

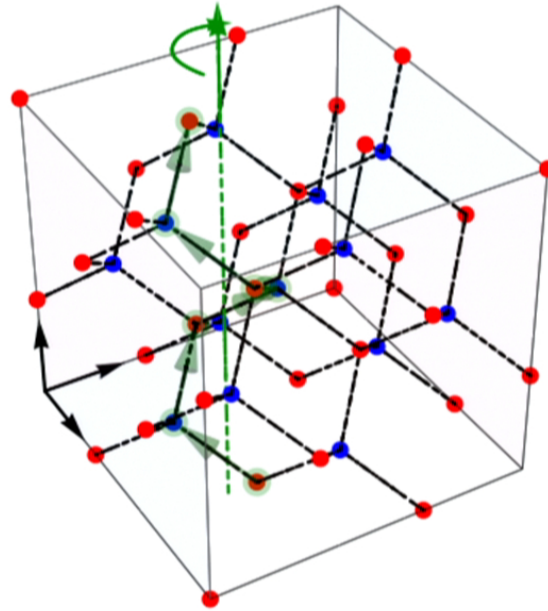
Title: Fractionalization from Crystallography

Date: Nov 18, 2014 03:30 PM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/14110132>

Abstract: A featureless insulator is a gapped phase of matter that does not exhibit fractionalization or other exotic physics, and thus has a unique ground state. The classic albeit non-interacting example is an electronic band insulator. A standard textbook argument tells us that band insulators require an even number of electrons -- an integer number for each spin -- per unit cell. I will explore the converse question: given such an 'integer filling', is a featureless insulating state possible? I will demonstrate that in most three-dimensional crystals, an insulating ground state cannot be unique -- and hence cannot be featureless -- except at certain special fillings fixed by the crystalline space group. This result, which remains valid more generally for interacting systems of fermions, bosons, or spins (as long as they have a conserved $U(1)$ charge), relies on a combination of topological 'flux insertion' arguments and elementary crystallographic ideas. I will explore its implications through examples ranging from band theory, where it leads to the identification of protected semimetals, to frustrated magnetism, where it suggests new venues for spin liquid physics.

Fractionalization from Crystallography



Siddharth Parameswaran
University of California, Irvine



Condensed Matter Seminar, Perimeter Institute, November 18, 2014

SIMONS FOUNDATION

Collaborators



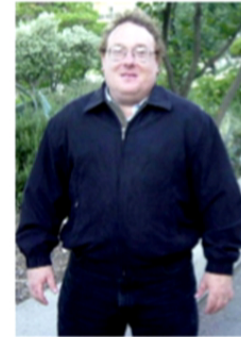
Ashvin Vishwanath

UC Berkeley



Ari Turner

UvA (Amsterdam) → JHU

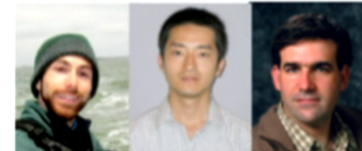


Dan Arovas

UC San Diego

[S.P.](#), Turner, Arovas & Vishwanath, *Nature Physics* **9**, 299 (2013)

+ related work w/ Itamar Kimchi, Fa Wang, Dan Stamper-Kurn



[S.P.](#), Kimchi, Turner, Stamper-Kurn & Vishwanath, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **110**, 125301 (2013)

Kimchi, [S.P.](#), Turner, Wang & Vishwanath, *PNAS* **110**, 16378 (2013)

Overview

Introduction: Classifying phases

metals vs. insulators, symmetry and fractionalization

Why are Mott insulators 'special'?

topological order and spin-charge separation

Hastings-Oshikawa-Lieb-Schultz-Mattis theorem

Mott Physics and Crystal Symmetry

constraints from crystallography

'non-symmorphic rank' of a space group

Implications and Applications

identifying new Mott insulators

'required' band touchings

Classifying Phases

One simple way



Metals

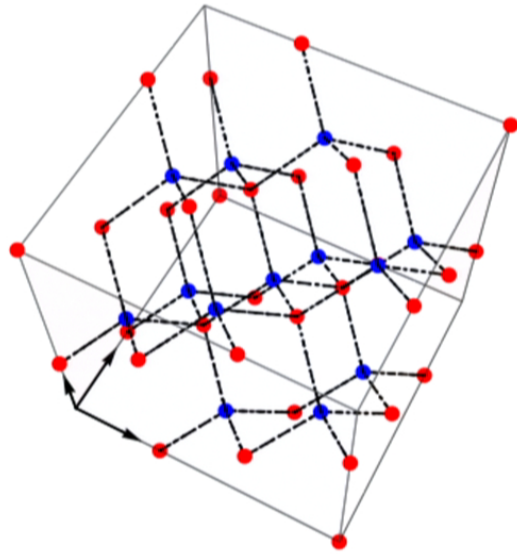


Insulators

Images: <http://wikipedia.com>, <http://www.androidspin.com>, <http://www.nauticexpo.com>

Classifying Phases

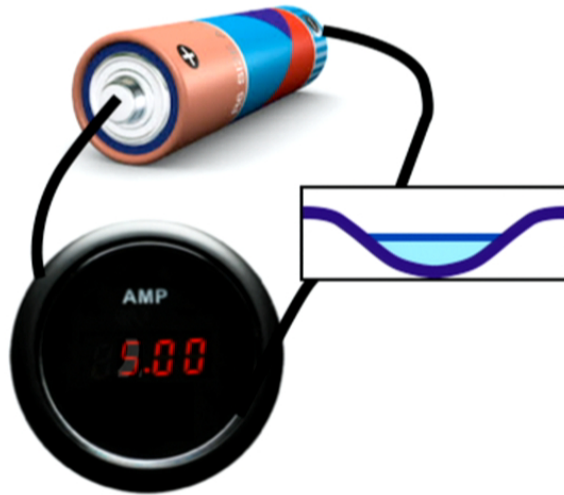
Another way: symmetries



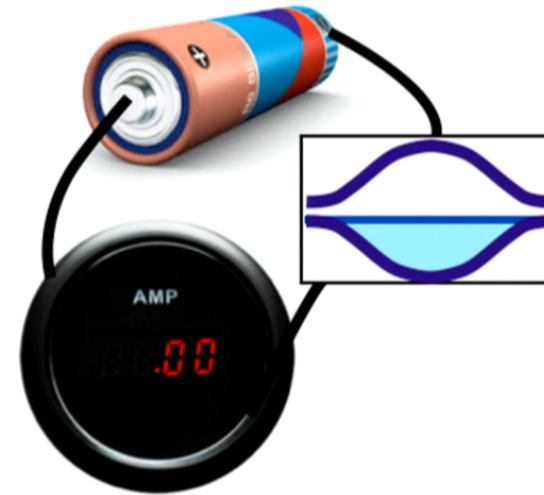
e.g. all crystals in one of 230
space groups

Band theory involves both

Bloch's theorem + Schrödinger equation \Rightarrow energy bands



Metals: partially filled bands



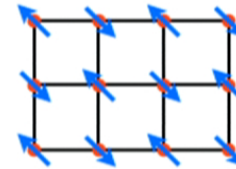
Insulators: filled bands

(without interactions)

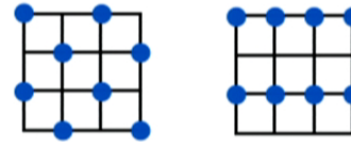
Add Interactions: Symmetry Breaking

magnets

ferro-
antiferro-



charge density waves



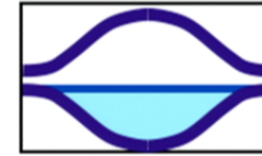
superfluids



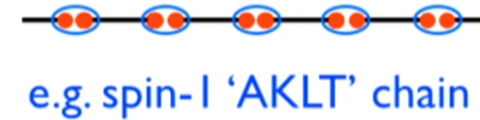
Can there be distinct phases, even w/o symmetry breaking?

Featureless Phases with No Symmetry Breaking

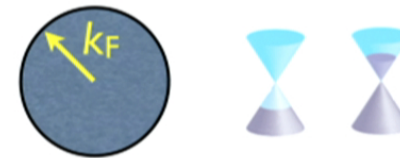
band insulators (incl. topological)



'quantum paramagnets'



metals, semimetals

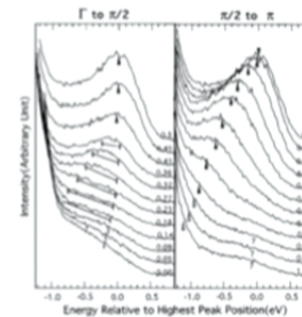


if gapped, unique g.s.; if gapless, no fractionalization

Fractionalized Phases with No Symmetry Breaking

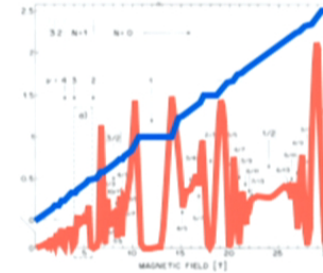
Spin-charge separation in 1D

'Luttinger liquid': $v_{\text{spin}} \neq v_{\text{charge}}$



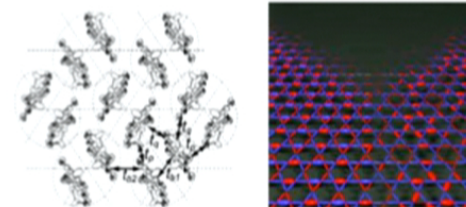
Fractional quantum Hall effect

fractionalized charge and statistics



Gapped/gapless Quantum Spin Liquids

gapped spinons/thermal metal, charge insulator



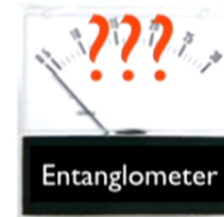
if gapped, degenerate g.s.; all cases, fractional quantum numbers

Detecting Fractionalization

Fractionalized phases encode physics in entanglement

[Gapped case: Kitaev & Preskill '06; Levin & Wen '06]

Hard to measure!

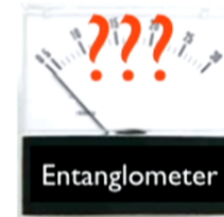


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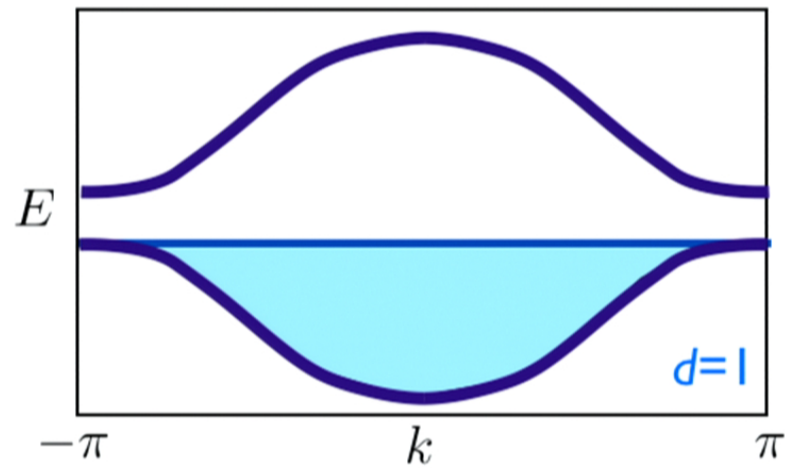
Suppose we check all symmetries, and they're unbroken.



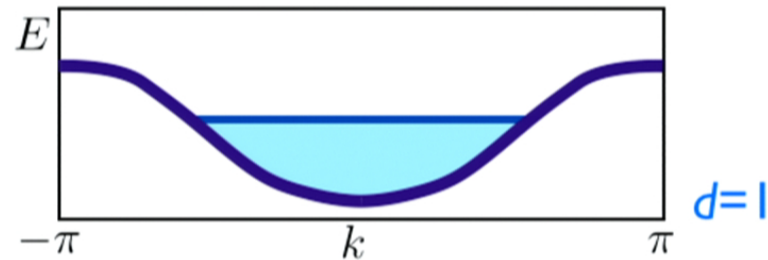
When is the system in an interesting phase?

Example #1: Band Insulators

- Gapped
- Breaks no symmetries
- Unique ground state (periodic system)



Example #2: half-filling + Hubbard U



$U \gg t$: Heisenberg AF



$$H \approx \frac{t^2}{U} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} S_i \cdot S_j$$

Spin-1/2 Heisenberg chain is gapless

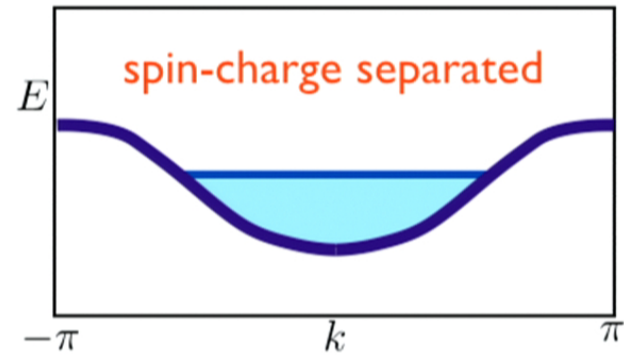
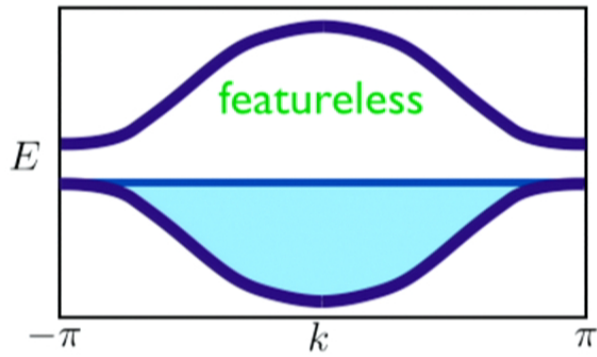
[Lieb, Schulz, Mattis '61]

Charge insulator, spin metal: spin-charge separation!

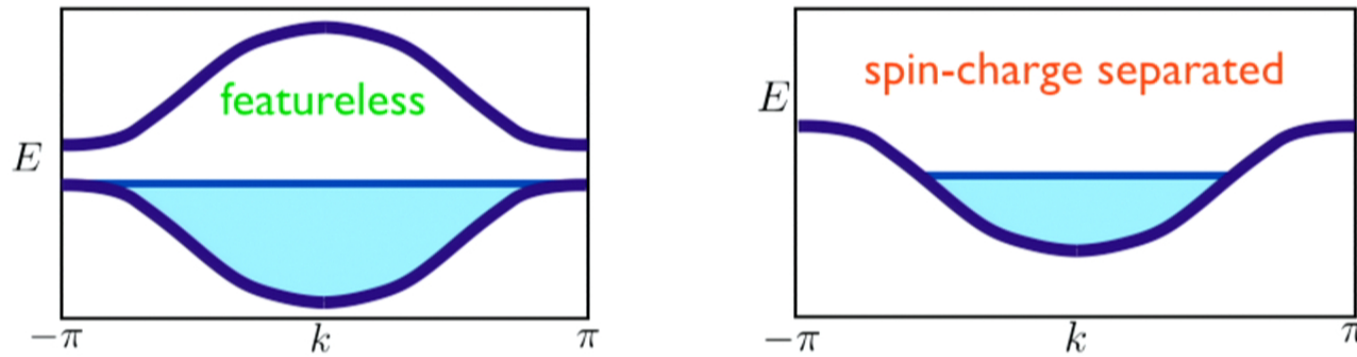
(actually, charge gap for all $U \neq 0$)

[Lieb & Wu '68]

Why are they different?



Why are they different?



different filling

Integer filling:

adiabatic connection to band insulator
(even if particular case needs interactions)

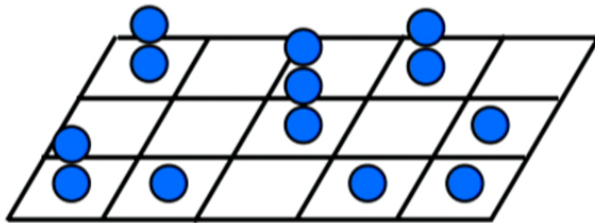
Fractional filling:

no adiabatic continuity to band insulator
(unless a symmetry is broken and redefines unit cell)

Can 'no adiabatic continuity to band insulator' be made precise?

Minimal requirements:

crystal structure



conserved global U(1) charge

$$\sum \#(\bullet) = N$$

Need both to define *filling*:

$$\nu = \frac{\text{total charge}}{\text{number of unit cells}}$$

Hastings-Oshikawa-Lieb-Schultz-Mattis 'Theorem'

At fractional filling,
unique, gapped, translationally invariant* insulating ground state
is impossible

*shorthand: 'featureless'

Hastings-Oshikawa-Lieb-Schultz-Mattis 'Theorem'

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What are alternatives?

remain metallic (charge travels freely)

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ground state degeneracy = 'topological order'

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insulate, remain gapless (e.g. spin-charge separation)

ground state degeneracy = 'topological order'

Strict definition of 'no adiabatic continuity'; involves fractionalization.

*shorthand: 'featureless'

At fractional unit cell filling:

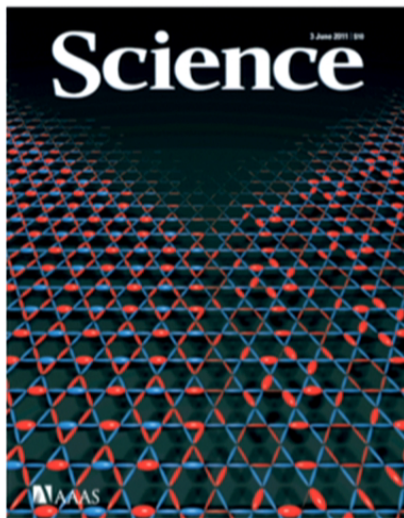
Gap + No Symmetry Breaking \Rightarrow fractionalization

Strongly constrains possible phases

At fractional unit cell filling:

Gap + No Symmetry Breaking \Rightarrow fractionalization

Strongly constrains possible phases



e.g. Kagome Lattice Heisenberg Model

DMRG: gap + no symmetry breaking

half-integer filling \Rightarrow not featureless

g.s. = Z_2 quantum spin liquid

[Yan, Huse, White, *Science* '11]

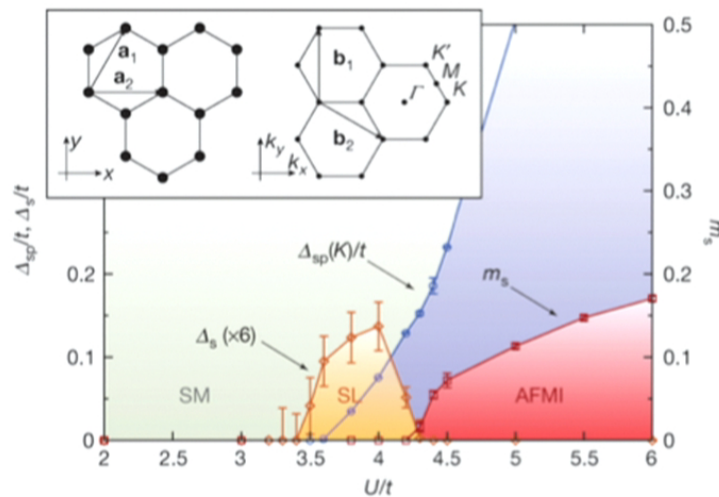
[smoking gun: entanglement entropy: Jiang, Wang, Balents, *Nat. Phys.* '12]

At integer unit cell filling:

Gap + No Symmetry Breaking \Rightarrow ???

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e.g. Honeycomb Hubbard Model

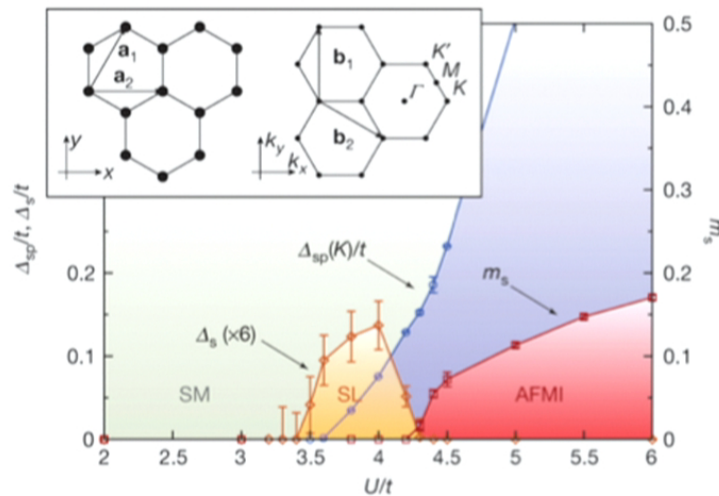
[Meng, et al., *Nature* '10]

QMC: gap + no symmetry breaking
integer unit cell filling

fractionalized spin liquid?

At integer unit cell filling:

Gap + No Symmetry Breaking \Rightarrow ???



e.g. Honeycomb Hubbard Model

[Meng, et al., *Nature* '10]

QMC: gap + no symmetry breaking
integer unit cell filling

fractionalized spin liquid?

Not necessarily!

e.g. can construct 'featureless' $SU(2)$ -symmetric fermion insulator
with no fractionalization

[I. Kimchi, S.P., et al. *PNAS* 110, 16378 (2013)]

Fractional filling: no 'featureless' phase allowed

This Talk

When is a featureless phase forbidden at integer filling?

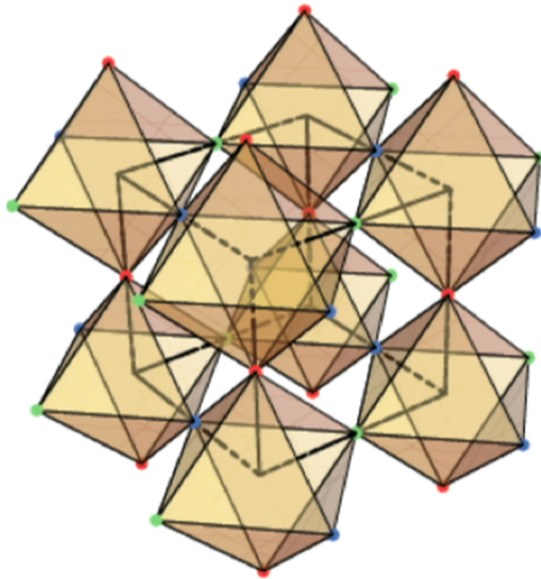
Related band theory problem

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given exactly one spinless fermion per unit cell

+ a specified crystal

+ freedom to



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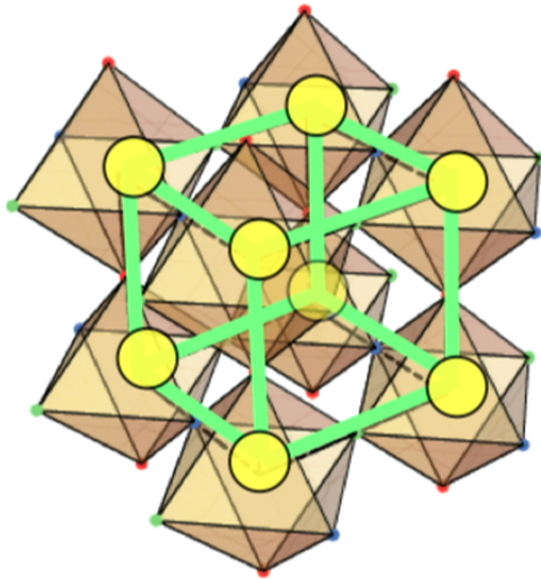
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+ freedom to

- add sites*

- change hopping



*Freedom to add sites removes 'tight binding' constraints

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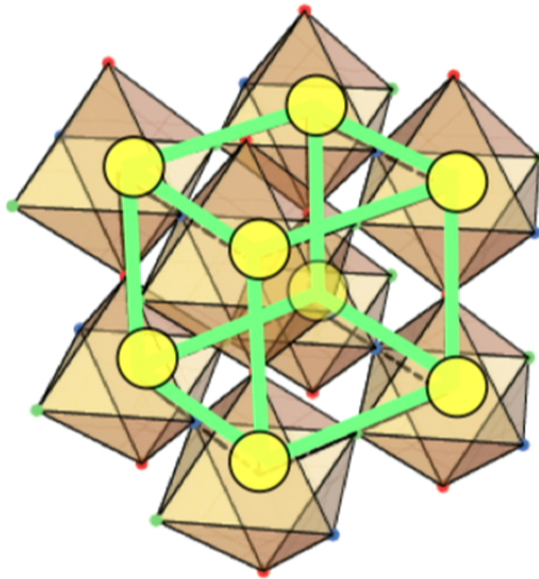
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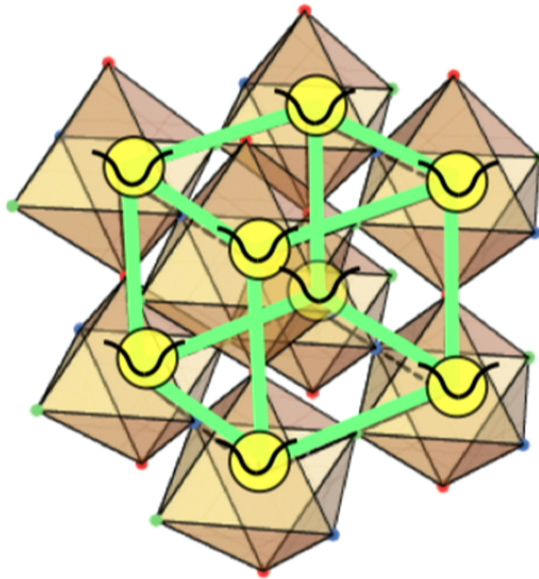
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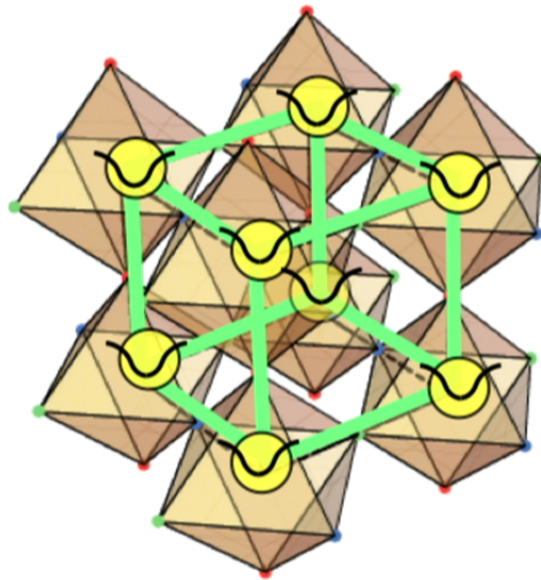
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Can we always find a band insulator?

*Freedom to add sites removes 'tight binding' constraints

Flux Insertion

Flux Insertion: 'Laughlin' Arguments

Idea: prove non-uniqueness of g.s. by constructing degenerate state

Flux Insertion: 'Laughlin' Arguments

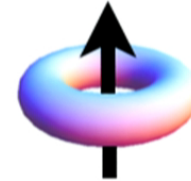
Idea: prove non-uniqueness of g.s. by constructing degenerate state

How to get another state?

Conserved charge \Rightarrow 'magnetic' flux

Thread 2π flux (=1 'flux quantum')

Usually: $\Delta E = E(2\pi) - E(0) \neq 0$; insulator: $\Delta E \rightarrow 0$ as $L \rightarrow \infty$



Flux Insertion: 'Laughlin' Arguments

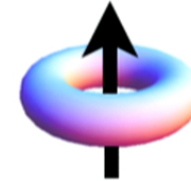
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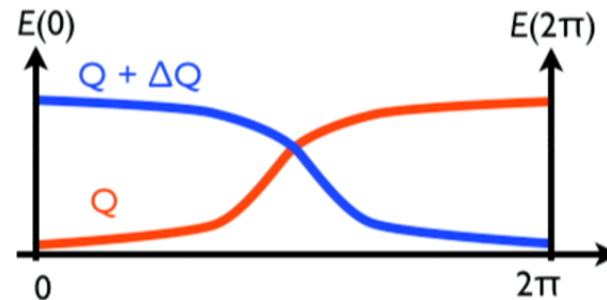
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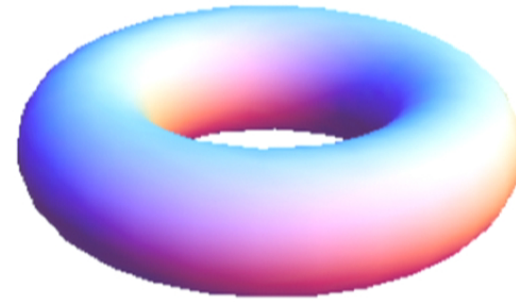
Obtain degenerate state; is it really distinct?

Look for a quantum number 'Q' that changed in the cycle



Poor man's 'Proof' of LSMHO

System on torus, in ground state



[Oshikawa, PRL '04]

['Rigorized' by Hastings, PRB
'05, Europhys B '07]

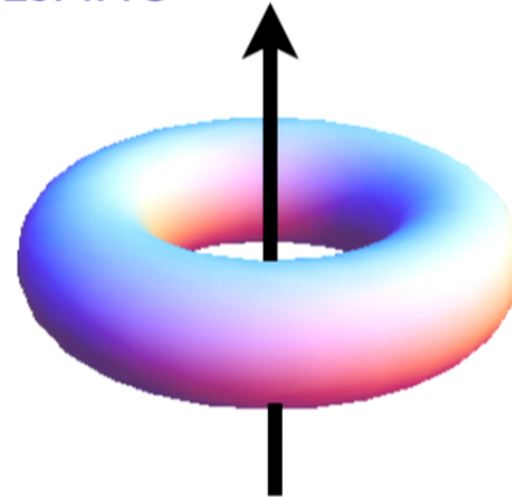
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(insulator: energy unchanged)

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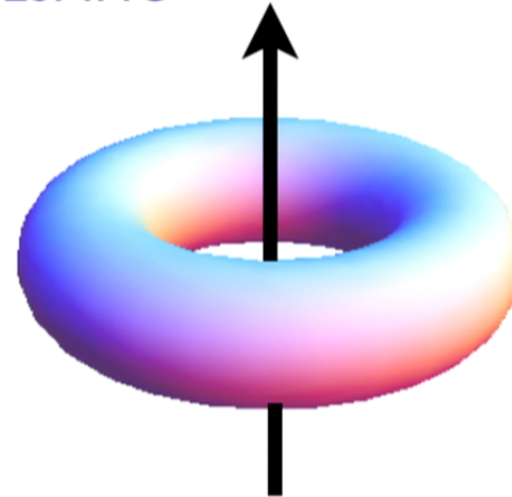
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Faraday's law

$\Rightarrow \Phi(t)$ induces E -field

\Rightarrow force on charges



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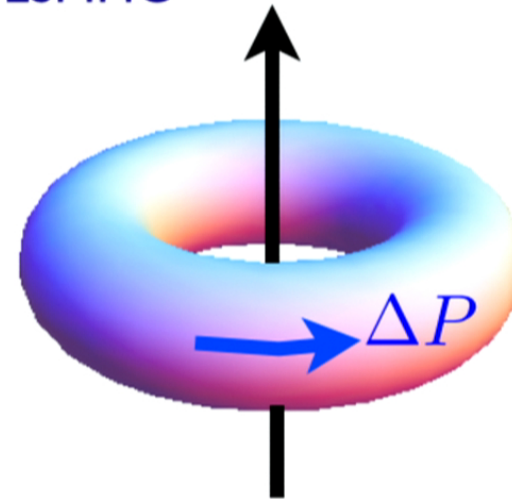
$$|\Psi_0\rangle \rightarrow |\tilde{\Psi}_0\rangle \quad \text{degenerate; is it different?}$$

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$$\Rightarrow \Delta P = 2\pi N_y \nu$$



[Oshikawa, PRL '04]

['Rigorized' by Hastings, PRB '05, Europhys B '07]

$$\vec{F} = \sum_i \frac{1}{L_x} \frac{d\Phi_i}{dt}$$
$$\Delta \vec{P} = \int_0^t dt \vec{F} = \frac{N_e \cdot 2\pi}{L_x} = v L_x L_y \cdot 2\pi$$
$$= 2\pi v L_y$$

Poor man's 'Proof' of LSMHO

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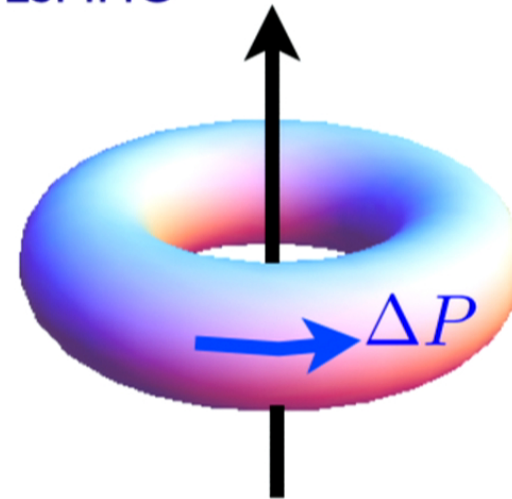
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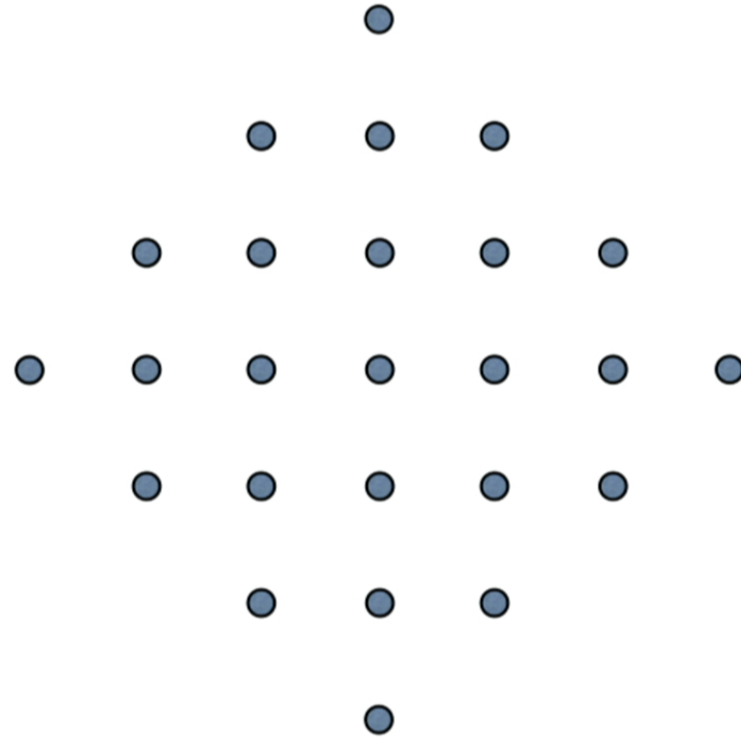
$$\Delta P \neq 2\pi n \Rightarrow \text{crystal momentum changed, } \langle \Psi_0 | \tilde{\Psi}_0 \rangle = 0$$

g.s. can't be unique at fractional ν !

Flux threading: reciprocal lattice picture

$$|\Psi_0\rangle \longrightarrow |\tilde{\Psi}_0\rangle$$

$$\Delta P = 2\pi N_y \nu$$



[Paramekanti, Vishwanath, PRB '05]

N_y odd

Flux threading: reciprocal lattice picture

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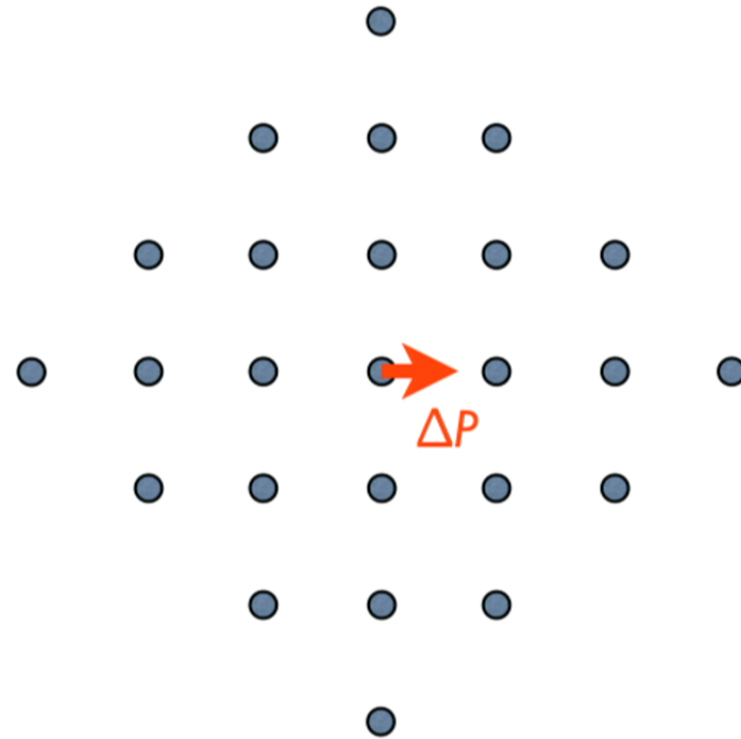
$$\nu = 1/2$$

$$|\Psi_0\rangle, |\tilde{\Psi}_0\rangle$$

distinguishable

[Paramekanti, Vishwanath, PRB '05]

N_y odd



Flux threading: reciprocal lattice picture

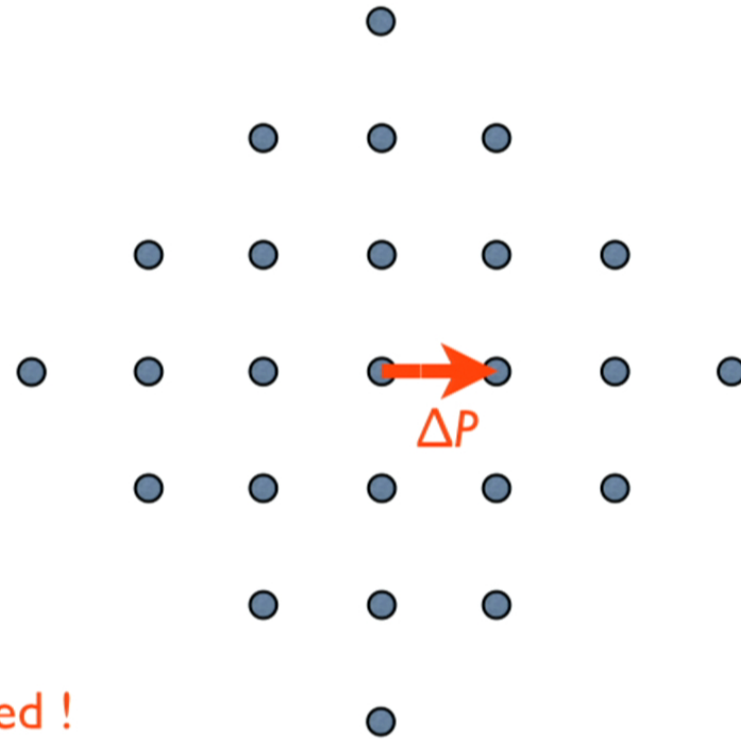
$$|\Psi_0\rangle \longrightarrow |\tilde{\Psi}_0\rangle$$

$$\Delta P = 2\pi N_y \nu$$

$$\nu = 1$$

ΔP at Bragg peak

$|\Psi_0\rangle, |\tilde{\Psi}_0\rangle$ can't be distinguished !



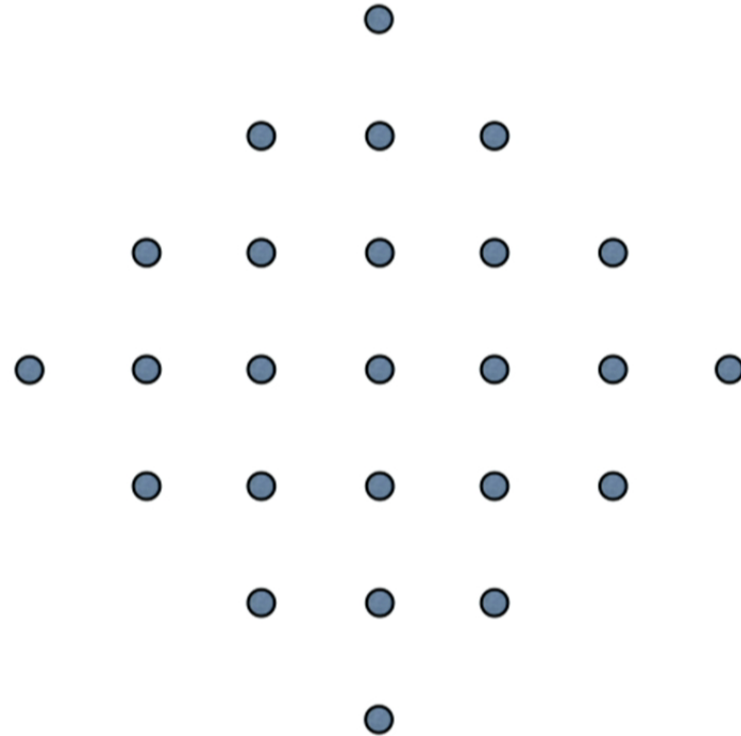
[Paramekanti, Vishwanath, PRB '05]

N_y odd

Flux threading: reciprocal lattice picture

$$|\Psi_0\rangle \longrightarrow |\tilde{\Psi}_0\rangle$$
$$e^{iP} \longrightarrow e^{i(P+\Delta P)}$$

$$\Delta P = 2\pi N_y \nu$$



[Paramekanti, Vishwanath, PRB '05]

N_y odd

Flux threading: reciprocal lattice picture

Clue: Bragg extinctions

$$|\Psi_0\rangle \longrightarrow |\tilde{\Psi}_0\rangle$$

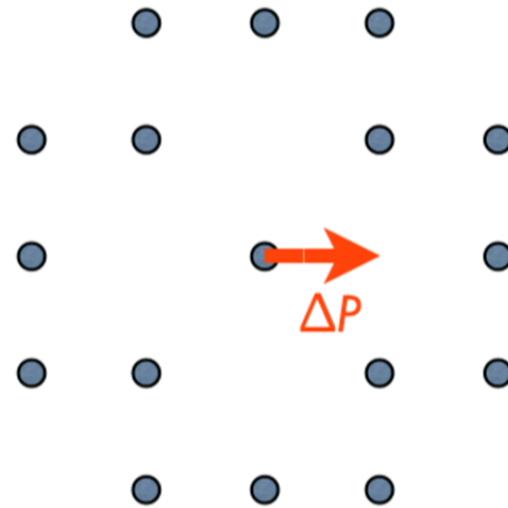
$$e^{iP} \longrightarrow e^{i(P+\Delta P)}$$

$$\Delta P = 2\pi N_y \nu$$

$$\nu = 1$$

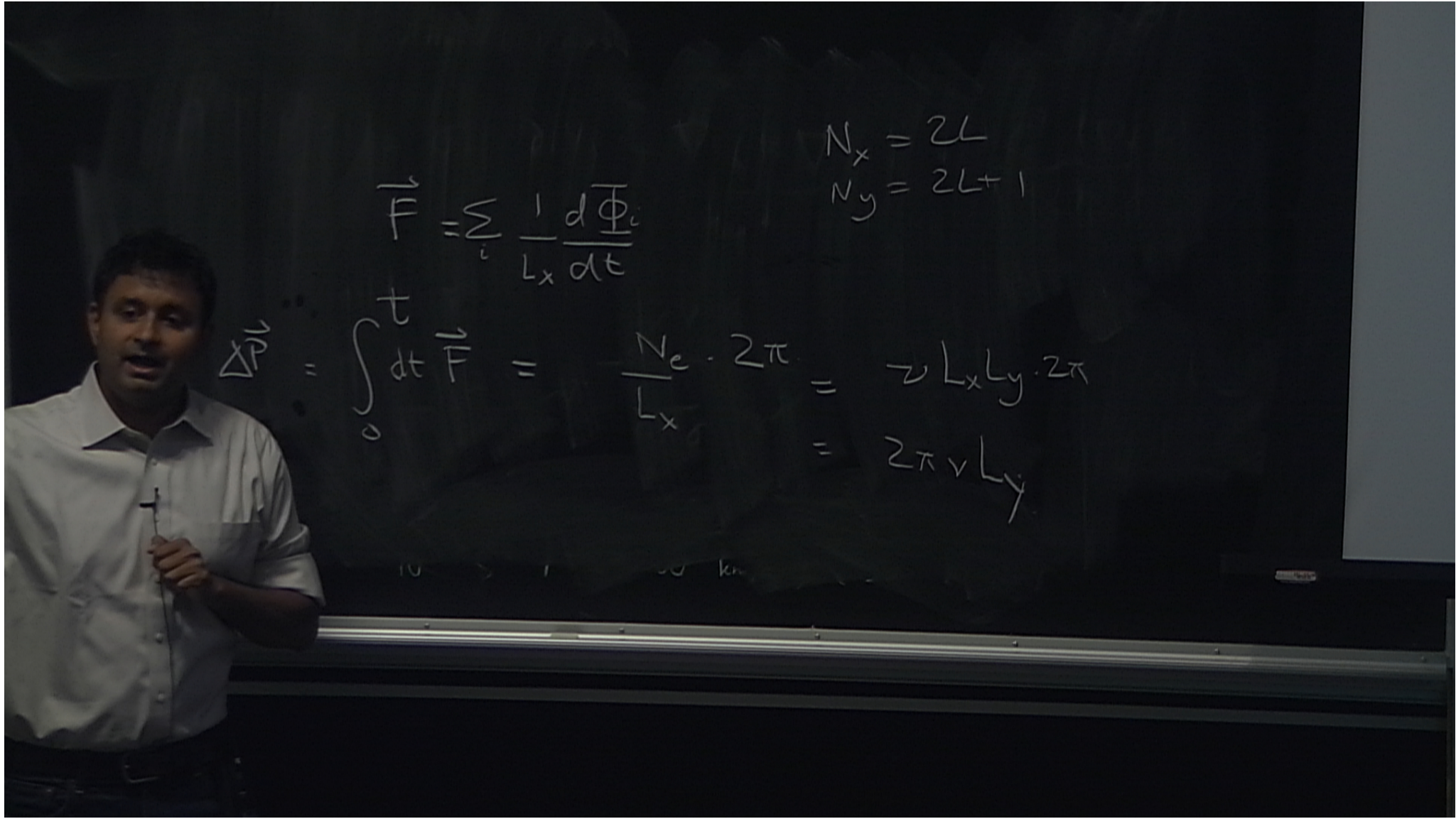
ΔP at ~~Bragg peak~~

$|\Psi_0\rangle, |\tilde{\Psi}_0\rangle$ distinguishable



[S.P., et. al., Nat. Phys. 9, 299]

N_y odd



$$N_x = 2L$$
$$N_y = 2L + 1$$

$$\vec{F} = \sum_i \frac{1}{L_x} \frac{d\vec{\Phi}_i}{dt}$$

$$\Delta \vec{P} = \int_0^t dt \vec{F} = \frac{N_e}{L_x} \cdot 2\pi = v L_x L_y \cdot 2\pi$$
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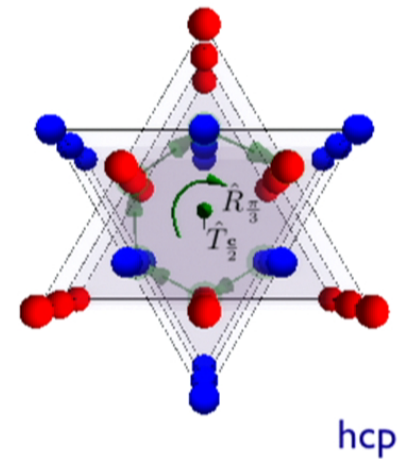
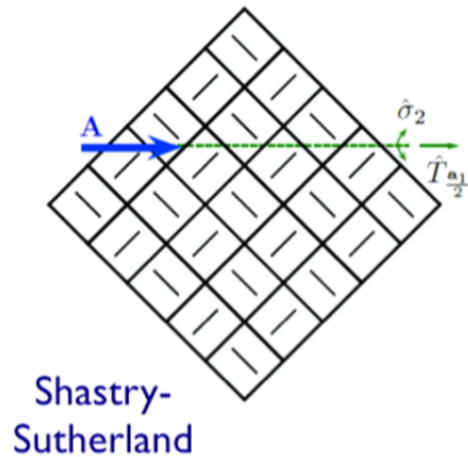
From Extinctions to Crystallography

Crystals with missing peaks: **non-symmorphic**

loosely: 'glide mirrors' and/or 'screw rotations'

(reflection/rotation \times transl. by fraction of lattice vector)

special symmetry produces
destructive interference,
'kills' Bragg peaks



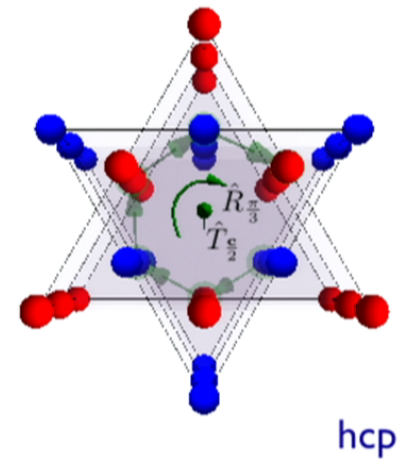
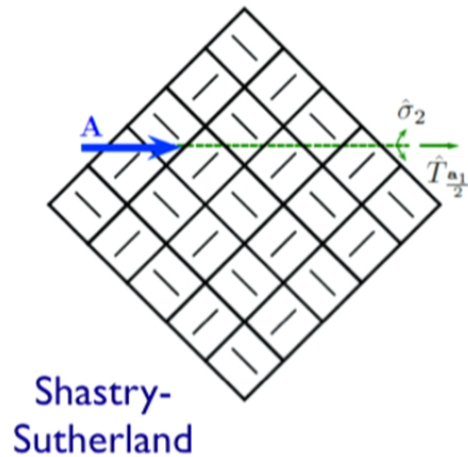
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Crystallography in 60 seconds



Fyodorov, Schönflies, Barlow



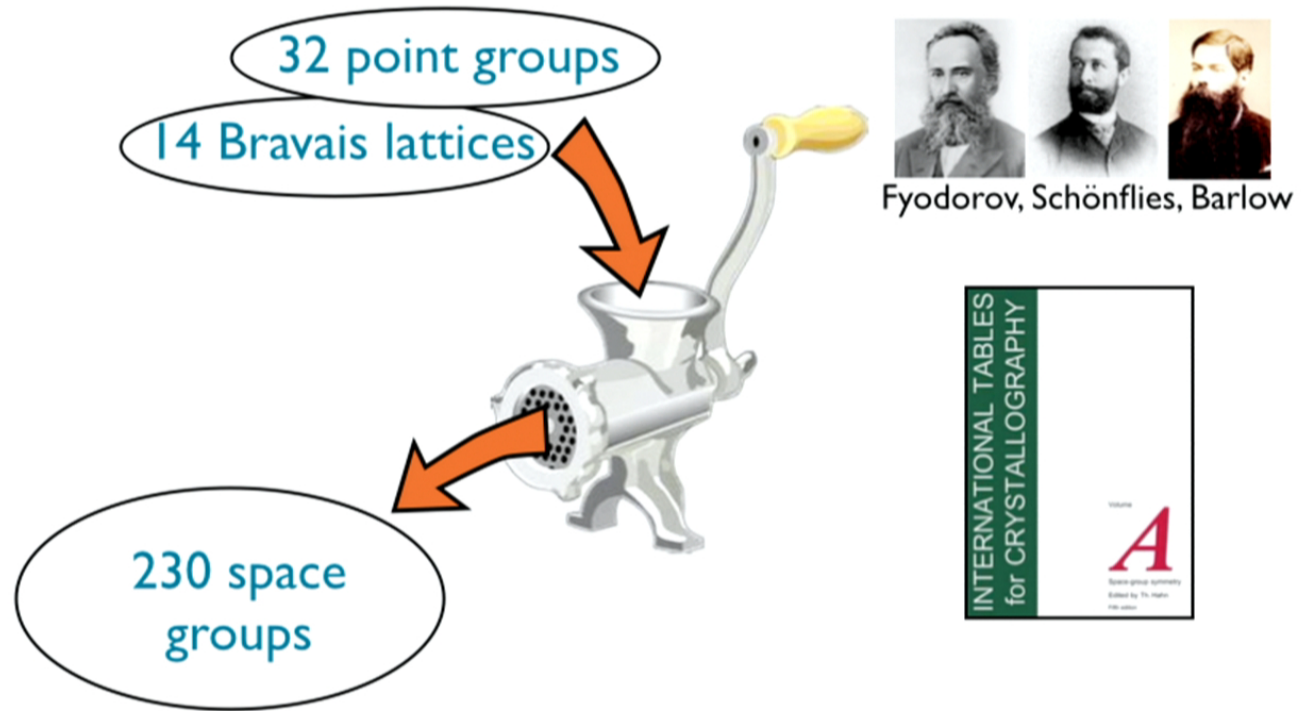
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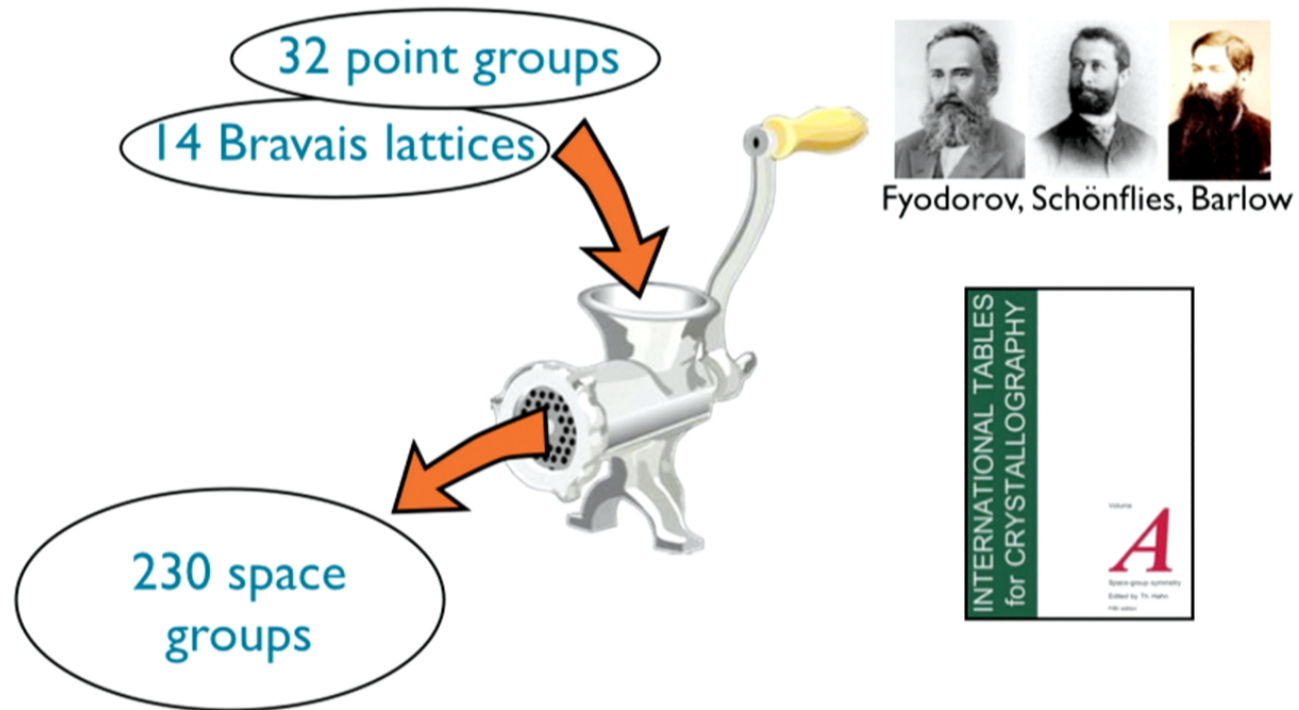
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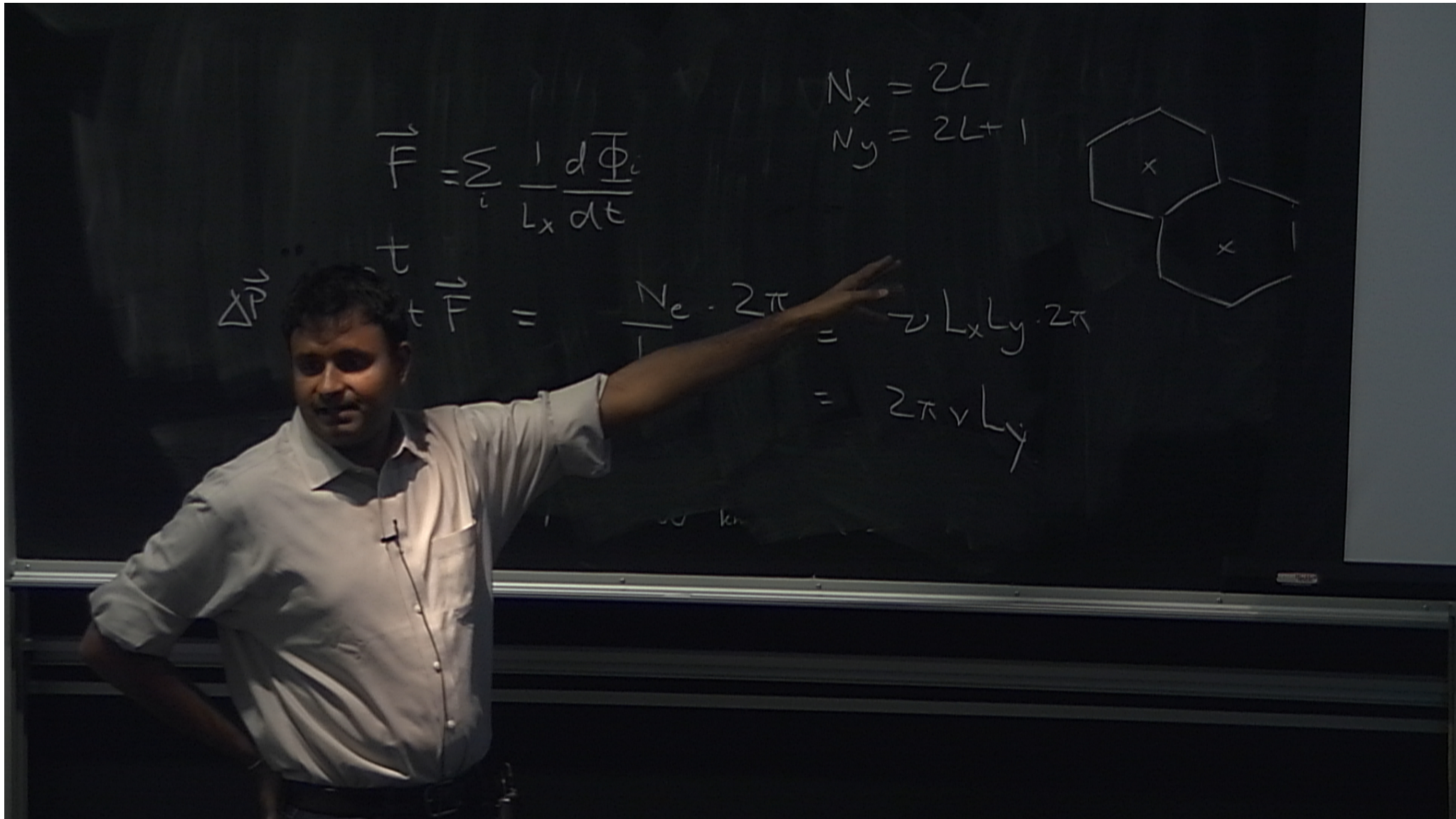
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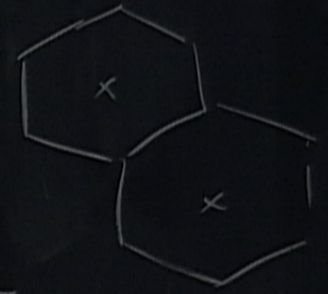


if there is a point with full PG symmetry: symmorphic 73
if not: non-symmorphic 157



$$\vec{F} = \sum_i \frac{1}{L_x} \frac{d\vec{\Phi}_i}{dt}$$

$$N_x = 2L$$
$$N_y = 2L + 1$$

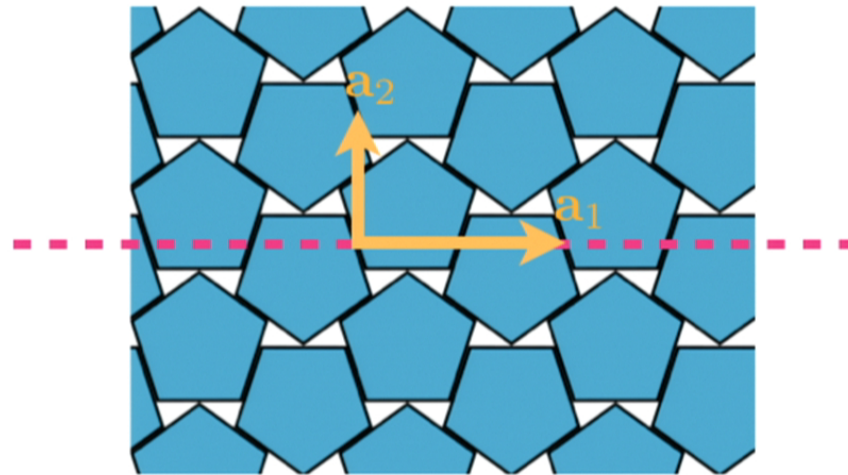


$$\Delta P \quad \vec{F} = \frac{Ne}{L} \cdot 2\pi = v L_x L_y \cdot 2\pi$$
$$= 2\pi v L_y$$

Nonsymmorphic Symmetries

Point-group operations accompanied by non-lattice translations

2D: glide mirrors

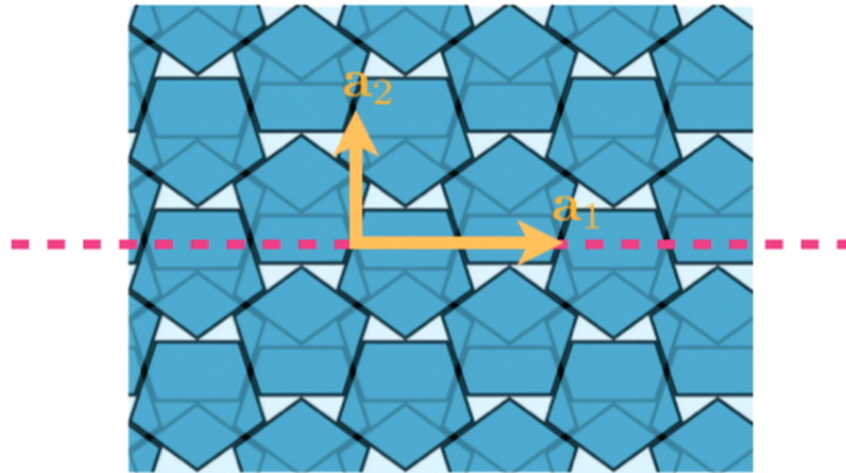


same space group 'p4g' as
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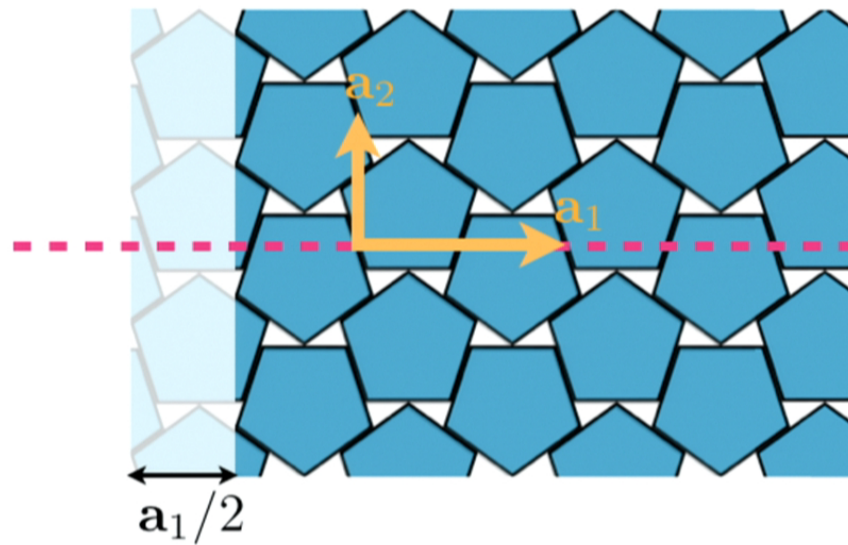


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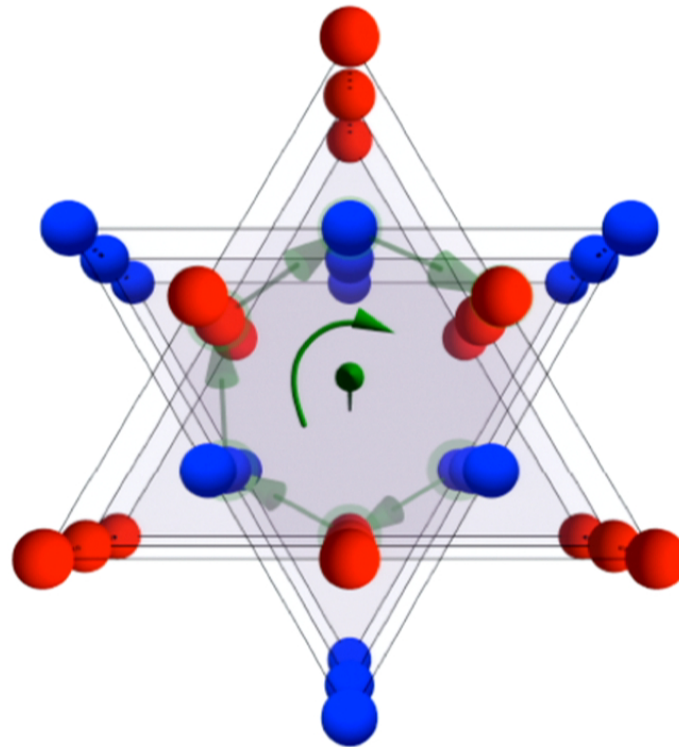


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Nonsymmorphic Symmetries

Point-group operations accompanied by non-lattice translations

3D: also screw rotations



hcp or 'p6/mmc'

'Nonsymmorphic Rank'

Run argument for various flux insertions/symmetries

Find smallest S so that **if v multiple of S , unique g.s. allowed**

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$S =$ minimum filling where featureless insulator is allowed!

Related band theory problem

given exactly one spinless fermion per unit cell

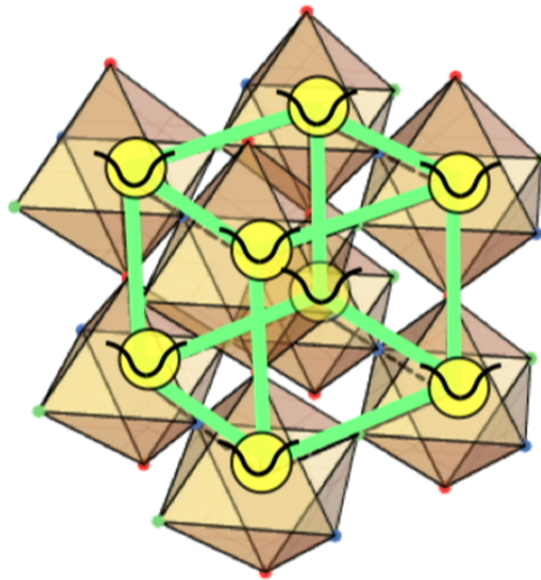
+ a specified crystal

+ freedom to

- add sites*

- change hopping

- tune onsite terms



Can we always find a band insulator?

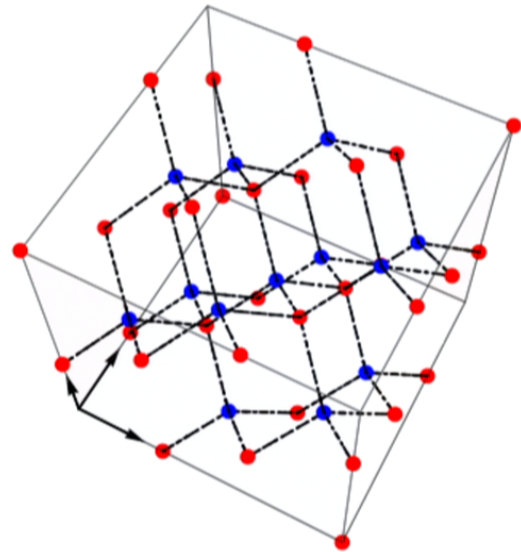
*Freedom to add sites removes 'tight binding' constraints

No!

[[S.P., et. al., Nat. Phys. 9, 299](#)]

No!

one (spinless) fermion per unit cell
not always sufficient



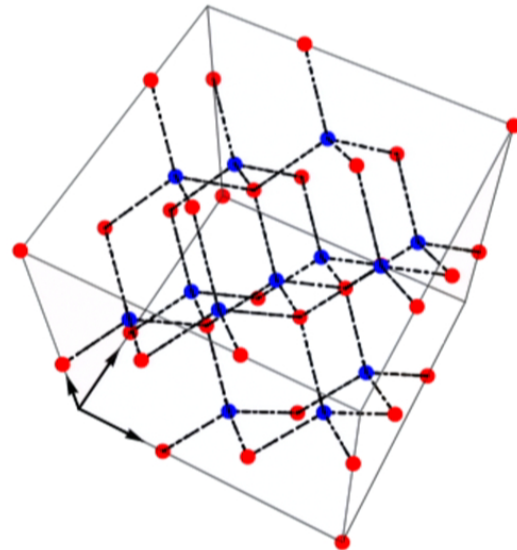
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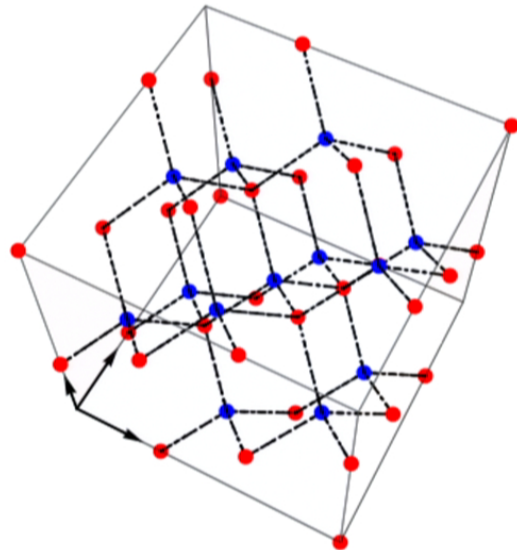
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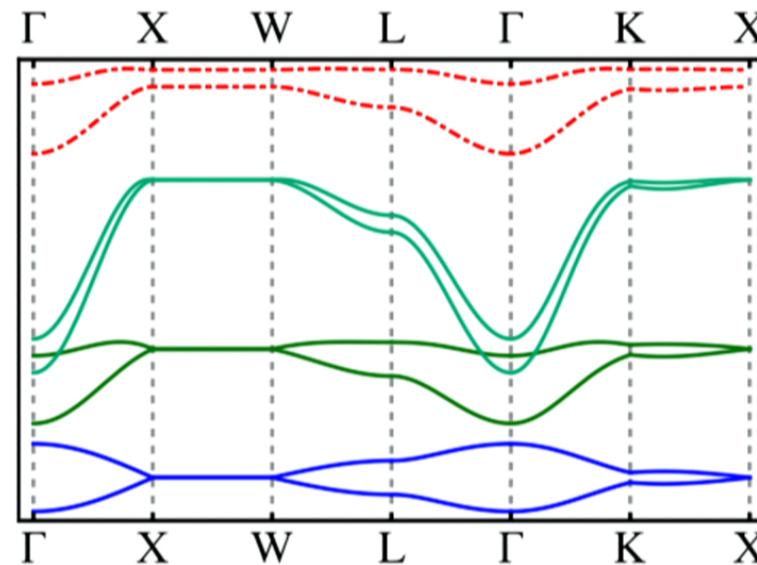
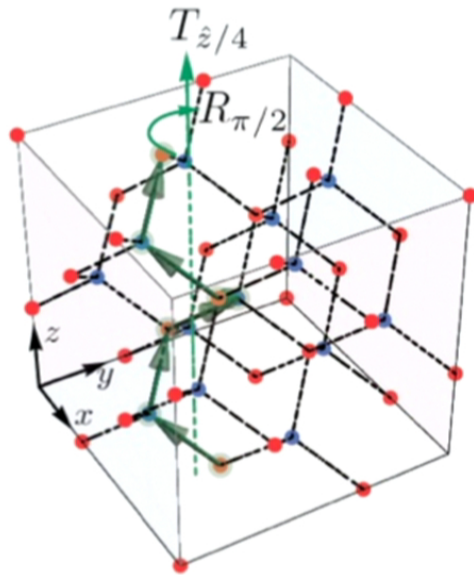
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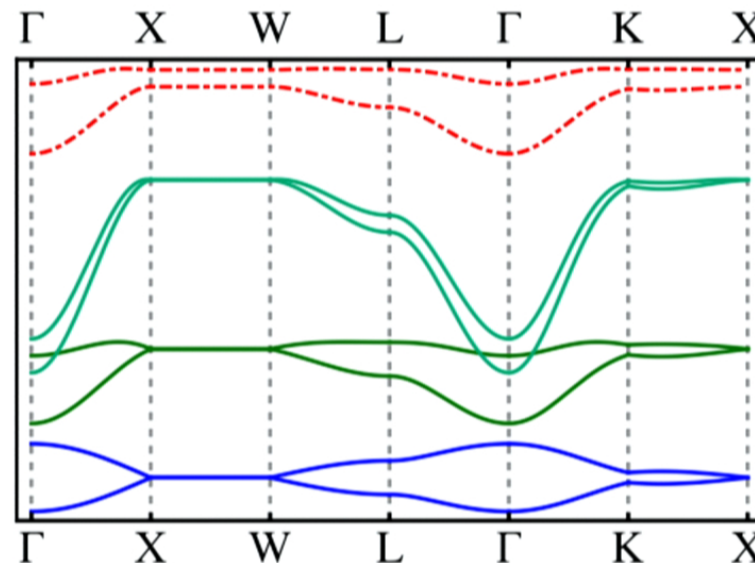
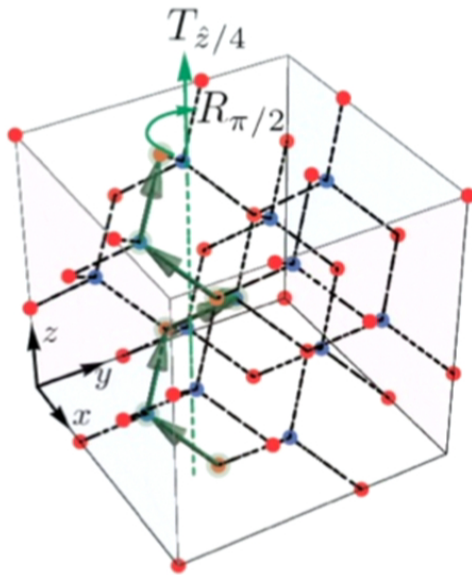
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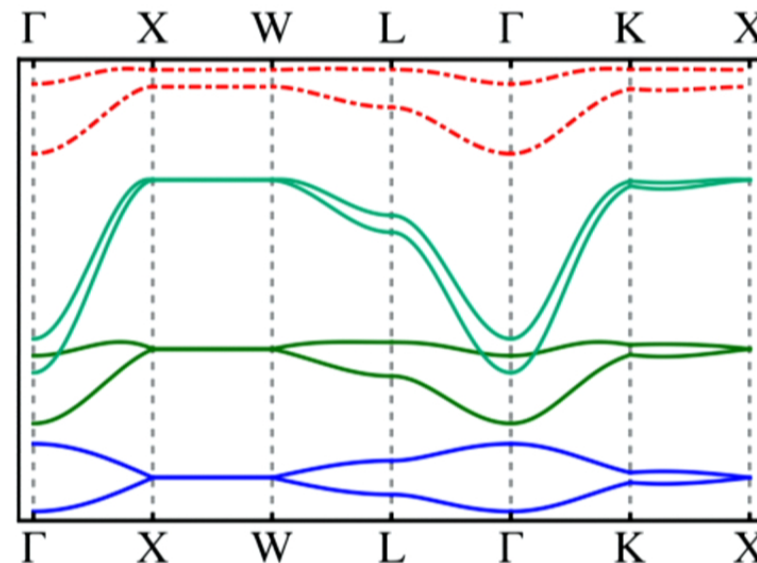
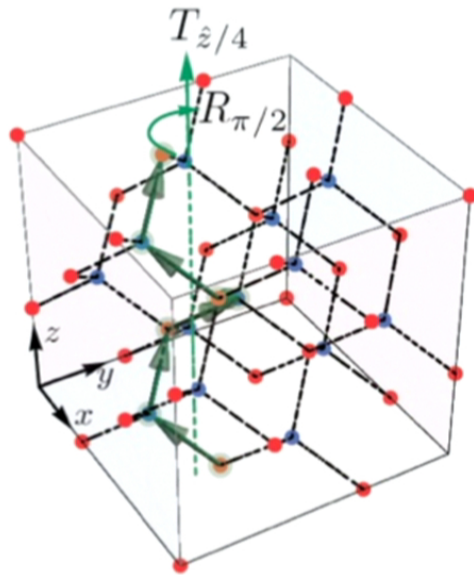
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All our argument required was a conserved $U(1)$ charge



99]

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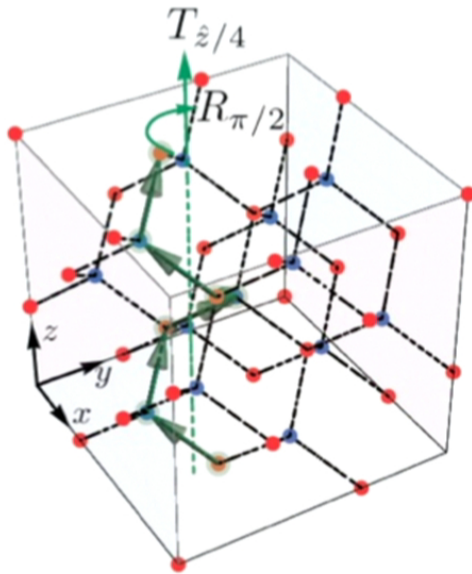
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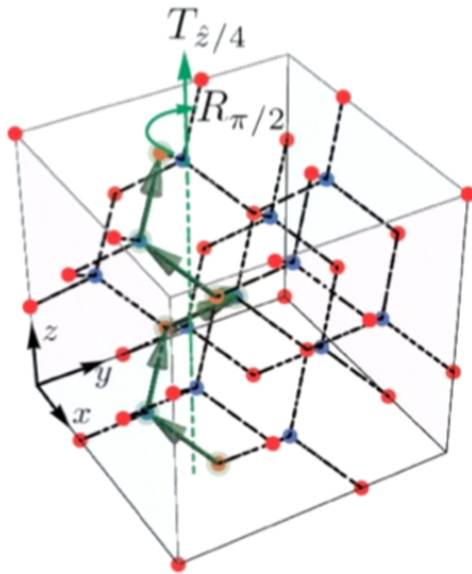
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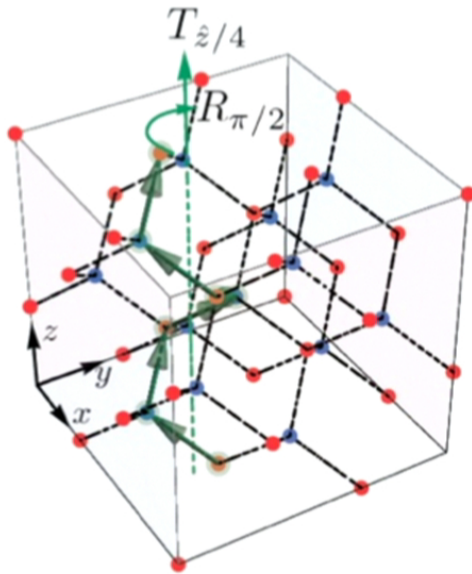


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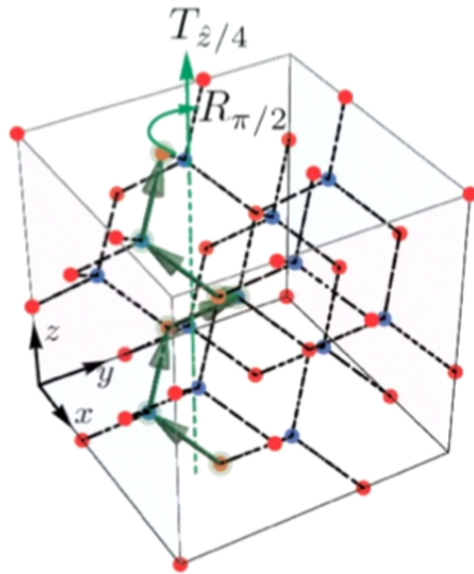
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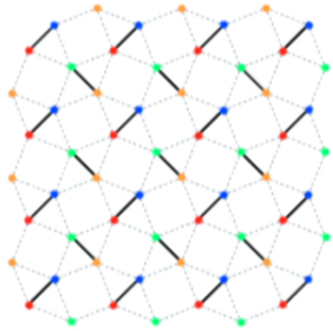


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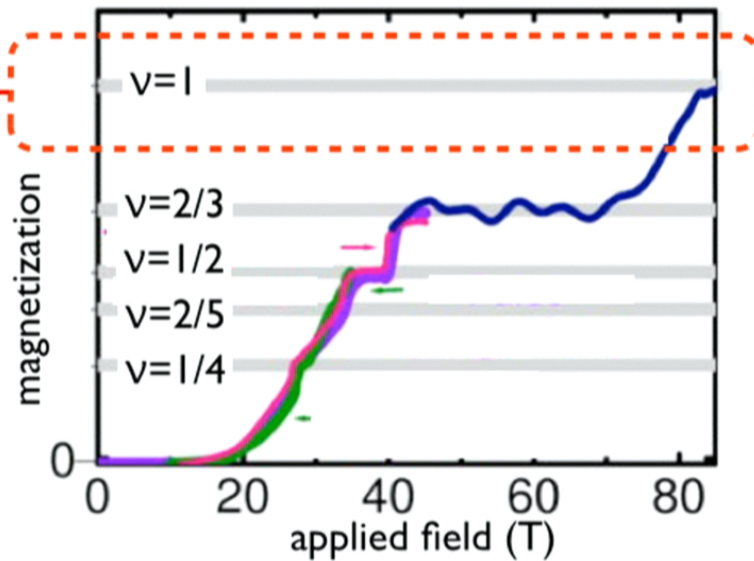
#3: Magnetization Plateaus



$\text{SrCu}(\text{BO}_3)_2$
(Shastry-Sutherland)

$$\text{'filling' } \nu = 2 \times \frac{\text{Magnetization}}{\text{Sat. Magnetization}}$$

$\nu=1$
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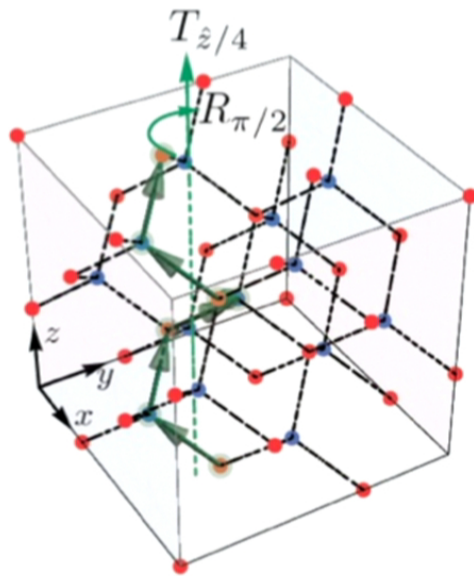
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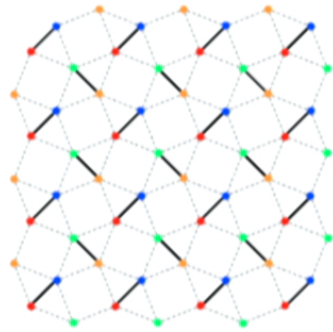


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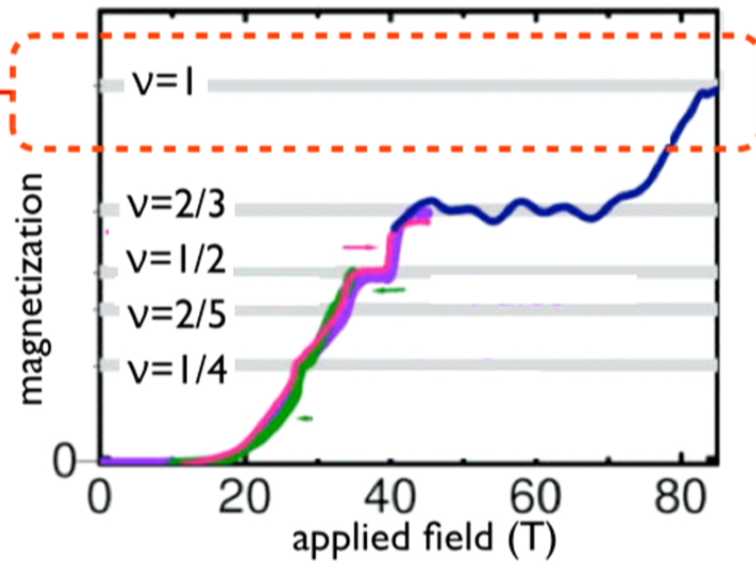
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Viewed from perspective of real space, preserving symmetry
rests on where to place 'center of charge'

(work with bosons for simplicity)

On non-symmorphic lattice, such choice always breaks symmetry

On symmorphic lattice, such a choice is always possible

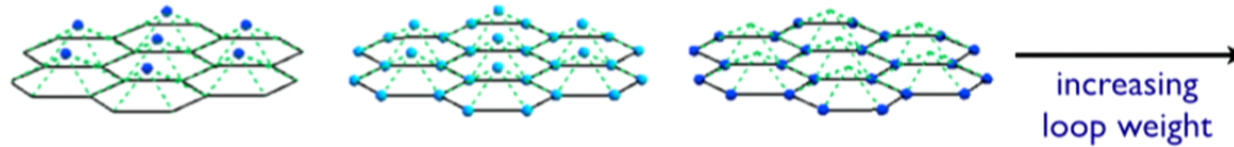
but

particular tight-binding lattice may not have 'site' at symmetry center

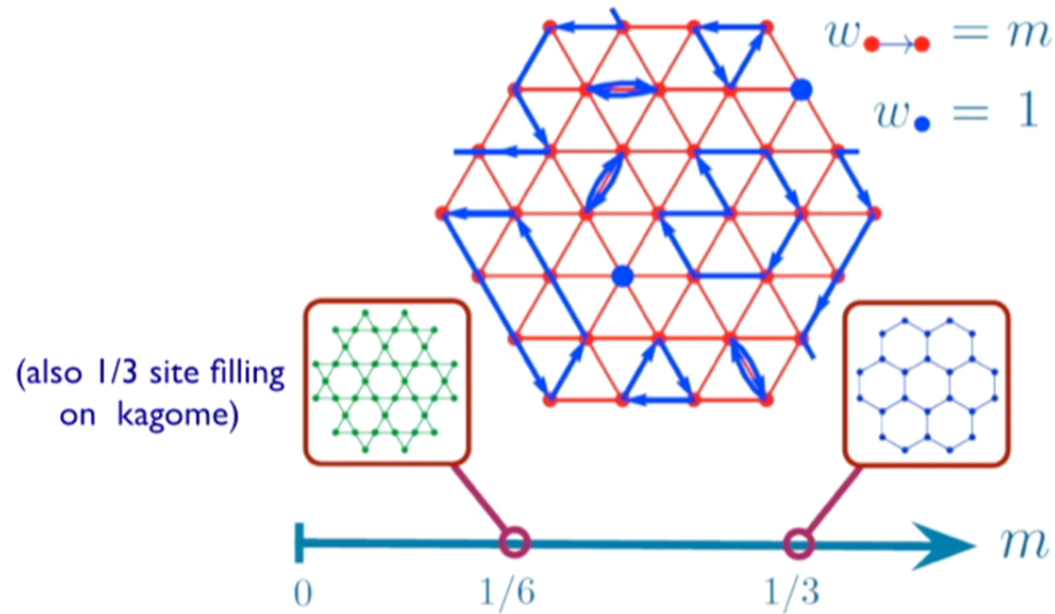
On such lattices, we can construct 'quantum' Bose insulators

Honeycomb Lattice Example

Symmorphic: 1 boson per unit cell (half-site-filling)



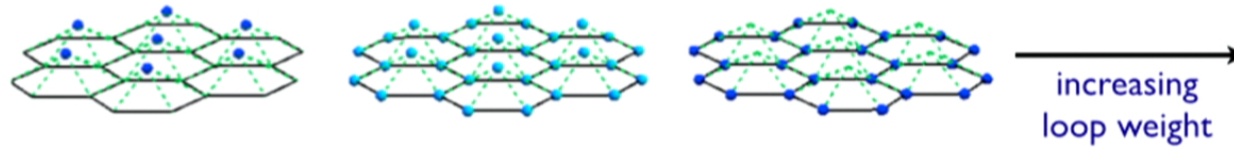
triangular lattice loop model



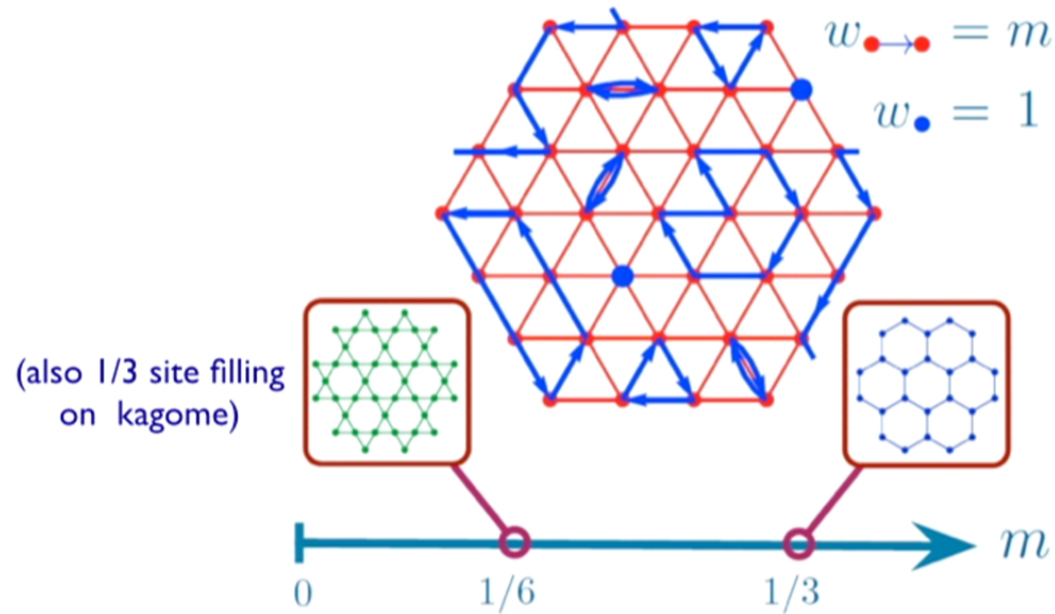
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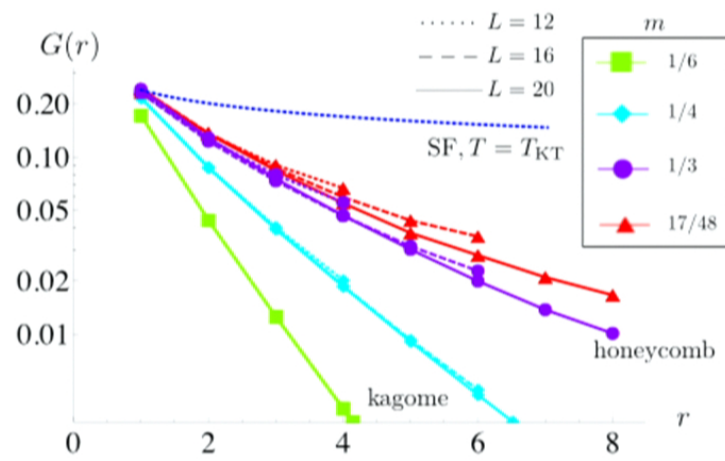
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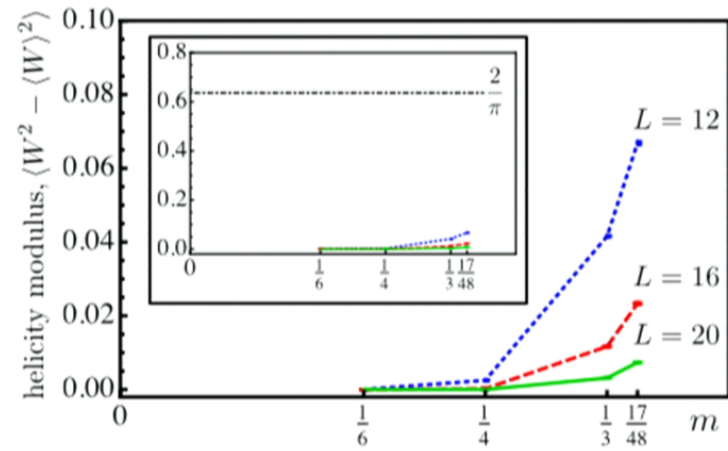
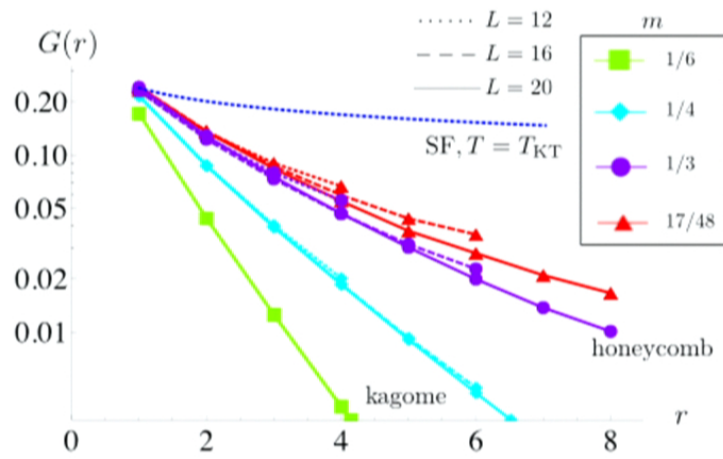
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Monte Carlo Results from Loop model



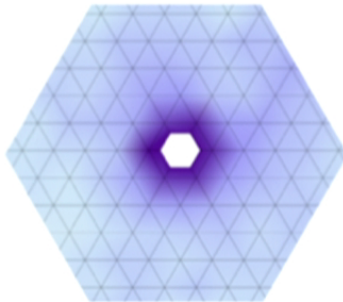
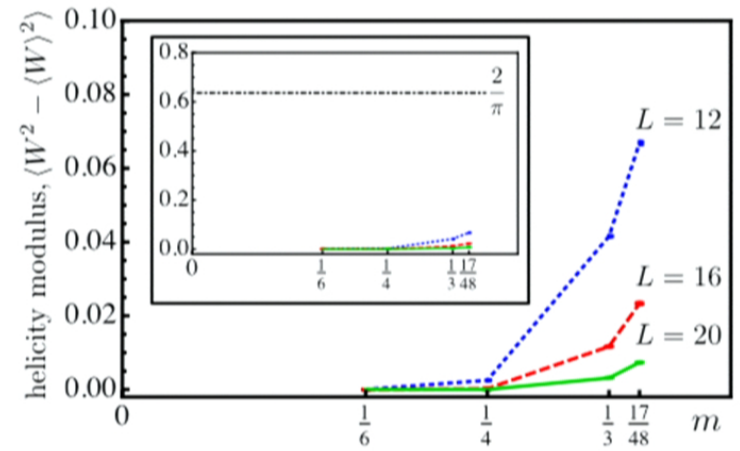
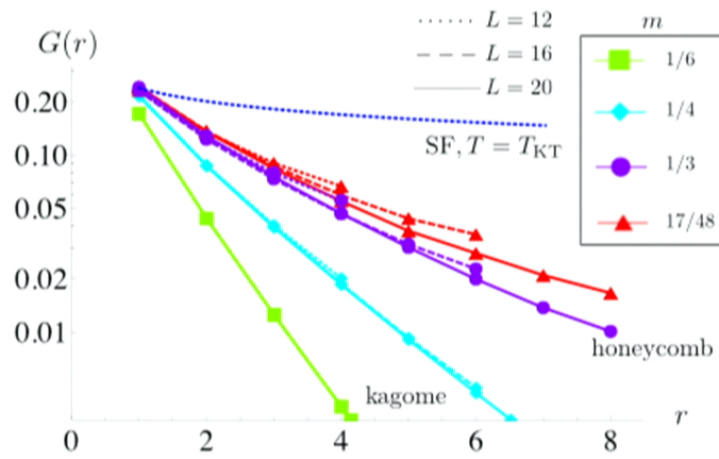
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Exponential decaying boson correlations (no SF)

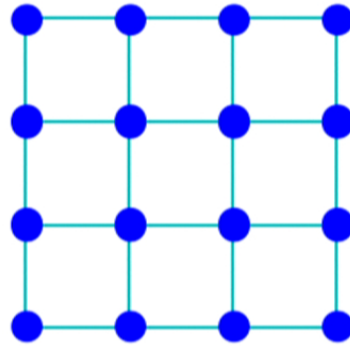
No discrete symmetry breaking

'Many-Body Polarization' Arguments (Briefly)

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How do we build an insulator?

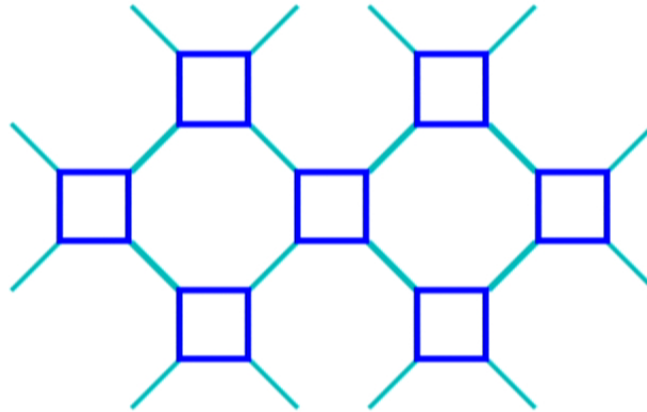
1 particle per unit cell



classical particles,
fixed number/site

How do we build an insulator?

1 particle per unit cell

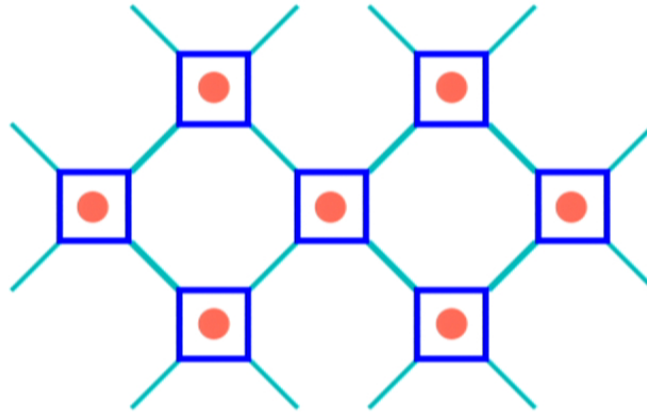


'molecular orbitals'

Can be formalized in terms of polarization

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'molecular orbitals'

Intuition: 'center of charge' at high-symmetry point

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Polarization Approach

PHYSICAL REVIEW

VOLUME 133, NUMBER 1A

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WALTER KOHN

University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, California

(Received 30 August 1963)

In this paper a new and more comprehensive characterization of the insulating state of matter is developed. This characterization includes the conventional insulators with energy gap as well as systems discussed by Mott which, in band theory, would be metals. The essential property is this: Every low-lying wave function Φ of an insulating ring breaks up into a sum of functions, $\Phi = \sum_{M} \Phi_M$, which are localized in disconnected regions of the many-particle configuration space and have essentially vanishing overlap. This property is the analog of localization for a single particle and leads directly to the electrical properties characteristic of insulators. An Appendix deals with a soluble model exhibiting a transition between an insulating and a conducting state.

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Flux threading, sensitivity to b.c.s, and polarization: all related

Kohn; Resta & Sorella, Souza, Wilkens & Martin, Ortiz & Martin...

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Can interpret LSMHO in terms of polarization

Nakamura & Voit; Ortiz, Martin

$$\mathbb{P}_i = \frac{e}{2\pi L^2} \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \arg \langle \Psi_0 | e^{i \int d^3 r (\mathbf{b}_i \cdot \mathbf{r}) \hat{\rho}(\mathbf{r})} | \Psi_0 \rangle$$

Combining Polarization and Fourier Crystallography

Generalize: allowed BCs (pure gauge) live on reciprocal lattice

'twist operator':
$$\hat{U}_{\mathbf{k}} = e^{i \int d^3 r (\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}) \hat{\rho}(\mathbf{r})}$$
$$\mathbf{k} = m_1 \mathbf{b}_1 + m_2 \mathbf{b}_2 + m_3 \mathbf{b}_3$$

$$\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{k}} \propto \arg \langle \Psi_0 | \hat{U}_{\mathbf{k}} | \Psi_0 \rangle$$

Transformation of twist ops. under space group is
equivalent to 'Fourier space crystallography'

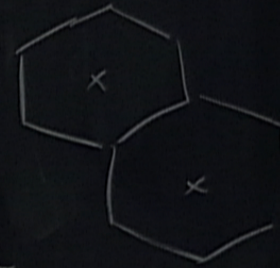
[S.P., et. al., *Nat. Phys.* 9, 299]

$$\textcircled{b_i} a_j = 2\pi \delta_{ij}$$

$$\vec{F} = \sum_i \frac{1}{L_x} \frac{d\vec{F}_i}{dt}$$

$$N_x = 2L$$

$$N_y = 2L + 1$$

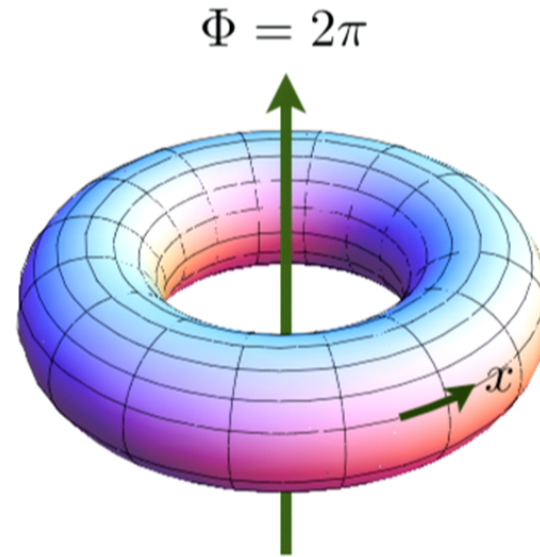


$$\frac{N_e}{L_x} \cdot 2\pi = -v L_x L_y \cdot 2\pi$$
$$2\pi v L_y$$

Flux threading (Fractional Filling)

I. Thread 2π flux through 'handle'

$$|\Psi_0\rangle \longrightarrow |\Psi\rangle$$



[Oshikawa, PRL 84, 1535 (2000)]

Flux threading (Fractional Filling)

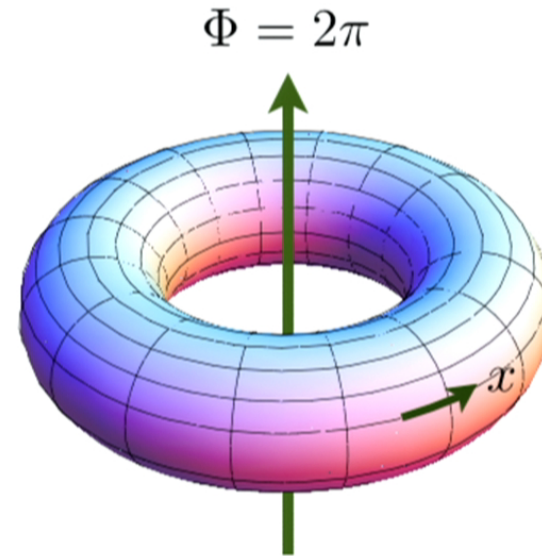
1. Thread 2π flux through 'handle'

$$|\Psi_0\rangle \xrightarrow{\text{spectrum returns to itself}} |\Psi'_0\rangle$$

2. Gauge away inserted flux

$$\hat{H}(0) = \hat{U} \hat{H}(2\pi) \hat{U}^{-1}$$

$$|\Psi'_0\rangle \xrightarrow{\quad}$$



[Oshikawa, PRL 84, 1535 (2000)]

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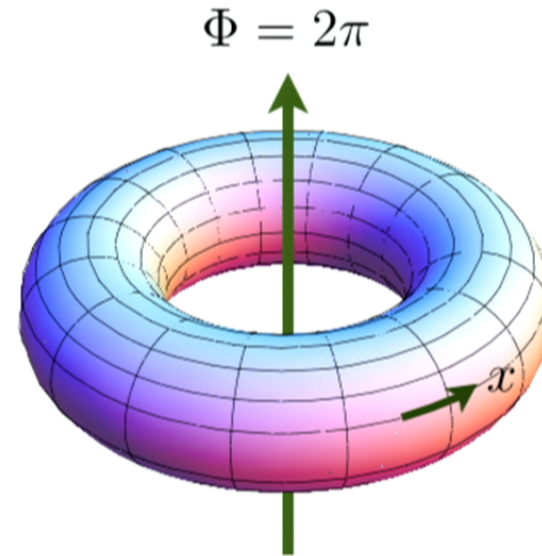
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$$\hat{H}(0) = \hat{U} \hat{H}(2\pi) \hat{U}^{-1}$$

$$|\Psi'_0\rangle \xrightarrow{\text{Energy very close* to } |\Psi_0\rangle} \hat{U} |\Psi'_0\rangle$$



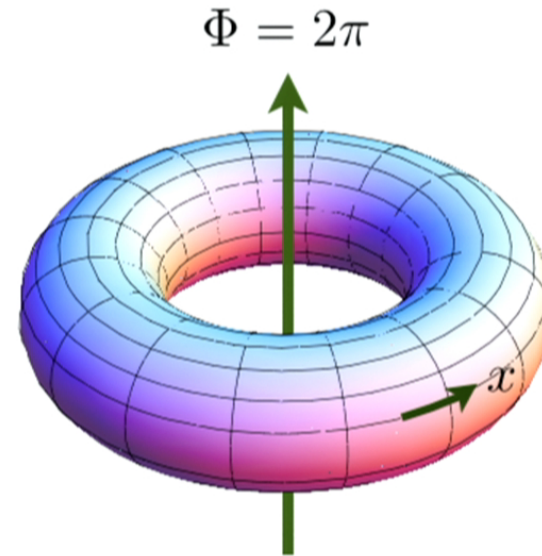
(*not quite rigorous, but intuition similar to Hastings')

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At filling p/q : flux removal doesn't commute with translation

$$\hat{U}^{-1} \hat{T}_x \hat{U} = \hat{T}_x e^{i2\pi \frac{V}{L} \frac{p}{q}}$$

Insulating ground state always degenerate.

(*not quite rigorous, but intuition similar to Hastings')

[Oshikawa, PRL **84**, 1535 (2000)]

Flux threading (Unit Filling)

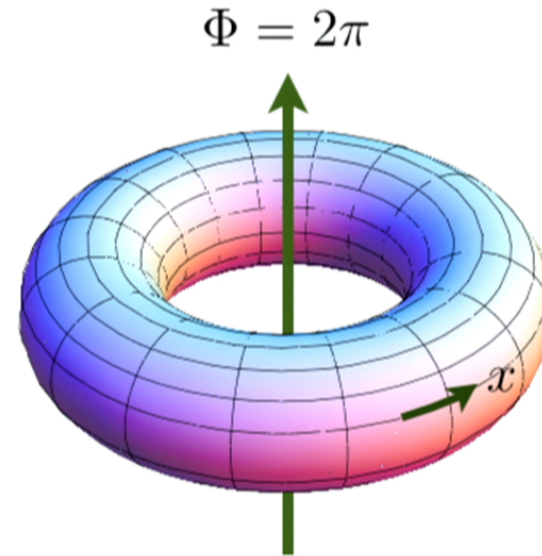
1. Thread 2π flux through 'handle'

$$|\Psi_0\rangle \xrightarrow{\text{spectrum returns to itself}} |\Psi'_0\rangle$$

2. Gauge away inserted flux

$$\hat{H}(0) = \hat{U} \hat{H}(2\pi) \hat{U}^{-1}$$

$$|\Psi'_0\rangle \xrightarrow{\text{Energy very close* to } |\Psi_0\rangle} \hat{U} |\Psi'_0\rangle$$



(*not quite rigorous, but intuition similar to Hastings')

[SP, Turner, Arovas, Vishwanath, in progress]

Summary

Basic Question: can we constrain g.s. at integer filling?

Symmetry invariant of space group: Nonsymmorphic Rank S

minimum filling for featureless insulator

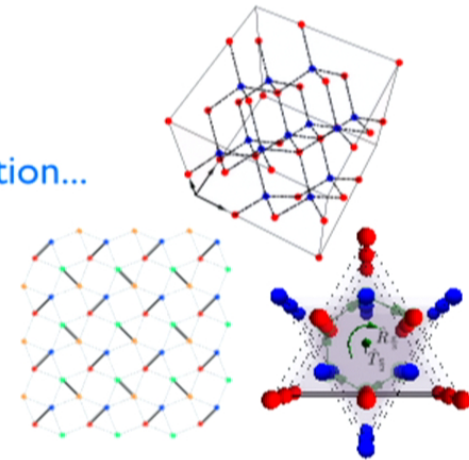
Bloch bands 'stick' in groups of (at least) S

implications: band theory, spin systems, fractionalization...

157/230 3D space groups have $S > 1$

hexagonal close packing ($P6/mmc$, $S=2$)

diamond, pyrochlore ($Fd3m$, $S=2$)



Alternative Route: Polarization + Fourier-Space crystallography

time reversal? spin-orbit? quasicrystals?

Also: non-symmorphicity crucial for 'true' Crystalline TIs

[C-X Liu & R-X Zhang, arXiv:1308.4717]

S.P., Turner, Arovas & Vishwanath, *Nature Physics* 9, 299

[cf. also R.Roy, arXiv:1212.2944]