

# Variational wavefunctions for topologically-ordered Fermi liquids

---

Henry Shackleton

February 23, 2024

Harvard University



# Variational wavefunctions for topologically-ordered Fermi liquids

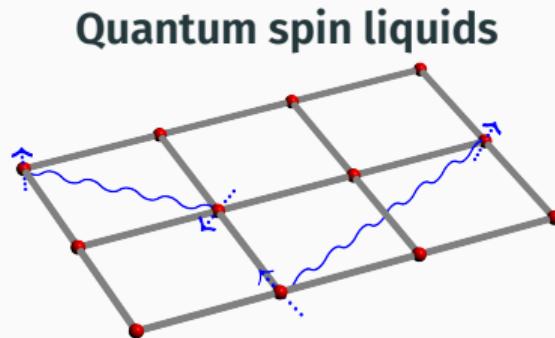


w/ Shiwei Zhang, Flatiron Institute

# Describing topological order with variational wavefunctions

## Quantum spin liquids

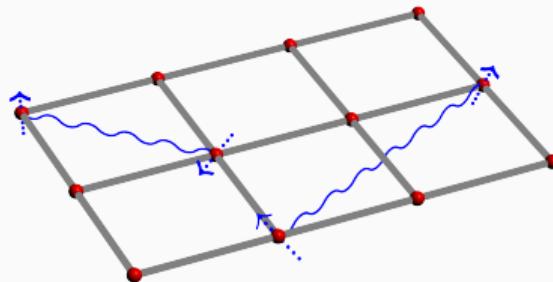
# Describing topological order with variational wavefunctions



Theoretical description: Spinons +  
emergent gauge field

# Describing topological order with variational wavefunctions

## Quantum spin liquids

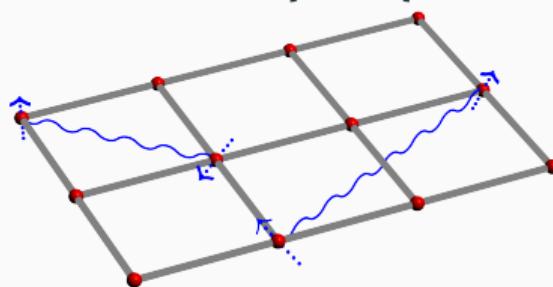


Theoretical description: Spinons +  
emergent gauge field

Variational WFs:  $\mathcal{P}_G |\psi_0\rangle$

# Describing topological order with variational wavefunctions

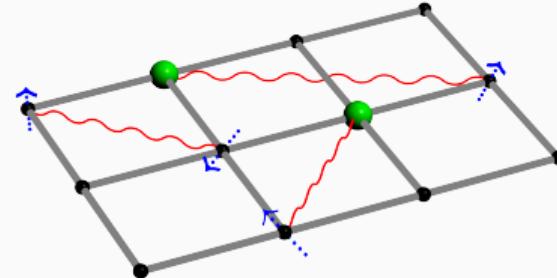
## Quantum spin liquids



Theoretical description: Spinons +  
emergent gauge field

Variational WFs:  $\mathcal{P}_G |\psi_0\rangle$

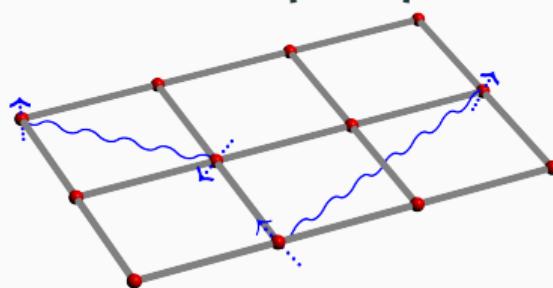
## QSLs with charge fluctuations



Theoretical description: Spinons +  
holons + emergent gauge field

# Describing topological order with variational wavefunctions

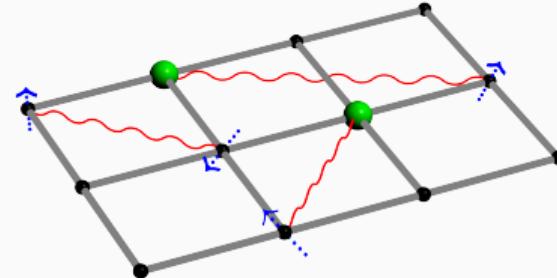
## Quantum spin liquids



Theoretical description: Spinons +  
emergent gauge field

Variational WFs:  $\mathcal{P}_G |\psi_0\rangle$

## QSLs with charge fluctuations

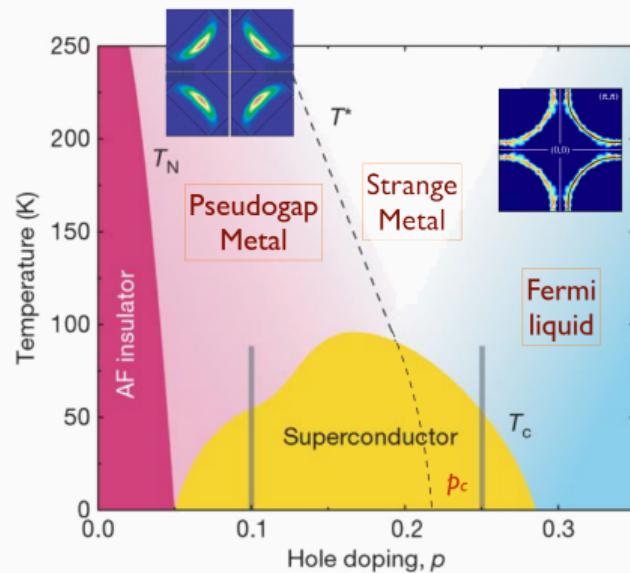


Theoretical description: Spinons +  
holons + emergent gauge field

Variational WFs: this talk

# Where are these variational wavefunctions useful?

## Doped Mott insulators - capturing low temperature physics with TO<sup>1</sup>

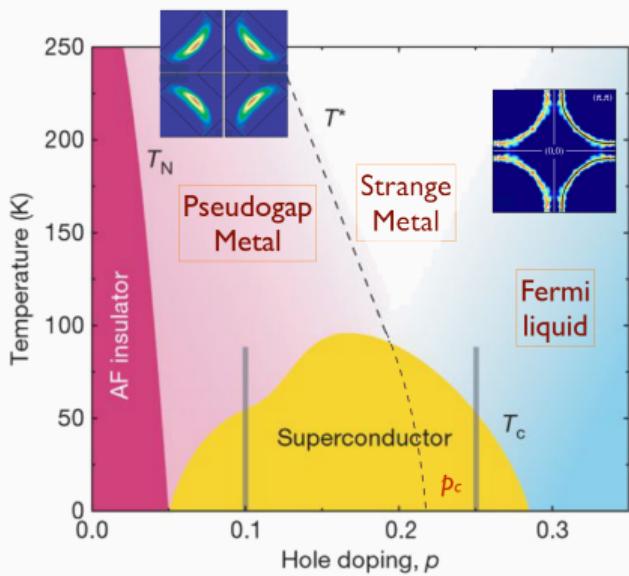


<sup>1</sup>Lee, Nagaosa, and Wen, *Reviews of Modern Physics*, 2006

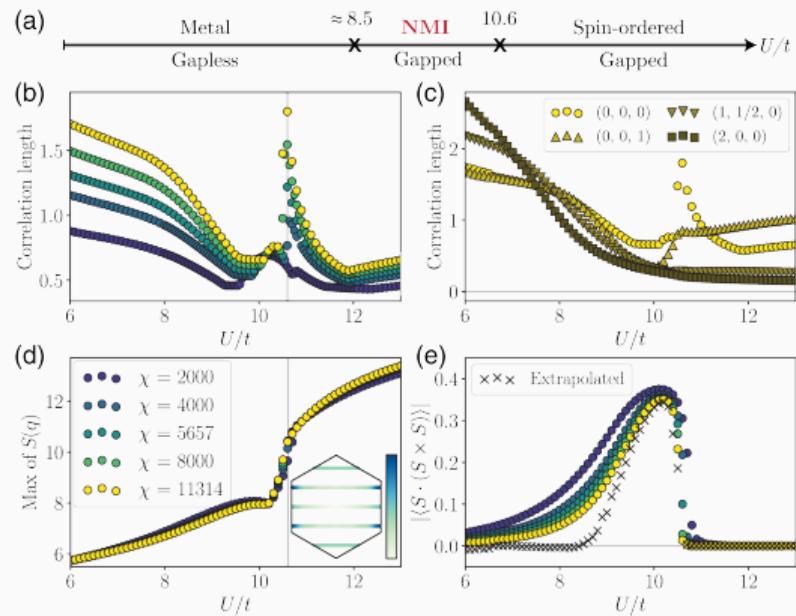
<sup>2</sup>Szasz et al., *Physical Review X*, 2020

# Where are these variational wavefunctions useful?

## Doped Mott insulators - capturing low temperature physics with TO<sup>1</sup>



## Chiral spin liquid in triangular lattice Hubbard model<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup>Lee, Nagaosa, and Wen, *Reviews of Modern Physics*, 2006

<sup>2</sup>Szasz et al., *Physical Review X*, 2020

## Ancilla construction of topologically-ordered states<sup>3</sup>

Deviates from conventional  $c_\alpha^\dagger \rightarrow f_\alpha b^\dagger$

---

<sup>3</sup>Zhang and Sachdev, *Physical Review Research*, 2020.

## Ancilla construction of topologically-ordered states<sup>3</sup>

Deviates from conventional  $c_\alpha^\dagger \rightarrow f_\alpha b^\dagger$

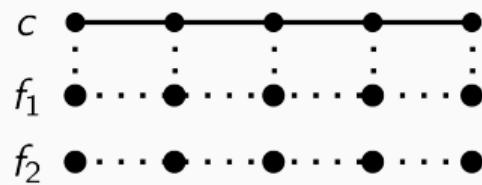


---

<sup>3</sup>Zhang and Sachdev, *Physical Review Research*, 2020.

## Ancilla construction of topologically-ordered states<sup>3</sup>

Deviates from conventional  $c_\alpha^\dagger \rightarrow f_\alpha b^\dagger$

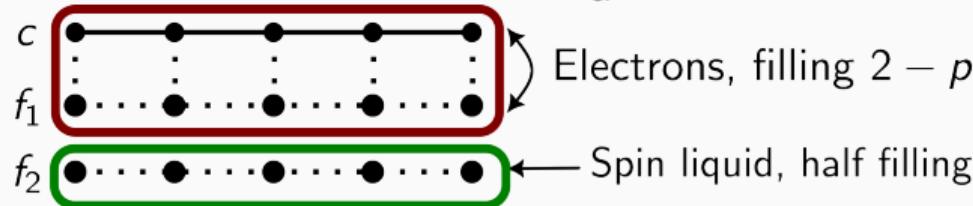


---

<sup>3</sup>Zhang and Sachdev, *Physical Review Research*, 2020.

## Ancilla construction of topologically-ordered states<sup>3</sup>

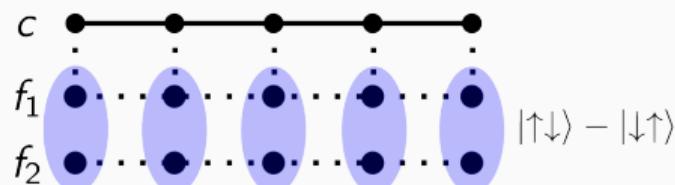
Deviates from conventional  $c_\alpha^\dagger \rightarrow f_\alpha b^\dagger$



<sup>3</sup>Zhang and Sachdev, *Physical Review Research*, 2020.

## Ancilla construction of topologically-ordered states<sup>3</sup>

Deviates from conventional  $c_\alpha^\dagger \rightarrow f_\alpha b^\dagger$

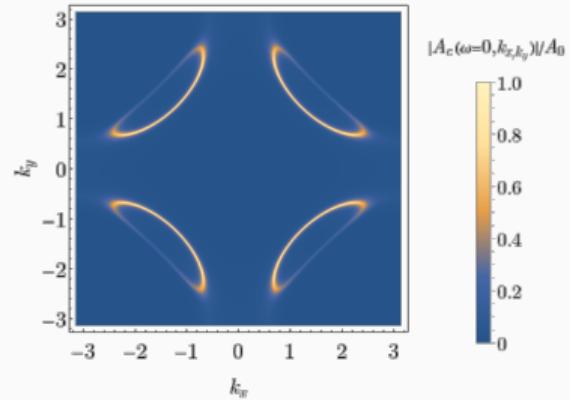
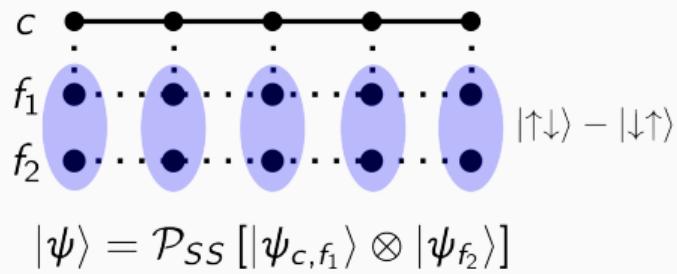


$$|\psi\rangle = \mathcal{P}_{SS} [|\psi_{c,f_1}\rangle \otimes |\psi_{f_2}\rangle]$$

<sup>3</sup>Zhang and Sachdev, *Physical Review Research*, 2020.

# Ancilla construction of topologically-ordered states<sup>3</sup>

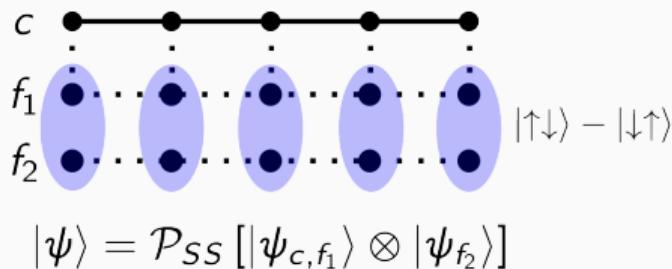
Deviates from conventional  $c_\alpha^\dagger \rightarrow f_\alpha b^\dagger$



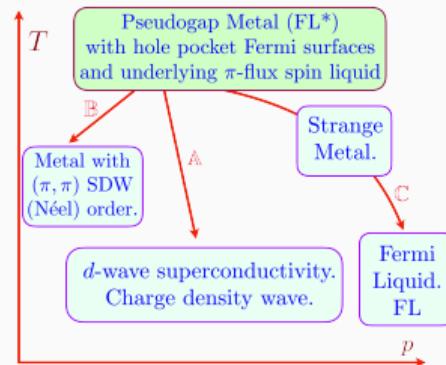
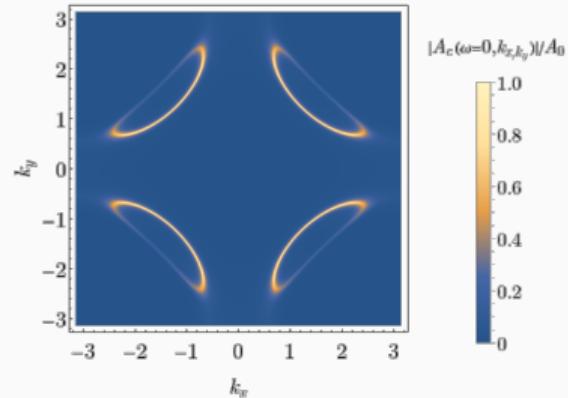
<sup>3</sup>Zhang and Sachdev, *Physical Review Research*, 2020.

# Ancilla construction of topologically-ordered states<sup>3</sup>

Deviates from conventional  $c_\alpha^\dagger \rightarrow f_\alpha b^\dagger$



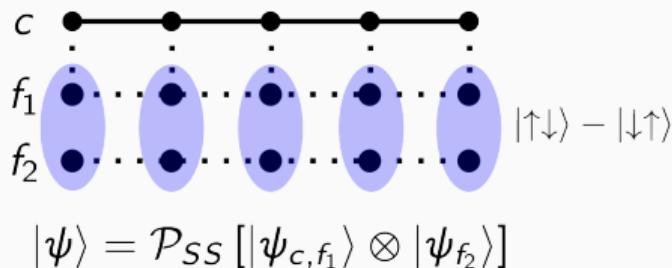
Assume  $\pi$ -flux spin liquid, investigate properties  
wrt Hubbard model



<sup>3</sup>Zhang and Sachdev, *Physical Review Research*, 2020.

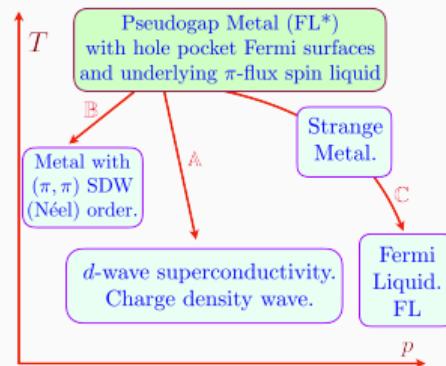
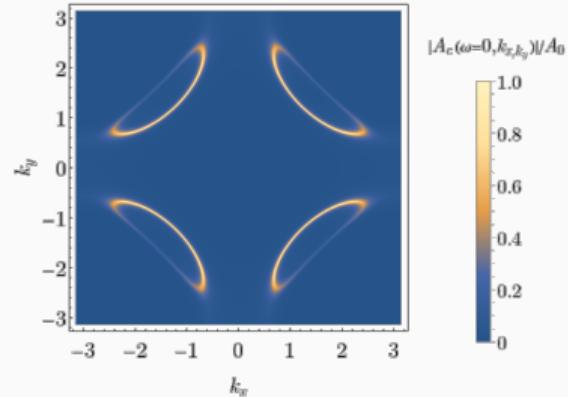
# Ancilla construction of topologically-ordered states<sup>3</sup>

Deviates from conventional  $c_\alpha^\dagger \rightarrow f_\alpha b^\dagger$



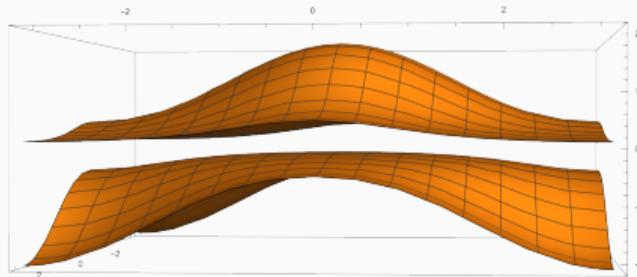
Assume  $\pi$ -flux spin liquid, investigate properties  
wrt Hubbard model

Full rung singlet projection exponentially  
hard, instead use  $e^{-\beta \sum_i (S_{1i} + S_{2i})^2} \mathcal{P}_{S_z=0} |\psi_0\rangle$



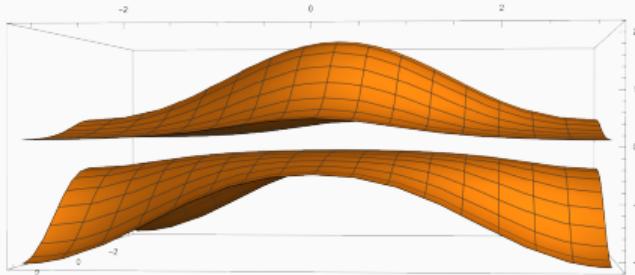
<sup>3</sup>Zhang and Sachdev, *Physical Review Research*, 2020.

## Half-filling: WFs behave favorably energetically ( $\beta = \infty$ )

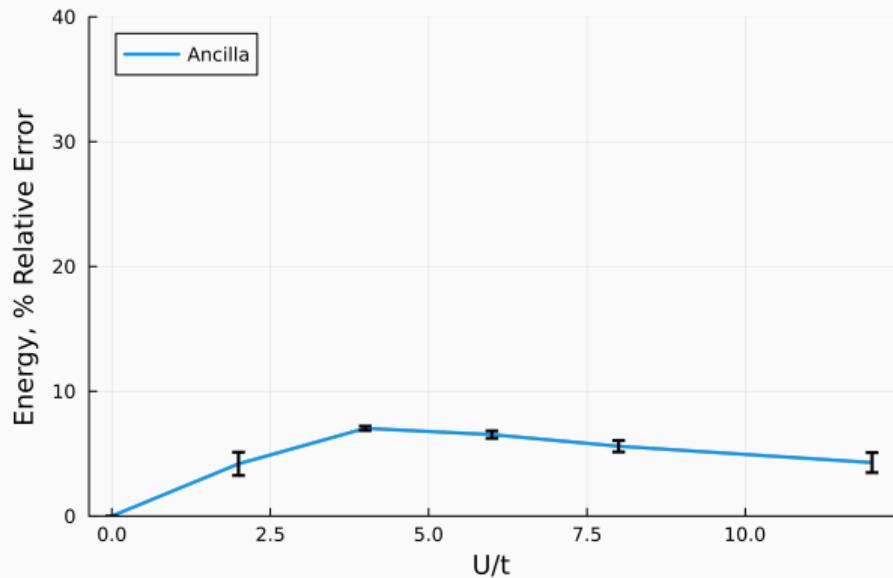


Simple ansatz:  $t_c = t$ ,  $t_1 = 0$  gives mean-field charge gap  $2\phi$ , which we fix to be  $U$

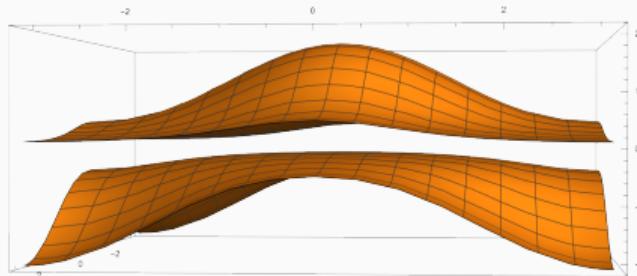
## Half-filling: WFs behave favorably energetically ( $\beta = \infty$ )



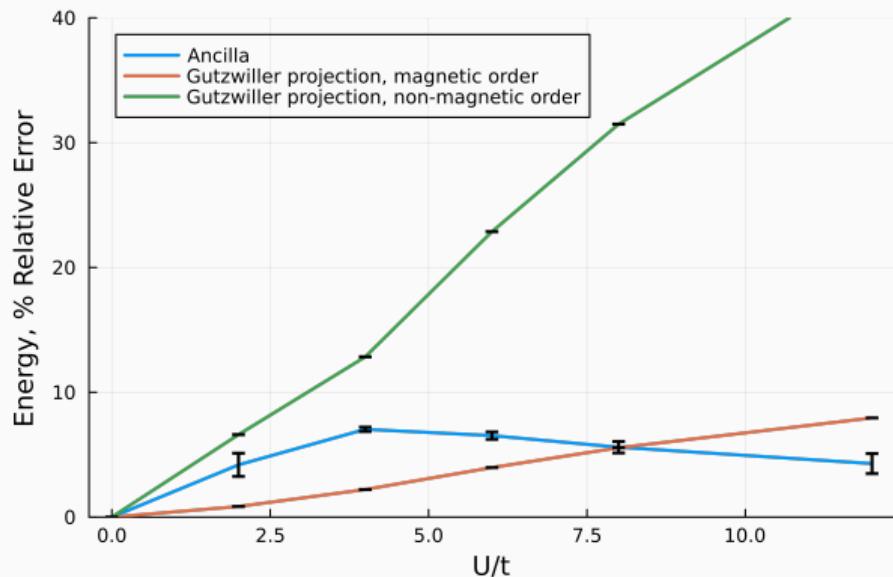
Simple ansatz:  $t_c = t$ ,  $t_1 = 0$  gives mean-field charge gap  $2\phi$ , which we fix to be  $U$



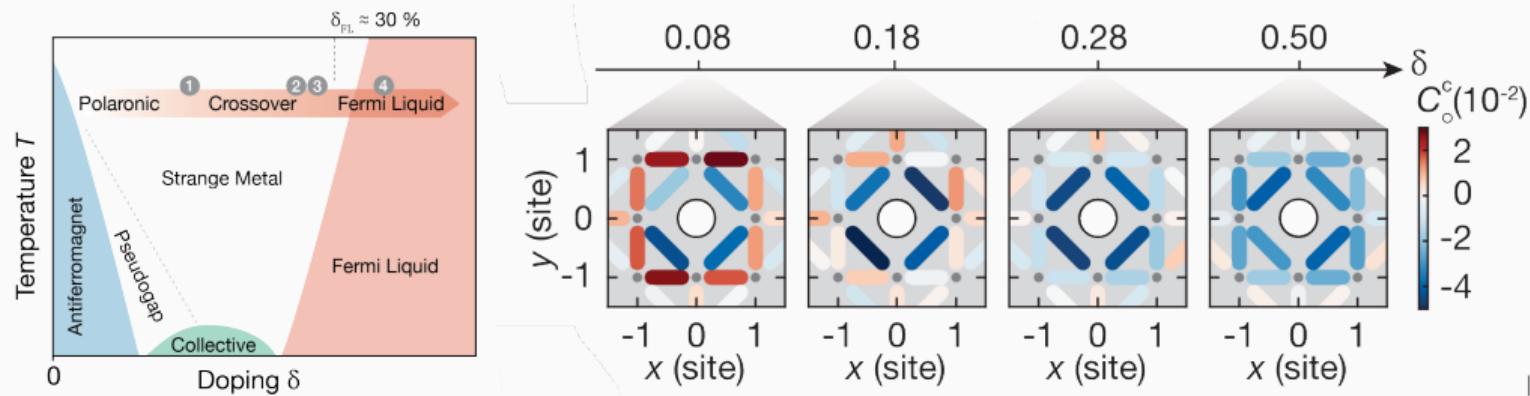
## Half-filling: WFs behave favorably energetically ( $\beta = \infty$ )



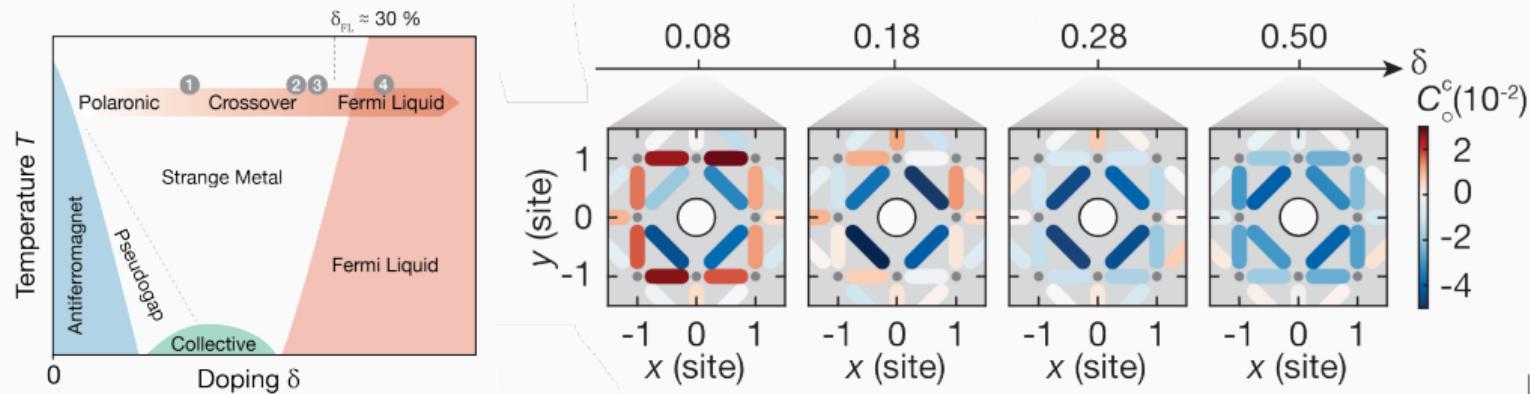
Simple ansatz:  $t_c = t$ ,  $t_1 = 0$  gives mean-field charge gap  $2\phi$ , which we fix to be  $U$



# Polaronic correlations essential for capturing doped Mott insulators



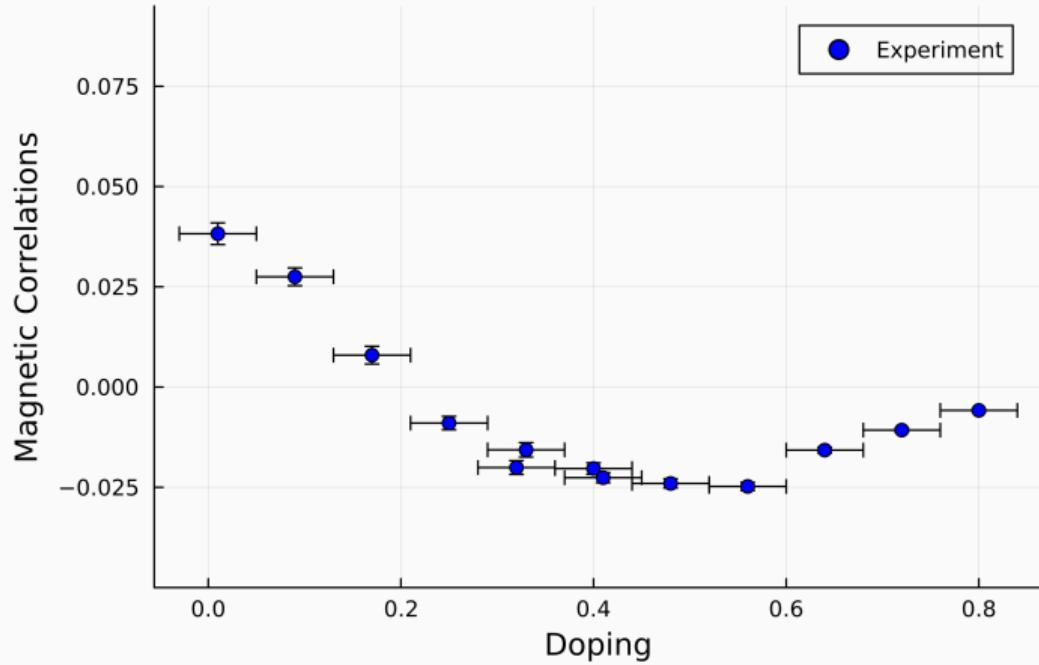
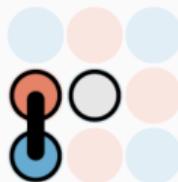
# Polaronic correlations essential for capturing doped Mott insulators



Do these wavefunctions support polaronic correlations?

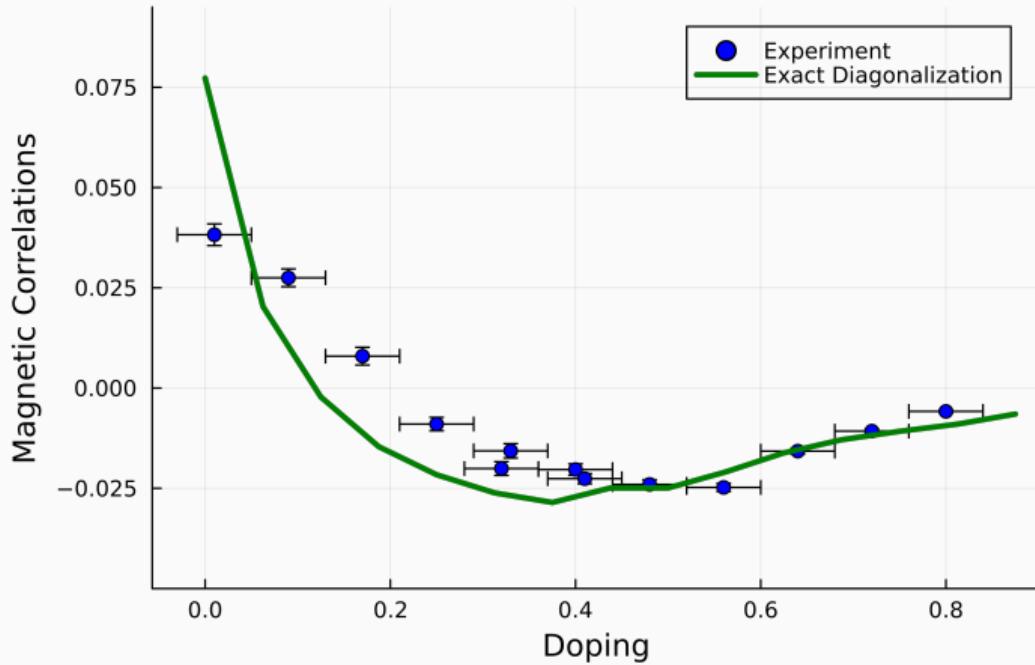
# Nearest neighbor magnetic correlations ( $U/t = 7.4$ )

Polaronic correlations probed by multipoint correlator  $\langle h_i S_j^z S_k^z \rangle$



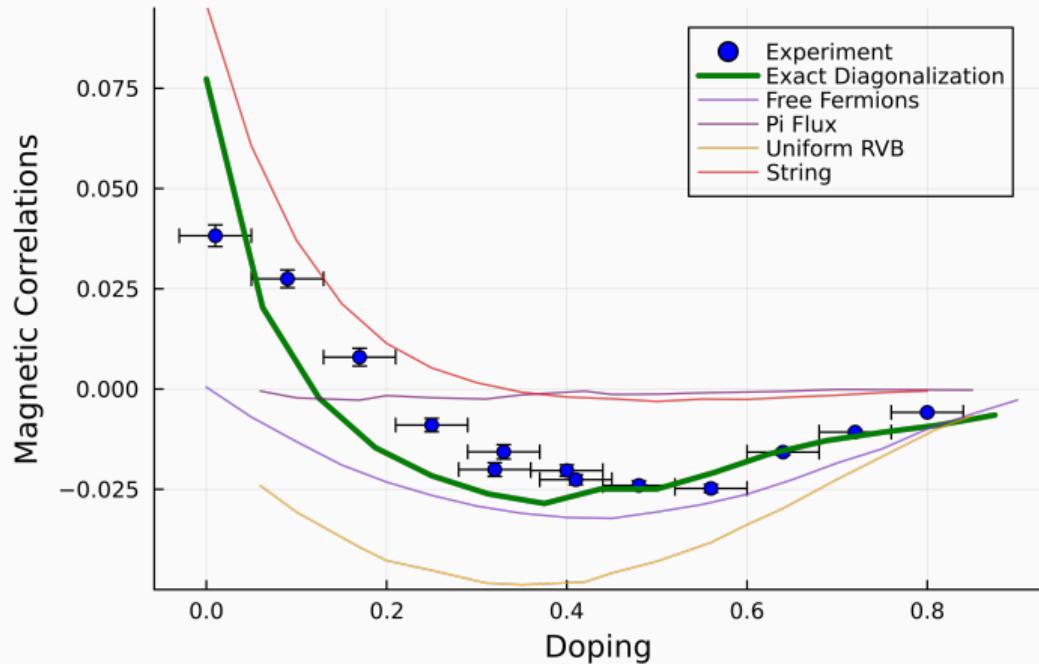
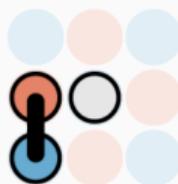
# Nearest neighbor magnetic correlations ( $U/t = 7.4$ )

Polaronic correlations probed by multipoint correlator  $\langle h_i S_j^z S_k^z \rangle$



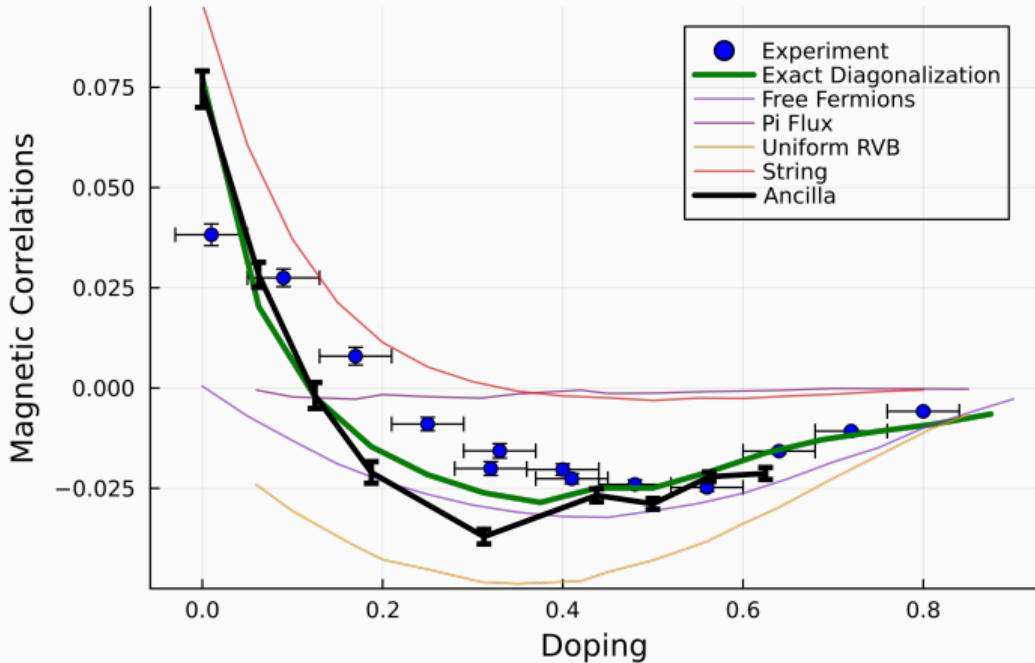
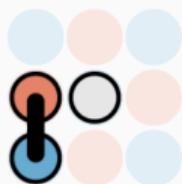
# Nearest neighbor magnetic correlations ( $U/t = 7.4$ )

Polaronic correlations probed by multipoint correlator  $\langle h_i S_j^z S_k^z \rangle$



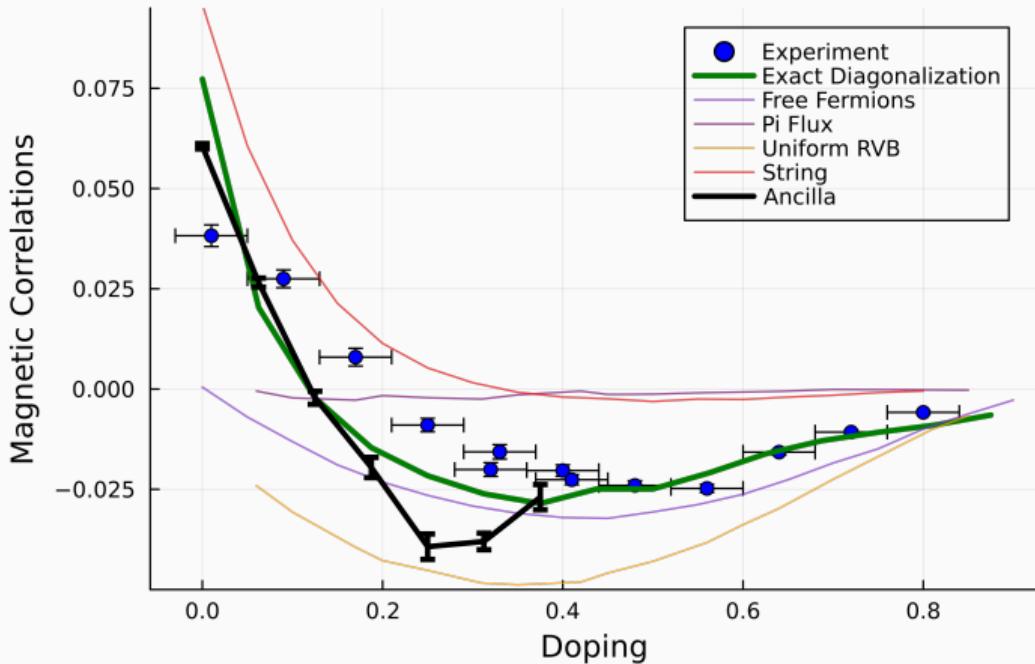
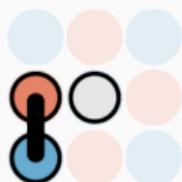
# Nearest neighbor magnetic correlations ( $U/t = 7.4$ )

Polaronic correlations probed by multipoint correlator  $\langle h_i S_j^z S_k^z \rangle$



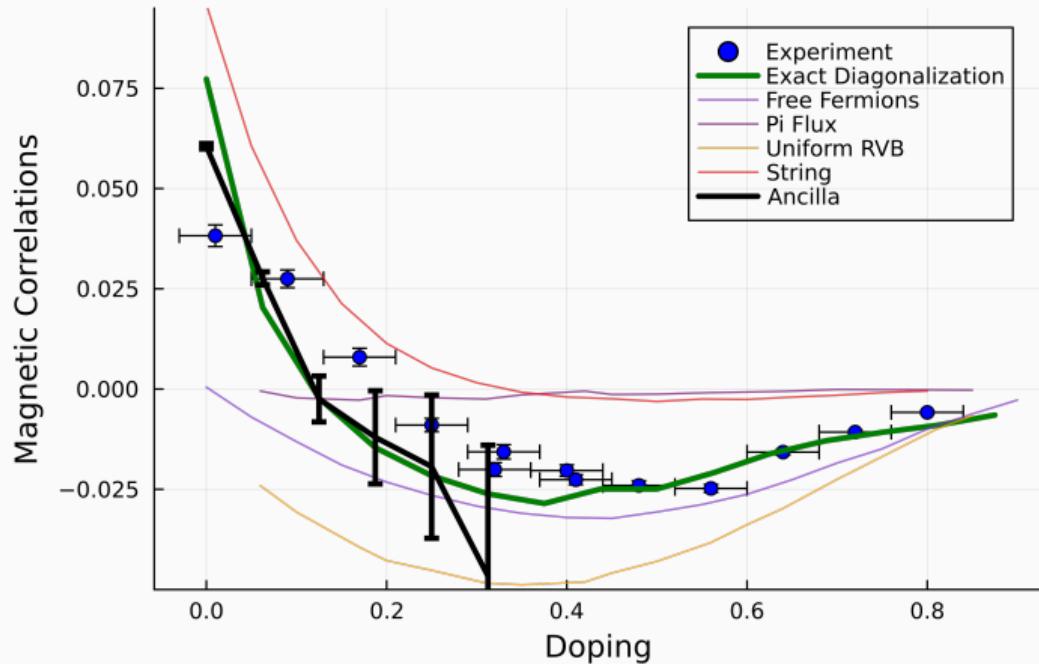
# Nearest neighbor magnetic correlations ( $U/t = 7.4$ )

Polaronic correlations probed by multipoint correlator  $\langle h_i S_j^z S_k^z \rangle$

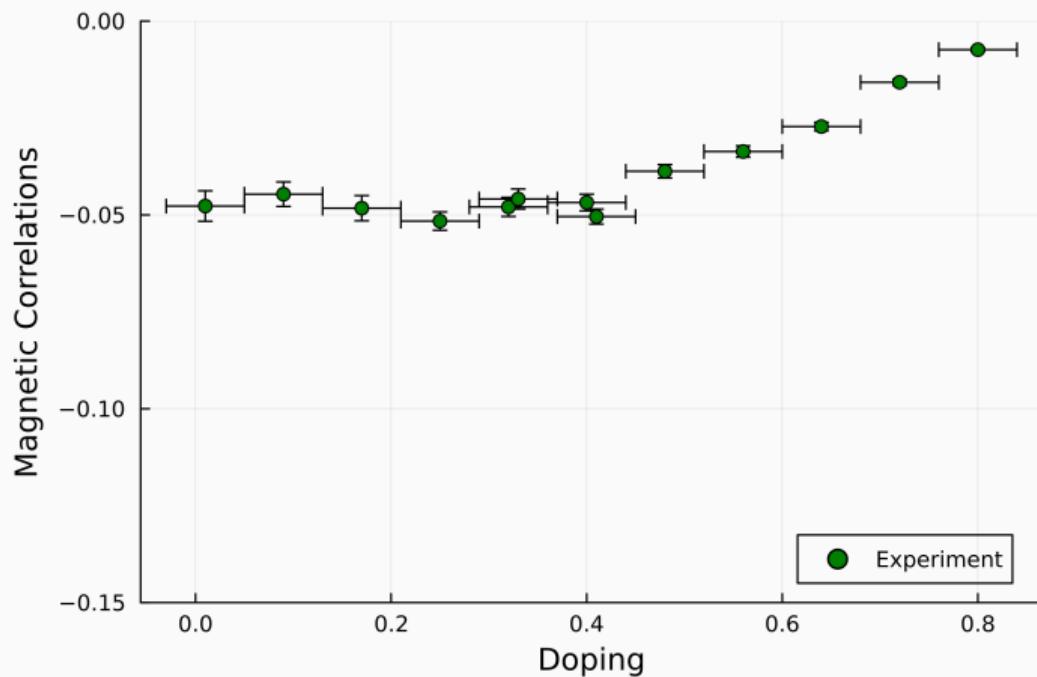


# Nearest neighbor magnetic correlations ( $U/t = 7.4$ )

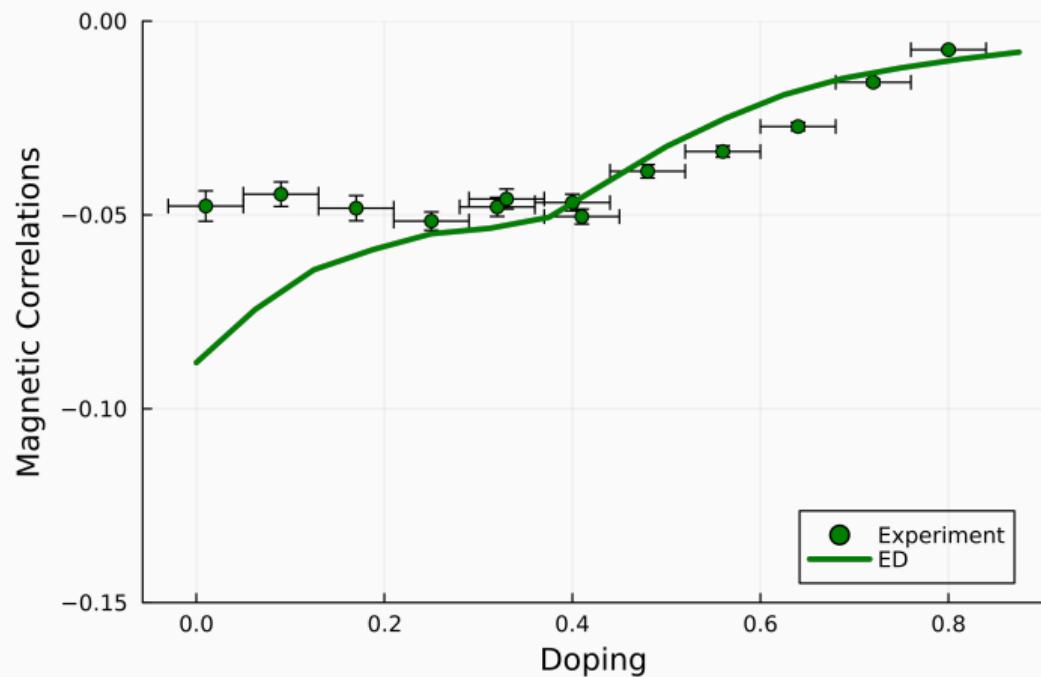
Polaronic correlations probed by multipoint correlator  $\langle h_i S_j^z S_k^z \rangle$



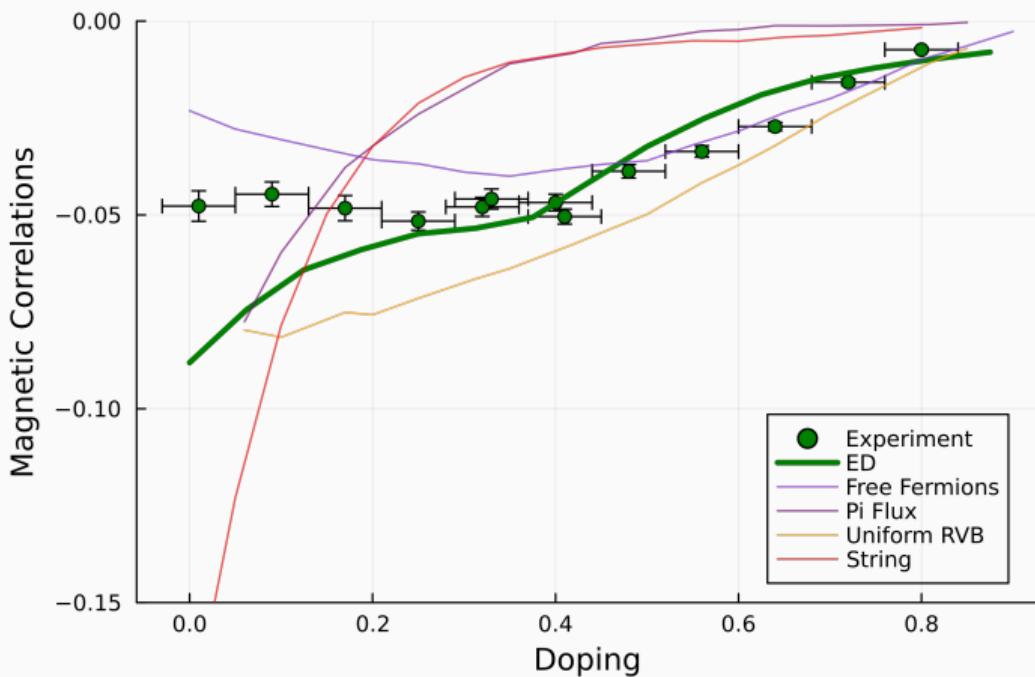
## Next nearest neighbor magnetic correlations ( $U/t = 7.4$ )



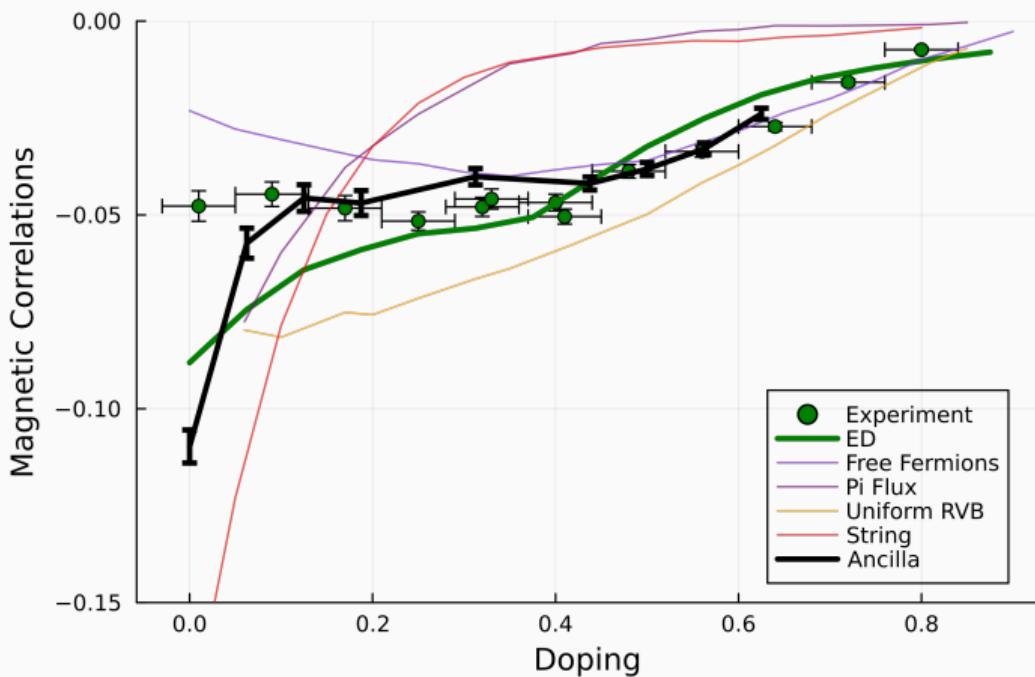
## Next nearest neighbor magnetic correlations ( $U/t = 7.4$ )



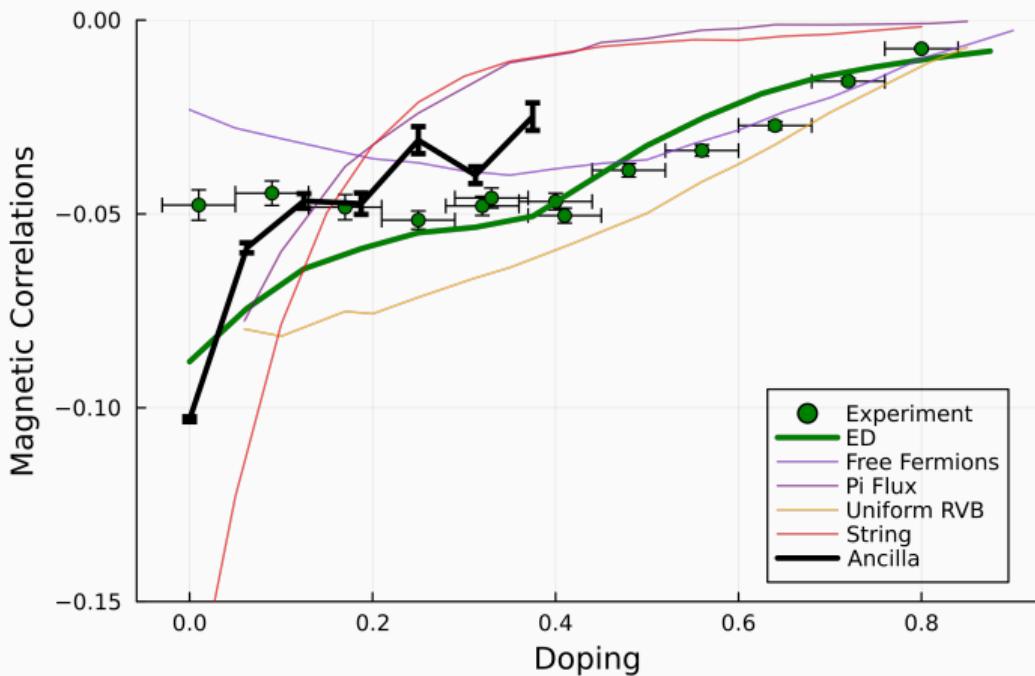
# Next nearest neighbor magnetic correlations ( $U/t = 7.4$ )



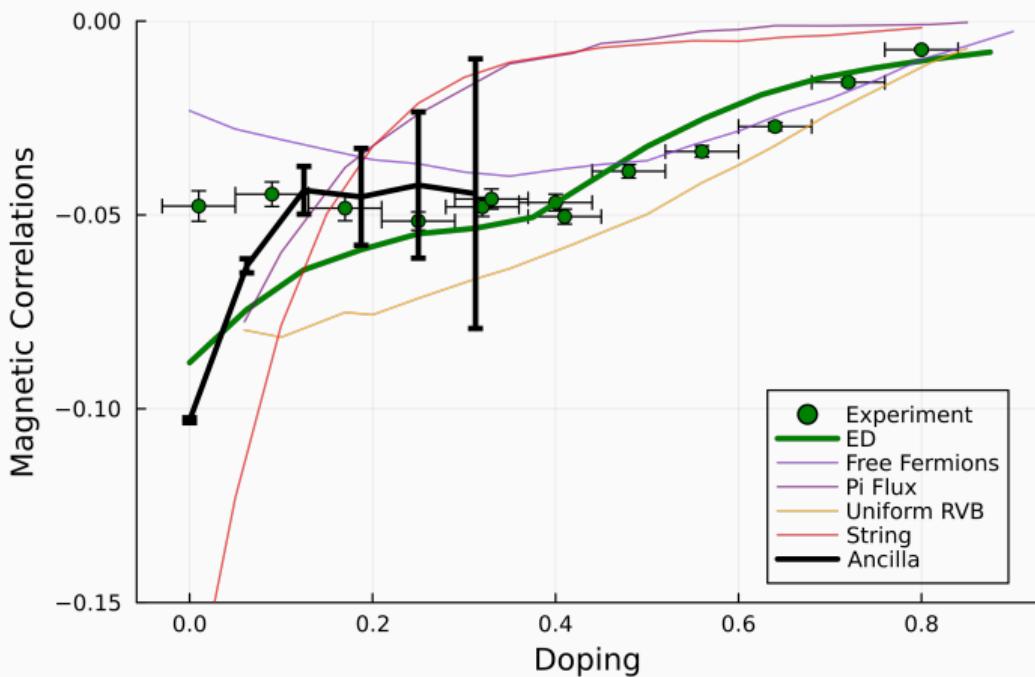
# Next nearest neighbor magnetic correlations ( $U/t = 7.4$ )



# Next nearest neighbor magnetic correlations ( $U/t = 7.4$ )



# Next nearest neighbor magnetic correlations ( $U/t = 7.4$ )



## Conclusions and future directions

---

<sup>4</sup>Song, *Physical Review B*, 2021.

## Conclusions and future directions

- Variational WFs of fractionalized Fermi liquids capable of capturing multi-point correlators of doped Hubbard models

## Conclusions and future directions

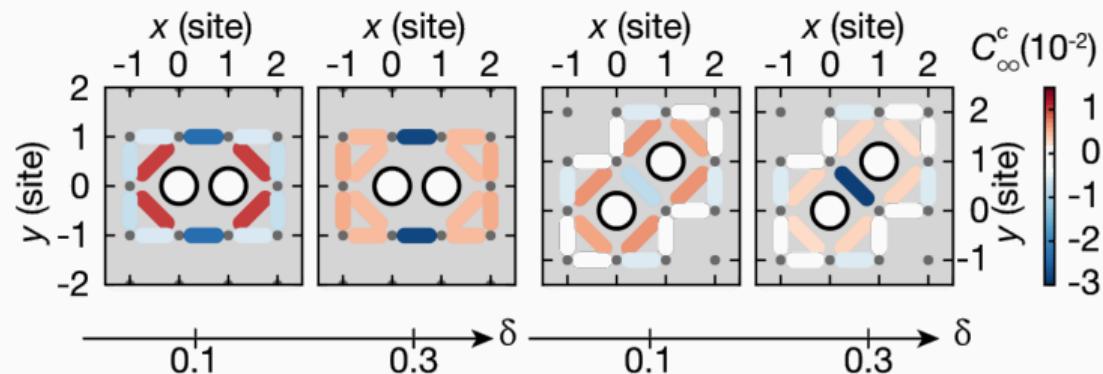
- Variational WFs of fractionalized Fermi liquids capable of capturing multi-point correlators of doped Hubbard models
- Respectable energetics - low-energy states

---

<sup>4</sup>Song, Physical Review B, 2021.

## Conclusions and future directions

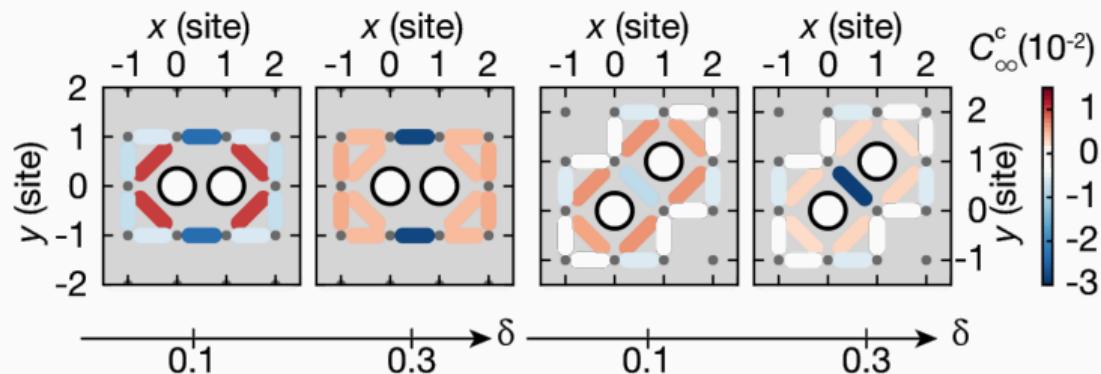
- Variational WFs of fractionalized Fermi liquids capable of capturing multi-point correlators of doped Hubbard models
- Respectable energetics - low-energy states
- Can these WFs reconstruct higher-point correlators?



<sup>4</sup>Song, Physical Review B., 2021.

## Conclusions and future directions

- Variational WFs of fractionalized Fermi liquids capable of capturing multi-point correlators of doped Hubbard models
- Respectable energetics - low-energy states
- Can these WFs reconstruct higher-point correlators?



- CSL on triangular lattice Hubbard model - which CSL?<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup>Song, Physical Review B., 2021.