

Title: Quantum Spin Liquid Oasis in Desert States of Unfrustrated Spin Models: Mirage ?

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Abstract: Hilbert spaces are incomprehensibly vast and rich. Model Hamiltonians are space ships. They could take us to new worlds, such as cold  $\textit{spin liquid oasis}$  in hot regions in Hilbert space deserts. Exact decomposition of isotropic Heisenberg Hamiltonian on a Honeycomb lattice into a sum of 3 non-commuting (permuted) Kitaev Hamiltonians, helps us build a degenerate  $\textit{manifold of metastable flux free Kitaev spin liquid vacua}$  and vector Fermionic (Goldstone like) collective modes. Our method,  $\textit{symmetric decomposition of Hamiltonians}$ , will help design exotic metastable quantum scars and exotic quasi particles, in nonexotic real systems.

G. Baskaran, arXiv:2309.07119

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Zoom link

# Quantum Spin Liquid Oasis in Desert States of Unfrustrated Isotropic Spin Models: Mirage ?

*Exploring the Landscape of Metastable Quantum Scars*

21<sup>st</sup> May 2024

**G Baskaran**



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# Quantum Spin Liquid Oasis in Desert States of Unfrustrated Isotropic Spin Models: Mirage ?

Hilbert spaces are incomprehensibly vast and rich. Model Hamiltonians are space ships. They could take us to new worlds, such as cold **quantum spin liquid oasis** in hot regions in Hilbert space deserts. Exact decomposition of isotropic Heisenberg Hamiltonian on a Honeycomb lattice into a sum of 3 non-commuting (permuted) Kitaev Hamiltonians, helps us build a degenerate textit{manifold of metastable flux free Kitaev spin liquid vacua} and vector Fermionic (Goldstone like) collective modes. Our method, **symmetric decomposition of Hamiltonians**, will help design exotic metastable quantum scars and exotic quasi particles, in nonexotic real systems.

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## Sahara Desert Tunisia

Contemplating on Quantum Spin Liquids Room Temperature Superconductivity



Thanks to Prof Fethi Madouri former Student from Tunisia



*Eigen States of Model Manybody Hamiltonians*  
*Eigen State Thermalization Hypothesis ETH*  
*And exceptions (Quantum Scars)*

*Quasi Quantum Scars - Oasis & Mirage in Hot Hilbert Space Deserts*

*A method to search for Cold Metastable Quantum Phases*

*Kitaev Spin Liquid - Exactly Solvable Anisotropic  $S=1/2$  model on a Honeycomb Lattice*  
*Where RVB Meanfield theory gives exact Spectrum*  
*Emergent  $Z_2$  Gauge field and Majorana Fermions*

*Emergence of Metastable Kitaev type Nematic Spin Liquid phases*  
*via Spontaneous Symmetry Breaking in Isotropic Heisenberg Model*  
*Fermion Condensation & Fermionic Goldstone mode*

*Manybody Localization ... Fate of the False Vacua*

*Experimental Realizability ... Transient Quantum Computation*

# Richness of Two Qubit Hilbert Space

Lorentzian geometry for detecting qubit entanglement

Annals of Physics 396 (2018) 159–172

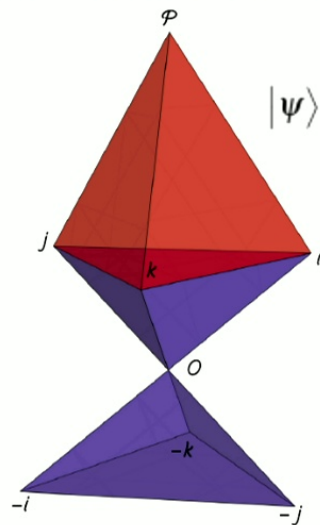
Joseph Samuel \*, Kumar Shivam, Supurna Sinha

Raman Research Institute, Bangalore 560080, India

Dimension of N Qubit Hilbert Space  $\mathbb{C}P^{2^N-1}$

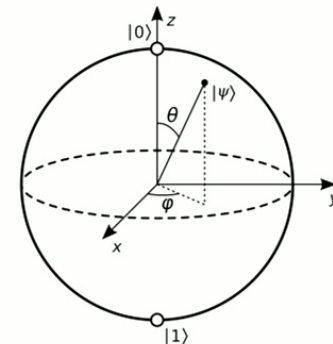
Single Qubit Hilbert Space  
Bloch Sphere  $\mathbb{C}P^1$

## Two Qubit Hilbert Space



$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha_{00}|00\rangle + \alpha_{01}|01\rangle + \alpha_{10}|10\rangle + \alpha_{11}|11\rangle$$

$$\sum_{ij} |\alpha_{ij}|^2 = 1.$$



... our analysis uses Energy conditions,  
which are used in general relativity, ...

## ***Richness of Quantum World***

***Life of a Quantum Theorist is a Voyage in the Vast Hilbert Space***

## ***Reference Quantum Liquids***

***Fermi sea, Bose gas, Dirac liquid, Weyl liquid, Non-Fermi liquids,***

***Luttinger liquid, hierarchy of fQH liquids, anyon liquids***

***Composite Fermi Sea, Majorana Fermi Sea***

***Superconductor, Superfluid, Vortex liquid ...***

***Pauling-Anderson RVB liquid, ...***

***Nematic, Kugel-Khomskii, Kitaev Spin Liquid ...***

***Guided by Experiments we Conceptualize and build***

***Minimal Quantum Models***

***Develop Analytical & Numerical Manybody Methods***

***and the Exploration Continues***



## **Spin Crystals**

**AFM, Helical, ... Landau type Long Range Order,  
Bosonic Goldstone modes, Skyrmion (topological) excitations ...**

## **Quantum Spin Liquids**

**Melting of Landau type of Long Range Order  
Induced by Frustrating spin-spin interactions and Quantum Fluctuations**

...

## **Isotropic (RVB) and Anisotropic (Nematic) Spin Liquids**

**Rich Patterns of Quantum Entanglement among Spins**

**Results in Topological Order, Quantum Order ...**

**Quasi particles are Extended Topological Objects  
Emergent Fermions, Emergent Gauge Fields, Gauge field quanta  
and Gauge Field charges and Fluxes, Abelian and Non-Abelian Anyons ...**

**PW Anderson 1987; GB, Zou, PWA 1987; Kivelson, Rokhsar, Sethna 1987;  
GB, PWA 1988, XG Wen 1989 ...**

## ***How do we Classify Metastable Phases ?***

***Glassy Phases ... structural glasses ... glassy domain walls in magnets  
vortex glasses in superconductors ... Skyrmion glass ... metallurgy***

***Nonglassy Phases***

***Metastable structures of ice visible in liquid water ?***

***We provide a systematic approach***



## *Many body Quantum Scars*

*Eigen states of many particle Hilbert space obey  
Eigen State Thermalization Hypothesis (ETH)*

*There are Exceptions, however **Quantum Scars***

### *Examples*

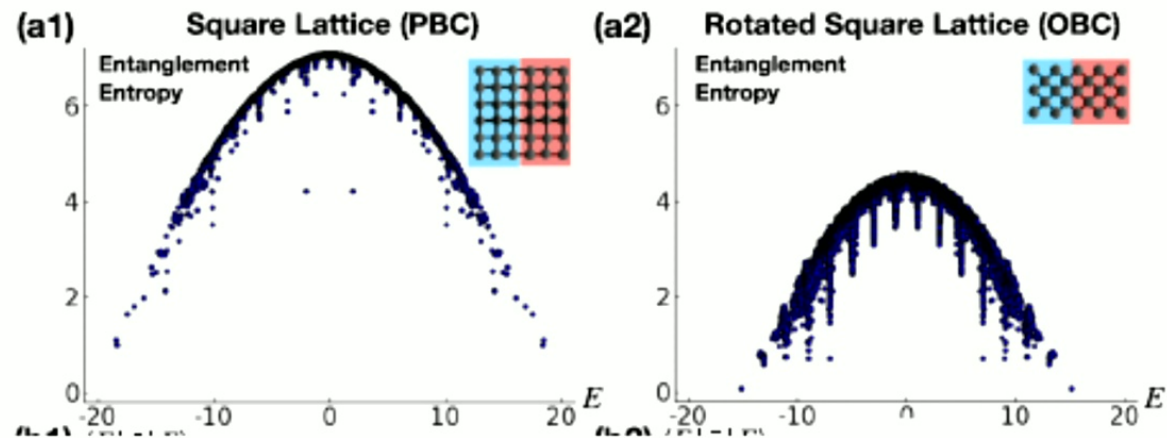
*Eta particle condensed states of D-dimensional  
Repulsive Hubbard Model in bipartite lattice*

*Family of states of AKLT model, Spin-1 Kitaev chain, PXP model ..*

## Quantum many-body scar states in two-dimensional Rydberg atom arrays

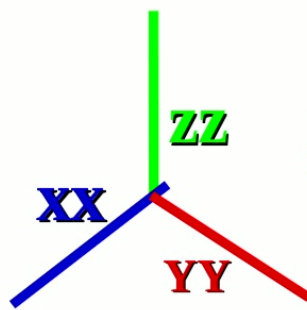
Cheng-Ju Lin<sup>1</sup>, Vladimir Calvera<sup>2,1</sup> and Timothy H. Hsieh<sup>1</sup>

PHYSICAL REVIEW B **101**, 220304(R) (2020)

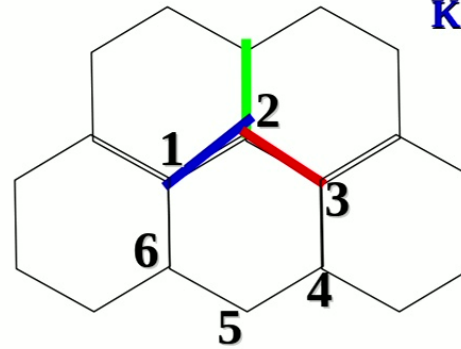


# Kitaev Model on a Honeycomb lattice

Kitaev 2001, 2003



**Frustration in Spin Space via Bond dependent Ising Interactions**



2N Lattice sites  
Periodic Boundary Conditions

$$H = -J_x \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_x} \sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x - J_y \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_y} \sigma_i^y \sigma_j^y - J_z \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_z} \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z$$

**Flux Operator**

$$\mathbf{B}_p = \sigma_1^y \sigma_2^z \sigma_3^x \sigma_4^y \sigma_5^z \sigma_6^x$$

$$\mathbf{B}_p^2 = 1$$

**N conserved local Flux Operators**

$$[B_p, H] = 0 \quad \text{Eigen values of } B_p = \pm 1$$

$$[B_p, B_{p'}] = 0$$

for any plaquette P and P'

2<sup>N</sup> states

$$2^{2N} = 2^N \times \dots \times 2^N$$



2<sup>N</sup> distinct configurations (sectors) of B<sub>p</sub>

← 2<sup>N</sup> different B<sub>p</sub> Sectors →

***Kitaev's method of solution***  
***Similar to Abrikosov Fermions used in***  
***RVB Mean Field Theory (GB, Zou, PWA 1987)***

***But with a Focus on Majorana Components***

***2 Majorana fermions make one***  
***complex or Dirac fermion***

$$\psi^+ = \xi + i\zeta$$

$$2 = \sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{2}$$

$$\{\psi, \psi^+\} = 1$$

$$\{\xi, \zeta\} = 0$$

$$\xi^2 = \zeta^2 = 1$$

$$c_{i\uparrow}^\dagger = \frac{1}{2}(c_{ix} + ic_{iy}) \text{ and } c_{i\downarrow}^\dagger = \frac{1}{2}(c_{iz} - ic_{i0})$$

**Introduce 4 Majorana fermions at each site**

$$c^\alpha, \quad \alpha = 0, x, y, z \quad \{c^\alpha, c^\beta\} = 2\delta_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$D_i |\Psi\rangle_{\text{phys}} = |\Psi\rangle_{\text{phys}} \quad \text{Dimension of Physical Hilbert Space } 2^{2N}$$

$$D_i \equiv c_i c_i^x c_i^y c_i^z \quad \text{Dimension of Enlarged Hilbert Space } 4^{2N}$$

$$\sigma_i^a = ic_i c_i^a, \quad a = x, y, z \quad [\sigma_i^a, \sigma_j^b] = i\epsilon_{abc} \sigma_i^c \delta_{ij}$$

**Represent Pauli spin operators  
Using 4 Majorana Fermion operators**



**Kitaev Spin Hamiltonian takes an elegant form:**  
**Majorana Fermions with only two body interactions**

$$H = - \sum_{a=x,y,z} J_a \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_a} i c_i \hat{u}_{\langle ij \rangle_a} c_j \quad \hat{u}_{\langle ij \rangle_a} \equiv i c_i^a c_j^a$$

$$[H, \hat{u}_{\langle ij \rangle_a}] = 0$$

$$\hat{u}_{\langle ij \rangle_a}^2 = 1 \quad \text{eigen value} \quad u_{\langle ij \rangle_a} = \pm 1$$

$u_{\langle ij \rangle_a}$  (Ising)  $Z_2$  gauge fields on the bonds

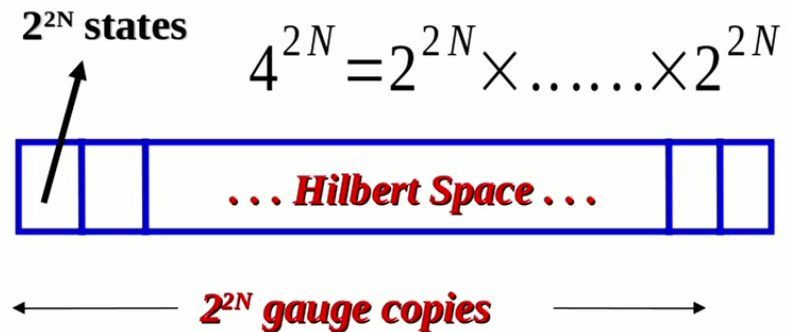
**Local  $Z_2$  gauge symmetry**  $u_{\langle ij \rangle_a} \rightarrow \tau_i u_{\langle ij \rangle_a} \tau_j$   
 with  $\tau_i \pm 1$

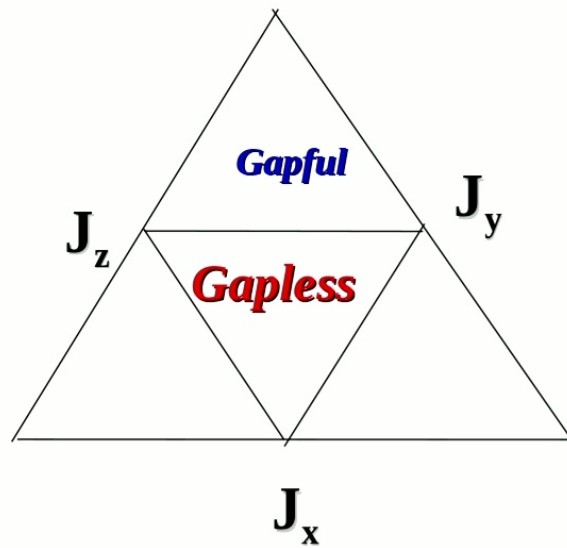
**Dimension of  
Physical Hilbert Space  $2^{2N}$**

**Dimension of  
Enlarged Hilbert Space  $4^{2N}$**

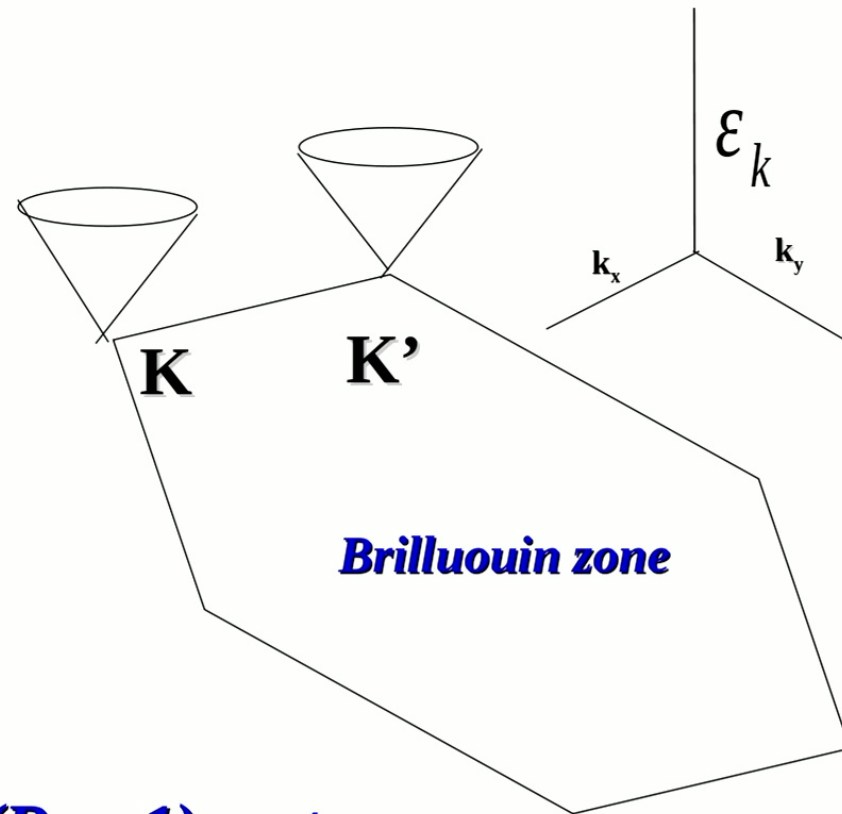
**Spectrum is identical  
in all gauge copies**

**Unphysical Hilbert space  
has correct energy spectrum !**





**Only particle like fermionic excitations are present**



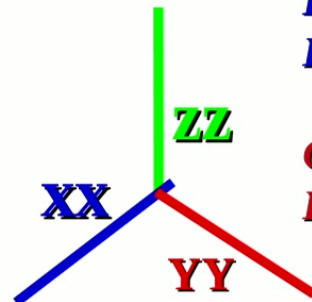
**For zero flux ( $B_p = 1$ ) sector**

# Exact Spin-Spin Correlation Functions & Quantum Number fractionization

GB, Mondal, Shankar  
PRL 2007

*Kitaev spin liquid is a Nematic Spin Liquid*

$$\langle \sigma_i^\alpha \sigma_j^\beta \rangle = g_{\langle ij \rangle_\alpha} \delta_{\alpha\beta} \quad i, j \text{ nearest neighbors} \\ = 0 \quad \text{otherwise}$$



**Extreme Nematic**  
**Ellipsoid with zero thickness**

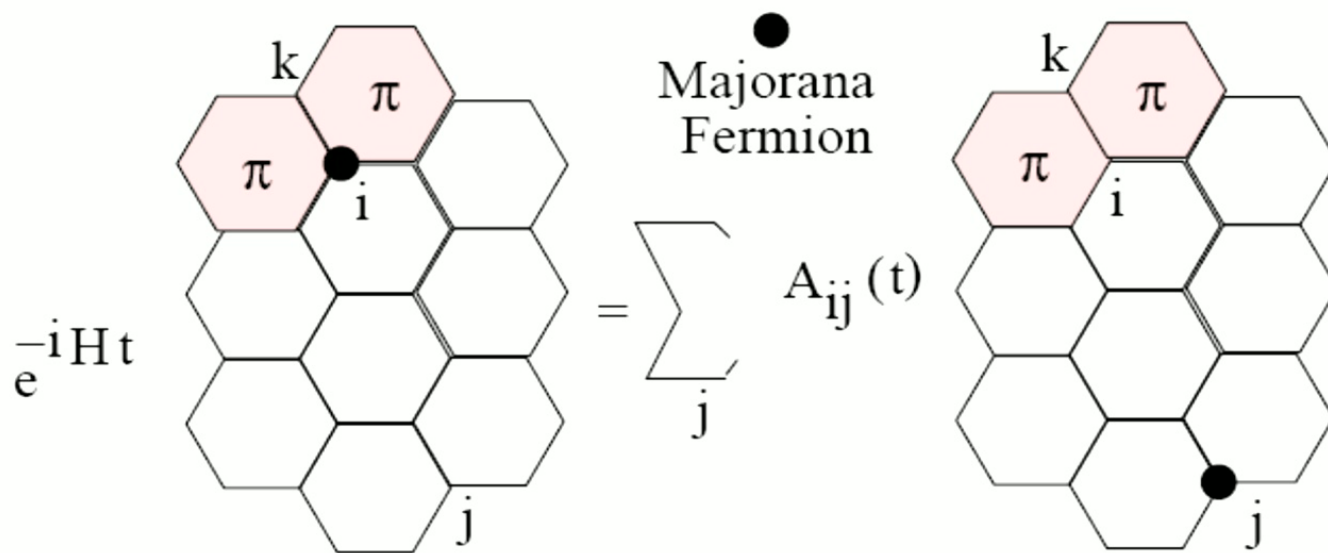
**Oriented along X, Y and Z directions**  
**In spin space along xx, yy and zz bonds**

**Perturbed Kitaev model will**  
**Have general Nematic Ellipsoid**

# Exact Spin-Spin Correlation Functions & Quantum Number fractionization

GB, Mondal, Shankar  
PRL 2007

$$e^{iHt} \sigma_i^a |\hat{\Psi}\rangle \equiv i c_i(t) T(e^{2u_{\langle ik \rangle a} J_a \int_0^t c_i(\tau) c_k(\tau) d\tau}) \hat{\pi}_{\langle ik \rangle a1} \hat{\pi}_{\langle ik \rangle a2} |\hat{\Psi}\rangle$$





***SU(2) Symmetric  $S = \frac{1}{2}$   
Heisenberg Hamiltonian on a Honeycomb lattice  
can be rewritten as  
sum of non-commuting XY and Ising Hamiltonians***

$$\mathbf{H}_{\text{Heisenberg}} = \mathbf{H}_{\text{XY}} + \mathbf{H}_{\text{Ising}}$$

***Traditionally we break SU(2) symmetry by picking  
Ising ground state of exactly solvable Ising part  $\mathbf{H}_{\text{Ising}}$   
and perform spin wave analysis (Kittel)  
(Holstein-Primakoff transformation) with  $\mathbf{H}_{\text{XY}}$  as perturbation and obtain***

***FM or AFM order, Goldstone modes and  
fluctuation induced reduction in Sublattice magnetization***

***SU(2) Symmetric  $S = \frac{1}{2}$  Heisenberg Hamiltonian  
can be rewritten as sum of  
Three non-commuting Kitaev Hamiltonians***

$$\mathbf{H}_{\text{Heisenberg}} = \mathbf{H}_{\text{Kitaev}}^{xyz} + \mathbf{H}_{\text{Kitaev}}^{yzx} + \mathbf{H}_{\text{Kitaev}}^{zxy}$$

***Each Kitaev Hamiltonian piece is Exactly solvable***

***However, energy of this state is high compared to Ising ground state***

$$H_{xyz}^K \equiv J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_x} \sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x + J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_y} \sigma_i^y \sigma_j^y + J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_z} \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z$$

***SU(2) Symmetric  $S = \frac{1}{2}$   
Heisenberg Hamiltonian on a Honeycomb lattice  
can be rewritten as  
sum of non-commuting XY and Ising Hamiltonians***

$$\mathbf{H}_{\text{Heisenberg}} = \mathbf{H}_{\text{XY}} + \mathbf{H}_{\text{Ising}}$$

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(Holstein-Primakoff transformation) with  $\mathbf{H}_{\text{XY}}$  as perturbation and obtain***

***FM or AFM order, Goldstone modes and  
fluctuation induced reduction in Sublattice magnetization***

## **Residual Interaction among scalar and vector Majorana Fermions**

$$\begin{aligned}
 H_{yzx}^K + H_{zxy}^K &\equiv +J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_x} c_i c_j (c_i^y c_j^y + c_i^z c_j^z) + \\
 &+ J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_y} c_i c_j (c_i^z c_j^z + c_i^x c_j^x) + J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_z} c_i c_j (c_i^x c_j^x + c_i^y c_j^y)
 \end{aligned}$$

### **Hartree Approximation**

$$H_H^H(G, xyz) = J_s \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} i c_i c_j + J_v \left\{ \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_{yz}} i c_i^x c_j^x + \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_{zx}} i c_i^y c_j^y + \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_{xy}} i c_i^z c_j^z \right\}$$

**Hartree Parameters**

$$\begin{aligned}
 J_s &\equiv J(1 + \alpha_s) & J_v &\equiv J(1 + \alpha_v) \\
 \alpha_s &\equiv \langle c_i c_j \rangle & \alpha_v &\equiv \frac{2}{3} \langle \vec{c}_i \cdot \vec{c}_j \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

**are determined self consistently**

$$H_H^H(G, xyz) = J_s \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} ic_i c_j + J_v \left\{ \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_{yz}} ic_i^x c_j^x + \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_{zx}} ic_i^y c_j^y + \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_{xy}} ic_i^z c_j^z \right\}$$

**Free Scalar  
Majorana Fermion  
In zero flux sector**

**Free vector Majorana Fermion  
In three types of decoupled  
Zig-zag 1D Chains**

**X Majorana Fermions hop along  
YZ - zig zag chains**

**Y MF along ZX chain**

**Z MF along XY chains**



***In the Heisenberg model in the honeycomb lattice***

***Ising piece of the Hamiltonian compete  
to stabilize AFM or FM phase***

***three Kitaev pieces of the Hamiltonian compete  
to stabilize their own Kitaev Spin Liquid  
in the corresponding zero flux sector***

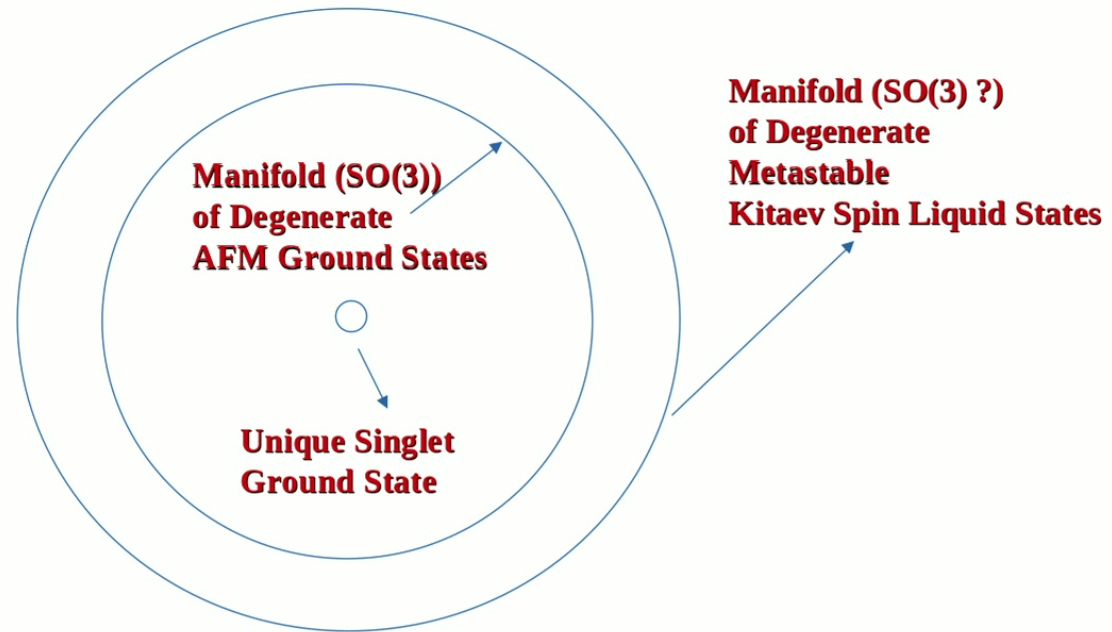
***In the competition Kitaev spin liquid loses  
and AFM or FM order wins at and close to Ground States***

**However, we have quantum fluctuating  
Zero Flux vectors at higher energy scales**

**A degenerate manifold of Kitaev spin liquids  
become Metastable vacua and**

**Goldstone mode emerges**

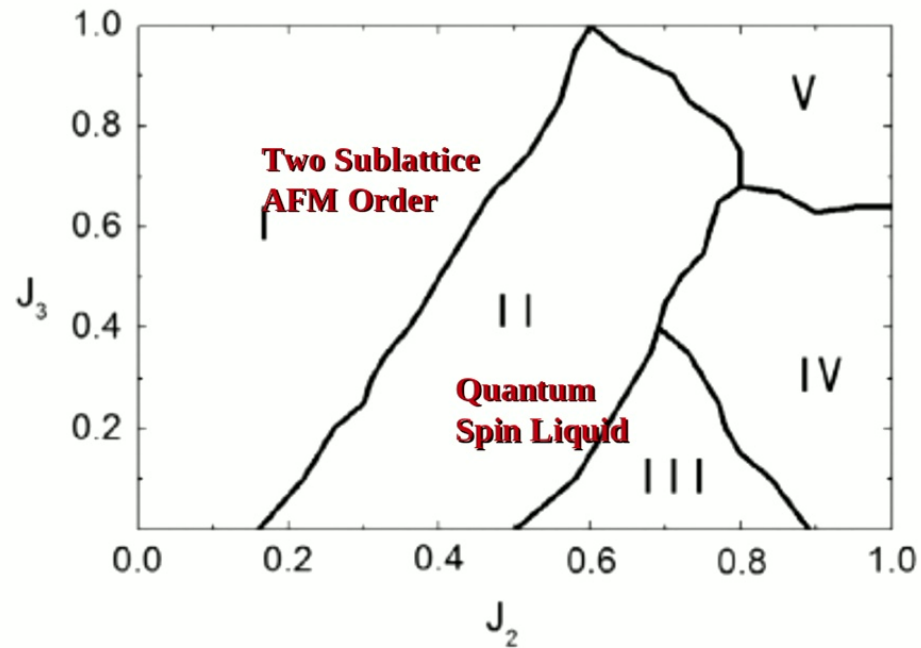
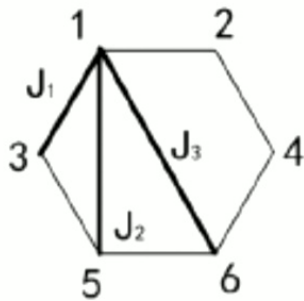
**Schematic picture of Hilbert Space and Manifold of Degenerate Metastable Kitaev Spin Liquid States arising from Spontaneous Symmetry Breaking**



***Frustration could destabilize AFM/FM order and stabilize Kitaev type Nematic Spin Liquid***

***Francesco Ferrari and GB 2022 (unpublished)***

## *SU(2) Symmetric Heisenberg Spin $\frac{1}{2}$ Model on a Honeycomb Lattice with Frustrating Interactions*



Distant Spin Correlations in Quantum Spin Liquid on the Honeycomb Lattice

*Hao Geng et al., Phys. Status Solidi B 2020, 257, 1900659*

CRAFTING BY SYMMETRIC  
DECOMPOSITION OF HAMILTONIANS

$$H^H \equiv H_{xyz}^K + H_{xyz}^{cK}$$

$$\underline{\underline{H_{xyz}^{cK}}} \equiv H_{yzx}^K + H_{zxy}^K$$



Similarly, spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  XY model Hamiltonian in a square lattice  $H^{XY}$  can be symmetrically decomposed into noncommuting sum of two Kugel-Khomskii [7] pieces  $H_{xy}^{KK}$  and  $H_{yx}^{KK}$ :

$$H^{XY} = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} (\sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x + \sigma_i^y \sigma_j^y) \equiv H_{xy}^{KK} + H_{yx}^{KK} \quad (12)$$

Approximate analysis can be performed to find if square lattice XY FM or AFM contains metastable anisotropic spin liquid vacua corresponding to Kugel-Khomskii compass Hamiltonians.

## PREPARATION OF FALSE VACUUM AND WATCHING ITS EVOLUTION

What do we expect ? Our hypothesis is presence of three stages in time evolution. Since there is a finite energy gap for  $Z_2$  flux excitations, we expect, first, renormalization of the Kitaev spin liquid state (analogue of growth of zero point spin fluctuations in an Ising AFM vacuum in 3 or 2D). After a time interval, the system will nucleate  $Z_2$  fluxes, create a small density of Majorana Fermions as well as topological defects in the Kitaev nematic order, via quantum tunneling. Finally there will be a crossover to nucleation of real (FM/AFM) ground state bubbles and their growth.

## Help from Many Body Localization

It is indeed exciting that beyond the comfort zone of equilibrium quantum statistical mechanics, rich new worlds await even in energy eigen states and near eigen (manybody wave packet) states of familiar and well studied Hamiltonians. From the point of view of performing quantum computation and related tasks, present work opens new avenues to *explore and use exotic quasiparticles and exotic metastable states, which are hiding in nonexotic real systems.*

**Thank You for Your Attention**