

# Spintronics meets quantum spin liquids: a novel spectral probe of quantum magnets based on spin Hall phenomena

So Takei

*Queens College and The Graduate Center  
of the City University of New York*



D. Joshi, A. P. Schnyder and S. Takei, Phys. Rev. B **98**, 064401 (2018)  
J. Aftergood and S. Takei, Phys. Rev. Research **2**, 033439 (2020)

# acknowledgments

- collaborators:



Joshua Aftergood  
(CUNY)



Andreas Schnyder  
(MPI Stuttgart)



Darshan Joshi  
(MPI Stuttgart → Harvard)

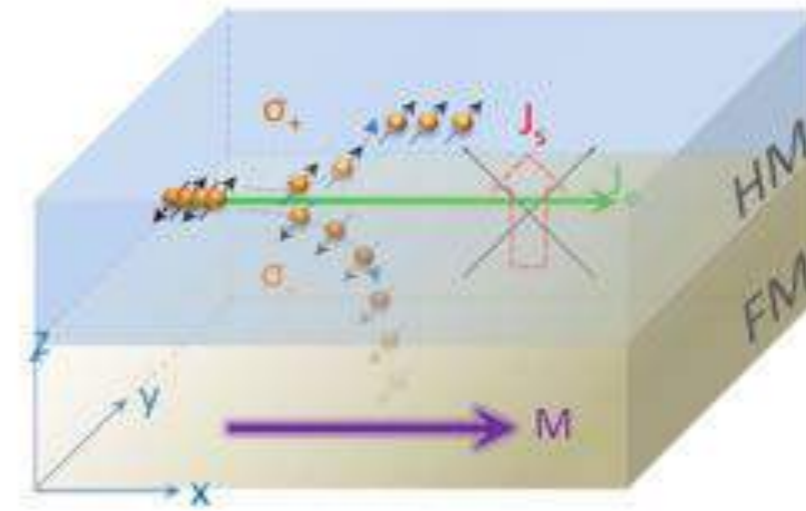
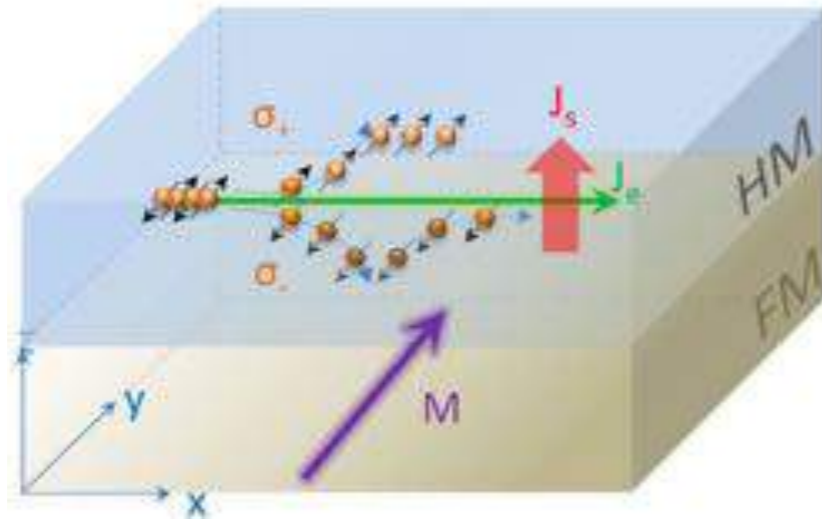
- funding:



- introduction to **spin Hall noise spectroscopy**
- application to a **quantum spin ladder**: detection of topological phase transitions
  - dimerized quantum antiferromagnet + Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya interaction + external magnetic field, e.g.,  $\text{BiCu}_2\text{PO}_6$ .
- application to **quantum spin liquids**: detection of spin density of states
  - $S=1/2$  kagomé Heisenberg antiferromagnet, e.g., herbertsmithite  $\text{ZnCu}_3(\text{OH})_6\text{Cl}_2$ .
  - the antiferromagnetic Kitaev honeycomb model, e.g.,  $\alpha\text{-RuCl}_3$ .
  - spinon Fermi surface coupled to gapless  $U(1)$  gauge fluctuations, e.g., organic salt compounds,  $\text{YbMgGaO}_4$ .
- summary & outlook

# spin Hall magnetoresistance

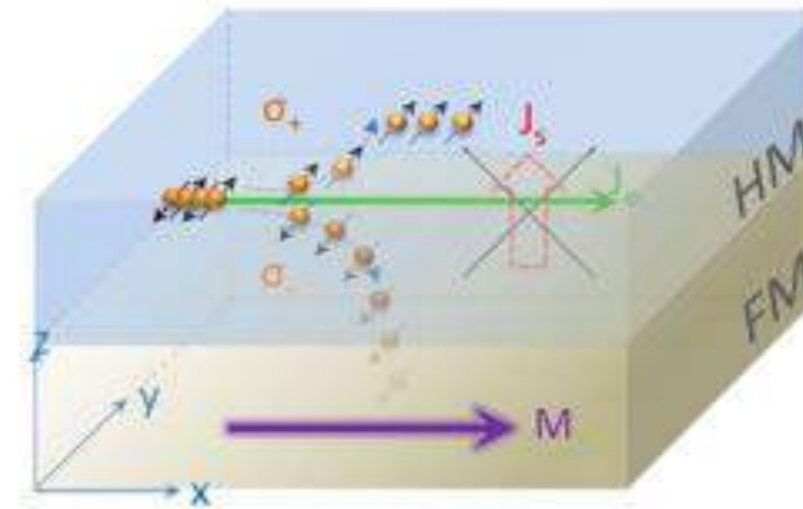
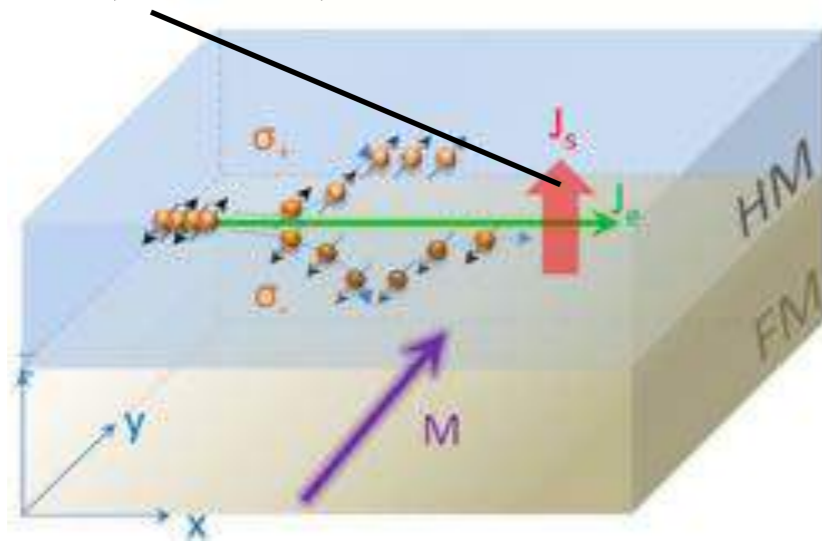
- **spin Hall magnetoresistance (SMR)**: corrections to longitudinal and Hall resistivities of a strongly spin-orbit coupled metal in contact with a magnetic material.



# spin Hall magnetoresistance

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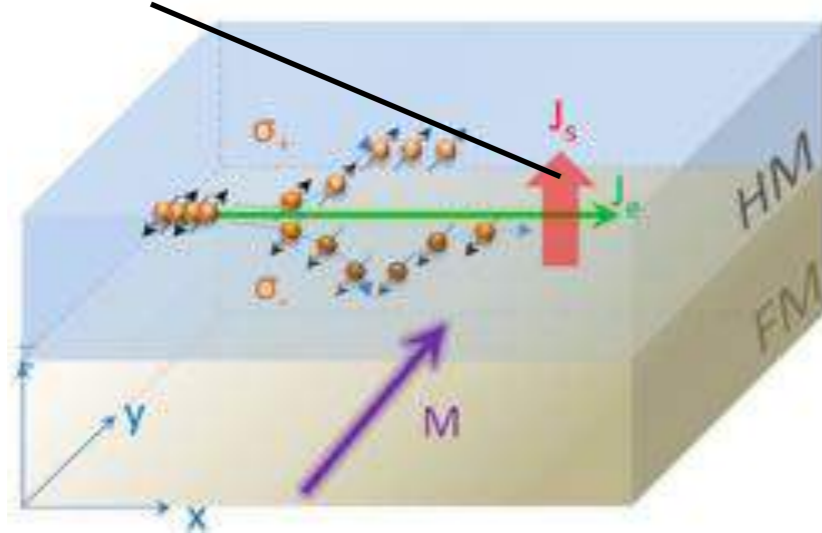
$$\mathbf{J}_s \propto \mathbf{M} \times (\mathbf{M} \times \hat{\mathbf{y}})$$



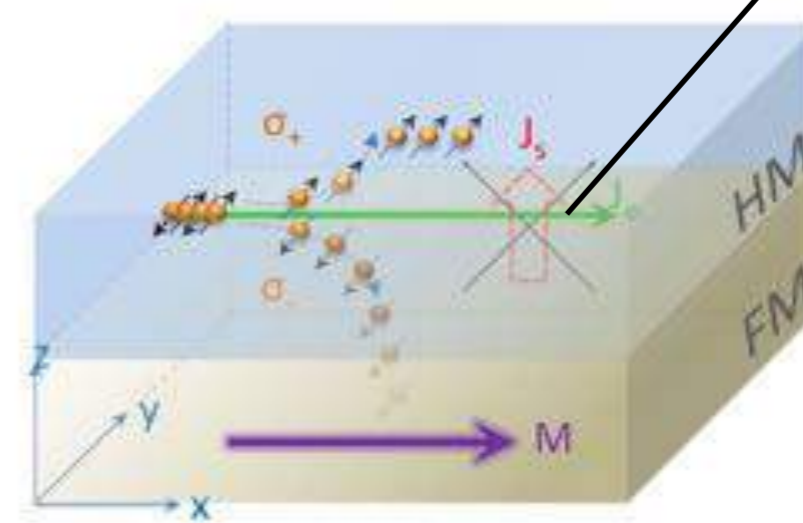
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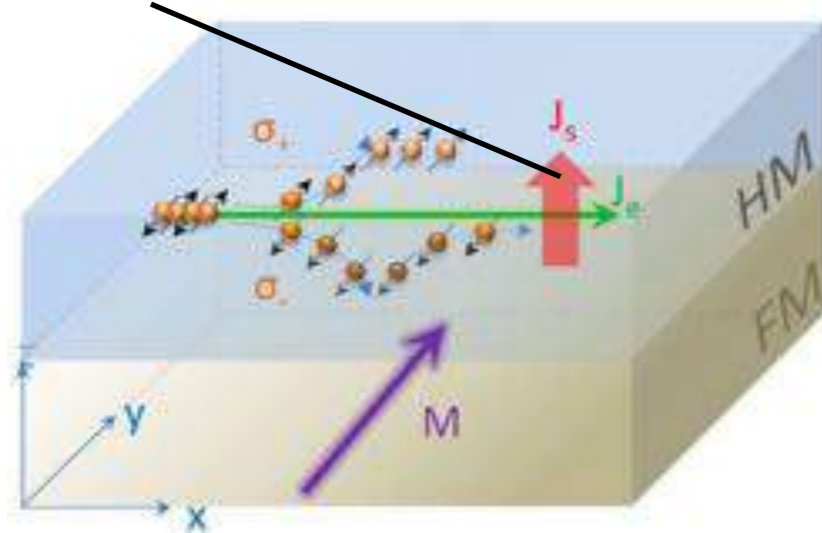
$$\delta \mathbf{J}_e \propto \hat{\mathbf{y}} \cdot [\mathbf{M} \times (\mathbf{M} \times \hat{\mathbf{y}})] \propto M_x^2$$



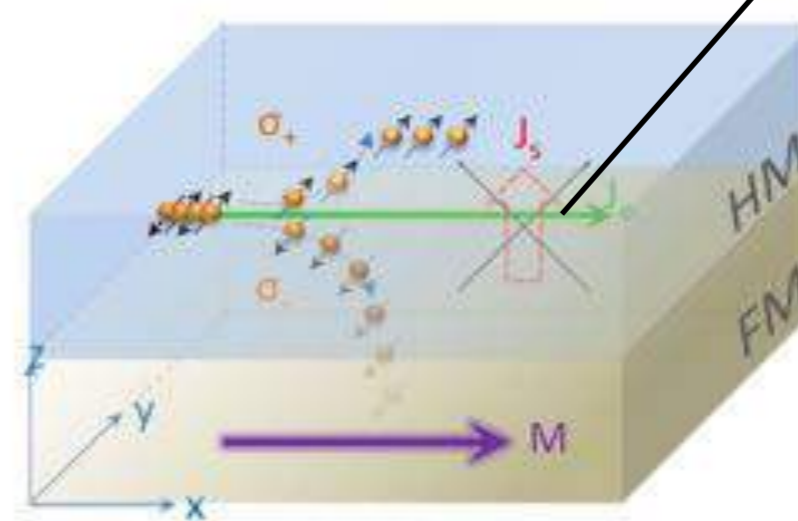
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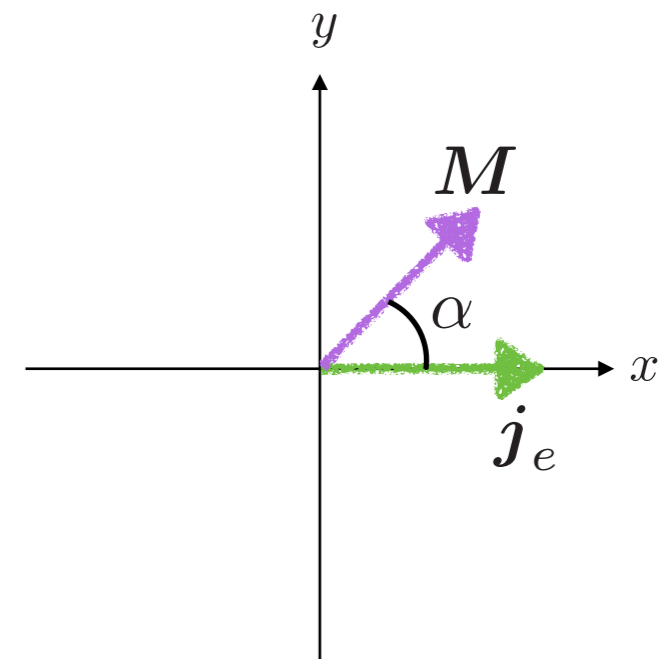
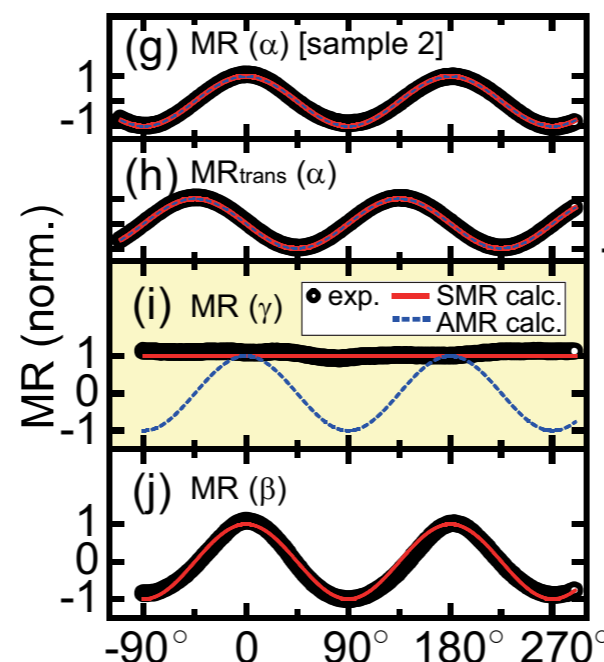
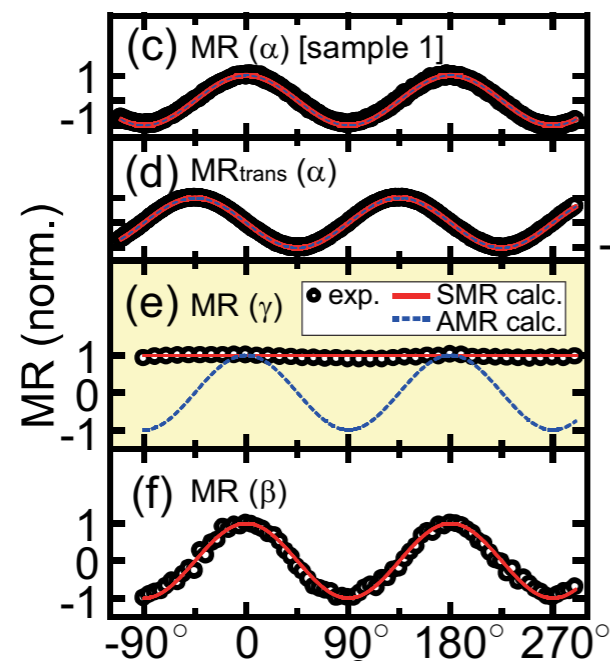
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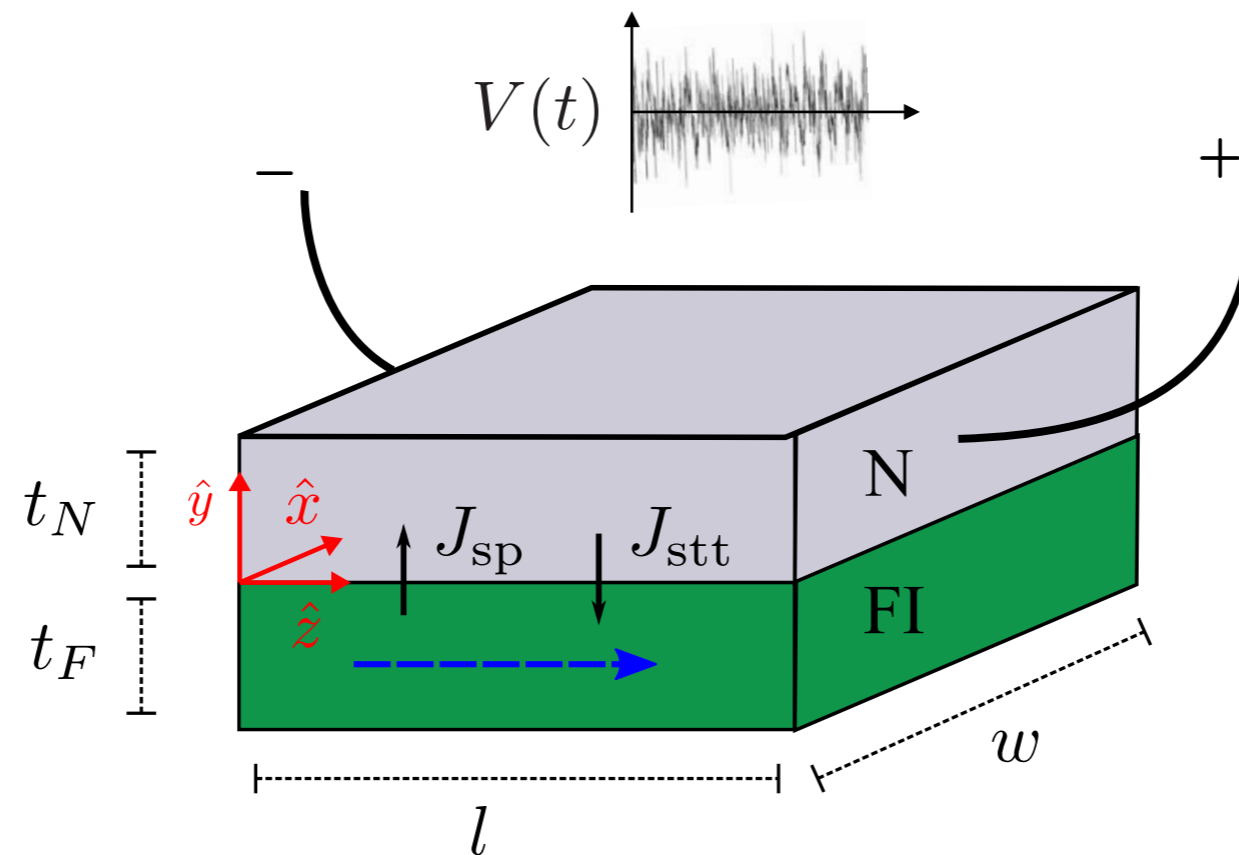


- longitudinal resistance for in-plane magnetization:  $R = R_0 + \Delta R_0 + R_1 \cos^2 \alpha$



# spin Hall noise

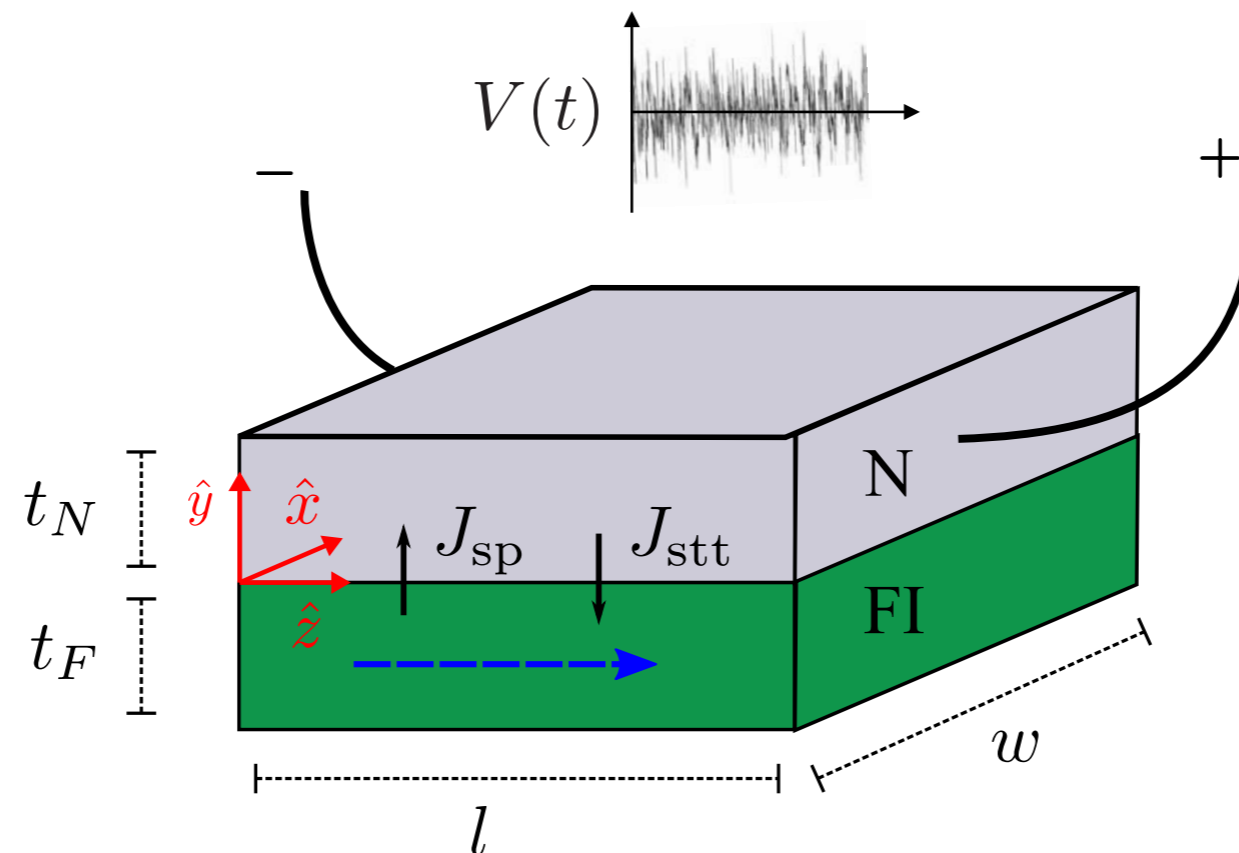
- Fluctuation-dissipation theorem: SMR gives additional contribution to the thermal voltage noise across the metal.





# spin Hall noise

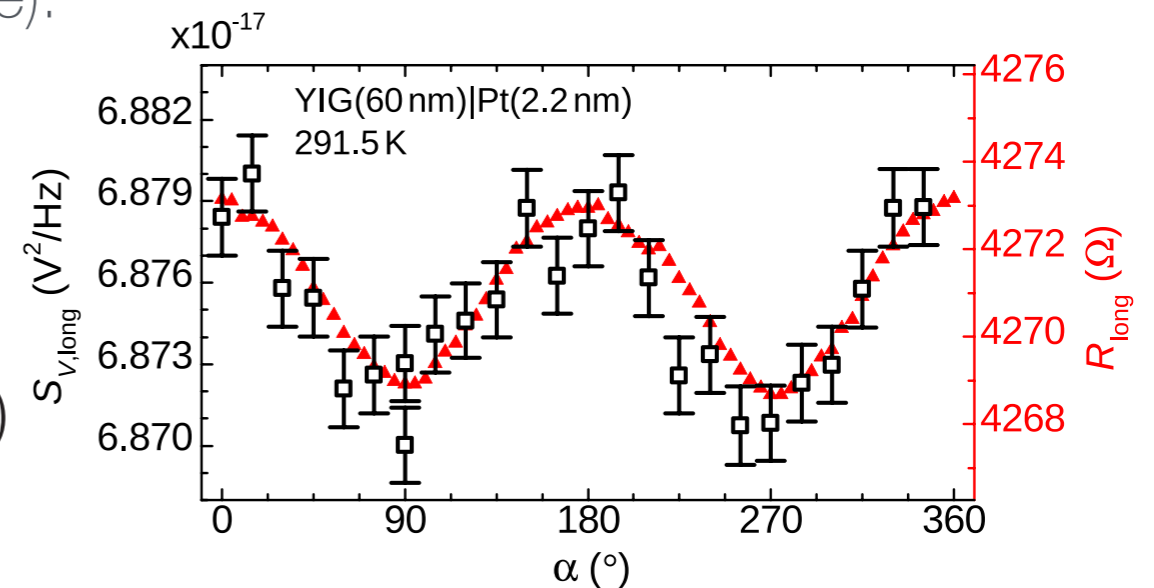
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- DC thermal voltage noise (Johnson-Nyquist noise):

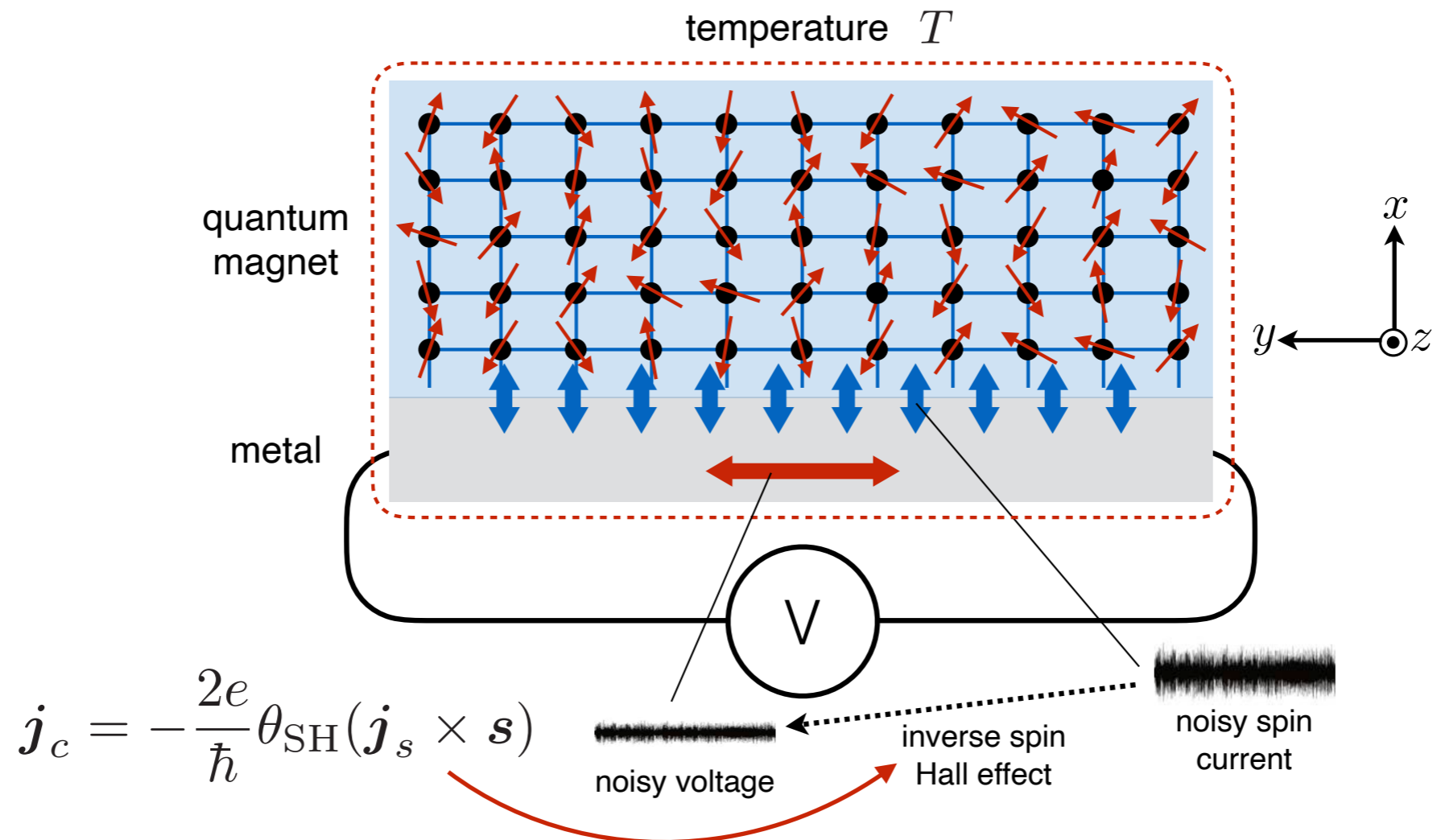
$$S_V(\Omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \langle V(t)V(0) \rangle e^{-i\Omega t} dt$$

$$\xrightarrow{\Omega \rightarrow 0} 2k_B T (R_0 + \Delta R_0 + R_1 \cos^2 \alpha)$$



# spin Hall noise spectroscopy (SHNS)

- heavy metal | quantum paramagnet (no long-range order) bilayer at temperature  $T$ .

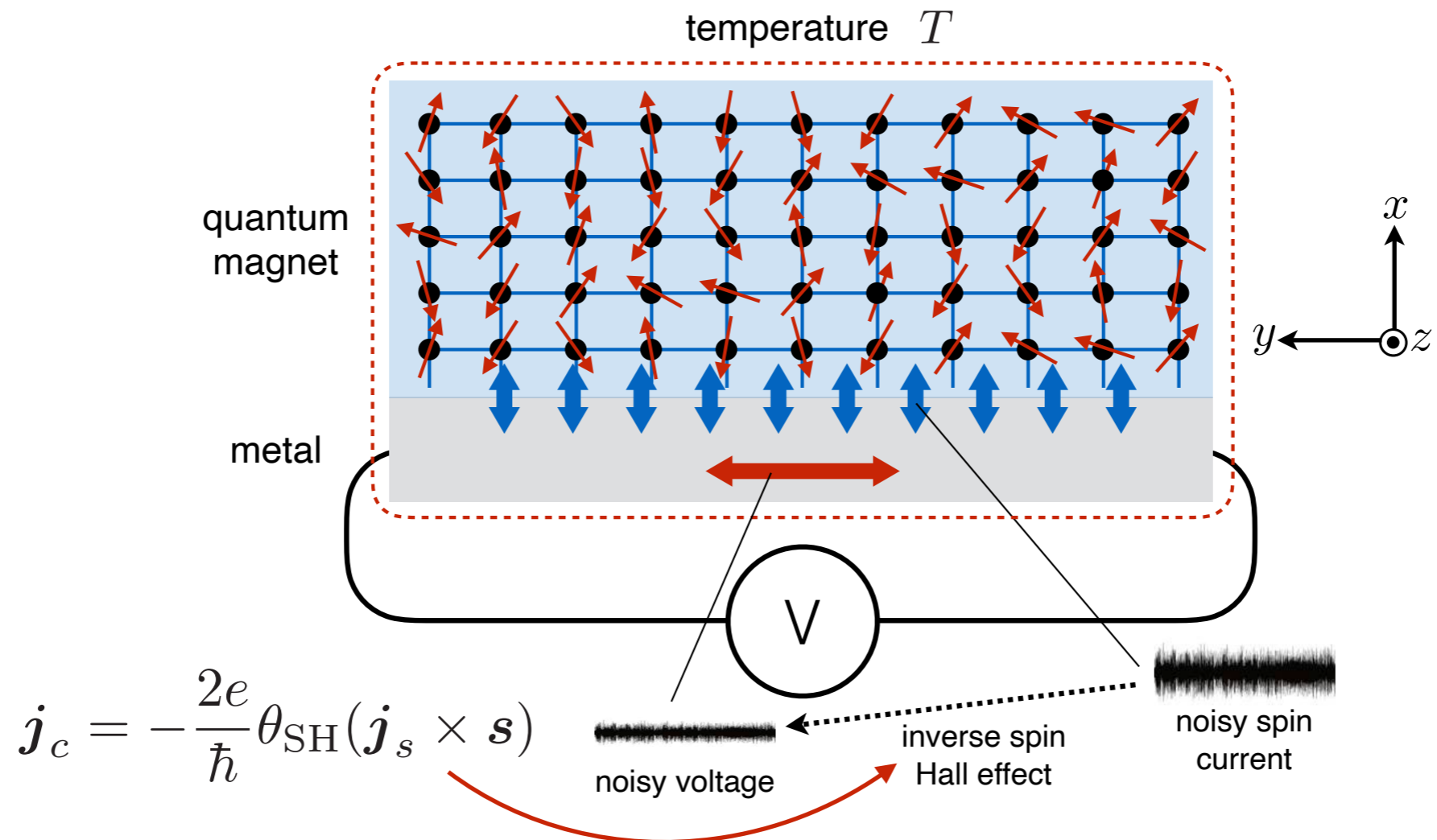


- total (asymmetrized) voltage noise spectral density in the metal:

$$S_V(\Omega, T) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \langle V(t)V(0) \rangle e^{-i\Omega t} dt = S_V^{(0)}(\Omega, T) + \delta S_V(\Omega, T)$$

# spin Hall noise spectroscopy (SHNS)

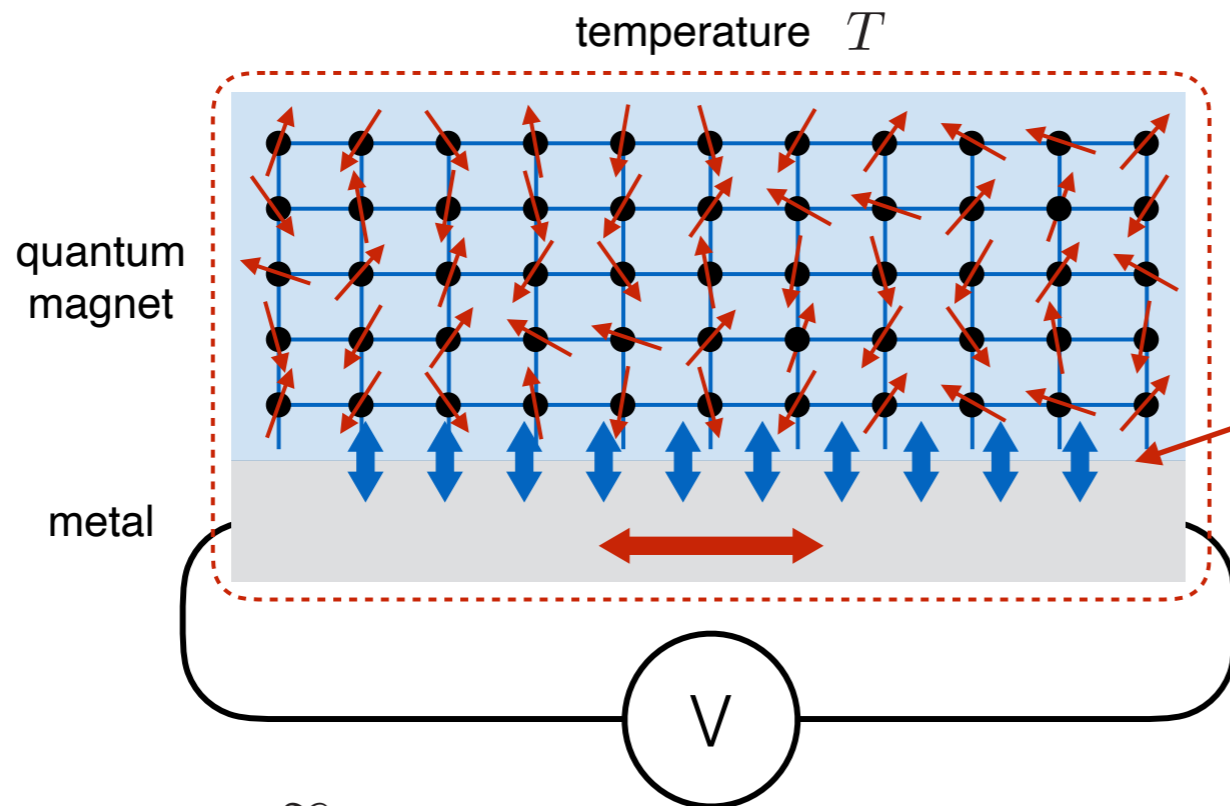
- heavy metal | quantum paramagnet (no long-range order) bilayer at temperature  $T$ .



- interfacial  $z$ -polarized spin current fluctuations  $S_s(\Omega, T)$  generates voltage fluctuations along the  $y$  axis in the metal:

$$\delta S_V(\Omega, T) = \Theta S_s(\Omega, T)$$

- thermal spin current fluctuations at the metal | quantum paramagnet interface.
  - treat metal using the Sommerfeld model.
  - exchange coupling at the interface.
  - define spin current as total  $z$ -polarized spin entering the metal.



$$H_c = -\mathcal{J}v_0 \sum_i \mathbf{s}(y=0, \mathbf{r}_i) \cdot \mathbf{S}_i$$

$$I_s(t) = \hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[ \int_{\text{metal}} d^3\mathbf{r} s_z(\mathbf{r}, t) \right]$$

$$S_s(\Omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \langle I_s(t) I_s(0) \rangle e^{i\Omega t}$$

$$\chi_{ij}^{\mp\pm}(\nu) \equiv -i \int dt \langle S_i^{\mp}(t) S_j^{\pm}(0) \rangle e^{i\nu t}$$

$$= 2i \left( \frac{\mathcal{J}v_0 m k_F}{2\pi^2 \hbar} \right)^2 \sum_i \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\nu \frac{\nu - \Omega}{e^{\beta\hbar(\nu - \Omega)} - 1} [\chi_{ii}^{+-}(\nu) + \chi_{ii}^{-+}(\nu)]$$

**Voltage noise correction is proportional to the imaginary part of the local dynamical spin structure factor of the adjacent quantum magnet.**

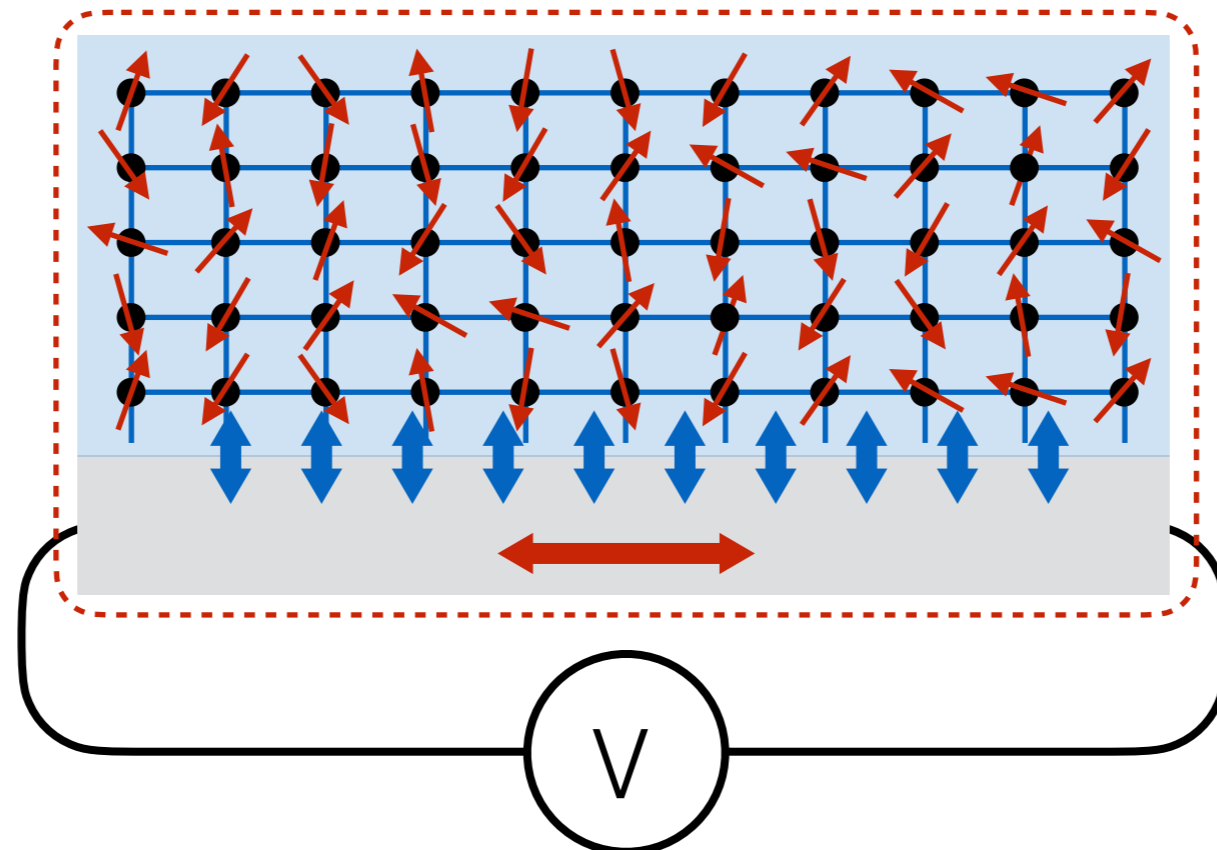
# measurement

- noise due to proximate quantum magnet obtained via the difference between the total noise and the (known) background noise of the metal.

$$\underbrace{\delta S_V(\Omega, T)}_{\text{predicted}} = \underbrace{S_V(\Omega, T)}_{\text{measured}} - \underbrace{S_V^{(0)}(\Omega, T)}_{\text{known}}$$

- noise can also be determined through AC resistance measurements.

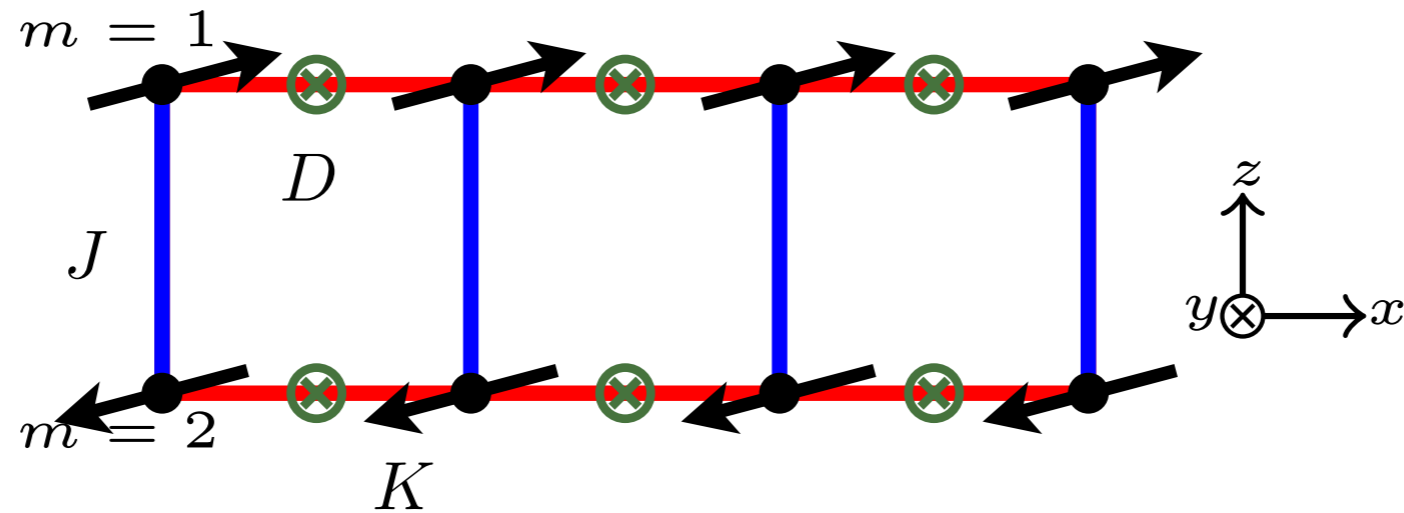
$$\underbrace{\delta S_V(\Omega, T)}_{\text{predicted}} = 4k_B T \frac{\hbar\Omega/k_B T}{e^{\hbar\Omega/k_B T} - 1} (\underbrace{R(\Omega, T)}_{\text{measured}} - \underbrace{R_0(\Omega, T)}_{\text{known}})$$



application to quantum spin ladder

# quantum spin ladder

- quantum spin ladder: intra-dimer exchange  $J$ , inter-dimer exchange  $K$ , odd-parity DM interaction  $D$ , even-parity spin-anisotropic interaction  $\Gamma$ , and external magnetic field  $h_y$



$$\hat{H} = J \sum_i \hat{\mathbf{S}}_{1,i} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{S}}_{2,i} + K \sum_{m=1,2} \sum_i \hat{\mathbf{S}}_{m,i} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{S}}_{m,i+1} + h_y \sum_{m=1,2} \sum_i \hat{S}_{m,i}^y$$

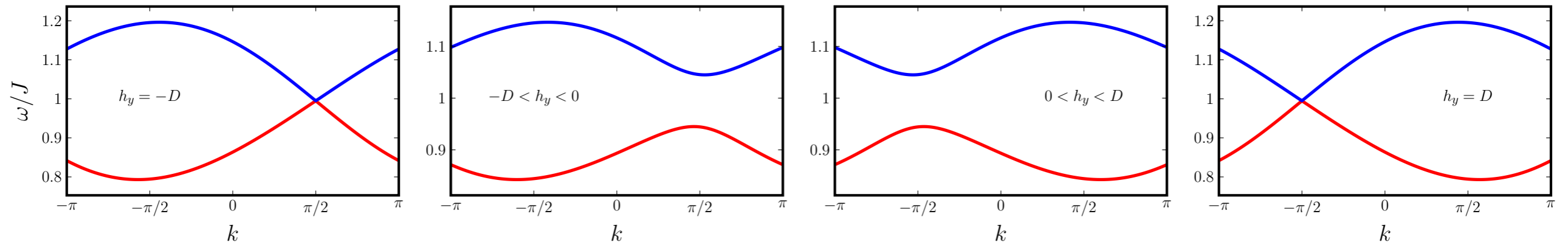
$$+ D \sum_{m=1,2} \sum_i \left[ \hat{S}_{m,i}^z \hat{S}_{m,i+1}^x - \hat{S}_{m,i}^x \hat{S}_{m,i+1}^z \right] + \Gamma \sum_{m=1,2} \sum_i \left[ \hat{S}_{m,i}^z \hat{S}_{m,i+1}^x + \hat{S}_{m,i}^x \hat{S}_{m,i+1}^z \right]$$

- dominant  $J > 0 \rightarrow$  ground state: dimerized quantum antiferromagnet
- three gapped excitations (i.e., triplons): spin-1 triplet states on each dimer

$$|t_x\rangle = -\frac{|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle - |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \quad |t_y\rangle = i\frac{|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle + |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \quad |t_z\rangle = \frac{|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

# topological phase transition

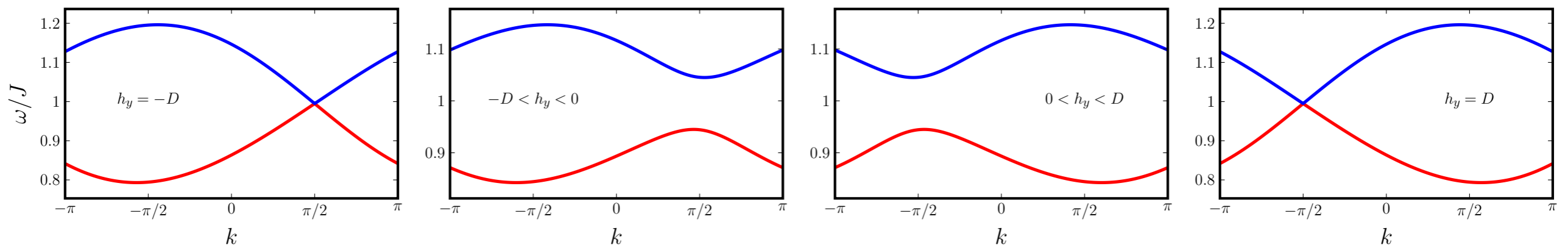
- bulk  $t_x$  and  $t_z$  triplon bands: topological quantum phase transition at  $h_y = D$





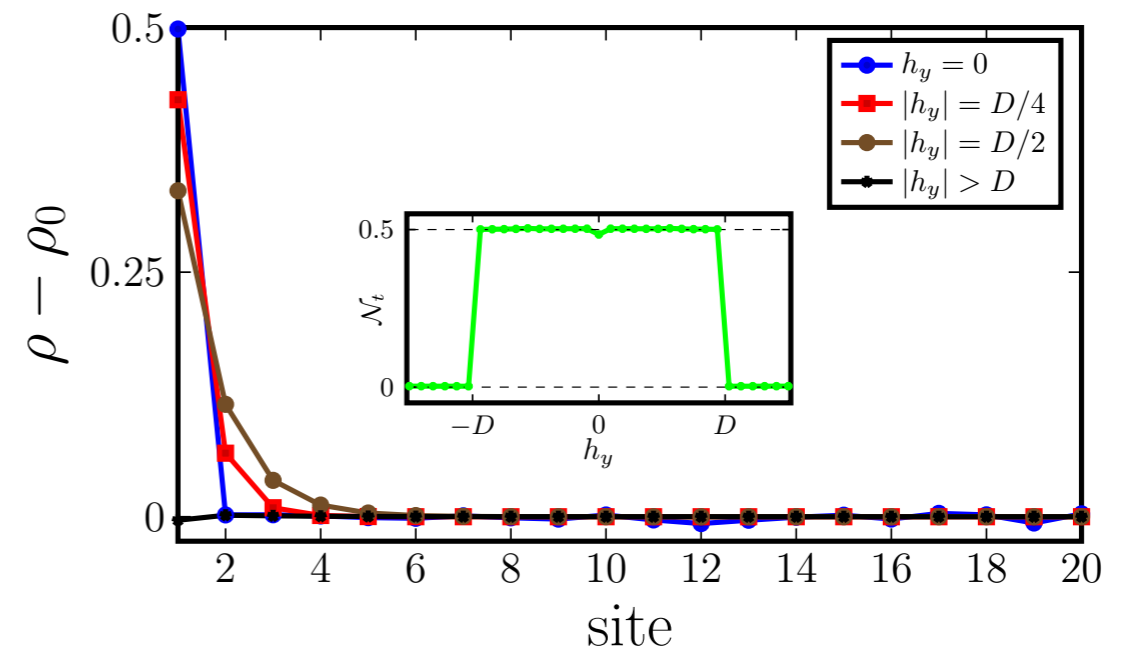
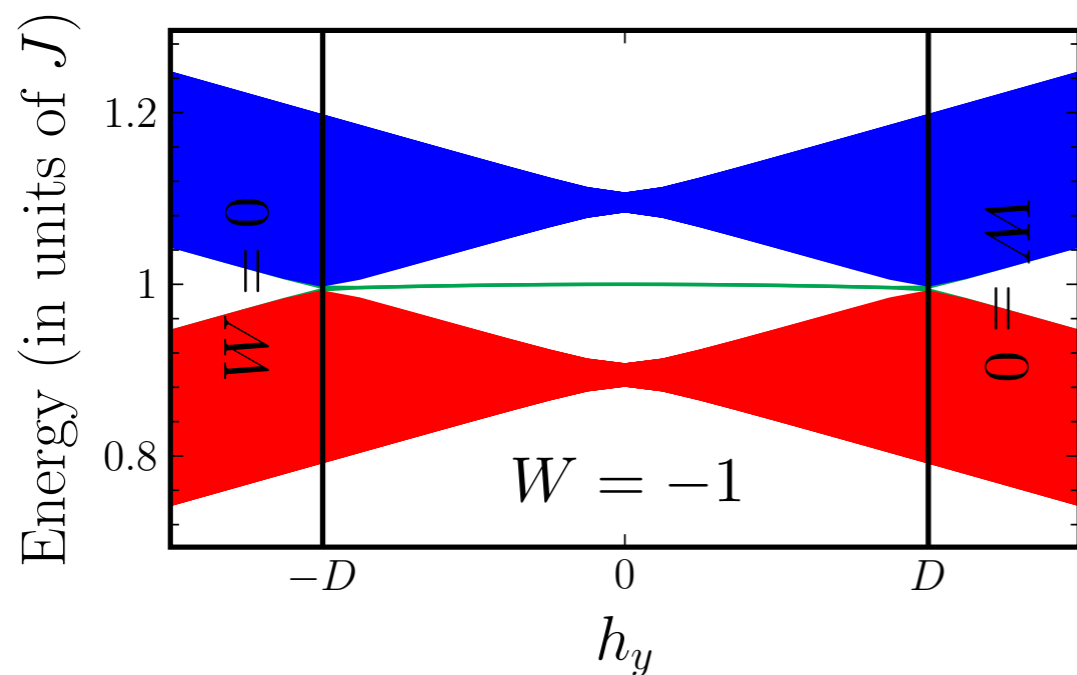
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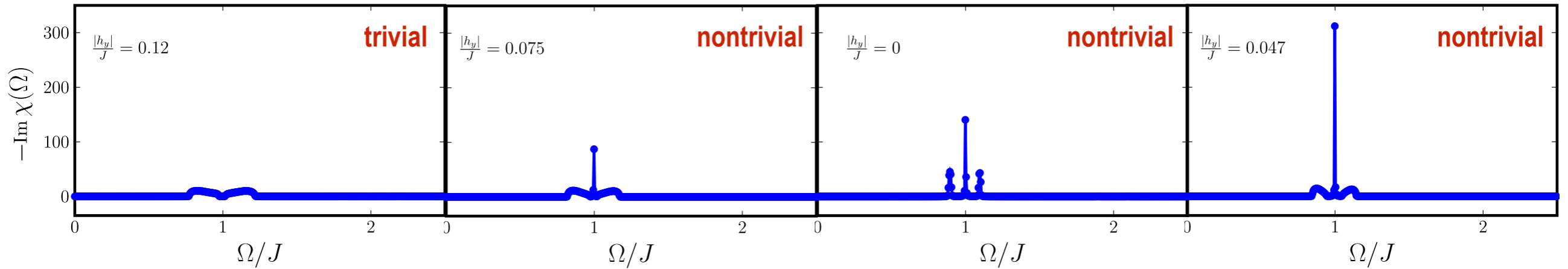


- $t_x$  and  $t_z$  triplon bands with open ends.
- mid-gap states (energy  $J$ ) are exponentially localized at the two ends of the ladder and have fractional particle number (i.e.,  $S = 1/2$ )

$$D/J = 0.1, \quad K/J = 0.01$$

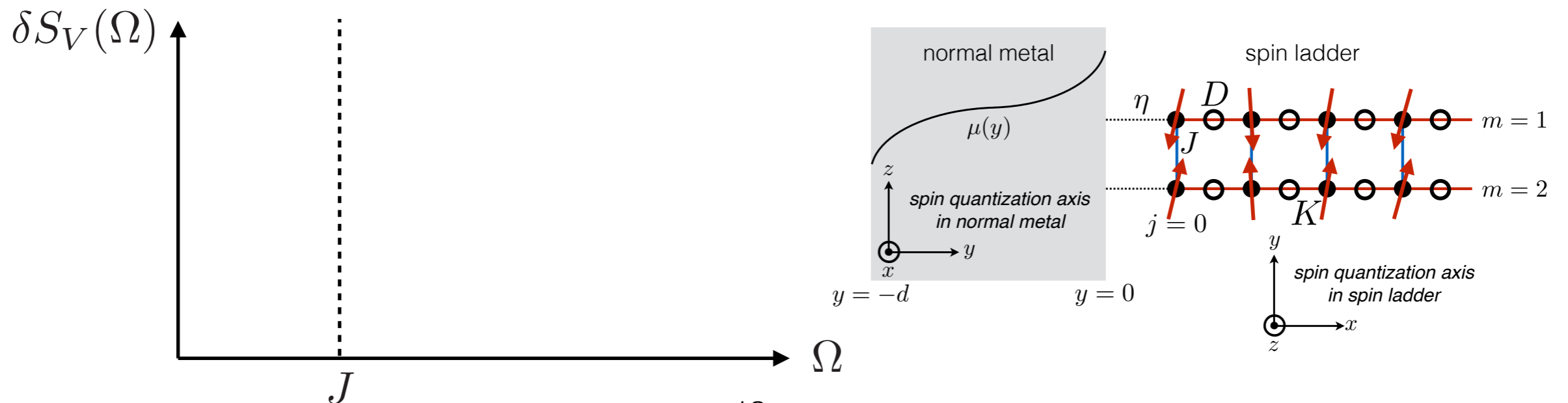


- sharp features in the (imaginary part of the) dynamical spin structure factor emerge in the topological phase at mid-gap energy  $\hbar\Omega = J$ .

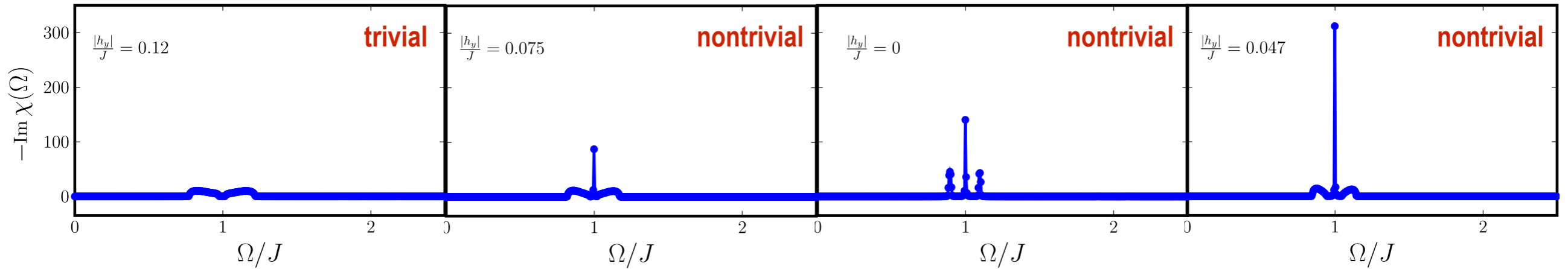


- voltage noise correction at low temperatures:

$$S_s(\Omega, T \approx 0) \approx 2i \left( \frac{\mathcal{J} v_0 m k_F}{2\pi^2 \hbar} \right)^2 \sum_j \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\nu (\Omega - \nu) \left[ \chi_{jj}^{+-}(\nu) + \chi_{jj}^{-+}(\nu) \right] \theta(\Omega - \nu)$$

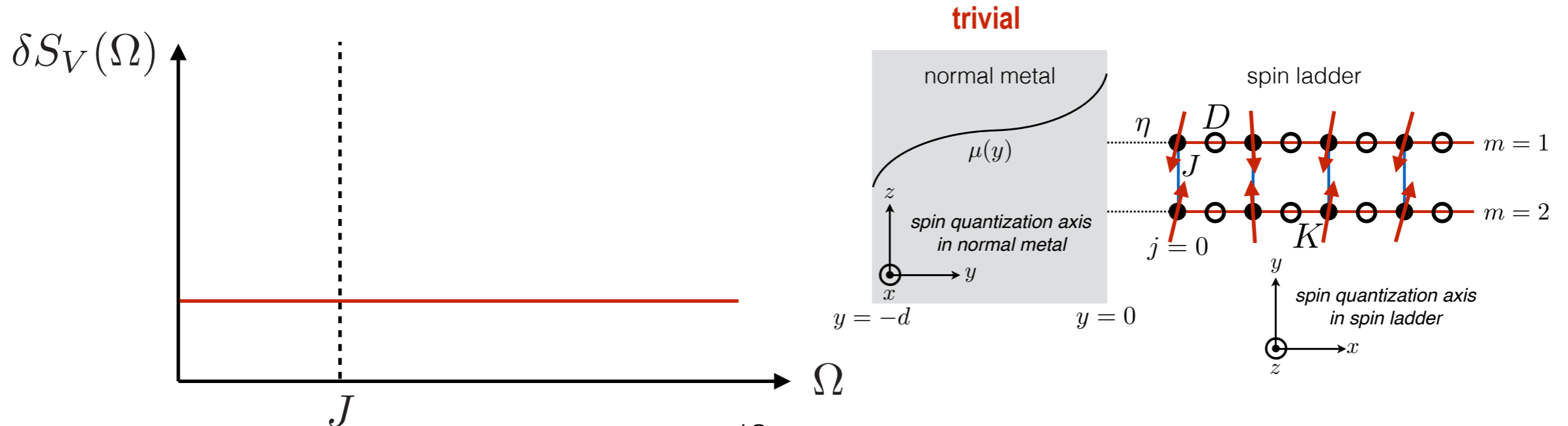


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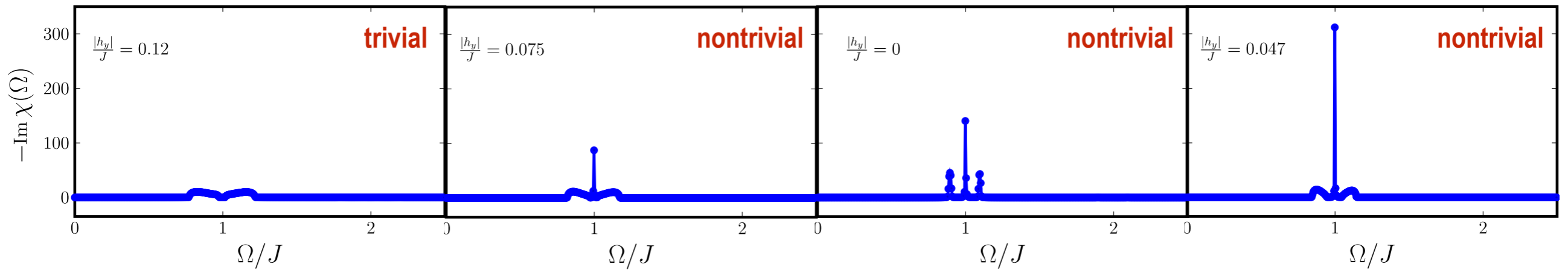


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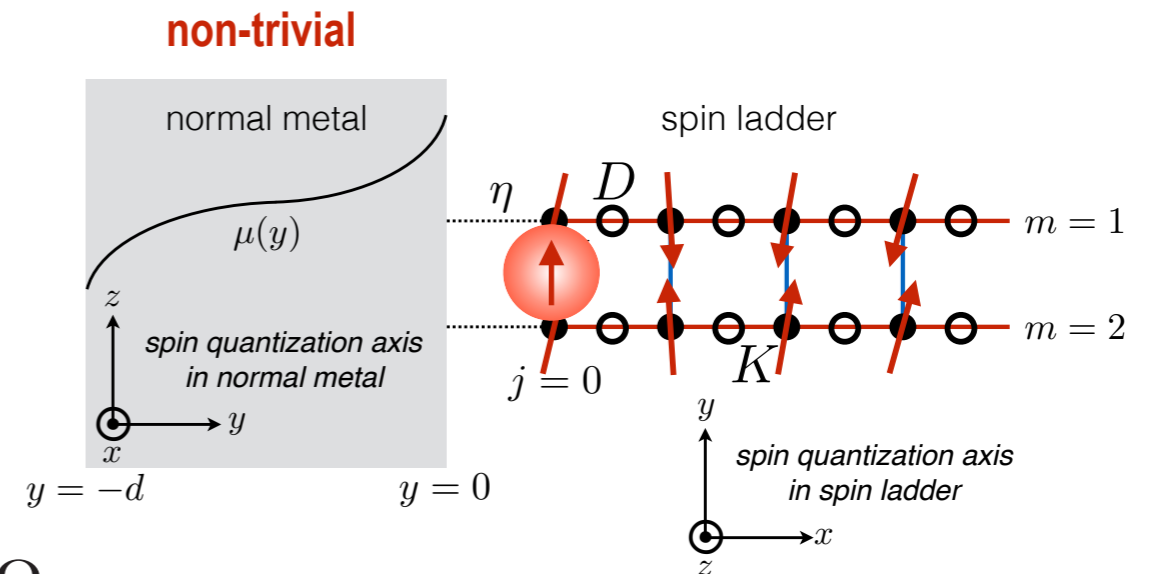
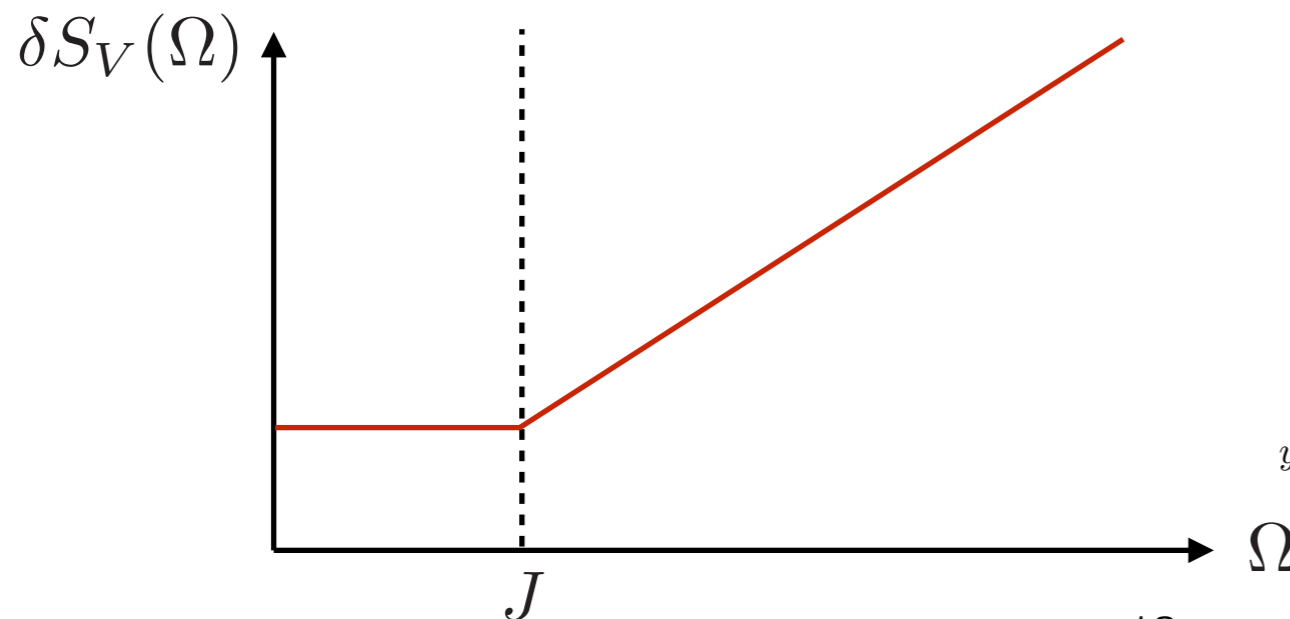


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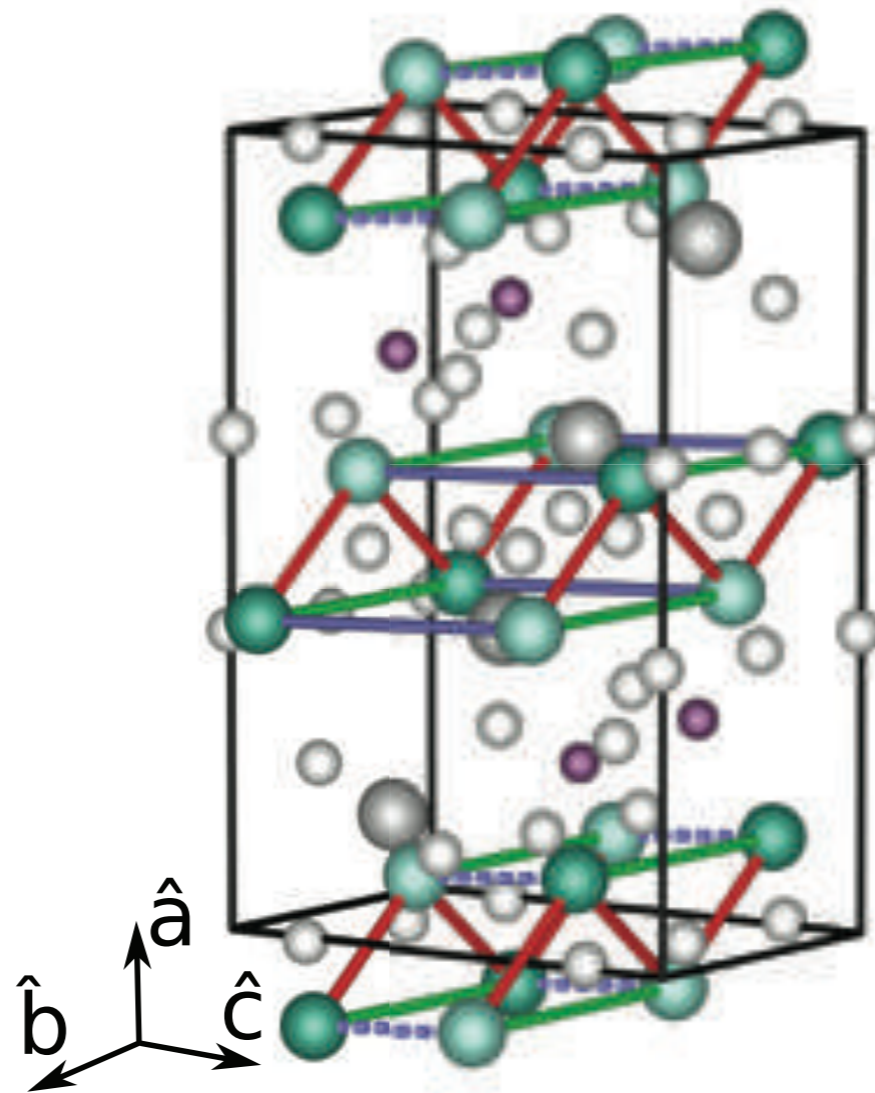
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# candidate material

- e.g.,  $\text{BiCu}_2\text{PO}_6$

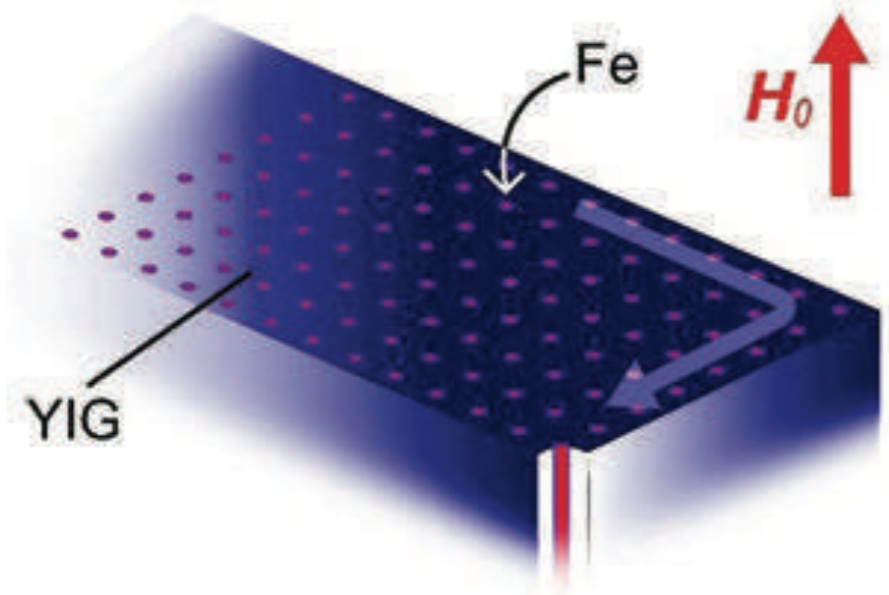


A. A. Tsirlin *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B **82**, 144426 (2010)  
S. Wang *et al.*, J. Cryst. Growth **313**, 51 (2010)  
Y. Kohama *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **109**, 167204 (2012)  
K. W. Plumb *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B **88**, 024402 (2013)

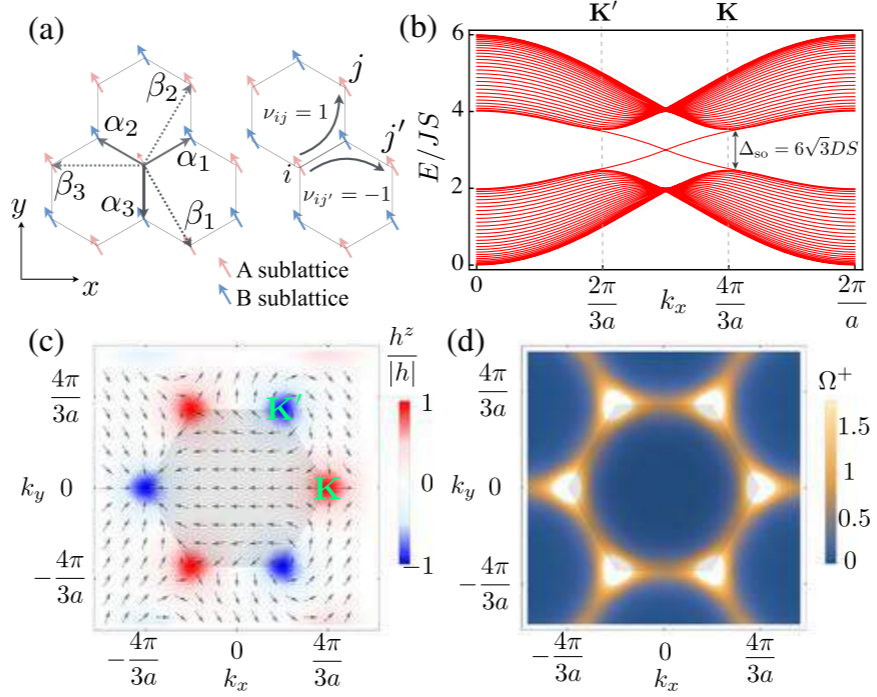
- mid-gap energy scale  $\sim 100$  GHz
- high-frequency noise spectral analyzer  $\sim$  few hundred GHz

# ... more materials

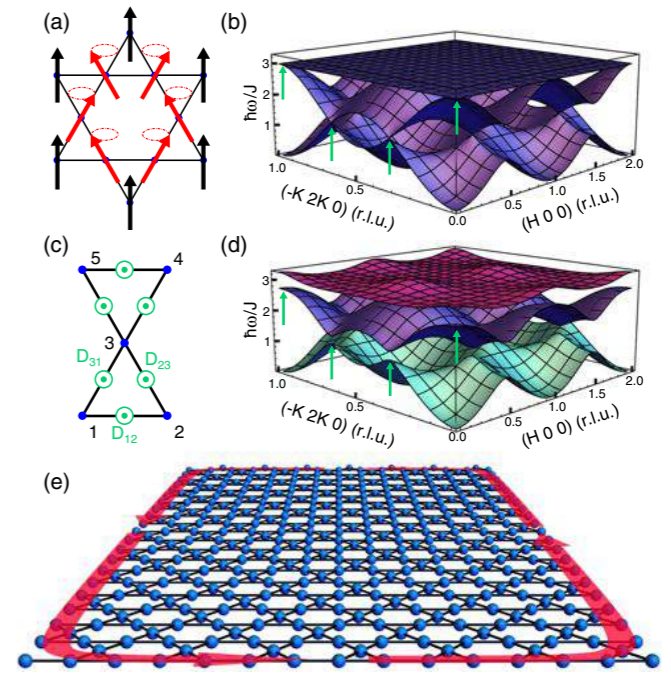
- SHNS is particularly sensitive to changes in local tunneling density of states at sample boundaries → useful probe of various topological edge-states in quantum magnets



Topological magnon bands in a magnonic crystal



Topological magnon bands in the honeycomb ferromagnet



Topological magnon bands in Kagome lattice ferromagnet

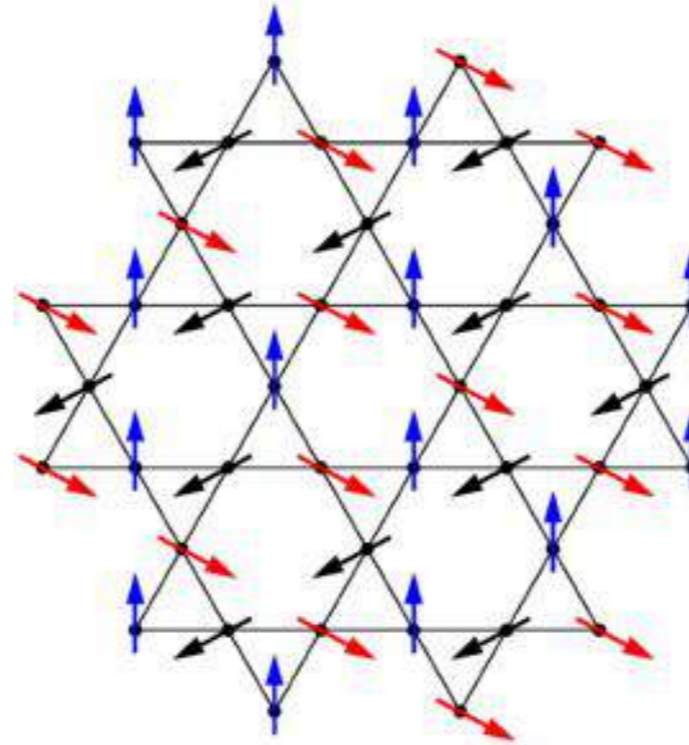
R. Shindou *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B **87**, 174427 (2013)  
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 R. Chisnell *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **115**, 147201 (2015)  
 F.-Y. Li *et al.*, Nature Comm. **7**, 12691 (2016)  
 S. K. Kim *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **117**, 227201 (2016)  
 P. A. McClarty *et al.*, Nature Phys. **13**, 736 (2017)

application to quantum spin liquids

# kagomé quantum antiferromagnet

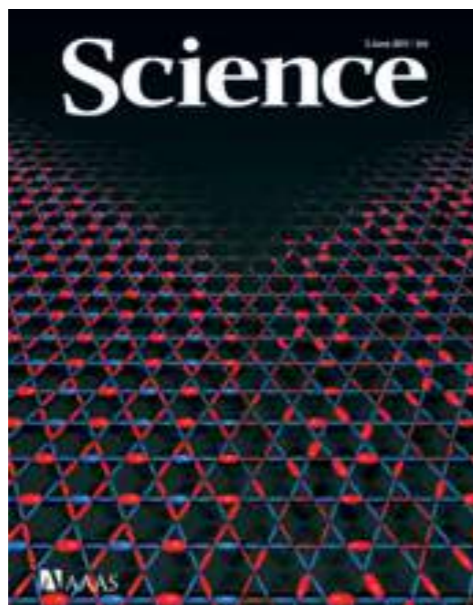
- nearest-neighbor  $S = 1/2$  Heisenberg antiferromagnet on the kagomé lattice.

$$H = J \sum_{\langle jj' \rangle} \mathbf{S}_j \cdot \mathbf{S}_{j'}$$



- DMRG studies suggest a quantum spin liquid state with fully gapped excitations.

S. Yan *et al.*, Science **332** 1173 (2011)



## Spin-Liquid Ground State of the $S = 1/2$ Kagome Heisenberg Antiferromagnet

Simeng Yan,<sup>1</sup> David A. Huse,<sup>2,3</sup> Steven R. White<sup>1\*</sup>

We use the density matrix renormalization group to perform accurate calculations of the ground state of the nearest-neighbor quantum spin  $S = 1/2$  Heisenberg antiferromagnet on the kagome lattice. We study this model on numerous long cylinders with circumferences up to 12 lattice spacings. Through a combination of very-low-energy and small finite-size effects, our results provide strong evidence that, for the infinite two-dimensional system, the ground state of this model is a fully gapped spin liquid.



# $Z_2$ gapped quantum spin liquid

- analytical description via Schwinger-boson spin representation:

$$\mathbf{S}_j = \frac{1}{2} b_{j\sigma}^\dagger \boldsymbol{\tau}_{\sigma\sigma'} b_{j\sigma'} \quad \Rightarrow \quad H = \frac{J}{4} \sum_{\langle jj' \rangle} (b_{j\sigma}^\dagger \boldsymbol{\tau}_{\sigma\sigma'} b_{j\sigma'}) \cdot (b_{j'\sigma'}^\dagger \boldsymbol{\tau}_{\sigma\sigma'} b_{j'\sigma'})$$

$$\sum_{\sigma=\uparrow,\downarrow} b_{j\sigma}^\dagger b_{j\sigma} = 1$$

N. Read and S. Sachdev, Phys. Rev. Lett. **66**, 1773 (1991)  
S. Sachdev, Phys. Rev. B **45** 12377 (1992)

- mean-field theory for  $Z_2$  QSL, i.e.,  $\langle b_{j\sigma} \rangle = 0$  (justified via a large- $N$  model):

$$H_{\text{MF}} = -\frac{JQ}{2} \sum_{\langle j,j' \rangle} \sum_{\sigma\sigma'} \varepsilon_{\sigma\sigma'} b_{j\sigma}^\dagger b_{j'\sigma'}^\dagger + h.c. + \lambda \sum_{j,\sigma} b_{j\sigma}^\dagger b_{j\sigma}$$

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- $Z_2$  model gives dynamical spin structure predictions in good agreement with inelastic neutron scattering measurements.

T.-H. Han *et al.*, Nature **492**, 406 (2012)  
M. Punk *et al.*, Nature Phys. **10**, 289 (2016)

LETTER

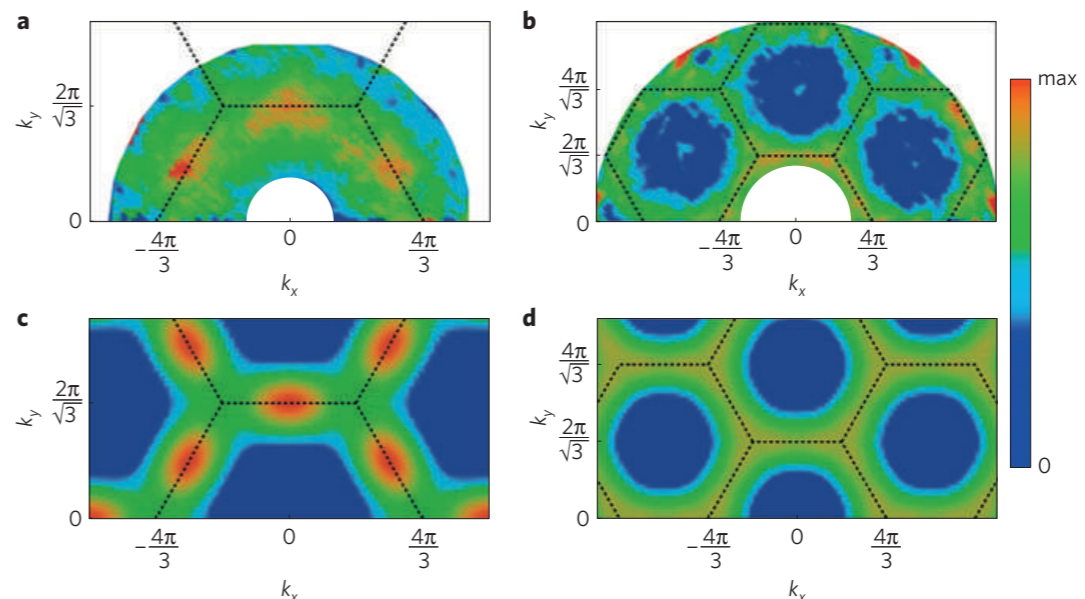
doi:10.1038/nature11659

## Fractionalized excitations in the spin-liquid state of a kagome-lattice antiferromagnet

Tian-Heng Han<sup>1</sup>, Joel S. Helton<sup>2</sup>, Shaoyan Chu<sup>1</sup>, Daniel G. Nocera<sup>4</sup>, Jose A. Rodriguez-Rivera<sup>2,3</sup>, Collin Broholm<sup>2,6</sup> & Young S. Lee<sup>2</sup>

## Topological excitations and the dynamic structure factor of spin liquids on the kagome lattice

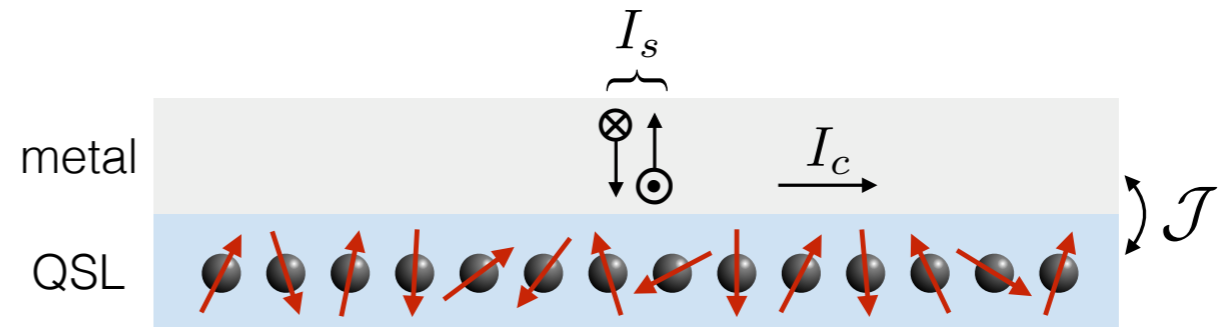
Matthias Punk<sup>1,2</sup>, Debanjan Chowdhury<sup>1</sup> and Subir Sachdev<sup>1\*</sup>



use mean-field parameters  $Q$  and  $\lambda$  obtained by Punk *et al.*

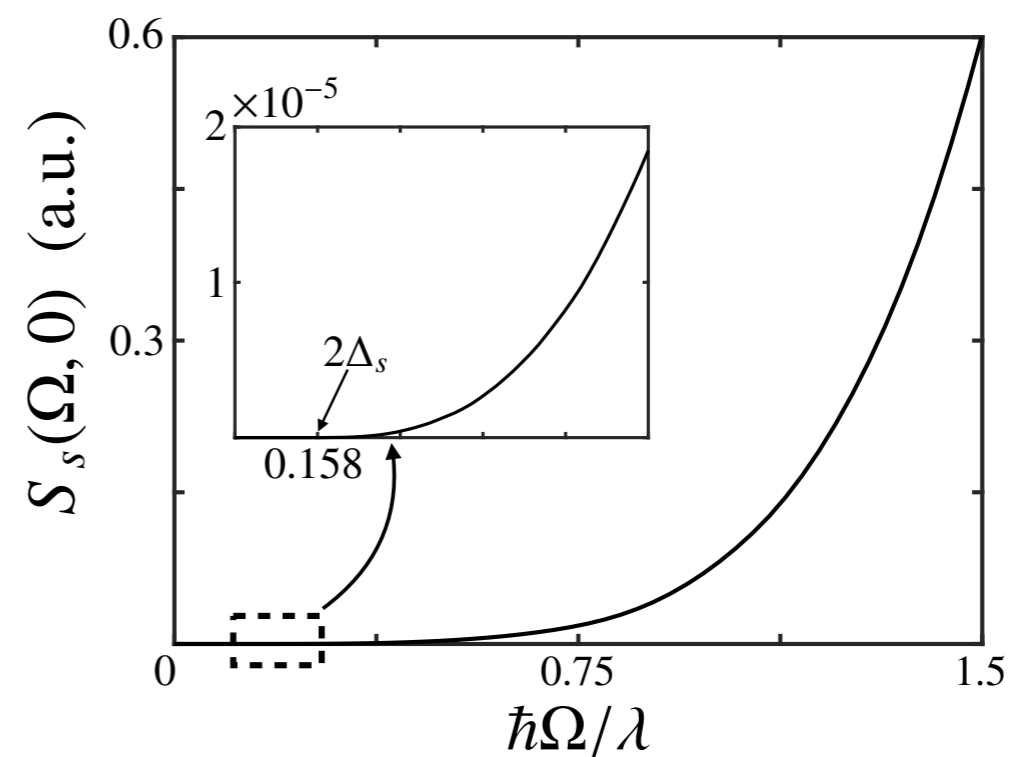
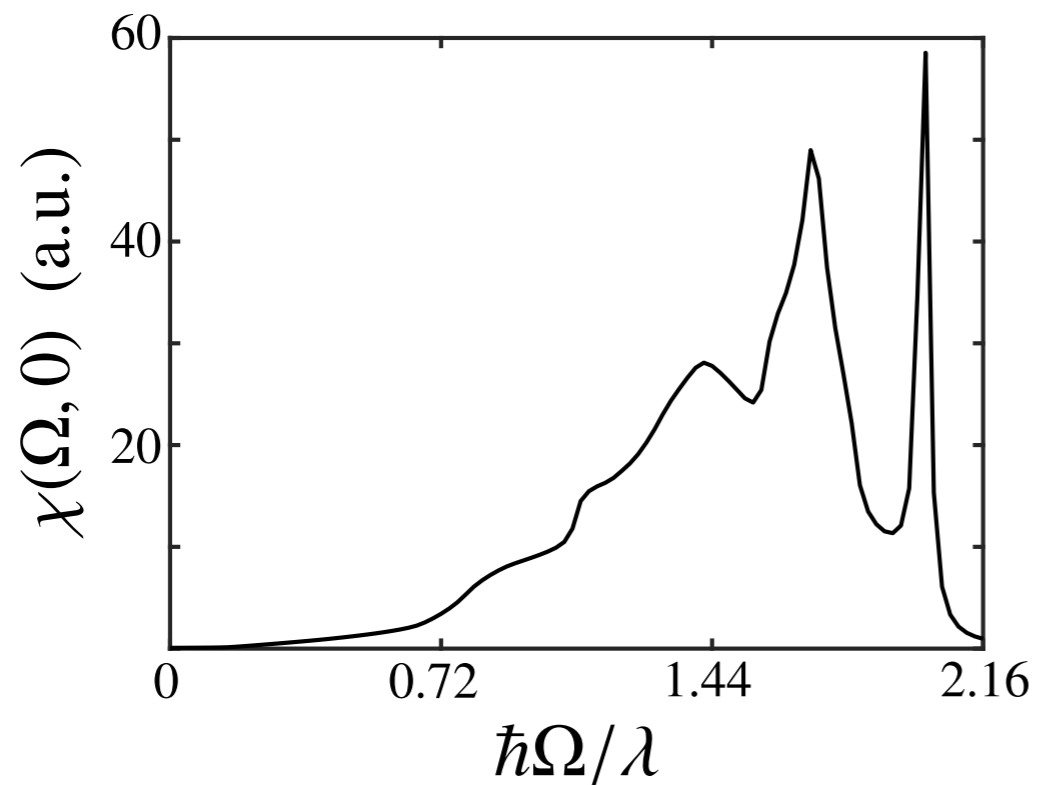
- correction to zero-temperature AC voltage noise across adjacent metal:

$$\delta S_V(\Omega) = \Theta S_s(\Omega)$$



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$$\chi_{ij}^{\mp\pm}(\nu) \equiv -i \int dt \langle S_i^{\mp}(t) S_j^{\pm}(0) \rangle_{H_{\text{MF}}} e^{i\nu t} \quad \chi(\nu, 0)$$



# spinon Fermi surface + U(1) gauge field

- spinon metal coupled to gapless U(1) gauge field (photons):
  - slave-rotor representation of the half-filled Hubbard model on the triangular lattice.
  - fluctuations around a mean-field QSL state leads to a model of fermionic spinons with a Fermi surface and coupled to gapless gauge fluctuations.

S.-S. Lee and P. A. Lee, Phys. Rev. Lett. **95**, 036403 (2005)  
P. A. Lee and N. Nagaosa, Phys. Rev. B **46**, 5621 (1992)  
J. Polchinski, Nuclear Physics B **422**, 617 (1994)

$$S = \sum_{\sigma} \int dt d\mathbf{x} \left\{ \underbrace{\bar{c}_{\sigma}(t, \mathbf{x})(i\hbar\partial_t + \mu)c_{\sigma}(t, \mathbf{x})}_{S_0} - \frac{1}{2m_s} \underbrace{\bar{c}_{\sigma}(t, \mathbf{x})[-i\hbar\nabla + \mathbf{a}(t, \mathbf{x})]^2 c_{\sigma}(t, \mathbf{x})}_{S_{\text{int}}} \right\}$$

- maybe relevant to quantum magnets on the triangular lattice.
  - linear- $T$  low temperature specific heat and metal-like thermal conductivity even though electrically insulating, e.g.,  $\text{EtMe}_3\text{Sb}[\text{Pd}(\text{dmit})_2]_2$

M. Yamashita *et al.*, Science **328**, 1246 (2010)  
S. Yamashita *et al.*, Nature Comm. **2**, 275 (2011)

## Highly Mobile Gapless Excitations in a Two-Dimensional Candidate Quantum Spin Liquid

Minoru Yamashita,<sup>1\*</sup> Norihito Nakata,<sup>1</sup> Yoshinori Senshu,<sup>1</sup> Masaki Nagata,<sup>1</sup> Hiroshi M. Yamamoto,<sup>2,3</sup> Reizo Kato,<sup>2</sup> Takasada Shibauchi,<sup>1</sup> Yuji Matsuda<sup>1\*</sup>

### ARTICLE

Received 31 Aug 2010 | Accepted 14 Mar 2011 | Published 12 Apr 2011

DOI: 10.1038/ncomms1274

Gapless spin liquid of an organic triangular compound evidenced by thermodynamic measurements

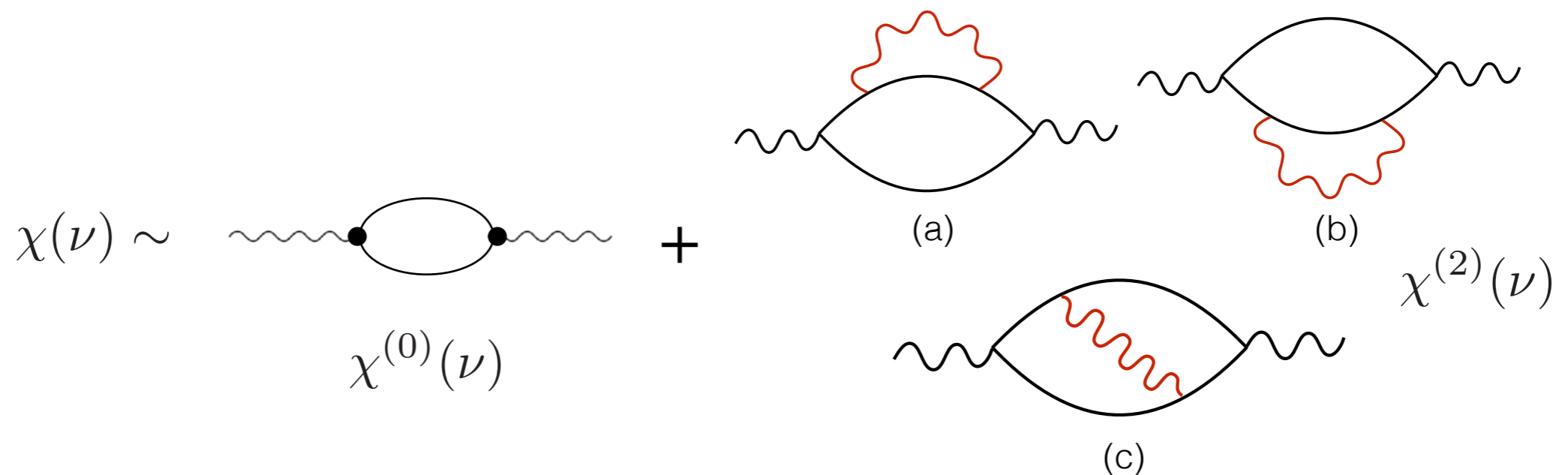
Satoshi Yamashita<sup>1,2</sup>, Takashi Yamamoto<sup>1</sup>, Yasuhiro Nakazawa<sup>1,3</sup>, Masafumi Tamura<sup>4</sup> & Reizo Kato<sup>2</sup>

# spinon Fermi surface + U(1) gauge field

- local dynamic spin structure factor:

$$\begin{aligned}\chi(\nu) &= \sum_j \left[ \chi_{jj}^{+-}(\nu) + \chi_{jj}^{-+}(\nu) \right] \\ &= -2i \sum_j \int dt e^{i\nu t} \langle T_K \bar{c}_{j\downarrow}(t) c_{j\uparrow}(t) \bar{c}_{j\uparrow}(0) c_{j\downarrow}(0) e^{iS_{\text{int}}} \rangle\end{aligned}$$

- to two-loop order

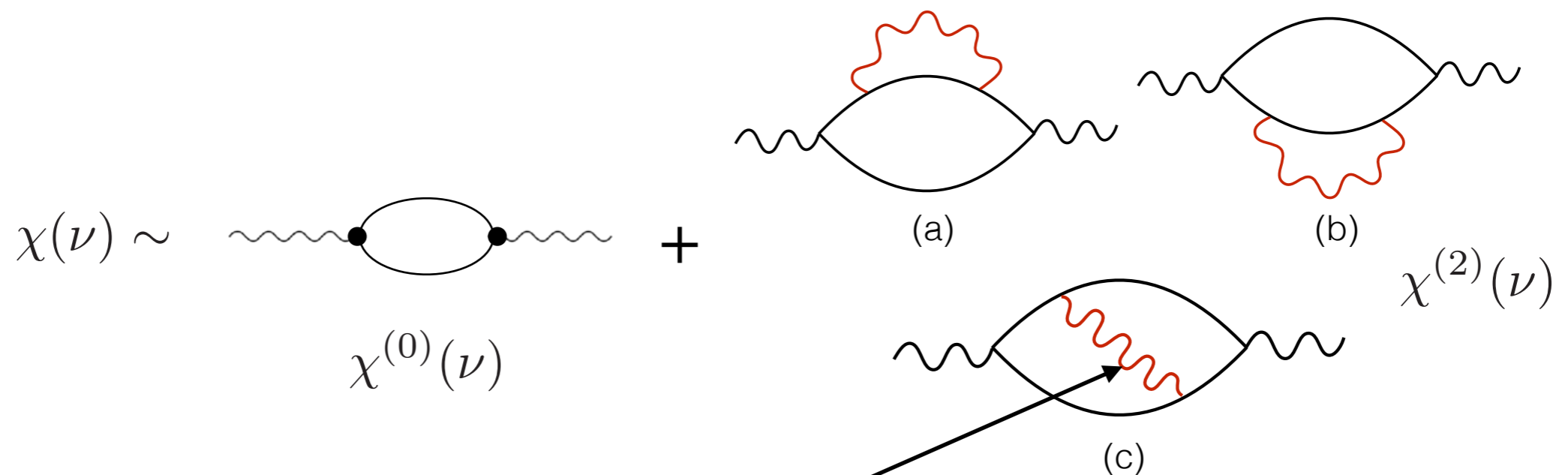


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- local dynamic spin structure factor:

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- to two-loop order



$$D^R(\mathbf{q}, \Omega) = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\chi_D q^2 - i\frac{\Omega}{q}}$$

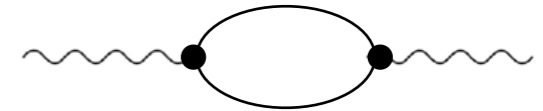
RPA propagator for gauge fluctuations

- interfacial spin current noise

$$S_s(\Omega, T \approx 0) \approx 2i \left( \frac{\mathcal{J} v_0 m k_F}{2\pi^2 \hbar} \right)^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\nu (\Omega - \nu) \chi(\nu) \theta(\Omega - \nu)$$

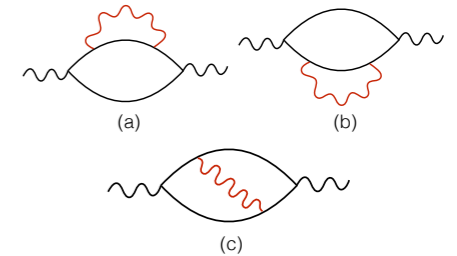
- zeroth-order correction:

$$S_s^{(0)}(\Omega, 0) = \frac{\mathcal{N}}{3\pi} \left( \frac{\mathcal{J} v_0 m k_F}{2\pi^2 \hbar} \right)^2 \left( \frac{m_s a_s}{\hbar} \right)^2 \Omega^3$$



- two-loop correction:

$$\delta S_s^{(2)}(\Omega, 0) = 0.157 \mathcal{N} \left( \frac{\mathcal{J} v_0 m k_F}{2\pi^2 \hbar} \right)^2 \left( \frac{m_s a_s}{2\pi \hbar} \right)^2 \Omega^3 \left( \frac{\Omega}{\Omega_{Fs}} \right)^{4/3}$$



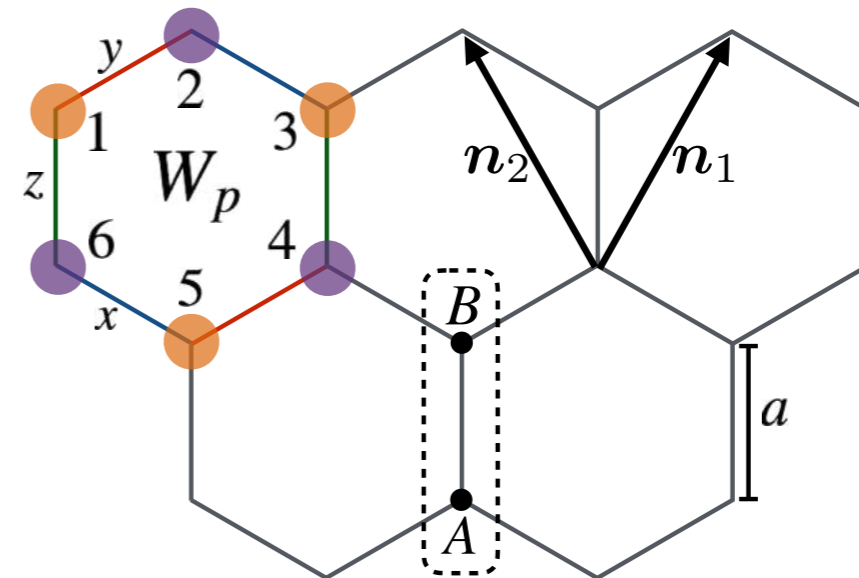
- total noise correction:

$$S_s(\Omega, 0) = \frac{\mathcal{N}}{3\pi} \left( \frac{\mathcal{J} v_0 m k_F}{2\pi^2 \hbar} \right)^2 \left( \frac{m_s a_s}{\hbar} \right)^2 \Omega^3 \left[ 1 + 0.037 \left( \frac{\Omega}{\Omega_{Fs}} \right)^{4/3} \right]$$

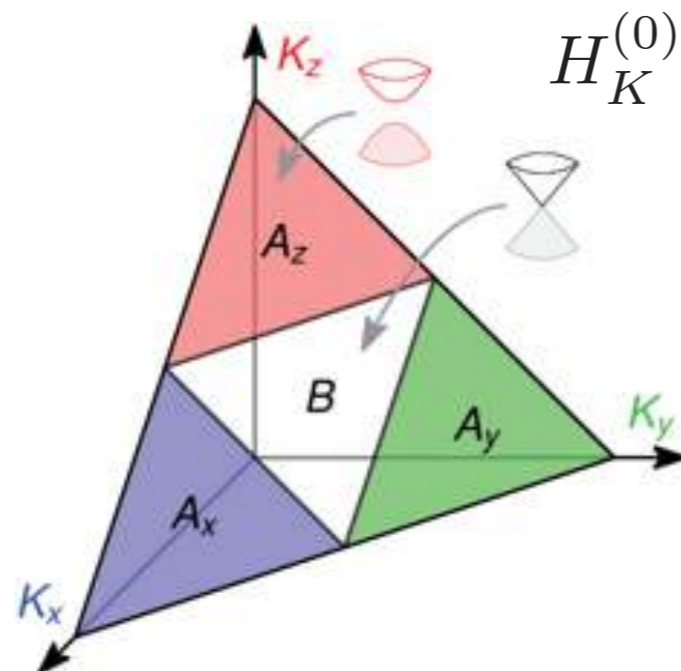
# Kitaev honeycomb model

- exactly solvable model of a quantum spin liquid:

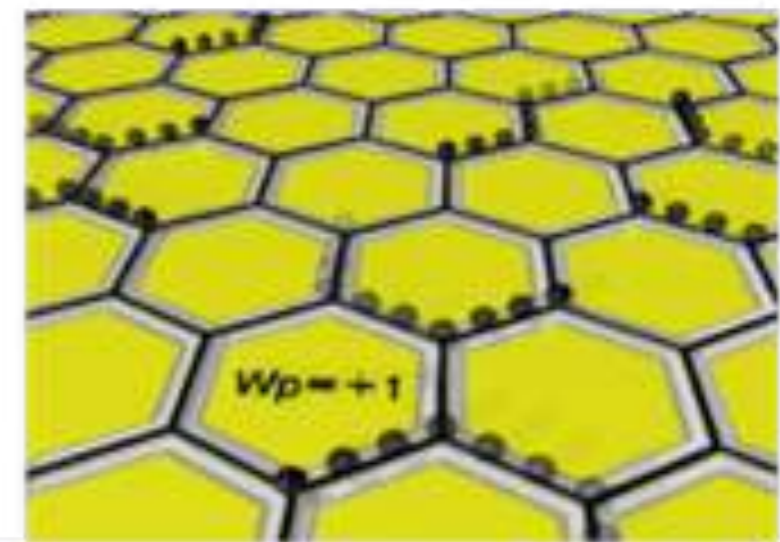
$$H_K = \sum_{\gamma, \langle i, j \rangle_\gamma} K_\gamma S_i^\gamma S_j^\gamma,$$



- gapless quantum spin liquid ground state at the isotropic point  $K_x = K_y = K_z \equiv K$ : can be mapped to a gas of gapless Majorana-Dirac fermions (spinons) hopping on the honeycomb lattice.



$$H_K^{(0)} = iK \sum_{\langle i, j \rangle} c_i c_j$$

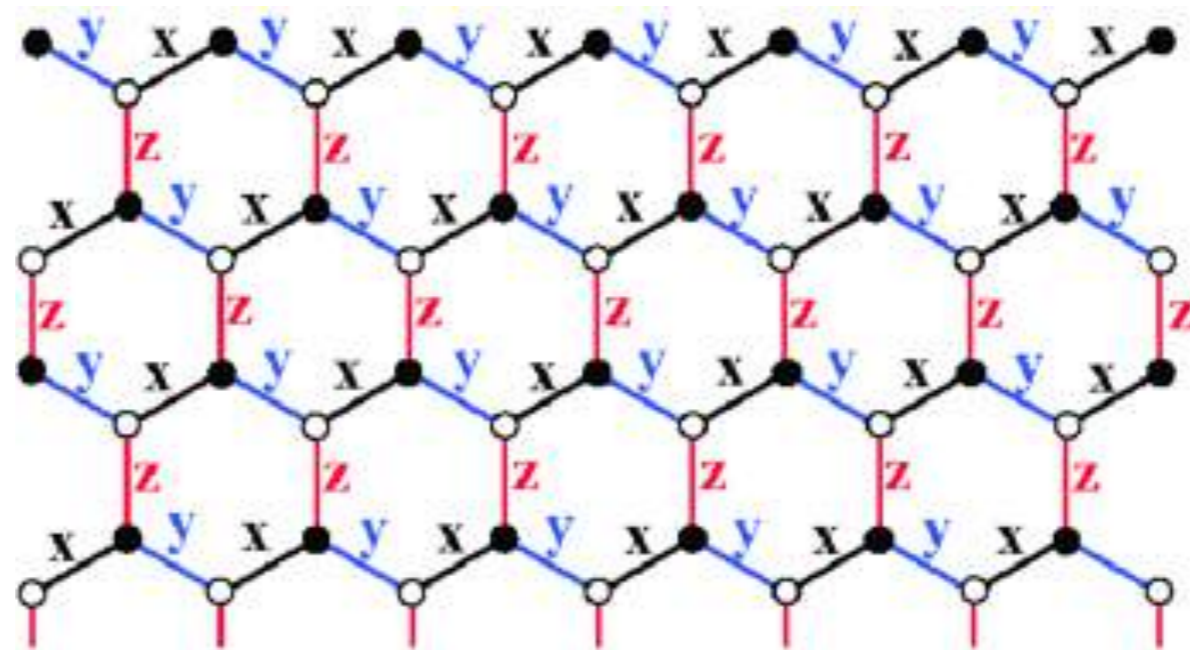




# local dynamic spin structure factor

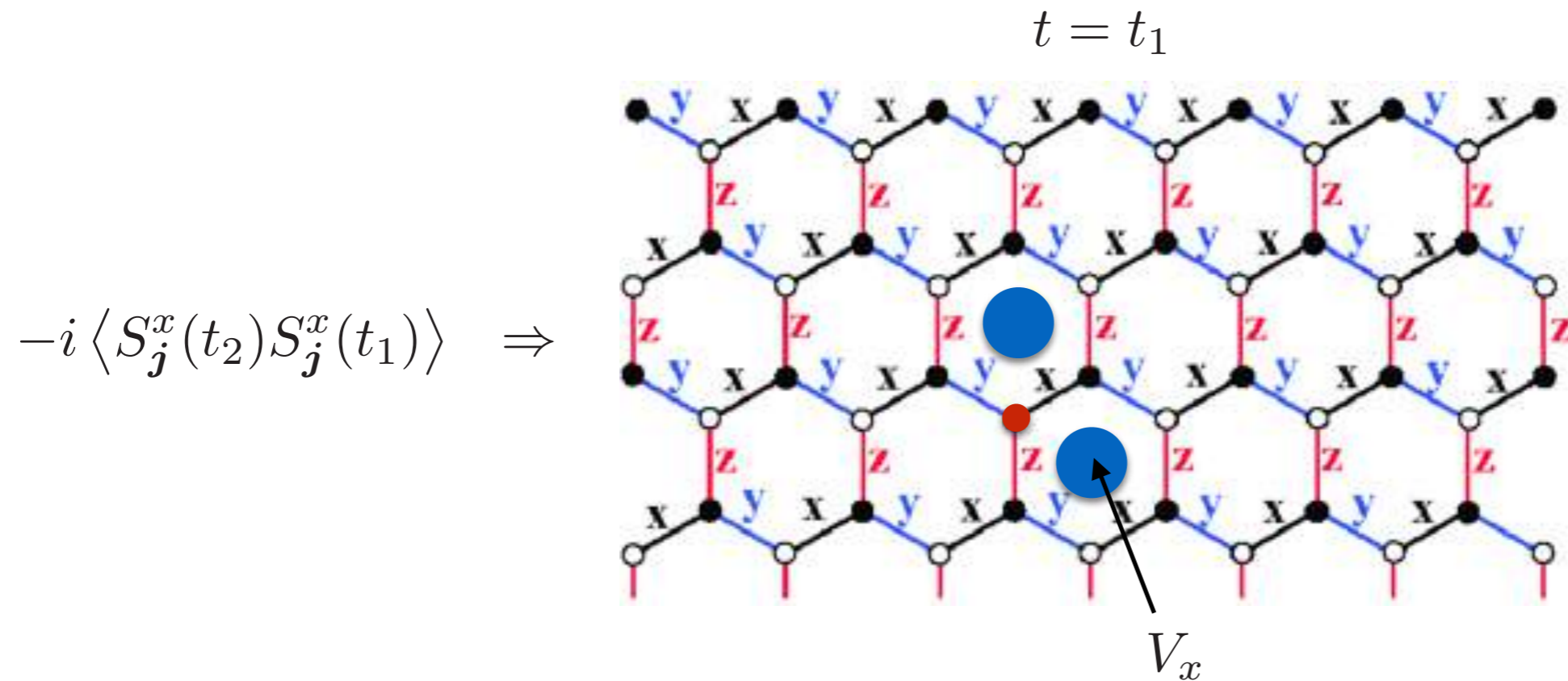
- dynamic local spin structure factor can be viewed as a quantum quench problem: rearrangement of Majorana fermion gas following sudden appearance of magnetic fluxes

$$-i \langle S_j^x(t_2) S_j^x(t_1) \rangle \Rightarrow$$



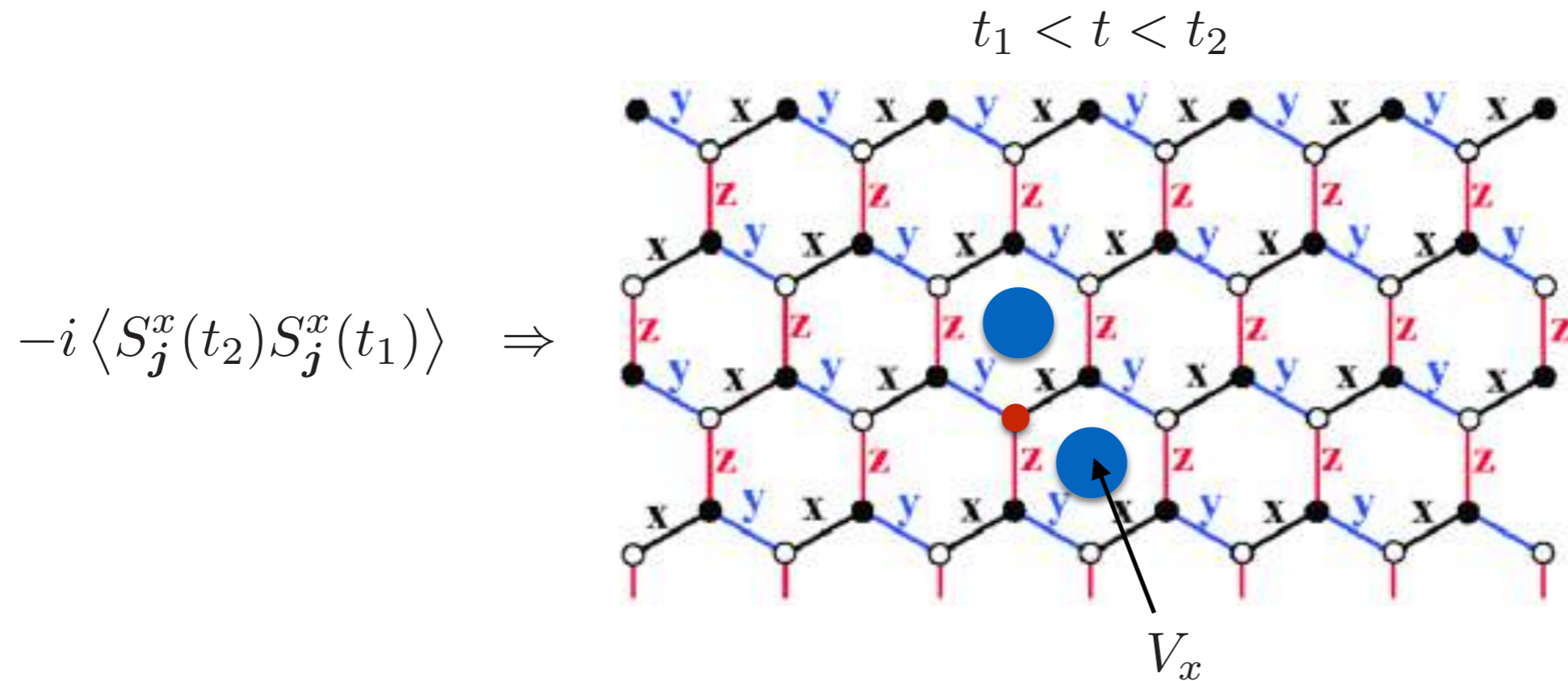
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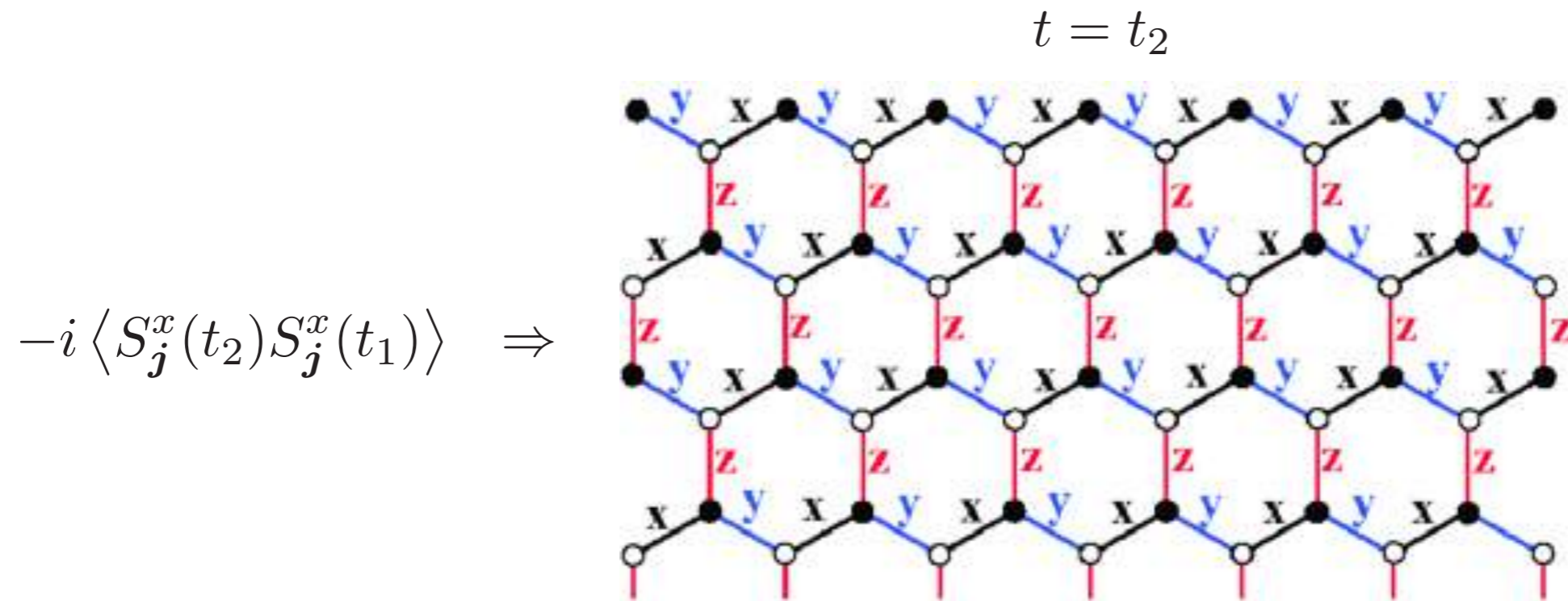
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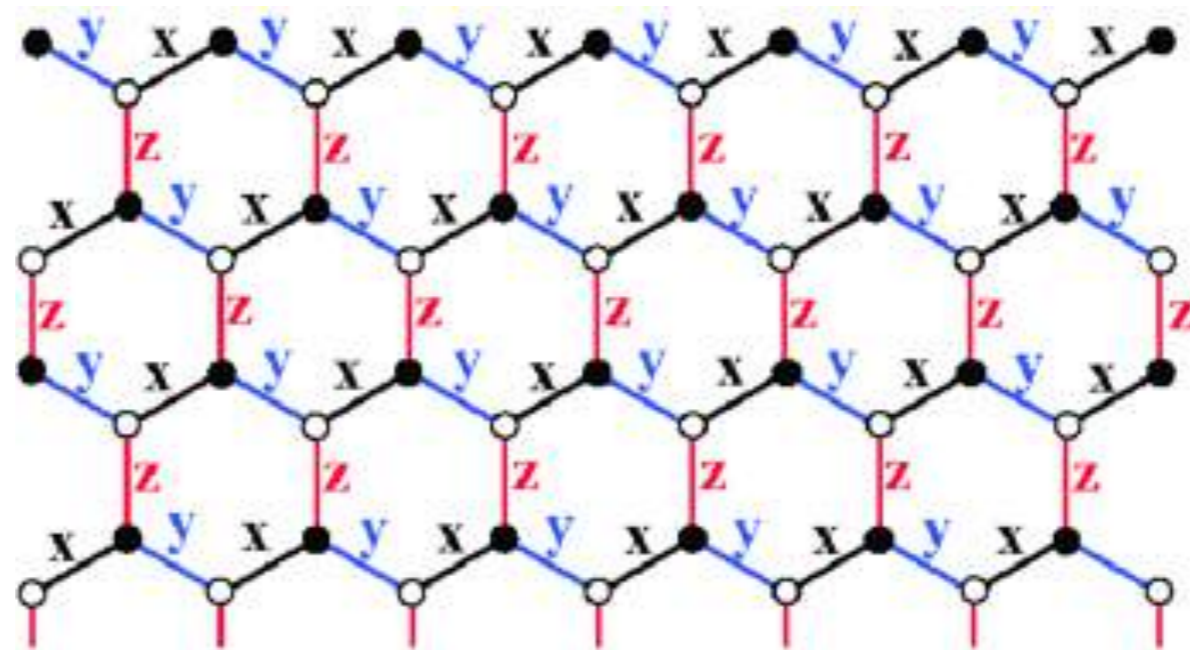
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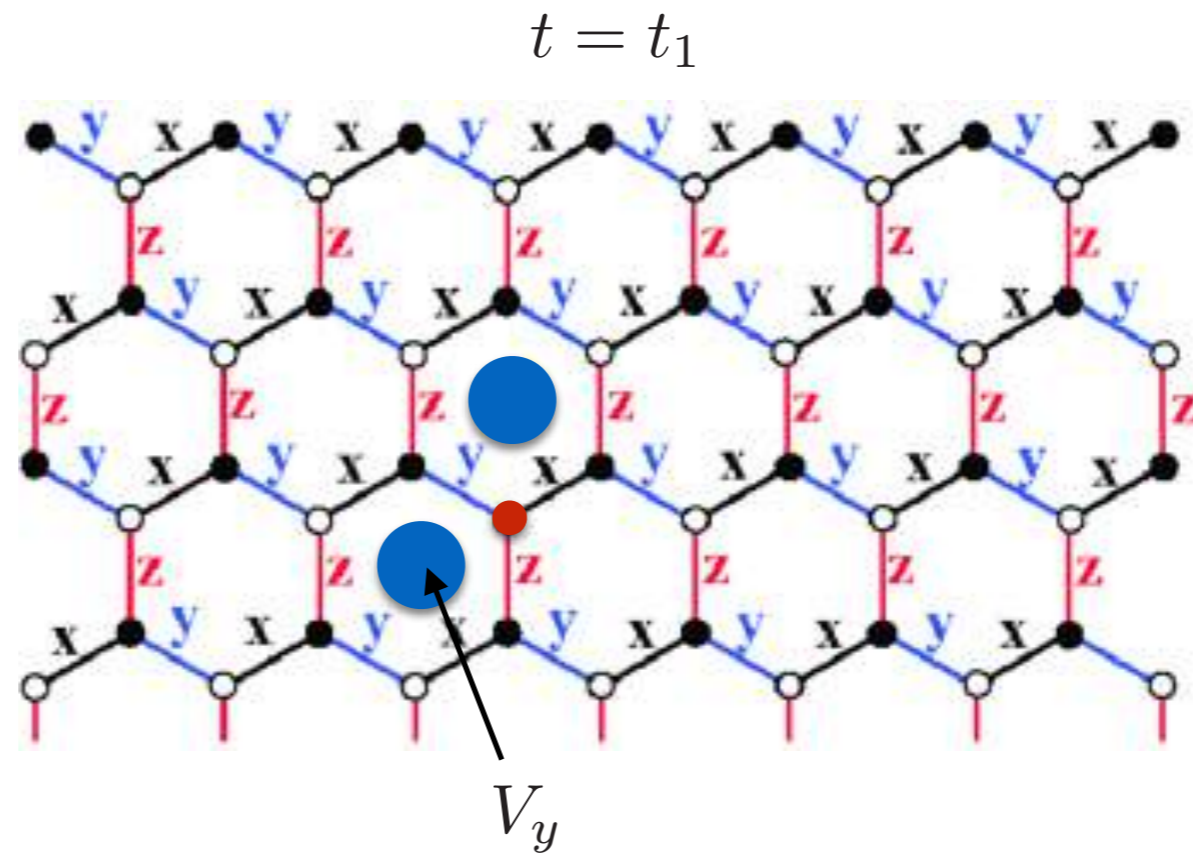
$$-i \langle S_j^y(t_2) S_j^y(t_1) \rangle \Rightarrow$$



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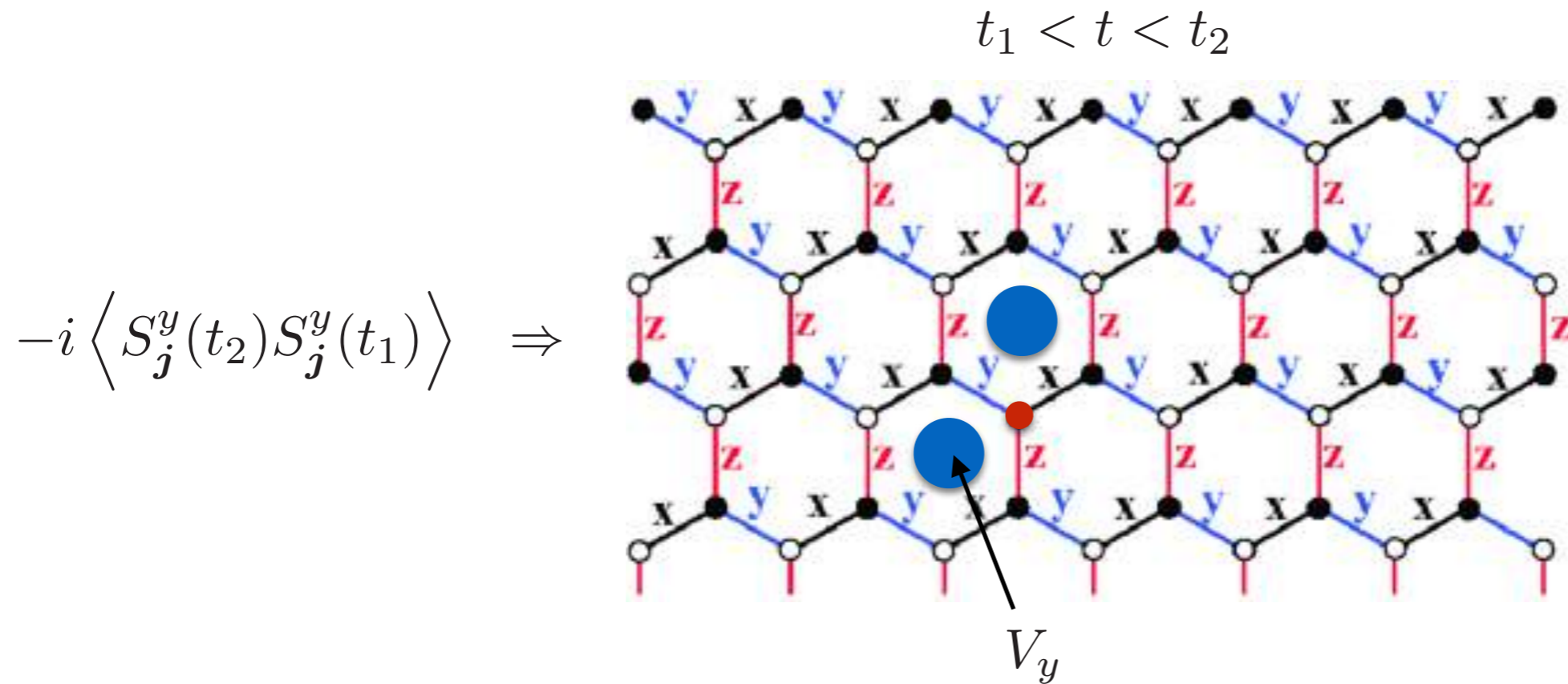
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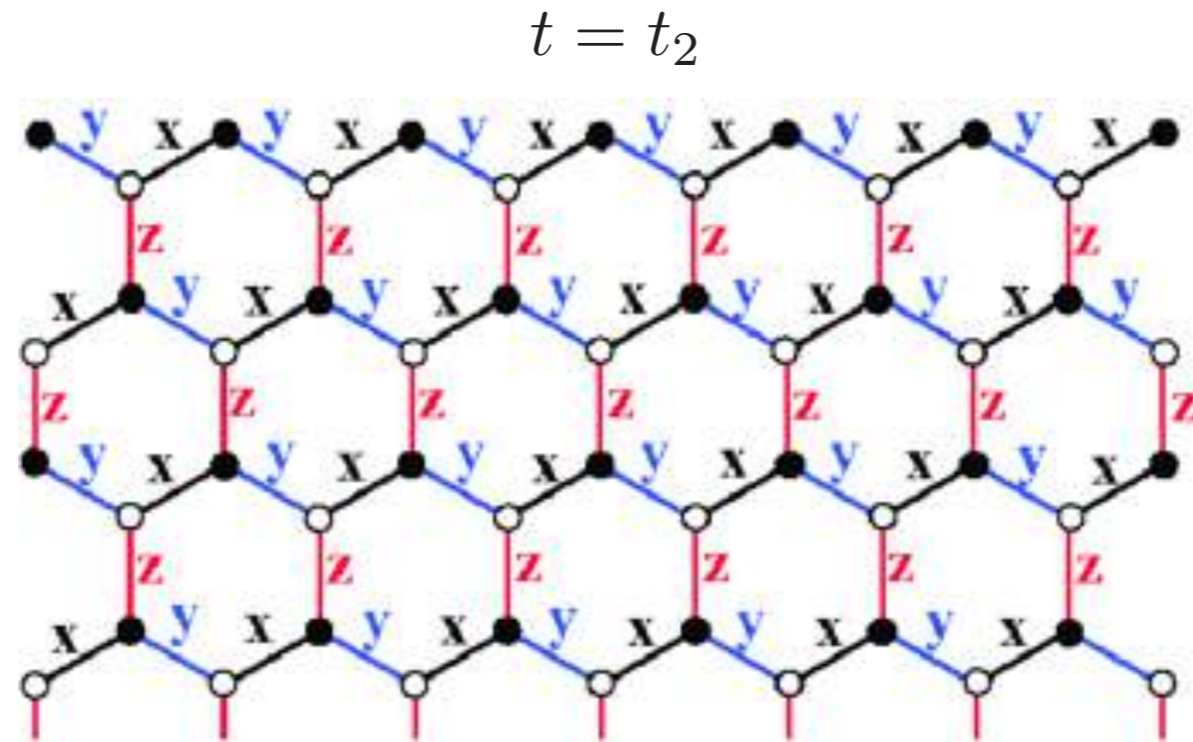
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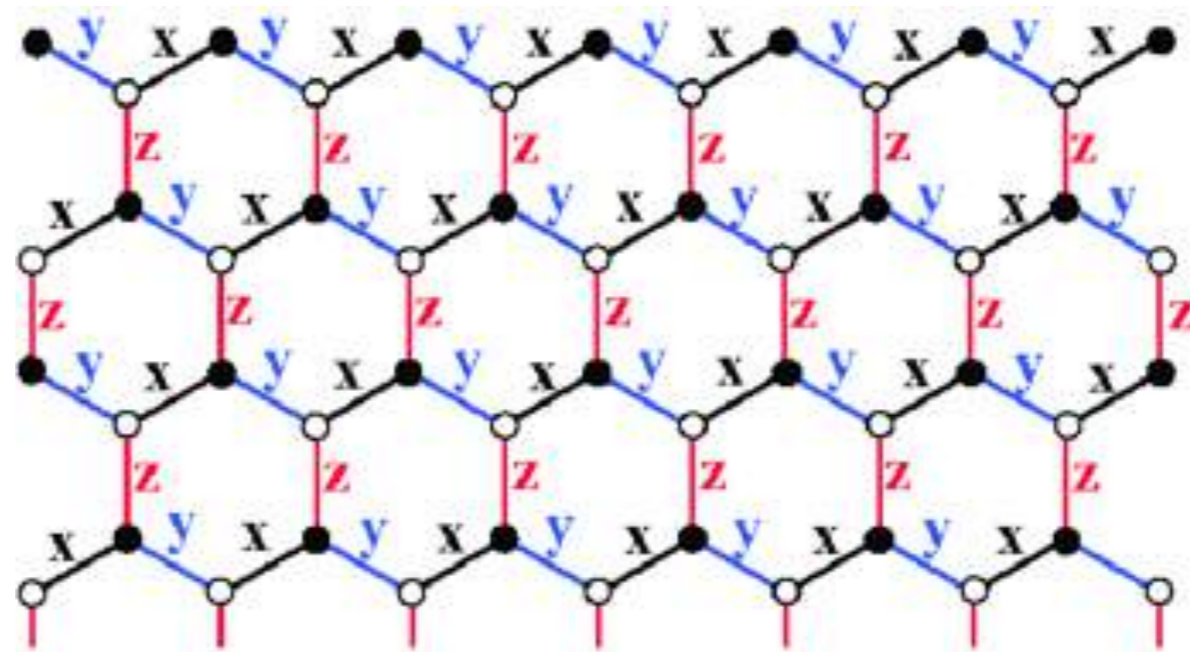




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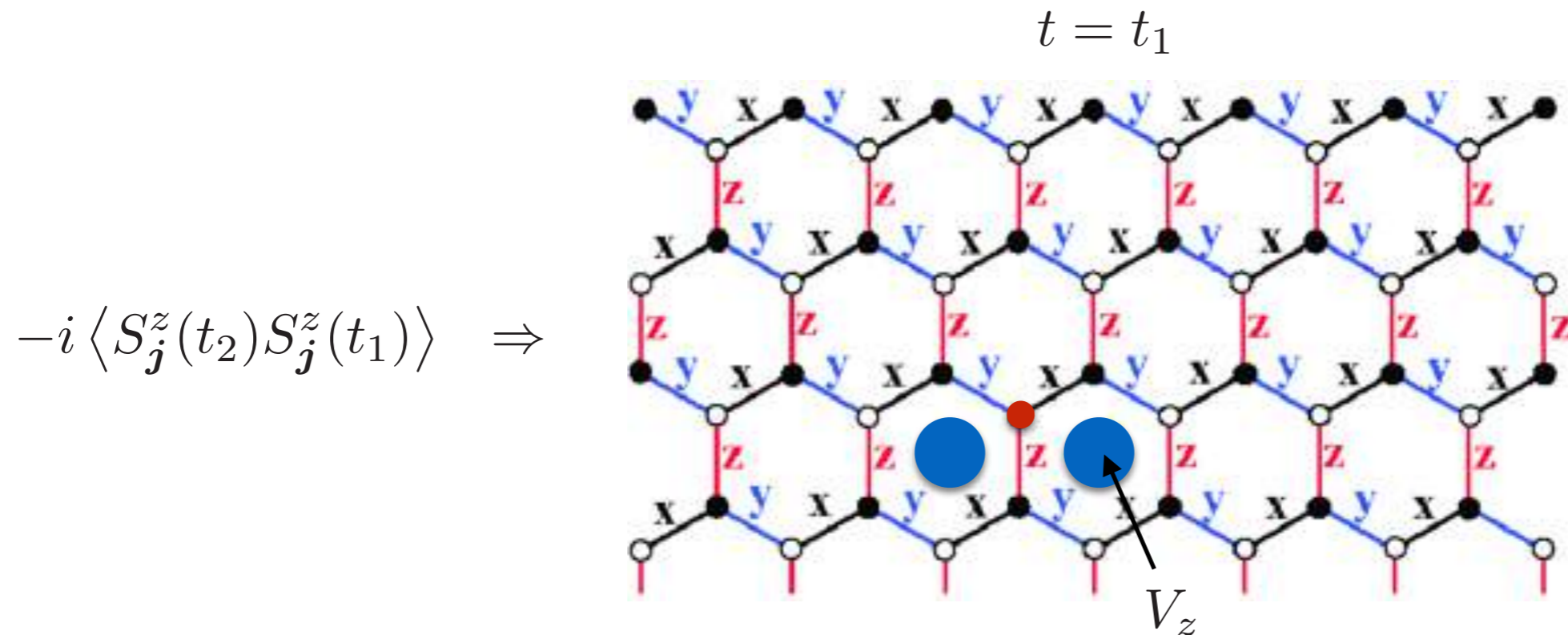
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$$-i \langle S_j^z(t_2) S_j^z(t_1) \rangle \Rightarrow$$



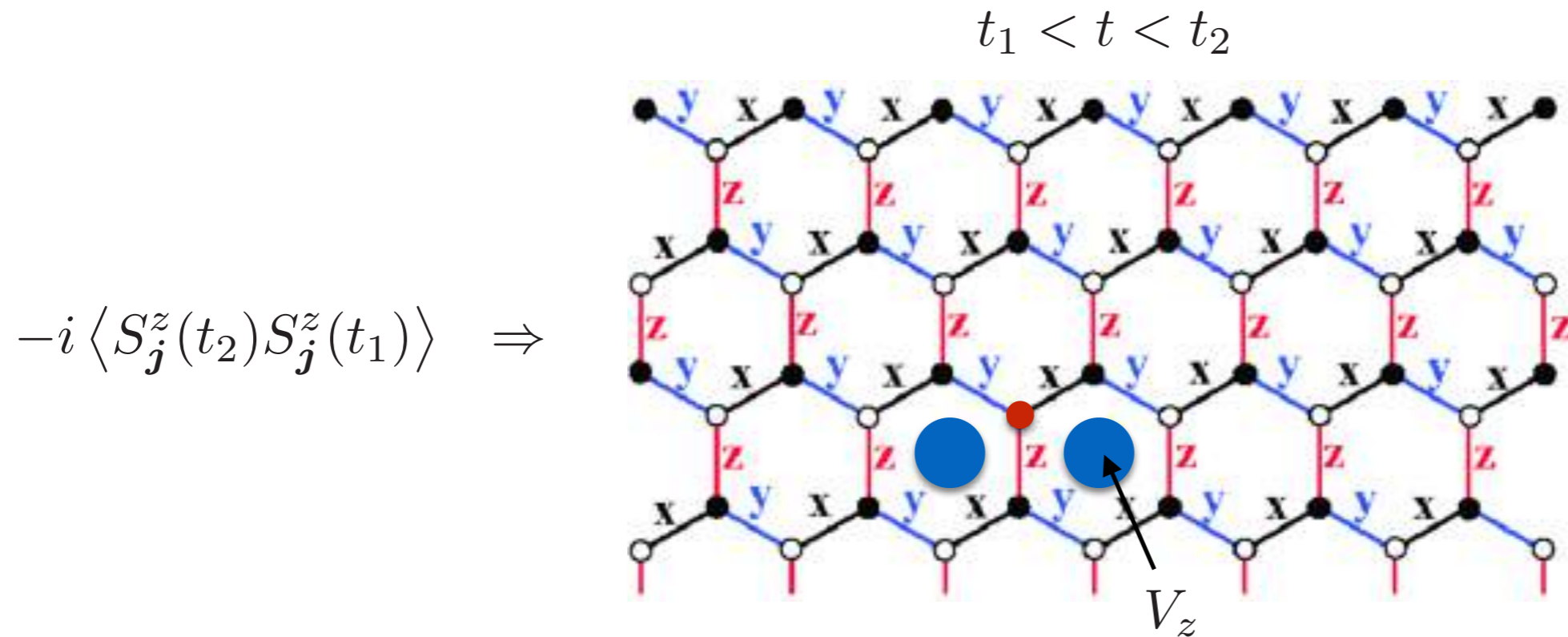
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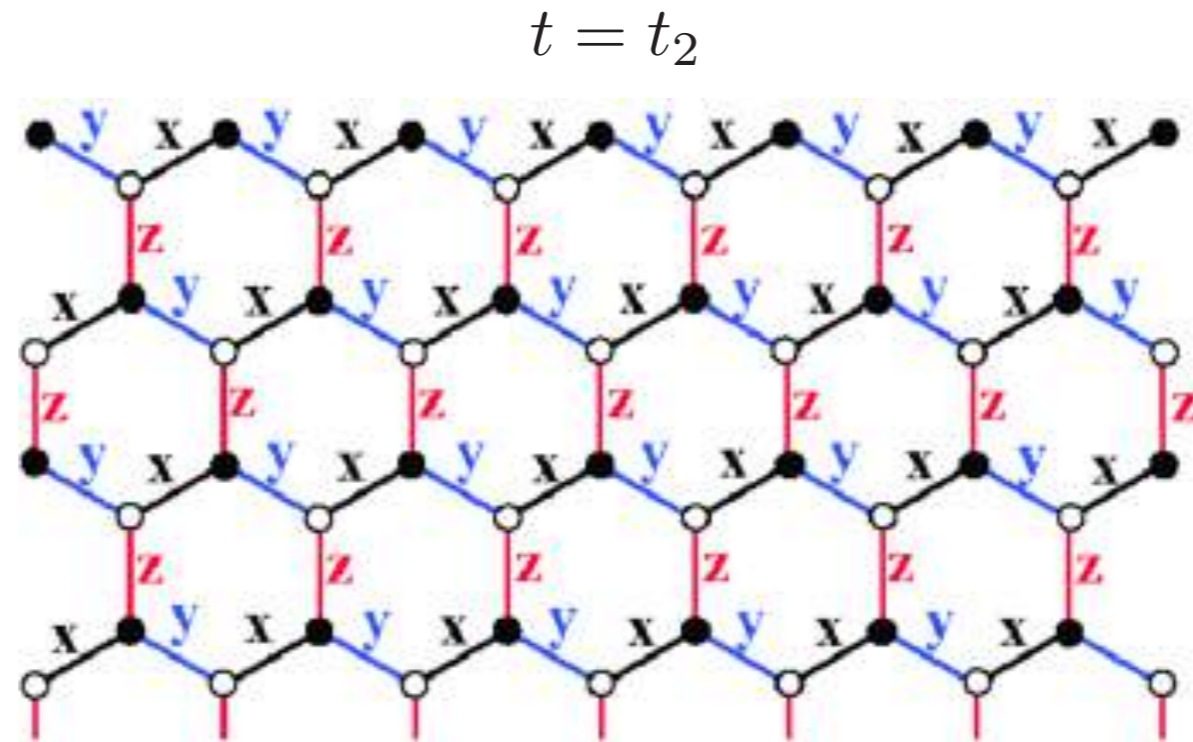
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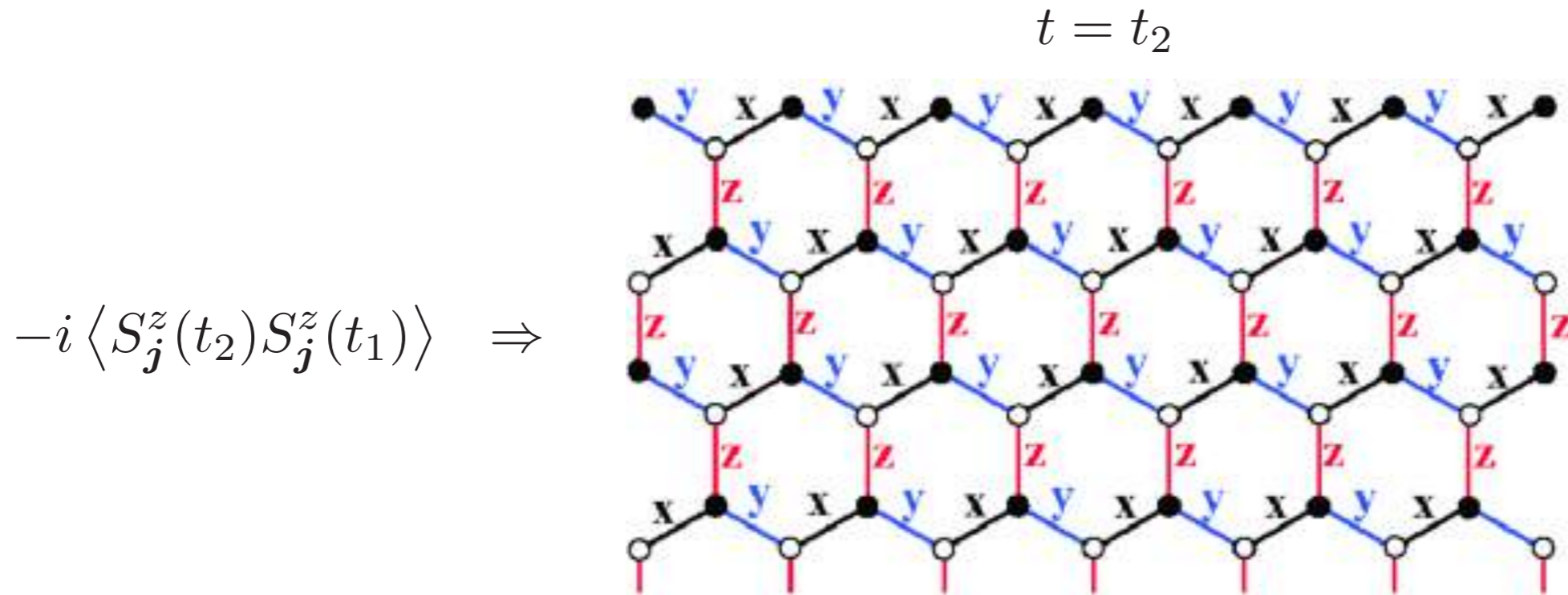
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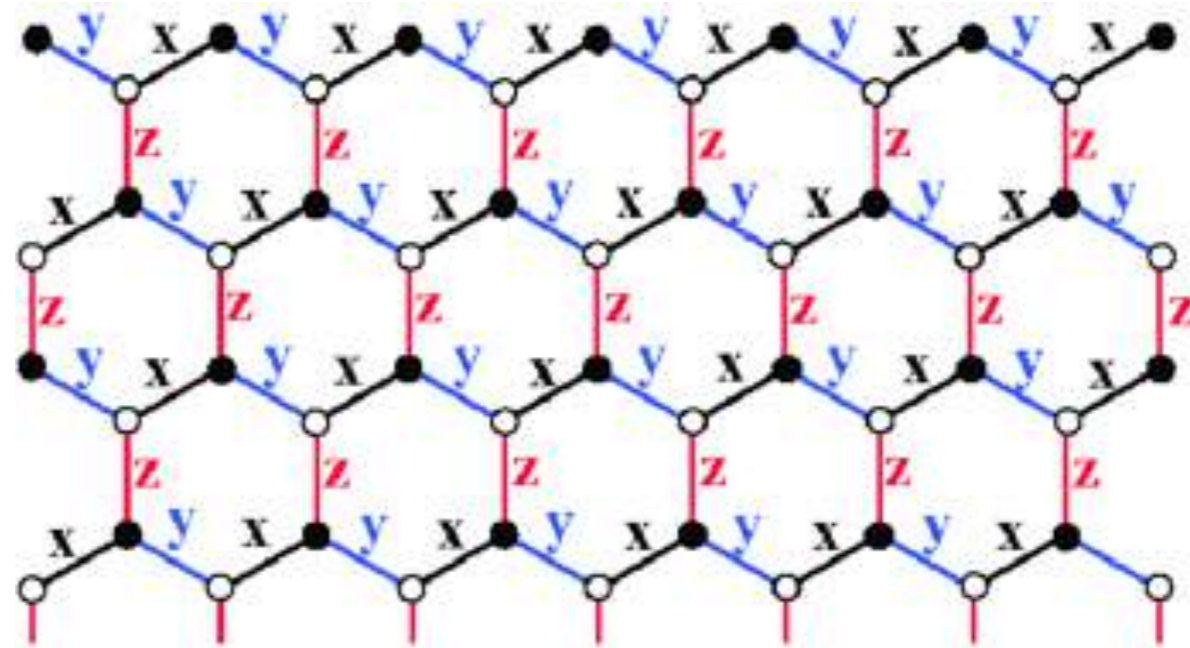
- adiabatic approximation: turn on local flux potential in the infinite past and turn it off in the infinite future.

$$-i \langle S_j^\alpha(t_2) S_j^\alpha(t_1) \rangle = \langle 0 | T c_j(t_2) c_j(t_1) e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [H_K^{(0)}(t') + V_\alpha(t')] dt'} | 0 \rangle$$

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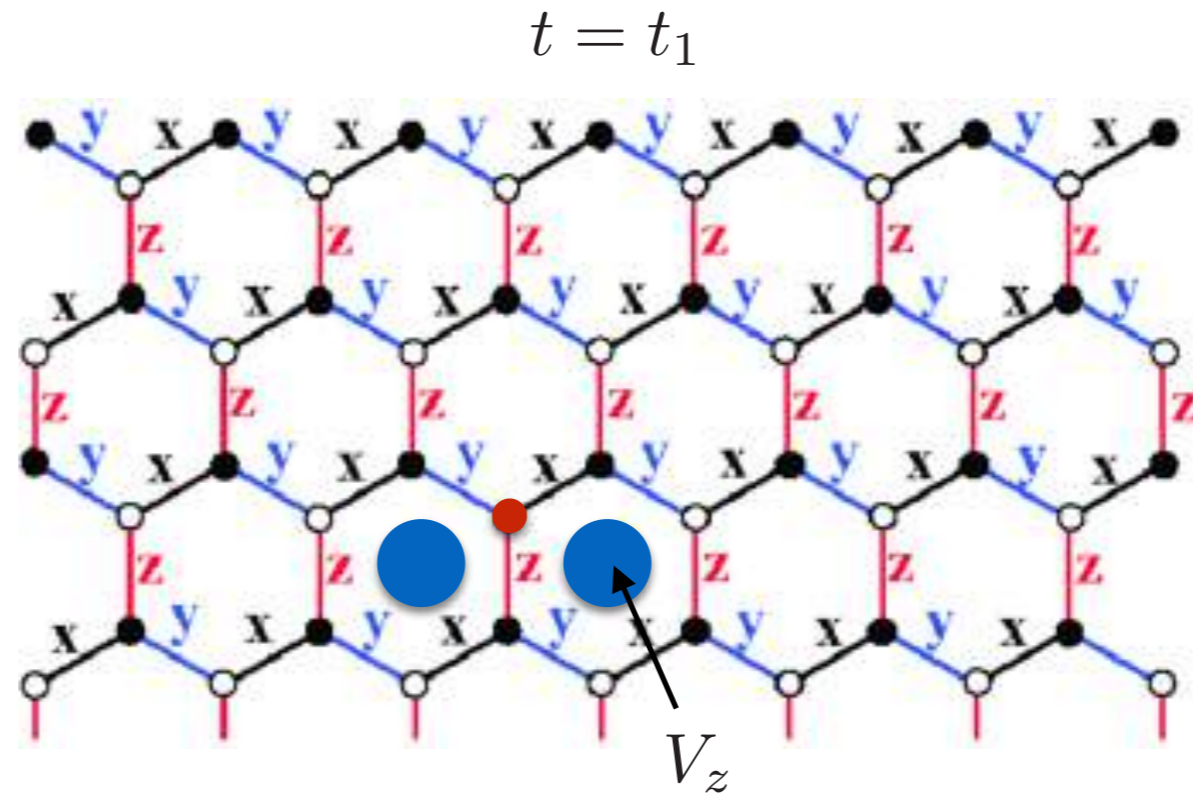
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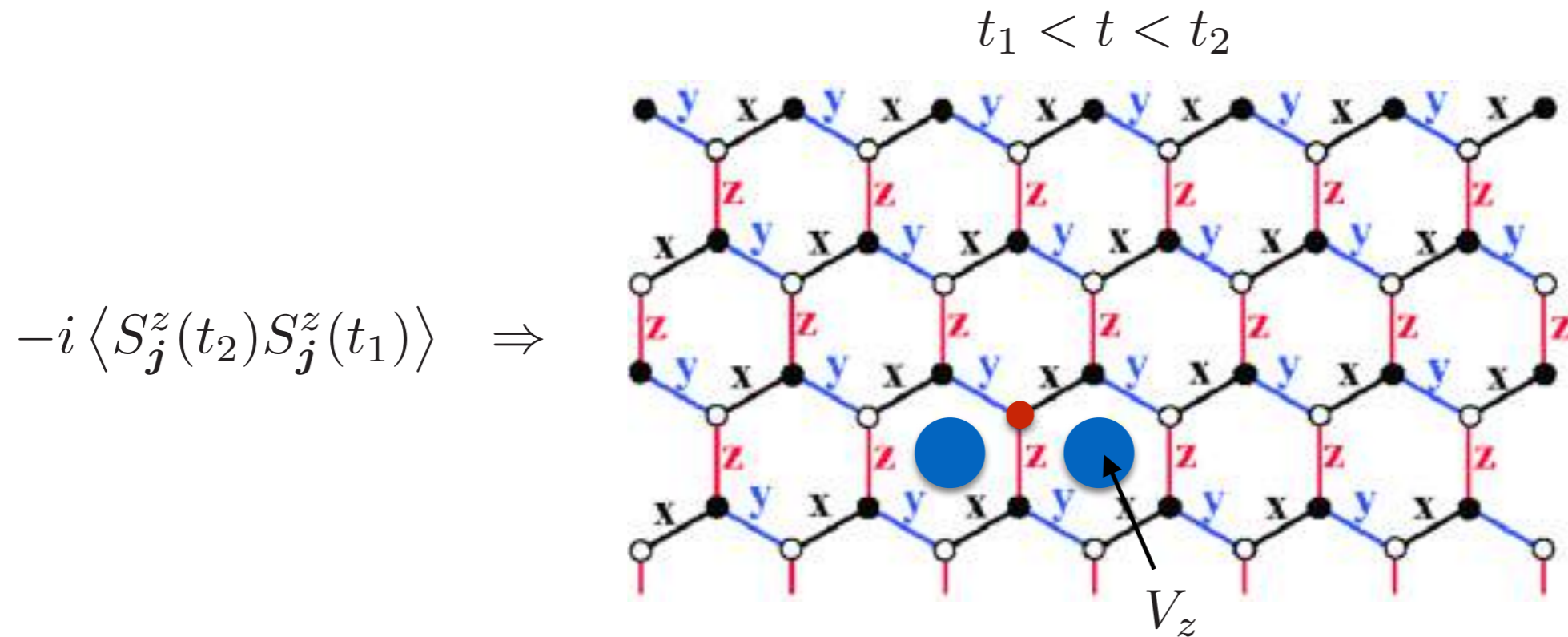
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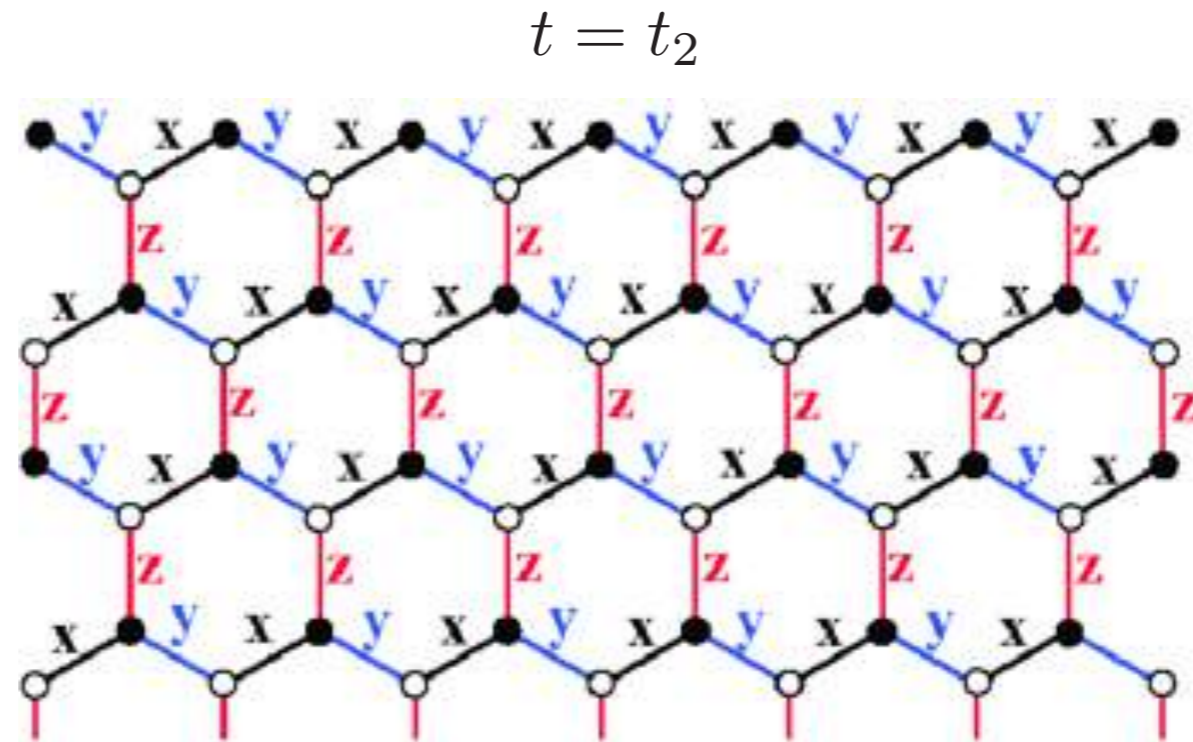




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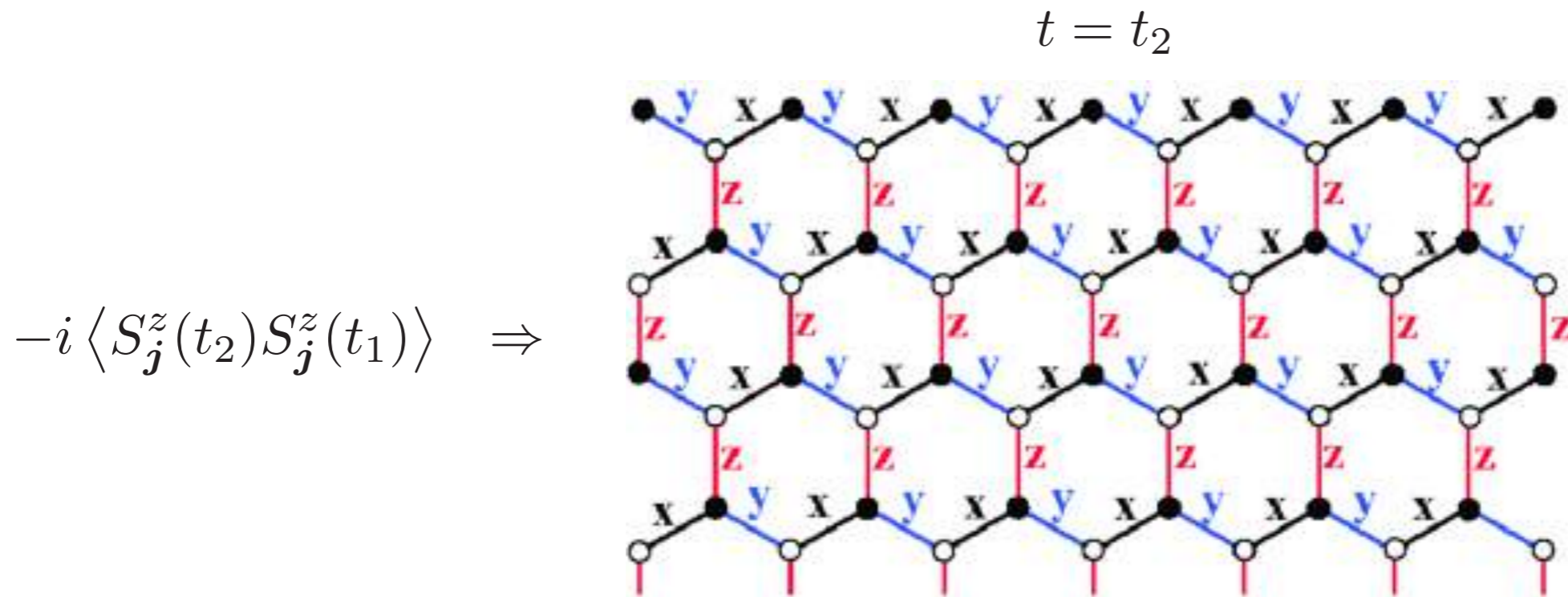
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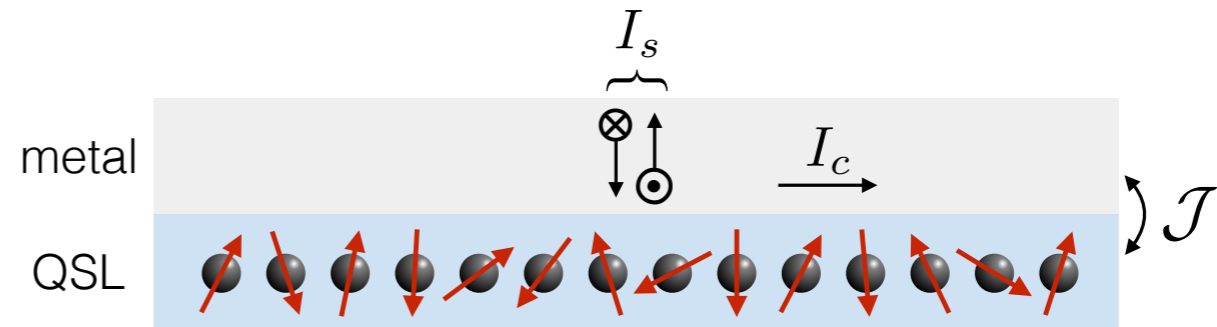


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- correction to zero-temperature AC voltage noise across adjacent metal:

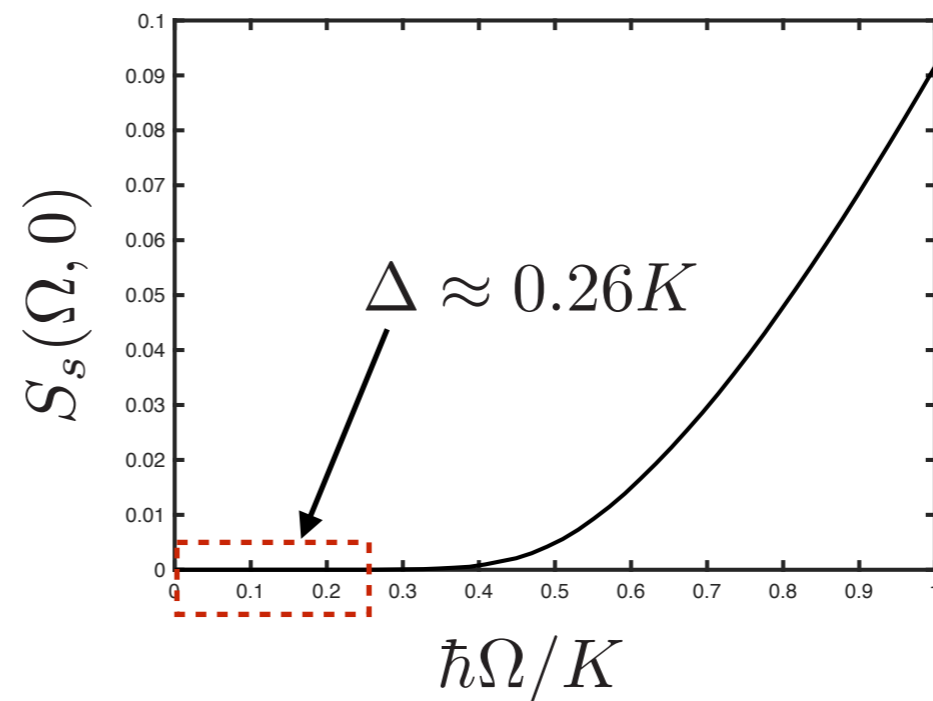
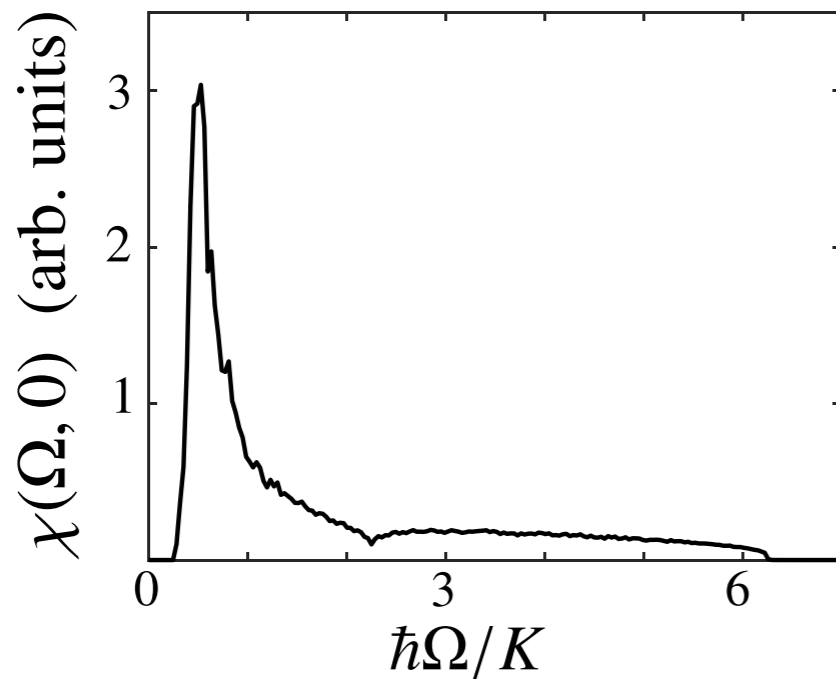
$$\delta S_V(\Omega) = \Theta S_s(\Omega)$$



$$S_s(\Omega, T) = 2i \left( \frac{\mathcal{J} v_0 m k_F}{2\pi^2 \hbar} \right)^2 \sum_j \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\nu \frac{\nu - \Omega}{e^{\beta(\nu - \Omega)} - 1} \left[ \chi_{jj}^{+-}(\nu) + \chi_{jj}^{-+}(\nu) \right]$$

$\chi(\nu, 0)$

$$\chi(\nu, 0) \equiv -4i \int dt e^{i\nu t} \langle S_i^x(t) S_j^x(0) \rangle_{H_K^{(0)} + V_x}$$



# summary & outlook

- **spin Hall noise spectroscopy**: probes local spin density of states of a quantum magnet via voltage fluctuations using inverse spin Hall effect.
  - useful for probing topological edge states in quantum paramagnets.
  - useful for probing spin density of states of quantum spin liquids: test of QSL models against candidate materials.
- effect of visons in the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  model?
- incoherent magnon scenario for  $\alpha$ -RuCl<sub>3</sub>?
- microscopic model for how thermal spin current noise at the interface converts into measurable voltage noise via ISHE?

$$\delta S_V(\Omega, T) = \Theta S_s(\Omega, T)$$