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# Non-Abelian vortices

-- Results in New Directions

K . K O N I S H I  
U N I V . P I S A / I N F N P I S A

# Happy 60th Birthday, Misha!

Thanking him for what he has done for our community, and at the personal level, for our long-lasting ( $> 1/4$  of a century) friendship, (indirect) collaborations, occasional fights, and mutual stimulus ...

and

Wishing him many more fruitful years of scientific activity and of happiness ...

Ken

# Results about:

- I. Non-Abelian BPS vortices  
with arbitrary gauge groups
  
- II. Fractional vortices

In collaboration with

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(2008, 2009)

# I. Non-Abelian vortices in general gauge theories

- Model
- General construction of BPS vortices
- GNOW duality
- Vortex moduli for  $SO(N)$ ,  $USp(2N)$

# The models

- Gauge group  $G = U(1) \times G'$
- $G' = SU(N), SO(N), USp(N), \dots$
- Bosonic sector of “N=2” supersymmetric theories with N flavors of (s)quarks
- FI term for the U(1) factor (vortex)
- System in completely Higgs phase
- Color-flavor locked phase with exact, unbroken  $G'_{c+f}$  symmetry

$$\mathcal{L} = \text{Tr}_c \left[ -\frac{1}{2e^2} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2g^2} \hat{F}_{\mu\nu} \hat{F}^{\mu\nu} + \mathcal{D}_\mu H (\mathcal{D}^\mu H)^\dagger \right. \\ \left. - \frac{e^2}{4} |X^0 t^0 - 2\xi t^0|^2 - \frac{g^2}{4} |X^a t^a|^2 \right]$$

$$F_{\mu\nu}^0 = \partial_\mu A_\nu^0 - \partial_\nu A_\mu^0, \quad \hat{F}_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu + i [A_\mu, A_\nu], \\ \mathcal{D}_\mu = \partial_\mu + i A_\mu^0 t^0 + i A_\mu^a t^a.$$

where

$$X = H H^\dagger = X^0 t^0 + X^a t^a + X^\alpha t^\alpha,$$

$$X^0 = 2 \text{Tr}_c (H H^\dagger t^0), \quad X^a = 2 \text{Tr}_c (H H^\dagger t^a)$$

**H**:  $N$  Higgs fields in  $\underline{N}$  representation written as  $N \times N$  matrix form ;  $\xi > 0$  is the FI (forces the system into Higgs phase)

# “Color-flavor locked” vacuum

$$\langle H \rangle = \frac{v}{\sqrt{N}} \mathbf{1}_N, \quad \xi = \frac{v^2}{\sqrt{2N}}$$

Totally Higgsed but with  $G_{C+F}$  flavor symmetry

Bogomolny completion  $\rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} T &= \int d^2x \operatorname{Tr}_c \left[ \frac{1}{e^2} \left| F_{12} - \frac{e^2}{2} (X^0 t^0 - 2\xi t^0) \right|^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{g^2} \left| \hat{F}_{12} - \frac{g^2}{2} X^a t^a \right|^2 + 4 \left| \bar{\mathcal{D}}H \right|^2 - 2\xi F_{12} t^0 \right] \\ &\geq -\xi \int d^2x F_{12}^0 \end{aligned}$$

# Remarks

- For  $G=U(N)$ , with  $N_f = N$ , the color-flavor locked vacuum is unique.
- $\mathcal{M}$  (vacuum moduli) is a point. The main interest in  $\mathcal{V}$  (vortex moduli)
- For  $G' = SO(N), USp(N), \dots$  even if  $N_f = N$ , the color-flavor locked vacuum is just one of the possible vacua (i.e. non-trivial vacuum degeneracy).
- $SO(N) \subset SU(N)$ , strictly smaller.  $SU(N)^C = SL(N, C)$ .
- $\mathcal{M}$  has a much richer structure in general.
- Study first  $\mathcal{V}$  in the maximally color-flavor locked vacuum (I part of the talk)
- $\rightarrow$  Fractional vortices (II part of the talk)

# BPS equations

$$\bar{\mathcal{D}}H = \bar{\partial}H + i\bar{A}H = 0 ,$$

$$F_{12}^0 = e^2 [ \text{Tr}_c (HH^\dagger t^0) - \xi ] ,$$

$$F_{12}^a = g^2 \text{Tr}_c (HH^\dagger t^a) .$$

$$z = x + iy$$

$$\bar{A} = A_x - iA_y$$

$$T = 2\sqrt{2N}\pi\xi\nu = 2\pi v^2\nu , \quad \nu = -\frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{2N}} \int d^2x F_{12}^0 ,$$

Solution of BPS equations:

$$H = S^{-1}(z, \bar{z})H_0(z) , \quad \bar{A} = -iS^{-1}(z, \bar{z})\bar{\partial}S(z, \bar{z})$$

$$H_0(z) \text{ moduli matrix; } S(z, \bar{z}) \in \mathbb{C}^* \times G'^{\mathbb{C}} .$$

$$\Omega = SS^\dagger \quad \Omega = \omega \Omega' , \quad \omega = |s|^2, \quad \Omega' = S'S'^\dagger .$$

# Holomorphic Invariants

$$I_{G'}^i(H) = I_{G'}^i \left( s^{-1} S'^{-1} H_0 \right) = s^{-n_i} I_{G'}^i(H_0(z))$$

$G'$  - invariants made of H

$n_i$ : U(1) charge

$$I_{G'}^i(H) \Big|_{|z| \rightarrow \infty} = I_{\text{vev}}^i e^{i\nu n_i \theta}$$

$$I_{G'}^i(H_0) = s^{n_i} I_{G'}^i(H) \xrightarrow{|z| \rightarrow \infty} I_{\text{vev}}^i z^{\nu n_i} .$$

$$\nu n_i \in \mathbb{Z}_+ \quad \rightarrow \quad \nu = \frac{k}{n_0}, \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$$

$$n_0 \equiv \text{gcd} \{ n_i \mid I_{\text{vev}}^i \neq 0 \}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 2 \text{ ( SO(2N), USp(2N) )} \\ &= 1 \text{ SO(2N+1); N for SU(N)} \end{aligned}$$

$$G = [U(1) \times G'] / \mathbb{Z}_{n_0}$$

U(1) winding #

$I(H) = \det H$   
for U(N)

$\rightarrow H_0(z)$

# GNOW quantization

## Special (vortex) solutions

$$H_0(z) = z^{\nu 1_N + \nu_a \mathcal{H}_a} \in U(1)^{\mathbb{C}} \times G'^{\mathbb{C}},$$

$$(\nu 1_N + \nu_a \mathcal{H}_a)_{ll} \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \quad \forall l$$

$\mathcal{H}_a$  = Cartan subalgebra of  $G'$

$$\longrightarrow \nu + \nu_a \mu_a^{(i)} \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \quad \forall i \quad \bar{\mu}^{(i)} = \mu_a^{(i)} \quad \text{weight vectors of } G'$$

$$\longrightarrow \vec{\nu} \cdot \vec{\alpha} \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (\heartsuit) \quad \vec{\alpha} \quad \text{root vectors of } G'$$

$$\longrightarrow \text{Solution: } \tilde{\mu} \equiv \vec{\nu}/2 \quad \text{is a weight vector of } \tilde{G}'$$

# Constraints for SO, USp

SO(2M+1)

$$(I_{SO,USp})^r_s = (H^T J H)^r_s, \quad 1 \leq r \leq s \leq N,$$



$$J_{\text{even}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbf{1}_M \\ \epsilon \mathbf{1}_M & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad J_{\text{odd}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbf{1}_M & 0 \\ \mathbf{1}_M & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$\epsilon = +1$  for  $SO(2M)$  and  $\epsilon = -1$  for  $USp(2M)$

$$\rightarrow H_0^T(z) J H_0(z) = z^{\frac{2k}{n_0}} J + \mathcal{O}\left(z^{\frac{2k}{n_0}-1}\right) \quad k=1, 2, \dots$$

cfr. U(N) model:  $\det H_0 = z^k + \dots$

## Remarks :

- (♥) formally identical to the GNOW “quantization” condition for the “non-Abelian monopoles” for YM
- (♥) formally identical to that found for “non-Abelian vortices” for YM (Spanu-Konishi)
- The latter are actually  $Z_N$  vortices (no cont. moduli)
- The former has the well-known difficulties
- Our vortices have continuous moduli connecting them (orientational moduli)
- They transform genuinely as various representations of the dual  $G'$  group,  $\tilde{G}'$

# Examples of the dual pairs

$G'$	$\tilde{G}'$
$SU(N)$	$SU(N)/\mathbb{Z}_N$
$U(N)$	$U(N)$
$SO(2M)$	$SO(2M)$
$USp(2M)$	$SO(2M + 1)$
$SO(2M + 1)$	$USp(2M)$

Our vortices have the orientational moduli corresponding to  $\tilde{G}'$  orbits

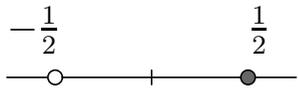
$\Rightarrow$  True non-Abelian quantum monopoles via embedding of our system in  $G_0$  such that

$$G_0 \rightarrow G \rightarrow I$$

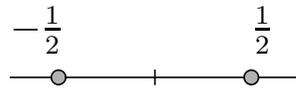
hep-th/0611313 [Eto et. al.](#)

arXiv:0809.1374 [hep-th]

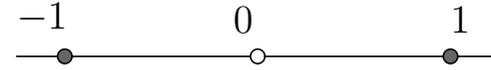
[K.K. Minnesota 08](#)



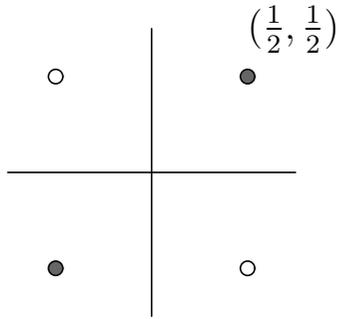
$SO(2)$



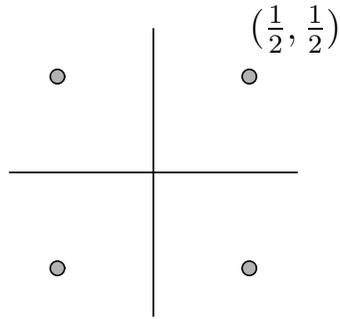
$USp(2)$



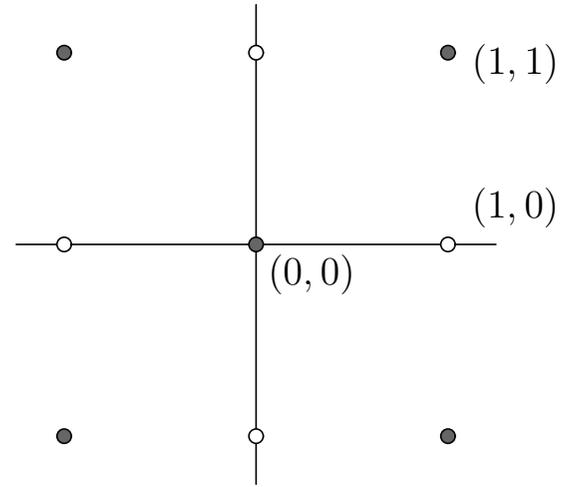
$SO(3)$



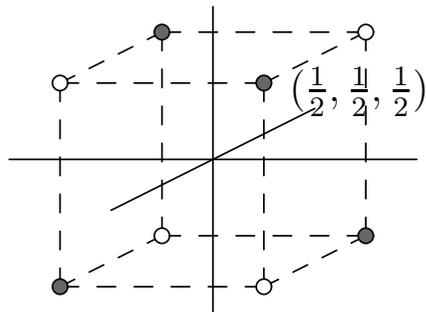
$SO(4)$



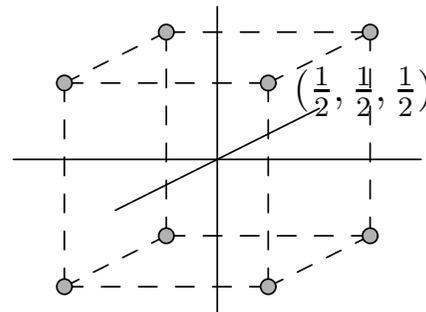
$USp(4)$



$SO(5)$



$SO(6)$



$USp(6)$

**$k=l$   
vortices**

## II. Fractional Vortices

- EAH model
- Arena of study: various Abelian and non-A generalizations
- Vortices in degenerate vacua: origin of the vortex substructures
- Models based on  $CP^1$
- $SO(2N)$

**Def. (here):** Vortices with minimum vorticity (the minimum winding required by the topological stability) but with non-trivial tension substructures in the transverse plane

(Known examples in EAH; also torons, calorons ....)

# Extended Abelian Higgs models (EAH)

Achúcarro,  
Vachaspati,  
Hindmarsh

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4e^2} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \mathcal{D}_\mu q (\mathcal{D}^\mu q)^\dagger - \frac{\lambda}{2} (qq^\dagger - \xi)^2$$

$$M \equiv \{q_i\}, \quad \sum_{i=1}^{N_f} |q_i|^2 = \xi \quad q = (q_1, q_2, \dots, q_{N_f})$$

$$\langle q \rangle = (q_0, 0, \dots, 0), \quad q_0 = \sqrt{\xi},$$

$$\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{C}P^{N_f-1} = SU(N_f) / [SU(N_f - 1) \times U(1)]$$

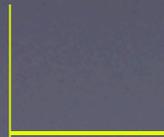
Vacuum  
moduli

$\Pi_1(\mathcal{M}) = 1 \rightarrow$  vortex may not be stable

①  $\beta \equiv \lambda/e^2 > 1$  type II ANO vortex unstable

②  $\beta < 1$  type I ANO vortex stable

③  $\beta = 1$  (BPS) Vortex has arbitrary size (sem-local vortices)  
Non-trivial vortex moduli



In cases ②,③, stability guaranteed by

$$\pi_1(U(1)) = \mathbb{Z}$$

Also, in the BPS case (③)

$$\pi_2(\mathbb{C}P^{N_f-1}) = \mathbb{Z}$$

Vortices  $\sim$  sigma model lumps:  
non-trivial maps from  $S^2$  to  $\mathcal{M}$

Vortices represent  $U(1)$  fiber bundle over  $\mathcal{M}$

## Our models:

various Abelian and non-Abelian generalizations of EAH  
with  $\beta=1$  (BPS):  $\rightarrow$

The basic ingredients for interesting  $\mathcal{V}$  (vortex moduli) :

- BPS nature
- Vacuum degeneracy  $\mathcal{M}$ 
  - ◆ Consider all vortices  $\mathcal{V}$  defined at various points of  $\mathcal{M}$  simultaneously
  - ◆ In general  $\mathcal{M}$  turns out to be a singular manifold:  
our vortices  $\sim$  “fiber bundles over a singular manifold”

$$T = \int d^2x \left[ \sum_I \frac{1}{2g_I^2} (F_{12}^I)^2 + \sum_\alpha (|(\mathcal{D}_1 H)^\alpha|^2 + |(\mathcal{D}_2 H)^\alpha|^2) + \sum_I \frac{g_I^2}{2} (H^\dagger T^I H - \xi_I)^2 \right]$$

$$K = L \otimes G_F \quad \text{local (L) and global (G}_F\text{) symmetries}$$

$$M = \{q_i \mid q^\dagger T^I q = \xi^I\}. \quad \text{vacuum configuration}$$

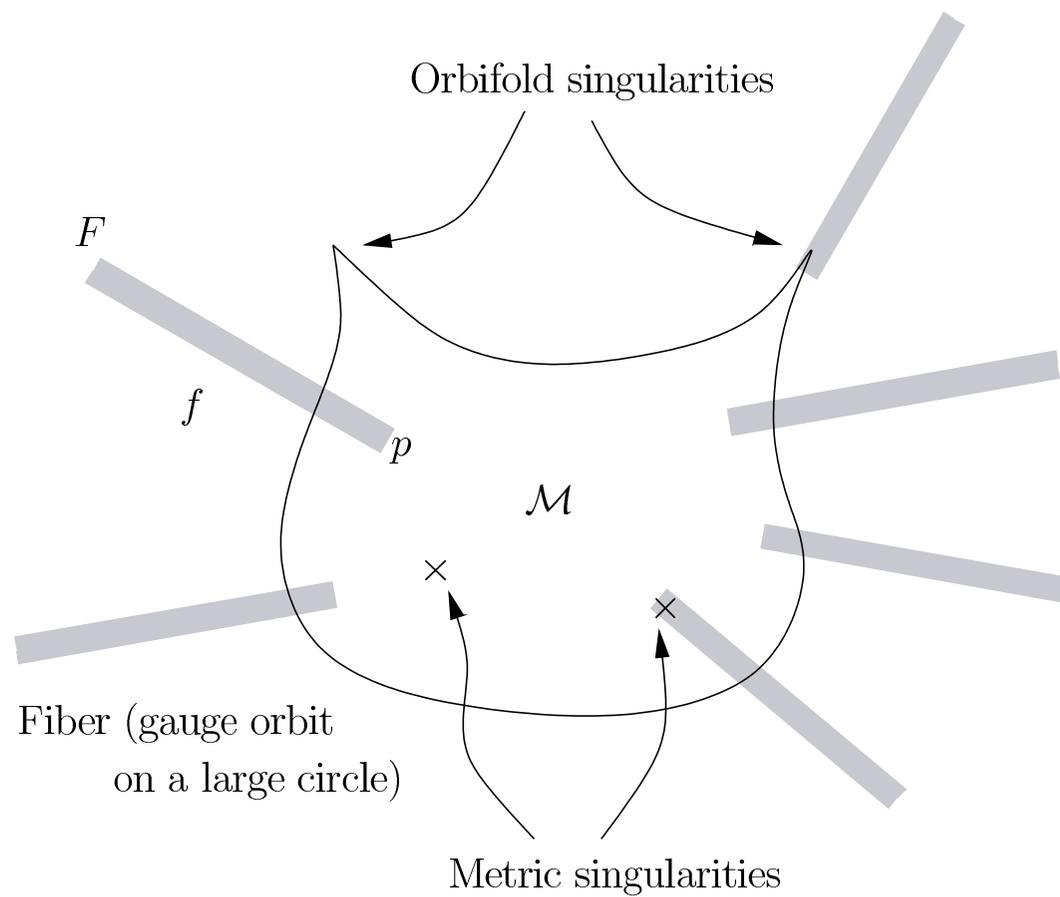
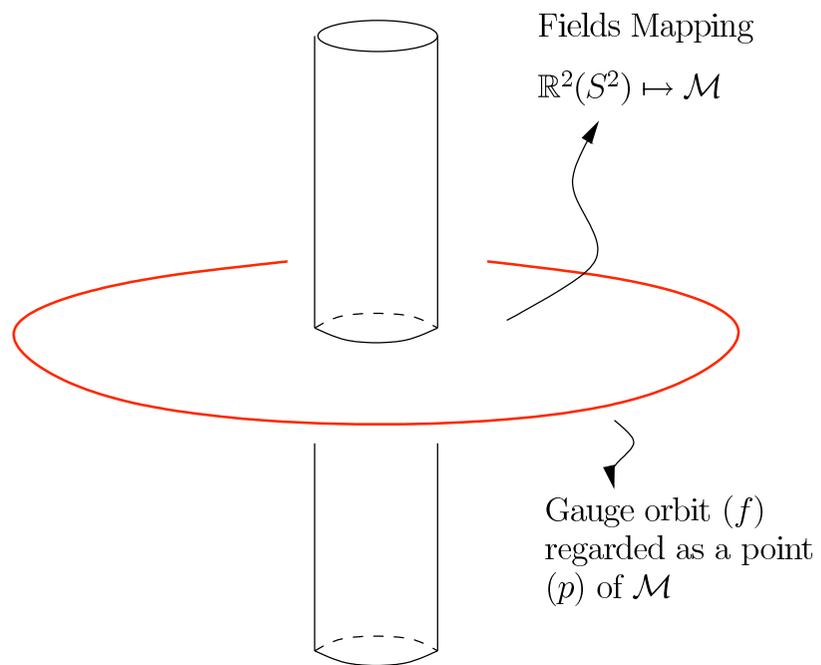
$$p \in \mathcal{M} = M/F \quad \text{vacuum moduli space}$$

$$f \in F = \{q^g \mid q^g = gq\}, \quad g \in L/L_0 \quad \text{fiber = gauge orbits}$$

$$L_0^{\{q\}} = \{\ell_0 \in L \mid \ell_0 q = q\} \quad \text{unbroken gauge group}$$

$$\tilde{G}^{\{q\}} = \{g_f \in G_F \mid g_f q = \ell q\}, \quad \ell \in L \quad \text{unbroken symmetry group}$$

Breaking of  $\tilde{G}^{\{q\}}$  leads to various vortex moduli: but **here we are mainly interested in vortex degeneracy arising from the vacuum degeneracy**



## Exact sequences of fiber bundles

$$\begin{aligned} \cdots \rightarrow \pi_2(M, f) \rightarrow \pi_2(\mathcal{M}, p) \rightarrow \pi_1(F, f) \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \pi_1(M, f) \rightarrow \pi_1(\mathcal{M}, p) \rightarrow \cdots \end{aligned}$$

$$p = \pi(f) \quad \text{projection}$$

In the simple EAH model :

$$M = S^{2N-1}, \quad F = S^1, \quad \mathcal{M} = S^{2N-1}/S = \mathbb{C}P^{N-1}$$

$$\begin{array}{cccccccc} \cdots \rightarrow \pi_2(S^{2N-1}) & \rightarrow & \pi_2(\mathbb{C}P^{N-1}) & \rightarrow & \pi_1(S^1) & \rightarrow & \pi_1(S^{2N-1}) & \rightarrow \cdots \\ & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\ & & \mathbb{1} & & \mathbb{Z} & & \mathbb{Z} & & \mathbb{1} \end{array}$$

The minimum vortex corresponds to a minimum  $\mathbb{C}P^{N-1}$  lump

## Two main causes for (fractional) substructures

- (i) When  $p = p_0$  (a  $Z_N$  orbifold point) both  $\pi_1(F, f)$  and  $\pi_2(\mathcal{M}, p)$  make a discontinuous change.

Vortex defined near  $p = p_0$  feels the presence of  $p_0$  and look like a  $k=N$  vortex

- (ii) Even when  $p$  is a regular point (not near any singularity), the fields  $\{q\}$  inside  $S^1$  (a disk  $D^2$ )  $\sim \mathcal{M}$  : may hit either one of the singularities or simply pass the region of a large scalar curvature.

Fractional vortex substructures caused either by one of these or by a collaboration of the two  $\rightarrow$  examples

# Models based on $CP^1$

(I) Abelian Higgs model with (A,B), with charges (2,1).

Vacuum config.  $2|A|^2 + |B|^2 = \xi$ ,

Gauge transf:  $A \sim e^{2i\alpha(x)} A$ ,  $B \sim e^{i\alpha(x)} B$ .

$\rightarrow \mathcal{M} = WCP_{2,1}^1 \sim \frac{CP^1}{\mathbb{Z}_2}$  (Fig.)

The coordinate of  $\mathcal{M}$  is  $\varphi = 2A/B^2$

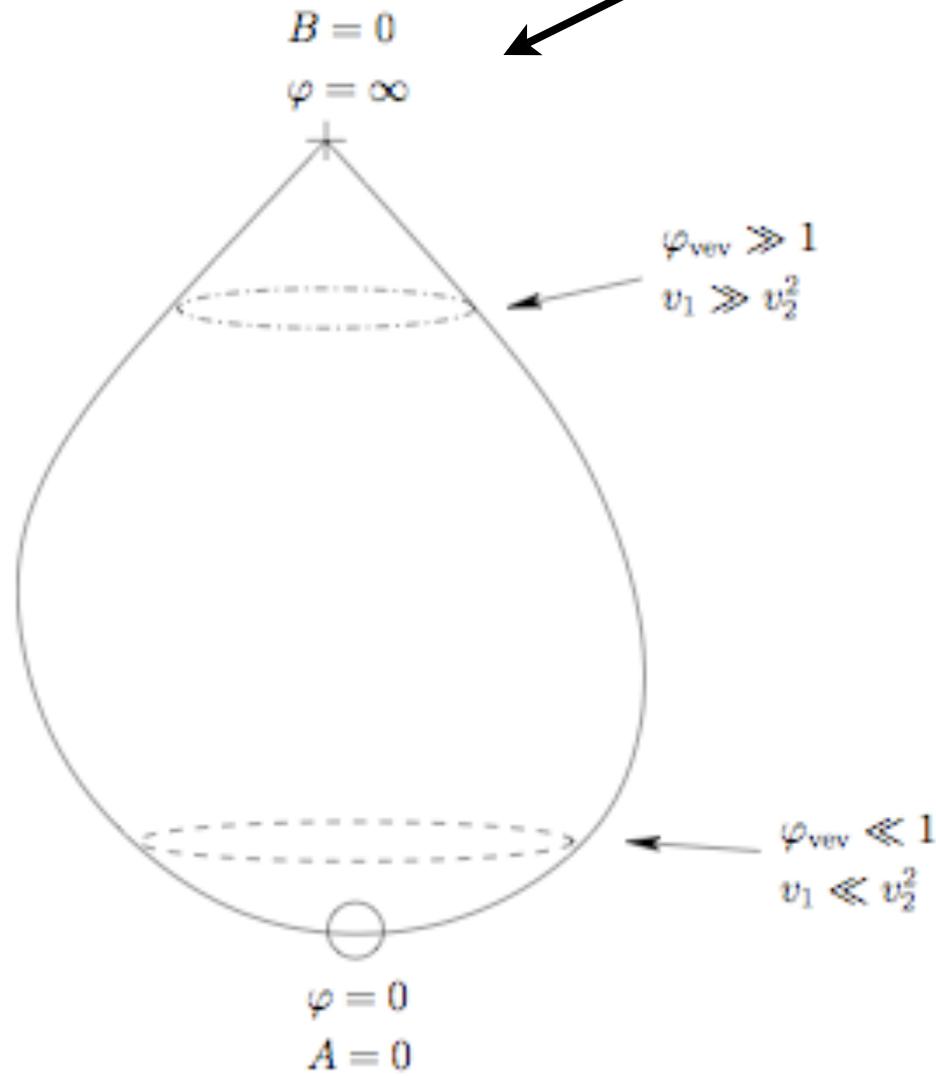
$H = S^{-1}(z, \bar{z}) H_0(z)$

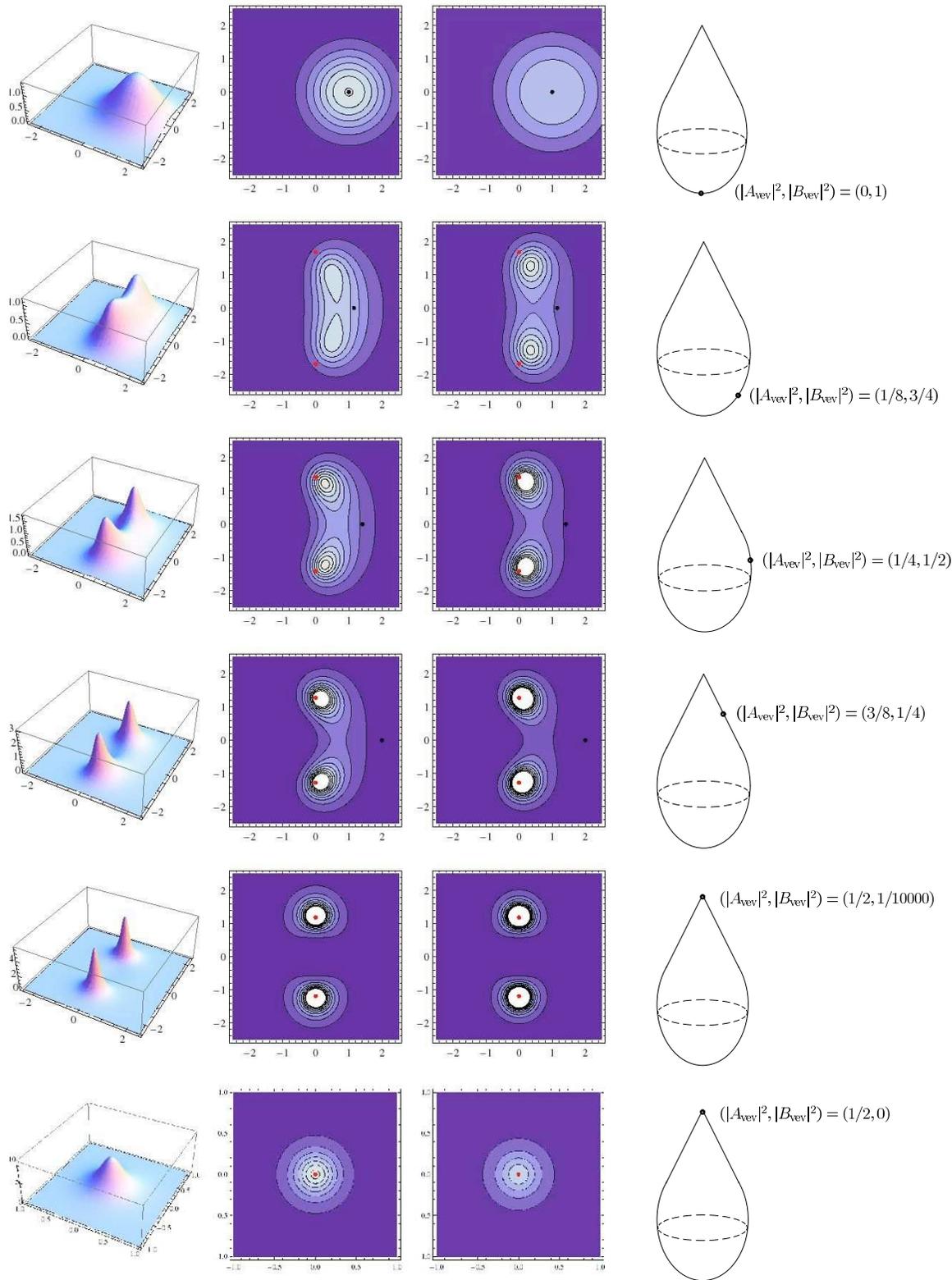
$p$  generic  $H_0^{[11]} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{v_1}{\sqrt{2}}(z - z_1)(z - z_2) & 0 \\ 0 & v_2(z - z_3) \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $v_1^2 + v_2^2 = \xi$

$p = \infty$   
( $B=0$ )  $H_0^{[10]} = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\xi}(z - z_1) & 0 \\ 0 & \zeta_1 \end{pmatrix}$

$\frac{\pi_2(\mathcal{M}, p)}{\pi_2(\mathcal{M}, \infty)} = \mathbb{Z}_2$ ,  $\frac{\pi_1(F, f)}{\pi_1(F, f_0)} = \mathbb{Z}_2$

$Z_2$  orbifold point





black dots = zeros of A;  
red dots = zeros of B

Good example of  
the first mechanism

# Models based on $CP^1$

(2)  $U(1) \times U(1)$  Higgs model with  $(A, B, C)$  with charges:

$$Q_1 = (2, 1, 1) \quad Q_2 = (0, 1, -1)$$

$$(A, B, C) \rightarrow (e^{i2\alpha(x)} A, e^{i\alpha(x)+i\beta(x)} B, e^{i\alpha(x)-i\beta(x)} C)$$

$$U(1)_1 \times U(1)_2 / \mathbb{Z}_2.$$

$$M = \{A, B, C \mid 2|A|^2 + |B|^2 + |C|^2 = \xi_1, |B|^2 - |C|^2 = \xi_2\}$$

$$\mathcal{M} = M / [(U(1)_1 \times U(1)_2) / \mathbb{Z}_2].$$

No orbifold singularity

No doubling of  $\pi_1(F, f)$  or  $\pi_2(\mathcal{M}, p)$

An extra peak at  $\sim z=z_0$ , where  $B(z_0) = 0$

Singularity (Coulomb phase)

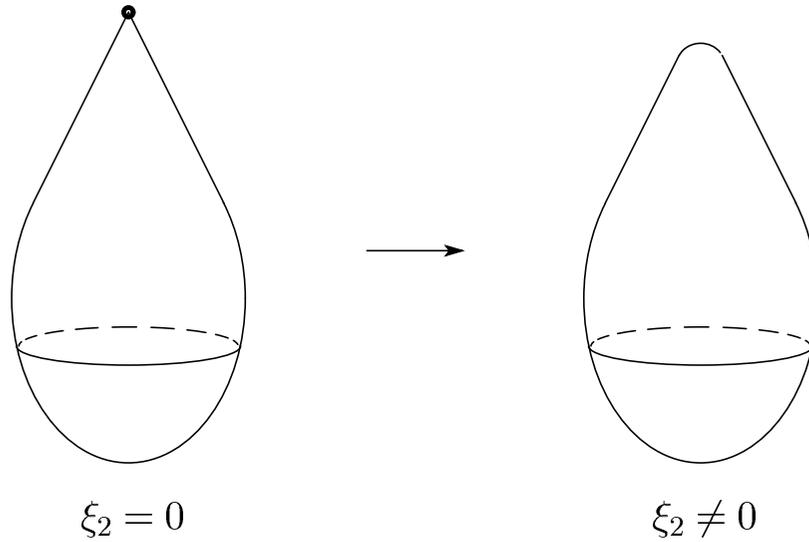


Fig. 5: A sketch of the vacuum moduli space.

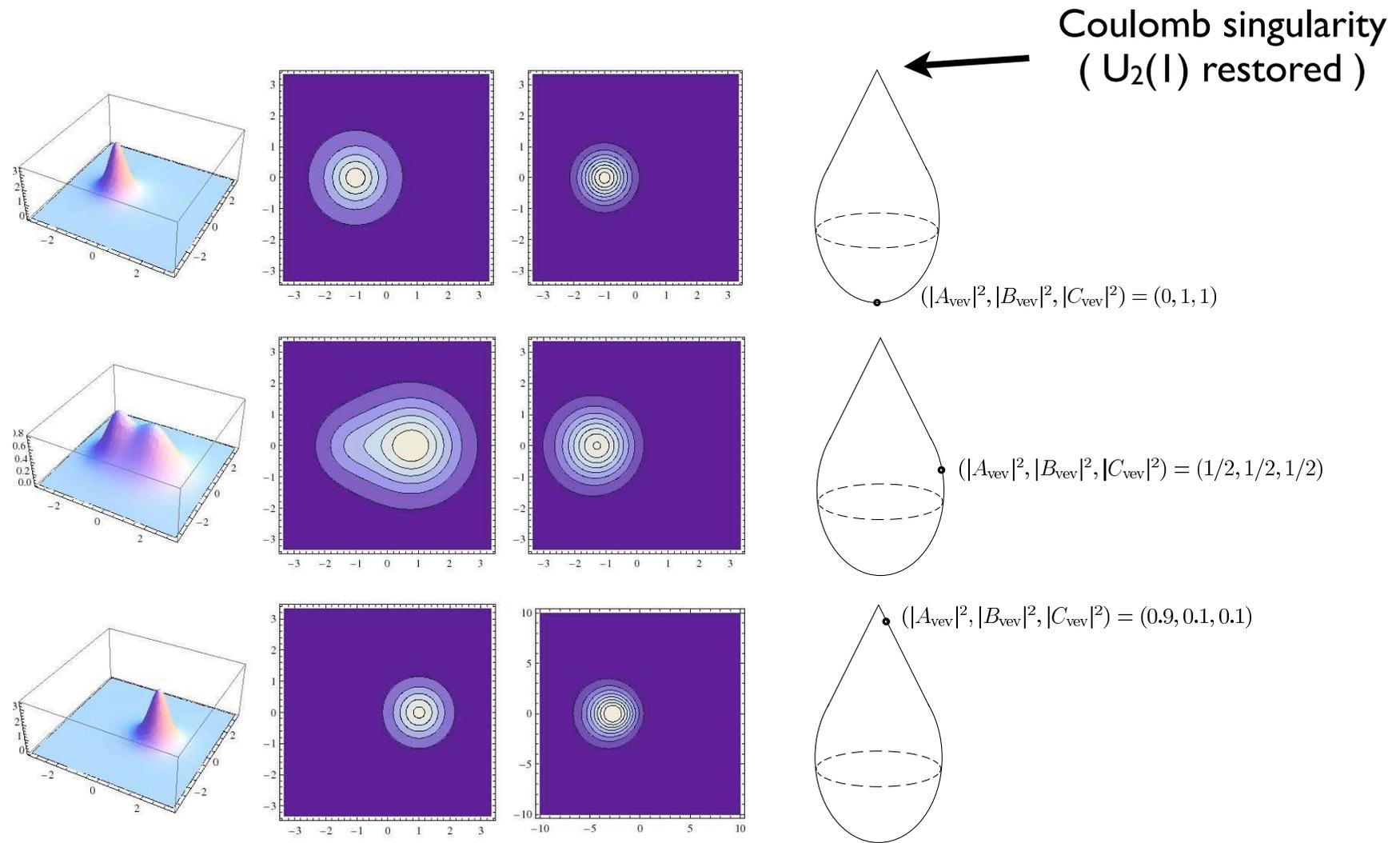


Fig. 6: The energy density (left-most) and the magnetic flux density  $F_{12}^{(1)}$  (2nd from the left),  $F_{12}^{(1)}$  (2nd from the right) and the boundary condition (right-most). We have chosen  $\xi_1 = 2$ ,  $\xi_2 = 0$ ,  $e_1 = 1$ ,  $e_2 = 2$  and  $a = -1, b = 1$  in Eq. (4.34).

Good example of the second  
mechanism

# Models based on $CP^1$

(3) A model with  $U(1) \times SU(2)$  with charges

	$U(1)$	$SU(2)$
$A$	2	$\mathbb{1}$
$B$	1	$\square$

Similar to the  $U(1) \times U(1)$  model, except of course the vortex moduli includes orientational  $CP^1$  moduli

(4) An alternative  $U(1) \times U(1)$  model (A,B,C) with charges

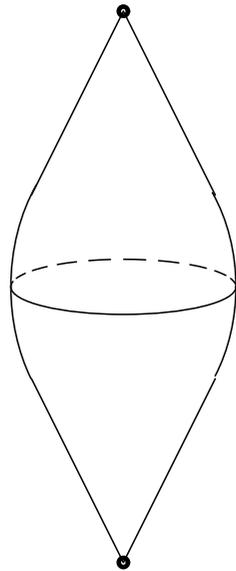
$$Q_1 = (1, 1, 1) \quad Q_2 = (0, 1, -1)$$

$$M = \{A, B, C \mid |A|^2 + |B|^2 + |C|^2 = \xi_1, |B|^2 - |C|^2 = \xi_2\} ,$$

$$\mathcal{M} = M / (U(1)_1 \times U(1)_2) .$$

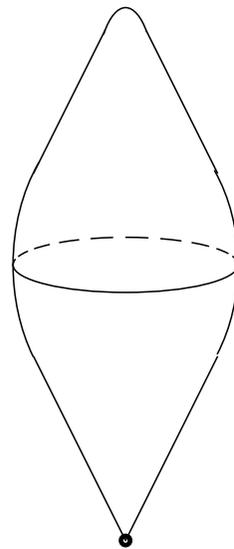
(  $\rightarrow$  Fig.)

Singularity (Coulomb phase)



$\mathbb{Z}_2$  singularity

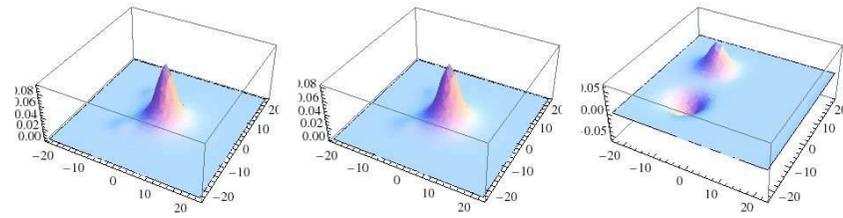
$$\xi_2 = 0$$



$\mathbb{Z}_2$  singularity

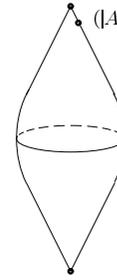
$$\xi_2 \neq 0$$

Fig. 8: The lemon space.

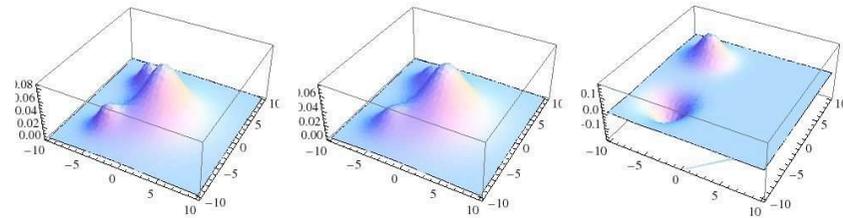


Singularity (Coulomb phase)

$$(|A_{\text{vev}}|^2, |B_{\text{vev}}|^2, |C_{\text{vev}}|^2) = (0.9, 0.05, 0.05)$$



$\mathbb{Z}_2$  singularity

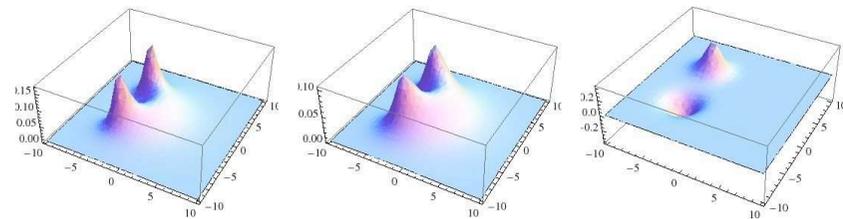


Singularity (Coulomb phase)

$$(|A_{\text{vev}}|^2, |B_{\text{vev}}|^2, |C_{\text{vev}}|^2) = (0.7, 0.15, 0.15)$$



$\mathbb{Z}_2$  singularity

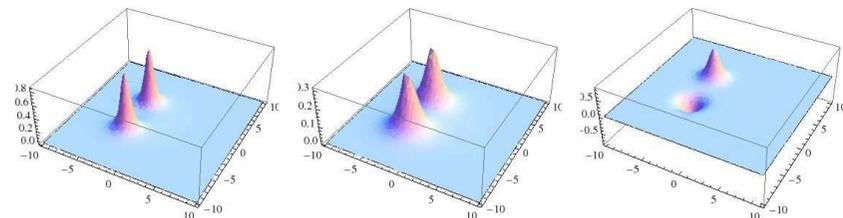


Singularity (Coulomb phase)

$$(|A_{\text{vev}}|^2, |B_{\text{vev}}|^2, |C_{\text{vev}}|^2) = (0.4, 0.3, 0.3)$$

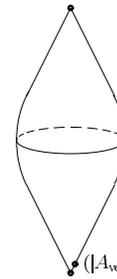


$\mathbb{Z}_2$  singularity



Singularity (Coulomb phase)

$$(|A_{\text{vev}}|^2, |B_{\text{vev}}|^2, |C_{\text{vev}}|^2) = (0.01, 0.495, 0.495)$$



$\mathbb{Z}_2$  singularity

Both mechanisms  
at work

# U(1) x SO(2N) model

$$\begin{array}{c|cc} & U(1) & SO(N) \\ \hline H & 1 & \square \end{array}$$

$$\langle H \rangle = \text{diag} (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{2M}) , \quad \sum_{i=1}^{2M} v_i^2 = \xi , \quad v_i \in \mathbb{R} .$$

Large vacuum degeneracy

$$v_1=v_2=0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{SO}(2) \text{ unbroken}$$

$$v_1=v_2=v_3=0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{SO}(3) \text{ unbroken, etc.}$$

$\rightarrow$  stratified singular structure of  $\mathcal{M}$

Below we consider the maximally color-flavor locked vacuum:

$$v_1=v_2= \dots = v_{2M} = \sqrt{\xi/2M}$$

$$\langle H \rangle = \sqrt{\xi} \mathbb{1}_{2M}$$

$$H = s^{-1}(z, \bar{z}) S'^{-1}(z, \bar{z}) H_0(z) ,$$

Moduli matrix for  $k=1$  :

$$H_0 = \begin{pmatrix} z \mathbb{1}_M - Z & C \\ 0 & \mathbb{1}_M \end{pmatrix}$$

the moduli parameters

$$Z = \text{diag}(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_M) , \quad C = \text{diag}(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_M)$$

SO(6)xU(1) model  $\rightarrow$  fig.

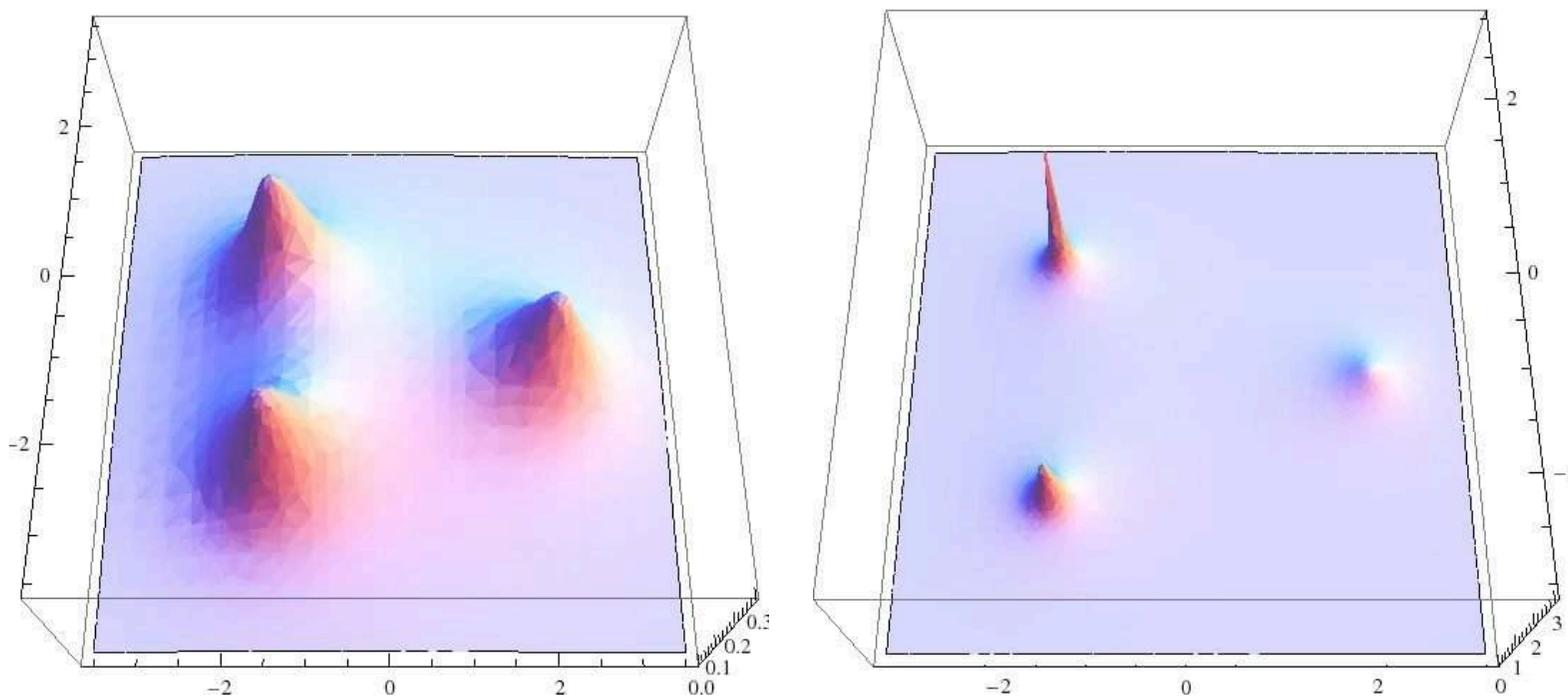


Fig. 11: The energy density of three fractional vortices (lumps) in the  $U(1) \times SO(6)$  model in the strong coupling approximation. The positions are  $z_1 = -\sqrt{2} + i\sqrt{2}$ ,  $z_2 = -\sqrt{2} - i\sqrt{2}$ ,  $z_3 = 2$ . *Left panel:* the size parameters are chosen as  $c_1 = c_2 = c_3 = 1/2$ . *Right panel:* the size parameters are chosen as  $c_1 = 0, c_2 = 0.1, c_3 = 0.3$ . Notice that one peak is singular ( $z_1$ ) and the other two are regularized by the finite (non-zero) parameters  $c_{2,3}$ .

To conclude: fractional vortices

→ interesting applications

→ new mathematical structures ?

(a paper about to appear)

END