

Hydrodynamic theory for Higgs-confining and Coulomb phases in quantum spin ice

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L. Balents, S. Lee (KITP, UCSB)

SO-Tanaka, PRL **105**, 047201 (2010), PRB **83**, 094411 (2011).

SO, J. Phys.: Conf. Series **320**, 012065 (2011).

L.-J. Chang, SO, Y. Su et al. Nature Comm. 3:992 (2012).

S. Lee, SO, L. Balents, PRB 86, 104412 (2012).

SO, J. Phys.: Cond. Matter, Topical Review (invited).

Diamond lattice

Diamond



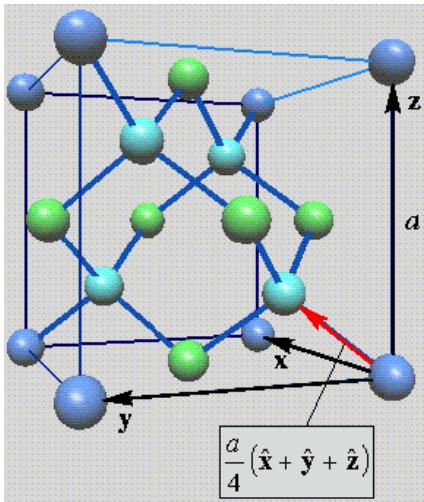
$(\text{Dy}, \text{Ho})_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_7$
Classical spin ice



$\text{Yb}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_7, \text{Pr}_2\text{Zr}_2\text{O}_7$
Quantum spin ice



Diamond lattice

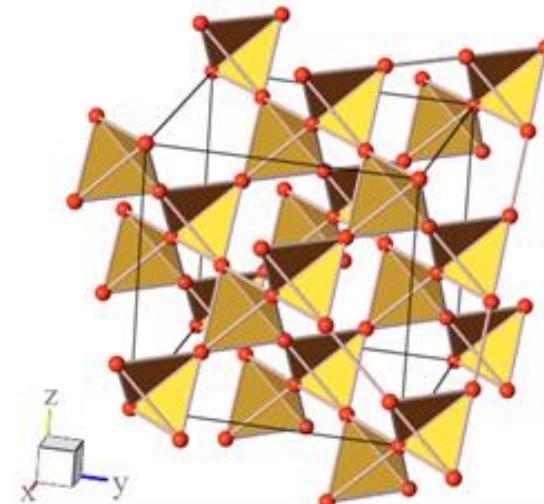


Cut, Carat, Clarity



Dual lattice

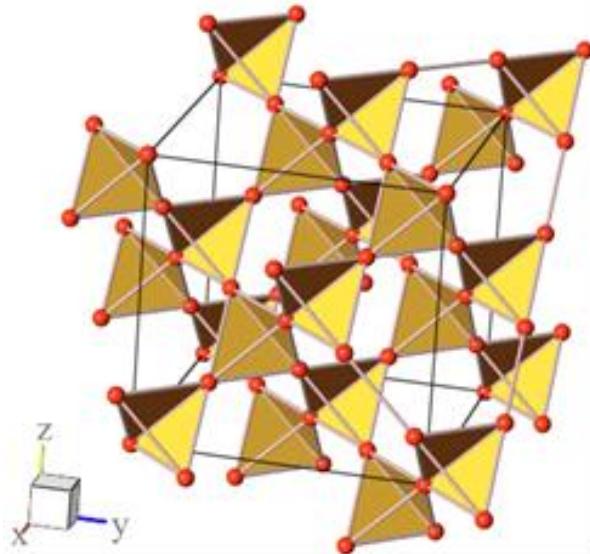
courtesy of Y. Yasui
Pyrochlore lattice



Spin ice & emergent monopoles

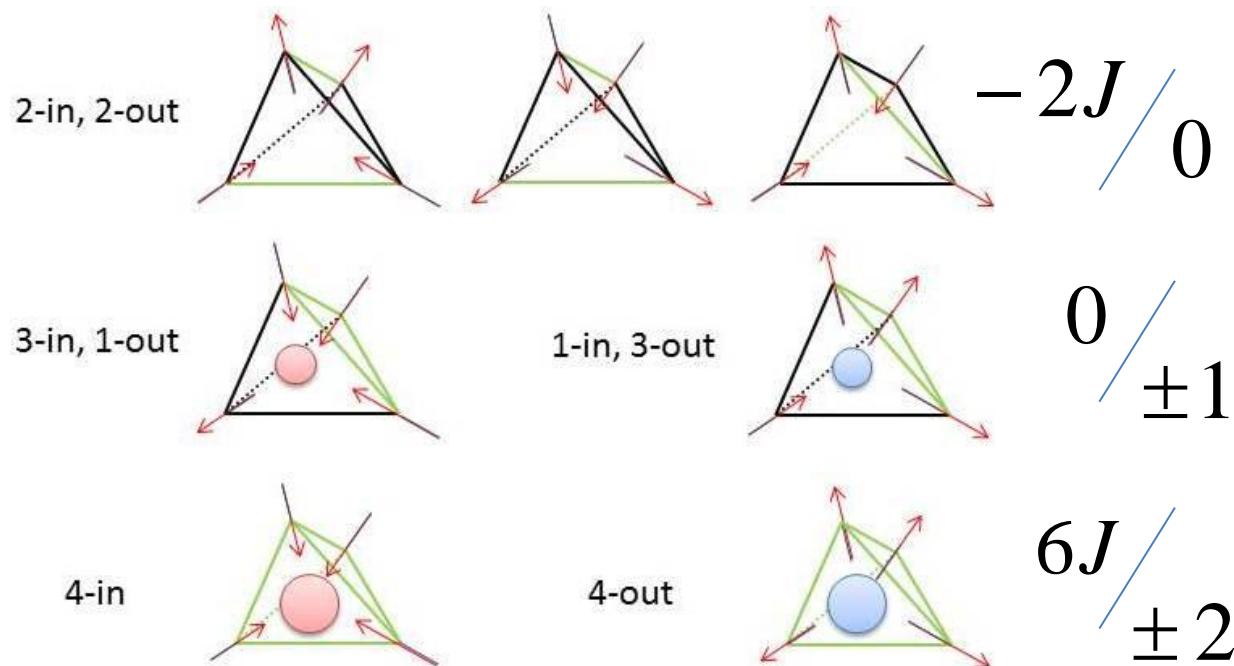
AF Ising model on a pyrochlore lattice

$$H = 4J \sum_{\langle r, r' \rangle}^{n.n.} S_r^z S_{r'}^z \quad S_r^z : \text{Ising } (S=1/2) \text{ spin}$$



Moessner-Sondhi

Energy/Monopole charge



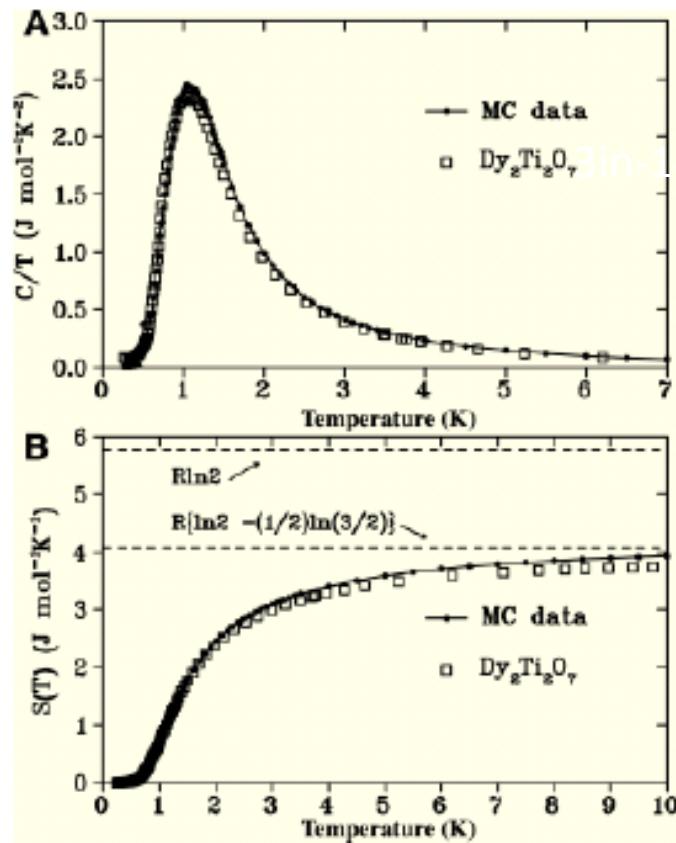
Classical Coulomb-phase physics: divergence-free $\nabla \cdot S^z = 0$

Experiments and numerics on dipolar spin ice

Harris, Ramirez, Bramwell, Sakakibara , Hiroi, Maeno, Gingras

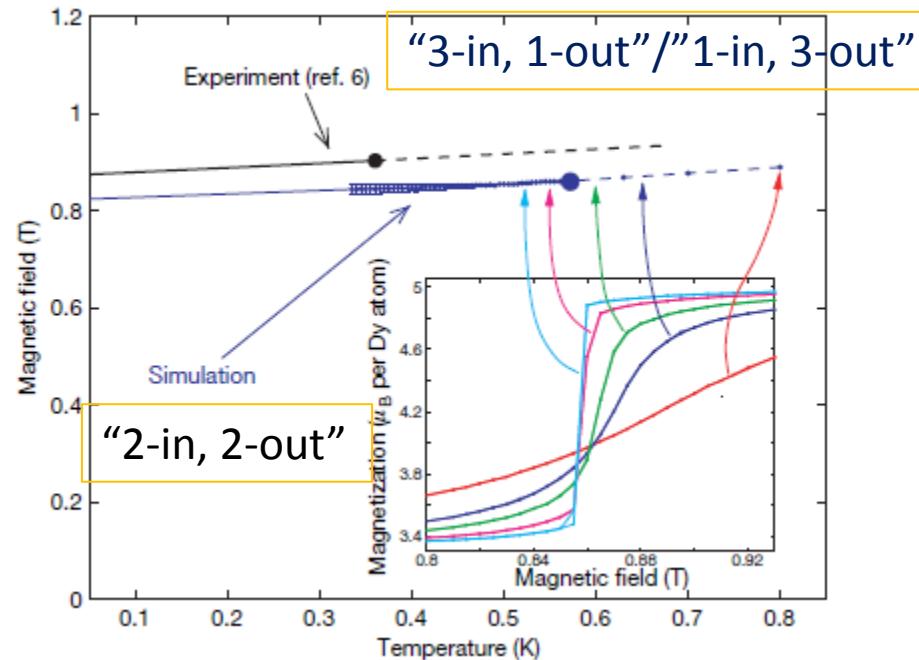
$\text{Dy}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_7$, $\text{Ho}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_7$

N.N. Ising coupling $J \sim 2.4 \text{ K}$



Castelnovo-Moessner-Songhi, Nature 451, 42-45 (2008)

Metamagnetic transition under $H // (111)$
→ liquid-gas phase transition of monopoles



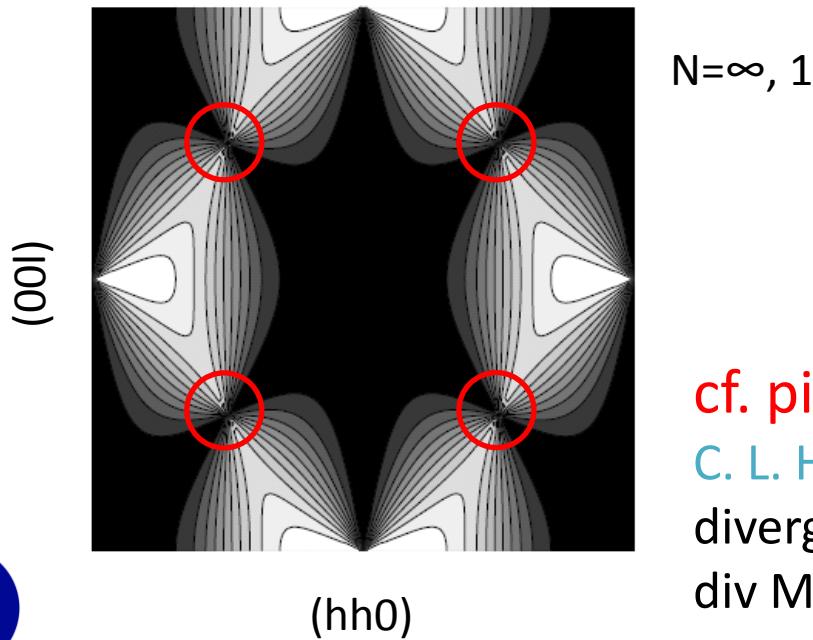
Exp., Sakakibara et al.,
Phys. Rev. Lett. 90, 207205 (2003).

Dipolar spin correlations: Coulomb physics

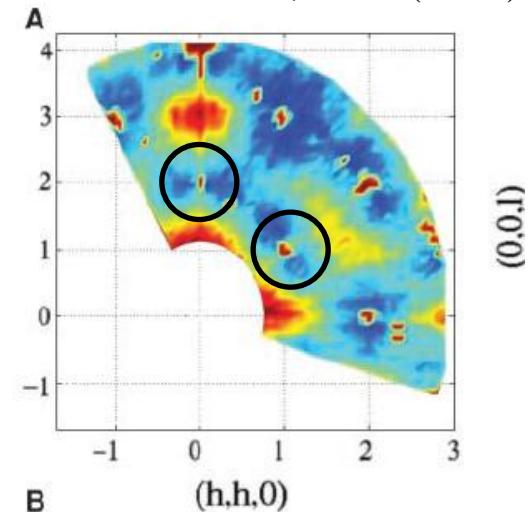
- O(N) Heisenberg antiferromagnet

S.V. Isakov, K. Gregor, R. Moessner, S. L. Sondhi,
Phys. Rev. Lett. 93, 167204 (2004).

Works well for N=1 (Ising) and infinity.



S.T. Bramwell and M.J.P. Gingras
Science 294, 1495 (2001)



cf. pinch-point singularity

C. L. Henley, *Phys. Rev. B* 71 014424 (2005)
divergence-free condition, i.e., spin-ice rule
 $\text{div } \mathbf{M} \rightarrow 0$

More recent experiments on dipolar spin ice: Morris et al., Fennell et al.

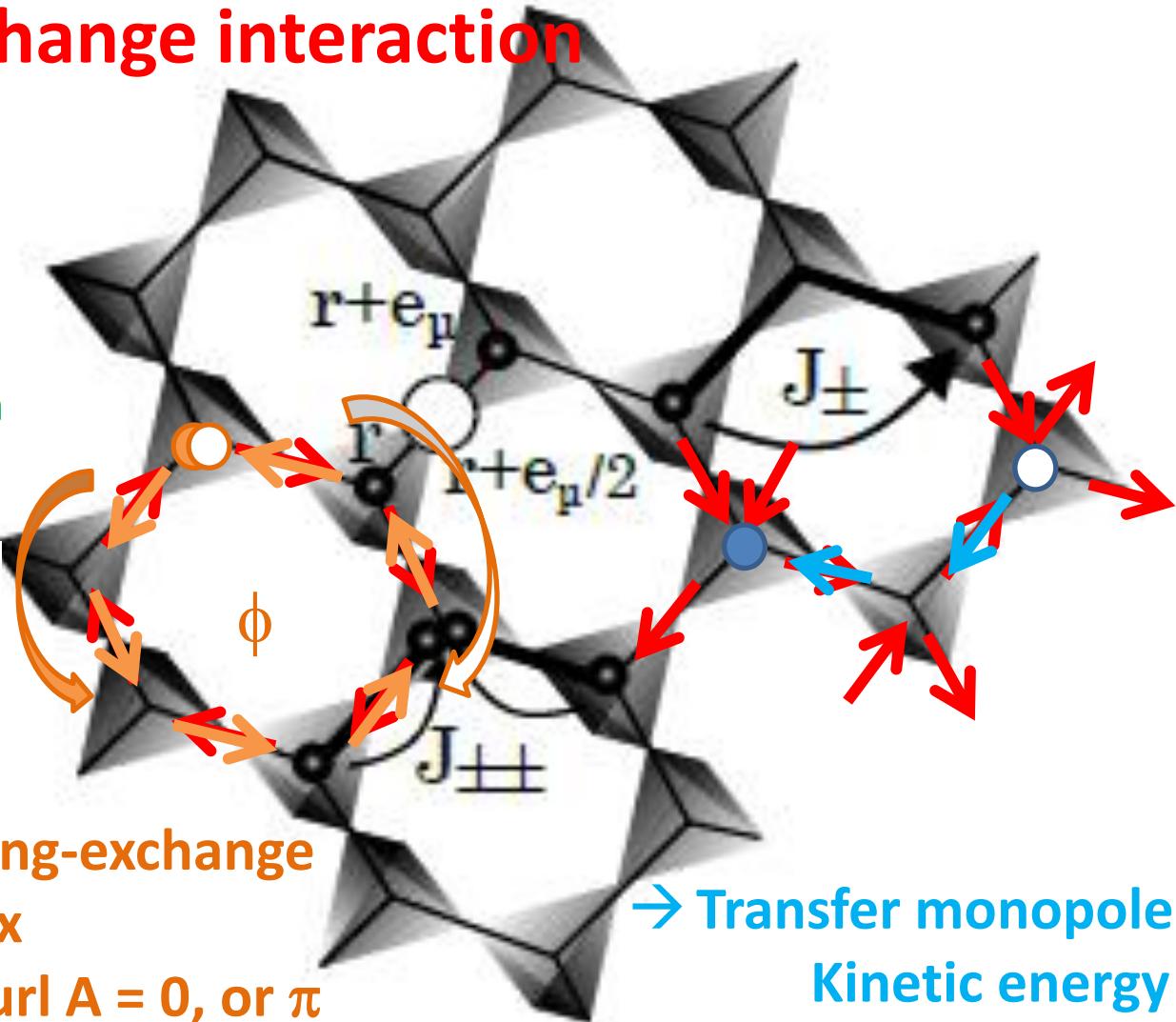
Classical to quantum spin ice

Spin-flip exchange interaction

$$\delta J S_r^+ S_{r'}^-$$

c.f. Quite different from
a quantum tunneling
of protons in water ice

$$\mathcal{H} = J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} S_i^z S_j^z - \Gamma \sum_i S_i^x$$



→ Effective ring-exchange

→ A fixed flux

$$\phi = \text{curl } \mathbf{A} = 0, \text{ or } \pi$$

→ Transfer monopole charge
Kinetic energy

Classical-to-quantum Coulomb-phase physics

- Classical case: particles obeying a Coulombic law

$$H_{cl} \approx \frac{1}{8\pi} \mathbf{E}^2 - \mu \psi^+ \psi + u \psi^+ \psi \psi^+ \psi \quad \longrightarrow \text{Coulomb propagator}$$

$$\mathbf{E} = \hat{S}^z \mathbf{z} \rightarrow \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = g(\psi^+ \psi)$$

ψ^+, ψ : **Spinon** operators creating and annihilating the gauge charge

- Quantum case: kinetic energy with gauge field (QED)

U(1) quantum spin liquid, unless condensed

$$H_{qm} \approx \frac{1}{8\pi} (\mathbf{E}^2 + \mathbf{B}^2) + \frac{1}{2m} \psi^+ (-i\hbar\nabla + g\mathbf{A})^2 \psi - \mu \psi^+ \psi + u \psi^+ \psi \psi^+ \psi$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = g(\psi^+ \psi) \leftarrow \mathbf{E} = \hat{S}^z \mathbf{z}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A} \leftarrow \hat{S}_r^\pm = \psi_{r\pm d}^+ e^{\pm i A_{r+d, r-d}} \psi_{r\mp d}$$

$$[A_{r+d, r-d}, E_{r+d, r-d}] = i$$

Abelian Higgs models:
Savary-Balents
(non-interacting spinons)
S.Lee-S.O.-Balents
(interacting spinons)

Gapless “Photon” excitations in a quantum Coulomb phase ($T=0$)

Lattice U(1) gauge theory Hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{H}'_{U(1)} = \frac{\mathcal{U}}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{r} \in A, n} \left[(\nabla_{\mathbf{O}} \times \mathcal{A})_{(\mathbf{r}, n)} \right]^2 + \frac{1}{2\mathcal{K}} \sum_{\mathbf{s} \in A', m} \left[\frac{\partial \mathcal{A}_{(\mathbf{s}, m)}}{\partial t} \right]^2$$

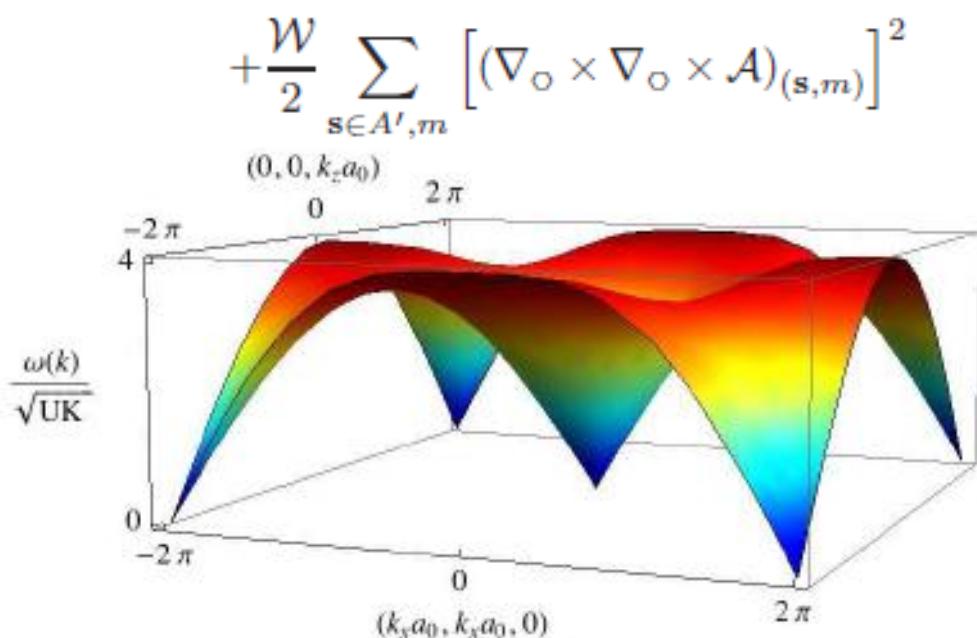
$$U \sim \delta^3 J$$

$$K \sim 1/J$$

$$\text{Velocity } c \sim \delta^{3/2} J$$



A measure of
quantum Coulomb regime
 $T < \delta^{3/2} J \sim 1 K$ (Yb₂Ti₂O₇)

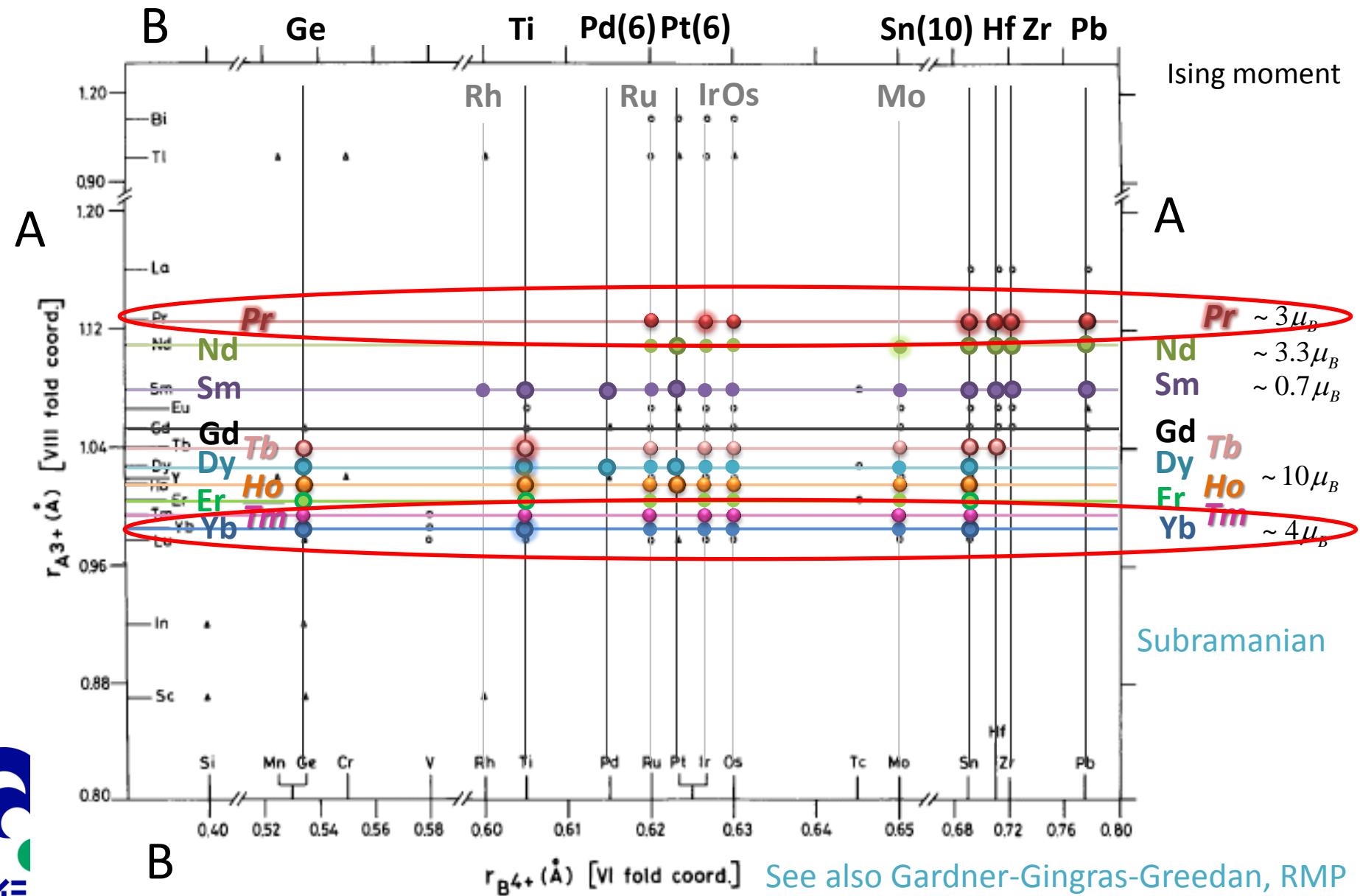


Hermele-Fischer-Balents 2004
Benton-Sikora-Shannon 2012

In the Higgs phase, however,
absorbed into Higgs bosons.

At a $T > 0$ Coulomb phase
no well defined photons!

Candidate pyrochlore magnets $A_2B_2O_7$



Specific examples: Derivation of realistic superexchange int.

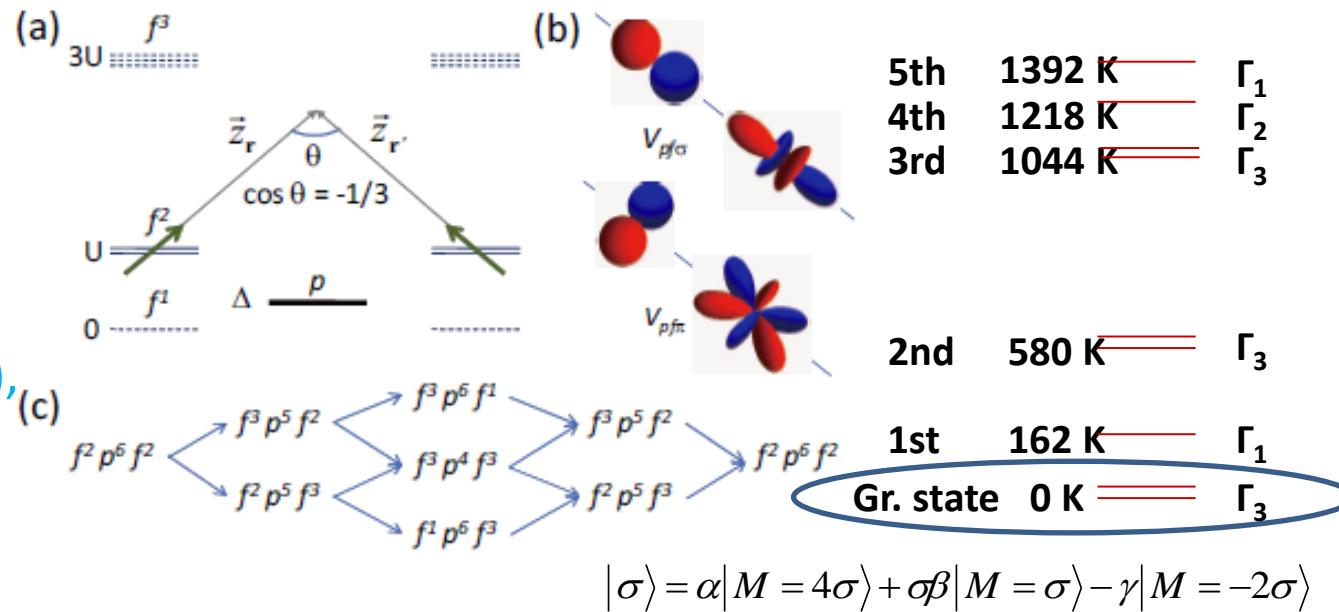
Anderson's superexchange int. → Project onto the gr. doublets

- $\text{Pr}_2\text{TM}_2\text{O}_7$
non-Kramers doublet
(integer-spins)

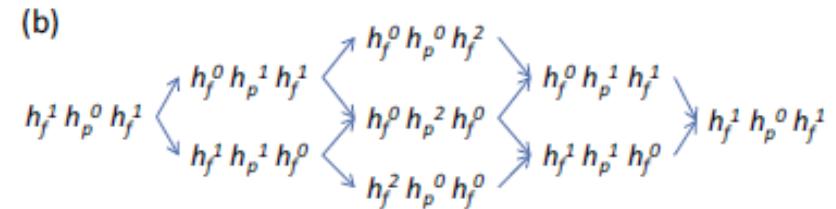
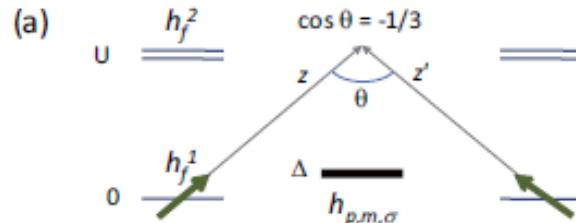
SO-Tanaka,
PRL **105**, 047201 (2010),
PRB **83**, 094411 (2011).

- $\text{Yb}_2\text{TM}_2\text{O}_7$

Kramers doublet (half-integer spins)
SO, J. Phys.: Conf. Series **320**, 012065 (2011)



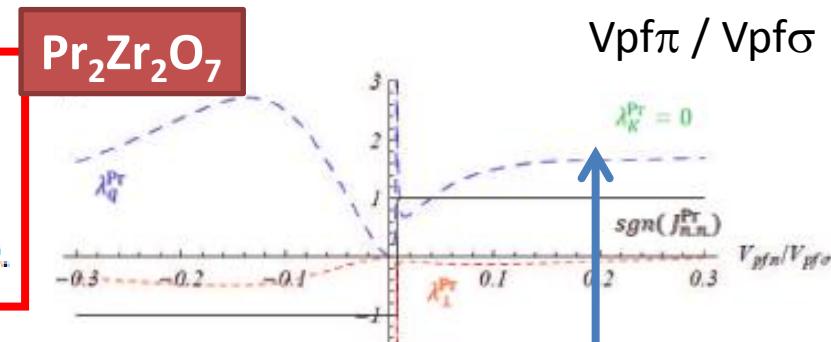
$$|\sigma\rangle_D = -\alpha\sigma|J_z = \frac{7}{2}\sigma\rangle + \beta|J_z = \frac{1}{2}\sigma\rangle + \gamma\sigma|J_z = -\frac{5}{2}\sigma\rangle$$



Effective pseudospin-1/2 model

Anisotropic superexchange interaction
[SO-Tanaka (2009, 2010), SO (2011)]

$$\hat{H}_{\text{SE}}^R = \frac{|J_{n.n.}^R|}{2} \sum_{\langle \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}' \rangle}^{\text{n.n.}} \left[\text{sgn}(J_{n.n.}^R) \hat{S}_{\mathbf{r}}^z \hat{S}_{\mathbf{r}'}^z + \lambda_{\perp}^R \hat{S}_{\mathbf{r}}^+ \hat{S}_{\mathbf{r}'}^- \right. \\ \left. + \lambda_q^R e^{2i\phi_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'}} \hat{S}_{\mathbf{r}}^+ \hat{S}_{\mathbf{r}'}^+ + \lambda_K^R e^{i\phi_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'}} (\hat{S}_{\mathbf{r}}^z \hat{S}_{\mathbf{r}'}^+ + \hat{S}_{\mathbf{r}}^+ \hat{S}_{\mathbf{r}'}^z) \right] + h.c.$$



S^{\pm} : magnetic dipole for Kramers doublets (Yb, Nd, Sm, Dy)
quadrupole for non-Kramers doublets (Pr, Tb, ...)

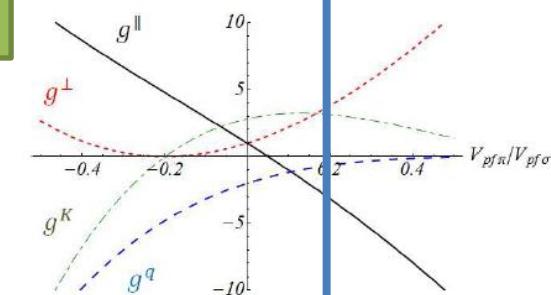
Magnetic moment

$$\hat{\mathbf{m}}_{\mathbf{r}}^R = g_J \mu_B \hat{\mathbf{J}}_{\mathbf{r}}^R = \mu_B \left[g_{\perp}^R (\hat{S}_{\mathbf{r}}^x \mathbf{x}_i + \hat{S}_{\mathbf{r}}^y \mathbf{y}_i) + g_{\parallel}^R \hat{S}_{\mathbf{r}}^z \mathbf{z}_i \right]$$

Yb2Ti2O7

Magnetic dipole interaction

$$\hat{H}_{\text{D}}^R = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \sum_{\langle \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}' \rangle} \left[\frac{\hat{\mathbf{m}}_{\mathbf{r}}^R \cdot \hat{\mathbf{m}}_{\mathbf{r}'}^R}{(\Delta r)^3} - 3 \frac{(\hat{\mathbf{m}}_{\mathbf{r}}^R \cdot \Delta \mathbf{r})(\Delta \mathbf{r} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{m}}_{\mathbf{r}'}^R)}{(\Delta r)^5} \right]$$



Best fit to
neutron-scattering exp.

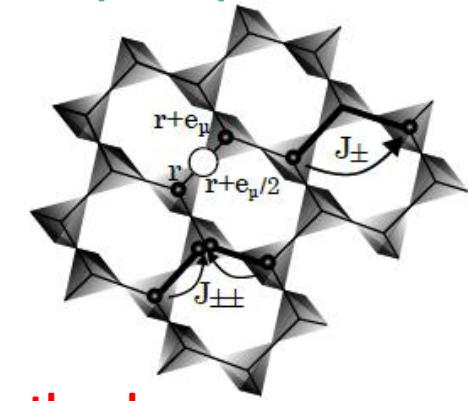
Interacting U(1) Higgs model: QED with charged bosonic spinons

$S_i^z = \eta_a E_{ab}$
 $S_i^+ = \Phi_a^\dagger e^{iA_{ab}} \Phi_b$
 $Q_a = (\text{div } E)_a$
 $[A_{ab}, E_{ab}] = i$
 $[\Phi_a, Q_a] = \Phi_a$

$\eta_a = \pm 1 [a \in A(B)]$
 $\Phi_a = e^{-i\varphi_a}$
 $\Phi_a^\dagger \Phi_a = 1$

**Monopolar spinons
(Higgs bosons)**
Increasing/decreasing the charge

S. Lee, S.O., L. Balents
PRB (2012)



$H_{QED} = \frac{J_{zz}}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} Q_{\mathbf{r}}^2 - J_{\pm} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \sum_{\mu \neq \nu} \Phi_{\mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\mu}}^\dagger \Phi_{\mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\nu}} s_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\mu}}^{-\eta_{\mathbf{r}}} s_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\nu}}^{+\eta_{\mathbf{r}}} + \delta$

$+ \frac{J_{\pm\pm}}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \sum_{\mu \neq \nu} (\gamma_{\mu\nu}^{-2\eta_{\mathbf{r}}} \Phi_{\mathbf{r}}^\dagger \Phi_{\mathbf{r}}^\dagger \Phi_{\mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\mu}} \Phi_{\mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\nu}} s_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\mu}}^{\eta_{\mathbf{r}}} s_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\nu}}^{\eta_{\mathbf{r}}} + h.c.)$

$+ q \frac{J_z}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \sum_{\mu \neq \nu} s_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\mu}}^z (\gamma_{\mu\nu}^{-\eta_{\mathbf{r}}} \Phi_{\mathbf{r}}^\dagger \Phi_{\mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\nu}} s_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\nu}}^{\eta_{\mathbf{r}}} + h.c.) + \text{const..}$

Non-Kramers doublets (integer spins) (Pr)

Starting from spin ice
with deconfined spinons

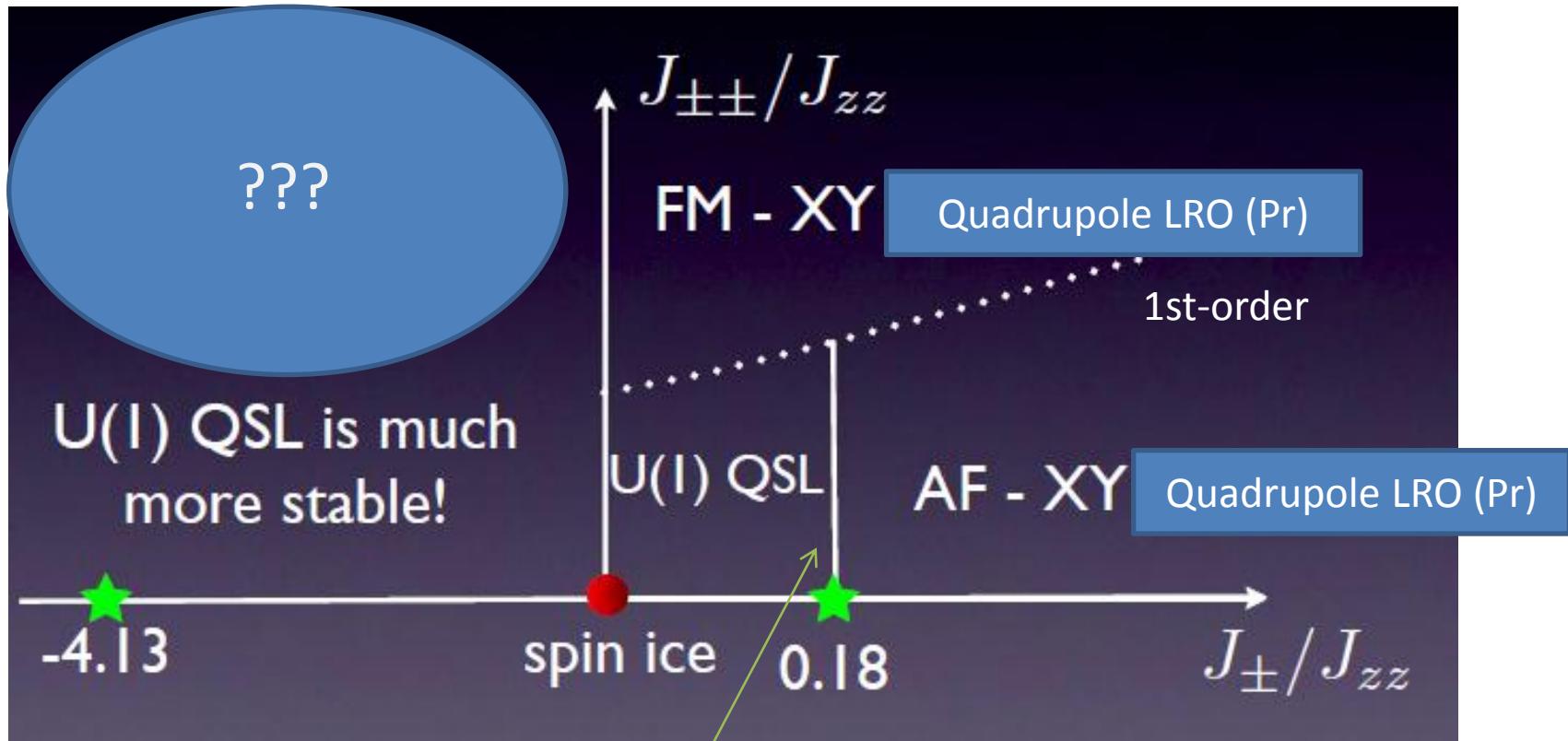
Classification of mean-field phases

Let's study the case of integer spins: non-Kramers doublets (Pr)

	$\langle s_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} \pm \mathbf{e}_\mu}^z \rangle$	$\langle s_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} \pm \mathbf{e}_\mu}^\pm \rangle$	$\langle \Phi_{\mathbf{r}} \rangle$	$\langle \Phi_{\mathbf{r}} \Phi_{\mathbf{r}} \rangle$	$\langle \Phi_{\mathbf{r}}^\dagger \Phi_{\mathbf{r} \pm \mathbf{e}_\mu} \rangle$
Ising order (confined)	$\neq 0$	0	0	0	0
QSL					
U(1)	0	$\neq 0$	0	0	0
Z ₂	0	$\neq 0$	0	$\neq 0$	0
(charge-2 Higgs)					
XY order					
U(1)	0	$\neq 0$	0	0	$\neq 0$
Classical	0	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$
(confined Higgs)					

S. Lee, SO, L. Balents, PRB 86, 104412 (2012).

Mean-field phase diagram in the case of non-Kramers doublets (Pr)

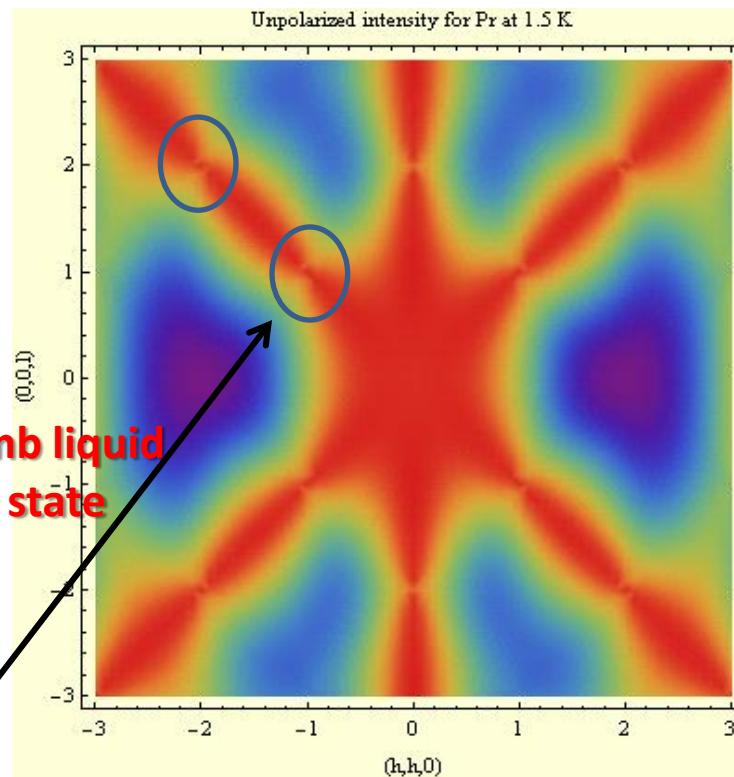


S. Lee, SO, L. Balents

Is $\text{Pr}_2\text{Zr}_2\text{O}_7$ a U(1) QSL?

For exchange parameters
for $\text{Pr}_2\text{Zr}_2\text{O}_7$

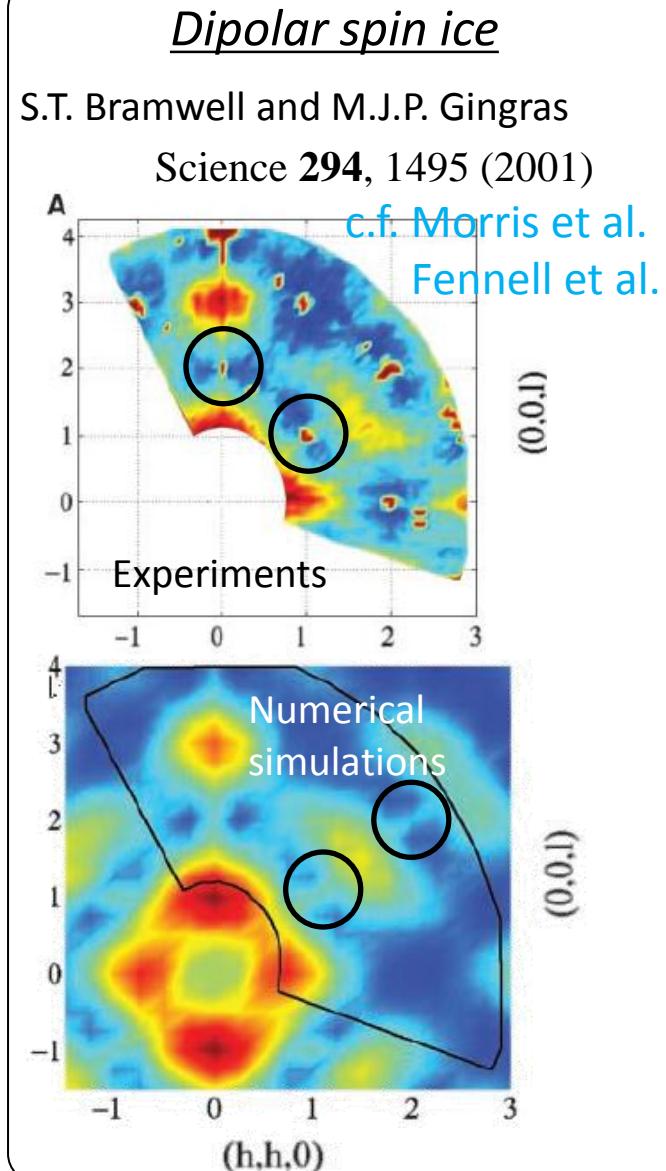
(1/N) expansion



Indication of Coulomb liquid
down to the ground state

SO, unpublished

*Pinch point singularity is broadened
by a dynamical violation of the ice rule*



Higgs transition in $\text{Yb}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_7$



ARTICLE

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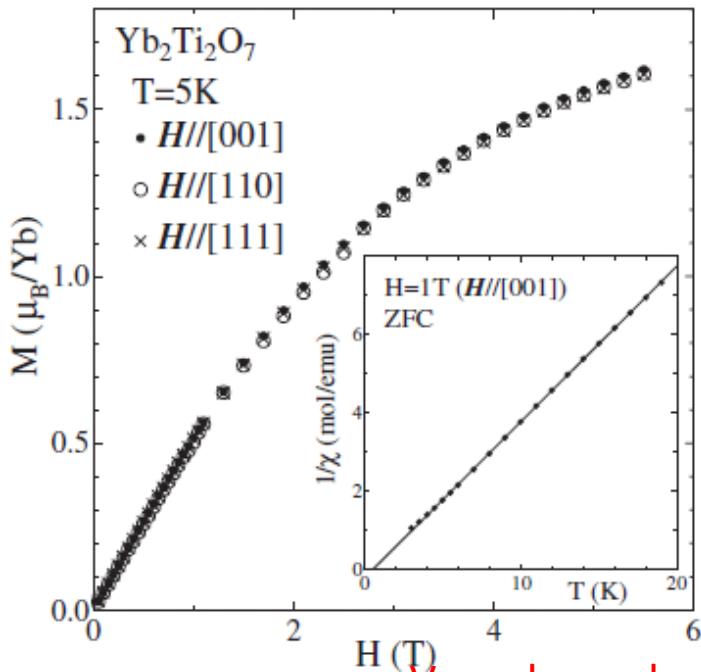
DOI: [10.1038/ncomms1989](https://doi.org/10.1038/ncomms1989)

Higgs transition from a magnetic Coulomb liquid to a ferromagnet in $\text{Yb}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_7$

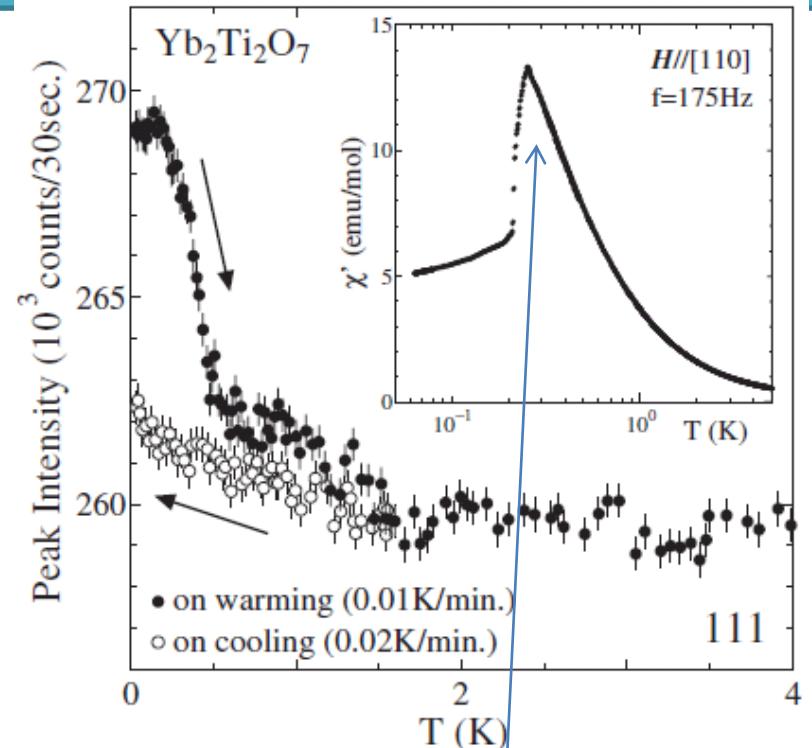
Lieh-Jeng Chang^{1,2}, Shigeki Onoda³, Yixi Su⁴, Ying-Jer Kao⁵, Ku-Ding Tsuei⁶, Yukio Yasui^{7,8}, Kazuhisa Kakurai² & Martin Richard Lees⁹

Evidence of the 1st-order phase ferromagnetic transition at ~ 0.21 K

Yasui et al. JPSJ (2003)



Very slow relaxation of magnetization
Magnetic Bragg peak evolves in 2 hours!

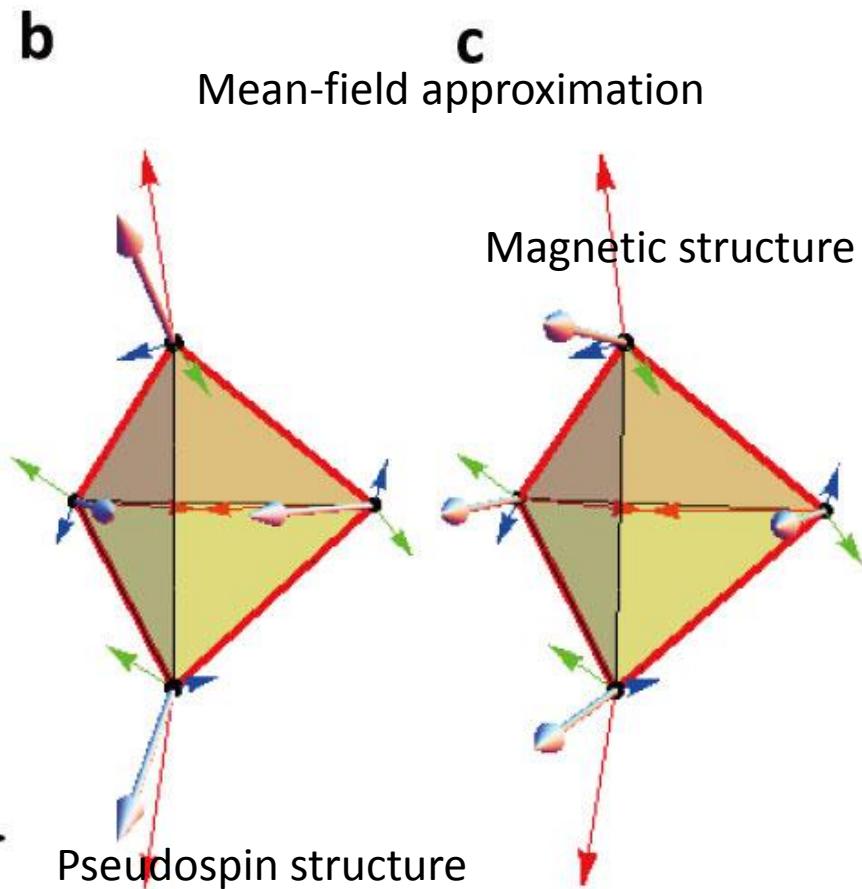
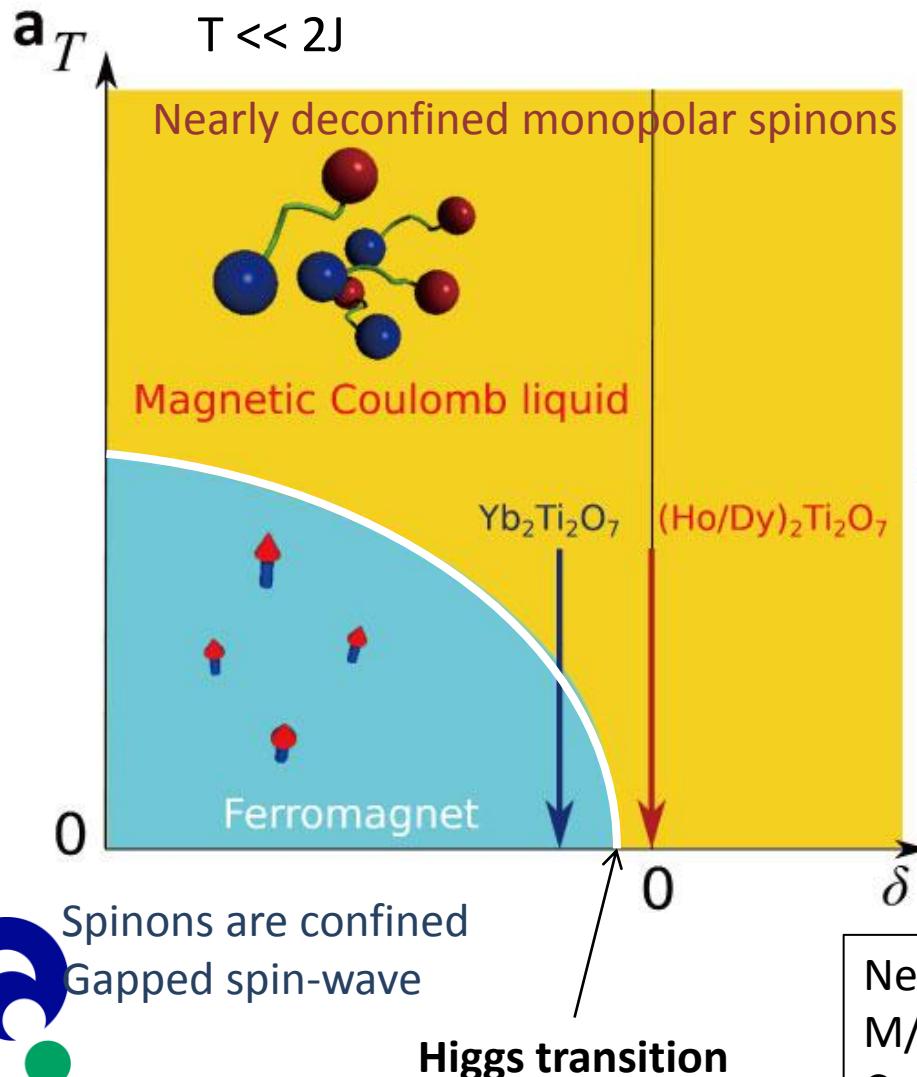


Spin excitations
are gapped.

Related anomaly in the specific heat [Blote et al. 1969]

c.f. Sample dependence: the best available sample shows FM, while others does not.
Hodges et al, Thompson et al, Gardner et al, Ross et al

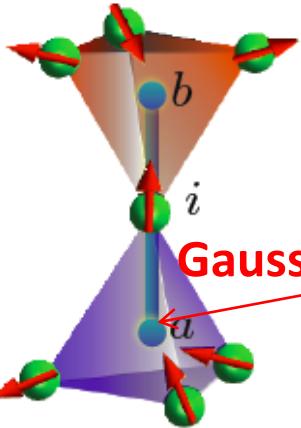
Phase diagram and the hypothetical magnetic structure



Higgs transition

Nearly collinear ferromagnet (~1 degree canting)
 $\mathbf{M}/[100]$
Consistent with the magnetic structure analysis

Interacting U(1) Higgs model: QED with charged bosonic spinons revisited...



$S_i^z = \eta_a E_{ab}$

$S_i^+ = \Phi_a^\dagger e^{iA_{ab}} \Phi_b$

$Q_a = (\text{div } E)_a$

$[A_{ab}, E_{ab}] = i$

$[\Phi_a, Q_a] = \Phi_a$

$\eta_a = \pm 1 [a \in A(B)]$

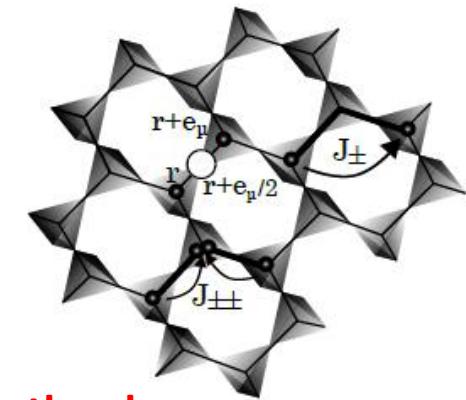
$\Phi_a = e^{-i\varphi_a}$

$\Phi_a^\dagger \Phi_a = 1$

Monopolar spinons (Higgs bosons)

Increasing/decreasing the charge

S.O.



$$H_{QED} = \frac{J_{zz}}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} Q_{\mathbf{r}}^2 - J_{\pm} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \sum_{\mu \neq \nu} \Phi_{\mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\mu}}^\dagger \Phi_{\mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\nu}} + \delta \quad \text{(green arrows)} \\ + \frac{J_{\pm\pm}}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \sum_{\mu \neq \nu} (\gamma_{\mu\nu}^{-2\eta_{\mathbf{r}}} \Phi_{\mathbf{r}}^\dagger \Phi_{\mathbf{r}}^\dagger \Phi_{\mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\mu}} \Phi_{\mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\nu}} + h.c.) \quad \text{(blue arrows)} \\ + q \quad \text{(orange arrows)} \\ + J_{z\pm} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \sum_{\mu \neq \nu} S_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\mu}}^z (\gamma_{\mu\nu}^{-\eta_{\mathbf{r}}} \Phi_{\mathbf{r}}^\dagger \Phi_{\mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\nu}} S_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\nu}} + h.c.) + \text{const..} \\ + K \quad \text{(red circle)} \\ \text{Non-Kramers doublets (integer spins) (Pr)}$$

Starting from spin ice
with deconfined spinons

Effects of thermal fluctuations on gauge fields

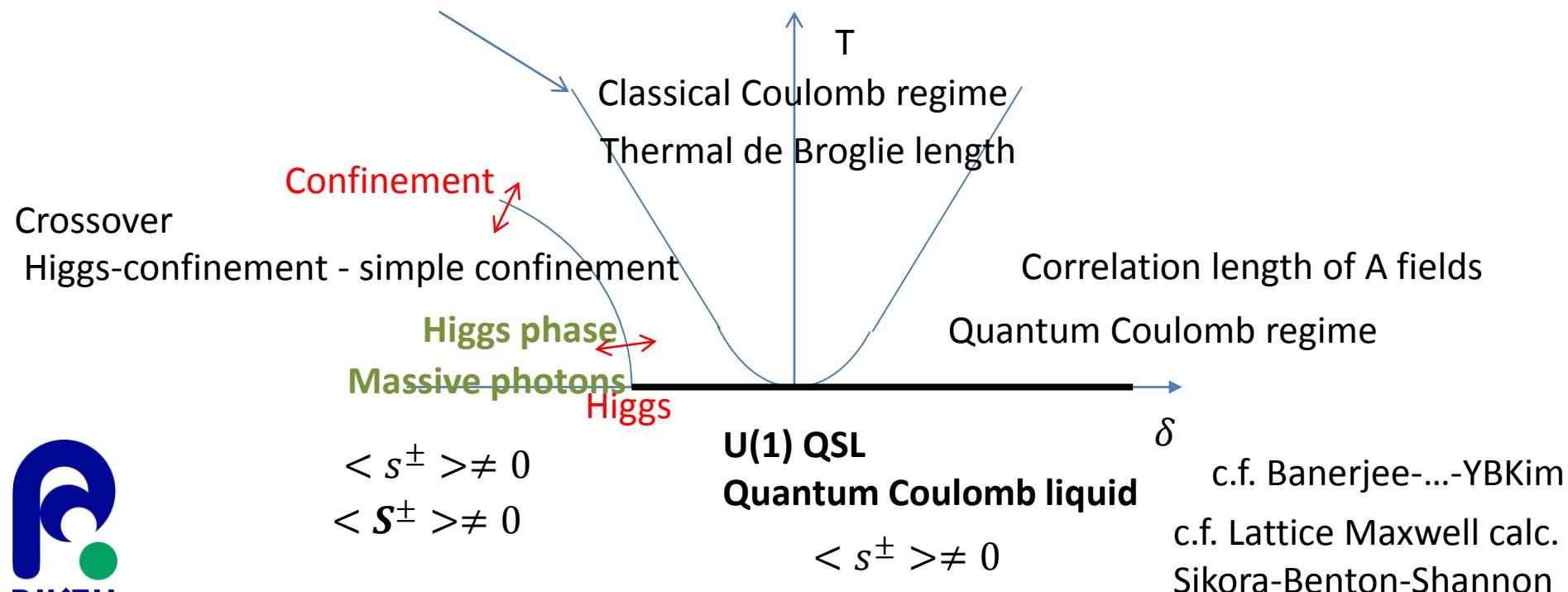
- Immediately kill the gauge fields and confine spinons

c.f. Fradkin, Shenker 1986

Castro-Neto, Pujol, Fradkin 2006

1-loop calculations beyond gauge mean-field theory

Quantum-classical crossover of Coulomb phases



Summary

- Quantum spin ice for $(\text{Pr,Yb})_2\text{TM}_2\text{O}_7$
 - Magnetic monopole charges ($\nabla \cdot M \neq 0$) carried by spinons!
 - Emergent gapless U(1) spin liquid (Fictitious dual QED)
 - Higgs transitions to classical spin-gapped ferromagnets
 - “Superconductivity” of magnetic monopoles
(gauge group $U(1) \rightarrow Z(2)$)
 - Neutron-scattering on high-quality single crystal $\text{Yb}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_7$
 1. deconfined bosonic spinons carrying monopole charge in the high-T phase
 2. Confined spinons to form classical ferromag. in the low-T phase

