



# Quantum dimer model with a liquid ground-state: topological degeneracy and toy model for a topological quantum-bit

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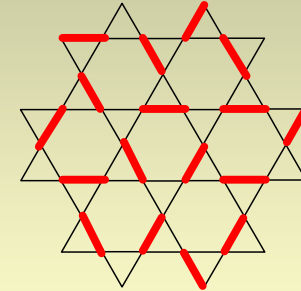
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[soon on cond-mat/0410...](#)

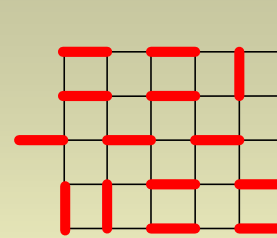
# Outline

- What is a quantum dimer model ?
- What is a  $Z_2$  liquid ? Topological degeneracy ?
- What is a topological quantum bit ?
- Why studying QDM's on the *kagome* lattice ?
  - Very simple: mapping onto (transverse field) Ising models
  - Exact  $Z_2$  liquid ground-state, topological degeneracy , etc.
- How to lift a topological degeneracy ?
  - with “scissors” to change the topology
  - with monomers to mix different sectors
- Quantum-bit manipulation
  - Rotation, projection...

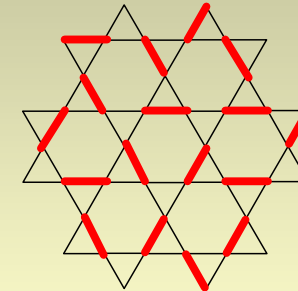


# What is a quantum dimer model ?

- Fully-packed dimer covering  
Several connections exist between QDM & frustrated magnets.  
Example: dimer ~ spin singlet



Rokhsar & Kivelson PRL '88

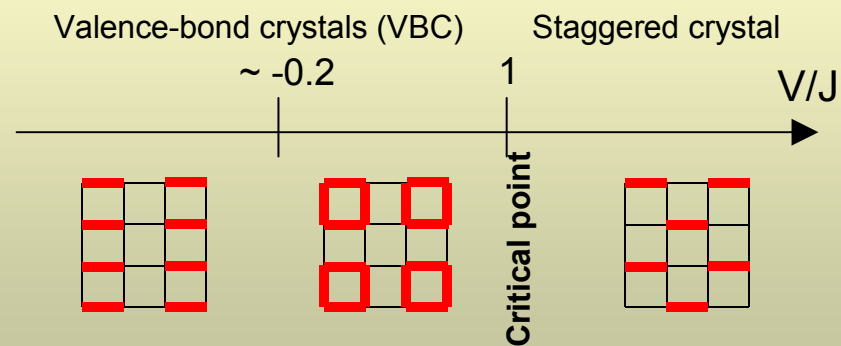


- Introduce some (simple) quantum dynamics

$$H = -t \sum \left[ \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right\rangle \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right| + \text{H.c} \right]$$

$$+ v \sum \left[ \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right\rangle \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right| + \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right\rangle \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right| \right]$$

- Example of phase diagram (T=0)



No liquid so far...

# What is a $Z_2$ liquid ?

- No broken symmetry
  - No long-ranged correlations
  - No local order parameter
  - Short-ranged RVB state: dimer~spin singlet

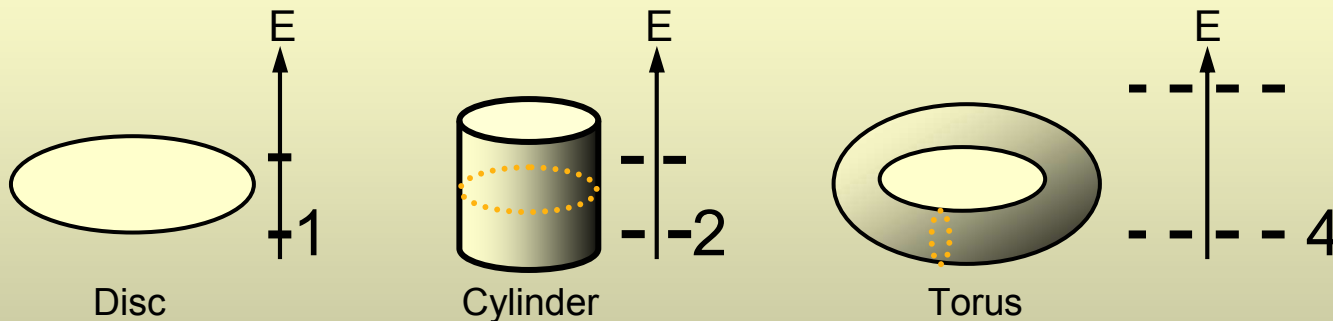
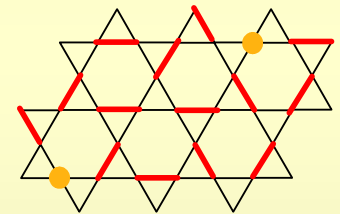
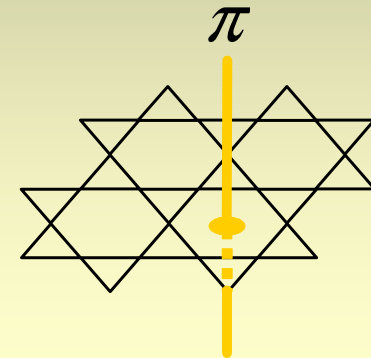
## □ Gapped excitations

= Elementary flux (vortex) of a  $Z_2$  gauge theory = *visons*

[Read & Chakraborty, PRB 1989; Kivelson, PRB 1989;  
G. X. Wen PRB 1991; Senthil & Fisher PRL 2001]

## □ Deconfined fractional excitations (monomers for instance)

## □ Topological degeneracy – topological order



Ground-states are *locally* indistinguishable.

Degeneracy *robust* to local *perturbations*.

Can this be used for something ?

# What is a topological quantum bit ?

- Qubit = 2-level system

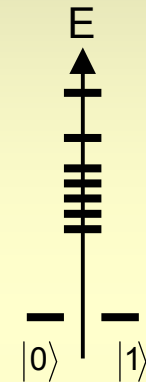
Used to store/process some quantum information

$$|\Psi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$$

- Topological qubit:

$|0\rangle$  and  $|1\rangle$  are the ground-states of a macro (meso?)scopic system which are degenerate because of the (non-trivial) topology.

Example:  **$Z_2$  liquid on a cylinder.**



- Advantage:

The two states are *locally* indistinguishable

⇒ no local perturbation can introduce decoherence.

- A. Yu. Kitaev, Annals Phys. 303, 2 (2003) [quant-ph/9707021]

- Ioffe, Feigel'man, Ioselevich, Ivanov, Troyer, and Blatter, Nature **415**, 503 (2002).

- Problems:

How can it be initialized, manipulated and read ?

Are there some examples of such  $Z_2$  liquids ?

# Examples of QDM with $Z_2$ -liquid ground-states

- Triangular lattice

[Moessner & Sondhi, PRL (2001)]

- Kagome lattice

[GM, Serban, Pasquier, PRL (2002)]

- 3D non-bipartite lattices (fcc,...)

[Moessner & Sondhi, PRB (2003)]

- ...

- Heisenberg-like models

[Sp(N): Read & Sachdev PRL (1991)]

[Several candidates among 2D frustrated  $S=1/2$  models:  
exact diagonalizations studies in C. Lhuillier's group]

- Ising-like models

[Nayak & Shtengel PRB (2001)]

[Balents, Fisher & Girvin PRB (2002)]

- Bose-Hubbard models

[Senthil & Motrunich PRB (2002); PRL (2002)]

- Josephson junction arrays

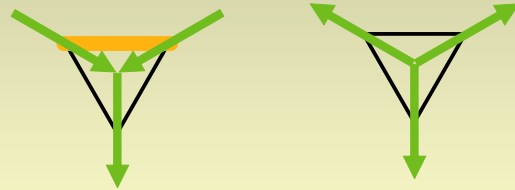
[Ioffe *et al.*; Douçot, Feiguin & Ioffe PRL (2003)]

Let's look at the simplest example

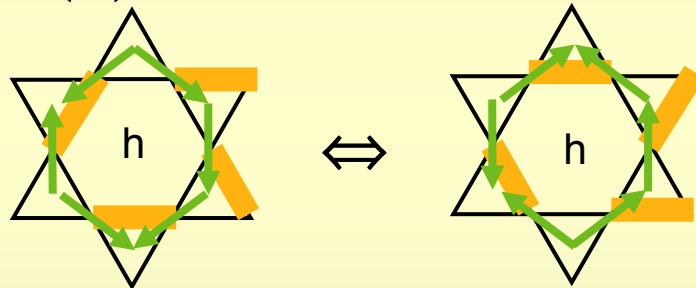
# A solvable QDM with $Z_2$ liquid ground-state

[GM, Serban, Pasquier, PRL (2002)]

On a lattice made of corner-sharing triangles (such as kagome), dimer coverings are easily represented with *arrows*:



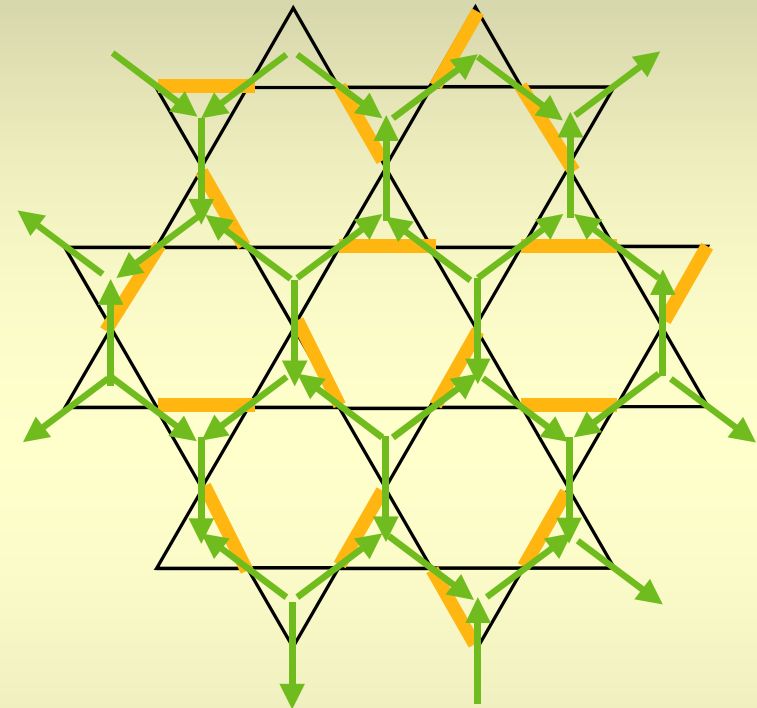
$\sigma^x(h)$ : Flips the 6 arrows around  $h$



$$\sigma^x(h)^2 = 1$$

$$[\sigma^x(h), \sigma^x(h')] = 0 \quad \forall h, h'$$

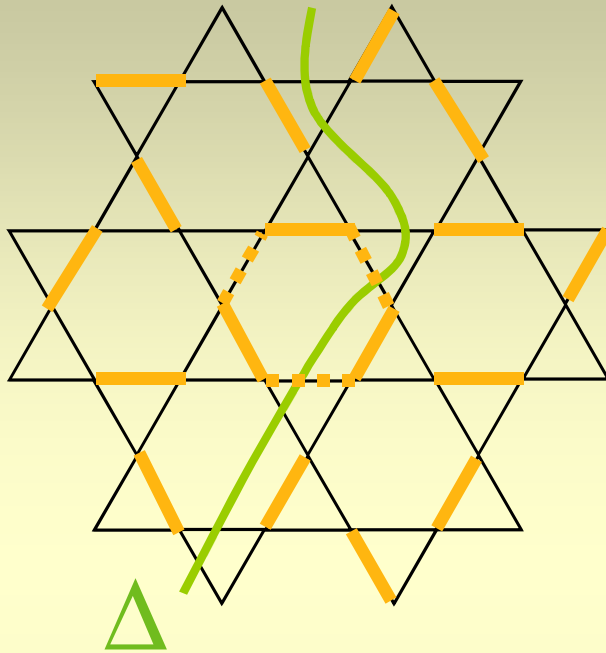
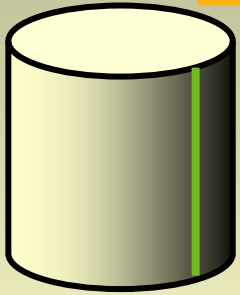
$\sigma^x \Leftrightarrow$  Ising pseudo-spin operator



$$H = - \sum_{h \in \text{hexagons}} \sigma^x(h)$$

Where is the topological degeneracy ?

# Topological sectors & topological degeneracy



$$T^x = (-1)^{N_\Delta}$$

Dimer number **parity** is conserved by any local dimer move  
 $\Rightarrow$  2 topological sectors

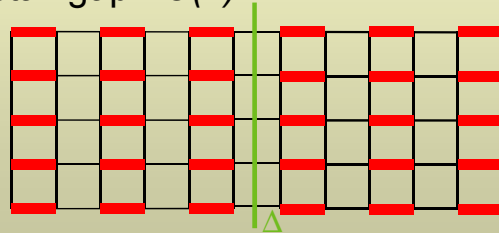
A QDM can be diagonalized separately in each topological sector.

A dimer liquid has the *same ground-state energy in all topological sectors* (in the thermodynamic limit).

Bu in a crystal: gap  $\sim O(L)$

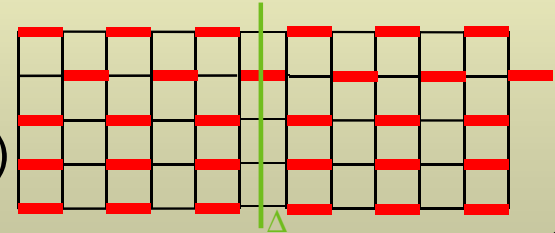
$$T^x = 1$$

$$E_+ = 0$$



$$T^x = -1$$

$$E_- \sim O(L)$$





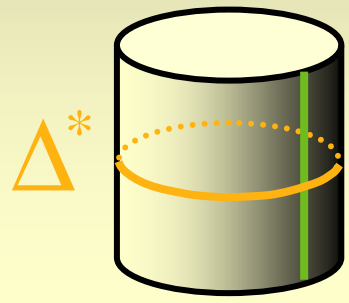
# Ground-state degeneracy

$\tau_i^z$  = Flips the arrow  $i$

$$\Rightarrow H = -\sum_h \sigma^x(h) = -\sum_h \left( \prod_{i=1}^6 \tau_i^z \right)$$

$$T^z = \prod_{i \in \Delta^*} \tau_i^z$$

= Shifts all the dimers along  $\Delta^*$



$$T^x = (-1)^{N_\Delta}$$

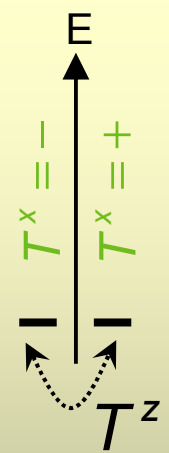
$$[H, T^z] = 0$$

$$[H, T^x] = 0$$

$$T^x T^z = -T^z T^x$$

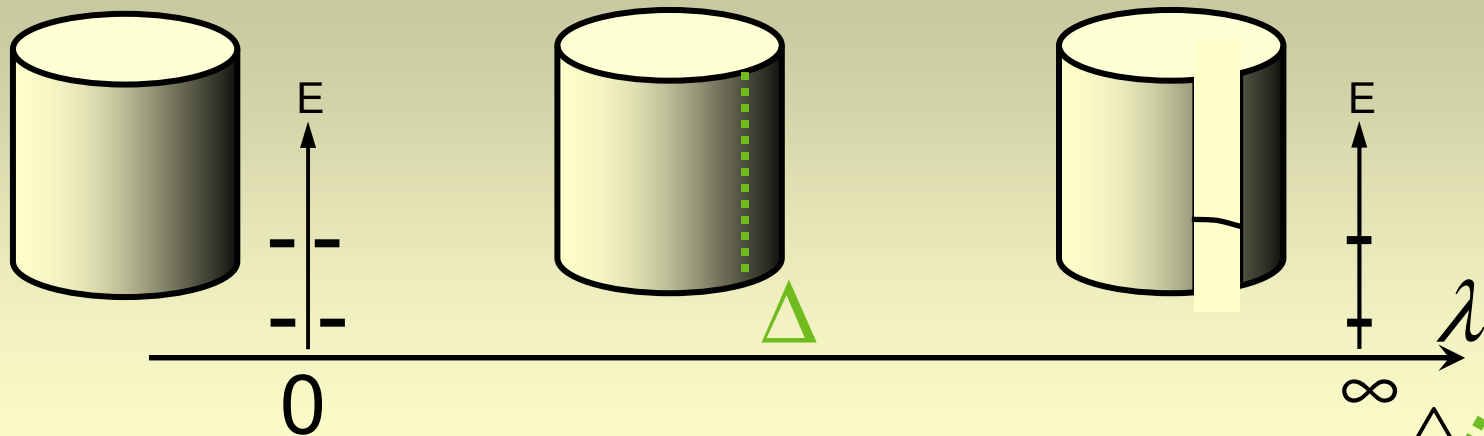
Dimer **shift**

Dimer number **parity**



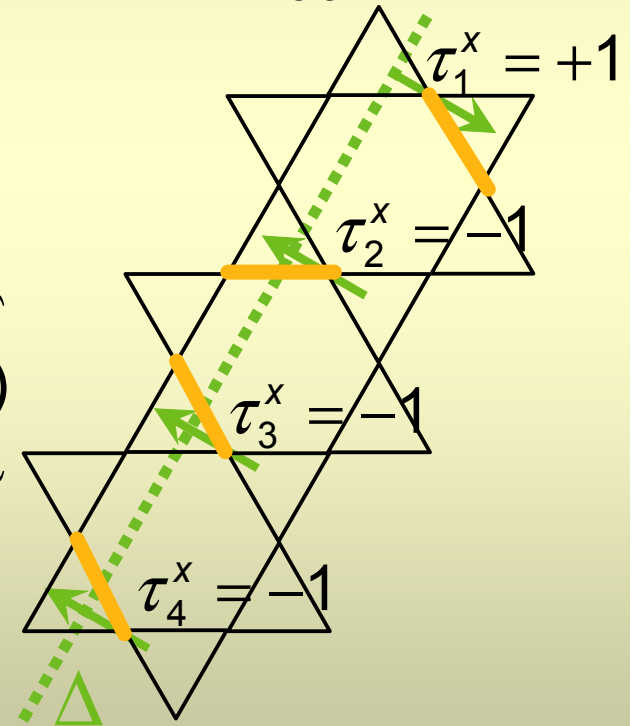
Is this degeneracy robust? What could lift it?

# From a cylinder to a rectangle



$$H_\lambda = - \sum_{h \in \text{hexagons}} \sigma^x(h) + 2\lambda N_\Delta$$

$$= \underbrace{- \sum_{h \notin \Delta} \sigma^x(h)}_{H_{\text{bulk}}} - \underbrace{\sum_{h \in \Delta} \sigma^x(h)}_{H_{\text{chain}}(\lambda)} + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^L (1 - \tau_i^x)$$



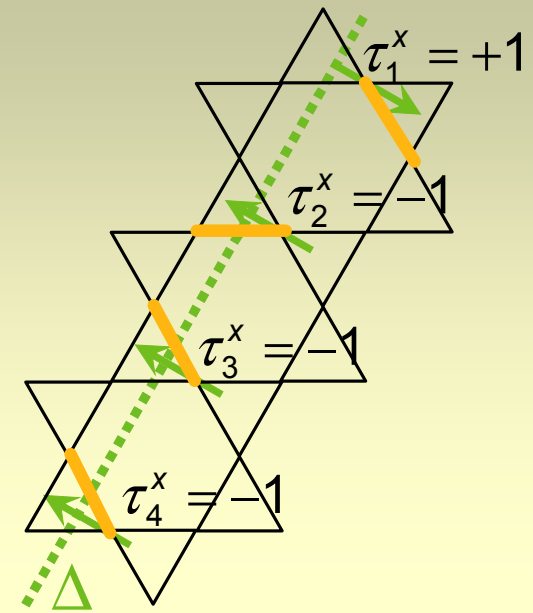
Dimer number parity  $T^x = (-1)^{N_\Delta}$  is still a conserved  
but  $[H_\lambda, T^z] \neq 0$

This model is solvable !

# Ising chain in transverse field

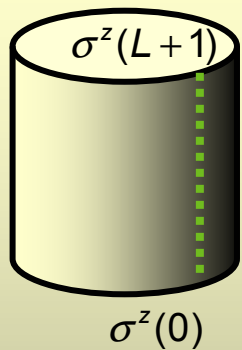
$$H_{\text{chain}}(\lambda) = -\sum_{h \in \Delta} \sigma^x(h) + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^L (1 - \tau_i^x)$$

$$= -\sum_{h=1}^L \sigma^x(h) - \lambda \sum_{i=0}^L \overbrace{\sigma^z(i) \sigma^z(i+1)}$$

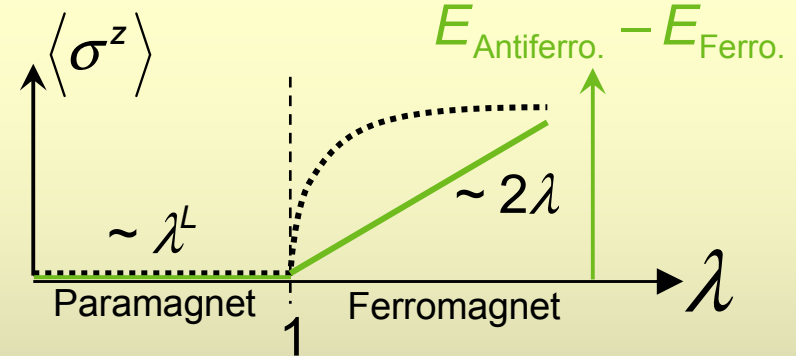


Topological sector coded by the **boundary conditions of the Ising chain**

$$T^x = (-1)^{N_\Delta} = \prod_{i=1}^L \tau_i^x$$



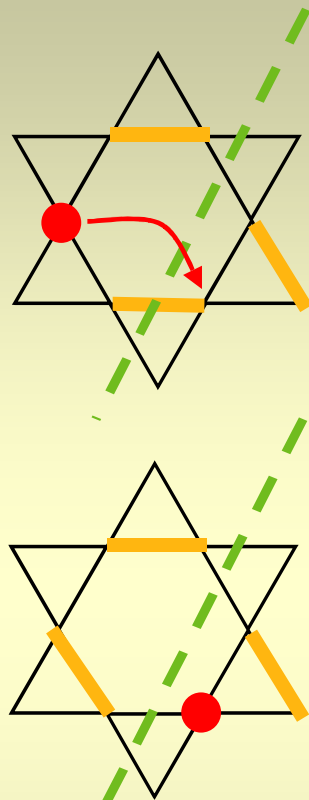
$$= \sigma^z(0) \sigma^z(L+1) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{ferro.} \\ -1 & \text{antiferro.} \end{cases}$$



NB:  $\sigma^z$  = vison creation operator

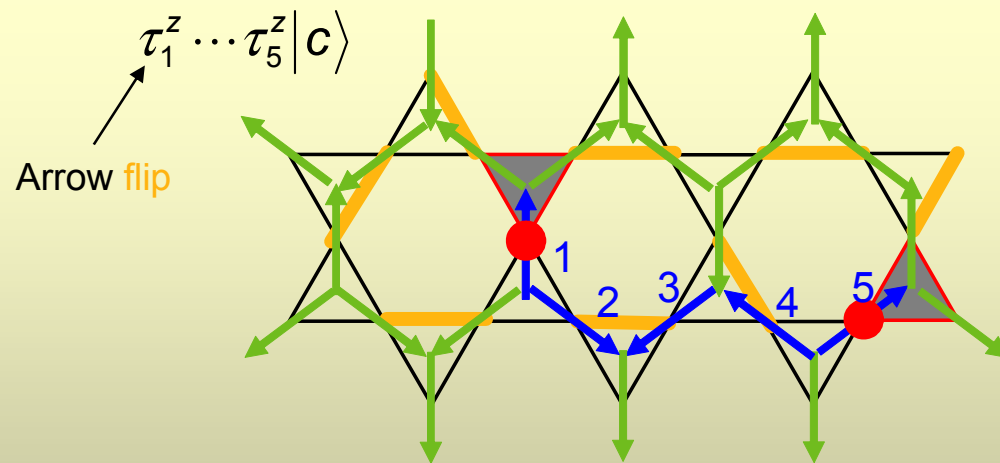
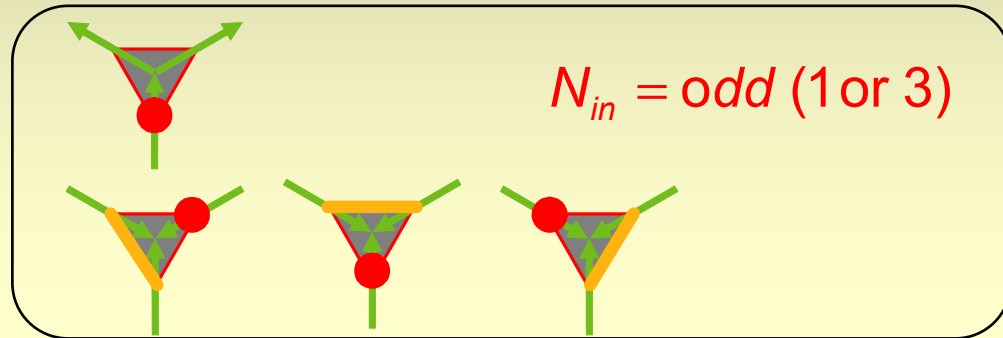
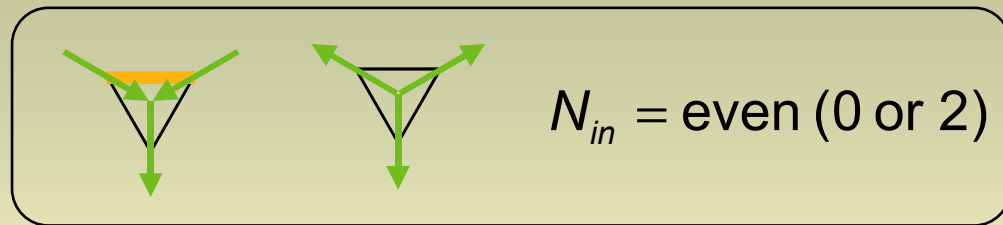
Possibility to *mix* the topological sectors ?

# Monomers to mix the topological sectors



$$T^x = (-1)^{N_\Delta}$$

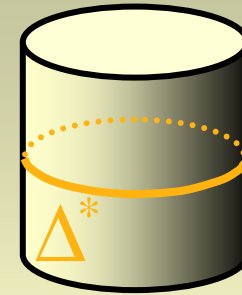
The dimer number parity is **no longer conserved** in presence of mobile monomers



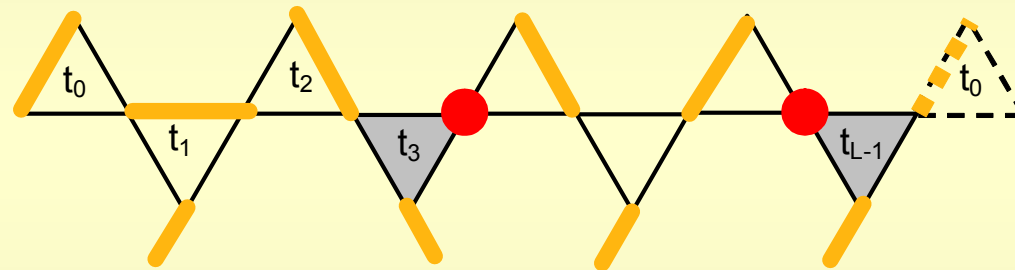
Solvable model with monomers ?

# QDM with monomers (I)

$$H = \underbrace{-\sum_h \sigma^x(h)}_{\text{dimer kinetic energy}} \underbrace{-\mu U \sum_{i \in \Delta^*} \tau_i^z}_{\text{monomer pair creation/annihilation \& monomer hopping}} \underbrace{-U \sum_{t \in \text{triangles}} (-1)^{N_{in}(t)}}_{\rightarrow \text{constraint } N_{in} = \text{even}}$$



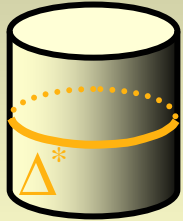
$$= H_{\text{bulk}} + H_{\text{chain}}(\mu)$$



$$\begin{aligned} H_{\text{chain}}(\mu) &= -U \sum_{t=0 \dots L-1} (-1)^{N_{in}(t)} - \mu U \sum_{i=0 \dots L-1} \tau_i^z \\ &= -U \sum_{t=0 \dots L-1} \tilde{\sigma}^x(t) - \mu U \sum_{t=0 \dots L-1} \tilde{\sigma}^z(t) \underbrace{\tilde{\sigma}^z(t+1)}_{\text{monomer creation/annihilation}} \end{aligned}$$

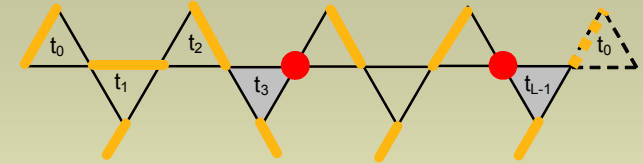
Ising chain in transverse field

# QDM with monomers (II)



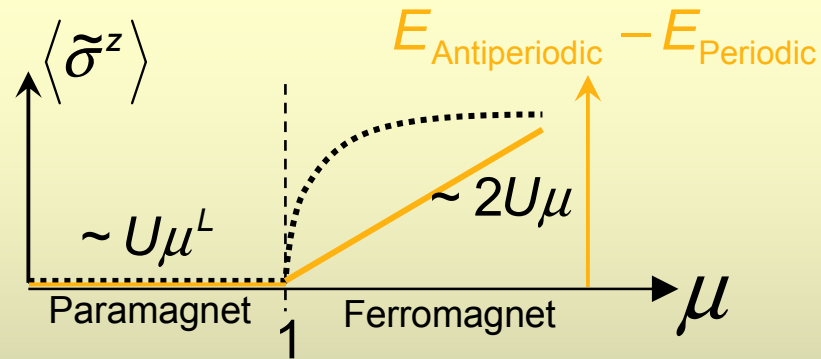
$$H_{\text{chain}} = -U \sum_{t=0 \dots L-1} (-1)^{N_{in}(t)} - \mu U \sum_{i=0 \dots L-1} \tau_i^z$$

$$= -U \sum_{t=0 \dots L-1} \tilde{\sigma}^x(t) - \mu U \sum_{t=0 \dots L-1} \tilde{\sigma}^z(t) \underbrace{\tilde{\sigma}^z(t+1)}_{\text{monomer creation/annihilation}}$$



$$T^z = \prod_{i \in \Delta^*} \tau_i^z \text{ is conserved. Boundary conditions: } \tilde{\sigma}^z(L) = T^z \tilde{\sigma}^z(0)$$

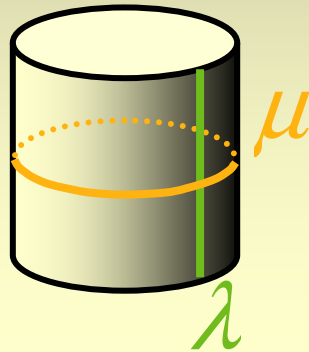
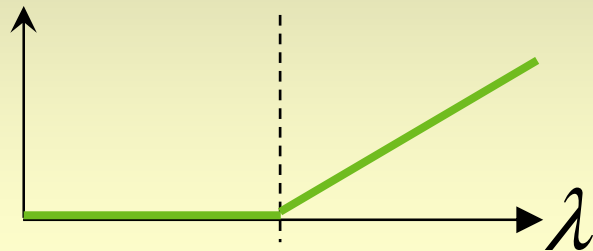
⇒ Periodic/Antiperiodic boundary conditions for the Ising pseudospins.



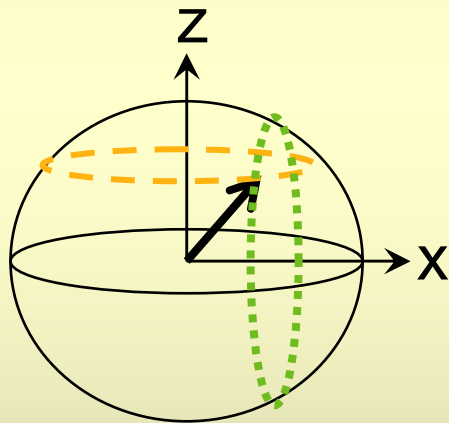
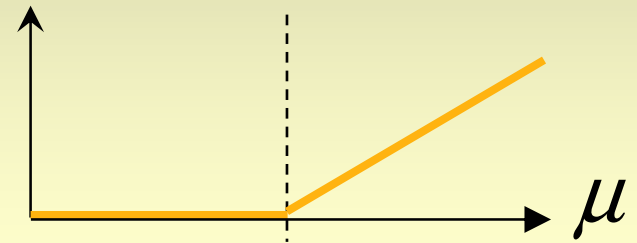
$$\begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow \\ \uparrow \uparrow \downarrow \downarrow \quad T^z = -1 \\ \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \quad T^z = 1 \end{array}$$

# Quantum bit manipulation (I)

$$f(\lambda) = E_{T^x=-1} - E_{T^x=+1}$$



$$g(\mu) = E_{T^z=-1} - E_{T^z=+1}$$

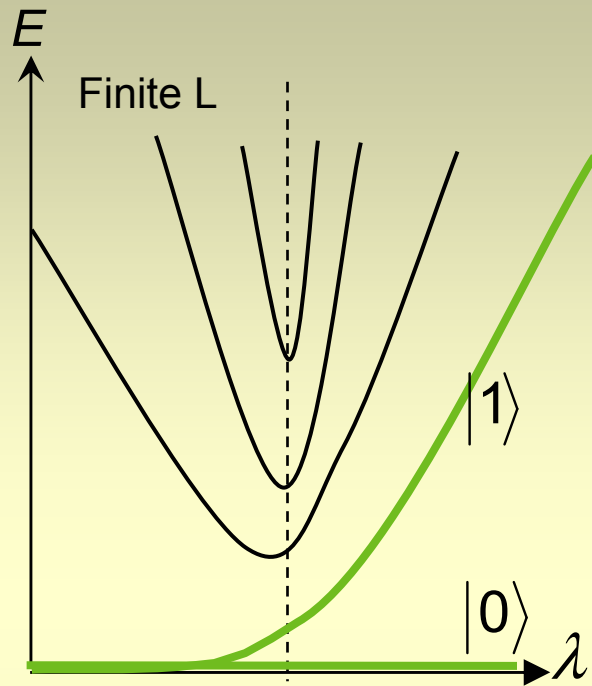


$$H_{\text{eff}}(\lambda, \mu) = -\frac{1}{2}f(\lambda)T^x - \frac{1}{2}g(\mu)T^z + \dots$$

⇒ Allow any unitary rotation

Use  $\lambda < 1$  or  $\mu < 1$  (perturbative regime) :  
 L. B. Ioffe, *et al.*, Nature **415**, 503 (2002).

# Quantum bit manipulation (II)



□ Gap  $\Delta \sim 1/L$  close to the transition.

⇒ Requires a slow adiabatic (time  $\sim L$ ) evolution to avoid transitions to higher levels close to the critical point.

To be compared to  $\sim \exp(L)$  if one stays in the perturbative regime [Ioffe *et. al.*, Nature 2002].

⇒ Requires a low temperature  $k_B T \ll \Delta$  to avoid thermal excitations across the gap.

□ Reading out - projection

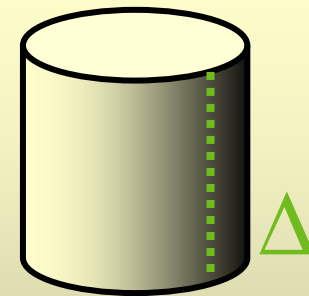
$$|\Psi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle \quad \text{How to measure } |\alpha|^2 ?$$

Switch on  $\lambda$  adiabatically to  $\gg 1 \Rightarrow$  minimizes  $N_\Delta$

$|N_\Delta \text{ even}\rangle \rightarrow 0$  dimer along  $\Delta^*$

$|N_\Delta \text{ odd}\rangle \rightarrow 1$  dimer along  $\Delta^*$

⇒ No need to implement physically the non-local operator  $T^x = (-1)^{N_\Delta}$





# Summary

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- Solvable quantum dimer model on kagome realizing a  $Z_2$  liquid
- Toy model to investigate perturbations of a topological degeneracy
- Simple illustration of the manipulation of a topological qubit  
Use of the phase transition to optimize the speed  
*and* the protection against decoherence.