

The onset of  
antiferromagnetism in metals:  
field theory, and  
Quantum Monte Carlo  
without the sign problem

Subir Sachdev

[sachdev.physics.harvard.edu](mailto:sachdev.physics.harvard.edu)





**Max Metlitski**

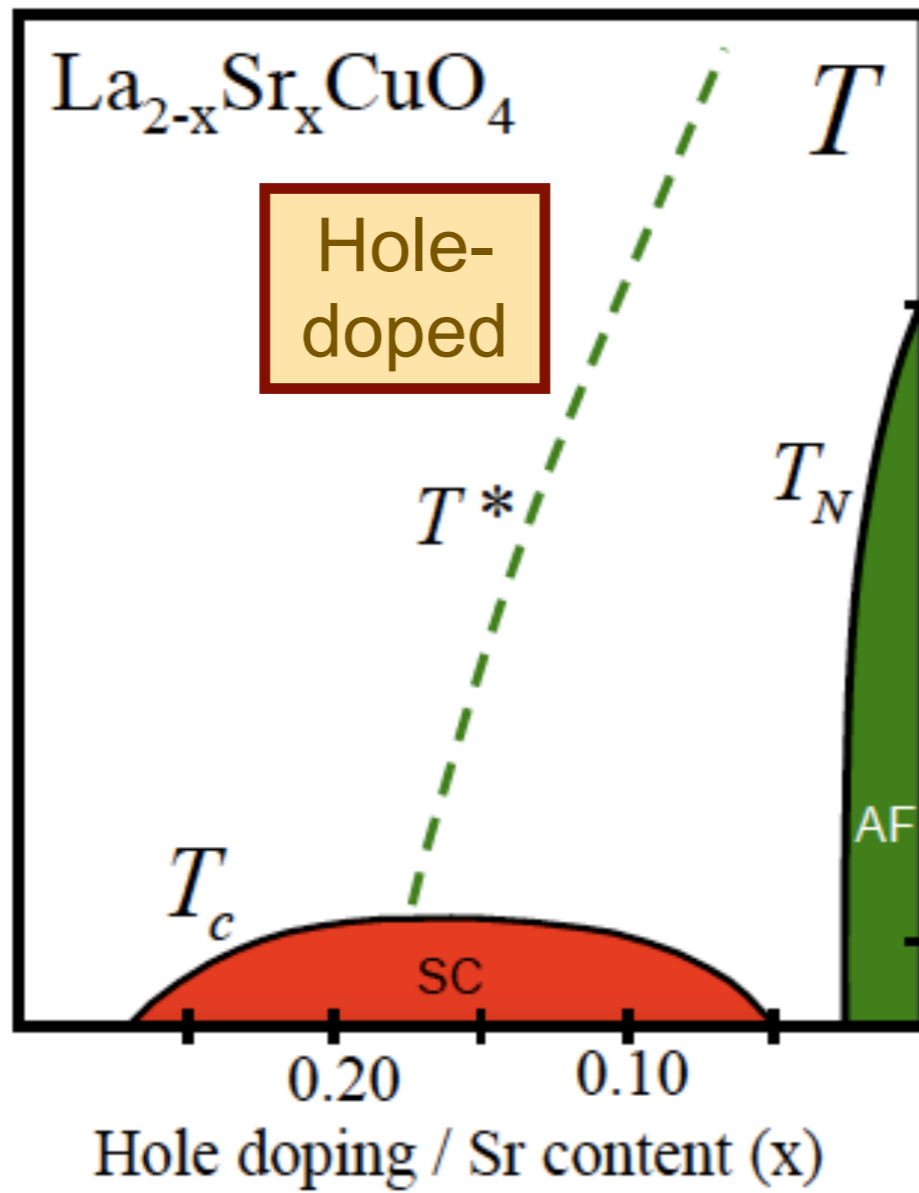


**Erez Berg**

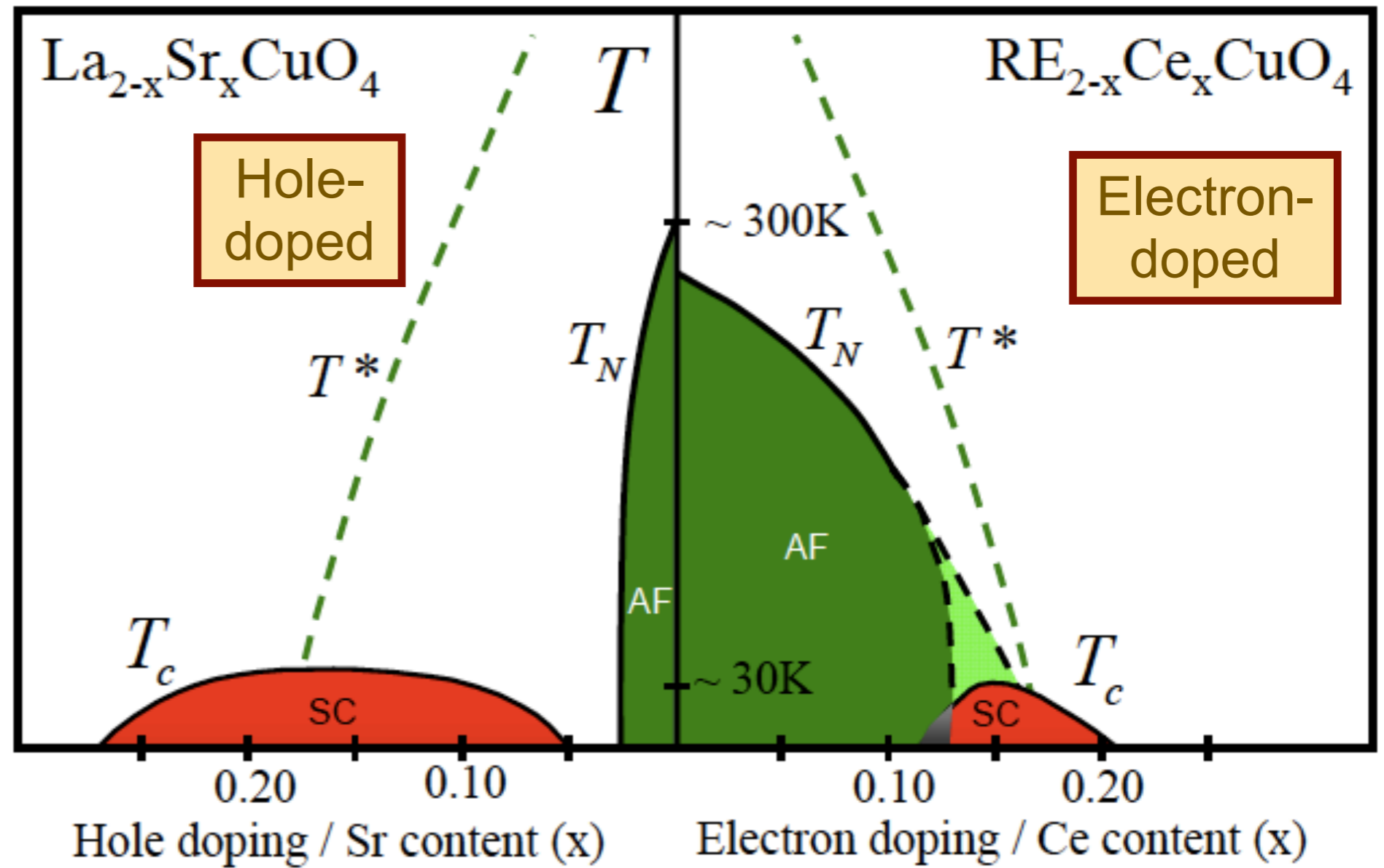


**Matthias Punk**





# Electron-doped cuprate superconductors



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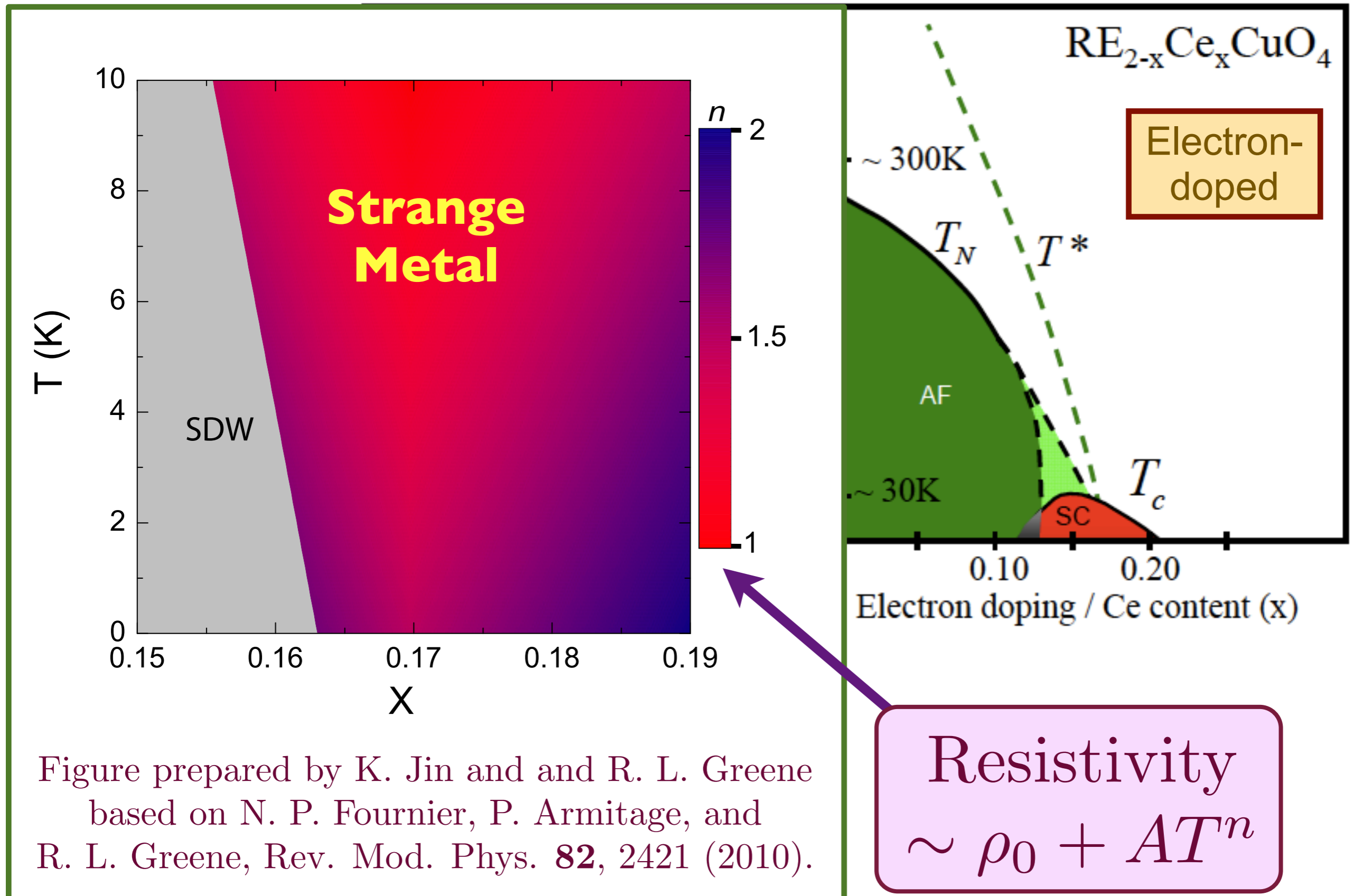
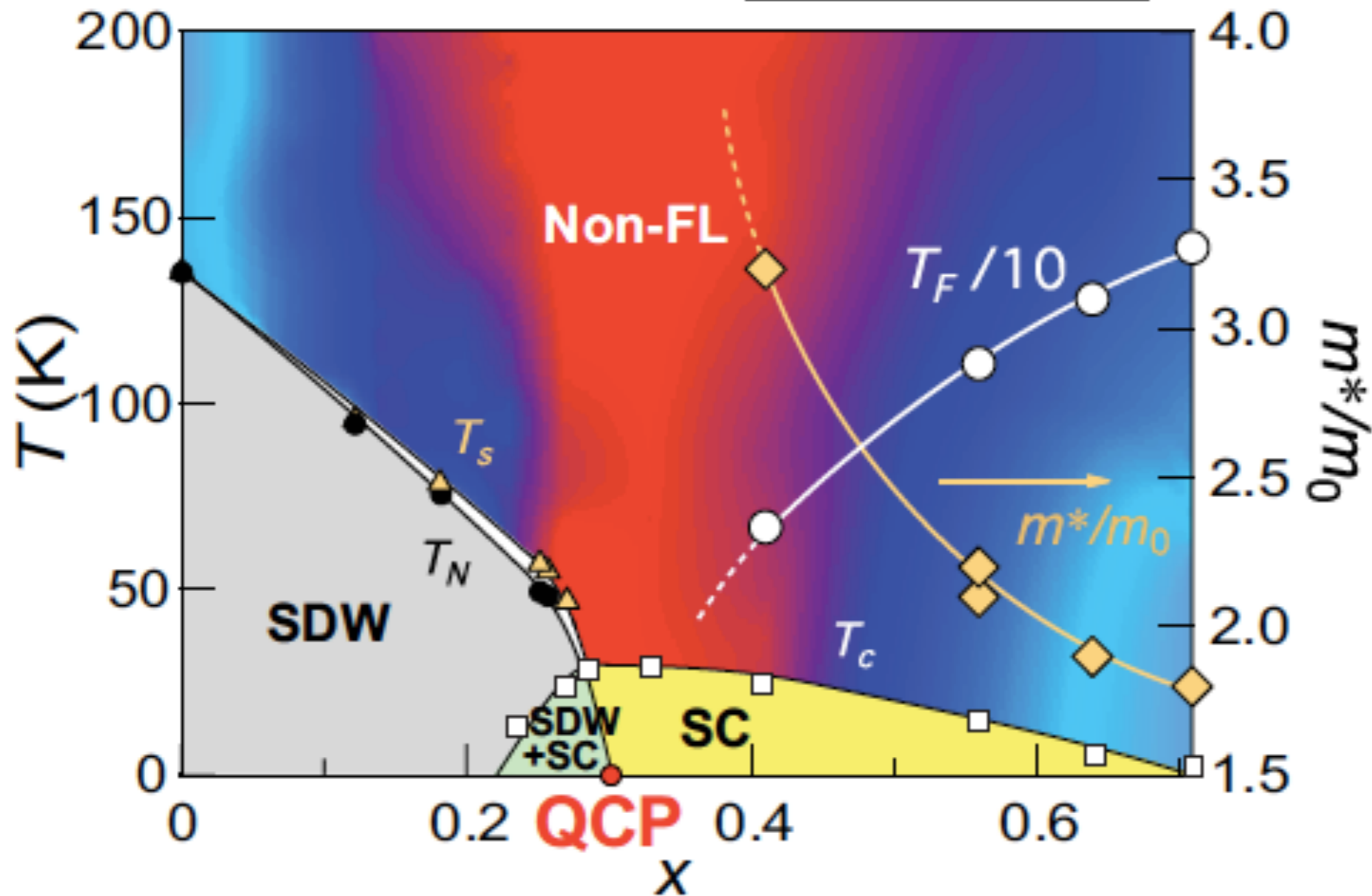


Figure prepared by K. Jin and R. L. Greene based on N. P. Fournier, P. Armitage, and R. L. Greene, Rev. Mod. Phys. **82**, 2421 (2010).

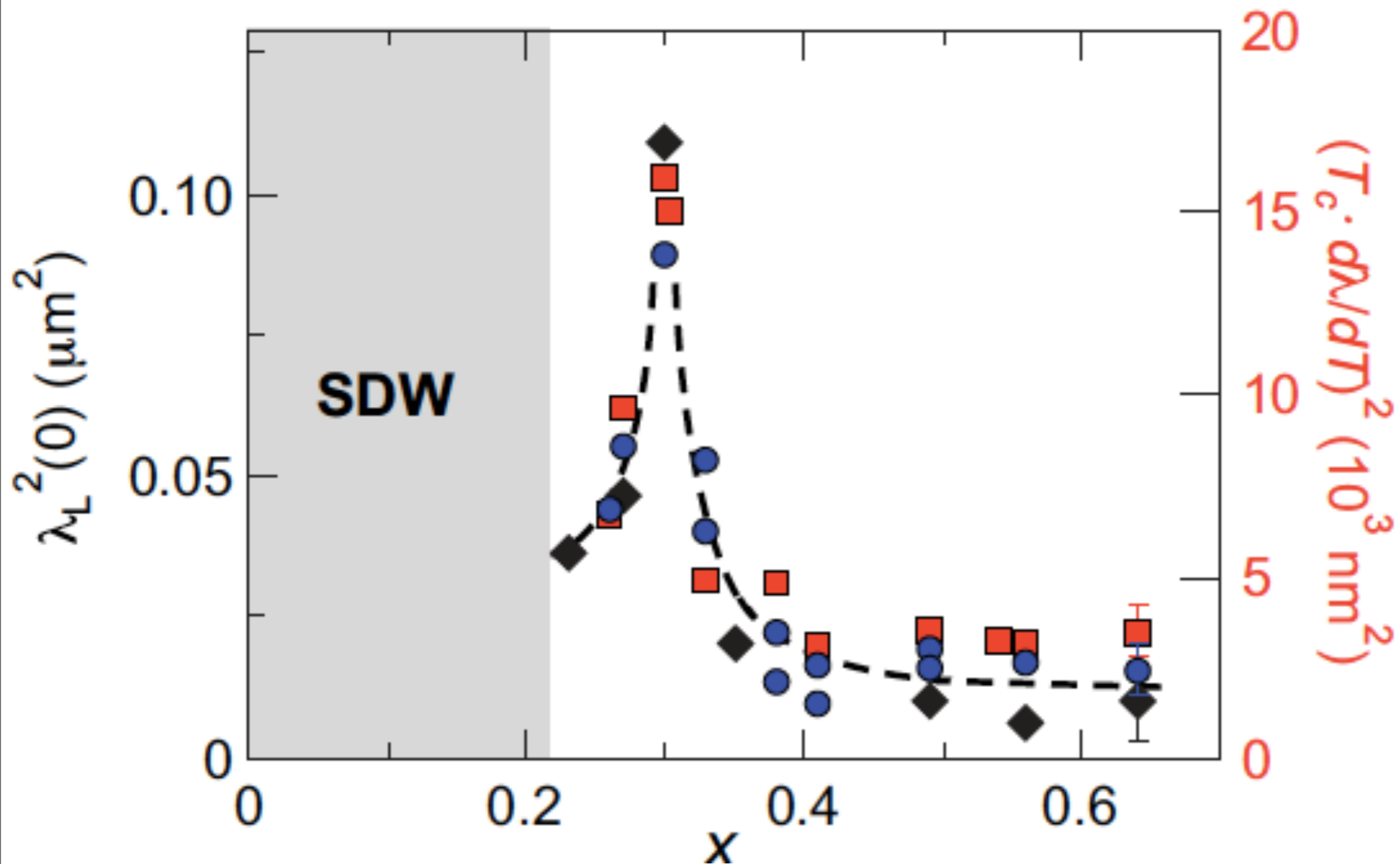
Resistivity

$$\sim \rho_0 + AT^n$$

$n$

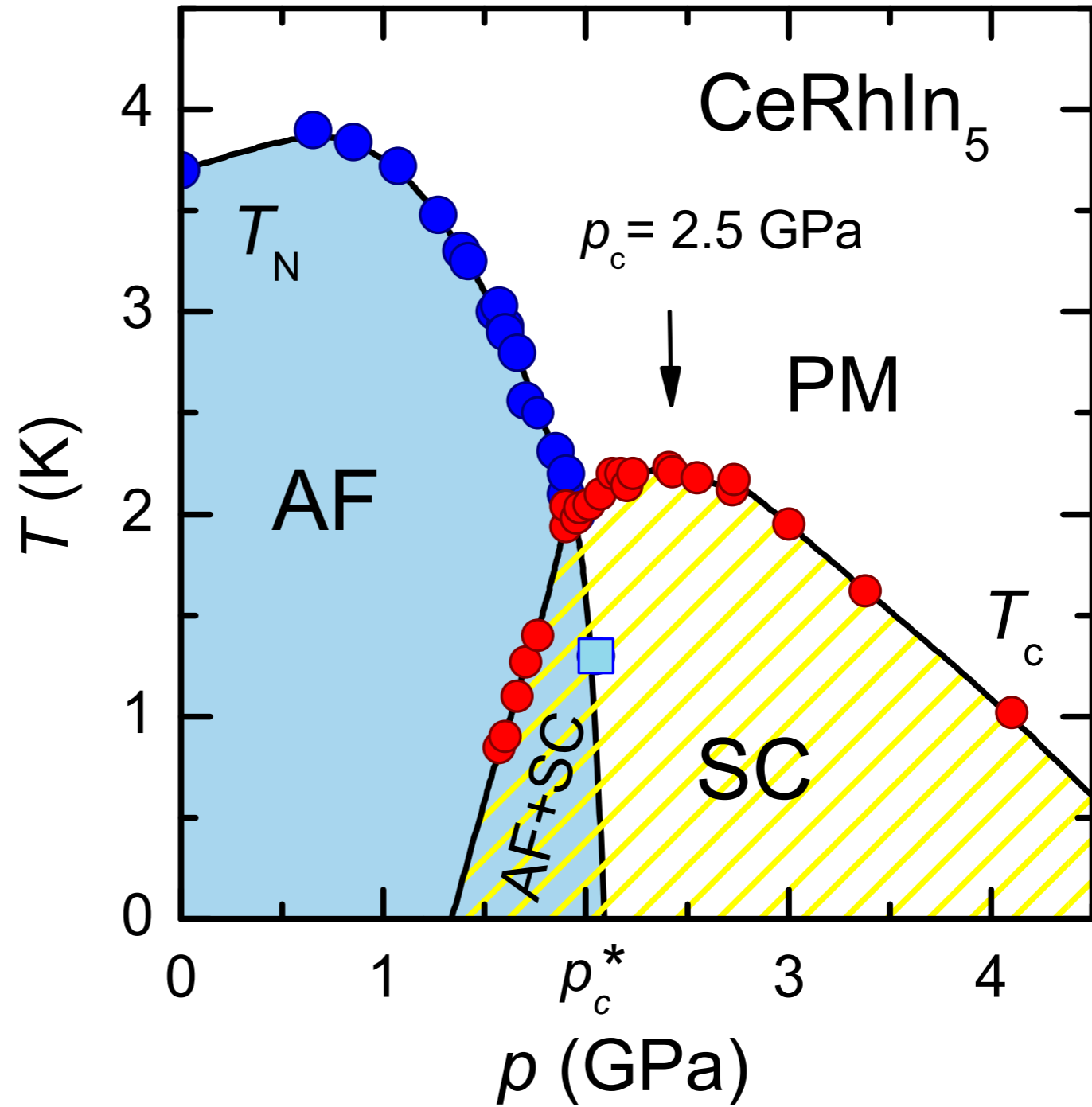
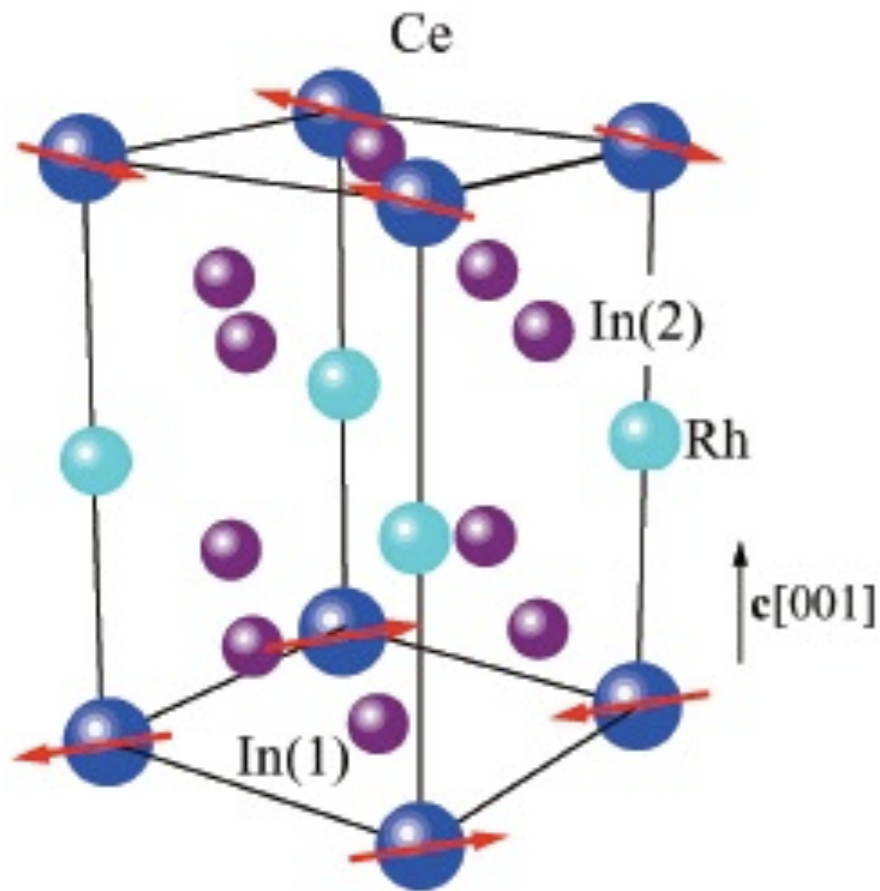


K. Hashimoto, K. Cho, T. Shibauchi, S. Kasahara, Y. Mizukami, R. Katsumata, Y. Tsuruhara, T. Terashima, H. Ikeda, M.A. Tanatar, H. Kitano, N. Salovich, R.W. Giannetta, P. Walmsley, A. Carrington, R. Prozorov, and Y. Matsuda, Science in press



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# Lower $T_c$ superconductivity in the heavy fermion compounds



G. Knebel, D. Aoki, and J. Flouquet, arXiv:0911.5223

## Questions

- *Can quantum fluctuations near the onset of antiferromagnetism induce higher temperature superconductivity ?*

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## Questions

- *Can quantum fluctuations near the onset of antiferromagnetism induce higher temperature superconductivity ?*
- *How should such a theory be extended to apply to the hole-doped cuprates ?*
- *What is the physics of the strange metal ?*

# Outline

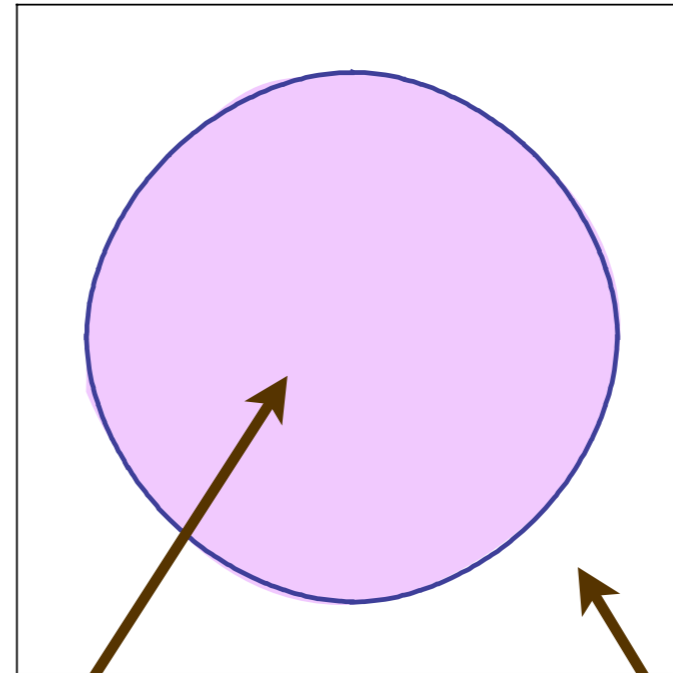
1. Phenomenology of the onset of antiferromagnetism in a metal
2. Quantum field theory of the onset of antiferromagnetism in a metal
3. Quantum Monte Carlo without the sign problem
4. Fractionalization in metals,  
and the hole-doped cuprates

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# Fermi surface

Metal with “large”  
Fermi surface

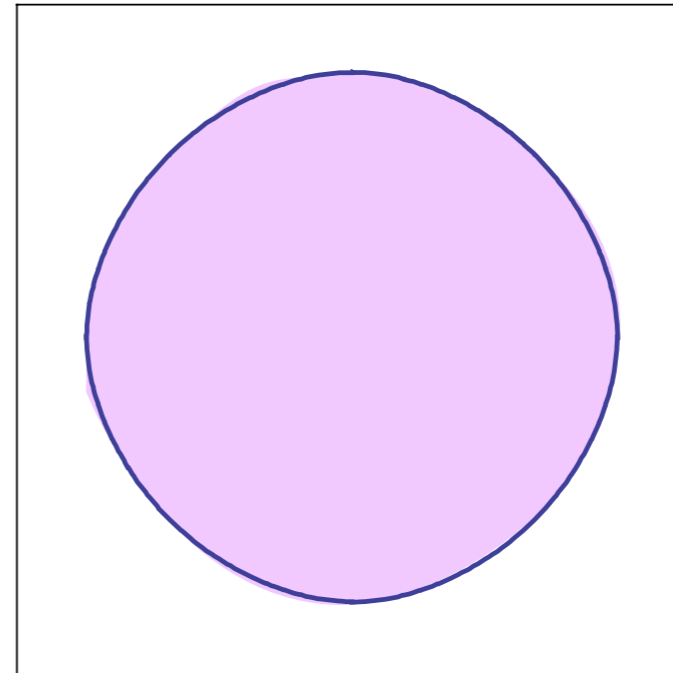


Momenta with  
electronic  
states empty

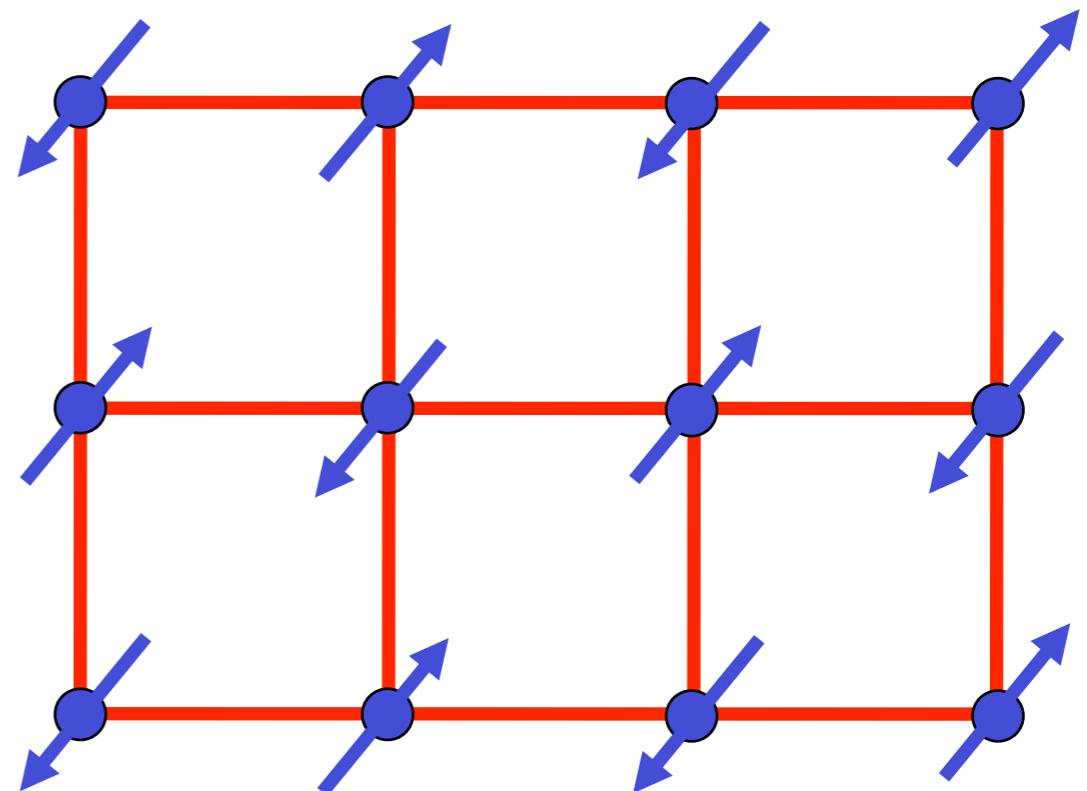
Momenta with  
electronic  
states  
occupied

# Fermi surface+antiferromagnetism

Metal with “large”  
Fermi surface



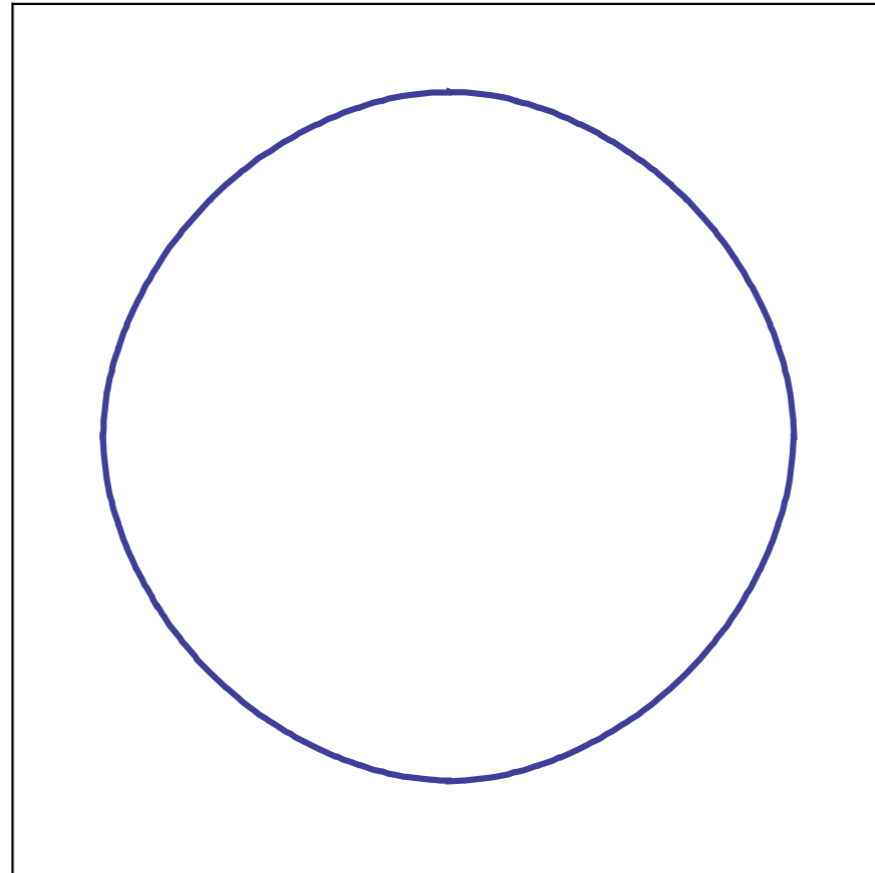
+



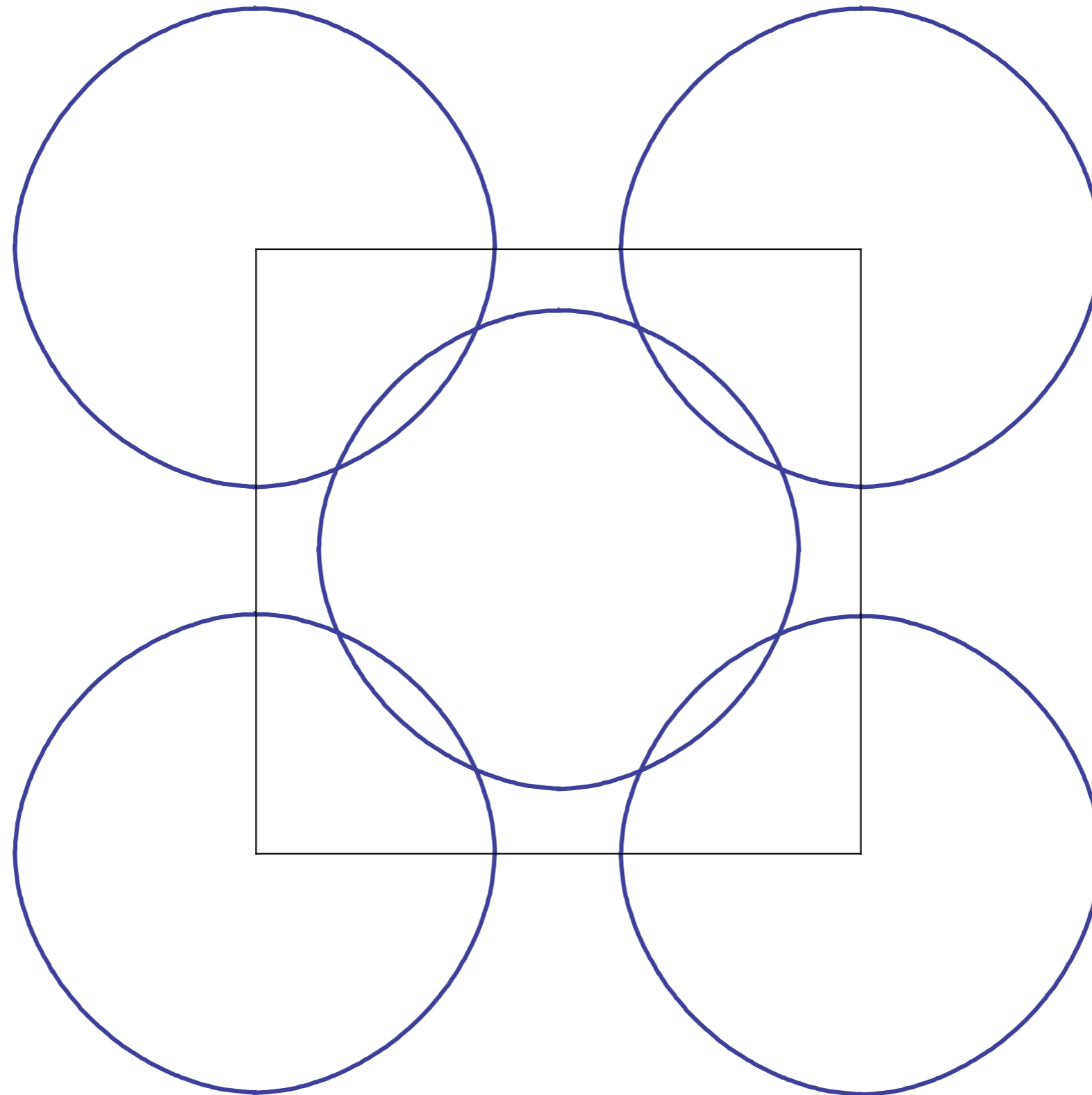
The electron spin polarization obeys

$$\langle \vec{S}(\mathbf{r}, \tau) \rangle = \vec{\varphi}(\mathbf{r}, \tau) e^{i\mathbf{K} \cdot \mathbf{r}}$$

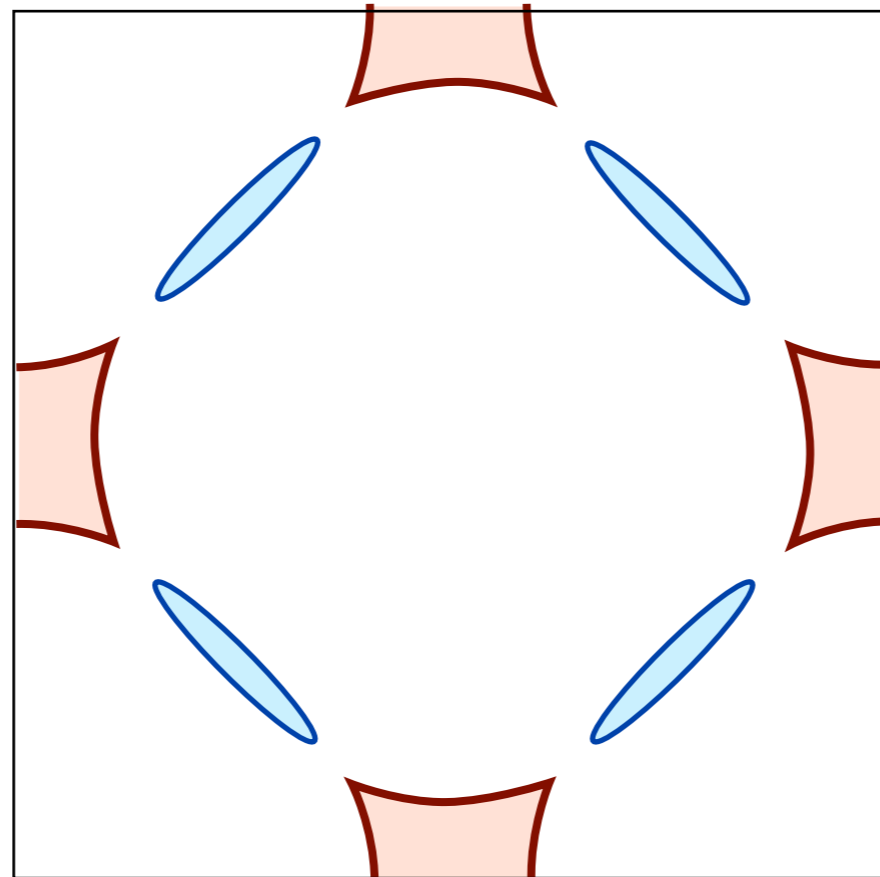
where  $\mathbf{K}$  is the ordering wavevector.



**Metal with “large” Fermi surface**

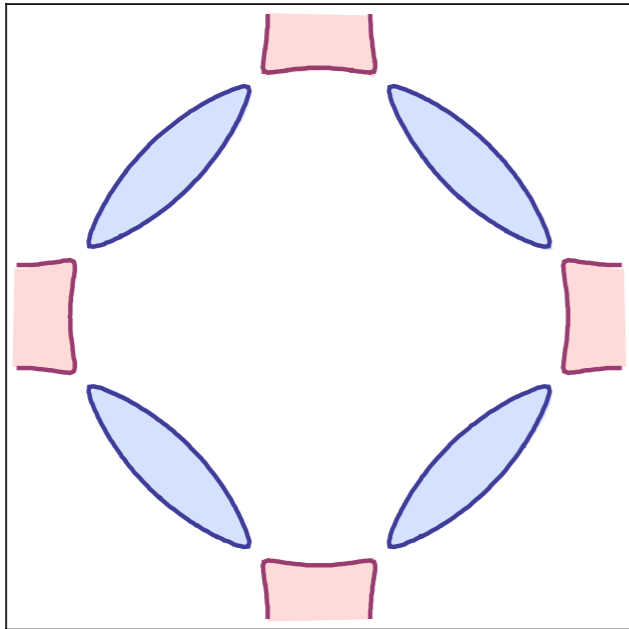


Fermi surfaces translated by  $\mathbf{K} = (\pi, \pi)$ .



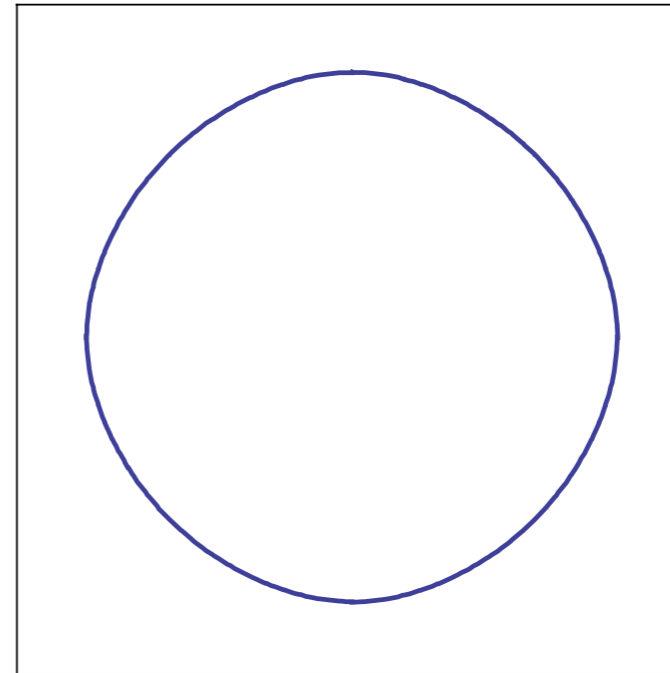
Electron and hole pockets in  
antiferromagnetic phase with  $\langle \vec{\varphi} \rangle \neq 0$

# Fermi surface+antiferromagnetism



$$\langle \vec{\varphi} \rangle \neq 0$$

Metal with electron  
and hole pockets



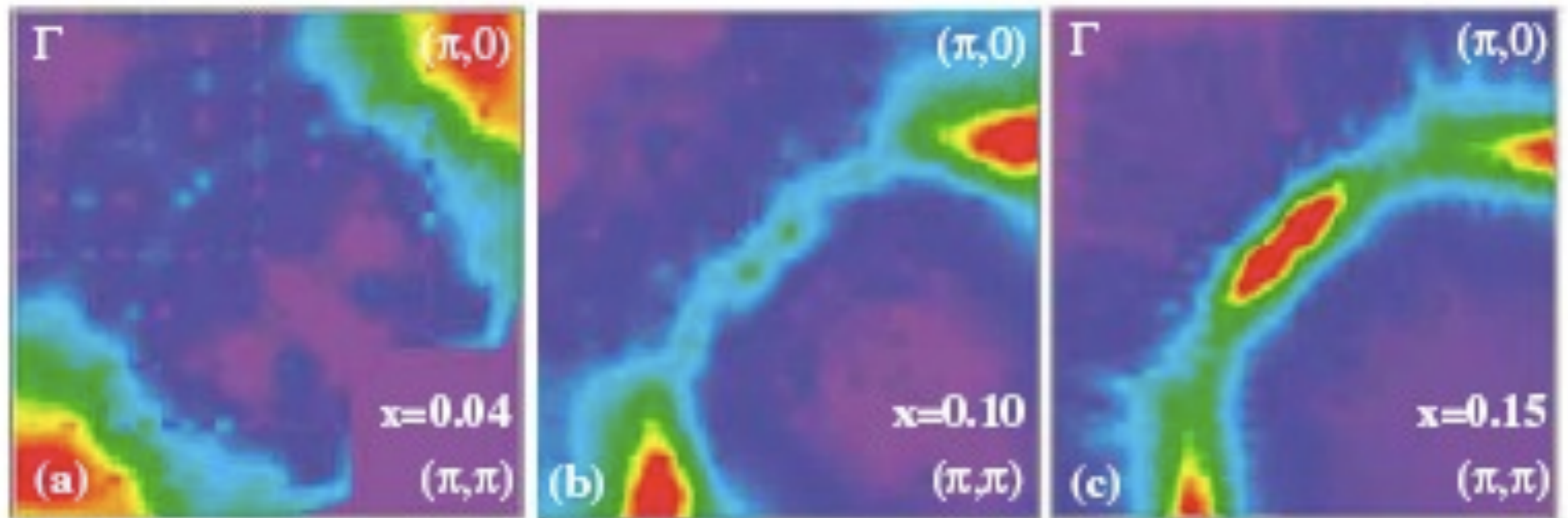
$$\langle \vec{\varphi} \rangle = 0$$

Metal with “large”  
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← Increasing interaction

S. Sachdev, A. V. Chubukov, and A. Sokol, *Phys. Rev. B* **51**, 14874 (1995).  
A. V. Chubukov and D. K. Morr, *Physics Reports* **288**, 355 (1997).

# Photoemission in $\text{Nd}_{2-x}\text{Ce}_x\text{CuO}_4$

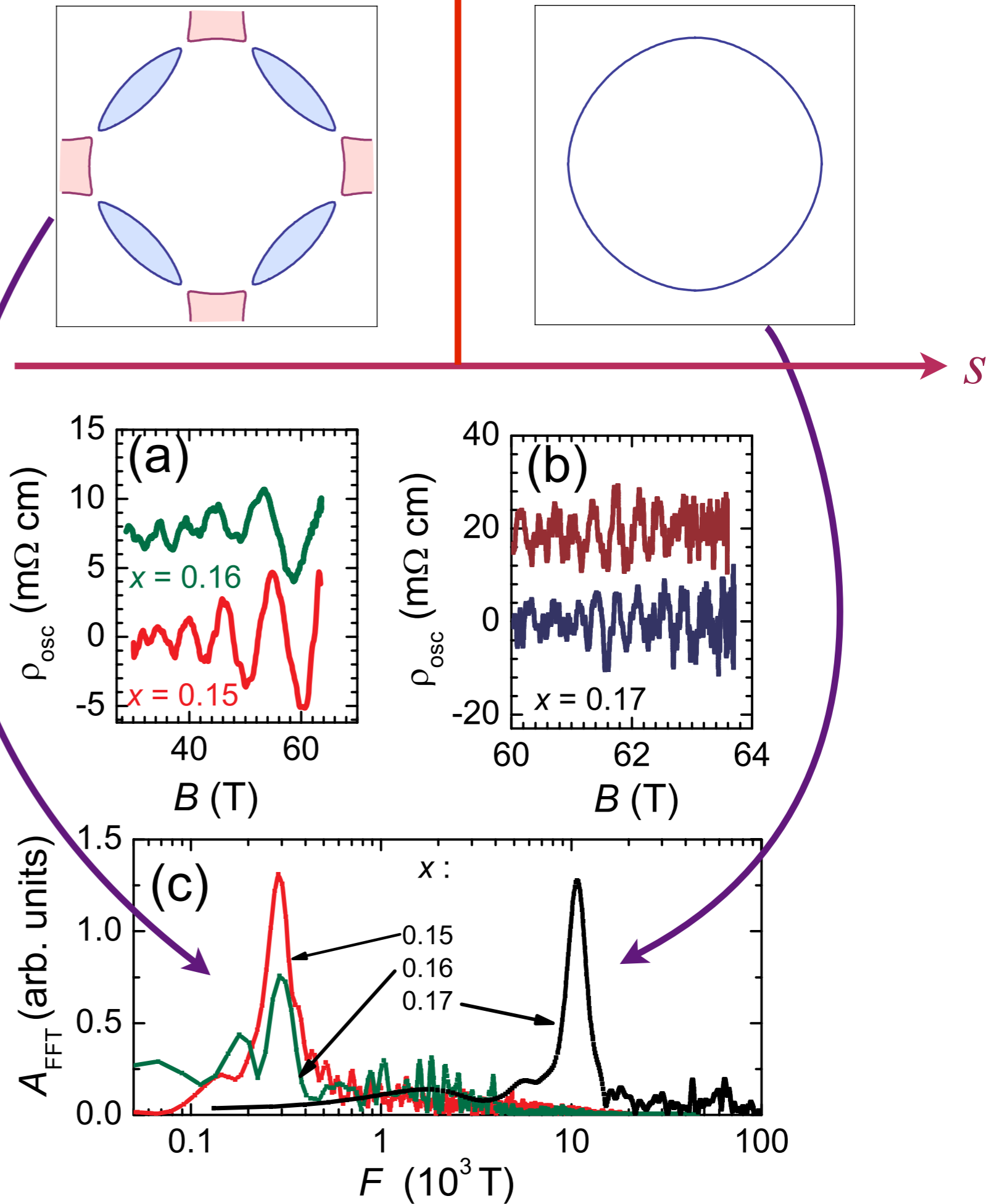


N. P. Armitage *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **88**, 257001 (2002).

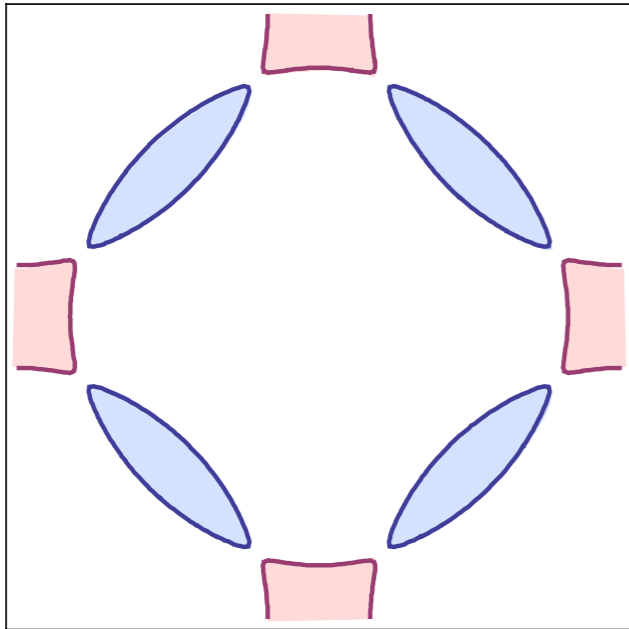
# Quantum oscillations



T. Helm, M.V. Kartsovnik,  
M. Bartkowiak, N. Bittner,  
M. Lambacher, A. Erb, J. Wosnitza,  
and R. Gross,  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.* **103**, 157002 (2009).

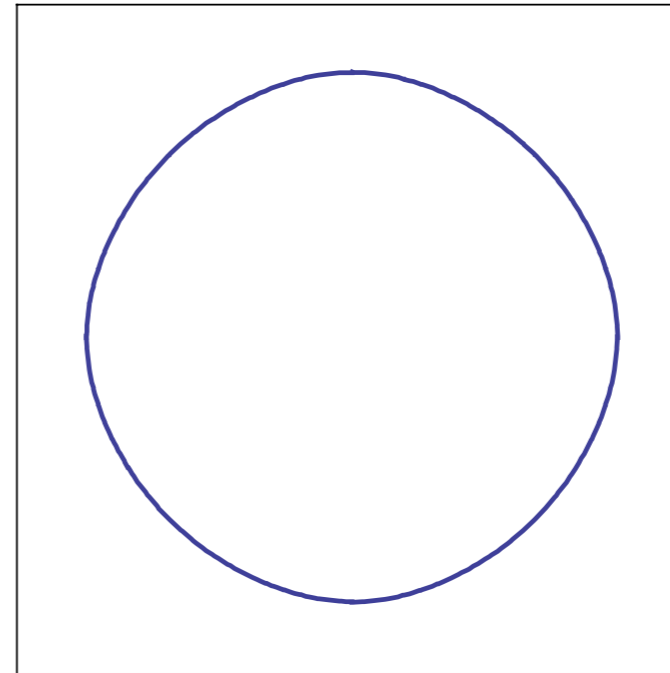


# Fermi surface+antiferromagnetism



$$\langle \vec{\varphi} \rangle \neq 0$$

Metal with electron  
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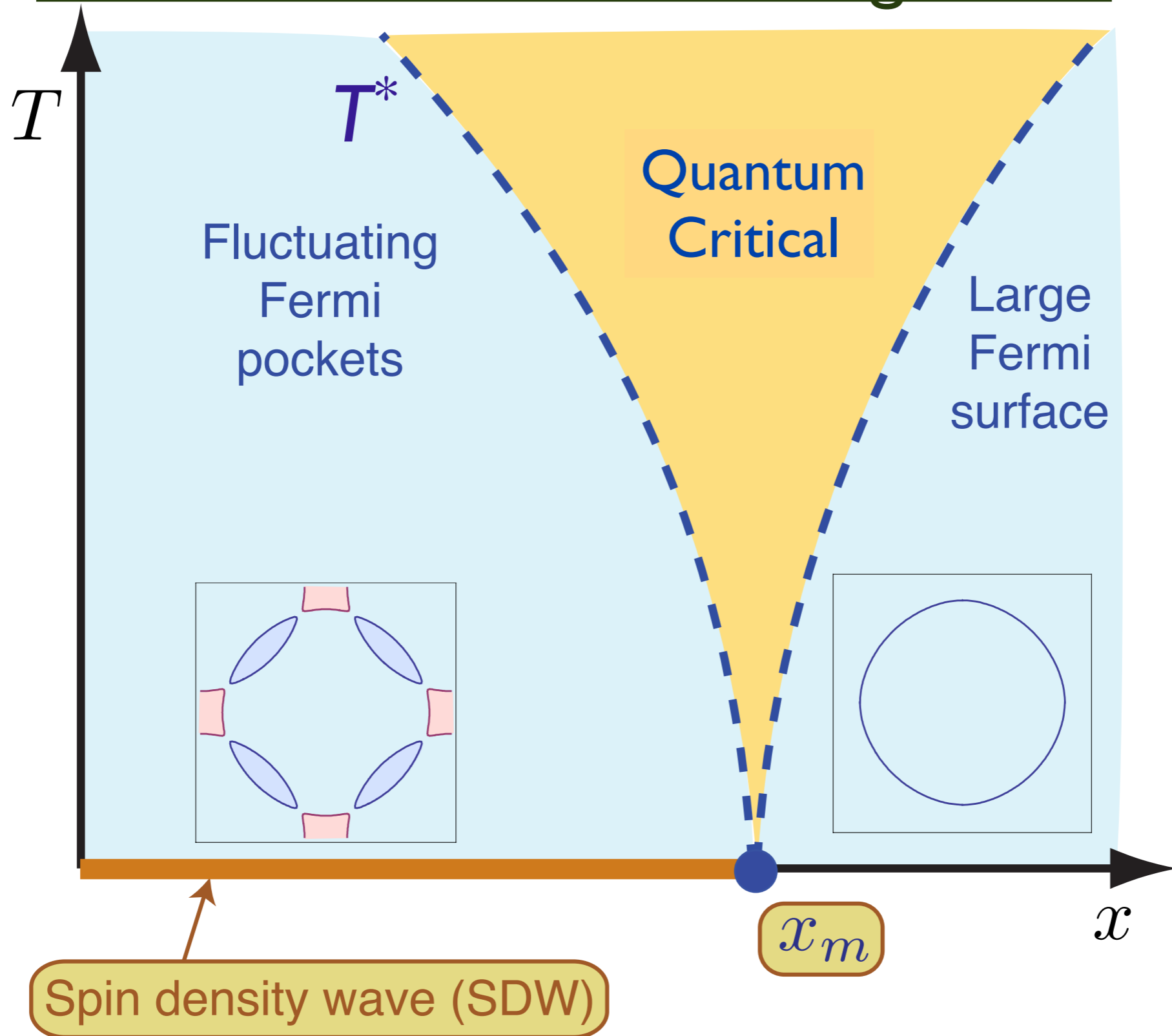
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Metal with “large”  
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$S$

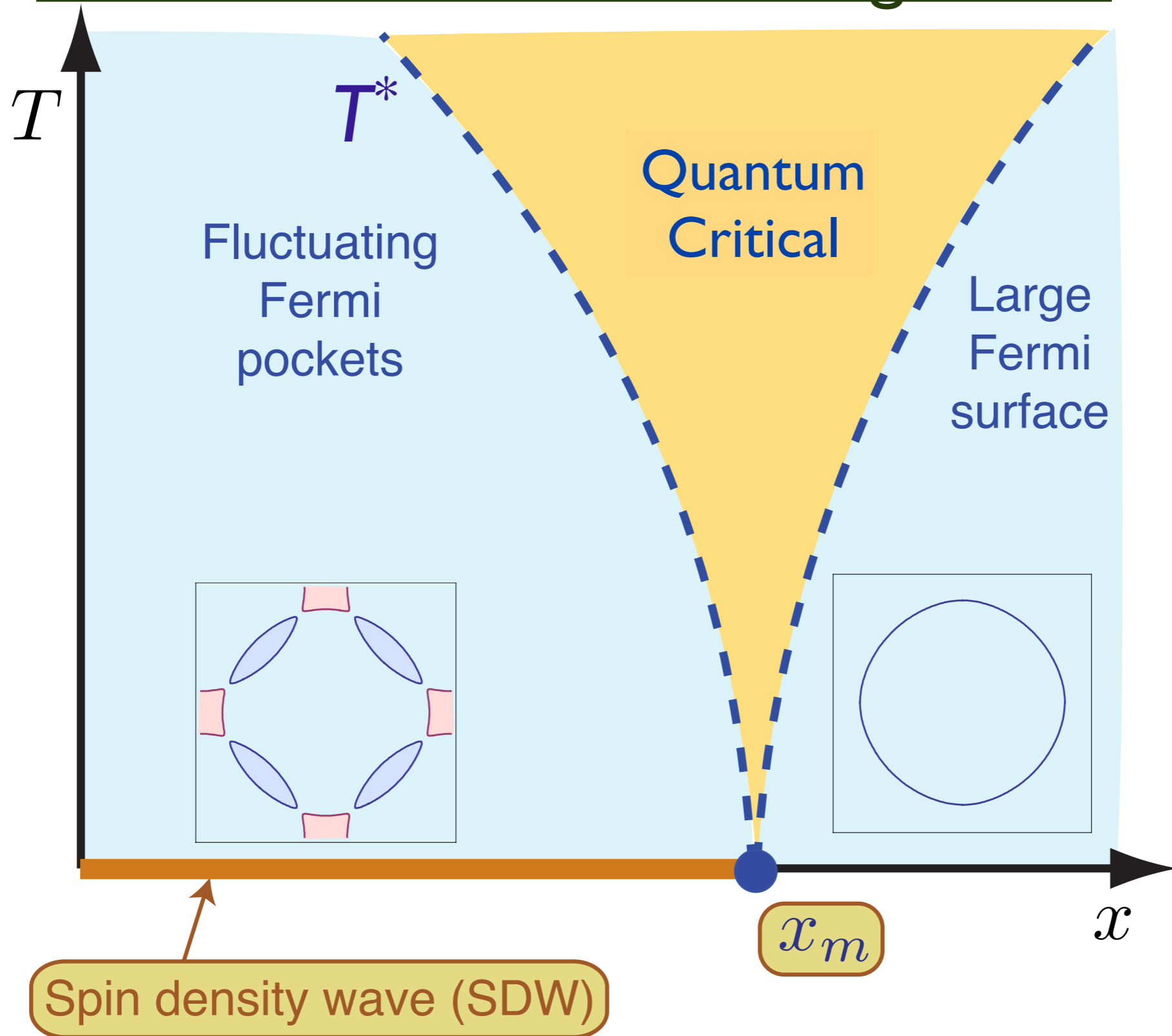
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# Fermi surface+antiferromagnetism



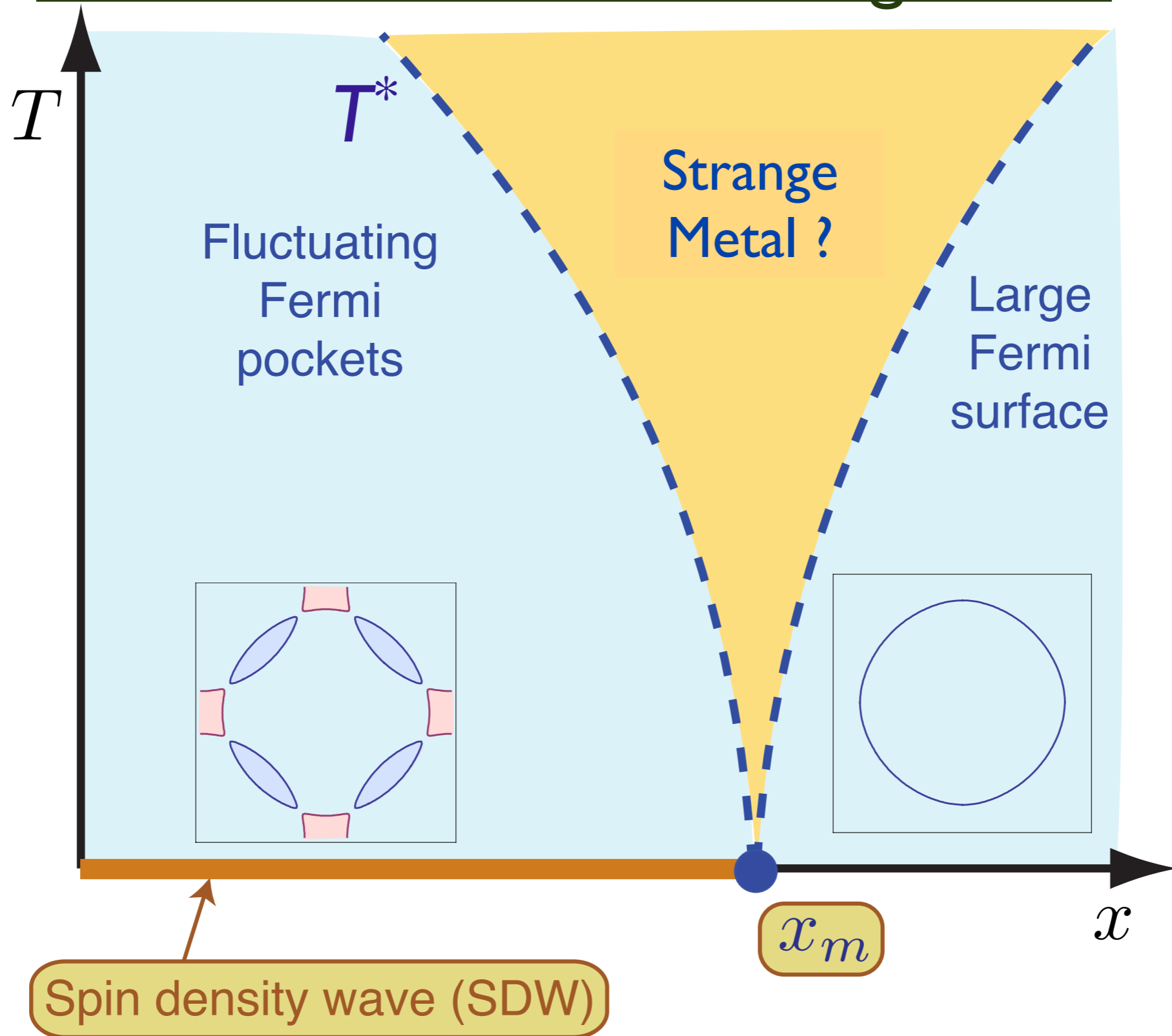
Underlying SDW ordering quantum critical point  
in metal at  $x = x_m$

# Fermi surface+antiferromagnetism



Relaxation and equilibration times  $\sim \hbar/k_B T$  are robust properties of strongly-coupled quantum criticality

# Fermi surface+antiferromagnetism



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# Boson-fermion theory for both phases

$$\mathcal{S} = \int d^2r d\tau [\mathcal{L}_c + \mathcal{L}_\varphi + \mathcal{L}_{c\varphi}]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_c = c_a^\dagger \varepsilon (-i \nabla) c_a$$

$$\mathcal{L}_\varphi = \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \varphi_\alpha)^2 + \frac{r}{2} \varphi_\alpha^2 + \frac{u}{4} (\varphi_\alpha^2)^2$$

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$$\mathcal{L}_{c\varphi} = \lambda \varphi_\alpha e^{i\mathbf{K}\cdot\mathbf{r}} c_a^\dagger \sigma_{ab}^\alpha c_b.$$

“Yukawa” coupling between fermions and antiferromagnetic order:

$\lambda^2 \sim U$ , the Hubbard repulsion

# Hertz-Moriya-Millis theory

- Integrate out Fermi surface quasiparticles and obtain an effective theory for the order parameter  $\vec{\varphi}$  alone.

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- This is dangerous, and will lead to non-local in the  $\vec{\varphi}$  theory. Hertz focused on only the simplest such non-local term.
- However, there are an infinite number of non-local terms at higher order, and these lead to a breakdown of the Hertz theory in two spatial dimensions.

Ar. Abanov and A.V. Chubukov, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **93**, 255702 (2004).

- In  $d = 2$ , we *must* work in local theories which keeps both the order parameter and the Fermi surface quasiparticles “alive”.

Sung-Sik Lee, *Phys. Rev. B* **80**, 165102 (2009)

M.A. Metlitski and S. Sachdev, *Phys. Rev. B* **85**, 075127 (2010)

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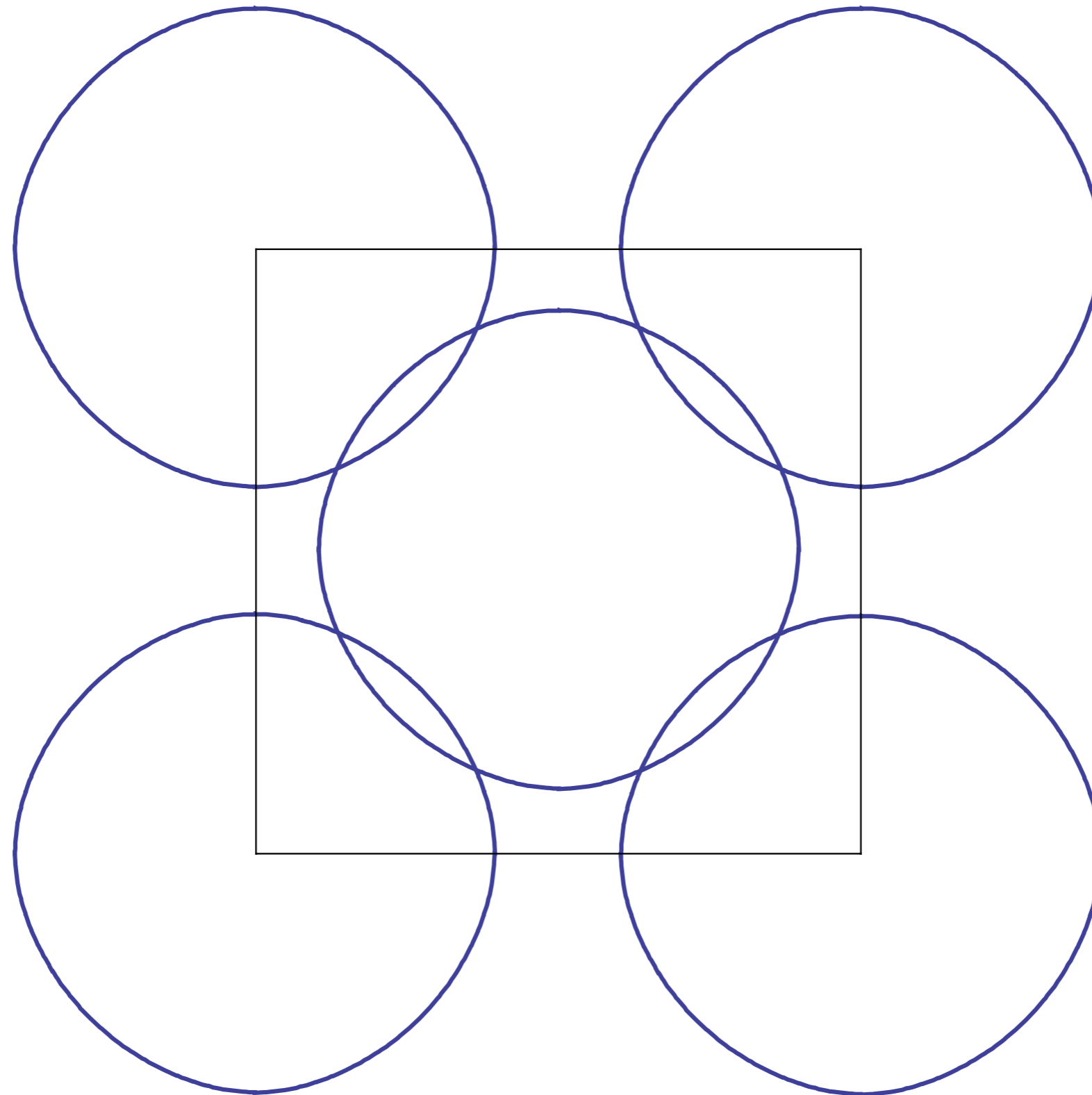
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- The theories can be organized in a  $1/N$  expansion, where  $N$  is the number of fermion “flavors”.
- At subleading order, resummation of all “planar” graphics is required (at least): this theory is even more complicated than QCD.

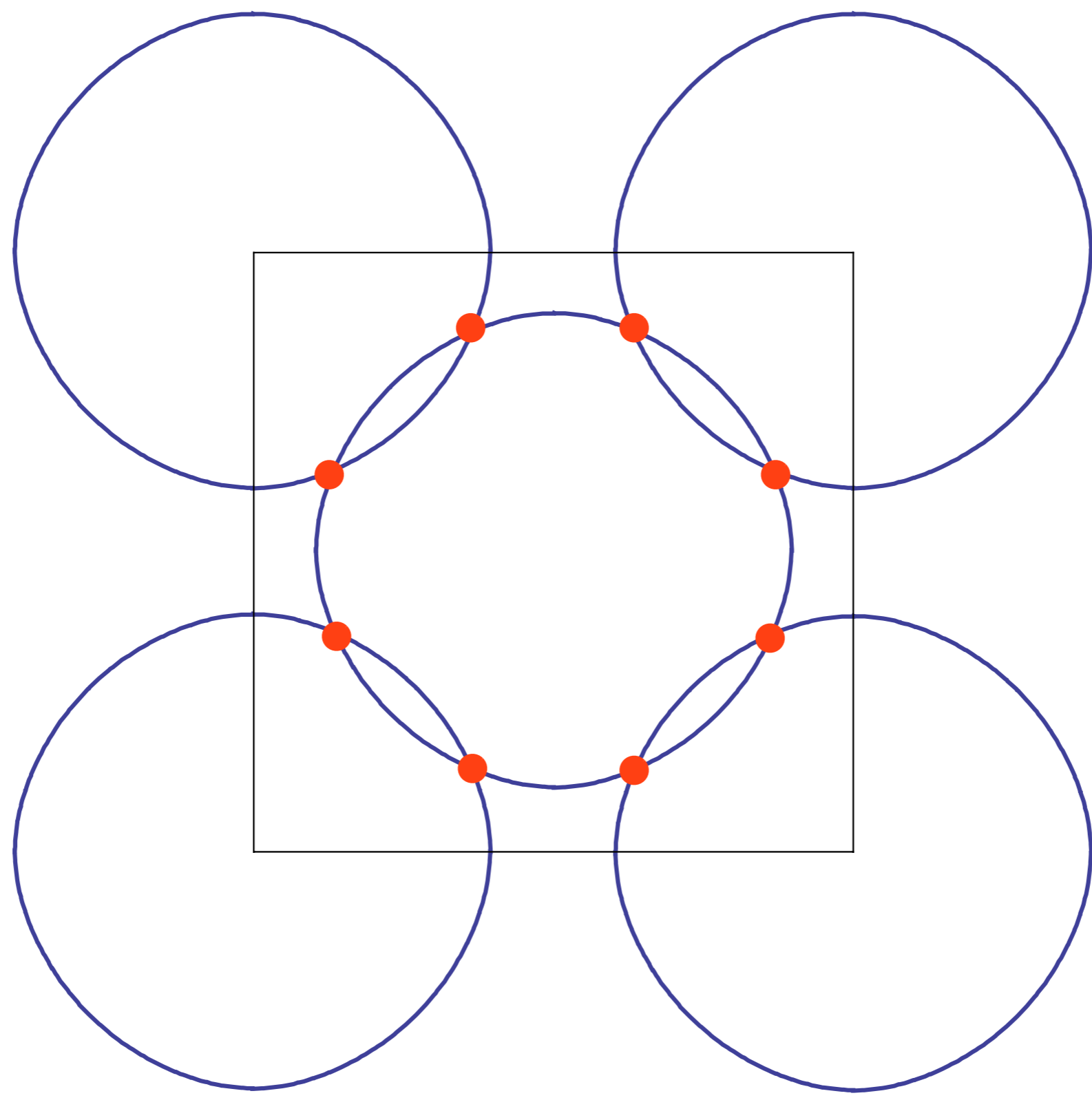
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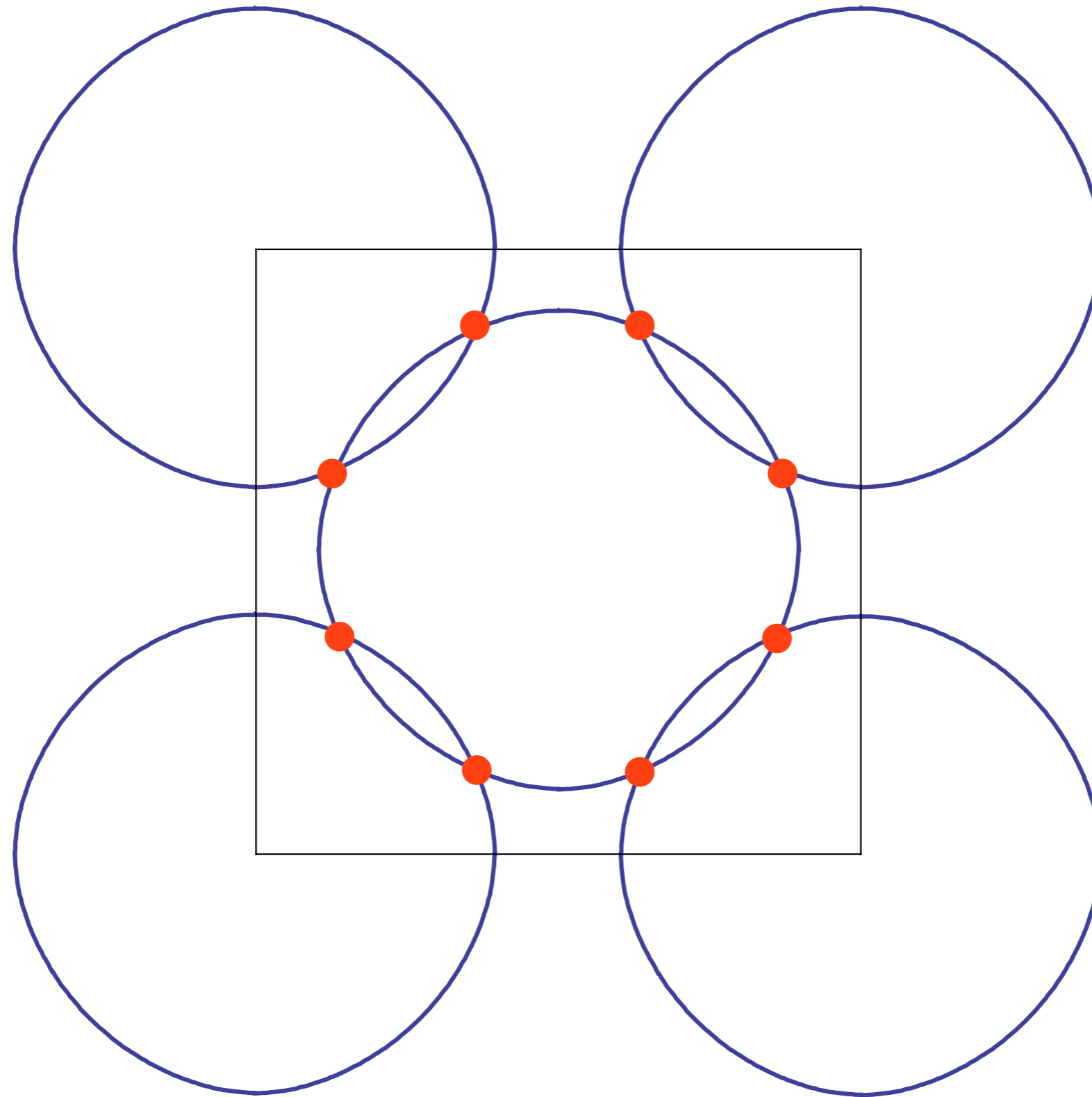
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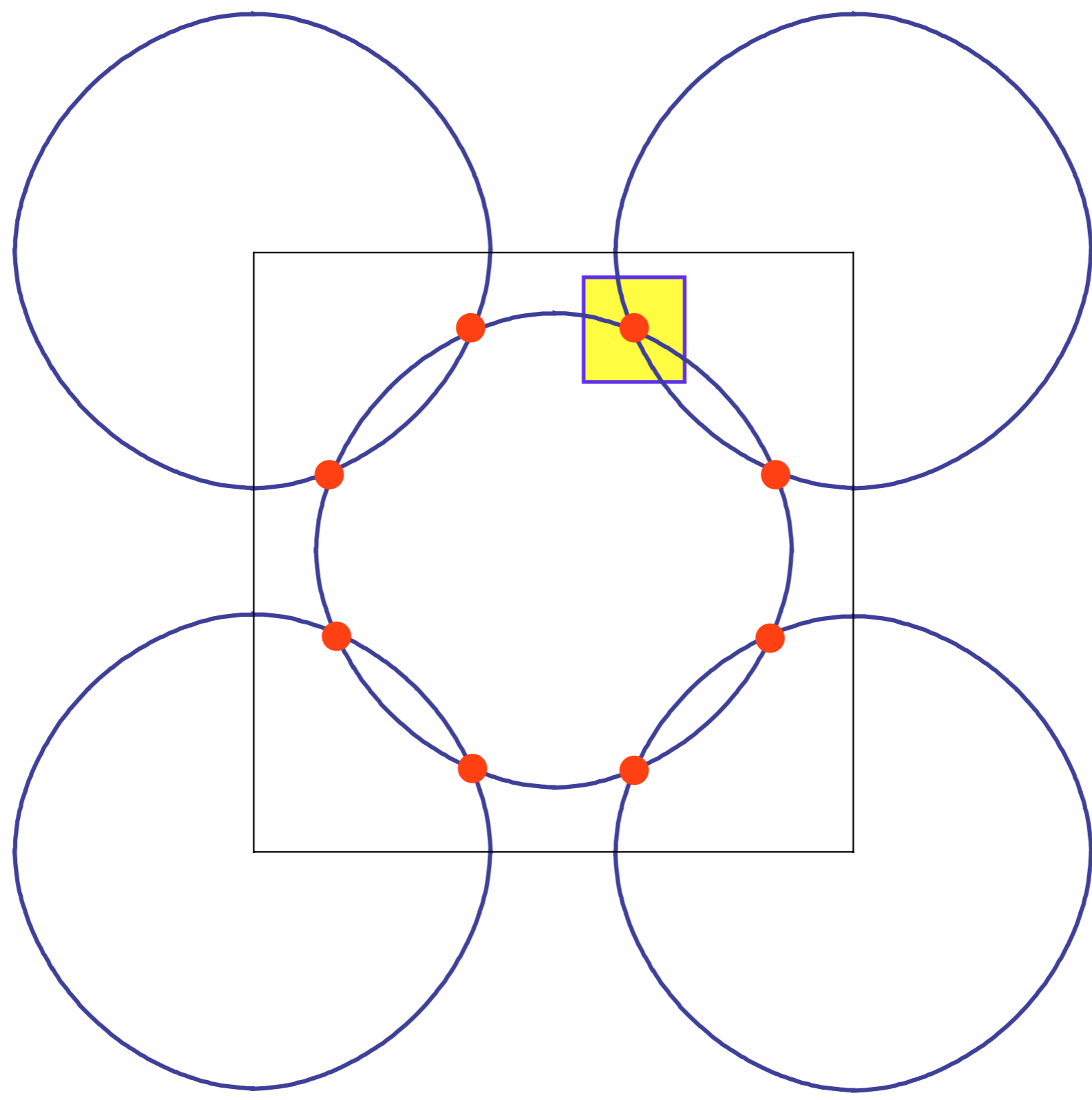
Fermi surfaces translated by  $\mathbf{K} = (\pi, \pi)$ .



**“Hot” spots**

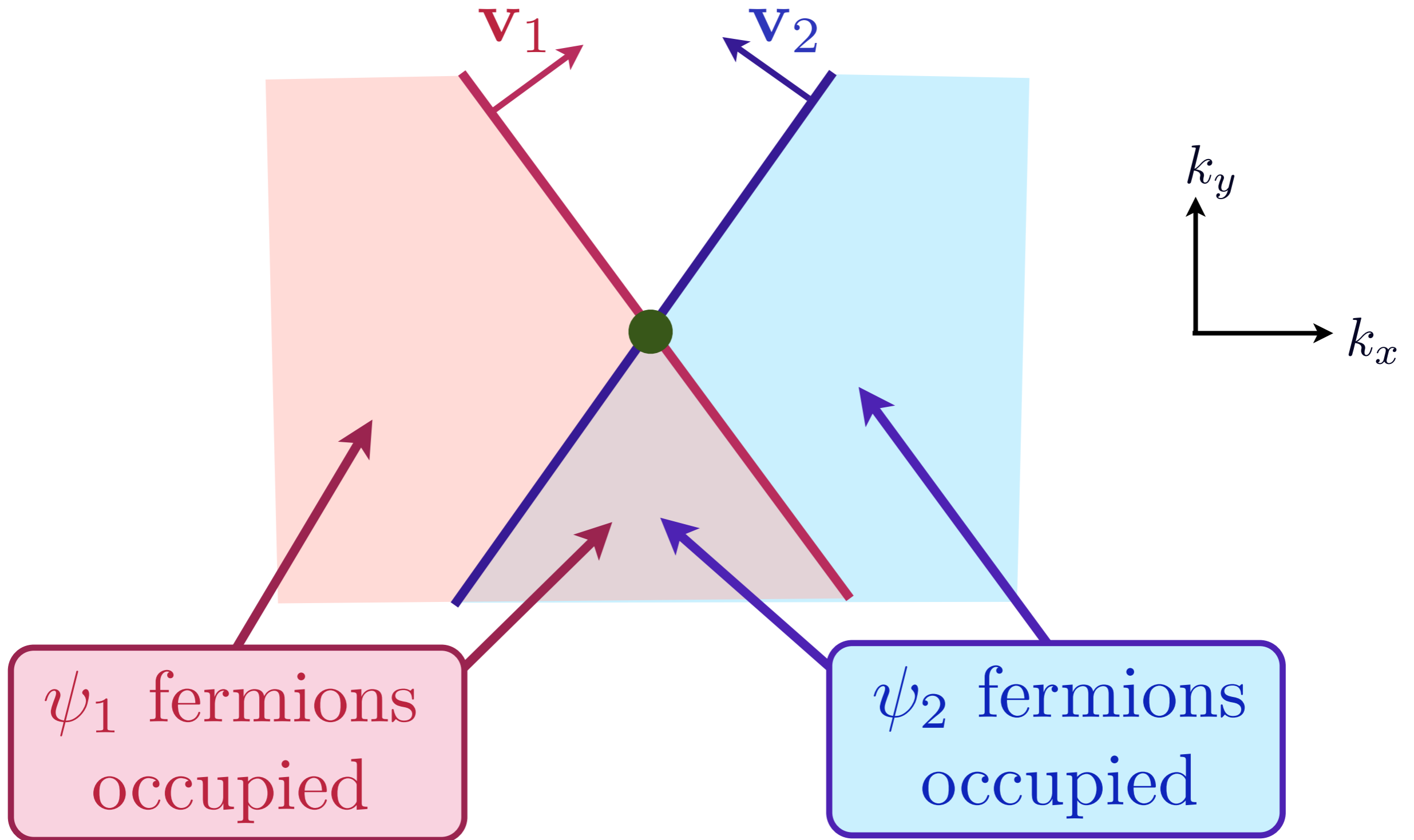


# Low energy theory for critical point near hot spots

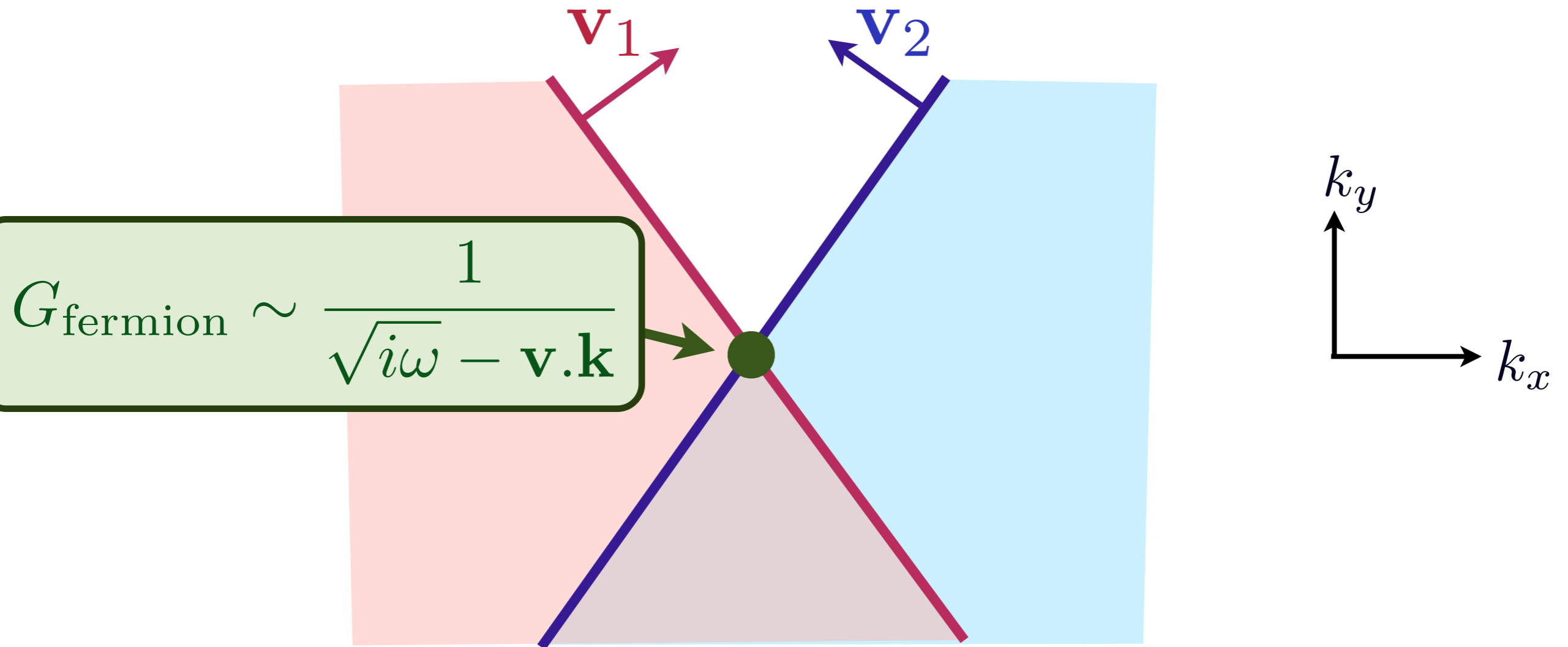


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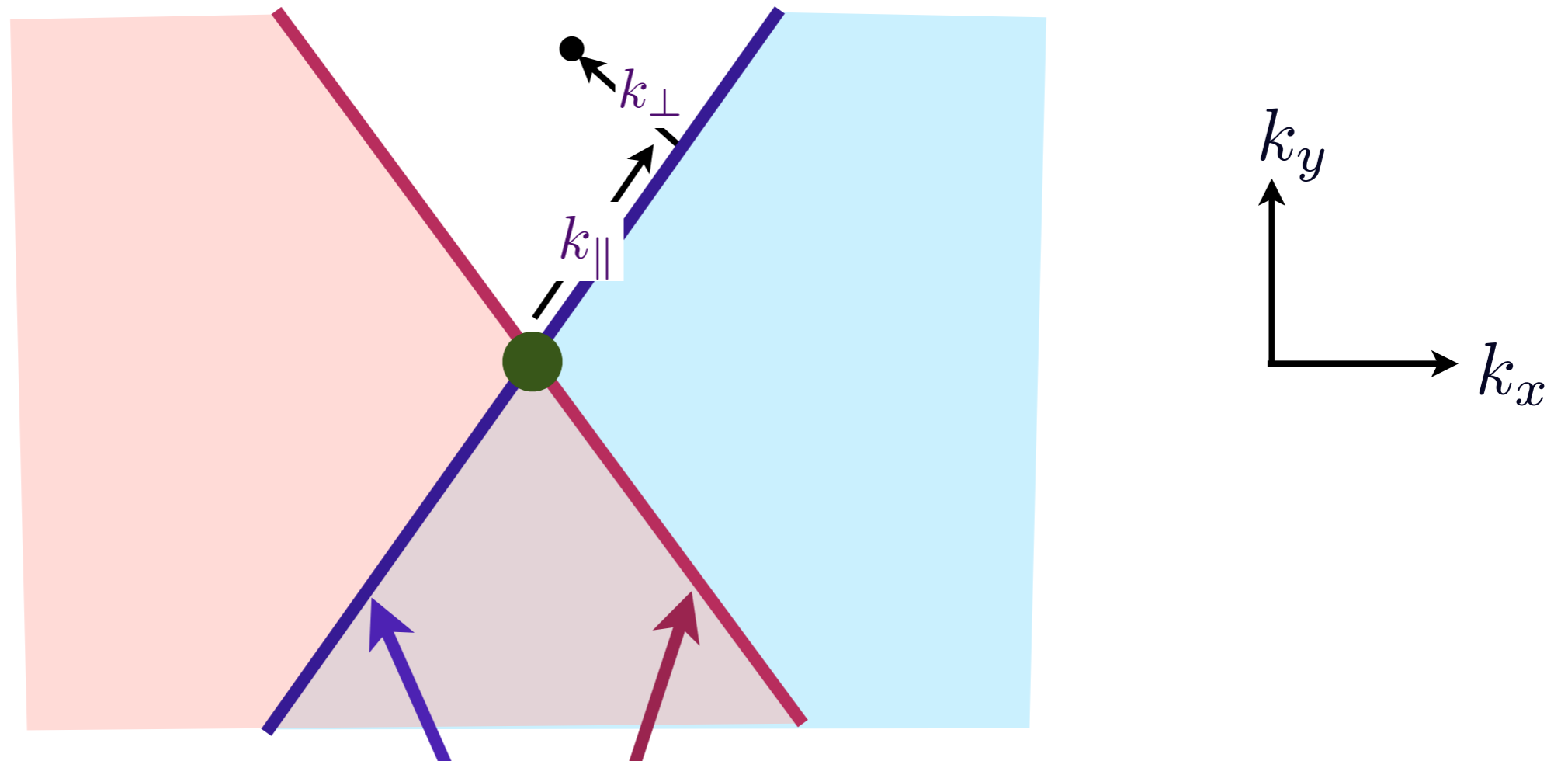
# Two loop results: Non-Fermi liquid spectrum at hot spots



A. J. Millis, *Phys. Rev. B* **45**, 13047 (1992)

Ar. Abanov and A.V. Chubukov, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **93**, 255702 (2004)

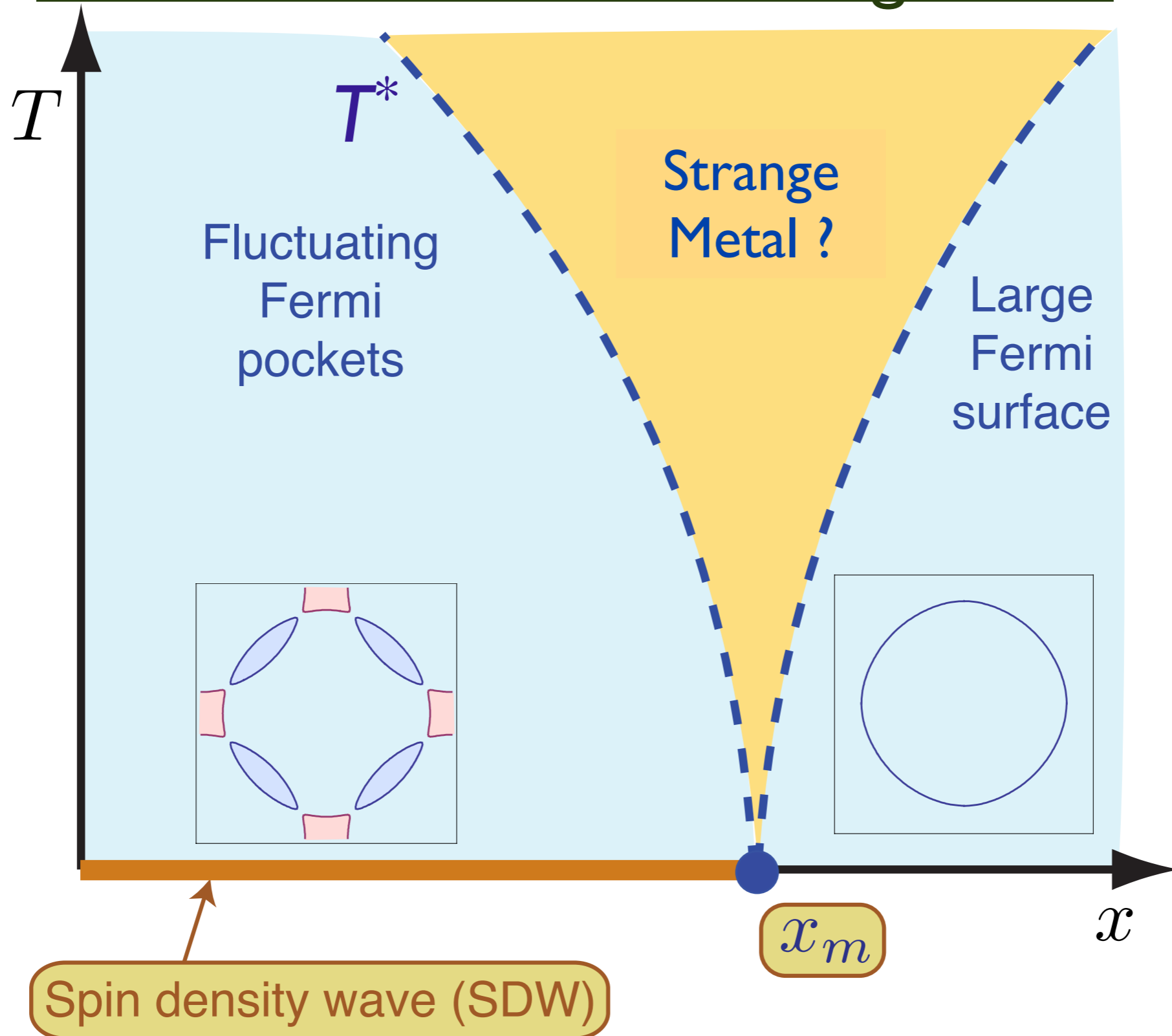
Two loop results: Quasiparticle weight vanishes upon approaching hot spots



$$G_{\text{fermion}} = \frac{Z(k_{\parallel})}{\omega - v_F(k_{\parallel})k_{\perp}}, \quad Z(k_{\parallel}) \sim v_F(k_{\parallel}) \sim k_{\parallel}$$

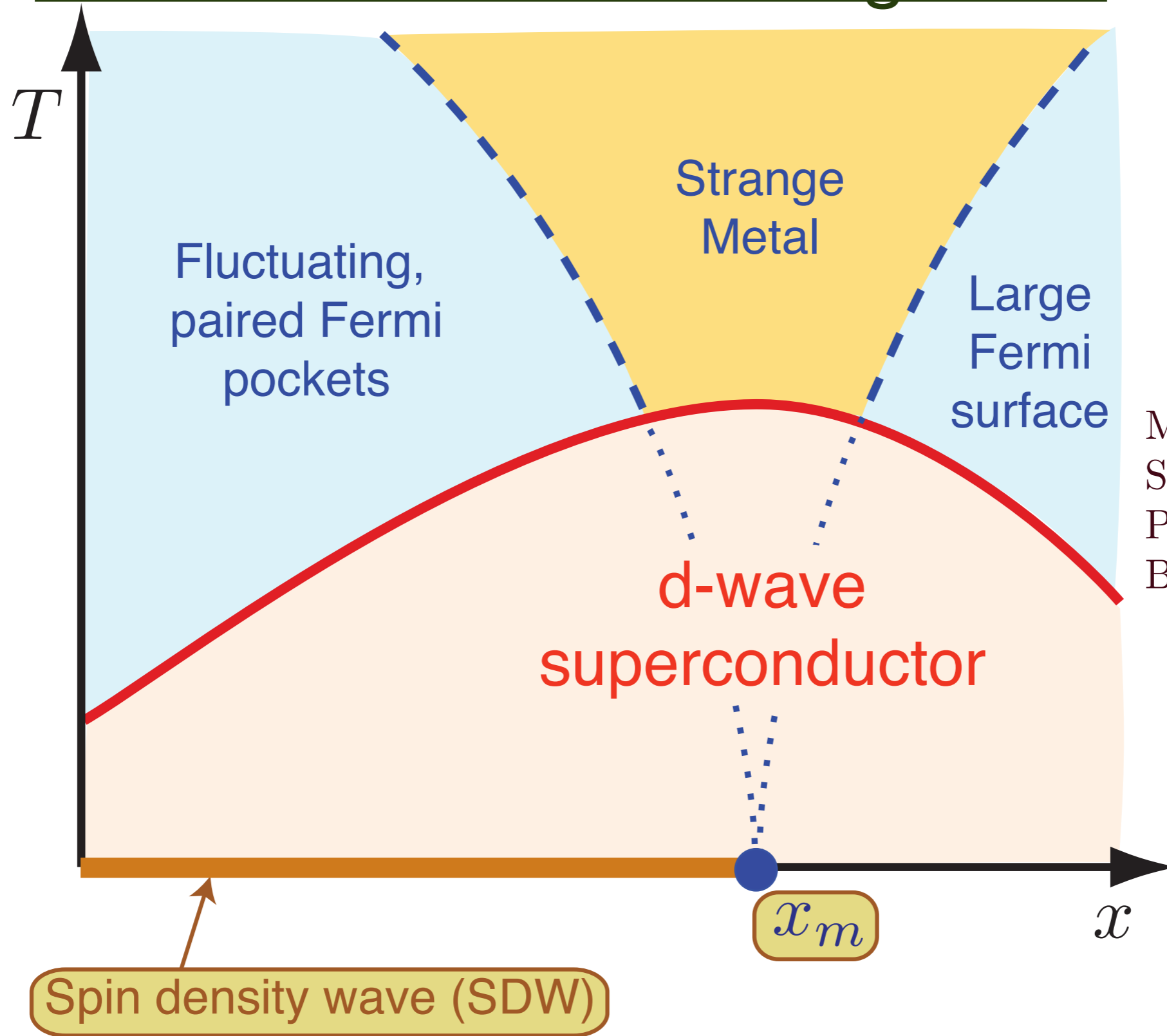
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M. A. Metlitski and  
S. Sachdev,  
Physical Review  
B **82**, 075128 (2010)

Pairing “glue” from antiferromagnetic fluctuations

# Pairing “glue” from antiferromagnetic fluctuations

## ***d*-wave pairing near a spin-density-wave instability**

D. J. Scalapino, E. Loh, Jr.,\* and J. E. Hirsch†

*Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of California, Santa Barbara, California 93106*

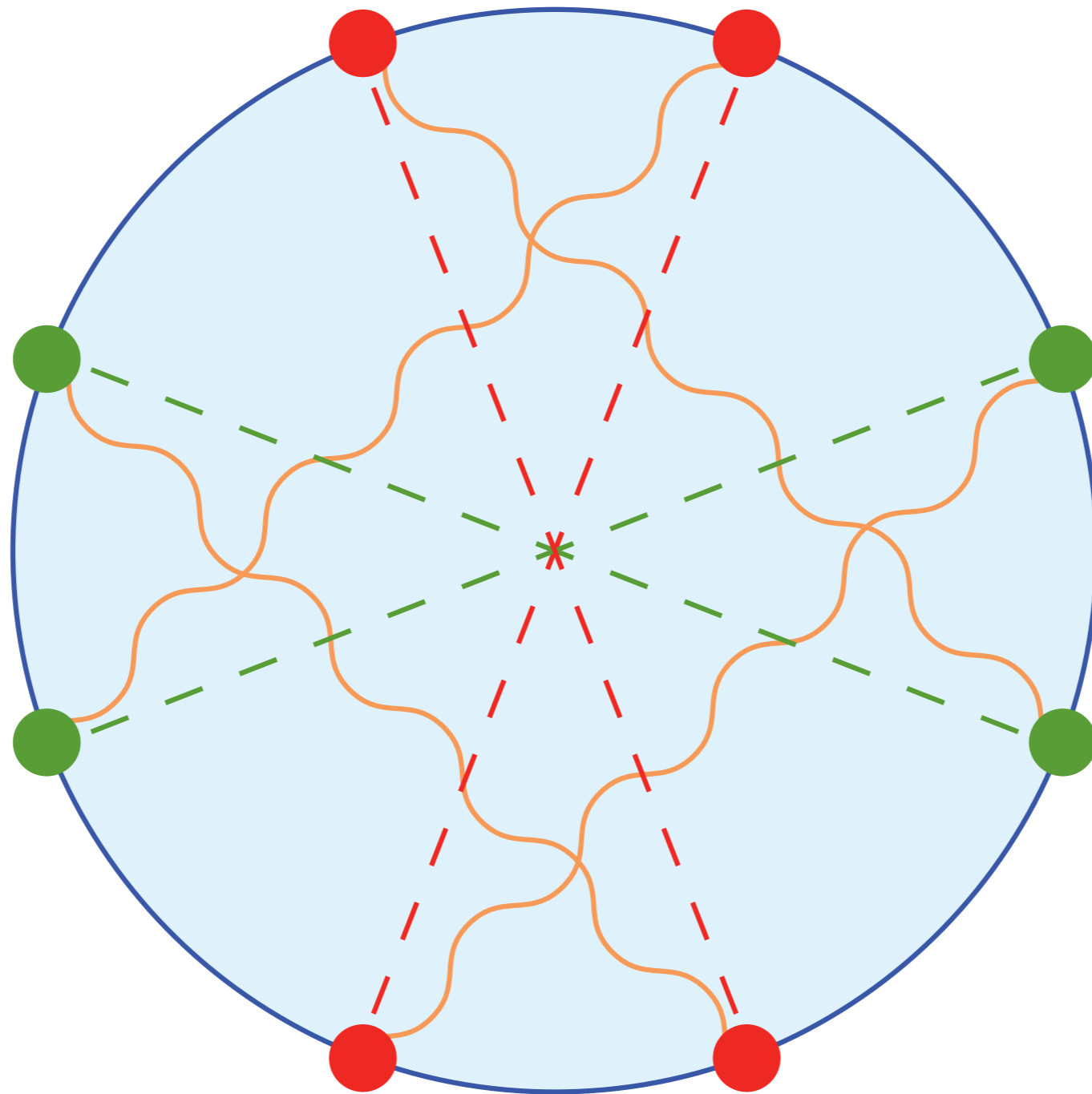
(Received 23 June 1986)

We investigate the three-dimensional Hubbard model and show that paramagnon exchange near a spin-density-wave instability gives rise to a strong singlet *d*-wave pairing interaction. For a cubic band the singlet ( $d_{x^2-y^2}$  and  $d_{3z^2-r^2}$ ) channels are enhanced while the singlet ( $d_{xy}, d_{xz}, d_{yz}$ ) and triplet *p*-wave channels are suppressed. A unique feature of this pairing mechanism is its sensitivity to band structure and band filling.

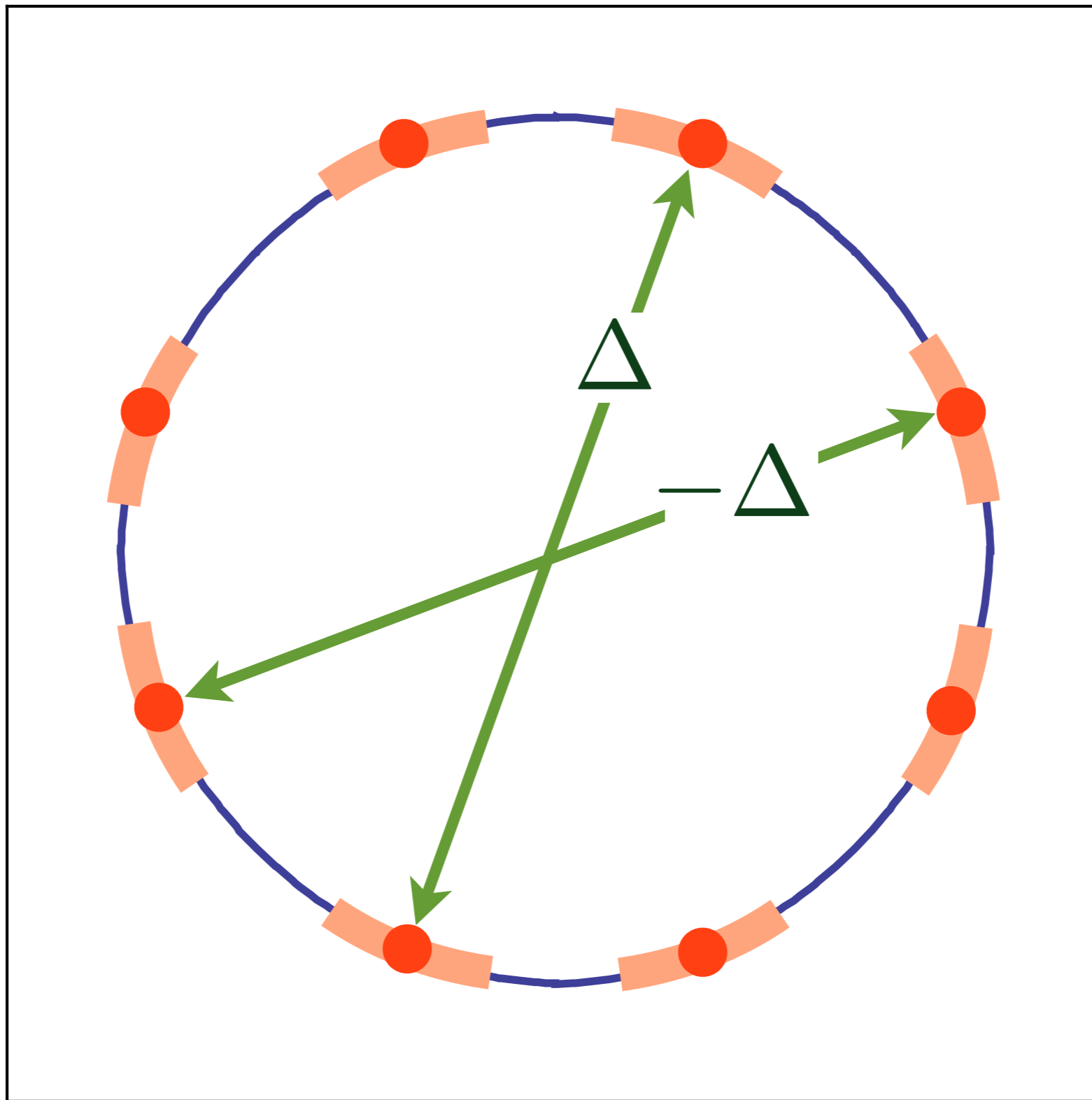
Physical Review B **34**, 8190 (1986)

There is an instability in weak-coupling,  
but  $T_c$  is low where the theory is reliable:

# Pairing “glue” from antiferromagnetic fluctuations



$$\langle c_{\mathbf{k}\alpha}^\dagger c_{-\mathbf{k}\beta}^\dagger \rangle = \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} \Delta (\cos k_x - \cos k_y)$$



Unconventional pairing at and near hot spots

At stronger coupling,  
different effects compete:

- Pairing glue becomes stronger.



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different effects compete:

- Pairing glue becomes stronger.
- There is stronger fermion-boson scattering, and fermionic quasi-particles lose their integrity.
- Other instabilities can appear *e.g.* to charge density waves/stripe order.

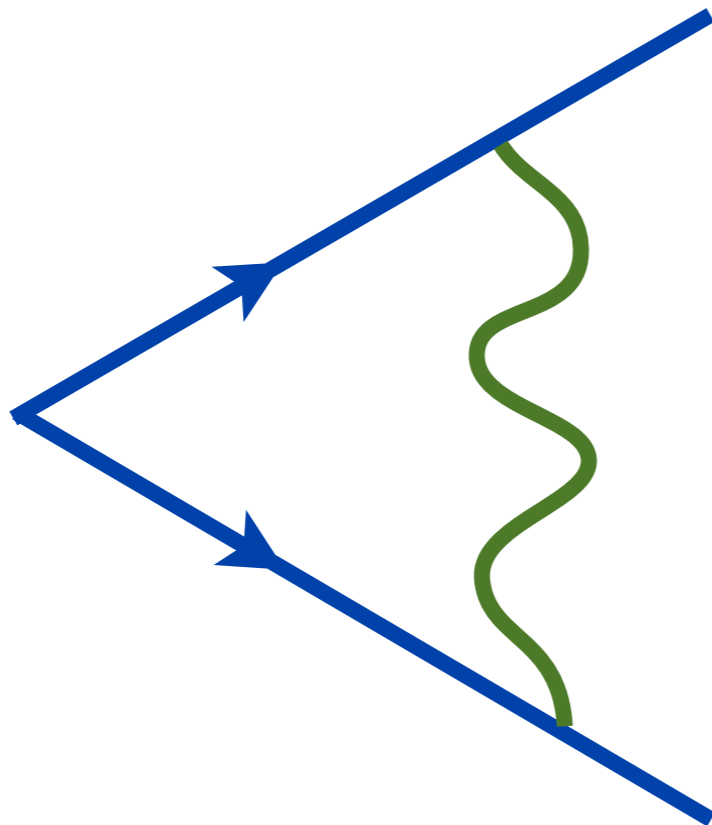


# BCS theory

Electron-phonon  
coupling

$$1 + \lambda_{\text{e-ph}} \log \left( \frac{\omega_D}{\omega} \right)$$

Debye  
frequency



# Enhancement of pairing susceptibility by interactions

## Antiferromagnetic critical point

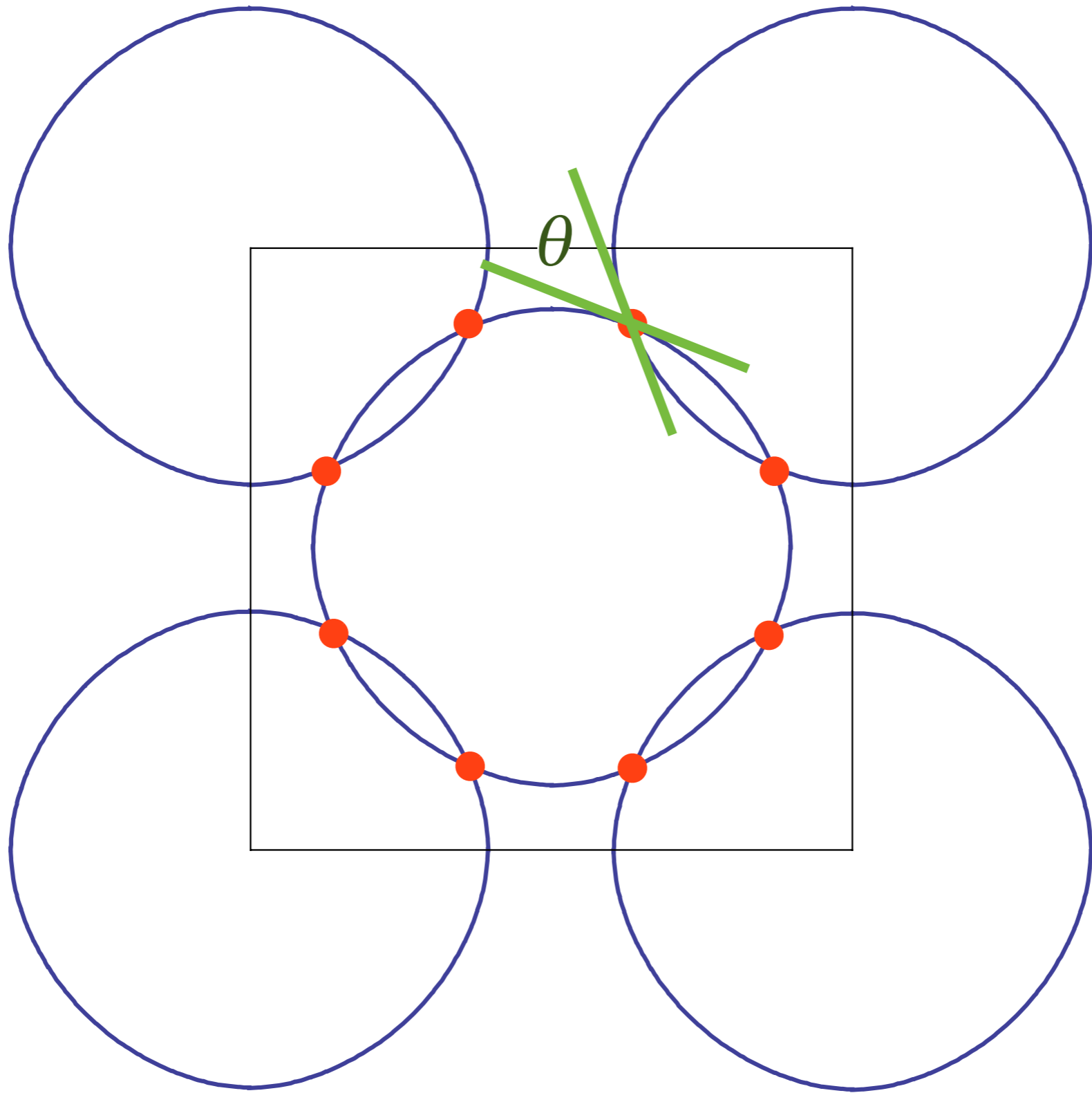
$$1 + \frac{\sin \theta}{2\pi} \log^2 \left( \frac{E_F}{\omega} \right)$$



Fermi  
energy

$\theta$  is the angle between Fermi lines.  
Independent of interaction strength  
 $U$  in 2 dimensions.

(see also Ar. Abanov, A. V. Chubukov, and A. M. Finkel'stein, *Europhys. Lett.* **54**, 488 (2001))  
M. A. Metlitski and S. Sachdev, *Phys. Rev. B* **85**, 075127 (2010)



# Enhancement of pairing susceptibility by interactions

## Antiferromagnetic critical point

$$1 + \frac{\sin \theta}{2\pi} \log^2 \left( \frac{E_F}{\omega} \right)$$



- **Universal**  $\log^2$  singularity arises from Fermi lines; singularity *at* hot spots is weaker.
- Interference between BCS and quantum-critical logs.
- Momentum dependence of self-energy is crucial.
- Not suppressed by  $1/N$  factor in  $1/N$  expansion.

M.A. Metlitski and S. Sachdev, *Phys. Rev. B* **85**, 075127 (2010)

## Summary:

- Field theory/RG provide strong evidence that there is unconventional (“pairing-amplitude-sign-changing”) spin-singlet superconductivity at the antiferromagnetic quantum critical point in all two-dimensional metals.
- The flow to strong-coupling indicates that Feynman graph/field theory/RG methods have reached their limits, and we have reached an impasse.....

## For the future.....

- Use  $1/(\epsilon_0)$  as an expansion parameter (R. Shankar)

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- Use  $1/(t_0)$  as an expansion parameter (R. Shankar)
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- Solve on a computer: sign problem.....

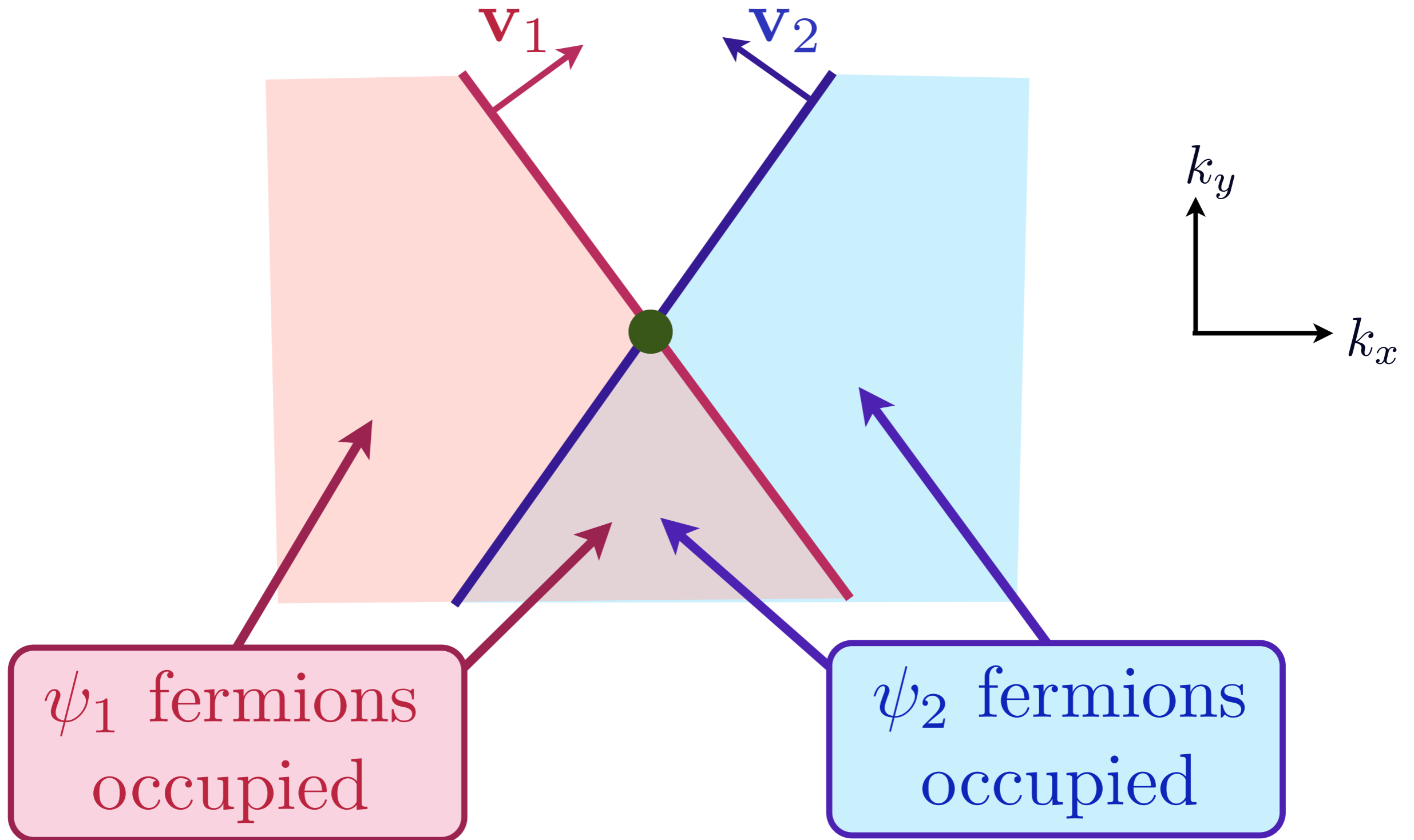
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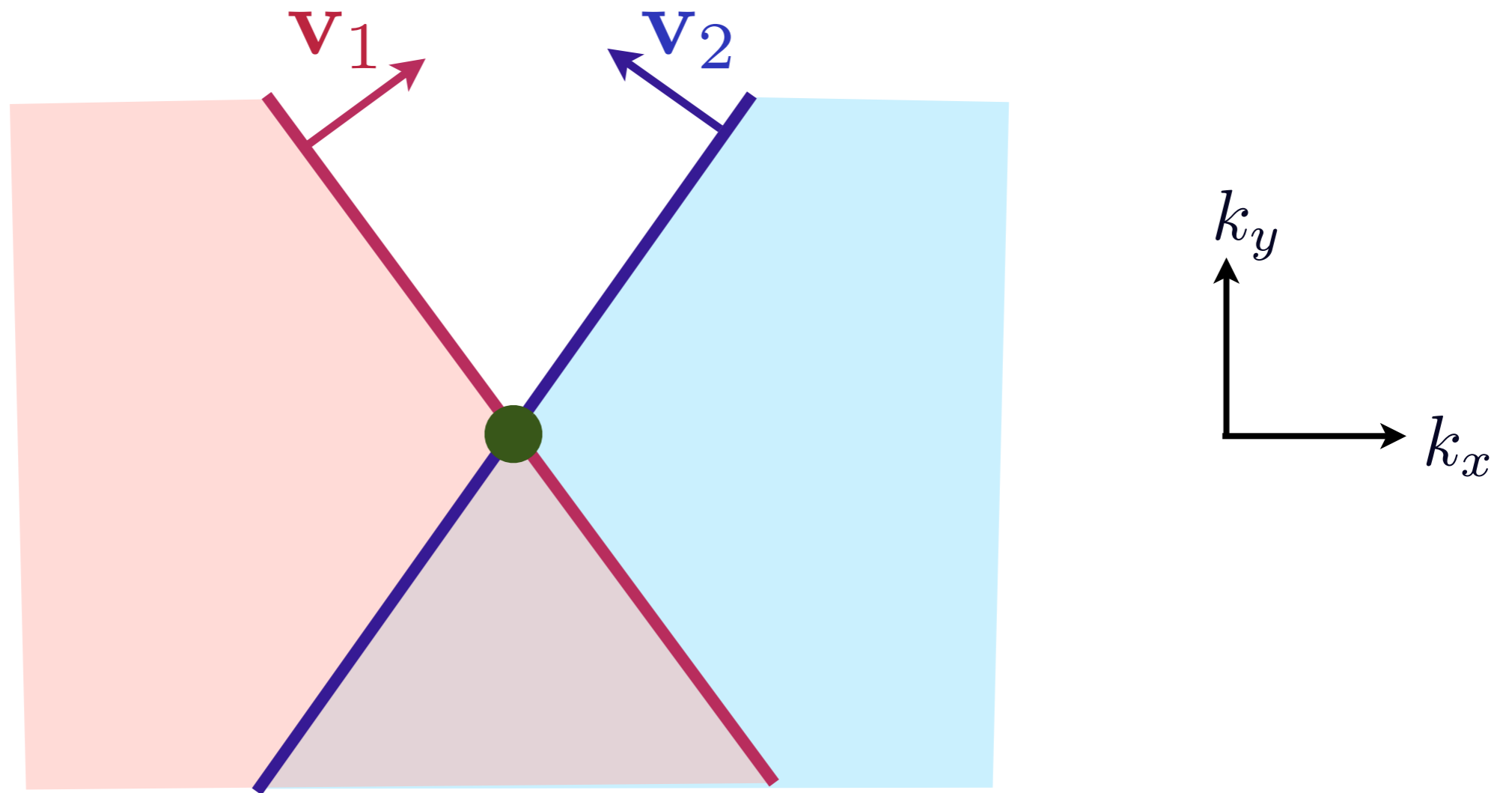
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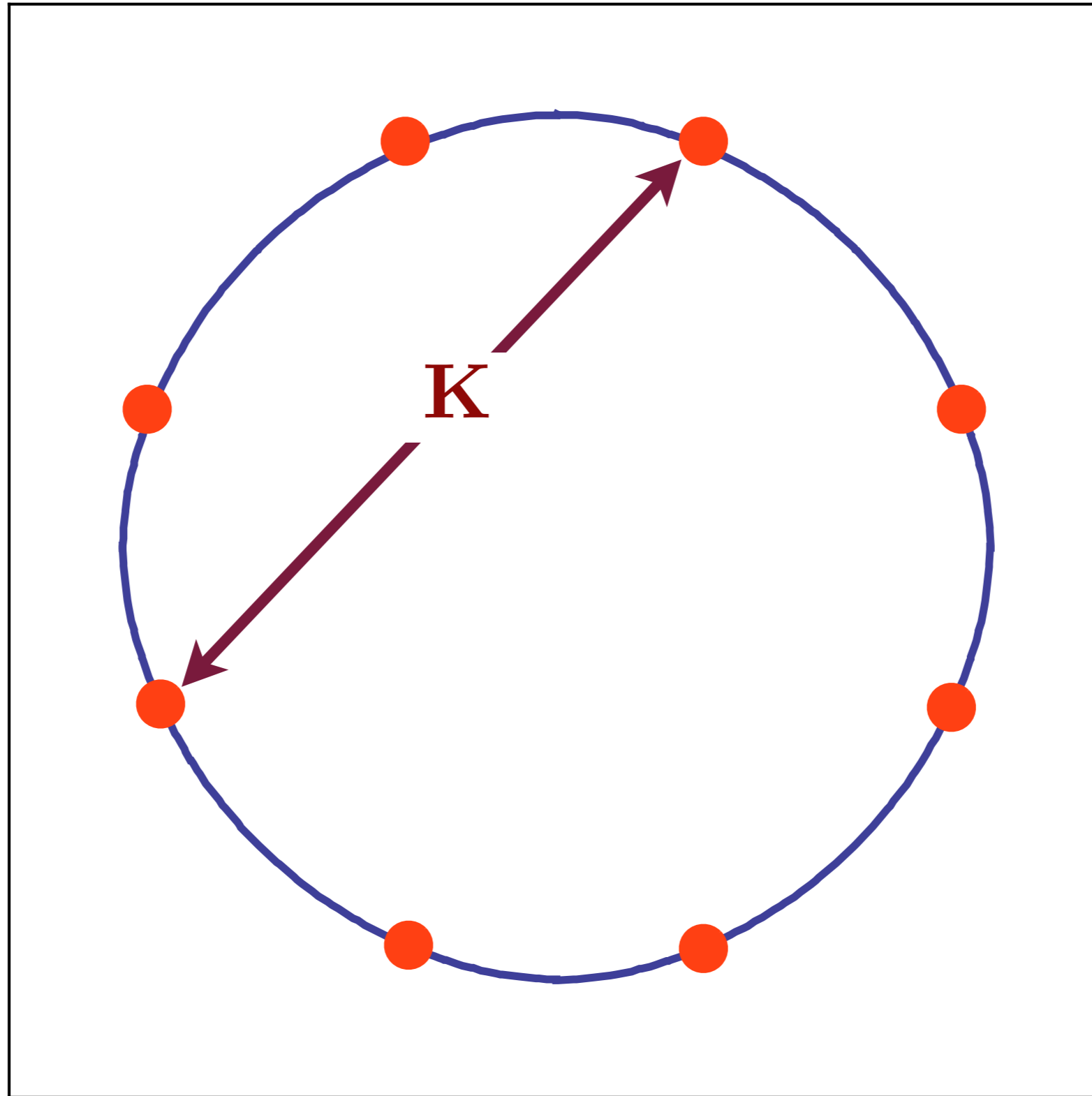


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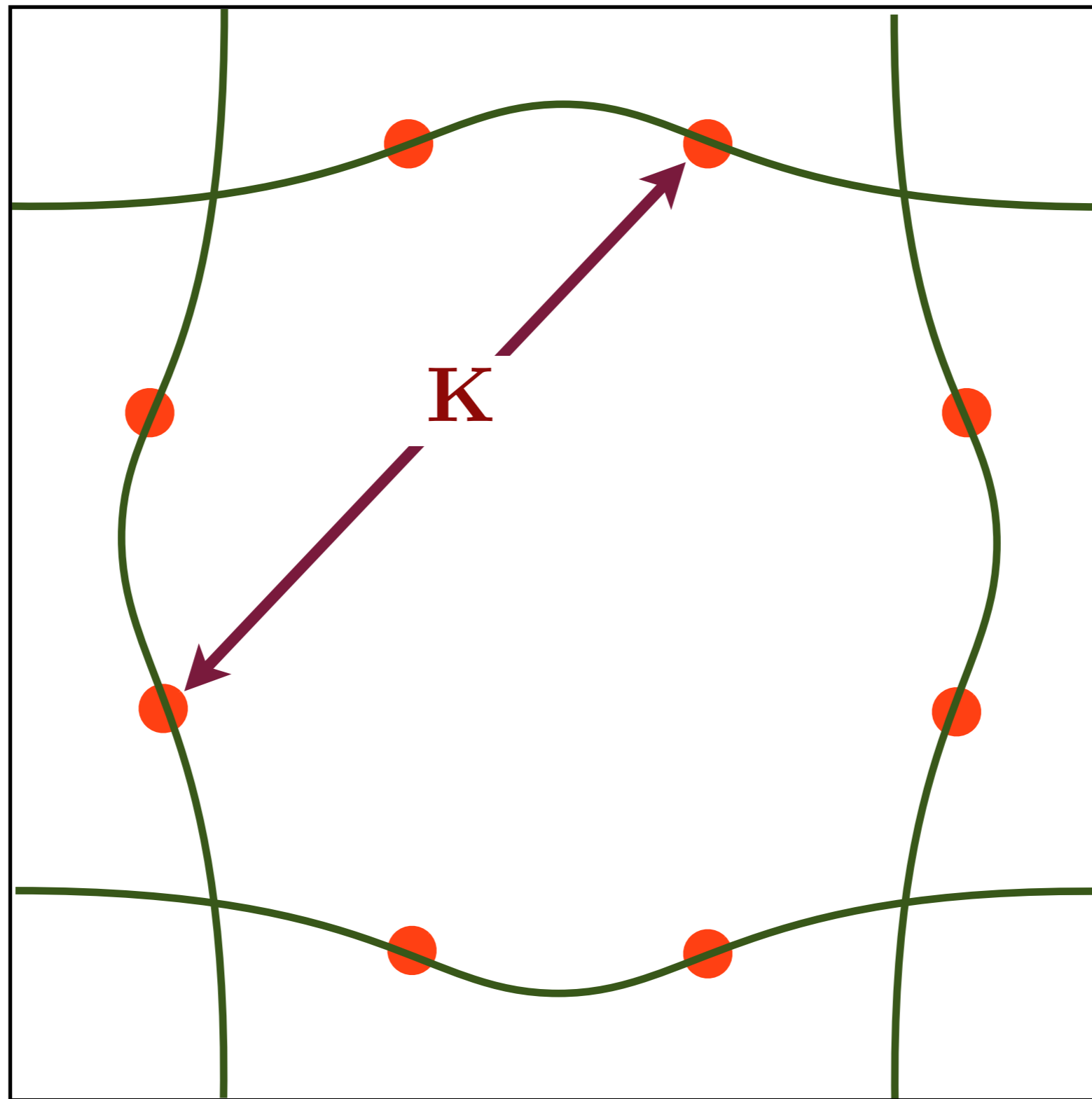
To faithfully realize low energy theory in quantum Monte Carlo,  
we need a UV completion in which Fermi lines don't end  
and all weights are positive.

# QMC for the onset of antiferromagnetism



Hot spots in a single band model

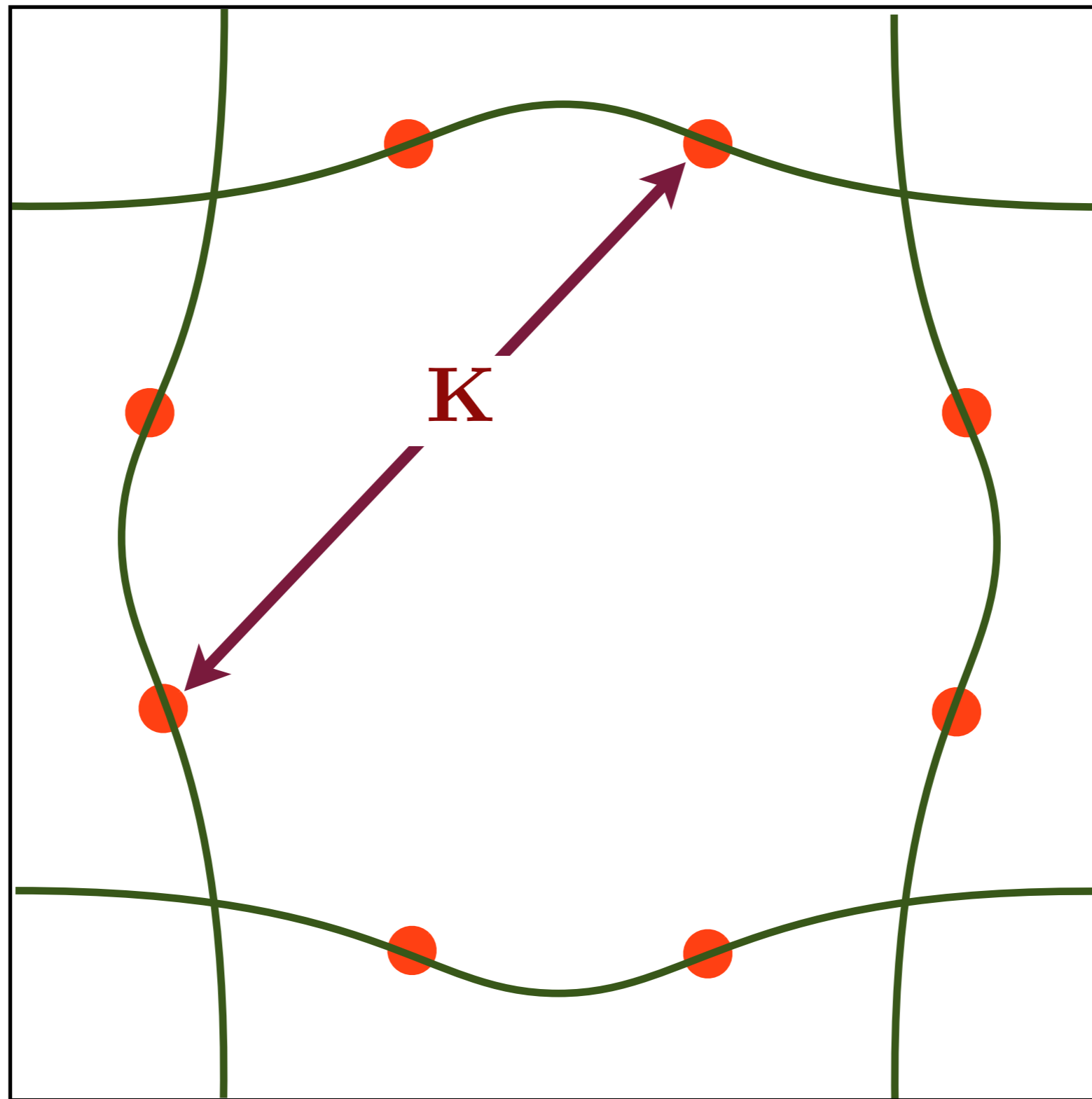
# QMC for the onset of antiferromagnetism



E. Berg,  
M. Metlitski, and  
S. Sachdev,  
arXiv:1206.0742

Hot spots in a two band model

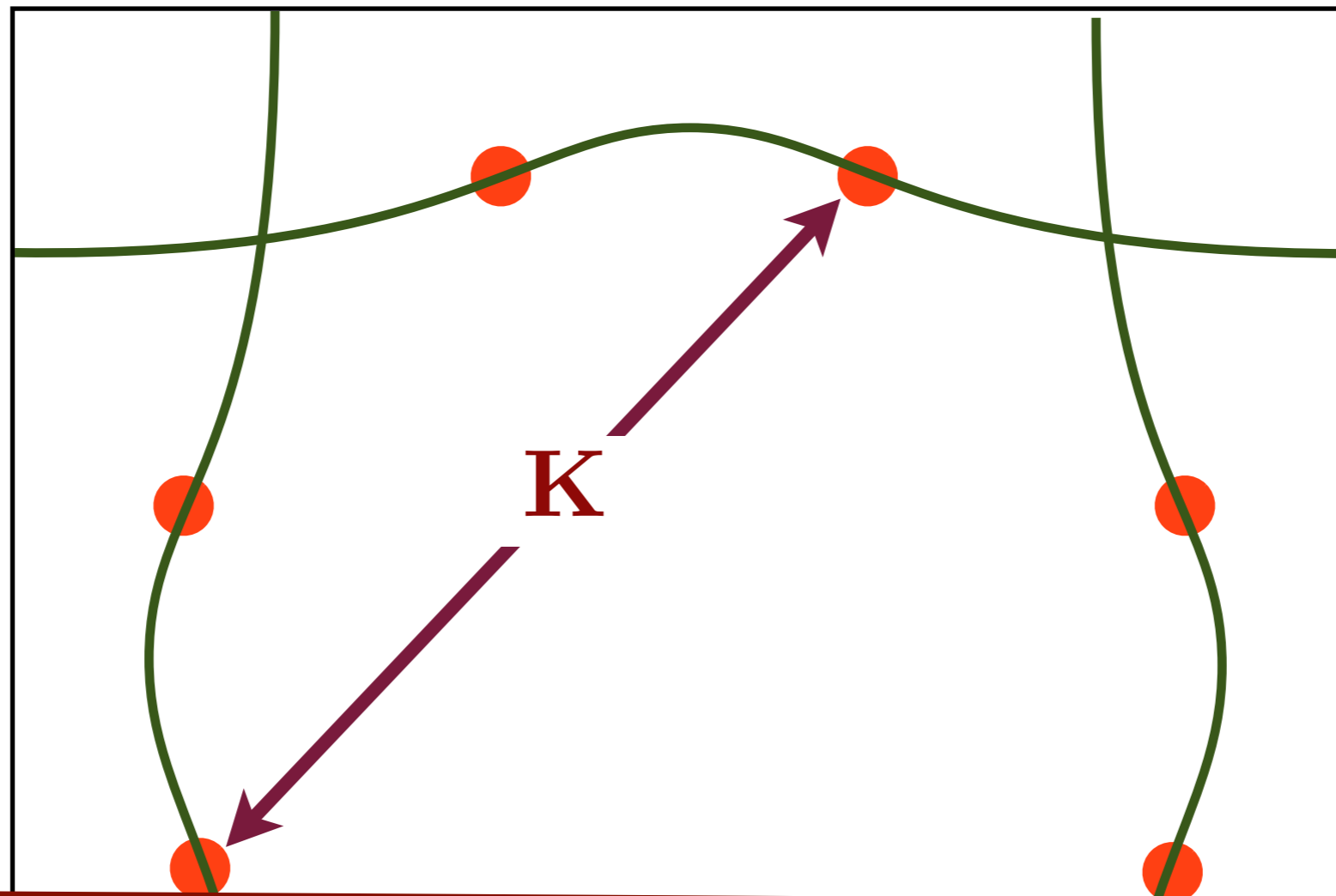
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# QMC for the onset of antiferromagnetism



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M. Metlitski, and  
S. Sachdev,  
arXiv:1206.0742

No sign problem in  
fermion determinant Monte Carlo !  
Determinant is positive because of Kramer's  
degeneracy, and no additional symmetries are needed; holds for  
arbitrary band structure and band filling, provided **K** only  
connects hot spots in distinct bands

# QMC for the onset of antiferromagnetism

Electrons with dispersion  $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}$   
interacting with fluctuations of the  
antiferromagnetic order parameter  $\vec{\varphi}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Z} &= \int \mathcal{D}c_{\alpha} \mathcal{D}\vec{\varphi} \exp(-\mathcal{S}) \\ \mathcal{S} &= \int d\tau \sum_{\mathbf{k}} c_{\mathbf{k}\alpha}^{\dagger} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} \right) c_{\mathbf{k}\alpha} \\ &+ \int d\tau d^2x \left[ \frac{1}{2} (\nabla_x \vec{\varphi})^2 + \frac{r}{2} \vec{\varphi}^2 + \dots \right] \\ &- \lambda \int d\tau \sum_i \vec{\varphi}_i \cdot (-1)^{\mathbf{x}_i} c_{i\alpha}^{\dagger} \vec{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} c_{i\beta} \end{aligned}$$

# QMC for the onset of antiferromagnetism

Electrons with dispersions  $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^{(x)}$  and  $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^{(y)}$  interacting with fluctuations of the antiferromagnetic order parameter  $\vec{\varphi}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Z} &= \int \mathcal{D}c_{\alpha}^{(x)} \mathcal{D}c_{\alpha}^{(y)} \mathcal{D}\vec{\varphi} \exp(-\mathcal{S}) \\ \mathcal{S} &= \int d\tau \sum_{\mathbf{k}} c_{\mathbf{k}\alpha}^{(x)\dagger} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial\tau} - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^{(x)} \right) c_{\mathbf{k}\alpha}^{(x)} \\ &+ \int d\tau \sum_{\mathbf{k}} c_{\mathbf{k}\alpha}^{(y)\dagger} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial\tau} - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^{(y)} \right) c_{\mathbf{k}\alpha}^{(y)} \\ &+ \int d\tau d^2x \left[ \frac{1}{2} (\nabla_x \vec{\varphi})^2 + \frac{r}{2} \vec{\varphi}^2 + \dots \right] \\ &- \lambda \int d\tau \sum_i \vec{\varphi}_i \cdot (-1)^{\mathbf{x}_i} c_{i\alpha}^{(x)\dagger} \vec{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} c_{i\beta}^{(y)} + \text{H.c.} \end{aligned}$$

E. Berg,  
M. Metlitski, and  
S. Sachdev,  
arXiv:1206.0742

# QMC for the onset of antiferromagnetism

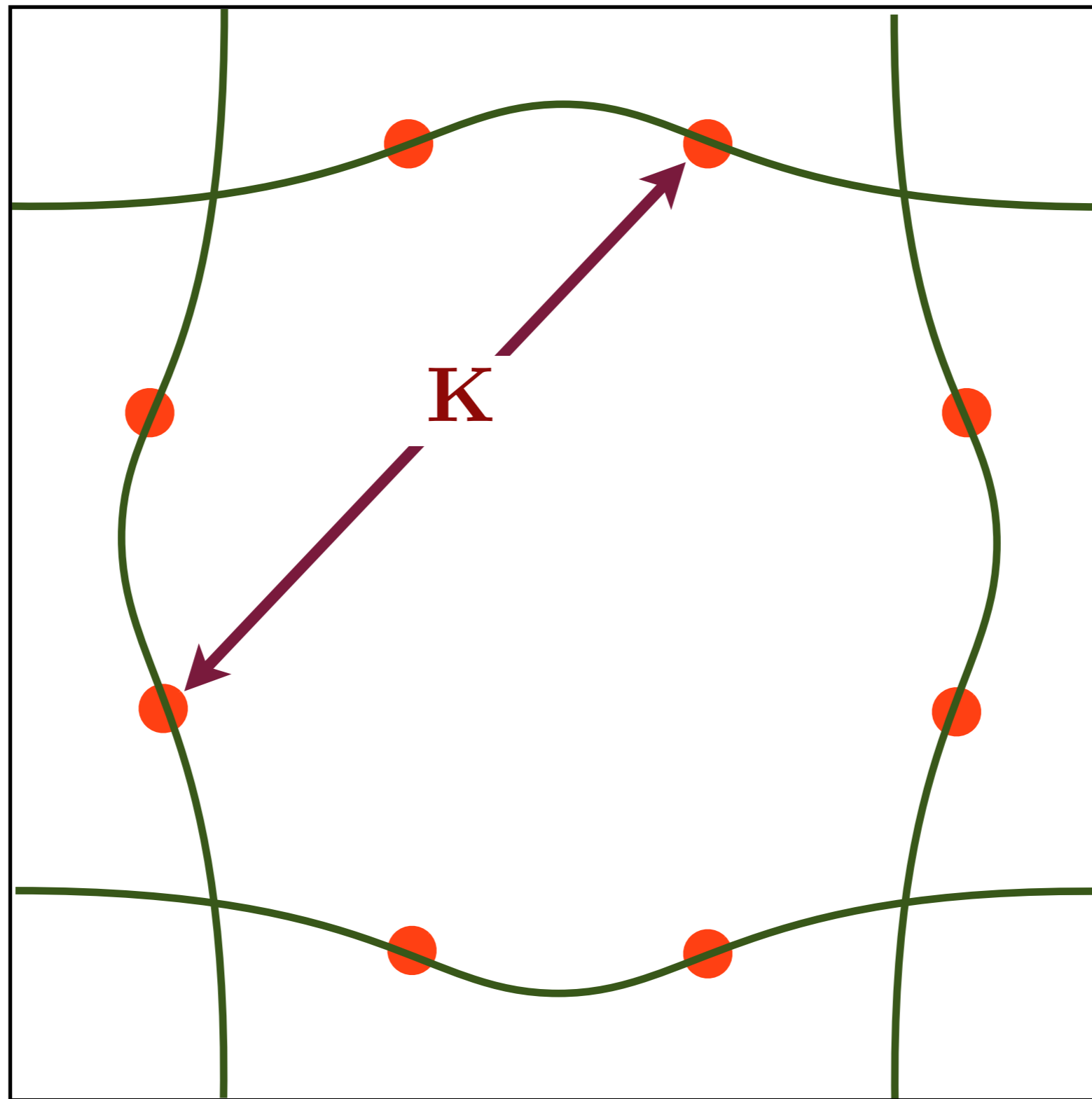
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E. Berg,  
M. Metlitski, and  
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No sign problem !

# QMC for the onset of antiferromagnetism

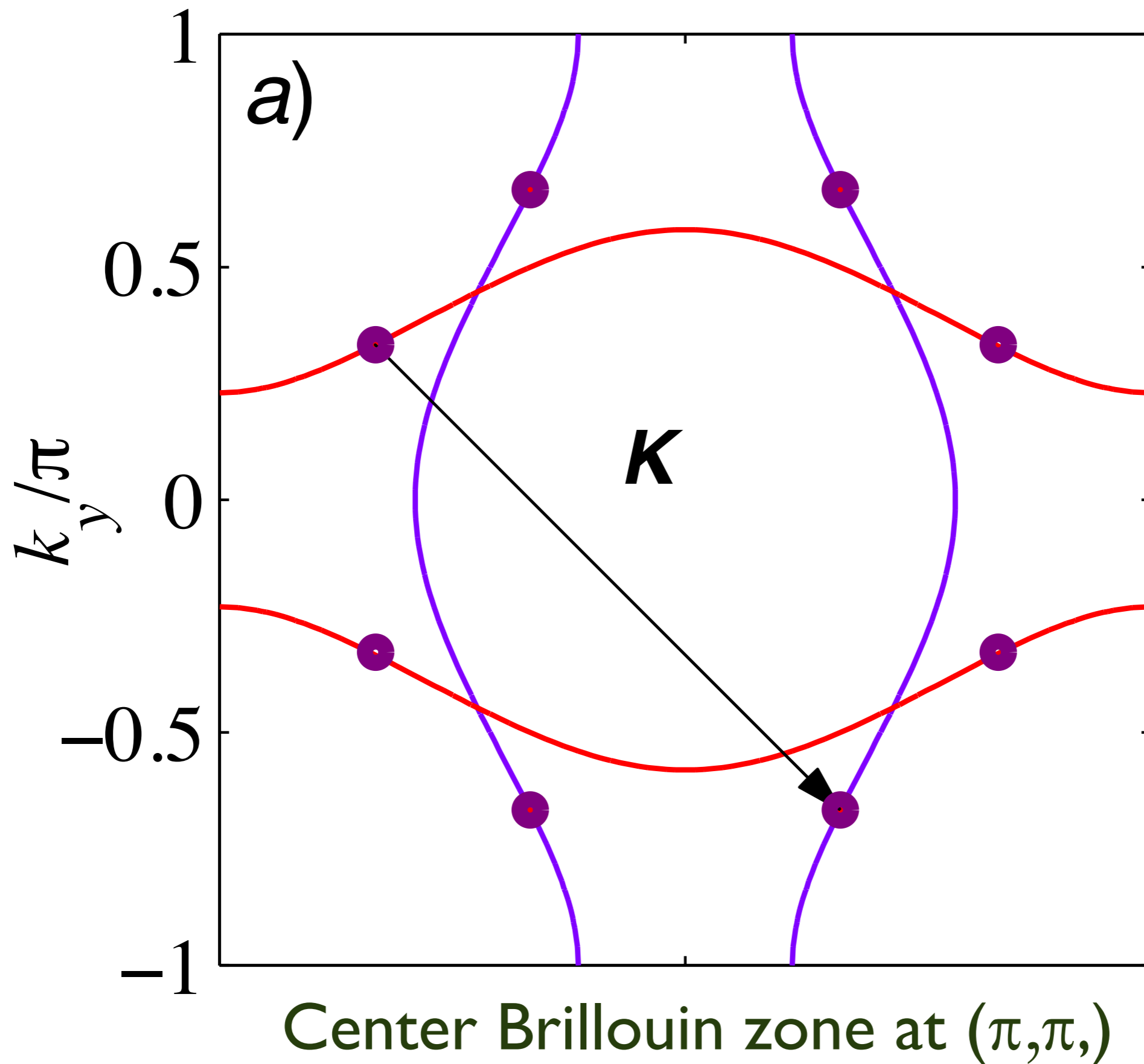


E. Berg,  
M. Metlitski, and  
S. Sachdev,  
arXiv:1206.0742

Hot spots in a two band model

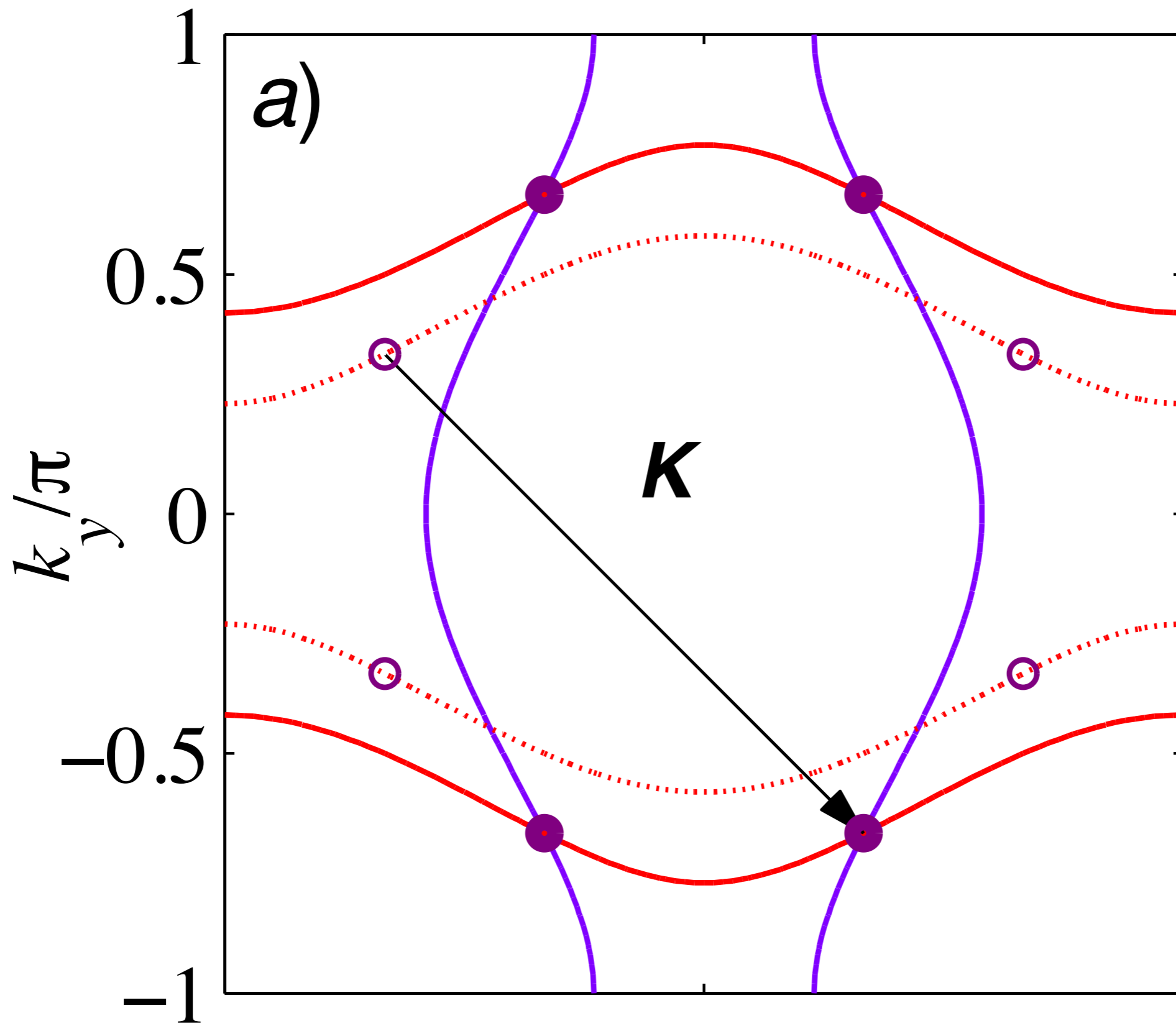
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E. Berg,  
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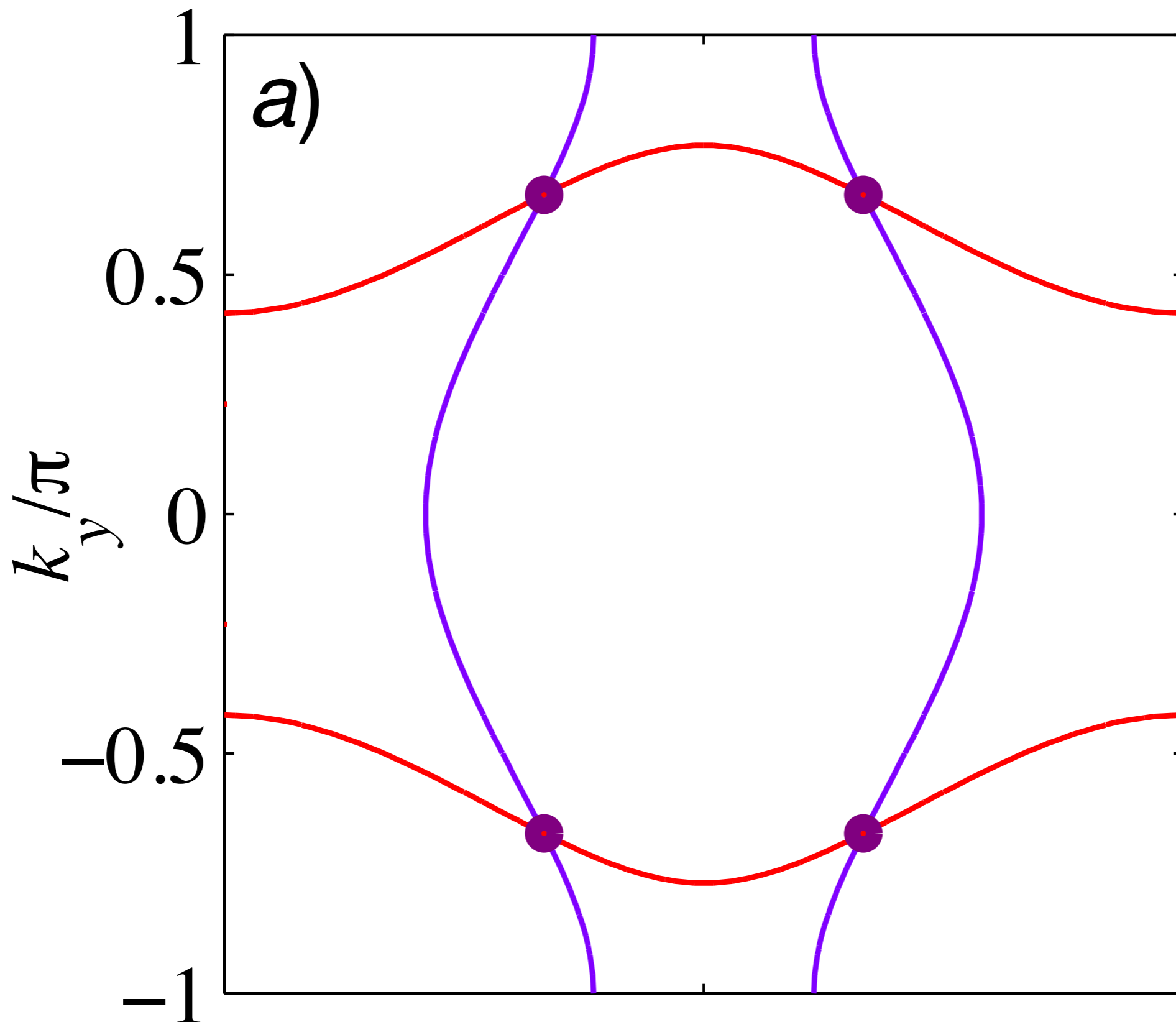
# QMC for the onset of antiferromagnetism

E. Berg,  
M. Metlitski, and  
S. Sachdev,  
arXiv:1206.0742



Move one of the Fermi surface by  $(\pi, \pi)$

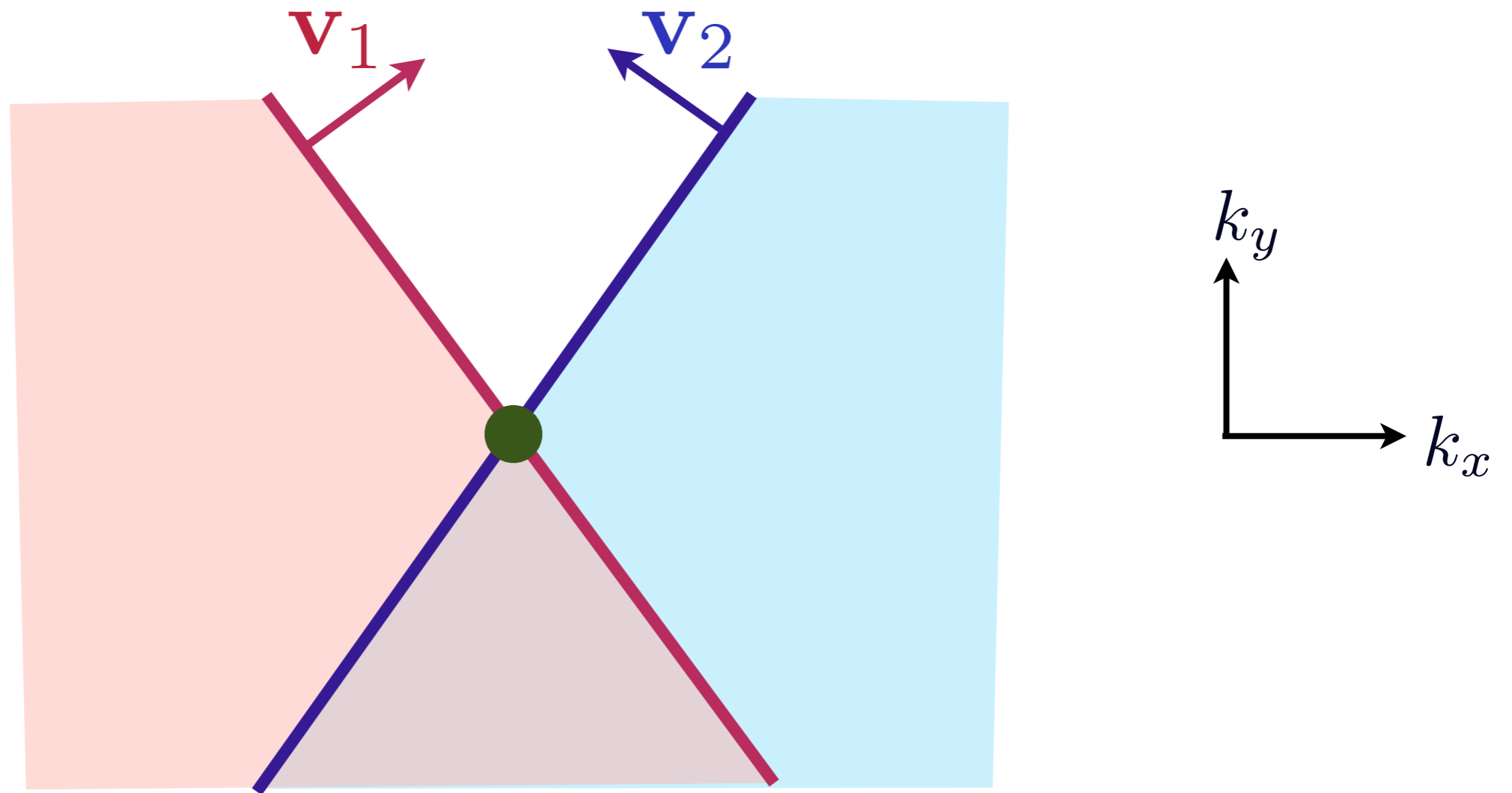
# QMC for the onset of antiferromagnetism



E. Berg,  
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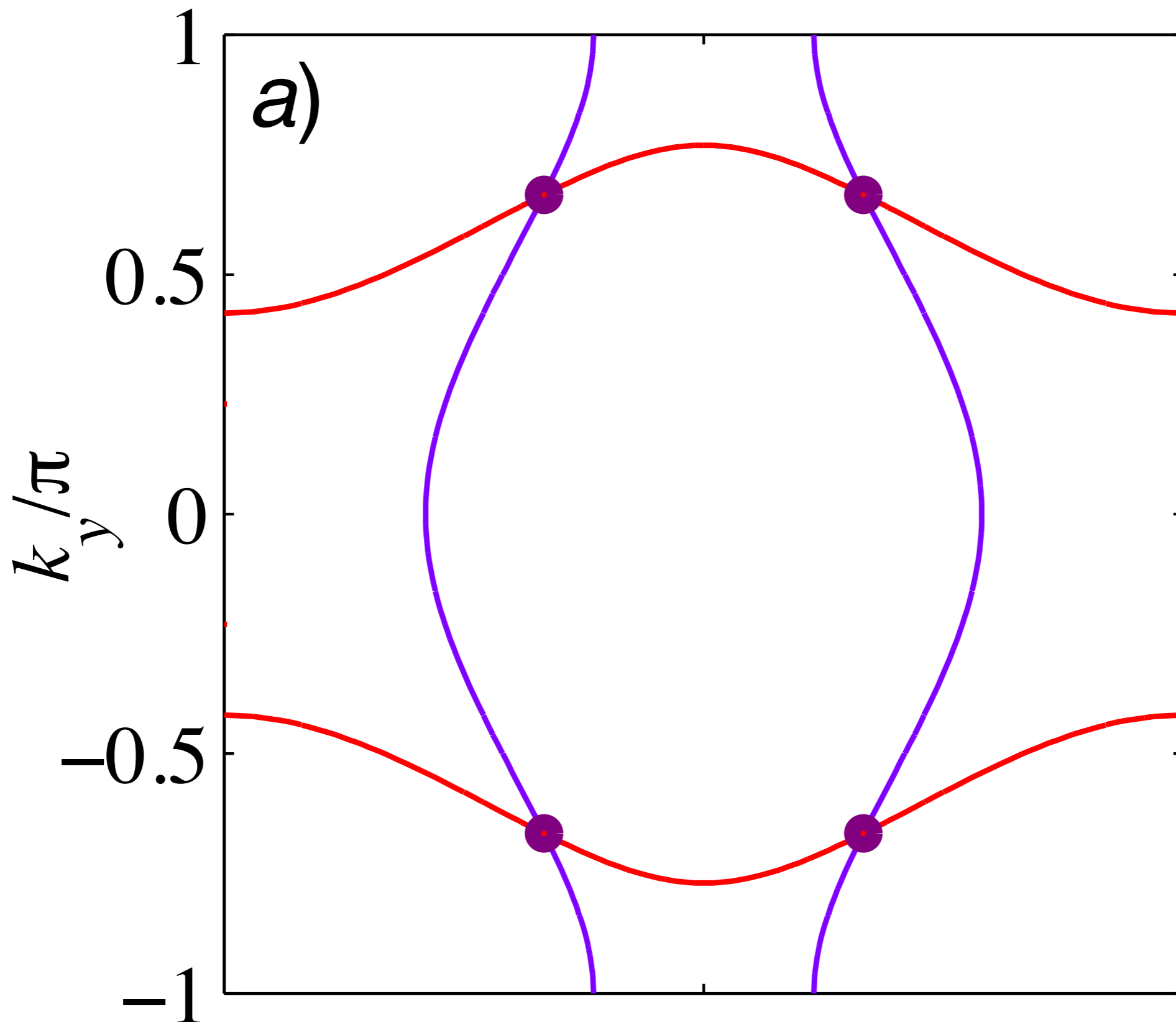
Now hot spots are at Fermi surface intersections

Theory has fermions  $\psi_{1,2}$  (with Fermi velocities  $\mathbf{v}_{1,2}$ )  
and boson order parameter  $\vec{\varphi}$ ,  
interacting with coupling  $\lambda$



To faithfully realize low energy theory in quantum Monte Carlo,  
we need a UV completion in which Fermi lines don't end  
and all weights are positive.

# QMC for the onset of antiferromagnetism

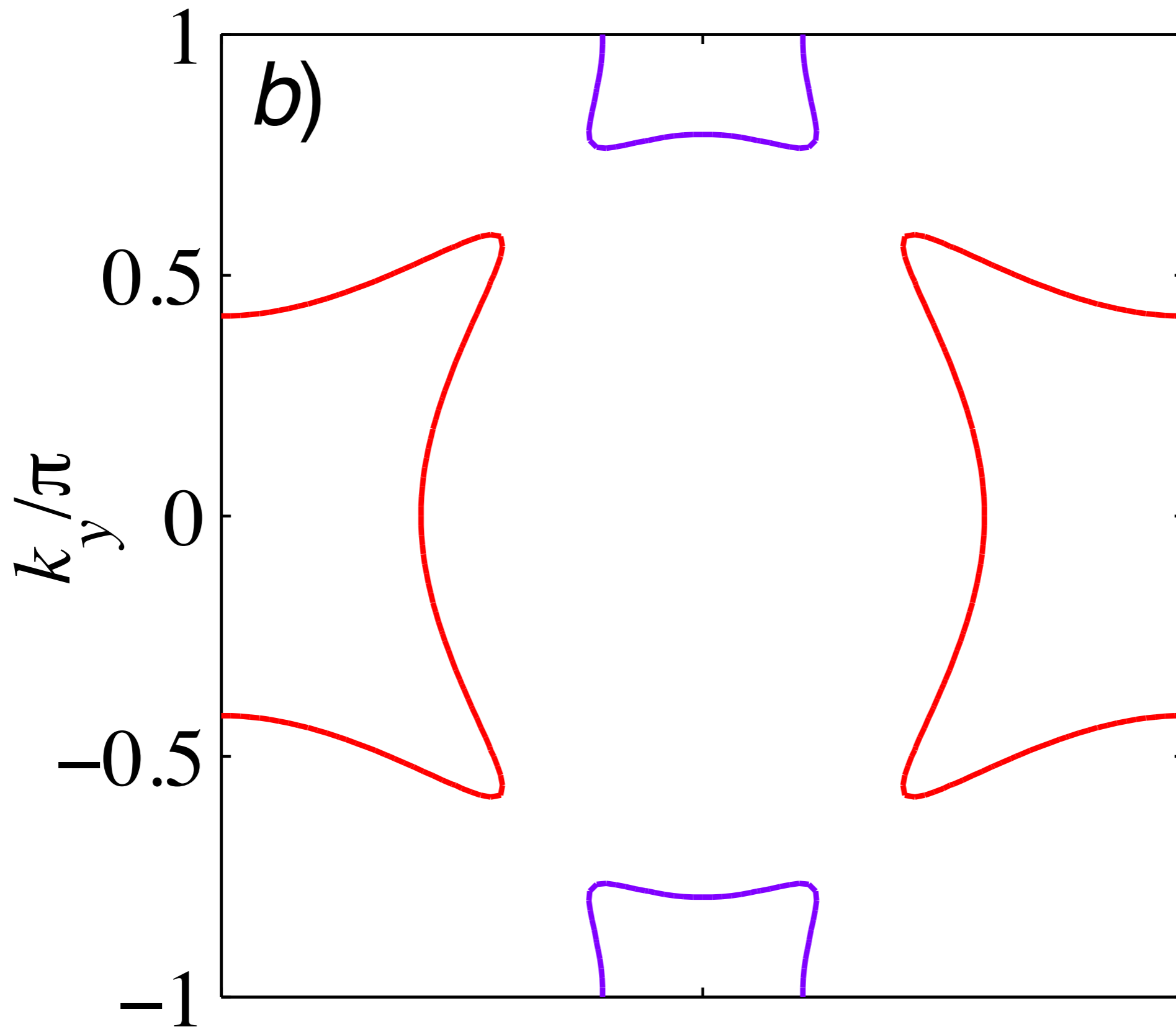


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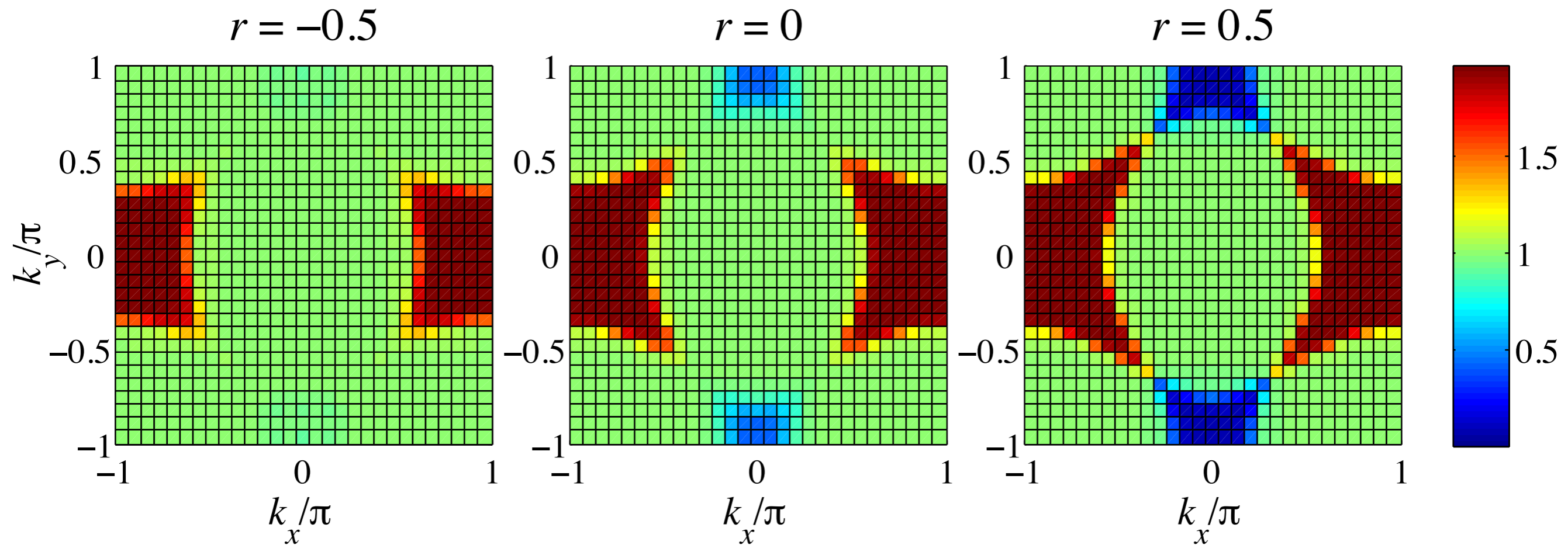
# QMC for the onset of antiferromagnetism

E. Berg,  
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S. Sachdev,  
arXiv:1206.0742



Expected Fermi surfaces in the AFM ordered phase

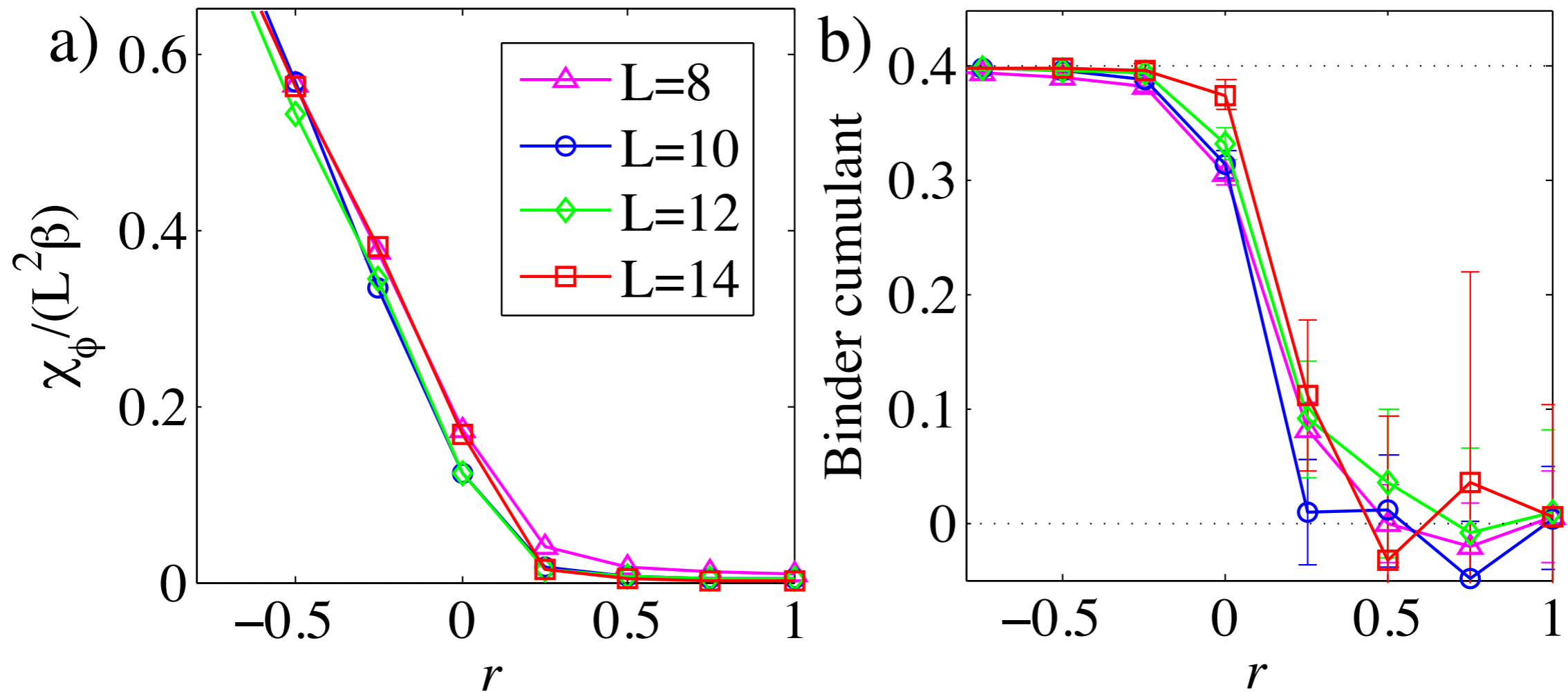
# QMC for the onset of antiferromagnetism



Electron occupation number  $n_{\mathbf{k}}$   
as a function of the tuning parameter  $r$

E. Berg, M. Metlitski, and S. Sachdev, arXiv:1206.0742

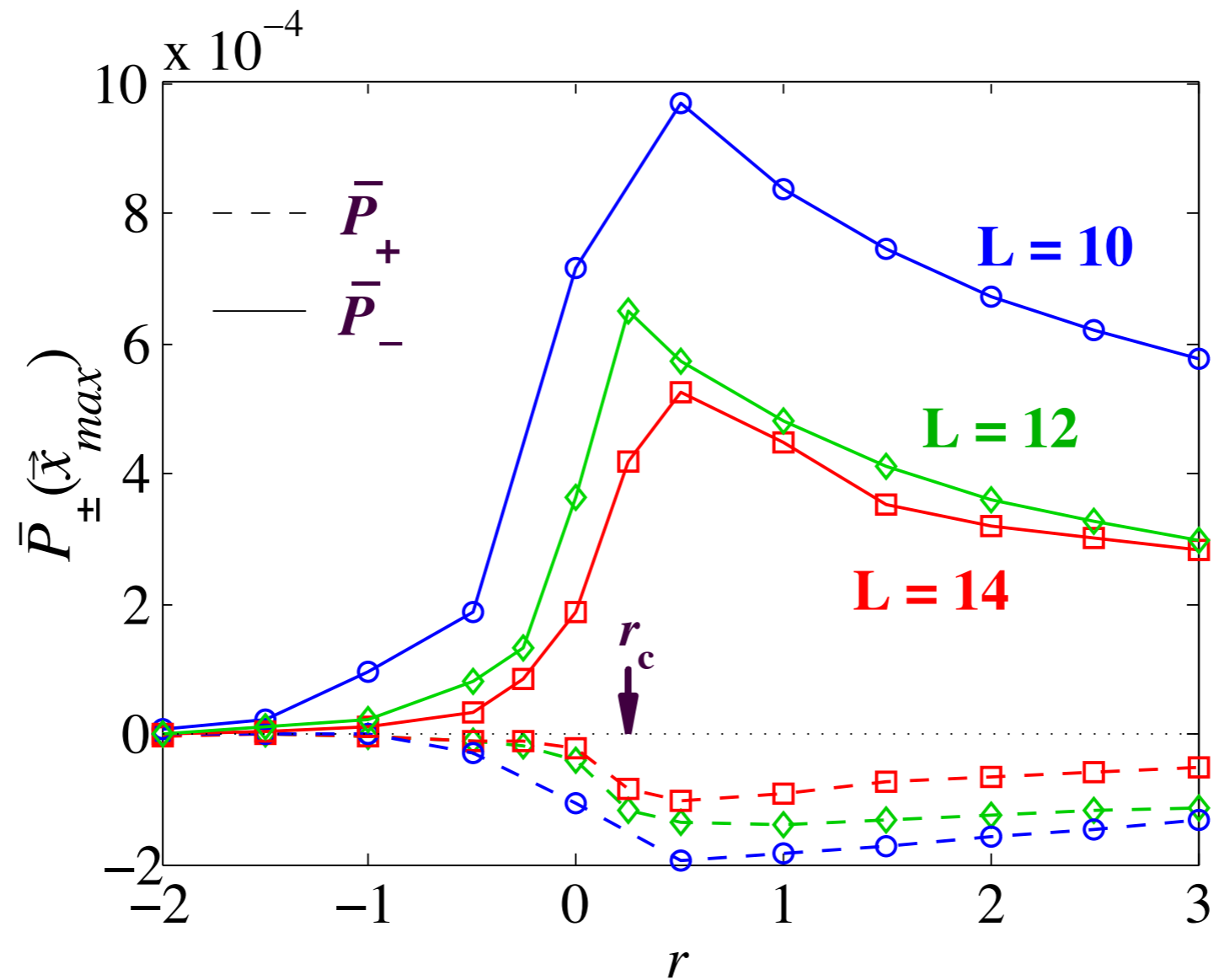
# QMC for the onset of antiferromagnetism



AF susceptibility,  $\chi_\phi$ , and Binder cumulant  
as a function of the tuning parameter  $r$

E. Berg, M. Metlitski, and S. Sachdev, arXiv:1206.0742

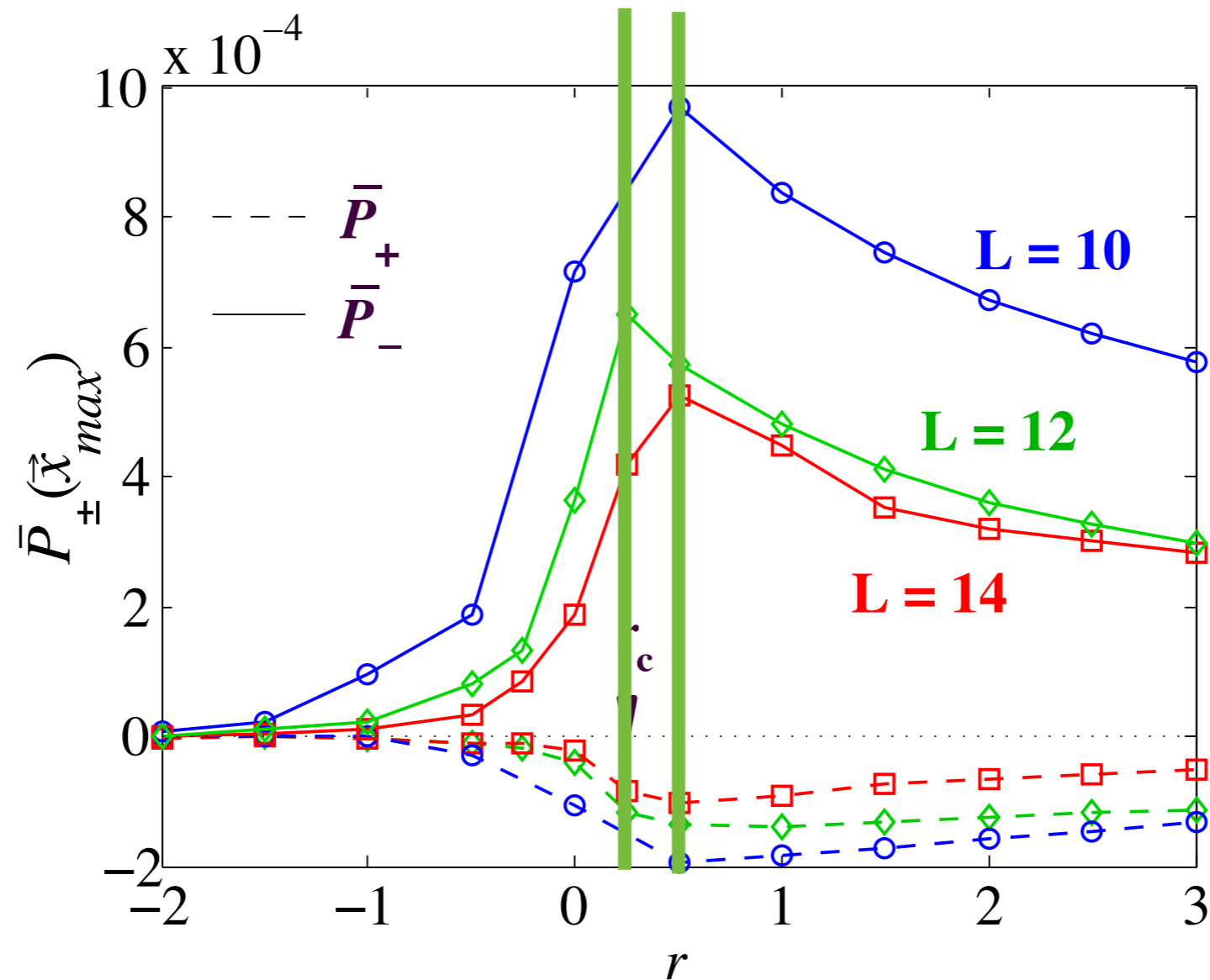
# QMC for the onset of antiferromagnetism



$s/d$  pairing amplitudes  $P_+/P_-$   
as a function of the tuning parameter  $r$

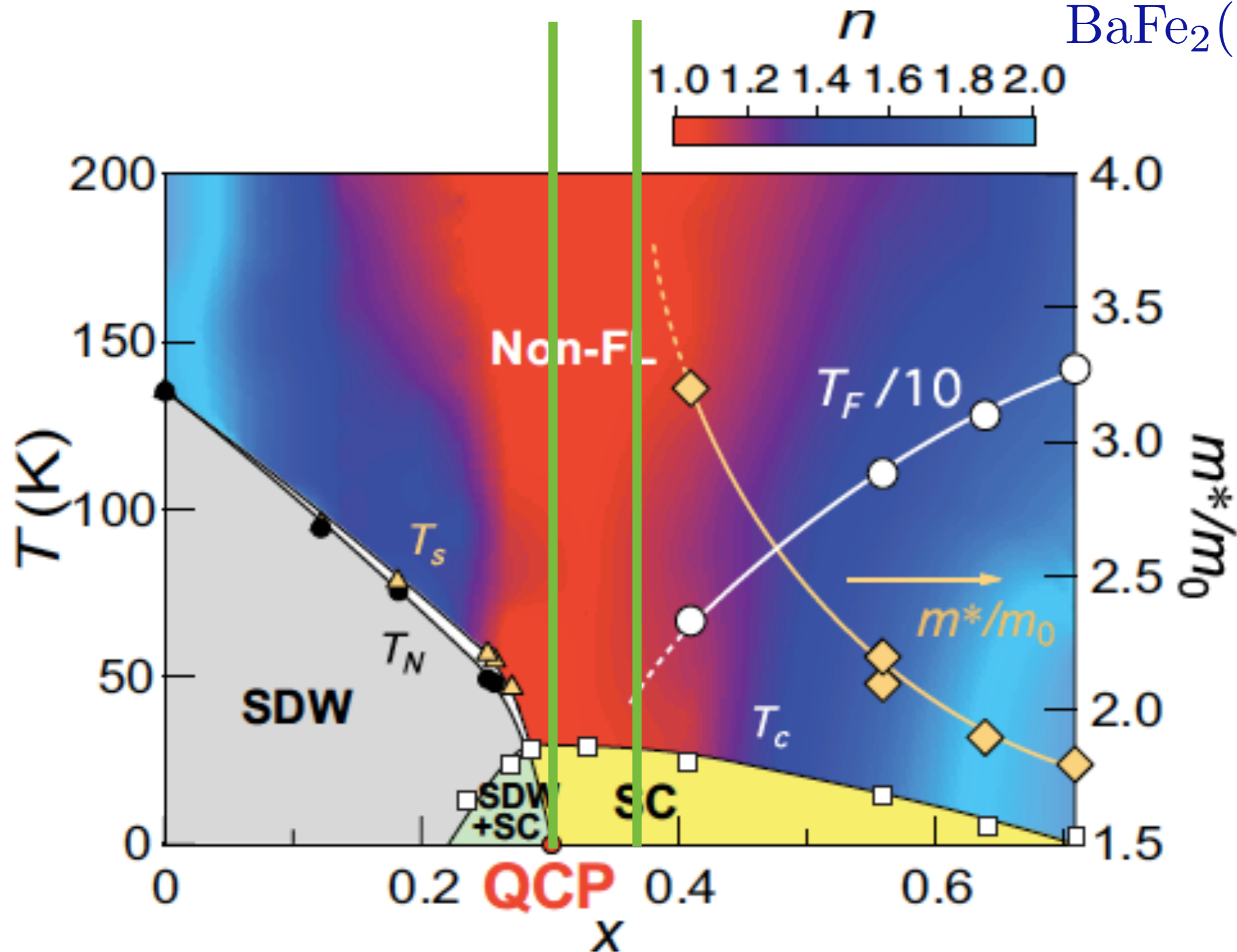
E. Berg, M. Metlitski, and S. Sachdev, arXiv:1206.0742

# QMC for the onset of antiferromagnetism



Notice shift between the position of the QCP in the superconductor, and the position of maximum pairing. This was predicted and is found in numerous experiments.

E. Berg, M. Metlitski, and S. Sachdev, arXiv:1206.0742



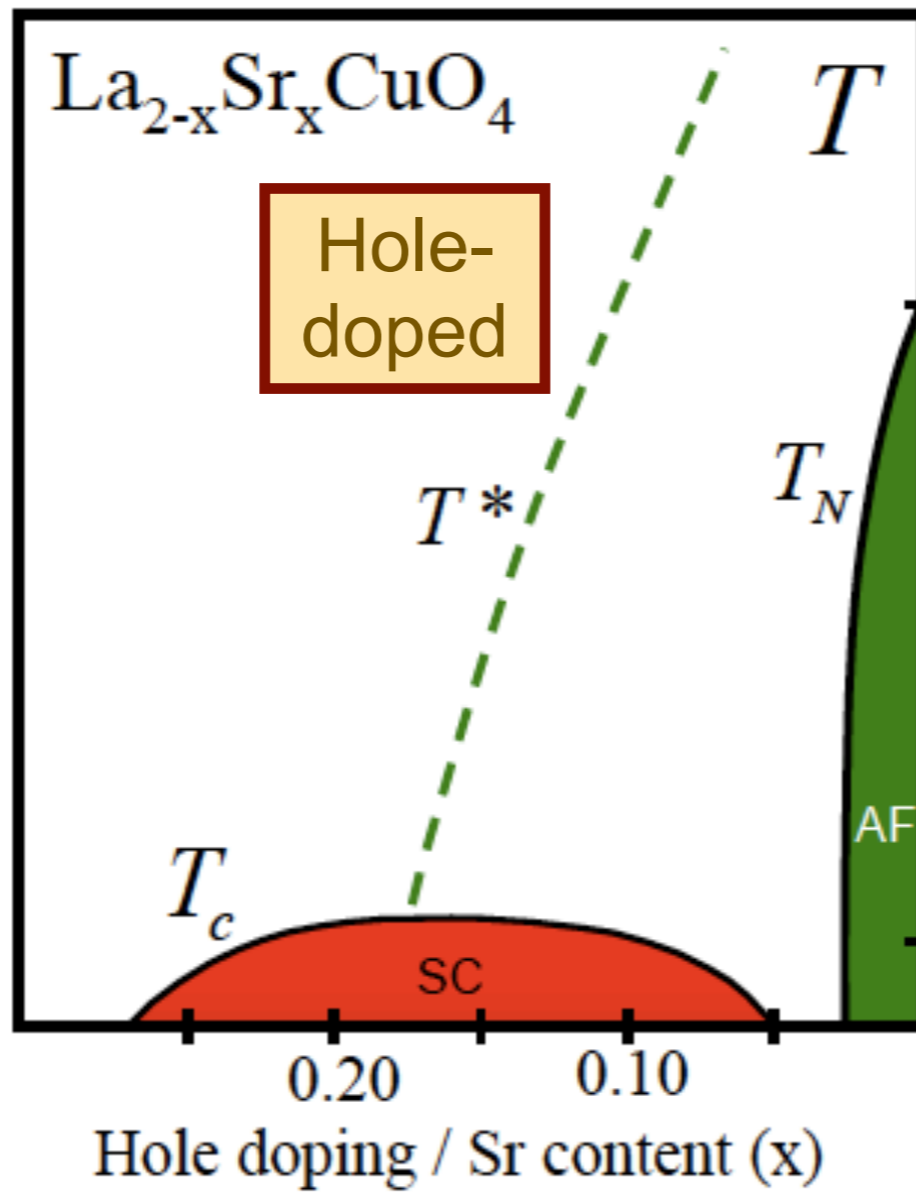
Notice shift between the position of the QCP in the superconductor, and the divergence in effective mass in the metal measured at high magnetic fields

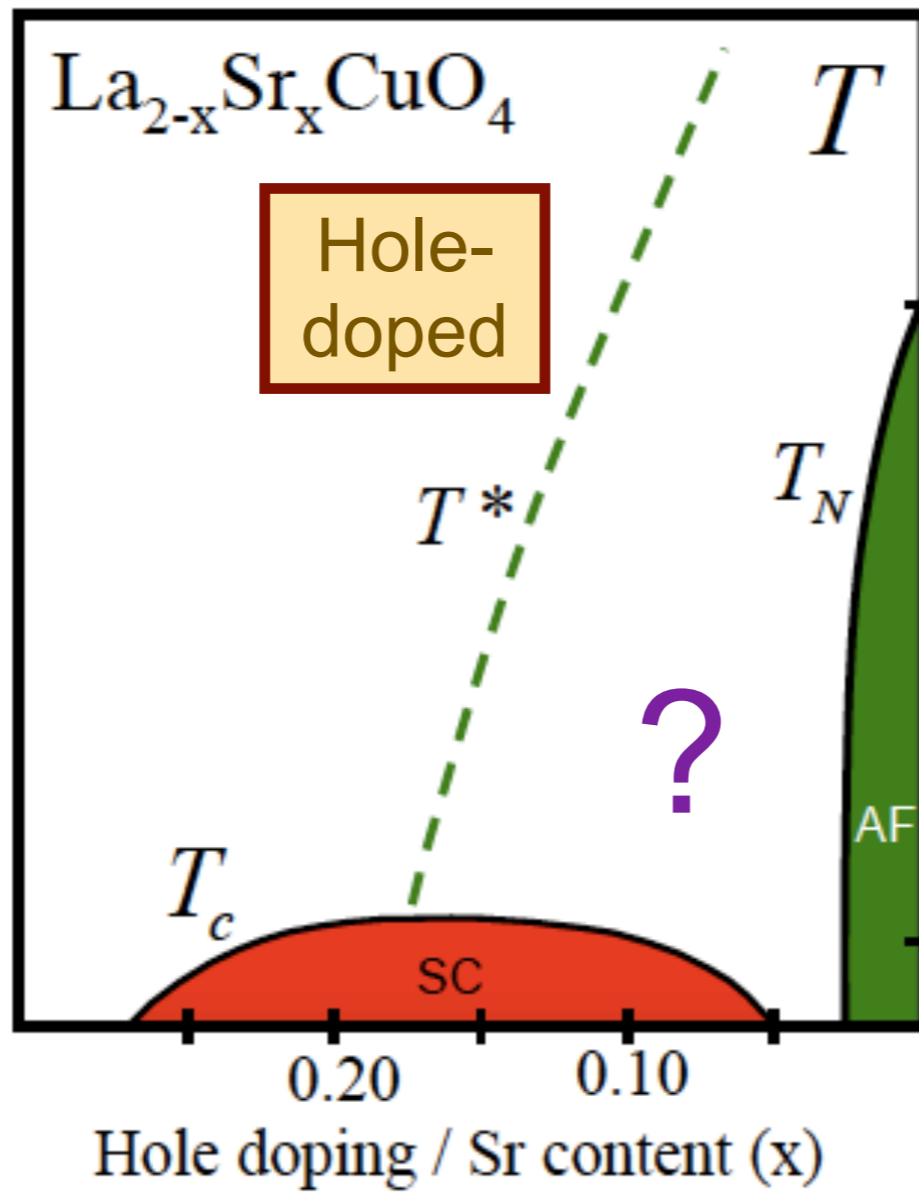
# Outline

1. Phenomenology of the onset of antiferromagnetism in a metal
2. Quantum field theory of the onset of antiferromagnetism in a metal
3. Quantum Monte Carlo without the sign problem
4. Fractionalization in metals,  
and the hole-doped cuprates

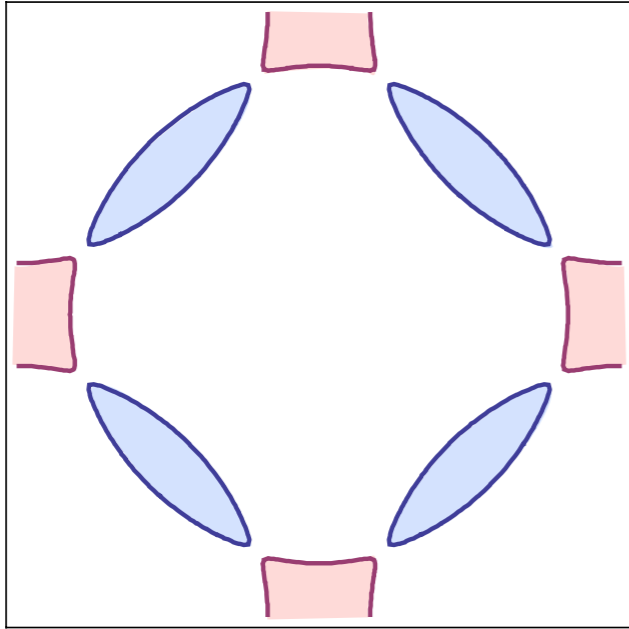
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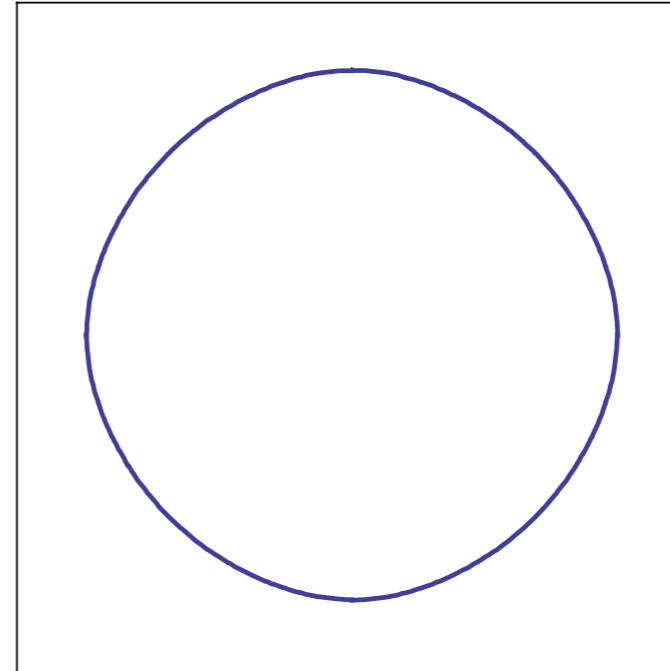


# Quantum phase transition with Fermi surface reconstruction



$$\langle \vec{\varphi} \rangle \neq 0$$

Metal with electron  
and hole pockets

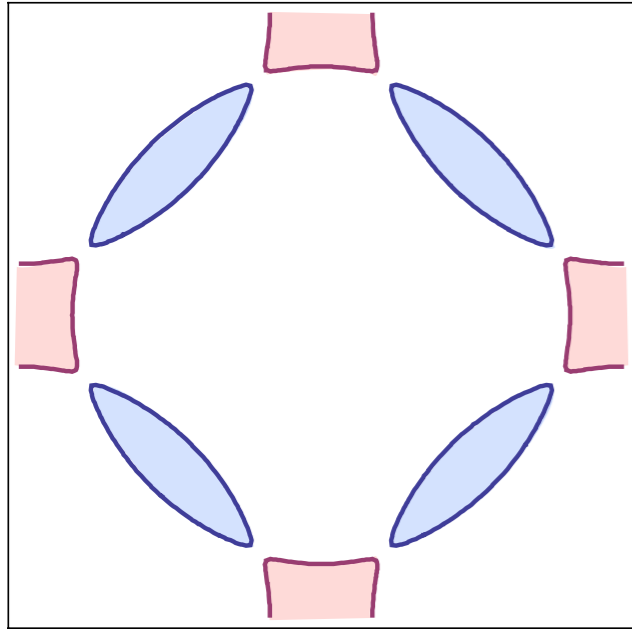


$$\langle \vec{\varphi} \rangle = 0$$

Metal with “large”  
Fermi surface

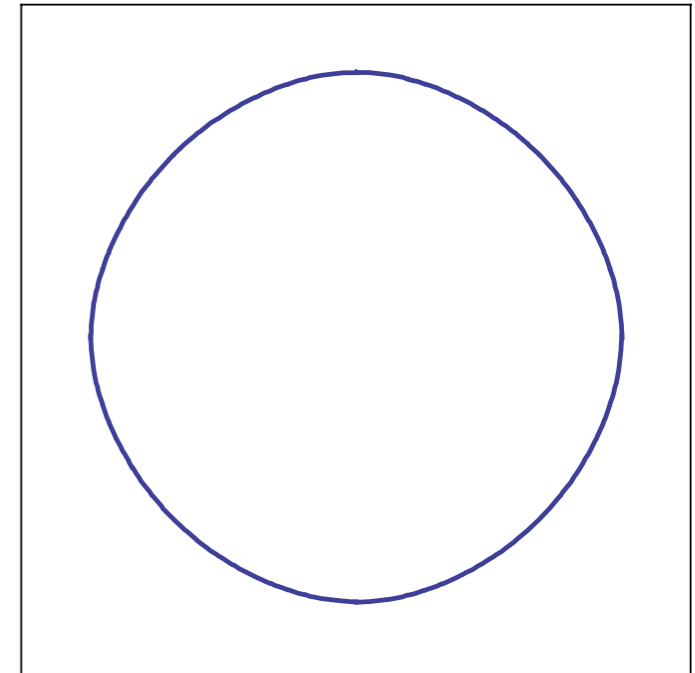


# Separating onset of SDW order and Fermi surface reconstruction



$$\langle \vec{\varphi} \rangle \neq 0$$

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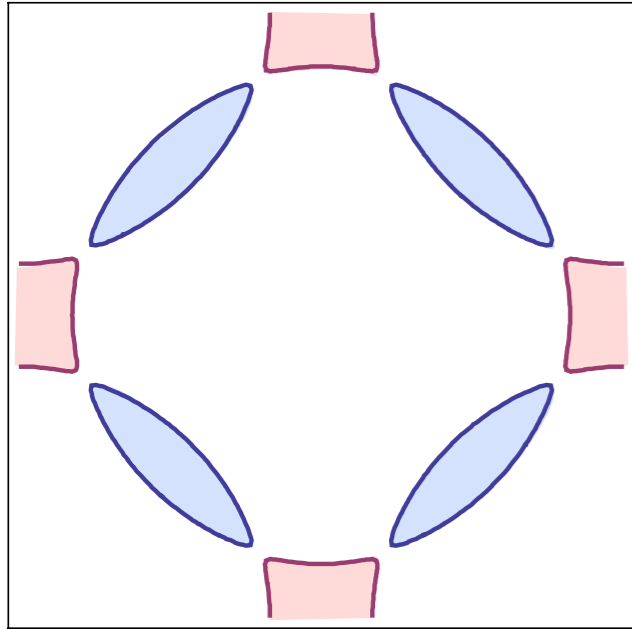


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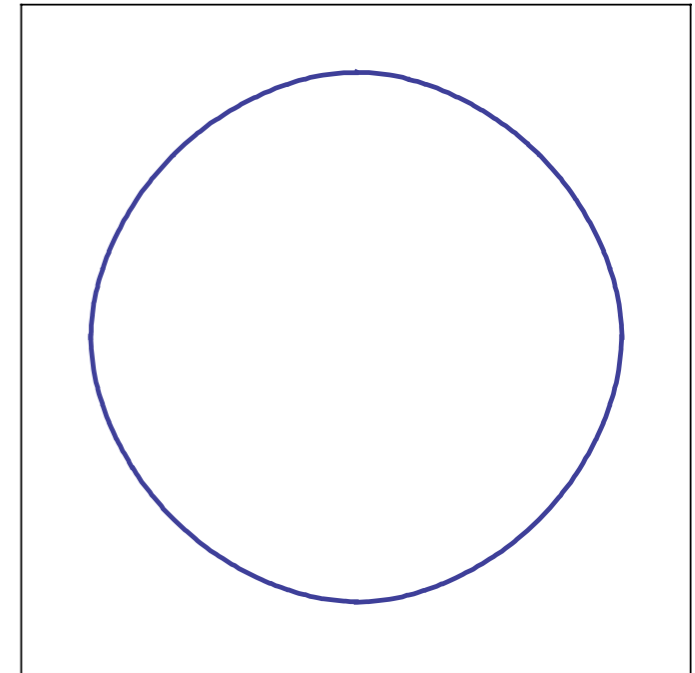


$$\langle \vec{\varphi} \rangle \neq 0$$

Metal with electron  
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Electron and/or hole  
Fermi pockets form in  
“local” SDW order, but  
quantum fluctuations  
destroy long-range  
SDW order

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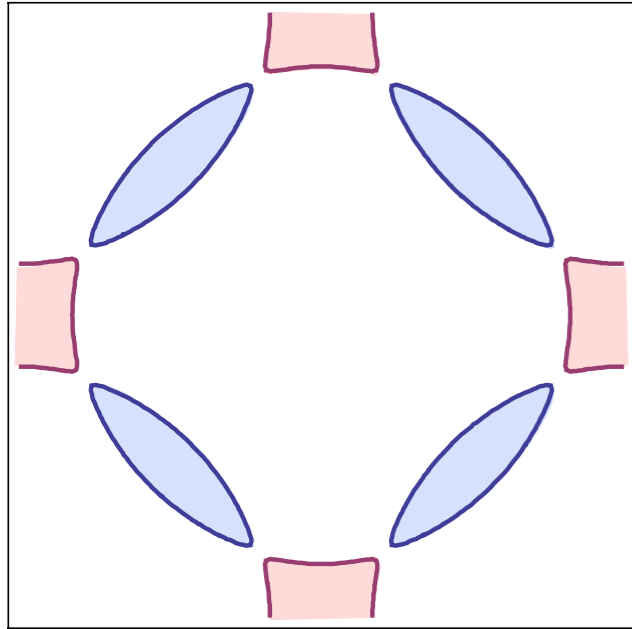


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T. Senthil, S. Sachdev, and M. Vojta, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **90**, 216403 (2003)

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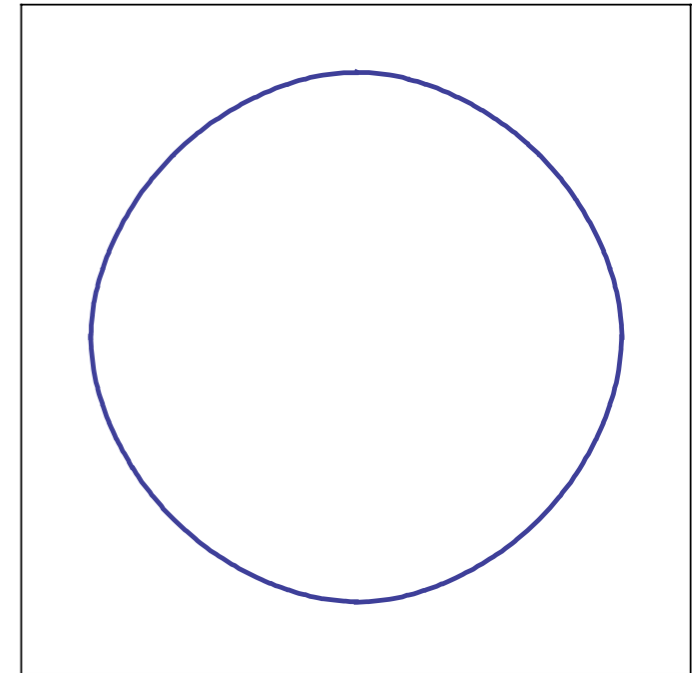
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Fractionalized Fermi  
liquid (FL\*) phase  
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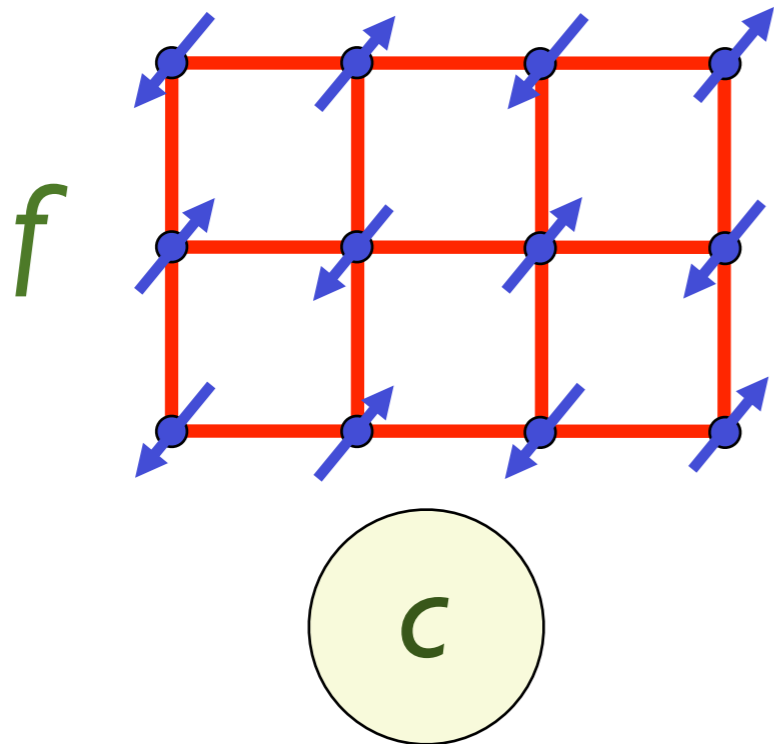


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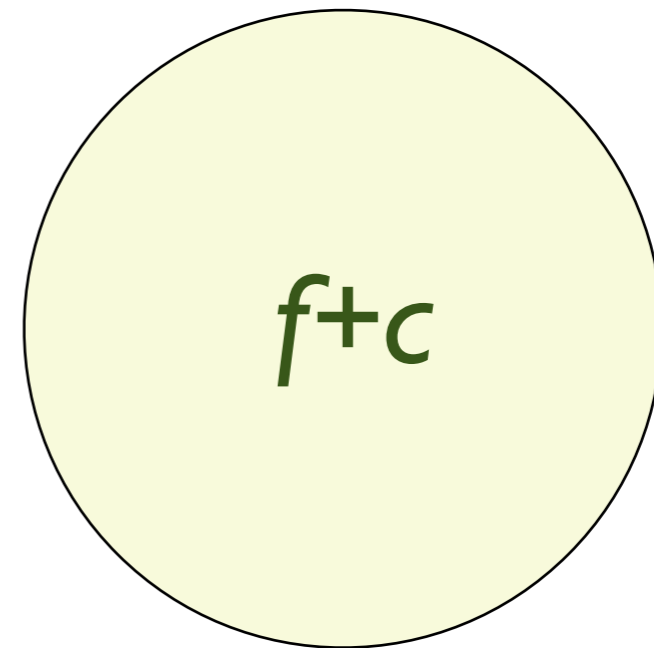
T. Senthil, S. Sachdev, and M. Vojta, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **90**, 216403 (2003)

# Magnetic order and the heavy Fermi liquid in the Kondo lattice



$$\langle \vec{\varphi} \rangle \neq 0$$

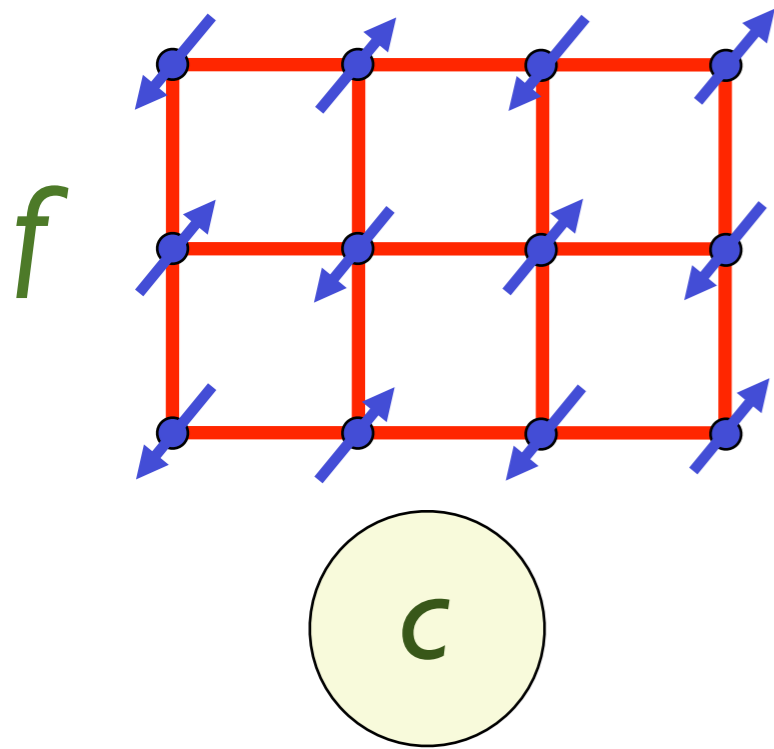
Magnetic Metal:  
f-electron moments  
and  
c-conduction electron  
Fermi surface



$$\langle \vec{\varphi} \rangle = 0$$

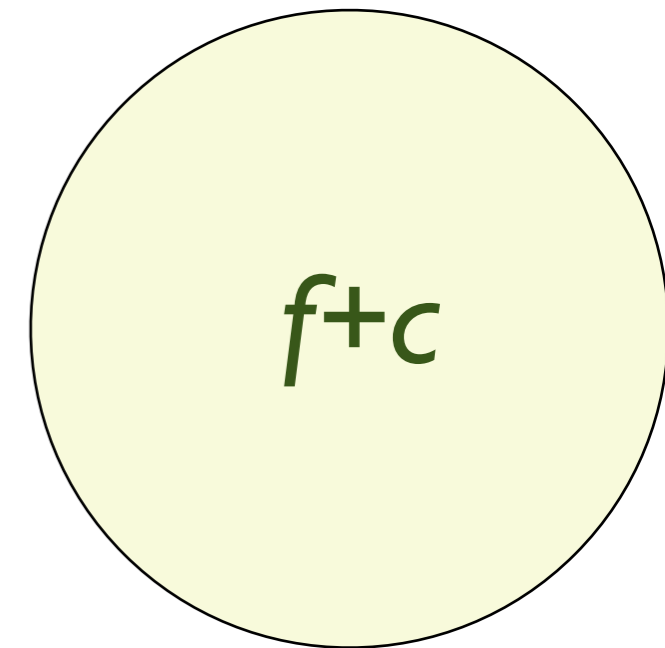
Heavy Fermi liquid  
with “large” Fermi  
surface of  
hybridized f and  
c-conduction  
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# Separating onset of SDW order and the heavy Fermi liquid in the Kondo lattice



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f-electron moments  
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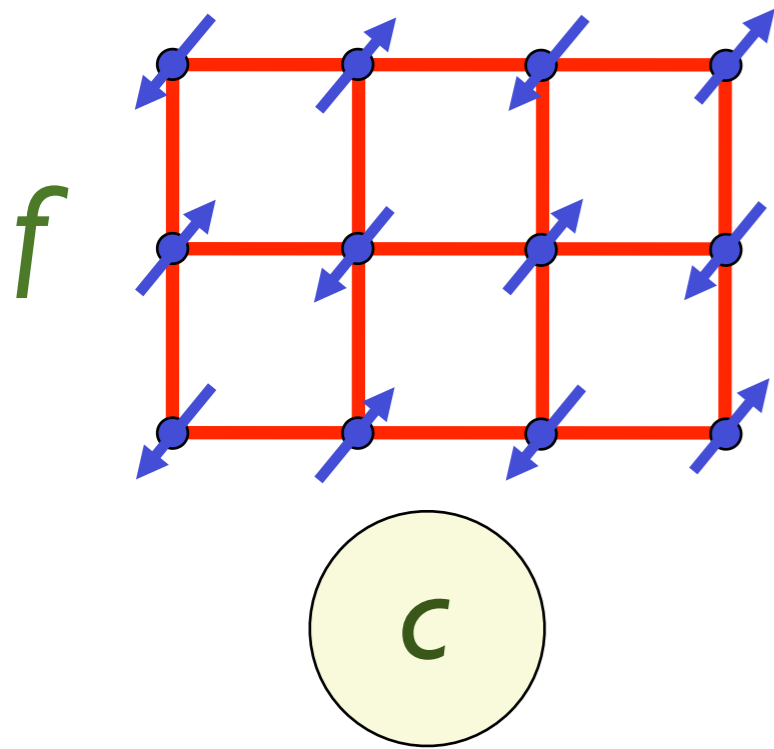


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Heavy Fermi liquid  
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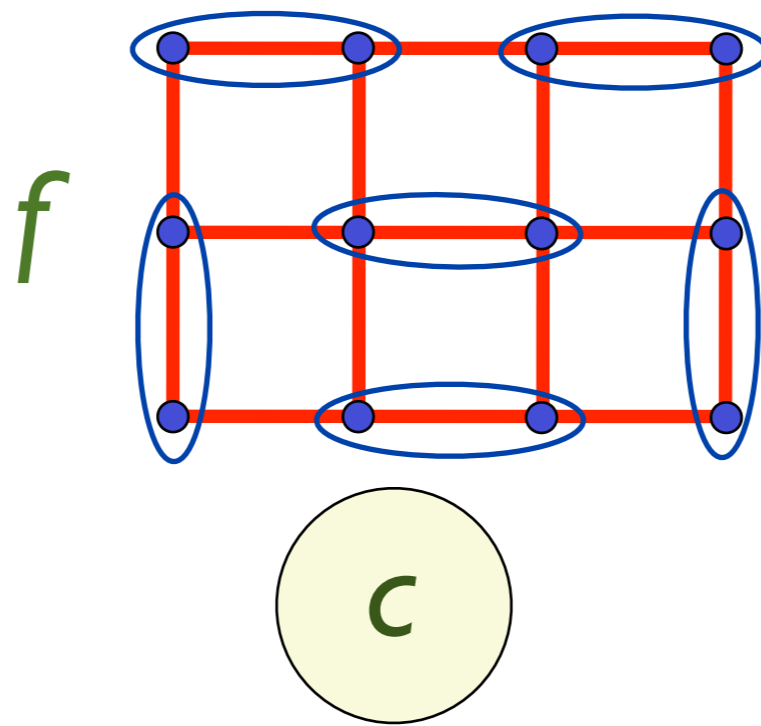
T. Senthil, S. Sachdev, and M. Vojta, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **90**, 216403 (2003)

# Separating onset of SDW order and the heavy Fermi liquid in the Kondo lattice



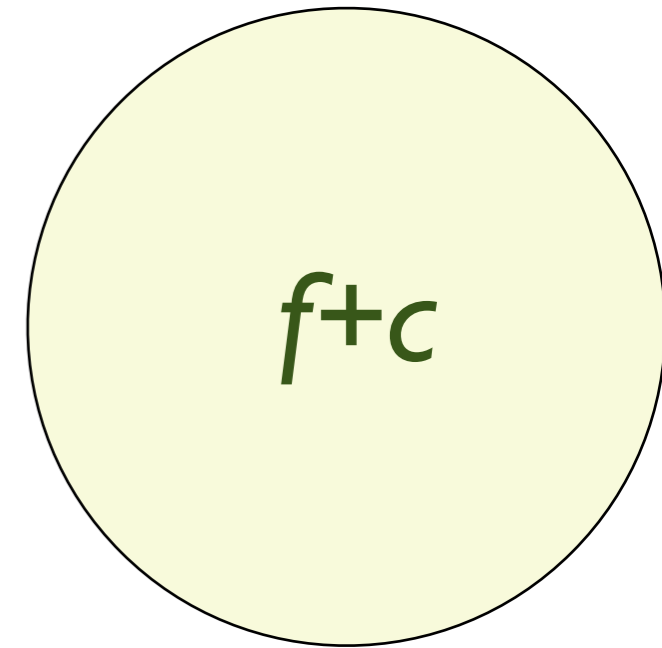
$$\langle \vec{\varphi} \rangle \neq 0$$

Magnetic Metal:  
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$$\langle \vec{\varphi} \rangle = 0$$

Conduction electron  
Fermi surface  
and  
spin-liquid of  
f-electrons

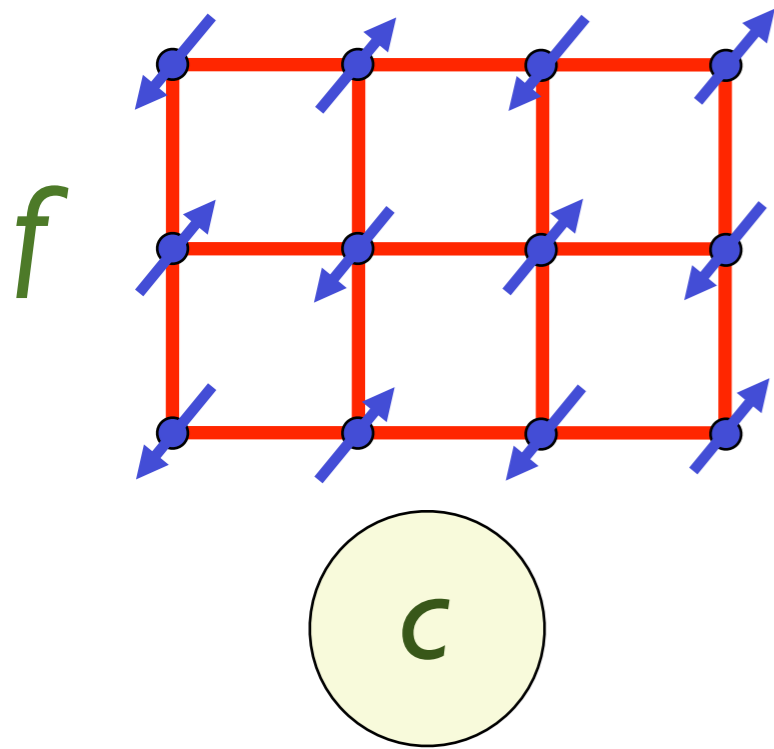


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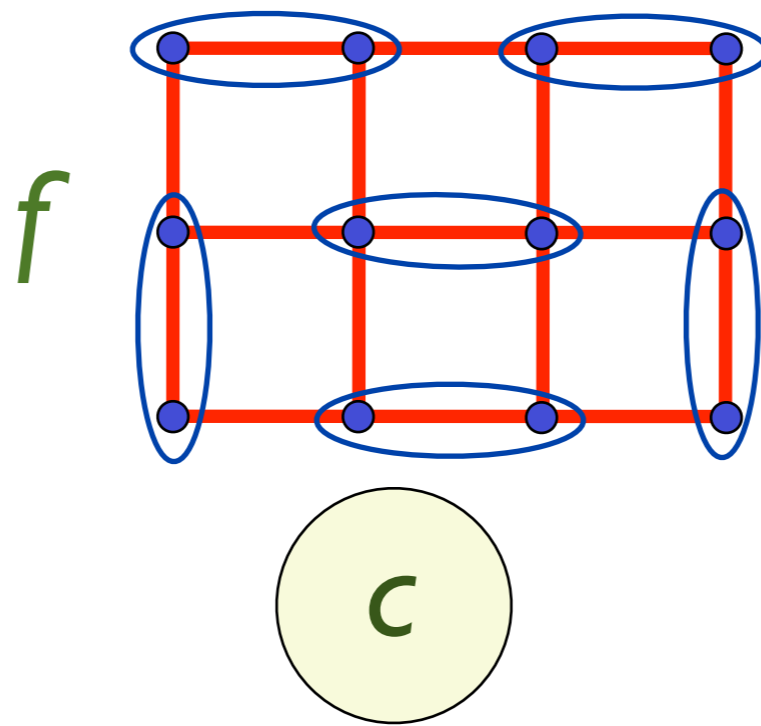
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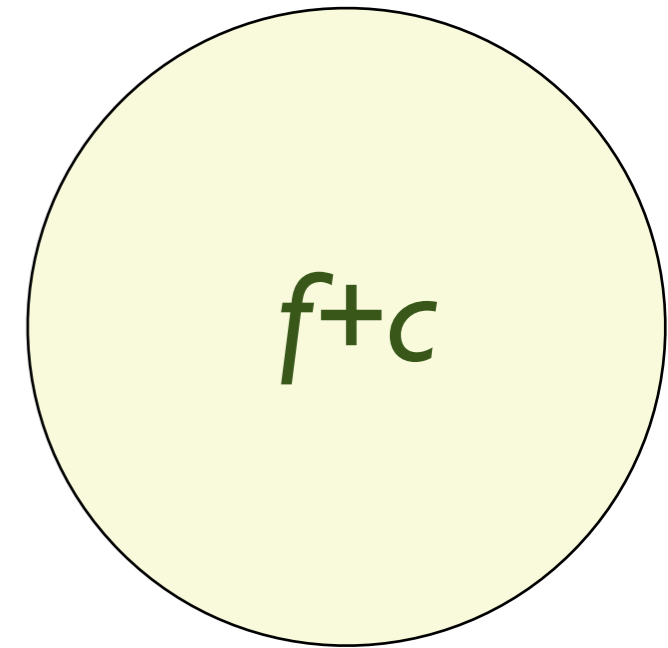
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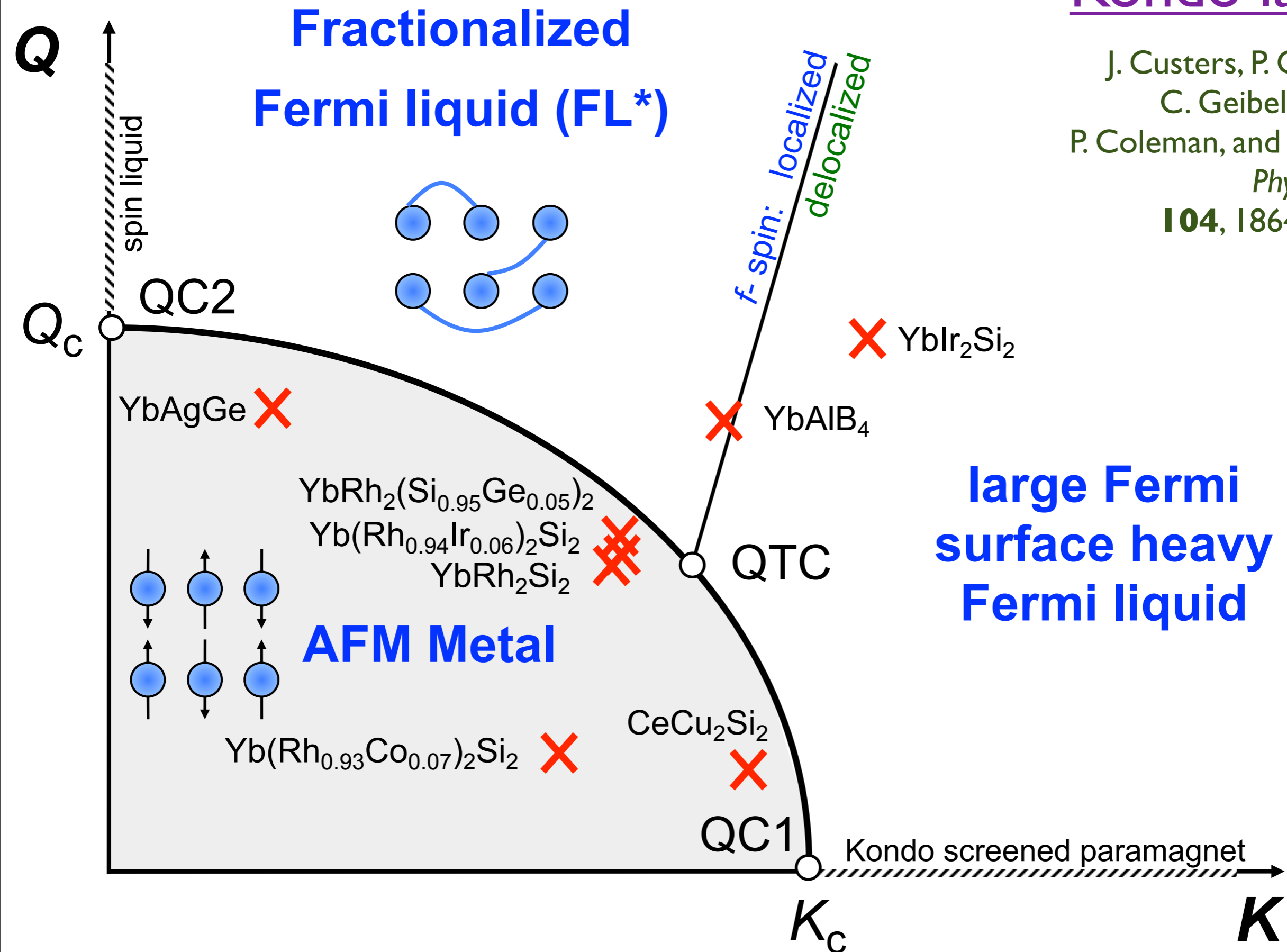
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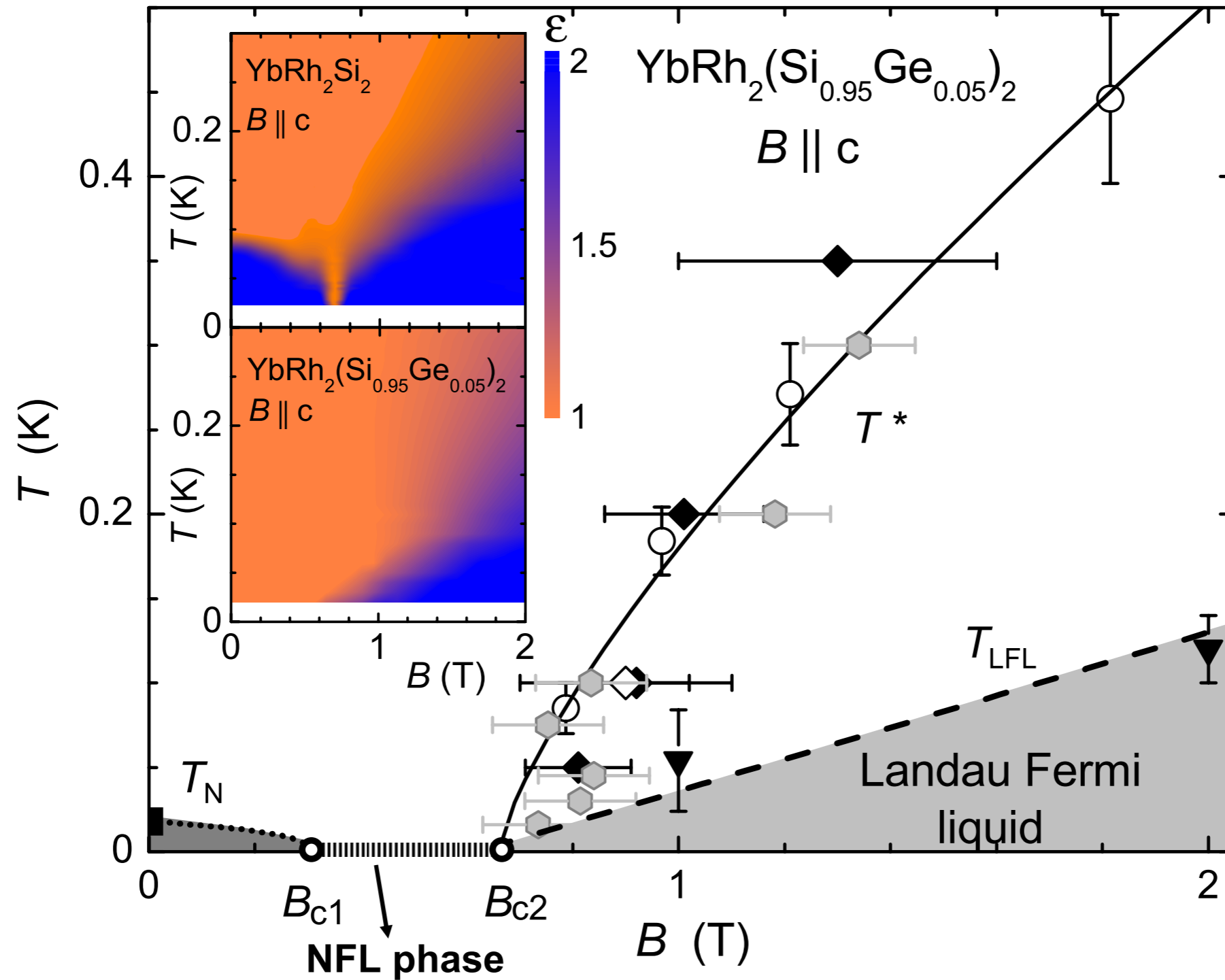
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T. Senthil, S. Sachdev, and M. Vojta, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **90**, 216403 (2003)

# Experimental perspective on same phase diagrams of Kondo lattice

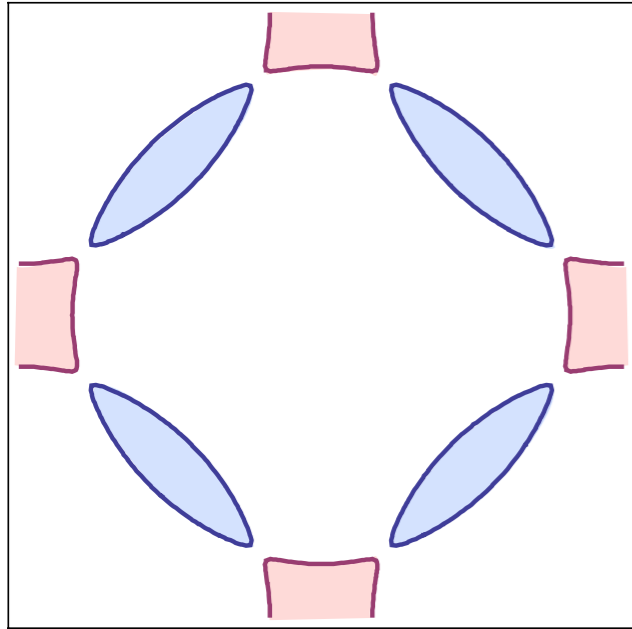
J. Custers, P. Gegenwart,  
C. Geibel, F. Steglich,  
P. Coleman, and S. Paschen,  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.*  
**104**, 186402 (2010)





J. Custers, P. Gegenwart, C. Geibel, F. Steglich, P. Coleman, and S. Paschen,  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.* **104**, 186402 (2010)

# Separating onset of SDW order and Fermi surface reconstruction



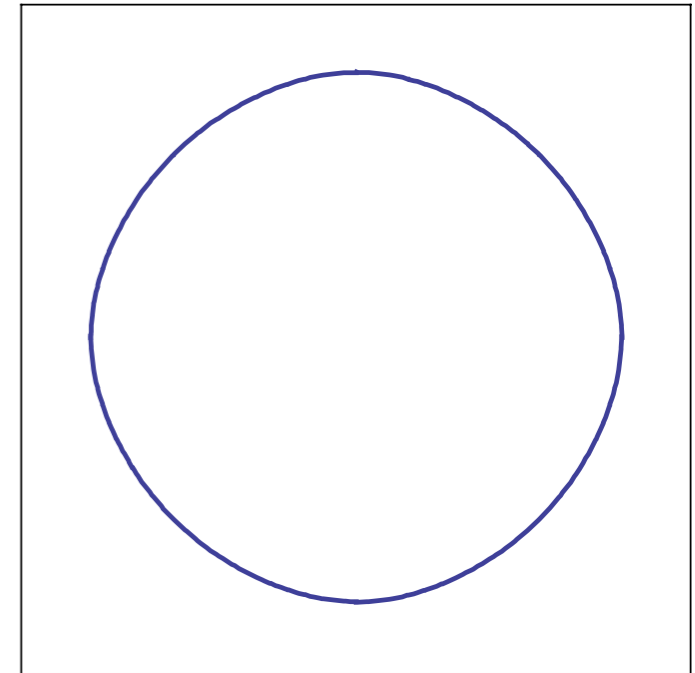
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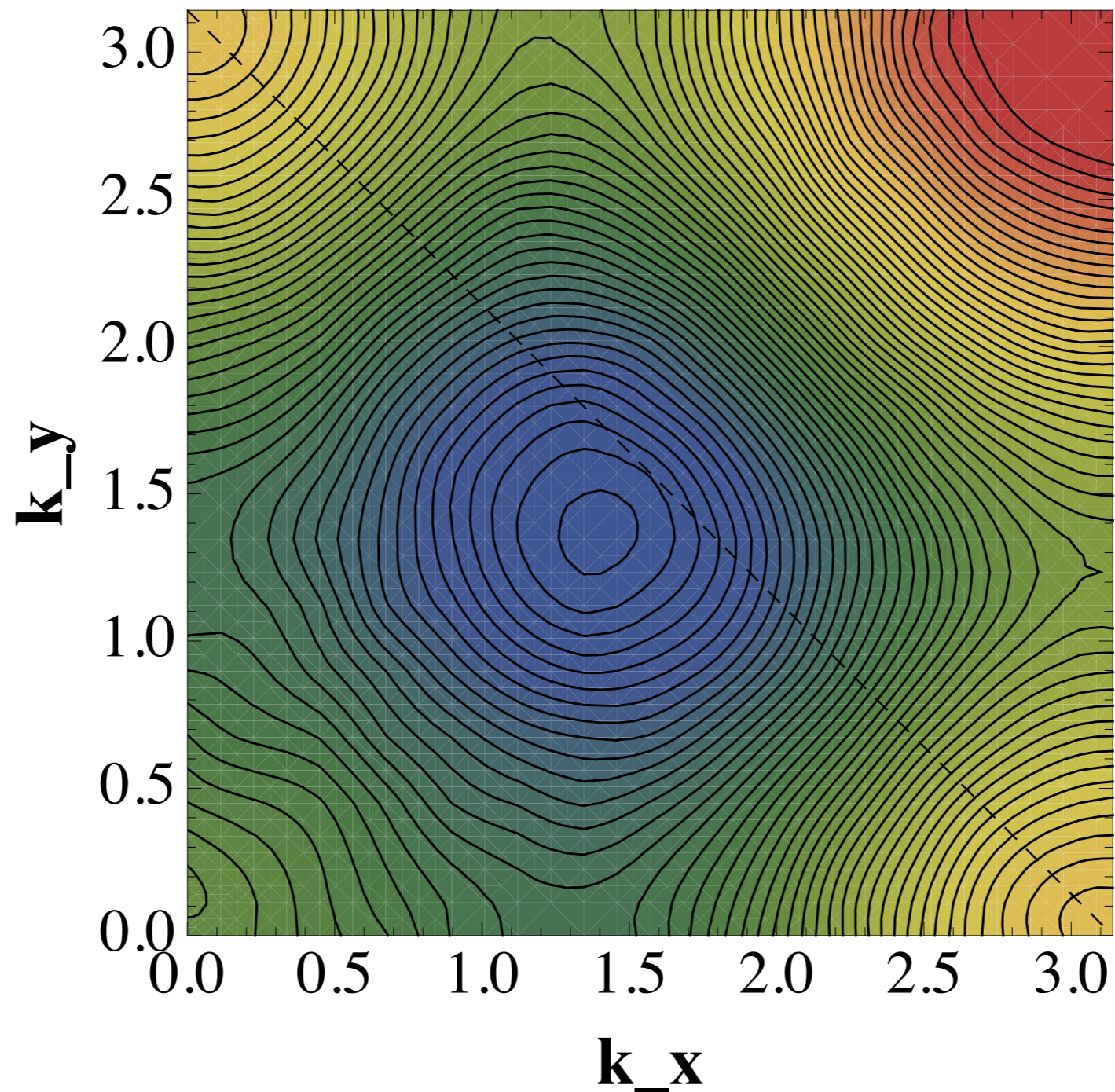
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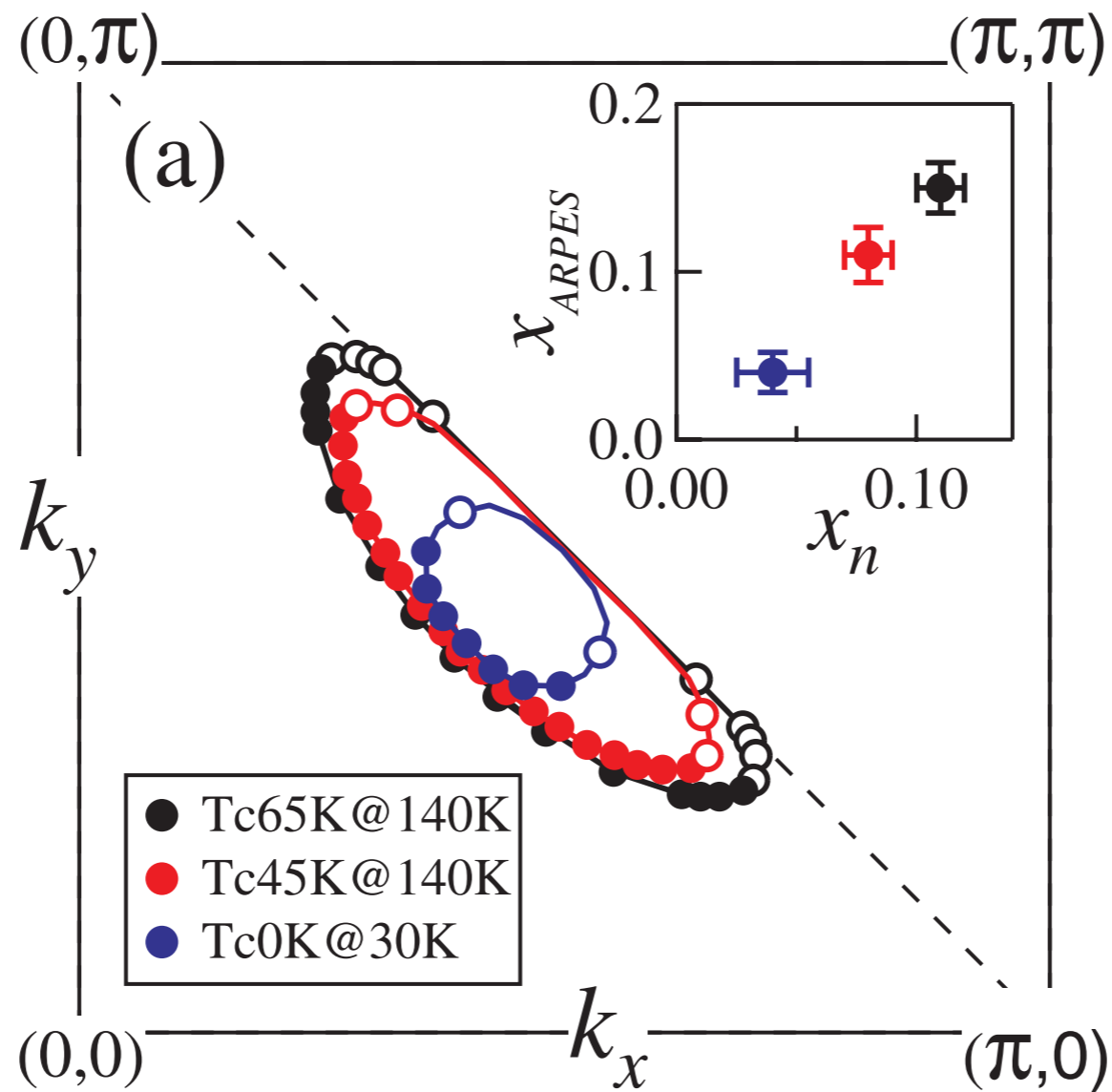
Metal with “large”  
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T. Senthil, S. Sachdev, and M. Vojta, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **90**, 216403 (2003)



Hole pocket of a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -FL\* phase  
in a *single-band*  $t$ - $J$  model

M. Punk and S. Sachdev, *Phys. Rev. B* **85**, 195123 (2012)



## Reconstructed Fermi Surface of Underdoped $\text{Bi}_2\text{Sr}_2\text{CaCu}_2\text{O}_{8+\delta}$ Cuprate Superconductors

H.-B. Yang,<sup>1</sup> J. D. Rameau,<sup>1</sup> Z.-H. Pan,<sup>1</sup> G. D. Gu,<sup>1</sup> P. D. Johnson,<sup>1</sup> H. Claus,<sup>2</sup> D. G. Hinks,<sup>2</sup> and T. E. Kidd<sup>3</sup>

# Characteristics of FL\* phase

- Fermi surface volume does not count all electrons.

T. Senthil, S. Sachdev, and M. Vojta, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **90**, 216403 (2003)

## Characteristics of FL\* phase

- Fermi surface volume does not count all electrons.
- Such a phase *must* have neutral  $S = 1/2$  excitations (“spinons”), and collective spinless gauge excitations (“topological” order).

T. Senthil, S. Sachdev, and M. Vojta, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **90**, 216403 (2003)

## Characteristics of FL\* phase

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- These topological excitations are needed to account for the deficit in the Fermi surface volume, in M. Oshikawa’s proof of the Luttinger theorem.

T. Senthil, S. Sachdev, and M. Vojta, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **90**, 216403 (2003)

## Questions

- *Can quantum fluctuations near the onset of antiferromagnetism induce higher temperature superconductivity ?*
- *How should such a theory be extended to apply to the hole-doped cuprates ?*
- *What is the physics of the strange metal ?*

## Questions and Answers

● *Can quantum fluctuations near the onset of antiferromagnetism induce higher temperature superconductivity ?*

Yes; convincing evidence from field theory and sign-problem free quantum Monte Carlo

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Strongly-coupled quantum criticality of Fermi surface change in a metal