# Energy, geometry, and topology of collective magnetic dynamics





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# Bacterial motility



individual cell movement in liquid environments

- Bacterial ability to swim using metabolic energy
- Each single flagellum (helical appendage) has a rotary motor at the base that can turn clock- or anticlockwise
- Small Reynolds number: Viscosity-dominated hydrodynamics; thus, continuous transduction of chemical into mechanical energy



# Macroscopic mobility strategies

 Inertia dominated: Typically imparting momentum to the fluid by discrete events, such as vortex shedding, with inertial coasting in between





E. M. Purcell: "Fast or slow, it exactly retraces its trajectory and it's back where it started." [without inertia]





# From evolution to "intelligent" design

- Conversion of featureless electrochemical free energy into dynamic macroscopic configurations
- Geometry is exploited to enable desired process via the reduction of structural symmetries



 $l_m$ 

- Enable magnetic transport phenomena via geometry
- Utilize topology of collective spin textures to transduce and store free energy
- Interface with (thermo)electric input/output

Pierre Curie: "Asymmetry creates the phenomenon"

## The energy-storage concept





- How to inject/extract such winding in practice?
- Controlling symmetries: Heterostructure design vs curved geometry
- Thermodynamic efficiency of the cross-talk between winding dynamics and electricity?

YT and Xiao, PRL (2018)

# An appealing approach



If we establish practical means to push vorticity within a 2D system, winding would build up in the transverse direction (cf. phase slips in 2D superfluids)

# Vorticity-winding transmutation



net integrated vorticity is naturally conserved



topological charge Q labels winding homotopy classes in the strongly-ordered XY limit

# Geometry-enabled topological energy storage



spin-transfer input power: 
$$\dot{W} = \int dl \, \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \mathbf{m} \times \partial_t \mathbf{m} = \Re II_v$$

In this geometry, electric current along the spiral generically drives vorticity flow along the cylinder axis (thus building up uniform transverse winding)



Dao, Zou, Kleinherbers, and YT, arXiv (2023)

$$\xi = \Re^2 / RR_v$$

electron-vortex "cooperativity" the effective dimensionless parameter, which is thermodynamically bounded to [0,1], is formally analogous to the thermoelectric figure of merit called *ZT* 

# Onsager description of the magnetic energy storage



• Vortex and electron fluxes cross-couple via Magnus-like friction:

$$\left(\begin{array}{c}V\\V_v\end{array}\right) = \left(\begin{array}{cc}R&\mathfrak{R}\\-\mathfrak{R}&R_v\end{array}\right) \left(\begin{array}{c}I\\I_v\end{array}\right)$$

• The magnetic annulus acts as a winding capacitor:

$$E_v = \frac{Q_w^2}{2C_v} \qquad \qquad I_v = \frac{dQ_w}{dt}$$

 It is tempting to think of devices where a tunable vortex conductivity (e.g., associated with their binding and/or defect pinning) is utilized as a switch

# The vorticity is robust against quantum fluctuations



• Vorticity per plaquette is given by the (z component of the) vector chirality: quantum version of the winding around the plaquette

$$\rho_{ij} = \frac{\mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{c}_{ij}}{2\pi a^2} \qquad \text{where} \qquad \mathbf{c}_{ij} \equiv \frac{1}{S^2} \sum_{l} \mathbf{S}_{l} \times \mathbf{S}_{\tilde{l}}$$

For smooth classical textures, this reproduces the previous continuum version

YT, Zou, Kim, and Takei, PRB (2020)

# A new promising materials platform: Mn<sub>3</sub>Sn(Ge)



Antiferromagnetic Weyl semimetal with planar (octupolar) spin texture free to rotate within the easy plane

Liu and Balents, PRL (2017)



Nernst measurement of a domain-wall motion subjected to a magnetic field

Otani and Higo, APL (2021)

#### $|\rightarrow = (|\uparrow + |\downarrow )/2$

# Quantum annealing of the Kosterlitz-Thouless transition 213

# Observation of topological phenomena in a programmable lattice of 1,800 qubits

 $\sigma_i$ 

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Periodic

∣↓↑↓⟩ |→↑↓) |↑↑↓)  $|\uparrow \rightarrow \downarrow\rangle$ l↓↑→ l↓↑↑) ►I↑↓↓)  $|\uparrow\downarrow\rightarrow\rangle$  $|\downarrow \rightarrow \uparrow\rangle$ ∣↓↓↑⟩  $|\rightarrow\downarrow\uparrow\rangle$ |↑↓↑)  $\psi = \hat{\sigma}_1^z + \hat{\sigma}_2^z e^{2\pi i/3}$  $+\hat{\sigma}_3^z e^$ winding alora

 $\sigma_i^z$ 

 $T < T_{KT}$ 

### vortices bind with antivortices: vorticity insulator



(3)

# 3D version of vortices: Hedgehogs

• The continuum hedgehog hydrodynamics



$$j^{\mu} = \epsilon^{\mu\alpha\beta\gamma}\partial_{\alpha}\mathbf{n} \cdot (\partial_{\beta}\mathbf{n} \times \partial_{\gamma}\mathbf{n})/8\pi \,, \quad \partial_{\mu}j^{\mu} = 0$$

has a natural quantum underpinning on an arbitrary lattice, in terms of scalar spin chirality:  $s_{3}$ 



# Engineering and imaging hedgehog metamaterials



Creation and observation of topological magnetic monopoles and their interactions in a ferromagnetic metalattice Soft X-ray imaging by Miao's group at UCLA [Rana et al., Nature Nano. (2023)]

# Electrical injection (detection) of topological charge $\delta Q$



- A nonequilibrium flow of Q must be consistent with crystalline and structural symmetries, Onsager reciprocity, and (1st/2nd) laws of thermodynamics
- In principle, we generally expect such injection to happen for a generic drive (electrical/ microwave/optical etc.), as long as it is not disallowed by symmetries

095, USA

ea is illustrated two metallic a spin-transfer c's reciprocity, l. The voltage pression of the can be used as

<sup>inskii-Moriy</sup>spin torque by the input current at the left interface:

inerant spin  $\mathcal{T}$  into the fight  $\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{J} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{m}$ e force. The drag of spin rictional effects based on teady state and neglecting int  $\mathcal{C}_d \equiv I_R/I_L$  reduces to

 $\left(\frac{i\mathcal{P}}{L}\right)^2 \frac{d}{L}$ .  $\mathbf{M} \propto \mathbf{P}$ 

mions at the equilibrium,  $\mu$ y, and  $\sigma$  is the conductivity – matrix between brackets must be to between charge and spin s parameter measuring the ast factor is geometrical, dis the following: On one geffects are more efficient ws; on the other, the drag distance between contacts on charge. The fatter is a

# Electrical injection (detection) of vorticity

Energetics (thermodynamics) and symmetries:



- magnetization of the metal contact

- magnetic texture of the insulator

Onsager-reciprocal motive force

$$\dot{W} = \int dy \, \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot (\mathbf{m} \times \partial_t \mathbf{m}) \rightarrow \eta \, \mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{j}$$
  
charge current vortex flux  
Zou, Kim, and YT, PRB (2019)

# Extending to 3D bulk: Hedgehog flow

The 3D hedgehog flow with skyrmionic bulk/boundary correspondence is closely analogous to the 2D vorticity flow with winding bulk/boundary correspondence





PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 125, 267201 (2020)

Editors' Suggestion

#### **Topological Transport of Deconfined Hedgehogs in Magnets**

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# Transport of vorticity on curved surfaces



• Can nontrivial geometry reduce the symmetries enough to allow to drive topological hydrodynamics even in a single magnetic layer?





12.8.5.1.444.1

Planar -

 $H (kA m^{-1})$ 

🖄 Springer

# Hydrodynamics on curved surfaces



 Net topological charge is defined in terms of a winding 1-form (the density is constructed via exterior derivative, utilizing generalized Stokes' theorem):

$$\mathcal{Q} = \int_{\partial \mathcal{S}} \rho_w = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\partial S} d\xi^i \mathbf{m}_{\parallel}^2 D_i \varphi \quad \text{where} \quad D_i \varphi \equiv \partial_i \varphi - \mathbf{e}_1 \cdot \partial_i \mathbf{e}_2$$



in the strongly easy-plane limit:

$$\mathcal{Q} = \mathcal{N} - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathcal{S}} d\xi^1 d\xi^2 \sqrt{g} \mathcal{K}$$
 (Mermin-Ho)

Dao, Zou, Kleinherbers, and YT, arXiv (2023)

## "Simplified" topological energy storage



spin-transfer input power: 
$$\dot{W} = \int dl \, \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \mathbf{m} \times \partial_t \mathbf{m} \propto \mathfrak{T} II_v$$

 ${\mathfrak T}$  - (pseudoscalar) "torsion of a curve" (electrical wire), which can effectively (from the symmetry point of view) convert the local geometric normal to the surface into an out-of-plane magnetization

$$V I_v \mathcal{R} \int \mathcal{R} \mathcal{R} \int \mathcal{R} \mathcal{R}$$

the effective dimensionless parameter, which is thermodynamically bounded to [0,1], is formally analogous to the thermoelectric figure of merit called *ZT* 

# Outlook

- Dynamics of collective order-parameter textures can have robust low-energy behavior rooted in topological conservation laws and responsive to geometric controls
- Spin-based systems are abundant, versatile, and amenable to the wealth of spintronic tools
- This can lead to new strategies for probing materials as well as applications, such as energy storage and nontraditional computing (both classical and quantum)
- Myriad connections across different fields of physics, from astrophysics to turbulence
- On the quantum front, intriguing outlooks concern direct transport probes of condensedmatter dualities (e.g., vortex condensation at the superfluid-insulator transition), interplay between real-space and momentum-space topologies, and integration with optically-active quantum impurities for sensing and generation of quantum entanglement

