Generalization of the Haldane conjecture to SU(3) spin chains



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Haldane:

The SU(2) symmetric Heisenberg spin chain behaves differently for integer and half-integer spins

based on a mapping of the low energy degrees of freedom into a 1+1 dimensional O(3) nonlinear sigma model

The SU(3) symmetric Heisenberg spin chain behaves differently for p=3m and $p=3m\pm 1$ spins in the fully symmetric representation

based on a mapping of the low energy degrees of freedom into a 1+1 dimensional SU(3)/(U(1) x U(1)) nonlinear sigma model

Half-integer spins

S=1/2



Majumdar Ghosh J. of Math. Phys., 10(8), 1399 (1969) Shastry Sutherland, Phys. Rev. Lett., 47, 964 (1981) Okamoto, Nomura, Phys. Lett. A **169**, 433 (1992)

Half-integer spins

S=1/2



gapleLieb Schulz-Mattis-Affleck theorem:dimerizedhalf integer spin chain is either gapless or dimerized

Lieb, Schultz, Mattis (1961) Affleck, Lieb (1986)

Hulthen, Ark.Mat.Astron.FysikA,26 (11):106p., 1938. Karbach et al., Comput. Phys. **12**, 565 (1998) Majumdar Ghosh J. of Math. Phys., 10(8), 1399 (1969) Shastry Sutherland, Phys. Rev. Lett., 47, 964 (1981) Okamoto, Nomura, Phys. Lett. A **169**, 433 (1992)

 J_2/J_1

Integer spins

S=1

AKLT model

$$H_{\text{AKLT}} = \sum_{i} \operatorname{Proj} \left(|\mathbf{S}_{i} + \mathbf{S}_{i+1}| = 2 \right)$$
$$= \sum_{i} \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{S}_{i} \mathbf{S}_{i+1} + \frac{1}{6} \left(\mathbf{S}_{i} \mathbf{S}_{i+1} \right)^{2}$$

projection onto S=1

Unique gapped ground state

Affleck, Kennedy, Lieb, Tasaki (1988).

nearest neighbour Heisenberg model



Compound	Chemical formula	
	CsNiCl ₃	Johnson (1979)
NENP	Ni(C ₂ H ₈ N ₂) ₂ NO ₂ ClO ₄	Meyer (1982)
NENF	$Ni(C_2H_8N_2)_2NO_2PF_6$	
NINO	$Ni(C_3H_{10}N_2)_2NO_2ClO_4$	Renald(1988)
NINAZ	Ni(C ₃ H ₁₀ N ₂) ₂ N ₃ ClO ₄	Renald(1990)
NDMAZ	Ni(C5H14N2)2N3ClO4	Yamashita(1995)
NDMAP	Ni(C ₅ H ₁₄ N ₂) ₂ N ₃ PF ₆	Momfort(1996)
TMNIN	(CH ₃) ₄ NNi(NO ₂) ₃	Gadet(1991)
YBANO	Y ₂ BaNiO ₅	Cheong (1992)
	$AgVP_2S_6$	Lee (1986)

Renald, et al. 2002

Path integral for SU(2) Heisenberg model Haldane (1983)

$$\mathcal{Z} = \operatorname{Tr} \left(e^{-\beta H} \right) = \operatorname{Tr} \left(e^{-d\tau H} e^{-d\tau H} \dots e^{-d\tau H} \right)$$

inserting a complete set of states at every time step



1D quantum model \longrightarrow 1+1D classical fields $\int \mathcal{D}[\mathbf{n}] \exp\left(-\int d\tau \left[JS^2 \sum_{i} \mathbf{n}_{i,\tau} \mathbf{n}_{i+1,\tau} + 2S \sum_{i} \mathbf{n}_{i,\tau} \partial_{\tau} \mathbf{n}_{i,\tau}\right]\right)$

$$\int \mathcal{D}[\mathbf{n}] \exp\left(-\int d\tau \left[JS^2 \sum_{i} \mathbf{n}_{i,\tau} \mathbf{n}_{i+1,\tau} + 2S \sum_{i} \mathbf{n}_{i,\tau} \partial_{\tau} \mathbf{n}_{i,\tau}\right]\right)$$
classical energy Berry phase (imaginary)
$$\mathbf{n}_{2j} = \frac{S}{\sqrt{1+l^2}} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{m}_j + \mathbf{l}_j \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{n}_{2j+1} = \frac{S}{\sqrt{1+l^2}} \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{m}_j + \mathbf{l}_j \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left[\uparrow \quad \downarrow\right] \quad \left[\uparrow \quad \downarrow\right] \quad \left[\uparrow \quad \downarrow\right]$$

l_i terms can be integrated out (~ Legendre transformation)

$$S[\mathbf{m}] = \int dx dt \frac{1}{2g} \left(v(\partial_x \mathbf{m})^2 + \frac{1}{v} (\partial_t \mathbf{m})^2 + \frac{i\theta}{8\pi} \epsilon_{ij} \mathbf{m} \cdot (\partial_i \mathbf{m} \times \partial_j \mathbf{m}) \right)$$
$$g = \frac{2}{S} \qquad \qquad \theta = 2\pi S \quad \text{the rest is an integer}_{\text{topological charge}}$$

O(3) NLSM with topological term O(3) NLSM without topological term

half-integer spins

integer spins







SU(*N*) symmetry in cold atoms





hopping process independent of nuclear spin (N=2F+1 states)

SU(N) symmetric Heisenberg model in the Mott insulating phase

Gorshkov et al., Nature Physics, 6, 289 - 295 (2010) Cazalilla et al., New J. Phys., 11, 103033 (2009) Cazalilla, Rey, Rep. Prog. Phys. 77 124401 (2014)

SU(3) spin chains - fundamental spin

fundamental spin: 3 colors

 $S^{\alpha}_{\beta} \sim c^{\dagger}_{\alpha} c_{\beta}$

SU(3) symmetric Heisenberg interaction



Higher spins







fully symmetric representation

p boxes: p symmetrized fundamental spins

Nature of GS?

Lieb Schulz-Mattis-Affleck theorem: p=3m±1 chains are either gapless or trimerized Lieb, Schultz, Mattis (1961) Affleck, Lieb (1986) p=1 n.n Heisenberg point, Bethe solvable





Nature of GS?



Nataf, Mila Phys. Rev. B 93, 155134 (2016)

SU(3) Heisenberg model & path integral

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{H} &= \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} S^{\alpha}_{\beta}(i) S^{\beta}_{\alpha}(j) \\ \hline 1 2 \dots p \quad & \rightarrow \quad \text{p bosons per site} \\ S^{\alpha}_{\beta}(i) &= b^{\dagger}_{i,\alpha} b_{i,\beta} \qquad \quad \mathcal{H} = \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} b^{\dagger}_{i,\alpha} b_{i,\beta} b^{\dagger}_{j,\beta} b_{j,\alpha} \end{split}$$

Path integral approach

$$\mathcal{Z} = \operatorname{Tr}\left(e^{-\beta H}\right) = \operatorname{Tr}\left(e^{-d\tau H}e^{-d\tau H}\dots e^{-d\tau H}\right)$$

spin coherent state for the p-box case:

 $|\vec{\Phi}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{p!}} \left(\Phi^{(1)} b_1^{\dagger} + \Phi^{(2)} b_2^{\dagger} + \Phi^{(3)} b_3^{\dagger} \right)^p |0\rangle \quad \text{with} \quad |\vec{\Phi}|^2 = 1 \quad \text{3D complex fields}$

$$\mathcal{Z} = \int \mathcal{D}[\Phi] \exp\left(-\int d\tau \left[p^2 J \sum_{i} \left|\vec{\Phi}_{i,\tau}^* \vec{\Phi}_{i+1,\tau}\right|^2 + p \sum_{i} \vec{\Phi}_{i,\tau}^* \partial_\tau \vec{\Phi}_{i,\tau}\right]\right)$$

classical energy

Berry phase (imaginary)

SU(3) case, coherent state path integral



short range **quantum fluctuations select 3-sublattice order** (order by disorder) effective further neighbour (J_2 , J_3) interactions

Low energy fluctutations in path integral:

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{non-orthogonality of the spin states in the unit cell} \\ \begin{pmatrix} \vec{\Phi}_{1}^{T}(3j,\tau) \\ \vec{\Phi}_{2}^{T}(3j+1,\tau) \\ \vec{\Phi}_{3}^{T}(3j+2,\tau) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{1 - \frac{a^{2}}{p^{2}}(|L_{12}|^{2} + |L_{13}|^{2})} & \frac{a}{p}L_{12} & \frac{a}{p}L_{13} \\ \frac{a}{p}L_{12}^{*} & \sqrt{1 - \frac{a^{2}}{p^{2}}(|L_{12}|^{2} + |L_{23}|^{2})} & \frac{a}{p}L_{23} \\ \frac{a}{p}L_{13}^{*} & \frac{a}{p}L_{23}^{*} & \sqrt{1 - \frac{a^{2}}{p^{2}}(|L_{13}|^{2} + |L_{23}|^{2})} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \vec{\phi}_{1}^{T}(j,\tau) \\ \vec{\phi}_{2}(j,\tau) \\ \vec{\phi}_{3}(j,\tau) \end{pmatrix}$$

L variables can be integrated out

$$S = \int dx d\tau \left(\sum_{n=1}^{3} \frac{1}{g} \left(\left| \vec{\phi}_{1}^{*} \cdot \partial_{\mu} \vec{\phi}_{2} \right|^{2} + \left| \vec{\phi}_{2}^{*} \cdot \partial_{\mu} \vec{\phi}_{3} \right|^{2} + \left| \vec{\phi}_{3}^{*} \cdot \partial_{\mu} \vec{\phi}_{1} \right|^{2} \right) + i \sum_{n=1}^{3} \frac{\theta_{n}}{2\pi i} \varepsilon_{\mu\nu} \left(\partial_{\mu} \vec{\phi}_{n} \cdot \partial_{\nu} \vec{\phi}_{n}^{*} \right) \right)$$

3 fields are orthogonal from a unitary matrix

$$\begin{split} &\mathrm{SU}(3) / \big(\mathrm{U}(1) \times \mathrm{U}(1) \big) \\ & \left(\begin{array}{c} \vec{\phi}_1^T(j,\tau) \\ \vec{\phi}_2(j,\tau) \\ \vec{\phi}_3(j,\tau) \end{array} \right) \\ & g \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} \end{split}$$

topological term $i\sum_{n=1}^{3} \theta_n Q_n$ $Q_1 + Q_2 + Q_3 = 0$ $\theta_1 = -\theta_3 = p\frac{2\pi}{3}$

trivial for p = 3m, nontrivial otherwise



Monte Carlo simulation

$$S = \int dx d\tau \frac{1}{g} \left(\left| \vec{\phi}_1^* \cdot \partial_\mu \vec{\phi}_2 \right|^2 + \left| \vec{\phi}_2^* \cdot \partial_\mu \vec{\phi}_3 \right|^2 + \left| \vec{\phi}_3^* \cdot \partial_\mu \vec{\phi}_1 \right|^2 \right) + i\theta \left(Q_1 - Q_3 \right) \quad \theta = p \frac{2\pi}{3}$$

imaginary term in action for real θ we can make simulations for imaginary $\theta = i\vartheta$ $S = \int dx d\tau \frac{1}{g} \left(\left| \vec{\phi}_1^* \cdot \partial_\mu \vec{\phi}_2 \right|^2 + \left| \vec{\phi}_2^* \cdot \partial_\mu \vec{\phi}_3 \right|^2 + \left| \vec{\phi}_3^* \cdot \partial_\mu \vec{\phi}_1 \right|^2 \right) - \vartheta \left(Q_1 - Q_3 \right)$

Monte Carlo simulation

$$S = \int dx d\tau \frac{1}{g} \left(\left| \vec{\phi}_{1}^{*} \cdot \partial_{\mu} \vec{\phi}_{2} \right|^{2} + \left| \vec{\phi}_{2}^{*} \cdot \partial_{\mu} \vec{\phi}_{3} \right|^{2} + \left| \vec{\phi}_{3}^{*} \cdot \partial_{\mu} \vec{\phi}_{1} \right|^{2} \right) + i\theta \left(Q_{1} - Q_{3}\right) \quad \theta = p \frac{2\pi}{3}$$

imaginary term we can make sir
$$S = \int dx d\tau \frac{1}{g} \left(\begin{array}{c} 1.4 \\ 1.2 \\ 1 \\ 1.2 \\ 1 \\ 1.2 \\ 1 \\ 1.2 \\$$

Phase diagram

$$S = \int dx d\tau \frac{1}{g} \left(\left| \vec{\phi}_1^* \cdot \partial_\mu \vec{\phi}_2 \right|^2 + \left| \vec{\phi}_2^* \cdot \partial_\mu \vec{\phi}_3 \right|^2 + \left| \vec{\phi}_3^* \cdot \partial_\mu \vec{\phi}_1 \right|^2 \right) + i\theta \left(Q_1 - Q_3 \right) \qquad \theta = p \frac{2\pi}{3}$$



Symmetries of the field theory



$$S = \int dx d\tau \frac{1}{g} \left(\left| \vec{\phi}_1^* \cdot \partial_\mu \vec{\phi}_2 \right|^2 + \left| \vec{\phi}_2^* \cdot \partial_\mu \vec{\phi}_3 \right|^2 + \left| \vec{\phi}_3^* \cdot \partial_\mu \vec{\phi}_1 \right|^2 \right) + i\theta \left(Q_1 - Q_3 \right) \quad \theta = p \frac{2\pi}{3}$$

Translation by one site: $\vec{\phi_1} \rightarrow \vec{\phi_2} \rightarrow \vec{\phi_3} \rightarrow \vec{\phi_1}$ \mathbb{Z}_3 symmetry in NLSM

$$ip\frac{2\pi}{3}(Q_1-Q_3) \to ip\frac{2\pi}{3}(Q_2-Q_1) = ip\frac{2\pi}{3}(Q_1-Q_3) + ip\frac{2\pi}{3}(Q_1+Q_2+Q_3) - i3p\frac{2\pi}{3}Q_1.$$

Mirror symmetry: $\vec{\phi}_{1(3)}(x,\tau) \leftrightarrow \vec{\phi}_{3(1)}(-x,\tau)$ $\vec{\phi}_{2}(x,\tau) \leftrightarrow \vec{\phi}_{2}(-x,\tau)$

$$\theta(Q_1 - Q_3) \rightarrow -\theta(Q_3 - Q_1),$$

 \mathbb{Z}_2 symmetry in NLSM

$$S = \int dx d\tau \frac{1}{g} \left(\left| \vec{\phi}_1^* \cdot \partial_\mu \vec{\phi}_2 \right|^2 + \left| \vec{\phi}_2^* \cdot \partial_\mu \vec{\phi}_3 \right|^2 + \left| \vec{\phi}_3^* \cdot \partial_\mu \vec{\phi}_1 \right|^2 \right) + i \left(\theta_1 Q_1 - \theta_3 Q_3 \right)$$

 $g \to \infty$ is integrable, $S = i (\theta_1 Q_1 - \theta_3 Q_3)$



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 $g \to \infty$ is integrable, $S = i \left(\theta_1 Q_1 - \theta_3 Q_3 \right)$







g<*g*_{*c*}

















What we learned



Thank you for your attention