Designing Light in an Artificial Universe

Han Yan Institute for Solid State Physics, The University of Tokyo

Nat. Phys. 14, 711–715 (2018) R Sibille, N Gauthier, <u>HY</u> et al npj Quantum Materials 7 (1), 51 A Bhardwaj, S Zhang, <u>HY</u> et al PRB 106 (9), 094425, B Gao, T Chen, <u>HY</u> et al Nat. Phys. 21, 83-88 (2025) V Porée, <u>HY</u> et al
arXiv:2312.11641 A Sanders, <u>HY</u>, C Castelnovo, AH Nevidomskyy arXiv:2402.08723, arXiv:2305.08261

Quantum Geometry and Transport of Collective Excitations in (Non-)Magnetic Insulators Ingelheim, May 7 2025





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What if we can change the law of nature?

The laws of science, as we know them at present, contain <u>many</u> <u>fundamental numbers</u>, like the size of the electric charge of the electron and the ratio of the masses of the proton and the electron. ... The remarkable fact is that <u>the values of these</u> <u>numbers seem to have been very finely adjusted</u> to make possible the development of life.

A Brief History of Time, Stephen Hawking



Quantum Spin Ice: A universe in a grain of sand



- 1.
- 2. Gapless excitations: **photons**
- 3.



Effective theory: **3D** U(1) Quantum Electrodynamics (QED)

Ground state: gapless topological quantum liquid state

Gapped excitations: electric **charges** and magnetic **monopoles**

figure credit: Nature 451, 42-45 (2008)



Quantum Spin Ice: A universe in a grain of sand



- 2. Gapless excitations: photons

Our result: proposal to **experimentally tune the quantum dynamics** of lattice QED of dipolar-octupolar quantum spin ice

- 1. New lattice QED **phases** and **phase transitions**.
- linear photon coupling.

Effective theory: 3D U(1) Quantum Electrodynamics (QED)

1. Ground state: gapless topological quantum liquid state

3. Gapped excitations: electric **charges** and magnetic **monopoles**

2. Photon dynamics: tune the emergent speed of light, birefringence, non-

figure credit: Nature 451, 42-45 (2008)



1. Classical spin ice as electrostatics

2. Quantum spin ice as emergent Quantum Electrodynamics (eQED)

3. Controlling eQED dynamics in dipolar-octupolar quantum spin ice 2^{15}

Outline





Classical Spin Ice on the pyrochlore lattice



$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{ij} S_i^z S_j^z$$

 \boldsymbol{z} is local basis of in/out tetrahedron

M. Hermele, M. P. A. Fisher, and L. Balents, Phys. Rev. B 69, 064404 (2004)



Classical Spin Ice on the pyrochlore lattice



$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{ij} S_i^z S_j^z$$

 \boldsymbol{z} is local basis of in/out tetrahedron

single tetrahedron ground state: 2-in-2-out (ice-rule)

similar hydrogen arrangement in ice $\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{E} = 0$



Classical Spin Ice on the pyrochlore lattice



$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{ij} S_i^z S_j^z$$

 \boldsymbol{z} is local basis of in/out tetrahedron

single tetrahedron
excited state:
3-in-1-out / 3-out-1-in









2-charge states

Ground state: 2-in-2-out $\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{E} = 0$

 $\mathcal{H} = \sum_{ij} S_i^z S_j^z$





Classical Spin Ice





Ground state: 2-in-2-out $\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{E} = 0$

Magnetic Coulomb Phase in the Spin Ice Ho₂Ti₂O₇

T. Fennell,¹* P. P. Deen,¹ A. R. Wildes,¹ K. Schmalzl,² D. Prabhakaran,³ A. T. Boothroyd,³ R. J. Aldus,⁴ D. F. McMorrow,⁴ S. T. Bramwell⁴

Holmium Titanium

Science **326**, 415 (2009)

neutron scattering measures spin-spin correlation in momentum space

 $\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{E} = 0 \rightarrow \boldsymbol{q} \cdot \boldsymbol{E} = 0$

 $\langle E_i(\boldsymbol{q})E_j(-\boldsymbol{q})\rangle \propto \delta_{ij} - q_i q_j/q^2$

 $\langle E_x(\boldsymbol{q}) E_x(-\boldsymbol{q}) \rangle \sim q_y^2/q^2$



"pinch point"







Classical Spin Ice



$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{ij} S_i^z S_j^z$$

Ground state: 2-in-2-out $\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{E} = 0$





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"artificial magnetic monopoles"





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Outline





Classical Spin Ice



Ground state: 2-in-2-out $\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{E} = 0$ $H = (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{E})^2 \text{ or } |\phi|^2$

2 charge states ----1 charge states -----ground states ------

Quantum Spin Ice



quantum dynamics



Effective model (roughly speaking) $H = J_{zz} |\phi|^2 + J_{\pm} \phi_i e^{iA_{ij}} \phi_j^{\dagger} + \text{h.c.}$

Classical Spin Ice



Ground state: 2-in-2-out $\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{E} = 0$ $H = (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{E})^2 \text{ or } |\phi|^2$

2 charge states ----1 charge states -----ground states ------

Quantum Spin Ice

quantum dynamics

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left\{ J_{zz} \mathbf{S}_i^z \mathbf{S}_j^z - J_{\pm} (\mathbf{S}_i^+ \mathbf{S}_j^- + \mathbf{S}_i^- \mathbf{S}_j^+) \right\}$$

Effective model (roughly speaking)

$$H = J_{zz} |\phi|^2 + J_{\pm} \phi_i e^{iA_{ij}} \phi_j^{\dagger} + \text{h.c.}$$



SungBin Lee, Shigeki Onoda, and Leon Balents Phys. Rev. B 86, 104412





 $J_{ring} \sum_{O} (S_1^+ S_2^- S_3^+ S_4^- S_5^+ S_6^- + \text{H.c.}) \sim J_{ring} \cos(b)$

 $J_{\rm ring} \cos(b) \qquad J_{\rm ring} = 3J_{\pm}^3 / (2J_{zz}^2)$













 $H = (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{E})^2$ or $|\phi|^2$



hopping of charges on a gauge field background





 $H = (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{E})^2$ or $|\phi|^2$

2 charge states 1 charge states ground states

overall picture: QSI is a lattice emergent QED (eQED) with photons, electric charges, and magnetic monopoles. All these components have their dynamics and interactions.





Effective model (roughly speaking)

$$H = J_{zz} |\phi|^2 + J_{\pm} \phi_i e^{iA_{ij}} \phi_j^{\dagger} + \text{h.c.}$$



It is generally impossible to solve this model exactly. So mean-field theory and numerics are used to identify the spectrum.







Effective model (roughly speaking)

$$H = J_{zz} |\phi|^2 + J_{\pm} \phi_i e^{iA_{ij}} \phi_j^{\dagger} + \text{h.c.}$$



It is generally impossible to solve this model exactly. So mean-field theory and numerics are used to identify the spectrum.



 $H \sim -\cos(b)$ $H \sim +\cos(b)$ background b = 0 background $b = \pi$

2 different phases of lattice eQED

SungBin Lee, Shigeki Onoda, and Leon Balents Phys. Rev. B 86, 104412



Effective model (roughly speaking)

$$H = J_{zz} |\phi|^2 + J_{\pm} \phi_i e^{iA_{ij}} \phi_j^{\dagger} + \text{h.c.}$$



Gang Chen & collaborators: PRR 5, 033169 PRR 2, 013066 PRB 96, 195127 PRB 96, 085136 PRB 95, 041106 PRL 112, 167203 It is generally impossible to solve this model exactly. So mean-field theory and numerics are used to identify the spectrum.

Félix Desrochers^{1,*} and Yong Baek Kim^{1,†}

¹Department of Physics, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A7, Canada (Dated: January 16, 2023)



Effective model (roughly speaking)

$$H = J_{zz} |\phi|^2 + J_{\pm} \phi_i e^{iA_{ij}} \phi_j^{\dagger} + \text{h.c.}$$



The spectrum can be measured by neutron scattering expriments.

Praseodymium-Hafnium

Experimental signatures of emergent quantum electrodynamics in Pr₂Hf₂O₇

Romain Sibille [™], Nicolas Gauthier, Han Yan, Monica Ciomaga Hatnean, Jacques Ollivier, Barry Winn, Uwe Filges, Geetha Balakrishnan, Michel Kenzelmann, Nic Shannon & Tom Fennell

Nature Physics 14, 711–715









Effective model (roughly speaking)



The spectrum can be measured by neutron scattering experiments. $Ce_2Sn_2O_7$ Cerium Stannum



As a lattice QED, it is interesting for probing QED physics not accessible from fundamental particles

superluminal Cherenkov radiation effect: charges propagating faster than light!

Spectroscopy of Spinons in Coulomb Quantum Spin Liquids

Siddhardh C. Morampudi¹, Frank Wilczek,^{2,3,4,5,6} and Chris R. Laumann¹ ¹Department of Physics, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts 02215, USA ²Center for Theoretical Physics, MIT, Cambridge Massachusetts 02139, USA ³T. D. Lee Institute, Shanghai 200240, China ⁴Wilczek Quantum Center, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai 200240, China ⁵Department of Physics, Stockholm University, Stockholm 114 19, Sweden ⁶Department of Physics and Origins Project, Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona 25287, USA



large fine-structure constant

Emergent Fine Structure Constant of Quantum Spin Ice Is Large

Salvatore D. Pace⁽⁰⁾,^{1,2} Siddhardh C. Morampudi⁽⁰⁾,³ Roderich Moessner,⁴ and Chris R. Laumann⁽⁰⁾ ¹TCM Group, Cavendish Laboratory, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB3 0HE, United Kingdom ²Department of Physics, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts 02215, USA ³Center for Theoretical Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, USA ⁴Max-Planck-Institut für Physik komplexer Systeme, 01187 Dresden, Germany

	Candidate QSI material	Vacuum QE
α	1/10	1/137
С	$1 m s^{-1}$	3.0×10^{8} m
е	$10^{-4} \sqrt{\text{eV nm}}$	$1.2 \sqrt{\text{eV} \text{m}}$
т	$10^{-3} \sqrt{\text{eV nm}}$	$82.2 \sqrt{\text{eV} \text{n}}$











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Outline



energy

J_{zz} $J_{\rm ring}$ visons photons 25206 ¹⁵ 3 10 0











Alaric Sanders Cambridge



Claudio Castelnovo Cambridge

Andriy H. Nevidomskyy Rice

arXiv:2312.11641, Experimentally tunable QED in dipolar-octupolar quantum spin ice

Effective model (roughly speaking)

$$H = J_{zz} |\phi|^2 + J_{\pm} \phi_i e^{iA_{ij}} \phi_j^{\dagger} + \text{h.c.}$$



One material, one version of eQED

Generally very difficult to have accurate control of its dynamics!

Conventional spin 1/2s on pyrochlore lattice:

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \{J_{zz} \mathbf{S}_{i}^{z} \mathbf{S}_{j}^{z} - J_{\pm} (\mathbf{S}_{i}^{+} \mathbf{S}_{j}^{-} + \mathbf{S}_{i}^{-} \mathbf{S}_{j}^{+}) -g \sum_{i} \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i} + (\text{other spin-spin terms})$$





apply magnetic field



Conventional spin 1/2s on pyrochlore lattice:

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \{J_{zz} \mathbf{S}_{i}^{z} \mathbf{S}_{j}^{z} - J_{\pm} (\mathbf{S}_{i}^{+} \mathbf{S}_{j}^{-} + \mathbf{S}_{i}^{-} \mathbf{S}_{j}^{+}) -g \sum_{i} \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i} + (\text{other spin-spin terms})$$







Effective model (roughly speaking)

$$H = J_{zz} |\phi|^2 + J_{\pm} \phi_i e^{iA_{ij}} \phi_j^{\dagger} + \text{h.c.}$$



Given a material, the interactions are fixed: one material, one eQED

Our work: can we also control the dynamics of the eQED in QSI, so we can probe different regimes of QED in one compound?

It is possible in a class of materials called Dipolar-Octupolar QSI!

arXiv:2312.11641 A Sanders, <u>HY</u>, C Castelnovo, AH Nevidomskyy

Dipolar-Octuplar QSI

electron orbitals on each single site



sketch of the idea: spin comes from the d electron orbitals. lowest two states are two of the $j_z = 3/2$ states instead of 1/2the pseudo spin-1/2 operators act differently under symmetry

Quantum Spin Ices and Topological Phases from Dipolar-Octupolar Doublets on the Pyrochlore Lattice

Yi-Ping Huang, Gang Chen, and Michael Hermele Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 167203 - Published 25 April 2014





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> S^y has the symmetry of an octupole

 S^y does not couple to applied magnetic field





Dipolar-Octuplar QSI

 S^y has the symmetry of an octupole

 S^{y} does not couple to applied magnetic field

DO-pyrochlore lattice spin Hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left[\sum_{\alpha=x,y,z} J_{\alpha} S_{i}^{\alpha} S_{j}^{\alpha} + J_{xz} (S_{i}^{x} S_{j}^{z} + S_{i}^{y} S_{j}^{x}) \right]$$
$$-\sum_{i} (S_{i}^{z} g_{z} + S_{i}^{x} g_{x}) \hat{z}_{i} \cdot B$$
$$2 \text{ charge states } \cdots \cdots$$
$$1 \text{ charge states } \cdots \cdots$$
$$ground \text{ states } \cdots \cdots$$
$$classical limit \quad H \sim \sum J_{y} S_{i}^{y} S_{j}^{y}$$

conventional pyrochlore lattice spin Hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left[\sum_{\alpha=x,y,z} J_{\alpha} S_i^{\alpha} S_j^{\alpha} + J_{xz} (S_i^x S_j^z + S_i^y S_j^x) \right]$$

 $-g\sum_{i} \boldsymbol{B} \cdot \boldsymbol{S}_{i} + (\text{other spin-spin terms})$





DO-pyrochlore lattice spin Hamiltonian

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H} = & \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left[\sum_{\alpha = x, y, z} J_{\alpha} S_i^{\alpha} S_j^{\alpha} + J_{xz} (S_i^x S_j^z + S_i^y S_j^x) \right] \\ & - \sum_i (S_i^z g_z + S_i^x g_x) \hat{\boldsymbol{z}}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{B} \end{aligned}$$





DO-pyrochlore lattice spin Hamiltonian

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$$\mathcal{H}_{I} = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} J_{y} \sigma_{i}^{z} \sigma_{j}^{z}, \qquad (2)$$
$$\mathcal{H}' = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \frac{J_{\pm}}{2} (\sigma_{i}^{+} \sigma_{j}^{-} + \sigma_{i}^{-} \sigma_{j}^{+}) \left[-\sum_{i} \frac{\hat{z}_{i} \cdot B}{2} (\sigma_{i}^{+} + \sigma_{i}^{-}). \right]$$
(3)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}} &= (1 - \mathcal{P}) \bigg[- \mathcal{H}' \frac{\mathcal{P}}{\mathcal{H}_I} \mathcal{H}' + \mathcal{H}' \frac{\mathcal{P}}{\mathcal{H}_I} \mathcal{H}' \frac{\mathcal{P}}{\mathcal{H}_I} \mathcal{H}' \\ &+ \dots \bigg] (1 - \mathcal{P}), \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{R} \in \{\text{all } O\}} g(\mathbf{R}) \cos(b) \end{aligned}$$



DO-pyrochlore lattice spin Hamiltonian

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H} = & \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left[\sum_{\alpha = x, y, z} J_{\alpha} S_i^{\alpha} S_j^{\alpha} + J_{xz} (S_i^x S_j^z + S_i^y S_j^x) \right] \\ & - \sum_i (S_i^z g_z + S_i^x g_x) \hat{\boldsymbol{z}}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{B} \end{aligned}$$



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$$g_p = rac{3J_{\pm}^3}{2J_y^2} + rac{5\sqrt{3}J_{\pm}^2}{12J_y^3} (\hat{m{z}}_p \cdot m{B})^2.$$

p=0,1,2,3 for 4 types of rings









 $g_p = rac{3J_{\pm}^3}{2J_y^2} + rac{5\sqrt{3}J_{\pm}^2}{12J_y^3} (\hat{m{z}}_p \cdot m{B})^2.$

also see: Zhou, Desrochers, Kim arXiv:2406.18650

 $\boldsymbol{B} \parallel [100]: \quad g_p = \frac{3J_{\pm}^3}{2J_y^2} + \frac{5B^2 J_{\pm}^2}{12J_y^3}.$

four rings have the same dynamics







$$g_p = rac{3J_{\pm}^3}{2J_y^2} + rac{5\sqrt{3}J_{\pm}^2}{12J_y^3} (\hat{\boldsymbol{z}}_p \cdot \boldsymbol{B})^2.$$

1. We can tune the speed of light!

 $\boldsymbol{B} \parallel [100]: \quad g_p = \frac{3J_{\pm}^3}{2J_y^2} + \frac{5B^2 J_{\pm}^2}{12J_y^3}.$

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1. We can tune the speed of light.

2. We can also induce quantum phase transition.

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3. We can realize new emergent birefringence.







 $\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}} = \sum g(\mathbf{R}) \cos(b)$ $R \in \{ all \bigcirc \}$

$$g_p = rac{3J_{\pm}^3}{2J_y^2} + rac{5\sqrt{3}J_{\pm}^2}{12J_y^3} (\hat{m{z}}_p \cdot m{B})^2.$$

3. We can realize new emergent birefringence. 4. We have new quantum liquid phase(s) (x + y) = (x + y)











- 1. We can tune the speed of light.
- 2. We can also induce quantum phase transition.
- 3. We have new quantum liquid phase(s)
- 4. We can realize new emergent birefringence.
- 5. We can realize non-linear photon coupling of b^3 in frustrated flux phase.



Possible three-photon couplings

C. L. Basham and P. K. Kabir Phys. Rev. D 15, 3388 – Published 1 June 1977







magnetic fields.

Black dotted lines indicate the semiclassical phase boundaries

ED Expectation values of ring-flip operators on a 72-site cluster subject to (a-e) 111 and (f-j) 011





According to GMFT, such exotic phase transitions may not happen to current materials.

	J_y	J_X	J_z	J_{XZ}		
$Ce_2Sn_2O_7$	0.069	0.001	0.001	0		
$\mathrm{Ce}_{2}\mathrm{Hf}_{2}\mathrm{O}_{7}$	0.044	0.011	0.016	-0.002		
$\mathrm{Ce}_{2}\mathrm{Zr}_{2}\mathrm{O}_{7}$	0.062	0.063	0.011	0		
Cerium Tin	/Stannu	ım Hafn	ium Zir	conium		
Various works by Romain Sibille, Bruce Gaulin, Pengcheng Da						



arXiv: 2502.14067, Z Zhou, Y-B Kim



Quantum Spin Ice: A universe in a grain of sand



- 2. Gapless excitations: photons

Our result: proposal to **experimentally tune the quantum dynamics** of lattice QED of dipolar-octupolar quantum spin ice

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Effective theory: **3D** U(1) Quantum Electrodynamics

1. Ground state: gapless topological quantum liquid state

3. Gapped excitations: electric **charges** and magnetic **monopoles**

2. Photon dynamics: tune the emergent speed of light, birefringence, non-



[OIST Symposium] Generalized Symmetries in Quantum Matter - Registration

Registration for the symposium (ONLY necessary if you have not previously been contacted by OIST/TSVP)

"Generalized Symmetries in Quantum Matter" organized by Daniel Bulmash, Abhinav Prem, Masahito Yamazaki, Han Yan. The symposium is scheduled to take place from June 16-21 at the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (OIST). Symposium website: <u>https://www.oist.jp/events/tsvp-symposium-aspects-generalized-</u> <u>symmetries</u>

This symposium is part of the **TSVP Thematic Program** "Generalized Symmetries in Quantum Matter". The program will run from May 12 to July 5, 2025. Thematic Program website: <u>https://www.oist.jp/visiting-program/tp25qm</u>

https://groups.oist.jp/tsvp/tp25qm

Back-up slides



 $\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}} = \sum g(\mathbf{R}) \cos(b)$ $R \in \{ all \bigcirc \}$

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Spinon Signatures

The spinon spectrum is much easier to be measured in current neutron scattering experiments.

Different phases have very different features.

F Desrochers, Y-B Kim PRL, 132(6), 066502 (2024) Also ref. Z Zhou, F Desrochers, Y-B Kim PhysRevB.110.174441