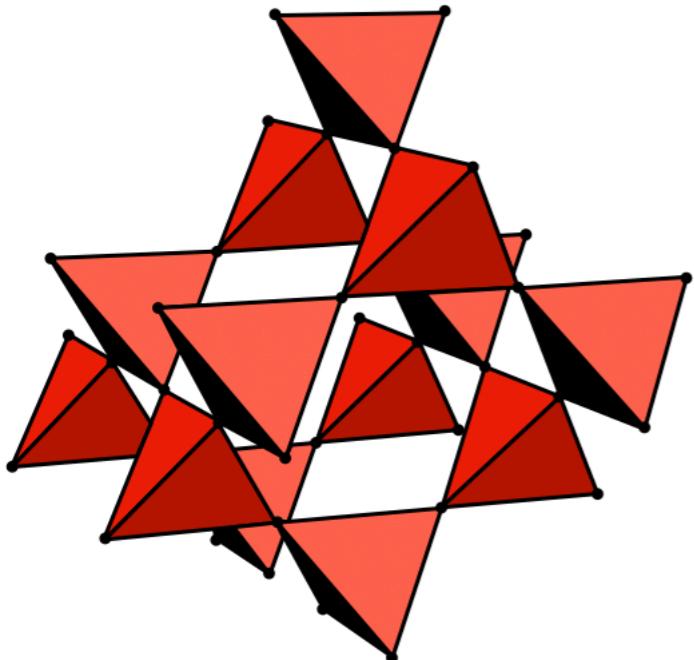


THE EMERGENT FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT IN QUANTUM SPIN ICE

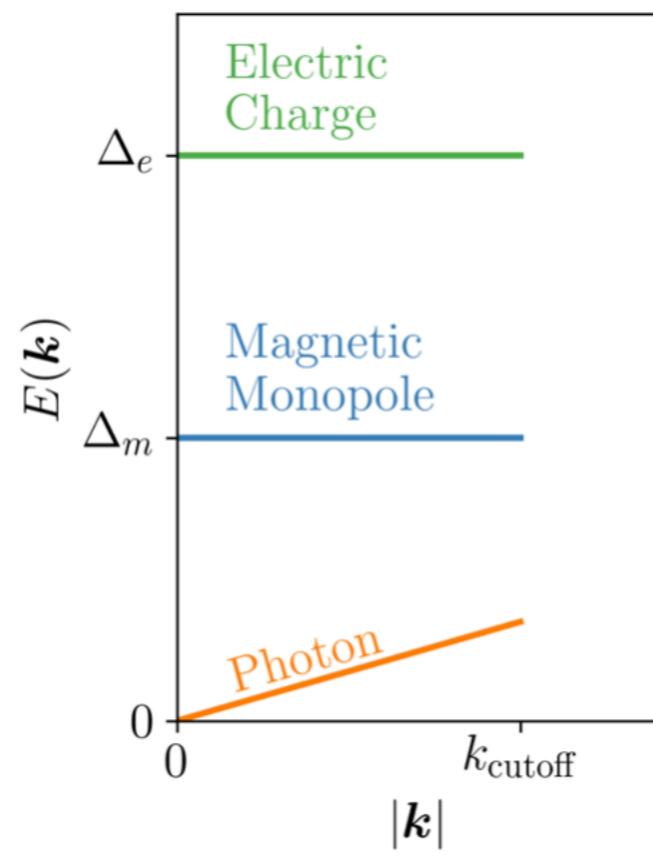
Sal Pace

OUR JOURNEY

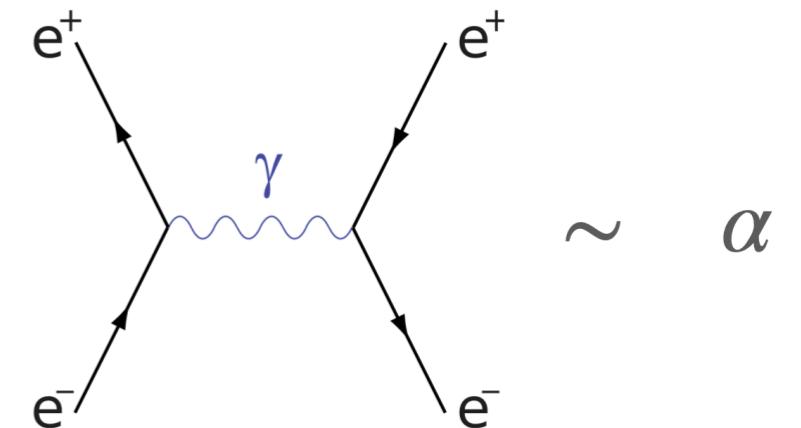
1) Quantum Spin Ice



2) Emergent QED



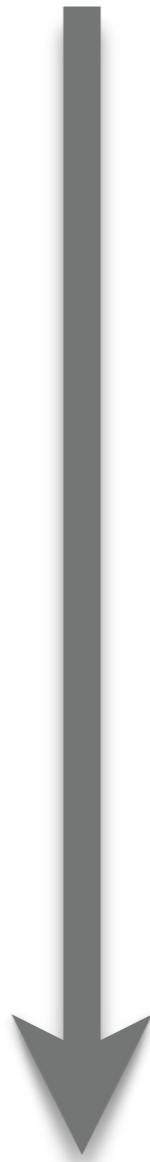
3) Calculating the emergent fine structure constant



QUANTUM CONDENSED MATTER PHYSICS

- Known UV degrees of freedom
- Many-body problem complex and intractable

Short Distances (High Energy)

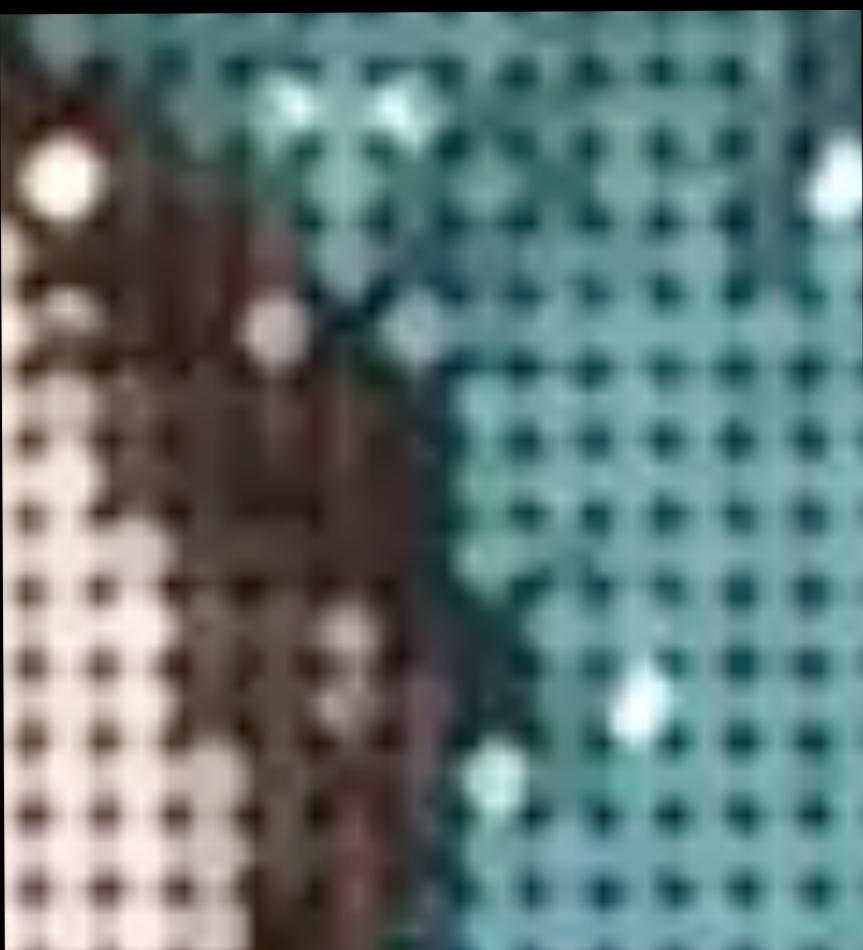


- IR degrees of freedom emerge
- Effective description of many-body problem

Long Distances (Low Energy)

EMERGENCE

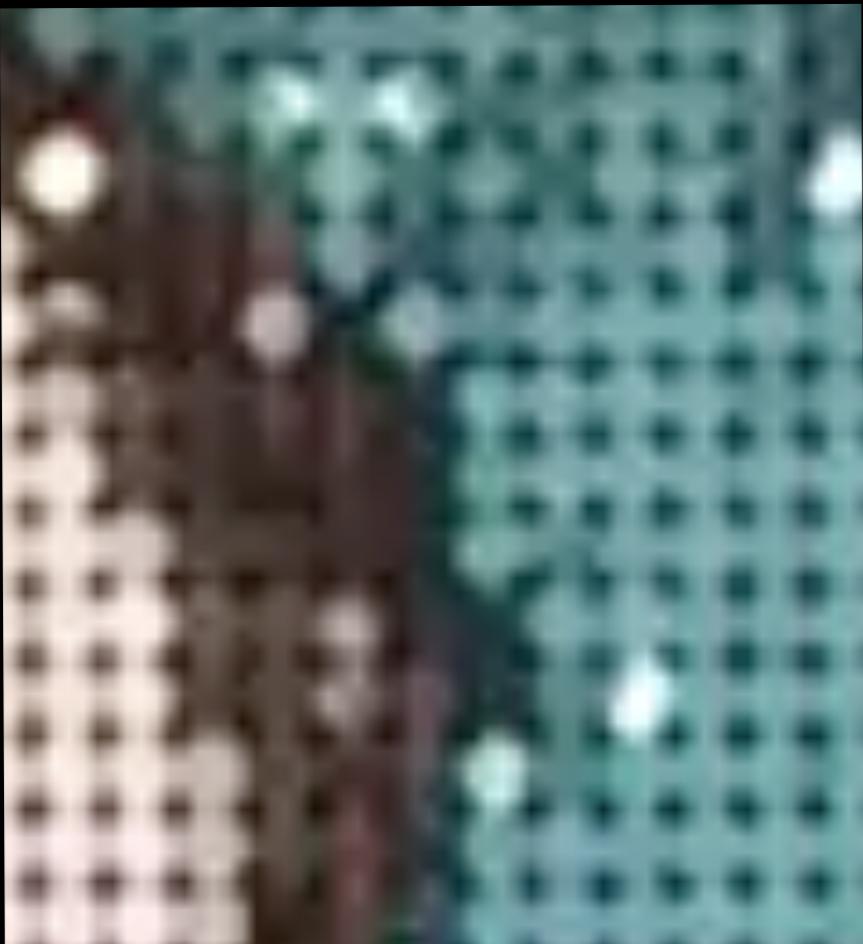
Short Distances (High Energy)



Long Distances (Low Energy)

EMERGENCE

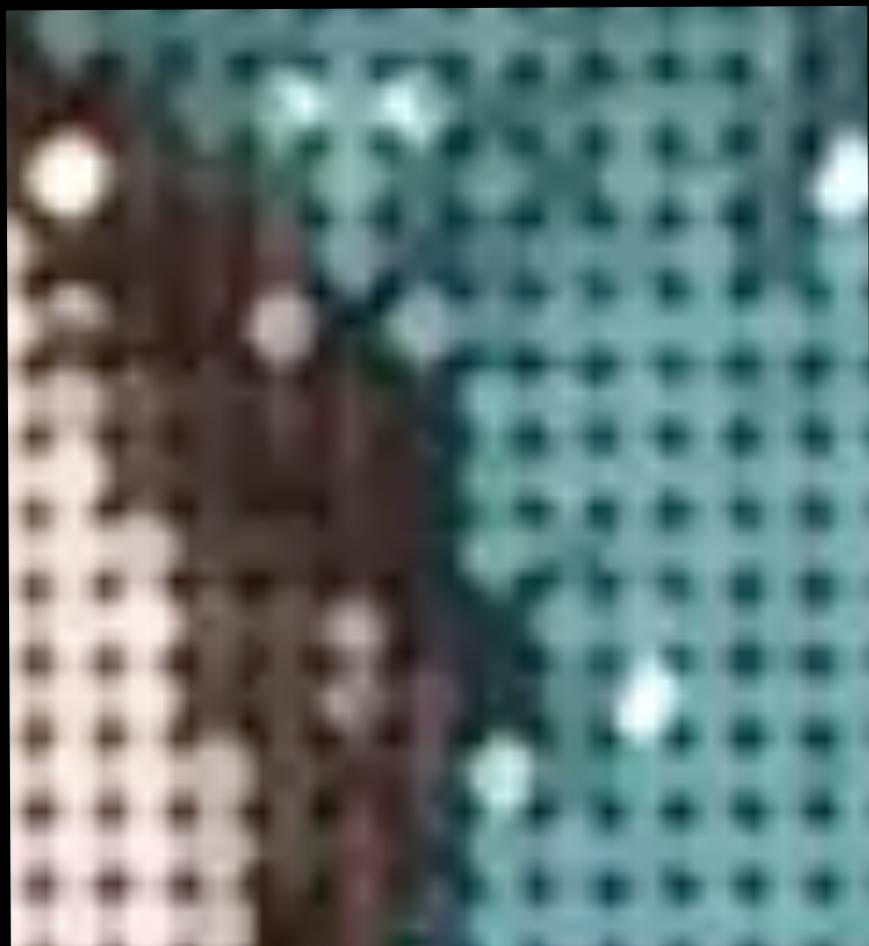
Short Distances (High Energy)



Long Distances (Low Energy)

EMERGENCE

Short Distances (High Energy)



Long Distances (Low Energy)



You Tube: "Richard Feynman FRS.mov," by Cheryl Field

EMERGENCE

Short Distances (High Energy)



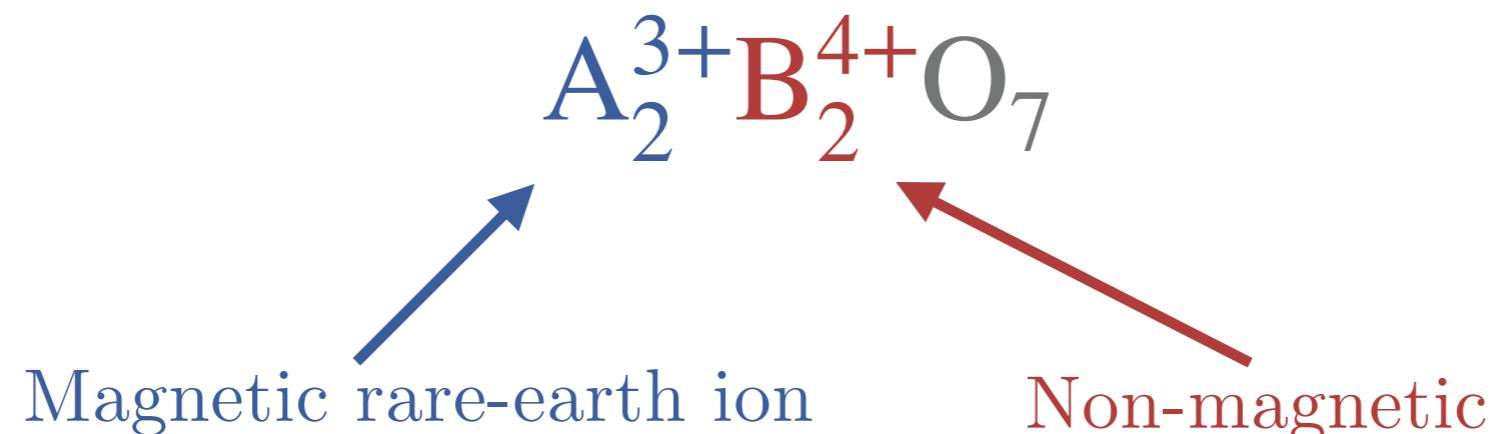
Long Distances (Low Energy)



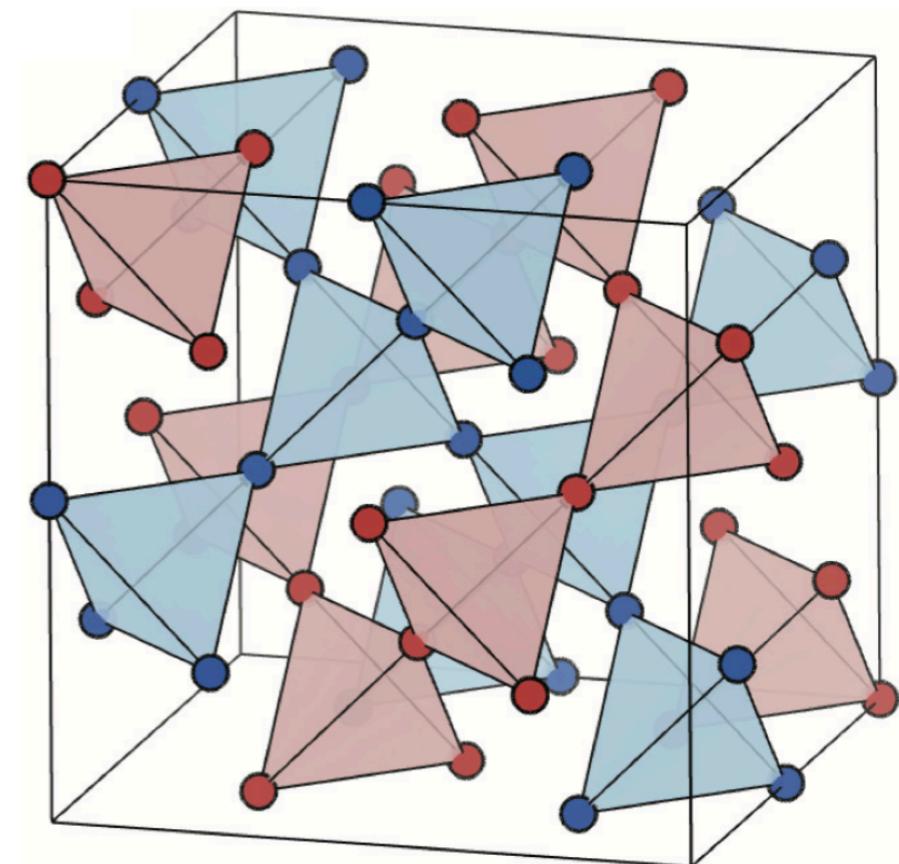
You Tube: "Richard Feynman FRS.mov," by Cheryl Field

Emergent Quantum Electrodynamics???

RARE-EARTH PYROCHLORE MAGNETS



H																				He
Li	Be														B	C	N	O	F	Ne
Na	Mg														Al	Si	P	S	Cl	Ar
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr			
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe			
Cs	Ba	La	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn			
		Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu					
		Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr					



SPIN ICE MATERIALS



Classical spin ice



- Well established
- Order at low T

Candidate quantum spin ice



- Active area of experimental research
- No long-range order even at $T = 0$

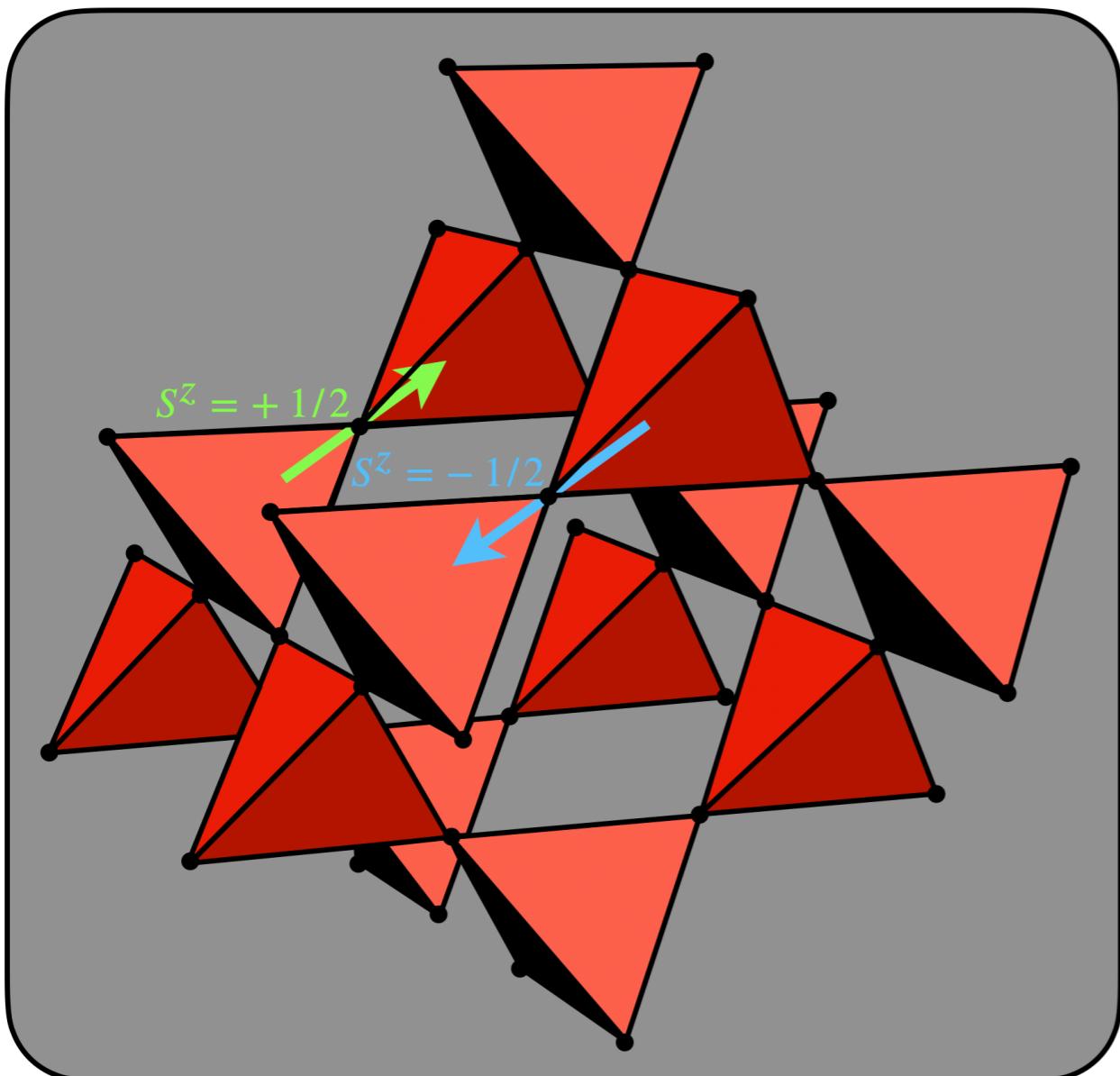
Gardner, Jason S., Michel JP Gingras, and John E. Greedan. *Reviews of Modern Physics* 82.1 (2010): 53.

Hallas, Alannah M., Jonathan Gaudet, and Bruce D. Gaulin. *Annual Review of Condensed Matter Physics* 9 (2018): 105-124.

Rau, Jeffrey G., and Michel JP Gingras. *Annual Review of Condensed Matter Physics* (2019).

CLASSICAL SPIN ICE

Pyrochlore Lattice



$$H_{\text{CSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} S_i^z S_j^z$$

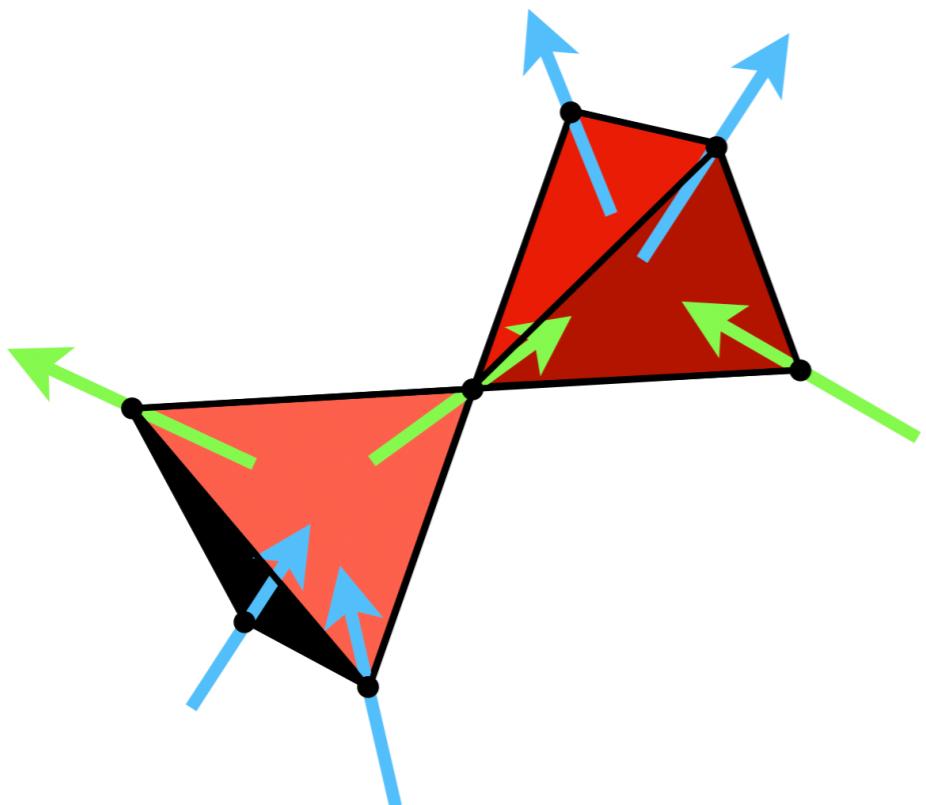
- $\langle i, j \rangle$: Nearest neighbors
- $J_{zz} > 0$

CLASSICAL GROUND STATE AND EXCITATIONS

$$H_{\text{CSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} S_i^z S_j^z$$

Ground state

Local 2-in 2-out constraint: ice rule



CLASSICAL GROUND STATE AND EXCITATIONS

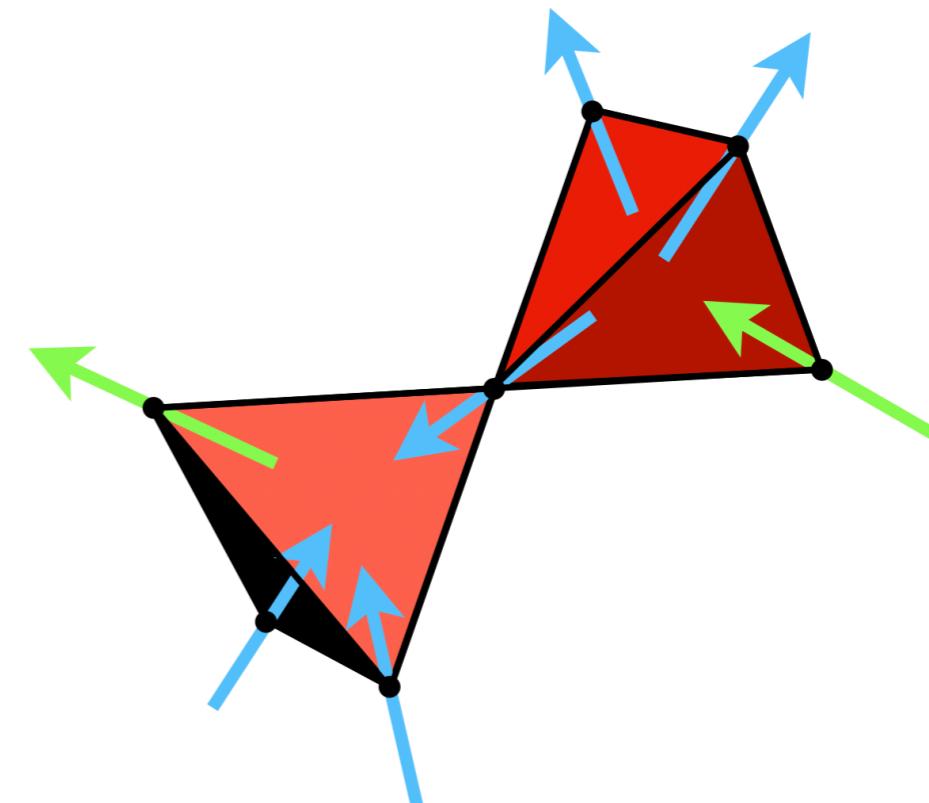
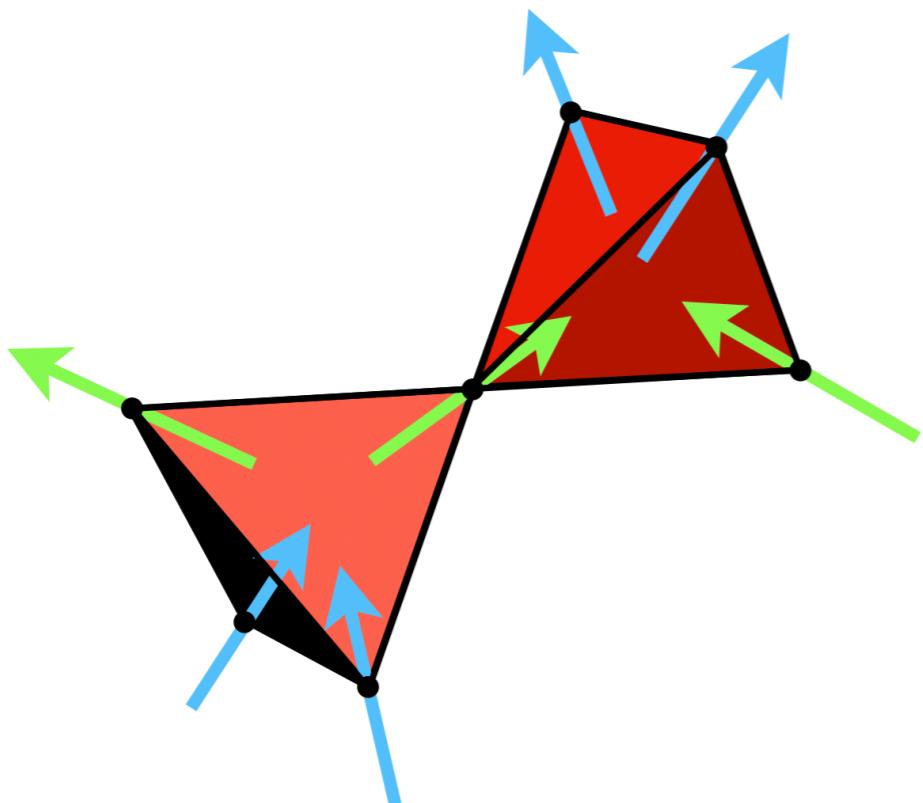
$$H_{\text{CSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} S_i^z S_j^z$$

Ground state

Local 2-in 2-out constraint: ice rule

Excitation

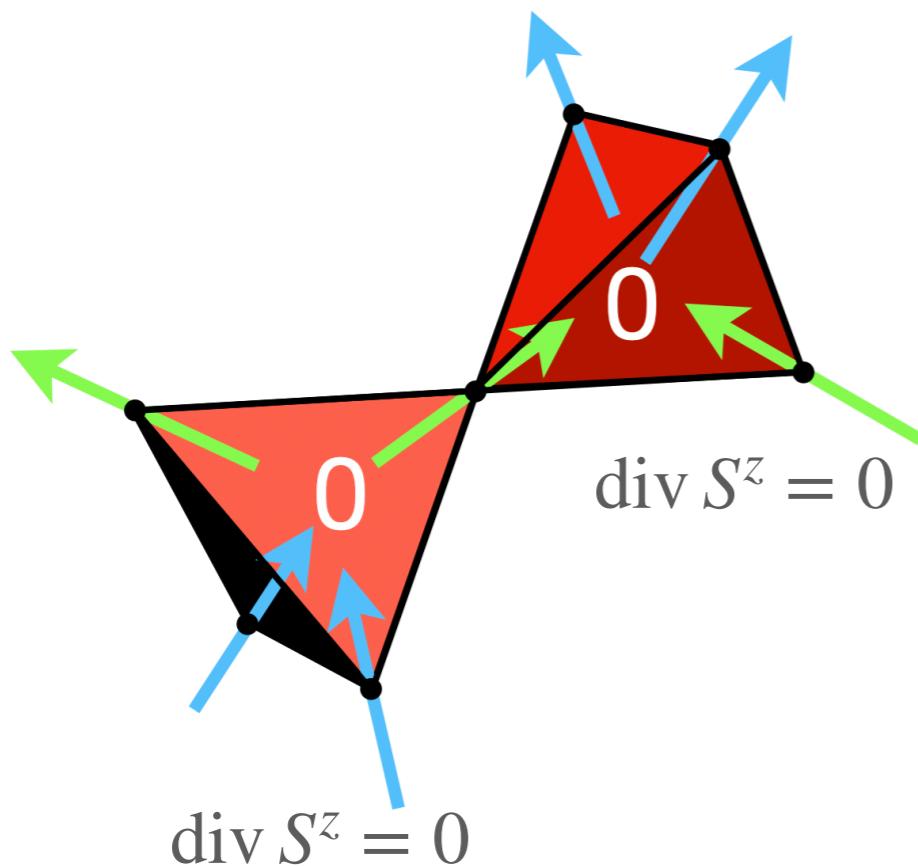
$2J_{zz}$ energy gap



AN EMERGENT GAUGE STRUCTURE

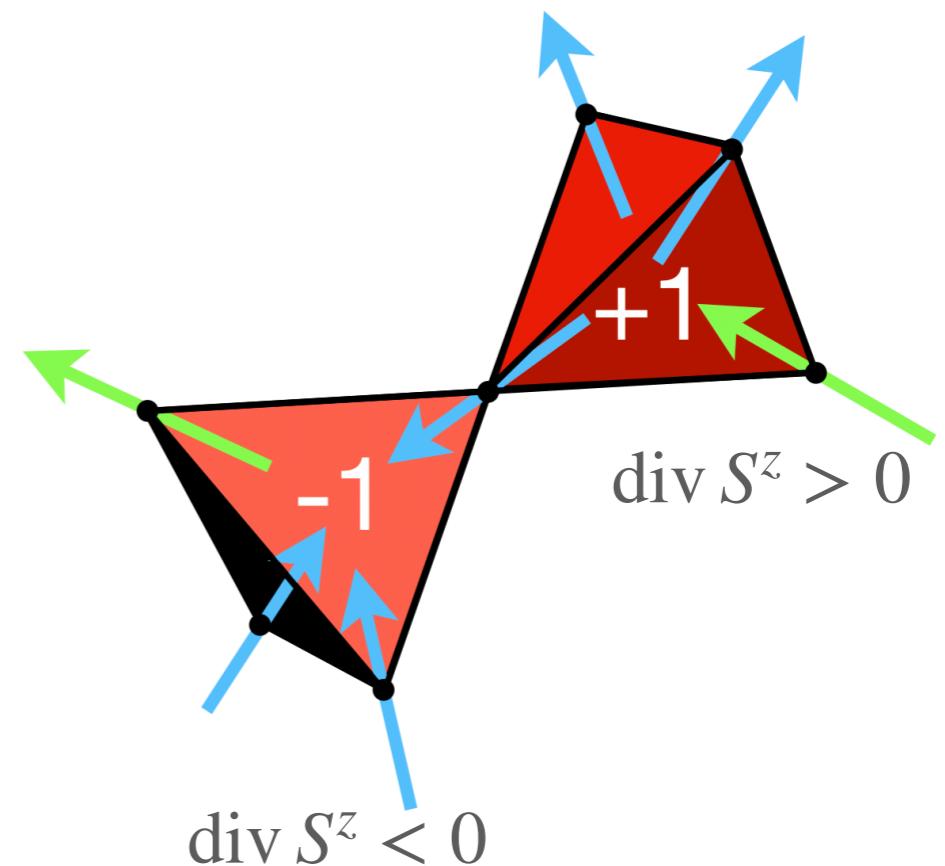
Ground state

Local constraint: 2-in 2-out



Excitation

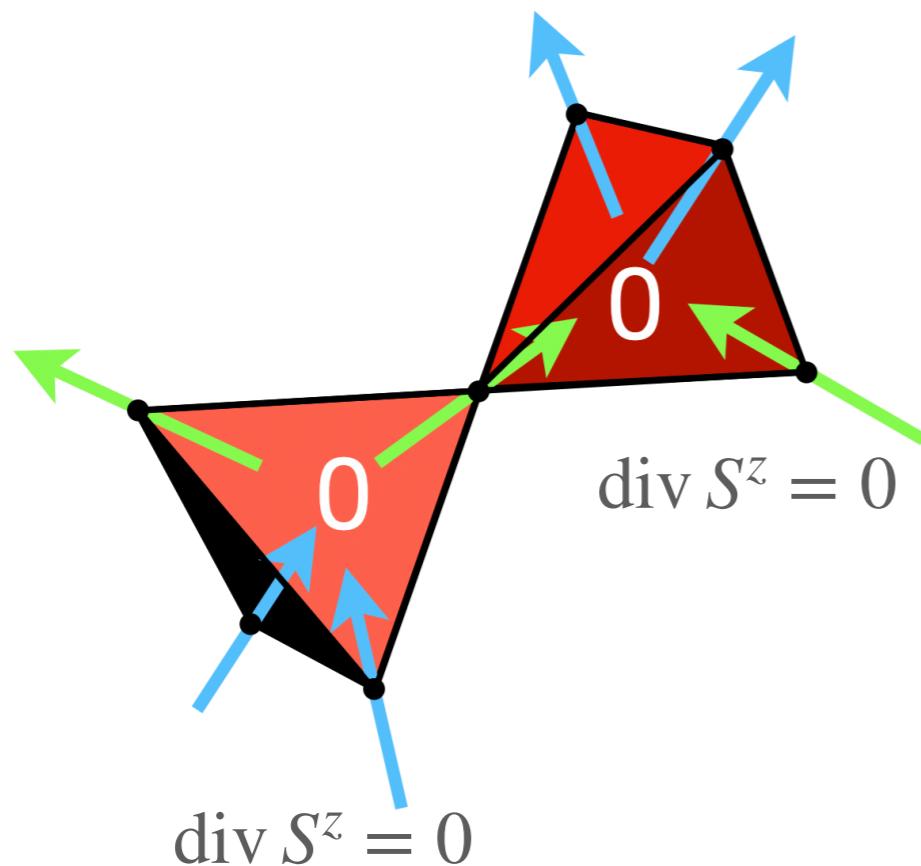
$2J_{zz}$ energy gap



AN EMERGENT GAUGE STRUCTURE

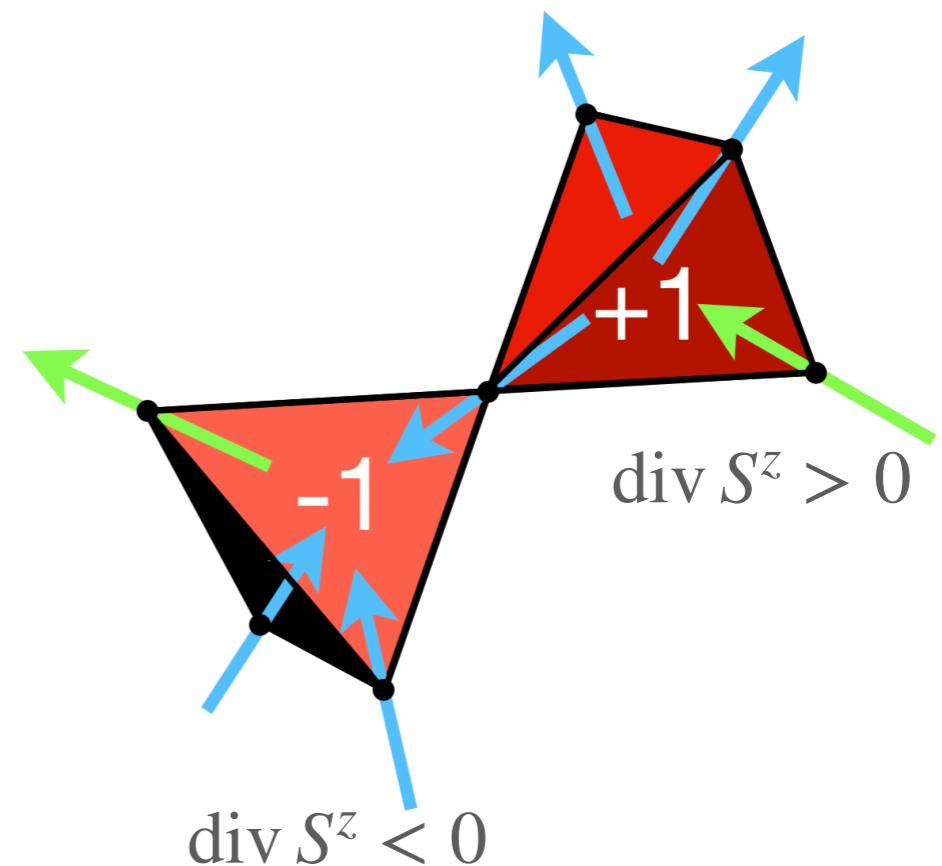
Ground state

Local constraint: 2-in 2-out



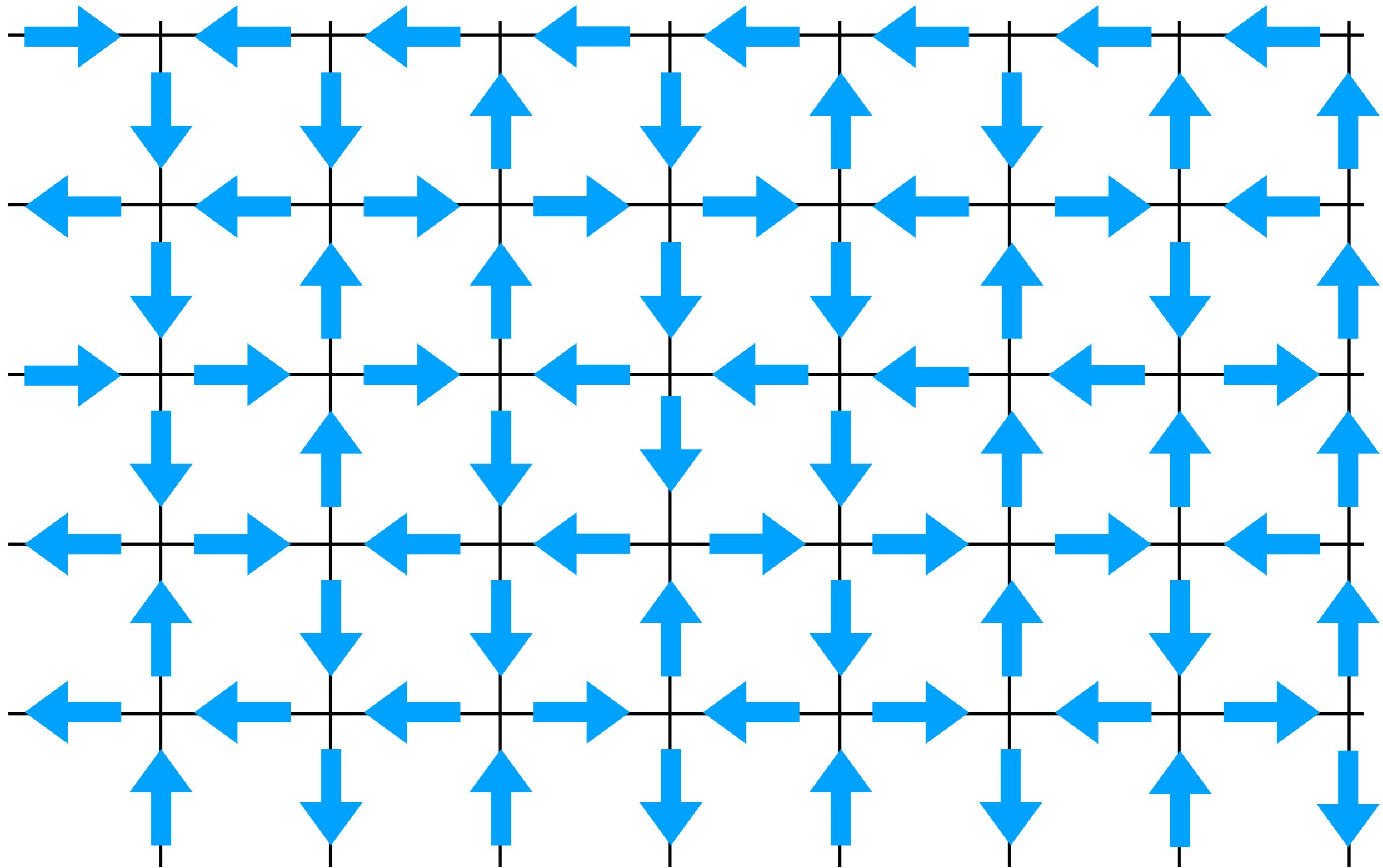
Excitation

$2J_{zz}$ energy gap

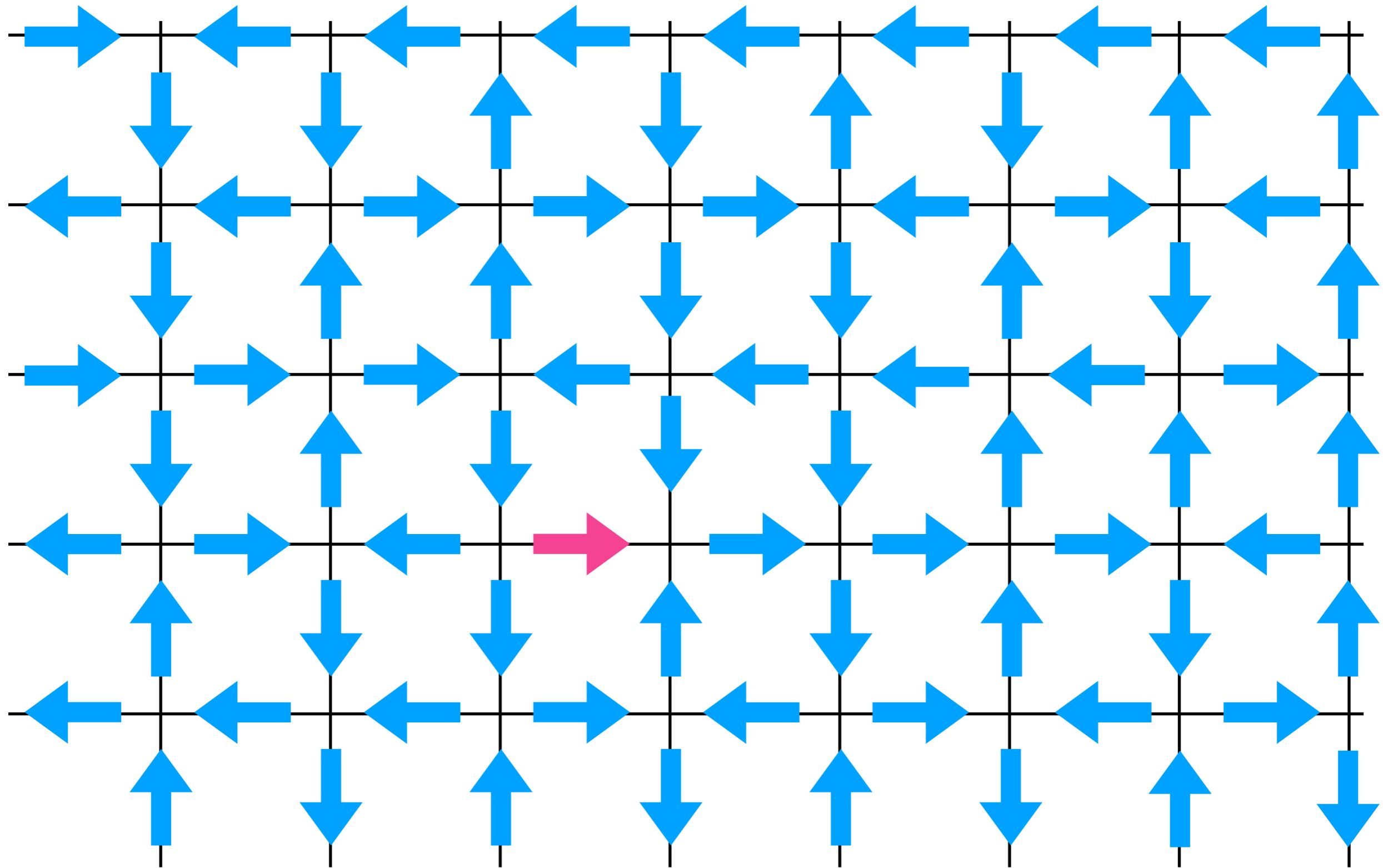


Emergent Gauss's Law: $\text{div}_t S^z = q$

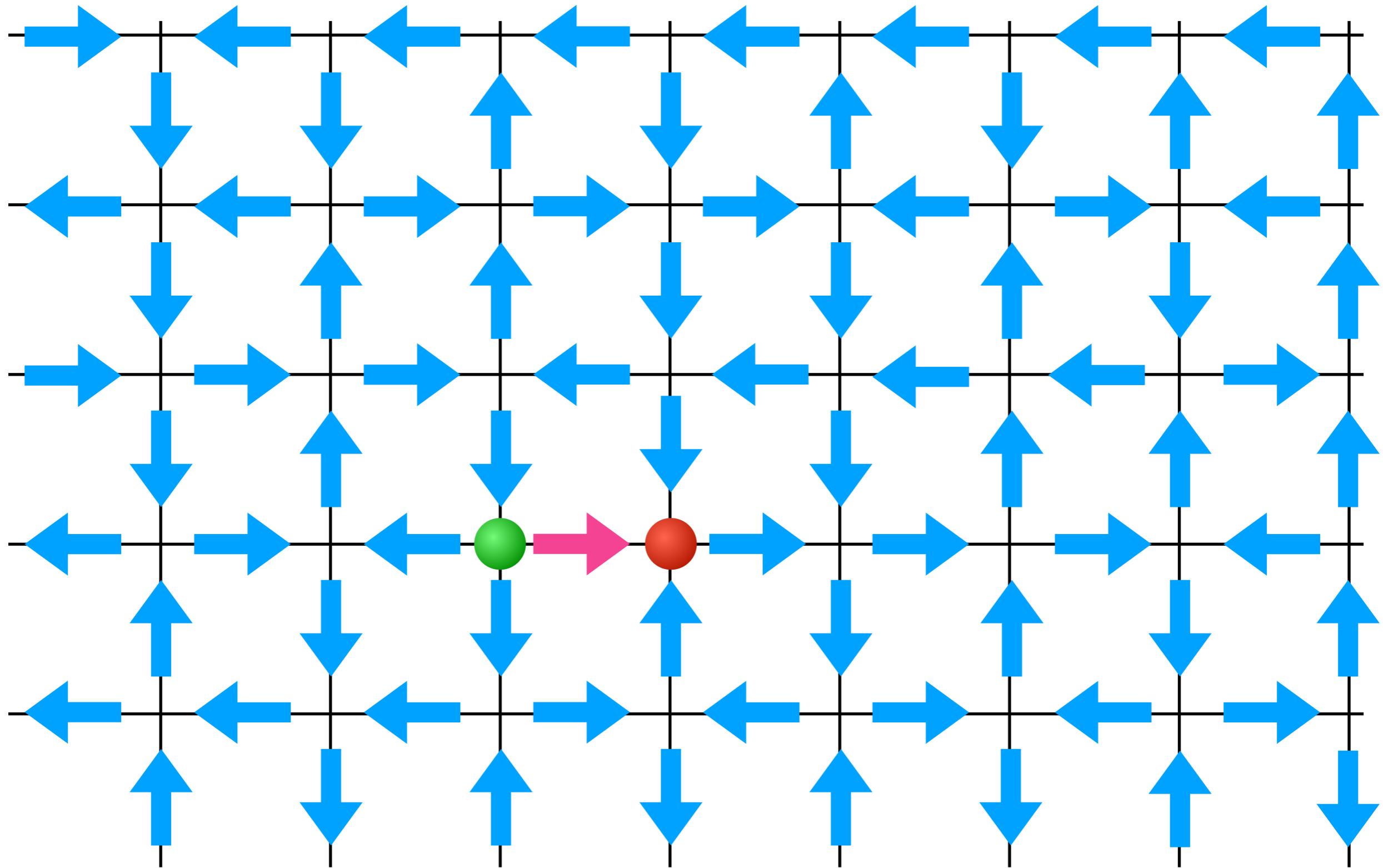
EMERGENT ELECTRODYNAMICS



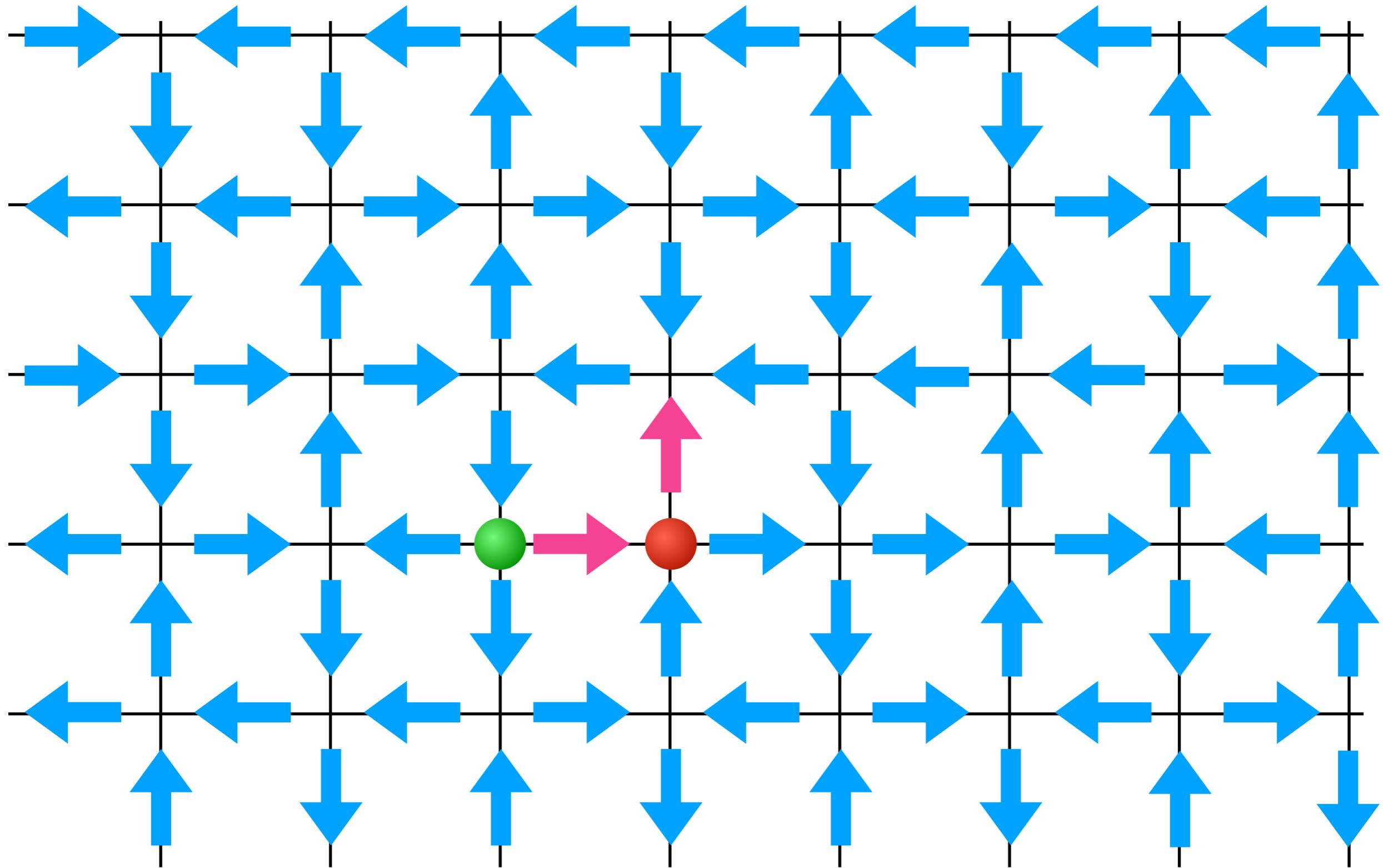
EMERGENT ELECTRODYNAMICS



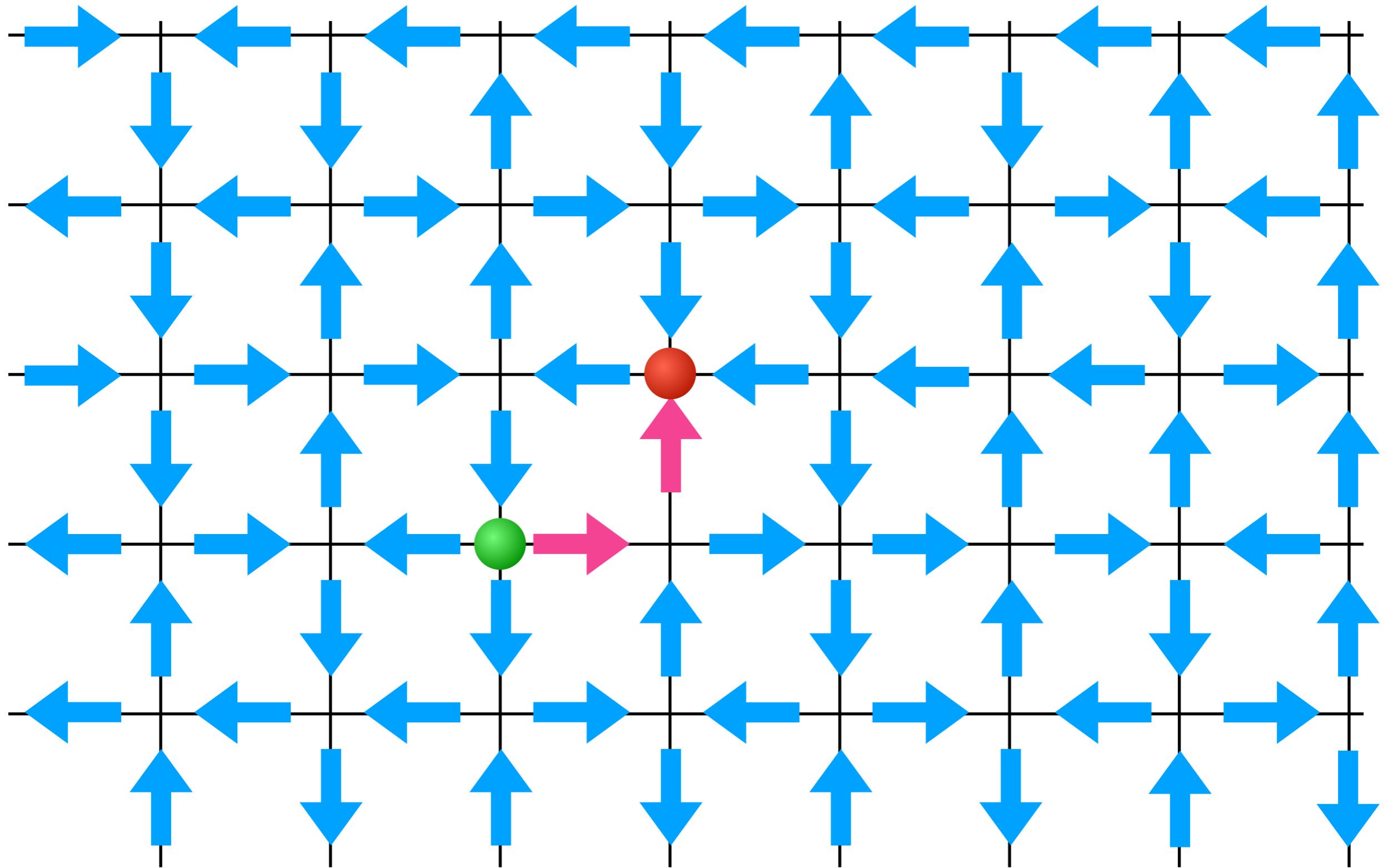
EMERGENT ELECTRODYNAMICS



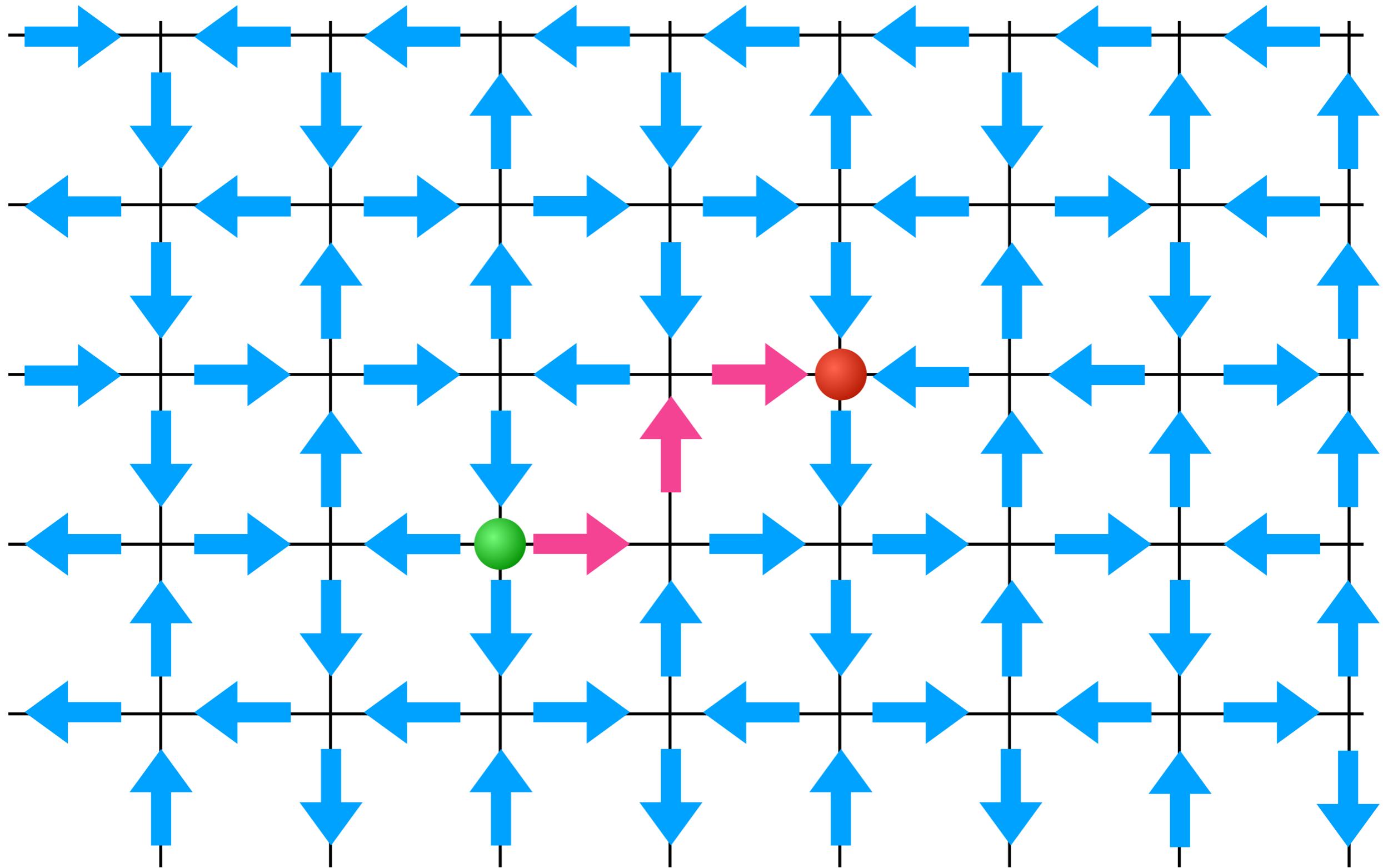
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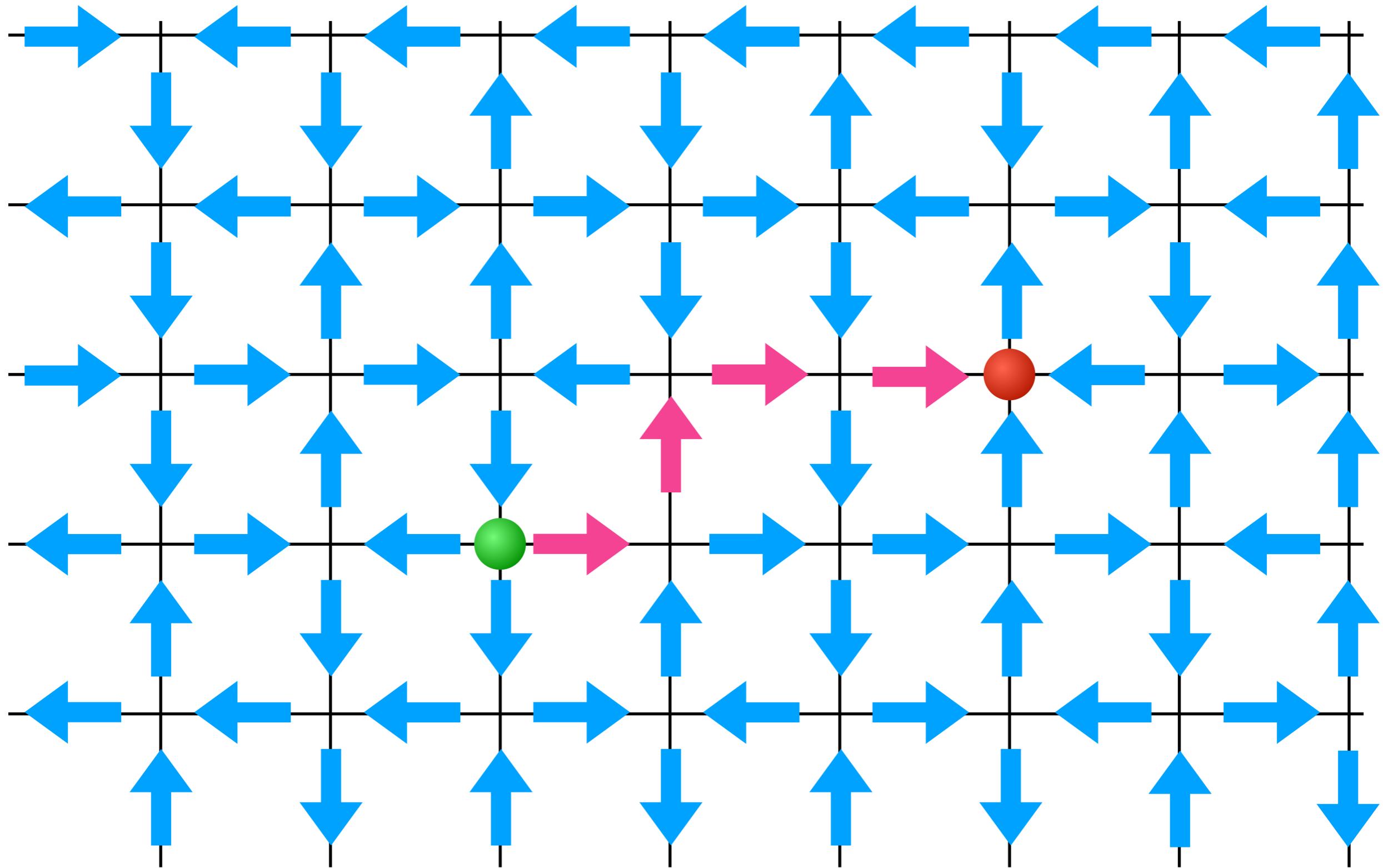
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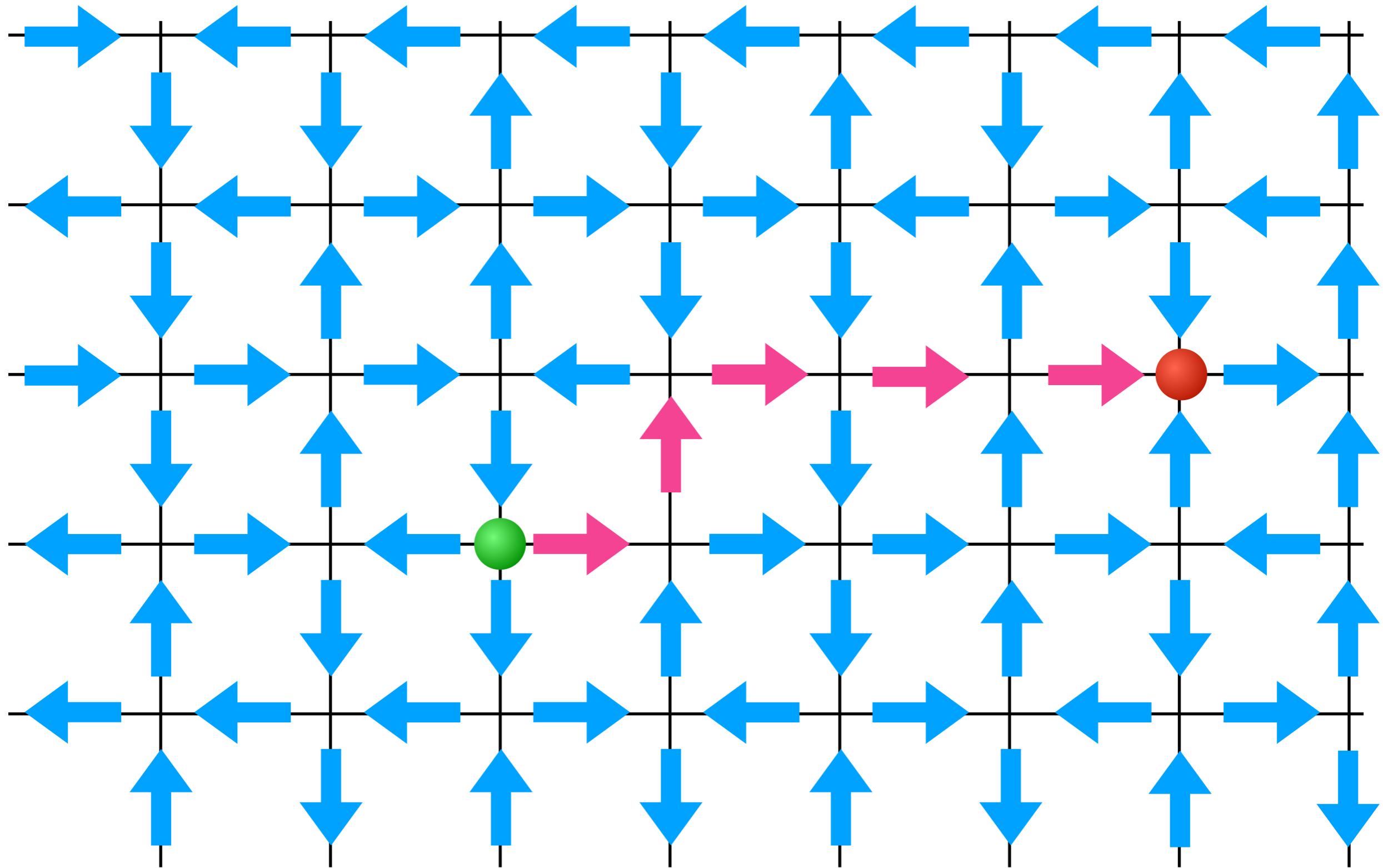
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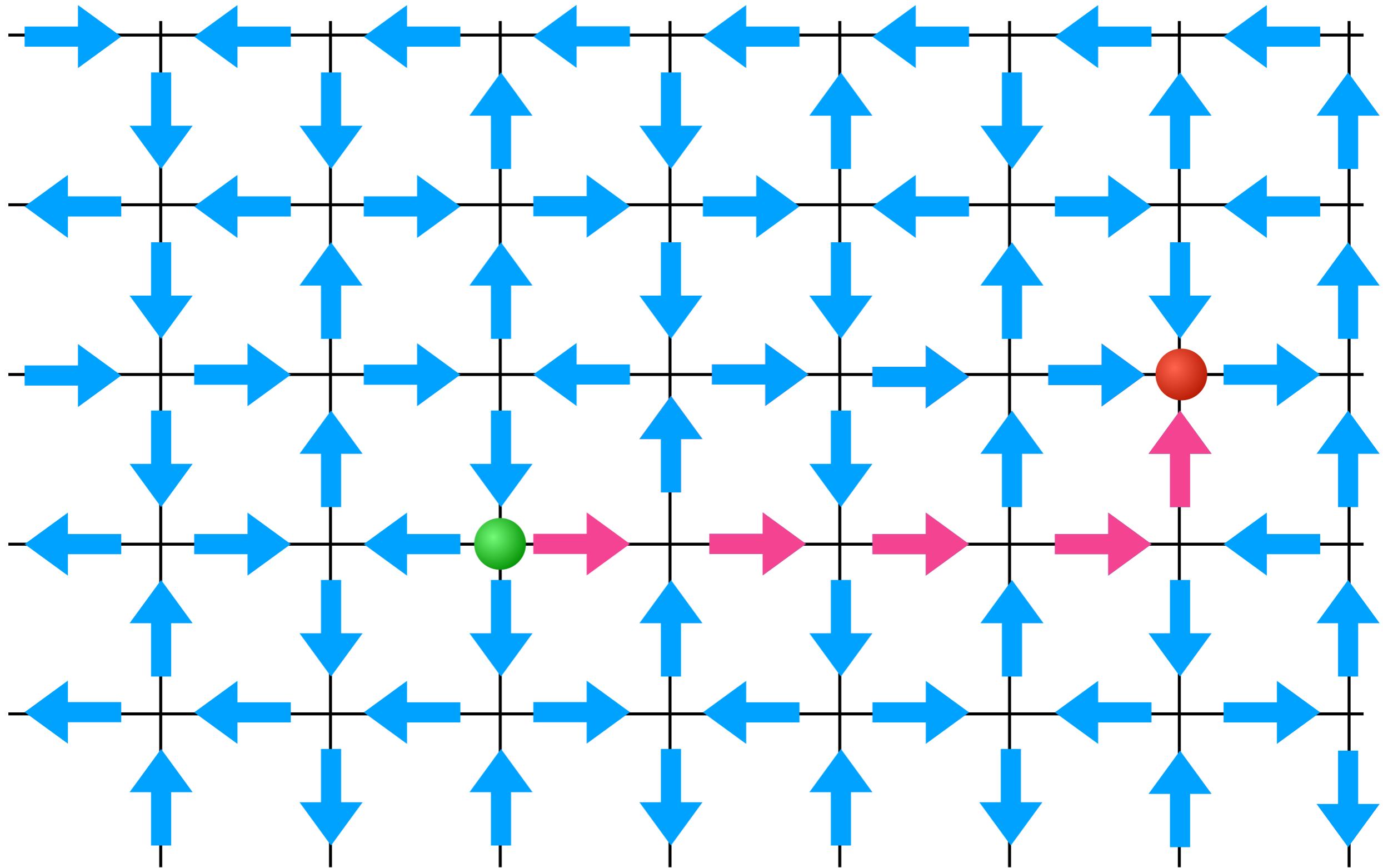
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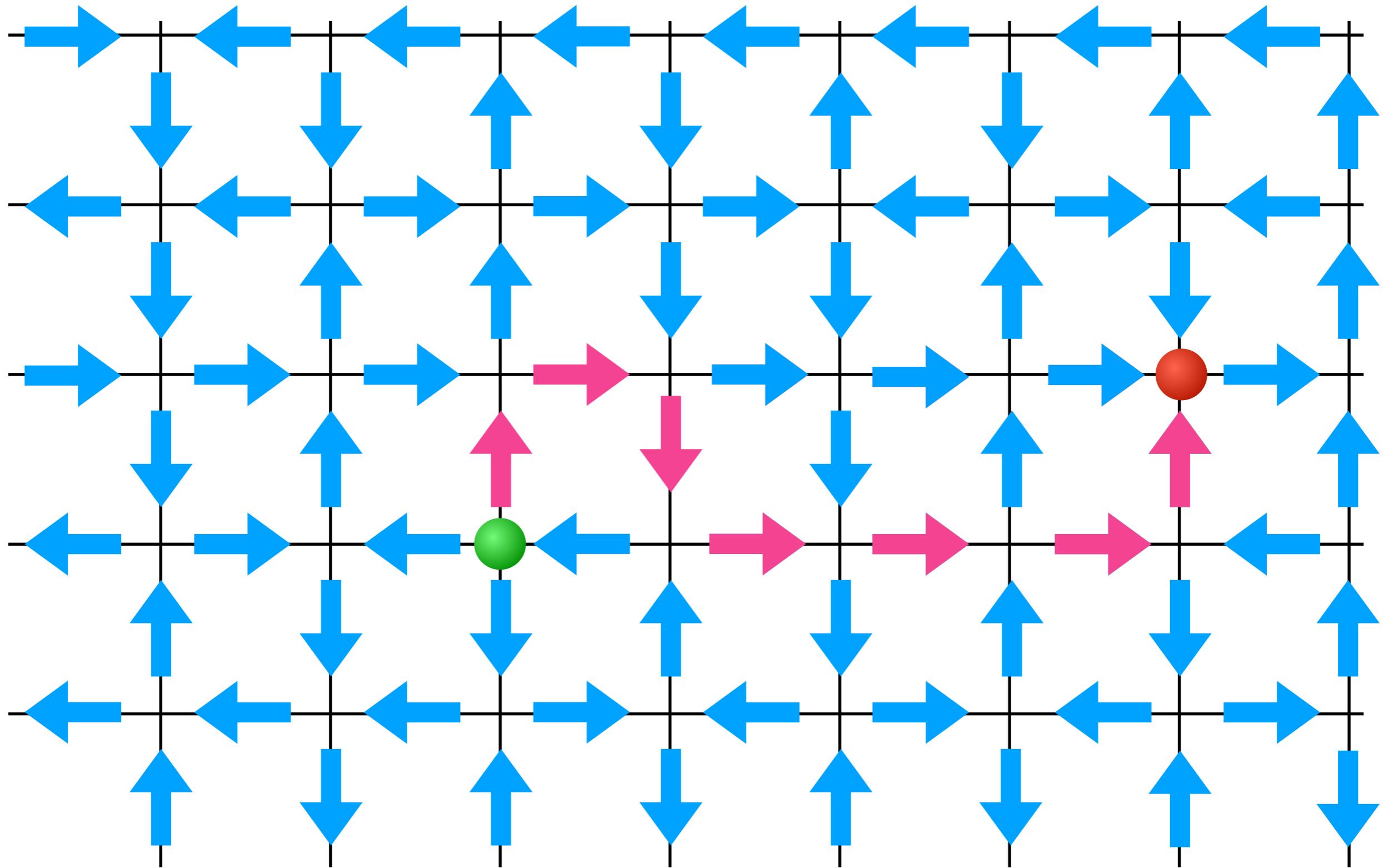
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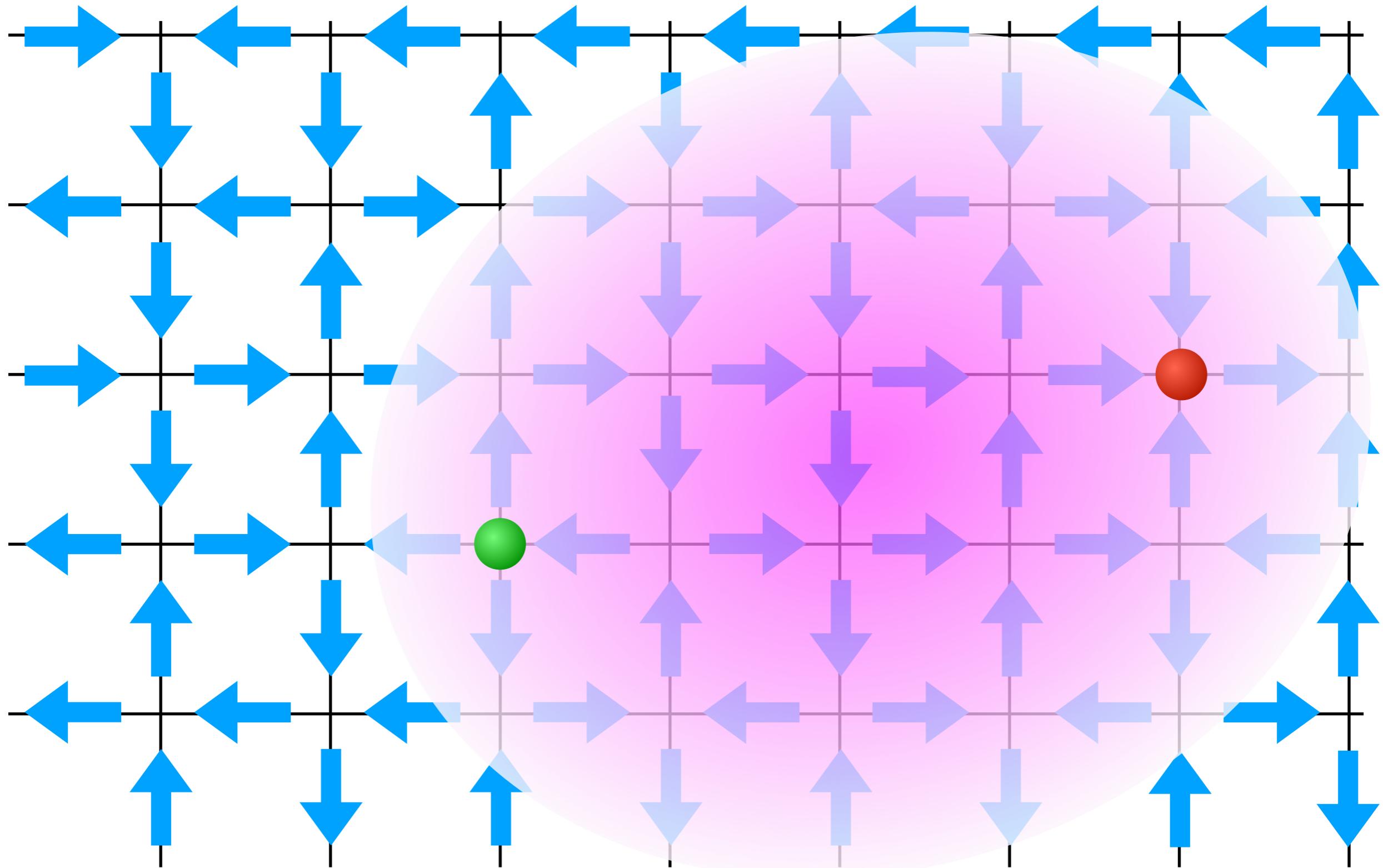
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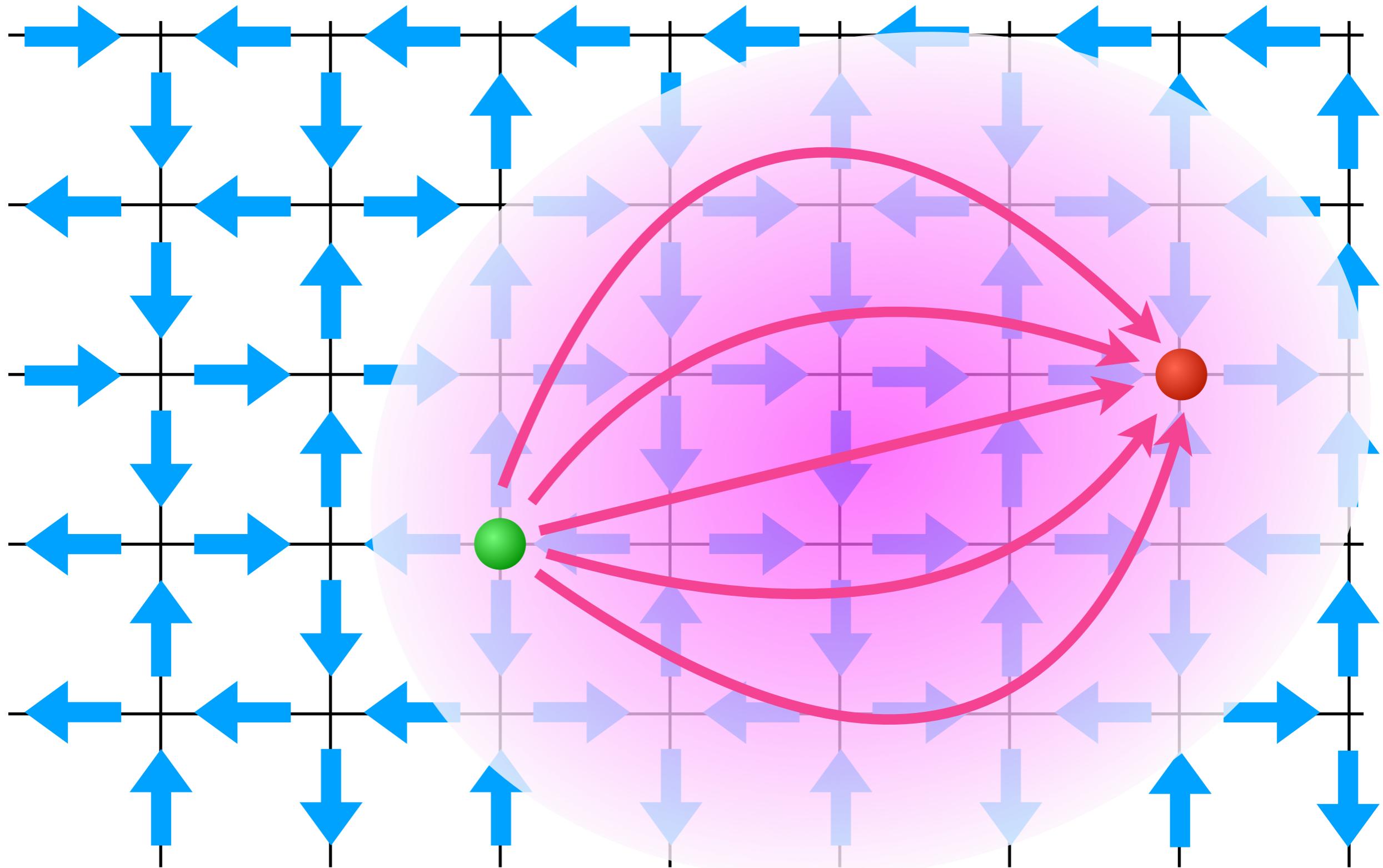
EMERGENT ELECTRODYNAMICS



EMERGENT ELECTRODYNAMICS

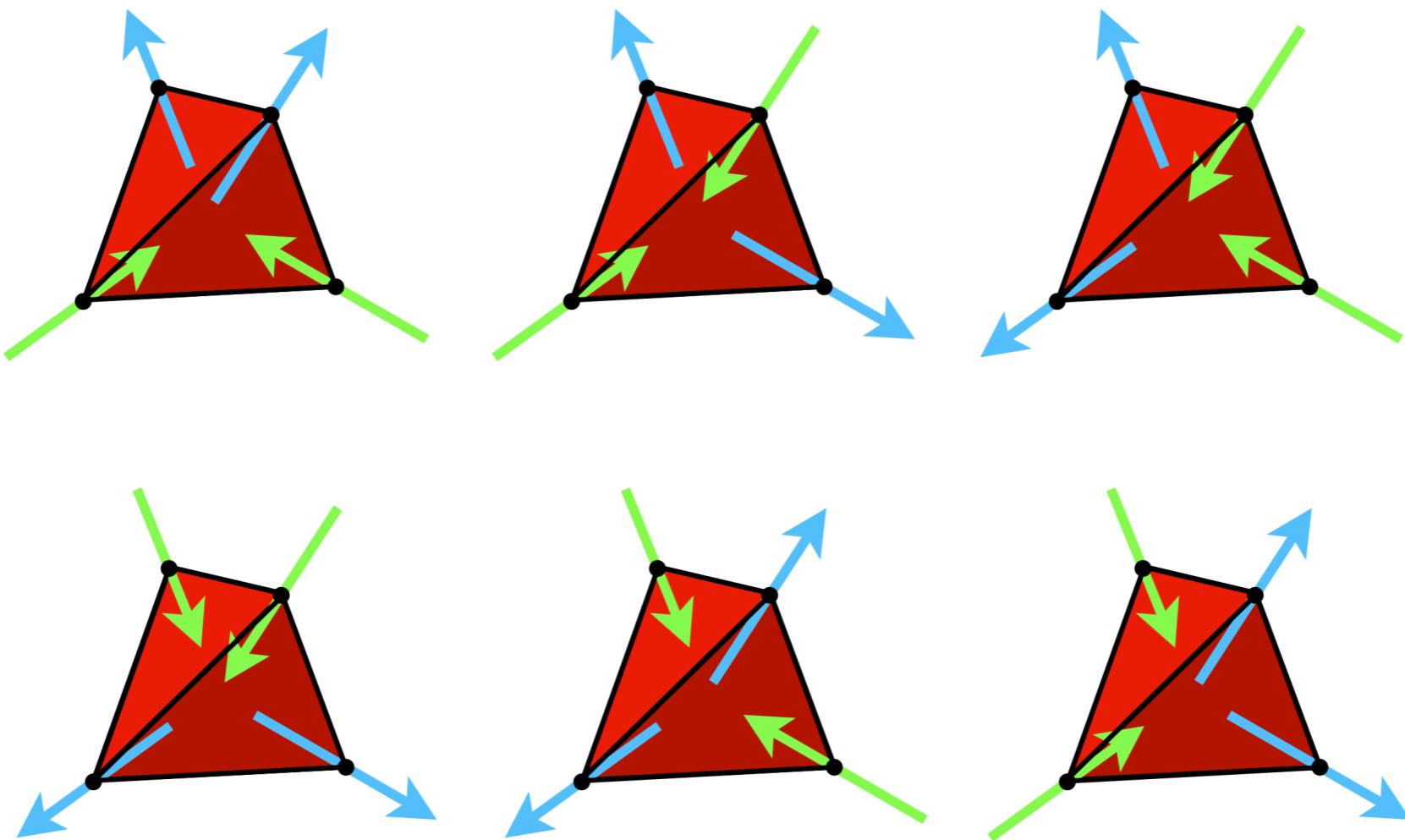


EMERGENT ELECTRODYNAMICS



GEOMETRICAL FRUSTRATION

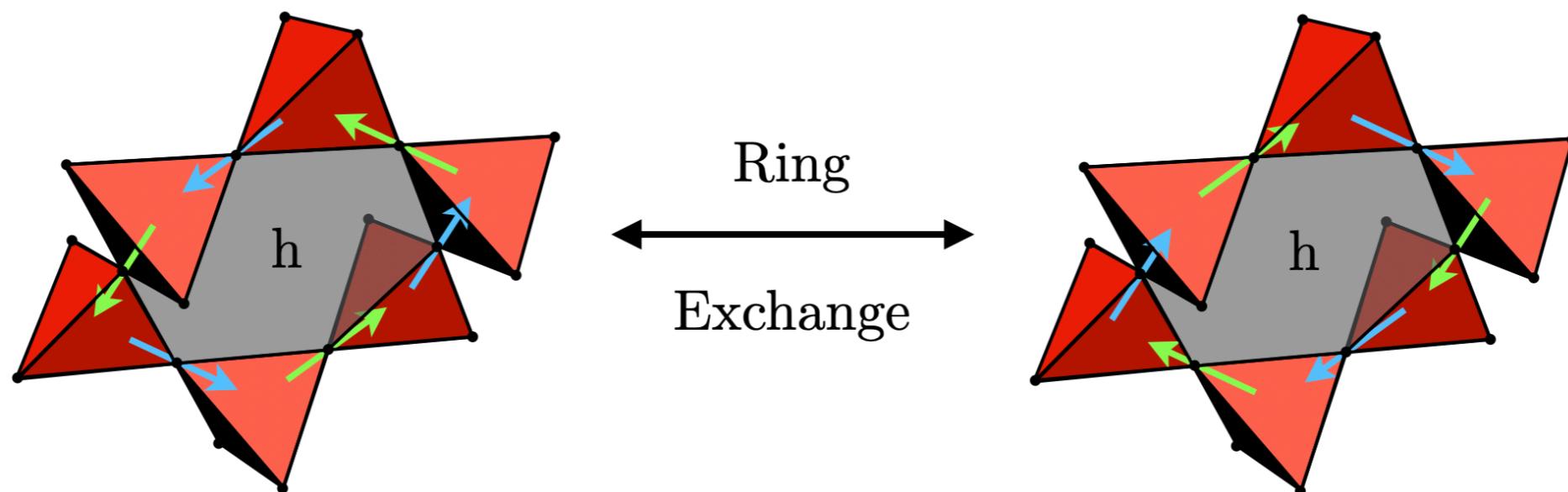
- Classical ground state is **highly degenerate**



Residual Entropy $\approx N \ln 3/2$

QUANTUM SPIN ICE: CANONICAL MODEL

- Define operator: $\hat{W}_h = \hat{S}_{h,1}^+ \hat{S}_{h,2}^- \hat{S}_{h,3}^+ \hat{S}_{h,4}^- \hat{S}_{h,5}^+ \hat{S}_{h,6}^-$

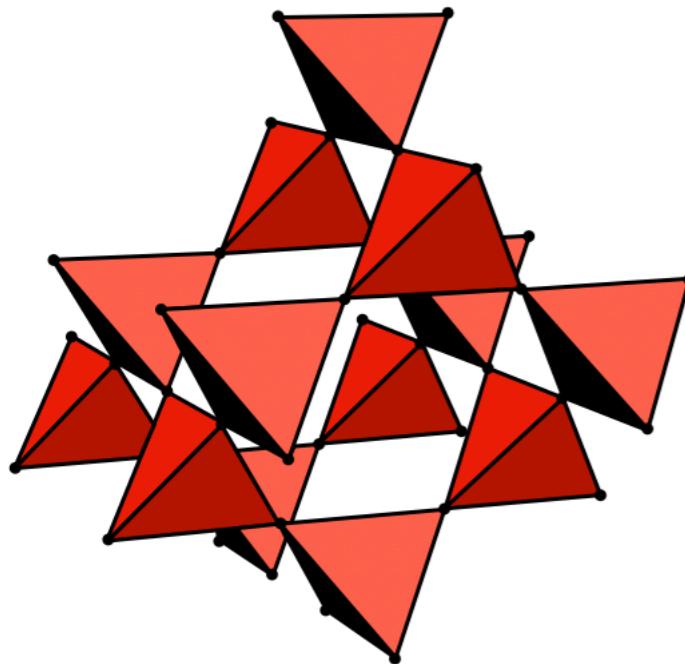


$$\hat{H}_{\text{QSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{S}_i^z \hat{S}_j^z - g \sum_h (\hat{W}_h + \hat{W}_h^\dagger)$$

- $J_{zz} \gg g > 0$

EMERGENT QED IN QUANTUM SPIN ICE

$$\hat{H}_{\text{QSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{S}_i^z \hat{S}_j^z - g \sum_h (\hat{W}_h + \hat{W}_h^\dagger)$$

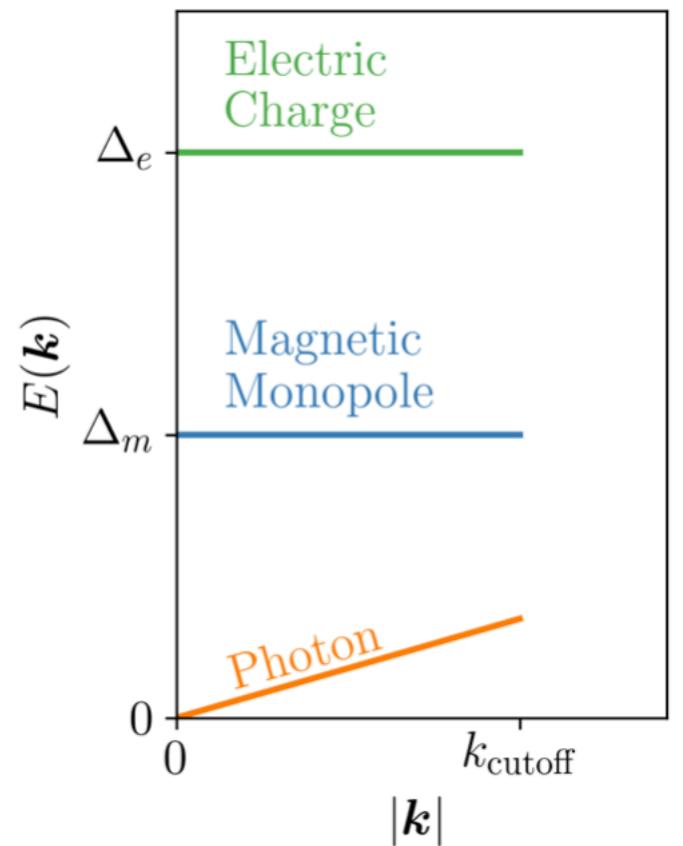


Short Distances (High Energy)



$$\hat{H}_{\text{Maxwell}} = \int d^3x \left(\frac{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}}{2} |\hat{\mathbf{E}}(\mathbf{x})|^2 + \frac{1}{2\mu_{\text{QSI}}} |\hat{\mathbf{B}}(\mathbf{x})|^2 \right)$$

Long Distances (Low Energy)



Hermele, Michael, Matthew PA Fisher, and Leon Balents. *Physical Review B* 69.6 (2004): 064404.

Banerjee, Argha, et al. *Physical review letters* 100.4 (2008): 047208.

Shannon, Nic, et al. *Physical review letters* 108.6 (2012): 067204.

Kato, Yasuyuki, and Shigeki Onoda. *Physical review letters* 115.7 (2015): 077202.

Huang, Chun-Jiong, et al. *Physical review letters* 120.16 (2018): 167202.

Szabó, Attila, and Claudio Castelnovo. *Physical Review B* 100.1 (2019): 014417.

EMERGENT FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT

Quest: Use exact diagonalization (ED) techniques on

$$\hat{H}_{\text{QSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{S}_i^z \hat{S}_j^z - g \sum_h \left(\hat{W}_h + \hat{W}_h^\dagger \right)$$

to find the low-energy spectra and measure:

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to find the low-energy spectra and measure:

$$\frac{e_{\text{QSI}}^2}{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}}$$

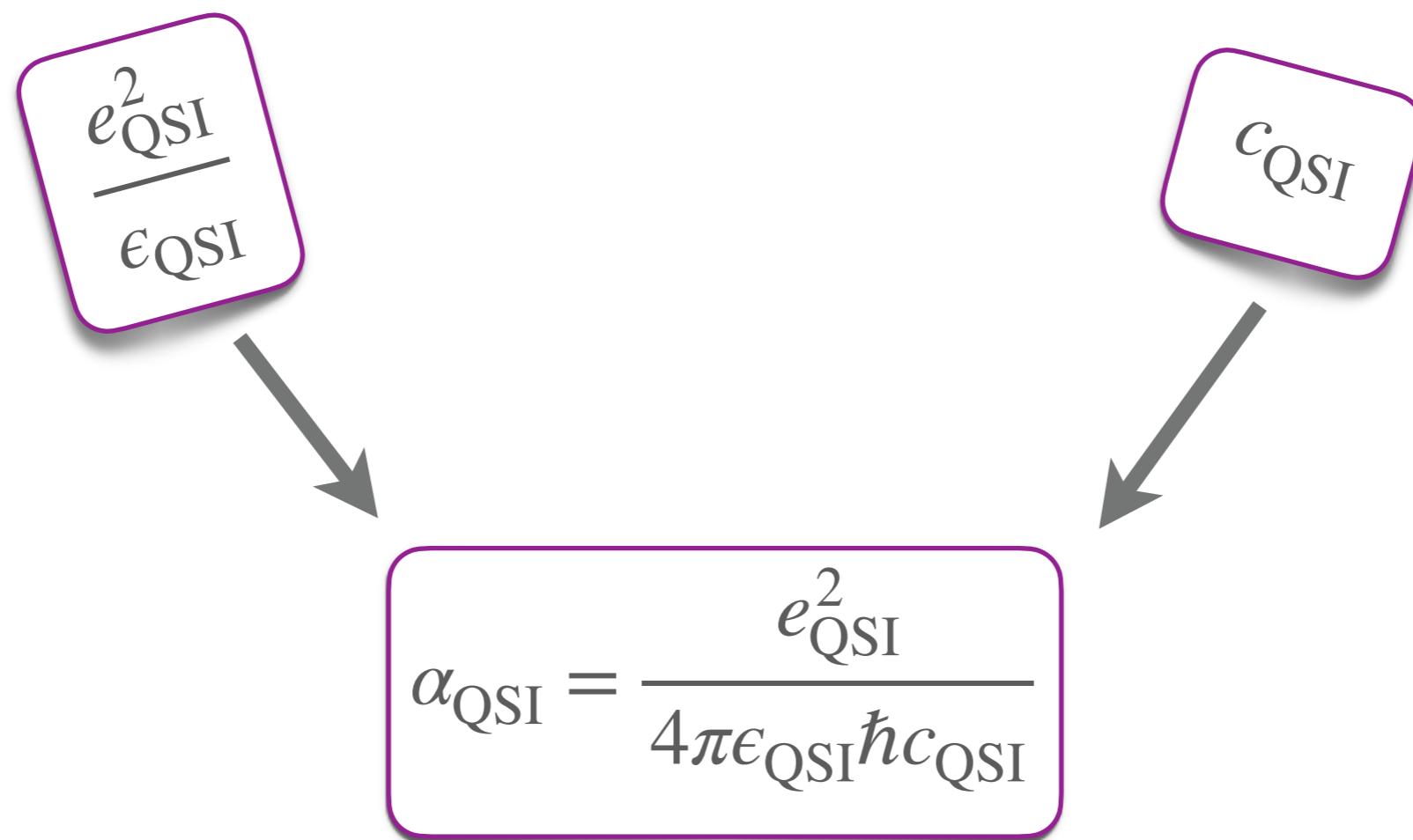
$$c_{\text{QSI}}$$

EMERGENT FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT

Quest: Use exact diagonalization (ED) techniques on

$$\hat{H}_{\text{QSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{S}_i^z \hat{S}_j^z - g \sum_h (\hat{W}_h + \hat{W}_h^\dagger)$$

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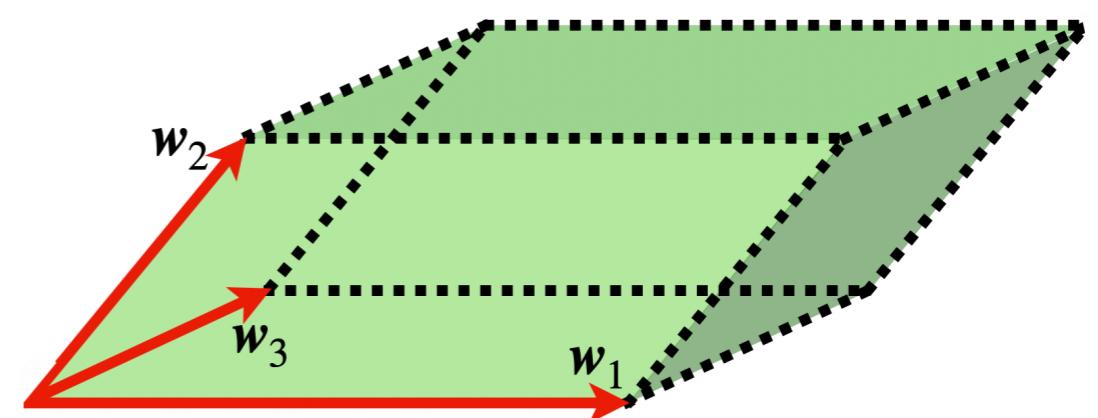


NUMERICAL PLAN OF ATTACK

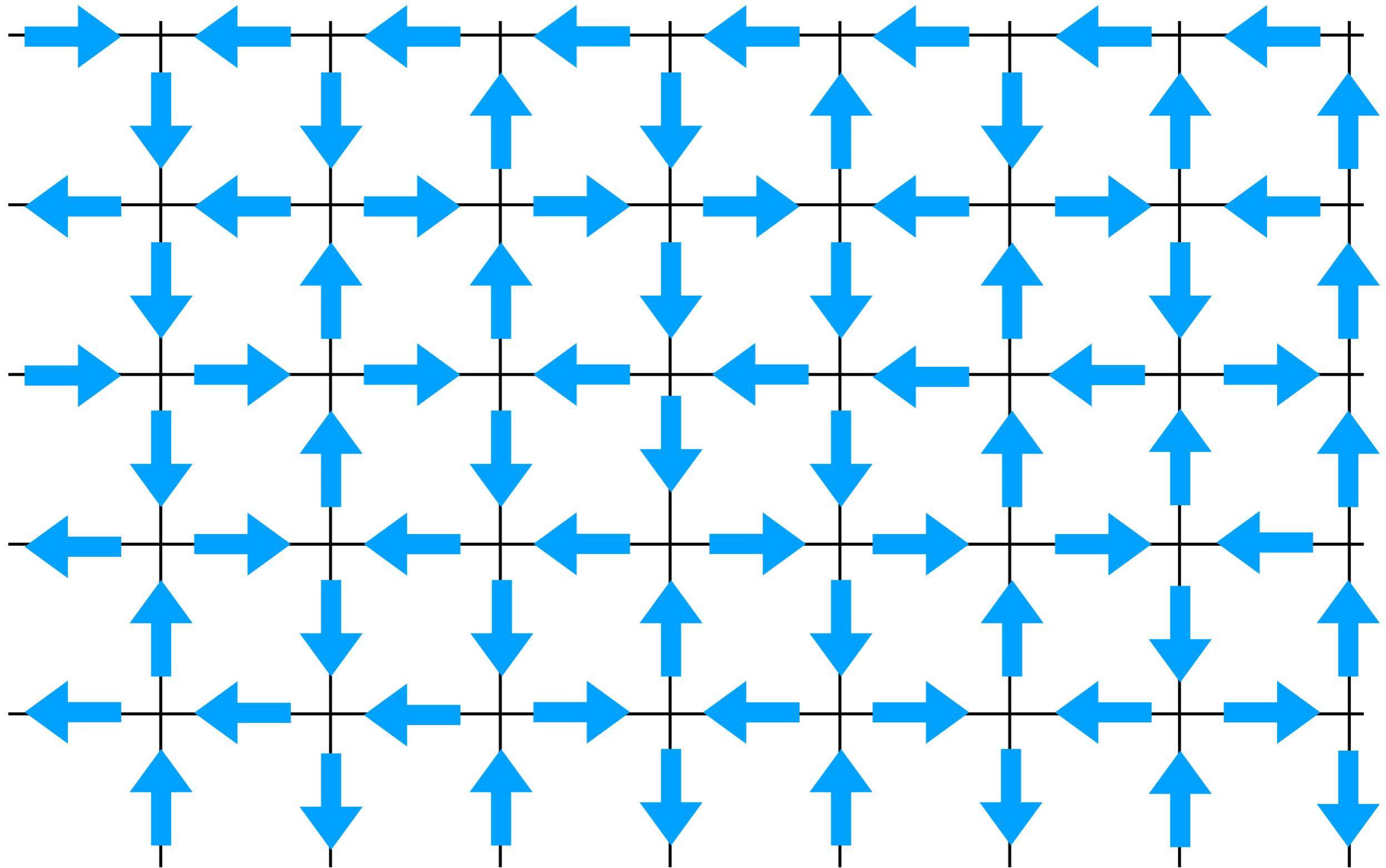
Perform ED on systems with up to 96 spins

- Project to constrained Hilbert space satisfying ice rules
- Periodic Boundary Conditions allows additional projections
 - A) Electric topological sectors
 - B) Momentum sectors
- Vary shape of periodic unit

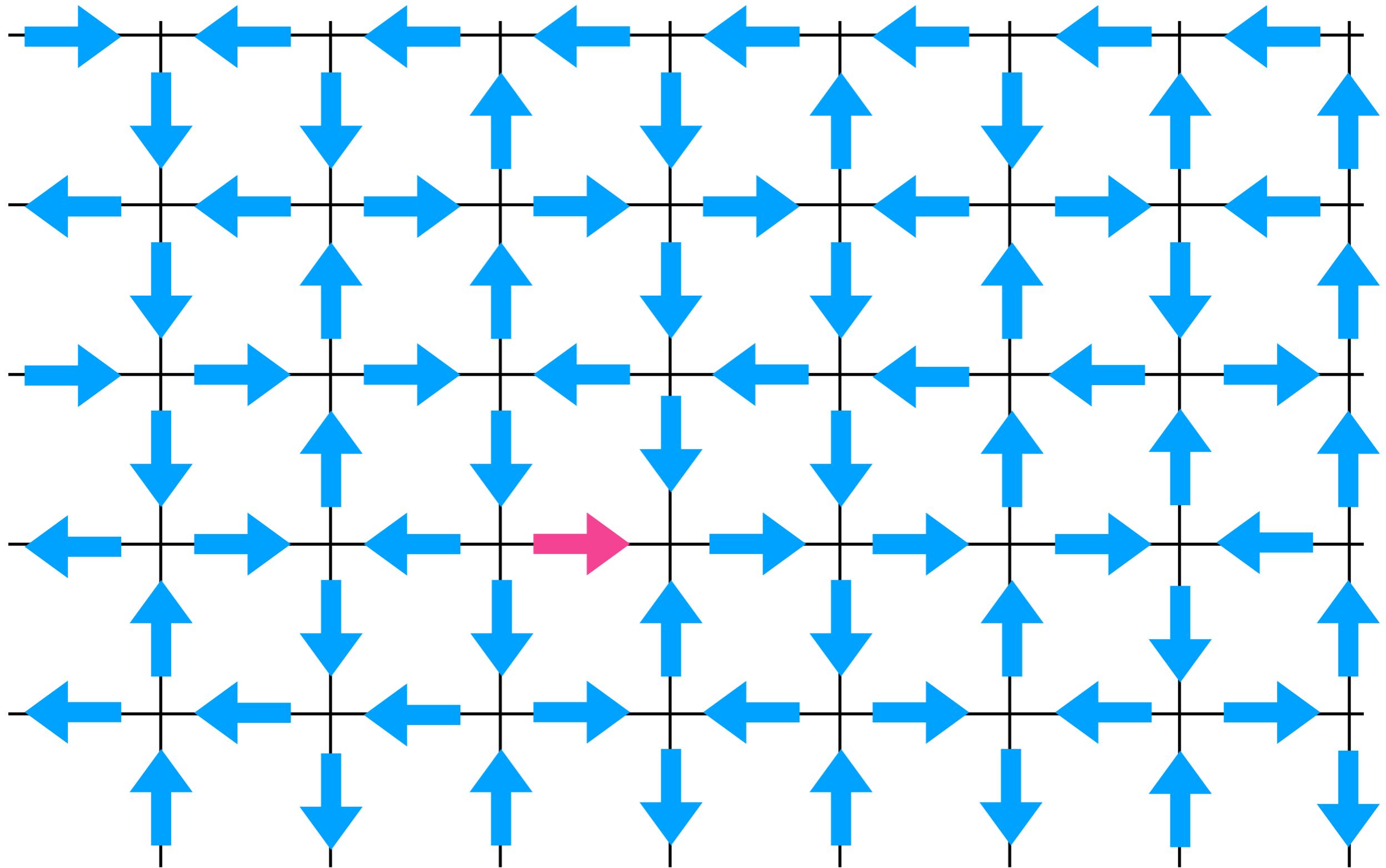
	Before Projections	After Projections
$\dim \mathcal{H}$	$2^{96} \approx 8 \times 10^{28}$	$2^{22.7} \approx 7 \times 10^6$



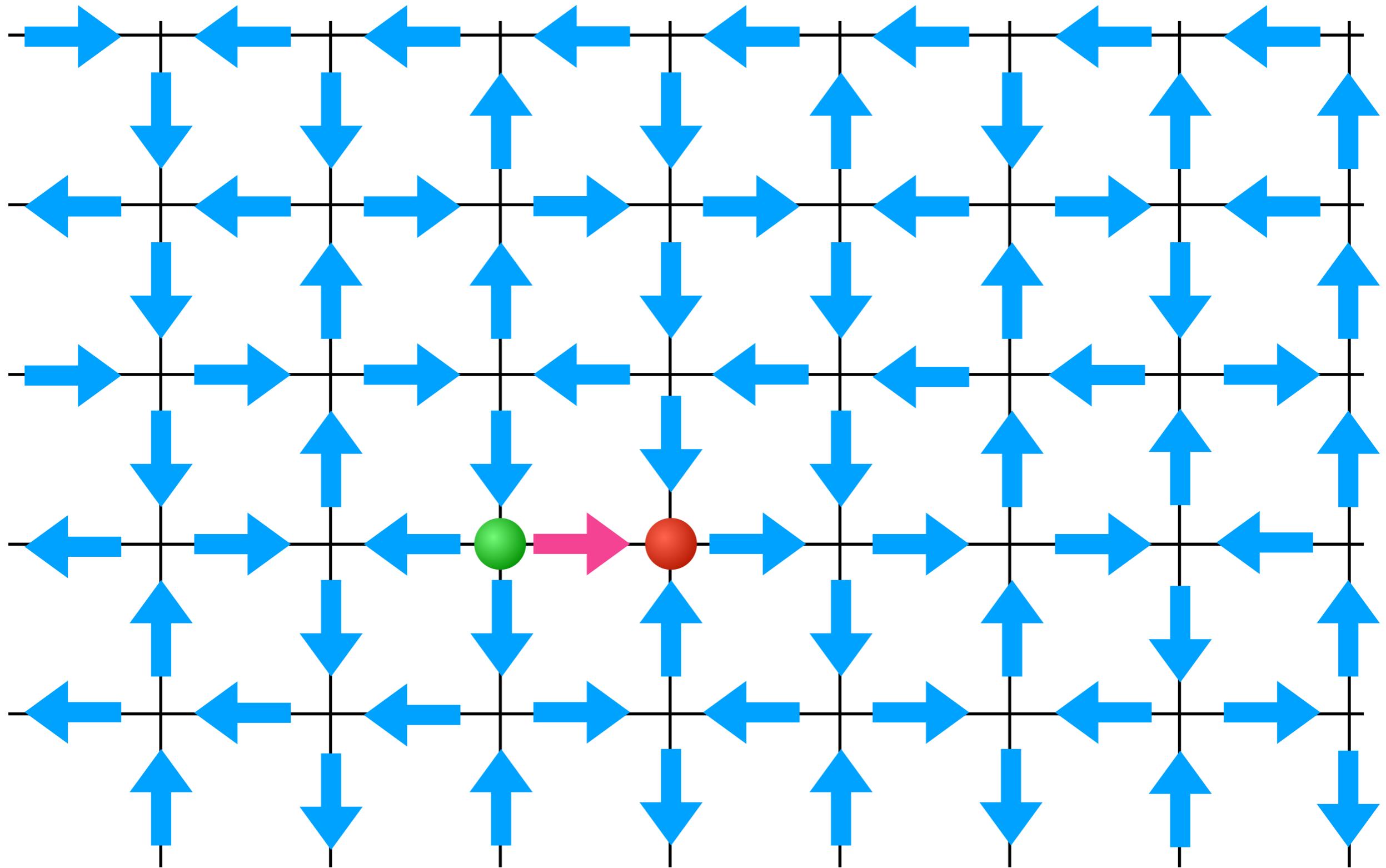
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



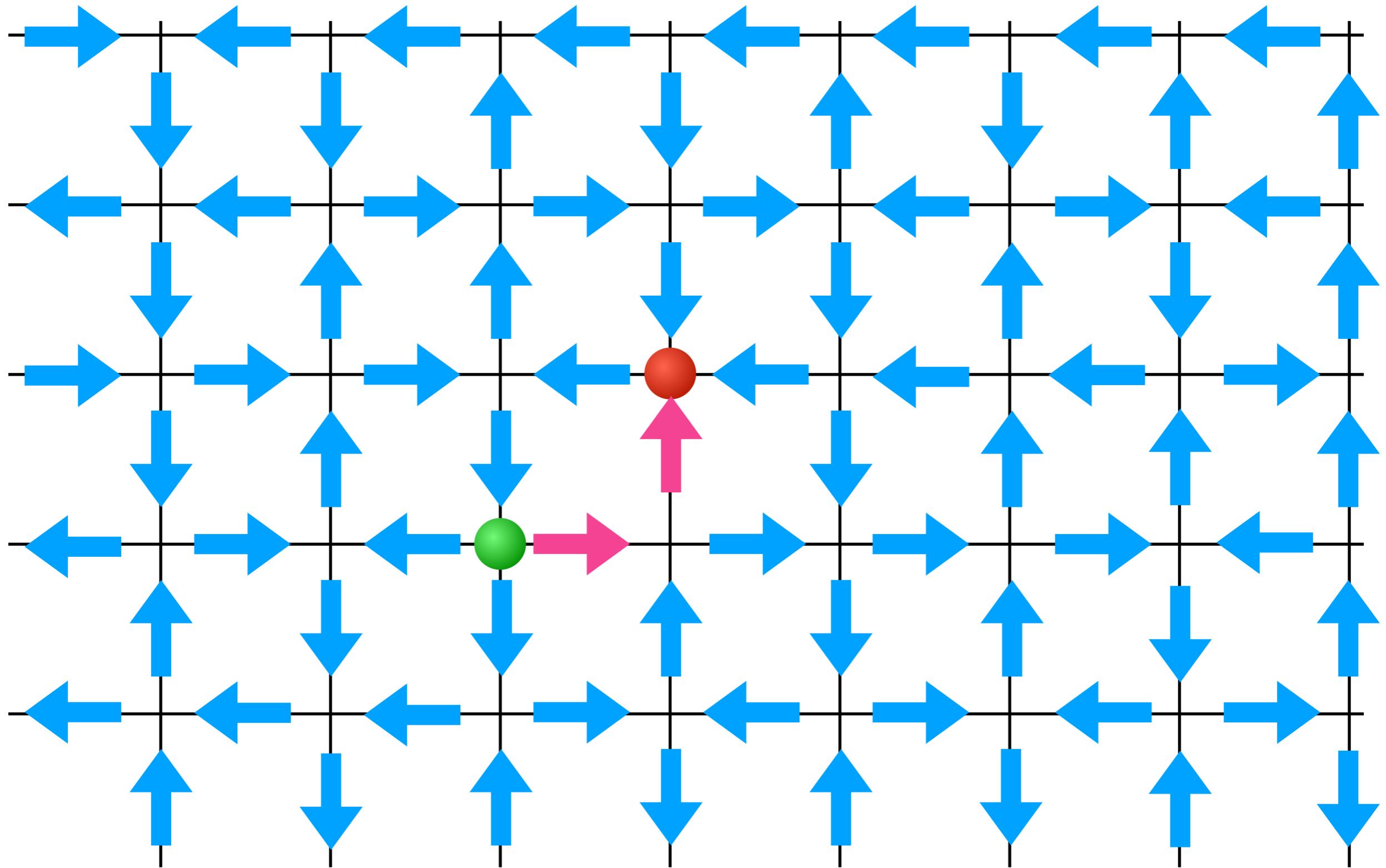
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



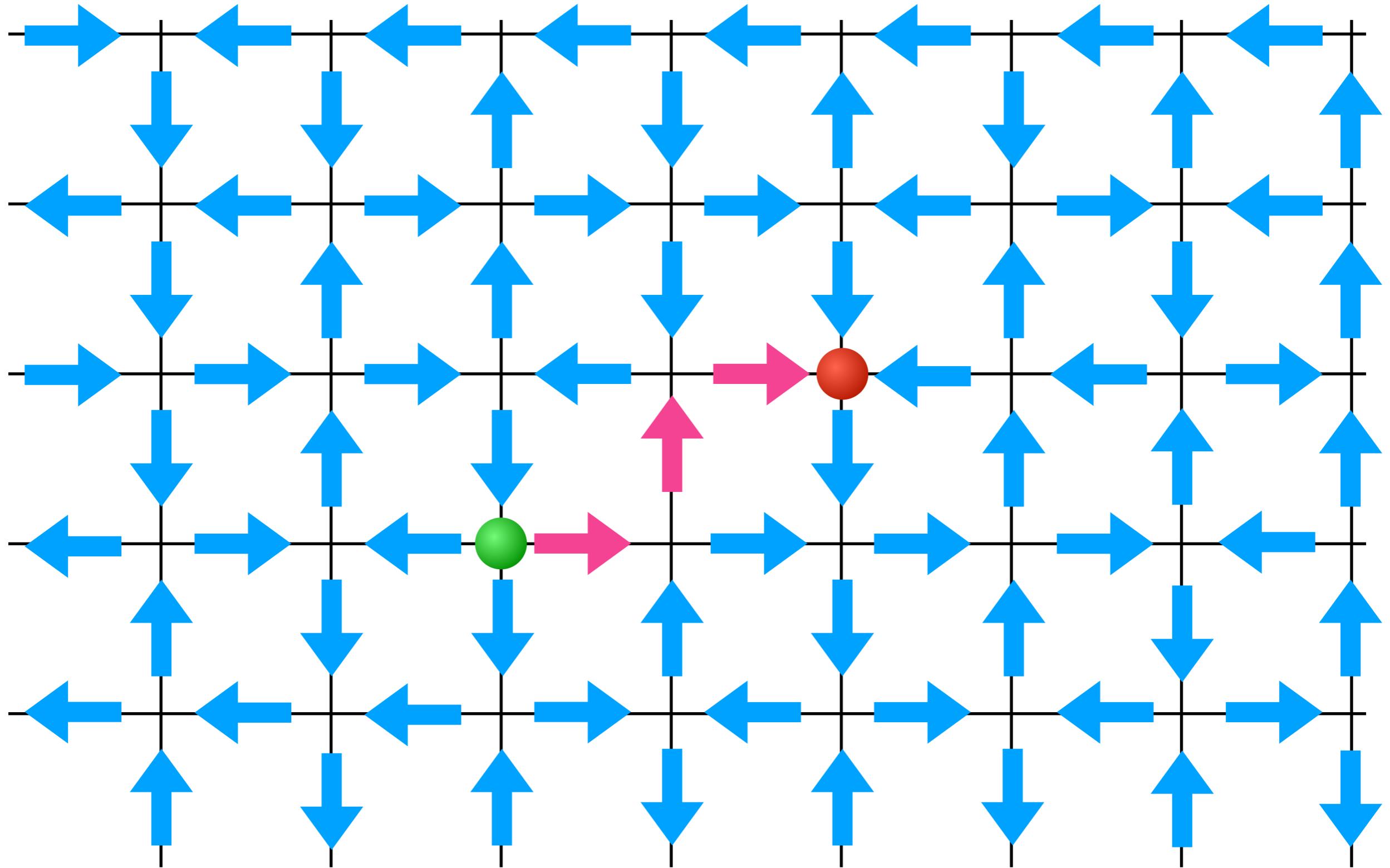
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



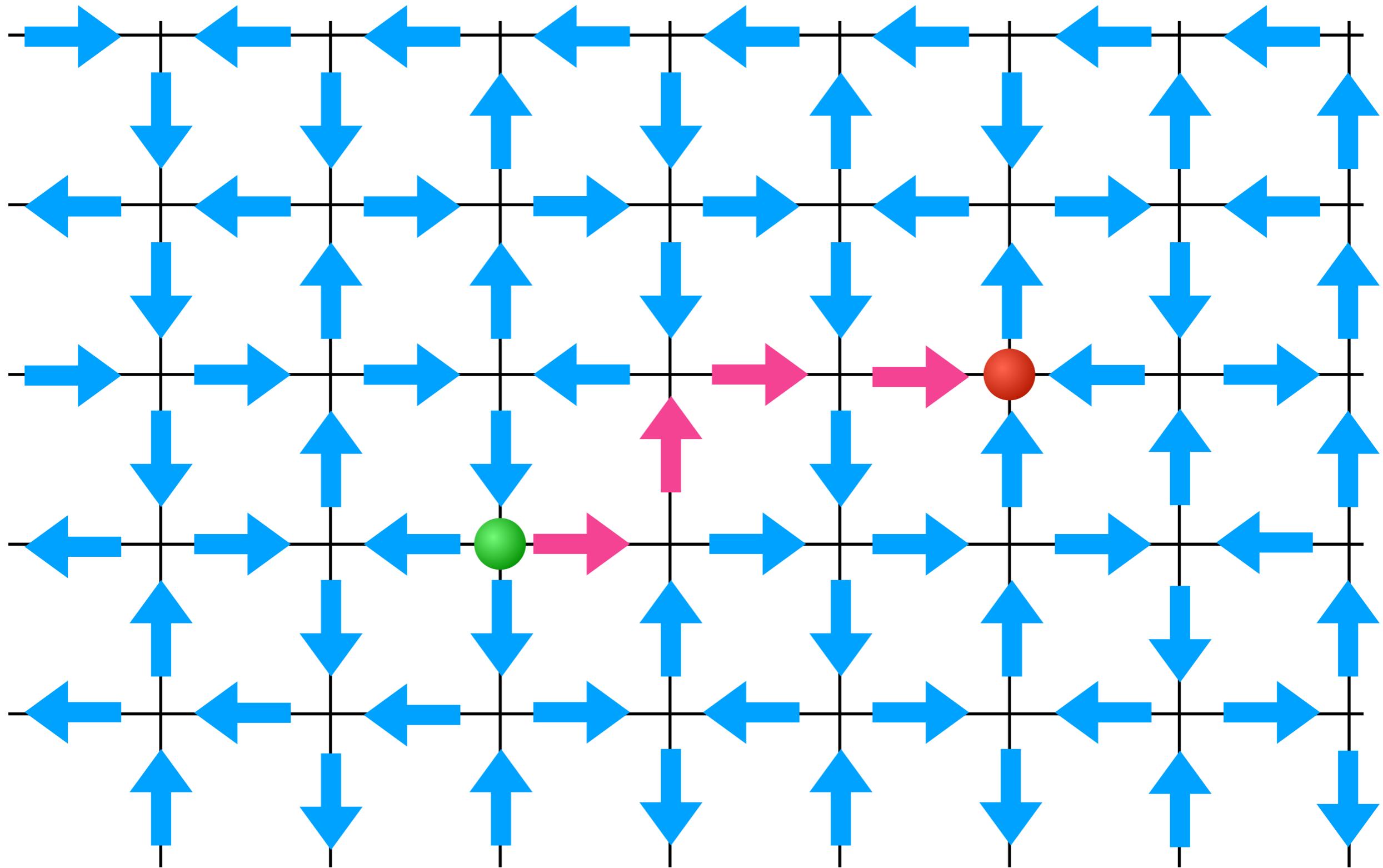
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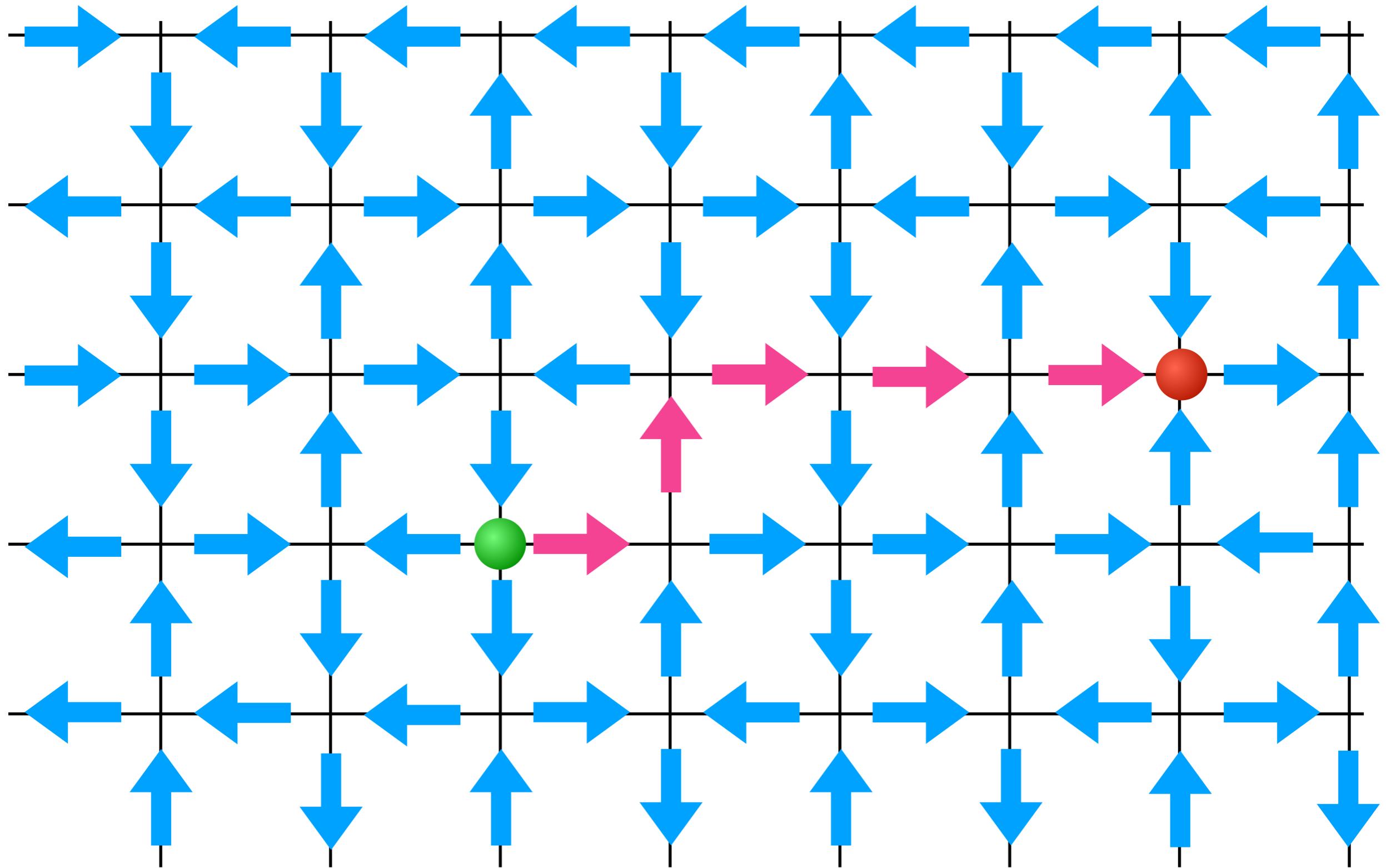
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



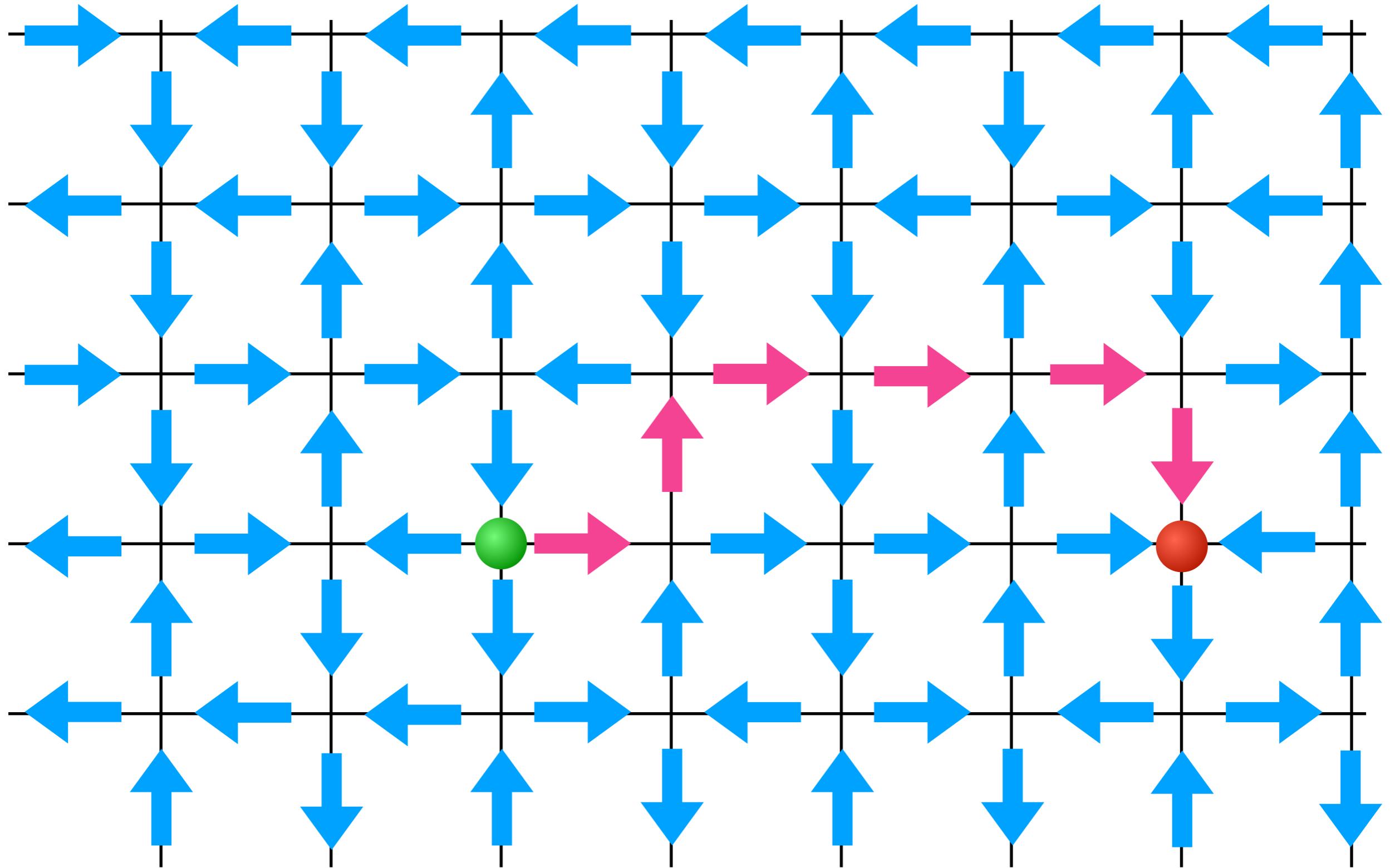
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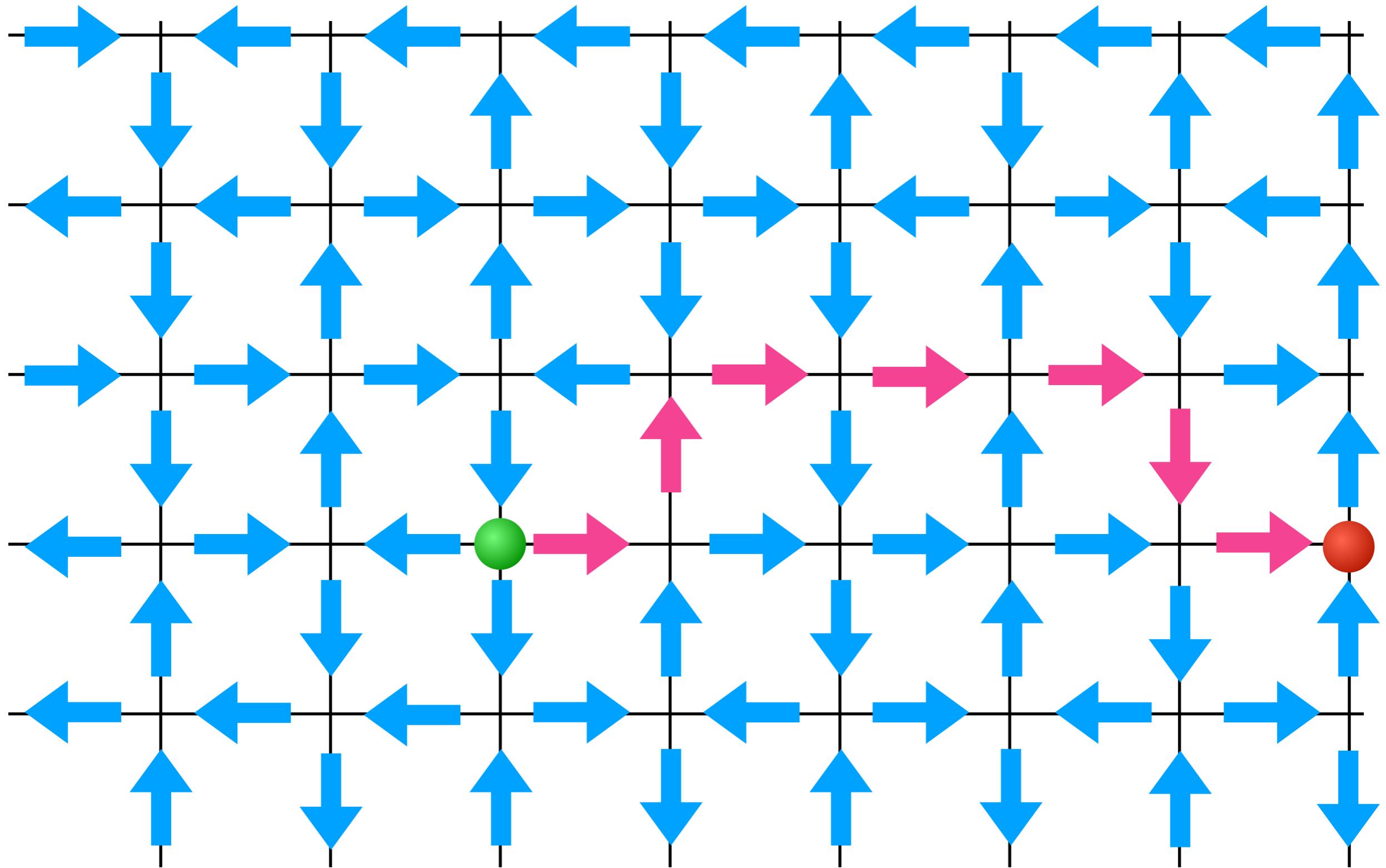
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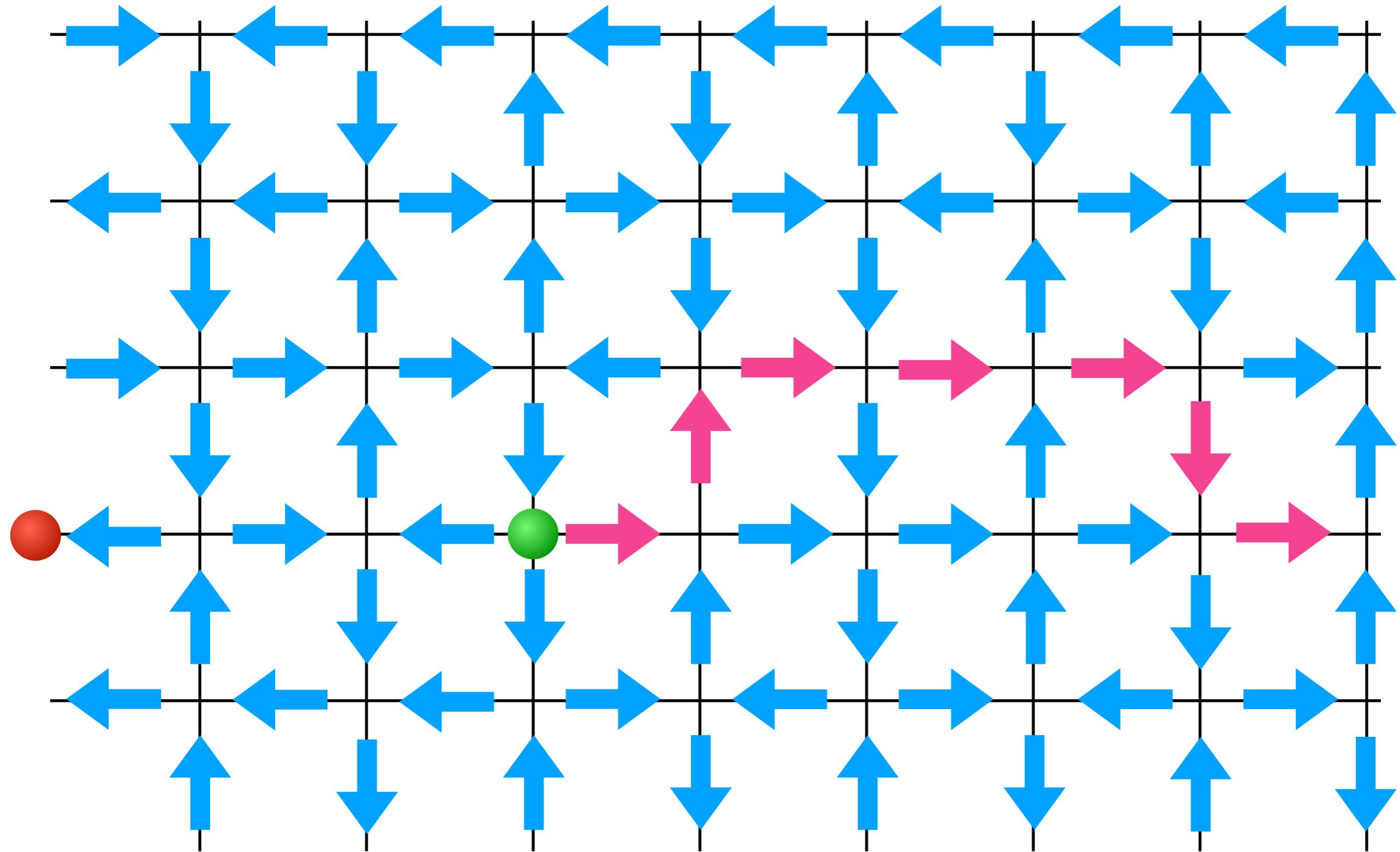
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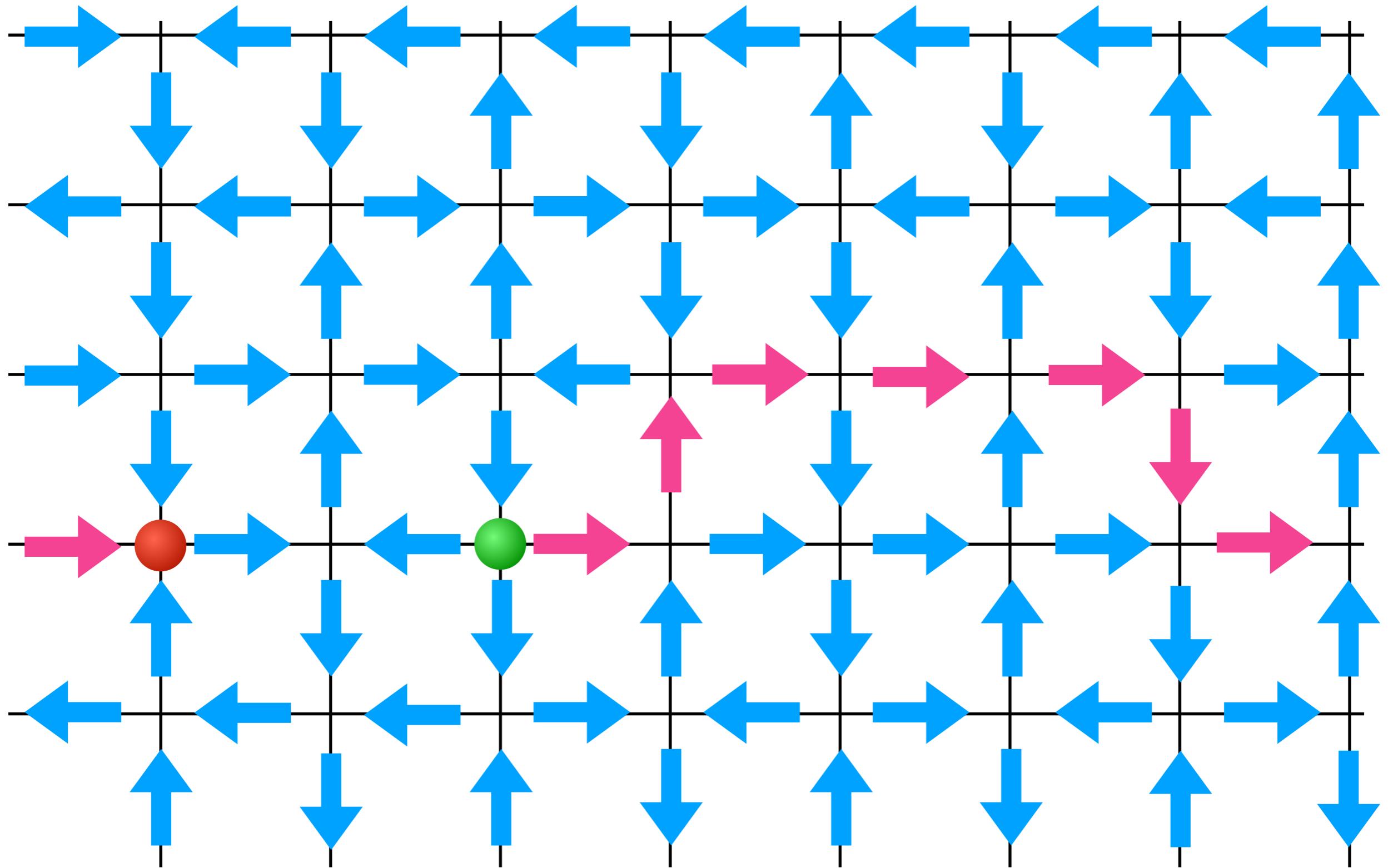
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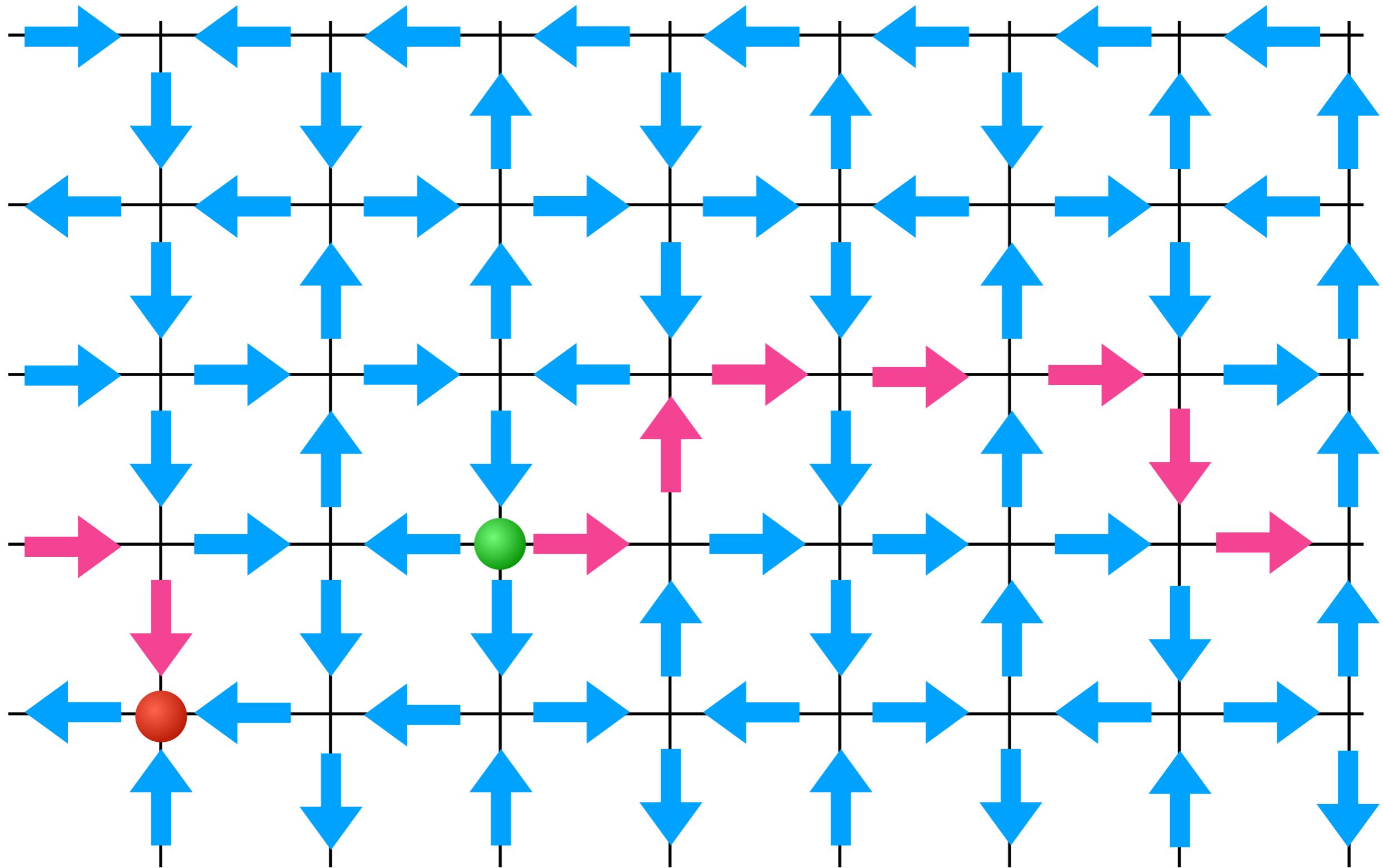
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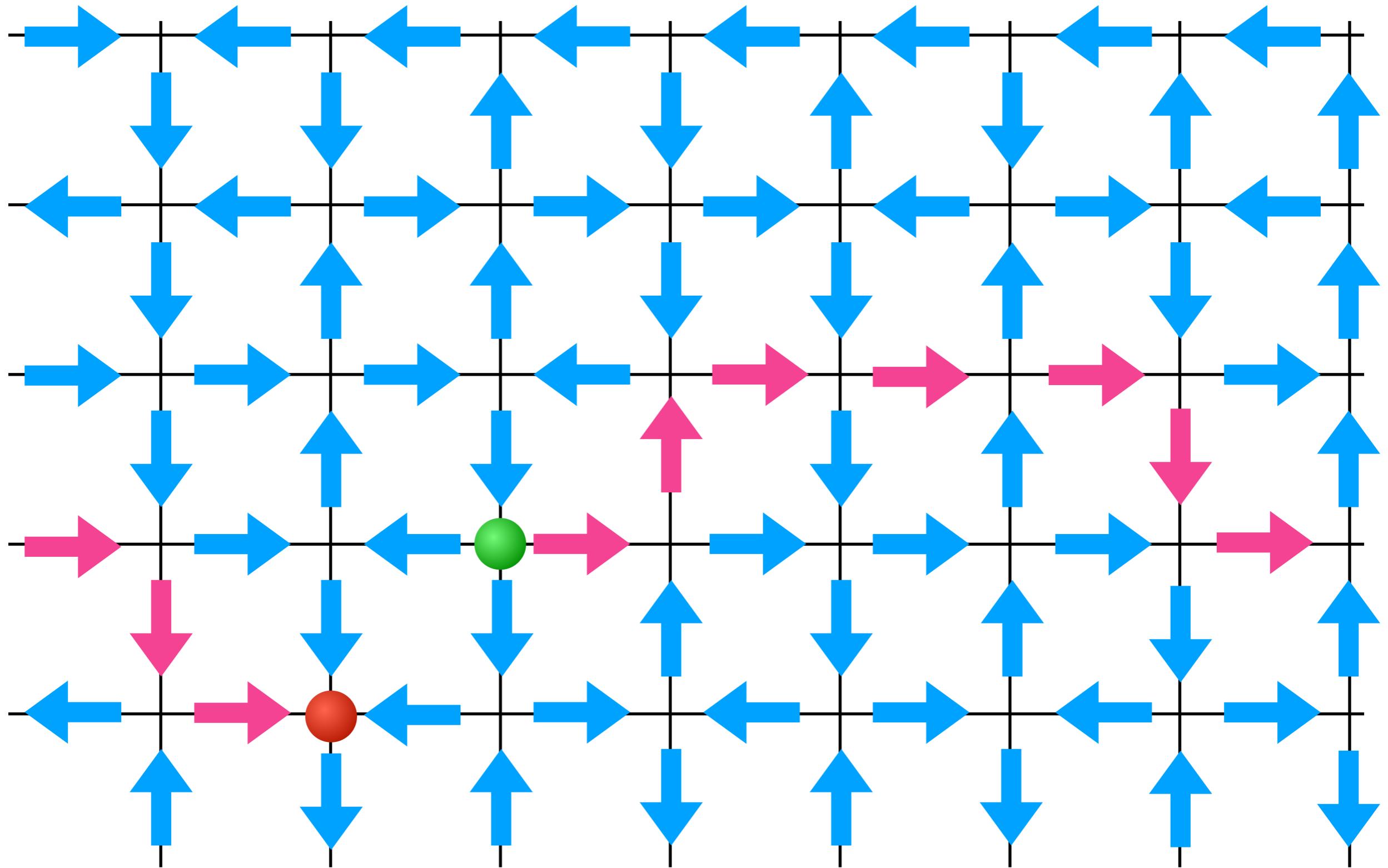
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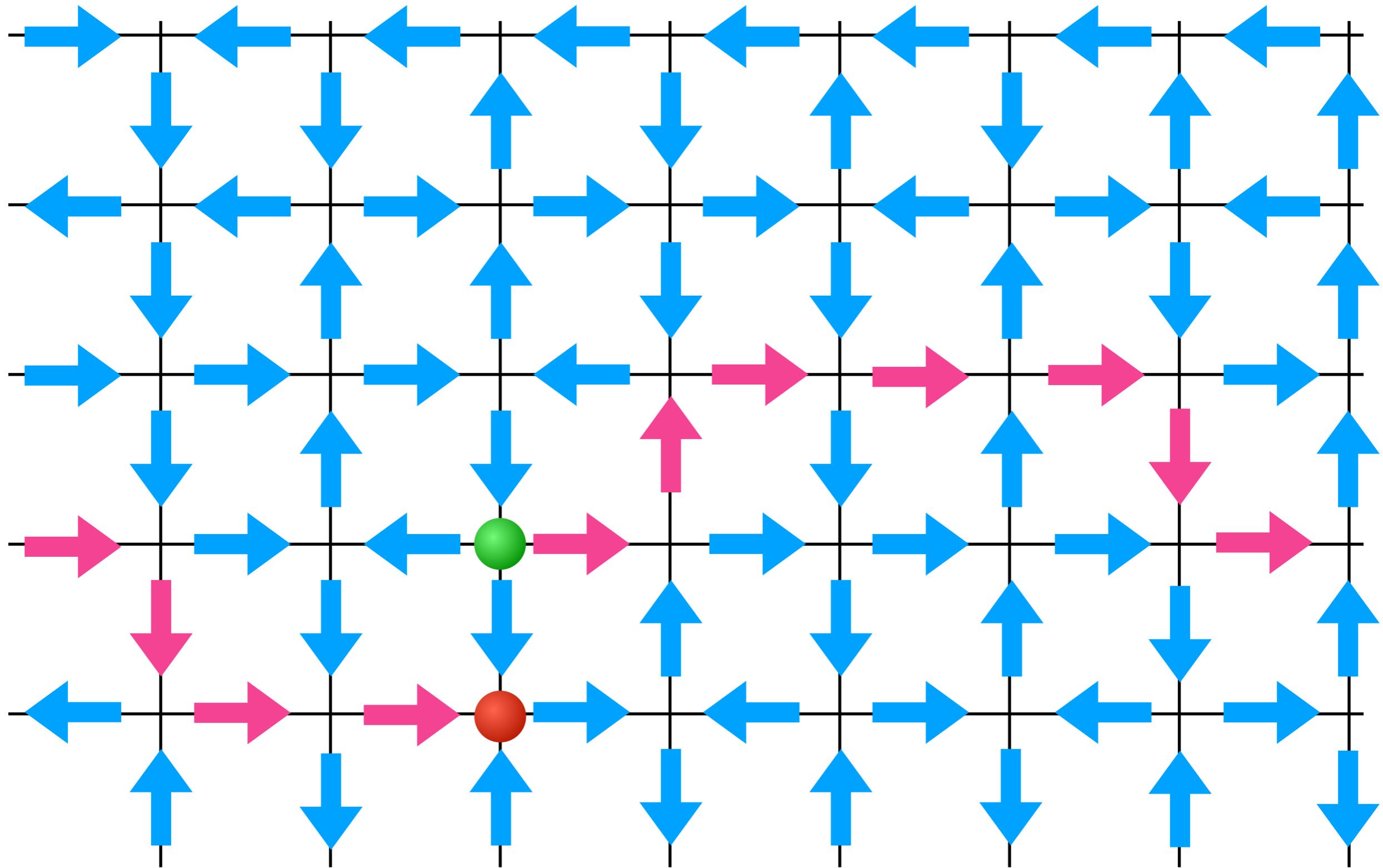
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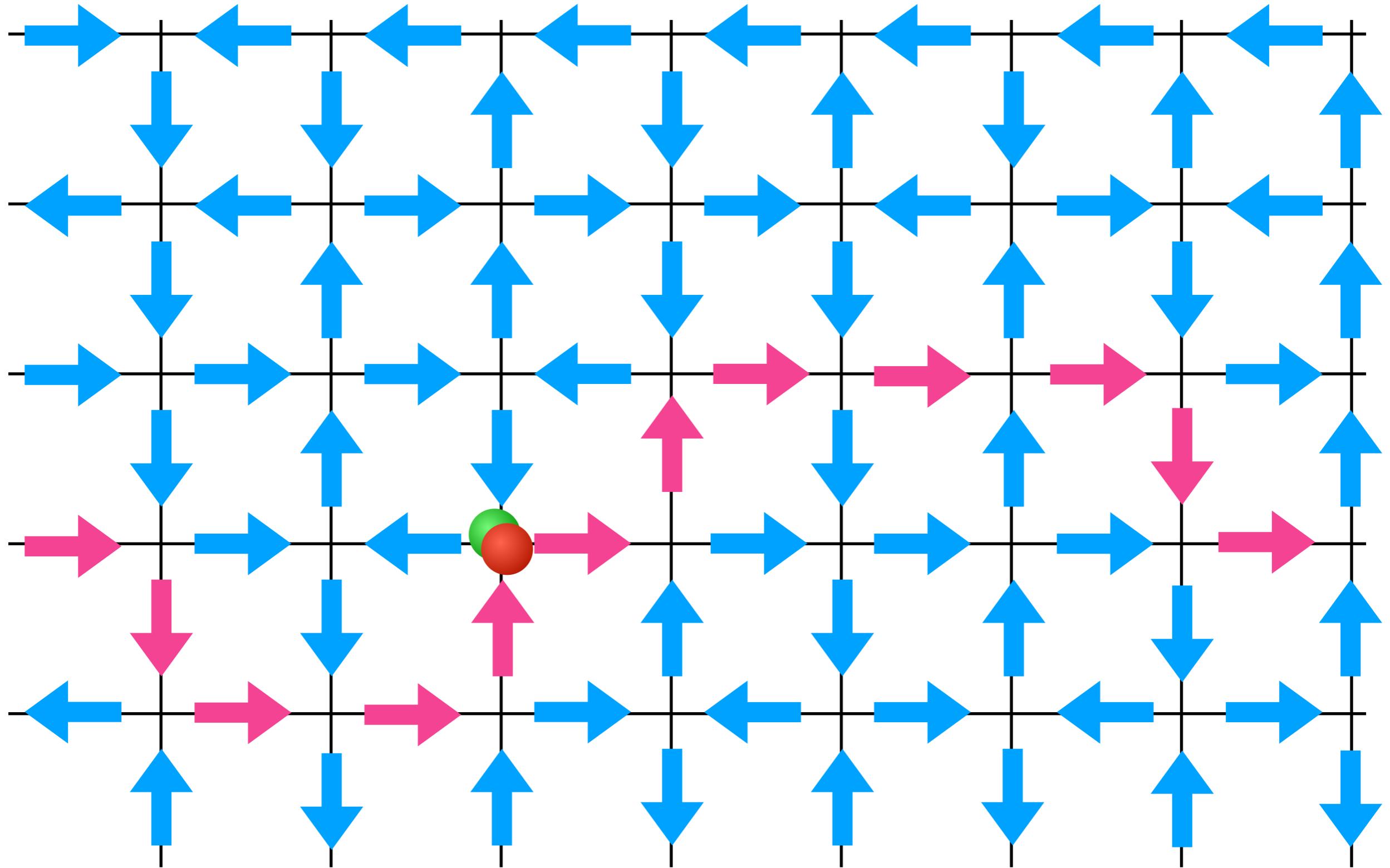
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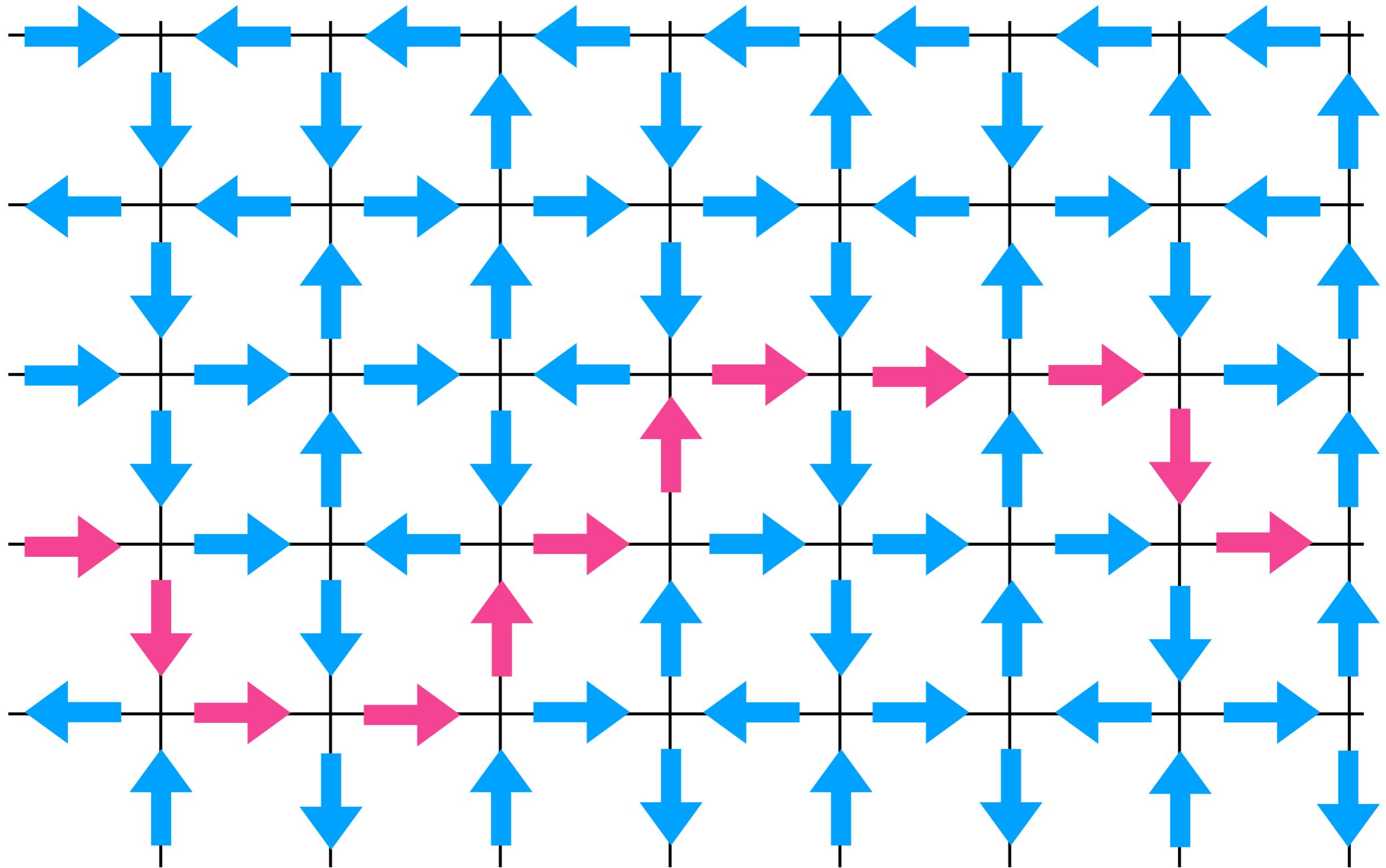
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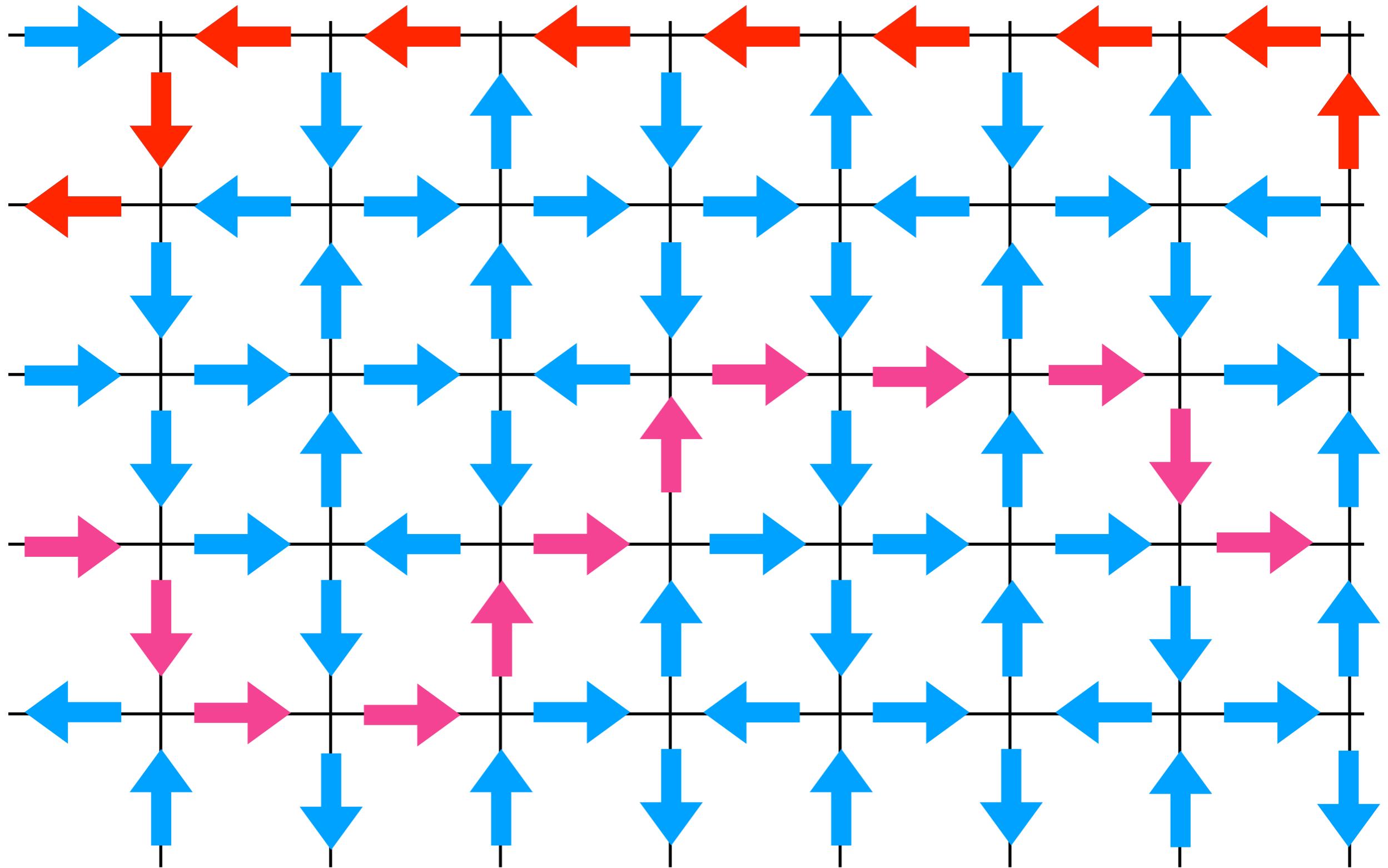
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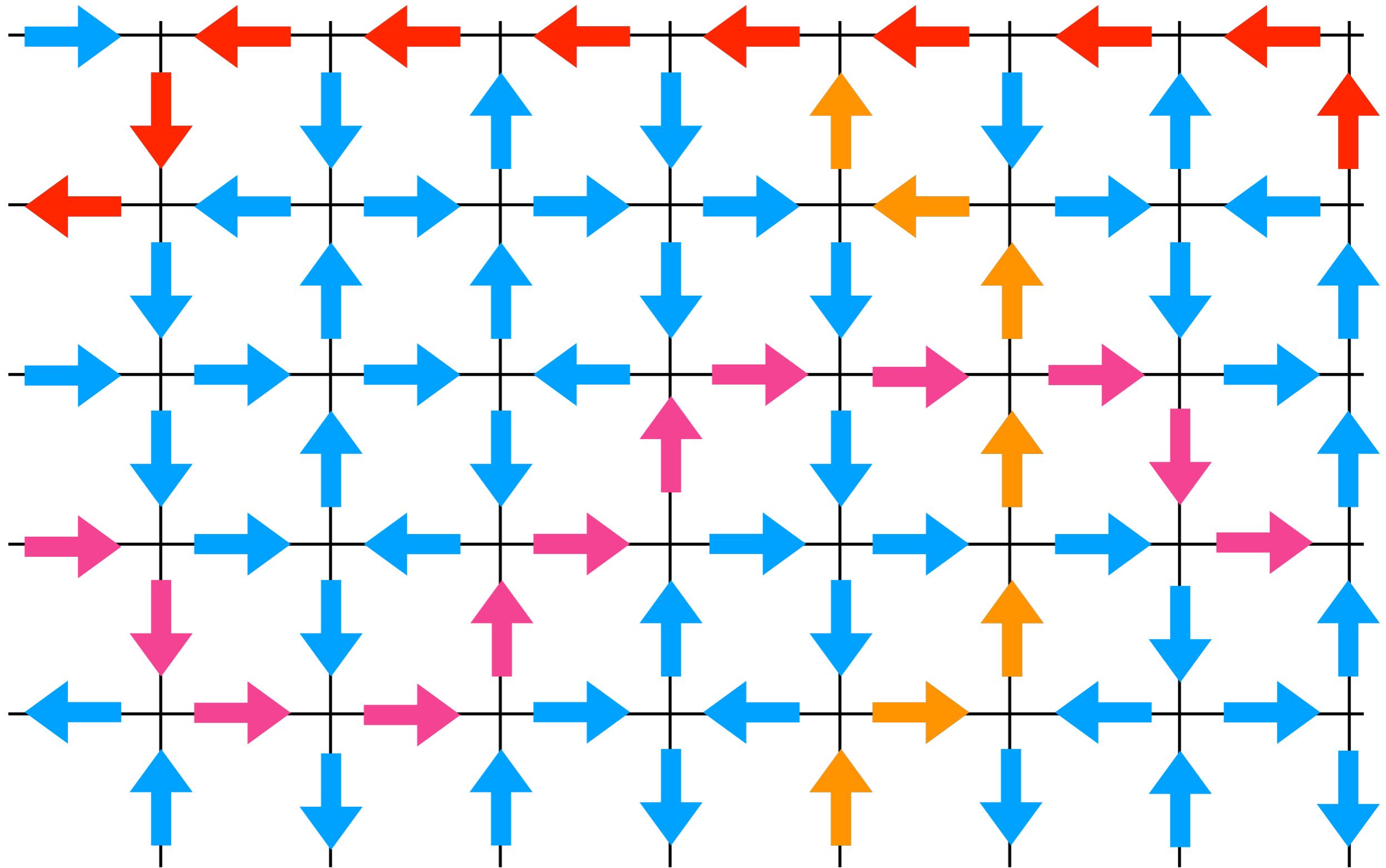
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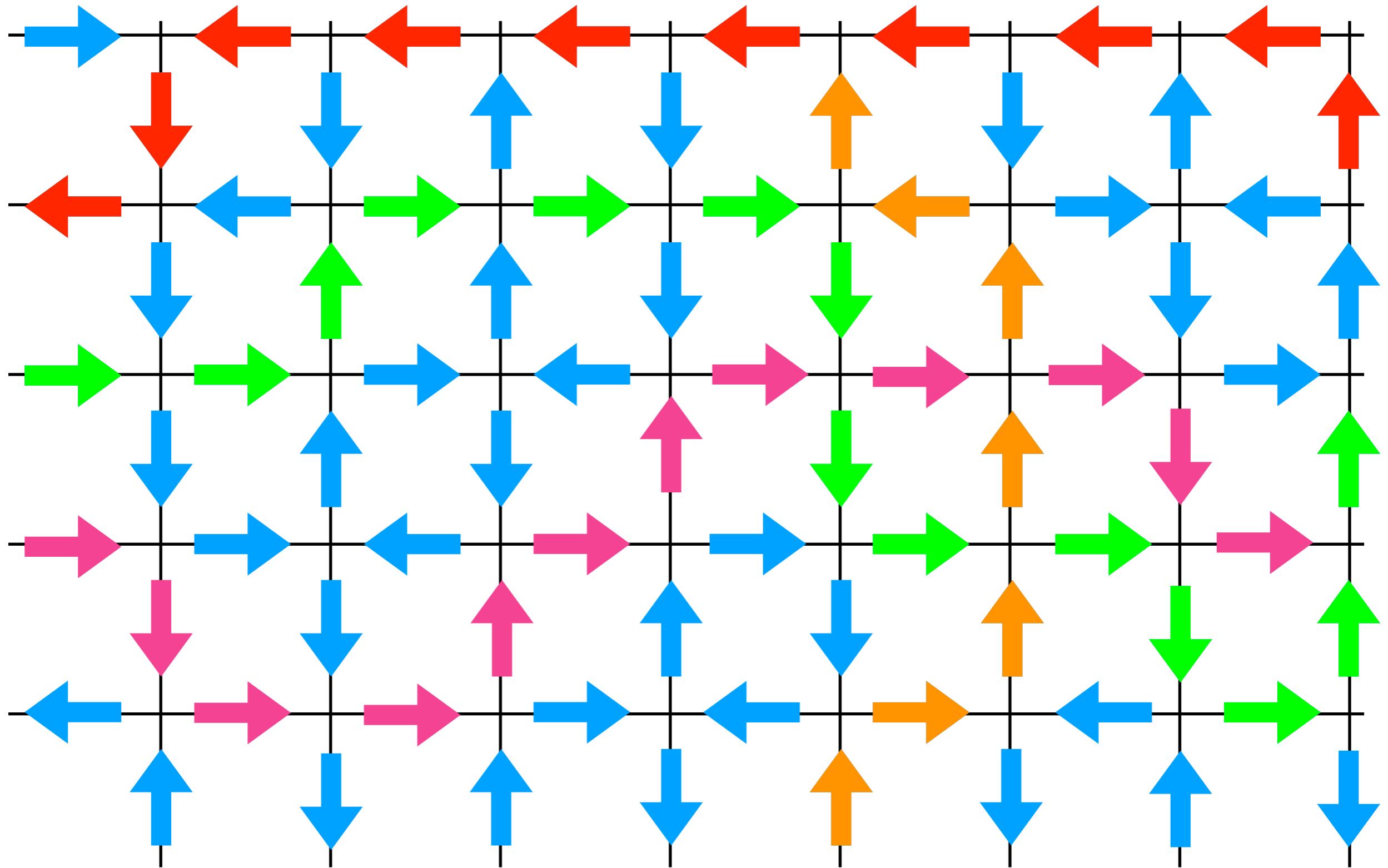
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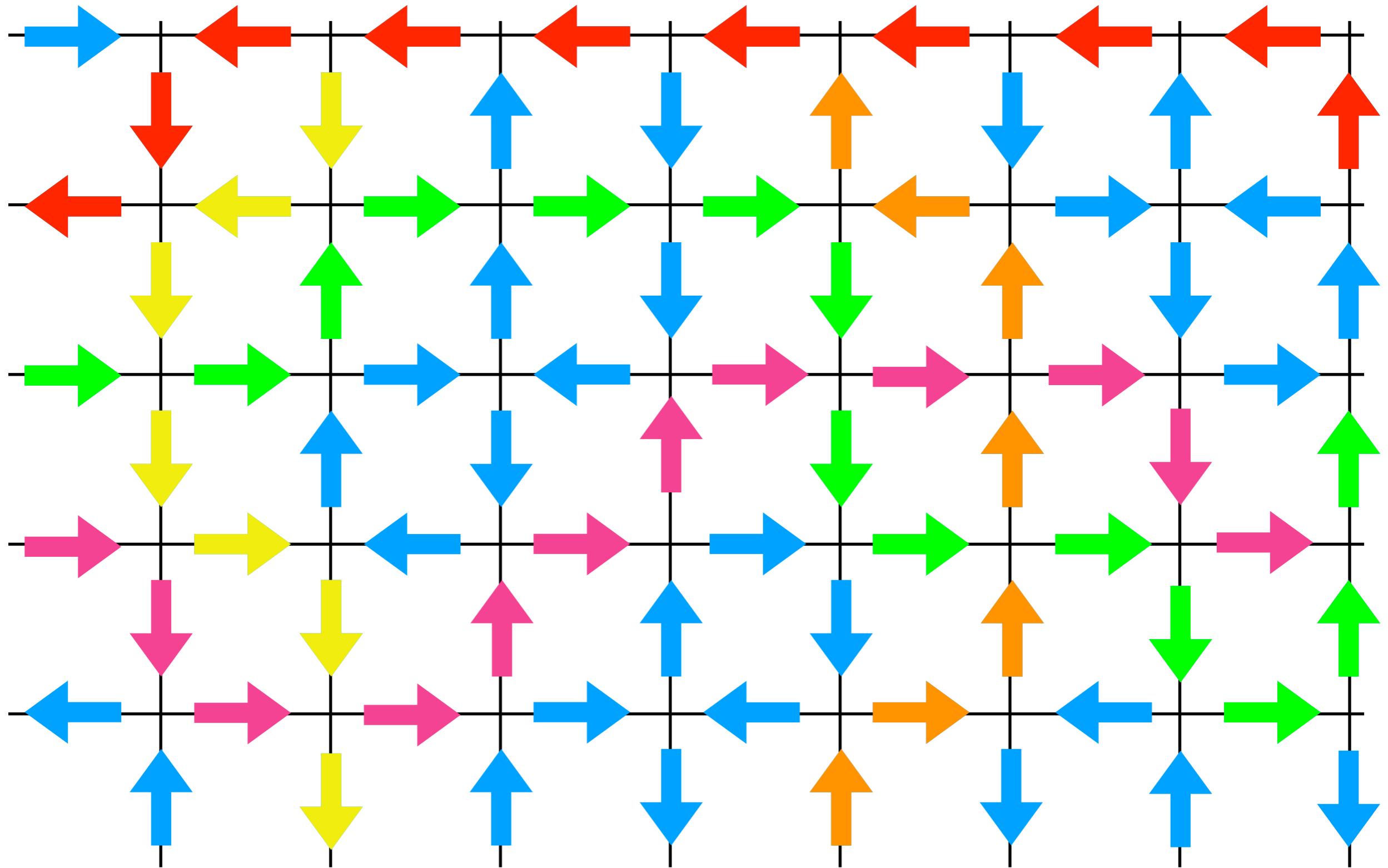
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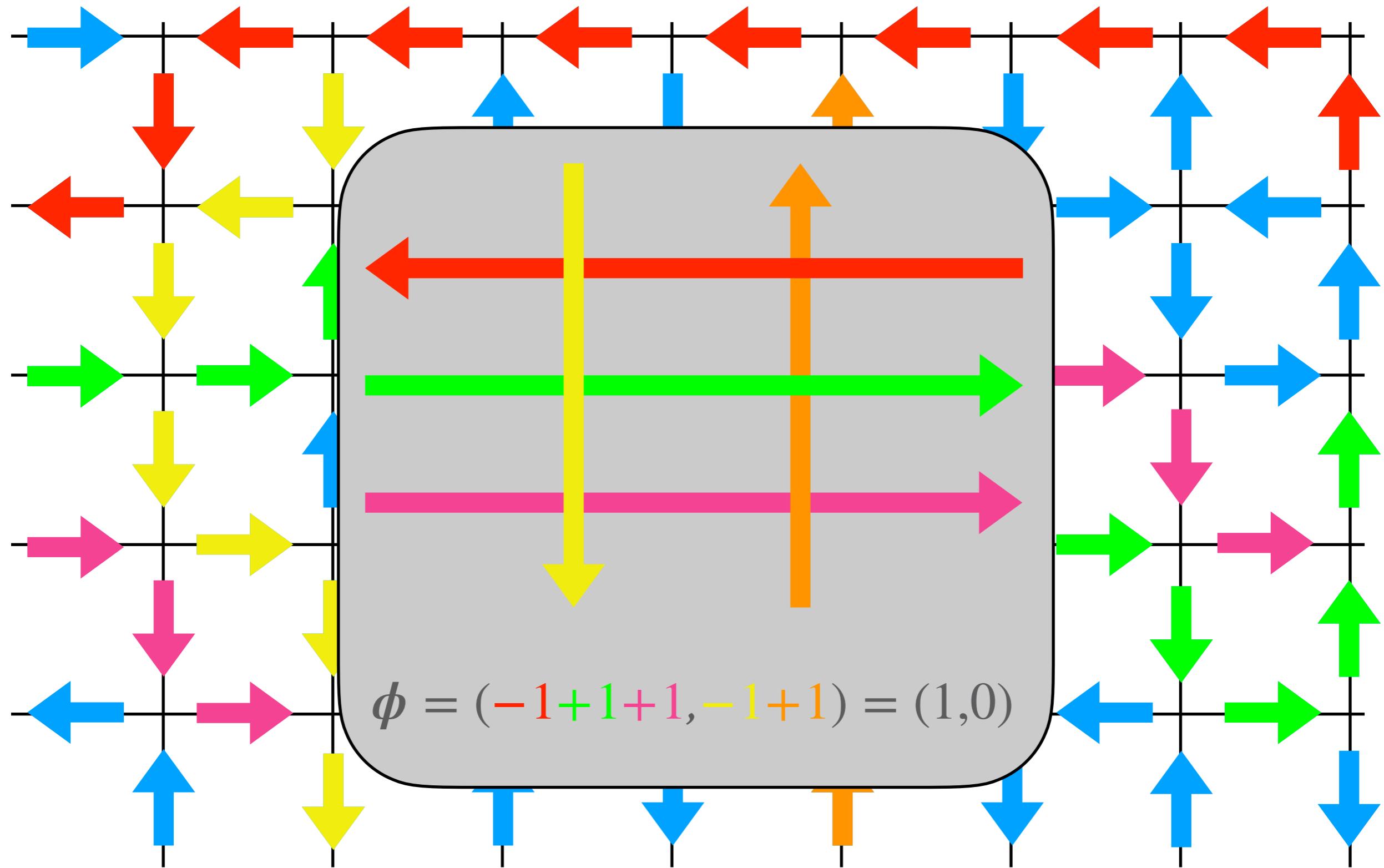
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS

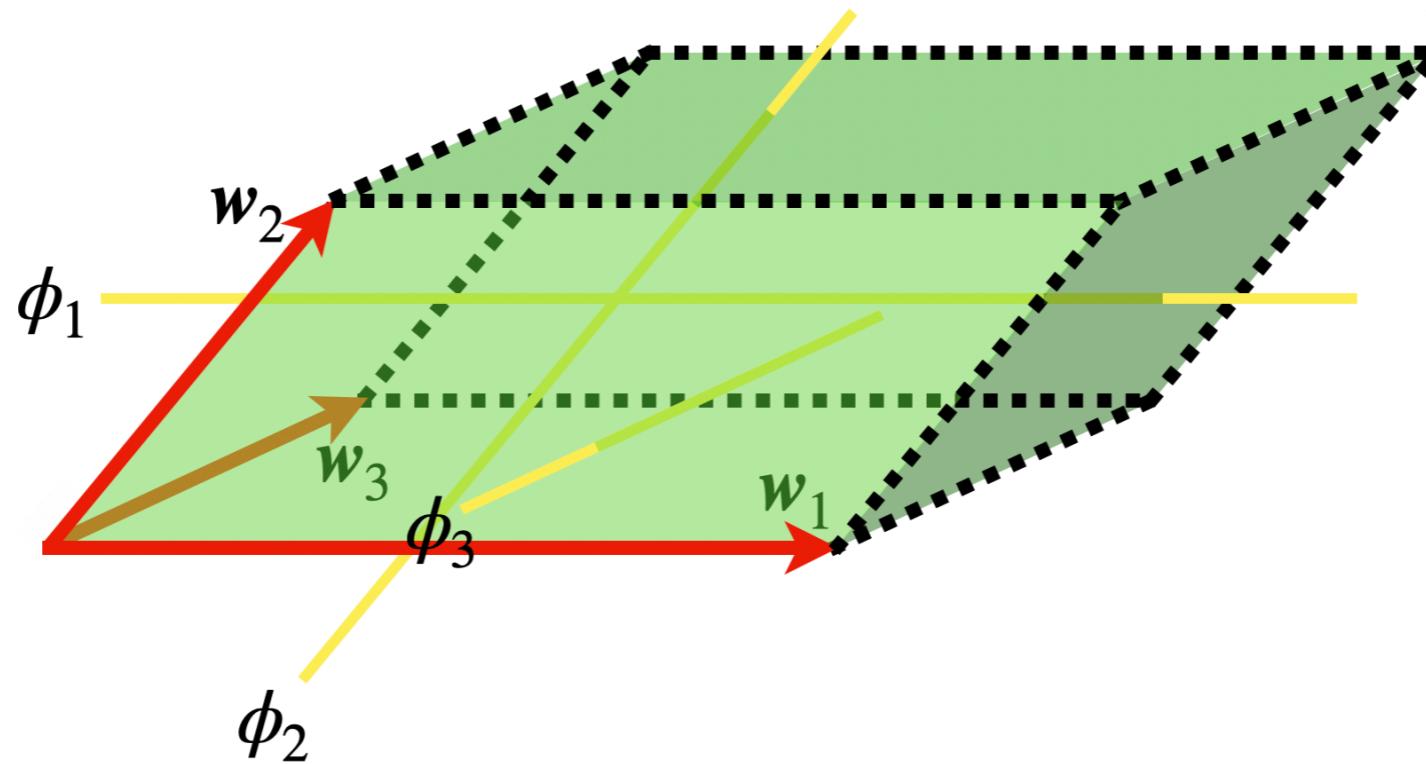


ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



MAXWELL ENERGY DENSITY

Electric Topological Sectors: $\phi = (\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3)$



ELECTRIC FIELD CALCULATION

- Gauss's Law:

$$\mathbf{E} \cdot (\mathbf{w}_1 \times \mathbf{w}_2) = \phi_3 e_{\text{QSI}} / \epsilon_{\text{QSI}}$$

$$\mathbf{E} \cdot (\mathbf{w}_2 \times \mathbf{w}_3) = \phi_1 e_{\text{QSI}} / \epsilon_{\text{QSI}}$$

$$\mathbf{E} \cdot (\mathbf{w}_3 \times \mathbf{w}_1) = \phi_2 e_{\text{QSI}} / \epsilon_{\text{QSI}}$$



$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{\phi_1 \mathbf{w}_1 + \phi_2 \mathbf{w}_2 + \phi_3 \mathbf{w}_3}{V} \frac{e_{\text{QSI}}}{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}}$$

- Q Matrix

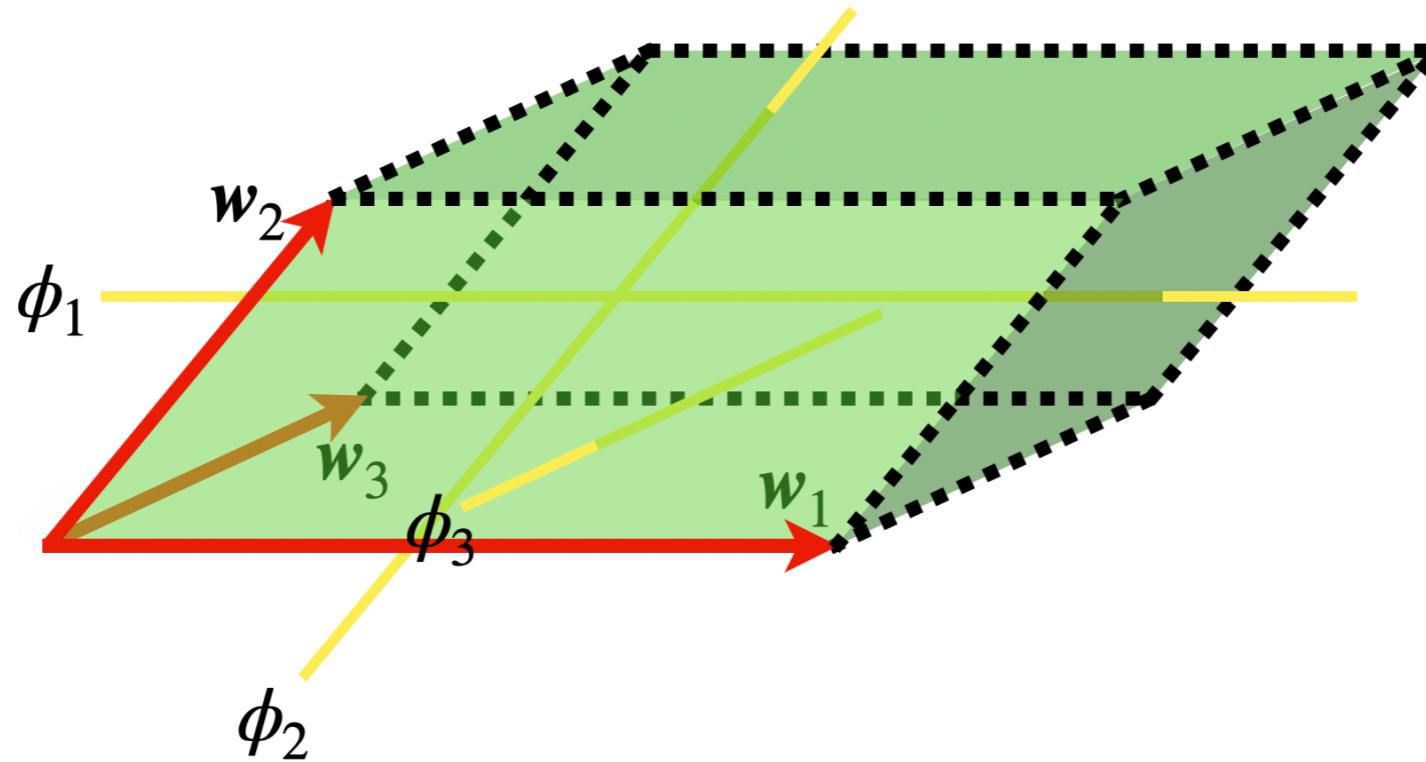
$$Q \equiv \frac{a^2}{V} \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | \\ \mathbf{w}_1 & \mathbf{w}_2 & \mathbf{w}_3 \\ | & | & | \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{Q\phi}{a^2} \frac{e_{\text{QSI}}}{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}}$$

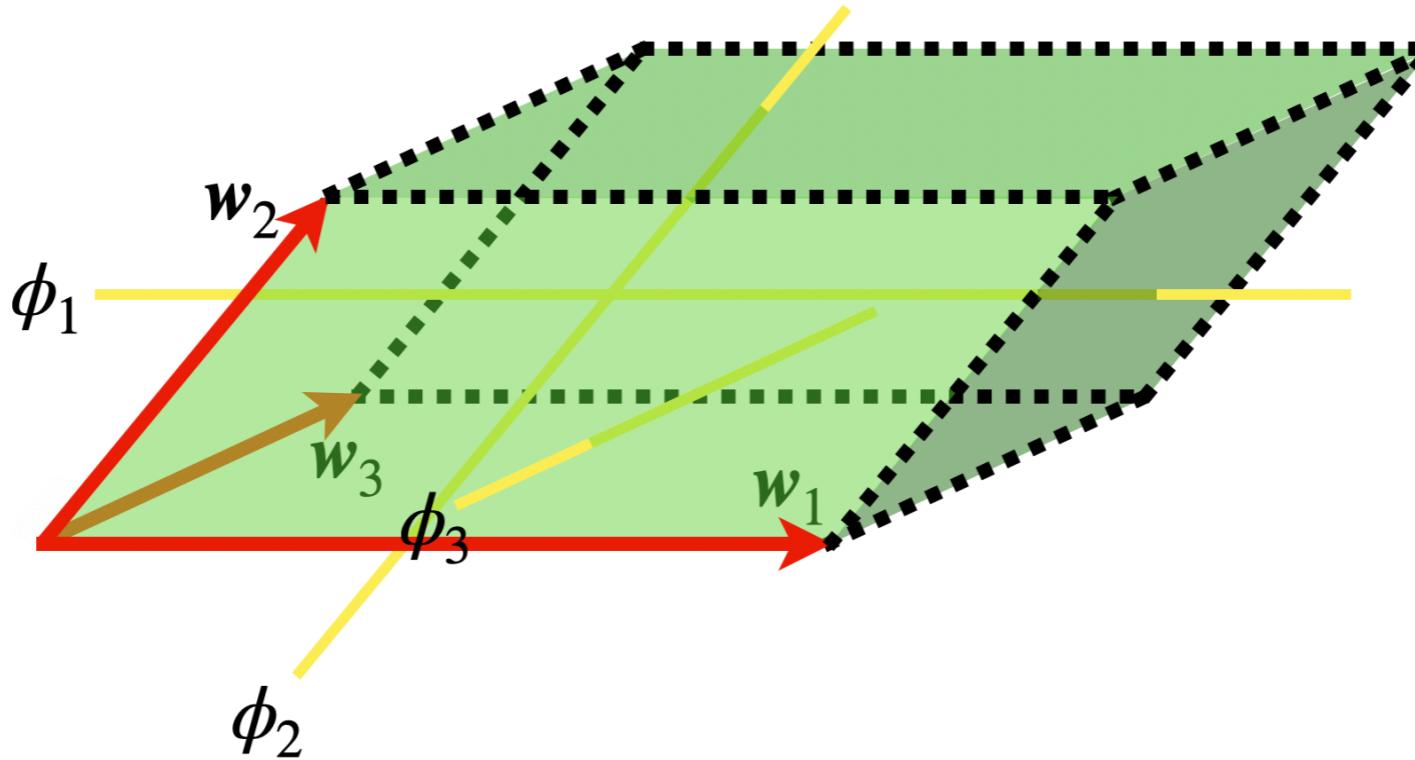
MAXWELL ENERGY DENSITY

Electric Topological Sectors: $\phi = (\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3)$



MAXWELL ENERGY DENSITY

Electric Topological Sectors: $\phi = (\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3)$

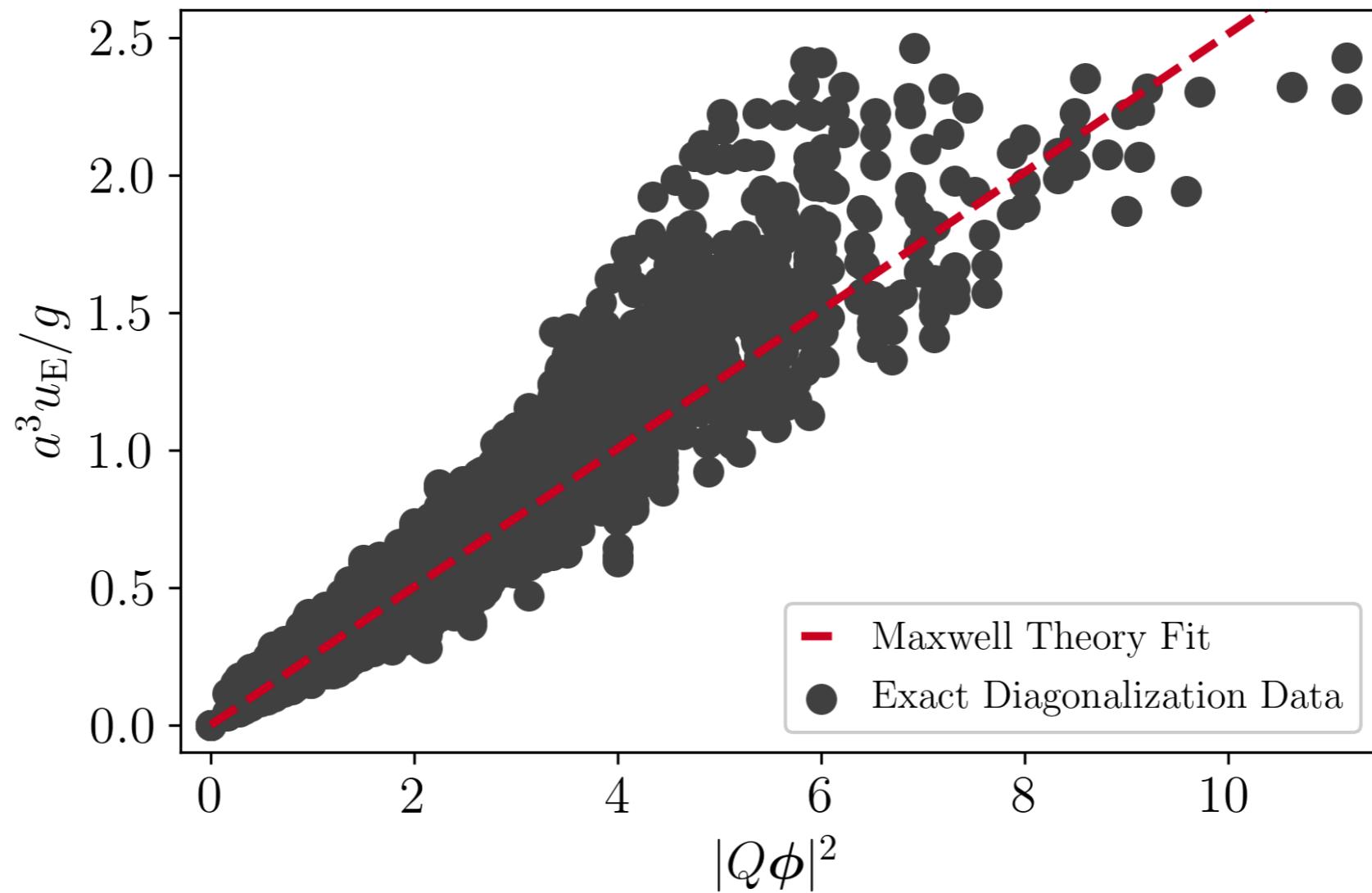


$$E = \frac{Q\phi}{a^2} \frac{e_{\text{QSI}}}{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}}$$



$$u_E = \frac{1}{2} \frac{|Q\phi|^2}{a^4} \frac{e_{\text{QSI}}^2}{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}}$$

FITTING $e_{\text{QSI}}^2/\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}$



$$\frac{e_{\text{QSI}}^2}{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}} = (0.50 \pm 0.07)ag$$

GAUSSIAN PHOTON DISPERSION

- Start from Gaussian Theory: $H = \frac{U}{2} \sum_{\langle \mathbf{r} \mathbf{r}' \rangle} E_{\mathbf{r} \mathbf{r}'}^2 + \frac{K}{2} \sum_h (\nabla \times A_{\mathbf{r} \mathbf{r}'})$

- Write:

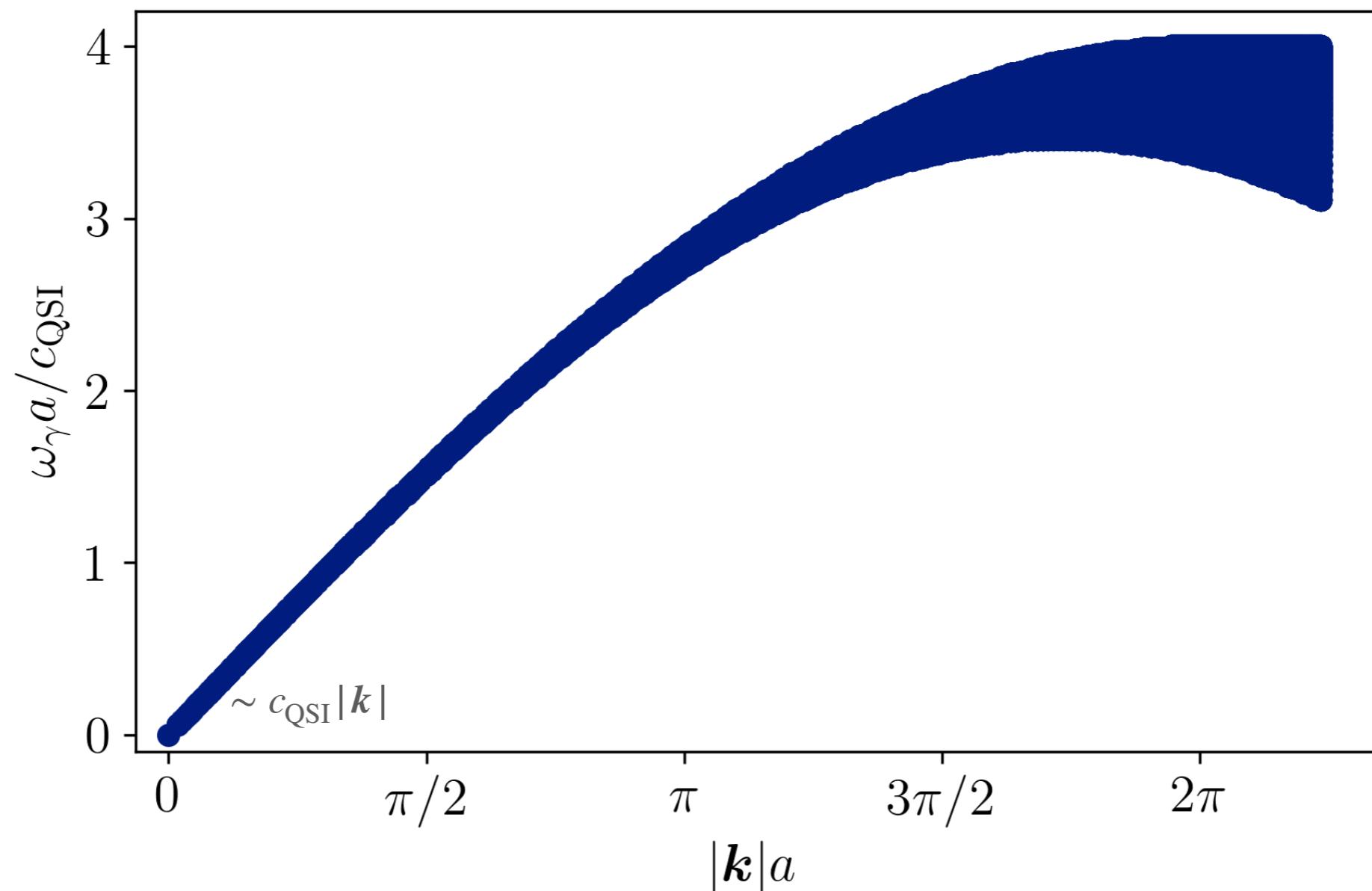
$$A_{(r,n)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{k,\alpha} \sqrt{\frac{U}{2\omega_\alpha(k)}} \left[e^{-ik \cdot (r + e_n/2)} \xi_{n\alpha}(k) a_\alpha(k) + e^{ik \cdot (r + e_n/2)} \xi_{n\alpha}^*(k) a_\alpha^\dagger(k) \right]$$

$$E_{(r,n)} = i \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{k,\alpha} \sqrt{\frac{\omega_\alpha(k)}{2U}} \left[e^{-ik \cdot (r + e_n/2)} \xi_{n\alpha}(k) a_\alpha(k) - e^{ik \cdot (r + e_n/2)} \xi_{n\alpha}^*(k) a_\alpha^\dagger(k) \right]$$

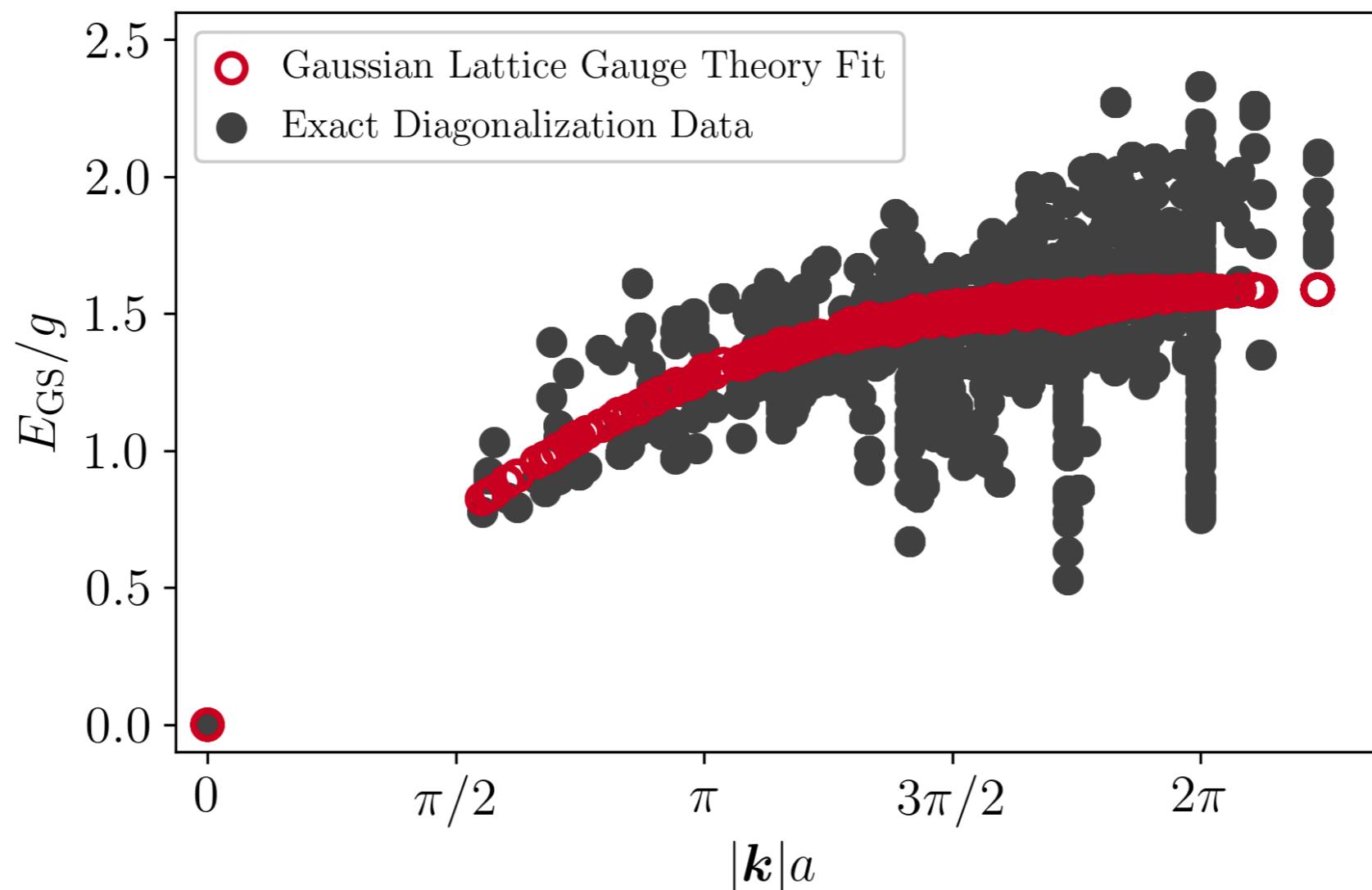
- ξ is spin-1 polarization tensor
- $a_\alpha(k)$ destroys photon of momentum k
- ω is the photon dispersion

QSI GAUSSIAN PHOTON DISPERSION

$$\omega(k) = \frac{2c_{\text{QSI}}}{a} \sqrt{3 - \cos\left(\frac{k_1 a}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{k_2 a}{2}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{k_1 a}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{k_3 a}{2}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{k_2 a}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{k_3 a}{2}\right)}$$



FITTING c_{QSI}



$$c_{\text{QSI}} = (0.51 \pm 0.06)ag/\hbar$$

EMERGENT FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT

The diagram illustrates the derivation of the emergent fine structure constant, α_{QSI} . It features three rounded rectangular boxes with purple outlines. The top-left box contains the expression $e_{QSI}^2 / \epsilon_{QSI}$. The top-right box contains c_{QSI} . The bottom box contains the equation $\alpha_{QSI} = \frac{e_{QSI}^2}{4\pi\epsilon_{QSI}\hbar c_{QSI}}$. Two dark gray arrows point from the top boxes down to the bottom equation, indicating that these two components are combined to form the final result.

$$\alpha_{QSI} = \frac{e_{QSI}^2}{4\pi\epsilon_{QSI}\hbar c_{QSI}}$$

EMERGENT FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT

The diagram illustrates the derivation of the emergent fine structure constant, α_{QSI} , from two other variables. It consists of three rounded rectangular boxes with purple outlines. The top-left box contains the equation $\frac{e_{\text{QSI}}^2}{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}} = 0.5ag$. The top-right box contains the variable c_{QSI} . Arrows point from both of these top boxes down to the bottom box, which contains the equation $\alpha_{\text{QSI}} = \frac{e_{\text{QSI}}^2}{4\pi\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}\hbar c_{\text{QSI}}}$.

$$\frac{e_{\text{QSI}}^2}{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}} = 0.5ag$$
$$c_{\text{QSI}}$$
$$\alpha_{\text{QSI}} = \frac{e_{\text{QSI}}^2}{4\pi\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}\hbar c_{\text{QSI}}}$$

EMERGENT FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT

$$\frac{e_{QSI}^2}{\epsilon_{QSI}} = 0.5ag$$

$$c_{QSI} = 0.51ag/\hbar$$

$$\alpha_{QSI} = \frac{e_{QSI}^2}{4\pi\epsilon_{QSI}\hbar c_{QSI}}$$

EMERGENT FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT

$$\frac{e_{QSI}^2}{\epsilon_{QSI}} = 0.5ag$$

$$c_{QSI} = 0.51ag/\hbar$$

$$\alpha_{QSI} = 0.08$$

QSI BALLPARK NUMBERS

- Lattice spacing: $a \sim 10 \text{ \AA}$
 - Ring exchange energy: $g \sim 10 \text{ \mu eV}$
-

Parameters	QSI	QED
c	10 m/s	$3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$
e^2/ϵ	10^{-33} J m	$2.9 \times 10^{-27} \text{ J m}$
α	1/10	1/137

PERTURBING THE MODEL

$$\hat{H}_{\text{QSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{S}_i^z \hat{S}_j^z - g \sum_h (\hat{W}_h + \hat{W}_h^\dagger)$$

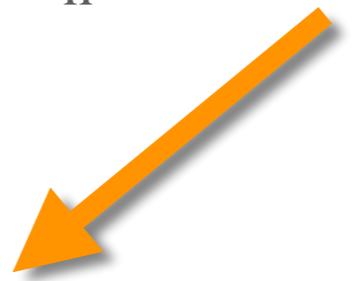
PERTURBING THE MODEL

$$\hat{H}_{\text{QSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{S}_i^z \hat{S}_j^z - g \sum_h (\hat{W}_h + \hat{W}_h^\dagger) + \hat{H}_p$$

PERTURBING THE MODEL

$$\hat{H}_{\text{QSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{S}_i^z \hat{S}_j^z - g \sum_h (\hat{W}_h + \hat{W}_h^\dagger) + \hat{H}_p$$

➤ $\hat{H}_p = \mu g \sum_h (\hat{W}_h^\dagger \hat{W}_h + \hat{W}_h \hat{W}_h^\dagger)$



- Counts flippable hexagons
- QED phase: $-0.5 \lesssim \mu \leq 1$
- Rokhsar-Kivelson point: $\mu = 1$

PERTURBING THE MODEL

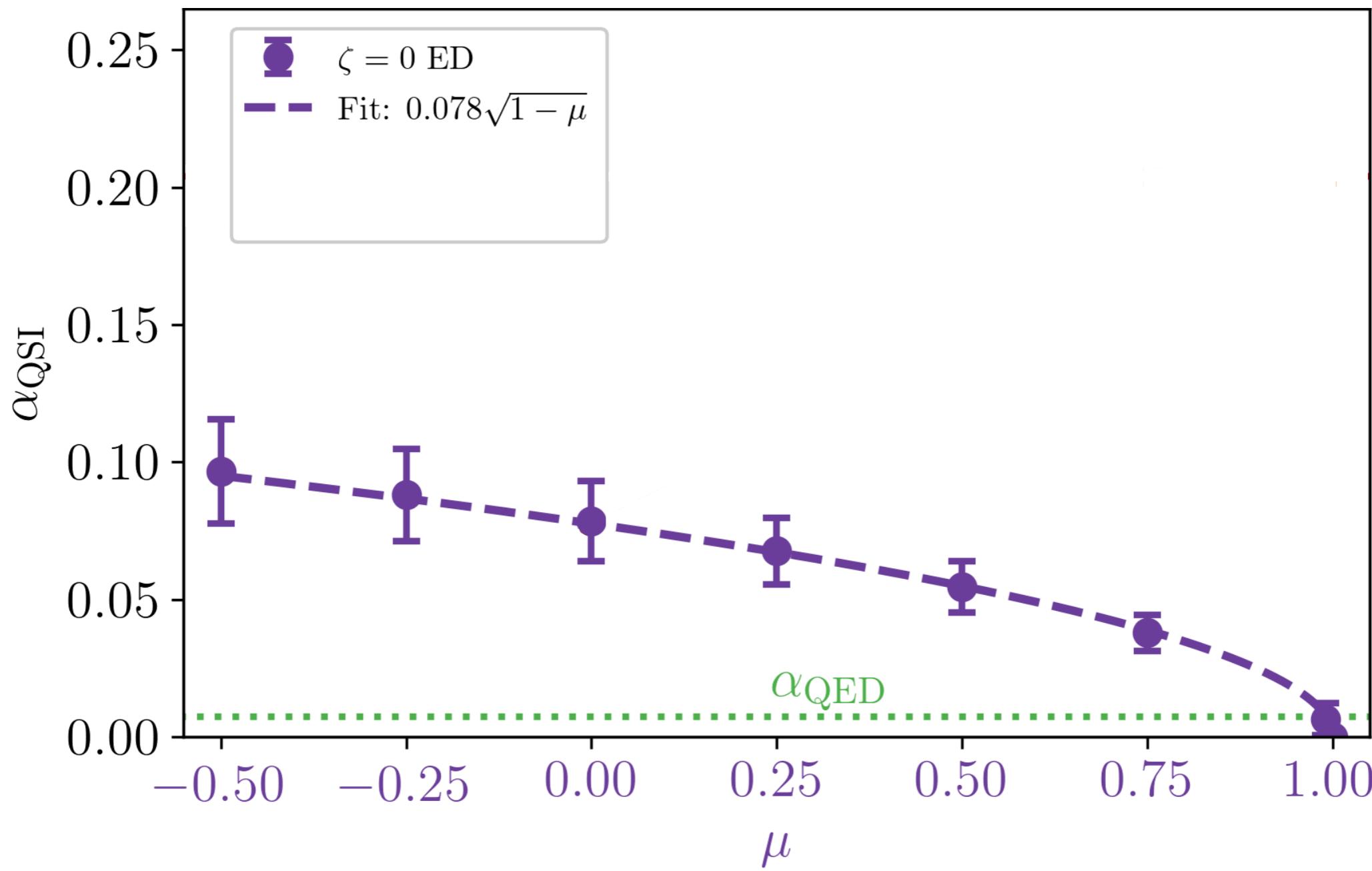
$$\hat{H}_{\text{QSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{S}_i^z \hat{S}_j^z - g \sum_h (\hat{W}_h + \hat{W}_h^\dagger) + \hat{H}_p$$

$$\triangleright \hat{H}_p = \mu g \sum_h (\hat{W}_h^\dagger \hat{W}_h + \hat{W}_h \hat{W}_h^\dagger) + \zeta g \sum_{\langle\langle\langle i,j \rangle\rangle\rangle} \hat{S}_i^z \hat{S}_j^z$$

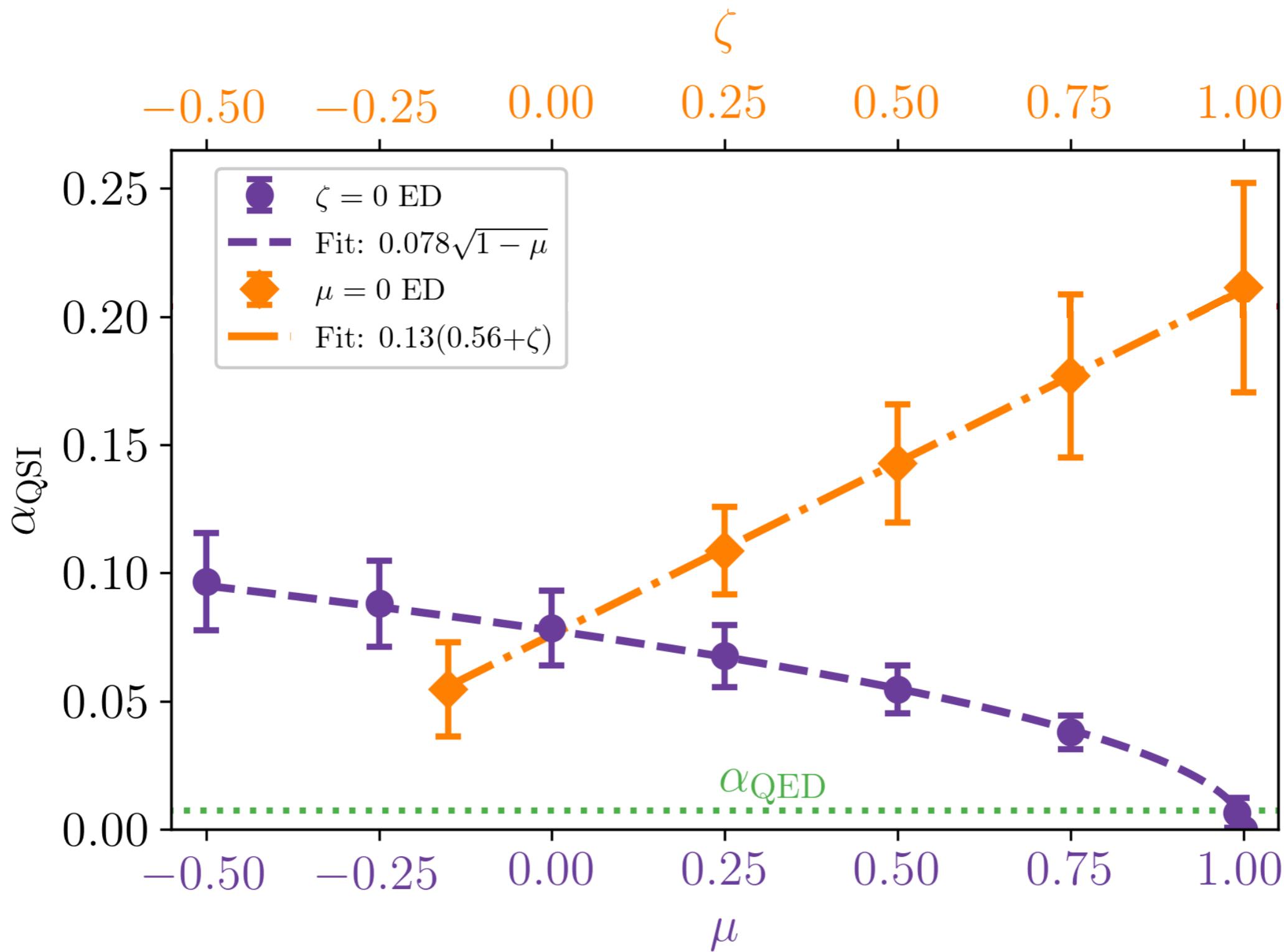
- Counts flippable hexagons
- QED phase: $-0.5 \lesssim \mu \leq 1$
- Rokhsar-Kivelson point: $\mu = 1$

- $\langle\langle\langle i,j \rangle\rangle\rangle$: Spins across hexagons
- Realistic two body term
- QED phase: $-0.2 \lesssim \zeta \lesssim 1$

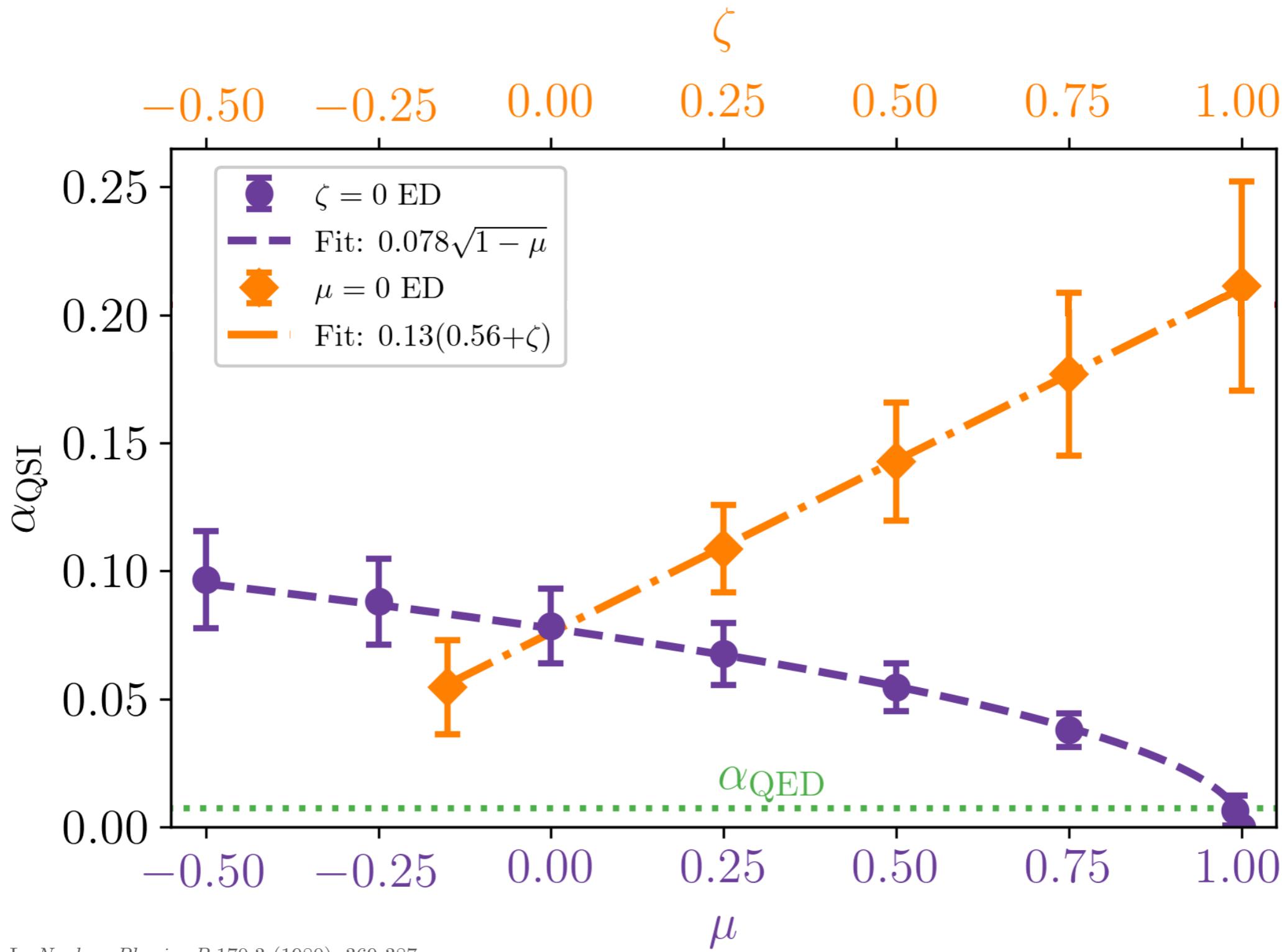
TUNING α_{QSI}



TUNING α_{QSI}



TUNING α_{QSI}

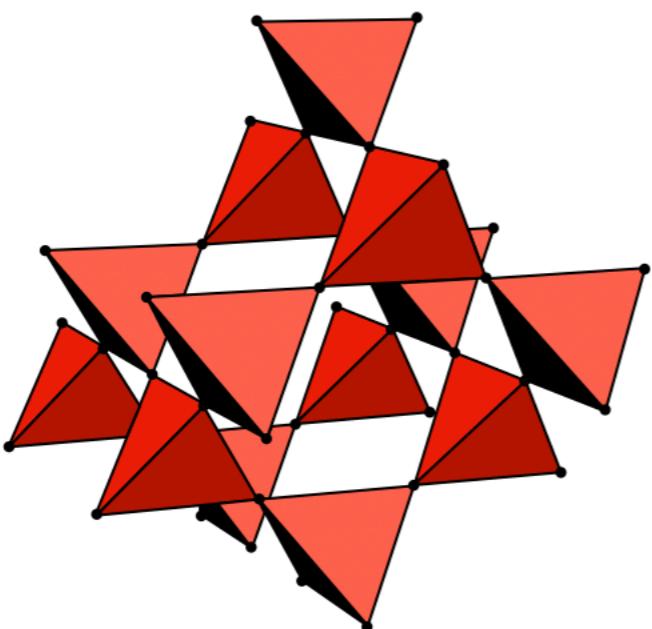


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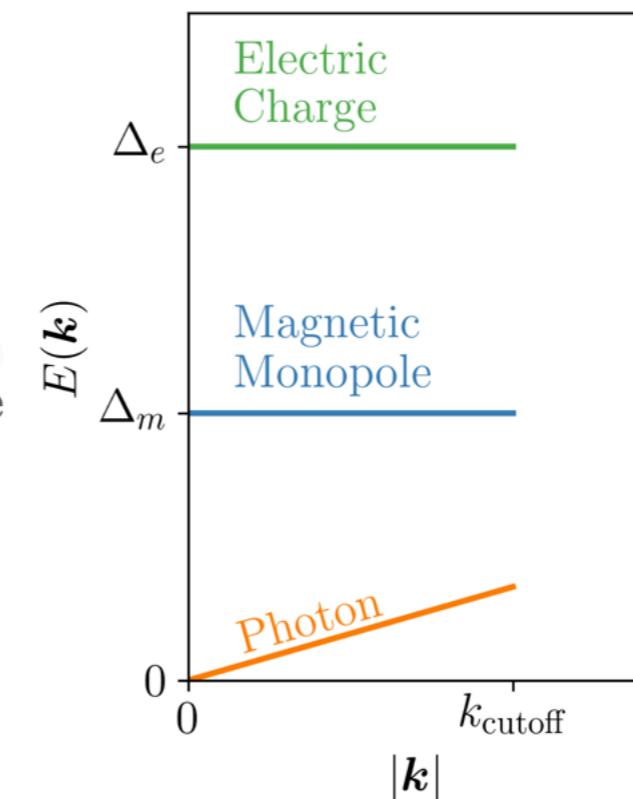
Cella, G., et al. *Physical Review D* 56.7 (1997): 3896.

Luck, J. M. *Nuclear Physics B* 210.1 (1982): 111-124.

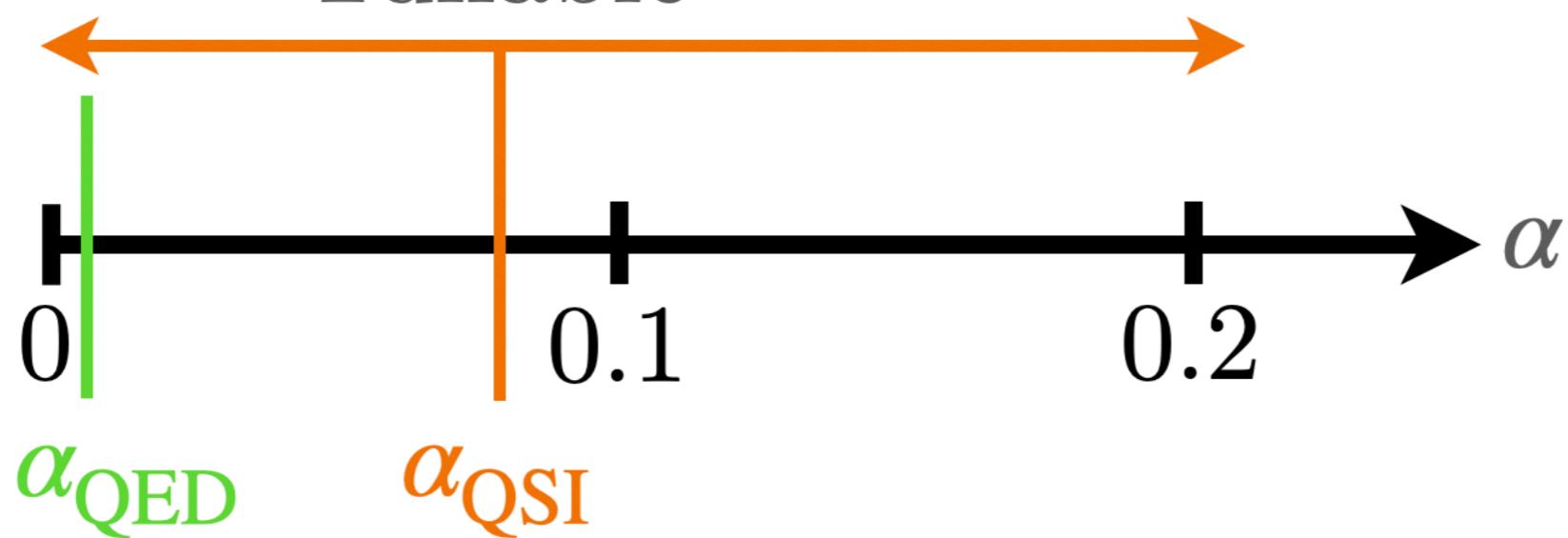
RECAP



Long Distance
Low Temperature



Tunable



THANK YOU! QUESTIONS?

arXiv:2009.04499

Roderich Moessner



*Max Planck Institute for the
Physics of Complex Systems*

Chris Laumann



Boston University

Sid Morampudi



MIT

QUANTUM SPIN ICE

- Most general quantum Hamiltonian:

$$\begin{aligned} H = & \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} [J_{zz} S_i^z S_j^z - J_{\pm} (S_i^+ S_j^- + S_i^- S_j^+) \\ & + J_{\pm\pm} [\gamma_{ij} S_i^+ S_j^+ + \gamma_{ij}^* S_i^- S_j^-] \\ & + J_{z\pm} [S_i^z ((\zeta_{ij} S_j^+ + \zeta_{ij}^* S_j^-) + i \leftrightarrow j)]] \end{aligned}$$

- Experiments on $\text{Yb}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_7$ found that in meV:

$$J_{zz} = 0.17 \pm 0.04, \quad J_{\pm} = 0.05 \pm 0.01$$

$$J_{\pm\pm} = 0.05 \pm 0.01 \quad J_{z\pm} = -0.14 \pm 0.01$$

EXPERIMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Cherenkov Radiation

- Theoretical study whose results were in terms of the fine structure constant
- Since the speed of light is being tuned too, the threshold for Cherenkov radiation is also moved

2. Dynamical Structure Factor

- Shows sharp lines from excitonic bound states and a continuum.
- We now have all the information to know the spacing between bound states in numerics and neutron scattering experiment.

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XXZ MODEL TO QSI

- Setting $J_{\pm\pm} = J_{z\pm} = 0$, XXZ model:

- $$H = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} S_i^z S_j^z + J_{\pm} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} (S_i^+ S_j^- + \text{h.c.})$$

- Study quantum fluctuations within spin ice manifold (Set spinon gap to infinity)

- For $J_{zz} \gg J_{\pm\pm}$, third order perturbation

- $$H_{eff} = P \left[H_{zz} + H_{\pm} - H_{\pm} \frac{1-P}{H_{zz}} H_{\pm} + H_{\pm} \frac{1-P}{H_{zz}} H_{\pm} \frac{1-P}{H_{zz}} H_{\pm} \right] P$$

- $$H_{eff} = -\frac{3J_{\pm}^3}{2J_{zz}^2} \sum_h (S_{h,1}^+ S_{h,2}^- S_{h,3}^+ S_{h,4}^- S_{h,5}^+ S_{h,6}^- + \text{h.c.})$$

- $$\equiv -g \sum_h (S_{h,1}^+ S_{h,2}^- S_{h,3}^+ S_{h,4}^- S_{h,5}^+ S_{h,6}^- + \text{h.c.})$$

EMERGENT COMPACT QED

- Introduce quantum rotor variables: $S_i^\pm = e^{\pm i\phi_i}$
- Introduce oriented link variables
 - $A_i = \pm \phi_i$
- Hamiltonian becomes $H = -2g \sum_h \cos(\text{curl} A)$
- Consider Hamiltonian
 - $$H = \frac{U}{2} \sum_r E_r^2 - K \sum_h \cos(\text{curl} A)$$
 - When $U \gg K$, gives same low-energy physics as above.

EMERGENT COMPACT QED: COMMENTS

- $H = \frac{U}{2} \sum_r E_r^2 - K \sum_h \cos(\text{curl} A)$ is a compact $U(1)$ LGT.
- H is invariant under gauge transformation $A_{ij} \rightarrow A_{ij} + g_j - g_i$
- Canonically conjugate $[A, E] = i$
- magnetic monopoles
- Because $E_{ij} = \pm 1/2$, LGT is frustrated and non-trivial in $U \gg K$ limit

RECALL FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT

- $\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} - \partial_\mu\phi^\dagger\partial^\mu\phi - m^2\phi^\dagger\phi - 2i\sqrt{\pi\alpha}\phi^\dagger\partial_\mu^\leftrightarrow\phi A^\mu - 4\pi\alpha A_\mu A^\mu\phi^\dagger\phi$
- Scalar QED Lagrangian
- α gives coupling strength between photon field and scalar boson field.
- Electron-positron to electron positron scatter leading order term is proportional to α
- In the QED of our universe, $\alpha = 1/137$

FULL DISPERSION

- Effective theory near the RK point, with $U = 1 - \mu$

$$H_{RK} = \frac{U}{2} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} E_{ij}^2 + \frac{K}{2} \sum_h (\nabla_h \times A)^2 + \frac{W}{2} \sum_h (\nabla_h \times E)^2$$

- Diagonalize to find the dispersion

$$\omega_{1,2}(k) = \frac{2}{a} \sqrt{c^2 \zeta(k) + V \zeta^2(k)}$$

$$\zeta(k) = 3 - \cos\left(\frac{k_1 a}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{k_2 a}{2}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{k_1 a}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{k_3 a}{2}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{k_2 a}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{k_3 a}{2}\right)$$

$$c = \sqrt{U K a} \quad \text{and} \quad V = U W$$