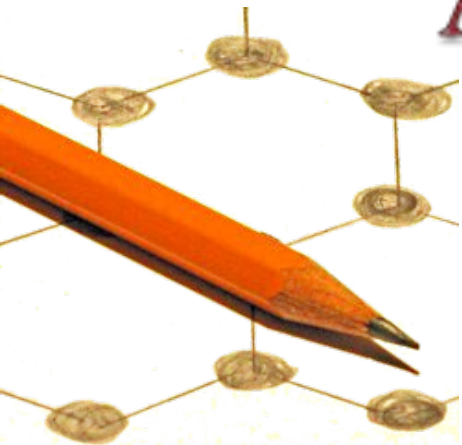




HIGH-ENERGY PHYSICS AT THE TIP OF A PENCIL



Igor Shovkovy

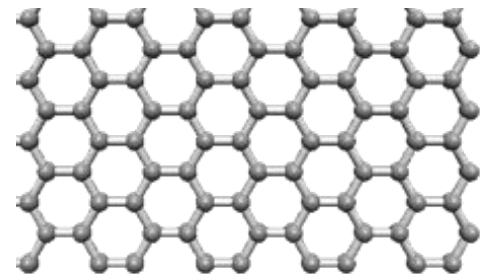
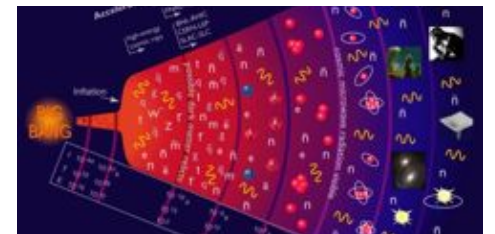
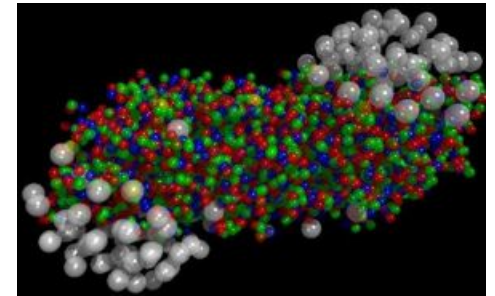
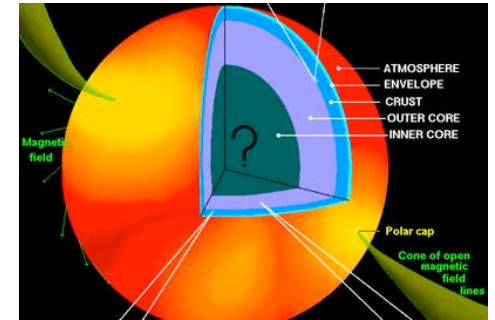
Arizona State University



Part 1

INTRODUCTION

- Examples of relativistic matter
 - **Electrons, protons, quarks** inside compact stars (very dense matter)
 - **Quark gluon plasma** in heavy ion collisions (a very hot fireball)
 - **Hot matter** in the Early Universe (an extremely hot world)
 - **Massless particles** in graphene (quasiparticles behave as massless particles)





- **Non-relativistic**

- Particles move much slower than the speed of light
- Kinetic energies are much smaller than the rest energy

$$E_{\text{kin}} \ll E_{\text{rest}} : \quad E = c\sqrt{p^2 + m^2c^2} \approx mc^2 + \frac{p^2}{2m}$$

- **Relativistic**

- Particle velocities approach the speed of light
- Kinetic energies are comparable to, or larger than E_{rest}

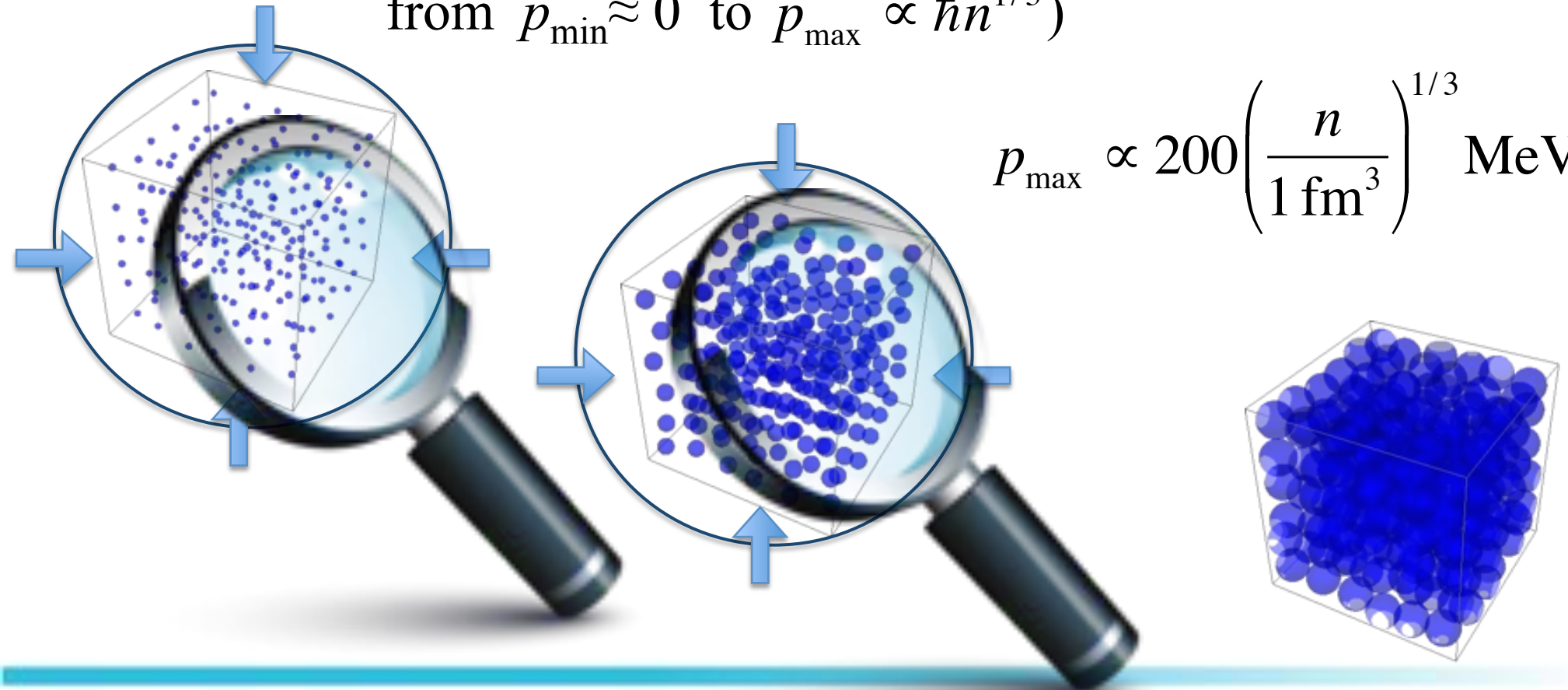
$$E_{\text{kin}} \geq E_{\text{rest}} : \quad E = c\sqrt{p^2 + m^2c^2} \approx cp$$

SUPER-DENSE MATTER

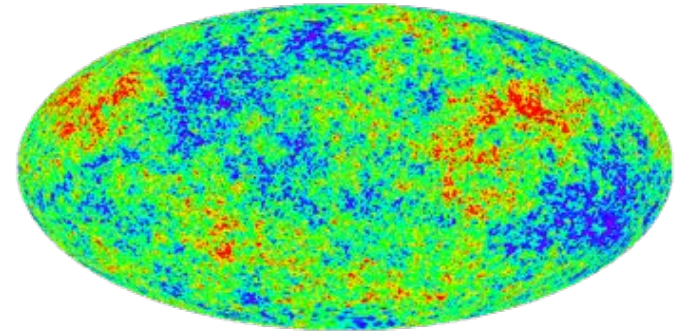
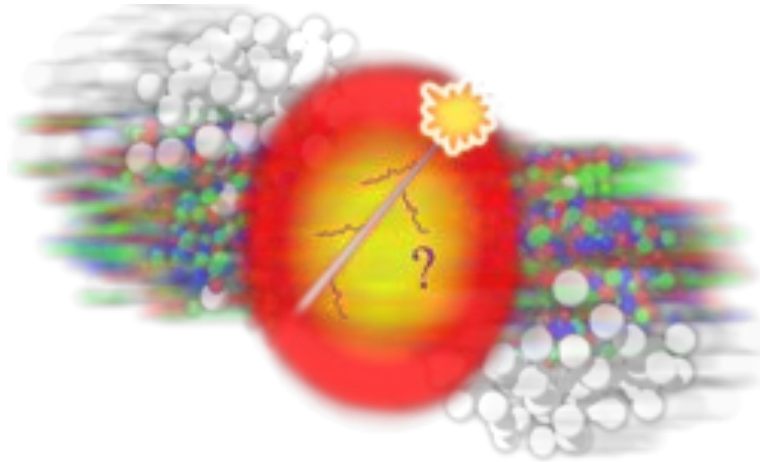
- **What happens when you squeeze matter to very high density?** (e.g., neutrons inside neutron stars)

Pauli exclusion principle: fermions cannot occupy same quantum states (they end up filling out all states from $p_{\min} \approx 0$ to $p_{\max} \propto \hbar n^{1/3}$)

$$p_{\max} \propto 200 \left(\frac{n}{1 \text{ fm}^3} \right)^{1/3} \text{ MeV}/c$$



- **What happens when you heat matter to very high temperature?** (e.g., matter in heavy ion collisions)



Heat is equivalent to **kinetic energy**: average kinetic energy of particles is proportional to temperature:

$$p \propto k_B T / c \sim 200 \left(\frac{k_B T}{200 \text{ MeV}} \right) \text{ MeV}/c \quad (\text{assuming } p \gg mc)$$

- **Can matter be made of massless particles?**

Yes! Electron quasiparticles masquerade as massless particles in some materials (no rest mass energy)

- **Examples:**

- Graphene



2D (planar) materials

$$E = v_F \sqrt{k_x^2 + k_y^2}$$

- $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sb}_x$ alloy with $x \approx 0.03$

- cadmium arsenide Cd_3As_2

3D materials

$$E = v_x k_x + v_y k_y + v_z k_z$$

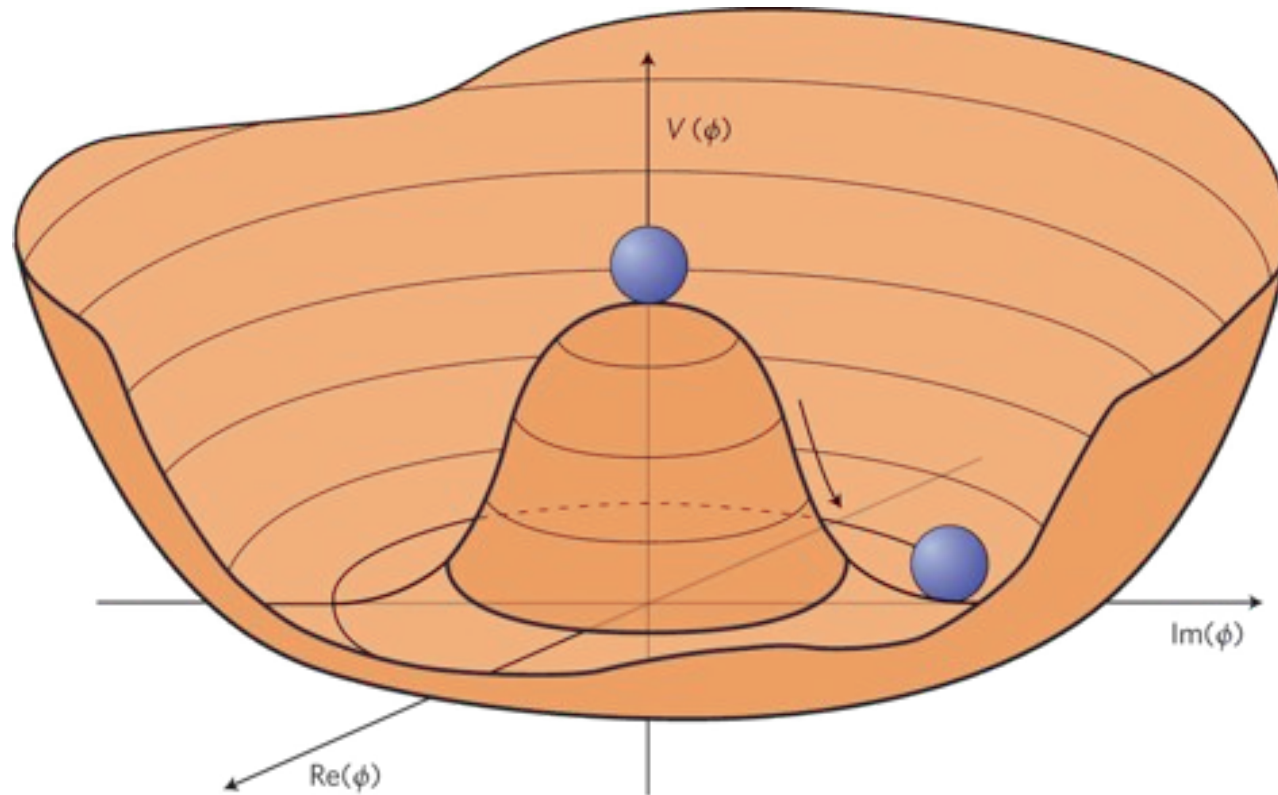
- potassium bismuthide Na_3Bi

Part 2

CHIRAL SYMMETRY

SYMMETRY BREAKING

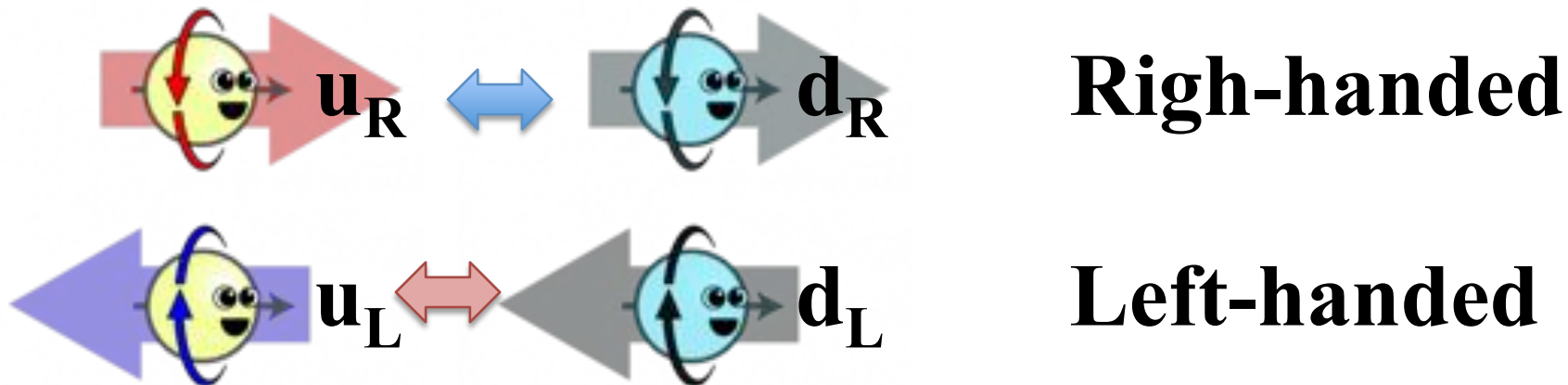
- Underlying laws are symmetric, but the system/ground state changes under a symmetry transformation



- Symmetry may refer to “internal” symmetries (e.g. rotations in color/flavor spaces, rescaling, etc.)

MASS VS. SYMMETRY

- Massless fermions enjoy chiral symmetry (rotation of left-handed and right-handed particles in flavor space)



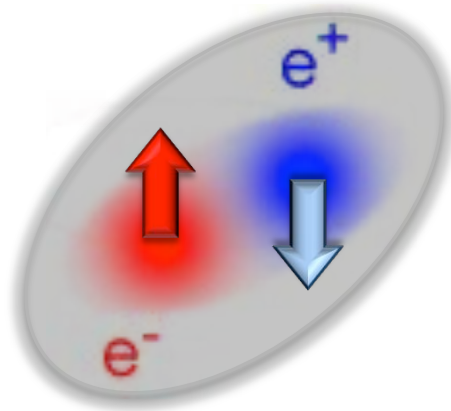
- Massive fermions (e.g., quarks, nucleons, etc.) “break” chiral symmetry

$$|m\rangle \propto C_1|L\rangle + C_2|R\rangle$$

- Hadron physics reveals traces of the original chirally symmetric laws, which are broken in the ground state

HOW SYMMETRY BREAKS (1)

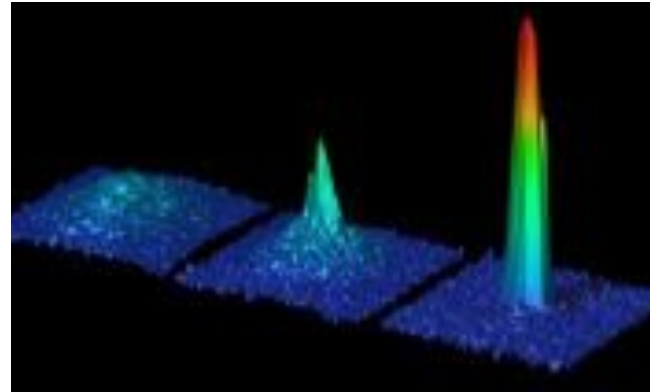
- Particles & anti-particles form bound states



- Let's assume that the binding energy is E_b per pair
- Bound states are bosons with mass $M=2m_{\text{dyn}}-E_b$
- If binding sufficiently strong $M=0$

HOW SYMMETRY BREAKS (2)

- Bosons can (and will) occupy the same lowest energy quantum state (with $p=0$ and $E=0$)
- The result is a Bose condensation in ground state



- The properties of the ground state change (and its fermionic excitations become massive)

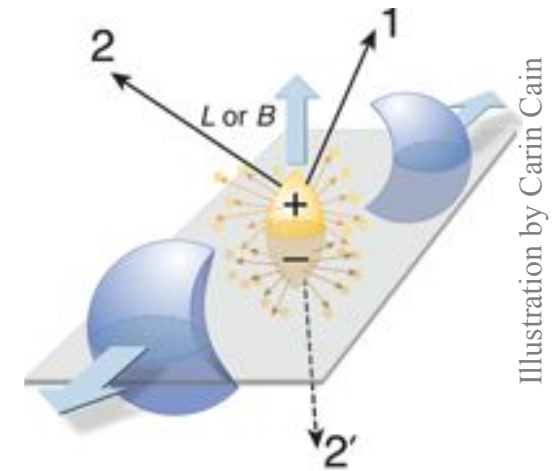
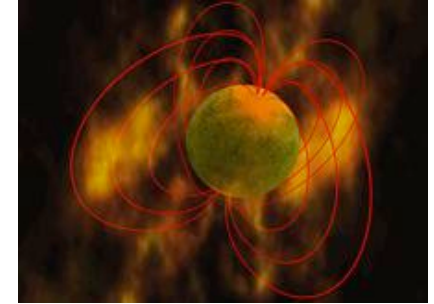
$$m_{\text{dyn}} = E_b/2$$

Part 3

MAGNETIC CATALYSIS

Review: [arXiv:1207.5081](https://arxiv.org/abs/1207.5081)

- Strong magnetic fields are common inside compact stars
 - 10^{10} to 10^{15} Gauss
- In heavy ion collisions, positive ions generate short-lived ($\Delta t \approx 10^{-24}$ s) magnetic fields
 - 10^{18} to 10^{19} Gauss
- Early Universe
 - up to 10^{24} Gauss
- Graphene (High Magnetic Field Laboratory)
 - 4.5×10^5 Gauss



- Magnetic field constrains perpendicular motion of charged particles
- Particle-antiparticle binding becomes easy
- Even *arbitrarily* weak attractive interaction is sufficient to form bound states
- Condensate forms and symmetry breaks down
- Fermions become massive

This is **MAGNETIC CATALYSIS**

[I.S. arXiv:1207.5081]

LANDAU LEVELS

- Fermions in a magnetic field in $(3_{\text{space}} + 1_{\text{time}})D$

$$\left[i\gamma^0 \partial_0 - i\vec{\gamma} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} + ie\vec{A}) \right] \Psi = 0$$

- Energy spectrum

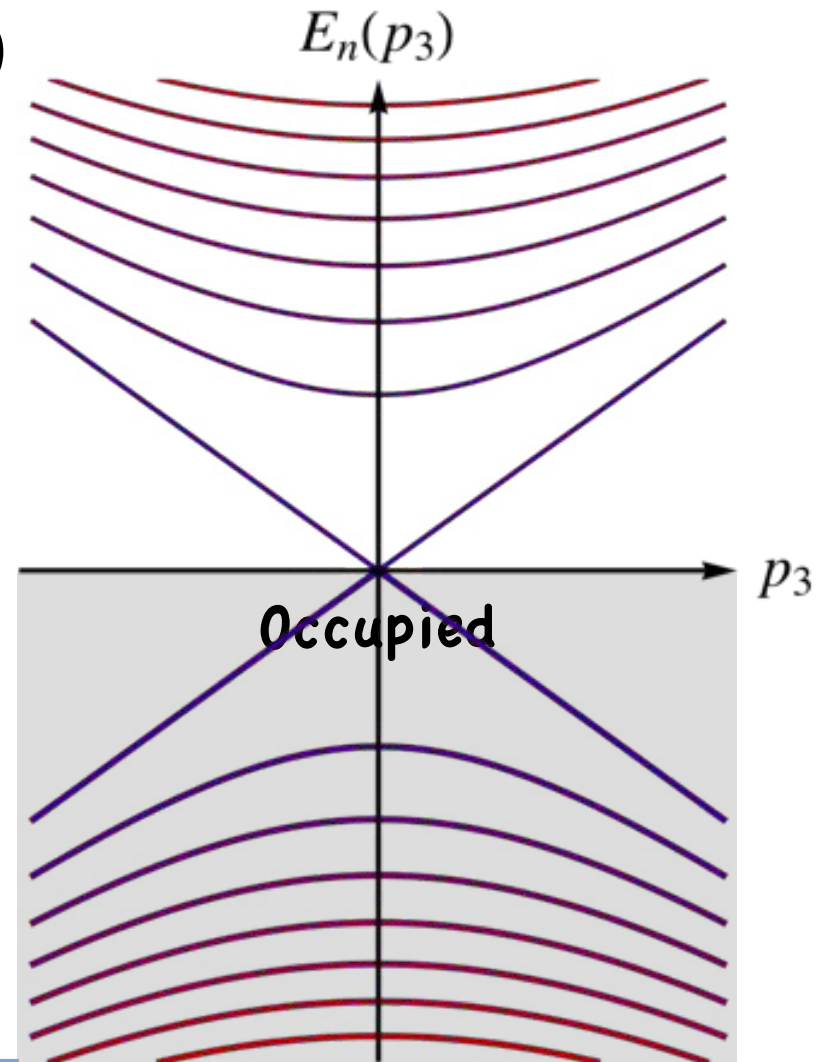
$$E_n^{(3+1)}(p_3) = \pm \sqrt{2n|eB| + p_3^2}$$

$$s = \pm \frac{1}{2} \quad (\text{spin})$$

where

$$n = s + k + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$k = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (\text{orbital})$$

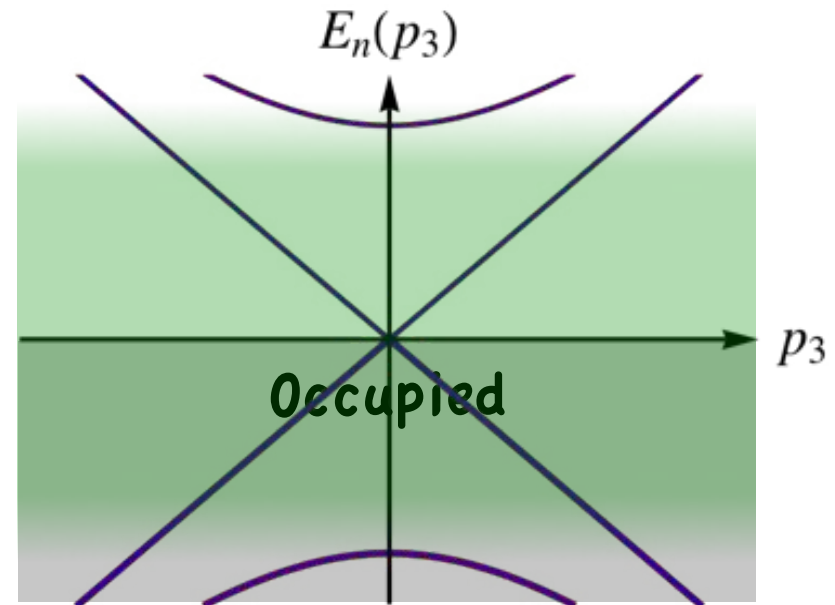


DIMENSIONAL REDUCTION

- At low energies, only $n=0$ (highly degenerate) Landau level is relevant

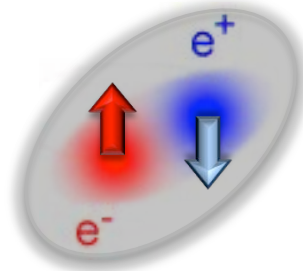
$$n = 0: \quad E_0^{(3+1)}(p_3) = \pm p_3$$

$$\left(k = 0, s = -\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

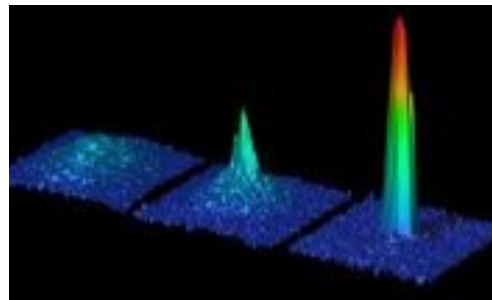


- Particles behave like $(1_{\text{space}} + 1_{\text{time}})$ -dimensional
- Only motion in z -direction is unconstrained
- Motion in xy -plane is restricted

- Particles & anti-particles in $n=0$ level form bound states



- Bound states (bosons) can (and will) occupy the same lowest energy quantum state
- Such a Bose condensate modifies the ground state (vacuum)



- Fermions are massive in the new vacuum

[Gusynin, Miransky, Shovkovy, PRL **73** (1994) 3499]

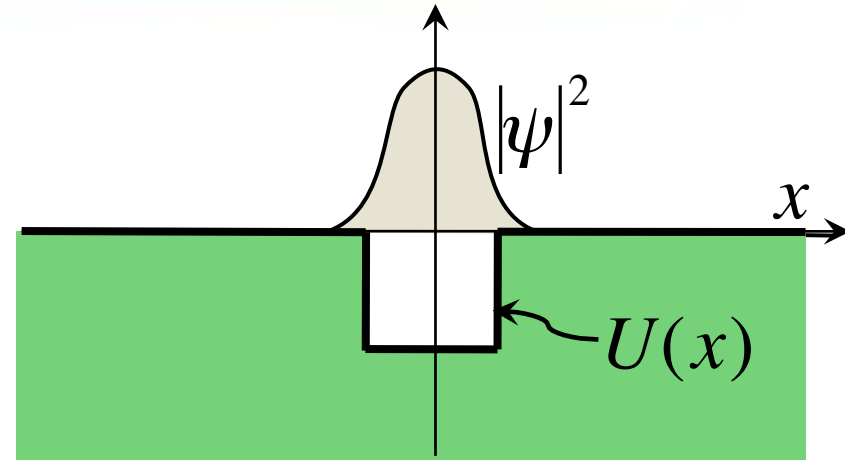
- While $m_0=0$ originally, a nonzero “dynamical” mass m_{dyn} is generated

$$m_{\text{dyn}}^{(2D)} \propto \sqrt{\alpha} \sqrt{|eB|}, \quad \text{and} \quad m_{\text{dyn}}^{(3D)} \propto \sqrt{|eB|} e^{-C/\alpha}$$

- This happens even at the *weakest* interaction (“catalysis”)
- The phenomenon is *universal* (model details are irrelevant)
- Dimensional *reduction* is the key ingredient (massless bound states form = symmetry breaking)

- Bound state energy

$$|E_{1D}| \approx \frac{m_*}{2\hbar^2} \left(-\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} U(x) dx \right)^2$$



- This is a perturbative result

$$|E_{1D}| \propto g^2, \quad \text{when } U(x) \rightarrow gU(x)$$

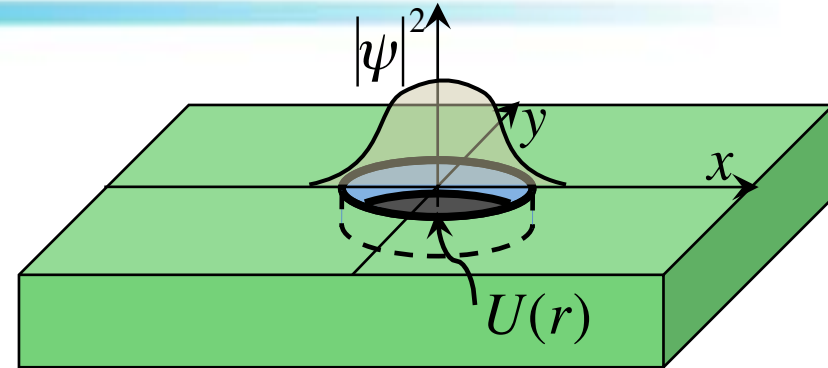
- Bound state exists if

$$\int (1 + |x|) |U(x)| dx < \infty \quad \& \quad \int U(x) dx \leq 0$$

[B. Simon, Annals Phys. 97 (1976) 279]

- Bound states energy

$$|E_{2D}| \approx \frac{\hbar^2}{a^2 m_*} \exp\left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{m_*} \left| \int_0^\infty r U(r) dr \right|^{-1}\right)$$



- This is a non-perturbative result

$$|E_{2D}| \propto \exp\left(-\frac{C}{g}\right), \quad \text{when } U(x) \rightarrow gU(x)$$

- Bound state exists if

$$\int |U(x)|^{1+\varepsilon} d^2x < \infty, \quad \int (1+x^2)^\varepsilon |U(x)| d^2x < \infty \quad \& \quad \int U(x) d^2x \leq 0$$

[B. Simon, Annals Phys. 97 (1976) 279]

- Potential well in 3D

$$U(r) = \begin{cases} -g \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{8m_* a^2} & \text{for } r \leq a \\ 0 & \text{for } r > a \end{cases}$$



- Bound state energy exists only when $g > 1$

$$|E_{3D}| \approx \frac{\pi^4 \hbar^2}{2^7 a^2 m_*} (g - 1)^2, \quad \text{assuming } 0 < g - 1 \ll 1$$

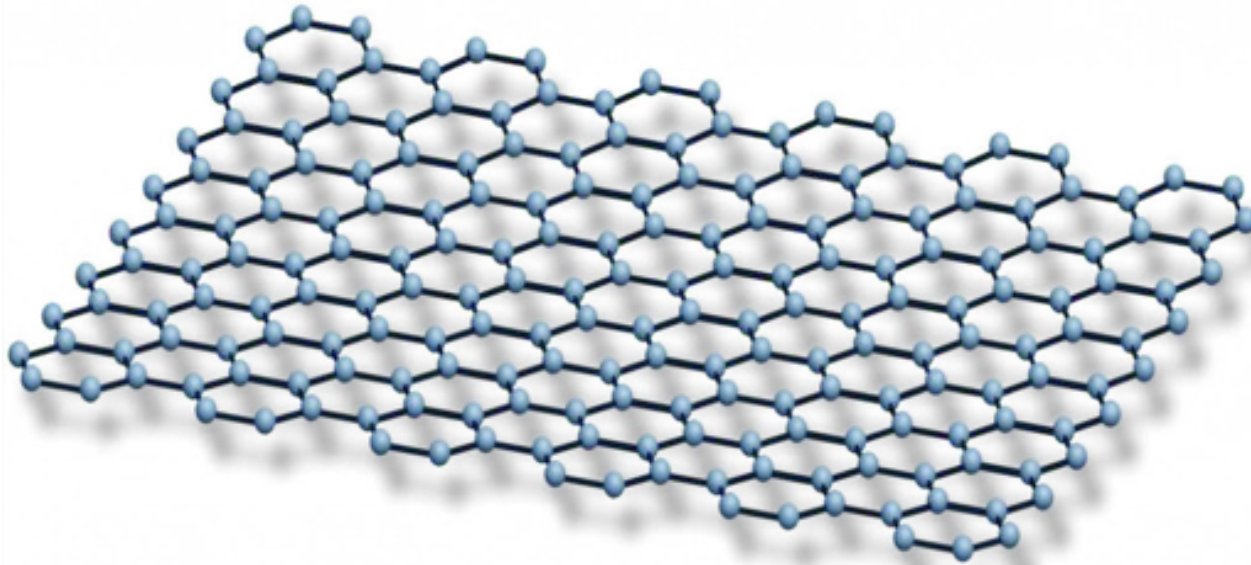
- No bound states when $g < 1$

- **Input**
 - Spin-1/2 charged particles and $B \neq 0$
 - Attractive particle-antiparticle interaction
- **Output**
 - Dimensional reduction $D \rightarrow D-2$ (low energies)
 - Bound state can and do form
 - Symmetry breaking happens
 - Dynamical mass is generated

Part 4

APPLICATIONS

- It is a single atomic layer of graphite
[Novoselov et al., Science **306**, 666 (2004)]
- 2D crystal with hexagonal lattice of carbon atoms



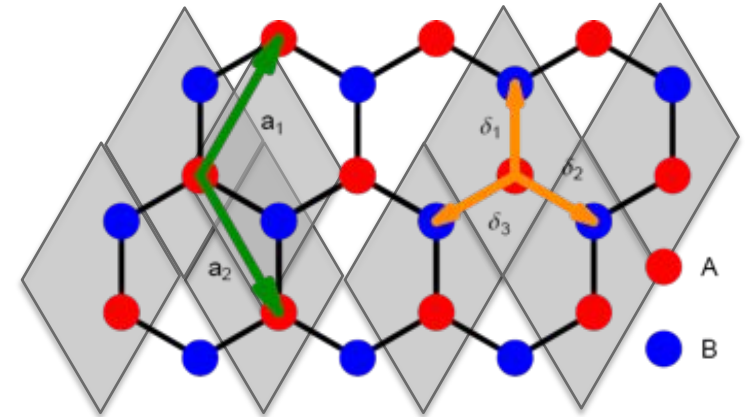
- Interesting basic physics
- Great promise for applied physics



- Translation vectors of the lattice

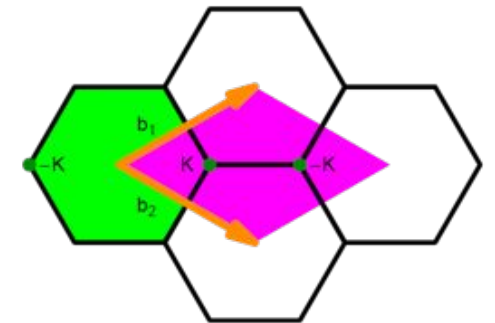
$$\mathbf{a}_1 = a \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \right), \quad \mathbf{a}_2 = a \left(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \right)$$

Lattice constant: $a \approx 1.42 \text{ \AA}$



- Two carbon atoms per primitive cell
- Reciprocal lattice

$$\mathbf{b}_1 = \frac{2\pi}{a} \left(1, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right), \quad \mathbf{b}_2 = \frac{2\pi}{a} \left(1, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right)$$



- Two Dirac points in the Brillouin zone

- There are strong covalent sigma-bonds between nearest neighbors
- Hamiltonian

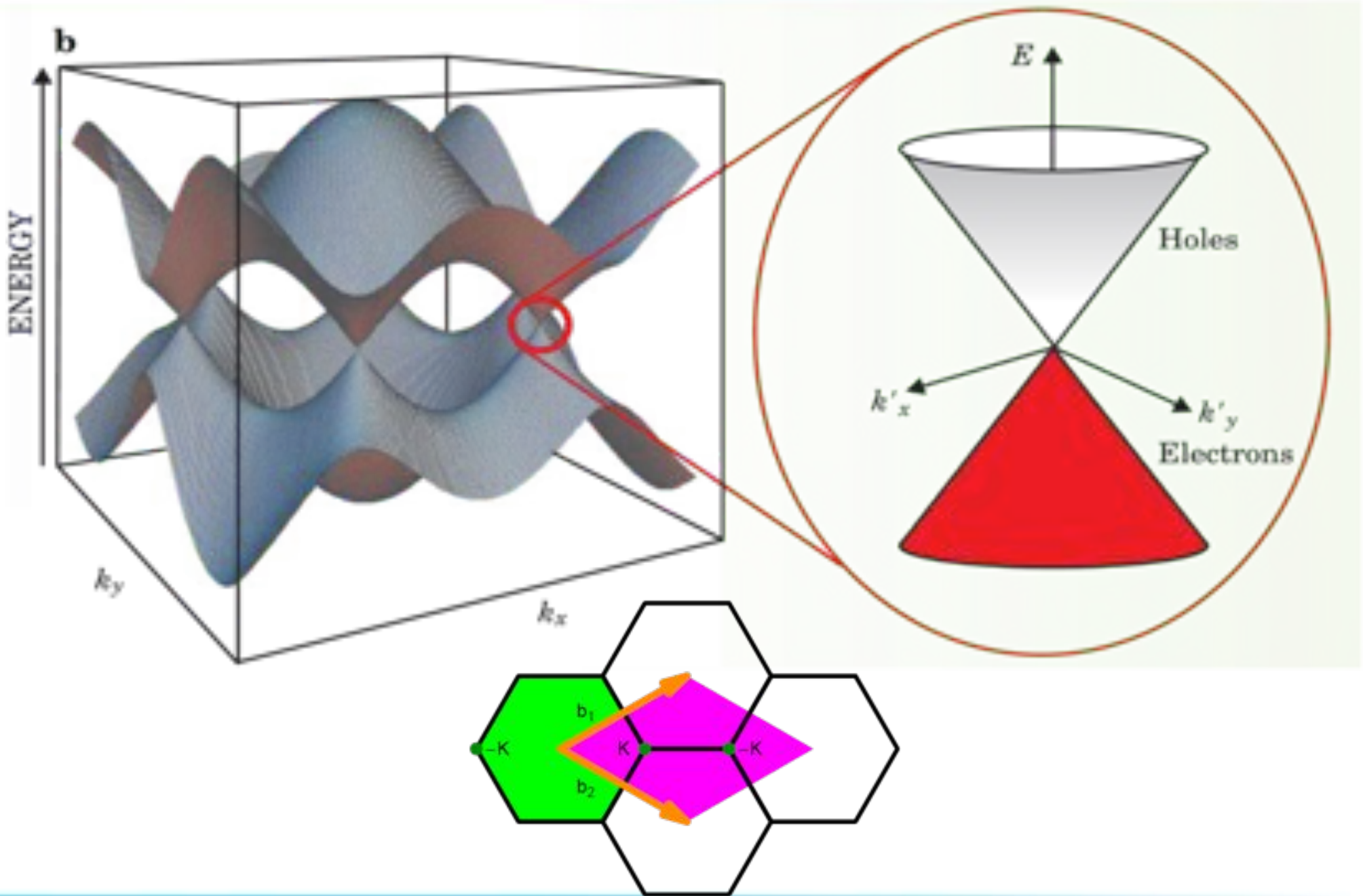
$$H = -t \sum_{\mathbf{n}, \delta_i, \sigma} \left[a_{\mathbf{n}, \sigma}^+ \exp\left(\frac{ie}{\hbar c} \mathbf{A} \cdot \delta_i\right) b_{\mathbf{n}+\delta, \sigma}^+ + c.c. \right]$$

$a_{\mathbf{n}, \sigma} / b_{\mathbf{n}+\delta, \sigma}$ are annihilation operators in A/B-sublattice & spin $\sigma = \uparrow, \downarrow$

- The nearest neighbor vectors are

$$\delta_1 = \frac{\mathbf{a}_1 - \mathbf{a}_2}{3}, \quad \delta_2 = \frac{\mathbf{a}_1 + 2\mathbf{a}_2}{3}, \quad \delta_3 = -(\delta_1 + \delta_2)$$

DISPERSION RELATION



- Charge carriers are spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ fermions with $m=0$
- $m_{\text{dyn}} \neq 0$ is expected in a strong magnetic field

[Khveshchenko, PRL **87**, 206401 (2001)]

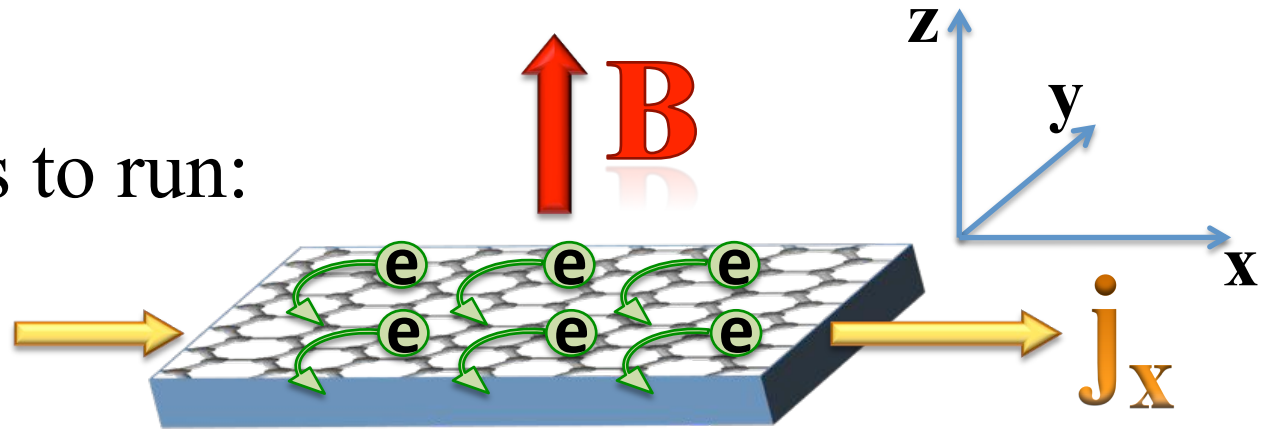
[Gorbar, Gusynin, Miransky, Shovkovy, PRB **66** (2002) 045108]

- Possible complications:
 - many types of “Dirac” masses in **2D**
 - competition with quantum Hall ferromagnetism
 - nonzero electron/hole density
 - impurities, lattice defects, ripples, etc.
- How to test this experimentally?

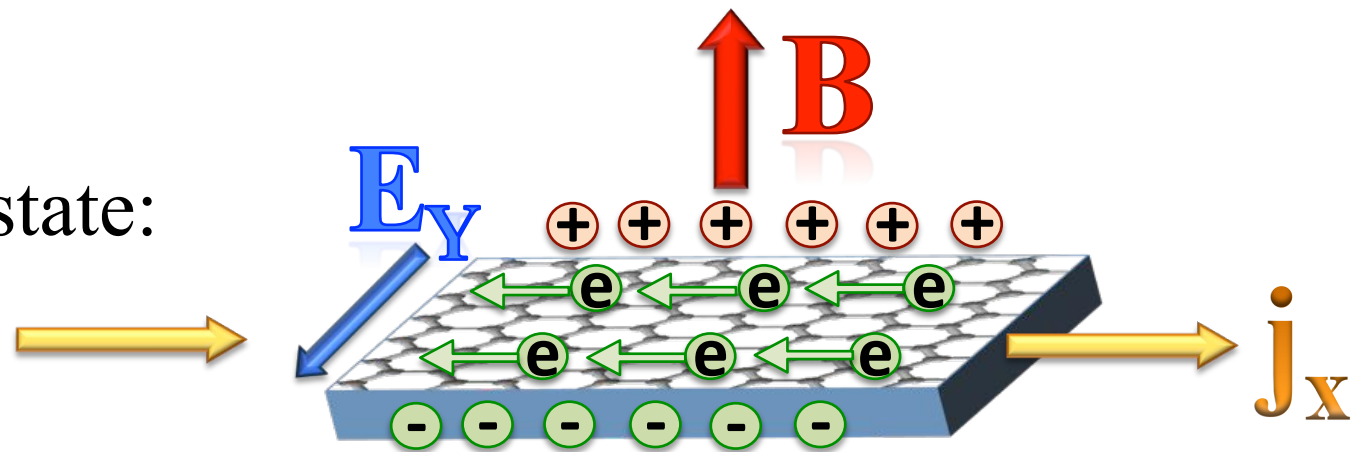
QUANTUM HALL EFFECT

- General setup

- Current starts to run:



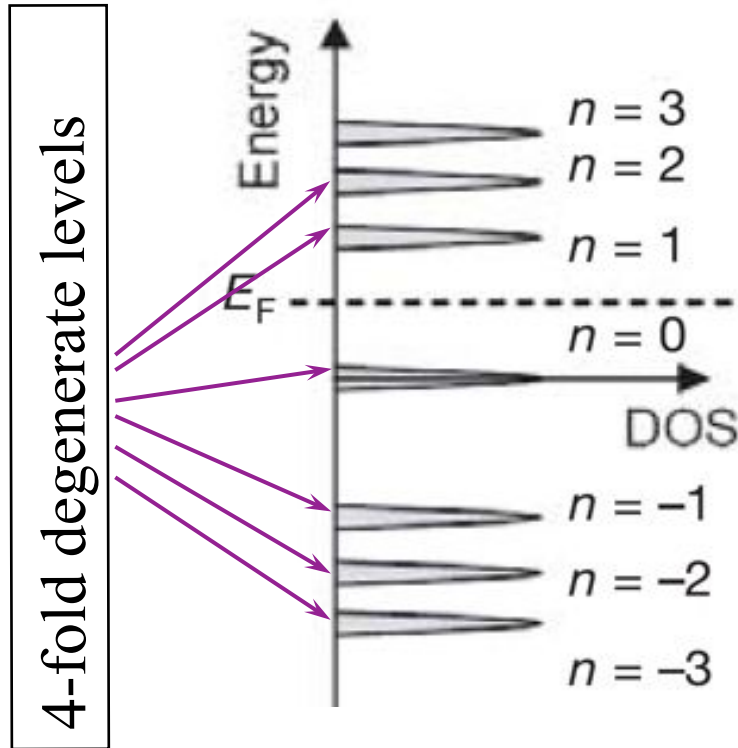
- Steady state:



- Hall conductivity σ_{xy} :

$$\mathbf{j}_x = \sigma_{xy} \mathbf{E}_y$$

QHE IN GRAPHENE



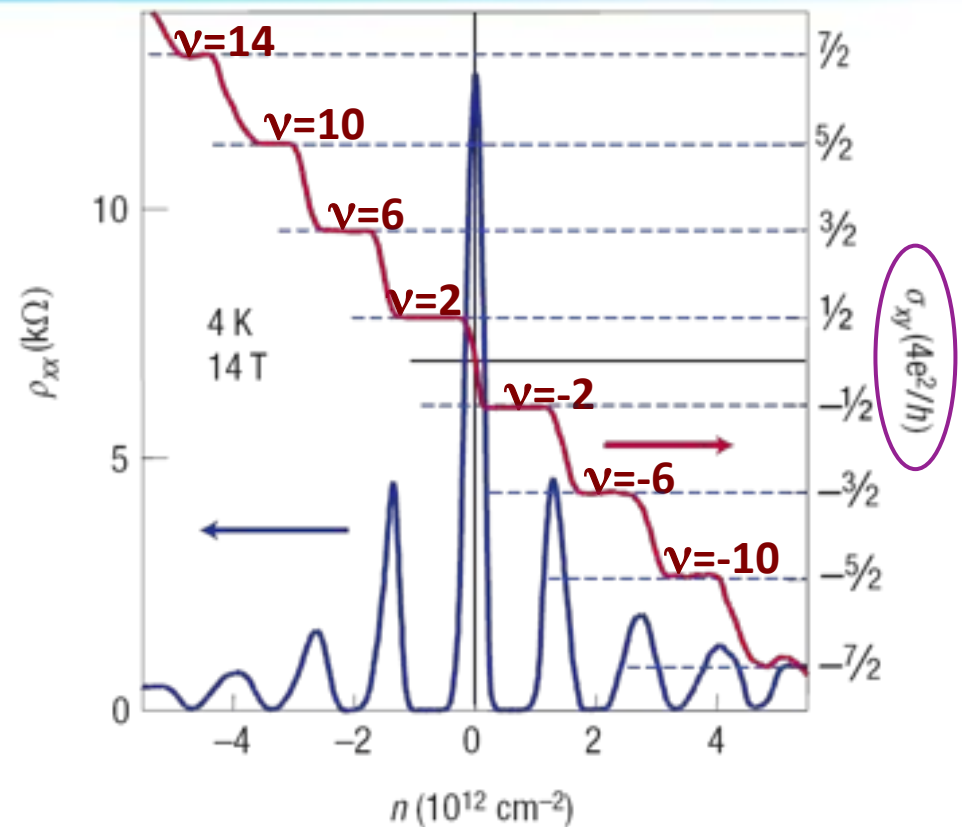
$$E_n = \text{sgn}(n) \sqrt{2e\hbar v_F^2 |n| B}$$

[Gusynin, Sharapov, PRL **95**, [146801](#) (2005)]

[Peres, Guinea, Castro Neto, PRB **73**, [125411](#) (2006)]

[Novoselov et al., Nature **438**, [197](#) (2005)]

[Zhang et al., Nature **438**, [201](#) (2005)]



$$\sigma_{xy} = \frac{ve^2}{h} = \frac{4e^2}{h} \left(n + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

Theory ($m_0=0$)

Experiment

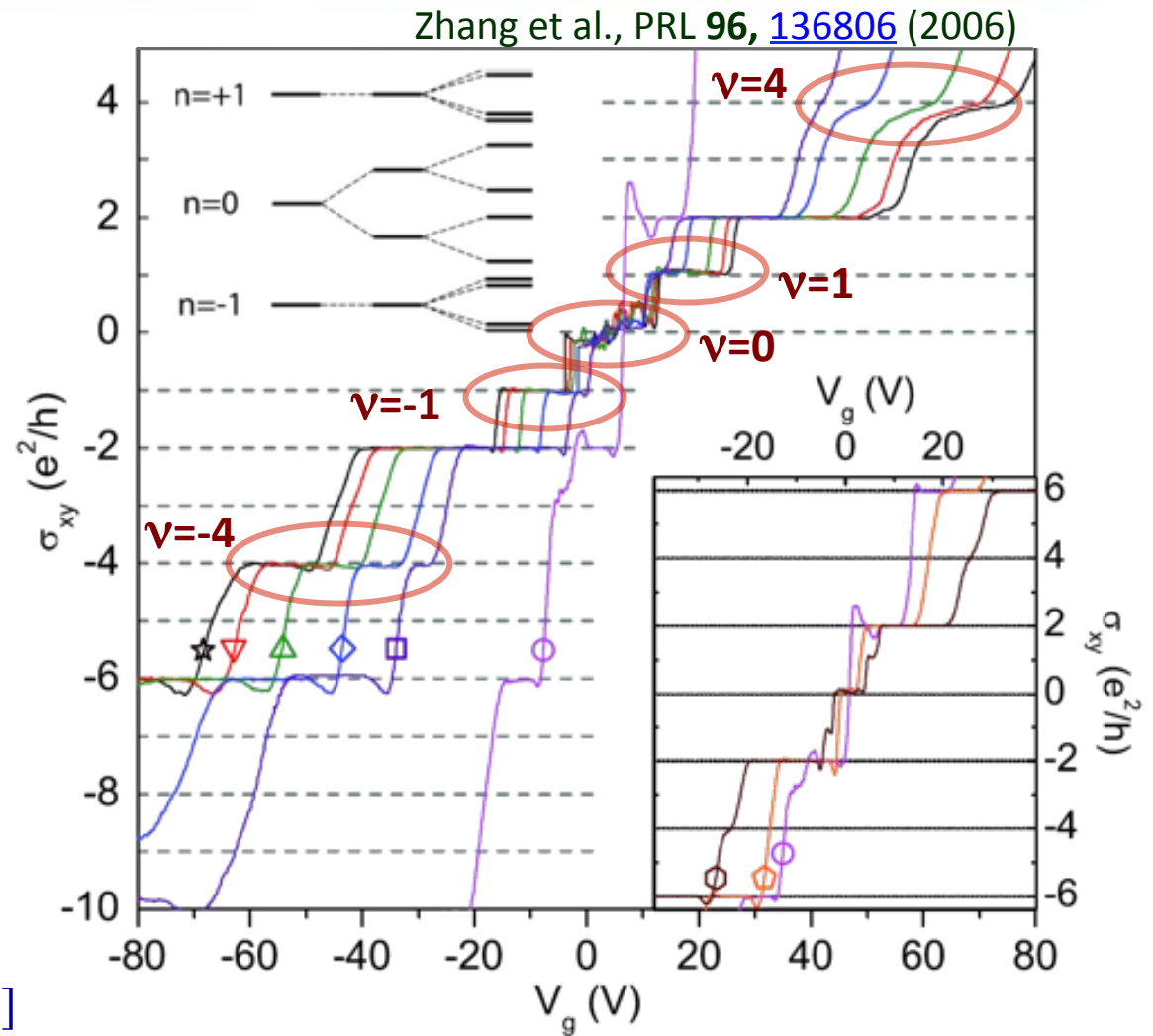
- New plateaus are observed at
 - $\nu=0$
 - $\nu=\pm 1$
 - $\nu=\pm 3$
 - $\nu=\pm 4$

[Novoselov et al., Science **315**, 1379 (2007)]

[Abanin et al., PRL **98**, [196806](#) (2007)]

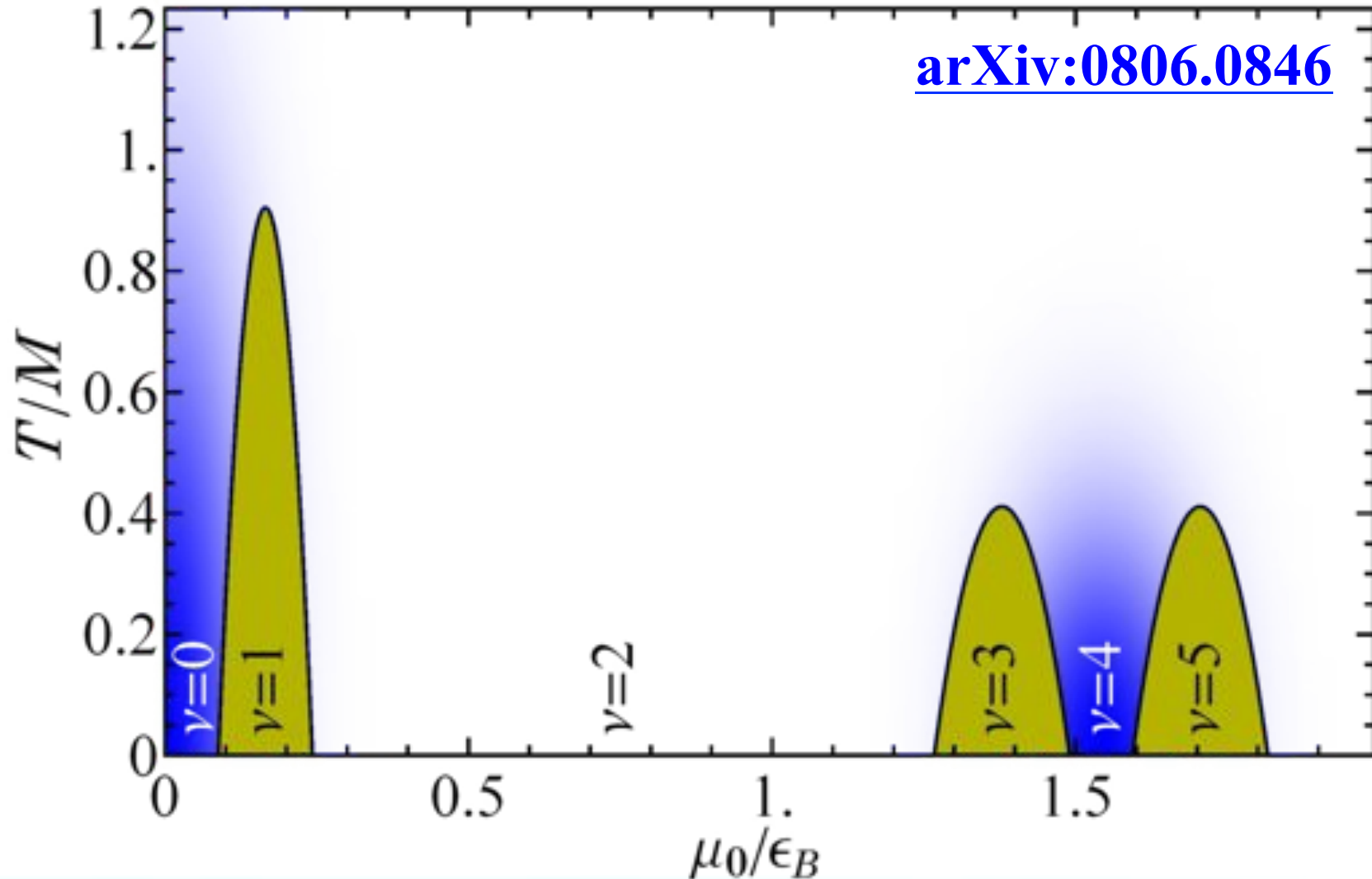
[Checkelsky et al., PRL **100**, [206801](#) (2008)]

[Xu Du et al., Nature **462**, [192](#) (2009)]



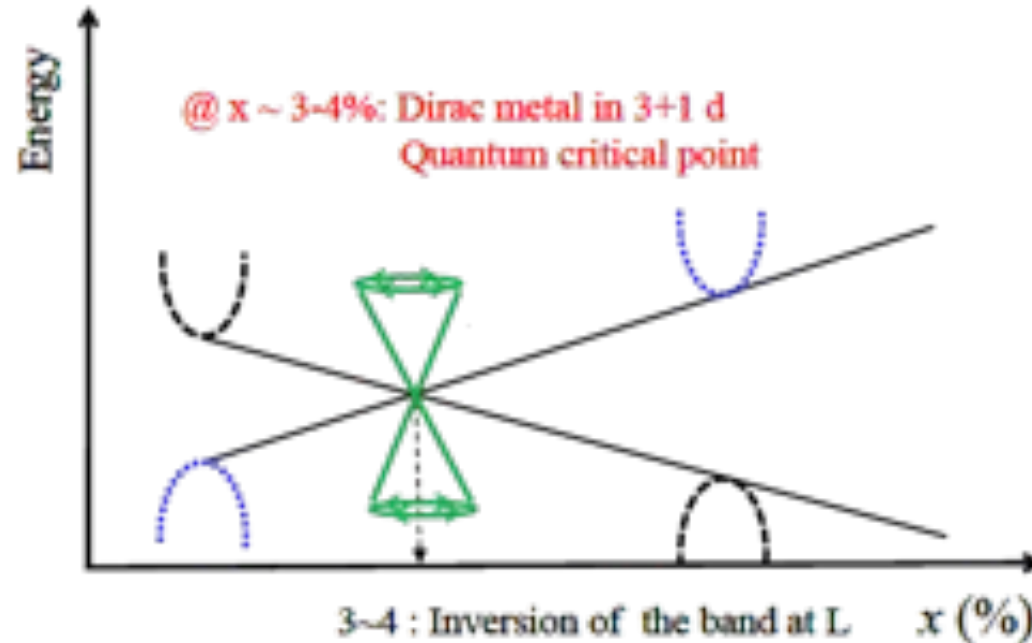
EXPLANATION OF QHE

- Generation of different dynamical “masses”: all integer plateaus are possible!



IS “3D GRAPHENE” POSSIBLE?

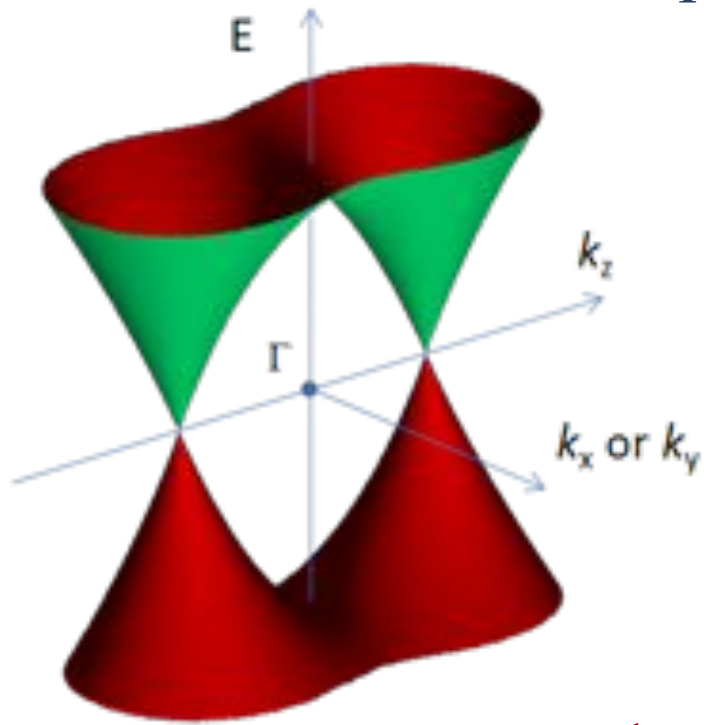
- 3D materials with Dirac quasiparticles:
 - $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sb}_x$ alloy



- “New” 3D Dirac materials (ARPES):
 - Na_3Bi [Z. K. Liu et al., arXiv:1310.0391]
 - Cd_3As_2 [M. Neupane et al., arXiv:1309.7892]
[S. Borisenko et al., arXiv:1309.7978]

CADMIUM ARSENIDE

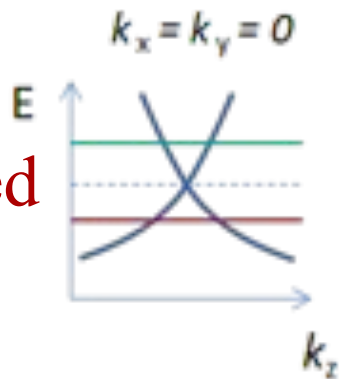
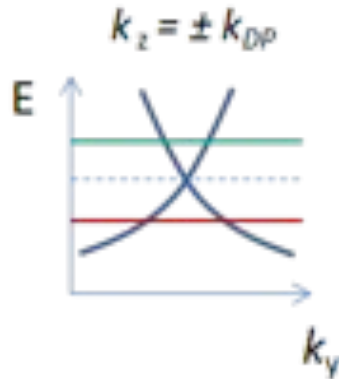
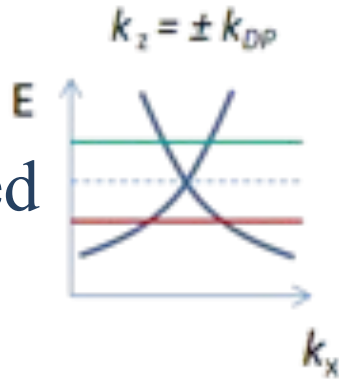
3D Dirac semimetal Cd_3As_2



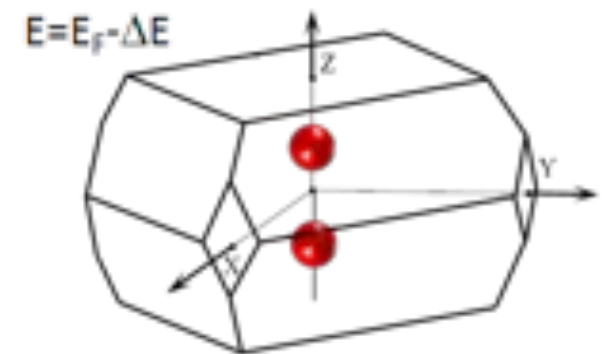
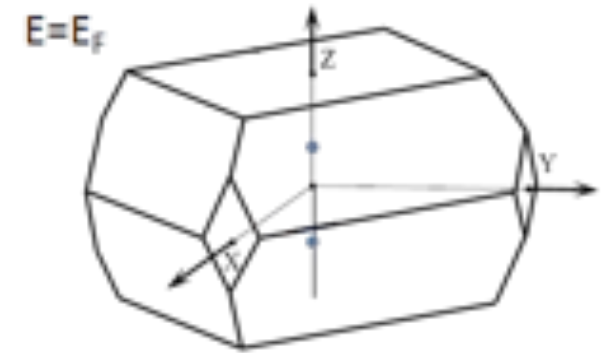
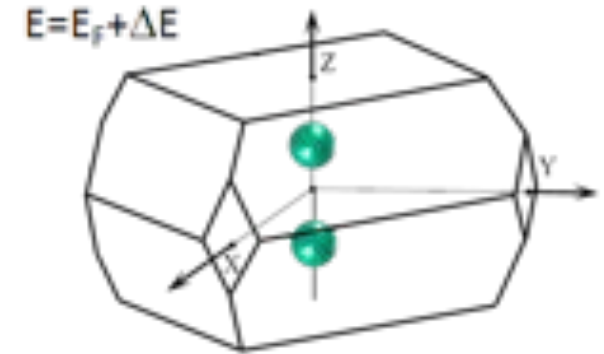
n-doped

p-doped

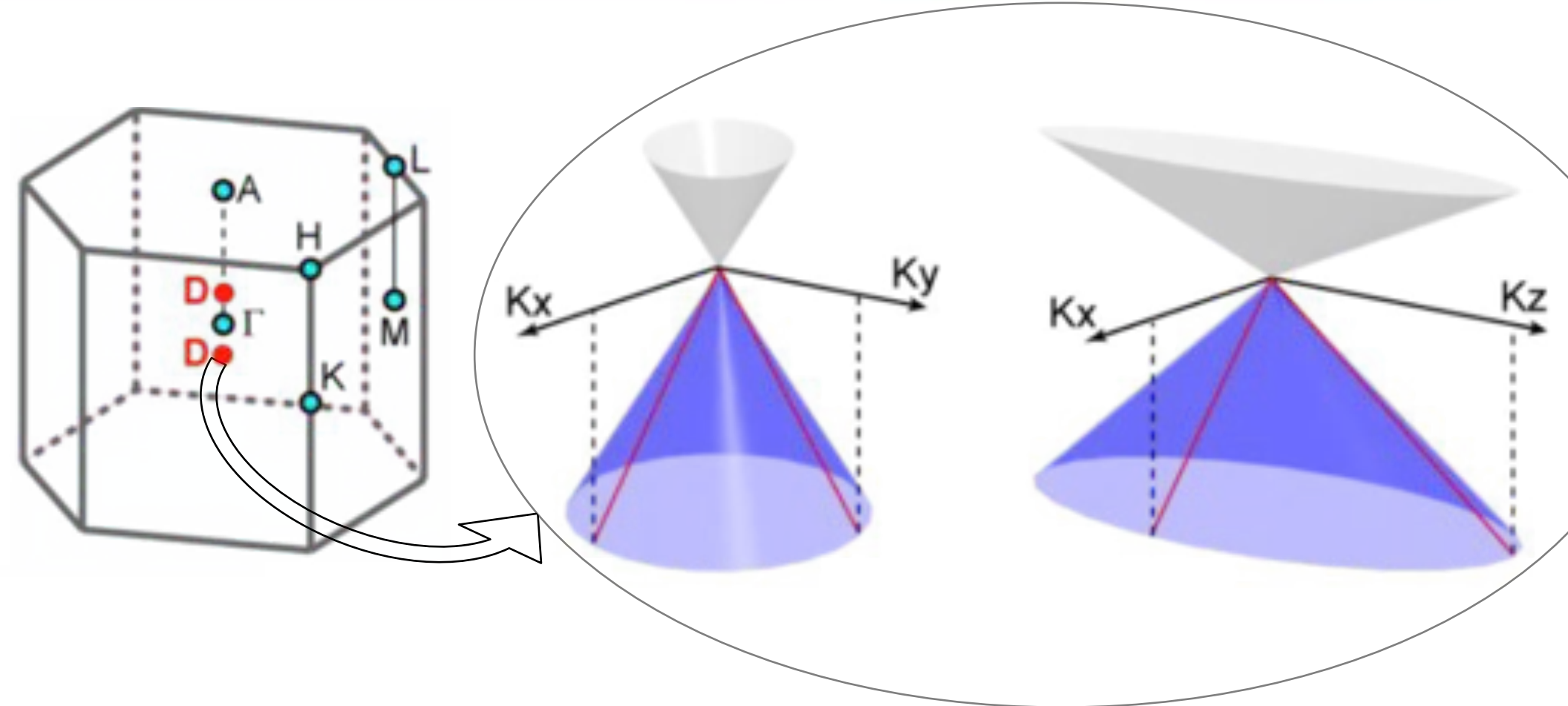
Dispersion



Fermi surface



[S. Borisenko et al., arXiv:1309.7978]



In the vicinity of 3D Dirac points:

$$E = v_x k_x + v_y k_y + v_z k_z$$

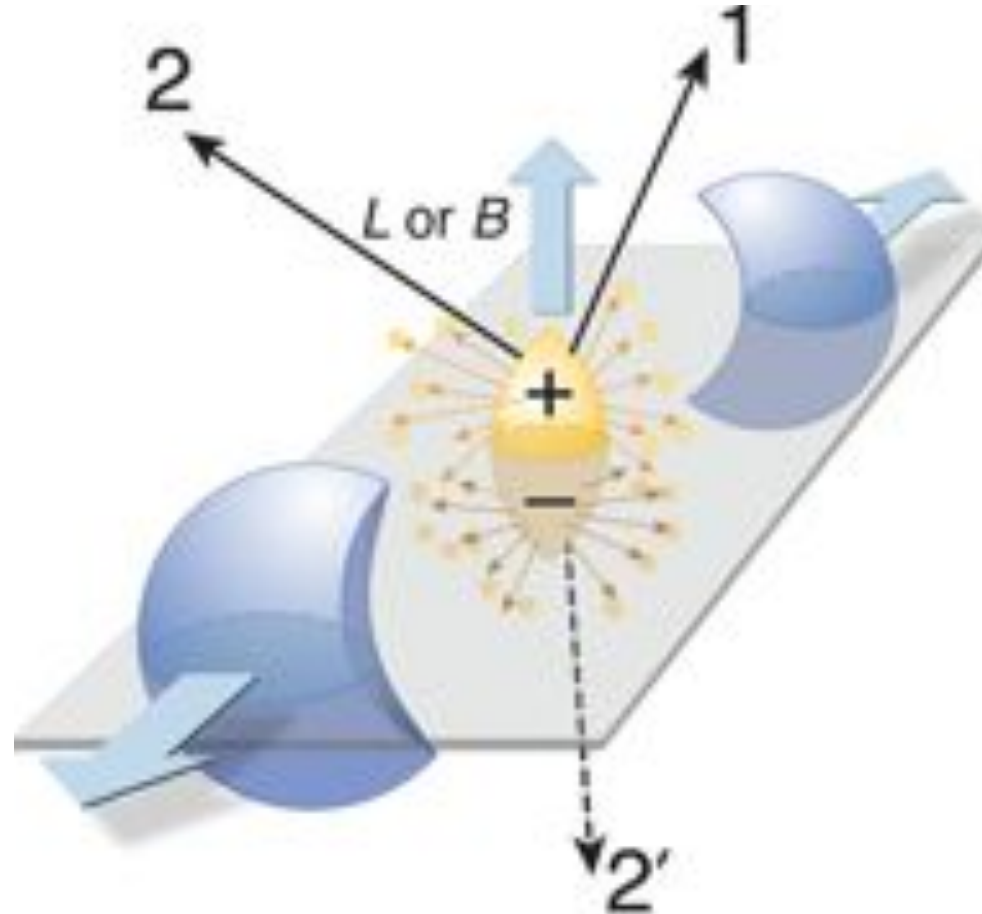
[Z. K. Liu et al., arXiv:1310.0391]

Part 5

CHIRAL MAGNETIC EFFECTS **(NONZERO DENSITY OF MATTER)**

CHIRAL MAGNETIC EFFECT

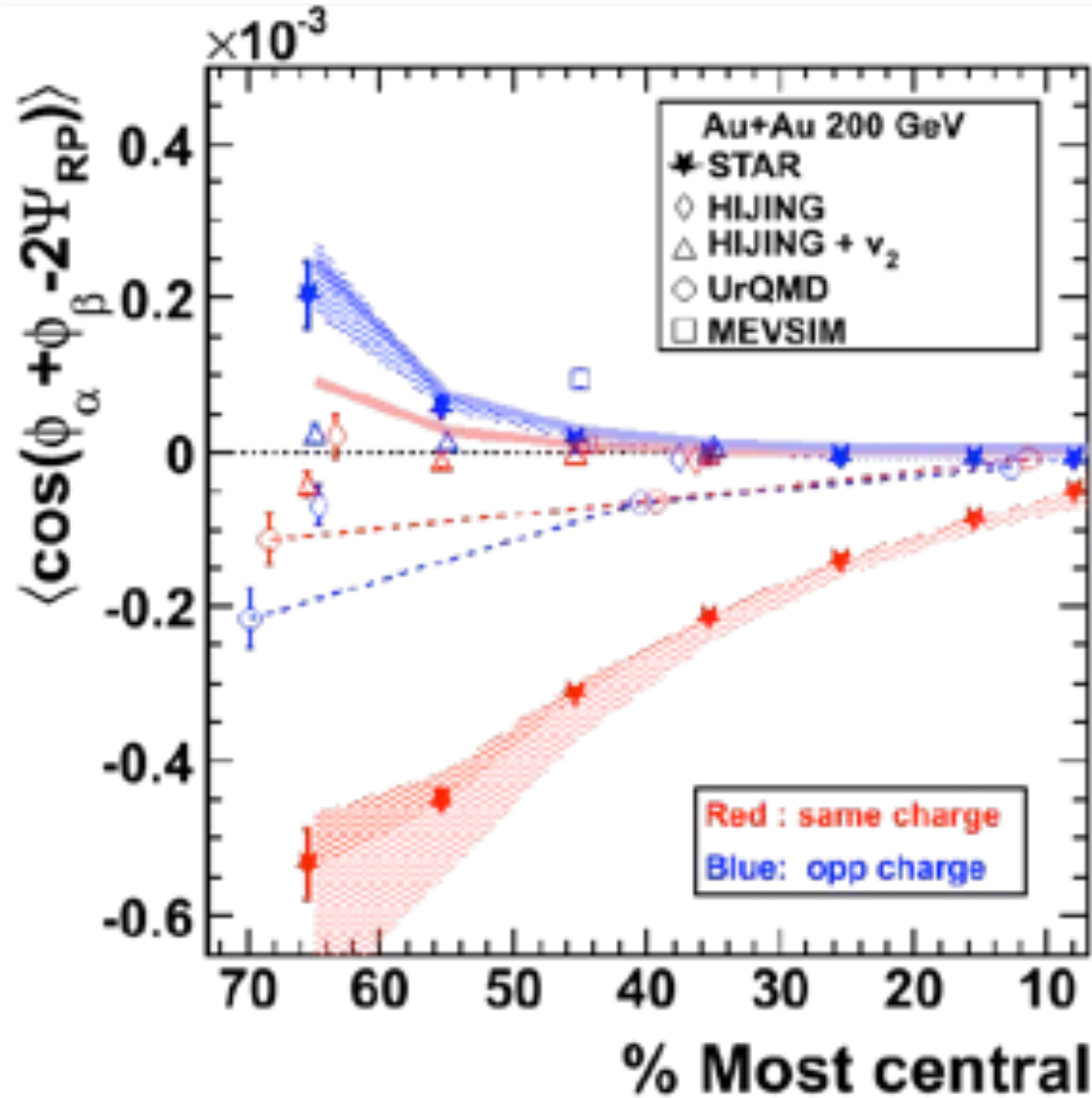
- A specific spatial pattern of electric currents (or charge correlations) in heavy ion collisions



[Kharzeev, McLerran, Warringa, Nucl. Phys. A **803**, 227 (2008)]

[Fukushima, Kharzeev, Warringa, Phys. Rev. D **78**, 074033 (2008)]

EXPERIMENTAL EVIDENCE

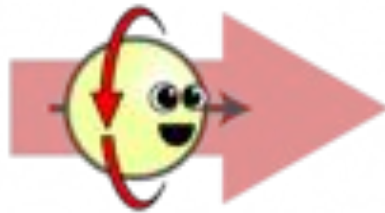


[B. I. Abelev et al. [The STAR Collaboration], arXiv:0909.1739]

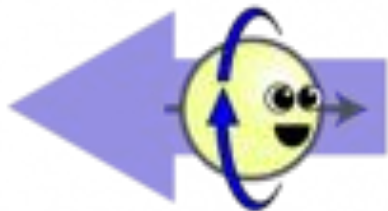
[B. I. Abelev et al. [STAR Collaboration], arXiv:0909.1717]

HELICITY/CHIRALITY

- Helicities of massless (or ultra-relativistic) particles are (approximately) conserved



Righ-handed



Left-handed

- Conservation of chiral charge is a property of massless Dirac theory (classically)
- At quantum level, however, such symmetry is anomalous

“CONTINUITY” EQUATION

- Continuity equation for the chiral charge

$$\frac{\partial \rho_5}{\partial t} - \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{j}_5 = -\frac{e^2}{4\pi^2} (\vec{E} \cdot \vec{B})$$

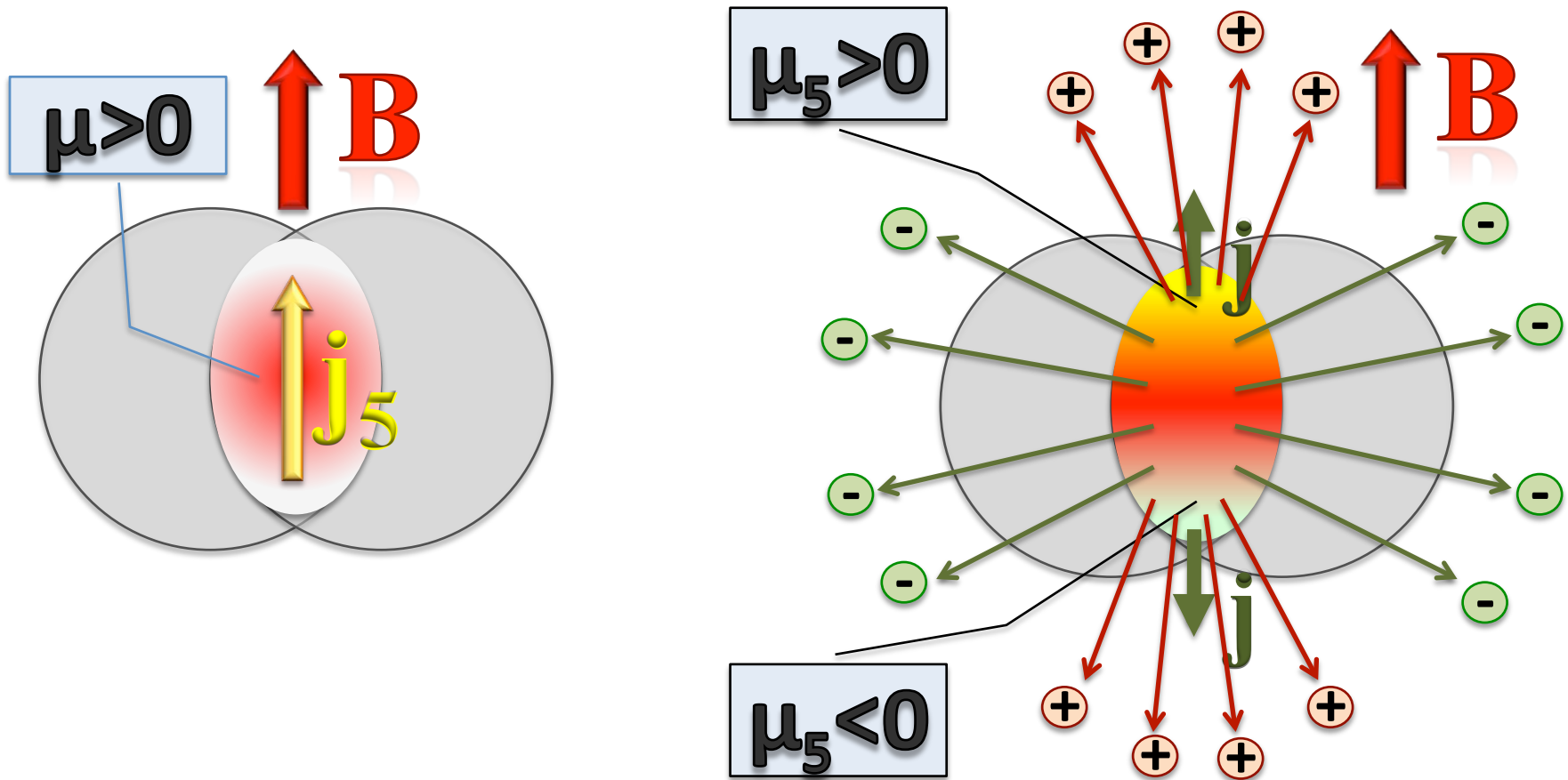
which is of topological nature and exact

- Among its consequences are the relations:

$$\langle \vec{j}_5 \rangle = -\frac{e\vec{B}}{2\pi^2} \mu \qquad \langle \vec{j} \rangle = \frac{e^2\vec{B}}{2\pi^2} \mu_5$$

- These relations are the key relations leading to the *chiral magnetic effect*

- Start from a small baryon density and $B \neq 0$



- Produce back-to-back electric currents

[Gorbar, Miransky, Shovkovy, Phys. Rev. D **83**, 085003 (2011)]

- Axial vector current in relativistic matter in a magnetic field (3+1 dimensions)

$$\langle j_5^3 \rangle_0 = \frac{-eB}{2\pi^2} \mu_0 \quad (\text{free theory!})$$

[Metlitski & Zhitnitsky, Phys Rev D **72**, 045011 (2005)]

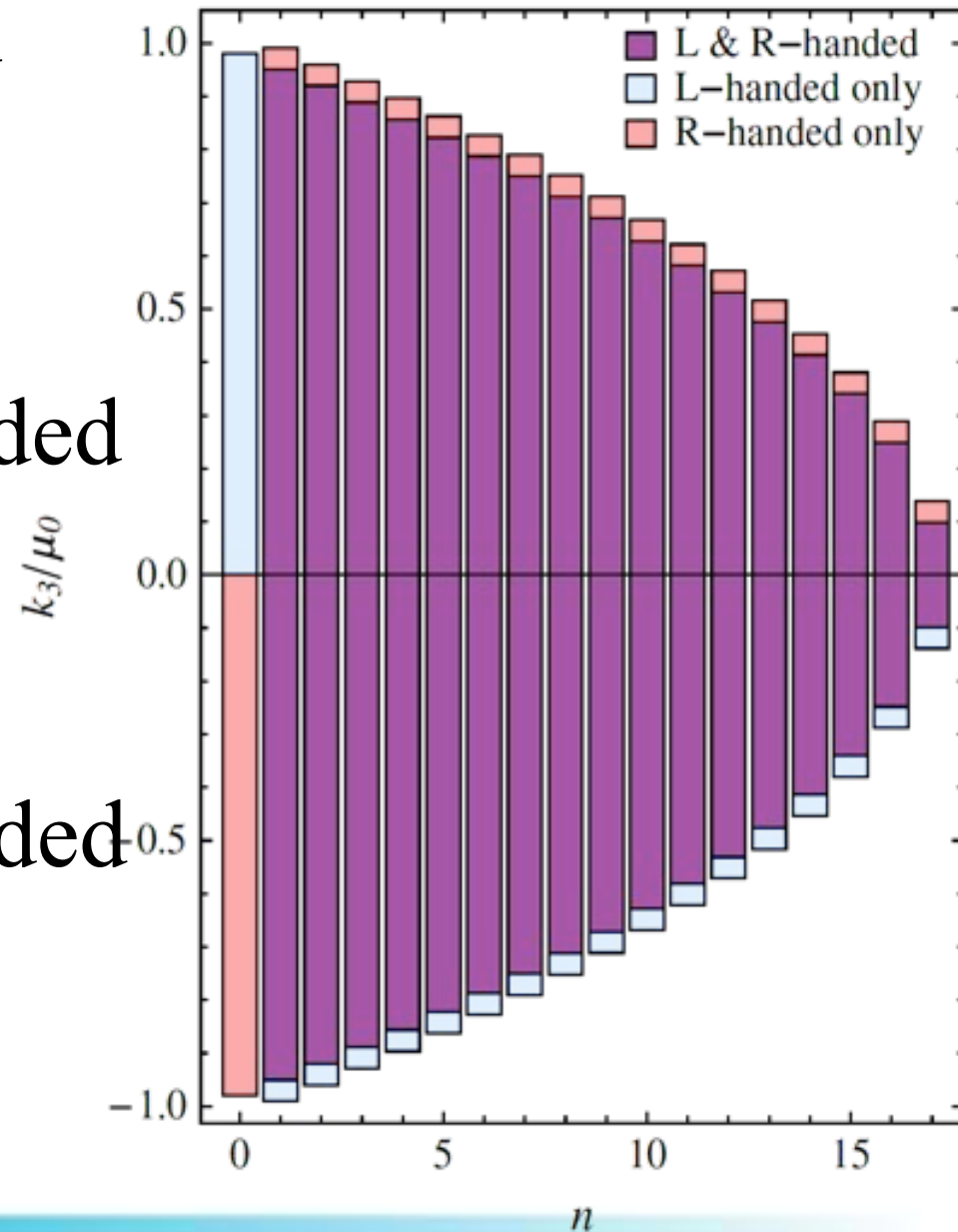
- Any new physics when interaction is included?
- Yes! Chiral shift is dynamically generated (resembling m_{dyn} in the magnetic catalysis)

ASU CHIRAL SHIFT AND FERMI SURFACE

- Chirality is a “good” concept at large density

$$|k_3| \gg m$$

- Fermi surface of L-handed fermions is shifted in negative z -direction
- Fermi surface of R-handed fermions is shifted in positive z -direction



- Chiral shift induces a chiral asymmetry at the Fermi surface
- Chiral shift can be induced in Dirac semimetals (affects magnetoresistance)
- Potential applications:
 - Pulsar kicks
 - Facilitation of supernova explosions
 - modified Chiral magnetic effect
 - Making Weyl semimetals from Na_3Bi & Cd_3As_2

- Studies of relativistic matter in magnetic field are relevant for many branches of physics
- The underlying physics is conceptually rich
- Recent developments include
 - Magnetic catalysis [\[...\]](#)
 - Chiral magnetic effect [\[Fukushima, Kharzeev, Warringa, PRD **78**, 074033 \(2008\)\]](#)
 - Chiral shift [\[Gorbar, Miransky, Shovkovy, PRC **80**, 032801 \(R\) \(2009\)\]](#)
 - Chiral magnetic spiral [\[Basar, Dunne, Kharzeev, PRL 104, 232301 \(2010\)\]](#)
 - Magnetic properties of Dirac semimetals [\[arXiv:1312.0027\]](#)
 - Quantum Hall Effect in graphene [\[...\]](#)
 - and many others [\[...\]](#)