

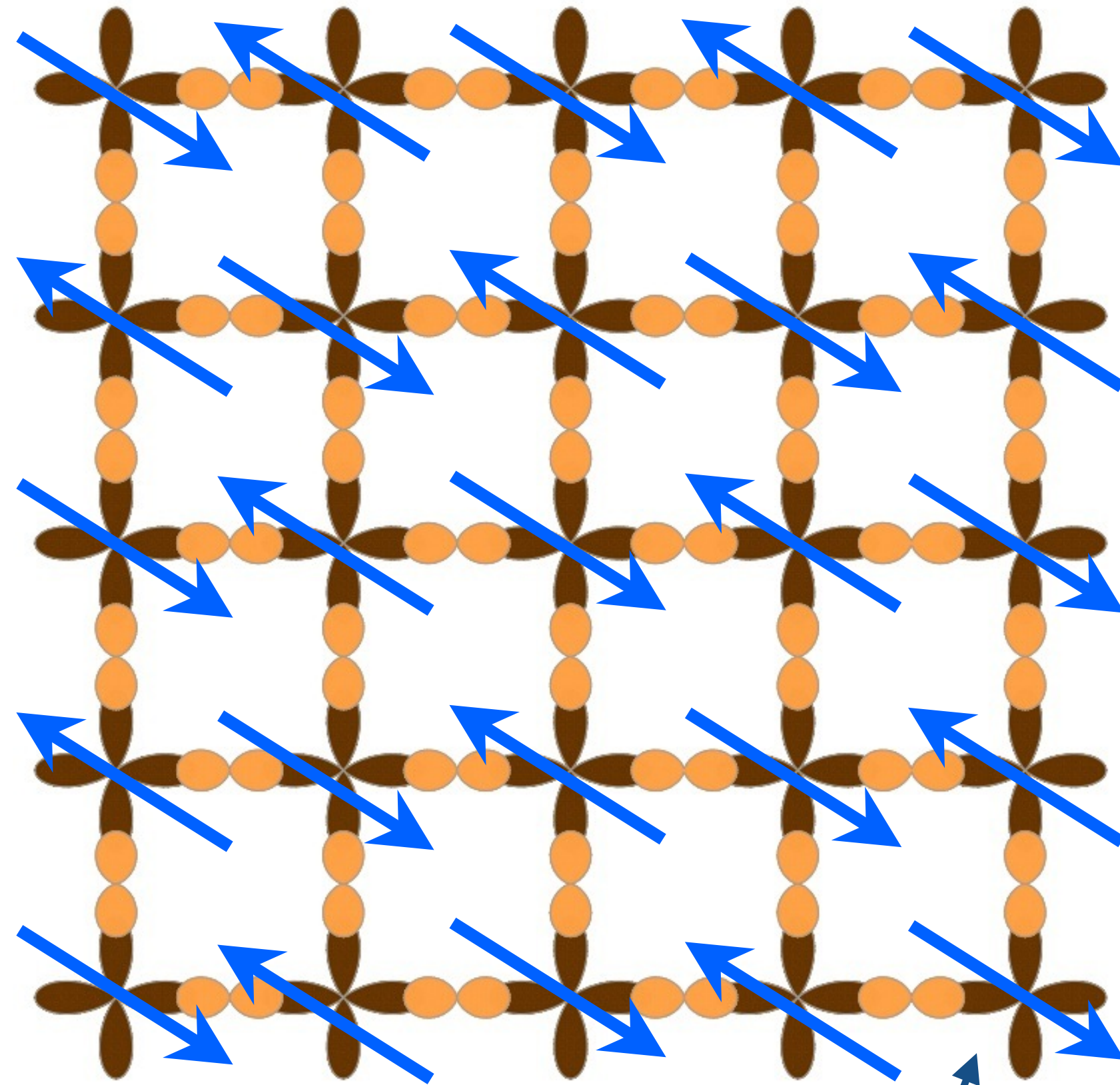
# Observation of the Yamaji effect in a cuprate and FL\* theory of the pseudogap

HQI-RIKEN 2nd Joint Workshop on Quantum Science  
Harvard University  
October 3, 2025

Subir Sachdev



# Antiferromagnetic insulator at a density of one electron per Cu



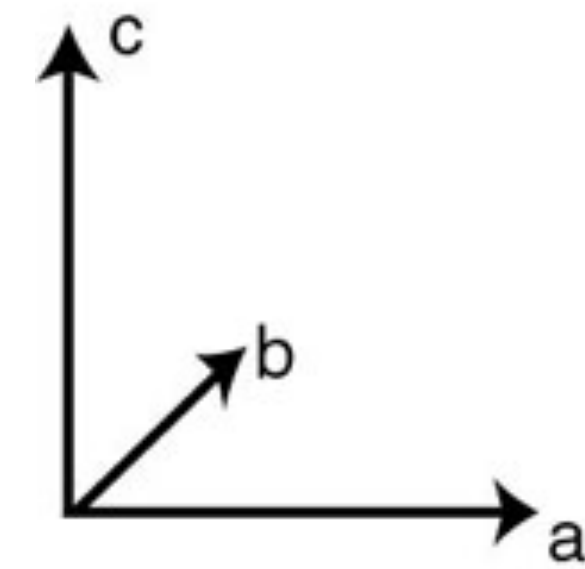
Cu

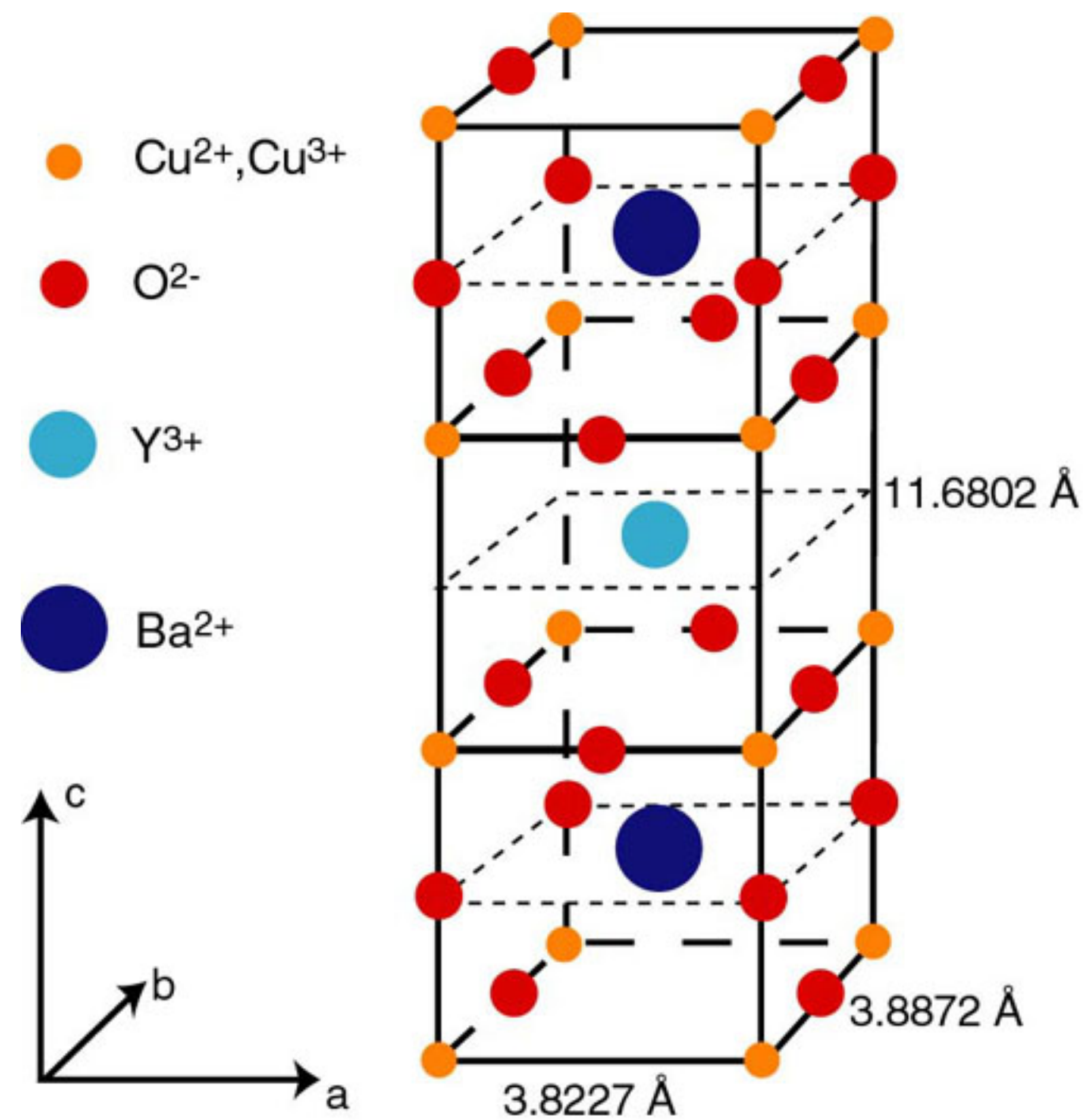
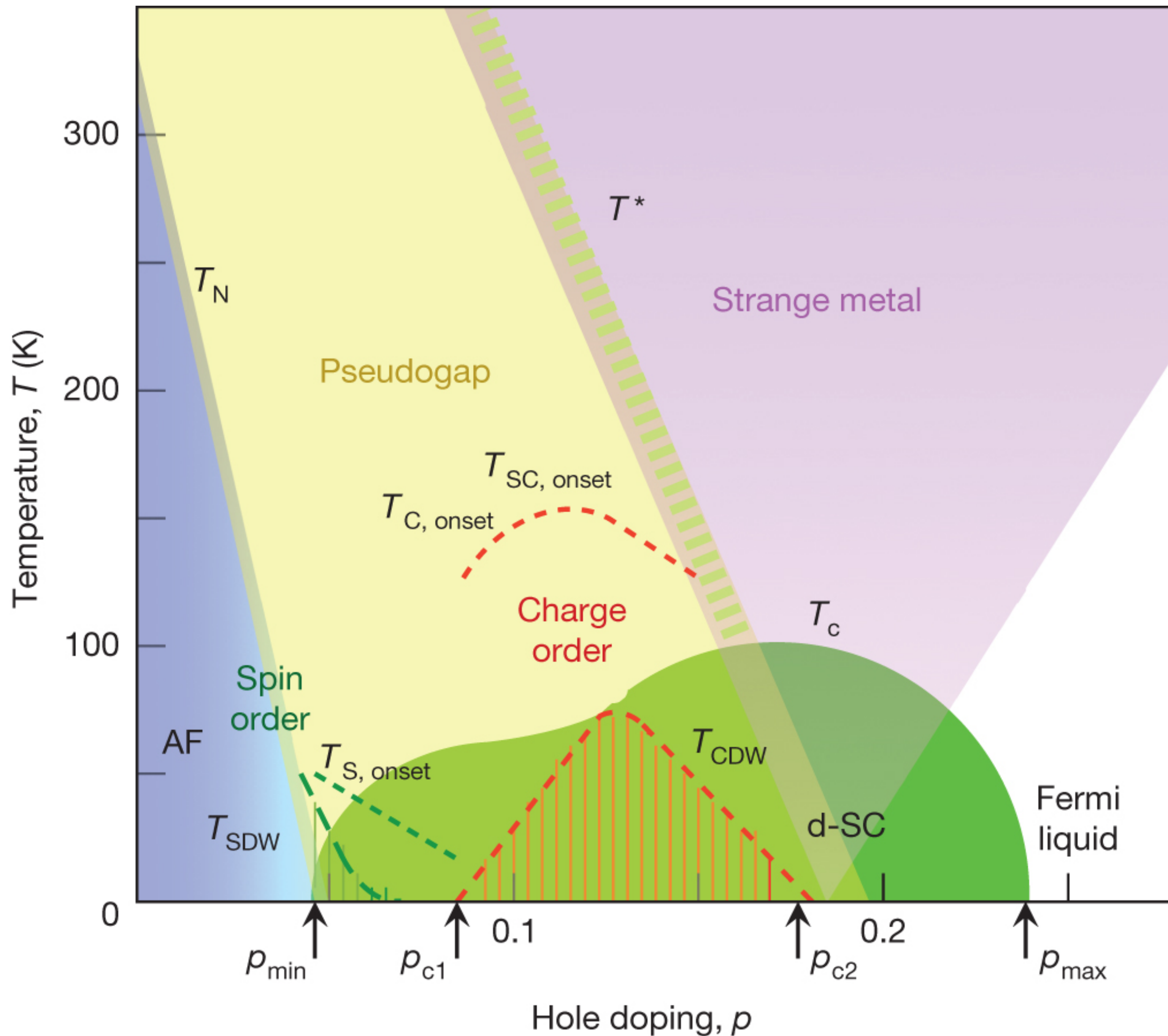
● Cu<sup>2+</sup>, Cu<sup>3+</sup>

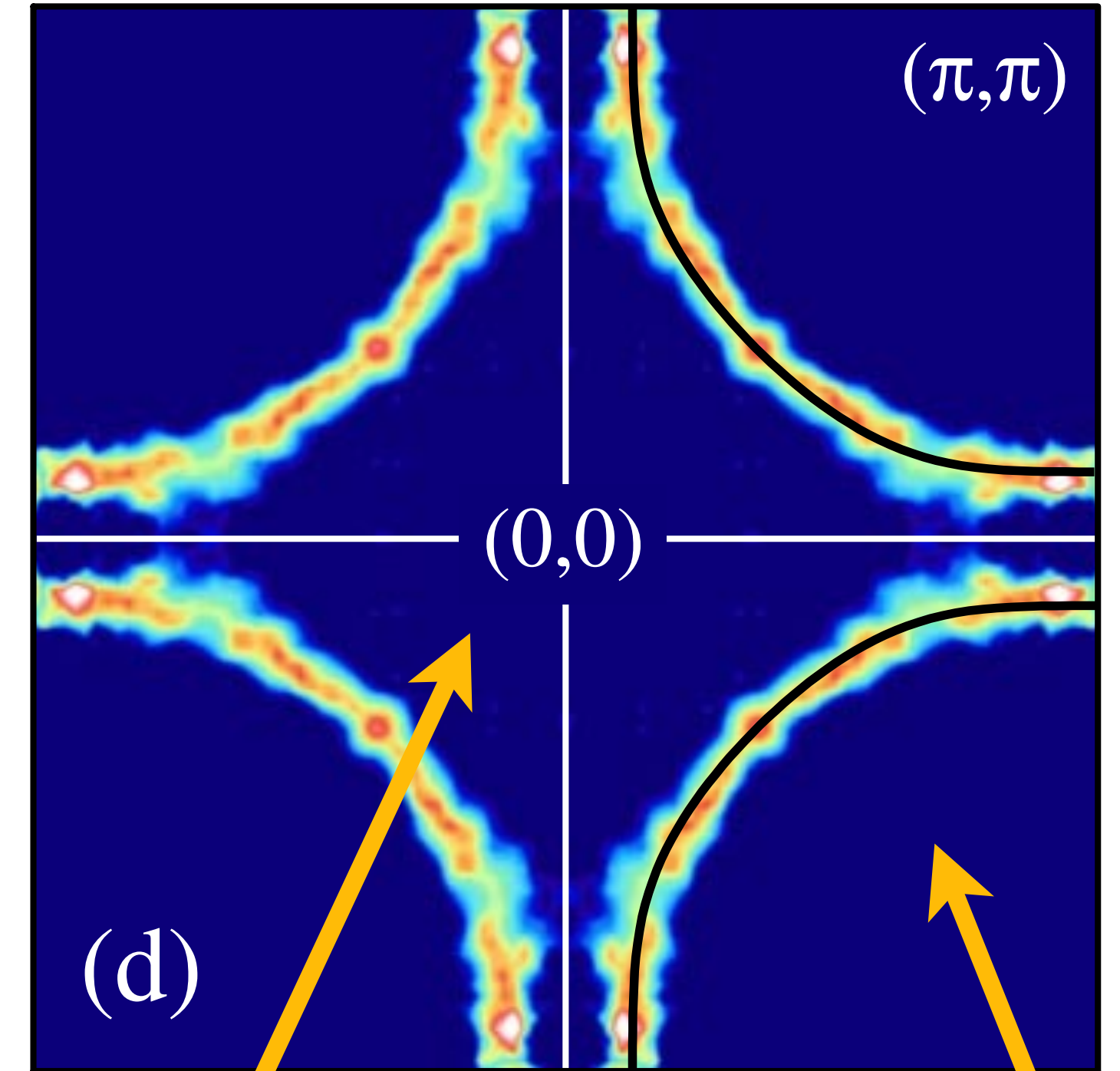
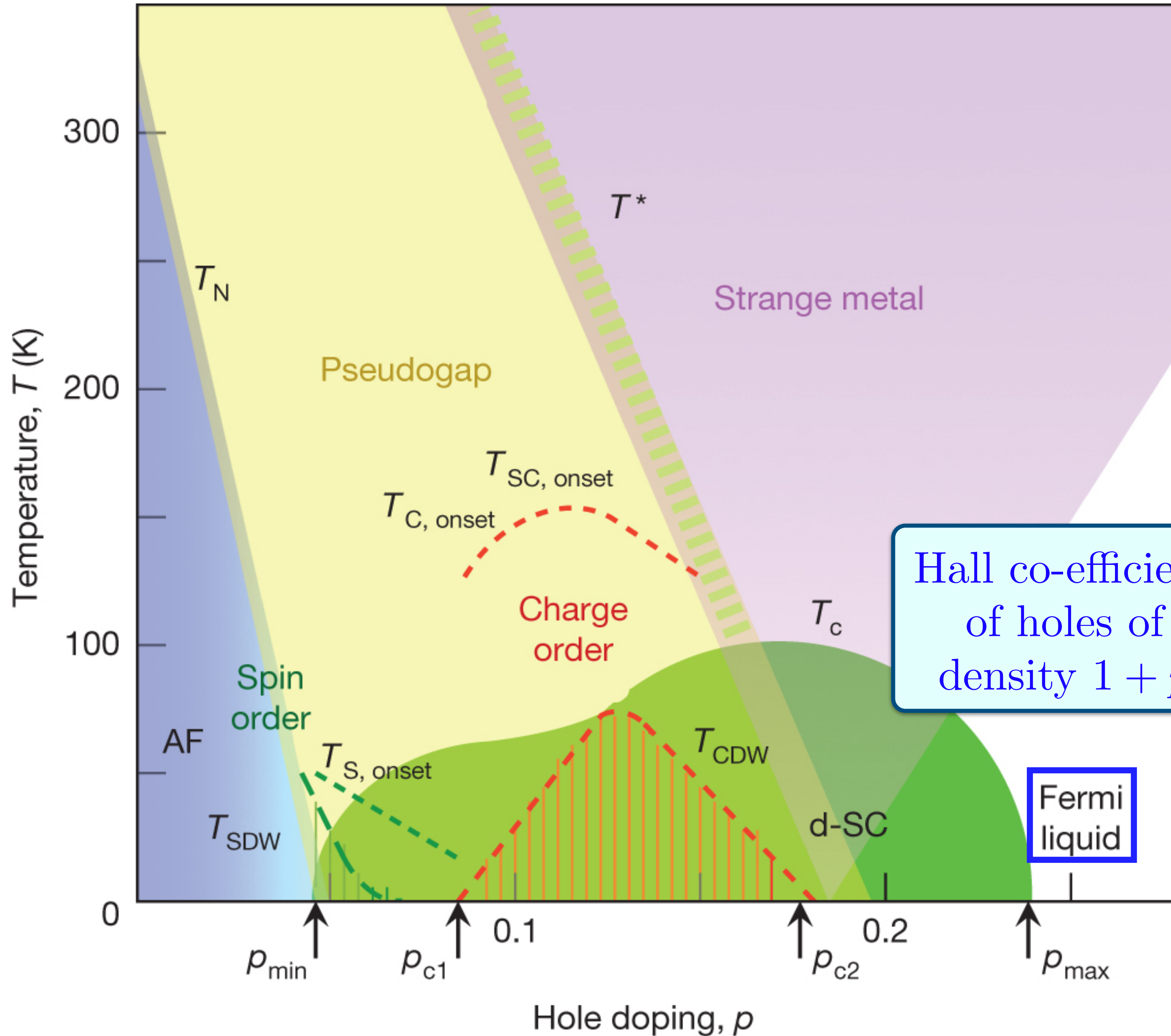
● O<sup>2-</sup>

● Y<sup>3+</sup>

● Ba<sup>2+</sup>



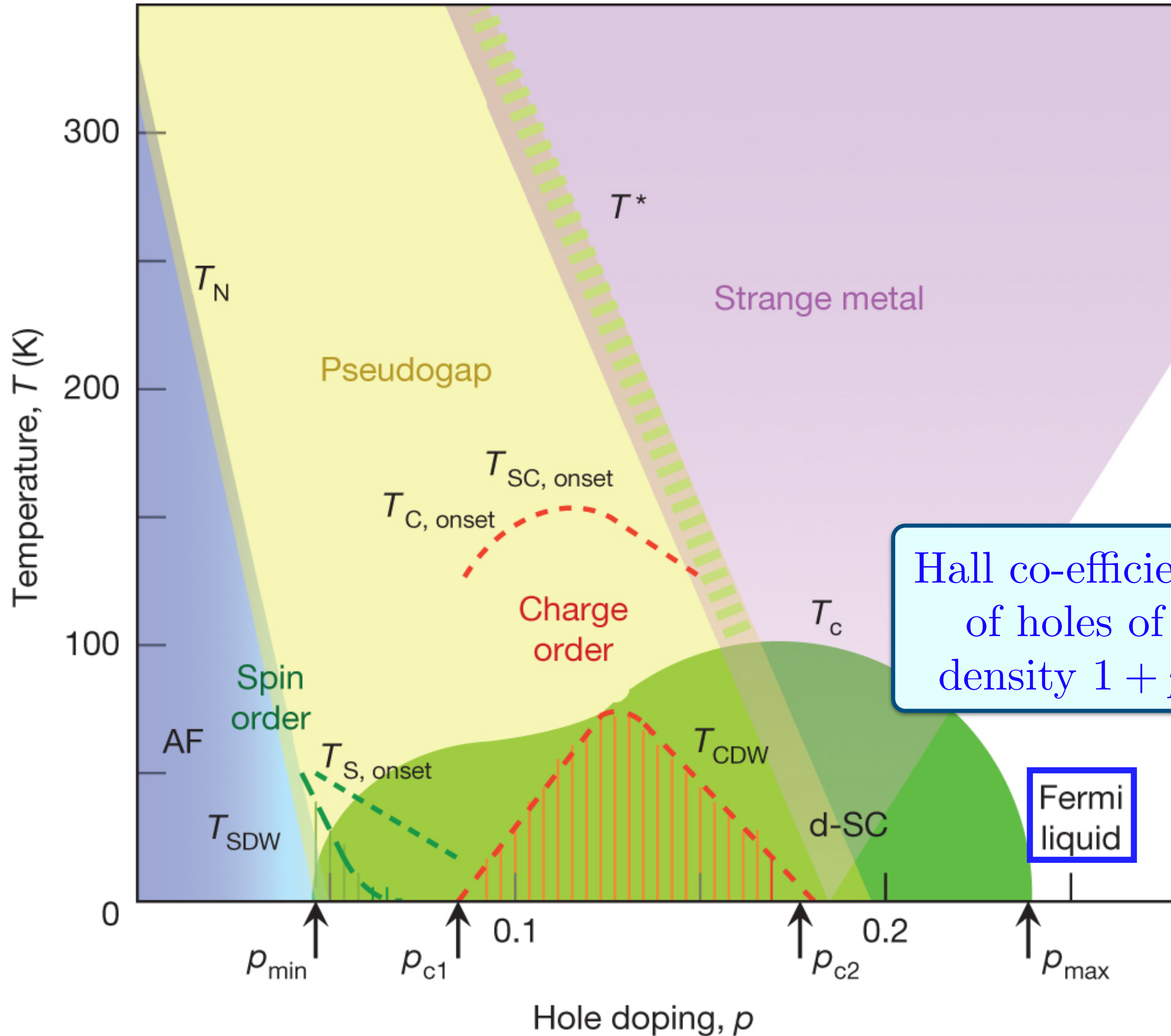




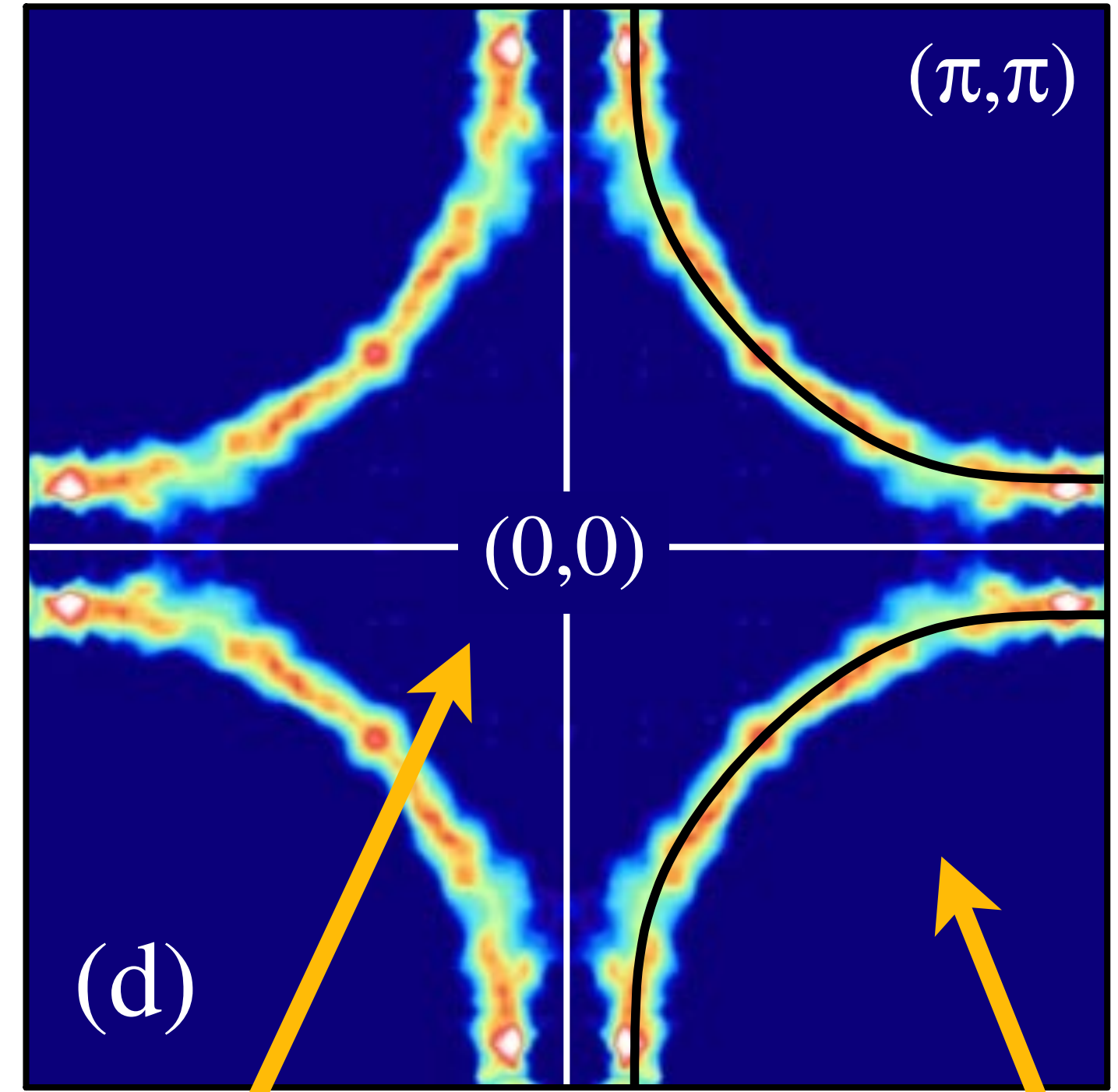
$1-p$  electrons

$1+p$  holes

**Luttinger, 1960:** Area enclosed by the Fermi surface is the same as that for free fermions *with the same symmetry*.



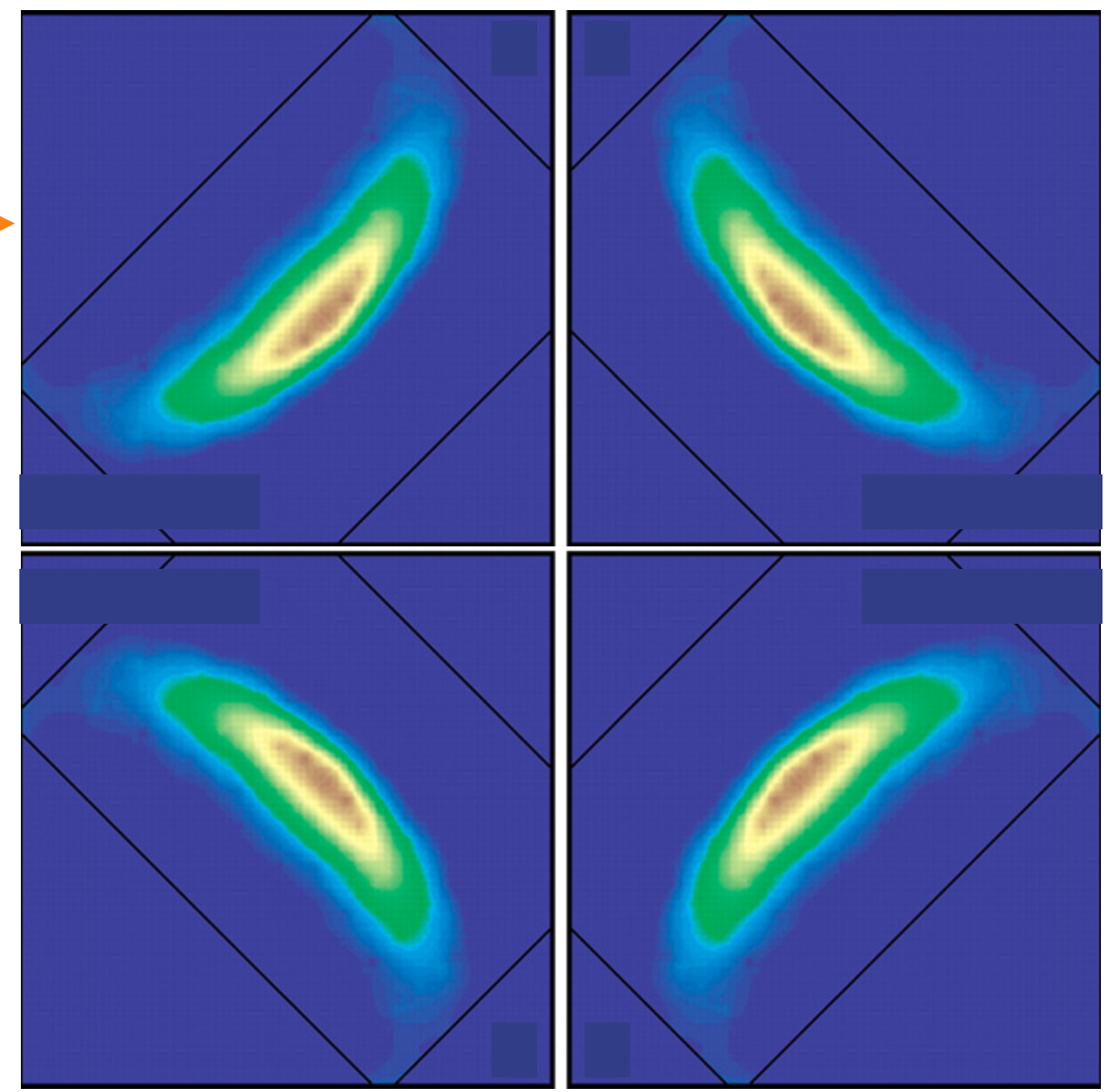
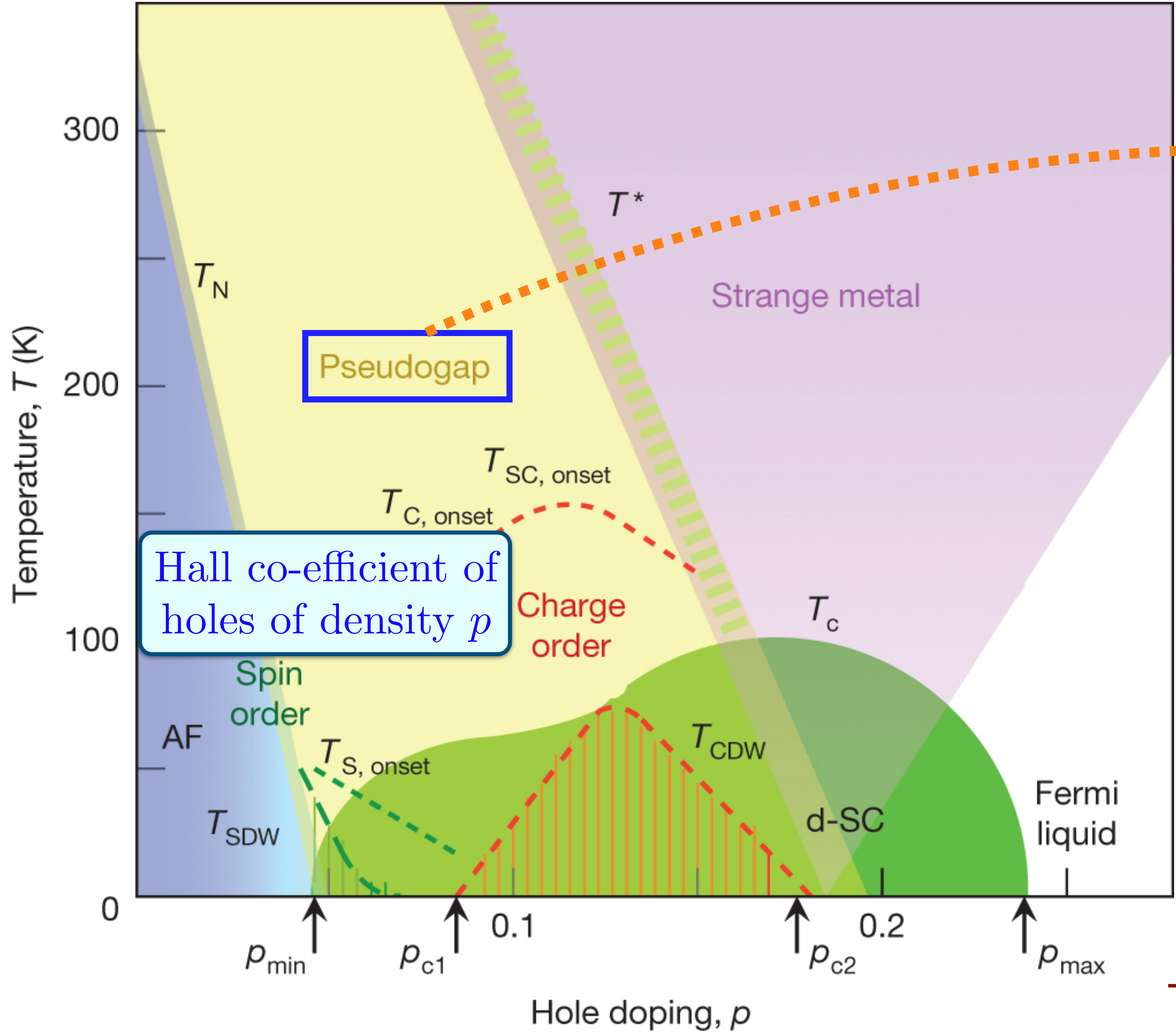
Hall co-efficient of holes of density  $1 + p$

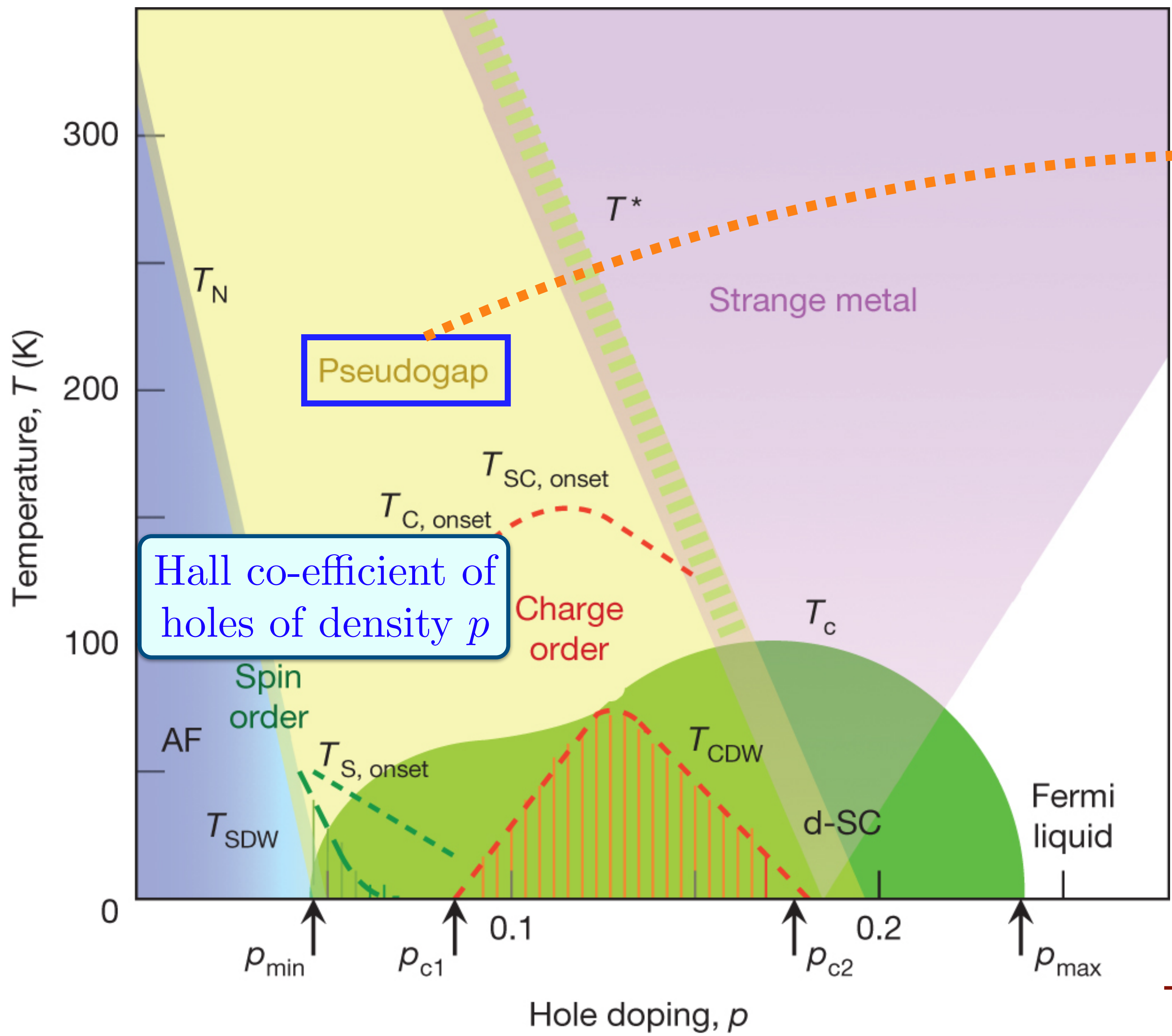


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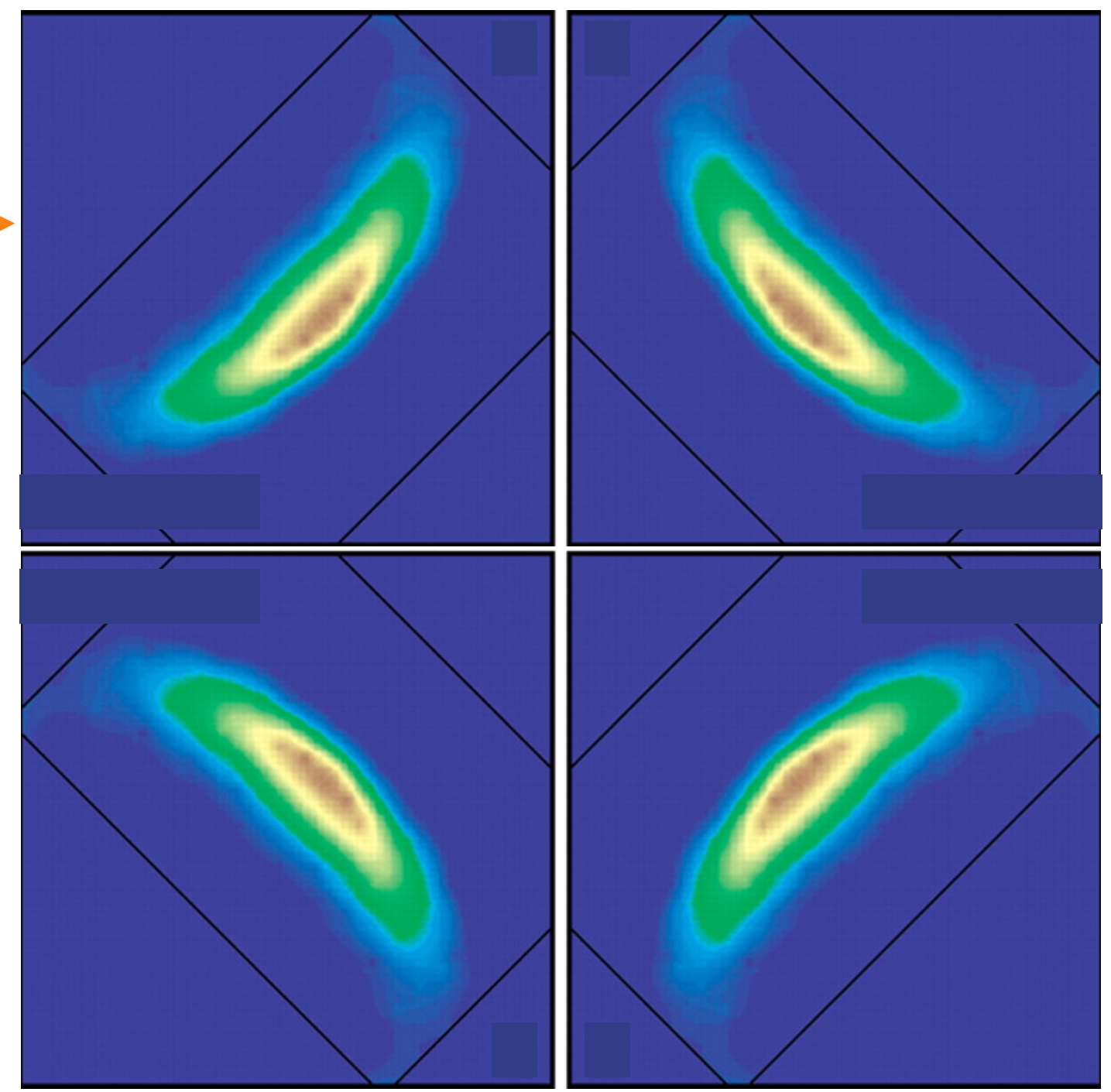
$1+p$  holes

**Luttinger, 1960:** Area enclosed by the Fermi surface is the same as that for free fermions *with the same symmetry*.  
**Oshikawa, 2000:** Area constrained by a 't Hooft anomaly of global U(1) and translations





Hall co-efficient of holes of density  $p$



Will explain with a Fractionalized Fermi Liquid (FL\*) which evades the Luttinger constraint by a *critical spin liquid*

# Observation of the Yamaji effect in a cuprate superconductor

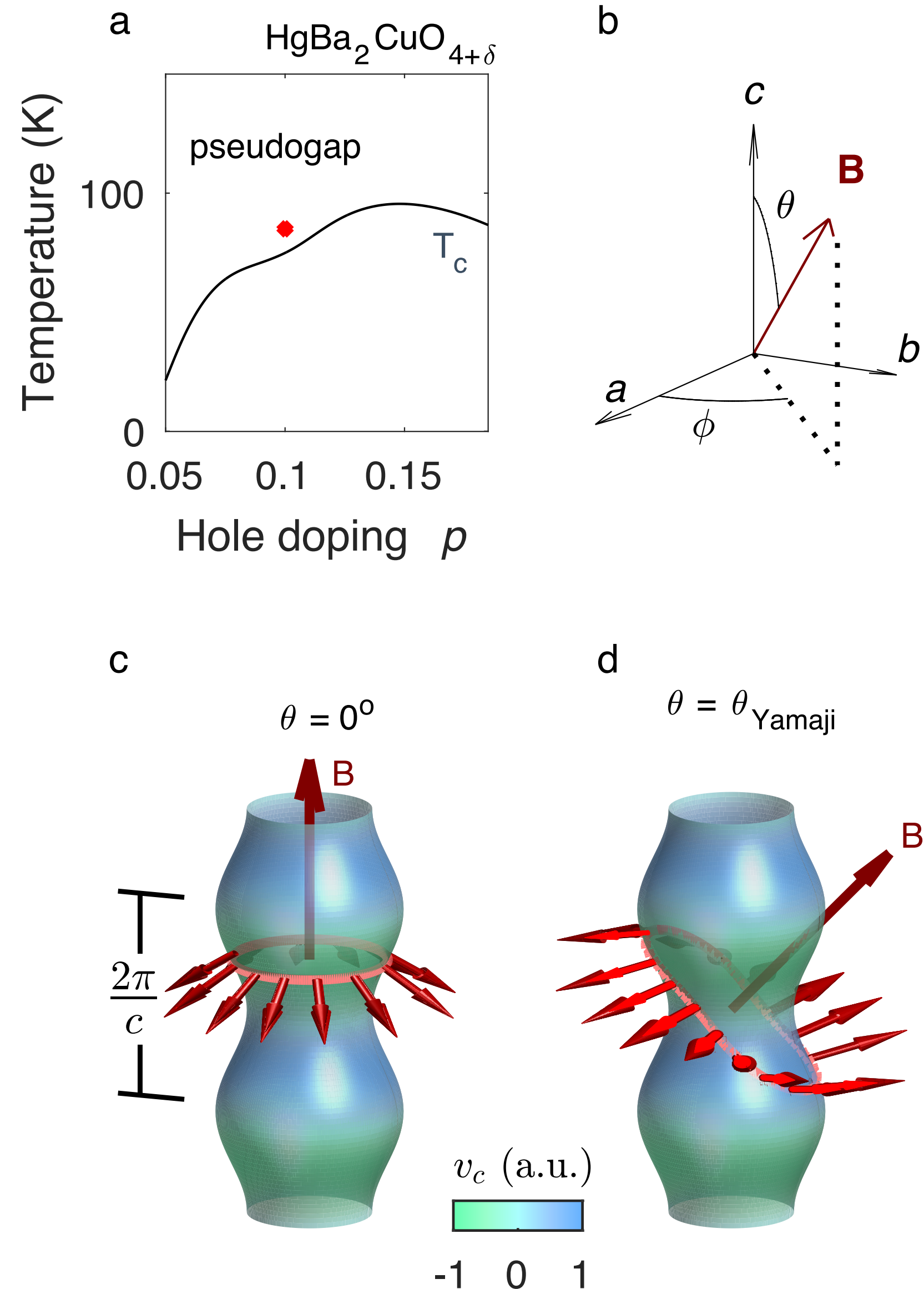
superconductor

Mun K. Chan<sup>1</sup>✉, Katherine A. Schreiber<sup>1</sup>, Oscar E. Ayala-Valenzuela<sup>1</sup>,  
Eric D. Bauer<sup>2</sup>, Arkady Shekhter<sup>1</sup> & Neil Harrison<sup>1</sup>

nature physics

arXiv:2411.10631

Published online: 16 September 2025



At the Yamaji angle, the orbits in the plane orthogonal to  $B$  have an area which is independent of momentum in the  $c$  direction, to first order in the hopping along the  $c$  direction.

K. Yamaji JPSJ **58**, 1520 (1989)

# Observation of the Yamaji effect in a cuprate superconductor

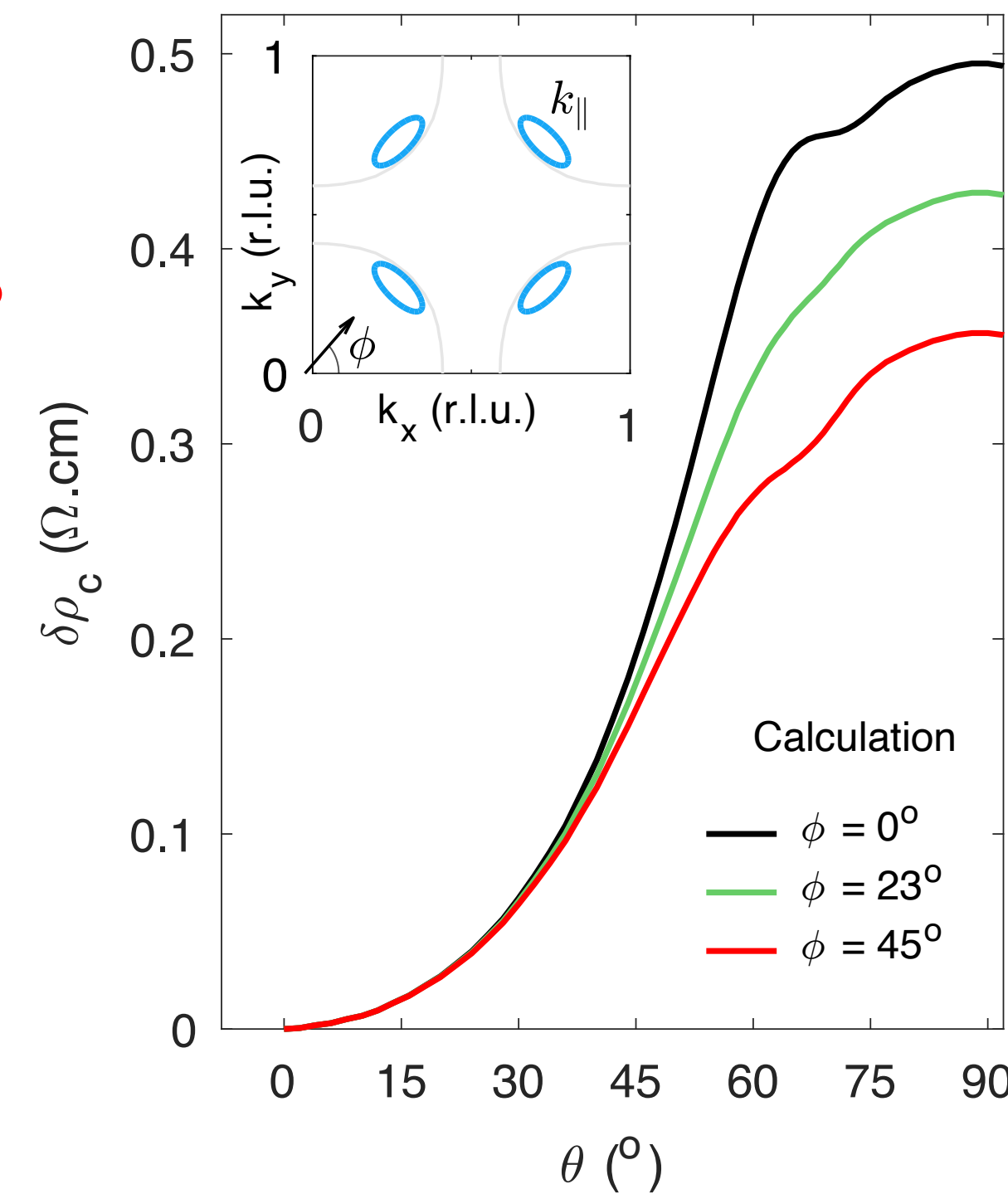
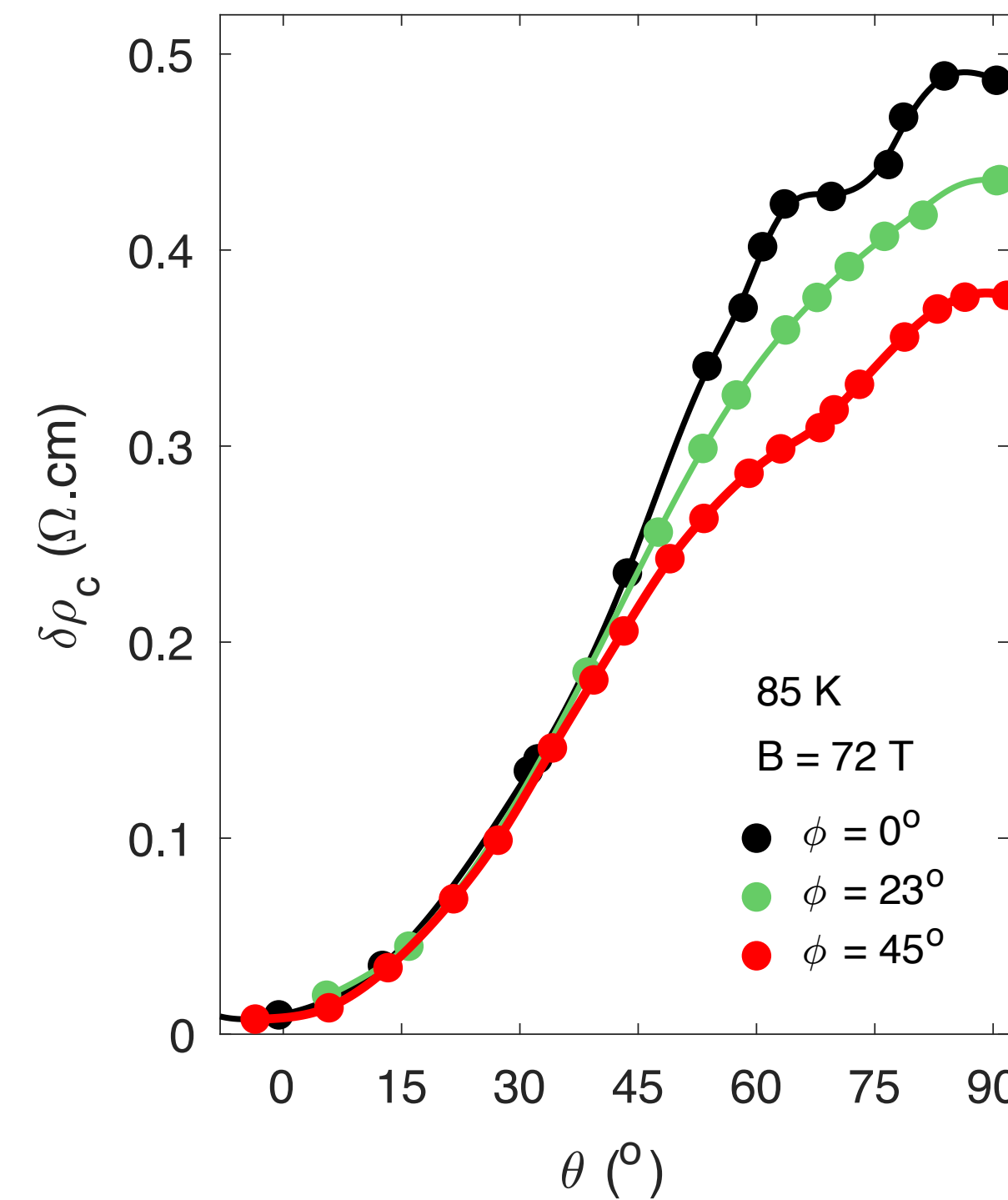
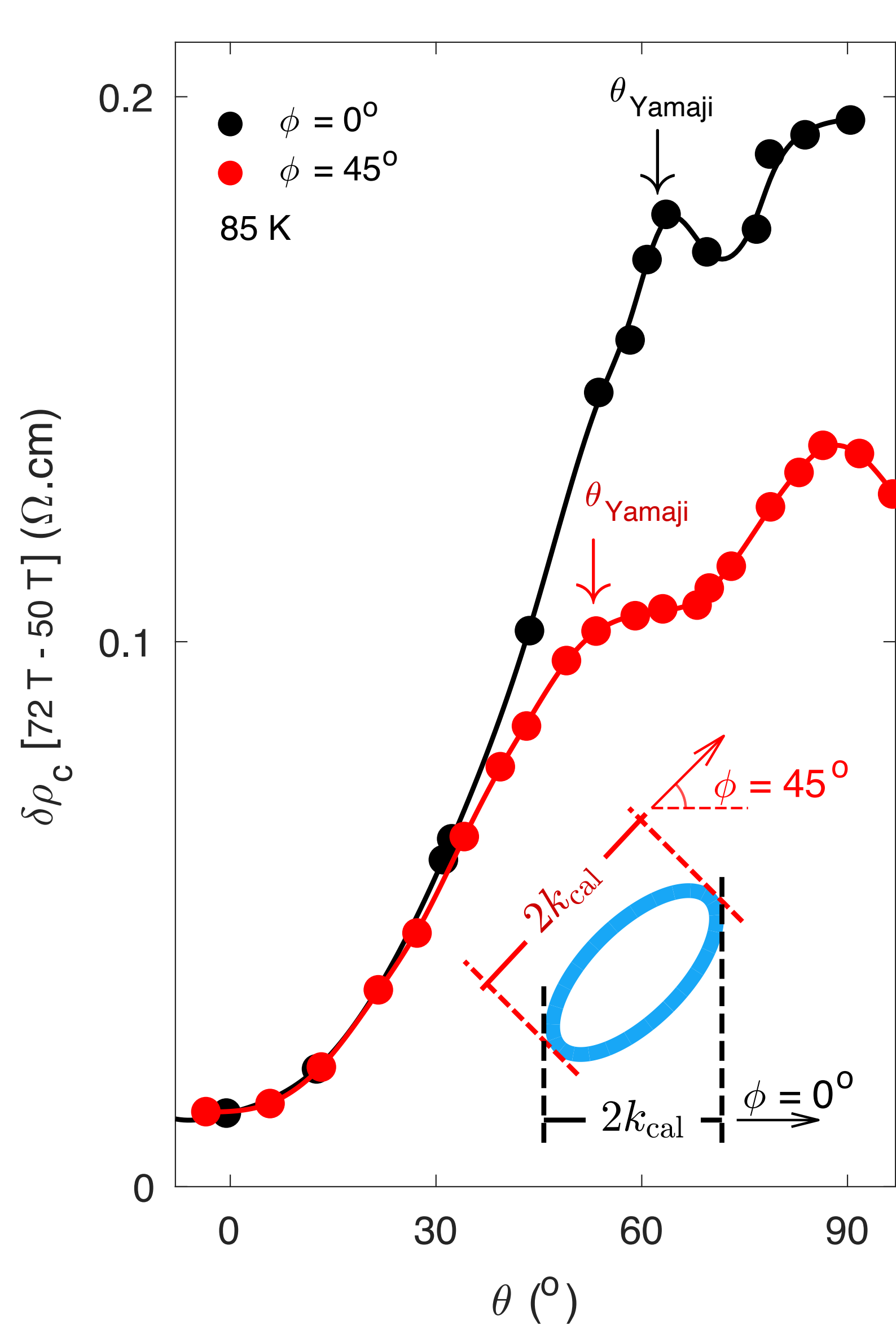
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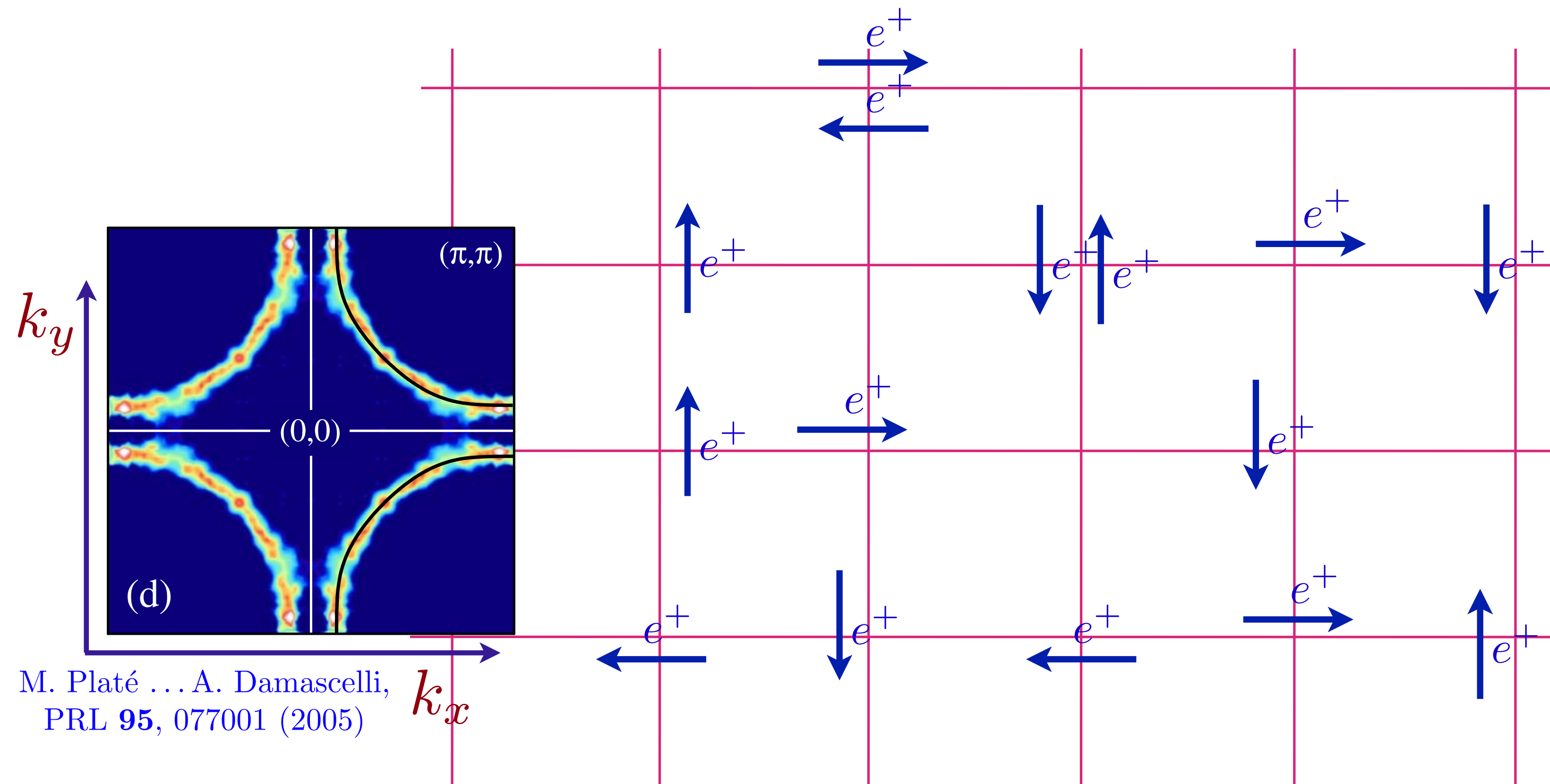
Doping  
 $p = 0.1$

“The small size of the pockets determined from the Yamaji effect is ... approximately 1.3% of the Brillouin zone area”

**Metals obtained by  
doping Mott insulators**

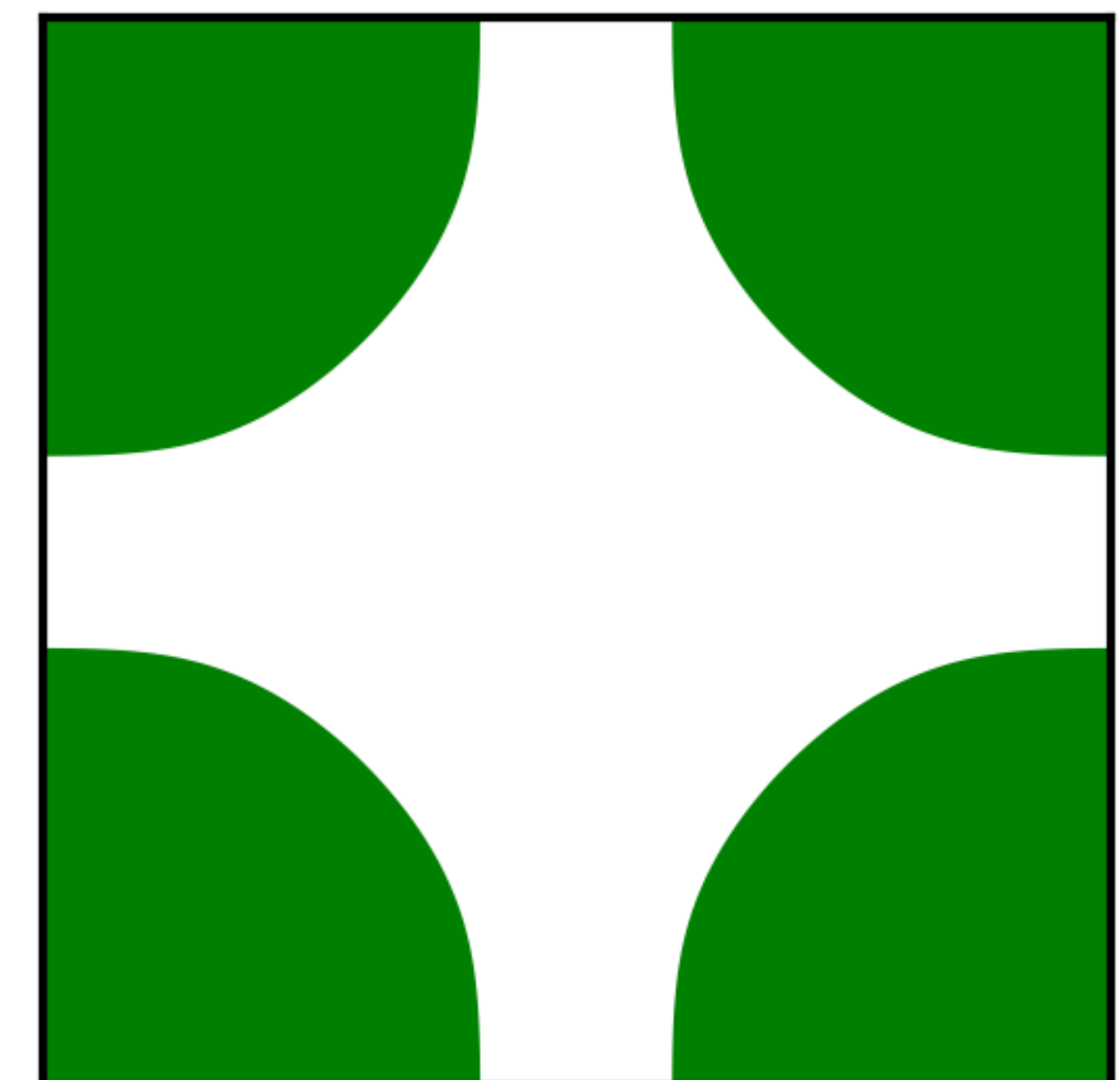
# Ordinary metal

Luttinger area.  
No broken symmetry



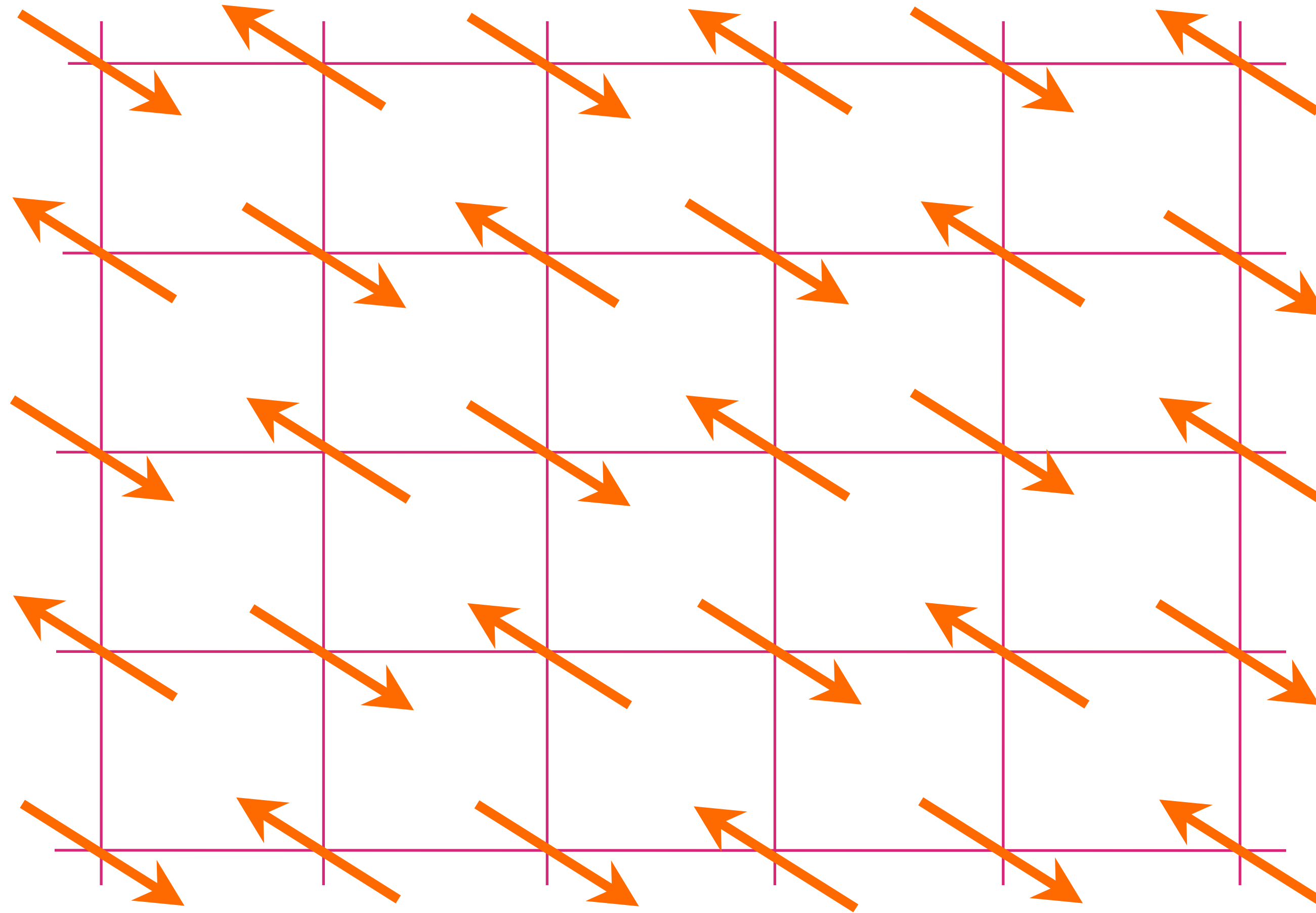
M. Platé ... A. Damascelli,  
PRL 95, 077001 (2005)

At large  $p$ , we obtain a gas of nearly free fermionic holes of density  $1+p$  (relative to the filled band with 2 electrons per site)



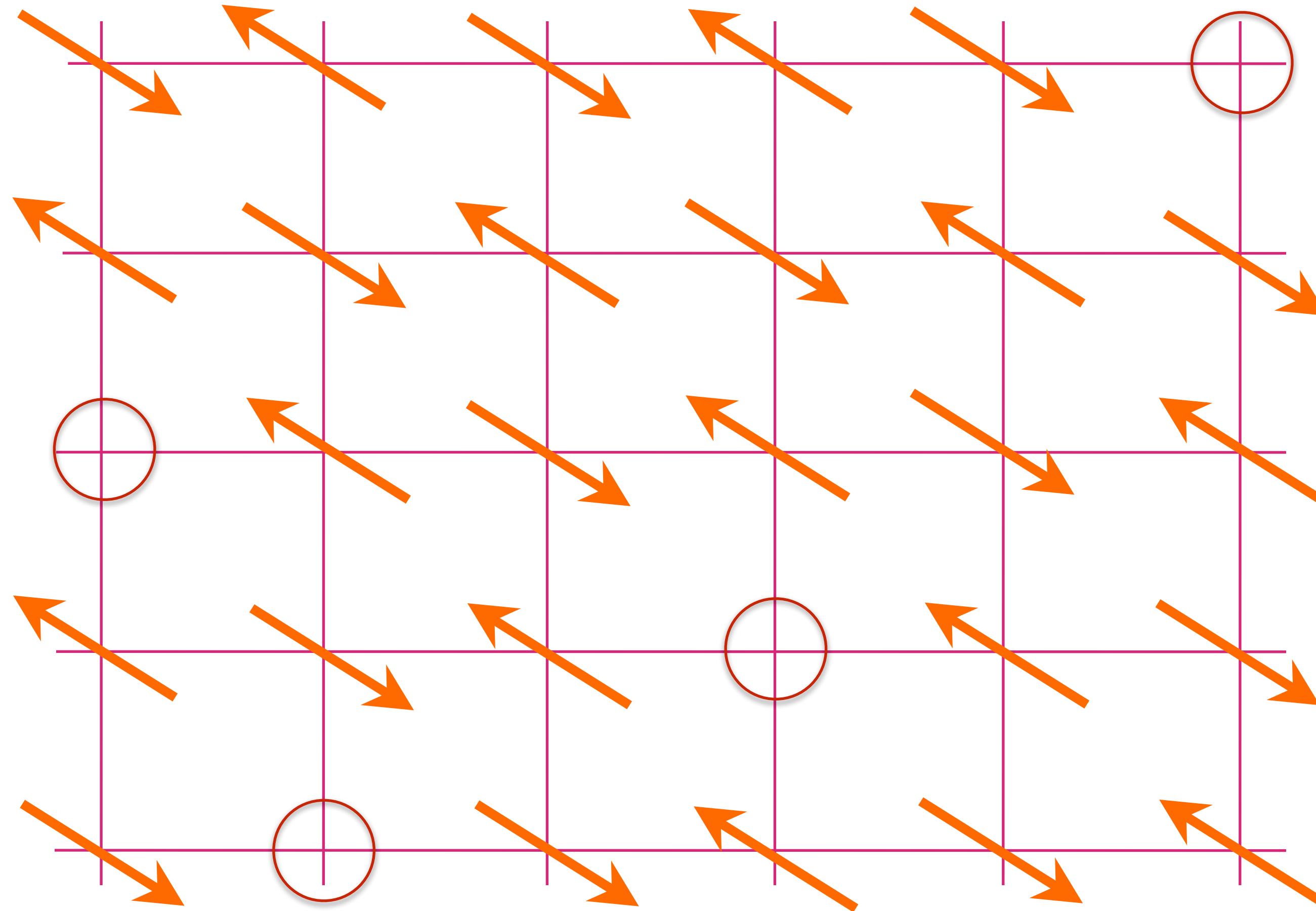
Area  $(1 + p)/2$

# Insulating antiferromagnet

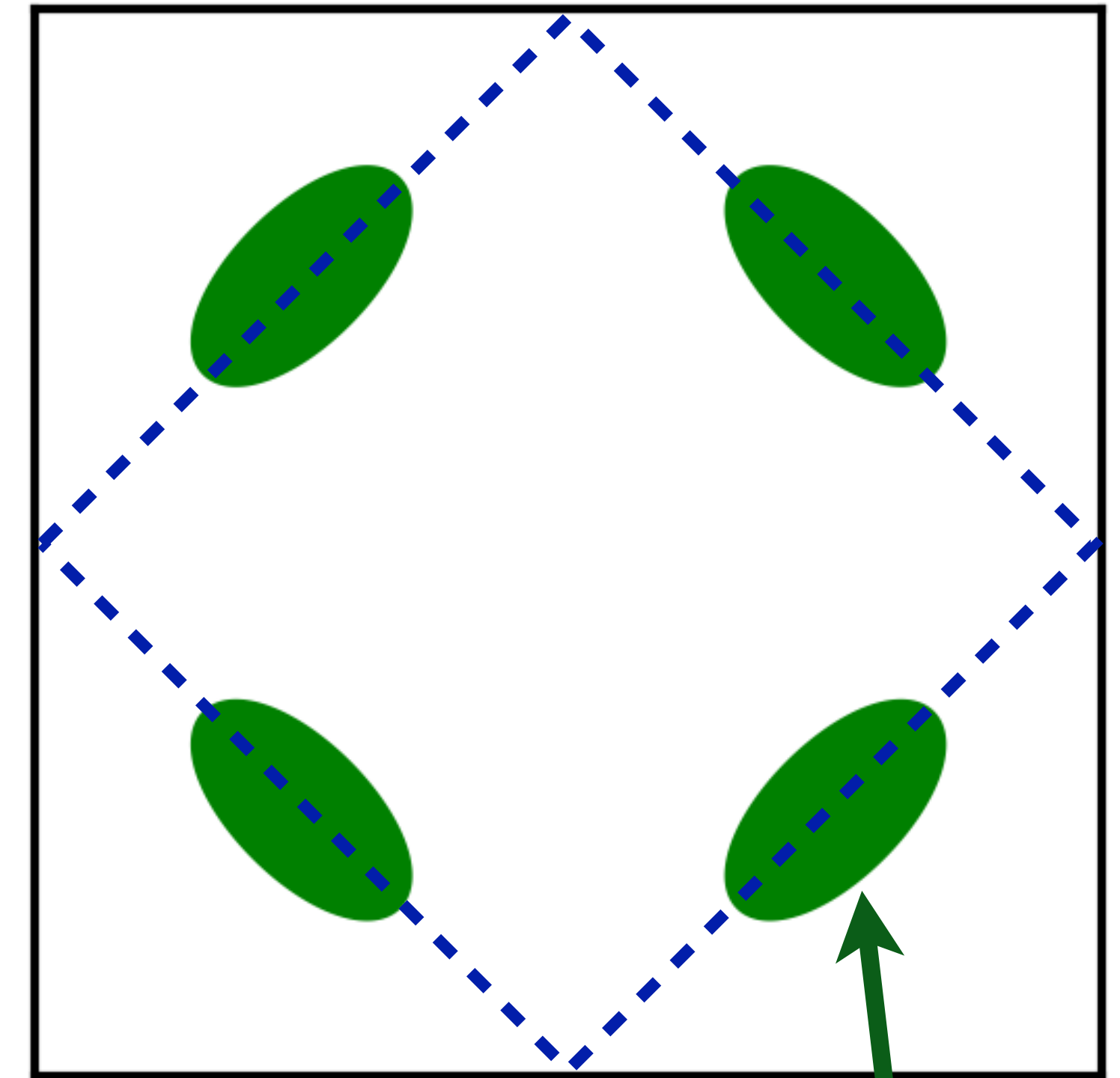


Doping an insulating antiferromagnet with holes of density  $p$

## AF metal



Luttinger area.  
Broken symmetry



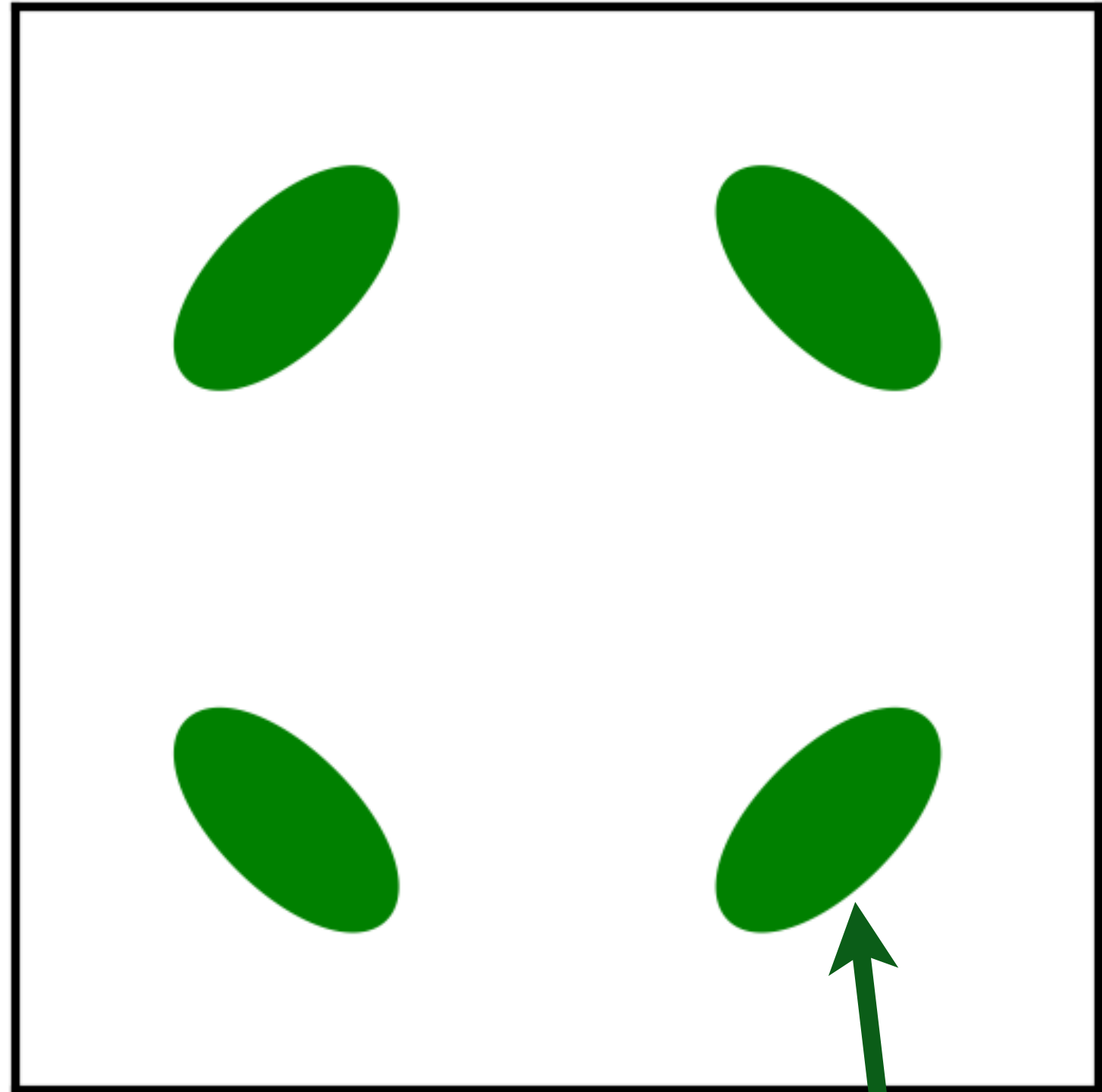
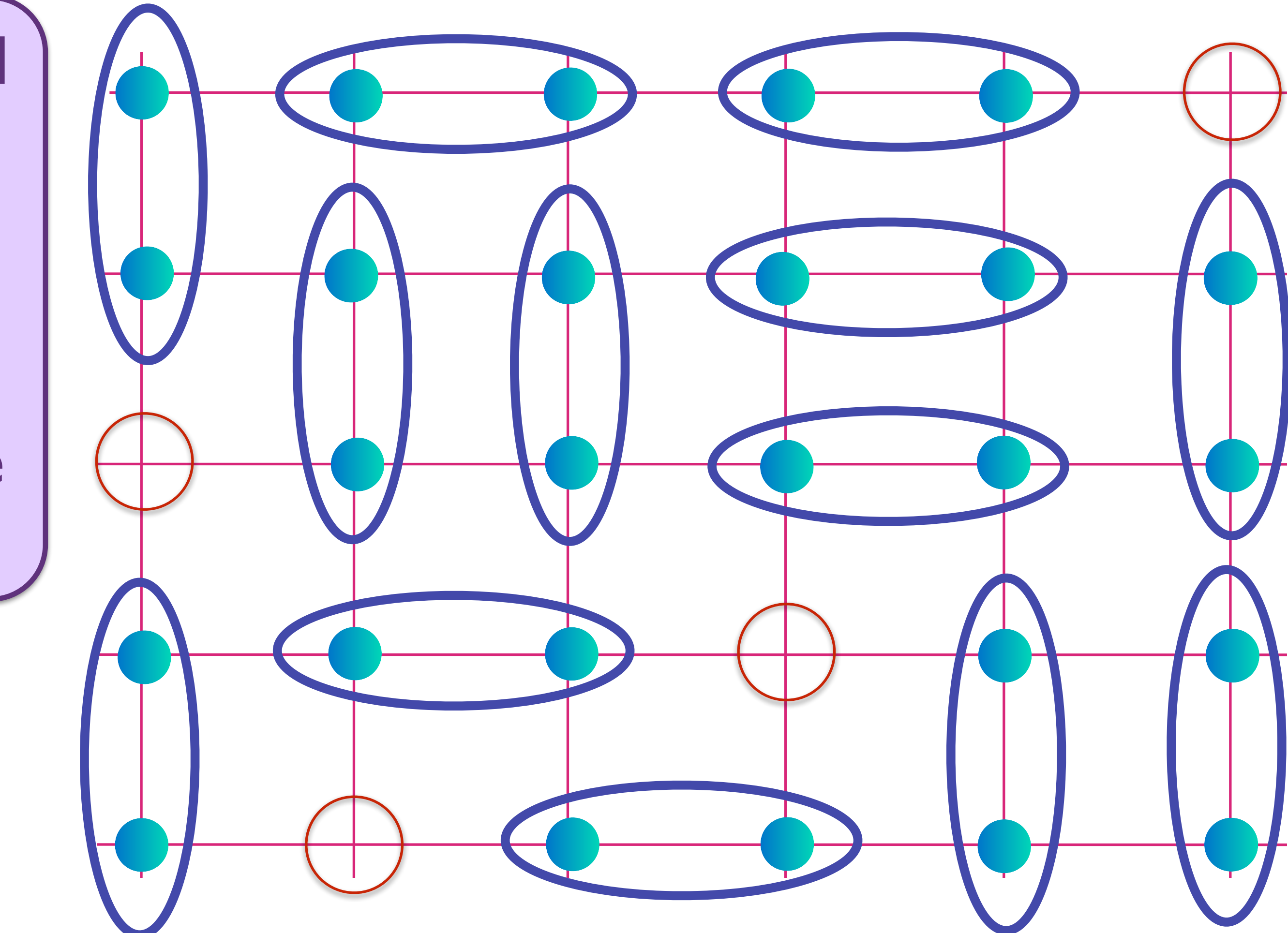
Area  $p/4$

# Doping an insulating antiferromagnet with holes of density $p$

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Oshikawa anomaly is satisfied by sum of spin liquid (1) and Fermi surface anomalies ( $p$ )

Spin liquid with density  $p$  of spinless, charge  $+e$  "holons".



Area  $p/4$

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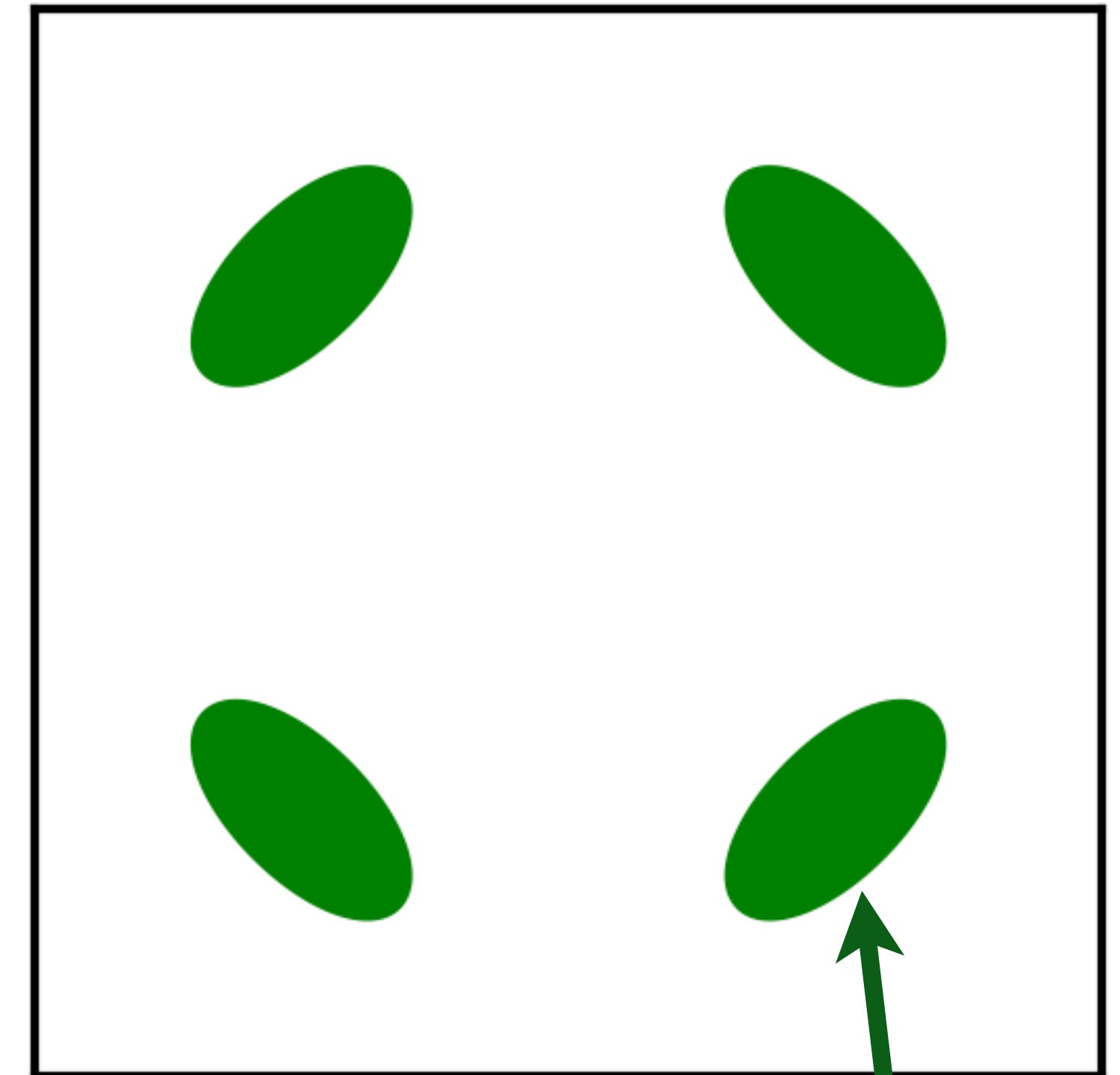
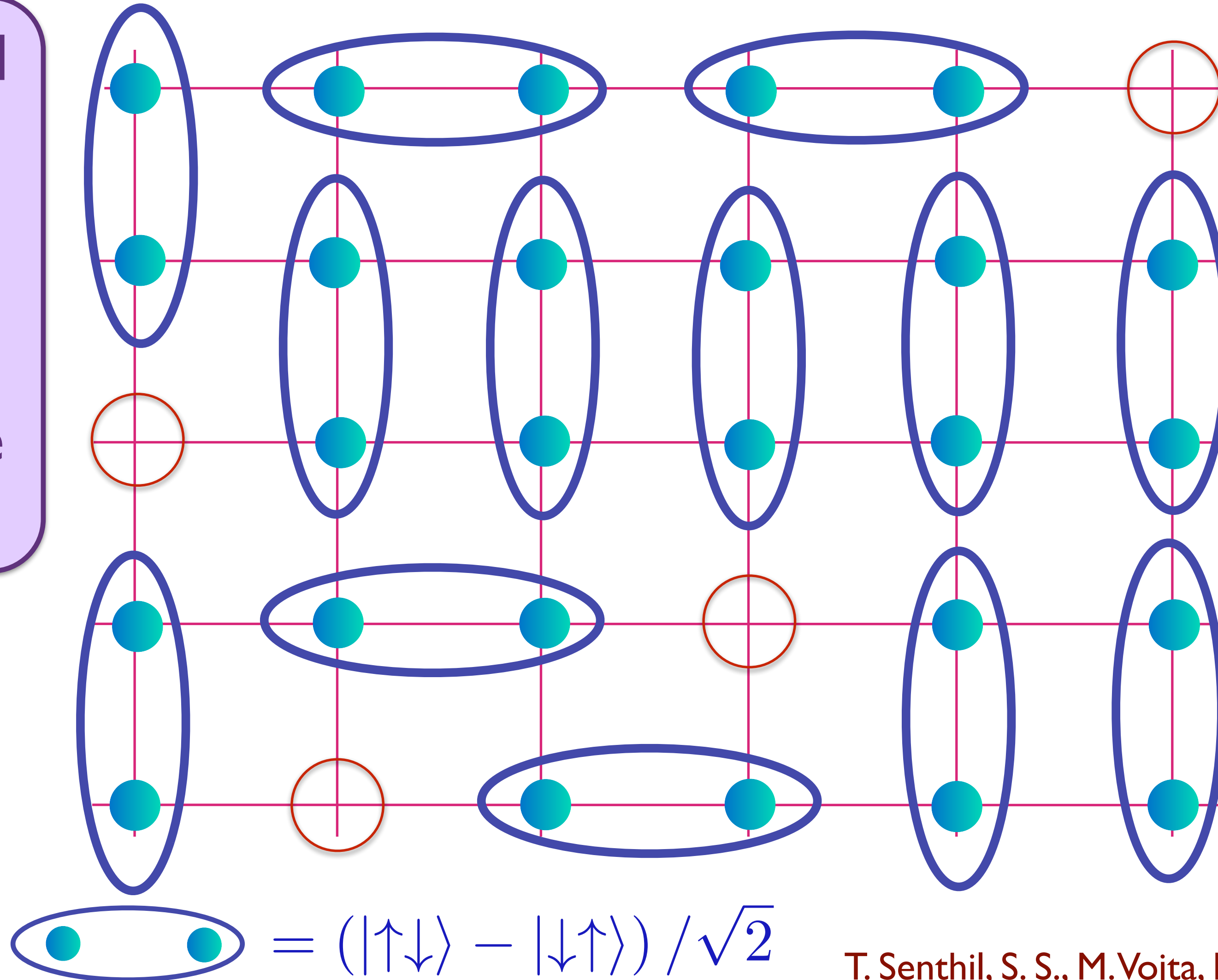
T. Senthil, S. S., M. Vojta, PRL **90**, 216403 (2003);  
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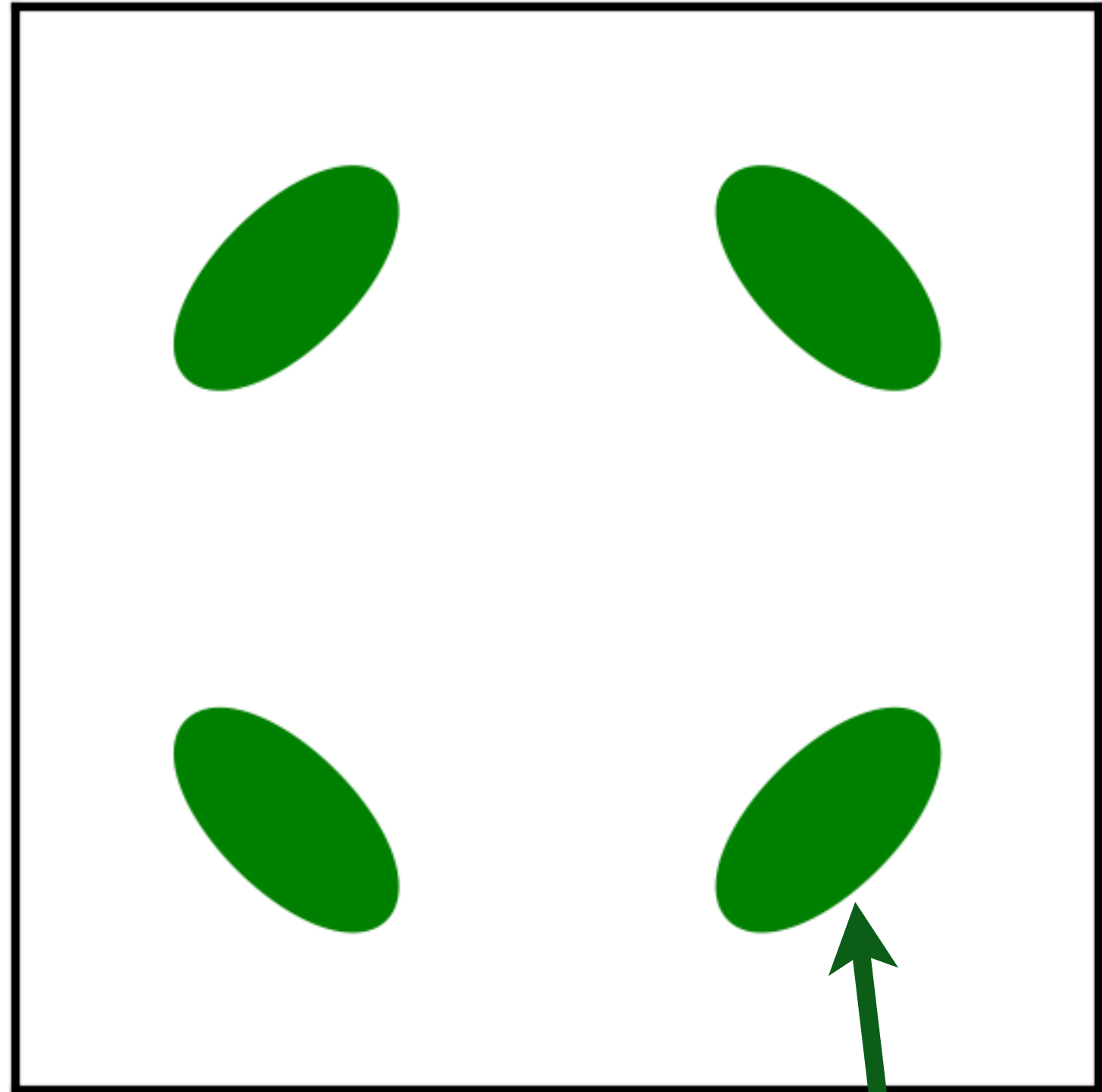
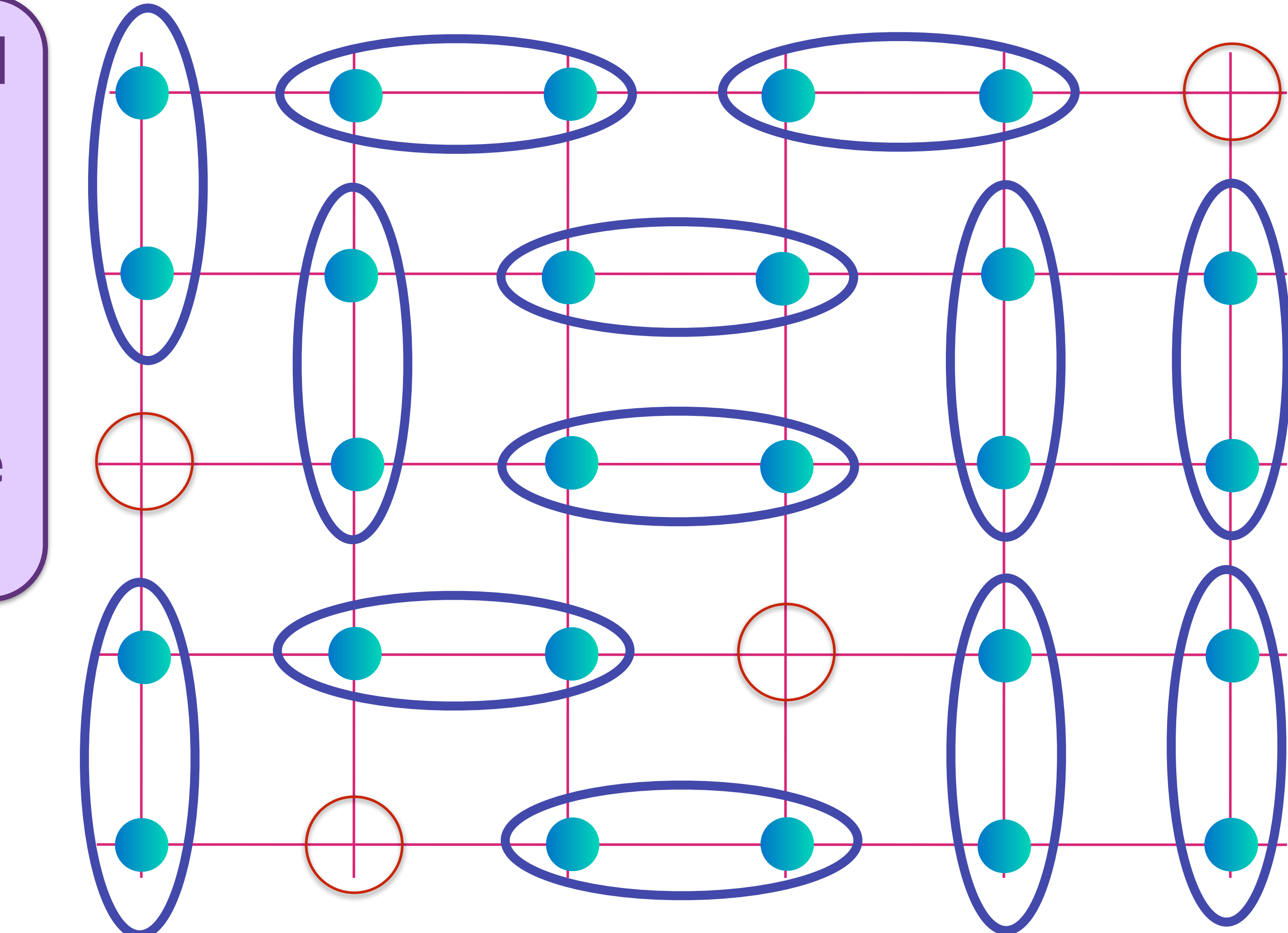
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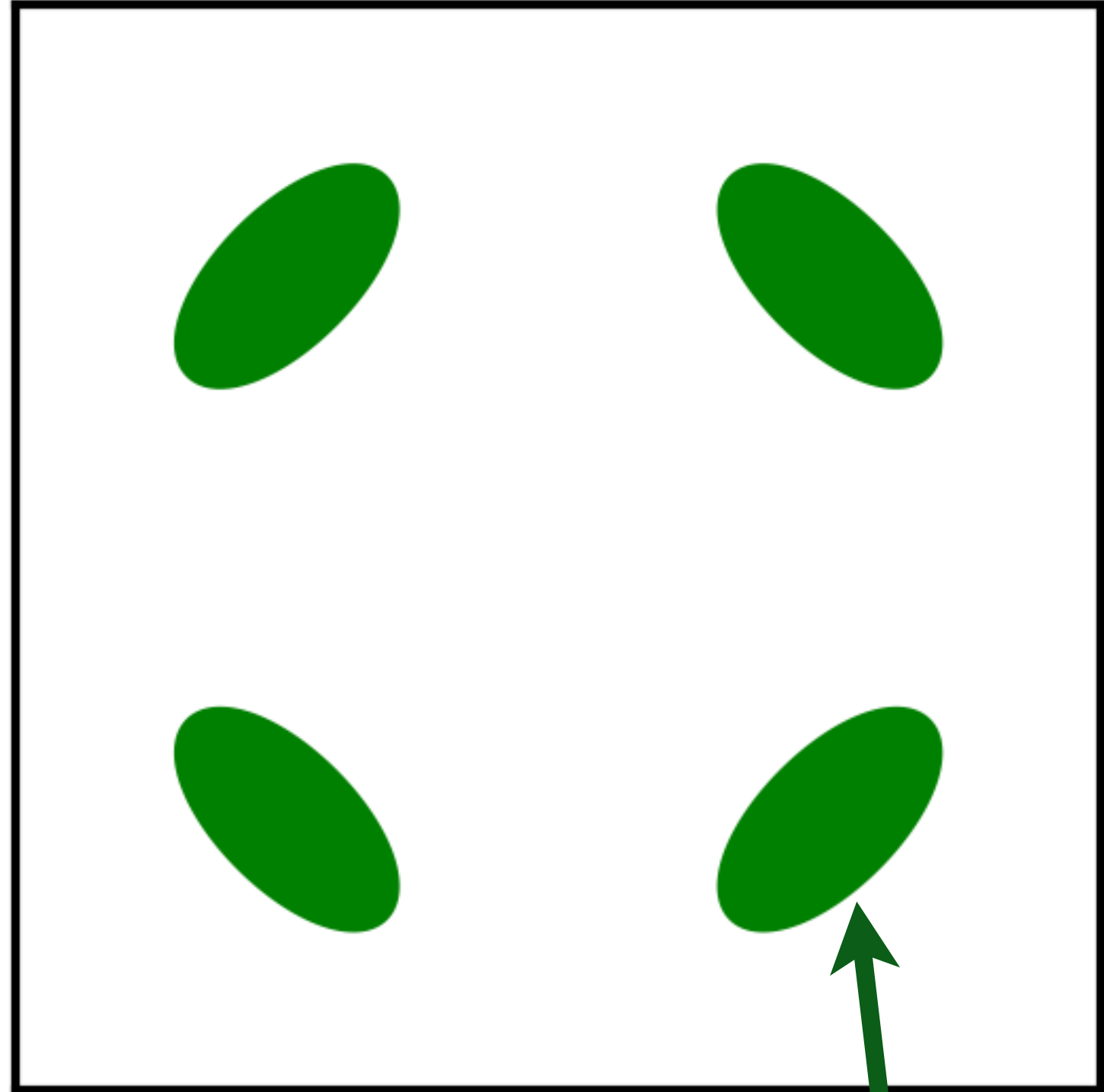
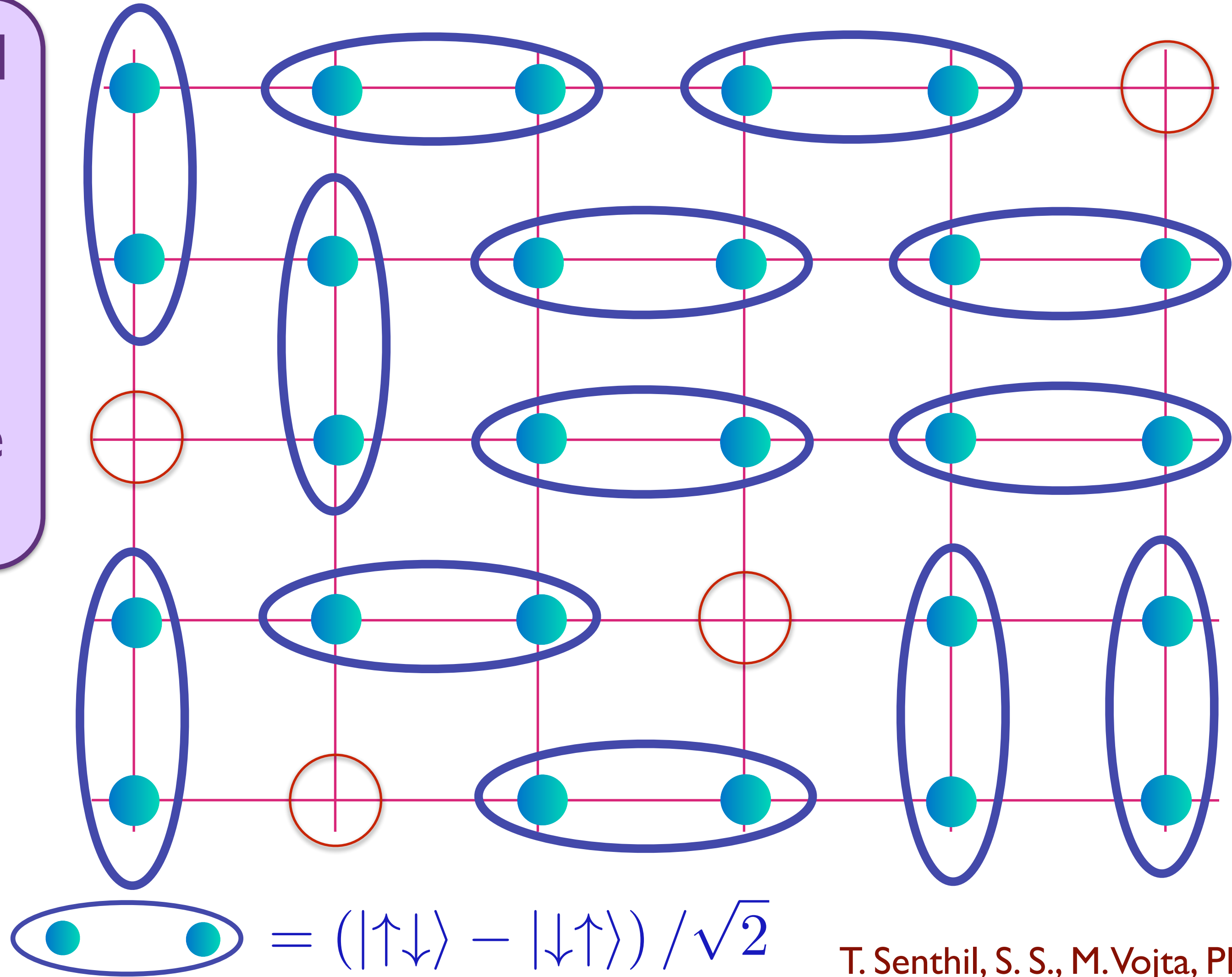
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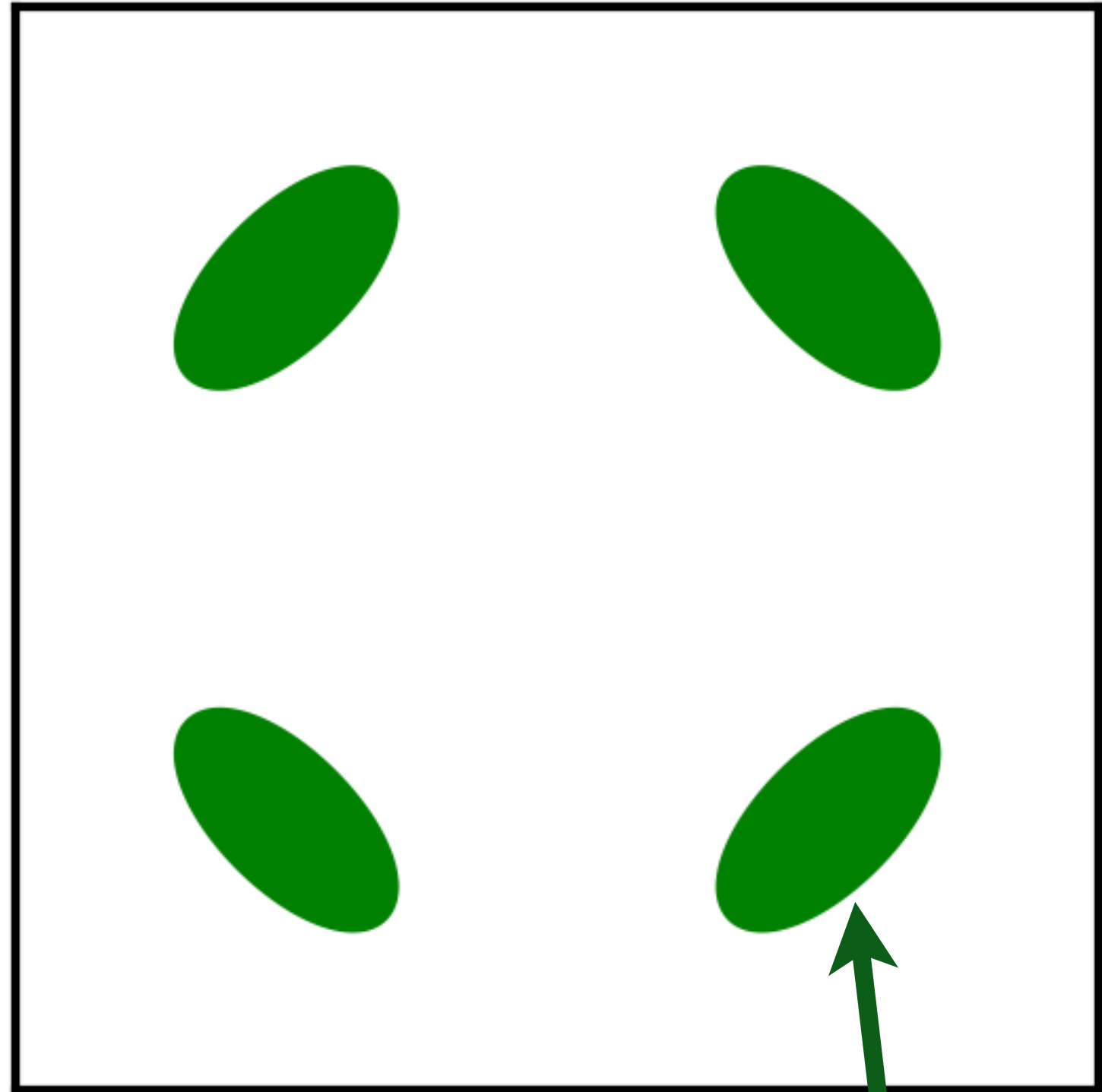
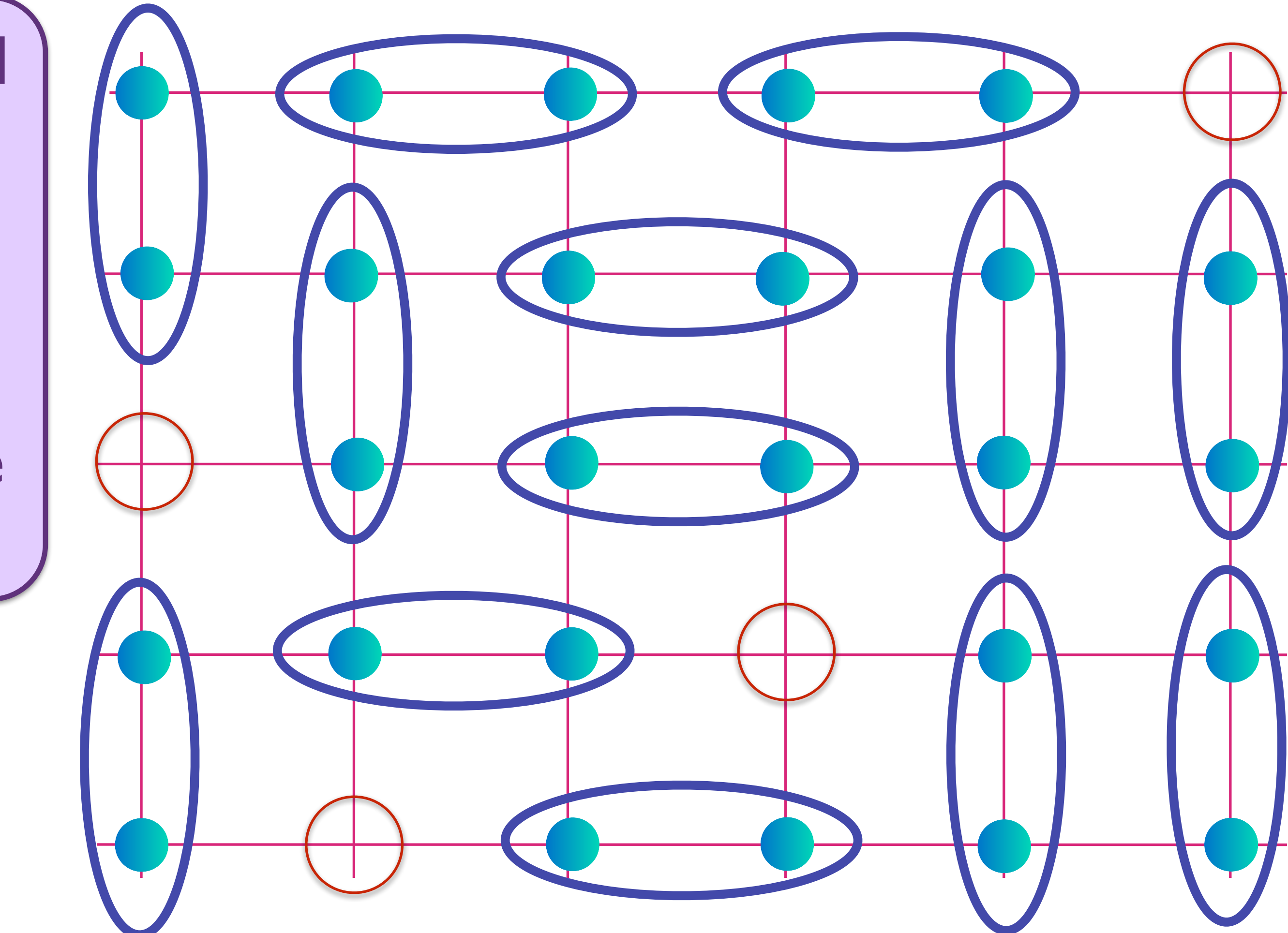
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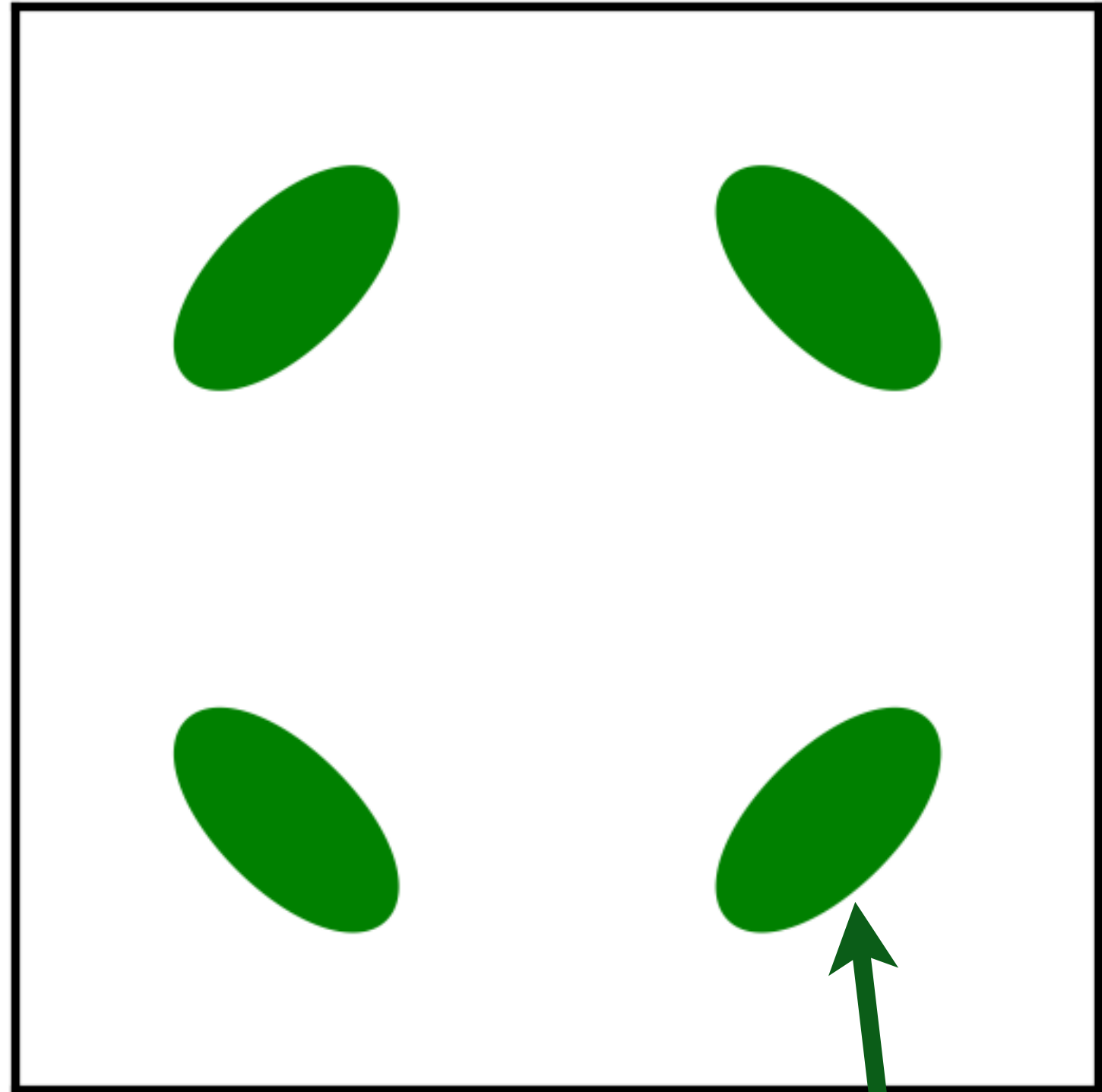
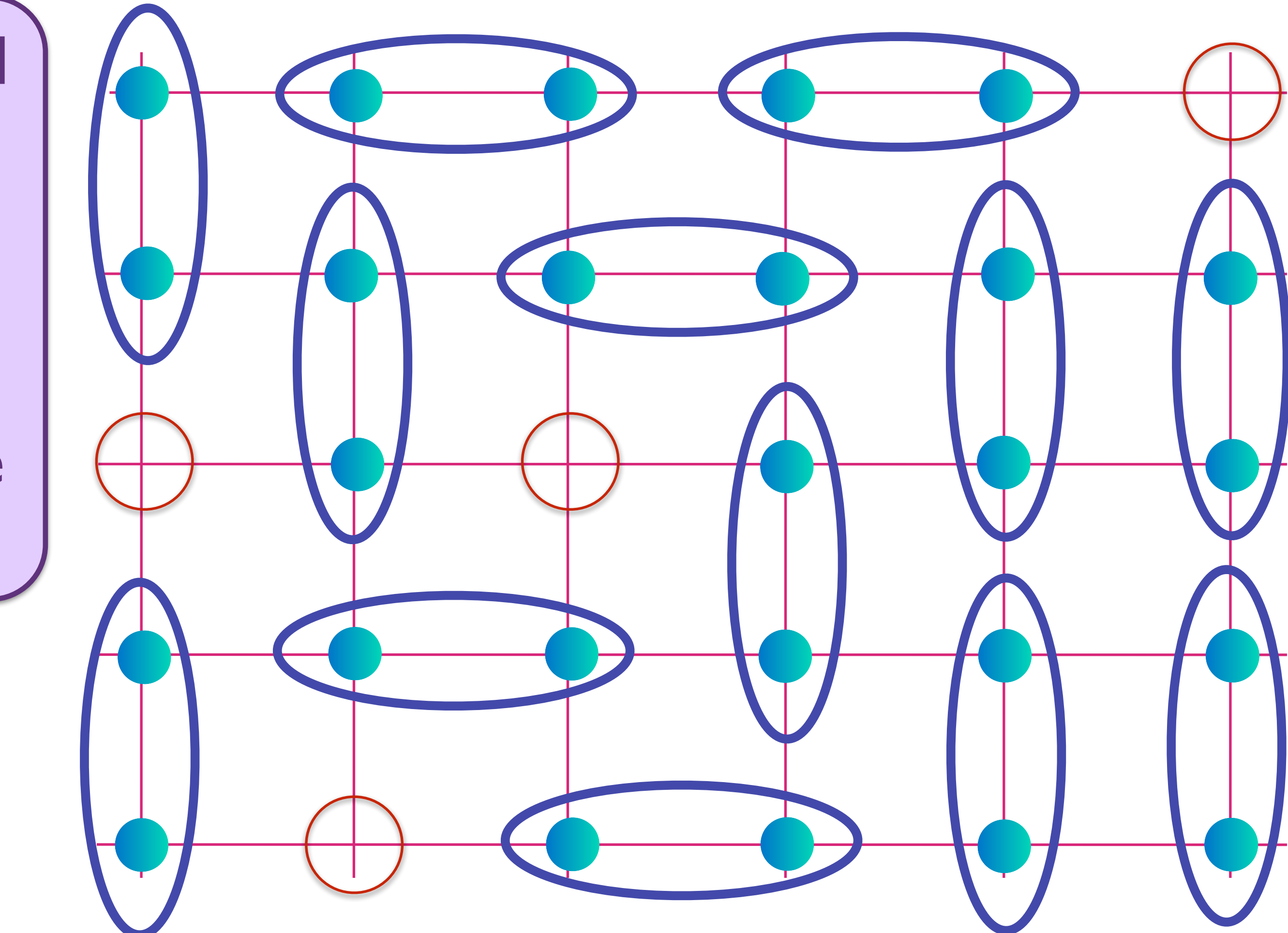
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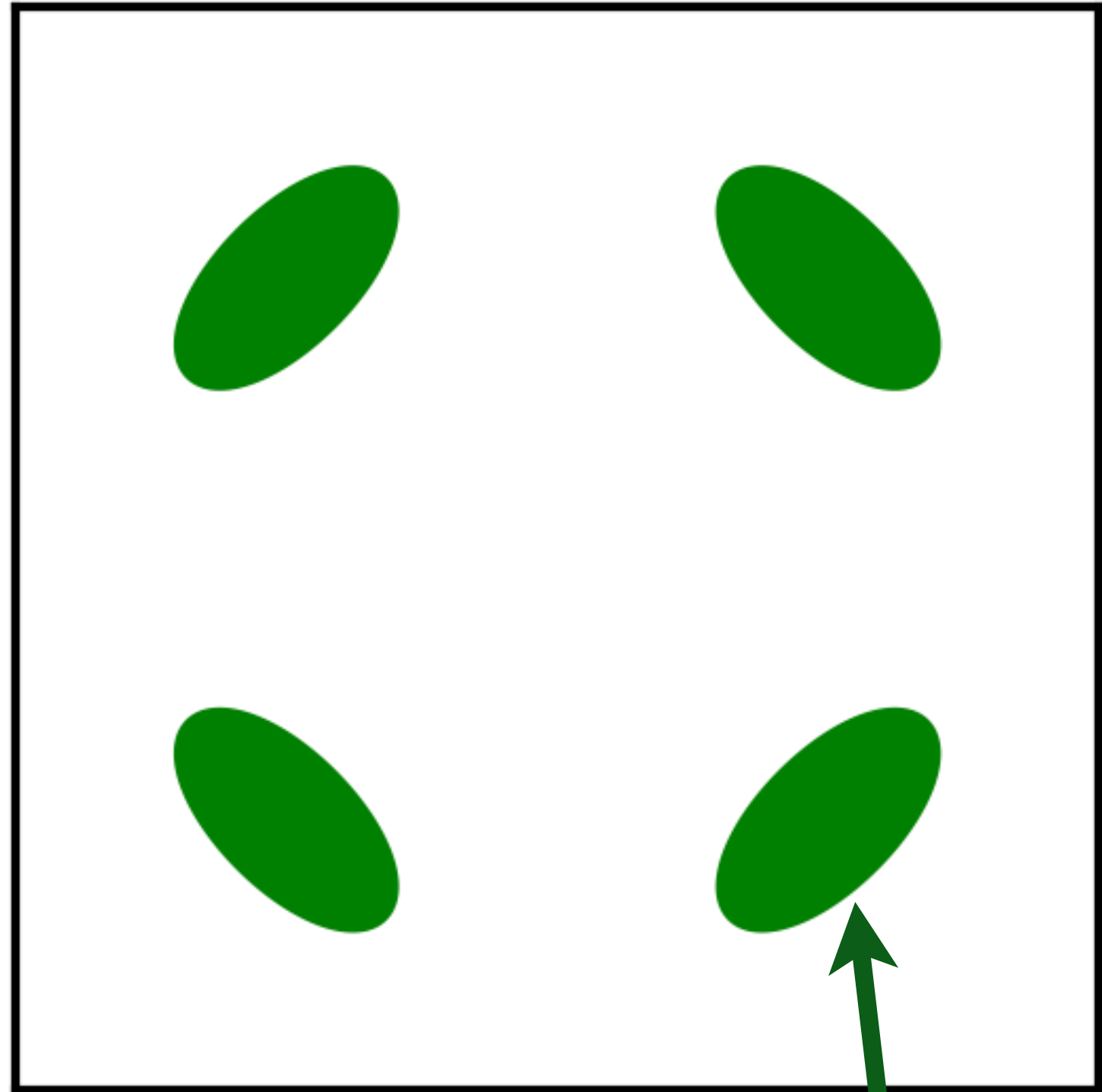
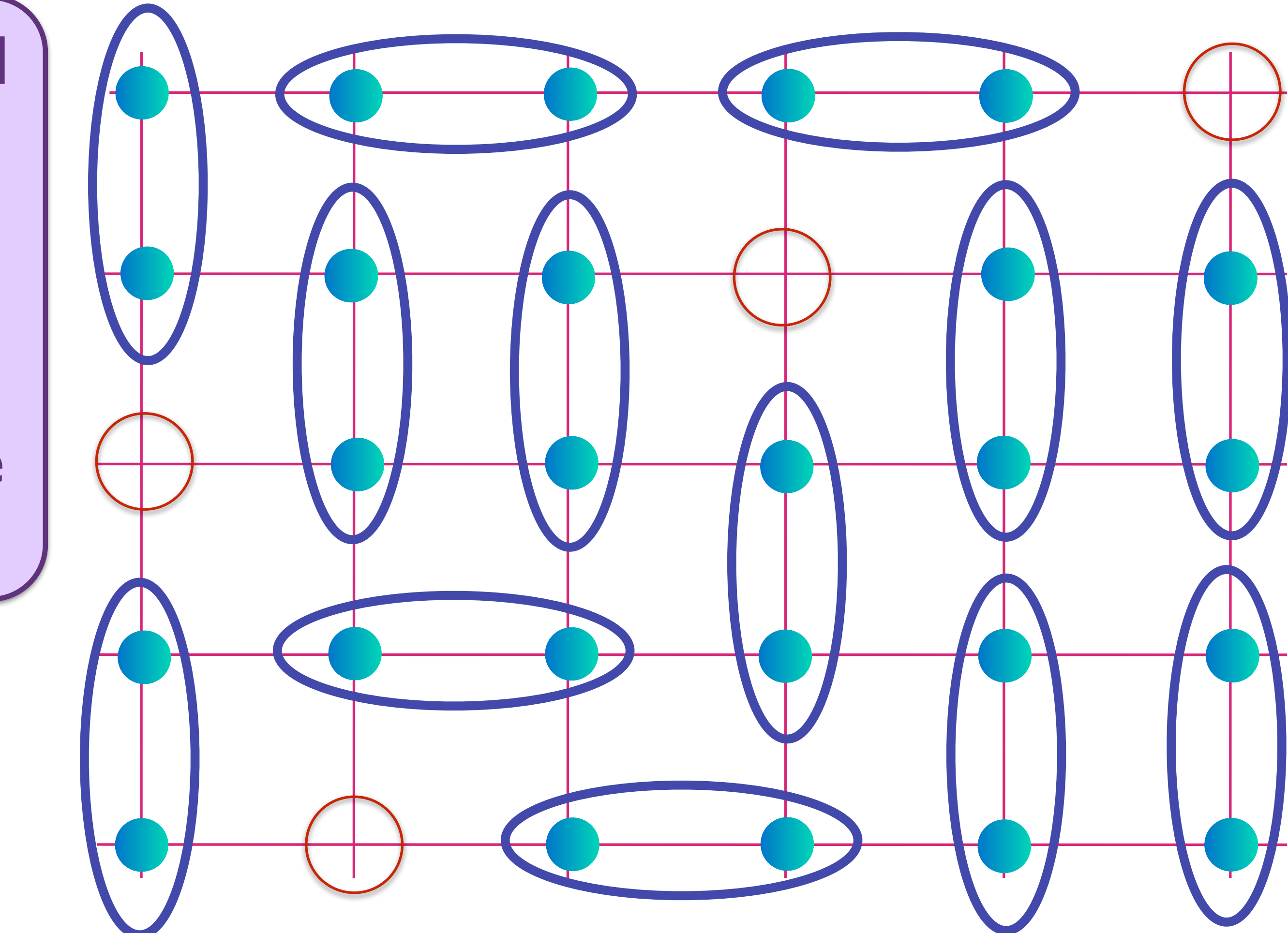
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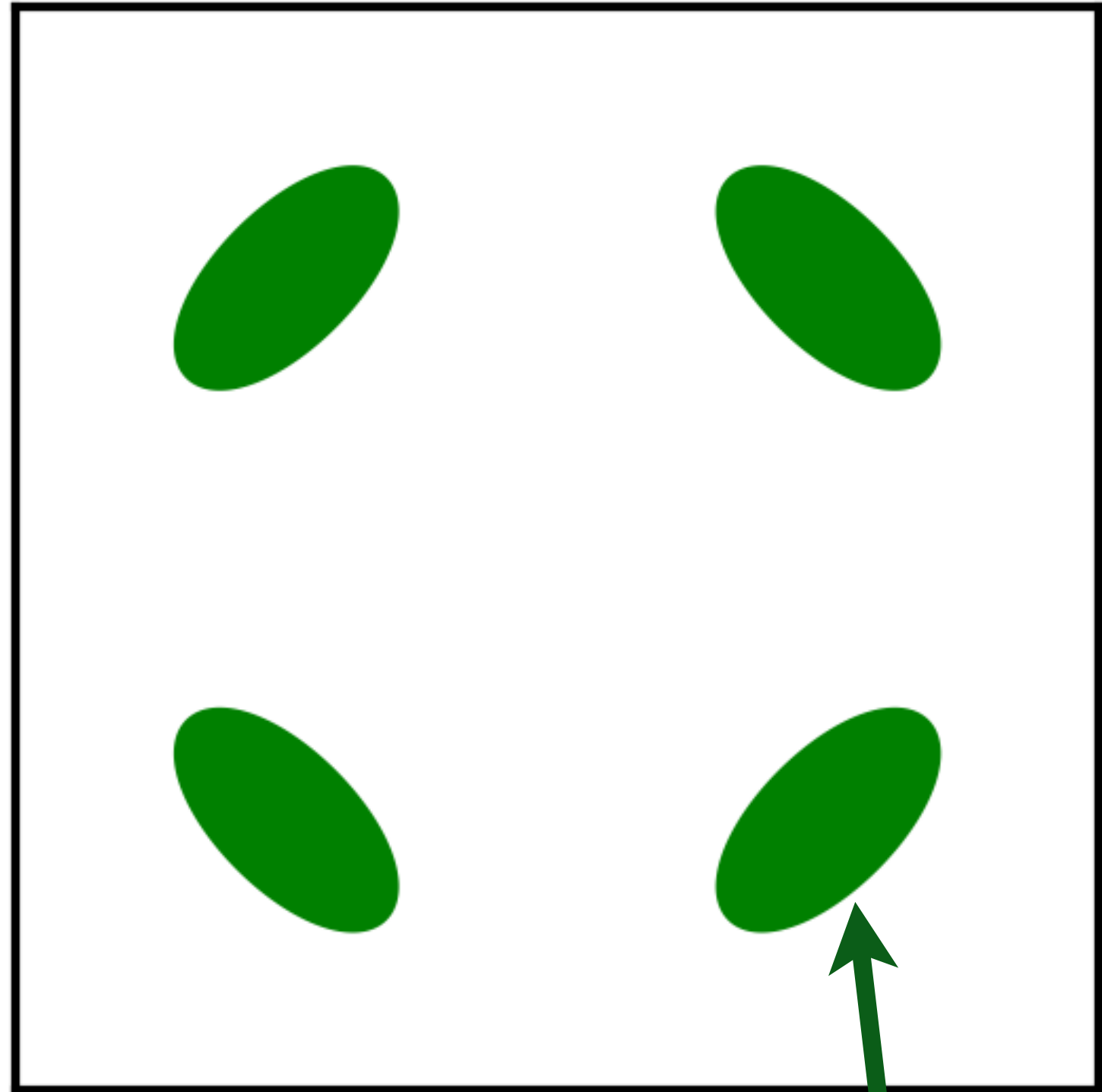
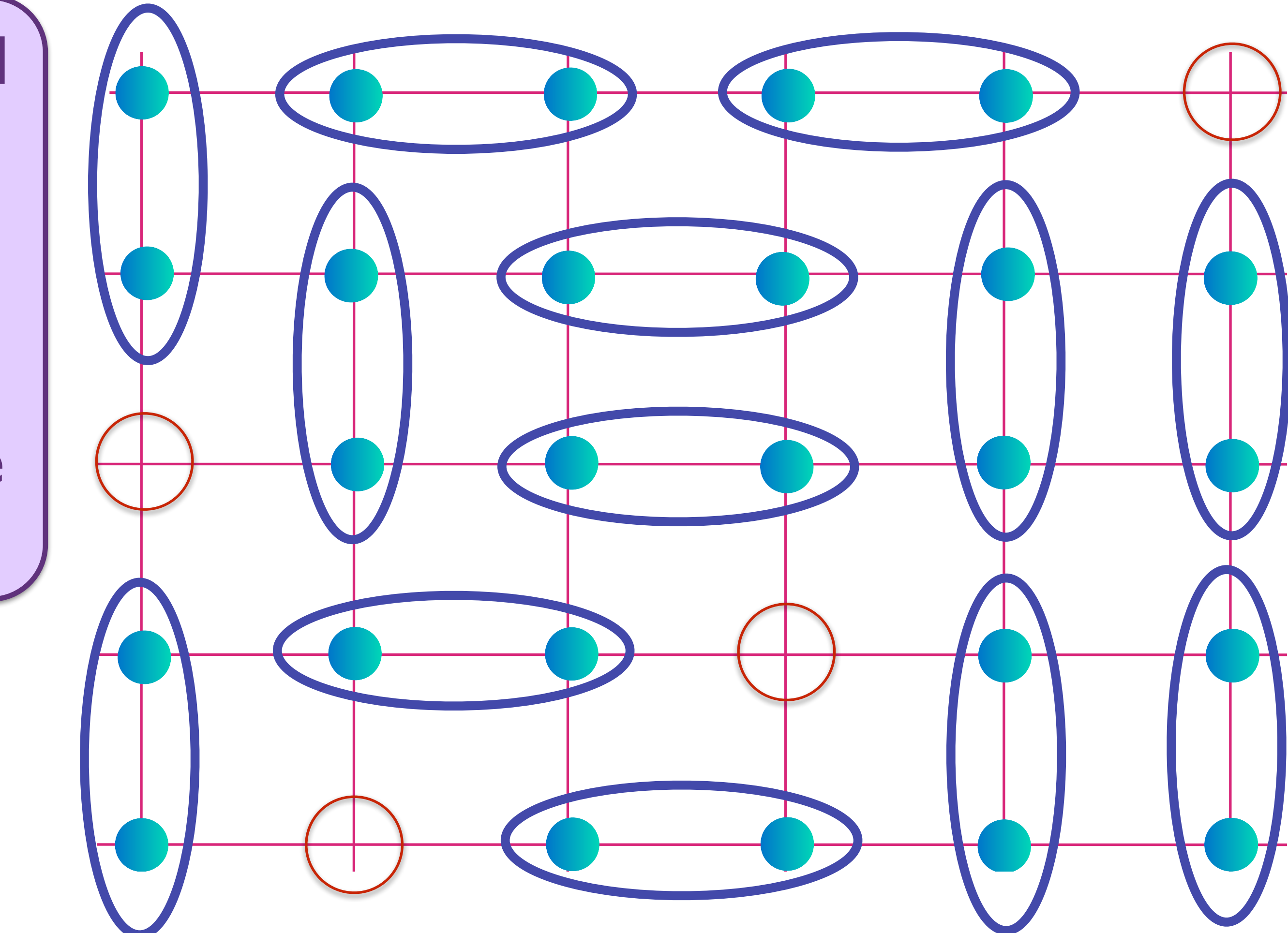
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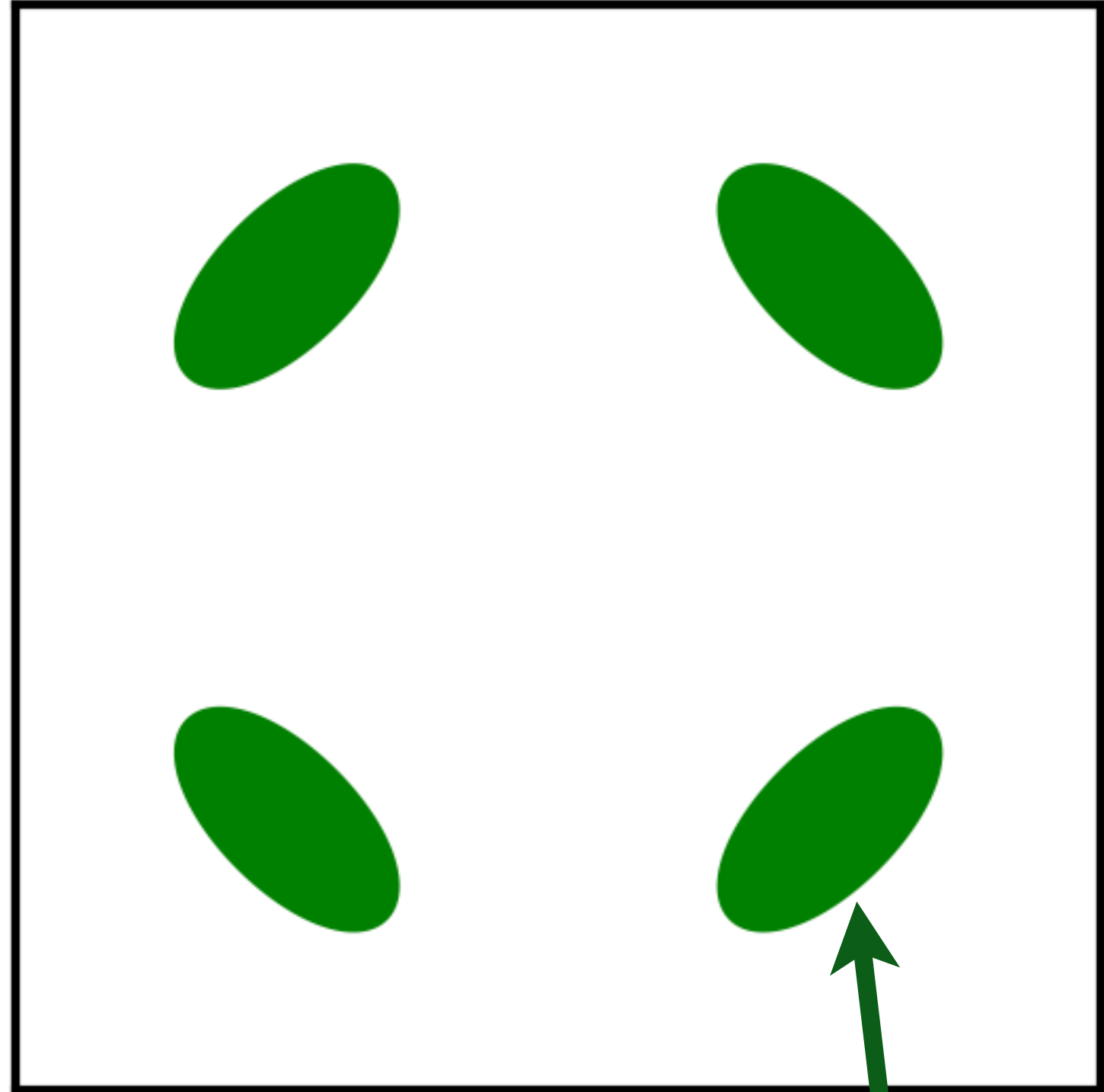
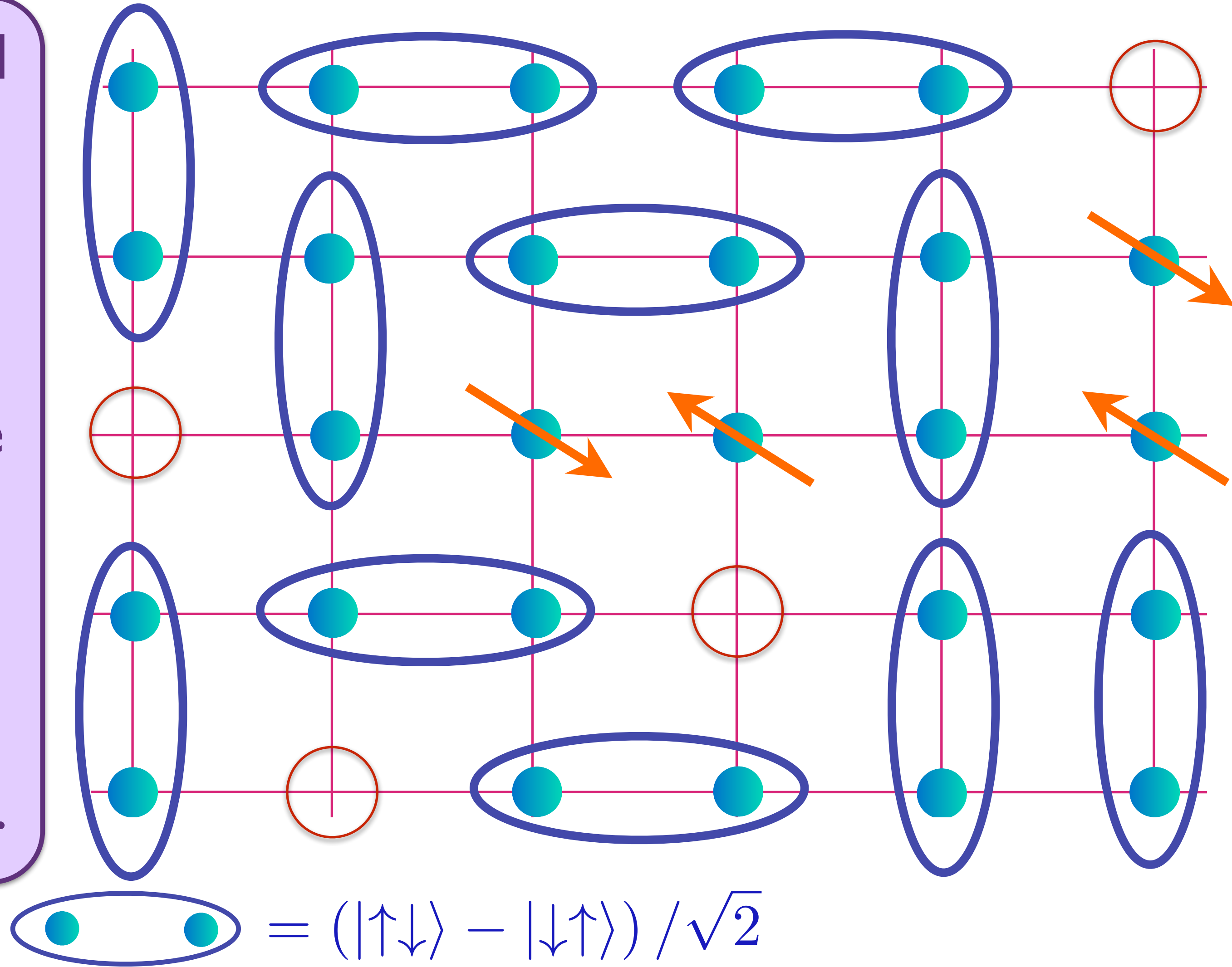
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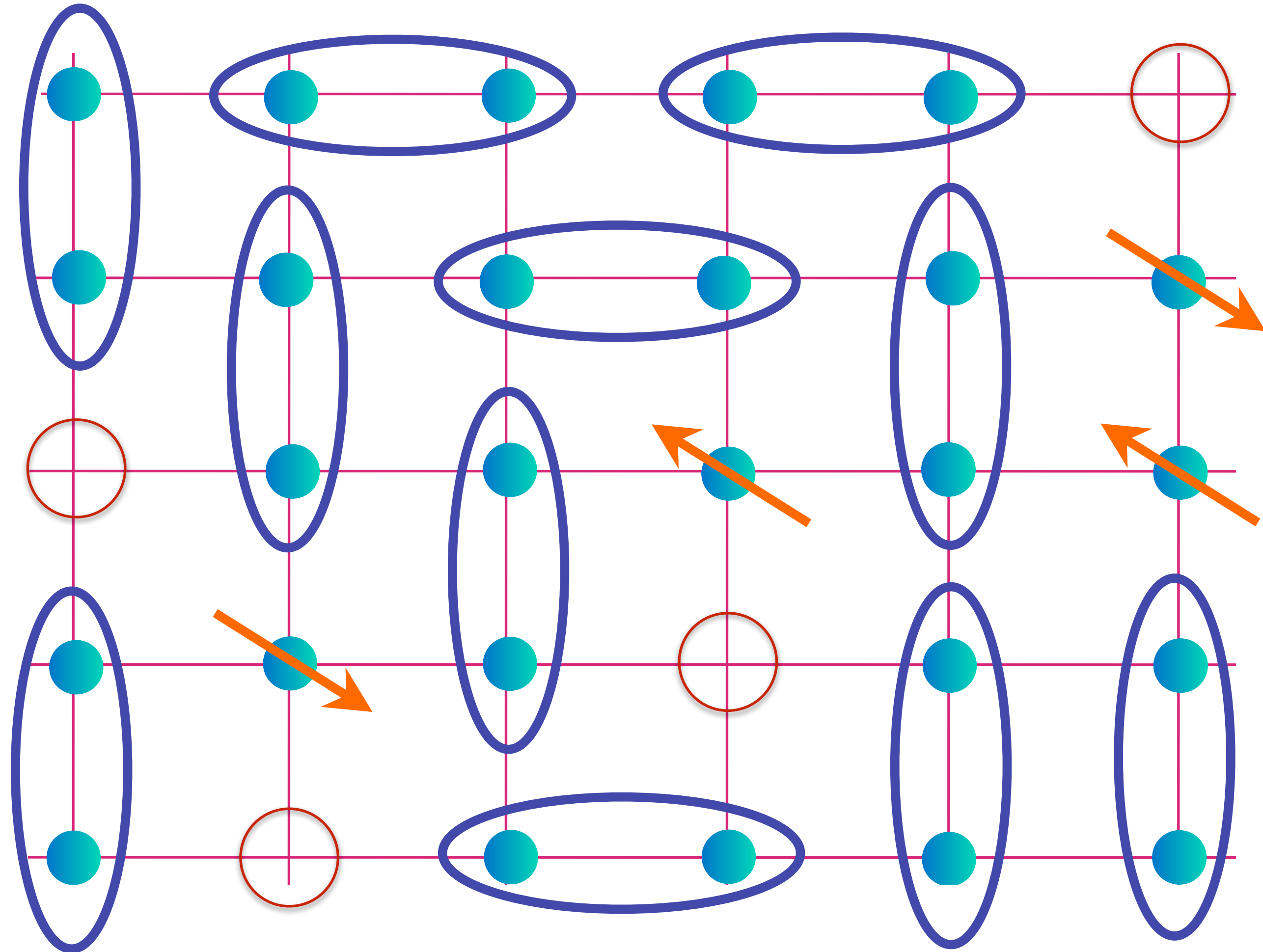
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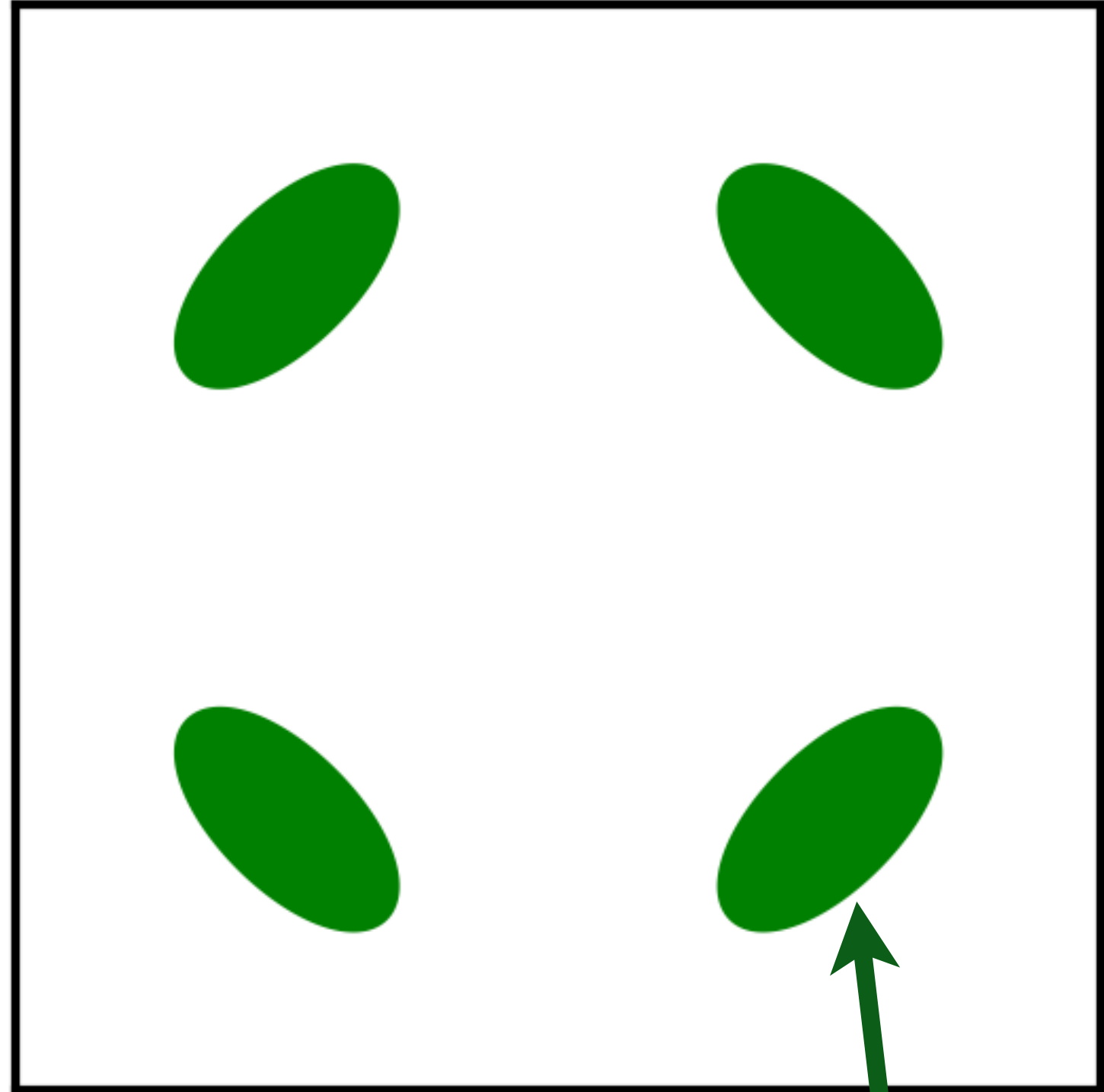
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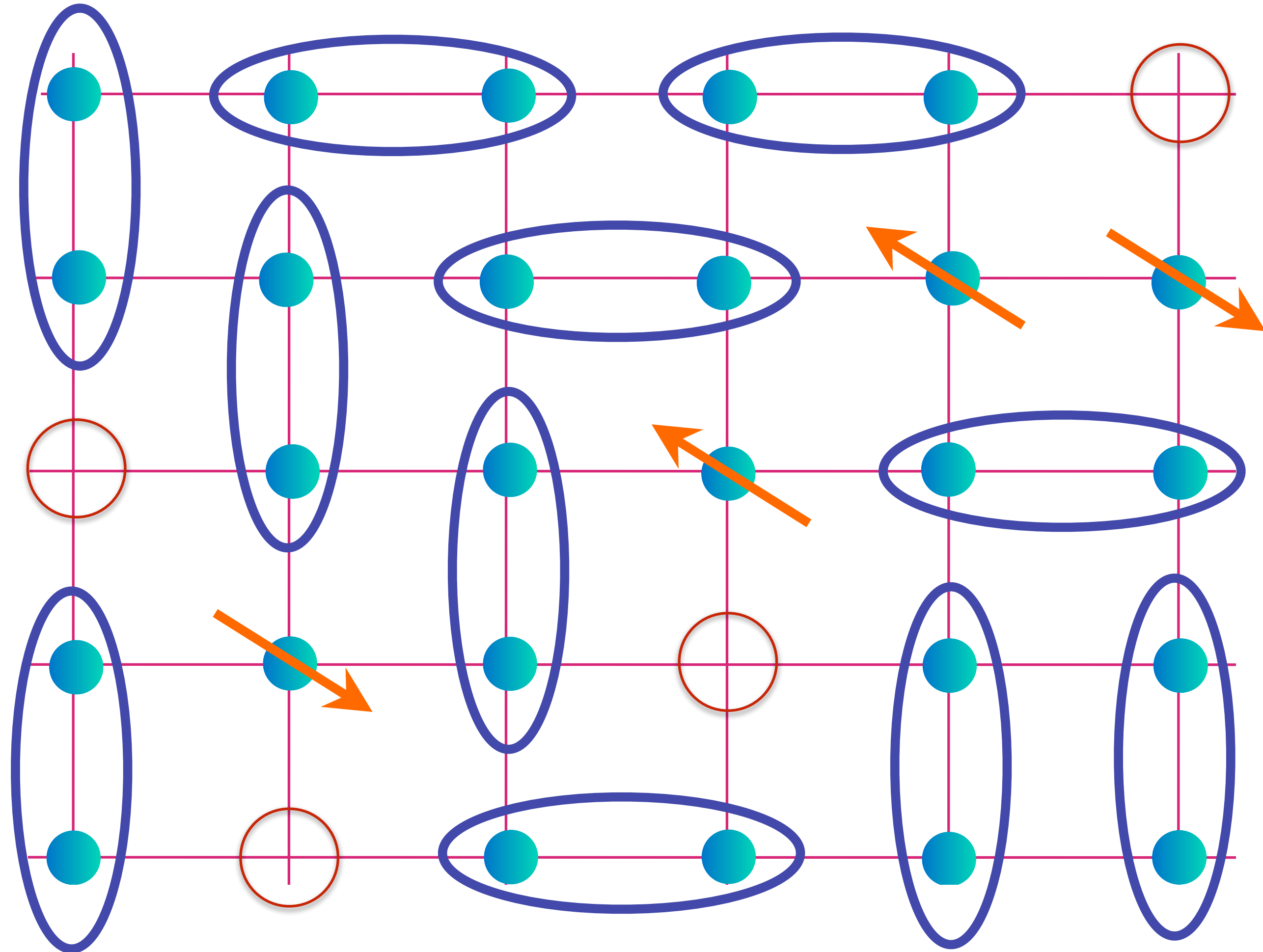
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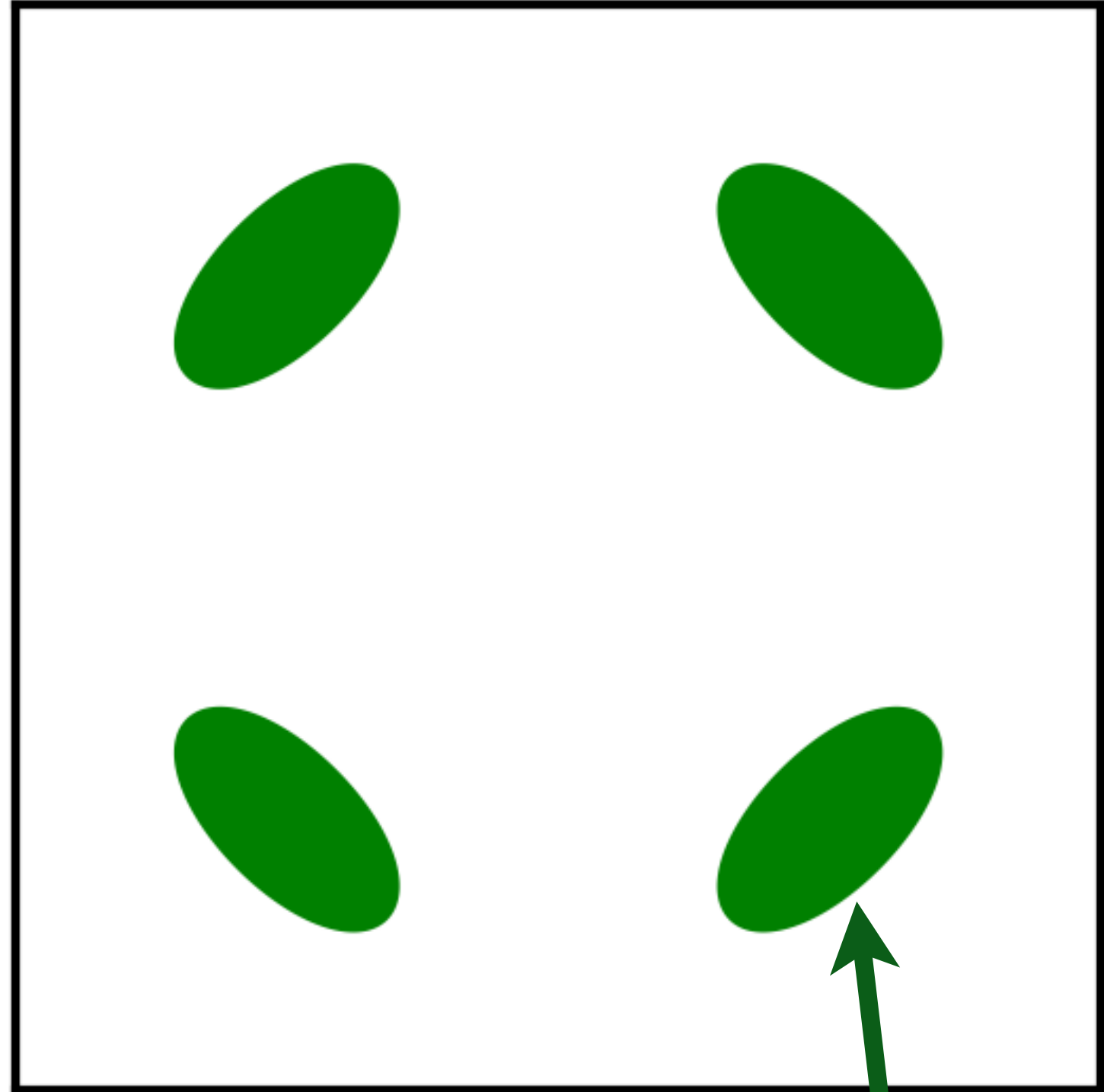
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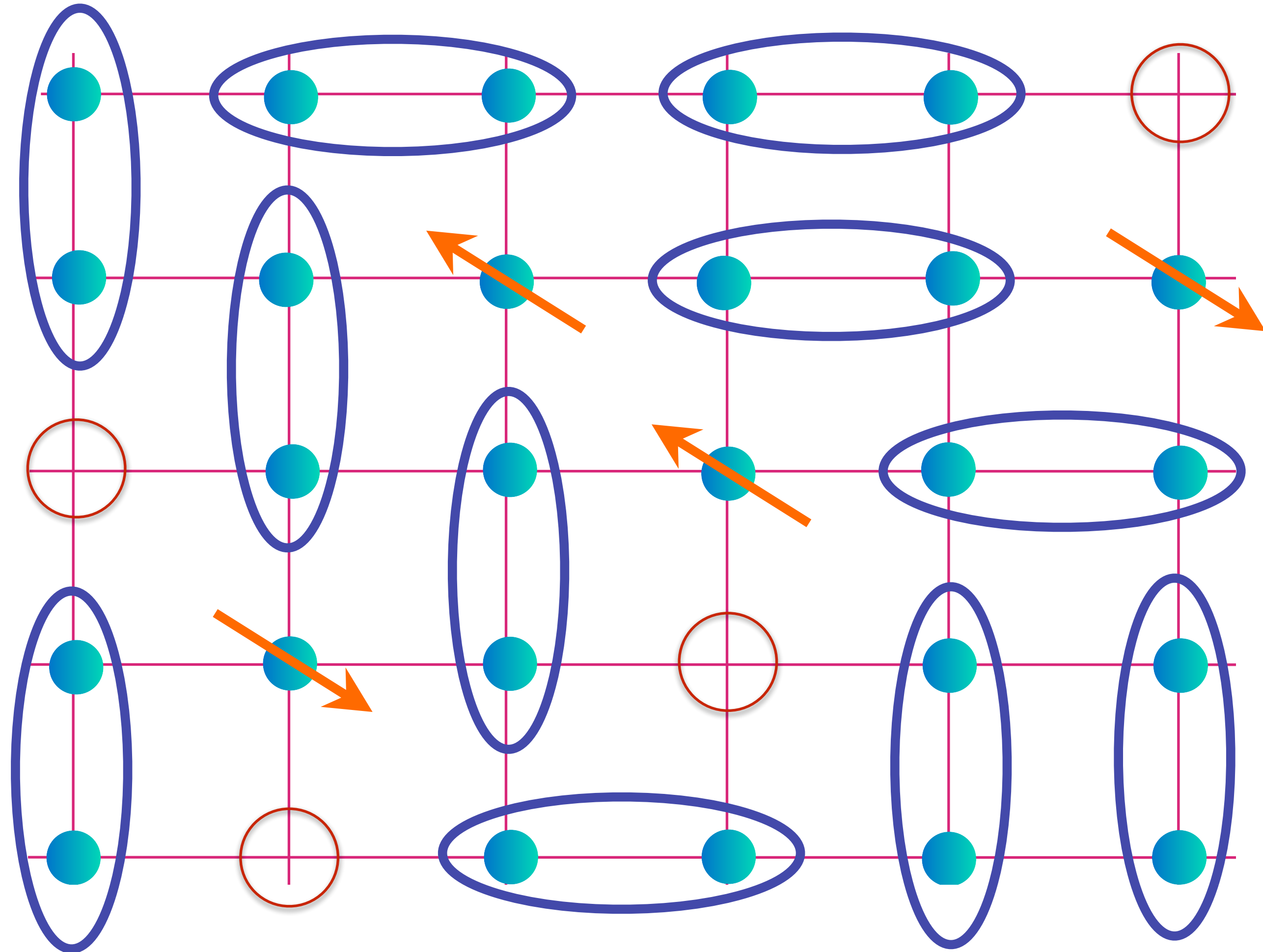
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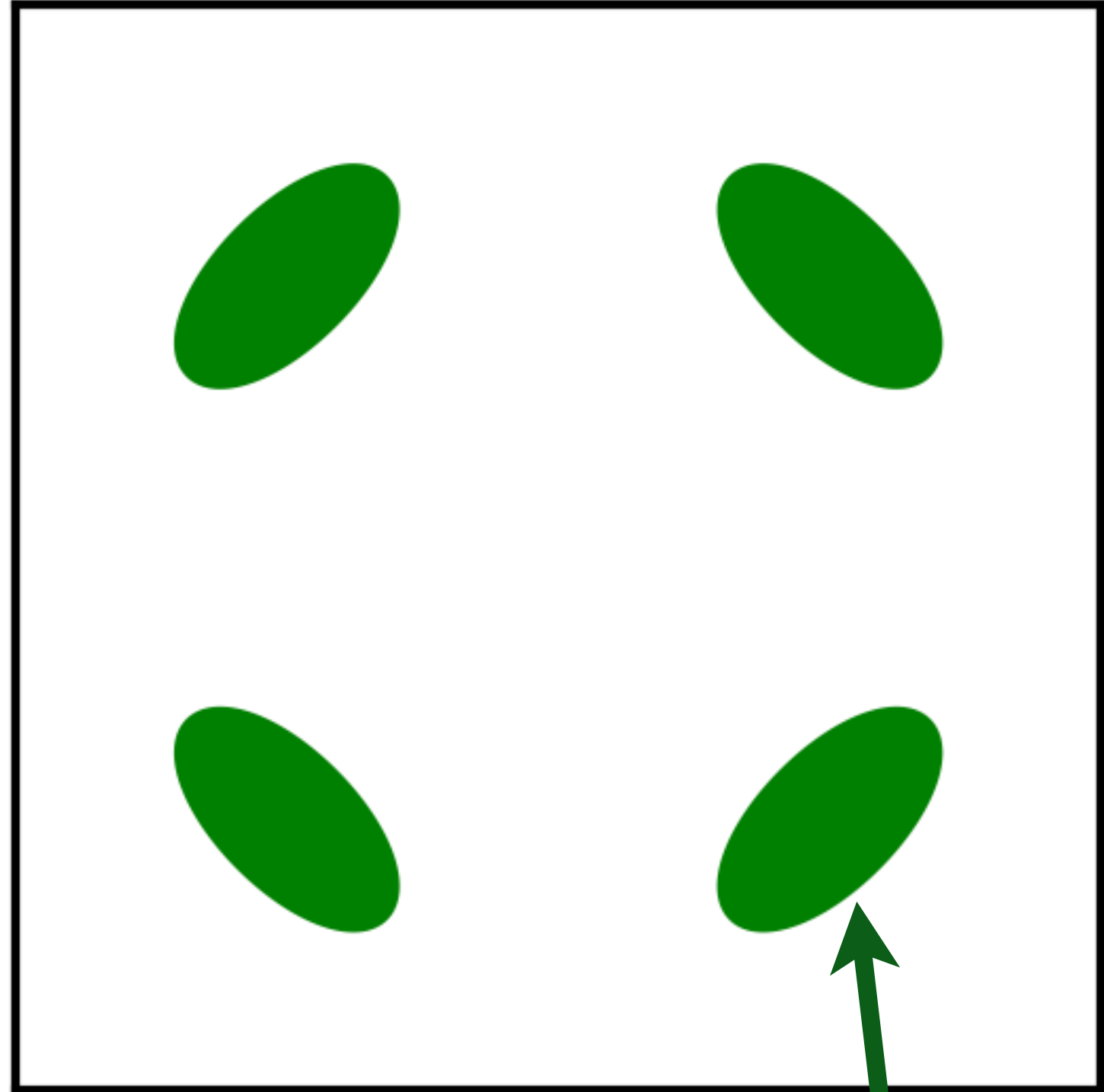
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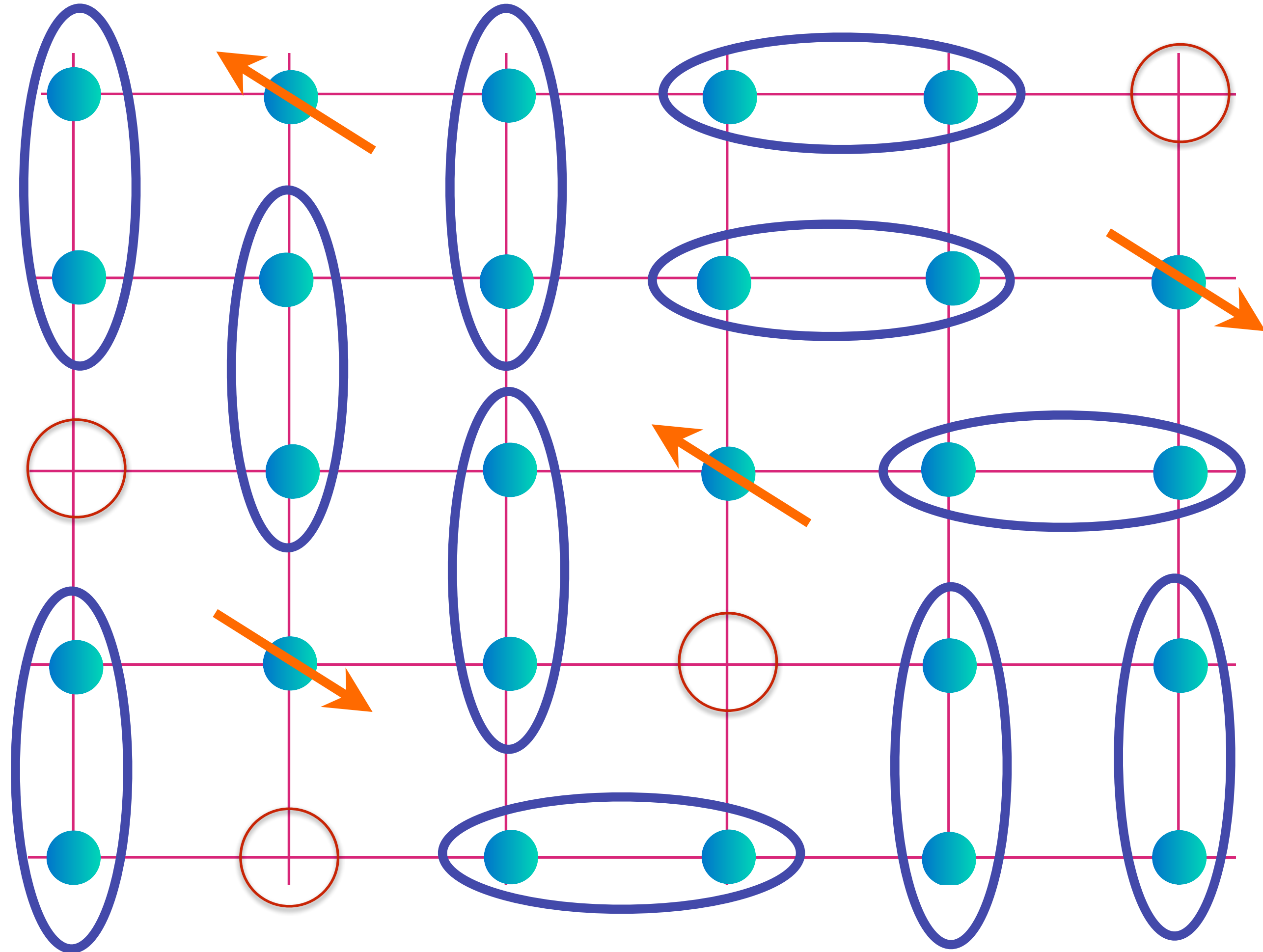
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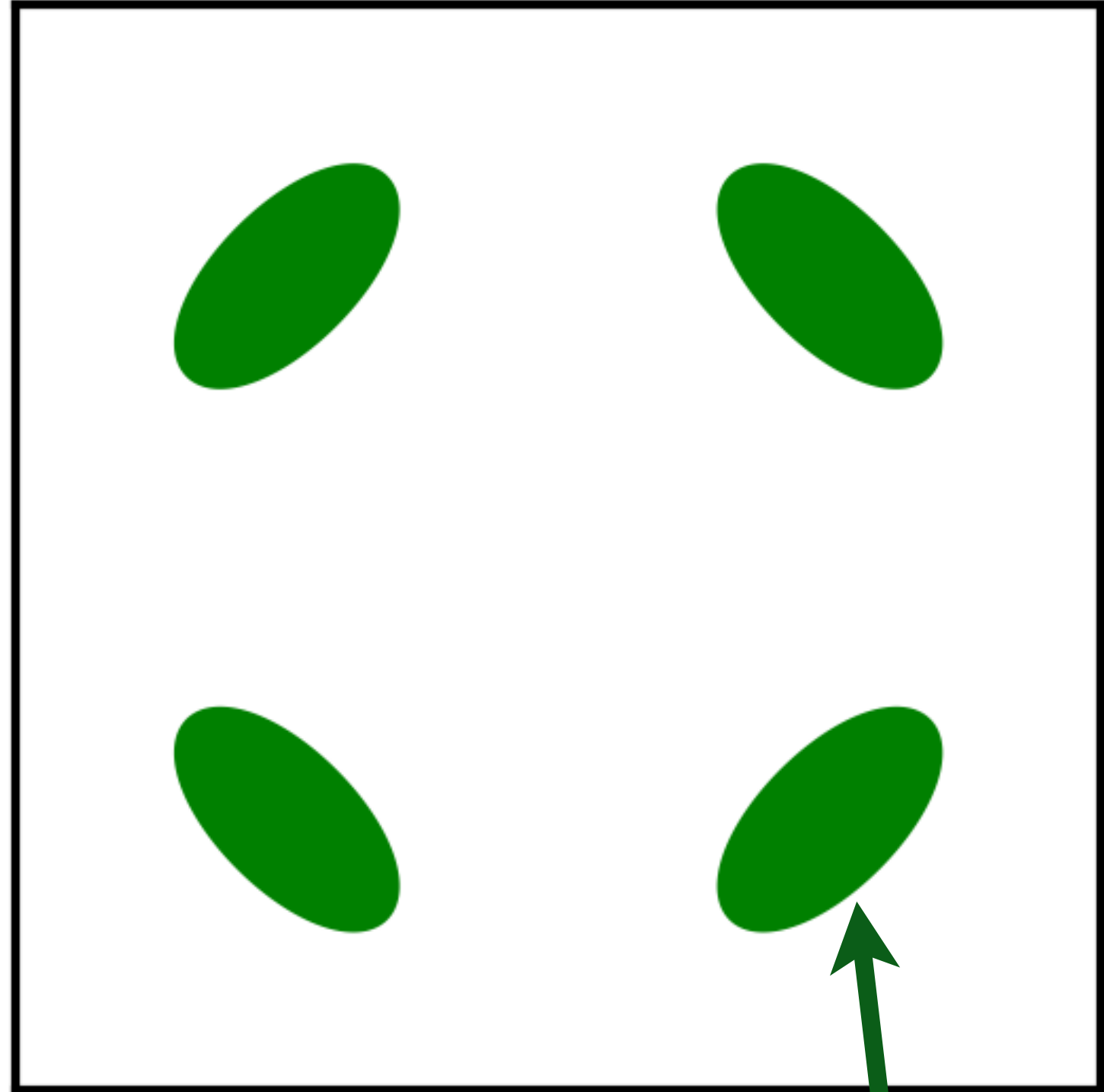
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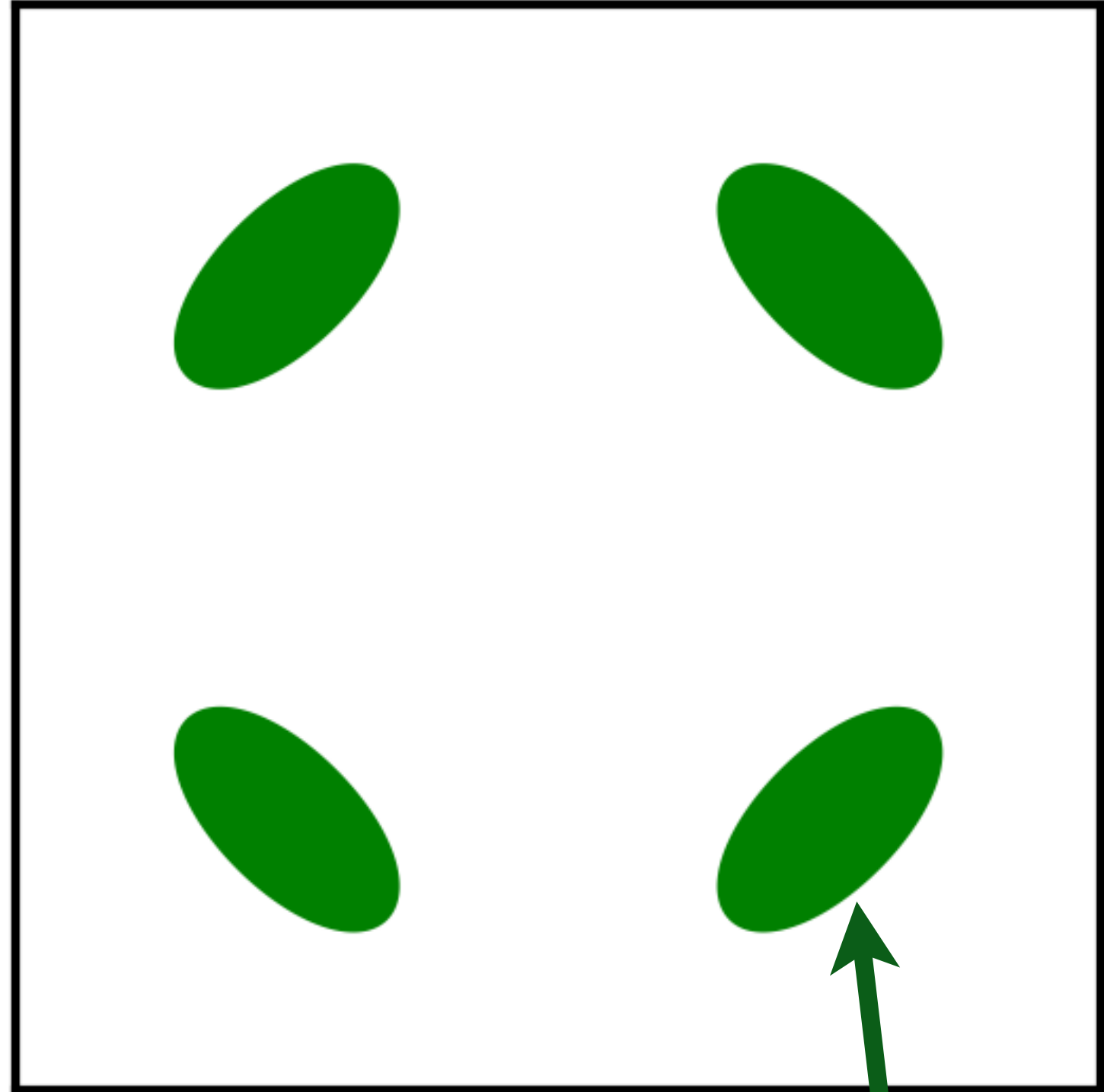
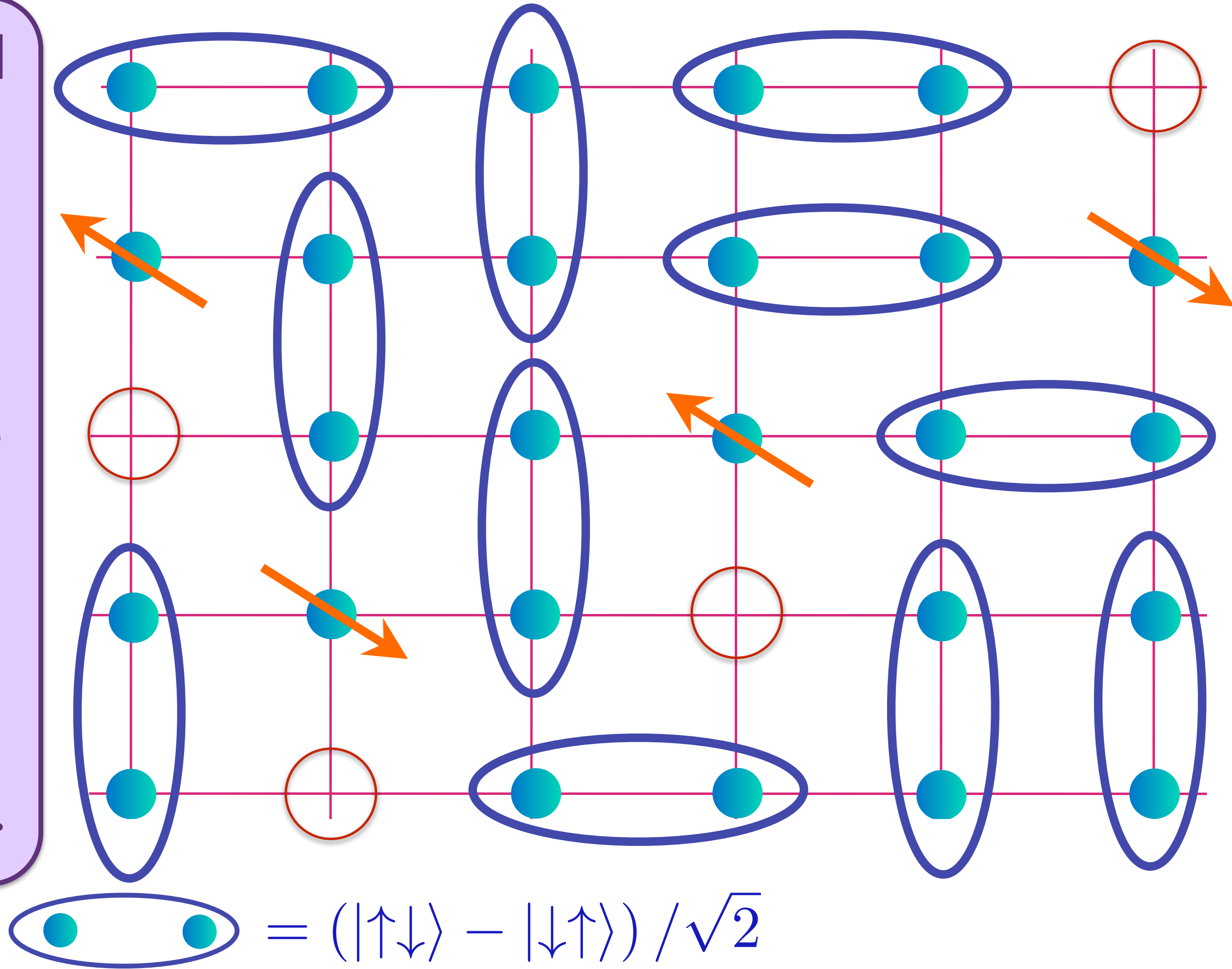
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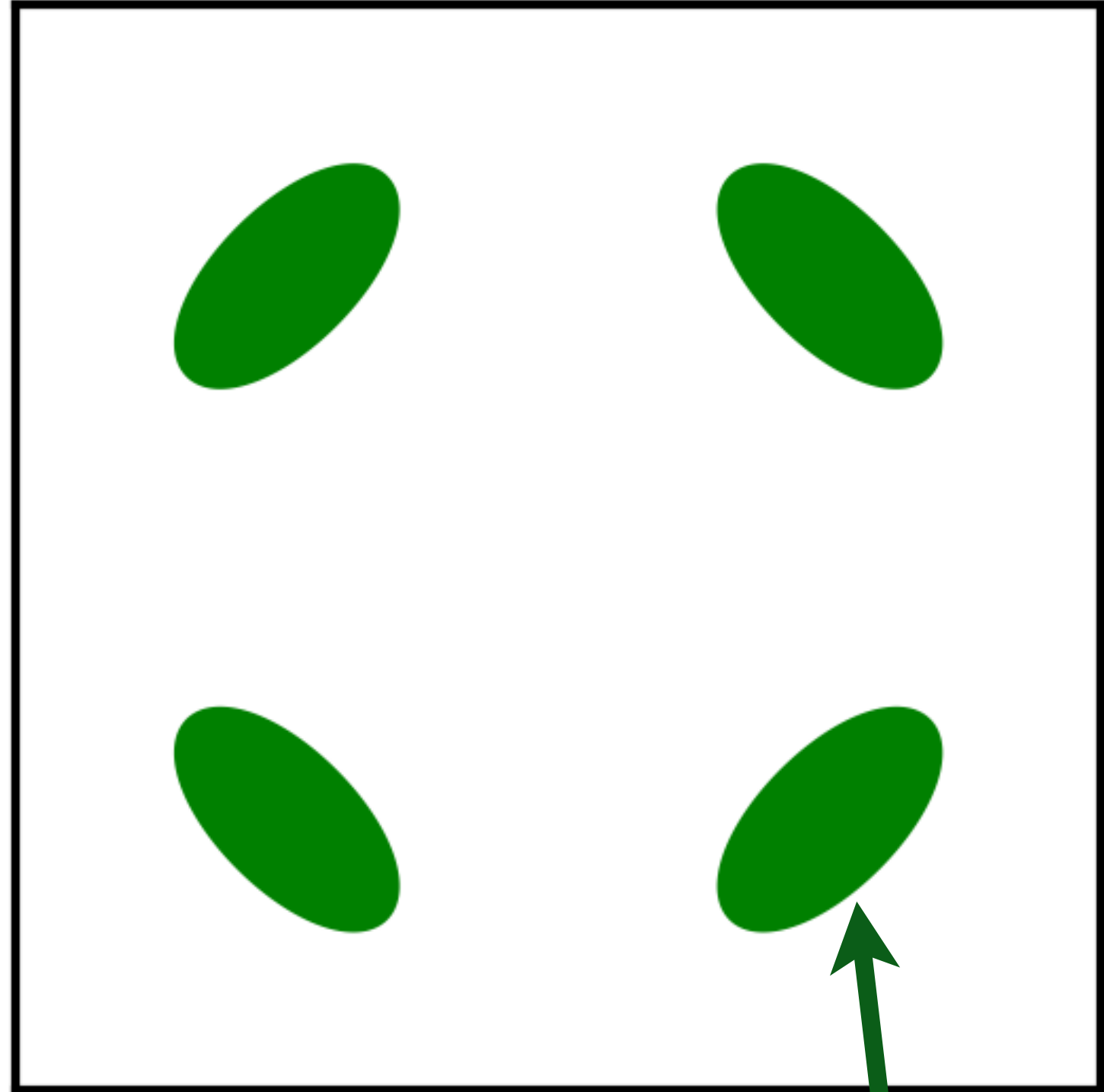
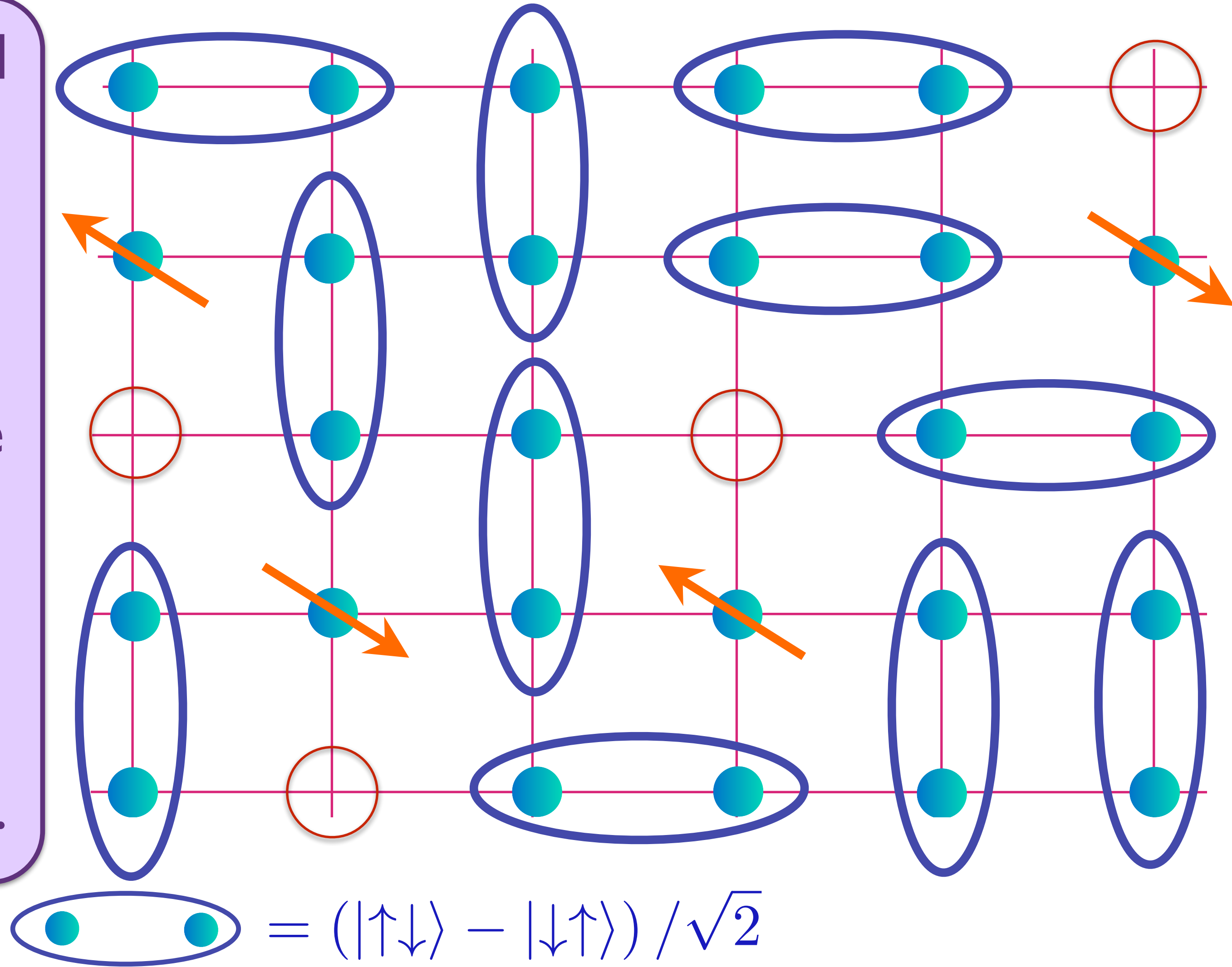
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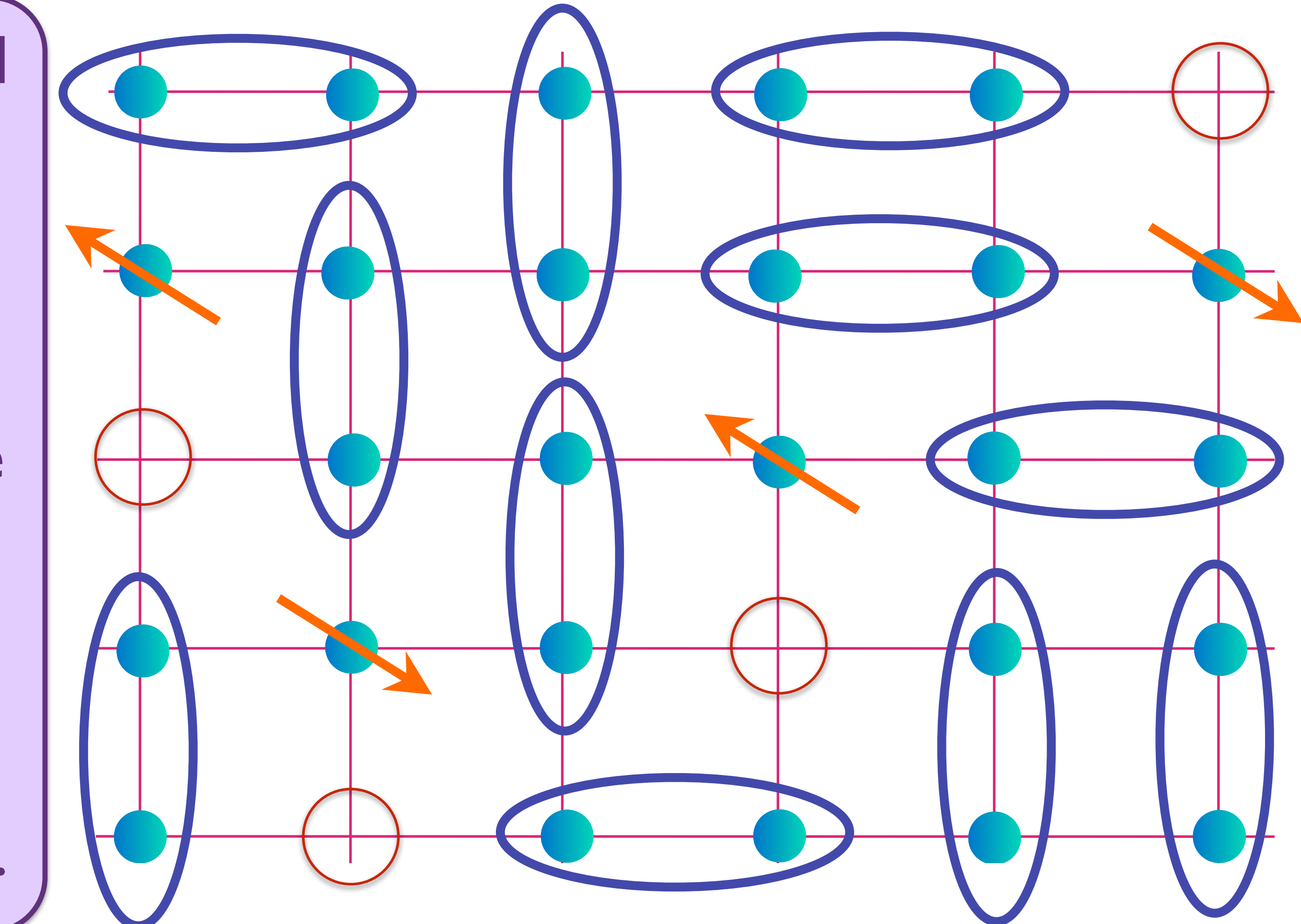
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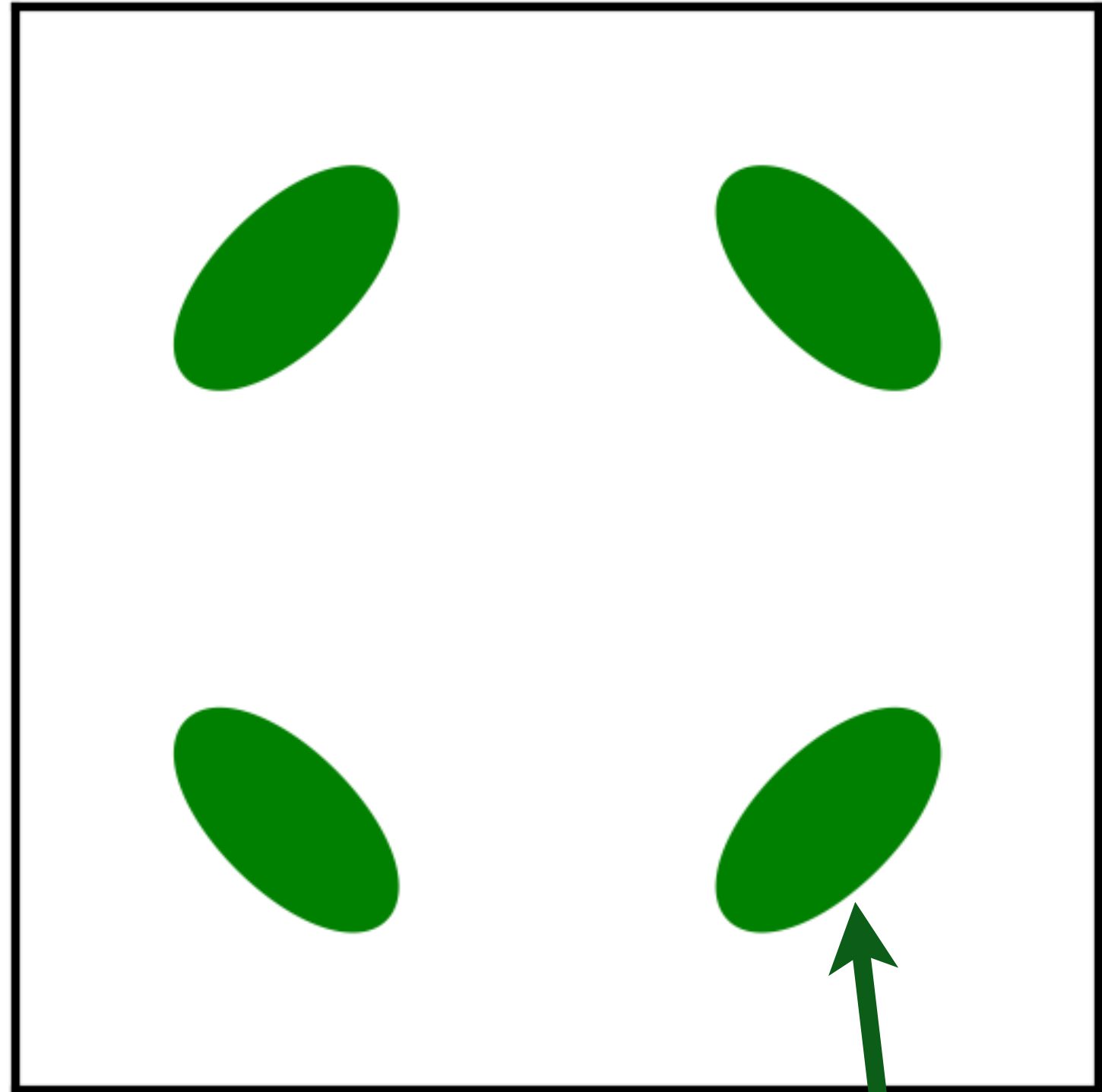
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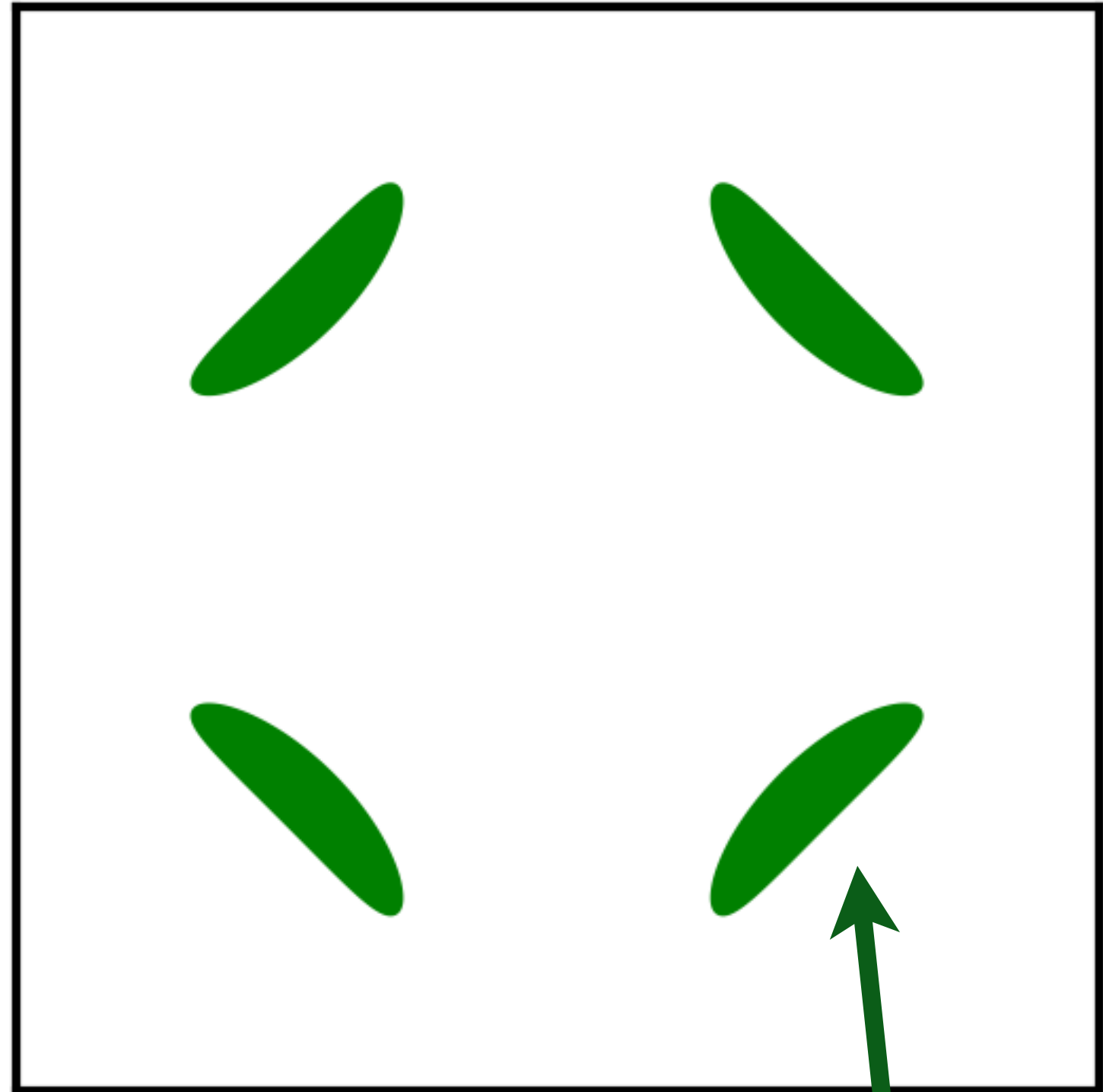
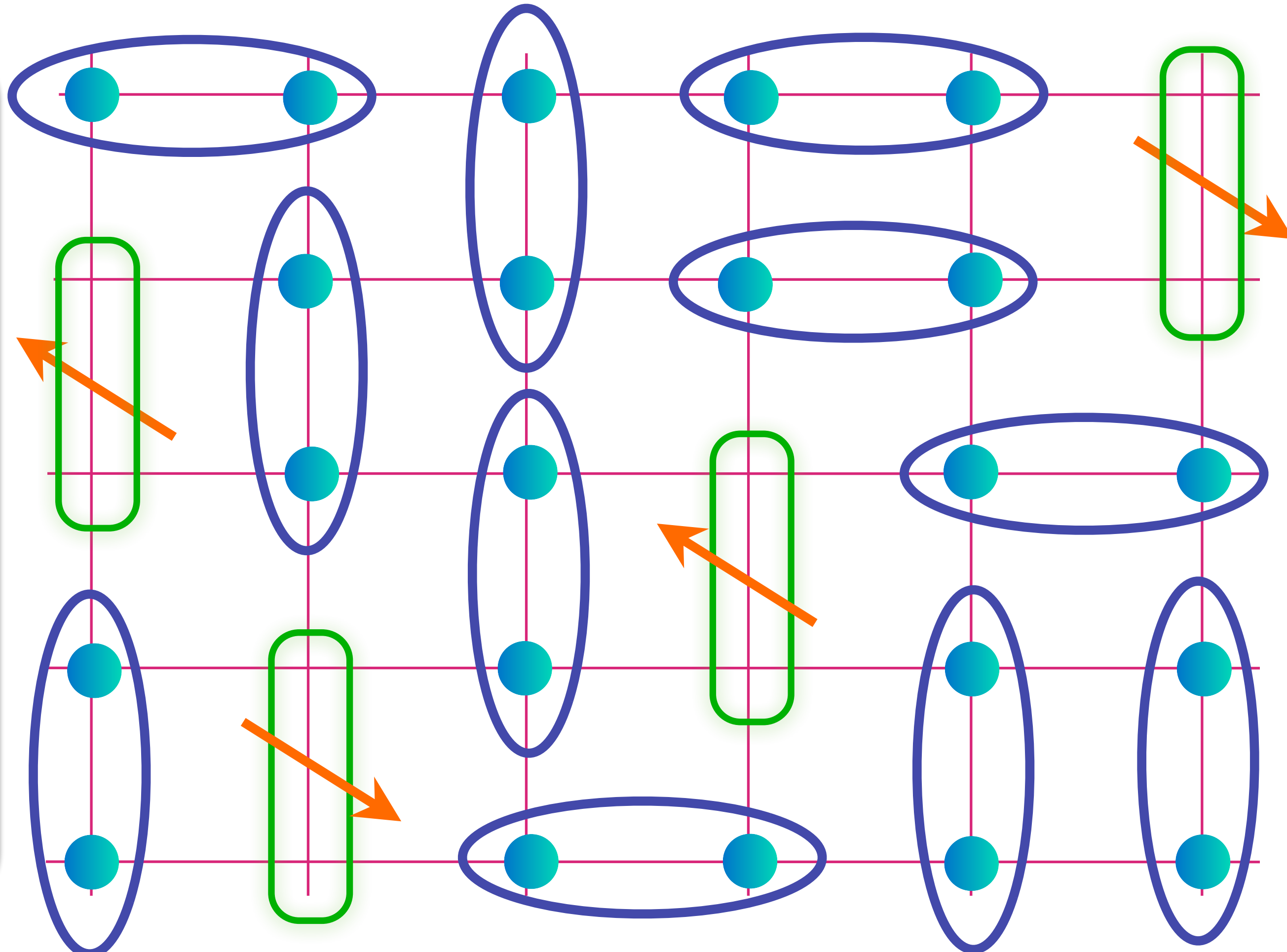
Area  $p/4$

# Doping an insulating antiferromagnet with holes of density $p$

FL\*

Oshikawa anomaly is satisfied by sum of spin liquid (1) and Fermi surface anomalies ( $p$ )

Each green “dimer” is a bound state (a “magnetic polaron”) of a vacancy and a free spin



$$\text{Blue oval} = (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) / \sqrt{2} \quad \text{Green oval} = (|\uparrow\circ\rangle + |\circ\uparrow\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

Area  $p/8$

T. Senthil, S. S., M. Vojta, PRL **90**, 216403 (2003); R. K. Kaul, A. Kolezhuk, M. Levin, S.S., T. Senthil, PRB **75**, 235122 (2007)

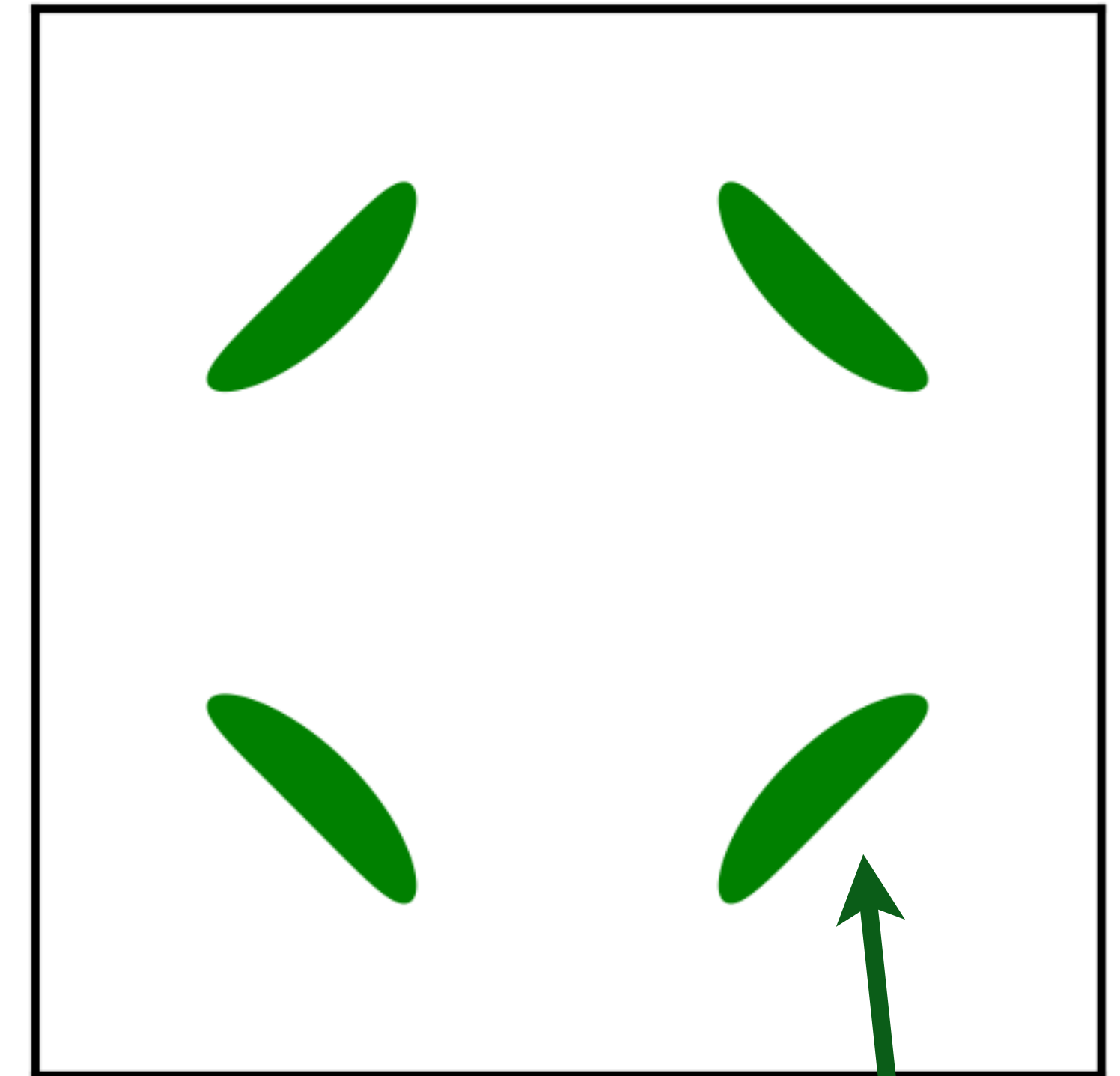
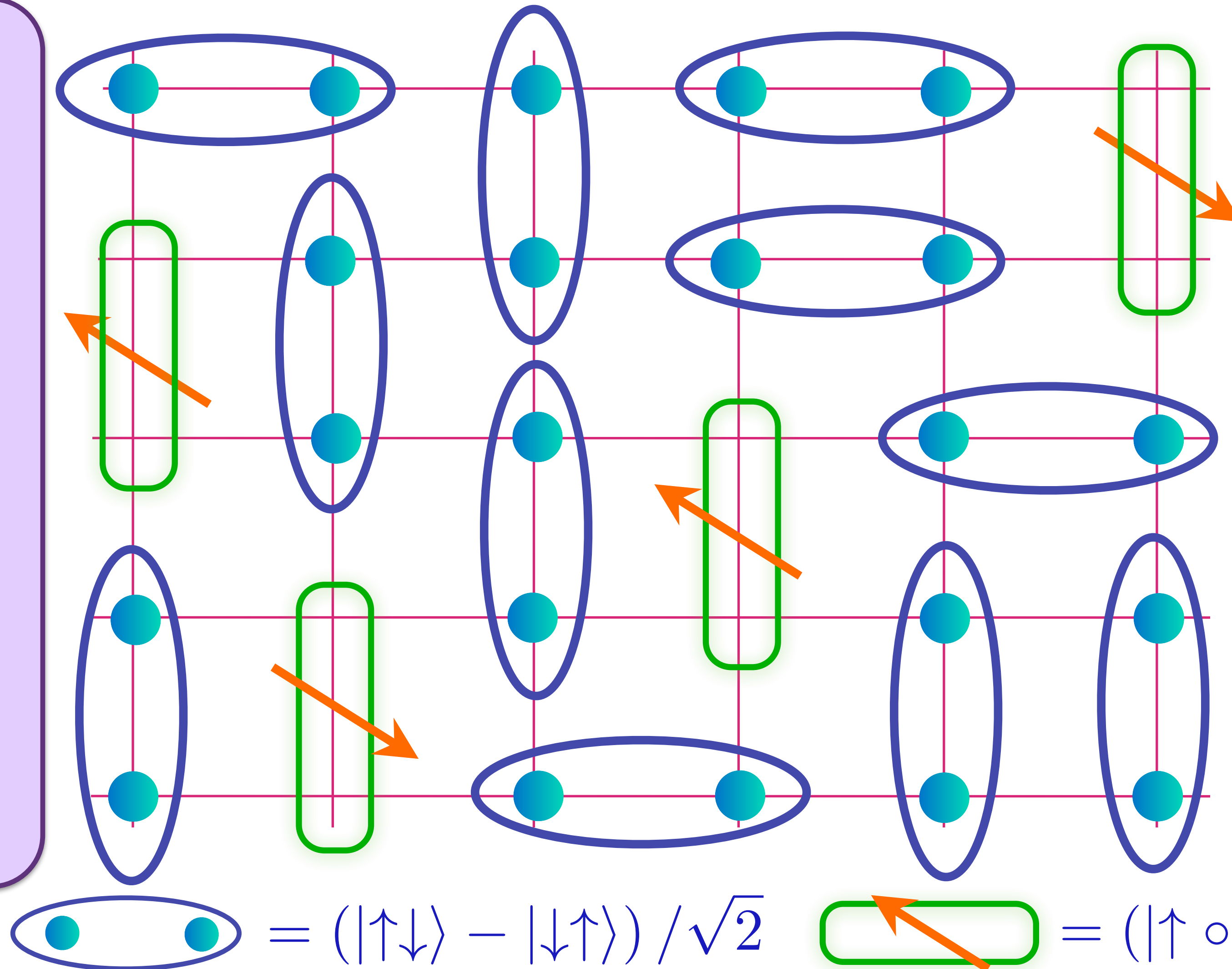
M. Punk, A. Allais, and S. Sachdev, PNAS **112**, 9552 (2015)

# Doping an insulating antiferromagnet with holes of density $p$

FL\*

Oshikawa anomaly is satisfied by sum of spin liquid (1) and Fermi surface anomalies ( $p$ )

Metal with density  $p$  of spin-1/2, charge  $+e$  "holes" (or "magnetic polarons") and charge 0 spin-1/2 "spinons".



Area  $p/8$

T. Senthil, S. S., M. Vojta, PRL **90**, 216403 (2003); R. K. Kaul, A. Kolezhuk, M. Levin, S.S., T. Senthil, PRB **75**, 235122 (2007)

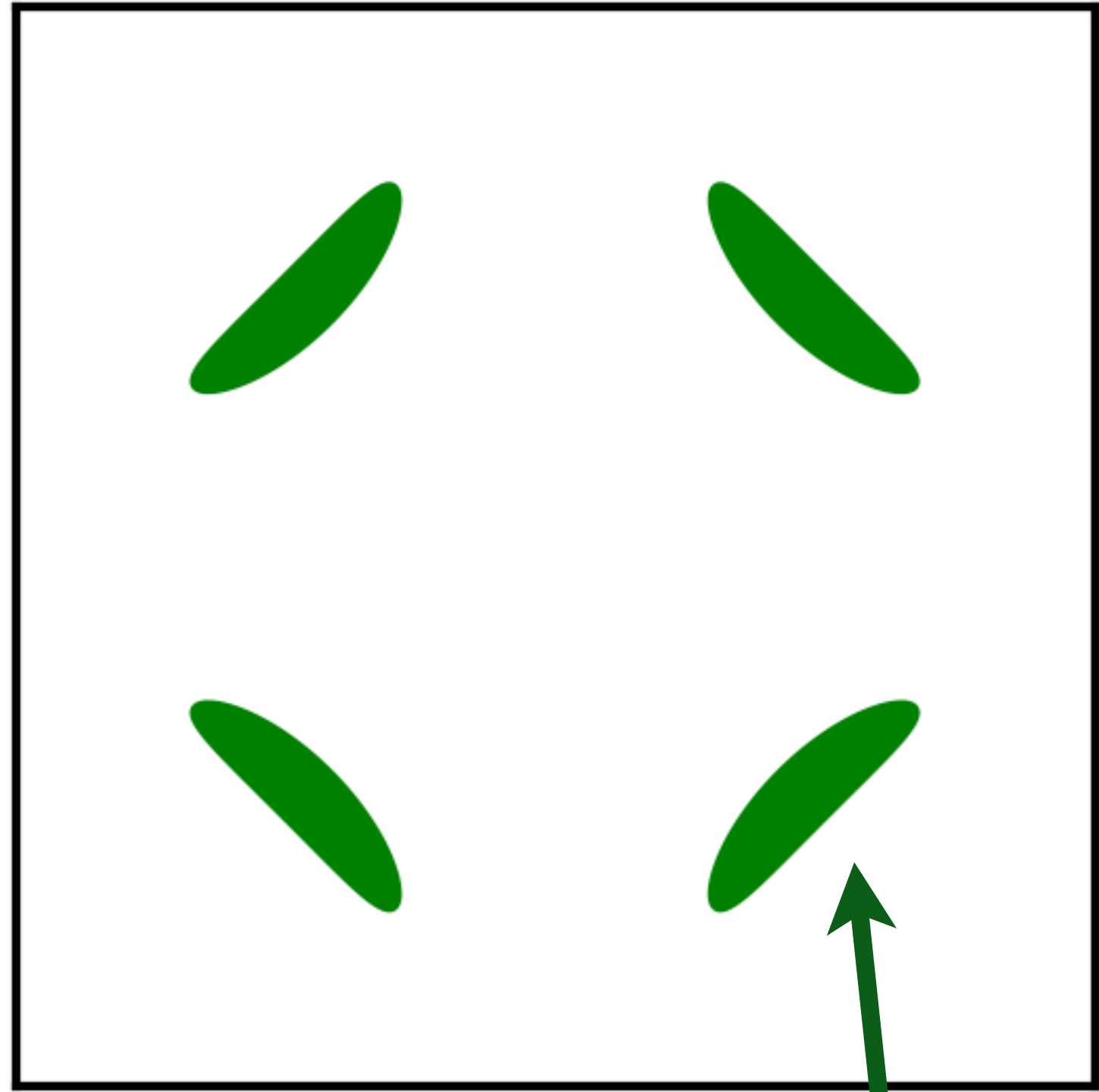
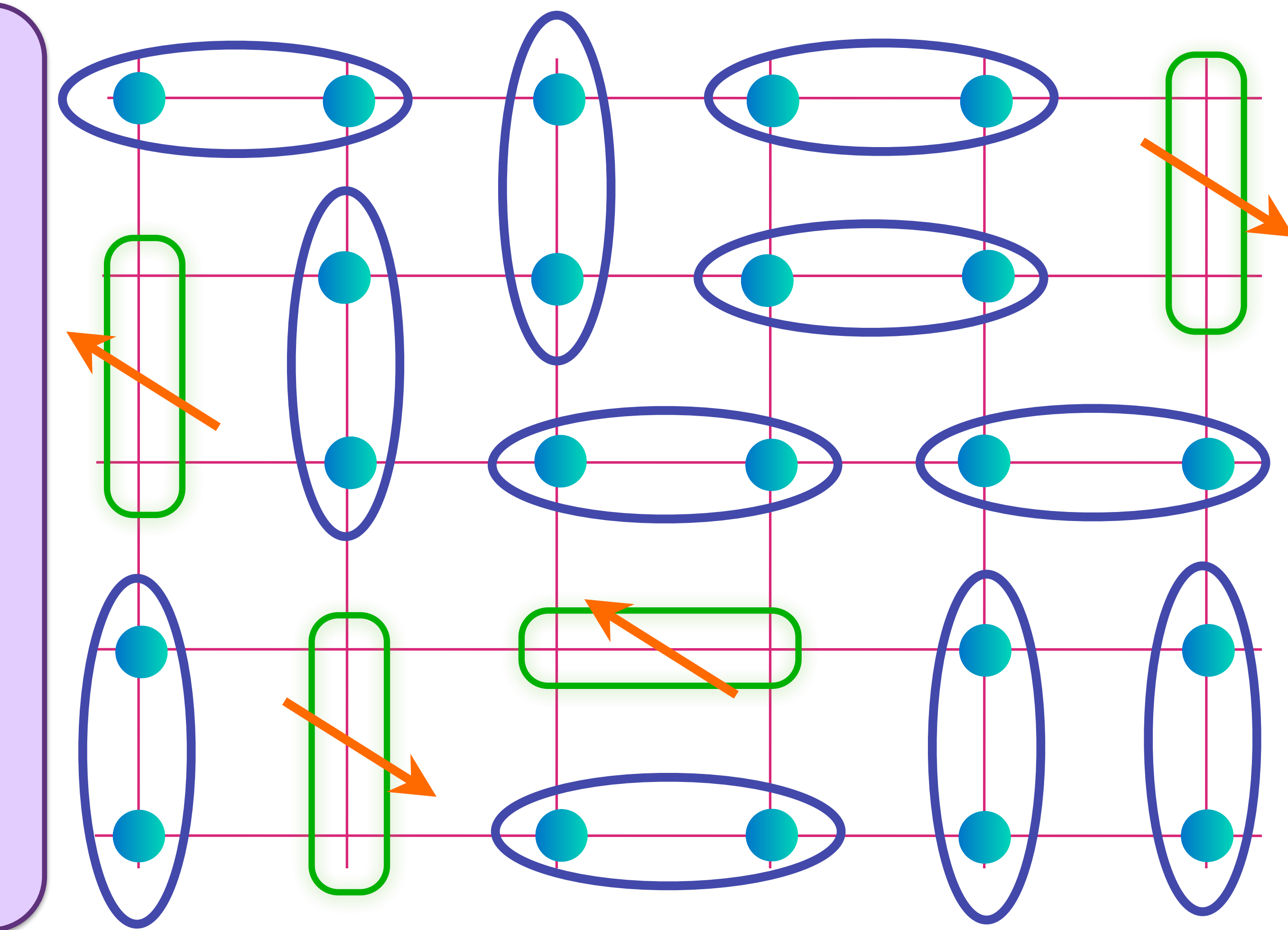
M. Punk, A. Allais, and S. Sachdev, PNAS **112**, 9552 (2015)

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Area  $p/8$

$$\text{Blue oval} = (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) / \sqrt{2} \quad \text{Green rectangle} = (|\uparrow\circ\rangle + |\circ\uparrow\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

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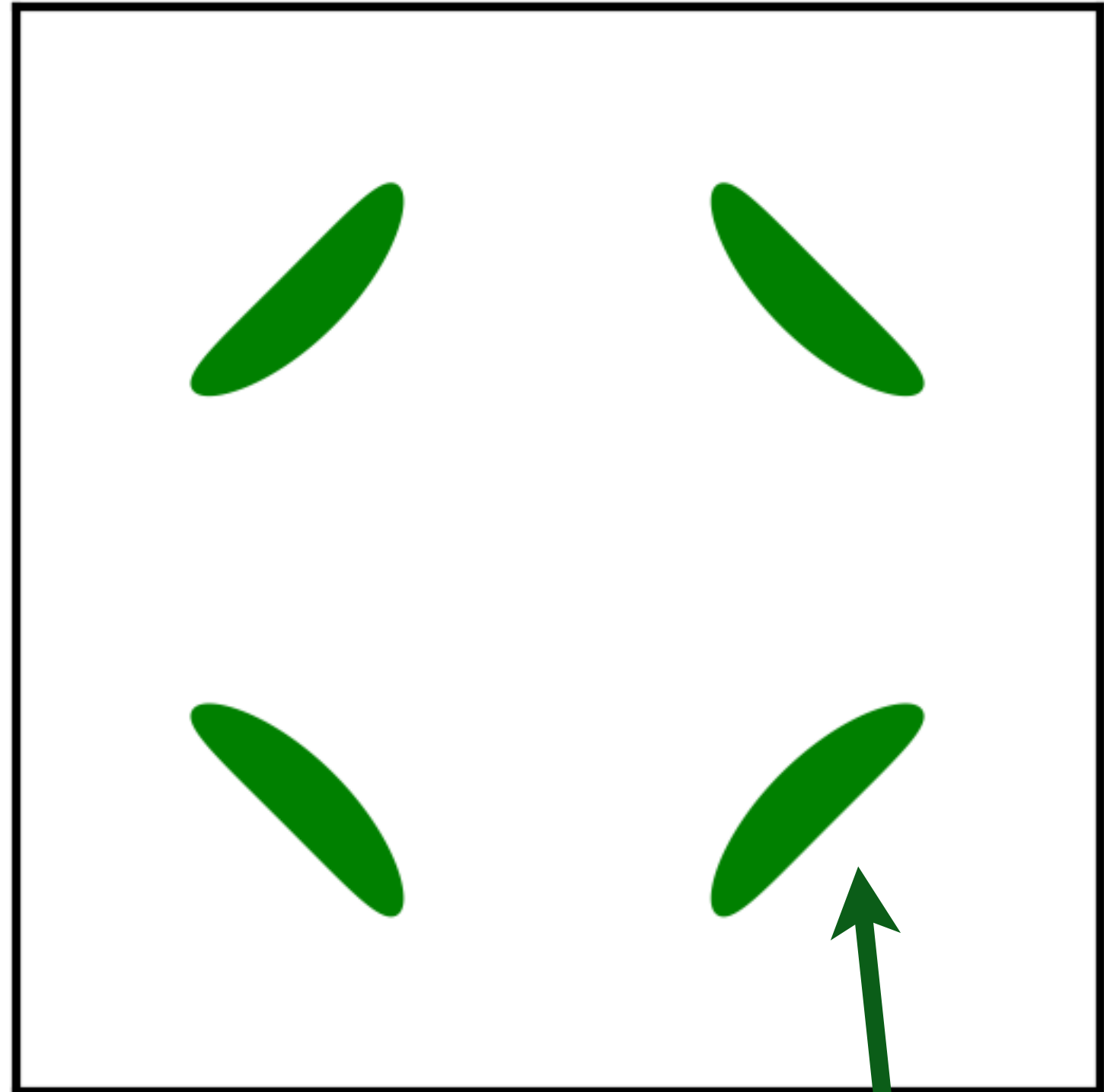
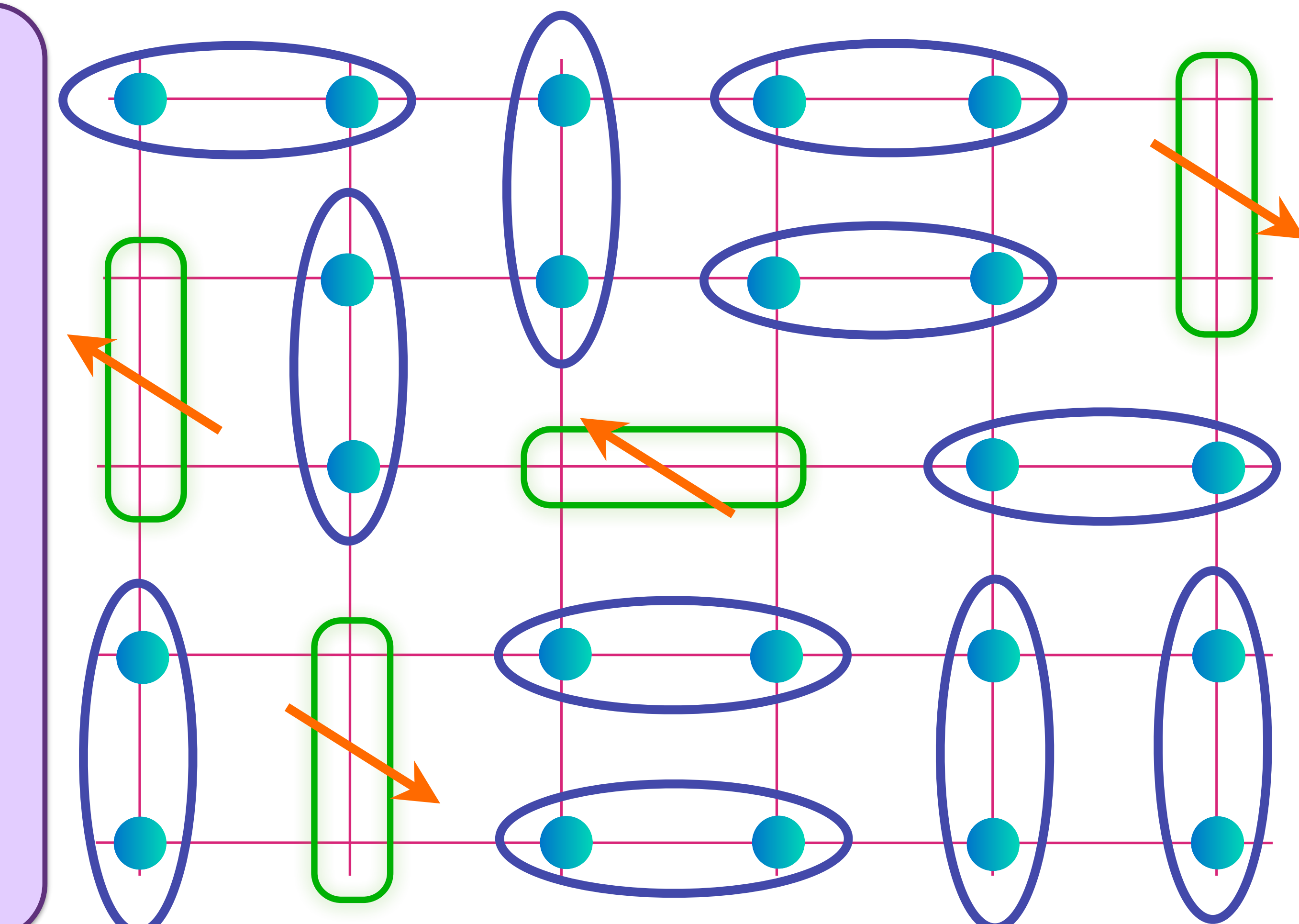
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$$\begin{matrix} \bullet & & \bullet \\ \text{---} & & \text{---} \end{matrix} = \frac{(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)}{\sqrt{2}} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{matrix} = \frac{(|\uparrow\circ\rangle + |\circ\uparrow\rangle)}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Area  $p/8$

T. Senthil, S. S., M. Vojta, PRL **90**, 216403 (2003); R. K. Kaul, A. Kolezhuk, M. Levin, S.S., T. Senthil, PRB **75**, 235122 (2007)

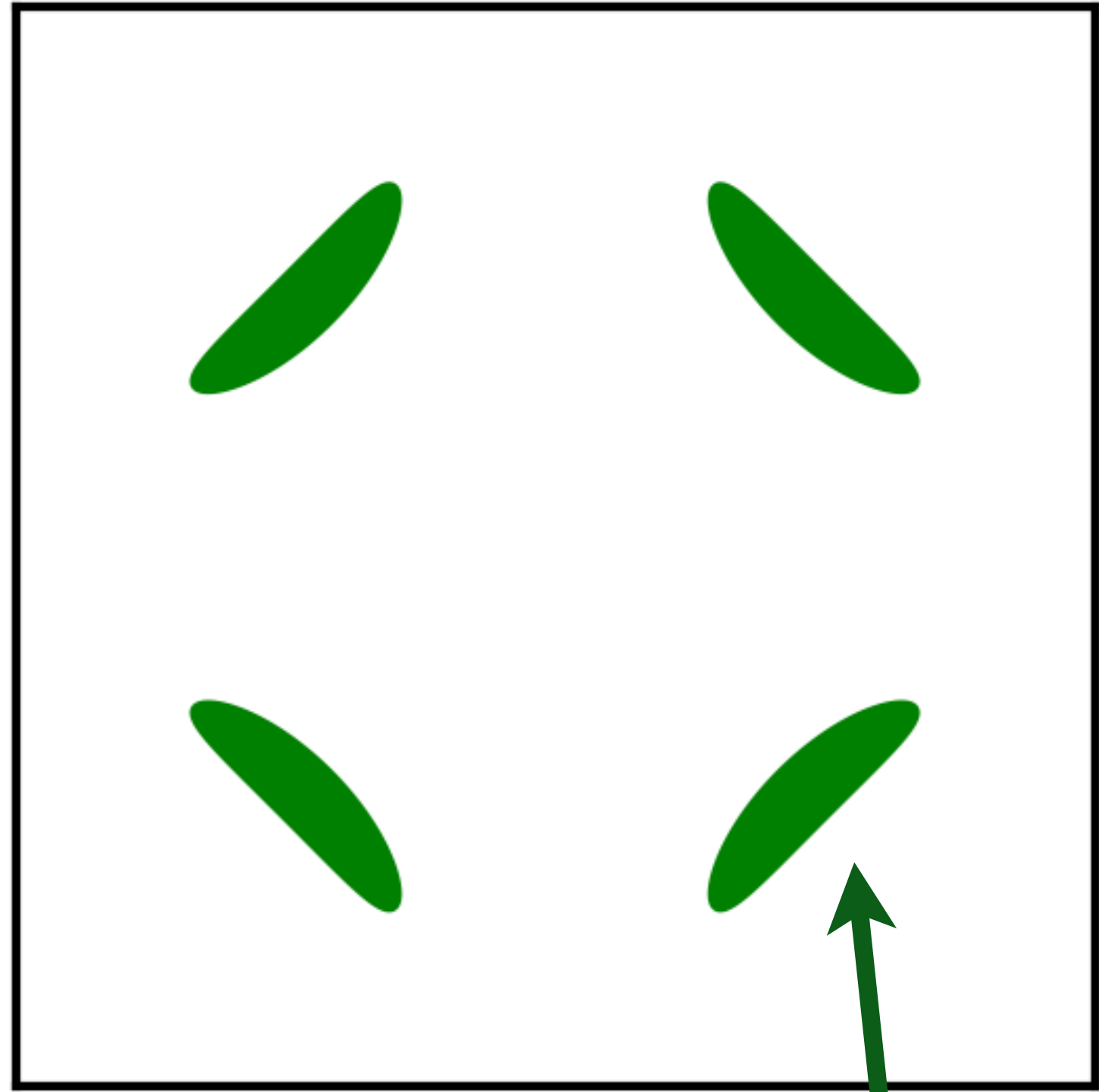
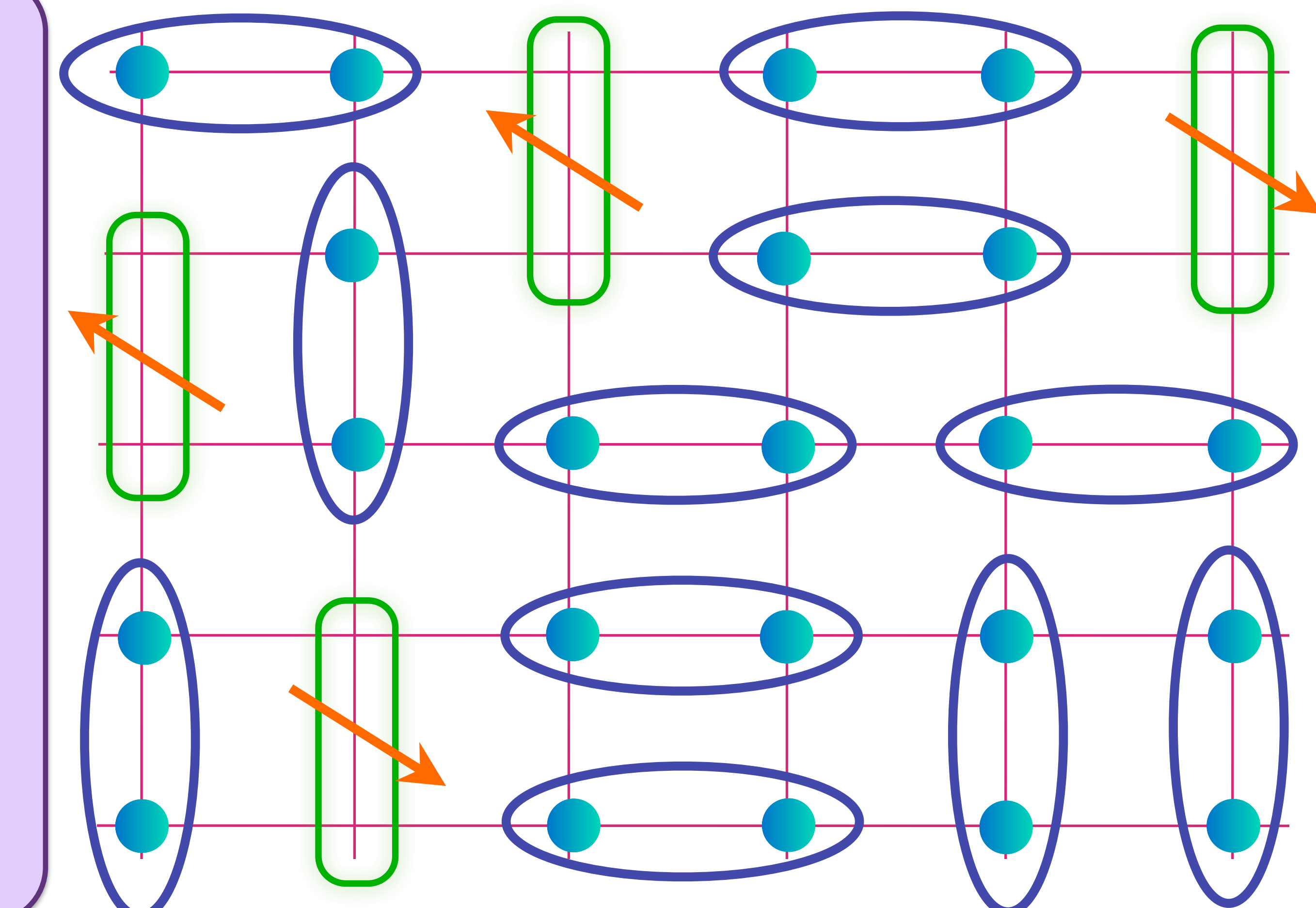
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Metal with density  $p$  of spin-1/2, charge  $+e$  "holes" (or "magnetic polarons") and charge 0 spin-1/2 "spinons".



$$\text{Spinon} = (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) / \sqrt{2} \quad \text{Hole} = (|\uparrow\circ\rangle + |\circ\uparrow\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

Area  $p/8$

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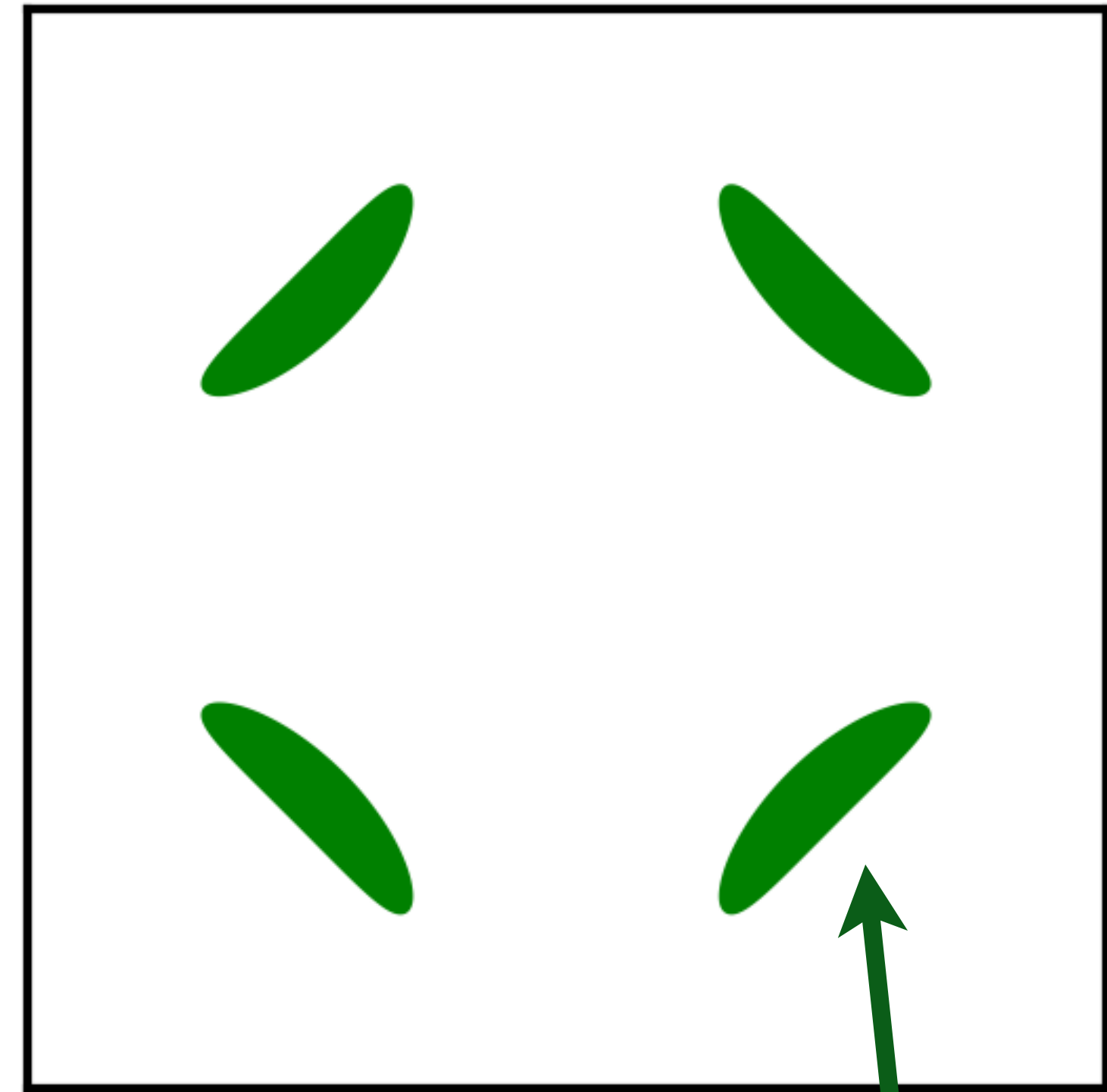
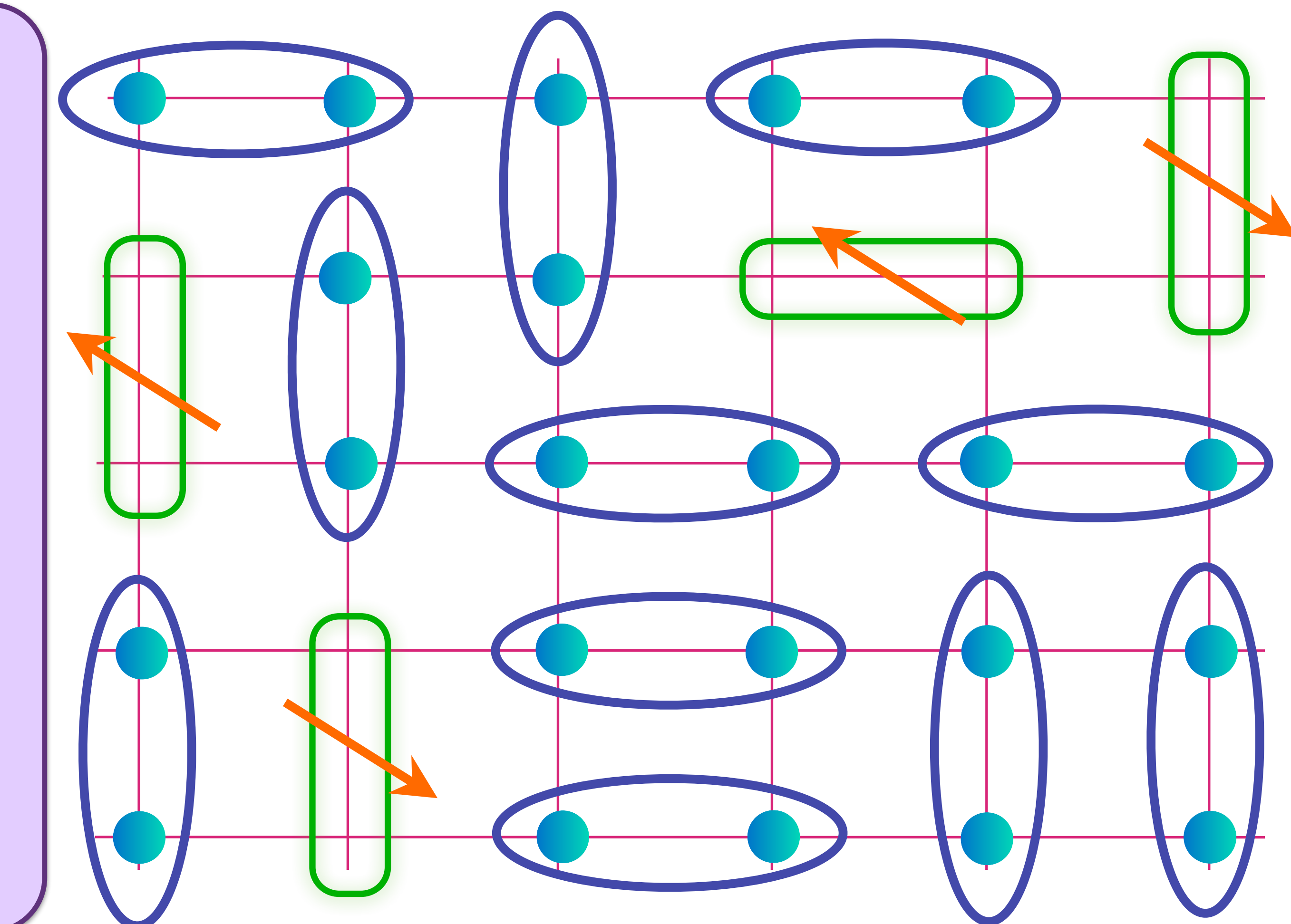
M. Punk, A. Allais, and S. Sachdev, PNAS **112**, 9552 (2015)

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Area  $p/8$

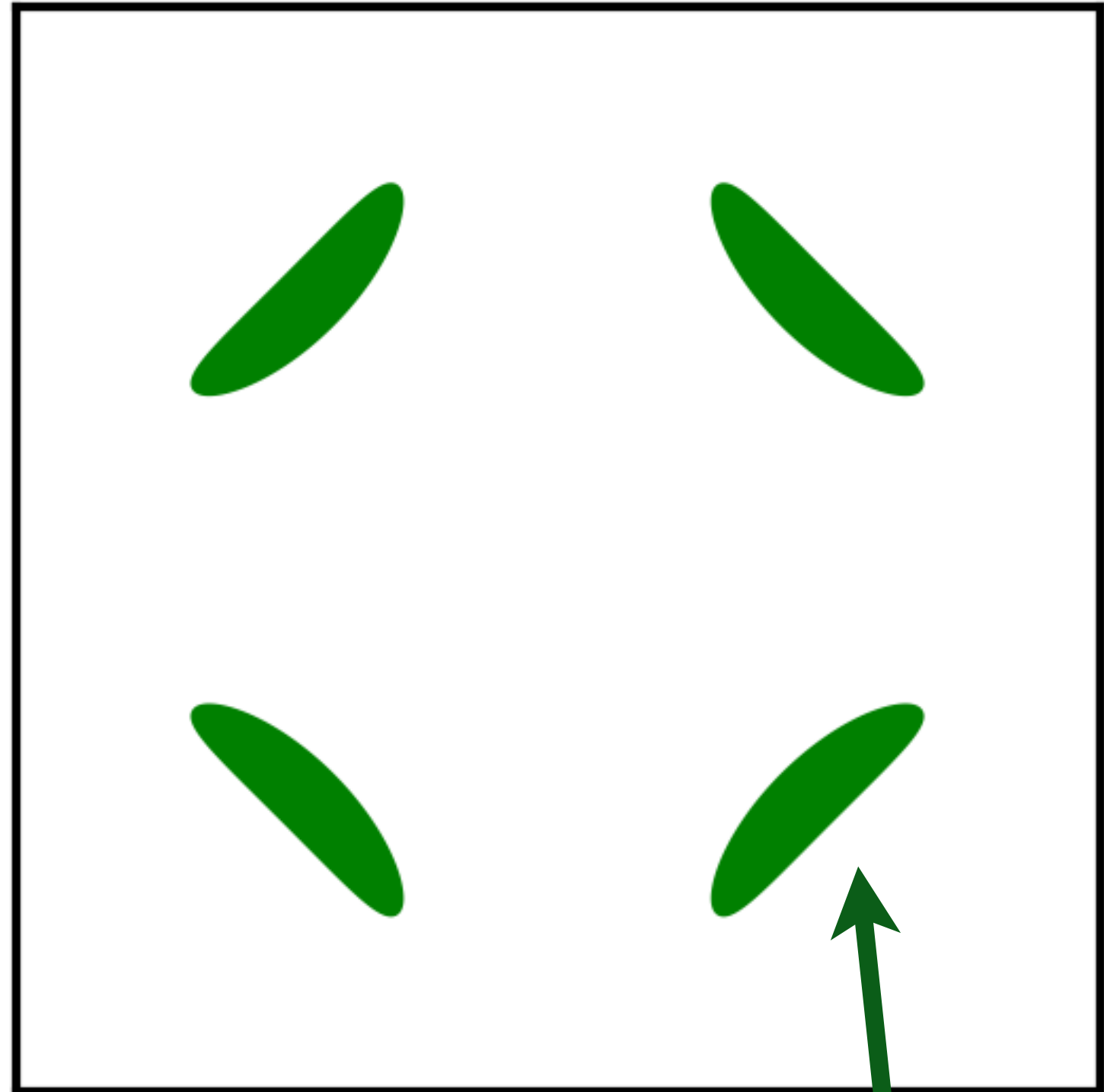
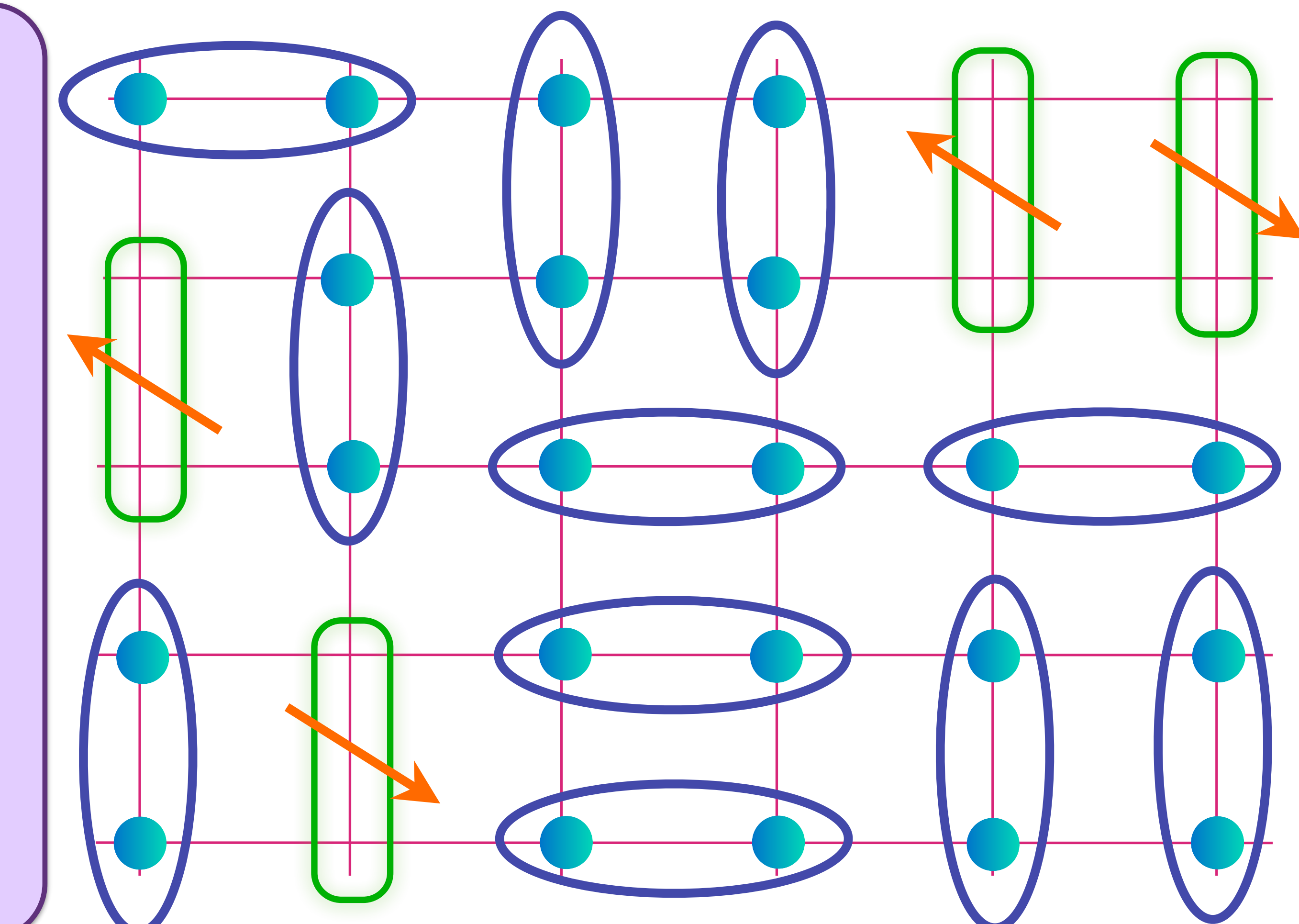
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Metal with density  $p$  of spin-1/2, charge  $+e$  "holes" (or "magnetic polarons") and charge 0 spin-1/2 "spinons".



$$\begin{array}{cc}
 \text{Blue oval with 2 dots} & = & (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) / \sqrt{2} & \text{Green oval with 1 dot} & = & (|\uparrow\circ\rangle + |\circ\uparrow\rangle) / \sqrt{2}
 \end{array}$$

Area  $p/8$

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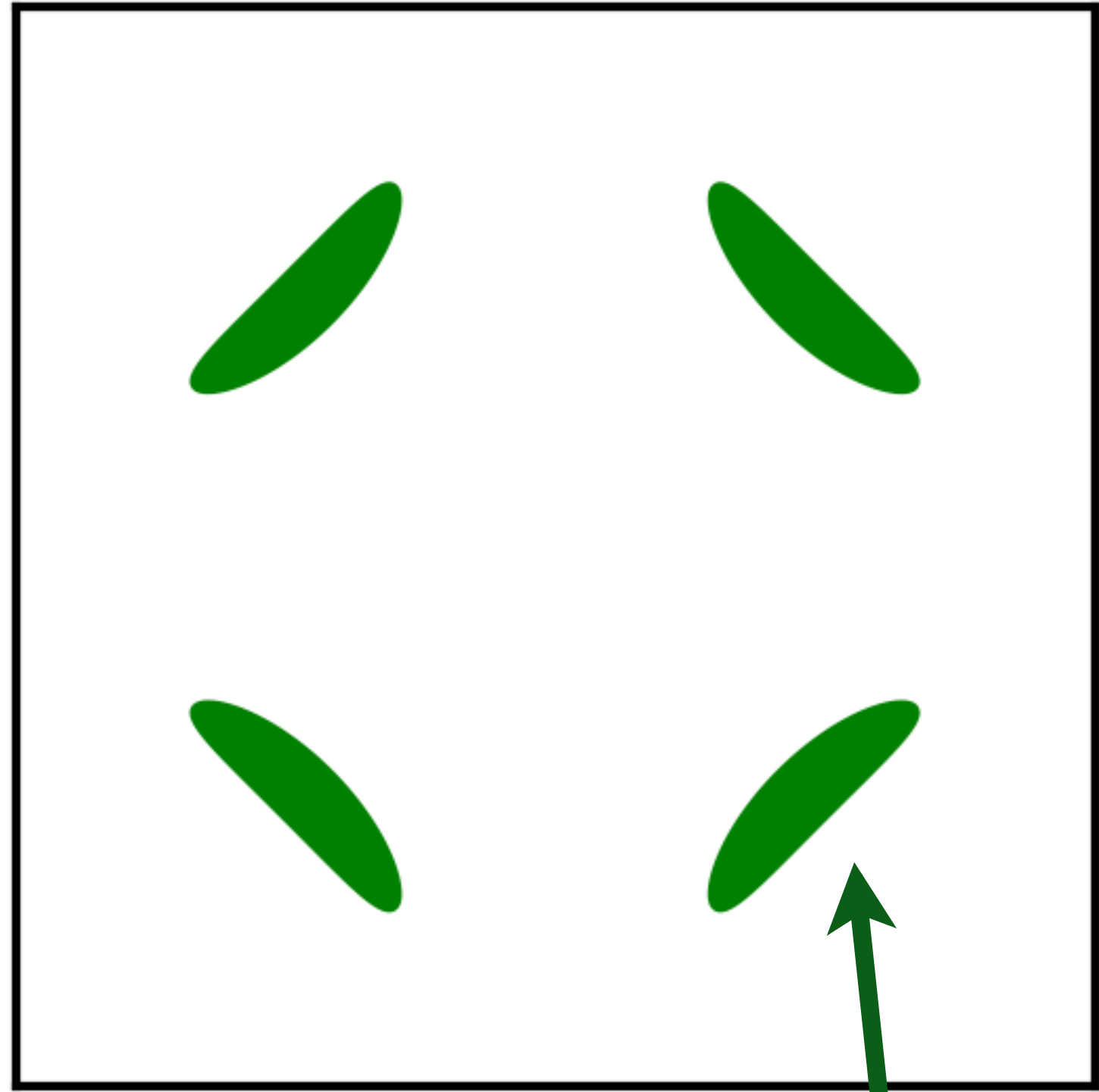
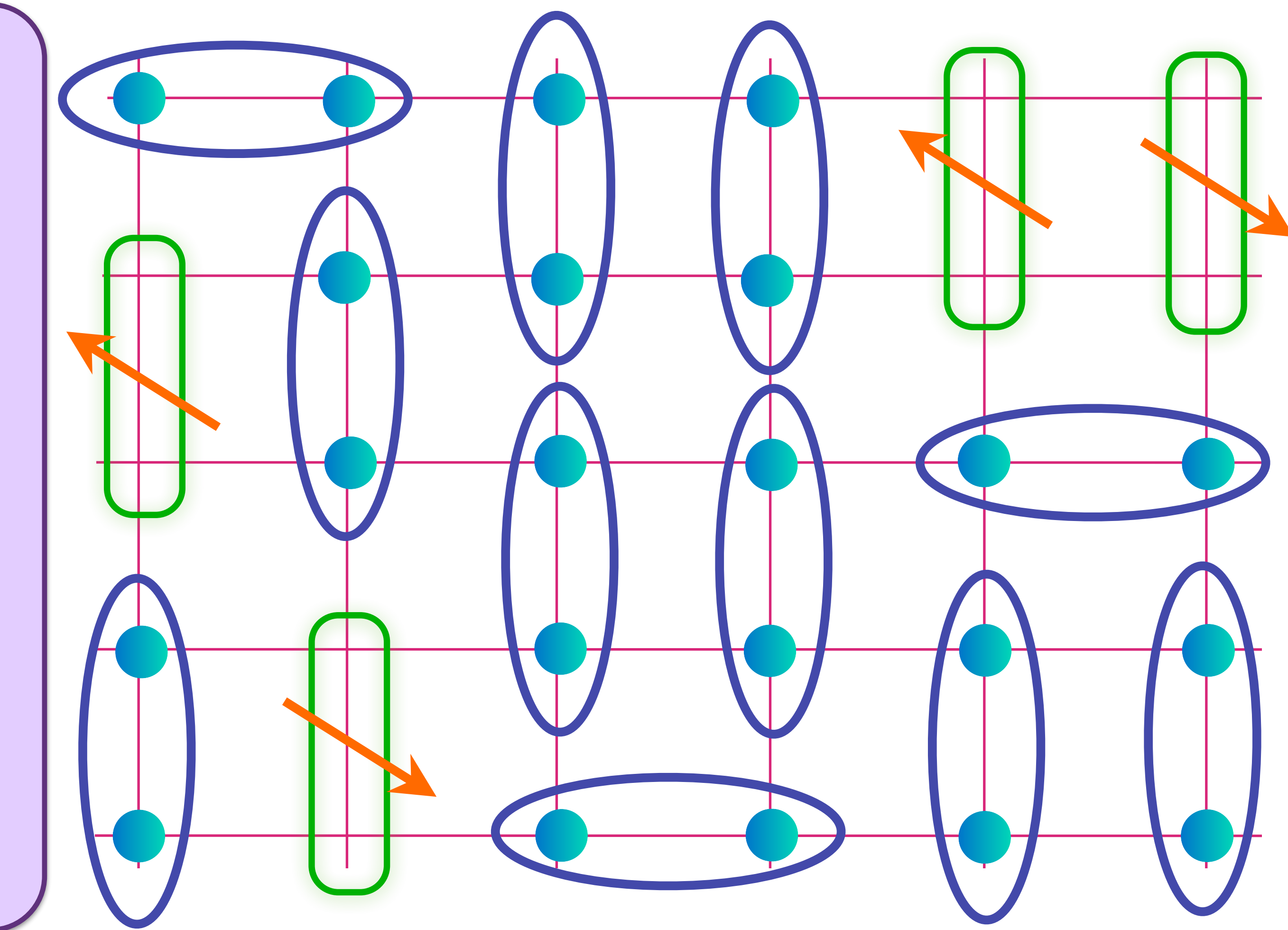
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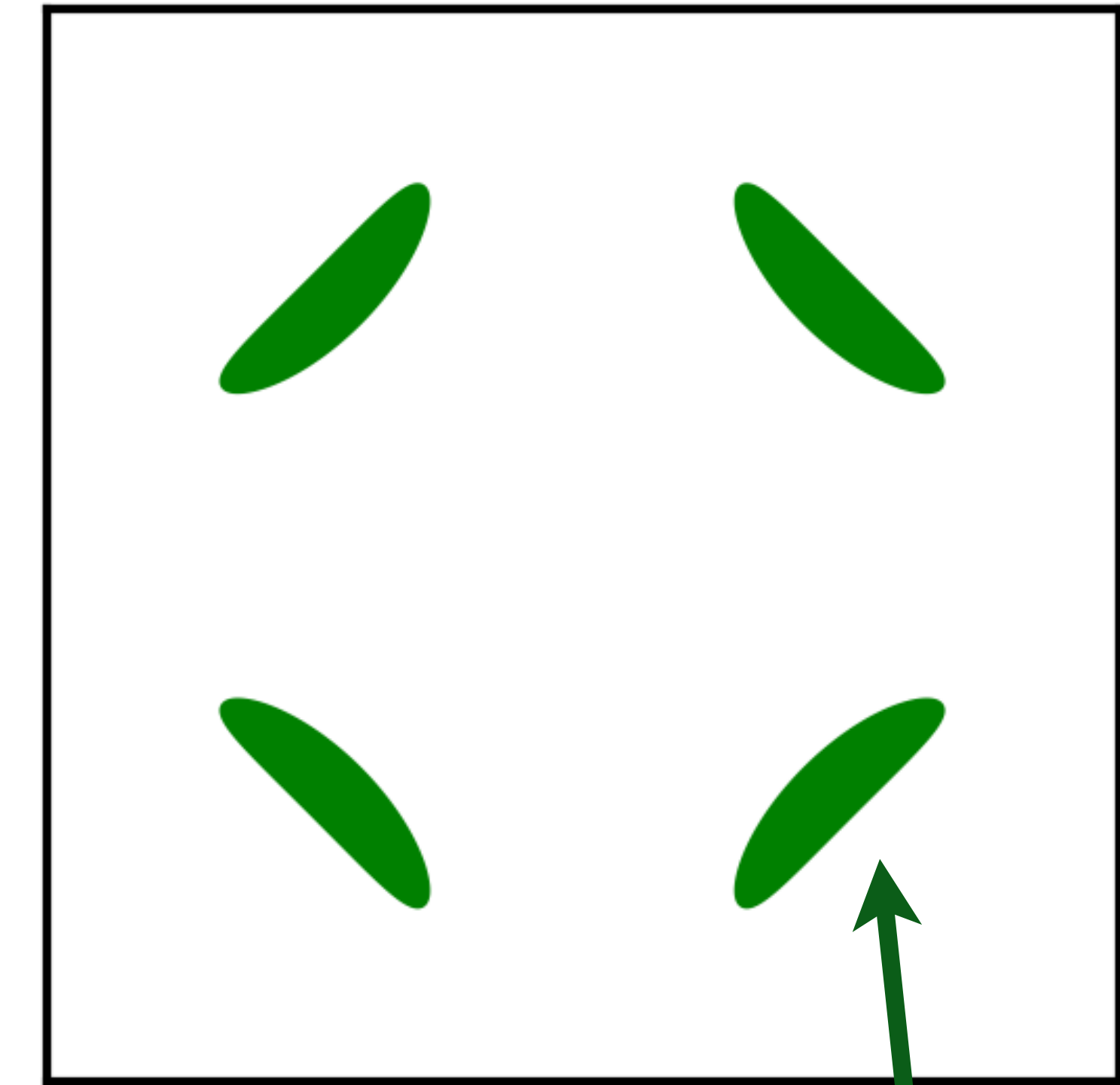
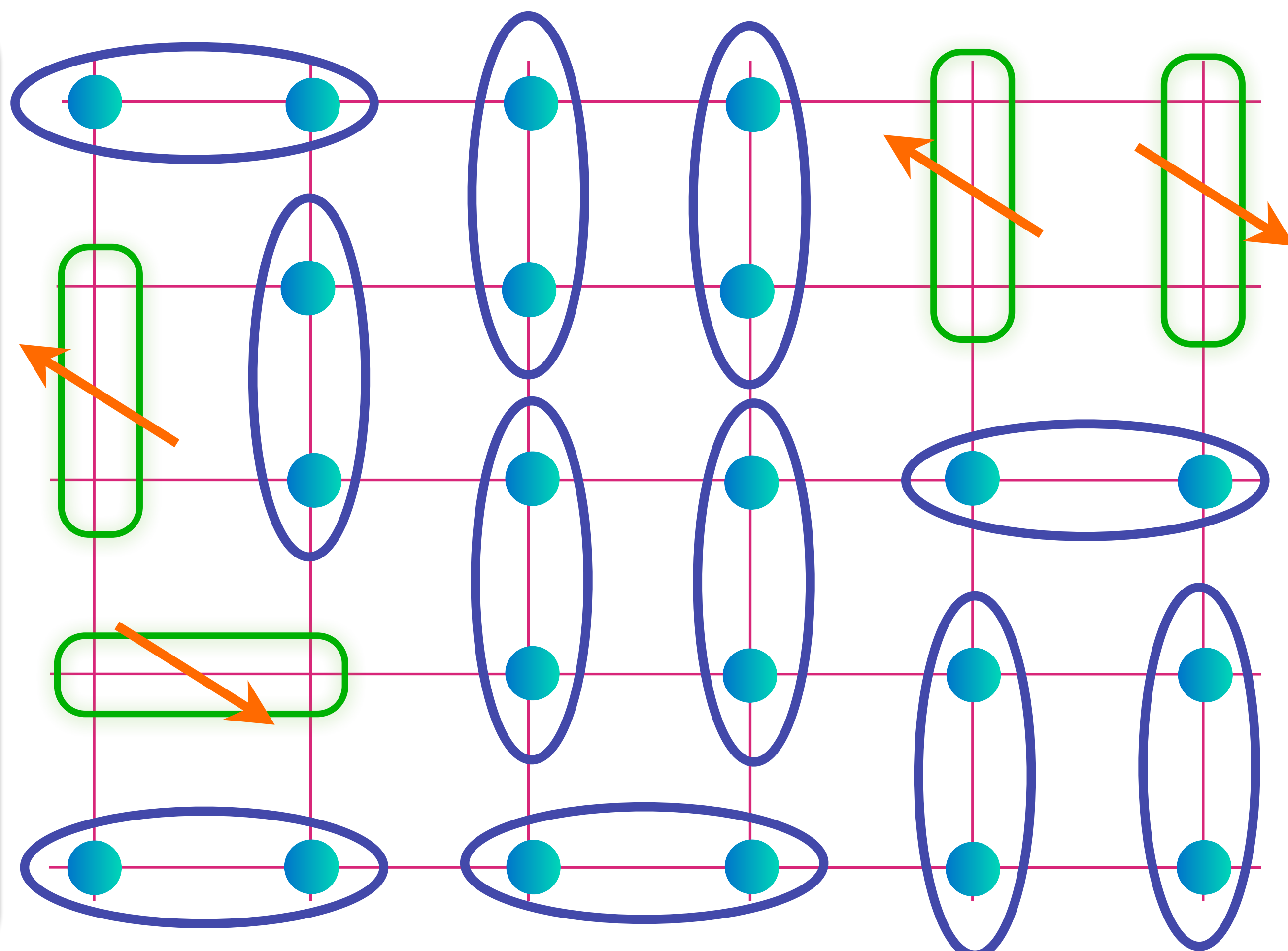
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Area  $p/8$

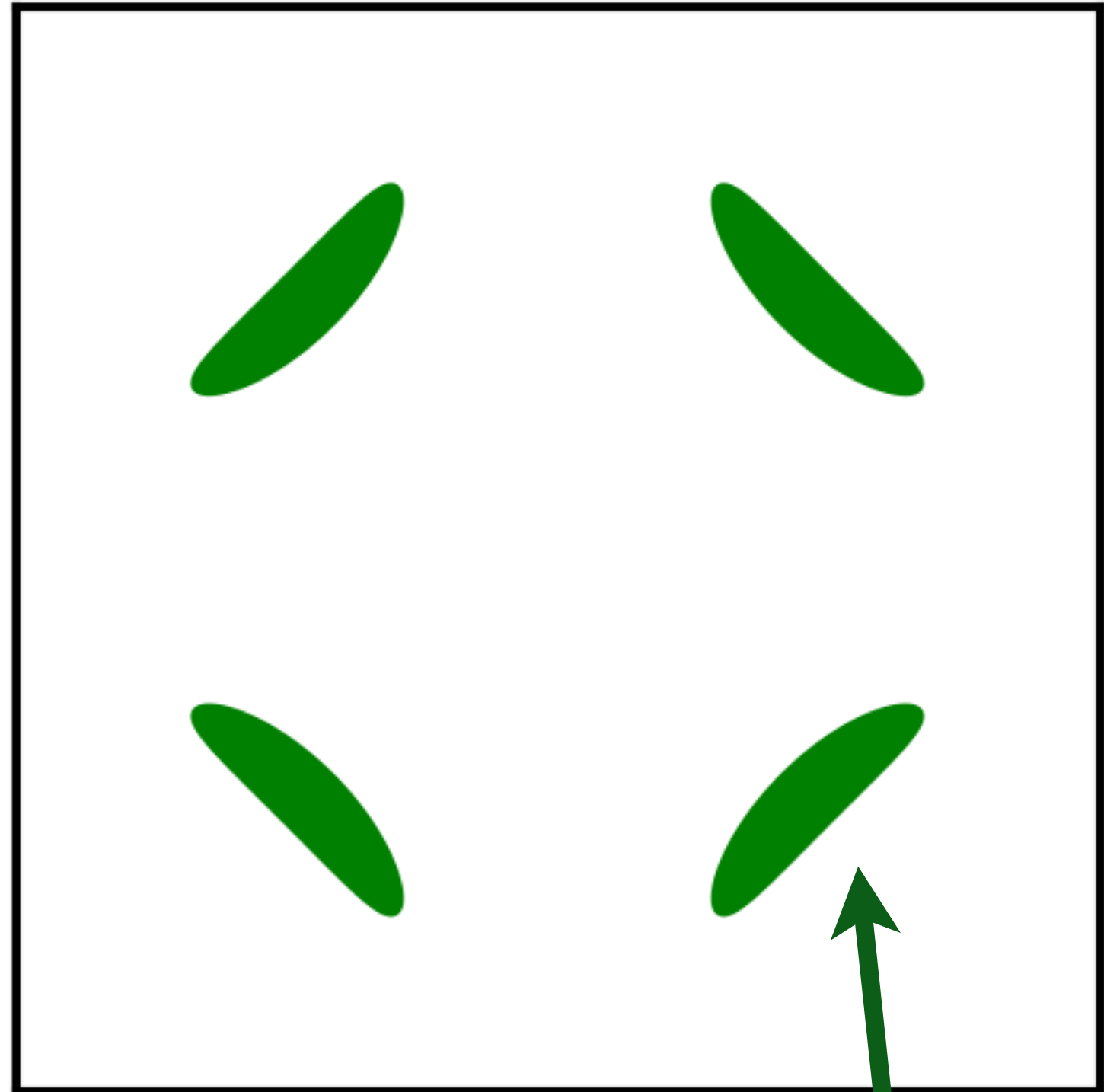
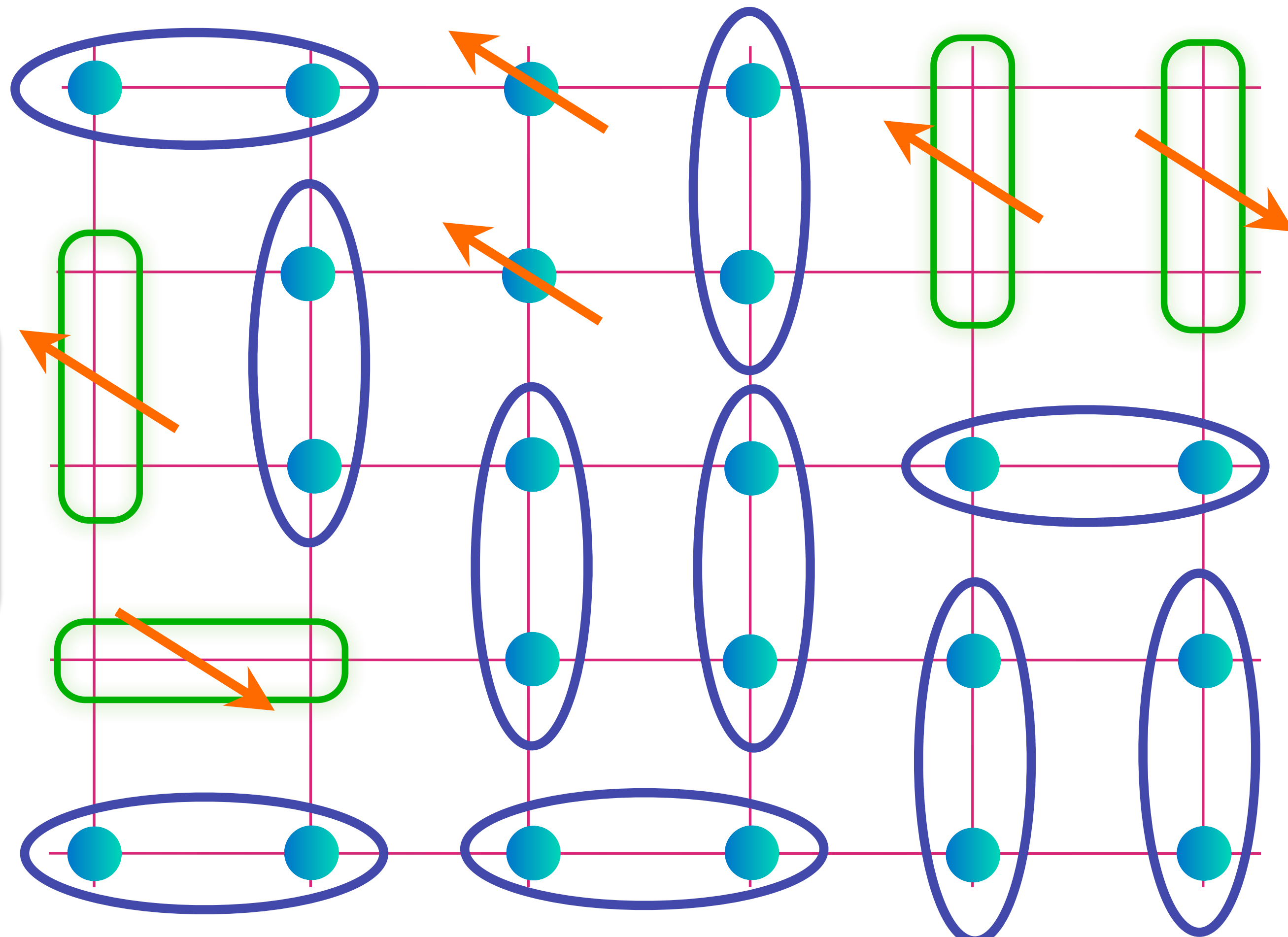
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M. Punk, A. Allais, and S. Sachdev, PNAS **112**, 9552 (2015)

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The FL\* state retains the spinon excitations



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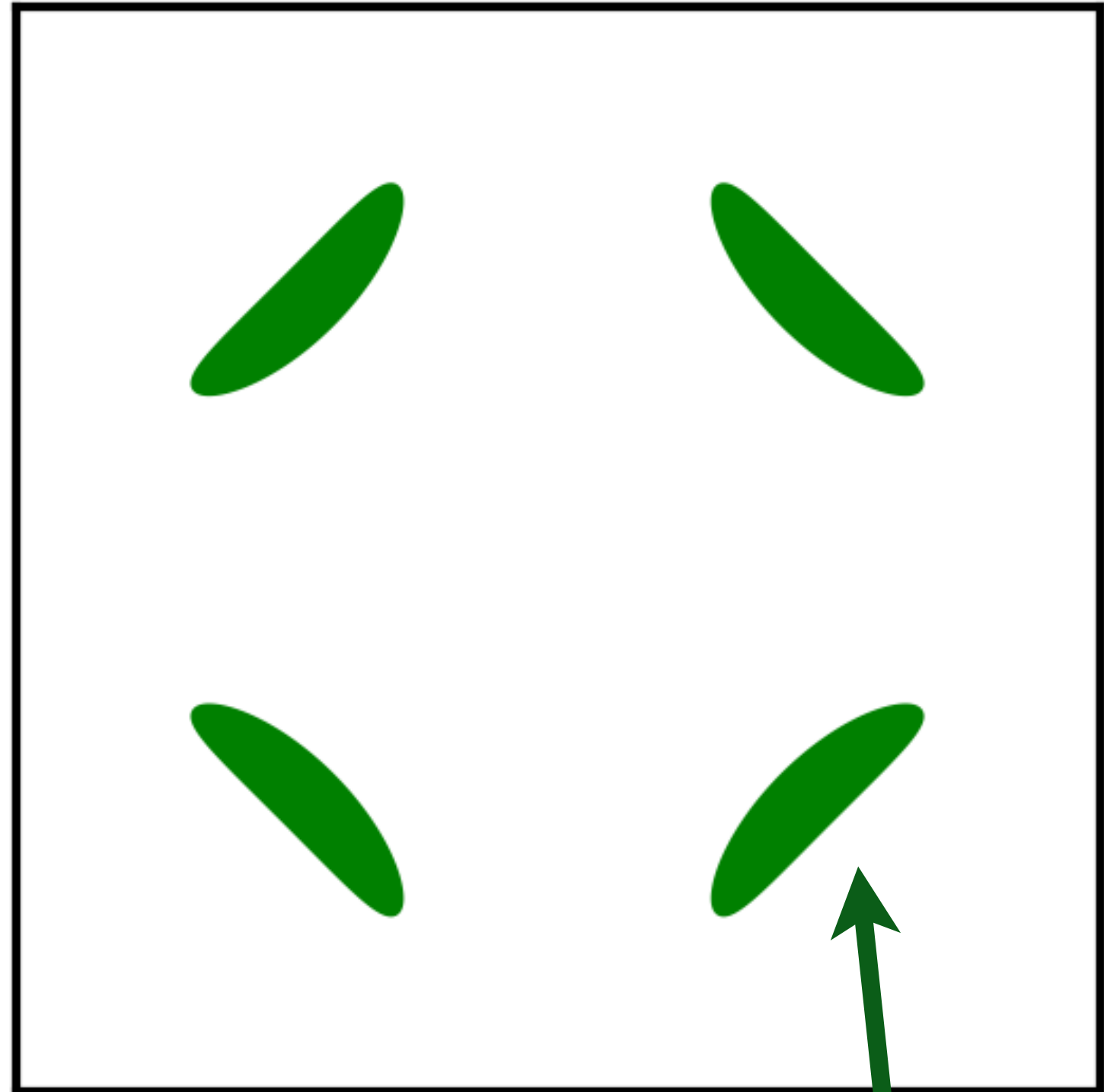
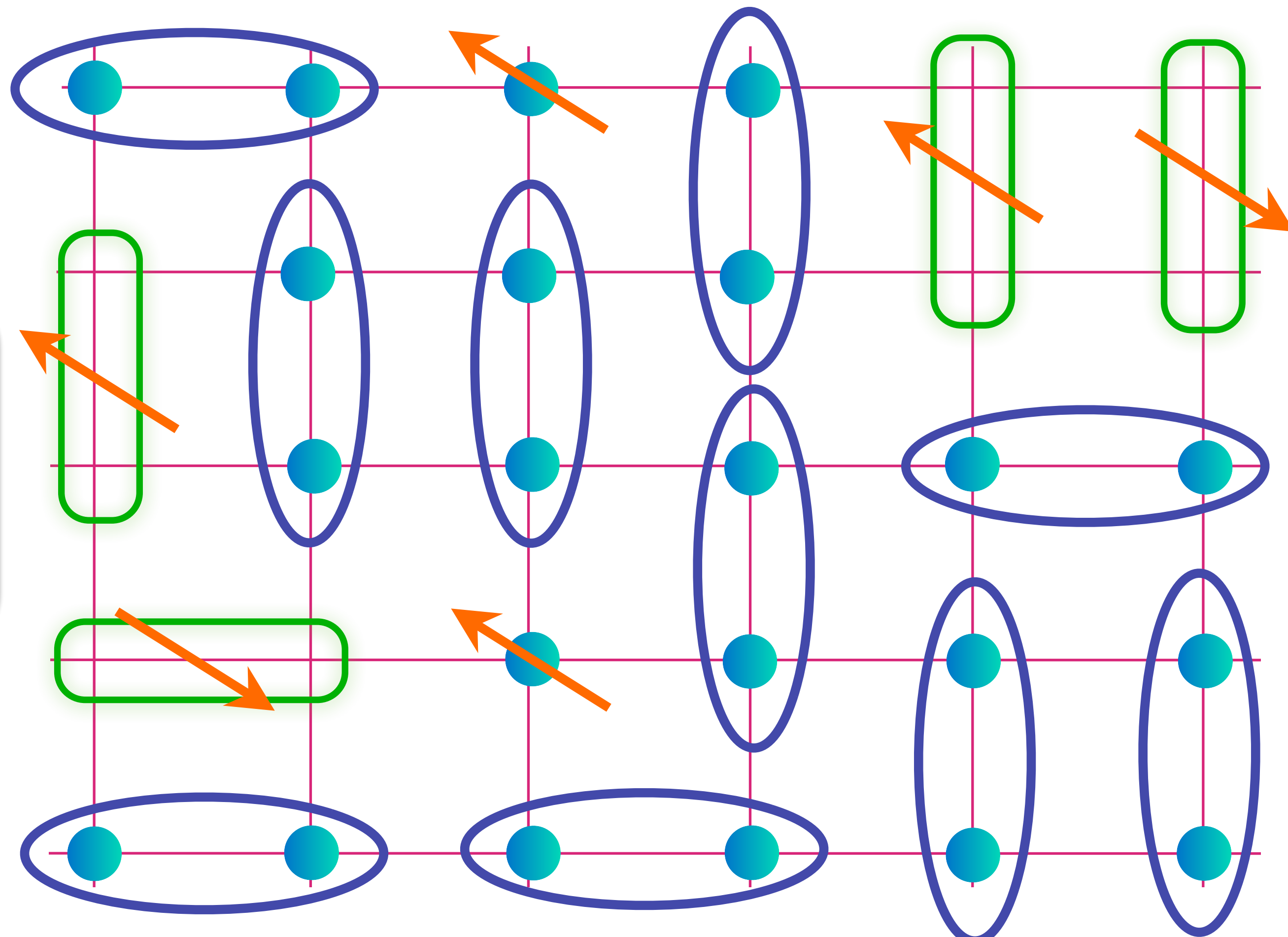
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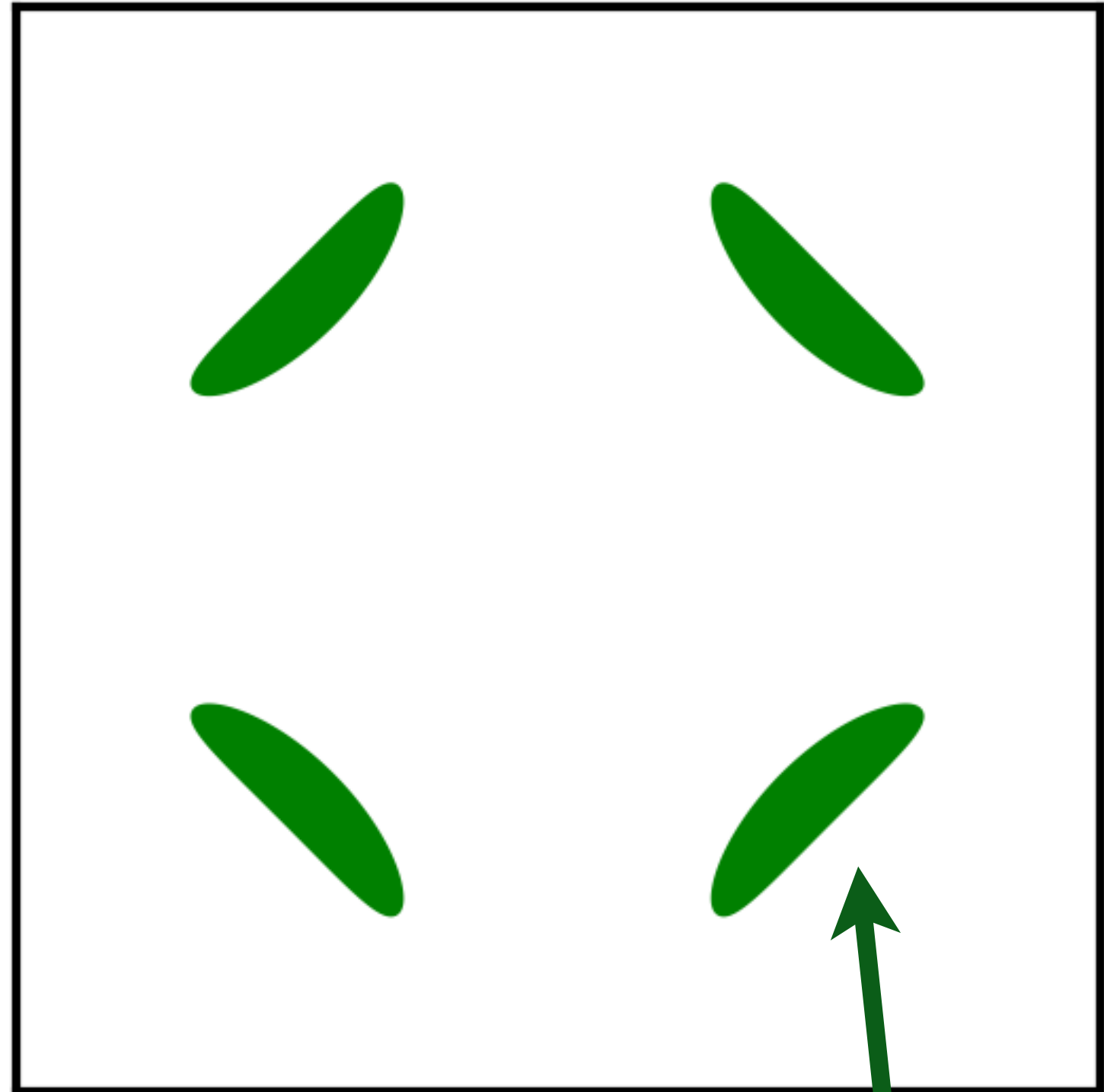
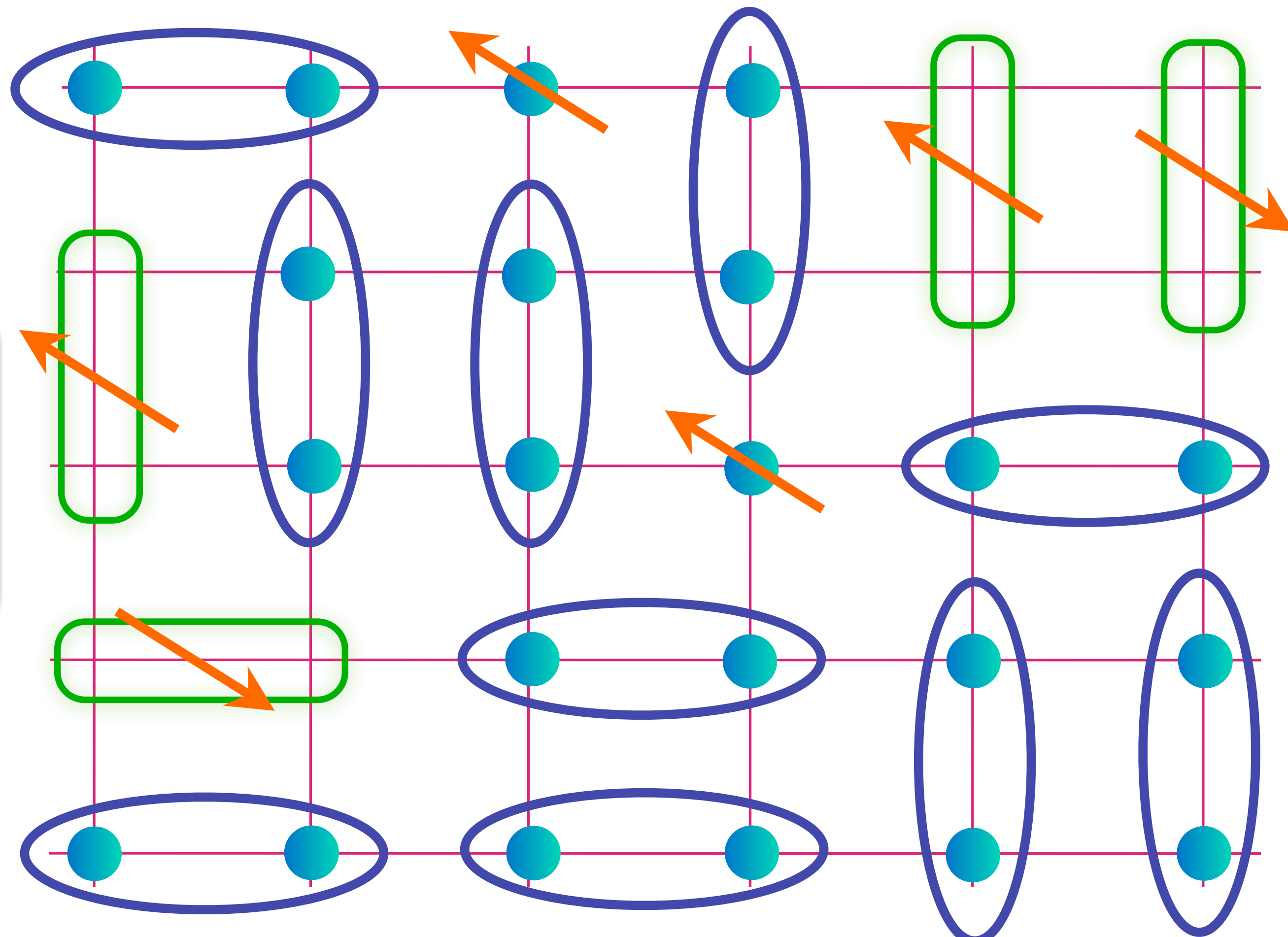
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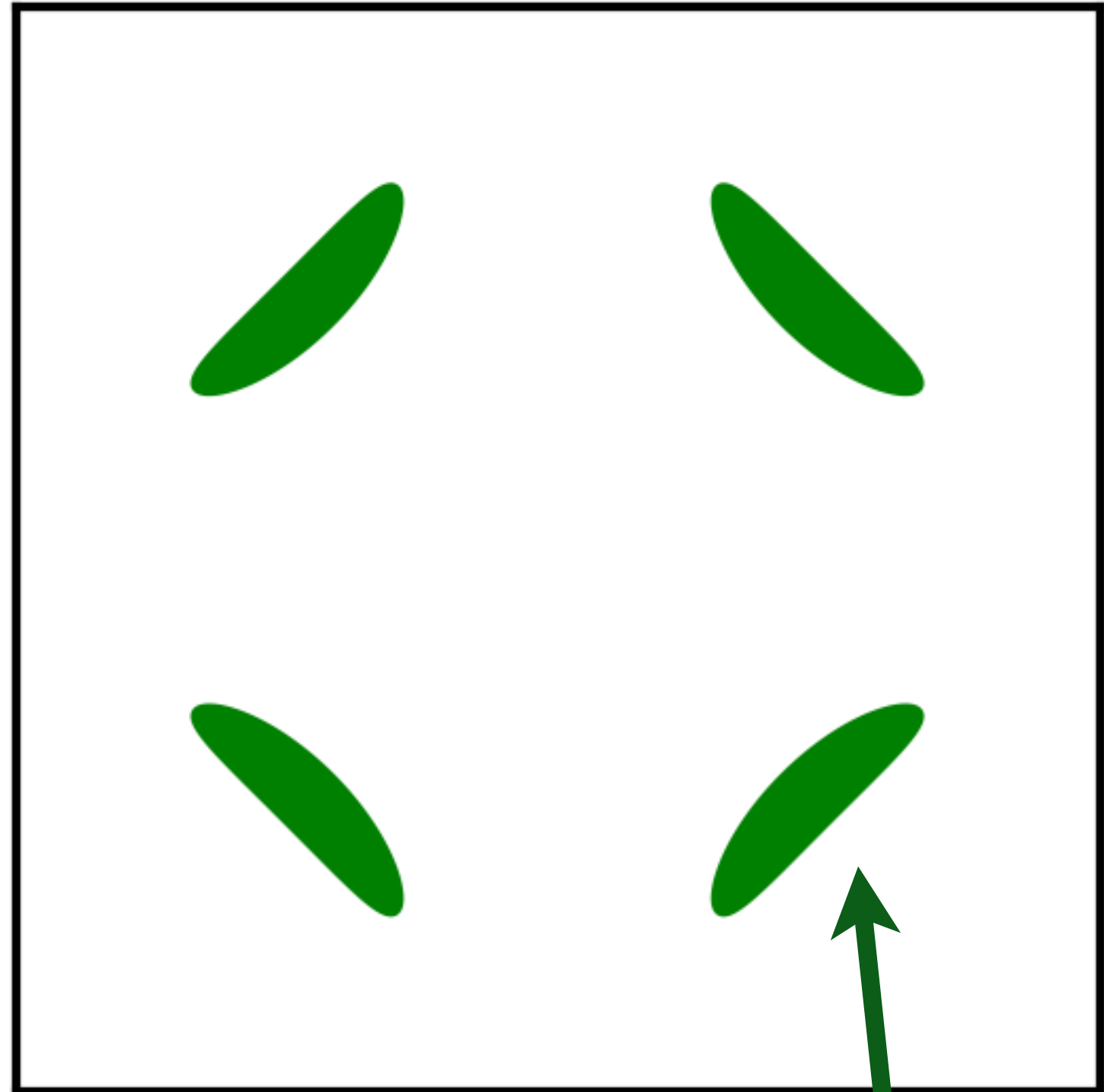
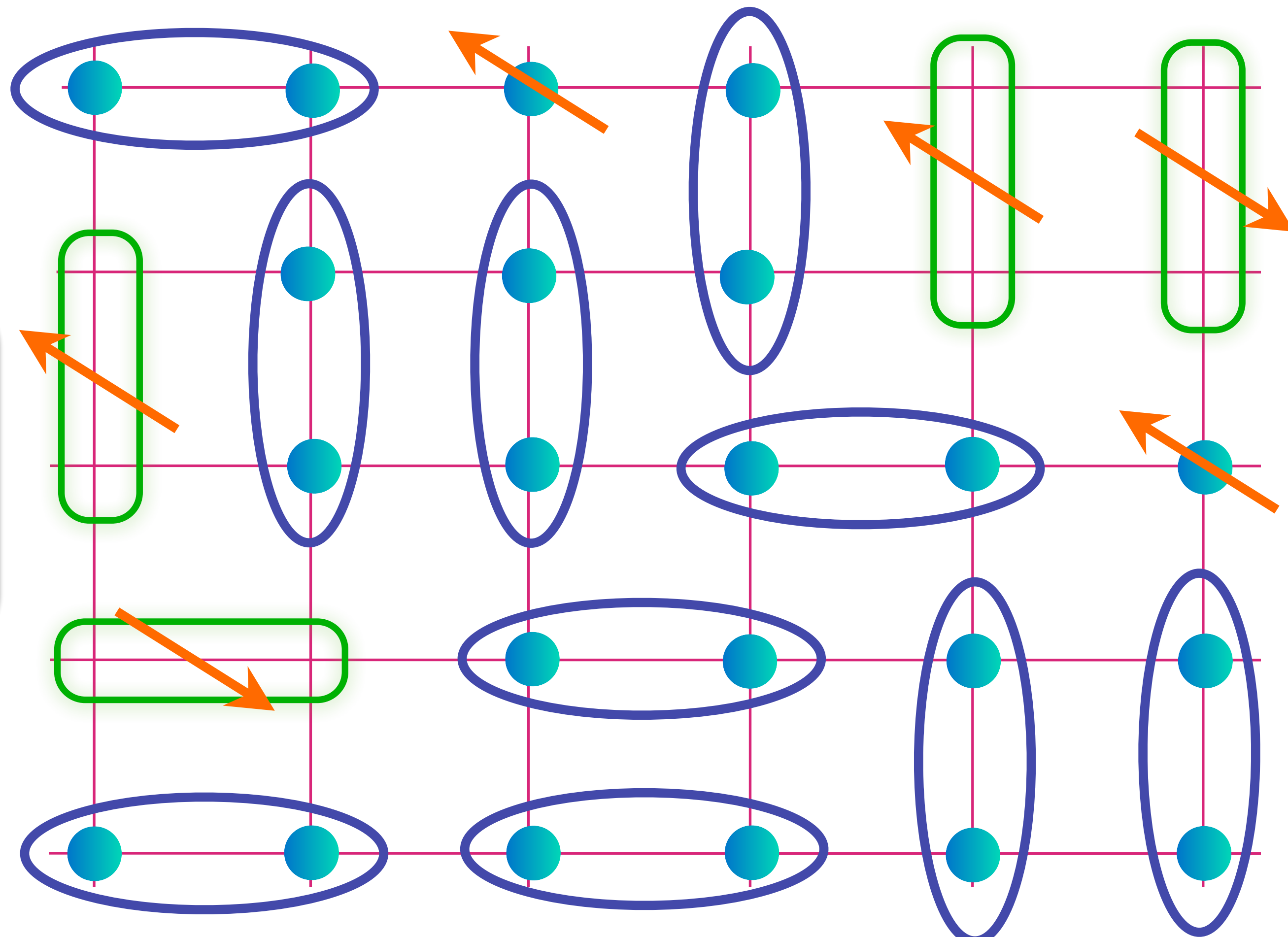
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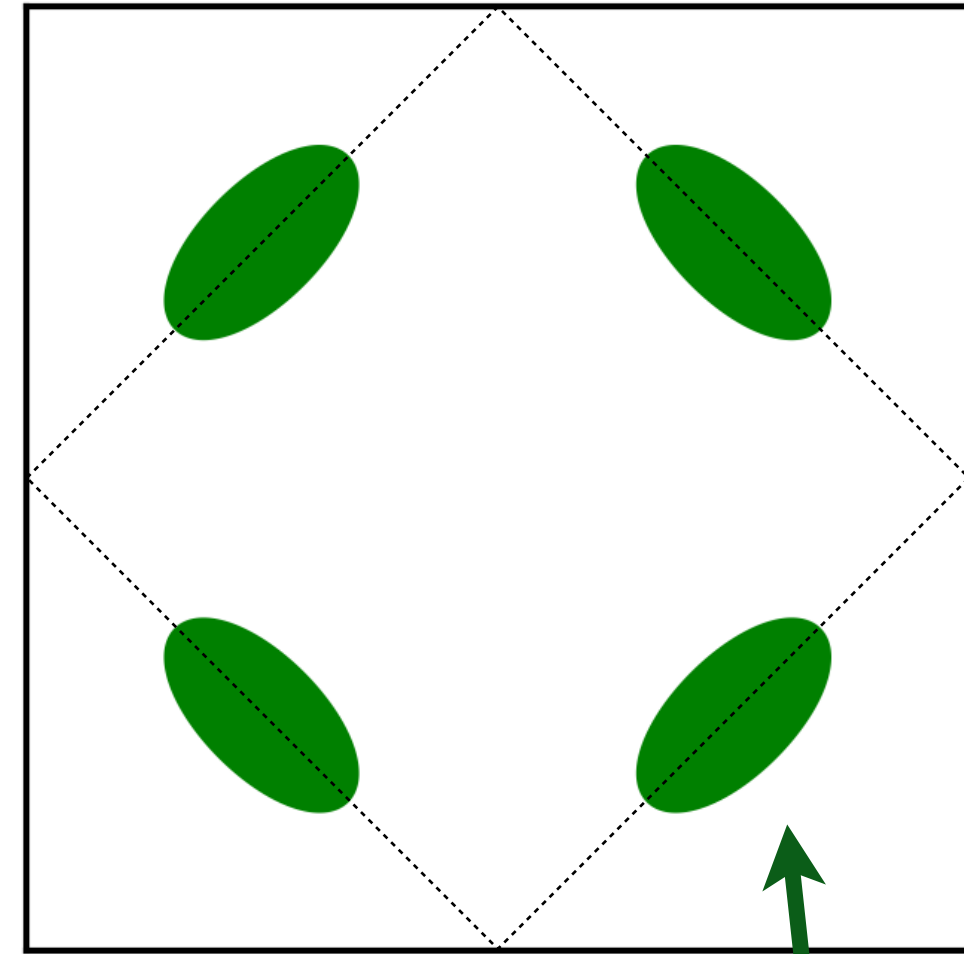
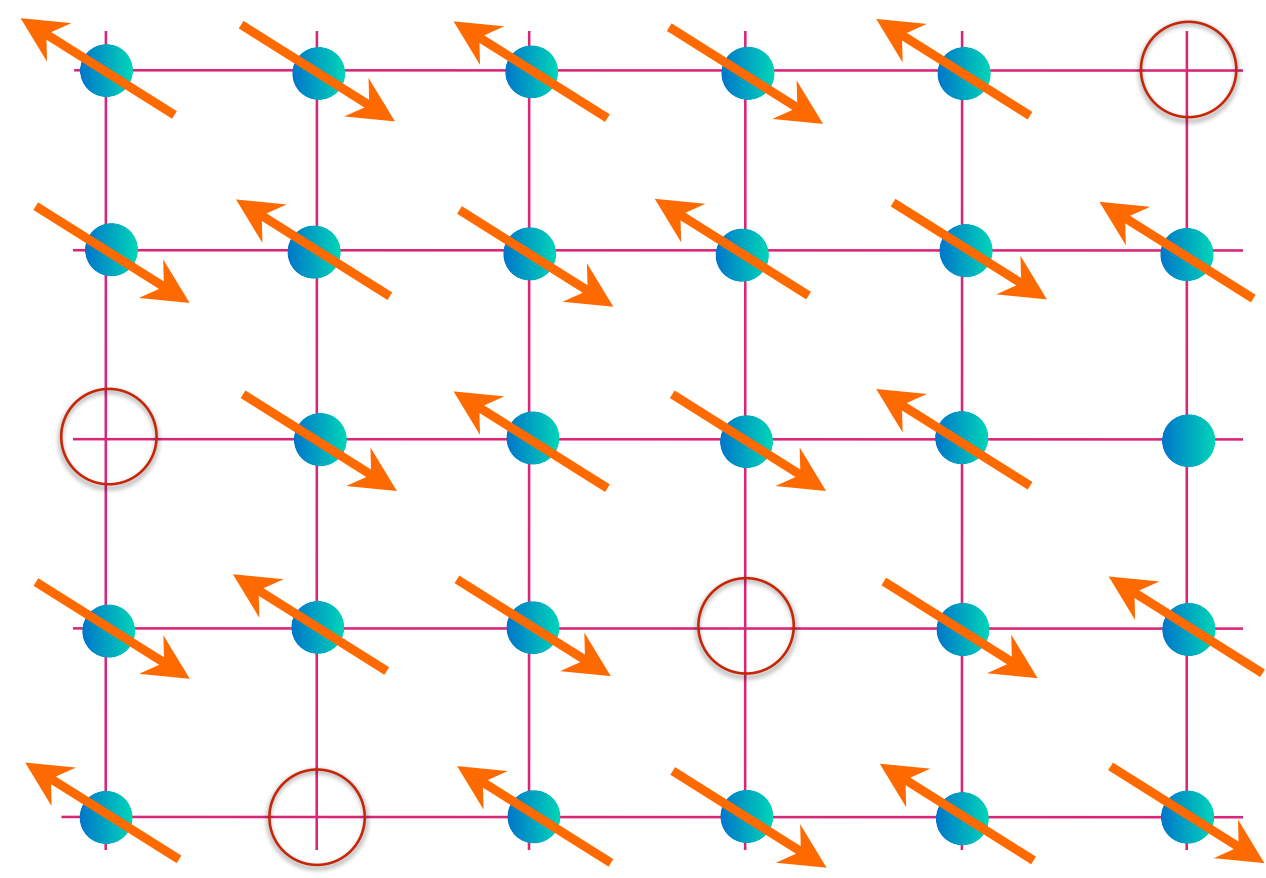
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$$\begin{matrix} \bullet & \bullet \\ \text{---} & \text{---} \end{matrix} = \frac{(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)}{\sqrt{2}} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{matrix} = \frac{(|\uparrow\circ\rangle + |\circ\uparrow\rangle)}{\sqrt{2}}$$

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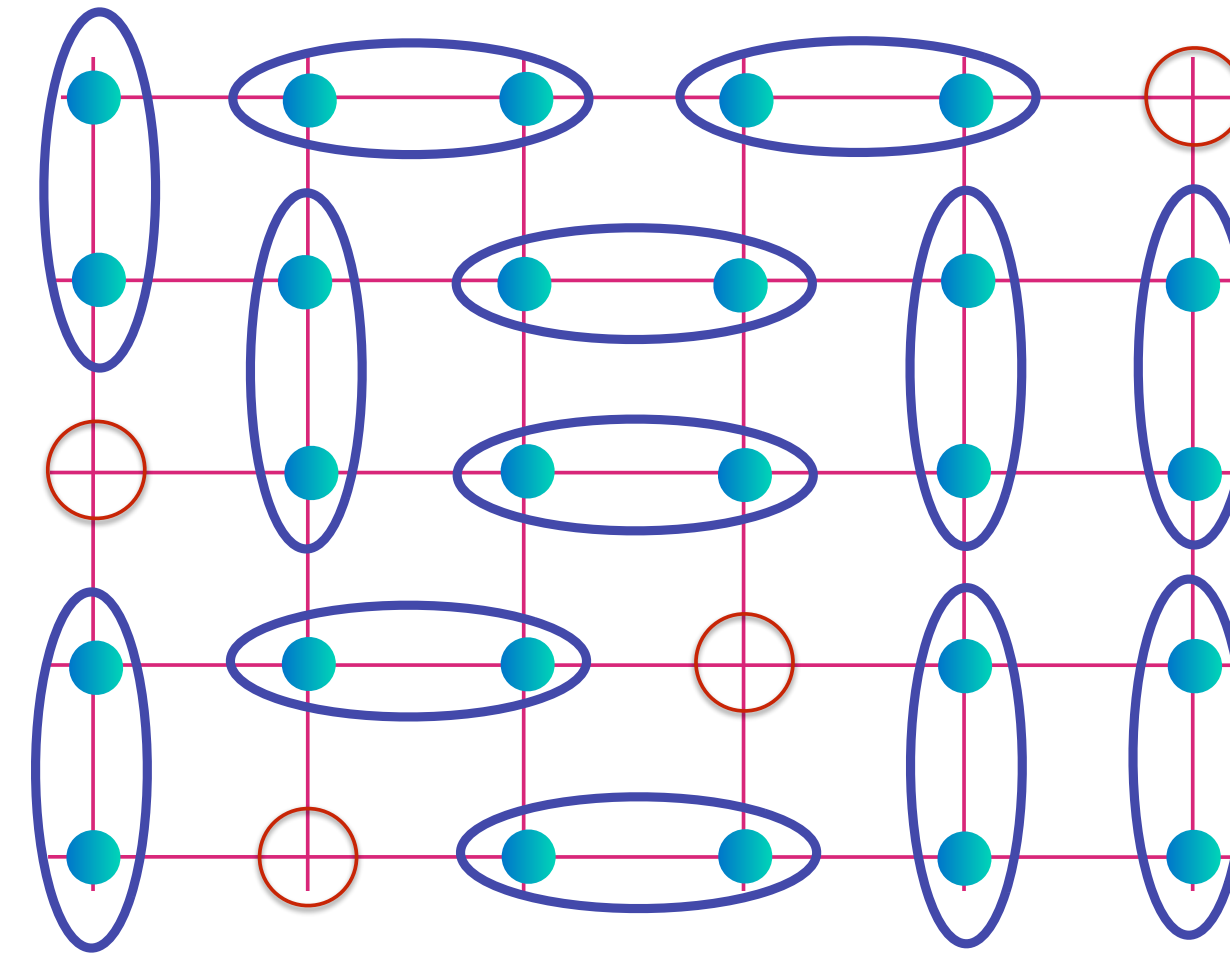
M. Punk, A. Allais, and S. Sachdev, PNAS **112**, 9552 (2015)

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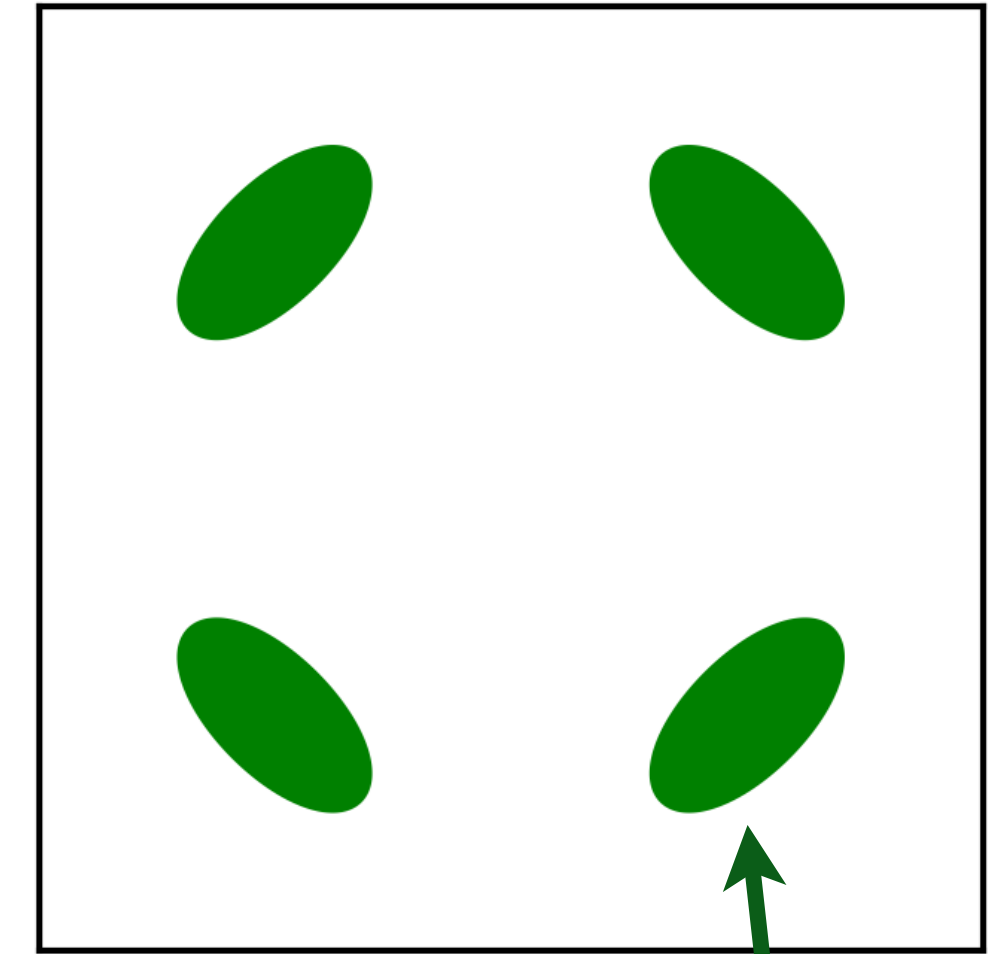
Area  $p/4$

AF metal and SDW fluctuation

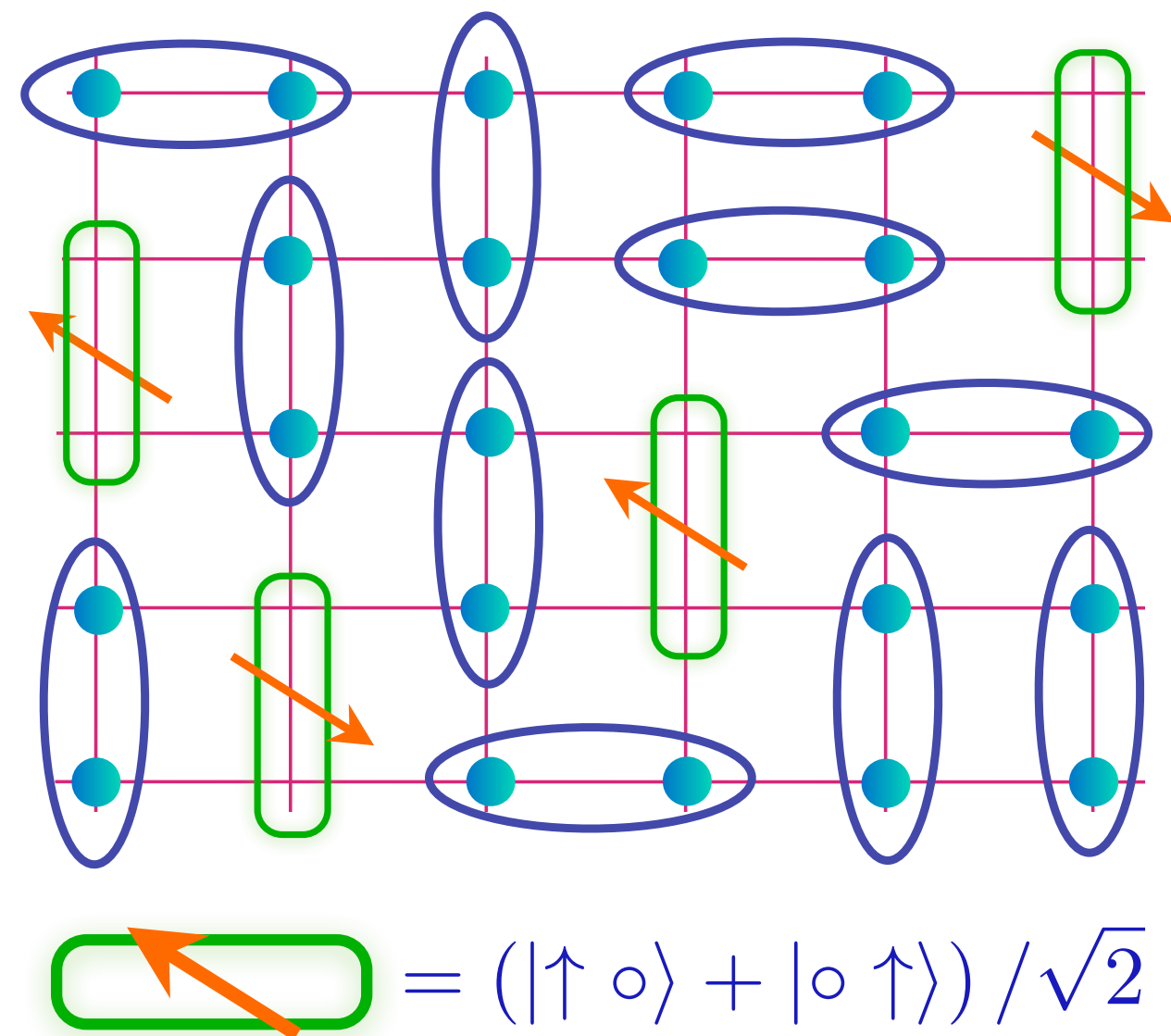


$$\text{Blue oval} = (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

Holon metal

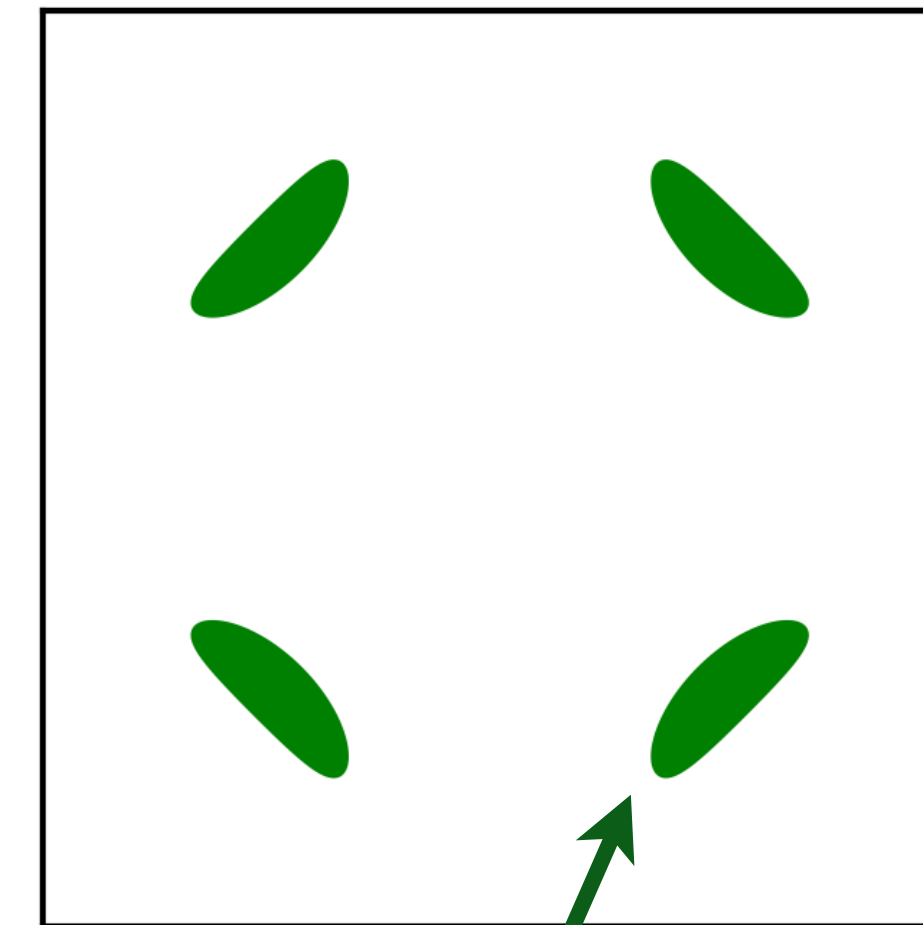


Area  $p/4$



FL\*

$$\text{Green oval} = (|\uparrow\circ\rangle + |\circ\uparrow\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$



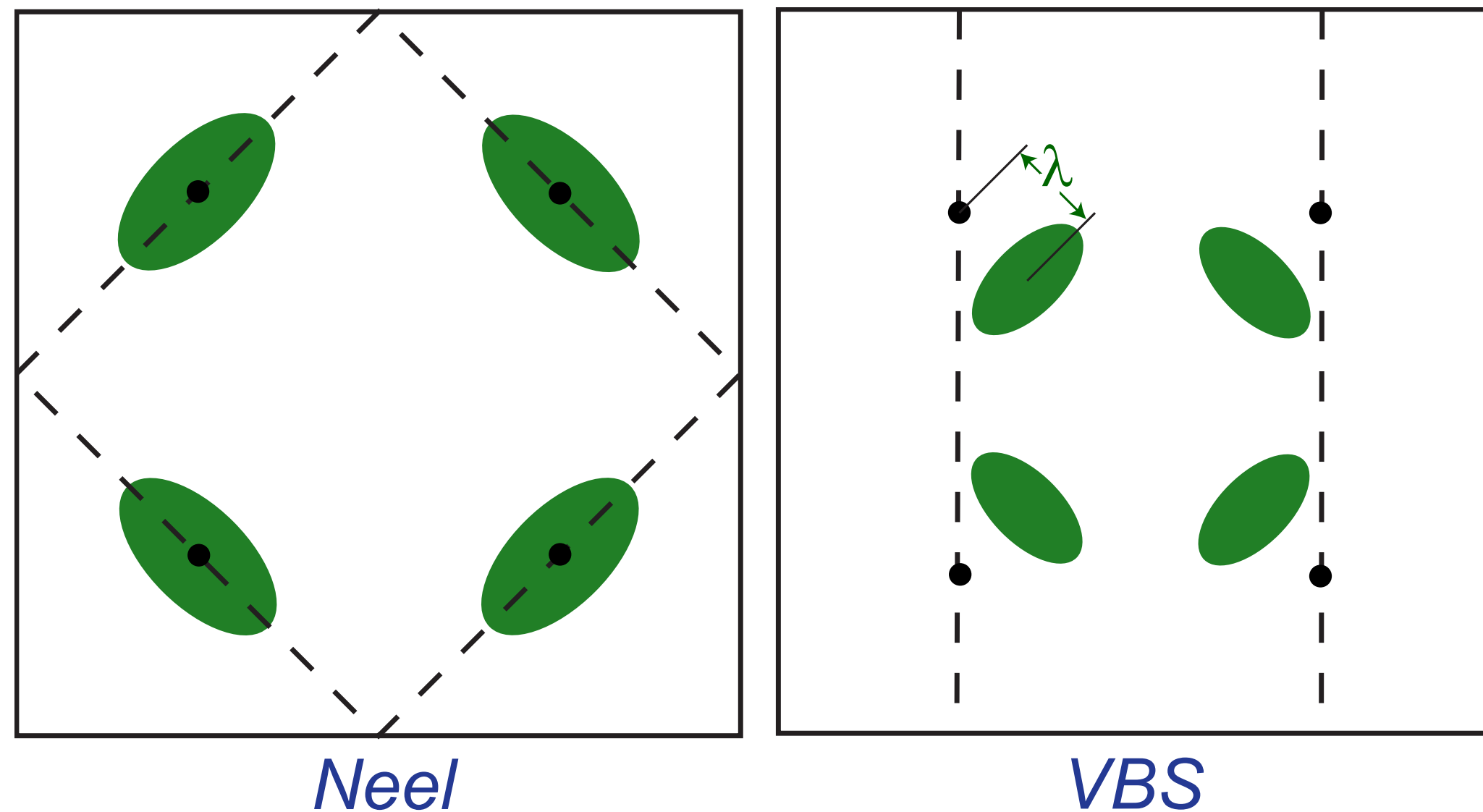
Area  $p/8$

Fermi surface areas are quantized and robust to all corrections!  
Factor of 2 between SDW fluctuation and FL\*

T. Senthil, S. S., M. Vojta, PRL **90**, 216403 (2003);  
 R. K. Kaul, A. Kolezhuk, M. Levin, S.S., T. Senthil, PRB **75**, 235122 (2007)  
 M. Punk, A. Allais, and S. S., PNAS **112**, 9552 (2015)  
 E. Mascot, A. Nikolaenko, M. Tikhonovskaya, Ya-Hui Zhang, D. K. Morr, S. S., PRB **105**, 075146 (2022)

# Hole dynamics in an antiferromagnet across a deconfined quantum critical point

Ribhu K. Kaul,<sup>1</sup> Alexei Kolezhuk,<sup>1,2</sup> Michael Levin,<sup>1</sup> Subir Sachdev,<sup>1</sup> and T. Senthil<sup>3,4</sup>



The dashed line in the Néel phase indicates the boundary of the magnetic Brillouin zone. Only the Fermi surfaces within this zone contribute to the Luttinger counting, and so the area of each ellipse is  $\mathcal{A}_F = (2\pi)^2 \delta/4$ . In the VBS phase, all four pockets are inequivalent, and so the area of each ellipse is  $\mathcal{A}_F = (2\pi)^2 \delta/8$ .

Fermi surface areas are quantized and robust to all corrections!  
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# Observation of the Yamaji effect in a cuprate superconductor

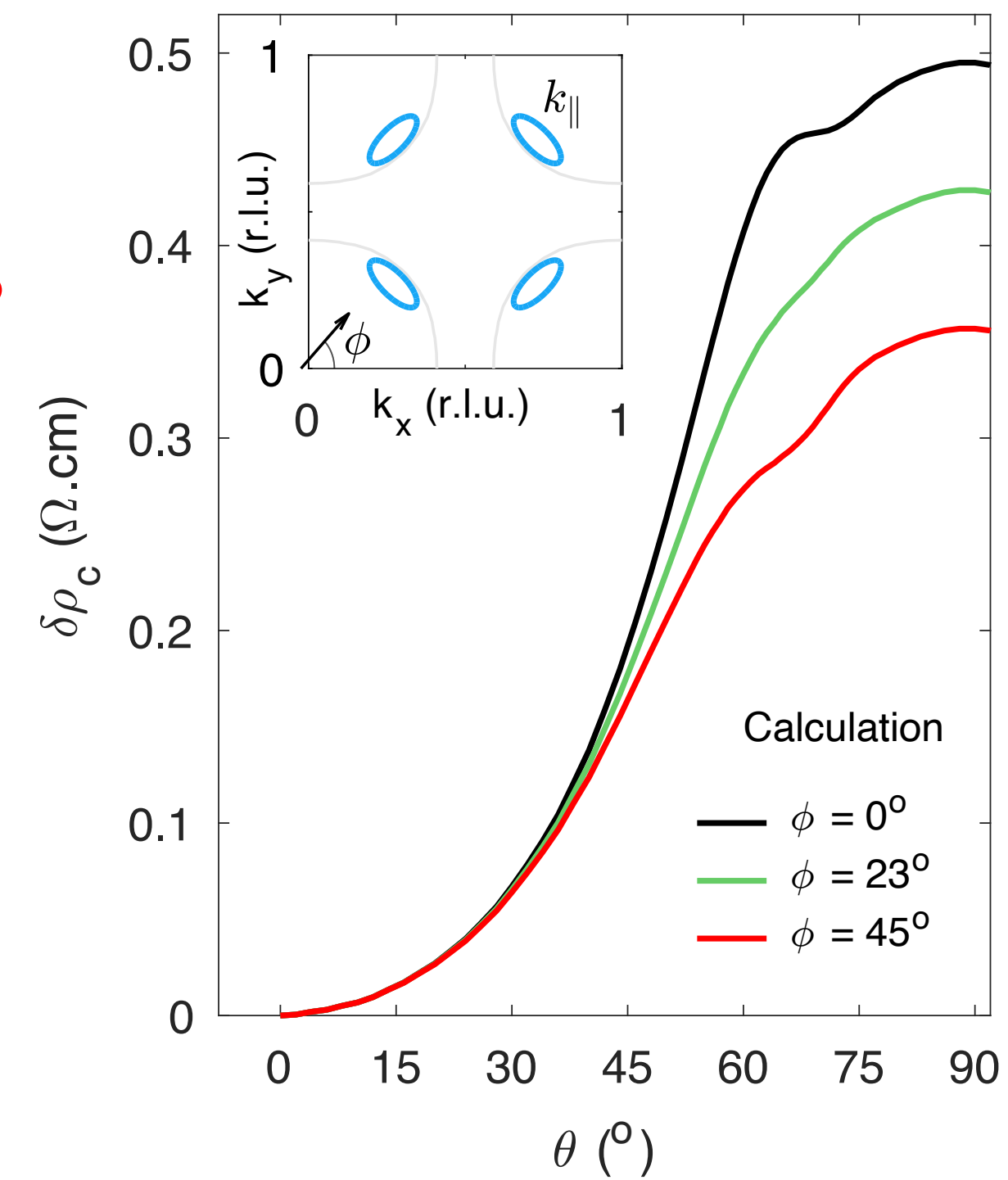
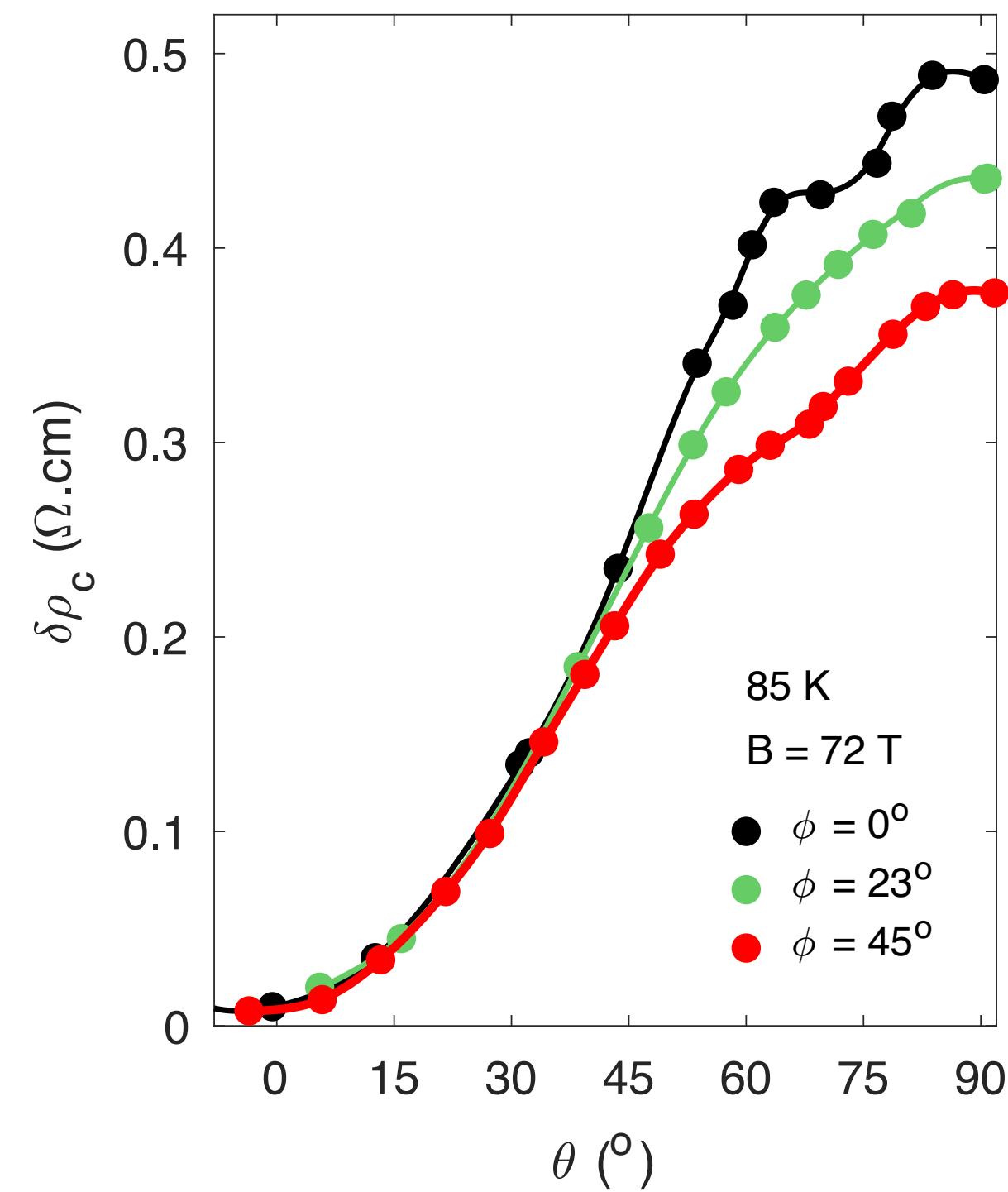
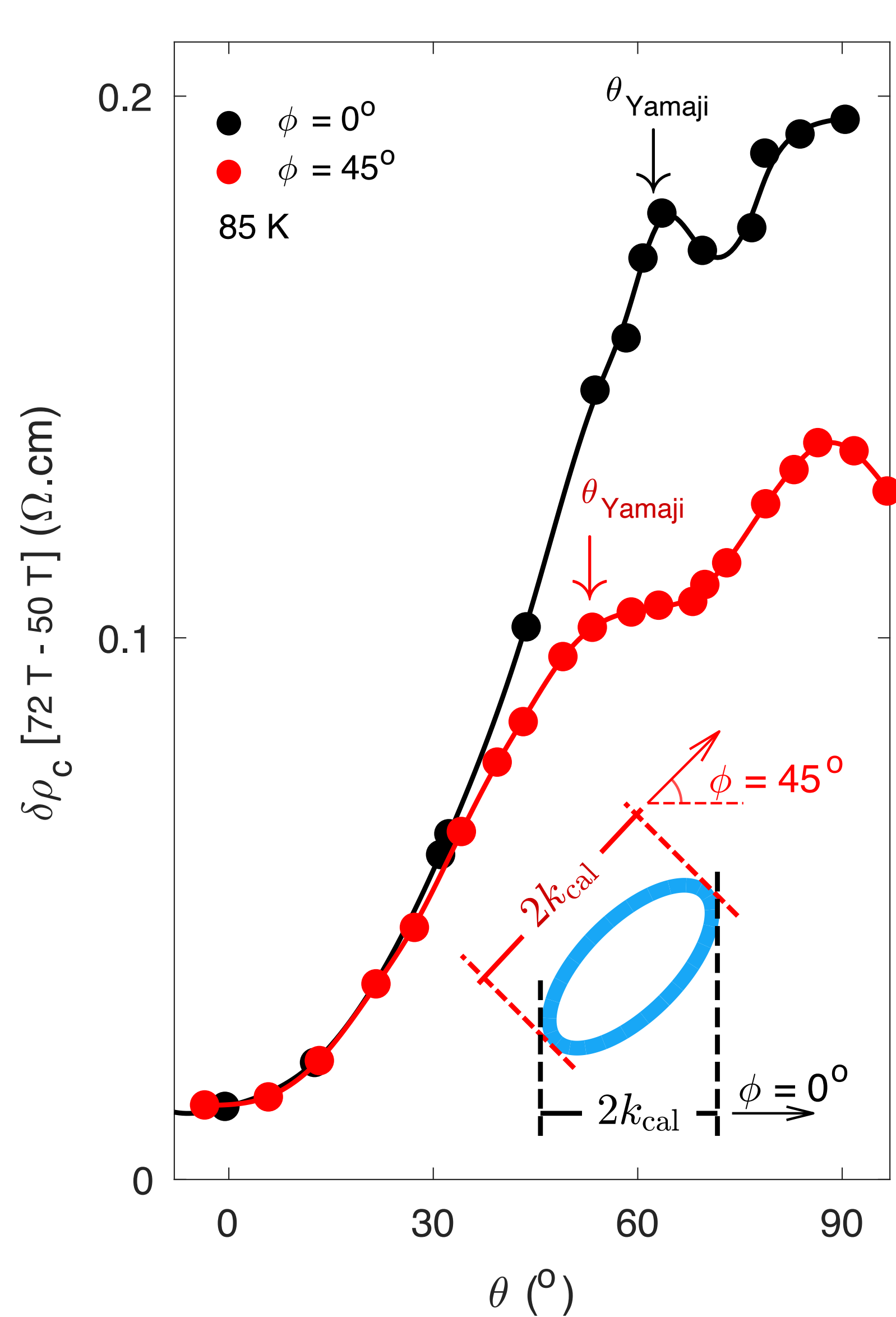
superconductor

Mun K. Chan <sup>1</sup>✉, Katherine A. Schreiber<sup>1</sup>, Oscar E. Ayala-Valenzuela <sup>1</sup>,  
Eric D. Bauer <sup>2</sup>, Arkady Shekhter <sup>1</sup> & Neil Harrison <sup>1</sup>

nature physics

arXiv:2411.10631

Published online: 16 September 2025



Doping  
 $p = 0.1$

“The small size of the pockets determined from the Yamaji effect is ... approximately 1.3% of the Brillouin zone area”

# Observation of the Yamaji effect in a cuprate superconductor

nature physics

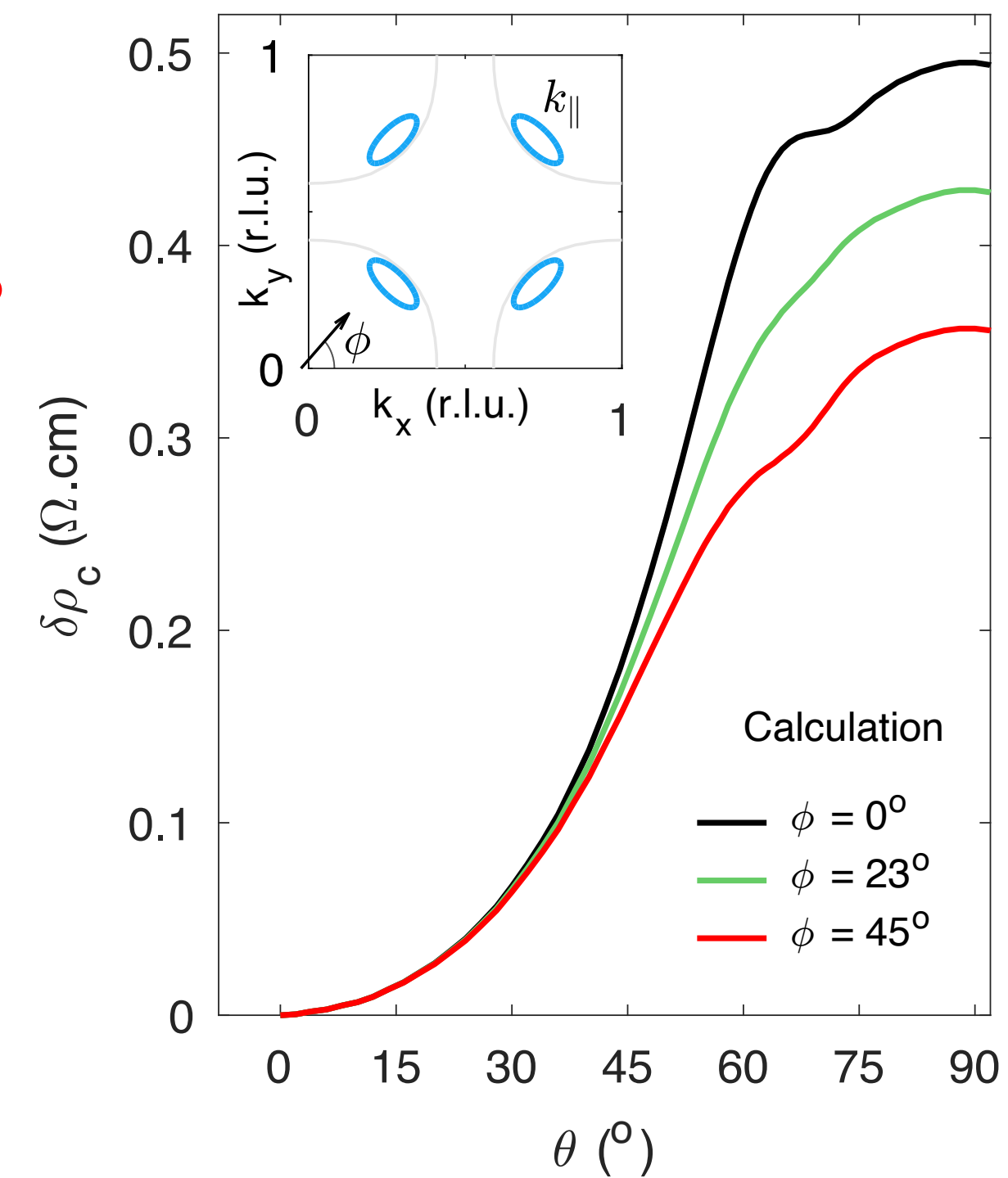
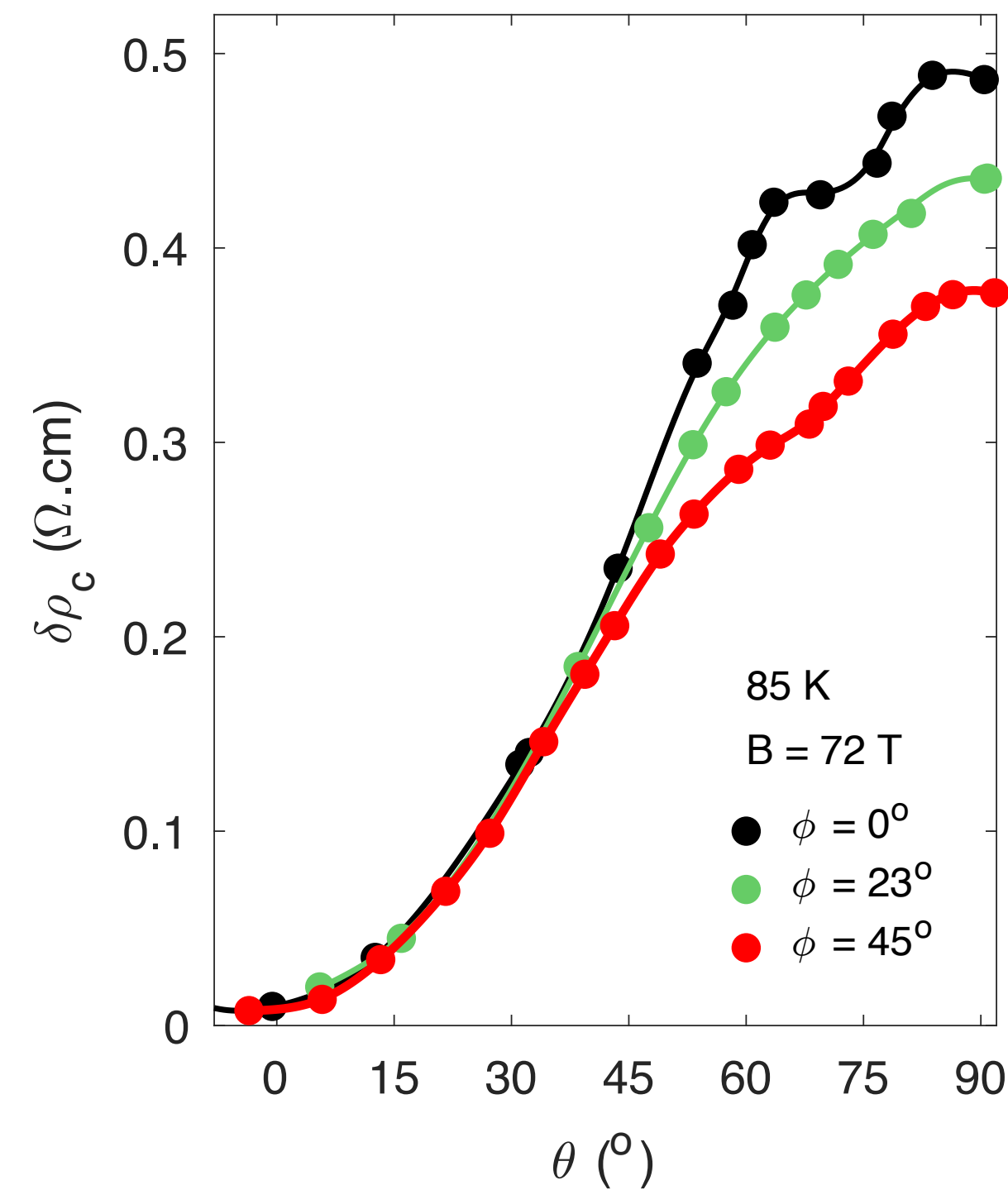
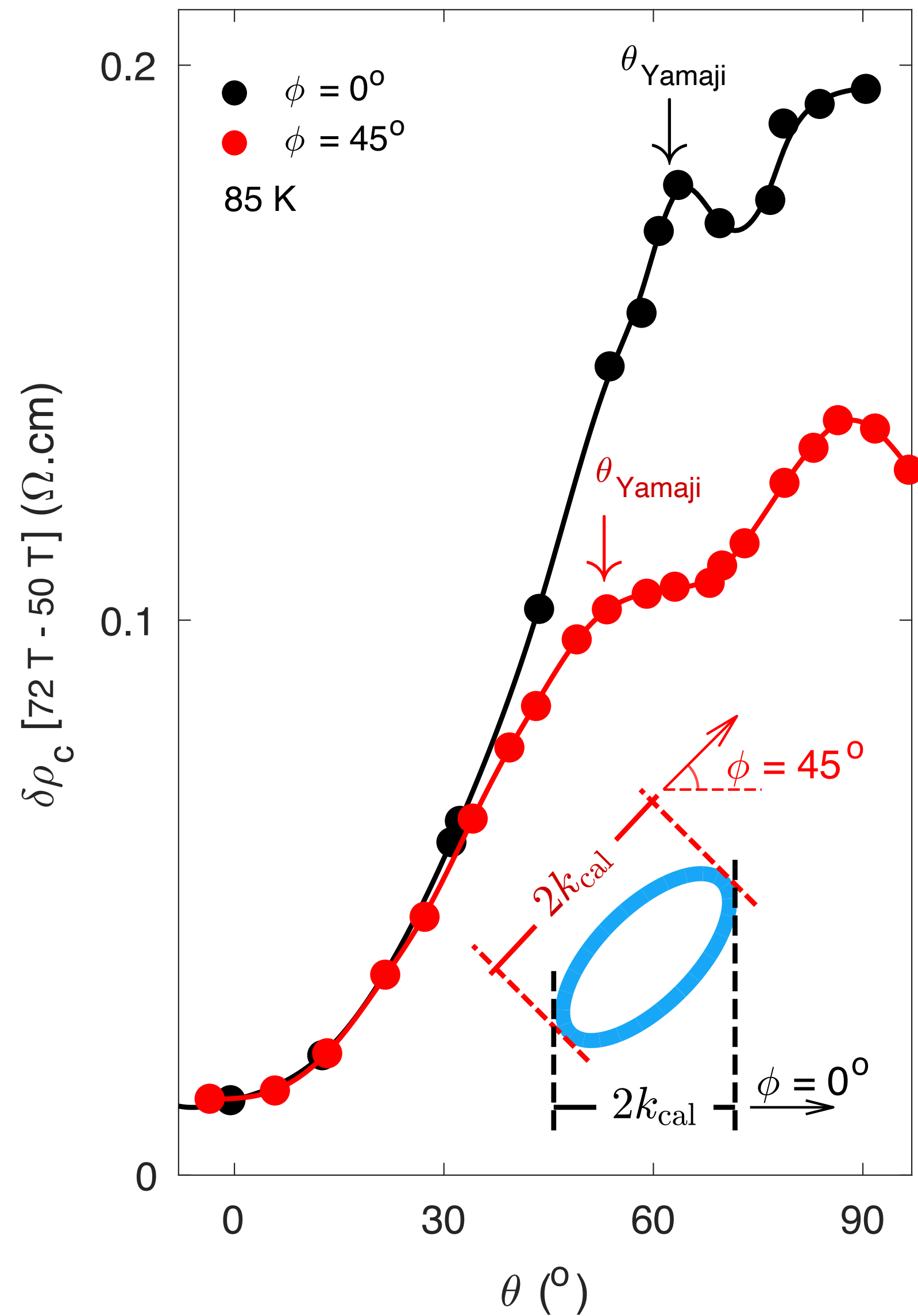
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“The small size of the pockets determined from the Yamaji effect is ... approximately 1.3% of the Brillouin zone area”

FL\* pocket fraction =  $p/8 = 1.25\%$  !

Fluctuating AF metal fraction =  $p/4 = 2.5\%$ .

( $p/8$  also in YRZ ansatz, Peter Johnson photoemission, and Jenny Hoffman and Seamus Davis STMs; Stanescu-Kotliar?)

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nature physics

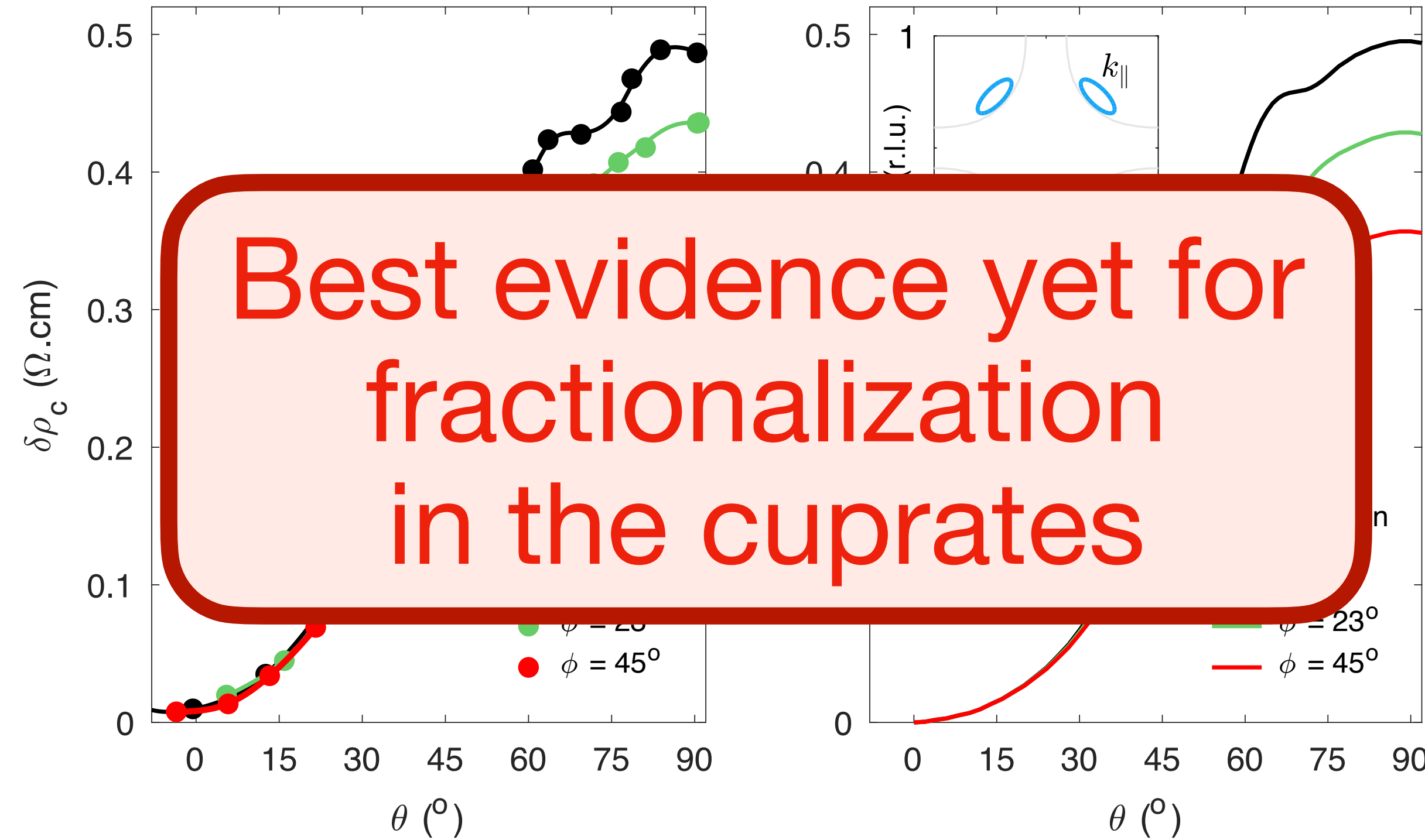
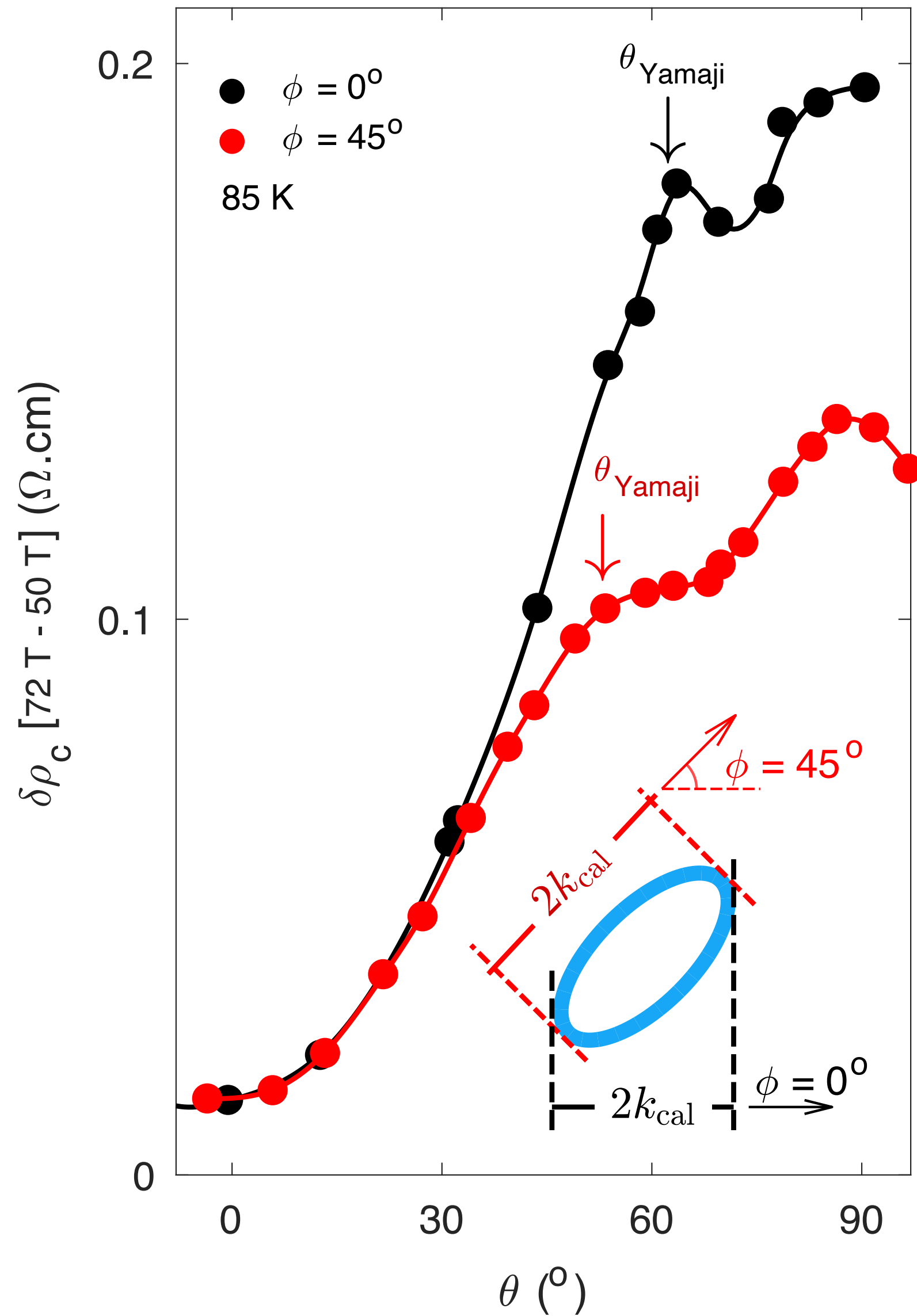
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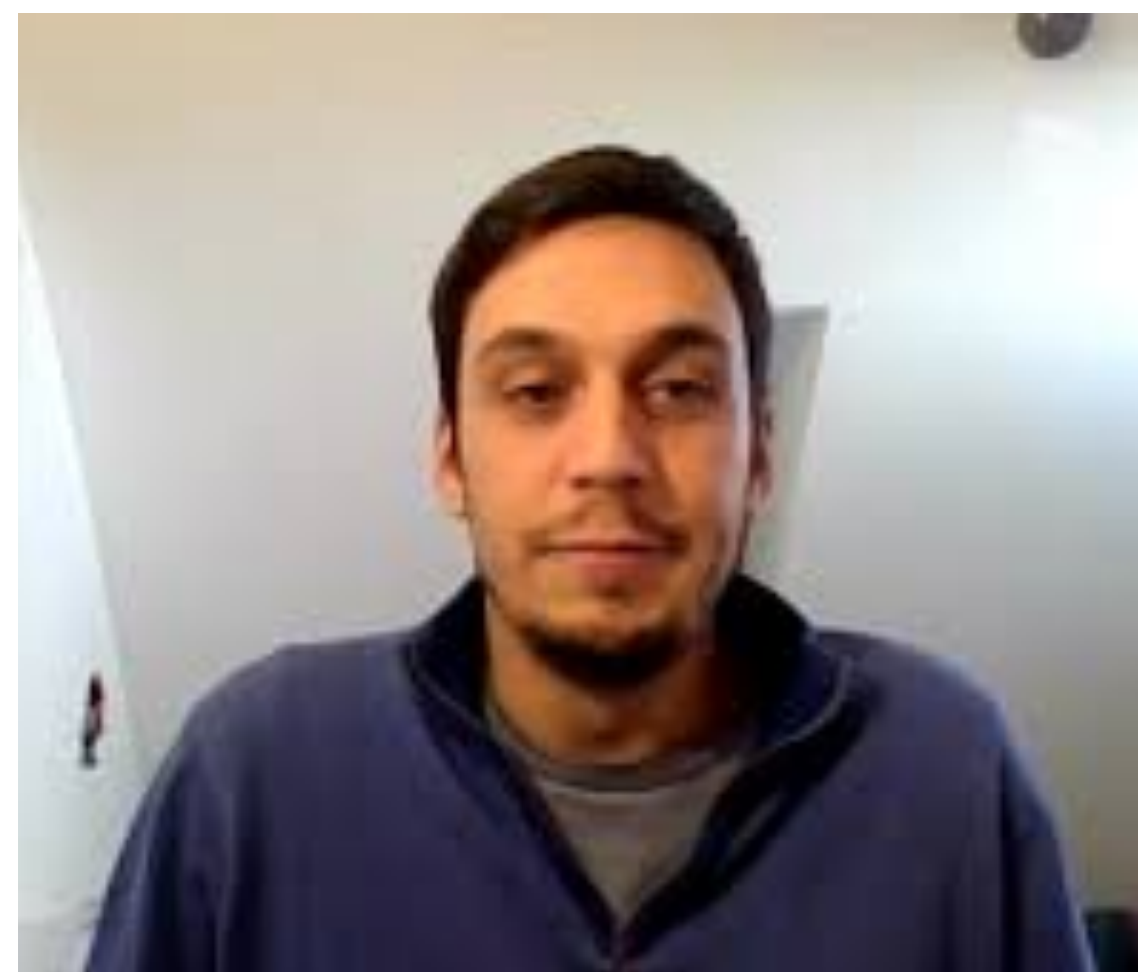
( $p/8$  also in YRZ ansatz, Peter Johnson photoemission, and Jenny Hoffman and Seamus Davis STMs; Stanescu-Kotliar?)

Coupling hole pockets  
to spin liquid

(required by non-Luttinger area of hole pockets)



Maine Christos  
Caltech



Pietro Bonetti



Alexander  
Nikolaenko

Thermal  $SU(2)$  lattice gauge theory of  
the cuprate pseudogap: reconciling  
Fermi arcs and hole pockets

H. Pandey, M. Christos, P.M. Bonetti,  
R. Shanker, A. Nikolaenko, S. Sharma,  
S.S., arXiv:2507.05336

The Institute of  
Mathematical  
Sciences,  
Chennai



Harshit Pandey



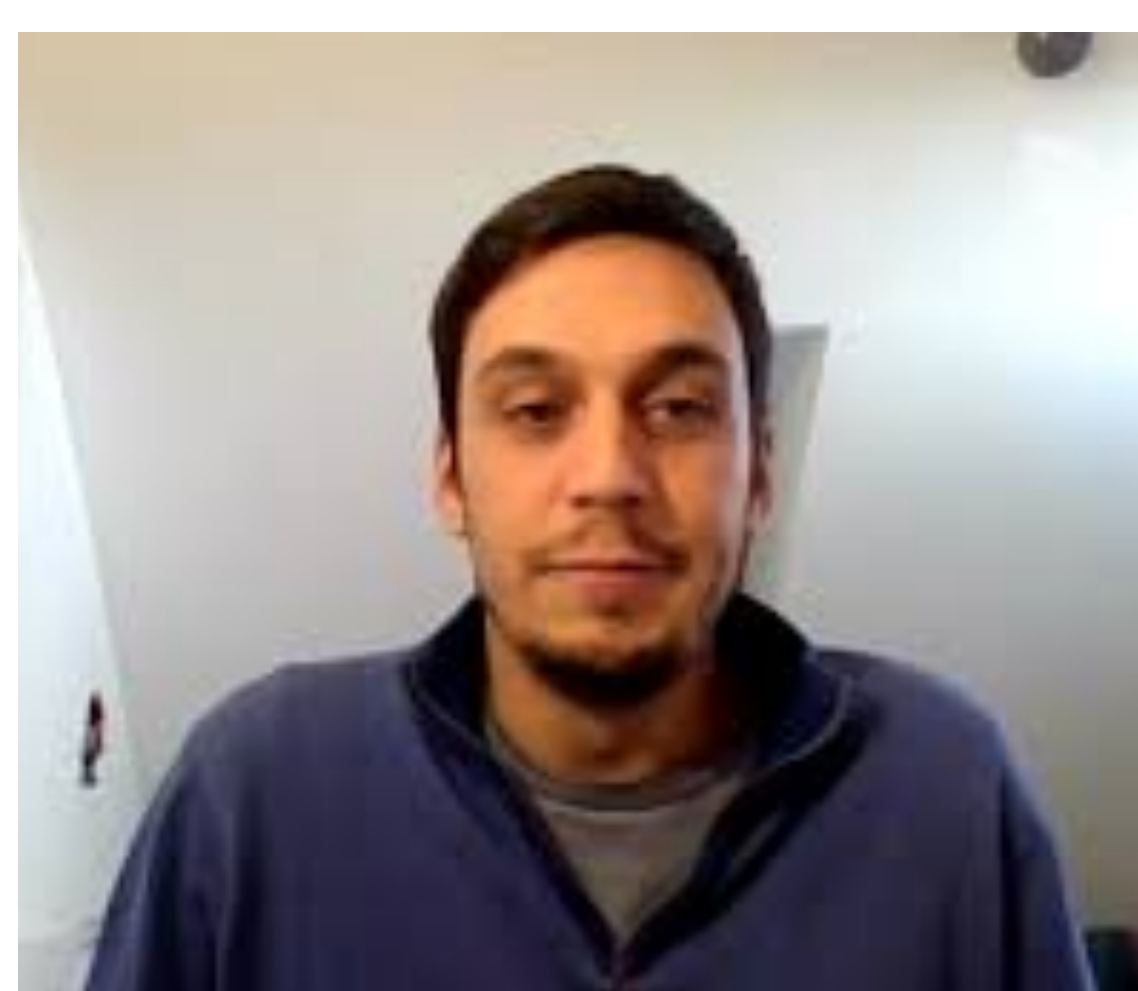
Ravi Shanker



Sayantan Sharma



Maine Christos  
Caltech



Pietro Bonetti



Alexander  
Nikolaenko



Aavishkar Patel  
ICTS, Bengaluru

arXiv > cond-mat > arXiv:2508.20164

Condensed Matter > Strongly Correlated Electrons

*[Submitted on 27 Aug 2025]*

**Critical quantum liquids and the cuprate high temperature superconductors**

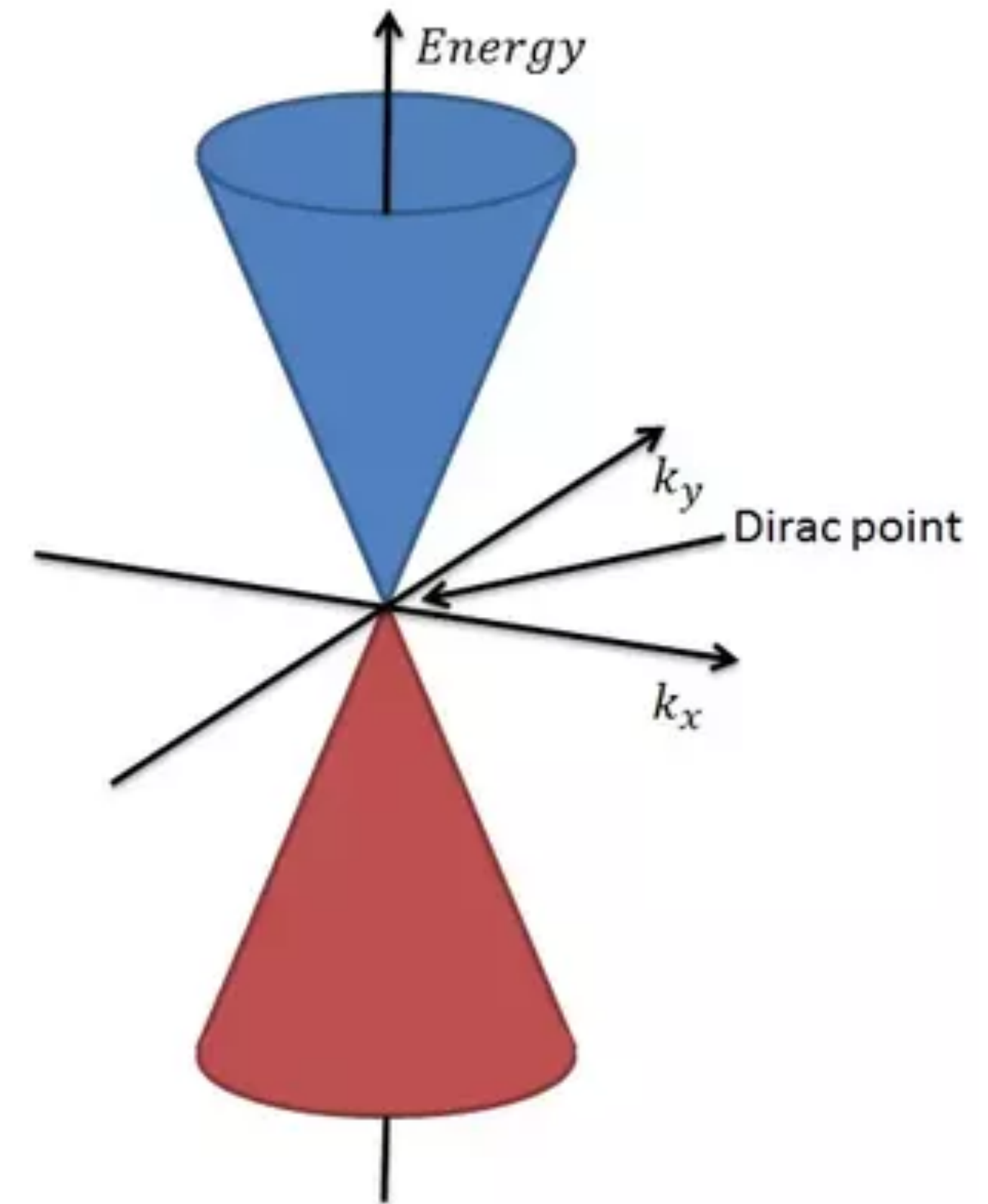
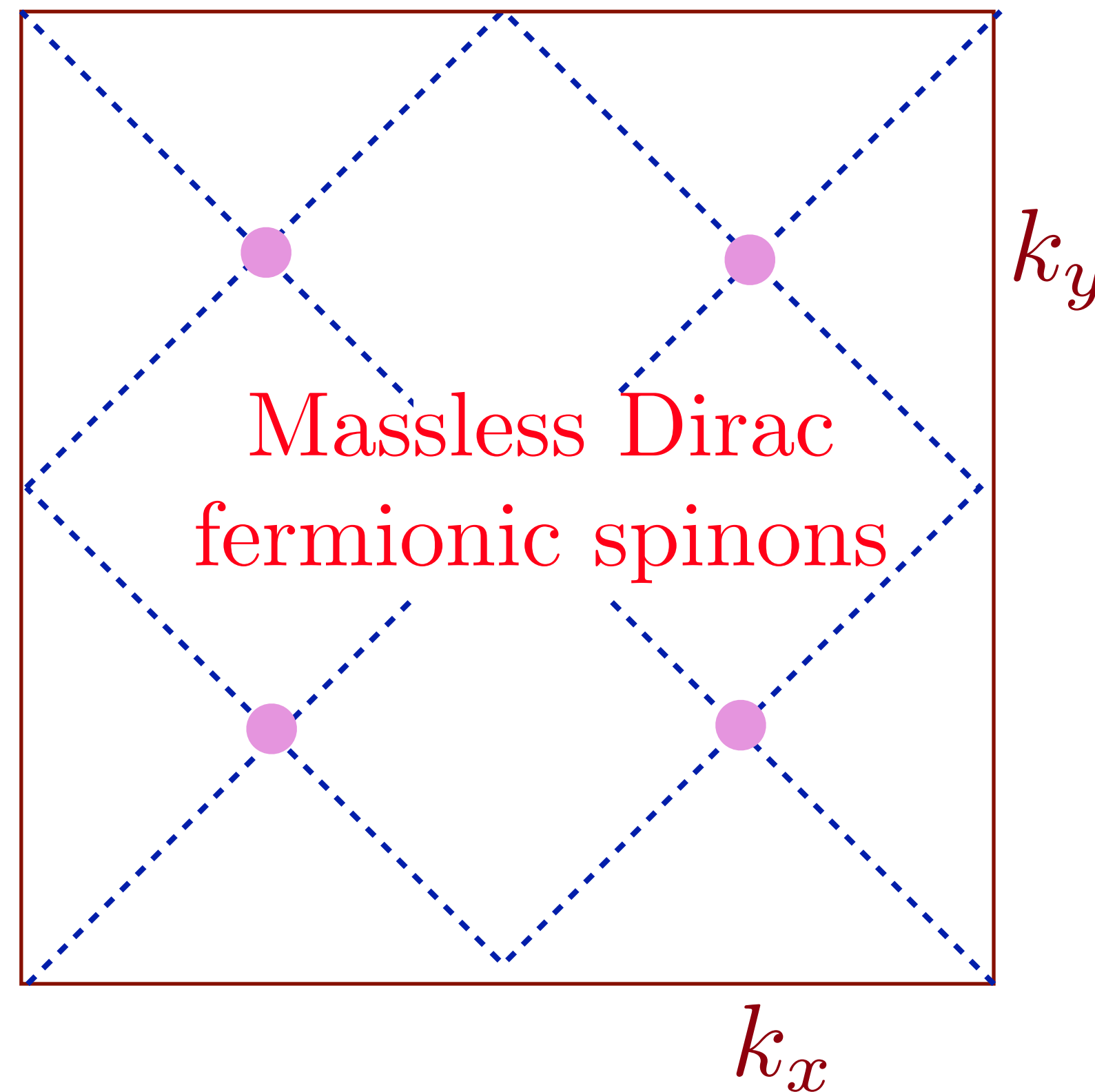
- Identification of spin liquid: critical spin liquid without quasiparticles. One description is a  $SU(2)$  gauge theory with  $N_f = 2$  massless Dirac spinons in 2+1 dimensions. (Curious fact: QCD is a  $SU(3)$  gauge theory with  $N_f = 3$  massless Dirac quarks in 3+1 dimensions.)

I. Affleck and J.B. Marston,  
PRB **37**, 3774 (1988)

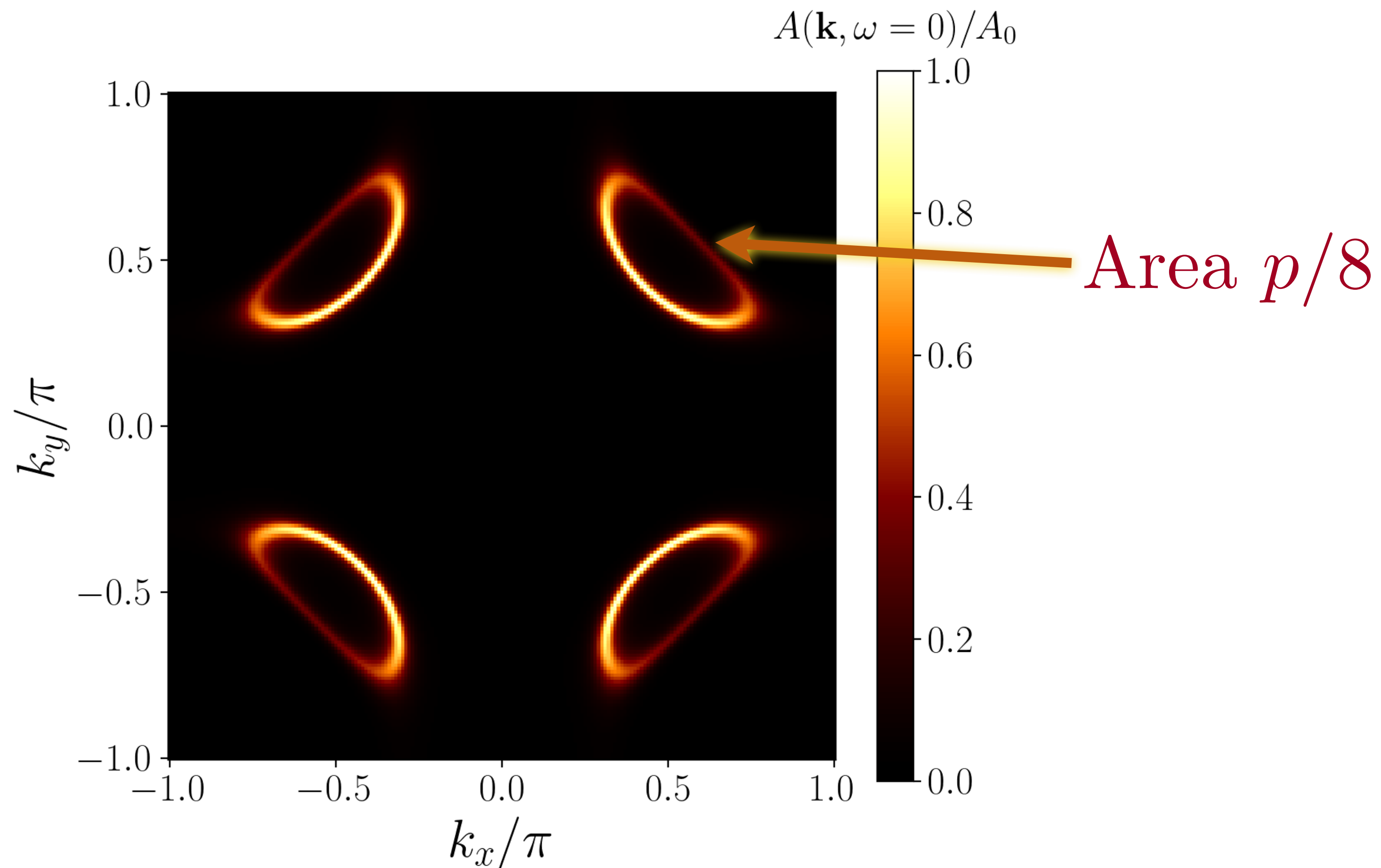
N. Read and S. Sachdev,  
PRL **62**, 1694 (1989)

C. Wang, A. Nahum, M. A. Metlitski,  
C. Xu, T. Senthil,  
*Phys. Rev. X* **7**, 031051 (2017)

Zheng Zhou, Liangdong Hu, Wei Zhu,  
Yin-Chen He, PRX **14**, 021044 (2024)



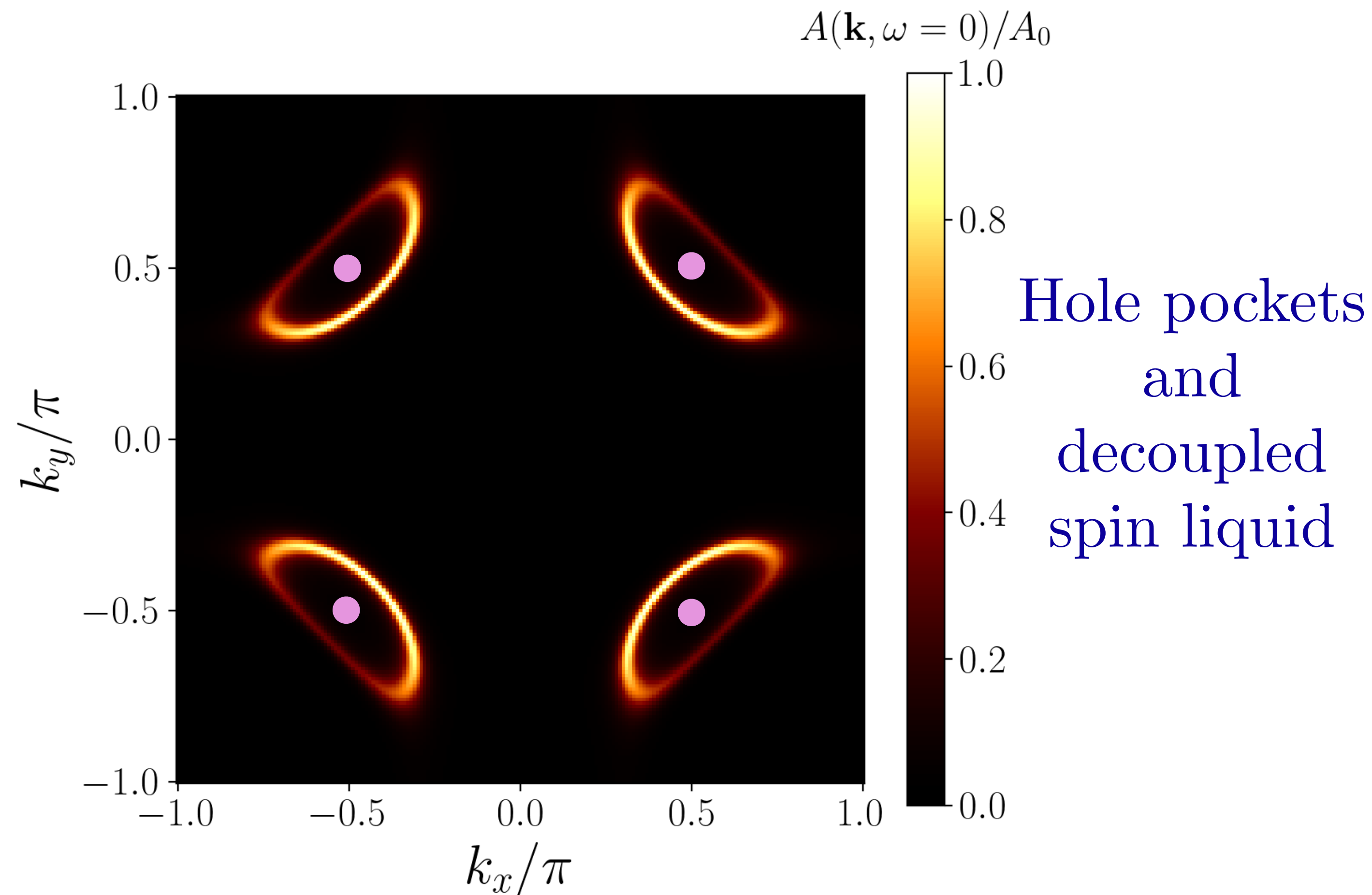
- Dope spin liquid with *holes*, not holons.  
The Ancilla Layer Model (ALM) enables a theory of FL\* hole pockets for a general spin liquid.



Ya-Hui Zhang and S. S., PRR **2**, 023172 (2020)

E. Mascot, A. Nikolaenko, M. Tikhanovskaya, Ya-Hui Zhang, D. K. Morr, S. S., PRB **105**, 075146 (2022)

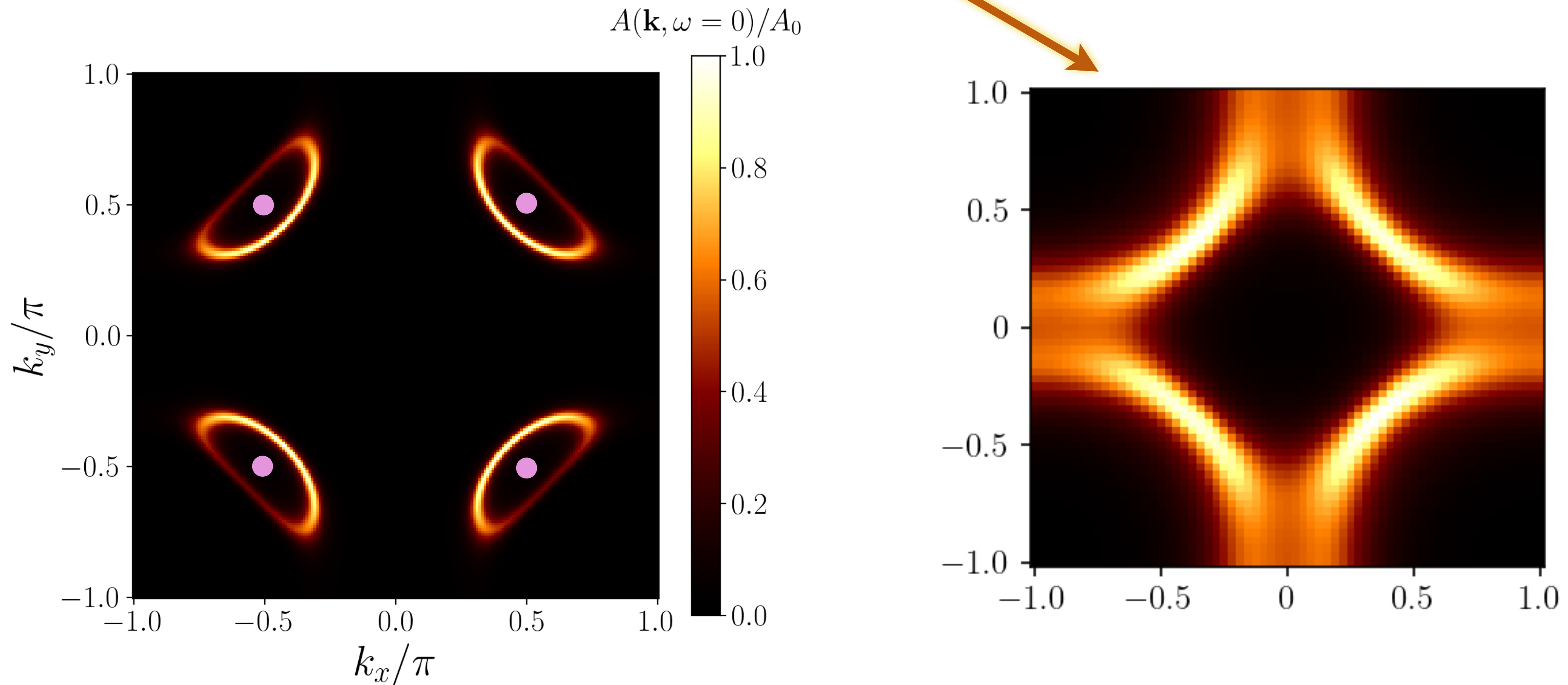
- Theory of pseudogap (and its low  $T$  instabilities): Hole pockets coupled to critical spin liquid by a charge  $e$  Higgs field of the thermal  $SU(2)$  gauge theory.



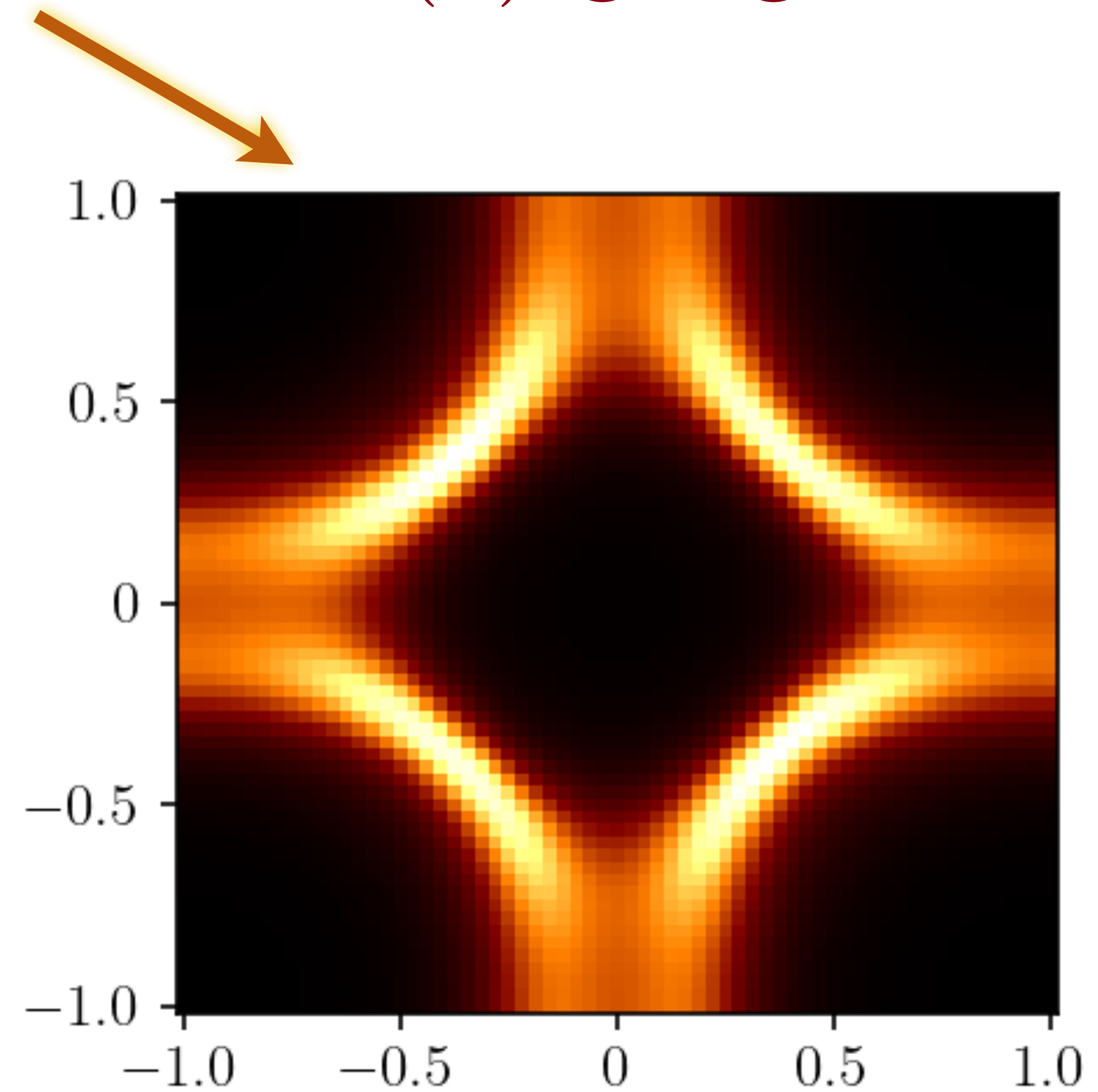
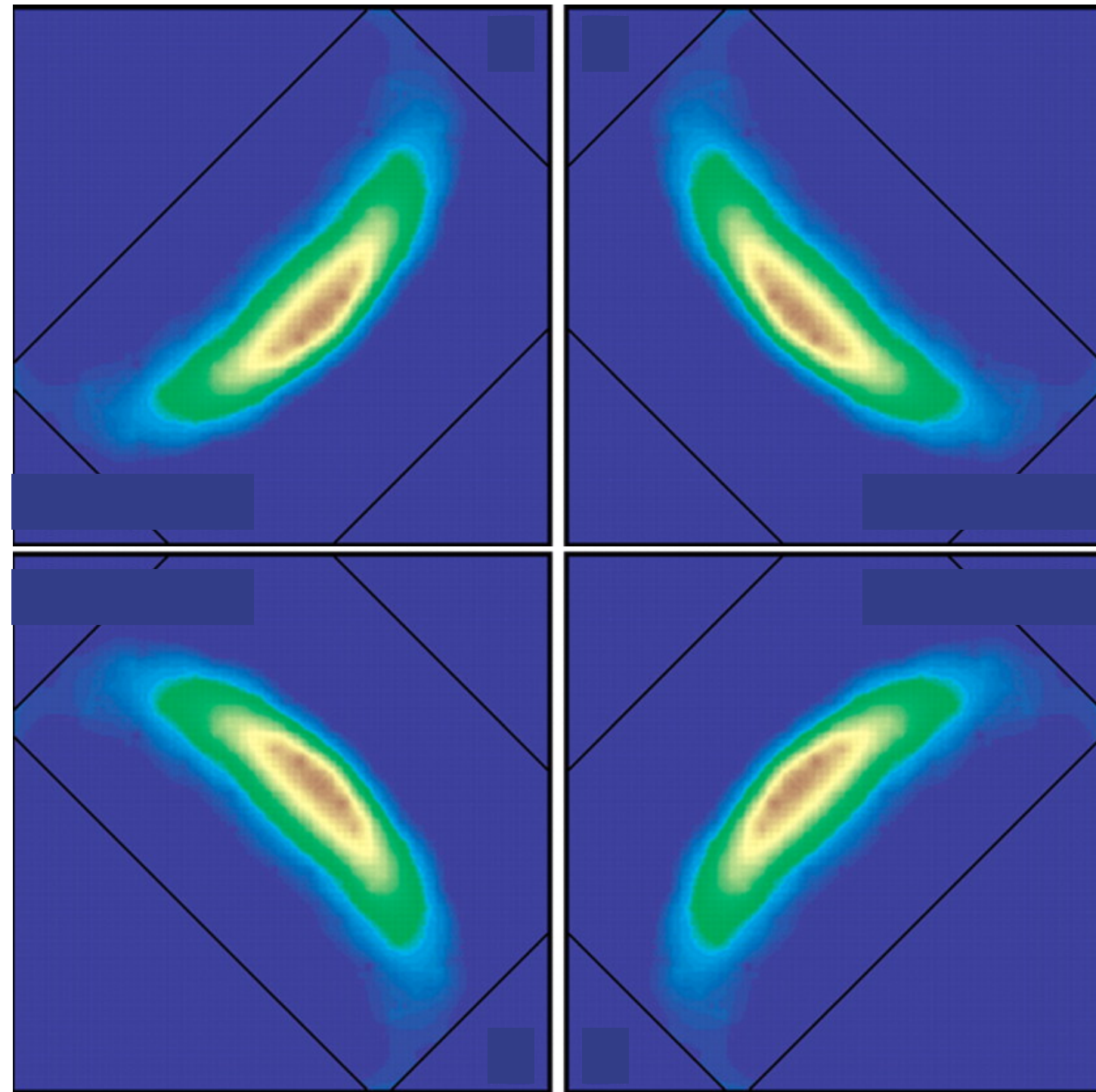
Ya-Hui Zhang and S. S., PRR **2**, 023172 (2020)

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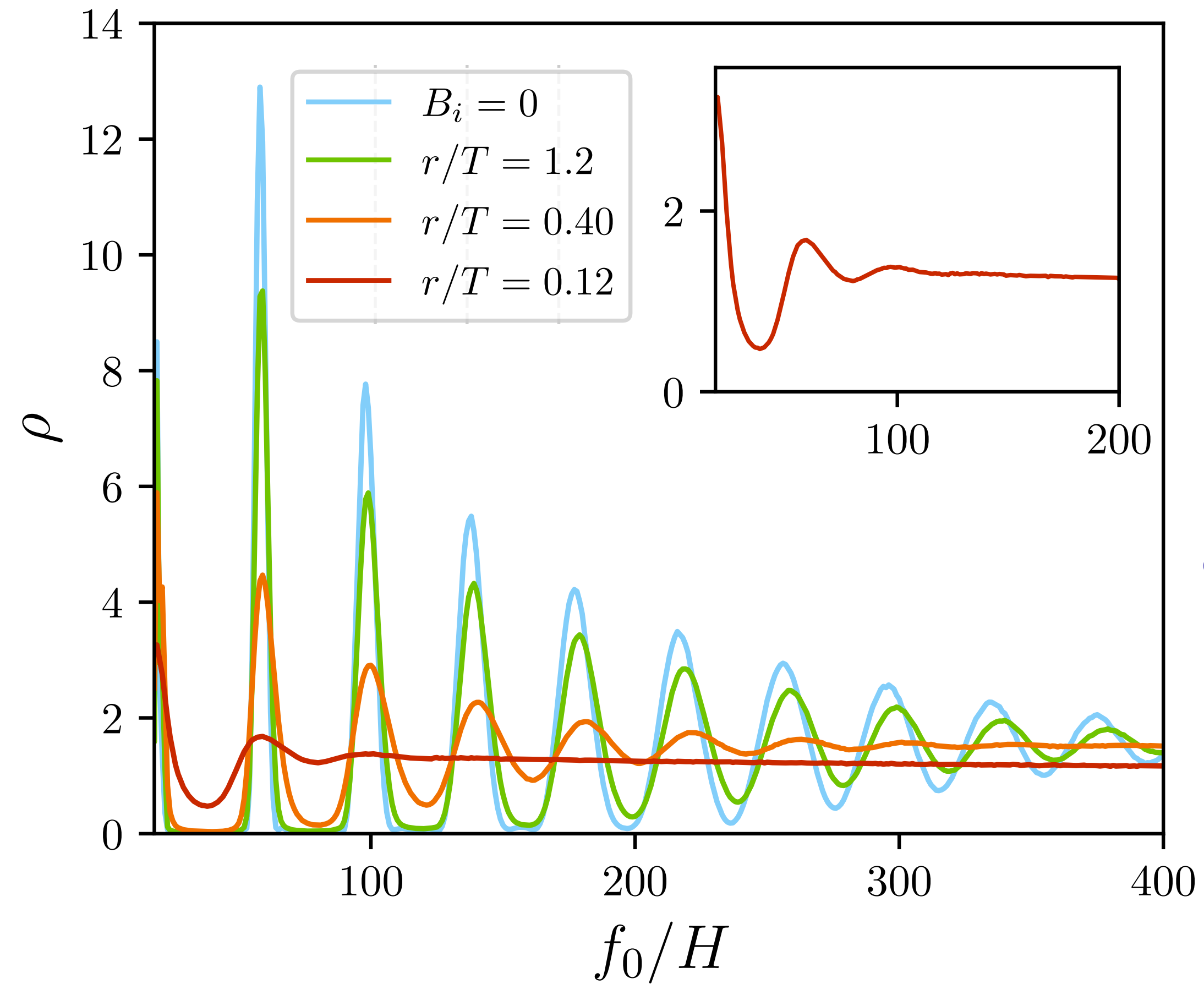
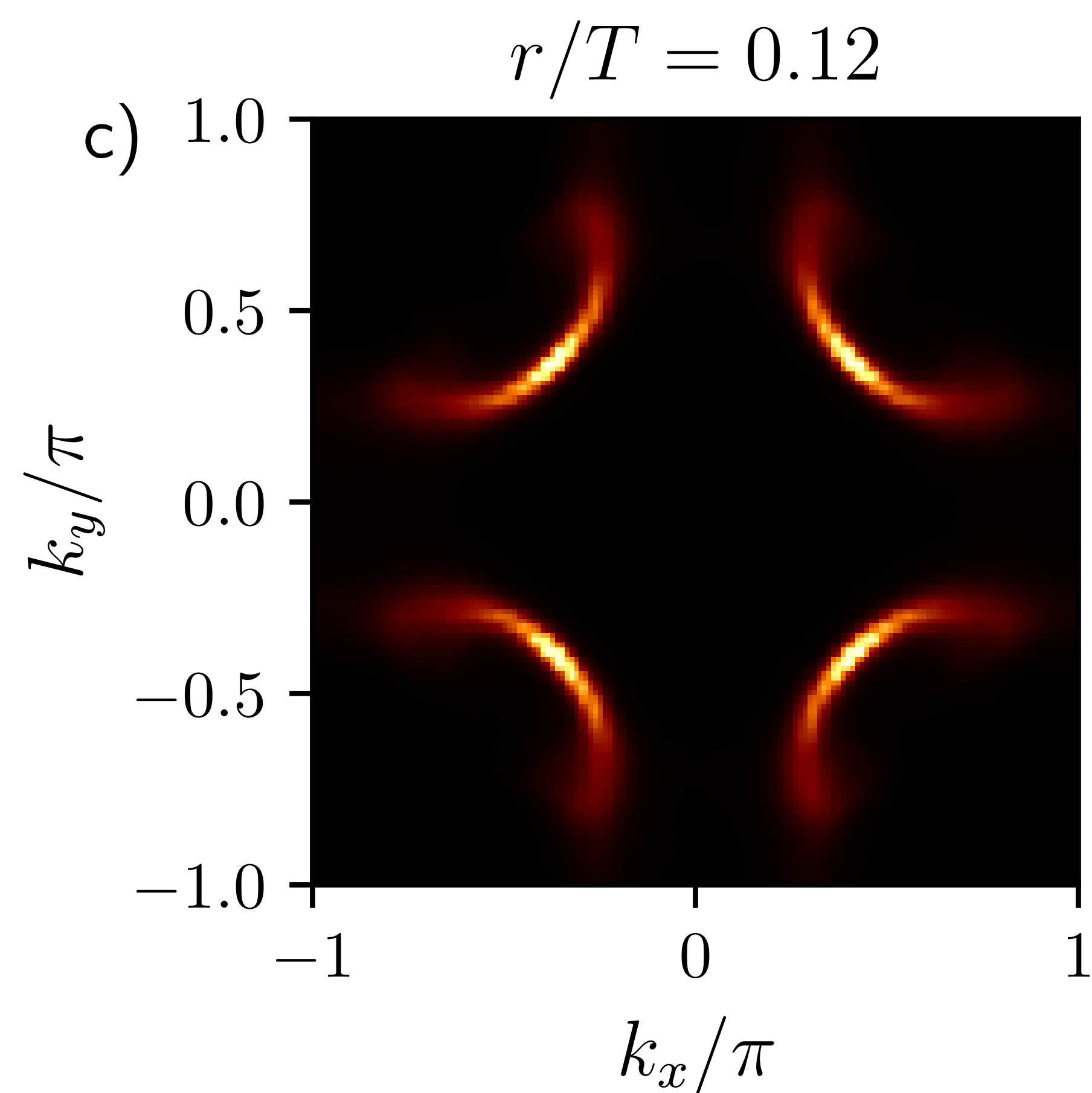
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Kyle M. Shen, ... Z.-X. Shen, *Science* **307**, 901 (2005)

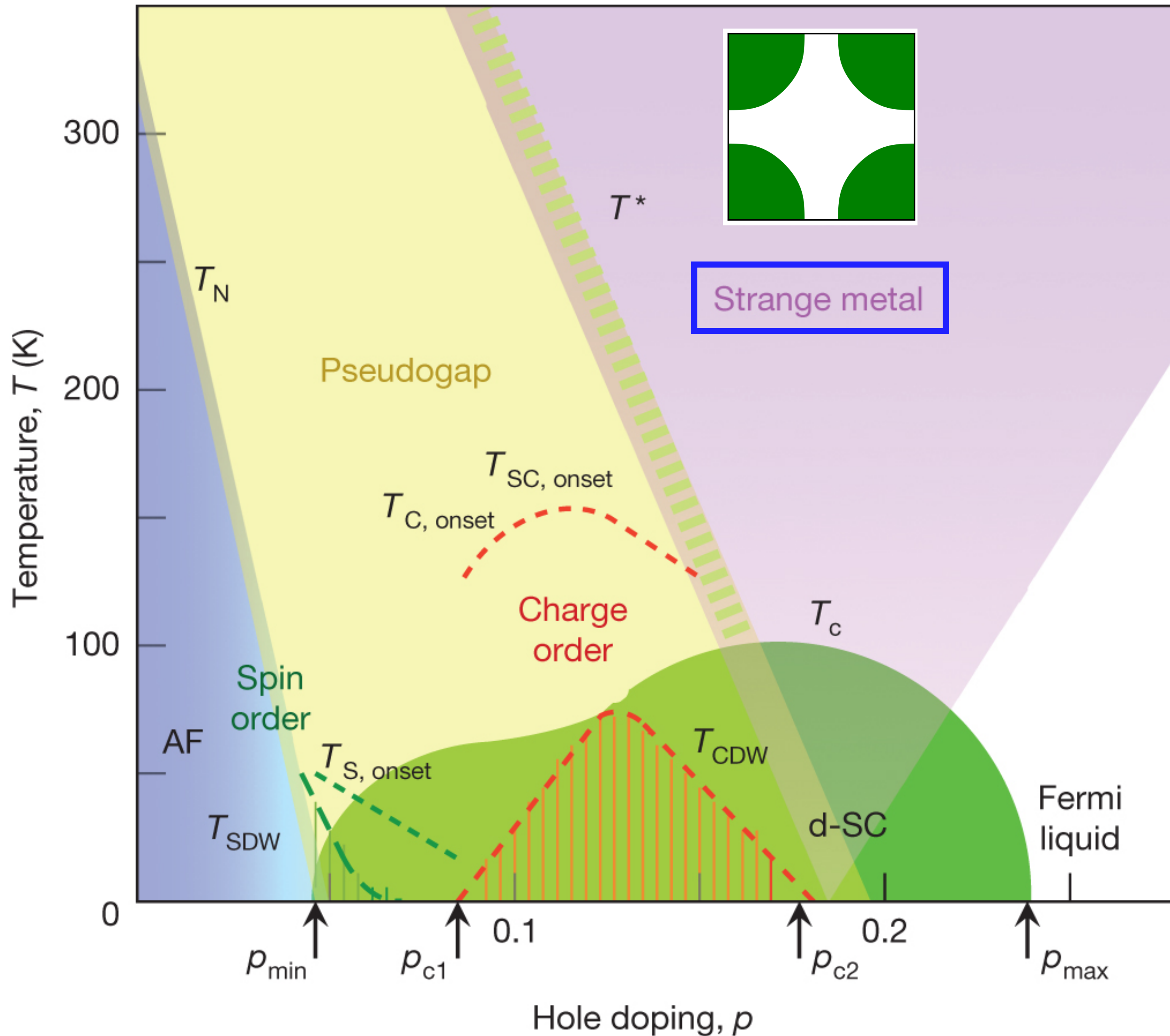
H. Pandey, M. Christos, P.M. Bonetti, R. Shanker, S. Sharma, S.S., arXiv:2507.05336

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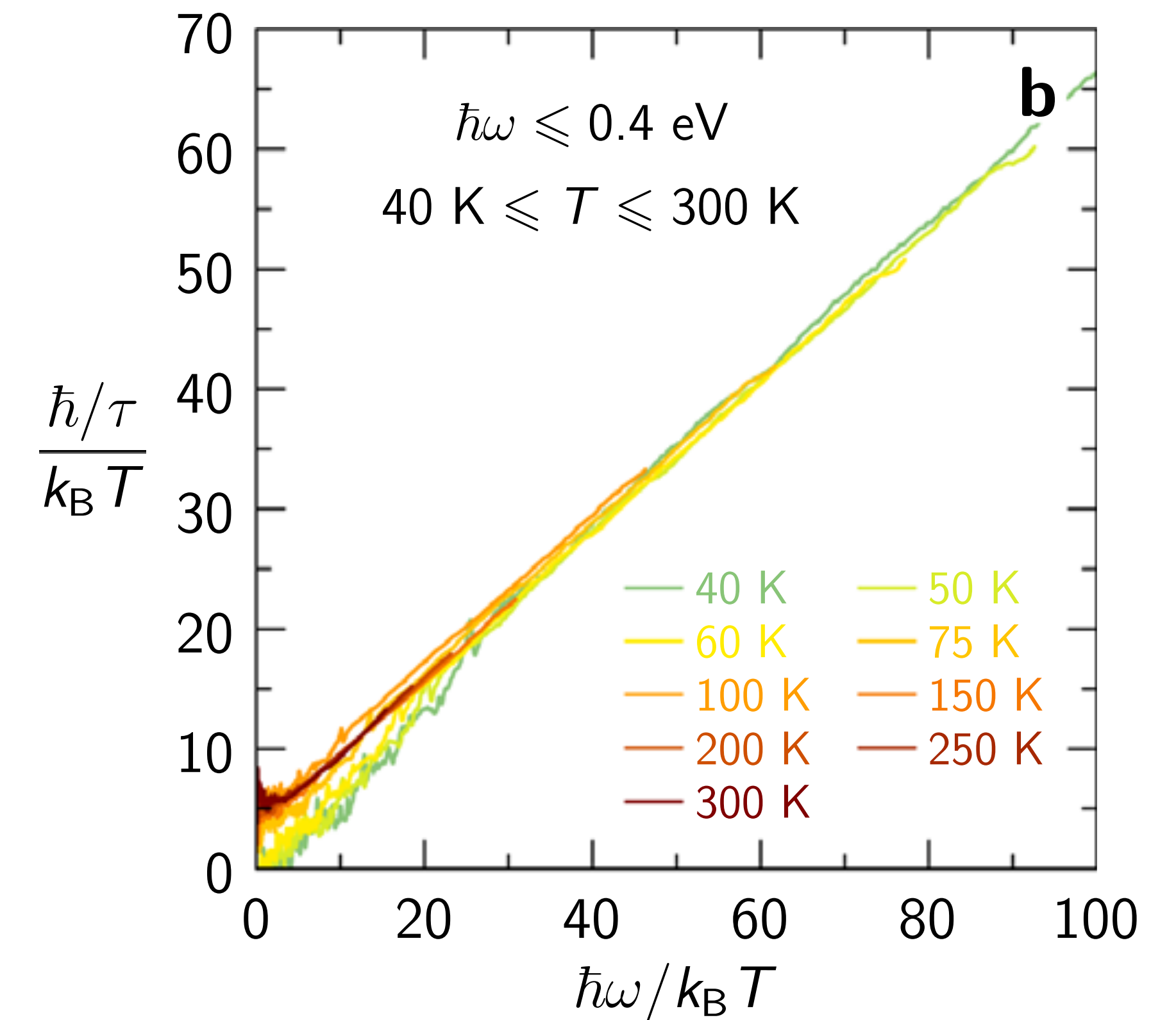
Fermi arcs  
co-exist with  
quantum  
oscillations  
of hole pockets  
of area  $p/8$ .

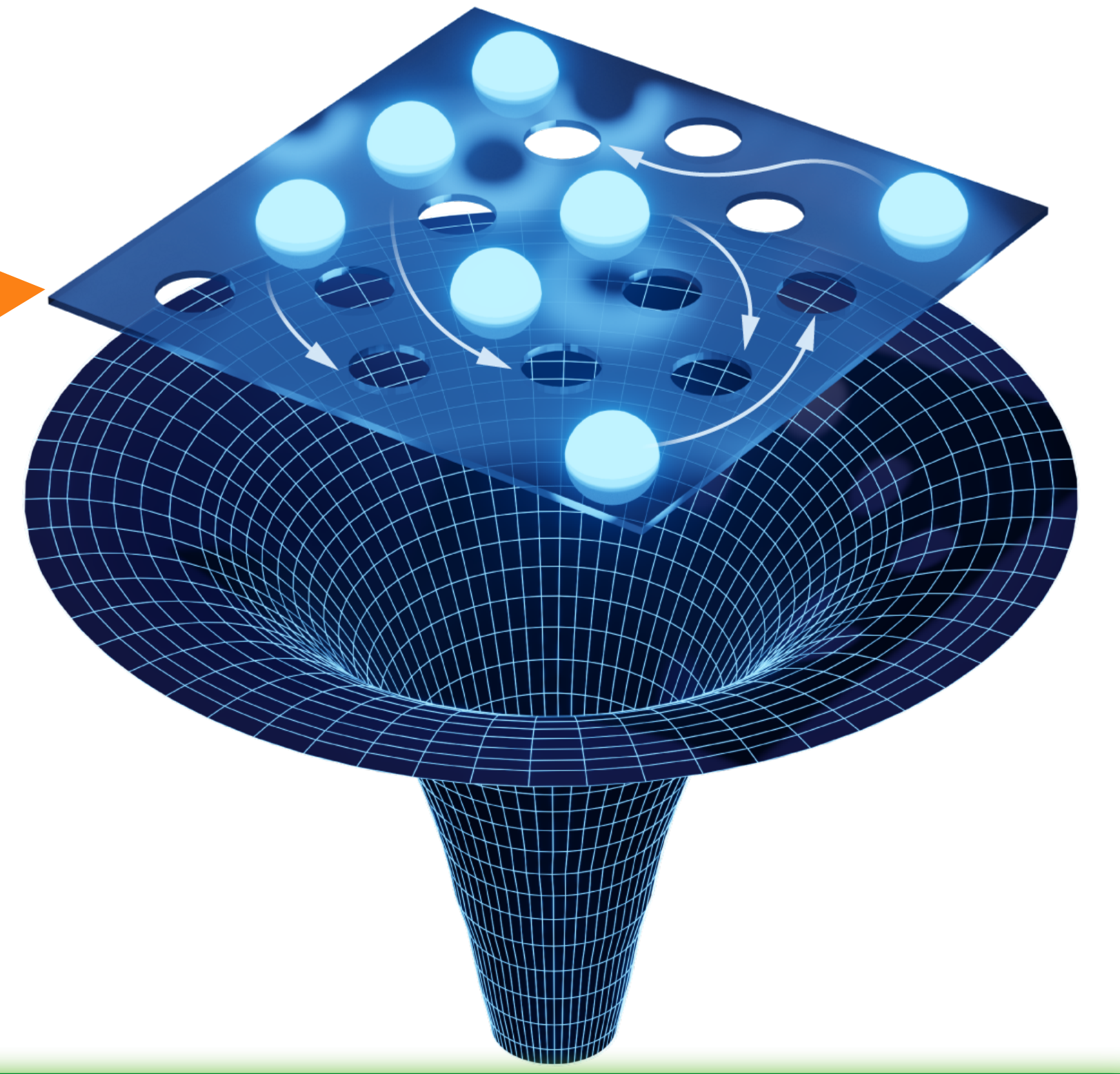
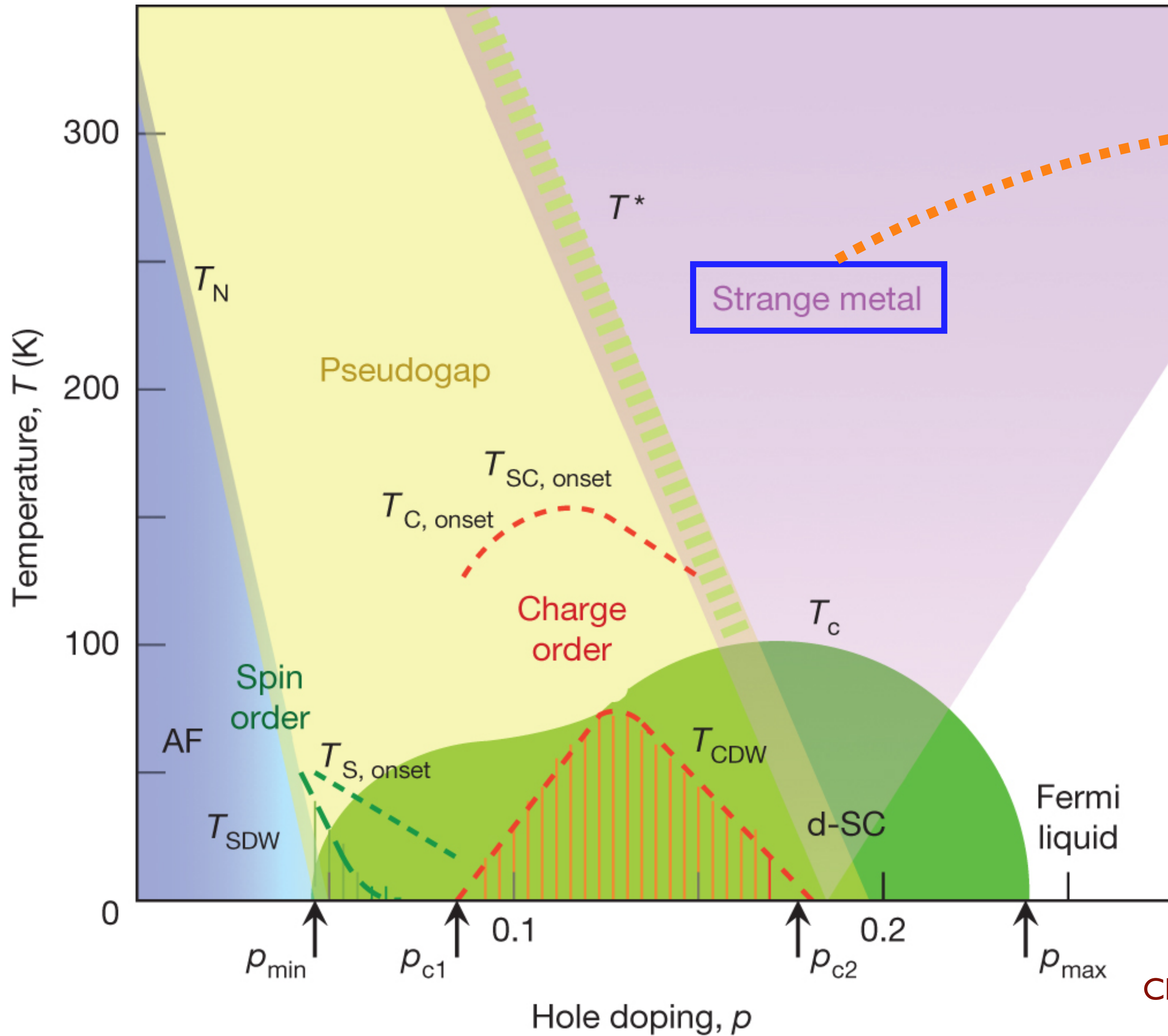
# Strange metal and phase diagram



**Planckian dynamics !**  
of large Fermi surface  
Electron scattering time  $\tau$   
from optical conductivity

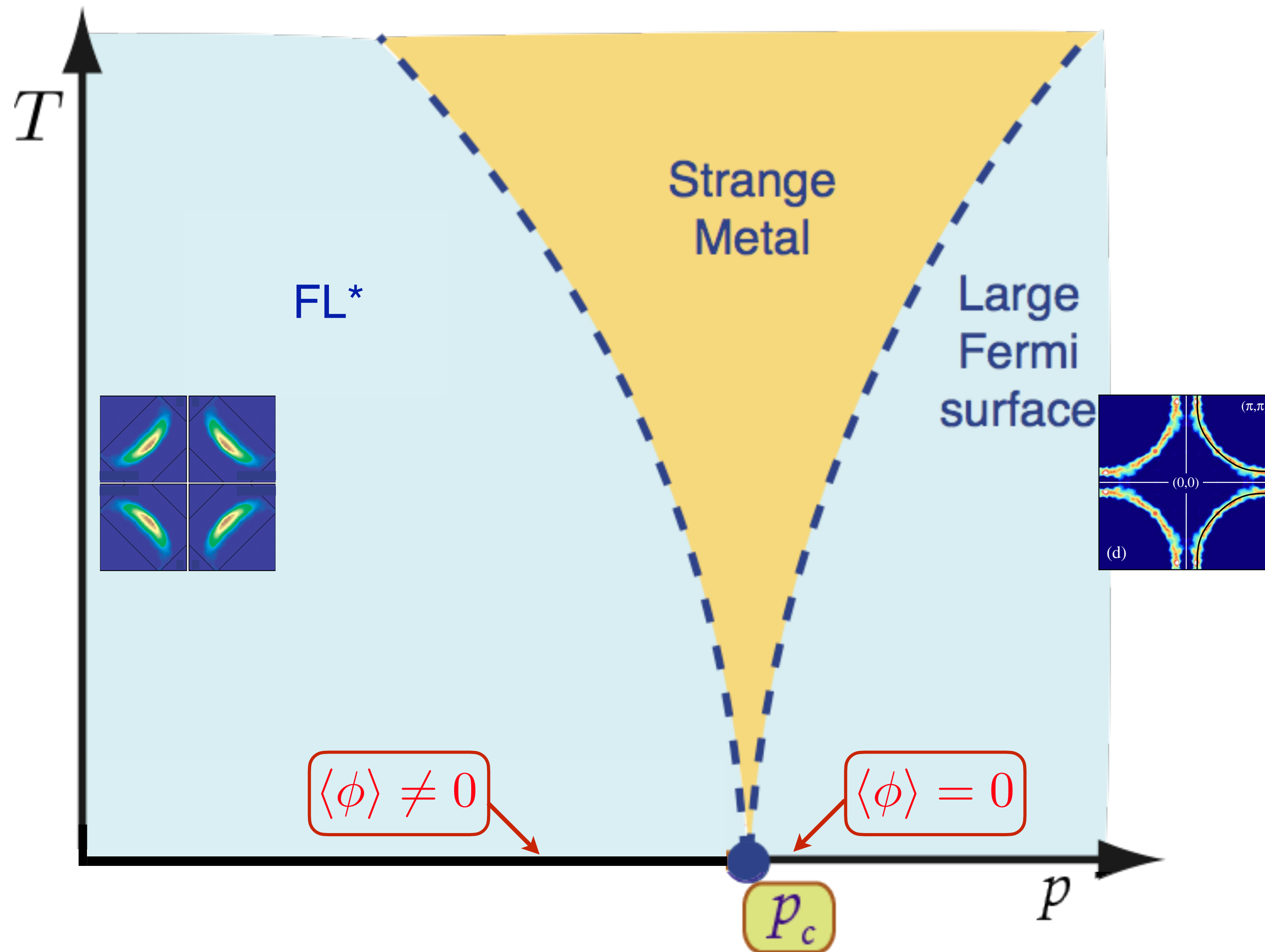
$$\tau(\omega) = \frac{\hbar}{k_B T} F\left(\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_B T}\right)$$



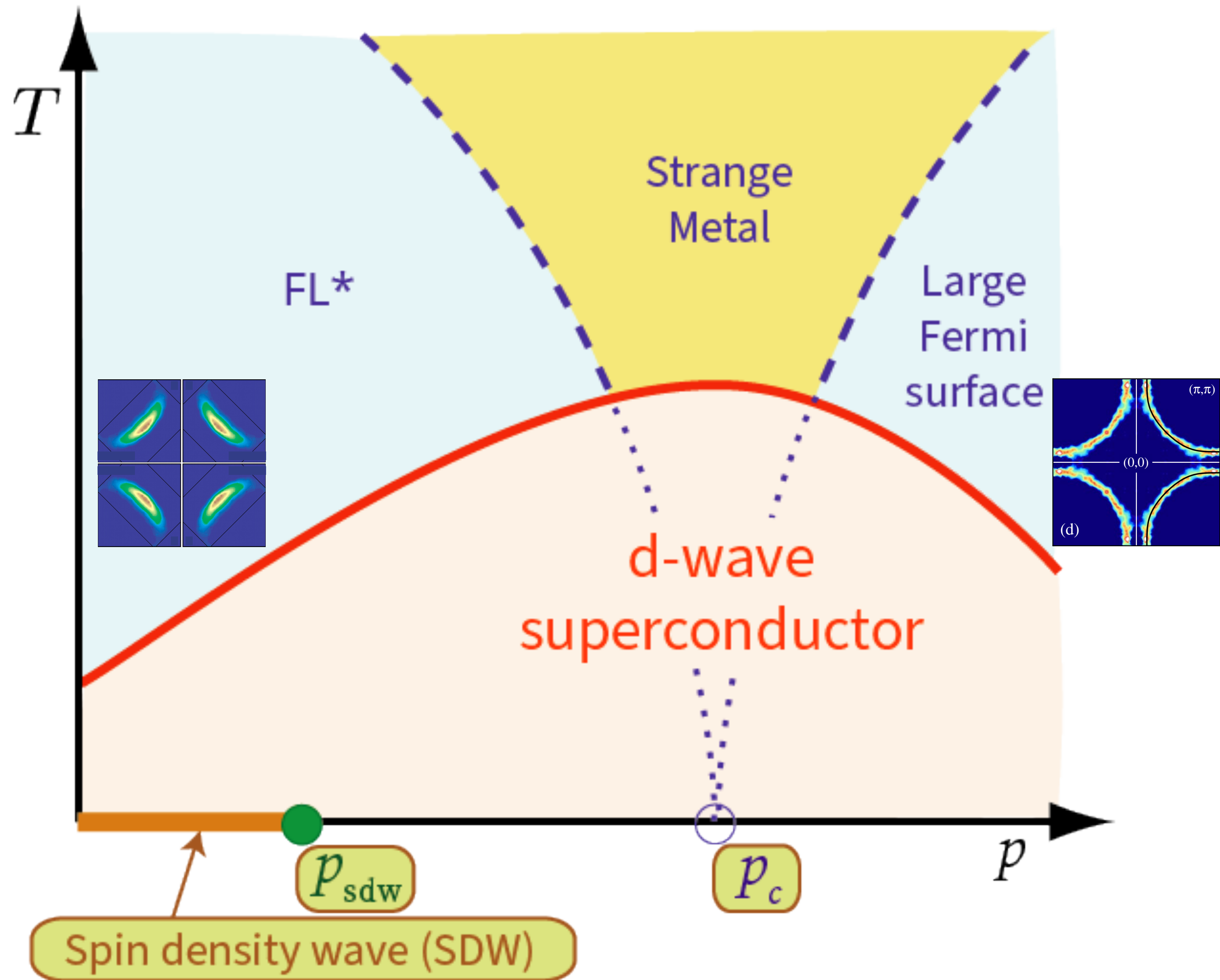


Explain with a local, two-dimensional extension of the Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model of mobile electrons, a *critical charge liquid*

Aavishkar A. Patel, Haoyu Guo, Ilya Esterlis, S. Sachdev, *Science* **381**, 790 (2023);  
Chenyuan Li, Aavishkar A. Patel, Haoyu Guo, Davide Valentini, Jorg Schmalian, S.S., Ilya Esterlis, *PRL* **133**, 186502 (2024)

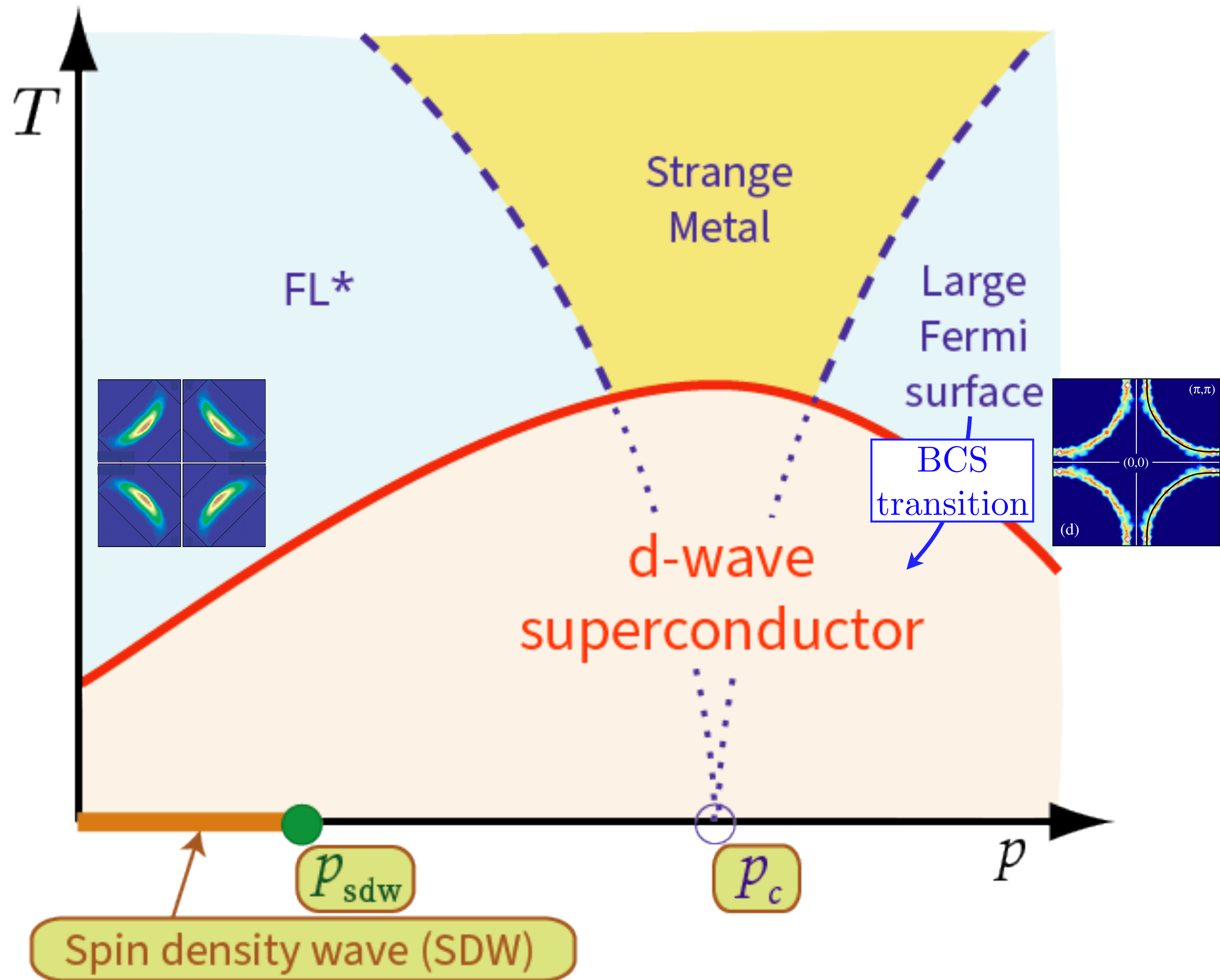


Quantum-criticality  
of a  
quantum phase transition  
between two metals  
(FL\* and FL)  
at  $p = p_c$ ,  
with no symmetry breaking.  
 $\phi$  is a Higgs field with  
emergent gauge charge.



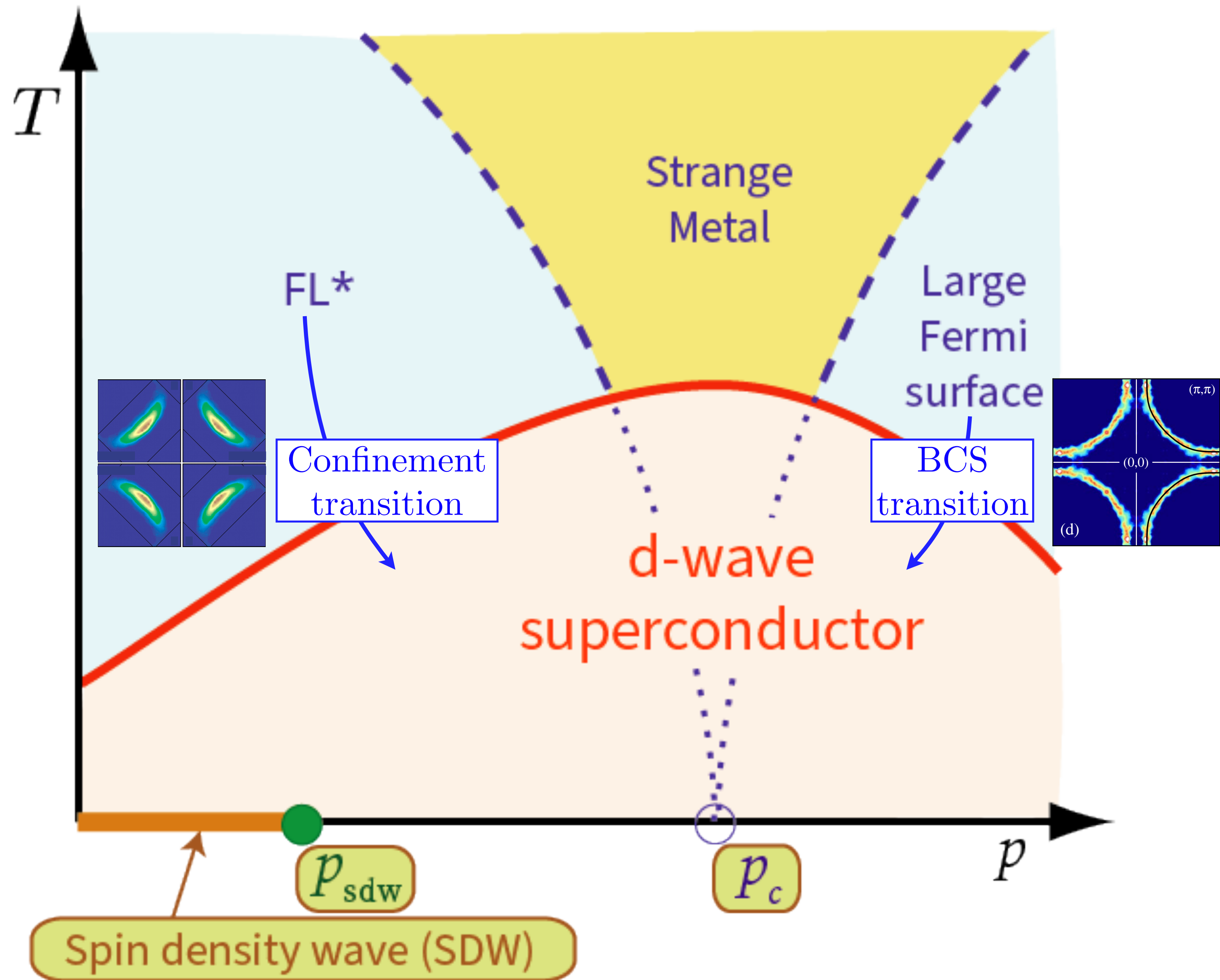
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Both metals lead to the  
same  $d$ -wave superconductor  
at lower temperatures, and  
so there is transition at  
 $p = p_c$  within the  
superconducting state.



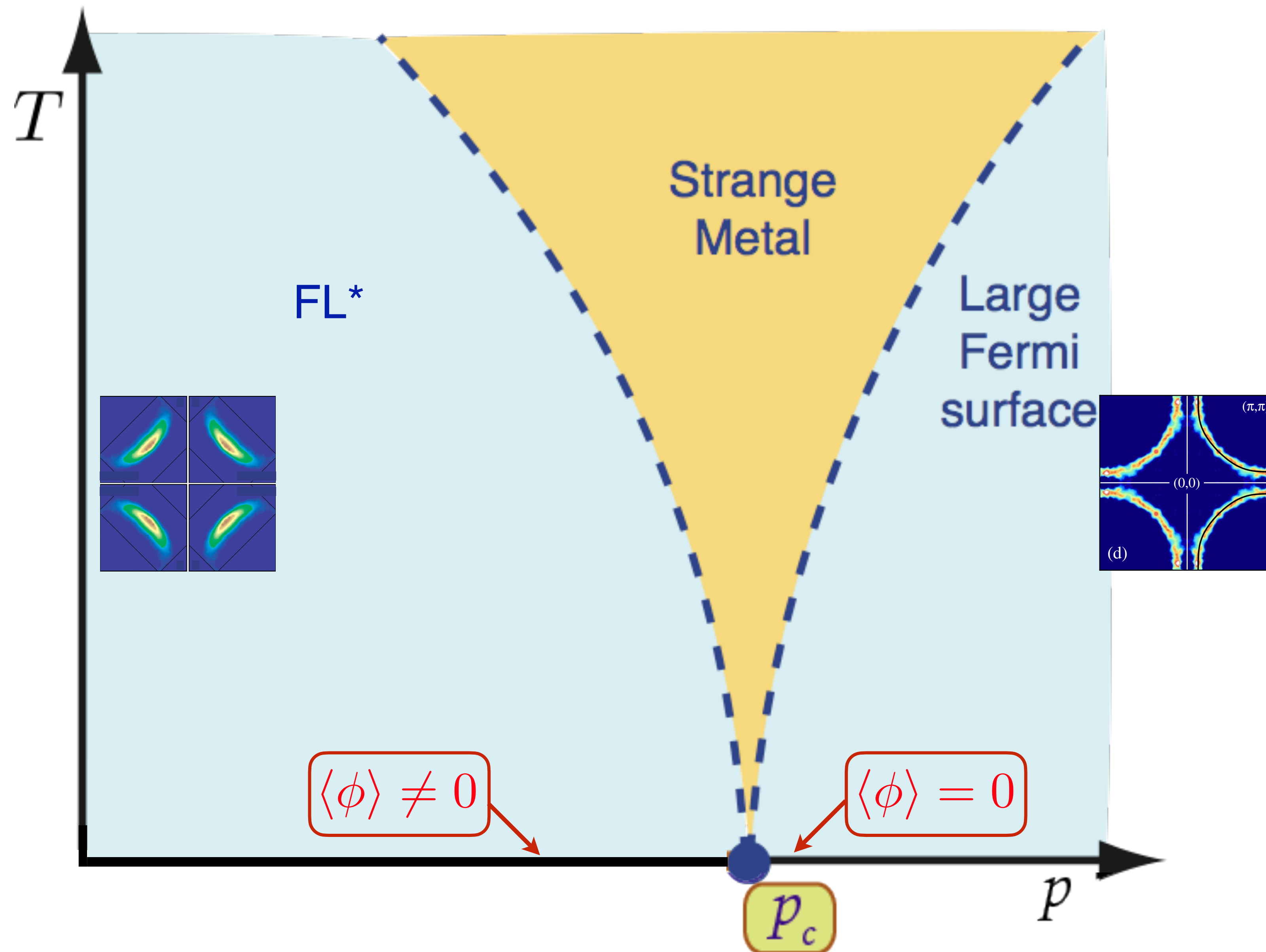
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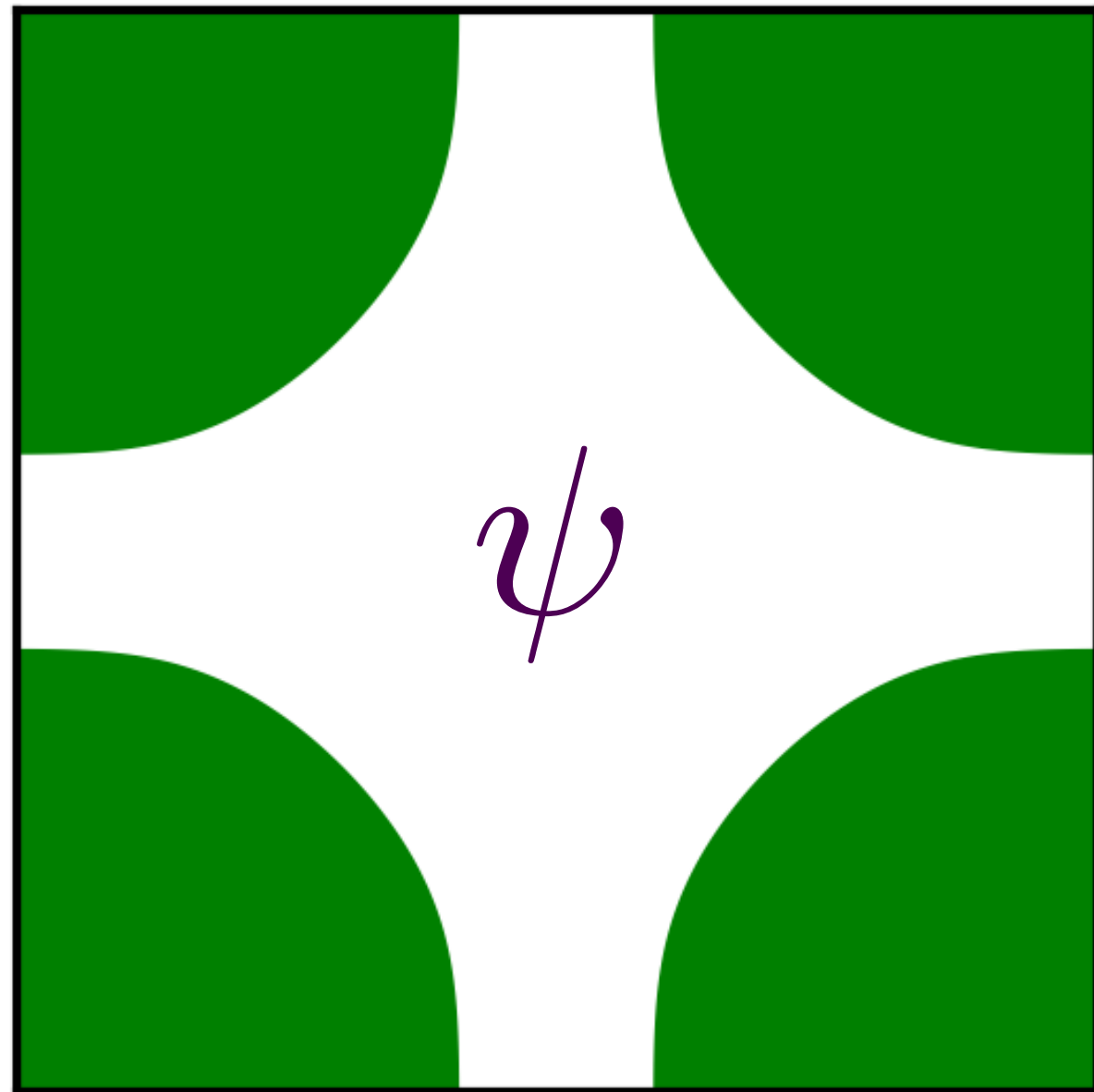
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# 2d-YSYK model: Fermi surface + critical boson with interaction disorder

Aavishkar A. Patel, Haoyu Guo, Ilya Esterlis, S. Sachdev, *Science* **381**, 790 (2023)

$$\mathcal{L}_\psi = \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + \varepsilon(\mathbf{k}) \right) \psi_{\mathbf{k}}$$

Critical Higgs boson  $\phi$   
driving FL\*-FL transition.



$$[\phi(\mathbf{r})]^2 + [g + g'(\mathbf{r})] \psi^\dagger(\mathbf{r}) \psi(\mathbf{r}) \phi(\mathbf{r}) \\ + v(\mathbf{r}) \psi^\dagger(\mathbf{r}) \psi(\mathbf{r})$$

Spatially random Yukawa coupling  $g'(\mathbf{r})$  with  $\overline{g'(\mathbf{r})} = 0$ ,  $\overline{g'(\mathbf{r})g'(\mathbf{r}')} = g'^2 \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')$

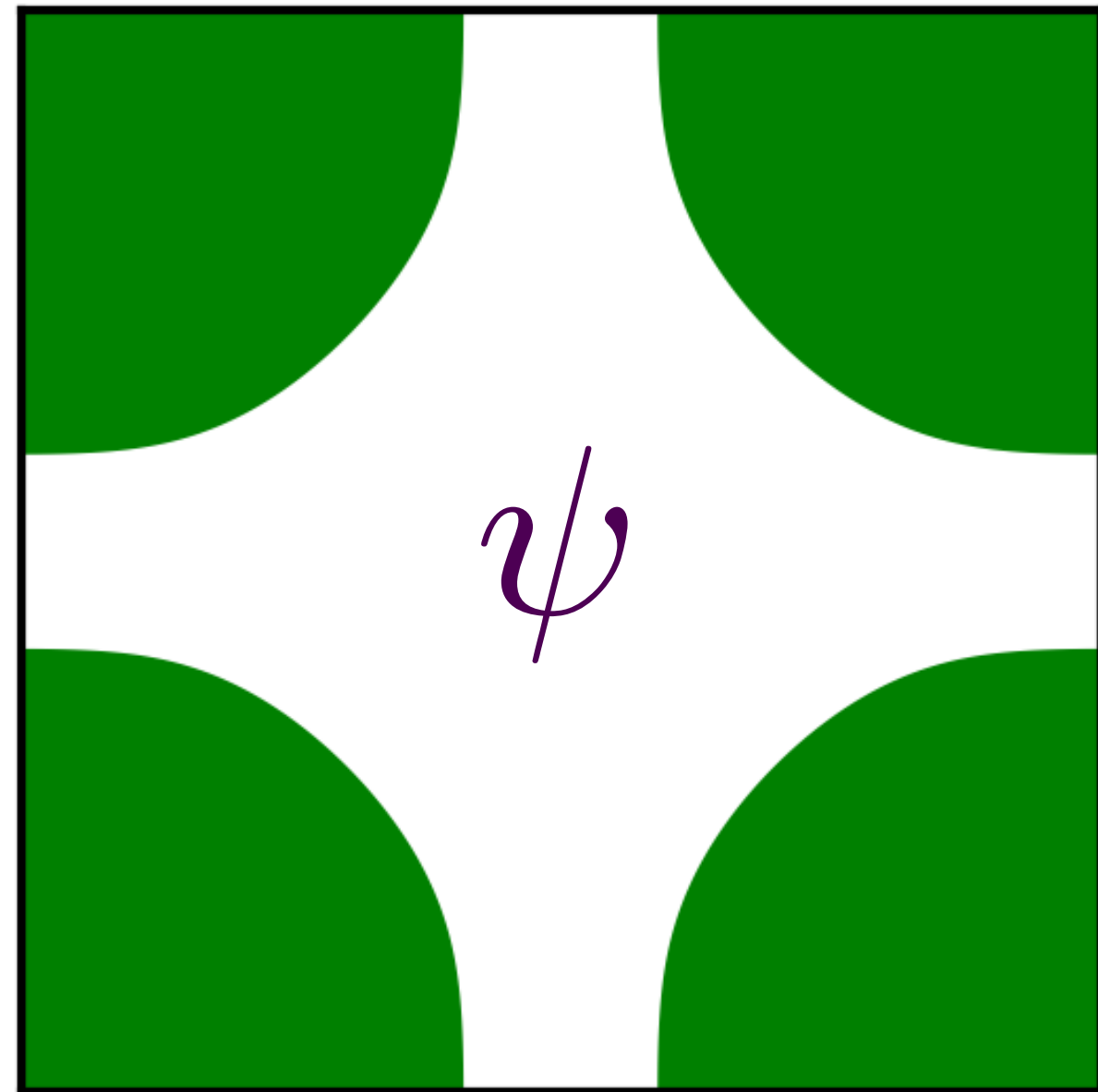
Spatially random potential  $v(\mathbf{r})$  with  $\overline{v(\mathbf{r})} = 0$ ,  $\overline{v(\mathbf{r})v(\mathbf{r}')} = v^2 \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')$

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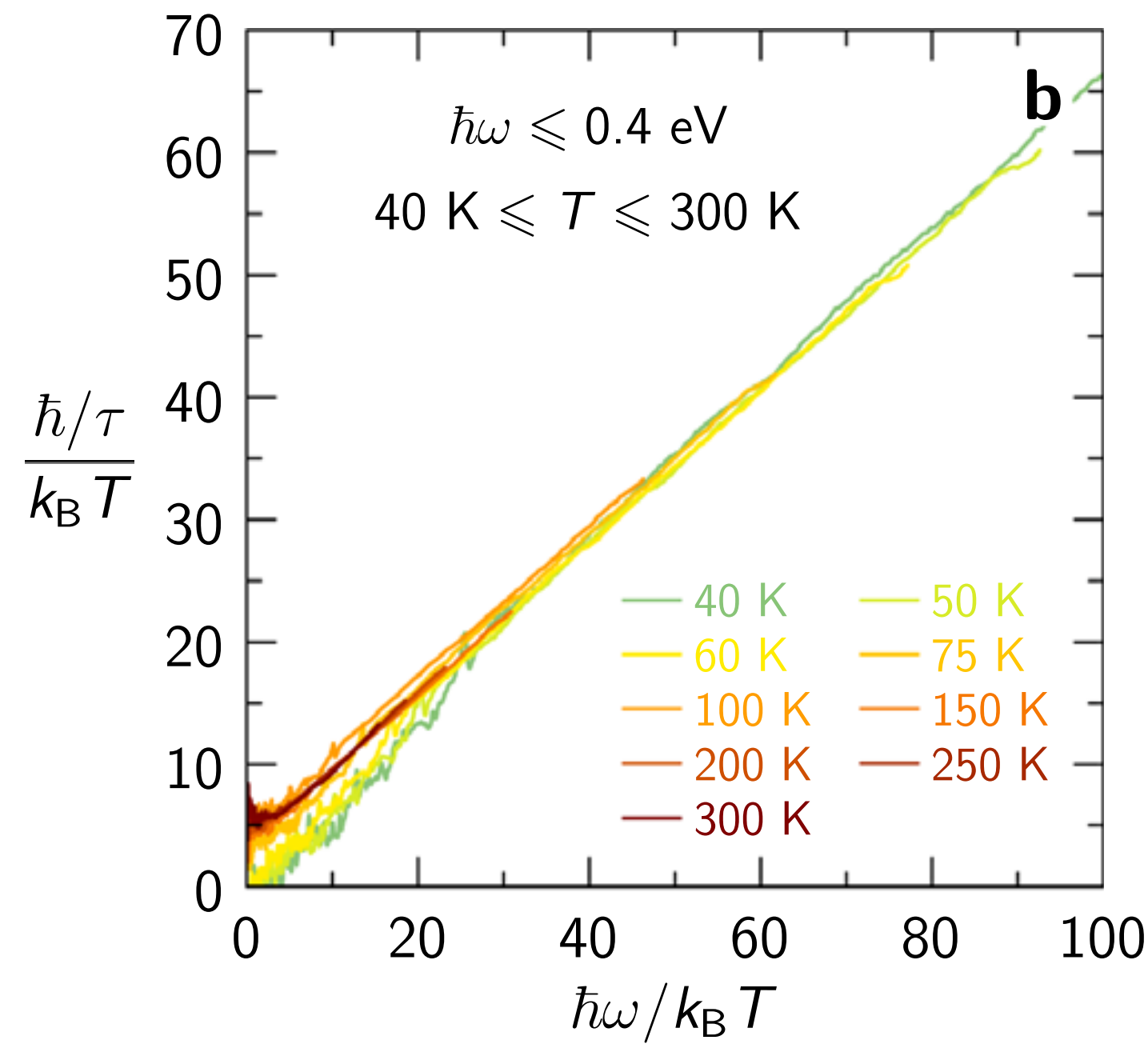
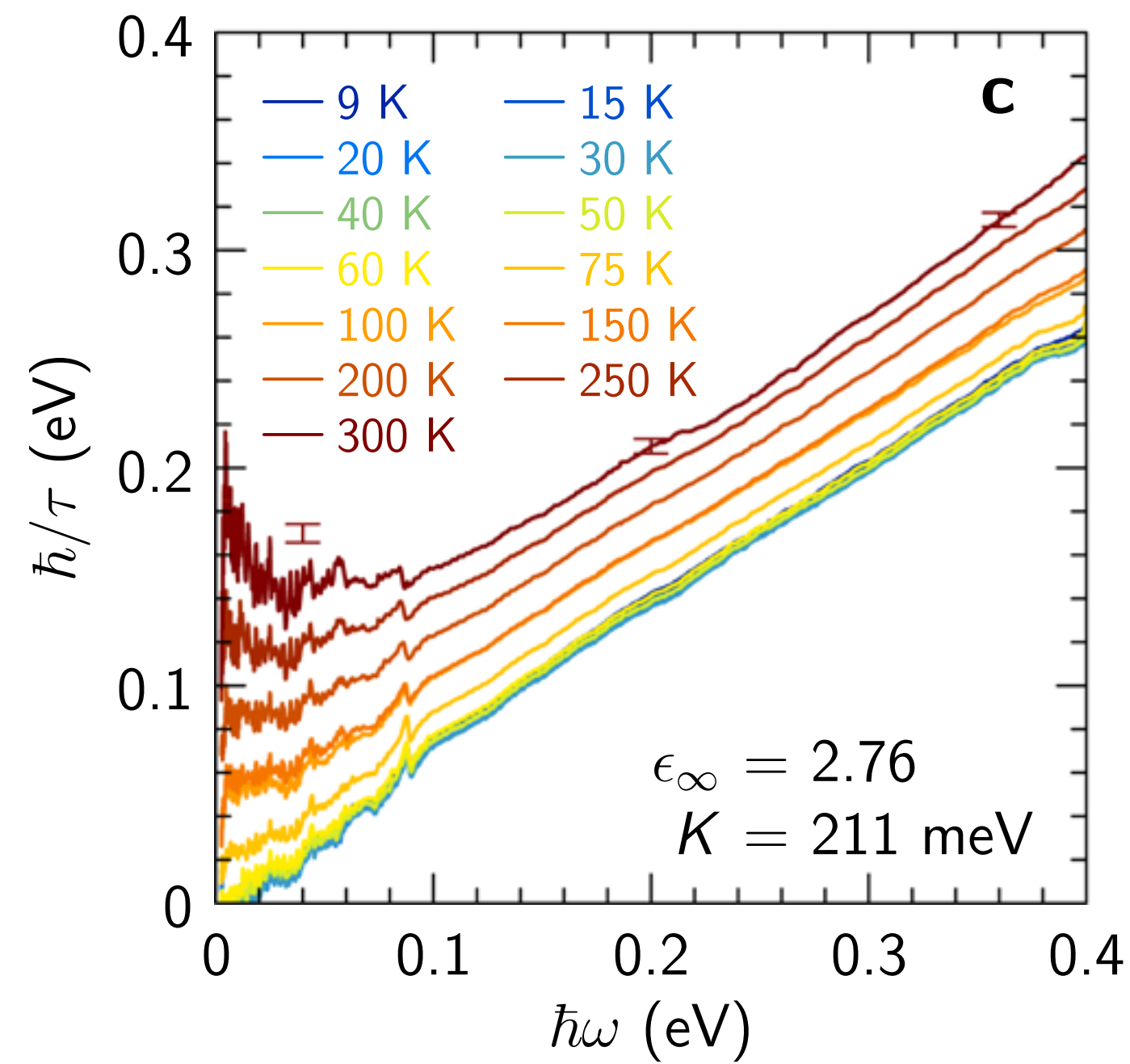
Saddle-point equations

$$\Sigma(\tau, \mathbf{r}) = g^2 D(\tau, \mathbf{r}) G(\tau, \mathbf{r}) + v^2 G(\tau, \mathbf{r}) \delta^2(\mathbf{r}) + g'^2 G(\tau, \mathbf{r}) D(\tau, \mathbf{r}) \delta^2(\mathbf{r}),$$

$$\Pi(\tau, \mathbf{r}) = -g^2 G(-\tau, -\mathbf{r}) G(\tau, \mathbf{r}) - g'^2 G(-\tau, \mathbf{r}) G(\tau, \mathbf{r}) \delta^2(\mathbf{r}),$$

$$G(i\omega, \mathbf{k}) = \frac{1}{i\omega - \varepsilon(\mathbf{k}) + \mu - \Sigma(i\omega, \mathbf{k})},$$

$$D(i\Omega, \mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{\Omega^2 + \mathbf{q}^2 + m_b^2 - \Pi(i\Omega, \mathbf{q})}.$$



$$\sigma(\omega) = i \frac{e^2 K / (\hbar d_c)}{\hbar\omega \frac{m^*(\omega)}{m} + i \frac{\hbar}{\tau(\omega)}}$$

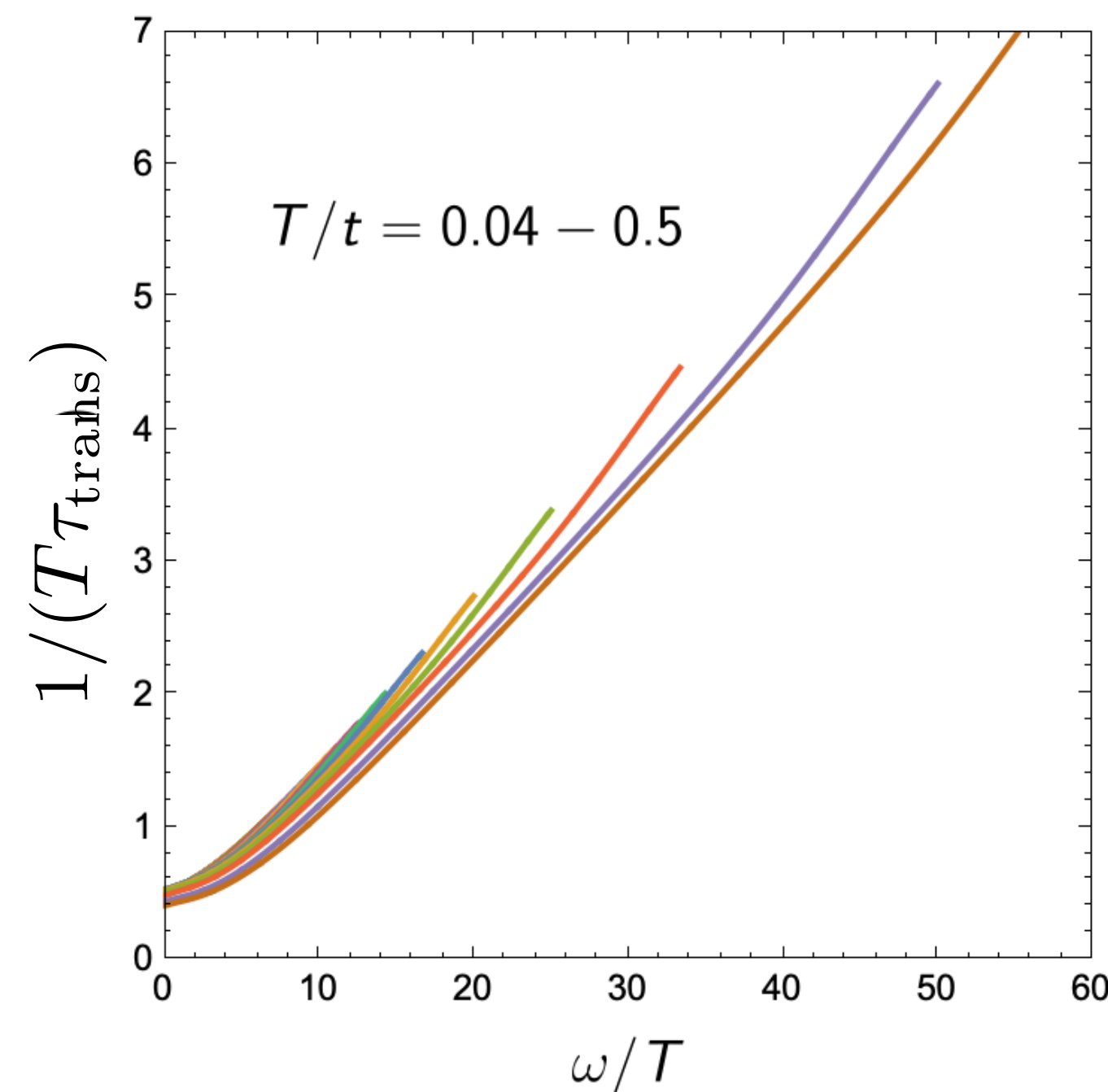
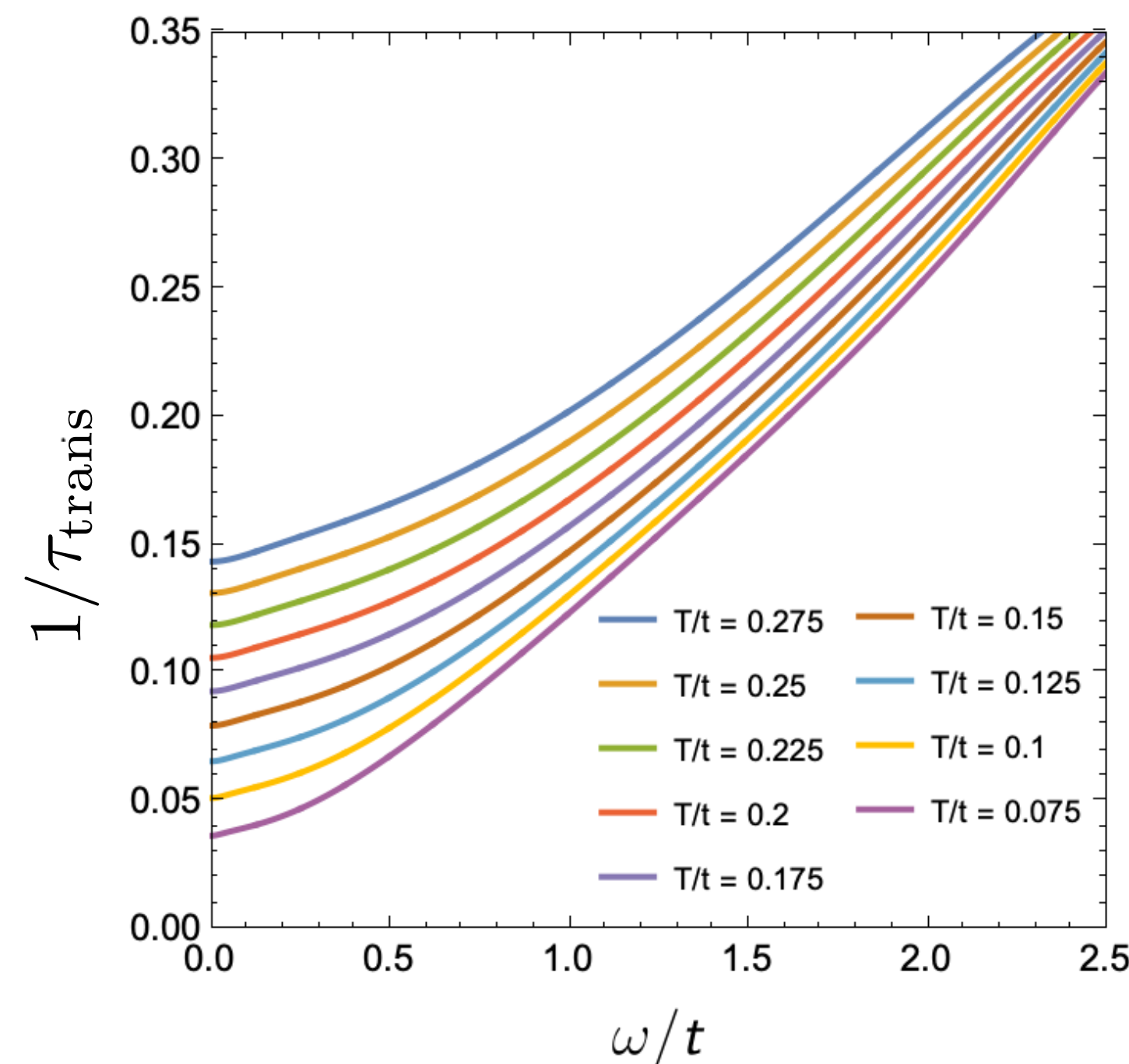
B. Michon, C. Berthod, C.W. Rischau, A. Ataei, L. Chen, S. Komiya, S. Ono, L. Taillefer, D. van der Marel, A. Georges, Nature Comm. **14**, 3033 (2023)

Planckian dynamics!

$$\tau(\omega) = \frac{\hbar}{k_B T} F\left(\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_B T}\right)$$

and entropy

$S(T \rightarrow 0) \sim T \ln(1/T)$   
in 2d-YSYK model  
(unlike zero temperature entropy in SYK model).





A **critical spin liquid**  
( $SU(2)$  gauge theory with massless  
Dirac and Higgs matter)  
for the  $FL^*$  pseudogap

and a **critical charge liquid**  
(the 2d-Yukawa-SYK model)  
for the strange metal.

Gapless and strongly interacting,  
many-body systems with  
**no particle-like excitations**