

# Quantum discontinuity fixed point and renormalization group flow of the SYK model

R. Smit, D. Valentinis, J. Schmalian, PK, Phys. Rev. Research 3, 033089 (2021)

- Outline:
- introduction to SYK model
  - FRG calculation
  - global RG flow
  - discontinuity fixed point

- Outlook:
- new result on spin FRG for frustrated spin systems
- see also talk by Andreas Rückriegel in Thursday

# Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model

- Sachdev, Ye (1993)

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{NM}} \sum_{i>j} J_{ij} \hat{S}_i \cdot \hat{S}_j$$

$$P(J_{ij}) \sim \exp[-J_{ij}^2/(2J^2)]$$

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## Gapless Spin-Fluid Ground State in a Random Quantum Heisenberg Magnet

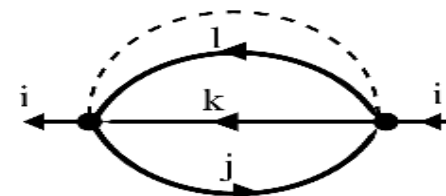
Subir Sachdev and Jinwu Ye

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(Received 22 December 1992)

We examine the spin- $S$  quantum Heisenberg magnet with Gaussian-random, infinite-range exchange interactions. The quantum-disordered phase is accessed by generalizing to  $SU(M)$  symmetry and studying the large  $M$  limit. For large  $S$  the ground state is a spin glass, while quantum fluctuations produce a spin-fluid state for small  $S$ . The spin-fluid phase is found to be generically gapless—the average, zero temperature, local dynamic spin susceptibility obeys  $\bar{\chi}(\omega) \sim \ln(1/|\omega|) + i(\pi/2)\text{sgn}(\omega)$  at low frequencies.

- Kitaev (2015): Talks at KITP: a simple model for quantum holography
- toy model for some phenomena in high-energy physics and general relativity  
finite ground state entropy; same information scrambling as black holes;  
holographic principle in string theory
- toy model for non-Fermi liquid behavior in condensed matter
- exactly solvable for large  $N$  (only melon-diagrams)  
controlled solution of strongly coupled field theory
- can be generalized to include phonons, superconductivity



# complex SYK model

- hamiltonian  $\mathcal{H} = -\mu \sum_i c_i^\dagger c_i + \sum_{i < j, k < l} J_{ij,kl} c_i^\dagger c_j^\dagger c_k c_l$

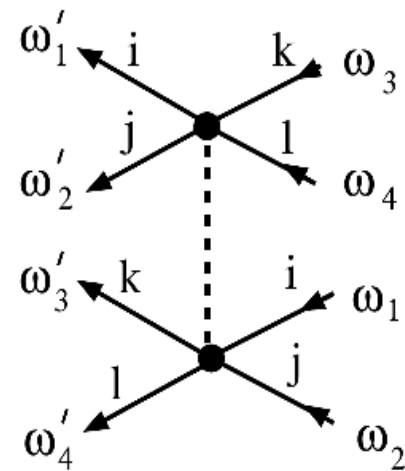
- random interactions with Gaussian probability distribution

$$\mathcal{P}[J_{ij,kl}] = \frac{N^3}{2\pi J^2} \exp\left[-\frac{N^3 |J_{ij,kl}|^2}{2J^2}\right] \quad \langle J_{ij,kl} \rangle = 0, \quad \langle |J_{ij,kl}|^2 \rangle = 2J^2/N^3$$

- disorder averaging generates fermionic 8-point vertex

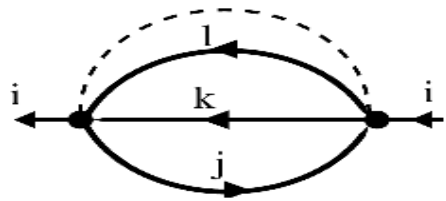
$$\langle \mathcal{Z} \rangle = \int \mathcal{D}[c, \bar{c}] e^{-S_2 - S_8} \quad S_2 = \sum_i \int_0^\beta d\tau \bar{c}_i(\tau) [\partial_\tau - \mu] c_i(\tau)$$

$$S_8 = -\frac{J^2}{N^3} \sum_{i < j, k < l} \int_0^\beta d\tau \bar{c}_i(\tau) \bar{c}_j(\tau) c_k(\tau) c_l(\tau) \int_0^\beta d\tau' \bar{c}_k(\tau') \bar{c}_l(\tau') c_i(\tau') c_j(\tau')$$



# exact self-energy for large N

- for  $N \rightarrow \infty$  self-energy determined by melon diagram + Dyson equation



$$\Sigma(\tau) = -J^2 G^2(\tau) G(-\tau)$$

$$G^{-1}(\omega) = i\omega + \mu - \Sigma(\omega)$$

- non-Fermi liquid solution ( $|\omega| \ll J$ )

$$\Sigma_{\text{NFL}}(\omega) = \mu - \frac{JA(\theta, \omega)}{\pi^{1/4}} \left| \frac{\omega}{J} \right|^\eta \quad \eta = 1/2$$

$$A = \cos^{1/4}(2\theta) e^{-i\text{sign}(\omega)(\theta - \pi/2)}$$

$$n = 1/2 + \theta/\pi + \sin(2\theta)/4$$

propagator  $G(\tau) \propto \tau^{-1/2}$  implies finite ground state entropy

- another solution of self-consistency equation for  $T=0$ :  $\Sigma_{\text{IV}}(\omega) = 0$   
describes integer valence (IV) state:  $n = 1$  or  $0$ .

# phase diagram

Smit, Valentinis, Schmalian, PK, PRR 2021,  
see also Azeyanagi, Ferrari, Schaposnik, PRL 2018

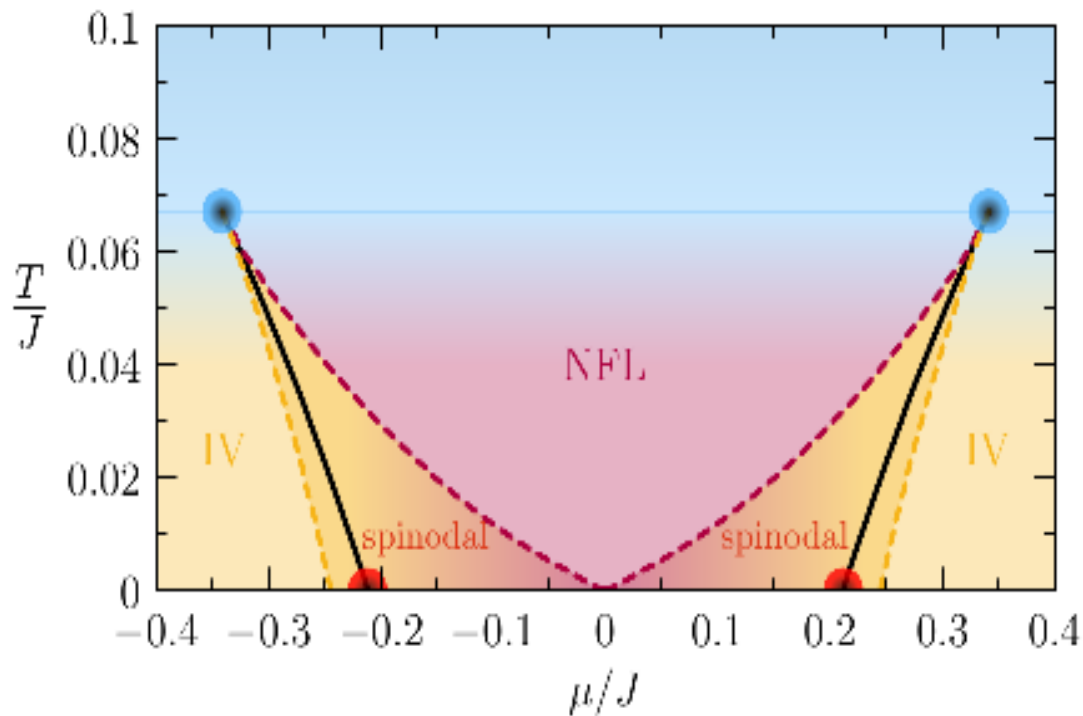


Figure 2: Phase diagram of the SYK model as a function of chemical potential  $\mu$  and temperature  $T$  obtained from the numerical solution of the large- $N$  self-consistency equation for the self-energy; see also Ref. [34]. For  $T = 0$  and  $|\mu| \leq \mu_* = 0.212J$ , the non-Fermi liquid (NFL) phase with anomalous dimension  $\eta = 1/2$  is the stable solution. For  $\mu = \pm\mu_*$  (red dots) there are first order quantum phase transitions from  $n \approx 0.76$  or  $0.24$  to integer-valence (IV) phases  $n = 1$  or  $0$ , respectively. Between the spinodal lines (dashed) both phases are locally stable. The transition terminates at critical points  $(\mu_c, T_c) = (\pm 0.34, 0.067)J$  (blue dots).

## Questions:

- How does underlying global RG flow look like?
- What are properties of RG fixed point describing quantum first-order transition?

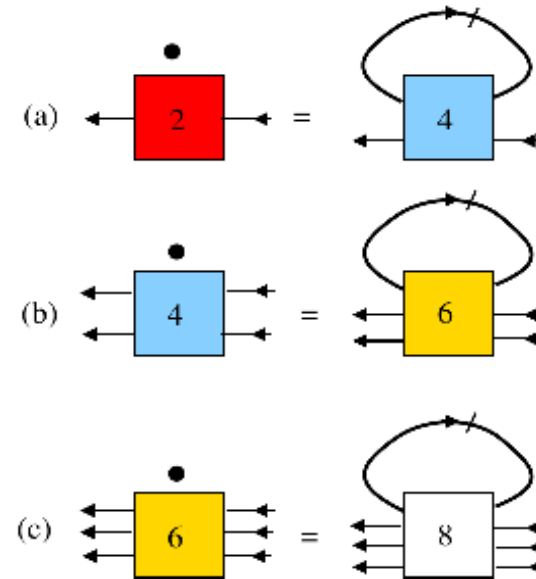
# FRG flow equations for SYK @ large N

- Large-N truncation of flow equations for site averaged vertex functions: evolution due to change of cutoff  $\Lambda$

$$\partial_\Lambda \Sigma_\Lambda(\omega_1) = \int \frac{d\omega_2}{2\pi} \dot{G}_\Lambda(\omega_2) \Gamma_\Lambda^{(4)}(\omega_1, \omega_2)$$

$$\partial_\Lambda \Gamma_\Lambda^{(4)}(\omega_1, \omega_2) = \int \frac{d\omega_3}{2\pi} \dot{G}_\Lambda(\omega_3) \Gamma_\Lambda^{(6)}(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3)$$

$$\partial_\Lambda \Gamma_\Lambda^{(6)}(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3) = \int \frac{d\omega_4}{2\pi} \dot{G}_\Lambda(\omega_4) \Gamma_\Lambda^{(8)}(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_4)$$



- wave-function renormalization  $Z_\Lambda$  :

$$\Sigma_\Lambda(\omega) = \Sigma_\Lambda(0) + (1 - Z_\Lambda^{-1})i\omega + \mathcal{O}(\omega^2)$$

$$\eta_\Lambda = \frac{\Lambda \partial_\Lambda Z_\Lambda}{Z_\Lambda} = \Lambda \partial_\Lambda \ln Z_\Lambda$$

- rescaled dimensionless couplings:

$$r_l = \tilde{\mu}_l^2 = \left[ \frac{Z_\Lambda(\mu - \Sigma_\Lambda(0))}{\Lambda} \right]^2 \quad u_l = \tilde{\Gamma}_\Lambda^{(4)}(0) = \frac{Z_\Lambda^2}{\Lambda} \Gamma_\Lambda^{(4)}(0) \quad g_l = \frac{J^2 Z_\Lambda^4}{\Lambda^2}$$

# global RG flow of SYK

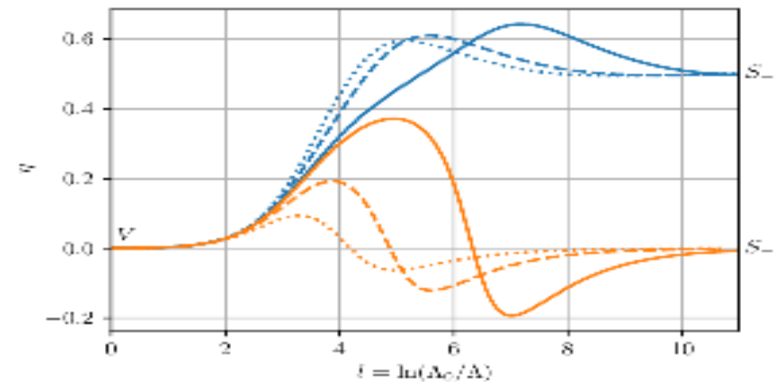
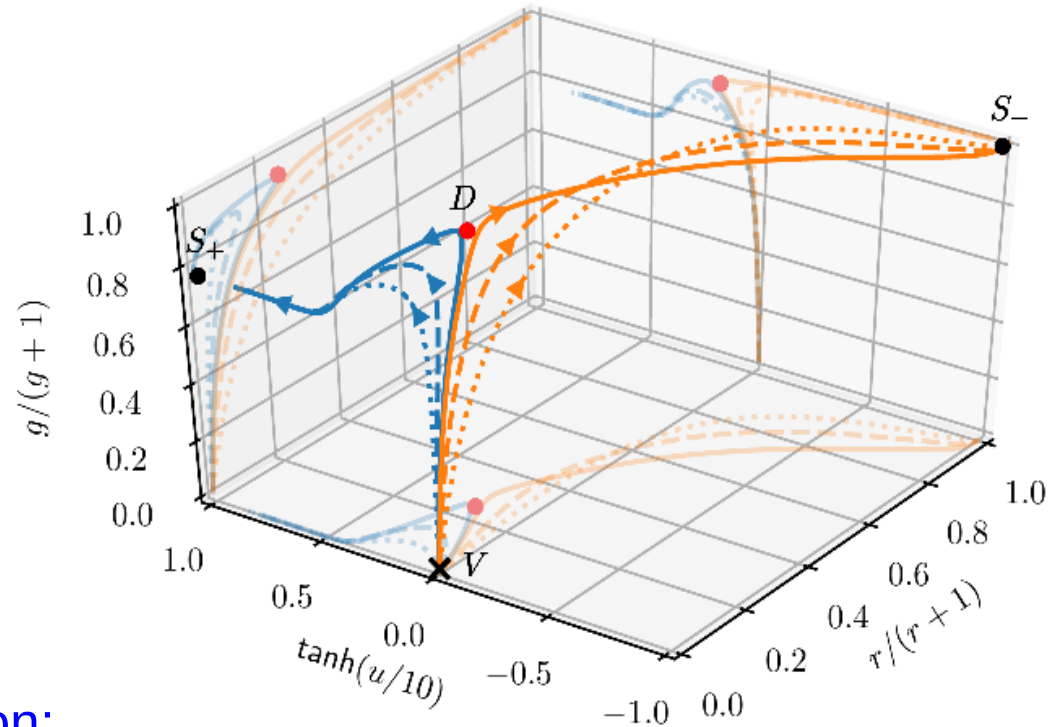
- flow equations for rescaled couplings  
4 fixed points:

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_l r_l &= 2(1 - \eta_l)r_l - \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{r_l u_l}{1 + r_l} \\ \partial_l u_l &= (1 - 2\eta_l)u_l + \frac{4}{\pi} \frac{g_l}{1 + r_l} \left[ \frac{1}{1 + r_l} - \frac{3}{4} \right] \\ \partial_l g_l &= 2(1 - 2\eta_l)g_l\end{aligned}$$

- scale-dependent anomalous dimension:

$$\eta_l = \Lambda Z_\Lambda \int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \dot{G}_\Lambda(\omega_2) \left. \frac{\partial \Gamma_\Lambda^{(4)}(\omega_1, \omega_2)}{\partial (i\omega_1)} \right|_{\omega_1=0}$$

- $\eta = 1/2$  at fixed points D and  $S_{-+}$



# quantum discontinuity fixed point

- discontinuity fixed points represent first order phase transitions in RG (Nienhuis, Nauenberg 1975, Fisher 1982)

- all rescaled couplings finite at D

- linearized RG flow around D gives scaling exponents

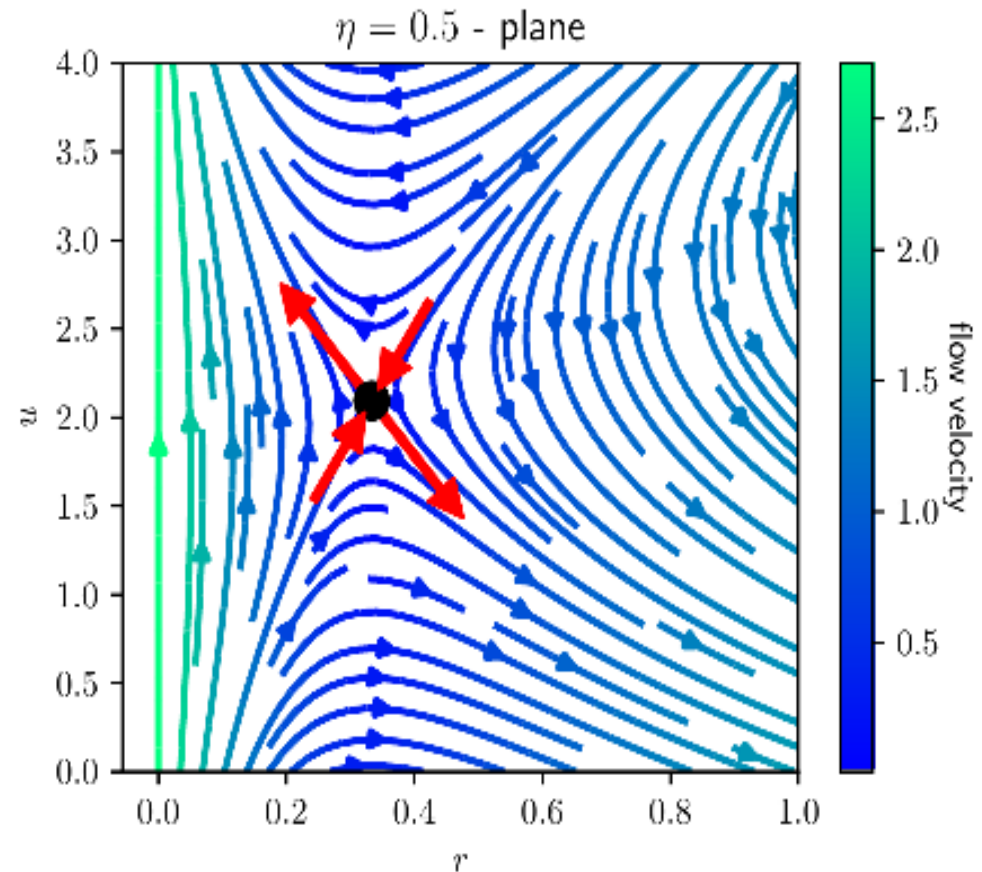
$$\lambda_+ \approx 0.987 \quad \lambda_- \approx -0.737$$

- scaling of singular part of density

$$n_{\text{sing}}(\mu) = A^{1/\lambda_+} |\mu - \mu^*|^{\frac{1-\lambda_+}{\lambda_+}}$$

- $\lambda_+ \approx 1$  implies discontinuity

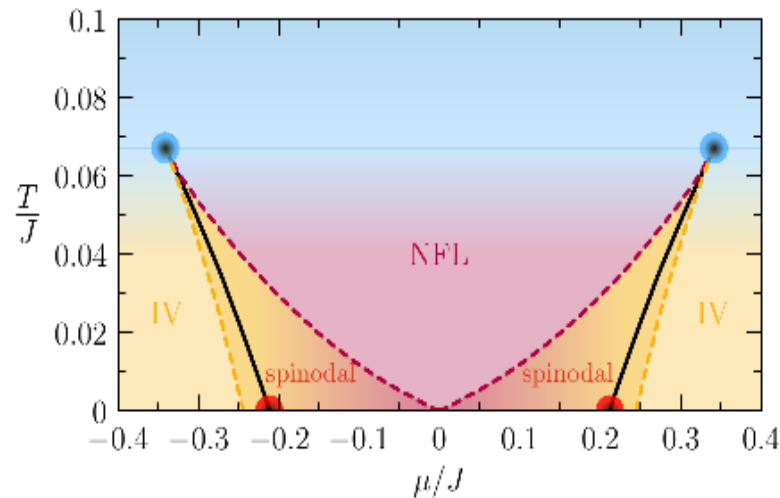
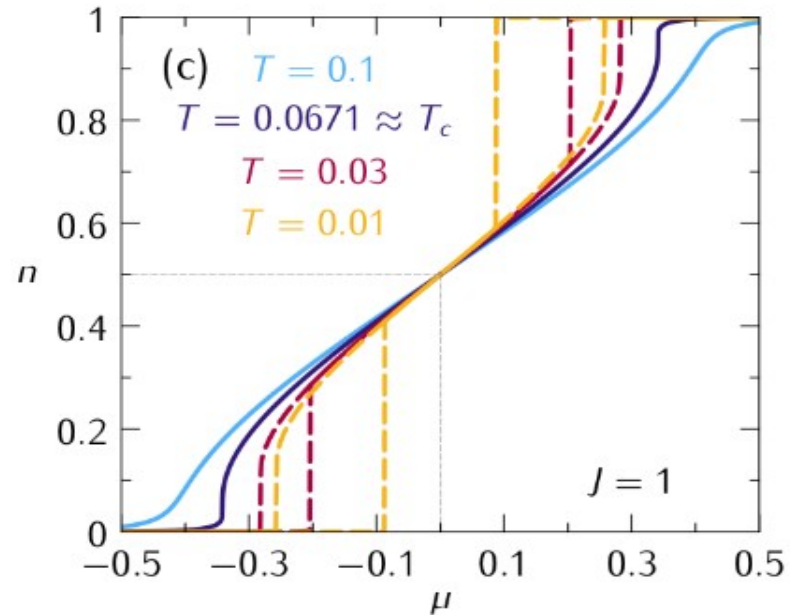
- consistent with numerics





# quantum first order phase transitions

- numerical solution of large-N Dyson-Schwinger equations confirm first order transition
- new feature of quantum first order transition: fermionic excitations have anomalous dimension  $\eta = 1/2$
- different from classical first order transitions



# summary and outlook

- quantum first order transitions can be different from classical counter-parts
- controlled calculation for SYK model: discontinuity fixed point with  
rules out effective description with classical Ising model!  $\eta = 1/2$
- challenges: generalization to finite temperature  
SYK+phonons, superconductivity

# remember ERG 2018:


PHYSICAL REVIEW B **99**, 060403(R) (2019)

Rapid Communications

## Exact renormalization group for quantum spin systems

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 (Received 2 August 2018; revised manuscript received 15 January 2019; published 8 February 2019)

We show that the diagrammatic approach to quantum spin systems developed in a seminal work by Vaks, Larkin, and Pikin [Sov. Phys. JETP **26**, 188 (1968)] can be embedded in the framework of the functional renormalization group. The crucial insight is that the generating functional of the time-ordered connected spin correlation functions of an arbitrary quantum spin system satisfies an exact renormalization group flow equation which resembles the corresponding flow equation of interacting bosons. The  $SU(2)$  spin algebra is implemented via a nontrivial initial condition for the renormalization group flow. Our method is rather general and offers a different nonperturbative approach to quantum spin systems.

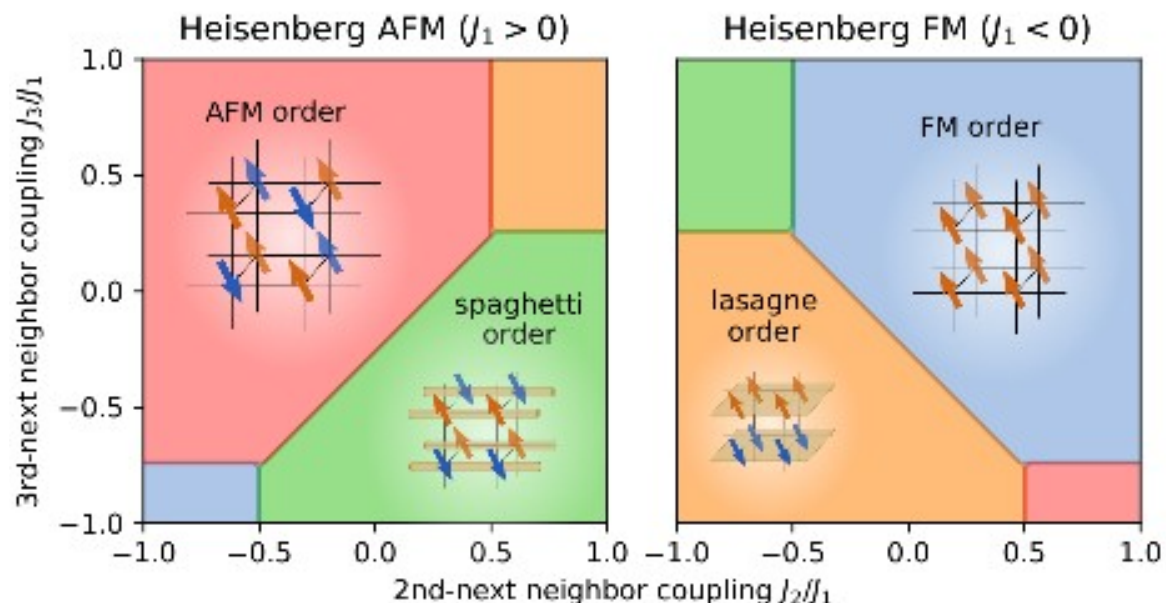
serious alternative to  
pseudofermion FRG !

## recent progress:

- Dissipative spin dynamics in hot quantum paramagnets  
PRB 2021, with D. Tarasevych
- SFRG for dimerized quantum spin systems  
PRB 2022, with A. Rückriegel, J. Arnold, R. Goll, see talk by A. Rückriegel on Thursday
- SFRG for frustrated J1J2J3 quantum Heisenberg magnet  
in preparation, with D. Tarasevych, S. Keupert, V. Mitsiouanou, and A. Rückriegel

# benchmark calculations for J1J2J3 Heisenberg magnet on a cubic lattice:

$$\mathcal{H} = J_1 \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_1} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + J_2 \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_2} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + J_3 \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_3} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j.$$



- static level-1 truncation produces results comparable with 1-loop PFRG

$$G_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{1}{J_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{k}) + \Sigma_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{k})}$$

$S$	$J_1$	$J_3/J_1$	$T_c/T_c^{\text{MF}}$			rel. error / %	
			switch	Litim	benchmark	switch	Litim
1/2	< 0	0	0.651	0.568	0.559	16.5	1.6
1/2	> 0	0	0.651	0.568	0.629	3.5	9.7
1/2	> 0	0.8	0.807	0.787	0.808	0.1	2.6
$\infty$	$\neq 0$	0	0.766	0.725	0.722	6.1	0.4

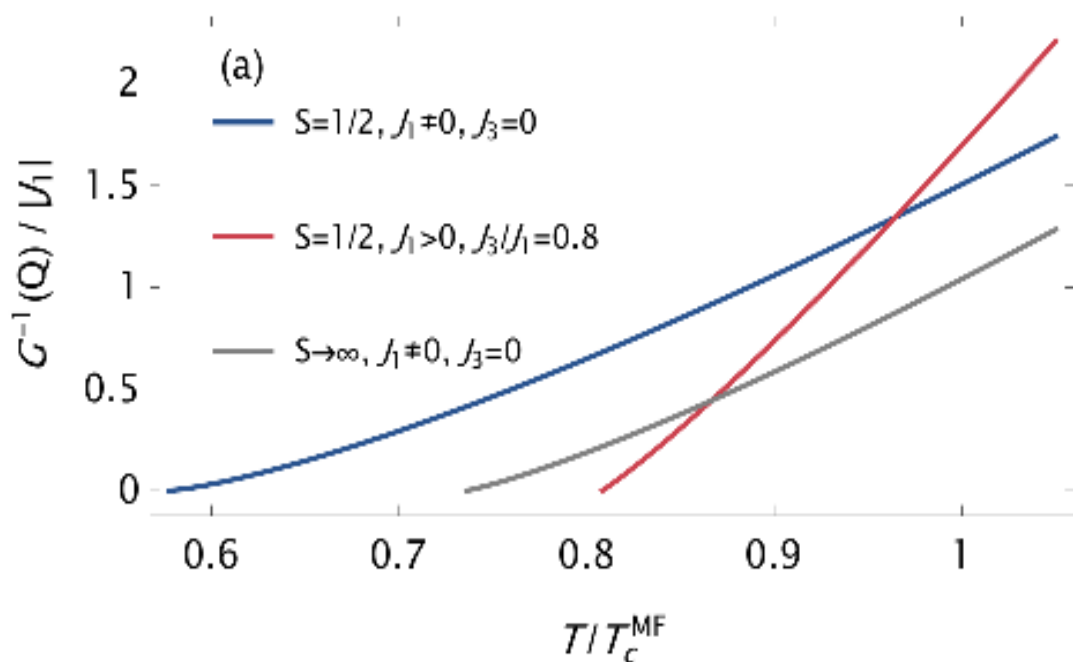
$$\partial_{\Lambda} \Sigma_{\Lambda} = -\frac{5}{6} U_0 \frac{T}{N} \sum_{\mathbf{q}} \frac{\partial_{\Lambda} J_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{q})}{[J_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{q}) + \Sigma_{\Lambda}]^2}$$

$$U_0 = -T \frac{b_3}{b_1^4}$$

$$b_1 = \frac{S(S+1)}{3} \quad b_3 = -\frac{(2S+1)^4 - 1}{120}$$

# benchmark calculations for J1J2J3 Heisenberg magnet beyond static level-1

- static level-2 truncation produces true RG fixed point (missed in PFRG)



$S$	$J_1$	$J_3/J_1$	$T_c/T_c^{\text{MF}}$			rel. error / %	
			switch	Litim	benchmark	switch	Litim
1/2	< 0	0	0.577	0.525	0.559	3.2	6.1
1/2	> 0	0	0.577	0.525	0.629	8.3	16.5
1/2	> 0	0.8	0.808	0.787	0.808	0.0	2.6
$\infty$	$\neq 0$	0	0.736	0.700	0.722	1.9	3.0

- results for finite  $S$  can be improved by including dynamic spin fluctuations
- evidence for spin-liquid phase in maximally frustrated regime of J1J2J3 model (agrees with one-loop PFRG, disagrees with multi-loop PFRG)