

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

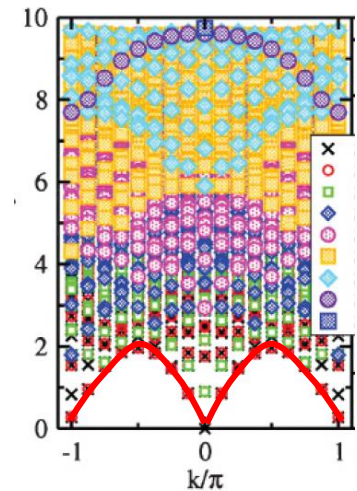
- What I've been working on...

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).

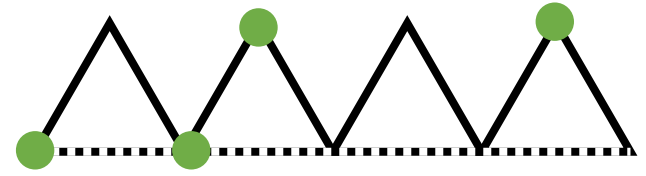


- I'm **not** a high-energy physicist, or a string theorist, ...
(at least for the moment). But...
- My first paper (undergrad)
“Exact **supersymmetry** in the relativistic hydrogen atom in general dimensions” (arXiv:quant-ph/0410174),
H. Katsura & H. Aoki, *J. Math. Phys.* **47**, 032301 (2006).

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

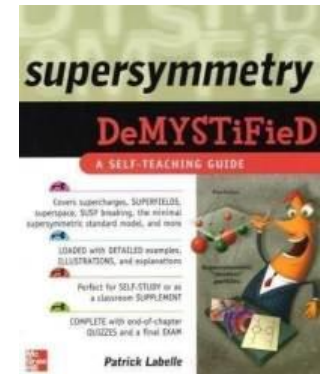
- Definition of SUSY breaking
- 1) Finite chain, 2) infinite chain

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

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

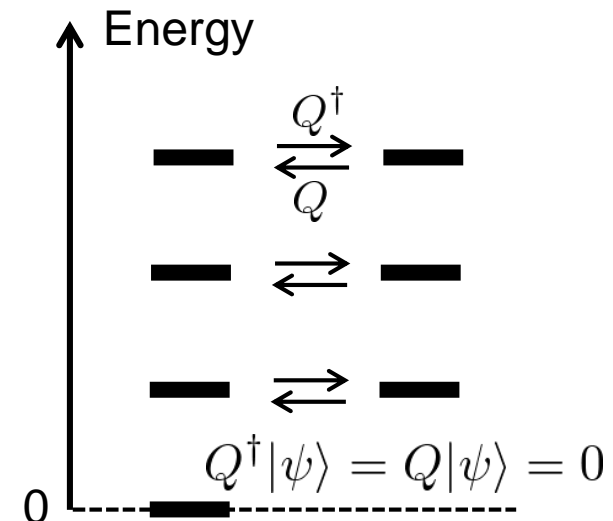
$$\langle \psi | H | \psi \rangle = \|Q|\psi\rangle\|^2 + \|Q^\dagger|\psi\rangle\|^2$$

■ 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

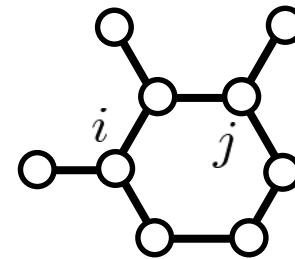
- Lattice sites: $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, N$

- 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

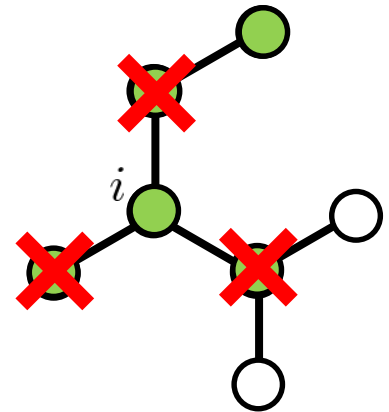
■ Fendley-Schoutens-de Boer model

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

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

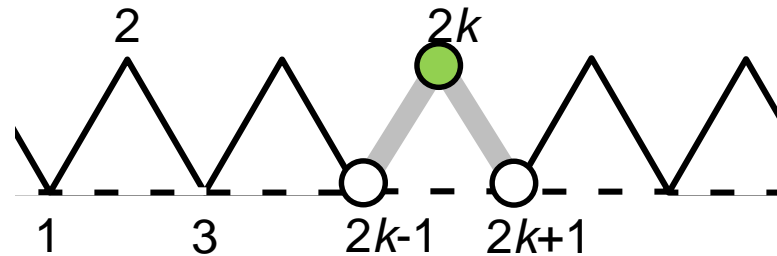
■ Nicolai model

"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)

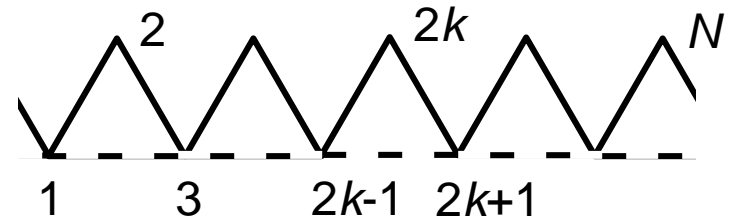
Both models tend to have massively degenerate $E=0$ states...

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

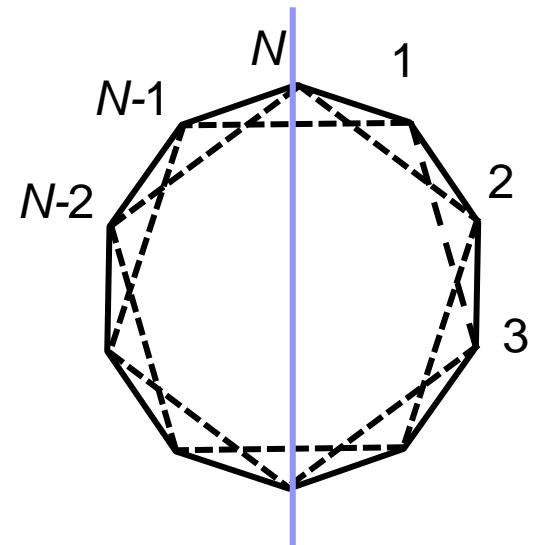
■ Symmetries

• 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 $[U, Q] = [U, Q^\dagger] = 0,$



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

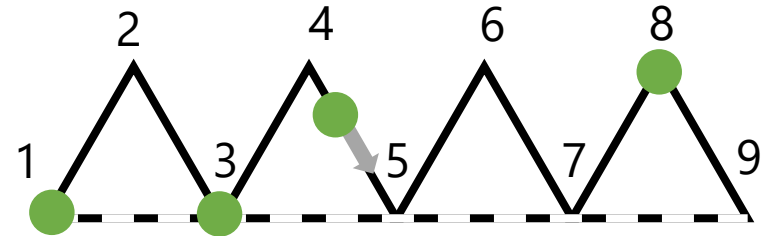
$$U : c_j \rightarrow -(-1)^j c_{N-j}$$

Hamiltonian (explicit expression)

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

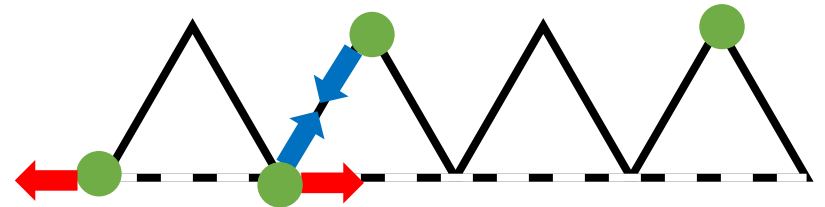
1. Hopping term

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



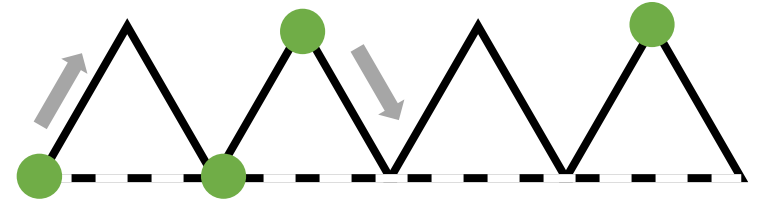
2. Charge-charge int.

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



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...

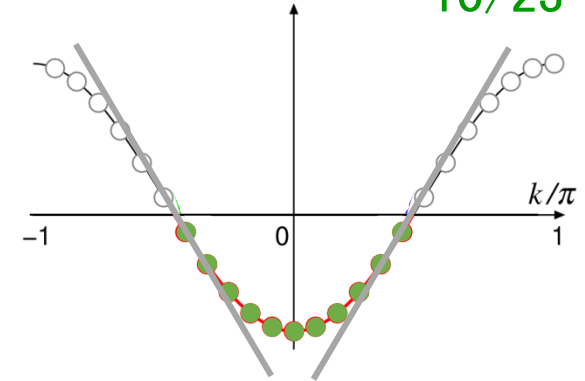
cf) Original Nicolai model ($g = 0$): $H_{\text{Nic}} = H_{\text{charge}} + H_{\text{pair}}$

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_{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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2. **SUSY breaking in extended Nicolai model**

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SUSY breaking

■ Naïve definition

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

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

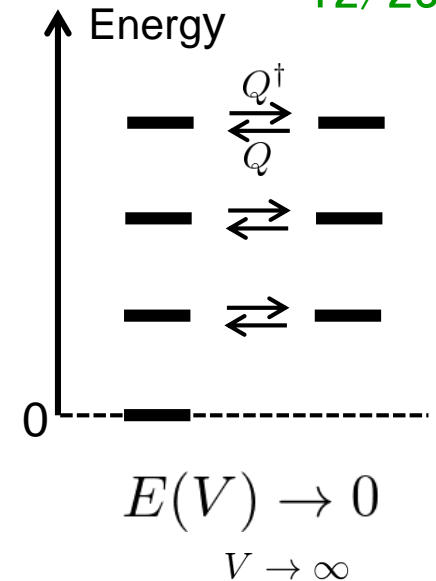
Subtle issue... (Witten, *NPB 202* ('82))

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

■ More precise definition

- (Normalized) ground state: ψ_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 ψ_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_{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_{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!

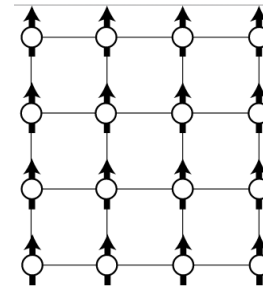
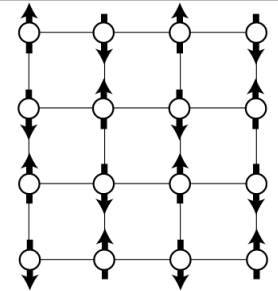
- Extended Nicolai model

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: $|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$

- Spin wave $\sum_k e^{i\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{R}_k} S_k^- |\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$, 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: ψ_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

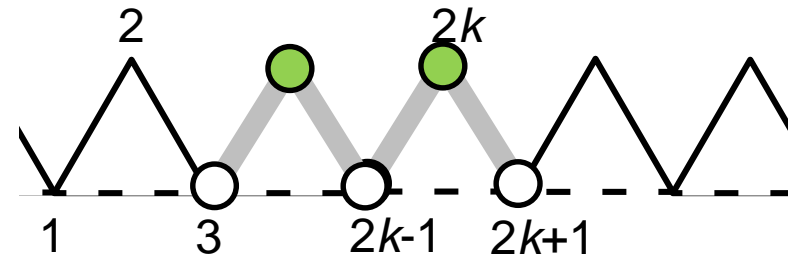
- Local supercharge

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

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

- Fourier components

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



- Ansatz (ψ_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 ψ 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

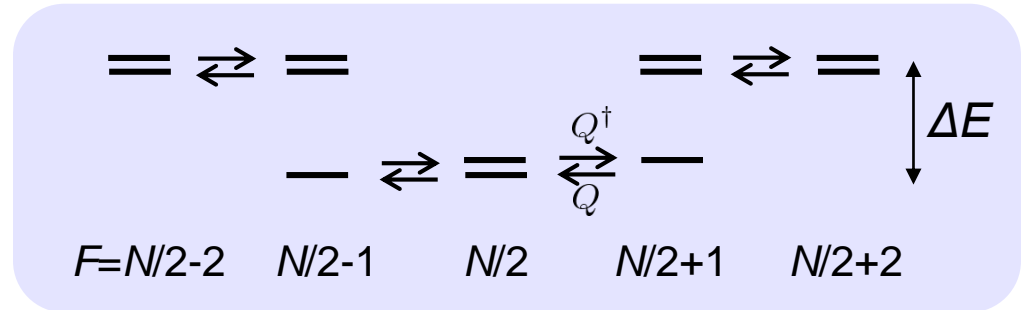
Exact diagonalization

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

4 ground states

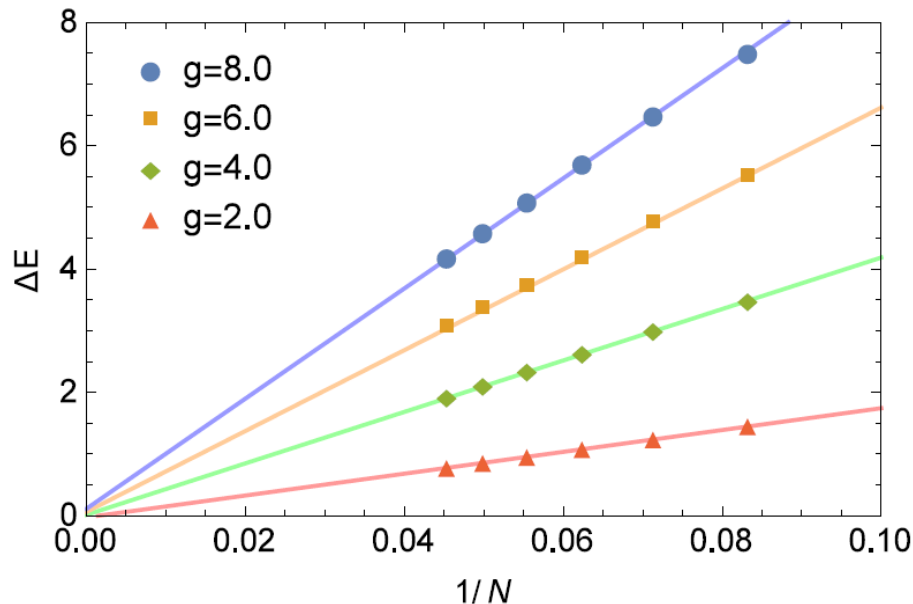
8 first excited states

(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!

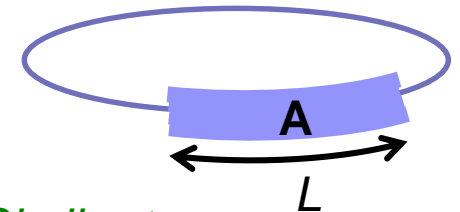
Tomonaga-Luttinger liquid parameter

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

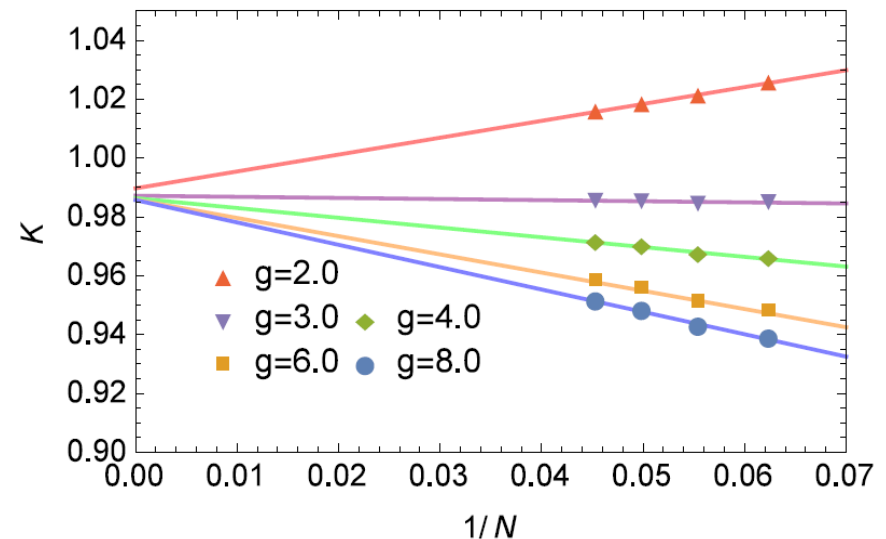
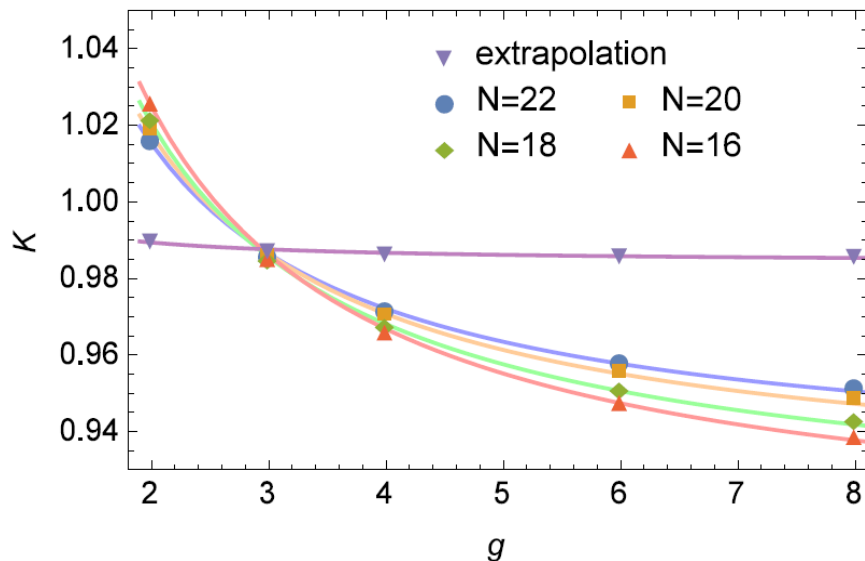
■ Number fluctuation

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**

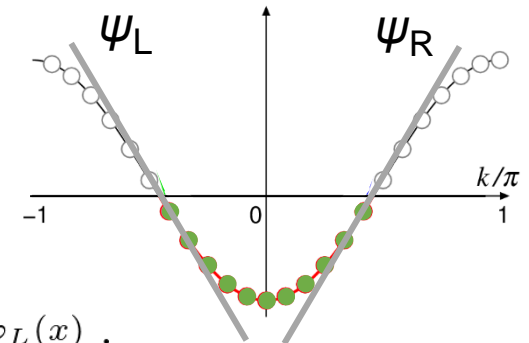
$$\text{Velocity} \quad v = 2 \sqrt{\left(g - \frac{15}{8\pi} \right) \left(g - \frac{27}{8\pi} \right)}$$

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

- 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**

