

FL* theory of the pseudogap, and the transition to d-wave superconductivity in the cuprates

Discussion Meeting on Fractionalized Quantum Matter
International Centre for Theoretical Sciences, Bengaluru
July 29, 2025

Subir Sachdev

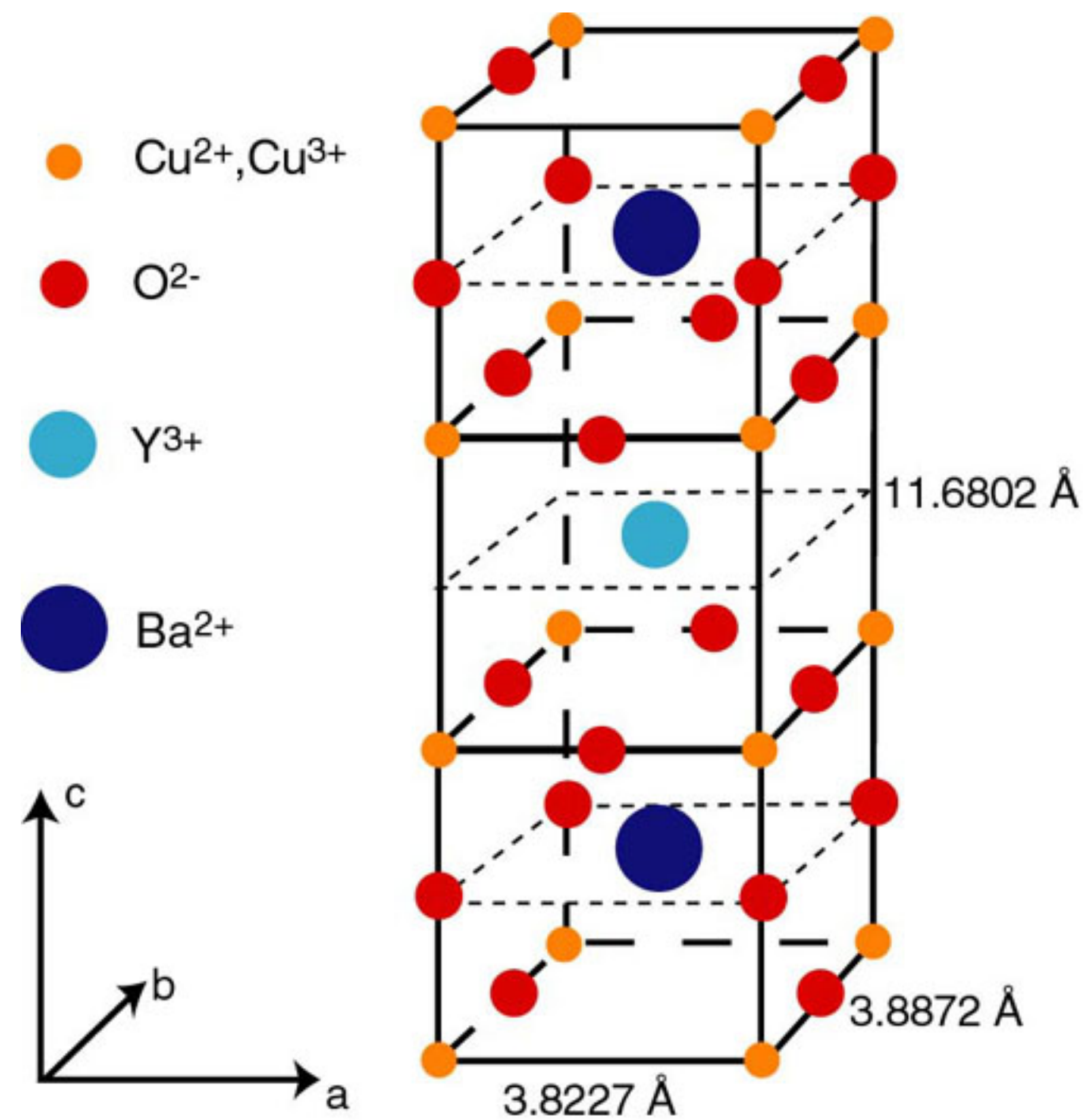
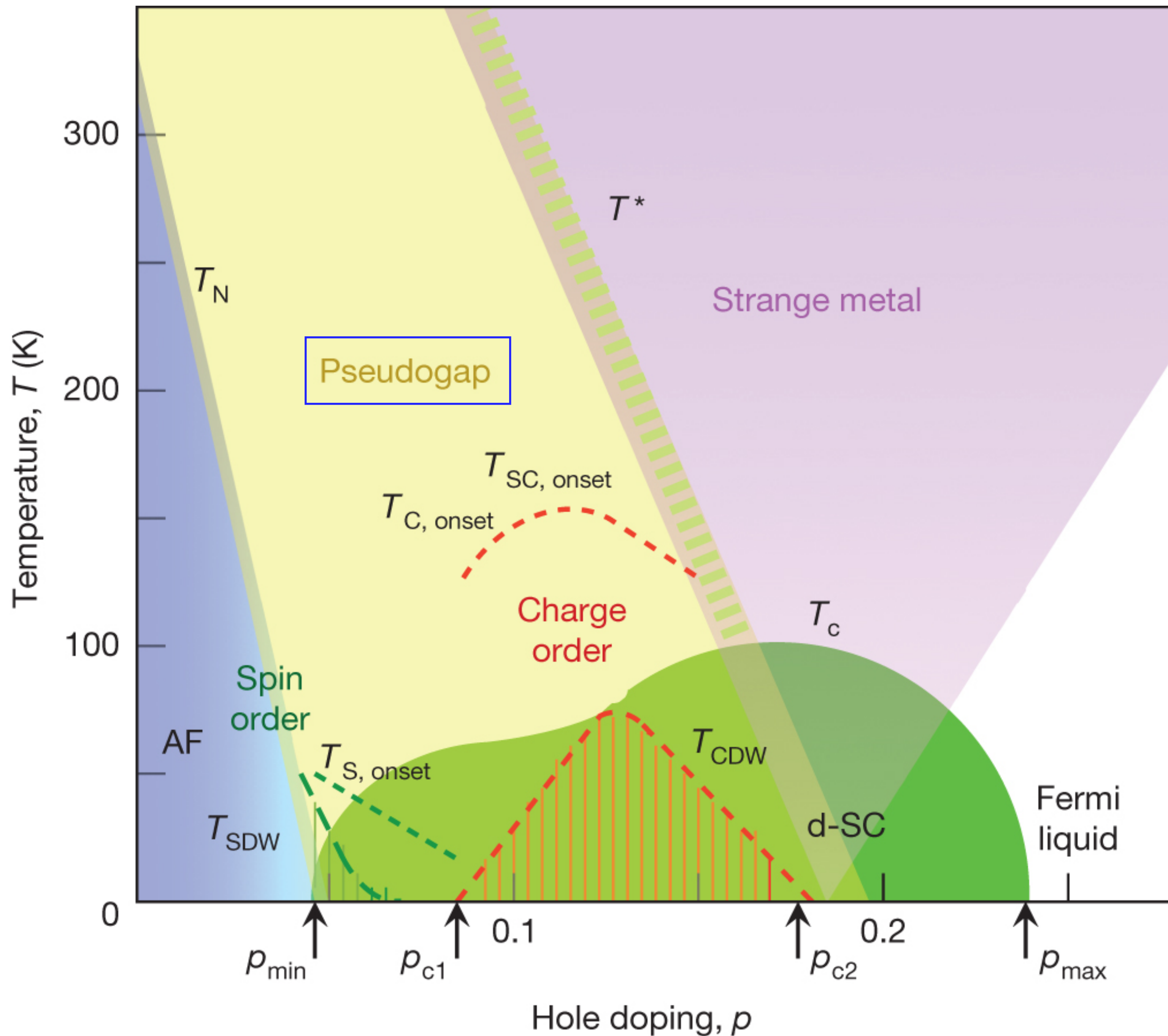


PHYSICS

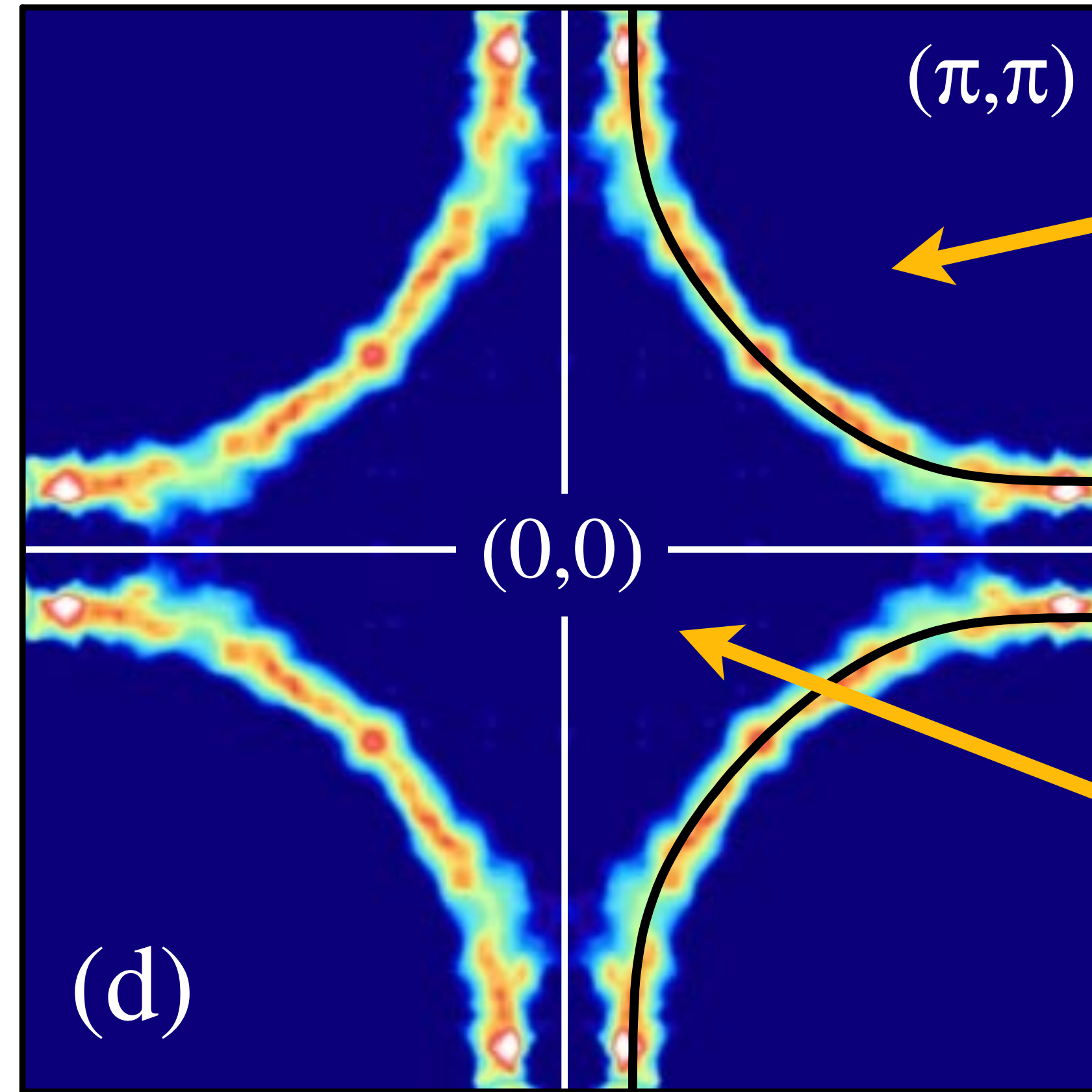


HARVARD

Experiments on the cuprate
pseudogap phase



Photoemission at large p



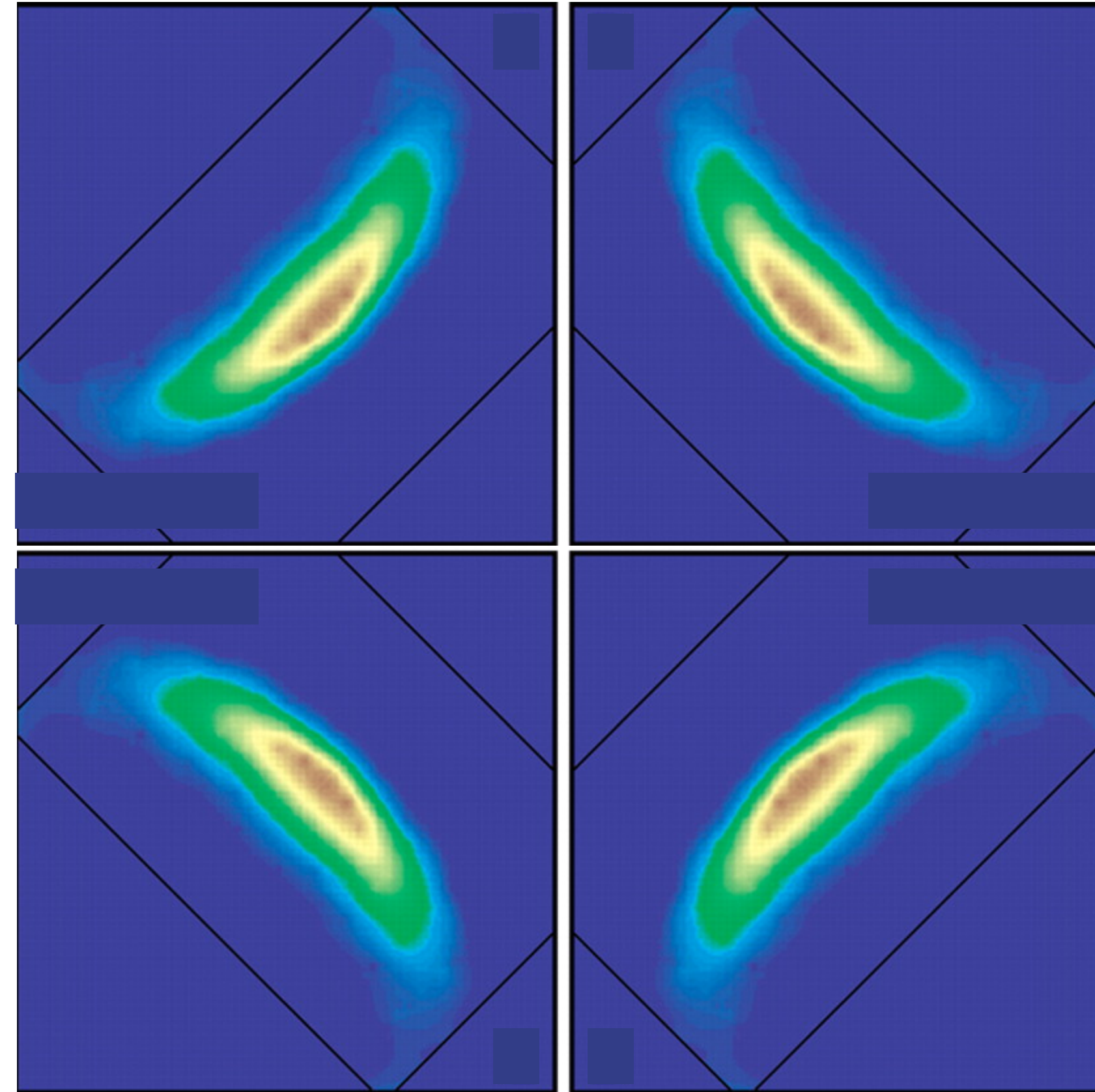
$l+p$ holes

Overdoped $\text{Tl}_2\text{Ba}_2\text{CuO}_{6+\delta}$
 $T_c = 30\text{K}$

$l-p$ electrons

$l+p$ mobile holes in a filled band

Photoemission at small p

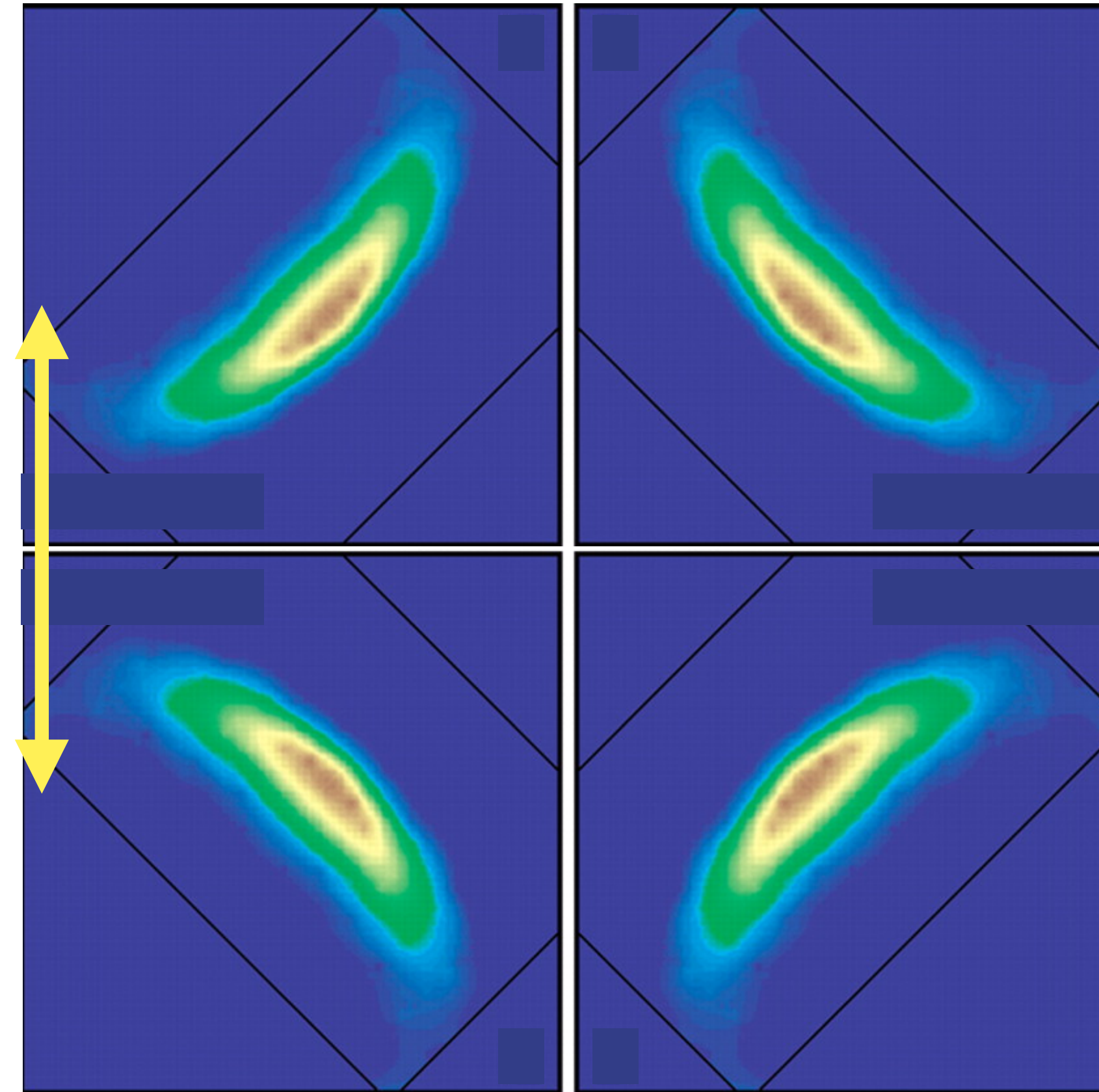


$\text{Ca}_{2-x}\text{Na}_x\text{CuO}_2\text{Cl}_2$
at $x = 0.10$

“Fermi arcs”

Kyle M. Shen, F. Ronning, D. H. Lu, F. Baumberger, N. J. C. Ingle, W. S. Lee, W. Meevasana, Y. Kohsaka, M. Azuma, M. Takano, H. Takagi, Z.-X. Shen, *Science* **307**, 901 (2005)

Photoemission at small p



$\text{Ca}_{2-x}\text{Na}_x\text{CuO}_2\text{Cl}_2$
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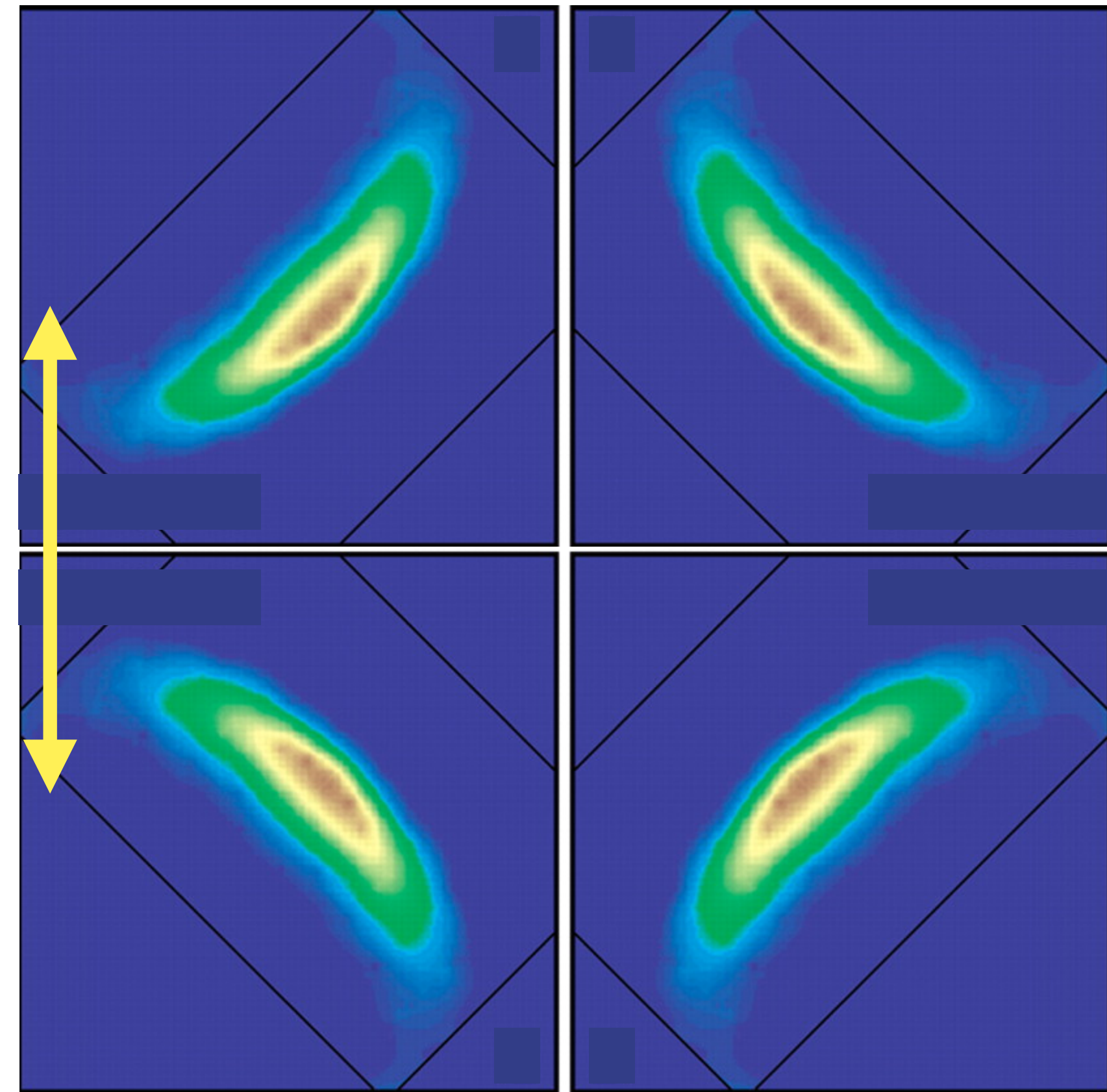
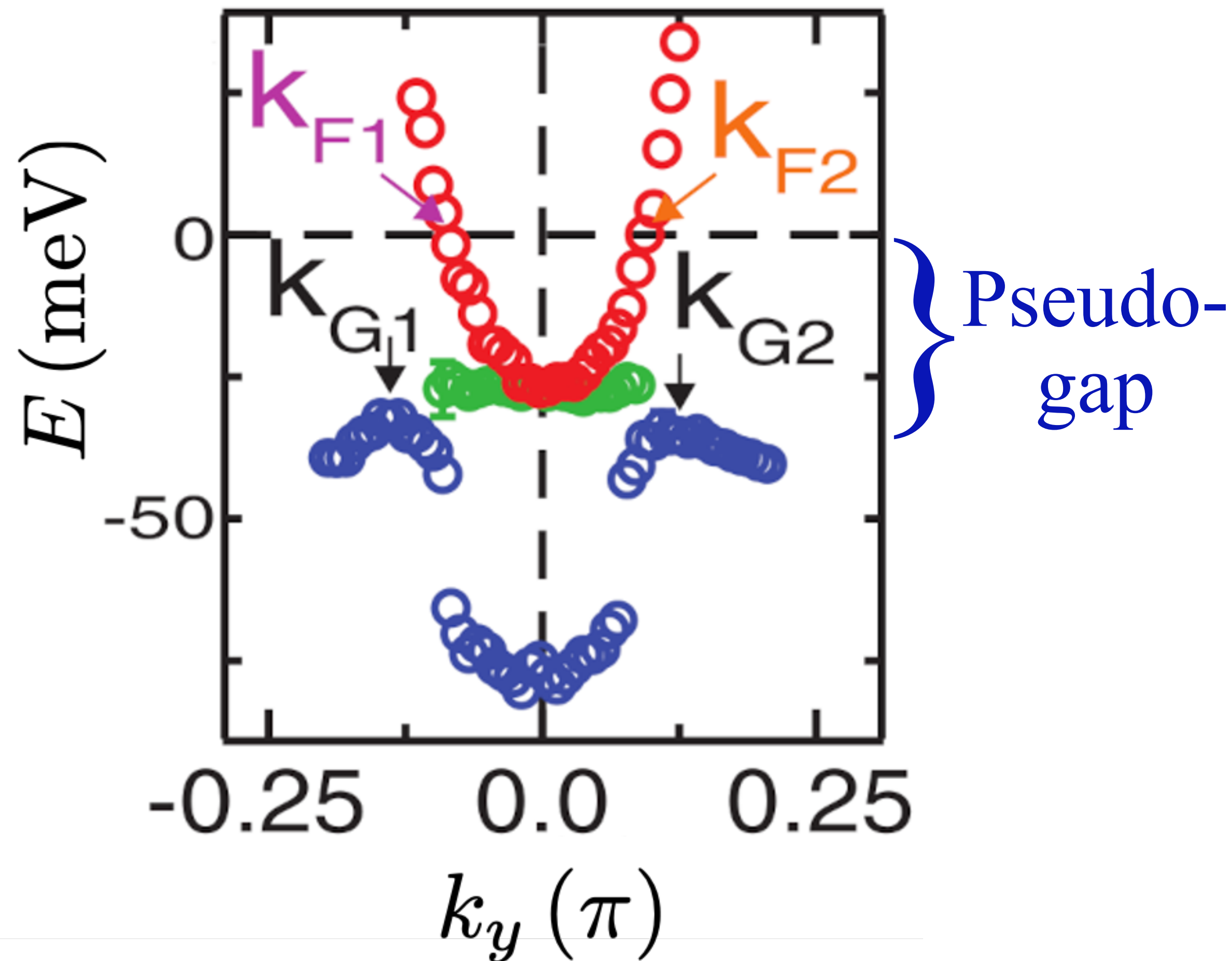
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Bi2201



“Fermi arcs”

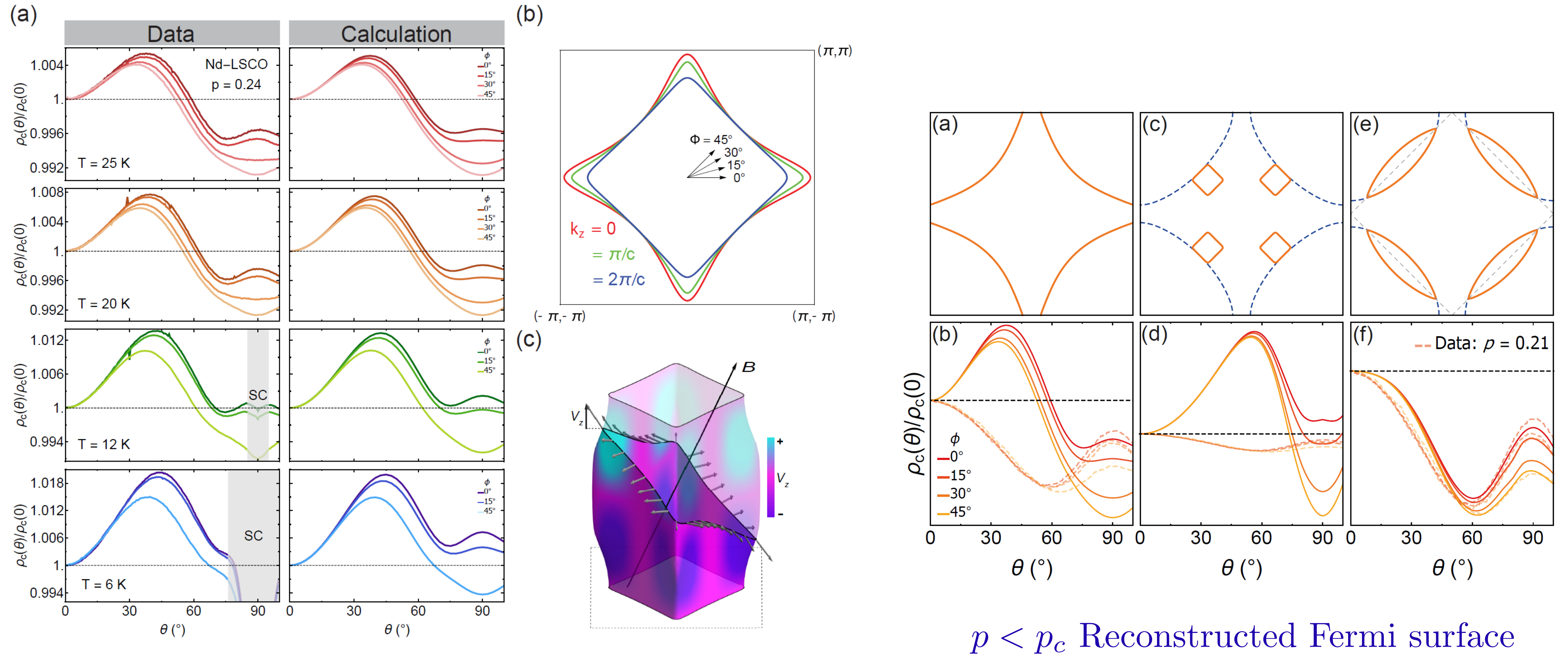
R.-H. He, M. Hashimoto, H. Karapetyan, J. D. Koralek, J. P. Hinton, J. P. Testaud, V. Nathan, Y. Yoshida, H. Yao, K. Tanaka, W. Meevasana, R. G. Moore, D. H. Lu, S. K. Mo, M. Ishikado, H. Eisaki, Z. Hussain, T. P. Devereaux, S. A. Kivelson, J. Orenstein, A. Kapitulnik, and Z.-X. Shen, *Science* **331**, 1579 (2011)

Kyle M. Shen, F. Ronning, D. H. Lu, F. Baumberger, N. J. C. Ingle, W. S. Lee, W. Meevasana, Y. Kohsaka, M. Azuma, M. Takano, H. Takagi, Z.-X. Shen, *Science* **307**, 901 (2005)

Fermi surface transformation at the pseudogap critical point of a cuprate superconductor

Yawen Fang, Gaël Grissonnanche, Anaëlle Legros, Simon Verret, Francis Laliberté, Clément Collignon, Amirreza Ataei, Maxime Dion, Jianshi Zhou, David Graf, M. J. Lawler, Paul Goddard, Louis Taillefer, and B. J. Ramshaw, *Nature Physics* **18**, 558 (2022)

Angle-dependent magnetoresistance (ADMR) of $\text{La}_{1.6-x}\text{Nd}_{0.4}\text{Sr}_x\text{CuO}_4$



$p > p_c$ Large Fermi surface

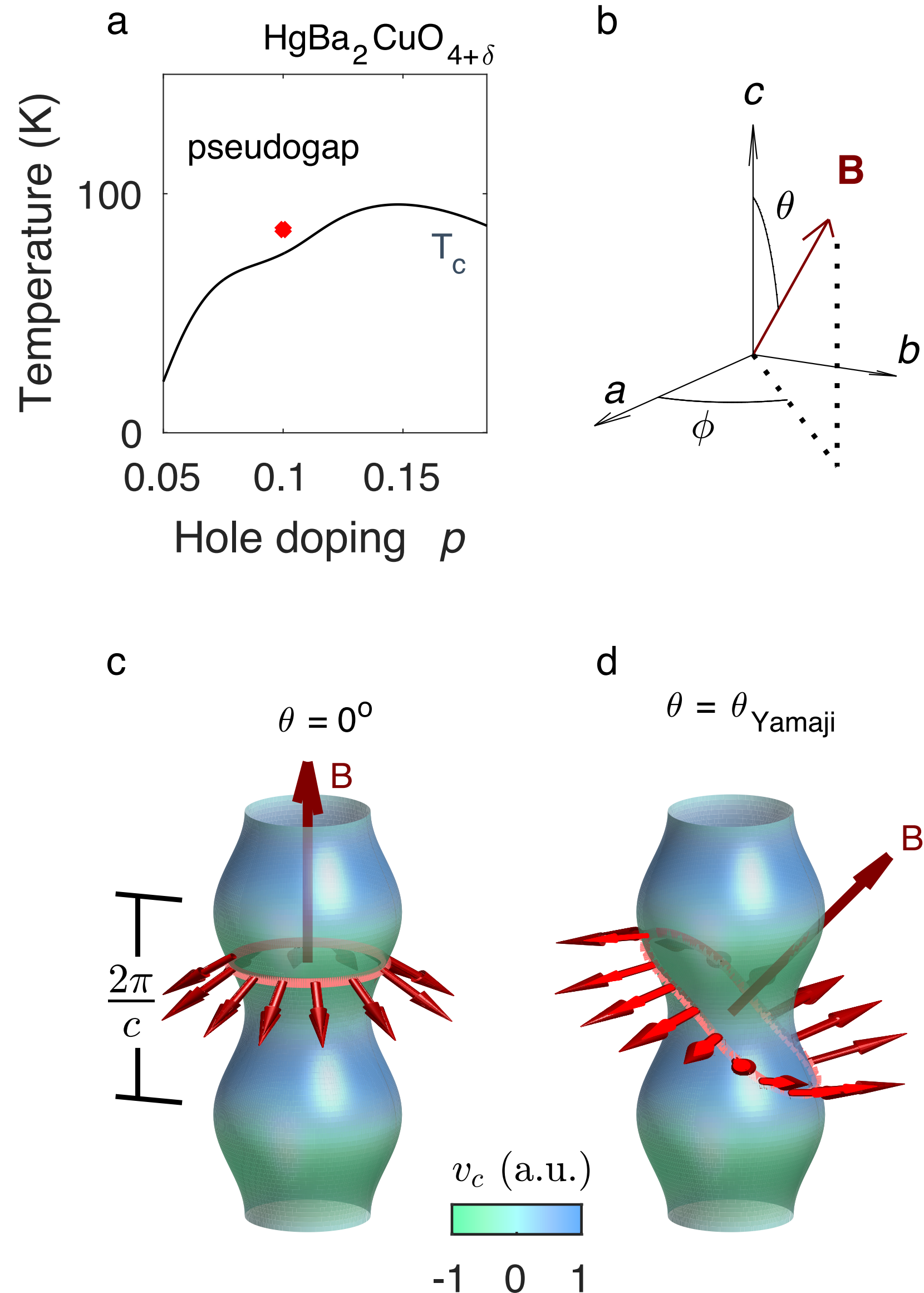
$p < p_c$ Reconstructed Fermi surface

Observation of the Yamaji effect in a cuprate superconductor

Mun K. Chan,^{1,*} Katherine A. Schreiber,¹ Oscar E. Ayala-Valenzuela,¹

arXiv:2411.10631

Eric D. Bauer,² Arkady Shekhter,¹ and Neil Harrison¹



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.

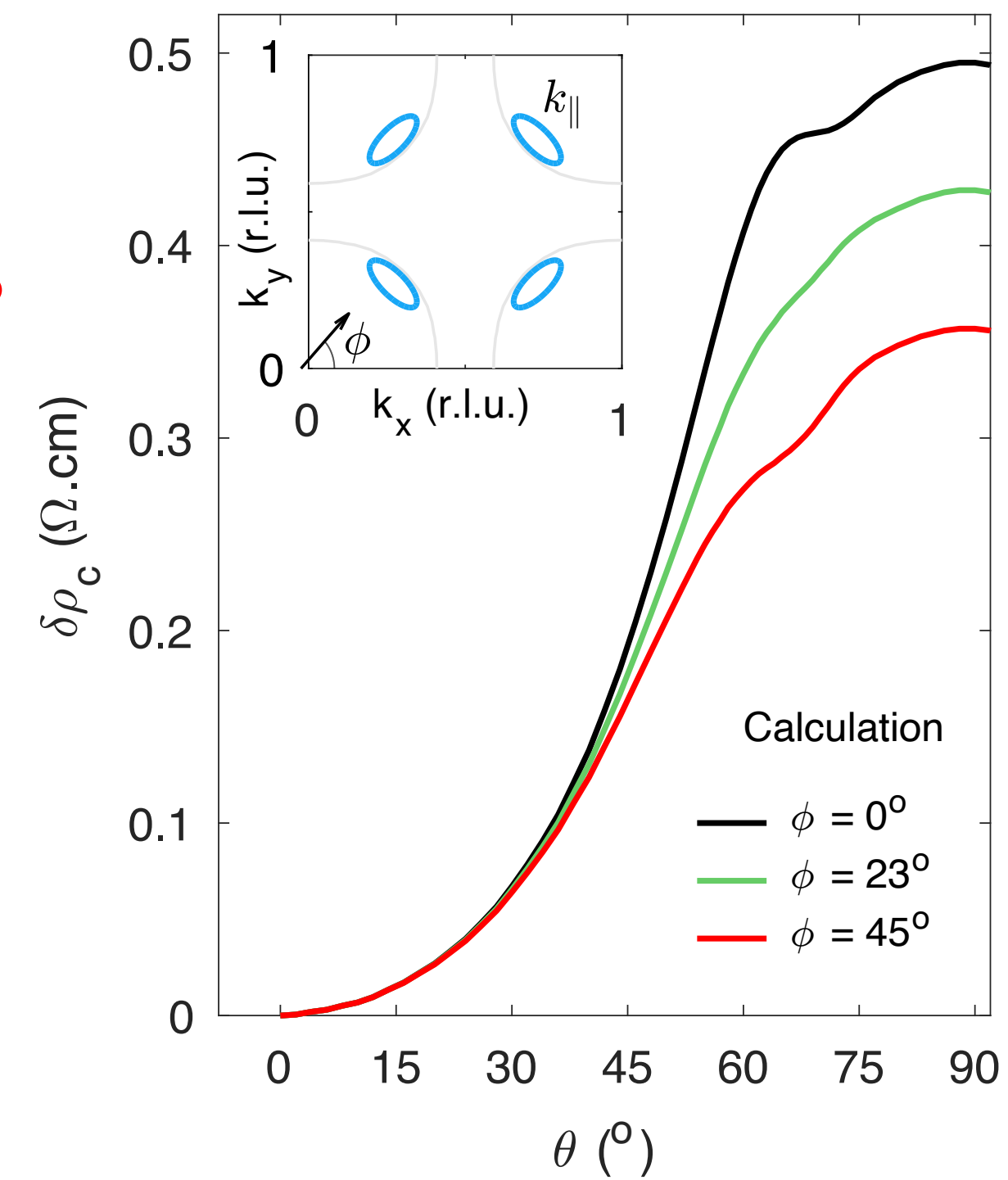
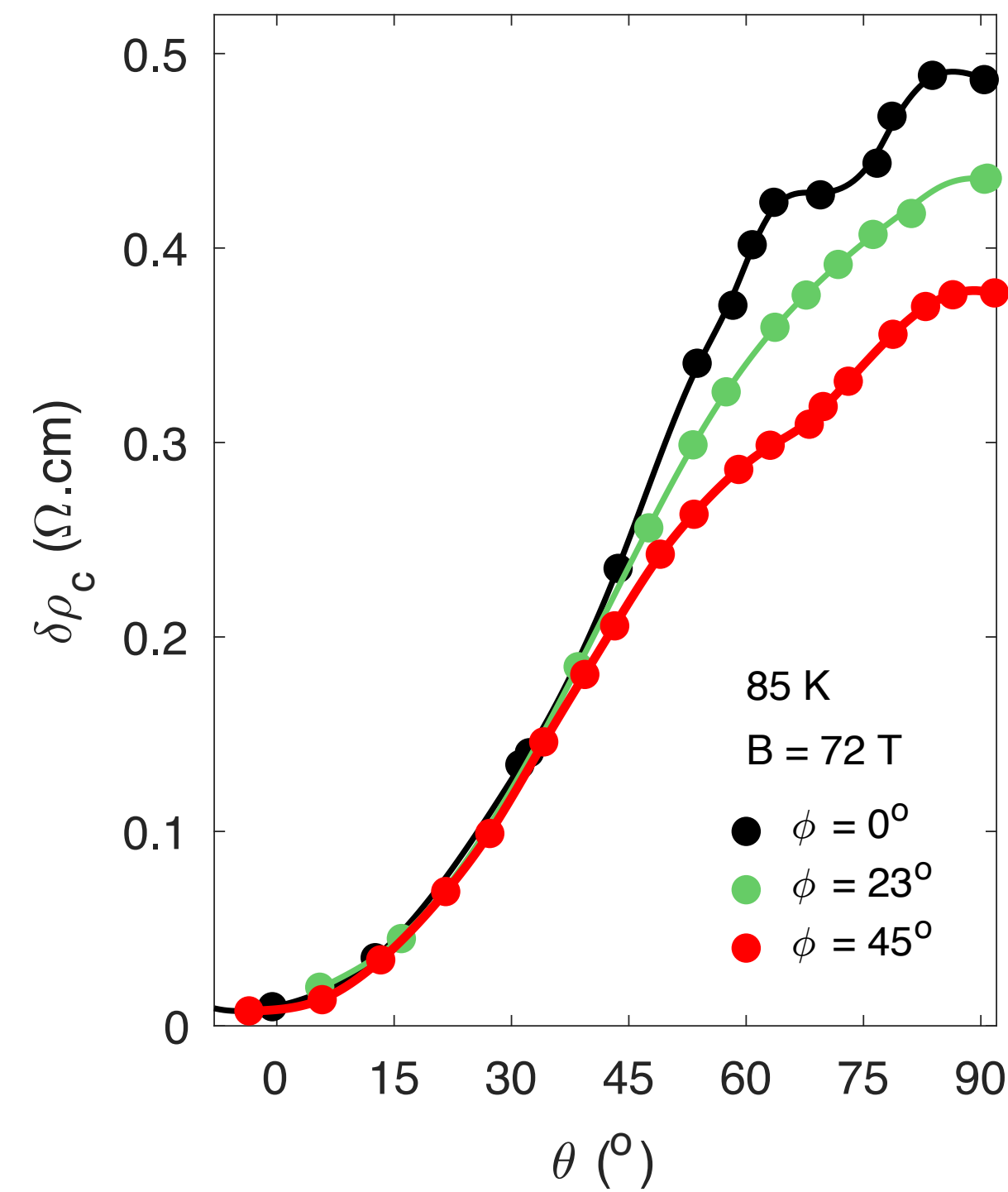
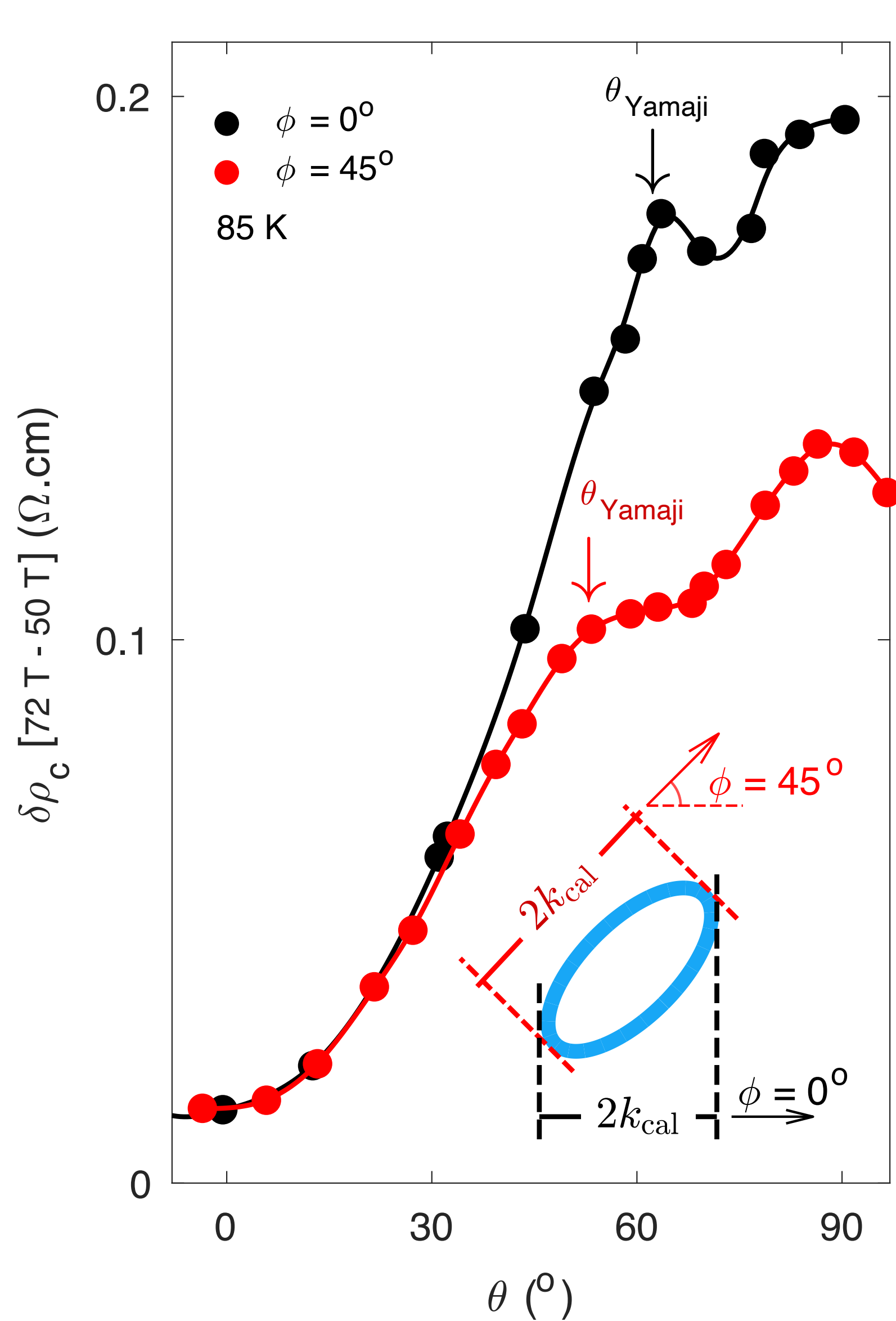
K. Yamaji JPSJ **58**, 1520 (1989)

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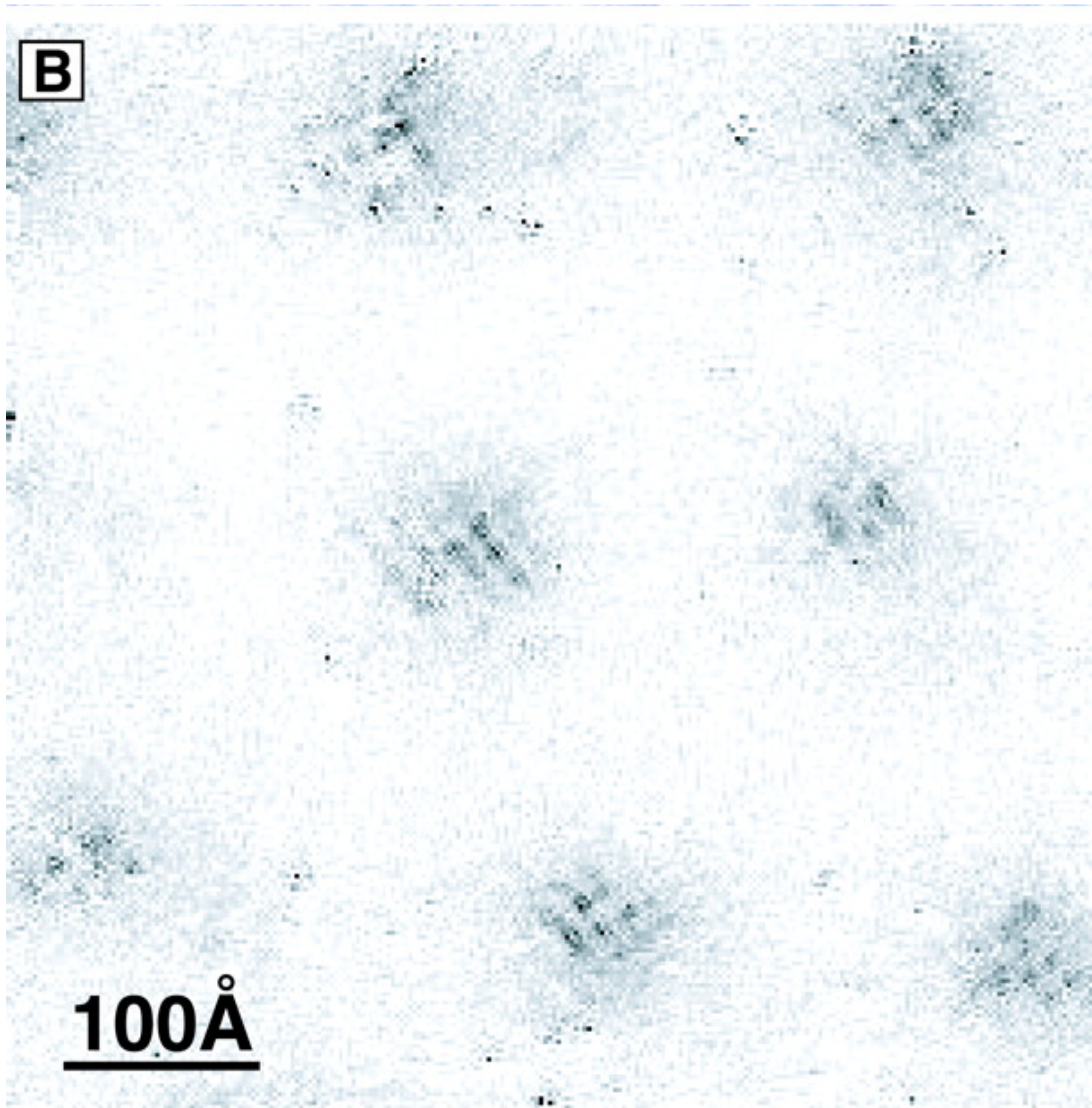
arXiv:2411.10631

Eric D. Bauer,² Arkady Shekhter,¹ and Neil Harrison¹



Doping
 $p = 0.1$

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



A Four Unit Cell Periodic Pattern of Quasi-Particle States Surrounding Vortex Cores in $\text{Bi}_2\text{Sr}_2\text{CaCu}_2\text{O}_{8+\delta}$

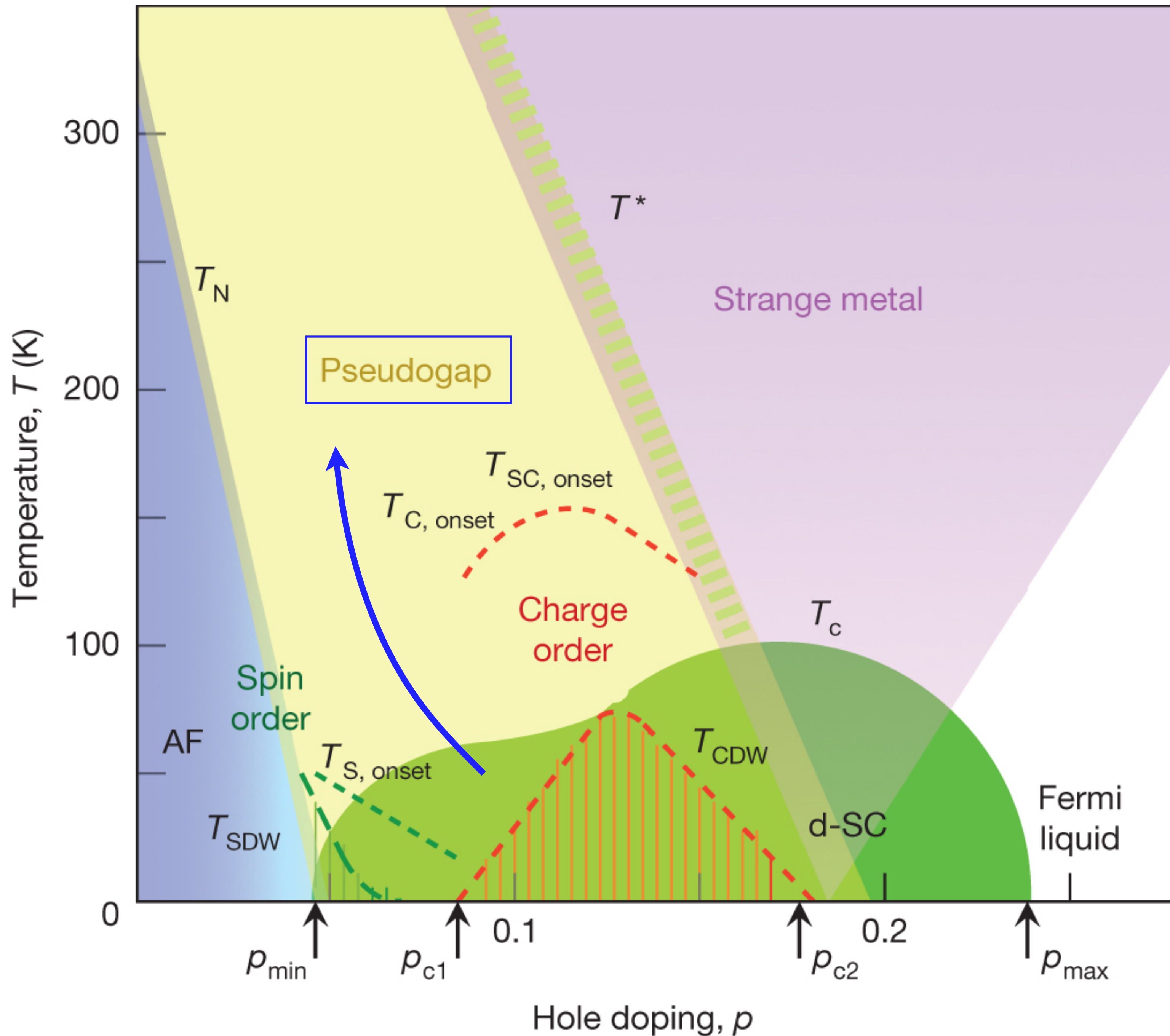
J. E. Hoffman, E. W. Hudson,
K. M. Lang, V. Madhavan,
H. Eisaki, S. Uchida, J.C. Davis
Science **295**, 466 (2002)

0 pA



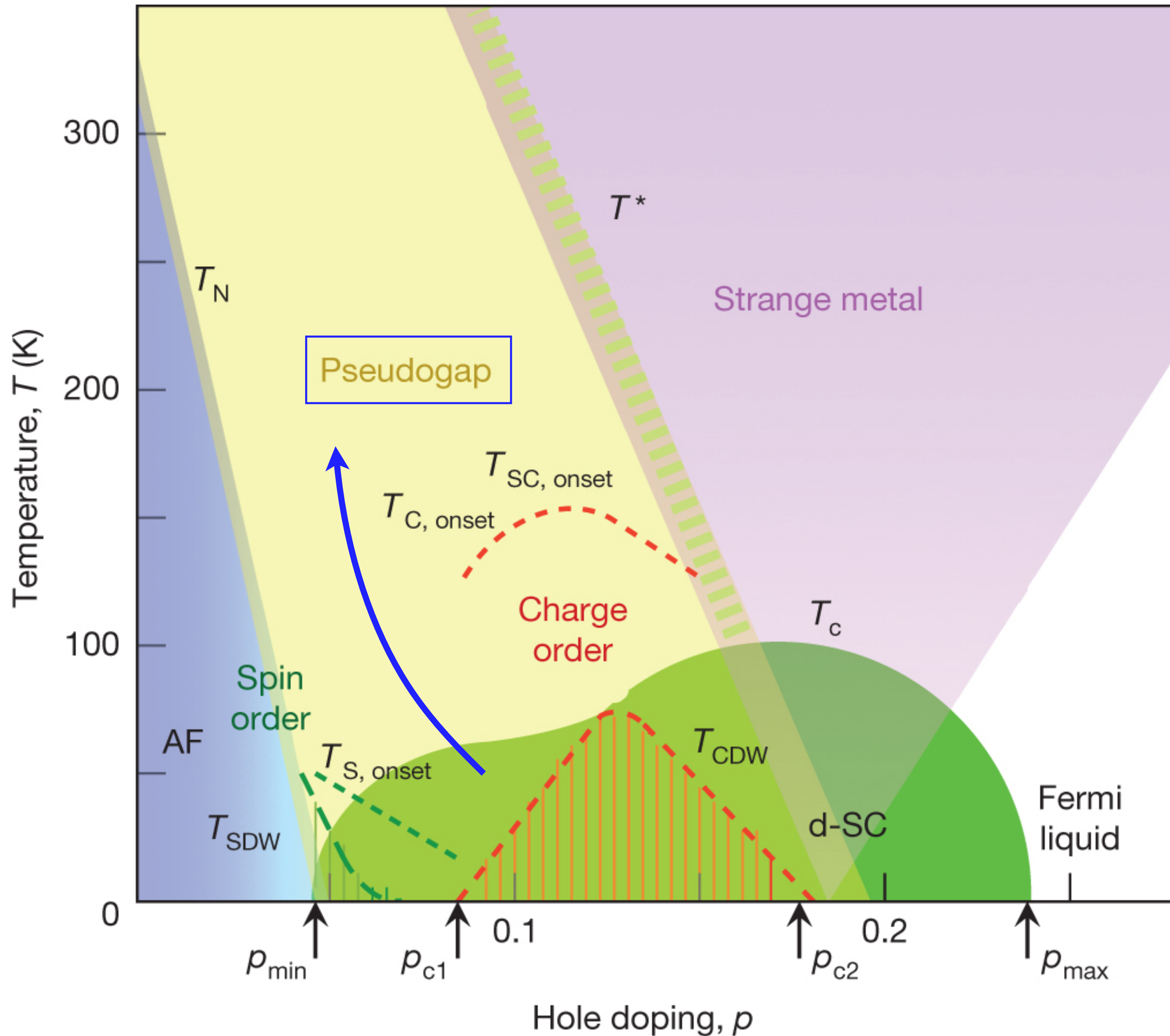
2 pA

Fluctuating order theories



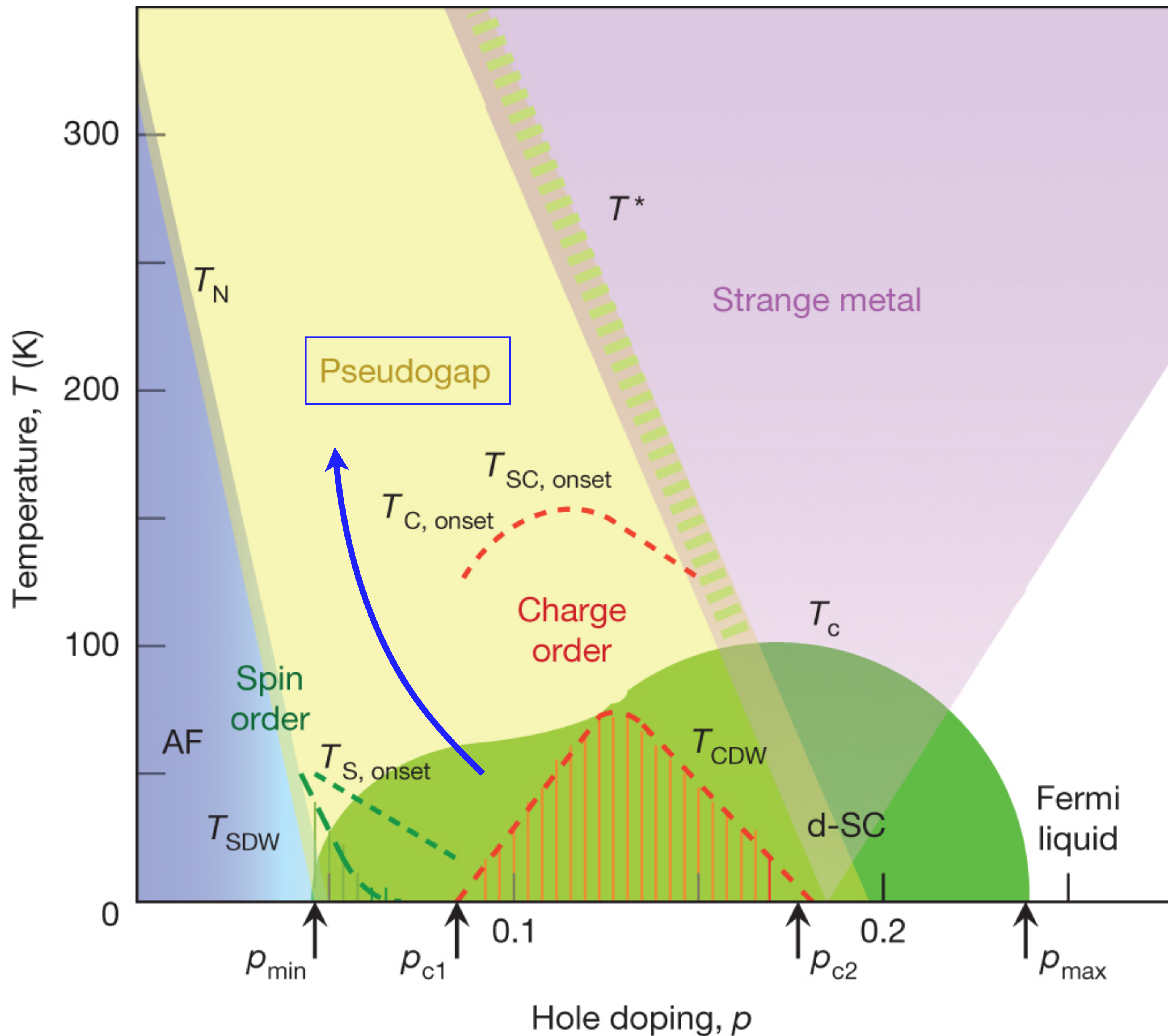
Phase fluctuations of d -wave superconductor (Emery-Kivelson 1995)

- ‘Fermi arc’ spectra with classical, thermal XY model modulating pairing term in Bogoliubov Hamiltonian. Eckl, Scalapino, Arrigoni, Hanke, PRB 2002; Han, Li, Wang, PRB 2010



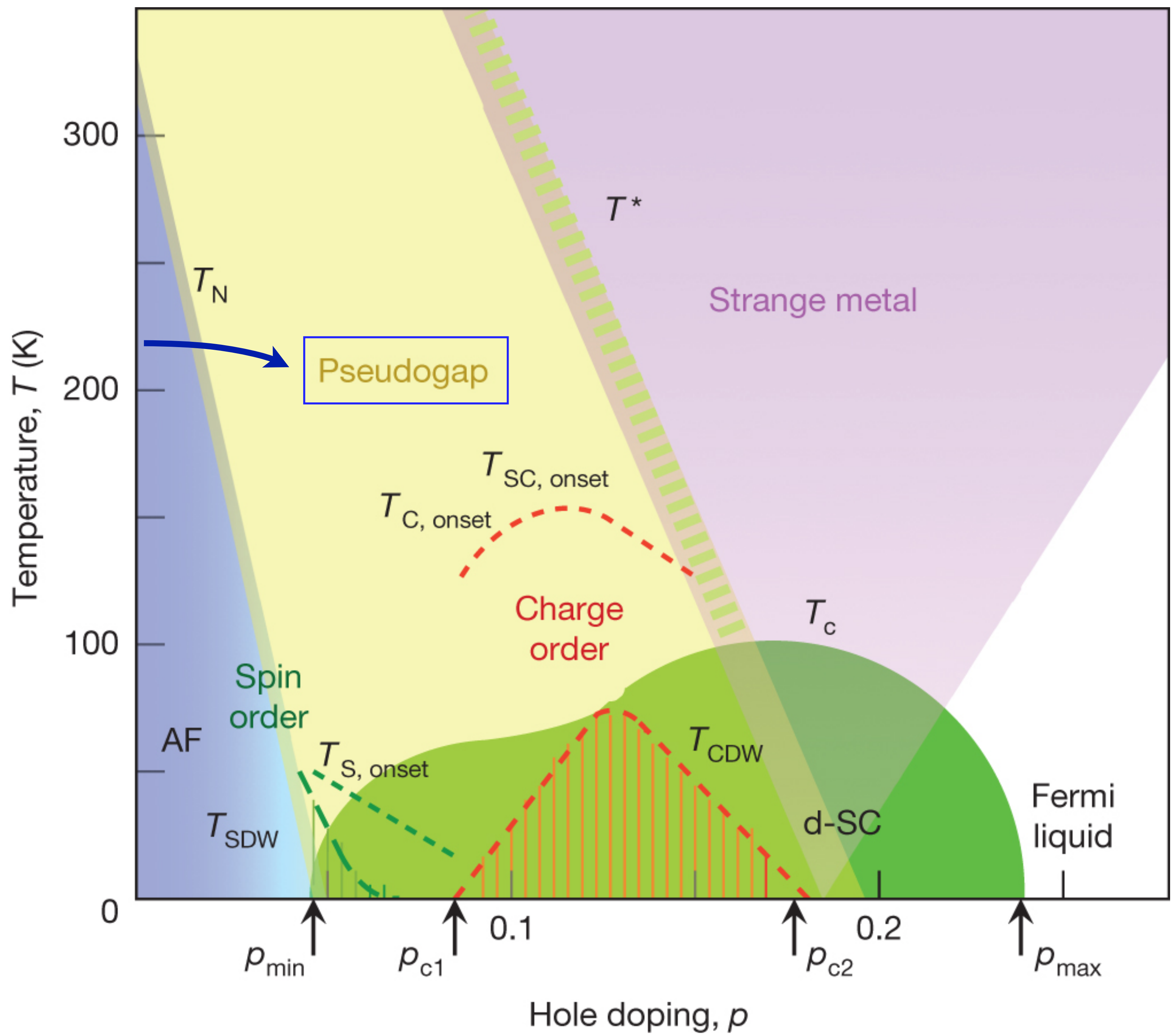
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- **But restores large Fermi surface above $T_{SC, onset}$.**

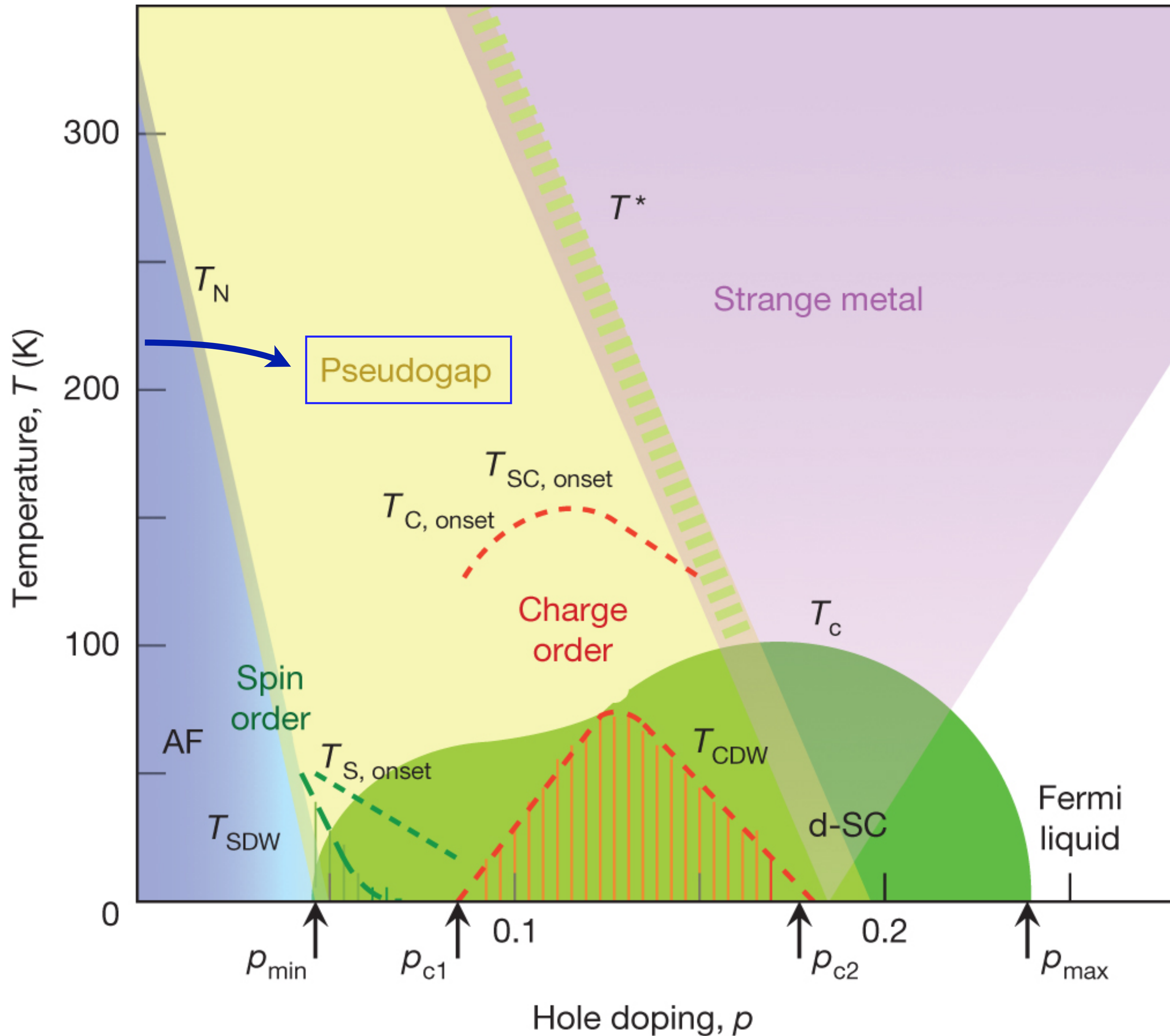


Phase fluctuations of d -wave superconductor (Emery-Kivelson 1995)

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- But restores large Fermi surface above $T_{SC, onset}$.
- Cannot explain recent magneto-transport evidence for hole pockets. Y. Fang ... B. J. Ramshaw, Nature Physics 2022. M. K. Chan ... N. Harrison, arXiv:2411.10631.

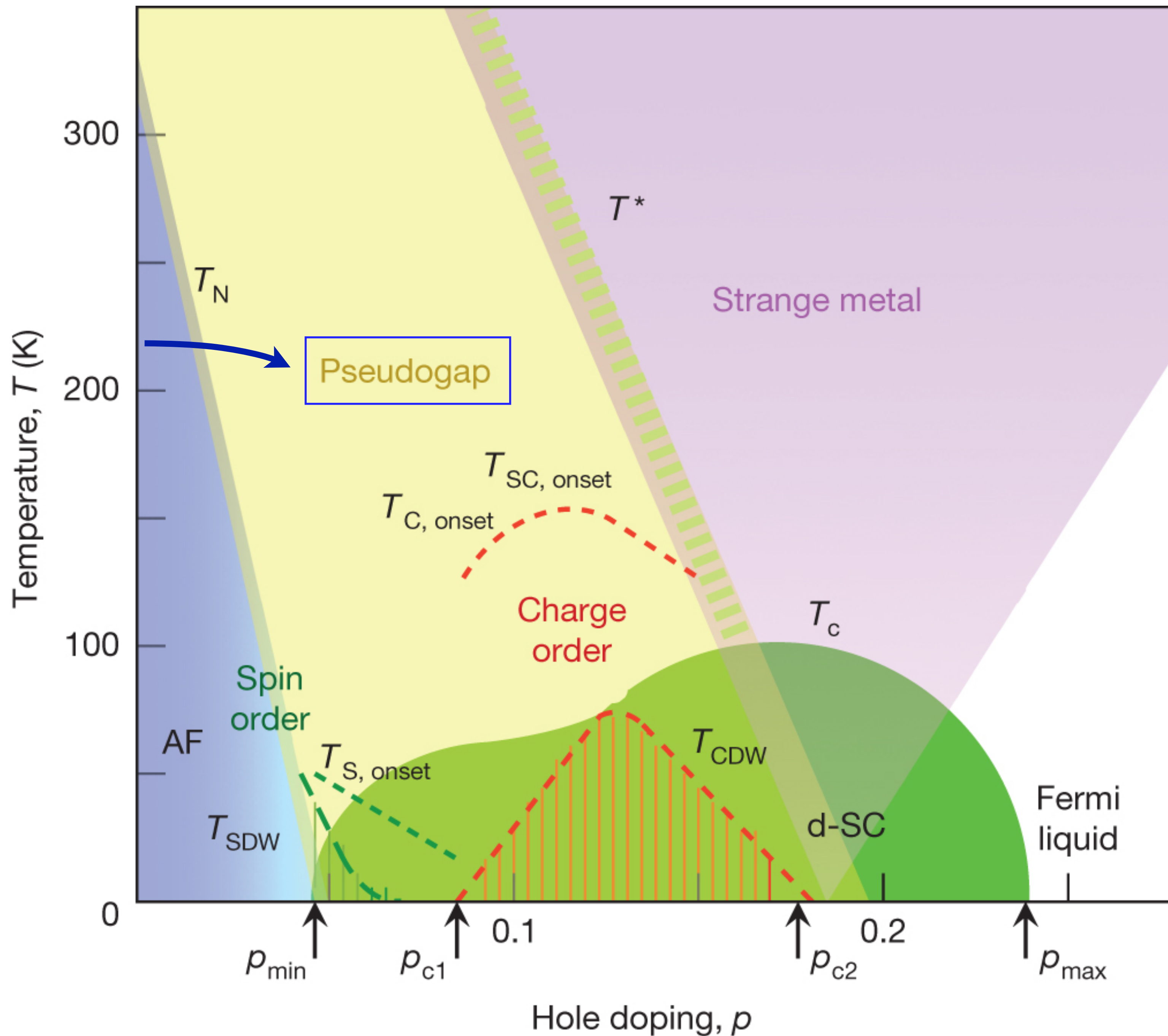


Thermally fluctuating,
Landau damped paramagnon
with spin $S = 1$
(Schmalian, Pines,
Stojkovic, 1998)



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Landau damped paramagnon
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- Can yield hole pockets.

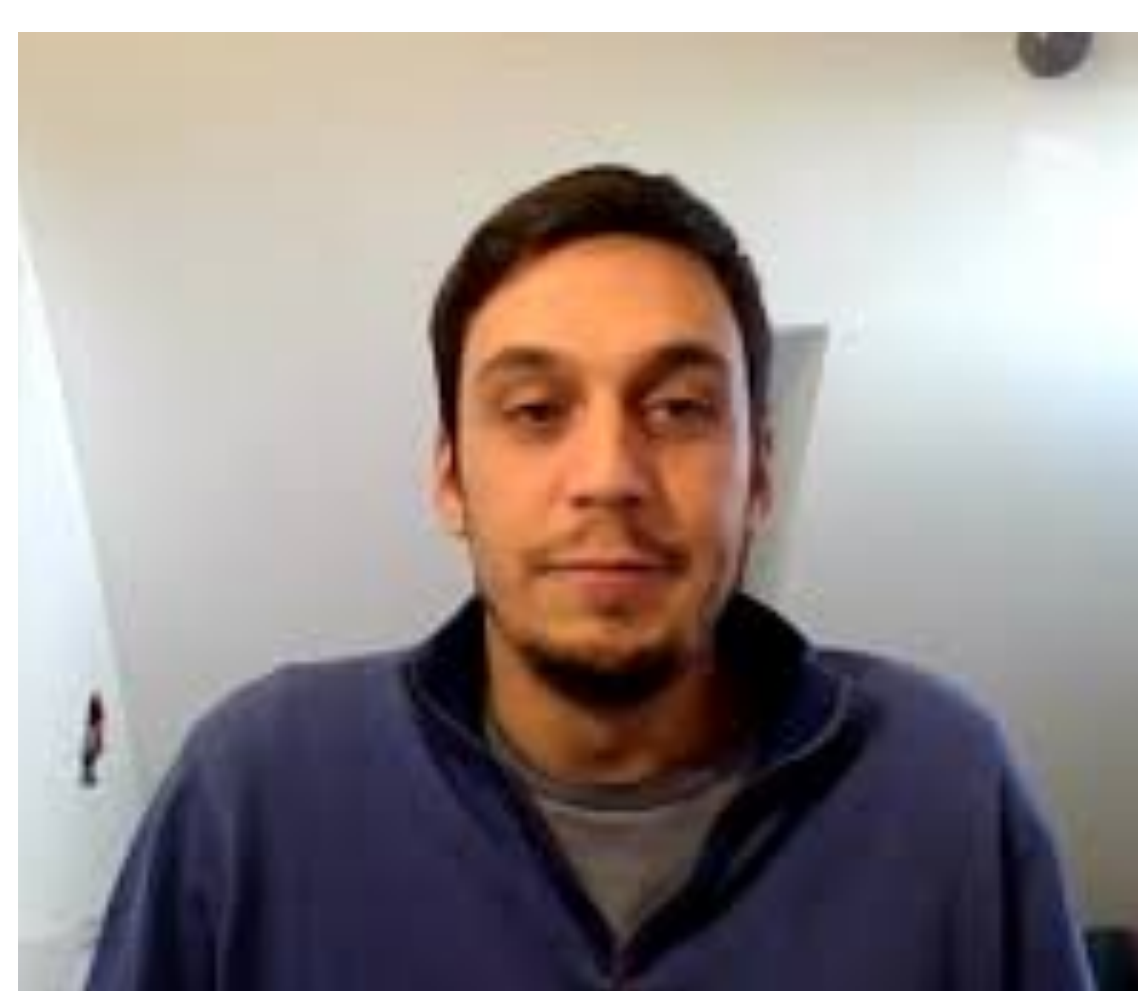


Thermally fluctuating,
Landau damped paramagnon
with spin $S = 1$
(Schmalian, Pines,
Stojkovic, 1998)

- Can yield hole pockets.
- But the area of the hole pockets does not agree with Yamaji effect, as we shall see . . .



Maine Christos
→ Caltech



Pietro Bonetti



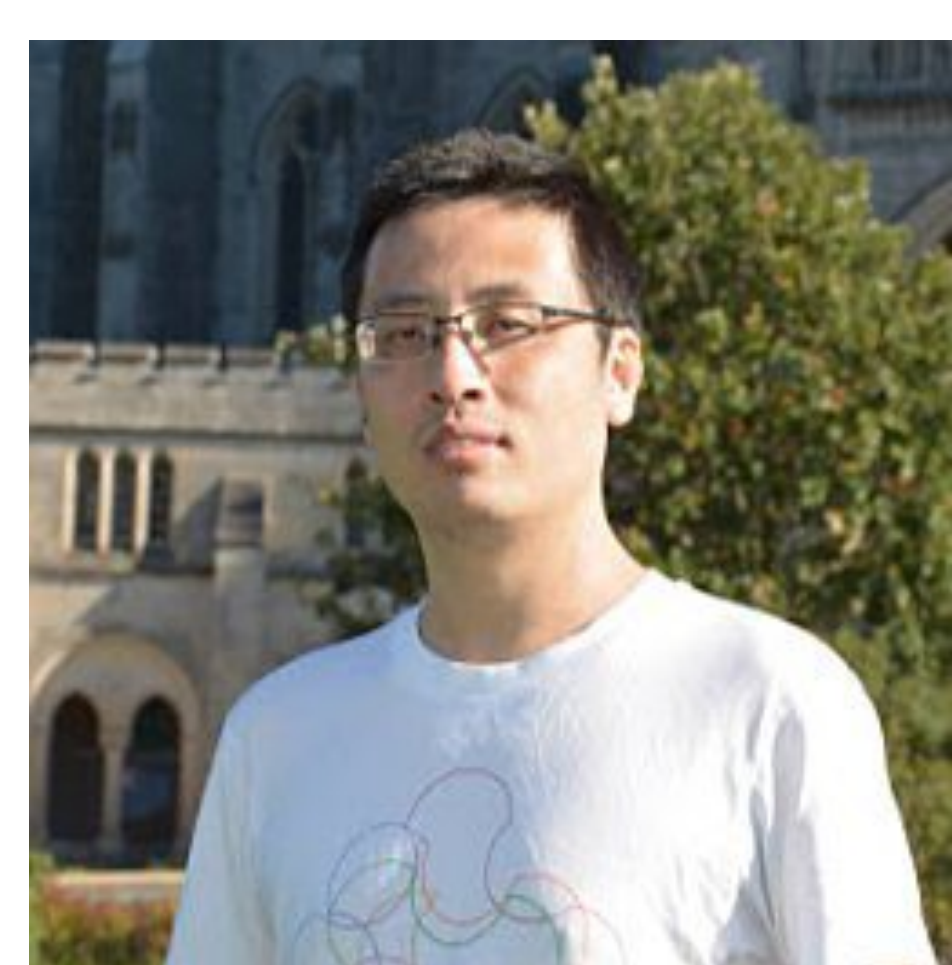
Maria
Tikhanovskaya
Allen Institute



Mathias Scheurer
Stuttgart



Jia-Xin Zhang
UCSB



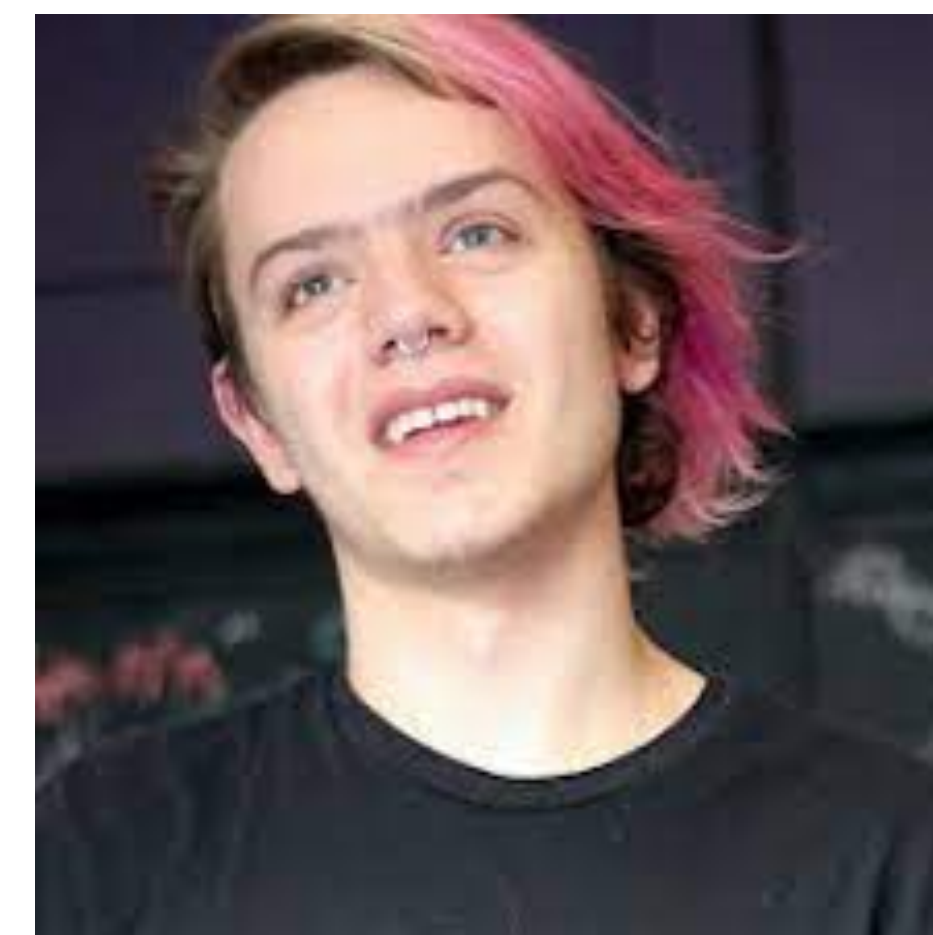
Ya-Hui Zhang
Johns Hopkins



Alexander
Nikolaenko



Zhu-Xi Luo
Georgia Tech



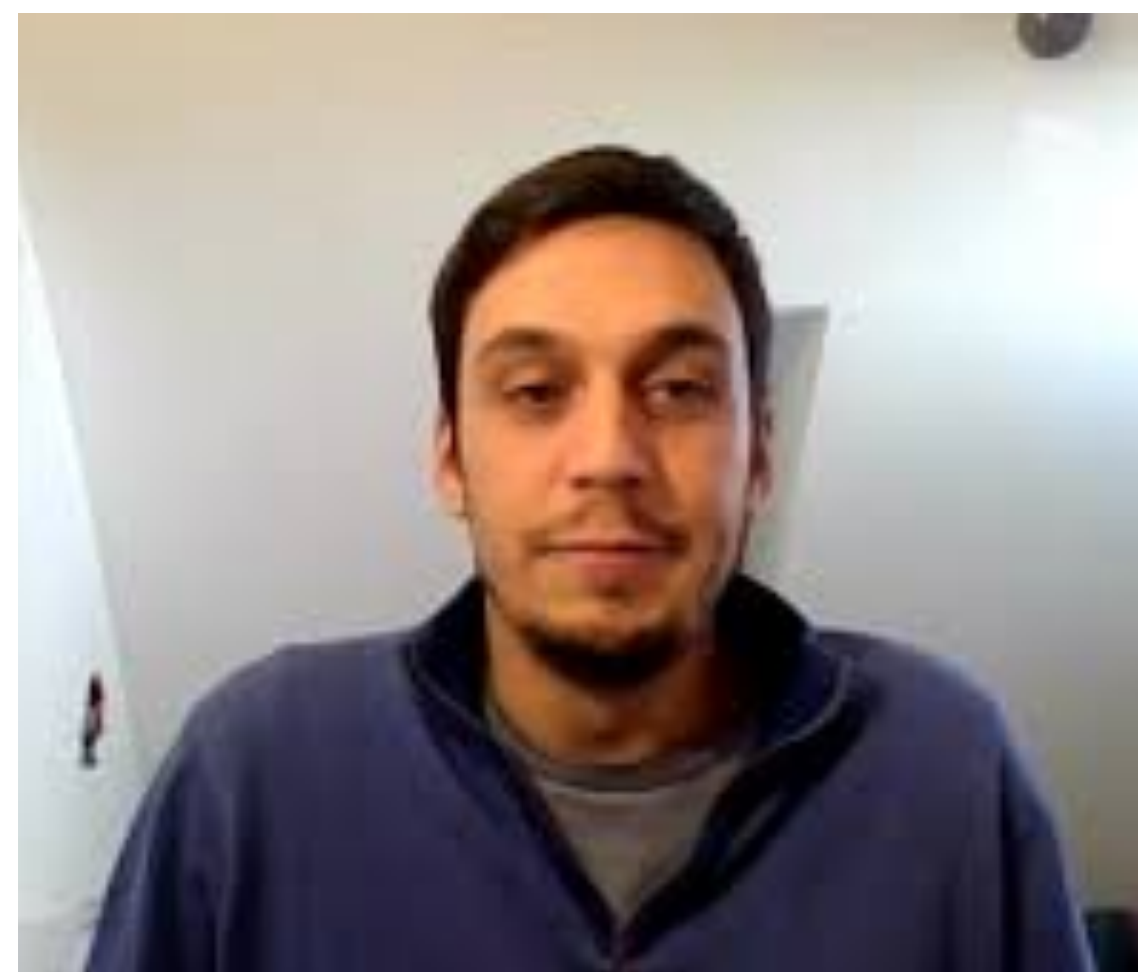
Henry Shackleton
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TIFR Hyderabad



Maine Christos
Caltech



Pietro Bonetti

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



Harshit Pandey



Ravi Shanker



Sayantan Sharma

The Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai

Introduction to FL^* theory of the pseudogap

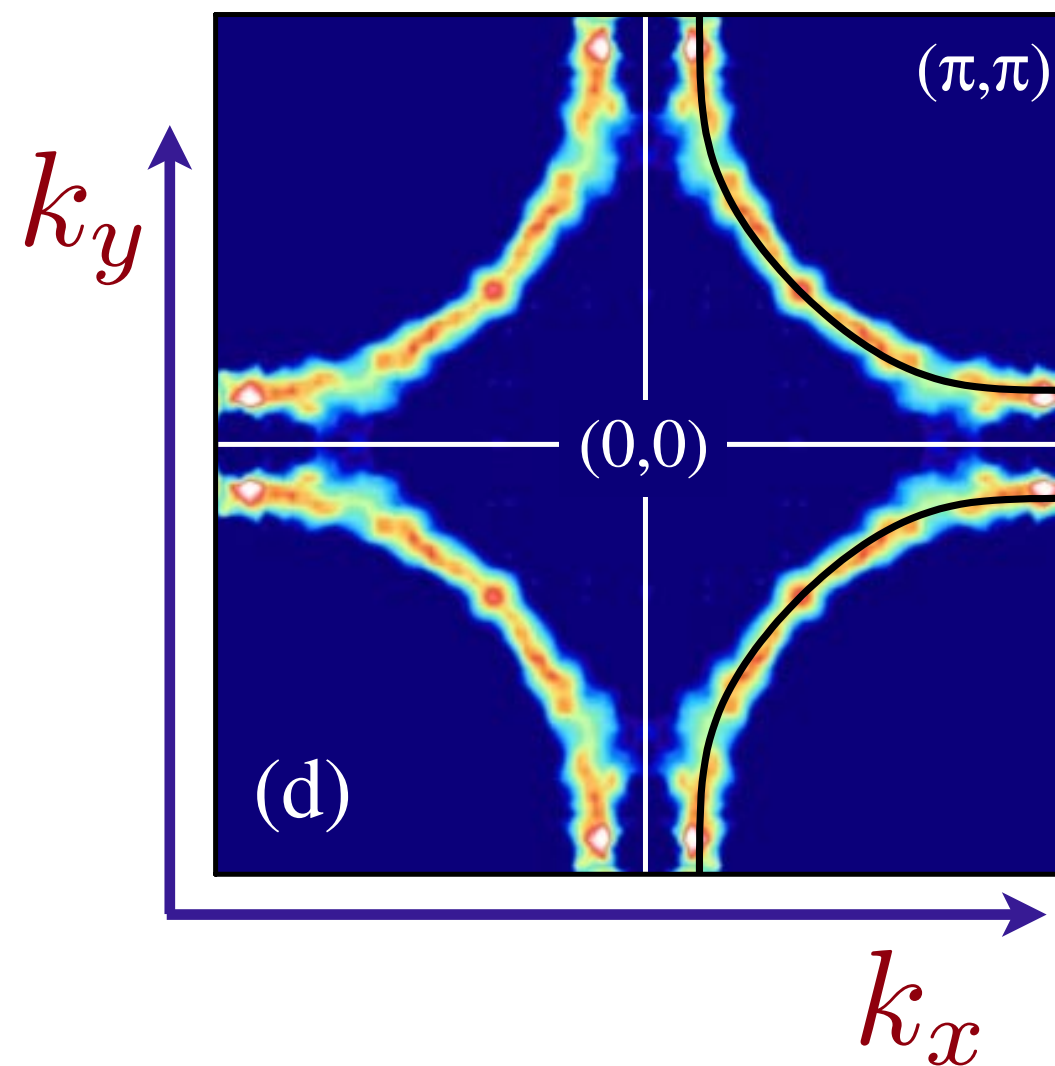
Ordinary metals

Nearly-free gas of fermions, with a Fermi surface between empty and occupied states (Sommerfeld, 1927).

Area enclosed by the Fermi surface is the same as that for free fermions with the same symmetry

Luttinger, 1960 - perturbative;

Oshikawa, 2000 - non-perturbative anomaly matching



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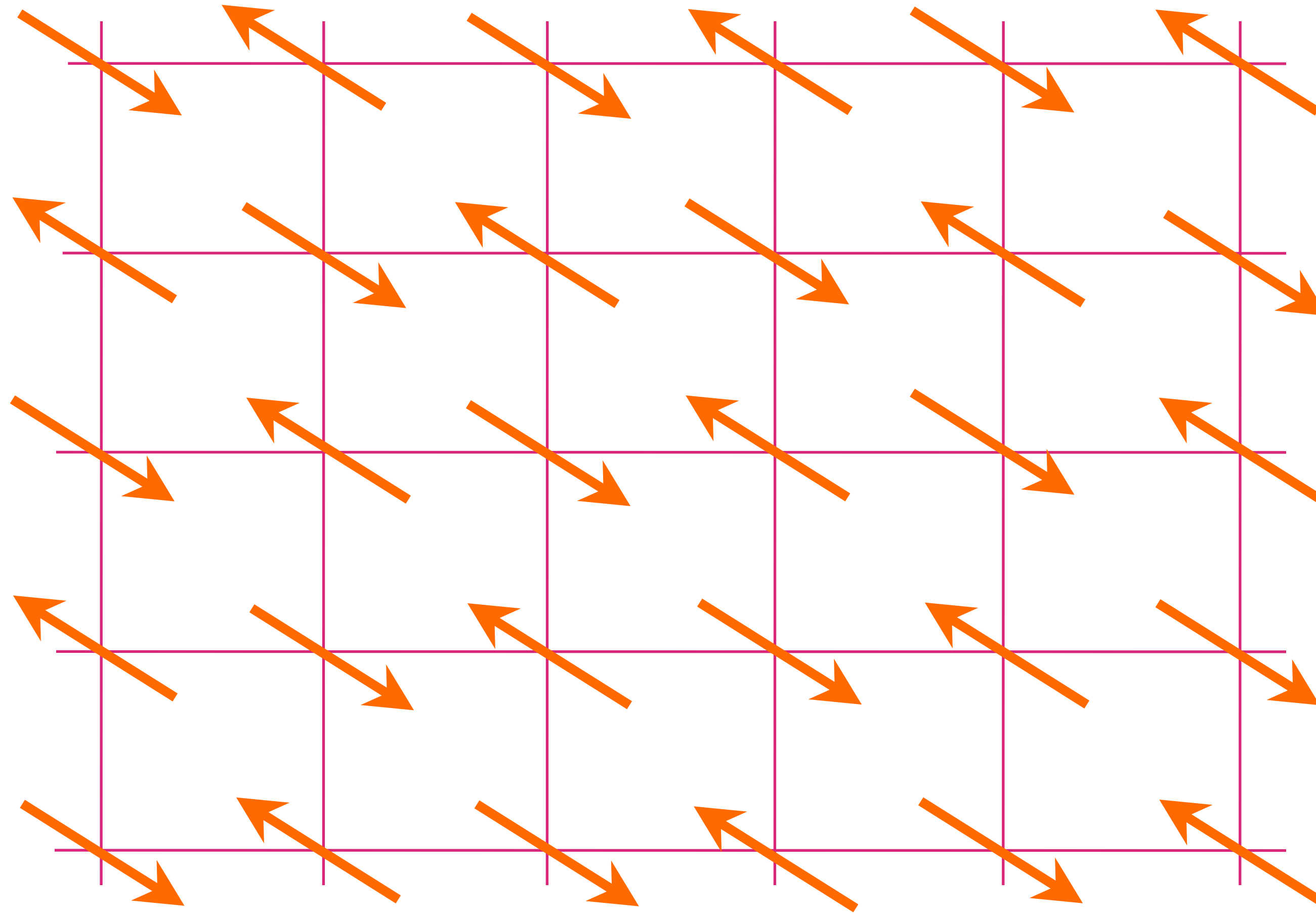
Luttinger, 1960 - perturbative;

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Fractionalized Fermi liquids (FL*)

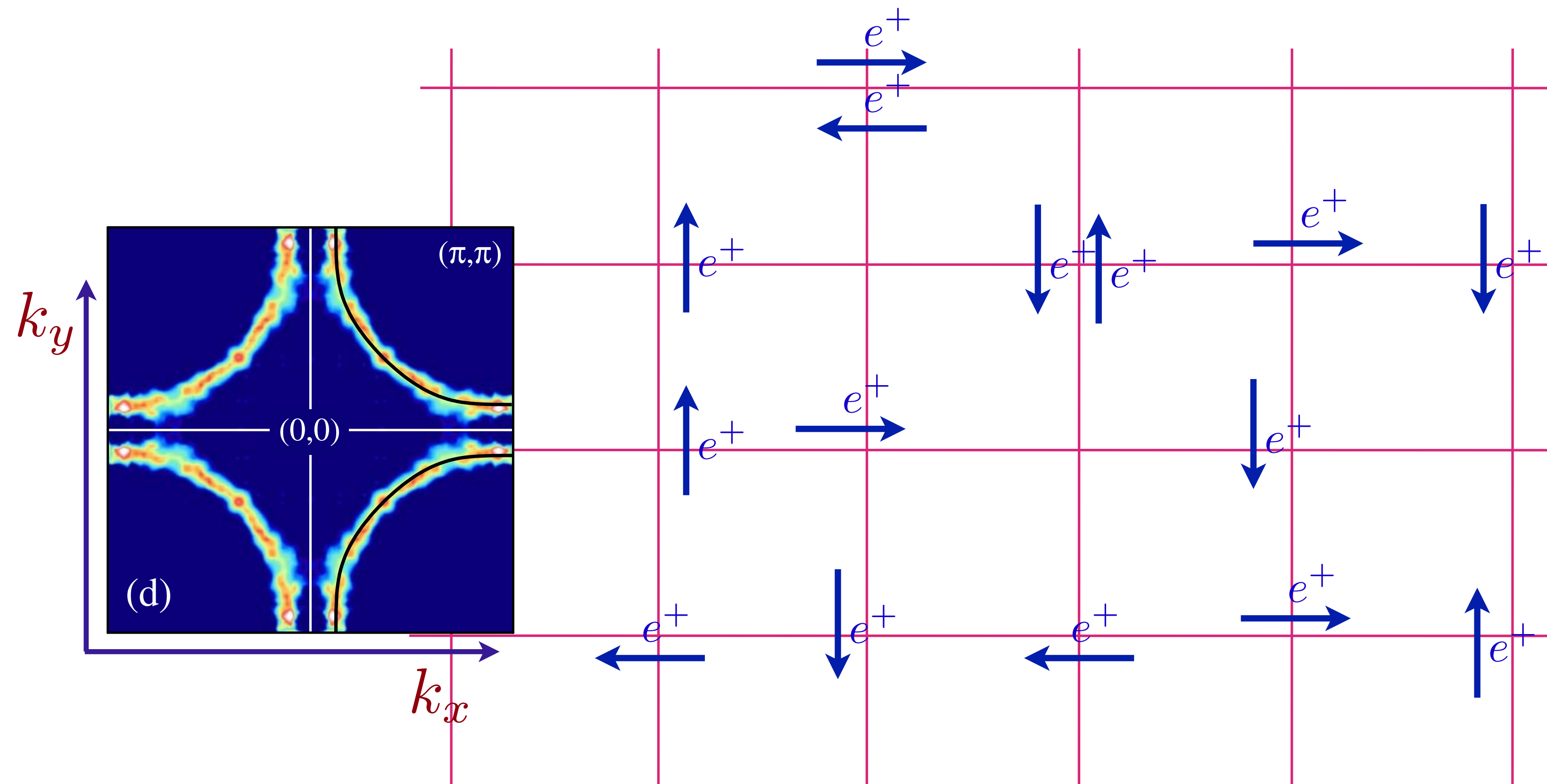
There can be metals with Fermi surface area not equal to the Luttinger value provided the fractionalized excitations of a spin liquid are also present. The sum of the Fermi surface and spin liquid anomalies equals the Oshikawa anomaly.

Insulating antiferromagnet

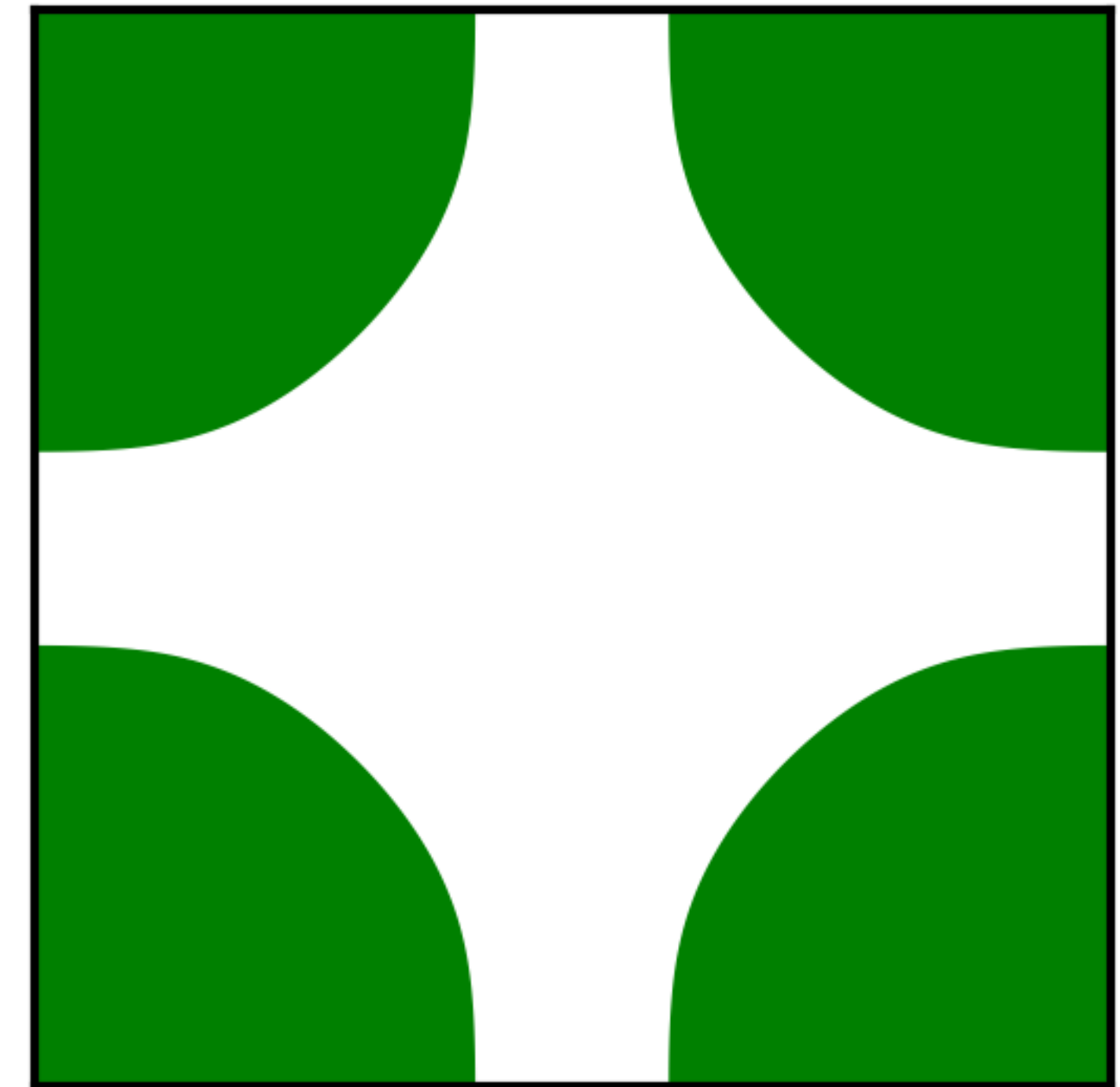


Doping an insulating antiferromagnet with holes of density p

Ordinary metal



Luttinger area.
No broken symmetry

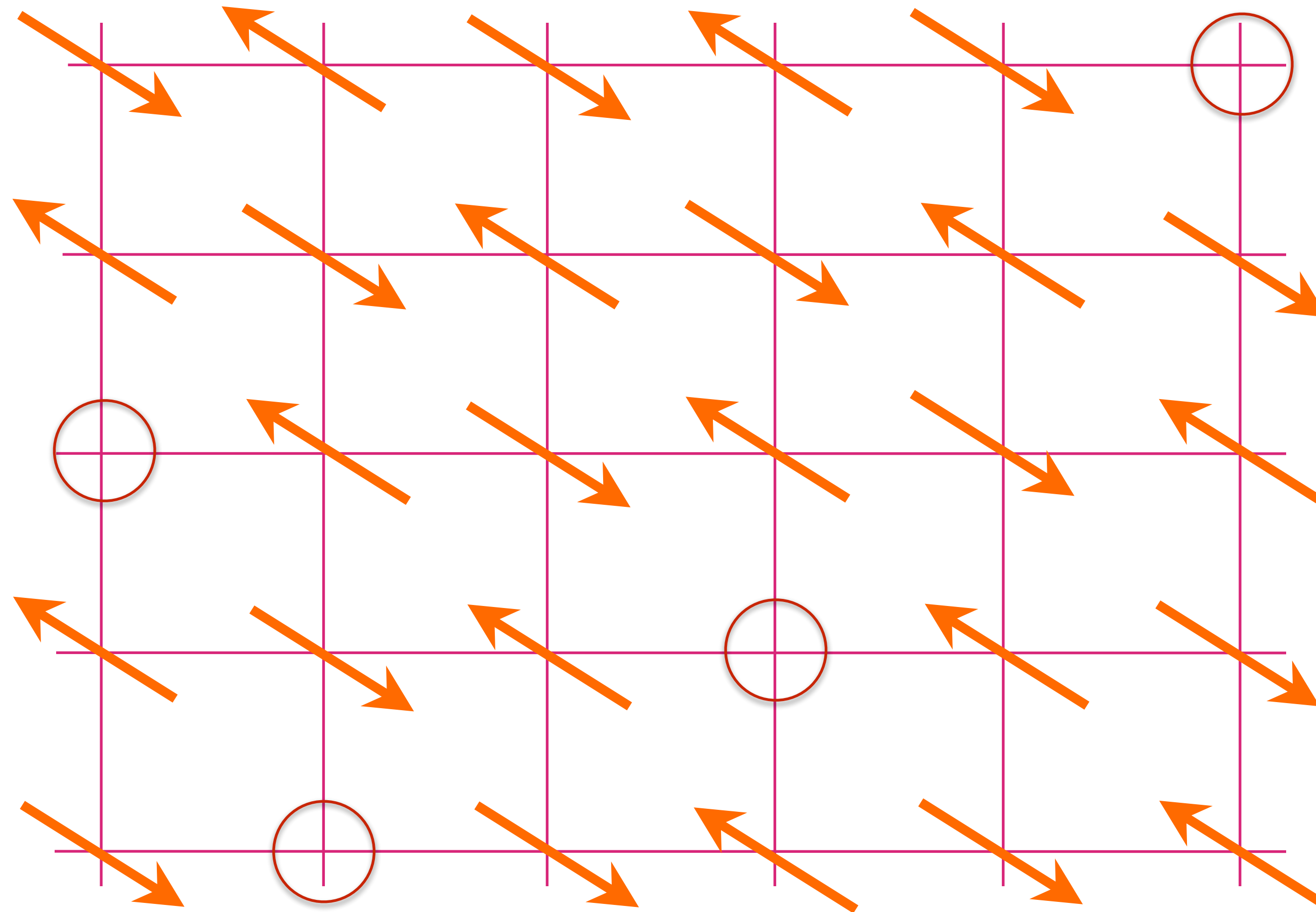


At large p , we obtain a gas of nearly free fermionic holes of density $1+p$ (relative to the filled band with 2 electrons per site)

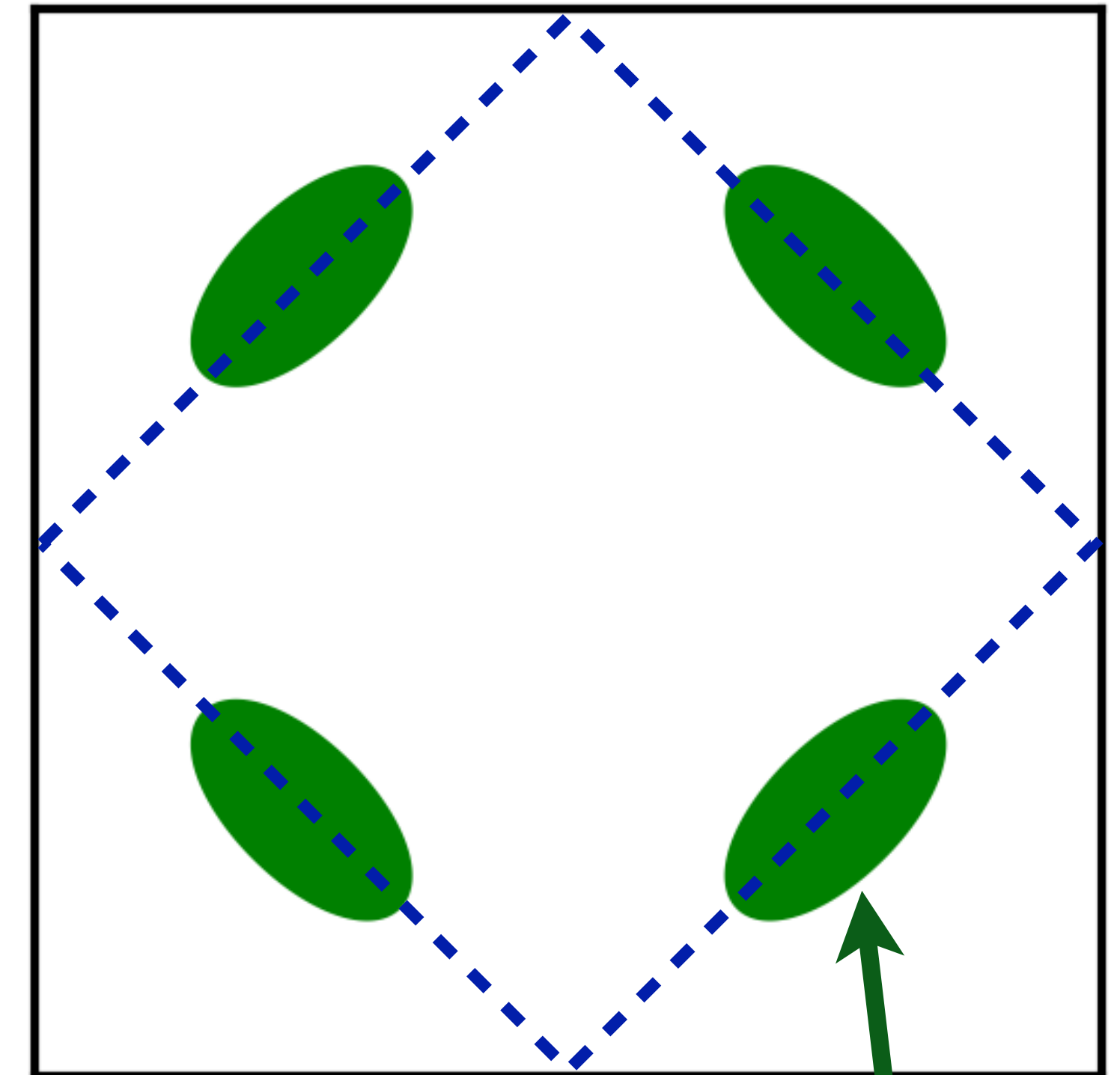
Area $(1+p)/2$

Doping an insulating antiferromagnet with holes of density p

AF metal



Luttinger area.
Broken symmetry

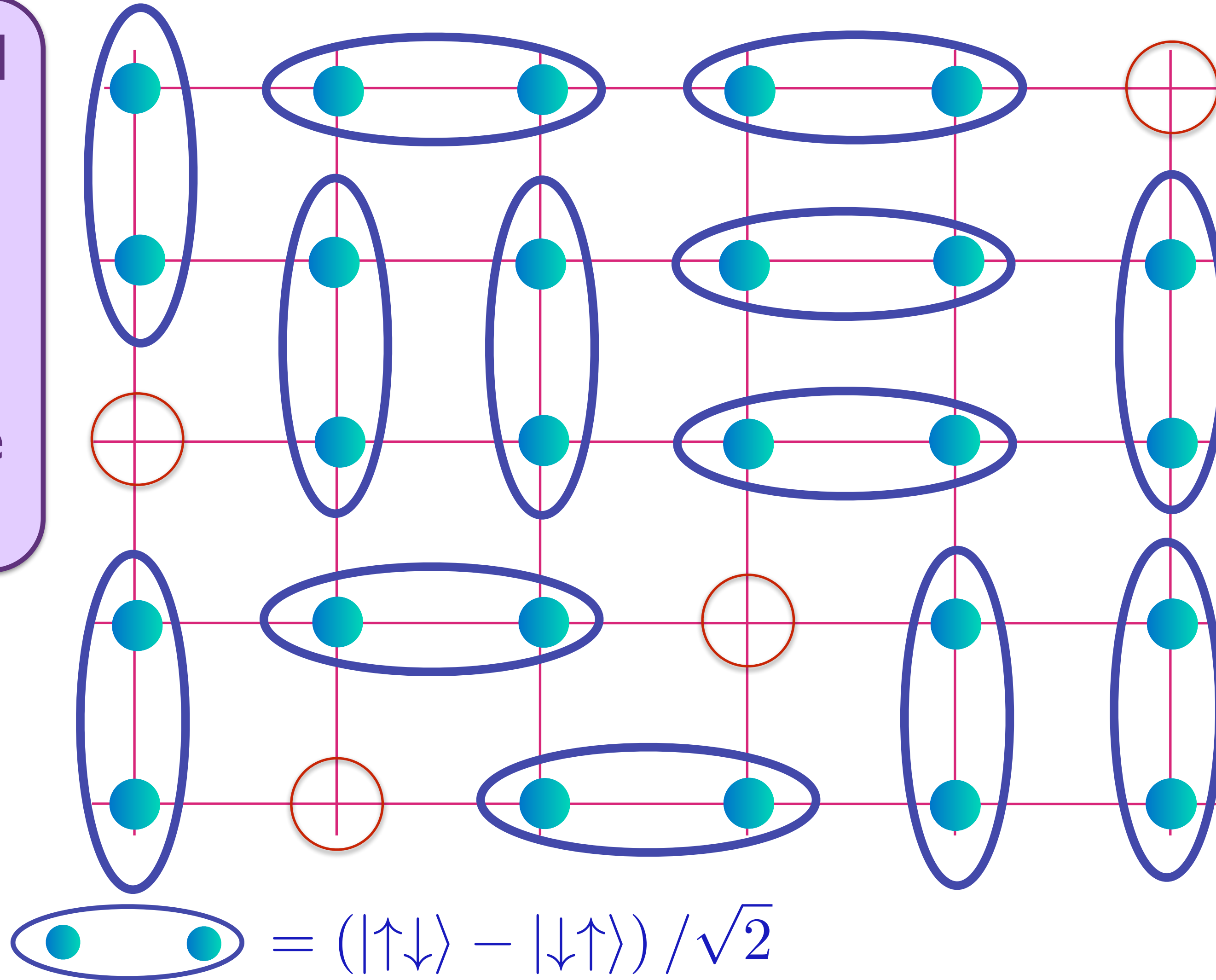


Area $p/4$

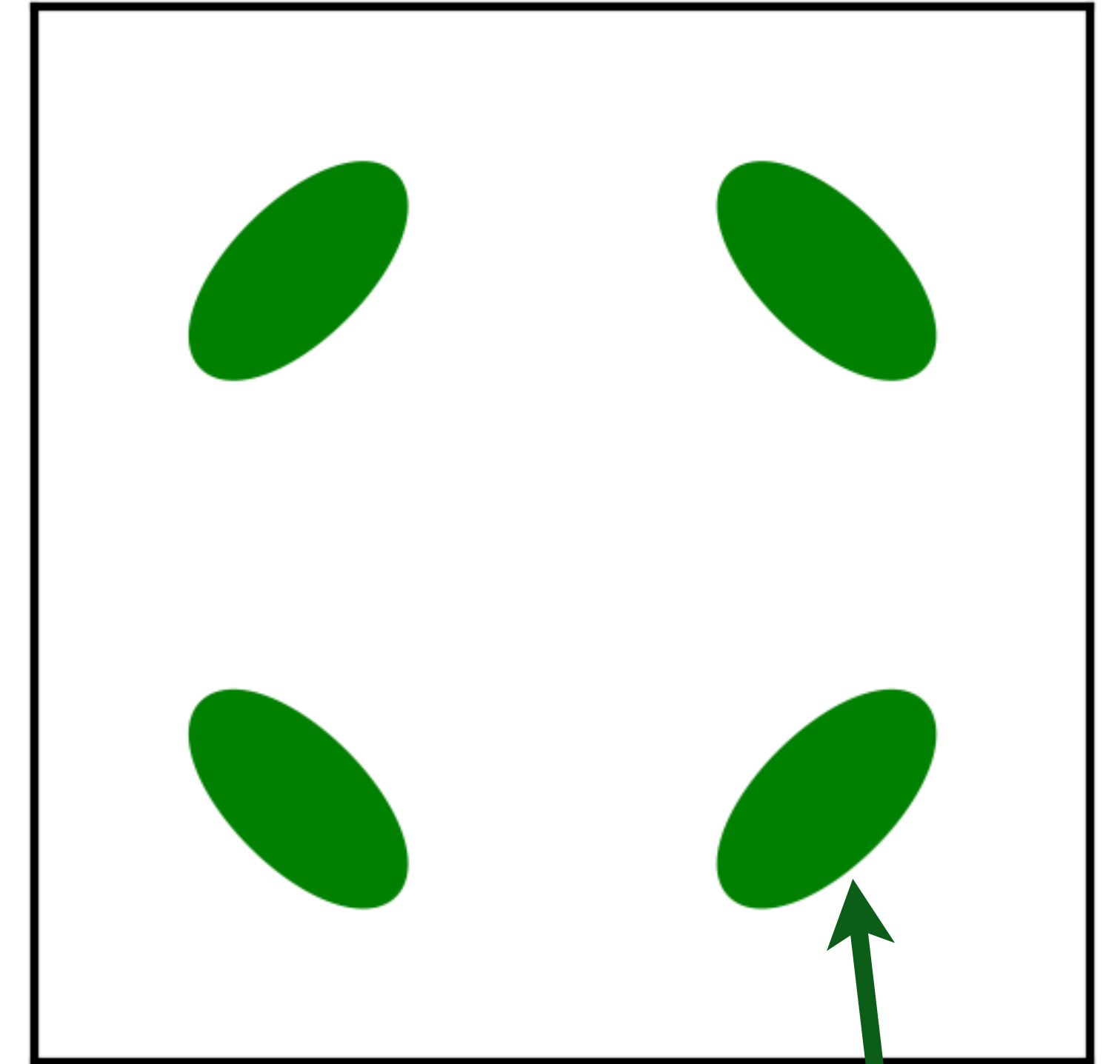
Doping an insulating antiferromagnet with holes of density p

Holon metal

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



non-Luttinger area.
Spin liquid

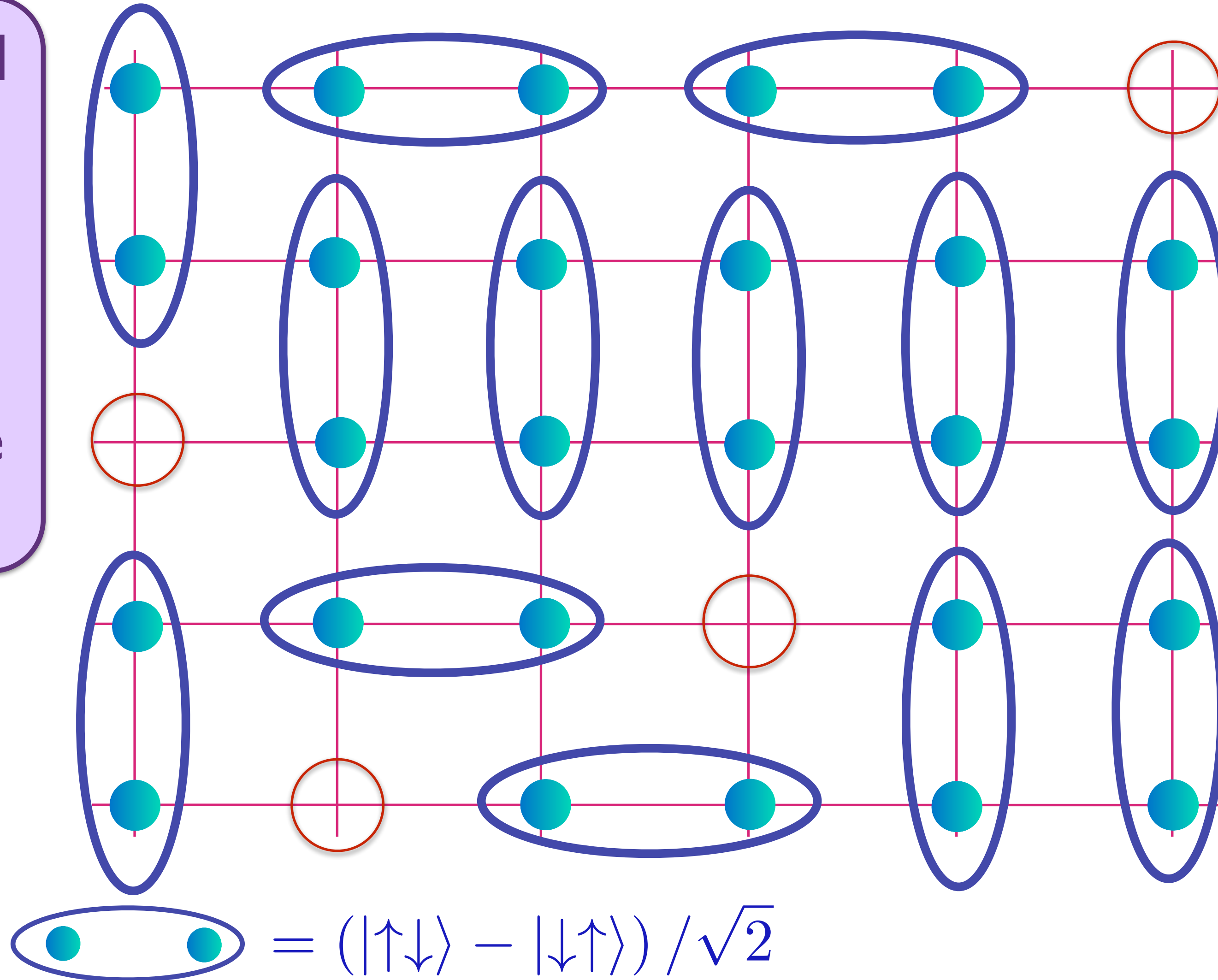


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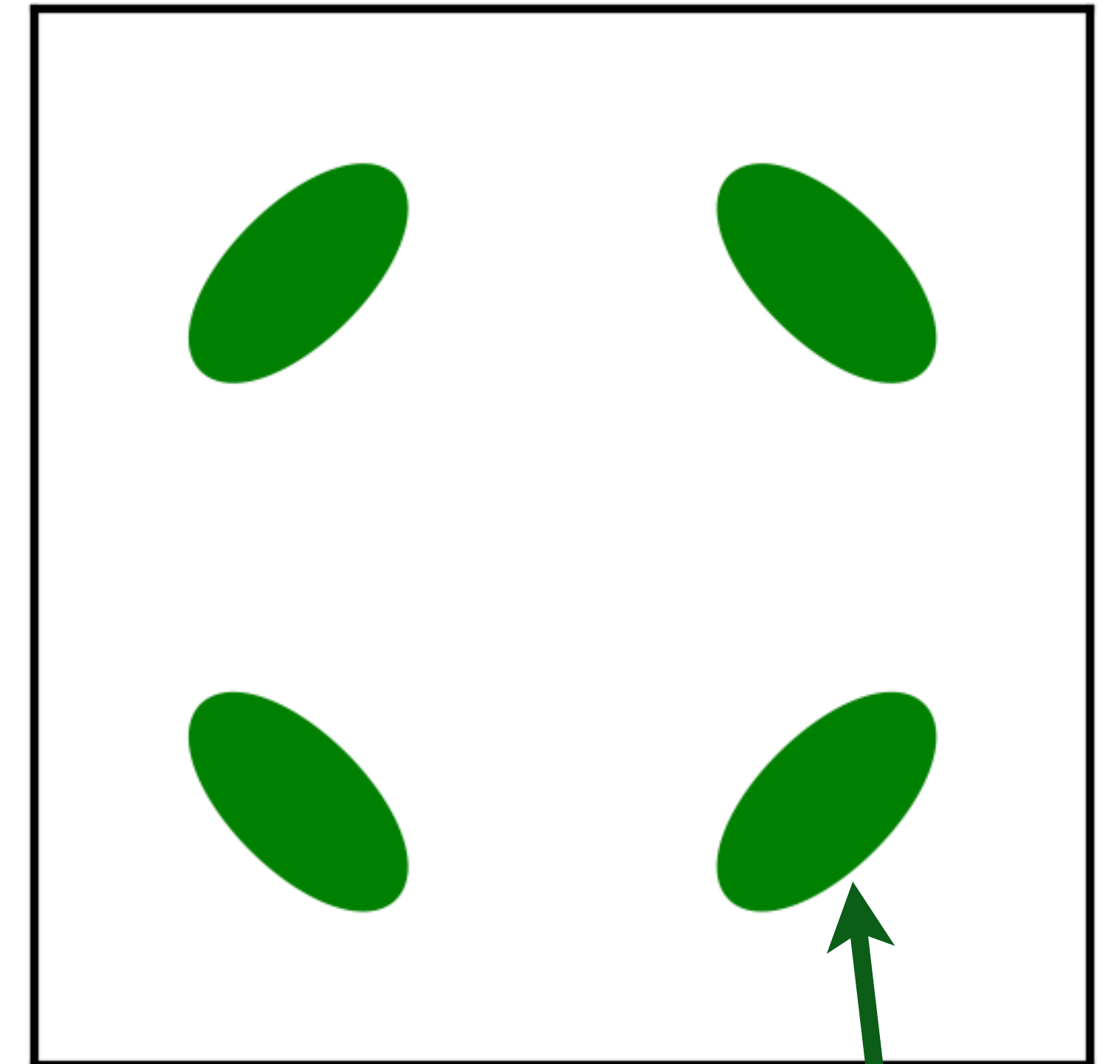
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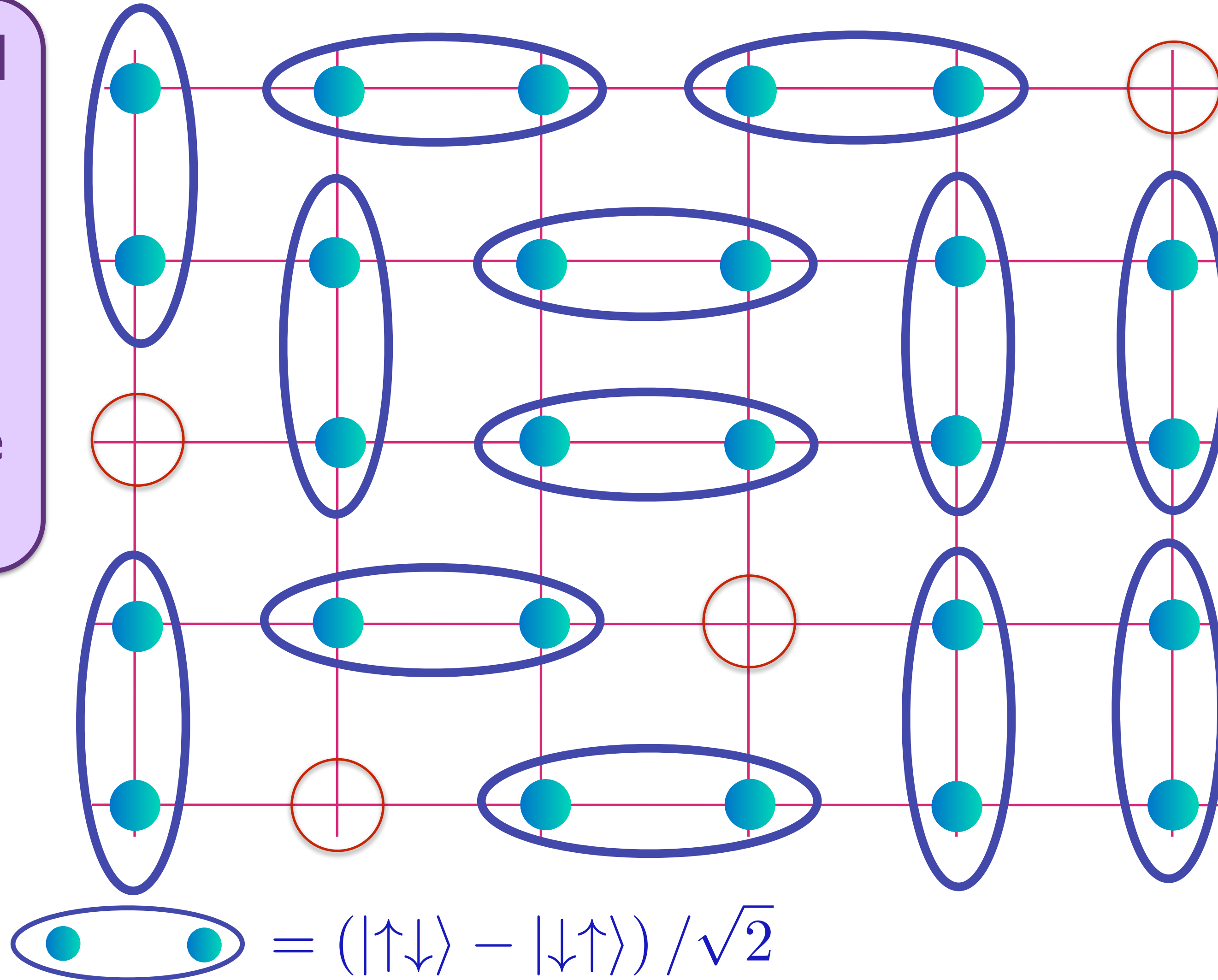


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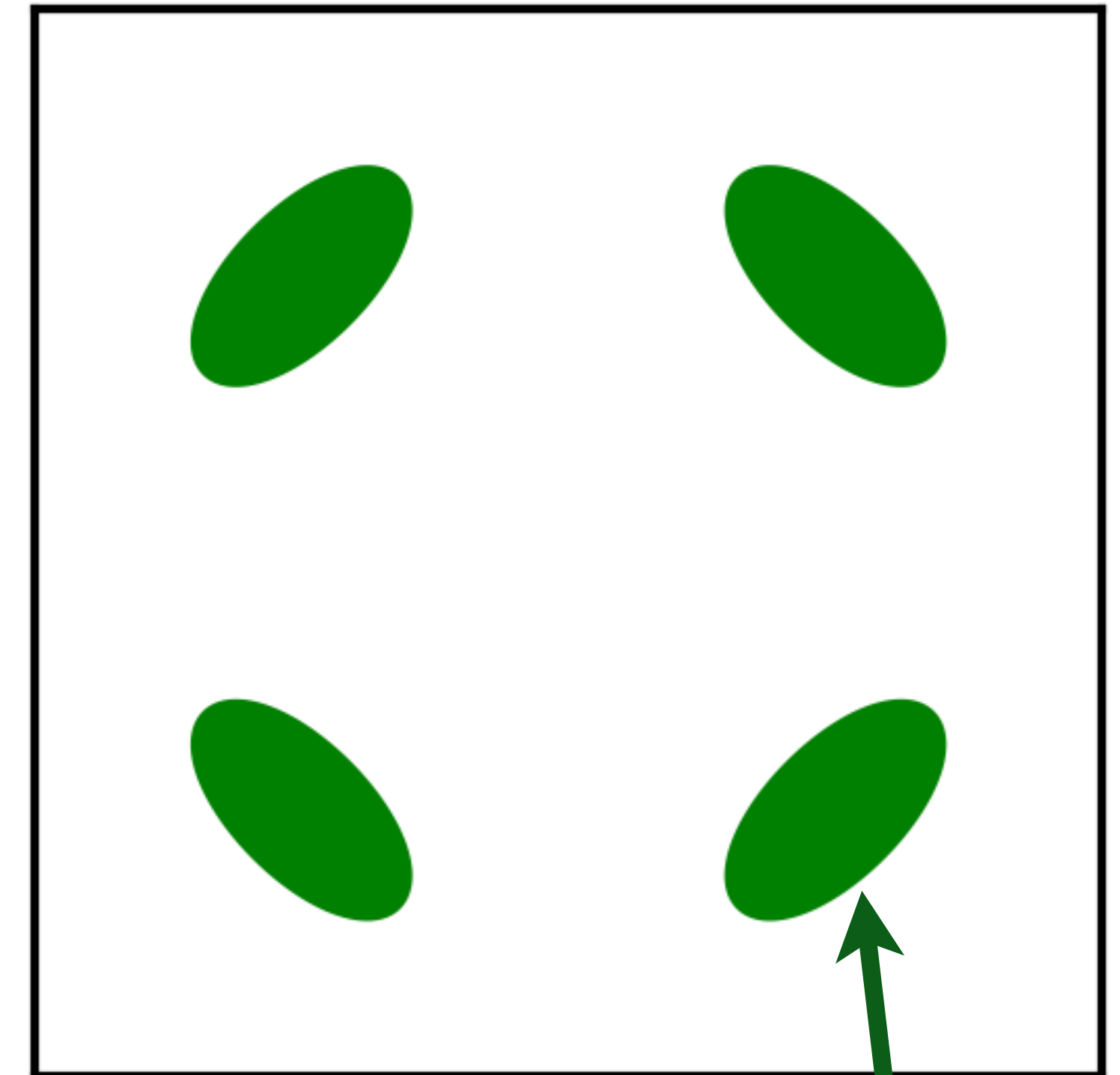
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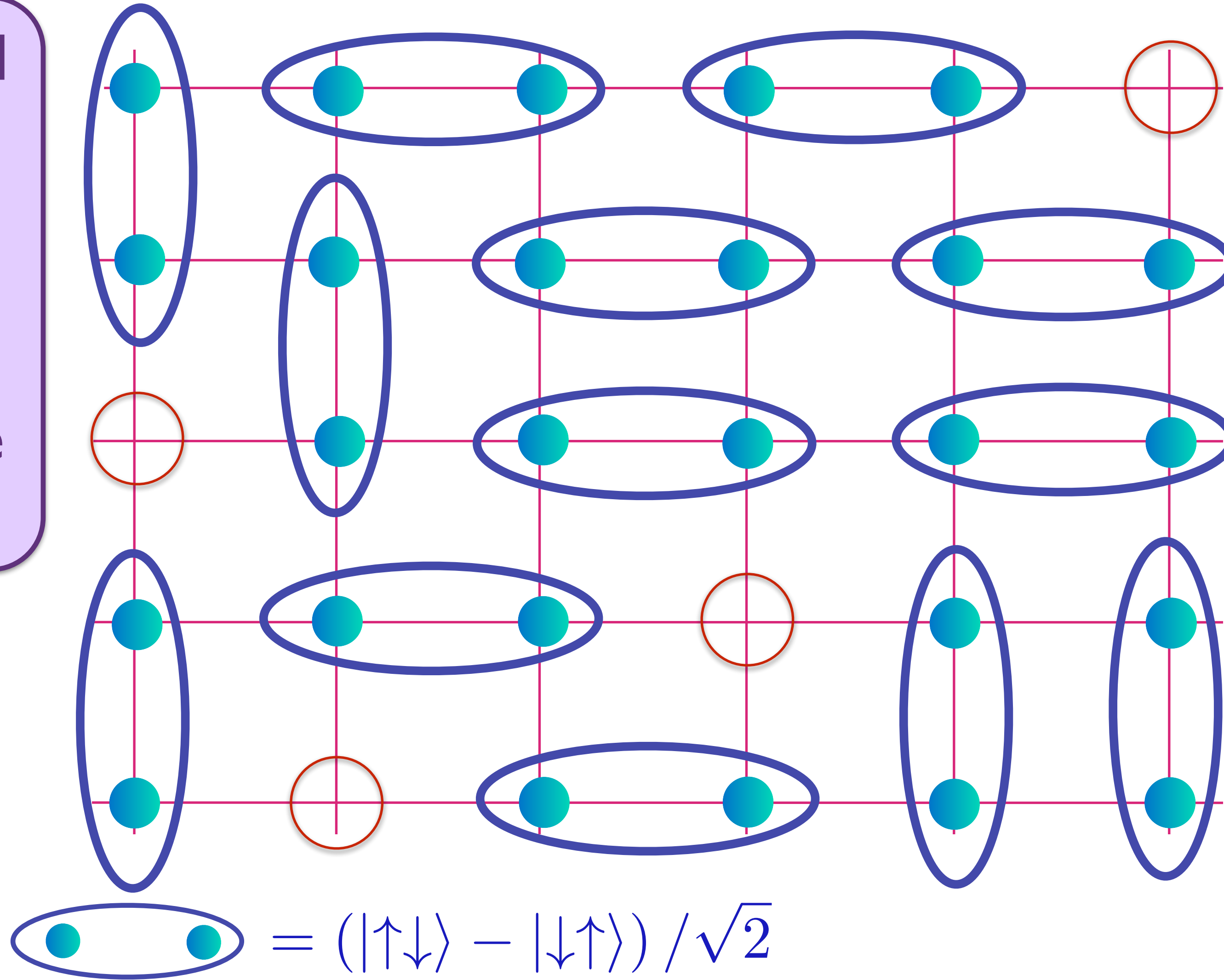


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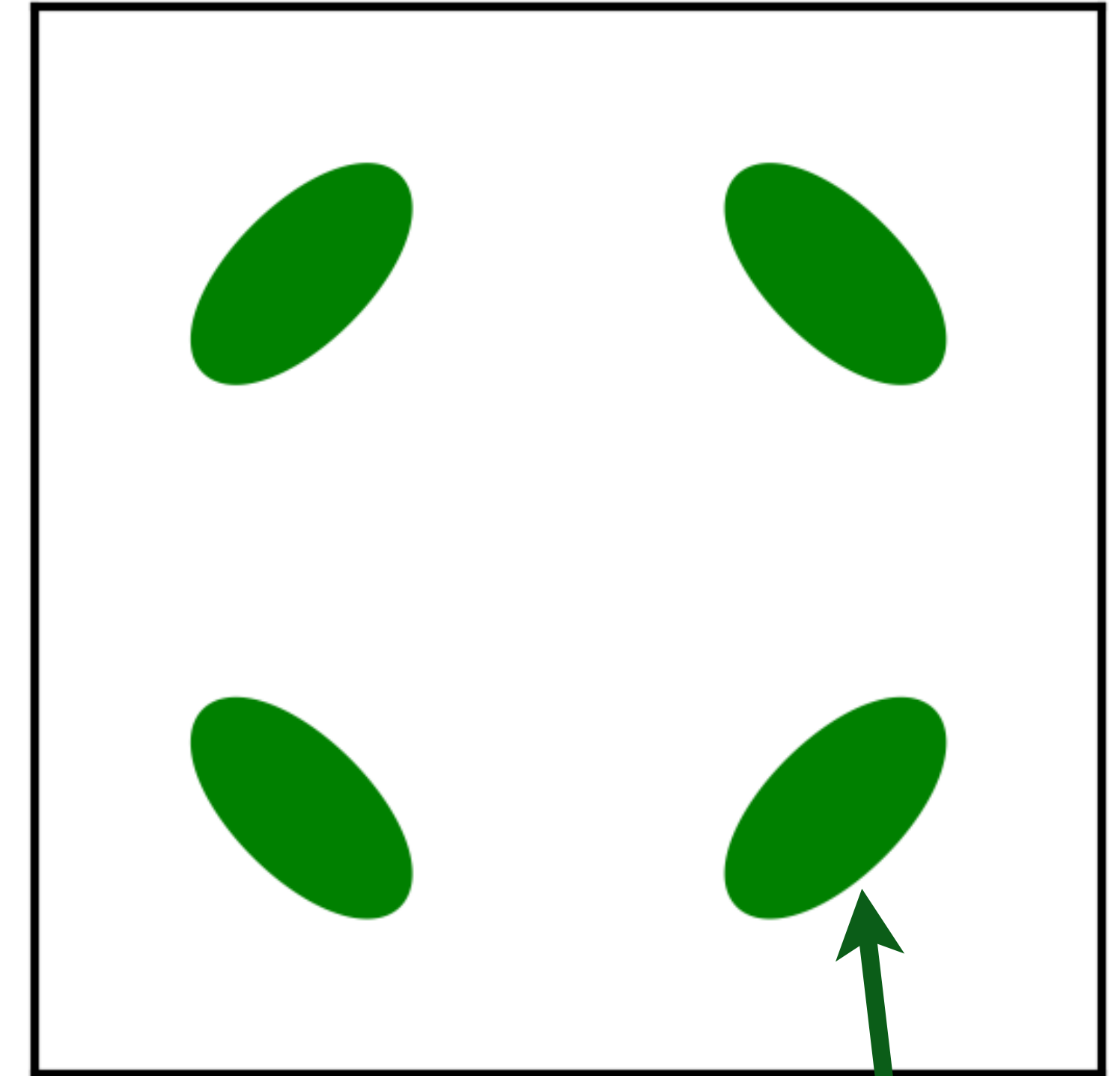
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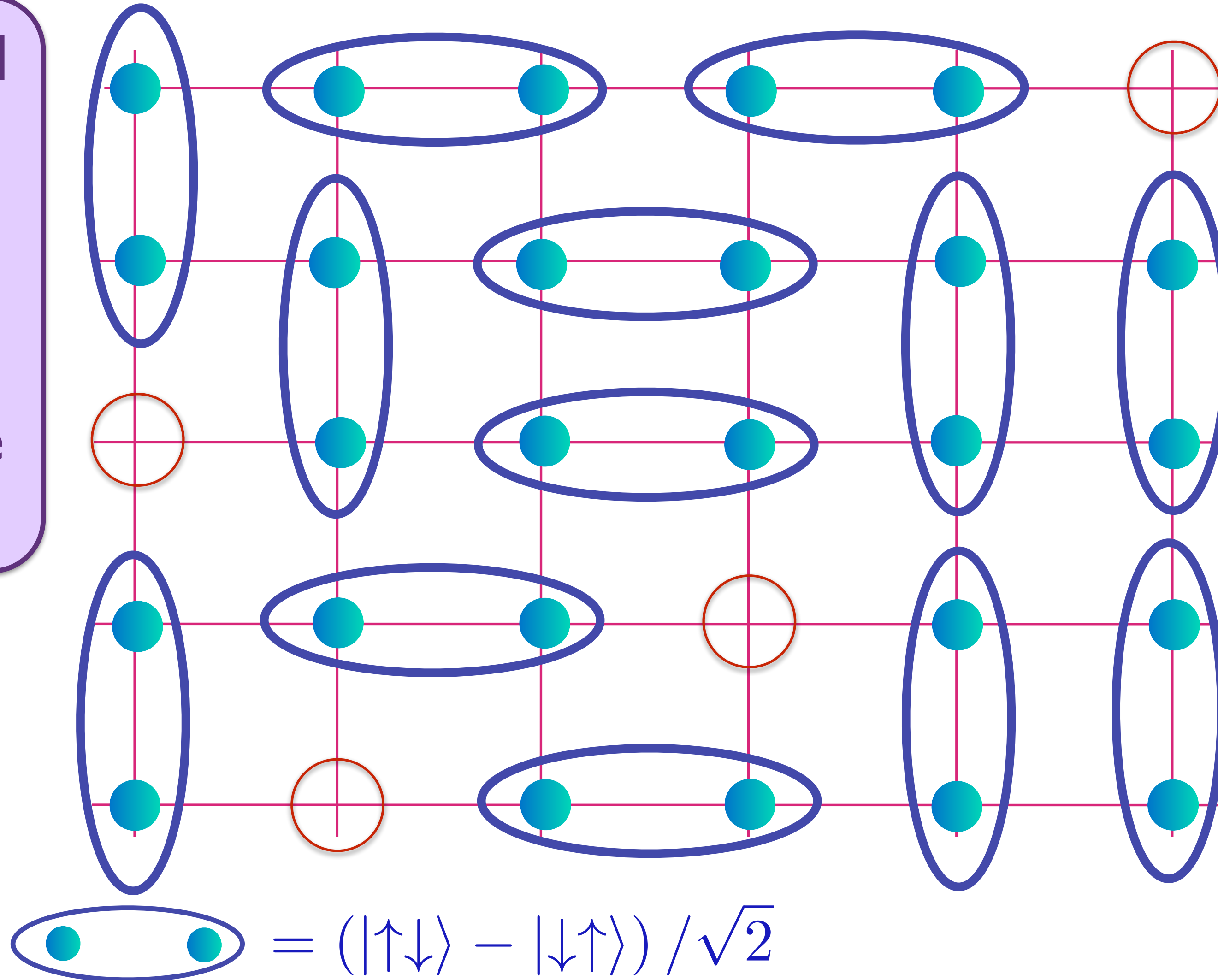


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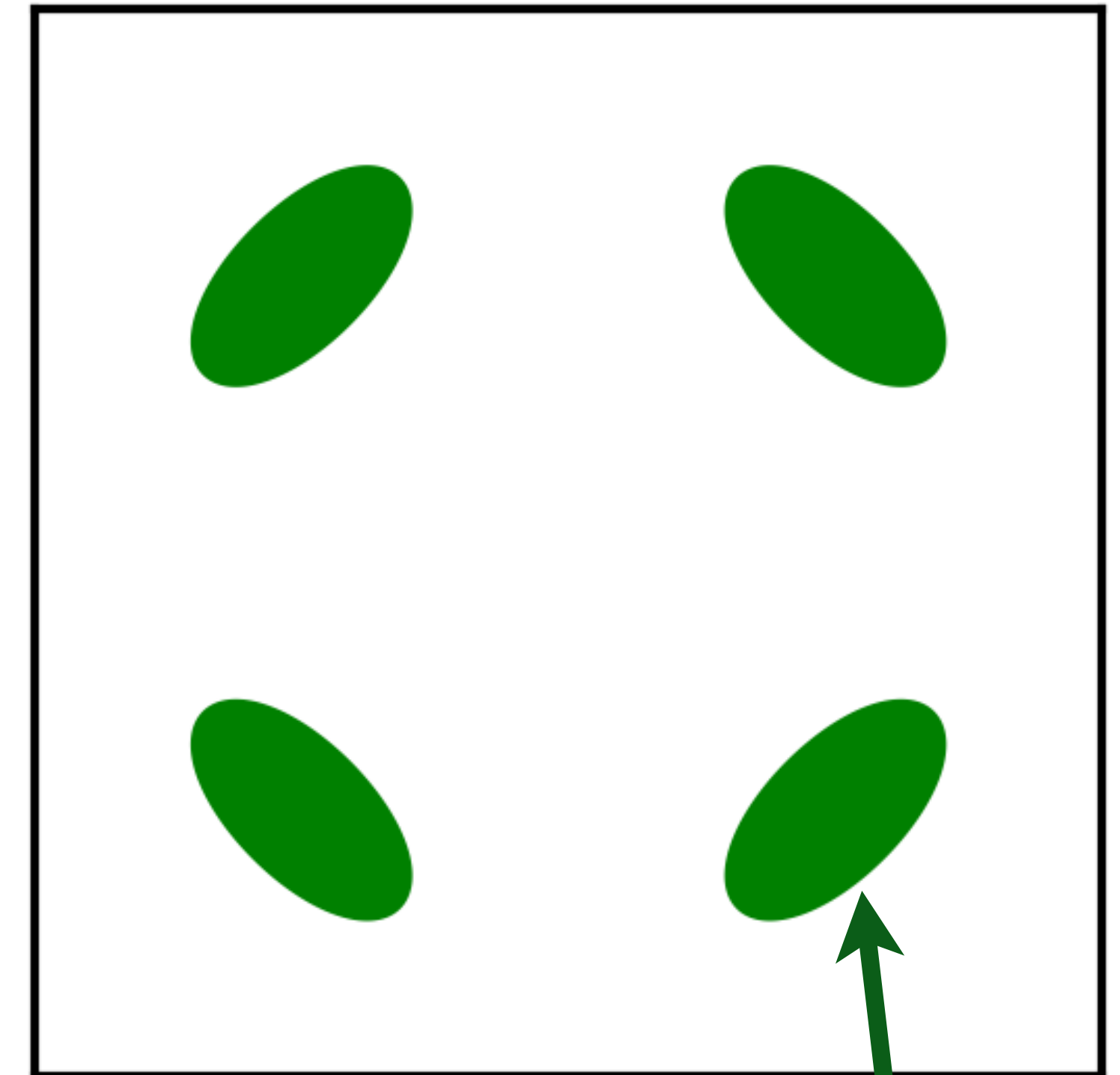
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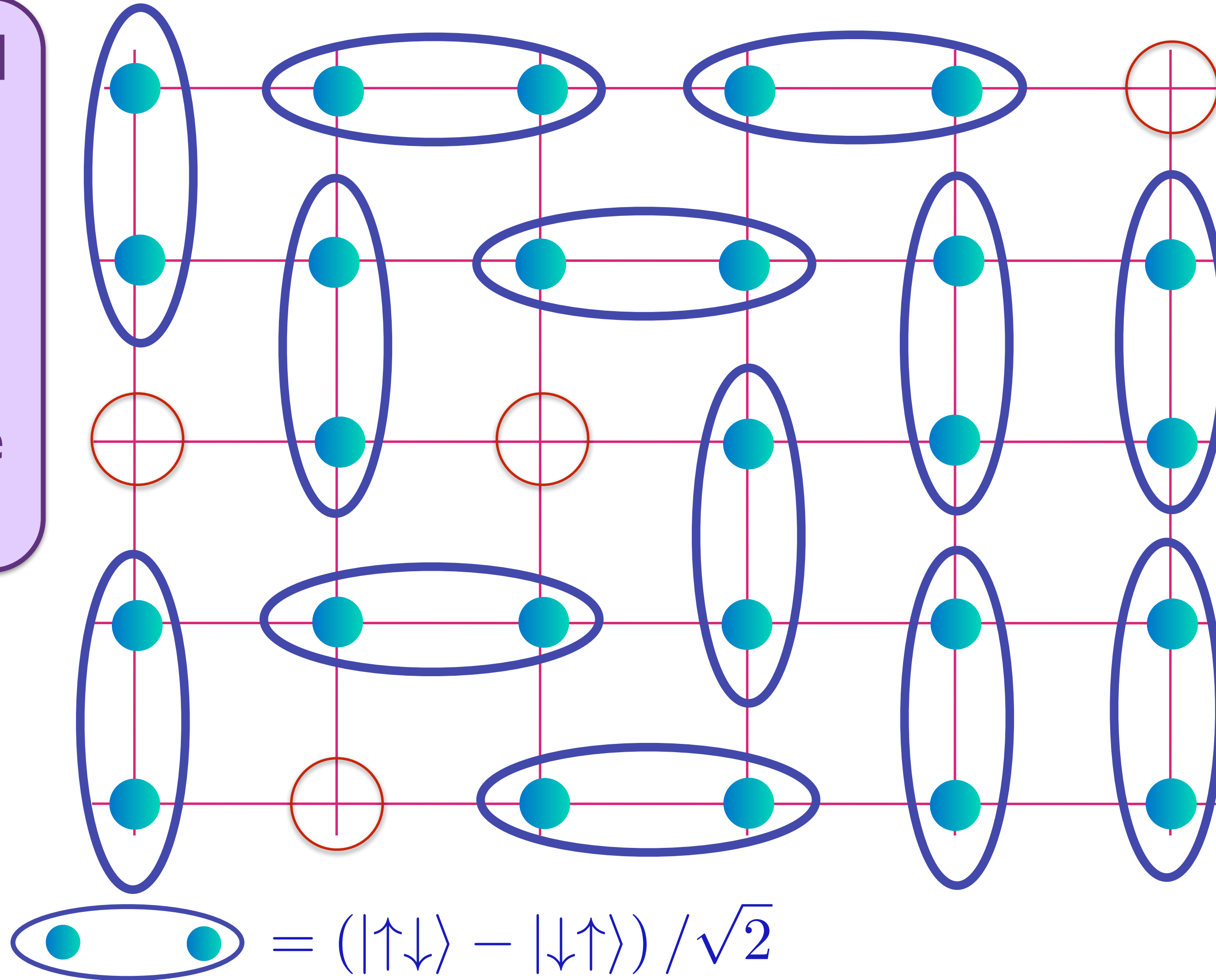


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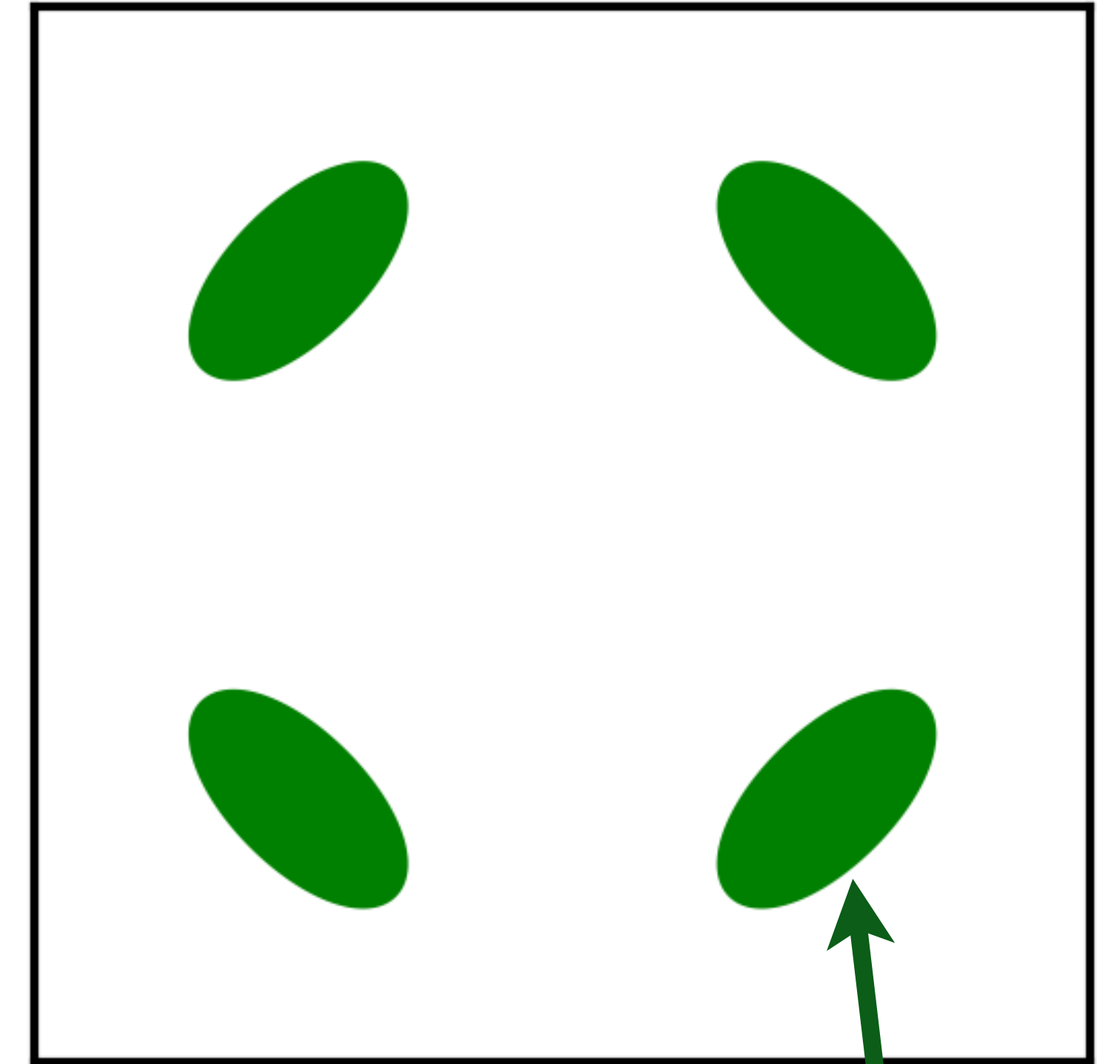
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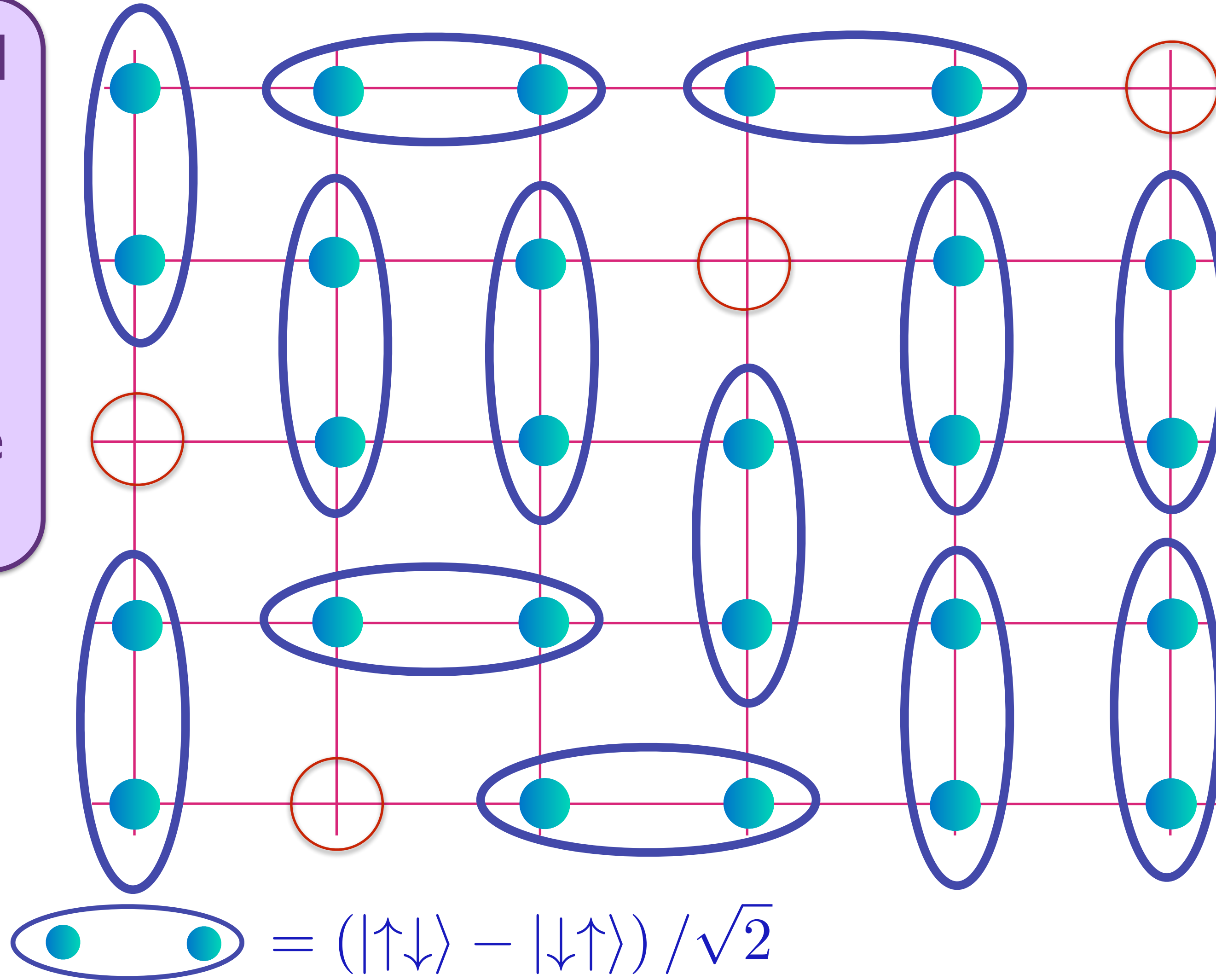


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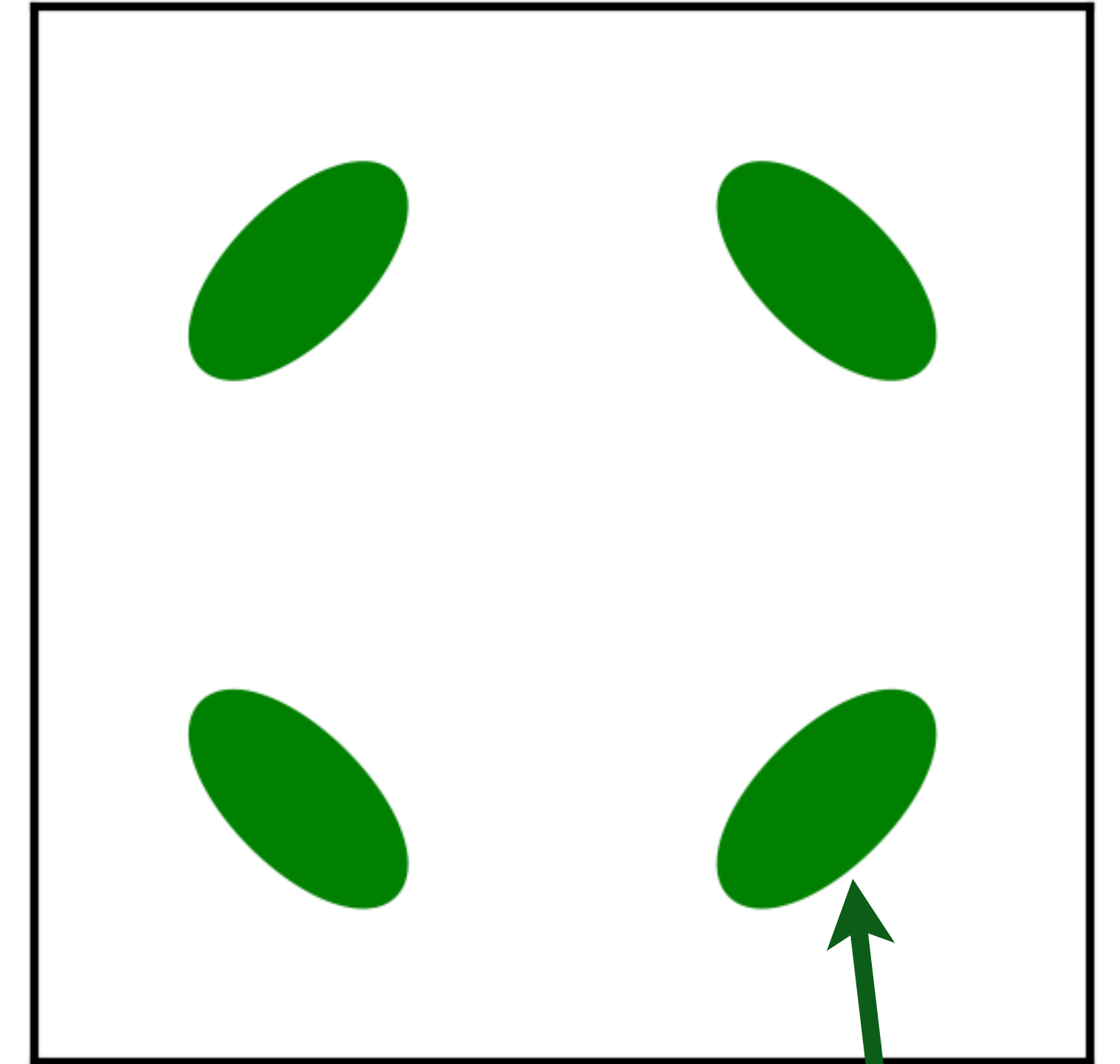
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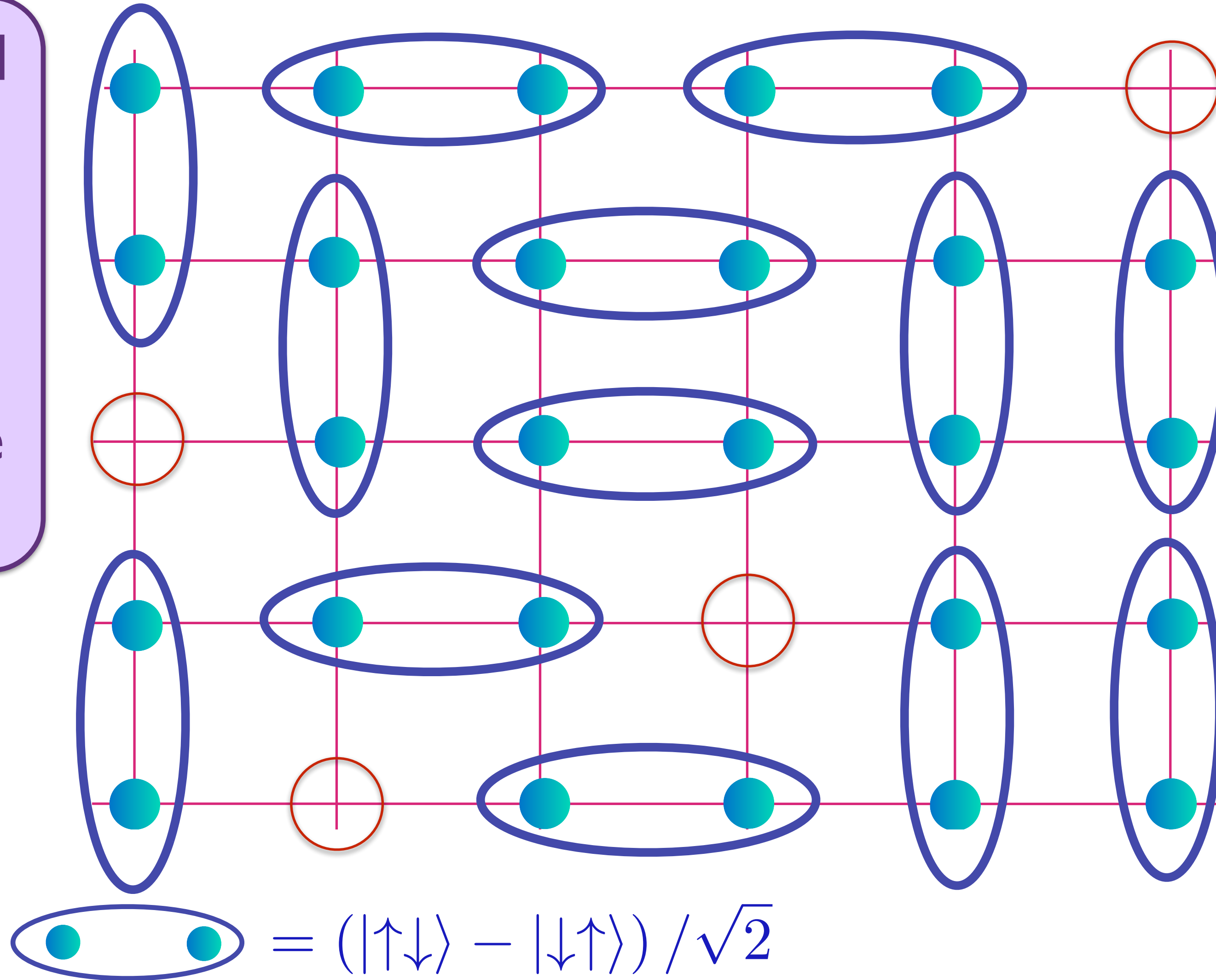


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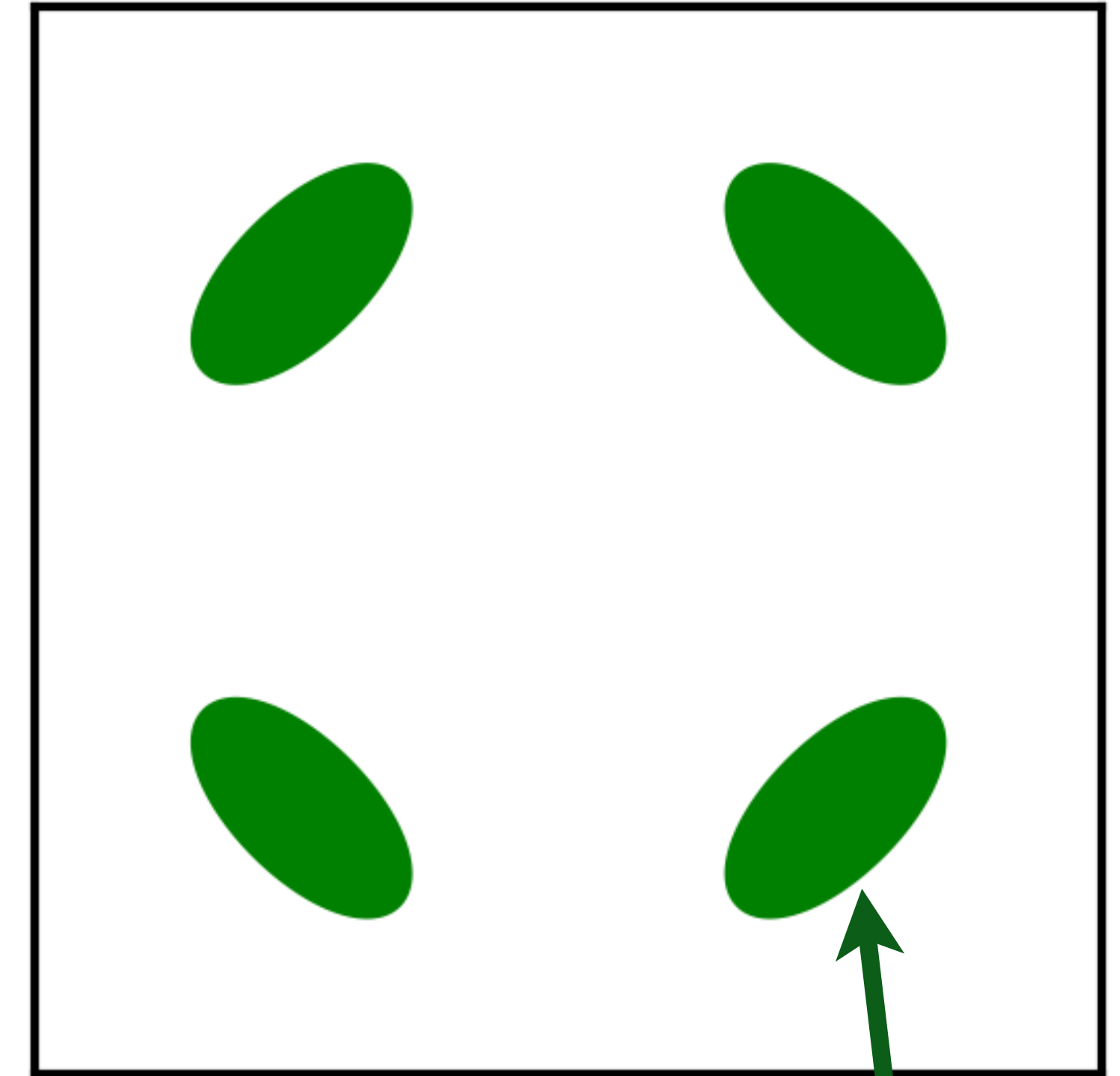
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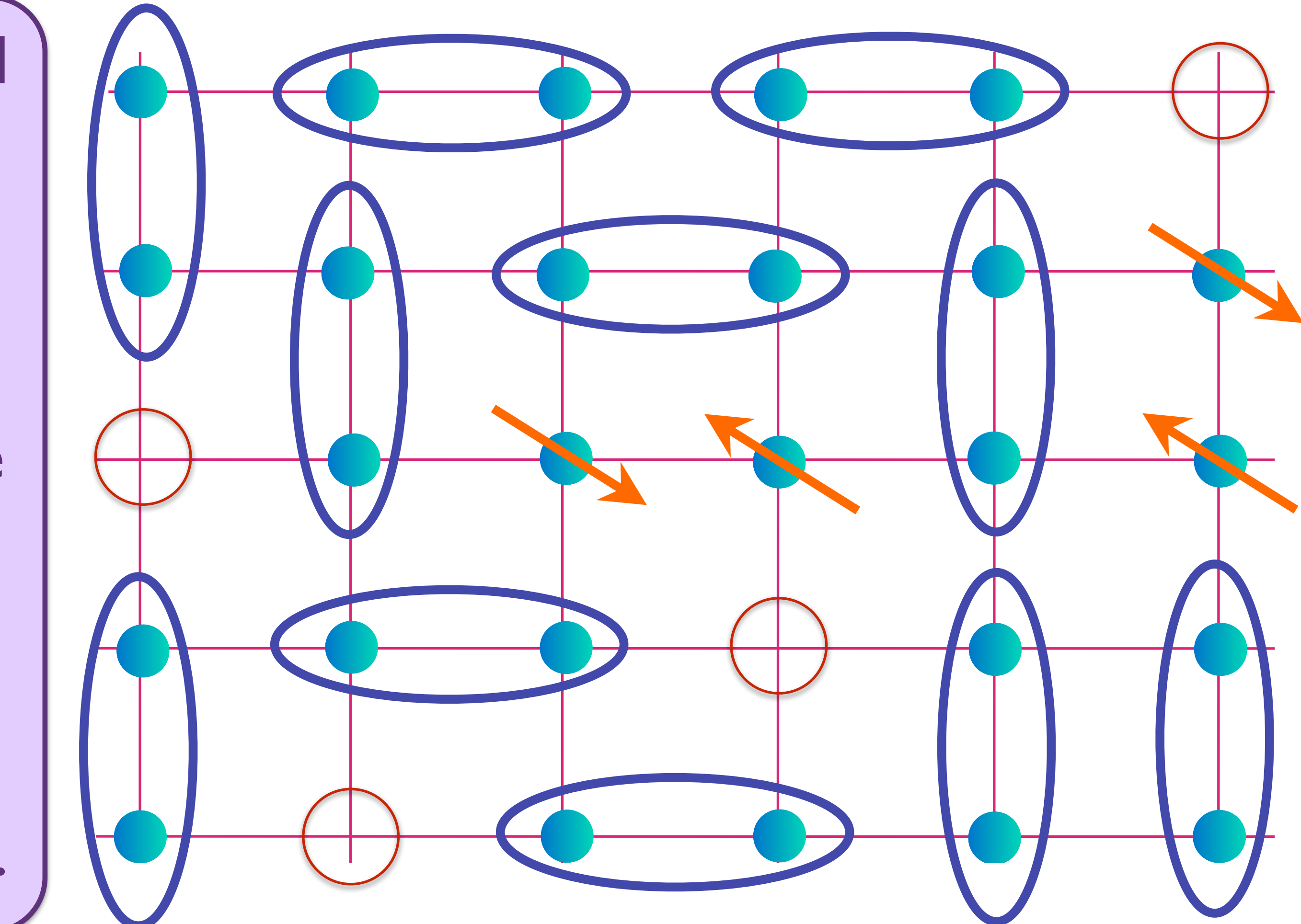


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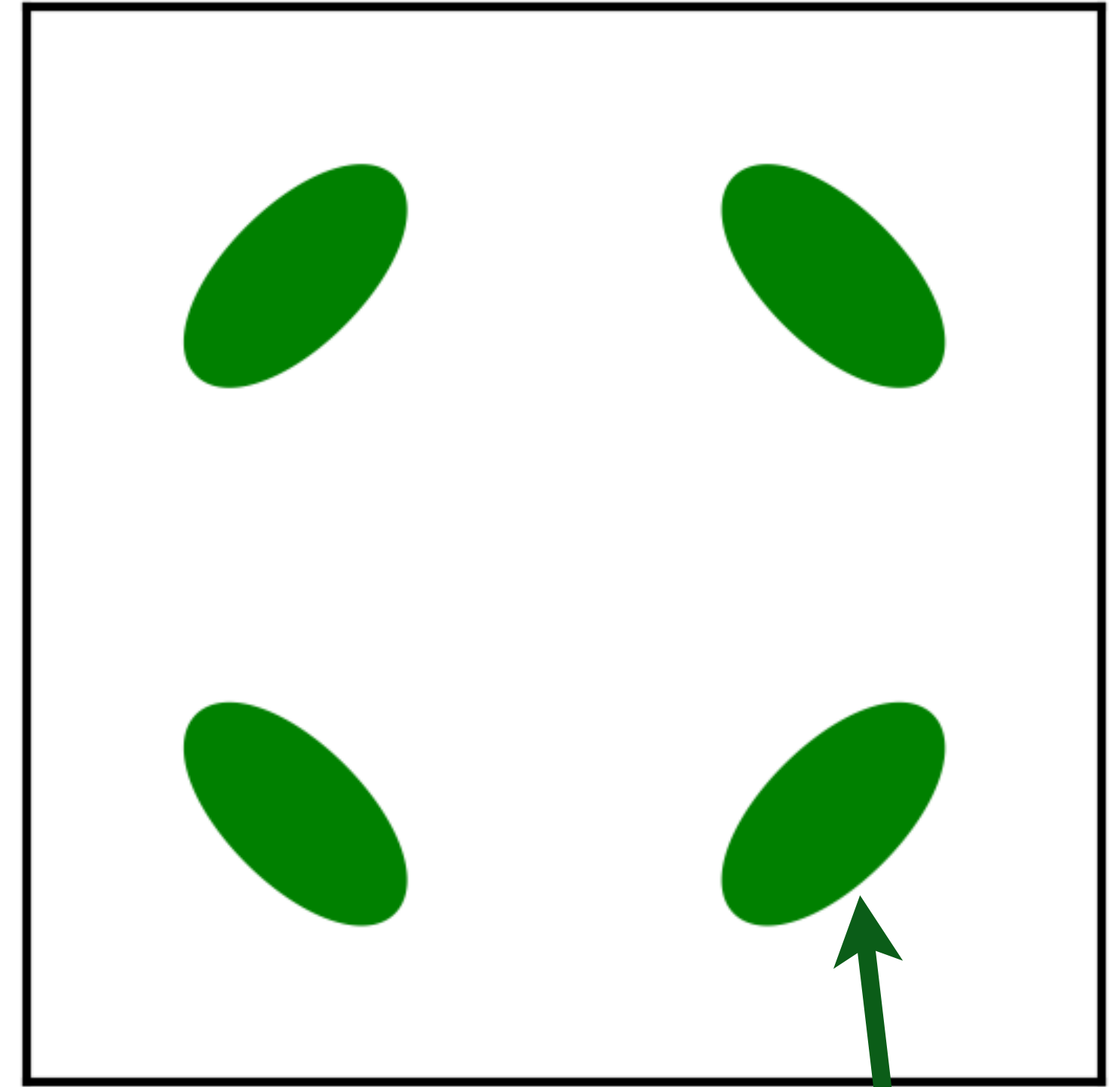
Holon metal

Spin liquid with density p of spinless, charge $+e$ "holons" and charge 0 spin-1/2 "spinons".



$$\text{[Pair of spinons]} = (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

non-Luttinger area.
Spin liquid

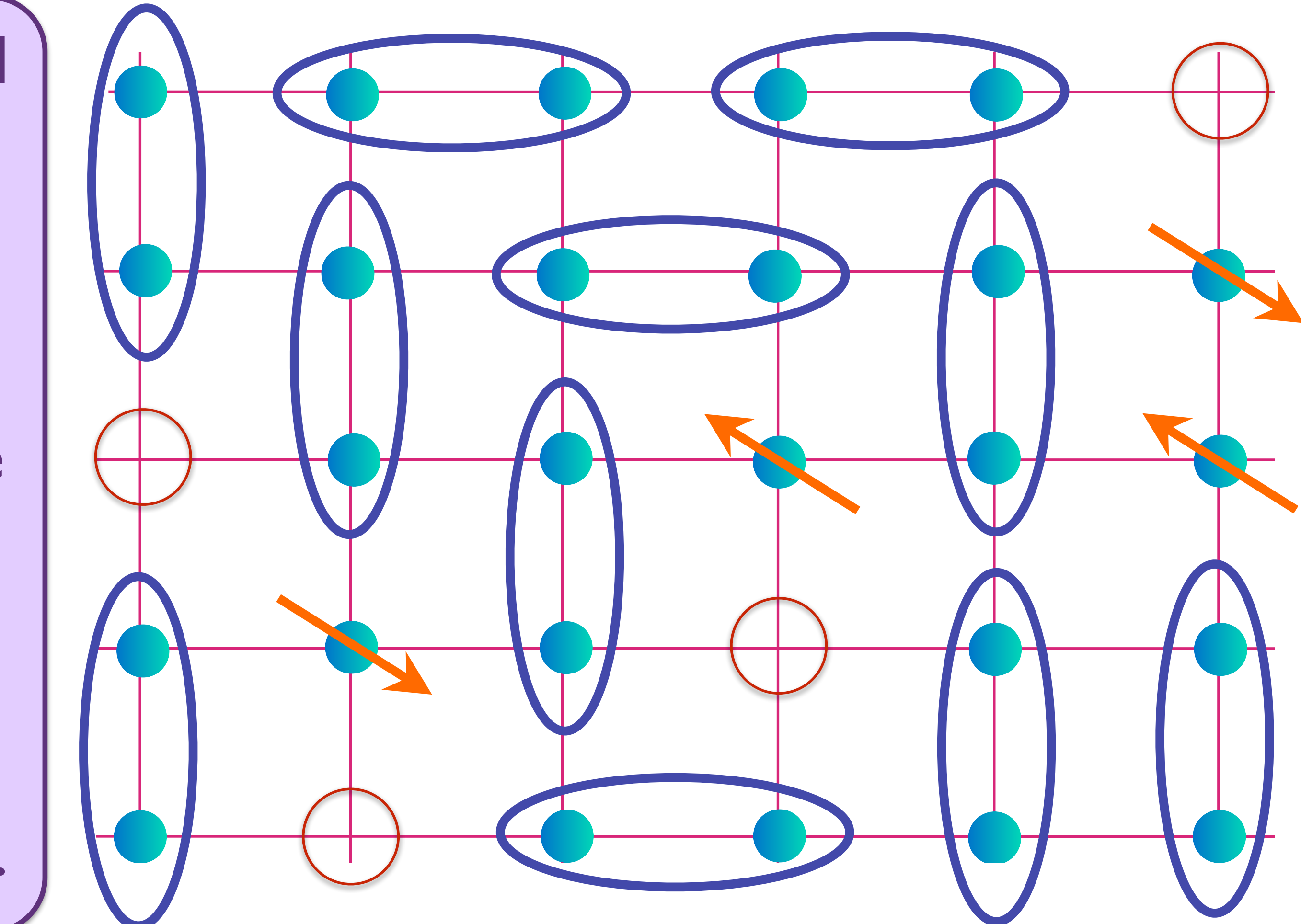


Area $p/4$

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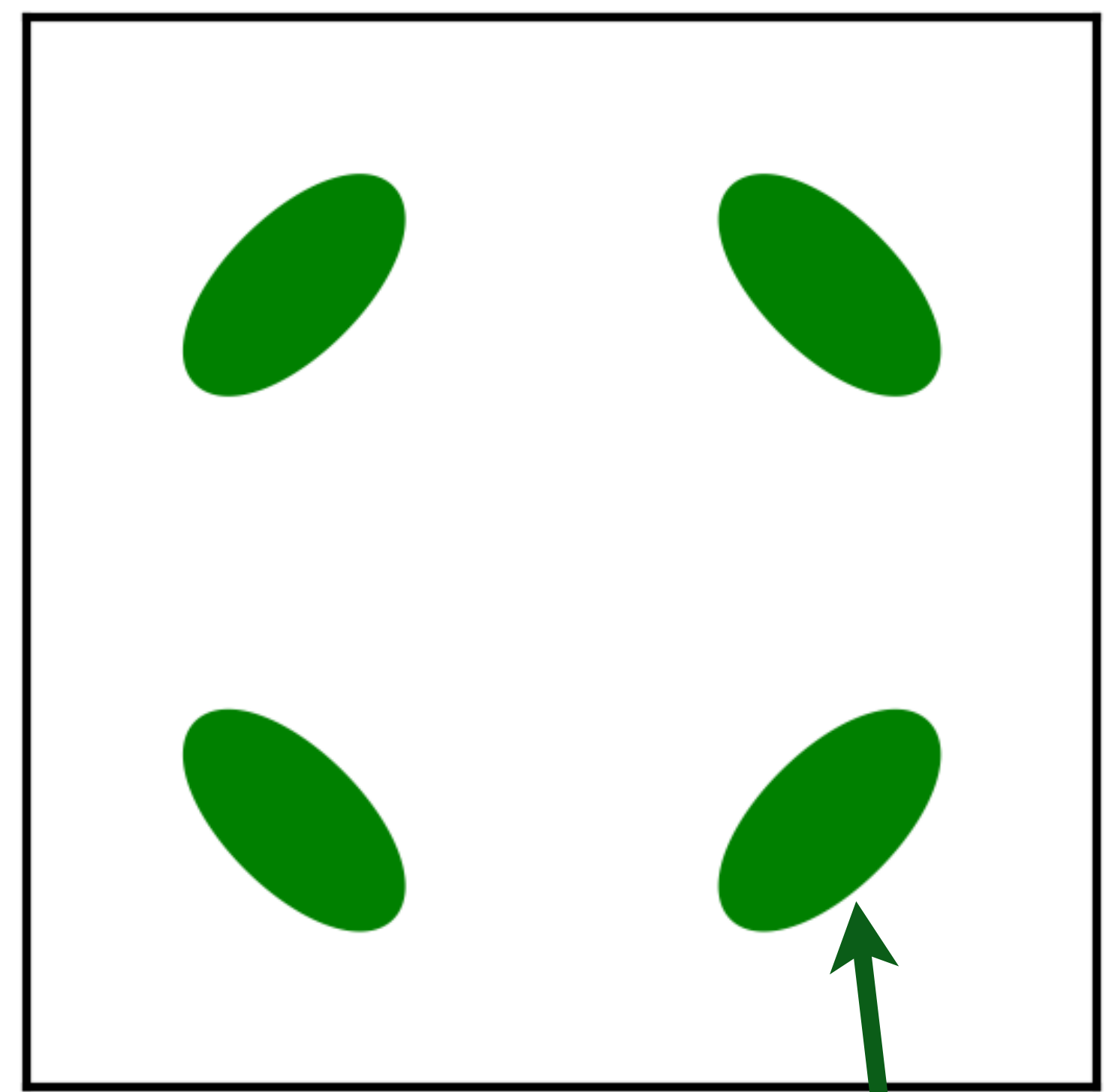
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$$\text{[Blue oval with two red circles]} = \frac{(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)}{\sqrt{2}}$$

non-Luttinger area.
Spin liquid

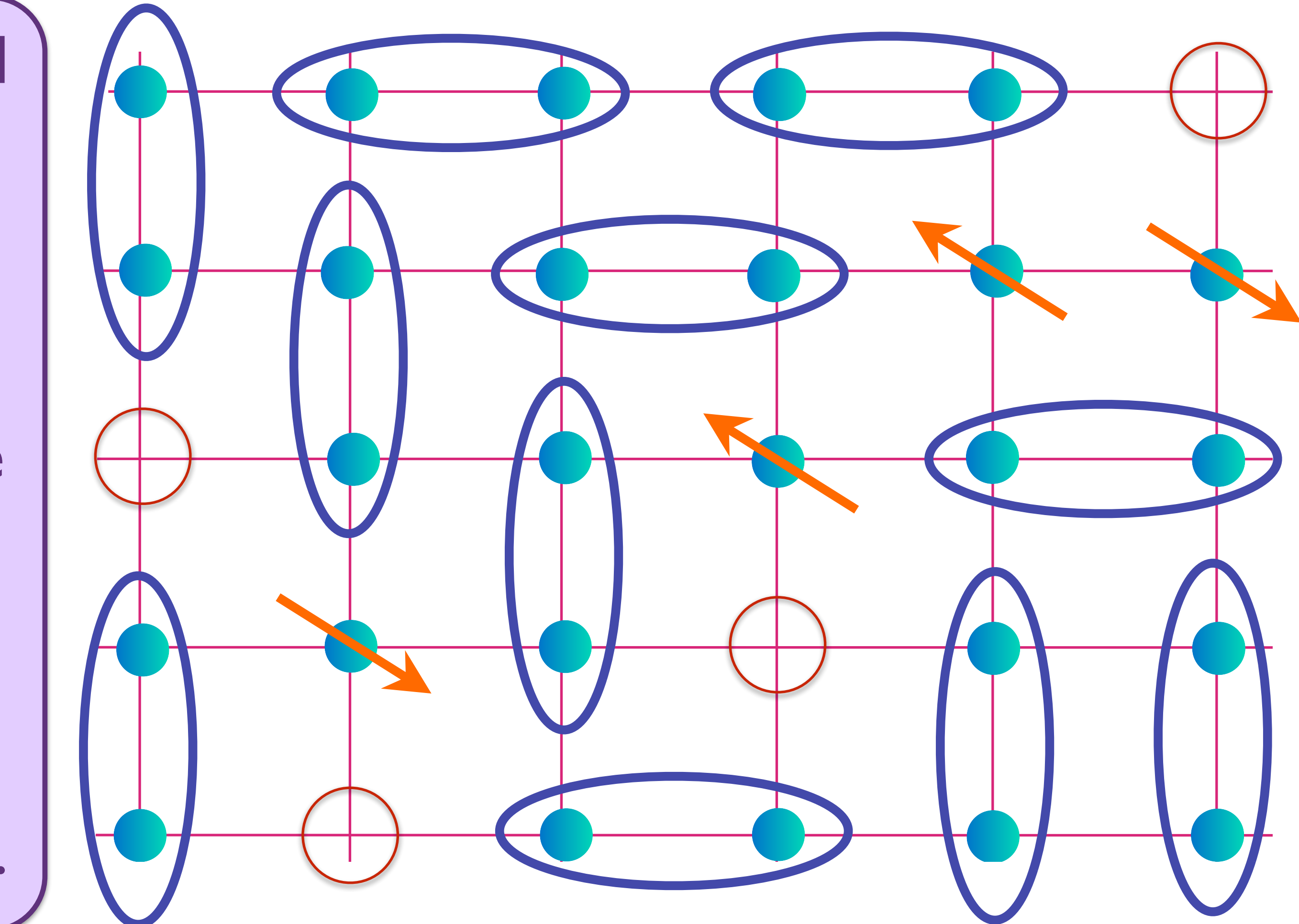


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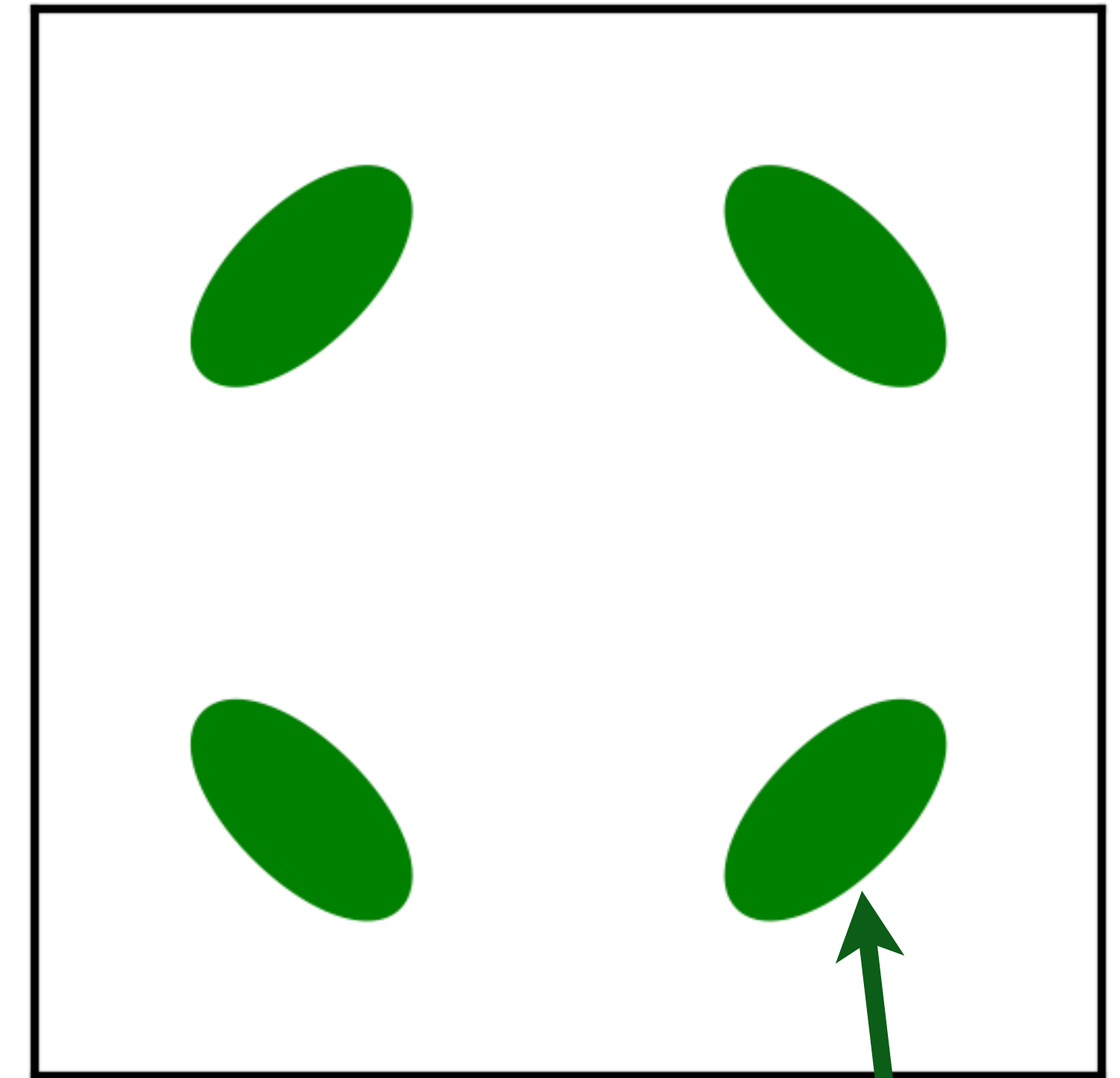
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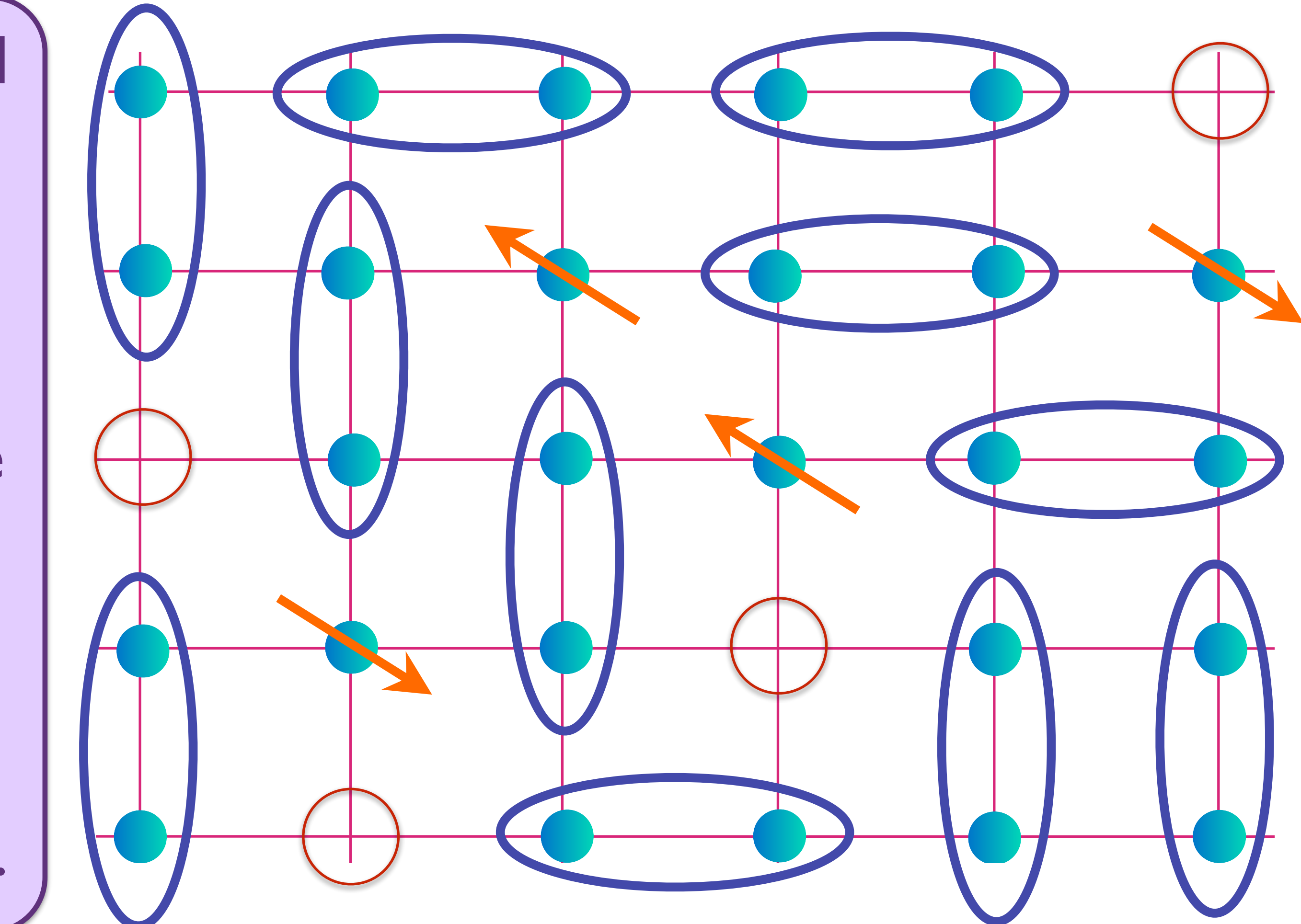


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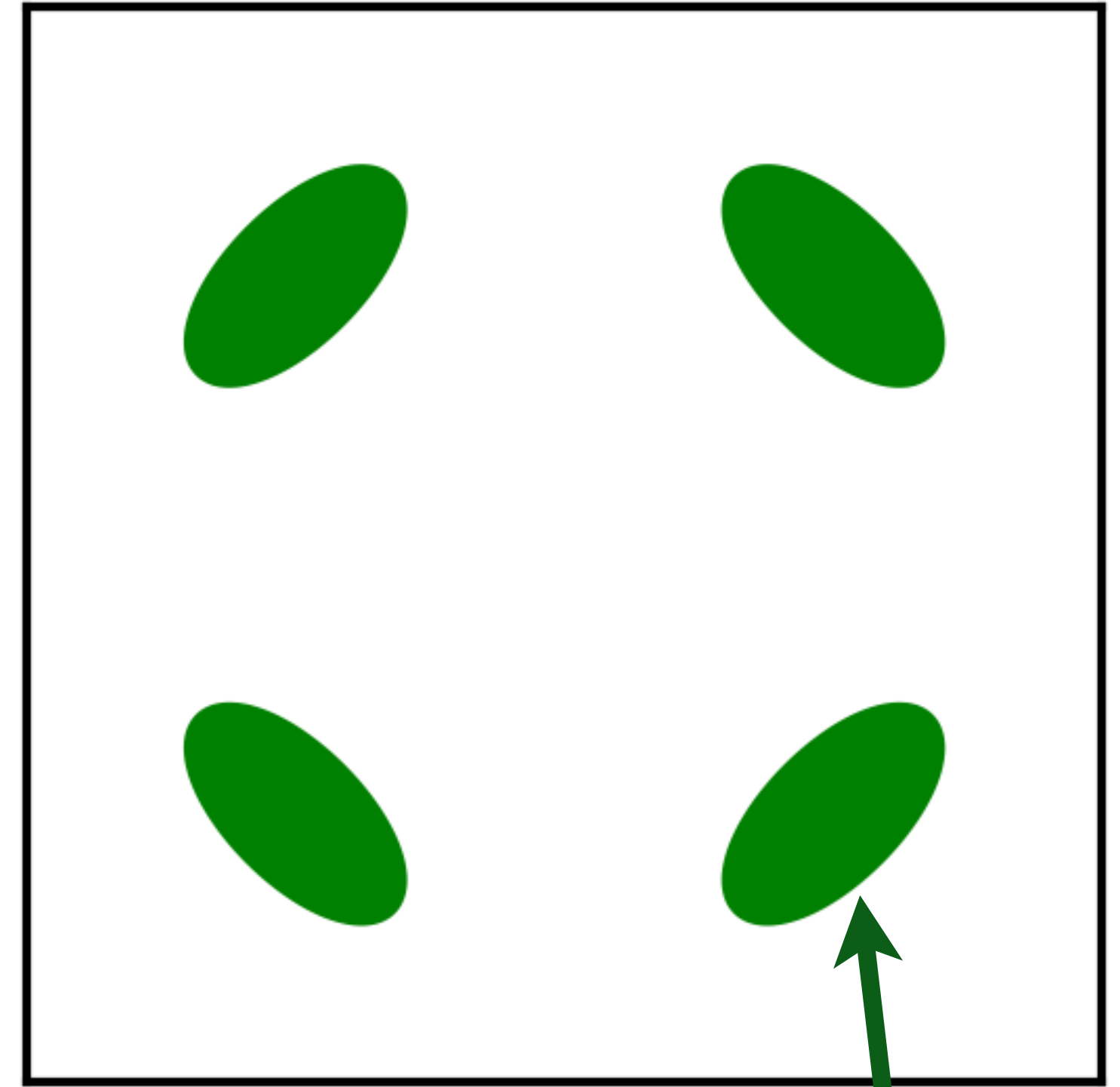
Holon metal

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$$\text{[Diagram of a blue oval containing two cyan dots]} = \frac{(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)}{\sqrt{2}}$$

non-Luttinger area.
Spin liquid

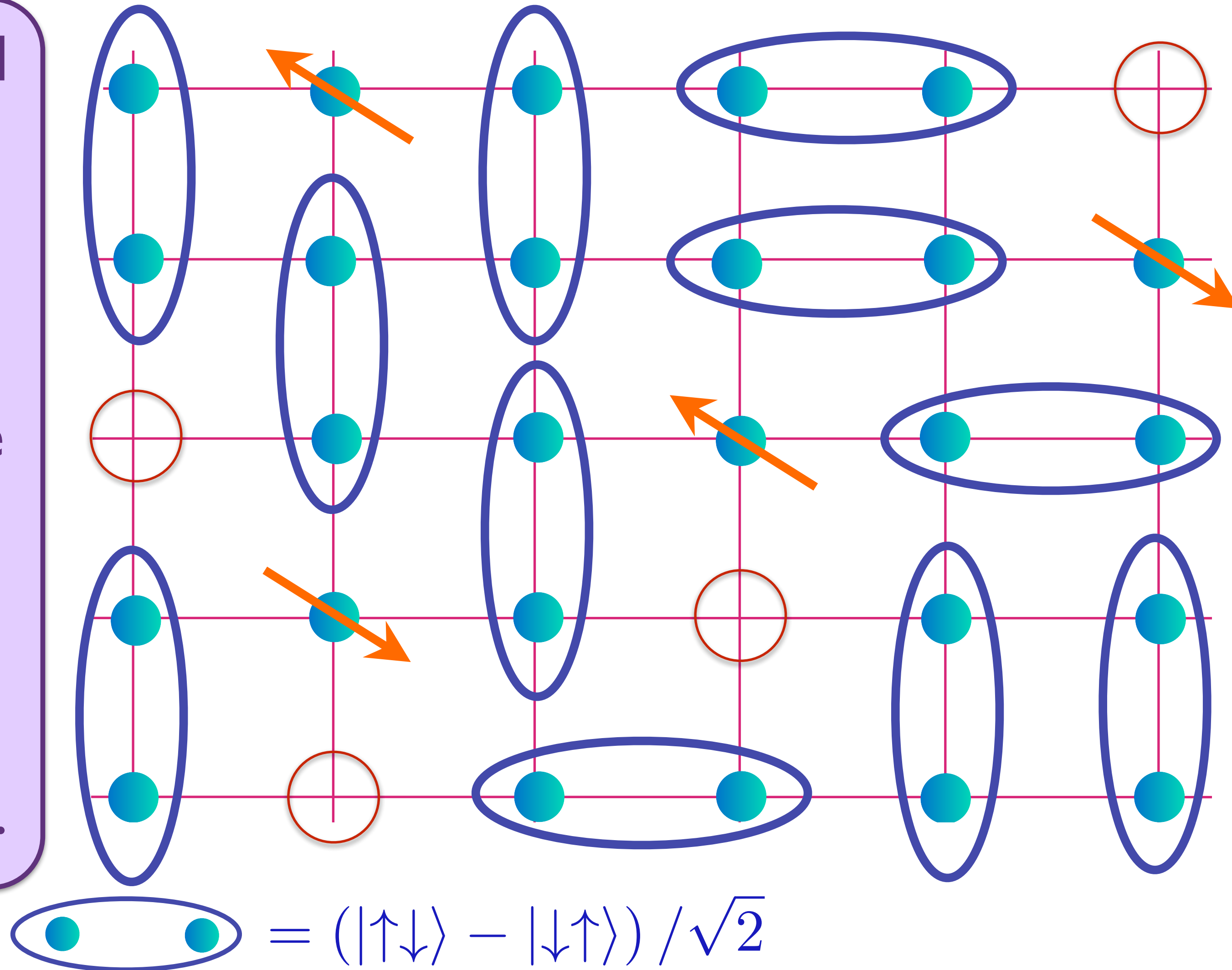


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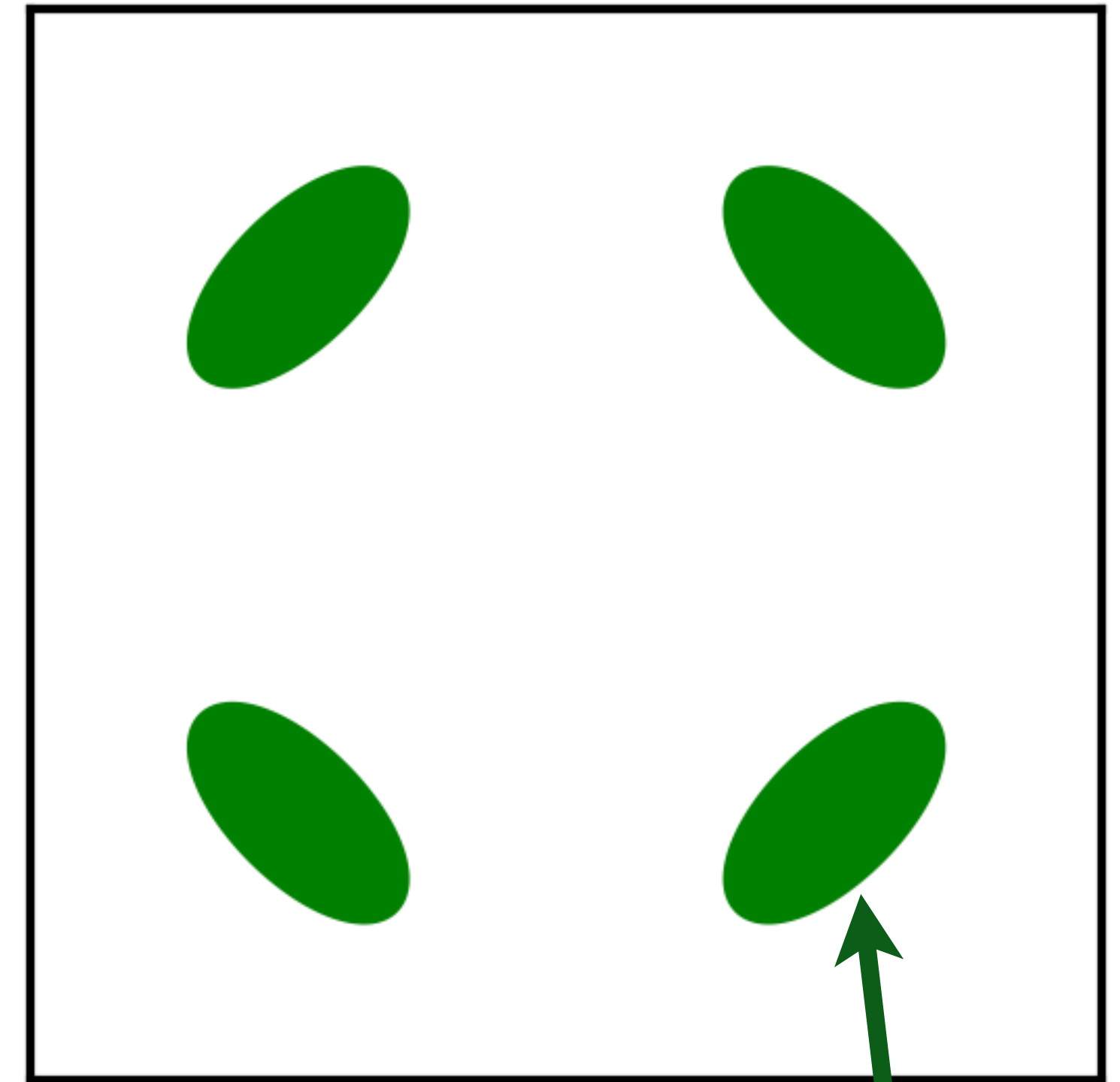
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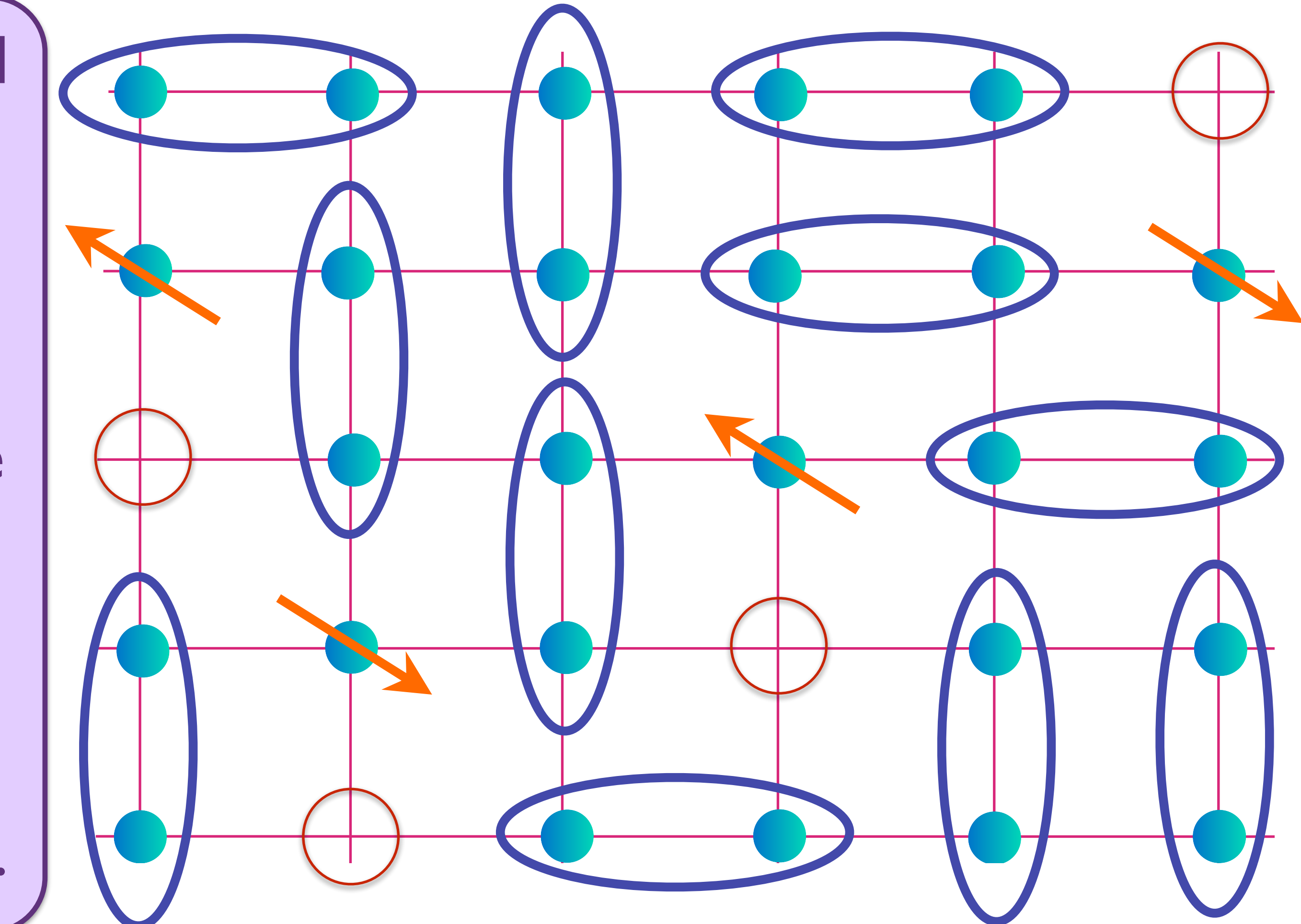


Area $p/4$

Doping an insulating antiferromagnet with holes of density p

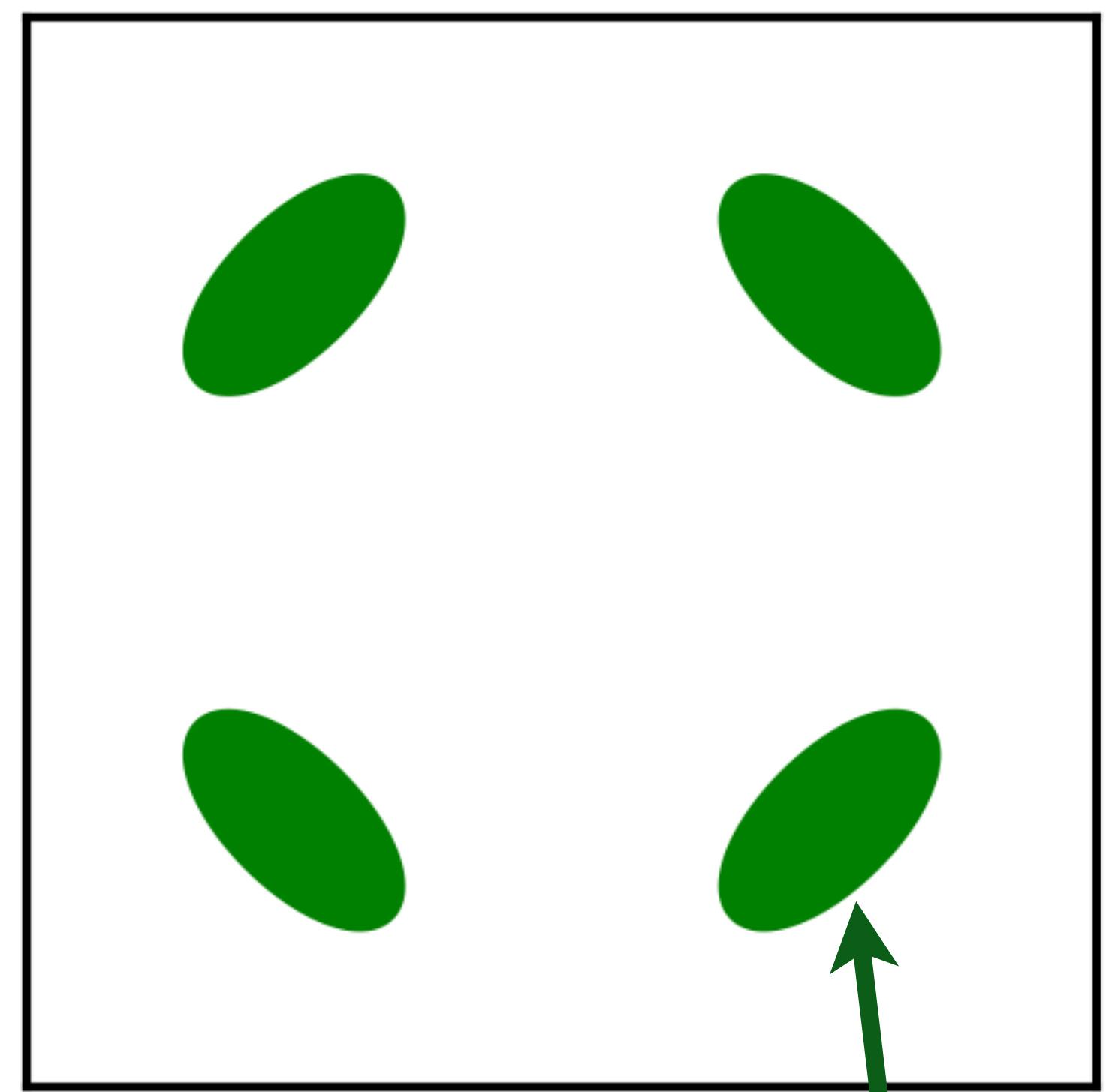
Holon metal

Spin liquid with density p of spinless, charge $+e$ "holons" and charge 0 spin-1/2 "spinons".



$$\text{[Blue oval with two teal dots]} = \frac{(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)}{\sqrt{2}}$$

non-Luttinger area.
Spin liquid

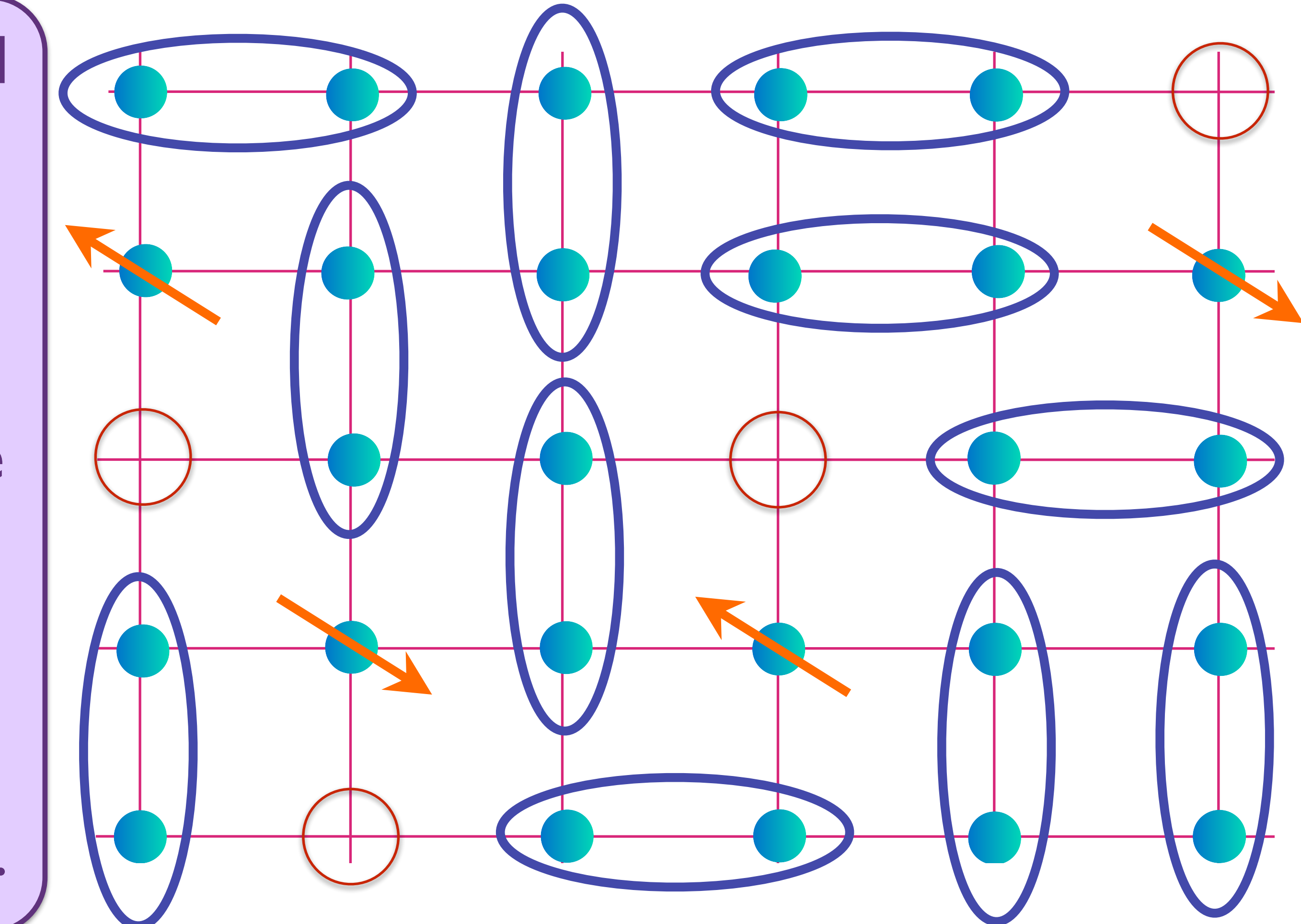


Area $p/4$

Doping an insulating antiferromagnet with holes of density p

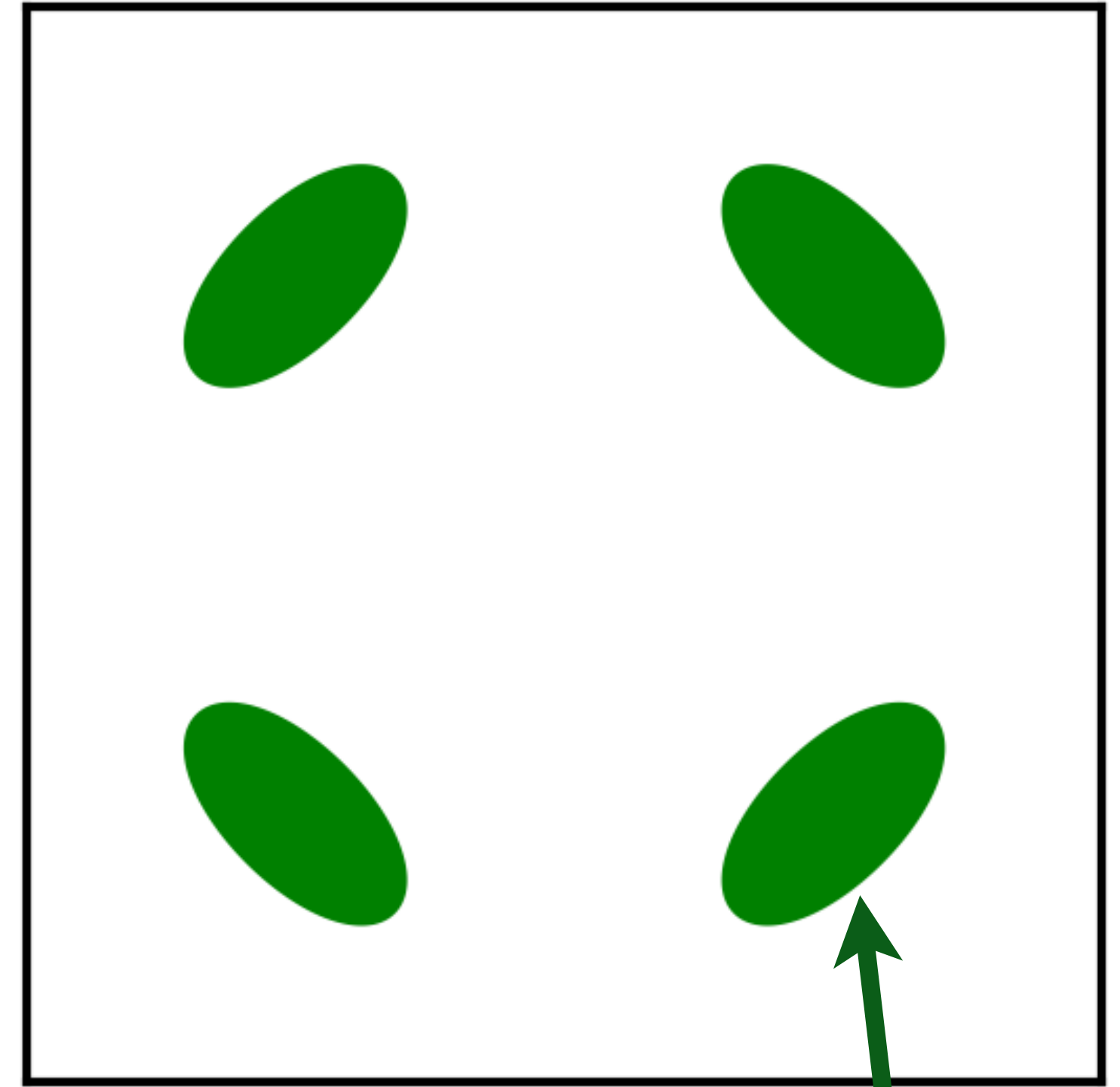
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$$\text{[Two cyan dots in a blue oval]} = \frac{(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)}{\sqrt{2}}$$

non-Luttinger area.
Spin liquid

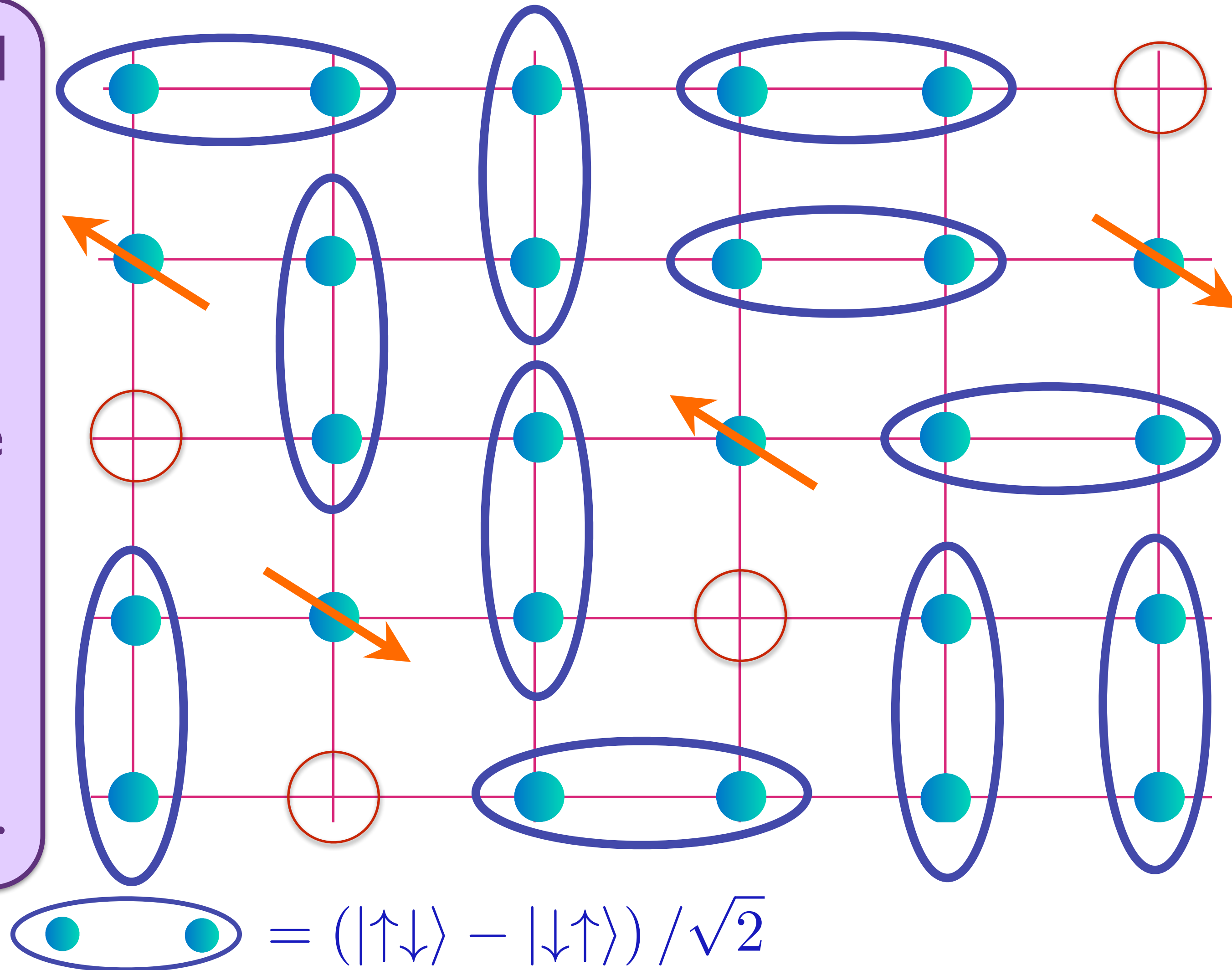


Area $p/4$

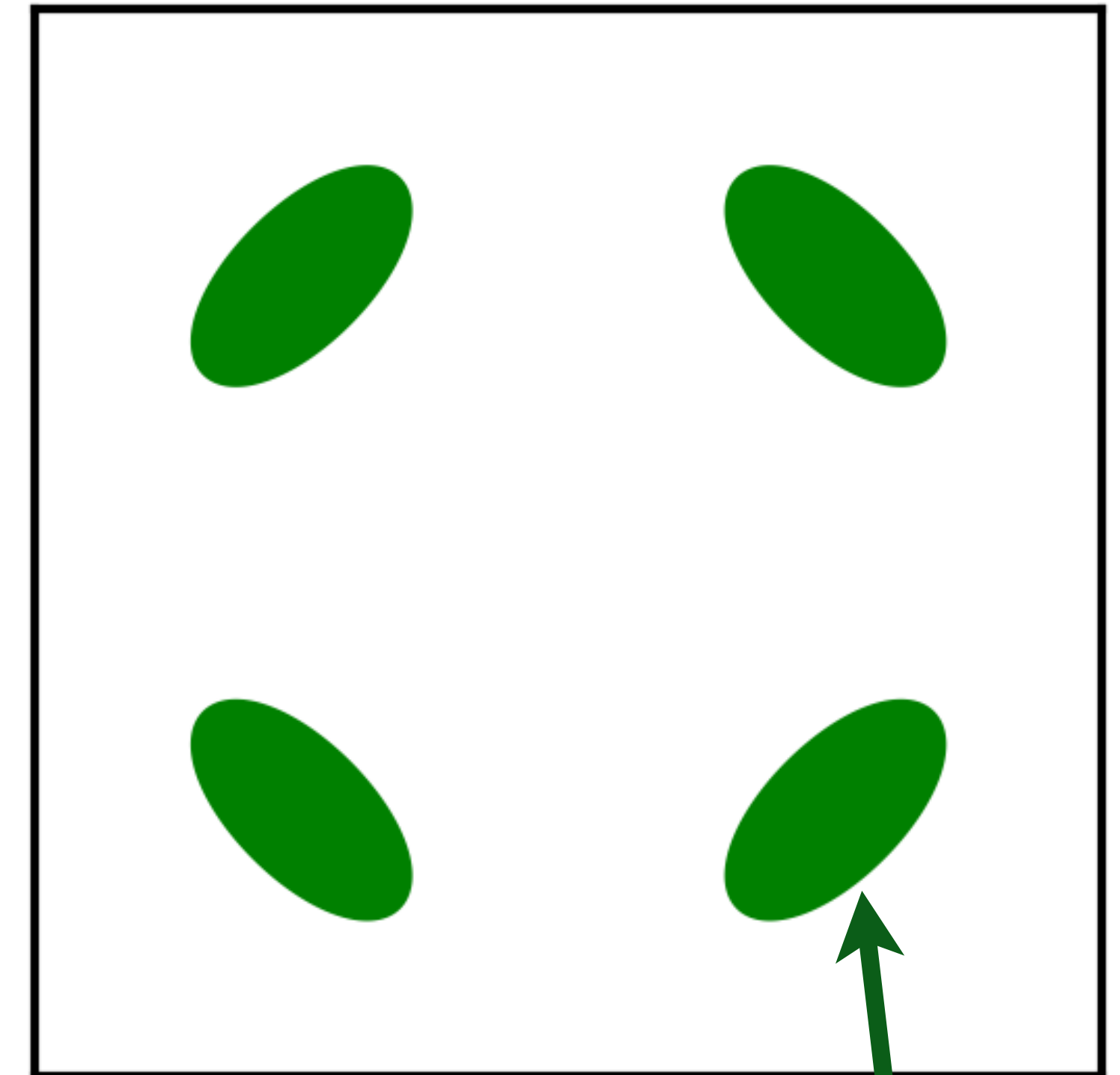
Doping an insulating antiferromagnet with holes of density p

Holon metal

Spin liquid with density p of spinless, charge $+e$ "holons" and charge 0 spin-1/2 "spinons".



non-Luttinger area.
Spin liquid



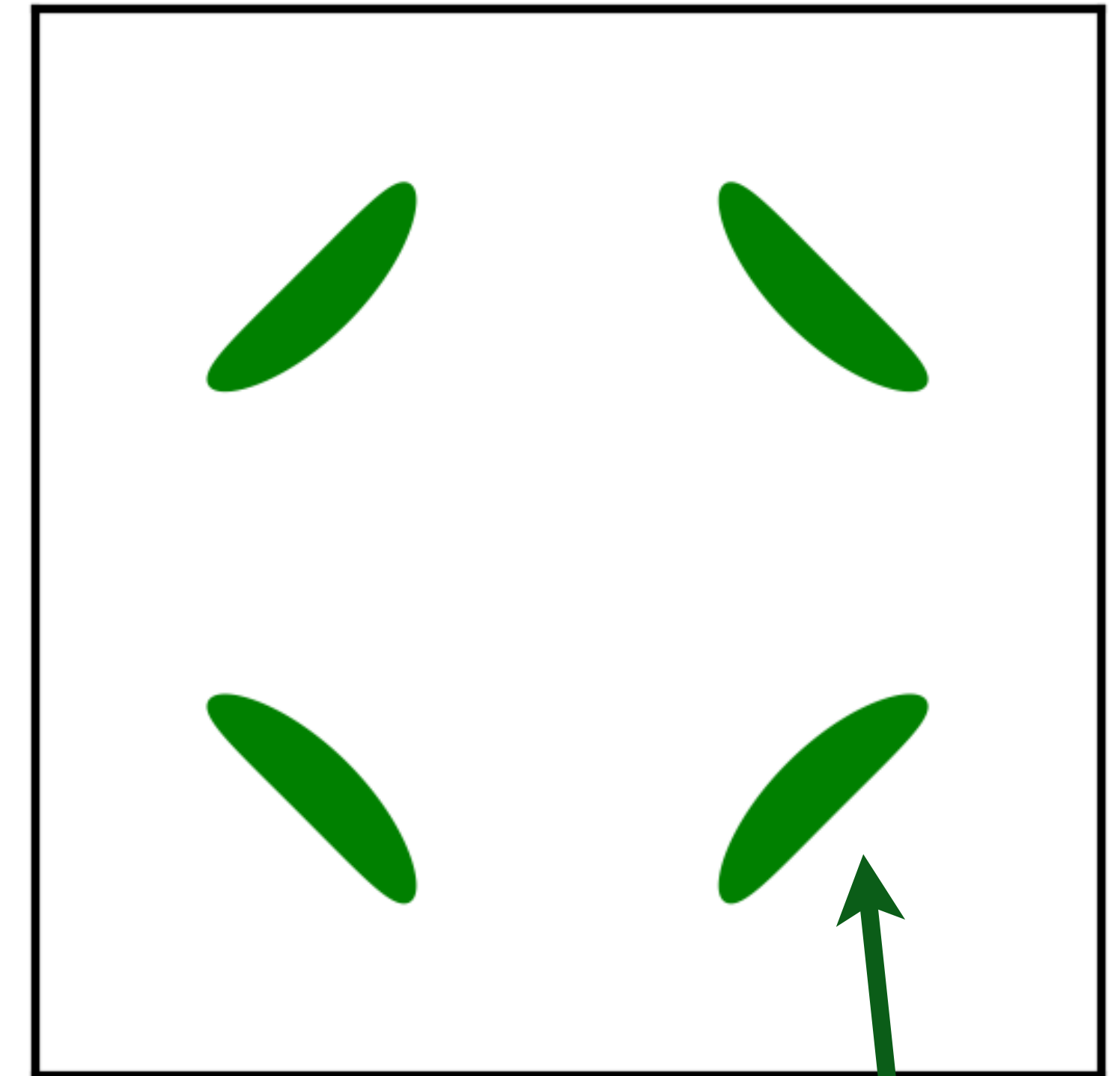
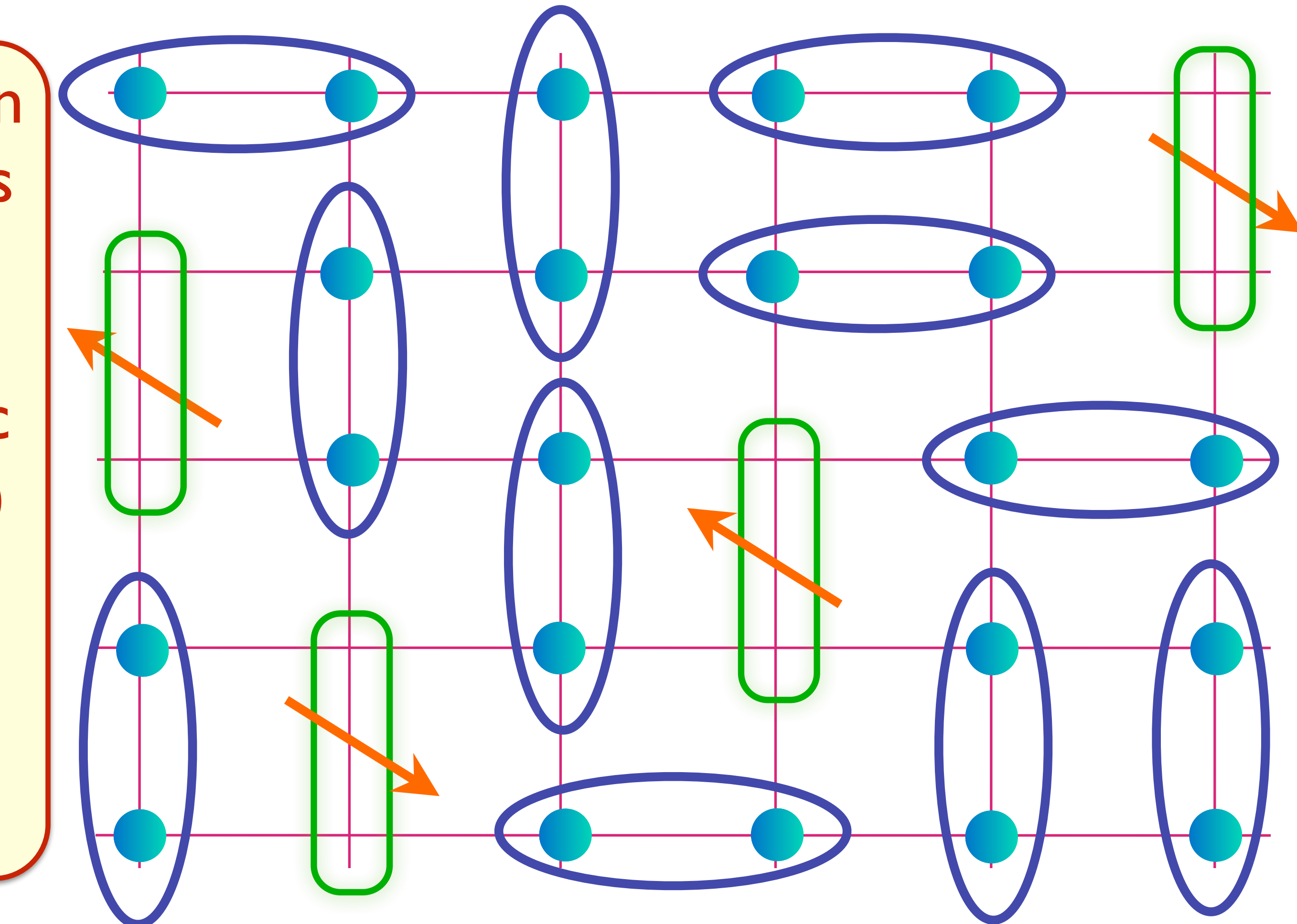
Area $p/4$

Doping an insulating antiferromagnet with holes of density p

FL*

non-Luttinger area.
Spin liquid

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



$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \hline \end{array} = \frac{(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)}{\sqrt{2}} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \bullet \\ \hline \end{array} \leftarrow = \frac{(|\uparrow\circ\rangle + |\circ\uparrow\rangle)}{\sqrt{2}}$$

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)

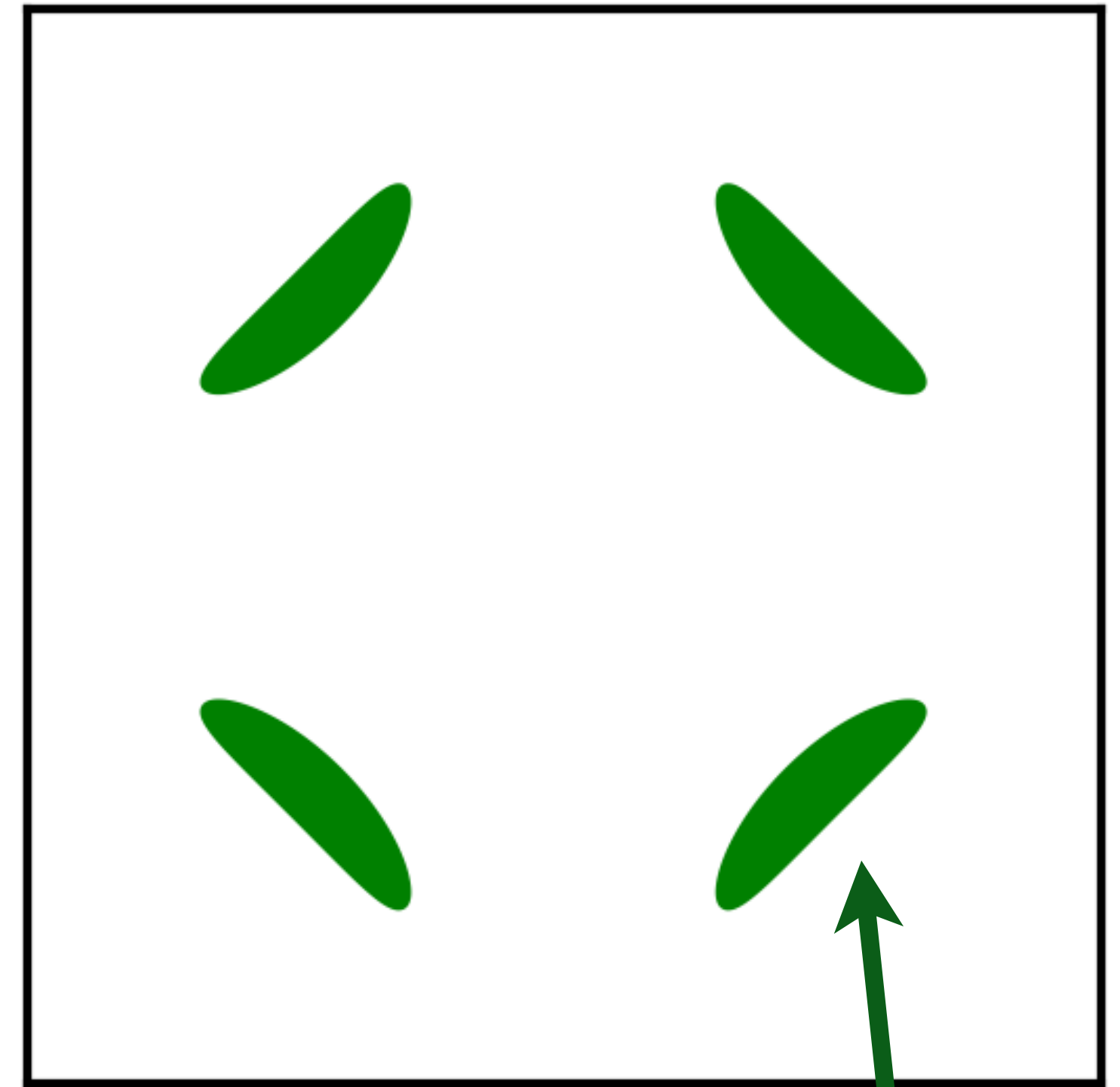
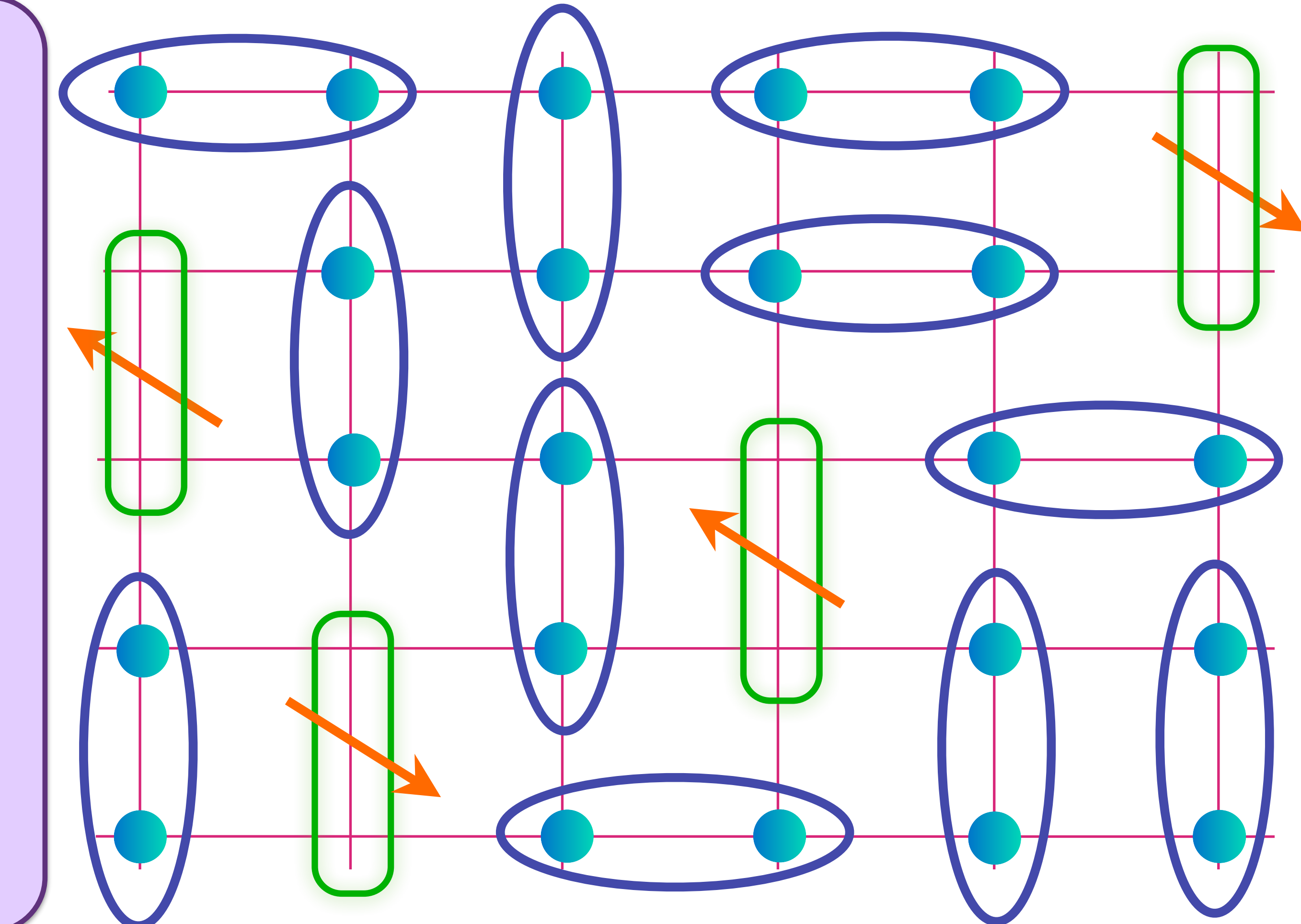
M. Punk, A. Allais, and S. Sachdev, PNAS **112**, 9552 (2015)

Doping an insulating antiferromagnet with holes of density p

FL*

non-Luttinger area.
Spin liquid

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



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

Area $p/8$

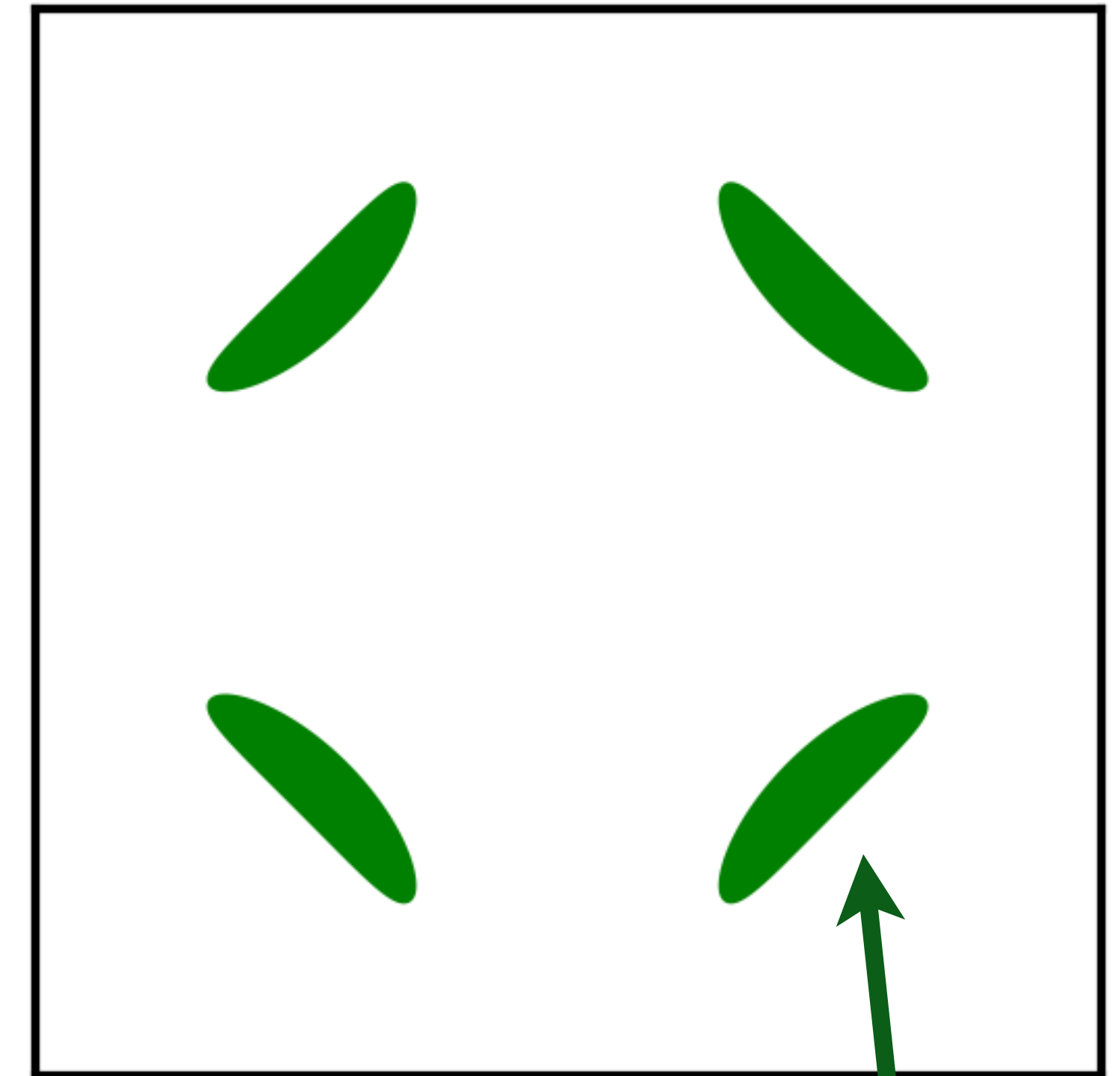
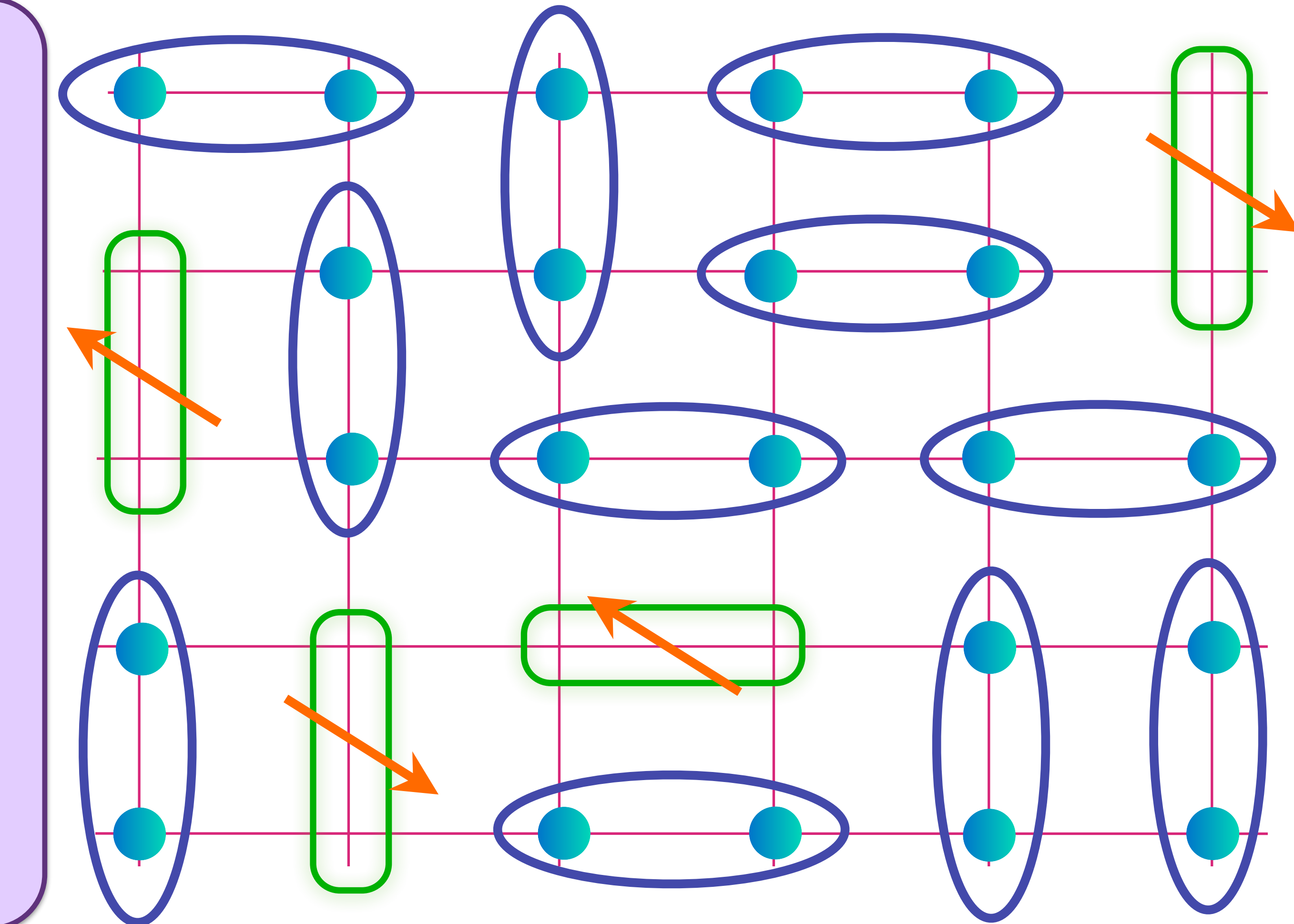
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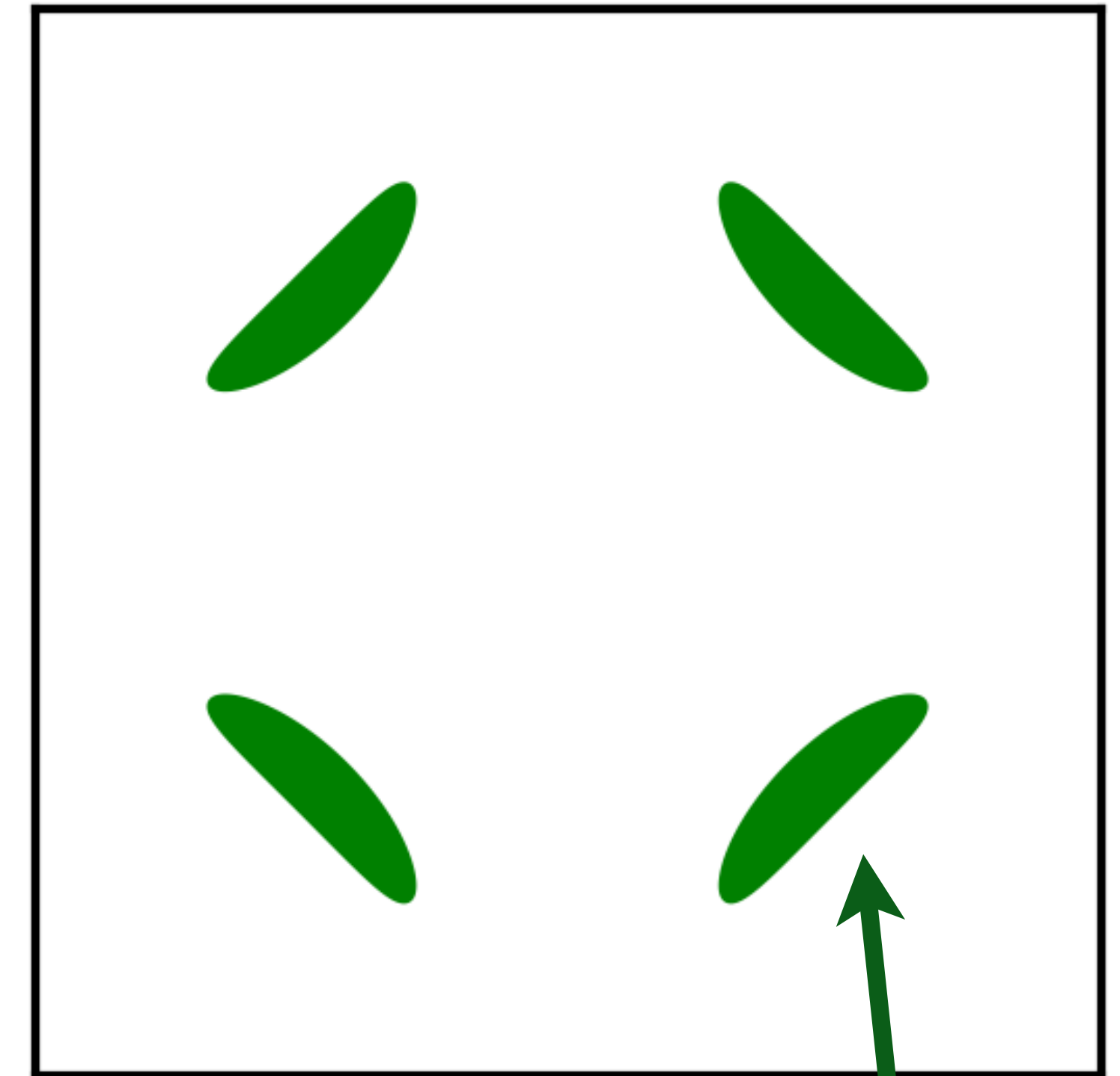
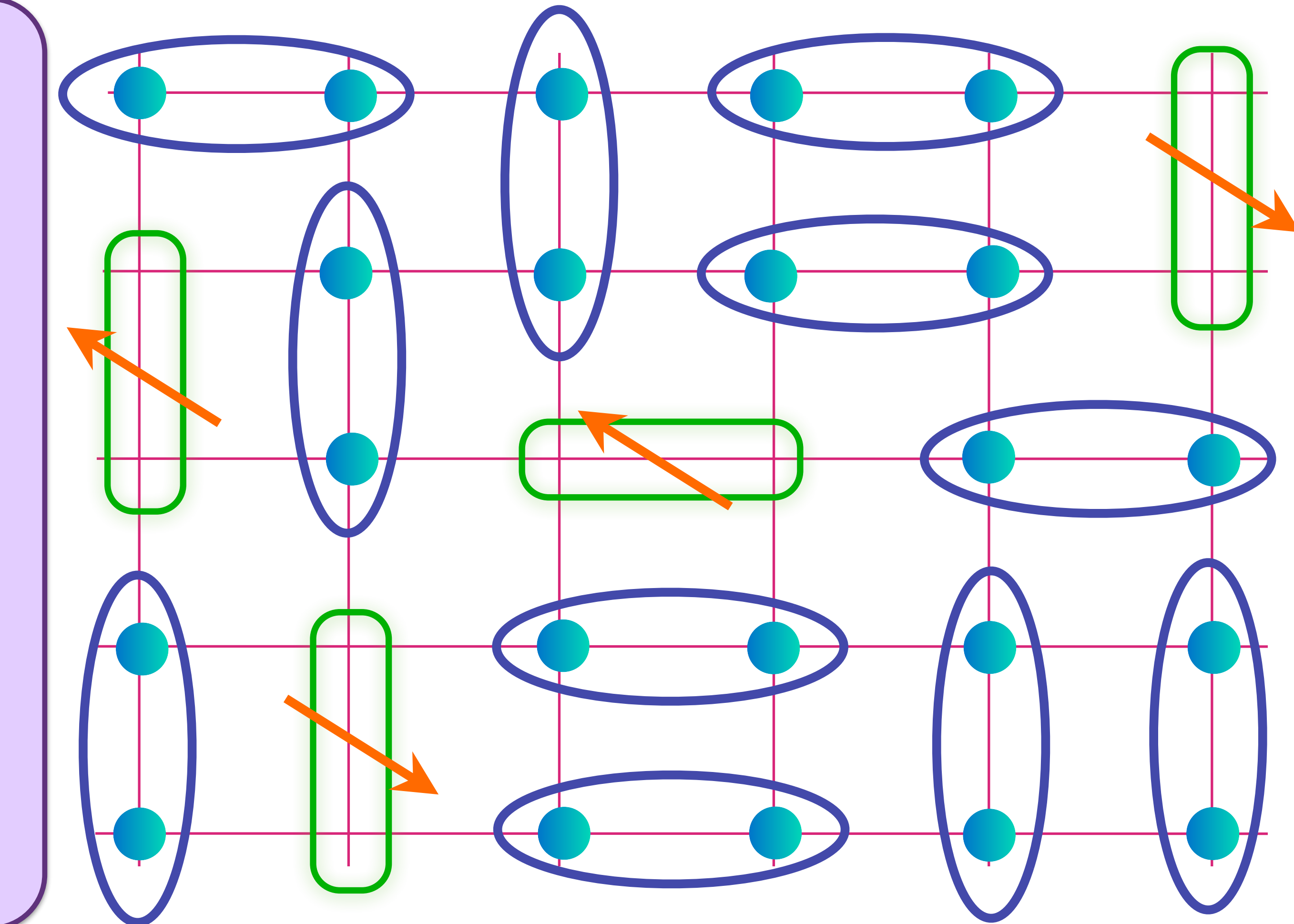
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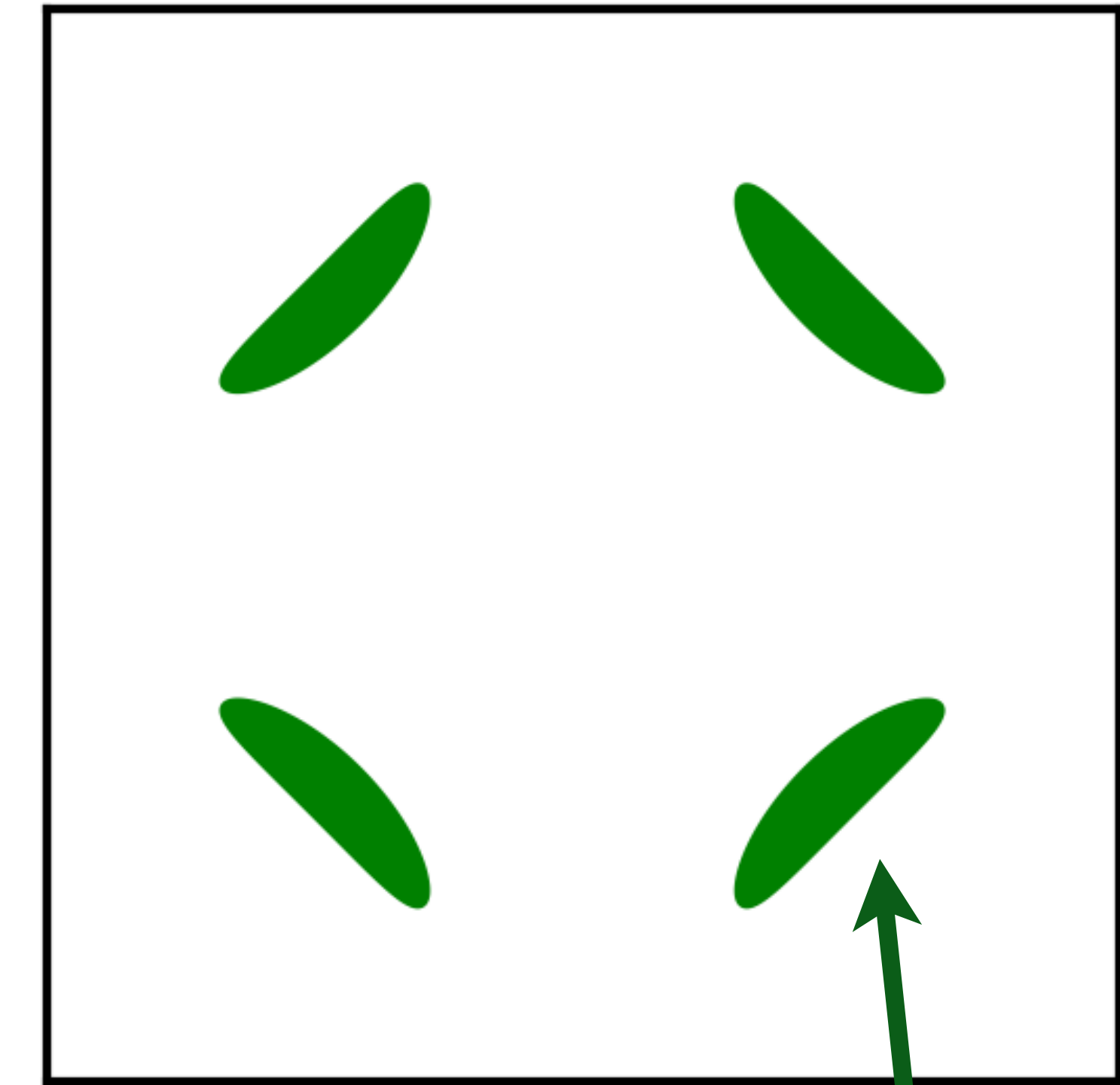
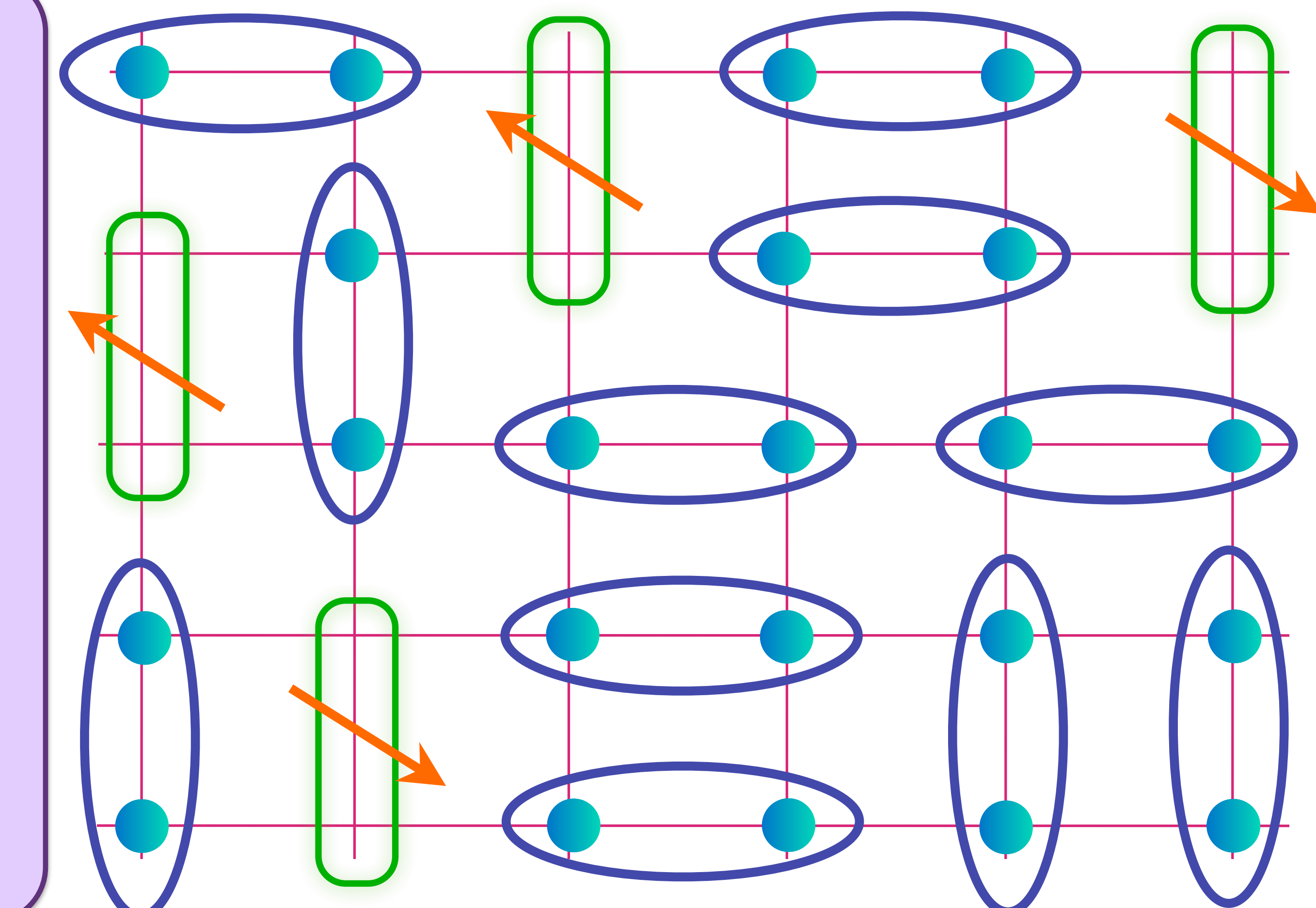
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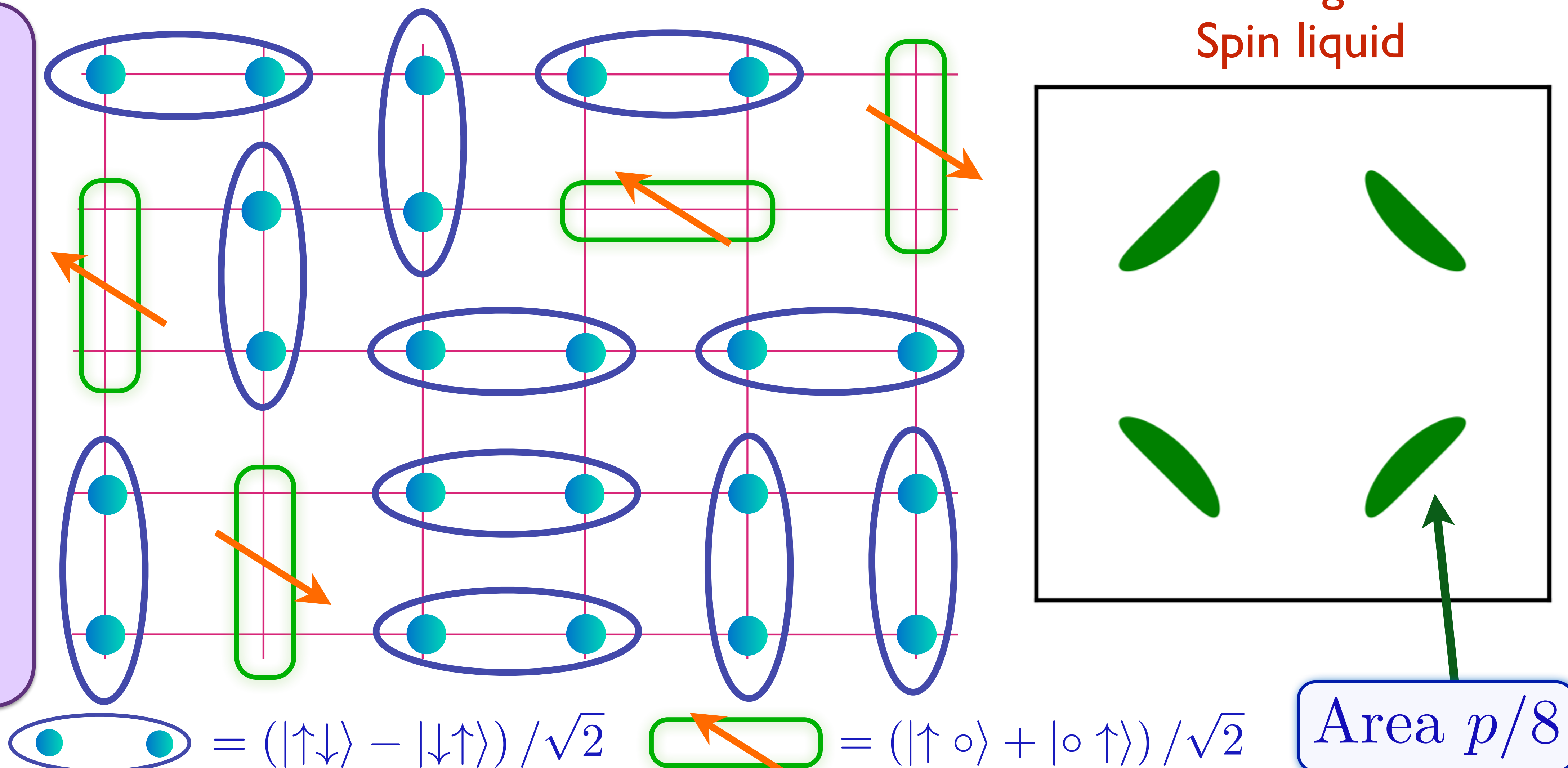
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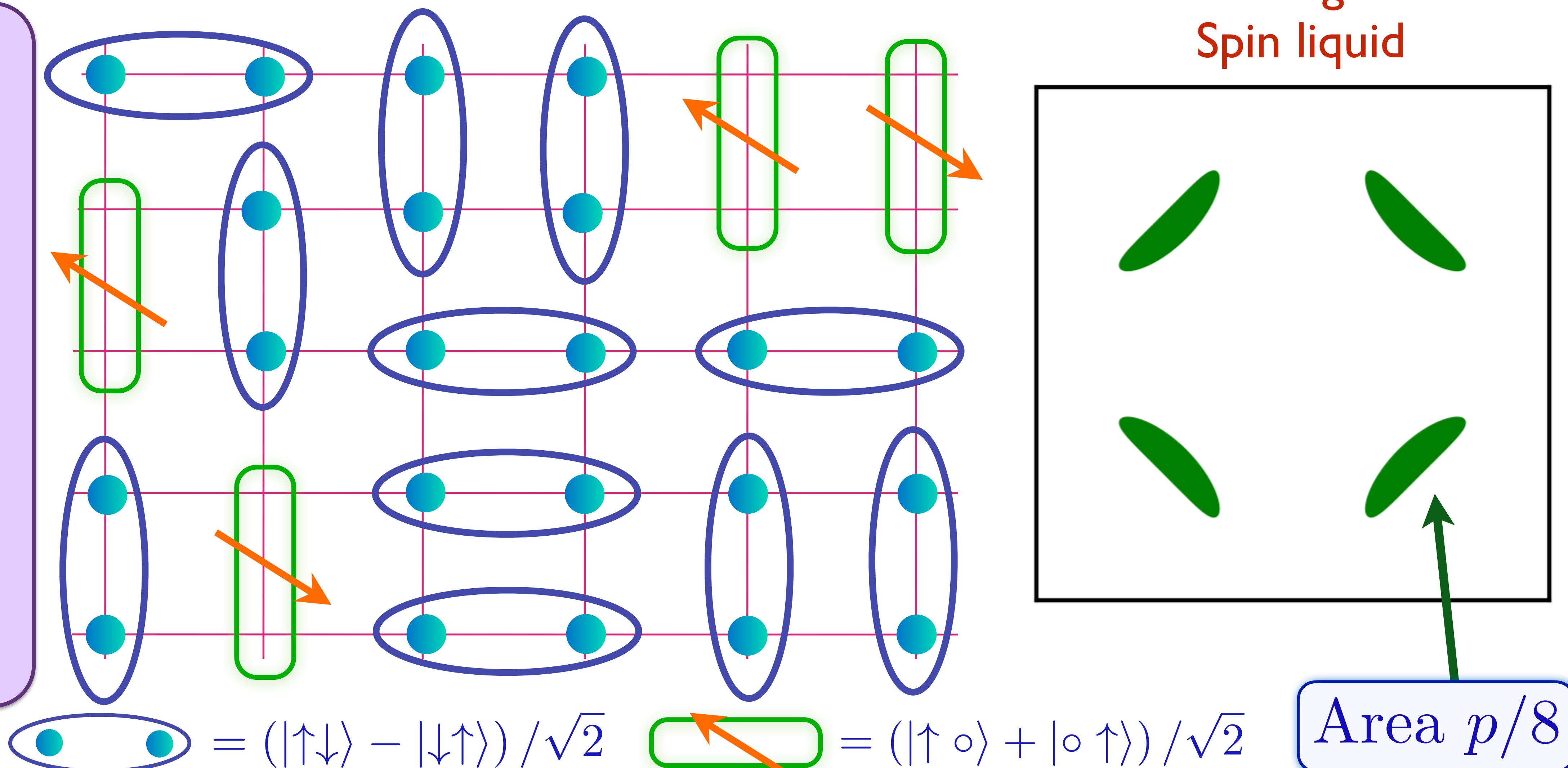
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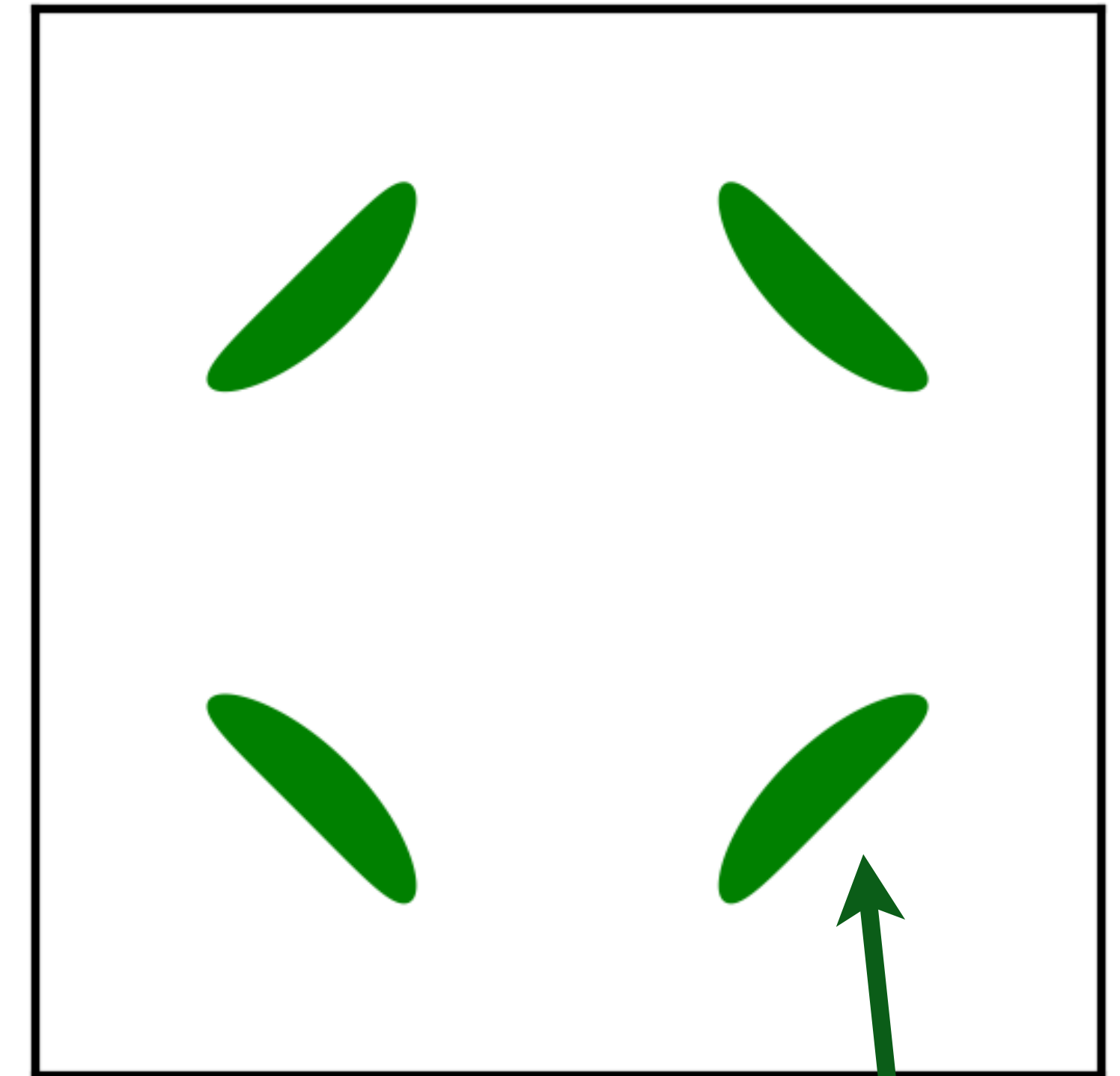
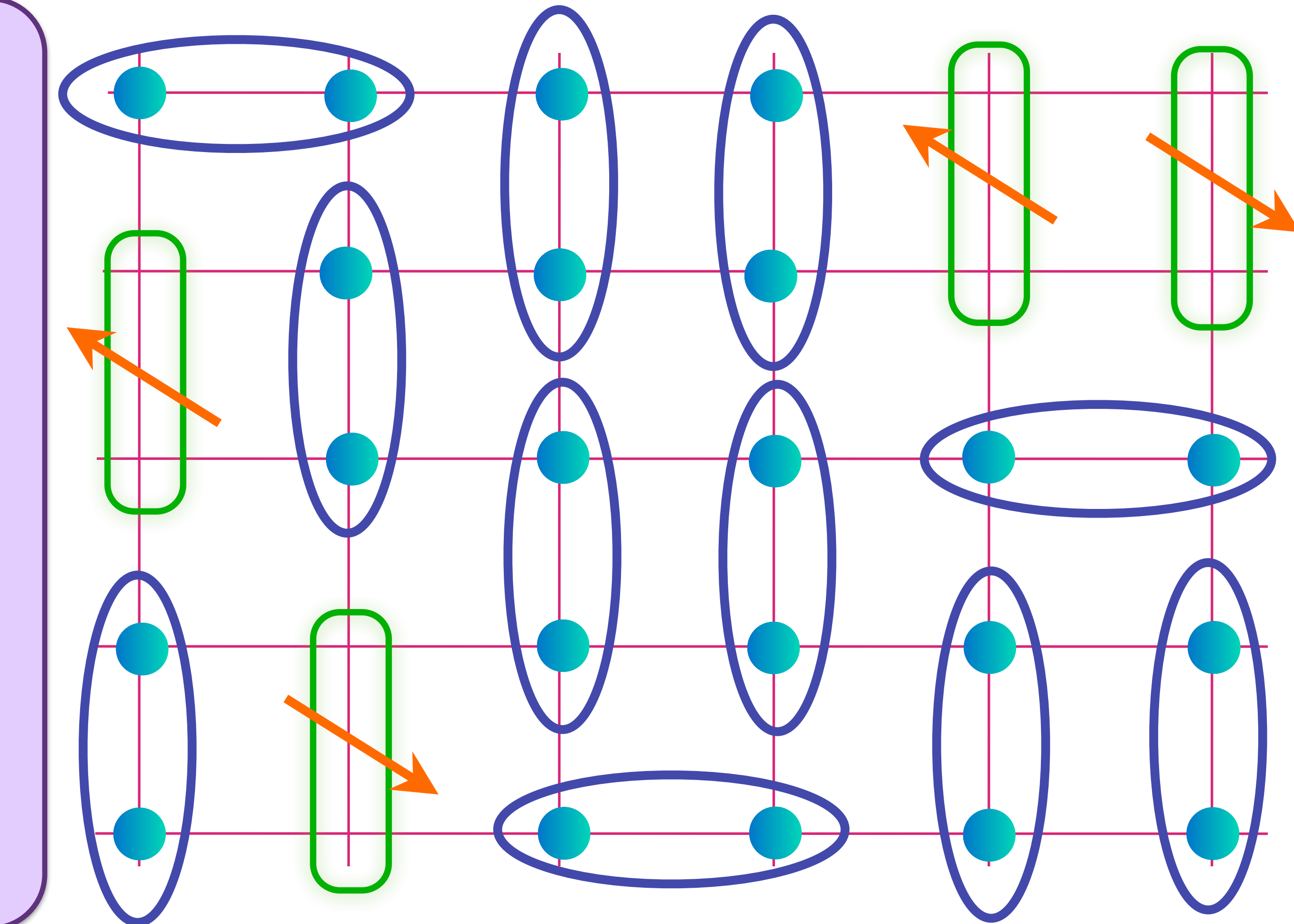
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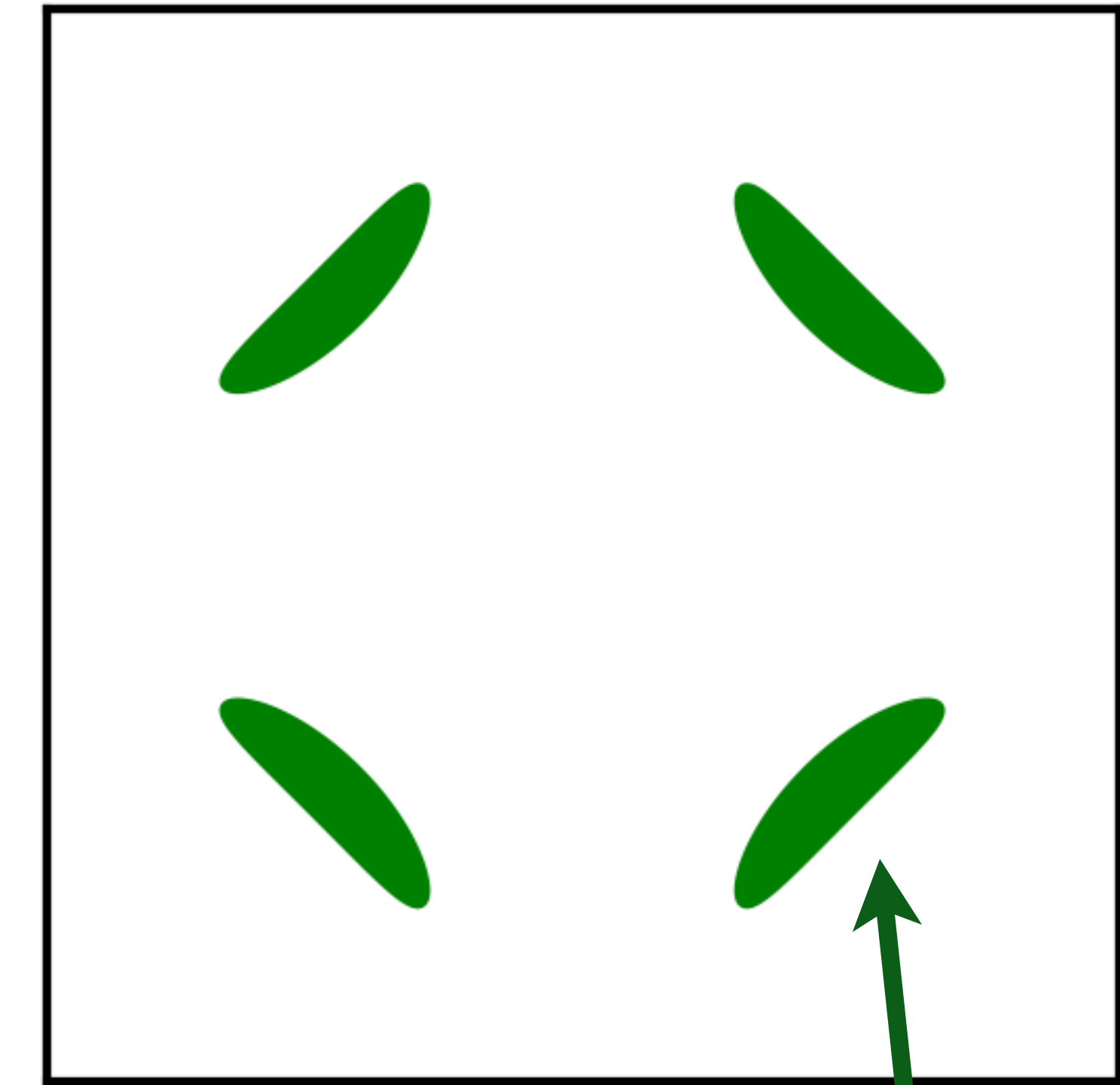
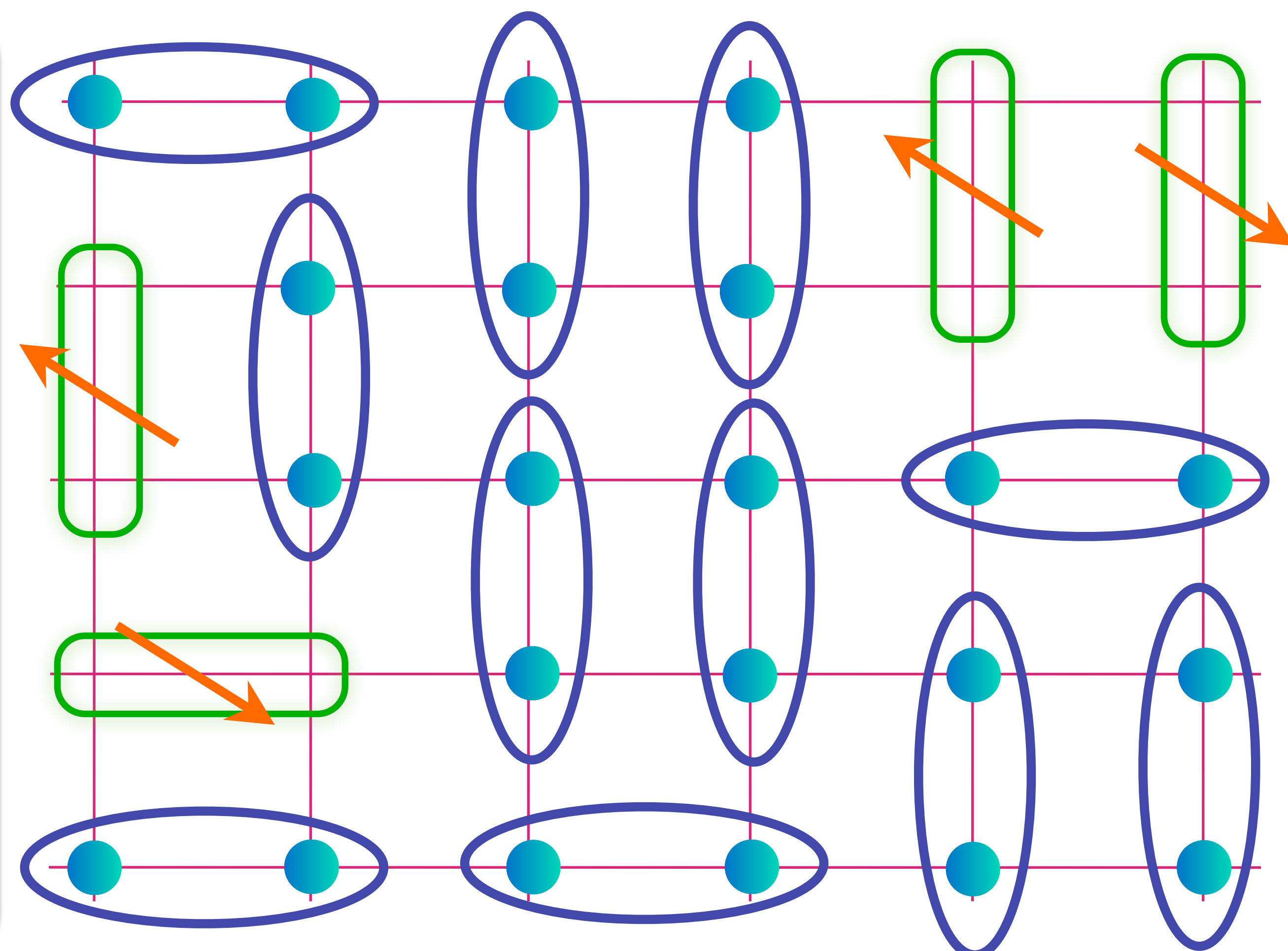
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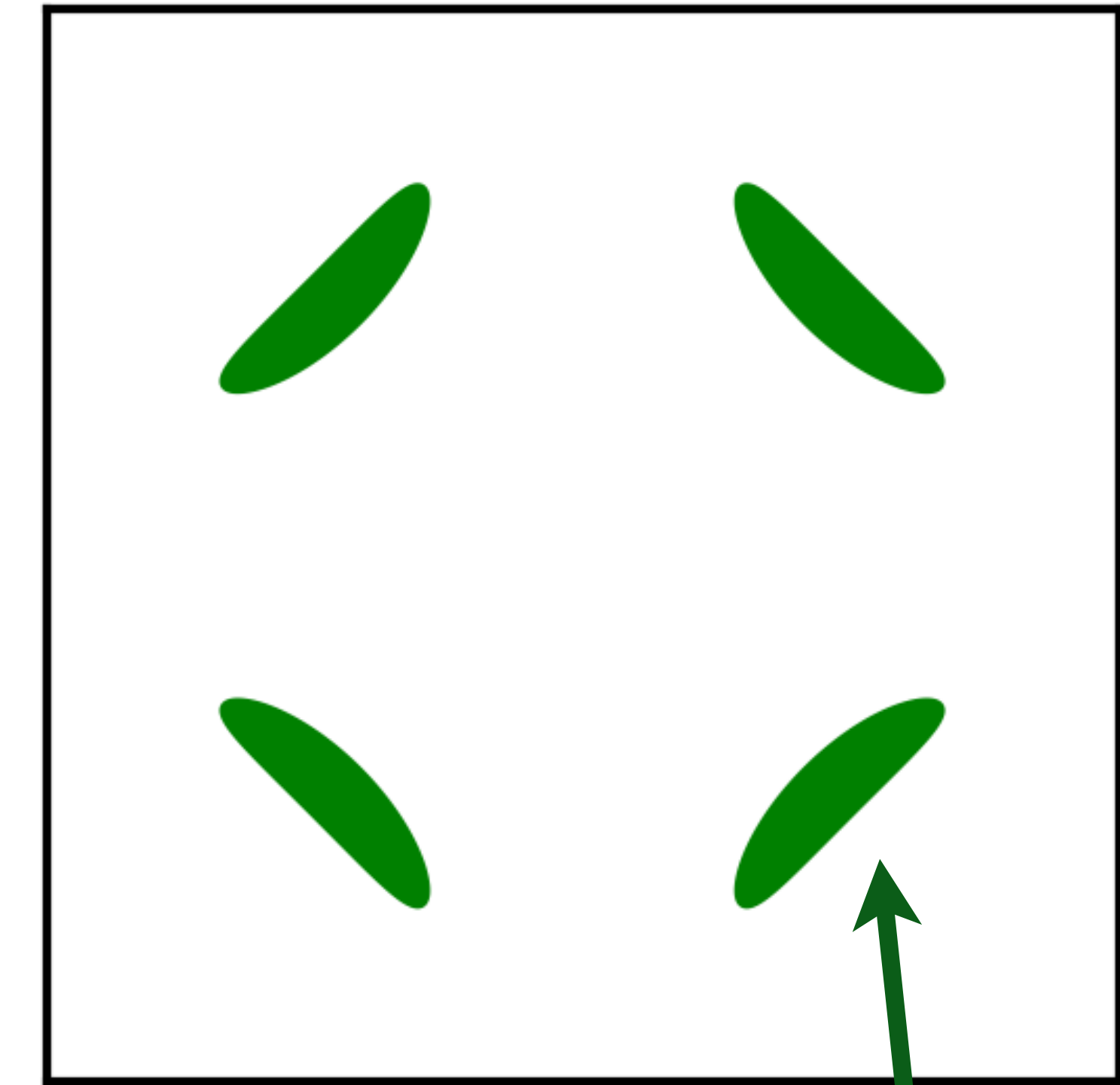
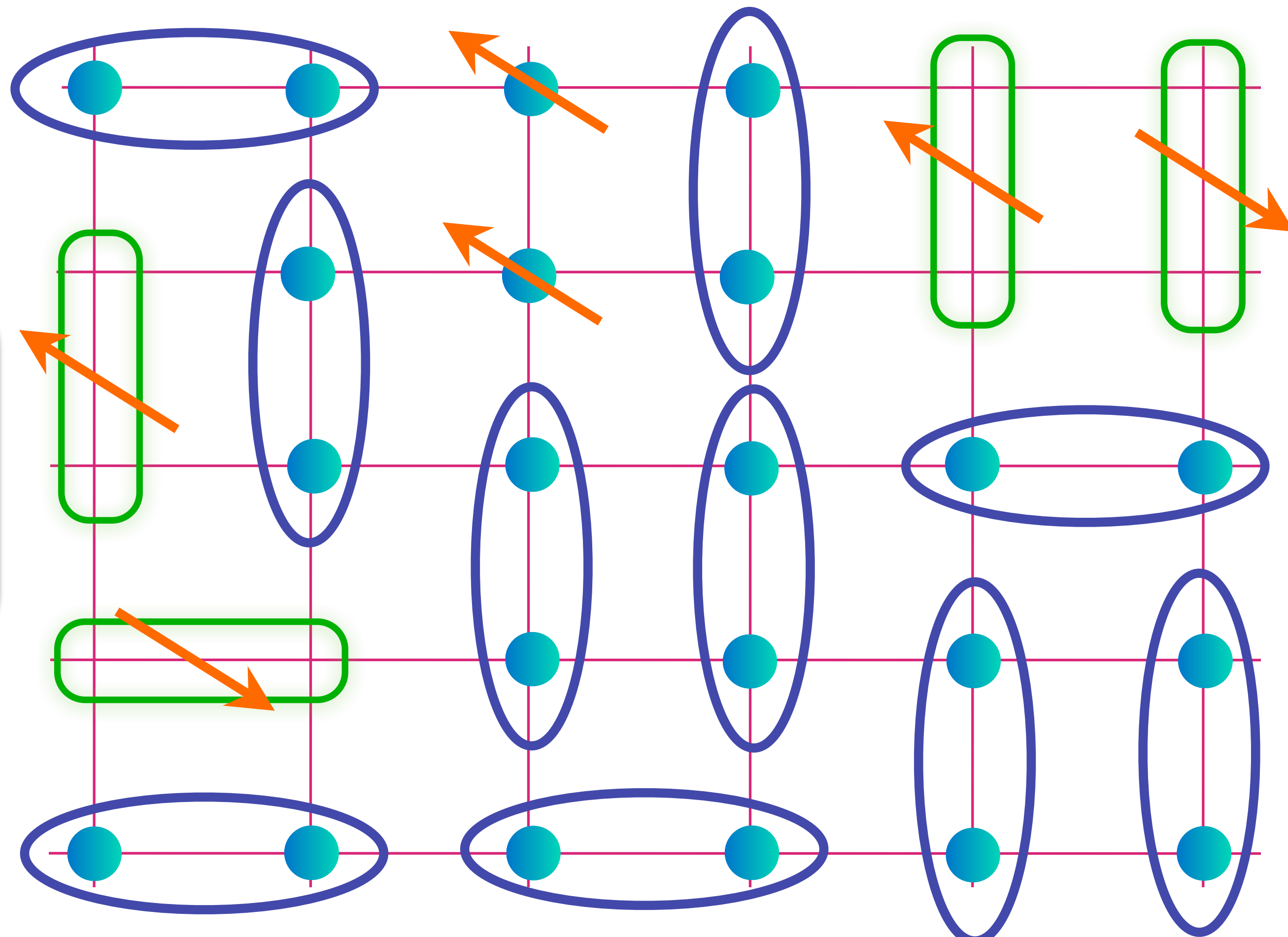
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Doping an insulating antiferromagnet with holes of density p

FL*

non-Luttinger area.
Spin liquid



The FL* state retains the spinon excitations

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

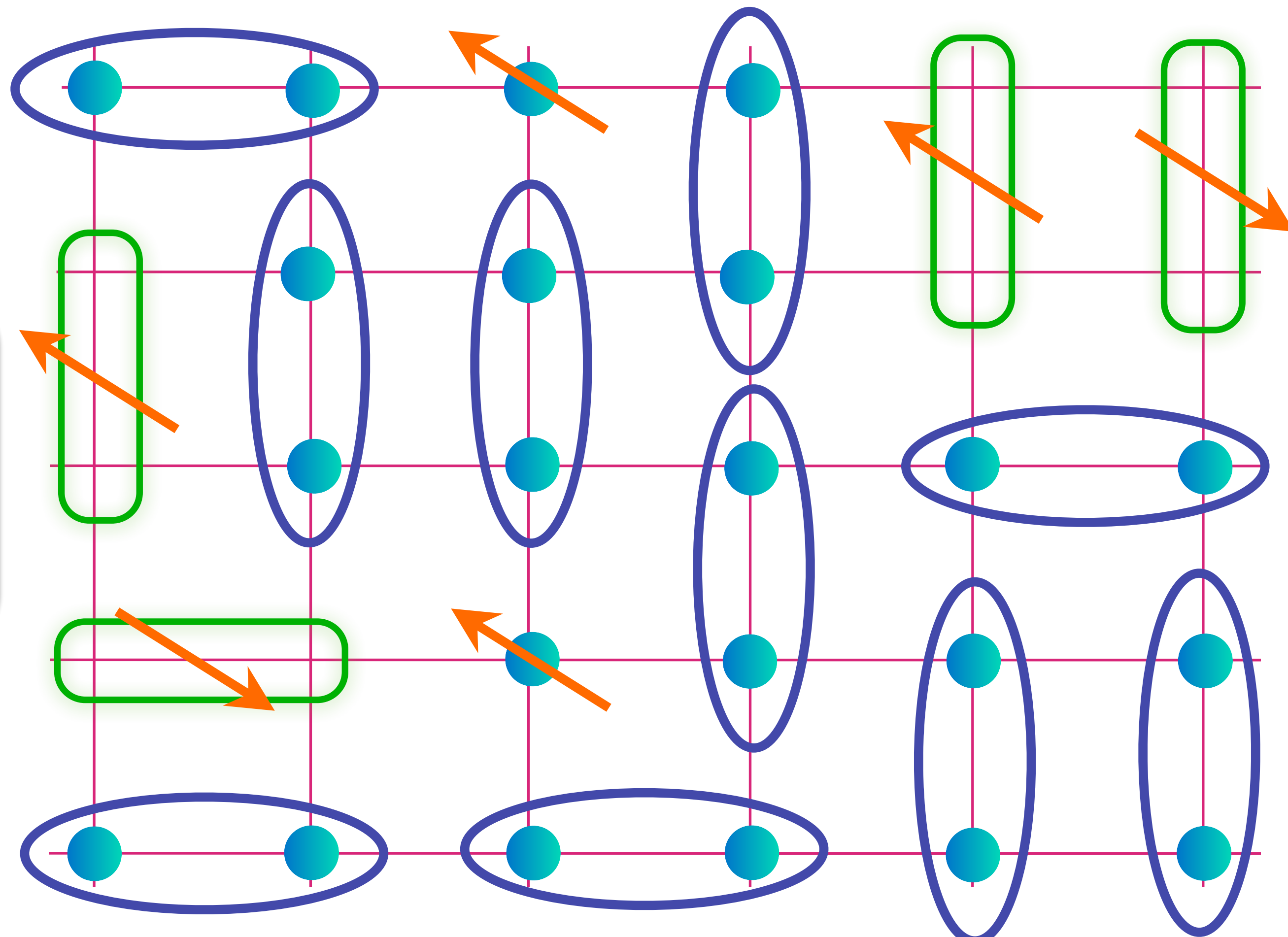
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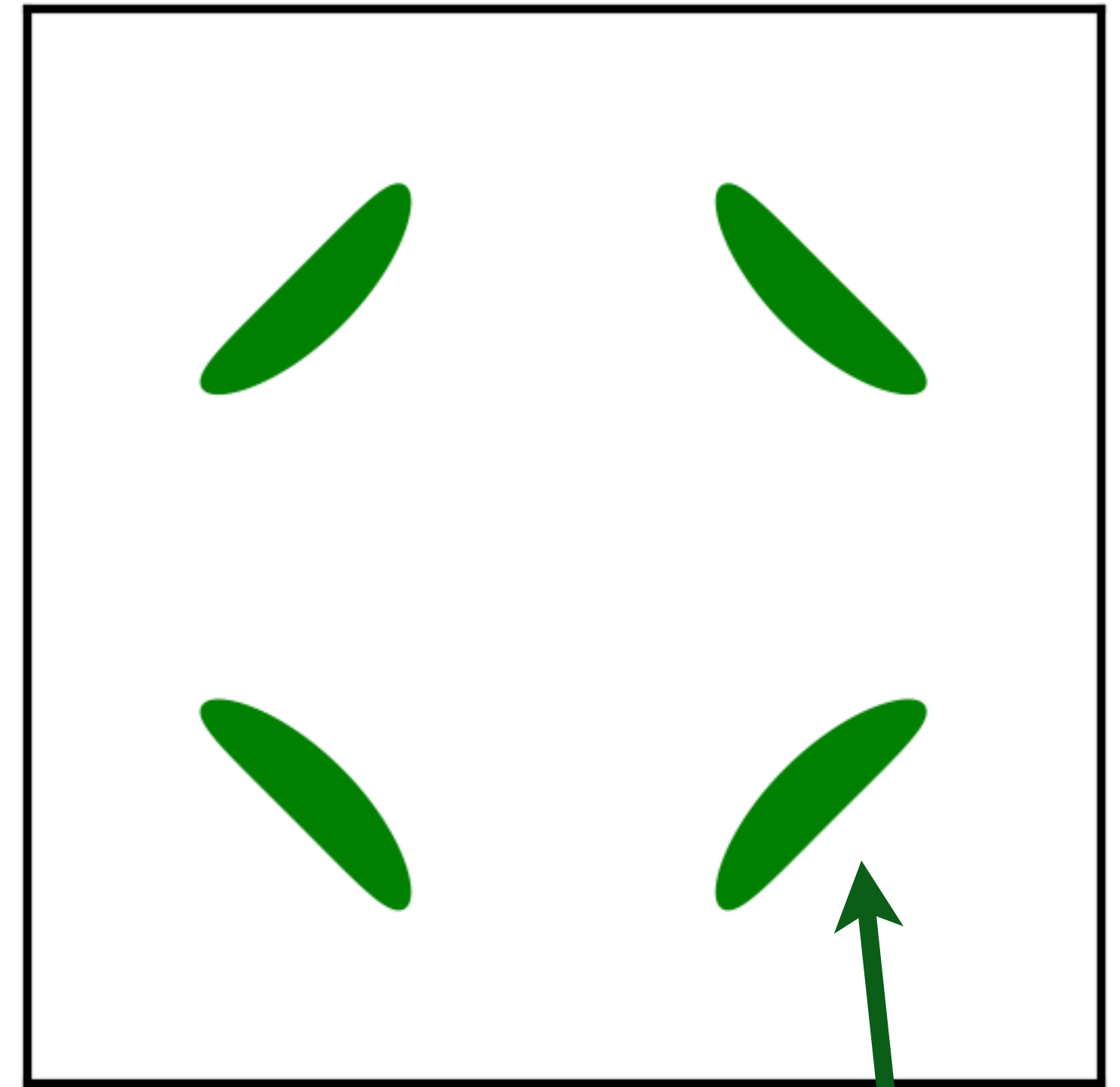
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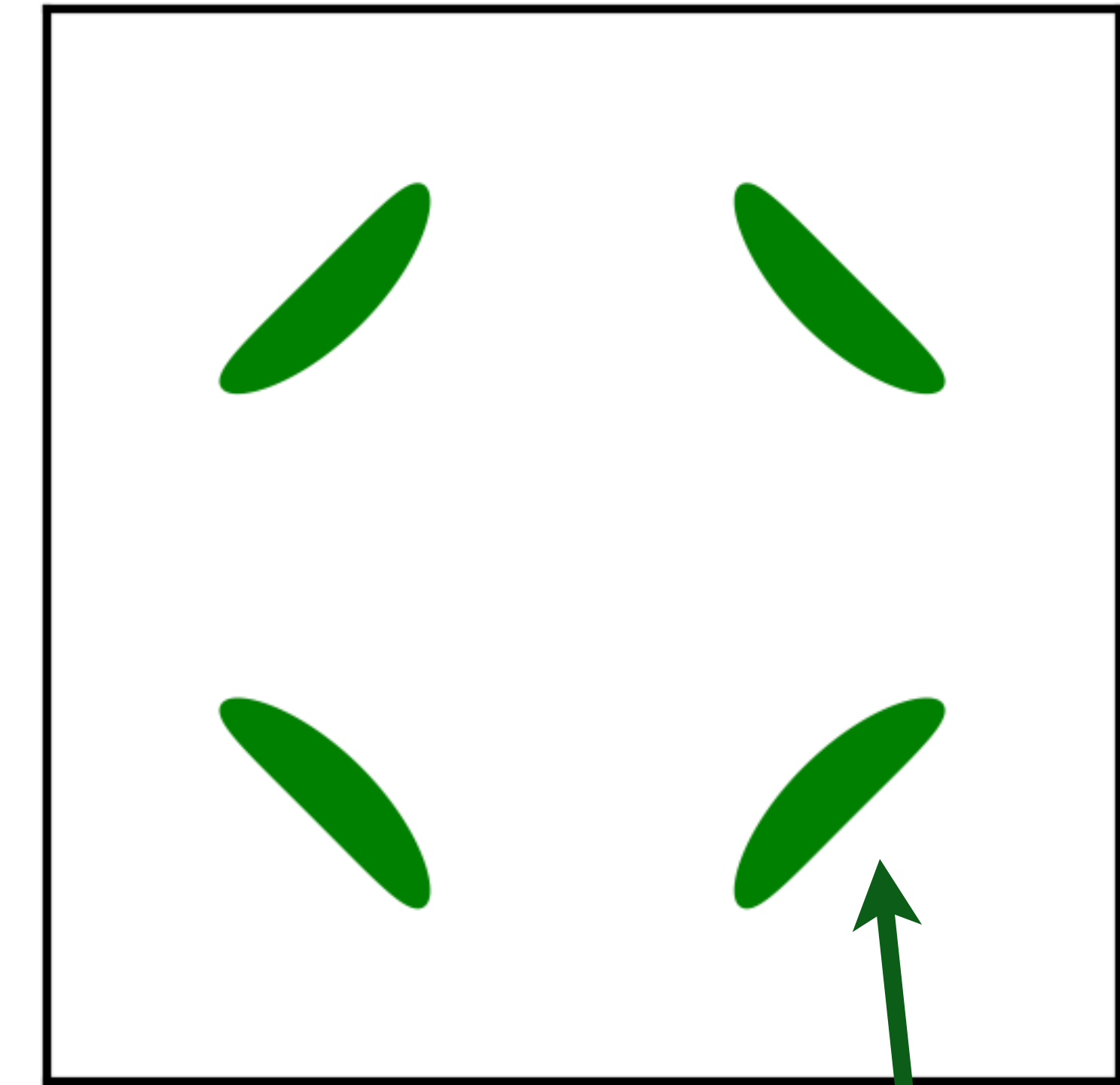
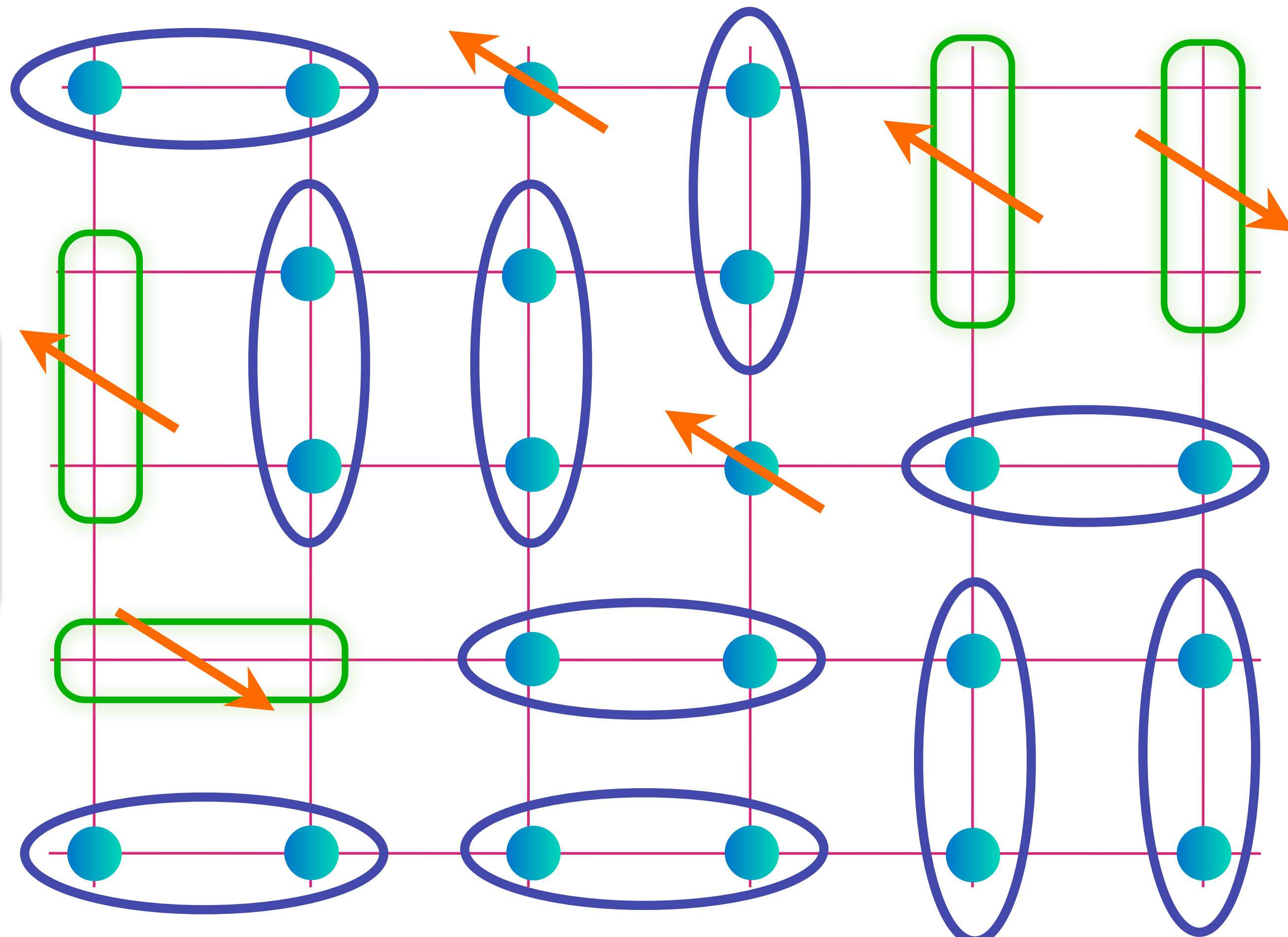
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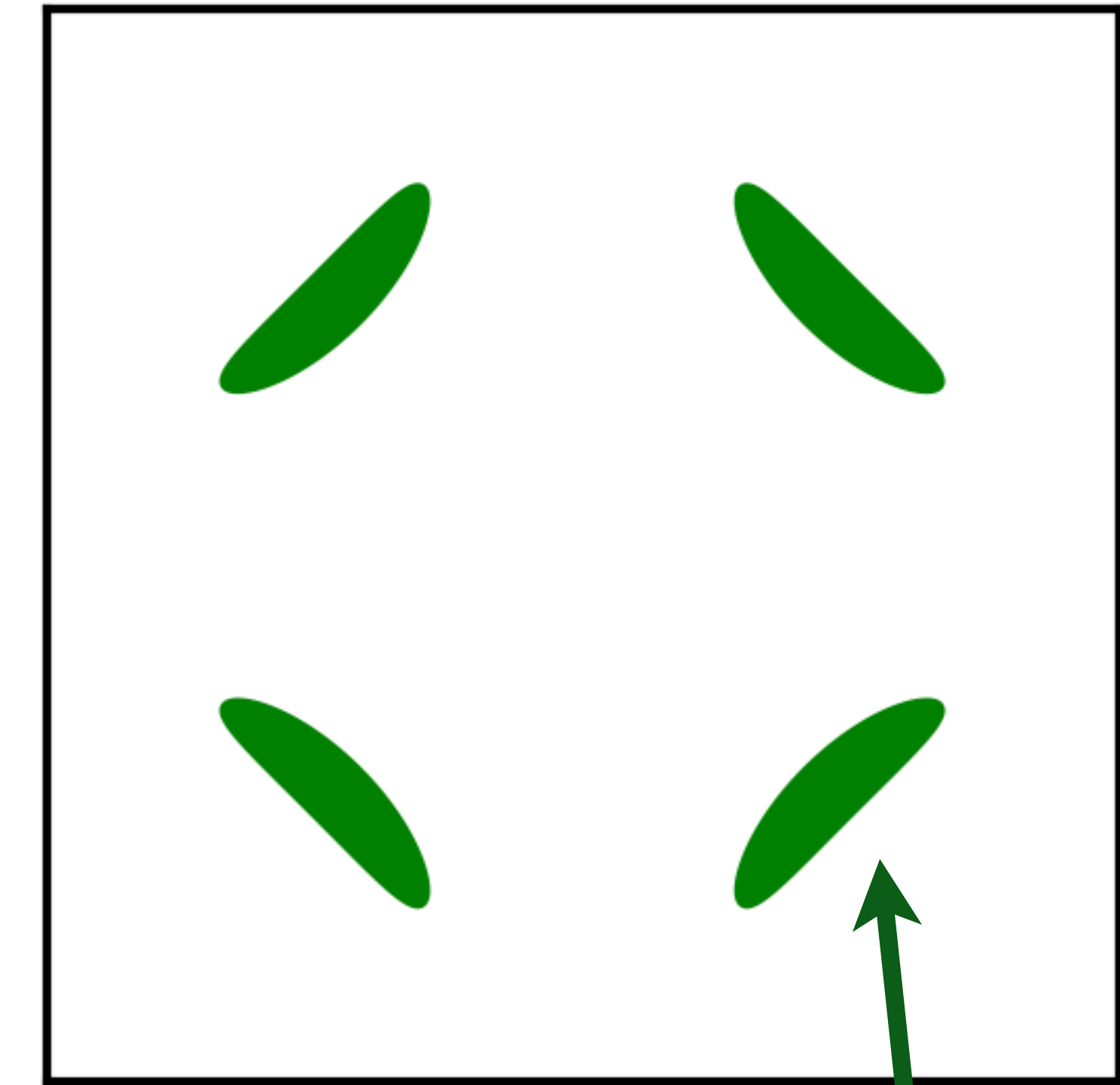
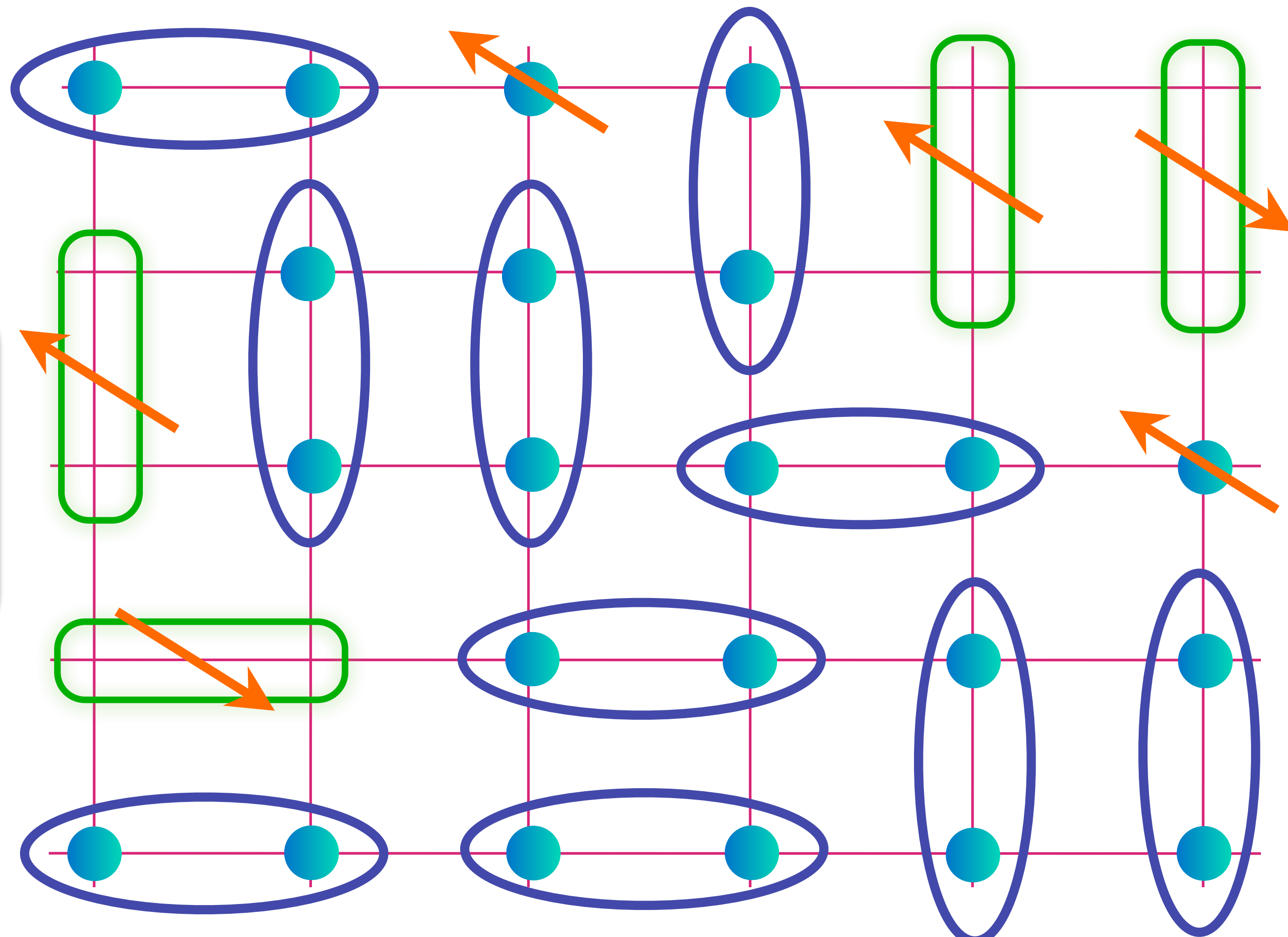
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Doping an insulating antiferromagnet with holes of density p

FL*

non-Luttinger area.
Spin liquid



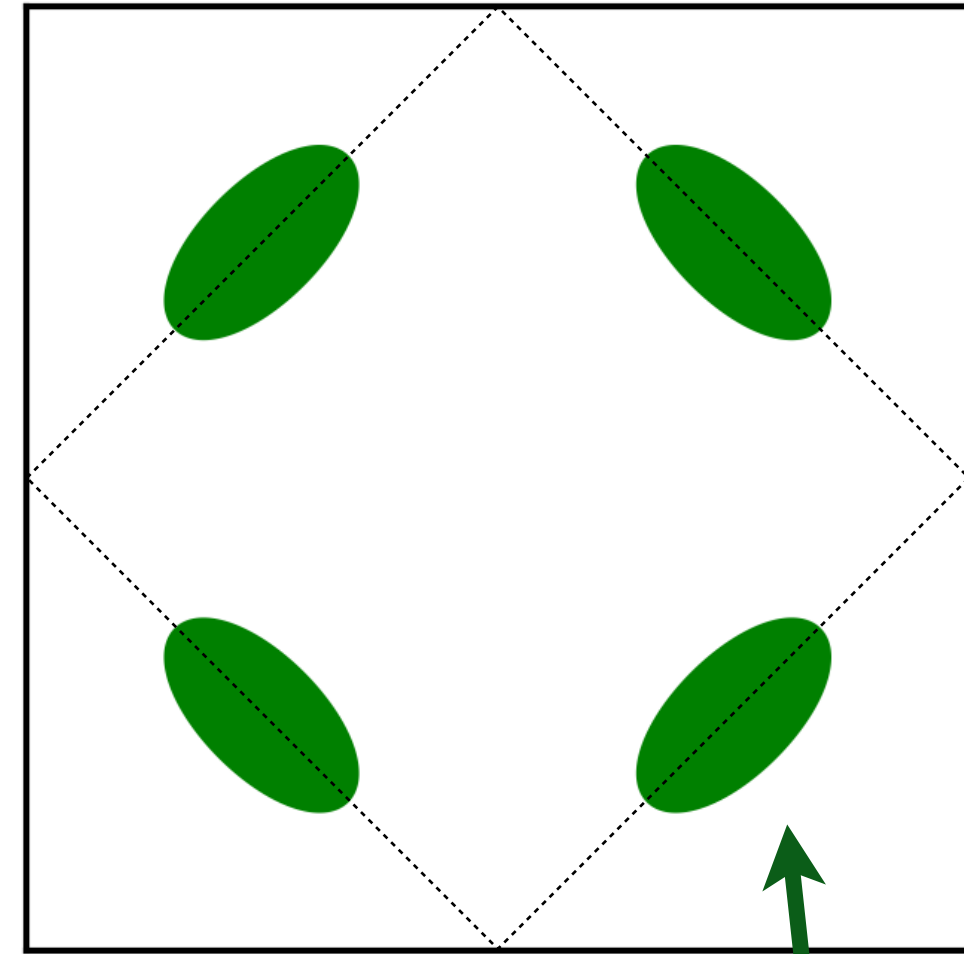
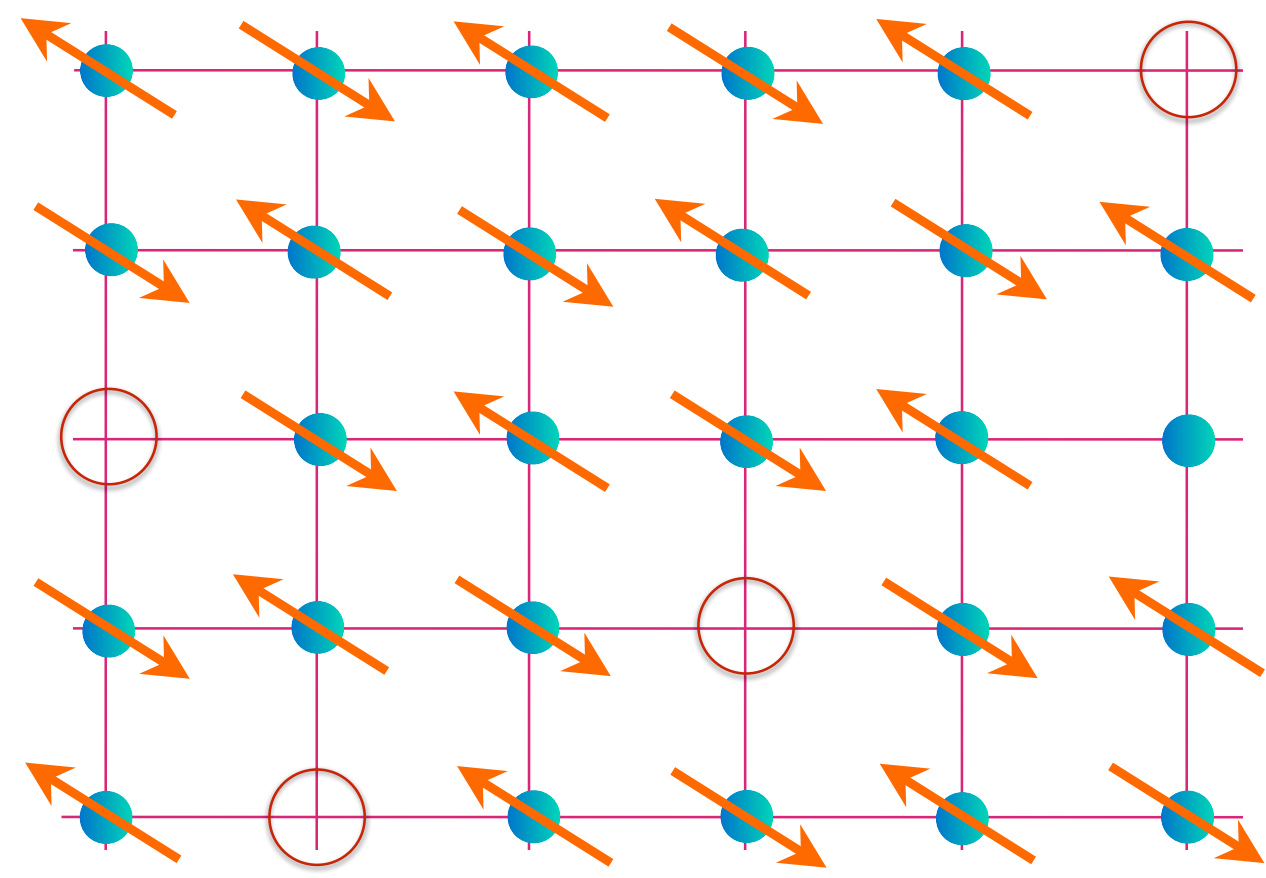
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$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} = (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) / \sqrt{2} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{ } \\ \text{ } \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \text{ } \end{array} = (|\uparrow\circ\rangle + |\circ\uparrow\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

Area $p/8$

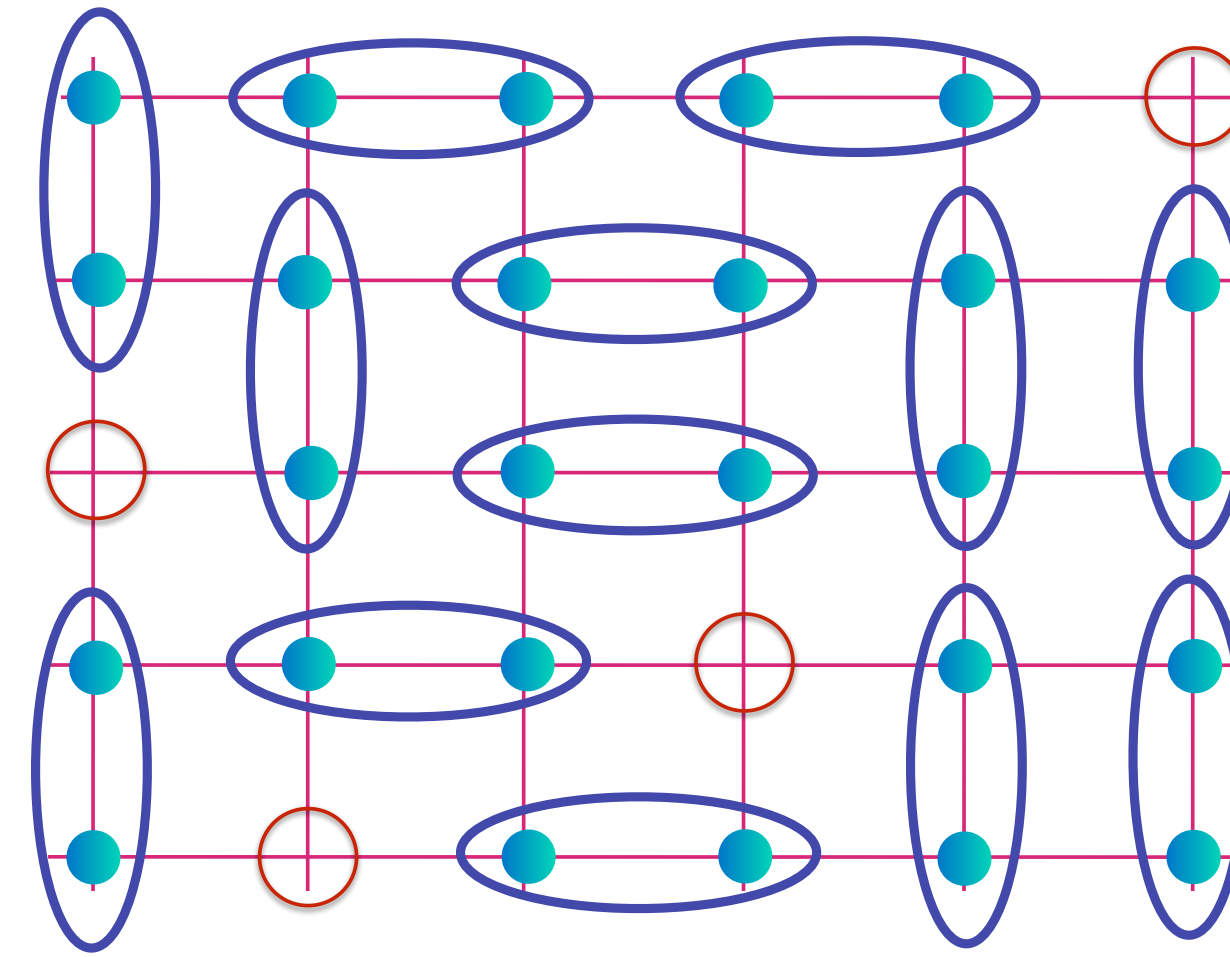
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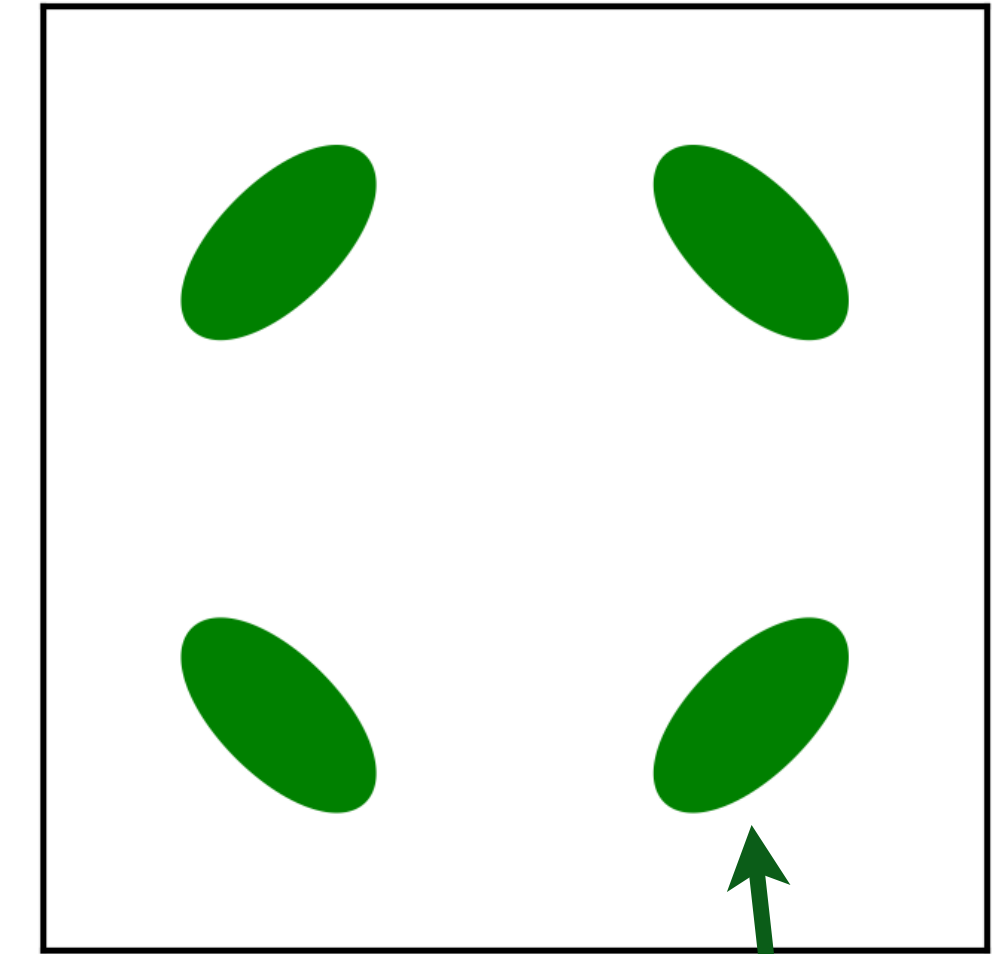
Area $p/4$

AF metal and SDW fluctuation

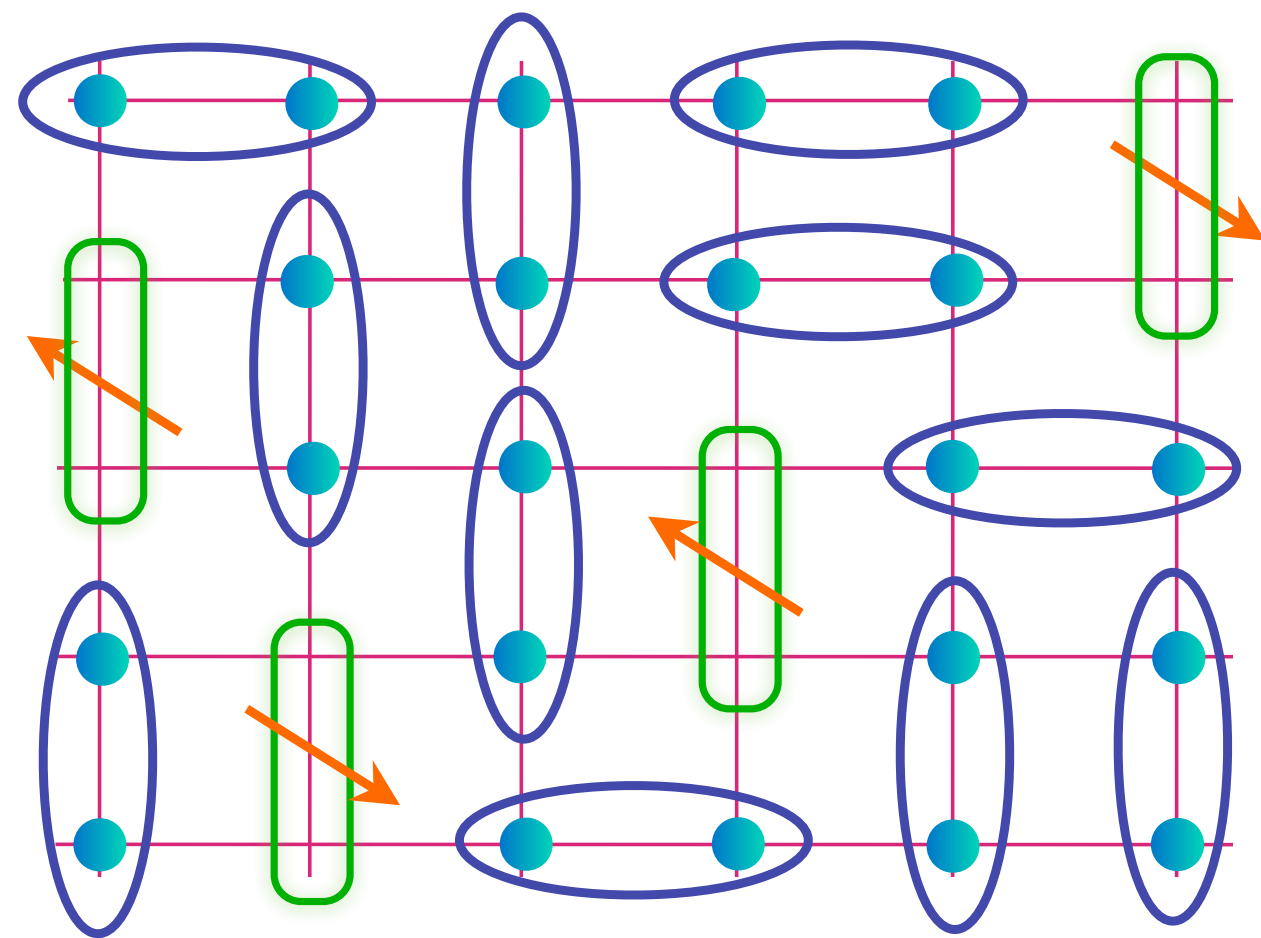


$$\text{Holon} = (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

Holon metal

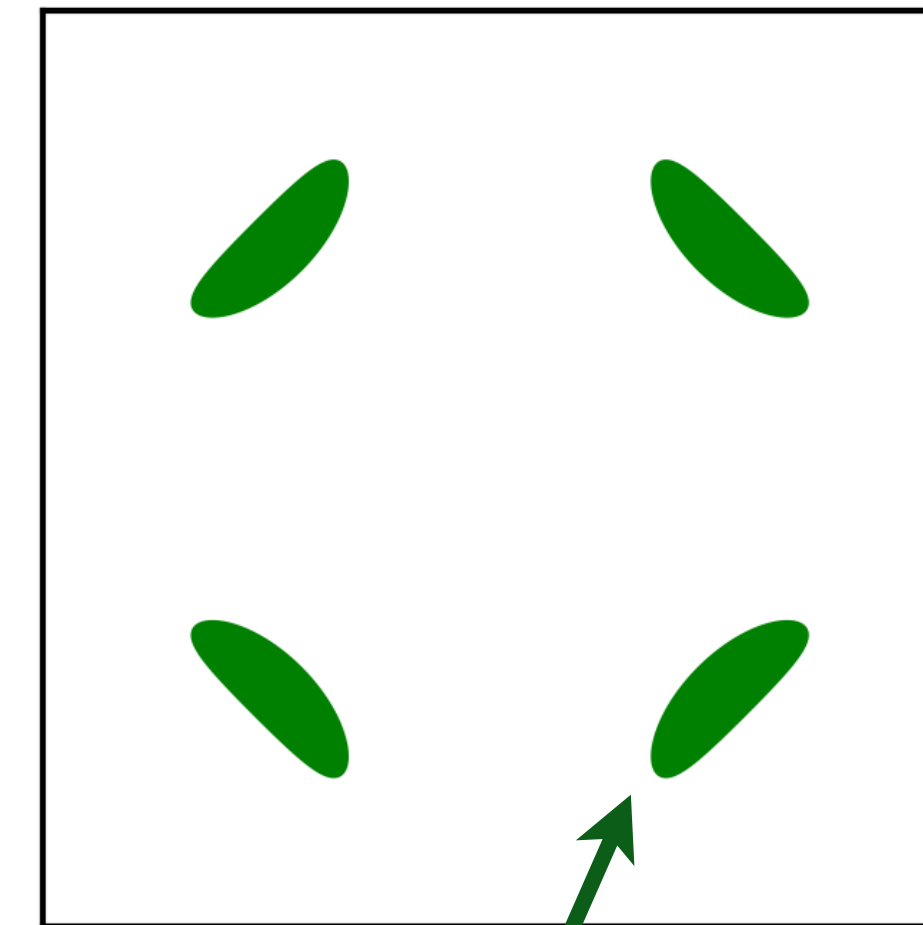


Area $p/4$



FL*

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



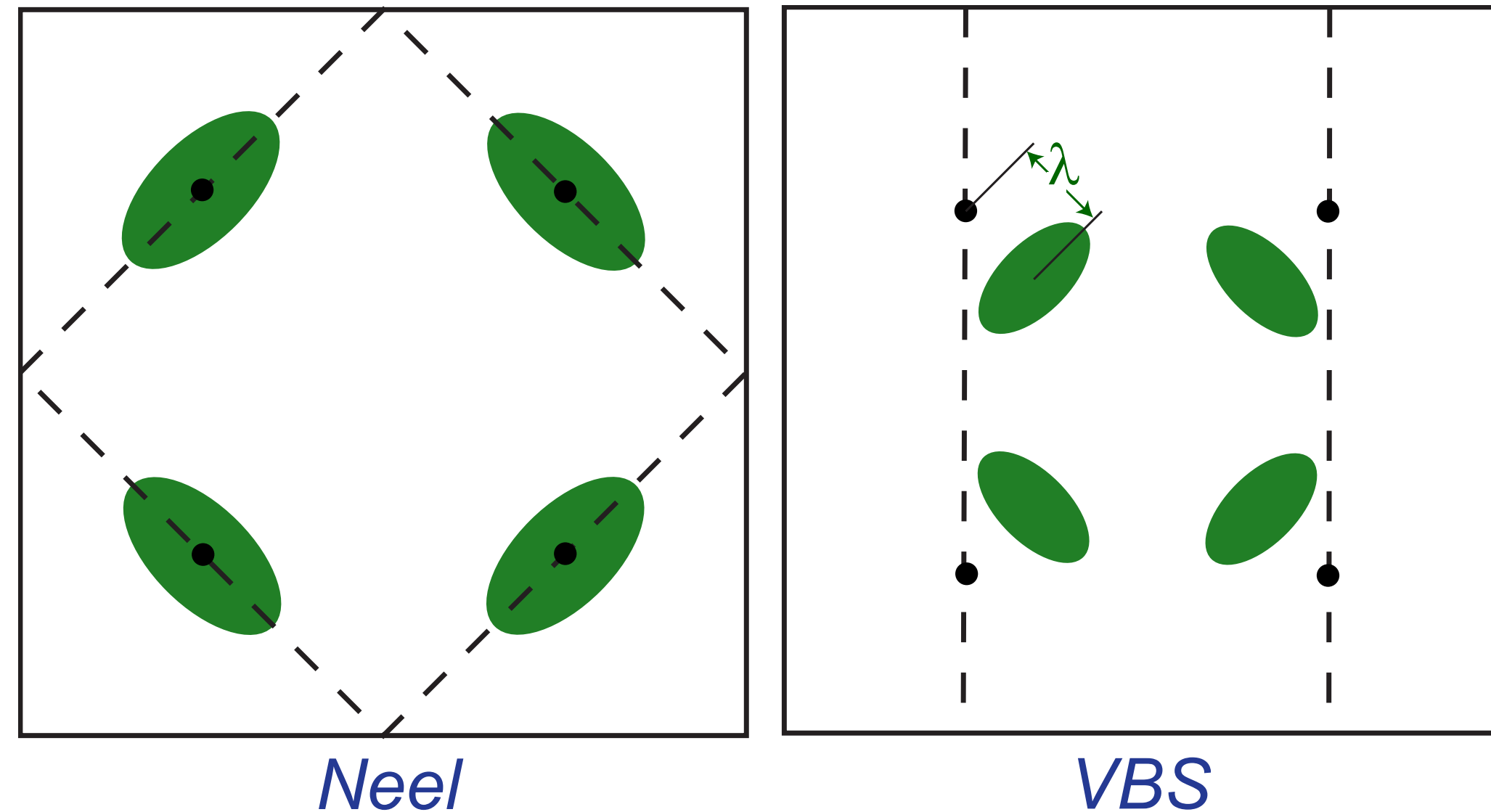
Area $p/8$

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

T. Senthil, S. S., M. Vojta, PRL **90**, 216403 (2003);
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 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,¹ Alexei Kolezhuk,^{1,2} Michael Levin,¹ Subir Sachdev,¹ and T. Senthil^{3,4}



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 $\mathcal{A}_F = (2\pi)^2 \delta/8$.

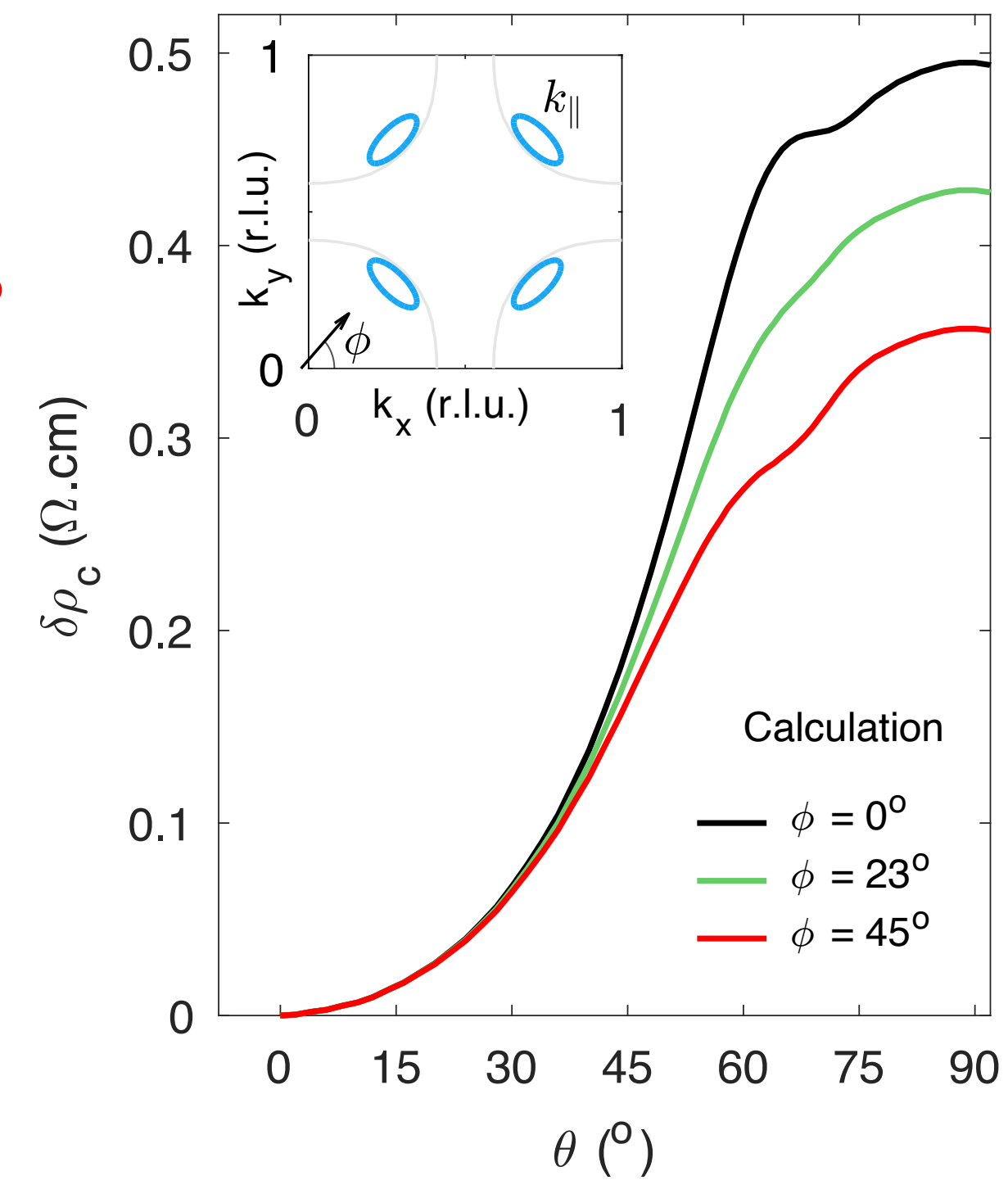
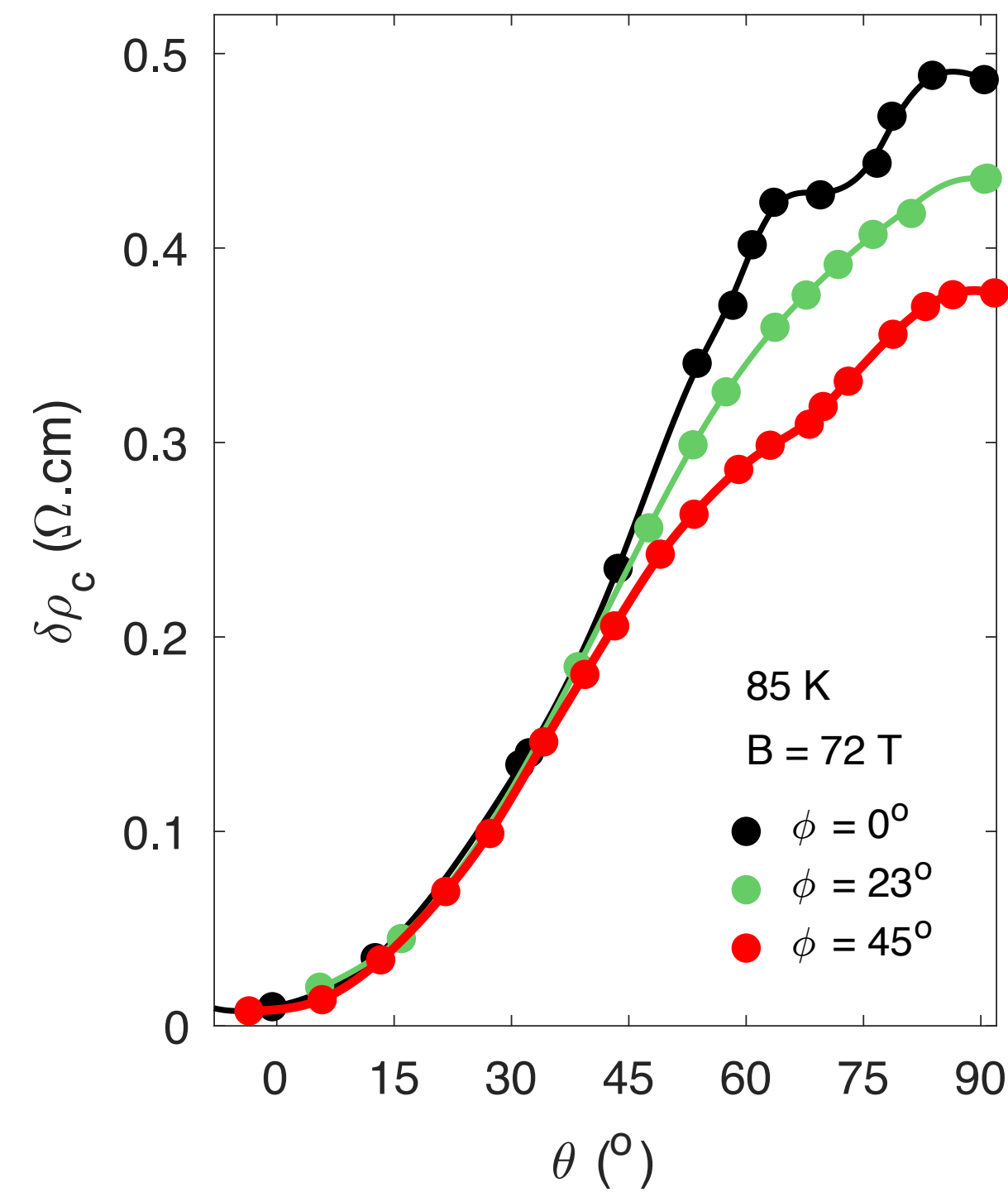
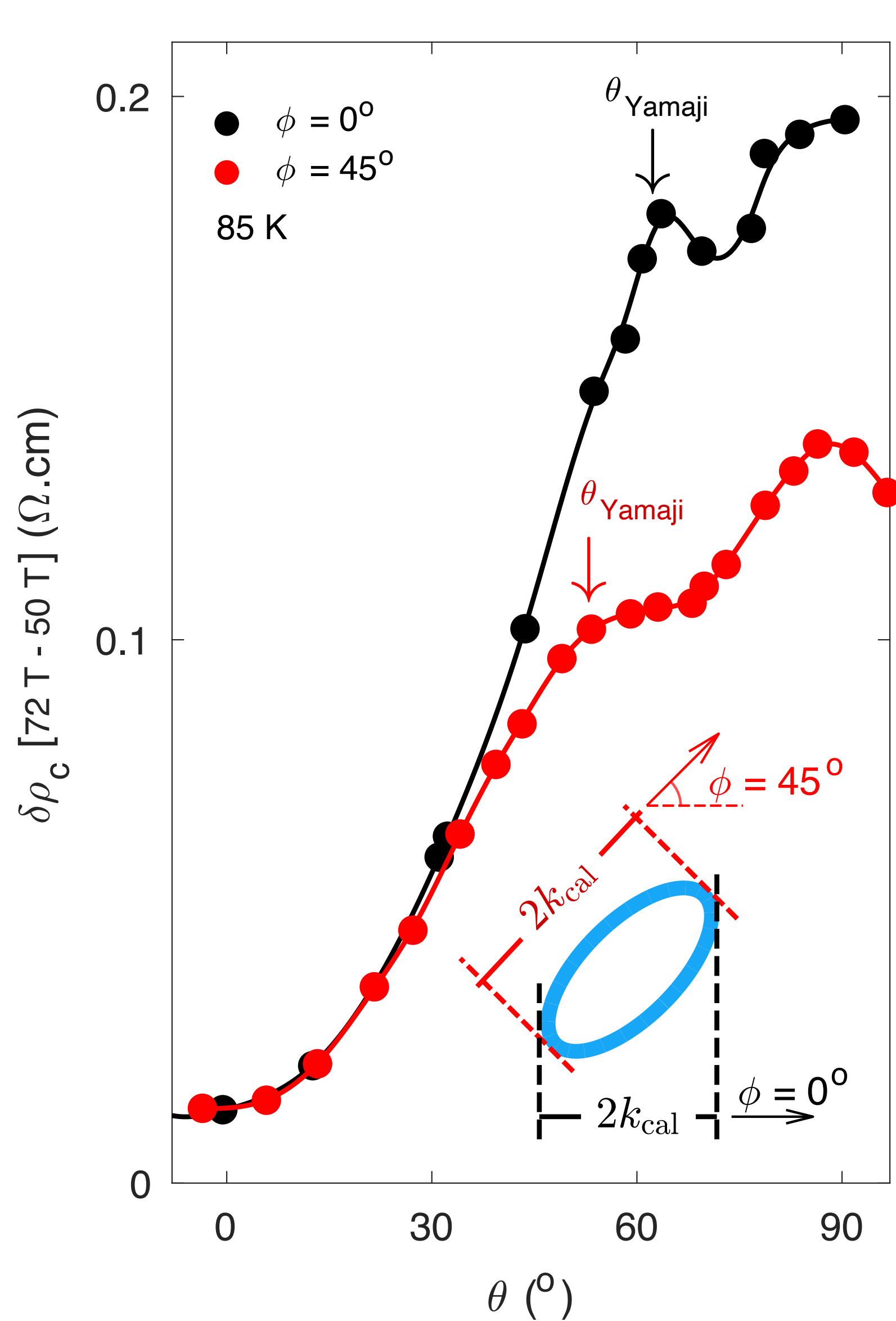
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Factor of 2 between SDW fluctuation and FL*

Observation of the Yamaji effect in a cuprate superconductor

Mun K. Chan,^{1,*} Katherine A. Schreiber,¹ Oscar E. Ayala-Valenzuela,¹

arXiv:2411.10631

Eric D. Bauer,² Arkady Shekhter,¹ and Neil Harrison¹



Doping
 $p = 0.1$

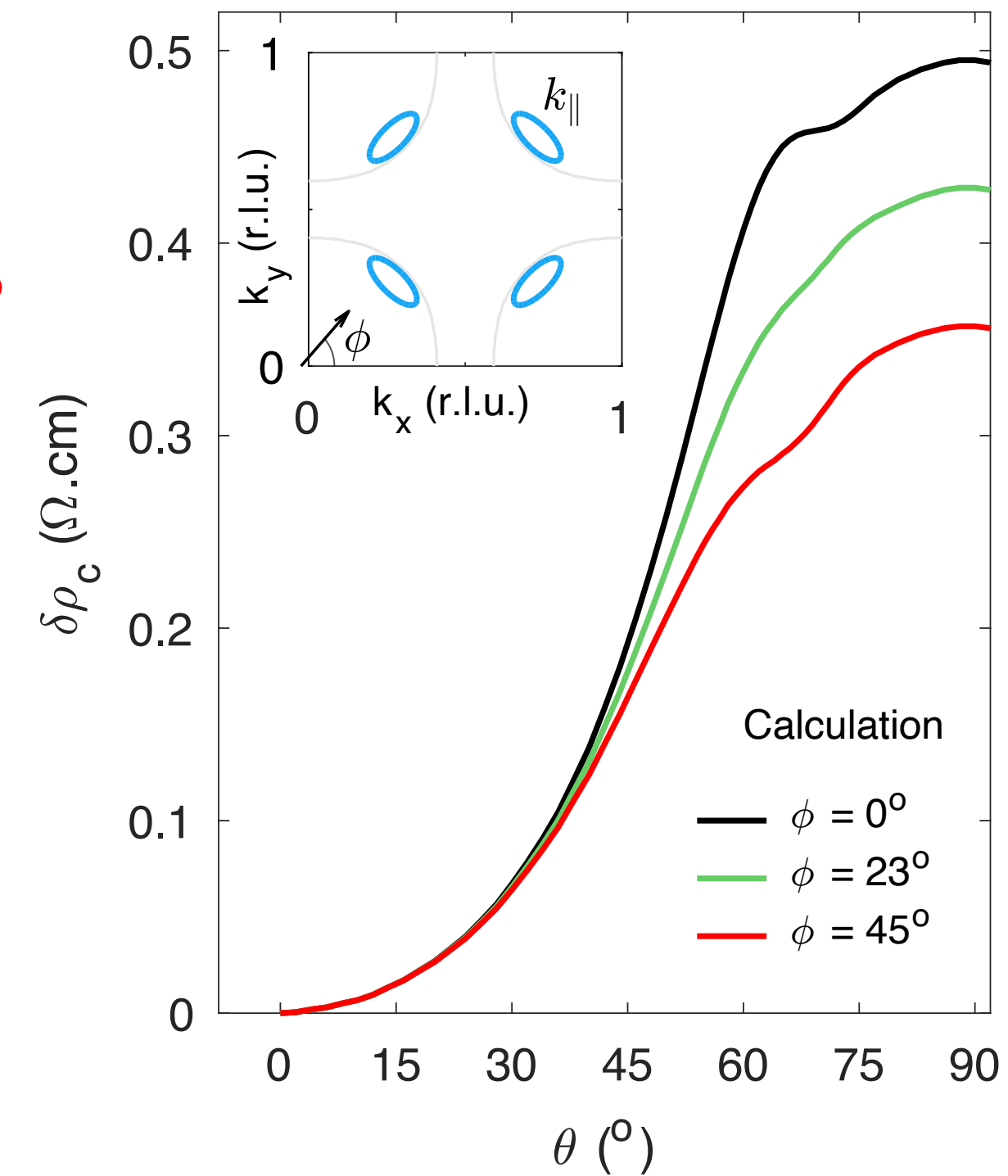
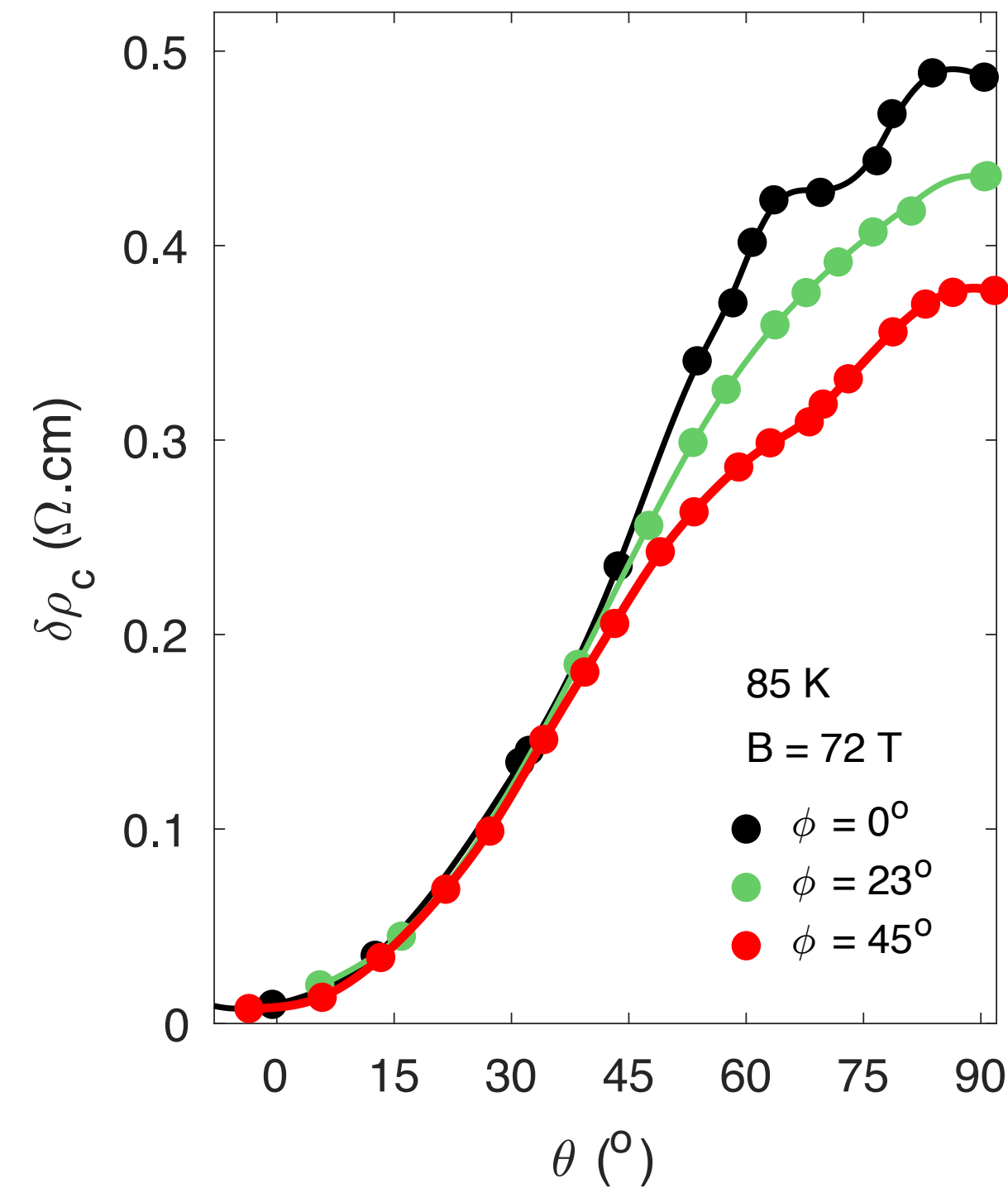
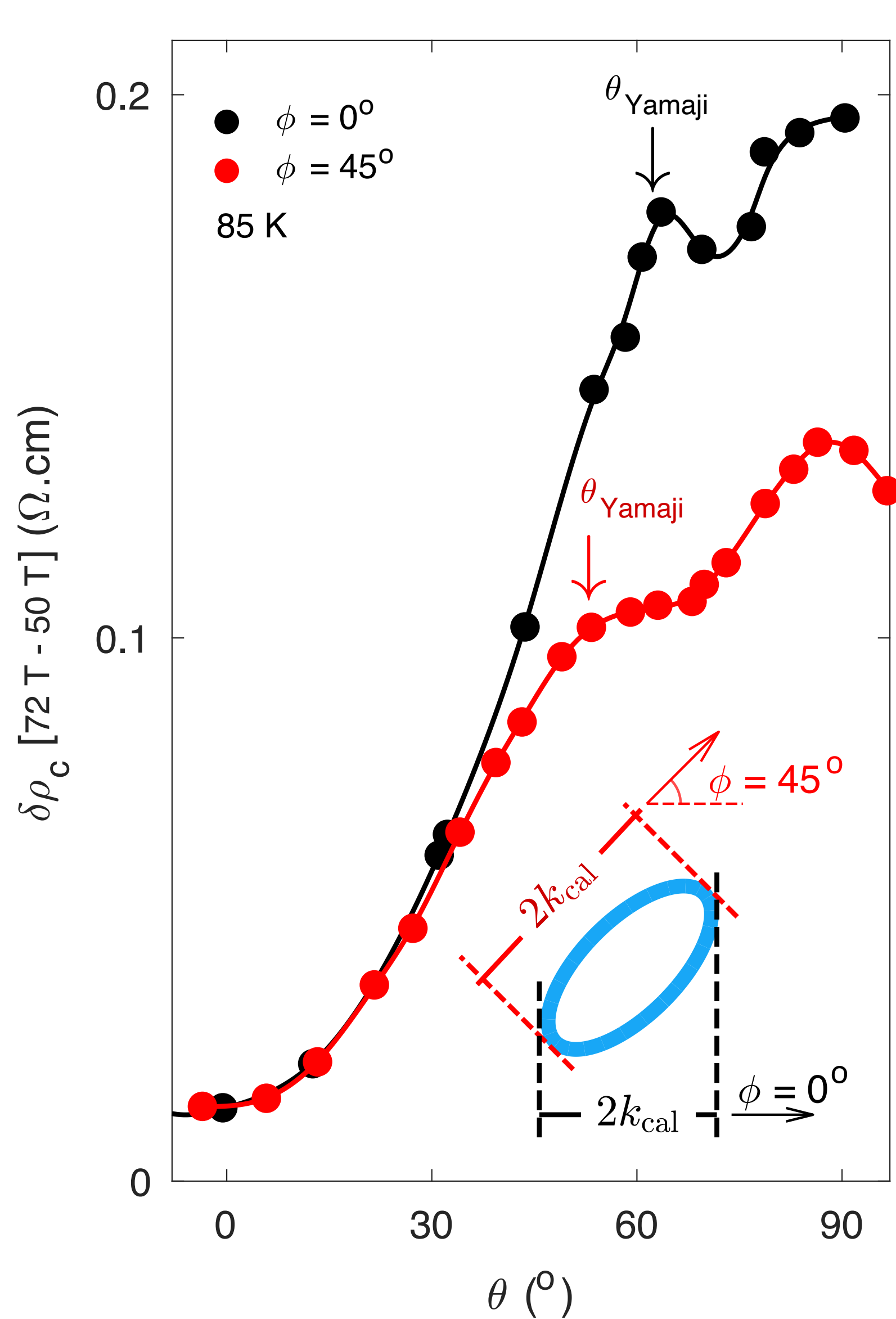
“The small size of the pockets determined from the Yamaji effect is ... approximately 1.3% of the Brillouin zone area”

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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”

FL* pocket fraction = $p/8 = 1.25\%$!
Fluctuating AF metal fraction = $p/4 = 2.5\%$.

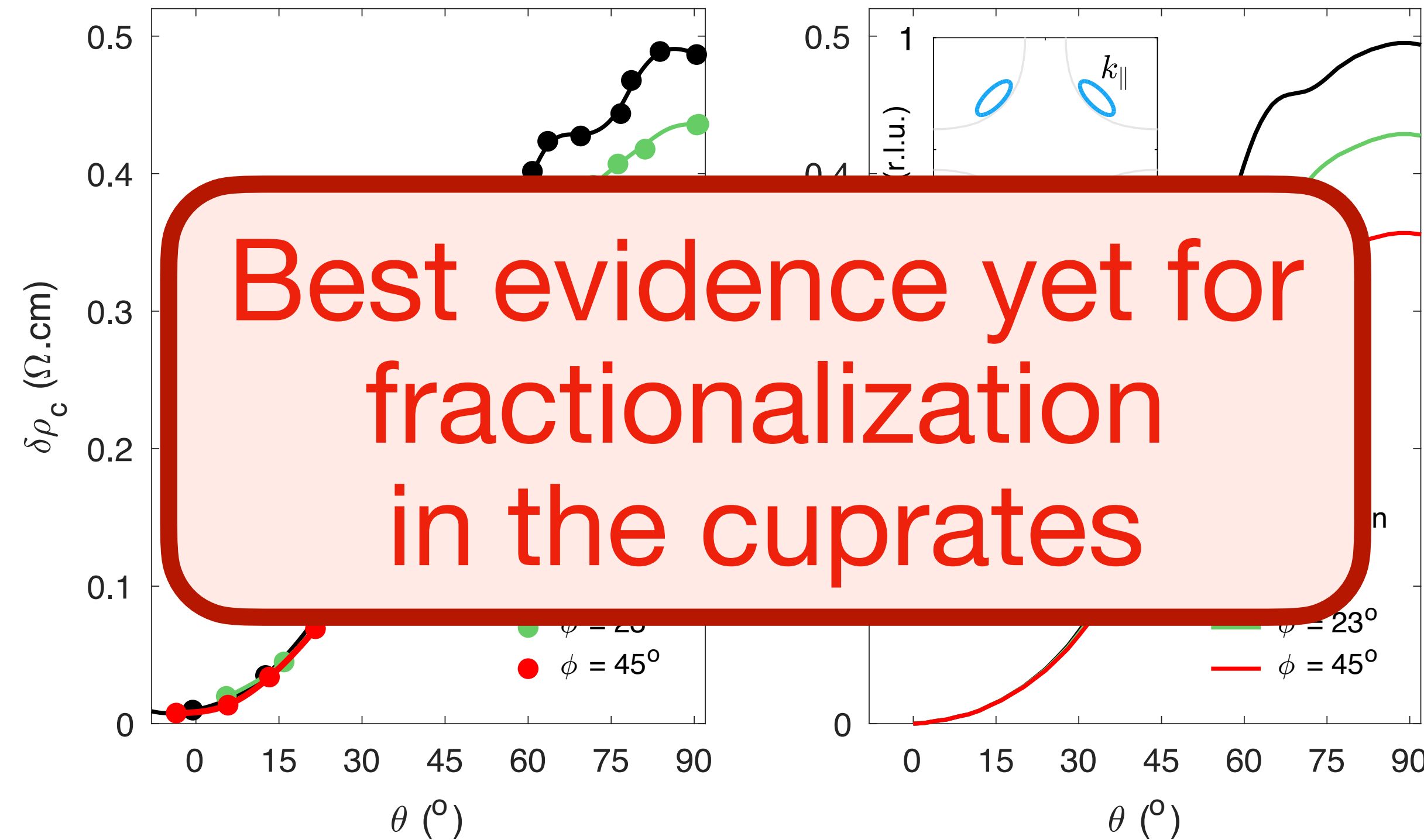
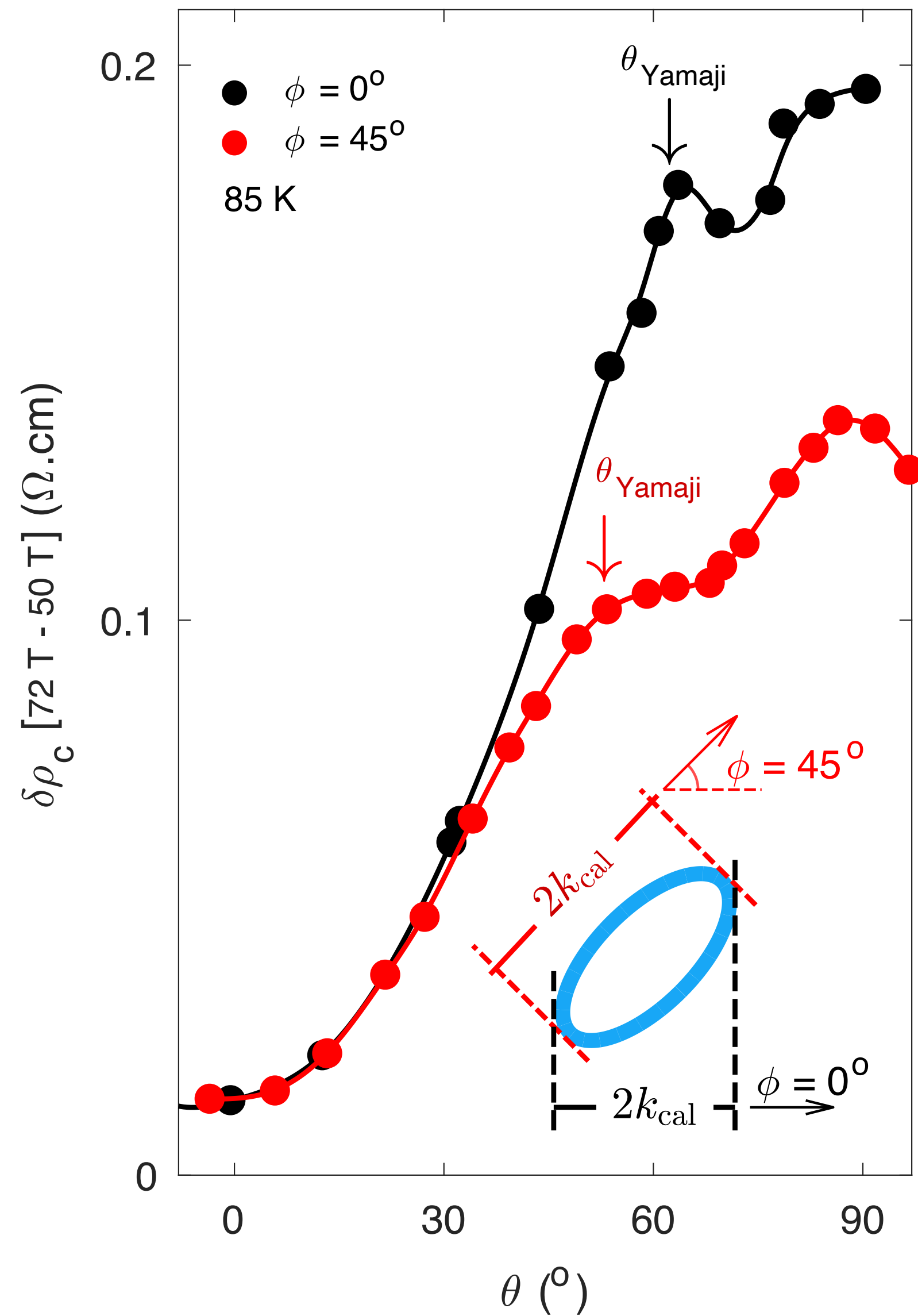
($p/8$ also in YRZ ansatz, Peter Johnson photoemission, and Jenny Hoffman and Seamus Davis STMs; Stanescu-Kotliar?)

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Eric D. Bauer,² Arkady Shekhter,¹ and Neil Harrison¹



Doping $p = 0.1$

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

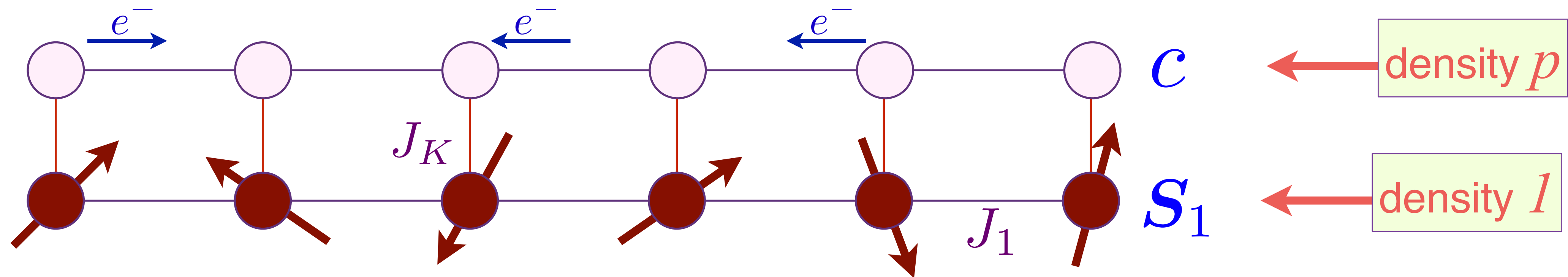
FL* pocket fraction = $p/8 = 1.25\%$!
 Fluctuating AF metal fraction = $p/4 = 2.5\%$.

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

Theory of FL^*
in a Kondo lattice

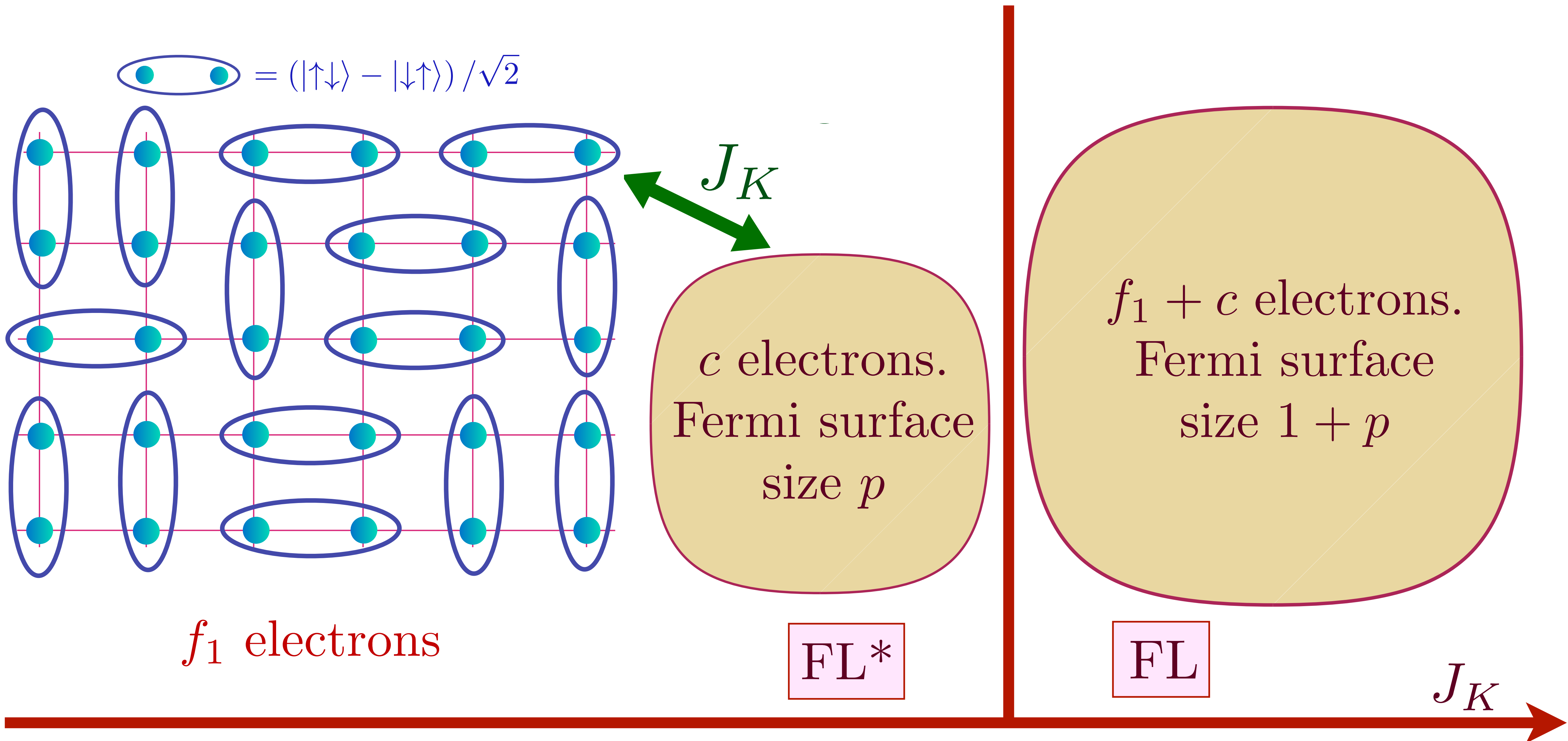
Fermi-volume-changing QPT in the Kondo lattice

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{KL}} = \sum_{i < j} J_{1,ij} \mathbf{S}_{1i} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{1j} - \sum_{i,j} t_{ij} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha} + \sum_i \frac{J_K}{2} \mathbf{S}_{1i} \cdot c_{i\alpha}^\dagger \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} c_{i\beta}$$



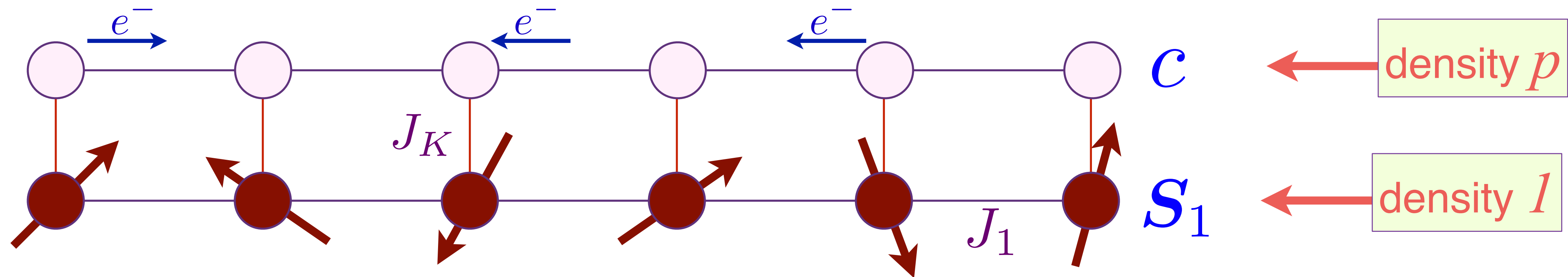
Assume J_1 is chosen so that at $J_K = 0$
the \mathbf{S}_{1i} spins have a fractionalized spin liquid ground state.

Fermi-volume-changing QPT in the Kondo lattice



Fermi-volume-changing QPT in the Kondo lattice

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{KL}} = \sum_{i < j} J_{1,ij} \mathbf{S}_{1i} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{1j} - \sum_{i,j} t_{ij} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha} + \sum_i \frac{J_K}{2} \mathbf{S}_{1i} \cdot c_{i\alpha}^\dagger \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} c_{i\beta}$$



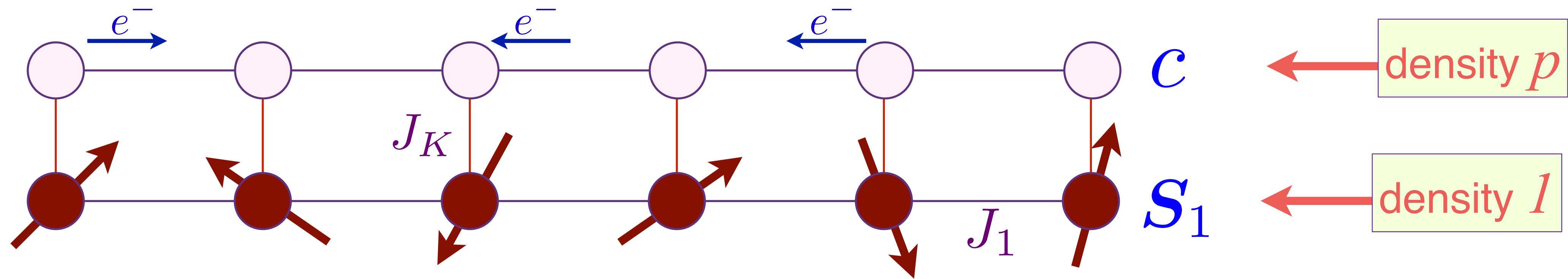
Assume J_1 is chosen so that at $J_K = 0$ the \mathbf{S}_{1i} spins have a fractionalized spin liquid ground state.

Represent \mathbf{S}_{1i} by fermionic spinons: $\mathbf{S}_{1i} = \frac{1}{2} f_{1i\alpha}^\dagger \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta}}{2} f_{1i\beta}$

$$\sum_{\alpha} f_{1i\alpha}^\dagger f_{1i\alpha} = 1 \text{ for all } i.$$

Fermi-volume-changing QPT in the Kondo lattice

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{KL}} = \sum_{i < j} J_{1,ij} \mathbf{S}_{1i} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{1j} - \sum_{i,j} t_{ij} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha} + \sum_i \frac{J_K}{2} \mathbf{S}_{1i} \cdot c_{i\alpha}^\dagger \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} c_{i\beta}$$

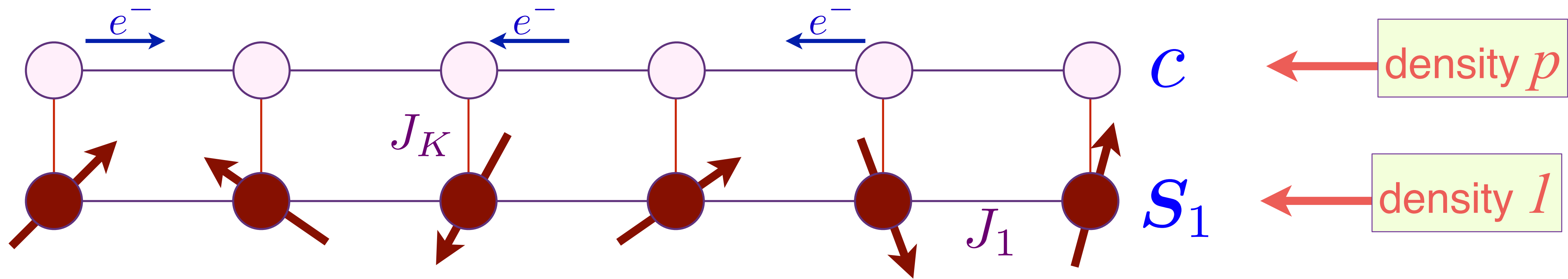


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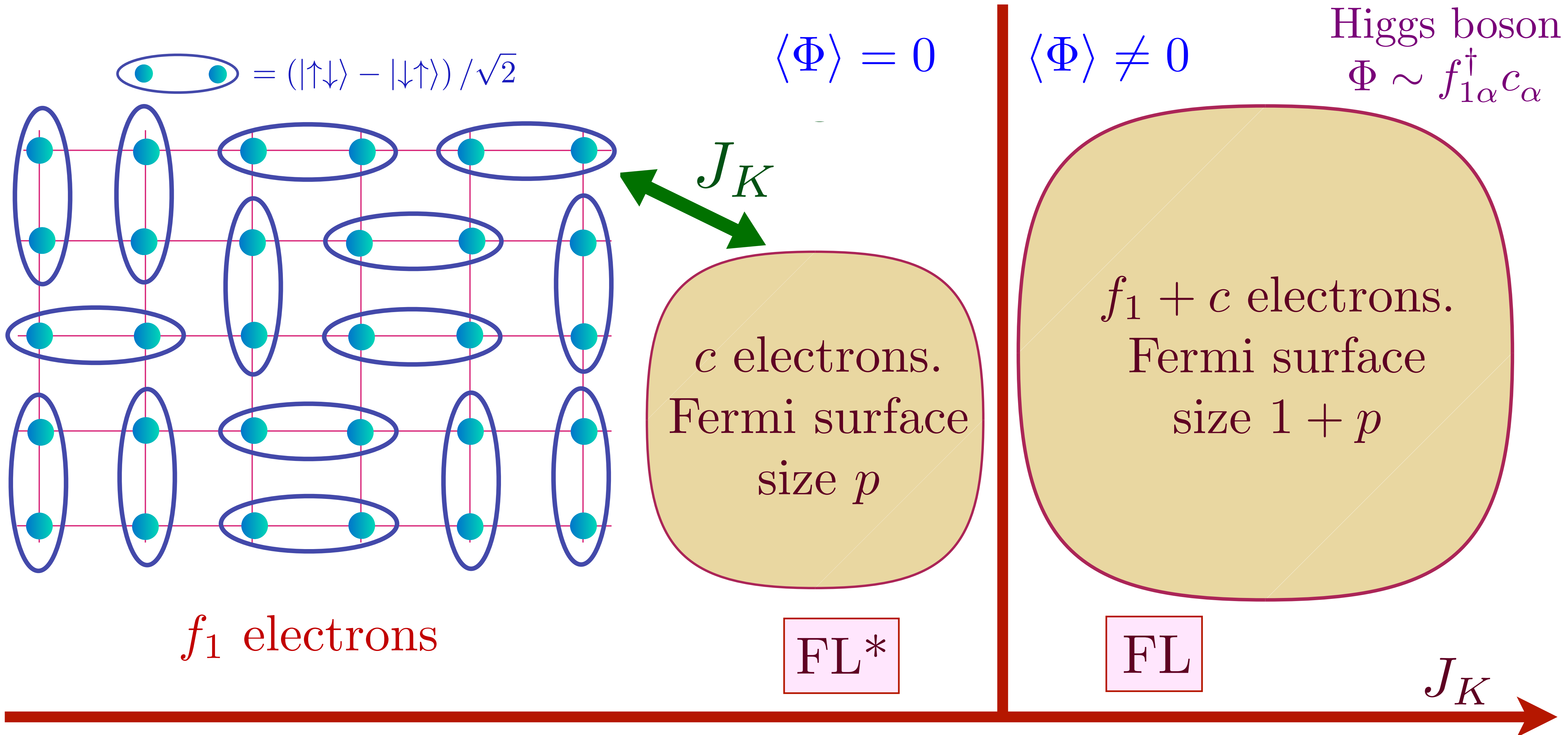


Represent \mathbf{S}_{1i} by fermionic spinons: $\mathbf{S}_{1i} = \frac{1}{2} f_{1i\alpha}^\dagger \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta}}{2} f_{1i\beta}$

$$\sum_{\alpha} f_{1i\alpha}^\dagger f_{1i\alpha} = 1 \text{ for all } i.$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{KLmf}} = \sum_{i,j} \left[-t_{ij} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha} - t_{1,ij} f_{1i\alpha}^\dagger f_{1j\alpha} \right] - \sum_i (\Phi c_{i\alpha}^\dagger f_{1i\alpha} + \Phi^* f_{1i\alpha}^\dagger c_{i\alpha}).$$

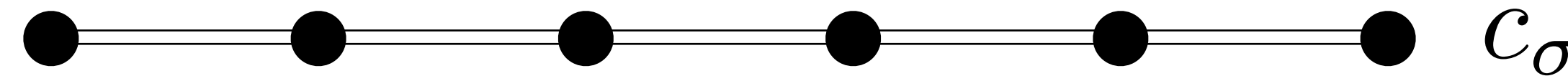
Fermi-volume-changing QPT in the Kondo lattice



FL* pseudogap metal
in single-band models
using ancillas

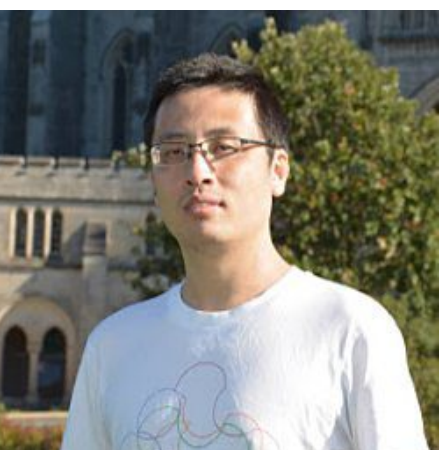
Ancilla theory of the Hubbard model

(Foolproof method to satisfy the Oshikawa anomaly)



Hubbard
model of
hole density
 $1+p$

Ya-Hui Zhang

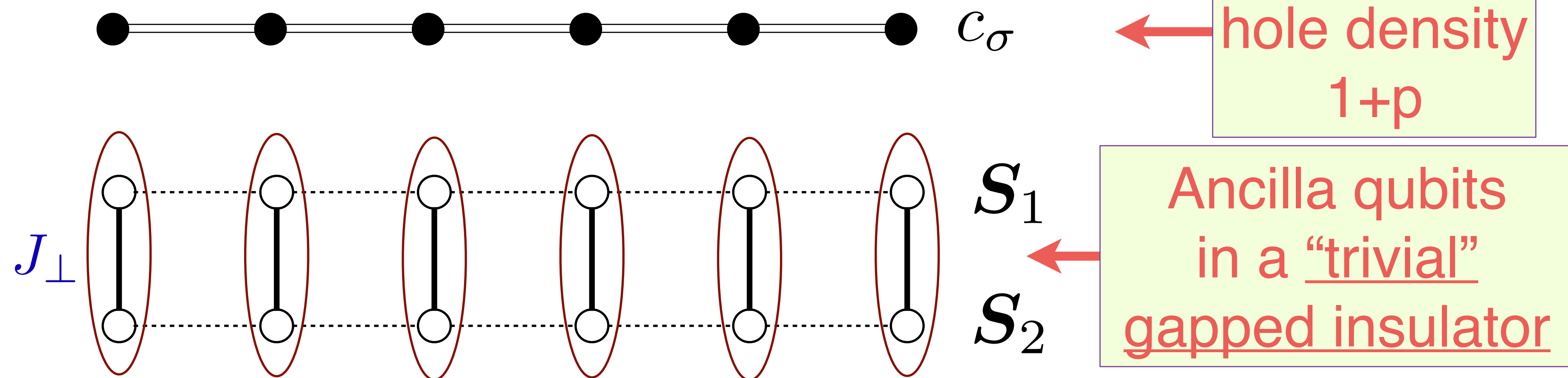


Ya-Hui Zhang and S. S., PRR **2**, 023172 (2020)

A. Nikolaenko, M. Tikhanovskaya, S. S., and Ya-Hui Zhang, PRB **103**, 235138 (2021)

Ancilla theory of the Hubbard model

(Foolproof method to satisfy the Oshikawa anomaly)



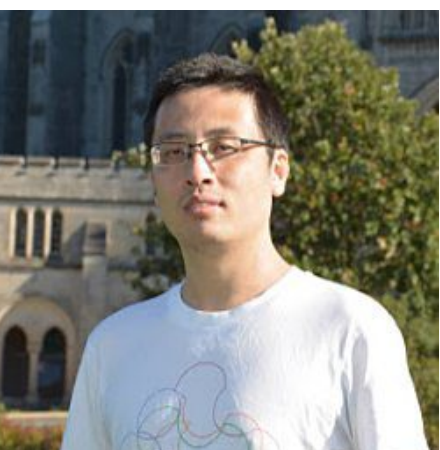
Integrating out

\Rightarrow Schrieffer-Wolff

Integrating in

\Rightarrow Hubbard-Stratonovich

Ya-Hui Zhang

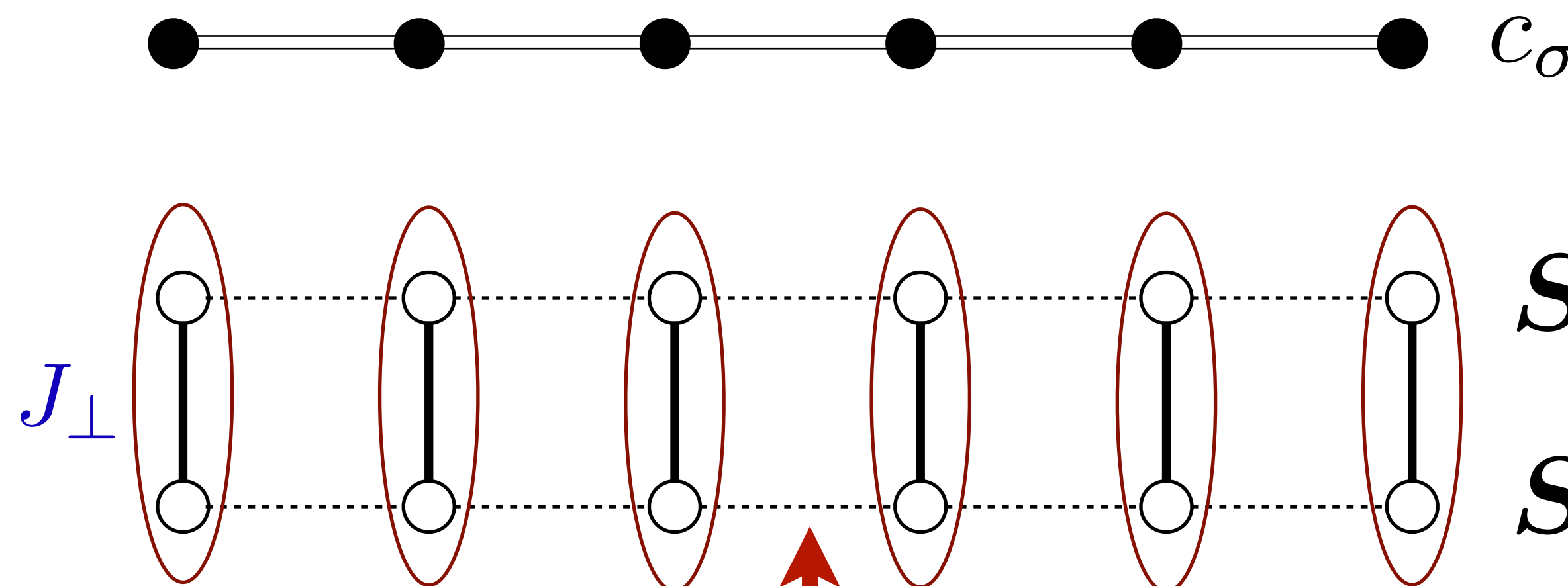


Ya-Hui Zhang and S. S., PRR **2**, 023172 (2020)

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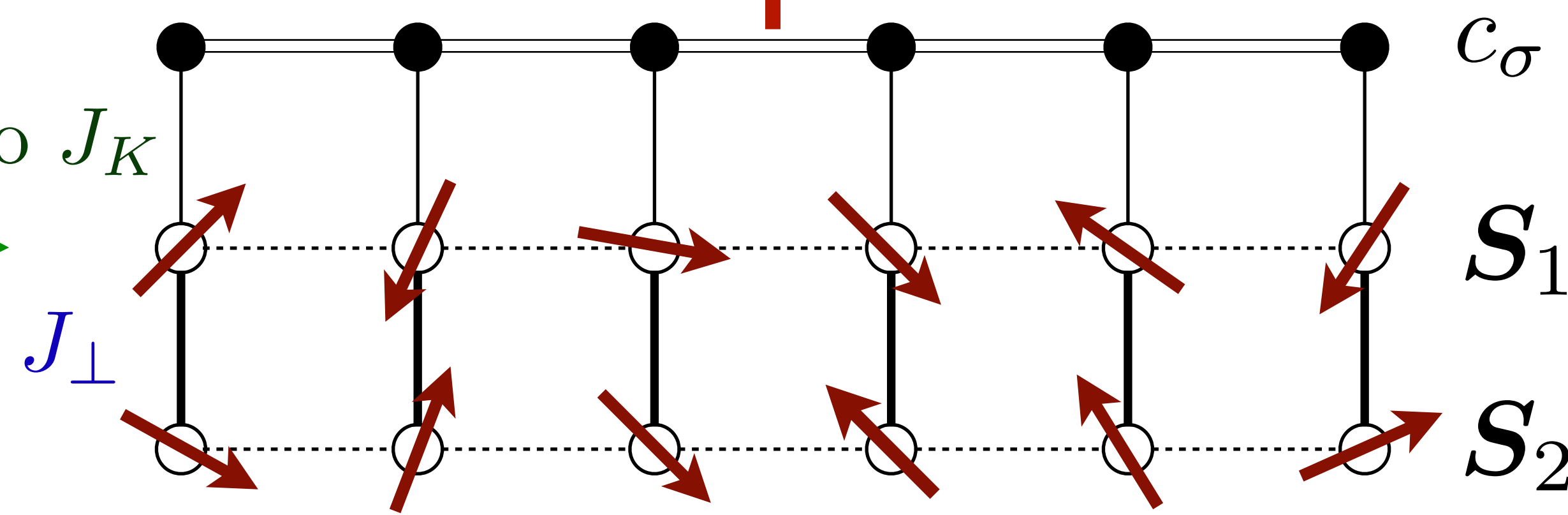


Hubbard model of hole density $1+p$

Ancilla qubits in a "trivial" gapped insulator

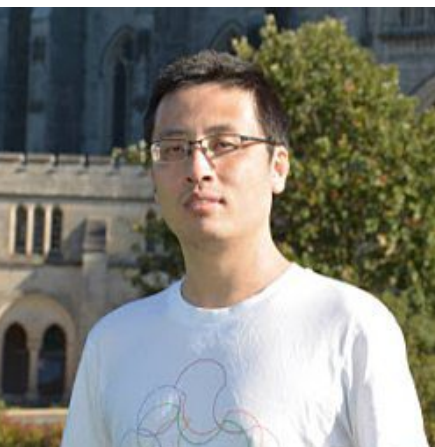
Schrieffer-Wolff (large J_{\perp}): $U = \frac{3J_K^2}{8J_{\perp}} + \frac{3J_K^3}{16J_{\perp}^2} + \dots$

Antiferromagnetic Kondo J_K



Free holes of density $1+p$

Ya-Hui Zhang

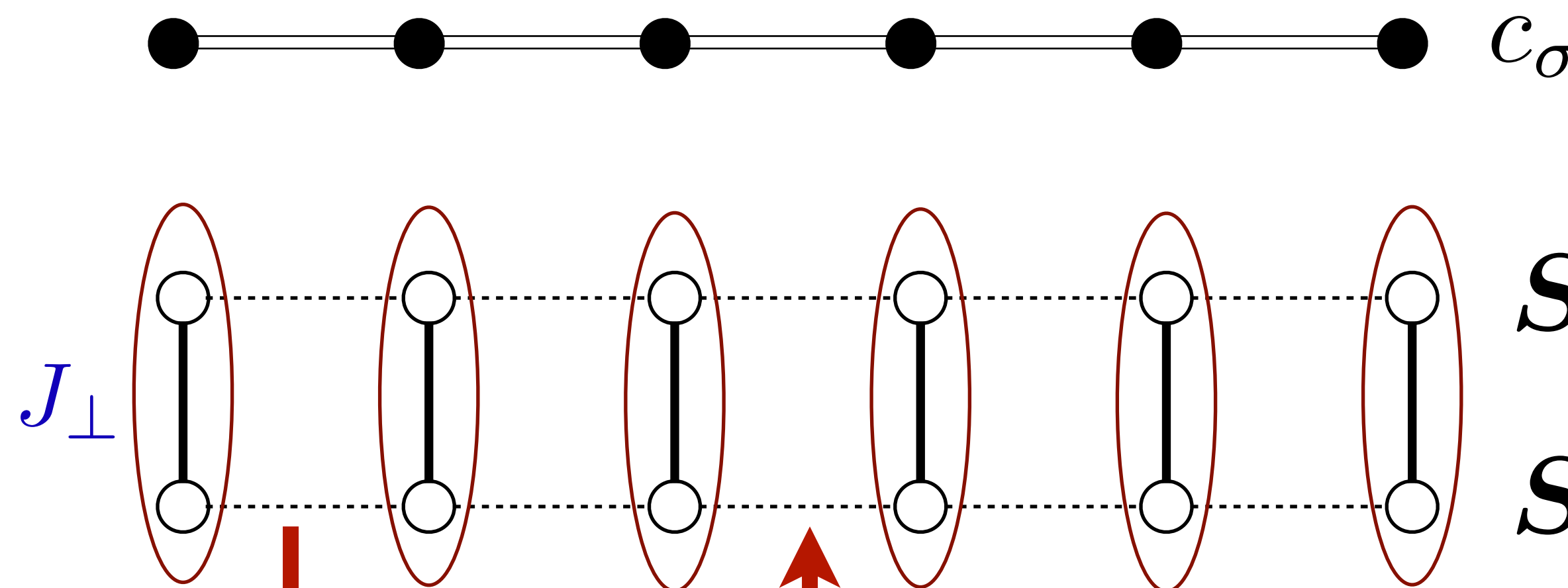


Ya-Hui Zhang and S. S., PRR **2**, 023172 (2020)

A. Nikolaenko, M. Tikhanovskaya, S. S., and Ya-Hui Zhang, PRB **103**, 235138 (2021)

Ancilla theory of the Hubbard model

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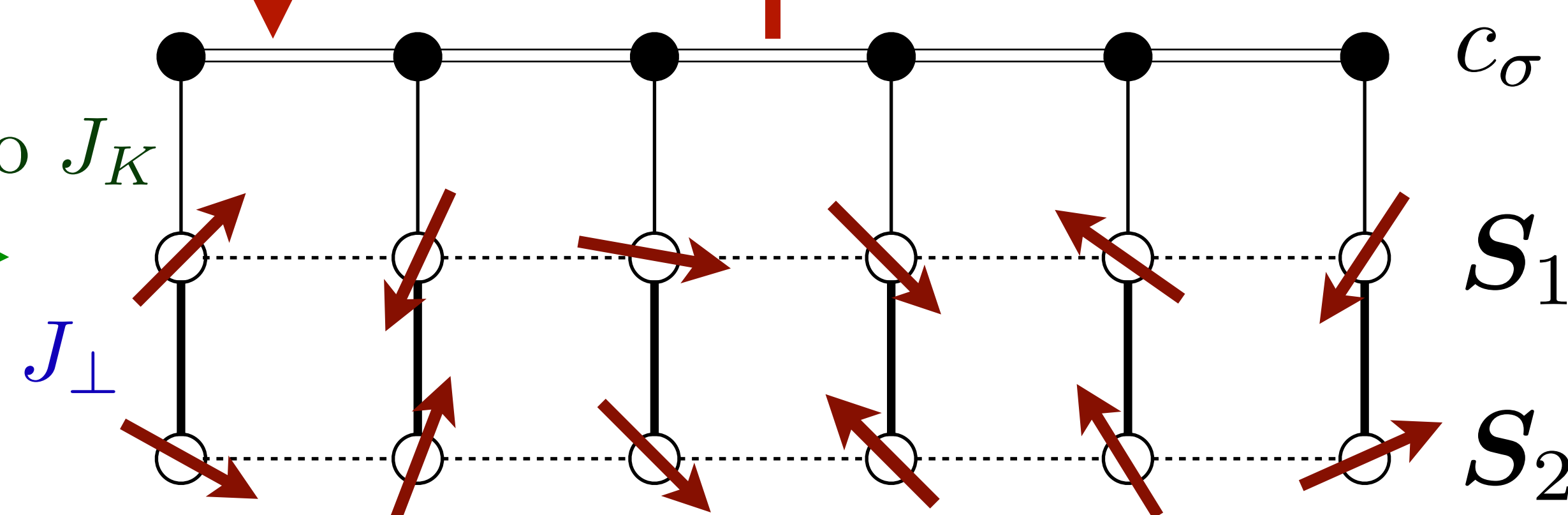
Hubbard model of hole density $1+p$

Ancilla qubits in a "trivial" gapped insulator

Hubbard-Stratonovich
 $S = 1$ paramagnon $\Rightarrow S = 1/2$ spins S_1, S_2

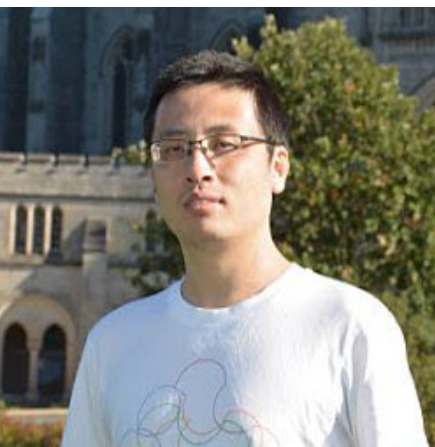
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Antiferromagnetic Kondo J_K



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Ya-Hui Zhang

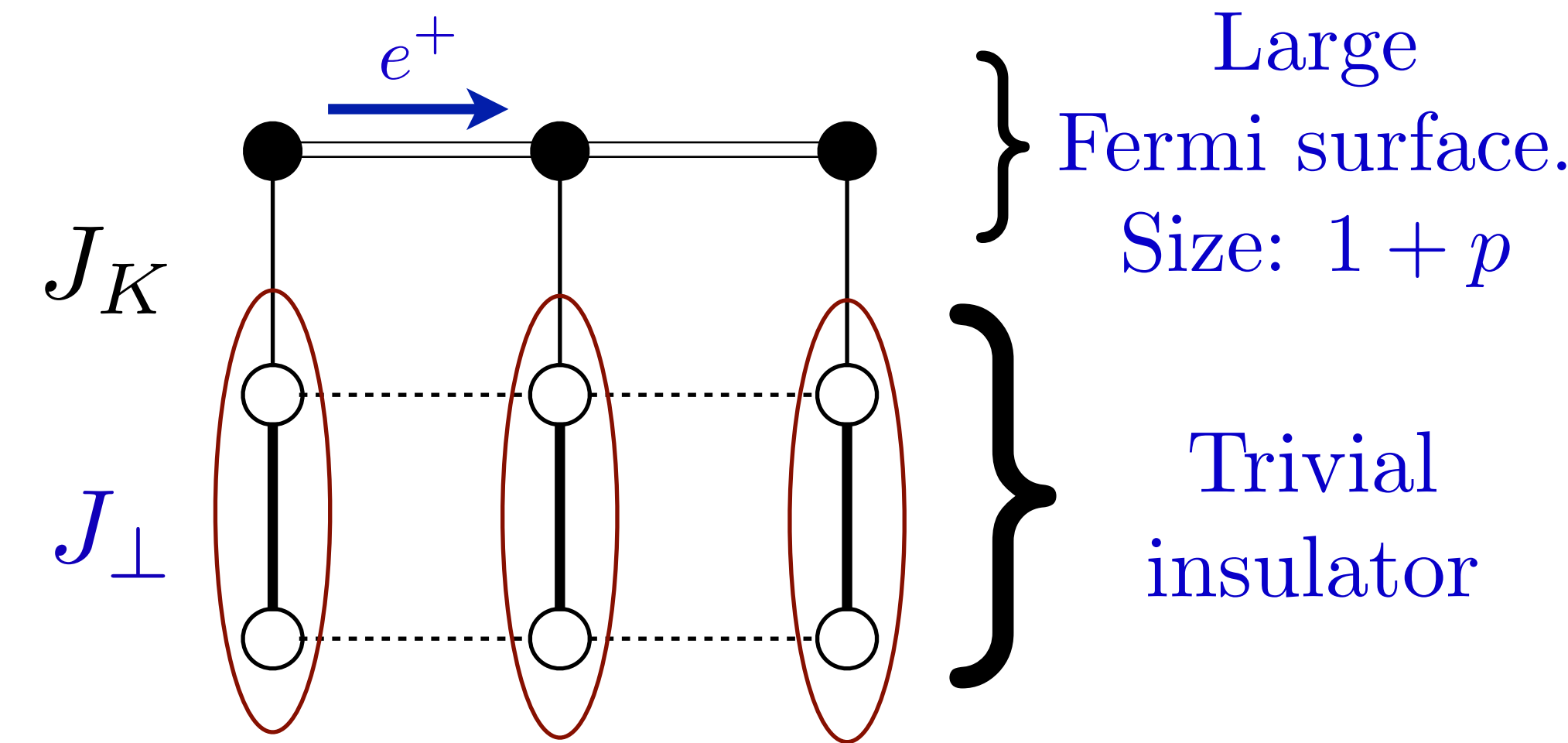


Ya-Hui Zhang and S. S., PRR **2**, 023172 (2020)

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Ancilla theory of the Hubbard model

(Foolproof method to satisfy the Oshikawa anomaly)



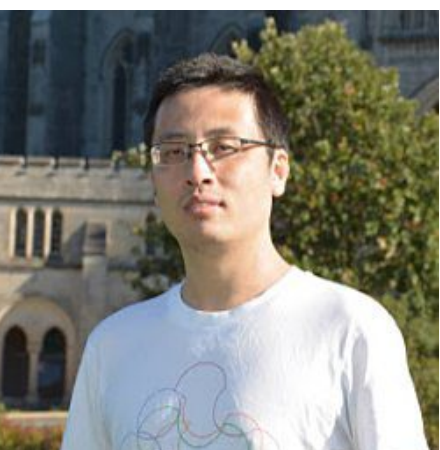
FL

J_K



..... \rightarrow doping p

Ya-Hui Zhang



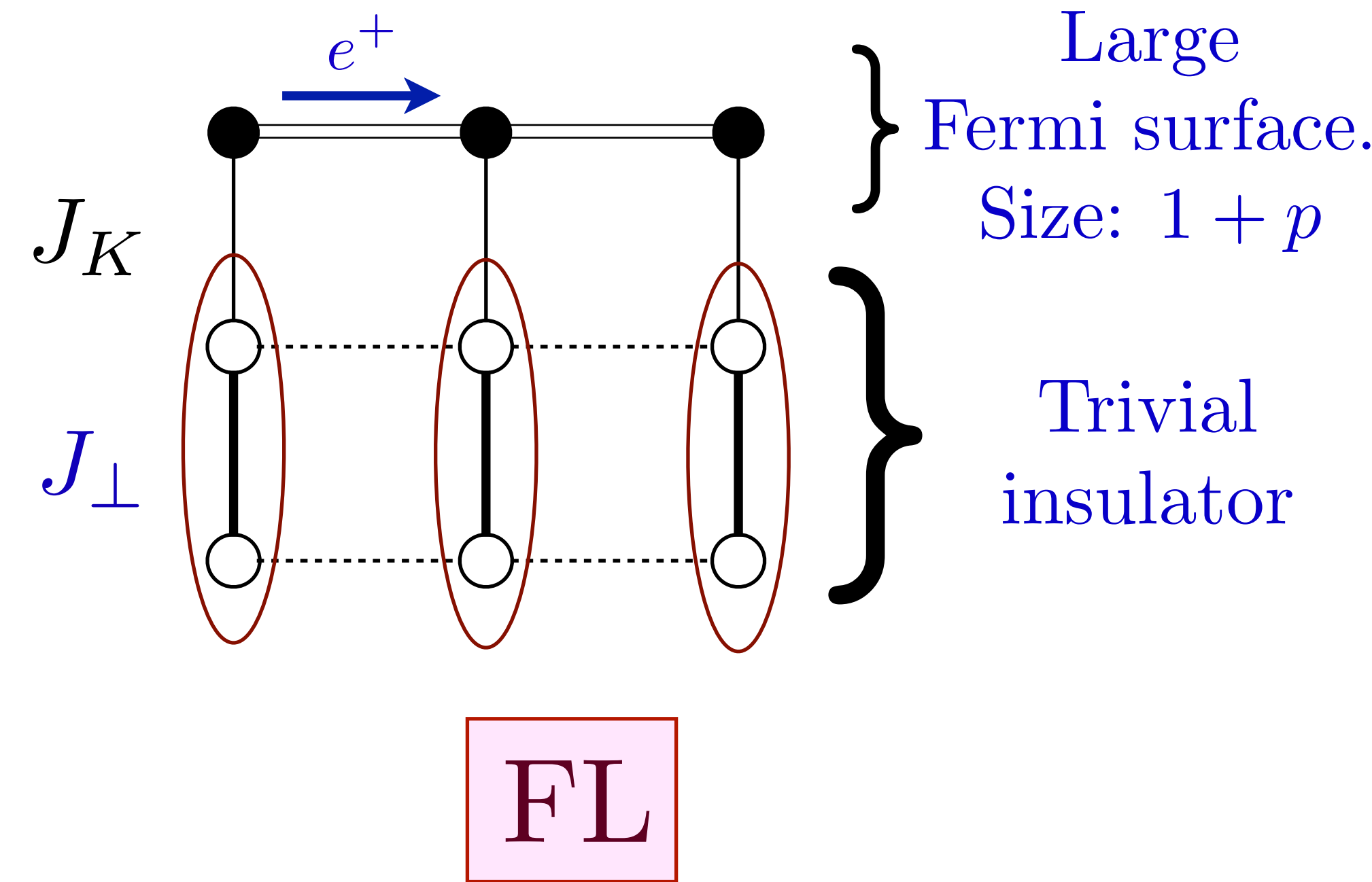
Ya-Hui Zhang and S. S., PRR **2**, 023172 (2020)

A. Nikolaenko, M. Tikhanovskaya, S. S., and Ya-Hui Zhang, PRB **103**, 235138 (2021)

Ancilla theory of the Hubbard model

(Foolproof method to satisfy the Oshikawa anomaly)

- Antiferromagnetic J_K renormalizes to larger values
- Need additional gauge fields to project to rung singlets

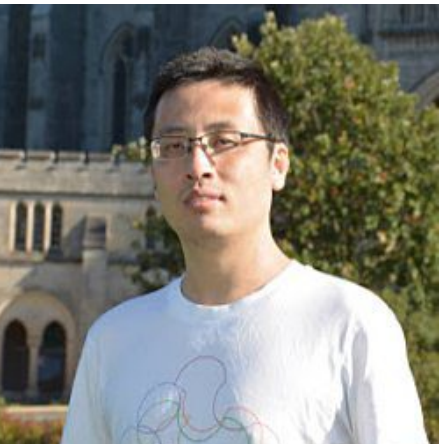


J_K



doping p

Ya-Hui Zhang



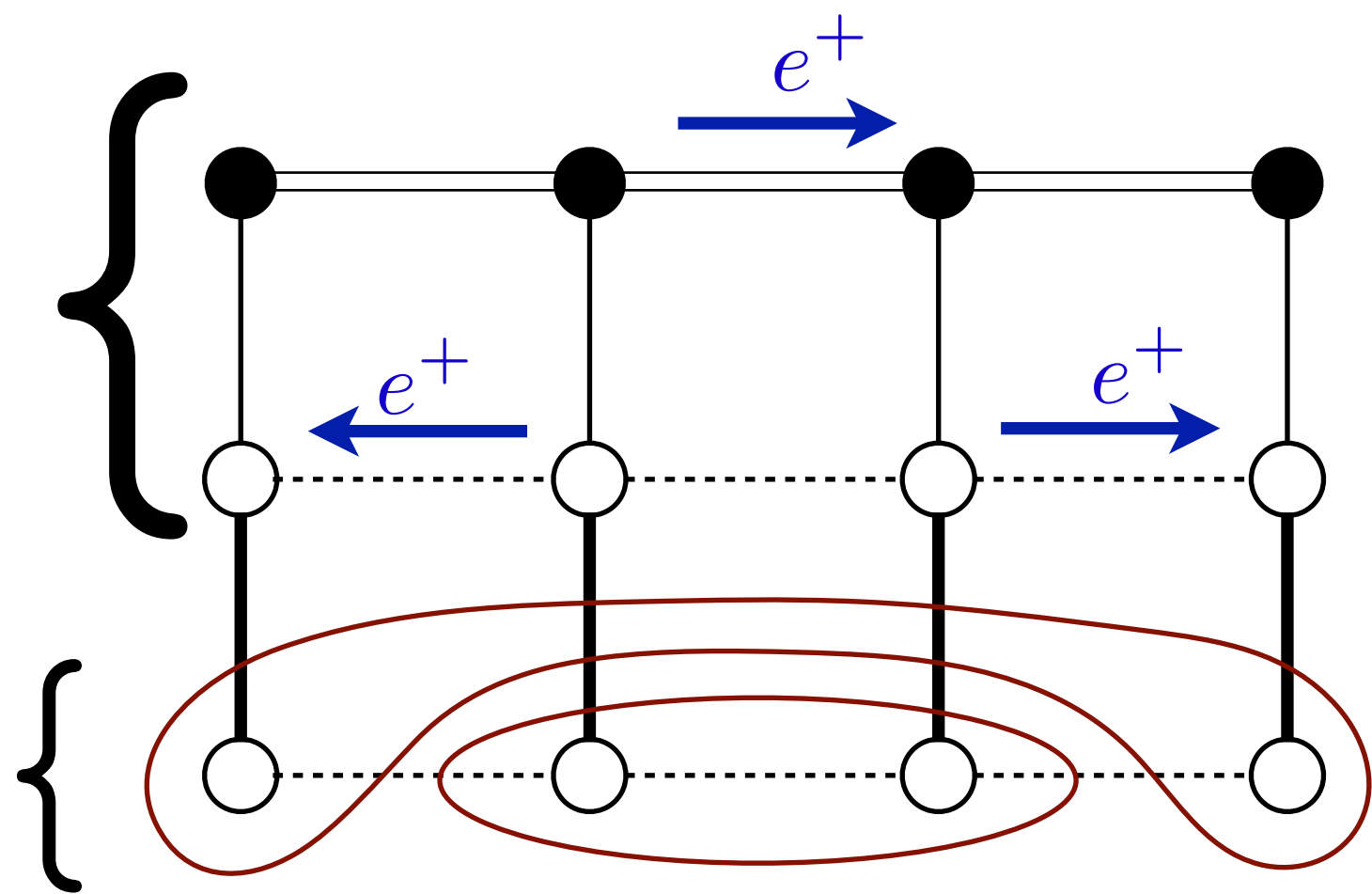
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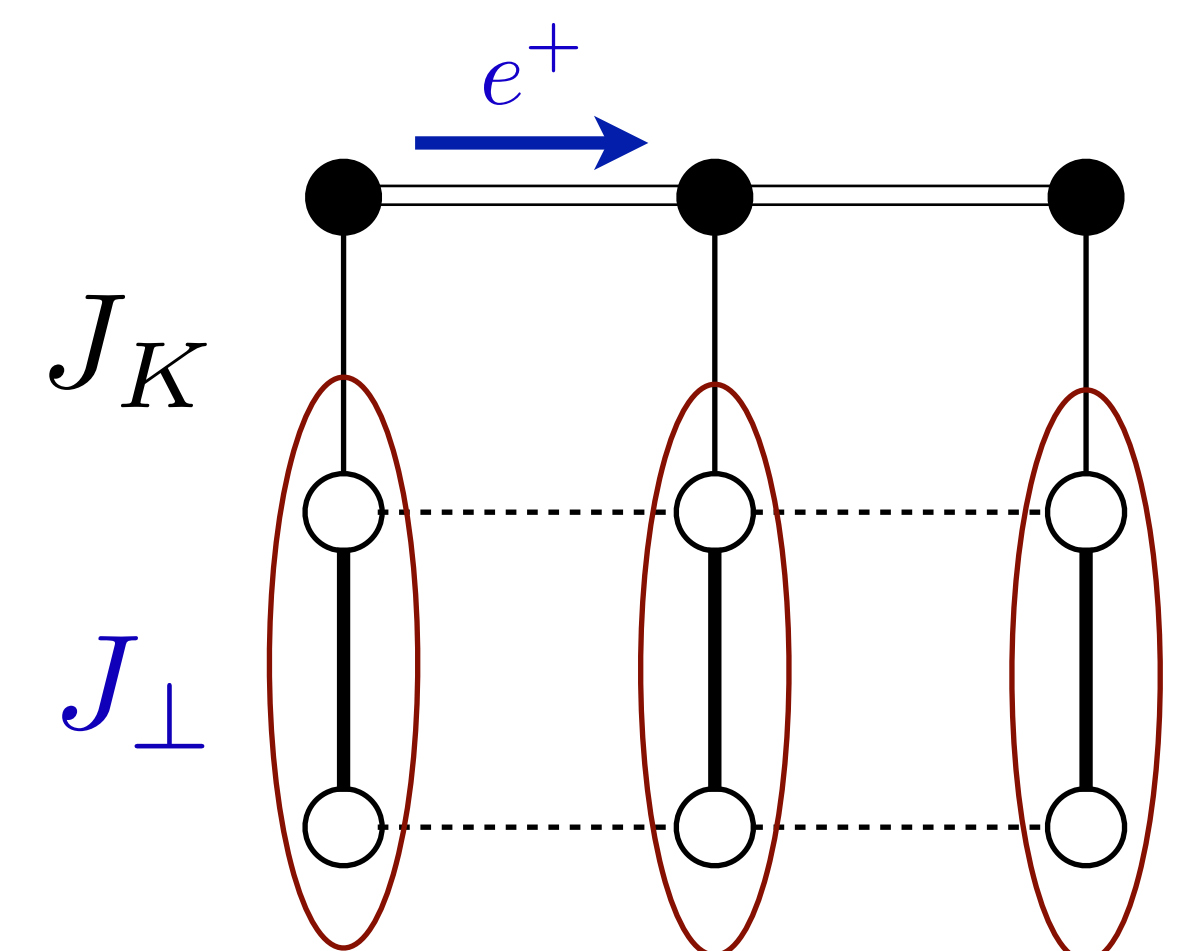
(Foolproof method to satisfy the Oshikawa anomaly)

Kondo lattice heavy Fermi liquid.
Size $1 + p + 1 = p \pmod{2}$.
Small Fermi surface!



Your favorite spin liquid

FL*



Large Fermi surface.
Size: $1 + p$

Trivial insulator

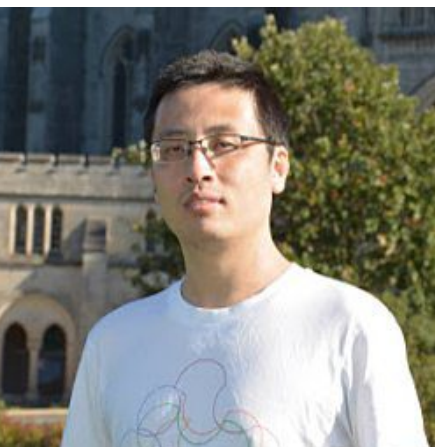
FL

J_K



Kondo Lattice Heavy Fermi Liquid
Pseudogap metal = \oplus
Spin Liquid

Ya-Hui Zhang



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

A. Nikolaenko, M. Tikhanovskaya, S. S., and Ya-Hui Zhang, PRB **103**, 235138 (2021)

Ancilla theory of FL*

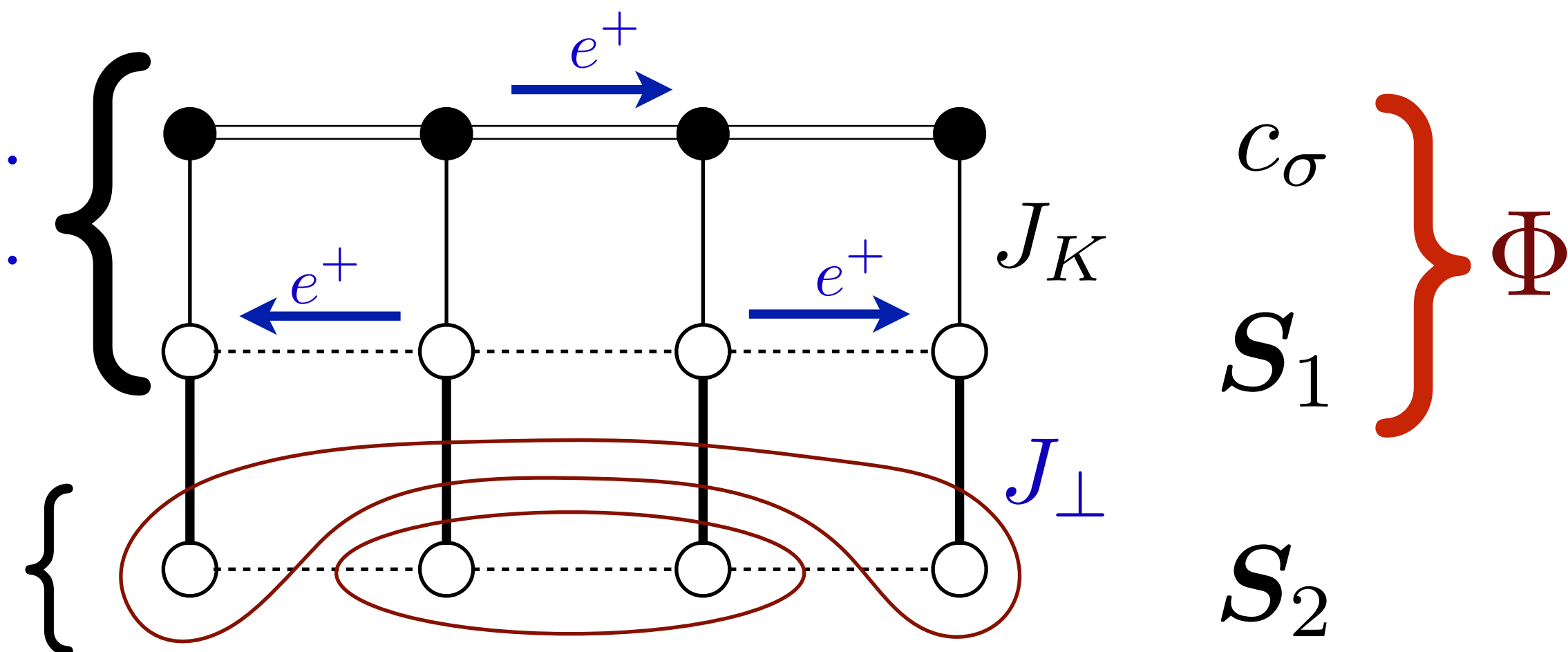
$$H_{\text{Kondo lattice}} = \sum_{i,j} \left[-t_{ij} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha} - t_{1,ij} f_{1i\alpha}^\dagger f_{1j\alpha} \right] - \sum_i \Phi (c_{i\alpha}^\dagger f_{1i\alpha} + f_{1i\alpha}^\dagger c_{i\alpha})$$

Heavy Fermi liquid of electrons c, f_1
 $\mathbf{S}_1 \sim f_{1\alpha}^\dagger \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} f_{1\beta}$

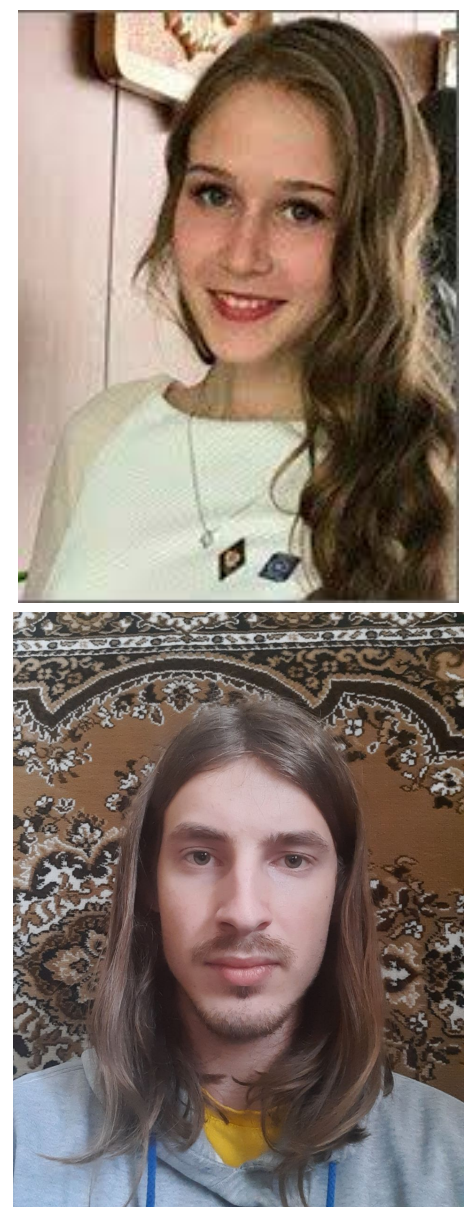
E. Mascot, A. Nikolaenko, M. Tikhanovskaya, Ya-Hui Zhang, D. K. Morr, and S. S., PRB **105**, 075146 (2022)

Kondo lattice heavy Fermi liquid.
 Size $1 + p + 1 = p \pmod{2}$.
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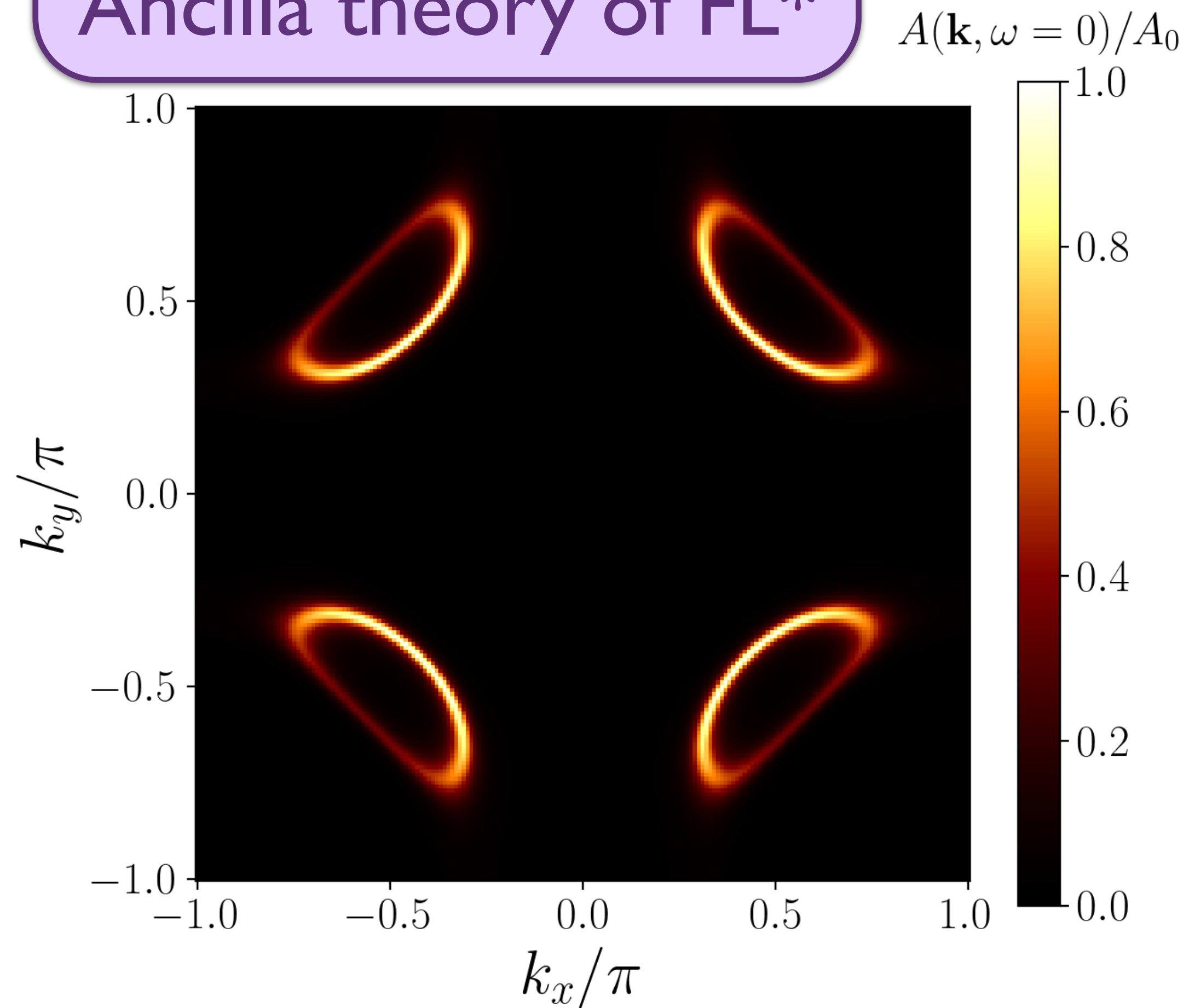
Your favorite spin liquid



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



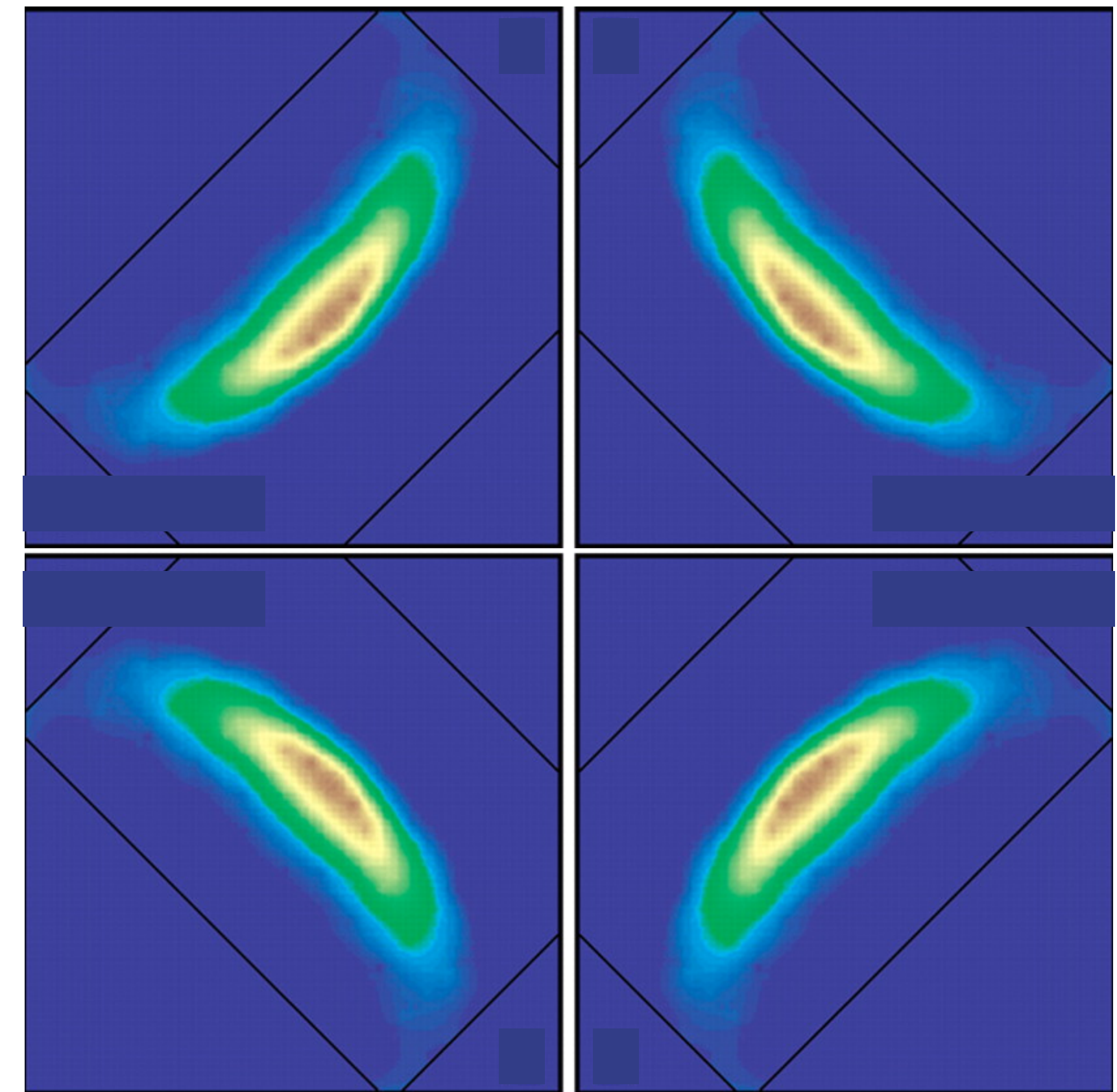
Ancilla theory of FL*



Decoupled Kondo lattice and spin liquid
yields pockets of area $\underline{p/8}$.

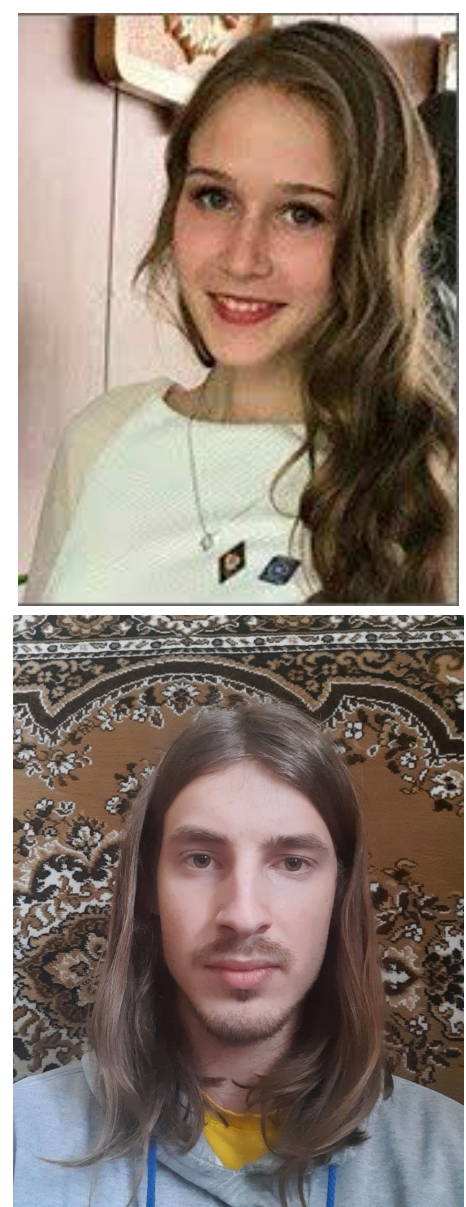
Photoemission expts

$\text{Ca}_{2-x}\text{Na}_x\text{CuO}_2\text{Cl}_2$ at $x = 0.10$

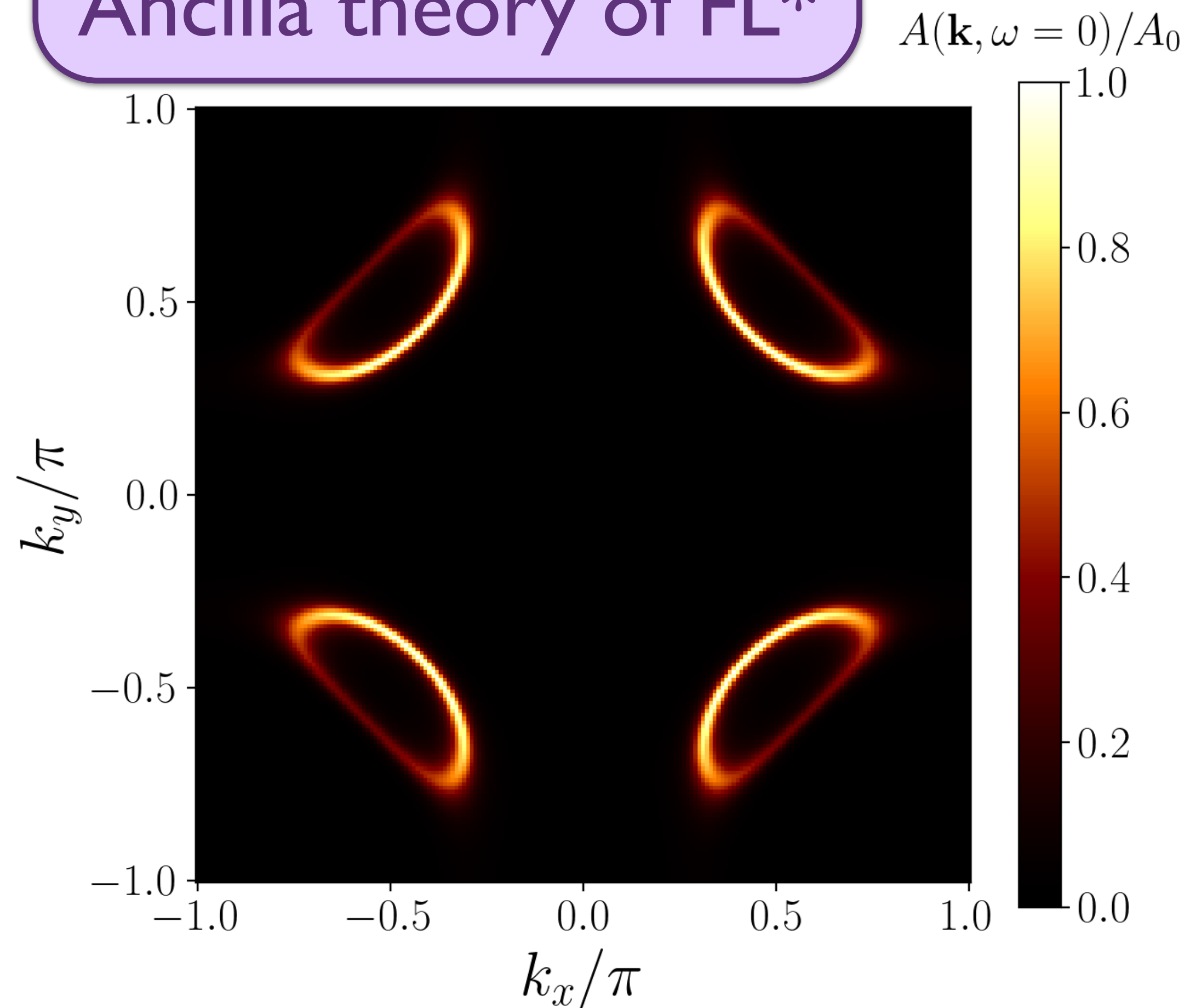


Kyle M. Shen, F. Ronning, D. H. Lu,
F. Baumberger, N. J. C. Ingle, W. S. Lee,
W. Meevasana, Y. Kohsaka, M. Azuma,
M. Takano, H. Takagi, Z.-X. Shen,
Science **307**, 901 (2005)

E. Mascot,
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 Ya-Hui Zhang,
 D. K. Morr,
 and S. S.,
 PRB **105**,
 075146 (2022)



Ancilla theory of FL*

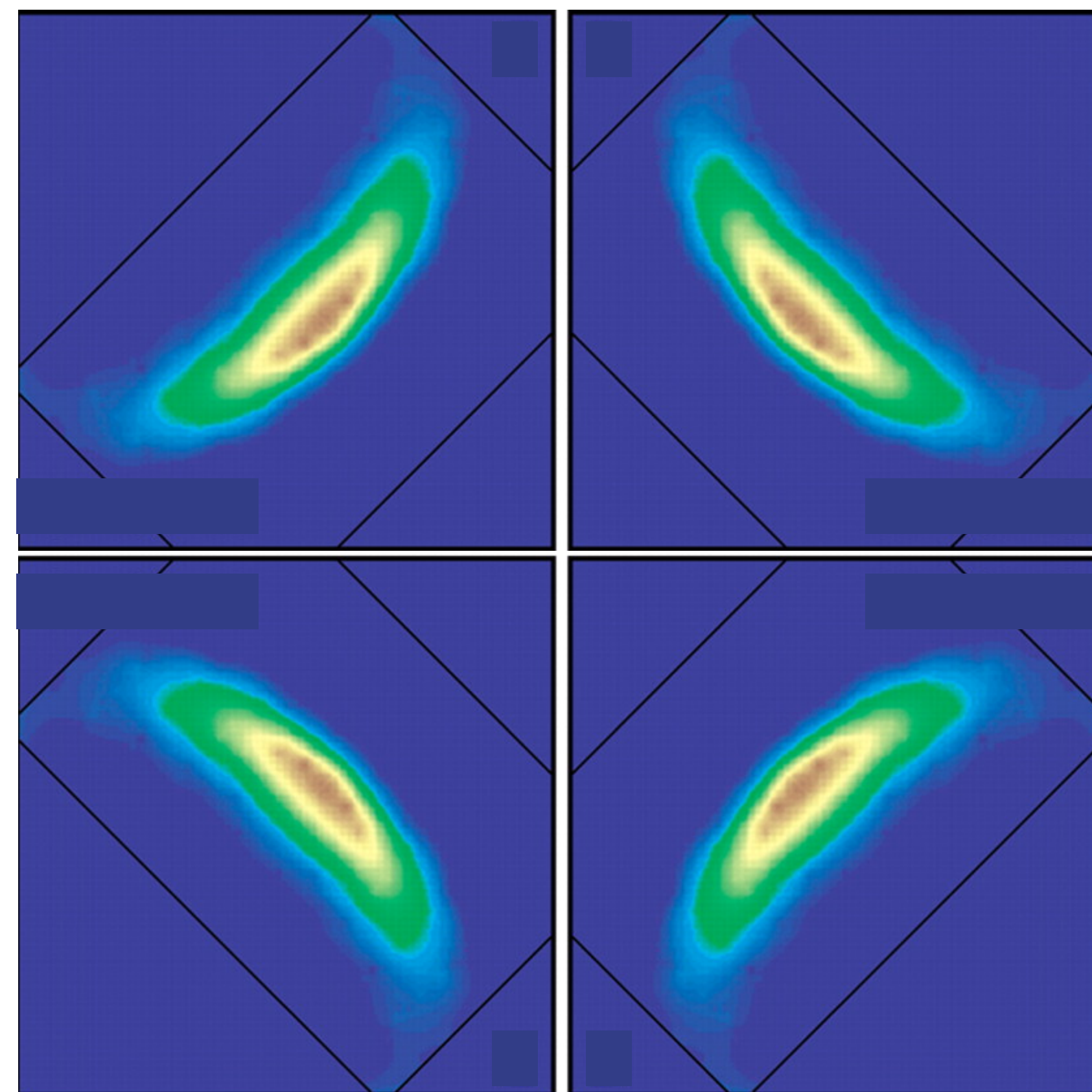


Decoupled Kondo lattice and spin liquid
 yields pockets of area $p/8$.

Hybridization of Fermi surfaces of size $1 + p$ and 1 :
 imposed by “rigidity” of bottom layer spin liquid.
 (SDW theory has 2 Fermi surfaces of size $1 + p$)

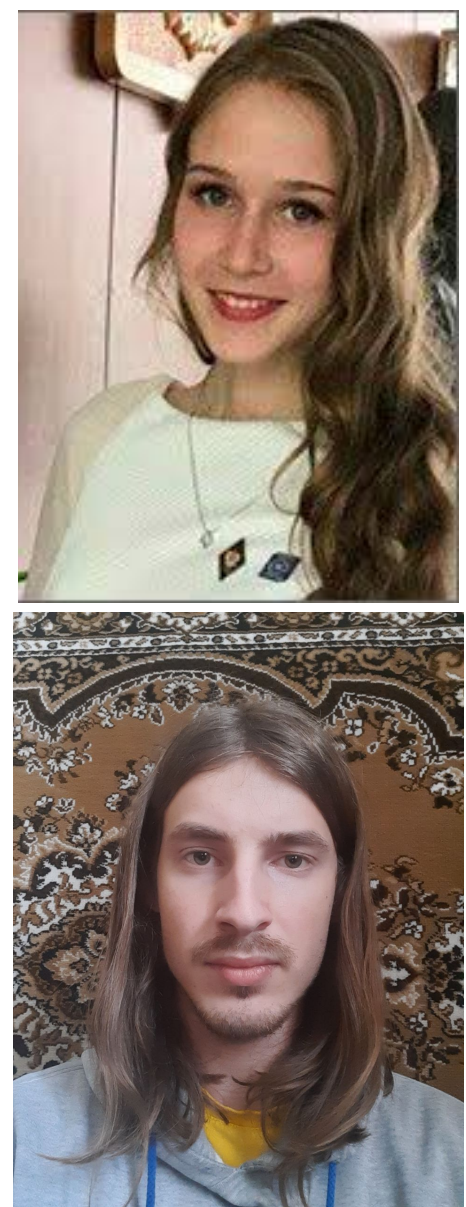
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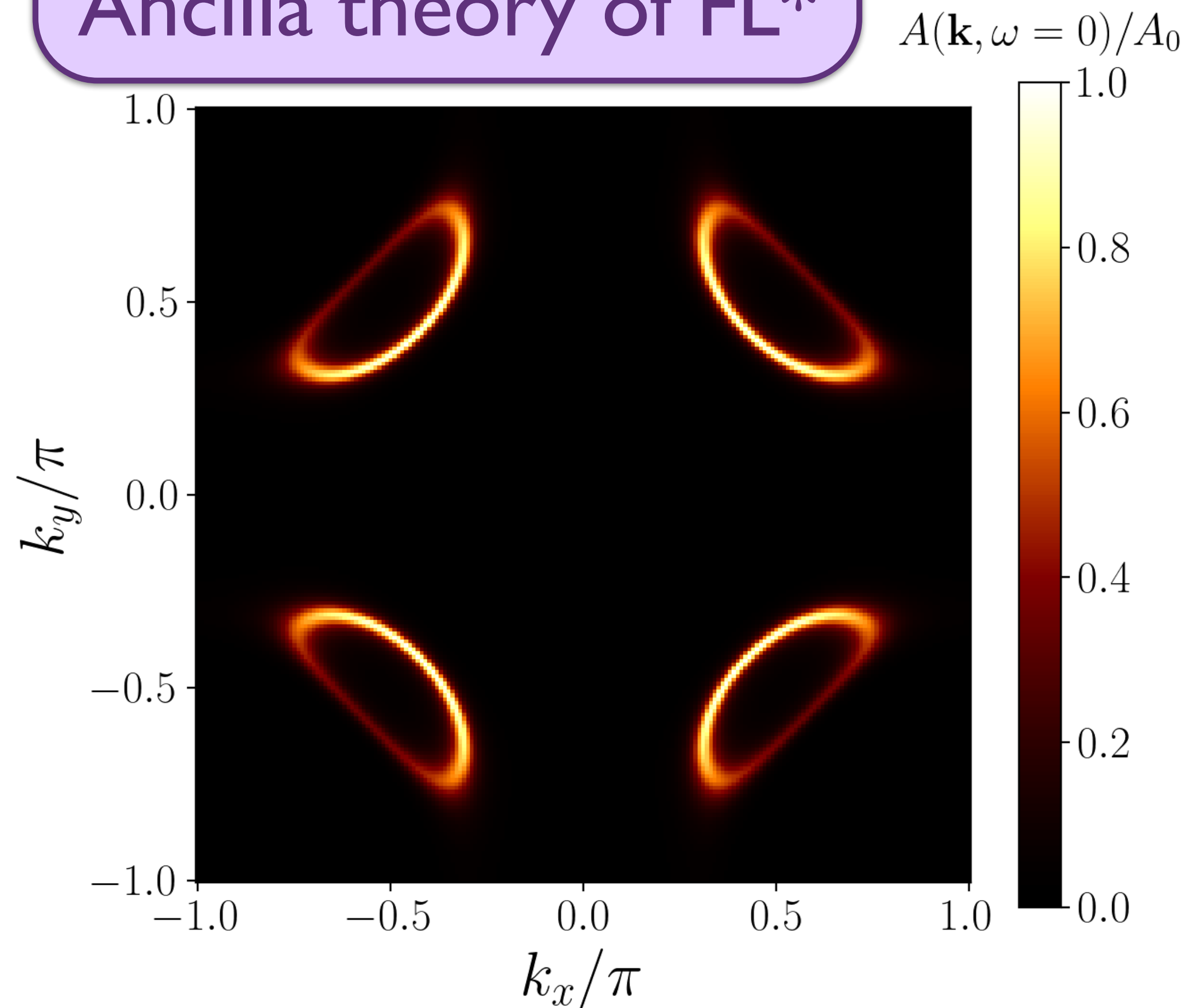


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PRB **105**,
075146 (2022)



Ancilla theory of FL*

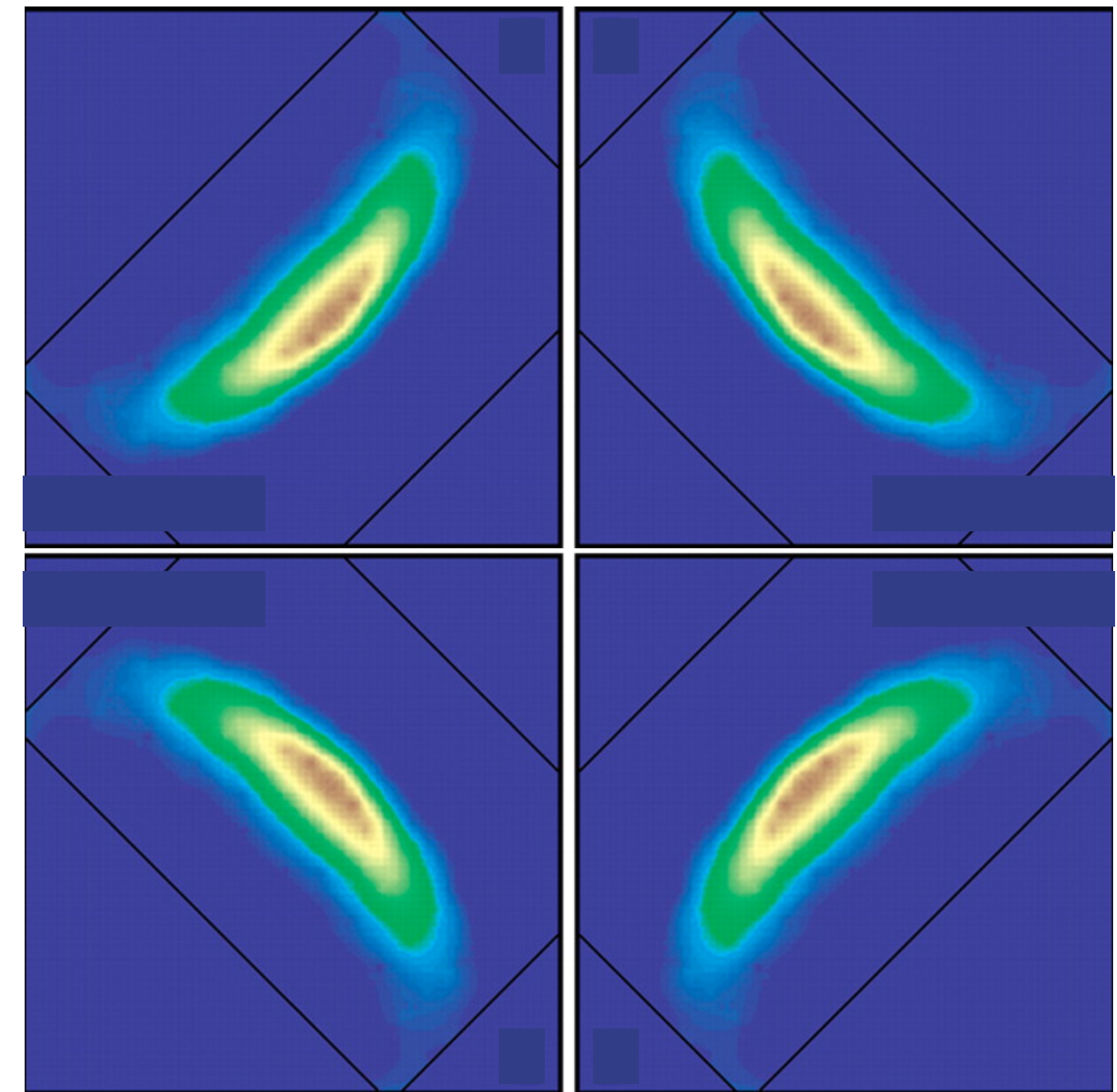


Decoupled Kondo lattice and spin liquid
yields pockets of area $\underline{p/8}$.

But pocket backsides are not observed!

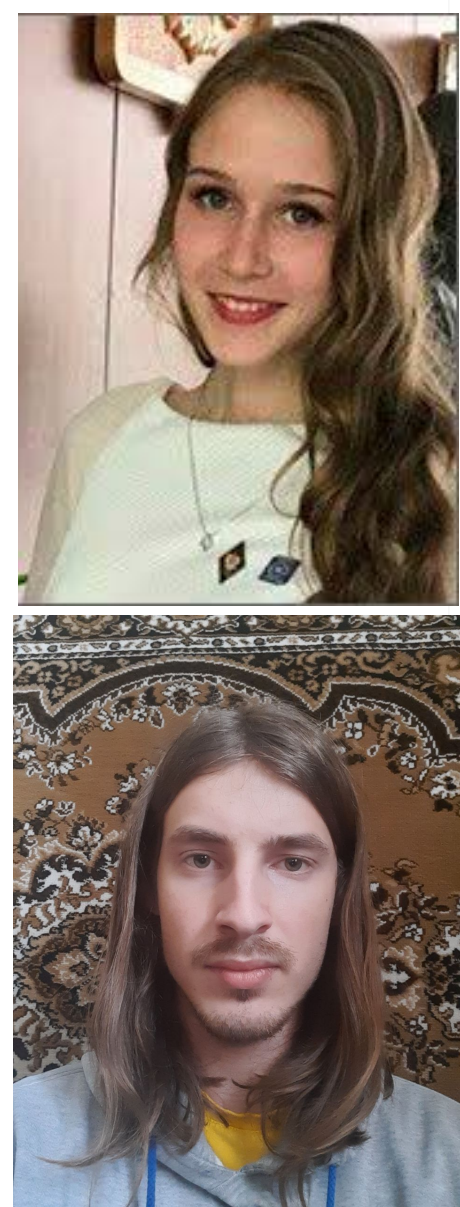
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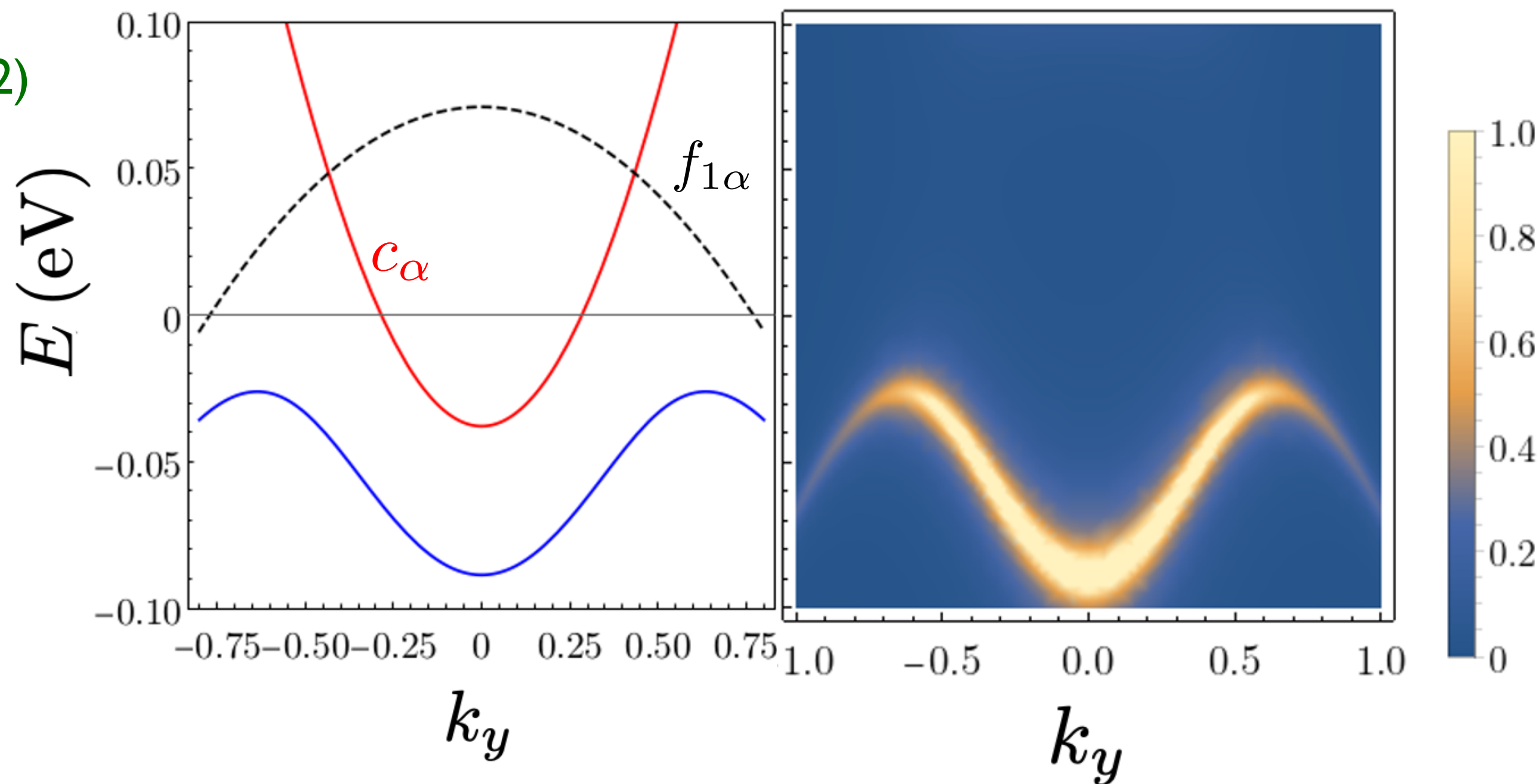


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 PRB **105**,
 075146 (2022)



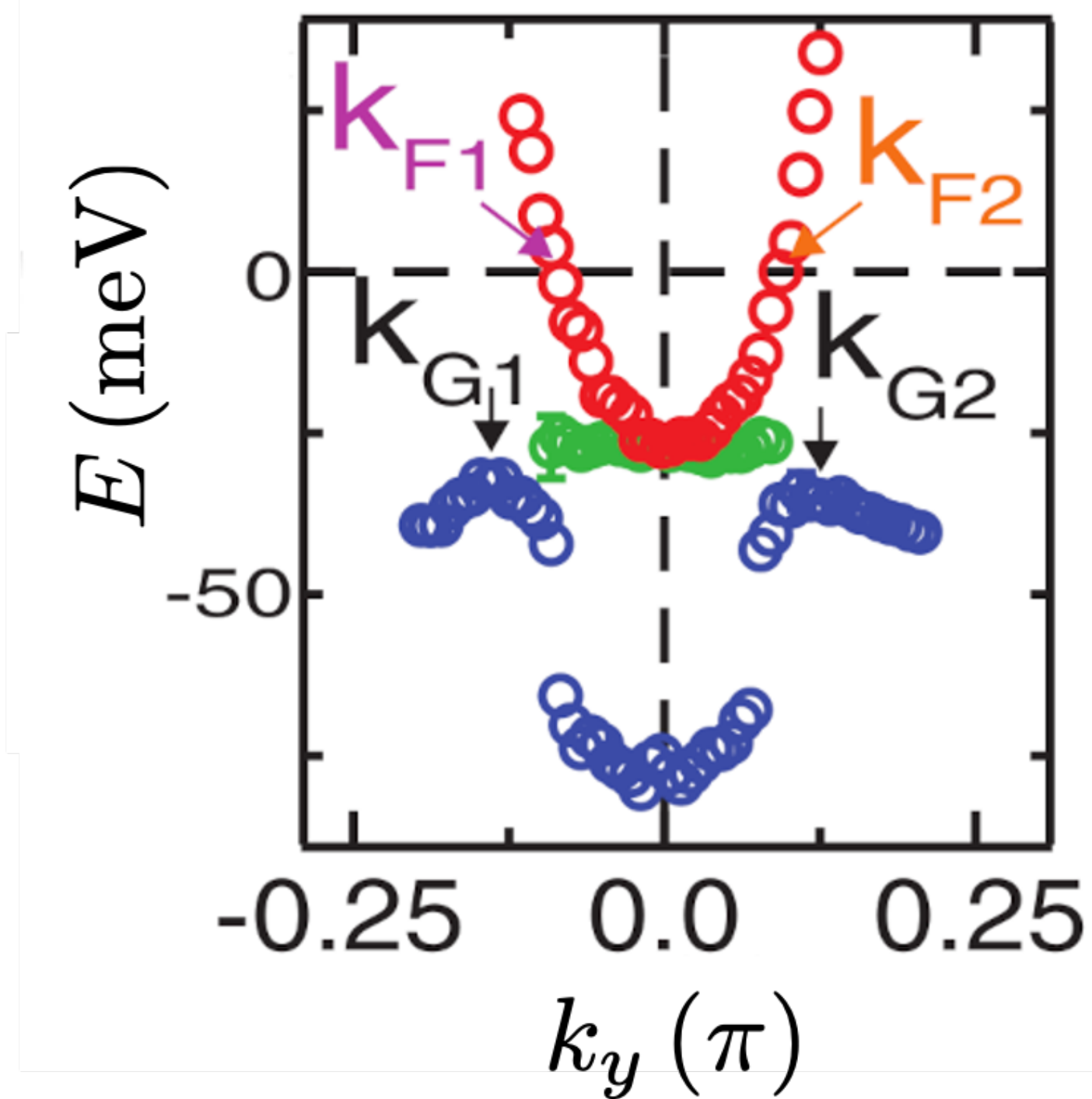
Ancilla theory of FL*



Decoupled Kondo lattice and spin liquid

Shift in k_F also related to
 Hybridization of Fermi surfaces of size $1 + p$ and 1 :
 (SDW theory has 2 Fermi surfaces of size $1 + p$)

Photoemission expts

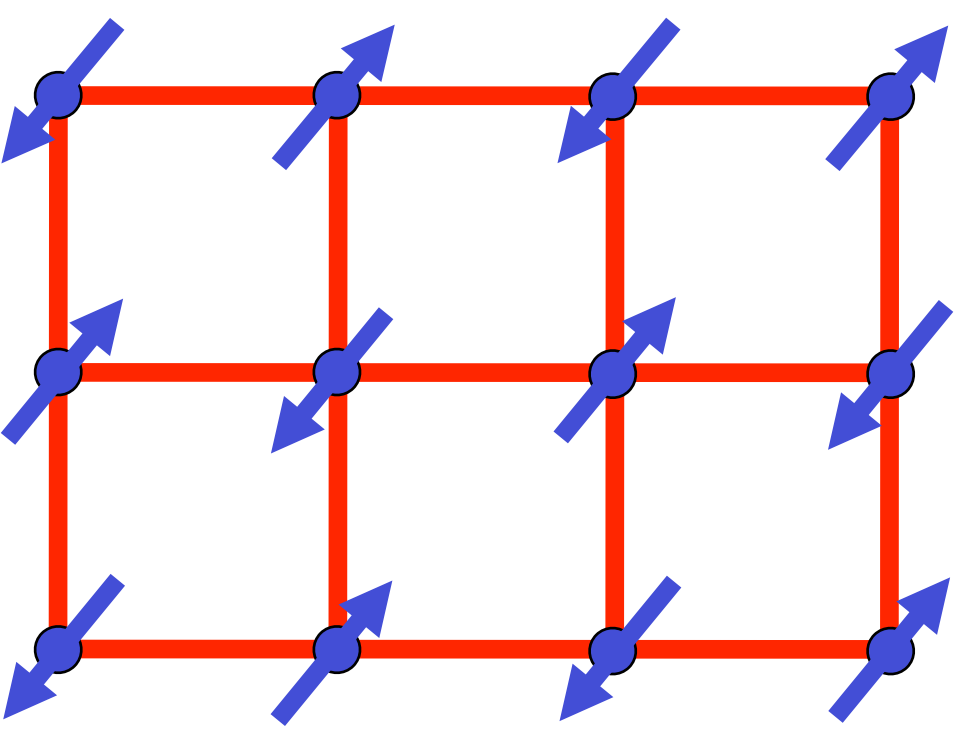


Bi2201

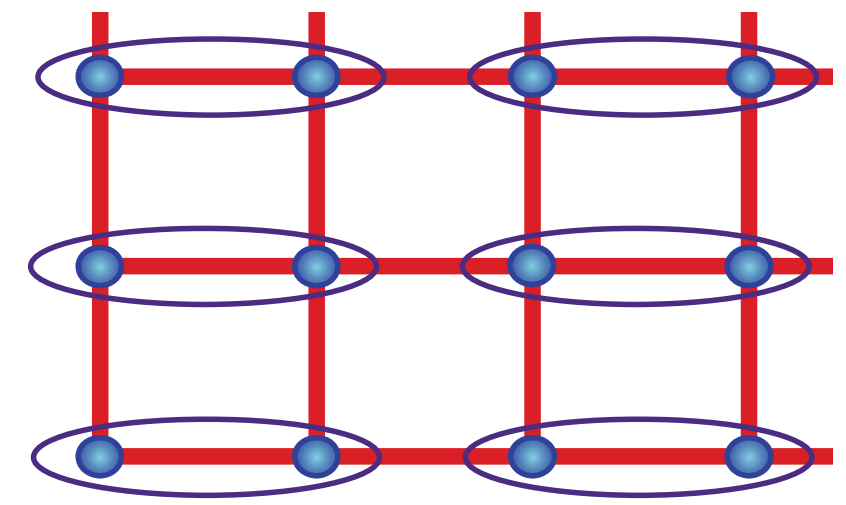
R.-H. He, M. Hashimoto, H. Karapetyan, J. D. Koralek, J. P. Hinton,
 J. P. Testaud, V. Nathan, Y. Yoshida, H. Yao, K. Tanaka, W. Meevasana,
 R. G. Moore, D. H. Lu, S. K. Mo, M. Ishikado, H. Eisaki, Z. Hussain,
 T. P. Devereaux, S. A. Kivelson, J. Orenstein, A. Kapitulnik, and
 Z.-X. Shen, *Science* **331**, 1579 (2011)

Nearly-critical
quantum spin liquid
on the square lattice

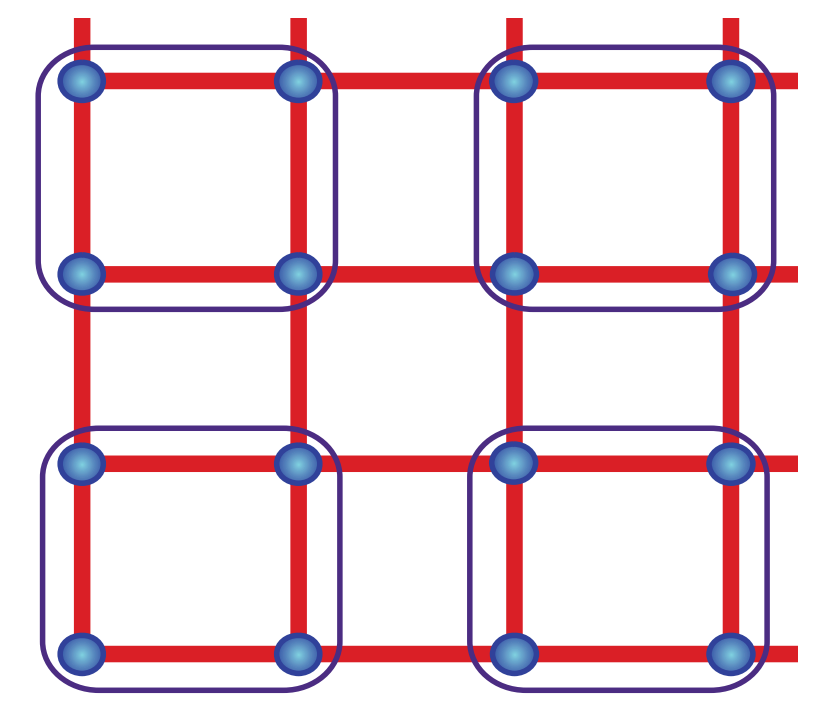
$S=1/2$ square lattice



$\langle b_\alpha \rangle \neq 0$:
Néel order



or



$\langle b_\alpha \rangle = 0$:
Valence bond solid (VBS)

Represent spins in terms of $S = 1/2$ bosonic spinons $\mathbf{S} \sim b_\alpha^\dagger \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} b_\beta$

U(1) gauge symmetry: $b \rightarrow be^{i\theta}$

\mathbb{CP}^1 U(1) gauge theory.

't Hooft/Lieb-Schultz-Mattis anomalies realized by monopole Berry phases.

Critical spin liquid without quasiparticles?

J_2/J_1

$$\mathcal{L}_z = |(\partial_\mu - ia_\mu)z_\alpha|^2 + s|z_\alpha|^2 + u|z_\alpha|^4 + \mathcal{L}_{\text{monopole}}$$

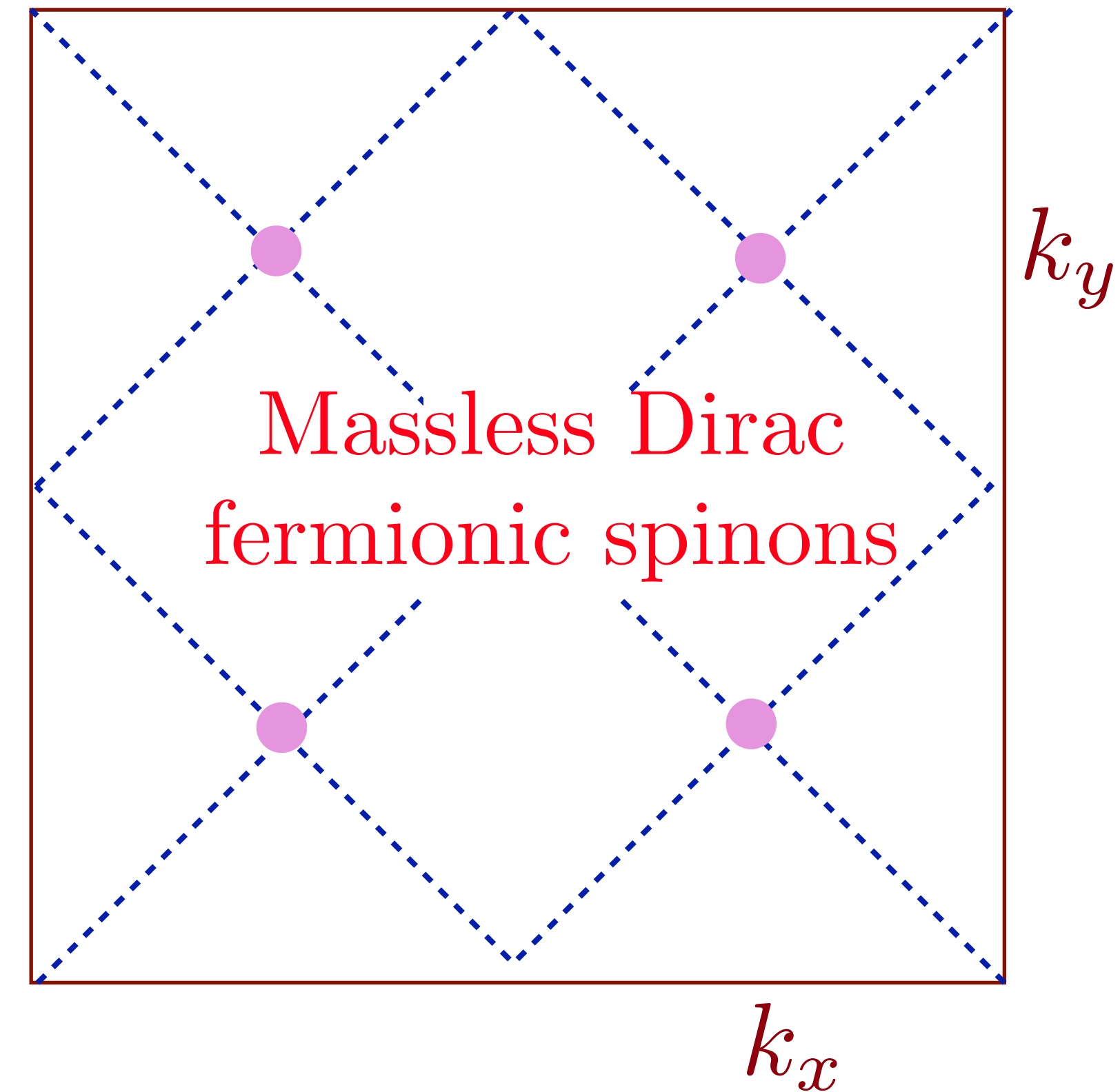
T. Senthil, A. Vishwanath, L. Balents, S. Sachdev, and M. P. A. Fisher, Science **303**, 1490 (2004)

N. Read and S. Sachdev, Phys. Rev. Lett. **62**, 1694 (1989)
N. Read and S. Sachdev, Phys. Rev. B **42**, 4568 (1990)

$S=1/2$ square lattice

Represent spins in terms of
 $S = 1/2$ fermionic spinons $\mathbf{S} \sim f_\alpha^\dagger \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} f_\beta$

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



J_2/J_1

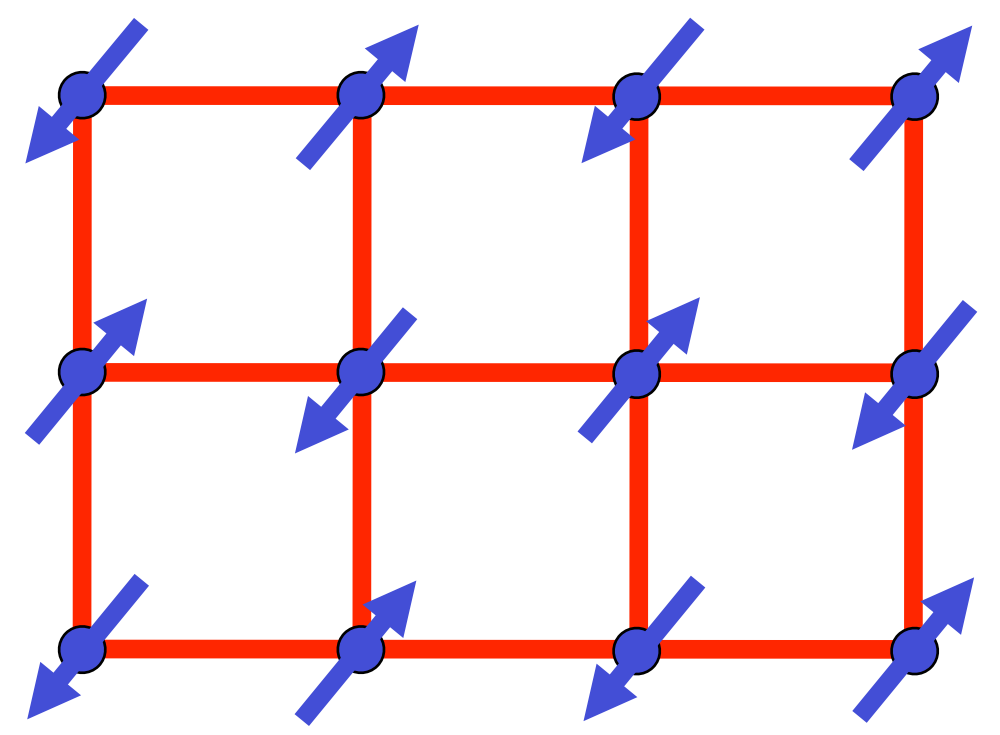
$$\mathcal{L} = i\bar{\psi}\gamma_\mu D_\mu\psi.$$

$N_f = 2$ SU(2) QCD

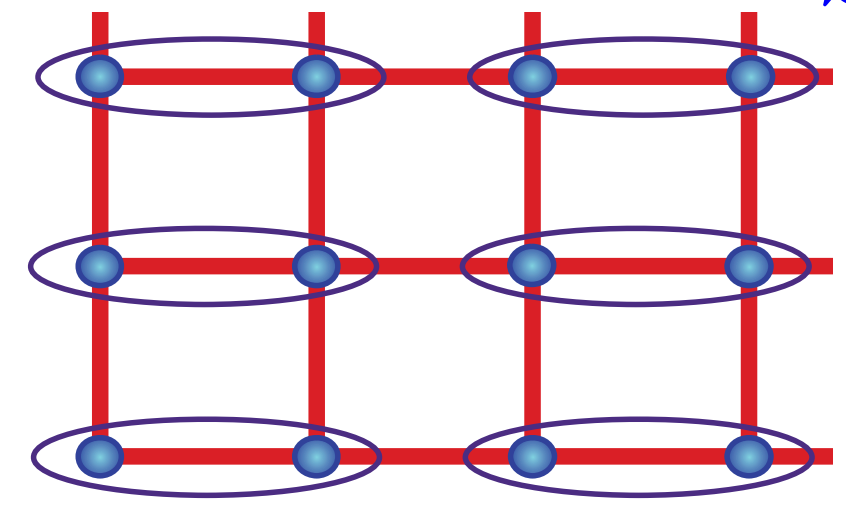
$S=1/2$ square lattice

Represent spins in terms of $S = 1/2$ fermionic spinons $\mathbf{S} \sim f_\alpha^\dagger \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} f_\beta$

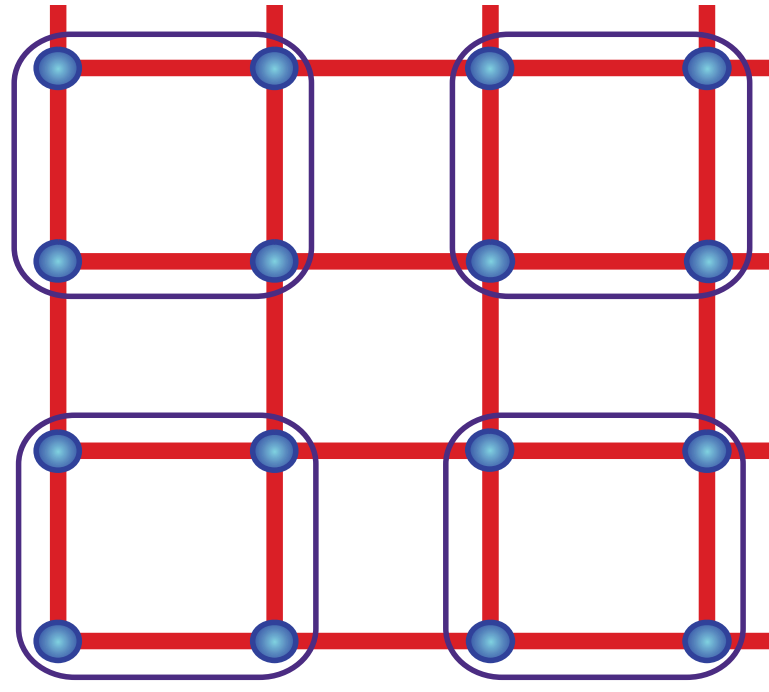
I. Affleck and J.B. Marston, PRB 37, 3774 (1988)
 Ying Ran and X.-G. Wen, cond-mat/0609620
 C. Wang, A. Nahum, M. A. Metlitski, C. Xu, T. Senthil, Phys. Rev. X 7, 031051 (2017)



Néel order

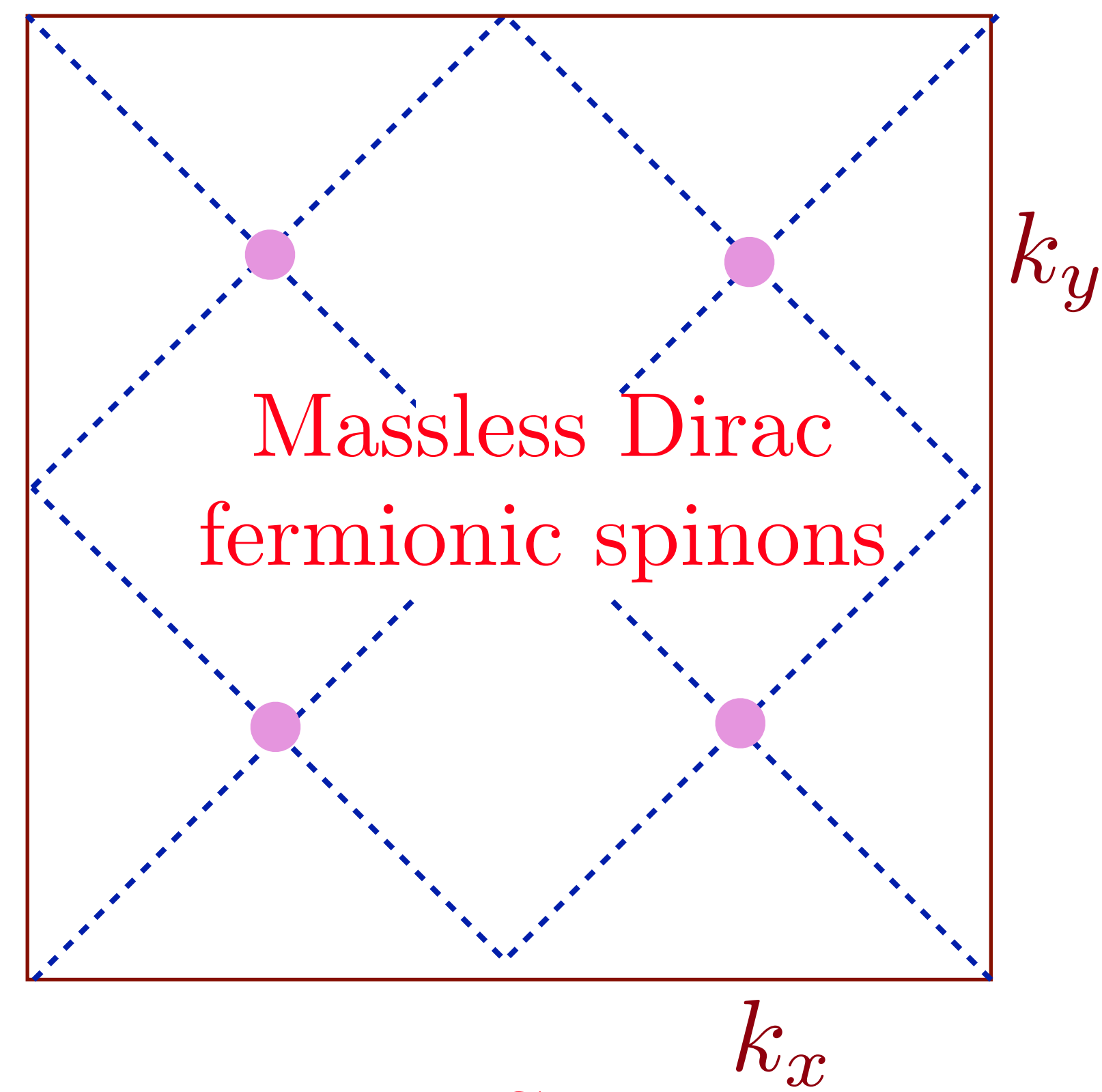


or



Valence bond solid (VBS)

J_2/J_1



Critical spin liquid without quasiparticles?

$$\mathcal{L} = i\bar{\psi}\gamma_\mu D_\mu\psi.$$

$N_f = 2$ SU(2) QCD

Confining instability also to Néel and VBS.

$S=1/2$ square lattice

Bosonic spinons:
 $\mathbb{C}P^1$ U(1) gauge theory

Nearly-critical
Néel/VBS spin
liquid without
quasiparticles
obeying 't Hooft/
LSM anomalies

SU(2) gauge theory of $N_f = 2$
fundamental, massless, Dirac fermions.

Obtained from a saddle-point of
fermionic spinons moving in π -flux.

SO(5) non-linear σ -model
of Néel/VBS orders
with $k = 1$ WZW term

Many numerical works show that deconfined critical theory applies over a substantial length scale, but ultimately confines at the longest distances.

$SU(2)$ gauge theory of
 FL^* pseudogap metal
in single-band models
using ancillas

Ancilla theory of FL*

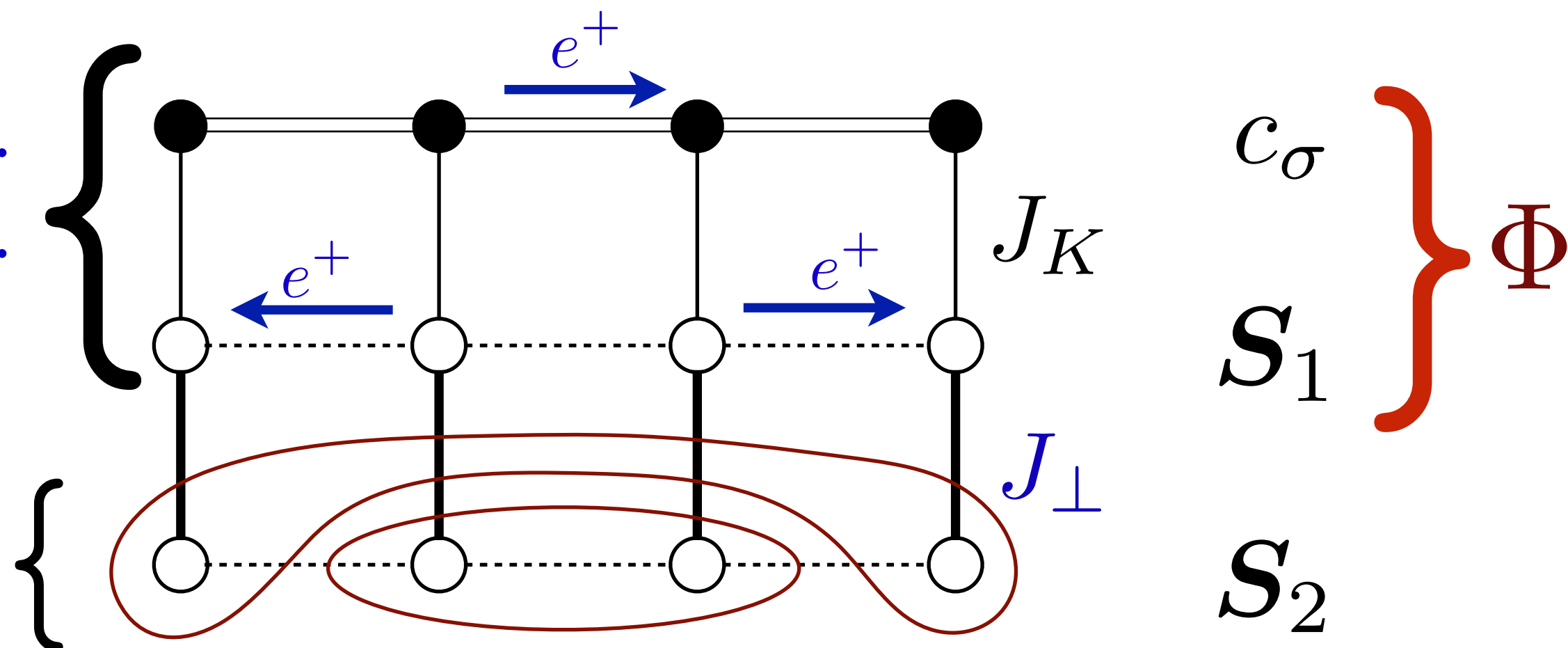
$$H_{\text{Kondo lattice}} = \sum_{i,j} \left[-t_{ij} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha} - t_{1,ij} f_{1i\alpha}^\dagger f_{1j\alpha} \right] - \sum_i \Phi (c_{i\alpha}^\dagger f_{1i\alpha} + f_{1i\alpha}^\dagger c_{i\alpha})$$

Heavy Fermi liquid of electrons c, f_1
 $\mathbf{S}_1 \sim f_{1\alpha}^\dagger \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} f_{1\beta}$

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

Kondo lattice heavy Fermi liquid.
 Size $1 + p + 1 = p \pmod{2}$.
Small Fermi surface!

Your favorite spin liquid



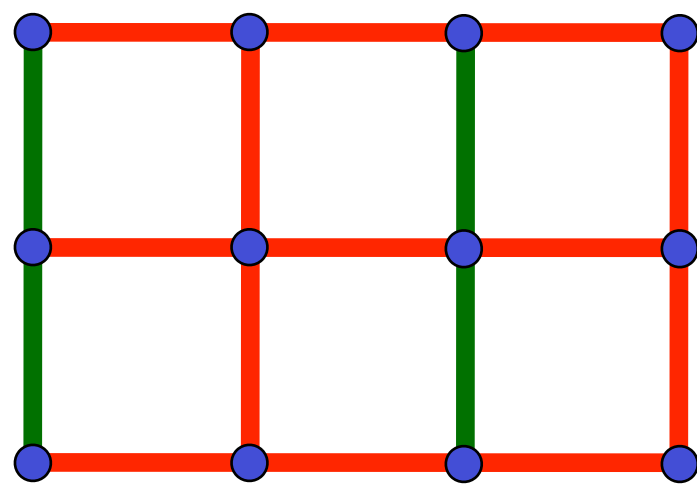
Ancilla theory of FL*

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Heavy Fermi liquid of electrons c, f_1
 $S_1 \sim f_{1\alpha}^\dagger \sigma_{\alpha\beta} f_{1\beta}$

$$H_{\text{spin liquid}} = iJ \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} e_{ij} \left(\Psi_i^\dagger U_{ij} \Psi_j - \Psi_j^\dagger U_{ji} \Psi_i \right); \quad \Psi_i = \begin{pmatrix} f_{i\uparrow} \\ f_{i\downarrow} \end{pmatrix}$$

π -flux S_2 spin liquid.
 $S_2 = f_\alpha^\dagger \sigma_{\alpha\beta} f_\beta$



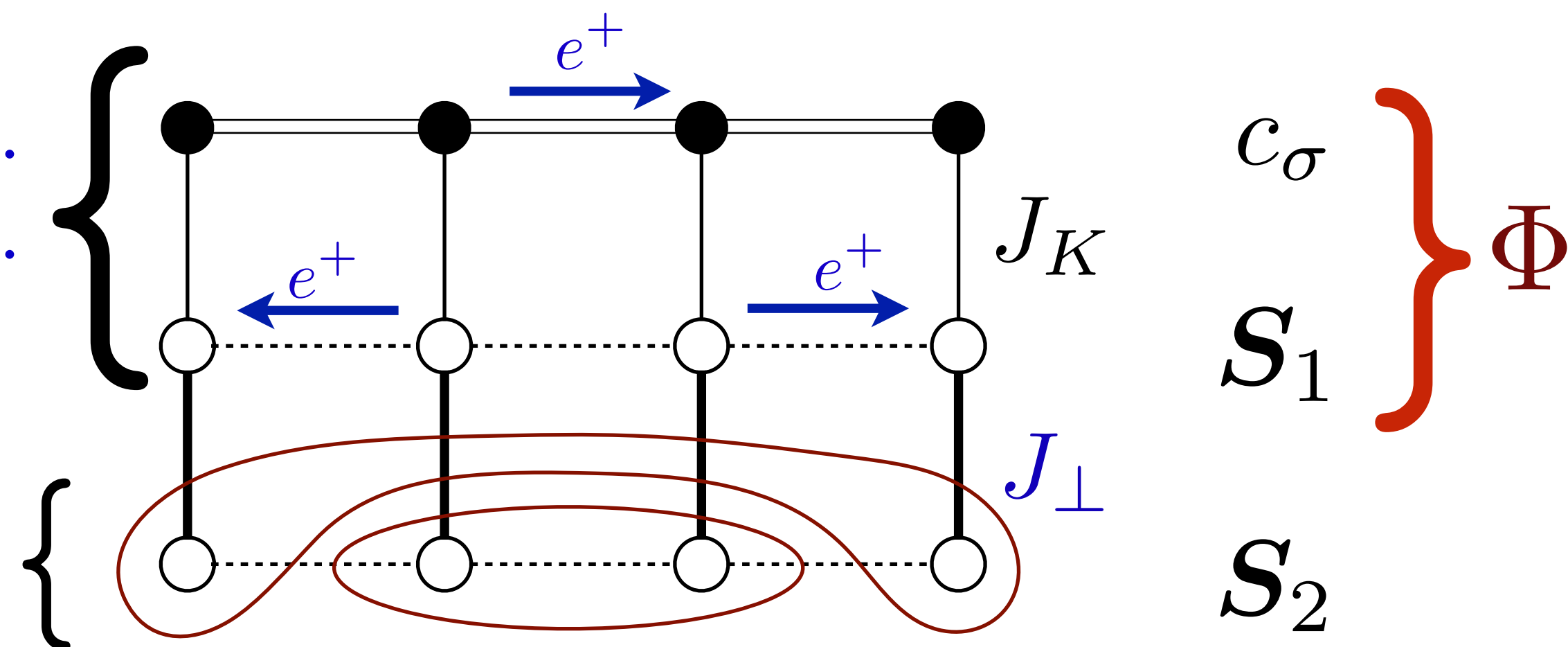
Fermionic spinons f moving in π -flux and an emergent SU(2) gauge field U

$$e_{ij} = 1$$

$$e_{ij} = -1$$

Kondo lattice heavy Fermi liquid.
 Size $1 + p + 1 = p \pmod{2}$.
Small Fermi surface!

π -flux spin liquid



Ancilla theory of FL*

$$H_{\text{Kondo lattice}} = \sum_{i,j} \left[-t_{ij} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha} - t_{1,ij} f_{1i\alpha}^\dagger f_{1j\alpha} \right] - \sum_i \Phi (c_{i\alpha}^\dagger f_{1i\alpha} + f_{1i\alpha}^\dagger c_{i\alpha})$$

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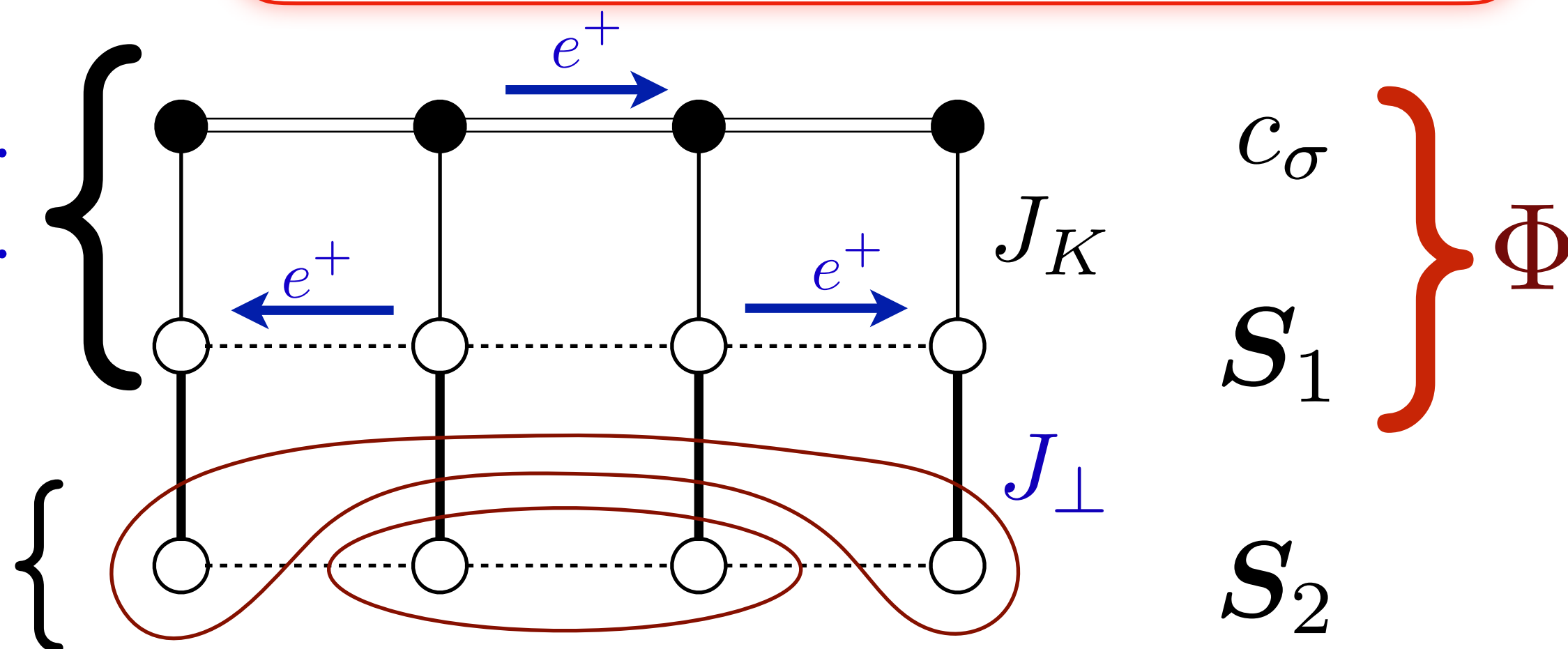
π -flux S_2 spin liquid.
 $S_2 = f_\alpha^\dagger \sigma_{\alpha\beta} f_\beta$

$$H_{\text{coupling}} = \sum_i \left(B_{1i}^* f_{1i\alpha}^\dagger f_{i\alpha} + B_{2i}^* \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} f_{1i\alpha}^\dagger f_{i\beta}^\dagger + \text{H.c.} \right)$$

Couple Kondo lattice and spin liquid by charge e ,
 SU(2) fundamental Higgs boson B

Kondo lattice heavy Fermi liquid.
 Size $1 + p + 1 = p \pmod{2}$.
 Small Fermi surface!

B
 π -flux spin liquid



Ancilla theory of FL*

$$H_{\text{Kondo lattice}} = \sum_{i,j} \left[-t_{ij} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha} - t_{1,ij} f_{1i\alpha}^\dagger f_{1j\alpha} \right] - \sum_i \Phi (c_{i\alpha}^\dagger f_{1i\alpha} + f_{1i\alpha}^\dagger c_{i\alpha})$$

Heavy Fermi liquid of electrons c, f_1
 $S_1 \sim f_{1\alpha}^\dagger \sigma_{\alpha\beta} f_{1\beta}$

$$H_{\text{spin liquid}} = iJ \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} e_{ij} \left(\Psi_i^\dagger U_{ij} \Psi_j - \Psi_j^\dagger U_{ji} \Psi_i \right); \quad \Psi_i = \begin{pmatrix} f_{i\uparrow} \\ f_{i\downarrow} \end{pmatrix}$$

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Couple Kondo lattice and spin liquid by charge e ,
 SU(2) fundamental Higgs boson B

$$V_{\text{Higgs}} = \mathcal{E}_2[B, U] + \mathcal{E}_4[B, U]$$

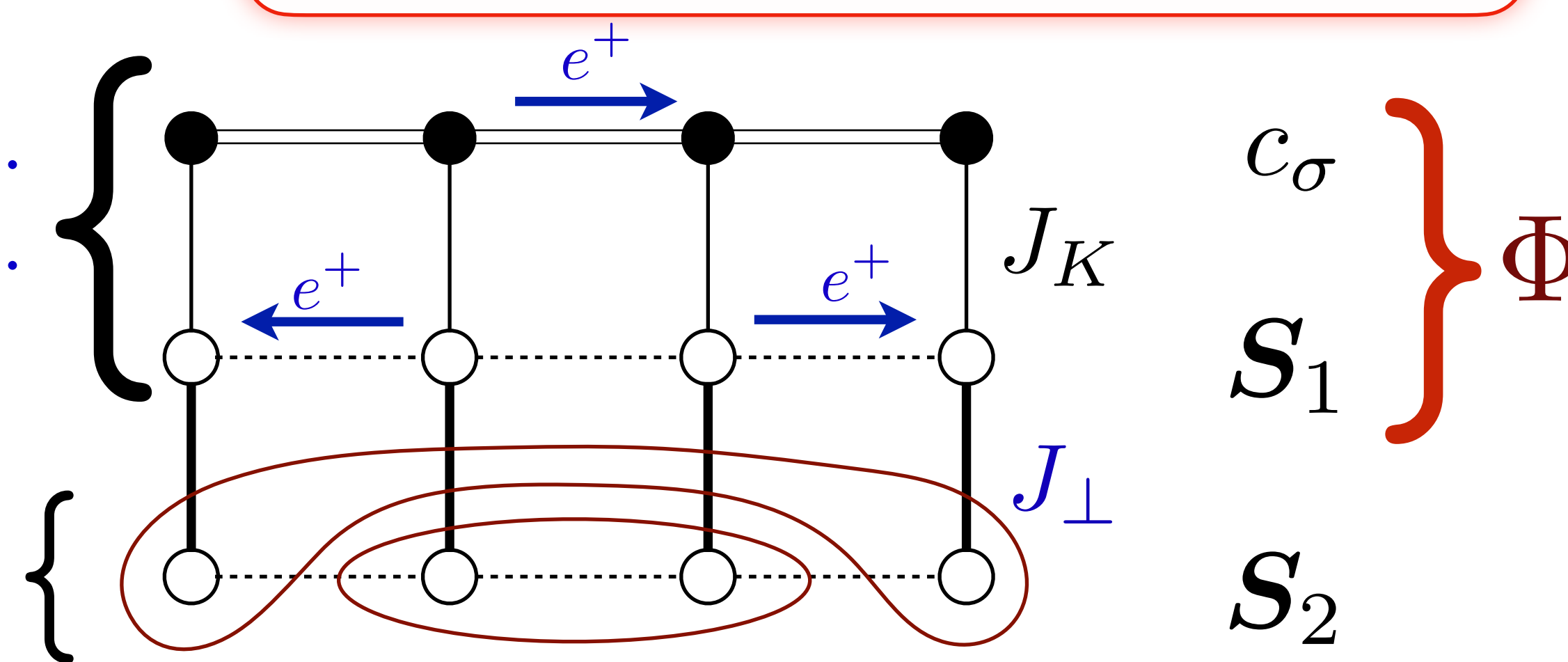
Kondo lattice heavy Fermi liquid.

Size $1 + p + 1 = p \pmod{2}$.

Small Fermi surface!

V_{Higgs} dictated by symmetry of spin liquid

B
 π -flux spin liquid



Adding charge fluctuations to the π -flux spin liquid

$$\mathcal{E}_2[B, U] = r \sum_i B_i^\dagger B_i + iw \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} e_{ij} \left(B_i^\dagger U_{ij} B_j - B_j^\dagger U_{ji} B_i \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}_4[B, U] = & \frac{u}{2} \sum_i \rho_i^2 + V_1 \sum_i \rho_i (\rho_{i+\hat{x}} + \rho_{i+\hat{y}}) + g \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} |\Delta_{ij}|^2 + J_1 \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} Q_{ij}^2 + K_1 \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} J_{ij}^2 \\ & + V_{11} \sum_i \rho_i (\rho_{i+\hat{x}+\hat{y}} + \rho_{i+\hat{x}-\hat{y}}) + V_{22} \sum_i \rho_i (\rho_{i+2\hat{x}+2\hat{y}} + \rho_{i+2\hat{x}-2\hat{y}}) \end{aligned}$$

site charge density: $\langle c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{i\alpha} \rangle \sim \rho_i = B_i^\dagger B_i$

bond density: $\langle c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha} + c_{j\alpha}^\dagger c_{i\alpha} \rangle \sim Q_{ij} = Q_{ji} = \text{Im} \left(B_i^\dagger e_{ij} U_{ij} B_j \right)$

bond current: $i \langle c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha} - c_{j\alpha}^\dagger c_{i\alpha} \rangle \sim J_{ij} = -J_{ji} = \text{Re} \left(B_i^\dagger e_{ij} U_{ij} B_j \right)$

Pairing: $\langle \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} c_{i\alpha} c_{j\beta} \rangle \sim \Delta_{ij} = \Delta_{ji} = \varepsilon_{ab} B_{ai} e_{ij} U_{ij} B_{bj} .$

Born-Oppenheimer theory of FL* pseudogap

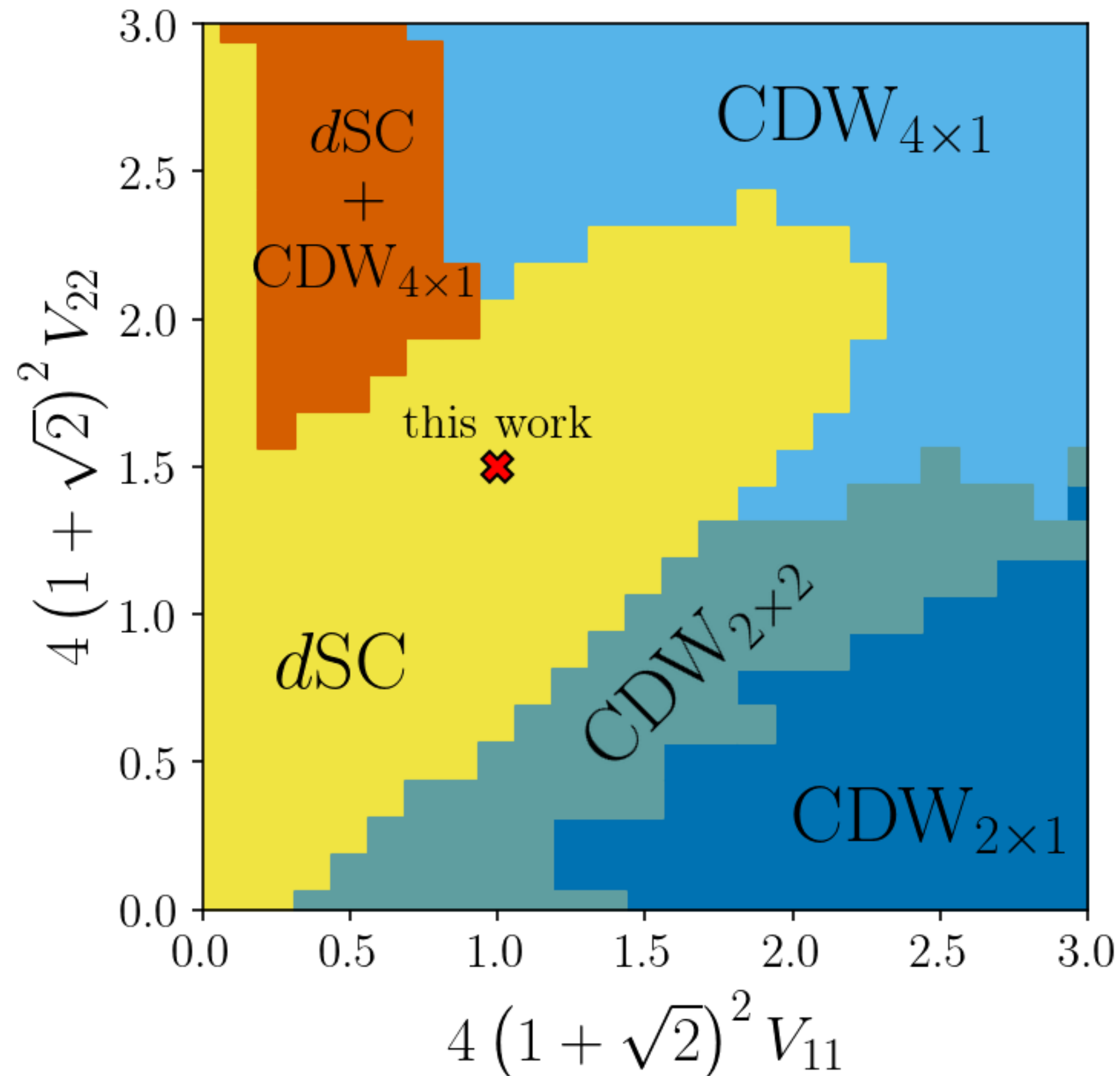
$$\mathcal{Z}_{2+0} = \int \prod_i \mathcal{D}B_i \int \prod_{\langle ij \rangle} \mathcal{D}U_{ij} \exp \left[- \left(V_{\text{Higgs}}[B, U] - \kappa \sum_{\square} \text{ReTr} \prod_{ij \in \square} U_{ij} \right) / T \right]$$

- Simulation of classical, thermal theory for bosons B, U defined by \mathcal{Z}_{2+0}
- Diagonalize 3-layer fermion Hamiltonian for c, f_1, f for each snapshot of B, U , and average.

Born-Oppenheimer theory of FL* pseudogap

$T = 0$ phase diagram

V_{Higgs} chosen so that the ground state is a d -wave superconductor, and second best state is a period-4 stripe.

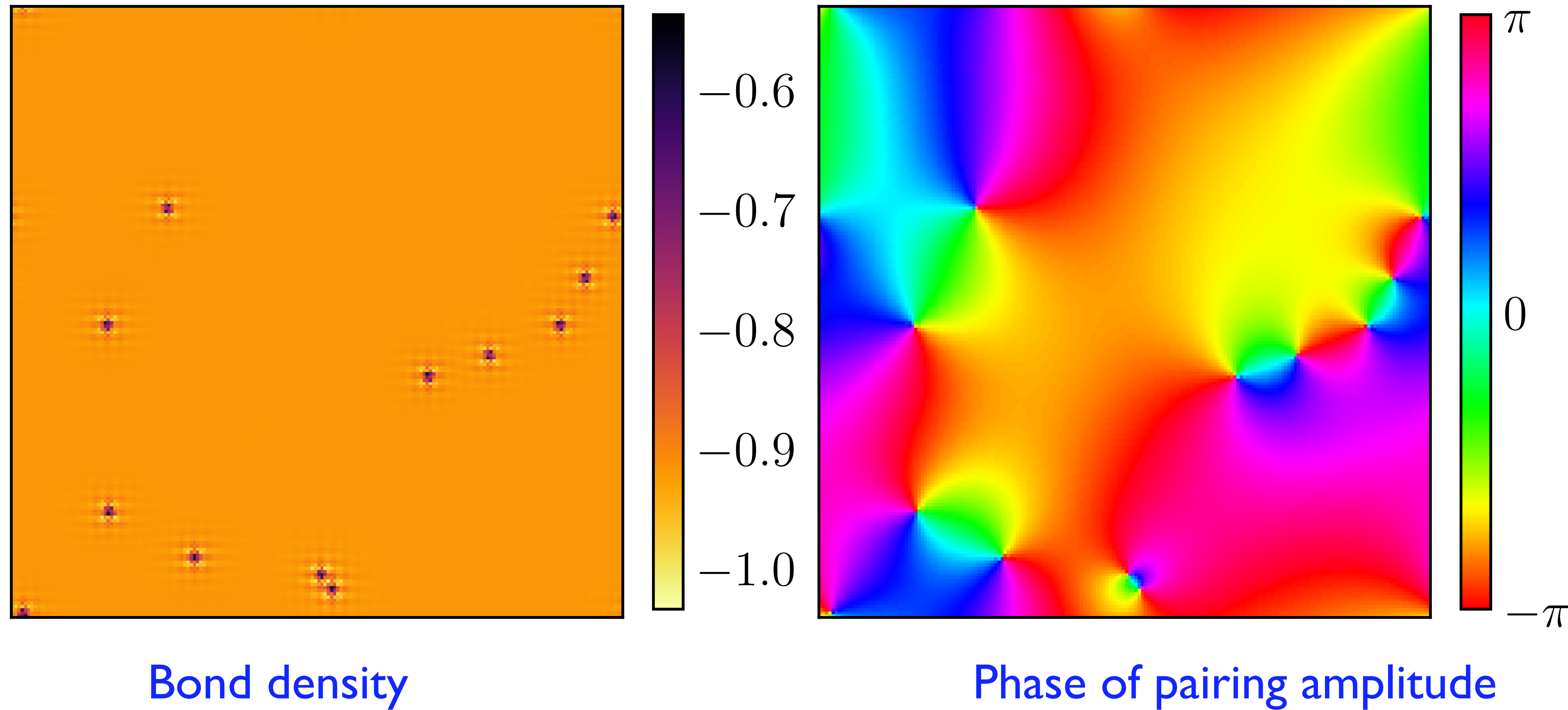


H. Pandey,
M. Christos,
P.M. Bonetti,
R. Shanker,
S. Sharma,
S.S.,

arXiv:2507.05336

Minimize V_{Higgs} w.r.t. $\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} B_{1i} \\ B_{2i} \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$
Set $U_{ij} = 1$.

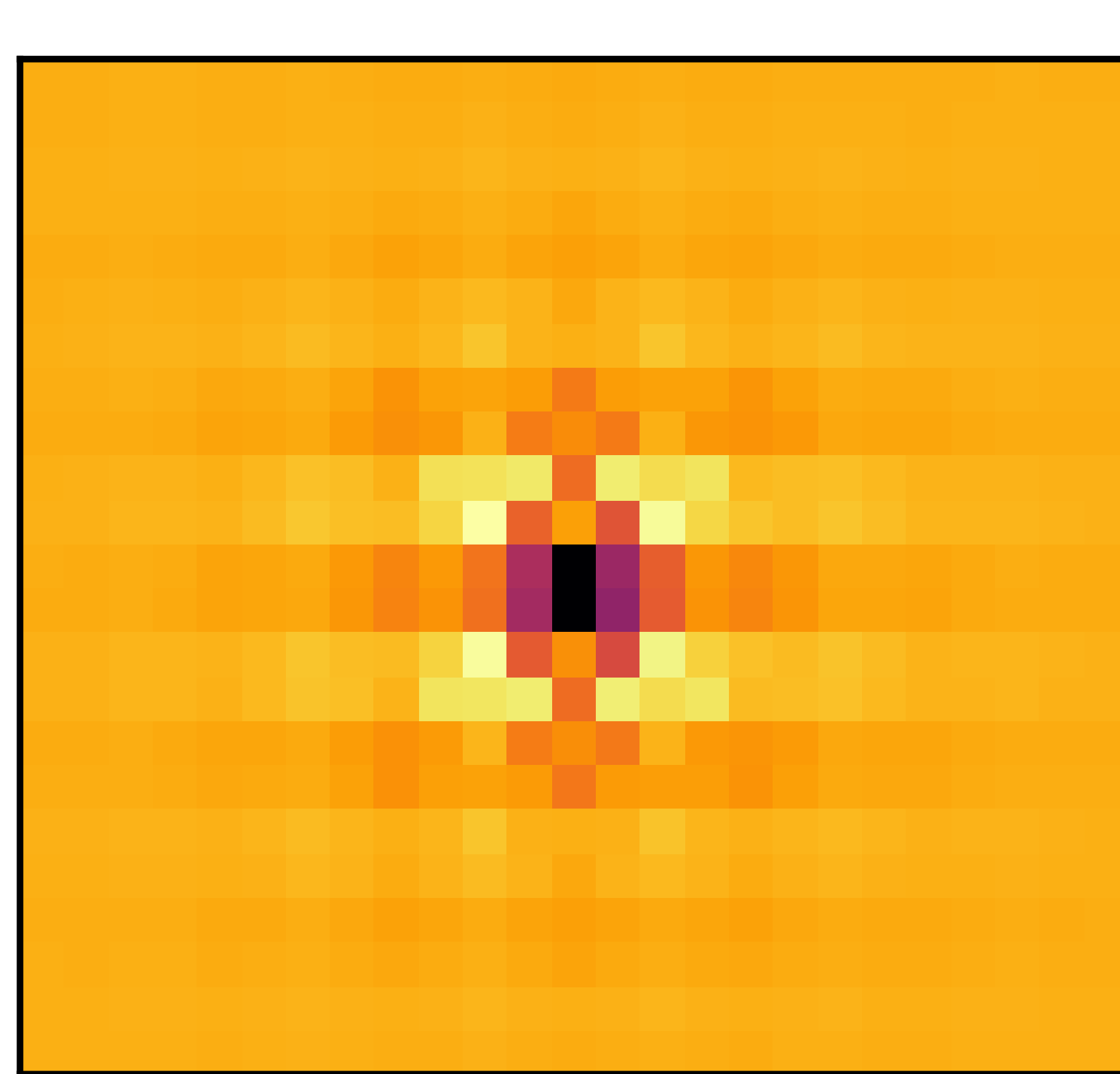
Born-Oppenheimer theory of FL* pseudogap



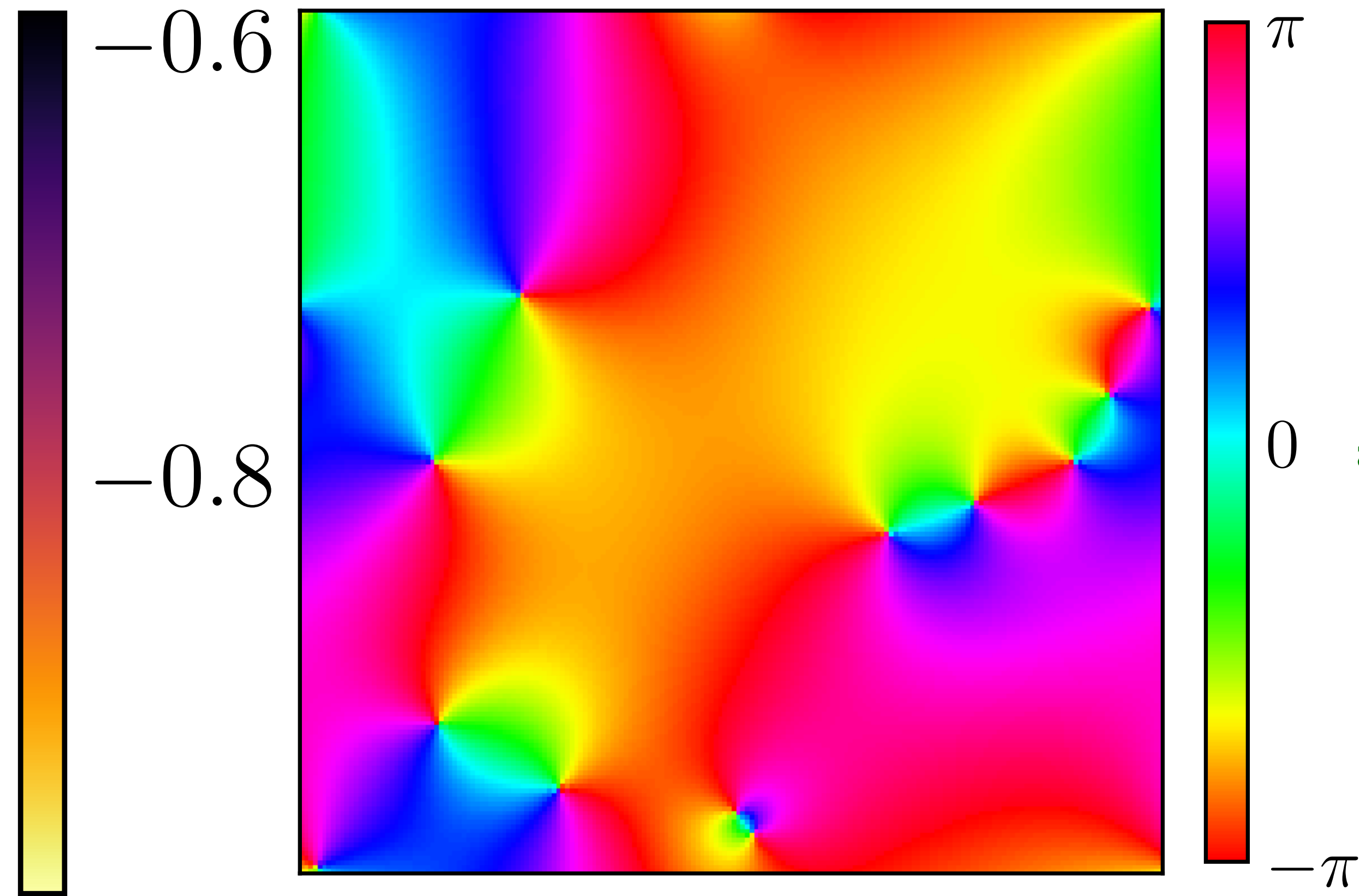
H. Pandey,
M. Christos,
P.M. Bonetti,
R. Shanker,
S. Sharma,
S.S.,
arXiv:2507.05336

See also
Jia-Xin Zhang
and S. S.,
PRB **110**,
235120
(2024)

Born-Oppenheimer theory of FL* pseudogap



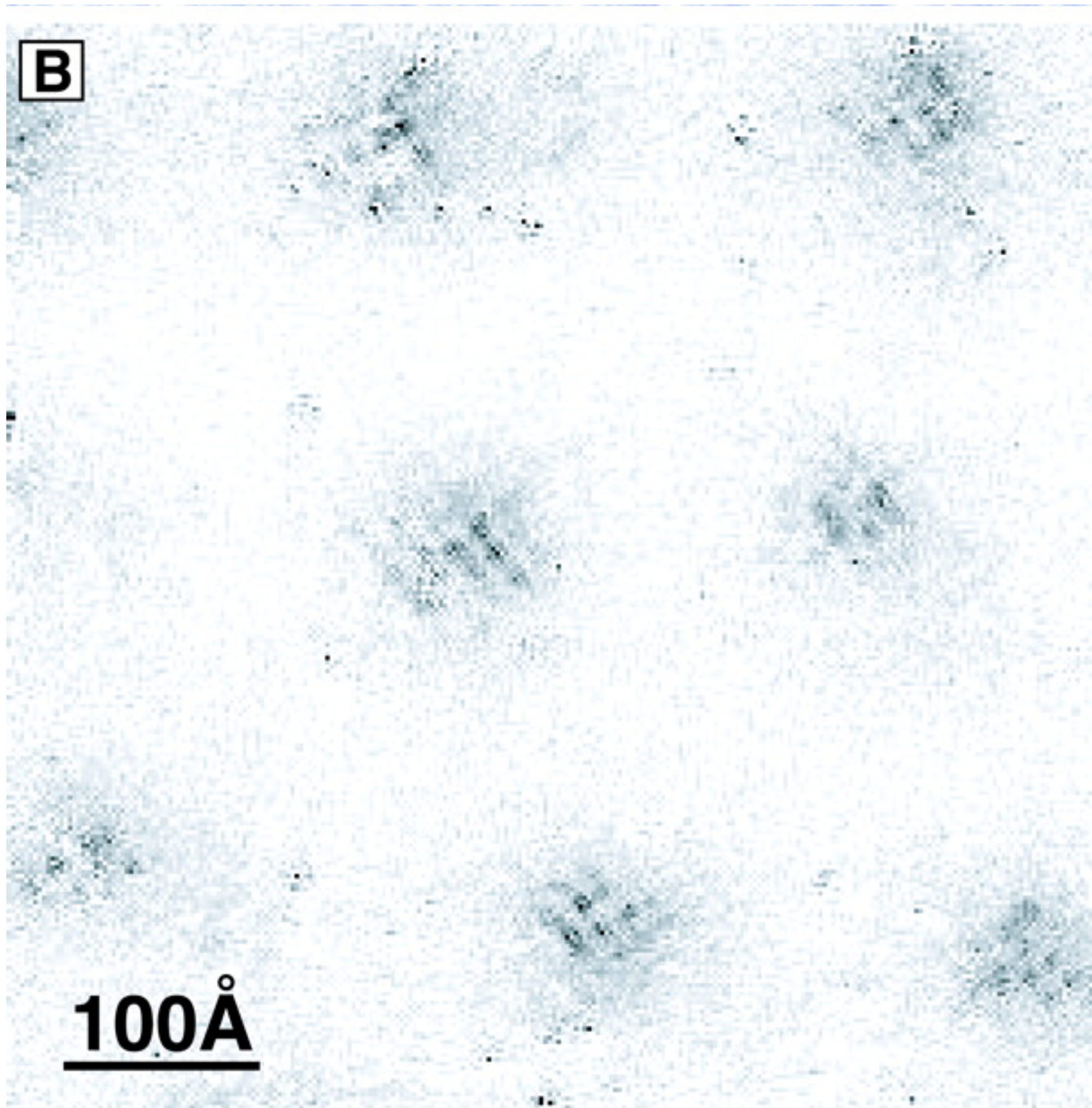
Bond density



Phase of pairing amplitude

H. Pandey,
M. Christos,
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(2024)



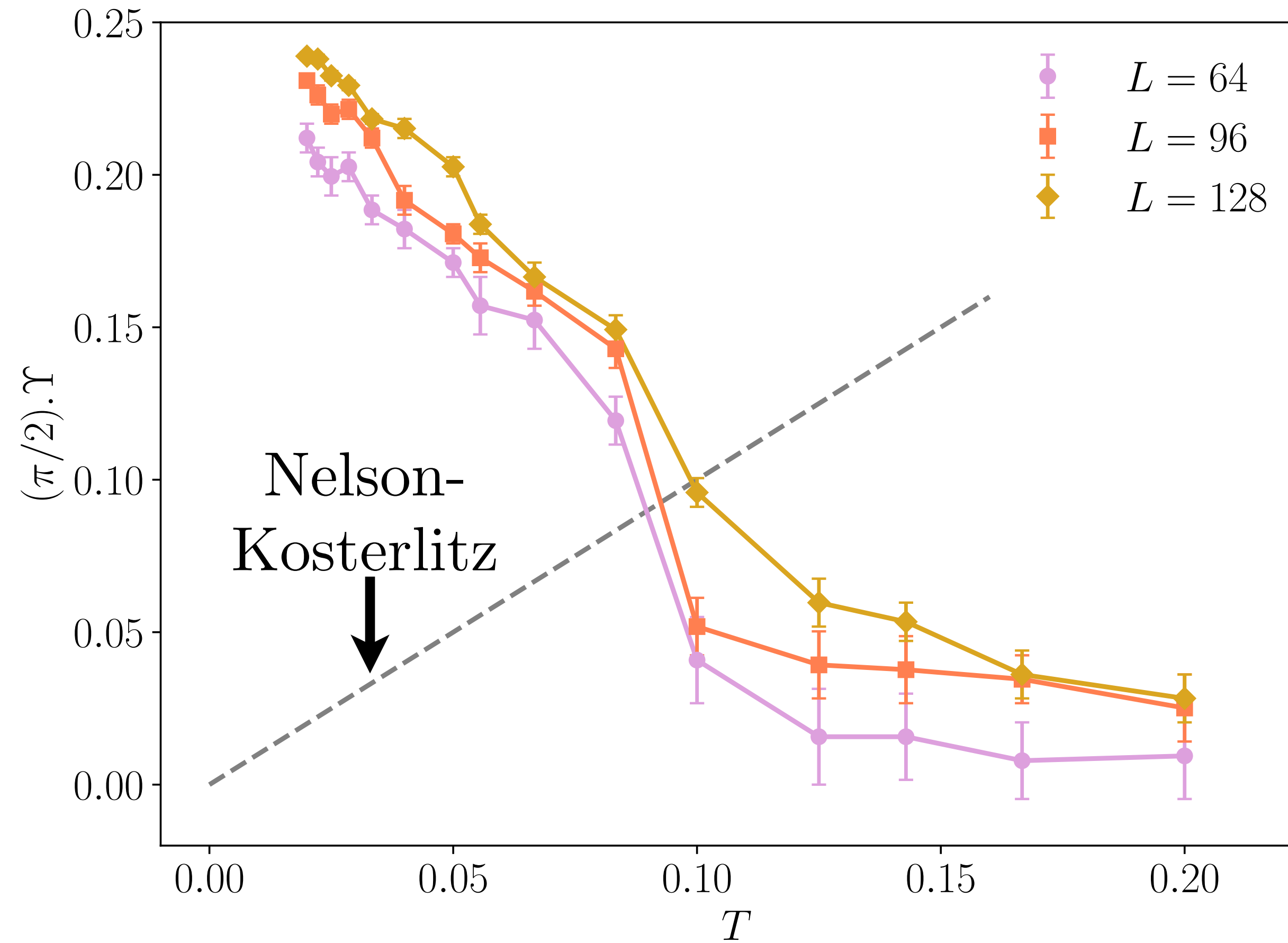
0 pA  **2 pA**

A Four Unit Cell Periodic Pattern of Quasi-Particle States Surrounding Vortex Cores in $\text{Bi}_2\text{Sr}_2\text{CaCu}_2\text{O}_{8+\delta}$

J. E. Hoffman, E. W. Hudson,
K. M. Lang, V. Madhavan,
H. Eisaki, S. Uchida, J.C. Davis
Science **295**, 466 (2002)

Born-Oppenheimer theory of FL* pseudogap

$\Upsilon =$
Helicity
Modulus



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

Born-Oppenheimer theory of FL* pseudogap

Consequences for fermion spectrum

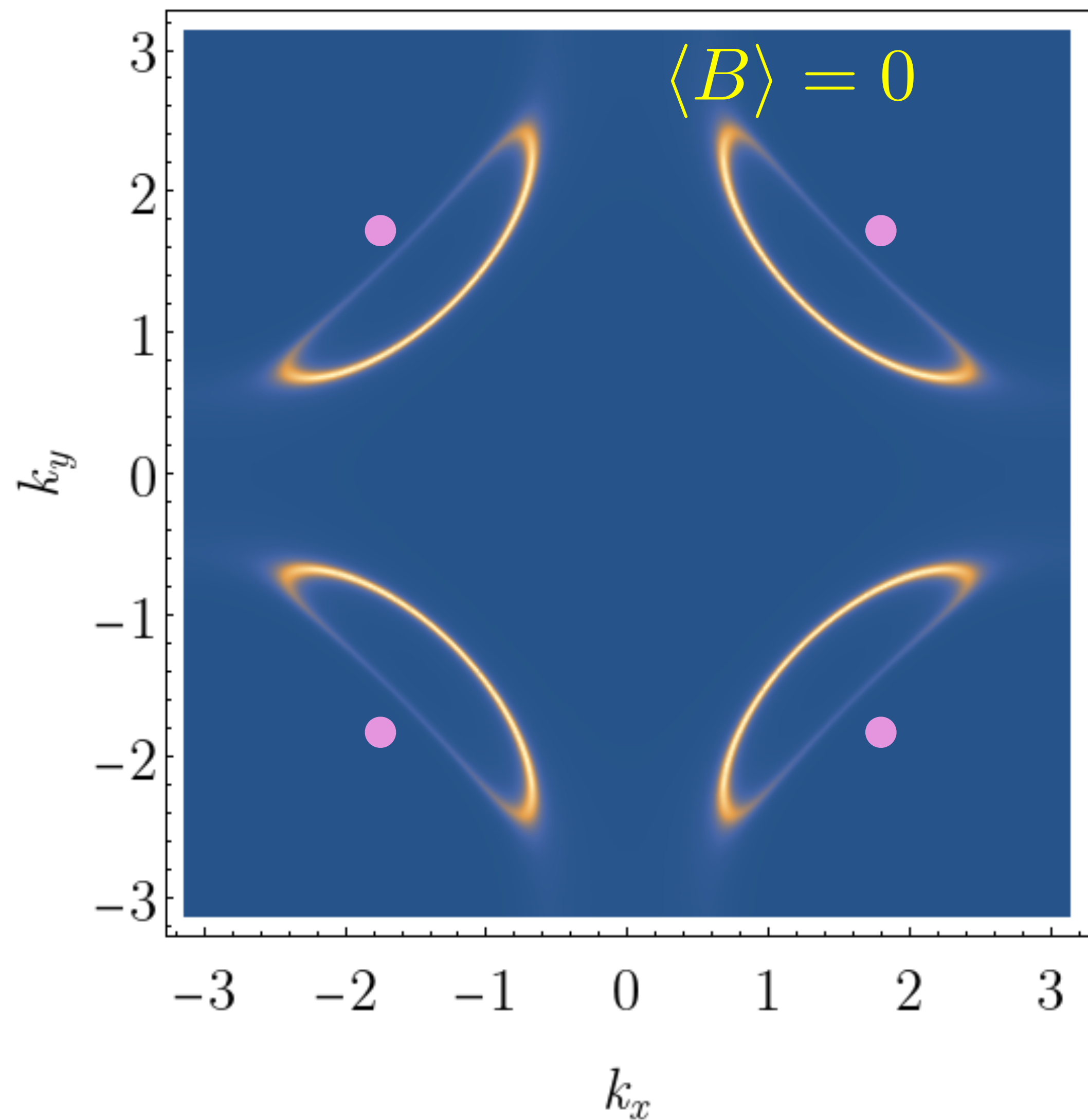
- At $T = 0$, the d -wave superconductor obtained by condensing B has 4 nodal points with $v_F \gg v_\Delta$ (earlier spin liquid theories had $v_F \approx v_\Delta$).
- For $T > T_c$, with thermal fluctuations of B and U , Fermi pockets turn into Fermi arcs.
- Quantum oscillations associated with pocket size $p/8$ can survive when photoemission shows only Fermi arcs.

Born-Oppenheimer theory of FL* pseudogap

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FL*

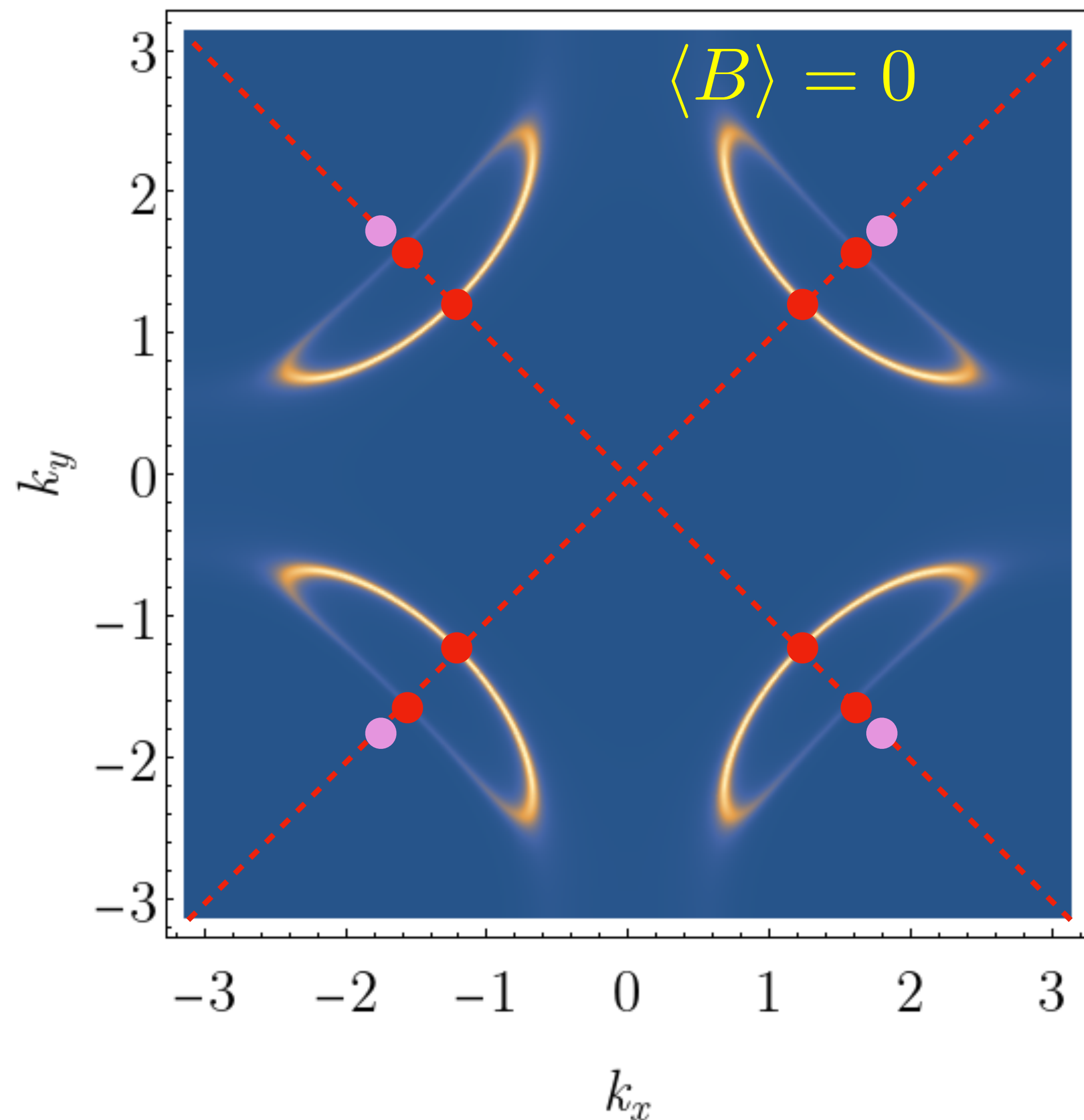


FL* \Rightarrow d-SC:

Cooper pairing of the Fermi surface?

FL* has 4 electron-like pockets
and 4 nodal spinons
of the π -flux spin liquid

$FL^* \rightarrow d-SC^*$



$FL^* \Rightarrow d-SC:$

Cooper pairing of the Fermi surface?

$$E_{\mathbf{k}} = (\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^2 + \Delta_{\mathbf{k}}^2)^{1/2}$$

$$\Delta_{\mathbf{k}} = \Delta_0 (\cos k_x - \cos k_y)$$

No!

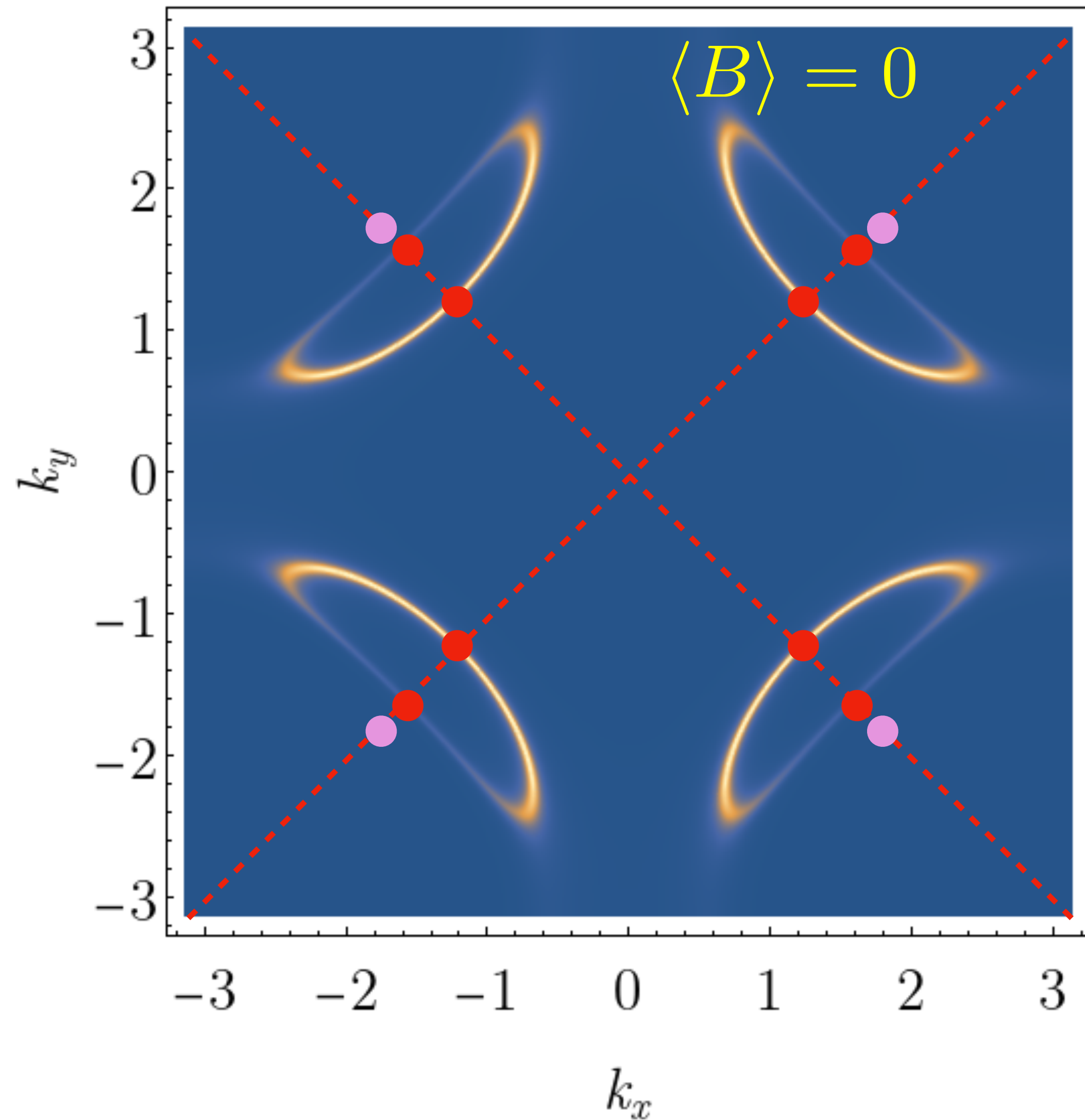
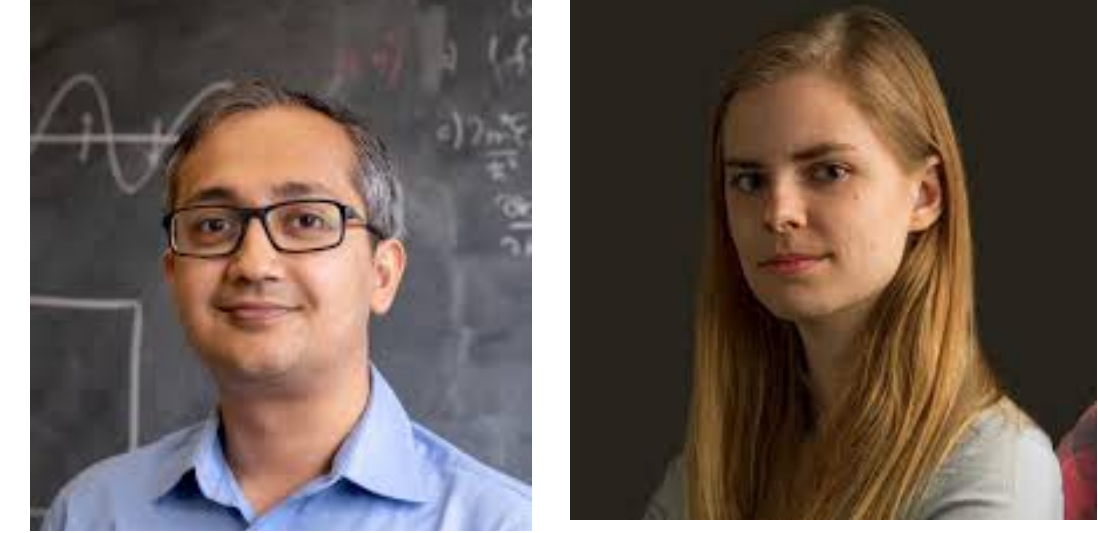
Leads to 8 nodal points of
Bogoliubov quasiparticles
and 4 nodal spinons of π -flux spin liquid.

$FL^* \Rightarrow d-SC^*$

BCS mechanism applied to FL^* pseudogap leads to non-BCS superconductor!

$FL^* \rightarrow d\text{-SC}$

Shubhayu Chatterjee and S. S.,
PRB **94**, 205117 (2016)
Maine Christos and S.S.,
npj Quantum Materials **9**, 4 (2024)

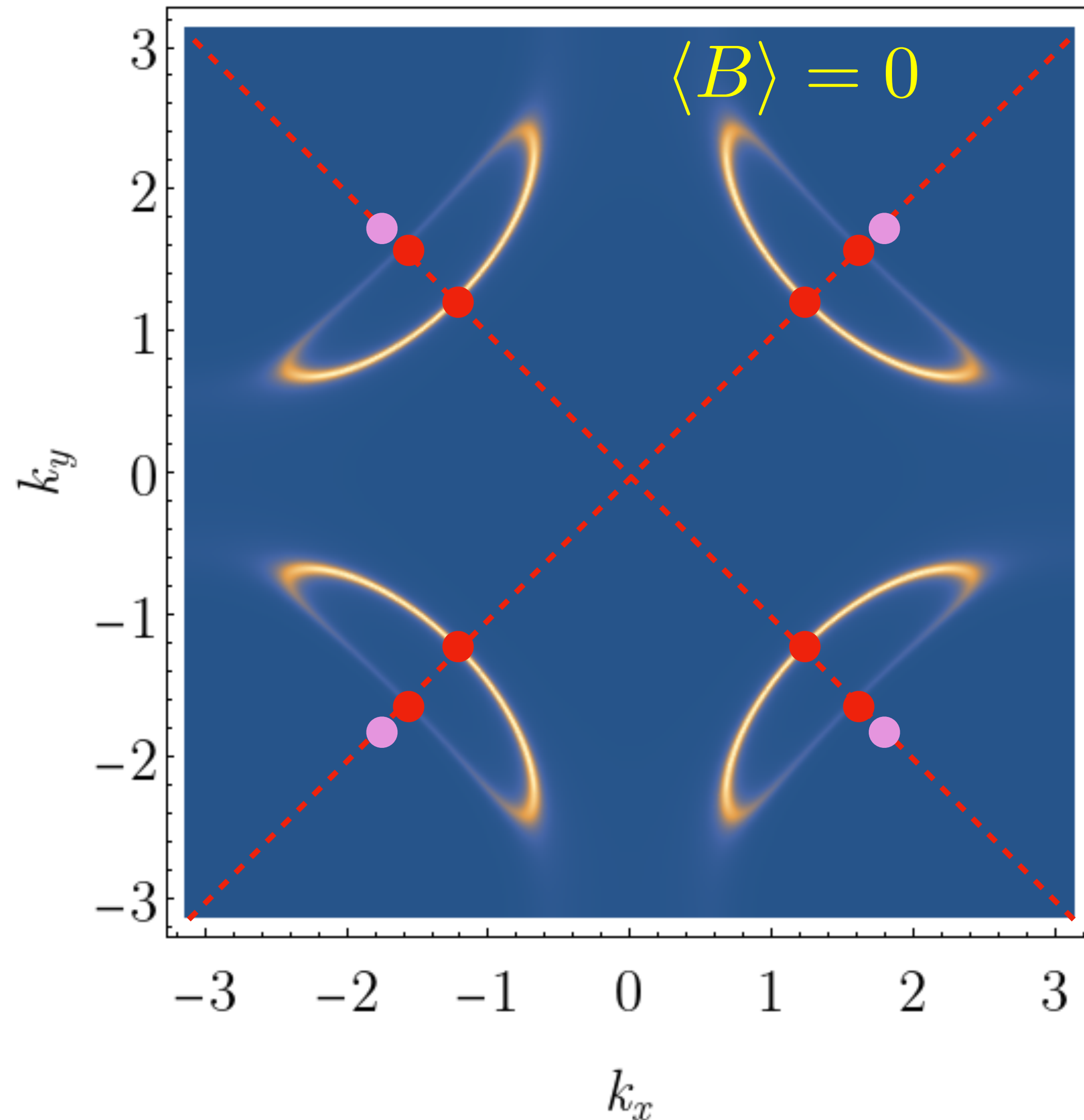
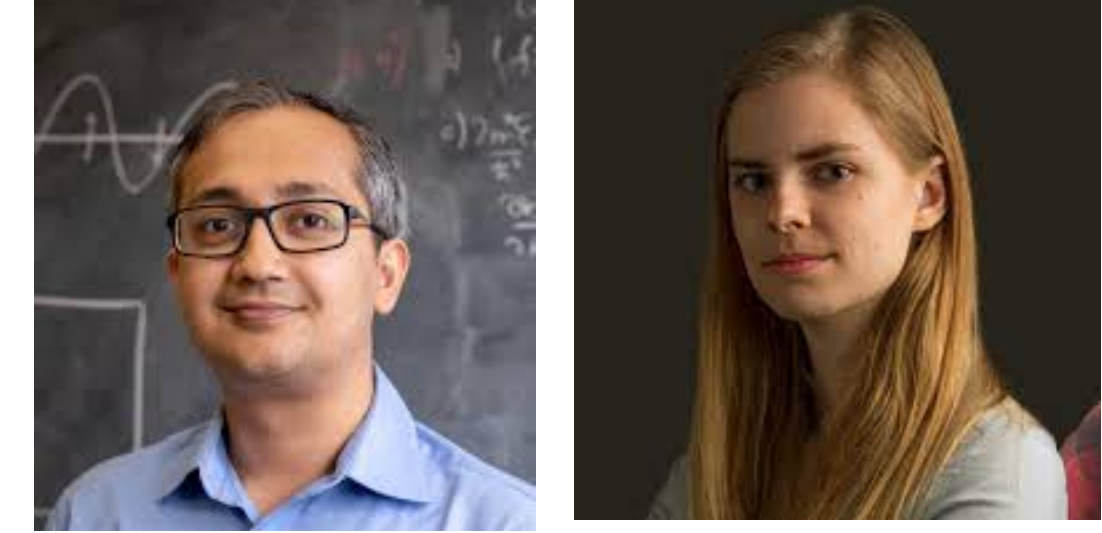


Alternative route to d -wave superconductivity:

Use the pre-existing pairing of the
underlying spin liquid
and confine the spin liquid!

$FL^* \rightarrow d\text{-SC}$

Shubhayu Chatterjee and S. S.,
PRB **94**, 205117 (2016)
Maine Christos and S.S.,
npj Quantum Materials **9**, 4 (2024)

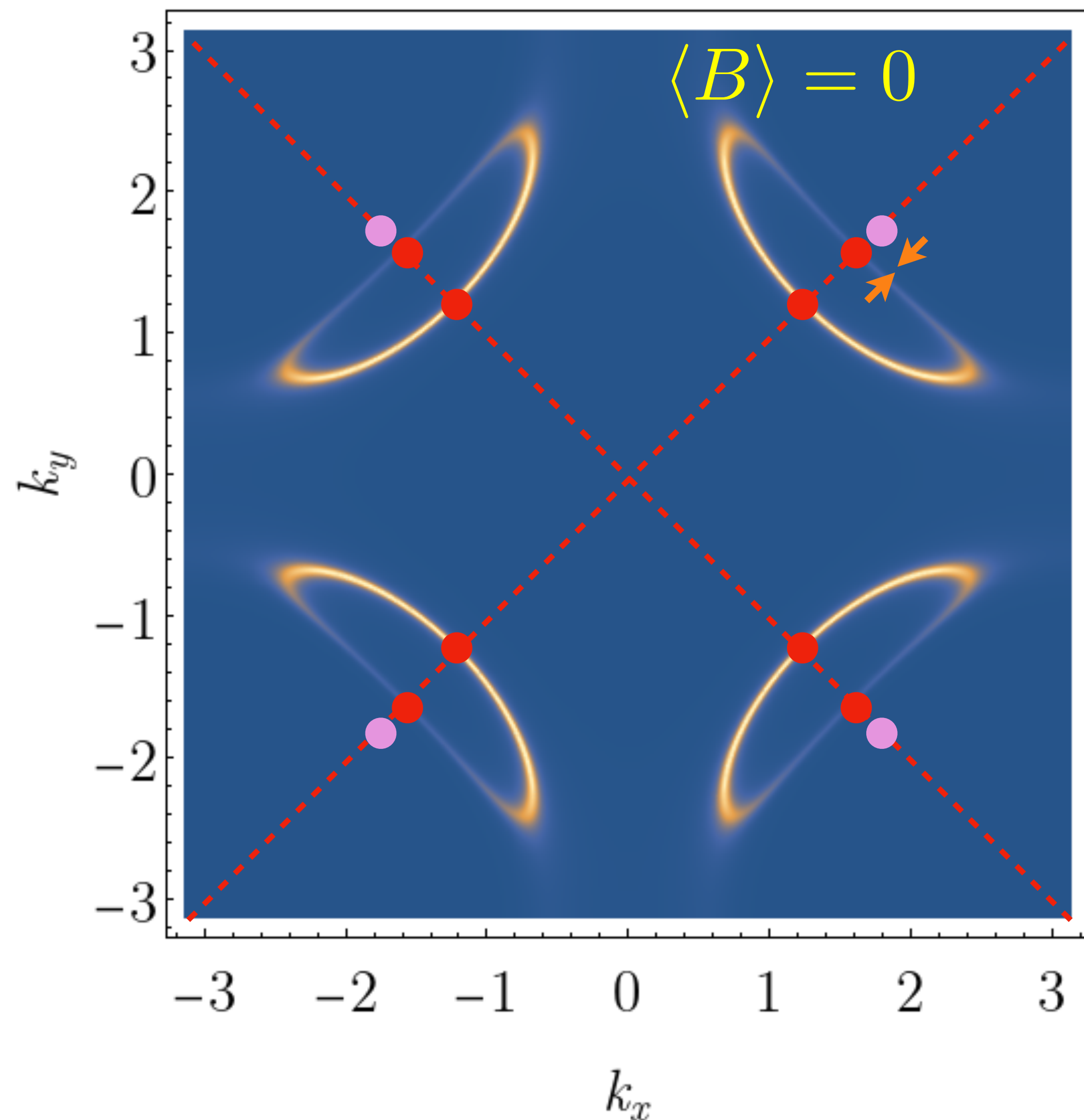
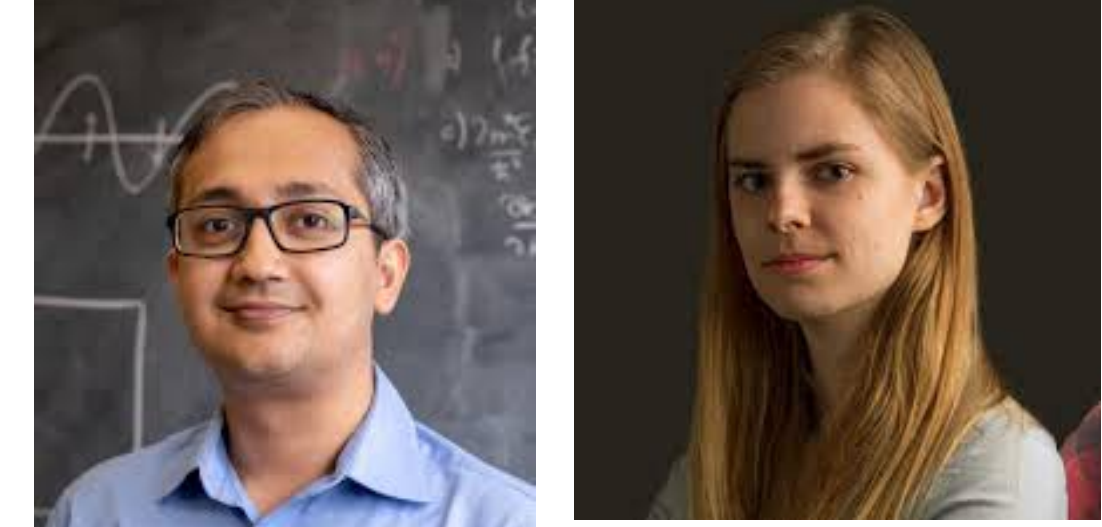


Alternative route to d -wave superconductivity:

Confine the π -flux spin-liquid by a condensate of B , $\langle B \rangle \neq 0$ for a suitable Higgs potential $\mathcal{E}_4(B)$. This leads to a d -wave superconductor with 4 nodal points and $v_F \gg v_\Delta$!

$FL^* \rightarrow d\text{-SC}$

Shubhayu Chatterjee and S. S.,
PRB **94**, 205117 (2016)
Maine Christos and S.S.,
npj Quantum Materials **9**, 4 (2024)

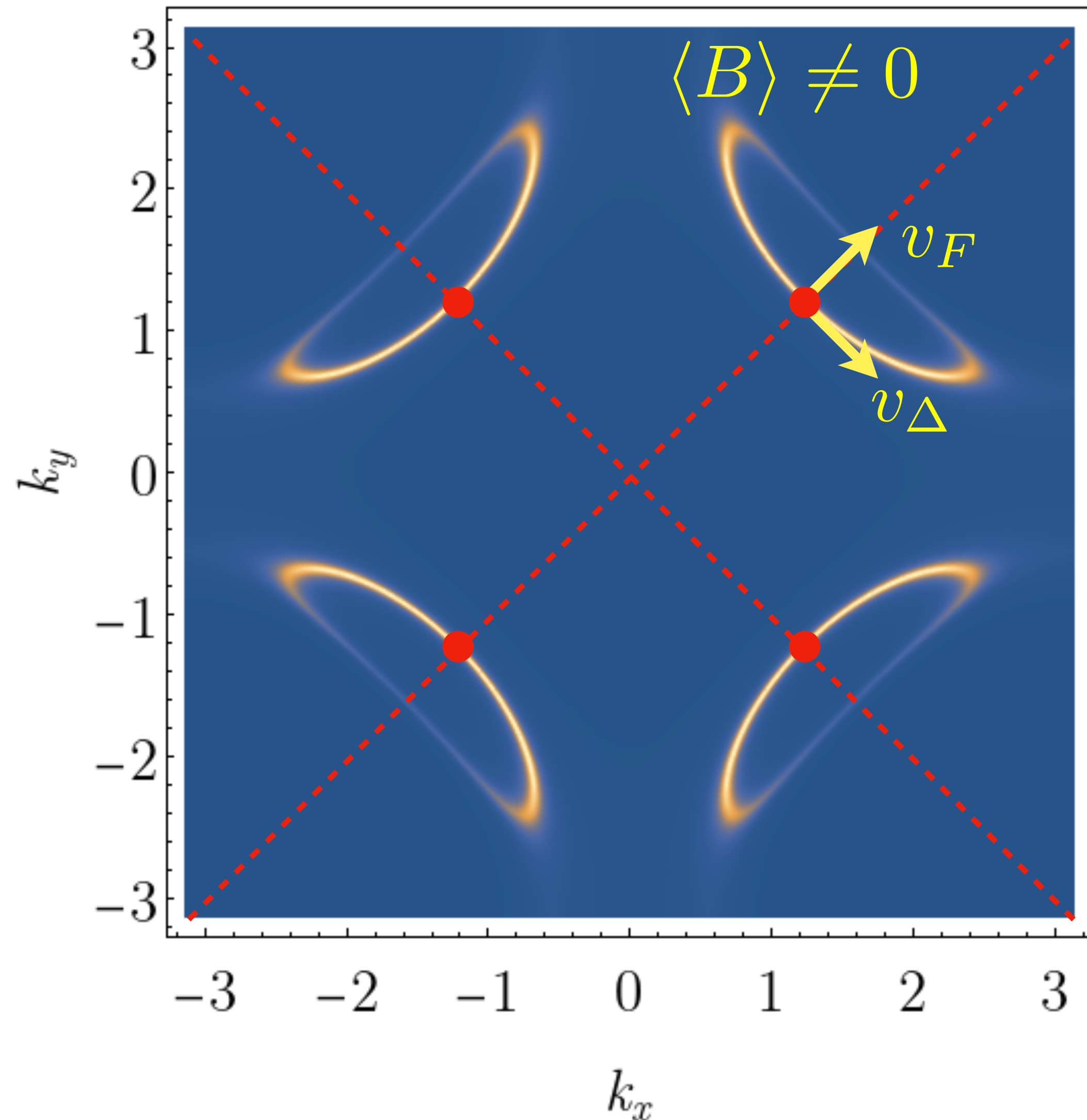
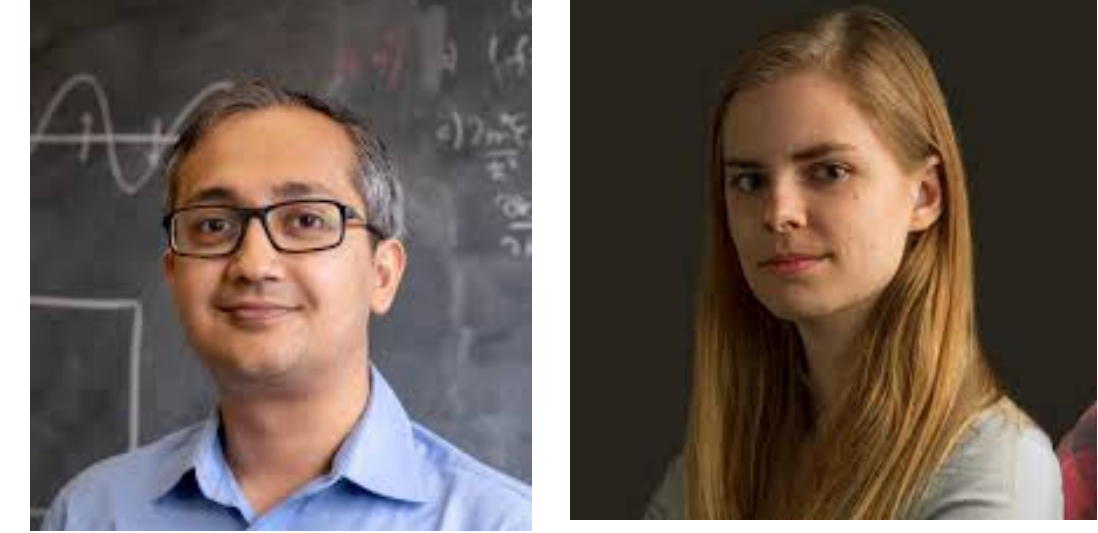


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FL* \rightarrow d-SC

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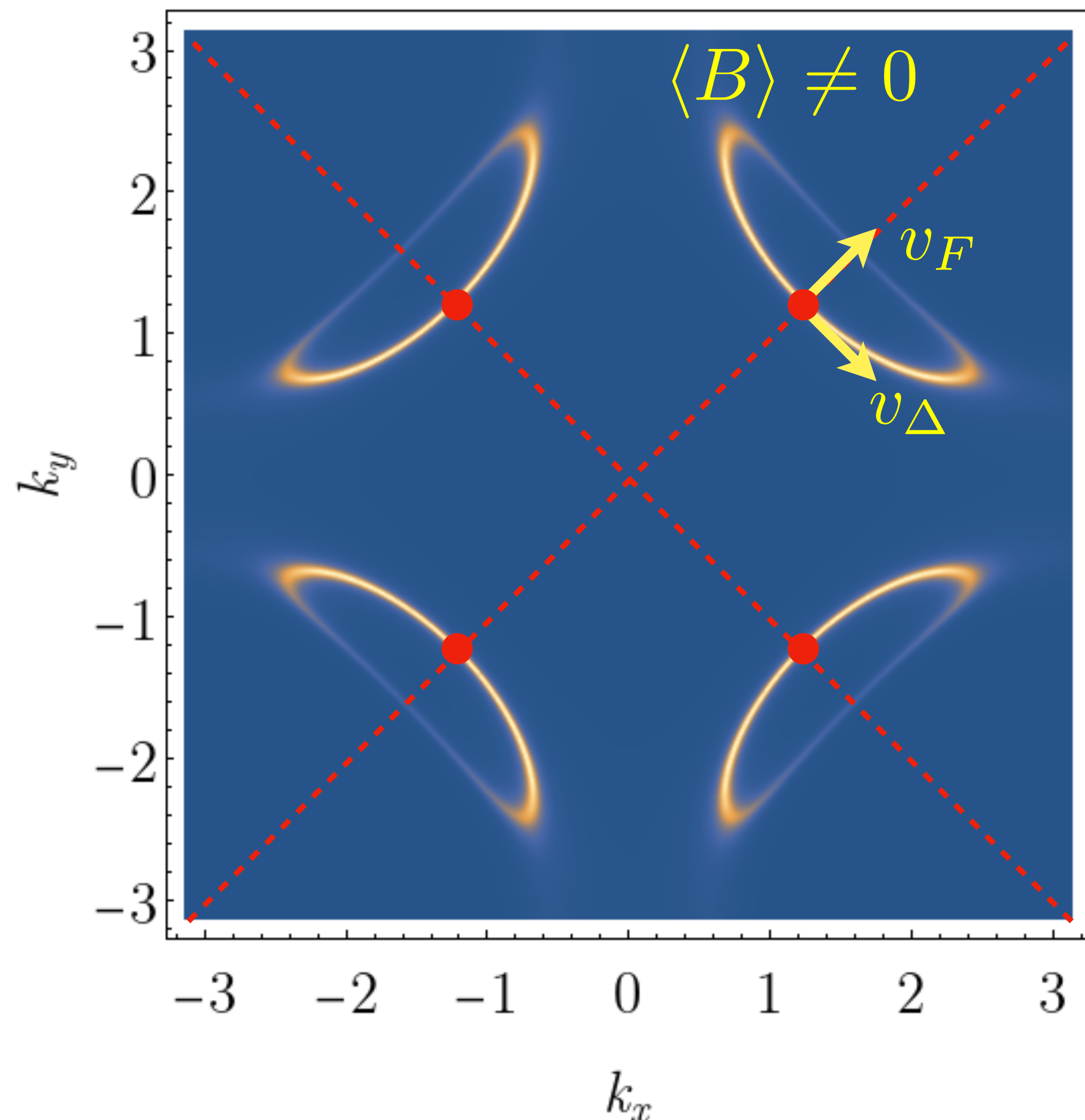
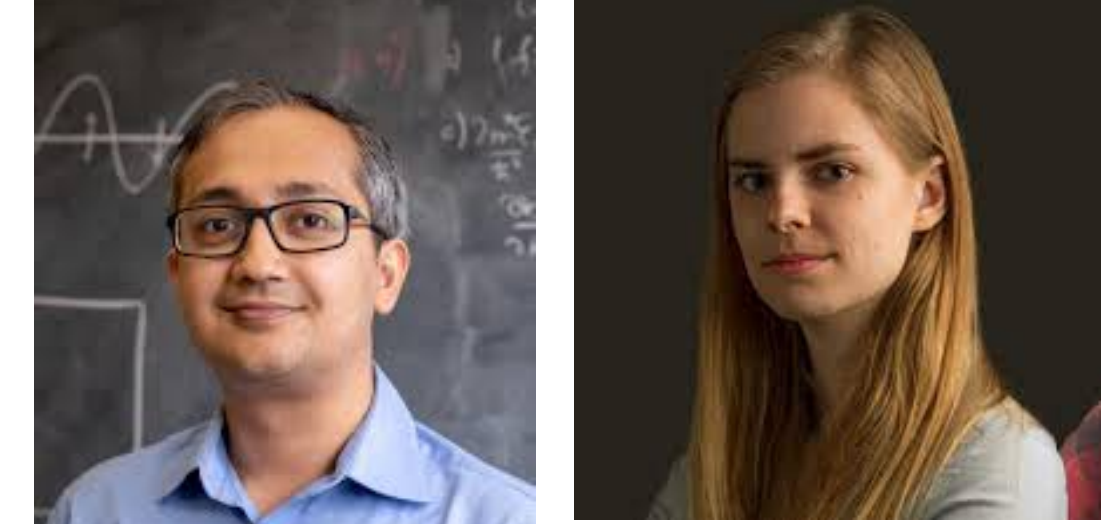


Alternative route to d -wave superconductivity:

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Shubhayu Chatterjee and S. S.,
PRB **94**, 205117 (2016)
Maine Christos and S.S.,
npj Quantum Materials **9**, 4 (2024)



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Non-BCS mechanism applied to pseudogap leads to BCS superconductor!

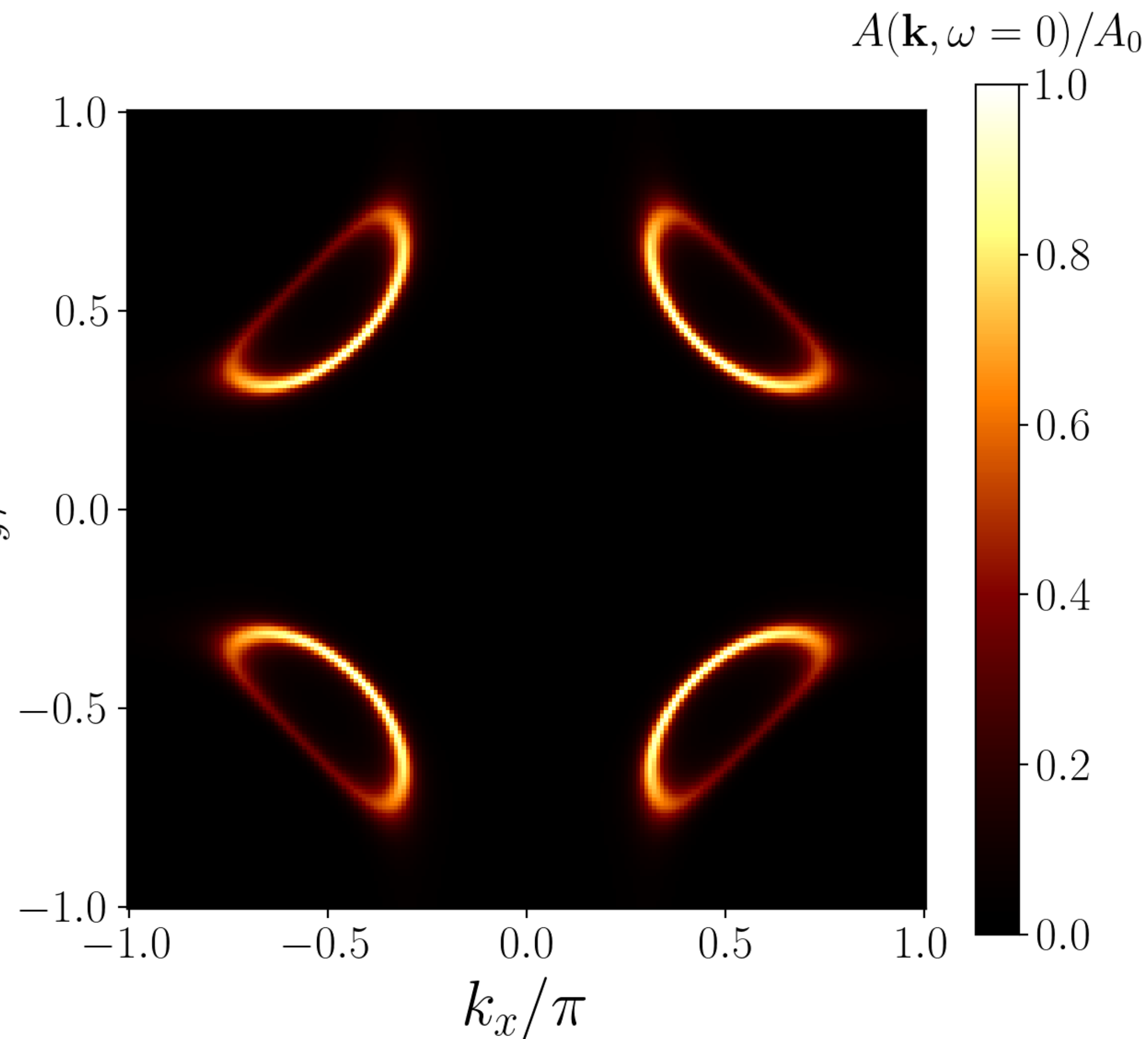
Born-Oppenheimer theory of FL* pseudogap

Consequences for fermion spectrum

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- Quantum oscillations associated with pocket size $p/8$ can survive when photoemission shows only Fermi arcs.

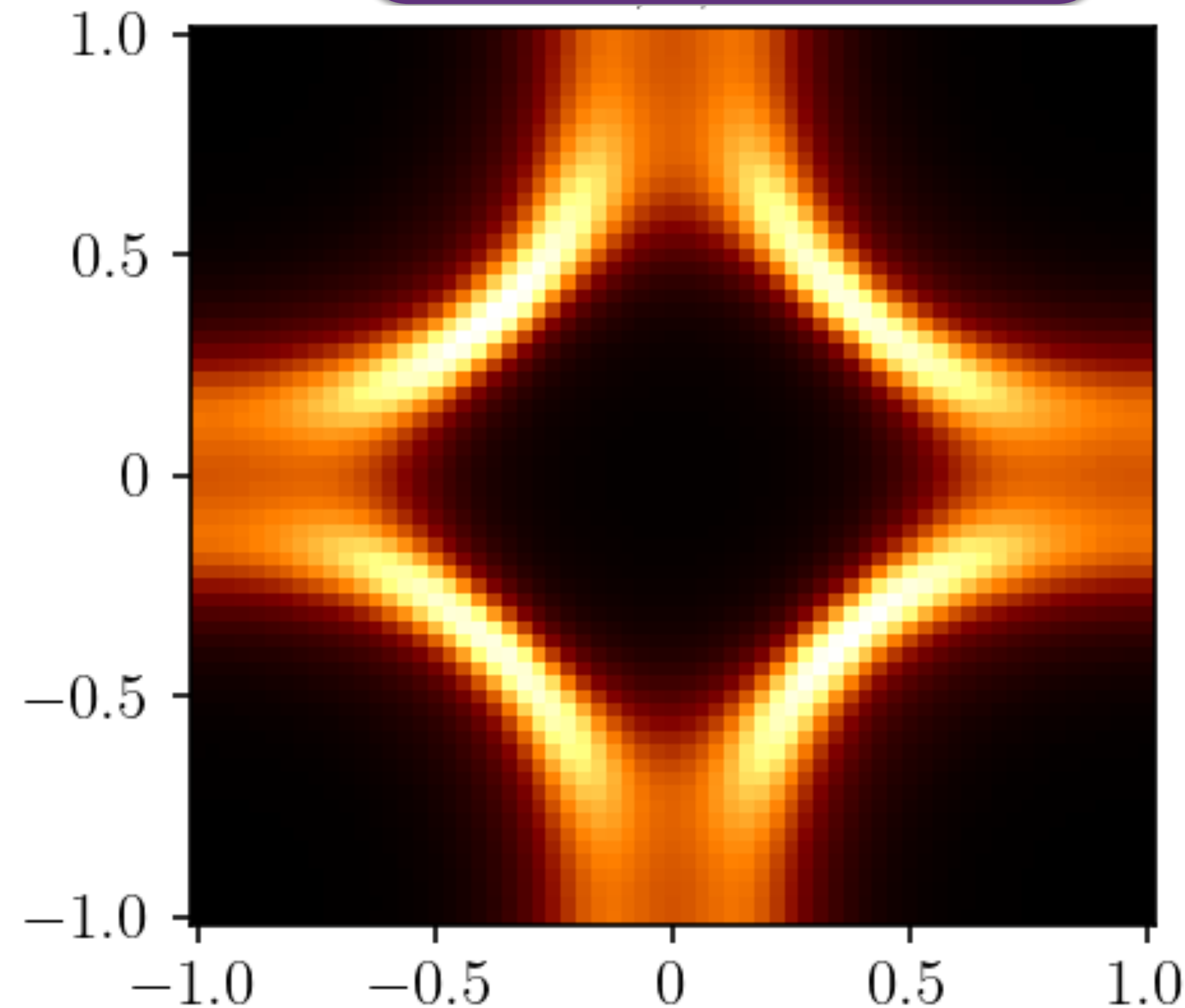
Ancilla theory of FL* and its confinement

Photoemission theory



$B = 0$

Decoupled Kondo lattice
and spin liquid



Born-Oppenheimer theory

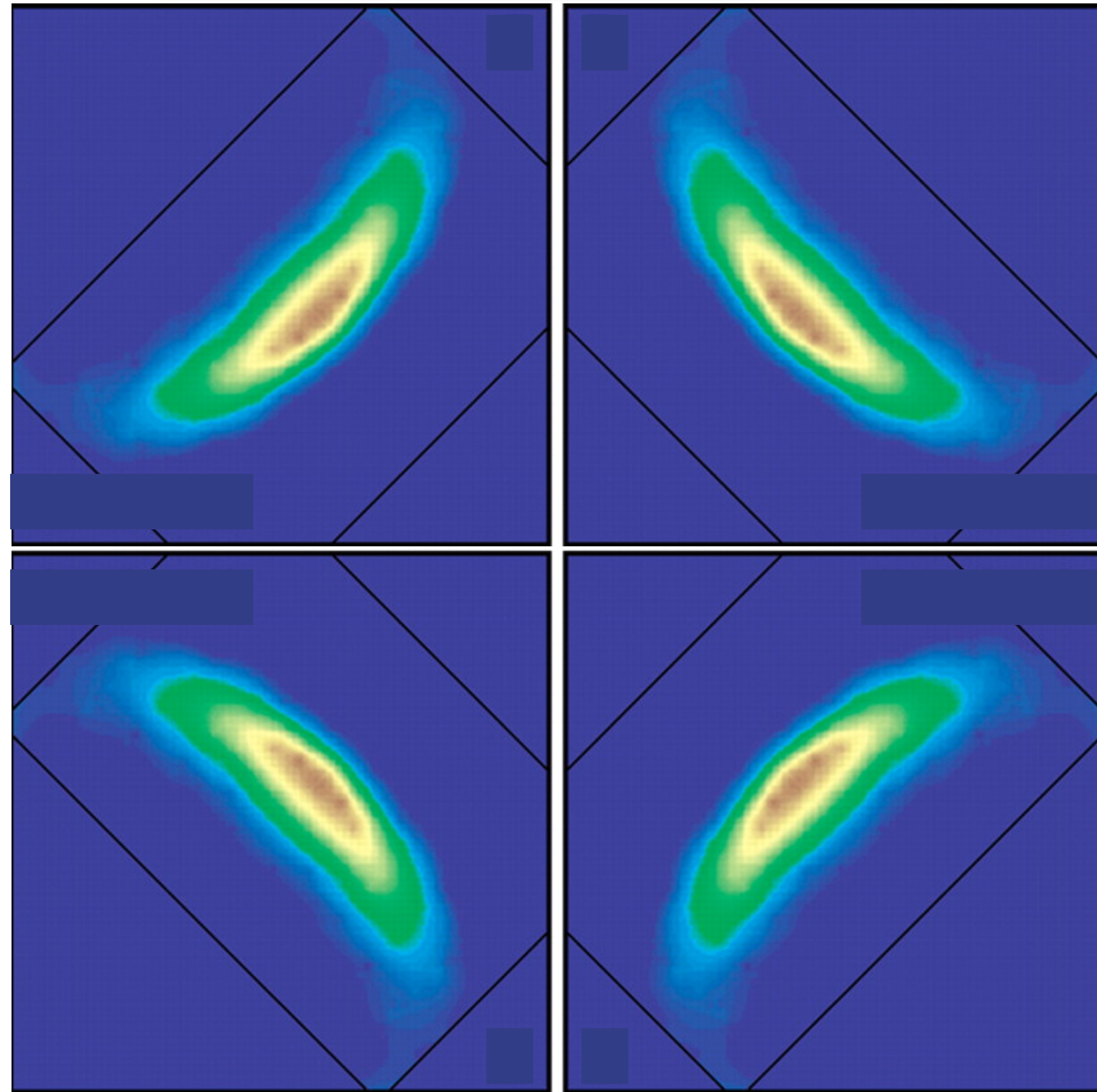
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H. Pandey,
M. Christos,
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S.S.,

arXiv:2507.05336

Ancilla theory of FL* and its confinement

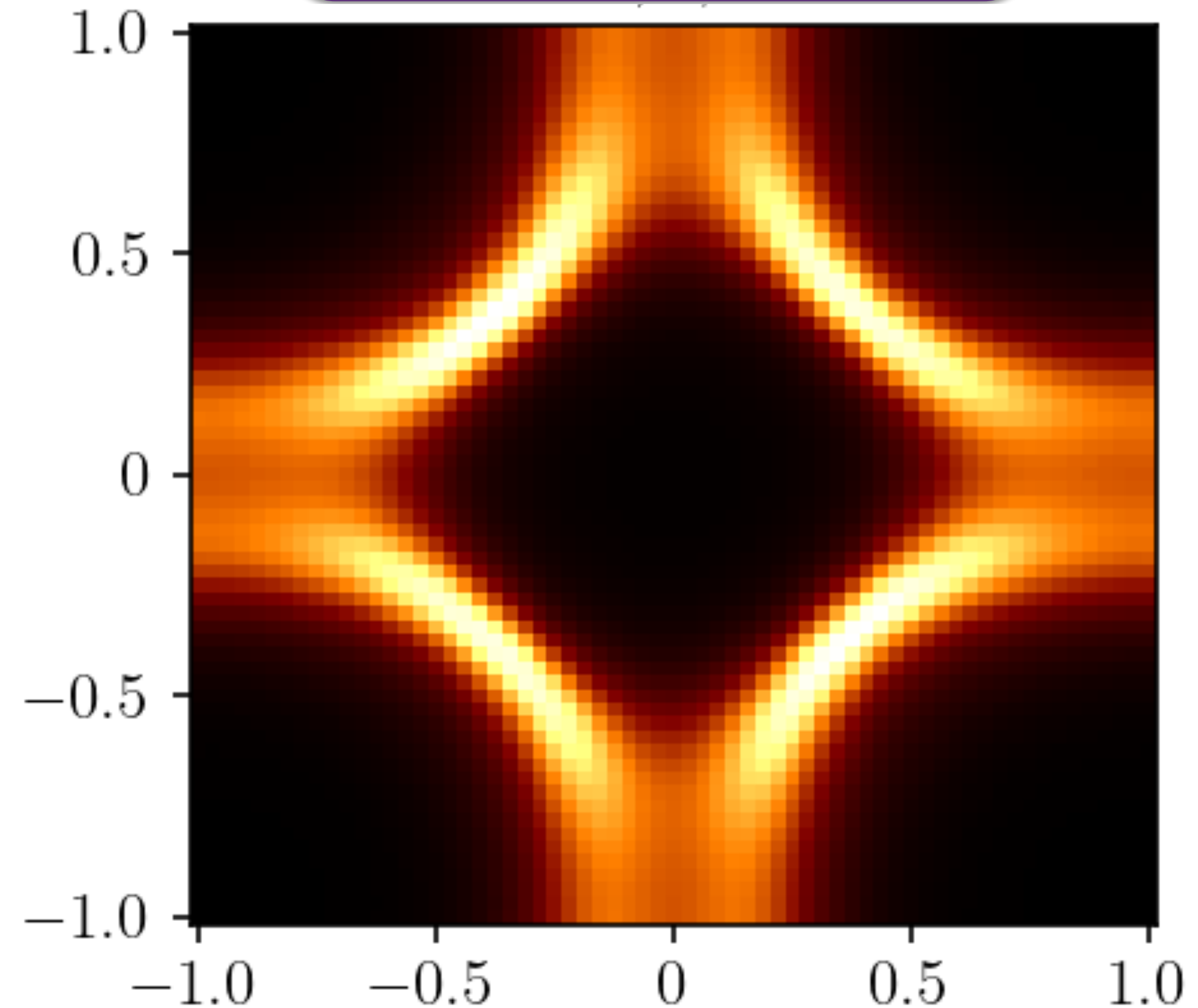
Photoemission expts



$\text{Ca}_{2-x}\text{Na}_x\text{CuO}_2\text{Cl}_2$ at $x = 0.10$

Kyle M. Shen, F. Ronning, D. H. Lu,
F. Baumberger, N. J. C. Ingle, W. S. Lee,
W. Meevasana, Y. Kohsaka, M. Azuma,
M. Takano, H. Takagi, Z.-X. Shen,
Science **307**, 901 (2005)

Photoemission theory



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

arXiv:2507.05336

Born-Oppenheimer theory

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Born-Oppenheimer theory of FL* pseudogap

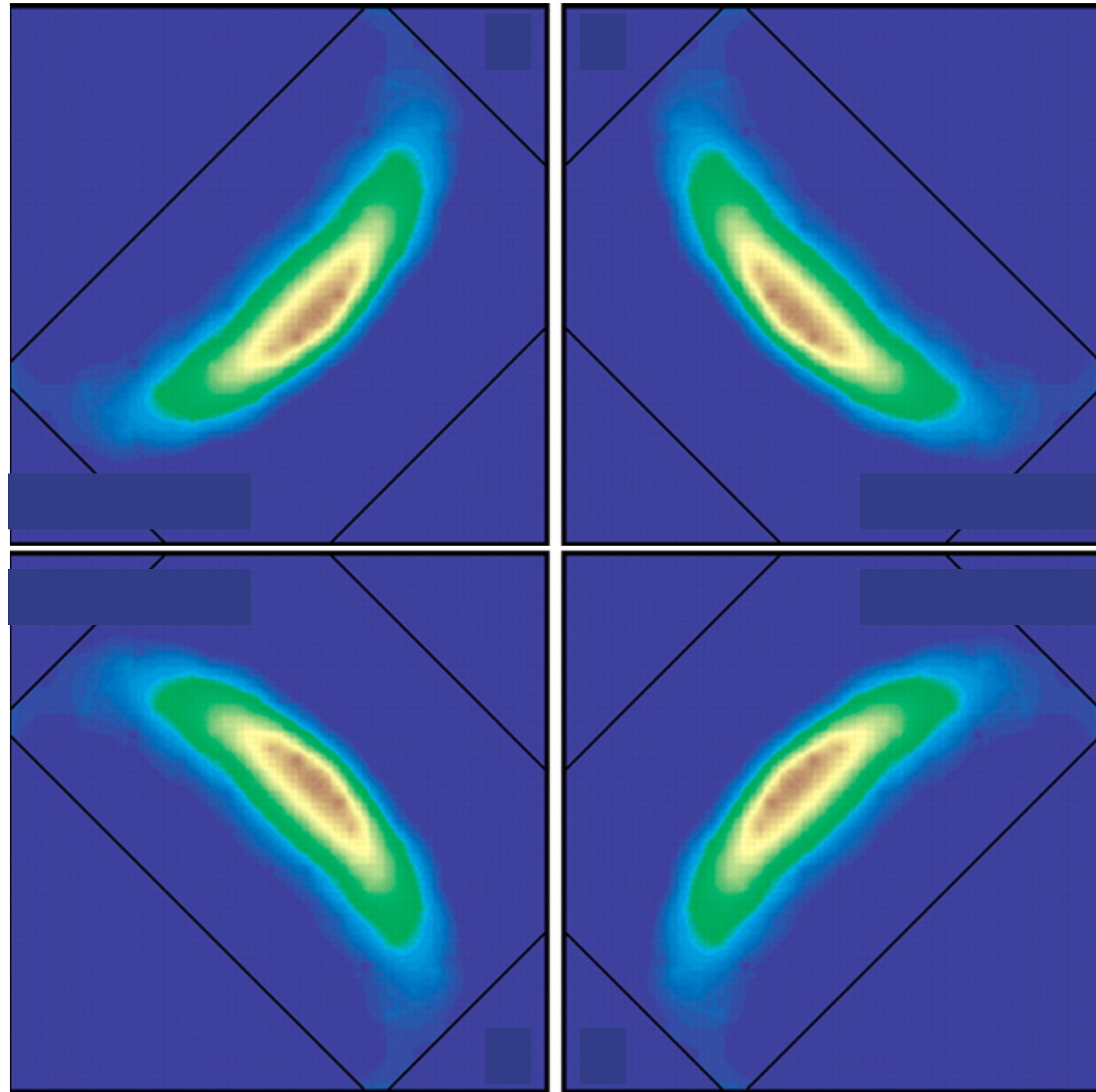
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Ancilla theory of FL* and its confinement

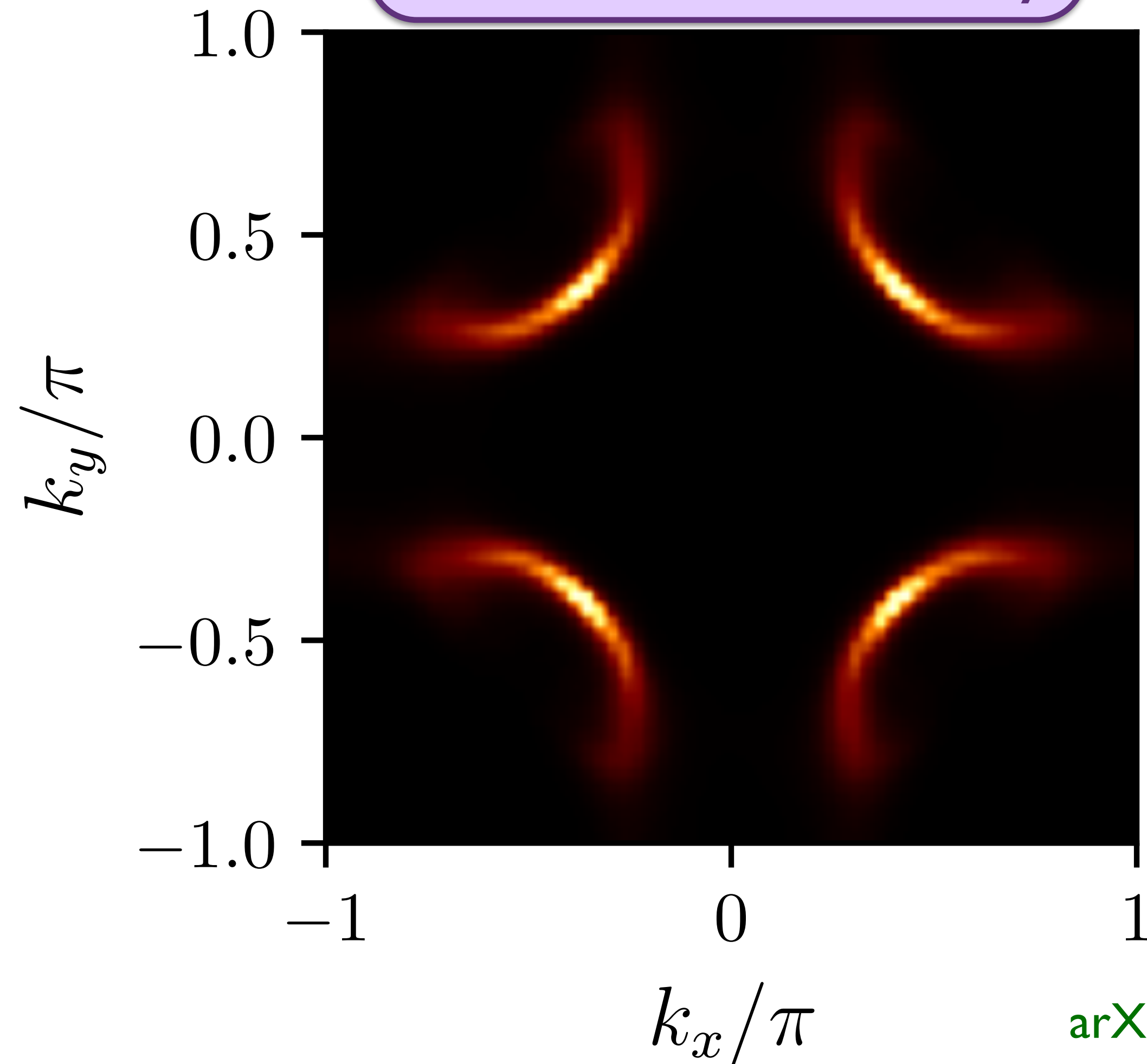
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Science **307**, 901 (2005)

Photoemission theory



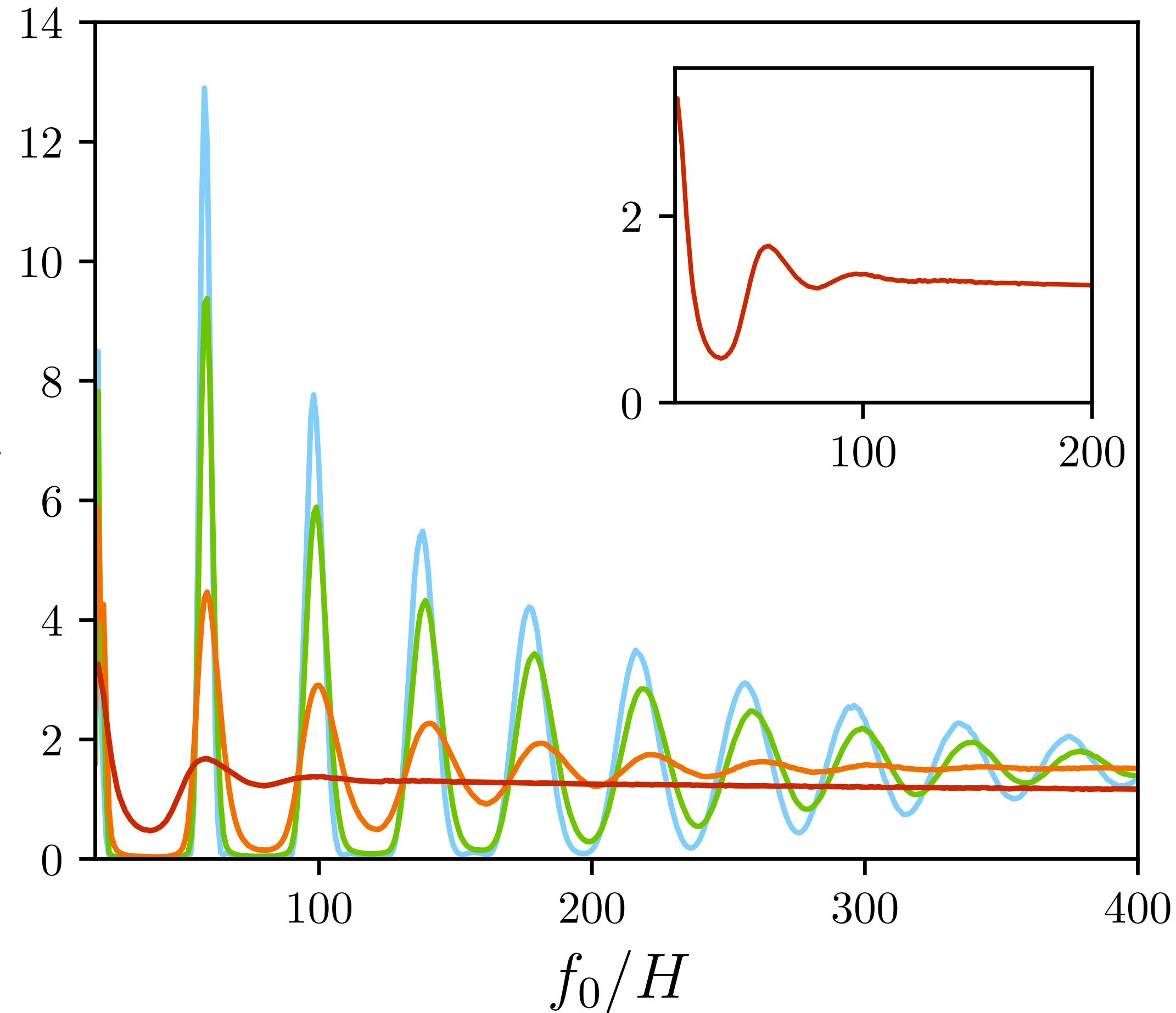
H. Pandey,
M. Christos,
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arXiv:2507.05336

Born-Oppenheimer theory—
 $U = 1$ and Gaussian fluctuations of B

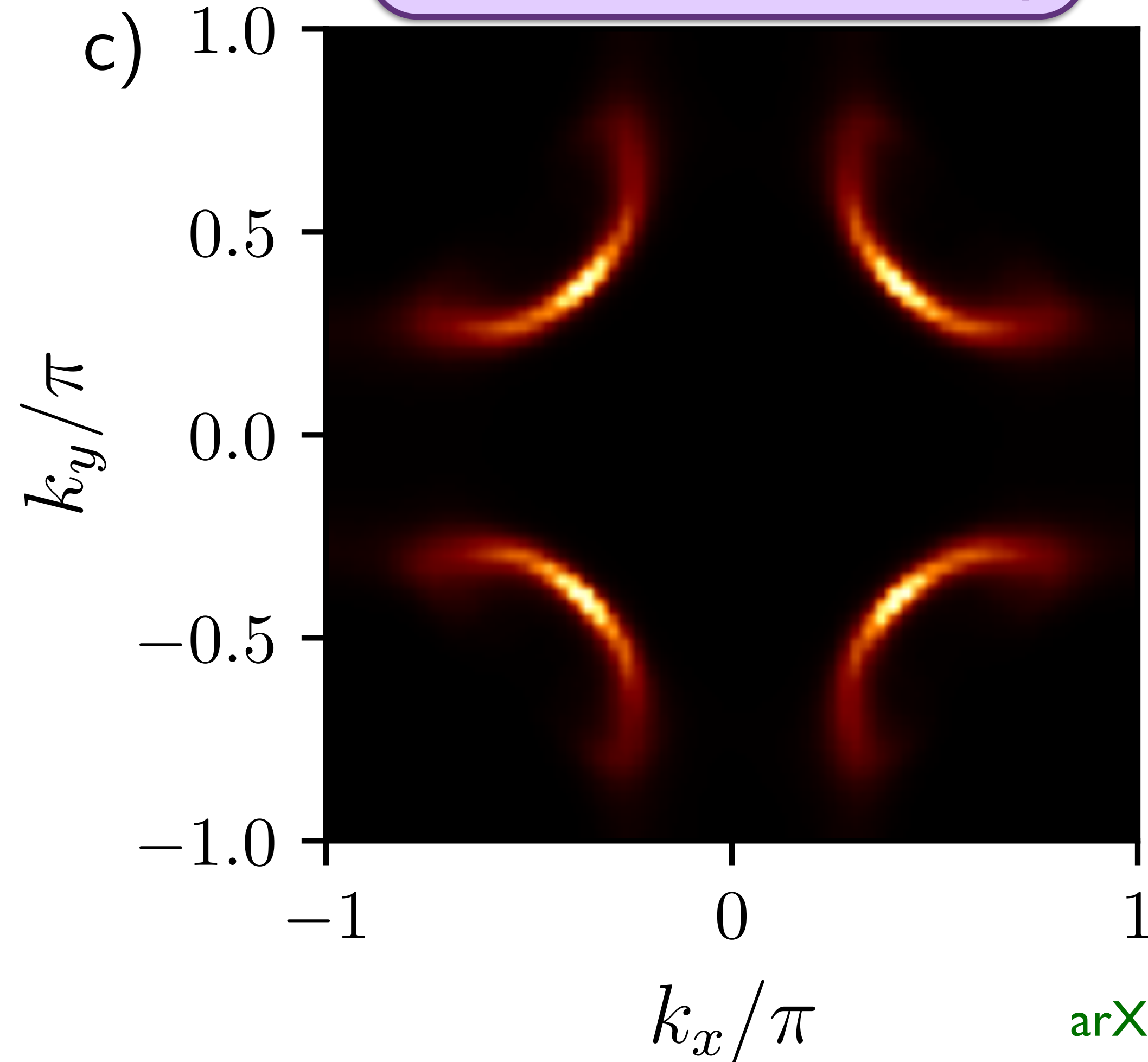
Ancilla theory of FL* and its confinement

Quantum oscillations theory



Born-Oppenheimer theory—
 $U = 1$ and Gaussian fluctuations of B

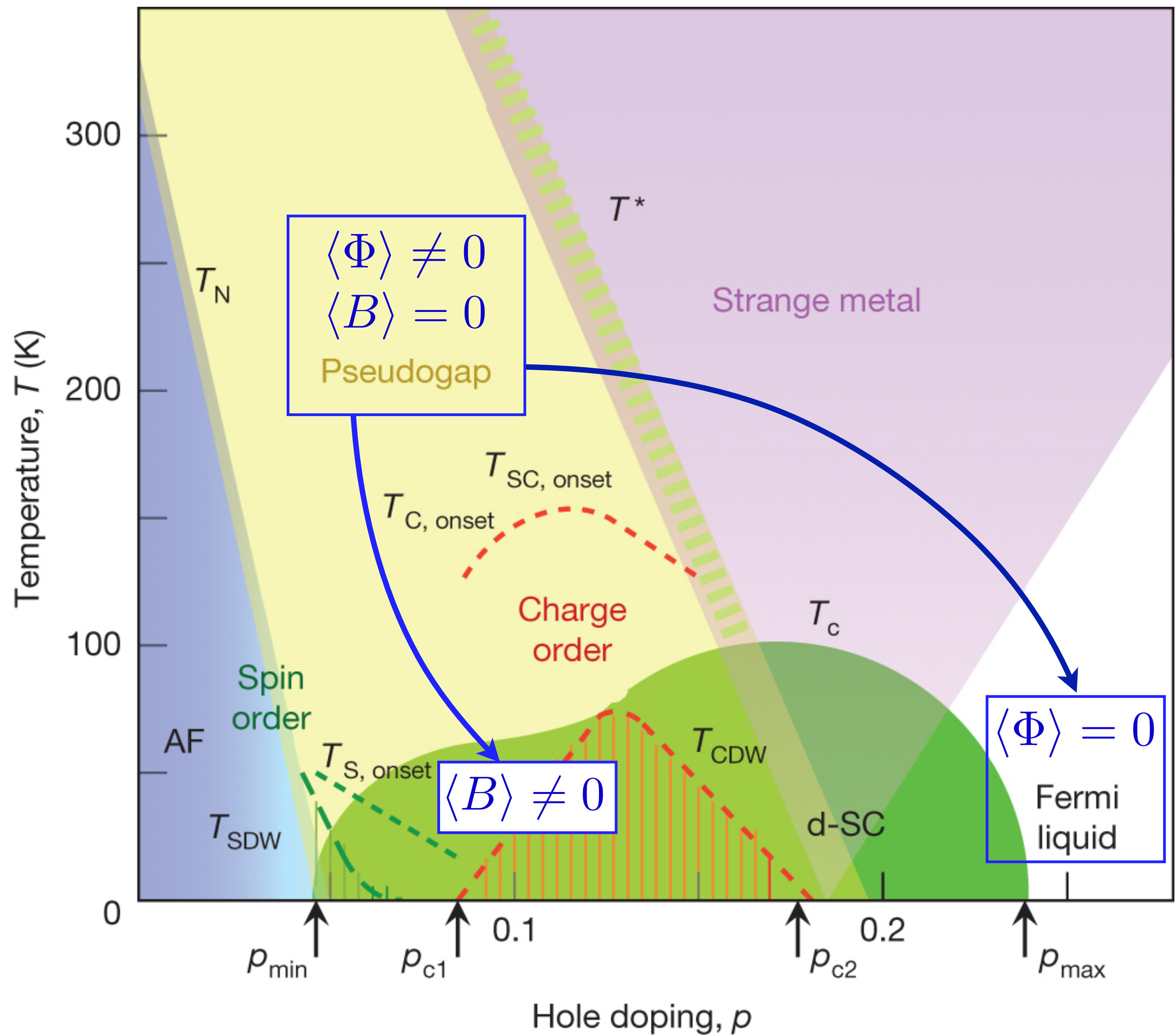
Photoemission theory



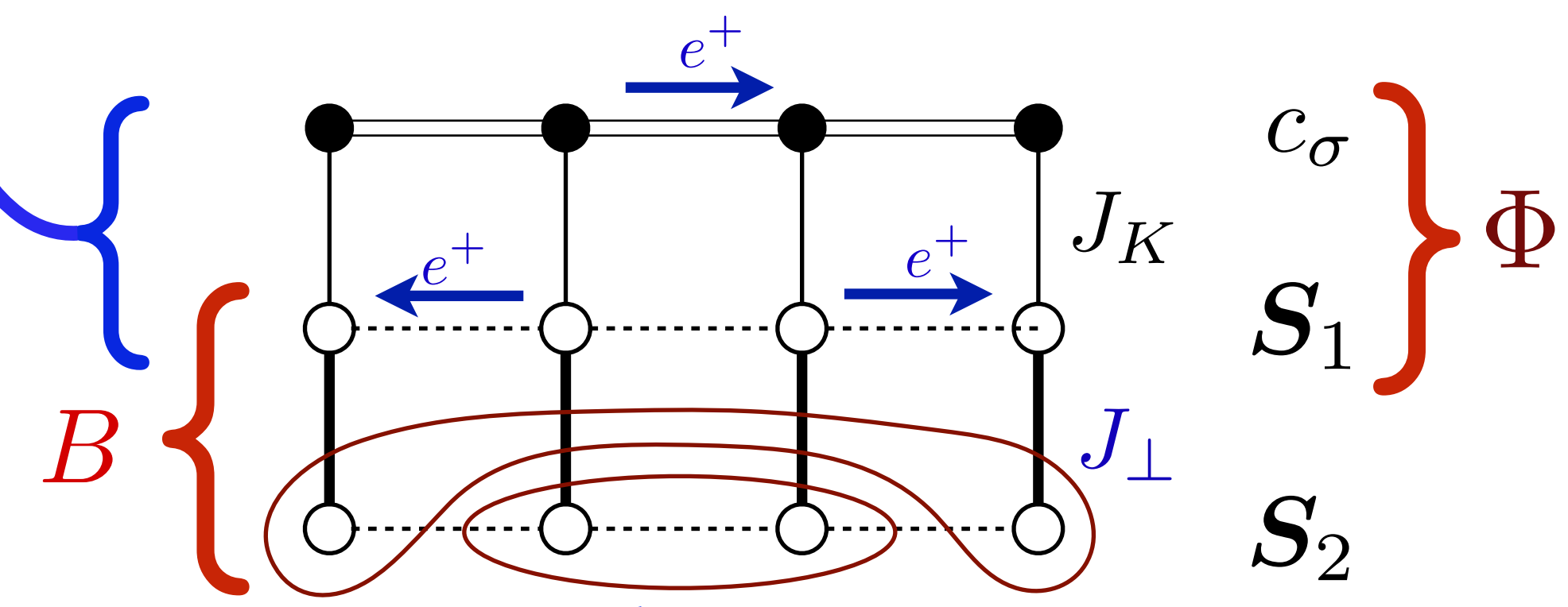
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arXiv:2507.05336



Kondo lattice heavy Fermi liquid
 when $\langle \Phi \rangle \neq 0$.
 Size $1 + p + 1 = p \pmod{2}$.
Small Fermi pockets!



π -flux spin liquid
 with $SU(2)$ gauge field U