

# Supersymmetry breaking and Nambu-Goldstone fermions in lattice models

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➤ [arXiv:1606.03947](https://arxiv.org/abs/1606.03947)

# Susy and me

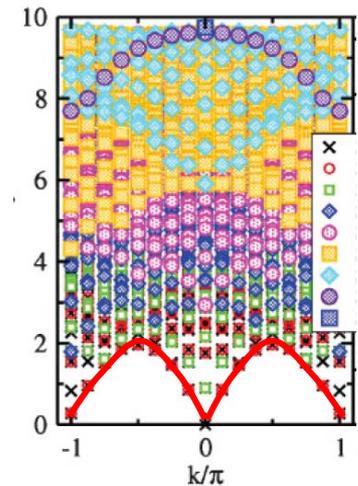
- What I've been working on...

## Condensed Matter & Statistical Physics

- Strongly correlated systems,
- Topological phases of matter,
- Quantum entanglement, ...

*VBS/CFT correspondence* (2d AKLT  $\Leftrightarrow$  1d Heisenberg)

J.Lou, S.Tanaka, H.K., N.Kawashima, *PRB* **84** (2011).

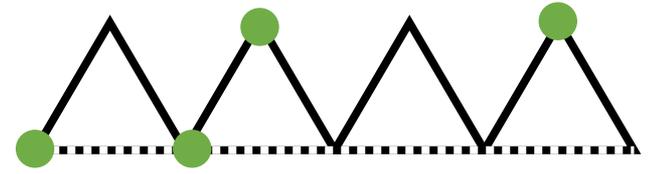


- I'm **not** a high-energy physicist, or a string theorist, ... (at least for the moment). But...
- My first paper (undergrad)
  - “Exact **supersymmetry** in the relativistic hydrogen atom in general dimensions” (arXiv:quant-ph/0410174), H. Katsura & H. Aoki, *J. Math. Phys.* **47**, 032301 (2006).

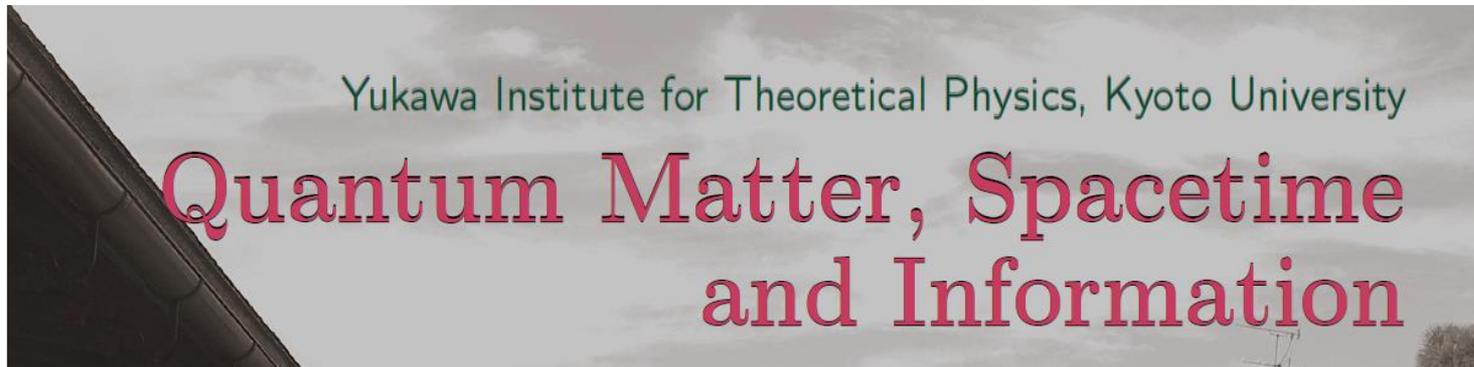
# Today's talk

## ■ Many-body systems with built-in *supersymmetry!*

- Lattice-fermion model in 1 (spatial) dimension
- Spontaneous *supersymmetry* breaking
- Gapless excitation with linear dispersion



## ■ Edge of the workshop



- My talk contains some *Information* ( $S \neq 0$ )
- The model lives in (1+1)-dim. flat *Spacetime*
- Super-weird *Quantum Matter*, never synthesized ..., cold atoms?

# Outline

## 1. Introduction & Motivation

- Supersymmetry and lattice models
- Extended Nicolai model

## 2. SUSY breaking in extended Nicolai model

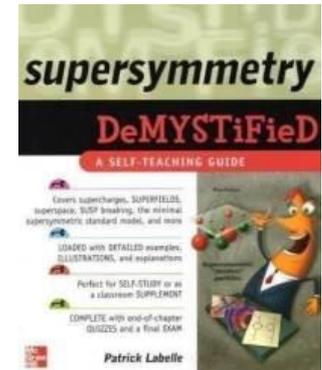
- Definition of SUSY breaking
- 1) Finite chain, 2) infinite chain

## 3. Nambu-Goldstone fermions

- 1. Variational result, 2. Numerical result
- Bosonization & RG analysis

## 4. Summary

# Supersymmetry (SUSY QM) demystified



## ■ Algebraic structure

- Supercharges ( $Q$  &  $Q^\dagger$ ) and fermion number ( $F$ )

$$Q^2 = 0, \quad (Q^\dagger)^2 = 0, \quad [F, Q^\dagger] = Q^\dagger, \quad [F, Q] = -Q.$$

- Hamiltonian

$$H = \{Q, Q^\dagger\} = QQ^\dagger + Q^\dagger Q$$

- Conserved charges

$$[H, Q] = [H, Q^\dagger] = [H, F] = 0$$

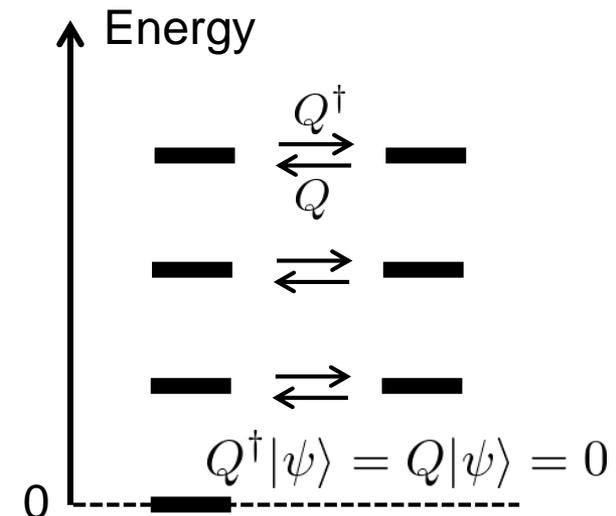
$$\langle \psi | H | \psi \rangle = \|Q|\psi\rangle\|^2 + \|Q^\dagger|\psi\rangle\|^2$$

## ■ Spectrum of $H$

- $E \geq 0$  for all states
- $E > 0$  states **come in pairs**

$$\{|\psi\rangle, Q^\dagger|\psi\rangle\}, \quad Q|\psi\rangle = 0$$

- $E = 0$  iff a state is a **singlet** (cohomology)  
SUSY breaking  $\Leftrightarrow$  No  $E=0$  state



# Elementary examples

## ■ Boson-fermion system

- Creation & annihilation operators ( $b$ : boson,  $c$ : fermion)

$$[b, b^\dagger] = 1, \quad \{c, c^\dagger\} = 1, \quad [b, b] = \{c, c\} = 0$$

- Vacuum state  $b|\text{vac}\rangle = c|\text{vac}\rangle = 0$

*Total number of B and F!*

- **Supercharges**

$|\text{vac}\rangle$  is a SUSY singlet.

$$Q = b^\dagger c, \quad Q^\dagger = c^\dagger b \quad \rightarrow \quad \{Q, Q^\dagger\} = b^\dagger b + c^\dagger c$$

## ■ Lattice bosons and fermions

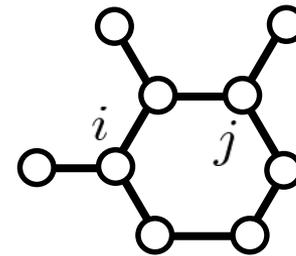
- Lattice sites:  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, N$

- Creations & annihilations

$$[b_i, b_j^\dagger] = \delta_{i,j}, \quad \{c_i, c_j^\dagger\} = \delta_{i,j}, \quad [b_i, b_j] = \{c_i, c_j\} = 0.$$

( $b$  and  $f$  are mutually commuting.)

- Vacuum state  $b_i|\text{vac}\rangle = c_i|\text{vac}\rangle = 0, \forall i$



## Elementary examples (contd.)

### ■ Generalization

$$Q = \sum_j b_j^\dagger c_j, \quad Q^\dagger = \sum_j c_j^\dagger b_j$$

$$\rightarrow \{Q, Q^\dagger\} = \sum_j n_j^b + \sum_j n_j^f \quad (n_j^b = b_j^\dagger b_j, \quad n_j^f = c_j^\dagger c_j)$$

*Total number of B and F!*  $|\text{vac}\rangle$  is a SUSY singlet.

### ■ SUSY in Bose-Fermi mixtures

Realization in cold-atom systems?

M. Snoek et al., PRL **95** ('05); PRA **74** ('06); G.S.Lozano et al., PRA **75** ('07).

- Yu-Yang model (PRL **100**, ('08))

Hubbard-type model with equal hopping & equal-int. for any pair of sites.

$$H_{YY} = - \sum_{i \neq j} t_{i,j} (b_i^\dagger b_j + c_i^\dagger c_j) + \sum_{i,j} U_{i,j} (n_i^b n_j^b + n_i^f n_j^f + n_i^b n_j^f)$$

**$H_{YY}$  commutes with  $Q$  &  $Q^\dagger$ !** ( $H_{YY}$  is not  $\{Q, Q^\dagger\}$ )

# Lattice models with built-in SUSY

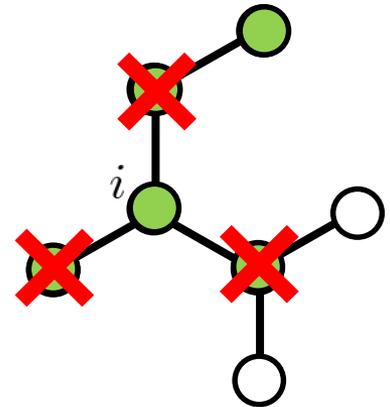
## ■ Fendley-Schoutens-de Boer model

*PRL* **90**, 120402 ('03); *PRL* **95**, 046403 ('05).

- Supercharge

$$Q = \sum_i c_i P_{\langle i \rangle} \quad P_{\langle i \rangle} = \prod_{j \text{ next to } i} (1 - c_j^\dagger c_j)$$

Hard-core constraint



- Hamiltonian

$$H = \{Q, Q^\dagger\} = \sum_i \sum_{j \text{ next to } i} P_{\langle i \rangle} c_i^\dagger c_j P_{\langle j \rangle} + \sum_i P_{\langle i \rangle}$$

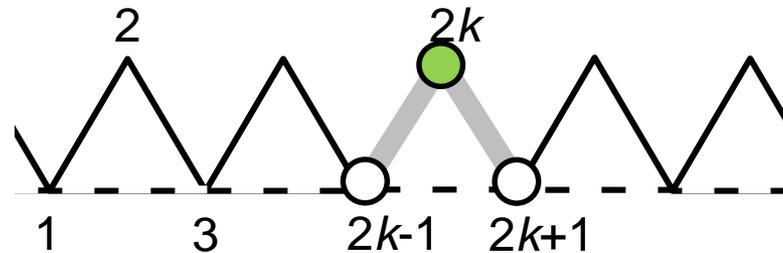
## ■ Nicolai model

*"Supersymmetry and spin systems"*,

H. Nicolai, *JPA* **9**, 1497 ('76).

- Supercharge

$$Q = \sum_k c_{2k-1} c_{2k}^\dagger c_{2k+1}$$



# of  $E=0$  states  $\sim \exp$  (# of sites)

***Both models tend to have massively degenerate  $E=0$  states...***

# Extended Nicolai model

## ■ Definition

### • Setting

1d lattice of length  $N$  (even). PBCs are imposed ( $c_{N+1} = c_1$ ).

### • New supercharge ( $g > 0$ )

$$Q = \sum_k c_{2k-1} c_{2k}^\dagger c_{2k+1} + g \sum_k c_{2k-1}$$

*Linear term in  $c$ !*

Nilpotent. Comprised solely of fermions.

### • Hamiltonian $H = \{Q, Q^\dagger\}$

## ■ Symmetries

• SUSY  $[H, Q] = [H, Q^\dagger] = 0,$

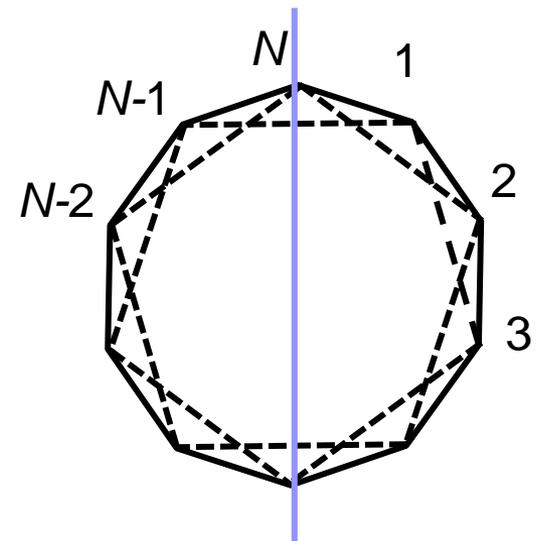
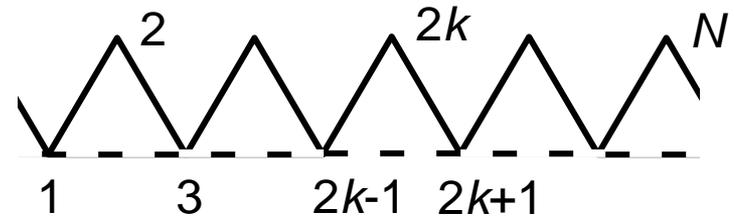
• U(1)  $[H, F] = 0, \quad F = \sum_j c_j^\dagger c_j$

• Translation  $[T, Q] = [T, Q^\dagger] = 0,$

• Reflection  $[U, Q] = [U, Q^\dagger] = 0,$

$$T : c_j \rightarrow c_{j+2}$$

$$U : c_j \rightarrow -(-1)^j c_{N-j}$$

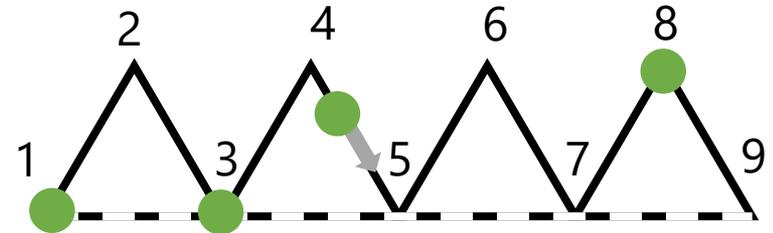


# Hamiltonian (explicit expression)

$$H = H_{\text{hop}} + H_{\text{charge}} + H_{\text{pair}} + \frac{N}{2}g^2$$

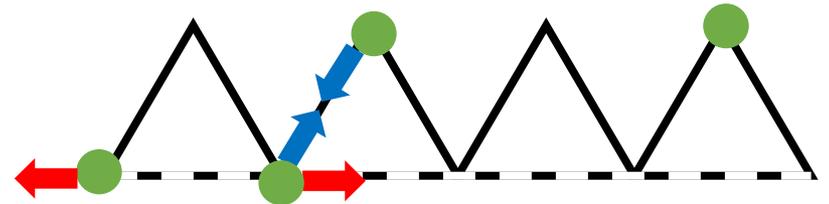
## 1. Hopping term

$$H_{\text{hop}} = g \sum_{j=1}^N (-1)^j (c_j^\dagger c_{j+1} + c_{j+1}^\dagger c_j)$$



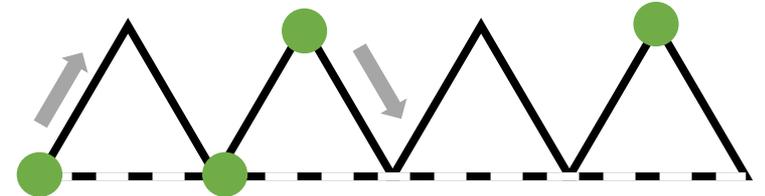
## 2. Charge-charge int.

$$H_{\text{charge}} = - \sum_{j=1}^N n_j n_{j+1} + \sum_{k=1}^{N/2} (n_{2k} + n_{2k-1} n_{2k+1})$$



## 3. Pair hopping

$$H_{\text{pair}} = \sum_{k=1}^{N/2} (c_{2k}^\dagger c_{2k+3}^\dagger c_{2k-1} c_{2k+2} + \text{H.c.})$$



*Very complicated and seems intractable...*

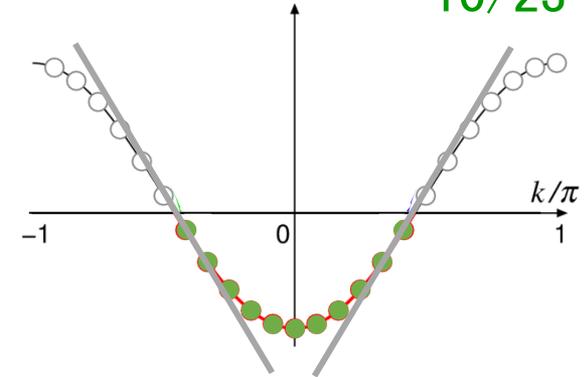
cf) Original Nicolai model ( $g = 0$ ):  $H_{\text{Nic}} = H_{\text{charge}} + H_{\text{pair}}$

# Large- $g$ limit

## ■ Free fermions

In the large- $g$  limit,  $H \sim g^2 N/2 + H_{\text{hop}}$ .  
 (The (many-body) g.s. energy of  $H_{\text{hop}}$ )  $\propto gN$

- SUSY is broken (No  $E=0$  states)
- Gapless excitations  
Dirac fermions in continuum limit



*Nambu-Goldstone theorem?*  
*Also the case for finite  $g$ ?*

# Results

## ■ SUSY breaking

- 1) Finite chain: SUSY is broken for any  $g > 0$ .
- 2) Infinite chain: SUSY is broken when  $g > 4/\pi = 1.2732\dots$

## ■ NG fermions

Rigorous result

Existence of low-lying states with  $E(p) \leq (\text{const.}) |p|$ .

Analytical & numerical result

Effective field theory  $\sim c=1$  CFT with TL parameter close to 1.

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# SUSY breaking

## ■ Naïve definition

SUSY is unbroken  $\Leftrightarrow E=0$  state exists

SUSY is broken  $\Leftrightarrow$  No  $E=0$  state

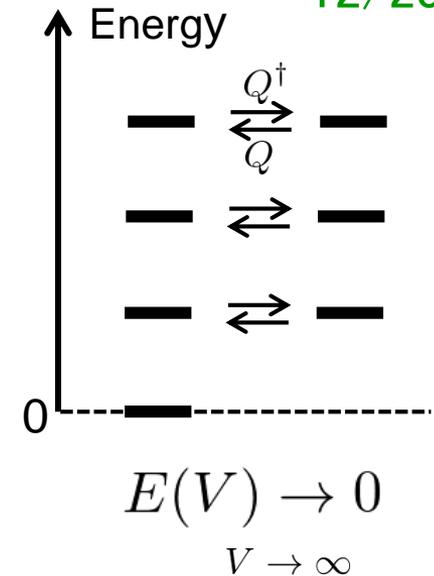
**Subtle issue...** (Witten, *NPB* **202** ('82))

“SUSY may be broken in any finite volume yet restored in the infinite-volume limit.”

## ■ More precise definition

- (Normalized ) ground state:  $\psi_0$

- Ground-state energy density:  $\epsilon_0 := \frac{1}{V} \langle \psi_0 | H | \psi_0 \rangle$   
 $V = (\# \text{ of sites})$  for lattice systems



SUSY is said to be spontaneously broken if the ground-state energy density (energy per site) is strictly positive.

*Applies to both finite and infinite-volume systems!*

# SUSY breaking in finite Nicolai chains

## ■ Theorem 1

Consider the extended Nicolai model on a finite chain of length  $N$ . If  $g > 0$ , then SUSY is spontaneously broken.

## ■ Proof

- Local operator s.t.  $\{Q, O_k\} = g$  well-defined when  $g > 0$

$$O_k = c_{2k-1}^\dagger \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{g} (c_{2k}^\dagger c_{2k+1} + c_{2k-3} c_{2k-2}^\dagger) + \frac{2}{g^2} c_{2k-3} c_{2k-2}^\dagger c_{2k}^\dagger c_{2k+1} \right]$$

- Proof by contradiction

Suppose  $\psi_0$  is an  $E=0$  ground state.

Then we have

$$\langle \psi_0 | \{Q, O_k\} | \psi_0 \rangle = \langle \psi_0 | Q O_k + O_k Q | \psi_0 \rangle = 0$$

But this leads to  $\psi_0 = 0$ . **Contradiction. No  $E=0$  state!**

➔ (g.s. energy/ $N$ )  $> 0$  for any finite  $N$ .

# SUSY breaking in the infinite Nicolai chain

## ■ Theorem 2

Consider the extended Nicolai model on the infinite chain.  
If  $g > 4/\pi$ , then SUSY is spontaneously broken.

## ■ Proof

- Lower bound for g.s. energy

$$H = \frac{N}{2}g^2 + H_{\text{hop}} + H_{\text{Nic}} \quad \text{Original Nicolai (} g=0 \text{)}$$

Since  $H_{\text{Nic}}$  is positive semi-definite, the g.s. energy of  $H$  is bounded from below by  $E_0 \geq Ng^2/2 + E_0^{\text{hop}}$ .

- G.s. energy of  $H_{\text{hop}}$  (Free-fermion chain)

$$E_0^{\text{hop}} = -\frac{2g}{\tan(\pi/N)} \geq -\frac{2g}{\pi}N \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{E_0}{N} \geq \frac{g}{2} \left( g - \frac{4}{\pi} \right)$$

NOTE) The condition  $g > 4/\pi$  may not be optimal...

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# Nambu-Goldstone (NG) fermions?

## ■ NG bosons in non-relativistic systems

Effective Lagrangian approach, counting rules, ...

Watanabe-Murayama, *PRL* **108** ('12); Hidaka, *PRL* **110**, ('13).

## ■ Analogy (Blaizot-Hidaka-Satow, *PRA* **92** ('15))

- Ferromagnet (Type B)

$$\frac{1}{V} \langle [S^+, S^-] \rangle_0 = 2m^z$$

Quadratic dispersion

- SUSY system

$$\frac{1}{V} \langle \{Q, Q^\dagger\} \rangle_0 = \epsilon_0$$

Quadratic dispersion?

Fermionic excitation?

## ■ Examples

- Yu-Yang model (Bose-Fermi mixture)

YES  $\omega \propto p^2$

SUSY spin-wave states

$$|\psi_k\rangle = \sum_j e^{-ikj} c_j^\dagger b_j |\psi_0\rangle$$

Fermionic!

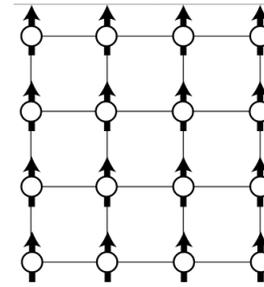
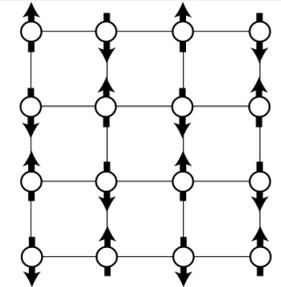
- Extended Nicolai model

**NO!**  $\omega \propto p$

Low-lying **fermionic** states with  $\omega \leq (\text{const.})|p|$  exist.

# Warm-up: Heisenberg model

Hamiltonian 
$$H = J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j$$

Ferro ( $J < 0$ )Antiferro ( $J > 0$ )

## ■ Ferromagnetic case

- Fully polarized ground state:  $|\uparrow\rangle$

- Spin wave  $\sum_k e^{i\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{R}_k} S_k^- |\uparrow\rangle$ , Exact eigenstate!  $\rightarrow \omega \propto p^2$

## ■ Antiferromagnetic case (Horsch-von der Linden, *ZPB*, 72 ('88))

- Neel state: **not** even an eigenstate!
- Bijl-Feynman ansatz

Exact ground state:  $\psi_0$

Fourier component of spins: 
$$S_{\mathbf{p}}^\alpha = \sum_k e^{i\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{R}_k} S_k^\alpha \quad (\alpha = z, \pm)$$

$$|\psi_{\mathbf{p}}\rangle = \frac{S_{\mathbf{p}}^\alpha |\psi_0\rangle}{\|S_{\mathbf{p}}^\alpha |\psi_0\rangle\|} \quad \rightarrow \quad \epsilon_{\text{var}}(\mathbf{p}) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\langle [S_{-\mathbf{p}}^\alpha, [H, S_{\mathbf{p}}^\alpha]] \rangle_0}{\langle S_{-\mathbf{p}}^\alpha S_{\mathbf{p}}^\alpha \rangle_0} \quad \text{Linear around } \mathbf{q} = (\pi, \pi, \dots)$$

# Variational argument

## ■ SUSY “spin waves” in extended Nicolai model

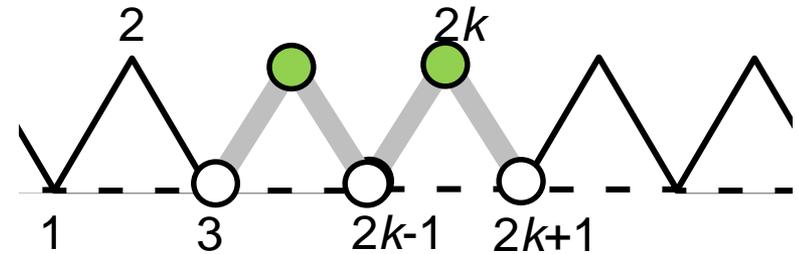
- Local supercharge

$$q_k = \frac{g}{2}(c_{2k-1} + c_{2k+1}) + c_{2k-1}c_{2k}^\dagger c_{2k+1} \quad (Q = \sum_k q_k)$$

$$\{q_k, q_\ell^\dagger\} = \begin{cases} \text{nonzero} & |k - \ell| \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Fourier components

$$Q_p^\dagger = \sum_k e^{ipk} q_k^\dagger \quad (Q_0^\dagger = Q^\dagger)$$



- Ansatz ( $\psi_0$ : SUSY broken g.s.)

$$|\psi_p\rangle = \frac{(Q_p + Q_p^\dagger)|\psi_0\rangle}{\|(Q_p + Q_p^\dagger)|\psi_0\rangle\|} \quad \rightarrow \quad \epsilon_{\text{var}}(p) = \frac{\langle [Q_p, [H, Q_p^\dagger]] \rangle_0}{\langle \{Q_p, Q_p^\dagger\} \rangle_0}$$

$[H, Q_p^\dagger]$  is a sum of local operators. (  $[H, Q_p] = [Q^\dagger, \{Q, Q_p^\dagger\}]$  )

But,  $[Q_p, [H, Q_p^\dagger]]$  may not be so because  $[q_k, q_\ell^\dagger] \neq 0$  for all  $k, l$ .

## Variational argument (contd.)

- Useful inequality (Pitaevskii-Stringari, *JLTP* **85** ('91))

$$|\langle \psi | [A^\dagger, B] | \psi \rangle|^2 \leq \langle \psi | \{A^\dagger, A\} | \psi \rangle \langle \psi | \{B^\dagger, B\} | \psi \rangle$$

Holds for any state  $\psi$  and any operators  $A, B$ .

*Local!*

$$\rightarrow |\langle [Q_p, [H, Q_p^\dagger]] \rangle_0|^2 \leq \langle \{Q_p, Q_p^\dagger\} \rangle_0 \langle \{[Q_p, H], [H, Q_p^\dagger]\} \rangle_0$$

- Upper bound for the lowest dispersion

For  $|p| \ll 1$ ,

$$\epsilon_{\text{var}}(p)^2 \leq \frac{\langle \{[Q_p, H], [H, Q_p^\dagger]\} \rangle_0}{\langle \{Q_p, Q_p^\dagger\} \rangle_0} = \frac{f_n(p)}{f_d(p)} \rightarrow \epsilon(p) \leq (\text{Const.}) \times |p|$$

$f_n(p)$ : 1. Local, 2.  $f_n(-p) = f_n(p)$ , 3.  $f_n(0) = 0$

$f_d(p)$ : 1. Local, 2.  $f_d(-p) = f_d(p)$ , 3.  $f_d(0) = E_0$

$E_0 > 0$  if SUSY is broken!  $\langle \{Q_p, Q_p^\dagger\} \rangle_0 \sim \langle \{Q, Q^\dagger\} \rangle_0$

NOTE) U(1), translation, reflection symmetries have been used.  
Implicit assumption: The g.s. multiplicity is finite in the infinite- $N$  limit.

# Numerical results

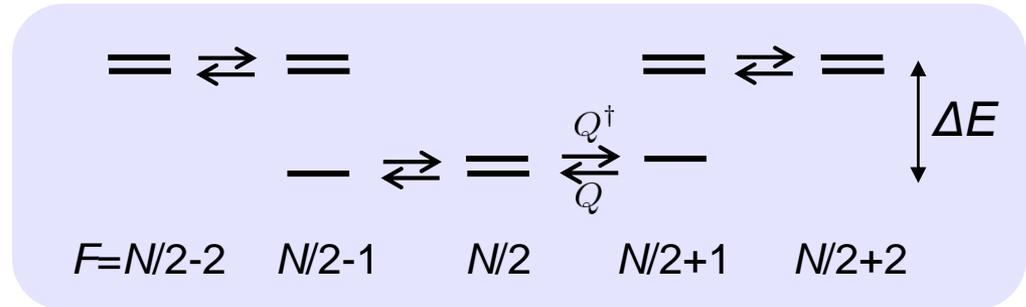
## Exact diagonalization

$N = 12, 14, \dots, 22$

4 ground states

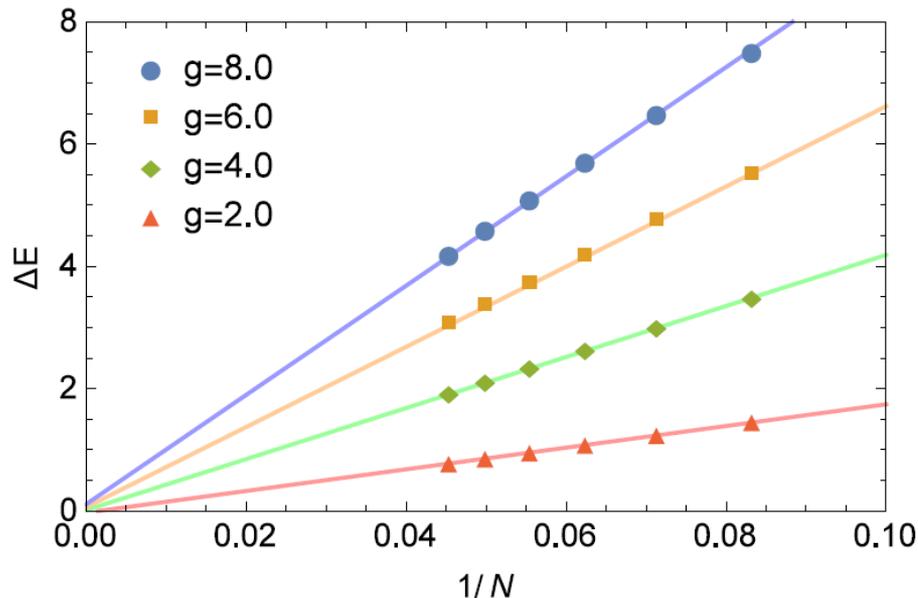
8 first excited states

(Independent of  $g$  &  $N$ )



## 1st excitation energy

$$\epsilon = v|p|$$



## Central charge

Finite-size scaling

Blote-Cardy-Nightingale, *PRL* **56** ('86)

$$\frac{E_0}{N} = e_\infty + \frac{\pi v c}{3N^2} + O\left(\frac{1}{N^3}\right)$$

| $g$ | 2.0    | 4.0   | 6.0   | 8.0   |
|-----|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| $c$ | 0.9705 | 1.008 | 1.020 | 1.025 |

**Gapless linear dispersion!**  
**Described by  $c=1$  CFT!**

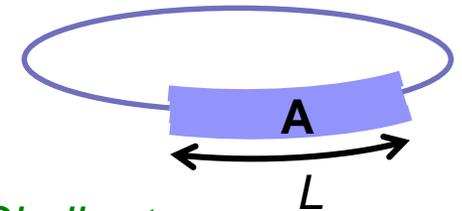
# Tomonaga-Luttinger liquid parameter

$c=1$  CFTs are further specified by Tomonaga-Luttinger (TL) parameters  $K$ . (Or equivalently, boson compactification radius.)

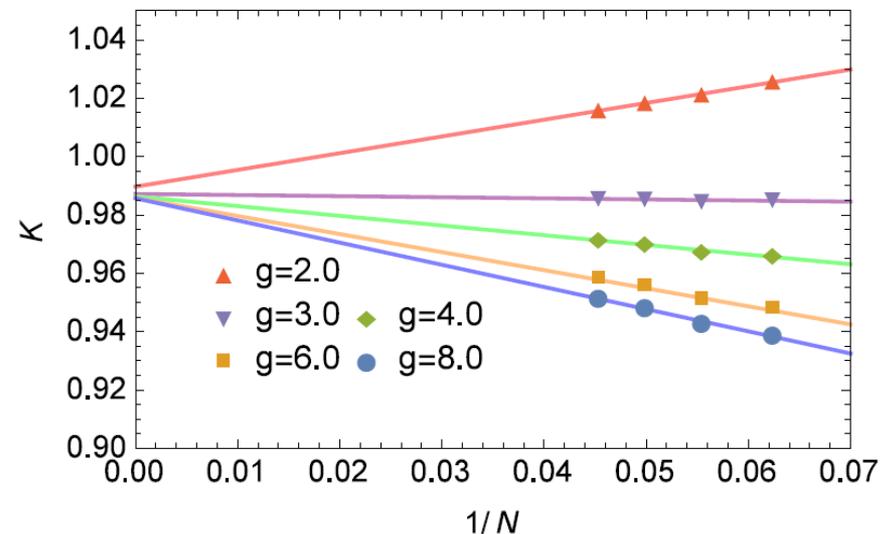
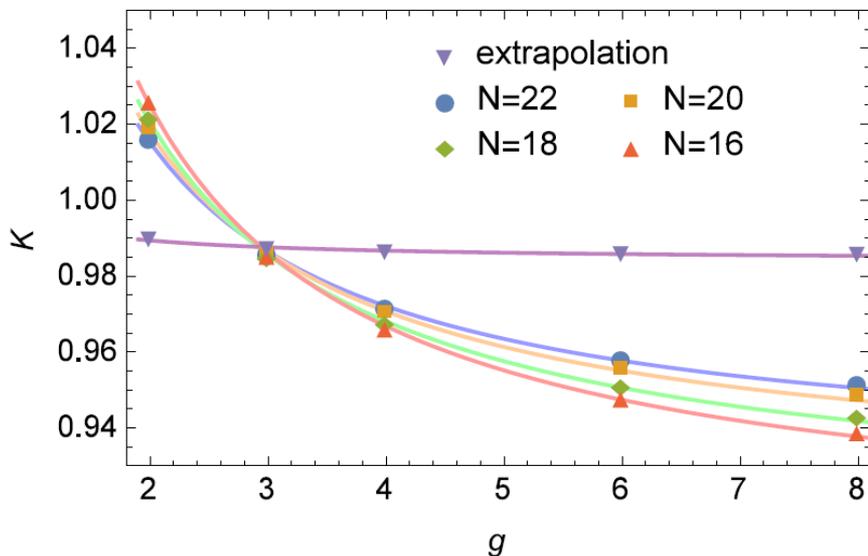
## ■ Number fluctuation

Song, Rachel et al., *PRB* **59** ('12)

$$\langle (N_A - \langle N_A \rangle_0)^2 \rangle_0 = \frac{K}{\pi^2} \log \left( \frac{\sin(\pi L/N)}{\sinh(\pi \alpha/N)} \right)$$



Similar to Calabrese-Cardy!



$K$  is almost independent of  $g$  and is close to 1 (free-Dirac).

# Bosonization and RG

- Lattice fermion  $\rightarrow$  Dirac (a: lattice spacing)

$$c_j \sim \sqrt{a} \left( e^{ik_F x} \psi_R(x) + e^{-ik_F x} \psi_L(x) \right)$$

- Dirac fermion  $\rightarrow$  boson

$$\psi_R(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi a}} : e^{i\varphi_R(x)} : \quad \psi_L(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi a}} : e^{-i\varphi_L(x)} :$$

- Sin-Gordon Hamiltonian

$$H \sim \frac{v}{2} \int dx \left\{ \frac{1}{K} \partial_x \varphi(x)^2 + K \Pi(x)^2 \right\} + \gamma \int dx \cos(\sqrt{16\pi} \varphi(x))$$

$\leftarrow$  **Free boson!**

$$[\varphi(x), \Pi(y)] = i \delta(x - y)$$

$\leftarrow$  **Cos term**

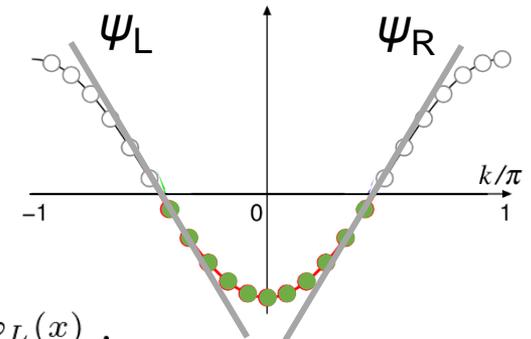
$$\text{Velocity} \quad v = 2 \sqrt{\left( g - \frac{15}{8\pi} \right) \left( g - \frac{27}{8\pi} \right)}$$

$$\text{TL parameter} \quad K = \sqrt{\frac{1 - 15/(8\pi g)}{1 - 27/(8\pi g)}}$$

- Scaling dim. of cos

$$4K \sim 4 + \frac{3}{\pi g}$$

**Cos term is irrelevant. Gapless!**  
 **$\sim$  Massless Thirring model**



# Summary

- Introduced one-parameter extension of Nicolai's model  
Lattice model with exact supersymmetry
  1. Original Nicolai ( $g=0$ ), 2. Free fermions ( $g=\infty$ )
- Spontaneous SUSY breaking
  1. Finite chain: broken for any  $g > 0$ .
  2. Infinite chain: broken when  $g > 4/\pi = 1.2732\dots$
- Nambu-Goldstone fermions
  1. Rigorous result:  $E(p) \leq (\text{const.}) |p|$
  2. Numerical result:  $E(p) = v |p|$ , **gapless, linear**
  3. Field theory: gapless  **$c=1$**  CFT with  **$K$  close to 1**

