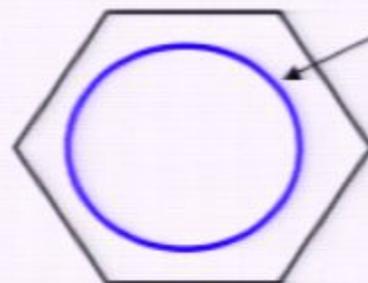


Spin correlations "inside" correlation length resemble spin correlations of free fermion metal, oscillating at  $2k_F$

$$\langle \vec{S}(x) \cdot \vec{S}(0) \rangle \sim \cos(2k_F x) / x^\alpha$$

Appropriate spin liquid:

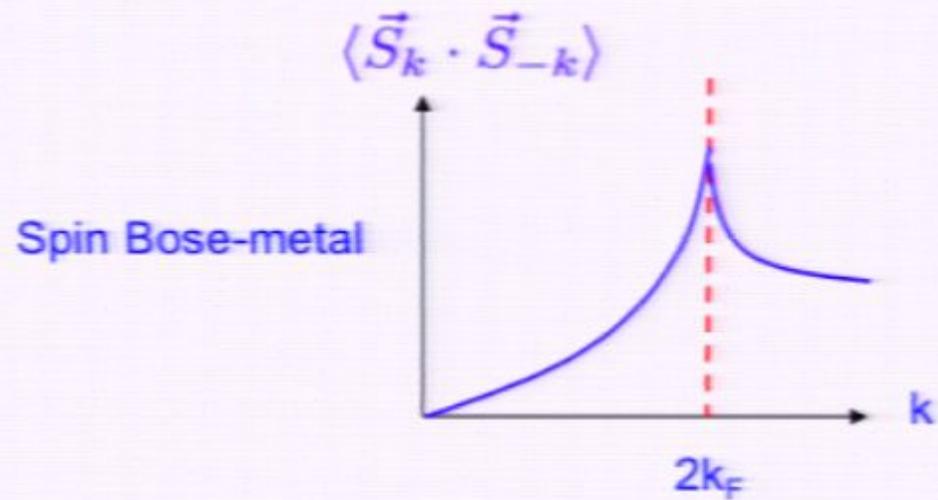
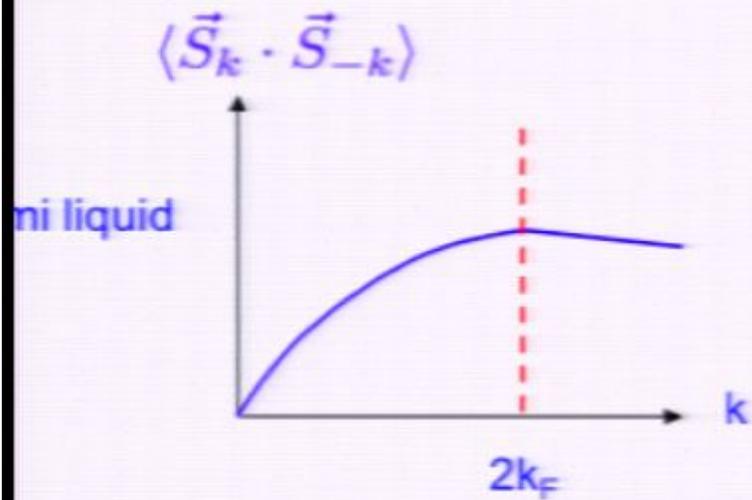
Utzwiller projected Fermi sea ("Spin Bose-Metal")



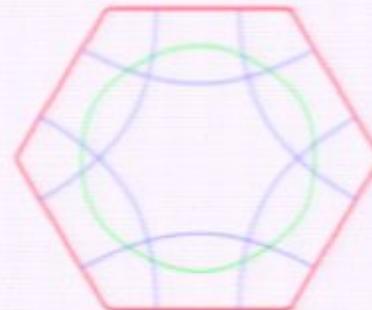
Spinon Fermi surface is not physical in the spin model

# Phenomenology of Spin Bose-Metal (from Gutzwiller wf and Gauge theory)

Singular spin structure factor at " $2k_F$ " in Spin Bose-Metal  
(more singular than in Fermi liquid metal)



$2k_F$  "Bose surface" in  
triangular lattice Spin Bose-Metal



Is projected Fermi sea a good caricature  
of Triangular ring model ground state?

$$\hat{H}_{\text{ring}} = J_2 \sum_{ij} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + J_4 \sum_{\text{rhombi}} (P_{ijkl} + \text{h.c.})$$

Variational Monte Carlo analysis suggests it might be for  $J_4/J_2 > 0.3$   
(O. Motrunich - 2005)

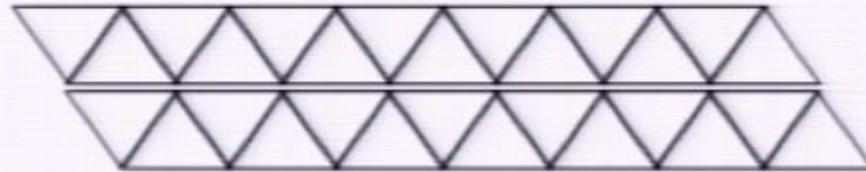
**A theoretical quandary:** Triangular ring model is intractable

- Exact diagonalization: so small,
- Quantum Monte Carlo - sign problem
- Variational Monte Carlo - biased
- DMRG - problematic in 2d

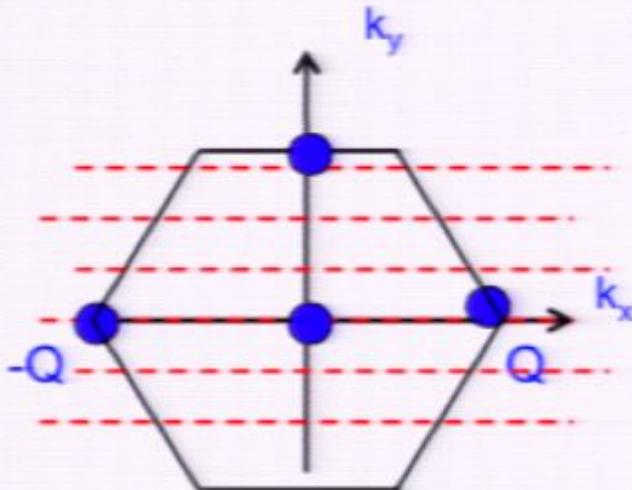
?????

# Quasi-1d route to Spin Bose-Metal

Triangular strips:

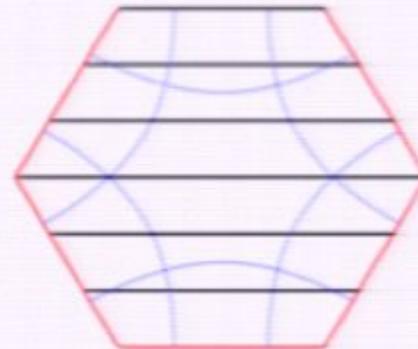


Algebraic Spin liquid



Few gapless 1d modes

Spin Bose-Metal

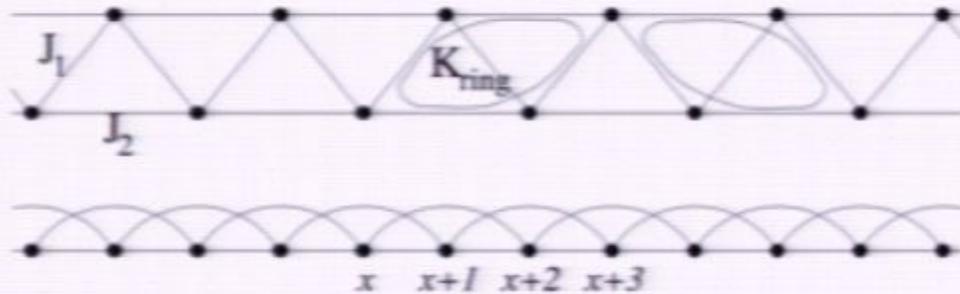


Fingerprint of 2d singular surface -  
many gapless 1d modes, of order N

***New spin liquid phases on quasi-1d strips,  
each a descendent of a 2d Spin Bose-Metal***

## 2-leg zigzag strip

$$\mathcal{H}_\Delta = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j + K \sum_{\langle 1234 \rangle} [\mathcal{P}_{1234} + \mathcal{P}_{1234}^{-1}]$$



Analysis of  $J_1$ - $J_2$ - $K$  model on zigzag strip

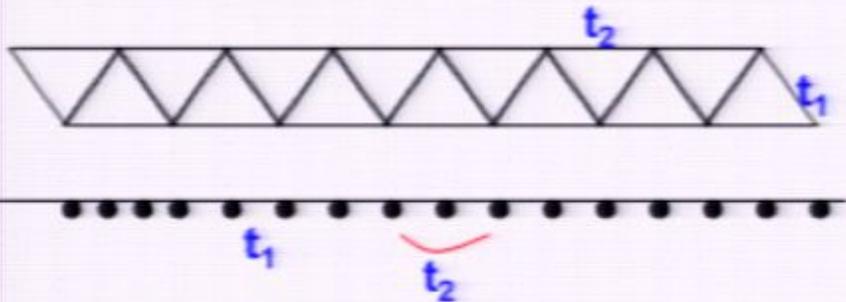
D. Sheng, O. Motrunich, MPAF  
PRB (2009)

Variational Monte Carlo of Gutzwiller wavefunctions

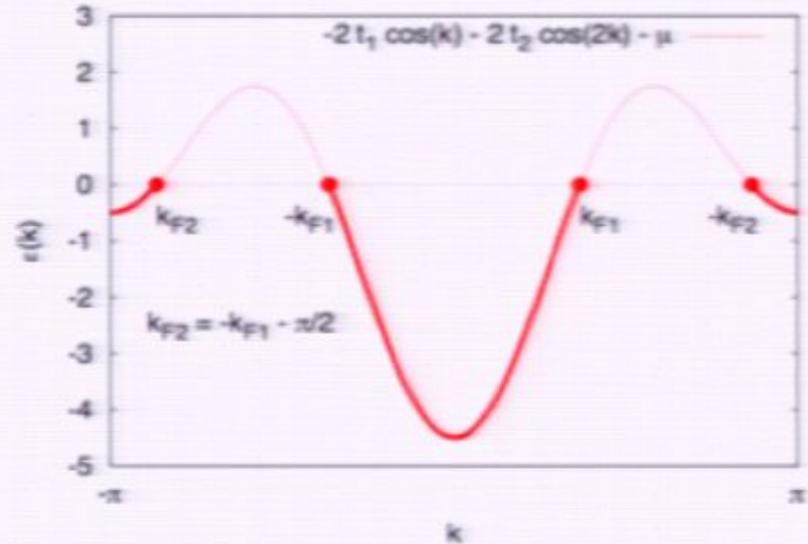
DMRG

Bosonization of gauge theory

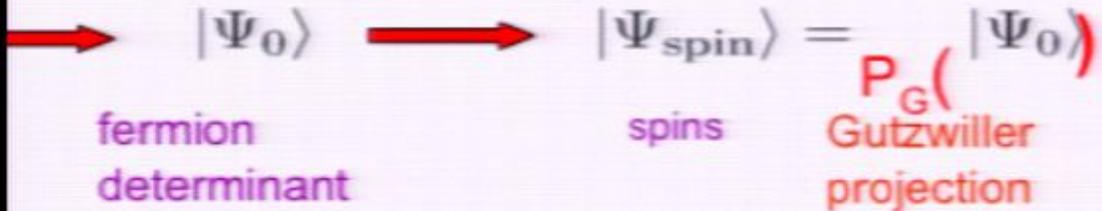
# Gutzwiller Wavefunction on zigzag



$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{trial}} = - \sum_{ij} t_{ij} f_{i\alpha}^\dagger f_{j\alpha}$$



Spinon band structure

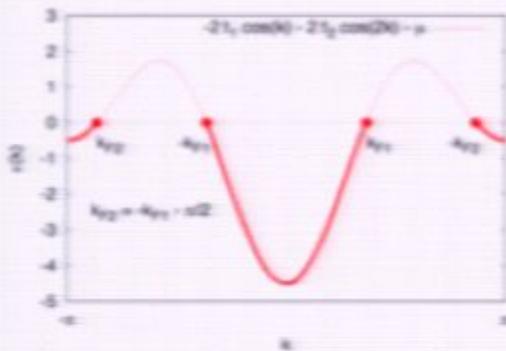


Single Variational parameter:  $t_2/t_1$  or  $k_{F2}$

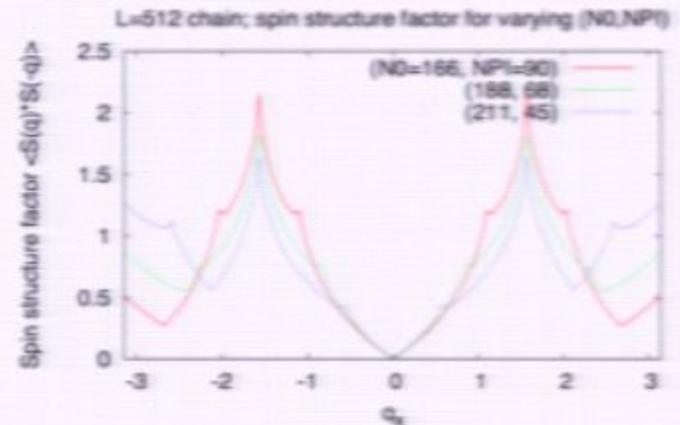
$$(k_{F1} + k_{F2} = \pi/2)$$

# Gutzwiller wf; SU(4) Exponents?

Gutzwiller wf; 2 Fermi sea's



Spin structure factor for L=512



Power law spin correlator

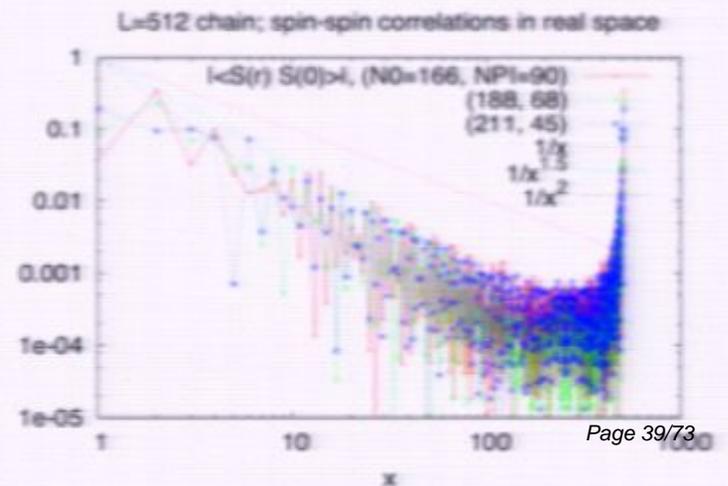
$$\langle \vec{S}(x) \cdot \vec{S}(0) \rangle \sim \cos(\pi x/2) |x|^{-\alpha}$$

Exponent consistent with SU(4) spin chain  $\alpha \approx 3/2 = \alpha_{SU(4)}$   
 $\alpha_{SU(N)} = 2 - (2/N)$

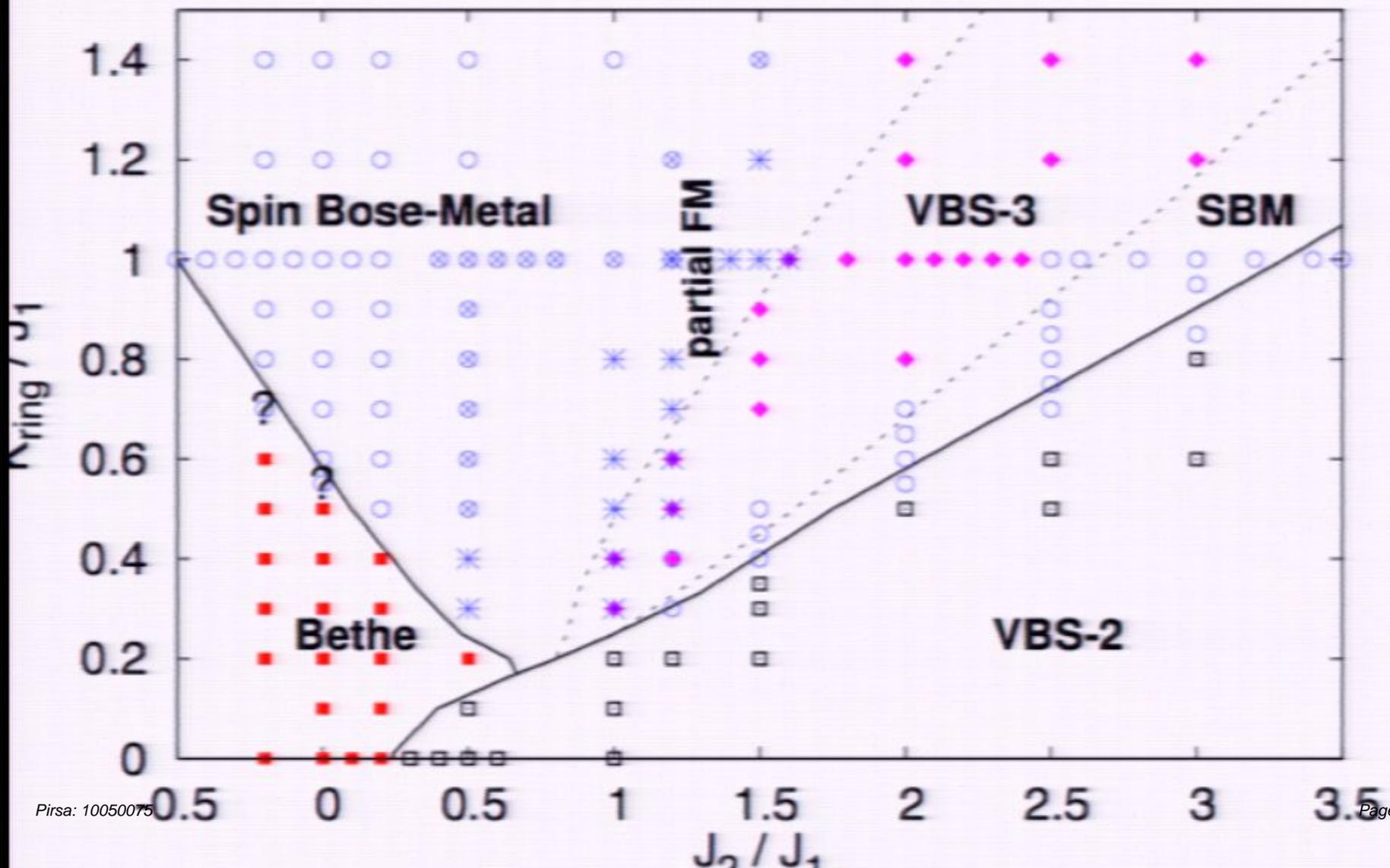
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Analytic progress possible??  
 (Schur polynomials? Matrix product states?)

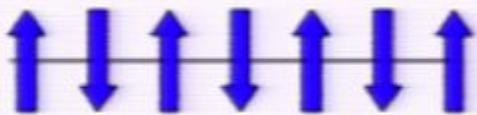
(Pirsa: 10050075 - Shastry SU(2) chain with exact Gutzwiller Fermi sea ground state)



# DMRG Phase diagram of zigzag ring model



# Bethe chain and VBS-2 States

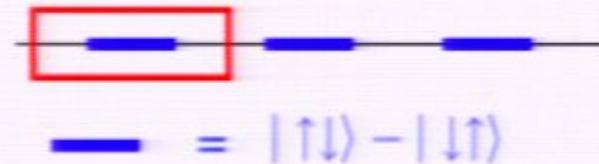
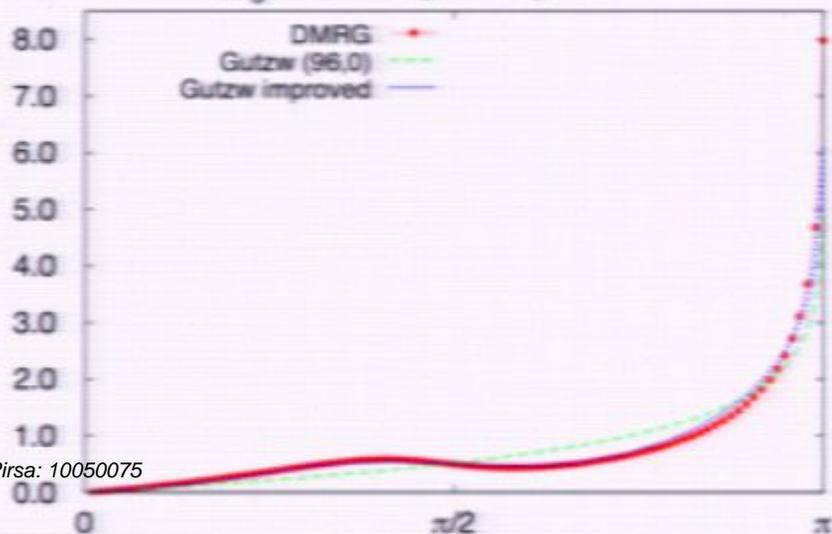


Bethe chain state; "1d analog of Neel state"

$$\langle \vec{S}_x \cdot \vec{S}_0 \rangle \sim (-1)^x / x$$

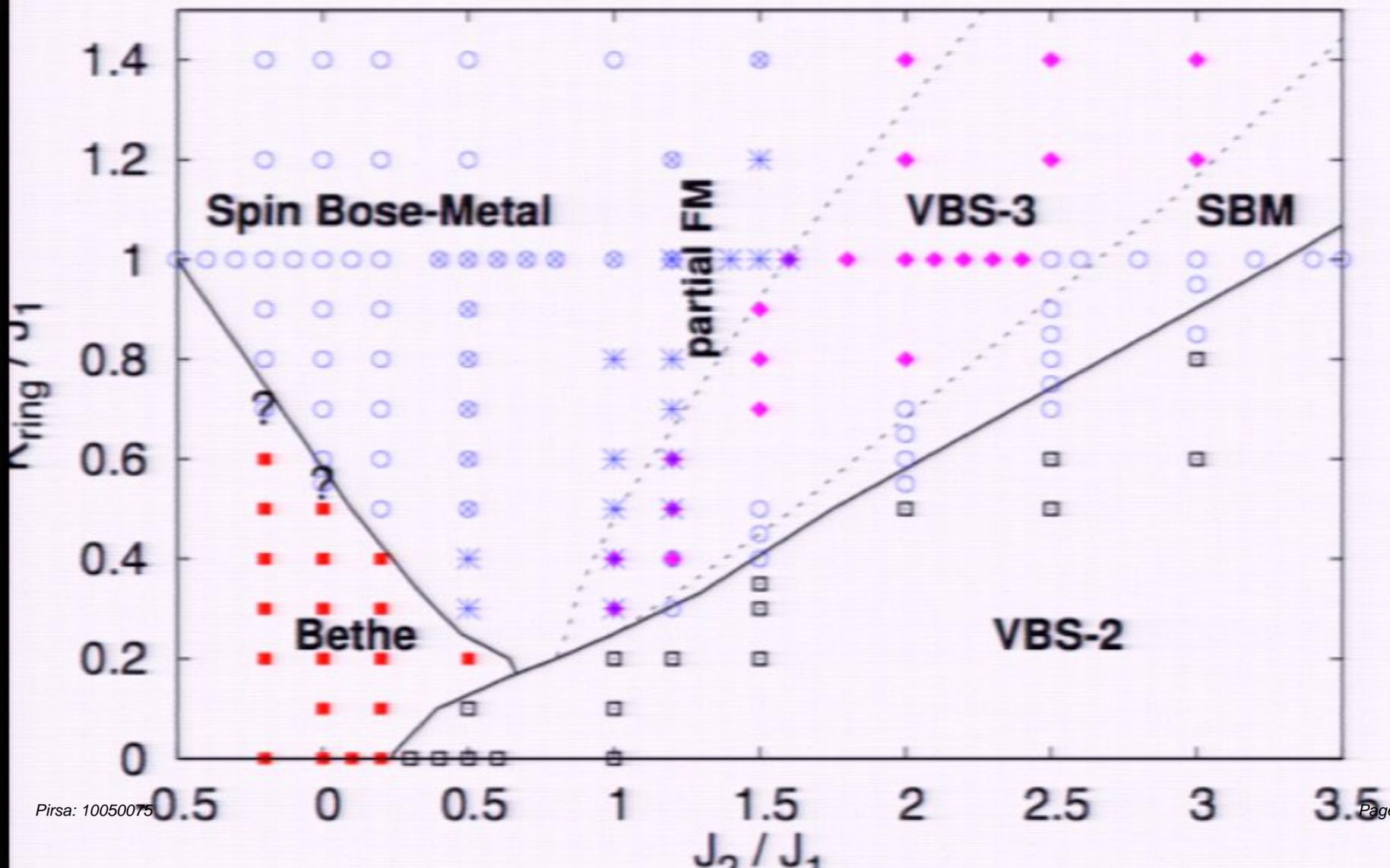
Spin structure factor

$$K_{\text{ring}} = J_1 = 1, J_2 = -1, J_3 = 0; L=192$$

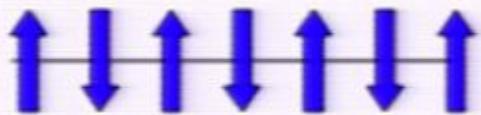


Valence Bond solid (VBS-2)

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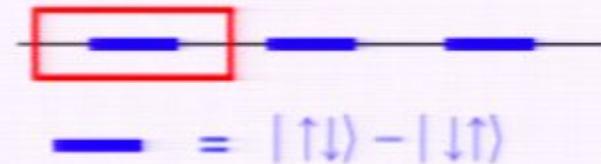
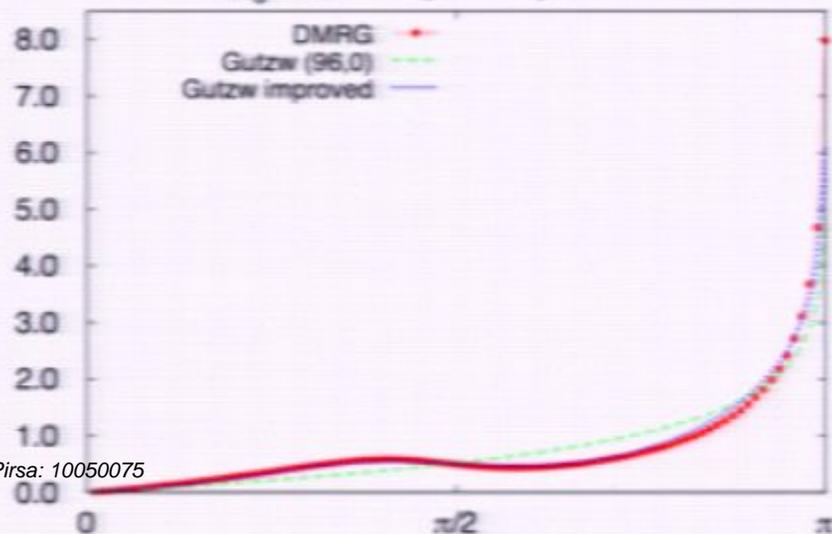


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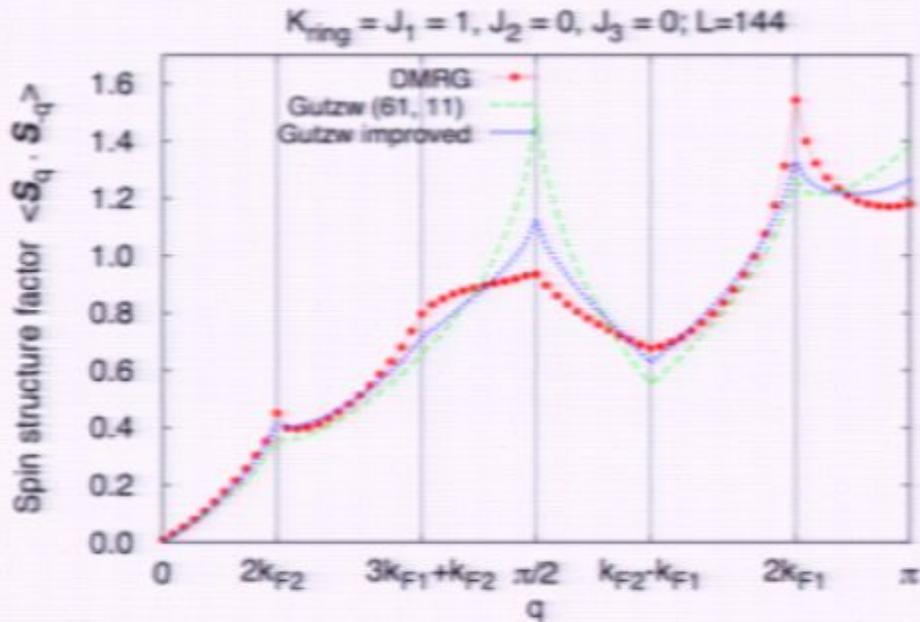


Valence Bond solid (VBS-2)

# Spin Bose-Metal: Spin Structure Factor

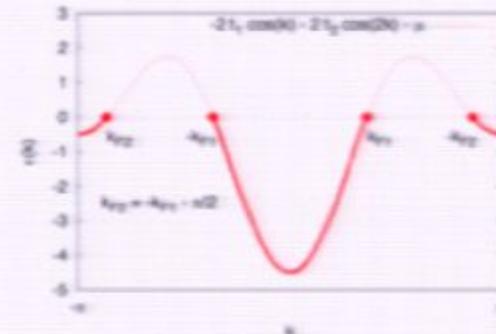
Singularities in momentum space locate the "Bose" surface (points in 1d)

$$\langle \vec{S}_k \cdot \vec{S}_{-k} \rangle$$

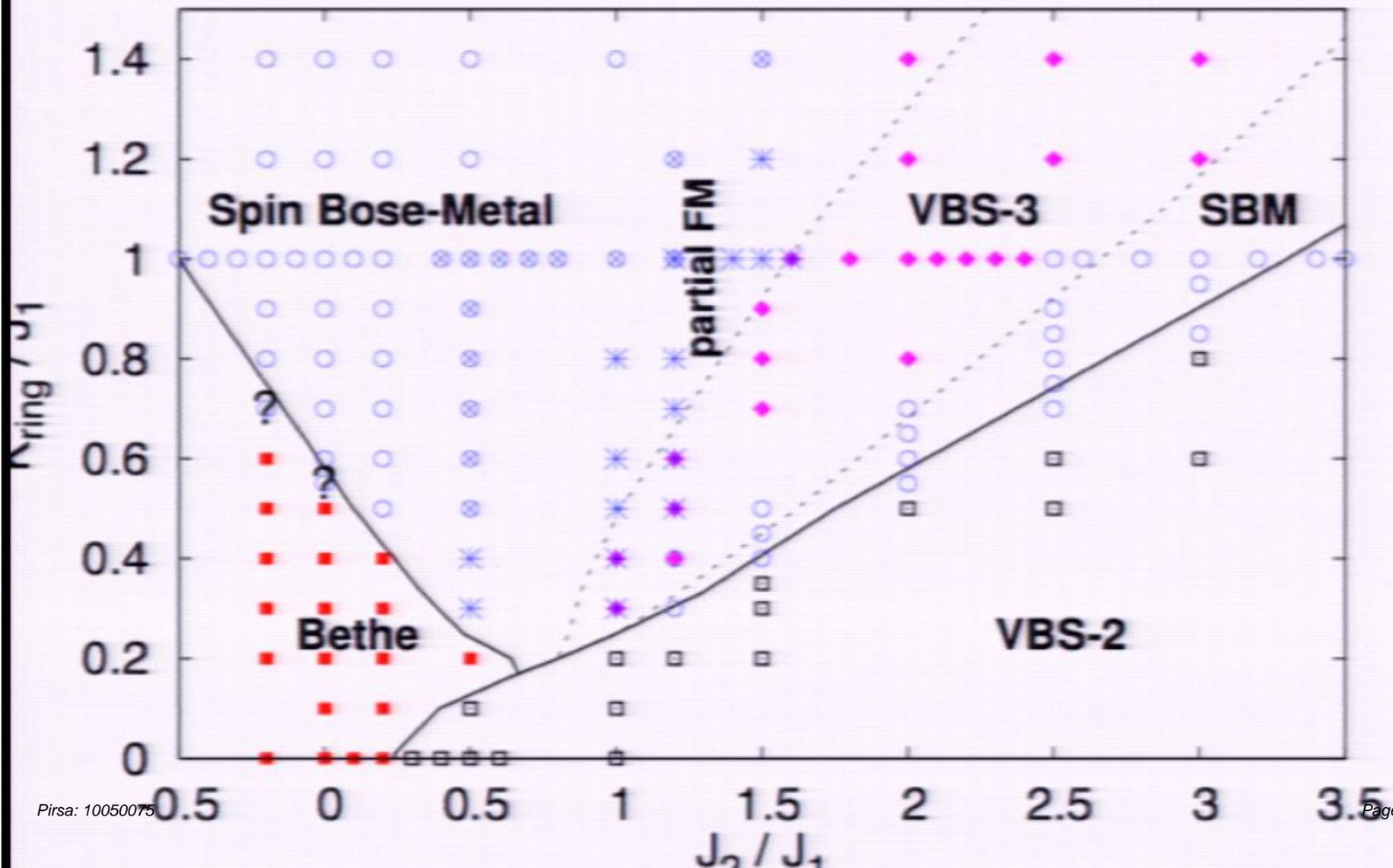


Gutzwiller improved has 2 variational parameters)

Angular momenta can be identified with  $2k_{F1}, 2k_{F2}$  which enter into Gutzwiller wavefunction!

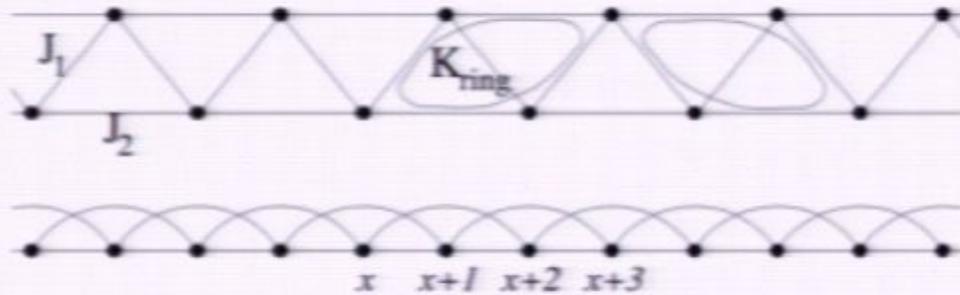


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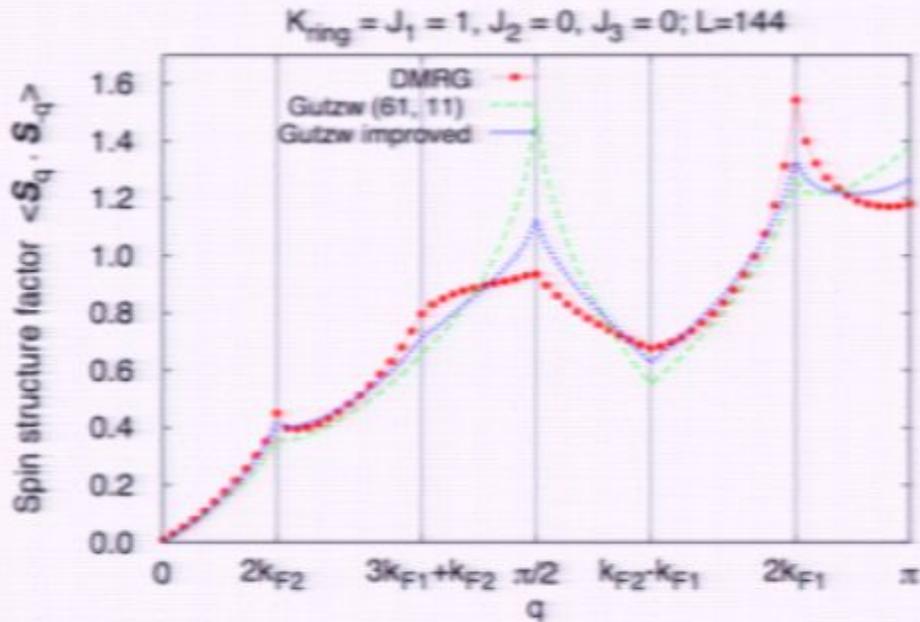
DMRG

Bosonization of gauge theory

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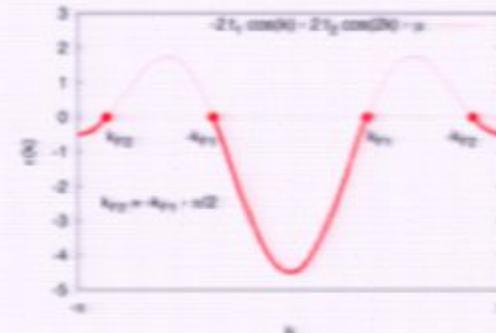
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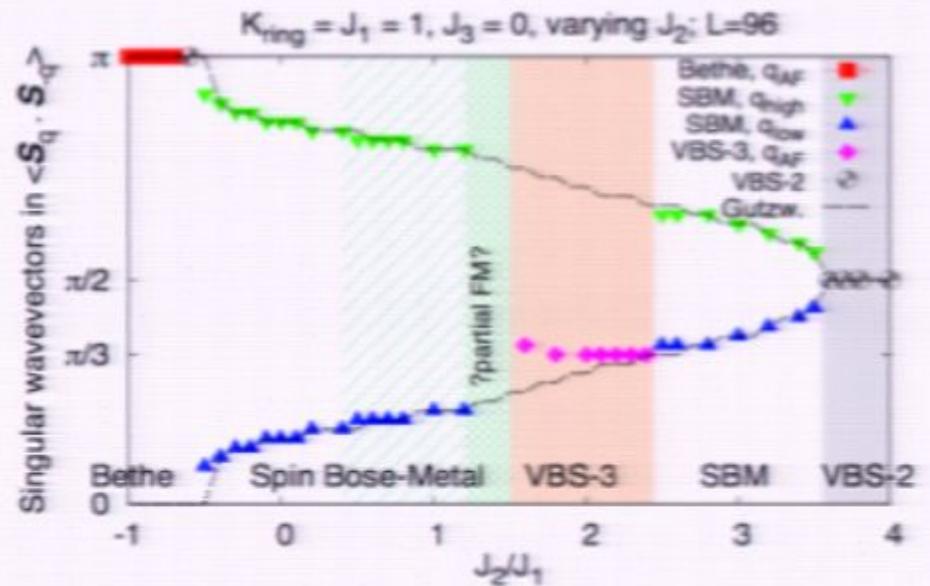
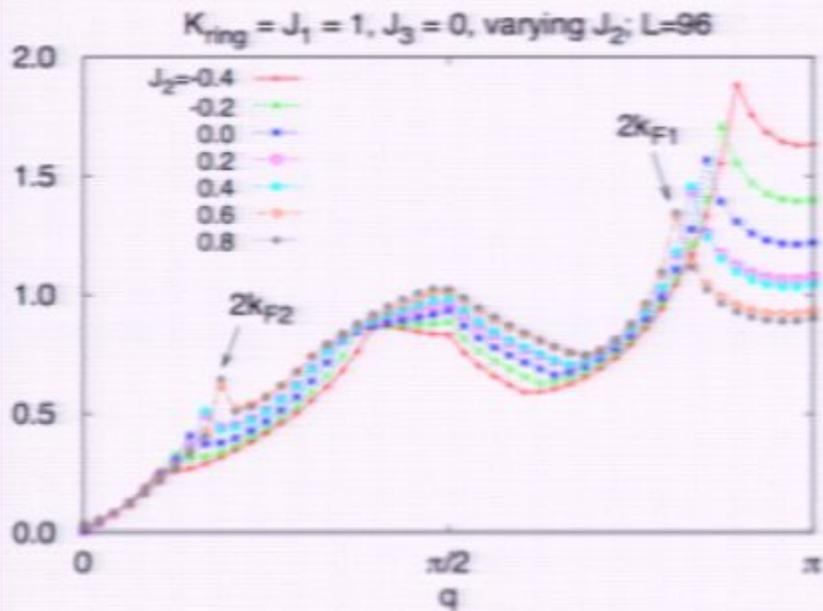
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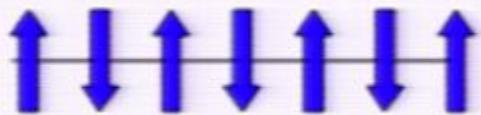


# Evolution of singular momentum ("Bose" surface)

DMRG



# Bethe chain and VBS-2 States

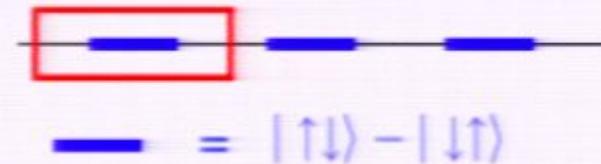
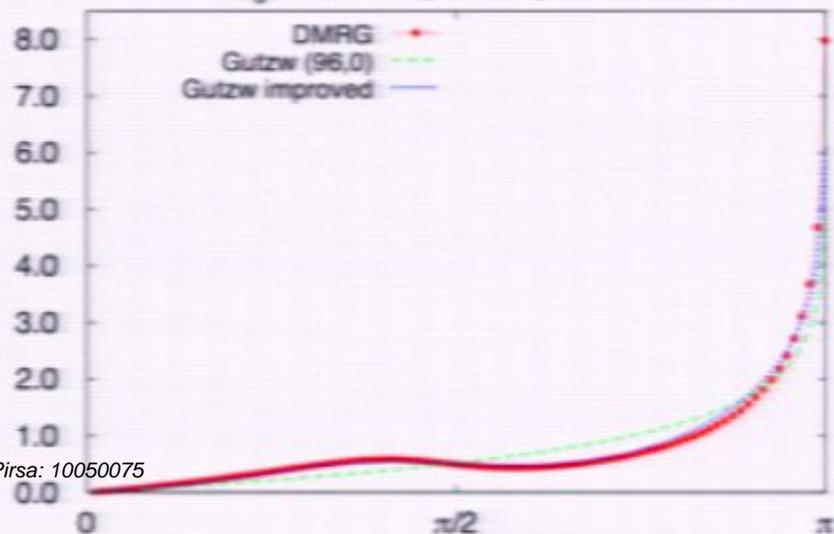


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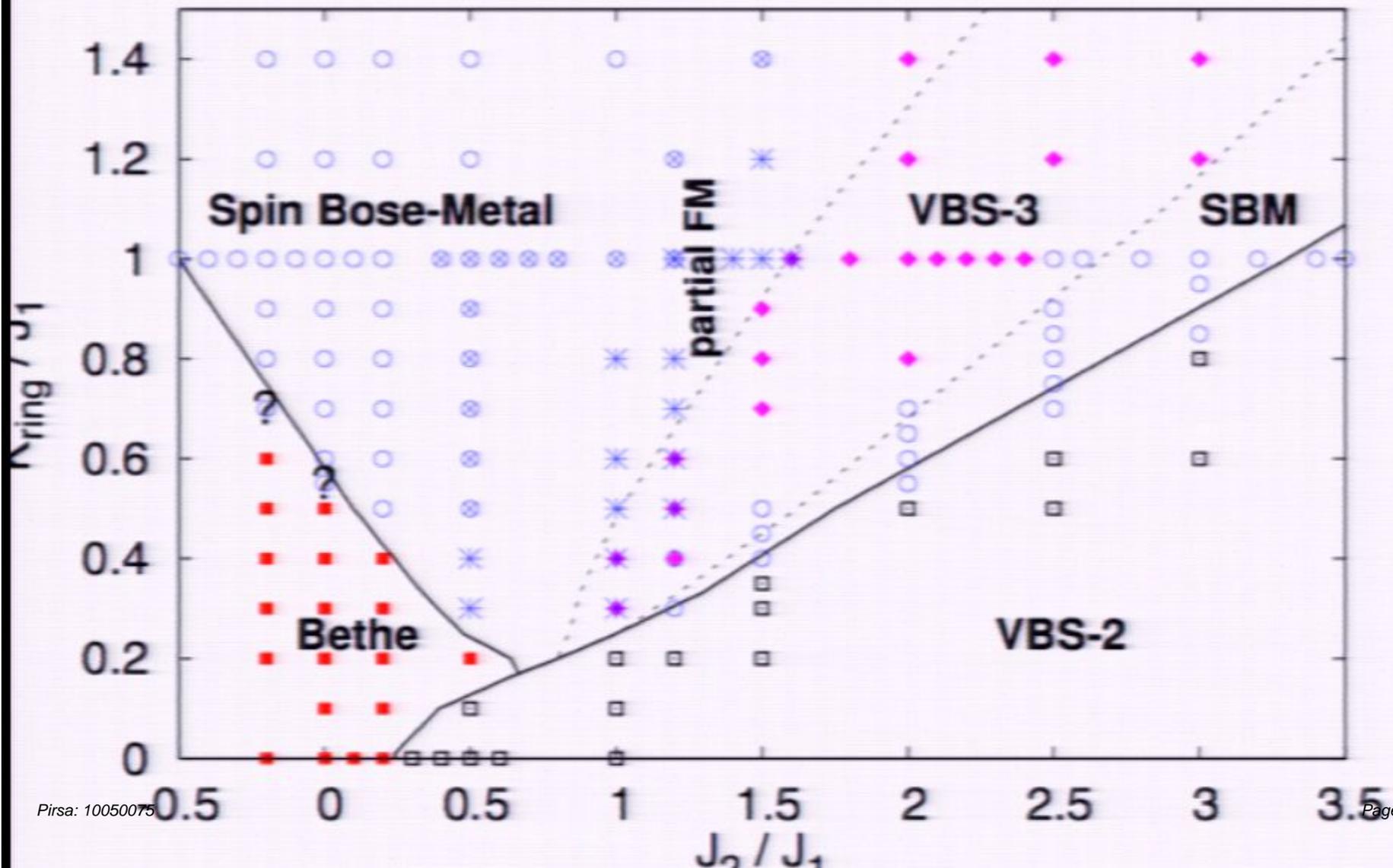
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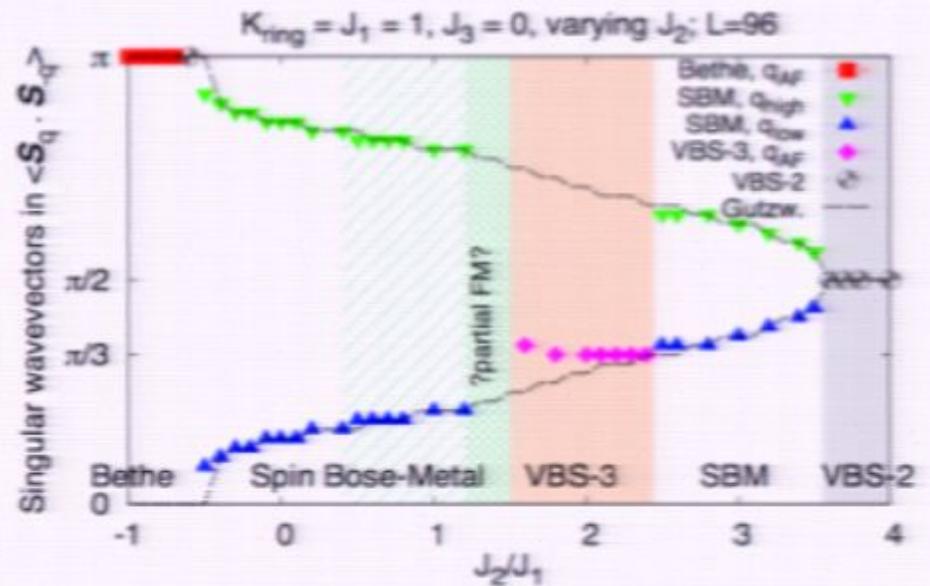
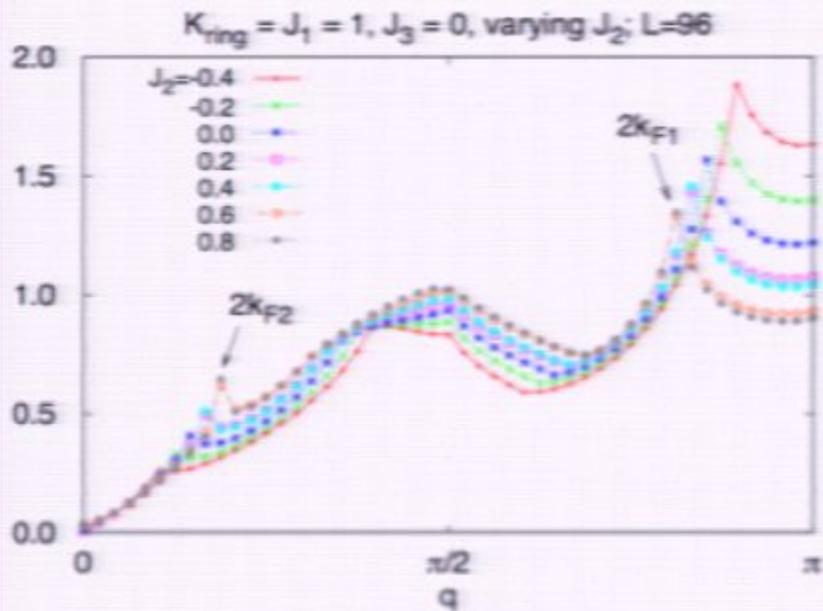
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# DMRG Phase diagram of zigzag ring model



# Evolution of singular momentum ("Bose" surface)

## DMRG

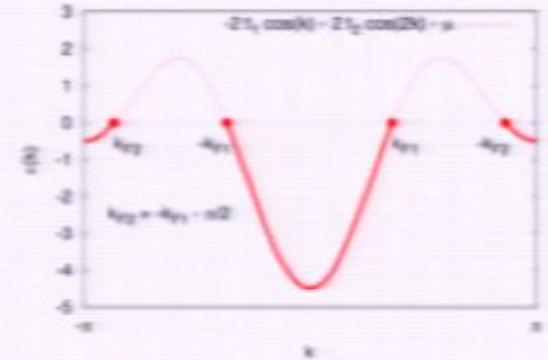


# Entanglement in SBM? Quasi-1d Gauge Theory

size about two  
points,  
size and integrate  
gauge field

$$f_\alpha(x) = \sum_{a,P} e^{iPk_{Fa}x} f_{Pa\alpha}$$

$$f_{Pa\alpha} \sim e^{i(\varphi_{a\alpha} + P\theta_{a\alpha})}$$



**Fixed-point" theory of zigzag Spin Bose-Metal**

$$\mathcal{L}_{sl} = \mathcal{L}_\sigma + \mathcal{L}_\chi$$

Two gapless spin modes

$$\mathcal{L}_\sigma = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{a=1,2} \left[ \frac{1}{v_a} (\partial_\tau \theta_{a\sigma})^2 + v_a (\partial_x \theta_{a\sigma})^2 \right]$$

Gapless spin-chirality mode

$$\mathcal{L}_\chi = \frac{1}{2\pi g} \left[ \frac{1}{v} (\partial_\tau \theta_\chi)^2 + v (\partial_x \theta_\chi)^2 \right]$$

$$\chi = \vec{S}_{x-1} \cdot [\vec{S}_x \times \vec{S}_{x+1}] \quad \chi \sim \partial_x \varphi_\chi$$

emergent global symmetries: SU(2)xSU(2) and U(1) Spin chirality

**3 Gapless Boson modes – central charge c=3**

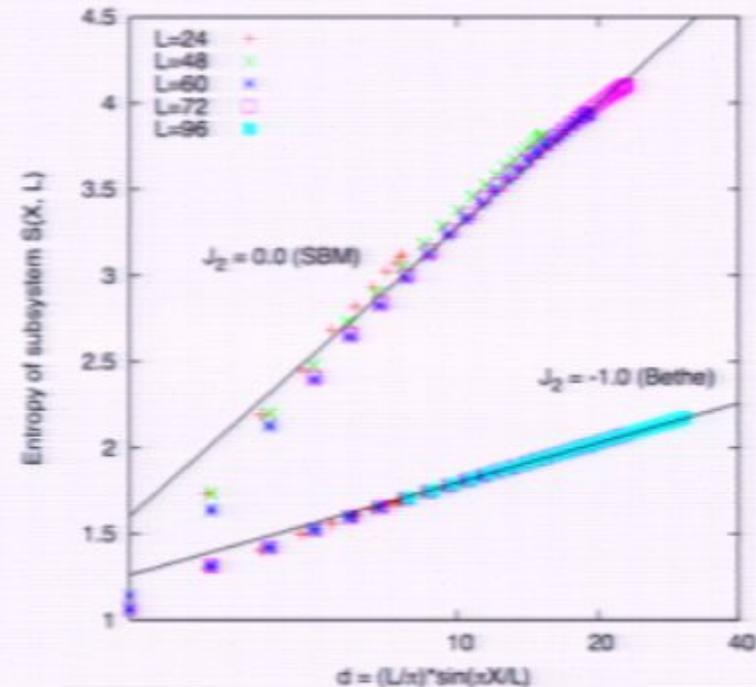
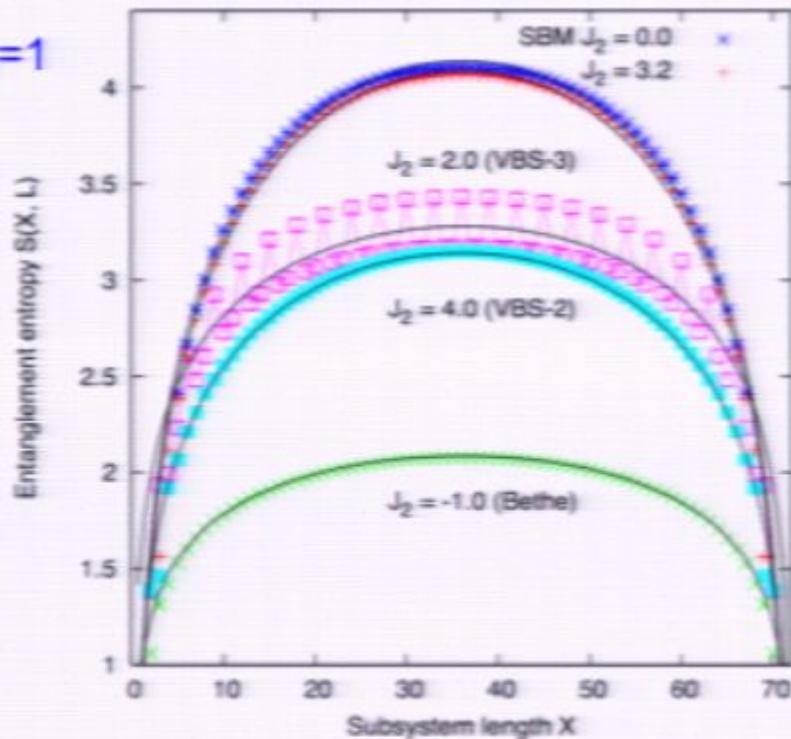
# Measure $c=3$ with DMRG? Entanglement Entropy

$$S(X, L) = \frac{c}{3} \log \left( \frac{L}{\pi} \sin \frac{\pi X}{L} \right) + A$$

Bethe  $c=1$   
Spin Bose-metal  $c=3.1$

(VBS-2  $c \sim 2$ ; VBS-3  $c \sim 1.5$ )

$J_1=1$

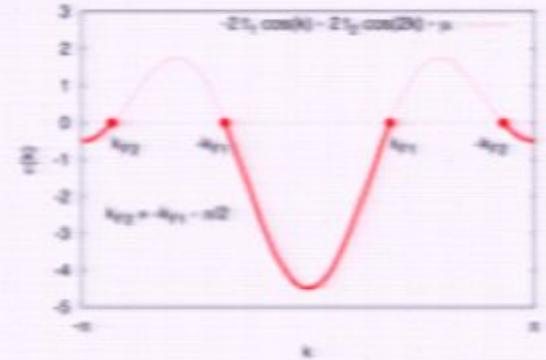


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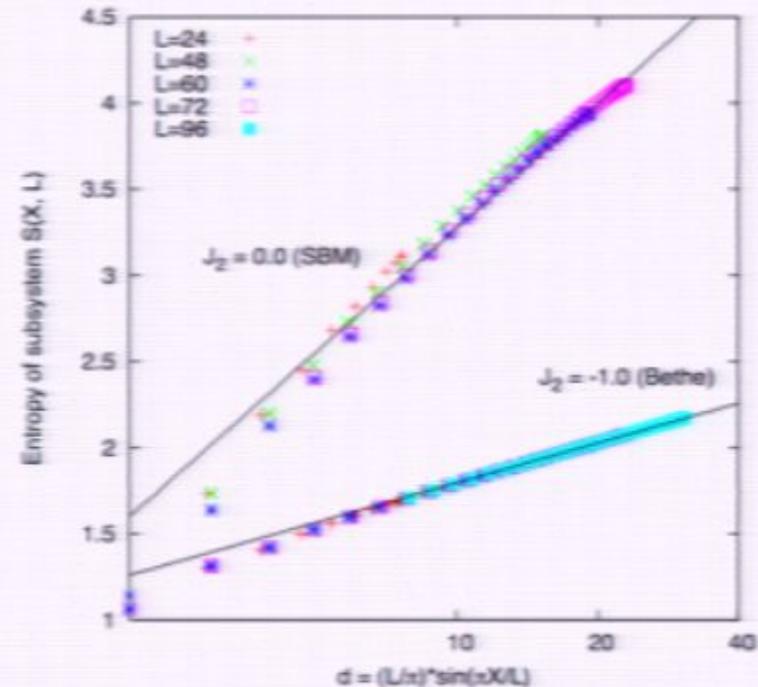
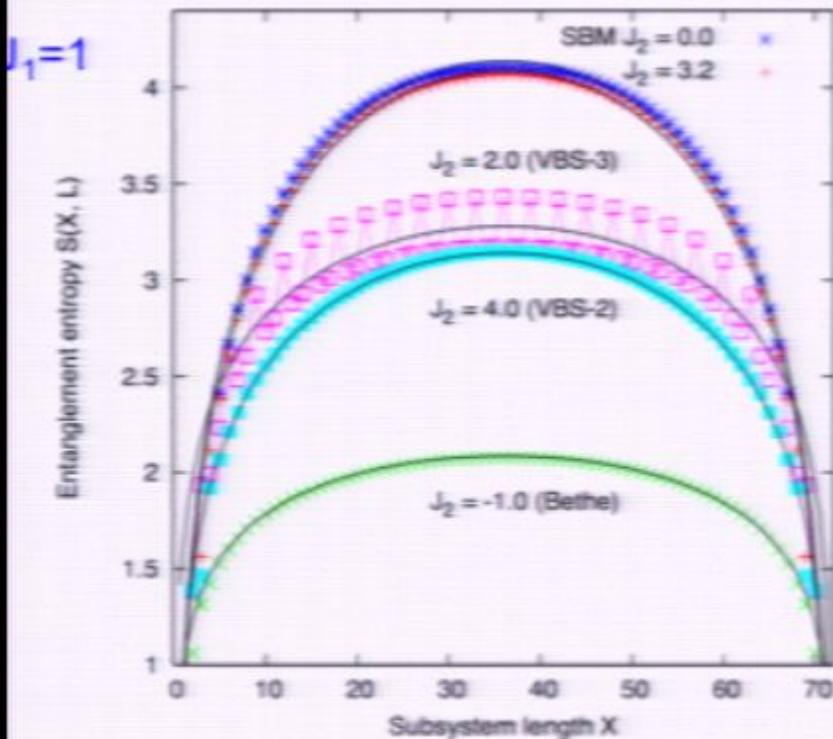
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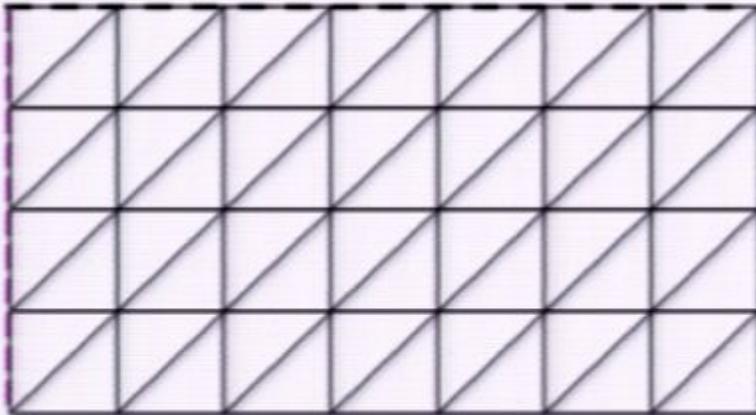
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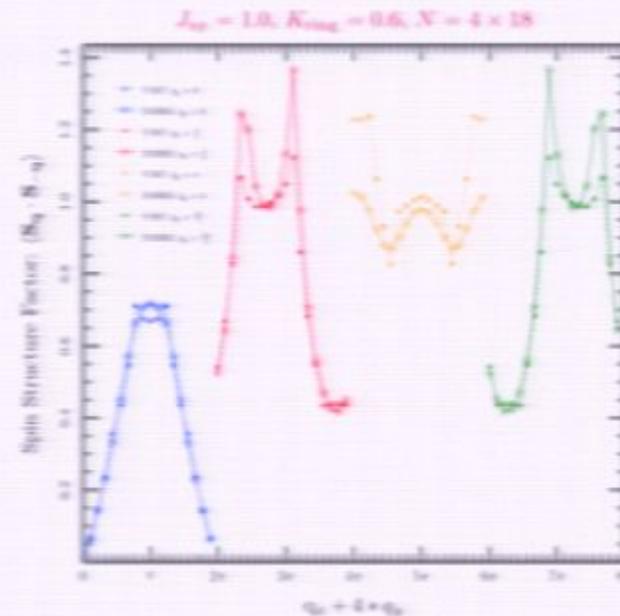
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# Phase Diagram (preliminary); 4-leg Triangular Ladder



Singlets along the "rungs"  
for  $K=0$



Spin structure factor shows singularities consistent with a Spin-Bose-Metal, (ie. 3-band Spinon-Fermi-Sea wavefunction) with 5 gapless modes, ie.  $c=5$

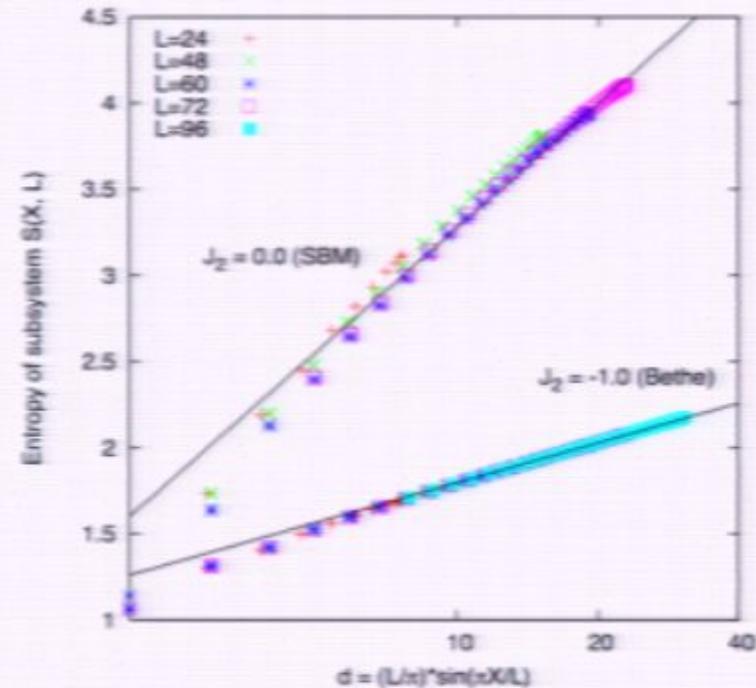
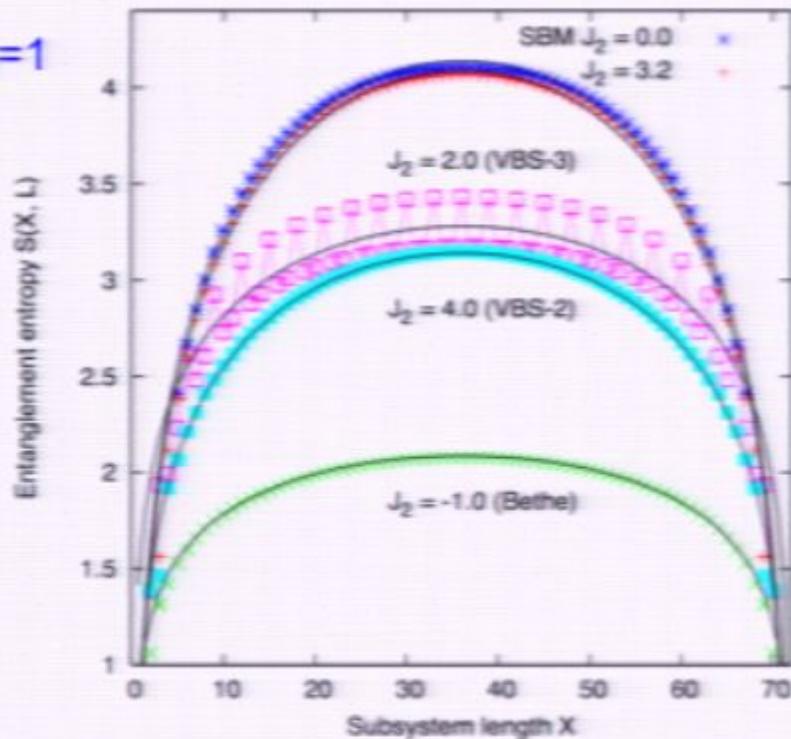
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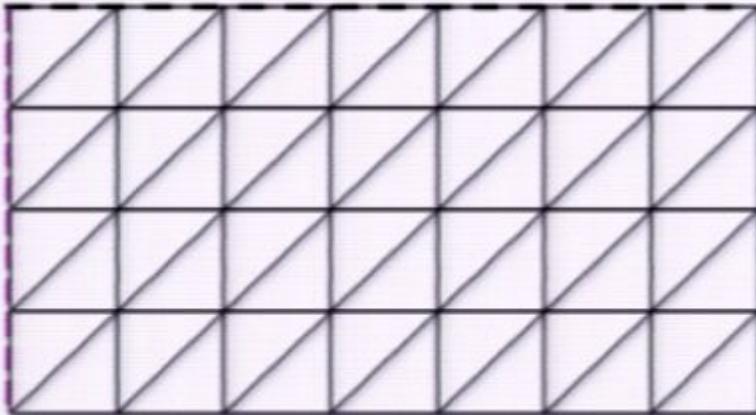
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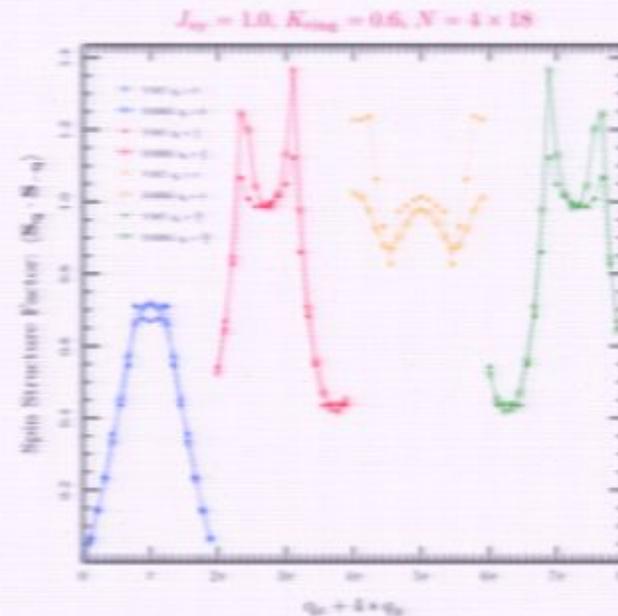
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# Entanglement Entropy for SBM on N-leg ladder

For length L segment on N-leg ladder expect

$$S_N = \frac{c_N}{3} \log(L/a) + A \quad c_N \sim N$$

For 2d Spin Bose-Metal expectation is that  
L by L region has entanglement entropy

$$S_{2d}(L) \sim L \log(L/a)$$

**2d Spin Bose-Metal as entangled as a 2d Fermi liquid**

# Summary on 2d Spin liquids

- **Spin liquids** - Mott insulators with no broken symmetries
- Two classes of spin liquids - **Topological and Gapless**
- **Gapless spin liquids are stable quantum phases with emergent symmetries**  
(lattice scale physics manifest in the IR)
- **Algebraic spin liquids** can have large global emergent symmetries, eg  $SU(4) \times U(1)$  flux
- **Spin Bose-Metals** have **Singular Bose surfaces** in momentum space

## Challenge:

2d Gapless spin liquids are highly entangled states  
with no free particle description,

New non-perturbative approaches are needed –  
tensor product states useful??



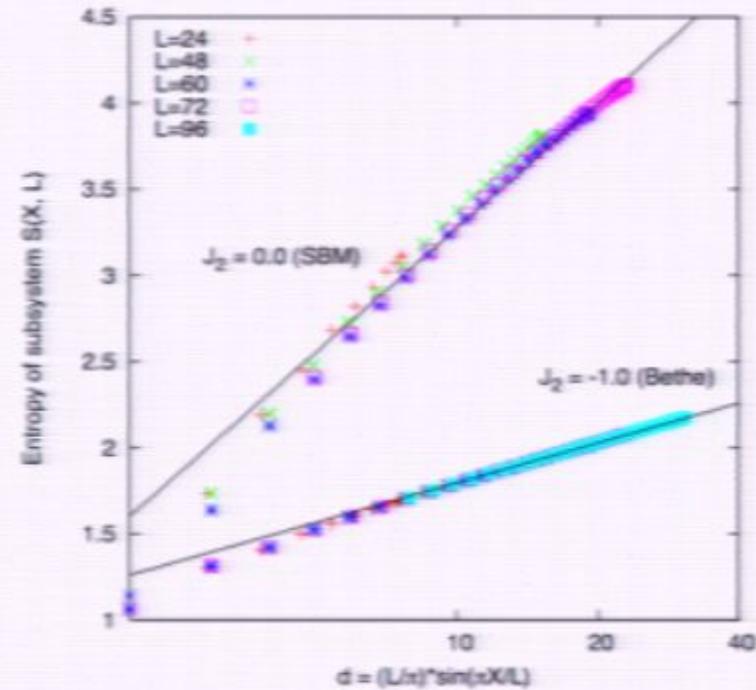
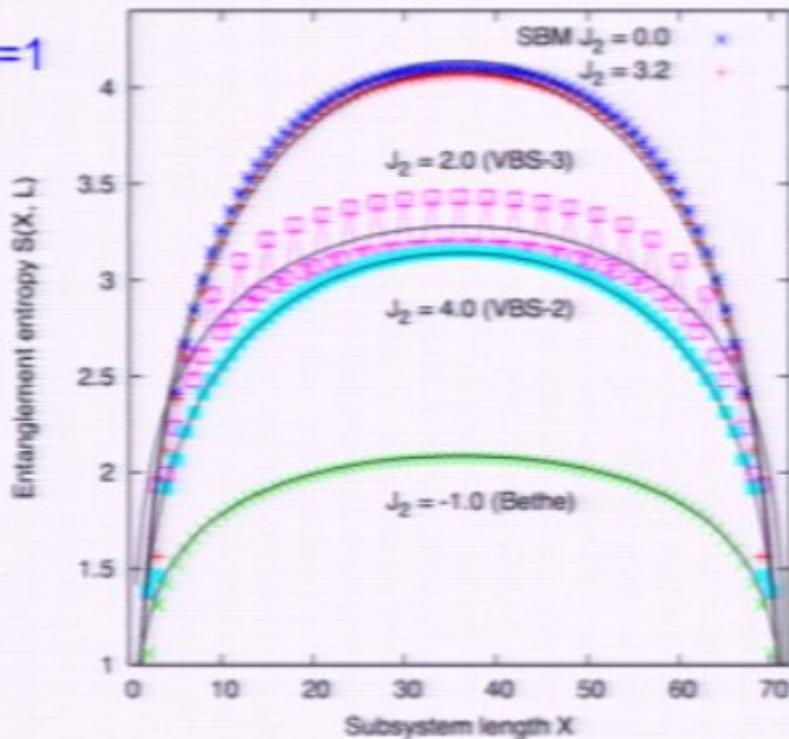
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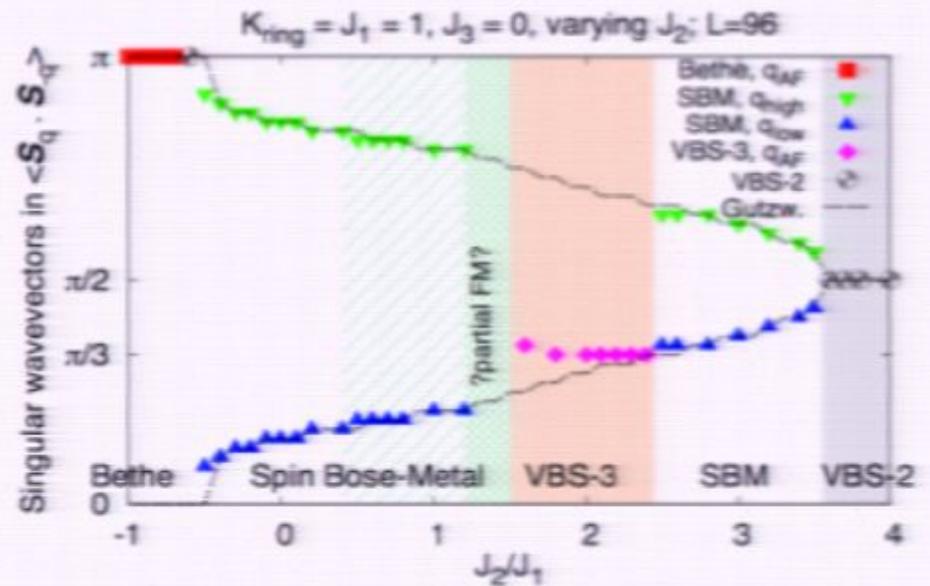
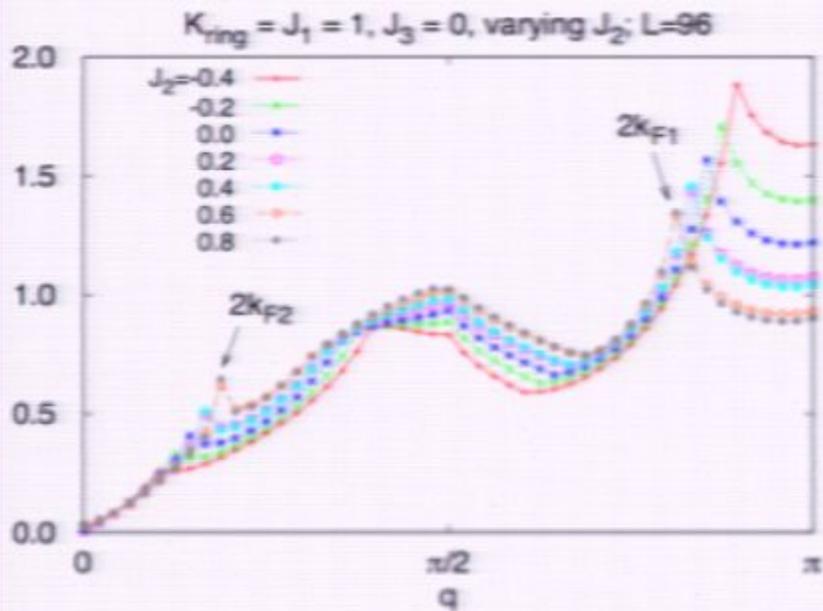
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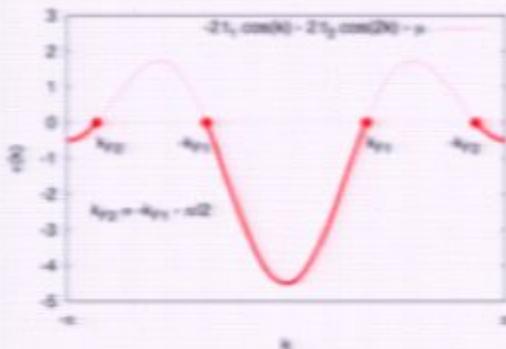
# Evolution of singular momentum ("Bose" surface)

## DMRG

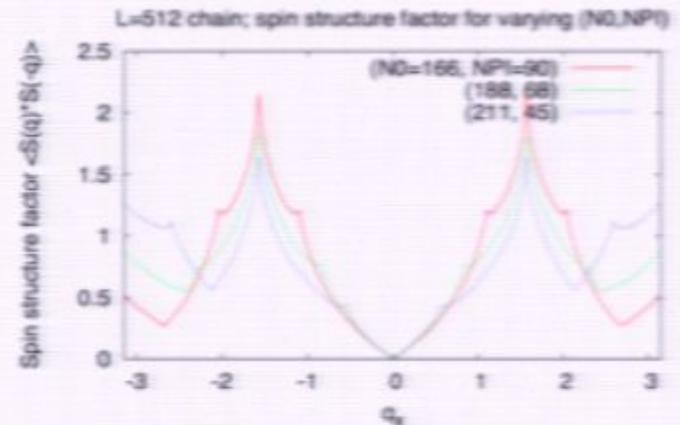


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Power law spin correlator

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Exponent consistent with SU(4) spin chain

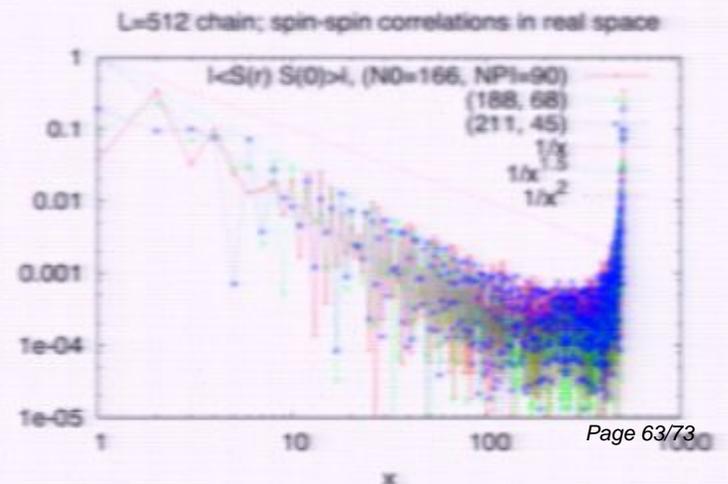
$$\alpha \approx 3/2 = \alpha_{SU(4)}$$

$$\alpha_{SU(N)} = 2 - (2/N)$$

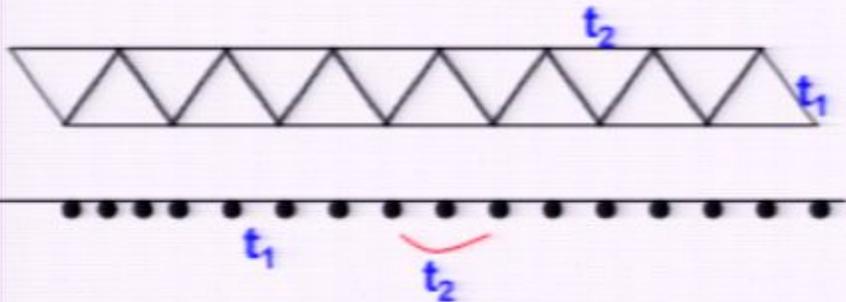
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(Schur polynomials? Matrix product states?)

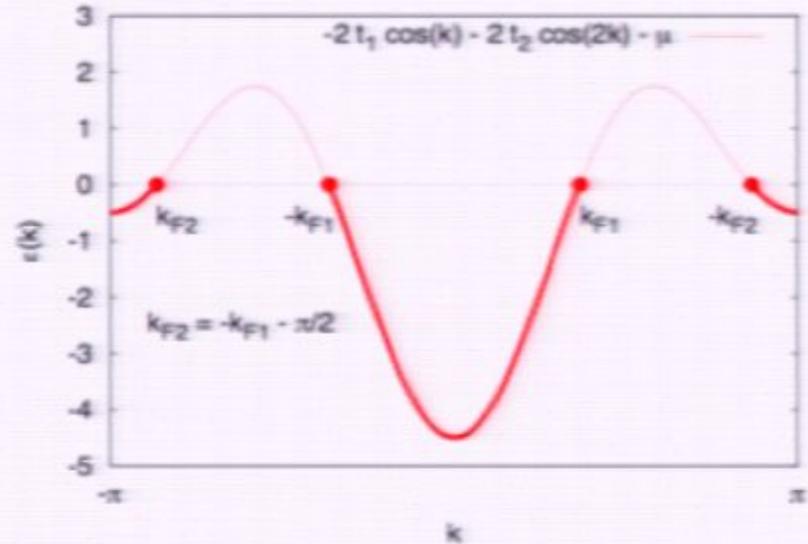
(Pirsa: 10050075 - Shastry SU(2) chain with exact Gutzwiller Fermi sea ground state)



# Gutzwiller Wavefunction on zigzag



$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{trial}} = - \sum_{ij} t_{ij} f_{i\alpha}^\dagger f_{j\alpha}$$



Spinon band structure



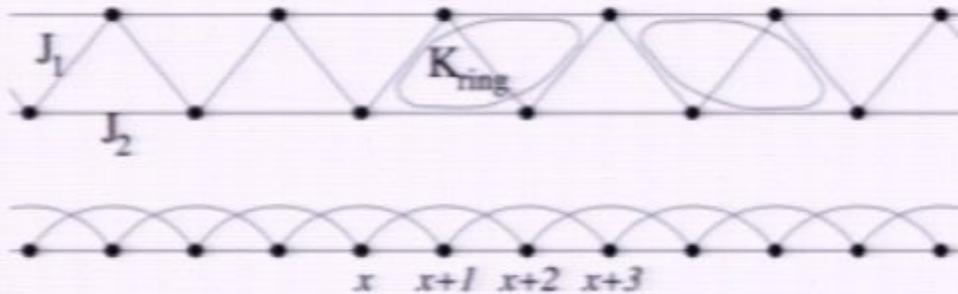
$P_G$   
Gutzwiller projection

Single Variational parameter:  $t_2/t_1$  or  $k_{F2}$

$$(k_{F1} + k_{F2} = \pi/2)$$

## 2-leg zigzag strip

$$\mathcal{H}_\Delta = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j + K \sum_{\langle 1234 \rangle} [\mathcal{P}_{1234} + \mathcal{P}_{1234}^{-1}]$$



Analysis of  $J_1$ - $J_2$ - $K$  model on zigzag strip

D. Sheng, O. Motrunich, MPAF  
PRB (2009)

Variational Monte Carlo of Gutzwiller wavefunctions

DMRG

Bosonization of gauge theory

Is projected Fermi sea a good caricature  
of Triangular ring model ground state?

$$\hat{H}_{\text{ring}} = J_2 \sum_{ij} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + J_4 \sum_{\text{rhombi}} (P_{ijkl} + \text{h.c.})$$

Variational Monte Carlo analysis suggests it might be for  $J_4/J_2 > 0.3$   
(O. Motrunich - 2005)

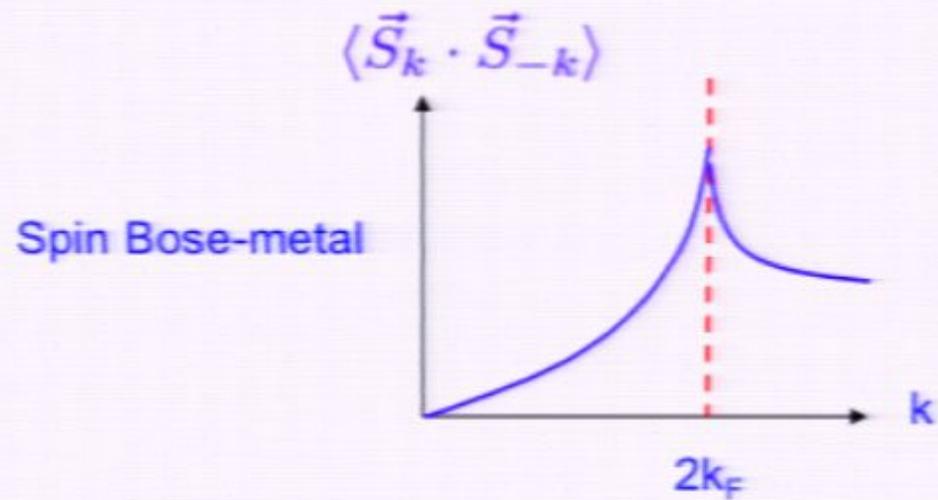
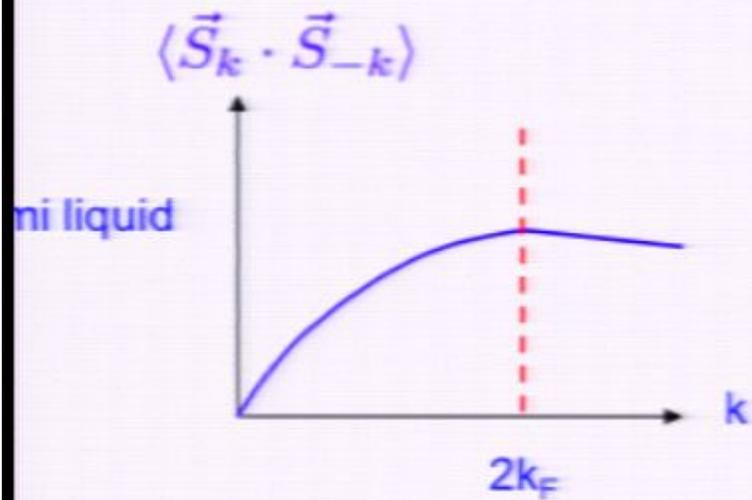
**A theoretical quandary:** Triangular ring model is intractable

- Exact diagonalization: so small,
- Quantum Monte Carlo - sign problem
- Variational Monte Carlo - biased
- DMRG - problematic in 2d

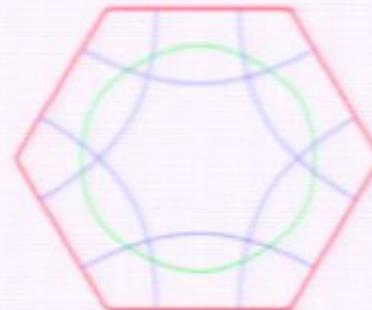
?????

# Phenomenology of Spin Bose-Metal (from Gutzwiller wf and Gauge theory)

Singular spin structure factor at " $2k_F$ " in Spin Bose-Metal  
(more singular than in Fermi liquid metal)



$2k_F$  "Bose surface" in  
triangular lattice Spin Bose-Metal



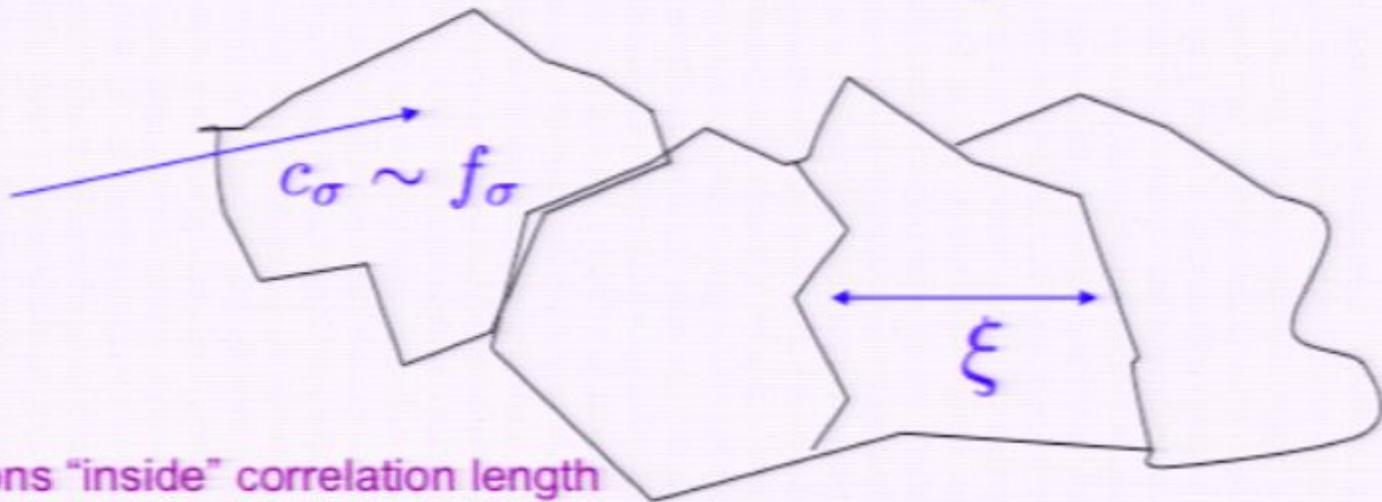
# Weak Mott insulator: Which spin liquid?

Motrunich (2005)

Long charge correlation length,

$$\langle c_\sigma(x) c_\sigma^\dagger(0) \rangle \sim e^{-x/\xi} \quad \xi \gg a$$

Inside correlation region electrons do not "know" they are insulating

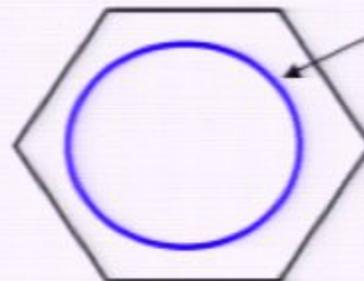


Spin correlations "inside" correlation length resemble spin correlations of free fermion metal, oscillating at  $2k_F$

$$\langle \vec{S}(x) \cdot \vec{S}(0) \rangle \sim \cos(2k_F x) / x^\alpha$$

Appropriate spin liquid:

**Utzwiller projected Fermi sea**  
 ("Spin Bose-Metal")



Spinon Fermi surface is not physical in the spin model

Is projected Fermi sea a good caricature  
of Triangular ring model ground state?

$$\hat{H}_{\text{ring}} = J_2 \sum_{ij} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + J_4 \sum_{\text{rhombi}} (P_{ijkl} + \text{h.c.})$$

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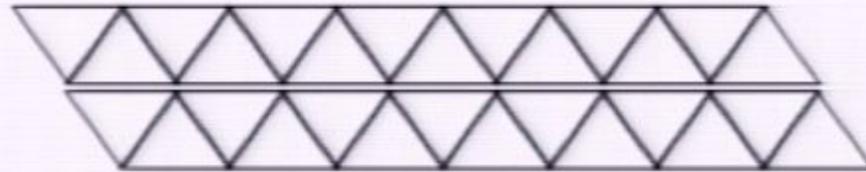
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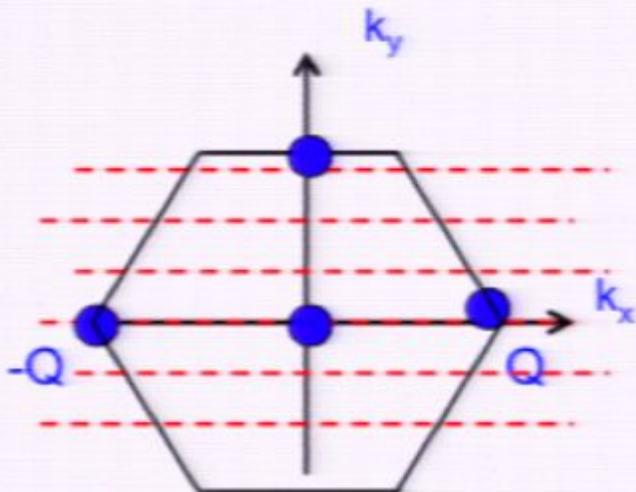
?????

# Quasi-1d route to Spin Bose-Metal

Triangular strips:

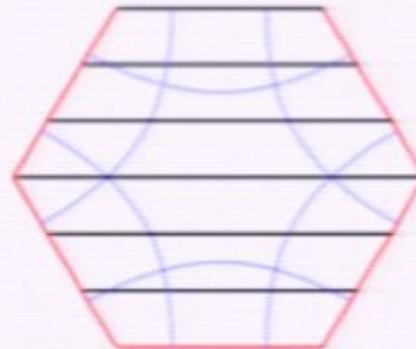


Algebraic Spin liquid



Few gapless 1d modes

Spin Bose-Metal

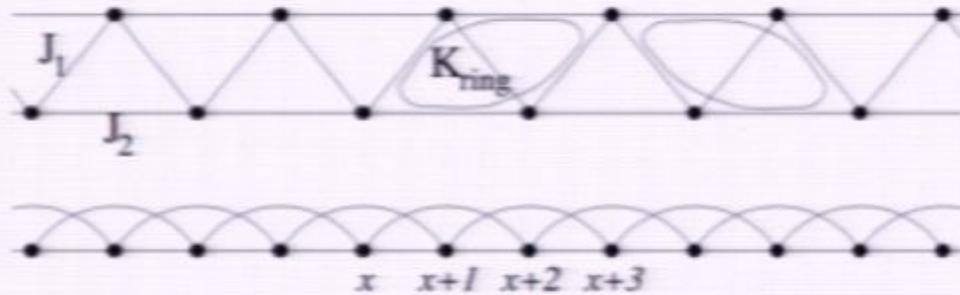


Fingerprint of 2d singular surface -  
many gapless 1d modes, of order N

***New spin liquid phases on quasi-1d strips,  
each a descendent of a 2d Spin Bose-Metal***

## 2-leg zigzag strip

$$\mathcal{H}_\Delta = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j + K \sum_{\langle 1234 \rangle} [\mathcal{P}_{1234} + \mathcal{P}_{1234}^{-1}]$$



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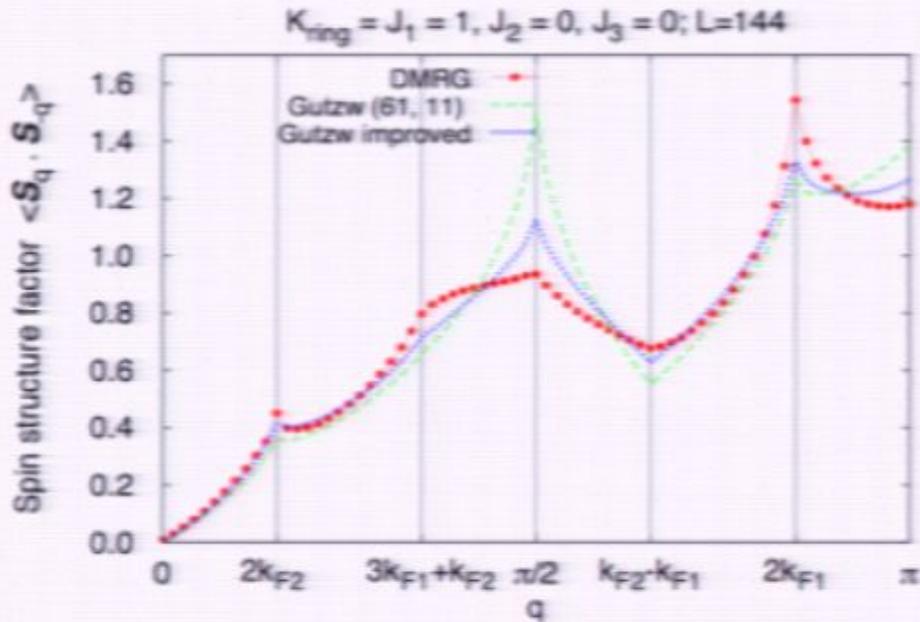
DMRG

Bosonization of gauge theory

# Spin Bose-Metal: Spin Structure Factor

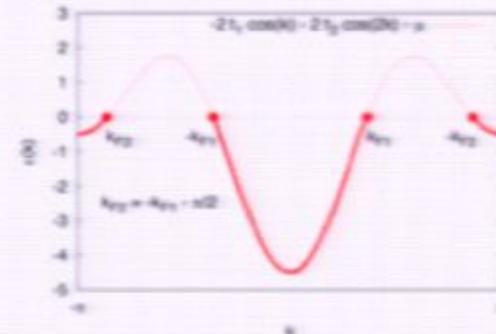
Singularities in momentum space locate the "Bose" surface (points in 1d)

$$\langle \vec{S}_k \cdot \vec{S}_{-k} \rangle$$



Gutzwiller improved has 2 variational parameters)

Angular momenta can be identified with  $2k_{F1}, 2k_{F2}$  which enter into Gutzwiller wavefunction!

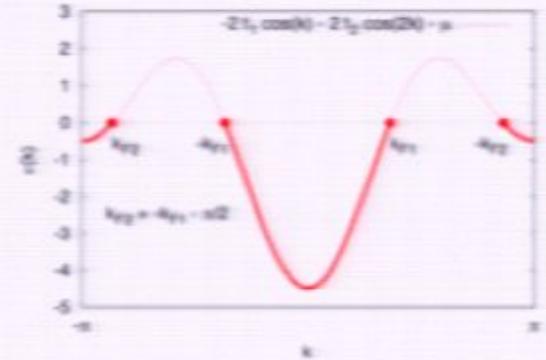


# Entanglement in SBM? Quasi-1d Gauge Theory

size about two  
points,  
size and integrate  
gauge field

$$f_\alpha(x) = \sum_{a,P} e^{iPk_{Fa}x} f_{Pa\alpha}$$

$$f_{Pa\alpha} \sim e^{i(\varphi_{a\alpha} + P\theta_{a\alpha})}$$



**Fixed-point" theory of zigzag Spin Bose-Metal**

$$\mathcal{L}_{sl} = \mathcal{L}_\sigma + \mathcal{L}_\chi$$

Two gapless spin modes

$$\mathcal{L}_\sigma = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{a=1,2} \left[ \frac{1}{v_a} (\partial_\tau \theta_{a\sigma})^2 + v_a (\partial_x \theta_{a\sigma})^2 \right]$$

Gapless spin-chirality mode

$$\mathcal{L}_\chi = \frac{1}{2\pi g} \left[ \frac{1}{v} (\partial_\tau \theta_\chi)^2 + v (\partial_x \theta_\chi)^2 \right]$$

$$\chi = \vec{S}_{x-1} \cdot [\vec{S}_x \times \vec{S}_{x+1}] \quad \chi \sim \partial_x \varphi_\chi$$

emergent global symmetries: SU(2)xSU(2) and U(1) Spin chirality

**3 Gapless Boson modes – central charge c=3**