

# $Z_2$ fractionalized phases of $t$ - $J$ models

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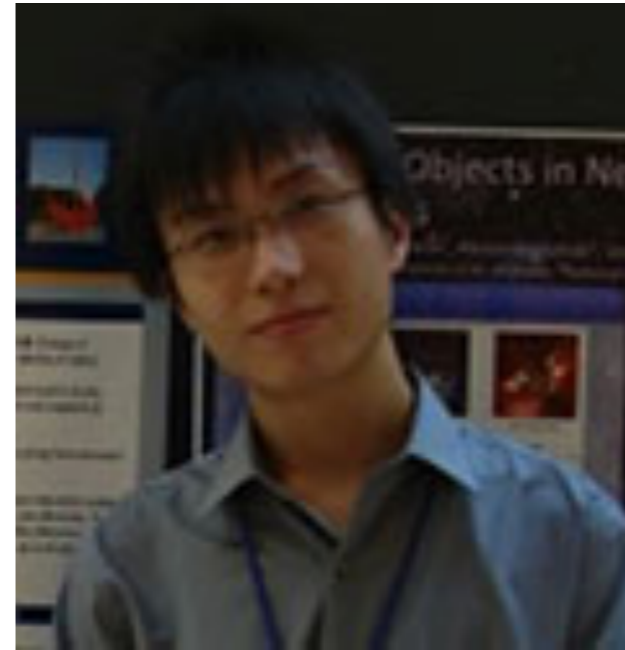




**Snir Gazit**  
**Berkeley**



**Fakher Assaad**  
**Wurzburg**

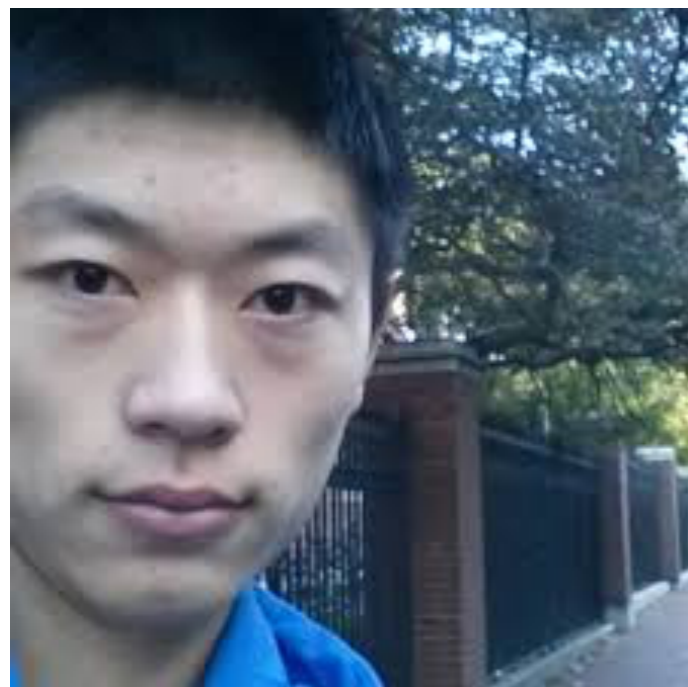


**Chong Wang**  
**Harvard**

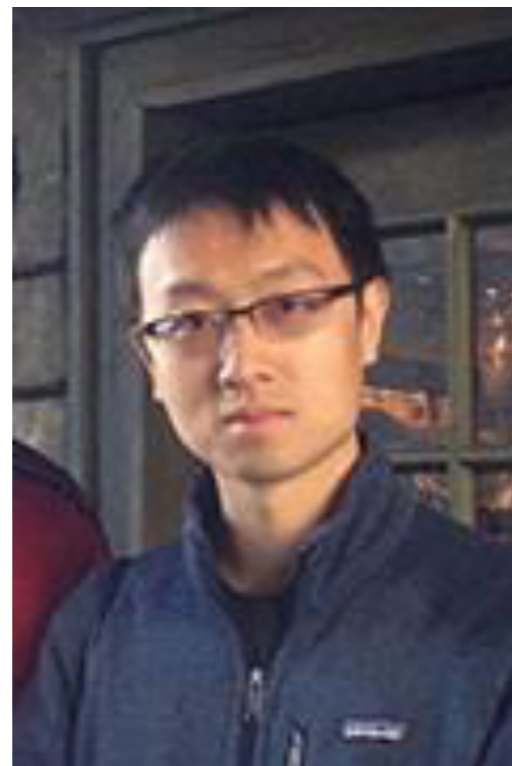


**Ashvin Vishwanath**  
**Harvard**

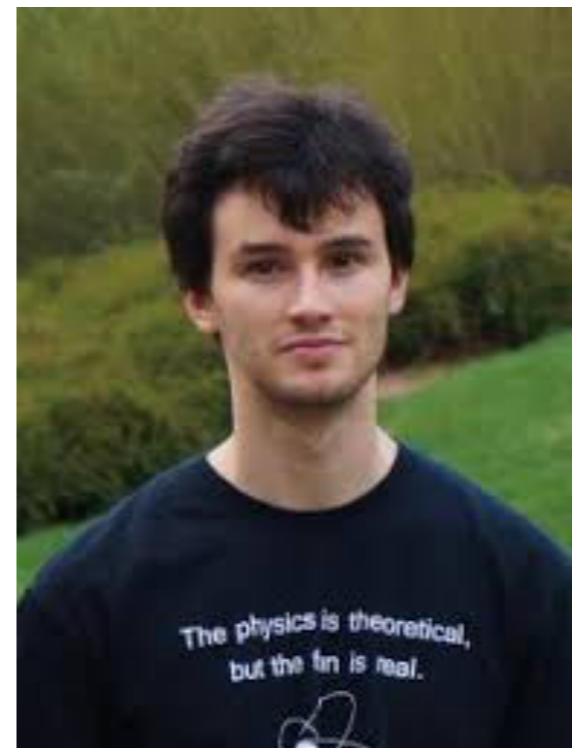
**arXiv:1804.01095**



**Wenbo Fu**  
**Harvard**



**Yingfei Gu**  
**Harvard**



**Grisha Tarnopolsky**  
**Harvard**

**arXiv:1804.04130**

1. Orthogonal metals
2. Confinement transitions in square lattice  $Z_2$  gauge theories: CFTs with emergent gauge fields
3. Phase diagram of a SYK model

1. Orthogonal metals

2. Confinement transitions in square lattice  $Z_2$  gauge theories: CFTs with emergent gauge fields

3. Phase diagram of a SYK model

# Orthogonal metals

Fractionalize the electron  $c_{i\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha = \uparrow, \downarrow$  into an “orthogonal fermion”  $f_{i\alpha}$  and an Ising spin  $\sigma_i^z = \pm 1$ :

$$c_{i\alpha} = \sigma_i^z f_{i\alpha}$$

This introduces a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  gauge invariance

$$\sigma_i^z \rightarrow \eta_i \sigma_i^z \quad , \quad f_{i\alpha} \rightarrow \eta_i f_{i\alpha}$$

The orthogonal fermion,  $f_{i\alpha}$ , carries both the spin and charge of the electron.

The Ising matter field,  $\sigma^z$ , is ‘dark matter’ carrying only energy, and a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  gauge charge.

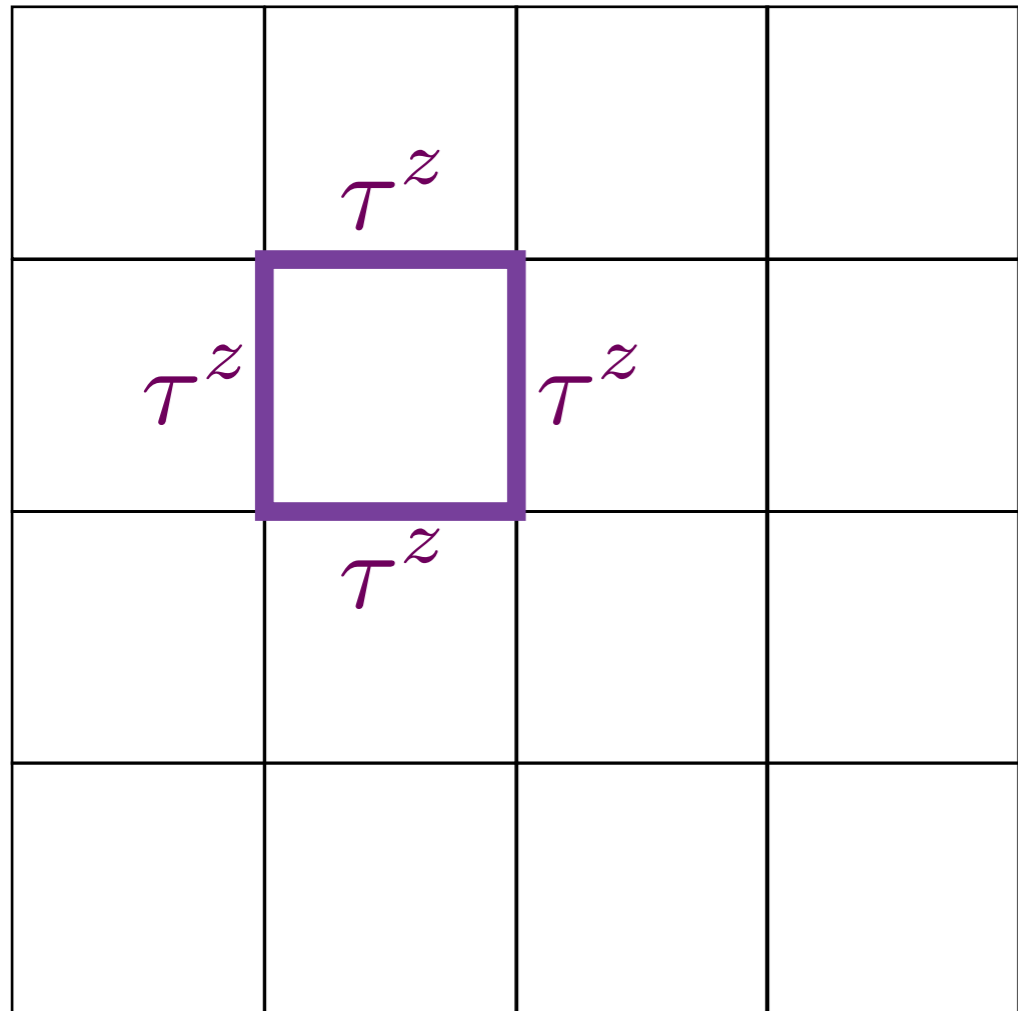
1. Orthogonal metals

2. Confinement transitions in square lattice  $Z_2$  gauge theories: CFTs with emergent gauge fields

3. Phase diagram of a SYK model

# $Z_2$ lattice gauge theory

(Wegner, 1971)



$$H = - \sum_{\square} \tau^z \tau^z \tau^z \tau^z - g \sum_i \tau^x$$

$$G_i = \begin{array}{c|c} & \tau^x \\ \hline \tau^x & \tau^x \\ \hline & \tau^x \end{array}$$

Gauss's Law:  $[H, G_i] = 0$  ,  $G_i = 1$



# $\mathbb{Z}_2$ lattice gauge theory

Deconfined phase.  
 $\mathbb{Z}_2$  flux expelled.  
 $\mathbb{Z}_2$  (toric code)  
topological order.

Topological  
phase  
transition

Confined phase.  
 $\mathbb{Z}_2$  flux proliferates.  
No topological order.

$$H = - \sum_{\square} \tau^z \tau^z \tau^z \tau^z - g \sum_i \tau^x$$

E. Fradkin and S. H. Shenker, PRD **19**, 3682 (1979); N. Read and S. Sachdev, PRL **66**, 1773 (1991);  
X.-G. Wen, PRB **44**, 2664 (1991); A.Y. Kitaev, Annals of Physics **303**, 2 (2003)

# Topological order

$$V_x = \prod_{\bar{C}_x} \tau^x, \quad V_y = \prod_{\bar{C}_y} \tau^x$$

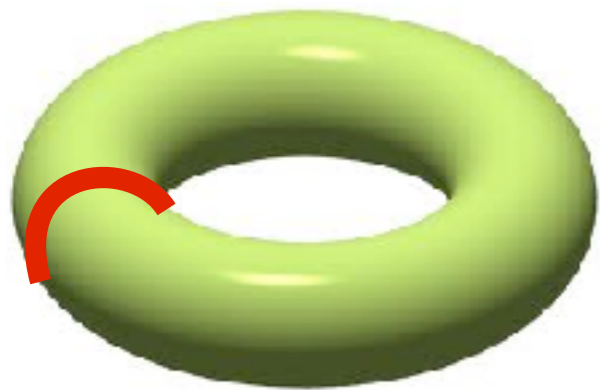
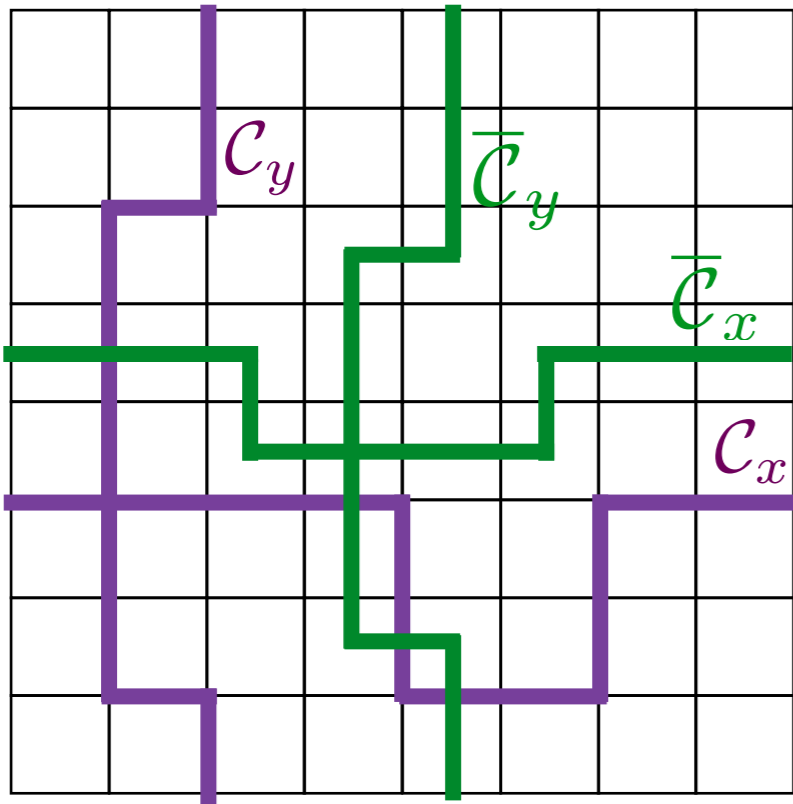
$$W_x = \prod_{C_x} \tau^z, \quad W_y = \prod_{C_y} \tau^z$$

$$V_x W_y = -W_y V_x, \quad V_y W_x = -W_x V_y$$

and all other pairs commute.

On a torus, there are two additional independent operators,  $V_x$  and  $V_y$  which commute with the Hamiltonian:

$$[H, V_x] = [H, V_y] = 0$$



(N. Read and S.S., 1991  
Freedman, Nayak, Shtengel,  
Walker, Wang, 2003)

Topological quantum field theory describes degenerate states with  $Z_2$  flux  $W = \pm 1$  through the holes of the torus

Confined phase.  
Unique ground state has  $V_x = 1, V_y = 1$ .  
No topological order

This criterion can distinguish the phases when dynamical (or even gapless) matter fields are present

$g$

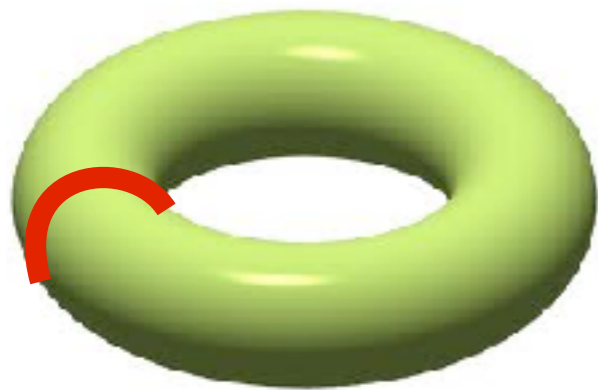
# Z<sub>2</sub> lattice gauge theory

$$H = - \sum_{\square} \tau^z \tau^z \tau^z \tau^z - g \sum_i \tau^x, \quad ,$$

$$G_i = 1$$

$$\mathcal{L} = |(\partial_\mu - 2ia_\mu)\Phi|^2 + |\Phi|^4 \quad (\text{Fradkin and Shenker, 1979})$$

+ relevant monopoles.  
Ising\* criticality



Higgs state with  $\langle \Phi \rangle \neq 0$ :  
The phase of  $\Phi$  winds by  $2\pi$  around the cycle of the torus, trapping U(1) flux  $\pi$  in the hole of the torus. This leads to 4-fold degeneracy

Confined phase.  
Unique ground state has  $V_x = 1, V_y = 1$ .  
No topological order

$g$

# Odd $Z_2$ lattice gauge theory

$$H = - \sum_{\square} \tau^z \tau^z \tau^z \tau^z - g \sum_i \tau^x$$

$$G_i = -1$$

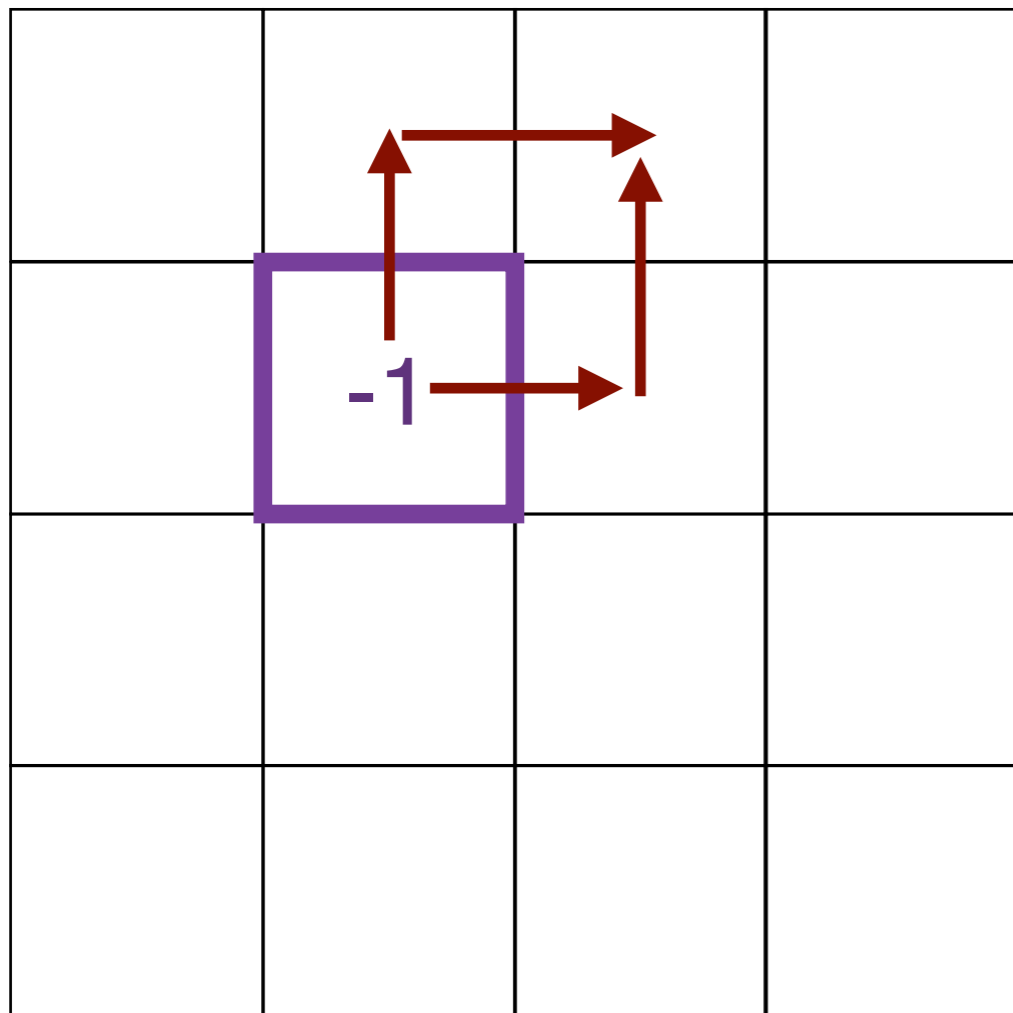
$$G_i = \begin{array}{c|c} & \tau^x \\ \hline \tau^x & \tau^x \\ \hline & \tau^x \end{array}$$

# Odd $Z_2$ lattice gauge theory

$$H = - \sum_{\square} \tau^z \tau^z \tau^z \tau^z - g \sum_i \tau^x$$

$$G_i = -1$$

$$G_i = \begin{array}{c|c} \tau^x & \tau^x \\ \hline \tau^x & \tau^x \end{array}$$



*Symmetry fractionalization:*  
Single spacing translations anti-commute

$$T_x T_y = -T_y T_x$$

when acting on  
'fractionalized' states with  $Z_2$  flux -1.

# Odd $\mathbb{Z}_2$ lattice gauge theory

$$H = - \sum_{\square} \tau^z \tau^z \tau^z \tau^z - g \sum_i \tau^x$$

$$G_i = -1$$

Trivial phase  
is prohibited

Deconfined phase.

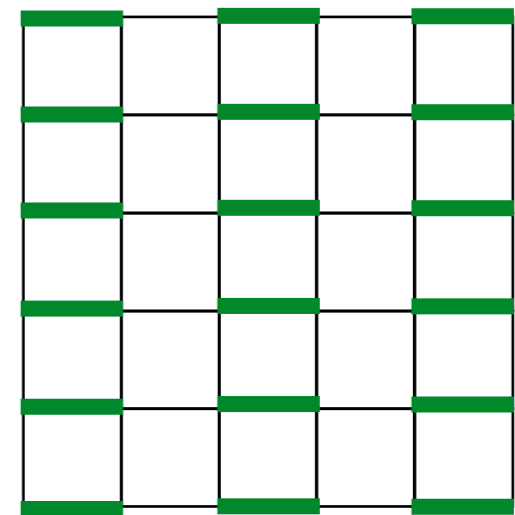
Topological order

Particles with  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  flux have a degenerate spectrum which realizes

$$T_x T_y = -T_y T_x$$

Confined phase.

Broken symmetry and valence bond solid (VBS) order



$g$

# Odd $Z_2$ lattice gauge theory

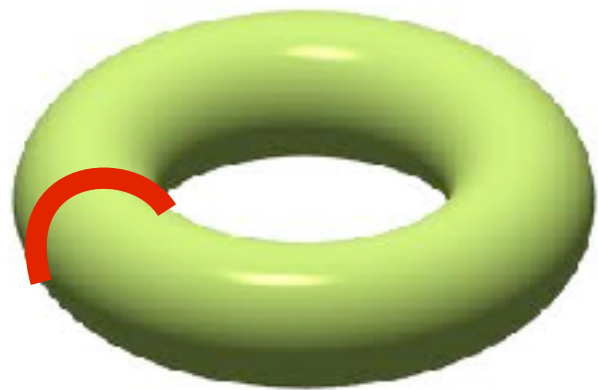
$$H = - \sum_{\square} \tau^z \tau^z \tau^z \tau^z - g \sum_i \tau^x, \quad , \quad G_i = -1$$

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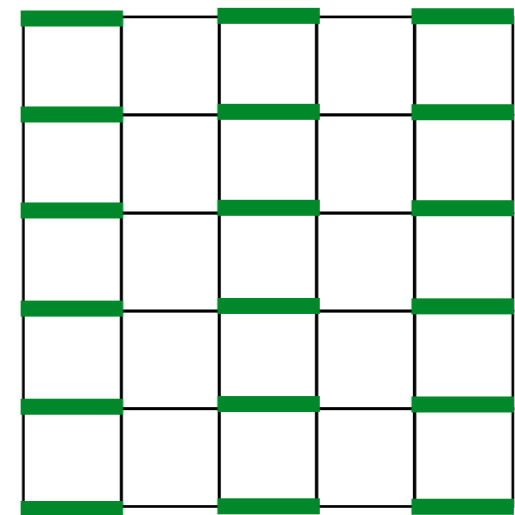
Deconfined quantum criticality:  
 $\mathcal{L} = |(\partial_\mu - 2ia_\mu)\Phi|^2 + |\Phi|^4$   
 + irrelevant quadrupled monopoles

**Trivial phase is prohibited**

Confined phase.  
 Broken symmetry and  
 valence bond solid (VBS) order



Higgs state with  $\langle \Phi \rangle \neq 0$ :  
 The phase of  $\Phi$  winds by  $2\pi$   
 around the cycle of the torus,  
 trapping U(1) flux  $\pi$  in the  
 hole of the torus. This leads  
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$g$

# Odd $Z_2$ lattice gauge theory

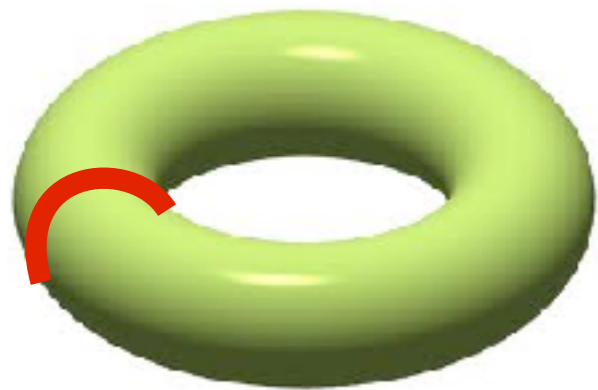
$$H = - \sum_{\square} \tau^z \tau^z \tau^z \tau^z - g \sum_i \tau^x, \quad G_i = -1$$

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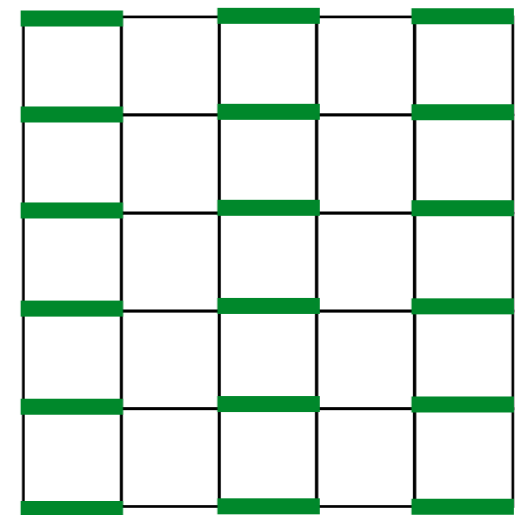
Trivial phase is prohibited

Broken symmetry of the massless scalar dual to the photon

Confined phase.  
Broken symmetry and valence bond solid (VBS) order



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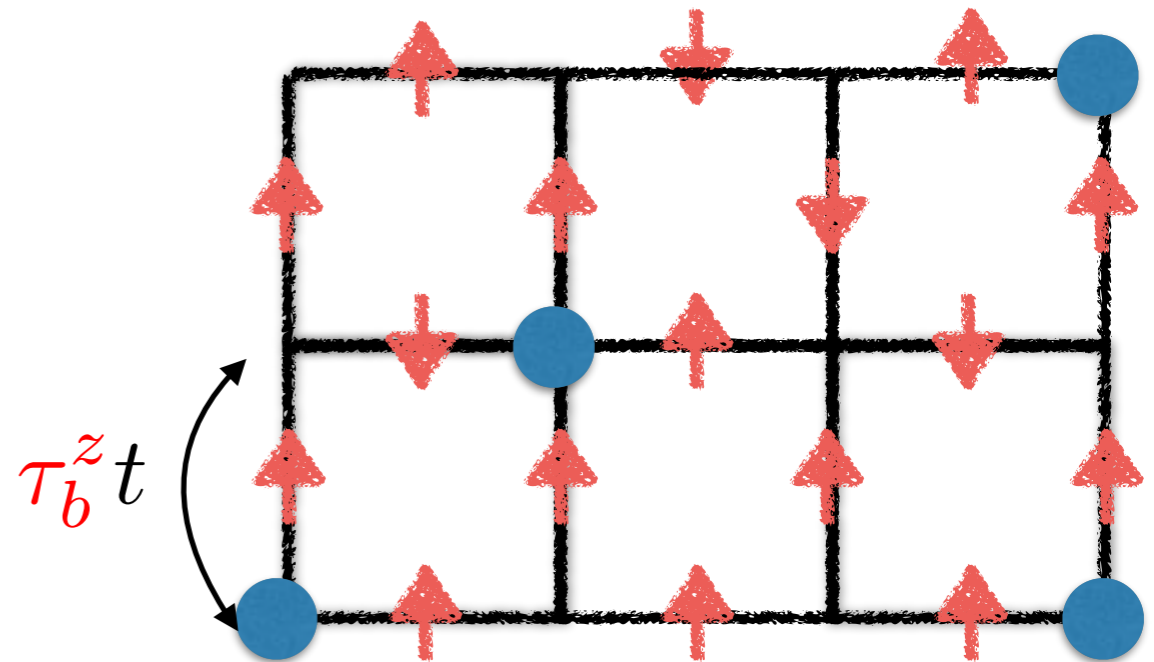


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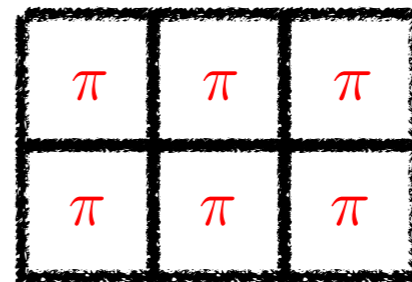
# $\mathbb{Z}_2$ gauge theory of orthogonal fermions

↑ Ising Gauge field  $\tau_b^z$

● fermion  $f_{i,\alpha}$



$$\mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{Z}_2} = +|J| \sum_{\square} \prod_{b \in \square} \tau_b^z - h \sum_b \tau_b^x$$



$J \gg h$

$\pi$ -flux

$$\mathcal{H}_f = -t \sum_{b=\langle i,j \rangle, \alpha} \tau_b^z f_{i,\alpha}^\dagger f_{j,\alpha} + \text{H.c.} + U \sum_i \left( f_{i\uparrow}^\dagger f_{i\uparrow} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \left( f_{i\downarrow}^\dagger f_{i\downarrow} - \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

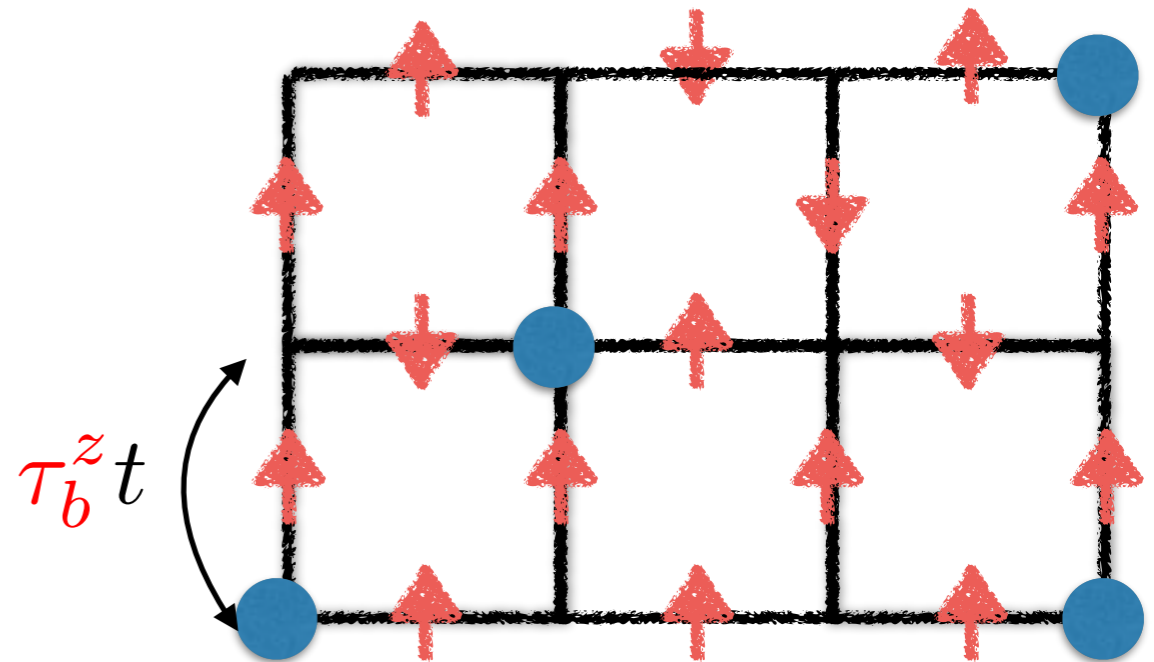
Ising "Gauss law" with matter fields

$$G_r = (-1)^{n_r^f} \prod_{b \in r} \tau_b^x = -1 \quad \text{"Odd" Lattice gauge theory}$$

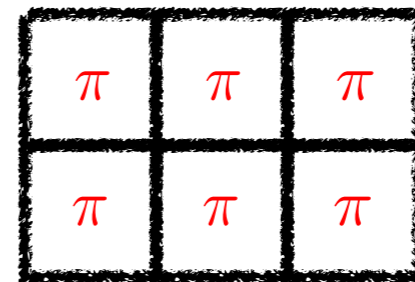
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Global Symmetries

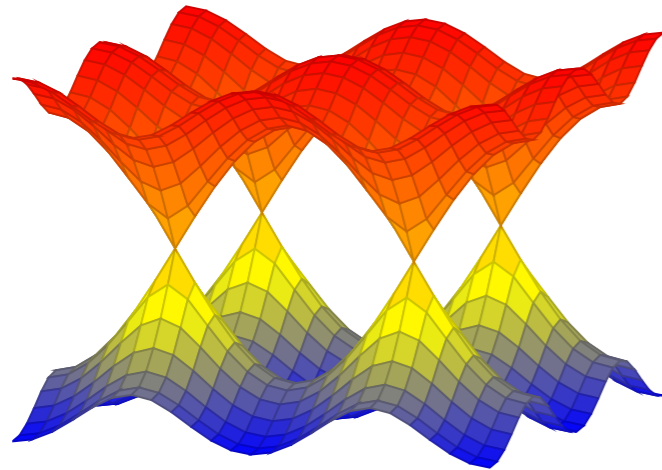
$SU_s(2) \times SU_c(2)$   
 $SU_c(2)$  is broken by  $U$

Spin rotations

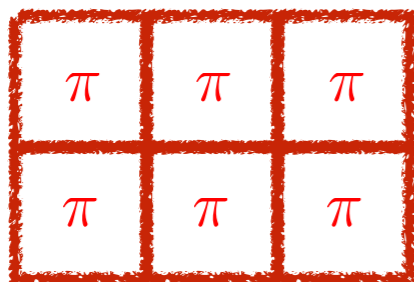
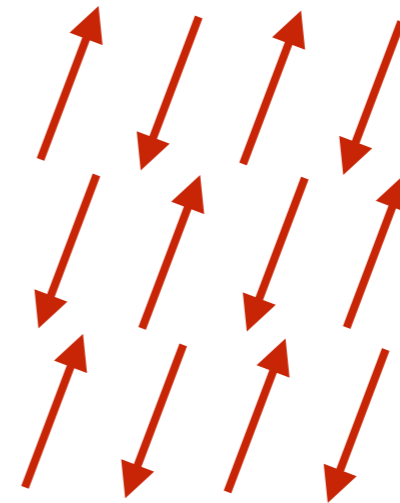
Pseudo-Spin BCS/CDW

# Phase Diagram

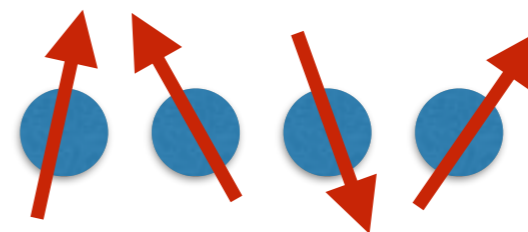
Deconfined Dirac



Confined AFM



$\pi$ -flux



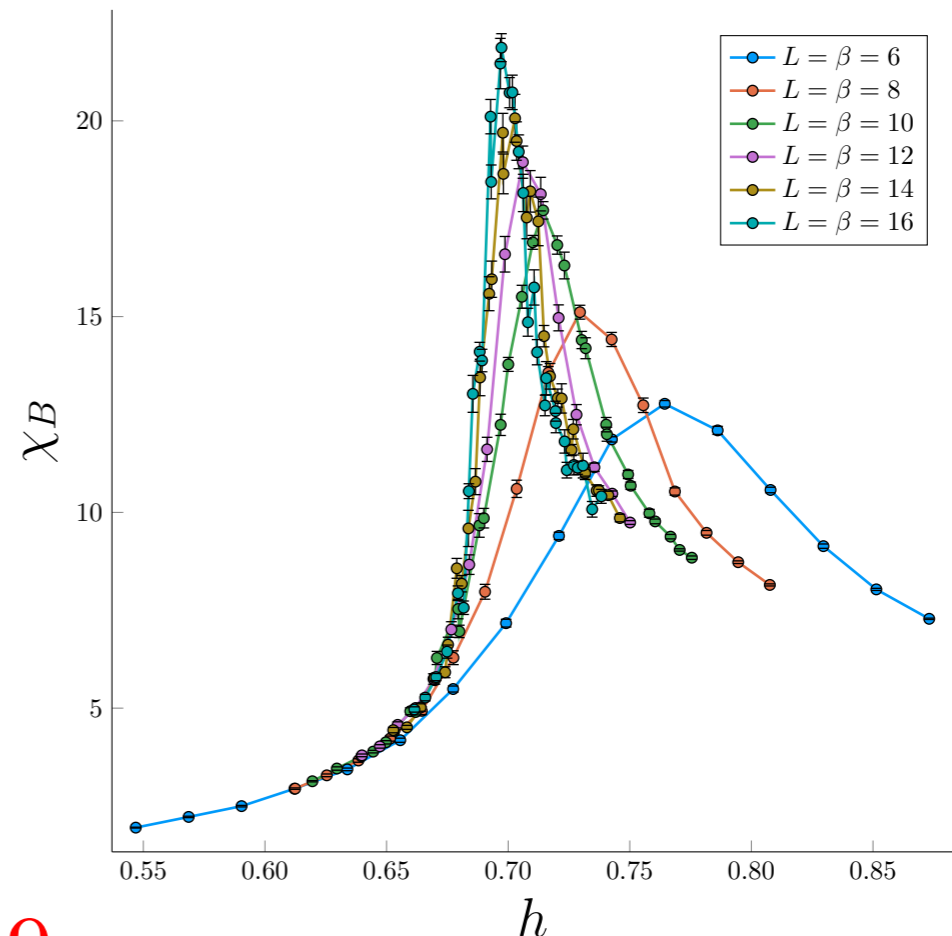
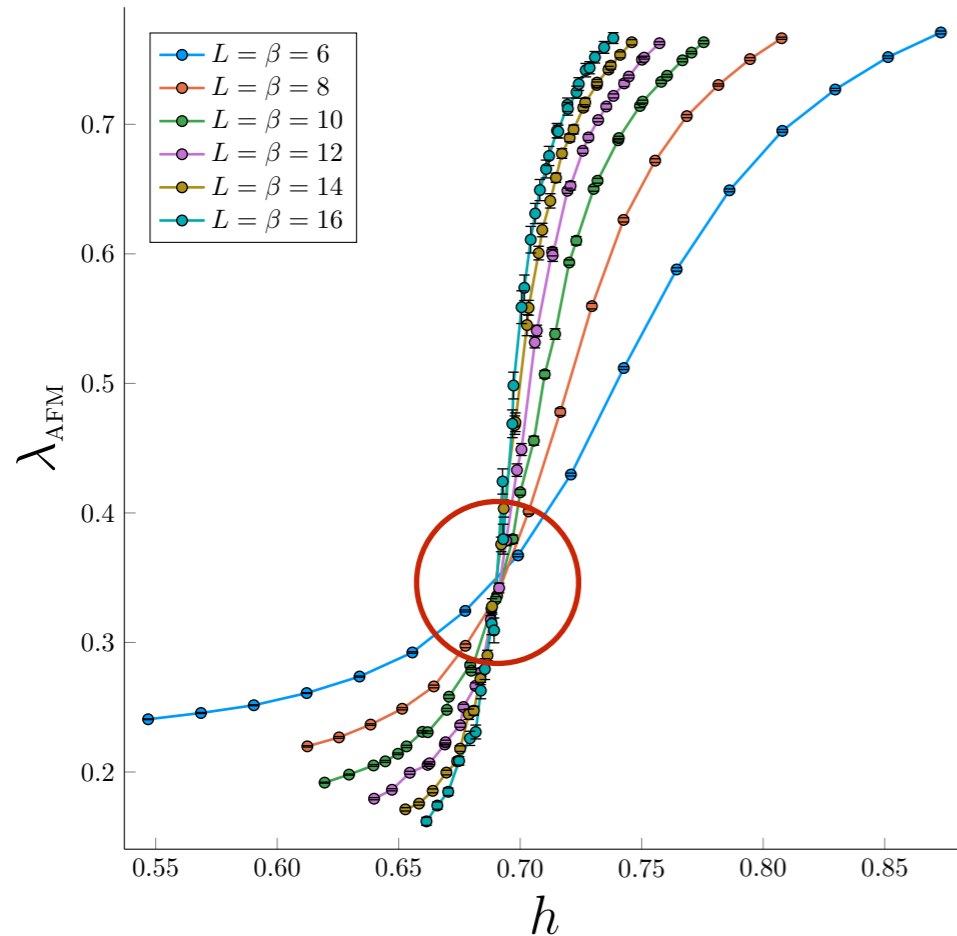
$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}} \sim \tilde{J} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j$$

AFM order

# AFM + confinement transition

$$\lambda_{\text{AFM}} = 1 - \frac{\chi_{\text{S}} (G_{\text{AFM}} - \Delta q)}{\chi_{\text{S}} (G_{\text{AFM}})}$$

$$\chi_B = \langle B^2 \rangle - \langle B \rangle^2$$

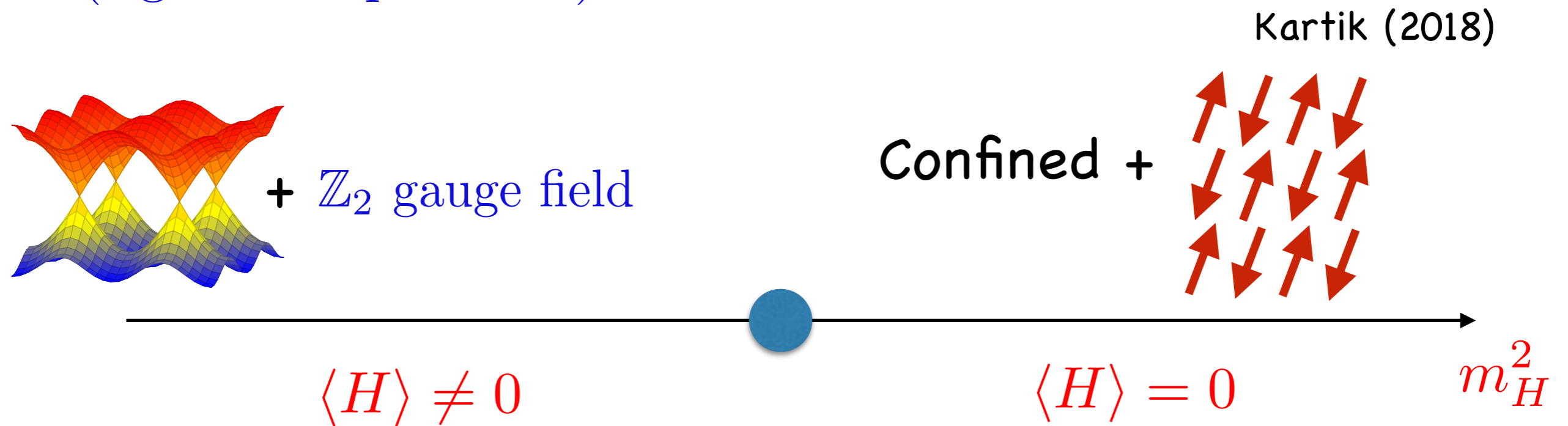


$$h_c = 0.69$$

Symmetry breaking and confinement coincide w/o fine-tuning!

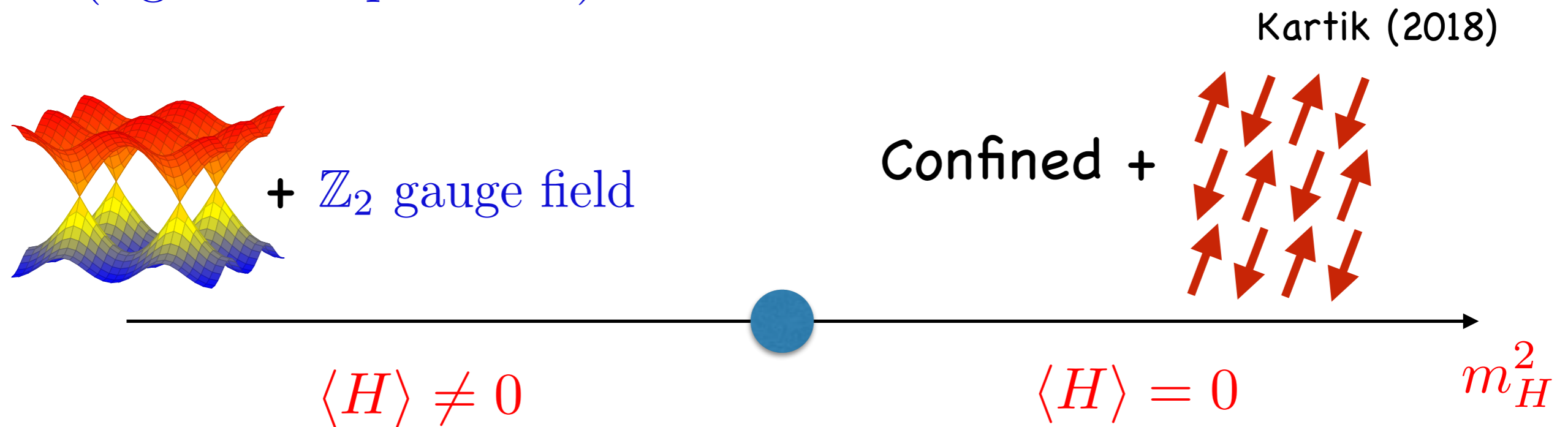
# Critical Field theory

- Embed the Ising gauge theory as  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \in SU_g(2)$
- Introduce a  $3 \times 3$  real matrix field  $H_{ab}$  which transforms under  $SU_g(2)$  (left multiplication) and  $SU_c(2)$  (right multiplication).



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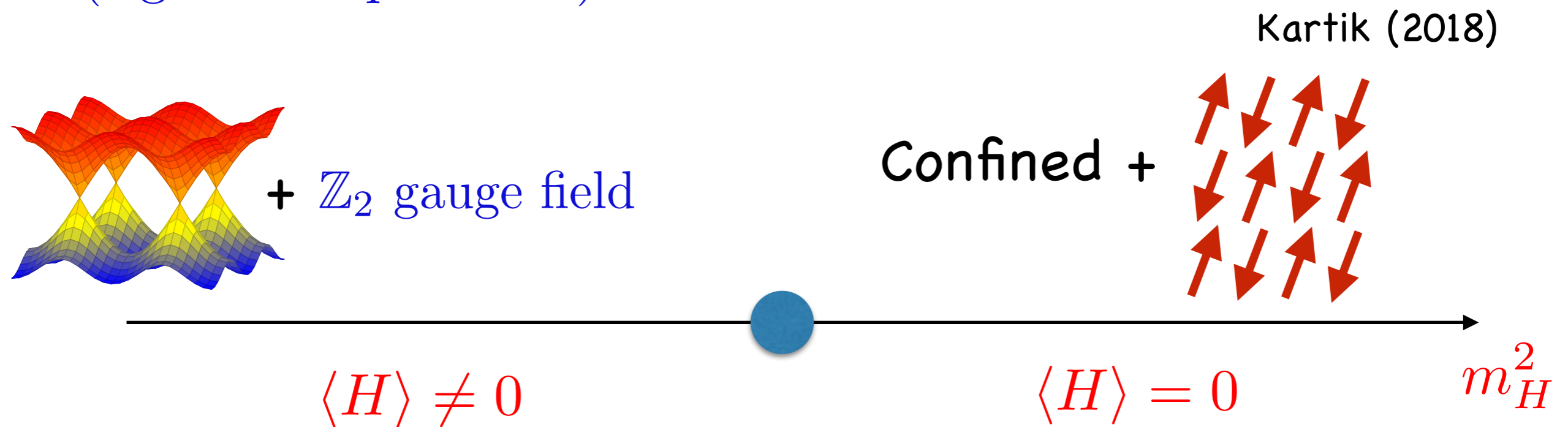


Critical theory is  $N_f = 2$   $SU(2)$   $QCD_3$  and a critical Higgs field  $H$

- Higgs phase,  $\langle H \rangle \neq 0$  has  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  topological order and massless Dirac orthogonal fermions
- When the Higgs field is gapped,  $QCD_3$  confines, leading to AFM order.

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**Prediction** -  $N_f = 2$   $SU(2)$   $QCD_3$  has an emergent  **$SO(5)$**  global symmetry

# Evidence for SO(5) symmetry

$$\mathbf{B}^\eta(q) = \sum_{r,\alpha} e^{iq \cdot r} \left( \tau_{r,\eta}^z f_{r+\eta,\alpha}^\dagger f_{r,\alpha} + \text{h.c.} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{S}^\gamma(q) = \sum_{r,\alpha,\beta} e^{iq \cdot r} f_{r,\alpha}^\dagger \sigma_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma f_{r,\beta}$$

$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{B}^x \\ \mathbf{B}^y \\ \mathbf{S}^x \\ \mathbf{S}^y \\ \mathbf{S}^z \end{pmatrix}$

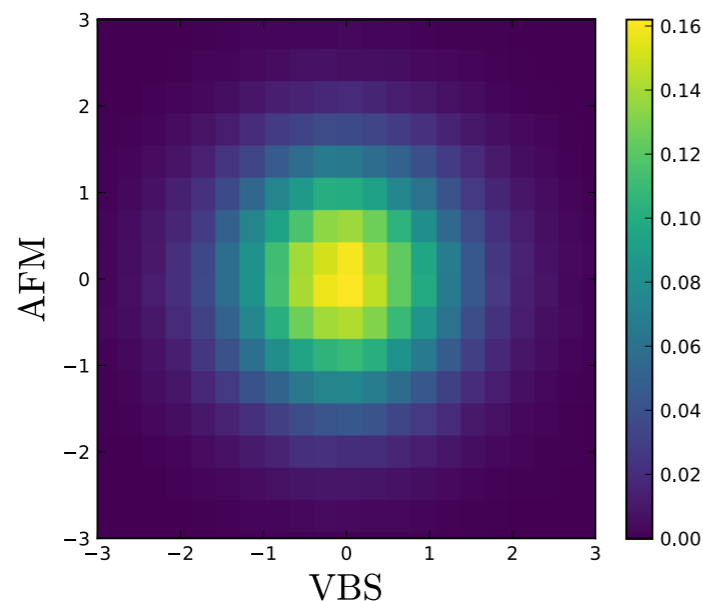
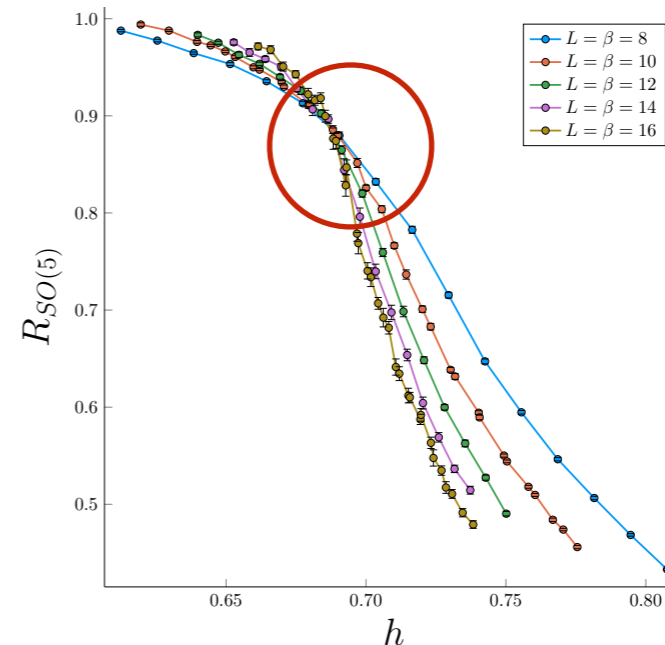
$\updownarrow$

VBS

AFM

RG invariant  $R_{SO(5)} = \frac{\chi_{\text{VBS}}}{\chi_{\text{AFM}}}$

Curve crossing at  $h_c = 0.69$

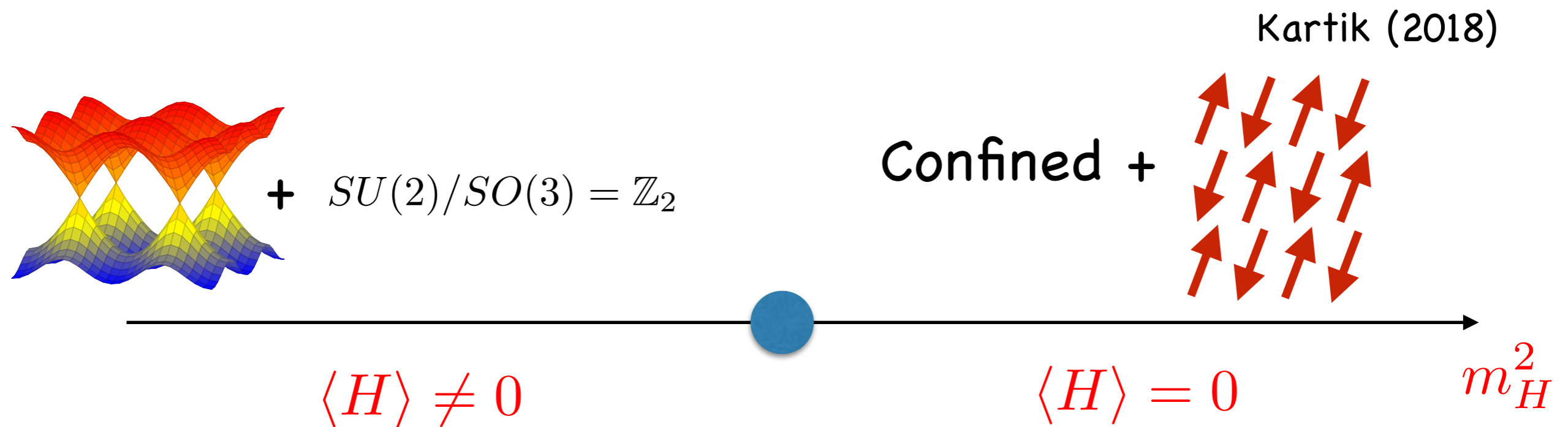


$$P(\mathbf{B}^x, \mathbf{S}^z)$$

At criticality displays circular symmetry

# Critical Field theory

1. Embed the Ising gauge theory in  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \in SU_g(2)$
2. 3x3 matrix Higgs field  $H_{ab}$  transforms as spin-one (SO(3)) under  $SU_g(2)$



Critical theory is  $N_f = 2$   $SU(2)$   $QCD_3$  and a critical Higgs field  $H$

- Higgs phase,  $\langle H \rangle \neq 0$  has  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  topological order and massless Dirac orthogonal fermions
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1. Orthogonal metals

2. Confinement transitions in square lattice  $Z_2$  gauge theories: CFTs with emergent gauge fields

3. Phase diagram of a SYK model

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$$c_{i\alpha} = \sigma_i^z f_{i\alpha}$$

This introduces a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  gauge invariance

$$\sigma_i^z \rightarrow \eta_i \sigma_i^z \quad , \quad f_{i\alpha} \rightarrow \eta_i f_{i\alpha}$$

The orthogonal fermion,  $f_{i\alpha}$ , carries both the spin and charge of the electron.

The Ising matter field,  $\sigma^z$ , is ‘dark matter’ carrying only energy, and a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  gauge charge.

# Orthogonal metals

Fractionalize the electron  $c_{ip\alpha}$ , on sites  $i = 1 \dots N$ , with spin  $\alpha = 1 \dots M$  and orbital index  $p = 1 \dots M'$  into an “orthogonal fermion”  $f_{i\alpha}$  and a real scalar  $\phi_{ip}$ :

$$c_{ip\alpha} = \phi_{ip} f_{i\alpha}$$

This introduces a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  gauge invariance

$$\phi_{ip} \rightarrow \eta_i \phi_{ip} \quad , \quad f_{i\alpha} \rightarrow \eta_i f_{i\alpha}$$

The orthogonal fermion  $f_{i\alpha}$  carries both the spin and charge of the electron.

The scalar field,  $\phi_{ip}$ , is ‘dark matter’ carrying only energy, and a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  gauge charge.

# A solvable model

We examine the  $t$ - $J$  model:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & \frac{1}{2g} \sum_{i,p} (\partial_\tau \phi_{ip})^2 + \sum_{i,\alpha} f_{i\alpha}^\dagger \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} - \mu \right) f_{i\alpha} \\ & + \frac{1}{\sqrt{NM}} \sum_{i,j,p,\alpha} t_{ij} \phi_{ip} \phi_{jp} f_{i\alpha}^\dagger f_{j\alpha} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{NM}} \sum_{i>j,\alpha\beta} J_{ij} f_{i\alpha}^\dagger f_{i\beta} f_{j\beta}^\dagger f_{j\alpha}, \end{aligned}$$

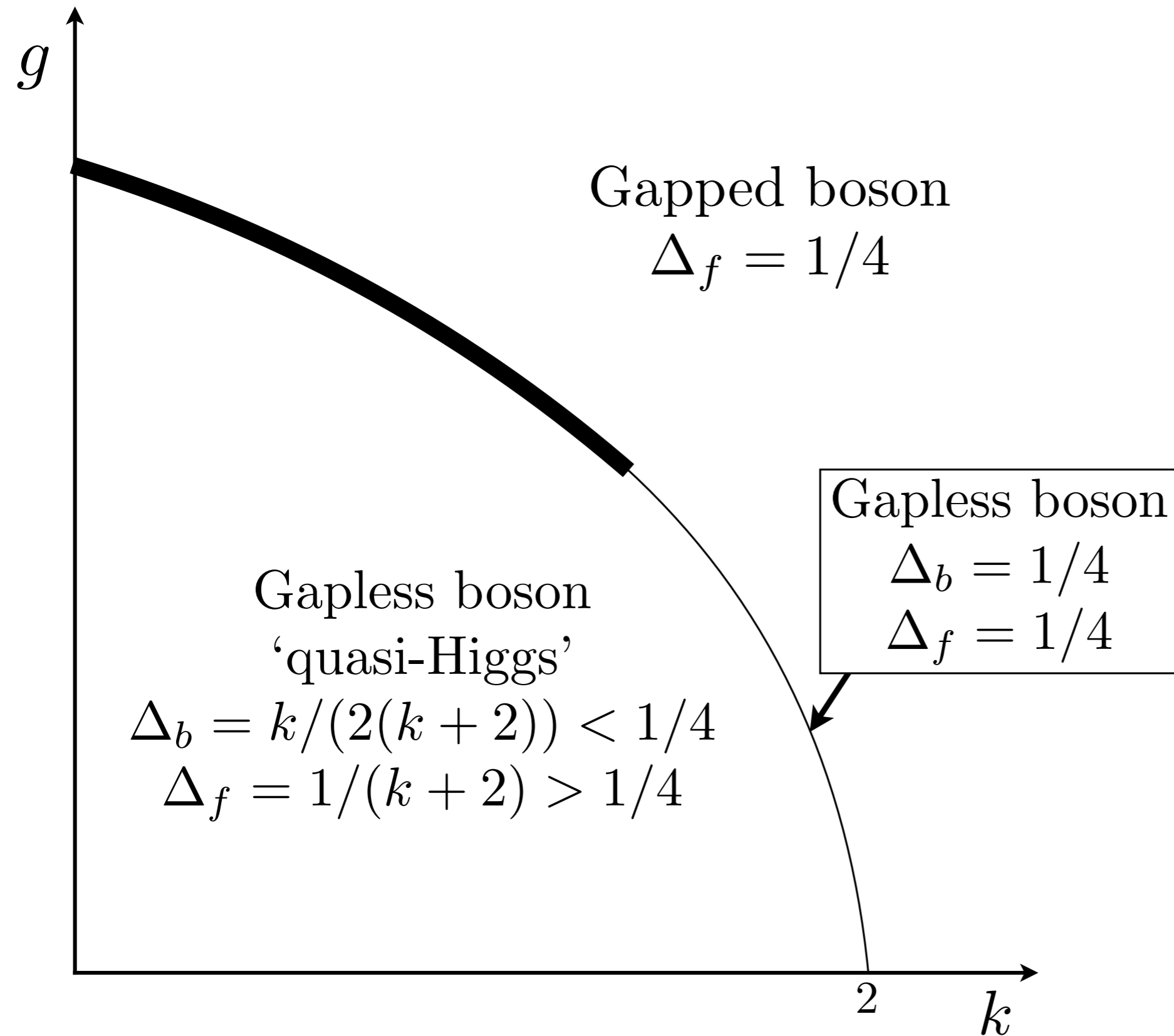
with the scalar field obeying the fixed length constraint

$$\sum_{p=1}^{M'} \phi_{ip}^2 = M'.$$

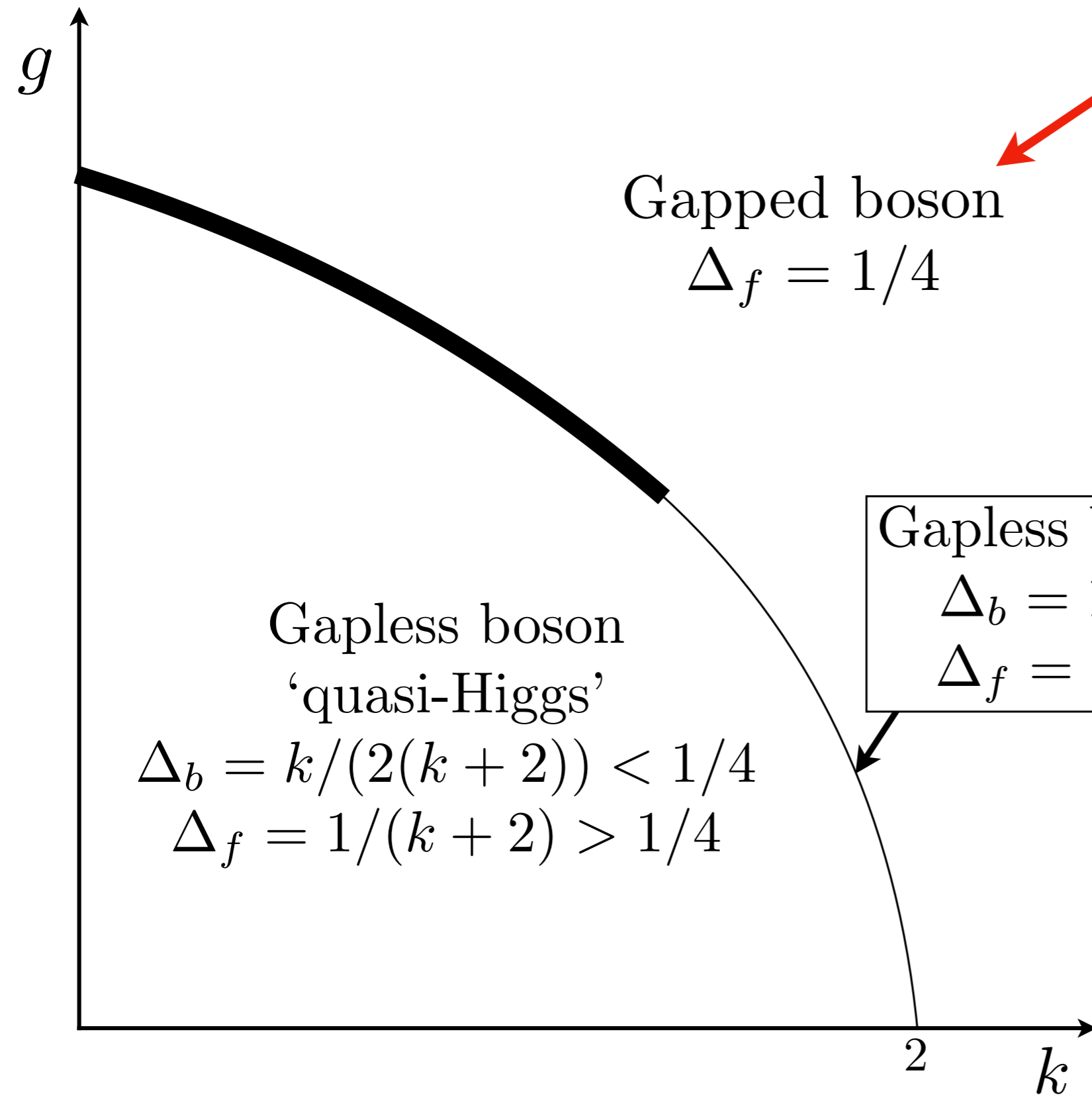
With  $t_{ij}$  and  $J_{ij}$  independent random numbers with zero mean,  $\mathcal{L}$  is solvable in the limit of large number of sites,  $N$ , followed by the limit of large  $M$  and  $M'$  at fixed

$$k \equiv \frac{M'}{M}.$$

# A solvable model



# A solvable model



$$\langle \phi(\tau)\phi(0) \rangle \sim \frac{e^{-m|\tau|}}{\sqrt{\tau}}$$
$$\langle f(\tau)f^\dagger(0) \rangle \sim \frac{\text{sgn}(\tau)}{|\tau|^{2\Delta_f}}$$

# A solvable model

$g$

Gapped boson  
 $\Delta_f = 1/4$

$$\langle \phi(\tau)\phi(0) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{|\tau|^{2\Delta_b}}$$
$$\langle f(\tau)f^\dagger(0) \rangle \sim \frac{\text{sgn}(\tau)}{|\tau|^{2\Delta_f}}$$

Gapless boson  
'quasi-Higgs'

$$\Delta_b = k/(2(k+2)) < 1/4$$
$$\Delta_f = 1/(k+2) > 1/4$$

Gapless boson  
 $\Delta_b = 1/4$   
 $\Delta_f = 1/4$

$$\Delta_b + \Delta_f = 1/2$$

In gapless region, we always have the Fermi liquid form for the electron Green's function  $\langle c(\tau)c^\dagger(0) \rangle \sim 1/\tau$ , although  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  charges remain deconfined. This is a consequences of the fixed point with a non-zero  $t$  term in the  $t$ - $J$  model.

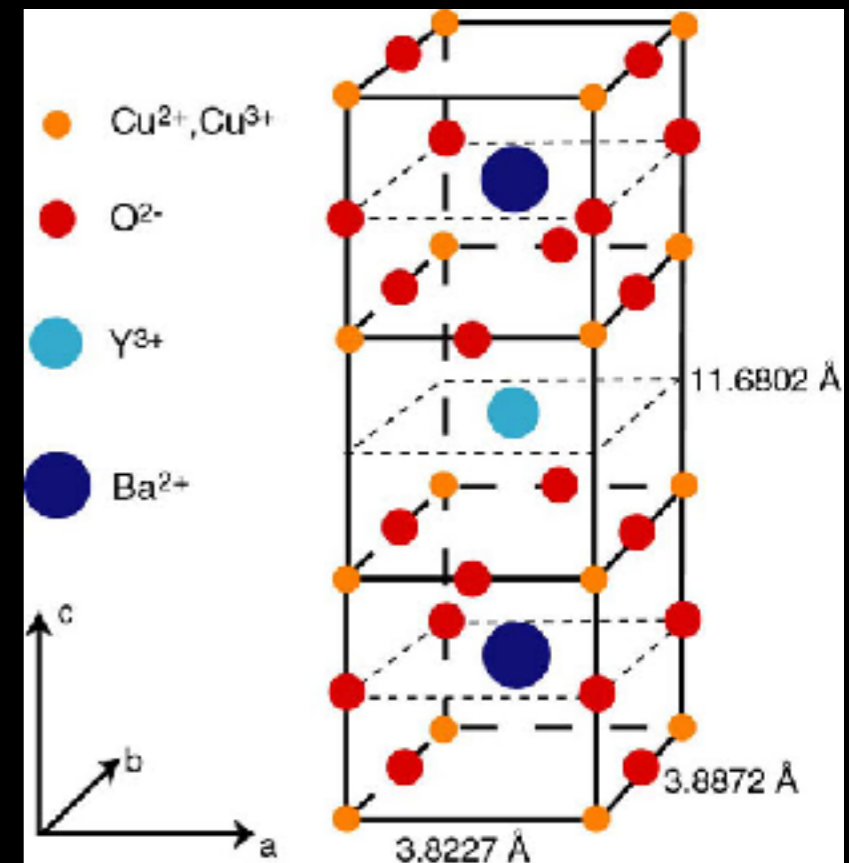
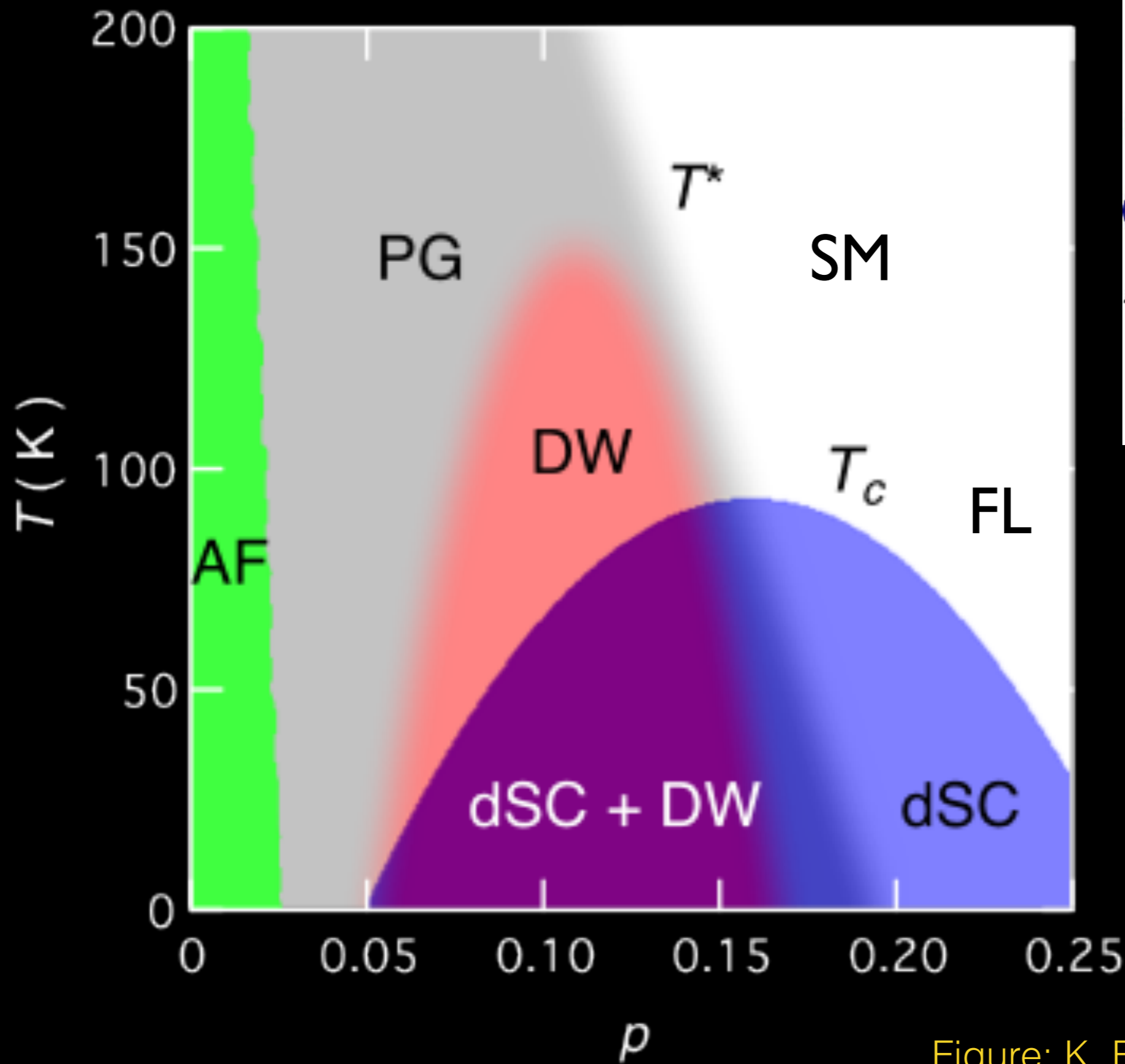


Figure: K. Fujita and J. C. Seamus Davis

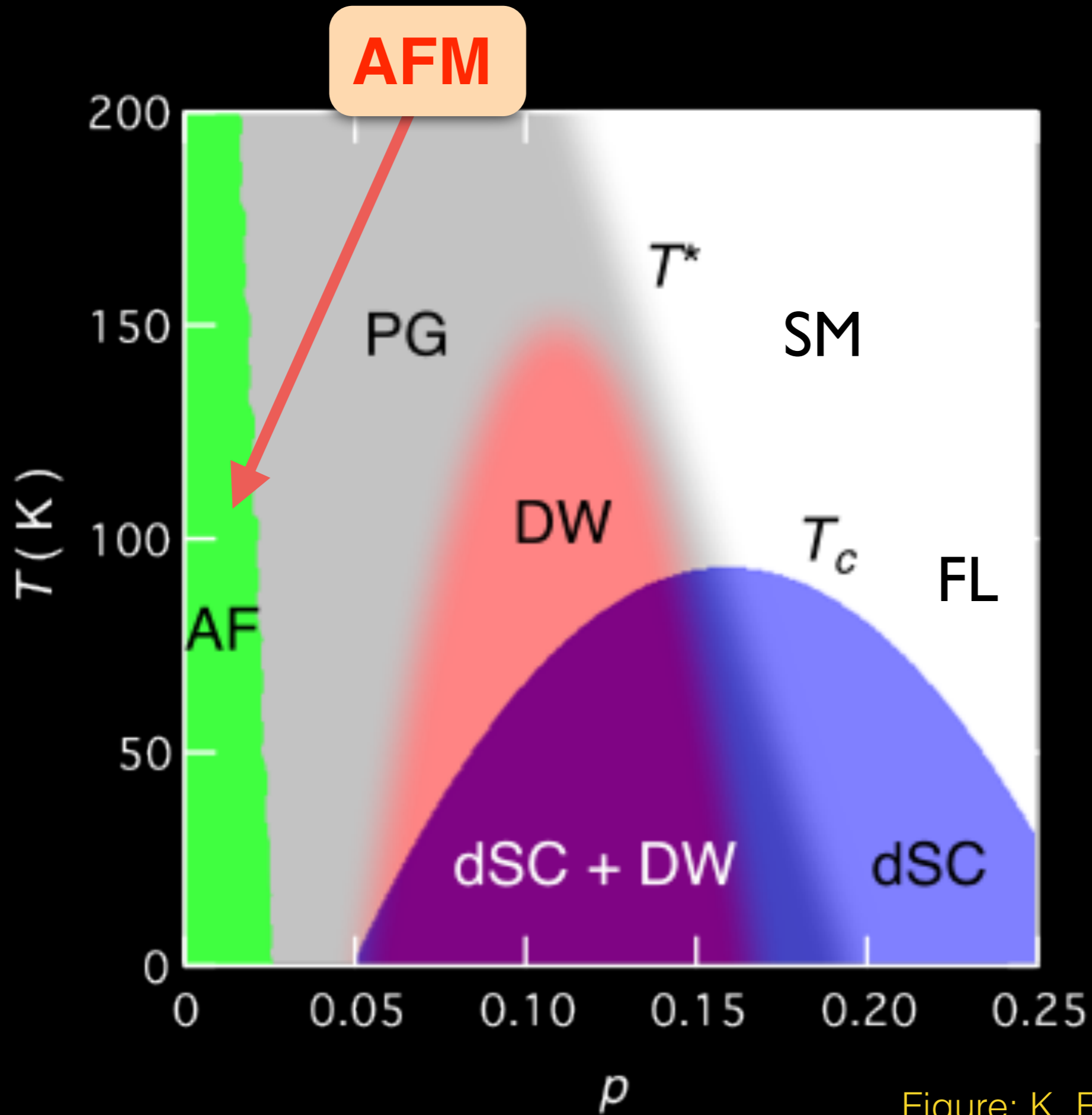
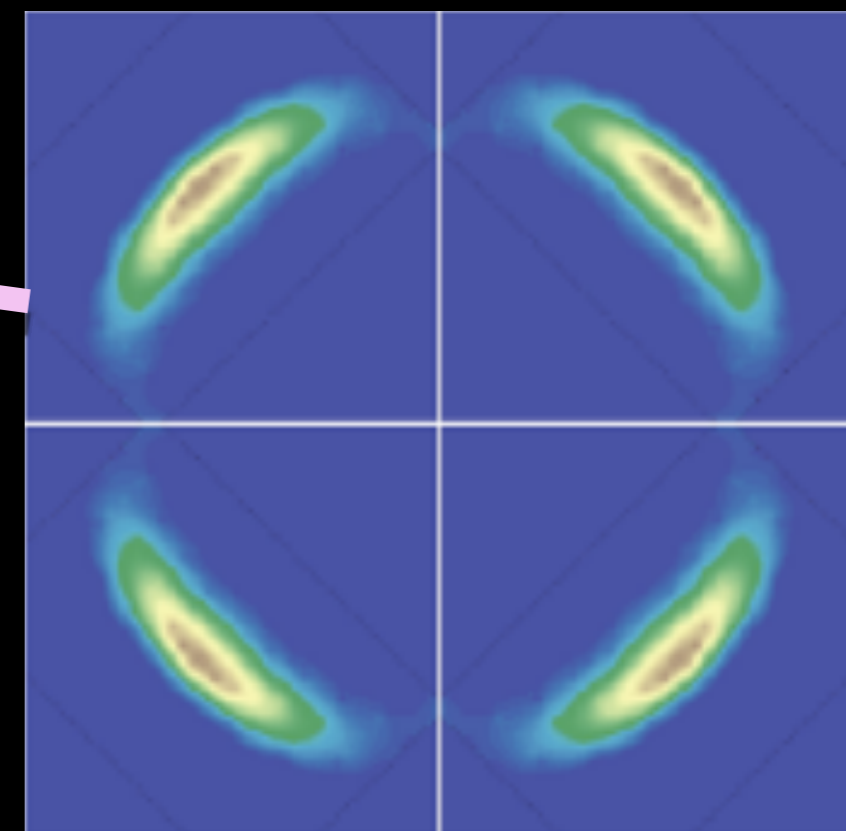
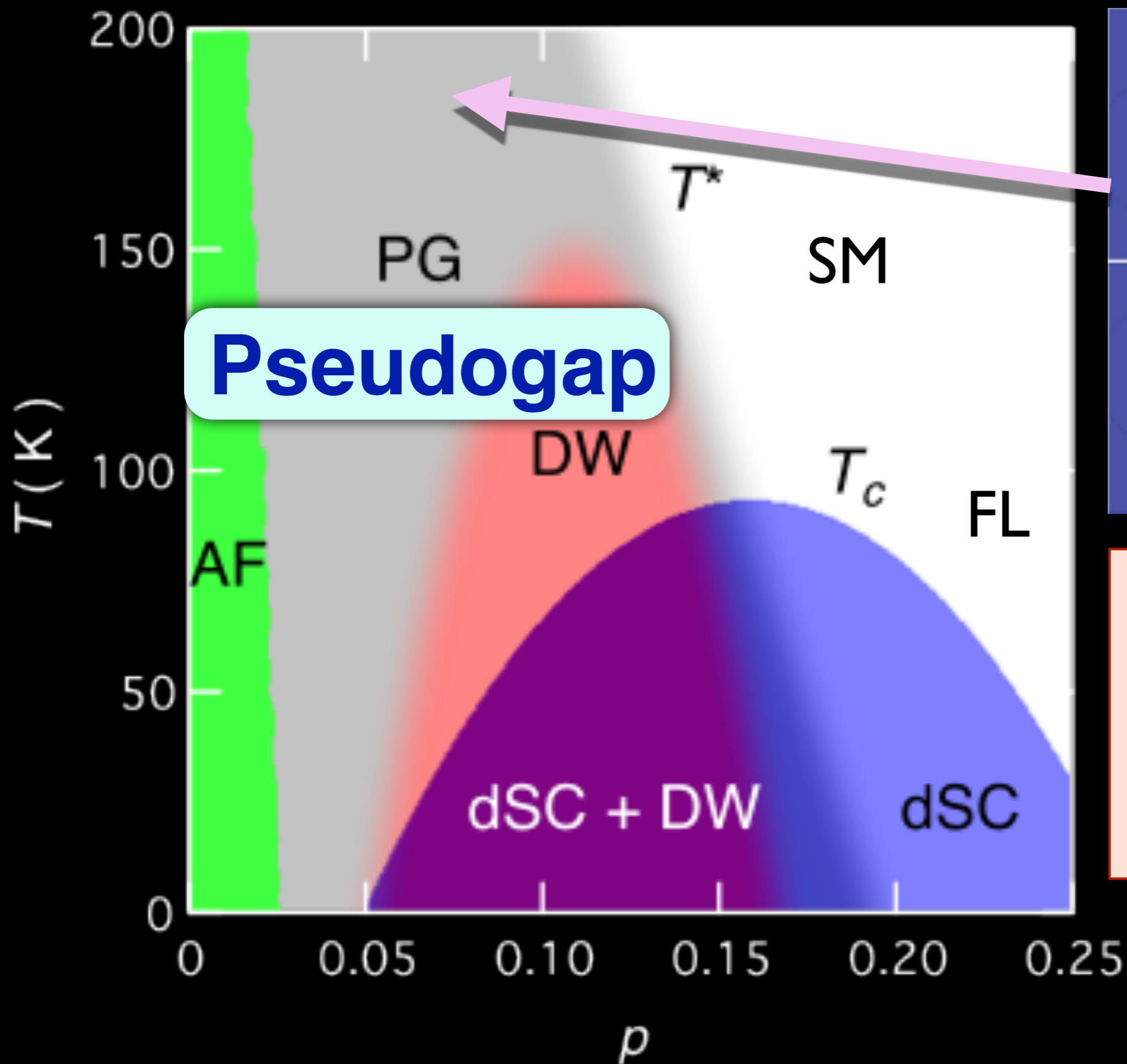


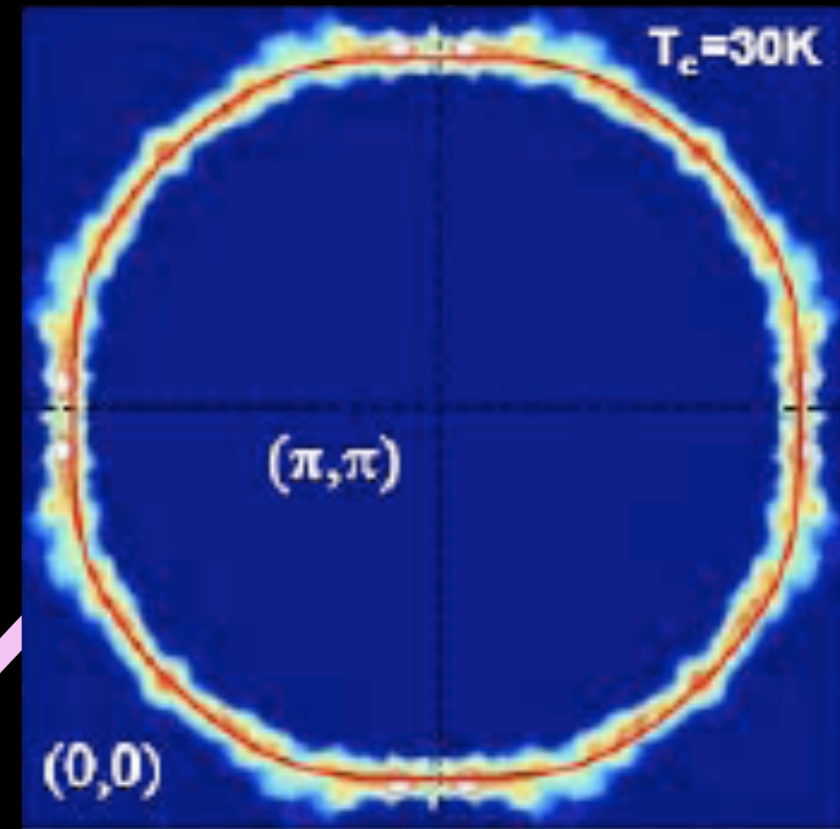
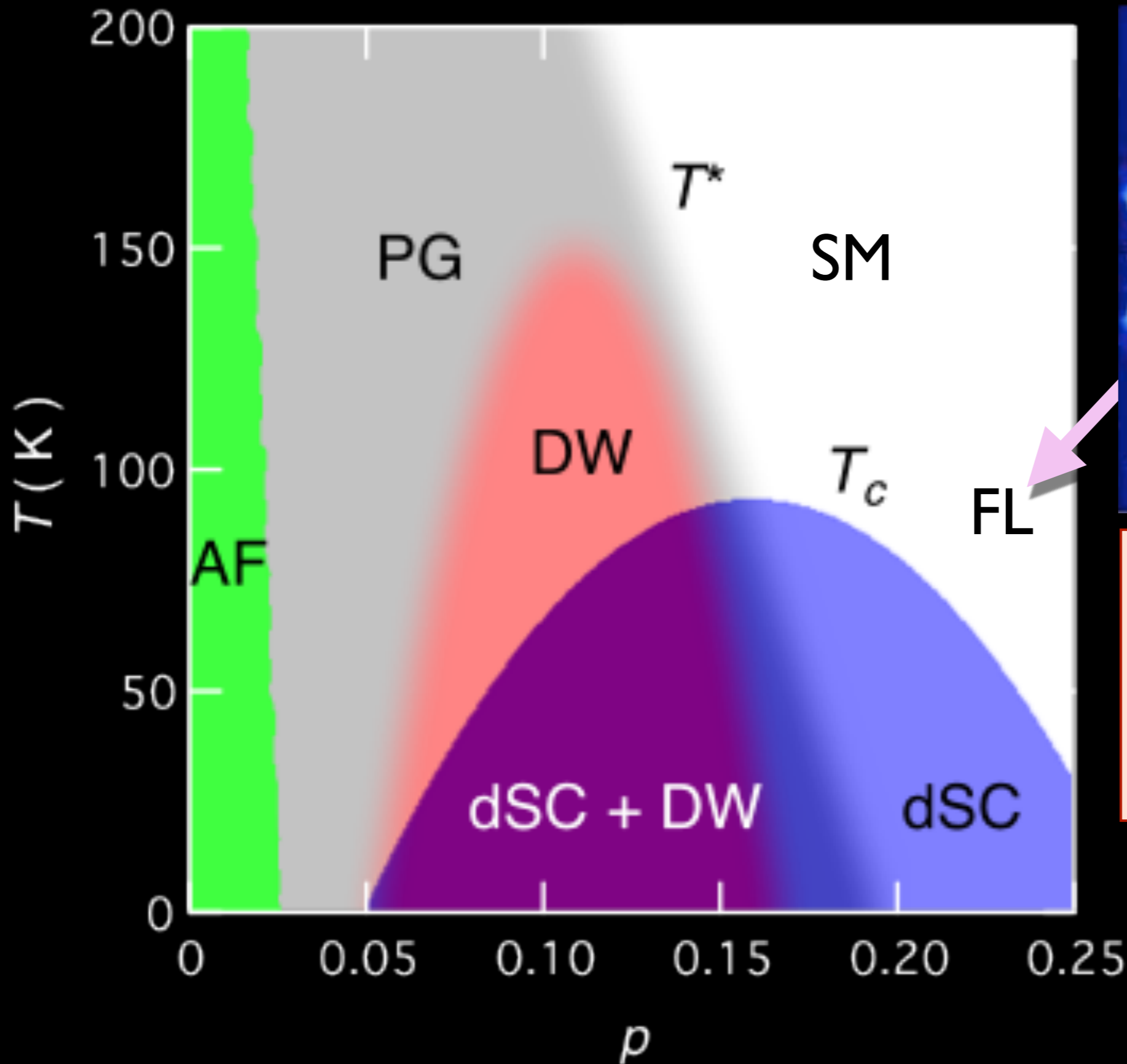
Figure: K. Fujita and J. C. Seamus Davis

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 arcs”  
at  
low  $p$

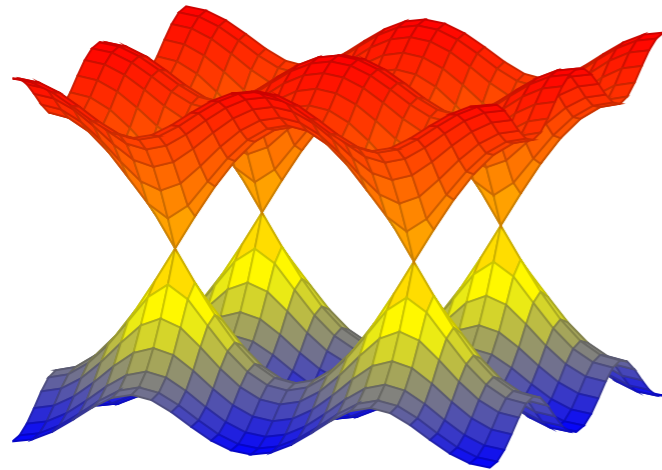
M. Platié, J. D. F. Mottershead, I. S. Elfimov, D. C. Peets, Ruixing Liang, D. A. Bonn, W. N. Hardy, S. Chiuzbaian, M. Falub, M. Shi, L. Patthey, and A. Damascelli, Phys. Rev. Lett. **95**, 077001 (2005)



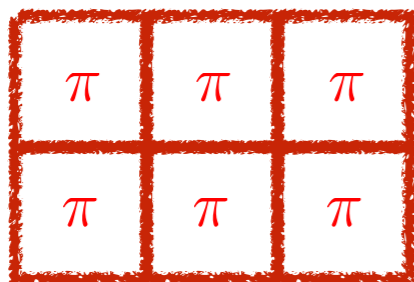
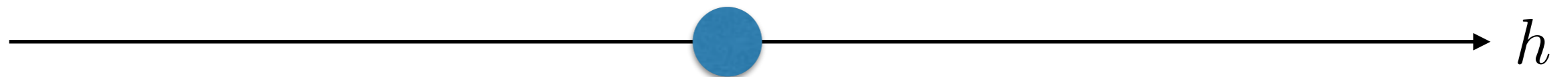
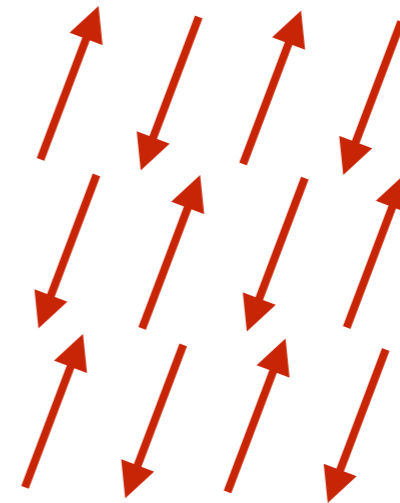
**Conventional  
metal**  
Area enclosed by  
Fermi surface =  $1+p$

# Phase Diagram

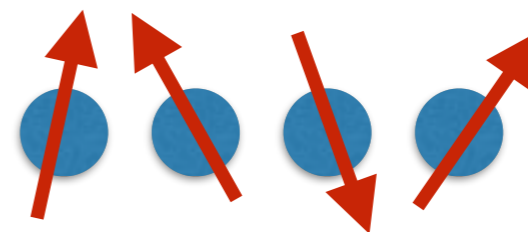
Deconfined Dirac



Confined AFM



$\pi$ -flux



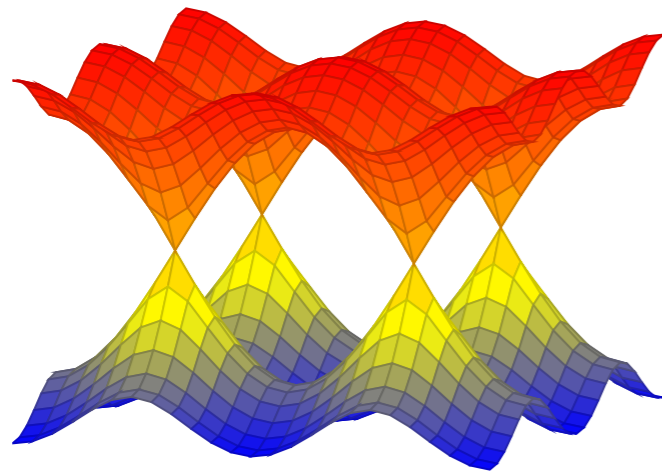
$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}} \sim \tilde{J} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j$$

AFM order

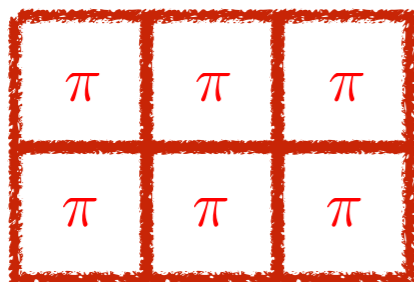
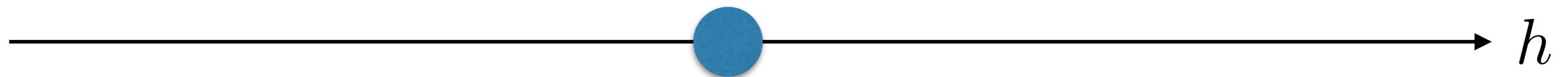
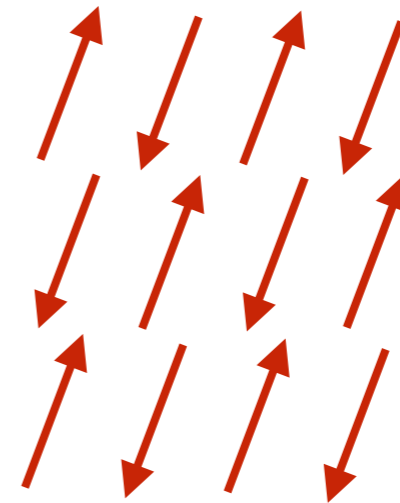
# Phase Diagram

Toy model of pseudogap  
(at half filling)

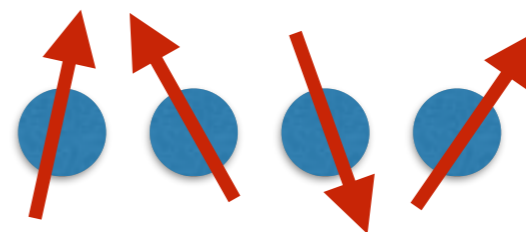
Deconfined Dirac



Confined AFM



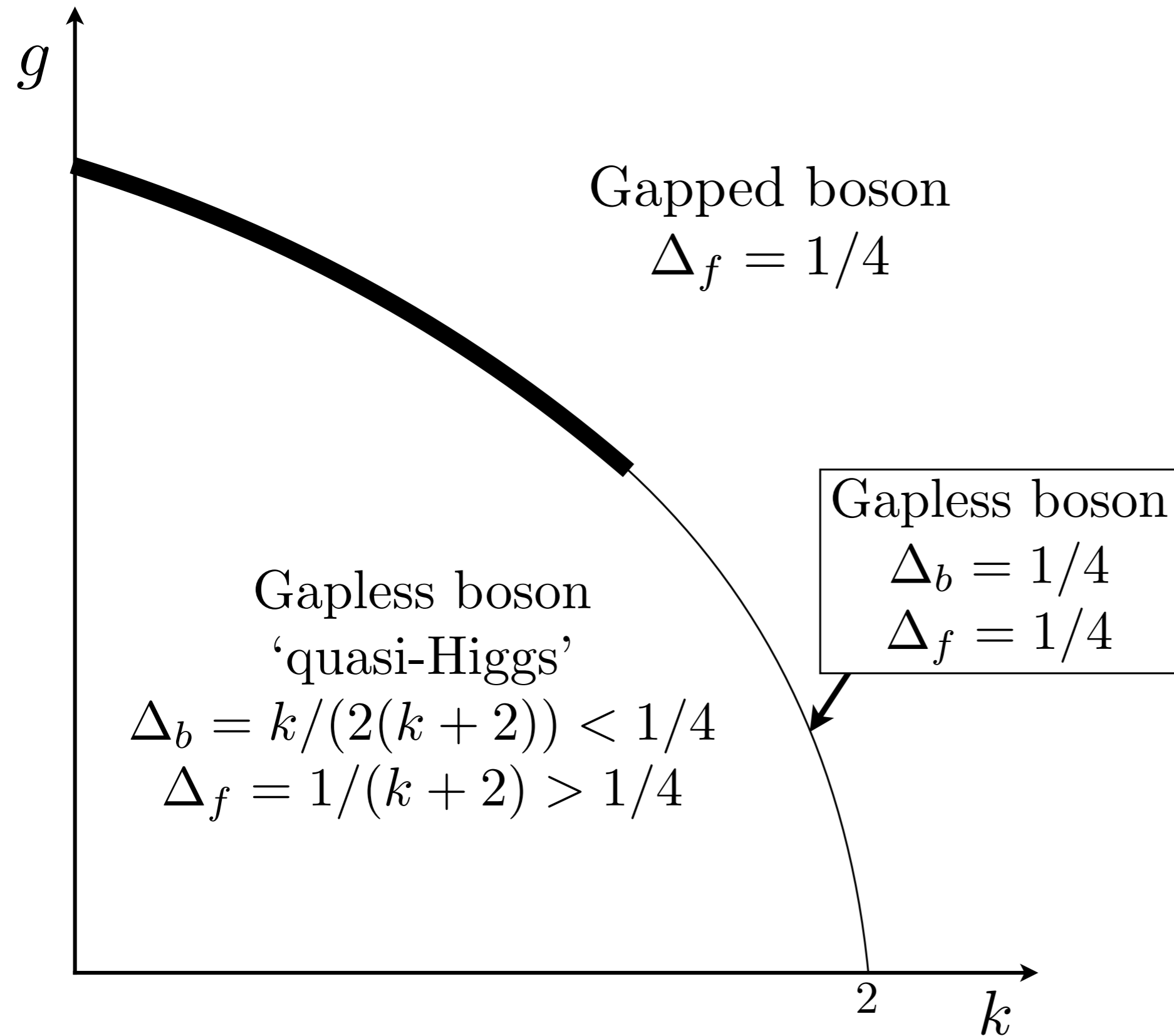
$\pi$ -flux



$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}} \sim \tilde{J} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j$$

AFM order

# A solvable model



# A solvable model

Toy model of pseudogap

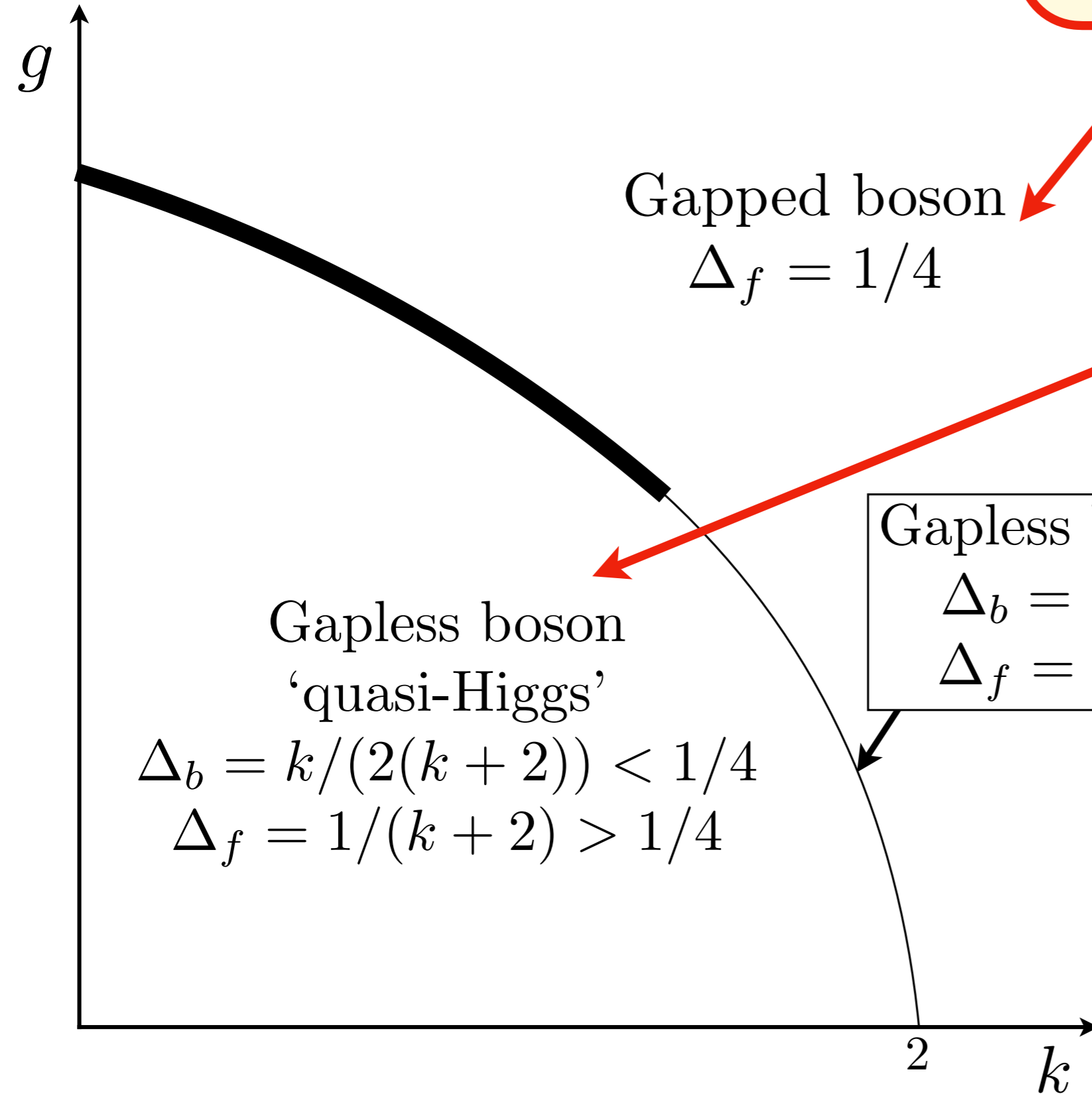
Gapped boson  
 $\Delta_f = 1/4$

Toy model of overdoped region

Gapless boson  
 $\Delta_b = 1/4$   
 $\Delta_f = 1/4$

Gapless boson  
'quasi-Higgs'

$$\Delta_b = k/(2(k+2)) < 1/4$$
$$\Delta_f = 1/(k+2) > 1/4$$



# A solvable model

Toy model of pseudogap

Gapped boson  
 $\Delta_f = 1/4$

Toy model of overdoped region

Gapless boson  
 $\Delta_b = 1/4$   
 $\Delta_f = 1/4$

Gapless boson  
'quasi-Higgs'

$$\Delta_b = k/(2(k+2)) < 1/4$$
$$\Delta_f = 1/(k+2) > 1/4$$

Fermi liquid spectral function, with anomalies in other properties, match recent observations in cuprates (Hussey, Bozovic, Armitage, Taillefer...)

$g$