

Atomic Quantum Simulation of (Non-)Abelian Lattice Gauge Theories: Quantum Link Models

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(high-energy physics)



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FWF Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

Atomic Quantum Simulation of (Non-)Abelian Lattice Gauge Theories: Quantum Link Models

Peter Zoller

**... possible future developments at the interface between
AMO and cond mat & particle physics**

- Abelian U(1) Schwinger model, D. Banerjee et al., PRL 2012
- U(N), SU(N) Non-Abelian QLM, D. Banerjee et al., PRL in print
- Other
 - dissipative techniques K. Stannigel et al.
 - other implementations: superconducting qubits, D. Marcos et al.

Related work: MPQ-Tel Aviv, ICFO, Cornell, ...



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FWF Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

... lattice gauge theories [in particle physics]

- Gauge theories on a discrete lattice structure K. Wilson, Phys. Rev. D (1974).
- **Fundamental gauge symmetries:** standard model (every force has a gauge boson)



non-perturbative approach to
fundamental theories of matter
(e.g. QCD)
→ **classical statistical mechanics**

Classical Monte Carlo simulations:

achievements

- first evidence of quark-gluon plasma
- ab initio estimate of proton mass
- entire hadronic spectrum

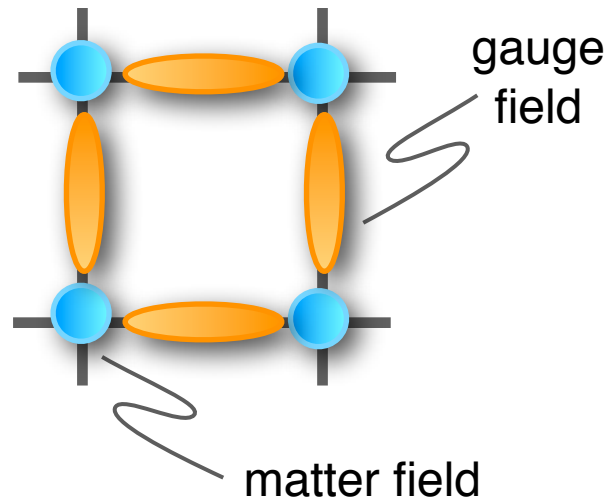
issues

- Sign problem in its various flavors:
- finite density QCD (=fermions)
 - real time evolution

Quantum simulation (with atoms)? ... toy models & simple phenomena

Quantum Simulation of Lattice Gauge Theories with Atoms

Lattice Gauge Theories



Hamiltonian formulation

Kogut & Susskind

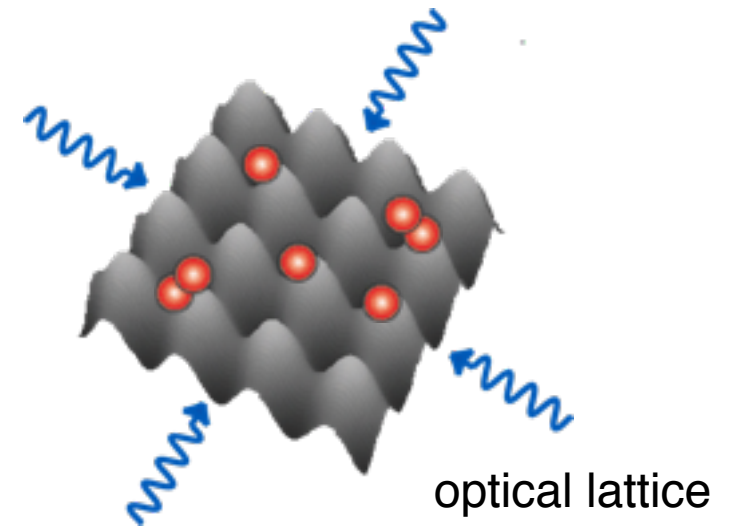
(Non-)Abelian LGT:

✓ QED $U(1)$

✓ QCD $SU(N), U(N)$

gauge symmetry as
local symmetry

Atomic Quantum Simulation



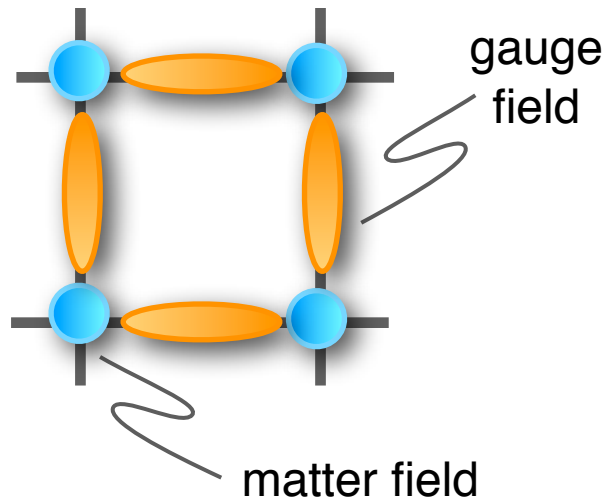
Hubbard models with bosonic and fermionic atoms in optical lattices

?

“emergent lattice gauge theory”

Quantum Simulation of Lattice Gauge Theories with Atoms

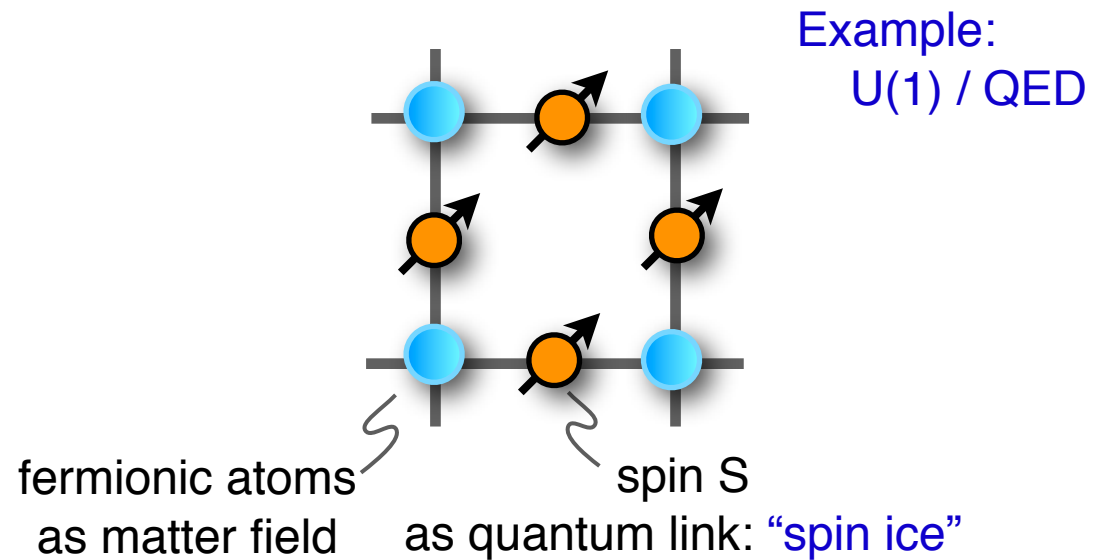
Lattice Gauge Theories



(Non-)Abelian LGT:

- ✓ QED $U(1)$
- ✓ QCD $SU(N)$, $U(N)$

Quantum Link Models (QLM)



QLM

- ✓ gauge fields in *finite dim* spaces
- ✓ Abelian & Non-Abelian

particle physics: U.J. Wiese et al., Horn, Orland & Rohrlach, ...
cond mat: ... [spin ice, quantum spin liquids]

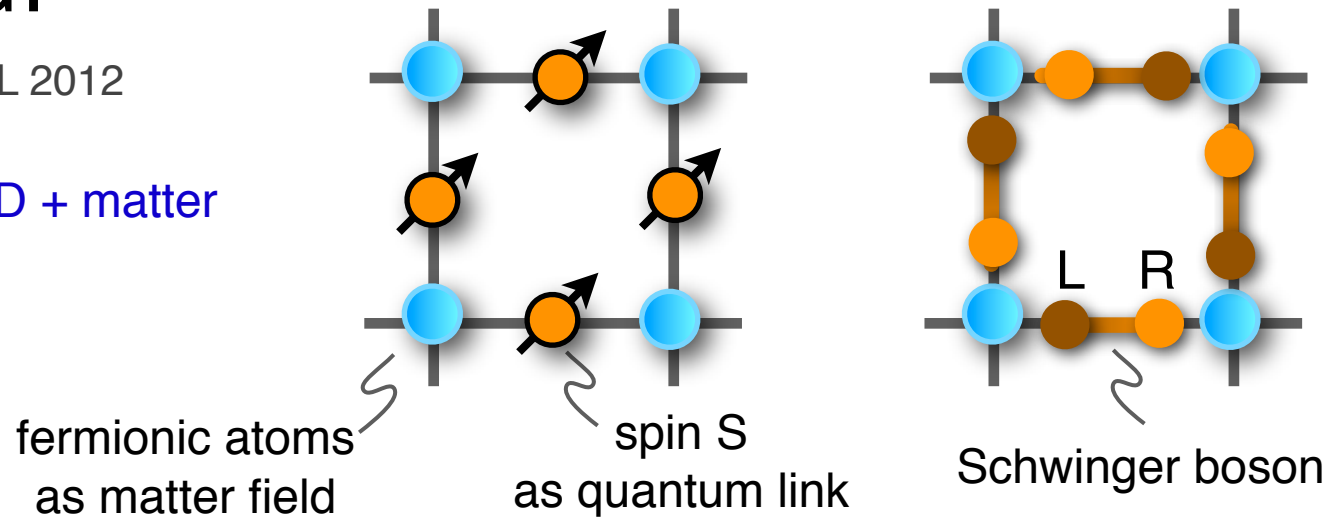
QLM have “natural” implementations
with cold atoms in optical lattices

- Quantum Link Models (as Hubbard Models for Atoms)

U(1) Abelian LGT

D. Banerjee et al., PRL 2012

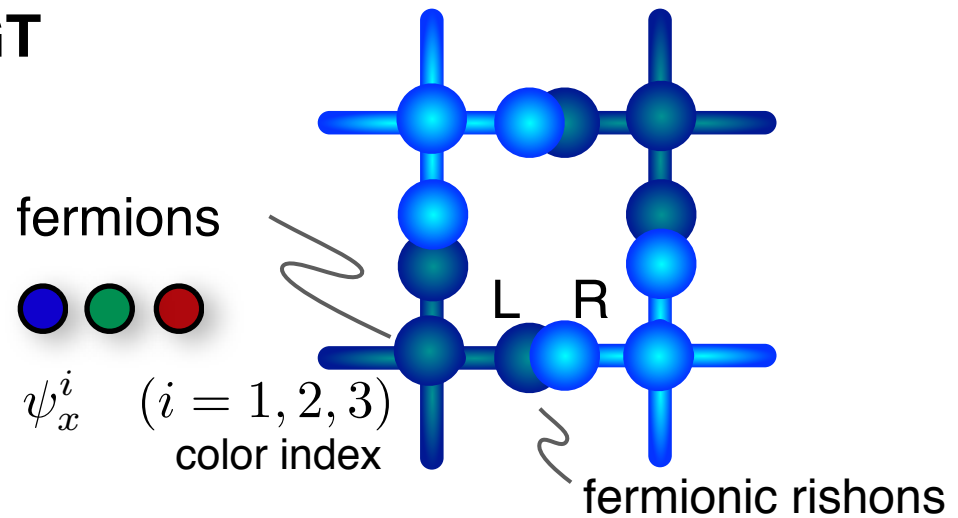
“spin ice” QED + matter



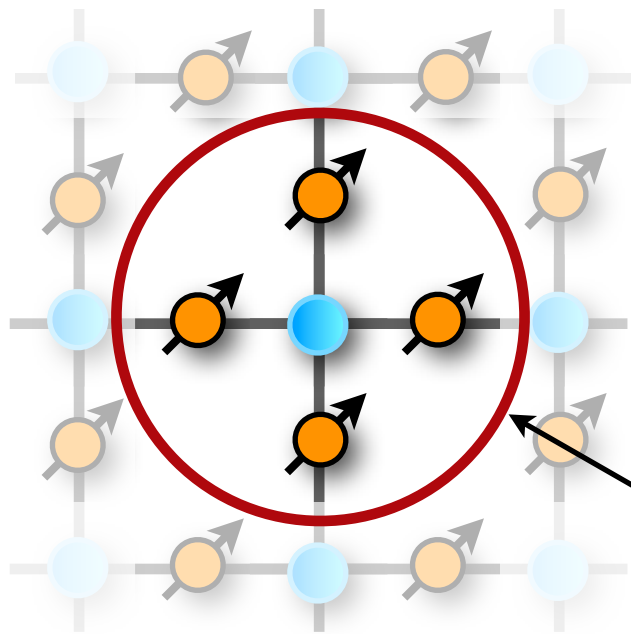
atomic boson-fermi mixtures in optical lattices

U(N),SU(N) Non-Abelian LGT

D. Banerjee et al., PRL in print



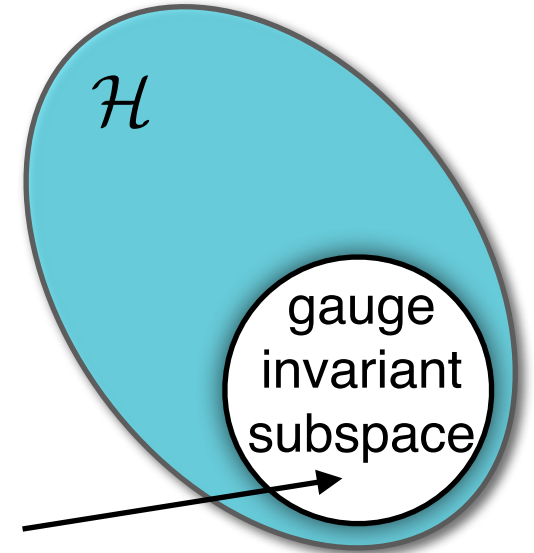
multi-species fermi gases



“spin ice” QED + matter

$$\rho - \nabla \cdot E = 0$$

Gauss law as a constraint



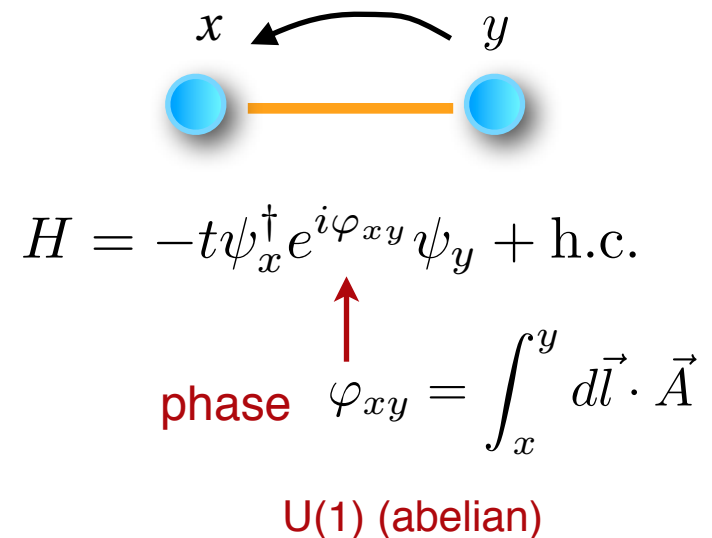
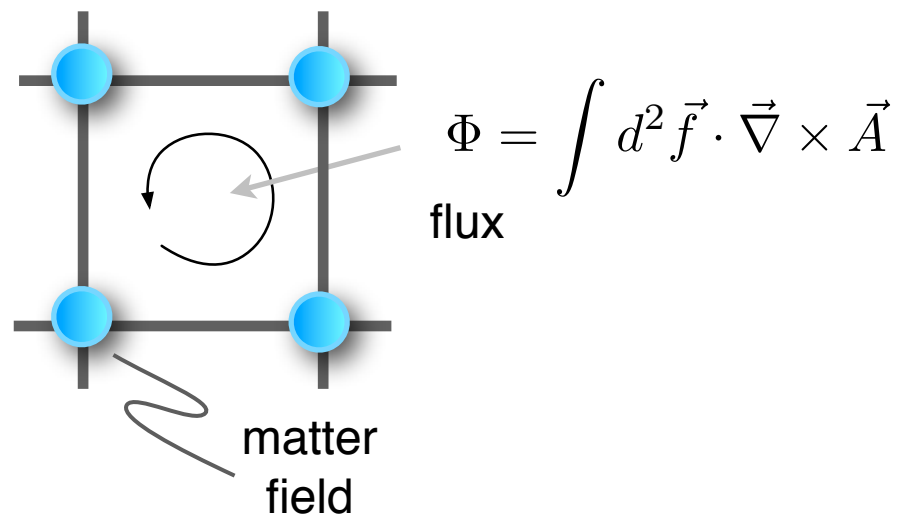
Hamiltonians, (local) gauge symmetries, Gauss law etc.

an AMO perspective

Static vs. Dynamical Gauge Fields on Lattices: U(1)

- **c-number / static gauge fields**

particles hopping around a plaquette acquire a finite phase



theory & AMO experiments
on “synthetic gauge fields”

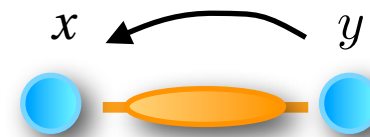
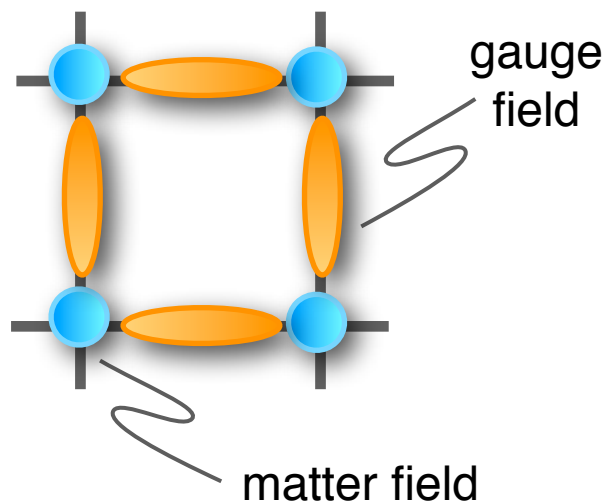
- Hofstadter butterfly
- Fractional Quantum Hall,
Fractional Chern insulators

Review: J. Dalibard et al. Rev. Mod. Phys. (2011)

Static vs. Dynamical Gauge Fields on Lattices: U(1)

- **dynamical gauge fields**

particles hopping around a plaquette assisted by link degrees of freedom



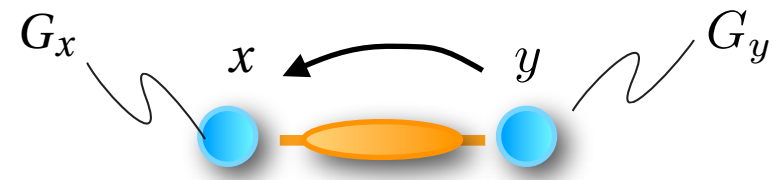
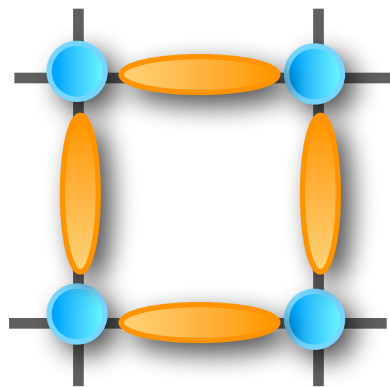
$$H = -t\psi_x^\dagger U_{xy}\psi_y + \text{h.c.} + \dots$$

link operator

Static vs. Dynamical Gauge Fields on Lattices: U(1)

- dynamical gauge fields**

particles hopping around a plaquette assisted by link degrees of freedom



$$H = -t\psi_x^\dagger U_{xy}\psi_y + \text{h.c.} + \dots$$

gauge (*local*) symmetry U(1)

gauge bosons	U_{xy}	\xrightarrow{V}	$e^{i\alpha_x} U_{xy} e^{-i\alpha_y},$
fermions	ψ_x	\xrightarrow{V}	$e^{i\alpha_x} \psi_x$

unitary trafo:

$$V = \prod_x e^{i\alpha_x G_x}$$

generator

local conserved quantity

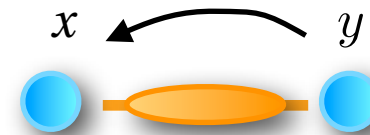
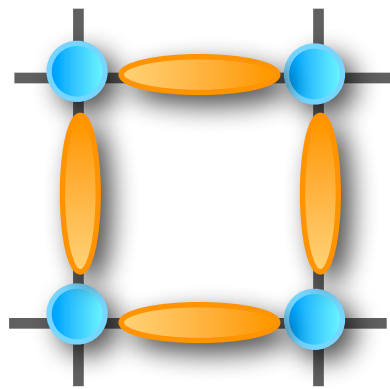
$$[H, G_x] = 0 \quad \forall x$$

↑
generator of gauge transformation

Static vs. Dynamical Gauge Fields on Lattices: U(1)

- **dynamical gauge fields**

particles hopping around a plaquette assisted by link degrees of freedom



$$H = -t\psi_x^\dagger U_{xy}\psi_y + \text{h.c.} + \dots$$

Gauss Law

$$G_x = \underbrace{\psi_x^\dagger \psi_x}_{\text{matter}} - \sum_i \underbrace{\left(E_{x, x+\hat{i}} - E_{x-\hat{i}, x} \right)}_{\text{electric field operator}}$$



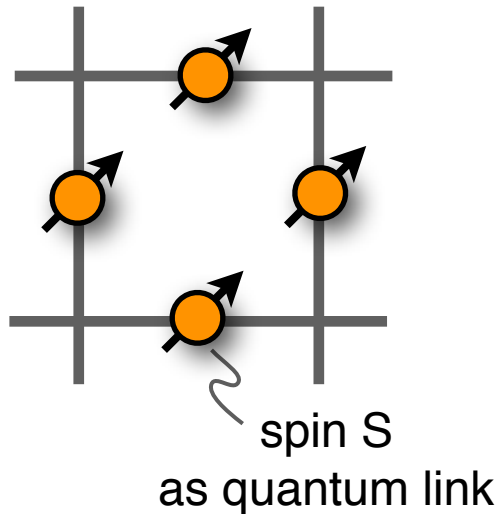
$$\rho - \nabla \cdot E = 0$$

local conserved quantity

$$[H, G_x] = 0 \quad \forall x$$

↑
generator of gauge transformation

QED as “Quantum Spin Ice” [Quantum Link Model]

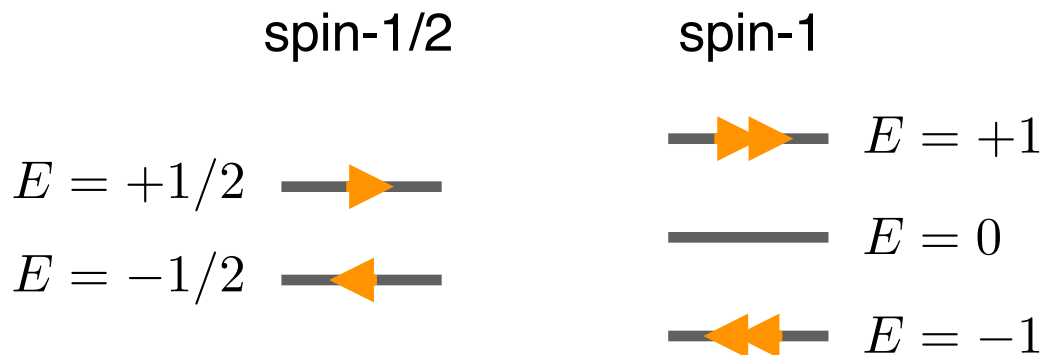


$$U_{x,x+1} \rightarrow S_{x,x+1}^+ \quad E_{x,x+1} \rightarrow S_{x,x+1}^z$$

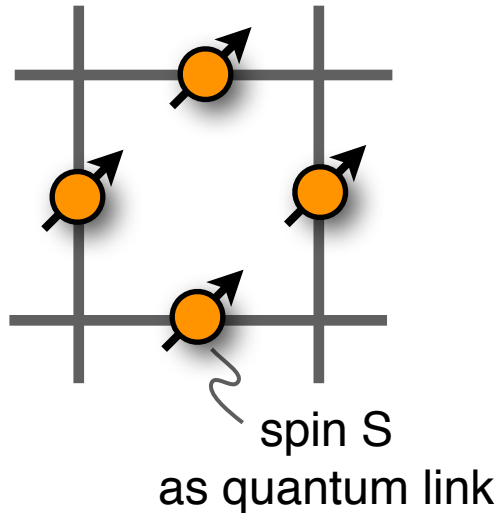
electric flux

Spin $S=1/2, 1, \dots$

quantum link carrying an electric flux



QED as “Quantum Spin Ice” [Quantum Link Model]

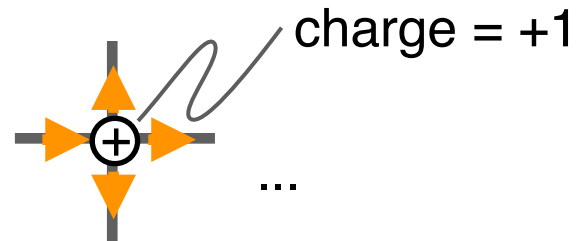


$$U_{x,x+1} \rightarrow S_{x,x+1}^+ \quad E_{x,x+1} \rightarrow S_{x,x+1}^z$$

electric flux

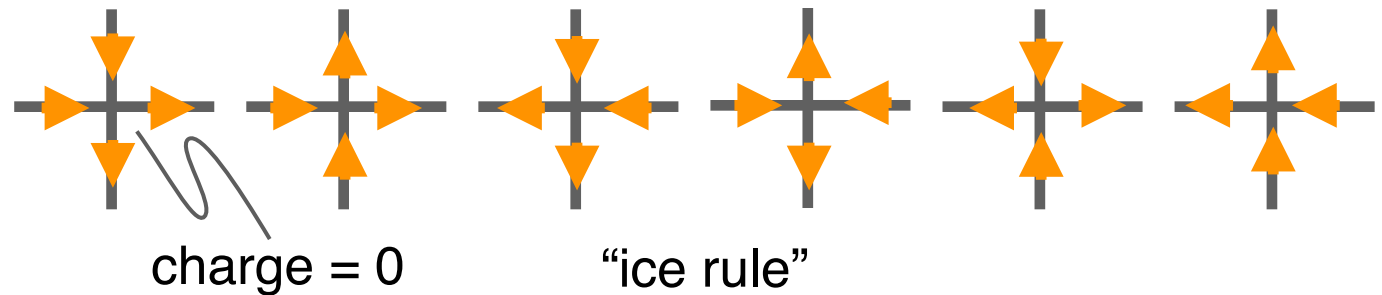
Spin $S=1/2, 1, \dots$

configurations: spin-1/2

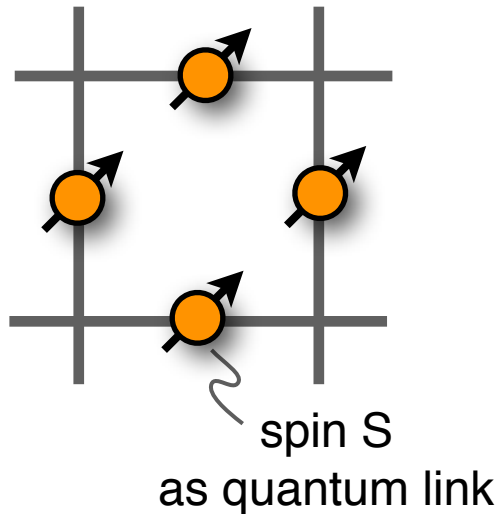


Gauss Law

$$\rho - \nabla \cdot E = 0$$



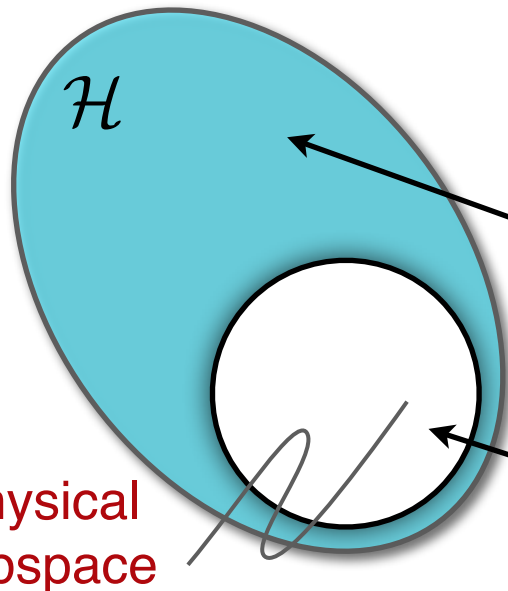
QED as “Quantum Spin Ice” [Quantum Link Model]



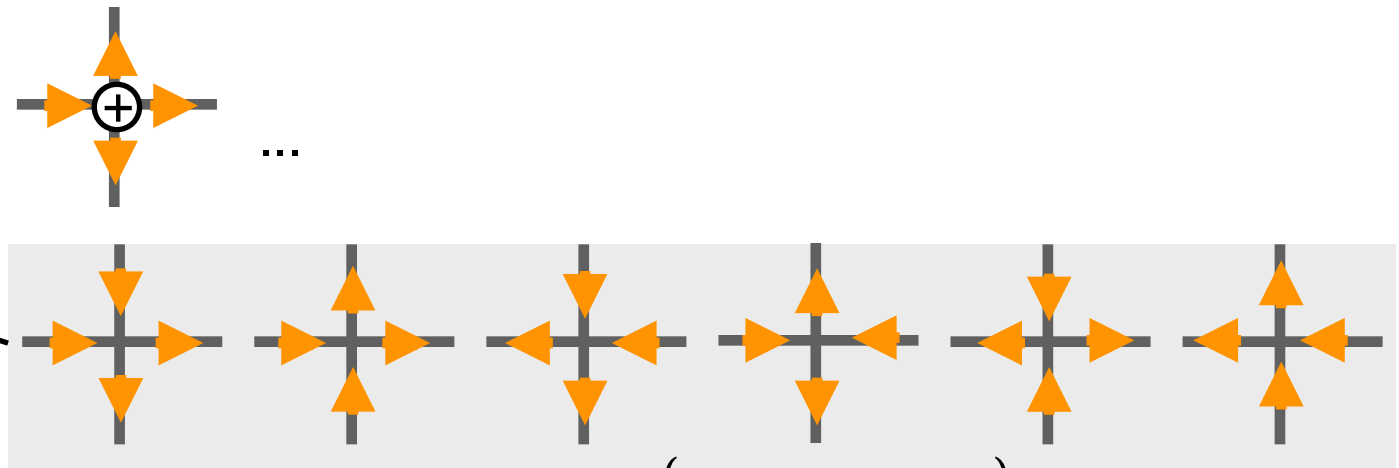
$$U_{x,x+1} \rightarrow S_{x,x+1}^+ \quad E_{x,x+1} \rightarrow S_{x,x+1}^z$$

electric flux

Spin $S=1/2, 1, \dots$



configurations: spin-1/2



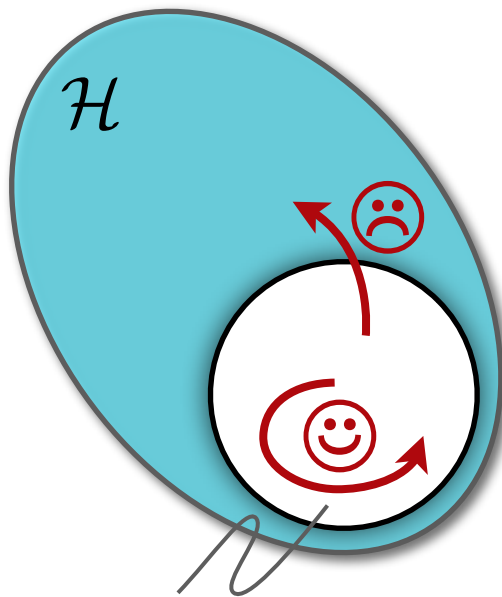
$$G_x |\psi\rangle = 0 \quad \forall x$$

“ice rule” $G_x = \sum_{\mu} (S_{x-\hat{\mu},\mu}^3 - S_{x,\mu}^3) \leftrightarrow \nabla \cdot E = 0$

A first remark on implementation: enforcing “Gauss law”

- **Lattice Gauge Theory:** gauge symmetry fundamental
- **Implementation:** gauge symmetry approximate → protect against errors

Strategies for Microscopic Implementation



$$G_x |\psi\rangle = 0 \quad \forall x$$

physical gauge
invariant subspace

Hamiltonian

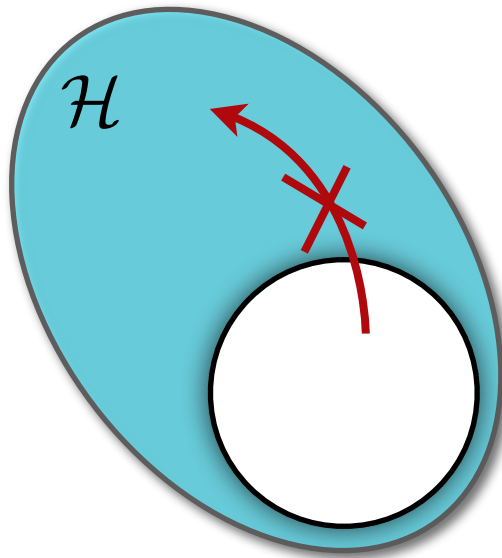
$$+ \text{constraints} \quad G_x |\psi\rangle = 0 \quad \forall x$$

A first remark on implementation: enforcing “Gauss law”

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Strategies for Microscopic Implementation

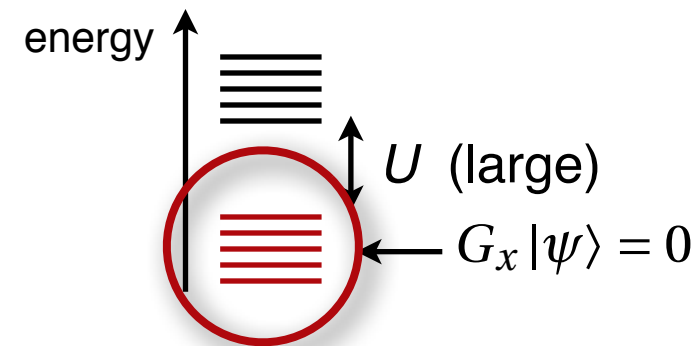
1. Energy Constraints (as in cond mat)



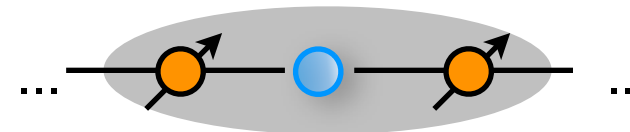
$$H_{\text{micro}} = U \sum_x G_x^2 + \dots$$

✓ interaction

✓ emergent lattice gauge theory



see example below



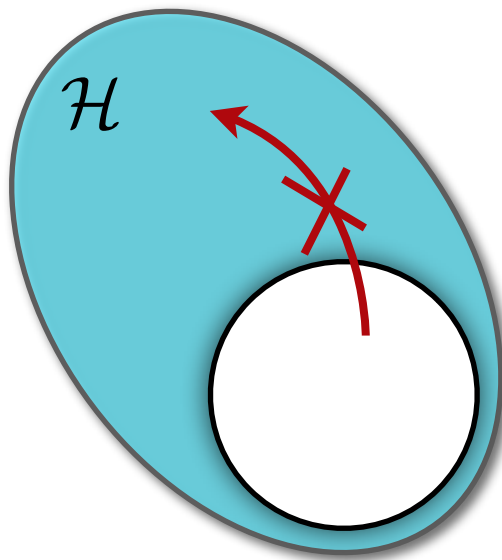
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Strategies for Microscopic Implementation

2. “Classical Zeno effect”

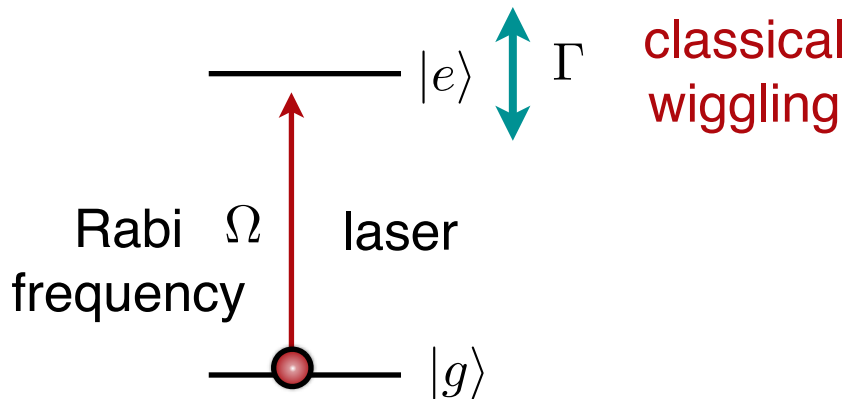
K. Stannigel



A toy model: “motional narrowing”

classical noise

Two-level atom +
dephasing



Fermi's Golden Rule

$$P_g(t) = \exp\left(-\frac{\Omega^2}{\Gamma} t\right)$$

$$\rightarrow 1 \text{ for } \Gamma \rightarrow \infty$$

population frozen in ground state

Compare “Zeno effect” by losses
in optical lattices

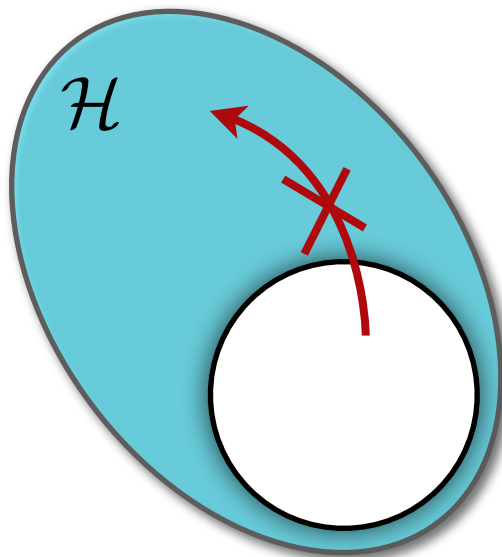
Rempe, Cirac et al.
Daley et al.

A first remark on implementation: enforcing “Gauss law”

- **Lattice Gauge Theory:** gauge symmetry fundamental
- **Implementation:** gauge symmetry approximate → protect against errors

Strategies for Microscopic Implementation

2. “Classical Zeno effect” K. Stannigel



$$H_{\text{micro}} = \sum_x \xi_x(t) G_x + \dots$$

see example below

✓ white noise

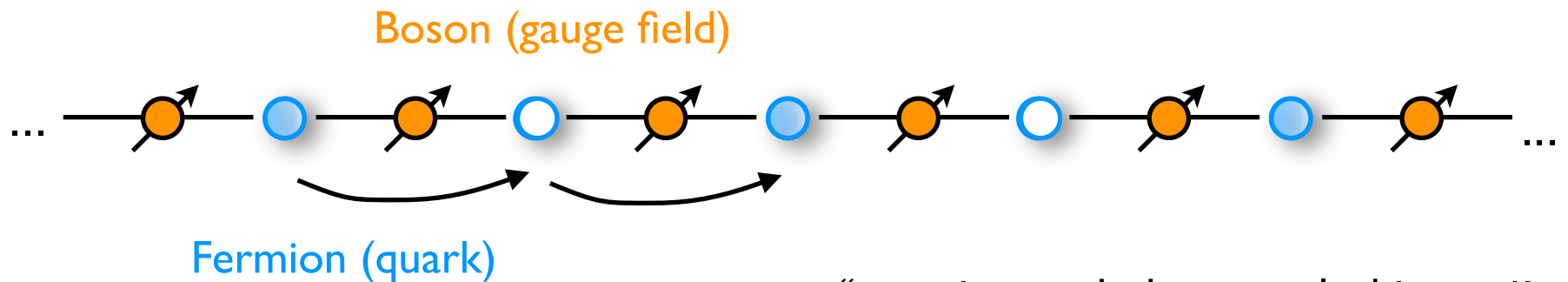
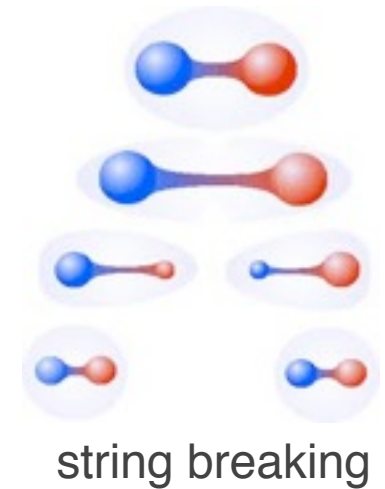
✓ linear in $G \sim$ single particle terms ☺

Rem.: decoherence free subspace, bang-bang

Example 1:

The simplest (meaningful) quantum link model:
1D Schwinger model

AMO Implementation:
Bose-Fermi Mixtures in Optical Lattices



“quantum spin ice coupled to matter”

Schwinger Model: U(1) fermions + gauge bosons in 1D

- **Hamiltonian:** staggered fermions in 1D coupled to quantum link spin S

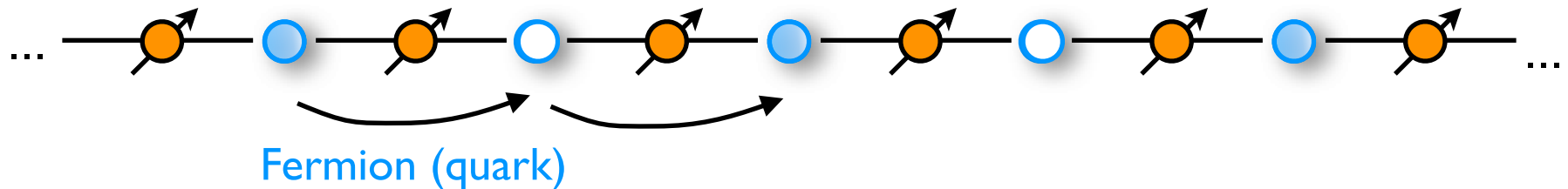
$$H = \frac{g^2}{2} \sum_x E_{x,x+1}^2 - t \sum_x \left[\psi_x^\dagger U_{x,x+1} \psi_{x+1} + \text{h.c.} \right] + m \sum_x (-1)^x \psi_x^\dagger \psi_x$$

electric flux

hopping

staggered fermions

Boson (gauge field)

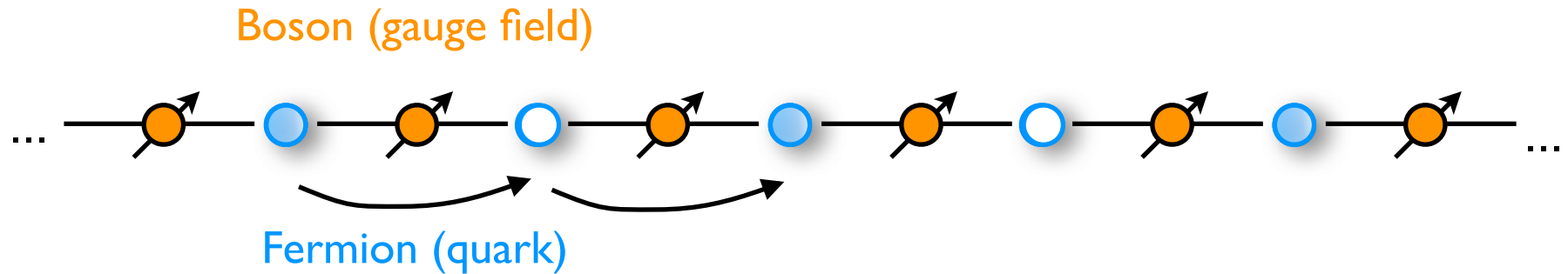


Schwinger Model: U(1) fermions + gauge bosons in 1D

- **Hamiltonian:** staggered fermions in 1D coupled to quantum link spin S

$$H = \frac{g^2}{2} \sum_x (S^z_{x,x+1})^2 - t \sum_x [\psi_x^\dagger S^+_{x,x+1} \psi_{x+1} + \text{h.c.}] + m \sum_x (-1)^x \psi_x^\dagger \psi_x$$

electric flux hopping staggered fermions

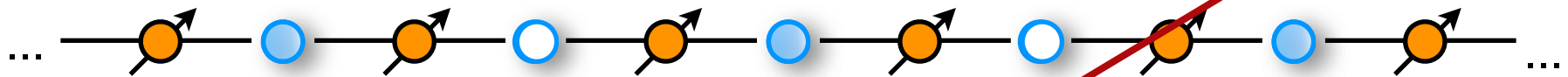


Schwinger Model: U(1) fermions + gauge bosons in 1D

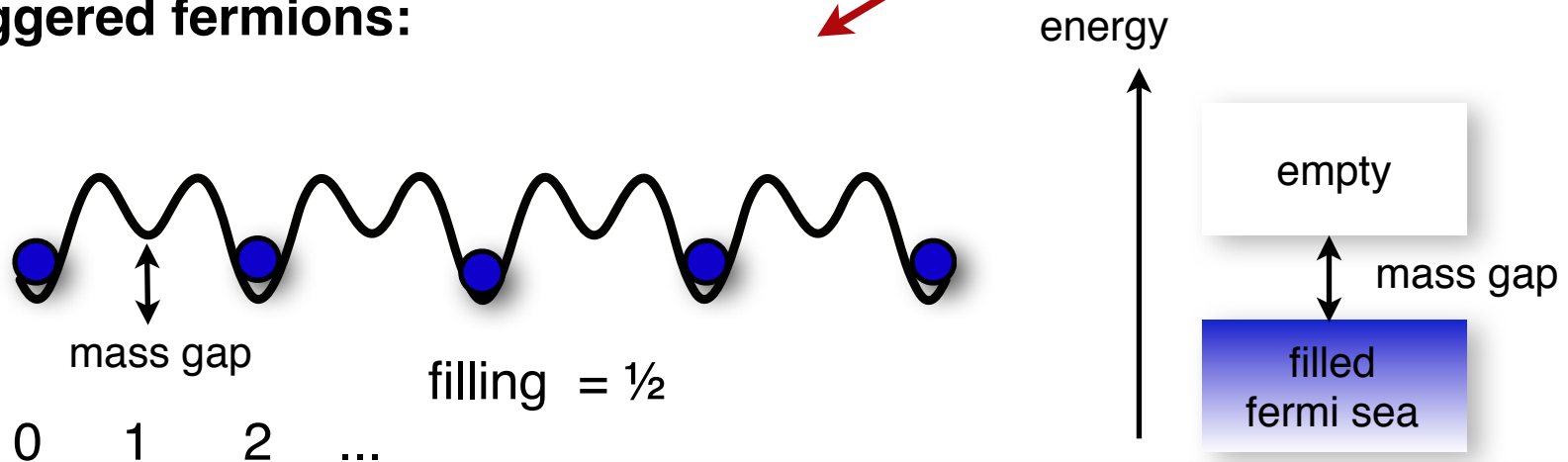
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electric flux
hopping
staggered fermions



Staggered fermions:

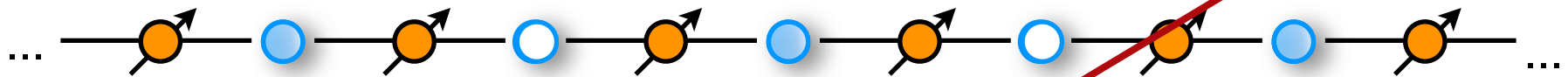


Schwinger Model: U(1) fermions + gauge bosons in 1D

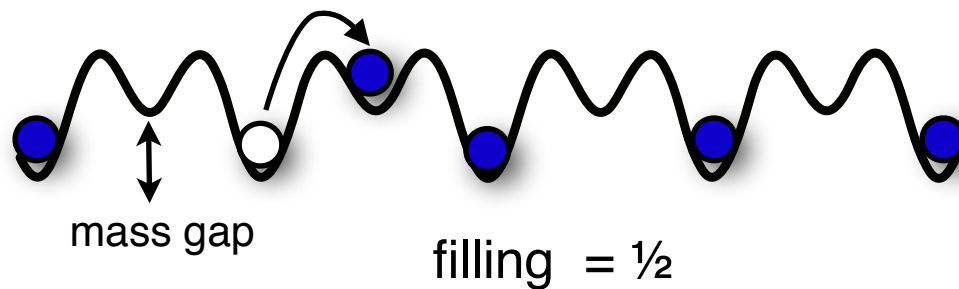
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$$H = \frac{g^2}{2} \sum_x (S^z_{x,x+1})^2 - t \sum_x [\psi_x^\dagger S^+_{x,x+1} \psi_{x+1} + \text{h.c.}] + m \sum_x (-1)^x \psi_x^\dagger \psi_x$$

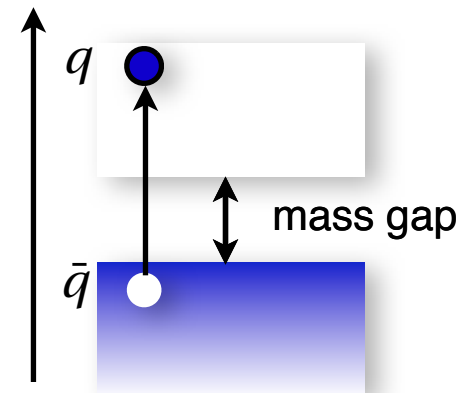
electric flux
hopping
staggered fermions



Staggered fermions:

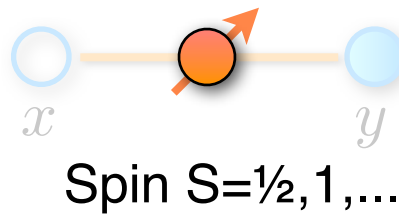


energy

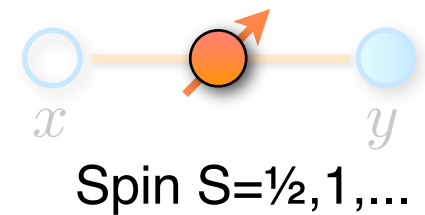


Implementation with Atoms: Hamiltonian

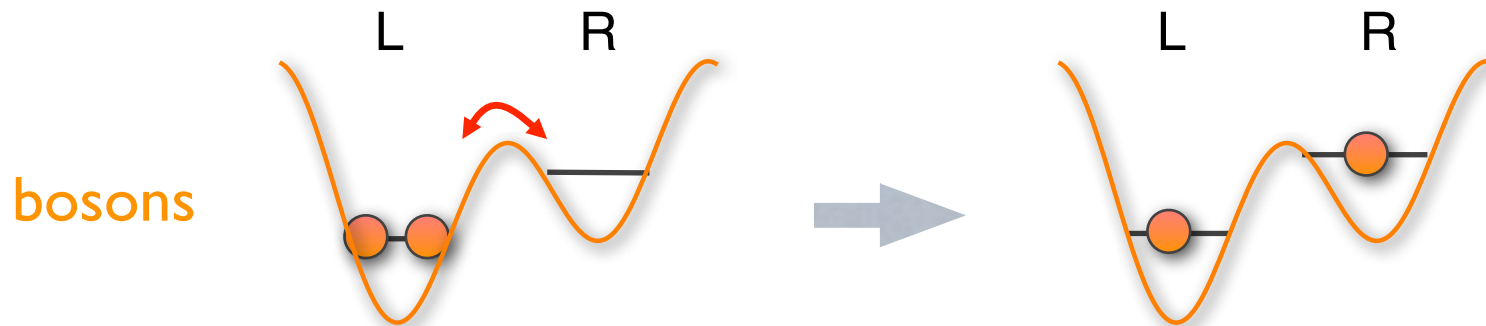
- **building blocks**



Implementation with Atoms: Hamiltonian



- Spin as Schwinger bosons



N bosons in double well ($S=N/2$)

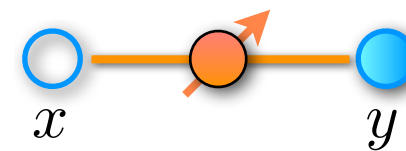
$$S_{x,y}^+ = b_L^\dagger b_R$$

$$S_{x,y}^z = \frac{1}{2} (b_R^\dagger b_R - b_L^\dagger b_L)$$

Hamiltonian

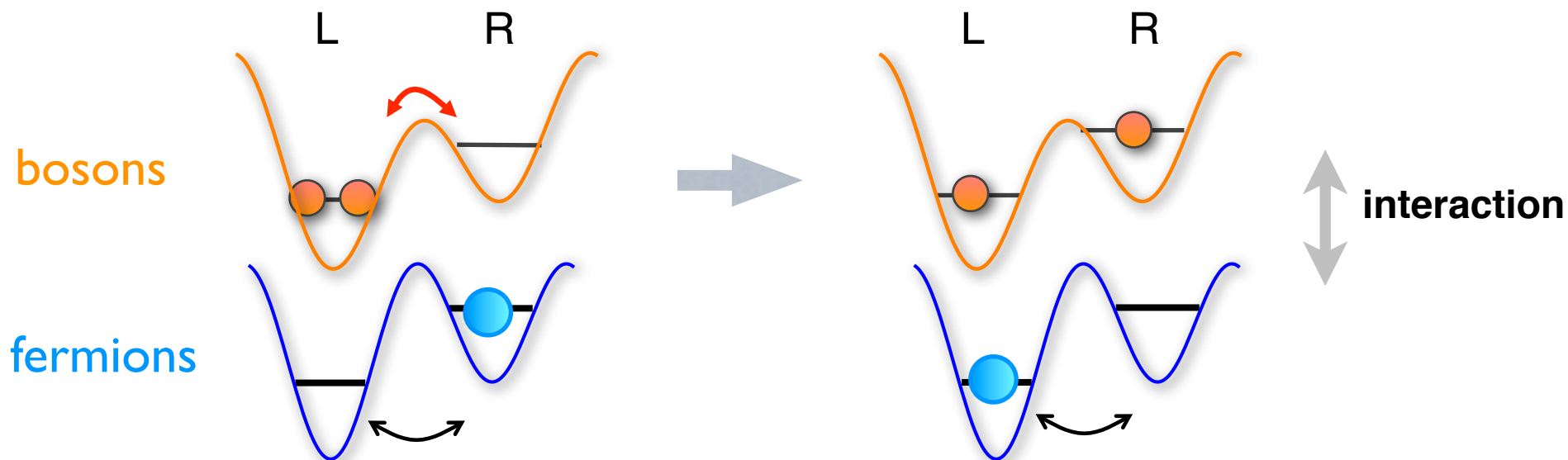
$$h_B = \underbrace{-t_B (S_{x,y}^+ + \text{h.c.})}_{\text{hopping}} + \underbrace{U_B (S_{x,y}^z)^2}_{\text{electric energy}}$$

Implementation with Atoms: Hamiltonian

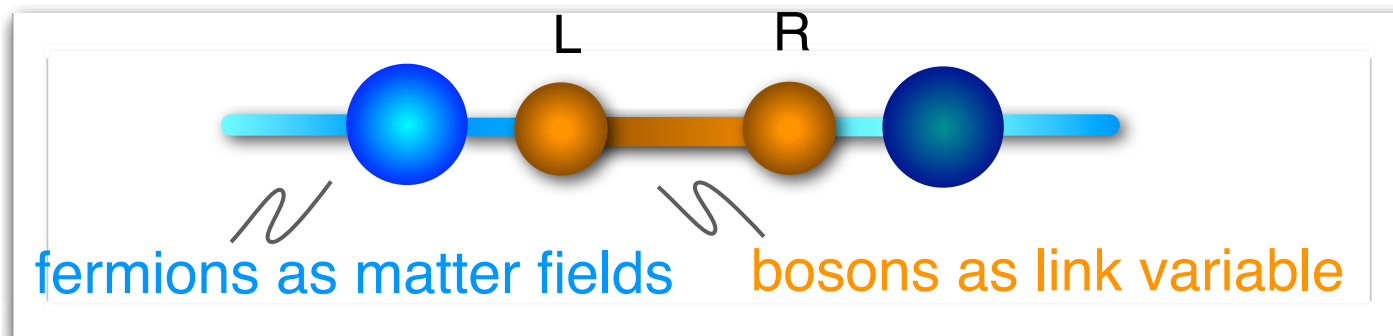


$$H = -t\psi_x^\dagger S_{xy}^+ \psi_y + \text{h.c.}$$

- correlated hopping



$$H = -\frac{t_B t_F}{U} \psi_x^\dagger b_R^\dagger b_L \psi_y + \text{h.c.}$$



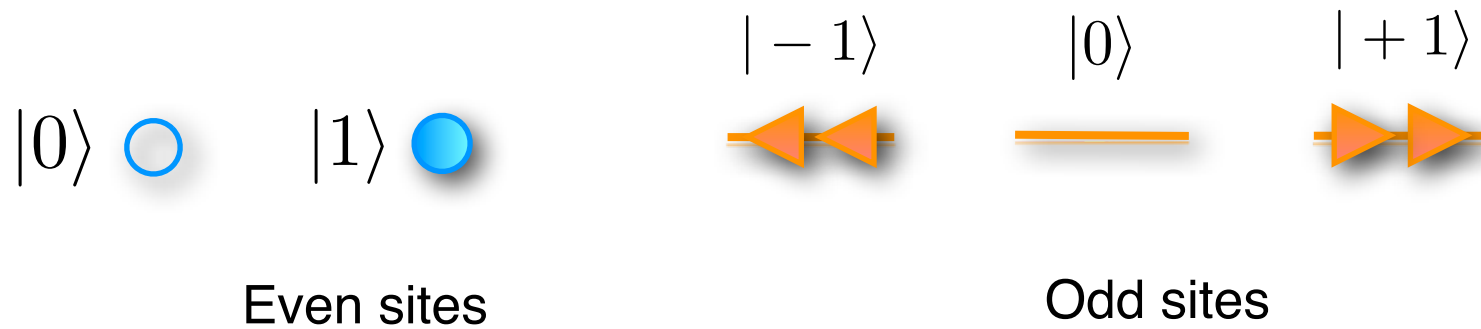
Gauss Law (as a constraint)

- Gauss' law**

$$G_x = \psi_x^\dagger \psi_x + \frac{(-1)^{x-1}}{2} - (E_{x,x+1} - E_{x-1,x})$$

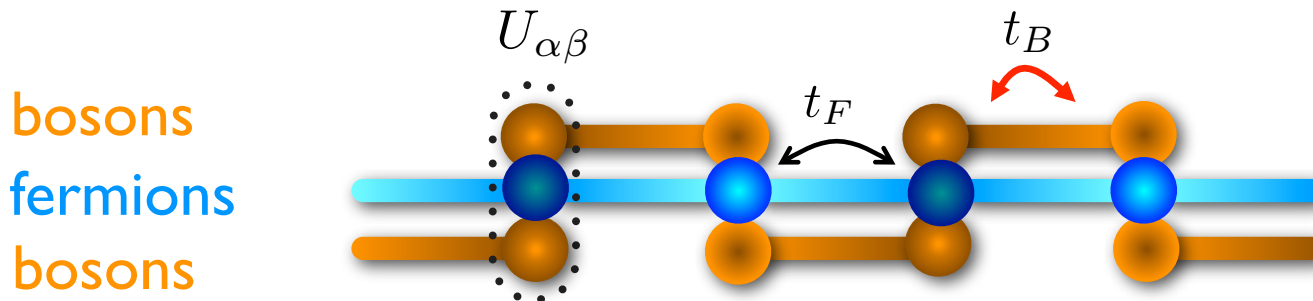
$$G_x | \text{physical states} \rangle = 0 \iff \rho - \nabla \cdot E = 0$$

- Example: Spin 1 representation**



Implementation with Atoms: Gauss Constraints

- Bose-Fermi mixtures in superlattices



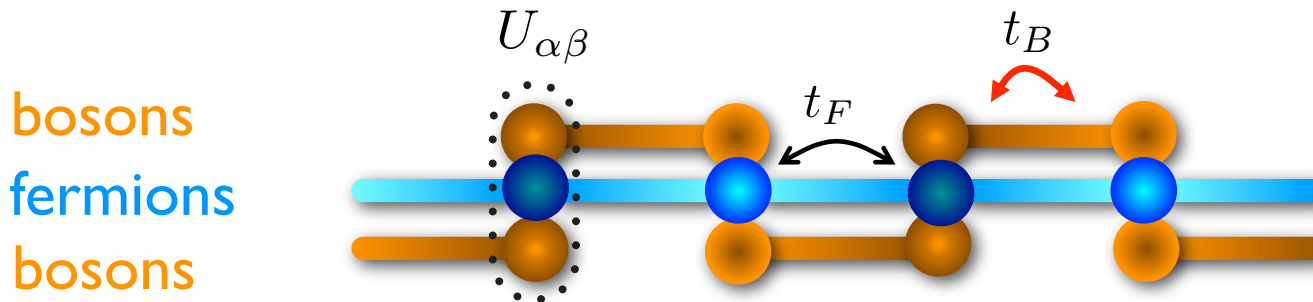
- Gauss constraint

$$\tilde{G}_x = n_x^F + n_x^1 + n_x^2 - 2S + \frac{1}{2} [(-1)^x - 1]$$

~ total number of atoms on site x fixed: “super-Mott insulator”

Implementation with Atoms: Gauss Constraints

- **Bose-Fermi mixtures in superlattices**



- **enforcing the Gauss Law as an *energy constraint***

$$H_{\text{microscopic}} = U \sum_x \tilde{G}_x^2 + \dots$$

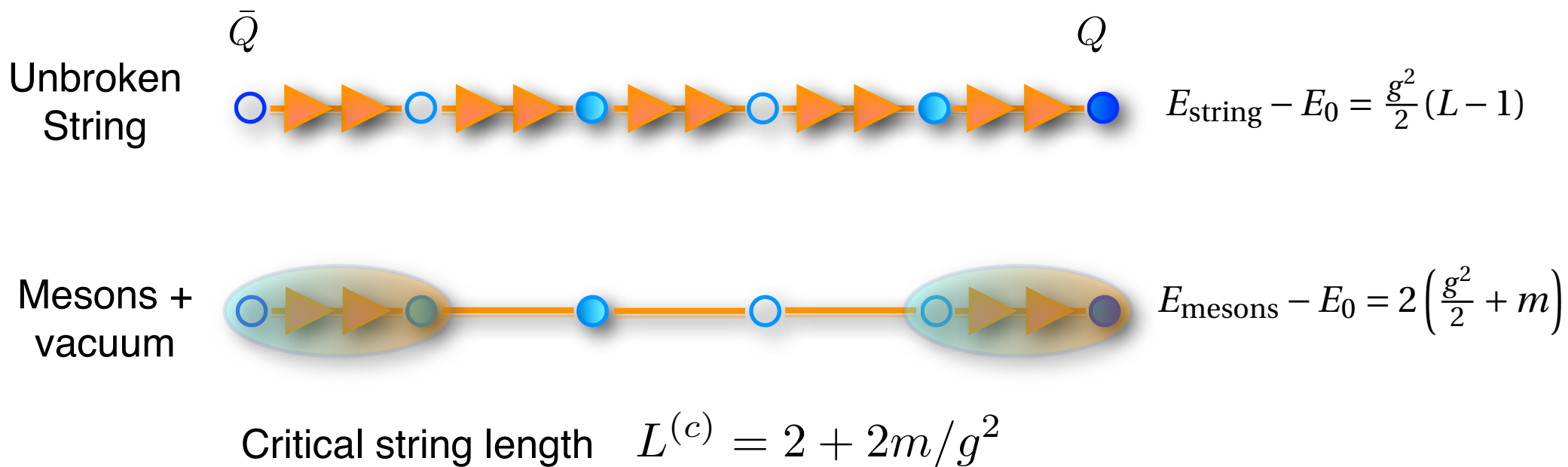
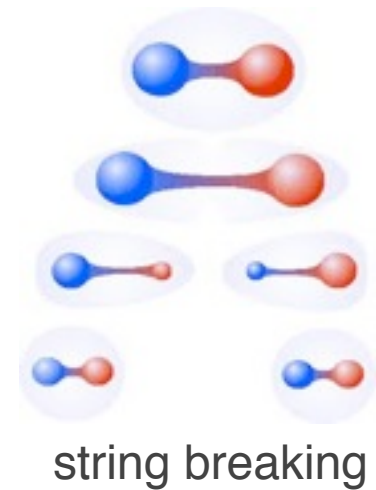
Bose + Fermi Hubbard model

$\tilde{G}_x |\text{physical states}\rangle = 0$

- **emergent lattice gauge theory**

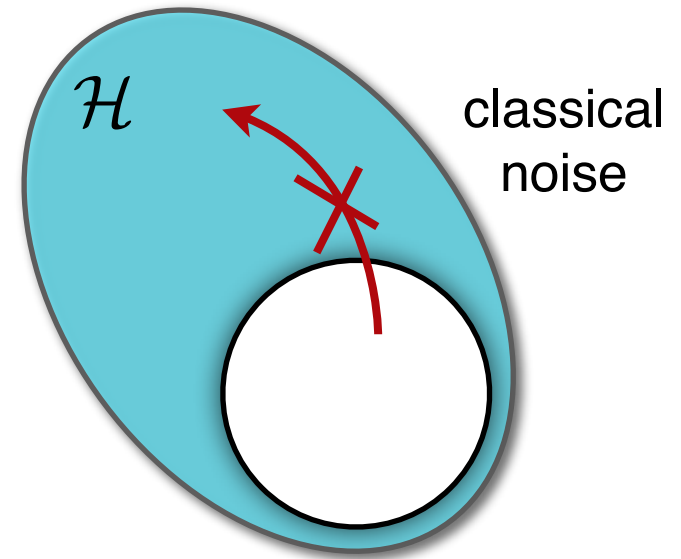
- dynamics in physical subspace: analogous to t-J model
- we have verified the reduction: microscopic to the quantum link model at the few- and many-body level

String breaking and confinement



We have verified this dynamics in the microscopic model

Example 2:

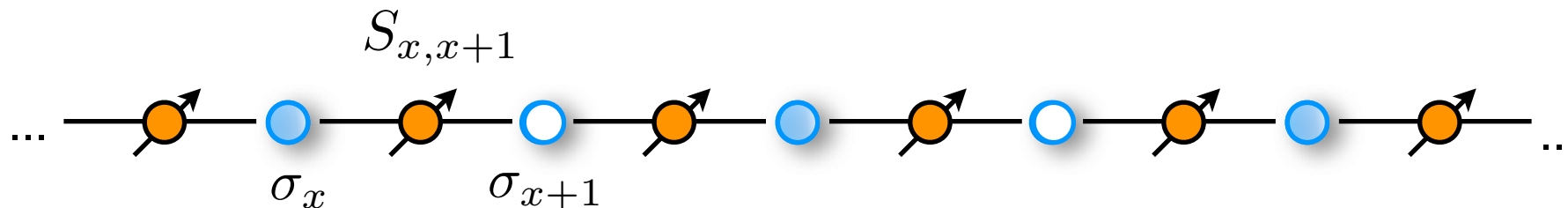


Enforcing Gauss' Law by Classical Noise

K. Stannigel

1D Schwinger Model: Fermions \rightarrow Spins

- Hamiltonian**



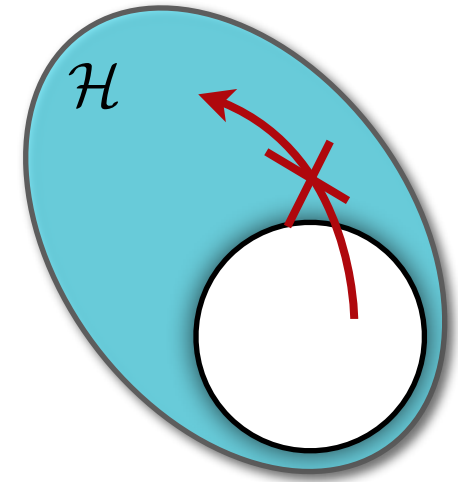
$$H_0 = -J \sum_{x=1}^3 \left(\sigma_x^- S_{x,x+1}^- \sigma_{x+1}^+ + \text{h.c.} \right) + m(t) \sum_{x=1}^4 (-1)^x \sigma_x^z$$

- Gauss Law**

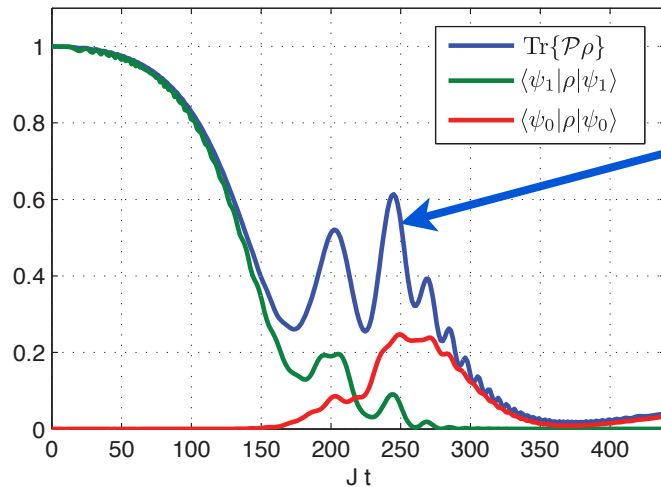
$$G_x = S_{x-1,x}^z + \sigma_x^z - S_{x,x+1}^z + \frac{1}{2} (-1)^x$$

- We add a *gauge-variant* term to the Hamiltonian ...

$$H_1 = \lambda \sum_{x=1}^3 (\sigma_x^- \sigma_{x+1}^+ + \text{h.c.})$$



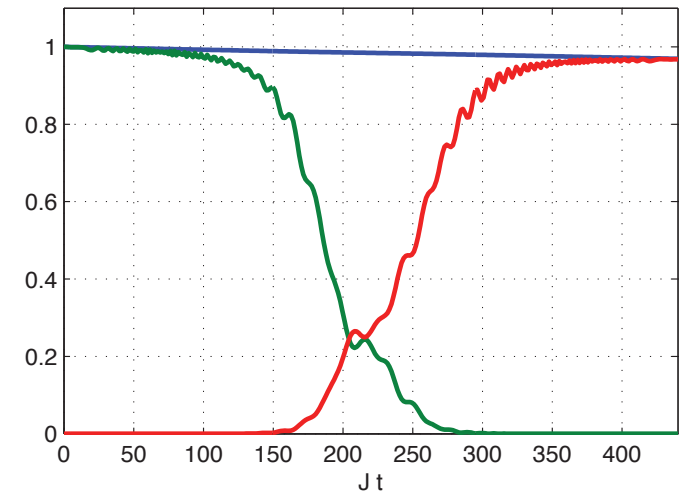
imperfection
 $\lambda/J = 0.2$



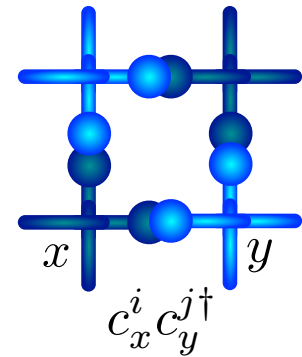
system leaves
 Gauge invariant
 subspace



noise imperfection
 $\kappa/\lambda = 100$



- ... and *suppress it by noise*



Non-Abelian U(N) and SU(N) Quantum Link Models with Fermionic Atoms

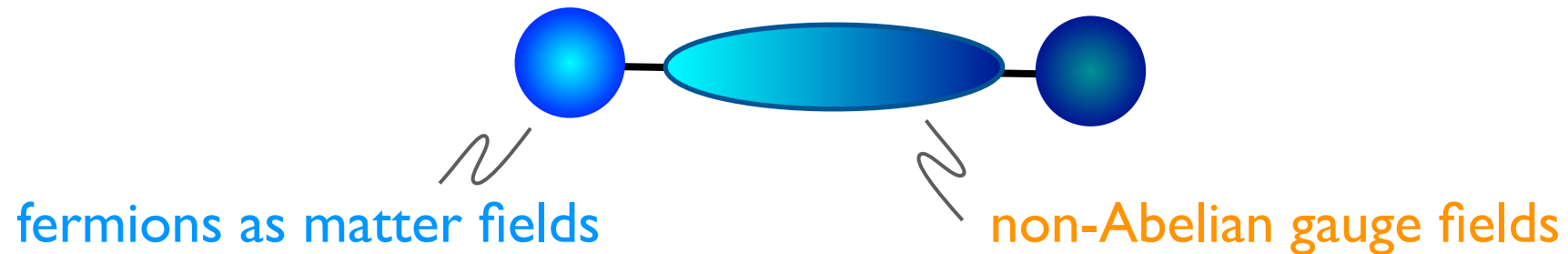
... a few basic aspects

D. Banerjee, M. Bögli, M. Dalmonte, E. Rico, P. Stebler, U. J. Wiese, & PZ,
PRL in print.

[Innsbruck - Bern]

Non-Abelian Lattice Gauge Theory

- **Example: U(N), SU(N), ...**



$$\psi_x^i \quad (i = 1, \dots, N)$$

$$U_{x,y}^{ij}$$

 (color)

- NxN unitary matrices
- generators

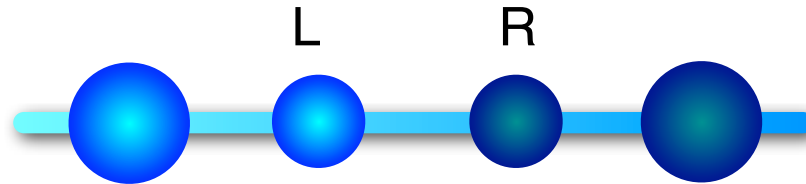
$$\lambda_{ij}^a \quad (a = 1, \dots, N^2 - 1)$$

$$[\lambda^a, \lambda^b] = i2f_{abc}\lambda^c$$

$$H = -t \sum_{i,j=1}^N \psi_x^{i\dagger} U_{xy}^{ij} \psi_y^j + \text{h.c.} + \dots$$

Non-Abelian Lattice Gauge Theory

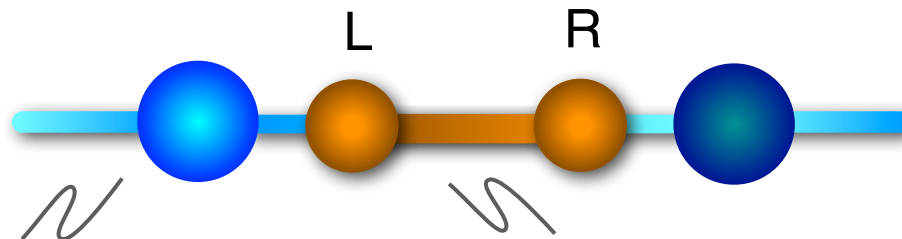
- Quantum Link Models



$$U^{ij} = c_R^i c_L^{j\dagger} \quad (i = 1, \dots, N)$$

representation as *fermionic* rishons

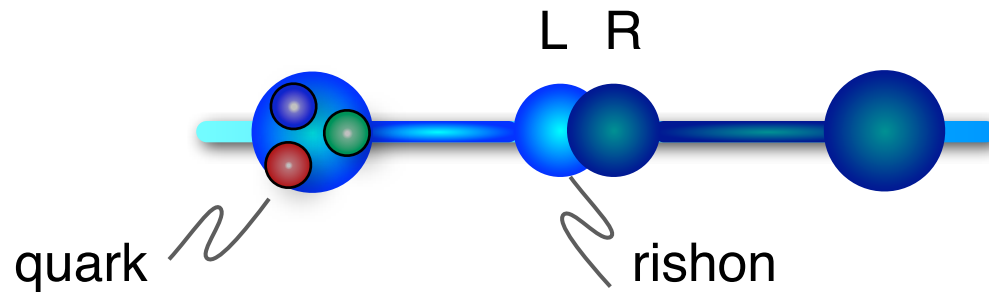
- Abelian U(1)



fermions as matter fields bosons as link variable

Non-Abelian Lattice Gauge Theory

- Quantum Link Models



$$H = -t \left(\sum_{i=1}^N \psi_x^{i\dagger} c_R^i \right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^N c_L^{j\dagger} \psi_y^j \right) + \text{h.c.}$$

(separable interaction ☺)

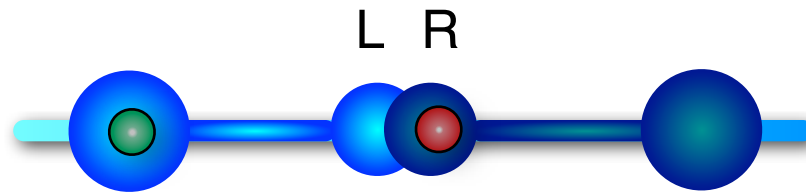
Implementation

✓ fermionic atoms with N internal states (color)



Non-Abelian Lattice Gauge Theory

- Quantum Link Models



$$H = -t \left(\sum_{i=1}^N \psi_x^{i\dagger} c_R^i \right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^N c_L^{j\dagger} \psi_y^j \right) + \text{h.c.}$$

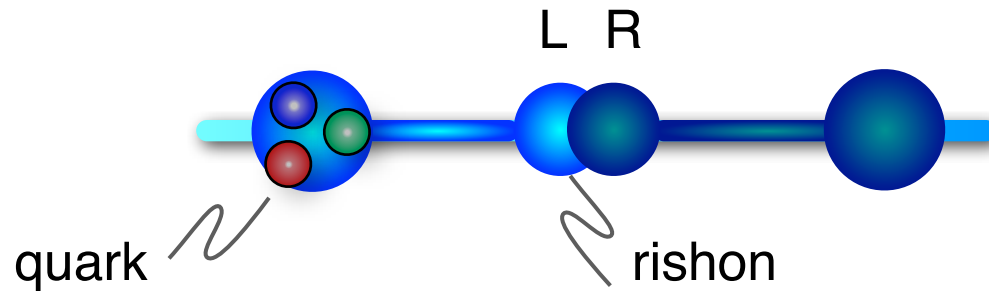
(separable interaction ☺)

Dynamics

- ✓ fermionic atoms converts itself from quark to rishon & vice versa
- ✓ correlated hop

Non-Abelian Lattice Gauge Theory

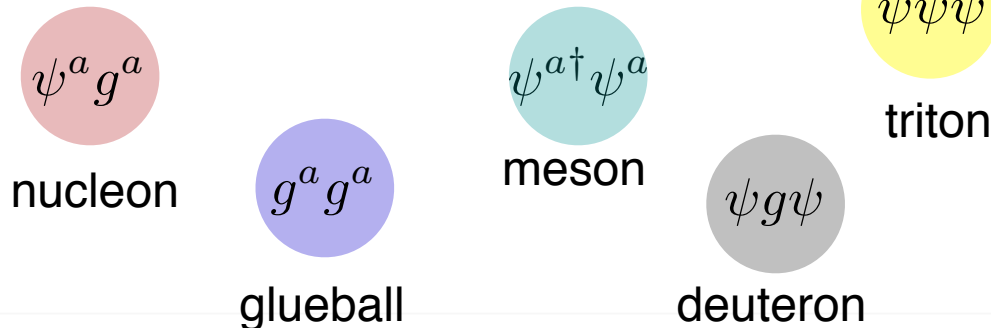
- Quantum Link Models



$$H = -t \left(\sum_{i=1}^N \psi_x^{i\dagger} c_R^i \right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^N c_L^j \psi_y^j \right) + \text{h.c.}$$

(separable interaction ☺)

“nuclear and particle physics”



We know how to
implement gauge groups
 $SU(2)$, $SU(3)$, $SO(3)$, ...
[at the moment in 1D]

PRL in print

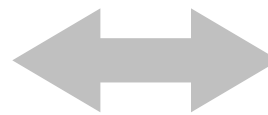
Implementation: enforcing Gauss Law / *local* symmetry

- strategy 3:

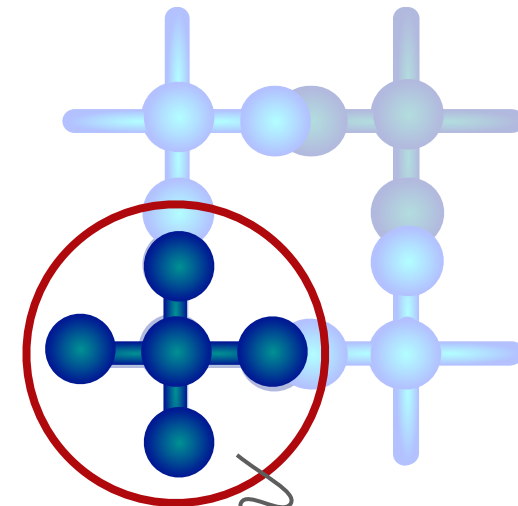
U(N),SU(N) Non-Abelian LGT

implementation

fundamental local symmetry /
conservation law



M. Dalmonte



elementary
building block

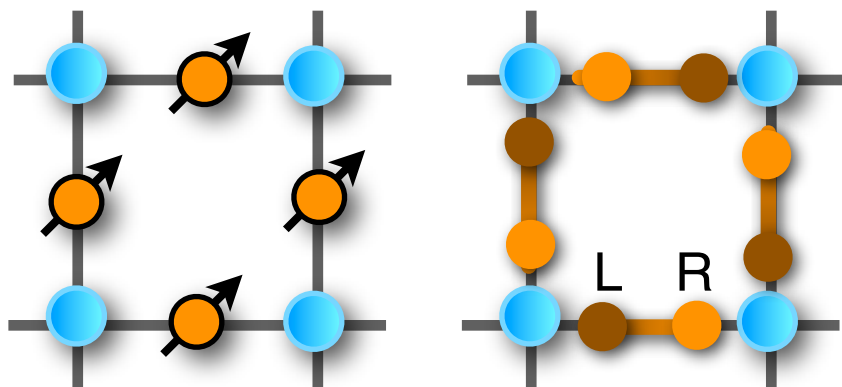
local particle # conservation
(implemented with high precision)

fermions



Summary

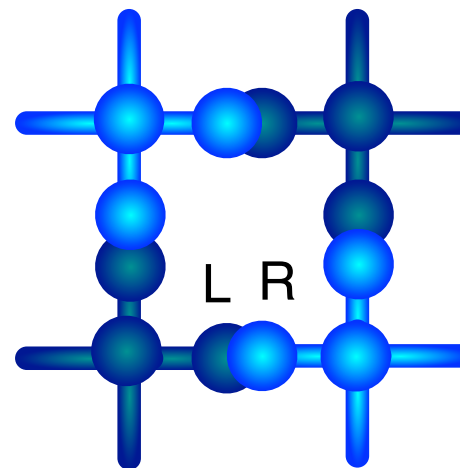
U(1) Abelian LGT



atomic boson-fermi mixtures

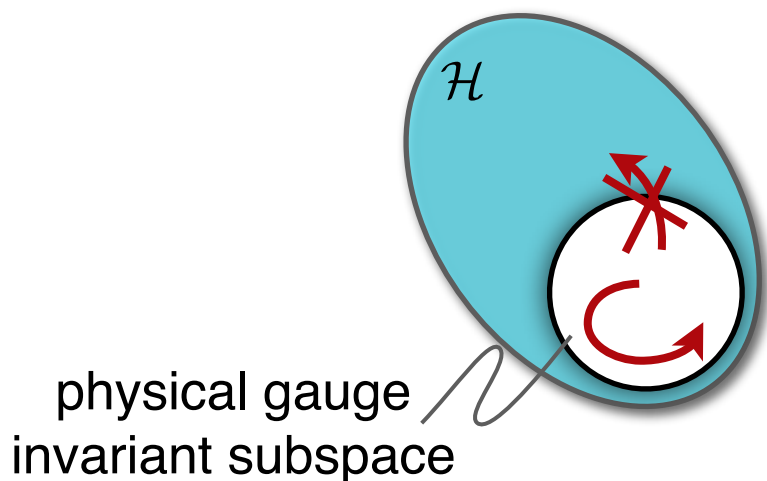
D. Banerjee et al., PRL in print

U(N),SU(N) Non-Abelian LGT



multi-species fermi gases

D. Banerjee et al., PRL 2012



physical gauge invariant subspace

Hamiltonian + Gauss constraint:

1. Energy constraints
2. Classical Noise
3. Microscopic Hamiltonian *is* gauge invariant

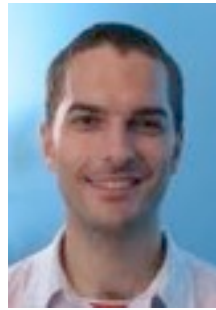
We are on our way to find simpler, and thus more realistic implementations

The Collaboration

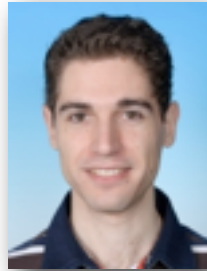
- **IQOQI - Innsbruck University**



M. Dalmonte



E. Rico



D. Marcos



K. Stannigel

- **Ibk → Madrid**



M. Müller

- **Albert Einstein Center - Bern University**



D. Banerjee



M. Bögli



P. Stebler



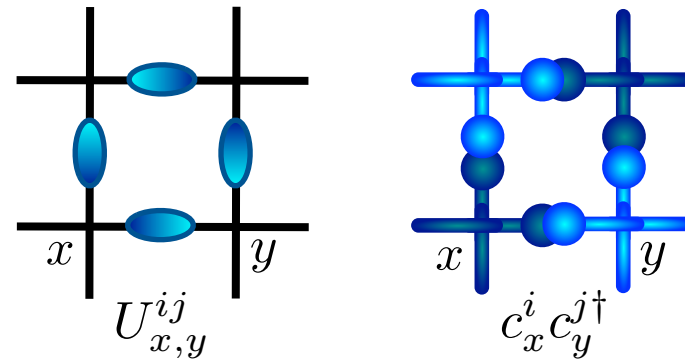
P. Widmer



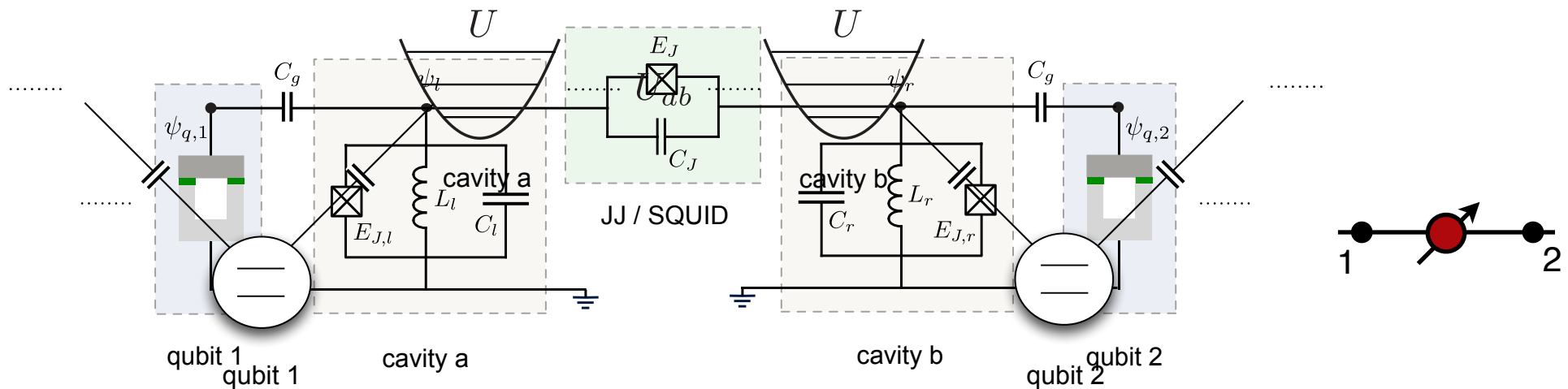
U.-J. Wiese

Outlook

- gauge fields in 2D, 3D



- superconducting qubits



D. Marcos et al., unpublished

- Is there life after optical lattices ...

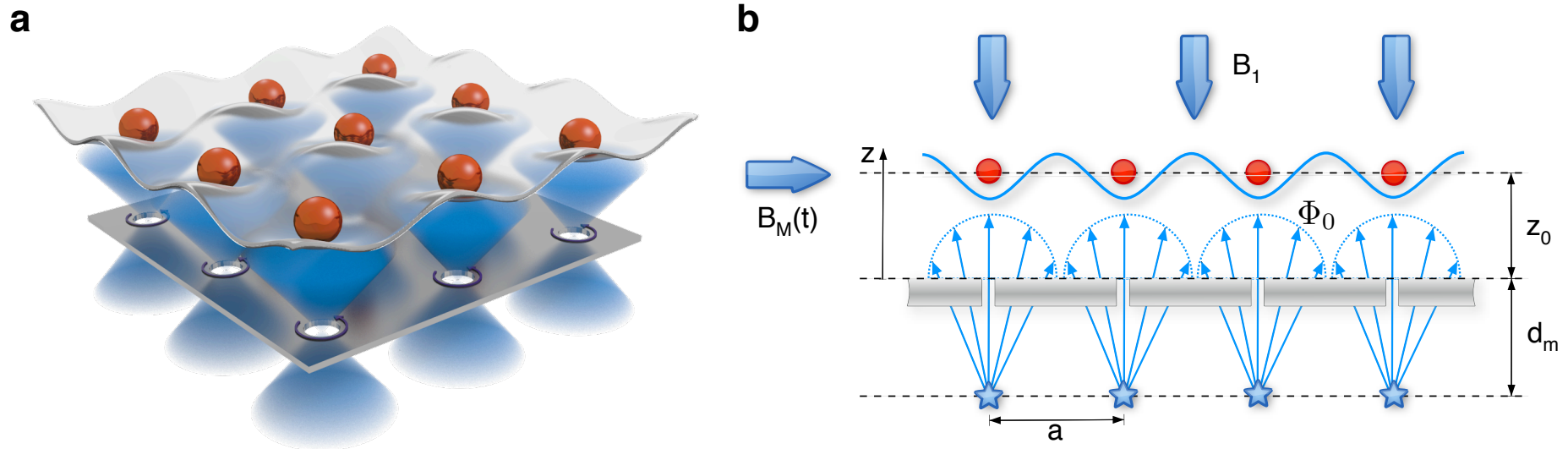
Nano-Scale Trap Arrays from Superconducting Vortices



Oriol Romero-Isart

O. Romero-Isart, C. Navau, A. Sanchez, P. Zoller, and J. I. Cirac, arXiv 2013

- **Pinned vortices in type-II superconductors as magnetic trap arrays**
 - lattice spacings down to 50 nm
 - nano-structuring of surfaces & holes



Superconducting Vortex Lattice for Atoms

Mesoscopic size magnetic / superconducting chip traps (Zimmermann, Dumke, Haroche, ...)