

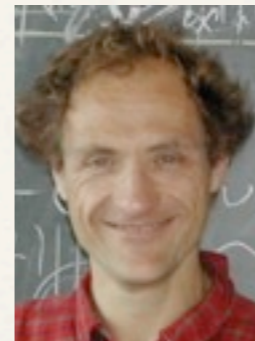
# Exact ground states in three-leg spin tubes

Miklós Lajkó

Wigner Research Centre for Physics  
Institute for Solid State Physics and Optics  
Budapest



Karlo Penc



Philippe Sindzingre

---

3th June, 2013

Emergent Quantum Phases in Condensed Matter Workshop

# Outline

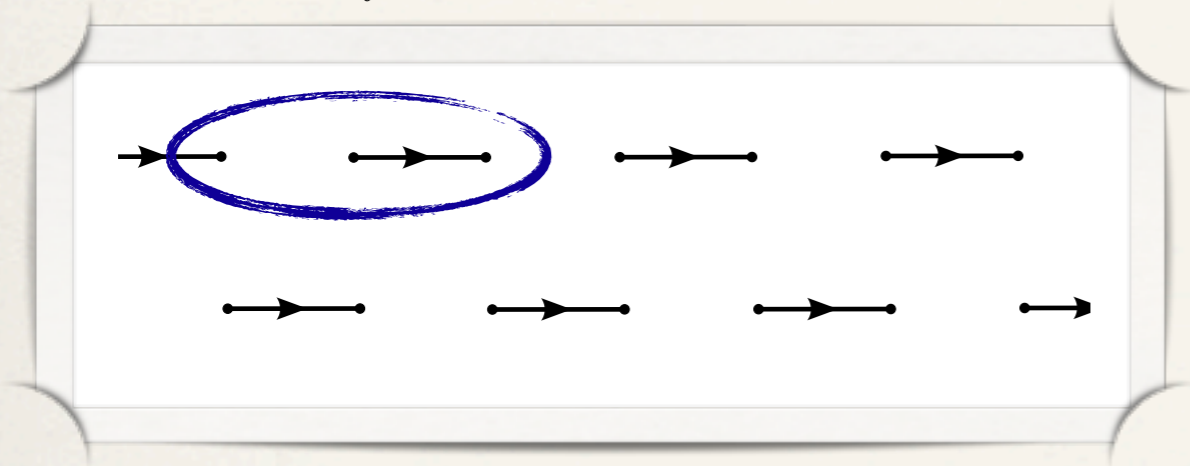
- ❖ Projection based Hamiltonians
- ❖ 2D  $S=1/2$  lattice
- ❖ 3-leg spin tubes
- ❖ Projection based model on the spin tube
- ❖ Numerical results
  - ❖ Exact ground states
  - ❖ Variational estimates
  - ❖ Tuning the interactions



# Projection operator approach

Exact ground state for  $S=1/2$  spin chain

$$H_{MG} = \sum_i \text{Proj} \left( |\mathbf{S}_{i-1} + \mathbf{S}_i + \mathbf{S}_{i+1}| = \frac{3}{2} \right)$$

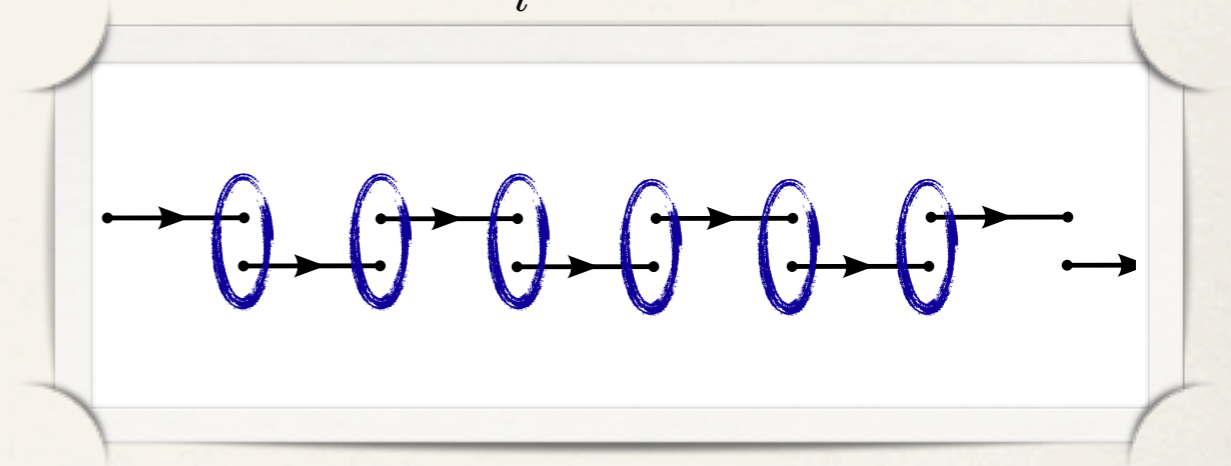


$$H_{MG} = \sum_i \mathbf{S}_i \mathbf{S}_{i+1} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \mathbf{S}_i \mathbf{S}_{i+2}$$

C K Majumdar and D Ghosh,  
J. Math. Phys. 10, 1388 (1969).

Exact ground state for  $S=1$  spin chain

$$H_{AKLT} = \sum_i \text{Proj} (|\mathbf{S}_i + \mathbf{S}_{i+1}| = 2)$$



$$H_{AKLT} = \sum_i \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{S}_i \mathbf{S}_{i+1} + \frac{1}{6} (\mathbf{S}_i \mathbf{S}_{i+1})^2$$

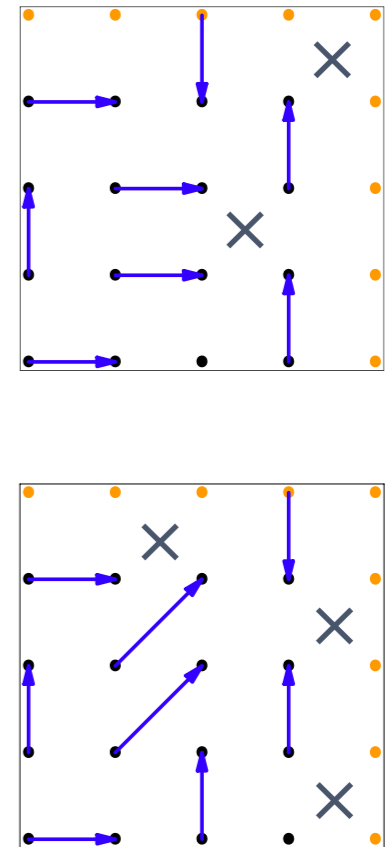
I Affleck, T Kennedy, E H Lieb, and H Tasaki,  
Comm. Math. Phys. 115, 477 (1988).

# $S=1/2$ square lattice

$$H = \sum_{\alpha:\square} \text{Proj} \{ S_{\alpha}^T = 2 \}$$

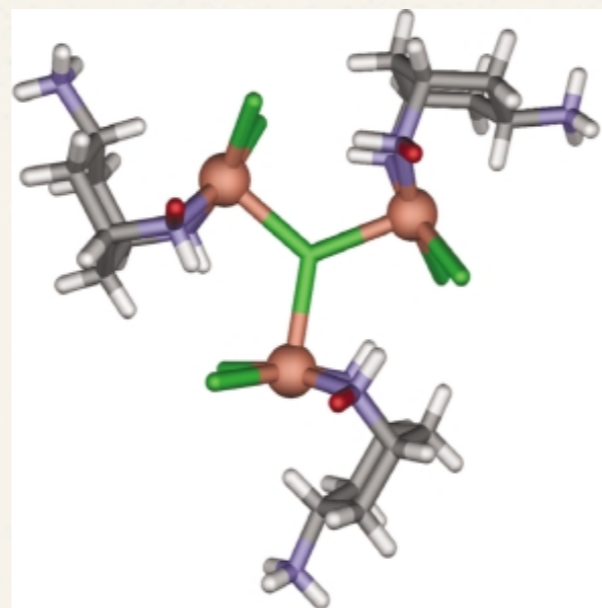
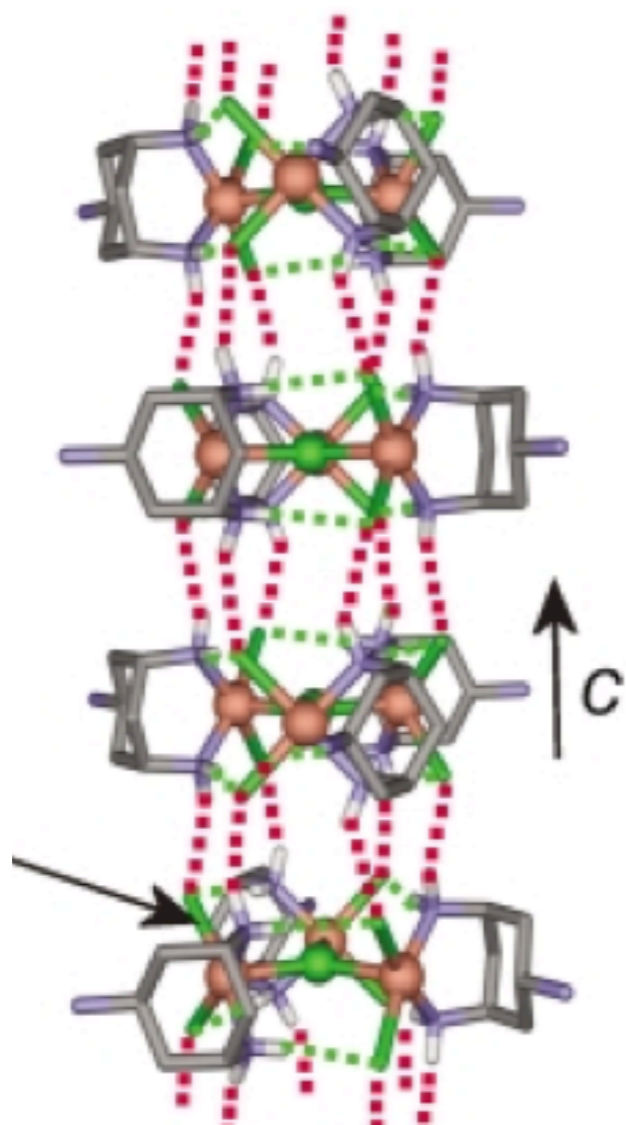
- \*  $L_1 \times L_2 = N$  spins  $\rightarrow N/2$  singlet bonds,  $N$  plaquettes every plaquette should have a singlet
- \* Many nearest neighbour valence bond covering ground state if  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are even
- \* Exact diagonalization: Non-trivial singlet, even triplet ground states, even when  $L_1$  or  $L_2$  are odd (or both!!)

Simplest case: three-leg tube





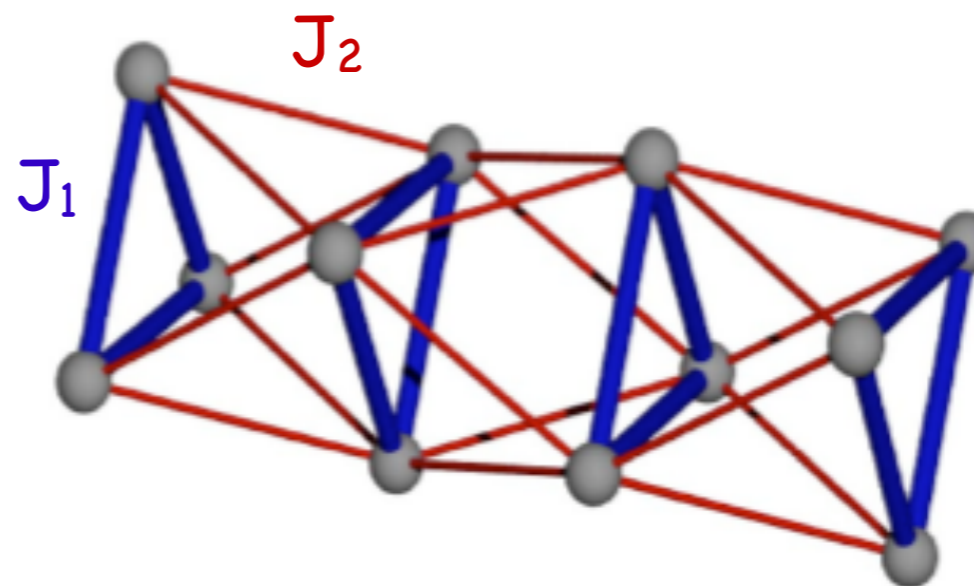
# Three-leg tubes



$\text{Cu}_3\text{Cl}$  triangles

$$S=1/2$$

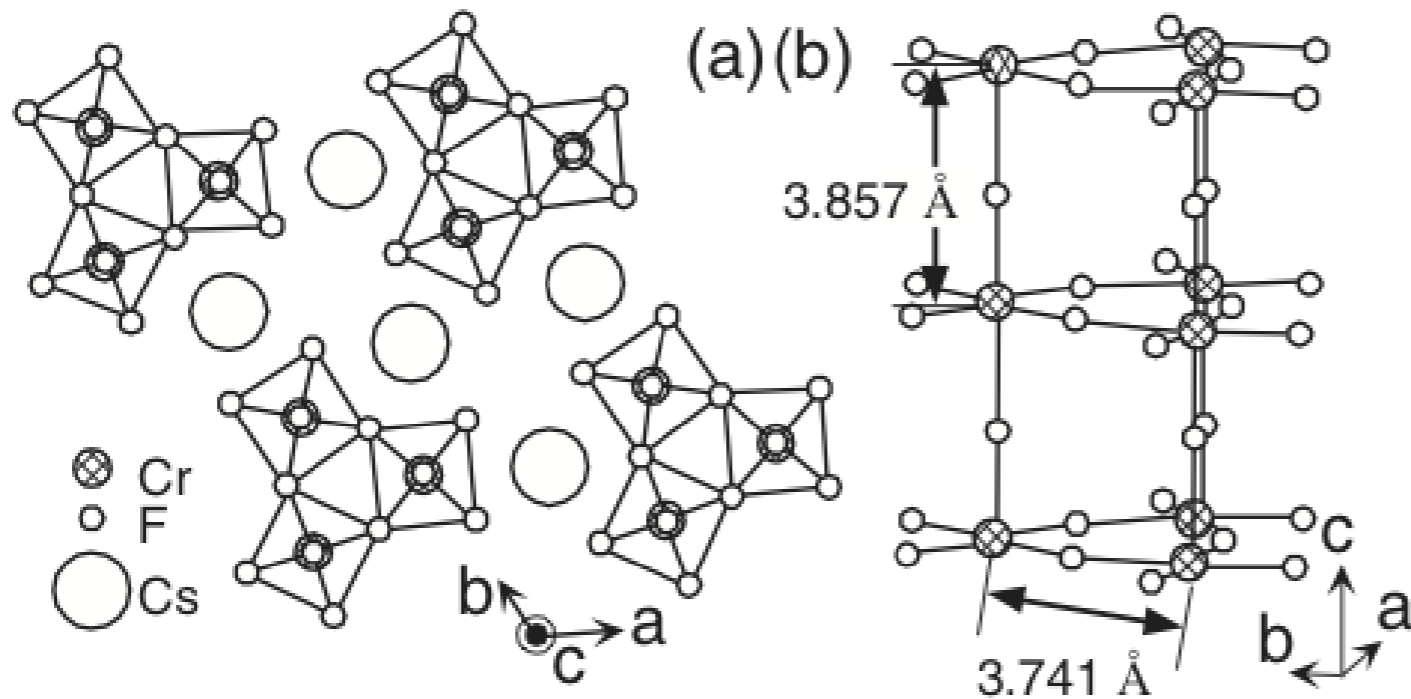
$$J_1/J_2 \approx 3.4$$



G. Seeber, P. Kögerler, B. M. Kariuki, and L. Cronin,  
Chem. Commun. (Cambridge) 2004, 1580 (2004)



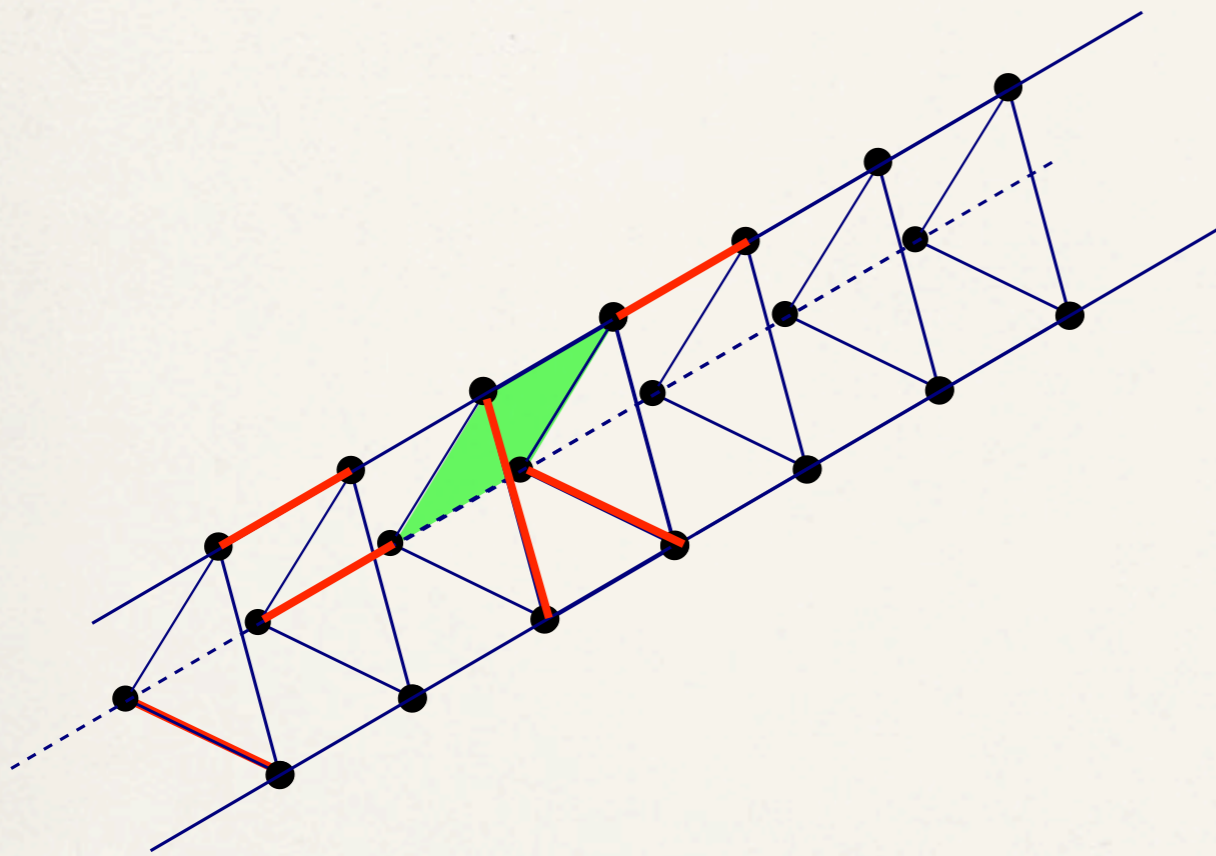
# Three-leg tubes



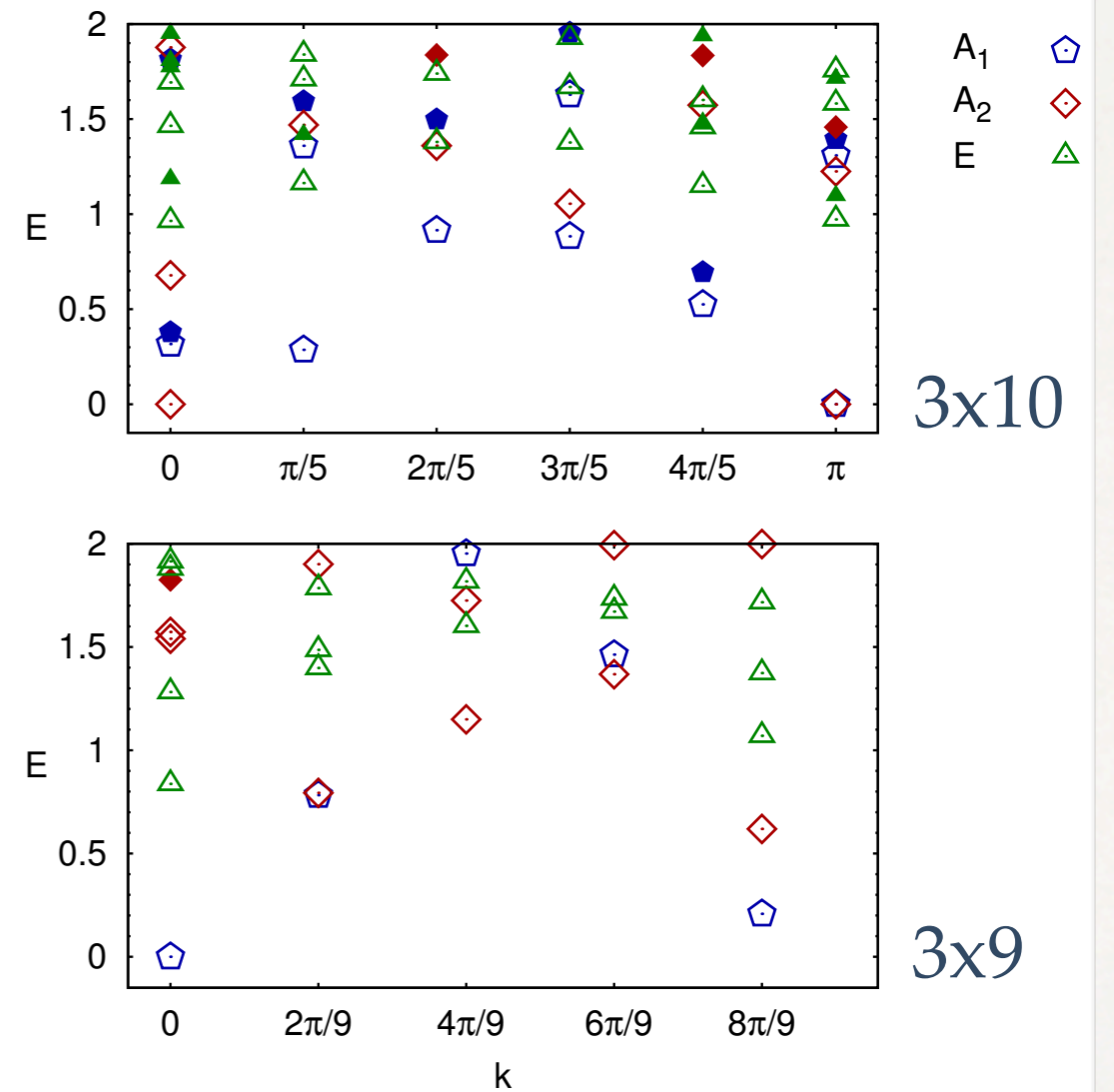
$\text{Cr}^{3+}$  ions  $e_g^3$  band:  $S=3/2$

# Three-leg tube + projection operator

$$H = \sum_{\alpha:\square} \text{Proj} \{ S_{\alpha}^T = 2 \}$$



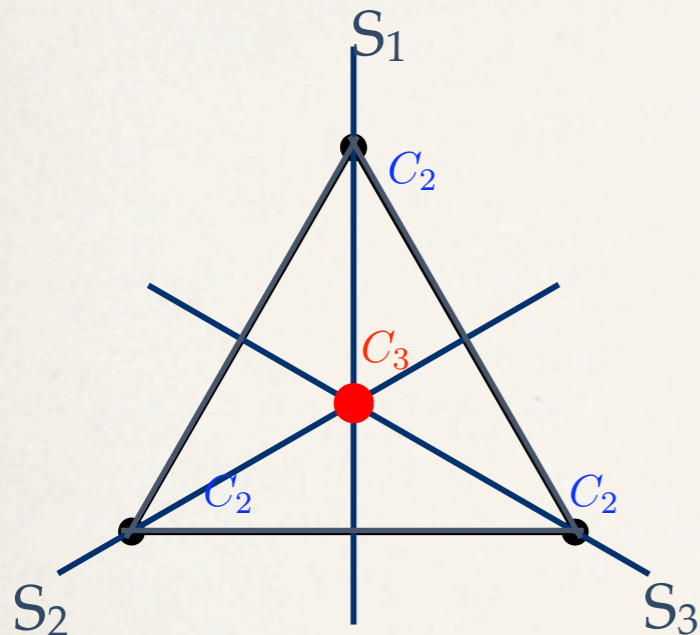
No nearest neighbour valence  
bond ground states



Exact diagonalization: 0 energy  
ground states



# Single spin-triangle



$$\mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2 + \mathbf{S}_2 \cdot \mathbf{S}_3 + \mathbf{S}_3 \cdot \mathbf{S}_1 = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{S}_1 + \mathbf{S}_2 + \mathbf{S}_3)^2 + \text{const.}$$

$\begin{cases} 4 \times S^{\text{TOT}} = 3/2 \\ 4 \times S^{\text{TOT}} = 1/2 \end{cases}$

$D_3$	$E$	$2C_3$	$3C_2'$
$A_1$	1	1	1
$A_2$	1	1	-1
$E$	2	-1	0

$$4 \times S^{\text{TOT}} = 1/2$$

$$\sigma^{\uparrow,l} = \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \triangle \\ \rightarrow \end{array} + e^{i\frac{2\pi}{3}} \begin{array}{c} \rightarrow \\ \triangle \\ \uparrow \end{array} + e^{-i\frac{2\pi}{3}} \begin{array}{c} \rightarrow \\ \triangle \\ \uparrow \end{array}$$

$$\sigma^{\uparrow,r} = \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \triangle \\ \rightarrow \end{array} + e^{i\frac{2\pi}{3}} \begin{array}{c} \rightarrow \\ \triangle \\ \uparrow \end{array} + e^{-i\frac{2\pi}{3}} \begin{array}{c} \rightarrow \\ \triangle \\ \uparrow \end{array}$$

$$C_3 \sigma^{\uparrow,l} = e^{i\frac{2\pi}{3}} \sigma^{\uparrow,l} \qquad C_2 \sigma^{\uparrow,l} = -\sigma^{\uparrow,r}$$

$$C_3 \sigma^{\uparrow,r} = e^{-i\frac{2\pi}{3}} \sigma^{\uparrow,r} \qquad C_2 \sigma^{\uparrow,r} = -\sigma^{\uparrow,l}$$



# Three-leg tube + projection operator

$$\mathcal{H} = K_{\Delta} \sum_{i=1}^L P_i + K_{\square} \sum_{i=1}^L \sum_{j=1}^3 R_{(i,j)(i+1,j)(i+1,j+1)(i,j+1)}$$

$$P_i = \text{Proj} \left\{ S_i^{\Delta} = 3/2 \right\} \quad R_{\alpha} = \text{Proj} \left\{ S_{\alpha}^T = 2 \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H} = \sum_{i=1}^L \sum_{j=1}^3 \{ & J_{\perp} \mathbf{S}_{i,j} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i,j+1} + J_1 \mathbf{S}_{i,j} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1,j} \\ & + J_2 (\mathbf{S}_{i,j} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1,j+1} + \mathbf{S}_{i,j} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1,j-1}) \\ & + J_{\text{RE}} [(\mathbf{S}_{i,j} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1,j})(\mathbf{S}_{i,j+1} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1,j+1}) \\ & + (\mathbf{S}_{i,j} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i,j+1})(\mathbf{S}_{i+1,j} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1,j+1}) \\ & + (\mathbf{S}_{i,j} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1,j+1})(\mathbf{S}_{i,j+1} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i,j+1})] \}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} J_{\perp} &= 5K_{\square}/6 + 2K_{\Delta}/3 \\ J_1 &= 5K_{\square}/6 \\ J_2 &= 5K_{\square}/12 \\ J_{\text{RE}} &= K_{\square}/3 \end{aligned}$$

# Weakly coupled triangles

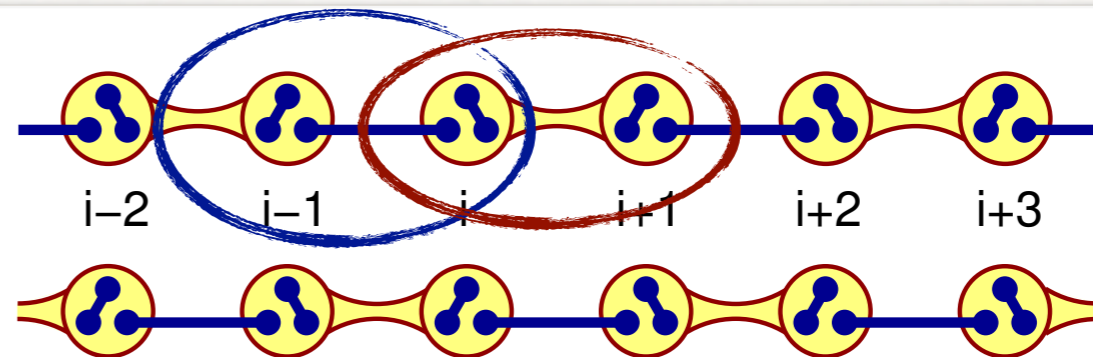
$$\mathcal{H} = K_{\Delta} \sum_{i=1}^L P_i + K_{\square} \sum_{i=1}^L \sum_{j=1}^3 R_{(i,j)(i+1,j)(i+1,j+1)(i,j+1)}$$

$$K_{\Delta} \gg 1$$

$$\mathcal{H}' = \frac{5}{9} \sum_{i=1}^L \left( \frac{3}{4} + \hat{\sigma}_i \cdot \hat{\sigma}_{i+1} \right) \left( 1 + \hat{\tau}_i^+ \hat{\tau}_{i+1}^- + \hat{\tau}_i^- \hat{\tau}_{i+1}^+ \right),$$

0 for spin singlet

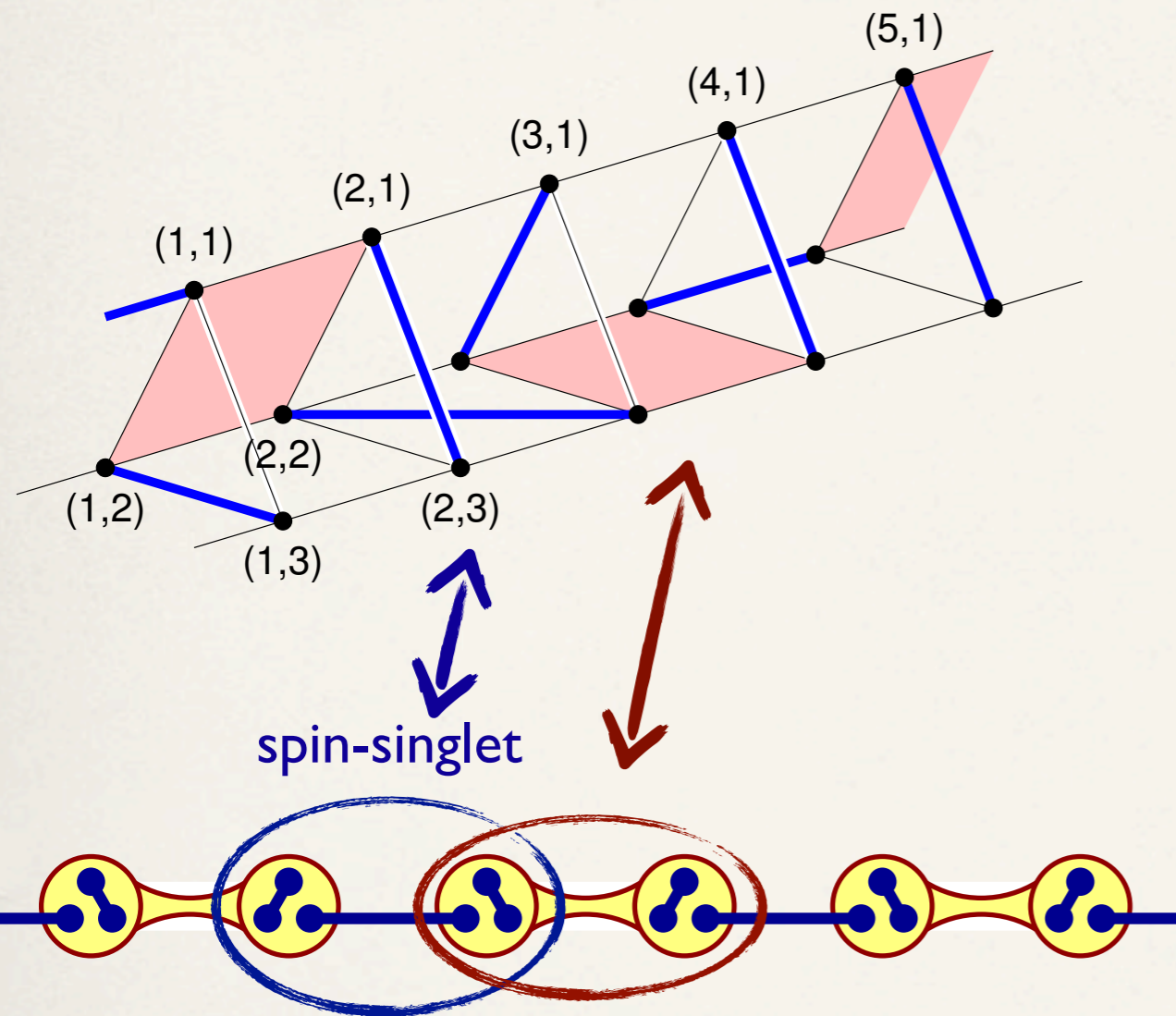
0 for chirality singlet



Ground states of  $\mathcal{H}$  for all  $K_{\Delta} \geq 0$



# Dimerized ground states at $K_\Delta = 0$

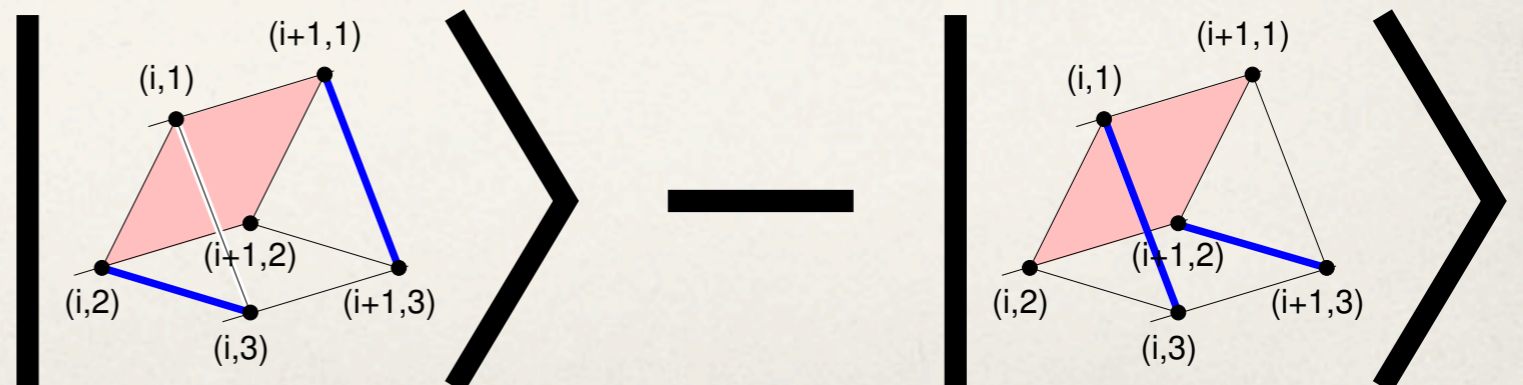


$$\triangle + \triangle + \triangle = 0$$

$$\sigma^{\uparrow,l} = (1 + e^{-i\frac{2\pi}{3}}) \triangle + (e^{+i\frac{2\pi}{3}} + e^{-i\frac{2\pi}{3}}) \triangle$$

$$\sigma^{\uparrow,r} = (1 + e^{+i\frac{2\pi}{3}}) \triangle + (e^{-i\frac{2\pi}{3}} + e^{+i\frac{2\pi}{3}}) \triangle$$

chirality singlet

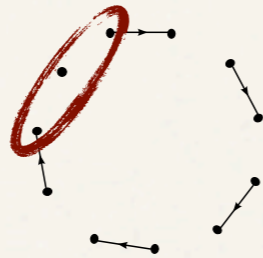


# Tubes of odd length, $K_{\Delta} = 0$

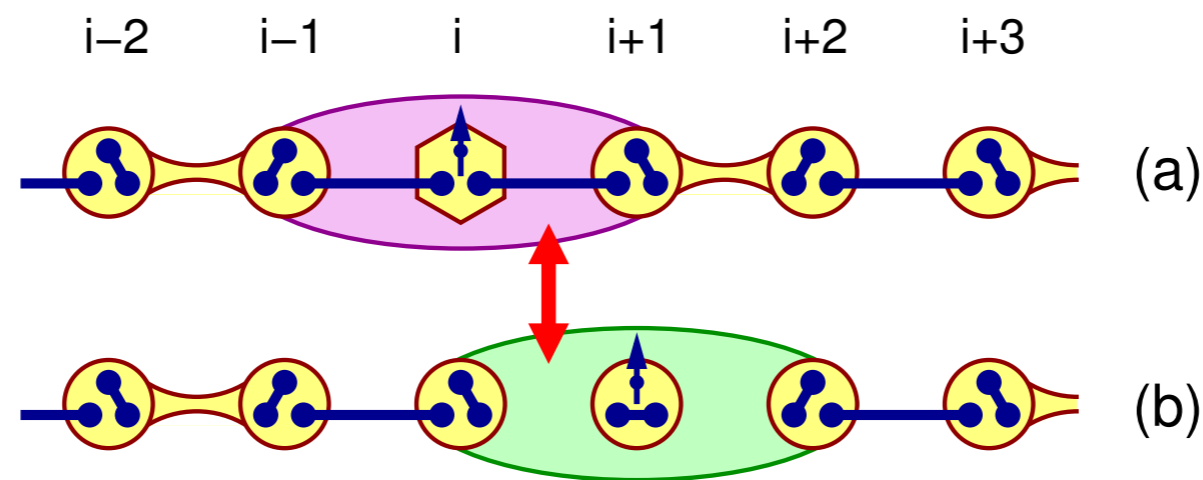
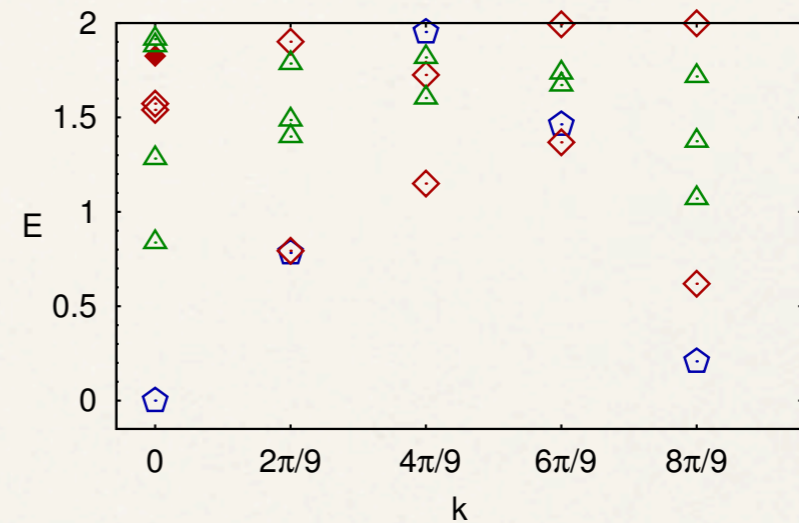
Majumdar-Ghosh:

$$H_{MG} = \sum_i \text{Proj} \left( |\mathbf{S}_{i-1} + \mathbf{S}_i + \mathbf{S}_{i+1}| = \frac{3}{2} \right)$$

for odd length:  
 $E_g > 0$ , gapless

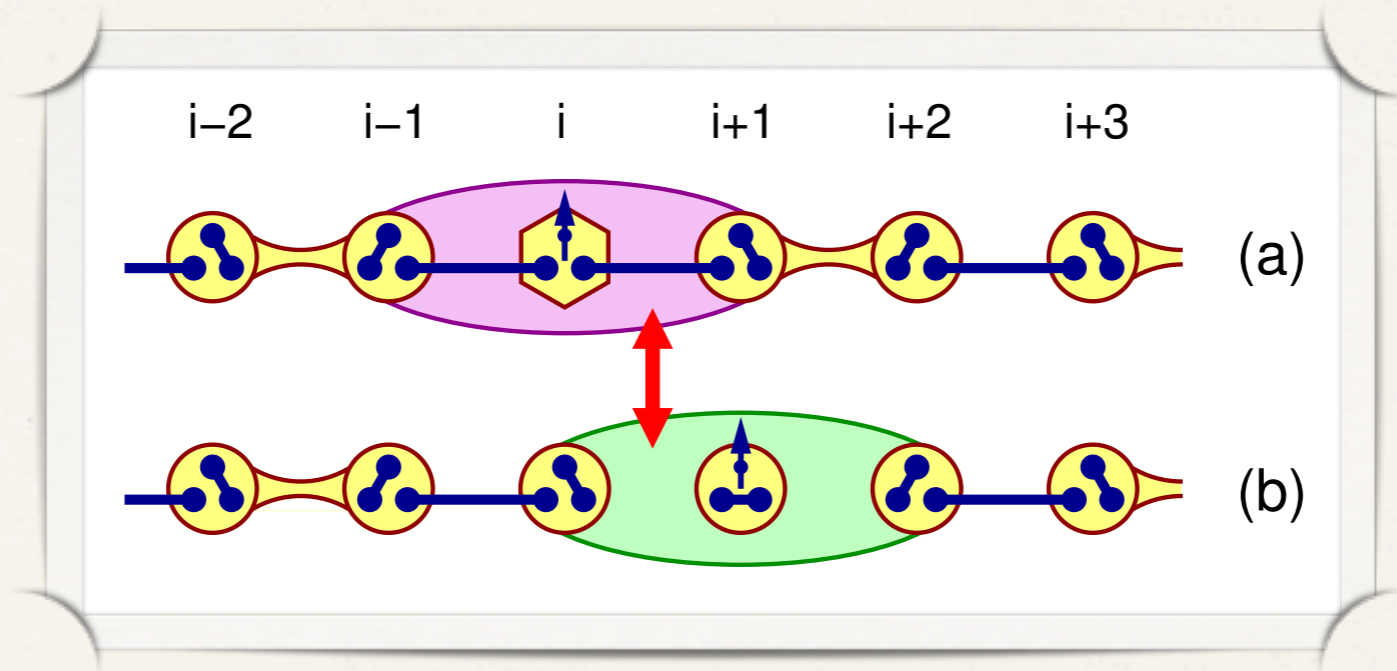


$$\mathcal{H} = K_{\Delta} \sum_{i=1}^L P_i + K_{\square} \sum_{i=1}^L \sum_{j=1}^3 R_{(i,j)(i+1,j)(i+1,j+1)(i,j+1)}$$





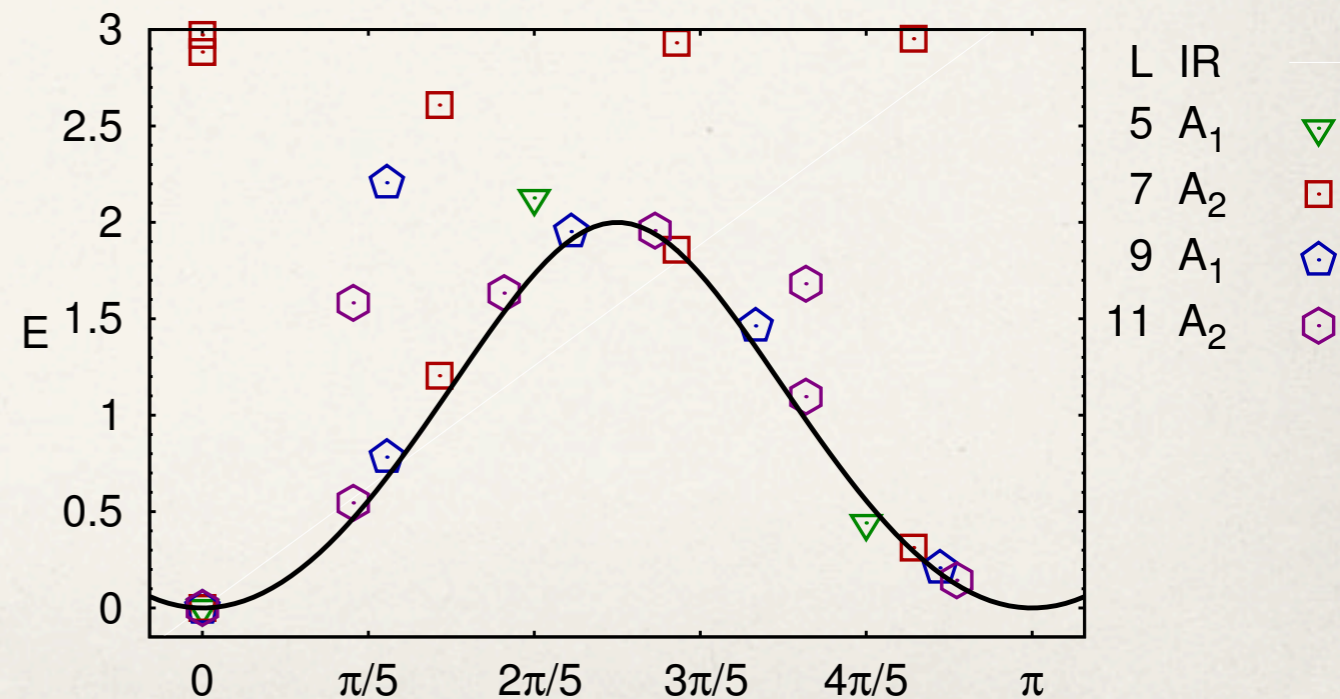
# Tubes of odd length, $K_\Delta = 0$



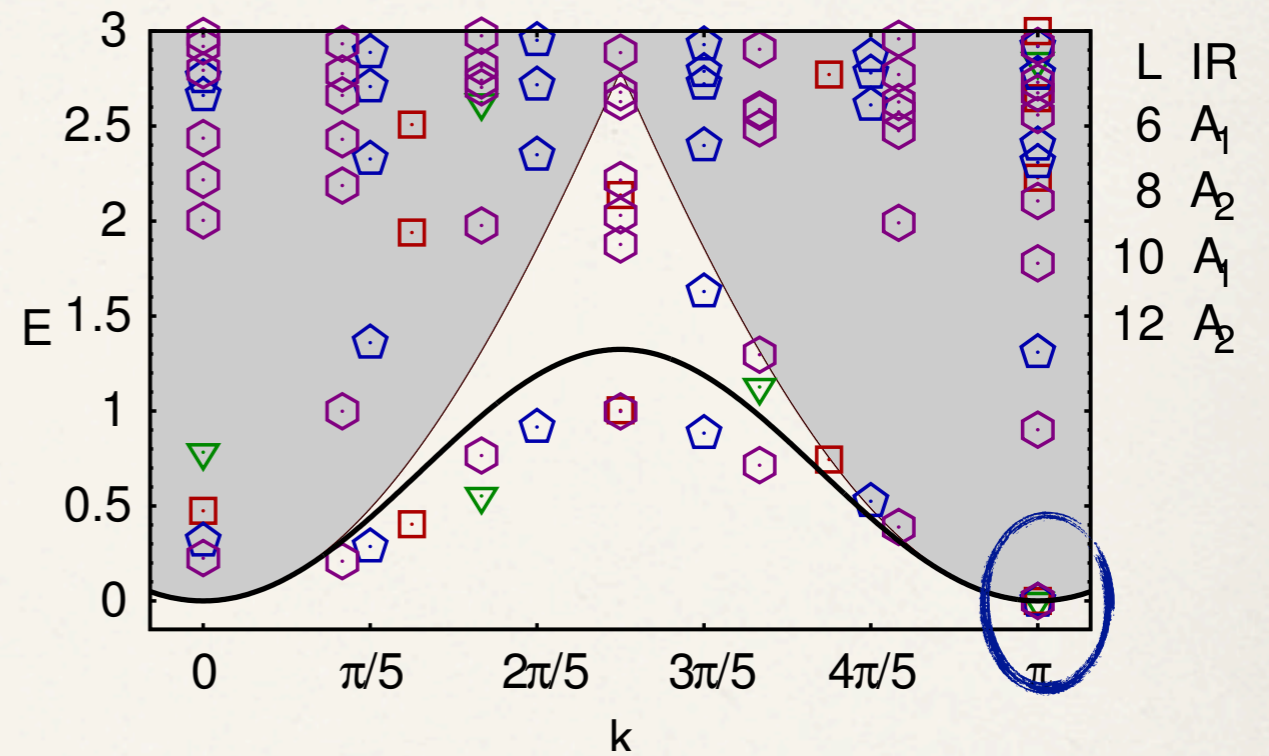
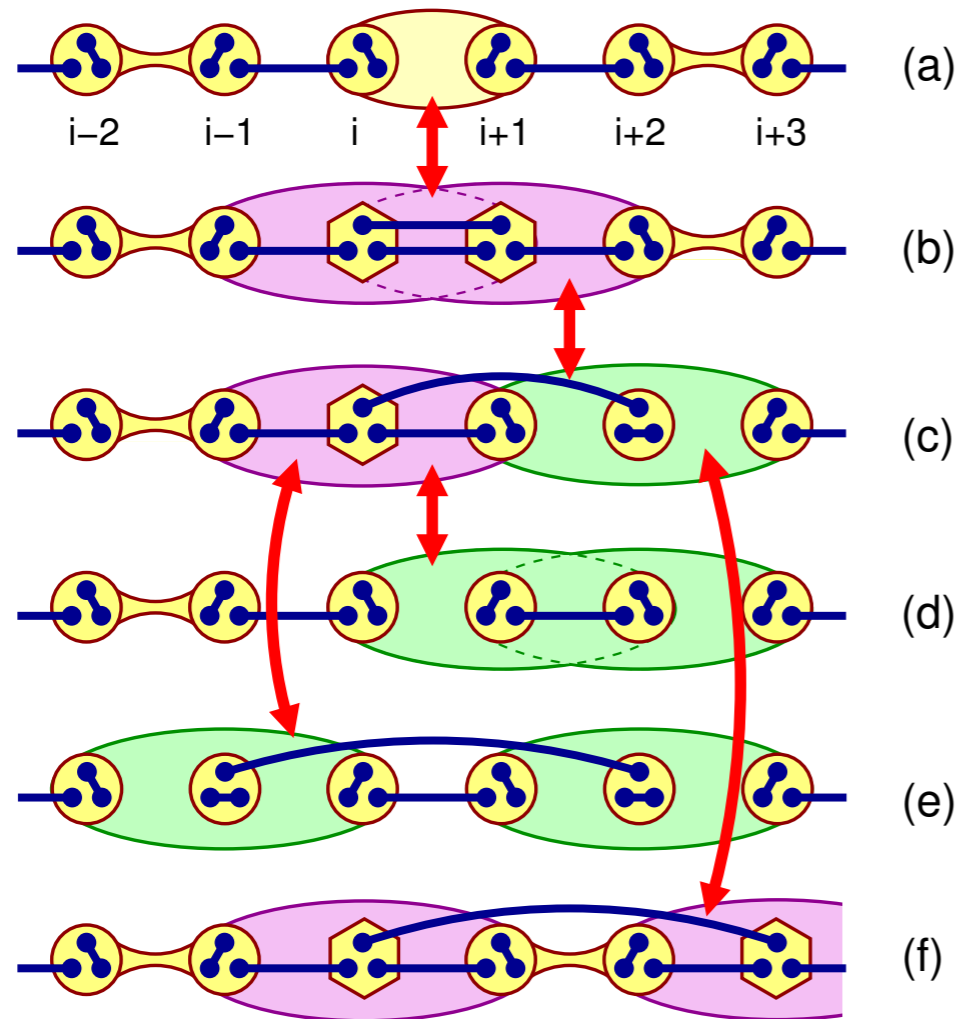
$$\mathcal{H}_{1\text{dw}}(k) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{10}{3} (1 - a_L \cos k) & -\frac{10}{\sqrt{3}} (\cos k - a_L) \\ -\frac{10}{\sqrt{3}} (\cos k - a_L) & 10 (1 - a_L \cos k) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$a_L = 2^{3-L}$$

$$E_1^\pm(k) = \frac{5}{36} \left( 4 \pm \sqrt{10 + 6 \cos 2k} \right)$$



# Tubes of even length, $K_{\Delta} = 0$

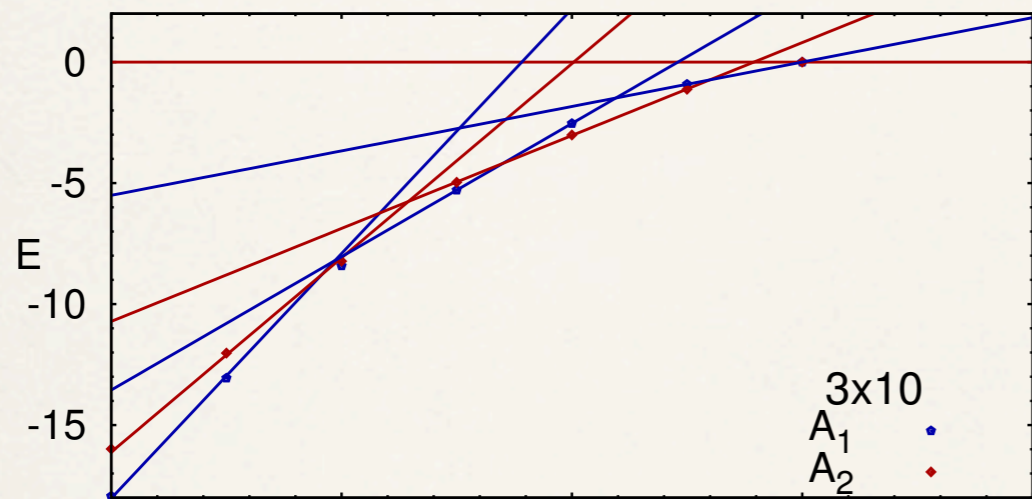


deconfined two domain wall  
ground state with 0 energy  
for finite  $L$

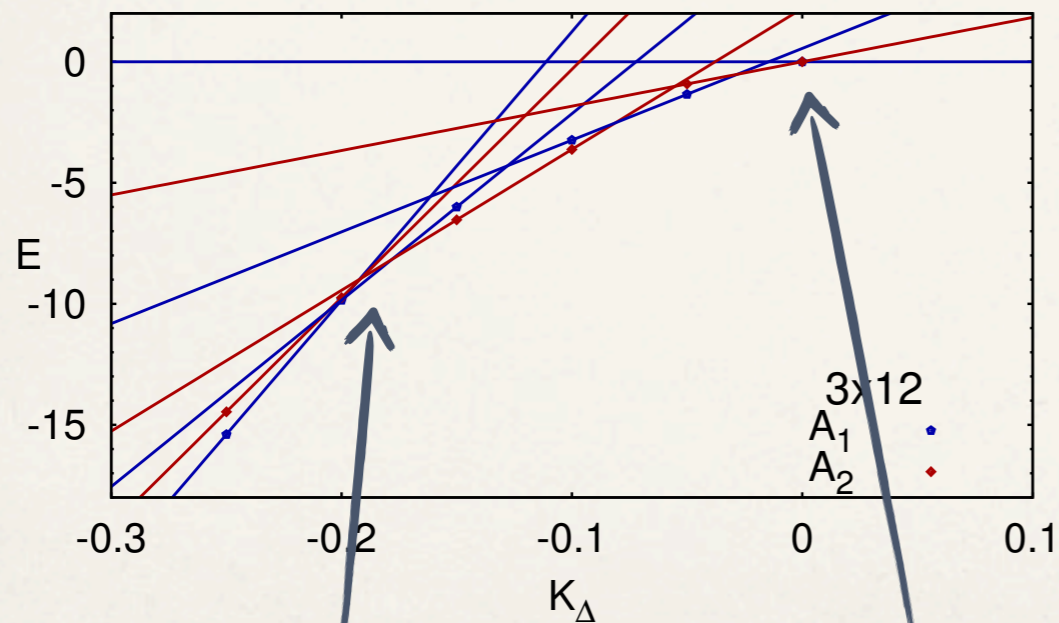


# Tuning away from $K_\Delta = 0$

$$\mathcal{H} = K_\Delta \sum_{i=1}^L P_i + K_\square \sum_{i=1}^L \sum_{j=1}^3 R_{(i,j)(i+1,j)(i+1,j+1)(i,j+1)} \quad P_i = \text{Proj} \left\{ S_i^\Delta = 3/2 \right\}$$



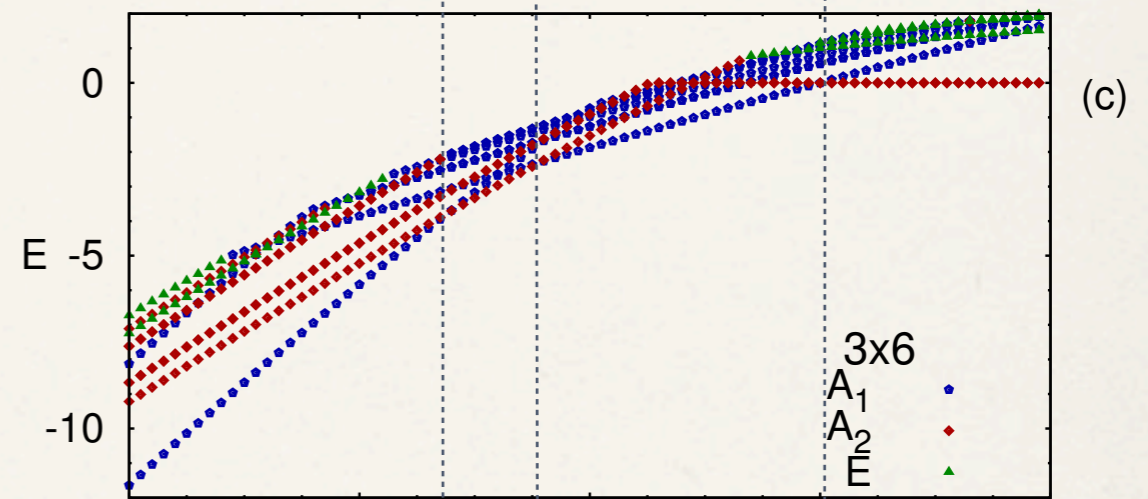
(a)



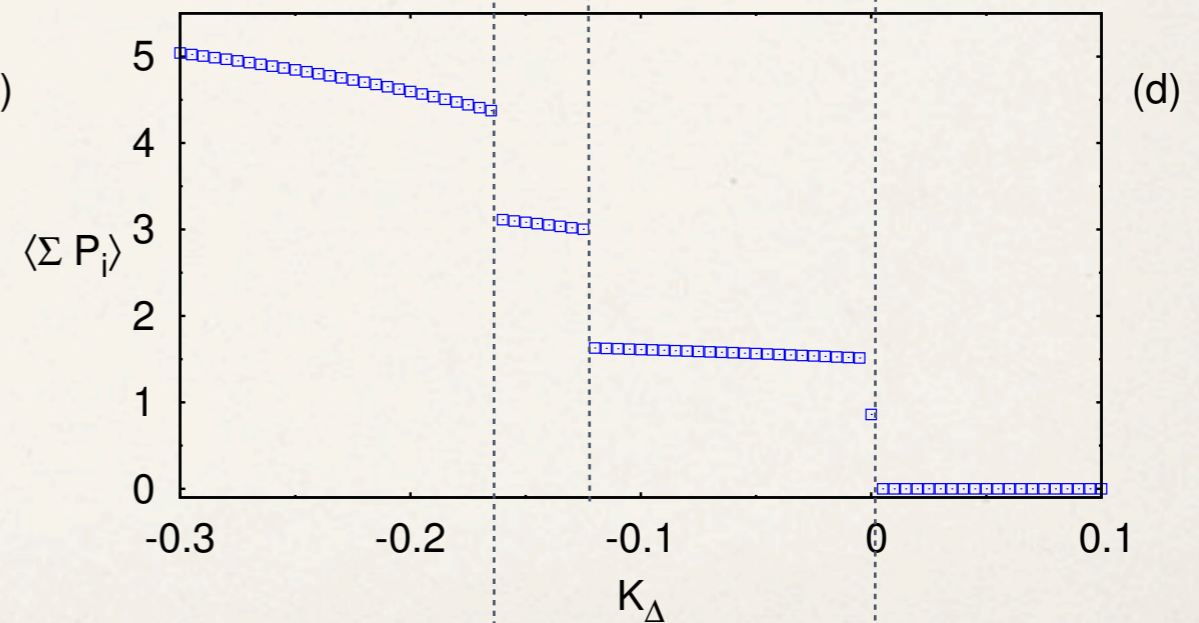
(b)

first order

second order



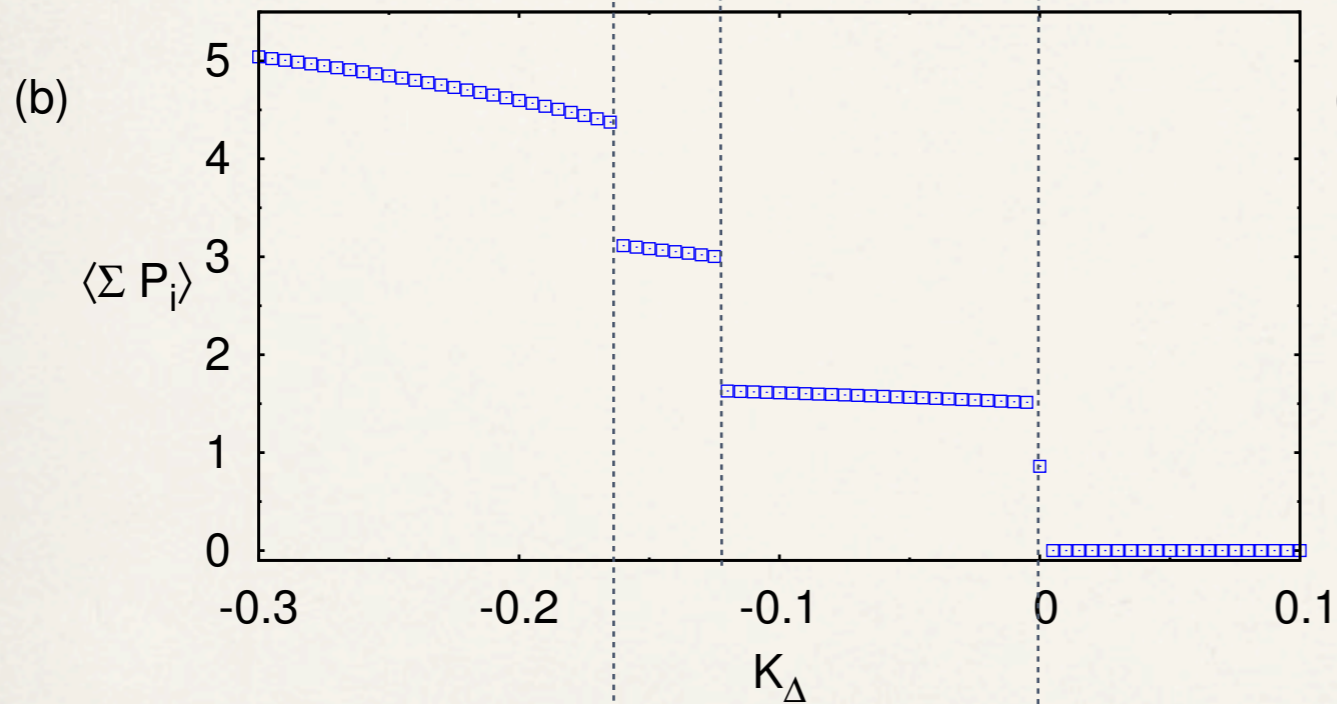
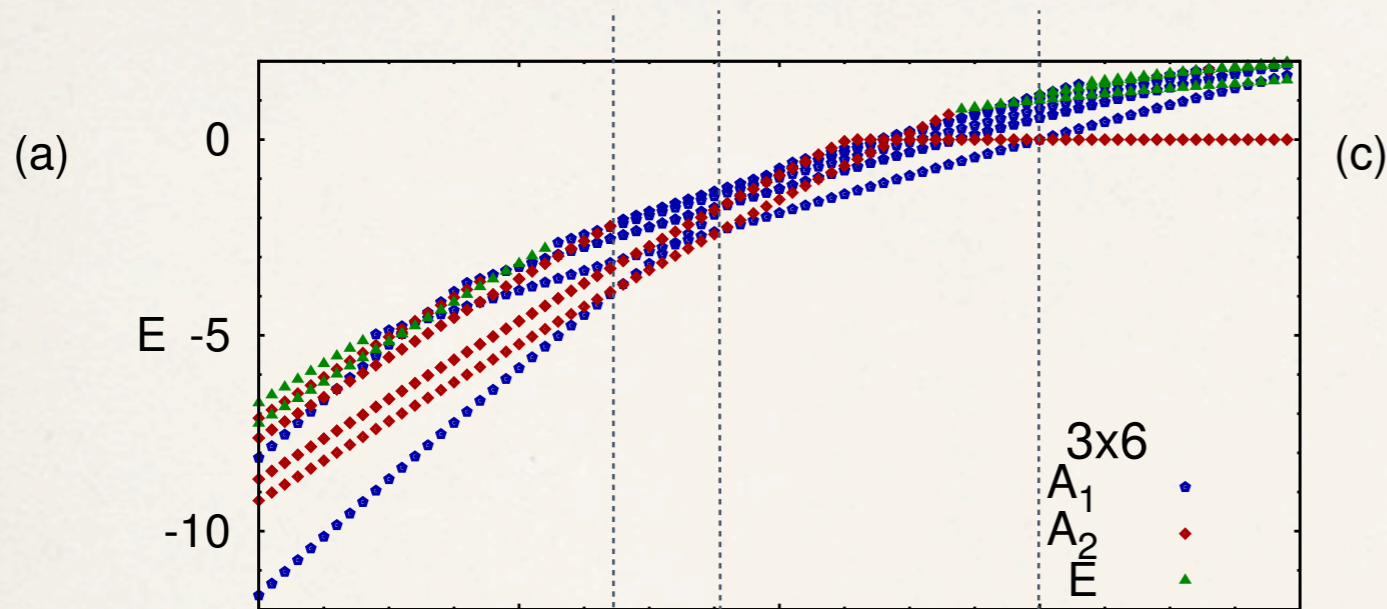
(c)



(d)



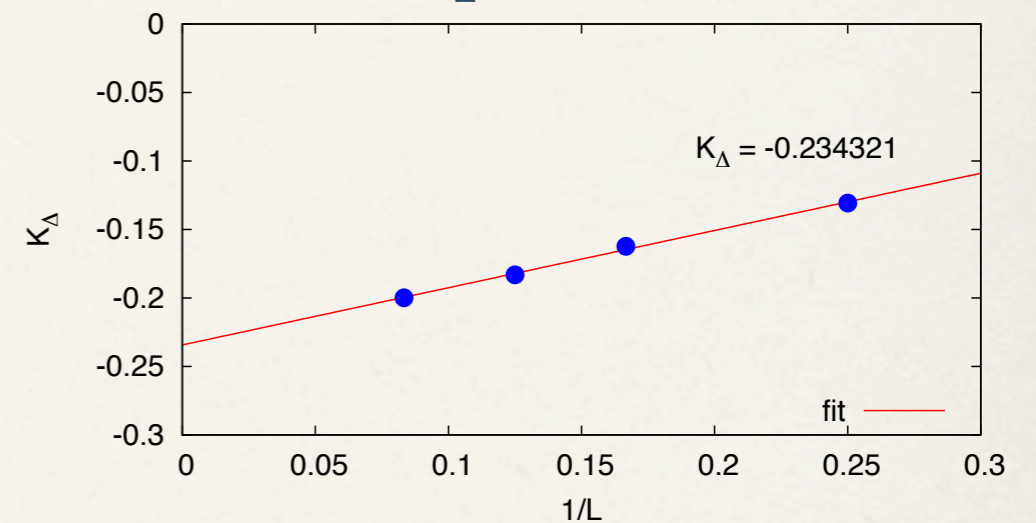
# Tuning away from $K_\Delta = 0$



(c)

(d)

$S=3/2$  phase starts at



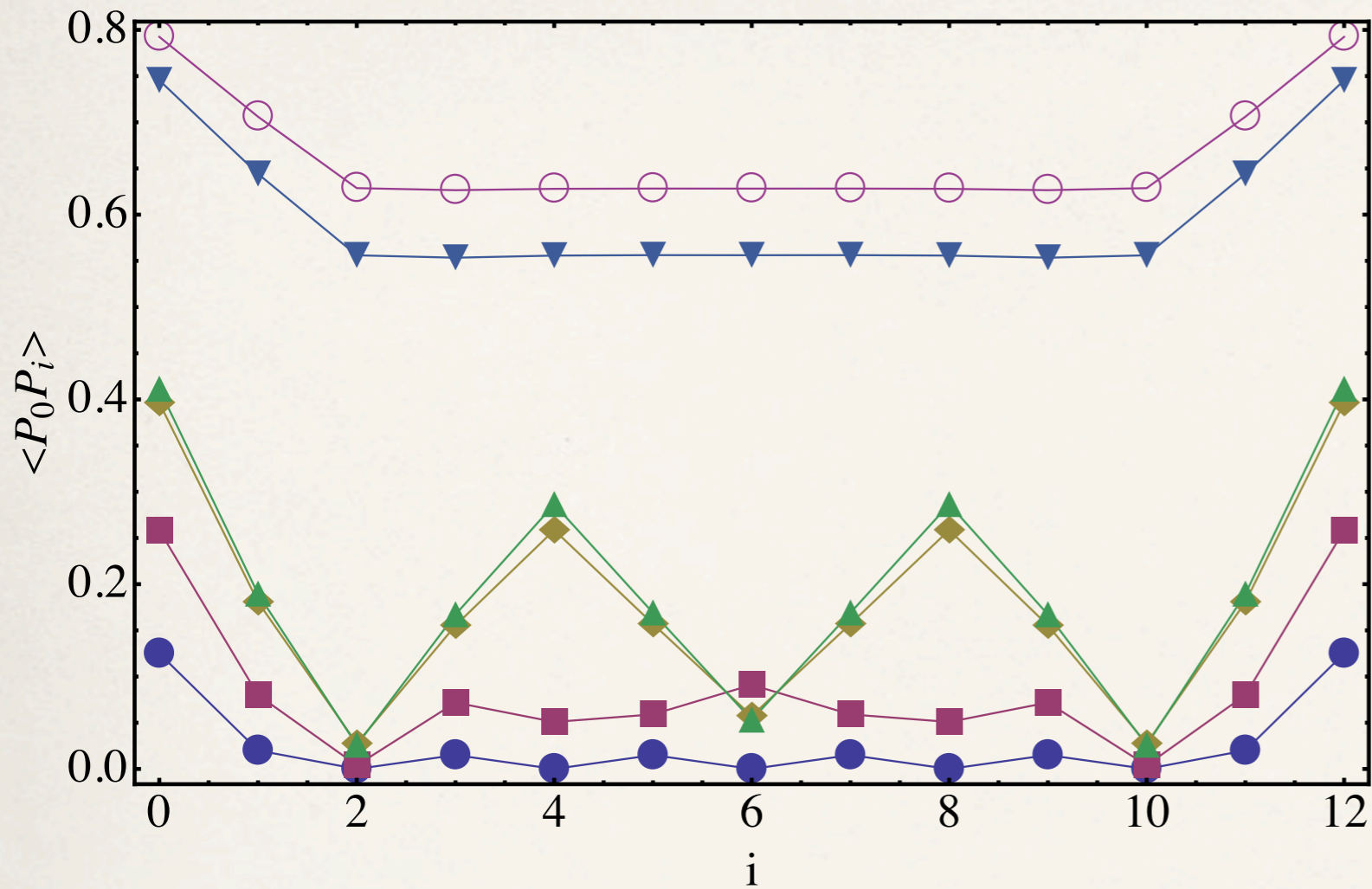
$S=3/2$   
 Heisenberg  
 no exact ground state  
 gapless excitations

domain  
 walls  
 gapless  
 excitations

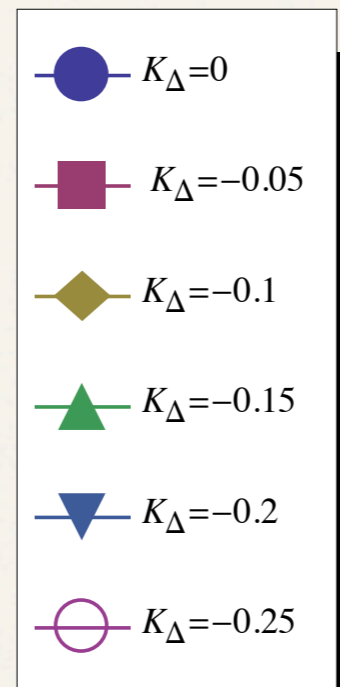
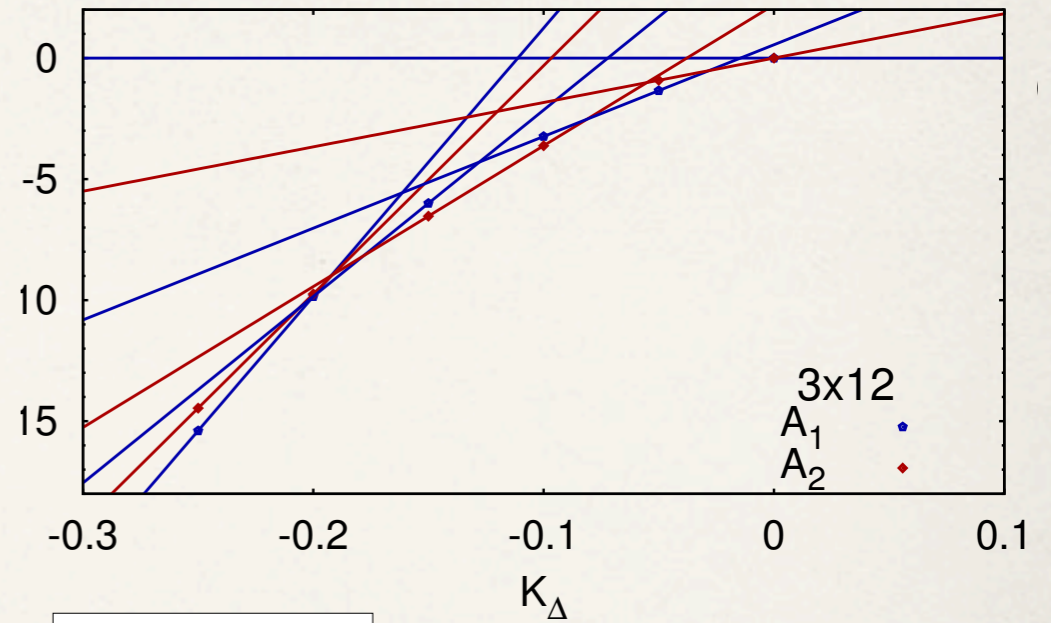
spin-chiral  
 dimerized exact ground states  
 gapped  
 excitations



# Spin-3/2 correlation functions



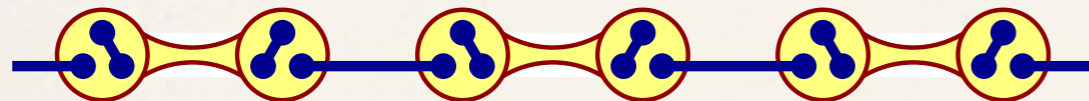
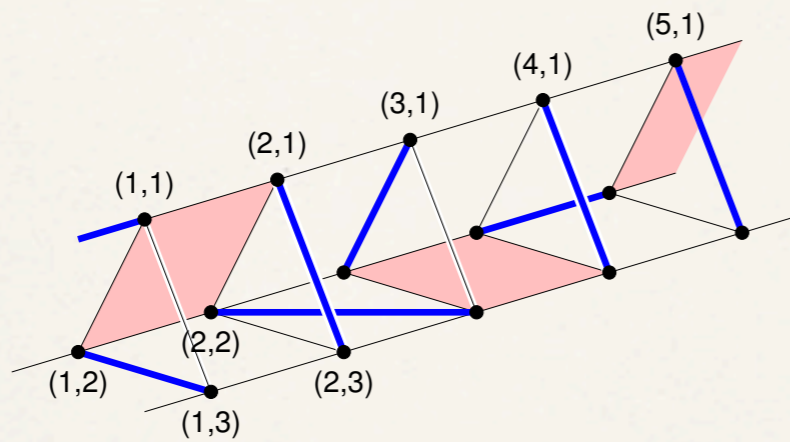
domain walls in pairs





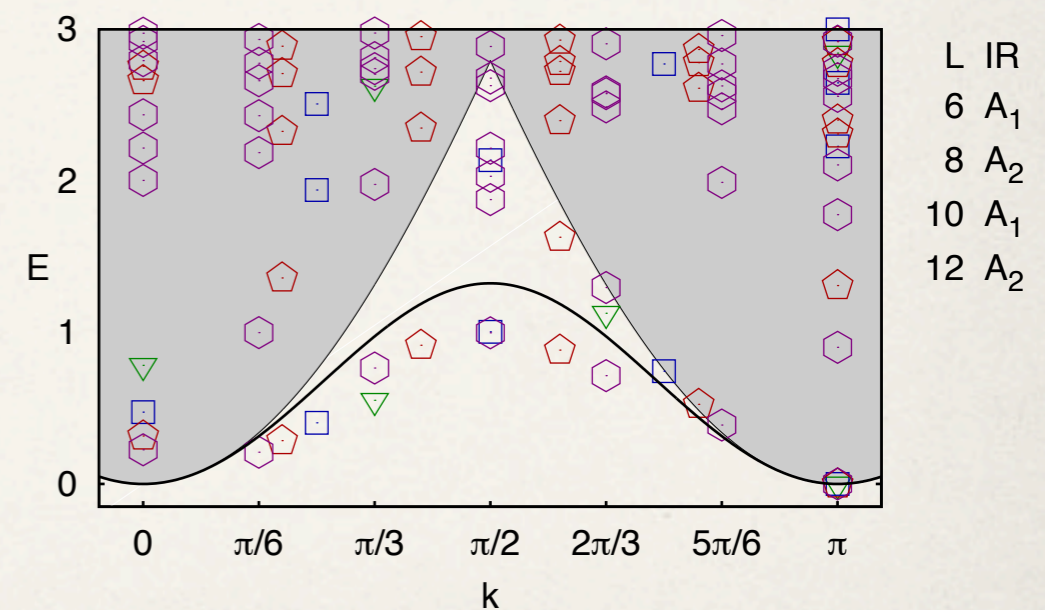
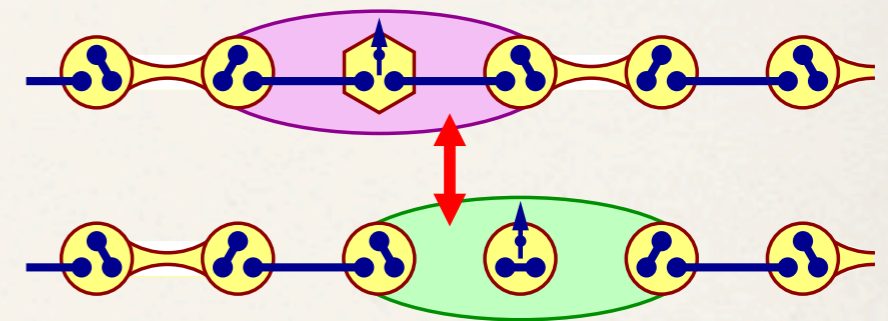
# Conclusions

$$\mathcal{H} = K_{\Delta} \sum_{i=1}^L P_i + K_{\square} \sum_{i=1}^L \sum_{j=1}^3 R_{(i,j)(i+1,j)(i+1,j+1)(i,j+1)}$$



$K_{\Delta} \geq 0$ , two exact ground states

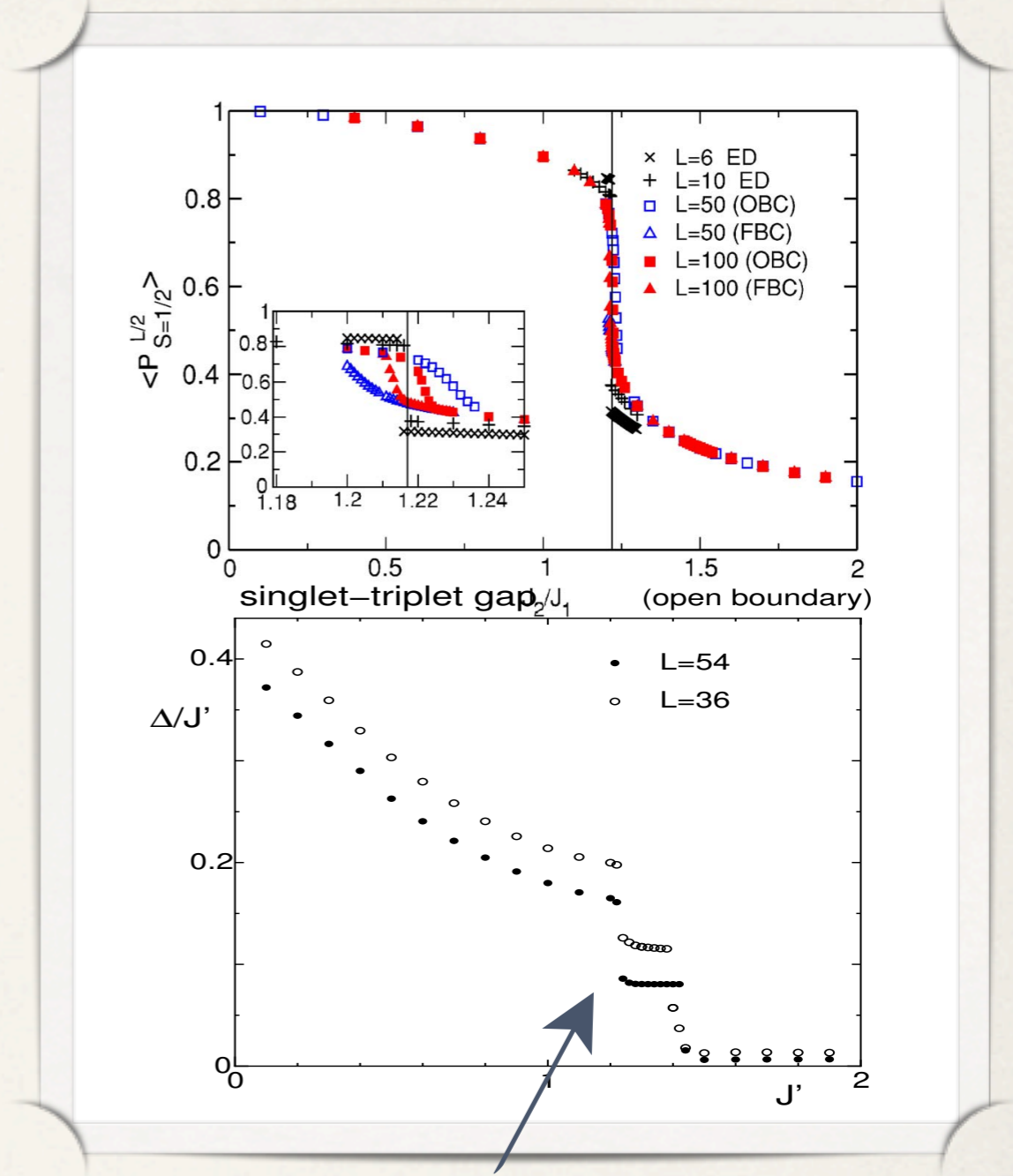
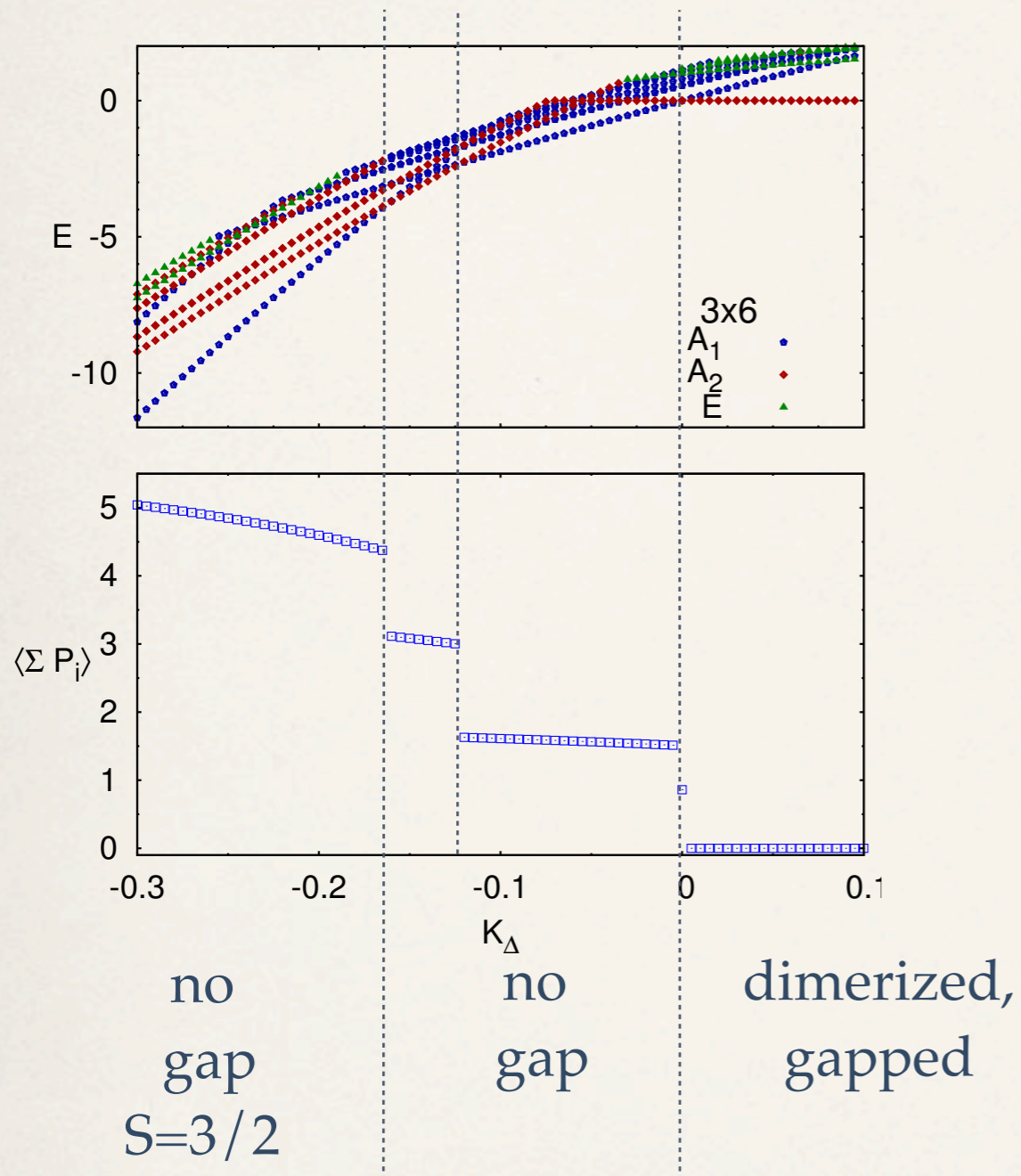
1 exact ground state with gapless spectrum at a quantum phase transition point ( $K_{\Delta} = 0$ )





Thank you for your attention

# Intermediate phase



effect of open boundary condition

J.-B. Fouet, A. Läuchli, S. Pilgram, R. M. Noack, and F. Mila  
 PHYSICAL REVIEW B 73, 014409

T. Sakai, M. Sato, K. Okamoto, K. Okunishi, and C. Itoi, J. Phys. Condens. Matter 22, 403201 (2010).