

Simulating quantum dynamics of lattice gauge theories

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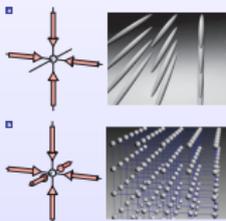
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Outline

- 1 Introduction: Quantum Simulation and Quantum Links
- 2 Pure gauge: The $U(1)$ Quantum Link Model in $(2+1)$ -d
- 3 Abelian theory with Quantum Links
- 4 Non-Abelian gauge theories with Quantum Links
- 5 Conclusions

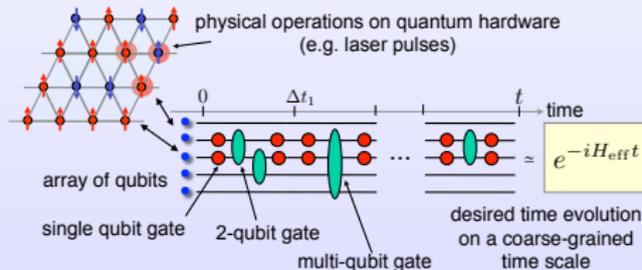
From optical lattices/trapped ions . . .

Adjust parameters such that atoms in optical traps act as d.o.f



cold atoms in optical lattices realize
Bosonic and Fermionic Hubbard type
models.

Ions confined in ion-trap with interactions
between individual ions can be controlled.



Advantage: Much more control over
interactions; Challenge: Scalability.

Prepare the "quantum" system and let it evolve. Make measurements at times t_i on identically prepared systems. Achievement: observation of Mott-insulator (disordered) to superfluid (ordered) phase. Greiner et. al. (2002)

... to real time/finite density QCD

- Lattice calculations of static and finite temperature properties of QCD well controlled
- At finite μ_B , lattice methods fail due to the sign problem
- Questions about real-time dynamics also inaccessible:

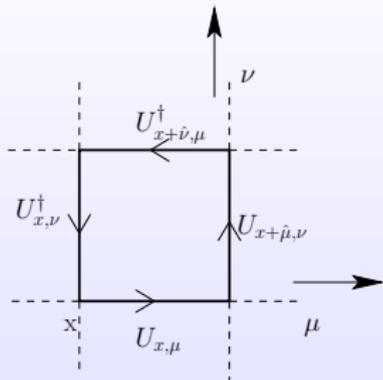
$$\langle \Phi_0 | \mathcal{O}(t) \mathcal{O}(0) | \Phi_0 \rangle = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}} \sum_m |\langle \Phi_0 | \mathcal{O} | m \rangle|^2 e^{-i(E_m - E_0)t}$$

- What if the fermions themselves can be used as degrees of freedom in themselves in simulations? [Feynman, 1982](#)
- Exploit the advances made in optical lattices to set up systems which mimic Hamiltonians of interest to particle physics
- Need finite Hilbert spaces! → Quantum Links

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The U(1) pure gauge theory



Hamiltonian formulation:

$\hat{u}_{x,\mu}, \hat{u}_{x,\mu}^\dagger \in U(1)$ operators in an infinite dimensional Hilbert space. Dynamics of u : $\hat{e} = -i\partial_\phi$

$$[\hat{e}, \hat{u}] = \hat{u}; [\hat{e}, \hat{u}^\dagger] = -\hat{u}^\dagger; [\hat{u}, \hat{u}^\dagger] = 0$$

U(1) gauge transformations generated by Gauss Law:

$$G_x = \sum_i (\hat{e}_{x,i} - \hat{e}_{x-i,i}); [G_x, H] = 0$$

U(1) gauge invariant Hamiltonian:

$$H = \frac{g^2}{2} \sum_{x,i} \hat{e}_{x,i}^2 - \frac{1}{2g^2} \sum_{x,i \neq j} (\hat{u}_\square + \hat{u}_\square^\dagger)$$

$$S[u] = -J \sum_{x,\mu > \nu} [u_\square + u_\square^\dagger]$$

$$u_\square = u_{x,\mu} u_{x+\hat{\mu},\nu} u_{x+\hat{\nu},\mu}^\dagger u_{x,\nu}^\dagger$$

$$u_{x,\mu} = \exp(i\phi_{x,\mu}); v_x = \exp(i\alpha_x)$$

$$u'_{x,\mu} = v_x u_{x,\mu} v_{x+\hat{\mu}}$$

The U(1) Quantum Link Model

- $U = S^1 + iS^2$, $U^\dagger = S^1 - iS^2$ and $E = S^3 \Rightarrow$ finite Hilbert space of **quantum spin S** at each link
- **continuous** U(1) gauge invariance is exact, due to the commutation relations:

$$[E, U] = U; [E, U^\dagger] = -U^\dagger; [U, U^\dagger] = 2E$$

- Gauge theory with a 2-d Hilbert space at each link

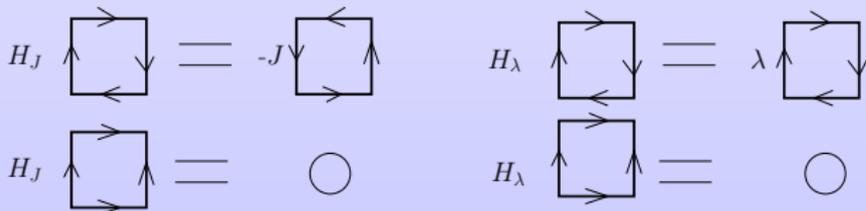
Horn (1981); Orland (1990); Chandrasekharan, Wiese (1996)

$$H = -J \sum_{\square} (U_{\square} + U_{\square}^\dagger) + \lambda \sum_{\square} (U_{\square} + U_{\square}^\dagger)^2$$

- The Gauss Law as before generates gauge transformations:

$$G_x = \sum_i (E_{x,i} - E_{x-i,i}); [G_x, H] = 0$$

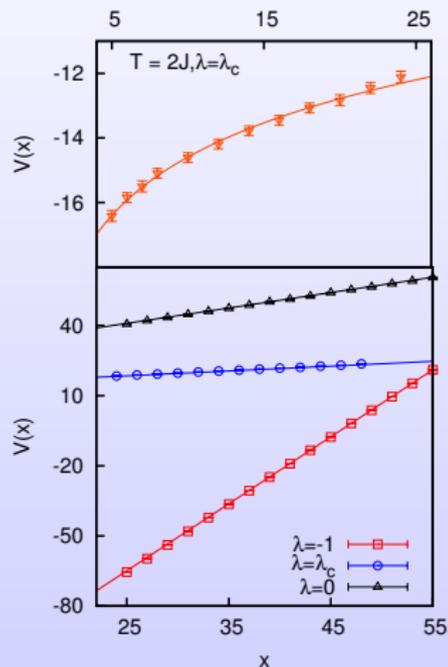
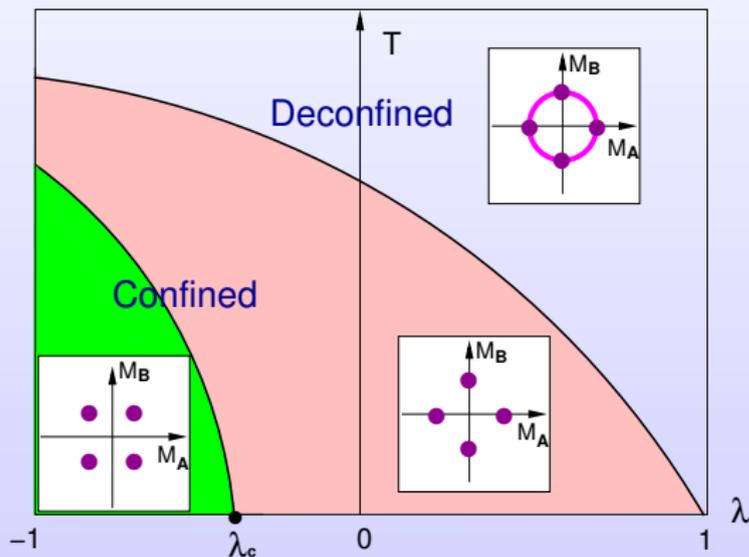
- Second term introduces non-trivial physics and interesting phase structure



Phase diagram

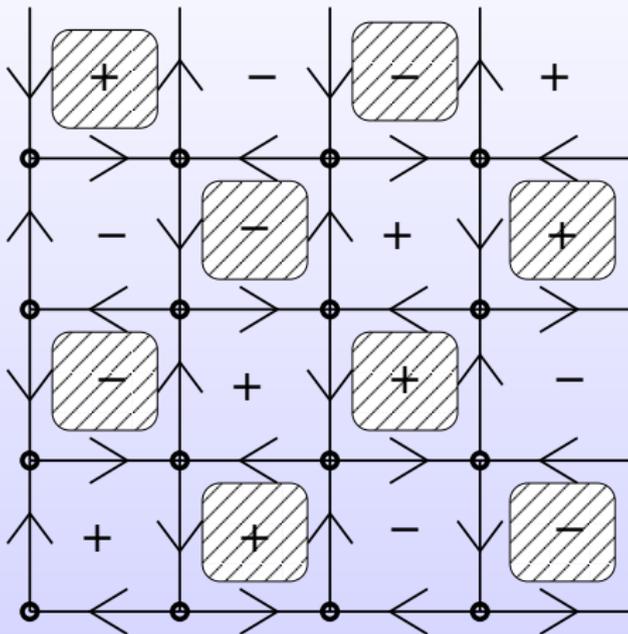
Explored with exact diagonalization and a newly-developed efficient cluster algorithm

DB, Jiang, Widmer, Wiese (2013)



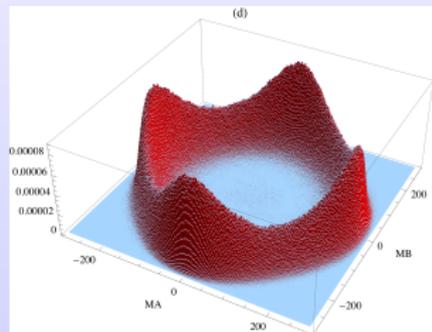
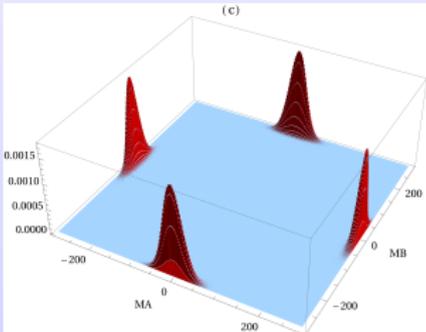
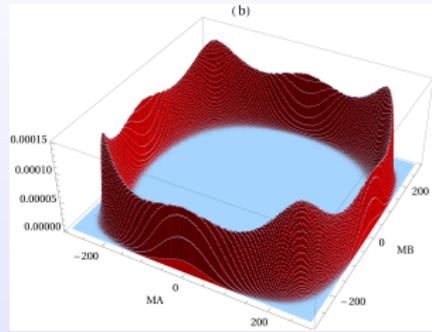
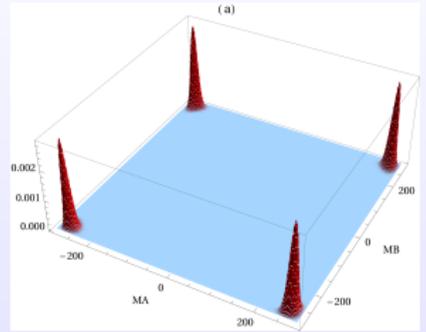
A *global $SO(2)$ symmetry is "almost" emergent* at λ_c . However, description in terms of a low-energy *effective theory suggests weak 1st order transition*.

Order parameters



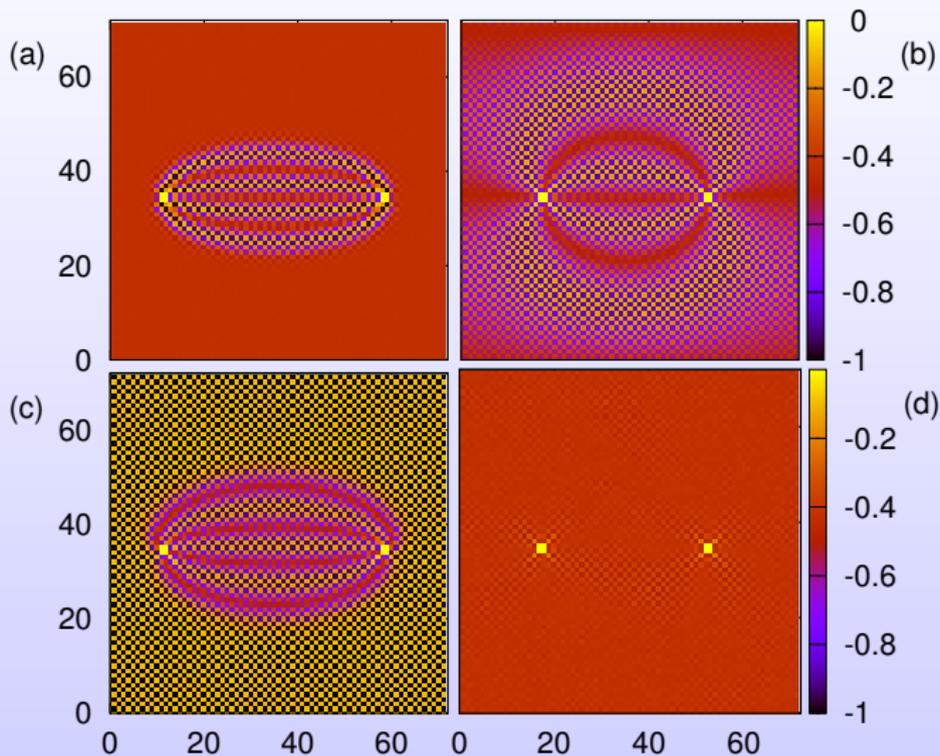
2-component order parameter constructed out of dual variables residing at the centre of plaquettes. The phase is related to which of the two sublattices can order at a given λ .

Probability distributions of order parameters



Clockwise from top: (a) $\lambda = -1$ both sublattices order; (b) $\simeq \lambda_c$ "almost" emergent $SO(2)$ symmetry
 (c) $\lambda_c < \lambda < 0$ (d) $\lambda = 0$ either sublattice orders

Crystalline confinement



Energy density $\langle H_J \rangle$ of two charges $Q = \pm 2$ placed in along the axis in $L = 72$ lattice

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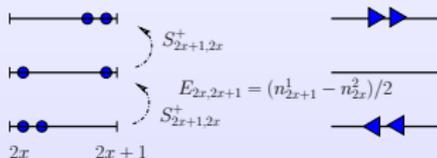
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Schwinger model with quantum links and staggered fermions

$$H = -t \sum_x \left[\psi_x^\dagger U_{x,x+1} \psi_{x+1} + \text{h.c.} \right] + m \sum_x (-1)^x \psi_x^\dagger \psi_x + \frac{g^2}{2} \sum_x E_{x,x+1}^2$$

- ★ Use the bosonic *rishon* representation

$$U_{x,x+1} = S^+ = b_x b_{x+1}^\dagger; \quad E_{x,x+1} = S^z = \frac{1}{2} (b_{x+1}^\dagger b_{x+1} - b_x^\dagger b_x)$$



Rishon for spin $S = 1; \mathcal{N} = 2$

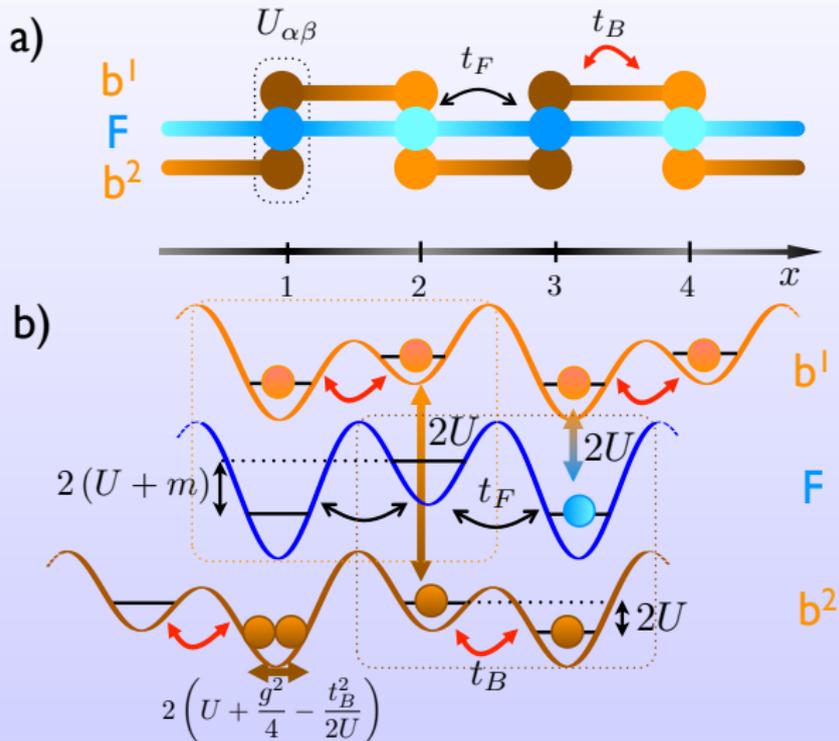
$$n_x + n_{x+1} = 2S = 2$$

- ★ Gauss Law: $\tilde{G}_x = \nabla \cdot E - \rho = n_x^F + n_x^1 + n_x^2 - 2S + \frac{1}{2} [(-1)^x - 1]$

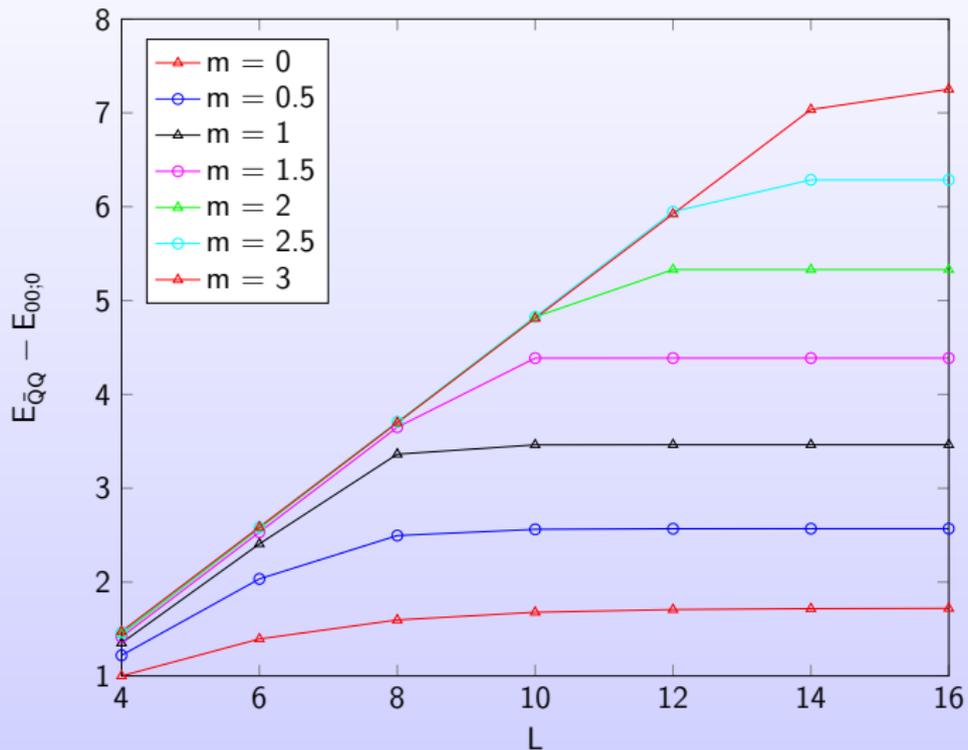
- ★ In optical lattices, realized using a microscopic **Hubbard-type Hamiltonian**

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{H} &= \sum_x h_B^{x,x+1} + \sum_x h_F^{x,x+1} + m \sum_x (-1)^x n_x^F + U \sum_x \tilde{G}_x^2 \\ &= -t_B \sum_{x \in \text{odd}} b_x^{1\dagger} b_{x+1}^1 - t_B \sum_{x \in \text{odd}} b_x^{2\dagger} b_{x+1}^2 - t_F \sum_x \psi_x^\dagger \psi_{x+1} + \text{h.c.} \\ &+ \sum_{x,\alpha,\beta} n_x^\alpha U_{\alpha\beta} n_x^\beta + \sum_{x,\alpha} (-1)^x U_\alpha n_x^\alpha \end{aligned}$$

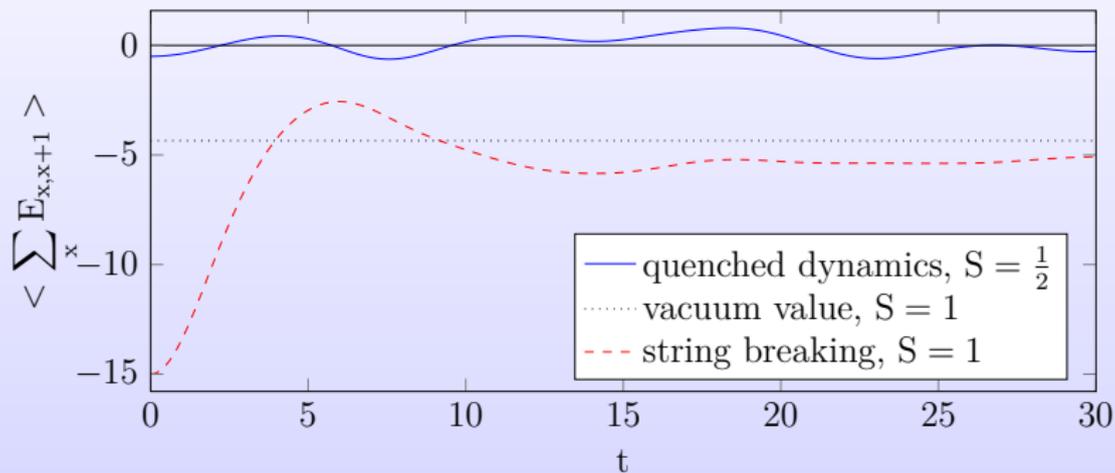
Optical lattice setup



Static and Real-time physics



Static and Real-time physics



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Non-Abelian quantum link models

For QCD with quantum links and domain-wall fermions [Brower, Chandrasekharan, Wiese \(1999\)](#)
 The Hamiltonian with staggered fermions are given by:

$$H = -t \sum_{\langle xy \rangle} \left(s_{xy} \psi_x^{i\dagger} U_{xy}^{ij} \psi_y^j + \text{h.c.} \right) + m \sum_x s_x \psi_x^{i\dagger} \psi_x^i + V \sum_x (\psi_x^{i\dagger} \psi_x^i)^2$$

where $s_x = (-1)^{x_1 + \dots + x_d}$ and $s_{xy} = (-1)^{x_1 + \dots + x_{k-1}}$, with $y = x + \hat{k}$.

[DB, Bögli, Dalmonte, Rico Ortega, Stebler, Wiese, Zoller \(2012\)](#)

The non-Abelian Gauss law:

$$G_x^a = \psi_x^{i\dagger} \lambda_{ij}^a \psi_x^j + \sum_k \left(L_{x, x+\hat{k}}^a + R_{x-\hat{k}, x}^a \right), \quad G_x = \psi_x^{i\dagger} \psi_x^i - \sum_k \left(E_{x, x+\hat{k}} - E_{x-\hat{k}, x} \right),$$

λ^a : Gell-Mann matrices; L_{xy}^a, R_{xy}^a : $SU(N)$ electric fluxes, E_{xy} : Abelian $U(1)$ flux.

Other possible terms in the Hamiltonian: $\frac{g^2}{2} \sum_{\langle xy \rangle} (L_{xy}^a L_{xy}^a + R_{xy}^a R_{xy}^a)$, $\frac{g'^2}{2} \sum_{\langle xy \rangle} E_{xy}^2$, $\frac{1}{4g^2} \sum_{\square} (U_{\square} + \text{h.c.})$. Not included in our study.

$U(N)$ gauge invariance requires:

$$[L^a, L^b] = 2if_{abc} L^c, [R^a, R^b] = 2if_{abc} R^c, [L^a, R^b] = [E, L^a] = [E, R^a] = 0, \\ [L^a, U] = -\lambda^a U, [R^a, U] = U \lambda^a, [E, U] = U$$

To study $SU(N)$ theories, we must include the term $\gamma \sum_{\langle xy \rangle} (\det U_{xy} + \text{h.c.})$

Rishons: the magic of the QLMs

Non-Abelian link fields can be represented by a finite-dimensional fermionic representation:

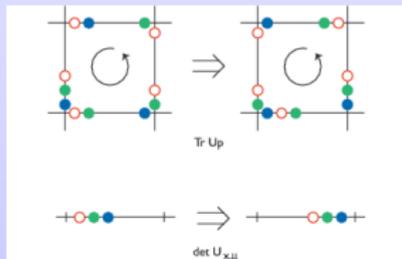
$$L_{xy}^a = c_{x,+}^{i\dagger} \lambda_{ij}^a c_{x,+}^j, \quad R_{xy}^a = c_{y,-}^{i\dagger} \lambda_{ij}^a c_{y,-}^j, \quad E_{xy} = \frac{1}{2} (c_{y,-}^{i\dagger} c_{y,-}^i - c_{x,+}^{i\dagger} c_{x,+}^i), \quad U_{x,y}^{ij} = c_{x,+}^i c_{y,-}^{j\dagger}.$$

$c_{x,\pm k}^i, c_{x,\pm k}^{i\dagger}$ with color index $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ are rishon operators. They anti-commute:

$$\{c_{x,\pm k}^i, c_{y,\pm l}^{j\dagger}\} = \delta_{xy} \delta_{\pm k, \pm l} \delta_{ij}, \quad \{c_{x,\pm k}^i, c_{y,\pm l}^j\} = \{c_{x,\pm k}^{i\dagger}, c_{y,\pm l}^{j\dagger}\} = 0.$$

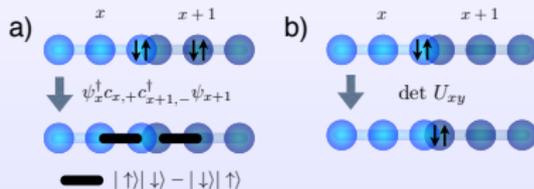
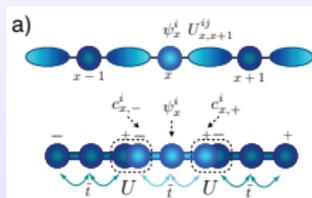
By fixing the no of rishons on a link, the Hilbert space can be truncated in a completely gauge-invariant manner: $\mathcal{N}_{xy} = c_{y,-}^{i\dagger} c_{y,-}^i + c_{x,+}^{i\dagger} c_{x,+}^i$; $[\mathcal{N}_{xy}, H] = 0$

Action of the plaquette and the determinant on a SU(3) theory with $\mathcal{N}_{xy} = 3$ rishons per link.



Implementation of the non-Abelian models

Lattice with quark and rishon sites as a physical optical lattice for fermionic atoms.



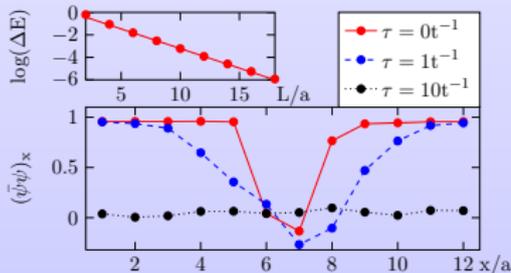
- Force the rishon number constraint per link by the term: $U \sum_{\langle xy \rangle} (\mathcal{N}_{xy} - n)^2$.
- Hopping is induced perturbatively with a Hubbard-type Hamiltonian.
- Color d.o.f are encoded in the internal states (the $2I + 1$ Zeeman levels of the electronic ground state 1S_0) of fermionic alkaline-earth atoms.
- Remarkable property: scattering is almost exactly $2I + 1$ symmetric.
- Since the hopping process between quarks and rishon sites is gauge invariant, the induced effective theory is also gauge invariant.

[Quantum simulator constructions also by [Reznick, Zohar, Cirac \(Tel-Aviv, Munich\)](#) and [Tagliacozzo, Celi, Zamora, Lewenstein \(Barcelona\)](#)]

Chiral Dynamics

dimension	group	\mathcal{N}	C	flavor	baryon	phenomena
(1 + 1)D	$U(2)$	1	no	no	no	$\chi_{SB}, T_c = 0$
(2 + 1)D	$U(2)$	2	yes	$\mathbb{Z}(2)$	no	$\chi_{SB}, T_c > 0$
(2 + 1)D	$SU(2)$	2	yes	$\mathbb{Z}(2)$	$U(1)$ boson	$\chi_{SB}, T_c > 0$ $\chi_{SR}, n_B > 0$
(3 + 1)D	$SU(3)$	3	yes	$\mathbb{Z}(2)^2$	$U(1)$ fermion	$\chi_{SB}, T_c > 0$ $\chi_{SR}, n_B > 0$

Table: Symmetries and phenomena in some QLMs.



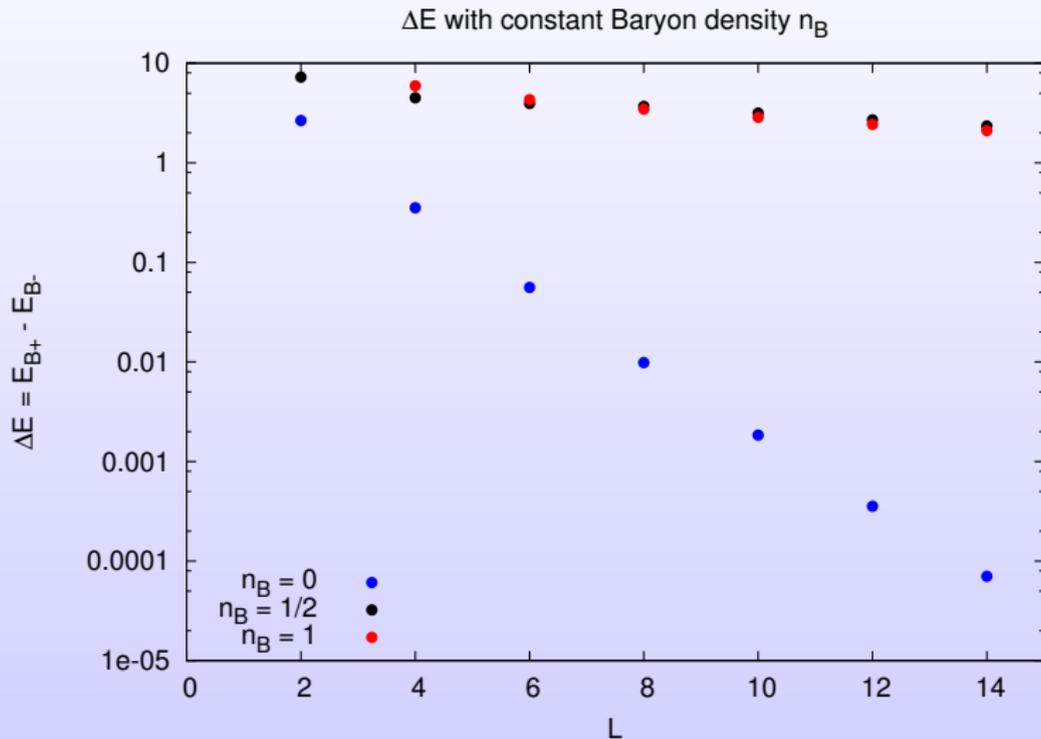
Top: Chiral symmetry breaking in a $U(2)$ QLM with $m = 0$ and $V = -6t$.

Bottom: Real-time evolution of the order parameter profile

$$(\bar{\psi}\psi)_x(\tau) = s_x \langle \psi_x^{i\dagger} \psi_x^i - \frac{N}{2} \rangle \text{ for } L = 12,$$

mimicking the expansion of a hot quark-gluon plasma.

Chiral symmetry restoration at finite density



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Conclusions

- Although **quantum simulating QCD** is still far away, many of the **simpler models** have **similar physical phenomena**. Very useful for insight into the physics of QCD.
- Realization of a quantum simulator for the Schwinger model would be quite remarkable achievement. Most of the tools needed in setting it up is available separately.
- **Quantum simulators** need to be **validated** by **efficient classical simulations**. Development of new efficient algorithms.
- In toy systems, this would allow quantum simulation of **real-time evolution of string breaking** and the study of **"nuclear" physics and dense "quark" matter**
- More interesting models may allow investigation of **chiral symmetry restoration, baryon superfluidity, color superconductivity at high densities** and **"nuclear" collisions**
- Every development brings the promise of interesting physics along with it!

Backup: An example of real-time evolution

Use the Trotter-Suzuki decomposition

$$e^{-i\mathcal{H}t} \simeq e^{-i\mathcal{H}_1 t} e^{-i\mathcal{H}_2 t} e^{[\mathcal{H}_1, \mathcal{H}_2] t^2 / 2}$$

to study the real time evolution of
2-quantum spins

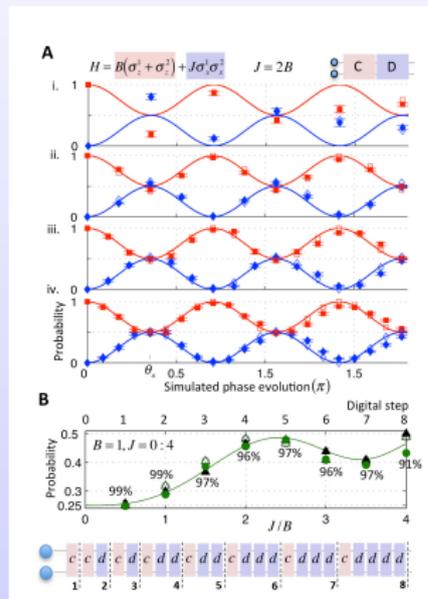
Time-dependent variation of
parameters possible

Trotter errors known and bounded;

gate errors under control;

Implementation with upto 6

ions/spins [Lanyon et. al. 2011](#)



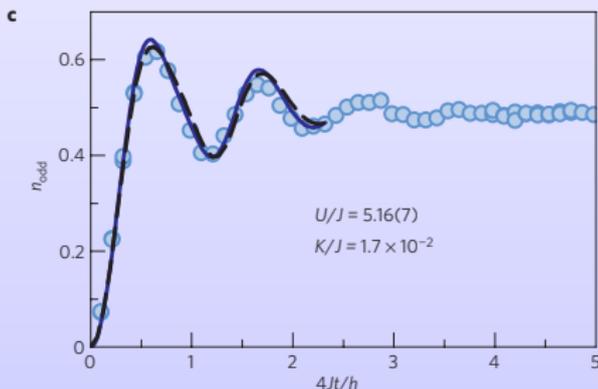
Backup: Classical vs Quantum Simulation

Example of a quantum quench in a strongly correlated Bose gas.

S. Trotzky et. al., Nature Physics (2012).

$$H = \sum_j \left[-J(a_j^\dagger a_{j+1} + \text{h.c.}) + \frac{U}{2} n_j(n_j - 1) + \frac{K}{2} n_j^2 \right]$$

Start the system in the state $|\psi(t=0)\rangle = |\dots, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, \dots\rangle$ and then study the evolution by the Hamiltonian



Measured: no of bosons on odd lattices. Solid curves are from DMRG results.