

# Phase Transition of Vortices in Higgs-Confinement Continuity

Yoshimasa Hidaka  
(YITP, Kyoto University)

Collaboration with Dan Kondo (Univ. of Tokyo),

Tomoya Hayata (Keio Univ.)

based on arXiv: 2411.03676

# Summary

We focus on systems with  $U(1)_{\text{global}} \times G_{\text{gauge}}$  symmetry

Pure gauge theory

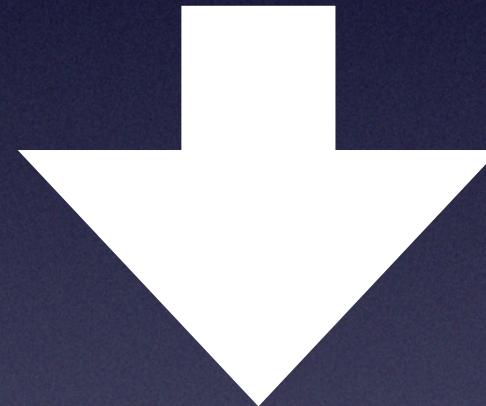
Confined phase

Deconfined phase

Strong coupling

Weak coupling

$$\beta_g = 1/g^2$$



Adding fundamental  
charged matter and Higgssing it

and consider SSB of  $U(1)_{\text{global}}$

$U(1)$  superfluid

⋮

Strong coupling

Weak coupling

$$\beta_g = 1/g^2$$

We show something happened between strong and weak coupling.

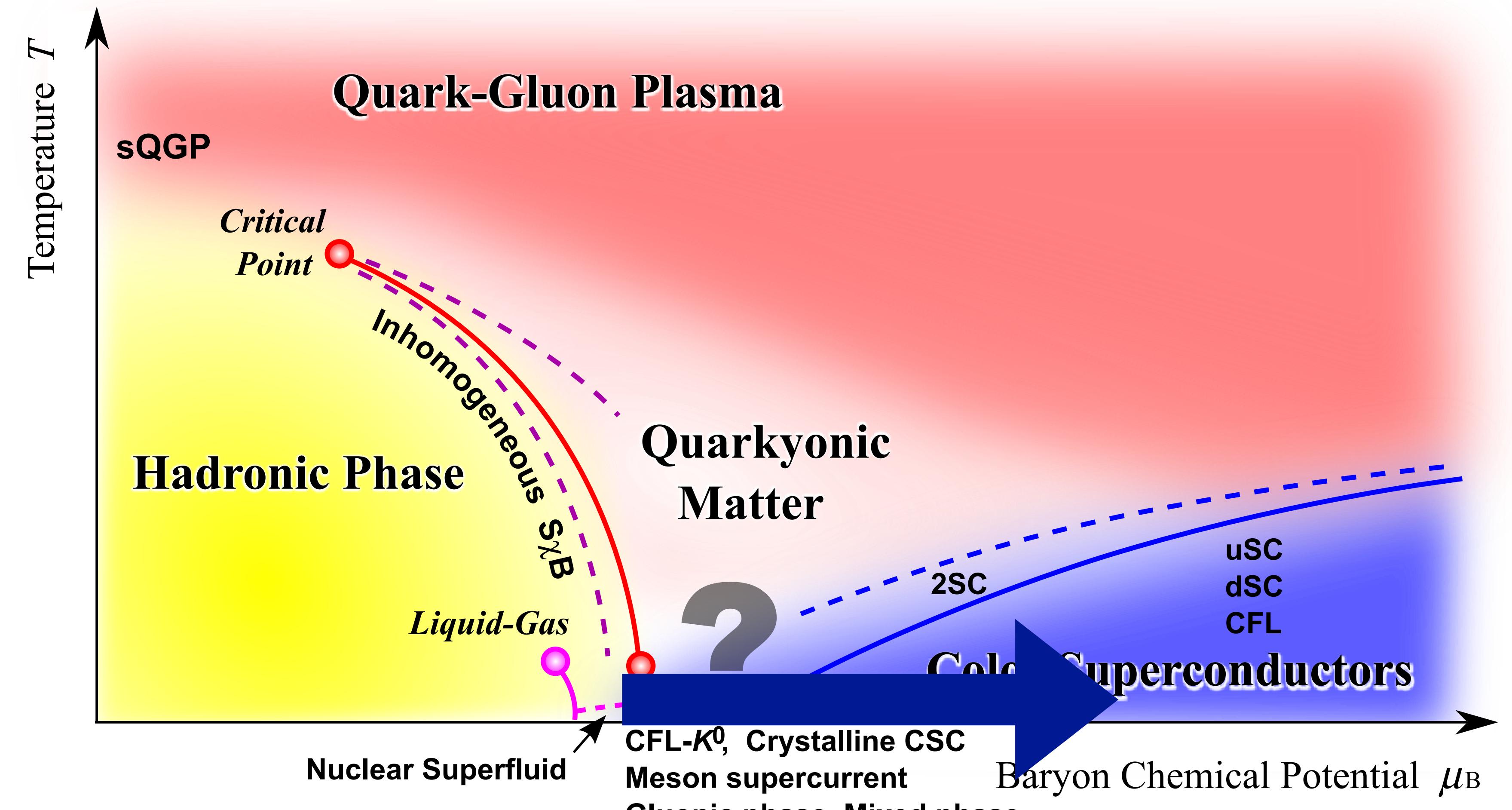
⇒ Phase transition on vortex even in bulk has no phase transition.

# Outline

- Motivation
- What we know about quark hadron continuity
- Phase transition on a vortices
- Summary and Outlook

# Motivation: QCD phase diagram

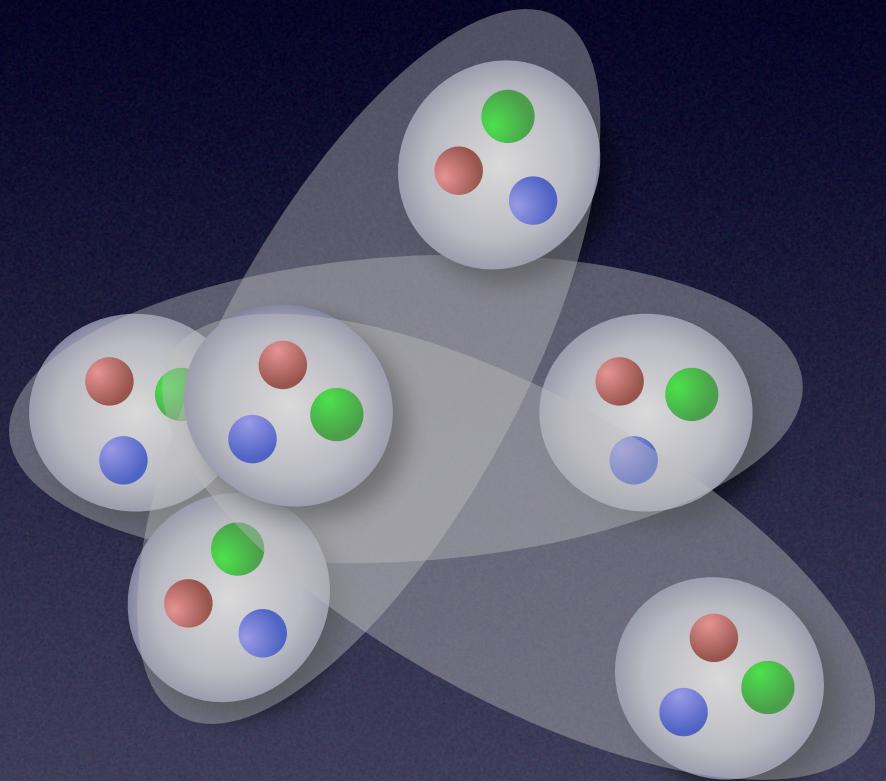
Fukushima, Hatsuda, Rept. Prog. Phys. 74 (2011) 014001



# What we know

For 3-flavor QCD :  $G = SU(3)_f \times U(1)_B$

- Superfluid(dilute phase)

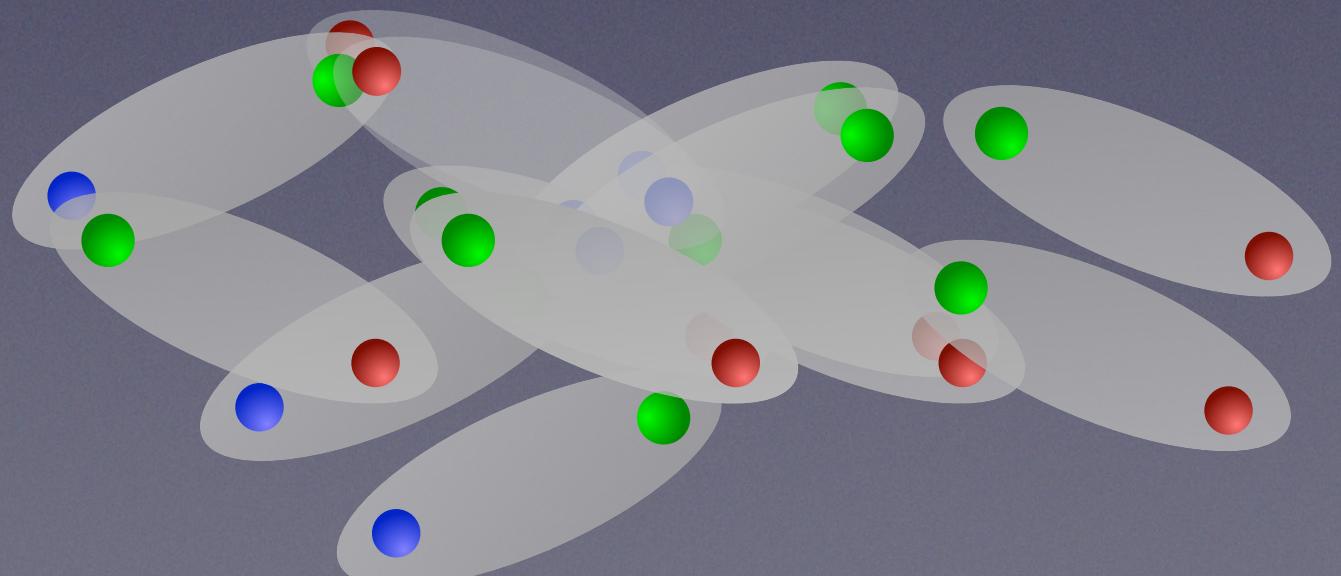


Baryon pair condensation

$$\Delta = \langle \Lambda \Lambda \rangle \neq 0 \quad \Lambda \sim uds$$

$$SU(3)_f \times U(1)_B \rightarrow SU(3)_f$$

- Color super conductor (dense phase)



“quark pair condensate”

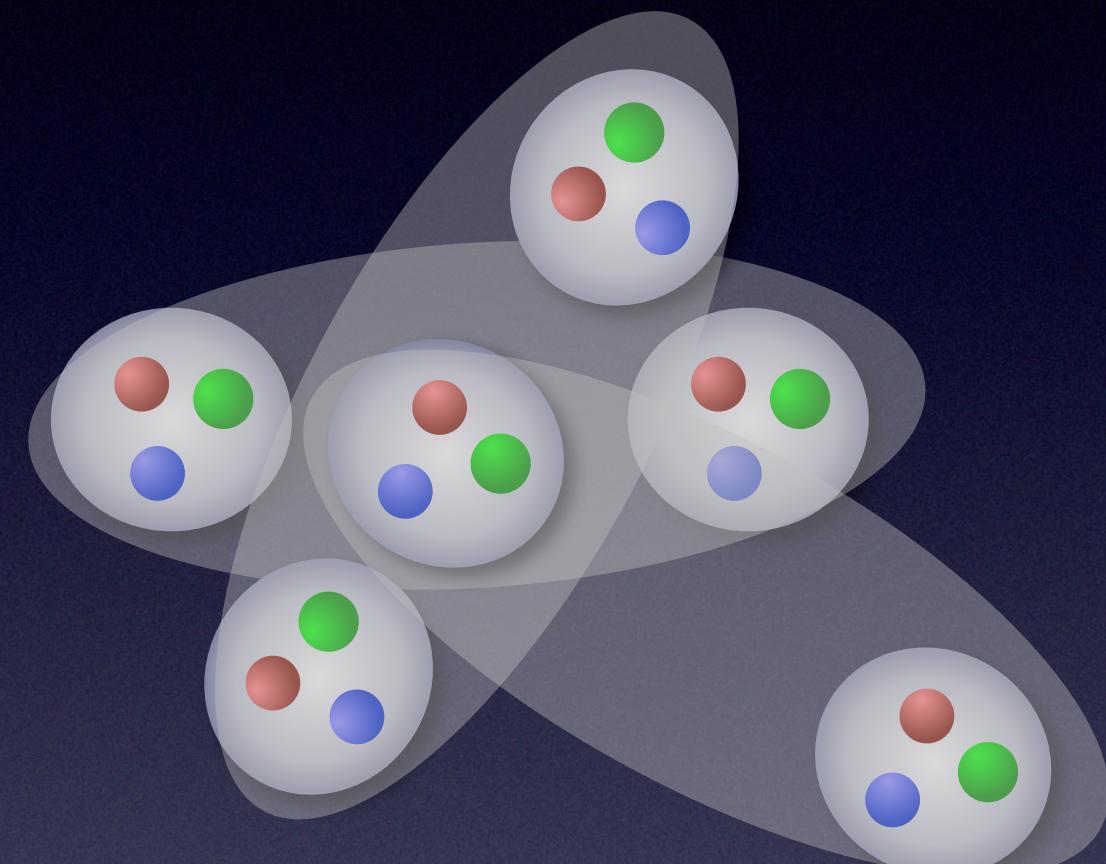
$$(\Phi_L)^i_{\textcolor{red}{a}} = \epsilon^{ijk} \epsilon^{\textcolor{red}{a}\textcolor{blue}{b}\textcolor{green}{c}} \langle (q_L)_j^{\textcolor{blue}{b}} (C q_L)_k^{\textcolor{red}{c}} \rangle = - \epsilon^{ijk} \epsilon_{\textcolor{red}{a}\textcolor{blue}{b}\textcolor{green}{c}} \langle (q_R)_j^{\textcolor{blue}{b}} (C q_R)_k^{\textcolor{red}{c}} \rangle$$

$$SU(3)_f \times U(1)_B \rightarrow SU(3)_f$$

# Quark hadron continuity

## Hadronic superfluid

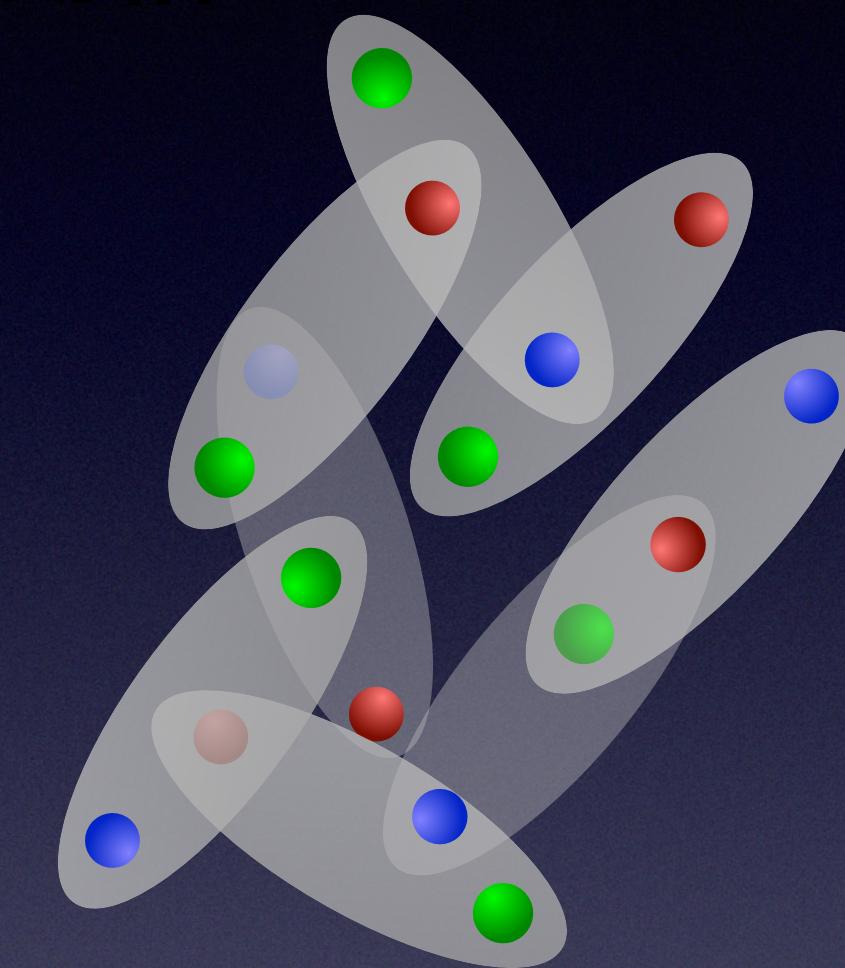
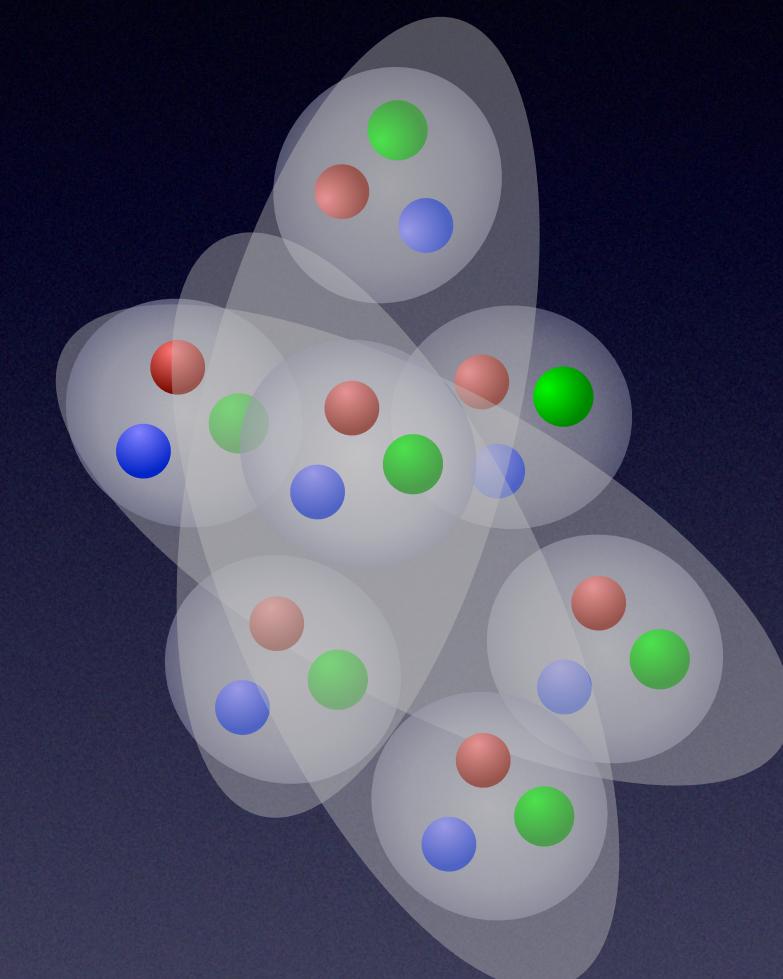
Tamagaki ('70), Hoffberg et al ('70)



## Color flavor locked phase (CFL phase)

Alford, Rajagopal, Wilczek ('99)

超流動相



$\mu_B$

Symmetry breaking pattern is the same

⇒ Quark hadron continuity

Excitations

Baryons ⇒ Quarks

Vector meson ⇒ Gluons

cf. Hatsuda, Tachibana, Yamamoto, Baym ('06)

Can the two phases be distinguished  
for topological reasons?

SPT phase, topological ordered phase, ...

Topological ordered phase

$\approx$  Spontaneously broken  
generalized (discrete) global symmetries

# Generalized global symmetry

Gaiotto, Kapustin, Seiberg, Willett ('14)

Ordinary global symmetry of  
Quantum field theory(QFT) in  $(d+1)$  dimensions

$U_g$



Symmetry operator

$d$  dimensional topological  
object labeled by  
 $g \in G$

$$U_g \quad U_{g'} = U_{gg'} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{Group law} \\ g, g' \in G \\ gg' \in G \end{matrix}$$

$\phi$



Charged object

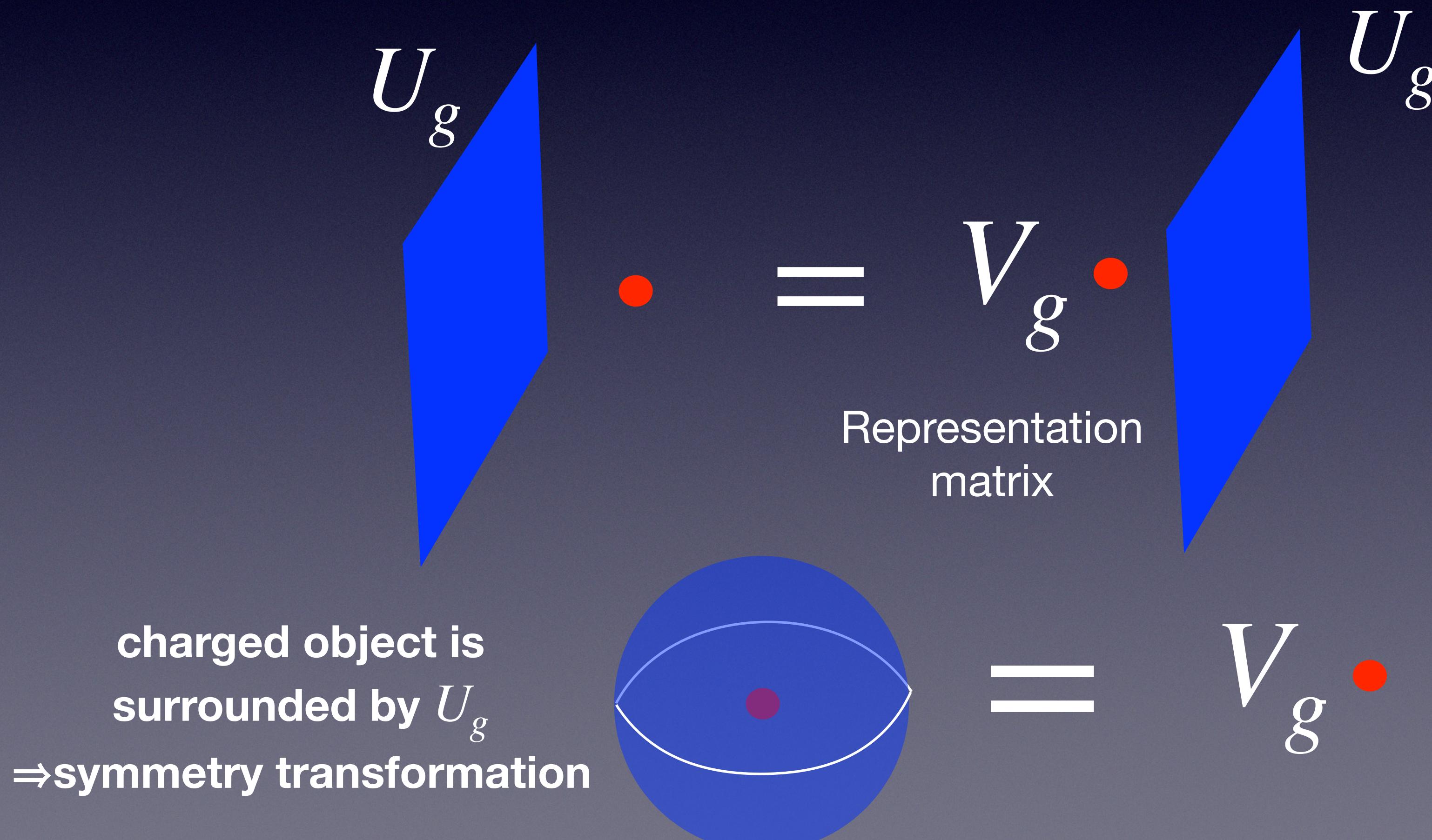
0-dimensional object  
labeled by representation of  $G$

# Generalized global symmetry

Gaiotto, Kapustin, Seiberg, Willett ('14)

QFT in (d+1) dimension

Transformation:  $U_g \phi = V_g \phi U_g$



# Generalized global symmetry

Gaiotto, Kapustin, Seiberg, Willett ('14)

QFT in  $(d+1)$  dimension

$p$  form symmetry  $G$

$U_g$



Symmetry generator

$d - p$  dimensional topological  
object labeled by  
 $g \in G$

$W$



Charged object

$p$ -dimensional object  
labeled by representation of  $G$

# Generalized global symmetry

Gaiotto, Kapustin, Seiberg, Willett ('14)

QFT in  $(d+1)$  dimension

$p$  form symmetry  $G$

$U_g$



$U_{g'}$



$U_{gg'}$

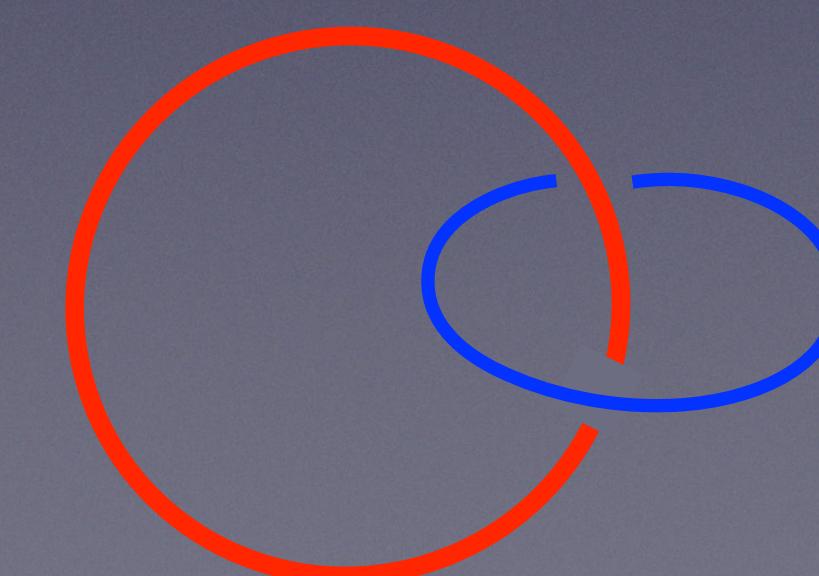


=

group law  
 $g, g' \in G$   
 $gg' \in G$

Symmetry generator:  
( $d-p$ )-dimensional

Charged object:  
 $p$ -dimensional



=

$V_g$

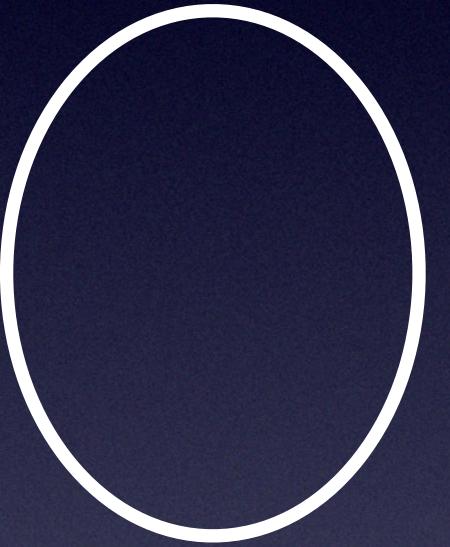
representation



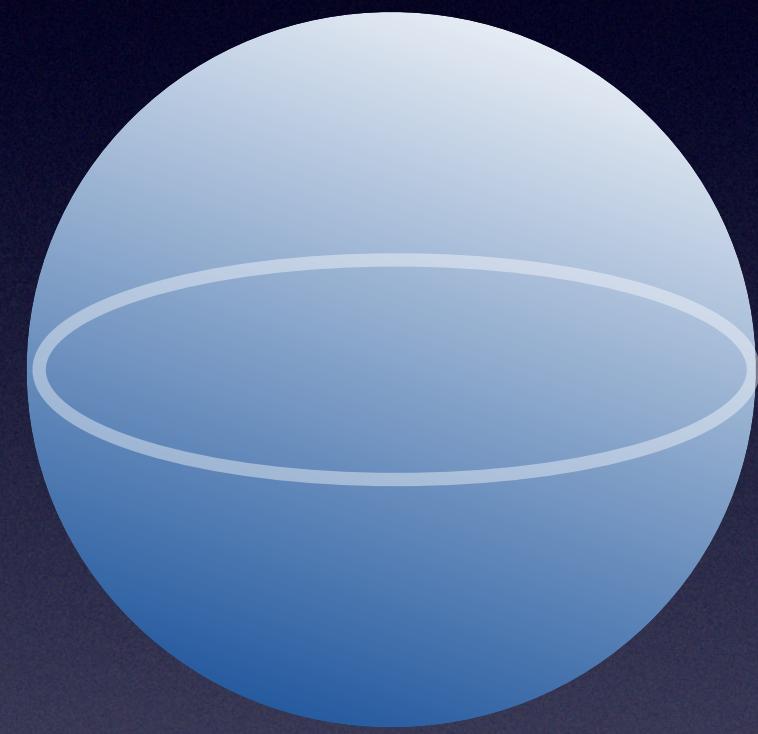
# Example: U(1) gauge theory

Gaiotto, Kapustin, Seiberg, Willett ('14)

Charged object



Charge



Wilson ('t Hooft) loop

$$U(1)_E^{[1]}$$

$$W = \exp \left[ i \oint_{M^{(1)}} A \right]$$

Surface operators

**Electric:**  $Q_e = \frac{1}{e^2} \int_{M^{(2)}} \star F$

$$U(1)_M^{[1]}$$

$$H = \exp \left[ i \oint_{M^{(1)}} \tilde{A} \right]$$

**Magnetic:**  $Q_m = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{M^{(2)}} F$

# Quantum electrodynamics

There are  $U(1)_M^{[1]}$  magnetic 1-form symmetry

Vacuum

SSB  $U(1)_M^{[1]}$

Emergent symmetry  $U(1)_E^{[1]}$

Photons are Nambu-Goldstone modes

Superconductor

Unbroken  $U(1)_M^{[1]}$

Emergent symmetry (SSB)  $\mathbb{Z}_2^{[1]} \times \mathbb{Z}_2^{[2]}$

Topological order

$\mathbb{Z}_2^{[1]}$  : cooper pair has charge 2  
 $\mathbb{Z}_2^{[2]}$  :  $\pi$  magnetic flux inside of vortex

# Thought experiment : rotating neutron stars



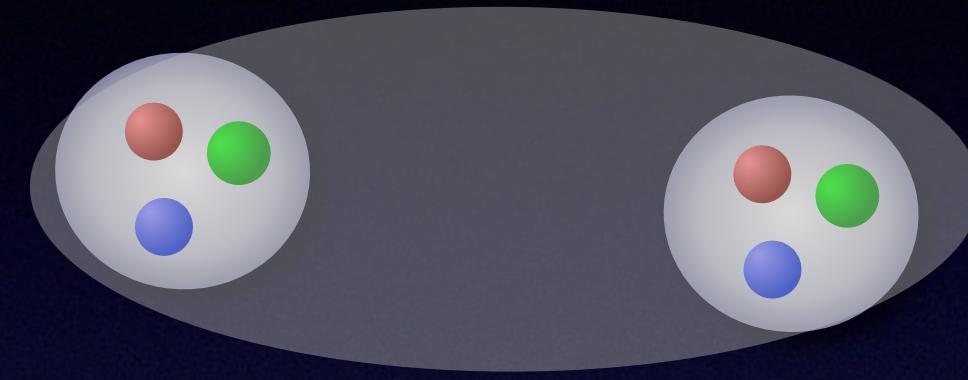
Quantum vortex

Consider continuity of vortices

- Circulation
- Emergent symmetry

# Hadronic superfluid phase

## di-baryons condense



$$\Delta = \langle \Lambda\Lambda \rangle \neq 0 \quad \Lambda \sim uds$$

Symmetry breaking pattern

$$SU(3)_f \times U(1)_B \rightarrow SU(3)_f$$

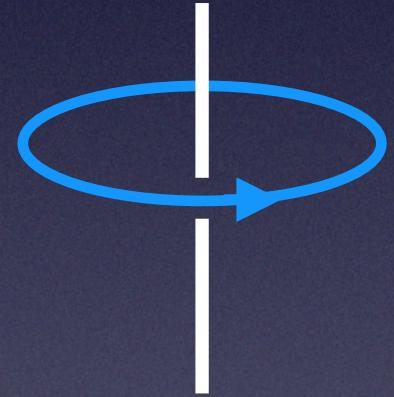
Topological excitation: **U(1) vortex**  $\pi_1(U(1)_B) = \mathbb{Z}$

$$\phi = \Delta f(r) e^{i\theta} \quad \int \frac{d\theta}{2\pi} \in \mathbb{Z} \quad f \xrightarrow[r \rightarrow 0]{} 0 \quad f \xrightarrow[r \rightarrow \infty]{} 1$$

# Quantum number in Hadronic superfluid phase

Global  $U(1)_B$  symmetry is broken

$U(1)$  vortex: topological defect  $\Delta e^{i\theta}$

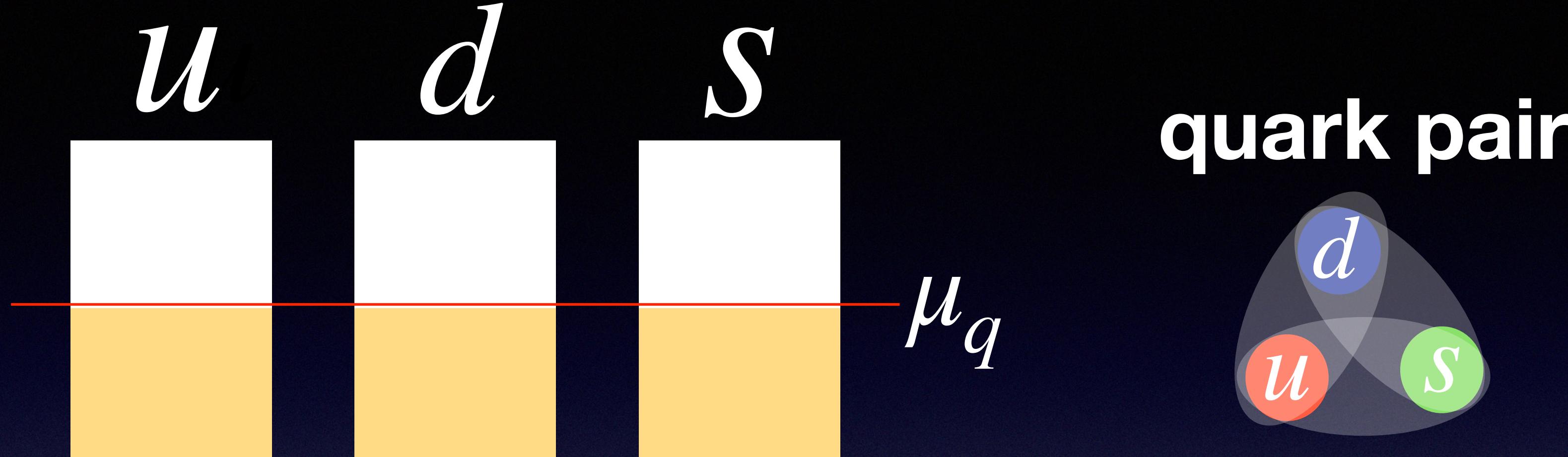


Circulation:  $\int v = \int \frac{d\theta}{2\mu_B} = \frac{2\pi\nu_B}{2\mu_B}$

$$\nu_B = \int \frac{d\theta}{2\pi} : \text{Winding number}$$

$2\mu_B$ : Baryon chemical potential of order parameter

# Color-flavor locking phase



$$(\Phi_L)_{\color{red}a}^i = \epsilon^{ijk} \epsilon_{\color{red}abc}^{\color{green}b\color{blue}c} \langle (q_L)_j^{\color{green}b} (C q_L)_k^{\color{blue}c} \rangle \quad (\Phi_R)_{\color{red}a}^i = \epsilon^{ijk} \epsilon_{\color{red}abc}^{\color{green}b\color{blue}c} \langle (q_R)_j^{\color{green}b} (C q_R)_k^{\color{blue}c} \rangle$$

$$\Phi := \Phi_L = -\Phi_R = \begin{pmatrix} \Delta_{\text{CFL}} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta_{\text{CFL}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \Delta_{\text{CFL}} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Topological excitations

cf. Eto, Hirono, Nitta & Yasui, PTEP 2014, 012D01 (2014)

order parameter space  $G/H \simeq \frac{SU(3)_c \times U(1)_B}{\mathbb{Z}_3} \simeq U(3)$

## U(1) vortex

$$\Phi := \Delta_{\text{CFL}} \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\theta}f(r) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\theta}f(r) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{i\theta}f(r) \end{pmatrix}$$

## Non-abelian CFL vortex

Balachandran, Digal, Matsuura, PRD73, 074009 (2006)

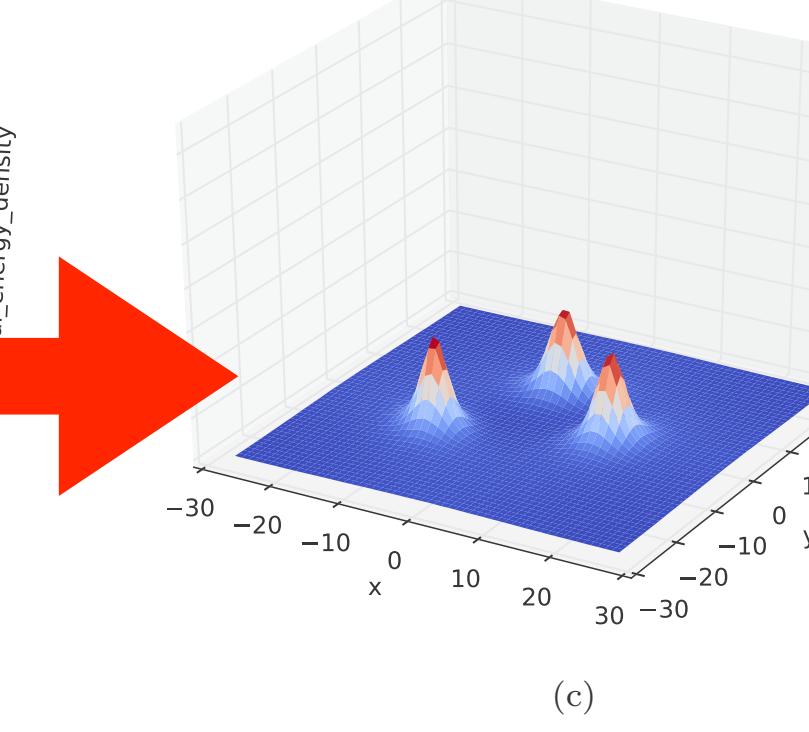
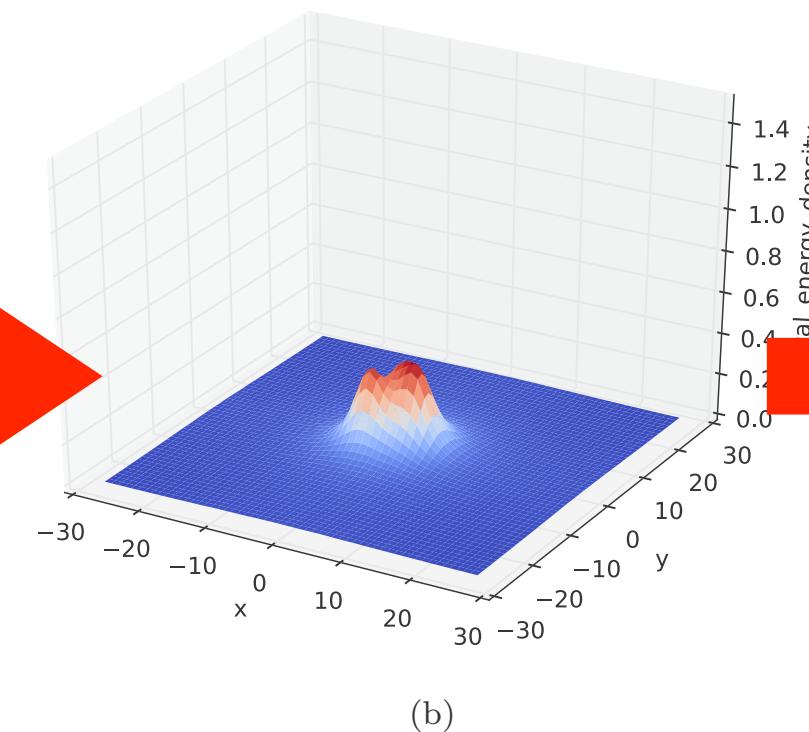
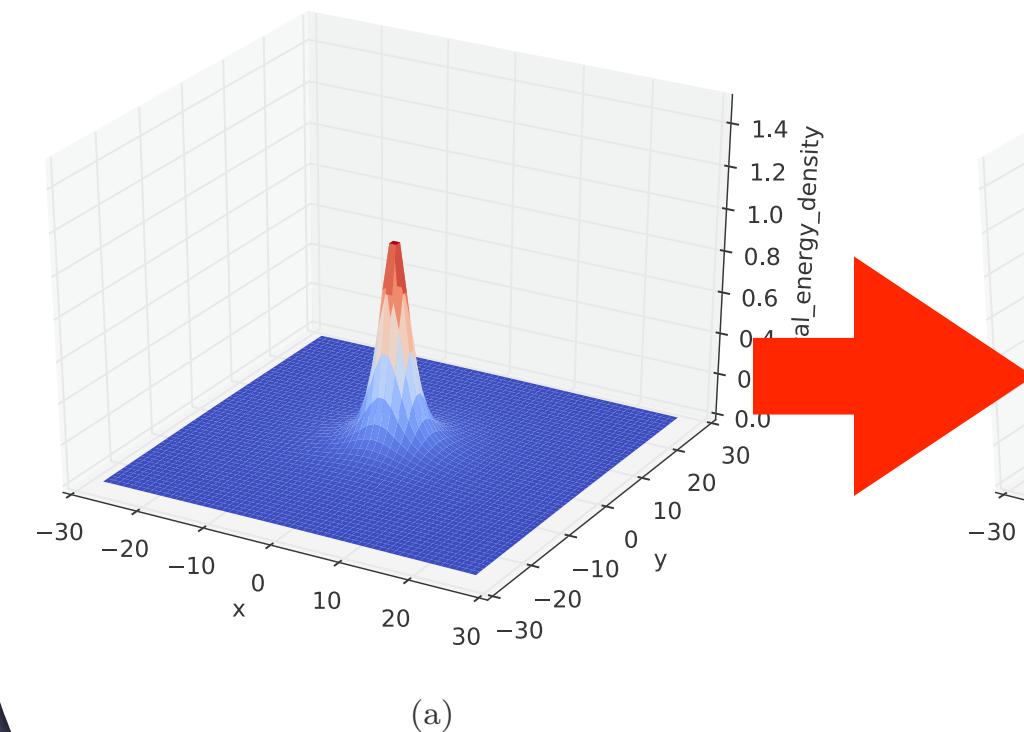
$$\Phi := \Delta_{\text{CFL}} \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\theta}f(r) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & g(r) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & g(r) \end{pmatrix} = \Delta_{\text{CFL}} e^{i\frac{\theta}{3}} \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\frac{2\theta}{3}}f(r) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-i\frac{\theta}{3}}g(r) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{-i\frac{\theta}{3}}g(r) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A_i = -\frac{\epsilon_{ij}x^j}{g_s^2 r^2} (1 - h(r)) \text{diag}\left(-\frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right) \text{ both superfluidity and superconductivity}$$

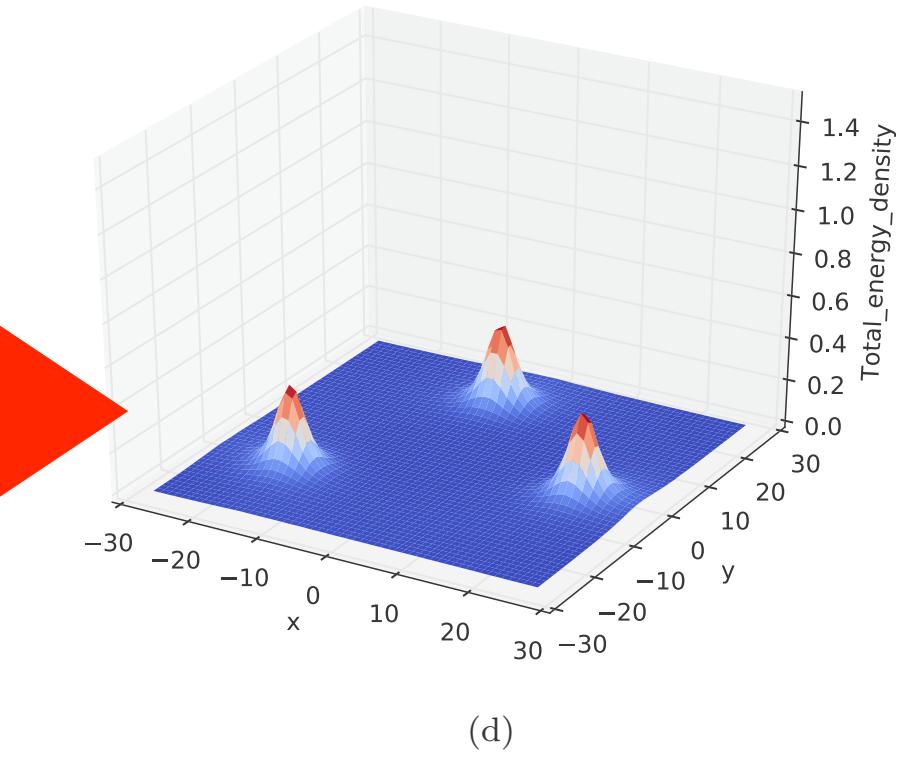
# Numerical Simulation

Alford, Mallavarapu, Vachaspati, Windisch, PRC 93, 045801 (2016)

$U(1)$  vortex

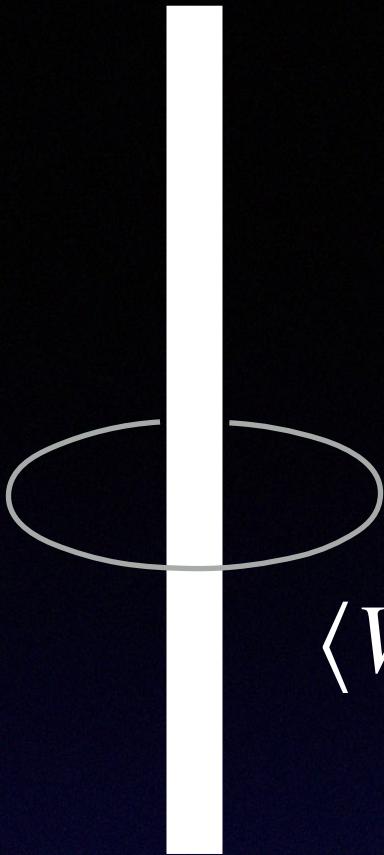


non-abelian vortices



$U(1)$  vortex decays into  
three non-abelian vortices

# **U(1) vortex in Hadronic phase**



$$\langle W \rangle = |\langle W \rangle|$$

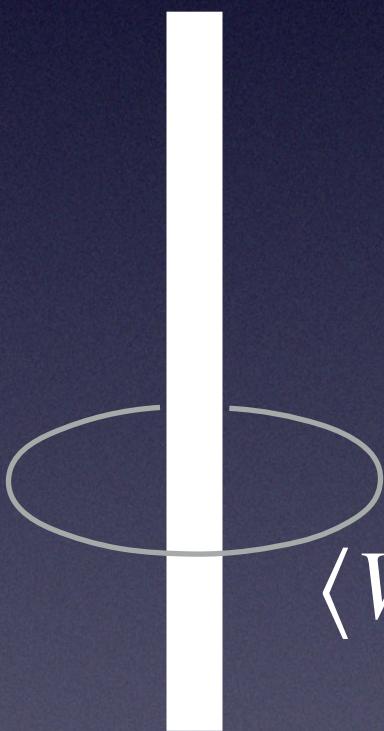
**Circulation**

$$2\pi \frac{\nu_B}{2\mu_B}$$

Alford, Baym, Fukushima, Hatsuda, Tachibana ('19)

$\nu_B$ : Winding number

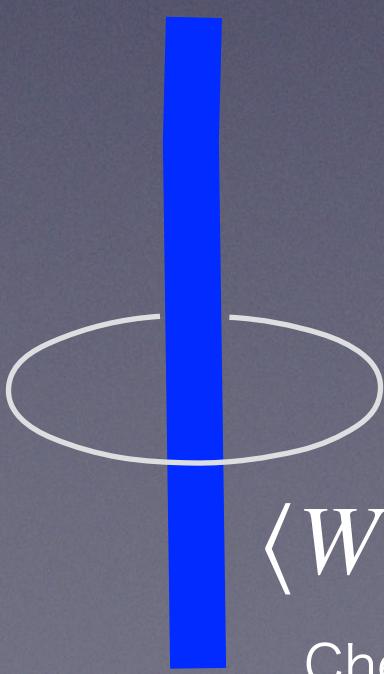
# **U(1) vortex in CFL**



$$\langle W \rangle = |\langle W \rangle|$$

**Circulation**  $2\pi \frac{\nu_A}{2\mu_q} = 2\pi \frac{3\nu_A}{2\mu_B}$

# **Non-abelian vortex in CFL**



$$\langle W \rangle = e^{i\frac{2\pi\nu_A}{3}} |\langle W \rangle|$$

**Circulation**

$$\frac{2\pi\nu_A/3}{2\mu_q} = \boxed{2\pi \frac{\nu_A}{2\mu_B}}$$

# Topological ordered phase?

CFL vortex: emergent  $\mathbb{Z}_3^{[2]}$  symmetry

However, it is not unbroken, i.e. not topological order

Hirono, Tanizaki ('19)

What is the fate of  $e^{\frac{2\pi}{3}i}$ ?

The magnetic flux will not penetrate through the vortices  
in the hadronic phase

⇒ This allow us to distinguish the phases.

Cherman, Jacobson, Sen, Yaffe ('20), ('24)

Magnetic flux may penetrate through the vortices  
in the hadronic phase or dissipate during the transition.

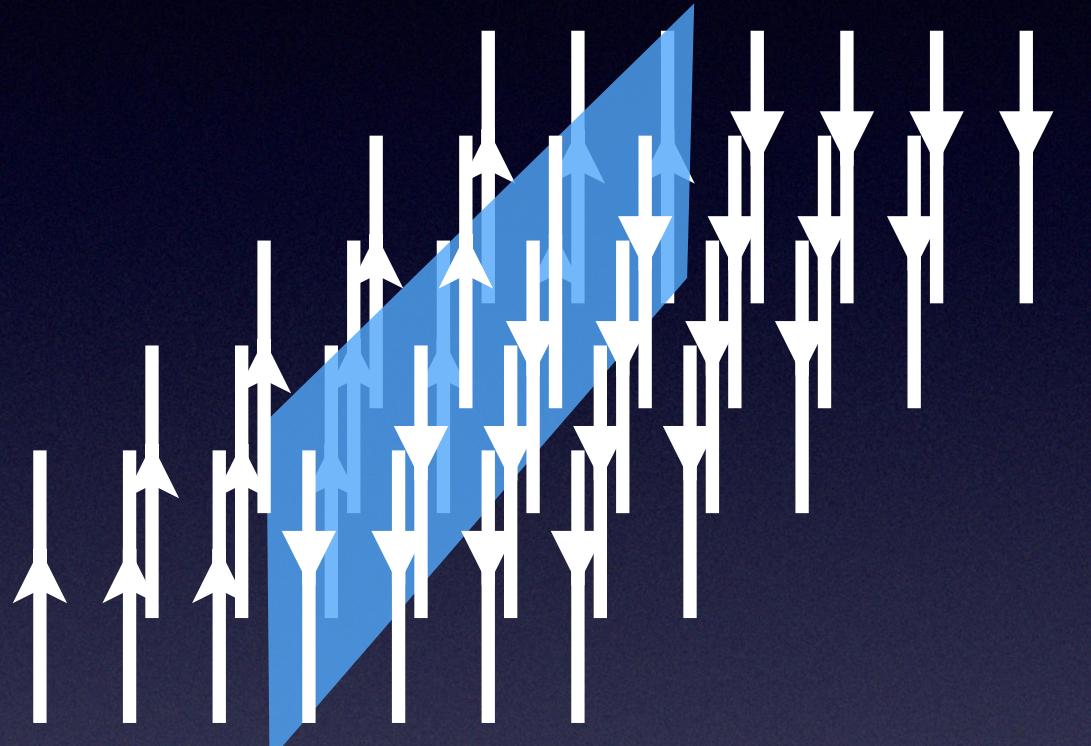
Hayashi ('23)

# Outline

- Phase transition on a vortices
- Summary

**Phase transition on a topological defect,  
while the bulk remains continuous?**

**Domain wall**



**vortex**



**Our answer is YES!**

**Effective theory on a topological defect=  
a lower-dimensional field theory may exhibit phase transition  
Phase transitions may occur in quantum vortices.**

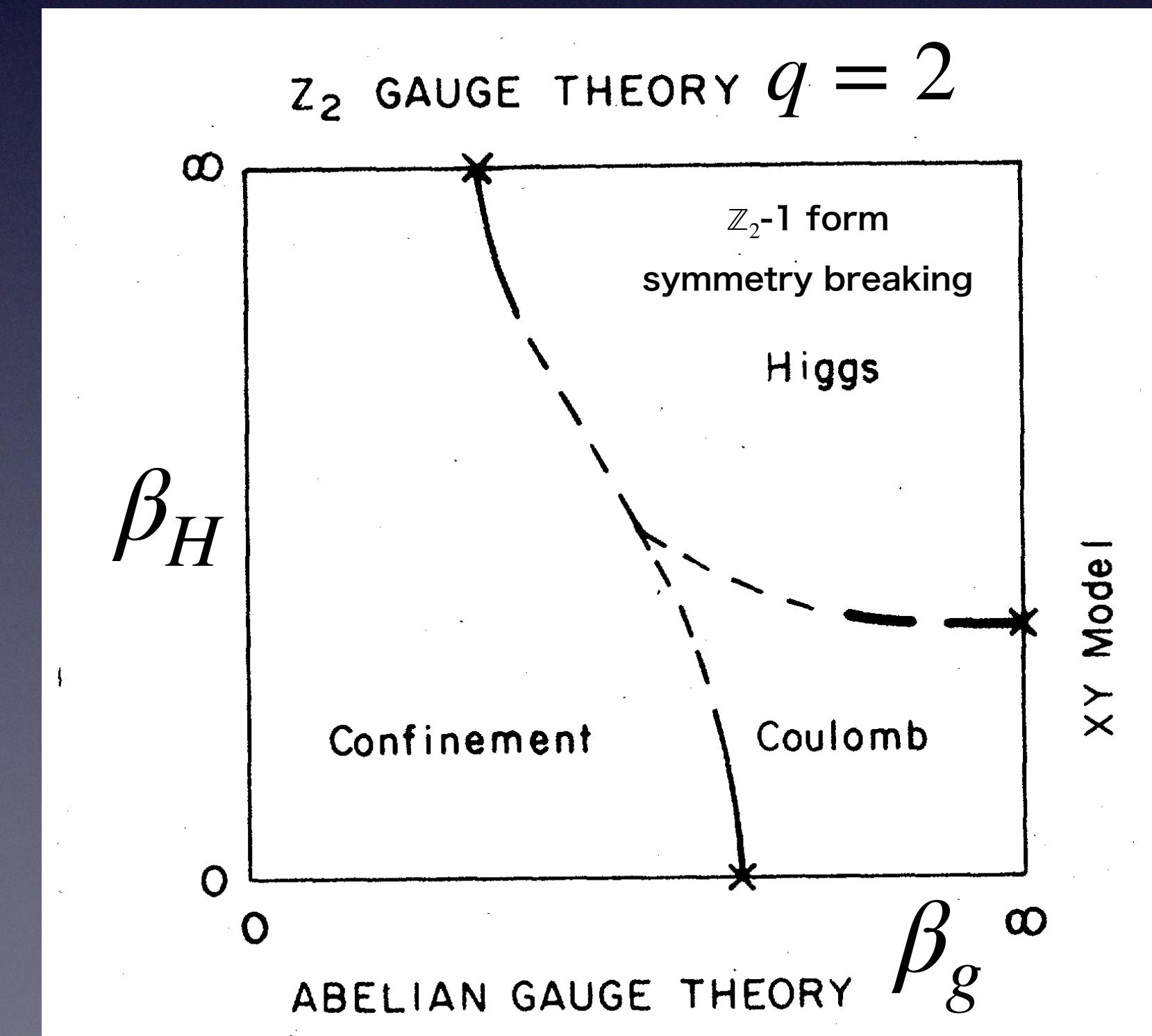
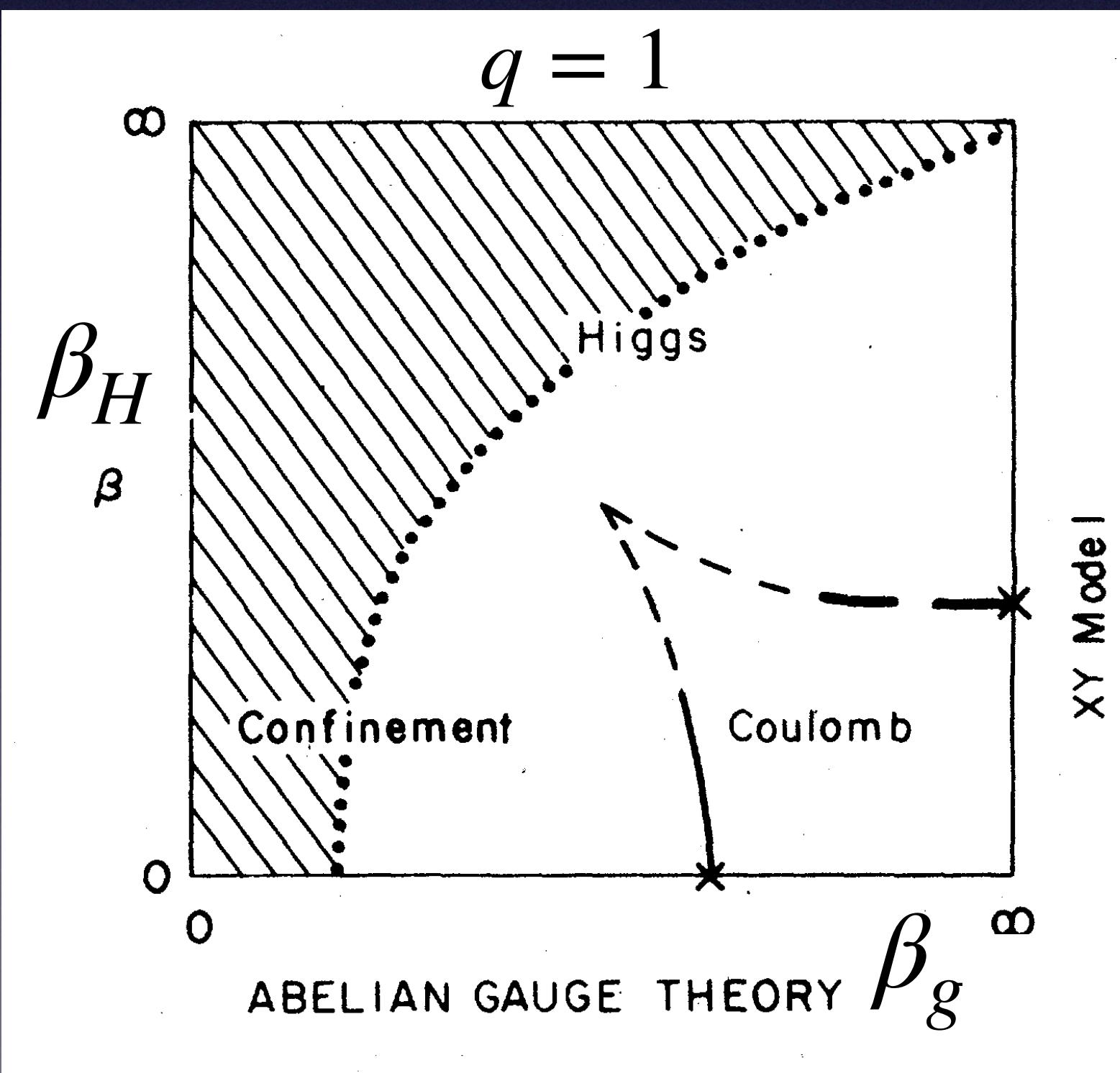
# Abelian Higgs model in (3+1) dimensions

$$S = -\beta_g \sum_{x,\mu<\nu} \cos(F_{\mu\nu}(x)) - \beta_H \sum_{x,\mu} \cos(\Delta_\mu \varphi(x) - q A_\mu(x))$$

**Field strength**      **Scalar field  
(phase dof)**      **Gauge field**

$$\Delta_\mu \varphi_a(x) = \varphi_a(x + \hat{\mu}) - \varphi_a(x)$$

Fradkin-Schenker Phys. Rev. D 19, 3682 ('79)



# $U(1)_{\text{gauge}} \times U(1)_{\text{global}}$ lattice model

cf. Motrunich, Senthil ('05)

$$S = -\beta_g \sum_{x, \mu < \nu} \cos(F_{\mu\nu}(x)) - \beta_H \sum_{x, \mu} \sum_{a=1,2} \cos(\Delta_\mu \varphi_a(x) + A_\mu(x))$$

**Field strength**

**Scalar field**  
 (phase dof)      **Gauge field**  
 $\Delta_\mu \varphi_a(x) = \varphi_a(x + \hat{\mu}) - \varphi_a(x)$

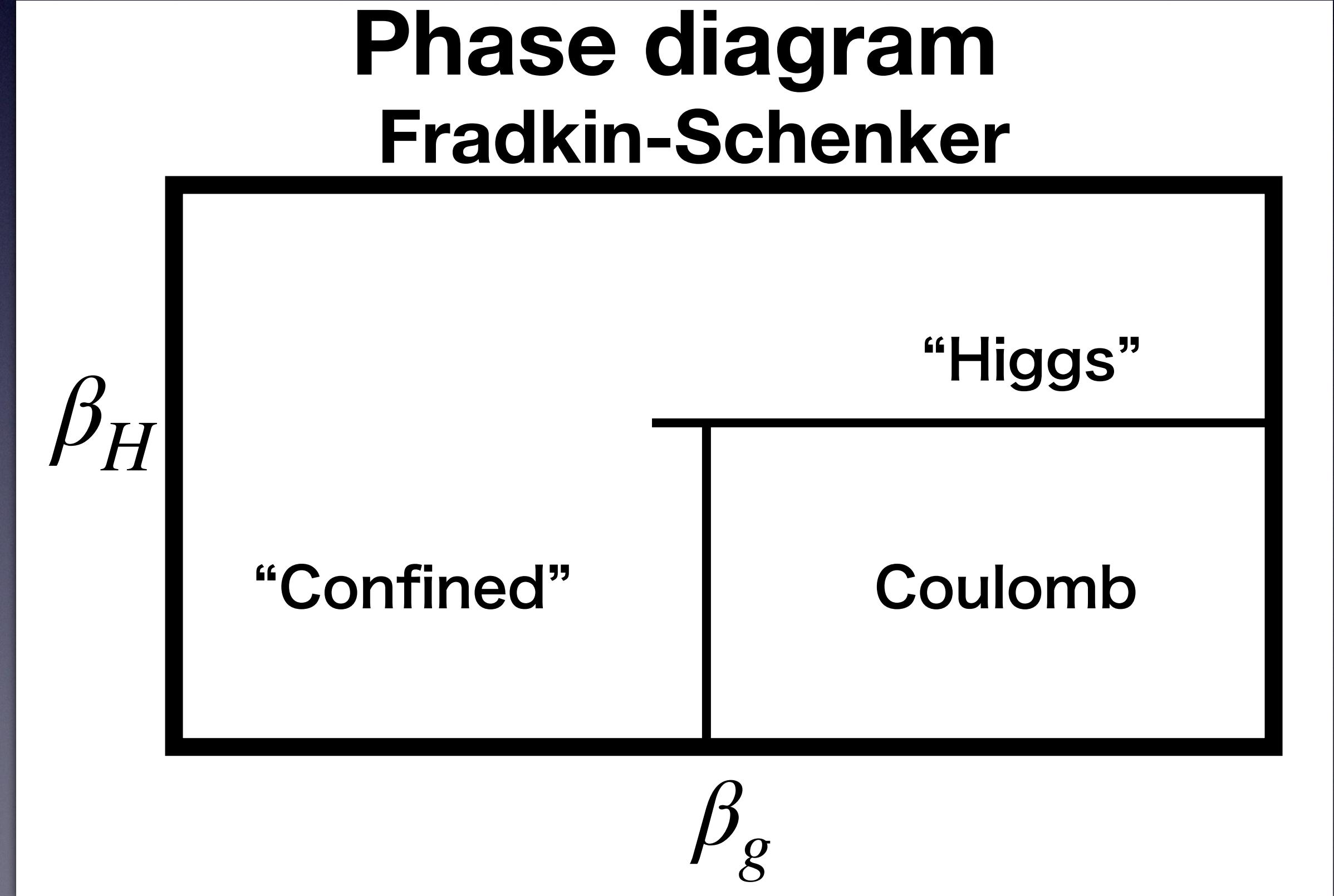
## Symmetry

$$U(1)_{\text{gauge}} : \begin{aligned} \varphi_1 &\rightarrow \varphi_1 - \lambda \\ \varphi_2 &\rightarrow \varphi_2 - \lambda \\ A_\mu &\rightarrow A_\mu + \Delta_\mu \lambda \end{aligned}$$

$$U(1)_{\text{global}} : \begin{aligned} \varphi_1 &\rightarrow \varphi_1 + \theta \\ \varphi_2 &\rightarrow \varphi_2 - \theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_{2F} : \begin{aligned} \varphi_1 &\rightarrow \varphi_2 \\ \varphi_2 &\rightarrow \varphi_1 \end{aligned}$$

## Phase diagram Fradkin-Schenker



# $U(1)_{\text{gauge}} \times U(1)_{\text{global}}$ lattice model

cf. Motrunich, Senthil ('05)

$$S = -\beta_g \sum_{x,\mu<\nu} \cos(F_{\mu\nu}(x)) - \beta_H \sum_{x,\mu} \sum_{a=1,2} \cos(\Delta_\mu \varphi_a(x) + A_\mu(x))$$

**Field strength**

**Scalar field (phase dof)**      **Gauge field**  
 $\Delta_\mu \varphi_a(x) = \varphi_a(x + \hat{\mu}) - \varphi_a(x)$

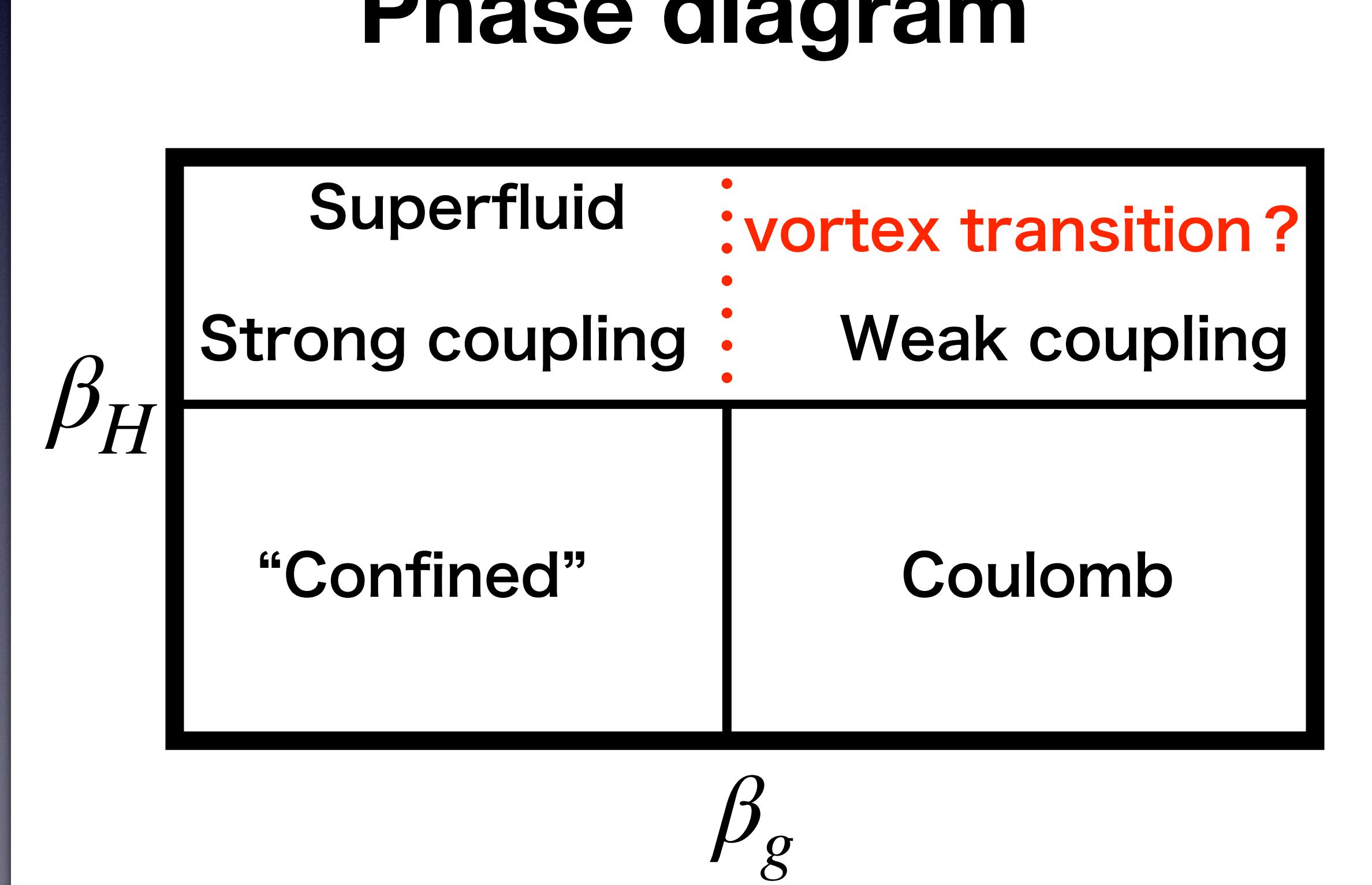
## Symmetry

$$U(1)_{\text{gauge}} : \begin{aligned} \varphi_1 &\rightarrow \varphi_1 - \lambda \\ \varphi_2 &\rightarrow \varphi_2 - \lambda \\ A_\mu &\rightarrow A_\mu + \Delta_\mu \lambda \end{aligned}$$

$$U(1)_{\text{global}} : \begin{aligned} \varphi_1 &\rightarrow \varphi_1 + \theta \\ \varphi_2 &\rightarrow \varphi_2 - \theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_{2F} : \begin{aligned} \varphi_1 &\rightarrow \varphi_2 \\ \varphi_2 &\rightarrow \varphi_1 \end{aligned}$$

## Phase diagram



# $U(1)_{\text{gauge}} \times U(1)_{\text{global}}$ lattice model

$$S = -\beta_g \sum_{x, \mu < \nu} \cos(F_{\mu\nu}(x)) - \beta_H \sum_{x, \mu} \sum_{a=1,2} \cos(\Delta_\mu \varphi_a(x) + A_\mu(x))$$

**Field strength**      **Scalar field  
(phase dof)**      **Gauge field**  
 $\Delta_\mu \varphi_a(x) = \varphi_a(x + \hat{\mu}) - \varphi_a(x)$

**Emergent symmetry at large  $\beta_H$  (SSB of  $U(1)_{\text{global}}$ )**  
YH, Kondo ('22)

**Emergent**       $U(1)^{[2]}$        $\mathbb{Z}_2^{[2]}$

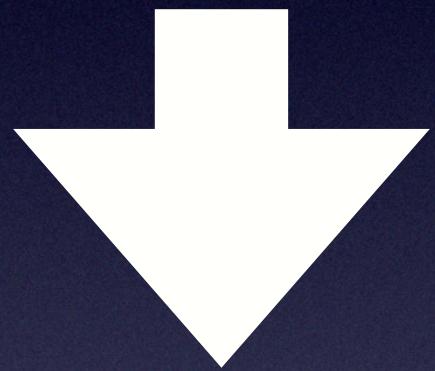
**Symmetry operator**       $e^{i\frac{\theta}{2\pi}\int_C(d\varphi_1-d\varphi_2)}$        $e^{i\frac{1}{2}\int_C(d\varphi_1+d\varphi_2)}$

# Example: $U(1)_{\text{gauge}} \times U(1)_{\text{global}}$ lattice model

Strong coupling  $\beta_g \ll 1$

Weak coupling  $\beta_g \gg 1$

Integrating over gauge fields



$$S_{\text{eff}} = - \sum_{x,\mu} \ln I_0 \left[ 2\beta_H \cos \left( \frac{\Delta_\mu \varphi_1(x) - \Delta_\mu \varphi_2(x)}{2} \right) \right]$$

$I_0(z)$  :Modified Bessel

Essential d.o.f. is  $\varphi_1 - \varphi_2$   
i.e., one d.o.f.

$$S = -\beta_g \sum_{x,\mu < \nu} \cos(F_{\mu\nu}(x))$$
$$-\beta_H \sum_{x,\mu} \sum_{a=1,2} \cos(\Delta_\mu \varphi_a(x) + A_\mu(x))$$

Distinguishable  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$   
 $\mathbb{Z}_{2F}$  is spontaneously broken on  
the vortices

# Criterion of symmetry breaking:

When discrete symmetry is broken:  
twisting the boundary conditions by the symmetry  
causes the formation of domain walls

Example: Ising model

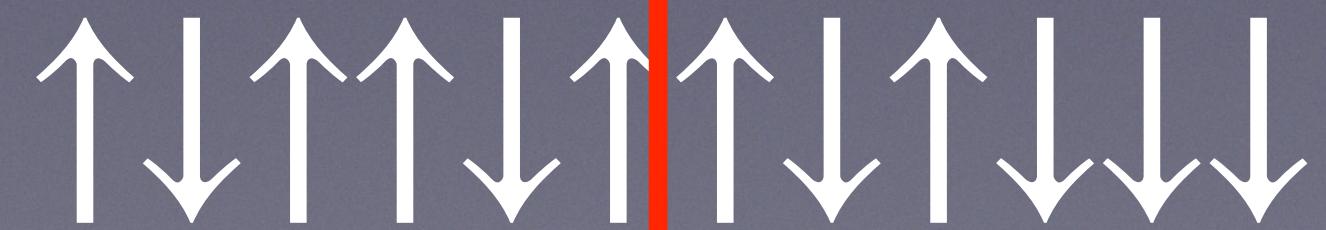
$\mathbb{Z}_2$  broken phase



domain wall

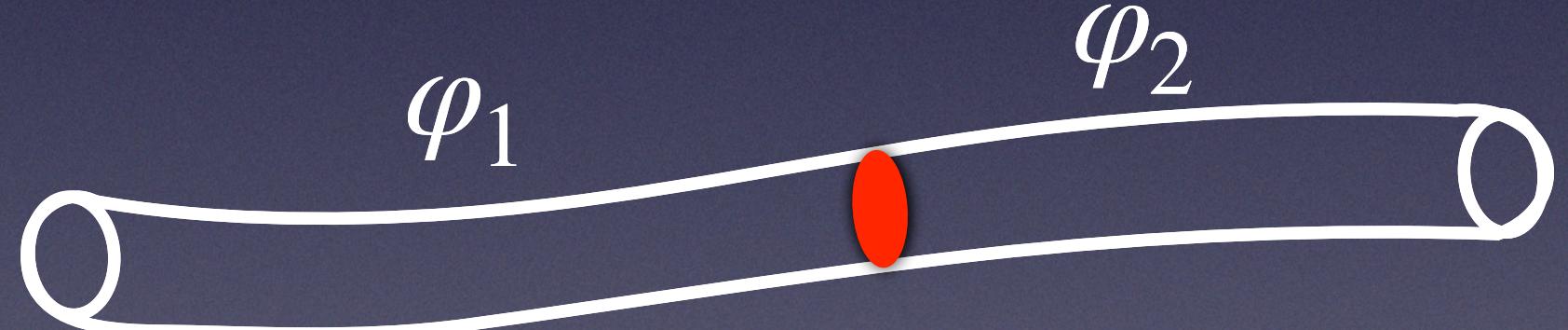
$\mathbb{Z}_2$  unbroken phase

random configuration



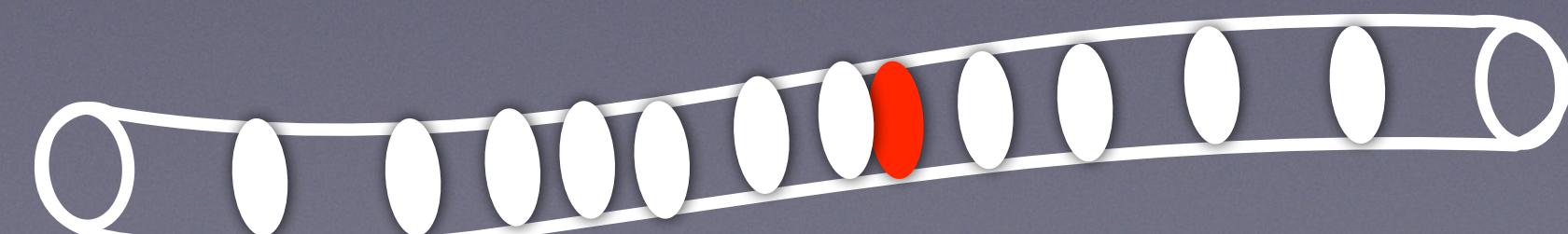
$U(1)_{\text{gauge}} \times U(1)_{\text{global}}$  model

Weak coupling ( $\mathbb{Z}_{2F}$  broken)

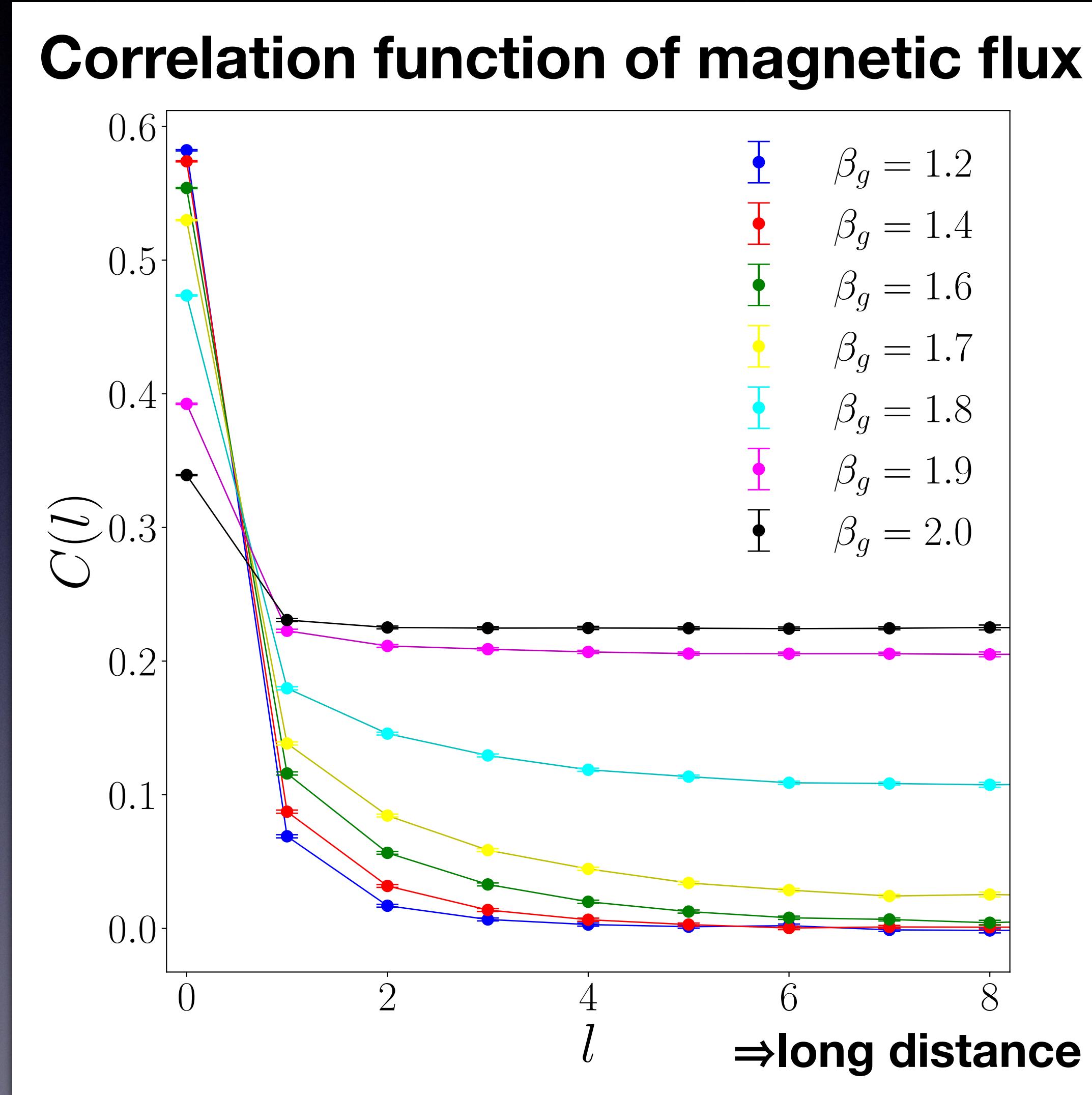


Strong coupling ( $\mathbb{Z}_{2F}$  unbroken)

randomized junctions



# Numerical simulation



vortex

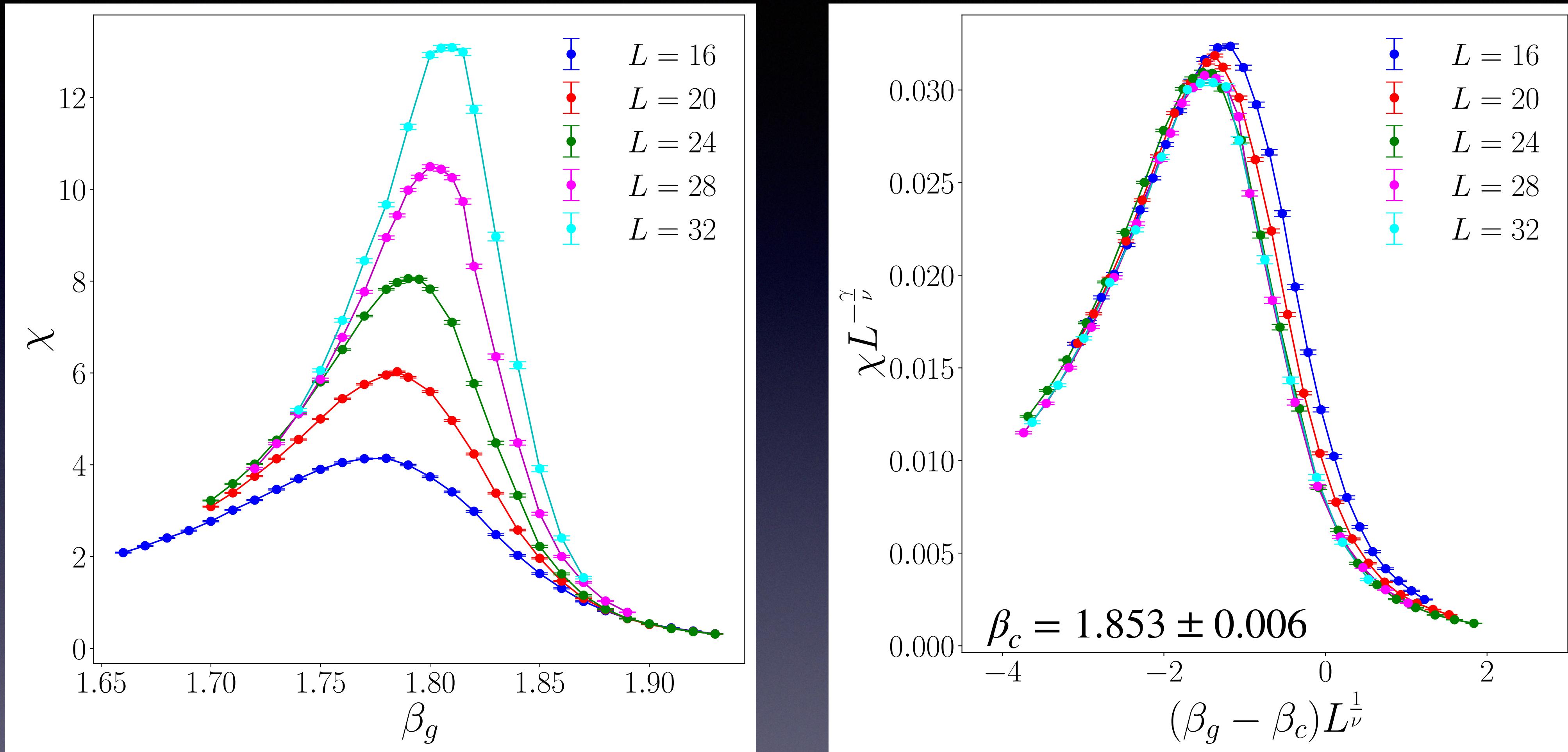


At weak coupling  
long-range correlation

Spontaneous symmetry  
breaking

Phase transition  
on a vortex

# Critical point



Ising universality class  $\nu = 1, \gamma = 7/4$

predicted in Motrunich, Senthil ('05)

# Summary

We found the phase transition on a vortex  
between strong and weak gauge couplings  
in superfluid phase

More generally, there can be phase transitions of  
various phase defects

Codimension 1: transition on a domain wall  
Codimension 2: transition on a vortex  
Codimension 3: Level crossing

Phase transitions on domain wall junctions are also possible

# Outlook

EFT on  $U(1) \times U(1)$  model  $\sim$  Ising model

EFT of CFL phase  $\sim CP(2)$  model

Ground state of  $CP(2)$  model

Gapped phase, no flavor breaking

$\Rightarrow$  continuously connects to the hadronic phase ?

What happens if fermion d.o.f. is included ?