

How baryons appear
in low-energy QCD :
Domain-wall Skyrmion phase
in strong magnetic field

Kentaro Nishimura (KEK)

In a collaboration with

Minoru Eto (Yamagata) and Muneto Nitta (Keio)

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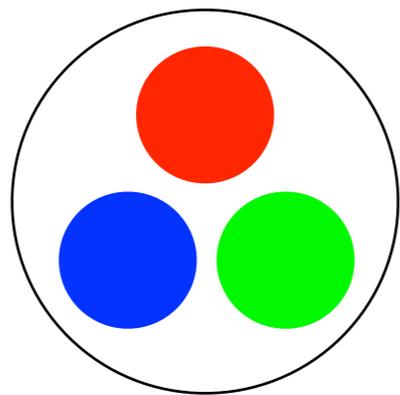
[arXiv : 2304.02940 \[hep-ph\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2304.02940)

Outline

- **Introduction**
- **Chiral soliton lattice** [Son and Stephanov \(2008\)](#); [Brauner and Yamamoto \(2017\)](#)
- **Domain wall Skyrmion** [Eto, KN and Nitta \(2023\)](#)

Baryons and mesons

- Baryon = Particle composed of quarks


$$\simeq \epsilon^{a_1 a_2 a_3} q_{a_1}^{f_1} q_{a_2}^{f_2} q_{a_3}^{f_3}$$

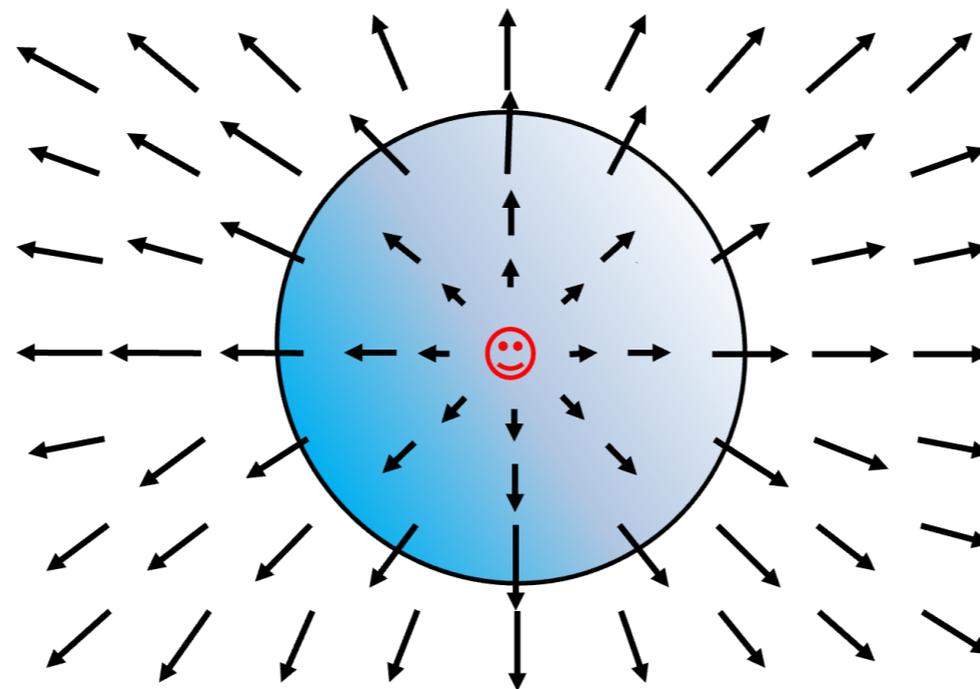
- Pions = Nambu-Goldstone (NG) bosons :
- Degrees of freedom of the low-energy dynamics :

$$\Sigma(x) = \exp \left(\frac{i\pi_a \tau_a}{f_\pi} \right)$$

Skyrmion

- Can the baryons be made by pions (rather than quarks)?

- **Baryon as soliton = Skyrmion** Skyrme (1961)



Hedgehog

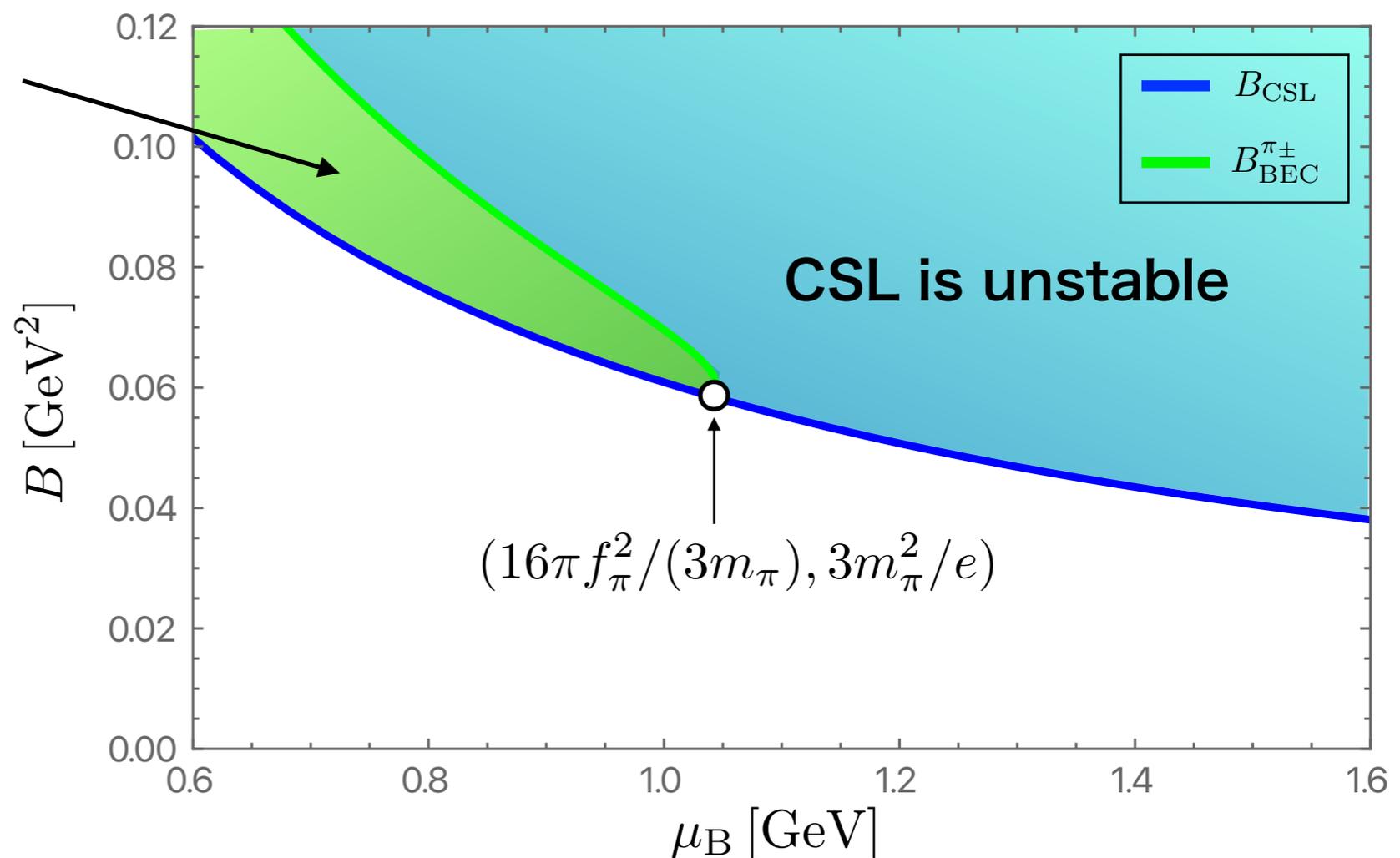
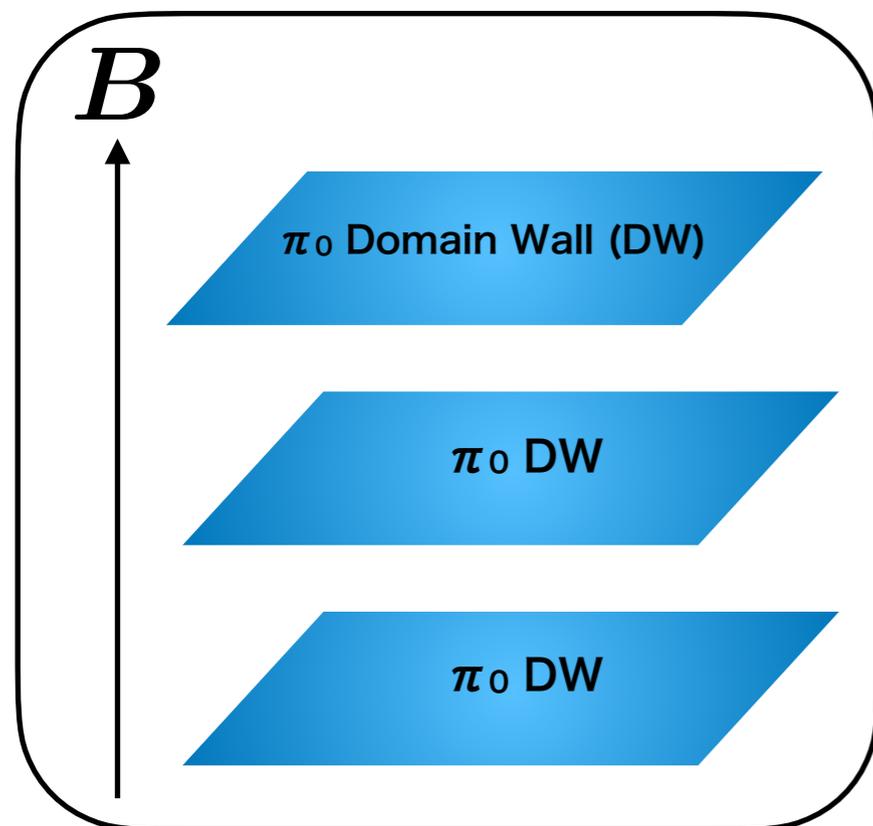


- Topological charge :
$$j_B^\mu = \frac{\epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}}{24\pi^2} \text{tr}(\Sigma\partial_\nu\Sigma^\dagger\Sigma\partial_\alpha\Sigma^\dagger\Sigma\partial_\beta\Sigma^\dagger)$$
- \mathbb{R}^3 surrounds the configuration space of the pions S^3 : $\pi_3(S^3)$

Solitonic phase in QCD

- Solitons appear in the ground state of dense QCD at B .
 - Based on the analysis with the chiral perturbation theory.

Chiral Soliton Lattice (CSL)



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ChPT w/ topological terms

- **Normal terms :** $\mathcal{L}_{\text{ChPT}} = \frac{f_\pi^2}{4} \text{tr} (D_\mu \Sigma D^\mu \Sigma^\dagger) - \frac{f_\pi^2 m_\pi^2}{4} (2 - \Sigma - \Sigma^\dagger)$

- **Baryon current in terms of mesons = $\pi_3(\mathbf{S}^3)$ topological charge**

$$j_B^\mu = -\frac{\epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}}{24\pi^2} \text{tr} \{ \underbrace{L_\nu L_\alpha L_\beta}_{\text{Skyrmon charge}} - \underbrace{3ie\partial_\nu [A_\alpha Q(L_\beta + R_\beta)]}_{\text{U(1)_{em} gauged part}} \}$$

Skyrmon charge

U(1)_{em} gauged part

$$L_\mu \equiv \Sigma \partial_\mu \Sigma^\dagger, \quad R_\mu \equiv \partial_\mu \Sigma^\dagger \Sigma, \quad Q = \text{diag}(2/3, -1/3)$$

- “trial and error” U(1)_{em} gauging while preserving the baryon number

Son and Stephanov (2008); Goldstone and Wilczek (1981)

- **Effective Lagrangian :** $\mathcal{L}_B = -A_B^\mu j_{B\mu}, \quad A_B^\mu = (\mu_B, \mathbf{0})$

Son and Stephanov (2008)

sine-Gordon theory with the topological term

- Ignoring charged pions : $\Sigma = e^{i\phi_3\tau_3}$

- Reduced Hamiltonian (B is oriented in z-direction) :

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{f_\pi^2}{2} (\partial_z \phi_3)^2 + f_\pi^2 m_\pi^2 (1 - \cos \phi_3) - \frac{e\mu_B}{4\pi^2} B \partial_z \phi_3$$

- The last term stems from the 2nd term of the skyrmion term.

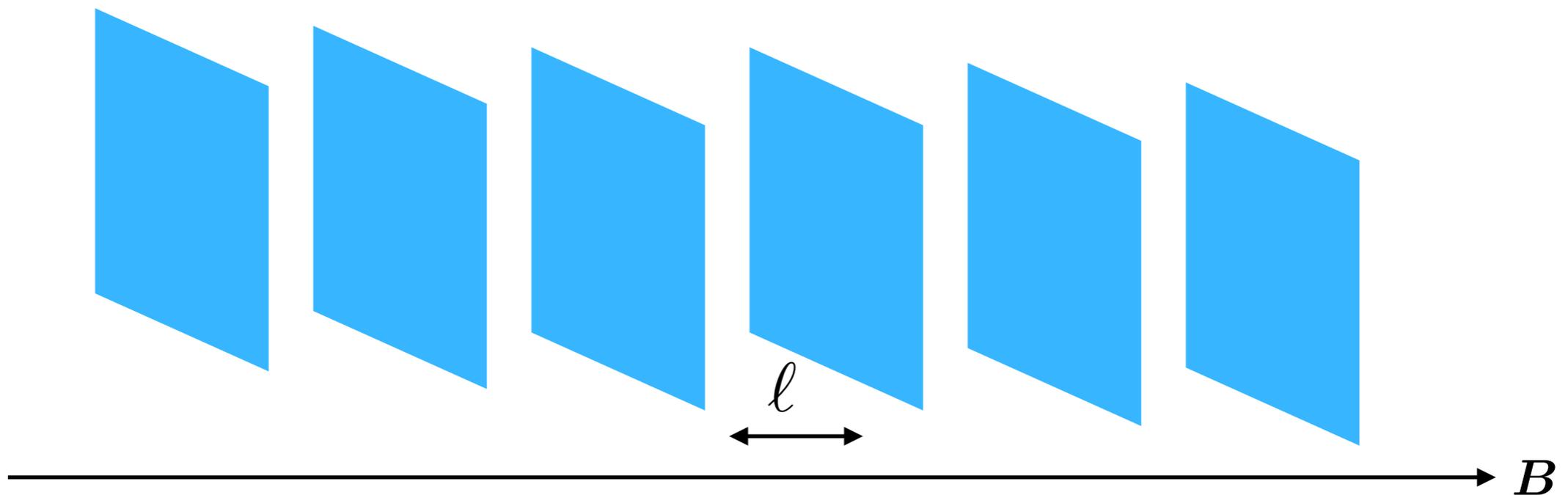
$$\mathcal{L}_B = -\mu_B \frac{\epsilon^{0ijk}}{24\pi^2} \text{tr} \left\{ \cancel{L_i L_j L_k} - \underline{3ie\partial_i [A_j Q(L_k + R_k)]} \right\}$$

- $B \neq 0 \rightarrow$ Finite 1st derivative term \rightarrow Favor ϕ inhomogeneity

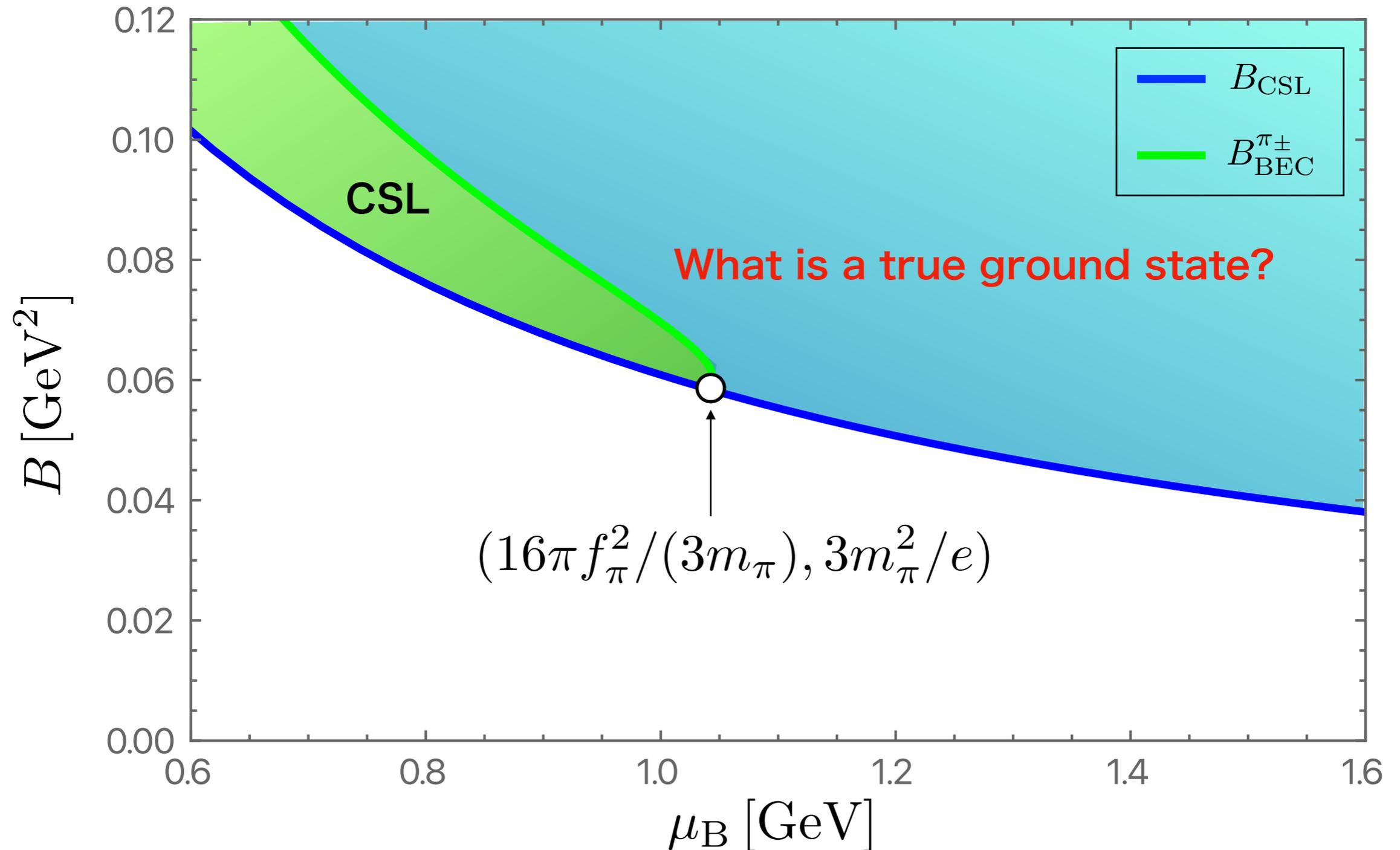
- **What is a ground state at finite B?** [Brauner and Yamamoto \(2017\)](#)

Chiral Soliton Lattice (CSL)

- **EOM :** $\partial_z^2 \phi_3 = m_\pi^2 \sin \phi_3$ $\phi = 4 \tan^{-1} \exp m_\pi (z - z_0)$
- **Energy :** $E = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dz \mathcal{H} = 8m_\pi^2 f_\pi - \frac{e\mu_B B}{2\pi}$
- **Critical magnetic field :** $B_c = \frac{16\pi f_\pi m_\pi^2}{e\mu_B}$



μ_B - B phase diagram



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What we overlooked

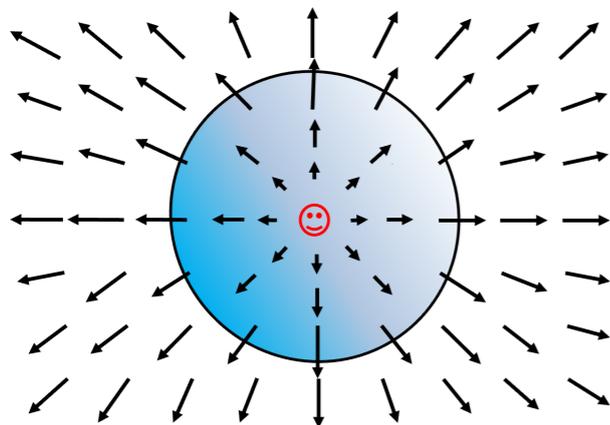
- The baryon current contains the Skyrmion charge, which is $O(p^2)$.

$$\mathcal{L}_B = -\mu_B \frac{\epsilon^{0ijk}}{24\pi^2} \text{tr} \{ \underline{L_i L_j L_k} - \underline{3ie\partial_i [A_j Q(L_k + R_k)]} \}$$

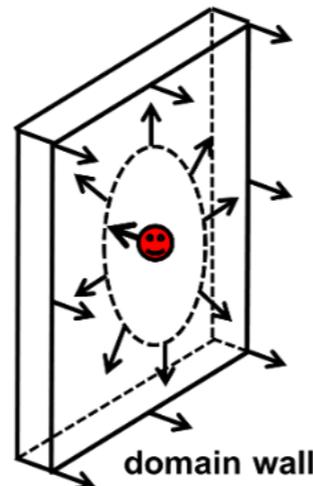
$$\mu_B B \partial_z \phi_3 \subset \mathcal{L}_B$$

- In the unstable region, π_{\pm} is important element.
- The Skyrmion charge term becomes finite only when π_{\pm} is considered.

Skymion : $\pi_3(S^3)$



Baby Skymion : $\pi_2(S^2)$



become stable at finite μ_B !

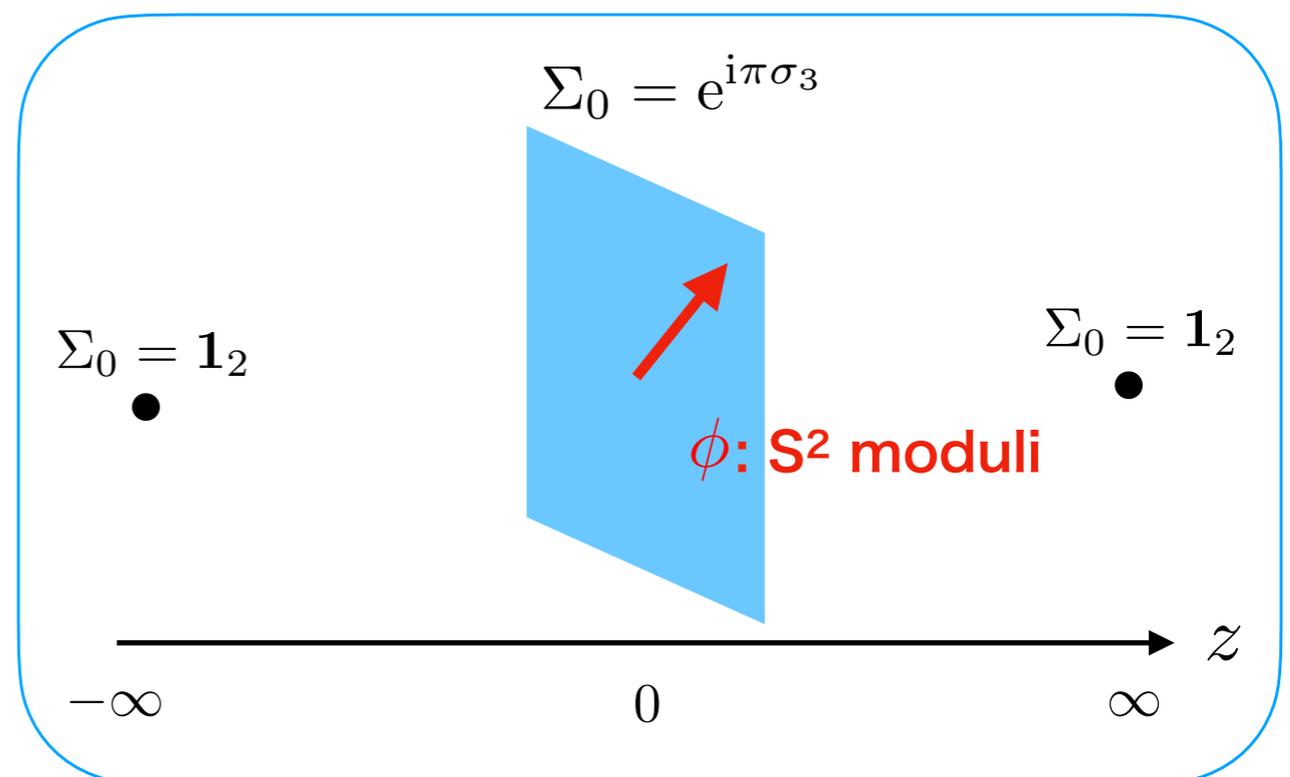
Non-abelian soliton

- The single soliton : $\Sigma_0 = e^{i\sigma_3\theta}$, $\theta = 4\tan^{-1}e^{m_\pi z}$
- More general solution : $\Sigma = g\Sigma_0g^\dagger = \exp(i\theta g\tau_3g^\dagger)$, $g \in \text{SU}(2)_V$
- Σ_0 is invariant under U(1) transformation : $g = e^{i\tau_3\theta}$
- SSB of $\text{SU}(2)_V \rightarrow \text{U}(1)$ → Moduli (NG mode) $\text{SU}(2)/\text{U}(1) \cong S^2$

- The collective coordinate :

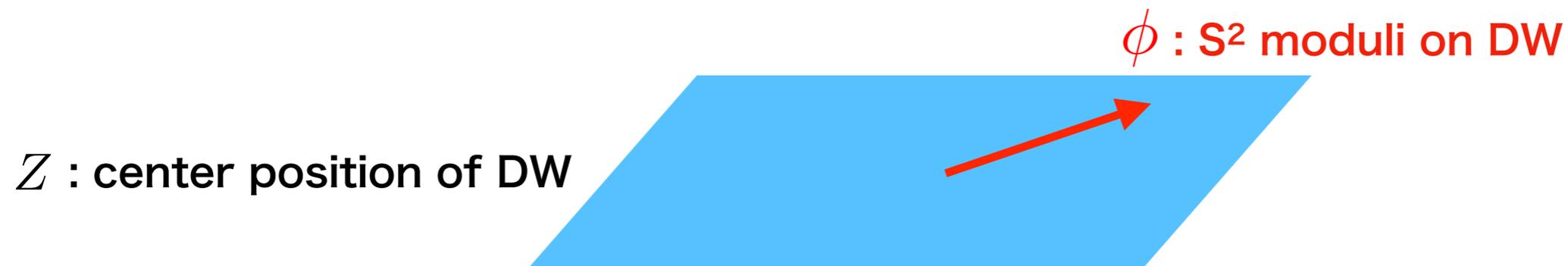
$$\phi \in \mathbb{C}^2, \quad \phi^\dagger \phi = 1$$

$$g\sigma_3g^\dagger = 2\phi\phi^\dagger - 1$$



EFT of the DW

- Construct DW world effective theory via the moduli approximation.



- Promote the moduli to a field on $D=2+1$ world volume

$$\phi \rightarrow \phi(x^\alpha), \quad (\alpha = 0, 1, 2)$$

- The center of mass is also moduli, but it is not important in this talk.

- Integrating over the codimension \mathbf{z} : $\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dz \frac{\mathcal{L}_{\text{ChPT}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{B}}}{\Sigma = \exp(2i\theta\phi\phi^\dagger)u^{-1}}$

Substitution

- **Effective Lagrangian** : $\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{const}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{kin}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{topo}}$ Eto, KN and Nitta (2023)

- **DW tension** : $\mathcal{L}_{\text{const}} = -8m_\pi^2 f_\pi + \frac{e\mu_B B}{2\pi}$

- The condition that the DW tension is negative gives B_{CSL} .

- **Kinetic term** : $\mathcal{L}_{\text{kin}} = \frac{16f_\pi^2}{3m_\pi} [(\phi^\dagger D_\alpha \phi)^2 + D^\alpha \phi^\dagger D_\alpha \phi]$

- This is the same as the CP^1 Lagrangian.

- **Topological terms** :
$$-\mu_B \frac{\epsilon^{0ijk}}{24\pi^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dz \text{tr} \{ L_i L_j L_k - 3ie \partial_i [A_j Q(L_k + R_k)] \}$$

$\text{O}(3)$ nonlinear sigma model

$n_a \equiv \phi^\dagger \sigma_a \phi$

\downarrow

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{topo}} = 2\mu_B q + \frac{e\mu_B}{2\pi} \epsilon^{03jk} \partial_j [A_k (1 - n_3)]$

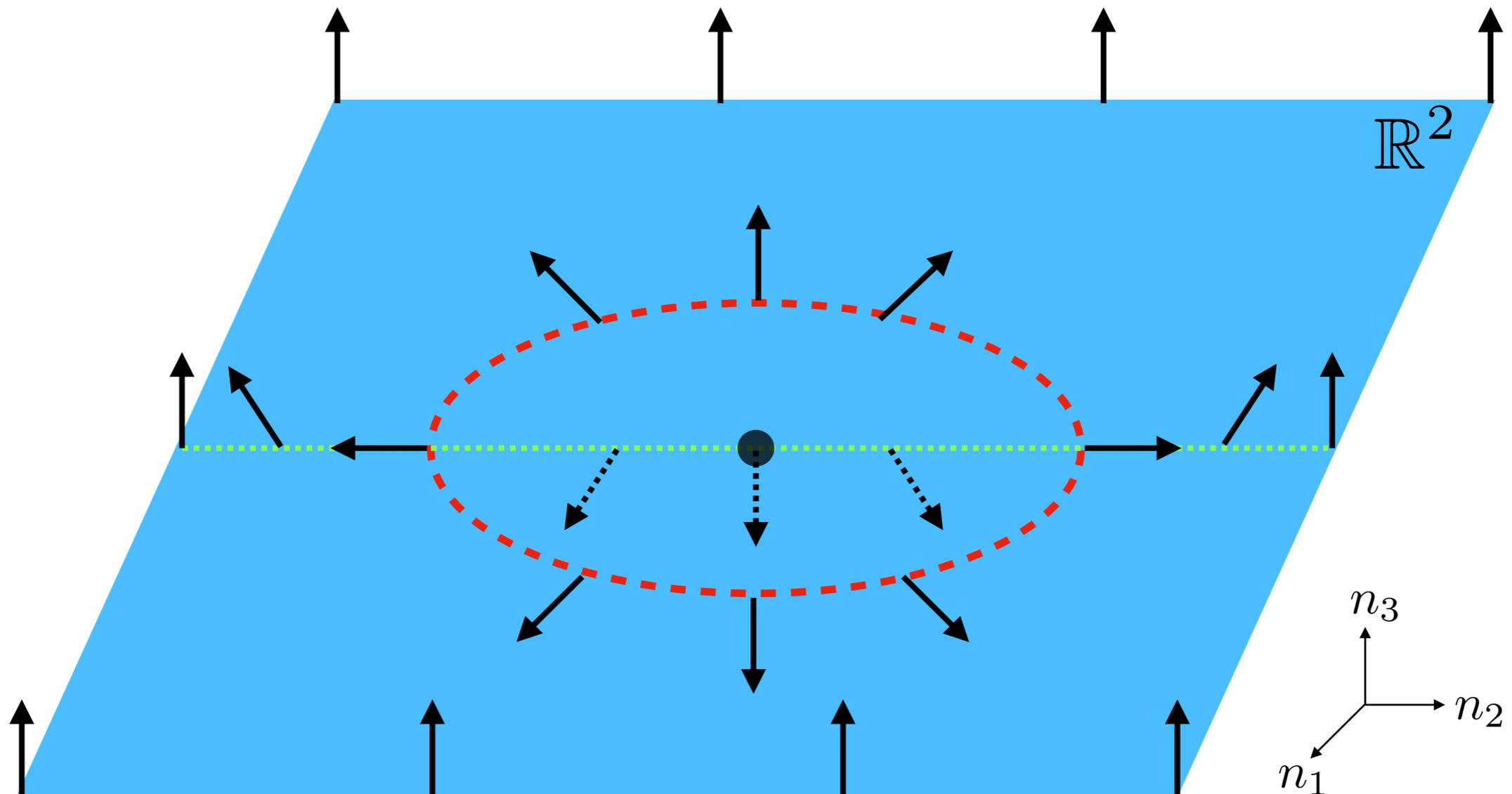
\downarrow

Stabilizing the baby Skyrmion at finite μ_B

$\pi_2(\text{S}^2)$ topological charge (density) : $q \equiv -\frac{i}{2\pi} \epsilon^{ij} \partial_i \phi^\dagger \partial_j \phi$, $k = \int d^2x q \in \mathbb{Z}$

Baby Skyrmion

- Configuration on DW surrounding S^2 : $\uparrow = n_a \quad n^2 = 1$
- The figure below shows the baby Skyrmion with $k = 1$.



Bogomol'nyi bound

- The effective Hamiltonian :

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{EFT}} = \frac{4f_\pi^2}{3m_\pi} (\partial_i \mathbf{n})^2 - 2\mu_B q - \frac{e\mu_B}{2\pi} \epsilon^{03jk} \partial_j [A_k (1 - n_3)]$$

- BPS equation : $(\partial_i \mathbf{n})^2 = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_i \mathbf{n} \pm \epsilon_{ij} \mathbf{n} \times \partial_j \mathbf{n})^2 \pm 8\pi q \geq \pm 8\pi q$
 $= 0 \rightarrow$ BPS equation \rightarrow **Baby Skyrmion!**

- Bogomol'nyi bound :

$$E_{\text{EFT}} \equiv \int d^2x \mathcal{H}_{\text{EFT}} \geq \frac{32f_\pi^2 \pi |k|}{3m_\pi} - 2\mu_B k + \frac{e\mu_B B}{4\pi} \oint dS_i x^i (n_3 - 1)$$

Can it be negative here?

Nontrivial constraint

Constraint on baby Skyrmion

- **k-Baby Skyrmion solution :** $n_3 = \frac{1 - |f|^2}{1 + |f|^2}, \quad f = \frac{b_{k-1}w^{k-1} + \dots + b_0}{w^k + a_{k-1}w^{k-1} + \dots + a_0}$

- **Total energy :** $E_{\text{DWSk}} = \frac{32\pi f_\pi^2}{3m_\pi} |k| - 2\mu_B k + e\mu_B B |b_{k-1}|^2$

- **k=2 :** $b_1 = 0 \quad (|b_0| = 4/(eB))$

- **The baby Skyrmion in this case can appear in the ground state!**

- **k=1 :** $b_0 = \sqrt{2/(eB)}$

- A cancelation between the second and third terms happens!

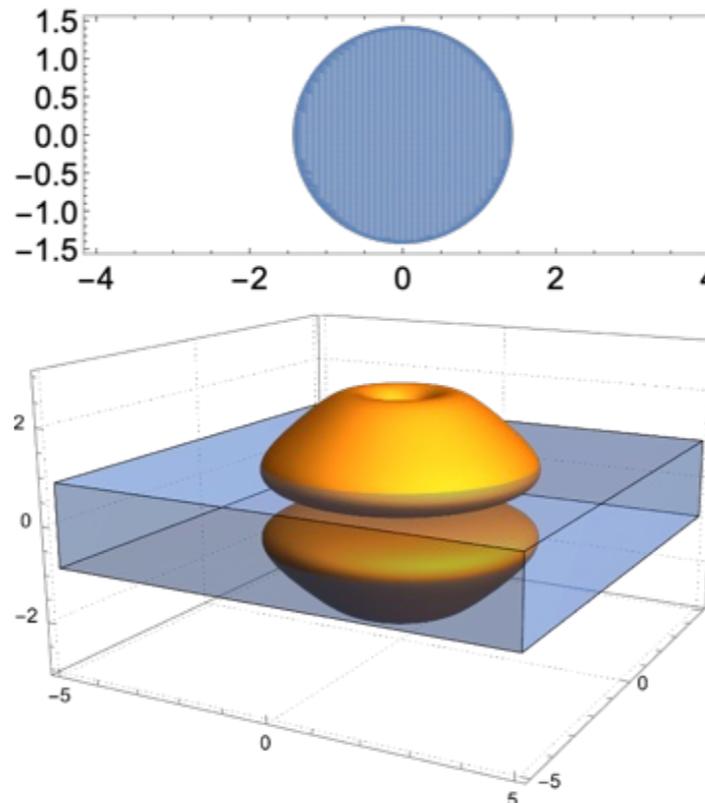
- E_{DWSk} is always positive, and k=1 case is not energetically stable.

Critical chemical potential

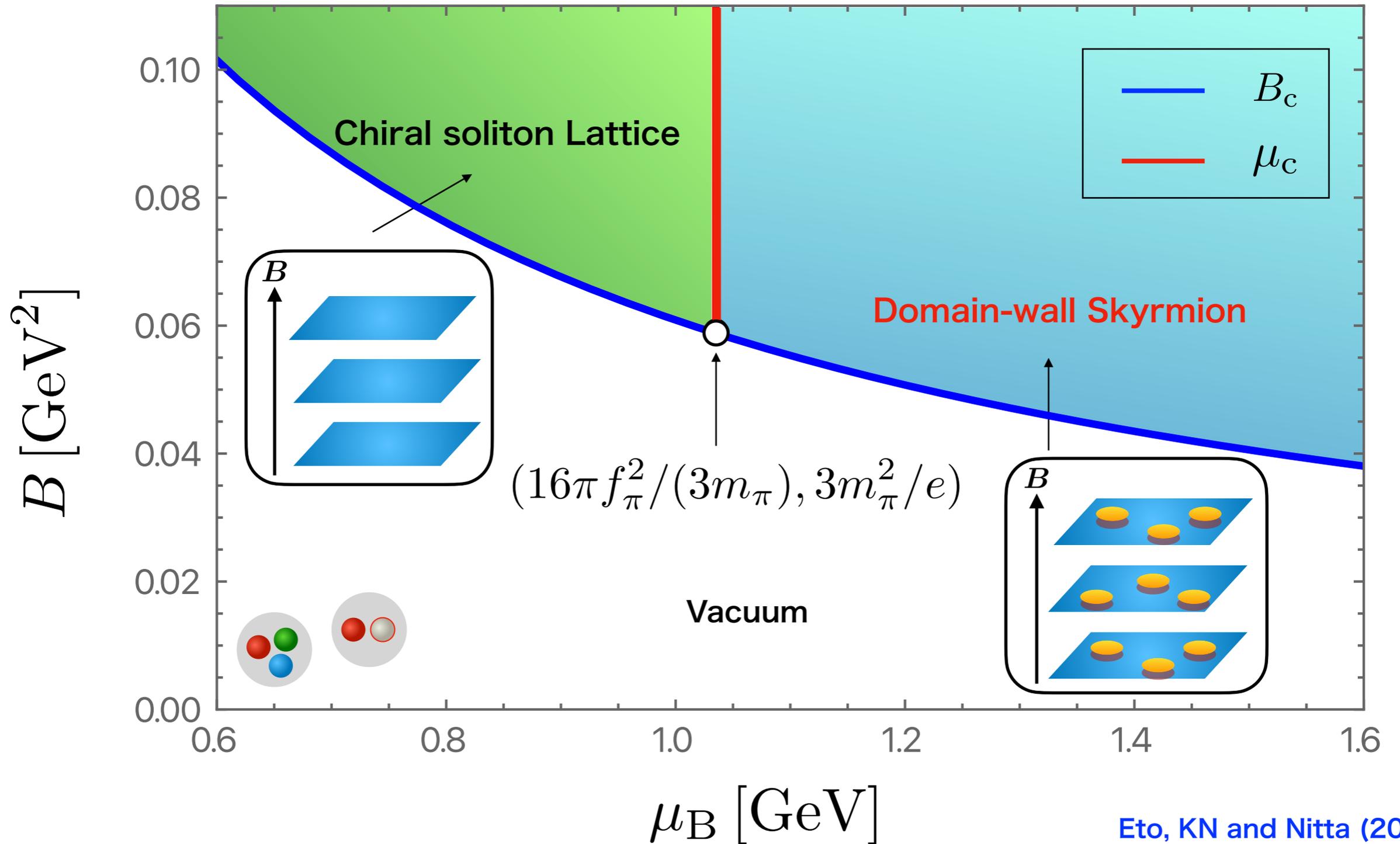
- The energy with $k \Rightarrow 2$: $E_{\text{DWS}_k} = \frac{32\pi f_\pi^2}{3m_\pi} |k| - 2\mu_B k$
- The condition that baby Skyrmions appear on the DW in the GS :

$$\mu_B \geq \mu_c = \frac{16\pi f_\pi^2}{3m_\pi} \sim 1.03 \text{ GeV} \quad \text{Eto, KN and Nitta (2023)}$$

- Configuration of the baby Skyrmion with $k=2$:



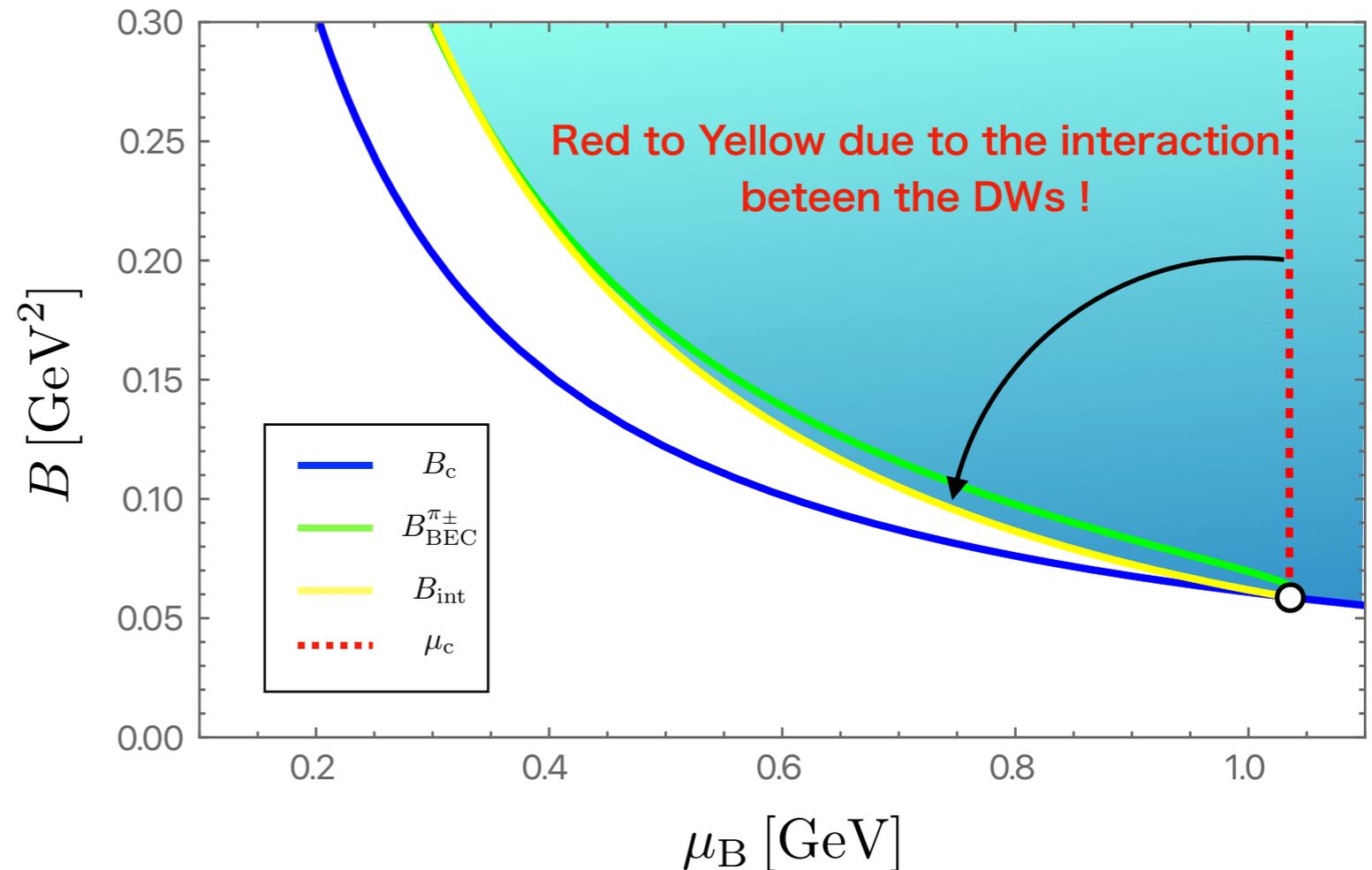
Summary



Future direction

- Interaction effect :
 - When considering single DW, there is no interaction.

Eto, KN and Nitta, in preparation



- $O(p^4)$ terms, such as dynamical electromag fields and Skyrms term

Evans and Schmitt (2022)

Chen, Fukushima and Qiu (2021)

- Quantization of the baby Skyrmsion

Cf) Quantization of the Skyrmsion Witten (1983)

Thank you
for your attention!

Back up

sine-Gordon theory with the topological term

- Ignoring charged pions : $\Sigma = e^{i\phi_3\tau_3}$

- Reduced Hamiltonian (B is oriented in z-direction) :

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{f_\pi^2}{2} [(\partial_x\phi_3)^2 + (\partial_y\phi_3)^2 + (\partial_z\phi_3)^2] + f_\pi^2 m_\pi^2 (1 - \cos\phi_3) - \frac{e\mu_B}{4\pi^2} B \partial_z\phi_3$$

- The last term stems from the 2nd term of the skyrmion term.

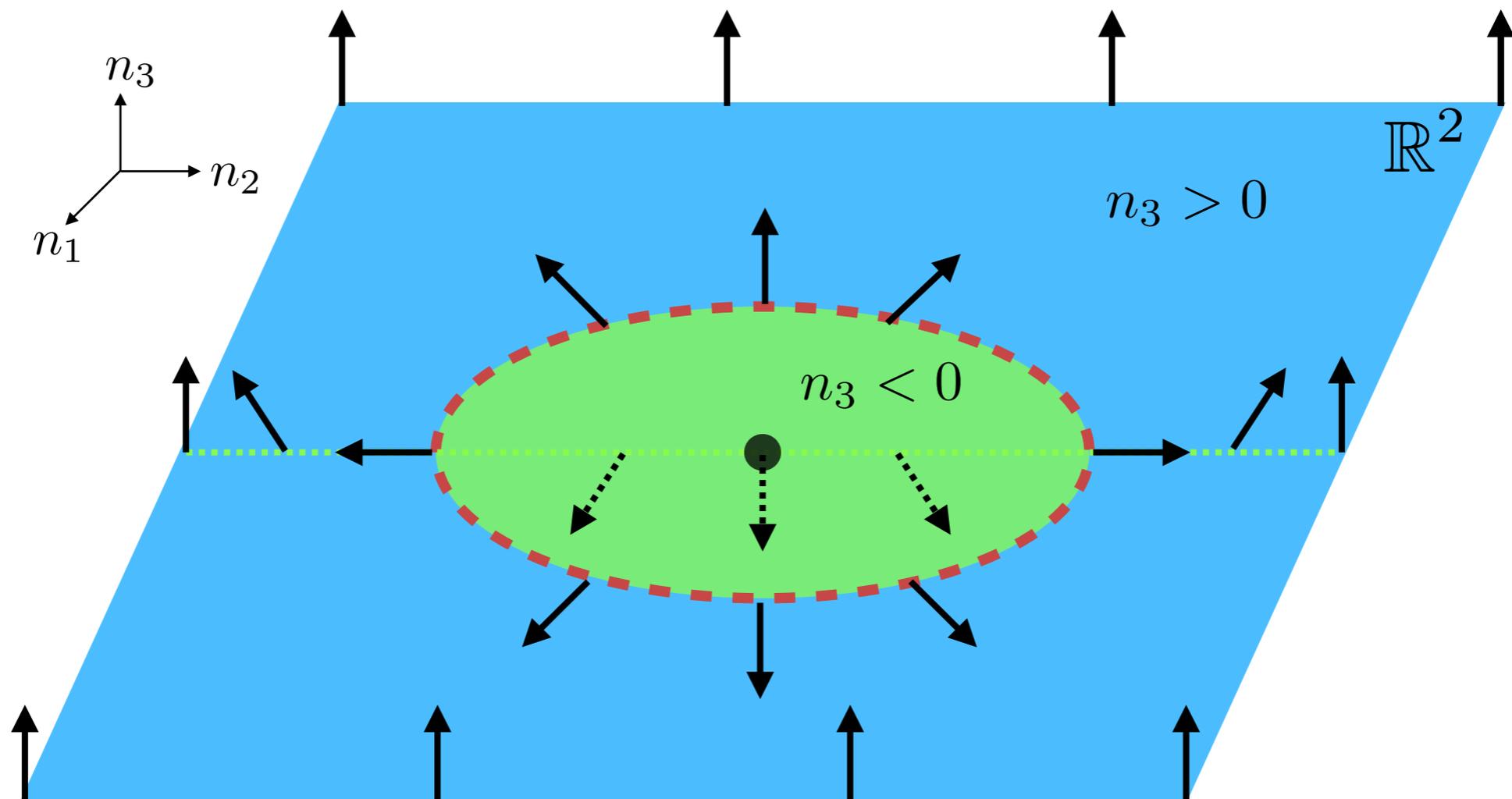
$$\mathcal{L}_B = -\mu_B \frac{\epsilon^{0ijk}}{24\pi^2} \text{tr}\{ \cancel{L_i L_j L_k} - \underline{3ie\partial_i [A_j Q(L_k + R_k)]} \}$$

- B=0 → spatially homogeneous + potential minimum → $\phi=0$
- B≠0 → Finite 1st derivative term → Favor ϕ inhomogeneity

- What is a ground state at finite B? [Brauner and Yamamoto \(2017\)](#)

Superconducting ring

- n_3 is zero on the red line $\rightarrow \pi_{\pm}$ is condensate \rightarrow superconducting ring !



Area quantization

- n_1 and n_2 without n_3 are represented by the following equation :

$$n_1 + in_2 = e^{i\psi}$$

- Minimization condition on the red line :

$$|D_\alpha(n_1 + in_2)|^2 = 0 \rightarrow \partial_\alpha\psi = eA_\alpha$$

- Magnetic flux of integration form :

Quantization of the size of the baby Skyrmion!

$$BS_D = \int_D d^2x B = \oint_C dx^i A_i = \frac{1}{e} \oint_C dx^i \partial_i \psi = \frac{2\pi k}{e}$$

z-axis symmetric solution

- **k=1** : $f = b_0/w$, $n_3 = (1 - |f|^2)/(1 + |f|^2) = (|w|^2 - |b_0|^2)/(|w|^2 + |b_0|^2)$
- **SC ring** : $n_3 = 0 \rightarrow |w| = |b_0|$
- **Area of SC ring** : $B(\pi|b_0|^2) = 2\pi/e \rightarrow |b_0| = \sqrt{2/(eB)}$

z-axis symmetric solution

- **k=2 :**

$$f = b_0/w^2, n_3 = (1 - |f|^2)/(1 + |f|^2) = (|w|^4 - |b_0|^2)/(|w|^4 + |b_0|^2)$$

- **SC ring :** $n_3 = 0 \rightarrow |w|^2 = |b_0|$

- **Area of SC ring :** $B(\pi|b_0|) = 4\pi/e \rightarrow |b_0| = 4/(eB)$

Chiral Soliton Lattice

- EOM = Pendulum

$$\partial_z^2 \phi_3 = m_\pi^2 \sin \phi_3$$

- Analytic solution :

$$\bar{\phi} = 2\text{am} \left((z - z_0)/k, k \right) + \pi$$

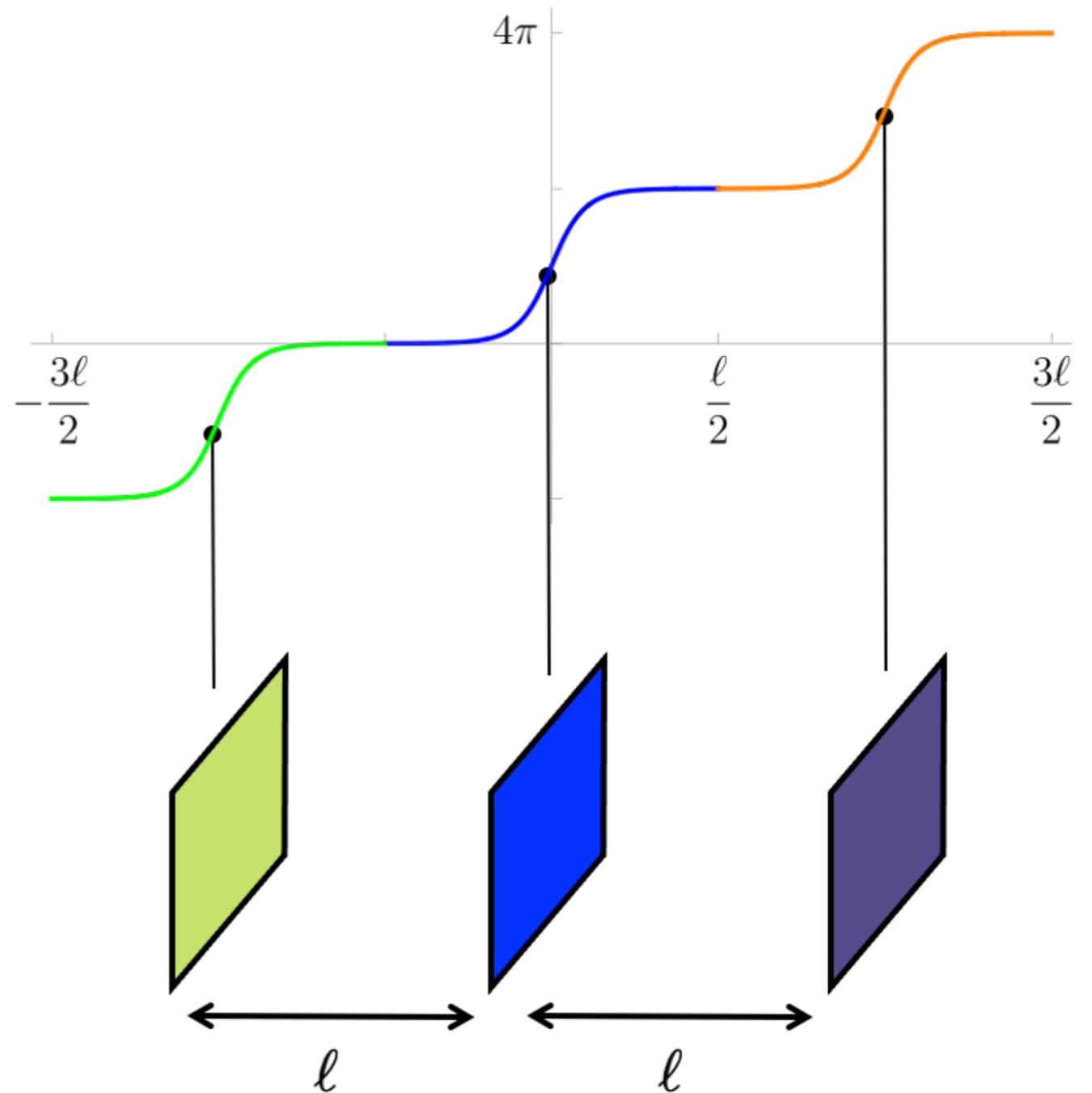
k : Elliptic modulus

- Period :

$$\phi(z + \ell) = \phi(z) + 2\pi$$

$$\ell = 2kK(k)$$

$K(k)$: The complete elliptic integral of the first kind



Minimization of the total energy

- What is the most energetically stable period?

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{tot}} = \int_0^\ell dz \left[\underbrace{\frac{f_\pi^2}{2} (\partial_z \phi)^2 + f_\pi^2 m_\pi^2 (1 - \cos \phi)}_{\text{positive}} - \underbrace{\frac{\mu_B}{4\pi^2} B \partial_z \phi}_{\text{negative!}} \right]$$

$\phi(\ell) - \phi(0) = 2\pi$

- Energy minimization condition :

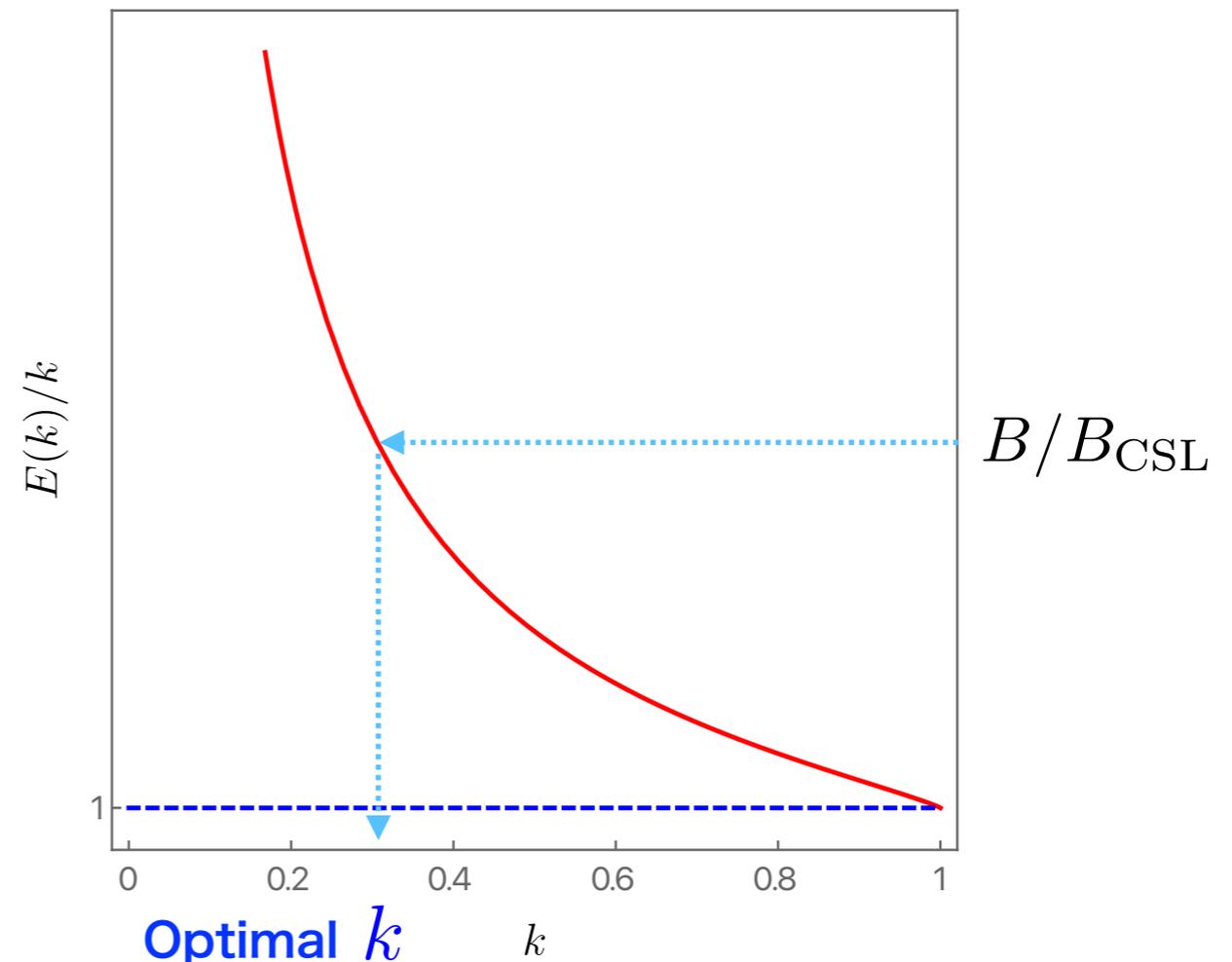
$$\frac{d}{dk} \left(\frac{\mathcal{E}_{\text{tot}}}{\ell} \right) \rightarrow \frac{E(k)}{k} = \frac{B}{B_{\text{CSL}}}$$

$E(k)$: The complete elliptic integral of the 2nd kind

- Critical magnetic field :

$$B_{\text{CSL}} = 16\pi f_\pi^2 m_\pi / \mu_B$$

Brauner and Yamamoto (2017)



Fluctuations of π_{\pm}

- Fluctuation around the CSL background :
- CSL is unstable against fluctuations of π_{\pm} above $B^{\pi_{\pm}}_{\text{BEC}}$

$$\frac{E(k)}{k} = \frac{\mu_B B_{\text{BEC}}^{\pi_{\pm}}}{16\pi m_{\pi} f_{\pi}^2}$$

$$B_{\text{BEC}}^{\pi_{\pm}} = \frac{m_{\pi}^2}{k^2} \left(2 - k^2 + 2\sqrt{1 - k^2 + k^4} \right)$$

$$k = k(B_{\text{BEC}}^{\pi_{\pm}})$$


- Derive the effective action up to the 2nd of the fluctuations from the CSL
- Calculate the dispersion relation ω
- When $\omega^2 < 0$, the fluctuation is tachyonic and CSL becomes unstable.

EOM of the fluctuations

- Fluctuation around the CSL background :

$$\omega^2 \pi_+ = \left[-\partial_x^2 + B^2 \left(x - \frac{p_y}{B} \right)^2 \right] \pi_+ + (\partial_z^2 + 2i\partial_z + m_\pi^2 e^{i\phi_3}) \pi_+$$

Giving the Landau quantization

- Chiral limit : $\omega^2 = p_z^2 - \frac{\mu_B B p_z}{2\pi^2 f_\pi^2} + (2n + 1)B$

Deducing the energy!

- $\omega^2 < 0$: $B_{\text{BEC}} = \frac{16\pi^4 f_\pi^2}{\mu_B^2}$

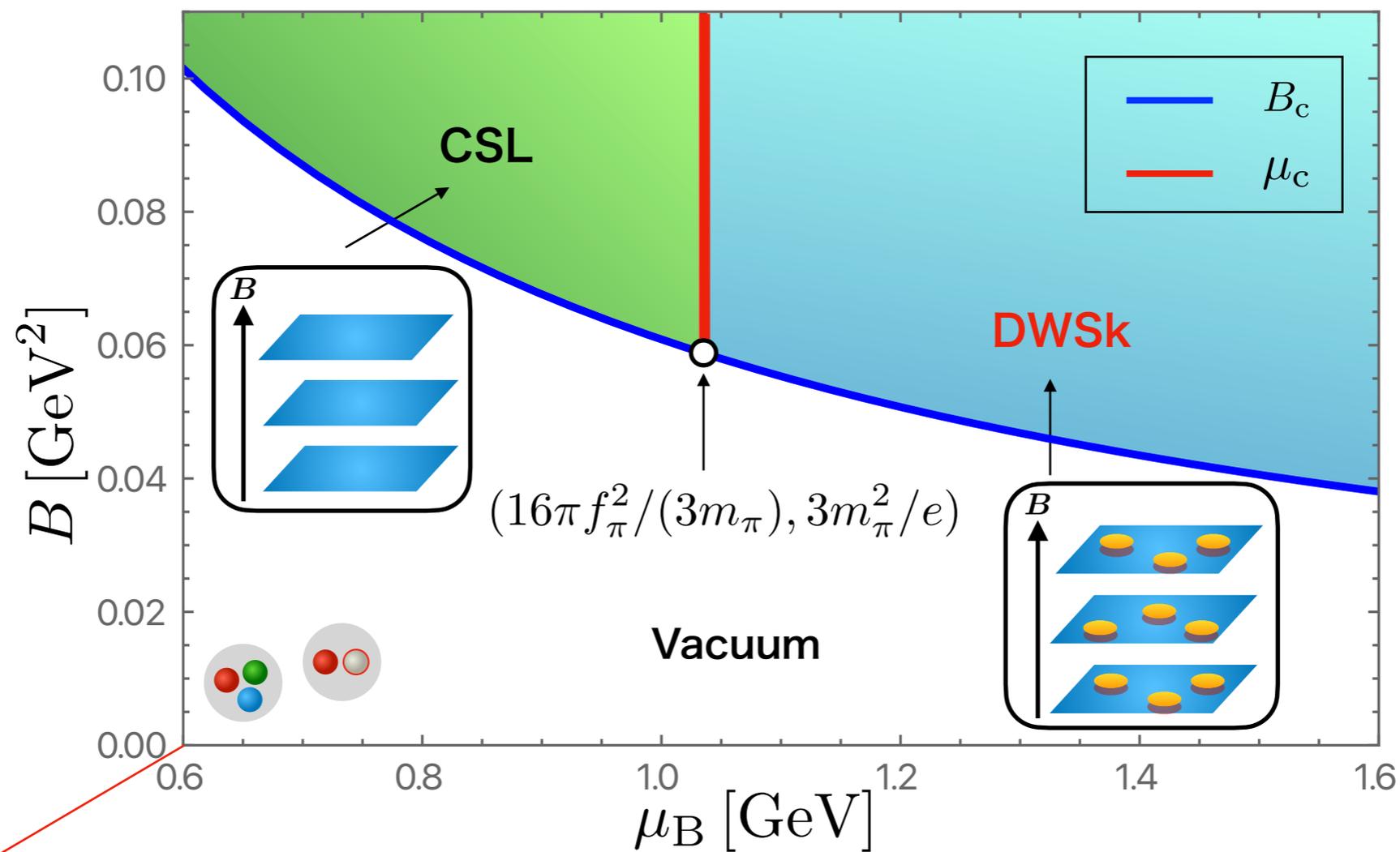
Brauner and Yamamoto (2017)

Our Lagrangian

- The leading order Lagrangian up to $O(p^2)$: $\mathcal{L}_{\text{tot}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{ChPT}} + \mathcal{L}_B$
[Son and Stephanov \(2008\)](#); [Brauner and Yamamoto \(2017\)](#);
[Eto, KN and Nitta \(2023\)](#)
- The chiral anomaly is captured by Wess-Zumino-Witten term, but $O(p^4)$
[Wess and Zumino \(1971\)](#); [Witten \(1983\)](#)
 - For example, decay of π^0 to two photon : $\pi_0 \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}$
- The Maxwell term F^2 is also $O(p^4)$. Then, the EM field is not dynamical.

Isospin chemical potential

- Both μ_B and μ_I are finite in the interior of the neutron stars.



μ_I

Since π^\pm are finite in baby Skyrmion,
DWSk may be easier to generate if μ_I is finite?

Elliptic integrals and functions

- The elliptic integral of the first kind : $k' = \sqrt{1 - k^2}$

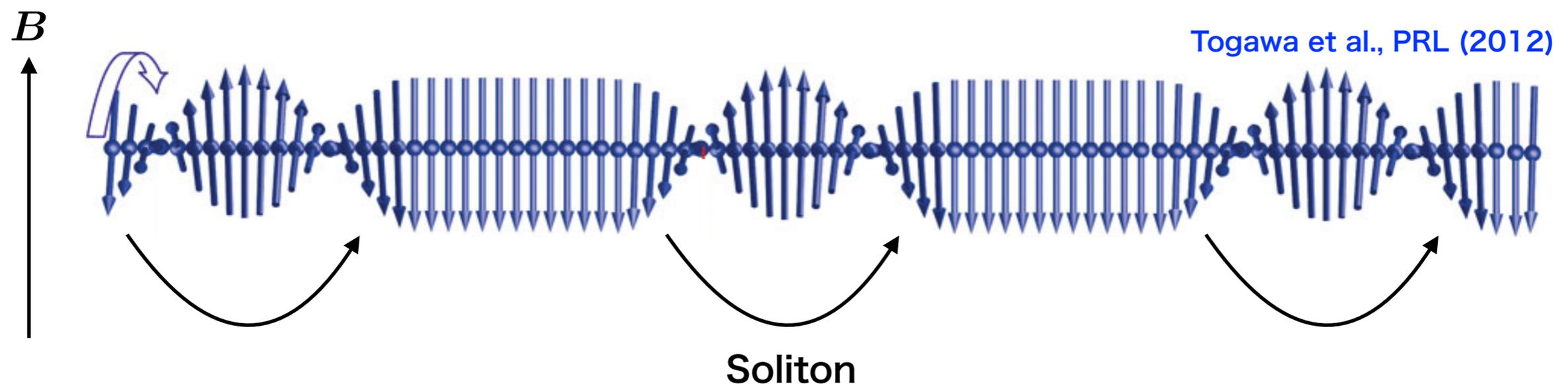
$$K(k) = \int_0^{\pi/2} d\theta \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - k^2 \sin^2 \theta}} \simeq \ln \frac{4}{k'^2} + \frac{k'^2}{4} \left(\ln \frac{4}{k'^2} - 1 \right)$$

- The elliptic integral of the second kind :

$$E(k) = \int_0^{\pi/2} d\theta \sqrt{1 - k^2 \sin^2 \theta} \simeq 1 + \frac{k'^2}{2} \left(\ln \frac{4}{k'^2} - \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

Chiral soliton lattice (CSL)

	NG mode	Explicit breaking (periodic potential)	surface term (stabilizing solitons)
Chiral magnets [1]	Magnon	magnetic field	Dzyaloshiinsky-Moriya interaction
Dense QCD under magnetic fields [2]	π_0 meson	Quark masses	Anomaly-related topological term



[1] Togawa et al., PRL (2012)

[2] Son and Stephanov, PRD (2008); Brauner and Yamamoto, JHEP (2017)

Counting scheme

- Consistent counting scheme : [Brauner, Kolesova and Yamamoto \(2021\)](#)

$$\partial_\mu, m_\pi, A_\mu = \mathcal{O}(p^1), \quad A_\mu^B = \mathcal{O}(p^{-1})$$