

*Università degli Studi di Firenze, June 8, 2017*



# Chiral Matter

*from quarks to quantum materials*

D. Kharzeev



# Contents

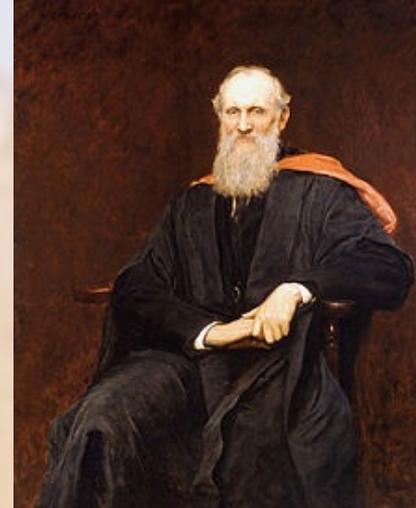
1. Chirality in gauge theories
2. Chiral magnetic effect (CME) and anomaly-induced transport
3. CME in heavy ion collisions
4. CME in condensed matter
5. Chirality, quantum entanglement and the parton model

# *Chirality: the definition*

Greek word: χείρ (cheir) - hand

Lord Kelvin (1893):

**“I call any geometrical figure, or groups of points, chiral, and say it has chirality, if its image in a plane mirror, ideally realized, cannot be brought to coincide with itself.”**

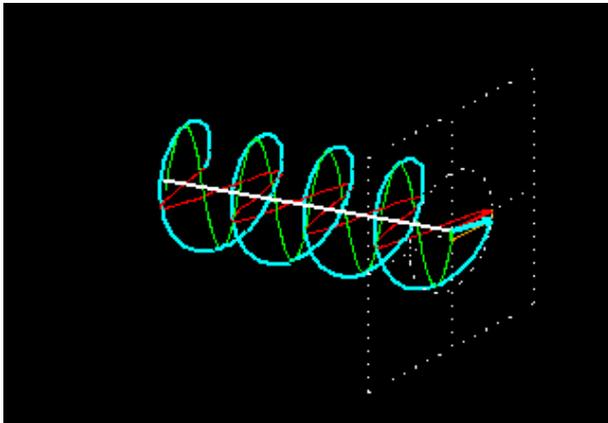


# Light and electromagnetism

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{J} + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$$



THE  
LONDON, EDINBURGH AND DUBLIN  
PHILOSOPHICAL MAGAZINE  
AND  
JOURNAL OF SCIENCE.  
[FOURTH SERIES.]

MARCH 1861.

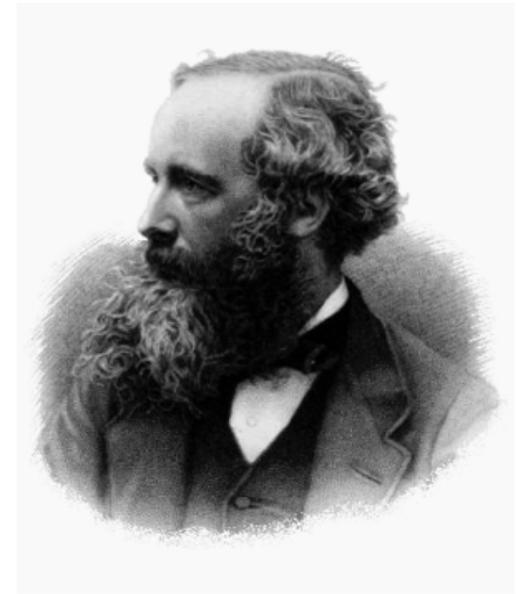
XXV. *On Physical Lines of Force.* By J. C. MAXWELL, Professor of Natural Philosophy in King's College, London\*.  
PART I.—*The Theory of Molecular Vortices applied to Magnetic Phenomena.*

IN all phenomena involving attractions or repulsions, or any forces depending on the relative position of bodies, we have to determine the *magnitude* and *direction* of the force which would act on a given body, if placed in a given position.

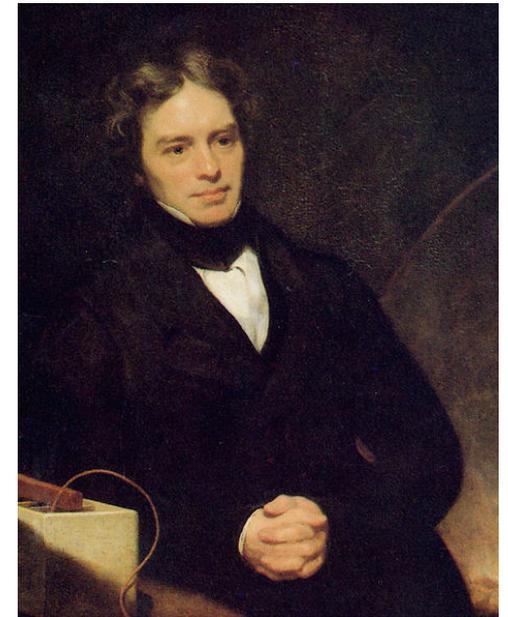
In the case of a body acted on by the gravitation of a sphere, this force is inversely as the square of the distance, and in a straight line to the centre of the sphere. In the case of two attracting spheres, or of a body not spherical, the magnitude and direction of the force vary according to more complicated laws. In electric and magnetic phenomena, the magnitude and direction of the resultant force at any point is the main subject of investigation. Suppose that the direction of the force at any point is known, then, if we draw a line so that in every part of its course it coincides in direction with the force at that point, this line may be called a *line of force*, since it indicates the direction of the force in every part of its course.

By drawing a sufficient number of lines of force, we may indicate the direction of the force in every part of the space in which it acts.

Thus if we strew iron filings on paper near a magnet, each filing will be magnetized by induction, and the consecutive filings will unite by their opposite poles, so as to form fibres, and these fibres will indicate the direction of the lines of force. The beautiful illustration of the presence of magnetic force afforded by this experiment, naturally tends to make us think of



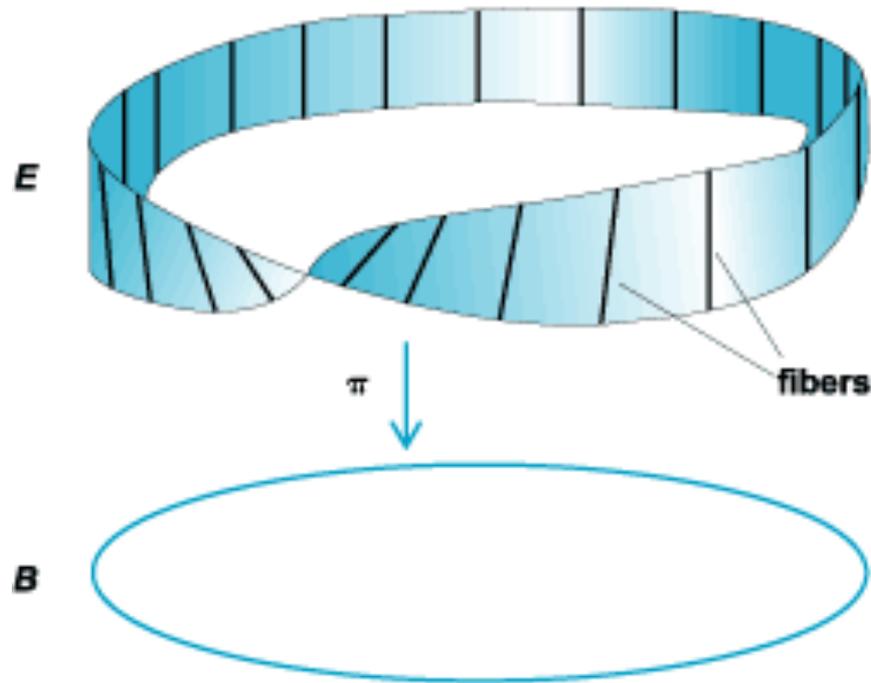
James C. Maxwell, 1831-1879



Michael Faraday, 1791-1867

Maxwell theory  
is left-right  
symmetric

# Gauge fields and topology

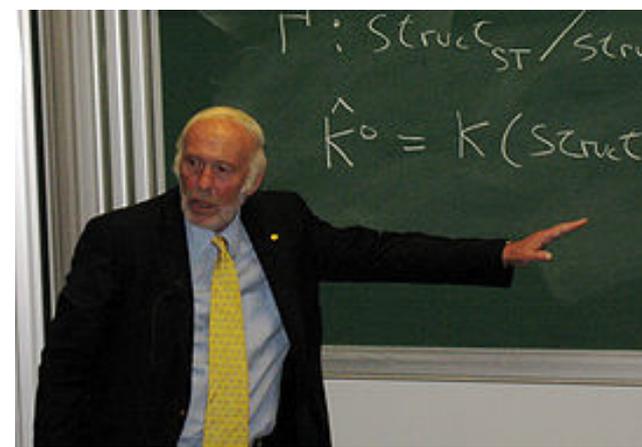
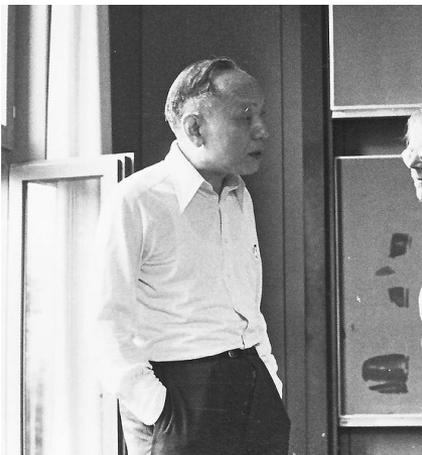


NB: Maxwell electrodynamics as a curvature of a line bundle

*Möbius strip, the simplest nontrivial example of a fiber bundle*

Gauge theories “live” in a fiber bundle space that possesses non-trivial topology (knots, links, twists,...)

# Chern-Simons forms



## 6. Applications to 3-manifolds

In this section  $M$  will denote a compact, oriented, Riemannian 3-manifold, and  $F(M) \xrightarrow{\pi} M$  will denote its  $SO(3)$  oriented frame bundle equipped with the Riemannian connection  $\theta$  and curvature tensor  $\Omega$ . For  $A, B$  skew symmetric matrices, the specific formula for  $P_1$  shows  $P_1(A \otimes B) = -(1/8\pi^2) \text{tr } AB$ . Calculating from (3.5) shows

$$6.1) \quad TP_1(\theta) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \{ \theta_{12} \wedge \theta_{13} \wedge \theta_{23} + \theta_{12} \wedge \Omega_{12} + \theta_{13} \wedge \Omega_{13} + \theta_{23} \wedge \Omega_{23} \} .$$

What does it mean for a gauge theory?

# Chern-Simons theory

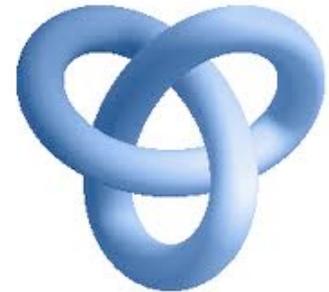
## CHARACTERISTIC FORMS

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What does it mean for electromagnetism?

Geometry

Physics



Riemannian connection

Gauge field

Curvature tensor

Field strength tensor

$$S_{CS} = \frac{k}{8\pi} \int_M d^3x \epsilon^{ijk} \left( A_i F_{jk} + \frac{2}{3} A_i [A_j, A_k] \right)$$

“magnetic helicity”

# Chern-Simons form and circularly polarized light

How to describe the helicity of the circularly polarized light?

Magnetic helicity itself does not obey electric-magnetic symmetry of Maxwell equations in vacuum:

$$\mathbf{E} \rightarrow \cos \theta \mathbf{E} + \sin \theta \mathbf{B}$$

$$\mathbf{B} \rightarrow \cos \theta \mathbf{B} - \sin \theta \mathbf{E}$$

Heaviside, 1892

Larmor, 1897

We can however enforce this symmetry by introducing, in addition to the magnetic helicity, the dual pseudovector gauge potential  $\mathbf{C}$ . In Coulomb gauge  $\mathbf{C}$  is defined by:

$$\nabla \mathbf{A} = \nabla \mathbf{C} = 0 \quad \mathbf{E} = -\nabla \times \mathbf{C} = -\dot{\mathbf{A}}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A} = -\dot{\mathbf{C}}$$

Bateman, 1915

# Optical helicity of the circularly polarized light

Electric-magnetic transformation

$$\mathbf{E} \rightarrow \cos \theta \mathbf{E} + \sin \theta \mathbf{B}$$

$$\mathbf{B} \rightarrow \cos \theta \mathbf{B} - \sin \theta \mathbf{E}$$

is induced by

$$\mathbf{A} \rightarrow \cos \theta \mathbf{A} + \sin \theta \mathbf{C}$$

$$\mathbf{C} \rightarrow \cos \theta \mathbf{C} - \sin \theta \mathbf{A}$$

We can now define the **optical helicity** by adding CS terms for  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{C}$ :

$$H \equiv \frac{1}{2} \int d^3x (\mathbf{A} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) + \mathbf{C} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{C})) = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3x (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C} \cdot \mathbf{E})$$

# Optical helicity of the circularly polarized light

The optical helicity

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3x (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C} \cdot \mathbf{E})$$

is invariant under electric-magnetic symmetry

$$\mathbf{A} \rightarrow \cos \theta \mathbf{A} + \sin \theta \mathbf{C}$$

$$\mathbf{C} \rightarrow \cos \theta \mathbf{C} - \sin \theta \mathbf{A}$$

It is a T-even, P-odd quantity that is conserved *in the absence of interactions with chiral (P-odd) matter*:

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = 0$$

# Chern-Simons theory

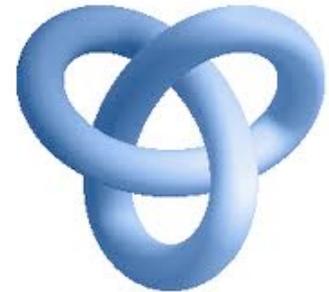
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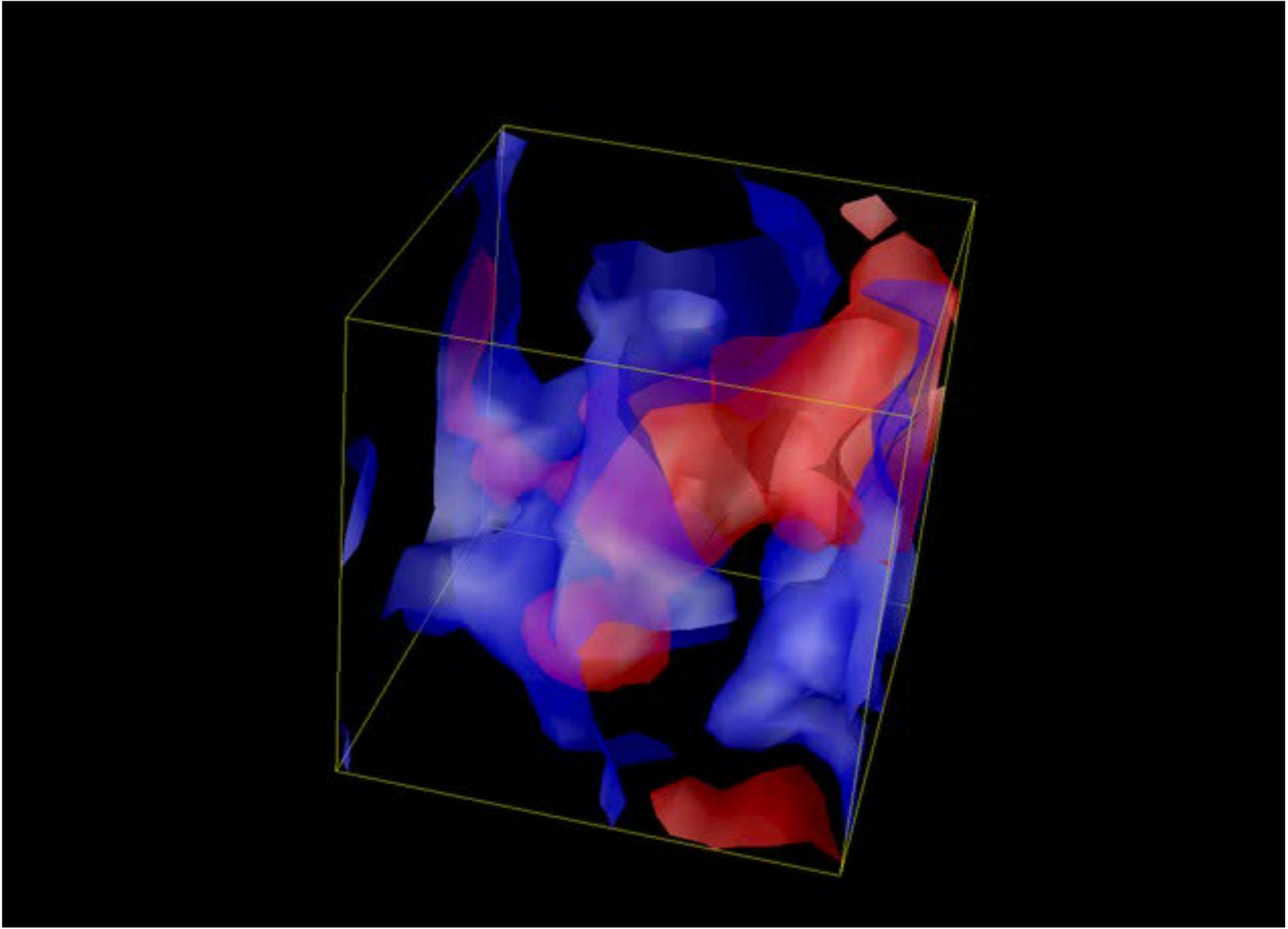
Field strength tensor

$$S_{CS} = \frac{k}{8\pi} \int_M d^3x \epsilon^{ijk} \left( A_i F_{jk} + \frac{2}{3} A_i [A_j, A_k] \right)$$

“magnetic helicity”

Non-Abelian helicity

“Topological foam” in QCD vacuum, (3+1) Dimensions  
ITEP Lattice Group



# Chirality in electrodynamics, (3+1)D: Maxwell-Chern-Simons theory

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{MCS}} = -\frac{1}{4} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} - A_{\mu} J^{\mu} + \frac{c}{4} P_{\mu} J_{\text{CS}}^{\mu}$$

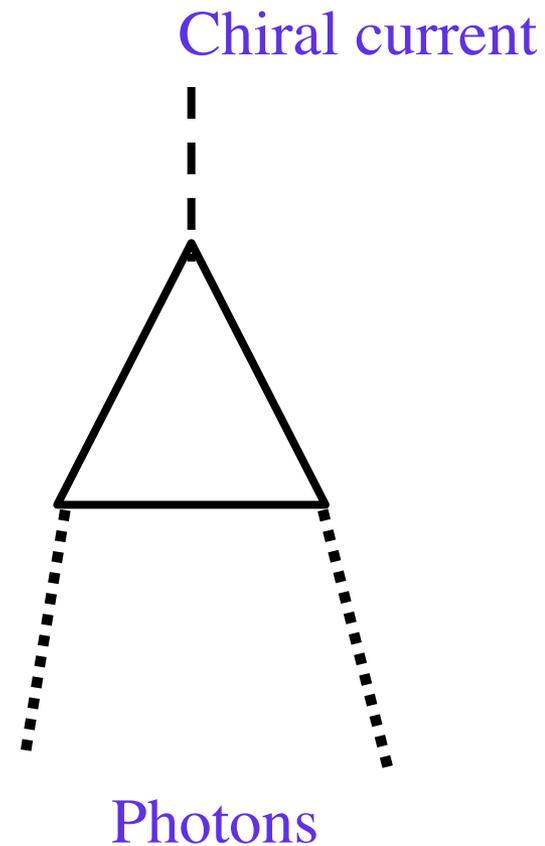
$$J_{\text{CS}}^{\mu} = \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} A_{\nu} F_{\rho\sigma} \quad P_{\mu} = \partial_{\mu} \theta = (\dot{\theta}, \vec{P})$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} - \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} = \vec{J} + c \left( \dot{\theta} \vec{B} - \vec{P} \times \vec{E} \right),$$

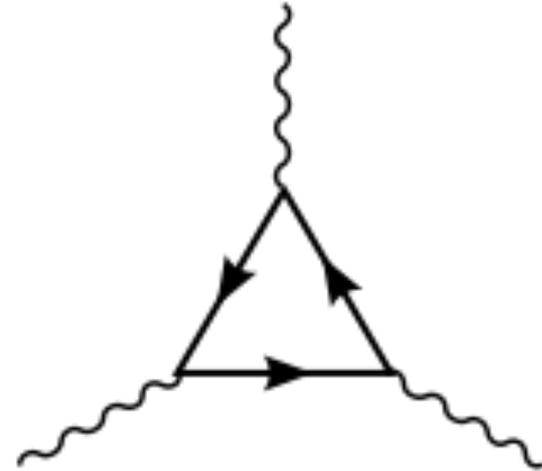
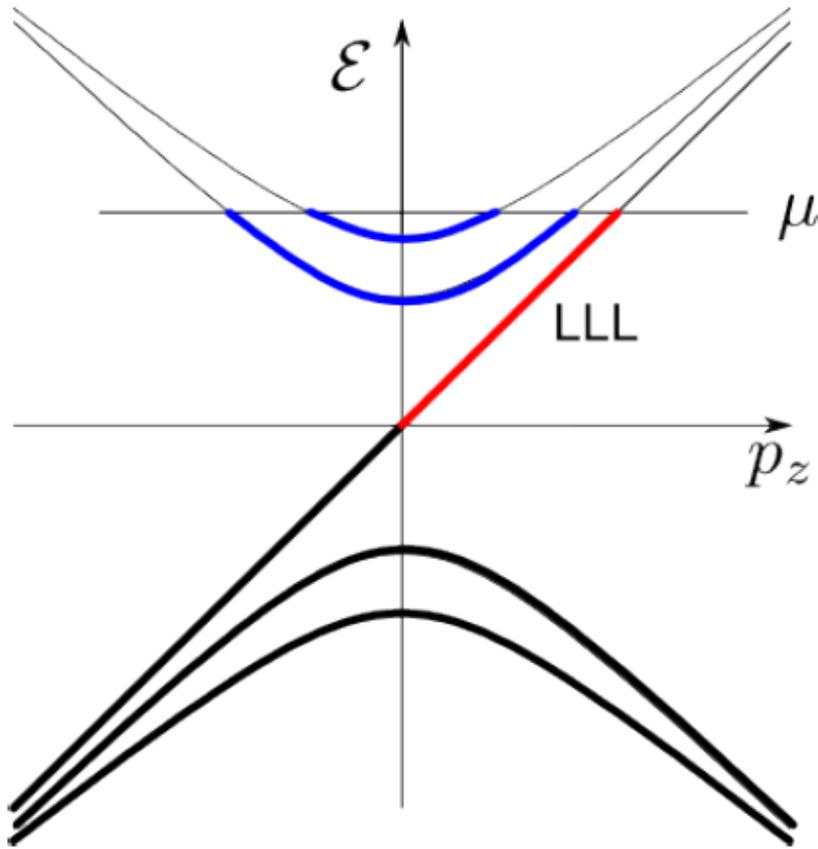
$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \rho + c \vec{P} \cdot \vec{B},$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} + \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = 0,$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0,$$



# Chiral anomaly



**In classical background fields (E and B), chiral anomaly induces a collective motion in the Dirac sea**

# Problem:

Derive the action describing a source of chirality described by  $\theta(x,t)$  for non-linear electrodynamics, e.g. for Born-Infeld action:

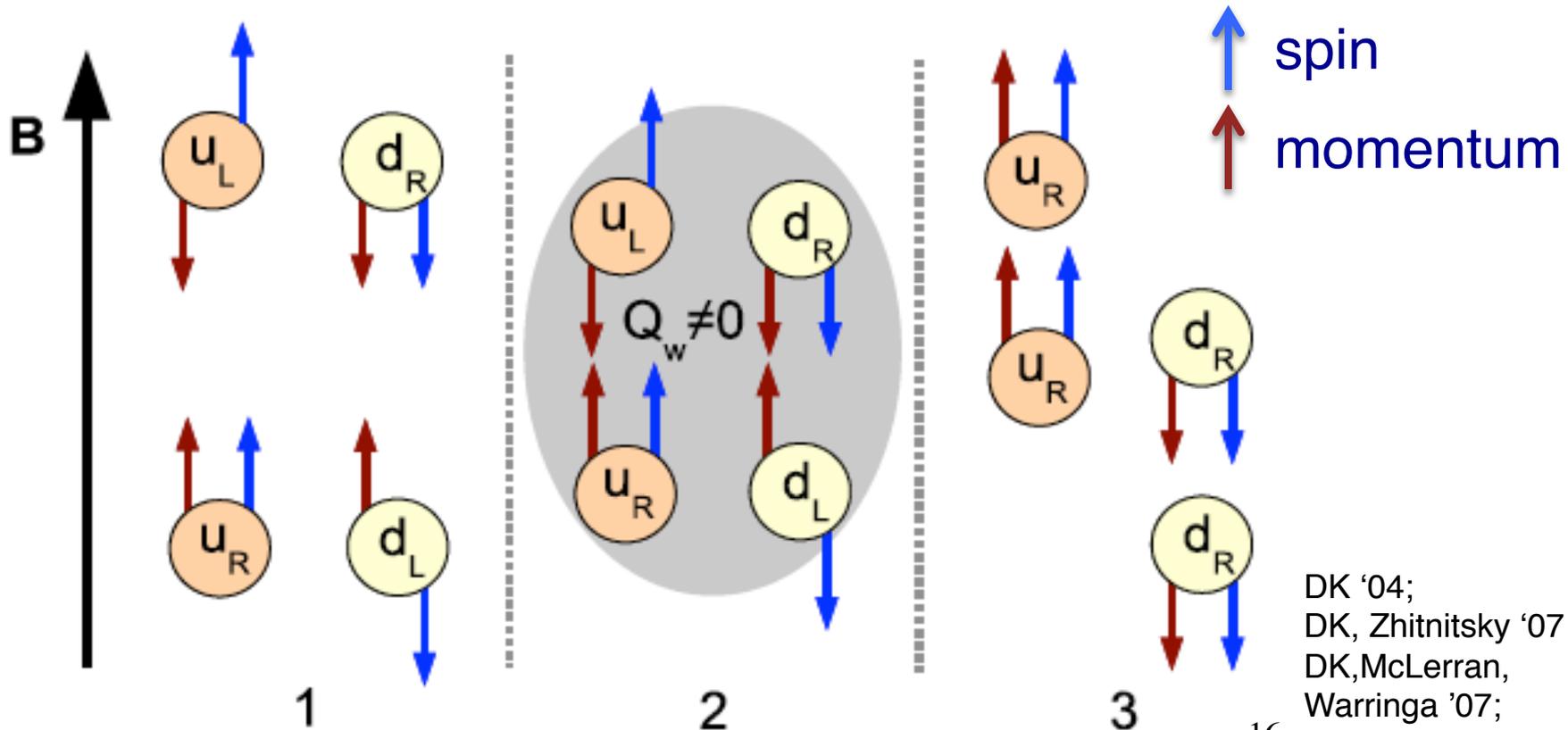
$$\mathcal{L} = -b^2 \sqrt{1 - \frac{E^2 - B^2}{b^2} - \frac{(\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B})^2}{b^4}} + b^2$$

Note: the BI action obeys the electric-magnetic symmetry

Applications include the generation of second harmonic in chiral nanotubes, see F.Qin, "Superconductivity in a chiral nanotube" Nature Comm. 2017; WS<sub>2</sub>

# Chirality in 3D: the Chiral Magnetic Effect

chirality + magnetic field = current



Review: DK, arxiv:1312.3348 (Prog.Part.Nucl.Phys'14)

DK '04;  
 DK, Zhitnitsky '07  
 DK, McLerran,  
 Warringa '07;  
 Fukushima,  
 DK, Warringa '08

# Early work on currents in magnetic field due to P violation

(see DK, Prog.Part.Nucl.Phys. 75 (2014) 133  
for a complete (?) list of references)

A.Vilenkin (1980) “Equilibrium parity-violating current in a magnetic field”;  
(1980) “Cancellation of equilibrium parity-violating currents”

G. Eliashberg (1983) JETP 38, 188

L. Levitov, Yu.Nazarov, G. Eliashberg (1985) JETP 88, 229

M. Joyce and M. Shaposhnikov (1997) PRL 79, 1193;

M. Giovannini and M. Shaposhnikov (1998) PRL 80, 22

A. Alekseev, V. Cheianov, J. Frohlich (1998) PRL 81, 3503

## Equilibrium parity-violating current in a magnetic field

Alexander Vilenkin

*Physics Department, Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts 02155*

(Received 1 August 1980)

It is argued that if the Hamiltonian of a system of charged fermions does not conserve parity, then an equilibrium electric current parallel to  $\vec{B}$  can develop in such a system in an external magnetic field  $\vec{B}$ . The equilibrium current is calculated (i) for noninteracting left-handed massless fermions and (ii) for a system of massive particles with a Fermi-type parity-violating interaction. In the first case a nonzero current is found, while in the second case the current vanishes in the lowest order of perturbation theory. The physical reason for the cancellation of the current in the second case is not clear and one cannot rule out the possibility that a nonzero current appears in other models.



But: no current in equilibrium



C.N. Yang

## Cancellation of equilibrium parity-violating currents

Alexander Vilenkin

*Physics Department, Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts 02155*

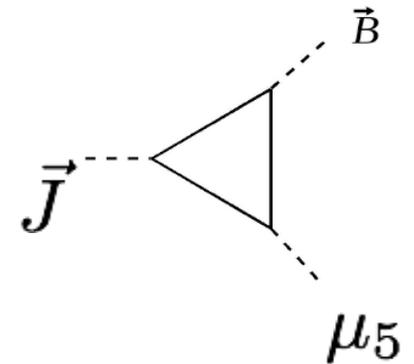
# Chiral Magnetic Effect

DK'04; K.Fukushima, DK, H.Warringa, PRD'08;  
Review and list of refs: DK, arXiv:1312.3348

Chiral chemical potential is formally equivalent to a background chiral gauge field:  $\mu_5 = A_5^0$

In this background, and in the presence of  $\vec{B}$ , vector e.m. current is generated:

$$\partial_\mu J^\mu = \frac{e^2}{16\pi^2} \left( F_L^{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{L,\mu\nu} - F_R^{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{R,\mu\nu} \right)$$



Compute the current through

$$J^\mu = \frac{\partial \log Z[A_\mu, A_\mu^5]}{\partial A_\mu(x)}$$

The result:

$$\vec{J} = \frac{e^2}{2\pi^2} \mu_5 \vec{B}$$

Coefficient is fixed by the axial anomaly, no corrections

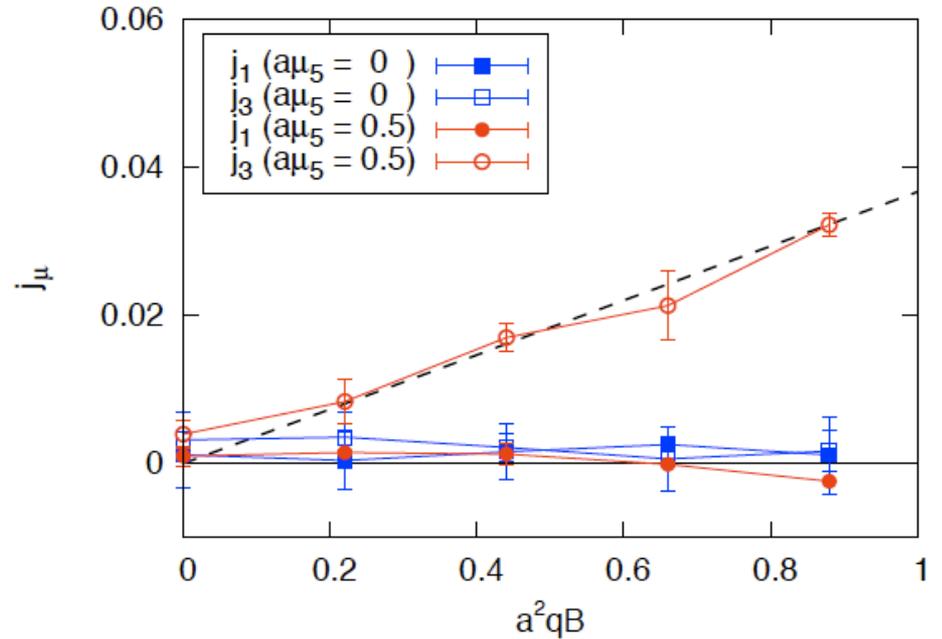
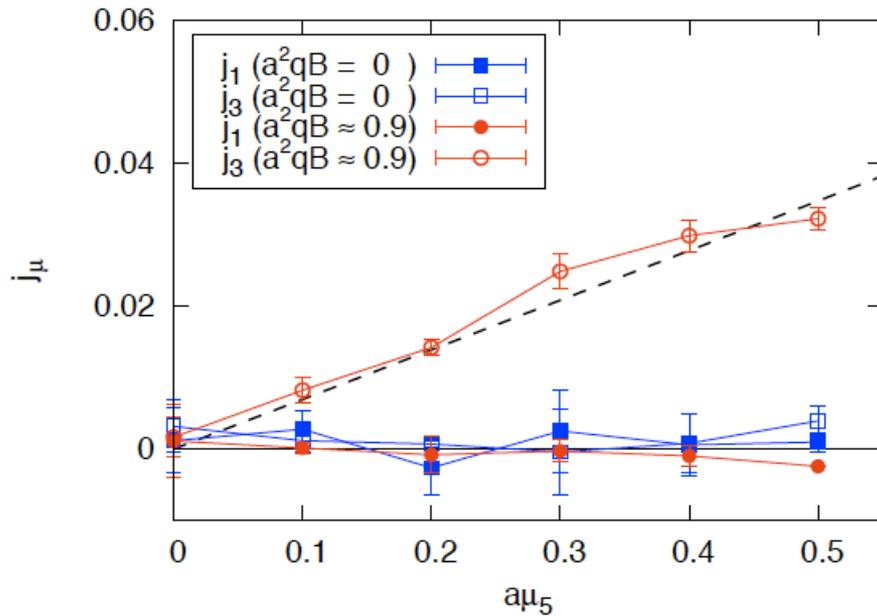
## Chiral magnetic effect in lattice QCD with chiral chemical potential

Arata Yamamoto

*Department of Physics, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo 113-0033, Japan*

(Dated: May 3, 2011)

We perform a first lattice QCD simulation including two-flavor dynamical fermion with chiral chemical potential. Because the chiral chemical potential gives rise to no sign problem, we can exactly analyze a chirally asymmetric QCD matter by the Monte Carlo simulation. By applying an external magnetic field to this system, we obtain a finite induced current along the magnetic field, which corresponds to the chiral magnetic effect. The obtained induced current is proportional to the magnetic field and to the chiral chemical potential, which is consistent with an analytical prediction.



# Systematics of anomalous conductivities

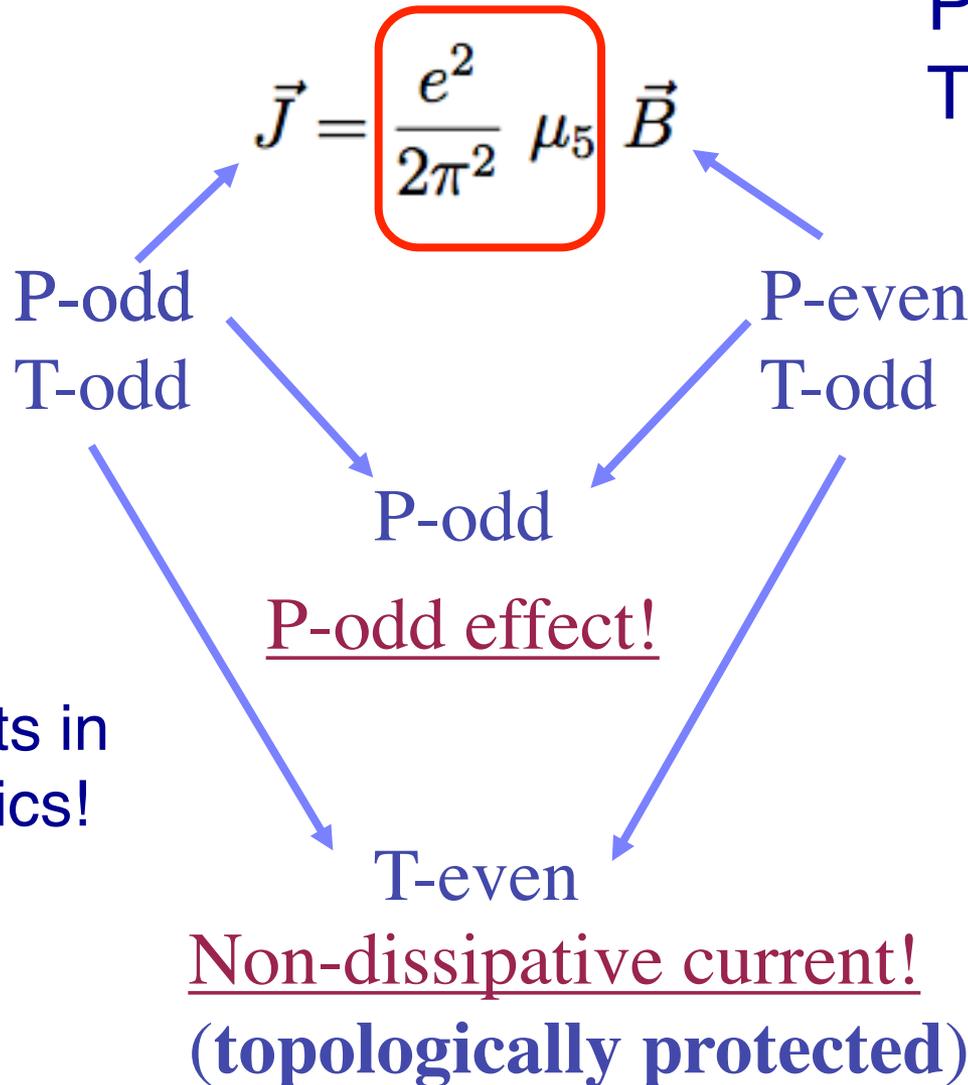
Magnetic field

Vorticity

Vector current	$\frac{\mu_A}{2\pi^2}$	$\frac{\mu\mu_A}{2\pi^2}$
Axial current	$\frac{\mu}{2\pi^2}$	$\frac{\mu^2 + \mu_A^2}{4\pi^2} + \frac{T^2}{12}$

# Chiral magnetic conductivity: discrete symmetries

P – parity  
T – time reversal



Effect persists in hydrodynamics!

cf Ohmic conductivity:

$$\vec{J} = \sigma \vec{E}$$

T-odd,  
dissipative

# CME as a new type of superconductivity

London theory of superconductors, '35:

$$\vec{J} = -\lambda^{-2} \vec{A} \quad \nabla \cdot \vec{A} = 0$$



Fritz and Heinz London

$$\vec{E} = -\dot{\vec{A}}$$

$$\vec{E} = \lambda^2 \dot{\vec{J}}$$

assume that chirality is conserved:

$$\mu_5 \sim \vec{E} \vec{B} t$$

CME:

$$\vec{J} \sim \mu_5 \vec{B}$$

for  $\vec{E} \parallel \vec{B}$

$$\vec{E} \sim B^{-2} \dot{\vec{J}}$$

superconducting current, tunable by magnetic field!