Probing emergent QED in quantum spin ice via Raman scattering of phonons: Shallow inelastic scattering and pair production

Arnab Set[h](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2853-4173)^o,¹ Subhro Bhattacharj[e](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9451-6838)e^o,¹ and Roderich Moessner²

¹*International Centre for Theoretical Sciences, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bengaluru 560089, India* ²*Max-Planck-Institut für Physik komplexer Systeme, Nöthnitzer Strasse 38, 01187 Dresden, Germany*

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We present an unconventional mechanism for Raman scattering of phonons, which is based on the *linear* magnetoelastic coupling present in non-Kramers magnetic ions. This provides a direct coupling of Raman-active phonons to the magnet's quasiparticles. We propose to use this mechanism to probe the emergent magnetic monopoles, electric charges, and photons of the emergent quantum electrodynamics (eQED) of the U(1) quantum spin liquid known as quantum spin ice. Detecting this eQED in candidate rare-earth pyrochlore materials, or indeed signatures of topological magnetic phases more generally, is a challenging task. We show that the Raman scattering cross section of the phonons directly yields relevant information, with the broadening of the phonon linewidth, which we compute, exhibiting a characteristic frequency dependence reflecting the two-particle density of states of the emergent excitations. Remarkably, we find that the Raman linewidth is sensitive to the details of the symmetry fractionalization and hence can reveal information about the projective implementation of symmetry in the quantum spin liquid, thereby providing a diagnostic for a π -flux phase. The Raman scattering of the phonons thus provides a useful experimental tool to probe the fractionalization in quantum spin liquids that turns out to closely mirror pair production in quantum electrodynamics and the deep inelastic scattering of quantum chromodynamics. Indeed, the difference to the latter is conceptual more than technical: the partons (quarks) emerge from the hadrons at high energies due to asymptotic freedom, while those in eQED arise from fractionalization of the spins at low energies.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The long-range entanglement present in quantum spin liquids (QSLs) leads to novel low-energy quasiparticles with fractionalized quantum numbers [\[1–11\]](#page-23-0). Experimental signatures of these fractionalized quasiparticles can provide direct evidence of the underlying entanglement pattern that characterizes the *quantum order* in the QSLs. However, detecting experimental signatures of such unconventional fractionalized excitations calls for an array of complementary experimental probes to collectively provide information about the QSL.

In this context, probing the spins through their coupling to phonons—via magnetoelastic interactions—provides useful spectroscopic insights into the physics of QSLs. An example of this is the ultrasonic attenuation $[12-14]$ and anomalies [\[15,16\]](#page-23-0) of the acoustic phonons in QSLs. Magnetoelastic interactions are also believed to play an important role in the large thermal Hall response observed in several correlated insulators including the pseudogap phase of lightly doped cuprates [\[17\]](#page-23-0) and the magnetic-field induced paramagnetic phase of the honeycomb magnet $α$ -RuCl₃ [\[18–27\]](#page-23-0).

A related probe for the spin physics are optical phonons, via infrared and Raman scattering experiments where phonon energy and linewidth encode such effects [\[15,28–32\]](#page-23-0). Notably, such phonon spectroscopy can sensitively detect magnetic, superconducting, or charge-density wave ordering, as well as coupling of the phonons to the resultant low-energy quasiparticles in these conventional phases [\[33–35\]](#page-23-0). In the simplest QSLs, however, symmetries are not spontaneously [\[2\]](#page-23-0) broken and the nature of phonon renormalization, at low temperatures, is governed by the properties of fractionalized excitations of the QSLs which provide additional scattering channels for the phonons. This is expected, in particular, to lead to an anomalous broadening of the phonon linewidth at low temperatures whose characterization can then reveal important information regarding the QSL excitations.

Spin-phonon effects are expected to be particularly strong in spin-orbit coupled magnets where the magnetic moment is sensitive to the real-space geometry due to an interlocking of spin and real space [\[36](#page-23-0)[–39\]](#page-24-0). Indeed such spin-phonon coupling has recently been explored both experimentally and theoretically in candidate Kitaev QSLs such as α -RuCl₃ [\[15,19](#page-23-0)[,40\]](#page-24-0), Cu₂IrO₃ [\[28\]](#page-23-0), β - and γ -Li₂IrO₃ [\[30,](#page-23-0)[41\]](#page-24-0), etc. In particular, for $Cu₂IrO₃$ [\[28\]](#page-23-0), the anomalous broadening of the phonon peaks and frequency softening at low temperatures is accounted for by the low-energy Majorana fermions that the spin fractionalizes into [\[5\]](#page-23-0).

Another equally interesting family of spin-orbit coupled frustrated magnets are obtained in rare-earth pyrochlores with magnetic moments sitting on a three-dimensional network of corner-sharing tetrahedra, leading to frustrated spin-spin interactions. These so-called spin ice systems $[42-61]$ are primary candidates to realize both classical cooperative paramagnets $[62-65]$ as well as QSLs $[44, 66-77]$ $[44, 66-77]$. The magnetic moments result from a very intricate interplay of interorbital Coulomb repulsion, atomic spin-orbit coupling, and crystal-field effects.

A rather extreme example of interplay between several competing interactions is seen in an interesting subset among the pyrochlores which are the so-called *non-Kramers* spin ice materials such as $Pr_2Zr_2O_7$ [\[31,](#page-23-0)[57,](#page-24-0)[78\]](#page-25-0), $Pr_2Hf_2O_7$ [\[58\]](#page-24-0), $Tb_2Ti_2O_7$ [\[59–61\]](#page-24-0), $Ho_2Ti_2O_7$ [\[60\]](#page-24-0), etc. In these pyrochlore magnets, the low-energy spin-1/2 magnetic moments arise from even-electron wave functions [\[59,60,](#page-24-0)[78\]](#page-25-0). The degeneracy of such a non-Kramers doublet is protected by lattice symmetry, the D_{3d} symmetry at the pyrochlore lattice site, instead of the usual time-reversal symmetry for Kramers doublets. Therefore, under time-reversal symmetry, \mathcal{T} , the transformation of the low-energy doublets, s^{α} ($\alpha = x, y, z$), made out of spin-orbit coupled wave functions is given by

$$
\mathcal{T}: \{s^x, s^y, s^z\} \to \{s^x, s^y, -s^z\}.
$$
 (1)

This is in stark difference from the usual Kramers case as realized in, e.g., $Dy_2Ti_2O_7$ among others, where all the components of the resultant spin-1/2 are odd under time reversal.

The nontrivial implementation of time-reversal symmetry as in Eq. (1) opens up the possibility of using experimental probes which are complementary to the conventional ones. For example, the transformation in Eq. (1) immediately suggests that the transverse components $\{s^x, s^y\}$ can linearly couple to the lattice vibrations of the appropriate space-group symmetry [see Eqs. (6) and (7)] such that this linear coupling makes the above materials ideal candidates to explore the spin physics through the spin-phonon coupling in vibrational IR/Raman spectroscopy of the relevant phonons. The issue assumes particular importance in the context of QSLs since the spin-spin interactions in several of these non-Kramers pyrochlores, such as $Pr₂Zr₂O₇$ [\[79\]](#page-25-0), can possibly stabilize a U(1) QSL with gapless emergent photons and gapped bosonic electric and magnetic monopoles [\[44,66](#page-24-0)[–77\]](#page-25-0)—the so-called quantum spin ice [\[80\]](#page-25-0).

In this paper, we show that indeed such a linear coupling can lead to characteristic experimental signatures of the emergent gauge charges and photons in vibrational Raman spectroscopy of a non-Kramers quantum spin ice, such as those proposed for $Pr₂Zr₂O₇$. We show that such linear couplings give rise to prominent interaction channels between the phonon and all three emergent excitations of the U(1) QSL the emergent gapped electric and the magnetic charges as well as the gapless photons. These interactions provide additional scattering channels for phonons to decay into and lead to an anomalous broadening of the Raman peaks in the lowtemperature regime. Remarkably, as we show, such Raman signatures are sensitive to the nontrivial symmetry implementation on the emergent degrees of freedom—the details of the projective representation of the symmetry group [\[4\]](#page-23-0) under which the low-energy fractionalized excitations of the QSL transform. In particular, in the context of the quantum spin ice, we discuss the two cases of zero and π flux. While in the former, the magnetic monopoles do not see any electric flux, in the latter they see an electric π flux through every hexagonal plaquette. As a result, the magnetic monopoles in the

 π -flux phase transform under the nontrivial magnetic space group, as opposed to the zero-flux phase, with the magnetic monopoles transforming projectively under lattice translation. The resultant effects for both QSLs are very different from the phonon renormalization due to anharmonic contributions or magnetic ordering, and hence might present important signatures of the fractionalization and the emergent gauge field.

It turns out that probing the low-energy fractionalized excitations of the QSL via the Raman/infrared scattering of the phonons is quite similar to (a) high-energy pair production [Fig. [1\(a\)\]](#page-2-0) and, (b) the *deep inelastic scattering* [\[81,82\]](#page-25-0) of quarks in quantum chromodynamics (QCD) by the leptons as described by the standard model of high-energy particle physics [Fig. $1(c)$]. The corresponding two relevant vertices are shown side by side in Figs. $1(b)$ and $1(d)$, respectively. In QCD, the quarks become asymptotically free at high energies and the high-energy lepton can then probe them on sub-hadron length-scales [\[83,84\]](#page-25-0). In a QSL, however, the nontrivial entanglement leading to fractionalized novel excitations is a low-energy/long-wavelength emergent phenomenon which the phonons can probe via *shallow* inelastic scattering. In particular, we show below while the first of the two processes dominate for the zero-flux QSL, the latter produces important low signatures of the momentum fractionalization in the π -flux case. While our work describes such shallow inelastic scattering of an eQED in the context of the quantum spin ices, it readily generalizes to other QSLs, and to probe magnetic excitations in quadrupolar systems more broadly. Furthermore, we show that the phonon linewidth due to such scattering channels, arising from the spin fractionalization in a QSL, is directly related to the density of states of the emergent quasiparticles, which is schematically shown in Fig. $1(e)$. We note that the above vibrational Raman signatures of the fractionalization on the phonons are different from the Loudon-Fleury type of Raman scattering where the external photon scatters directly from the charge fluctuation in the Mott insulating phase [\[85–89\]](#page-25-0). This kind of coupling has been explored by Cépas *et al.* in the context of kagome spin liquids [\[90\]](#page-25-0) and, more pertinent for us, Fu *et al.* in the context of generic $U(1)$ quantum spin ice [\[87\]](#page-25-0). These studies already indicate several anomalous peaks in the Raman intensity profile due to the presence of additional scattering channels in the QSL phase, invariably indicating magnetic monopoles and gauge excitations of the quantum spin ice. However, due to the localized nature of the $4f$ orbitals of Pr^{3+} , the scattering via charge fluctuation is significantly suppressed and the Raman probe mediated by the phonons can then provide dominant signatures of the novel excitations of the $U(1)$ QSL phase in non-Kramers quantum spin ice. In fact, as we show here, even if the phonons are not at resonance with the emergent excitations, the linear magnetoelastic coupling can mediate an effective Loudon-Fleury [\[85,89\]](#page-25-0) type of coupling between emergent QSL excitations and the external Raman photons that form the leading contribution in non-Kramers material realisations of quantum spin ice.

We start with a brief overview of our results before delving into the details.

FIG. 1. Correspondence of scattering diagrams and schematic for the Raman response: (a) The high energy photon can lead to creation of a positron and an electron via pair production, (b) in non-Kramers quantum spin ice, the phonon flips a spin and creates two magnetic monopoles of opposite charges, (c) in deep inelastic scattering, a photon emitted from a lepton scatters off a parton, a quark *q*, contained in the hadron, a $q\bar{q}$ -pion as a free particle at high energies, (d) in shallow inelastic scattering, an optical phonon emitted from a photon scatters off a parton, a magnetic monopole or electric charge, emerging from the spin degrees of freedom from fractionalisation at low energies, (e) schematic of the energy scales of different density of states (DOS) of the emergent excitations contributing to the phonon linewidth.

A. Overview of the results

The non-Kramers nature of the low-energy doublet in materials such as $Pr₂Zr₂O₇$ restricts the form of the low-energy spin-spin interactions [Eq. [\(3\)](#page-4-0)] of the non-Kramers doublets as we briefly summarize in Sec. [II.](#page-3-0) A further fallout of the unusual implementation of the time-reversal symmetry is that the time-reversal even transverse spin components $[Eq. (1)]$ $[Eq. (1)]$ $[Eq. (1)]$ can couple linearly to the Raman active \mathbf{e}_g and \mathbf{t}_{2g} phonons [Eqs. [\(6\)](#page-5-0) and [\(7\)](#page-5-0)] as discussed in Sec. [III.](#page-4-0) These linear couplings form the leading order terms that couple the lattice modes with the spins with the latter apparently forming a $U(1)$ QSL state—the quantum spin ice—over a sizable parameter regime. Section [IV](#page-5-0) gives a brief review of this quantum spin ice phase and its fractionalized low-energy excitations—the gapped bosonic electric and magnetic gauge charges and the gapless emergent photons. These excitations are captured via a mean-field description of the parton decomposition of spins leading to a lattice gauge theory. The microscopic couplings of the rare-earth pyrochlore magnets lead to a natural energyscale separation between the higher energy magnetic sector and lower energy electric sector in quantum spin ice.

The partons naturally allow us to rewrite the linear spinphonon coupling in terms of the coupling of the phonons with the low-energy excitations of the quantum spin ice. The resultant interaction vertices are shown in Fig. [2](#page-3-0) while the details are discussed in Sec. [V.](#page-6-0) In Sec. [VI,](#page-8-0) the Raman vertex for the phonons is derived. The resulting differential scattering cross section $[Eq. (29)]$ $[Eq. (29)]$ $[Eq. (29)]$ depends on the phonon Green's function [Eq. [\(31\)](#page-8-0)], which receives a self-energy contribution due to scattering with the QSL excitations (Fig. [2\)](#page-3-0) via spin-phonon coupling. The extra scattering channels then lead to an anomalous low-temperature broadening of the phonon peaks. The frequency dependence of such phonon linewidth contributions provides information about the QSL excitations, revealing the topologically nontrivial nature of the low-temperature quantum paramagnet.

In Secs. [VII–](#page-9-0)[IX,](#page-13-0) we calculate the resultant self-energy corrections (Figs. [6,](#page-9-0) [10,](#page-12-0) [12\)](#page-13-0) within the simplest meanfield approximation for the lattice gauge theory—the gauge mean-field theory (GMFT)—where the gauge fluctuations are treated within a weak-coupling perturbation theory with the leading order contributions for the magnetic and electric sectors obtained by neglecting the gauge fluctuations altogether. The resultant frequency dependence for the phonon linewidth is given in Figs. [7](#page-10-0) and [8](#page-11-0) for the magnetic monopoles, Fig. [11](#page-12-0) for emergent photons, and Fig. [13](#page-13-0) for the electric charges. The frequency dependence of the phonon linewidth follows the two-particle density of states of the emergent excitations in all three cases [see the schematic of Fig. $1(e)$] and hence provides a direct probe of the different excitations of the QSL. In particular, the energy separation of the electric and the magnetic sectors results in their contributions to the phonon linewidth occurring at separate energies, potentially paving the way for their separate identifications by careful analysis

FIG. 2. Feynman diagrams for the interactions between the excitations of the quantum spin ice and the Raman active phonons in a non-Kramers system due to the linear spin-phonon coupling [Eqs. [\(6\)](#page-5-0) and [\(7\)](#page-5-0)]. (a) The vertex corresponds to the phonon-magnetic monopole interaction described by Eqs. [\(18\)](#page-7-0) and [\(19\)](#page-7-0). Dotted, solid, and curly lines denote phonon, monopole and *emergent* photons, respectively. Thin and thick solid lines represent two flavors of monopoles, *A* and *B*, respectively. (b) Vertex for the phonon-(emergent) photon interaction described by Eq. [\(24\)](#page-8-0). The circle represents the dipolar form factors [see Eq. [\(25\)](#page-8-0)] that make the vertex gauge invariant. (c) Vertex for the phonon and electric charge interaction. The dashed line denotes the electric charge.

of the frequency and temperature dependence of the spectroscopic data.

The two-particle density of states are sensitive to the symmetry fractionalization patterns and, in particular, the projective symmetry group (PSG) of the QSL. In the case of quantum spin ice, a nontrivial example is the so-called π -flux state, where each hexagonal closed loop of the pyrochlore threads an electric flux of π as opposed to zero in the regular (so-called zero-flux) quantum spin ice phase. The two states can be stabilized for opposite signs of the transverse term in the Hamiltonian in Eq. (3) — $J_{\pm} > 0$ (<0) leads to the zero- $(\pi$ -) flux phase. In the π -flux phase, the momentum is fractionalized due to the larger magnetic unit cell, which is reflected in the two-particle density of states for the monopoles and hence shows up in the Raman linewidth. This can be easily seen by contrasting Figs. [7](#page-10-0) and [8](#page-11-0) for zero and π flux, respectively. Therefore, our calculations show that Raman scattering experiments are sensitive to particular aspects of symmetry fractionalization.

The above application of the mean-field approach to calculate the Raman vertex can be invalidated via strong gauge fluctuations, which couple to the electric charges and the magnetic monopoles. The relevant fine-structure coupling constant for the emergent quantum electrodynamics of quantum spin ice has recently been numerically estimated to be \lesssim 0.1 [\[91\]](#page-25-0). This suggests that the perturbative expansion may provide a leading estimate of the effect of the gauge fluctuations for the magnetic monopoles with their large gap. However, for the lower energy electric charges, the effect of the coupling to the gauge fluctuations is expected to be even stronger, leading to drastic renormalization of the two-electric charge density of states. In any case, the perturbative corrections to the phonon self-energy due to the gauge fluctuations are found to be subleading at low temperatures, as shown in Sec. [VII C.](#page-11-0)

We also briefly summarize the effect of quadratic spinphonon coupling terms on the vibrational Raman spectroscopy in Sec. [X.](#page-13-0) This will be present both in Kramers and non-Kramers systems. While in non-Kramers systems, they are expected to be subleading to the linear coupling discussed above, in the case of Kramers systems, they provide

the leading source of magnetoelastic coupling. In Sec. [XI,](#page-14-0) we calculate the phonon self-energy contribution due to spinphonon coupling in the high-temperature thermal paramagnet for the spins where the gauge charges are ill-defined. In such a phase, the phonon lifetime is expected to be dominated by anharmonic phonon-phonon interactions, which is qualitatively different from the anomalous low-temperature broadening discussed above.

Finally, we show in Sec. [XII](#page-15-0) that even in the case of a mismatch of the phonon energy with those of the QSL excitations—as is likely in some of the present non-Kramers quantum spin ice candidates [\[32,](#page-23-0)[92\]](#page-25-0)—the above linear coupling contributes (obtained via integrating out the phonon) to the Raman vertex. This leads to a coupling between the *external* probe photon with all the excitations of the emergent electrodynamics and provides additional channels for scattering of the phonons that contribute to the Raman linewidth, albeit through the same two-particle density of states.

Finally, the details of various calculations are provided in the Appendices.

II. MAGNETISM IN NON-KRAMERS RARE-EARTH PYROCHLORE FAMILY

Several non-Kramers pyrochlore magnets are known in the context of both classical and quantum spin ice physics with substantial spin-lattice effects. The most striking one is possibly $\text{Th}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_7$ [\[59,61,](#page-24-0)[93–97\]](#page-25-0), where the first crystal field gap is of the order of 10 K and recent neutron-scattering experiments suggest that a vibronic bound state arises due to the coupling between acoustic phonon modes and crystal-field levels which is absent in the paramagnetic phase $[61,75]$. However, the exact role of the excited states and the applicability of quantum spin ice physics are currently being debated $[98]$. Ho₂Ti₂O₇, on the other hand, is a classical spin ice [\[60\]](#page-24-0), although it is interesting to note that on integrating out the lattice vibrations, their linear coupling with the transverse spins can induce (presumably very weak) quantum tunneling terms within the classical spin ice.

The praseodymium pyrochlores, unlike the above extremes, belong to an interesting intermediate regime, where

FIG. 3. Sublattices of an up tetrahedron. 0,1,2,3 denote the four sublattices and \hat{z}_0 , \hat{z}_1 , \hat{z}_2 , \hat{z}_3 represent the four respective local quantization axes [see Eqs. $(A2)$ in Appendix [A 1\]](#page-16-0).

the crystal-field gap is reasonably large but quantum fluctuations are not insignificant [\[57\]](#page-24-0). Inelastic neutron scattering by Wen *et al.* reveals that the existence of quenched structural disorder in $Pr₂Zr₂O₇$ can act as a transverse field on the non-Kramers $Pr³⁺$ ion and might lift the degeneracy of the non-Kramers doublet [\[99\]](#page-25-0), although x-ray diffraction does not show evidence of any structural distortions. More recently, magnetoelastic experiments on ultrapure samples of $Pr_2Zr_2O_7$ have shown possibilities of substantial spin-phonon coupling and coupled spin-lattice dynamics [\[79\]](#page-25-0). Further, high resolution Raman scattering on the same samples at relatively high temperatures (6 K–100 K) reveals that both the ground state and excited crystal-field doublets show a temperaturedependent splitting. The splitting grows more pronounced as temperature is increased and can be accounted for by the dynamical coupling of spins to the phonons [\[31\]](#page-23-0). Several other non-Kramers spin ice candidates such as $Pr₂Sn₂O₇$ [\[100\]](#page-25-0), $Tb_2Sn_2O_7$ [\[101\]](#page-25-0), etc., are also known.

Therefore, to be concrete, we build our theory using $Pr₂Zr₂O₇$ as an example, although the results are generically applicable to any non-Kramers quantum spin ice. In $Pr₂Zr₂O₇$, the magnetic ion is the rare-earth element $Pr³⁺$, which is in the $4f²$ electronic configuration. The ground-state manifold is a doublet and given by [\[57](#page-24-0)[,78\]](#page-25-0)

$$
|\pm\rangle = a|\pm 4\rangle \mp b|\pm 1\rangle - c|\mp 2\rangle, \tag{2}
$$

where the different states belong to the $J = 4$ multiplet with $J^z|m\rangle = m|m\rangle$. Notably, characteristic to spin ice, the natural axis of quantization for the spins is along the local [111] axis (see Fig. 3 and Appendix A_1). The ground-state doublet is separated from the next crystal-field state by almost 10 meV [\[57\]](#page-24-0). Due to this large gap, the low-temperature magnetic physics is dominated by the above non-Kramers doublet. The effective low-energy magnetic degrees of freedom are obtained by projecting all the spin operators to the low-energy doublet manifold and written in terms of the effective pseudospin- $\frac{1}{2}$ operators as s^{μ} ($\equiv \frac{1}{2}\sigma^{\mu}$) [\[78\]](#page-25-0).

A central feature of the doublets in Eq. (2) is that under time reversal (T) they transform as $|\pm\rangle \rightarrow |\mp\rangle$ such that the pseudospins transform as shown in Eq. [\(1\)](#page-1-0).

A. The spin-exchange physics of non-Kramers quantum spin ice

The pseudospins at different sites interact via regular spin exchanges and the minimal symmetry allowed spin Hamiltonian for non-Kramers spin ice is given by [\[45,](#page-24-0)[102,103\]](#page-25-0)

$$
H_0 = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left[J_{zz} s_i^z s_j^z - J_{\pm} (s_i^+ s_j^- + s_i^- s_j^+) \right] + \cdots , \qquad (3)
$$

where \cdots denote other symmetry-allowed terms (including further neighbor ones) which do not immediately destabilize the QSL. In fact, their main effect in the QSL phase is to renormalize the dispersion of the excitations of the quantum spin ice $[70,104]$ $[70,104]$. We neglect them here and their effects can be taken into account systematically along the lines discussed in the rest of this paper.

Experiments reveal the exchange coupling to be strongly anisotropic ($J_{zz} \gg J_{\pm}$). Also, $J_{zz} \approx 1.6$ K [\[57\]](#page-24-0), which is two orders of magnitude smaller than the single ion crystal field gap. This justifies the use of single ion crystal field states to treat the problem perturbatively.

Interestingly, the transformation of the non-Kramers doublet under $\mathcal T$ in Eq. [\(1\)](#page-1-0) leads to an unusual Zeeman coupling in such materials. The external magnetic field, being odd under time reversal, can couple linearly only with s^z but not with s^x and *s^y*. The latter, however, can couple to the magnetic field quadratically. The complete on-site Zeeman Hamiltonian can be found in Ref. $[105]$.

III. LINEAR MAGNETOELASTIC COUPLING IN NON-KRAMERS SYSTEMS

Having discussed the spin physics, we now turn to the linear magnetoelastic coupling in non-Kramers systems. From the point of view of symmetry analysis, the structure of such a linear coupling is quite straightforward. For a single tetrahedron, the linear coupling can be obtained starting with the eight-dimensional vector space spanned by the time-reversal even transverse components, (s_i^x, s_i^y) , of the spins on four corners of a tetrahedron (Fig. 3). This is then decomposed into the irreducible representations of the tetrahedral group, T_d , as [\[105\]](#page-25-0)

$$
\mathbf{e} \oplus \mathbf{t}_1 \oplus \mathbf{t}_2, \tag{4}
$$

where **e** denotes the doublet and t_1 , t_2 represent two triplets with different symmetry transformations (see Table [I](#page-16-0) in Appendix \overline{A} 3). These irreducible operators are often characterized by their classical correlations [\[105\]](#page-25-0), e.g., the **e** sector forms the ferroquadrupolar states, whereas t_1 and t_2 both forms two different antiferroquadrupolar states in case of non-Kramers pyrochlore. Similarly, the (optical) normal vibrational modes of bond distortions of a tetrahedron are decomposed as [\[106,107\]](#page-25-0)

$$
\mathbf{a}_1 \oplus \mathbf{e} \oplus \mathbf{t}_2,\tag{5}
$$

where a_1 is the singlet. It is evident from the above decomposition that **e** and **t**² vibrational (optical) modes of a

tetrahedron can linearly couple to the transverse components of the non-Kramers doublet. Since the complete symmetry of the pyrochlore is $T_d \times I$ (with I being the inversion), the complete representation is obtained by taking symmetric and antisymmetric combinations of the previous representations to form the g and u modes, which are even and odd under spatial inversion, respectively.

As Raman scattering is insensitive to inversion-odd modes, we only consider the \mathbf{e}_g and \mathbf{t}_{2g} modes. Hence, the symmetryallowed magnetoelastic coupling for the Raman active modes is given by

$$
H_{\rm sp}^{(e)} = \sum_{\mathbf{r}, p=1,2} J_{\rm sp}^{(e)} \zeta_{p,g}^{(e)}(\mathbf{r}) \big(Q_p^{(e)}(\mathbf{r}, A) + Q_p^{(e)}(\mathbf{r}, B) \big) \tag{6}
$$

for the **eg** modes and

$$
H_{\rm sp}^{(t_2)} = \sum_{\mathbf{r}, p=1,2,3} J_{\rm sp}^{(t_2)} \zeta_{p,g}^{(t_2)}(\mathbf{r}) \big(Q_p^{(t_2)}(\mathbf{r}, A) + Q_p^{(t_2)}(\mathbf{r}, B) \big) \tag{7}
$$

for the t_{2g} modes. Here **r** denotes the center of an up tetrahedron and *A*/*B* denotes the two sublattices of the underlying diamond lattice, dual to the pyrochlore. $Q_p^{(e)}(\mathbf{r}, A/B)$ and $Q_p^{(t_2)}(\mathbf{r}, A/B)$, respectively, span the **e** and **t**₂ irreducible sector for the spins. For a single up tetrahedron (Fig. [3\)](#page-4-0), they are given by

$$
Q_1^{(e)} = s_0^x + s_1^x + s_2^x + s_3^x,
$$

\n
$$
Q_2^{(e)} = s_0^y + s_1^y + s_2^y + s_3^y,
$$
\n(8)

and

$$
Q_1^{(t_2)} = \frac{1}{2} \left(-s_0^x + s_1^x + s_2^x - s_3^x \right),
$$

\n
$$
Q_2^{(t_2)} = \frac{1}{4} \left(-s_0^x - s_1^x + s_2^x + s_3^x \right) + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \left(s_0^y + s_1^y - s_2^y - s_3^y \right),
$$

\n
$$
Q_3^{(t_2)} = \frac{1}{4} \left(s_0^x - s_1^x + s_2^x - s_3^x \right) + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \left(s_0^y - s_1^y + s_2^y - s_3^y \right).
$$
 (9)

Finally, $\zeta_{p,g}^{(e)}(\mathbf{r})$ and $\zeta_{p,g}^{(t_2)}(\mathbf{r})$ are the **e**_g and **t**_{2g} normal modes of pyrochlore lattice. These normal modes are given by $\zeta_{p,g}^{(\rho)}(\mathbf{k}) = b_{p,\mathbf{k}}^{(\rho)} + b_{p,-\mathbf{k}}^{(\rho)\dagger}$, where $b_{p,\mathbf{k}}^{(\rho)\dagger}$ is the creation operator of the phonons of the ρ irreducible representation, with the bare phonon Hamiltonian given by

$$
H_{\zeta} = \sum_{\rho} \sum_{\mathbf{k},p} \omega_{\mathbf{k}}^{(\rho)} \bigg(b_{\rho,\mathbf{k}}^{(\rho)\dagger} b_{\rho,\mathbf{k}}^{(\rho)} + \frac{1}{2} \bigg). \tag{10}
$$

An alternate and somewhat more microscopic derivation of the above physics can be obtained by considering the coupling of the doublet wave functions of Eq. [\(2\)](#page-4-0) with the phonons, which also gives rise to phonon-mediated coupling between different crystal-field states. The physics of such couplings will be discussed elsewhere [\[108\]](#page-25-0).

The above linear coupling makes the non-Kramers spin ice materials susceptible to *spin Jahn-Teller* distortions, where the spin entropy can be quenched by distorting the lattice and thereby splitting the doublet. Indeed, in some samples of $Pr_2Zr_2O_7$, signatures of such splitting have been observed [\[99](#page-25-0)[,109\]](#page-26-0), accompanied with random lattice distortions. However, more recent higher quality samples appear devoid of such distortions, suggesting controlled suppression of Jahn-Teller distortions in better quality single crystals [\[79\]](#page-25-0).

In the absence of static deformation of the crystal field environment, the above linear spin-phonon coupling helps to enhance the transverse fluctuations in the spin ice manifold, which could stabilize a U(1) QSL phase via magnetodistortive dynamics [\[79\]](#page-25-0).

To study the effect of linear magnetoelastic coupling [Eqs. (6) and (7)] via the Raman experiments on quantum spin ice, we need to rewrite the above spin-phonon coupling in terms of the coupling of the phonon to the low-energy excitations of the $U(1)$ QSL. To derive this, for completeness we briefly review the well-known mapping between the spins and low-energy gauge theory for quantum spin ice [\[66,69,70](#page-24-0)[,110\]](#page-26-0) next.

IV. QUANTUM SPIN ICE

The description of the quantum spin ice is obtained starting with a magnetic monopole charge density operators $[69,70,111]$ $[69,70,111]$ \mathcal{Q}_r , defined at the center of a tetrahedron at **r**, as

$$
\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbf{r}} = \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \sum_{\mu} s_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} + \eta_{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{e}_{\mu}}^z,\tag{11}
$$

where, $\eta_{\bf r} = 1$ (-1) for ${\bf r} \in$ up (down) tetrahedra of the pyrochlore lattice and \mathbf{e}_{μ} is the vector connecting centers of the two nearest-neighbor tetrahedra directed from up to down (see Appendix A 2). We call the positively charged particles monopoles and negatively charged ones antimonopoles. The creation (annihilation) operators for the monopoles are defined as $\phi_{\mathbf{r}}^{\dagger}(\phi_{\mathbf{r}})$ such that it satisfies $[Q_{\mathbf{r}}, \phi_{\mathbf{r'}}^{\dagger}] = \delta_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r'}} \phi_{\mathbf{r}}^{\dagger}$.

The relation between the monopole and spin operators is given by

$$
s_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{e}_{\mu}}^{+} = \frac{1}{2} \phi_{\mathbf{r}}^{+} e^{i A_{\mathbf{r}, \mu}} \phi_{\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{e}_{\mu}}, \qquad (12)
$$

where $\mathbf{r} \in \text{up}$ tetrahedron and $A_{\mathbf{r}, \mu}$ represents the compact U(1) dual gauge field on the bond joining **r** and $\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{e}_{\mu}$ (in other words, they live on the links of the dual diamond lattice). The spin operators remain invariant under the following $U(1)$ gauge transformation:

$$
\phi_{\mathbf{r}} \to \phi_{\mathbf{r}} e^{-i\theta_{\mathbf{r}}}, \quad A_{\mathbf{r},\mu} \to A_{\mathbf{r},\mu} + \left(\theta_{\mathbf{r}+\mathbf{e}_{\mu}} - \theta_{\mathbf{r}}\right) \tag{13}
$$

The compactness of the gauge field allows for dual electric charge excitations [\[66\]](#page-24-0), which are gapped in the QSL.

Using the above mapping, the spin Hamiltonian [Eq. [\(3\)](#page-4-0)] can be written in terms of the gauge fields, monopoles, and the charges to obtain the lattice gauge theory description of quantum spin ice. This is given by Eq. $(B1)$ in Appendix [B](#page-17-0) along with other relevant details.

A. The gapless emergent photons

In the limit $J_{zz} \gg J_{\pm}$, the magnetic monopoles have a gap of $O(J_{zz})$ and can be integrated out. The low-energy Hamiltonian is obtained in terms of the fluctuations of the dual U(1) gauge field *A***^r**,*^μ*. This leads to the well-known ring-exchange Hamiltonian that can be obtained either via degenerate perturbation theory of Eq. [\(3\)](#page-4-0) [\[66\]](#page-24-0) or equivalently integrating out the magnetic monopoles from Eq. $(B1)$. This is given by

$$
H_{\text{eff}} = \frac{U}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{r}, \mu} B_{\mathbf{r}, \mu}^2 - \frac{K}{2} \sum_{\bigcirc} \cos \left(\sum_{\mathbf{r}, \mu \in \bigcirc} A_{\mathbf{r}, \mu} \right), \quad (14)
$$

where $B_{\mathbf{r},\mu}$ (= $s_{\mathbf{r},\mu}^z$, $\mathbf{r} \in \text{up}$ tetrahedron) is the emergent magnetic field that is canonically conjugate to the dual vector potential, i.e., $[A_{\mathbf{r},\mu}, B_{\mathbf{r}',\nu}] = i\delta_{\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}'}\delta_{\mu,\nu}$, *U* is a Lagrange multiplier imposing the half-integer constraint on magnetic fields, and $K \sim \frac{J_{\pm}^3}{J_{zz}^2}$. The emergent electric field is given by $\mathbf{E}_{\bigcirc} = \sum_{\mathbf{r},\mu \in \bigcirc} A_{\mathbf{r},\mu}$, where $\sum_{\mathbf{r},\mu \in \bigcirc}$ denotes the lattice curl around the hexagonal loops of the pyrochlore.

The OSL corresponds to the deconfined phase $(|K| \gg U)$ of the above Hamiltonian. In this limit, the energy for the pure gauge theory can be minimized by setting up zero (π) electric flux through all the elementary hexagonal plaquettes for $K >$ 0 (K < 0) [\[70\]](#page-24-0). These we shall term as 0 and π -flux phases, respectively, since the magnetic monopoles hopping on the diamond lattice (see below) see this electric flux.

The low-energy excitations of the gauge theory can then be captured by expanding the *cosine* term up to quadratic order about these static electric flux configurations. This gives rise to a free Maxwell theory with two transverse polarised gapless photon excitations and their dispersion is given by [\[87\]](#page-25-0)

$$
\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} = c_e |\mathbf{k}|,\tag{15}
$$

where $c_e = \sqrt{UK}$ is the speed of emergent light.

B. The gapped magnetic monopole

The dynamics of the bare magnetic monopoles, on the other hand, can be obtained in a GMFT approximation of Eq. $(B1)$ by freezing the gauge fluctuation $[69]$ (see Appendix [B](#page-17-0) for details).

For $K > 0$, the ground state of the pure gauge theory is in the zero electric flux sector (see above) where the gauge mean field ansatz can be chosen as $A_{\mathbf{r},\mu} = 0$. The bare band structure for the two flavors (*A* and *B*) of magnetic monopoles is then given by [\[69\]](#page-24-0)

$$
\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^{0} = \sqrt{2J_{zz}\left(\lambda - \frac{J_{\pm}}{2}\sum_{\mu > \nu}\cos\left(\mathbf{k}\cdot\left(\mathbf{d}_{\mu} - \mathbf{d}_{\nu}\right)\right)\right)},\qquad(16)
$$

where λ is a Lagrange multiplier introduced to take into account the unitary constraint of the monopole operators (see Appendix \bf{B} 1) at the mean-field level.

For $K < 0$ on the other hand, the monopoles hop in a π -flux background per hexagonal plaquette. This can be implemented by choosing a suitable gauge [\[70\]](#page-24-0) (also see Fig. [18](#page-17-0) in Appendix \bf{B}) which doubles the size of magnetic unit cell, leading to four flavors of monopoles. The details of their band structure are summarized in Appendix B_2 . In contrast to the zero flux phase, two nondegenerate bands [denoted as $\epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})$ and $\epsilon_-^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})$] appear due to the presence of nontrivial background flux. It will be shown in Sec. [VII B](#page-10-0) that this leads to a very different Raman response of these two QSL phases.

The bare band structure of monopoles gets further renormalized due to the gauge fluctuations [\[91\]](#page-25-0). However, in the following discussion, we will assume the monopole-gauge coupling constant to be small, so that it only leads to a subleading corrections of the GMFT results (see Sec. [VII C\)](#page-11-0). We shall comment on the merits/shortcomings of this approximation in the summary.

C. The gapped electric charge

The electric charges or point defects of the gauge field appear due to the 2π ambiguity of defining the compact vector potential [\[66](#page-24-0)[,110\]](#page-26-0). The fluctuations of the electric field are not small near these excitations and the expansion of the *cosine* term (see Sec. [IV A\)](#page-5-0) is not possible. Unlike the magnetic monopoles and the photons, these excitations are nonlocal in terms of the underlying spins and their properties are better captured in the dual description $[66,110,112,113]$ $[66,110,112,113]$ of the emergent gauge theory describing the bosonic electric charges, Ψ_r , hopping on the dual diamond lattice, r, via [\[110,113\]](#page-26-0)

$$
H_{\text{charge}} = -\sum_{\langle \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}' \rangle} t \ e^{-i2\pi \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'}} \Psi_{\mathbf{r}}^{\dagger} \Psi_{\mathbf{r}'} + m \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \Psi_{\mathbf{r}}^{\dagger} \Psi_{\mathbf{r}}, \qquad (17)
$$

where $\mathbf{a}_{r,r'}$ is the vector potential dual to $A_{r,\mu}$; *t* is the effective hopping strength and *m* is the chemical potential for the electric charges. The vector potential admits only integer values and is defined by

$$
(\nabla \times \mathbf{a}_{r,r'})_{\bigcirc^*} = \sum_{rr' \in \bigcirc^*} \mathbf{a}_{r,r'} = B_{\mathbf{r},\mu} - B_{\mathbf{r},\mu}^0.
$$

 \circlearrowleft^* denotes the dual elementary hexagonal plaquettes and $B_{\mathbf{r},\mu}^0$ is a static divergenceless background field. Since there is a single spin-1/2 on every pyrochlore site, the gauge field has a background π -flux in every dual hexagonal plaquette [\[113\]](#page-26-0) such that in the gauge mean-field limit (where we ignore the fluctuations of $\mathbf{a}_{r,r'}$ around the background), the dynamics of electric charges reduces to the problem of bosons hopping on the diamond lattice subject to the background π -flux in every hexagonal plaquette. This can be solved using a proper gauge choice and gives rise to 12 soft modes $[110,113]$. We denote the soft modes as ψ_i (*i* = 1, ..., 12). As mentioned earlier (see Sec. [I\)](#page-0-0), the energy gap of the electric charges, Δ_c , in the QSL phase is $\sim |J_{\pm}|^3 / J_{zz}^2$. Within the hopping model, Eq. (17), the phase is $\sqrt{6y} \pm \sqrt{f_{zz}}$, whill the hopping model, Eq. (17)
minimum gap of the electric charges is $\Delta_c = m - 2\sqrt{2}t$.

The band structure of the electric charges gets further renormalized due to the gauge fluctuations. Compared to magnetic monopoles, they have a much smaller energy gap and hence, on general grounds, their coupling with the emergent photon is expected to be relatively much stronger. However, to keep our analysis tractable, we neglect such effects within our GMFT approach and only take them into account perturbatively.

V. MAGNETOELASTIC COUPLING IN NON-KRAMERS QUANTUM SPIN ICE

The effect of the magnetoelastic coupling in the QSL phase can be analyzed by studying the coupling of the phonon to the emergent excitations using the mapping from spins to gauge charges discussed above. For the linear coupling in Eqs. [\(6\)](#page-5-0) and [\(7\)](#page-5-0), the resultant interactions are given below.

FIG. 4. GMFT Feynman diagram for phonon and magnetic monopole interaction [described by Eqs. (20) and (21)] in the zero flux phase [see Fig. $2(a)$ for further details].

A. The magnetic monopole-phonon coupling

Here we obtain the direct coupling between the phonon and the magnetic monopole. From Eq. [\(6\)](#page-5-0), we get, for the **eg** phonons:

$$
H_{\rm sp}^{(e)} = \frac{J_{\rm sp}^{(e)}}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \sum_{\mu=0}^{3} \zeta_{-,g}^{(e)}(\mathbf{r}) \left[\phi_{\mathbf{r},A}^{\dagger} e^{iA_{\mathbf{r},\mu}} \phi_{\mathbf{r}+\mathbf{d}_{\mu},B} \right. + \phi_{\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{d}_{\mu},A}^{\dagger} e^{iA_{\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{d}_{\mu},\mu}} \phi_{\mathbf{r},B} \right] + \text{H.c.,}
$$
 (18)

where

$$
\mathbf{f}_{\pm,g}^{(e)}(\mathbf{r}) = \zeta_{1,g}^{(e)}(\mathbf{r}) \pm i\zeta_{2,g}^{(e)}(\mathbf{r})
$$

ζ (*e*)

are the displacement fields and from Eq. (7) for the t_{2g} phonons:

$$
H_{\rm sp}^{(t_2)} = \frac{J_{\rm sp}^{(t_2)}}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \sum_{\mu=0}^{3} \sum_{p=1}^{3} \left(\zeta_{p,g}^{(t_2)}(\mathbf{r}) L_{p,x,\mu}^{(t_2)} - i \zeta_{p,g}^{(t_2)}(\mathbf{r}) L_{p,y,\mu}^{(t_2)} \right) \times \left[\phi_{\mathbf{r},A}^{\dagger} e^{iA_{\mathbf{r},\mu}} \phi_{\mathbf{r}+\mathbf{d}_{\mu},B} + \phi_{\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{d}_{\mu},A}^{\dagger} e^{iA_{\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{d}_{\mu},\mu}} \phi_{\mathbf{r},B} \right] + \text{H.c.}
$$
\n(19)

The form factors $L_{p,\alpha,\mu}^{(t_2)}$ are obtained via the relation $Q_p^{(t_2)}$ = $\sum_{\alpha=x,y} \sum_{\mu=0}^{3} L_{p,\alpha,\mu}^{(t_2)} s_{\mu}^{\alpha}$, their explicit forms can then follow from Eqs. (9) .

Both these interactions give rise to a Yukawa-type coupling between the phonons and the monopole bilinear of the form $\zeta \phi^{\dagger} e^{iA} \phi$, albeit with different form factors. The corresponding bare vertex is shown in Fig. $2(a)$. It is clear from the interaction that the above coupling allows for a phonon to decay into a monopole-antimonopole pair: additional low-energy scattering channels for the phonons inside the QSL phase open up. Note that while the bare monopole hopping preserves the sublattice flavor of the monopole, the above vertex mixes them, keeping only the total monopole number preserved.

Within GMFT, we assume that the gauge fluctuations are weak and can be taken into account perturbatively. Thus, within GMFT, the bare vertex for the magnetic monopolephonon interaction is given by Fig. 4, where the gauge fluctuations have been neglected. Indeed, we shall show that within a perturbative treatment of the gauge field, the temperature dependence of the corrections due to gauge fluctuations are subleading compared to the mean-field results at low temperatures (see Sec. [VII C\)](#page-11-0). In momentum space, GMFT vertices are given by

$$
H_{\rm sp}^{(e)} = \frac{J_{\rm sp}^{(e)}}{2\sqrt{N}} \sum_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'} \left[\left(\alpha_{\mathbf{k}}^{(e)} + \alpha_{\mathbf{k}'}^{(e)} \right) \zeta_{-,g}^{(e)} (\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}') \right. \\ \times \phi_{\mathbf{k},A}^{\dagger} \phi_{\mathbf{k}',B} + \text{H.c.} \right], \tag{20}
$$

$$
H_{\rm sp}^{(t_2)} = \frac{J_{\rm sp}^{(t_2)}}{2\sqrt{N}} \sum_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'} \sum_{p=1}^{3} \left[\left(\alpha_{p,\mathbf{k}}^{(t_2)} + \alpha_{p,\mathbf{k}'}^{(t_2)} \right) \right]
$$

$$
\times \zeta_{p,g}^{(t_2)}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}') \phi_{\mathbf{k},A}^{\dagger} \phi_{\mathbf{k}',B} + \text{H.c.}, \qquad (21)
$$

where *N* is the total number of unit cells, while $\alpha_k^{(e)}$ and $\alpha_{p,k}^{(t_2)}$ are vertex functions of the \mathbf{e}_g and \mathbf{t}_{2g} coupling, respectively, whose forms are given in Appendix **B** 3.

B. The (emergent) photon-phonon coupling

To obtain the coupling between phonon and emergent photon, once again we integrate out the gapped magnetic monopoles (as in Sec. [IV A\)](#page-5-0) in the presence of the magnetoelastic coupling described by Eqs. (18) and (19). The leading coupling between phonon and gauge field is obtained in fourth order of the perturbation theory [\[114\]](#page-26-0). For the **eg** phonons, this gives rise to

*H*_{phonon−photon}

$$
= -\frac{J_{\rm sp}^{(e)2}J_{\pm}^2}{2J_{zz}^3} \sum_{\bigcirc} \left(\sum_{\mathbf{r} \in \bigcirc} \zeta_g^{(e)}(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \zeta_g^{(e)}(\mathbf{r}) \right) \cos{[\mathbf{E}_{\bigcirc}]}.
$$
 (22)

A similar treatment for the t_{2g} phonons is possible starting from Eq. [\(7\)](#page-5-0), leading to similar results as for the **eg** phonons, and hence not presented explicitly. In the deconfined QSL phase, the *cosine* term in the Hamiltonian above can be expanded up to quadratic order as $\cos E \approx 1 - E^2/2$. At low energies, the constant term in the expansion leads to a quadratic term in the phonon. This renormalizes the frequency of the phonon by a constant shift without affecting its linewidth.

The leading order coupling between the phonon and the emergent photon, in the continuum limit is given by

$$
\mathcal{H}_{\text{phonon-photon}} = J_{\text{ph-ph}} \int d^3 \mathbf{r} \, \boldsymbol{\zeta}_g^{(e)}(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\zeta}_g^{(e)}(\mathbf{r}) \, \mathbf{E}^2(\mathbf{r}), \quad (23)
$$

where $J_{\text{ph}-\text{ph}} \sim \frac{J_{\text{sp}}^{(e)} J_{\perp}^2}{4J_{\text{gt}}^2 l^3}$ with *l* being the lattice length scale. As expected, the phonons cannot simply couple to the dual gauge field since they do not carry the emergent gauge charge. Instead, they couple to the gauge invariant electric field. Further, since the Raman active phonons are even under inversion, they can only couple to the electric field at quadratic order. We note, in passing, that the antisymmetric phonon modes (u modes) on the other hand are allowed to couple linearly to the emergent electric field. Such interaction effects can be probed using infrared spectroscopy [\[114,115\]](#page-26-0).

FIG. 5. GMFT Feynman diagram for phonon and electric charge interaction [described by Eq. (26)]; (see Fig. $2(c)$ for further details.

In momentum space, Eq. (23) takes the form

$$
\mathcal{H}_{\text{phonon-photon}} = \int \prod_{i=1}^{4} d^{3} \mathbf{k}_{i} \, \mathcal{G}^{\alpha \beta}(\mathbf{k}_{1}, \mathbf{k}_{2}, \mathbf{k}_{3}, \mathbf{k}_{4})
$$
\n
$$
\times \left(\zeta_{g}^{(e)}(\mathbf{k}_{1}) \cdot \zeta_{g}^{(e)}(\mathbf{k}_{2}) \right) A_{\mathbf{k}_{3}}^{\alpha} A_{\mathbf{k}_{4}}^{\beta}, \qquad (24)
$$

where the interaction vertex is given by

$$
\mathcal{G}^{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{k_1}, \mathbf{k_2}, \mathbf{k_3}, \mathbf{k_4}) = \frac{J_{\text{ph-ph}}}{N} \left[-\mathbf{k_3} \cdot \mathbf{k_4} \delta_{\alpha\beta} + k_3^{\beta} k_4^{\alpha} \right] \times \delta(\mathbf{k_1} + \mathbf{k_2} + \mathbf{k_3} + \mathbf{k_4}). \tag{25}
$$

The above interaction is shown in Fig. $2(b)$, where the circle represents the gauge-invariant dipolar vertex function, $\mathcal{G}^{\alpha\beta}$. Such decay processes for phonons in a QSL phase give rise to an additional contribution to the phonon linewidth similar to that due to the monopoles, albeit at a different energy scale.

C. The electric charge-phonon coupling

Similar to the phonon-magnetic monopole coupling, the phonons also interact with the electric charges via a Yukawa coupling as shown in Fig. $2(c)$ (again, the electric charge creation/annihilation operators are not gauge invariant and hence cannot couple to the phonons linearly).

To derive the coupling between the phonons and the electric charges, we construct the bilinears of the soft electric charge modes with appropriate symmetry that can couple to a particular polarization of the phonon. Here we analyze only the **eg** couplings and the interaction is given by

$$
H_{\text{phonon}-\text{charge}} = J_{\text{ph}-\text{ch}}^{(e)} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} (\zeta_{1,g}^{(e)}(\mathbf{r}) \Theta_1(\mathbf{r}) + \zeta_{2,g}^{(e)}(\mathbf{r}) \Theta_2(\mathbf{r})),
$$
\n(26)

where (Θ_1, Θ_2) forms an **e**_g doublet and is given by

$$
\Theta_1 = \psi_1^* \psi_1 + \psi_{11}^* \psi_{11} - \psi_3^* \psi_3 - \psi_9^* \psi_9, \n\Theta_2 = - \psi_1^* \psi_1 - \psi_{11}^* \psi_{11} - \psi_3^* \psi_3 - \psi_9^* \psi_9 \n+ 2(\psi_5^* \psi_5 + \psi_7^* \psi_7),
$$
\n(27)

where ψ_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots 12$) are the soft modes of the electric charges as obtained in Ref. [\[113\]](#page-26-0) and discussed in the previous section. The above interaction is shown in Fig. 5. A similar kind of coupling between t_{2g} phonons and electric charges can be obtained via symmetry analysis. However, such coupling produces a similar kind of Raman response as **eg** phonons, and is not considered here separately.

Due to the above magnetoelastic coupling, phonons acquire a finite lifetime by scattering with the excitations of the QSL. In the next three sections (Sec. [VII–](#page-9-0)[IX\)](#page-13-0), we compute the lifetime of the phonons and their typical low-temperature behavior in order to probe the non-Kramers U(1) QSLs.

VI. RAMAN SCATTERING OF THE PHONONS IN QUANTUM SPIN ICE PHASE

The Raman vertex for the phonon is given by [\[116\]](#page-26-0)

$$
H_{\text{Raman}} = \int \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \mathbf{E}_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) \, d^3 \mathbf{r},\tag{28}
$$

where $P(r)$ is the electric dipole moment and $E_{ext}(r)$ is the external electric field (to be distinguished from the emergent electromagnetism). Relegating details to Appendix C , we find the Raman scattering cross-section [\[117\]](#page-26-0),

$$
\frac{d^2\sigma(\mathbf{q},\omega)}{d\Omega d\omega_s} \propto R(\mathbf{q},\omega),\tag{29}
$$

where for a thermal system, by Fermi's golden rule,

$$
R(\mathbf{q},\omega) = \sum_{i,f} \frac{e^{-\beta E_i}}{Z} |\langle f| H_{\text{Raman}} |i\rangle|^2 \delta(E_f - E_i - \omega). \quad (30)
$$

Here $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{q}_{in} - \mathbf{q}_{out}$ is the net momentum transferred to the system by the Raman process and ω is the difference between the frequency of incident and scattered photons. As the speed of light is very large compared to that of the phonons, only the $q \rightarrow 0$ regime of the Brillouin zone can be probed by Raman scattering. Further, $|i\rangle$, $|f\rangle$ denote the initial and final state of the phonons, respectively, with energies E_i and E_f . Finally, *Z* is the partition function for a Gibbs distribution at temperature, $T = 1/\beta$.

At low temperatures, the initial state can be approximated by the ground state. Also, we can see from the Raman vertex [Eqs. (28) and $(C2)$] that the scattering matrix element is nonzero only when $|i\rangle$ and $|f\rangle$ differ by a single phonon, as higher phonon processes are suppressed at low temperatures. So, at low temperatures, $|f\rangle$ should be chosen from the single phonon sector, leading to

$$
R(\mathbf{q},\omega) \propto -\frac{\pi n(\omega)e^{\beta\omega}}{Z}e^{-\beta E_0}\lim_{\delta\to 0^+} \text{Im}[G_{\zeta}(\mathbf{q},\omega+i\delta)], \quad (31)
$$

where, $n(\omega) = \frac{1}{e^{\beta \omega} - 1}$ is the Bose-factor and $G_{\zeta}(\mathbf{q}, \omega + i\delta)$ is the retarded Green's function of the phonon. This can be calculated from the analytic continuation of the Matsubara Green's function, $G_\zeta(\mathbf{q}, i\omega)$, given by

$$
G_{\zeta}(\mathbf{q}, i\omega) = -\int_0^{\beta} d\tau \langle \hat{T}(\zeta(\mathbf{q}, \tau)\zeta(-\mathbf{q}, 0)) \rangle e^{i\omega \tau} = -\frac{2\omega_{\mathbf{q}}}{\omega^2 + \omega_{\mathbf{q}}^2 + 2\omega_{\mathbf{q}} \Sigma_{\zeta}(\mathbf{q}, i\omega)},
$$
(32)

where ω_{q} is the bare dispersion of the phonon [obtained from Eq. [\(10\)](#page-5-0)] and $\Sigma_{\zeta}(\mathbf{q}, i\omega)$ is its self-energy arising from the interaction with the QSL excitations. Here, for simplicity of

$$
|\Delta_{\text{Raman}}| = \text{Re}[\Sigma_{\zeta}(\mathbf{q}, \omega + i\delta)] \tag{33}
$$

and the full-width at half maximum of the Lorentzian is given by

$$
\Gamma = 2|\text{Im}[\Sigma_{\zeta}(\mathbf{q}, \omega + i\delta)]|, \tag{34}
$$

which can then be directly compared with experiments.

We now focus on understanding the frequency and temperature dependence of the linewidth, Γ , in detail, to extract the information it contains about the QSL excitations via the linear magnetoelastic coupling. The real part can be computed from the imaginary part using the standard Kramers-Kronig theorem [\[118\]](#page-26-0). Since the three QSL excitations are separated in energy scales, we expect that they dominate the linewidth in different frequency windows. Therefore, we particularly focus on the frequency dependence of the linewidth.

VII. SELF-ENERGY OF THE PHONON DUE TO PHONON-MAGNETIC MONOPOLE COUPLING

We now calculate the self-energy of the phonons and hence the broadening of the phonon peaks due to the phononmonopole interaction. We calculate the effect of the coupling in a perturbative approach both in the zero and π -flux phases.

FIG. 6. Self-energy of the phonon due to the phonon-magnetic monopole interaction (see Fig. [4\)](#page-7-0).

A. Zero-flux phase

The first nonzero contribution to the self-energy comes at second order, $O(J_{\text{sp}}^{(\rho)2})$, by computing the bubble diagram of Fig. 6. Within GMFT, for the zero-flux phase, the self-energy is given by

$$
\Sigma_{\zeta^{(\rho)}}^0(\mathbf{q}, i\Omega) = -\frac{J_{\rm sp}^{(\rho)2}}{4N\beta} \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \omega} \left| \alpha_{\mathbf{k}}^{(\rho)} + \alpha_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{(\rho)} \right|^2 G_{\phi}^0(\mathbf{k}, A, i\omega)
$$

$$
\times G_{\phi}^0(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{q}, B, i(\omega + \Omega)), \tag{35}
$$

where the time-ordered Green's function (G_{ϕ}^0) for monopoles in the zero-flux phase is defined as [see Eq. $(B7)$ in Appendix [B 1\]](#page-17-0):

$$
G_{\phi}^{0}(\mathbf{k}, A/B, i\omega) = \int_{0}^{\beta} d\tau \langle \hat{\mathcal{T}}(\phi_{\mathbf{k}, A/B}(\tau)\phi_{\mathbf{k}, A/B}^{\dagger}(0))\rangle e^{i\omega\tau}
$$

$$
= \frac{2J_{zz}}{\omega^{2} + (\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^{0})^{2}}.
$$
(36)

To obtain the broadening of the Raman peaks, we calculate the imaginary part of $\Sigma^0_{\zeta^{(\rho)}}(\mathbf{q}, i\Omega \to \Omega + i\delta)$. Performing the frequency summation using standard Matsubara summation techniques $[118]$, we get

$$
\lim_{\delta \to 0} \text{Im}[\Sigma_{\zeta^{(\rho)}}^{0}(\mathbf{q}, \Omega + i\delta)] = \frac{\pi J_{sp}^{(\rho)2} J_{zz}^{2}}{4N} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} |\alpha_{\mathbf{k}}^{(\rho)} + \alpha_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{(\rho)}|^2 \left[\frac{n(\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^{0}) - n(\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{0})}{\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^{0} \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{0}} (\delta(\Omega + \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{0} - \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^{0}) - \delta(\Omega + \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{0}) + \frac{n(\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^{0}) + n(\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{0}) + 1}{\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^{0} \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{0}} (\delta(\Omega + \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^{0} + \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{0}) - \delta(\Omega - \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^{0} - \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{0}) \right],
$$
\n(37)

 $\sqrt{2}$

where $n(\epsilon_k^0) = \frac{1}{e^{\beta \epsilon_k^0} - 1}$ is the Bose occupation for the magnetic monopole with ϵ_k^0 being the single-particle dispersion within GMFT as given by Eq. (16) .

The first two delta functions of Eq. (37) imply processes where a monopole scatters by absorption of a phonon (*absorption* process). The prefactor $[n(\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^0) - n(\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^0)]$ represents the net probability of such processes. On the other hand, the last two delta functions in Eq. (37) arise due to the conversion of a phonon into a monopole-antimonopole pair or vice versa [*pair production* process, Fig. [1\(b\)\]](#page-2-0). The prefactor $[1 + n(\epsilon_k^0) + n(\epsilon_{k+q}^0)]$ represents the net probability of two competing processes–the first(second) is the annihilation (creation) of a phonon followed by creation (annihilation) of the monopole-antimonopole pair.

Equation (37) is one of the central results of this paper. It shows that the self-energy correction of the phonons arises from its coupling to the magnetic monopoles. We now analyze

the self-energy, in particular, its frequency dependence, which can be detected in Raman-scattering experiments. For Raman scattering, only the $q \approx 0$ regime of the Brillouin zone is accessible. In this limit, clearly the probability of the absorption process of the phonons vanishes since the difference of the two Bose factors go to zero as $q \rightarrow 0$, leading to

$$
\Gamma(\Omega, T) = 2 \left| Im \left[\Sigma_{\zeta^{(\rho)}}^0(\mathbf{q} = 0, \Omega) \right] \right|
$$

=
$$
\frac{2\pi J_{\rm sp}^{(\rho)2} J_{zz}^2}{N} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} |\alpha_{\mathbf{k}}^{(\rho)}|^2
$$

$$
\times \left[\frac{2n(\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^0) + 1}{(\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^0)^2} |(\delta(\Omega + 2\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^0) - \delta(\Omega - 2\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^0))| \right].
$$
 (38)

From Eq. [\(16\)](#page-6-0), we see that the bare monopole band structure is gapped with its minima at $\mathbf{k} = 0$ and the energy

FIG. 7. Frequency dependence of linewidth of (a) e_g and (b) t_{2g} phonons in the zero-flux phase due to the phonon-magnetic monopole coupling. For both plots, we have chosen $\frac{\lambda}{2J_{zz}} = 0.7$ and $\frac{J_{\pm}}{2J_{zz}} = 0.1$ for illustrative purpose. The inset of (b) shows the two-particle density of states (DOS) of magnetic monopoles for the same values of $\lambda/2J_{zz}$ and $J_{\pm}/2J_{zz}$.

gap, $\Delta_0 = \sqrt{2} J_{zz} (\lambda - 3 J_{\pm})$. It is evident from Eq. [\(38\)](#page-9-0) that the splitting of phonons into a monopole-antimonopole pair occurs only if the phonon frequency is larger than the pair creation energy (2 Δ_0) such that $\Gamma \sim \Theta(|\Omega| - 2\Delta_0)$. This is visible in Fig. 7, where we plot the linewidth, $\Gamma(\Omega, T)$ versus the frequency, Ω , for various temperatures, *T*, for both the \mathbf{e}_g and the t_{2g} modes, for $\Delta_0 = 1.26 J_{zz}$ as an illustrative example for plotting. The profile of the curve remains qualitatively same as long as the constraint $\lambda > 3J_{\pm}$ is satisfied, which defines the extent of the QSL. Apart from the dependence on the form factors, $\alpha_k^{(\rho)}$, and the Bose factor, both curves reflect the two-particle density of states profile of monopoles, shown in the inset of Fig. $7(b)$. The effect of the form factors can be noted from the qualitative difference of the two plots. Since $\alpha_k^{(t_2)} \to 0$ as $\mathbf{k} \to 0$ [from Eq. [\(B14\)](#page-18-0)], the linewidth for t_{2g} smoothly vanishes for $\Omega \rightarrow 2\Delta_0$. By contrast, for **e**_g, the vertex function $(\alpha_k^{(e)})$ tends to a nonzero constant as $\mathbf{k} \to 0$ [from Eq. [\(B14\)](#page-18-0)] and the linewidth shows a sharp behavior even at zero momentum.

B. *π***-flux phase**

The phonon-magnetic monopole coupling in the π -flux phase is obtained from the linear spin-phonon coupling of Eqs. [\(6\)](#page-5-0) and [\(7\)](#page-5-0) via parton decomposition of the spins and freezing the gauge fluctuations to a suitable GMFT ansatz as described in Sec. [IV B.](#page-6-0) Focusing only on the **eg** phonons, the phonon-monopole coupling is given by

$$
H_{\rm sp}^{(e)} = \frac{J_{\rm sp}^{(e)}}{2\sqrt{N}} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \sum_{\mu,\nu=1,2} \left(M_{\mathbf{k}}^{\mu\nu} \zeta_{-,g}^{(e)}(\mathbf{q}=0) \phi_{\mathbf{k},A\mu}^{\dagger} \phi_{\mathbf{k},B\nu} + \text{H.c.} \right). \tag{39}
$$

The details of the vertex functions $M_k^{\mu\nu}$ are given in Appendix D 1. The Feynman diagram of the above interaction is again represented by the Yukawa vertex, which is very similar to Fig. [4](#page-7-0) except for the fact that *four* distinct diagrams are possible due to the extended sublattice structure. The phonon self-energy in this phase is given by

$$
\Sigma_{\zeta^{(e)}}^{\pi}(\mathbf{q}=0,i\Omega) = -\frac{J_{\text{sp}}^{(e)2}}{4N\beta} \sum_{\mathbf{k},\omega} \sum_{\mu,\nu,\alpha,\beta} M_{\mathbf{k}}^{\mu\alpha} M_{-\mathbf{k}}^{\nu\beta} \left[G_{\phi}^{\pi}\right]_{\mu\nu}
$$

$$
\times (\mathbf{k}, A, i\Omega + i\omega) \left[G_{\phi}^{\pi}\right]_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{k}, B, i\omega), \tag{40}
$$

where $[G^{\pi}_{\phi}]_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{k}, A/B, i\omega)$ is the Green's function for the A/B monopoles in the π -flux phase [see Eq. [\(B13\)](#page-18-0) in Appendix [B 2](#page-17-0) for the detailed expressions]. Computing the imaginary part of the above expression, we obtain the linewidth of the phonons in the π -flux phase. The contribution, where the phonon splits into two monopoles, is given by

$$
\Gamma(\Omega, T) = \frac{\pi J_{\rm sp}^{(e)2}}{2N} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \left[\frac{1 + 2n(\epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}))}{\epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})^{2}} \mathcal{P}_{1}(\mathbf{k}) \delta(\Omega - 2\epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})) + \frac{1 + 2n(\epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}))}{\epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})^{2}} \mathcal{P}_{2}(\mathbf{k}) \delta(\Omega - 2\epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})) + (\mathcal{P}_{3}(\mathbf{k}) + \mathcal{P}_{4}(\mathbf{k})) \times \left(\frac{1 + n(\epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})) + n(\epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}))}{\epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})\epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})} \delta(\Omega - \epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}) - \epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})) + \frac{n(\epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})) - n(\epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}))}{\epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})\epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})} \delta(\Omega + \epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}) - \epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})) \right], \quad (41)
$$

where $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathbf{k})$, $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbf{k})$, $\mathcal{P}_3(\mathbf{k})$, $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{k})$ are real functions of momentum whose detailed forms are given by Eq. [\(D2\)](#page-20-0) in Appendix $D2$ and $\epsilon_{\pm}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})$ are the bare monopole dispersions in the π -flux phase as discussed above. The detailed forms are given by Eqs. $(B10)$ and $(B11)$ in Appendix [B 2.](#page-17-0)

The above expression should be contrasted with that for zero flux $[Eq. (38)]$ $[Eq. (38)]$ $[Eq. (38)]$. There are four distinct delta functions appearing in the expressions. The first two terms are closely related to the two-particle density of states for the $\epsilon_+^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})$ and $\epsilon_-^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})$ bands, implying the decay of a phonon into

FIG. 8. Density of states of different bands contributing to the phonon linewidth in the π -flux phase. We have chosen $\lambda/2J_{zz}$ 0.7, $J_{\pm}/2J_{zz} = 0.3$ for illustrative purpose. Red and blue curves denote the two-particle density of states for upper (ϵ_+^{π}) and lower (ϵ_{\perp}^{π}) bands, respectively. Black and magenta curves denote density of states of $\epsilon_+^{\pi} + \epsilon_-^{\pi}$ and $\epsilon_+^{\pi} - \epsilon_-^{\pi}$, respectively.

monopole-antimonopole pair with respective energy in the two bands, \pm . On the other hand, the last two entries represent the processes where a phonon scatters into monopoleantimonopole pair of different energy bands. Consequently, unlike the zero flux case, both the pair production and absorption processes show nonzero amplitude even at $q = 0$.

As an aside, we briefly comment on the connection of this shallow inelastic scattering referred to in Fig. $1(d)$ to the deep inelastic scattering familiar from QCD. In the latter, a photon scatters off a quark which, when it is highly relativistic, is possible with only a minor momentum contribution from other quarks. By contrast, with fractionalization being a low-energy phenomenon, the kinematics works out differently despite the topological correspondence between the two diagrams. It is the capacity of the scattering between the two bands for the π -flux phase to absorb energy and momentum which provides the nonvanishing cross section even at low **q** for the shallow scattering.

In Fig. 8, we plot various contributions to the two-particle density of states of magnetic monopoles in the π -flux phase, which represent the four distinct delta functions of Eq. (41) . The phonon linewidth is obtained from the sum of these delta functions weighted by appropriate momentum dependent form factors $[\mathcal{P}_1(\mathbf{k}), \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbf{k}), \mathcal{P}_3(\mathbf{k}), \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{k})]$ and the Bosonic distribution functions at finite temperature. It is evident from the figure that, unlike the zero flux case, the Raman linewidth shows a nonzero signal even at very low energy compared to the monopole gap. Availability of the two nondegenerate bands allows a nonzero probability of the process where a monopole [say, with energy ϵ^{π} (**k**)] absorbs the phonon and converts into another monopole of different band structure $[\epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})]$ even at $\mathbf{q} = 0$. Also, the enlargement of the magnetic unit cell compared to that of the zero flux case—leading to the momentum fractionalization—is very well captured in such a Raman response profile, which is a signature of the non-trivial projective implementation of symmetry. Hence, the phonon linewidth measurements via Raman experiments

FIG. 9. Self-energy of the magnetic monopoles due to the gauge fluctuation.

can be an extremely useful tool to identify the nontrivial PSG of a QSL phase.

C. Beyond GMFT: Gauge fluctuations

The above Raman cross section was obtained within GMFT neglecting the gauge fluctuations. We now consider the effect of long-wavelength gauge fluctuations within a weak-coupling approach for the emergent electrodynamics. At present, it is not clear that such a weak-coupling approach is valid for treating the gauge fluctuations. In fact, the coupling parameter—the fine structure constant—for the emergent electrodynamics is generically expected to be sizeable. However, recent numerical calculations [\[91\]](#page-25-0) on quantum spin ice [via Eq. [\(14\)](#page-6-0)] suggest that the emergent fine-structure constant is ≤ 0.1 , which may suggest that the perturbative expansion could still provide an estimate of the effect of gauge fluctuations.

For the zero-flux case, this is captured by the expansion, $e^{\pm iA_{\mathbf{r},\mu}} \approx (1 \pm iA_{\mathbf{r},\mu})$. Hence [from Eq. [\(B1\)](#page-17-0)], the interaction between monopole and gauge field is given by

$$
H_{\rm GF} = \frac{iJ_{\pm}}{4\sqrt{N}} \sum_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}',\mu \neq \nu} \left[\gamma_B^{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}') A_{\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{k}',\mu} \phi_{\mathbf{k},B}^{\dagger} \phi_{\mathbf{k}',B} \right. \\ \left. + \gamma_A^{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}') A_{\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{k}',\mu} \phi_{\mathbf{k},A}^{\dagger} \phi_{\mathbf{k}',A} \right], \tag{42}
$$

where $A_{\mathbf{k},\mu} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$ $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{\mathbf{r} \in I} A_{\mathbf{r}, \mu} e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}}$. The details of the vertex functions, $\gamma_{A/B}^{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}')$, are given in Appendix [E](#page-21-0) for the zero flux phase. The π -flux phase can be treated in a similar way. There are two (related by Ward identities) effects of the gauge fluctuations– renormalization of the vertex [Fig. $2(a)$] and renormalization of the monopole propagator (Fig. 9), which we discuss in turn.

In the presence of such gauge fluctuations, the vertex functions for the bare phonon-monopole interactions get dressed via the virtual photon exchange processes as described by Fig. $2(a)$. This effect can be taken into account by calculating the modified vertices, $\alpha_k^{(\rho)} + \delta \alpha_k^{(\rho)}$. We compute the leading order corrections by expanding the bare monopole energy about the band minima at $\mathbf{k} = 0$ [Eq. [\(E3\)](#page-21-0)]. Similarly, all the bare vertex functions $[\alpha_{\bf k}^{(e)}, \alpha_{\bf k}^{(t_2)}, \gamma_{A/B}^{\mu\nu}({\bf k}, {\bf k}')]$ are also Taylor expanded in polynomials of momentum and only the leading terms are considered. We note that the terms with higher powers of momentum contribute to more subleading (in temperature) corrections to the mean-field vertices at low temperatures. With the above approximations, the leading frequency-independent corrections to the \mathbf{e}_g and \mathbf{t}_{2g} vertices are obtained as (see Appendix E for further details)

$$
\delta\alpha_{\mathbf{k}}^{(e)} \approx a_0 + \frac{a_1}{\beta^4} + \frac{a_2 e^{-\beta \Delta_0}}{\beta^{\frac{3}{2}}} + k^2 \bigg(\frac{a_3}{\beta^2} + \frac{a_4 e^{-\beta \Delta_0}}{\beta^{\frac{1}{2}}} \bigg),
$$

$$
\delta\alpha_{\mathbf{k}}^{(t_2)} \approx \tilde{a}_0 + \frac{\tilde{a}_1}{\beta^5} + \frac{\tilde{a}_2 e^{-\beta \Delta_0}}{\beta^2} + k^2 \bigg(\frac{\tilde{a}_3}{\beta^3} + \frac{\tilde{a}_4 e^{-\beta \Delta_0}}{\beta} \bigg), \quad (43)
$$

FIG. 10. Self-energy of the phonon due to the phonon- (emergent) photon interaction [see Fig. $2(b)$].

where a_i and \tilde{a}_i are temperature-independent constants. The correction to the linewidth can now be obtained by incorporating these vertex corrections to Eq. (38) . We note that such contributions do not change the dependence of the Raman response on the two-particle density of states of the monopoles. Instead, they modify the temperature dependence and overall profile of the linewidth versus frequency plots (see Fig. [7\)](#page-10-0) obtained from the GMFT ansatz by renormalization of the form factors. However, since the QSL phase is stabilized only at low temperatures, the temperature-dependent vertex corrections merely give rise to a subleading correction to Eq. [\(38\)](#page-9-0) as $T \rightarrow 0$.

Apart from the vertex corrections, the virtual photon exchange due to the gauge fluctuations also renormalizes the monopole self-energy, via processes shown in Fig. [9.](#page-11-0) Such contributions renormalize the bare monopole linewidth as well as its band structure. The broadening of the linewidth is subleading in the low-temperature regime. On the other hand, the renormalization of the band structure modifies the two-particle density of states of monopoles by an amount proportional to the speed of emergent light (c_e) . As a result, the Raman linewidth gets renormalized compared to the GMFT results described in Fig. [7](#page-10-0) via the dressed two-monopole density of states. However, since the large anisotropy of the exchange coupling $(J_{zz} \gg J_{\pm})$ ensures $\Delta_0 \gg c_e$ [\[72](#page-24-0)[,87,91\]](#page-25-0), such effects are small. The large gap of the magnetic monopoles in QSL phase preserves the essential features of the Raman response obtained in the GMFT ansatz.

VIII. SELF-ENERGY OF THE PHONON DUE TO PHONON-PHOTON COUPLING

Similar to the Raman response due to the phononmonopole coupling, the leading contribution to the phonon linewidth due to phonon-photon interaction [see Eq. [\(24\)](#page-8-0)] can be computed from the Feynman diagram shown in Fig. 10 appearing in the second-order perturbation theory. However, we note that the presence of the background electric flux does not change the low-energy photon dispersion, hence the phonon linewidth due to the photons remains similar in both the zero- and π -flux QSLs discussed above. The self-energy of the phonon is given by

$$
\Sigma_{\zeta^{(e)}}(\mathbf{q}, i\Omega) = \frac{1}{\beta^2} \sum_{\mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3, \mathbf{k}_4} \sum_{\Omega_2 \Omega_3 \Omega_4} \mathcal{G}^{\beta \gamma}(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3, \mathbf{k}_4) \mathcal{G}^{\mu \nu}
$$

× (\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3, \mathbf{k}_4) \delta(\Omega + \Omega_2 + \Omega_3 + \Omega_4)
× G_{\zeta}(\mathbf{k}_2, \Omega_2) D_{\beta \mu}(\mathbf{k}_3, \Omega_3) D_{\gamma \nu}
× (\mathbf{k}_4, \Omega_4) \delta(\mathbf{q} + \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3 + \mathbf{k}_4). (44)

FIG. 11. Energy dependence of the linewidth of the **eg** phonons due to phonon-(emergent) photon coupling. The energy dependence due to phonon-(emergent) photon coupling. The energy dependence
is shown at different temperatures. $c_e = \sqrt{UK}$ is the velocity of the emergent photons and its density of states is plotted in the inset.

Here $D_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{q}, i\omega)$ denotes the photon propagator which can be calculated from the effective low-energy Hamiltonian of the pure gauge theory given in Eq. [\(14\)](#page-6-0), i.e.,

$$
D_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{q}, i\omega) = -\int_0^\beta d\tau \langle \hat{\mathcal{T}}(A_{\mathbf{q}, \mu}(\tau) A_{-\mathbf{q}, \nu}(0)) \rangle e^{i\omega \tau} = -\frac{U \delta_{\mu\nu}}{\omega^2 + \varepsilon_\mathbf{q}^2}.
$$
(45)

Equation [44] can be further simplified by performing the frequency summation [\[118\]](#page-26-0). For the Raman scattering experiments discussed earlier, we consider only the $q \rightarrow 0$ limit and focus on the imaginary part. Typically, the dispersion for the optical phonon can be approximated as, $\omega_{q} \rightarrow \omega_{0}$. Also, the energy scale of the emergent photon is much smaller than the optical phonon excitations of the pyrochlores [\[32](#page-23-0)[,87](#page-25-0)[,119\]](#page-26-0). Hence, at the low temperatures of the QSL phase, it is fair to consider $n(\omega_0) \ll n(\varepsilon_k)$. Setting $n(\omega_0) = 0$ in the leading approximation, the contribution to the phonon linewidth is obtained as

$$
\Gamma(0, E) = \frac{\pi (J_{\text{ph-ph}} U)^2}{2N} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} [\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k} \delta_{\beta\gamma} - k^{\beta} k^{\gamma}]^2
$$

$$
\times \frac{1}{4\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^2} [\delta(E + \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}) [n(-E)]^2
$$

$$
+ \delta(E - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}) [1 + n(E)]^2
$$

$$
+ \delta(E) 2n(\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}) [n(\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}) + 1]], \qquad (46)
$$

where $E = (\Omega - \omega_0)/2$. It is clear from the above expression that the Raman response occurs around $\Omega = \omega_0$ due to the gaplessness of the photons, which is different from the frequency window at which the magnetic monopole signatures occur [see the schematic of Fig. $1(e)$]. For small positive energies E , the above expression is further simplified to

$$
\Gamma(0, E) \propto E^4 (1 + n(E))^2. \tag{47}
$$

For the higher energy regime, the photon band structure starts deviating from the linear behavior and the above form is no longer valid. The complete energy dependence of the above contribution to the linewidth is shown in Fig. 11 for

FIG. 12. Self-energy of the phonon due to the phonon-electric charge interaction (see Fig. [5\)](#page-8-0).

different temperatures, where we have used the lattice regularized dispersion for the emergent photons [\[72](#page-24-0)[,87\]](#page-25-0). Apart from the usual dipolar form factor, the linewidth profile is mostly sensitive to the photon density of states, which is shown in the inset of Fig. [11.](#page-12-0)

IX. SELF-ENERGY OF THE PHONON DUE TO PHONON-ELECTRIC CHARGE COUPLING

The final contribution to the phonon self-energy in the QSL phase arises from scattering of the phonons off the electric charges. Again, assuming weak coupling between the charges and the gauge field, we compute the phonon linewidth due to Eq. [\(26\)](#page-8-0) using GMFT. As we have already seen, this interaction is very similar to that between phonons and monopoles. Hence, the contribution to the phonon self-energy also comes from similar Feynman diagrams as shown in Fig. 12. There are two possible scattering channels for electric charge-phonon interactions—absorption of a phonon by a charge or annihilation of a phonon followed by pair production of charges (with charge ± 1). Similar to monopoles, only the second process is relevant here. Therefore, $\Gamma \sim \Theta(|\Omega| - 2\Delta_c)$, and the linewidth versus frequency profile closely follows the twoparticle density of states of the electric charges. This is shown in Fig. 13 for $t/m = 0.2$ as an illustrative example (However, in Fig. 13 for $t/m = 0.2$ as an illustrative example (However, it can be chosen from any value that satisfies, $m > 2\sqrt{2}t$, defining the validity of the QSL description, and the profile remains qualitatively unchanged). Clearly, the Raman response due to the phonon-charge coupling has a threshold energy scale of ∼2∆_c which is a different energy scale compared to the response due to magnetic monopoles and photons [see the schematic of Fig. $1(e)$].

FIG. 13. Two-particle density of states of the charges. For illustrative purposes, we have chosen $t/m = 0.2$ where $\Delta_c/m = 0.43$.

X. BILINEAR COUPLING

Having discussed the effects of the linear magnetoelastic coupling in the QSL phase, we now briefly discuss the more familiar contribution to the Raman response of the phonons arising due to magnetoelastic interaction. This is present both in Kramers and non-Kramers systems, as it arises due to modulation of the spin-exchange interactions via the phonons and can be obtained from the bare spin Hamiltonian of Eq. [\(3\)](#page-4-0) by Taylor expanding the exchange coupling constants in powers of lattice displacements $(\delta_{\mu\nu})$ from the ionic equilibrium position $(\mathbf{R}_{\mu\nu})$ [\[120\]](#page-26-0) as

$$
J_{\alpha}^{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{r}) = J_{\alpha} + \frac{\partial J_{\alpha}^{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{r})}{\partial R_{\mu\nu}^{a}} \delta_{\mu\nu}^{a}(\mathbf{r}) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^{2} J_{\alpha}^{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{r})}{\partial R_{\mu\nu}^{a}} \delta_{R_{\mu\nu}}^{a}(\mathbf{r}) \delta_{\mu\nu}^{b}(\mathbf{r}). \tag{48}
$$

Here, $J^{\mu\nu}_{\alpha}(\mathbf{r})$ denotes the generic bond dependent exchange coupling constant on the bond of the pyrochlore connecting sites (\mathbf{r}, μ) and (\mathbf{r}, ν) . Here, (\mathbf{r}, μ) denotes the position vector of the four spins sitting on the corners of the tetrahedron with its center at **r** for $\mu = 0, 1, 2, 3$, with α representing *zz* or \pm interactions, and

$$
R_{\mu\nu}^a = (\mathbf{r}, \mu)^a - (\mathbf{r}, \nu)^a, \quad (a = x, y, z),
$$

$$
\delta_{\mu\nu}^a = R_{\mu\nu}^a - \bar{R}_{\mu\nu}^a.
$$

Substituting Eq. (48) in the spin Hamiltonian of Eq. (3) , we get the coupling between the phonons and spin bilinears,

$$
H_{\rm sp}^{\rm quad} = H_1 + H_2,\tag{49}
$$

where H_1 and H_2 represent the interaction vertices linear and quadratic in phonons, respectively. Their detailed forms are given by Eqs. $(F1)$ and $(F2)$ in Appendix [F.](#page-21-0) A unitary transformation can be performed on the displacement operators, *δ*_{μν}(**r**), to rewrite it in the normal mode coordinates, $\zeta^{(ρ)}(\mathbf{r})$, described in Sec. [III.](#page-4-0) The above interaction is rewritten in terms of the fractionalized degrees of freedom in a QSL phase using the parton decomposition of spins as described in Sec. [IV.](#page-5-0) Within GMFT, the quadratic magnetoelastic coupling between the phonons and emergent excitations of the QSL is described by Figs. [14](#page-14-0) and [15](#page-14-0) [also see Eqs. $(F3)$ and $(F4)$ in Appendix [F\]](#page-21-0).

The phonon-magnetic monopole vertex arising from the quadratic coupling is shown in Fig. [14](#page-14-0) where (a) and (b) panels show the contribution from H_1 and (c) and (d) panels show the contribution from H_2 . It is clear from these diagrams that such magnetoelastic coupling gives rise to the hopping of the monopoles which preserves the monopole flavor, i.e., monopoles on *A* and *B* sublattices do not mix under this dynamics. This feature can be contrasted with the monopole dynamics due to the linear magnetoelastic coupling described earlier in Eqs. (20) and (21) .

The quadratic coupling also generates a coupling between phonons and emergent photons, which is shown in Fig. [15](#page-14-0) with [\(a\)](#page-14-0) and [\(b\)](#page-14-0) panels depicting contributions from H_1 and *H*2, respectively. In contrast to the linear coupling case, the phonons now couple to the gauge-invariant magnetic field. As expected from time-reversal invariance of the phonons,

FIG. 14. Feynman diagram for phonon and magnetic monopole interaction due to the spin-phonon coupling quadratic in spin operators. (a) and (b) are the contributions from H_1 and (c) and (d) are the contributions from H_2 [see Eqs. [\(F3\)](#page-21-0) and [\(F4\)](#page-22-0)].

the magnetic field appears only at quadratic order in such couplings. We also note that the process shown in Fig. $15(a)$ is in the single phonon scattering channel, which was not present in the previous case.

Similar to the linear magnetoelastic interaction, the quadratic coupling also renormalizes the phonon frequency and linewidth by opening the decay channels for phonons depicted in Figs. 14 and 15. However, these additional scattering channels do not change the essential features of the Raman linewidth, and its frequency dependence on the density of states of emergent excitations remains unchanged. In non-Kramers materials, this contribution is expected to be subdominant compared to the phonon renormalization due to the linear spin-phonon coupling. However, we note that the quadratic coupling is the only component of the magnetoelastic coupling present in Kramers materials.

FIG. 15. Feynman diagram for phonon and photon interaction due to the spin-phonon coupling quadratic in spin operators. The circles represent the form factor that makes the vertex gauge invariant. (a) and (b) are contributions due to H_1 and H_2 , respectively [see Eqs. [\(F3\)](#page-21-0) and [\(F4\)](#page-22-0)].

XI. SELF-ENERGY CALCULATION IN (THERMAL) PARAMAGNETIC REGIME

Finally, to contrast the case of the QSL to an ordinary paramagnet, we compute the self-energy of phonon in the high-temperature paramagnetic regime, where $T \gg J_{zz}$ such that the thermal fluctuations predominate. In this thermal paramagnet, due to the presence of abundant thermally excited both electric charges and magnetic monopoles, they cease to be well-defined (sparse) quasiparticles, instead presenting randomly fluctuating background fields. In such a case, individual monopoles or charges cannot propagate coherently, and, the deconfined $U(1)$ gauge theory no longer is a valid description of the system. Instead of using the emergent excitations, the dressed self-energy due to the spin-phonon interaction [as described in Eq. (6) and (7)] is now computed in terms of the original short-range correlated spin degrees of freedom. The phonon self-energy due to the linear spinphonon coupling is given, e.g., for **eg** modes, by

$$
\Sigma_{\zeta^{(e)}}(\mathbf{q}, i\Omega) = -J_{sp}^{(e)2} \sum_{\alpha=x, y} \sum_{\mu, v=0}^{3} \left[\eta_{\mu v}^{(e)}(\mathbf{q}) \kappa_{\mu v}^{\alpha \alpha}(\mathbf{q}, i\Omega) + \eta_{\mu v}^{(e)}(-\mathbf{q}) \kappa_{\mu v}^{\alpha \alpha}(-\mathbf{q}, -i\Omega) \right],
$$
\n(50)

where

$$
\kappa^{\alpha\beta}_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{q},i\omega) = \int_0^\beta d\tau \langle \hat{\mathcal{T}}(s^\alpha_\mu(\mathbf{q},\tau)s^\beta_\nu(-\mathbf{q},0)) \rangle_0 e^{i\omega\tau} \qquad (51)
$$

is the time-ordered spin correlation function and $\eta_{\mu\nu}^{(e)}(\mathbf{q})$ is the form factor for the \mathbf{e}_g mode. Similar expressions hold for \mathbf{t}_{2g} modes as discussed in Appendix [G.](#page-22-0)

From the bare spin Hamiltonian, we expect the spincorrelations to be diagonal in the spin indices [defined using the local quantisation axes given by Eqs. $(A1)$ and $(A2)$], i.e., $\kappa_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{q}, i\omega) = \delta_{\alpha\beta} \kappa_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{q}, i\omega)$. Further, in this thermal paramagnetic phase, the spins are incoherent and, therefore, the spin correlations are dominated by the short time values which we replace by the equal time correlators, which in turn can be computed from the high-temperature expansion using the bare spin-exchange Hamiltonian. The leading contribution is given by

$$
\langle s_{\mathbf{r}}^x s_{\mathbf{r}'}^x \rangle_0 = \langle s_{\mathbf{r}}^y s_{\mathbf{r}'}^y \rangle_0 \approx e^{-\frac{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}{\xi}},\tag{52}
$$

where $\xi \sim l/\ln(\frac{T}{J_{\pm}})$ is the finite correlation length in the paramagnetic phase. Taking the Fourier transform and substituting it in Eq. (50) , we obtain

$$
\Sigma_{\zeta^{(\rho)}}(\mathbf{q}, i\Omega) \propto -\frac{J_{\rm sp}^{(\rho)2}\xi^3 \beta}{(1+q^2\xi^2)^2}.
$$
 (53)

The above expression is purely real and hence contributes only to a Raman frequency shift that decays inversely with temperature.

Therefore, the leading effect of the spin-phonon coupling is to renormalize the phonon energy while its lifetime receives subleading contributions. Therefore, the Raman linewidth for the phonons acquires an anomalous broadening while going from the high-temperature paramagnetic phase to the lowtemperature QSL. This leads to the question: What happens to the linewidth at the thermal confinement-deconfinement phase

FIG. 16. Feynman diagram for the phonon mediated Loudon-Fleury vertex for magnetic monopoles. The curly lines denote the external Raman photons. The first and second diagrams show the coupling of phonon to external photon [see Eq. $(C1)$] and magnetic monopole, respectively. Integrating out the phonons, the external photon-monopole [see Eq. [\(H3\)](#page-22-0)] vertex is obtained which is shown in the rightmost panel.

transition between the low-temperature quantum and hightemperature thermal paramagnets? This is an interesting and experimentally relevant question which will be very useful to understand in the future.

XII. PHONON-MEDIATED LOUDON-FLEURY VERTEX

In addition to the renormalization of optical phonons, the magnetoelastic coupling can further mediate interaction between the external Raman photons and the magnetic degrees of freedom. Such interactions are of particular interest in those materials where the phonon has a very different energy scale compared to the QSL excitations [\[32,](#page-23-0)[92\]](#page-25-0). In such a scenario, the renormalized Raman vertex is obtained by integrating out the phonons leading to a *phonon mediated Loudon-Fleury* vertex.

As explained in the earlier sections, the external photons of the Raman experiment probe the phonons of the system [via Eq. [\(28\)](#page-8-0)], which further couple to the fractionalized excitations via the magnetoelastic coupling [see Eqs. (20) , (21) , [\(24\)](#page-8-0), and [\(26\)](#page-8-0)]. Therefore, integrating out the phonons leads to an interaction between the external photons and the emergent electrodynamics [see Eqs. [\(H3\)](#page-22-0) and [\(H4\)](#page-22-0) in Appendix [H](#page-22-0) for further details] as shown schematically in Fig. 16 for the leading interaction between external photons and magnetic monopoles. The vertices for the other emergent excitations are detailed in Appendix [H.](#page-22-0)

Typically, all the phonon-mediated vertices are suppressed by the energy scale of an optical phonon and would lead to corrections to the usual Loudon-Fleury vertices described in Ref. [\[87\]](#page-25-0). Raman intensity due to such processes is obtained by calculating the imaginary part of the bubble diagram

FIG. 17. Feynman diagram contributing to the Raman intensity due to the *phonon mediated Loudon-Fleury* vertex for magnetic monopoles.

shown in Fig. 17. It is clear from the diagram that the resulting monopole bubble is exactly same as the one obtained (see Fig. [6\)](#page-9-0) earlier. Therefore, the Raman intensity due to the *phonon-mediated Loudon-Fleury* processes are sensitive to the two-monopole density of states in the QSL phase and it can in principle also characterize the physics of spin fractionalization even if the phonon is off-resonant to the quasiparticles of the QSL phase.

XIII. SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

To summarize, our results emphasize that magnetoelastic coupling can provide a very useful tool to probe the novel lowenergy excitations of a QSL via spectroscopic methods such as Raman spectroscopy. We provide an explicit example of such a case in the context of non-Kramers candidate quantum spin ices, such as the recently studied material $Pr₂Zr₂O₇$. In such systems, the spin-phonon interaction is enhanced due to the presence of *linear* spin-phonon coupling, which is an essential consequence of the non-Kramers nature of the low-energy magnetic degrees of freedom. We show that in the $U(1)$ QSL phase of the quantum spin ice, all the emergent excitations—the emergent gapped magnetic and electric charges as well as gapless emergent photons—interact with the phonons, leading to additional scattering channels for the latter and resulting in an anomalous renormalization of its frequency and lifetime. Such renormalizations are very different from those arising due to the anharmonic effects or spin-wave excitations of a magnetically ordered state. We note that the effect of the linear coupling discussed here can open up a complementary probe for the QSL excitations in non-Kramers spin ice through acoustic phonons via ultrasound velocity measurement.

We characterize all three types of excitations by studying the frequency dependence of the Raman linewidth of the relevant phonon modes, which in turn depend on the two-particle density of states of the respective excitations. Therefore, they carry characteristic signatures of the fractionalization. Since in the quantum spin ice phase, the magnetic sectors and the electric sectors are naturally separated in energy, the Raman response also appears in different energy windows for these degrees of freedom alongside the gapless emergent photon to which both the charges couple.

Moreover, it is further shown that such probes can also distinguish between zero-flux and π -flux phases of a QSL, and hence the PSG implementation realized in the QSL. The results remain valid even if the phonon frequencies are much larger than those of QSL excitations via renormalization of the Raman vertex for the spins. Such *phonon-mediated Loudon-Fleury* contributions are expected to be the leading contributor to the Raman response in non-Kramers quantum spin ice. Given the recent development in synthesising high-quality single crystals of $Pr₂Zr₂O₇$ and obtaining their Raman response, albeit so far only at high temperatures, we hope that our work will contribute to the uncovering of the experimental signatures of QSLs in the context of the search for fractionalized quantum phases of matter in $d = 3$.

The present calculations use a generalized mean-field theory applied to lattice gauge theory. While such approaches can generally provide the correct description of the physics of the QSL qualitatively, fluctuations of the emergent $U(1)$ gauge field will affect the quantitative comparison of the present results with experiments. While a perturbative (in the gaugematter coupling) calculation, presented here, shows that such effects are subdominant, the premise of the smallness of the coupling is an assumption of the present paper. In fact, there are indications that the coupling between matter (monopoles) and light (photons) is larger in spin ice than in ordinary QED, as well as tunable from material to material, calling for a research program addressing the phenomenology of eQED at intermediate to strong coupling [\[91\]](#page-25-0). The deviation of the present results due to strong gauge-matter interactions provides an important and interesting theoretical as well as experimental context to study strong-coupling eQED. In this regard, experimental deviations of the above Raman signatures in candidate materials will provide concrete motivation to understand concrete experimental consequence of such a strongly coupled emergent QED. Such a research program would obviously be of interest well beyond the spin-ice setting.

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APPENDIX A: DETAILS OF THE PYROCHLORE LATTICE

1. Local basis for the spins

The spins on a tetrahedron are described by

$$
\mathbf{s}_{i} = s_{i}^{x} \hat{x}_{i} + s_{i}^{y} \hat{y}_{i} + s_{i}^{z} \hat{z}_{i}, \tag{A1}
$$

where $(\hat{x}_i, \hat{y}_i, \hat{z}_i)$ is the set of local basis defined at site *i* of a tetrahedron(see Fig. [3\)](#page-4-0). In terms of the global coordinates, these local basis vectors for an up tetrahedron are given by

$$
\hat{z}_0 = \frac{(1, 1, 1)}{\sqrt{3}}, \quad \hat{x}_0 = \frac{(\bar{2}, 1, 1)}{\sqrt{6}}, \quad \hat{y}_0 = \frac{(0, \bar{1}, 1)}{\sqrt{2}},
$$

$$
\hat{z}_1 = \frac{(\bar{1}, \bar{1}, 1)}{\sqrt{3}}, \quad \hat{x}_1 = \frac{(2, \bar{1}, 1)}{\sqrt{6}}, \quad \hat{y}_1 = \frac{(0, 1, 1)}{\sqrt{2}},
$$

$$
\hat{z}_2 = \frac{(\bar{1}, 1, \bar{1})}{\sqrt{3}}, \quad \hat{x}_2 = \frac{(2, 1, \bar{1})}{\sqrt{6}}, \quad \hat{y}_2 = \frac{(0, \bar{1}, \bar{1})}{\sqrt{2}},
$$

$$
\hat{z}_3 = \frac{(1, \bar{1}, \bar{1})}{\sqrt{3}}, \quad \hat{x}_3 = \frac{(\bar{2}, \bar{1}, \bar{1})}{\sqrt{6}}, \quad \hat{y}_3 = \frac{(0, 1, \bar{1})}{\sqrt{2}}.
$$
 (A2)

2. Lattice vectors

The four nearest-neighbor vectors, which connect the center of an up tetrahedron to that of its adjacent down tetrahedra,

TABLE I. Transformation of the transverse components of spins under lattice symmetries and time reversal.

Symmetry	Transformation of spin operators
$C_3[111]$	$s_0^x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}s_0^x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_0^y$; $s_0^y \rightarrow -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_0^x - \frac{1}{2}s_0^y$
	$s_1^x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}s_2^x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_2^y$; $s_1^y \rightarrow -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_2^x - \frac{1}{2}s_2^y$
	$s_2^x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}s_3^x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_3^y$; $s_2^y \rightarrow -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_3^x - \frac{1}{2}s_3^y$
	$s_3^x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}s_1^x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_1^y$; $s_3^y \rightarrow -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_1^x - \frac{1}{2}s_1^y$
$C2$ [2]	$s_0^x \rightarrow s_1^x$; $s_0^y \rightarrow s_1^y$
	$s_1^x \rightarrow s_0^x$; $s_1^y \rightarrow s_0^y$
	$s_2^x \rightarrow s_3^x$; $s_2^y \rightarrow s_3^y$
	$s_3^x \rightarrow s_2^x$; $s_3^y \rightarrow s_2^y$
$\sigma_d[x = y]$	$s_0^x \to -\frac{1}{2}s_0^x - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_0^y$; $s_0^y \to -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_0^x + \frac{1}{2}s_0^y$
	$s_1^x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}s_1^x - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_1^y$; $s_1^y \rightarrow -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_1^x + \frac{1}{2}s_1^y$
	$s_2^x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}s_3^x - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_3^y$; $s_2^y \rightarrow -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_3^x + \frac{1}{2}s_3^y$
	$s_3^x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}s_2^x - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_2^y$; $s_3^y \rightarrow -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_2^x + \frac{1}{2}s_2^y$
$S_4[\hat{z}]$	$s_0^x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}s_2^x - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_2^y$; $s_0^y \rightarrow -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_2^x + \frac{1}{2}s_2^y$
	$s_1^x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}s_3^x - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_3^y$; $s_1^y \rightarrow -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_3^x + \frac{1}{2}s_3^y$
	$s_2^x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}s_1^x - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_1^y$; $s_2^y \rightarrow -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_1^x + \frac{1}{2}s_1^y$
	$s_3^x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}s_0^x - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_0^y$; $s_3^y \rightarrow -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s_0^x + \frac{1}{2}s_0^y$
Т	$s_0^x \rightarrow s_0^x$; $s_0^y \rightarrow s_0^y$
	$s_1^x \rightarrow s_1^x$; $s_1^y \rightarrow s_1^y$
	$s_2^x \rightarrow s_2^x$; $s_2^y \rightarrow s_2^y$
	$s_3^x \rightarrow s_3^x$; $s_3^y \rightarrow s_3^y$

are given by

$$
\mathbf{e_0} = \frac{(1, 1, 1)}{\sqrt{3}}, \quad \mathbf{e_1} = \frac{(\overline{1}, \overline{1}, 1)}{\sqrt{3}},
$$

$$
\mathbf{e_2} = \frac{(\overline{1}, 1, \overline{1})}{\sqrt{3}}, \quad \mathbf{e_3} = \frac{(1, \overline{1}, \overline{1})}{\sqrt{3}}.
$$
(A3)

The FCC lattice vectors are given by

$$
\mathbf{d}_{\mu} = \mathbf{e}_0 - \mathbf{e}_{\mu} \quad \text{for} \quad \mu = 1, 2, 3. \tag{A4}
$$

3. Symmetry table for spins

The tetrahedral group, T_d , is made out of 24 symmetry elements which can further be classified into five conjugacy classes. To decompose the vector space of (s_i^x, s_i^y) operators into the irreducible representations (see Sec. [III\)](#page-4-0), we compute their transformations under one representative symmetry transformation from each nontrivial class: $C_3[111]$ [threefold rotation about the global $(1,1,1)$ axis], $C_2[\hat{z}]$ (twofold rotation about the global \hat{z} axis), $\sigma_d[x = y]$ (reflection about the $x = y$ plane), and $S_4[\hat{z}]$ (reflection about the $z = 0$ plane followed by fourfold rotation about the global ˆ*z* axis). This is given in Table I for the transverse spin components, s_i^x and s_i^y . Here we do not consider time-reversal odd s_i^z operators, since these are not relevant to the linear magnetoelastic coupling.

APPENDIX B: DETAILS OF THE GMFT OF QUANTUM SPIN ICE

The lattice gauge theory description of the spin Hamiltonian in Eq. (3) is given by

$$
H_0 = \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \frac{J_{zz}}{2} \left(\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbf{r},A}^2 + \mathcal{Q}_{\mathbf{r},B}^2 \right)
$$

$$
- \frac{J_{\pm}}{4} \sum_{\mathbf{r}, \mu \neq \nu} \phi_{\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{d}_{\mu},B}^{\dagger} e^{i(A_{\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}} - A_{\mathbf{r},\mu})} \phi_{\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{r},B}}
$$

$$
- \frac{J_{\pm}}{4} \sum_{\mathbf{r}, \mu \neq \nu} \phi_{\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{d}_{\mu},A}^{\dagger} e^{i(A_{\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{d}_{\mu},\mu} - A_{\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{d}_{\nu},\nu})} \phi_{\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{r},A}}, \quad (B1)
$$

subject to the hard-core constraint

$$
\phi_{\mathbf{r}}^{\dagger} \phi_{\mathbf{r}} = 1, \tag{B2}
$$

arising from the spin-1/2 Hilbert space dimension of the non-Kramers doublet. In Eq. (B1), *A*, *B* denote two sublattices of the diamond lattice. \mathbf{d}_{μ} s ($\mu = 1, 2, 3$) are the lattice vectors and $\mathbf{d}_0 = 0$ (see Appendix [A 2\)](#page-16-0).

1. GMFT of monopole dynamics in the zero-flux phase

To implement the unitary constraint of the monopole operators described by Eq. $(B2)$, we introduce a new term to the Hamiltonian with a global Lagrange multiplier, λ :

$$
\lambda \sum_{\mathbf{r}} (\phi_{\mathbf{r}}^{\dagger} \phi_{\mathbf{r}} - 1). \tag{B3}
$$

The constraint is imposed softly if we consider λ to be a large number (more precisely, it needs to be the largest energy scale of the problem). With this term, the constraint can be relaxed by rewriting monopole operators as $\phi_{\mathbf{r}}^{\dagger} = e^{i\chi_{\mathbf{r}}}$ (where $\chi_{\mathbf{r}}$ takes real eigenvalues from $(0, 2\pi)$ and satisfies $[\chi_{\bf r}, \mathcal{Q}_{\bf r'}] = i\delta_{\bf r, \bf r'}$ and expanding it up to linear order of χ**r**:

$$
\phi_{\mathbf{r}}^{\dagger} \approx 1 + i \chi_{\mathbf{r}}.\tag{B4}
$$

Substituting the above expansion in the bare monopole Hamiltonian [obtained by freezing the dual gauge fluctuations in Eq. $(B1)$] along with the Lagrange multiplier term, we obtain

$$
H_0 \approx \frac{J_{zz}}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} Q_{\mathbf{r},B}^2 - \frac{J_{\pm}}{4} \sum_{\mathbf{r}, \mu \neq \nu} \chi_{\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{d}_{\mu}, B} \chi_{\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{d}_{\nu}, B}
$$

$$
+ \lambda \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \chi_{\mathbf{r},B} \chi_{\mathbf{r},B} + B \to A
$$

$$
= \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \left[\frac{J_{zz}}{2} |\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbf{k},B}|^2 + \frac{(\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^0)^2}{2J_{zz}} |\chi_{\mathbf{k},B}|^2 \right] + B \to A, \quad (B5)
$$

where ϵ_k^0 is the bare monopole dispersion in the zero flux sector and given by Eq. (16) . In the above equation, we ignore the unimportant additive constant. We note that the above Hamiltonian describes a bunch of decoupled Harmonic oscillators which can be easily diagonlized using the standard ladder operator formalism:

$$
Q_{\mathbf{k},A/B} = -i \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^0}{2J_{zz}}} (a_{\mathbf{k},A/B} - a_{-\mathbf{k},A/B}^\dagger),
$$

$$
\chi_{\mathbf{k},A/B} = \sqrt{\frac{J_{zz}}{2\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^0}} (a_{\mathbf{k},A/B} + a_{-\mathbf{k},A/B}^\dagger),
$$

FIG. 18. Unit cell of the diamond lattice with π flux. The gauge mean field is chosen such that $A_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}+\mathbf{e}_{\mu}} = \pi$ on the yellow bonds and $A_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}+\mathbf{e}_{\mu}} = 0$ on the black bonds. *A*1, *A*2, *B*1, *B*2 denote the four sublattices in the enlarged unit cell of the π -flux phase.

The monopole Hamiltonian is simplified to

$$
H_0 = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^0 (a_{\mathbf{k},A}^\dagger a_{\mathbf{k},A} + a_{\mathbf{k},B}^\dagger a_{\mathbf{k},B} + 1). \tag{B6}
$$

a. Action for the magnetic monopoles

We can obtain the action for the monopoles corresponding to the mean-field Hamiltonian H_0 using standard Trotter decomposition technique and implementing the unitary constraint of ϕ_r field via the Lagrange multiplier term in the path integral formulation. We note that since *A* and *B* monopoles are decoupled in the mean-field Hamiltonian, their action is additive:

$$
S_0 = S_0^A + S_0^B,
$$

\n
$$
S_0^A = \sum_{\mathbf{k},\omega} \phi_{\mathbf{k}\omega,A}^* \left[\frac{\omega^2}{2J_{zz}} + \lambda - \frac{J_{\pm}}{2} \sum_{\mu > \nu} \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{\mu} - \mathbf{d}_{\nu})) \right] \phi_{\mathbf{k}\omega,A},
$$

\n
$$
S_0^B = \sum_{\mathbf{k},\omega} \phi_{\mathbf{k}\omega,B}^* \left[\frac{\omega^2}{2J_{zz}} + \lambda - \frac{J_{\pm}}{2} \sum_{\mu > \nu} \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{\mu} - \mathbf{d}_{\nu})) \right] \phi_{\mathbf{k}\omega,B}.
$$
\n(B7)

We can further compute the Green's function for monopoles from the above action which is given by Eq. (36) of the main text.

2. GMFT of monopole dynamics in the π **– flux phase**

The bare dynamics of the magnetic monopoles in the π flux phase can be obtained by choosing a suitable gauge fixing condition shown in Fig. 18. It can further be written as *A***r**, $\mu = \epsilon_{\mu} \mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{r}$ with $\epsilon_{\mu} = \{0, 1, 1, 0\}$ and $\mathbf{Q} = \frac{\sqrt{3}\pi}{2}(1, 0, 0)$. Similar to the zero-flux case, the monopoles can hop only inside the *A* or *B* sublattice. Hence, the monopole dynamics can be expressed in terms of the following action:

$$
S_{\pi} = S_{\pi}^{A} + S_{\pi}^{B},
$$
\n
$$
S_{\pi}^{A} = \sum_{\mathbf{k},\omega} (\phi_{\mathbf{k}\omega,A1}^{*} \ \phi_{\mathbf{k}\omega,A2}^{*}) \left(\frac{\omega^{2}}{2J_{z}} + \lambda + \frac{J_{\pm}}{4} d_{A}(\mathbf{k}) \frac{J_{\pm}}{4} f_{A}(\mathbf{k})}{\frac{J_{\pm}}{2J_{z}} + \lambda - \frac{J_{\pm}}{4} d_{A}(\mathbf{k})} \right) \left(\phi_{\mathbf{k}\omega,A1} \right),
$$
\n(B8)

$$
S_{\pi}^{B} = \sum_{\mathbf{k},\omega} (\phi_{\mathbf{k}\omega,B1}^{*} \; \; \phi_{\mathbf{k}\omega,B2}^{*}) \left(\frac{\omega^{2}}{2J_{zz}} + \lambda + \frac{J_{\pm}}{4} d_{B}(\mathbf{k}) \; \; \frac{J_{\pm}}{4} f_{B}(\mathbf{k})}{\frac{J_{\pm}}{4} f_{B}^{*}(\mathbf{k})} \right) \left(\phi_{\mathbf{k}\omega,B1} \right) \left(\phi_{\mathbf{k}\omega,B2} \right) \tag{B9}
$$

where

$$
d_{A}(\mathbf{k}) = 2(\cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{1}) + \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{1} - \mathbf{d}_{3}))),
$$

\n
$$
f_{A}(\mathbf{k}) = 1 + e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{1}} + e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{2}} - e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{3}} + e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{1} + \mathbf{d}_{2})} - e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{3} - \mathbf{d}_{1})} + e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{2} + \mathbf{d}_{3})} + e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{2} + \mathbf{d}_{3} - \mathbf{d}_{1})},
$$

\n
$$
d_{B}(\mathbf{k}) = 2(\cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{1}) - \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{1} - \mathbf{d}_{3}))),
$$

\n
$$
f_{B}(\mathbf{k}) = 1 - e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{1}} + e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{2}} + e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{3}} + e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{1} + \mathbf{d}_{2})} - e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{3} - \mathbf{d}_{1})} + e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{2} + \mathbf{d}_{3})} + e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{2} + \mathbf{d}_{3} - \mathbf{d}_{1})}.
$$

λ is the global Lagrange multiplier introduced to take into account the constraint $φ_1^{\dagger}φ_1 = 1$. (*A*1, *A*2, *B*1, *B*2) denotes four sublattices of the enlarged unit cell. The above action can further be diagonalized to obtain the dispersion for four monopole band,

$$
\epsilon_{A\pm}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}) = \sqrt{2J_{zz}\left(\lambda \pm \frac{J_{\pm}}{4}\sqrt{|d_A(\mathbf{k})|^2 + |f_A(\mathbf{k})|^2}\right)},
$$

\n
$$
\epsilon_{B\pm}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}) = \sqrt{2J_{zz}\left(\lambda \pm \frac{J_{\pm}}{4}\sqrt{|d_B(\mathbf{k})|^2 + |f_B(\mathbf{k})|^2}\right)},
$$
\n(B10)

where $A \pm (B \pm)$ denote two bands made out of linear combination of *A*1 and *A*2 (*B*1 and *B*2) to diagonalize the S^A_π (S^B_π). Since *A* and *B* monopoles do not mix under the above dynamics, their bands are degenerate:

$$
\epsilon_{A\pm}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}) = \epsilon_{B\pm}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}) \equiv \epsilon_{\pm}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}).\tag{B11}
$$

We can compute different Green's function for monopole from the above action of the monopoles. The Green's function is defined as

$$
\left[G_{\phi}^{\pi}\right]_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{k}, A/B, i\omega) = \int_{0}^{\beta} d\tau \langle \hat{\mathcal{T}}(\phi_{\mathbf{k}, A/B, \mu}(\tau) \phi_{\mathbf{k}, A/B, \nu}^{\dagger}(0))\rangle e^{i\omega\tau}, \tag{B12}
$$

where, μ , $\nu = 1, 2$. The different Green's functions are given by

$$
\begin{split}\n\left[G_{\phi}^{\pi}\right]_{11}(\mathbf{k},A/B,i\omega) &= \frac{J_{zz}}{\sqrt{|d_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})|^2 + |f_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})|^2}} \bigg[\frac{\sqrt{|d_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})|^2 + |f_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})|^2} + d_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})}{\omega^2 + (\epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}))^2} + \frac{\sqrt{|d_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})|^2 + |f_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})|^2} - d_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})}{\omega^2 + (\epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}))^2}\bigg], \\
\left[G_{\phi}^{\pi}\right]_{22}(\mathbf{k},A/B,i\omega) &= \frac{J_{zz}}{\sqrt{|d_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})|^2 + |f_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})|^2}} \bigg[\frac{\sqrt{|d_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})|^2 + |f_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})|^2} - d_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})}{\omega^2 + (\epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}))^2} + \frac{\sqrt{|d_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})|^2 + |f_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})|^2} + d_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})}{\omega^2 + (\epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}))^2}\bigg], \\
\left[G_{\phi}^{\pi}\right]_{12}(\mathbf{k},A/B,i\omega) &= \frac{J_{zz}f_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})}{\sqrt{|d_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})|^2 + |f_{A/B}(\mathbf{k})|^2}} \bigg[\frac{1}{\omega^2 + (\epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}))^2} - \frac{1}{\omega^2 + (\epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}))^2}\bigg].\n\end{split} \tag{B13}
$$

3. The GMFT vertex functions for magnetoelastic coupling in zero-flux case

The vertex functions for the magnetic monopole-phonon interaction vertices of Eqs. [\(20\)](#page-7-0)and [\(21\)](#page-7-0) are given by

$$
\alpha_{\mathbf{k}}^{(e)} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mu} e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{\mu}}, \quad \alpha_{1,\mathbf{k}}^{(t_2)} = \frac{1}{4} (-e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{0}} + e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{1}} + e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{2}} - e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{3}}),
$$
\n
$$
\alpha_{2,\mathbf{k}}^{(t_2)} = \frac{e^{i\frac{\pi}{3}}}{4} (-e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{0}} - e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{1}} + e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{2}} + e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{3}}), \quad \alpha_{3,\mathbf{k}}^{(t_2)} = \frac{e^{-i\frac{\pi}{3}}}{4} (e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{0}} - e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{1}} + e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{2}} - e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{3}}).
$$
\n(B14)

APPENDIX C: VIBRATIONAL RAMAN SPECTROSCOPY

A necessary condition for a phonon mode to be Raman active is that it should have even parity and the phonon contribution to the polarizability tensor (Λ) should oscillate as a function of time. For small amplitude of vibration, we can expand Λ as powers of normal modes [\[116\]](#page-26-0),

$$
\Lambda = \Lambda_0 + \zeta^{(\rho)} \cdot [\nabla_{\zeta^{(\rho)}} \Lambda]_{\zeta^{(\rho)} = 0}, \tag{C1}
$$

where $\zeta^{(\rho)}$ is the phonon modes belonging to ρ irreducible representation of the symmetry group. Λ_0 is the time independent part, hence do not contribute to the Raman scattering. The Raman coupling in Eq. (28) is then given by [\[116\]](#page-26-0)

$$
H_{\text{Raman}} = \sum_{p} \int d\mathbf{k} \ d\mathbf{k}' \left[\nabla_{\zeta_p^{(\rho)}} \Lambda \right]_{\zeta_p^{(\rho)} = 0}^{ij} \omega_{\mathbf{k}}^{\text{out}} \omega_{-\mathbf{k}'}^{\text{out}}
$$

$$
\times \zeta_p^{(\rho)}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}') \mathcal{A}_i^{\text{in}}(\mathbf{k}) \mathcal{A}_j^{\text{out}}(\mathbf{k}'), \tag{C2}
$$

where $A(r)$ is the vector potential corresponding to the external electric field, $\mathbf{E}_{ext}(\mathbf{r})$, – again not to be confused with emergent electromagnetism. **∇***ζ***(***ρ***)** forms a set of symmetric 3×3 matrices which have the same symmetry properties as *ζ***(***ρ***)** . In other words, this set forms an irreducible representation (ρ) of the symmetry group. The detailed structure of the matrices are given below.

1. Raman matrices

Structures of the Raman matrices are obtained by decomposing six dimensional space of second order [\[116\]](#page-26-0) polynomials(x^2 , y^2 , z^2 , *xy*, yz , zx) into the irreducible representations of symmetry group T_d and constructing the Hessian matrices for different components. The decomposition is as follows:

$$
a_1\oplus e\oplus t_2,
$$

where the basis for the irreducible subspaces are

$$
\mathbf{a_1} : x^2 + y^2 + z^2, \tag{C3}
$$

e:
$$
(2z^2 - x^2 - y^2, x^2 - y^2)
$$
, (C4)

$$
\mathbf{t}_2: (xy, yz, zx). \tag{C5}
$$

Hence, the relevant polarizability matrices of the Raman scattering are given by

$$
\mathbf{e}_{g}: [\nabla_{\zeta_{1,g}^{(e)}} \Lambda]_{\zeta_{1,g}^{(e)}=0} \propto \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix},
$$

$$
[\nabla_{\zeta_{2,g}^{(e)}} \Lambda]_{\zeta_{2,g}^{(e)}=0} \propto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix};
$$
(C6)

FIG. 19. Self-energy bubble diagrams for phonon in π -flux phase. The label $A\mu \rightarrow A\nu$ ($B\alpha \rightarrow B\beta$) implies the $A\mu$ ($B\alpha$) monopole is created in the left vertex and Av ($B\beta$) monopole is annihilated at the right vertex. μ , ν , α , $\beta = 1, 2$, hence, there are 16 possible distinct diagrams.

$$
\mathbf{t}_{2g} : [\nabla_{\zeta_{1,g}^{(t_2)}} \Lambda]_{\zeta_{1,g}^{(t_2)}=0} \propto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},
$$

$$
[\nabla_{\zeta_{2,g}^{(t_2)}} \Lambda]_{\zeta_{2,g}^{(t_2)}=0} \propto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad (C7)
$$

$$
[\nabla_{\zeta_{3,g}^{(t_2)}} \Lambda]_{\zeta_{3,g}^{(t_2)}=0} \propto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.
$$

APPENDIX D: RAMAN RESPONSE IN *π***-FLUX PHASE**

1. Vertex functions of magnetoelastic coupling

The vertex functions $(M_k^{\mu\nu})$ of the magnetic monopolephonon coupling in the π -flux phase [see in Eq. [\(39\)](#page-10-0)] are given by

$$
M_{\mathbf{k}}^{11} = 2(1 + e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_1}), \quad M_{\mathbf{k}}^{12} = 2(1 - e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_1 - \mathbf{d}_3)}),
$$

\n
$$
M_{\mathbf{k}}^{21} = 2(e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_1 + \mathbf{d}_2)} + e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_2 + \mathbf{d}_3)}),
$$
\n(D1)
\n
$$
M_{\mathbf{k}}^{22} = 2(1 - e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_1}).
$$

2. Self-energy of phonons due to magnetic monopoles

Similar to the zero flux case, the self-energy can be obtained by calculating the bubble diagrams appearing in the second-order perturbation theory. The only difference is that due to the larger unit cell, 16 nonequivalent diagrams (see Fig. 19) need to be taken care of.

For convenience, we introduce the following convention:

$$
A\mu \to A\nu
$$

$$
B\alpha \to B\beta
$$

$$
\left(\begin{array}{c} A\mu \to A\nu \\ B\alpha \to B\beta \end{array}\right)
$$

We now compute all the distinct contributions to the phonon self-energy. In the following equations, we group the distinct diagrams along with their Hermitian conjugate:

$$
\begin{pmatrix}\nA1 \rightarrow A1 \\
B1 \rightarrow B1\n\end{pmatrix} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{M_{\mathbf{k}}^{11} M_{-\mathbf{k}}^{12} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}}{\sqrt{|d_{A}|^{2} + |f_{A}|^{2}} \sqrt{|d_{B}|^{2} + |f_{B}|^{2}}} [\left(\sqrt{|d_{A}|^{2} + |f_{A}|^{2}} + d_{A}\right) \left(\sqrt{|d_{B}|^{2} + |f_{B}|^{2}} + d_{B}\right) W_{++} + (\sqrt{|d_{A}|^{2} + |f_{A}|^{2}} + d_{A}) (\sqrt{|d_{B}|^{2} + |f_{B}|^{2}} - d_{B}) W_{+-} + (\sqrt{|d_{A}|^{2} + |f_{A}|^{2}} - d_{A}) \times (\sqrt{|d_{B}|^{2} + |f_{B}|^{2}} + d_{B}) W_{++} + (\sqrt{|d_{A}|^{2} + |f_{A}|^{2}} - d_{A}) (\sqrt{|d_{B}|^{2} + |f_{B}|^{2}} - d_{B}) W_{--}\right),
$$
\n
$$
\begin{pmatrix}\nA1 \rightarrow A1 \\
B1 \rightarrow B2\n\end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix}\nA2 \rightarrow B1\n\end{pmatrix} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{\text{Re}\left(M_{\mathbf{k}}^{11} M_{-\mathbf{k}}^{12} \sqrt{|d_{B}|^{2} + |f_{B}|^{2}} \left[(\sqrt{|d_{A}|^{2} + |f_{A}|^{2}} + d_{A})(W_{++} - W_{+-})\right)\right.}{\sqrt{|d_{A}|^{2} + |f_{A}|^{2}} - d_{A})(W_{+-} - W_{--})},
$$
\n
$$
\begin{pmatrix}\nA1 \rightarrow A1 \\
B2 \rightarrow B2\n\end{pmatrix} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{\text{Re}\left(M_{\mathbf{k}}^{11} M_{-\mathbf{k}}^{12} \sqrt{|d_{B}|^{2} + |f_{B}|^{2}} \left[(\sqrt{|d_{A}|^{2} + |f_{A}|^{2}} + d_{A})(\sqrt{|d_{B}|^{2} + |f_{B}|^{2}} - d_{B})W_{++} + (\sqrt{|d_{A}|^{2} + |f_{B}|^{2}} - d_{B})W_{++} + (\sqrt{|d_{A}|^{2} + |f_{B}|^{2}} - d_{A}) \times (\sqrt{|d_{B}|^{2} + |f_{B}|^{2}} - d_{B}) W_{++} + (\sqrt
$$

There are five other distinct diagrams which can be obtained by replacing $A \rightarrow B$ in the above diagrams (more specifically, second, third, and sixth expressions). Adding up all the above contributions, we obtain

$$
\Sigma_{\zeta^{(e)}}^{\pi}(\mathbf{q}=0,i\Omega) = \frac{J_{\text{sp}}^{(e)2}}{N} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \left[\mathcal{P}_1(\mathbf{k}) W_{++}(\mathbf{k},i\Omega) + \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbf{k}) W_{--}(\mathbf{k},i\Omega) + \mathcal{P}_3(\mathbf{k}) W_{+-}(\mathbf{k},i\Omega) + \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{k}) W_{-+}(\mathbf{k},i\Omega) \right]
$$
(D2)

where $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathbf{k})$, $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbf{k})$, $\mathcal{P}_3(\mathbf{k})$, $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{k})$ are real functions of momentum and

$$
W_{mn}(\mathbf{k}, i\Omega) = -\frac{1}{\beta} \sum_{\omega} \frac{1}{\left(\Omega + \omega\right)^2 + \left(\epsilon_m^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})\right)^2} \frac{1}{\omega^2 + \left(\epsilon_n^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})\right)^2}.
$$
 (D3)

The phonon linewidth is obtained from Eq. (D2) by calculating its imaginary part. Apart from the momentum-dependent form factors, the contribution is mostly dominated by the four *Wmn* terms. Calculating their imaginary parts, we obtain

$$
\lim_{\delta \to 0} \text{Im}(W_{\pm\pm}(\mathbf{k}, \Omega + i\delta)) = \frac{\pi (1 + 2n(\epsilon_{\pm}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})))}{4\epsilon_{\pm}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})^2} [\delta(\Omega + 2\epsilon_{\pm}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})) - \delta(\Omega - 2\epsilon_{\pm}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}))],
$$
\n
$$
\lim_{\delta \to 0} \text{Im}(W_{+-}(\mathbf{k}, \Omega + i\delta)) = \text{Im}(W_{-+}(\mathbf{k}, \Omega + i\delta))
$$
\n
$$
= \frac{\pi (1 + n(\epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})) + n(\epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})))}{4\epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})\epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})} [\delta(\Omega + \epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}) + \epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})) - \delta(\Omega - \epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}) - \epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}))]
$$
\n
$$
+ \frac{\pi (n(\epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})) - n(\epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})))}{4\epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})\epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})} [\delta(\Omega + \epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}) - \epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k})) - \delta(\Omega + \epsilon_{+}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}) - \epsilon_{-}^{\pi}(\mathbf{k}))]. \tag{D4}
$$

Substituting the above expressions in Eq. [\(D2\)](#page-20-0), we obtain the linewidth of the phonon in the π -flux phase due to the phononmagnetic monopole coupling which is given in Eq. [\(41\)](#page-10-0) of the main text.

APPENDIX E: EFFECT OF GAUGE FLUCTUATIONS FOR THE MAGNETIC MONOPOLES

The vertex functions of the photon-magnetic monopole interaction of Eq. [\(42\)](#page-11-0) are given by

$$
\gamma_B^{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') = e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{\mu}} e^{i\mathbf{k}' \cdot \mathbf{d}_{\nu}} - e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{\nu}} e^{i\mathbf{k}' \cdot \mathbf{d}_{\mu}},
$$

\n
$$
\gamma_A^{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') = e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{\mu} - \mathbf{d}_{\nu})} - e^{i\mathbf{k}' \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{\mu} - \mathbf{d}_{\nu})}.
$$
\n(E1)

Due to the photon-monopole interaction, the interaction vertices of phonon-monopole coupling is modified. The leading order contribution to the vertex correction obtained from the perturbative expansion is given by

$$
\delta \alpha^{(\rho)}(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p}, i\Omega, i\omega_m) = -\frac{J_{\pm}^2}{16N^{\frac{3}{2}}} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \sum_{\mu, \nu} \left(\alpha_{\mathbf{k}}^{(\rho)} + \alpha_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{(\rho)} \right) \gamma_B^{\mu}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k} + \mathbf{q}) \gamma_A^{\nu}(\mathbf{k}, -\mathbf{q} + \mathbf{p}) \frac{1}{\beta} \sum_{\omega_n} G_{\phi}(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{q}, B, i\Omega + i\omega_n)
$$

$$
\times D_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{q} - \mathbf{p}, i\Omega + i\omega_n - i\omega_m) G_{\phi}(\mathbf{k}, A, i\omega_n), \tag{E2}
$$

where $\gamma_{A,B}^{\mu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') = \sum_{v \in \mu} \gamma_{A,B}^{\mu v}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}')$.

To further simplify the above expression, we first perform the frequency summation of the above expression using the Matsubara method and then the momentum integrals are computed using the several approximations. The monopole band structure is expanded around the minima at $\mathbf{k} = 0$ up to the first nonzero term,

$$
\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^0 \approx \Delta + m_0 k^2, \tag{E3}
$$

where m_0 is a constant measuring the curvature of the band at $\mathbf{k} = 0$. Further, the vertex functions are also expanded in momentum and approximated to the leading term to obtain from Eq. [\(B14\)](#page-18-0),

$$
|\alpha_{\mathbf{k}}^{(e)}| \approx 2, \quad |\alpha_{\mathbf{k}}^{(t_2)}| = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{p=1}^{3} |\alpha_{p,\mathbf{k}}^{(t_2)}|^2}{3}} \approx \frac{k}{3},\tag{E4}
$$

and from Eq. $(E1)$,

$$
\gamma_A^{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') \approx i(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}') \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{\nu} - \mathbf{d}_{\mu}),
$$

\n
$$
\gamma_B^{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') \approx i(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}') \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{\nu} - \mathbf{d}_{\mu}).
$$
 (E5)

We substitute the above expressions in Eq. $(E2)$. Due to Raman criterion, only $q = 0$ limit is considered. Further, we set $\Omega = \omega_m = 0$ to find the frequ0independent correction. We redefine the notations as

$$
\delta \alpha^{(e)}(0, \mathbf{p}, 0, 0) = \delta \alpha_{\mathbf{p}}^{(e)},
$$

$$
\delta \alpha^{(t_2)}(0, \mathbf{p}, 0, 0) = \delta \alpha_{\mathbf{p}}^{(t_2)}.
$$

Finally, applying all the approximations described above, the leading corrections to the vertex functions are obtained, which is given in Eqs. [\(43\)](#page-11-0).

APPENDIX F: SPIN-PHONON INTERACTION: QUADRATIC IN SPIN OPERATORS

The detailed form of the quadratic spin-phonon coupling, described in Eq. [\(49\)](#page-13-0), is given by

$$
H_1 = \sum_{\mathbf{r}, \mu, \nu} \left(\frac{\partial J_{zz}}{\partial R_{\mu\nu}^a} \delta_{\mu\nu}^a(\mathbf{r}) s_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{e}_{\mu}}^z s_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{e}_{\nu}}^z - \frac{\partial J_{\pm}}{\partial R_{\mu\nu}^a} \delta_{\mu\nu}^a(\mathbf{r}) \left(s_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{e}_{\mu}}^+ s_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{e}_{\nu}}^+ + \text{H.c.} \right) \right), \tag{F1}
$$

$$
H_2 = \sum_{\mathbf{r},\mu,\nu} \left(\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 J_{zz}}{\partial R_{\mu\nu}^a \partial R_{\mu\nu}^b} \delta_{\mu\nu}^a(\mathbf{r}) \delta_{\mu\nu}^b(\mathbf{r}) s_{\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}+\mathbf{e}_{\mu}}^z s_{\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}+\mathbf{e}_{\nu}}^z - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 J_{\pm}}{\partial R_{\mu\nu}^a \partial R_{\mu\nu}^b} \delta_{\mu\nu}^a(\mathbf{r}) \delta_{\mu\nu}^b(\mathbf{r}) (s_{\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}+\mathbf{e}_{\mu}}^+ s_{\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}+\mathbf{e}_{\nu}}^- + \text{H.c.}) \right). \tag{F2}
$$

Further, the above interactions can be rewritten in terms of the fractionalized degrees of freedom in a QSL phase using the parton decomposition of spins described in Sec. [IV.](#page-5-0) Within GMFT approximation, it is given by

$$
H_{1} = \sum_{\mathbf{r},\mu,\nu} \left(\frac{\partial J_{zz}}{\partial R_{\mu\nu}^{a}} \delta_{\mu\nu}^{a}(\mathbf{r}, A) B_{\mathbf{r},\mu} B_{\mathbf{r},\nu} + \frac{\partial J_{zz}}{\partial R_{\mu\nu}^{a}} \delta_{\mu\nu}^{a}(\mathbf{r}, B) B_{\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{d}_{\mu},\mu} B_{\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{d}_{\nu},\nu} - \frac{\partial J_{\pm}}{\partial R_{\mu\nu}^{a}} \delta_{\mu\nu}^{a}(\mathbf{r}, A) \left(\phi_{\mathbf{r}+\mathbf{d}_{\mu},B}^{\dagger} \phi_{\mathbf{r}+\mathbf{d}_{\mu},B} + \text{H.c.} \right) - \frac{\partial J_{\pm}}{\partial R_{\mu\nu}^{a}} \delta_{\mu\nu}^{a}(\mathbf{r}, B) \left(\phi_{\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{d}_{\mu},A}^{\dagger} \phi_{\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{d}_{\mu},A} + \text{H.c.} \right) \right), \tag{F3}
$$

$$
H_{2} = \sum_{\mathbf{r},\mu,\nu} \left(\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^{2} J_{zz}}{\partial R_{\mu\nu}^{a} \partial R_{\mu\nu}^{b}} \delta_{\mu\nu}^{a}(\mathbf{r}, A) \delta_{\mu\nu}^{b}(\mathbf{r}, A) B_{\mathbf{r},\mu} B_{\mathbf{r},\nu} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^{2} J_{zz}}{\partial R_{\mu\nu}^{a} \partial R_{\mu\nu}^{b}} \delta_{\mu\nu}^{a}(\mathbf{r}, B) \delta_{\mu\nu}^{b}(\mathbf{r}, B) B_{\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{d}_{\mu},\mu} B_{\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{d}_{\nu},\nu} \right. \\ \left. - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^{2} J_{\pm}}{\partial R_{\mu\nu}^{a} \partial R_{\mu\nu}^{b}} \delta_{\mu\nu}^{a}(\mathbf{r}, A) \delta_{\mu\nu}^{b}(\mathbf{r}, A) \left(\phi_{\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{d}_{\nu}, B}^{\dagger} \phi_{\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{d}_{\mu}, B} + \text{H.c.} \right) \right. \\ \left. - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^{2} J_{\pm}}{\partial R_{\mu\nu}^{a} \partial R_{\mu\nu}^{b}} \delta_{\mu\nu}^{a}(\mathbf{r}, B) \delta_{\mu\nu}^{b}(\mathbf{r}, B) \left(\phi_{\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{d}_{\mu}, A}^{\dagger} \phi_{\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{d}_{\mu}, A} + \text{H.c.} \right) \right). \tag{F4}
$$

APPENDIX G: HAMILTONIAN AND FORM FACTORS IN THE PARAMAGNETIC PHASE

For the convenience of calculation, we express the Hamiltonian given in Eqs. (6) and (7) in momentum space representation:

$$
H_{\rm sp}^{(e)} = J_{sp}^{(e)} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \sum_{\mu=0}^{3} (\zeta_{1,g}^{(e)}(\mathbf{k}) s_{\mu}^{x}(-\mathbf{k}) + \zeta_{2,g}^{(e)}(\mathbf{k}) s_{\mu}^{y}(-\mathbf{k}))
$$

$$
\times (1 + e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{\mu}}), \qquad (G1)
$$

$$
H_{\rm sp}^{(t_2)} = J_{sp}^{(t_2)} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \sum_{p=1}^{3} \sum_{\alpha=x,y} \sum_{\mu=0}^{3} L_{p,\alpha,\mu}^{(t_2)} \zeta_{p,g}^{(t_2)}(\mathbf{k}) s_{\mu}^{\alpha}(-\mathbf{k})
$$

 $\times (1 + e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{\mu}}).$ (G2)

From the above Hamiltonians, we can obtain the self-energy of the phonon using a similar kind of perturbation theory as applied to the QSL phase. Again, the first nonzero contribution comes in the second order $[O(J_{\rm sp}^{(\rho)2})]$ in the perturbative series and is given in Eq. [\(50\)](#page-14-0) of the main text. The form factors in Eq. (50) are given by

$$
\eta_{\mu\nu}^{(e)}(\mathbf{q}) = 1 + e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{\nu}} + e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{\mu}} + e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{\mu} - \mathbf{d}_{\nu})},
$$
\n
$$
\eta_{\mu\nu,\alpha}^{(t_2)}(\mathbf{q}) = (1 + e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{\nu}} + e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{\mu}} + e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{d}_{\mu} - \mathbf{d}_{\nu})})
$$
\n
$$
\times \sum_{p=1}^{3} L_{p,\alpha,\mu}^{(t_2)} L_{p,\alpha,\nu}^{(t_2)}.
$$
\n(G3)

APPENDIX H: PHONON MEDIATED LOUDON-FLEURY VERTEX

The phonon-mediated Loudon-Fleury vertex between external photons and magnetic monopoles (emergent photons) is obtained by integrating out the phonons from Eqs. (20) , (21) , and $(C2)$ [Eqs. (24) and $(C2)$]. The leading order interaction vertices are then given by

$$
H_{\rm LF}^{\phi} = \langle H_{\rm Raman} H_{\rm sp} \rangle_{\zeta},\tag{H1}
$$

$$
H_{\rm LF}^A = \langle H_{\rm Raman}^2 H_{\rm phonon-photon} \rangle_{\zeta}
$$

$$
- \langle H_{\rm Raman}^2 \rangle_{\zeta} \langle H_{\rm phonon-photon} \rangle_{\zeta}, \qquad (H2)
$$

where $\langle \hat{O} \rangle_{\zeta} = \frac{\int D\zeta \; \hat{O} \; e^{-\beta H_{\zeta}}}{\int D\zeta \; e^{-\beta H_{\zeta}}}$ $\frac{D\zeta}{\int D\zeta} \frac{e^{-\beta H_{\zeta}}}{e^{-\beta H_{\zeta}}}$ and $H_{\text{sp}} = H_{\text{sp}}^{(e)} + H_{\text{sp}}^{(t_2)}$. Simplifying the above expressions, we get

$$
H_{LF}^{\phi} = \frac{J_{\rm sp}^{(\rho)}}{2\omega_0} \int \prod_{i=1}^{4} d^3k_i [\nabla_{\zeta^{(\rho)}} \Lambda]_{\zeta^{(\rho)}=0}^{ij} \omega_{\mathbf{k}_1}^{\rm{on}} \omega_{\mathbf{k}_2}^{\rm{out}} (\alpha_{\mathbf{k}_3} + \alpha_{\mathbf{k}_4})
$$

 $\times \mathcal{A}_i^{\rm{in}}(\mathbf{k}_1) \mathcal{A}_j^{\rm{out}}(\mathbf{k}_2) \phi_{\mathbf{k}_3,A}^{\dagger} \phi_{\mathbf{k}_4,B}$
 $\times \delta(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3 + \mathbf{k}_4) + \text{H.c.},$ (H3)

$$
H_{\rm LF}^A = \frac{1}{2\omega_0^2} \int \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} d^3 k_i [\nabla_{\zeta^{(\rho)}} \Lambda]_{\zeta^{(\rho)}=0}^{ij} [\nabla_{\zeta^{(\rho)}} \Lambda]_{\zeta^{(\rho)}=0}^{mn}
$$

$$
\times \mathcal{G}^{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3, \mathbf{k}_4) A_{\mathbf{k}_3}^{\alpha} A_{\mathbf{k}_4}^{\beta} \mathcal{A}_i^{\text{in}}(\mathbf{k}_5)
$$

$$
\times \mathcal{A}_j^{\text{out}}(\mathbf{k}_6) \mathcal{A}_m^{\text{in}}(\mathbf{k}_7) \mathcal{A}_n^{\text{out}}(\mathbf{k}_8)
$$

$$
\times \delta(\mathbf{k}_5 - \mathbf{k}_6 + \mathbf{k}_1) \delta(\mathbf{k}_7 - \mathbf{k}_8 + \mathbf{k}_2), \qquad (H4)
$$

where the optical phonon band structure is approximated as $\omega_{\mathbf{q}} \approx \omega_0$. Clearly, the above contributions are suppressed by the optical phonon energy scale compared to the usual Loudon-Fleury vertex [\[87\]](#page-25-0). Feynman diagram for Eqs. (H3) and (H4) are shown in Figs. [16](#page-15-0) and 20, respectively.

FIG. 20. Feynman diagram for *phonon-mediated Loudon-Fleury* vertex for emergent photons.

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