

# Vortex lattices in anisotropic superconductors.

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joint with

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Based on arXiv:2406.16584

# Vortices in superconductors

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- Same critical points. **Stability** depends on  $H$

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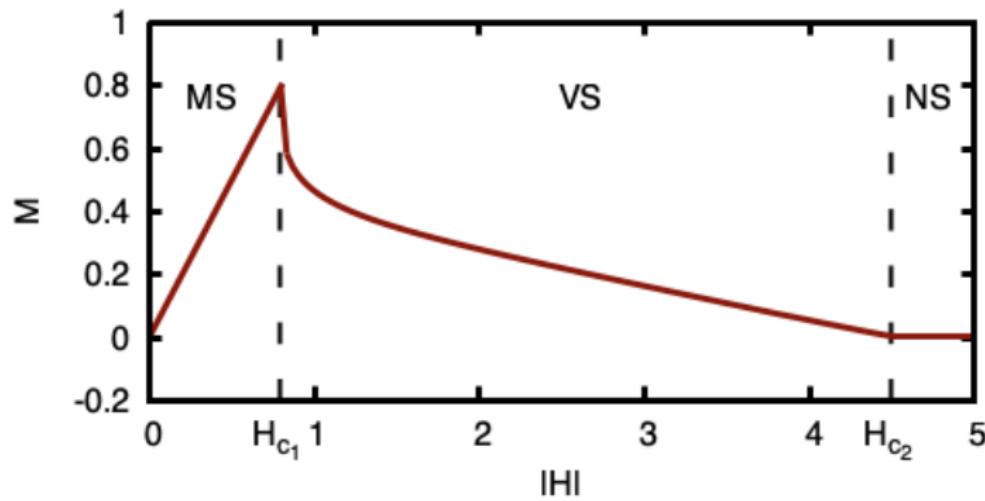
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## Critical fields

- ▶  $F_1 :=$  Helmholtz energy of a single vortex:

$$G_1 - \textcolor{red}{G_{MS}} = F_1 - \langle B, H \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \|H\|^2 - \frac{1}{2} \|\textcolor{red}{H}\|^2 = F_1 - 2\pi|H|$$

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## Critical fields: type I ( $\lambda < 1$ )

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Hence  $H_{c1} > H_{c2}$ . **No vortices!**

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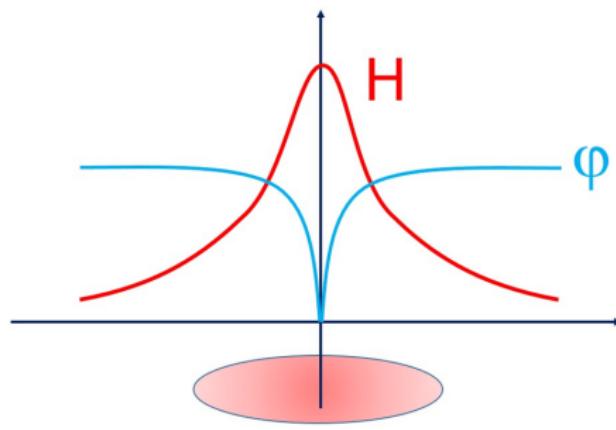
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Hence  $H_{c1} < H_{c2}$ . **Vortices!**

# Abrikosov lattice



1



2

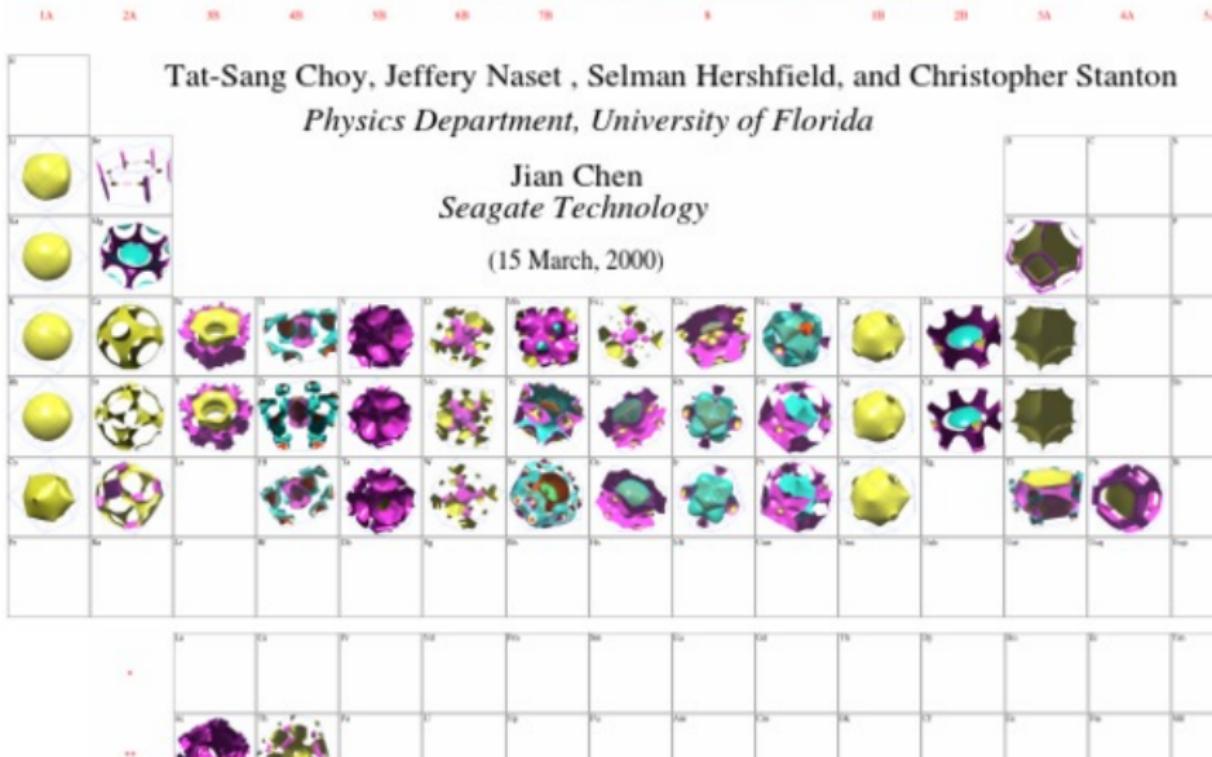
<sup>1</sup>Picture credit: H. Saganuma , Y. Nakagawa , K. Matsumoto (Kyoto)

<sup>2</sup>Picture credit: Somesh Chandra Ganguli (Aalto Un., Helsinki)

# Fermi surface

## Periodic Table of the Fermi Surfaces of Elemental Solids

<http://www.phys.ufl.edu/fermisurface>



# Fermi surface

- ▶ Far from isotropic
- ▶ Multiple bands
- ▶ exotic pairing possible:
  - ▶ spin triplet p-wave
  - ▶ spin singlet d-wave
  - ▶ mix and match
- ▶ Multicomponent, anisotropic GL model

# Multicomponent anisotropic GL theory

- ▶ Several condensates  $\psi_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha = 1, 2, \dots, N$ .

$$F = \frac{1}{2} Q_{ij}^{\alpha\beta} \overline{D_i \psi_\alpha} D_j \psi_\beta + V(\psi) + \frac{1}{2} |B|^2$$

- ▶  $Q_{ij}^{\alpha\beta} = \bar{Q}_{ji}^{\beta\alpha}$
- ▶  $V(e^{i\theta}\psi) = V(\psi)$

$$\begin{aligned} -Q_{ij}^{\alpha\beta} D_i D_j \psi_\beta + 2 \frac{\partial V}{\partial \bar{\psi}_\alpha} &= 0 \\ -\partial_j (\partial_j A_i - \partial_i A_j) &= \text{Im} (Q_{ij}^{\alpha\beta} \bar{\psi}_\alpha D_j \psi_\beta) \end{aligned}$$

## Flux quantization

$$F = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{1}{2} Q(D\psi, D\psi) + V(\psi) + \frac{1}{2} |B|^2$$

- ▶  $V \geq 0, V(u) = 0, u \neq 0$
- ▶ As  $r \rightarrow \infty, [\psi] \rightarrow [u], D\psi \rightarrow 0$

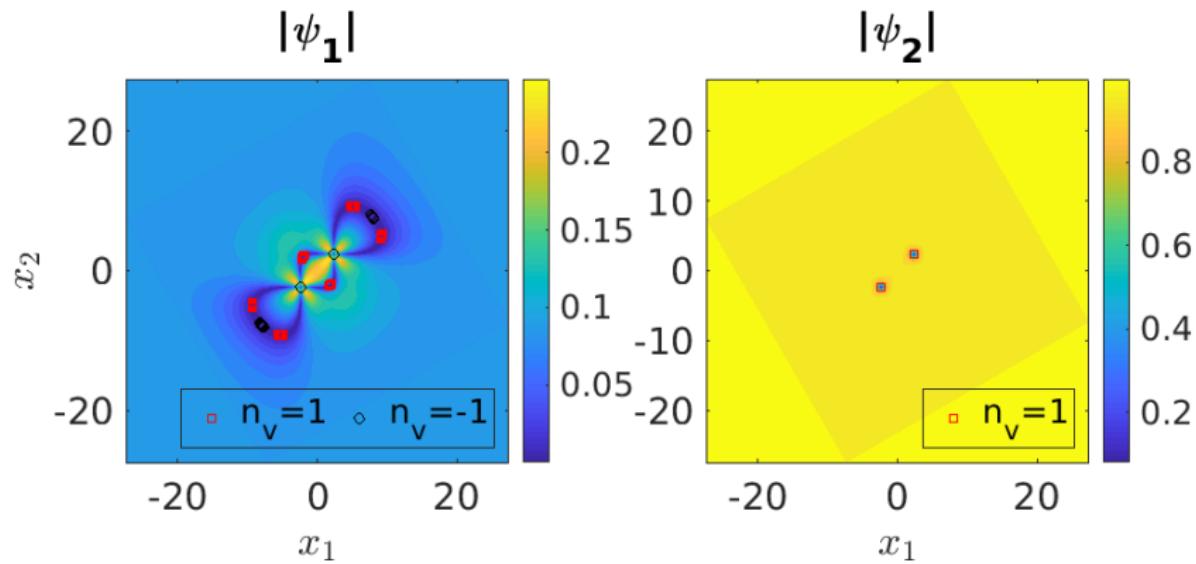
$$\psi \sim ue^{i\chi(\theta)}, \quad A \sim d\chi$$

- ▶ Flux quantization

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} B = \oint_{S^1_\infty} A = \chi(2\pi) - \chi(0) = 2\pi n$$

- ▶ Each  $\psi_\alpha$  has  $n$  zeroes (counted with multiplicity)

## It's complicated<sup>3</sup>



<sup>3</sup>Zhang et al Phys. Rev. B 101, 064501 (2020)

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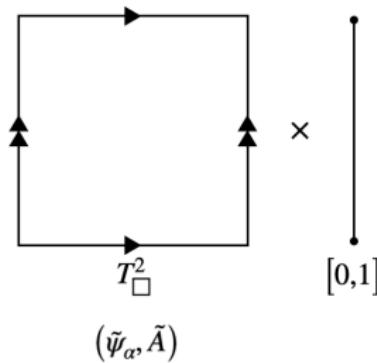
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- ▶ periodic with respect to some lattice  $v_1, v_2 \perp v_3$

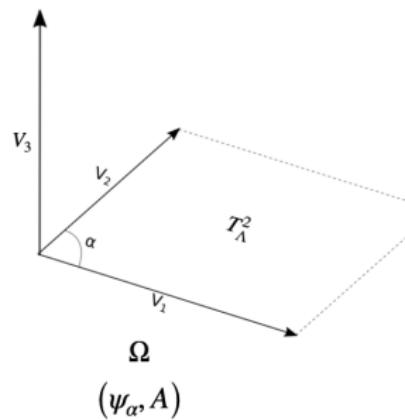
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$$L = \begin{pmatrix} \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ V_1 & V_2 & V_3 \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \end{pmatrix}$$



## Vortex lattices

Work with fields  $\tilde{\psi}_\alpha(X_1, X_2)$ ,  $\tilde{A}_i(X_1, X_2)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$  on unit square  $[0, 1]^2$  with

$$\tilde{\psi}_\alpha(X_1 + 1, X_2) = \tilde{\psi}_\alpha(X_1, X_2)e^{2\pi i n X_2}$$

$$\tilde{\psi}_\alpha(X_1, X_2 + 1) = \tilde{\psi}_\alpha(X_1, X_2)$$

$$\tilde{A}_1(X_1 + 1, X_2) = \tilde{A}_1(X_1, X_2)$$

$$\tilde{A}_2(X_1 + 1, X_2) = \tilde{A}_2(X_1, X_2) + 2\pi n$$

$$\tilde{A}_3(X_1 + 1, X_2) = \tilde{A}_3(X_1, X_2)$$

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# Optimal lattice geometry?

Should minimize

$$\begin{aligned} G &= \int_{\Omega} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} Q(D\psi, D\psi) + V(\psi) + \frac{1}{2} |B - H|^2 \right\} \\ &= F - H \cdot \int_{\Omega} B + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |H|^2 \end{aligned}$$

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w.r.t.  $\psi_\alpha$ , **A and L (and  $n = \deg \mathcal{L}$ )**:

$$G = \frac{1}{2} L_{ki}^{-1} P_{ki,lj} L_{lj}^{-1} + \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(L \mathbb{F} L^T) - 2n\pi H_i L_{i3} + \int_{T^2 \times [0,1]} V(\psi),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} P_{ki,lj} &= \text{Re} \int_{T^2 \times [0,1]} Q_{ij}^{\alpha\beta} \overline{D_k \psi_\alpha} D_l \psi_\beta \\ \mathbb{F}_{ij} &= \int_{T^2 \times [0,1]} B_i B_j. \end{aligned}$$

# Numerical method

- ▶ Discretize unit square

$$G : \mathbb{R}^{(2N+3)N_1N_2} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

where

$$\mathcal{C} = \{L \in GL(3, \mathbb{R}) : \det L = 1, L_{i1}L_{i3} = 0, L_{i2}L_{i3} = 0\} \subset \mathbb{R}^9$$

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- ▶ Minimize a function on a (codimension 3 submfd of) a big Euclidean space.
- ▶ Arrested Newton flow.

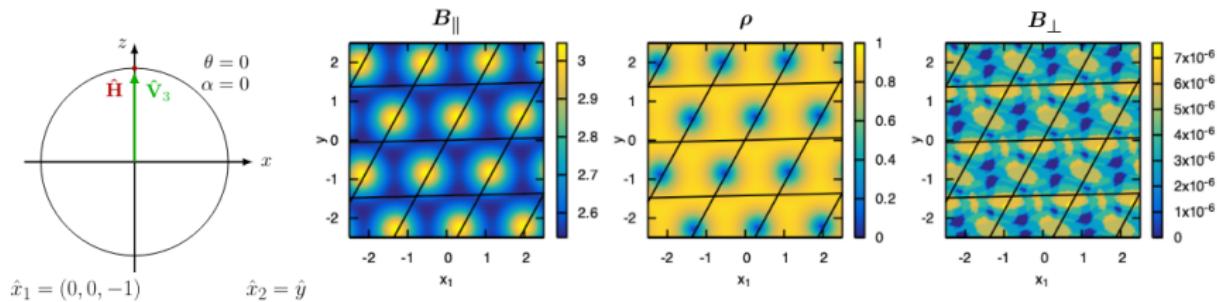
## Vortex line tilting

- ▶ **Single** component model:

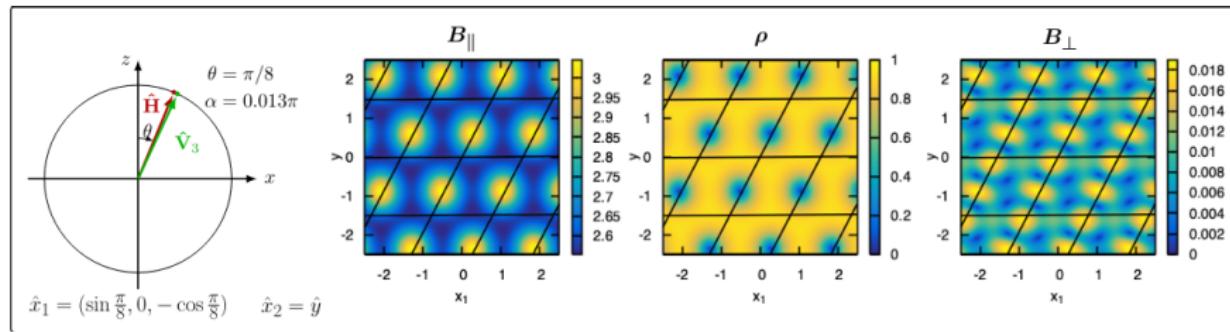
$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad V = \frac{9}{4}(1 - |\psi|^2)^2$$

- ▶ Optimal lattice does **not** have  $\mathbf{v}_3 \parallel H$  if  $H$  not an eigenvector of  $Q$

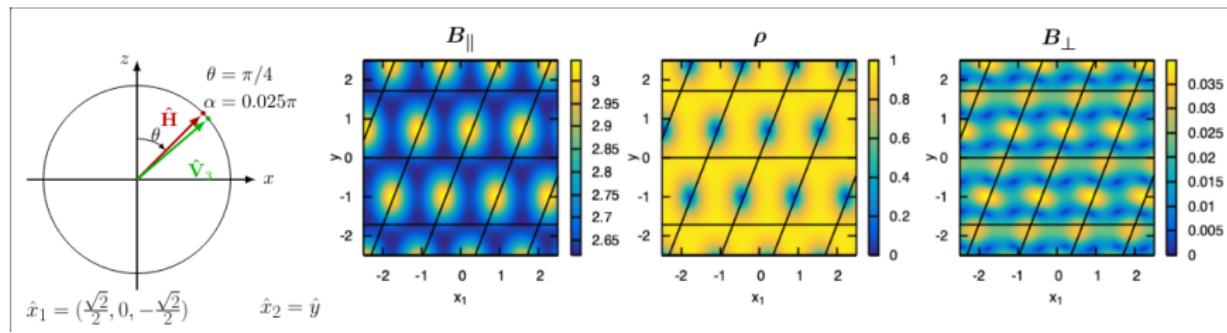
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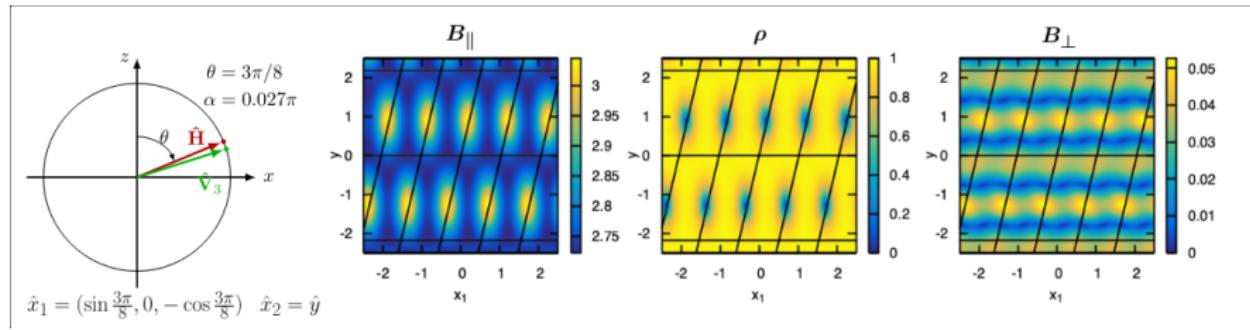
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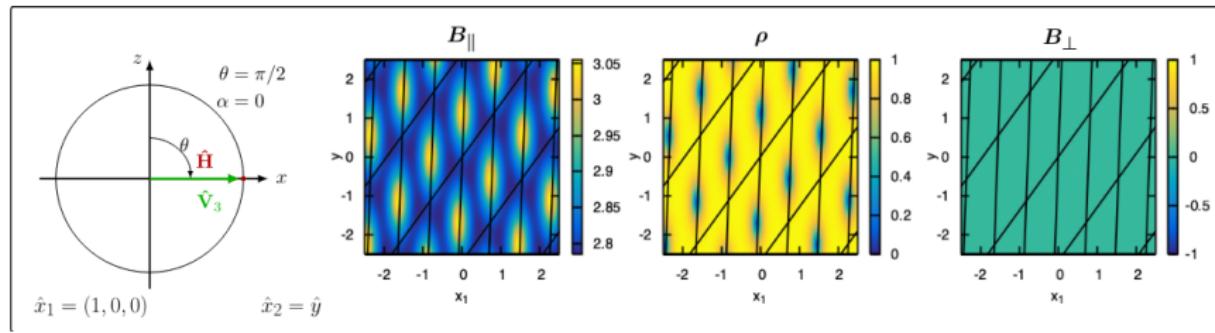
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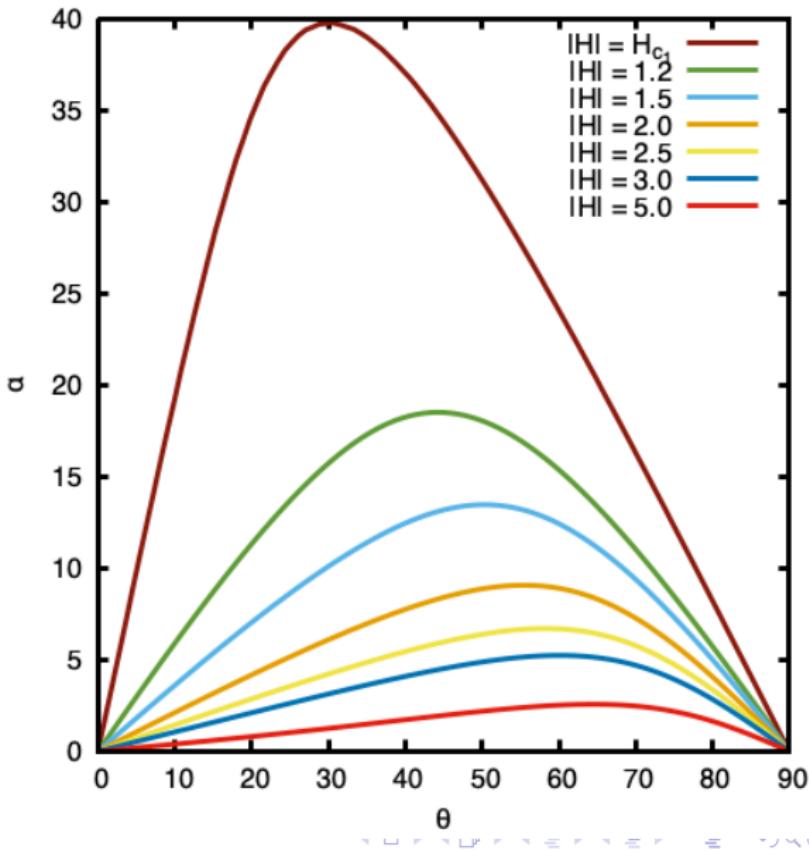
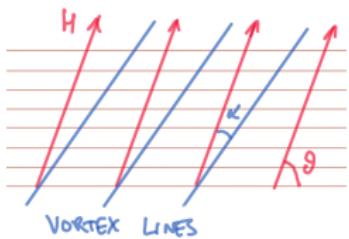
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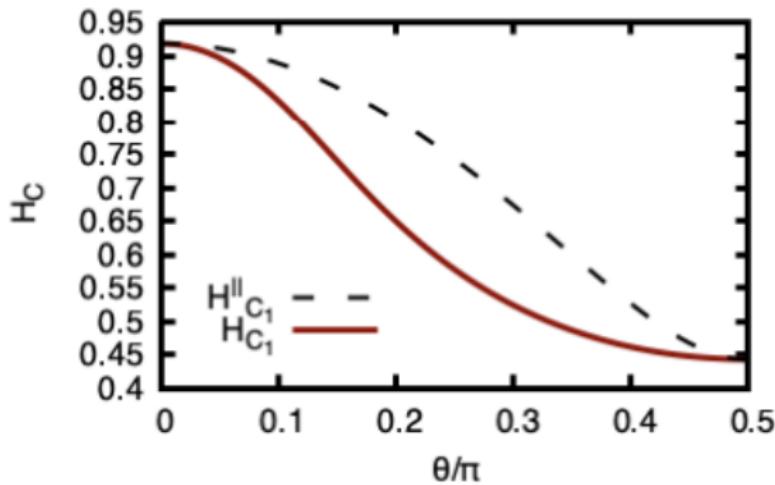
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## Finding $H_{c2}$

- ▶ Second variation of  $G$  about normal state  $\psi = 0$ ,  $dA = H$

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} \Big|_{t=0} G(\psi_t, A_t) = \langle \dot{\psi}_\alpha, -Q_{ij}^{\alpha\beta} D_i D_j \dot{\psi}_\beta + M_{\alpha\beta} \dot{\psi}_\beta \rangle_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|d\dot{A}\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2$$

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has positive spectrum.

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- ▶ Rotate coordinate system so that  $H = (0, 0, |H|)$

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} \uparrow & \uparrow & \hat{H} \end{pmatrix}, \quad Q \mapsto R^T QR$$

## Finding $H_{c2}$

- ▶ Rescale spatial coords  $Y_i = \sqrt{|H|/2} X_i$

$$\hat{O} = -\frac{|H|}{2} Q_{ij} \mathcal{D}_i \mathcal{D}_j + M$$

$$\mathcal{D}_1 = \partial_{Y_1} + i Y_2, \quad \mathcal{D}_2 = \partial_{Y_2} - i Y_1, \quad \mathcal{D}_3 = \partial_{Y_3}.$$

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- ▶  $a = \frac{i}{2}(\mathcal{D}_1 + i\mathcal{D}_2)$ ,  $a^\dagger = \frac{i}{2}(\mathcal{D}_1 - i\mathcal{D}_2)$  satisfy the harmonic oscillator algebra

$$[a, a^\dagger] = 1$$

## Finding $H_{c2}$

- ▶ Rescale spatial coords  $Y_i = \sqrt{|H|/2}X_i$

$$\hat{O} = -\frac{|H|}{2} Q_{ij} \mathcal{D}_i \mathcal{D}_j + M$$

$$\mathcal{D}_1 = \partial_{Y_1} + iY_2, \quad \mathcal{D}_2 = \partial_{Y_2} - iY_1, \quad \mathcal{D}_3 = \partial_{Y_3}.$$

- ▶  $[\hat{O}, i\mathcal{D}_3] = 0$ , seek simultaneous eigenstates

$$\dot{\psi} = \phi(Y_1, Y_2) e^{ikY_3}$$

- ▶  $a = \frac{i}{2}(\mathcal{D}_1 + i\mathcal{D}_2)$ ,  $a^\dagger = \frac{i}{2}(\mathcal{D}_1 - i\mathcal{D}_2)$  satisfy the harmonic oscillator algebra

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- ▶  $\hat{O}$  reduces to (infinite) tridiagonal matrix acting on “particle states”  $|m\rangle = (a^\dagger)^m |0\rangle$ ,  $|0\rangle = e^{-(Y_1^2+Y_2^2)/2}$ .

## Finding $H_{c2}$

- ▶ Single component, isotropic

$$Q = \mathbb{I}_3, \quad V = \frac{\lambda}{8}(1 - |\psi|^2)^2$$

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$$\hat{O}_k = |H|(a^\dagger a + a a^\dagger) + k^2 - \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

- ▶ Clearly ground state has  $k = 0$ ,  $\phi = |0\rangle$ :

$$E_0 = |H| - \frac{\lambda}{2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad H_{c2} = \frac{\lambda}{2}.$$

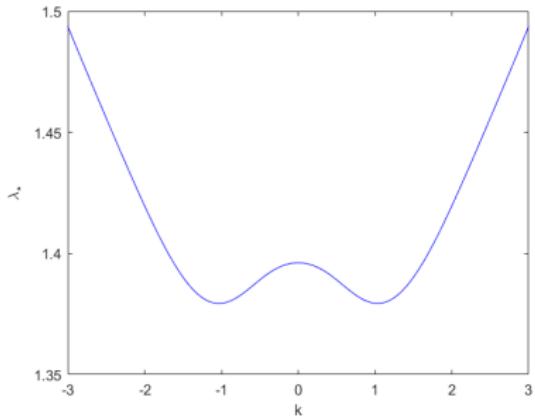
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## An $s + id$ model

$$Q^{11} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \text{diag}(1, 1, \color{red}{0.1}), \quad Q^{22} = \frac{1}{2} Q^{11}, \quad Q^{12} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \text{diag}(1, -1, 0)$$

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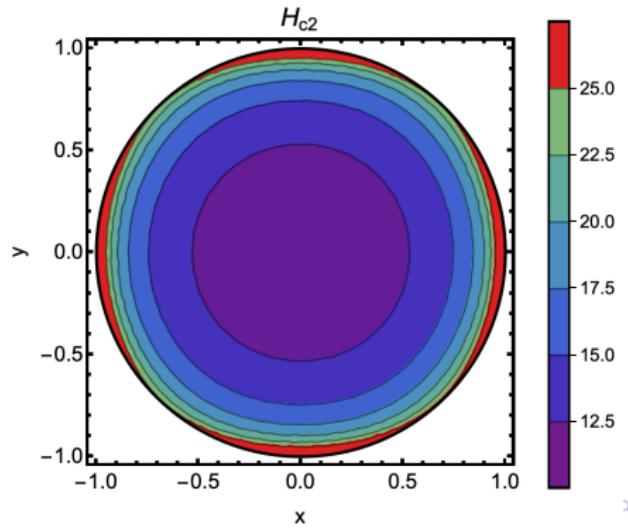
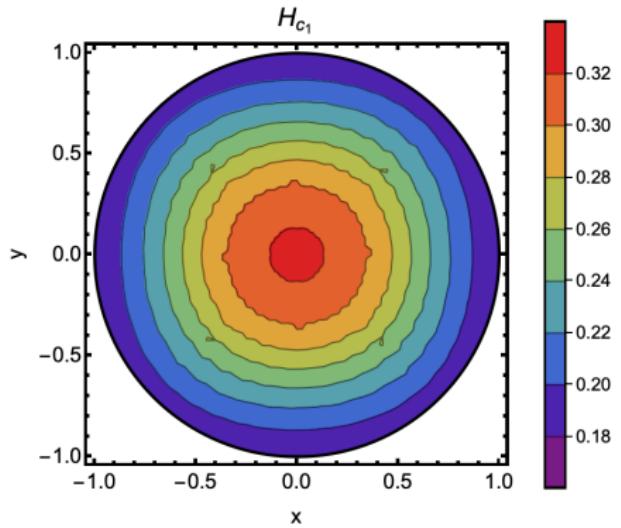
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$$V = -1.4|\psi_1|^2 - |\psi_2|^2 + \frac{2}{3}|\psi_1|^4 + \frac{1}{4}|\psi_2|^4 + \frac{8}{3}|\psi_1|^2|\psi_2|^2 + \frac{2}{3}(\psi_1^2\bar{\psi}_2^2 + \bar{\psi}_1^2\psi_2^2)$$

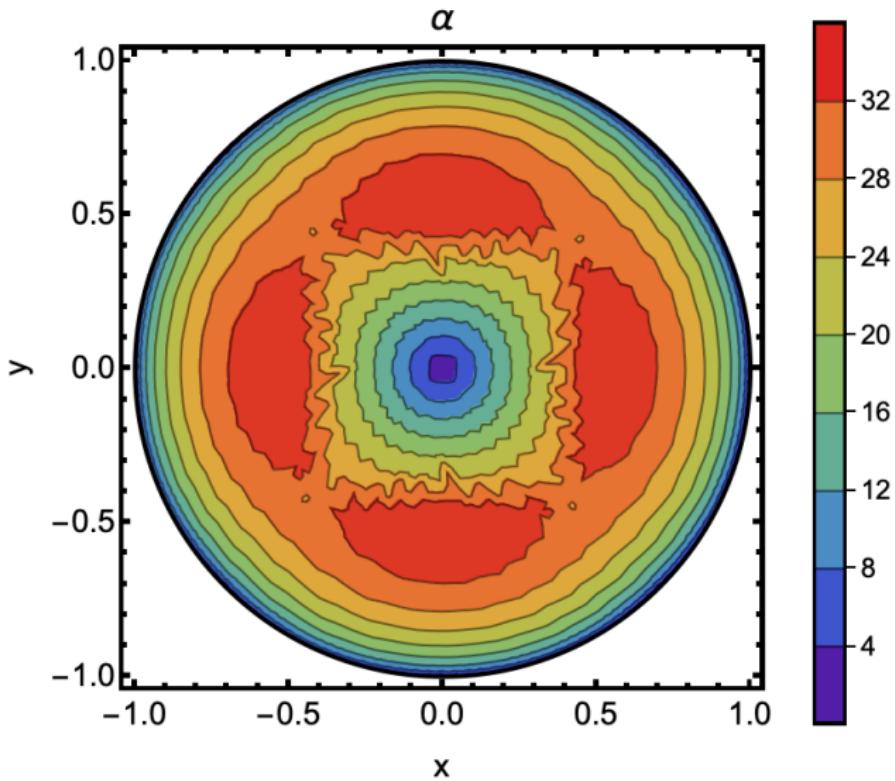
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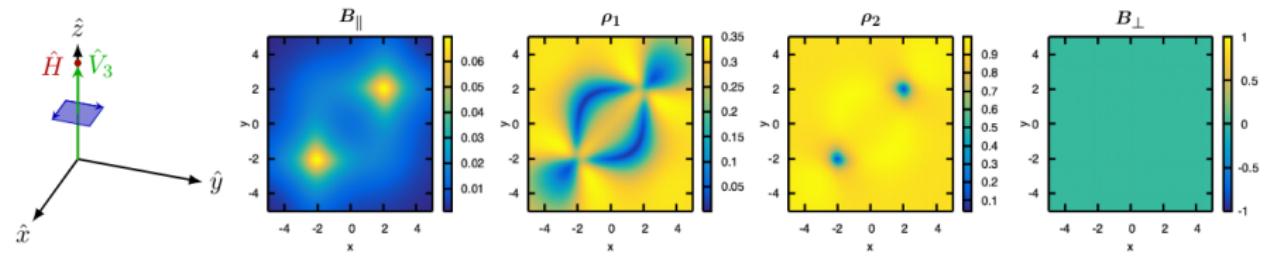
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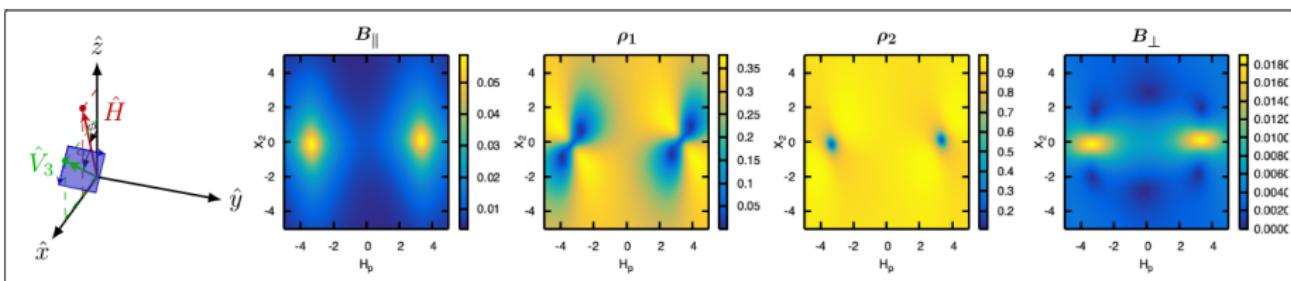
# An $s + id$ model: vortex line tilting



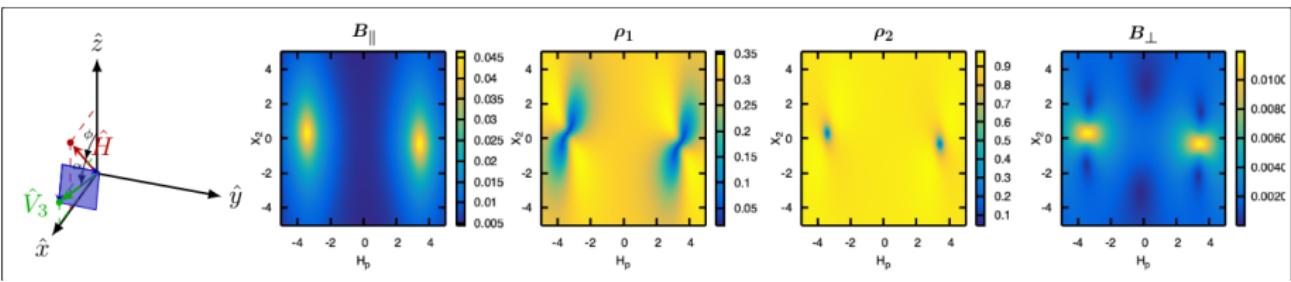
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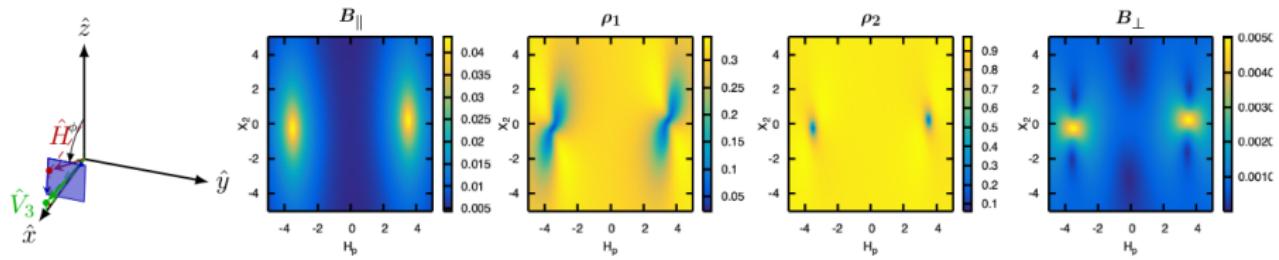
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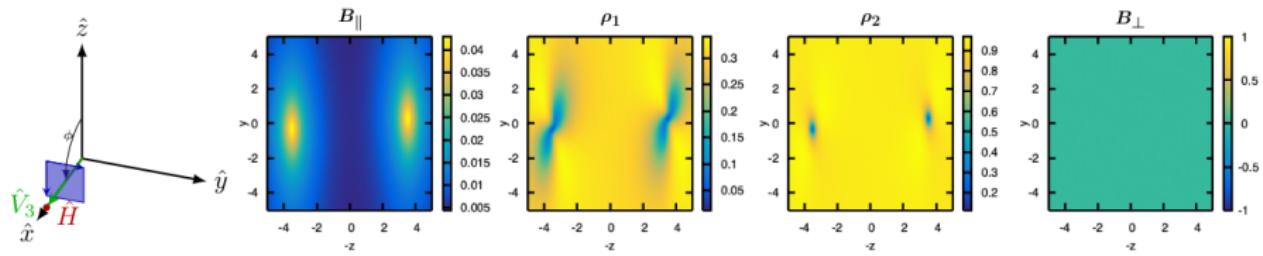
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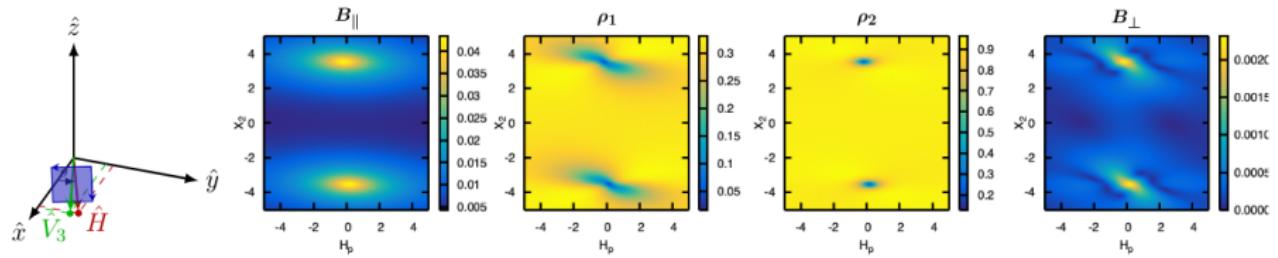
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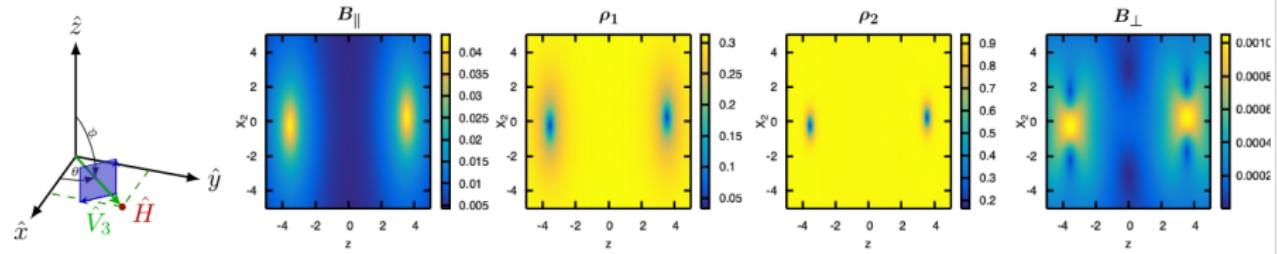
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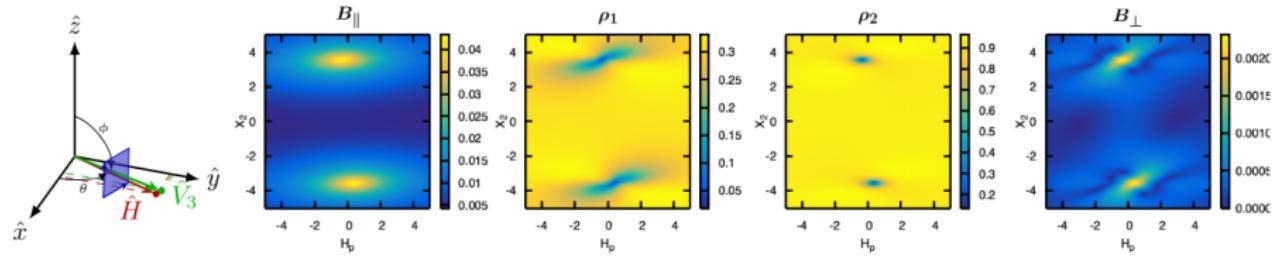
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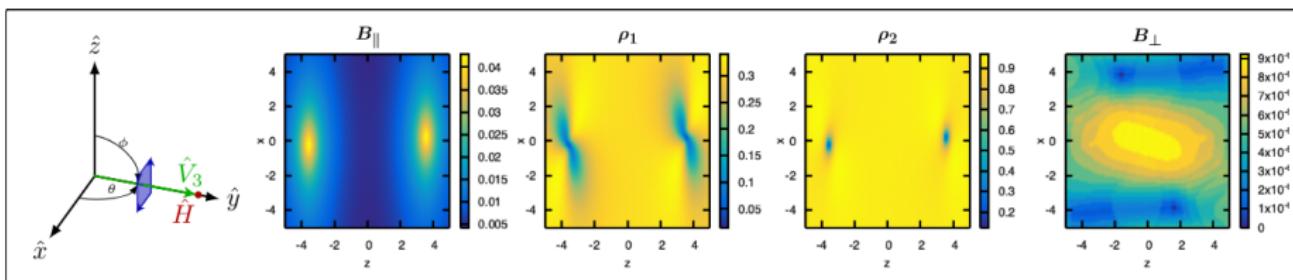
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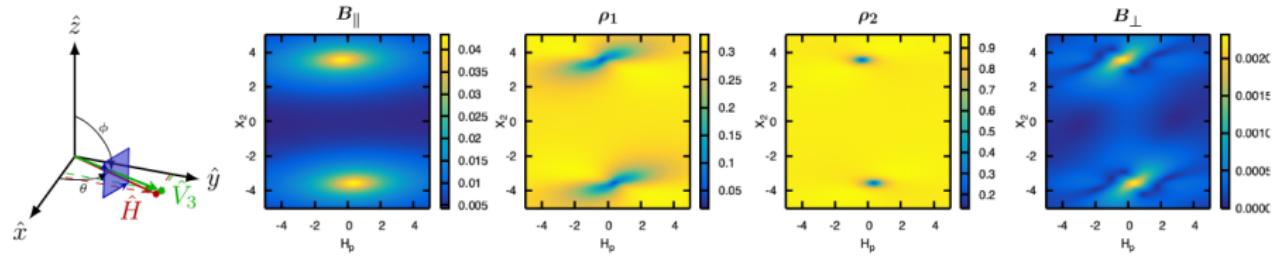
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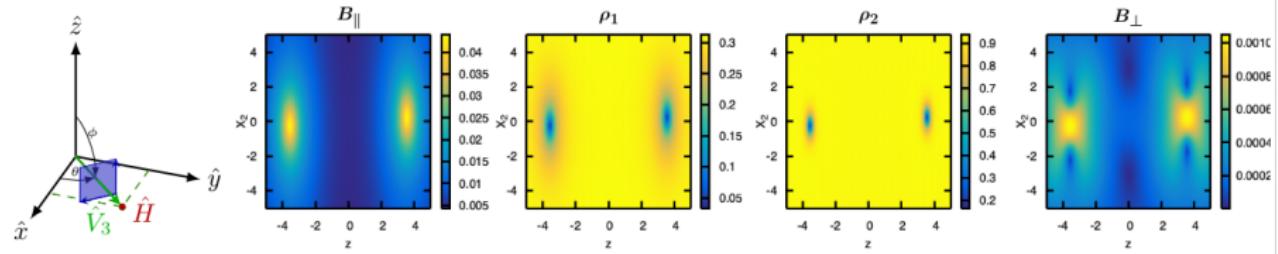
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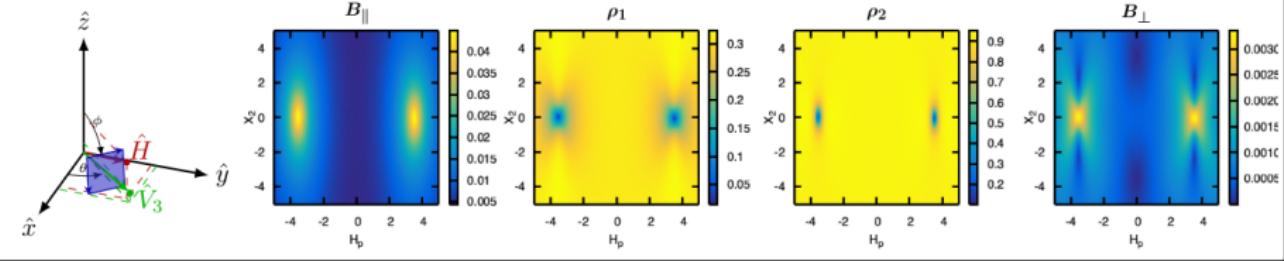
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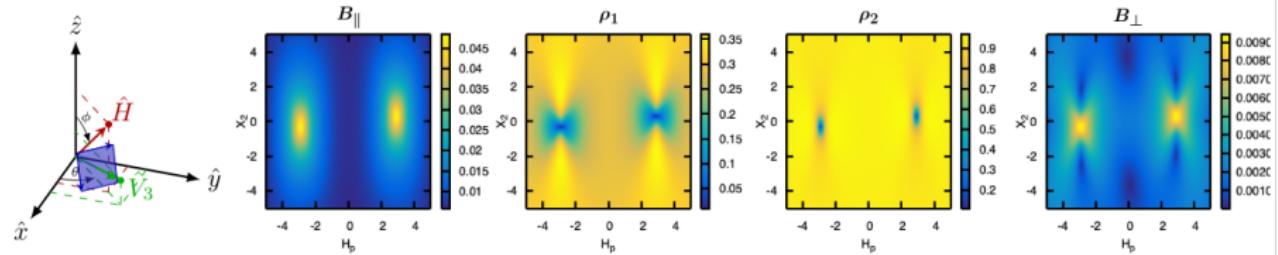
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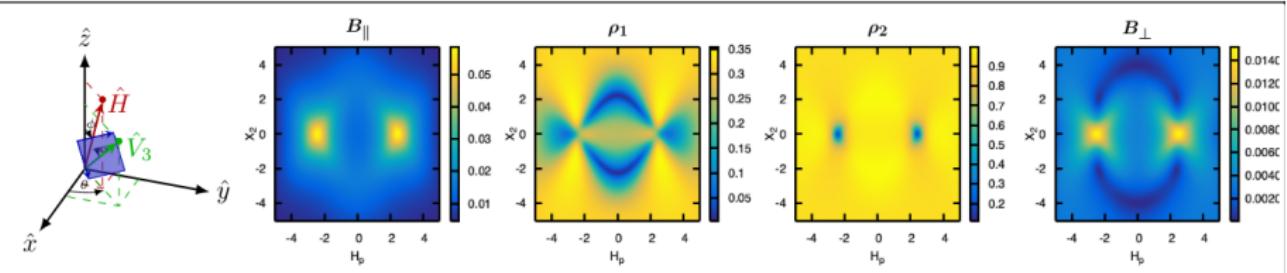
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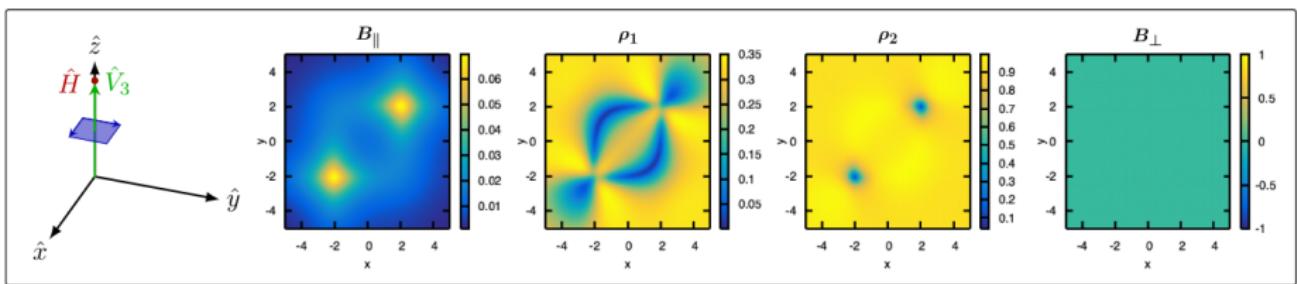
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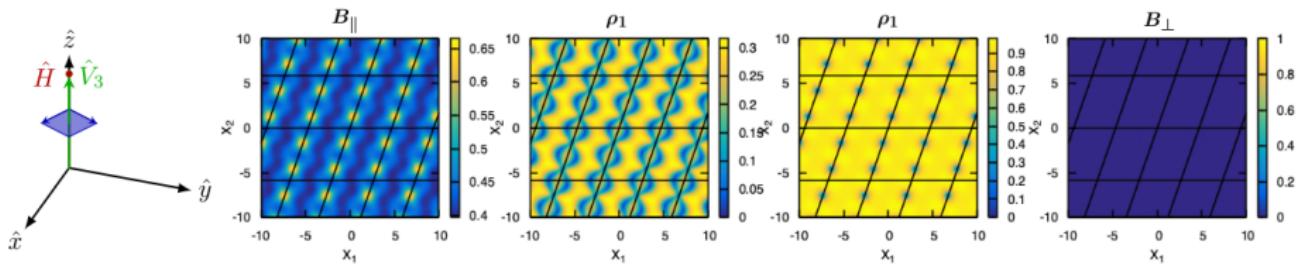
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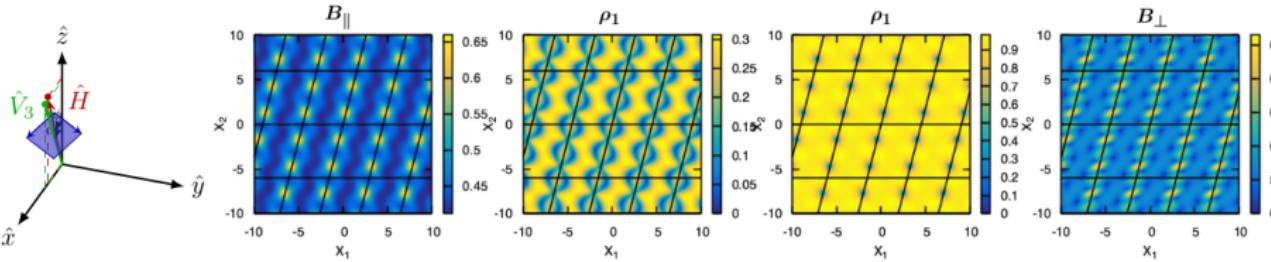
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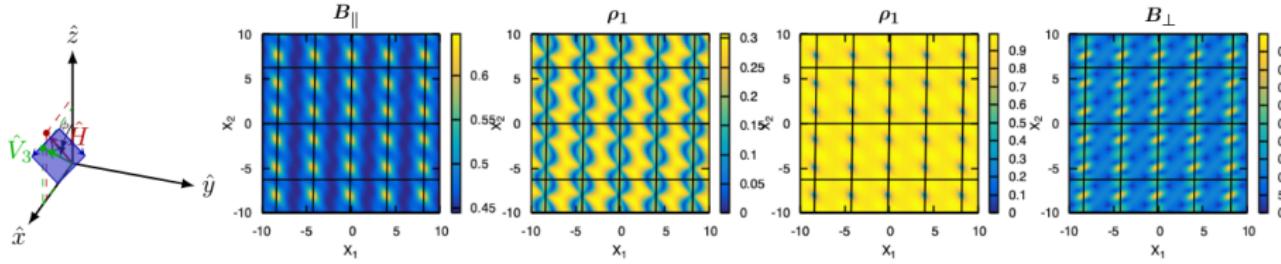
# An $s + id$ model: vortex lattice at $|H| = 0.6$



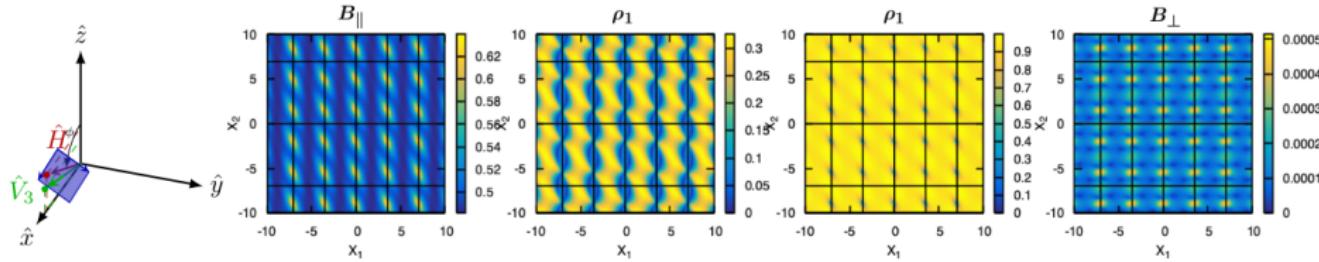
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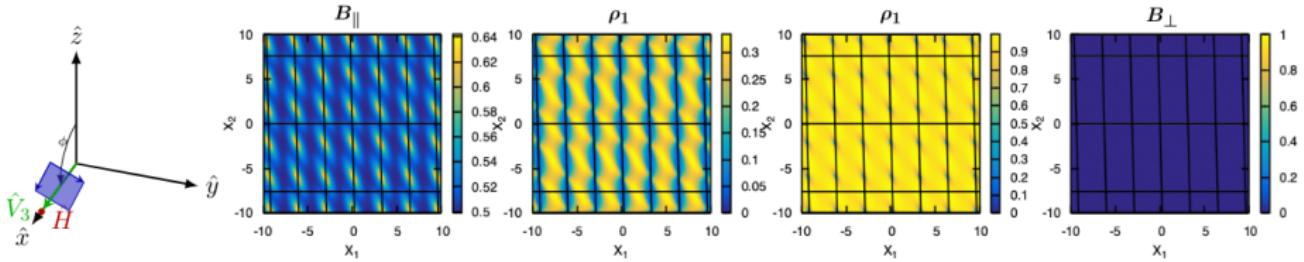
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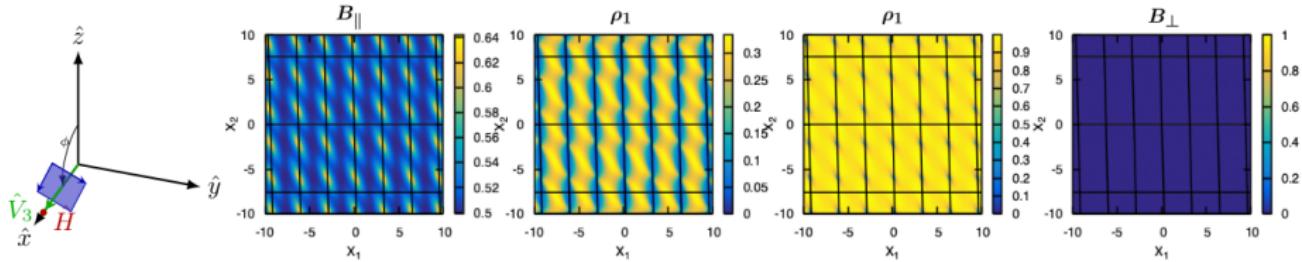
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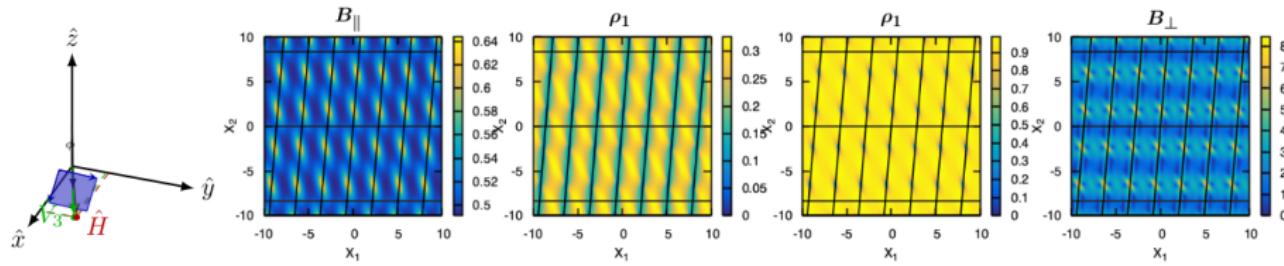
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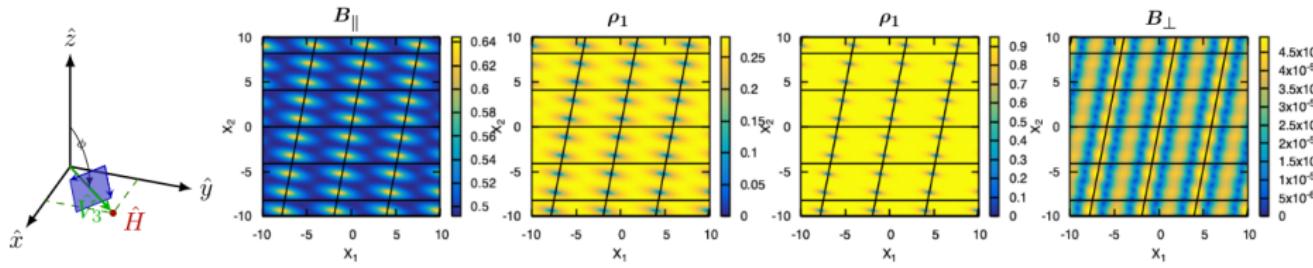
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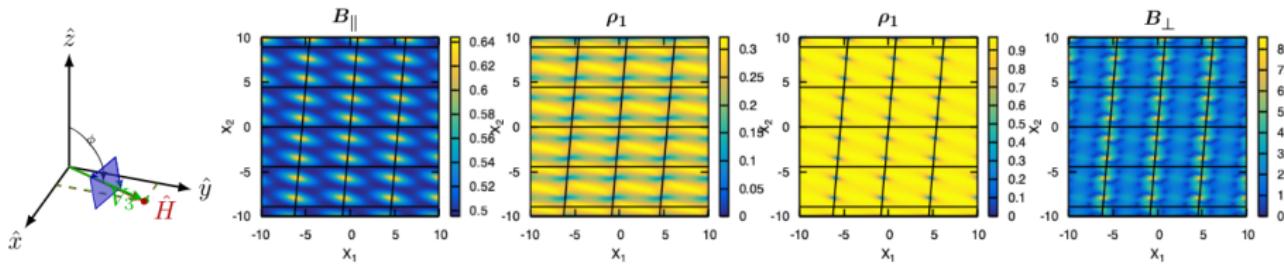
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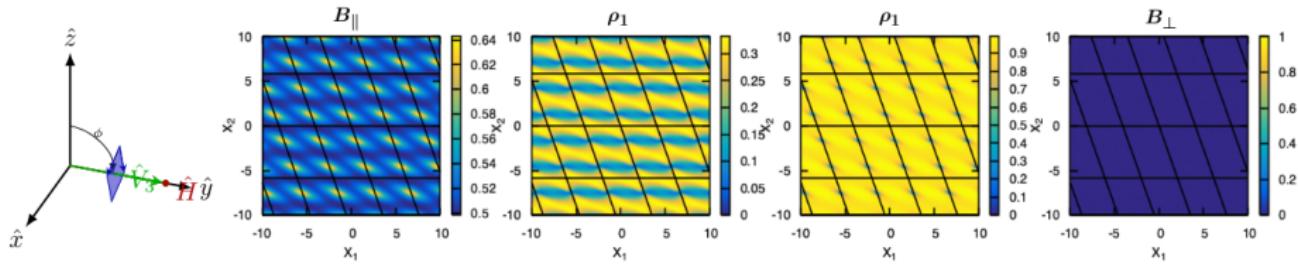
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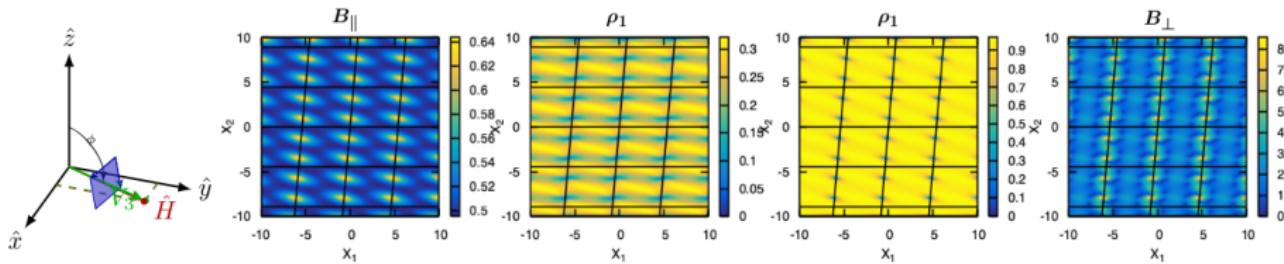
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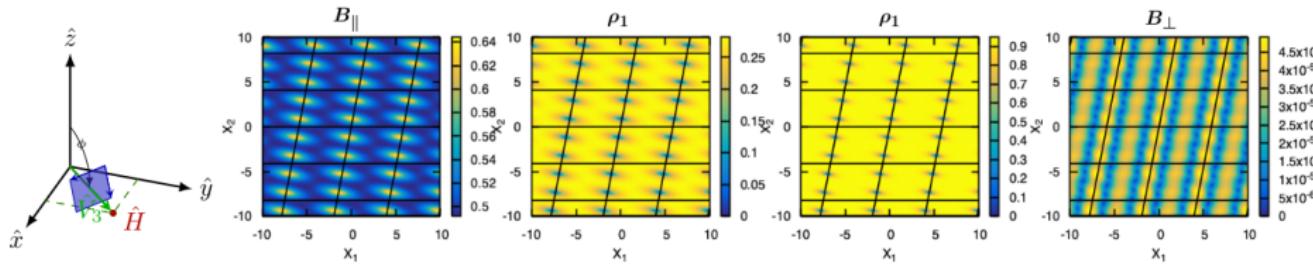
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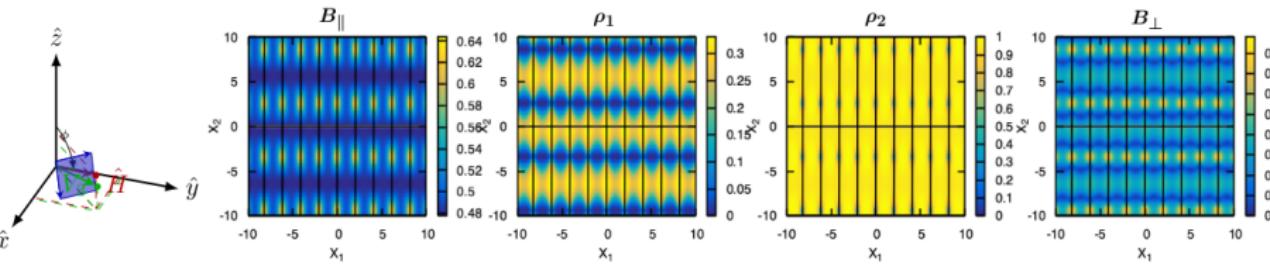
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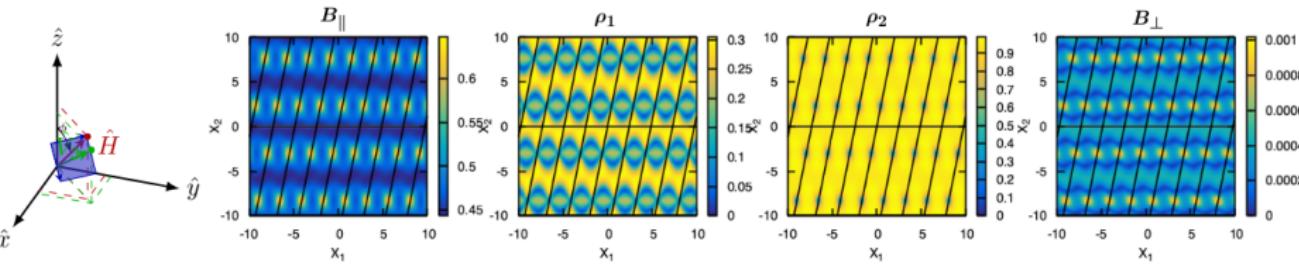
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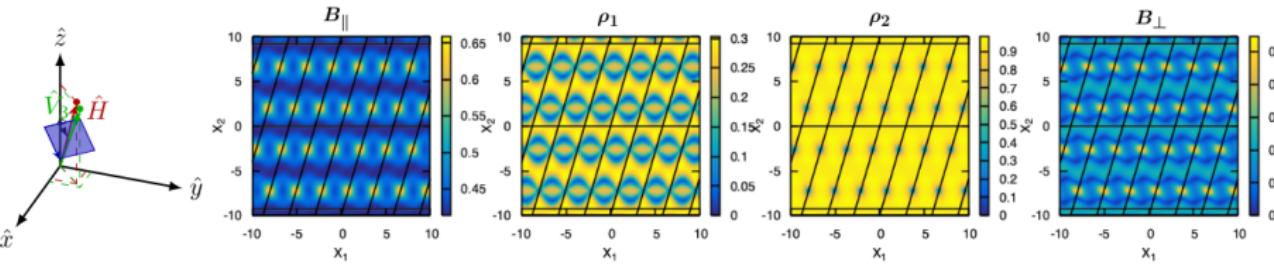
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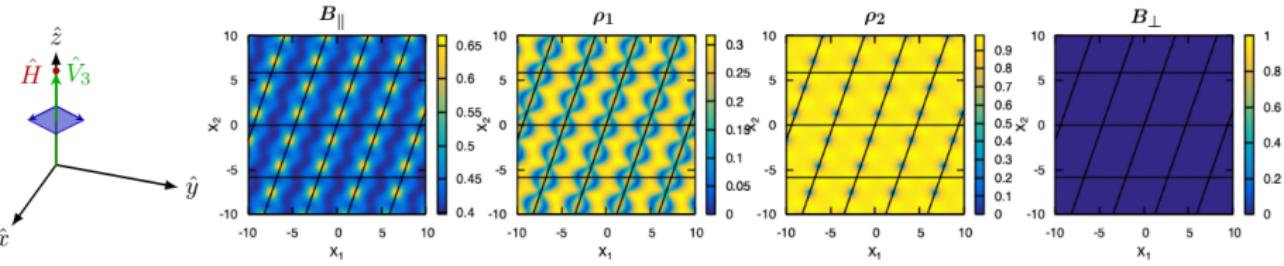
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## Concluding remarks

- ▶ Vortex lattices in anisotropic superconductors are complicated
- ▶ Can't just scale the Abrikosov lattice
  - ▶ Vortex line tilting
  - ▶ Magnetic field deviation
  - ▶ Core splitting
- ▶ Need to minimize  $\langle G \rangle$  over fields and period lattice  $[v_1, v_2, v_3]$
- ▶ Assumption that  $v_3 \parallel H$  is **not** well justified