

# Fermionic spinon theory of square lattice spin liquids near the Néel state

Alex Thomson  
Harvard University

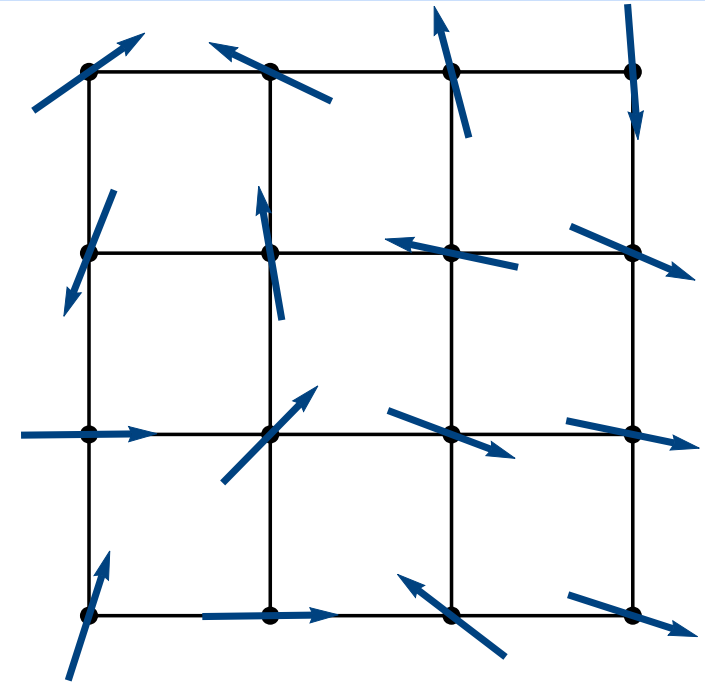
AT, Subir Sachdev, Phys. Rev. X 8, 011012 (2018)  
arXiv:1708.04626

Aspen, March 2018

# Square lattice antiferromagnet

$$H = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + \dots$$

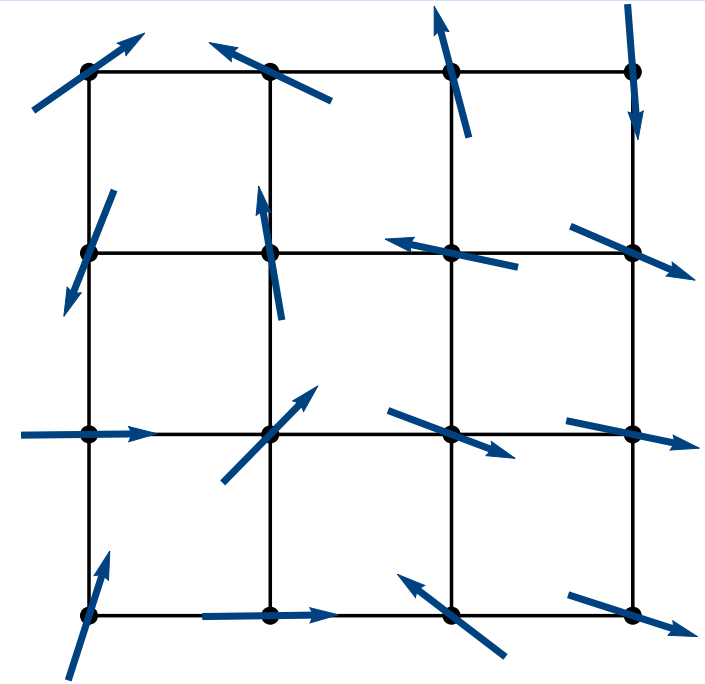
- ◆ Diverse phenomenology, such as:
  - ✧ symmetry broken states, *e.g.* Néel, VBS
  - ✧ topological phases, *e.g.*  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  spin liquids
  - ✧ exotic (deconfined) quantum phase transitions



# Square lattice antiferromagnet

$$H = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + \dots$$

- ◆ Diverse phenomenology, such as:
  - ✧ symmetry broken states, *e.g.* Néel, VBS
  - ✧ topological phases, *e.g.*  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  spin liquids
  - ✧ exotic (deconfined) quantum phase transitions
- ◆ Developments:
  1. Dual bosonic and fermionic descriptions of deconfined critical point
  2. Dual bosonic and fermionic descriptions of gapped  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  spin liquids



# Square lattice antiferromagnet

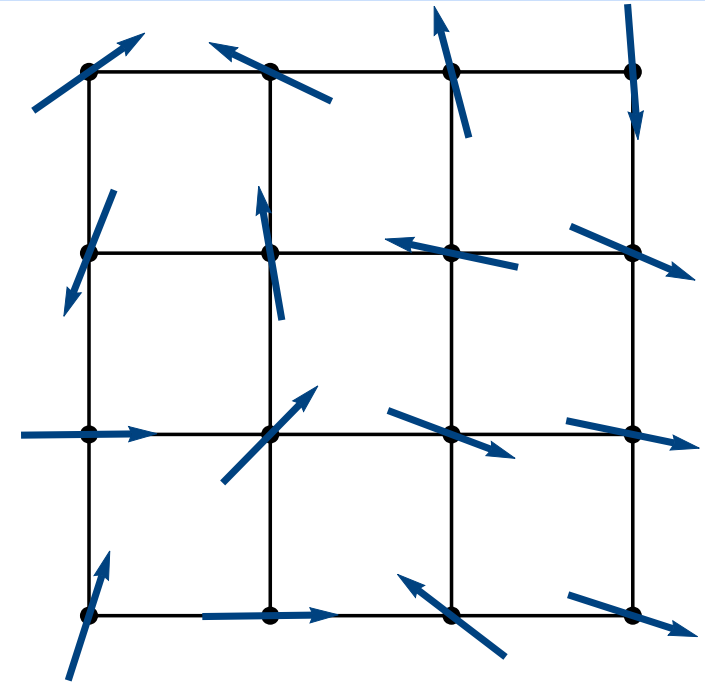
$$H = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + \dots$$

- ◆ Diverse phenomenology, such as:
  - ✧ symmetry broken states, *e.g.* Néel, VBS
  - ✧ topological phases, *e.g.*  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  spin liquids
  - ✧ exotic (deconfined) quantum phase transitions

- ◆ Developments:

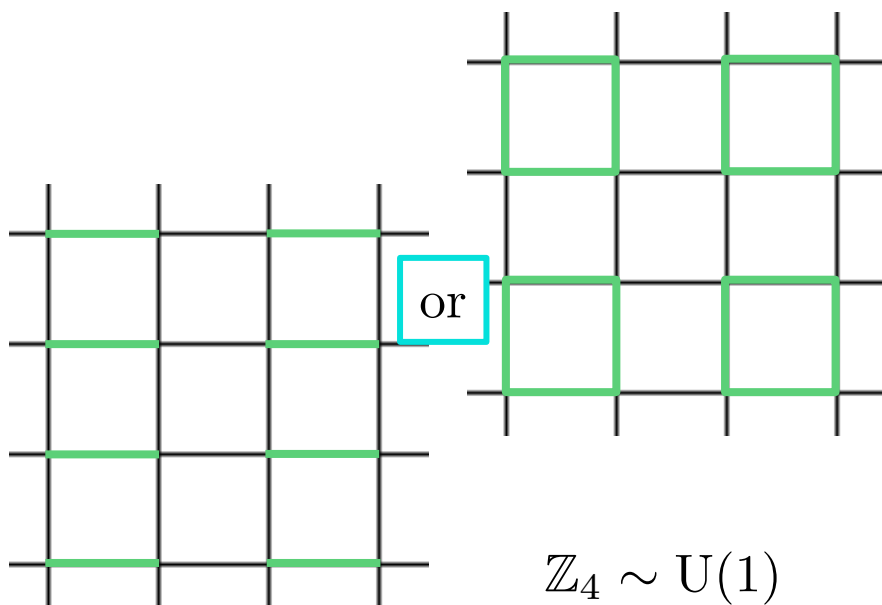
1. Dual bosonic and fermionic descriptions of deconfined critical point
2. Dual bosonic and fermionic descriptions of gapped  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  spin liquids

→ I will be using both of these ideas to obtain a better understanding of the Heisenberg model

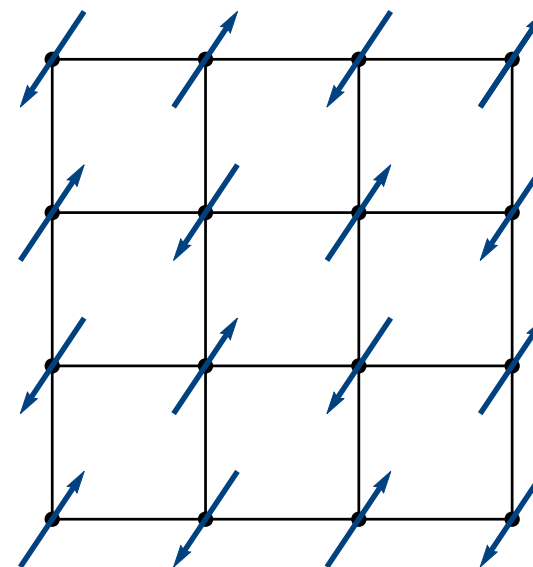


# Review: deconfined criticality

## VALENCE BOND SOLID

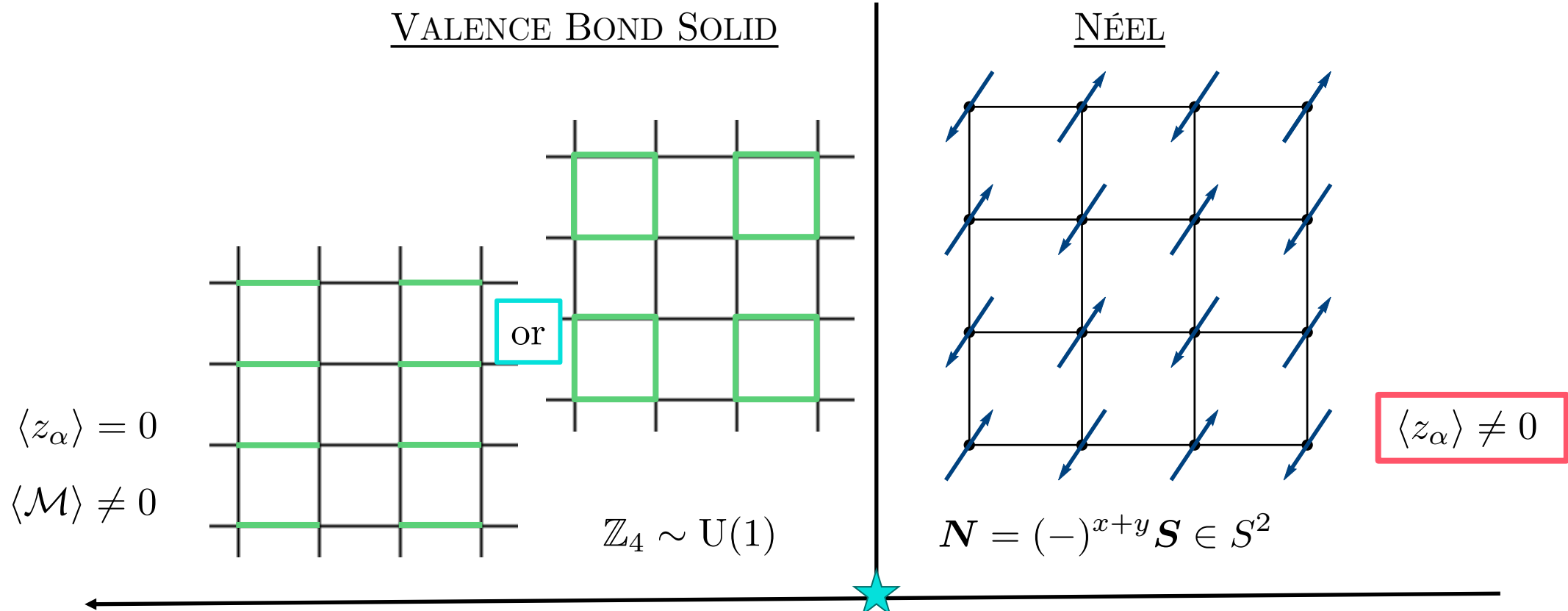


## NÉEL



$$\mathbf{N} = (-)^{x+y} \mathbf{S} \in S^2$$

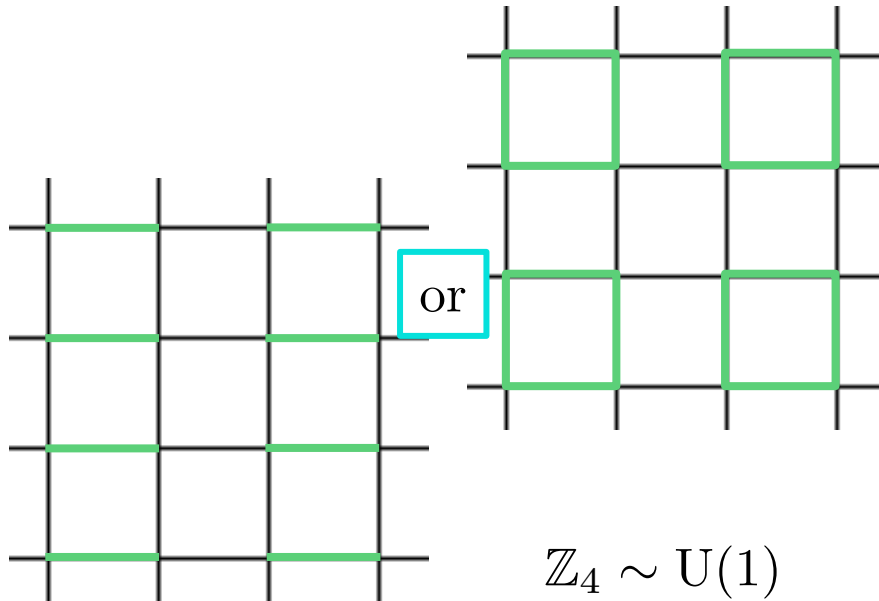
# Review: deconfined criticality



Senthil et al. (2004)  
 Haldane (1988)  
 Read & Sachdev (1989)  
 Levin & Senthil (2004)  
 Polyakov (1974)

# Review: deconfined criticality

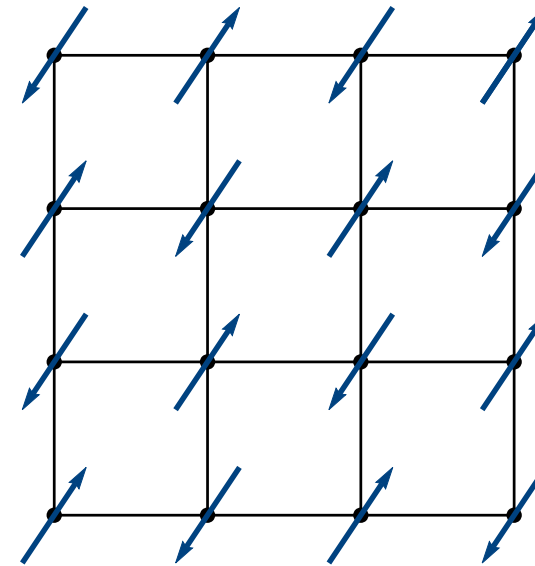
## VALENCE BOND SOLID



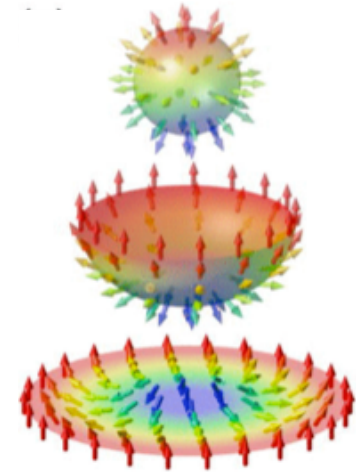
$$\langle z_\alpha \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle \mathcal{M} \rangle \neq 0$$

## NÉEL



$$\mathbf{N} = (-)^{x+y} \mathbf{S} \in S^2$$



$$\langle z_\alpha \rangle \neq 0$$

Senthil et al. (2004)  
 Haldane (1988)  
 Read & Sachdev (1989)  
 Levin & Senthil (2004)  
 Polyakov (1974)

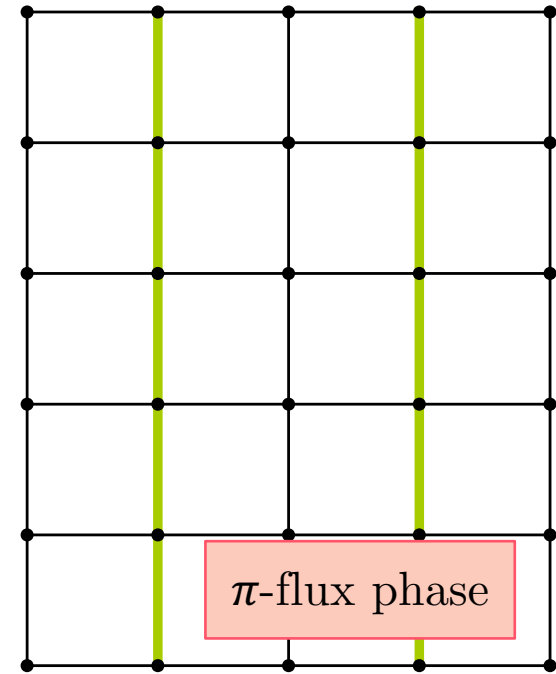
$$\mathbb{CP}^1 : \mathcal{L}_{dcp} = \frac{1}{g} \sum_{\alpha=\uparrow,\downarrow} |(\partial_\mu - ib_\mu) z_\alpha|^2$$

Direct, continuous  
 transition

# Dualities

- ◆ Wang et al. propose that  $\mathbb{CP}^1$  is dual to  $N_f=2$  QCD, with an  $SU(2)$  gauge group:

$$\mathcal{L}_{dcp} = \frac{1}{g} |(\partial_\mu - ib_\mu) z_\alpha|^2 \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = \sum_{v=1,2} \bar{\psi}_v i\gamma^\mu \left( \partial_\mu - \frac{i}{2} a_\mu^a \sigma^a \right) \psi_v$$

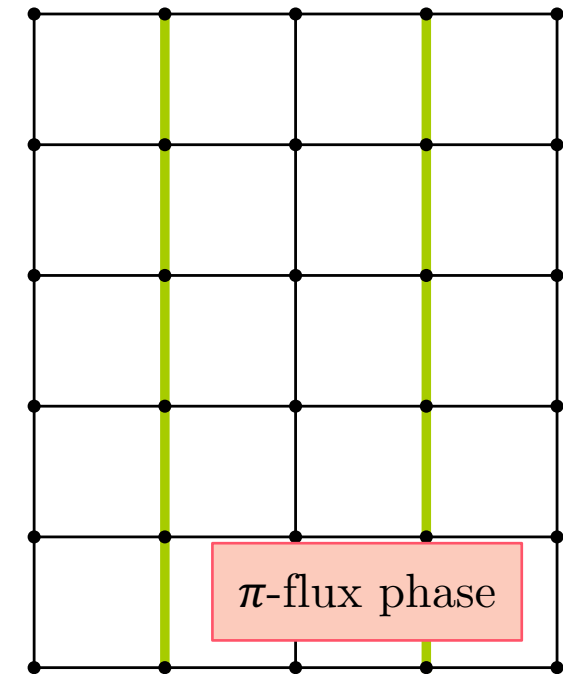


# Dualities

- ◆ Wang et al. propose that  $\mathbb{CP}^1$  is dual to  $N_f=2$  QCD, with an  $SU(2)$  gauge group:

$$\mathcal{L}_{dcp} = \frac{1}{g} |(\partial_\mu - ib_\mu) z_\alpha|^2 \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = \sum_{v=1,2} \bar{\psi}_v i\gamma^\mu \left( \partial_\mu - \frac{i}{2} a_\mu^a \sigma^a \right) \psi_v$$

- ◆  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}}$  can be ‘derived’ from a fermionic parton construction with a  $\pi$ -flux through all plaquettes and with spinons hopping only between nearest-neighbours.

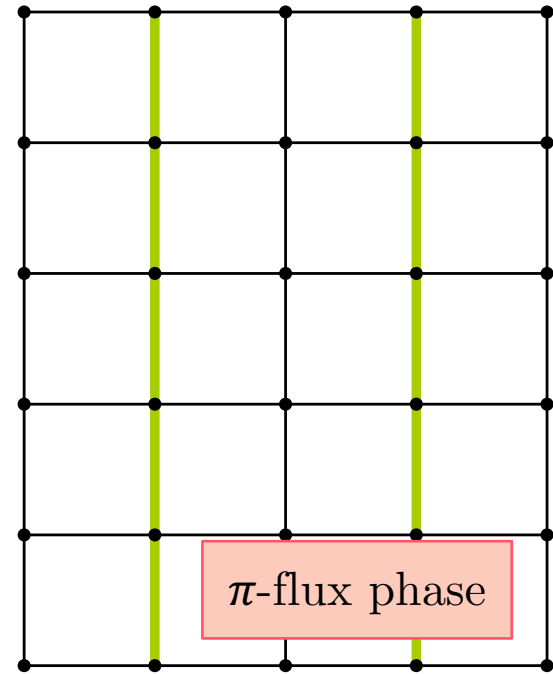


# Dualities

- ◆ Wang et al. propose that  $\mathbb{CP}^1$  is dual to  $N_f=2$  QCD, with an  $SU(2)$  gauge group:

$$\mathcal{L}_{dcp} = \frac{1}{g} |(\partial_\mu - ib_\mu) z_\alpha|^2 \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = \sum_{v=1,2} \bar{\psi}_v i\gamma^\mu \left( \partial_\mu - \frac{i}{2} a_\mu^a \sigma^a \right) \psi_v$$

- ◆  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}}$  can be ‘derived’ from a fermionic parton construction with a  $\pi$ -flux through all plaquettes and with spinons hopping only between nearest-neighbours.
- ◆ The symmetries are most manifest when  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}}$  is expressed in terms of Majorana fermions:



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = i\text{tr} (\bar{X} \gamma^\mu D_\mu X) \quad D_\mu X = \partial_\mu X - i a_\mu^a X \sigma^a$$

$$X_v = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\chi_{0,v} \mathbb{1} + i\chi_{a,v} \sigma^a)$$

valley index,  $v=1,2$  

# Symmetries

---

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = i \text{tr} \left( \bar{X} \gamma^\mu \left[ \partial_\mu X - \frac{i}{2} a_\mu^a X \sigma^a \right] \right) \quad X_{v,\alpha;\beta} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\chi_{0,v} \delta_{\alpha\beta} + i \chi_{a,v} \sigma_{\alpha\beta}^a) : 4 \times 2 \text{ matrix}$$

- ◆ Global spin rotations act on the **left** while gauge transformations act on the **right**:

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{SPIN} \\ \text{SU}(2)_s : X \rightarrow \exp \left( \frac{i}{2} \theta \mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \right) X \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{GAUGE} \\ \text{SU}(2)_g : X \rightarrow X \exp \left( -\frac{i}{2} \theta \mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \right) \end{array}$$

# Symmetries

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = i \text{tr} \left( \bar{X} \gamma^\mu \left[ \partial_\mu X - \frac{i}{2} a_\mu^a X \sigma^a \right] \right) \quad X_{v,\alpha;\beta} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\chi_{0,v} \delta_{\alpha\beta} + i \chi_{a,v} \sigma_{\alpha\beta}^a) : 4 \times 2 \text{ matrix}$$

- ◆ Global spin rotations act on the **left** while gauge transformations act on the **right**:

$$\text{SU}(2)_s : X \rightarrow \exp \left( \frac{i}{2} \theta \mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \right) X$$

SPIN

$$\text{SU}(2)_g : X \rightarrow X \exp \left( -\frac{i}{2} \theta \mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \right)$$

GAUGE

- ◆ The action of the lattice symmetries can also be deduced from the parton construction:

$$e.g. \quad T_x : \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \mu^x \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} X_2 \\ X_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Symmetries

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = i \text{tr} \left( \bar{X} \gamma^\mu \left[ \partial_\mu X - \frac{i}{2} a_\mu^a X \sigma^a \right] \right) \quad X_{v,\alpha;\beta} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\chi_{0,v} \delta_{\alpha\beta} + i \chi_{a,v} \sigma_{\alpha\beta}^a) : 4 \times 2 \text{ matrix}$$

- ◆ Global spin rotations act on the **left** while gauge transformations act on the **right**:

$$\begin{array}{cc} \text{SPIN} & \text{GAUGE} \\ \text{SU}(2)_s : X \rightarrow \exp \left( \frac{i}{2} \theta \mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \right) X & \text{SU}(2)_g : X \rightarrow X \exp \left( -\frac{i}{2} \theta \mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \right) \end{array}$$

- ◆ The action of the lattice symmetries can also be deduced from the parton construction:

$$e.g. \quad T_x : \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \mu^x \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} X_2 \\ X_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

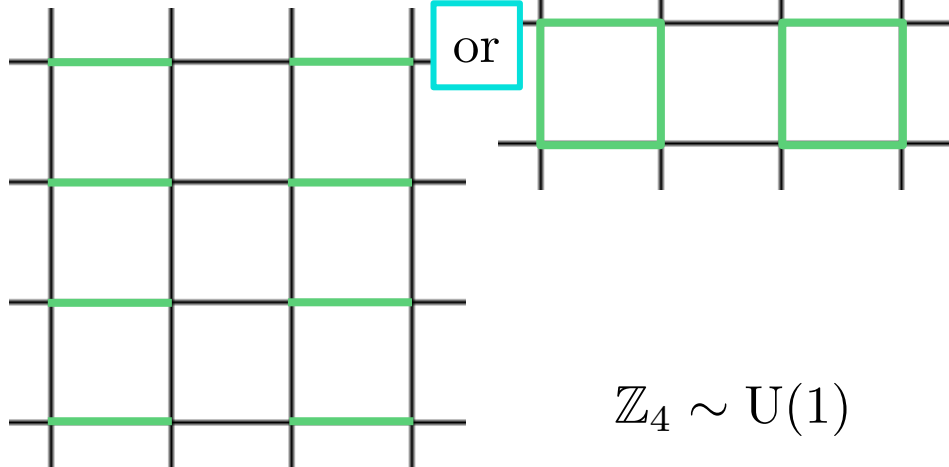
- ◆  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}}$  has a manifest  $\text{SO}(5)$  symmetry,  $X \rightarrow LX$ , where  $L$  is a  $4 \times 4$  unitary matrix

$$\diamond \text{ SO}(5) \text{ order parameter: } n^a = \text{tr} (\bar{X} \Gamma^a X), \quad \Gamma^a = \underbrace{\{\mu^x, \mu^z\}}_{\text{VBS order parameter}}, \underbrace{\{\mu^y \sigma^x, \mu^y \sigma^y, \mu^y \sigma^z\}}_{\text{Néel order parameter}}$$

# Phase diagram

## VALENCE BOND SOLID

$$\mathbf{V} = \left( \text{tr}(\bar{X}\mu^x X), \text{tr}(\bar{X}\mu^z X) \right) \neq 0$$

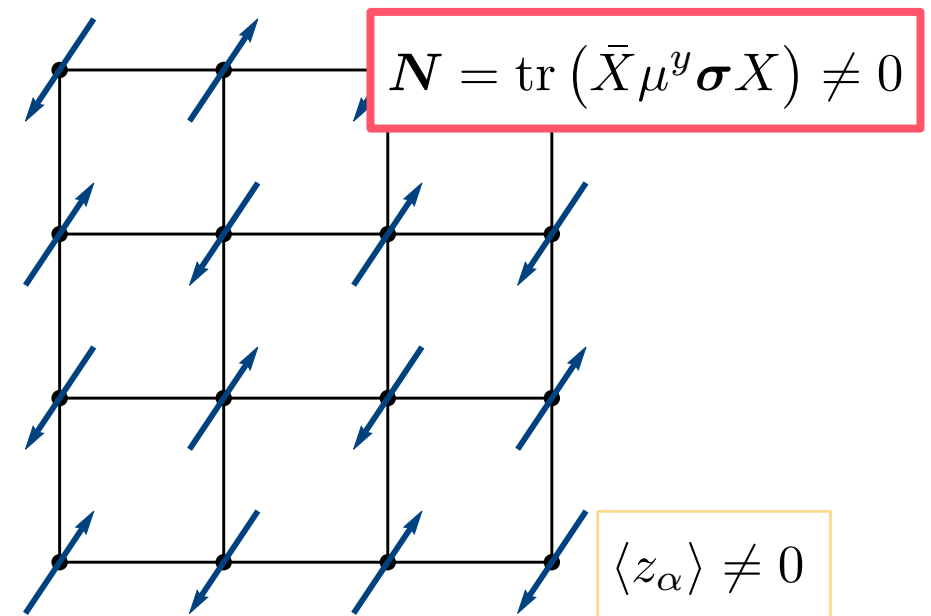


$$\langle z_\alpha \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle \mathcal{M} \rangle \neq 0$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_4 \sim \text{U}(1)$$

## NÉEL



$$\langle z_\alpha \rangle \neq 0$$

$$\mathbf{N} = (-)^{x+y} \mathbf{S} \in S^2$$

SO(5) order parameter:  $\mathbf{n} = (V_1, V_2, N_1, N_2, N_3)$

# Proximate phase via the Higgs mechanism

---

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = i \text{tr} \left( \bar{X} \gamma^\mu \left[ \partial_\mu X - \frac{i}{2} a_\mu^a X \sigma^a \right] \right)$$

- ◆ Proximate topological phases can be accessed by Higgsing the SU(2) gauge symmetry:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} + \underbrace{\Phi^a \text{tr} (\sigma^a \bar{X} M X)}_{\text{fermion bilinear}} + \underbrace{|\partial_\mu \Phi^a - i \epsilon^{abc} a_\mu^b \Phi^c|^2}_{\Phi^a \text{ transforms under the } \textit{vector} \text{ representation}} - s (\Phi^a)^2 + \dots$$

# Proximate phase via the Higgs mechanism

---

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = i \text{tr} \left( \bar{X} \gamma^\mu \left[ \partial_\mu X - \frac{i}{2} a_\mu^a X \sigma^a \right] \right)$$

- ◆ Proximate topological phases can be accessed by Higgsing the SU(2) gauge symmetry:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} + \underbrace{\Phi^a \text{tr} (\sigma^a \bar{X} M X)}_{\text{fermion bilinear}} + \underbrace{|\partial_\mu \Phi^a - i \epsilon^{abc} a_\mu^b \Phi^c|^2}_{\Phi^a \text{ transforms under the } \textit{vector} \text{ representation}} - s (\Phi^a)^2 + \dots$$

- ✧ For  $\langle \Phi^x \rangle \neq 0$ , the vacuum is invariant under  $U = \exp \left( \frac{i}{2} \theta \sigma^x \right) \rightarrow$  gauge group broken to U(1)

# Proximate phase via the Higgs mechanism

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = i \text{tr} \left( \bar{X} \gamma^\mu \left[ \partial_\mu X - \frac{i}{2} a_\mu^a X \sigma^a \right] \right)$$

- ◆ Proximate topological phases can be accessed by Higgsing the SU(2) gauge symmetry:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} + \underbrace{\Phi^a \text{tr} (\sigma^a \bar{X} M X)}_{\text{fermion bilinear}} + \underbrace{|\partial_\mu \Phi^a - i \epsilon^{abc} a_\mu^b \Phi^c|^2}_{\Phi^a \text{ transforms under the } \textit{vector} \text{ representation}} - s (\Phi^a)^2 + \dots$$

- ✧ For  $\langle \Phi^x \rangle \neq 0$ , the vacuum is invariant under  $U = \exp \left( \frac{i}{2} \theta \sigma^x \right) \rightarrow$  gauge group broken to U(1)
- ✧ Two Higgs fields,  $\Phi$  and  $\Phi_1$ , are needed to obtain a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  spin liquid:

$$\mathcal{L}_f = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} + \mathcal{L}_0 + \mathcal{L}_1$$

$$\mathcal{L}_0 = \lambda \Phi \cdot \mathcal{O}_0 + |D_\mu \Phi|^2 - s \Phi^2 + \dots \quad \mathcal{L}_1 = \lambda' \Phi_1 \cdot \mathcal{O}_1 + |D_\mu \Phi_1|^2 - \bar{s}_1 \Phi_1^2 + \dots$$

# Projective symmetry group

---

- ◆ The symmetries act in a non-trivial way in the Higgs phase. For instance,

$$\mathcal{L} = i \text{tr} \left( \bar{X} \gamma^\mu \left[ \partial_\mu X - \frac{i}{2} a_\mu^x X \sigma^x \right] \right) + \underbrace{\lambda \langle \Phi^x \rangle \text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X} \mu^y X)}_{\text{Gives the fermions a mass}} + \dots$$

# Projective symmetry group

- ◆ The symmetries act in a non-trivial way in the Higgs phase. For instance,

$$\mathcal{L} = i \text{tr} \left( \bar{X} \gamma^\mu \left[ \partial_\mu X - \frac{i}{2} a_\mu^x X \sigma^x \right] \right) + \underbrace{\lambda \langle \Phi^x \rangle \text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X} \mu^y X)}_{\text{Gives the fermions a mass}} + \dots$$

Gives the fermions a mass

- ✧  $\mathcal{L}$  does not appear to be invariant under the lattice symmetries:

$$T_x : \text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X} \mu^y X) \rightarrow \text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X} \mu^x \mu^y \mu^x X) = -\text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X} \mu^y X)$$

- ✧ This can be undone through a gauge transformation:

$$V_{tx} : X \rightarrow X i \sigma^z, \quad \text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X} \mu^y X) \rightarrow -\text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X} \mu^y X)$$

# Projective symmetry group

- ◆ The symmetries act in a non-trivial way in the Higgs phase. For instance,

$$\mathcal{L} = i \text{tr} \left( \bar{X} \gamma^\mu \left[ \partial_\mu X - \frac{i}{2} a_\mu^x X \sigma^x \right] \right) + \underbrace{\lambda \langle \Phi^x \rangle \text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X} \mu^y X)}_{\text{Gives the fermions a mass}} + \dots$$

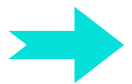
Gives the fermions a mass

- ✧  $\mathcal{L}$  does not appear to be invariant under the lattice symmetries:

$$T_x : \text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X} \mu^y X) \rightarrow \text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X} \mu^x \mu^y \mu^x X) = -\text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X} \mu^y X)$$

- ✧ This can be undone through a gauge transformation:

$$V_{tx} : X \rightarrow X i \sigma^z, \quad \text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X} \mu^y X) \rightarrow -\text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X} \mu^y X)$$



The transformations  $V_g G$ ,  $V_g \in \text{SU}(2)_g$  defines the *projective symmetry group*, which can be used to classify the spin liquid.

# Gapped, symmetric $\mathbb{Z}_2$ spin liquids

---

$$\mathcal{L}_0 = \lambda \Phi \cdot \mathcal{O}_0 + |D_\mu \Phi|^2 - s \Phi^2 + \dots$$

$$\mathcal{L}_1 = \lambda' \Phi_1 \cdot \mathcal{O}_1 + |D_\mu \Phi_1|^2 - \bar{s}_1 \Phi_1^2 + \dots$$

- ◆ When only bilinears containing up to a *single* derivative are considered, 5 distinct gapped, symmetric  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  spin liquids are possible.

# Gapped, symmetric $\mathbb{Z}_2$ spin liquids

---

$$\mathcal{L}_0 = \lambda \Phi \cdot \mathcal{O}_0 + |D_\mu \Phi|^2 - s \Phi^2 + \dots$$

$$\mathcal{L}_1 = \lambda' \Phi_1 \cdot \mathcal{O}_1 + |D_\mu \Phi_1|^2 - \bar{s}_1 \Phi_1^2 + \dots$$

- ◆ When only bilinears containing up to a *single* derivative are considered, 5 distinct gapped, symmetric  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  spin liquids are possible.

$$\mathcal{O}_0^a = \text{tr} (\sigma^a \bar{X} \mu^y X)$$



This is the *only* bilinear compatible with a symmetric, gapped  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  spin liquid

# Gapped, symmetric $\mathbb{Z}_2$ spin liquids

$$\mathcal{L}_0 = \lambda \Phi \cdot \mathcal{O}_0 + |D_\mu \Phi|^2 - s \Phi^2 + \dots$$

$$\mathcal{L}_1 = \lambda' \Phi_1 \cdot \mathcal{O}_1 + |D_\mu \Phi_1|^2 - \bar{s}_1 \Phi_1^2 + \dots$$

- ◆ When only bilinears containing up to a *single* derivative are considered, 5 distinct gapped, symmetric  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  spin liquids are possible.

$$\mathcal{O}_0^a = \text{tr} (\sigma^a \bar{X} \mu^y X)$$



This is the *only* bilinear compatible with a symmetric, gapped  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  spin liquid

$$\mathcal{O}_1^a = \text{tr} (\sigma^a \bar{X} M X)$$

|   | $M$                                                   |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | $i\partial_0$                                         |
| 2 | $\mu^y \gamma^\mu i\partial_\mu$                      |
| 3 | $\mu^y (\gamma^x i\partial_x - \gamma^y i\partial_y)$ |
| 4 | $\mu^y (\gamma^x i\partial_y + \gamma^y i\partial_x)$ |
| 5 | $\mu^y (\gamma^x i\partial_y - \gamma^y i\partial_x)$ |

# Gapped, symmetric $\mathbb{Z}_2$ spin liquids

$$\mathcal{L}_0 = \lambda \Phi \cdot \mathcal{O}_0 + |D_\mu \Phi|^2 - s \Phi^2 + \dots$$

$$\mathcal{L}_1 = \lambda' \Phi_1 \cdot \mathcal{O}_1 + |D_\mu \Phi_1|^2 - \bar{s}_1 \Phi_1^2 + \dots$$

- ◆ When only bilinears containing up to a *single* derivative are considered, 5 distinct gapped, symmetric  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  spin liquids are possible.

$$\mathcal{O}_0^a = \text{tr} (\sigma^a \bar{X} \mu^y X)$$



This is the *only* bilinear compatible with a symmetric, gapped  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  spin liquid

$$\mathcal{O}_1^a = \text{tr} (\sigma^a \bar{X} M X)$$

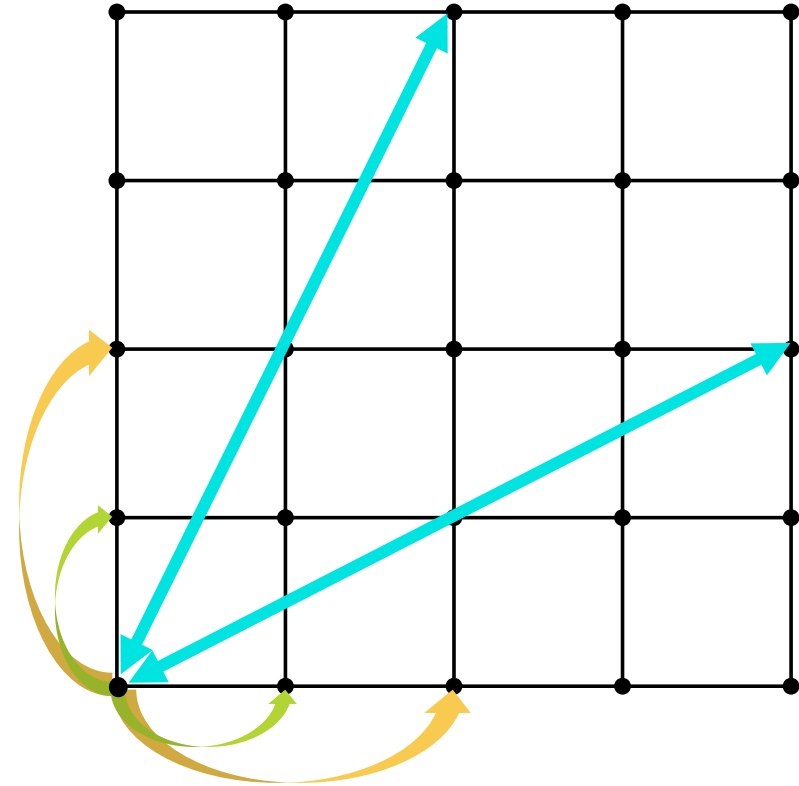
|   | $M$                                                   |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | $i\partial_0$                                         |
| 2 | $\mu^y \gamma^\mu i\partial_\mu$                      |
| 3 | $\mu^y (\gamma^x i\partial_x - \gamma^y i\partial_y)$ |
| 4 | $\mu^y (\gamma^x i\partial_y + \gamma^y i\partial_x)$ |
| 5 | $\mu^y (\gamma^x i\partial_y - \gamma^y i\partial_x)$ |

# PSG 1

$$\mathcal{L}_f = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} + \lambda \Phi \cdot \text{tr}(\sigma \bar{X} \mu^y X) - \bar{s} |\Phi|^2 + \lambda' \Phi_1 \cdot \text{tr}(\sigma \bar{X} i \partial_0 X) - \bar{s}_1 |\Phi_1|^2 + \dots \text{ with } \bar{s}, \bar{s}_1 \leq 0$$

- ◆ The mean field version of this spin liquid requires a 6<sup>th</sup> nearest-neighbour terms. In terms of QCD, it corresponds to the perturbation:

$$\mathcal{L}'_f = \tilde{\lambda} \Phi'_1 \cdot \text{tr}(\sigma \bar{X} \mu^y \partial_x \partial_y [\partial_x^2 - \partial_y^2] X) + \dots$$



# PSG 1

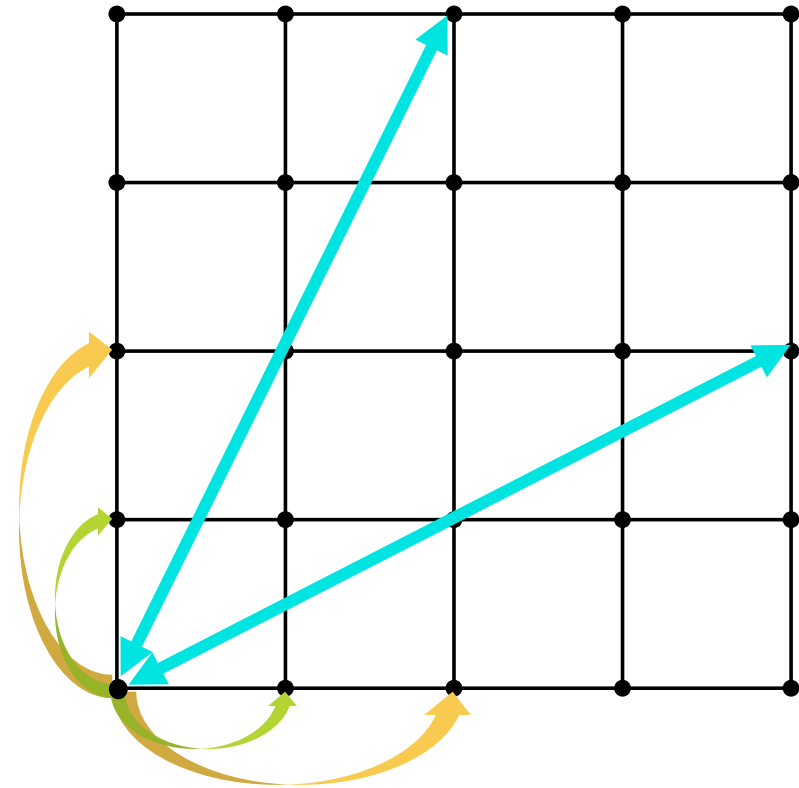
$$\mathcal{L}_f = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} + \lambda \Phi \cdot \text{tr}(\sigma \bar{X} \mu^y X) - \bar{s} |\Phi|^2 + \lambda' \Phi_1 \cdot \text{tr}(\sigma \bar{X} i \partial_0 X) - \bar{s}_1 |\Phi_1|^2 + \dots \text{ with } \bar{s}, \bar{s}_1 \leq 0$$

- ◆ The mean field version of this spin liquid requires a 6<sup>th</sup> nearest-neighbour terms. In terms of QCD, it corresponds to the perturbation:

$$\mathcal{L}'_f = \tilde{\lambda} \Phi'_1 \cdot \text{tr}(\sigma \bar{X} \mu^y \partial_x \partial_y [\partial_x^2 - \partial_y^2] X) + \dots$$

- ◆  $\mathcal{O}_1 = \text{tr}(\sigma \bar{X} i \partial_0 X)$  has no lattice analogue

➡ this phase is more energetically favourable than mean field theory seems to imply



# Comparison with bosonic formulation

$$\mathcal{L}_f = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} + \lambda \Phi \cdot \text{tr} (\sigma \bar{X} \mu^y X) + \lambda' \Phi_1 \cdot \text{tr} (\sigma \bar{X} \partial_0 X) + \dots$$

- ◆ #1 is the only spin liquid with a corresponding bosonic formulation

|   | $M$                                                   |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | $i\partial_0$                                         |
| 2 | $\mu^y \gamma^\mu i\partial_\mu$                      |
| 3 | $\mu^y (\gamma^x i\partial_x - \gamma^y i\partial_y)$ |
| 4 | $\mu^y (\gamma^x i\partial_y + \gamma^y i\partial_x)$ |
| 5 | $\mu^y (\gamma^x i\partial_y - \gamma^y i\partial_x)$ |

# Comparison with bosonic formulation

$$\mathcal{L}_f = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} + \lambda \Phi \cdot \text{tr} (\sigma \bar{X} \mu^y X) + \lambda' \Phi_1 \cdot \text{tr} (\sigma \bar{X} \partial_0 X) + \dots$$

- ◆ #1 is the only spin liquid with a corresponding bosonic formulation
- ◆ Further, this spin liquid can be obtained by perturbing directly about  $\mathbb{CP}^1$ :

|   | $M$                                                   |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | $i\partial_0$                                         |
| 2 | $\mu^y \gamma^\mu i\partial_\mu$                      |
| 3 | $\mu^y (\gamma^x i\partial_x - \gamma^y i\partial_y)$ |
| 4 | $\mu^y (\gamma^x i\partial_y + \gamma^y i\partial_x)$ |
| 5 | $\mu^y (\gamma^x i\partial_y - \gamma^y i\partial_x)$ |

$$\mathcal{L}_P = \lambda_1 P^* \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} z_\alpha \partial_0 z_\beta + h.c. + |(\partial_\mu - i2b_\mu) P|^2 - s_1 |P|^2 + \dots$$

$$\mathcal{L}_b = \mathcal{L}_{dcp} + \mathcal{L}_P$$

# Comparison with bosonic formulation

$$\mathcal{L}_f = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} + \lambda \Phi \cdot \text{tr} (\sigma \bar{X} \mu^y X) + \lambda' \Phi_1 \cdot \text{tr} (\sigma \bar{X} \partial_0 X) + \dots$$

- ◆ #1 is the only spin liquid with a corresponding bosonic formulation
- ◆ Further, this spin liquid can be obtained by perturbing directly about  $\mathbb{CP}^1$ :

|   | $M$                                                   |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | $i\partial_0$                                         |
| 2 | $\mu^y \gamma^\mu i\partial_\mu$                      |
| 3 | $\mu^y (\gamma^x i\partial_x - \gamma^y i\partial_y)$ |
| 4 | $\mu^y (\gamma^x i\partial_y + \gamma^y i\partial_x)$ |
| 5 | $\mu^y (\gamma^x i\partial_y - \gamma^y i\partial_x)$ |

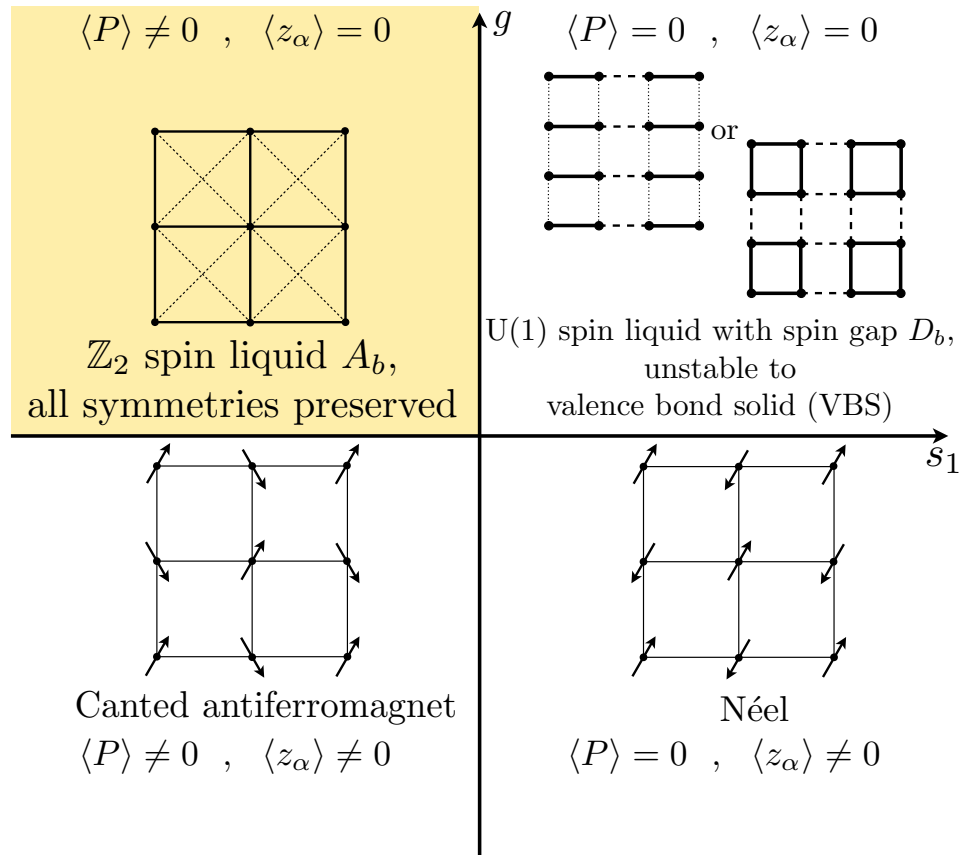
$$\mathcal{L}_P = \lambda_1 P^* \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} z_\alpha \partial_0 z_\beta + h.c. + |(\partial_\mu - i2b_\mu) P|^2 - s_1 |P|^2 + \dots$$

$$\mathcal{L}_b = \mathcal{L}_{dcp} + \mathcal{L}_P$$

➡ Obtain the *same*  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  spin liquid when  $\langle z \rangle = 0$ ,  $\langle P \rangle \neq 0$

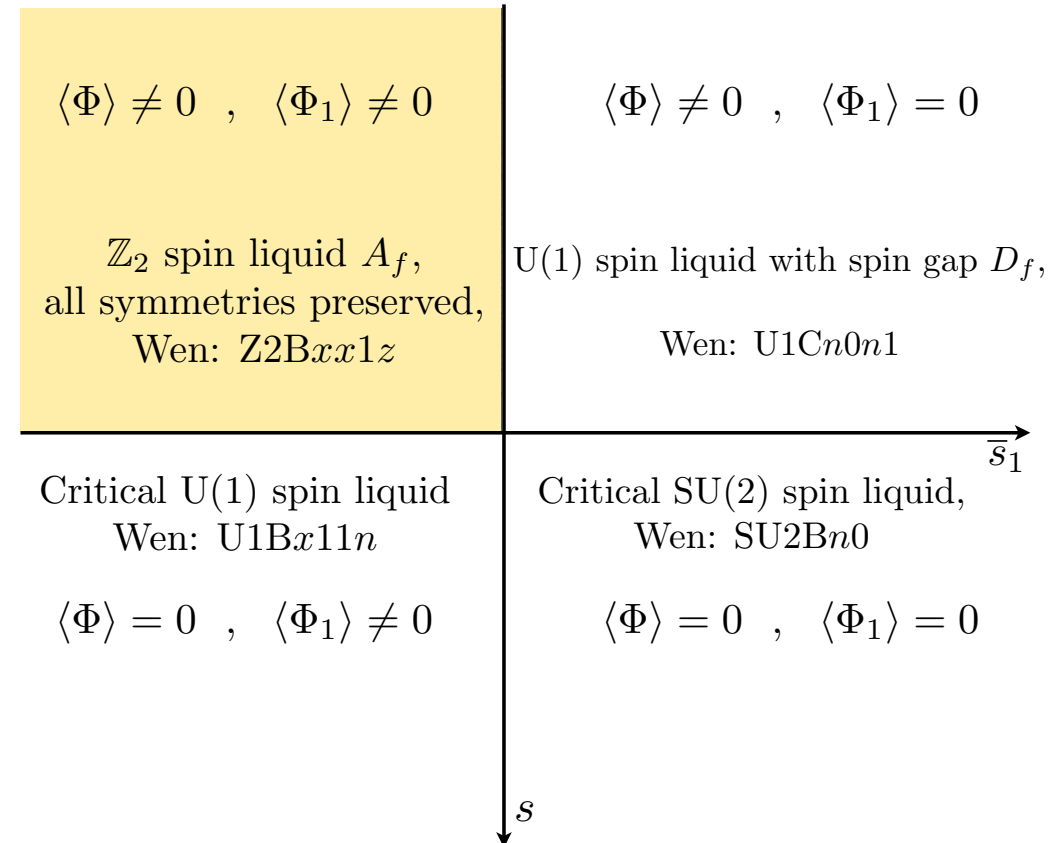
# Phase diagram

## BOSONIC



$$\mathcal{L}_b = \mathcal{L}_{dcp} + \lambda_1 P^* \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} z_\alpha \partial_0 z_\beta + h.c. - s_1 |P|^2 + \dots$$

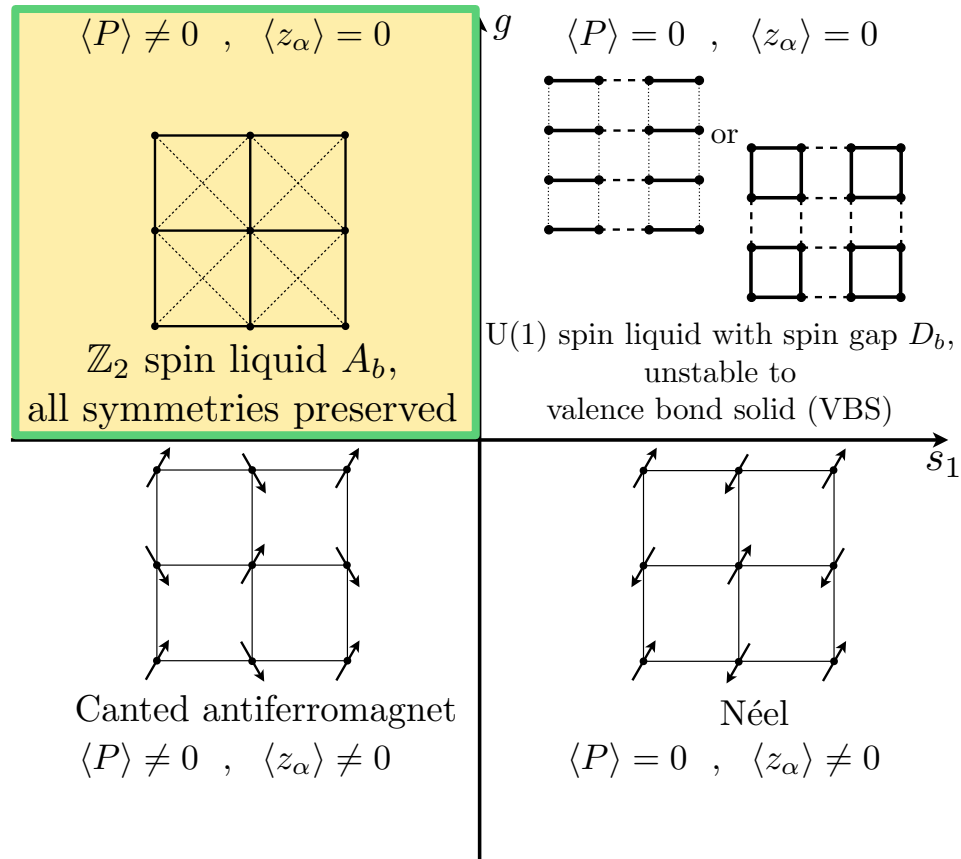
## FERMIONIC



$$\mathcal{L}_f = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} + \lambda \Phi \cdot \text{tr} (\sigma \bar{X} \mu^y X) - s |\Phi|^2 + \lambda' \Phi_1 \cdot \text{tr} (\sigma \bar{X} \partial_0 X) - \bar{s}_1 |\Phi_1|^2 + \dots$$

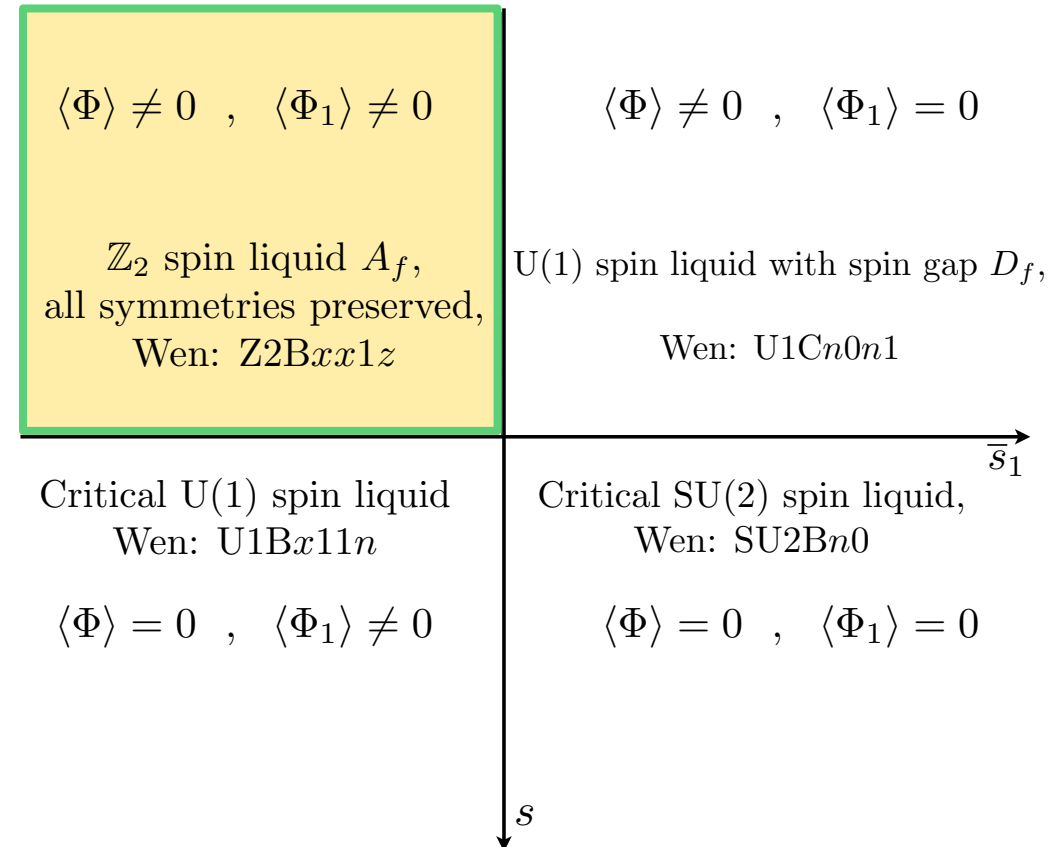
# Phase diagram

## BOSONIC



$$\mathcal{L}_b = \mathcal{L}_{dcp} + \lambda_1 P^* \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} z_\alpha \partial_0 z_\beta + h.c. - s_1 |P|^2 + \dots$$

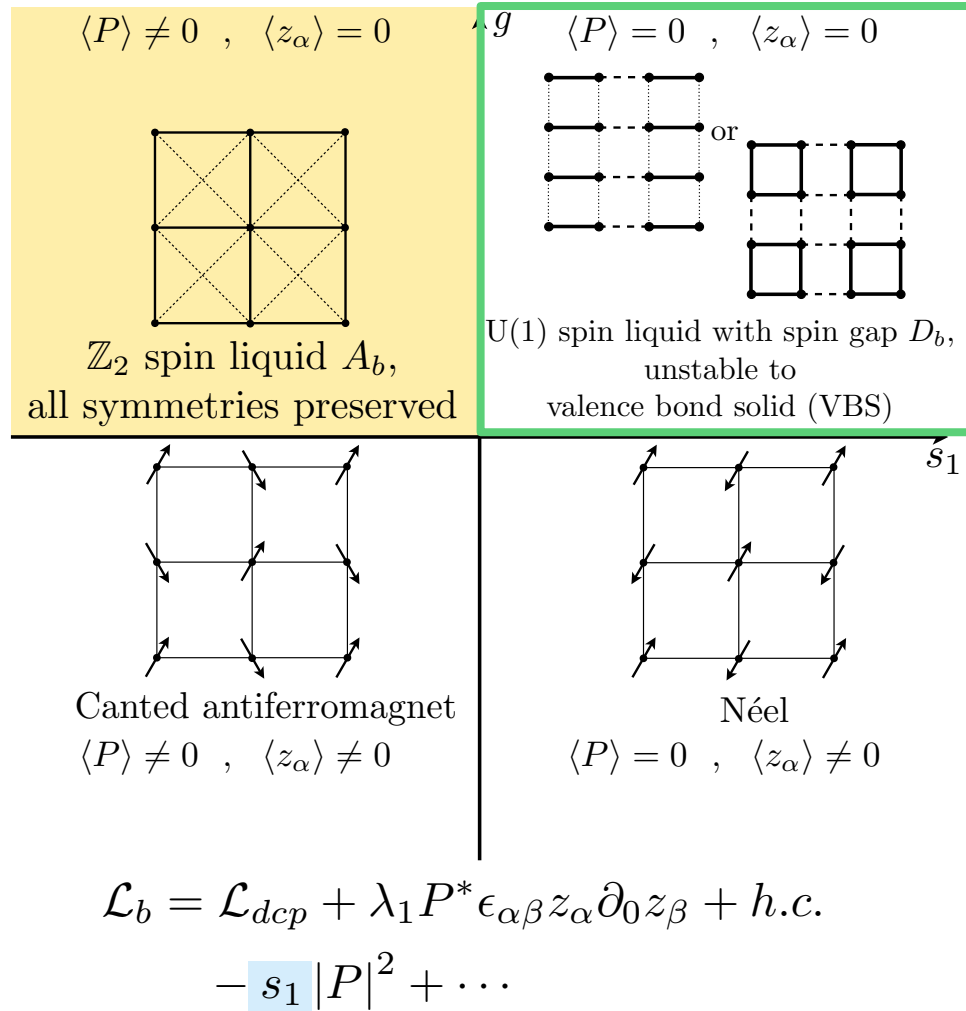
## FERMIONIC



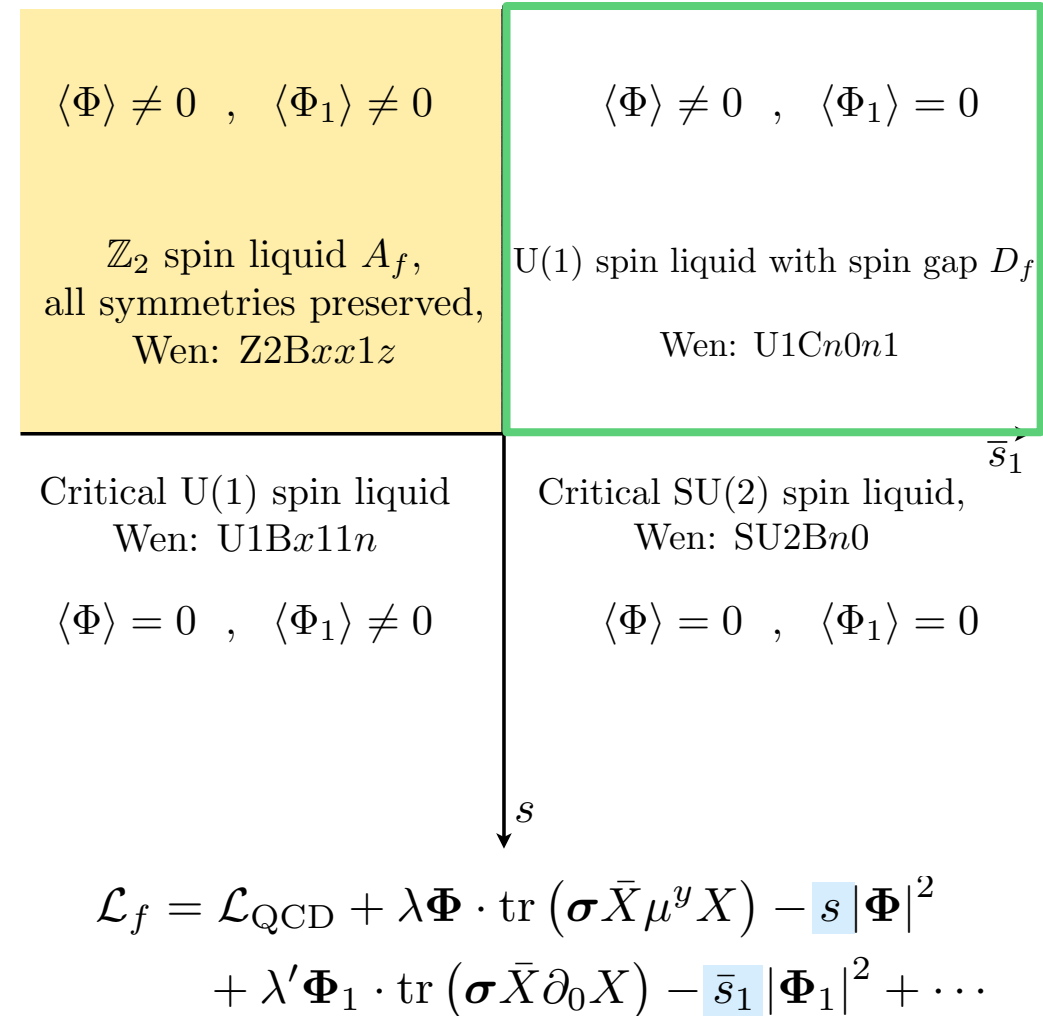
$$\mathcal{L}_f = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} + \lambda \Phi \cdot \text{tr}(\sigma \bar{X} \mu^y X) - s |\Phi|^2 + \lambda' \Phi_1 \cdot \text{tr}(\sigma \bar{X} \partial_0 X) - \bar{s}_1 |\Phi_1|^2 + \dots$$

# Phase diagram

## BOSONIC



## FERMIONIC



# Flux response

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{U}(1)} = i \text{tr} \left( \bar{X} \gamma^\mu \left[ \partial_\mu X - \frac{i}{2} a_\mu X \sigma^x \right] \right) + m \text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X} \mu^y X) + \dots$$

◆ Response to insertion of flux:  $\langle \mathcal{O}(r) \rangle = \int d^3 r' \langle \mathcal{O}(r) \text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X}(r') \gamma^\mu X(r')) \rangle a_\mu^{cl}(r')$

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{O} = \text{tr} (\bar{X} \gamma^\mu \mu^y X) \quad \langle \text{tr} (\bar{X} \gamma^\mu \mu^y X) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{\pi} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} \partial_\nu a_\lambda^{cl}$$

# Flux response

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{U}(1)} = i \text{tr} \left( \bar{X} \gamma^\mu \left[ \partial_\mu X - \frac{i}{2} a_\mu X \sigma^x \right] \right) + m \text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X} \mu^y X) + \dots$$

- ◆ Response to insertion of flux:  $\langle \mathcal{O}(r) \rangle = \int d^3r \langle \mathcal{O}(r) \text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X}(r') \gamma^\mu X(r')) \rangle a_\mu^{cl}(r')$

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{O} = \text{tr} (\bar{X} \gamma^\mu \mu^y X) \quad \langle \text{tr} (\bar{X} \gamma^\mu \mu^y X) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{\pi} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} \partial_\nu a_\lambda^{cl}$$

- ◆ This is exactly the current associated with the  $\text{U}(1)_v$  VBS

$$n^a = \text{tr} (\bar{X} \Gamma^a X), \quad \Gamma^a = \underbrace{\{\mu^x, \mu^z, \mu^y \sigma^x, \mu^y \sigma^y, \mu^y \sigma^z\}}_{\text{VBS order parameters}} \quad \rightarrow \quad \underbrace{J_{vbs}^\mu = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} (\bar{X} \gamma^\mu \mu^y X)}_{\text{VBS conserved current}}$$

# Flux response

$$\mathcal{L}_{U(1)} = i \text{tr} \left( \bar{X} \gamma^\mu \left[ \partial_\mu X - \frac{i}{2} a_\mu X \sigma^x \right] \right) + m \text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X} \mu^y X) + \dots$$

- ◆ Response to insertion of flux:  $\langle \mathcal{O}(r) \rangle = \int d^3r \langle \mathcal{O}(r) \text{tr} (\sigma^x \bar{X}(r') \gamma^\mu X(r')) \rangle a_\mu^{cl}(r')$

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{O} = \text{tr} (\bar{X} \gamma^\mu \mu^y X) \quad \langle \text{tr} (\bar{X} \gamma^\mu \mu^y X) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{\pi} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} \partial_\nu a_\lambda^{cl}$$

- ◆ This is exactly the current associated with the  $U(1)_v$  VBS

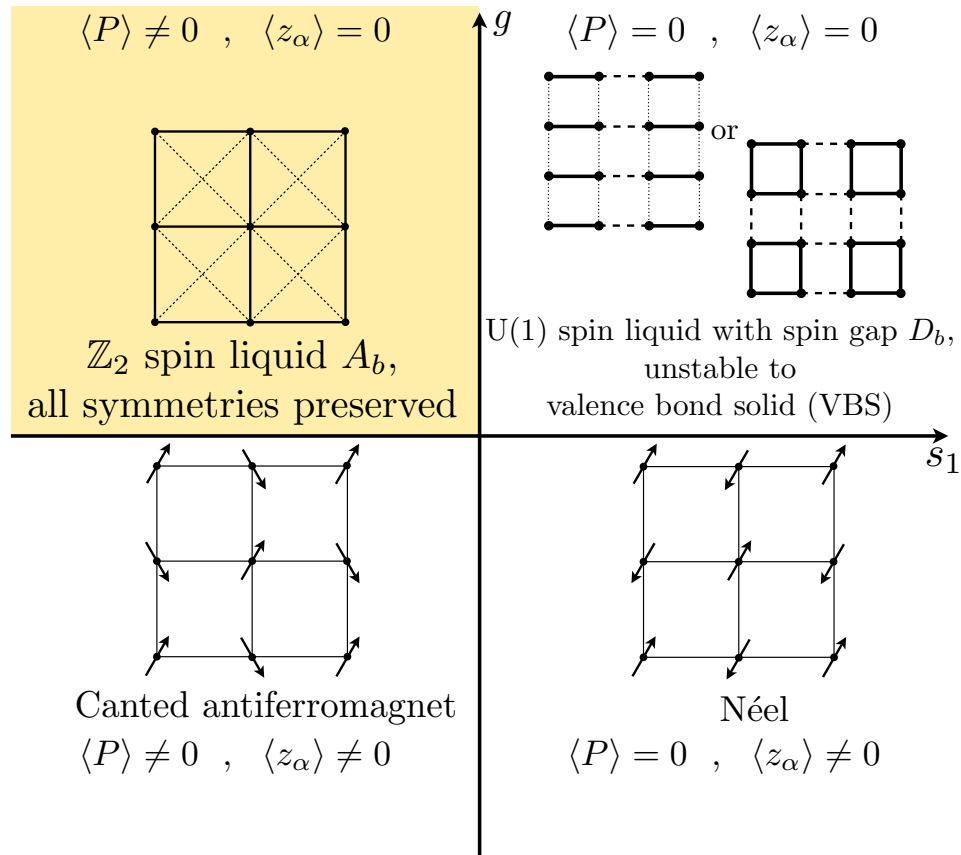
$$n^a = \text{tr} (\bar{X} \Gamma^a X), \quad \Gamma^a = \underbrace{\{\mu^x, \mu^z, \mu^y \sigma^x, \mu^y \sigma^y, \mu^y \sigma^z\}}_{\text{VBS order parameters}} \quad \rightarrow \quad \underbrace{J_{vbs}^\mu = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} (\bar{X} \gamma^\mu \mu^y X)}_{\text{VBS conserved current}}$$

- ◆ Monopole proliferation results in *large fluctuations* of the charge  $Q$  associated to  $J_{vbs}^\mu$  which will *suppress* fluctuations of operators *conjugate* to  $Q$ , *i.e.* the order parameters

$$\rightarrow \langle \text{tr} (\bar{X} \mu^z X) \rangle \neq 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \langle \text{tr} (\bar{X} \mu^x X) \rangle \neq 0.$$

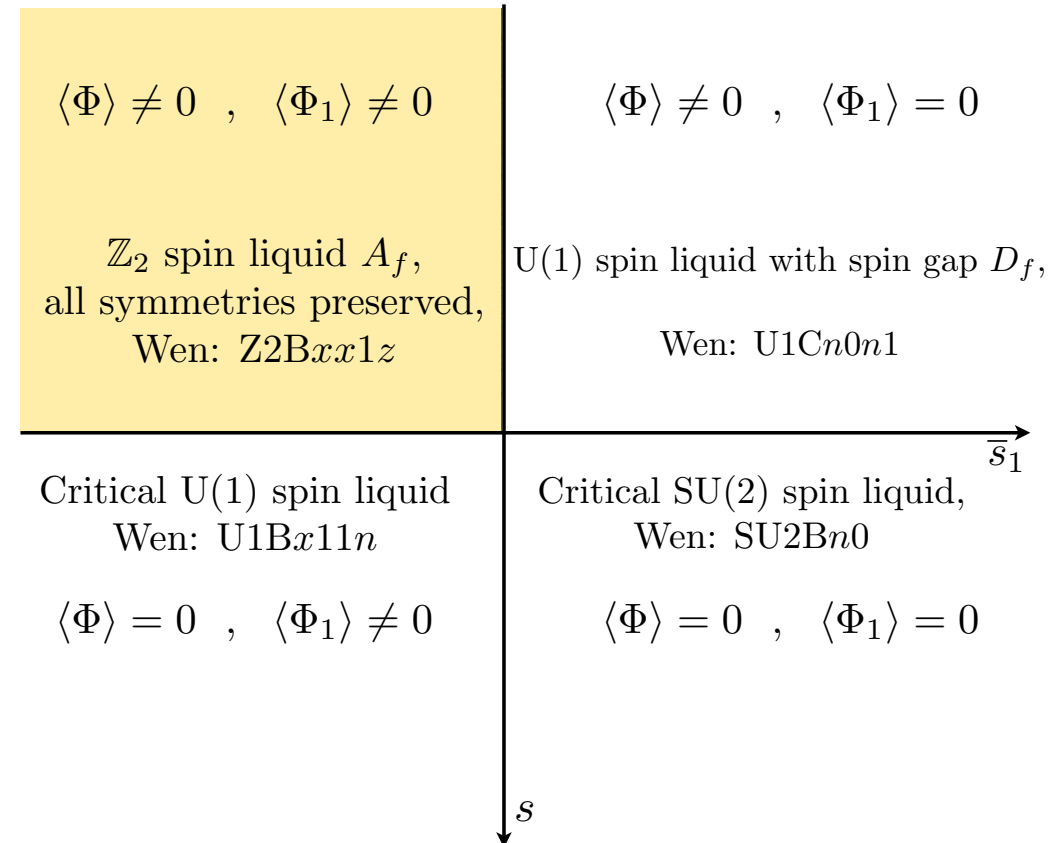
# Phase diagram

## BOSONIC



$$\mathcal{L}_b = \mathcal{L}_{dcp} + \lambda_1 P^* \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} z_\alpha \partial_0 z_\beta + h.c. - s_1 |P|^2 + \dots$$

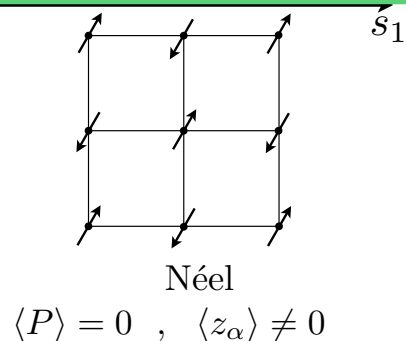
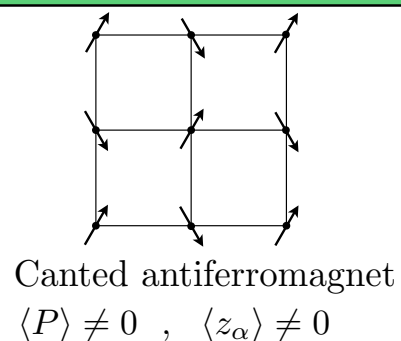
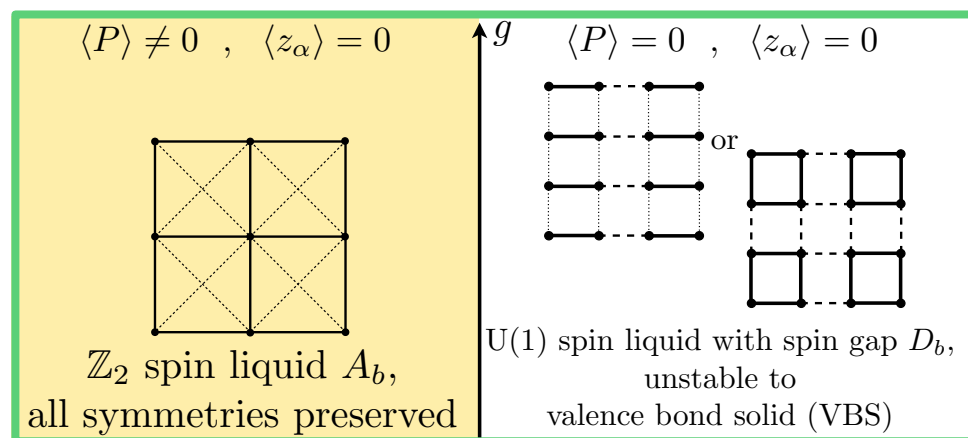
## FERMIONIC



$$\mathcal{L}_f = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} + \lambda \Phi \cdot \text{tr} (\sigma \bar{X} \mu^y X) - s |\Phi|^2 + \lambda' \Phi_1 \cdot \text{tr} (\sigma \bar{X} \partial_0 X) - \bar{s}_1 |\Phi_1|^2 + \dots$$

# Phase diagram

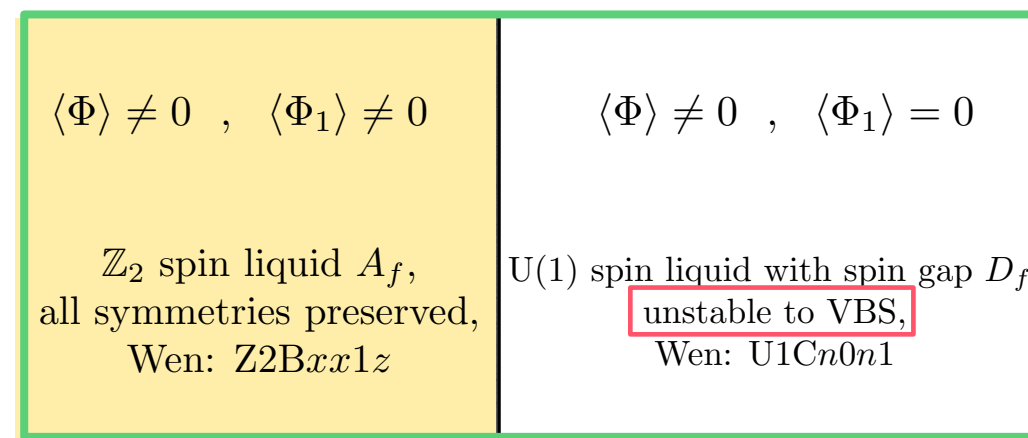
## BOSONIC



$$\mathcal{L}_b = \mathcal{L}_{dcp} + \lambda_1 P^* \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} z_\alpha \partial_0 z_\beta + h.c.$$

$$- \bar{s}_1 |P|^2 + \dots$$

## FERMIONIC



Critical U(1) spin liquid  
 Wen: U1Bx11n

$$\langle \Phi \rangle = 0$$
 ,  $\langle \Phi_1 \rangle \neq 0$

Critical SU(2) spin liquid,  
 Wen: SU2Bn0

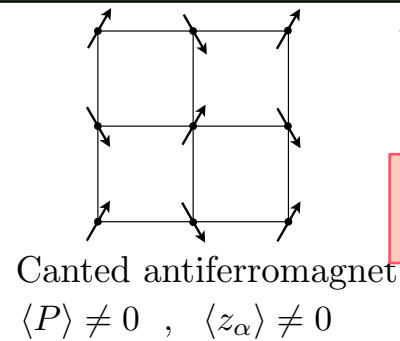
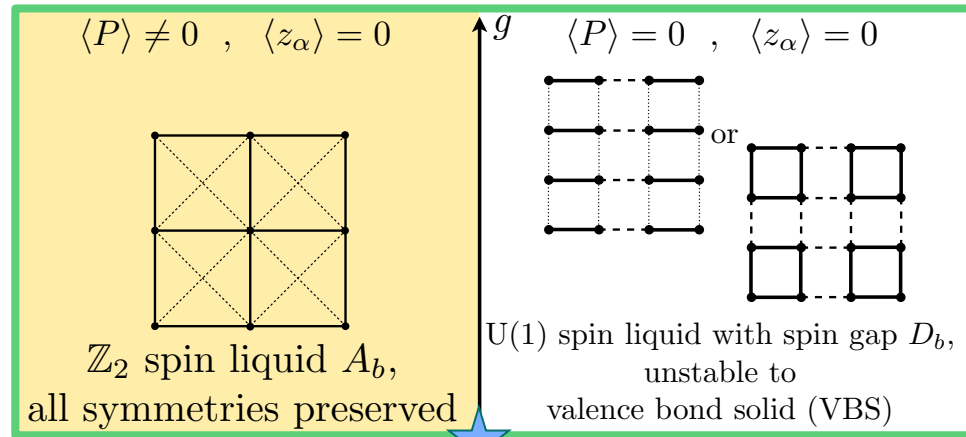
$$\langle \Phi \rangle = 0$$
 ,  $\langle \Phi_1 \rangle = 0$

$$\mathcal{L}_f = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} + \lambda \Phi \cdot \text{tr} (\sigma \bar{X} \mu^y X) - \bar{s} |\Phi|^2$$

$$+ \lambda' \Phi_1 \cdot \text{tr} (\sigma \bar{X} \partial_0 X) - \bar{s}_1 |\Phi_1|^2 + \dots$$

# Phase diagram

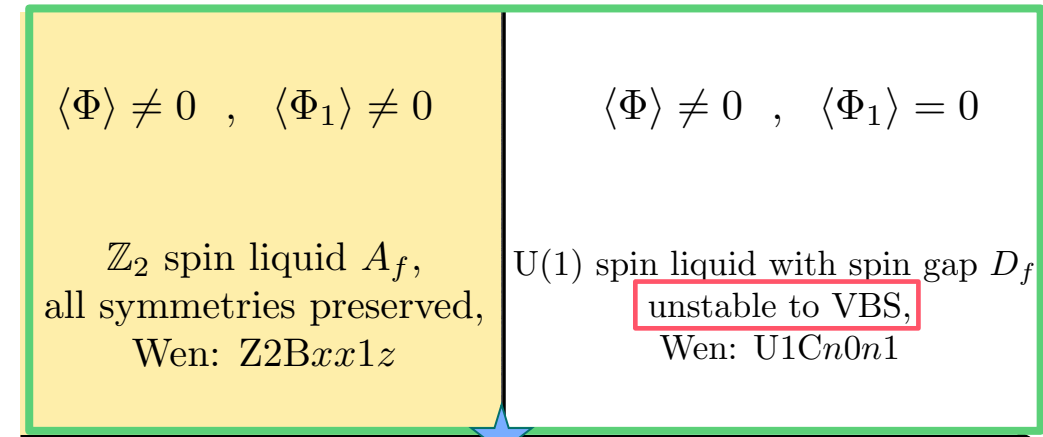
## BOSONIC



$$\mathcal{L}_b = \mathcal{L}_{dcp} + \lambda_1 P^* \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} z_\alpha \partial_0 z_\beta + h.c. - s_1 |P|^2 + \dots$$

$\mathcal{L}_f$  and  $\mathcal{L}_b$  could be dual multicritical theories

## FERMIONIC

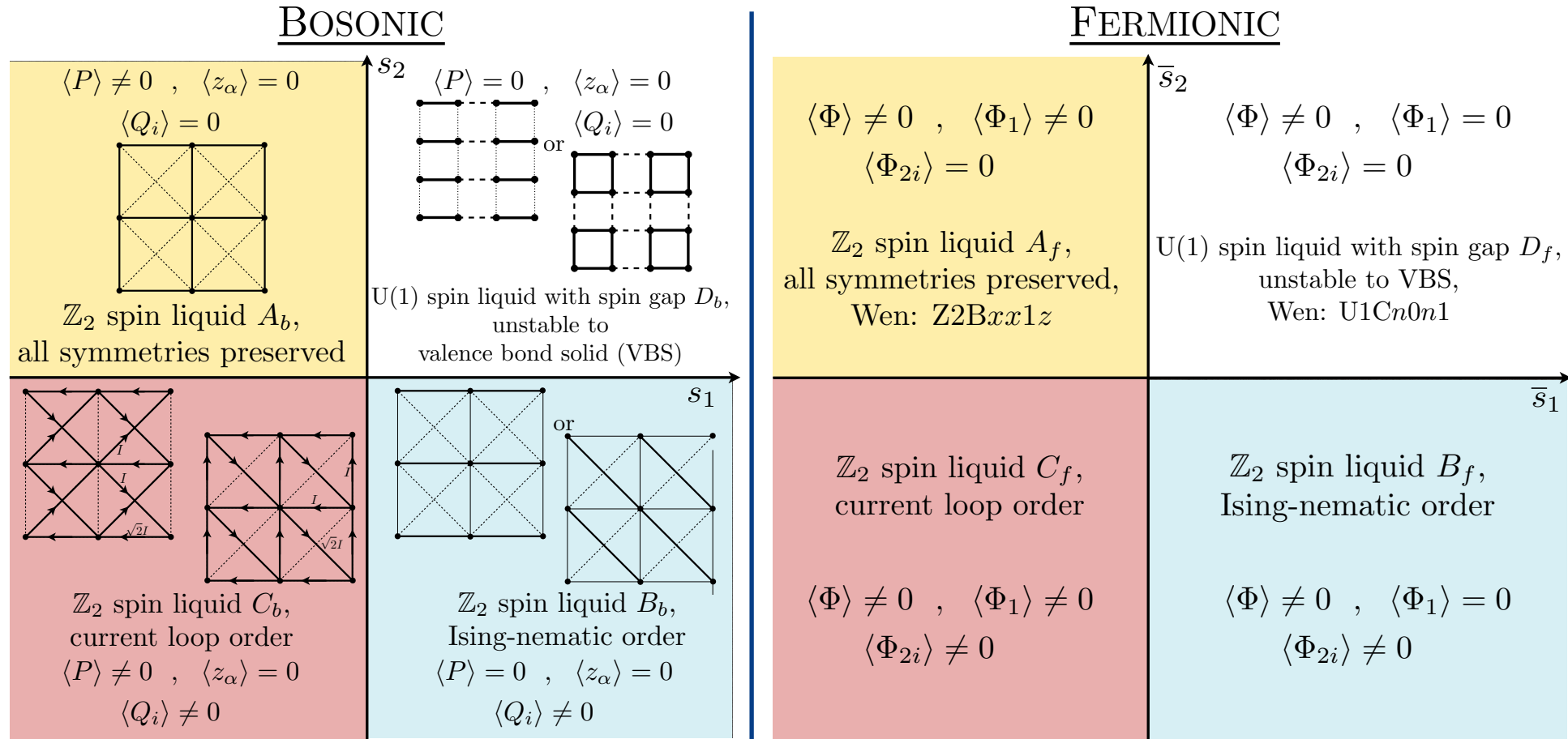


Critical U(1) spin liquid  
Wen: U1Bx11n

Critical SU(2) spin liquid,  
Wen: SU2Bn0

$$\mathcal{L}_f = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} + \lambda \Phi \cdot \text{tr} (\sigma \bar{X} \mu^y X) - s |\Phi|^2 + \lambda' \Phi_1 \cdot \text{tr} (\sigma \bar{X} \partial_0 X) - \bar{s}_1 |\Phi_1|^2 + \dots$$

# Symmetry broken $\mathbb{Z}_2$ phases



$$\mathcal{L}'_b = \mathcal{L}_{dcp} + \lambda_1 P^* \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} z_\alpha \partial_0 z_\beta + h.c. - s_1 |P|^2 + \lambda_2 Q_i^* \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} z_\alpha \partial_i z_\beta + h.c. - s_2 |Q_i|^2 + \dots$$

$$\mathcal{L}'_f = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} + \lambda \Phi \cdot \text{tr}(\sigma \bar{X} \mu^y X) - s |\Phi|^2 + \lambda' \Phi_1 \cdot \text{tr}(\sigma \bar{X} \partial_0 X) - \bar{s}_1 |\Phi_1|^2 + \lambda'' \Phi_{2i} \cdot \text{tr}(\sigma \bar{X} \partial_i X) - \bar{s}_2 |\Phi_{2i}|^2 + \dots$$

# Summary

---

- ◆ Determined spin liquid states proximate to  $N_f=2$  QCD ( $\pi$ -flux phase)
- ◆ Established a nontrivial correspondence between  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  phases surrounding both QCD and  $\mathbb{CP}^1$
- ◆ Determined a fermionic counterpart to the U(1) spin liquid with gapped matter which is unstable to a VBS
- ◆ Proposed additional dualities for multicritical points

*Thank you!*

Phys. Rev. X 8, 011012 (2018)  
arXiv:1708.04626

---