

COMPATIBLE ORDERS IN DIRAC MATERIALS: SYMMETRIES AND PHASE DIAGRAMS

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CONTENTS

- Introduction and motivation
- Interacting fermions on the honeycomb lattice
- Order to order transitions with emergent $O(N)$ symmetry
- Summary/Outlook

MOTIVATION

LANDAU-GINZBURG-WILSON THEORY

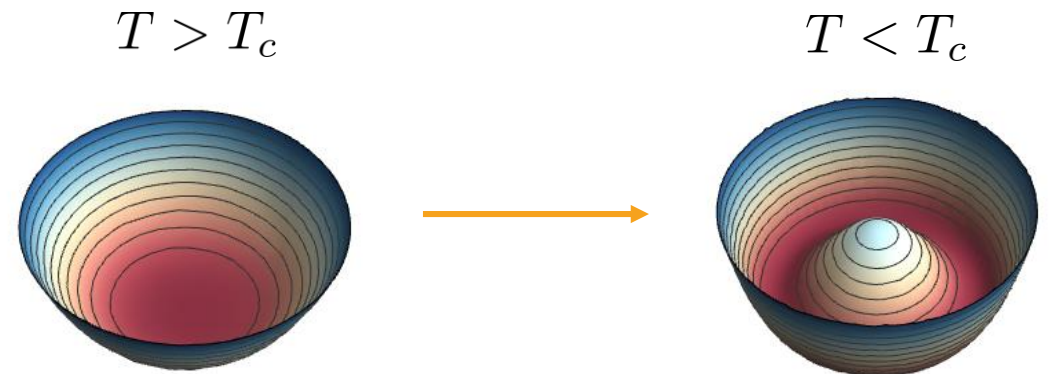
- Local order parameters $\Phi(\mathbf{r})$ describe/distinguish phases.
- Transitions described fully in terms of (only!) order parameter + fluctuations

$$S[\Phi] = \int d^D \mathbf{r} \left(\frac{1}{2} (\nabla \Phi)^2 + V(\Phi) \right)$$

for **analytic** $V(\Phi)$

- Onset of **long range order** quantified by divergence of correlation length

$$\xi \sim |X - X_c|^{-\nu}$$



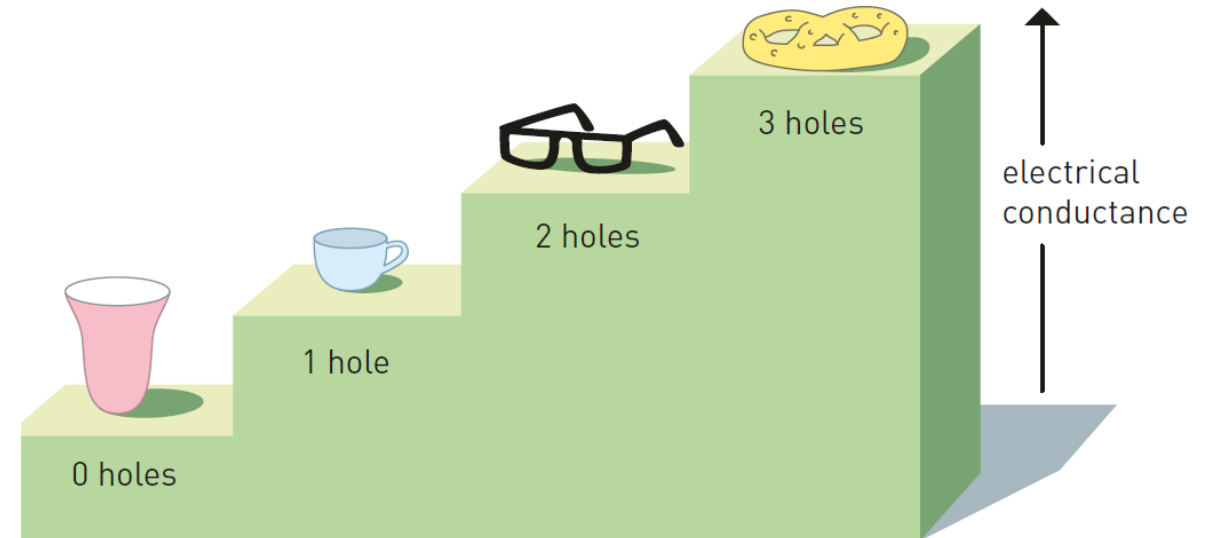
QUANTUM CRITICALITY BEYOND LGW - I

1. QPTs in which the basic assumptions of an LG description are not met

- Non local order parameters (e.g. TIs)
- Topological order

Features can include

- Key role of entanglement (e.g. QSL)
- Fractionalized excitations (e.g. FQH)



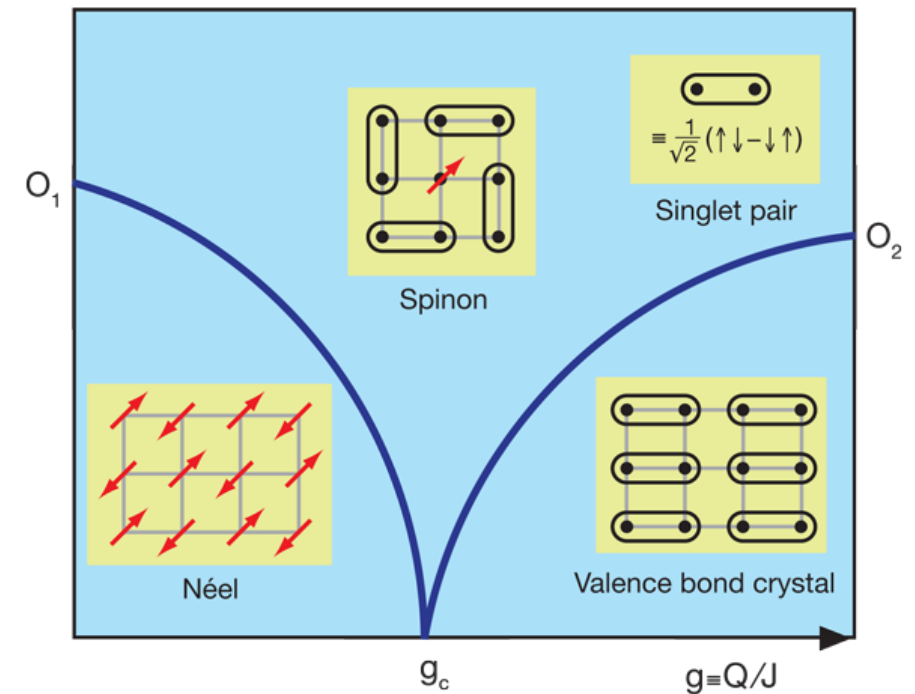
QUANTUM CRITICALITY BEYOND LG(W) - II

2. QPTs in which the basic assumptions of a LG description ARE met

- Fluctuation induced criticality (e.g. 1st order turns to 2nd order)
- Order-to-order transitions

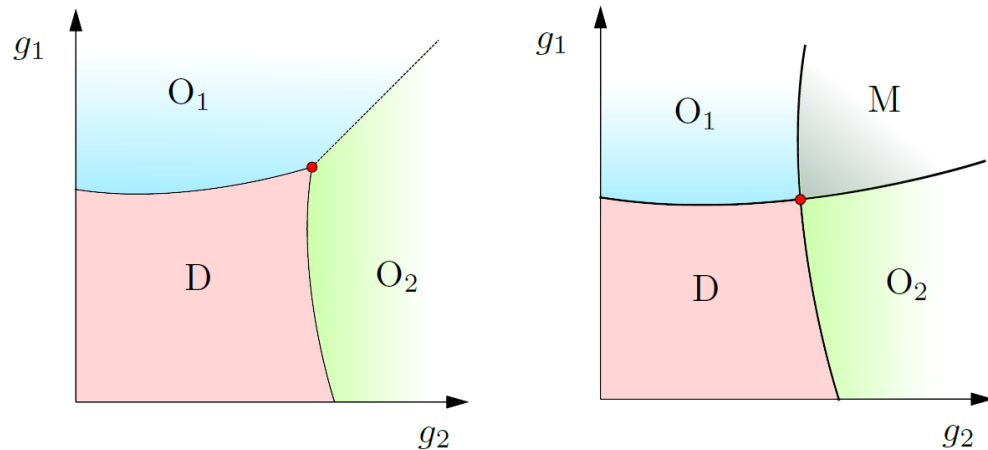
Features can include

- Large anomalous dimensions
- Emergent $O(N)$ symmetry at the critical point



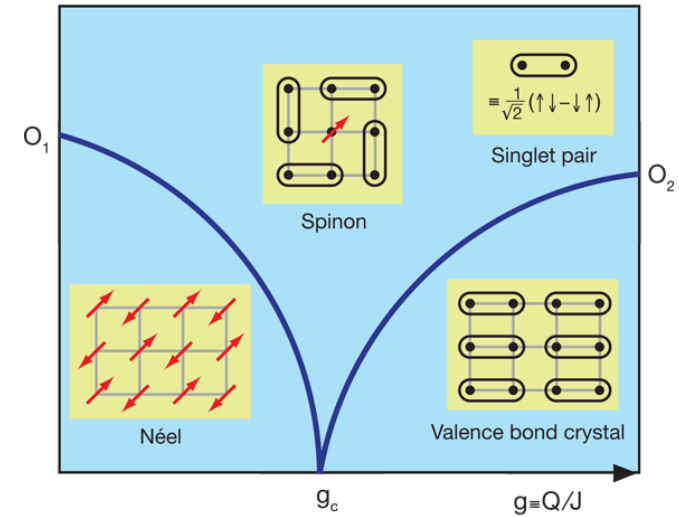
Singh, *Physics* **3**, 35 (2010)

MORE ON “NON-LANDAU-NESS” OF THE SECOND KIND



Landau

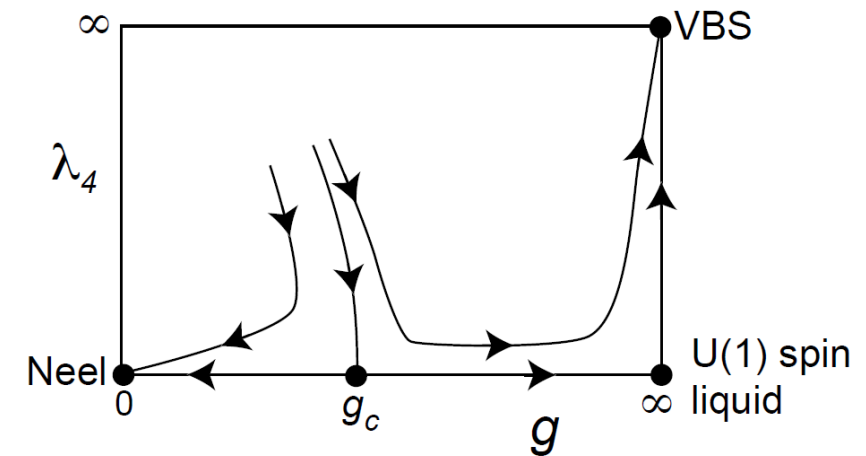
VS



Deconfined Quantum Criticality (DQCP)

Continuous order to order transitions

- E.g. Néel to VBS transition in spin $\frac{1}{2}$ quantum antiferromagnets.
- Effective theory is an NCCP1 for the spinons z , where $\vec{\varphi} = z^\dagger \vec{\sigma} z$ is the Néel OP.
- Topological defects on each phase play a **key** role: skyrmions on AFM side and “vortices” of VBS.



SYMMETRIES OF A DQCP

onset of Néel order $\longleftrightarrow O(3)$ symmetry breaking

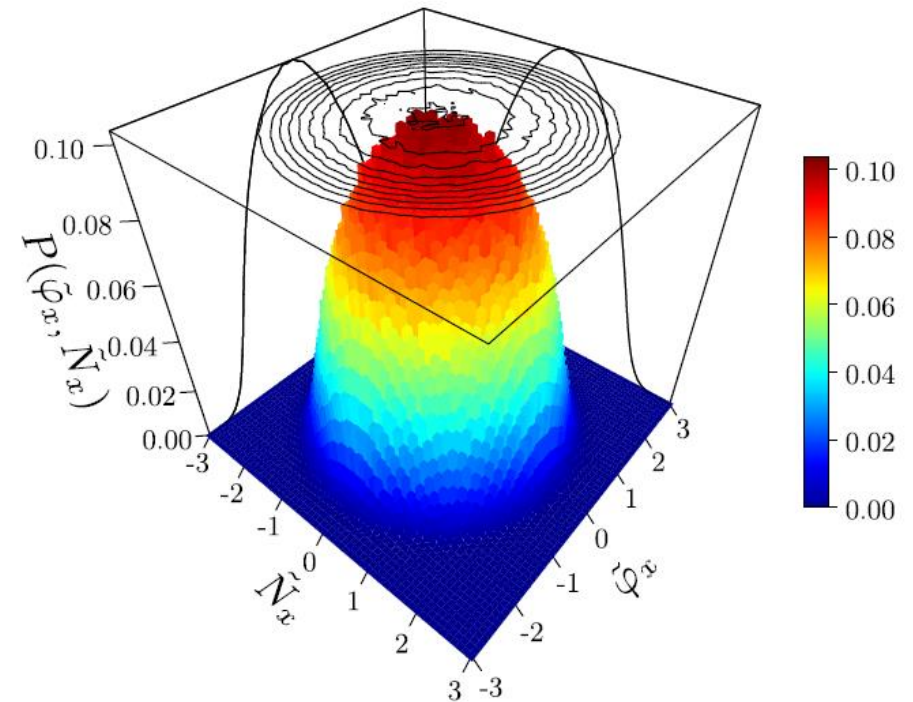
onset of VBS order $\longleftrightarrow O(2)$ symmetry breaking

What about the QCP itself?

Emergent $O(5)$ symmetry at the critical point!

- Expected from new(-ish) web of dualities*
- Seen in numerics of a “J/Q model” **

$$H = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \vec{S}_i \vec{S}_j - Q \sum_{\langle ijkl \rangle} \left(\vec{S}_i \vec{S}_j - 1/4 \right) \left(\vec{S}_k \vec{S}_l - 1/4 \right)$$



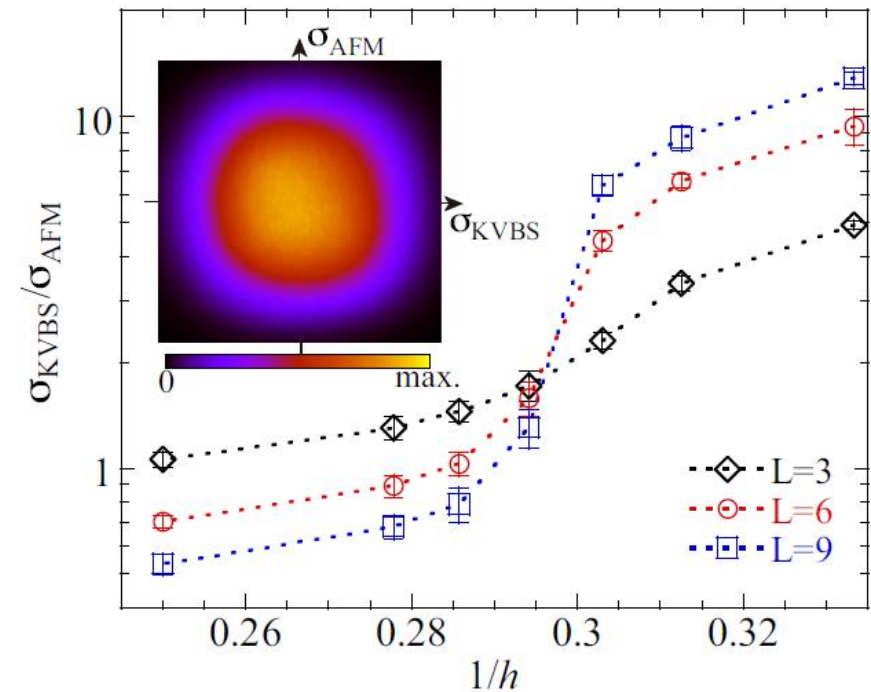
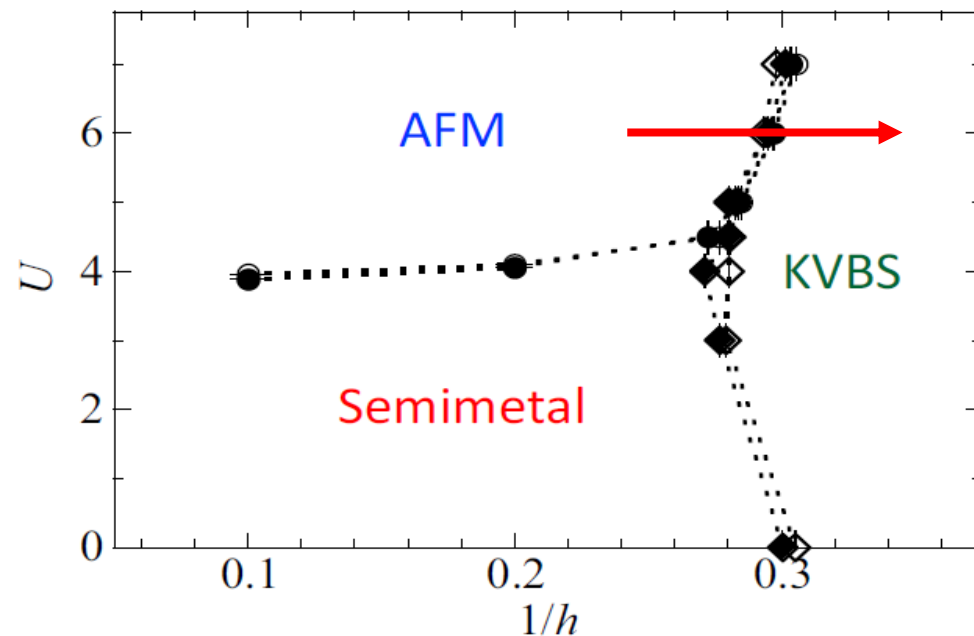
*Wang et. al. PRX **7** 031051 (2017)

** Nahum et. al. PRL **115** 267203 (2015)

DQCP ON THE HONEYCOMB LATTICE?

Evidence from QMC simulations of a model with $O(3) \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$ symmetry

- Direct continuous transition between the phases
- Emergent $O(4)$ symmetry at the transition
- One particle gap at the Dirac points remains **open**



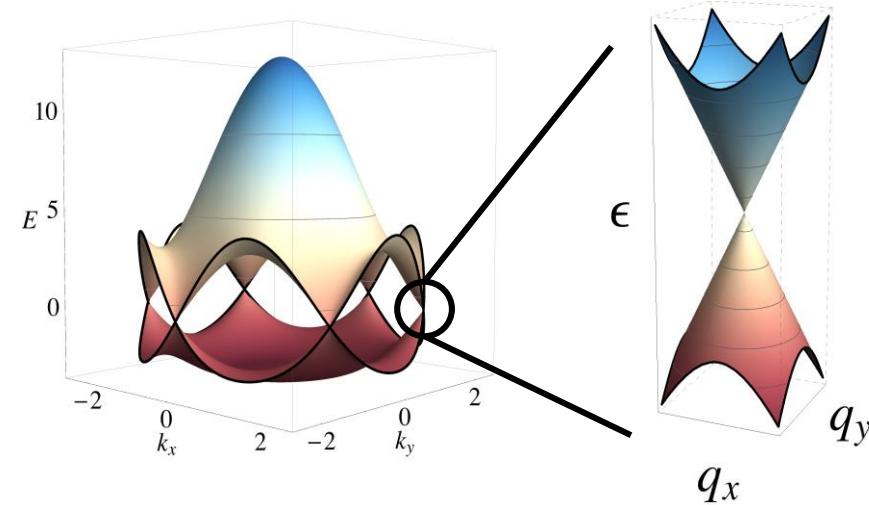
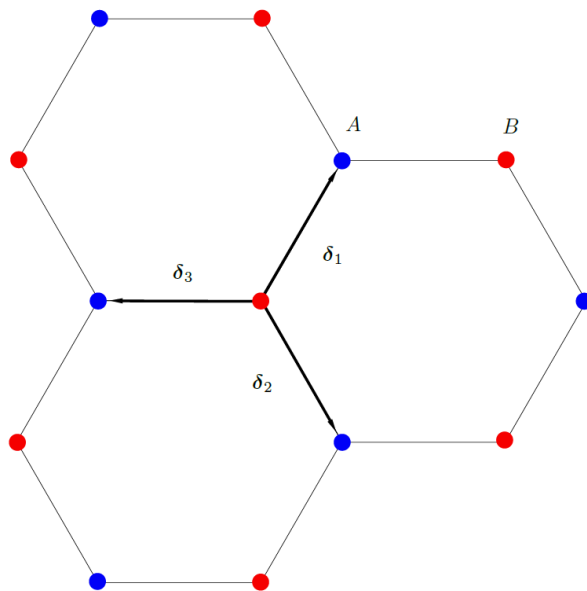
BUT

\mathbb{Z}_2 OPs do not support vortices!

Different mechanism?

CHIRAL DIRAC FERMIONS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM

FERMIONS ON THE HONEYCOMB LATTICE



$$\hat{H}_0 = -t \sum_{\mathbf{R}, i} [\hat{u}^\dagger(\mathbf{R}) \hat{v}(\mathbf{R} + \boldsymbol{\delta}_i) + \text{h.c.}]$$



$$E_{\pm}(\mathbf{q}) \approx \pm v_f |\mathbf{q}|$$

$$\frac{v_f}{c} \ll 1$$

$$\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{q}) := (\hat{u}(\mathbf{K} + \mathbf{q}), \hat{v}(\mathbf{K} + \mathbf{q}), \hat{v}(-\mathbf{K} + \mathbf{q}), \hat{u}(-\mathbf{K} + \mathbf{q}))^T,$$

$$\hat{H}_{\text{eff}} = -i v_f \int d^2x \hat{\psi}^\dagger(x) \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \nabla \hat{\psi}(x)$$

As seen also in e.g. high T_c superconductors, topological insulators and the physics of the half filled Landau level

INTERACTIONS AND ORDER PARAMETERS

Considering interactions (e.g.) $\hat{H}_{\text{int}} = V_1 \sum_{\langle \mathbf{R}, \mathbf{R}' \rangle} n(\mathbf{R})n(\mathbf{R}') + V_2 \sum_{\langle\langle \mathbf{R}, \mathbf{R}' \rangle\rangle} n(\mathbf{R})n(\mathbf{R}')$

with $n(\mathbf{R}) = \hat{\psi}^\dagger(\mathbf{R})\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{R})$

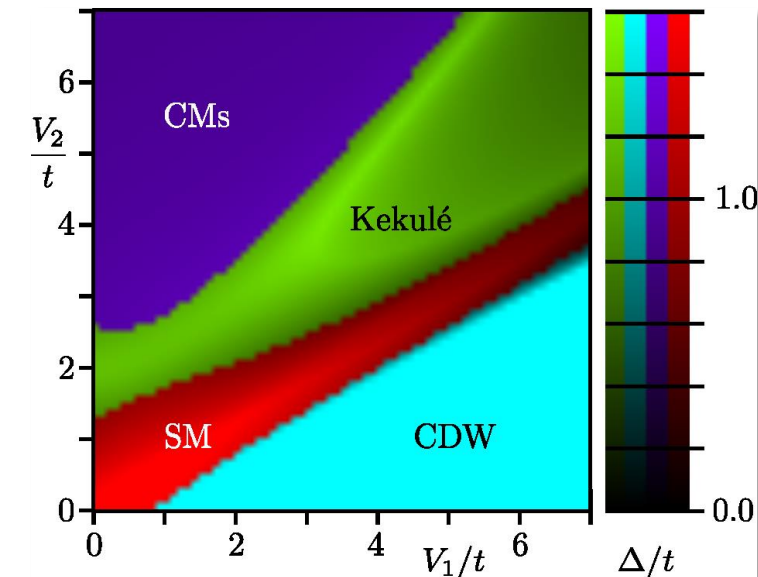
Ordered phases: characterized by nonvanishing expectation values of OPs:

- **CDW:** staggered density means $\langle \chi \rangle \neq 0$ with $\chi \propto a_\sigma^\dagger a_\sigma - b_\sigma^\dagger b_\sigma$
- **SDW:** antiferromagnetic order means $\langle \phi \rangle \neq 0$ with $\phi \propto a_\sigma^\dagger \sum_{\sigma\sigma'} a_{\sigma'} - b_\sigma^\dagger \sum_{\sigma\sigma'} b_{\sigma'}$

We take our OPs to be of the form $\Phi \sim \psi^\dagger \beta_\Phi \psi$

If, additionally, they satisfy $\beta_\Phi^2 = \mathbb{1}$ and $\{\alpha_j, \beta_\Phi\} = 0$ for $j = 1, \dots, d$ they act as **chirality breaking masses**

$$E(\mathbf{q}) \sim |\mathbf{q}| \longrightarrow \sqrt{\mathbf{q}^2 + m^2}$$



FIELD THEORY SETUP

Effective low energy theories:

Promoting the OPs to dynamical fields and considering arbitrary flavours of fermions , leads to **Gross Neveu Yukawa (GNY) field theories** i.e.

$$S = \int d^3x \mathcal{L}$$

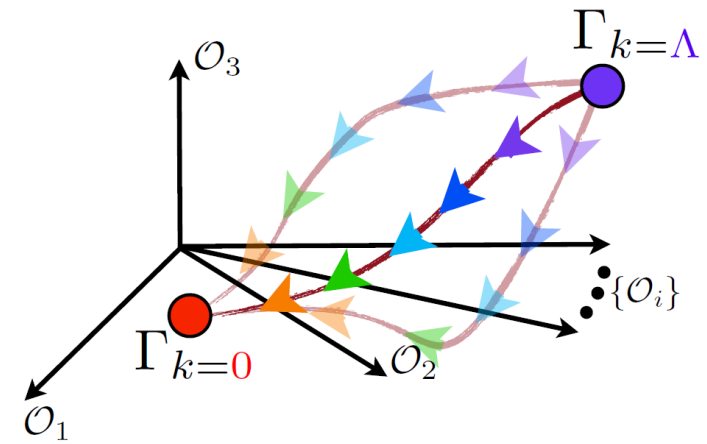
$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_0 + \mathcal{L}_b + \mathcal{L}_y$$

- $\mathcal{L}_0 = \bar{\psi}_\alpha (\gamma_0 \partial_\tau + v_f \boldsymbol{\gamma} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nabla}) \psi_\alpha \quad \alpha = 1, \dots, N_f$
- $\mathcal{L}_y = g \psi_\alpha^\dagger \beta_\Phi^i \Phi_i \psi_\alpha$ Yukawa coupling
- $\mathcal{L}_b = (\partial_\tau \Phi)^2 - v_b^2 (\boldsymbol{\nabla} \Phi)^2 + V(\Phi)$ with potential including **all terms allowed by symmetry**

In general **no** reason to expect $v_f = v_b$, but this holds at criticality: (Pozo et. al. PRB **98** 115122 (2018), Roy et. al. JHEP 2016)

FUNCTIONAL RG AND TRUNCATIONS

- Study the flowing action Γ_k interpolating between the microscopic action $k \rightarrow \Lambda$ $\Gamma_k \rightarrow S$ and full effective action $k \rightarrow 0$ $\Gamma_k \rightarrow \Gamma$
- Implement the successive integrating out of degrees of freedom through the regulator R_k
- Flow equation given by $\partial_t \Gamma = \frac{1}{2} \text{Str} \left(\frac{\partial_t R_k}{\Gamma_{0,k}^{(2)} + R_k} \right)$
- Nonperturbative regime ($D = 3$ and small N_f) as well as **symmetry broken phases** readily accesible
- Truncation: LPA'



$$\Gamma_k = \int d^D x \left\{ \bar{\psi}_\nu \left(-i Z_{\psi,k} \not{\partial} + g_{i,k} M_{\Phi,i} \Phi_i \right) \psi_\nu - \frac{1}{2} Z_{\Phi_i,k} \Phi_i \partial^2 \Phi_i + V_k(\Phi) \right\}.$$

A GENERAL MECHANISM FOR
TRANSITIONS WITH EMERGENT SYMMETRY

COMPATIBLE MASSES

Two families of **masses** $\{\phi_i\}_{i=1}^{N_1}, \{\chi_j\}_{j=1}^{N_2}$ are compatible if

$$\{\beta_\phi^i, \beta_\chi^j\} = 0$$

Effective theory of **meeting of three phases** . Here:

$$O(N_1) \oplus O(N_2)$$

criticality.

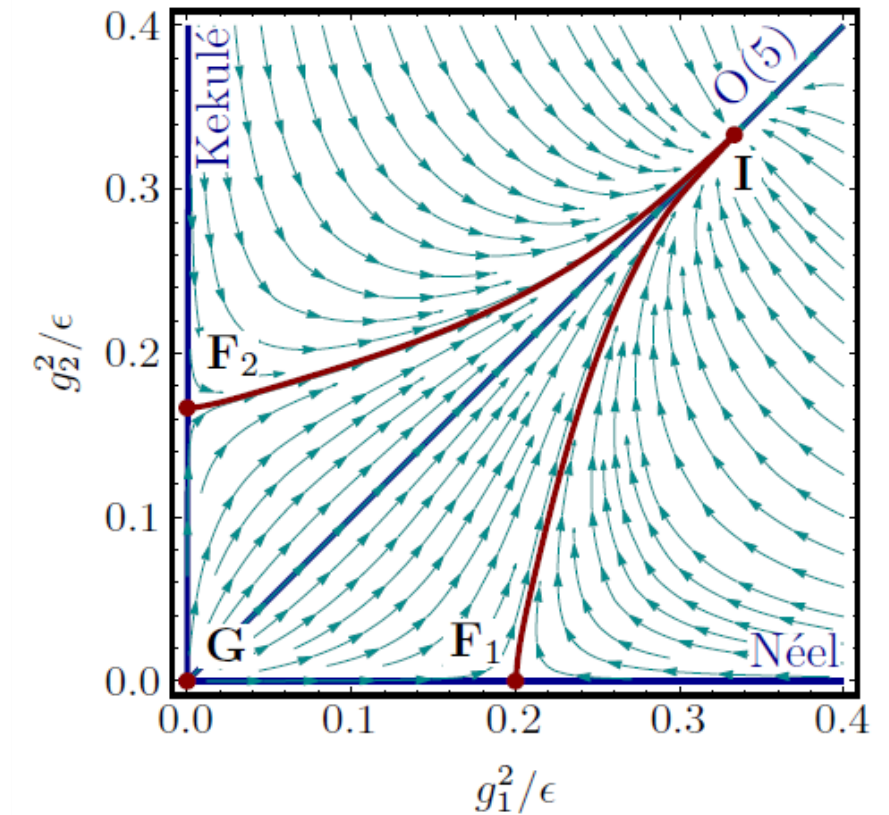
Known: there is always* a **stable isotropic fixed point (IFP)**
i.e. a fixed point with **a larger, emergent**

$$O(N_1 + N_2)$$

symmetry.

BUT, the IFP is not the whole story!

$$N_1 = 3, N_2 = 2$$



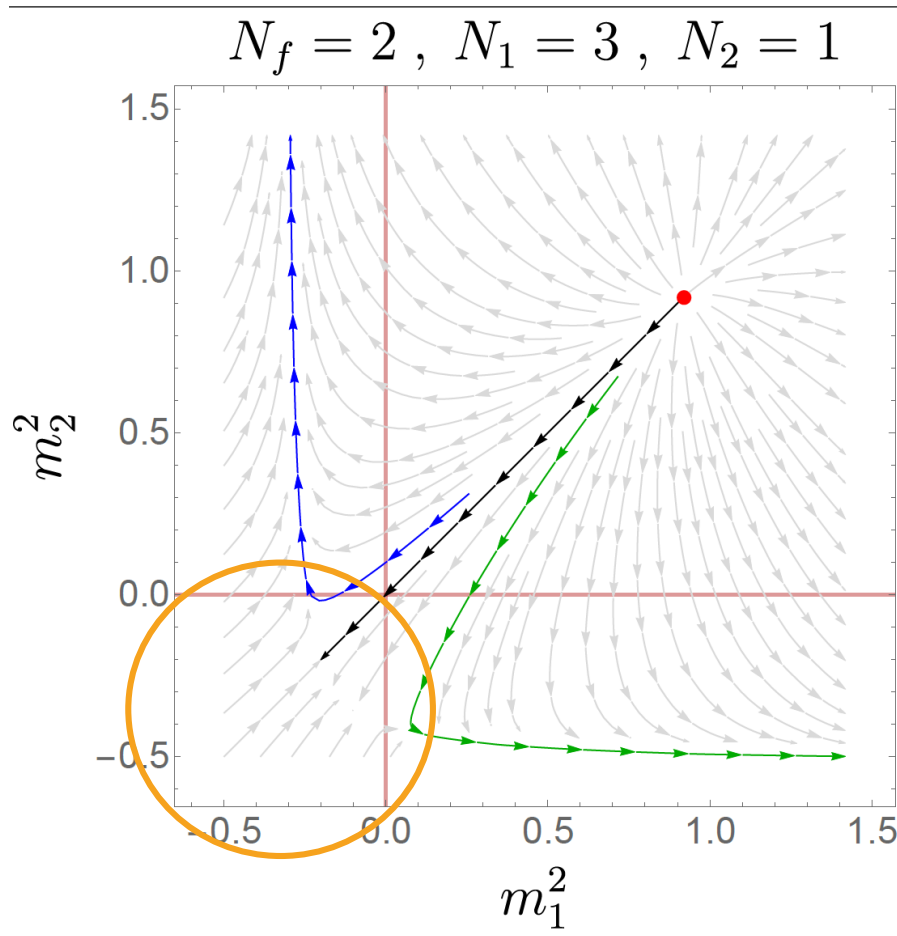
SAME BUT DIFFERENT

Stable fixed point **still has two** relevant directions and fixed point info **not enough**

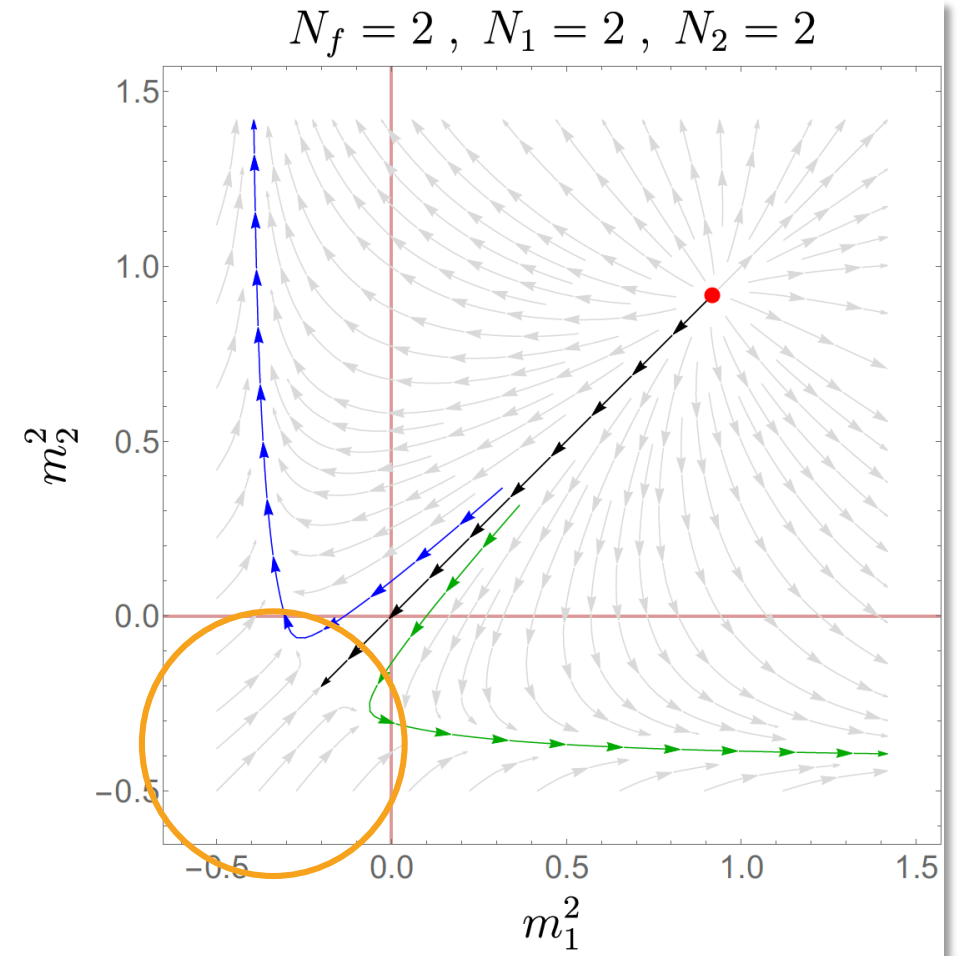
For, e.g. $N = 4$

Need to follow the evolution of the expectation values!

$$\kappa_\Phi := \langle \Phi^2 / 2 \rangle$$



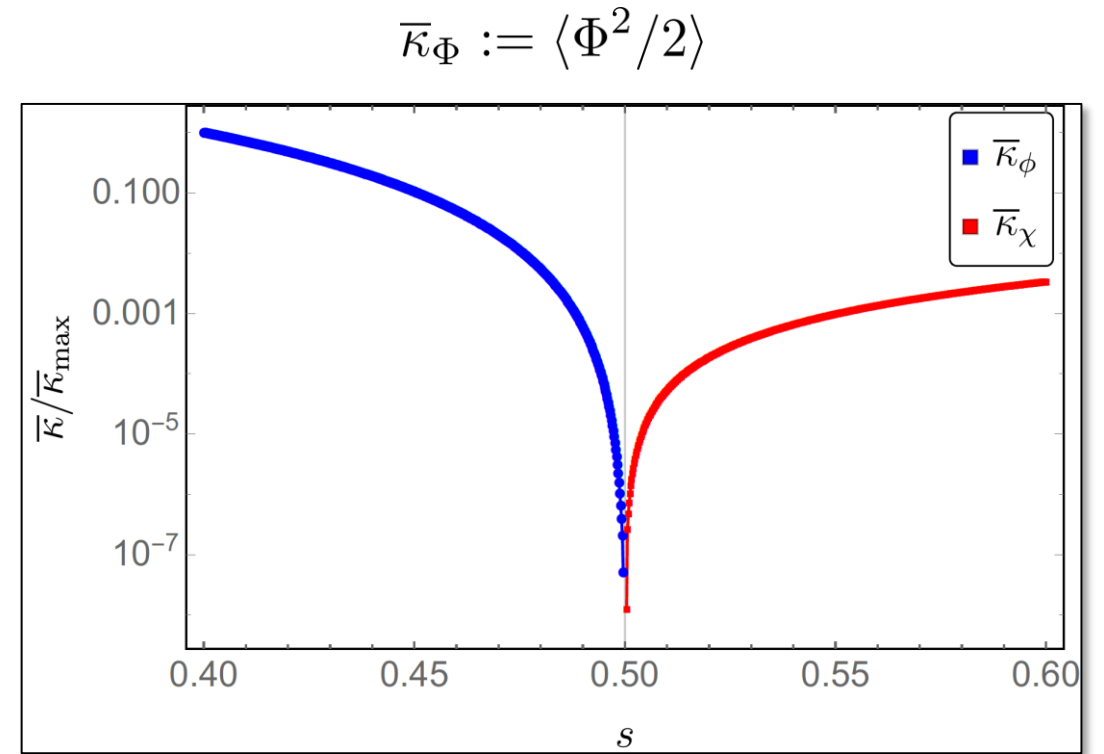
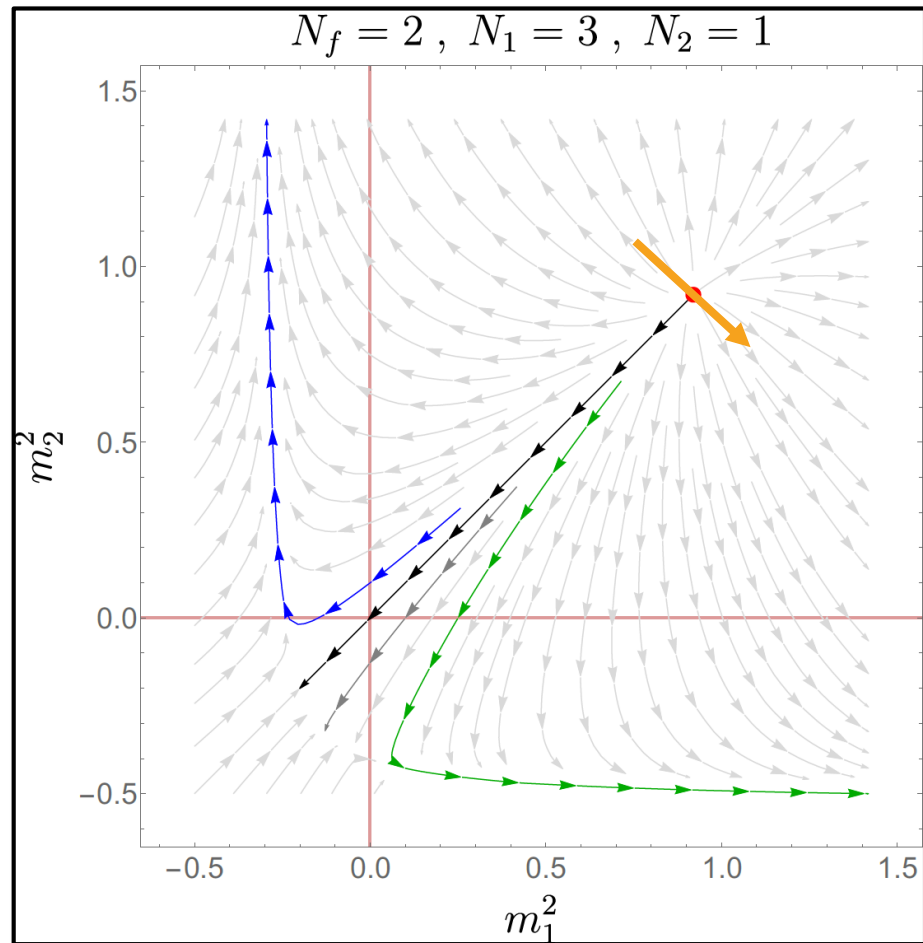
Coexistence? (mixed phases)



First order transitions?

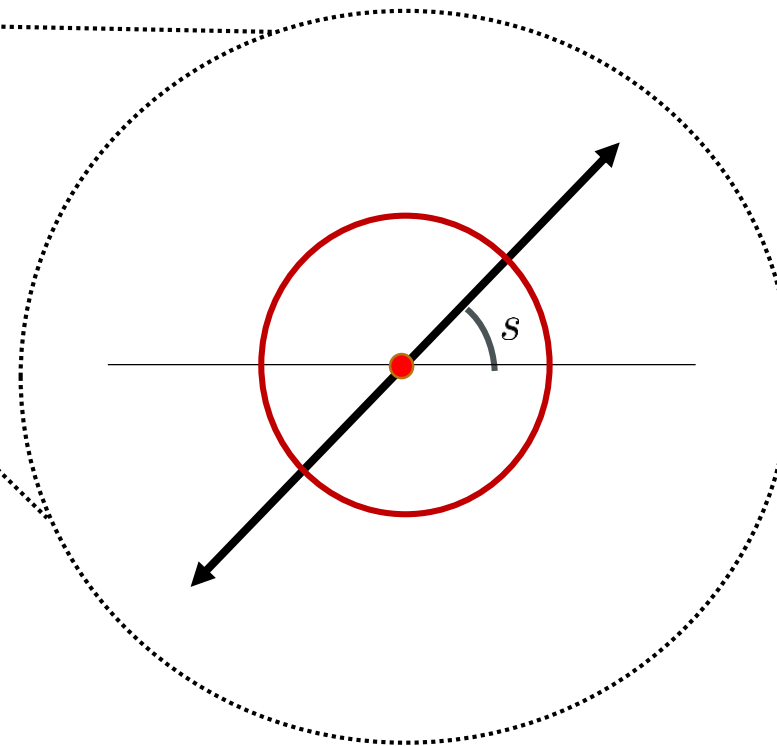
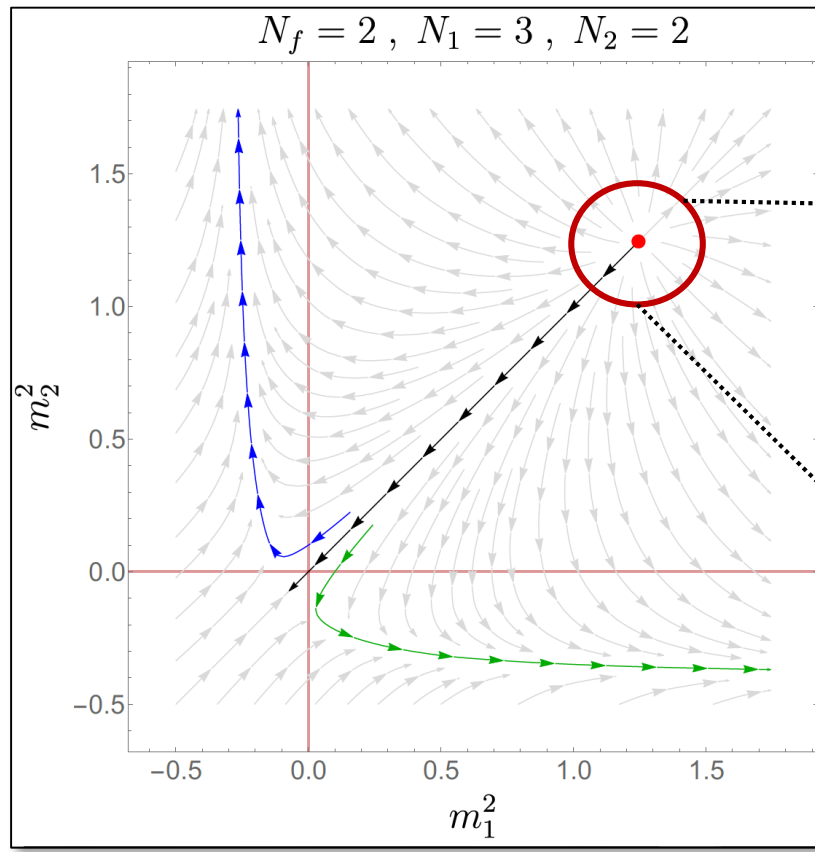
ORDER-TO-ORDER TRANSITIONS?

Yes: possible by crossing *exactly* through the IFP (and closing the gap!)



$$\Delta_{\text{sp}} = 2\bar{g}_\phi^2 \bar{\kappa}_\phi + 2\bar{g}_\chi^2 \bar{\kappa}_\chi$$

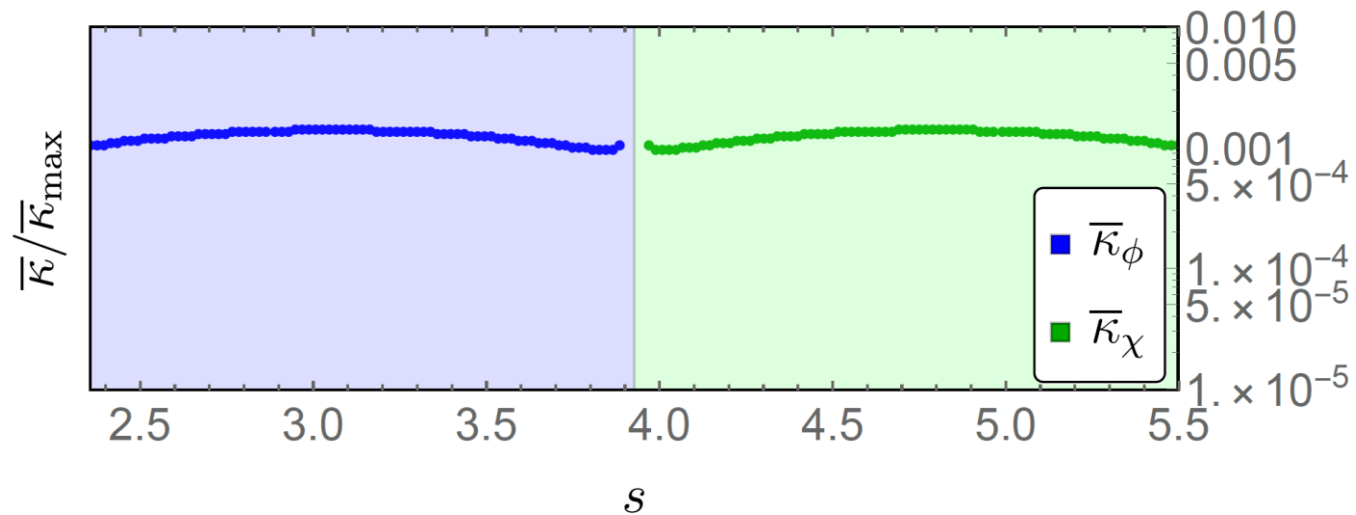
EXTRACTING THE PHASE DIAGRAM



PHENOMENOLOGY OF THE TRANSITION

- Is there a direct transition where the gap Δ_{sp} remains open?

$$N_f = 2, N_1 = N_2 = 1$$

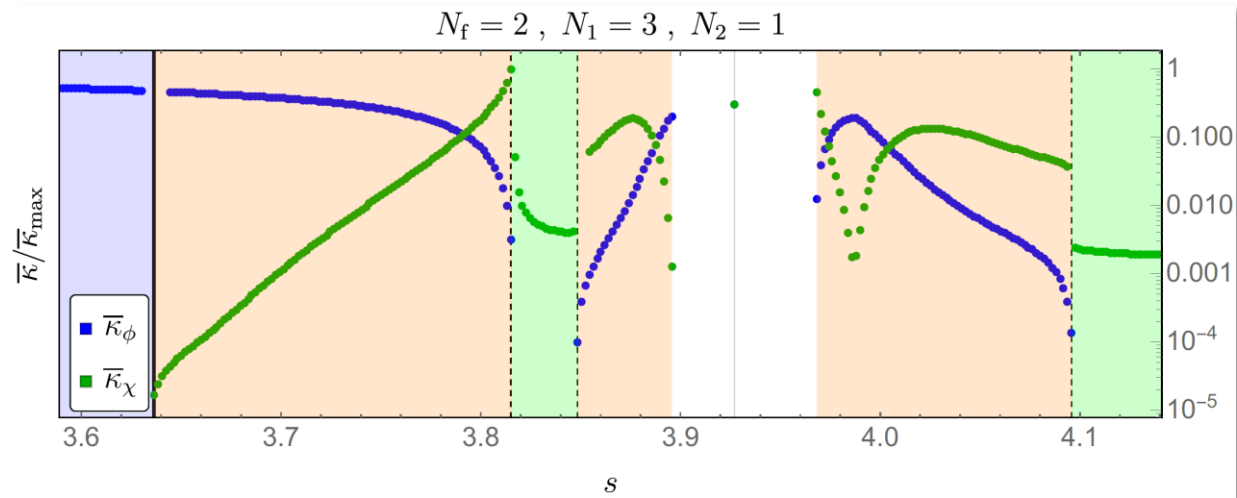


No evidence!

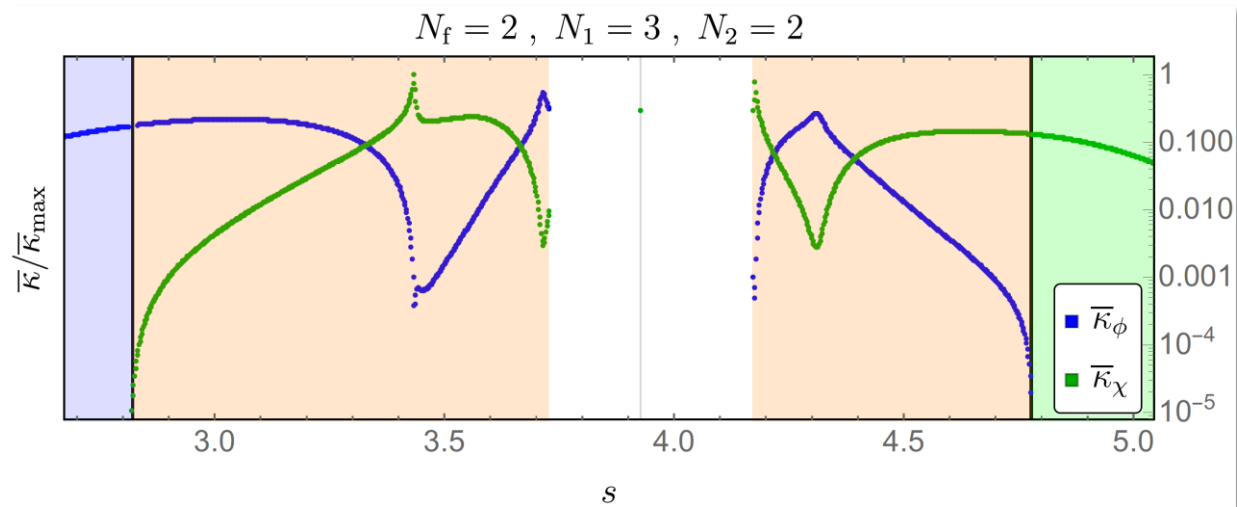
Instead either a first order
transition...

PHENOMENOLOGY OF THE TRANSITION

- Is there a direct transition where the gap Δ_{sp} remains open?

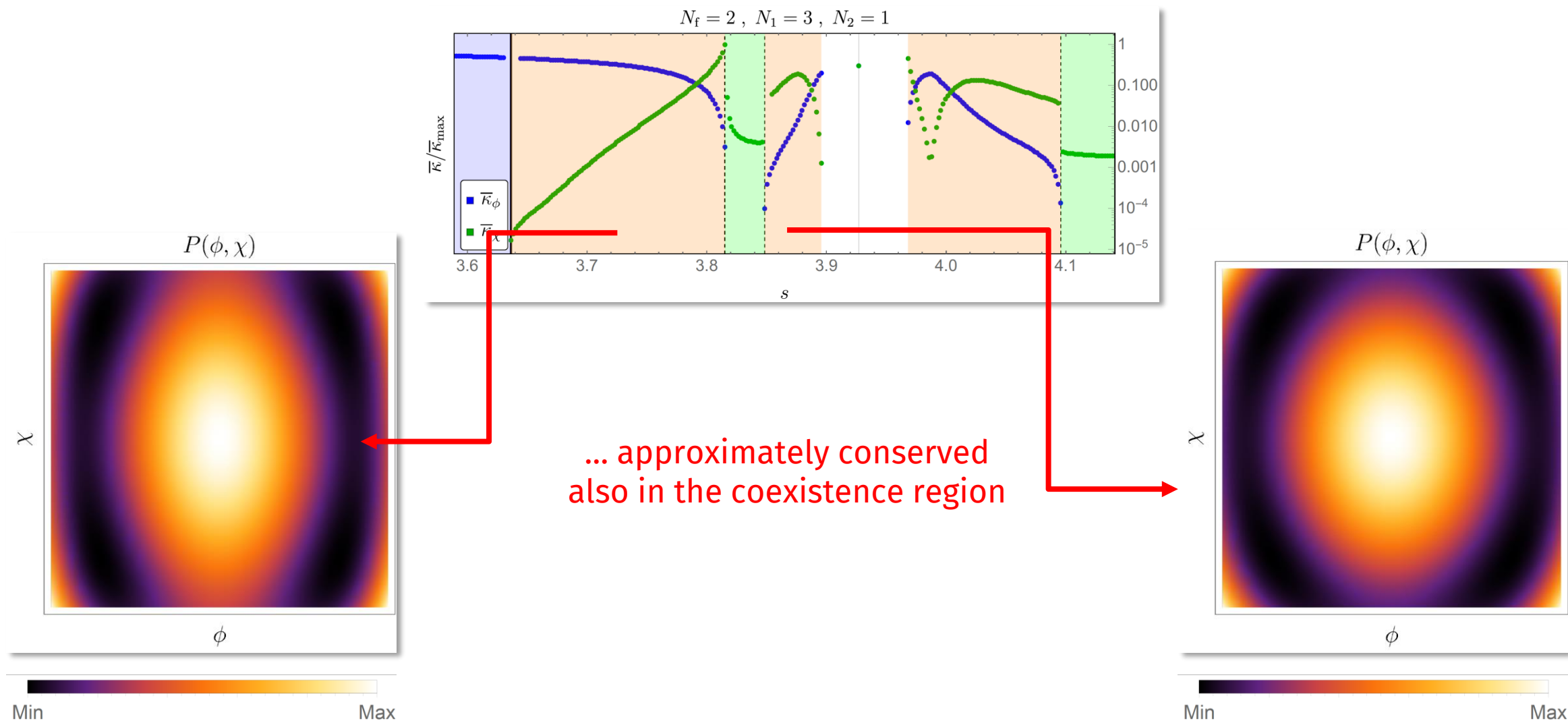


... or an extended region of coexistence

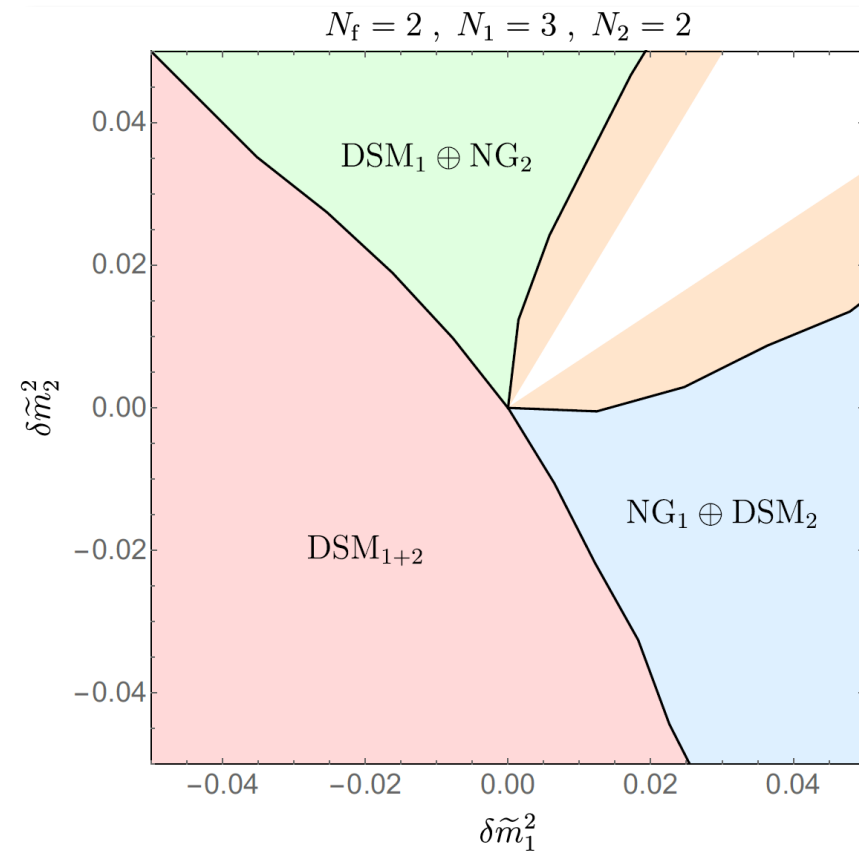
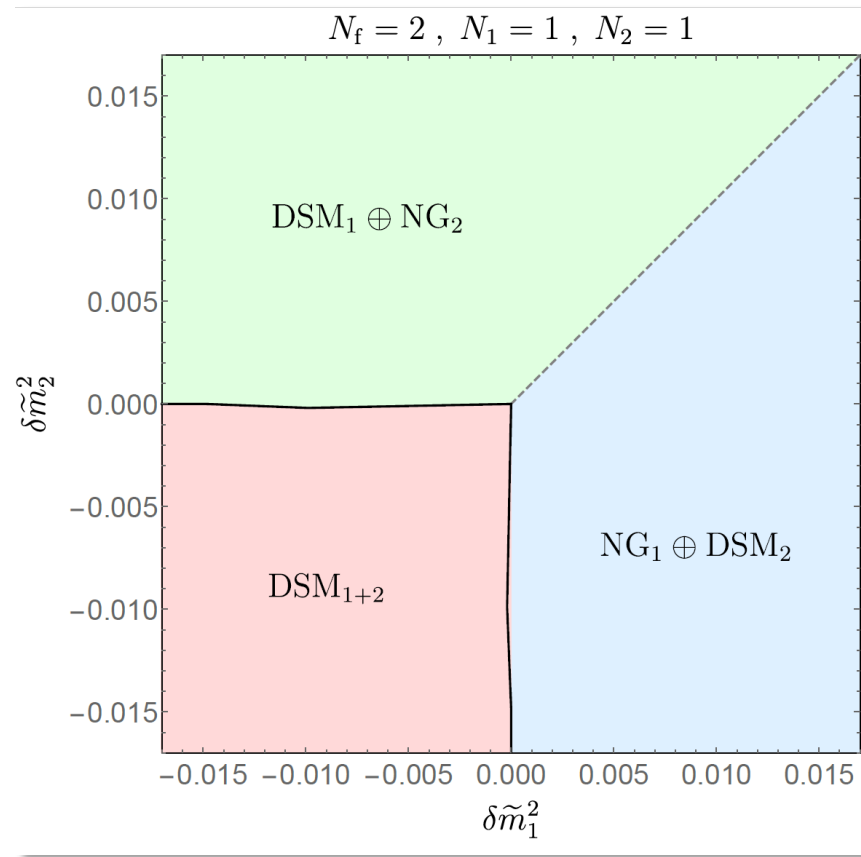


WHERE IS THE SYMMETRY OF THE IFP?

- Idea: follow the evolution of the potential in the coexistence region $P(\phi, \chi) := \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} V_k(\phi, \chi)$

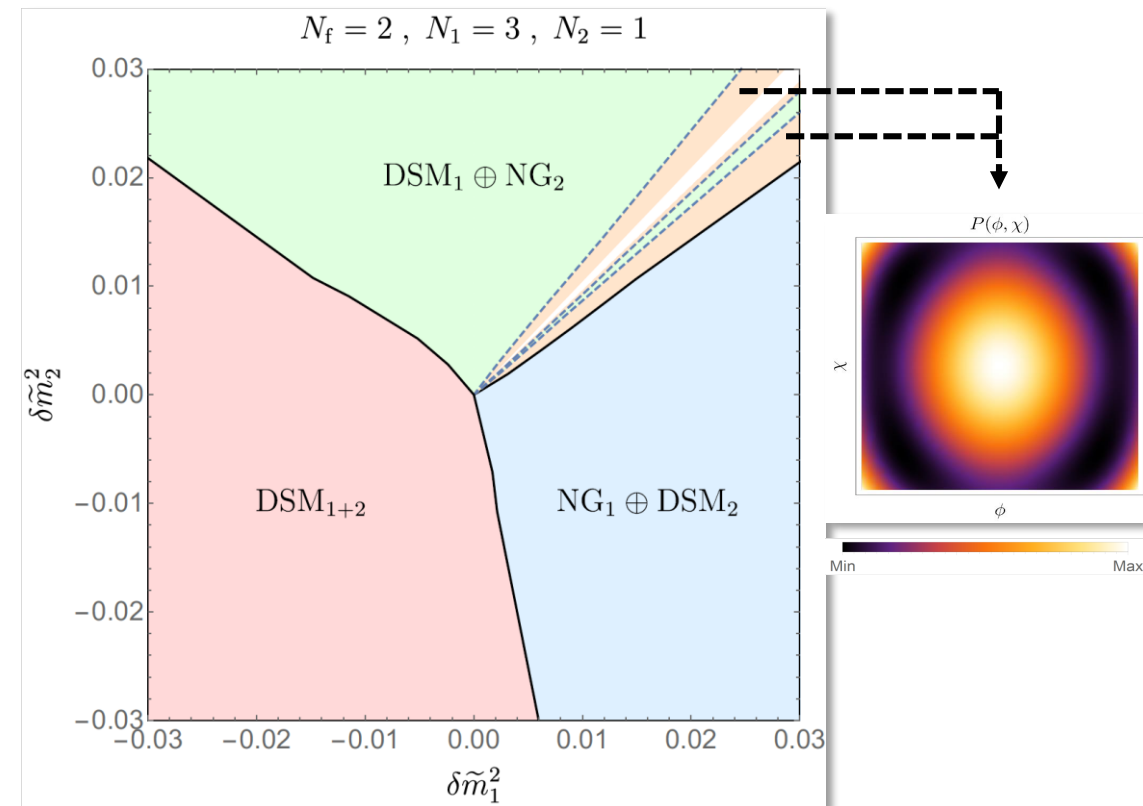


PHASE DIAGRAMS



SUMMARY / OUTLOOK

- **Dirac materials** a rich playground for Non Landau criticality
- **Massless fermions as a “workaround”**
 - + discrete symmetry breaking = emergent length scales (not addressed here, but see: Torres et al, PRB **97**, 125137 (2018))
 - + compatible masses = enlarged symmetry and direct transitions
 - Amenable to fully analytical treatment
- **Numerical analysis of similar models?**
 - “Designer hamiltonians” easy to construct



THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Torres, Janssen, Scherer - arXiv:1906.XXXX?