

Elastic Coupling in Altermagnets

Theory of Unconventional Magnetism: exploring altermagnets and beyond, Mainz, Oct. 2025

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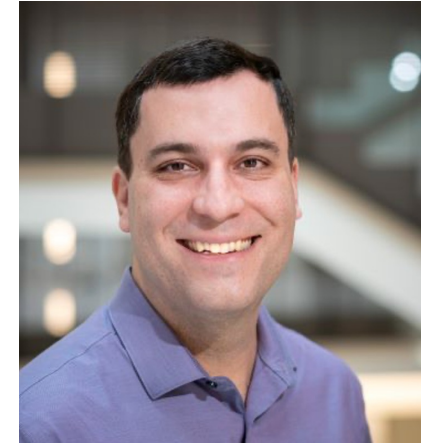
Iksu Jang
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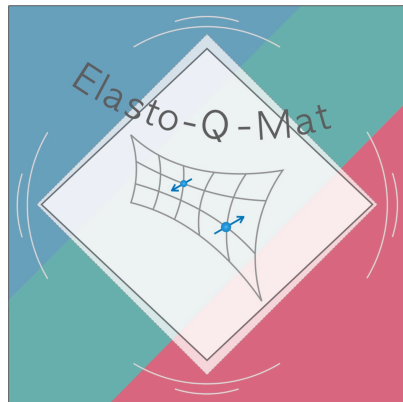
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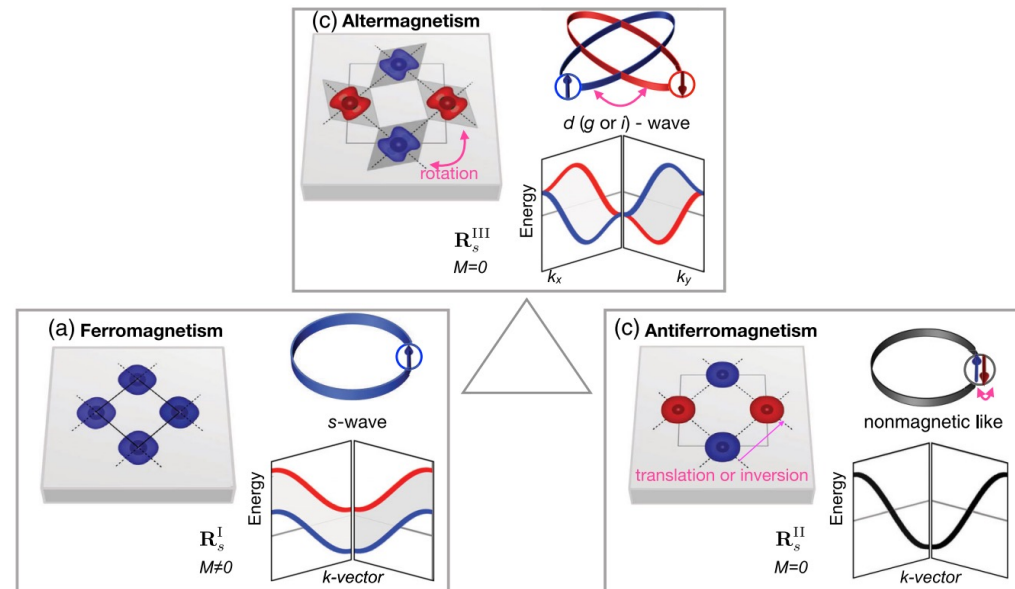


CRC– TRR 288

- C. R. W. Steward, R. M. Fernandes, and J. S., PRB 108, 144418 (2023)
- C. R. W. Steward, G. Palle, M. Garst, J. S., and I. Jang, PRB 112, 064431 (2025)
- K. Takahashi, C. R. W. Steward, M. Ogata, R. M. Fernandes, and J. S. PRB 111, 184408 (2025)
- A. R. Chakraborty, J. S., and R. M. Fernandes, PRB 112, 035146 (2025)

altermagnets:

- crystalline translations unchanged
- broken time reversal (?)
- no net magnetization
- inversion even



L. Šmejkal, J. Sinova, and T. Jungwirth, Phys. Rev. X 12, 040501 (2022).

altermagnets:

- crystalline translations unchanged
- broken time reversal ←
- no net magnetization
- inversion even

Über die
Operation der Zeitumkehr in der Quantenmechanik.

Von

E. Wigner.

Vorgelegt von M. BORN in der Sitzung am 25. November 1932.

*Nachrichten von der Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften zu
Göttingen, Mathematisch-Physikalische Klasse (1932).*

altermagnets:

- crystalline translations unchanged
- broken time reversal
- no net magnetization ←
- inversion even ←

→ TRS-odd order parameter transforms under one of the irreps of the point group other than the magnetic dipole

→ 3 “pure” tetragonal am states
 2 states with at least small magnetization

| irred. rep. | polynomial |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| A_{1g} | $z^2, x^2 + y^2$ |
| A_{2g} ferromag. | $(x^2 - y^2)$ |
| B_{1g} | $x^2 - y^2$ |
| B_{2g} | xy |
| E_g ferromag. | (xz, yz) |
| A_{1u} | z |
| A_{2u} | $xyz (x^2 - y^2)$ |
| B_{1u} odd parity | $(x^2 - y^2)$ |
| B_{2u} | xyz |
| E_u | (x, y) |

e.g. tetragonal systems

order parameter

$$\phi \sim \sum_{\mathbf{k}ab} c_a^\dagger(\mathbf{k}) f^\alpha(\mathbf{k}) J_{ab}^\alpha c_b(\mathbf{k})$$

form factor
angular momentum operator

single band:

$$\phi_{B_{1g}} \sim \sum_{\mathbf{k}ab} \sin k_x \sin k_y c_a^\dagger(\mathbf{k}) \sigma_{ab}^z c_b(\mathbf{k})$$

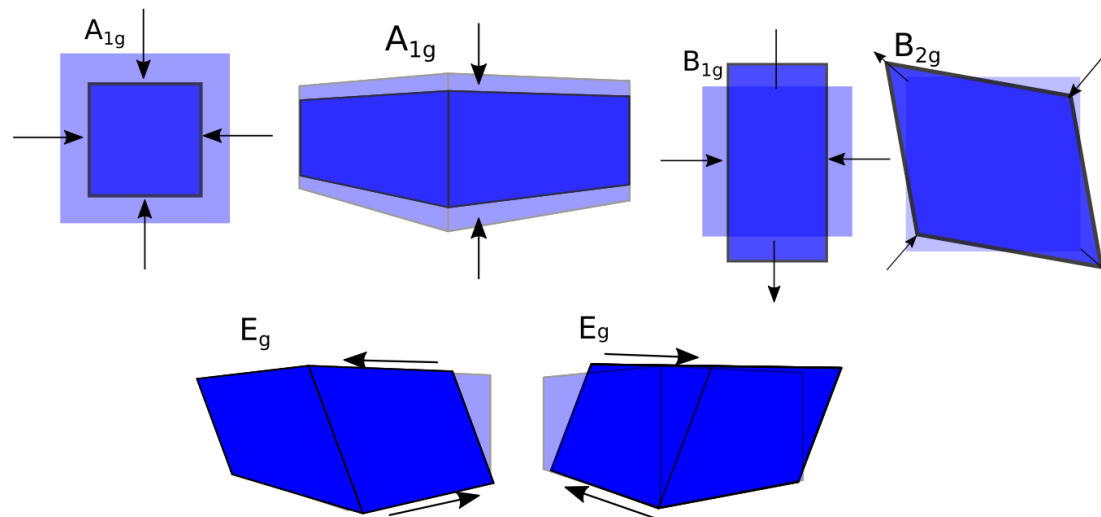
Lieb lattice:

$$\phi_{B_{2g}} \sim \sum_{\mathbf{k}} (\cos k_x - \cos k_y) c^\dagger(\mathbf{k}) \tau^0 \sigma^z c(\mathbf{k}) + \sum_{\mathbf{k}} c^\dagger(\mathbf{k}) \tau^z \sigma^z c(\mathbf{k})$$

strain

$$\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_{\alpha} u_{\beta} + \partial_{\beta} u_{\alpha})$$

displacement (acoustic phonon)



piezomagnetism

order parameter transforms under irrep. Γ^-

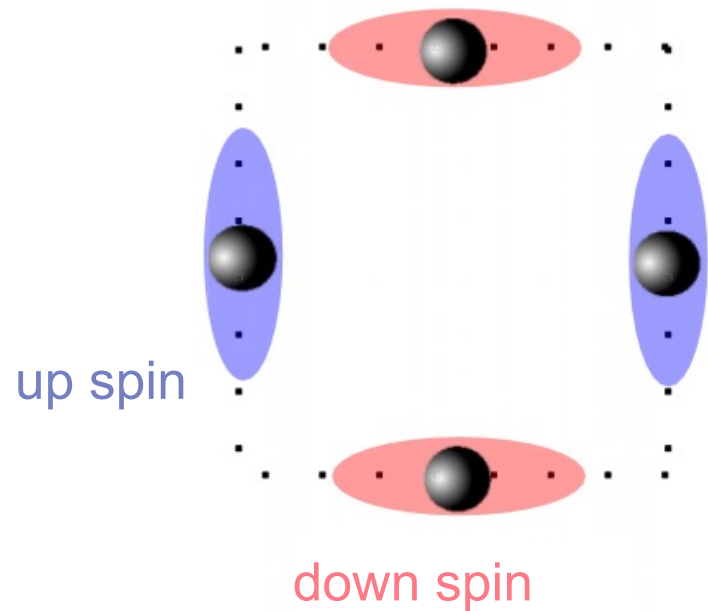
$$H_{\text{piezo-mag.}} = \int d^3x \lambda_{\alpha\gamma\delta}^i B_\alpha \phi^i \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}$$

$\Gamma_{B_\alpha}^- \otimes \Gamma^- \otimes \Gamma_\varepsilon$ contains trivial representation

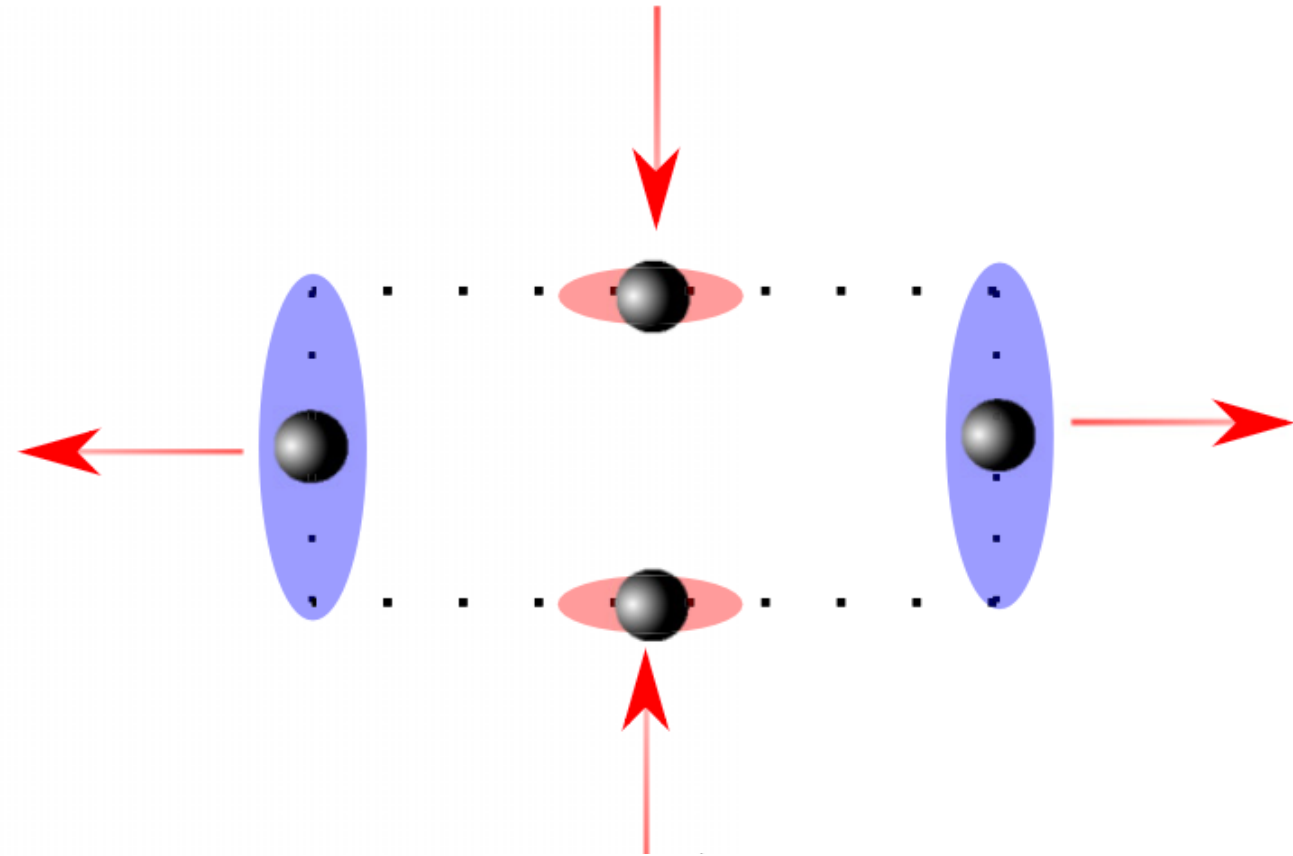
→ strain-induced magnetization

$$M_\alpha = -\lambda_{\alpha\gamma\delta}^i \phi^i \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}$$

piezomagnetism



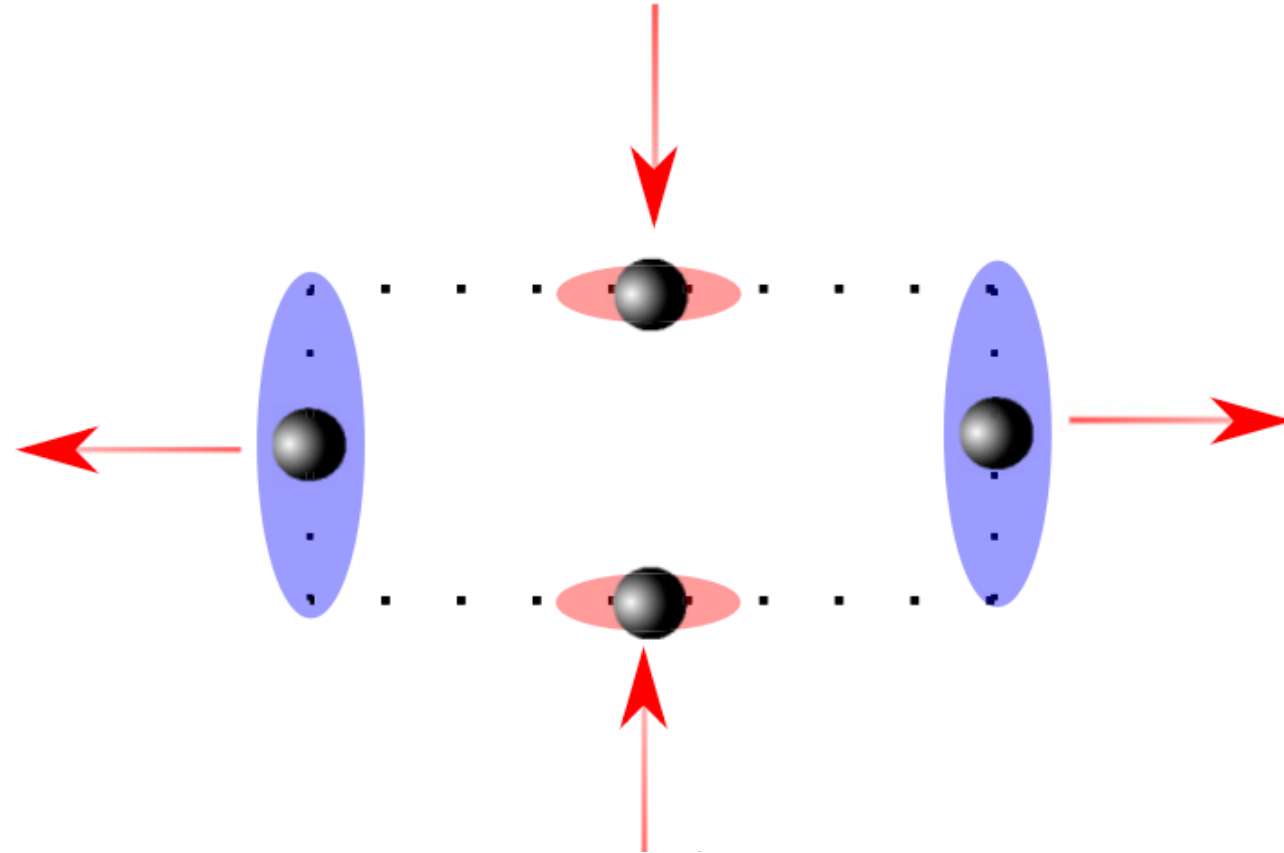
no strain



strain \rightarrow net magnetization

piezomagnetism

| D_{4h} ($4/m\bar{m}m$) point group | |
|--|--|
| AM irrep | piezomagnetic coupling |
| A_{1g}^- | $\lambda\phi (\epsilon_{yz}H_x - \epsilon_{xz}H_y)$ |
| B_{1g}^- | $\lambda\phi (\epsilon_{yz}H_x + \epsilon_{xz}H_y)$ $\lambda'\phi\epsilon_{xy}H_z$ |
| B_{2g}^- | $\lambda\phi (\epsilon_{xz}H_x - \epsilon_{yz}H_y)$ $\lambda'\phi\epsilon_{x^2-y^2}H_z$ |
| FM irrep | |
| A_{2g}^- | $\lambda\phi\epsilon_{A_{1g}}H_z$ $\lambda'\phi (\epsilon_{zx}H_x + \epsilon_{yz}H_y)$ |
| E_g^- | $\lambda\epsilon_{A_{1g}} (\phi_1H_x + \phi_2H_y)$ $\lambda'\epsilon_{x^2-y^2} (\phi_1H_x - \phi_2H_y)$ $\lambda''\epsilon_{xy} (\phi_1H_y + \phi_2H_x)$ $\lambda'''\phi (\phi_1\epsilon_{xz} + \phi_2\epsilon_{yz}) H_z$ |



strain \rightarrow net magnetization

piezomagnetism

$$H_{\text{piezo-mag.}} = \int d^3x \lambda_{\alpha\gamma\delta}^i B_\alpha \phi^i(\mathbf{x}) \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}(\mathbf{x}) = \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^{\text{phonon}}(\mathbf{x}) + \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^{\text{defects}}(\mathbf{x}) + \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^{\text{rand.}}(\mathbf{x})$$

changes the altermagnetic interactions

- enhances overall coupling
- changes range / character of the interaction

dislocations

- nucleation of 1D order

randomness

- random-field Ising model with variable disorder strength

piezomagnetism

$$H_{\text{piezo-mag.}} = \int d^3x \lambda_{\alpha\gamma\delta}^i B_{\alpha} \phi^i(\mathbf{x}) \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}(\mathbf{x}) = \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^{\text{phonon}}(\mathbf{x}) + \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^{\text{defects}}(\mathbf{x}) + \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^{\text{rand.}}(\mathbf{x})$$

changes the altermagnetic interactions

- **enhances overall coupling**
- changes range / character of the interaction

dislocations

- nucleation of 1D order

randomness

- **random-field Ising model with variable disorder strength**

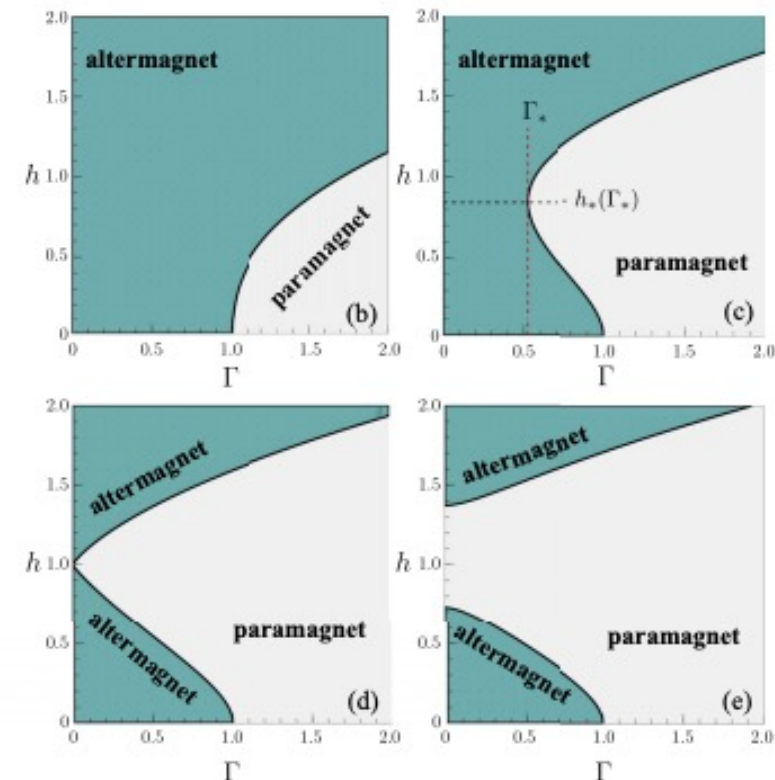
field-induced random strain

$$\mathcal{H} = -J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \tau_i^z \tau_j^z - \Gamma \sum_i \tau_i^x - \frac{N}{2} C_0 \varepsilon_0^2 - \lambda B_z \sum_i (\varepsilon_0 + \varepsilon_i^{\text{rand}}) \tau_i^z$$

solution in the infinite-range limit

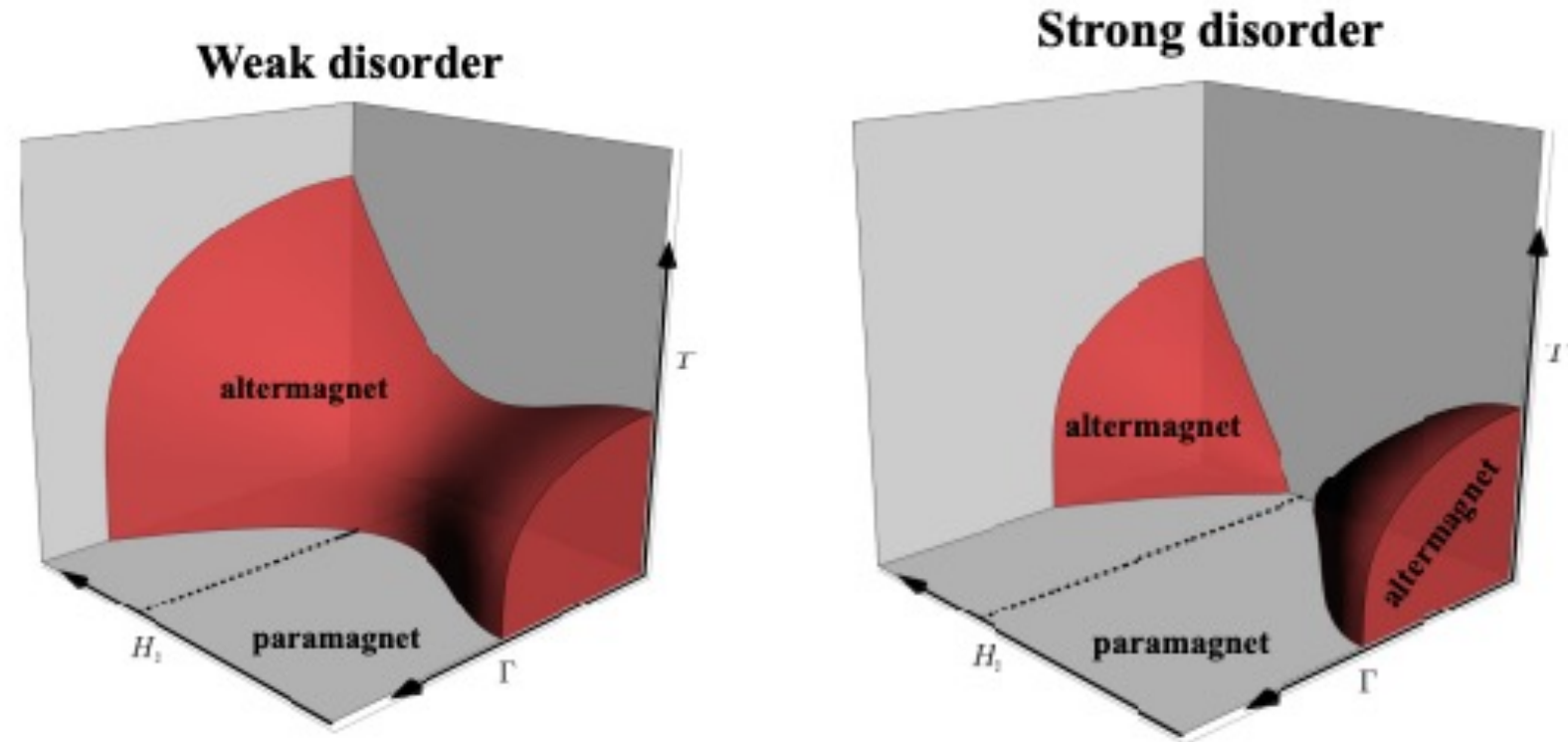
$$-J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \tau_i^z \tau_j^z \rightarrow -\frac{J}{N} \sum_{i < j} \tau_i^z \tau_j^z$$

competition between strain-enhanced interactions and random-field suppression of altermagnetism

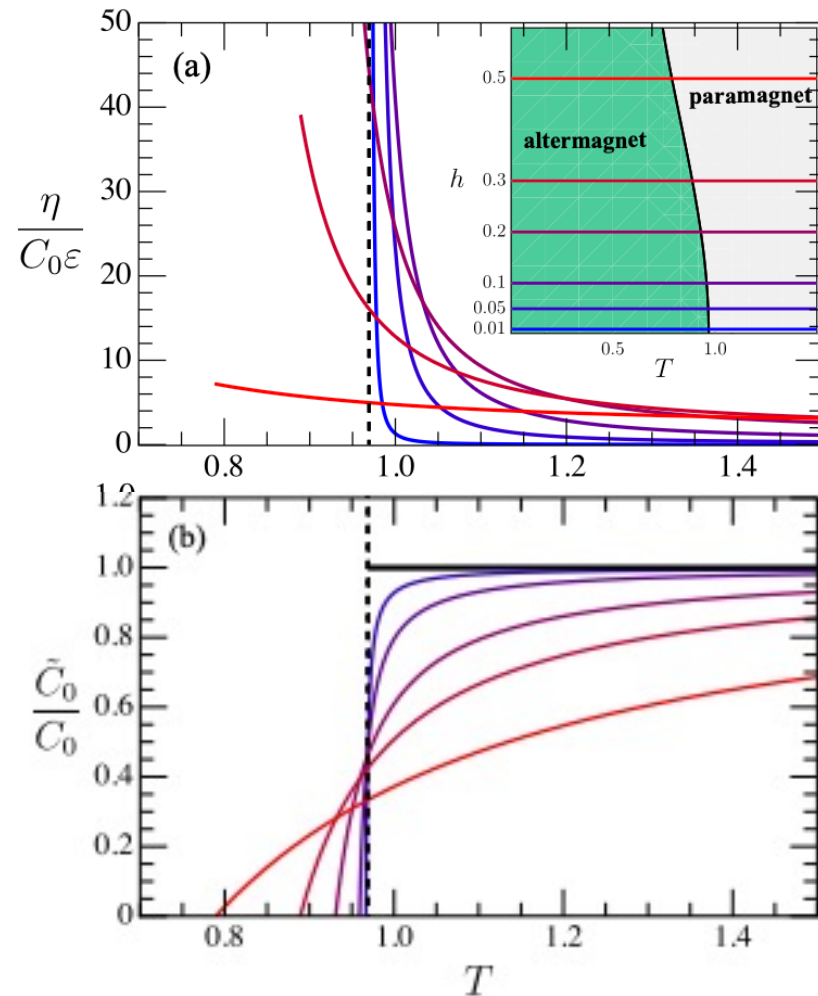


field-induced random strain

finite
temperatures



field-induced random strain



elasto-caloric effect

$$\eta = \left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial \varepsilon} \right|_S = - \frac{T}{c} \left. \frac{\partial S}{\partial \varepsilon} \right|_T$$

field-induced lattice softening

$$\tilde{C}_0(B \neq 0, T \rightarrow T_c) \rightarrow 0$$

piezomagnetism

$$H_{\text{piezo-mag.}} = \int d^3x \lambda_{\alpha\gamma\delta}^i B_{\alpha} \phi^i(\mathbf{x}) \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}(\mathbf{x}) = \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^{\text{phonon}}(\mathbf{x}) + \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^{\text{defects}}(\mathbf{x}) + \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^{\text{rand.}}(\mathbf{x})$$

changes the altermagnetic interactions

- enhances overall coupling
- **changes range / character of the interaction**

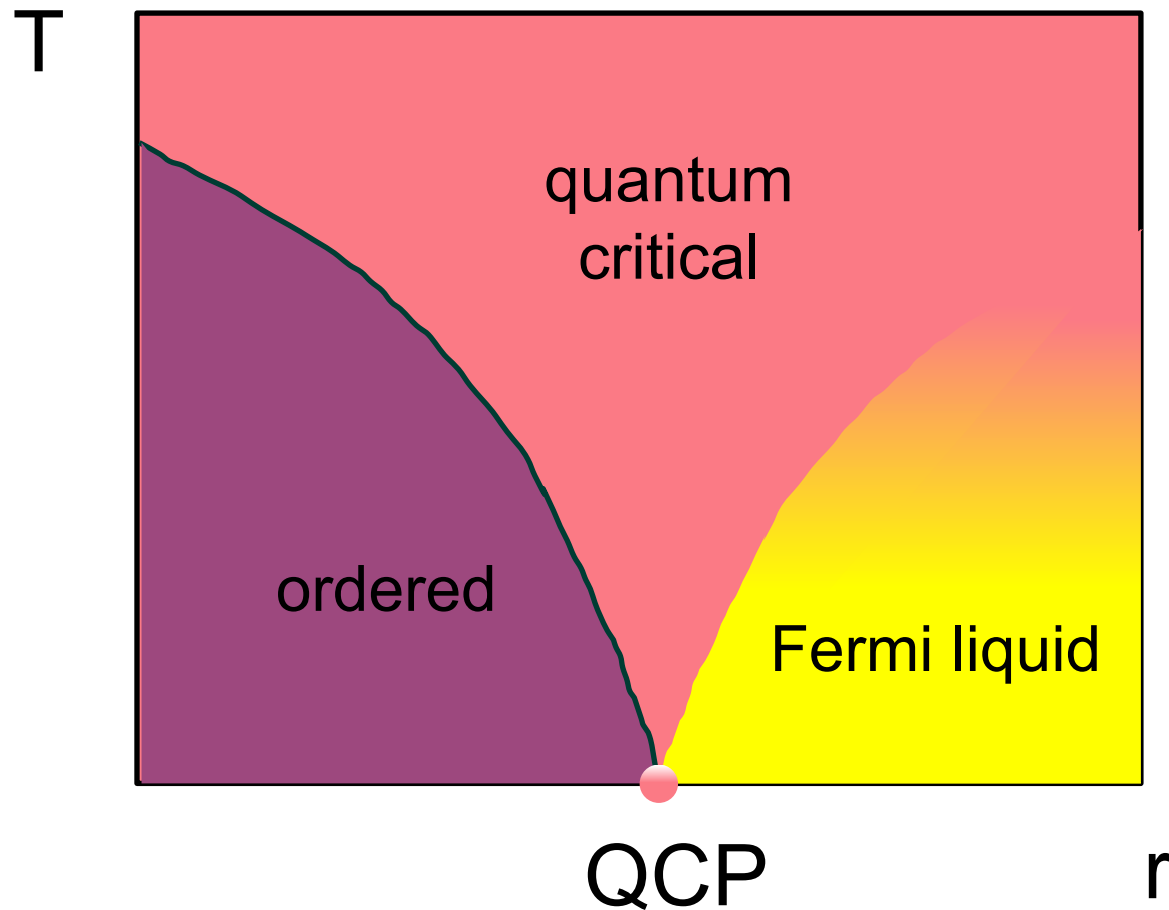
dislocations

- nucleation of 1D order

randomness

- random-field Ising model with variable disorder strength

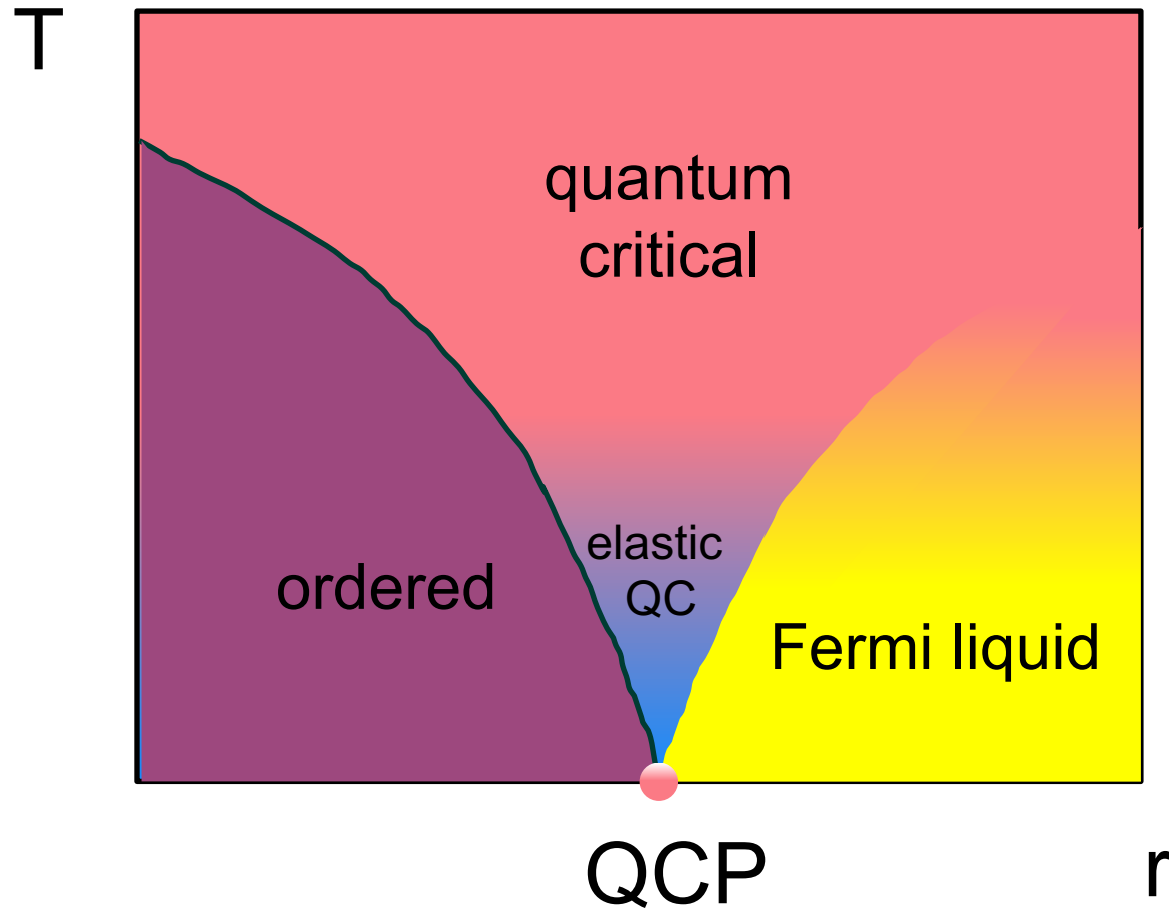
quantum criticality



$d=3$, itinerant QCP
 (Ising nematic, altermagnetic)

$$\gamma(T) = c(T)/T \propto \log(T_0/T)$$

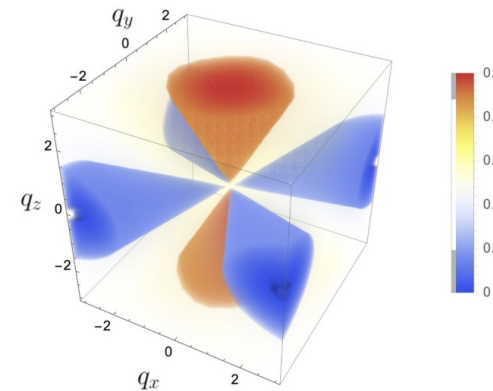
quantum criticality



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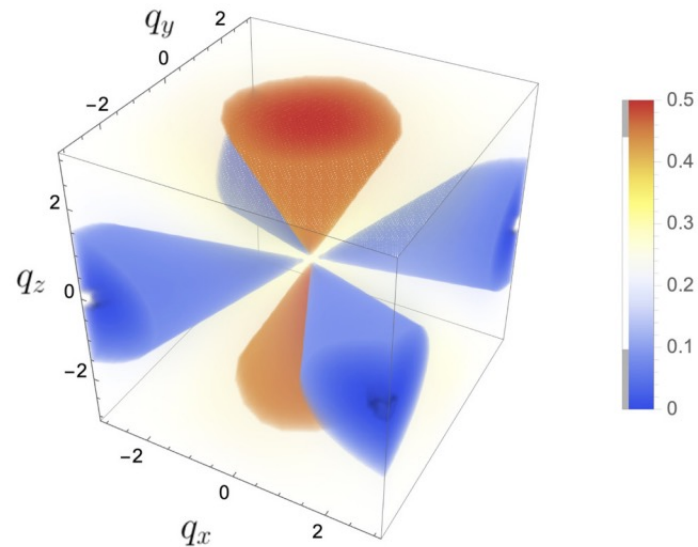
including elastic couplings




only soft along
specific directions

$$\gamma(T) = c(T)/T \propto \text{const.}$$

directional softness of critical modes



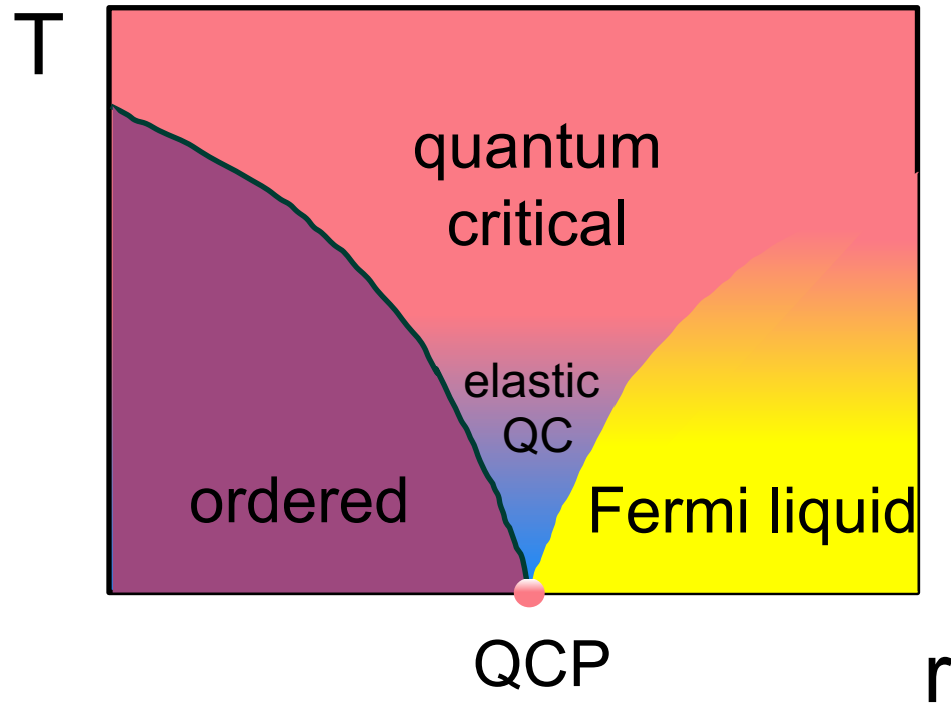
$$\chi(\mathbf{q}, \omega = 0) \propto \frac{1}{q^2 + c_1 \left(\frac{q_x^2 - q_y^2}{q^2} \right)^2 + c_2 \frac{q_z^2}{q^2}}$$



 due to soft phonons

- reduces critical fluctuations
- well-defined fermionic quasi-particles at QCP

Is the elastic QCP a Fermi-liquid fixed point?



elasto-caloric effect

$$\eta = \left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial \varepsilon} \right|_S = -\frac{T}{c} \left. \frac{\partial S}{\partial \varepsilon} \right|_T$$

$$\frac{\eta(T)}{T} \propto \log(T_0/T)$$

not a Fermi-liquid fixed point

Scaling arguments

$$\omega(\mathbf{q})^2 = \mathbf{q}_{\text{hard}}^2 + q_{\text{soft}}^4$$

$$d_{\text{eff}} \rightarrow 2(d-1) + 1$$

$$(d=3 \rightarrow d_{\text{eff}}=5)$$

singular part of the free energy density

$$f_{\text{sing}}(r, T) = b^{-(d_{\text{eff}}+z)} f_{\text{sing}}\left(b^{1/\nu} r, b^z T\right)$$

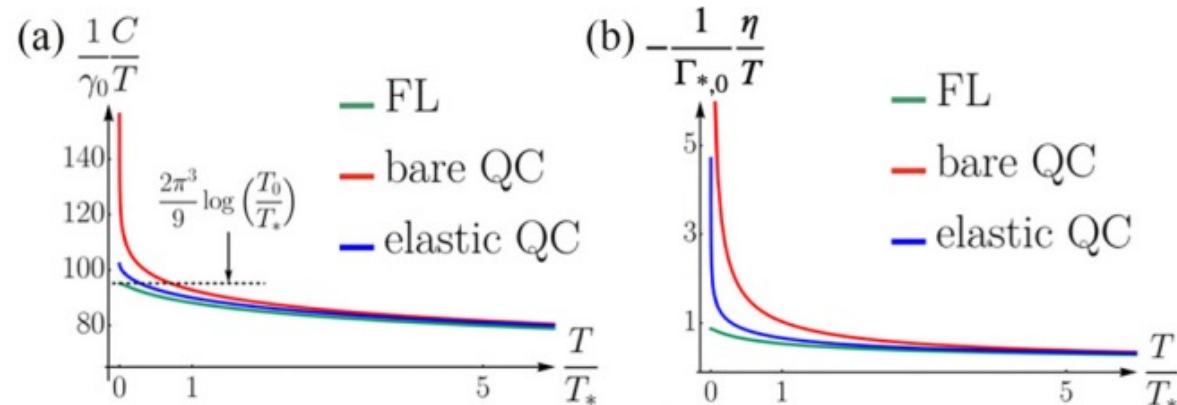
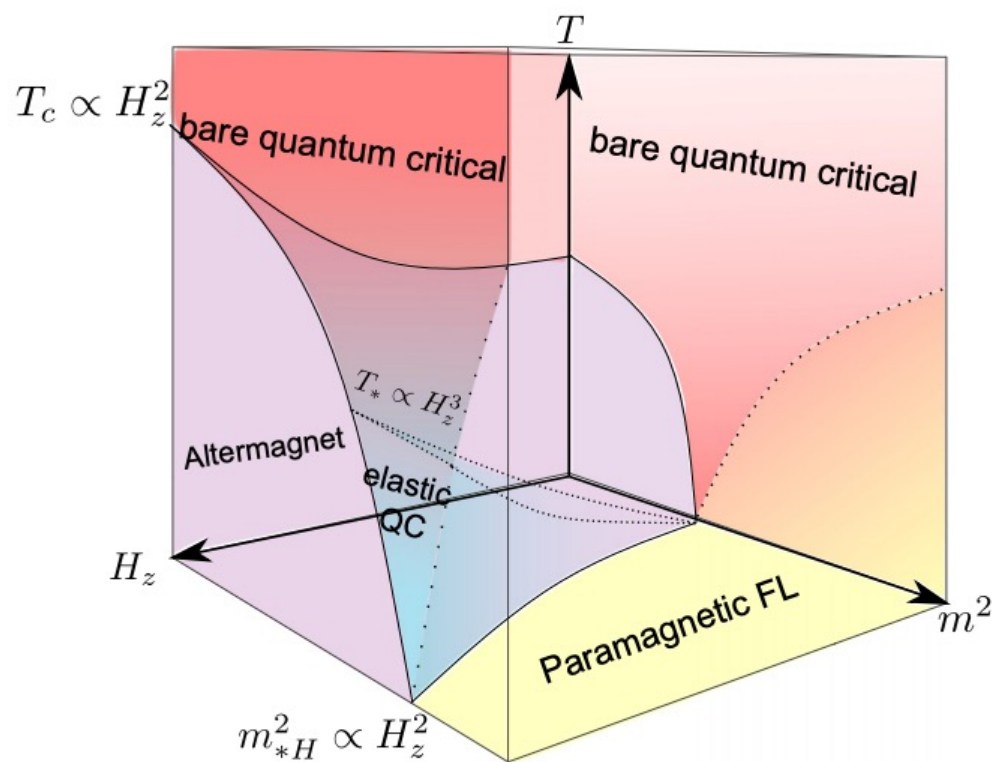
heat capacity:

$$\gamma_{\text{sing}} = -\frac{\partial^2 f_{\text{sing}}}{\partial T^2} \propto T^{\frac{d_{\text{eff}}-z}{z}} \ll \gamma_{\text{FL}}$$

elastocaloric effect:

$$\frac{\eta}{T} = \frac{\frac{\eta}{T}|_{\text{FL}} + cT^{\frac{d_{\text{eff}}-\nu^{-1}-x}{x}}}{\gamma_{\text{FL}} + c'T^{\frac{d_{\text{eff}}-z}{z}}}$$

Field-tuned elastic QCP in altermagnets



tunable crossover between “bare” QCP and elastic QCP

anomalous Hall conductivity

single-particle Berry-curvature contribution

$$\sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{(A)}(\omega) = -\frac{e^2}{\hbar} \sum_{\mathbf{k}, l} \Omega_{\alpha\beta}^{(l)}(\mathbf{k}) \Theta(\omega - \xi_{\mathbf{k}, l})$$

$$\Omega_{\alpha\beta}^{(l)}(\mathbf{k}) = i \left[\left\langle \frac{\partial u_{\mathbf{k}l}}{\partial k_\alpha} \mid \frac{\partial u_{\mathbf{k}l}}{\partial k_\beta} \right\rangle - [\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta] \right]$$

$$\sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{(A)}(\omega) \neq 0 \quad \text{only for states with finite moment}$$

| D_{4h} ($4/m\bar{m}m$) point group | |
|--|---|
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| A_{1g}^- | $\lambda\phi(\epsilon_{yz}H_x - \epsilon_{xz}H_y)$ |
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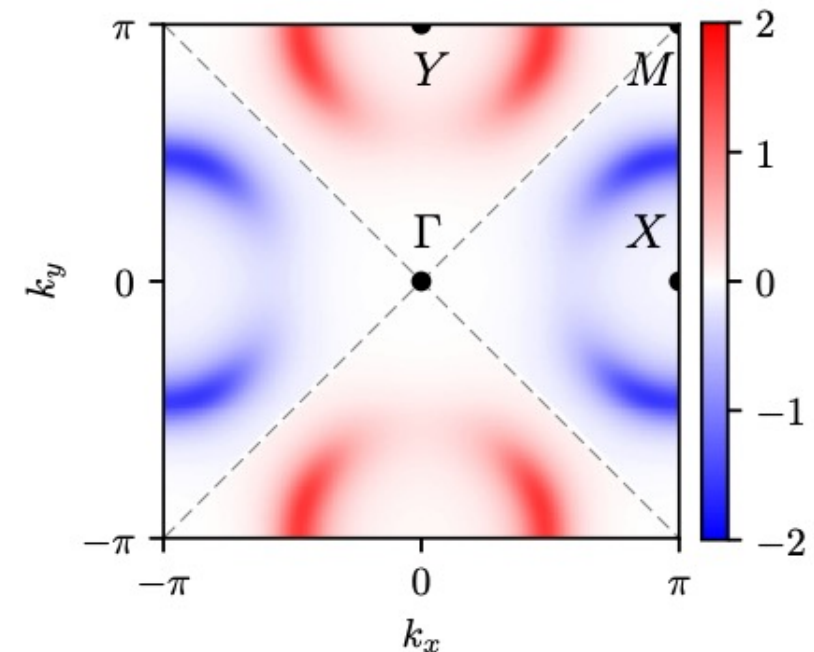
anomalous Hall conductivity

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$$\Omega_{\alpha\beta}^{(l)}(\mathbf{k}) = i \left[\left\langle \frac{\partial u_{\mathbf{k}l}}{\partial k_\alpha} \middle| \frac{\partial u_{\mathbf{k}l}}{\partial k_\beta} \right\rangle - [\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta] \right]$$

Berry curvature quadrupole



K. Takahashi, et al, .. PRB 111, 184408 (2025)

pure altermagnet $\rightarrow \sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{(A)}(\omega) = 0$

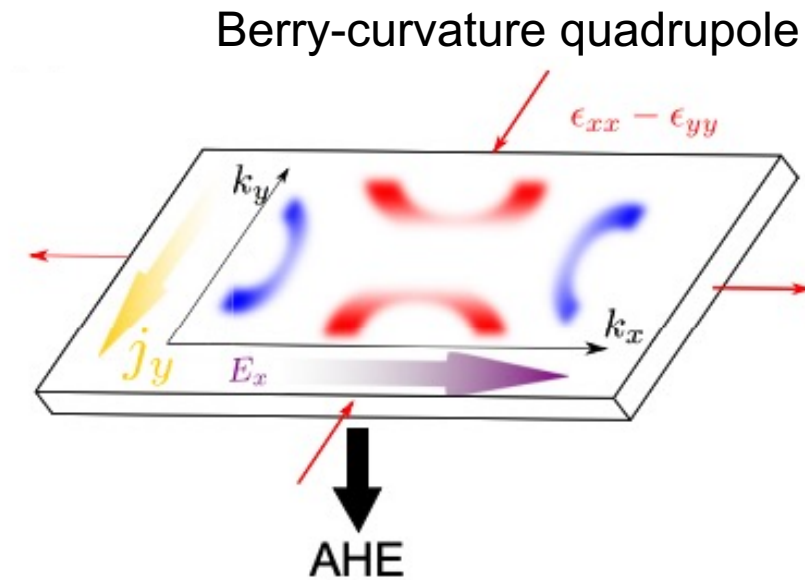
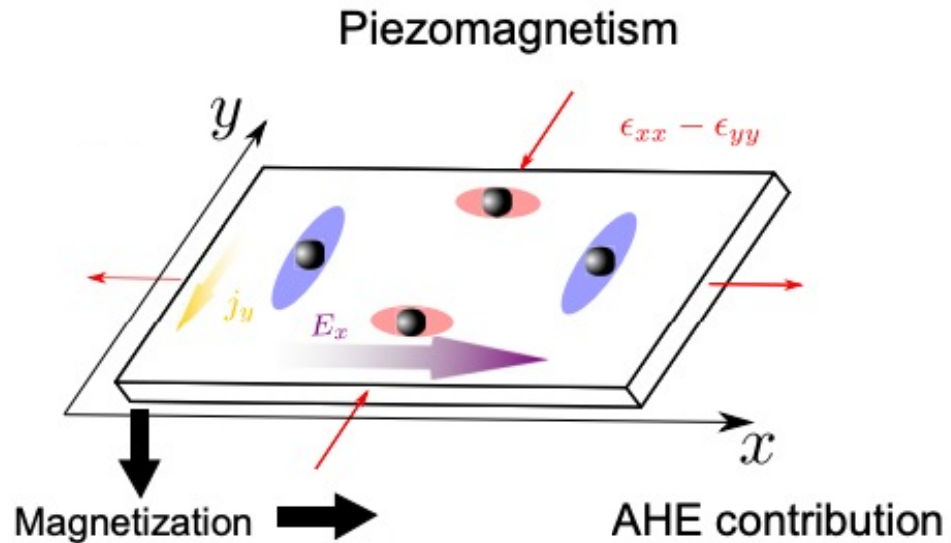
elasto-Hall conductivity

$$j_\alpha = \sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{(A)} E_\beta + \nu_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}^{(A)} E_\beta \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}$$

vanishes for pure altermagnets

when is it nonzero?

elasto-Hall conductivity



$$M_{\kappa} = \Lambda_{\kappa\beta\gamma} \epsilon_{\gamma\delta}$$

$$\Lambda_{\kappa\gamma\delta} = -\lambda_{\kappa\gamma\delta}^i \phi^i$$

$$j_{\alpha} = \nu_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}^{(A)} E_{\beta} \epsilon_{\gamma\delta}$$

$$\nu_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}^{(A)} \text{ transforms like } \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\kappa} \Lambda_{\kappa\gamma\delta}$$

elasto-Hall conductivity

add strain $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{k}} = \mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{k},0} + \mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{k},\varepsilon}$

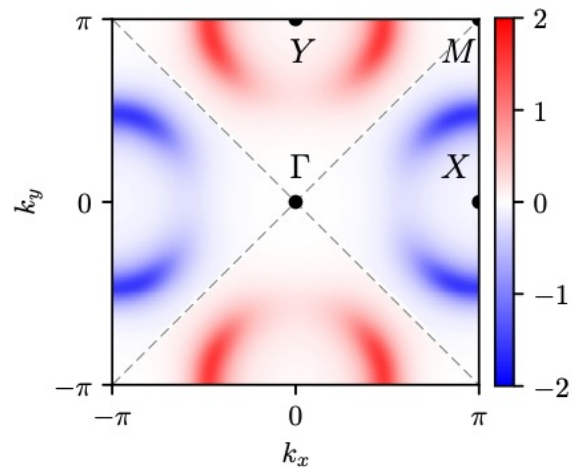
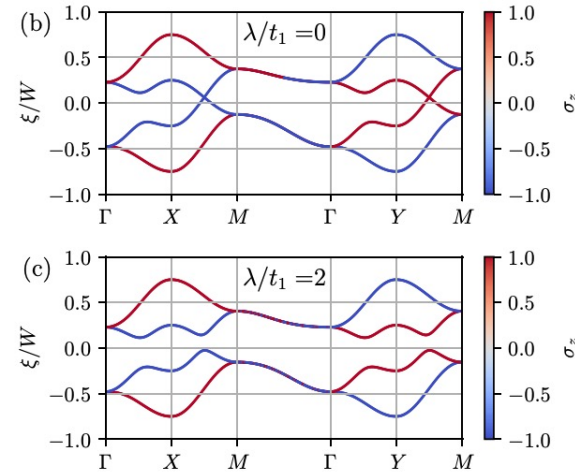
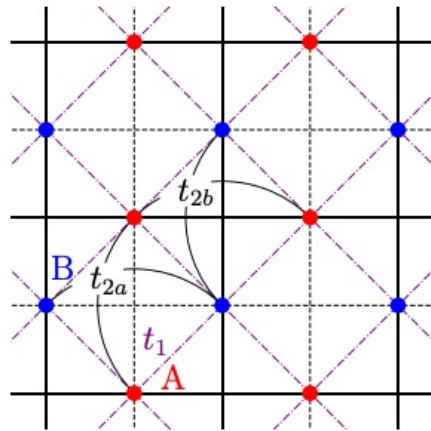
$$\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{k},0} = \sum_l \xi_{\mathbf{k}l} |u_{\mathbf{k},l}\rangle \langle u_{\mathbf{k},l}| \quad (\text{unstrained system})$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{k},\varepsilon} = \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{l,l'} \gamma_{ll'}^{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{k}) |u_{\mathbf{k},l}\rangle \langle u_{\mathbf{k},l'}| \quad (\text{strain contribution})$$

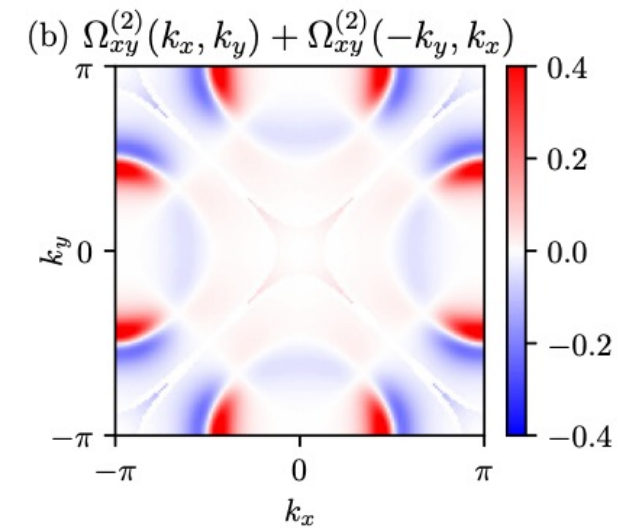
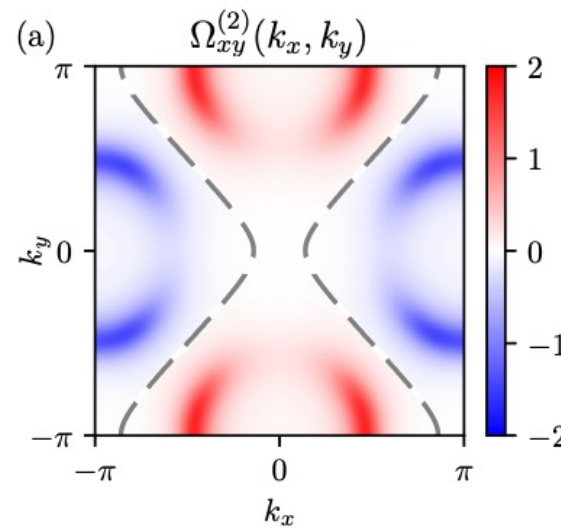
strain correction to the Berry curvature

$$\delta\Omega_{\alpha\beta}^{(l)}(\mathbf{k}) = \Gamma_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}^{(l)}(\mathbf{k}) \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta} \quad \Gamma_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}^{(l)}(\mathbf{k}) = -2 \left[\partial_{k_\alpha} \sum_{l' \neq l} \frac{\text{Im} \left(\gamma_{ll'}^{\gamma\delta}(\mathbf{k}) \langle u_{\mathbf{k}l} | \partial_{k_\beta} u_{\mathbf{k};l'} \rangle \right)}{\xi_{\mathbf{k},l} - \xi_{\mathbf{k},l'}} - (\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta) \right]$$

example: Lieb lattice

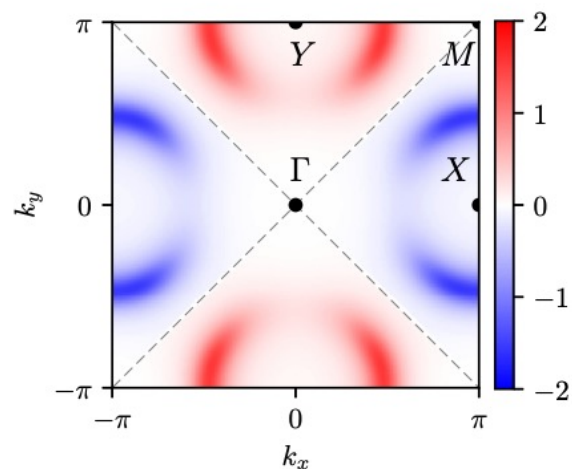
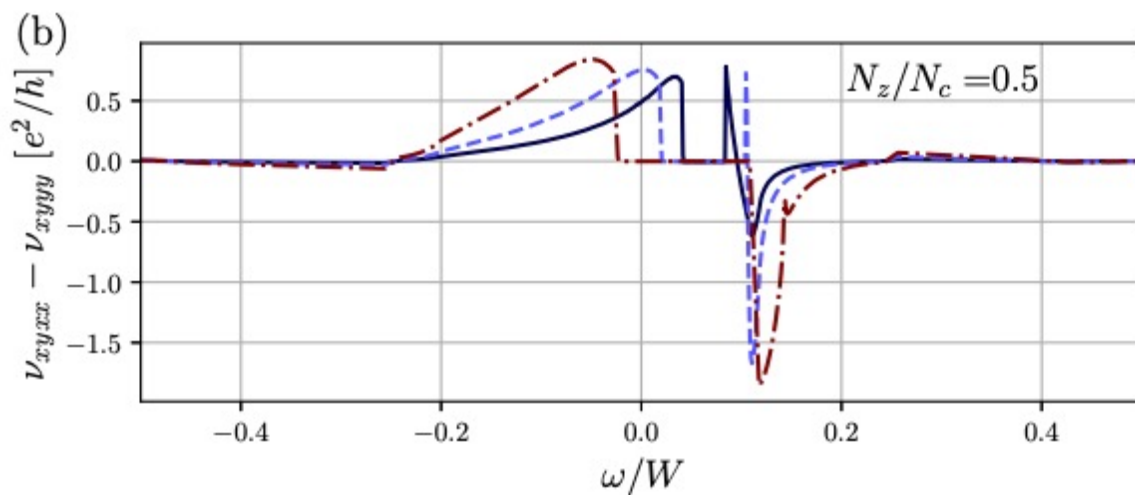


→
strain

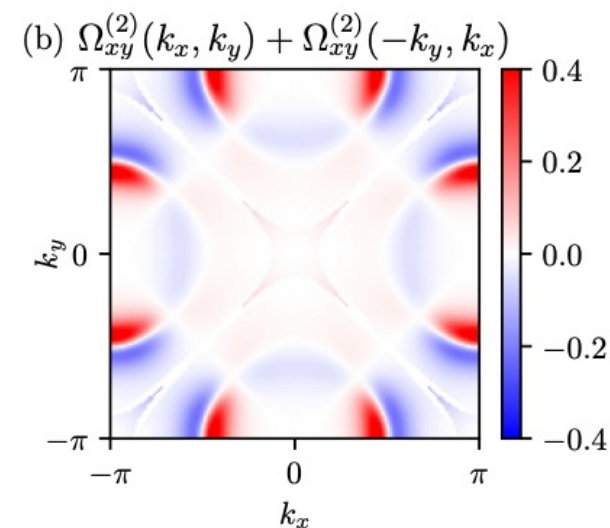
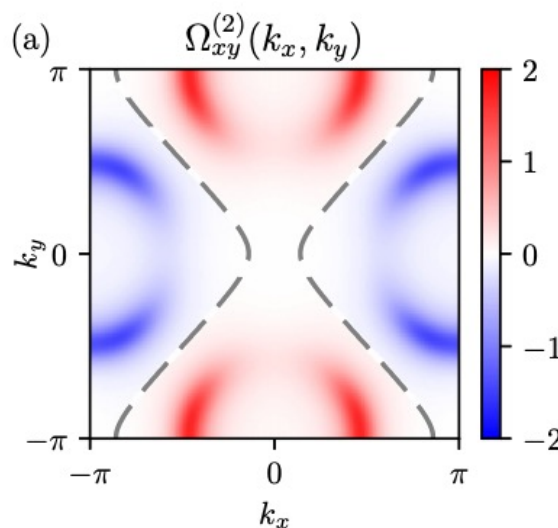


example: Lieb lattice

elasto-Hall conductivity

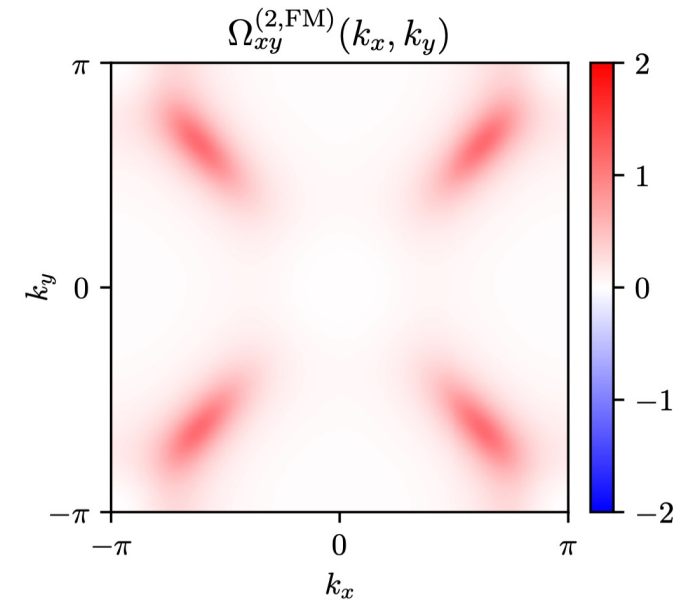
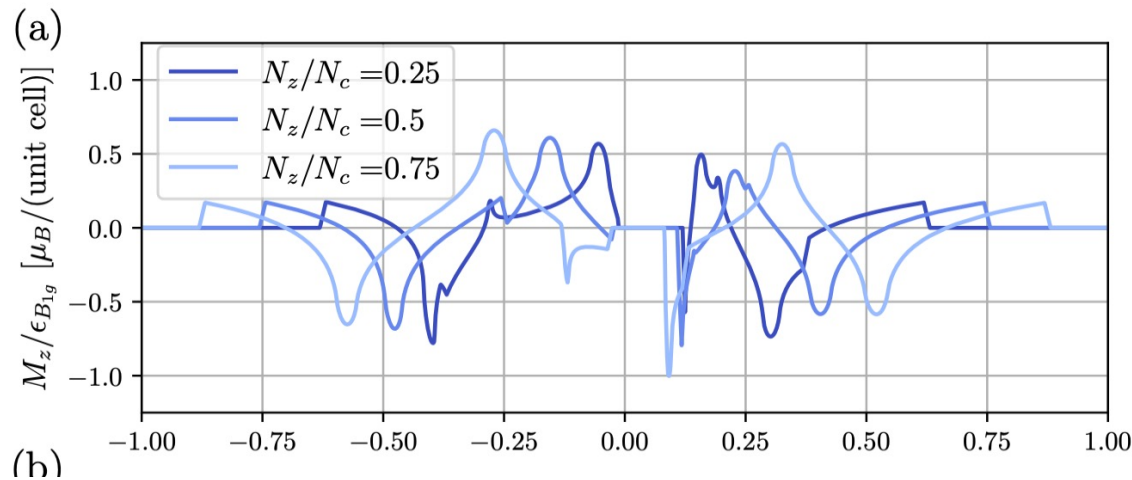


strain



“piezomagnetic contribution”

$$M_{\kappa} = \Lambda_{\kappa\beta\gamma}\epsilon_{\gamma\delta}$$



direct contribution due to strain-induced magnetization:

- no quadrupole
- not sensitive to Dirac points

classification of the strain geometry needed to induce AHE

| | AM irrep. | MPG | Elasto-Hall conductivity |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| orthorh., D_{2h} (mmm) | A_{1g}^- | mmm (8.1.24) | $\nu_{yzyz}, \nu_{zxzx}, \nu_{xyxy}$ |
| trigon. D_{3d} ($\bar{3}m$) | A_{1g}^- | $\bar{3}m$ (20.1.71) | $\nu_{xzxz} = \nu_{zxyy} = \nu_{zyxy}, \nu_{xzxz} = \nu_{yzyz}$ |
| tetrag., D_{4h} ($4/mmm$) | A_{1g}^- | $4/mmm$ (15.1.53) | $\nu_{yzyz} = -\nu_{zxzx}$ |
| | B_{1g}^- | $4'/mm'm$ (15.4.56) | $\nu_{yzyz} = \nu_{zxzx}, \nu_{xyxy}$ |
| | B_{2g}^- | $4'/mm'm$ (15.4.56) | $\nu_{yzxz} = -\nu_{zxyz}, \nu_{xyxx} = -\nu_{xyyy}$ |
| | E_{2g}^- | $4'/mm'm$ (15.4.56) | $\nu_{yzyz} = -\nu_{zxzx}$ |
| hexag., D_{6h} ($6/mmm$) | A_{1g}^- | $6/mmm$ (27.1.100) | $\nu_{yzyz} = -\nu_{zxzx}$ |
| | B_{1g}^- | $6'/m'mm'$ (27.5.104) | $\nu_{yzxy} = \nu_{zxzx} = -\nu_{zxyy}$ |
| | B_{2g}^- | $6'/m'mm'$ (27.5.104) | $\nu_{zxxy} = \nu_{yzyy} = -\nu_{yzxz}$ |
| | E_{2g}^- | (1, 0) mmm (8.1.24) | $\nu_{yzyz}, \nu_{zxzx}, \nu_{xyxy}$ |
| | | $(1, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}) m'm'm$ (8.4.27) | $\nu_{xyxx}, \nu_{xyyy}, \nu_{xyzz}, \nu_{xzyz}, \nu_{yzxz}$ |
| | | $(1, b) 2/m$ (5.1.12) | $\nu_{xzxz}, \nu_{xzyy}, \nu_{xzzz}, \nu_{xyyz}, \nu_{yzyz}, \nu_{xzxz}, \nu_{xyxy}, \nu_{yzxy}$ |
| cubic, O_h ($m\bar{3}m$) | A_{1g}^- | $m\bar{3}m$ (29.1.109) | — |
| | A_{2g}^- | $m\bar{3}m'$ (32.4.121) | $\nu_{yzyz} = \nu_{zxzx} = \nu_{xyxy}$ |
| | E_g^- | (1, 0) $4/mmm$ (15.1.53) | $\nu_{yzyz} = -\nu_{zxzx}$ |
| | | $(1, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}) 4'/mm'm$ (15.4.56) | $\nu_{yzyz} = \nu_{zxzx}, \nu_{xyxy}$ |
| | | $(1, b) mmm$ (8.1.24) | $\nu_{yzyz}, \nu_{zxzx}, \nu_{xyxy}$ |
| | T_{2g}^- | $(1, 0, 0) 4'/mm'm$ (15.4.56) | $\nu_{yzxz} = -\nu_{zxyz}, \nu_{xyxx} = -\nu_{xyyy}$ |
| | | $(1, 1, 0) m'm'm$ (8.4.27) | $\nu_{yzxz}, \nu_{yzyy}, \nu_{yzzz}, \nu_{xyxz}, \nu_{xzxy}$ |
| | | $(1, 1, 1) \bar{3}m$ (20.1.71) | $\nu_{xzxy} = \nu_{zyyy} = \nu_{yzxz}, \nu_{xzxz} = \nu_{yzyz}$ |
| | $(1, b, 0) 2'/m'$ (5.5.16) | $\nu_{xyxx}, \nu_{yzxz}, \nu_{xyyy}, \nu_{yzyy}, \nu_{xyzz}, \nu_{yzzz}, \nu_{xzyz}, \nu_{xyxz}, \nu_{yzxz}, \nu_{xzxy}$ | |
| | $(1, 1, c) 2/m$ (5.1.12) | $\nu_{xzxz}, \nu_{xzyy}, \nu_{xzzz}, \nu_{xyyz}, \nu_{yzyz}, \nu_{xzxz}, \nu_{xyxy}, \nu_{yzxy}$ | |
| | $(1, b, c) -1$ (2.1.3) | all elements $\nu_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}$ are nonzero where $\alpha \neq \beta$ | |

$$j_\alpha = \nu_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}^{(A)} E_\beta \epsilon_{\gamma\delta}$$

$$\nu_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}^{(A)} = -\nu_{\beta\alpha\gamma\delta}^{(A)}$$

so far: piezomagnetism

$$H_{\text{piezo-mag.}} = \int d^3x \lambda_{\alpha\gamma\delta}^i B_\alpha \phi^i(\mathbf{x}) \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}(\mathbf{x})$$

dynamic coupling at zero field

$$H_{\text{dyn}} = \int d^3x \mu_{\gamma\delta}^i \pi^i(\mathbf{x}) \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}(\mathbf{x})$$

coupling to the conjugate momentum $[\phi^i(\mathbf{x}), \pi^j(\mathbf{x}')] = i\delta^{ij}\delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')$

dynamical stress-strain and Hall viscosity

$$\sigma_{\alpha\beta} = C_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta} - \eta_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} \partial_{\tau} \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}$$

↑
↑
 elastic constants viscosity

non-dissipative contribution: $\eta^H \equiv \eta_{xyxx} (B_z) = -\eta_{xyxx} (-B_z) = -\eta_{xxyy} (B_z) = \dots$
 (broken TRS)

$$S_{\text{Hall}} = -\eta^H \int d\tau \int d^3x [\varepsilon_{xx} - \varepsilon_{yy}] 2\partial_{\tau} \varepsilon_{xy}$$

dynamic coupling at zero field

$$S_{\text{dyn}} = -\mu_{\alpha\beta}^i \int d\tau \int d^3x \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{x}, \tau) \partial_{\tau} \phi^i(\mathbf{x}, \tau)$$



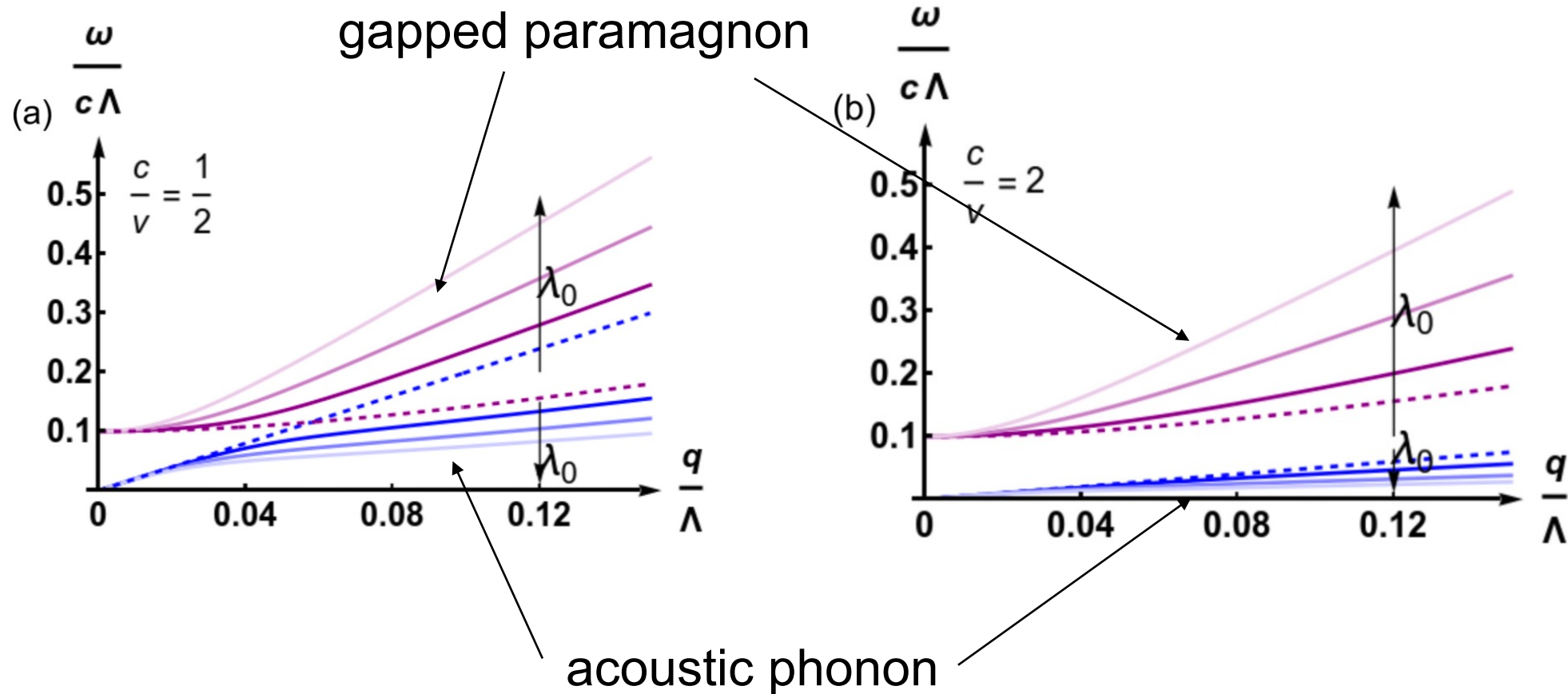
$$S_{\text{Hall}} = -\eta^H \int d\tau \int d^3x [\varepsilon_{xx} - \varepsilon_{yy}] 2\partial_{\tau} \varepsilon_{xy}$$

dynamics of the order parameter induces non-dissipative stress

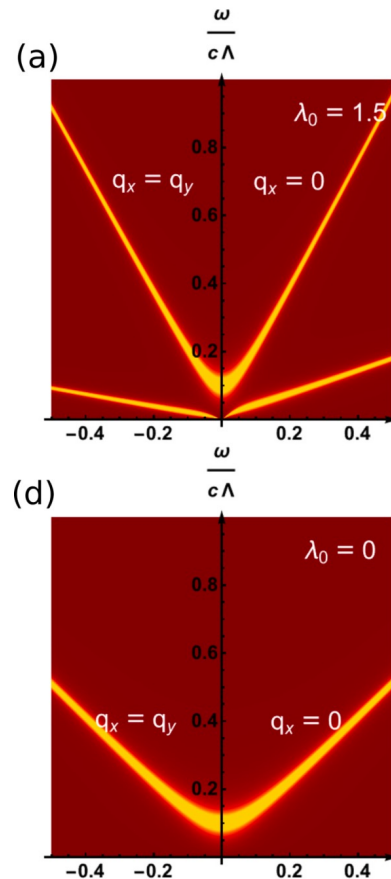
$$\mu_{\alpha\beta}^i \partial_{\tau} \phi^i(\mathbf{x}, \tau) \leftrightarrow \eta^H \partial_{\tau} \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}$$

analogous to Hall viscosity response

T-dependent level repulsion (no magnetic field, no AM long-range order)



altermagnetic polarons



paramagnon

symmetry-sensitive
mixing of
phonon + paramagnon

Conclusions

coupling to strain can be exploited to detect and manipulate altermagnetism

