

Title: Numerical Study of a Bosonic Topological Insulator in Three Dimensions

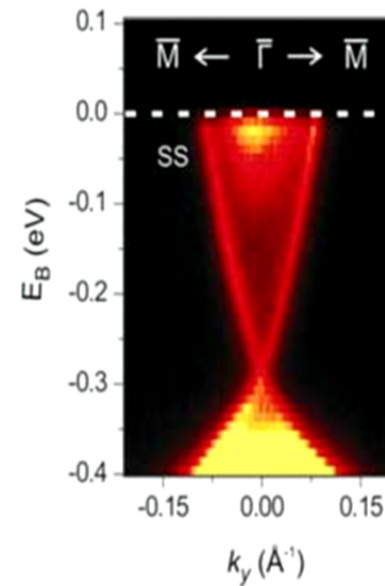
Date: Oct 21, 2014 03:30 PM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/14100113>

Abstract: <span>We construct a model which realizes a (3+1)-dimensional symmetry-protected topological phase of bosons with U(1) charge conservation and time reversal symmetry, envisioned by A. Vishwanath and T. Senthil [PRX 4 011016]. Our model works by introducing an additional spin degree of freedom, and binding its hedgehogs to a species of charged bosons. We study the model using Monte Carlo and determine its bulk phase diagram; the phase where the bound states of hedgehogs and charges condense is the topological phase, and we demonstrate this by observing a Witten effect. We also study the surface phase diagram on a (2+1)-dimensional boundary between the topological and trivial insulators. We find a number of exotic phases on the surface, including exotic superfluids, a phase with a Hall conductivity quantized to half the value possible in 2D, and a phase with intrinsic topological order. We also find a new bulk phase with intrinsic topological order.</span>

## Effects of Interactions

- Experimentally realized TIs made up of free fermions
- Can be studied using band theory
- How does the physics change when (strong) interactions are added?
- Are new phases possible?
- How can they be realized?
- Band theory doesn't work, new techniques needed

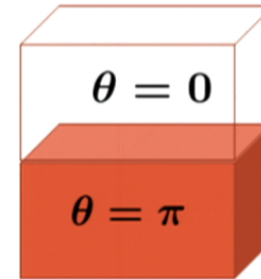


## Properties of TIs (independent of band theory)

- Write low-energy effective field theory (independent of microscopic details)
- Analogy with Quantum Hall Effect, where effective theory has Chern-Simons term
- Topological physics (e.g. Hall conductivity, gapless edge transport) comes from this term
- Topological term for TI is  $E \cdot B$  term:

$$S = \frac{\theta}{8\pi^2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\lambda} \partial_\mu A_\nu \partial_\rho A_\lambda$$

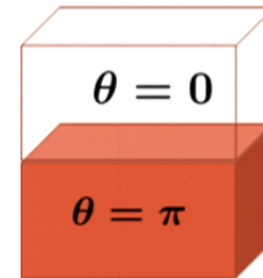
- $E \cdot B$  is a total derivative, so no bulk physics
- Need to study surface instead



## Surface Hall conductivity

- Spatially varying  $\theta$  leads to Chern-Simons term on the surface

$$S = \frac{\theta(r)}{8\pi^2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\lambda} \partial_\mu A_\nu \partial_\rho A_\lambda = \left( \frac{\partial_\mu \theta(r)}{8\pi^2} \right) \epsilon^{\nu\mu\rho\lambda} A_\nu \partial_\rho A_\lambda$$
$$= \left( \frac{\sigma_{xy}}{4\pi} \right) \epsilon^{\nu\mu\rho\lambda} A_\nu \partial_\rho A_\lambda \rightarrow \sigma_{xy} = \frac{\Delta\theta}{2\pi} = \frac{1}{2}$$

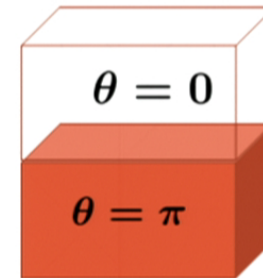


- Impossible in a purely 2D system (without intrinsic topological order)
  - Therefore we are on the surface of a topological phase
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## Bulk response from topological term

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- Total charge in a given volume:

$$\rho = \frac{\delta S}{\delta A_0} = \frac{\theta}{8\pi^2} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}$$

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Rosenberg and Franz (2010)

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- Half electric charges bind to magnetic monopoles
- This is called the Witten effect

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## Topological Phases of Interacting Bosons

- Many different (SRE) topological phases can be constructed from interacting bosons<sup>1</sup>
- With bosons, interactions must be important or the system would Bose-condense
- SRE phases: 'minimal' way to study this physics
- These phases can host exotic new phenomena
- Much work to be done
  - Understand properties of phases
  - How to do experiments with them
- Interactions make the problem hard—many of our favourite tools don't apply

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1: Chen, Liu, Gu, Wen, Science 338 1604 (2012)

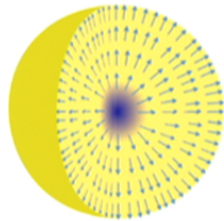
## How to make a model of a bosonic topological phase



- In 1D, point topological defect is a kink (discrete symmetry)
- Can bind these to charges and proliferate bound states
- Get  $Z_N \times Z_N$  versions of Haldane Phase<sup>1</sup>



- In 2D, point topological defect is a vortex (U(1) symmetry)
- Proliferate vortex+boson bound states
- Bosonic quantum Hall effect<sup>2</sup> in 2D<sup>2</sup>



- In 3D, point topological defect is a hedgehog
- Proliferating bound states of hedgehogs+bosons will give us a topological phase<sup>3</sup>

- 
- 1: SG and Motrunich, arXiv:1410.1580
  - 2: SG and Motrunich, Annals of Physics 334, 288 (2013)
  - 3: SG and Motrunich, arXiv:1408.1096

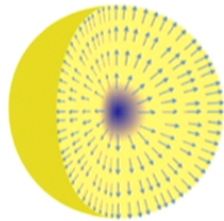
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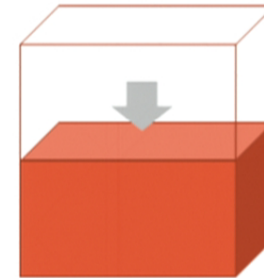
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## “Bosonic Topological Insulator”

- A 3D Phase with charge conservation and time reversal symmetry
- Vishwanath and Senthil: Postulated field theory for the surface of the system
- Showed the surface has exotic properties
- This physics can't exist in purely 2D system

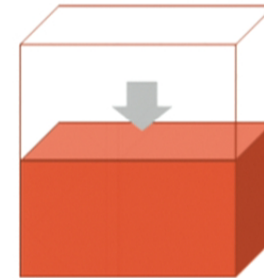


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Vishwanath and Senthil, PRX 3 011016 (2013)

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## Our model

- Define concrete model of bosons on a lattice which realizes the bosonic topological insulator
- Model binds bosons with 'hedgehogs', proliferates bound states
- Study in Monte Carlo
- Measure bulk and surface properties to demonstrate that we have the bosonic TI



## Constructing the model 1: Bosons

- Start with 3D Hamiltonian of bosons hopping on lattice, Trotter decompose to 4D classical action of conserved currents



$$\langle m | \phi \rangle = e^{im\phi}$$

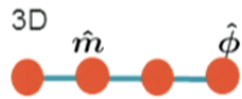
$$m \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad \phi \in [0, 2\pi)$$

$$H = U \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \hat{m}(\mathbf{r})^2 - t \sum_{\mathbf{r}, \mu=x,y,z} \cos[\nabla_{\mu} \hat{\phi}(\mathbf{r})]$$

$$Z = \langle \Phi | e^{-\beta H} | \Phi \rangle = \sum_{\{m\}} \prod_{\tau} \langle m(\tau) | e^{-\delta\tau H} | m(\tau + \delta\tau) \rangle$$

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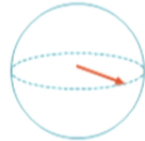
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## Constructing the model 2: Hedgehogs

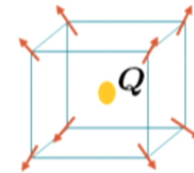
- O(3) quantum rotor



- Hamiltonian contains ferromagnetic interaction, and kinetic energy
- After Trotter decomposition, get 4D classical model of an O(3) magnet

$$S = -\beta \sum_{r, \mu=x, y, z, \tau} \vec{n}(r) \cdot \vec{n}(r + \mu)$$

- Take a cube out of lattice, can define hedgehog number at the center
- In 4D, hedgehogs become line objects
- So we can bind them to boson currents



## Monte Carlo setup

$$S = -\beta \sum_{r, \mu=x,y,z,\tau} \vec{n}(r) \cdot \vec{n}(r + \mu) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{r, \mu} [J_{\mu}(r) - Q_{\mu}(r)]^2$$

- Classical Monte Carlo on this 4D action gives partition sum
  - Monte Carlo variables are  $\vec{n}$  and  $\mathbf{J}$
  - Pick an  $\vec{n}$  or small loop of  $\mathbf{J}$ , change it, decide whether to keep the update based on usual Metropolis criterion
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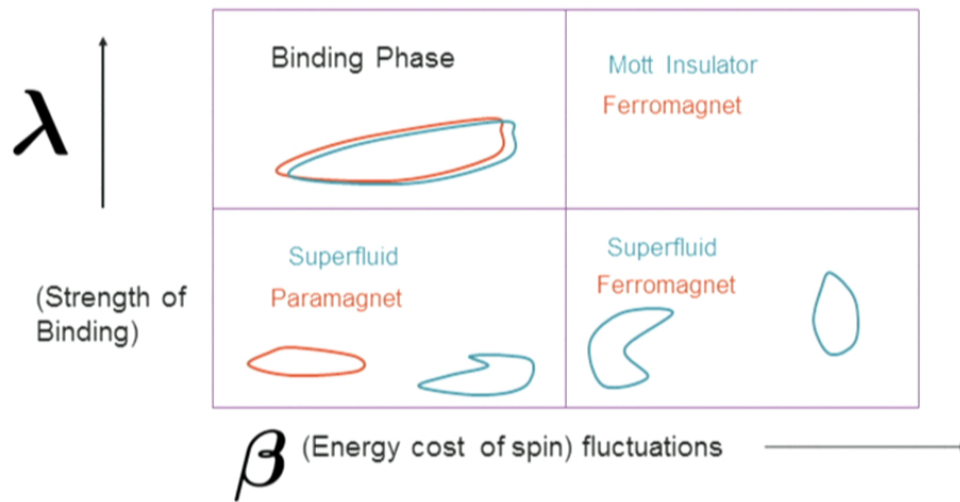
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## Phase Diagram

$$S = -\beta \sum_{r, \mu=x, y, z, \tau} \vec{n}(r) \cdot \vec{n}(r + \mu) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{r, \mu} [J_{\mu}(r) - Q_{\mu}(r)]^2$$

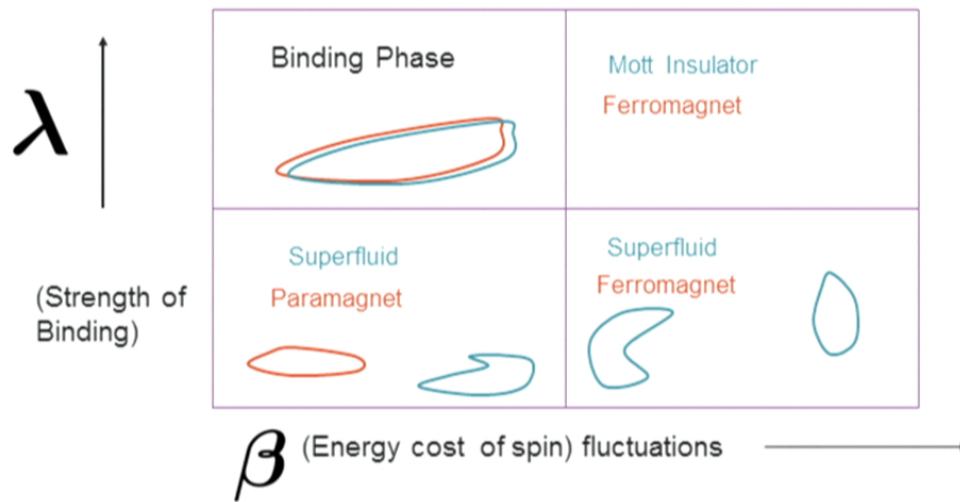


- Detect transitions by measuring specific heat
- Order parameters:
  - Magnetization
  - Superfluid stiffness

— Boson current: J    — Hedgehog current: Q

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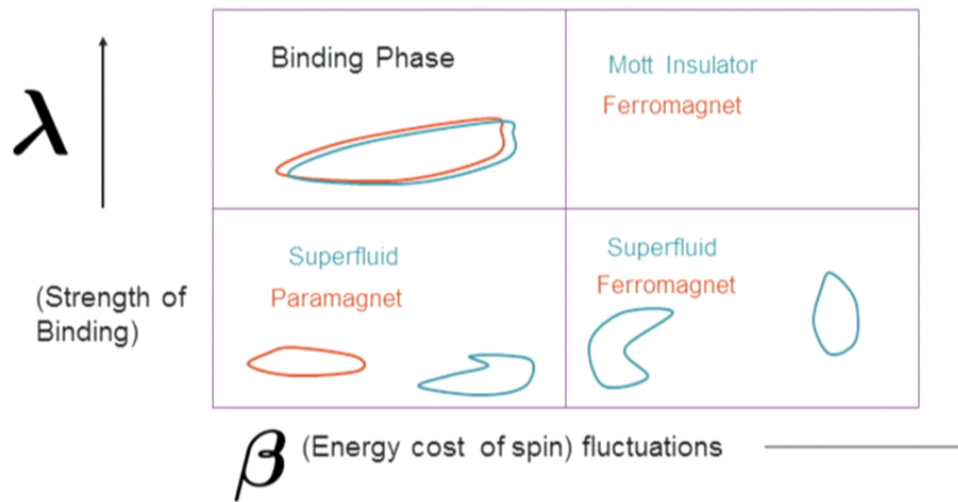
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$\beta$  (Energy cost of spin fluctuations) →

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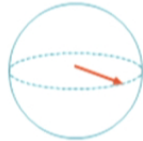
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## How to actually construct hedgehogs

- Previous setup doesn't allow the measurements we need to make
  - Can instead represent the spins by an easy-plane CP1 model
  - This has  $U(1)$  symmetry instead of  $O(3)$ —but it still has hedgehogs!
  - This model can also be thought of as an action for bosons
  - **So we are studying a model of two species of bosons**
-

## Constructing the model 2: Hedgehogs

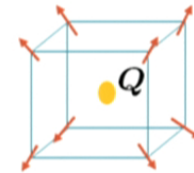
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## Measuring the Witten effect

- Two species of bosons leads to two external fields. E · B term:

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- One electric charge binds to each monopole
- Technically we have two species of boson (one from currents, one from spins)
- Imagine adding tunnelling between the two types

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Ye and Wen (2014), Ye and Wang (2013), Metlitski, Kane, Fisher (2013)

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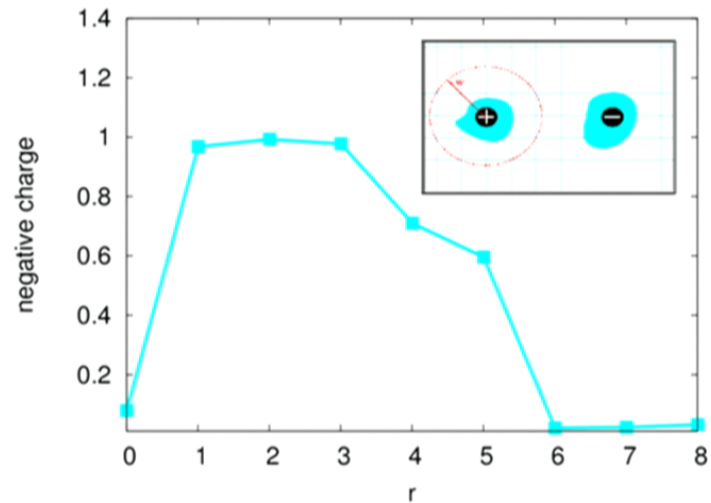
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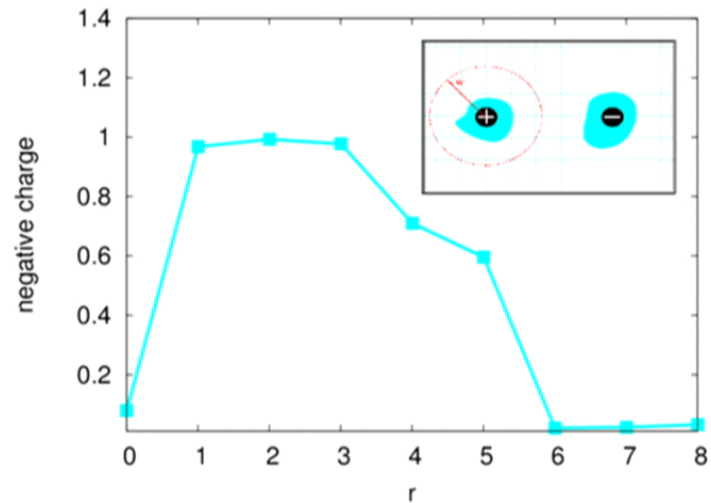
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## Witten effect—Numerical Results



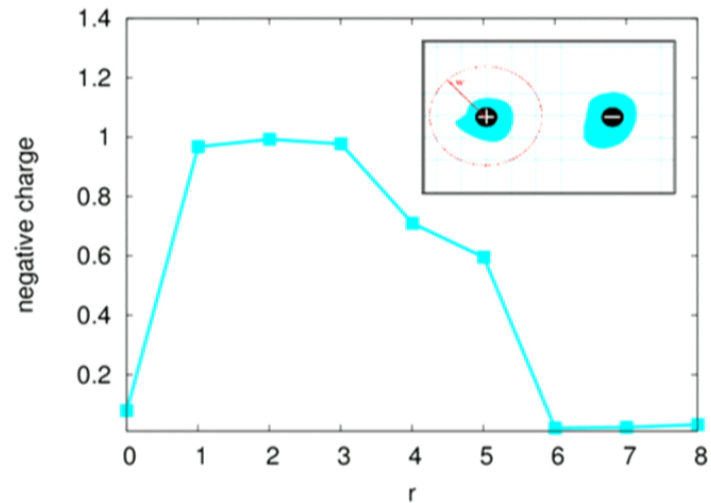
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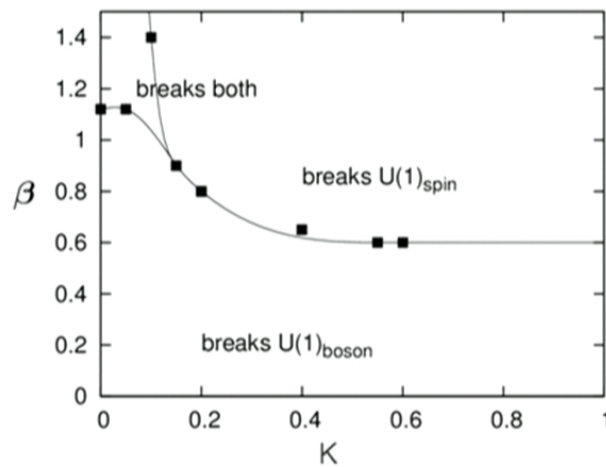
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## Surfaces of SRE Topological Phases: Basics

- Cannot continuously connect a topological phase to a trivial phase
  - Need to either undergo a phase transition or break a symmetry
  - The same holds on the edge:
    - Long ranged entanglement (gaplessness or topological order) OR
    - Broken Symmetry
  - Our system has  $U(1)$  symmetry from bosons,  $U(1)$  from spins (also bosons) and time-reversal
-

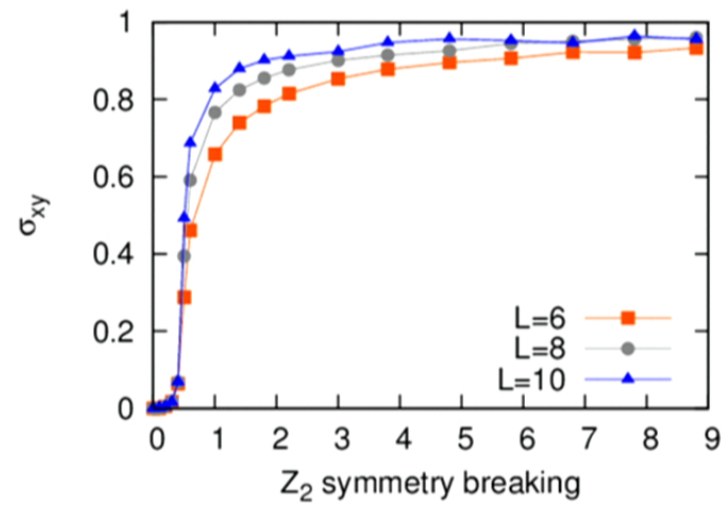
## Surface Phase Diagram

- Tune the parameters on the surface to access different phases
- Measure order parameters: magnetization and superfluid stiffness
- In our model, we always break a  $U(1)$  symmetry



- Break  $U(1)_{boson}$ : superfluid
- Break  $U(1)_{spin}$ : ferromagnet, but can also think of as a superfluid
- Direct transition between superfluids

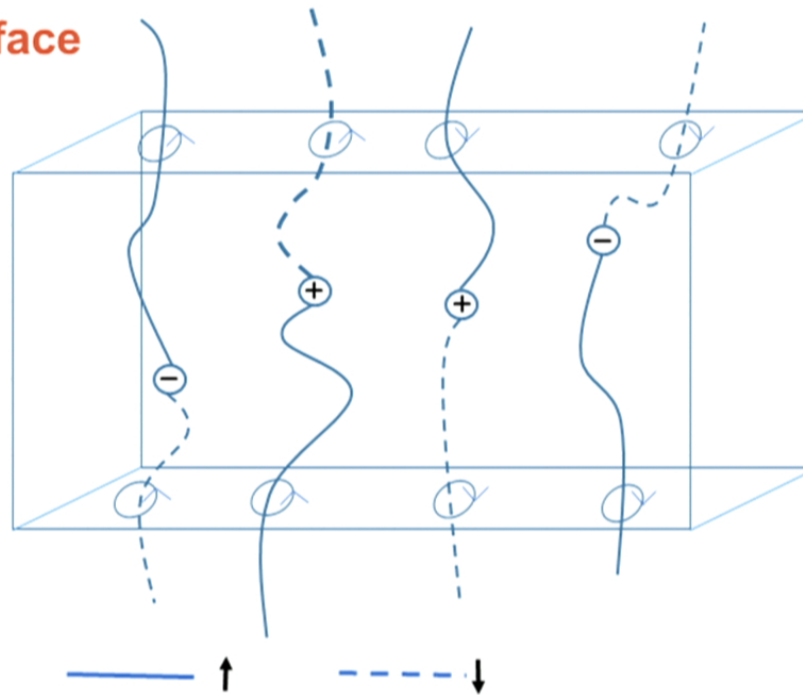
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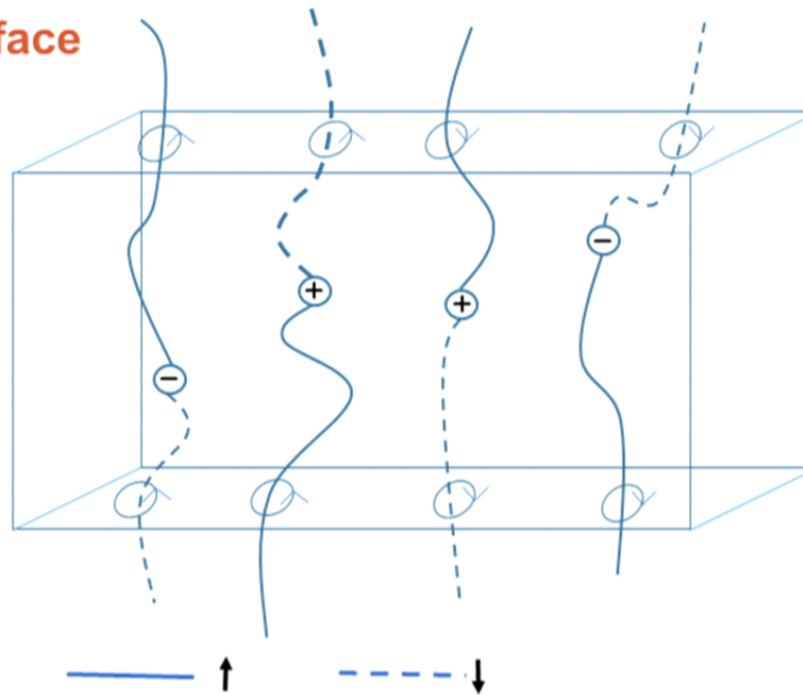
## Understanding Surface

- Sign of hedgehog and boson determined by orientation of type of vortex lines
- Proliferate vortices: preserve spin symmetry but break boson symmetry
- Forbid bosons: preserve boson symmetry but break spin symmetry
- Forbid one type of vortex line: breaks time reversal, leads to binding between boson charge and vorticity



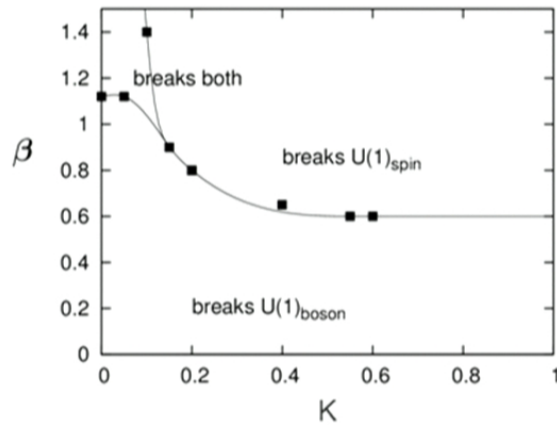
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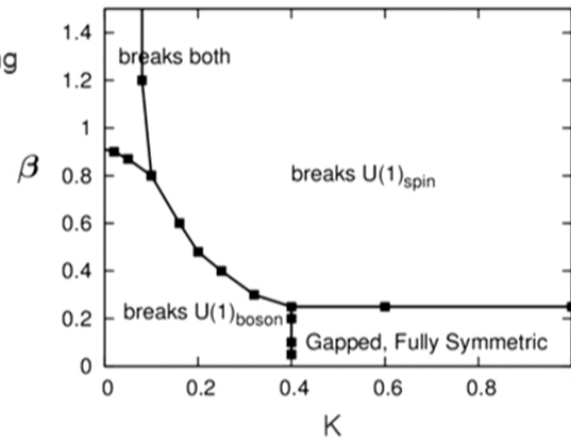


## Another option: surface topological order

- Can have a surface phase which is gapped, and breaks no symmetries, but is topologically ordered



Vortex pairing



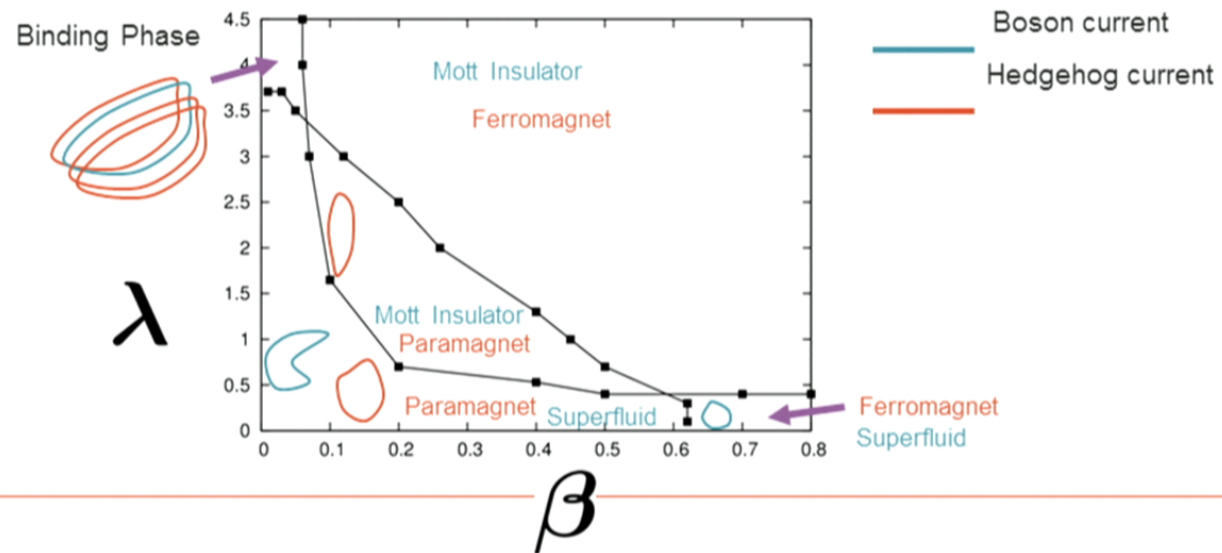
## Binding multiple defects: topological order

- Everything so far is about SRE phases analogous to free fermion TI, field theory described by Vishwanath and Senthil
  - We bound one topological defect to each charge
  - We can also think about binding multiple defects
  - Get long-ranged entangled phase
  - 'Fractionalized Bosonic Topological Insulator'
-

## Binding multiple defects: topological order

- Bind  $d$  hedgehogs to  $c$  charges
- New binding phase
- Another new phase with breaks no symmetries

$$\frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{r,\mu} [dJ_\mu(r) - cQ_\mu(r)]^2$$



## Gapped excitations in fractionalized phase

- Idea: start with an action in terms of physical variables
- Make 'change of variables' to express action in terms of gapped quasiparticles
- Properties of quasiparticles can be read off of this action

$$\begin{aligned} S &= -\beta \sum_{r,\mu} \cos[\nabla_\mu \phi_1(r) - a_\mu(r)] - \beta \sum_{r,\mu} \cos[\nabla_\mu \phi_2(r) - a_\mu(r)] \\ &+ \frac{K}{2} \sum_{r,\mu < \nu} [\nabla_\mu a_\nu(r) - 2\pi B_{\mu\nu}(r)]^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{r,\mu} [dJ_\mu(r) - cQ_\mu(r)]^2 \\ &+ i \sum_{r,\mu} J_\mu(r) A_\mu(r) \end{aligned}$$

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## Dirac Strings-> Electric field lines

- The P variables are integer-valued, we can explicitly write this constraint as:

$$\sum_{\{M\}} e^{2\pi i M_{\mu\nu} B_{\mu\nu}^P}$$

- We then integrate out the P variables, the M variables are 'Faraday line' excitations
  - If this was done on the original (Q) variables in the absence of charge, the M would be closed lines which the magnetic monopoles see as  $2\pi$  flux
  - If charges are allowed, the charges are sources and sinks of the M's
  - This case: Integrating out gauge field 'a' shows that a boson is a source for an M line of strength  $d$
  - M contains 'ordinary' part, and fractionalized, divergenceless part
-



## Action in terms of only gapped excitations

$$S = \frac{1}{2Kd^2} \sum_{r,\mu,\nu} M_{\mu\nu}^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{r,\mu} G_{\mu}^2$$

$$- i \sum_{r\rho} \frac{1}{d} G_{\mu}(r) A_{\mu}^{\text{ext}}(r) + i \sum_{R,\mu<\nu} \frac{2\pi b}{d} M_{\mu\nu}(R) B_{\mu\nu}^G(R)$$

Terms which gap G and M



Particle excitations carrying  $1/d$  of a unit of charge

Gives a phase when a particle goes around a line, like 3D toric code

## Future directions

- Build more models to represent other phases
    - 'Kramers' bosonic topological phase?
    - Binding particles to intersections of domain walls? (J. Wang, Gu & Wen 2014)
  - Use the models already built to do things
    - Critical properties
    - Lattice defects
    - Microscopic Hamiltonians → finding them and making them more realistic
    - Measuring quantities in these models to compare to more realistic systems
-

## Conclusions

- Interacting Boson TI can be realized in a lattice model
- Physics is to bind topological defects to charges
- Can measure the predicted properties in Monte Carlo
- Also find new phase with long-ranged entanglement

## Reading List

- This work: arXiv:1408.1096
- 1D model: arXiv 1410.1580
- 2D model: Annals of Physics 334, 288 (2013)
- Topological phase of lattice gauge theory:  
arXiv 1408.3146
- $SL(2,Z)$  change of variables: PRB 85, 245121 (2012)

## Acknowledgments



Olexei Motrunich  
Max Metlitski  
Matthew Fisher



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- Also find new phase with long-ranged entanglement

## Reading List

- This work: arXiv:1408.1096
- 1D model: arXiv 1410.1580
- 2D model: Annals of Physics 334, 288 (2013)
- Topological phase of lattice gauge theory:  
arXiv 1408.3146
- $SL(2,Z)$  change of variables: PRB 85, 245121 (2012)

## Acknowledgments



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Max Metlitski  
Matthew Fisher



## Conclusions

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- Physics is to bind topological defects to charges
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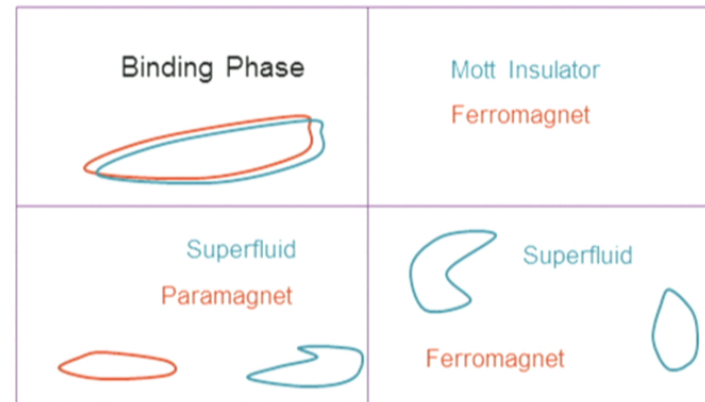


## Binding multiple defects: topological order

- Everything so far is about SRE phases analogous to free fermion TI, field theory described by Vishwanath and Senthil
- We bound one topological defect to each charge
- We can also think about binding multiple defects
- Get long-ranged entangled phase
- 'Fractionalized Bosonic Topological Insulator'

$$\frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{r,\mu} [J_\mu(r) - Q_\mu(r)]^2$$

$\lambda$



$\beta$

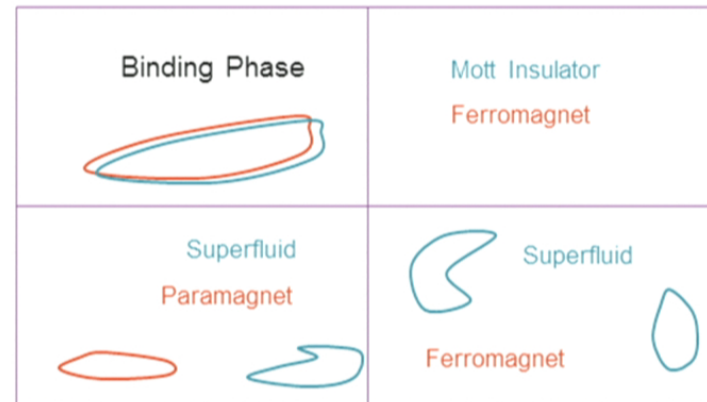
— Boson current: J    
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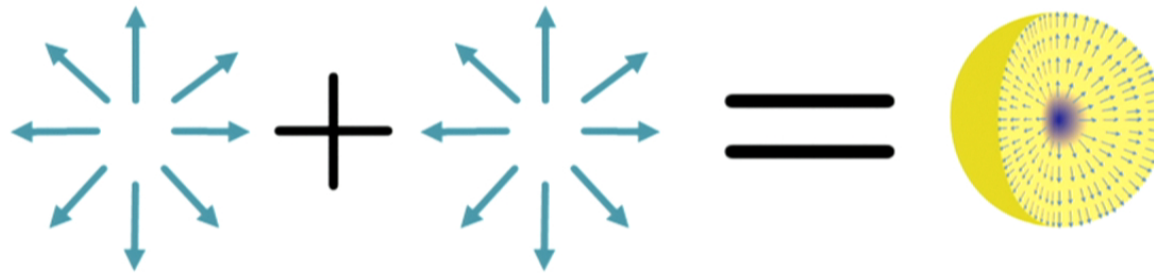


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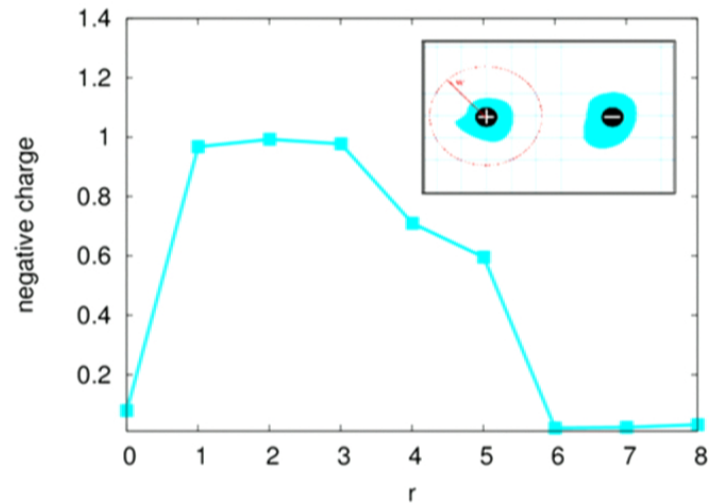
## Vortex lines picture

- In the spin sector, there are vortex line topological defects
- Two types of vortex lines
- Where the types of vortex lines meet, that is a hedgehog



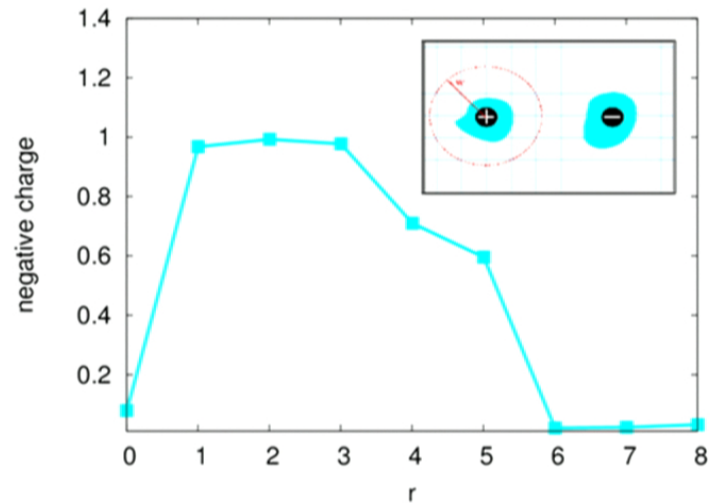


## Witten effect—Numerical Results



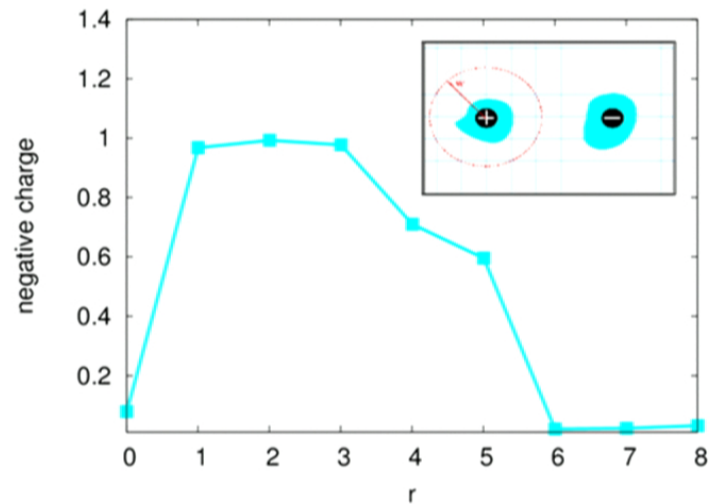
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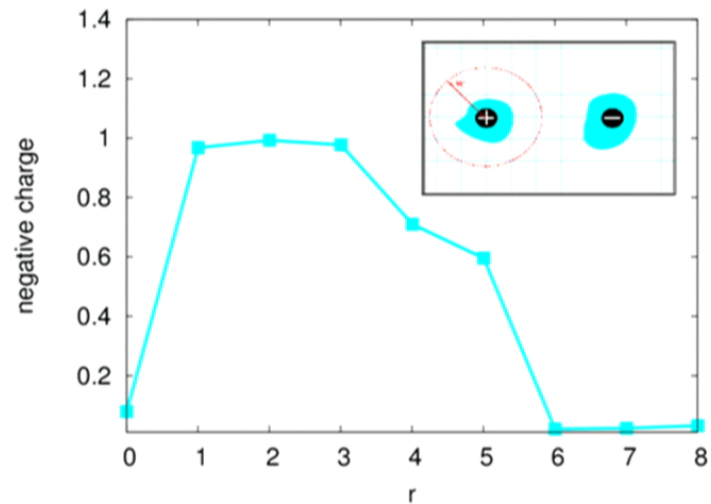
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## How to actually construct hedgehogs

- Previous setup doesn't allow the measurements we need to make
- Can instead represent the spins by an easy-plane CP1 model
- This has U(1) symmetry instead of O(3)—but it still has hedgehogs!
- This model can also be thought of as an action for bosons
- **So we are studying a model of two species of bosons**

$$\begin{aligned} S &= -\beta \sum_{r,\mu} \cos[\nabla_\mu \phi_1(r) - a_\mu(r)] - \beta \sum_{r,\mu} \cos[\nabla_\mu \phi_2(r) - a_\mu(r)] \\ &+ \frac{K}{2} \sum_{r,\mu < \nu} [\nabla_\mu a_\nu(r) - 2\pi B_{\mu\nu}(r)]^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{r,\mu} [J_\mu(r) - Q_\mu(r)]^2 \\ Q_\mu &\equiv \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \nabla_\nu B_{\rho\sigma} \end{aligned}$$

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