

Title: Fermi Surface Anomaly and Symmetric Mass Generation

Speakers: Yi-Zhuang You

Series: Quantum Matter

Date: May 18, 2023 - 3:30 PM

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Abstract: Fermi liquids are gapless quantum many-body states of fermions, which describes electrons in the normal state of most metals at low temperature. Despite its long history of study, there has been renewed interest in understanding the stability of Fermi liquid from the perspectives of emergent symmetry and quantum anomaly. In this talk, I will introduce the concept of Fermi surface anomaly and propose a possible scheme to classify it. The classification scheme is based on viewing the Fermi surface as the boundary of a Chern insulator in the phase space, with an unusual dimension counting arising from the non-commutative phase space geometry. This enables us to extend the notion of Fermi surface anomaly to the non-perturbative cases and discuss symmetric mass generation on the Fermi surface when the anomaly is canceled. I will provide examples of lattice models that demonstrate Fermi surface symmetric mass generation and make connections to the recent progress in understanding the pseudo-gap transition in cuprate materials.

Zoom link: <https://ptp.zoom.us/j/97223165997?pwd=SkhJZEt1ejhQRm0yK2tKS3NhM2o2Zz09>



# Fermi Surface Anomaly and Symmetric Mass Generation

Yi-Zhuang You (尤亦庄)

UC San Diego

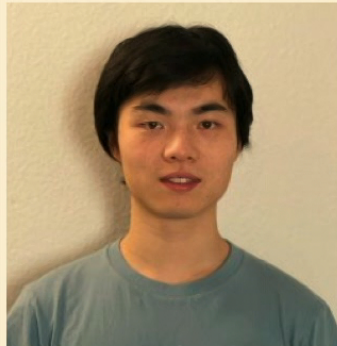
@ PI, May 2023

Art by Midjourney

## Acknowledgements

[1] DC Lu, M Zeng, J Wang, YZ You. *Fermi Surface Symmetric Mass Generation* (arXiv:2210.16304)

[2] DC Lu, J Wang, YZ You. *Definition and Classification of Fermi Surface Anomaly* (arXiv:2302.12731)



Da-Chuan Lu



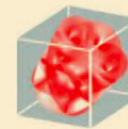
Meng Zeng



Juven Wang

Harvard

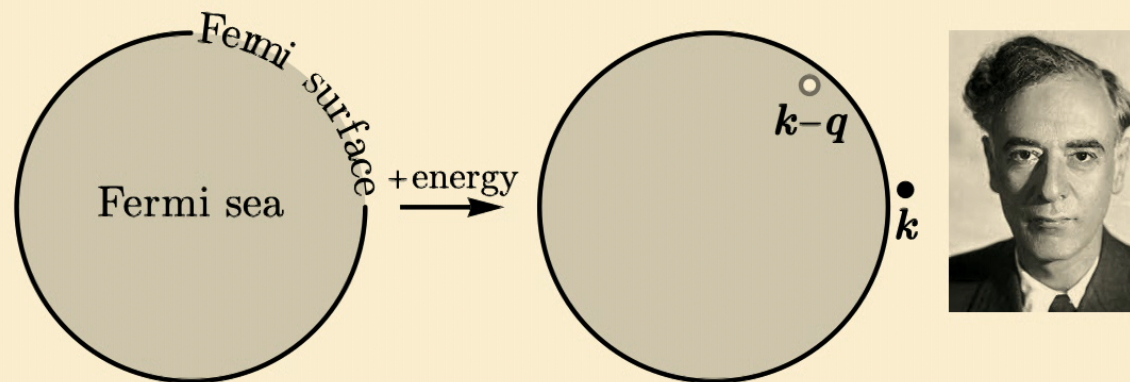
UC San Diego



**HARVARD UNIVERSITY**  
**CENTER OF MATHEMATICAL**  
**SCIENCES AND APPLICATIONS**

## Fermi Liquids

- Fermi liquids are **gapless** quantum-many body phases of **fermions** with Fermi surfaces and well-defined quasi-particle excitations at low energy.

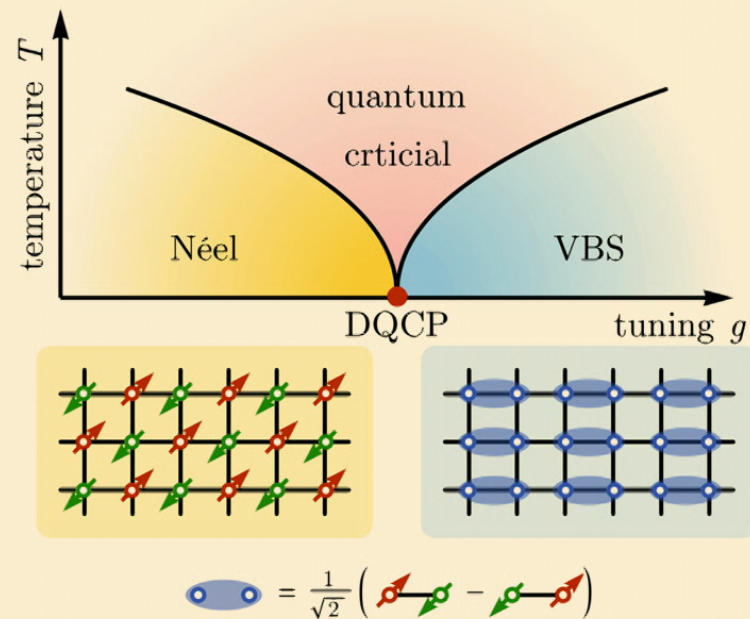


- Describe electrons in the normal state of most metals at low temperatures.
- Despite its long history, there has been renewed interest — what is protecting these gapless fermions?

## Gapless Phases and Anomaly

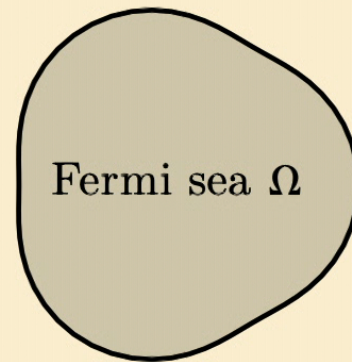
- A recent trend: understand **gapless** quantum phases of matter from **emergent symmetry** and **quantum anomaly**.
- Decofined quantum criticality - SO(5)

Senthil, Vishwanath, Balents, Sachdev, Fisher 2003



## Bulk-Boundary Correspondence

- Boundary: quantum **anomaly** of symmetry  $\rightarrow$   
Bulk: symmetry-protected topological (**SPT**) order
- What is the “bulk” of a Fermi surface? - **Fermi sea**.



Fermi surface  $\partial\Omega$

- What is “topological” about the Fermi sea? - Fermi sea can be viewed as a **Chern insulator** in the phase space.

Bulmash, Hosur, Zhang, Qi 2015

# Outline

$x$ -dim  $k$ -dim  $t$ -dim

$$d + (d - 1) + 1$$

**Anomalous system**

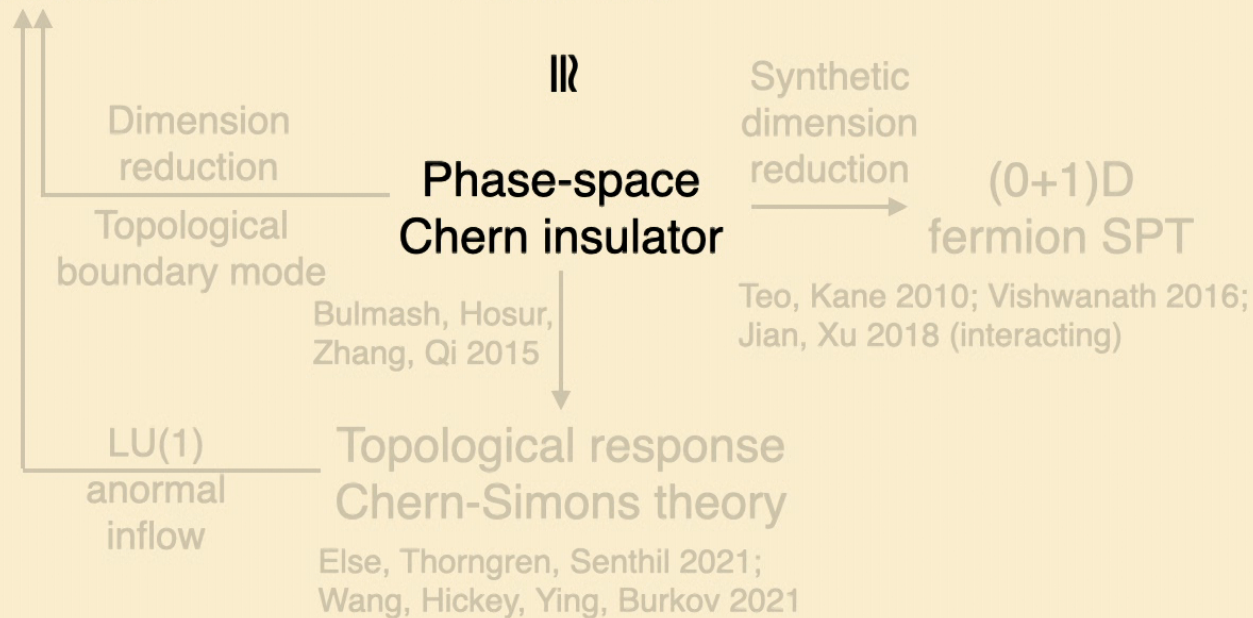
$$d + d + 1$$

**Effective bulk theory**

$$d - d + 1$$

**Classification**

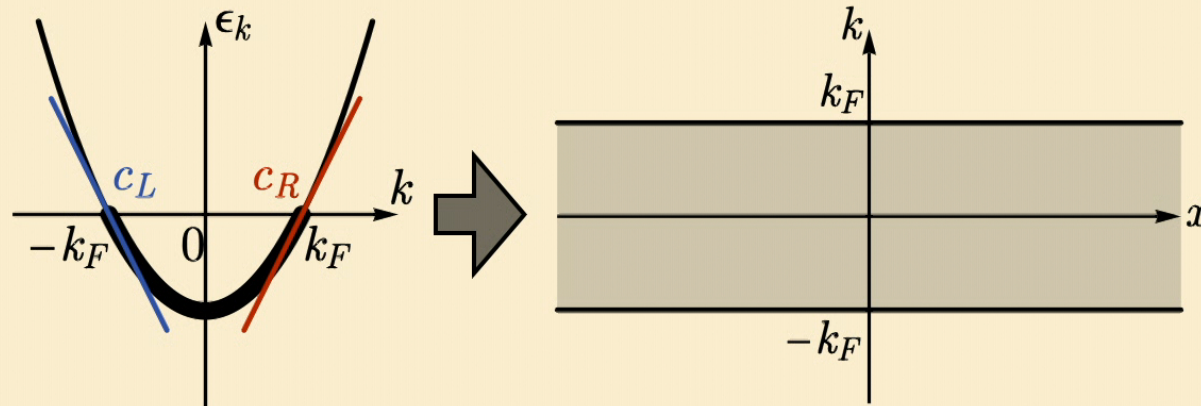
Fermi surface  $\xrightarrow{\text{Boundary of}}$  Fermi sea



## Toy Example: (1+1)D Fermi Liquid

- Consider a free fermion system in (1+1)D

$$H = \sum_k \epsilon_k c_k^\dagger c_k$$



Fermi liquid in  
**momentum-energy** space

Fermi liquid in **phase space**  
(position-momentum space)

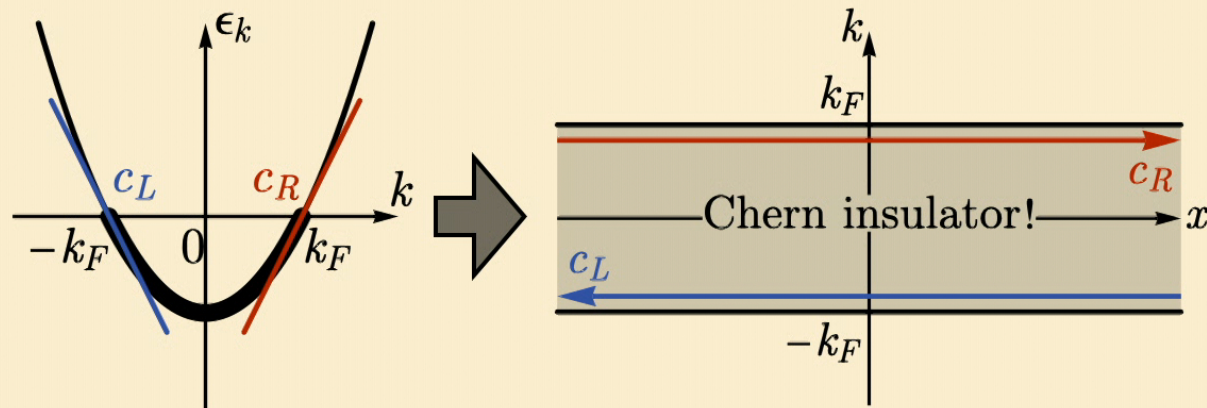
- Fermi liquid is a **Chern insulator** in the phase space.



## Toy Example: (1+1)D Fermi Liquid

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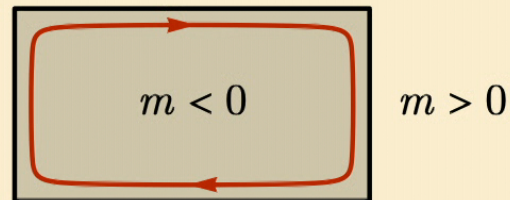
- Fermi liquid is a **Chern insulator** in the phase space.

## Phase-Space Chern-Insulator

- Chern-insulator in the **real space**

$$H = \int dx dy \psi^\dagger (i\partial_x \sigma^x + i\partial_y \sigma^y + m\sigma^z) \psi$$

- $\psi(x, y)$  - fermion field at each point
- $m(x, y)$  - Dirac mass profile



# Outline

$x$ -dim  $k$ -dim  $t$ -dim

$$d + (d - 1) + 1$$

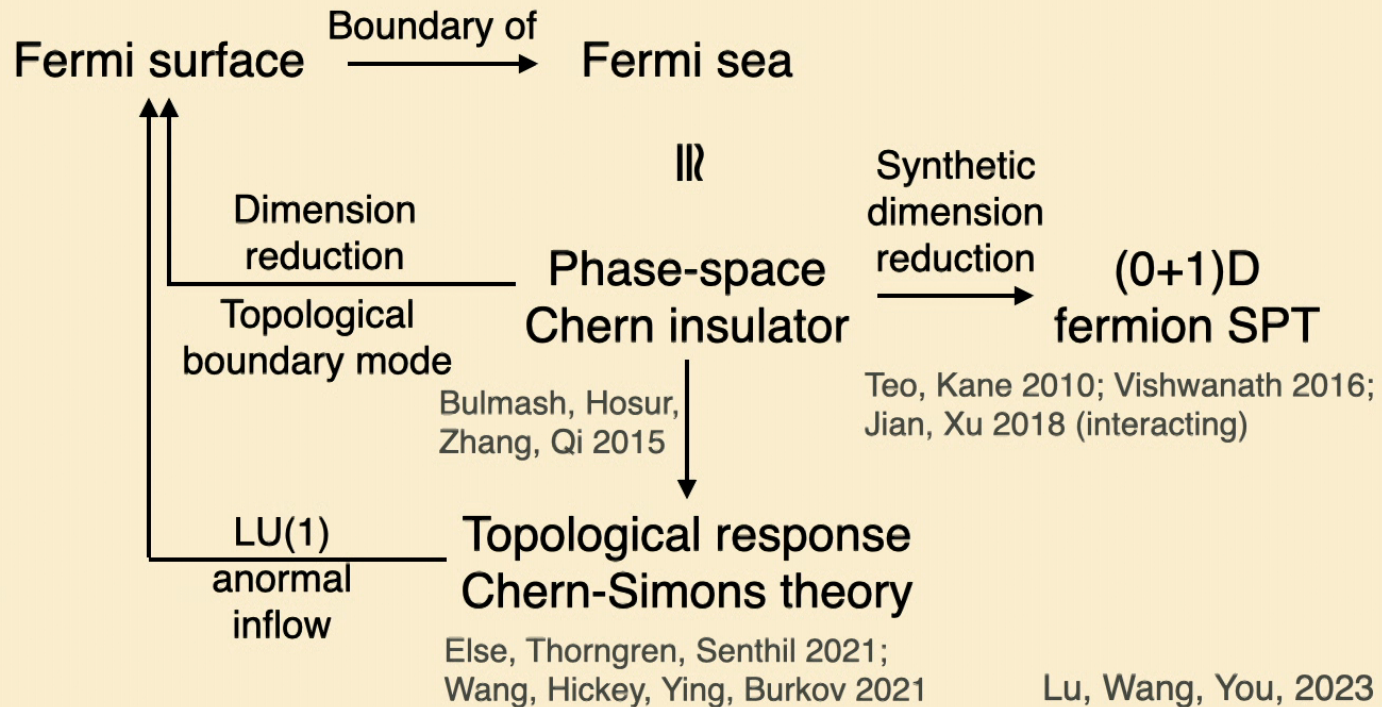
**Anomalous system**

$$d + d + 1$$

**Effective bulk theory**

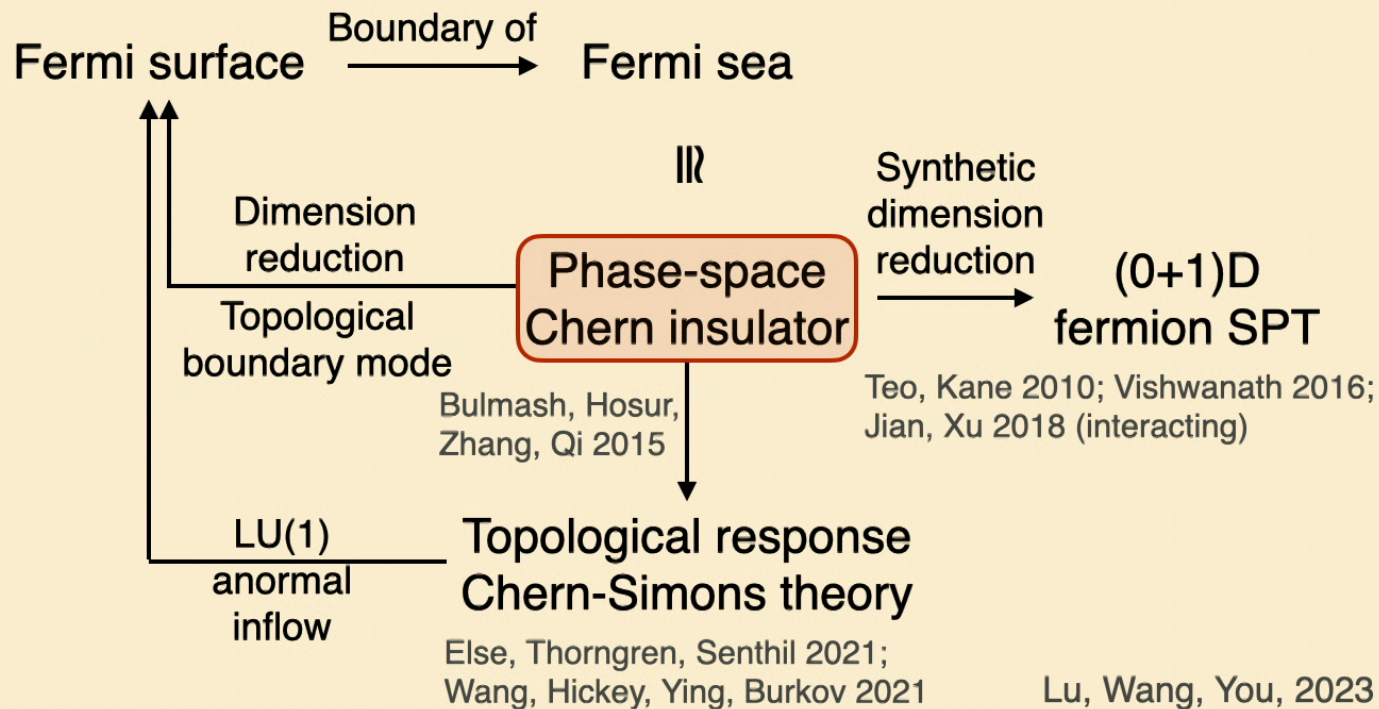
$$d - d + 1$$

**Classification**



# Outline

$x$ -dim	$k$ -dim	$t$ -dim
$d + (d - 1) + 1$	$d + d + 1$	$d - d + 1$
<b>Anomalous system</b>	<b>Effective bulk theory</b>	<b>Classification</b>

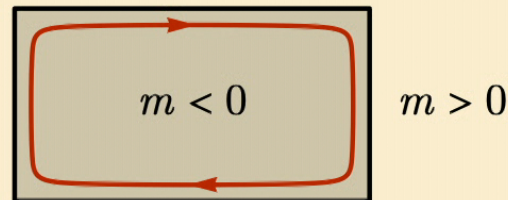


## Phase-Space Chern-Insulator

- Chern-insulator in the **real space**

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- Chern-insulator in the **phase space** Bulmash, Hosur, Zhang, Qi 2015

$$H = \int dx dk \psi^\dagger (i\partial_x \sigma^x + i\partial_k \sigma^y + m\sigma^z) \psi$$

- $\psi(x, k)$  - fermion field at each point ... Hey, wait!

## Non-Commutative Phase Space Geometry

- Quantum mechanics: phase space coordinates (position and momentum) do not commute

$$[x, k] = i \quad (\text{set } \hbar = 1)$$

- The **phase-space** Dirac fermion is a **non-commutative** field theory (a field theory defined on non-commutative manifold)

$$H = \int dx dk \psi^\dagger (i\partial_x \sigma^x + i\partial_k \sigma^y + m\sigma^z) \psi$$

- Perturbative treatment: expand around commutative limit

$$[x^i, x^j] = i\theta^{ij}$$

$$f(x) * g(x) = fg + \frac{i}{2}\theta^{ij}\partial_i f \partial_j g + \mathcal{O}(\theta^2)$$

Seiberg, Witten 1999; Dong, Senthil 2020

## Non-Commutative Phase Space Geometry

- Quantum mechanics: phase space coordinates (position and momentum) do not commute

$$[x, k] = i \quad (\text{set } \hbar = 1)$$

- Non-perturbative treatment — two ways to resolve the **non-commutative** geometry:
  - **Phase-space Berry curvature** - a uniform “magnetic field” through the  $(x, k)$ -plane.

$$F = dA = dx \wedge dk$$

Wen 2021; Delacrétaz,  
Du, Mehta, Son 2022 ...

- **Canonical quantization** - represented as gradient operator with respect to each other.

$$x = i\partial_k \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad k = -i\partial_x$$

# Outline

$x$ -dim  $k$ -dim  $t$ -dim

$$d + (d - 1) + 1$$

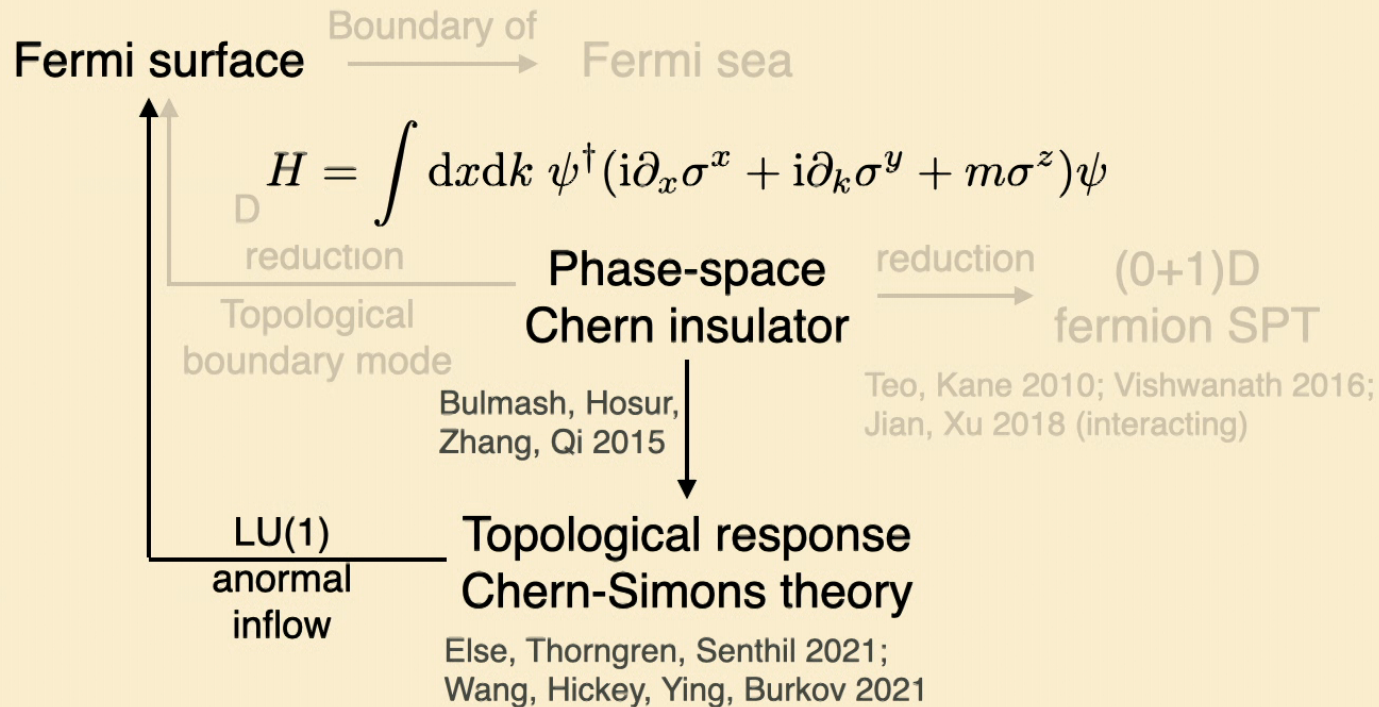
**Anomalous system**

$$d + d + 1$$

**Effective bulk theory**

$$d - d + 1$$

**Classification**



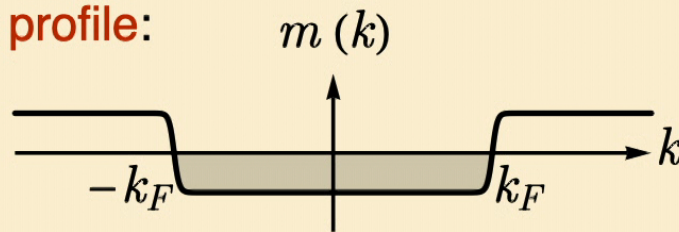


## Bulk Response Theory

- Take the “phase-space Berry curvature” approach by introducing the U(1) symmetry background field  $A$ .

$$H = \int dx dk \psi^\dagger (iD_x \sigma^x + iD_k \sigma^y + m \sigma^z) \psi$$

- Covariant derivative  $D = \partial + iA$  in the phase space,
- with a **background curvature**  $F = dA = dx \wedge dk$ ,
- and a **mass profile**:



- With the background curvature,  $x$  and  $k$  can now be treated as ordinary commuting coordinates.

## Bulk Response Theory

- Integrate out the fermion field → **Chern-Simons theory** in the phase spacetime.

$$S = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{(t,x,k)} \frac{1 - \text{sgn } m(k)}{2} A \wedge dA$$

- The Chern-Simon term is effective only inside the Fermi sea (i.e.,  $k \in \Omega = [-k_F, k_F]$  as  $m(k) < 0$ )
- Recall: the gauge field has a uniform background curvature through the  $(x, k)$ -plane:  $F = dA = dx \wedge dk$
- Fermion filling (charge density) is a **topological response**

$$\nu = \frac{\delta S}{\delta A_0} = \int_{-k_F}^{k_F} \frac{F_{xk}}{2\pi} = \frac{\text{vol } \Omega}{2\pi} \quad (\text{Luttinger theorem})$$

# Outline

$x$ -dim  $k$ -dim  $t$ -dim

$$d + (d - 1) + 1$$

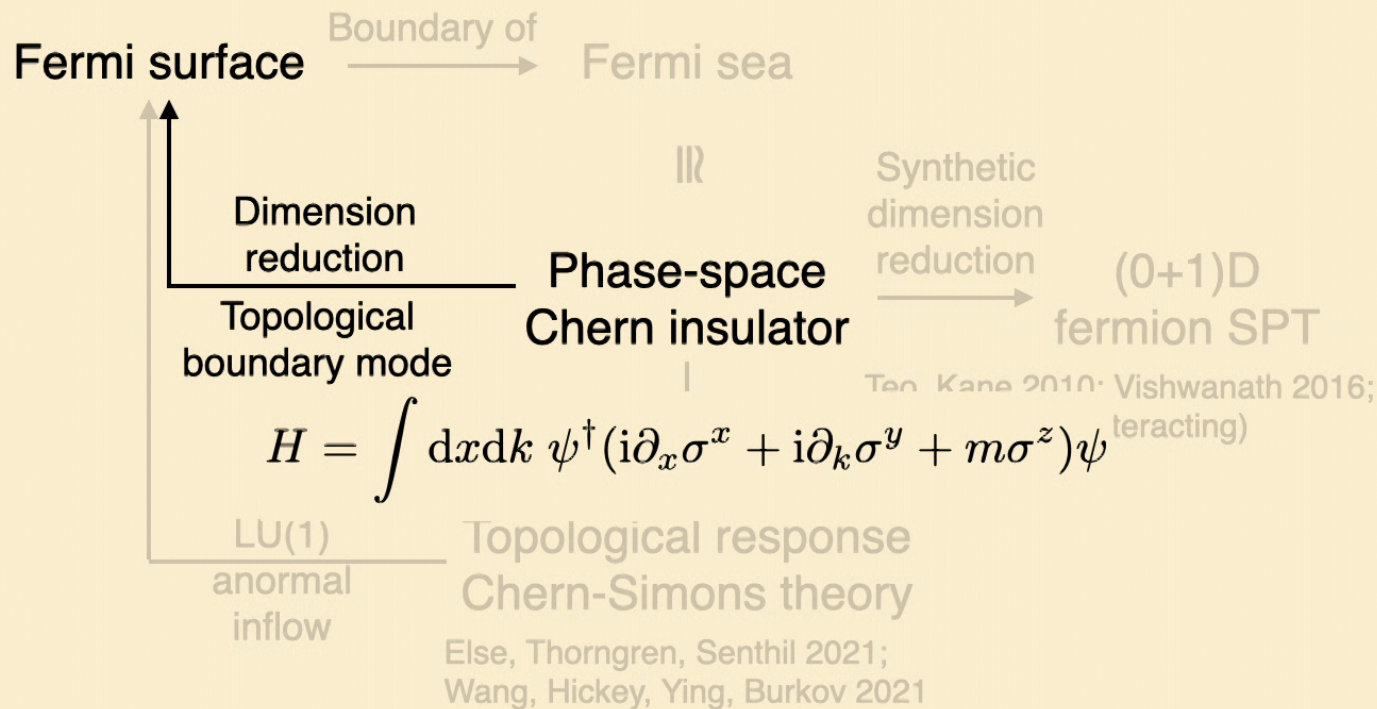
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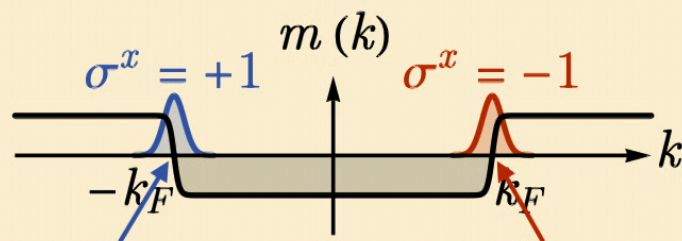
**Classification**



## Topological Boundary Mode

- Given the correct bulk response, what about the topological boundary mode?

$$H = \int dx dk \psi^\dagger (i\partial_x \sigma^x + i\partial_k \sigma^y + m(k)\sigma^z) \psi$$



$$H_{\text{eff}} = \int dx \psi^\dagger (+i\partial_x) \psi$$

Left-moving chiral  
fermions at  $-k_F$

$$H_{\text{eff}} = \int dx \psi^\dagger (-i\partial_x) \psi$$

Right-moving chiral  
fermions at  $+k_F$

- Matching a (1+1)D Fermi liquid's low-energy gapless fermions modes (at both Fermi points).

## Higher Dimension Generalizations

- **Bulk:** Fermi sea = **Phase-space Chern insulator**

$$H_{\text{blk}} = \int d^d \mathbf{x} d^d \mathbf{k} \psi^\dagger (i\partial_{\mathbf{x}} \cdot \mathbf{\Gamma}_x + i\partial_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \mathbf{\Gamma}_k + m(\mathbf{k})\Gamma^0)\psi$$

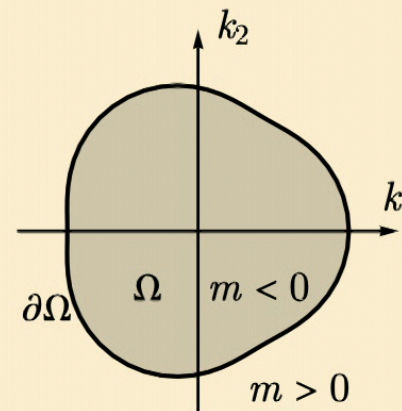
- Dirac mass profile

$$m(\mathbf{k}) \begin{cases} \leq 0 & \text{if } \mathbf{k} \in \Omega, \\ > 0 & \text{if } \mathbf{k} \notin \Omega. \end{cases}$$

- Bulk topological response:  
phase-space Chern-Simons theory

$$S = \frac{1}{(d+1)!(2\pi)^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \Omega \times \mathbb{R}} A \wedge (dA)^{\wedge d}$$

$$F := dA = \sum_{i=1}^d dx_i \wedge dk_i \quad (\text{with a background Berry flux through every } (x_i, k_i)\text{-plane})$$



## Higher Dimension Generalizations

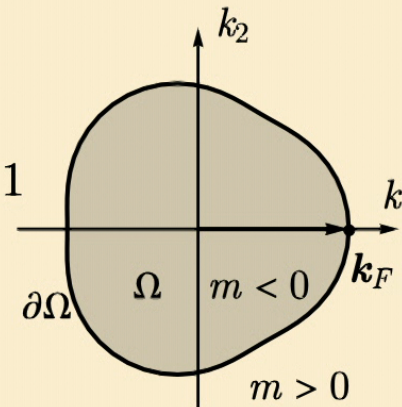
- **Boundary:** gapless Fermi surface = **phase-space topological boundary modes**
  - Pick a point  $\mathbf{k}_F \in \partial\Omega$  on the Fermi surface (say along  $k_1$ )

$$H = \int \psi^\dagger (i\partial_{x_1} \Gamma^1 +$$

$$\cancel{i\partial_{k_1} \Gamma^2 + m(\mathbf{k})\Gamma^0} \rightarrow i\Gamma^2 \Gamma^0 = 1$$

$$i\partial_{x_2} \Gamma^3 + x_2 \Gamma^4 +$$

$$\dots) \psi$$



- Use canonical quantization  $i\partial_{\mathbf{k}} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}$  to resolve the non-commutativity in the remaining dimensions.
- Only one mode survives projections:  $H = \int \psi^\dagger (i\partial_{x_1}) \psi$

# Outline

$x$ -dim  $k$ -dim  $t$ -dim

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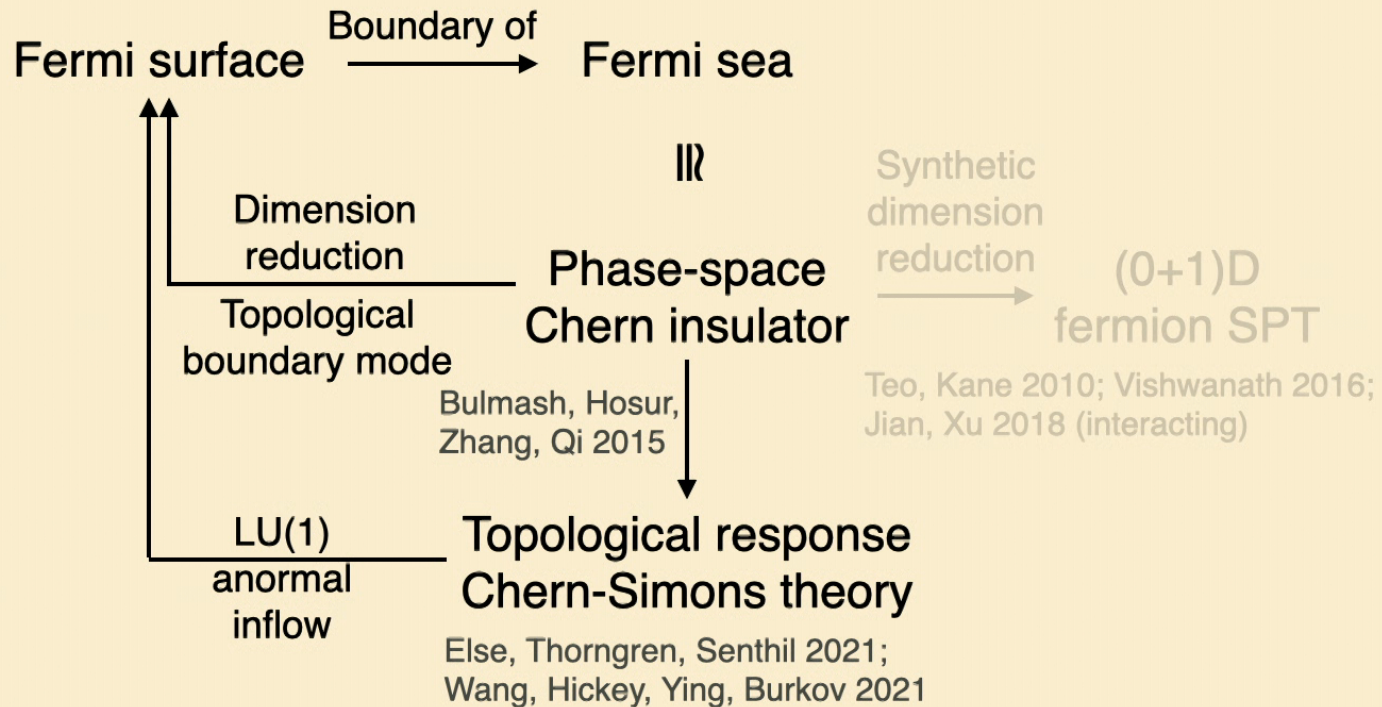
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**Effective bulk theory**

$$d - d + 1$$

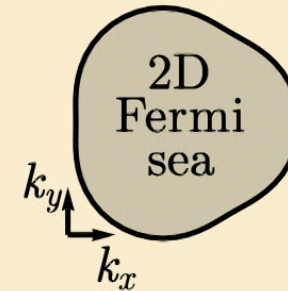
**Classification**



## Beyond U(1) Symmetry

- Consider a 2D Fermi sea with 1D Fermi surface, naively:
  - Phase-spacetime dimension is  $2+2+1 = 5$
  - Bulk: like a  $(4+1)$ D Chern insulator

$$S = \frac{1}{24\pi^2} \int A \wedge dA \wedge dA$$



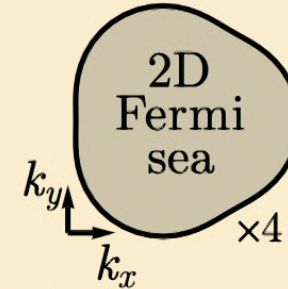
- Boundary: like a  $(3+1)$ D **Weyl fermion**
- Fermi surface anomaly: like the **chiral anomaly** of Weyl fermions, which is  $\mathbb{Z}$  classified under  $U(1)$  symmetry.
- What if the  $U(1)$  symmetry is broken to its  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  subgroup?
- $\mathbb{Z}_4$ -symmetric Weyl fermions have a non-perturbative anomaly that is  $\mathbb{Z}_{16}$  classified  $\rightarrow$  Weyl fermions can only be trivialized by interaction in multiple of 16.

Weñ 2013, You, Xu 2014, Wan, Wang 2018



## Beyond U(1) Symmetry

- Does this indicate that the  $\mathbb{Z}_4$ -symmetric Fermi surface in a (2+1)D Fermi liquid can only be symmetrically gapped into product states in multiple of ~~16~~
- But we know this can not be correct because here is an explicit counter-example:



$$H = - \sum_{a=1}^4 \sum_{ij} t_{ij} \psi_{ia}^\dagger \psi_{ja} - g \sum_i \psi_{i1} \psi_{i2} \psi_{i3} \psi_{i4} + \text{h.c.}$$

- By anomaly matching, the Fermi surface anomaly must already vanish at multiplicity **4**, not 16.
- What is going wrong with the phase-space Chern insulator picture?

# Outline

$x$ -dim  $k$ -dim  $t$ -dim

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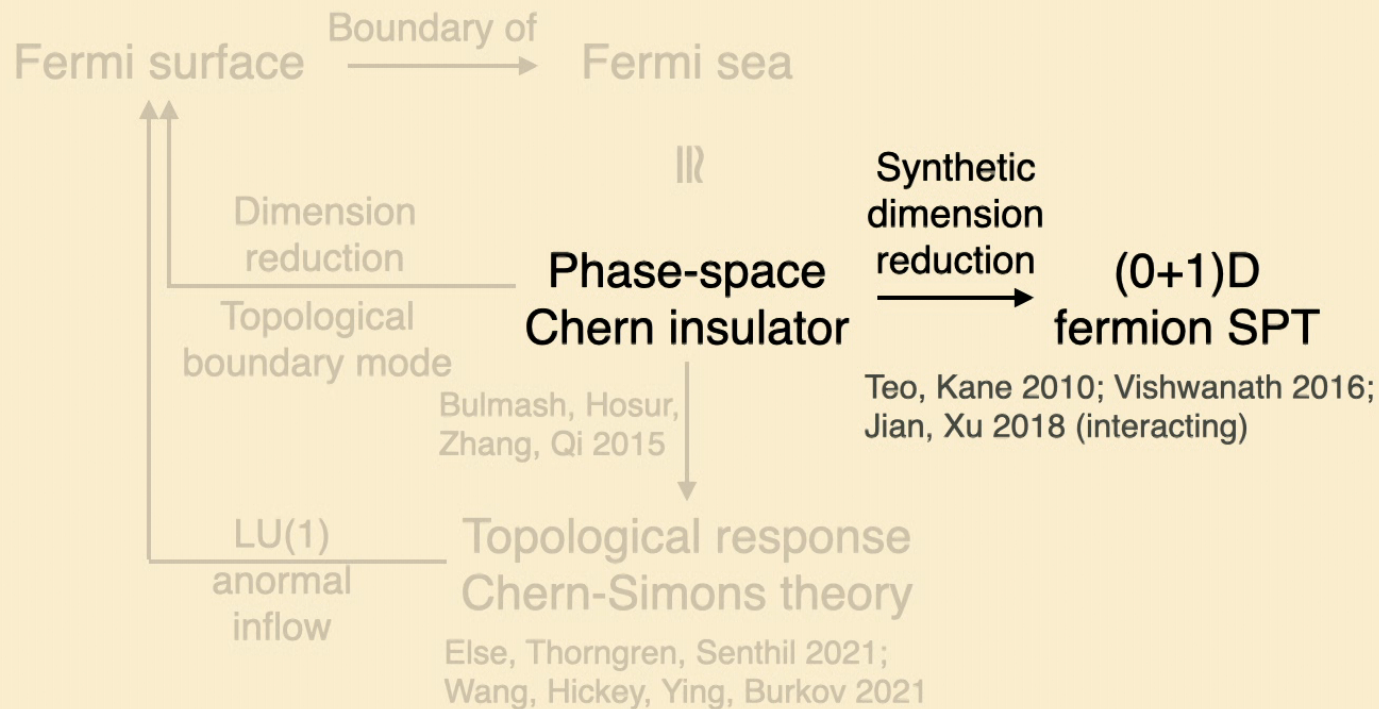
**Anomalous system**

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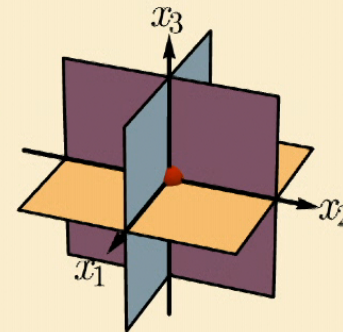
## Domain-Wall Dimension Reduction

- The bulk theory describes a set of perpendicular domain walls intersecting at the origin  $\rightarrow$  trapping a single fermion zero mode

$$H_{\text{blk}} = \int d^d \mathbf{x} \psi^\dagger (i \partial_{\mathbf{x}} \cdot \mathbf{\Gamma}_x + \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{\Gamma}_k + m \Gamma^0) \psi$$



$$H_{\text{eff}} = m \psi^\dagger \psi \quad (0+1)\text{D}$$



- $m$  tunes the **topological transition** in the bulk
- The bulk state is trivial if the gapless critical fermion modes at  $m = 0$  can be **symmetrically gapped** by interaction.
- For  $\mathbb{Z}_4$ -symmetric fermions, trivialization can be achieved by  $(\psi_1 \psi_2 \psi_3 \psi_4 + \text{h.c.})$  at multiplicity 4  $\rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_4$  classified!

Lu, Wang, You 2023

## Synthetic Dimension Reduction

- Momentum space dimension = **negative** dimension

$$d_{\text{eff}} = d - \delta$$

↑
↑
↑

Effective spatial dimension (for SPT classification)      Real space dimension      Momentum/parameter space dimension, synthetic dimension

Teo, Kane 2010; Vishwanath 2016  
 Jian, Xu 2018 (interacting)

- In  $d = 3$  dimensional real space, assuming  $U(1)$  symmetry

	Fermi surface codim	Fermi surface dim	Fermi sea dim $\delta$	$d_{\text{eff}}+1$	Classifi- cation
Weyl points	3	0	1	2+1	$\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$
Fermi rings	2	1	2	1+1	0
Fermi surfaces	1	2	3	0+1	$\mathbb{Z}$

## Fermi Surface Symmetric Mass Generation

- **Fermi surface SMG**: gap out the Fermi surface by **interaction** effects without spontaneous symmetry breaking or topological ordering.
- Necessary condition: Fermi surface anomaly **vanishes**.
- Fermi surface anomaly index

Lu, Zeng, Wang, You 2022

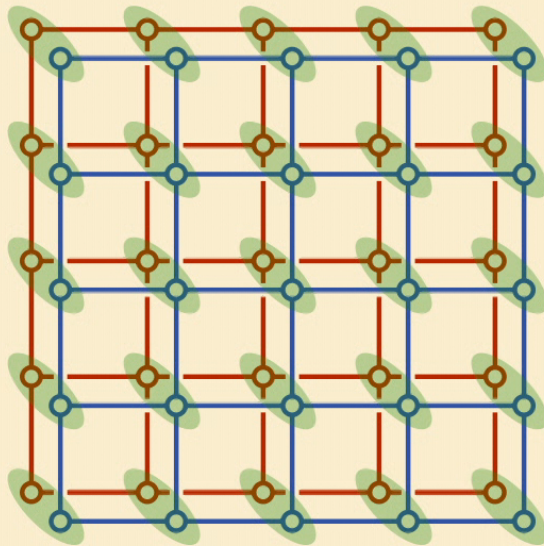
$$\nu = \sum_{\alpha} k_{\alpha} \frac{\text{vol } \Omega_{\alpha}}{(2\pi)^d} \text{ mod } 1$$

Fermi volume  
 Sum over all Fermi surfaces  
 Level  $k_{\alpha} = \pm q_{\alpha} N_{\alpha}$   
 Electron/hole-like  
 Charge  
 Multiplicity (degeneracy)

Lu, Wang, You 2023

## Example: Bilayer Square Lattice Model

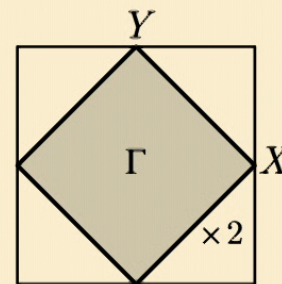
- Spin-1/2 fermions on a bilayer square lattice at half-filling with  $U(1)^2 \times SU(2)$  and translation symmetries.



$$H = -t \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \sum_{l=1,2} (c_{il}^\dagger c_{jl} + \text{h.c.})$$

$$+ J \sum_i \mathbf{S}_{i1} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i2}$$

$$\mathbf{S}_{il} = \frac{1}{2} c_{il}^\dagger \boldsymbol{\sigma} c_{il}$$

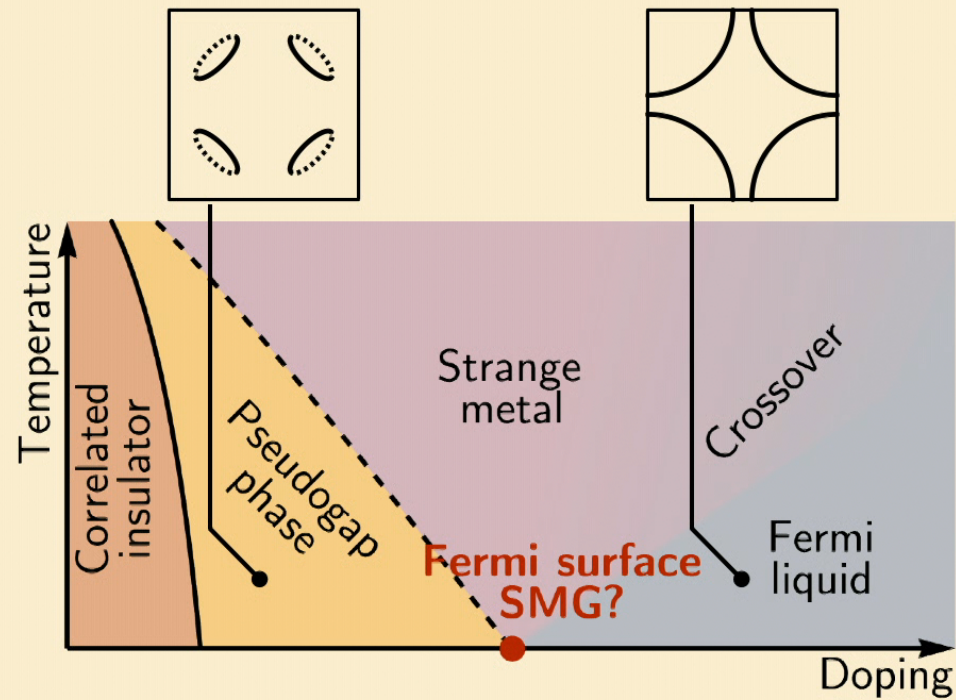


Zhang, Sachdev 2020  
Zou, Chowdhury 2020



## Pseudogap Physics

- Pseudogap: a (partial) gap of electron Fermi surface *without* symmetry breaking — Fermi surface SMG?



Zhang, Sachdev 2020

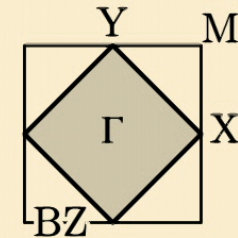
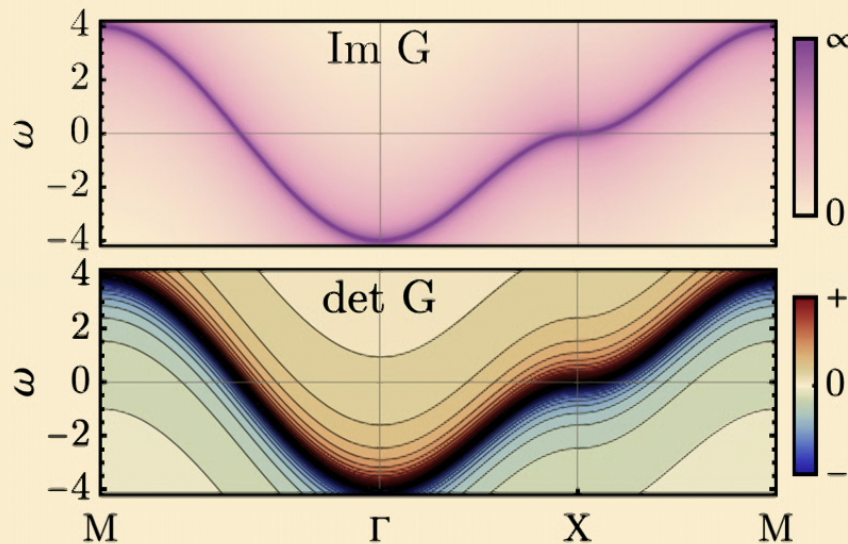
## Green's Function Zeros

- Fermion Green's function (two-point correlation function)

$$G(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = -\langle c_{\omega, \mathbf{k}} c_{\omega, \mathbf{k}}^\dagger \rangle$$

$$A(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = -2 \operatorname{Im} G(\omega + i0_+, \mathbf{k}) \quad (\text{Spectral function})$$

- Poles** ( $\det G \rightarrow \infty$ ) v.s. **zeros** ( $\det G \rightarrow 0$ ).



Fermi liquid

DC Lu ... (to appear)



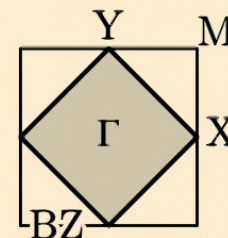
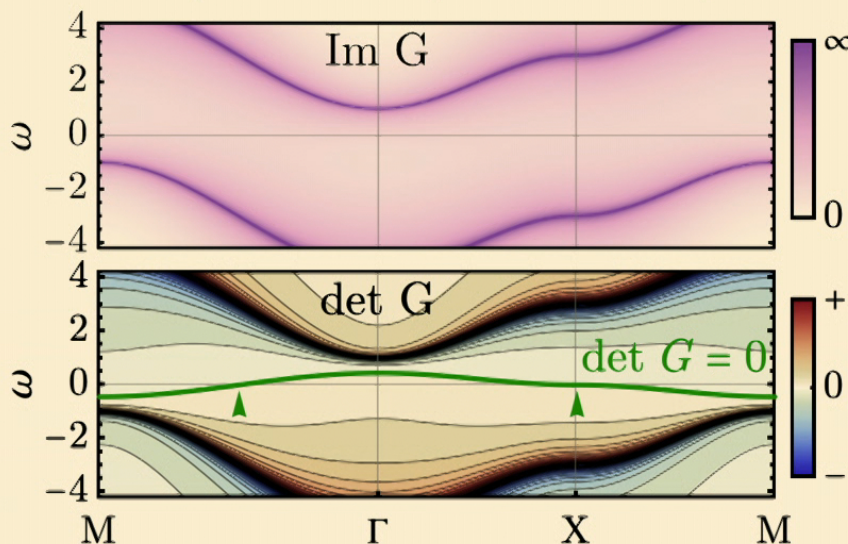
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- Poles** ( $\det G \rightarrow \infty$ ) v.s. **zeros** ( $\det G \rightarrow 0$ ).



**Symmetric mass generation:**  
on the Fermi surface,  
poles of  $G$  are  
replaced by zeros

DC Lu ... (to appear)

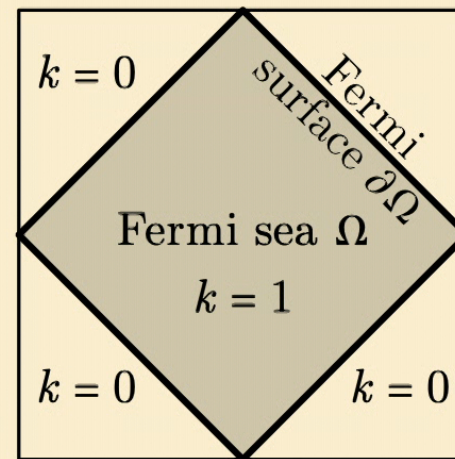
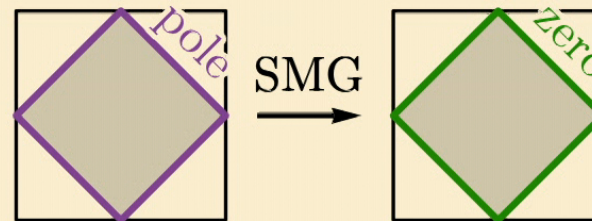
## Green's Function Zeros

- SMG: pole-to-zero transition
- Fermi sea = Phase-space Chern insulator
- Gapless Fermi surface = Topological boundary modes
- Topological response (2+2+1)D

$$S = \frac{k}{24\pi^2} \int_{\mathcal{M}_5} \mathcal{A} \wedge d\mathcal{A} \wedge d\mathcal{A}$$

$$k = \frac{1}{480\pi^3} \int_{\hat{\mathcal{M}}_5} \text{Tr} [(G^{-1}dG)^{\wedge 5}]$$

Bulmash, Hosur, Zhang, Qi 2015,  
Else, Thorngren, Senthil 2020 ...



- Jump of  $k$ : either through  $\det G \rightarrow \infty$  (poles)  
or through  $\det G \rightarrow 0$  (zeros)

You, Wang, Oon, Xu 2014; Y Xu, C Xu 2021

## Summary

- Classification of Fermi surface anomaly

Codimension- $p$  **Fermi surface anomaly** of symmetry group  $G$  is classified by  $G$ -symmetric interacting **fermionic SPT states** in  $p$ -dimensional spacetime.

- **Fermi surface symmetric mass generation** can happen when the Fermi surface anomaly vanishes.
  - Potential applications to pseudo-gap physics
  - Spectral signatures: Green's function zeros on the Fermi surface
  - Matching Fermi surface anomaly with topological order?