

# Simulatable Models of Non-Fermi Liquids & Nodal Superconductors

Tarun Grover (UCSD)

Superconductivity:



Xiao Yan Xu

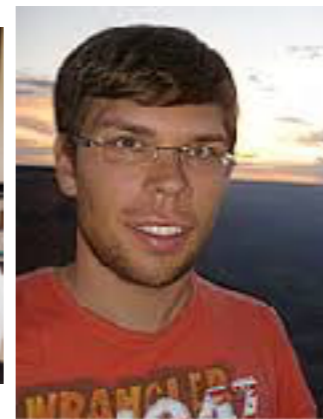
Non-fermi liquids:



Fakher  
Assaad



Bimla Danu



Johannes  
Hoffman

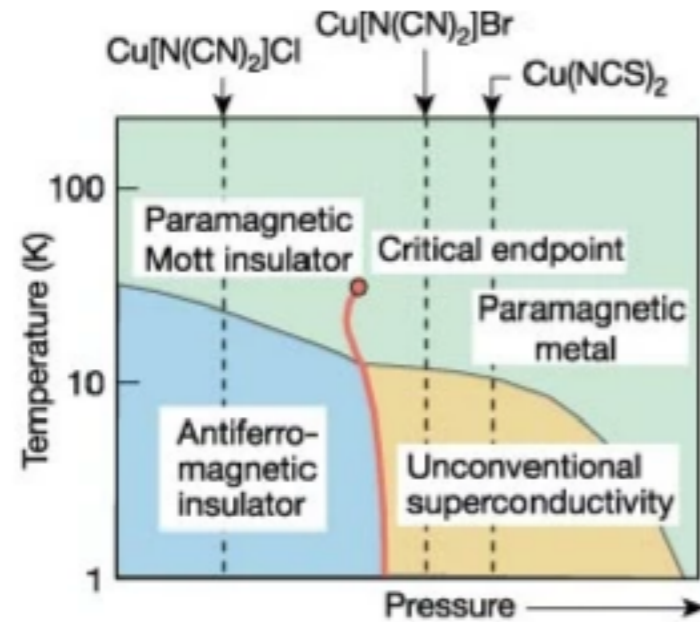


Matthias  
Vojta

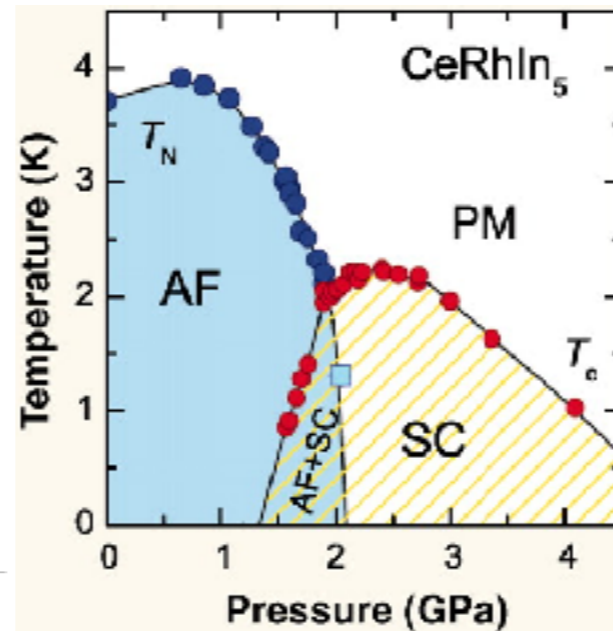
# Outline

- Motivation
- The sign problem - picking your poison.
- Competing nodal superconductivity and AFM.
- Fractionalized Heavy fermi systems.

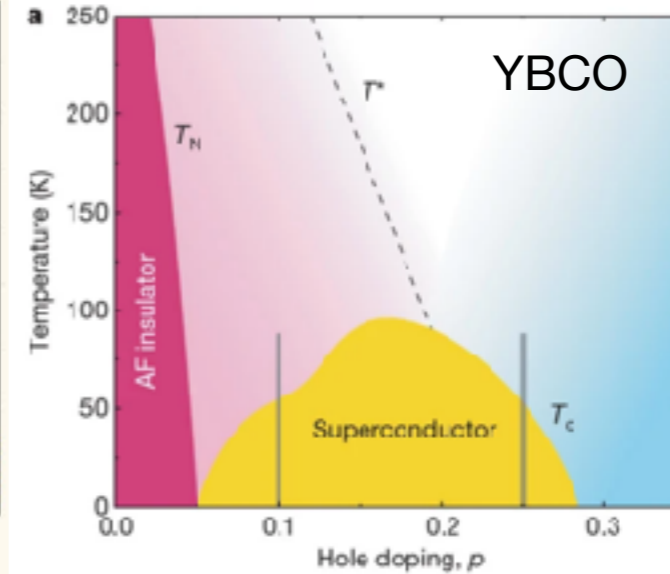
# Motivation



[Kawaga et al 2005]



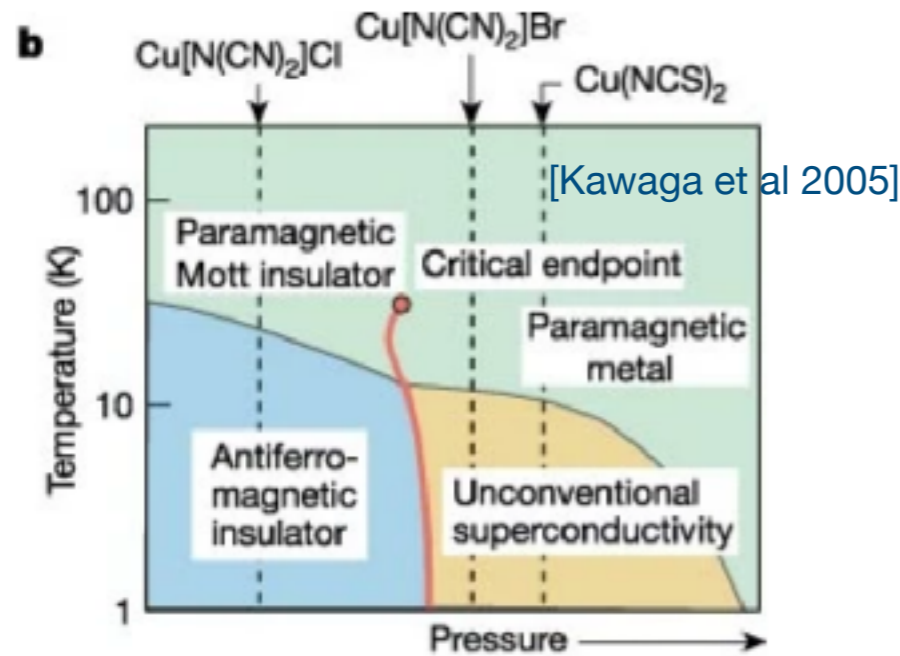
[Knebel et al 2009]



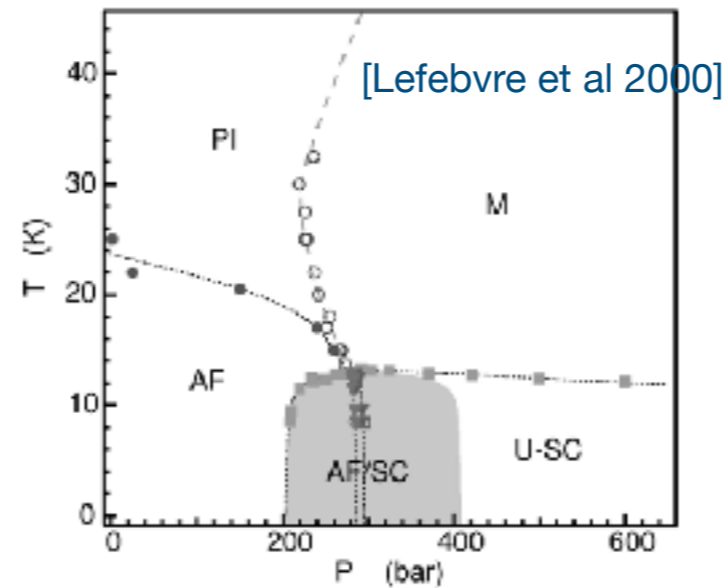
[Doiron-Leyraud et al 2007]

Solvable or simulatable models that capture Mott physics, nodal-SC and AFM all together?

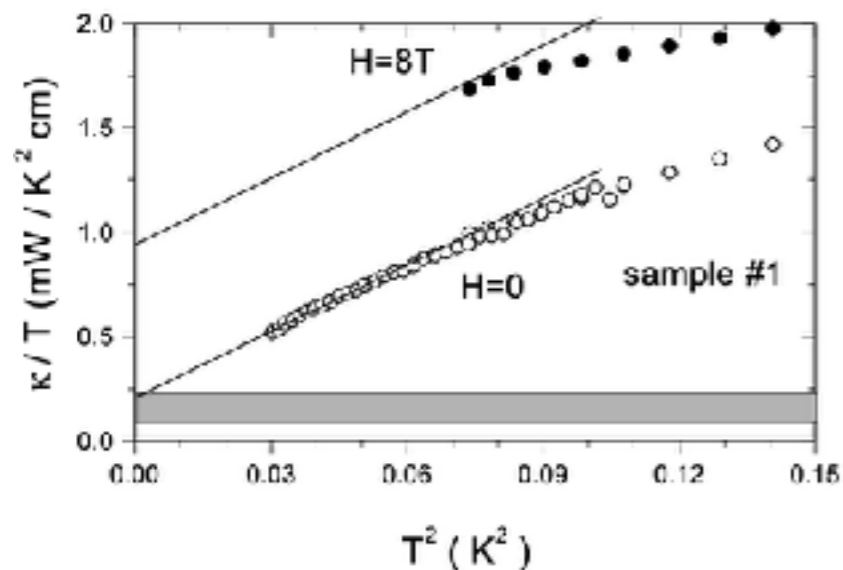
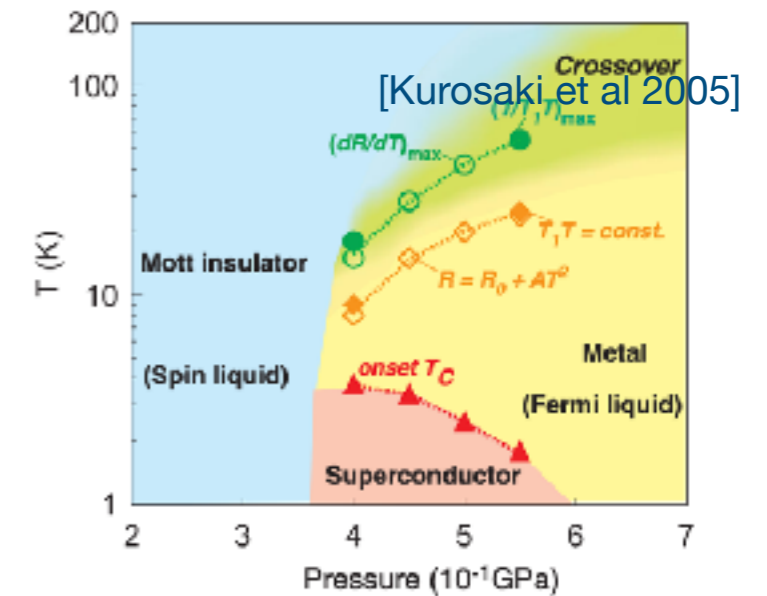
Not uncommon to find nodal SC close to pressure-tuned Mott transition...



Phase diag. of  $\chi\text{-Cl}$

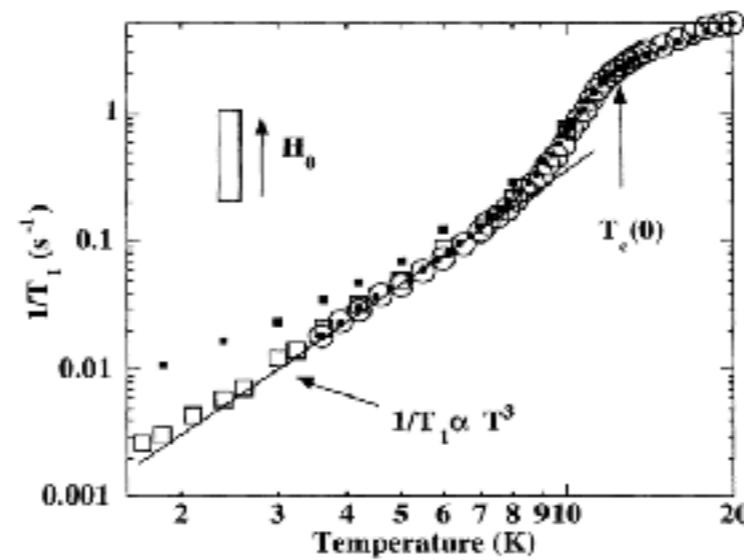


Phase diag. of  $\chi\text{-(CN)}_3$



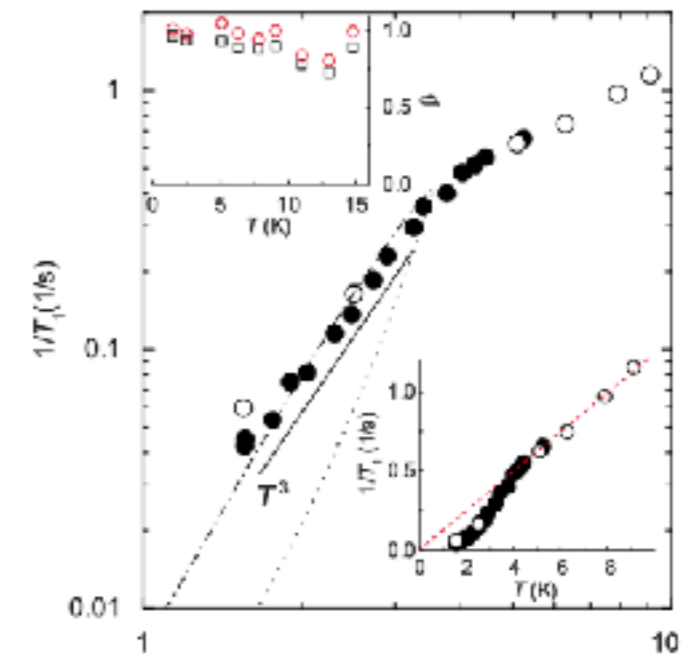
Thermal conductivity of  $\chi\text{-(NCS)}_2$

[Belin et al 1998]



NMR  $1/T_1$  in  $\chi\text{-Br}$

[Mayaffre et al 2000]



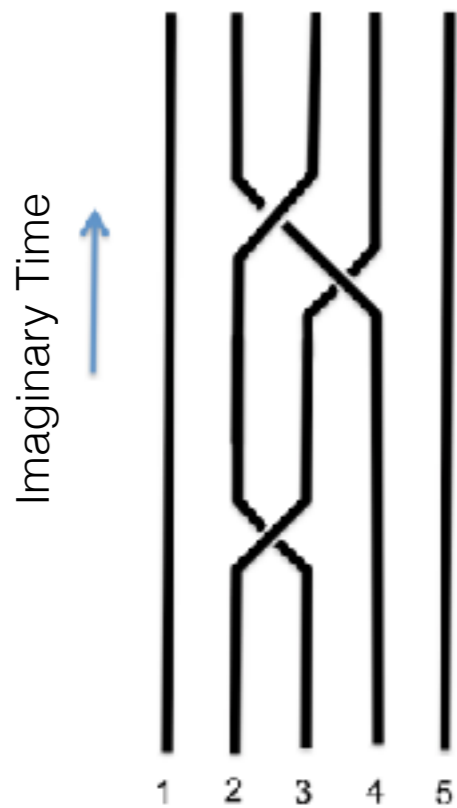
NMR  $1/T_1$  in  $\chi\text{-(CN)}_3$

[Shimizu et al 2010]



# Simulatable Models?

“Fermion sign problem”: Repulsive onsite interactions (“Mottness”)+  
Fermi surface makes Monte Carlo impossible.



$$Z = \sum_{\{C\}} (-1)^{\# \text{ of fermion exchanges in a configuration } C} |\text{Weight}(C)|$$

$$\sim 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 \dots$$

# “De-signer” models

*Pick your poison...*

Want Mott Physics...

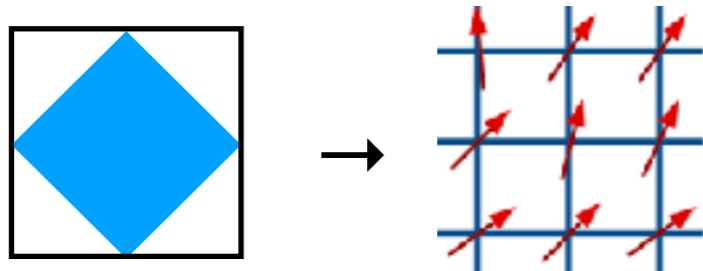
Vs

Want Fermi surfaces ...

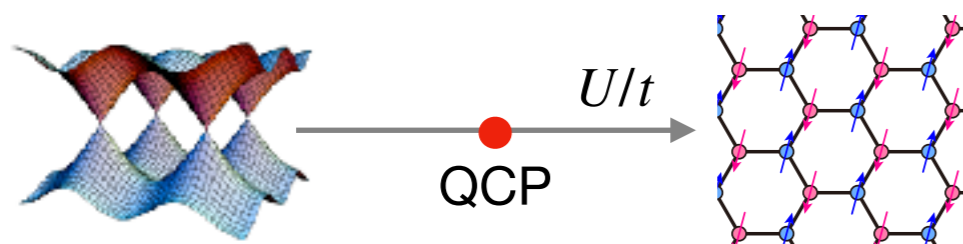
**Main caveat:**

Restricted to half-filling and bipartite lattices.

- Fermi surface nesting, leading to immediate AFM instability.



- Dirac semi-metal competing with AFM.



[Assaad, Herbut 2013; Otsuka et al 2016,...]

Typically (not always), multi-band Hubbard models with inter-band repulsion and intra-band onsite attraction.

[Wu, Zhang 2005]

Can capture some competing orders such as nematic, spin-density wave, non-nodal SC.

[Berg et al 2012; Schattner et al 2015; Dumitrescu et al 2016; Li et al 2017; Lederer et al 2017; Wang et al 2017, ...]

**Main caveat:** no Mott physics, no nodal SC, s-wave SC can lurk at low-T which can obscure  $T = 0$  QCP.

We will be interested in competing nodal SC and AFM.

Key observation: neither of these phases *require* any doping.

Can one find *any* simulatable model at all that hosts these phases?

Assaad, Imada, Scalapino (1996)

$$H = H_t + H_U - W \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} (c_{i,\sigma}^\dagger c_{j,\sigma} + \text{h.c.})^2$$

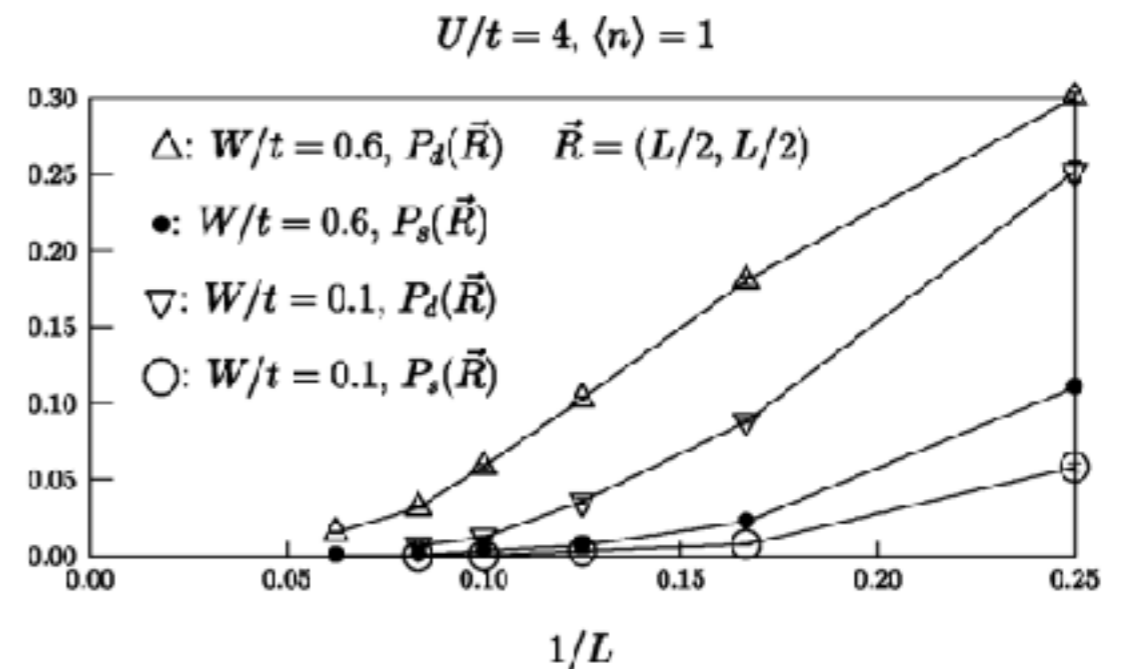


FIG. 2.  $d_{x^2-y^2}$  (triangles) and  $s$ -wave (circles) pair-field correlations versus  $1/L$ .

We will be interested in competing nodal SC and AFM.

Key observation: neither of these phases *require* any doping.

Can one find *any* simulatable model at all that hosts these phases?

Here we will introduce a new model that demonstrably hosts both nodal d-wave SC and AFM phases.

# The model

$$H = H_t + H_U + H_V + H_{XY}$$

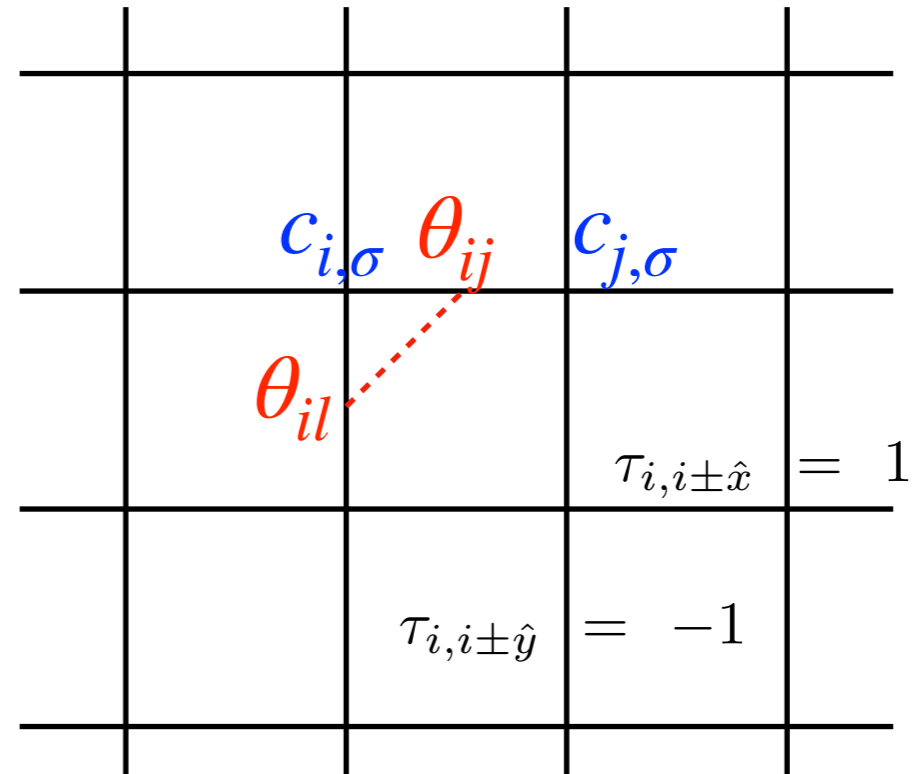
$$H_{XY} = K \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} n_{ij}^2 - J \sum_{\langle ij, il \rangle} \cos(\theta_{ij} - \theta_{il})$$

$$H_V = V \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} (\tau_{i,j} e^{i\theta_{ij}} (c_{i,\uparrow}^\dagger c_{j,\downarrow}^\dagger - c_{i,\downarrow}^\dagger c_{j,\uparrow}^\dagger) + \text{h.c.})$$

Charge-U(1) symmetry:

$$c_{i,\sigma} \rightarrow c_{i,\sigma} e^{i\varphi}, \quad \theta \rightarrow \theta + 2\varphi$$

$e^{i\theta} \sim$  fluctuating cooper pair



[Xiao Yan Xu, TG 2020]

# The model

$$H = H_t + H_U + H_V + H_{XY}$$

Limits:

$U, t \gg J, K$  : AFM insulator

$J, t \gg K, U$  : nodal d-wave

$$H_{XY} = K \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} n_{ij}^2 - J \sum_{\langle ij, il \rangle} \cos(\theta_{ij} - \theta_{il})$$

$$H_V = V \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} (\tau_{i,j} e^{i\theta_{ij}} (c_{i,\uparrow}^\dagger c_{j,\downarrow}^\dagger - c_{i,\downarrow}^\dagger c_{j,\uparrow}^\dagger) + \text{h.c.})$$

Charge-U(1) symmetry:

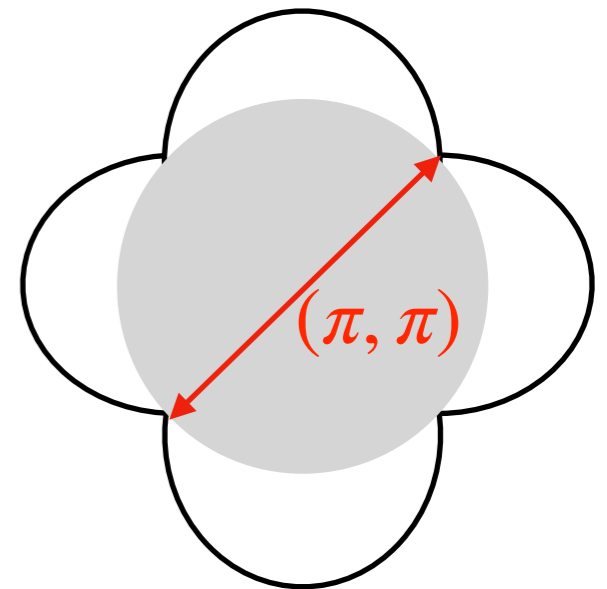
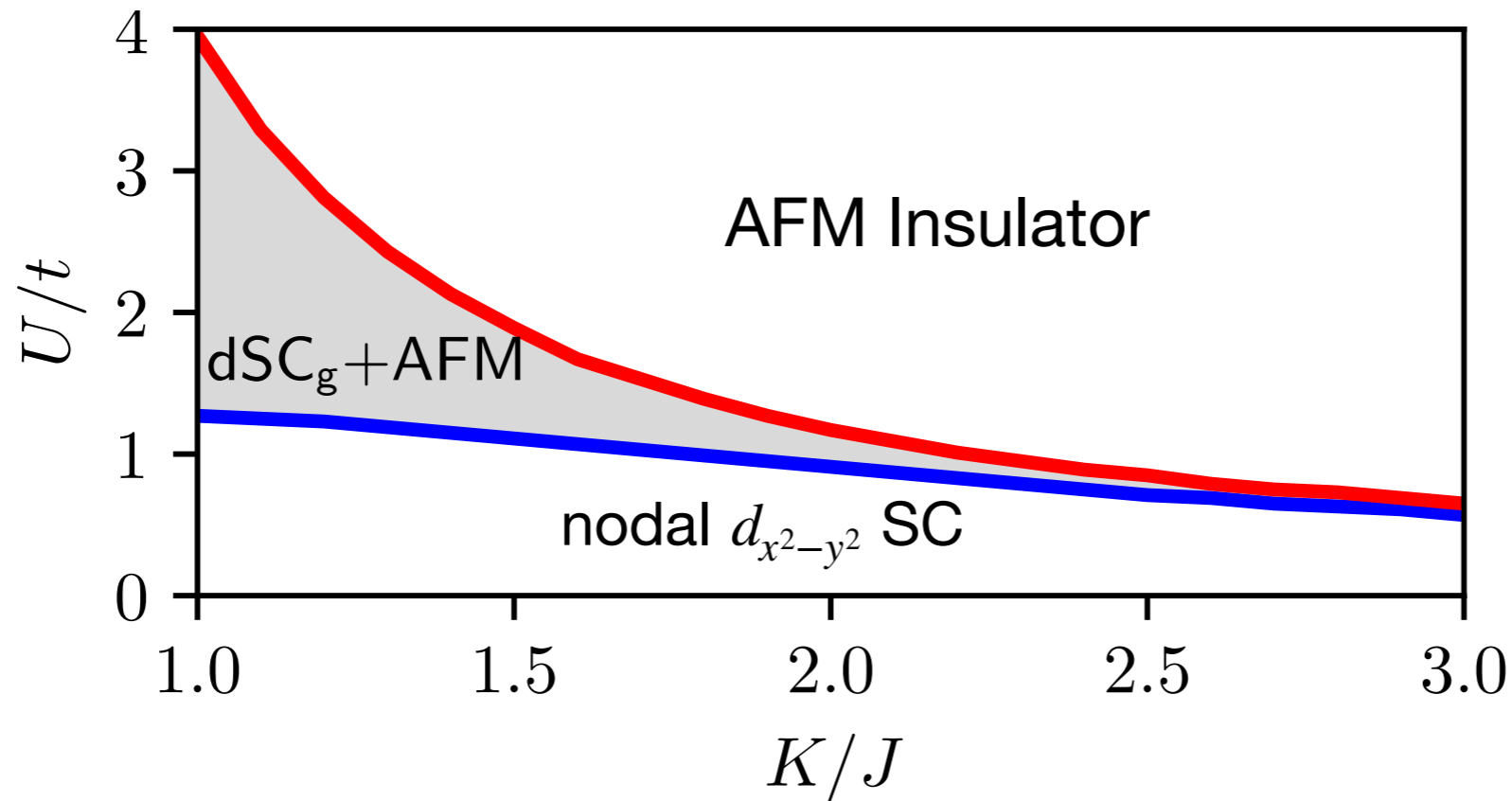
$$c_{i,\sigma} \rightarrow c_{i,\sigma} e^{i\varphi}, \quad \theta \rightarrow \theta + 2\varphi$$

$e^{i\theta} \sim$  fluctuating cooper pair

[Xiao Yan Xu, TG 2020]



# Mean-Field Phase Diagram



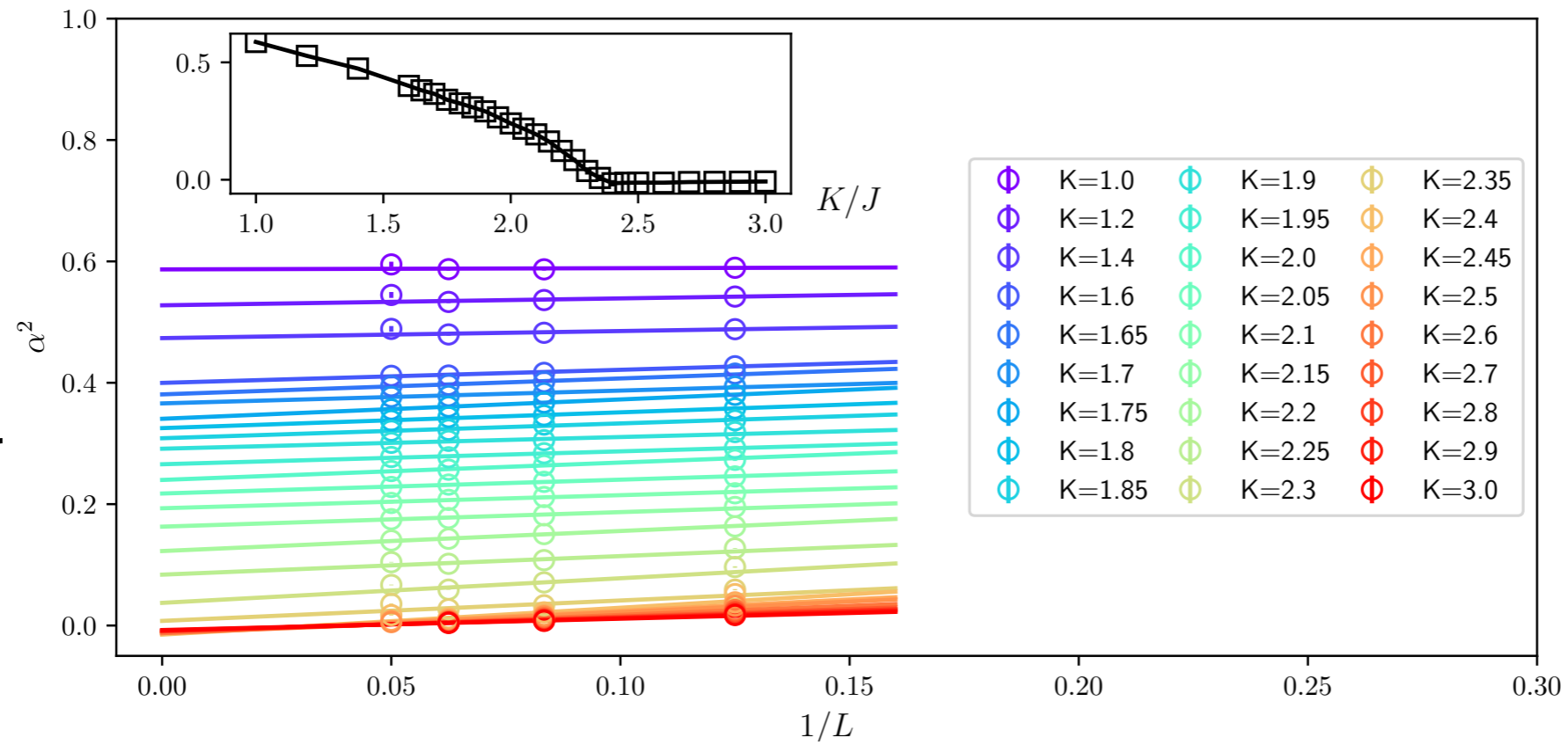
$$H = H_t + H_U + H_V + H_{XY}$$

$$H_{XY} = K \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} n_{ij}^2 - J \sum_{\langle ij, il \rangle} \cos(\theta_{ij} - \theta_{il})$$

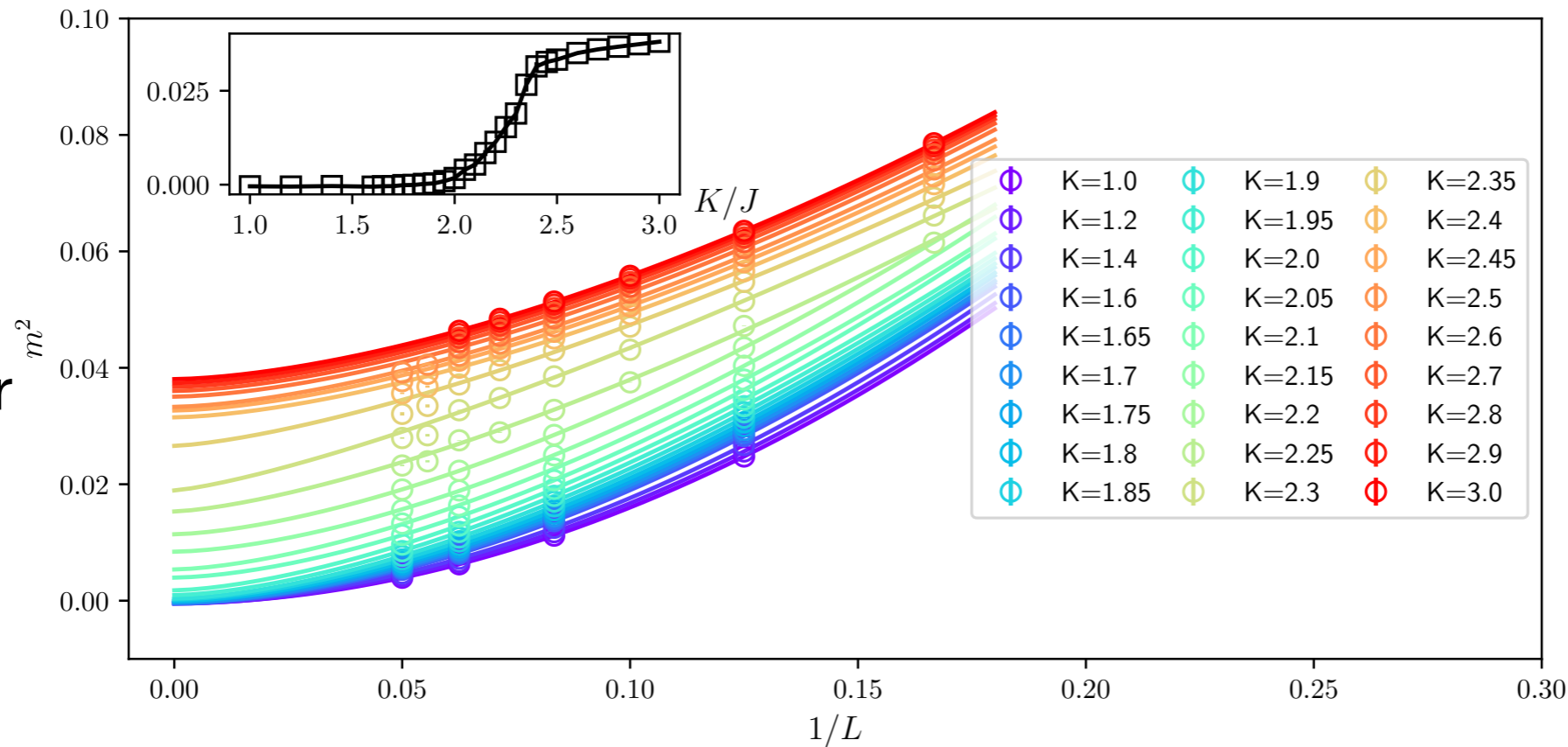
$$H_V = V \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} (\tau_{i,j} e^{i\theta_{ij}} (c_{i,\uparrow}^\dagger c_{j,\downarrow}^\dagger - c_{i,\downarrow}^\dagger c_{j,\uparrow}^\dagger) + \text{h.c.})$$

# Quantum Monte Carlo Results: Order Parameters

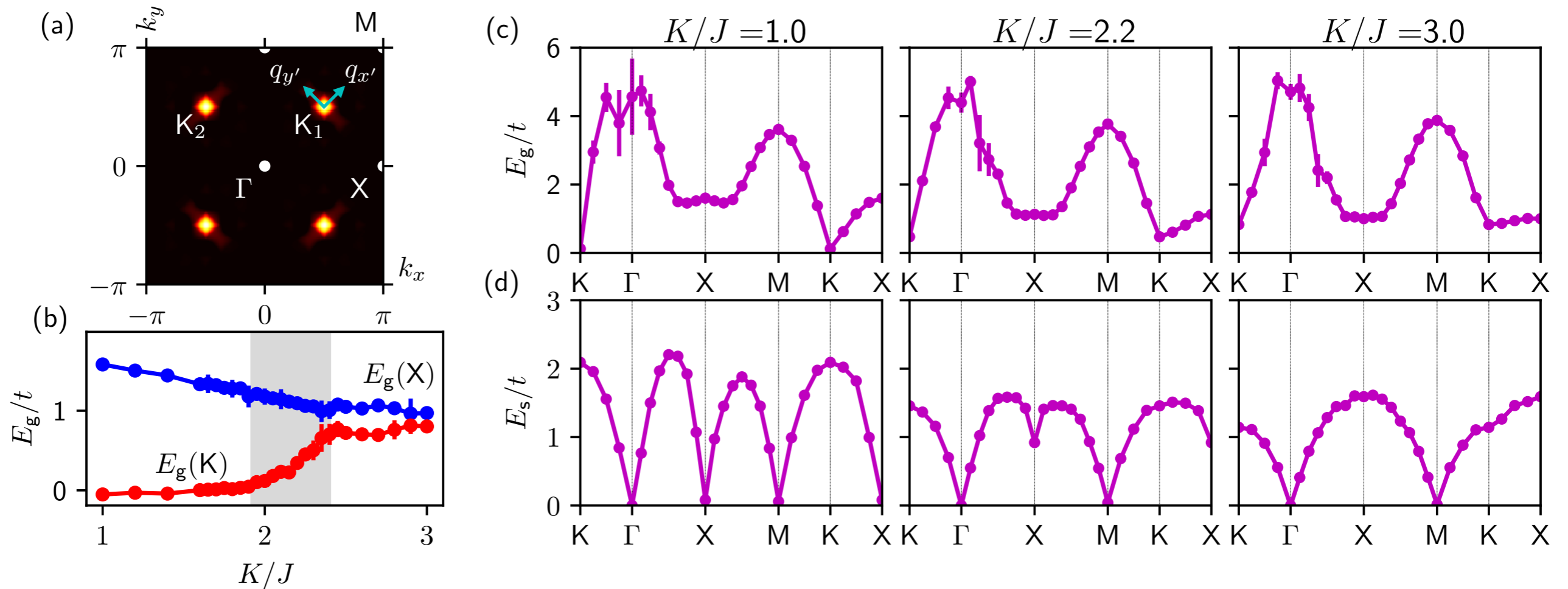
d-wave  
order  
parameter



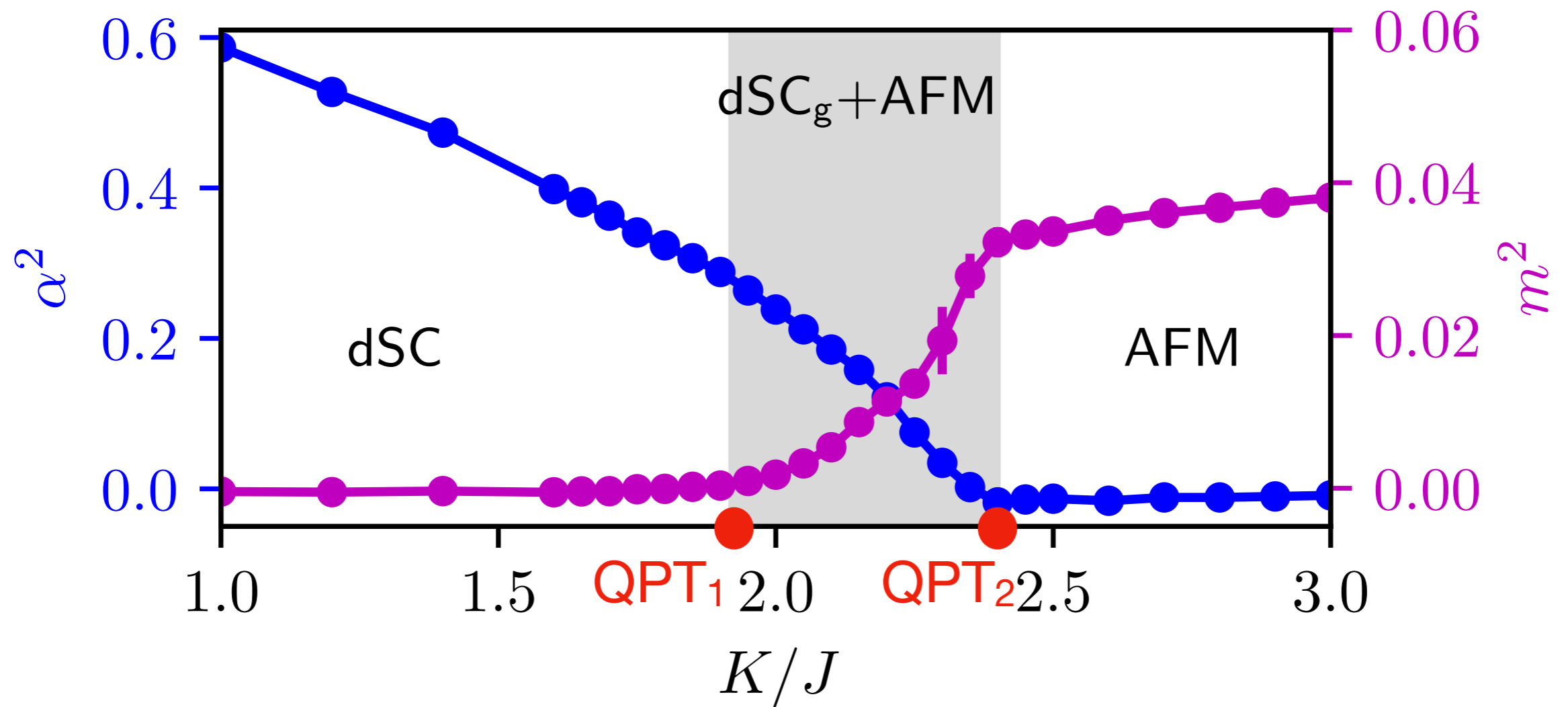
AFM  
order  
parameter



# Quantum Monte Carlo Results: Spectral function and gaps



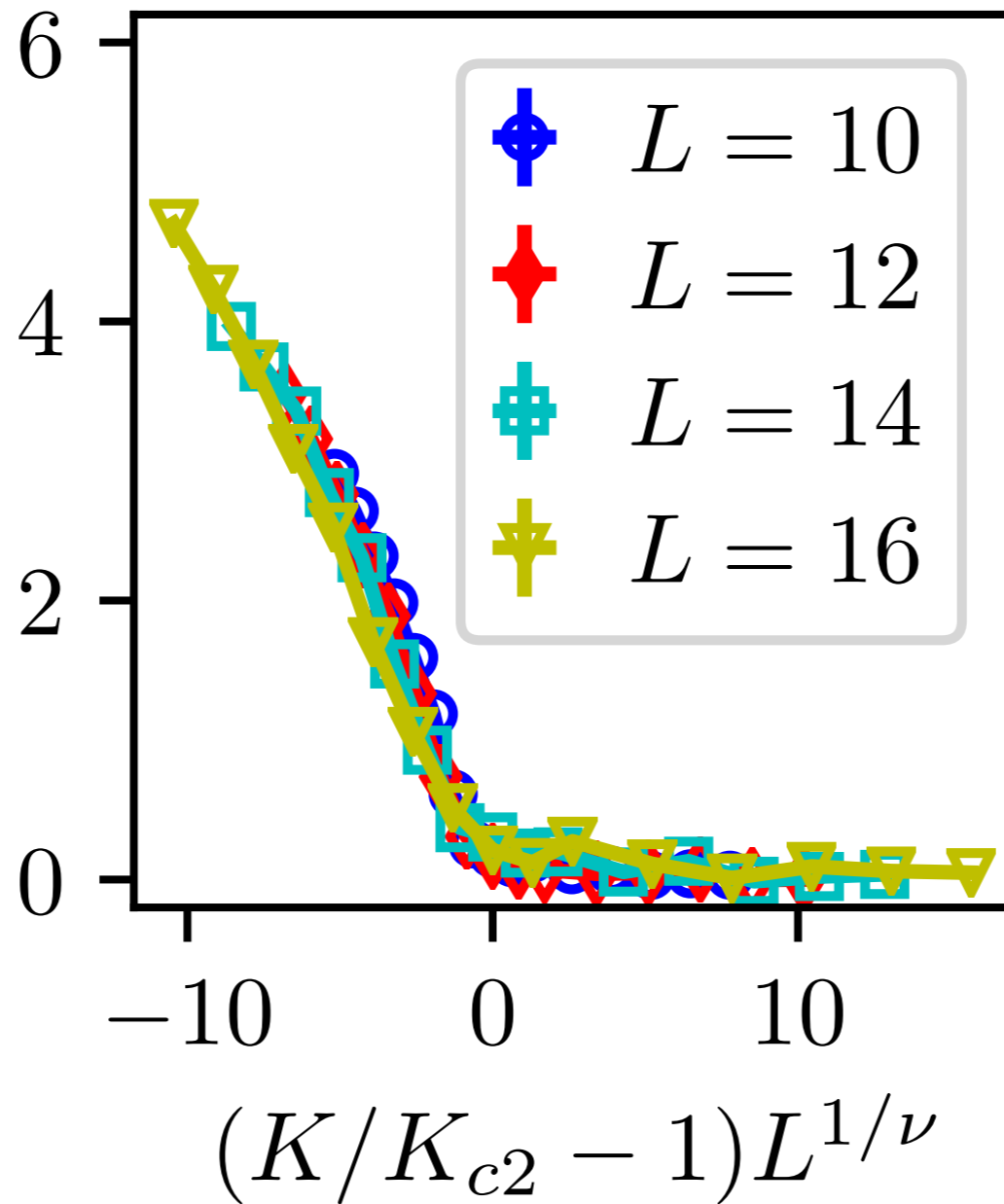
# Nature of Quantum Phase Transitions?



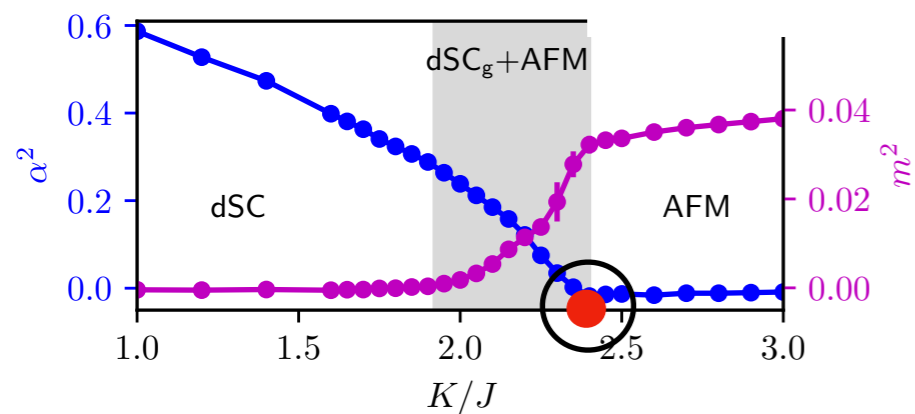
# Transition from dSC to co-existence phase

$\rho_c$  = superfluid stiffness.

$\rho_c L$

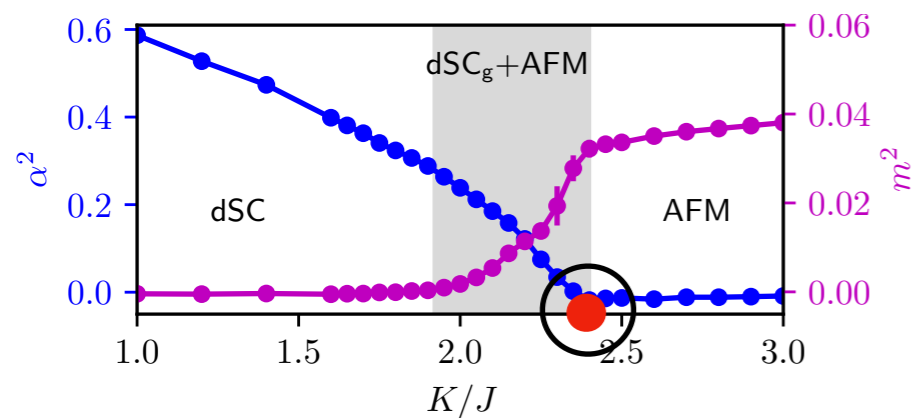
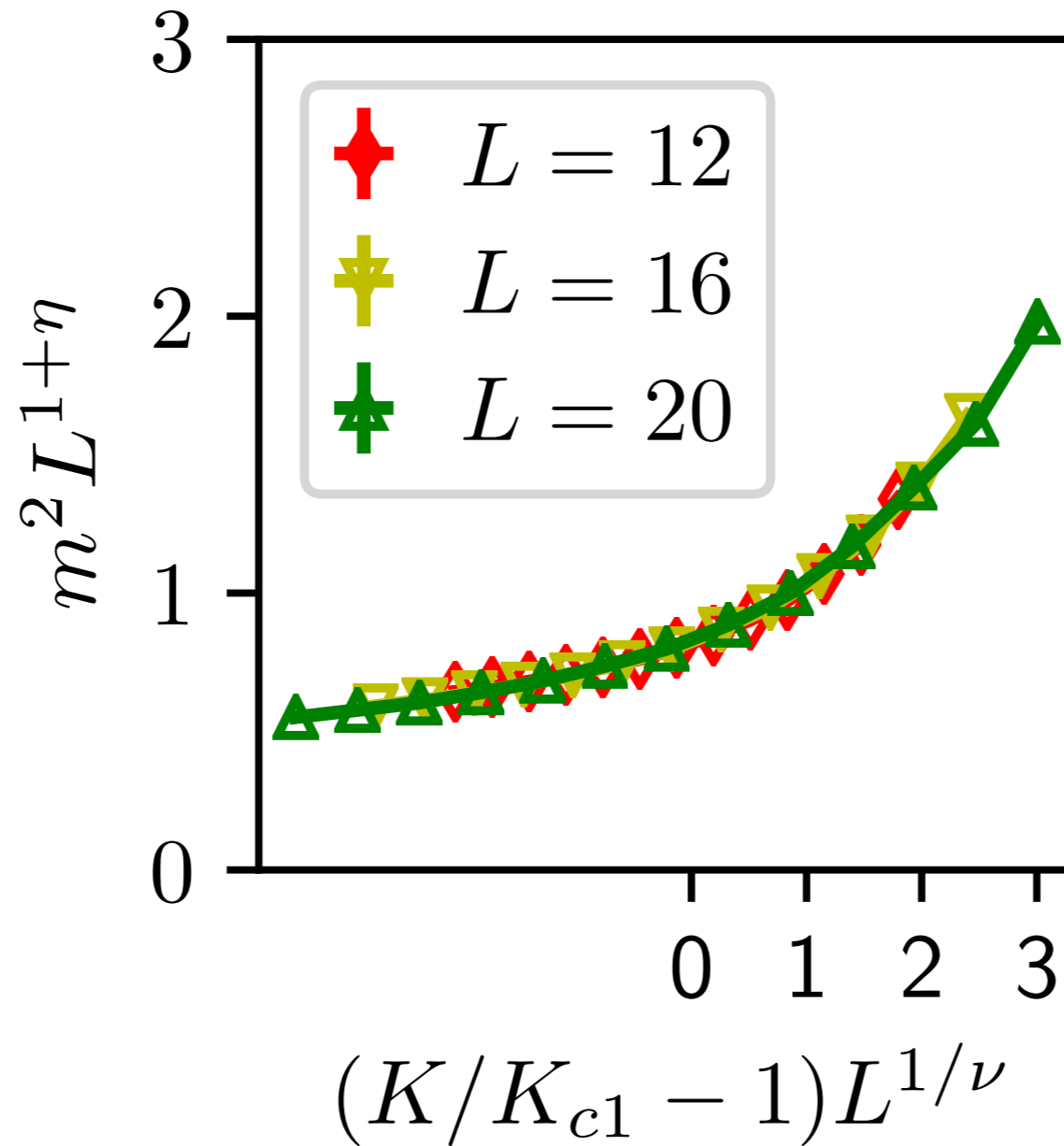


Exponents match 3D XY universality, as expected.



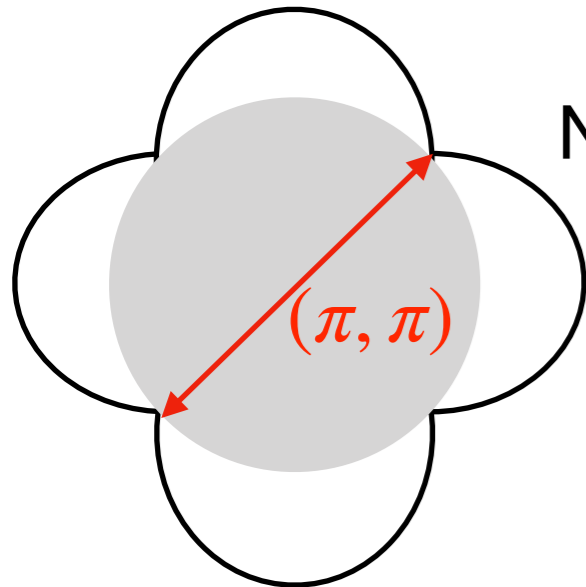
# Transition from AFM to co-existence phase

$m$  = AFM order parameter.





# Field theory for dSC to co-existence transition



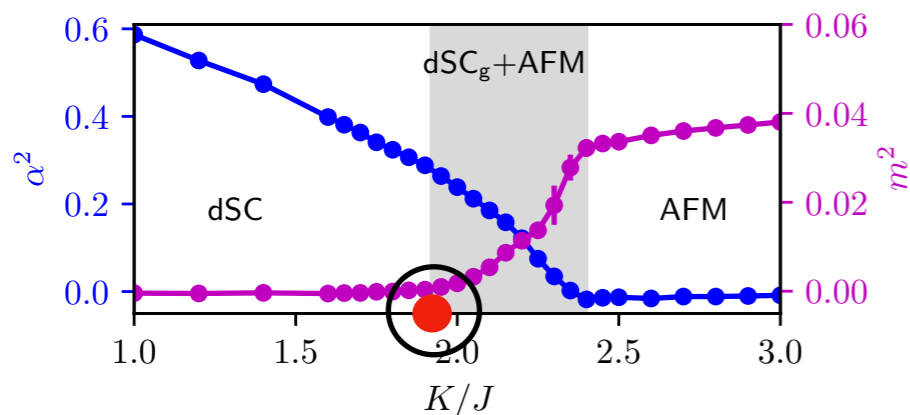
Nodal dirac fermions gapped out by Neel order parameter.

## NODAL LIQUID THEORY OF THE PSEUDO-GAP PHASE OF HIGH- $T_c$ SUPERCONDUCTORS

LEON BALENTS, MATTHEW P. A. FISHER and CHETAN NAYAK

*Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of California,  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-4090, USA*

(1998)



# Field theory for dSC to co-existence transition

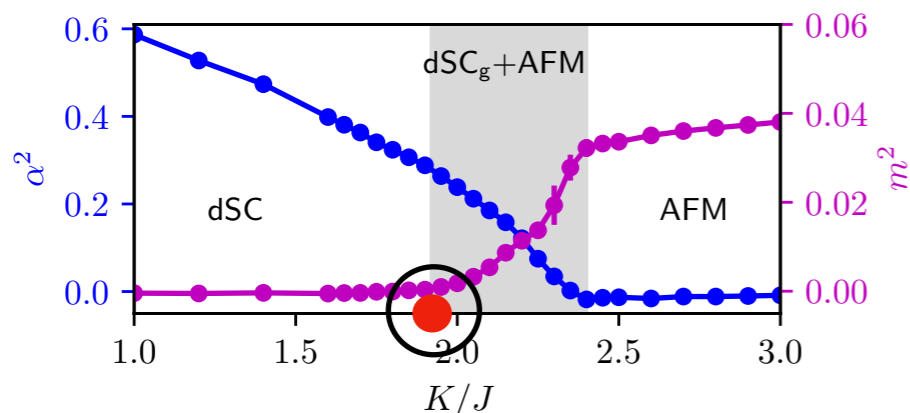
$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\Psi} \not{\partial} \Psi + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \vec{N})^2 + u (\vec{N}^2)^2 + g \vec{N} \cdot (\Psi^\dagger \tau^y \vec{\sigma} \sigma^y \Psi^\dagger + \text{h.c.})$$

[Balents, Fisher, Nayak 1998]

$\Psi$  = eight component fermion (two Dirac spinor, two spin and two valley indices).

$\vec{N}$  = Neel order parameter field.

Critical theory breaks charge-U(1) since this symmetry is broken spontaneously on either sides of the transition.



We have set all three velocities  $v_F$  (Fermi velocity),  $v_\Delta$  (nodal velocity),  $v_s$  (spin-wave velocity) equal to each other, as implied by the RG flow.

# Mapping the field theory to more well-known form

Consider the unitary transformation:

$$\Psi'_{\uparrow} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\Psi_{\uparrow} - i \Psi_{\downarrow}^{\dagger}) \quad \Psi'_{\downarrow} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\Psi_{\downarrow} + i \Psi_{\uparrow}^{\dagger})$$

In new variables, one obtains standard **Chiral Gross-Neveu-Heisenberg**:

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\Psi}' \not{\partial} \Psi' + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_{\mu} \vec{N})^2 + u (\vec{N}^2)^2 + 2g \vec{N} \cdot \bar{\Psi}' \vec{\sigma} \Psi'$$

Technically same as the theory for transition between neutral Graphene and AFM.

Well-studied using various techniques ( $\epsilon$ -expansion, large-N, QMC, ...)

Our exponents consistent with previous work.

# Mapping the field theory to more well-known form

Consider the unitary transformation:

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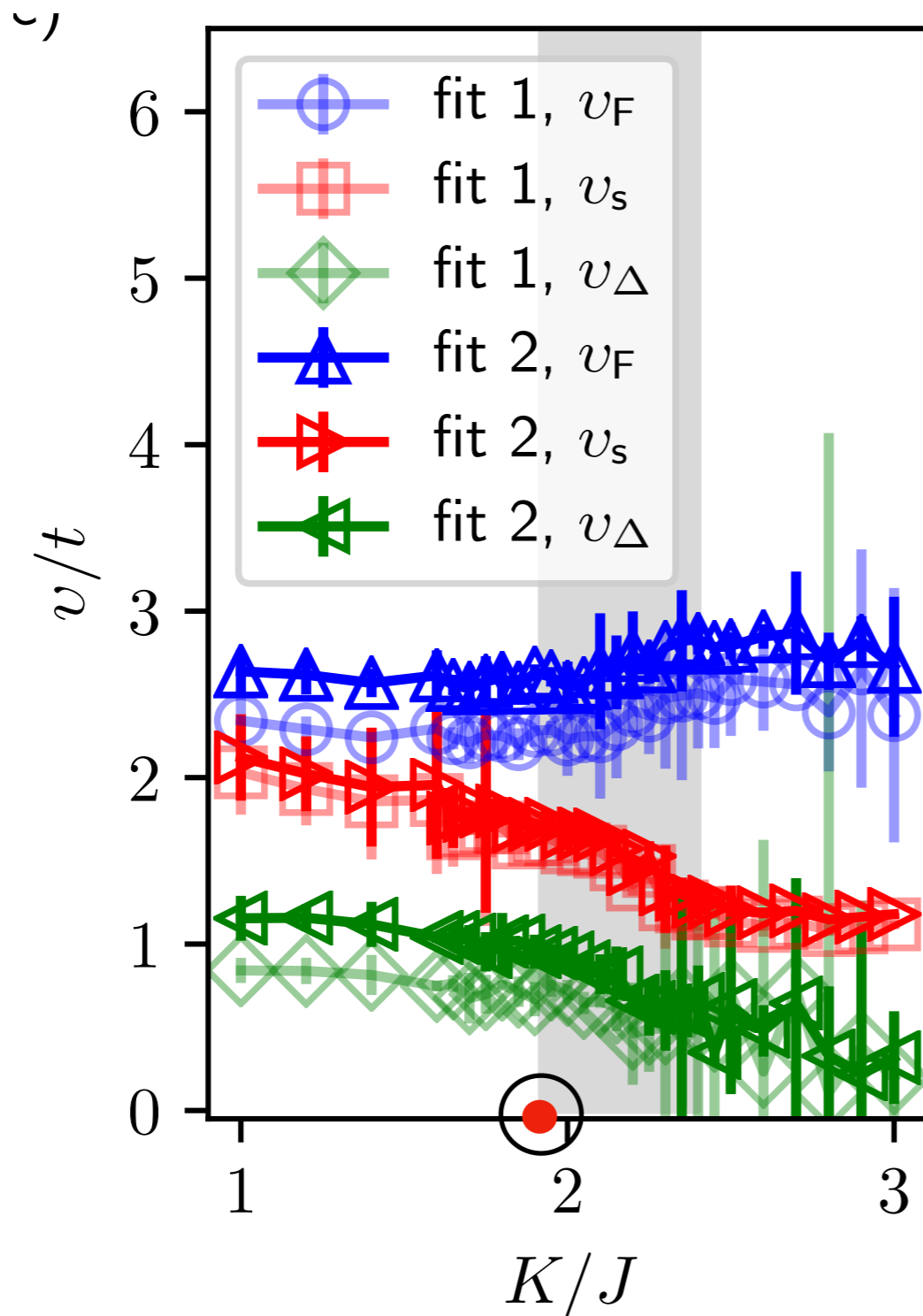
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$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\Psi}' \not{\partial} \Psi' + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_{\mu} \vec{N})^2 + u (\vec{N}^2)^2 + 2g \vec{N} \cdot \bar{\Psi}' \vec{\sigma} \Psi'$$

Related recent work by Otsuka et al: BCS mean-field for nodal d-wave + Hubbard U:

$$H = H_{\text{BCS}} + H_U \quad H_{\text{BCS}} = \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} c_{i\uparrow}^{\dagger} & c_{i\downarrow} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -t & \Delta_{ij} \\ \Delta_{ij}^* & t \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{j\uparrow} \\ c_{j\downarrow}^{\dagger} \end{pmatrix} + \text{h.c} \right\}$$

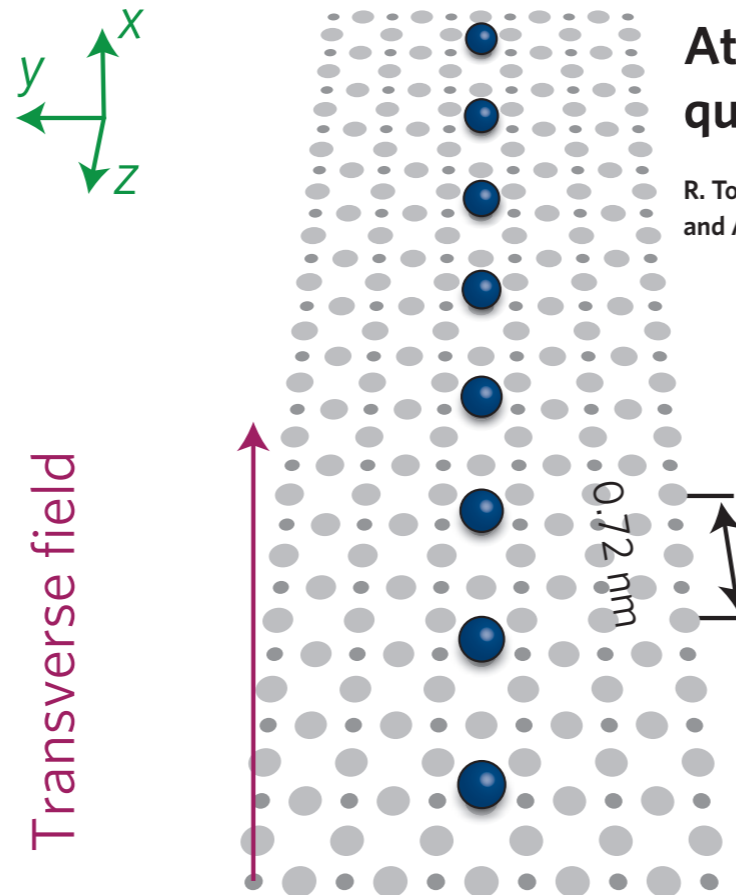
# Velocity Renormalization?



Some tendency visible for velocities to become equal at transition.

The RG flow is logarithmically slow, so most likely need very large sizes to see equality of velocities.

# Part-II: Motivation



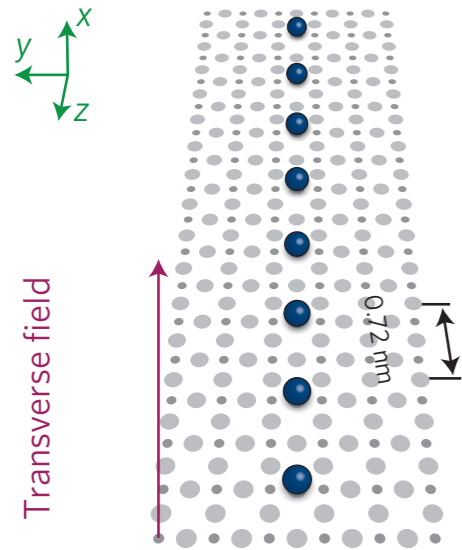
**Atomic spin-chain realization of a model for quantum criticality (2016)**

R. Toskovic<sup>1†</sup>, R. van den Berg<sup>2†</sup>, A. Spinelli<sup>1</sup>, I. S. Eliens<sup>2</sup>, B. van den Toorn<sup>1</sup>, B. Bryant<sup>1</sup>, J.-S. Caux<sup>2</sup> and A. F. Otte<sup>1\*</sup>

Magnetic cobalt adatoms on metallic copper.



# Part-II: Motivation



[Toskovic et al (2016)]

Coupling with Cu substrate leads to an effective Kondo lattice model.

[Danu, Assaad, Mila (2019)]

$$\hat{H} = -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} (\hat{c}_{i,\sigma}^\dagger \hat{c}_{j,\sigma} + \text{H.c.}) + J_k \sum_{l=1}^L \hat{S}_l^c \cdot \hat{S}_l + J_h \sum_{l=1}^{L-1} \hat{S}_l \cdot \hat{S}_{l+\Delta l} - g\mu_B h^z \sum_{l=1}^L \hat{S}_l^z.$$

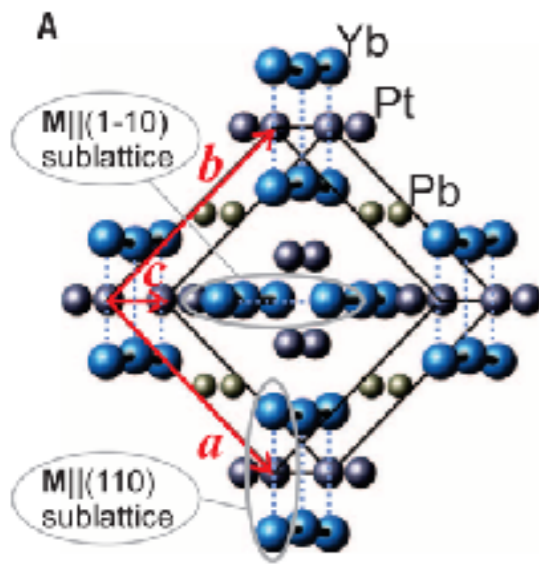
Intermediate setting between a single-purity Kondo model, and conventional 2D Kondo lattice model.

# Part-II: More motivation

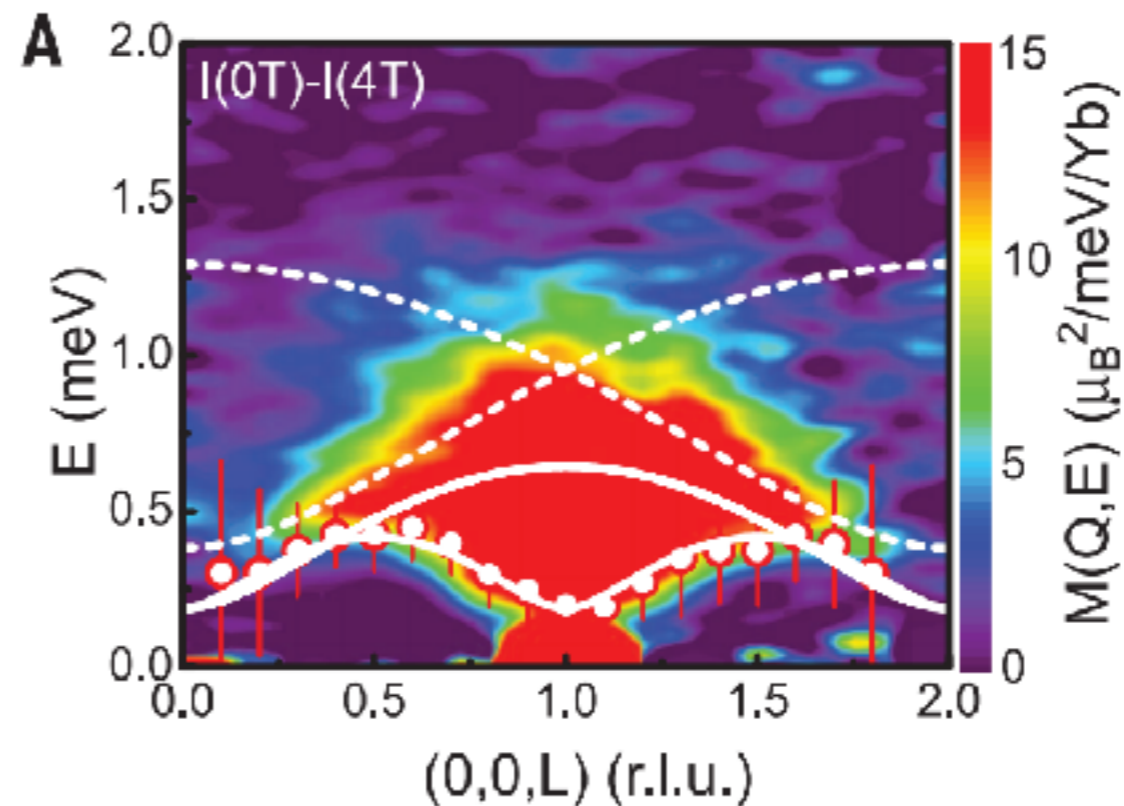
## Orbital-exchange and fractional quantum number excitations in an f-electron metal, $\text{Yb}_2\text{Pt}_2\text{Pb}$

L. S. Wu,<sup>1,2,3</sup> W. J. Gannon,<sup>1,2,4</sup> I. A. Zaliznyak,<sup>2\*</sup> A. M. Tsvetlik,<sup>2</sup> M. Brockmann,<sup>5,6</sup>  
J.-S. Caux,<sup>6</sup> M. S. Kim,<sup>2</sup> Y. Qiu,<sup>7</sup> J. R. D. Copley,<sup>7</sup> G. Ehlers,<sup>3</sup>  
A. Podlesnyak,<sup>3</sup> M. C. Aronson<sup>1,2,4</sup>

Evidence of spin-1/2 spinons despite good 3D metal. Apparent “Kondo breakdown”.



[Wu et al 2016;  
Classen et al 2018;  
Gannon et al 2019]



# “De-signer” models

*Pick your poison...*

Want Mott Physics...

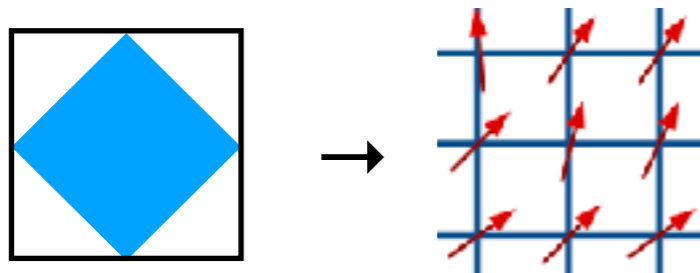
Vs

Want Fermi surfaces ...

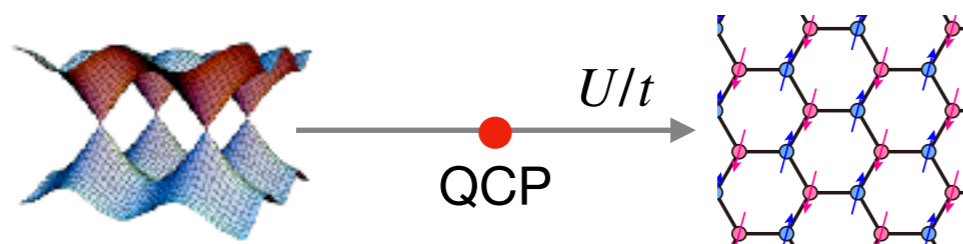
**Main caveat:**

Restricted to half-filling and bipartite lattices.

- Fermi surface nesting, leading to immediate AFM instability.



- Dirac semi-metal competing with AFM.



[Assaad, Herbut 2013; Otsuka et al 2016,...]

Typically (not always), multi-band Hubbard models with inter-band repulsion and intra-band onsite attraction.

[Wu, Zhang 2005]

Can capture some competing orders such as nematic, spin-density wave, non-nodal SC.

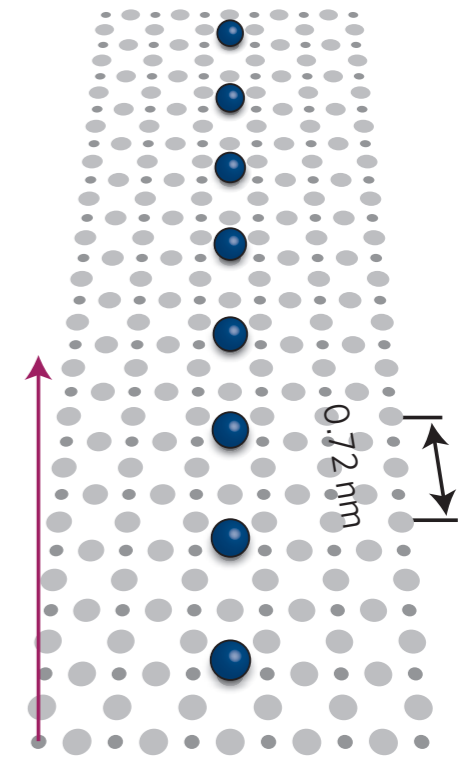
[Berg et al 2012; Schattner et al 2015; Dumitrescu et al 2016; Li et al 2017; Lederer et al 2017; Wang et al 2017, ...]

**Main caveat:** no Mott physics, no nodal SC, s-wave SC can lurk at low-T which can obscure  $T = 0$  QCP.

# A model for Kondo breakdown in metal

1d spin-chain on a Dirac semi-metal.

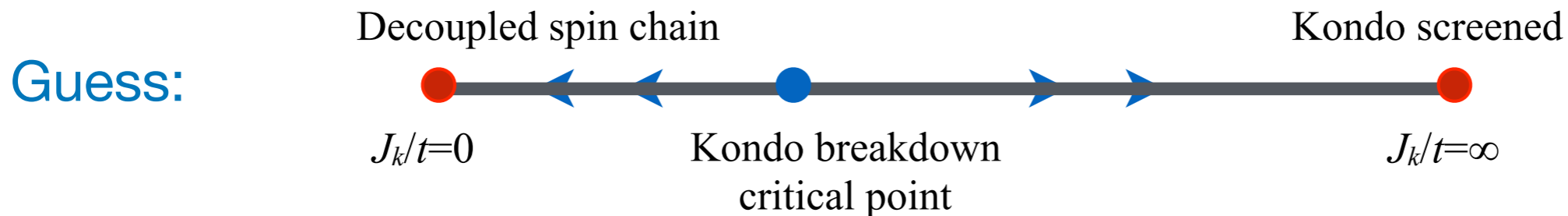
$$\hat{H} = -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} \left( e^{\frac{2\pi i}{\Phi_0} \int_i^j \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{l}} \hat{c}_i^\dagger \hat{c}_j + h.c. \right) + \frac{J_k}{2} \sum_{l=1}^L \hat{c}_l^\dagger \boldsymbol{\sigma} \hat{c}_l \cdot \hat{\mathbf{S}}_l + J_h \sum_{l=1}^L \hat{\mathbf{S}}_l \cdot \hat{\mathbf{S}}_{l+\Delta l}$$



Low energy theory:

$$S = \int d^2x d\tau \bar{\Psi} \not{\partial} \Psi + J_K \int dx d\tau \vec{N} \cdot \bar{\Psi} \vec{\sigma} \Psi + S_{1d \text{ Heisenberg}}$$

Power-counting shows that  $J_K$  irrelevant at the decoupled fixed-point.



[Danu, Vojta, Assaad, Grover (2020)]

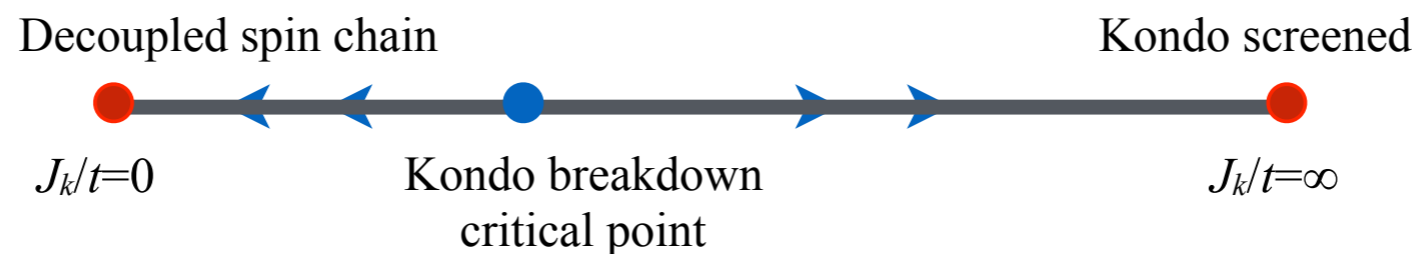
# RG for Kondo breakdown transition

$$S = \int d^d x d\tau \bar{\Psi} \not{\partial} \Psi + J_K \int dx d\tau \vec{N} \cdot \bar{\Psi} \vec{\sigma} \Psi + S_{1d \text{ Heisenberg}}$$

Kondo coupling marginal in  $d = 3/2$  dimensions. Physical case:  $d = 2$ .

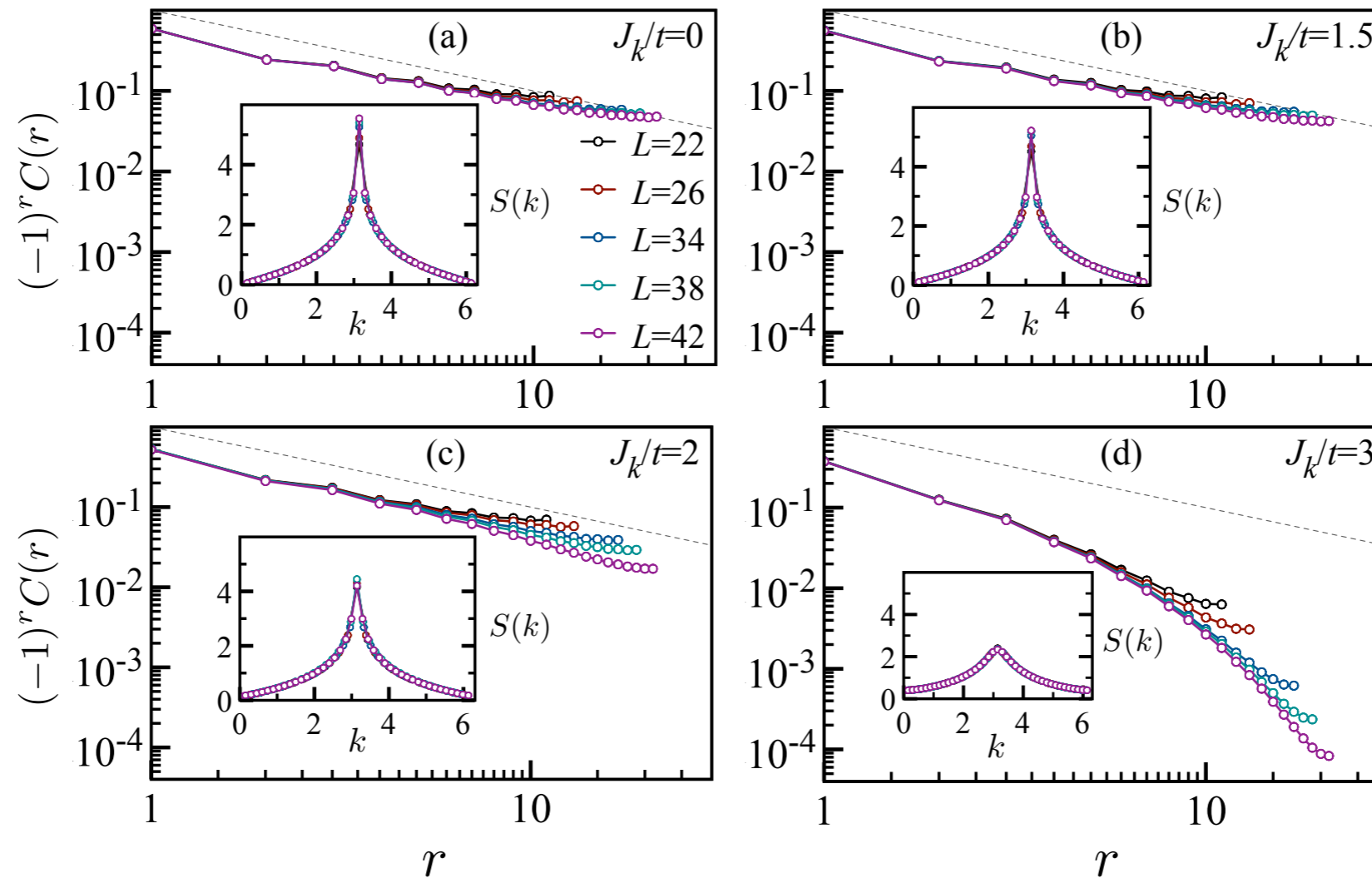
Perform RG using  $\epsilon$ -expansion where  $\epsilon = d - 3/2$ , and finally set  $\epsilon = 1/2$ .

$$\frac{dj_k}{d \ln \Lambda} = \epsilon j_k - \frac{j_k^2}{2} \quad j_k = J_k \Lambda^\epsilon$$



Note: RG is being done by perturbing an *interacting* fixed-point, conformal perturbation theory useful.

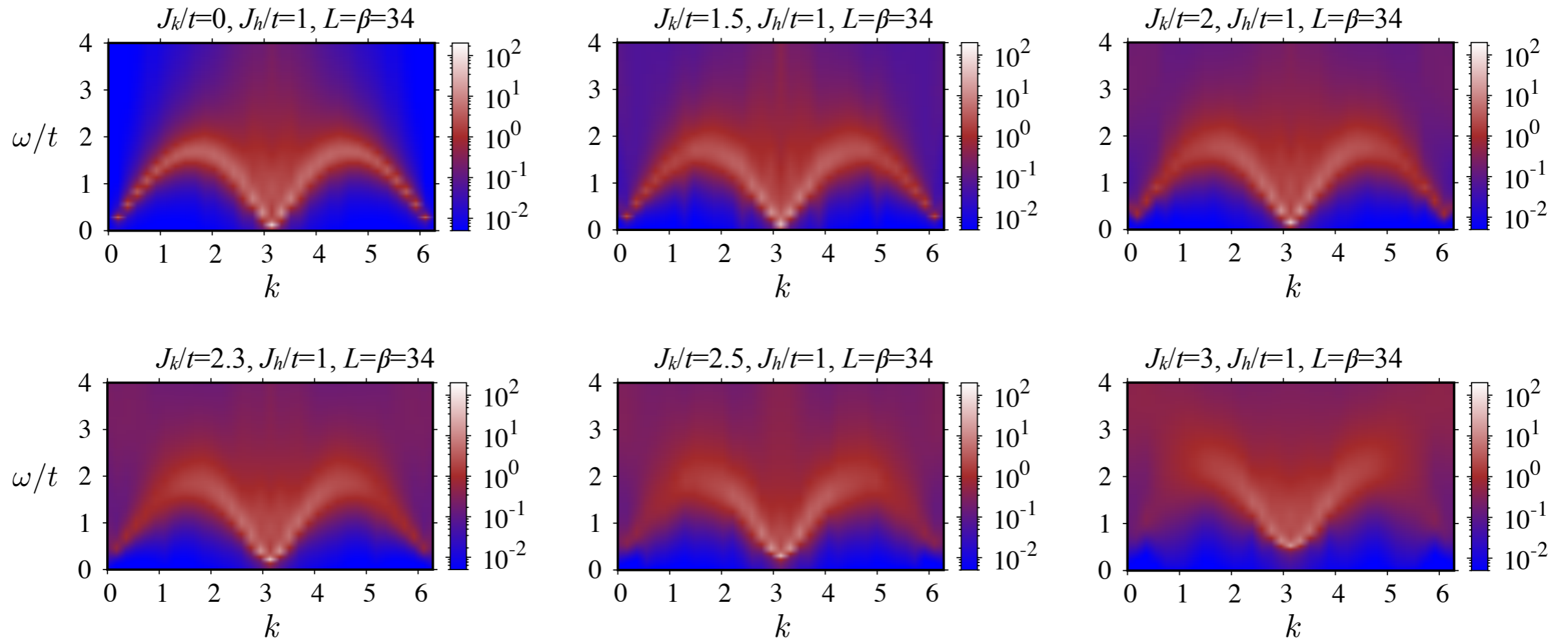
# QMC simulations for Kondo breakdown



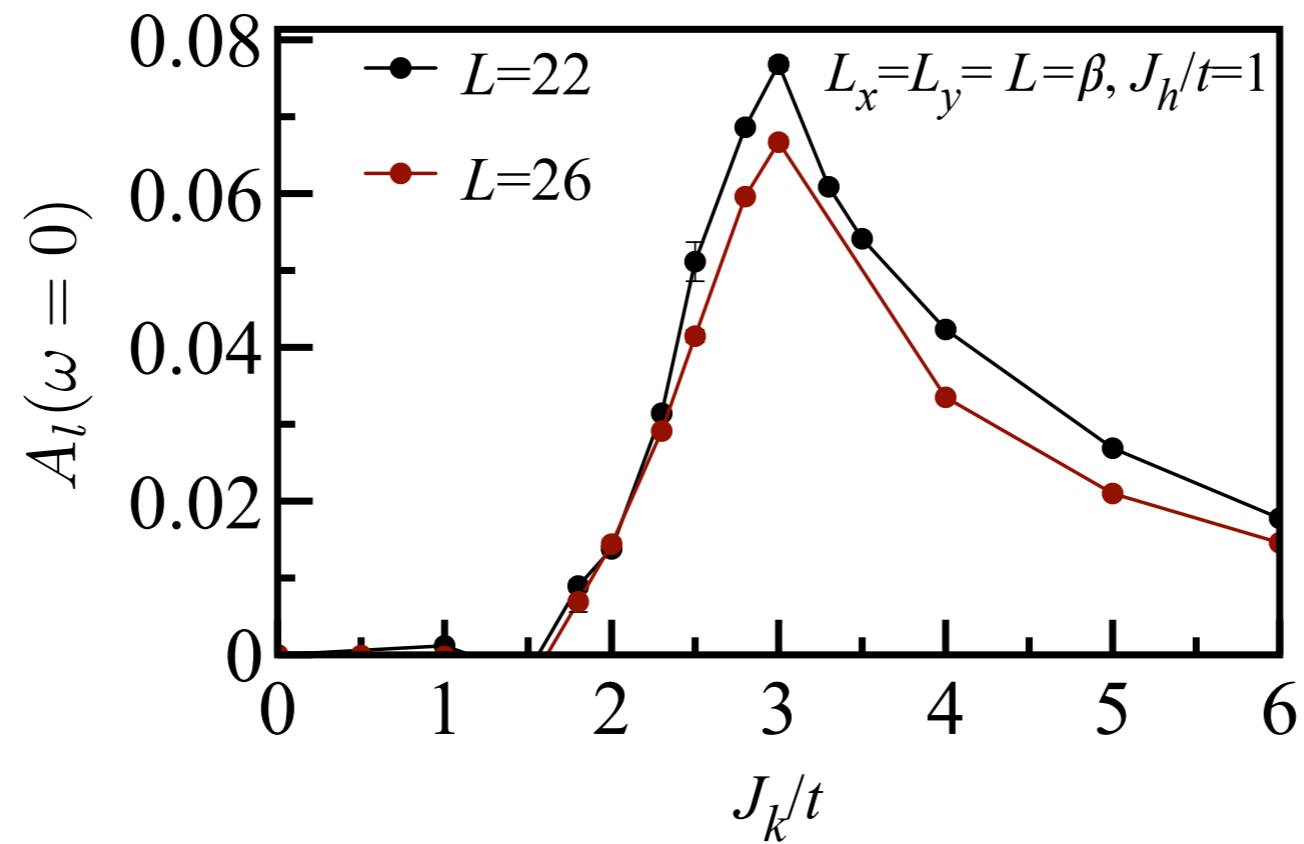
Spin-spin correlations decay as  $(-1)^r \sqrt{\log(r)}/r$  for  $J_K < J_{K,c}$   
 and as  $(-1)^r/r^4$  for  $J_K > J_{K,c}$



# Spin-structure factor across Kondo breakdown transition



# Zero-bias tunneling across Kondo breakdown transition



# Kondo breakdown phase = fractionalized Fermi liquid

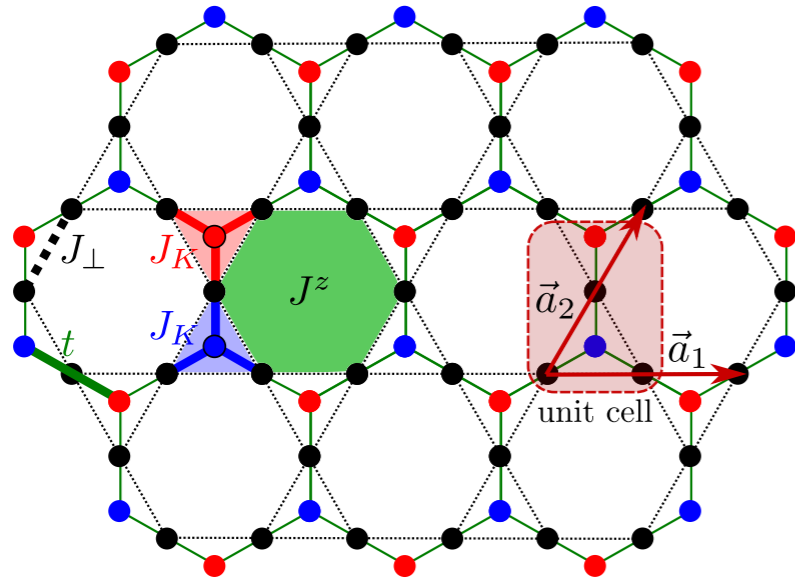
In the Kondo breakdown phase, the 1d spinons decouple from the 2d Dirac electrons. “Small Fermi surface phase”.

[Senthil, Vojta, Sachdev (2003)]

Here, the effect on bulk quantities rather “timid” due to dimensional mismatch. Only  $\log(L)$  entanglement entropy missing due to breakdown.

Regular versions of fractionalized Fermi liquid?

# A model for 2d Fractionalized Fermi liquid



- ● c fermions (honeycomb lattice)
- localized spins (kagome lattice)

$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_c + \hat{H}_S + \hat{H}_K$$

$$\hat{H}_c = -t \sum_{\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle, \sigma} \hat{c}_{\mathbf{x}, \sigma}^\dagger \hat{c}_{\mathbf{y}, \sigma} + h.c.$$

$$\hat{H}_S = -J^\perp \sum_{\langle \mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j} \rangle} \left( \hat{S}_i^{f,+} \hat{S}_j^{f,-} + h.c. \right) + J^z \sum_{\hexagon} \left( \hat{S}_{\hexagon}^{f,z} \right)^2$$

$$\hat{H}_K = J_K \sum_{\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{i} \rangle} \left[ \hat{S}_x^{c,z} \hat{S}_i^{f,z} - (-1)^x \left( \hat{S}_x^{c,+} \hat{S}_i^{f,-} + h.c. \right) \right]$$

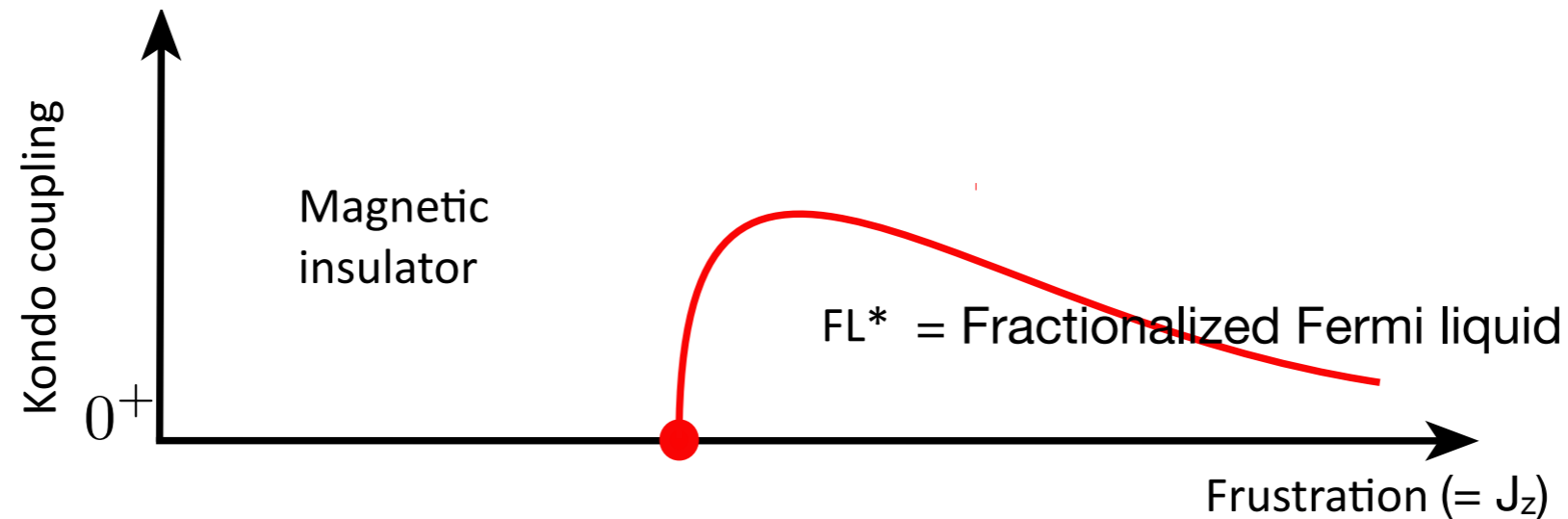
[Hofmann, Assaad, TG 2018]

$H_S$  is the Balents-Fisher-Girvin model that supports a topologically ordered  $Z_2$  spin-liquid when  $J^z \gg J^\perp$

Surprisingly, the above model does not have a sign-problem, by employing fermion representation of spins.

[Sato, Assaad, TG 2017]

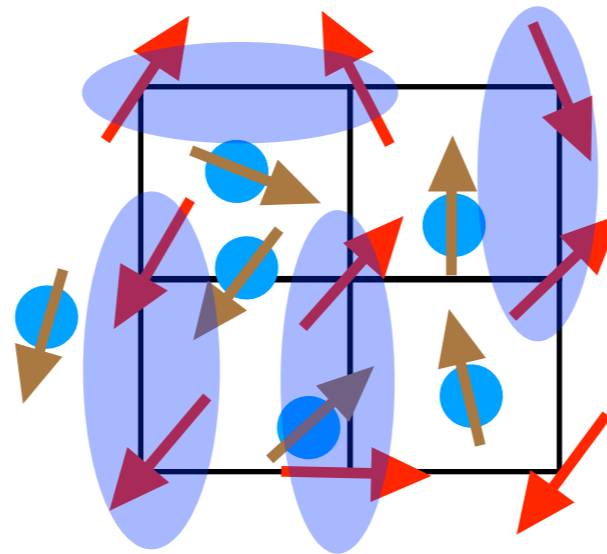
# Schematic Phase Diagram obtained from QMC



FL\* phase has a small Fermi surface, i.e. violates Luttinger theorem, and has no non-trivial quadratic mean-field description.

The spins enter a  $Z_2$  spin-liquid, and decouple from the conduction electrons which form a Dirac semi-metal.

## Cartoon of fractionalized Fermi liquid (FL<sup>\*</sup>)



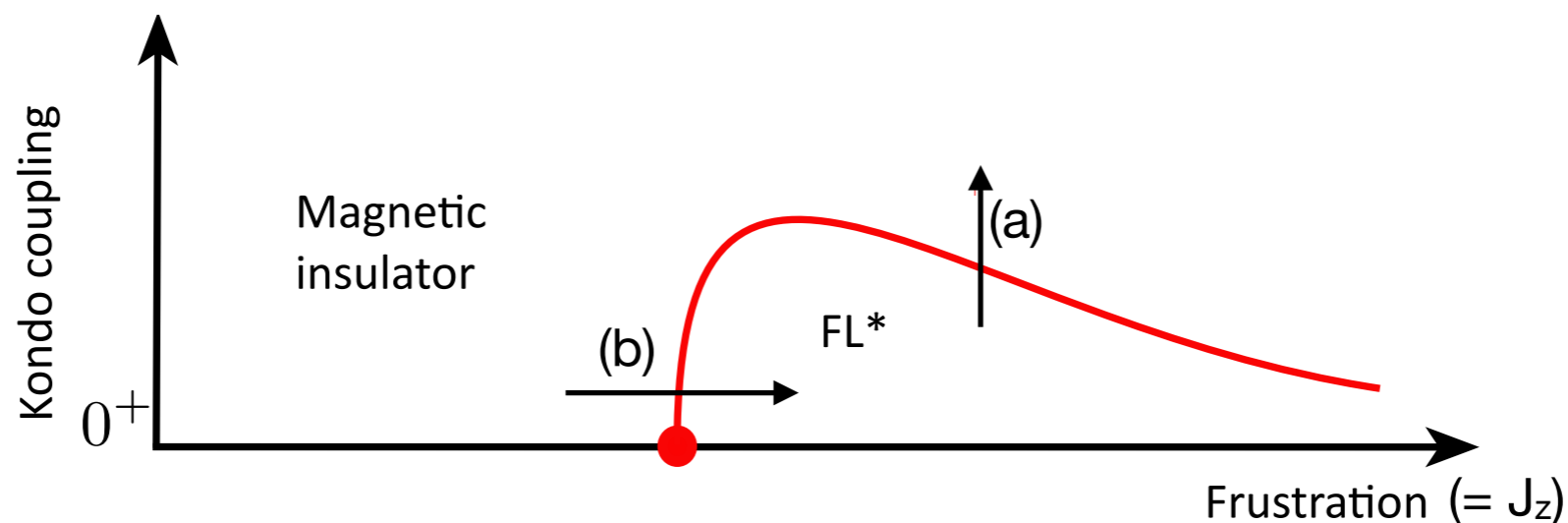
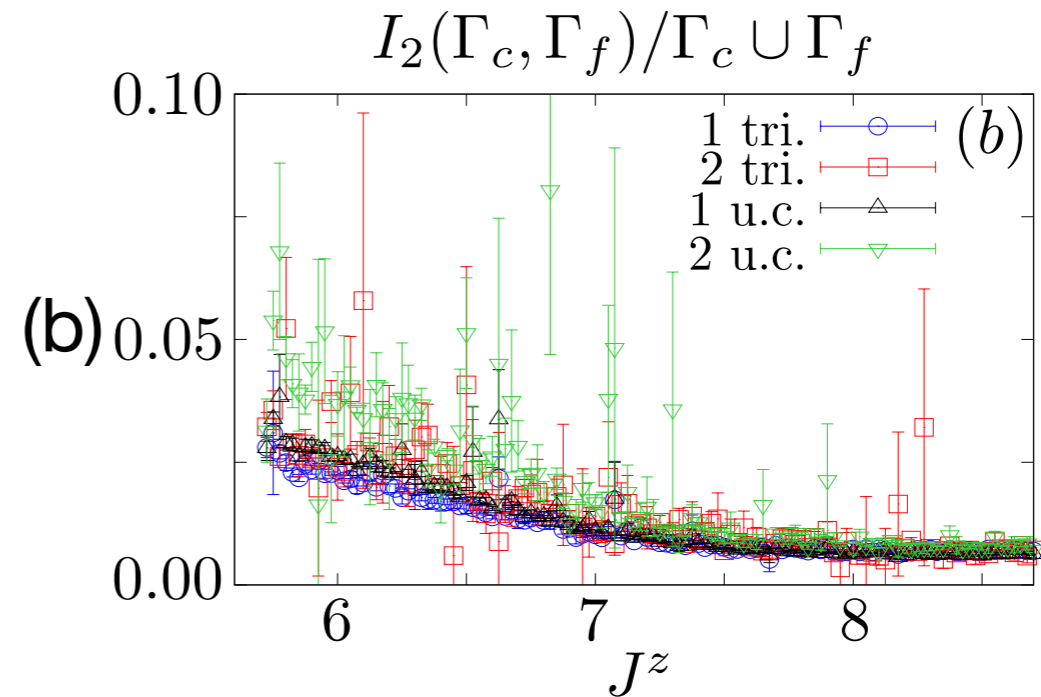
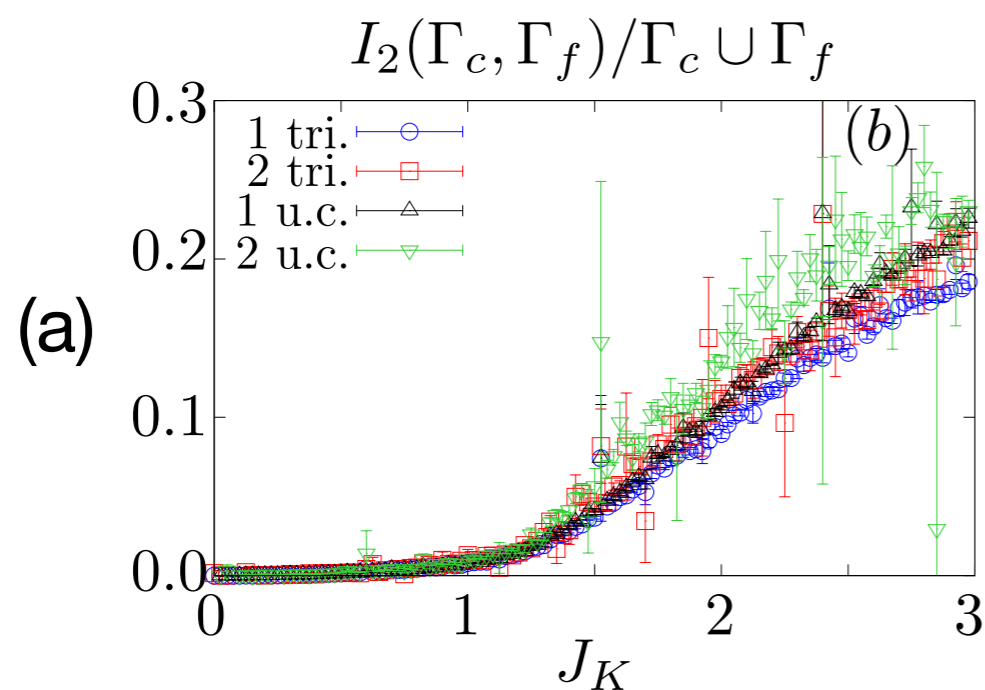
Spins form a gapped RVB state. The fermions decouple from spins and form a small Fermi surface.

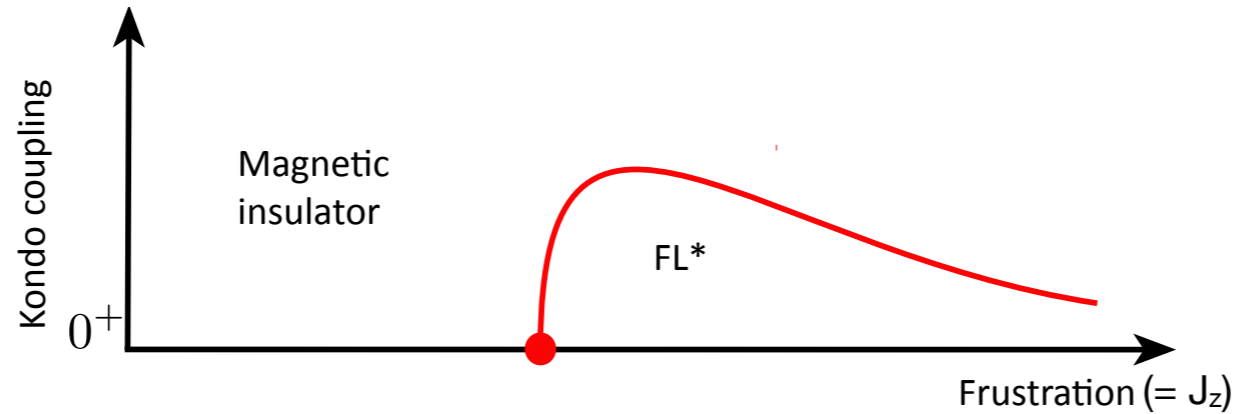
[Senthil, Vojta, Sachdev (2003)]

# Characterizing Kondo Screening via Entanglement

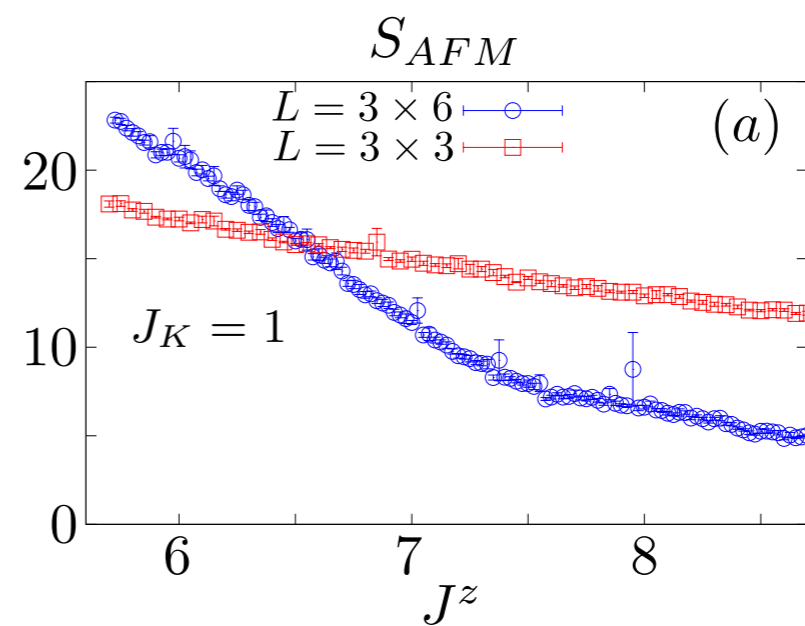
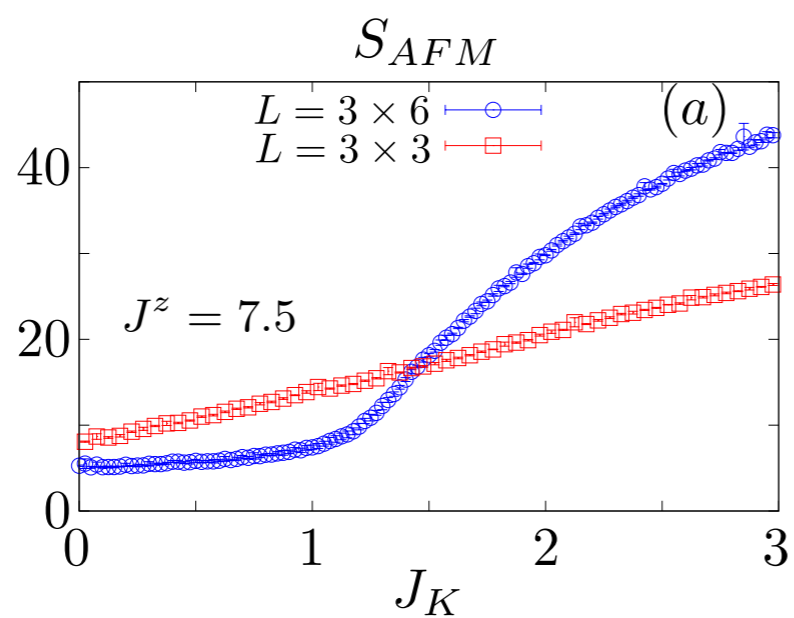
Renyi mutual information between conduction electrons and spins:

$$I_2(\Gamma_c, \Gamma_f) \equiv S_2(\Gamma_c \cup \Gamma_f) - S_2(\Gamma_c) - S_2(\Gamma_f)$$

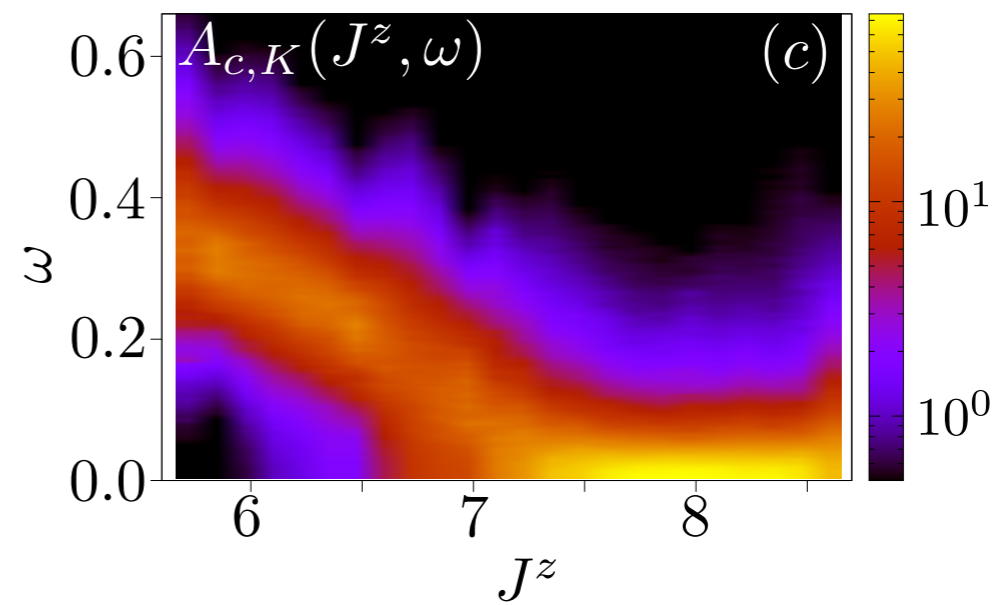
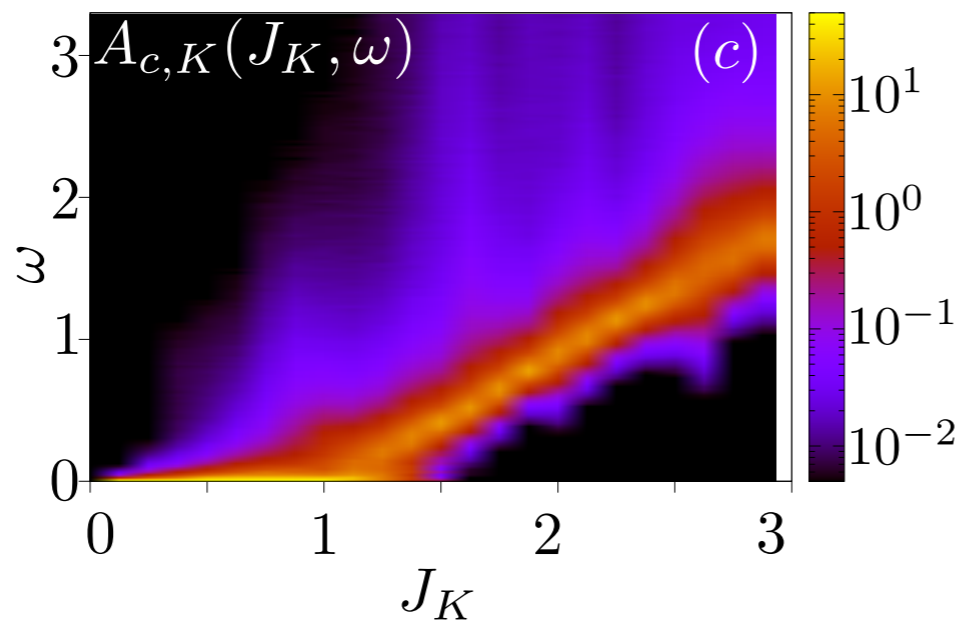




spin structure factor



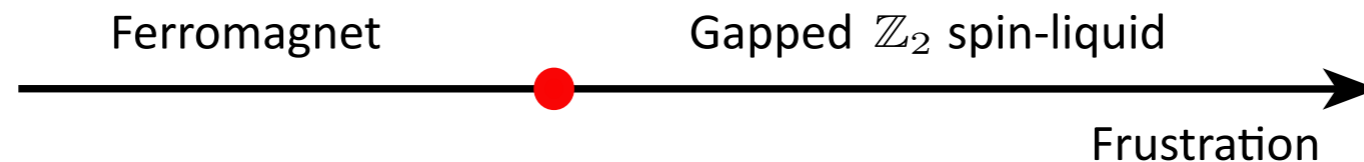
electron spectral-fn.





# Nature of Quantum Critical Point?

In the absence of conduction electrons, the critical point is rather unconventional, and has a rather large anomalous dimension.



$$\langle S^+(\vec{r}, \tau) S^-(0,0) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{(r^2 + \tau^2)^{1+\eta}}$$

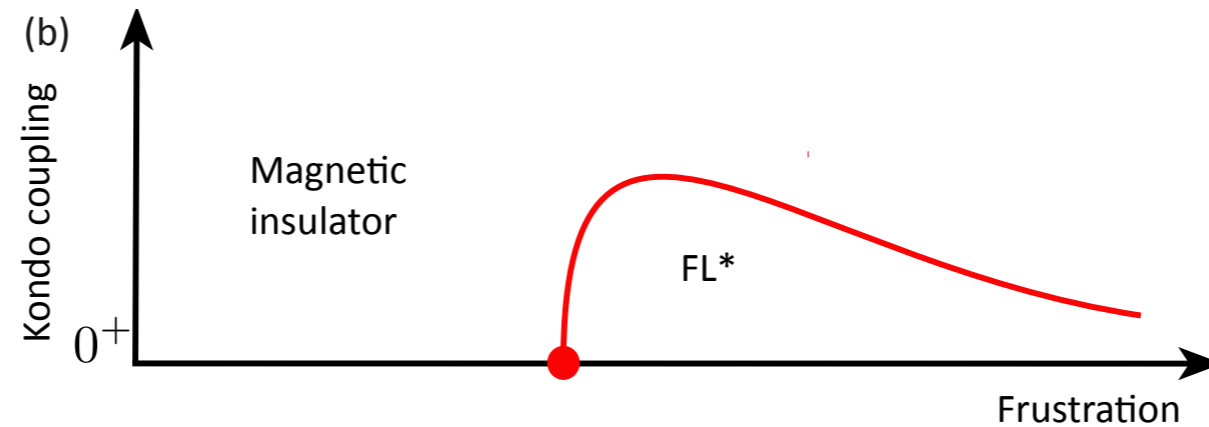
$$\eta \approx 1.37 > 1$$

(for Wilson-Fisher fixed point,  $\eta \approx 0.03$ )

[Chubukov, Senthil, Sachdev, 1994;  
Isakov, Hastings, Melko, 2011]

# Nature of Quantum Critical Point?

In the presence of conduction electrons,  
Kondo coupling irrelevant at the transition  
 $\Rightarrow$  **Kondo breakdown.**



$$\frac{dJ_K}{dl} = (1 - \eta)J_K$$

Kondo coupling **irrelevant** at the critical point due to  $\eta > 1$ .

Critical magnetic fluctuations will show  $\omega/T$  scaling.

# Summary and Questions

- Broad message: possible to construct sign-problem-free models that sometime allow unbiased simulation of strong correlation physics, e.g., Mott transition between superconductor and AFM on square lattice, non-Fermi liquids in certain Kondo systems, etc.
- Nodal superconductivity model as a starting point for DMRG to study doped phenomena e.g. pseudogap, strange metal etc.?
- Deconfined criticality between SC and AFM?
- Higher dimensional analogs of “mixed-dimension” Kondo lattice systems, e.g., 3d metal coupled to 2d local moments at or away from criticality?
- Detailed understanding of Kondo breakdown in  $\text{Yb}_2\text{Pt}_2\text{Pb}$ ?
- Sign problem forces us to think more deeply about the “sign structure” of many-body wavefunctions, which may be “universal” in a meaningful way.