

# Frustrated magnetism with neural network wave functions

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Benasque, 16 August 2023



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# Outline

- Neural quantum states (NQS)
  - “Sign problem”
- Symmetric ansätze for VMC
- Group-convolutional networks (GCNN)
- Lattice problems
  - PRB **108**, 054410 (2023)
  - Square-lattice  $J_1 - J_2$
  - Triangular-lattice  $J_1 - J_2$
- Antiferromagnets on fullerene structures
  - work in progress

## In collaboration with



Chris Roth  
UT Austin → Flatiron  
PRB **108**, 054410 (2023)



Sylvain Capponi



Fabien Alet  
CNRS Toulouse  
work in progress

# Variational Monte Carlo (VMC)

Computationally, wave functions are a many-variable complex function:

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{s_1, \dots, s_N} \psi(s_1, \dots, s_N) |s_1, \dots, s_N\rangle$$

- ED:  $\psi(s_1, \dots, s_N)$  comes from a lookup table
- Hartree–Fock:  $\psi(s_1, \dots, s_N) = N \times N$  determinant
- MPS:  $\psi(s_1 \dots s_N) = \text{tr}[A_1(s_1) \dots A_N(s_N)]$

# Variational Monte Carlo (VMC)

A wave-function *ansatz* has additional parameters  $\theta$ :

$$|\psi(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_P)\rangle = \sum_{s_1, \dots, s_N} \psi(s_1, \dots, s_N; \theta_1, \dots, \theta_P) |s_1, \dots, s_N\rangle$$

- Hartree–Fock:  $\theta \equiv$  single-particle orbitals
- MPS:  $\theta \equiv$  matrix entries

Variational Monte Carlo is a set of algorithms to optimise  $\theta$  for *any* ansatz

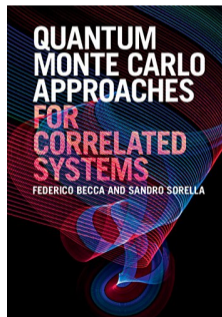
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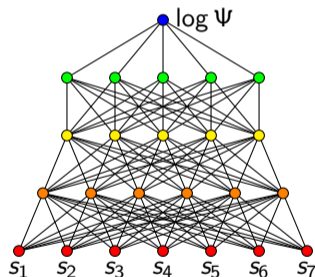
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# Neural quantum states (NQS)

Would like a very flexible and expressive variational ansatz

- Deep neural networks can represent images, language, etc.
  - Try them as an ansatz!
    - Input of NN: basis state  $s_1, \dots, s_N$
    - Output:  $\psi(s_1, \dots, s_N)$
    - VMC optimises the layers of the network
  - Many different kinds of neural networks
- ⇒ Pick the best one for the application!



## Example: recurrent neural networks

Used to generate sequential data (e.g. text)

- Probability of sequence  $(s_1, s_2, \dots)$  as a string of conditional probabilities:

$$p(s_1, s_2, \dots) = p(s_1)p(s_2|s_1)p(s_3|s_1, s_2) \cdots$$

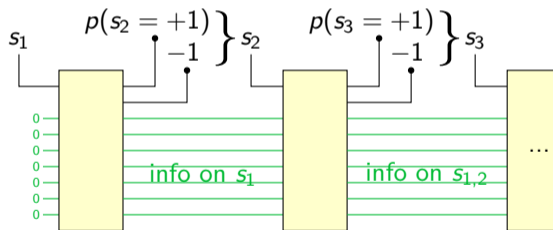
- Each  $p(s_n)$  from the same NN
- Extra variables to compress  $s_{i < n}$

Can also represent wave functions:

- $\psi(s_1, \dots) = \sqrt{p(s_1, \dots)}$
- Direct sampling without Markov chains

⇒ Promising for spin-glass problems

Hibat-Allah *et al.*, Nat. Mach. Intell. **3**, 952 (2021)

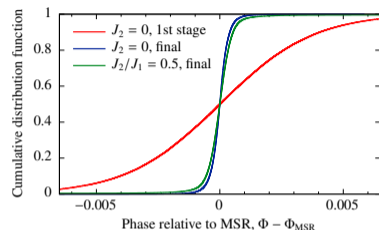
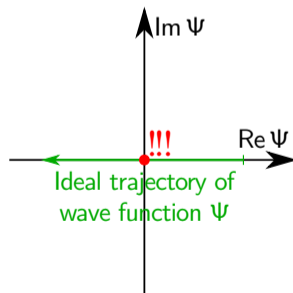
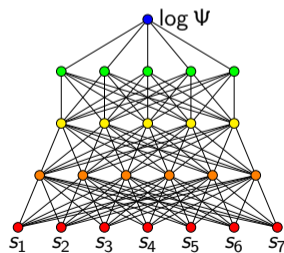




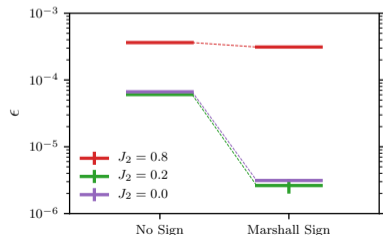
# The sign problem in NQS

What if  $\psi(s_1, \dots)$  aren't all positive?

- **First idea:**  $\psi(s_1, \dots, s_N) = A(s_1, \dots, s_N) e^{i\phi(s_1, \dots, s_N)}$ 
  - sign flip  $\iff i\pi$ -jump
  - destructive interference hard to follow
  - nearby "simple" sign structures easier to learn



ASz & Castelnovo, PRR (2020)



Hibat-Allah et al., PRR (2020)

# Symmetries in VMC

- Wigner's theorem: eigenstates have well-defined symmetry quantum numbers
  - restricting on symmetry sectors makes calculations more efficient
  - can look for low-lying excited states in different sectors
- Local symmetries (e.g., spin rotation)
  - can often encode directly in tensor networks
  - some variational ansätze respect it, but no general recipe
  - can enforce some symmetries with sampling (e.g., fixed  $\sum \sigma^z$ )
- Geometric symmetries (e.g., translation)
  - maps computational basis states on one another

⇒ easy to represent in VMC!

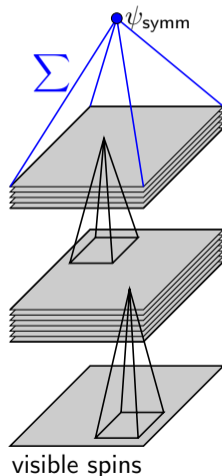
# Convolutional neural networks (CNNs)

- Naïve enforcement of translation symmetry: take any ansatz and symmetrise it

$$\psi_{\text{symm}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) = \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \psi(\mathcal{T}_{\mathbf{r}}\boldsymbol{\sigma})$$

- This is computationally expensive: use *convolutional* networks
  - each layer is a replica of the input geometry
  - mapping is *equivariant*: translated input  $\implies$  translated output
  - summing all outputs in last layer is fully symmetric
- Can also represent nonzero wave vectors:

$$\psi_{\mathbf{k}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) = \sum_{\mathbf{r}} e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}} \psi(\mathcal{T}_{\mathbf{r}}\boldsymbol{\sigma})$$

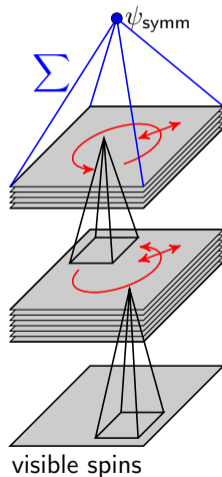


# Group convolutional neural networks (GCNNs)

- Generalise the idea to nonabelian symmetry groups  
Cohen & Welling, ICML 2016
  - embedding layer: lattice  $\rightarrow$  symmetry group
  - group convolutional layers: group  $\rightarrow$  group
  - equivariance:  $\sigma'(\mathbf{r}) = \sigma(g\mathbf{r}) \implies f'(h) = f(gh)$  in all layers
- Symmetric  $\psi$  from summing all entries:

$$\psi_0 = \sum_{i,g} e^{f_i(g)}; \quad \psi_\chi = \sum_{i,g} \chi_g^* e^{f_i(g)}$$

- Implemented in NQS library NetKet



## (G)CNNs vs. the sign problem

Wave function is a sum of terms

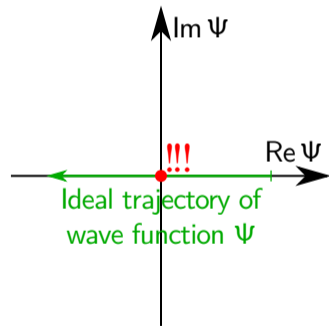
- $\psi = 0$  is no longer special
- Destructive interference: cancellation of (a few) terms
- Much better at learning complicated sign structures

Sum of terms structure seems critical to get nontrivial signs

Nomura, JPCM **33**, 174003 (2021)

Reh, Schmitt, Gärttner, PRB **107**, 195115 (2023)...

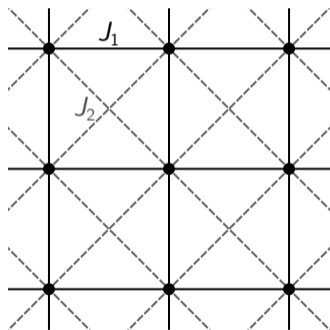
“Get it for free” with GCNNs!



# Square-lattice $J_1 - J_2$ model

$$H = J_1 \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \vec{\sigma}_i \cdot \vec{\sigma}_j + J_2 \sum_{\langle\langle ij \rangle\rangle} \vec{\sigma}_i \cdot \vec{\sigma}_j \quad (J_1, J_2 \geq 0)$$

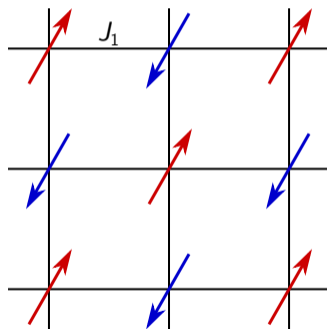
- $J_1$  only: unfrustrated Néel order
- $J_2$  only: unfrustrated stripy order
- $J_1 - J_2$  model: frustrated, many phases
  - Néel (stripy) for  $J_1$  ( $J_2$ ) dominant
  - in between: valence bond solid, spin liquid
- We focus on  $J_2/J_1 = \begin{cases} 0.5 & \text{(spin liquid)} \\ 0.55 & \text{(VBS)} \end{cases}$



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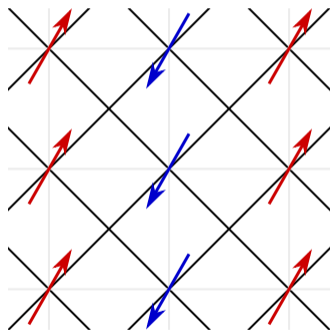
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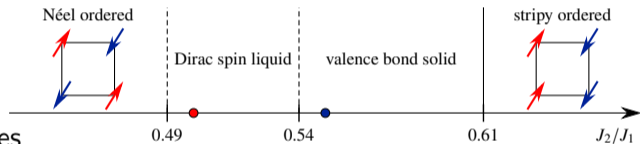




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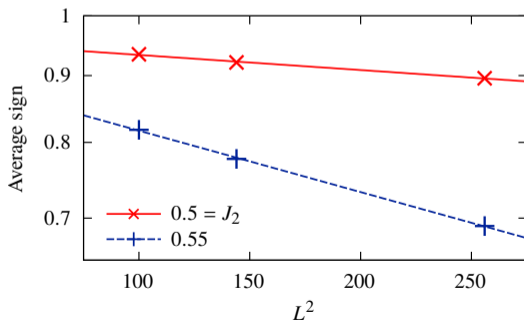
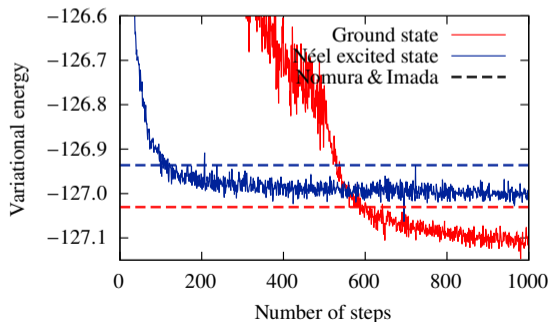


Nomura & Imada, PRX (2021)

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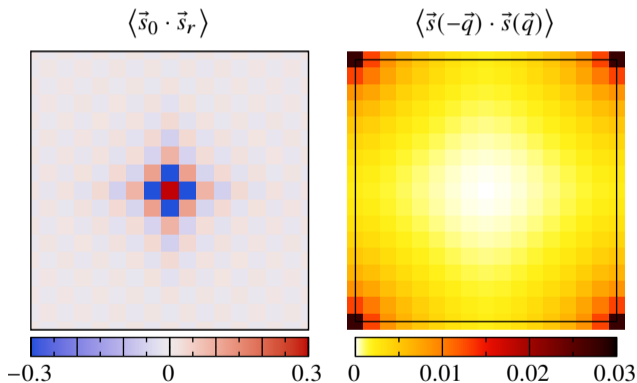
## Ground states

- Used GCNNs with  $L$  layers for  $L \times L$  systems ( $L = 10, 12, 16$ )
- VMC converges well in  $\sim 100$  GPU hours
  - best variational energies in the literature
  - exponentially decaying average sign  $\checkmark$



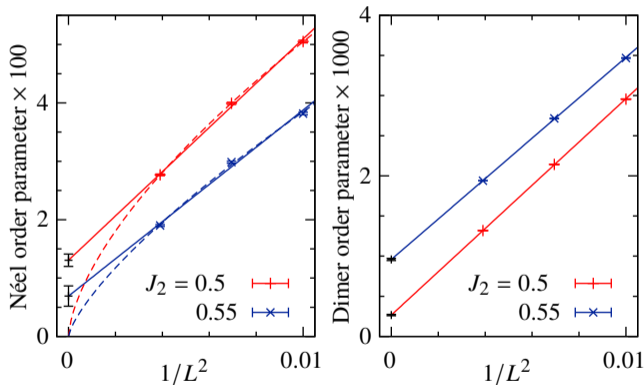
# Correlations

- Spin correlators as expected
- Dimer correlators as covariances of  $\vec{s}_i \cdot \vec{s}_j$  estimators
- Order parameters:
  - Néel  $\sim L^{-z} \implies$  no order ✓
  - VBS  $\sim D_\infty + \alpha L^{-2}$
  - $D_\infty$  very small for  $J_2 = 0.5$
  - but clearly finite for 0.55 ✓



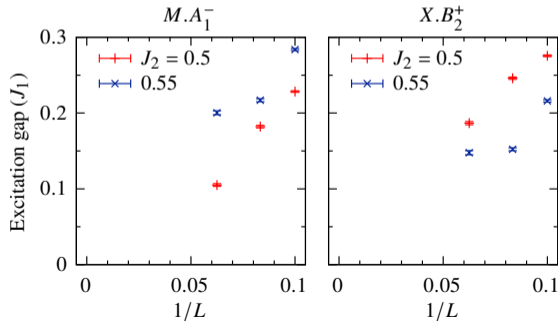
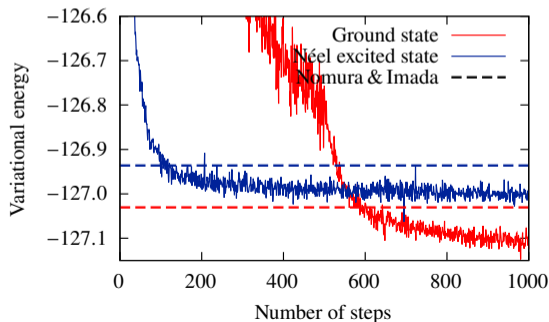
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## Excited states

- Restrict GCNN to nontrivial space-group irrep:  $\psi_\chi = \sum_{i,g} \chi_g^* e^{f_i(g)}$
- VMC returns lowest energy in symmetry sector  $\implies$  symmetry gaps
- Considered  $(\pi, \pi)$  triplet (Néel order),  $(\pi, 0)$  singlet (VBS)
  - gaps similar to best estimates in literature
  - not accurate enough for extrapolation



# Triangular-lattice $J_1 - J_2$ model

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Frustrated at every  $J_1, J_2 \geq 0$

- We focus on  $J_2/J_1 = \begin{cases} 0 & (120^\circ \text{ order}) \\ 1/8 & (\text{paramagnet}) \end{cases}$

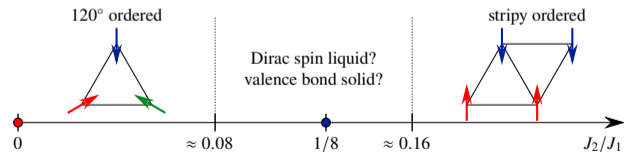
- Requires deeper networks to converge

- use residual networks for stability

- Converged energies less accurate

- “Lanczos step:”  $|\psi\rangle \mapsto |\psi\rangle + \alpha H|\psi\rangle$

Sorella, PRB **64**, 024512 (2001)



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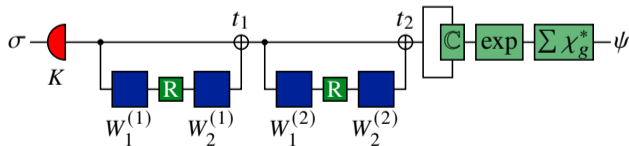
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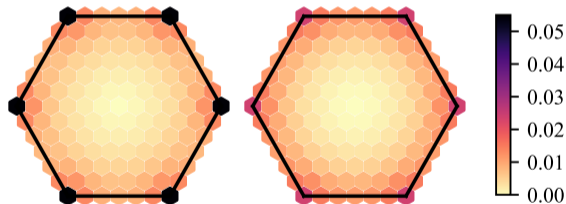
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# Triangular-lattice $J_1 - J_2$ model – results

- Best known variational energies for 108,144 sites
- Recover Bragg peak at  $J_2 = 0$
- Outlook:
  - larger systems
  - accurate order parameters
  - accurate gap estimates



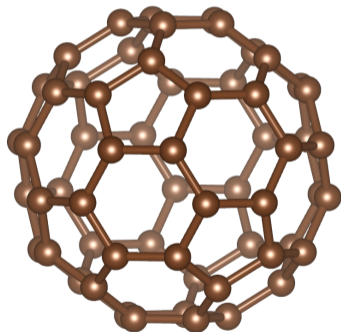


# C<sub>60</sub> Heisenberg model

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \vec{\sigma}_i \cdot \vec{\sigma}_j$$

- “Buckyball” geometry
  - 12 pentagon, 20 hexagon faces
  - $I_h$  point group (120 symmetries)
- 8-layer GCNNs (3-layer performs well too)
  - Ground state: singlet, trivial irrep
  - First excited state: triplet, T<sub>2g</sub>
  - Lowest  $S = 2$ : A<sub>g</sub>  $\approx$  H<sub>g</sub>
  - Energies match DMRG

Rausch et al., *SciPost Phys.* 10, 087 (2021)

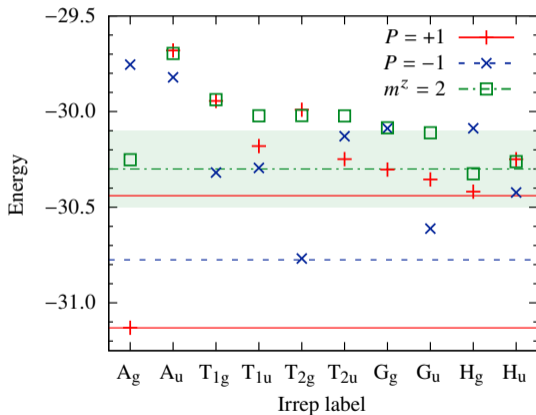


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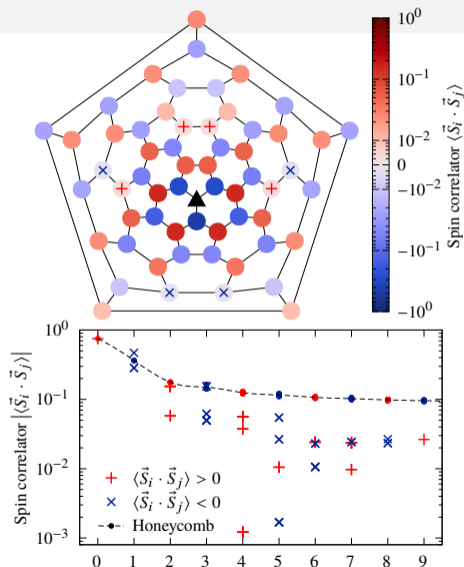
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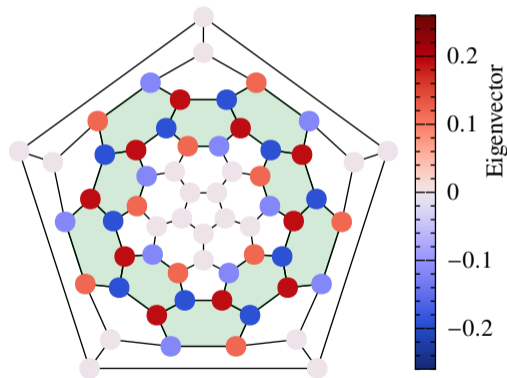
# Precursors to ordering

- Correlations level off at  $\approx \pm 0.03$
- Analogies to honeycomb Néel order:
  - “Bragg peak:” leading eigenvector  $v$  of correlation matrix  $\sim T_{2g}$
  - Néel pattern on unfrustrated component
  - “Magnon operator:”  $\vec{S}_v = \sum_i v_i \vec{\sigma}_i$   
 $\vec{S}_v |GS\rangle$  has 92% overlap with lowest triplet
  - “Tower of states:”  $S = 2$  states consistent with applying  $\vec{S}_v$  twice



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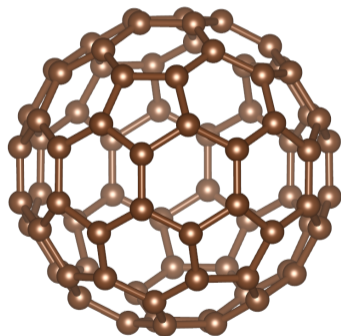
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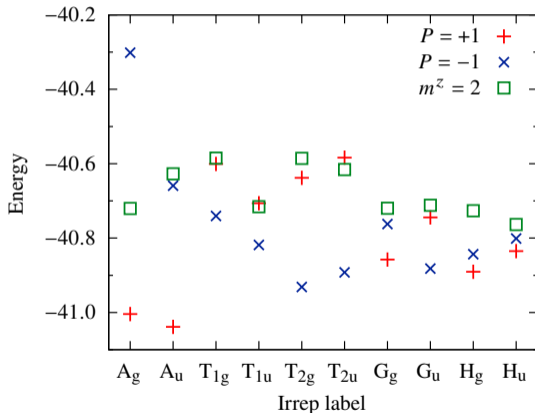
- Next smallest  $I_h$ -symmetric geometry
  - 12 pentagon, 30 hexagon faces
- Near-degenerate lowest-energy pairs
  - $S = 0$ :  $A_u \lesssim A_g$
  - $S = 1$ :  $T_{2g} \lesssim T_{2u}$
  - $S = 2$ :  $H_u \lesssim H_g$
- Inversion-symmetry breaking?



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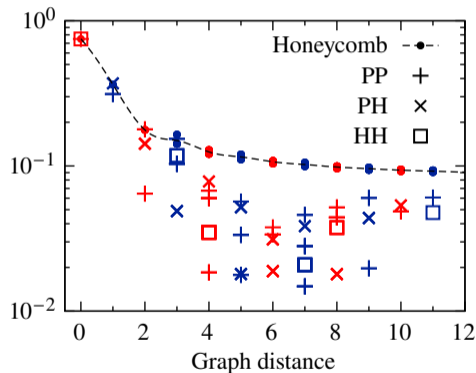
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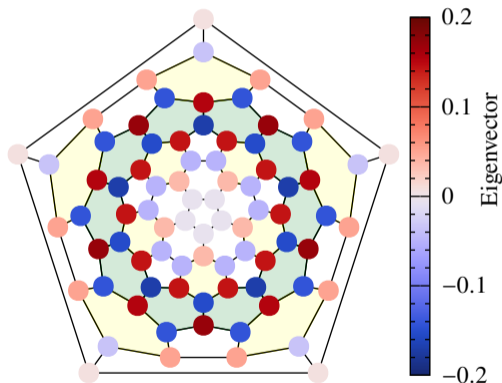
## Precursors to chiral ordering

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  - higher than C<sub>60</sub>: lower frustration
- “Bragg peak” eigenvector of similar structure
  - transforms under T<sub>2u</sub> irrep
  - threefold degenerate  $\implies$  three “magnon” operators  $\vec{S}_{V_\alpha} = \sum_i v_i^{(\alpha)} \vec{\sigma}_i$
  - $\vec{S}_{V_1} \cdot (\vec{S}_{V_2} \times \vec{S}_{V_3})$  is an A<sub>u</sub> singlet
  - analogous to tetrahedral order in triangular-lattice  $J_1 - J_2 - J_\chi$  model
  - do the inversion-broken ground states break time reversal too?
- Future work: study larger molecules



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# Summary

- Neural quantum states for frustrated magnets
  - Do not separate amplitudes and phases!
  - Group convolutional networks: enforce spatial symmetries efficiently
- $J_1 - J_2$  Heisenberg antiferromagnet
  - Square lattice: state-of-the-art energies, accurate order parameters
  - Triangular lattice: more expensive, need larger system sizes
- Heisenberg antiferromagnets on fullerene geometries
  - Low-lying spectrum explained by emerging Néel-like order
  - On some geometries, may get inversion and/or time-reversal breaking!

# Outlook

- Need more accurate results for large systems and excited states
- Physically motivated ansätze
  - e.g., Gutzwiller-projected parton variational states
  - use neural networks for more flexible multi-particle orbitals
  - successfully used in quantum chemistry: FermiNet, PauliNet, ...  
 Pfau et al., *Phys. Rev. Research* **2**, 033429 (2020)  
 Hermann et al., *Nat. Chem.* **12**, 891 (2020)
  - need to scale them to many more particles (on a lattice)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{P}_G \square &= 0 \\
 \hat{P}_G \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \uparrow \\ \hline \end{array} &= \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \uparrow \\ \hline \end{array} \\
 \hat{P}_G \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \downarrow \\ \hline \end{array} &= \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \downarrow \\ \hline \end{array} \\
 \hat{P}_G \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \uparrow & \downarrow \\ \hline \end{array} &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$