Global phase diagram of the high- T_c cuprates

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The high- T_c cuprates have a complex phase diagram with many competing phases. We propose a bosonic effective quantum Hamiltonian based on the projected SO(5) model with extended interactions, which can be derived from the microscopic models of the cuprates. The global phase diagram of this model is obtained using mean-field theory and the quantum Monte Carlo simulation, which is possible because of the absence of the minus sign problem. We show that this single quantum model can account for most salient features observed in the high- T_c cuprates, with different families of the cuprates attributed to different traces in the global phase diagram. Experimental consequences are discussed and theoretical predictions are presented.

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I. INTRODUCTION

At first glance, the phase diagram of the high transition temperature superconducting (HTSC) cuprates has a striking simplicity: there are only three universal phases in the phase diagram of all HTSC cuprates: the antiferromagnetic (AF), the superconducting (SC), and the metallic phases, all with homogeneous charge distributions. However, closer inspection shows a bewildering complexity of other possible phases, which may or may not be universally present in all HTSC cuprates. A large class of these phases have inhomogeneous charge distributions. Because of this complexity, formulating a universal theory of HTSC is a great challenge. The SO(5) theory unifies the AF and the SC order parameters into a single five-dimensional order parameter called the superspin, and the effective quantum theory of the superspin naturally explains proximity between the AF and the SC phases in the observed phase diagram.¹ The Goldstone modes of the superspin fluctuations can be identified with the π resonance mode observed in the neutron scattering experiments.²⁻¹⁶ This theory also predicts the AF vortex state,^{1,17} which has recently been observed in a number of experiments,18-26 Initially, the SO(5) theory was motivated by the simplicity of the pure AF and SC states, however, given the encouraging agreements with the experiments, it is tempting to construct a unified theory of the global phase diagram of the HTSC which addresses the more complex inhomogeneous phases as well. Complexities can of course be introduced phenomenologically into the Landau-Ginzburg-type of theories by simply introducing more order parameters. However, this type of approach necessarily limits the predictive power of theory. The goal of this paper is to present a single effective quantum model of the superspin degree of freedom, which can be derived systematically from the microscopic electron models, and can be investigated reliably both analytically and numerically. The global phase diagram of this model is then compared with the experimentally observed phase diagram of the HTSC cuprates.

When formulated on a coarse-grained lattice, with high energy charge states projected out, the projected SO(5)model describes five local superspin degrees of freedom per plaquette.²⁷ These five states are the spin singlet state at halffilling, the spin triplet states at half-filling, and the singlet *d*-wave hole pair state. Using the contractor renormalization group (CORE) algorithm, Altman and Auerbach²⁸ showed that the projected SO(5) model can be systematically derived from the microscopic electron models, and they also determined the parameters of the effective SO(5) model explicitly from the microscopic interaction parameters (see also Ref. 29). Restricted within the subspace of these five local states, the Hamiltonian describing their propagation and interaction is completely expressed in terms of bosonic operators and can be studied reliably by the quantum Monte Carlo (QMC) calculations. The simplest form of the projected SO(5) model has been studied extensively by the QMC method both in two dimensions^{30–32} and in three dimensions.³³ The overall topology of the phase diagram, the scaling properties near the multicritical point and the nature of the collective excitations can be reliably obtained from the QMC method, within the parameter regime of experimental interests.

The simplest form of the quantum SO(5) model describes either the direct, first order transition from the AF to the SC state, or two second order transitions with a uniform, inter-

mediate AF/SC mix phase in between the pure AF and the SC states.^{1,27} In the case of the direct first order transition as a function of the chemical potential, the system at a fixed density is phase separated. However, in the HTSC cuprates, there are other forms of charge and spin ordered states. For example, neutron scattering cross section in LSCO material is peaked around $(\pi \pm \delta, \pi)$ and $(\pi, \pi \pm \delta)$, where $\delta \sim 1/8.^{34-36}$ STM experiments have revealed periodic charge modulation with period close to four lattice spacing,^{37,38} either near the vortex core or near surface impurities. In the latter case, alternative interpretation^{39–41} based on quasiparticle interference is also possible, and the two points of views are summarized by Kivelson et al.⁴² Motivated by these experiments, we extend the simplest form of the projected SO(5) model to include extended interactions among the five bosonic states. In fact, these extended interactions also arise naturally by carrying out the CORE algorithm to extended ranges.

The projected SO(5) model with extended interactions supports a more complex phase diagram. In particular, there are insulating phases at fractional filling factors where the charges form a lattice, usually commensurate with the underlying lattice. A crucial aspect of this model is that all charge density wave states are formed by the Cooper pairs of the holes, rather than the holes themselves.⁴³ Throughout this paper, we shall denote such states as the pair-density-wave (PDW) states or pair checkerboard states. This distinction has a profound experimental consequence, since the real space periodicity of the former is larger than the latter by a factor of $\sqrt{2}$. This type of insulating PDW states is a consequence of strong pairing and low superfluid density, a condition which is naturally fulfilled in the underdoped cuprates, but has not yet been unambiguously identified in other experimental systems before. The PDW state can either take the form of stripes or checkerboards, depending on the ratios of the extended interaction parameters in the model. Furthermore, PDW states with longer periodicity generally require longer range interactions to stabilize. Based on this reasoning, a simple picture emerges for the global phase diagram of underdoped cuprates. The phase diagram consists of islands of insulating PDW states, each with a preferred rational filling fraction, immersed in the background of SC states (see Fig. 4). The height of the Mott insulating PDW lobes varies depending on the preferred filling fraction and the range of extended interactions, but in principle, these insulating states are all self-similar to each other, and similar to the parent AF insulator at half-filling. There can be either a direct first order transition or two second order phase transitions between the SC state and the PDW state, with the possibility of an intermediate "supersolid" phase, where both orders are present.

Based on our model, the bewildering complexity of the cuprate phase diagram can be deduced from a simple principle of the "Law of Corresponding States." This concept is borrowed from the work of Kivelson, Lee, and Zhang on the global phase diagram of the quantum Hall effect,⁴⁴ in fact, our proposed phase diagram in Fig. 4 bears great similarity to Fig. 1 of that reference. In the case of the QHE, the "Law of Corresponding States" physically relates *all* quantum phase transitions at various filling fractions to a *single* quantum phase transition from the ν =1 integer state to the Hall

insulator. In recent years, this powerful mapping among the different fractional states has been made more precise by the derivation of the SL(2,Z) discrete modular group transformation from the Chern-Simons theory.45-47 Similarly, the central idea of the current paper is to relate the fractional Mott insulator to SC transition with the transition from the AF Mott insulator at half-filling to SC state, which is already well understood within the context of the original, simple SO(5) theory. The construction of the Mott insulating states at various fractional filling factors can be constructed from the "Law of Corresponding States," iterated ad infinitum, to give a beautiful fractal structure of self-similar phases and phase transitions, as presented in Fig. 4. The various different compounds of the HTSC cuprates families have slightly different microscopic parameters, and they correspond to different slices of this global phase diagram. The global phase diagram provides a basic road-map to understand the common elements and differences among various HTSC compounds.

This paper mainly focuses on the zero temperature global phase diagram of the underdoped cuprates. However, it is understood that the model is valid below the pseudogap temperature, which we interpret as the temperature below which the system can be effectively described by the collective bosonic degrees of freedom, like the magnons and the hole pairs. Therefore, it is implied that the pseudogap state is a regime where the various ground states discussed here compete with each other, and different experiments may access different aspects of these competing states. The existence of the pseudogap temperature gives the fundamental experimental justification to investigate the global phase diagram of the underdoped cuprates by a purely bosonic model. In the future, we shall use the same model to investigate the manifestations of these competing states at finite temperature, in the pseudogap regime. A comparison of the charge order predicted by this work and the STM experiment in the pseudogap regime has recently been reported in Ref. 48.

While this paper is presented within the logical context of the SO(5) theory, some of the ideas and results bear intellectual similarities to the previous theoretical works. The idea of doped holes forming ordered stripes has been discussed extensively in Refs. 34 and 49–53. Although we focus more on the charged ordered states in the forms of checkerboards of hole pairs, they are conceptually related to stripes and can be realized experimentally or theoretically depending on the microscopic parameters. The pseudogap temperature was identified as the formation temperature of Cooper pairs by Emery and Kivelson.⁵⁴ Our interpretation of the pseudogap temperature is more general, which also includes the formation of the magnetic collective modes in addition to the holes pairs. Vojta and Sachdev⁵⁵ have discussed the phase diagram of doped Mott insulator with various charge ordered insulating states at rational fractions. More recently, Zhang, Demler, and Sachdev have studied extensively the competition among charge and spin order.^{56,57} Laughlin pointed out that the small superfluid density in the underdoped regime is responsible for various charge ordering phenomena.⁵⁸ Haas et al.⁵⁹ have noticed that the Wigner crystal state of the hole pairs could be stabilized due to the competition of phase separation and long ranged Coulomb interaction. Kim and

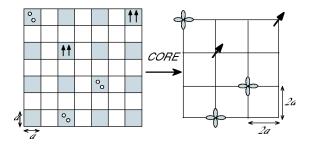


FIG. 1. Illustration of the basic idea of the CORE method. To implement the CORE method, first decompose the original lattice in plaquettes, and then truncate the spectrum of a given plaquette to five lowest states, i.e., the singlet, hole-pair and three magnon states. An effective Hamiltonian for these bosons can then be determined using the CORE method. Left: local bosons in the original lattice. Gray rectangle denotes the singlet RVB vacua, circles denote holes and the set of two parallel vertical arrows denote the magnon. Right: local bosons on the lattice of plaquette. Leaflike pattern denotes a local *d*-wave hole-pair on a plaquette. Canted arrow denotes local magnon on a plaquette. The singlet RVB vacuum is denoted by an empty site.

Hor⁶⁰ have discussed experiments at certain "magic" filling fractions in terms of the commensurate Wigner crystal type of order of the electrons, rather than the hole pairs discussed in this paper. Restricted to the charge sector, the projected SO(5) model is essentially the same as the hard-core quantum boson model on a lattice, whose phase diagram has been extensively studied.^{61–63}

This paper is organized as follows: In Sec. II, the projected SO(5) model with extended interactions is presented. The choice of parameters is discussed from the CORE algorithm and phenomenology. The self-similarity of the insulating states and the classification of the quantum phase transitions are then discussed in Sec. III. In Sec. IV, the global phase diagram of the model is obtained within the mean field theory. The low energy collective modes and their quantum symmetry are then studied using a slave-boson approach. In Sec. V, QMC simulation is carried out to compare with mean-field results obtained in Sec. IV. The experimental consequences and predictions are discussed in Sec. VI. Finally, Sec. VII concludes our study.

II. HAMILTONIAN OF THE MODEL

The effective bosonic SO(5) model can be derived directly from the microscopic Hubbard model or *t-J* model, through a renormalization group transformation called the contractor renormalization (CORE) method.^{28,64} To construct *bosonic* quasiparticles from fermionic model, we divide the lattice into effective sites containing an *even* number of sites. In order to conserve the symmetry between *x* and *y* direction in the system, a plaquette of 2×2 sites are typically chosen.^{27,28} In their CORE study of the 2D Hubbard model, Altman and Auerbach²⁸ started from the spectrum of lowest-energy eigenstates of the 2×2 plaquette for 0, 1, and 2 holes, respectively (Fig. 1). The low energy eigenstates of the Heisenberg plaquette can be determined easily. The nondegenerate ground state $|\Omega\rangle$ (see Ref. 28 for a real-space rep-

resentation in terms of the microscopic states on a plaquette) has energy $E_0 = -2J$ and total spin S=0. This "RVB" like singlet state will be the vacuum state of the effective bosonic SO(5) model. The next set of energy eigenstates are three triplet states $t_{\alpha}^{\dagger}|\Omega\rangle$ with energy $E_t = -J$ and total spin quantum number S=1. All other energy eigenstates of the Heisenberg plaquette have energies $E \ge 0$ and can be neglected in the low energy effective model. It should be noted that the operator t_{α}^{\dagger} with spin 1 and charge 0 create *hardcore bosons* because one cannot create more than one of them simultaneously on a single plaquette. The ground state of two holes is a "Cooper"-like hole pair with internal *d*-wave symmetry with respect to the vacuum.

Using the CORE method and keeping only the five lowest states (the singlet boson, the three magnons t^{\dagger}_{α} and the holepair t^{\dagger}_{h}), the effective Hamiltonian of these bosons can be obtained as^{28,29,64}

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_0 + \mathcal{H}_{\text{ext}},\tag{1}$$

where \mathcal{H}_0 is the Hamiltonian of the previously studied SO(5) model containing only on-site interactions^{27,30,33}

$$\mathcal{H}_{0} = \Delta_{c} \sum_{i} t_{h}^{\dagger}(i) t_{h}(i) + \Delta_{s} \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{i} t_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(i) t_{\alpha}(i)$$
$$- J_{c} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} [t_{h}^{\dagger}(i) t_{h}(j) + \text{H.c.}]$$
$$- J_{s} \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} [t_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(i) + t_{\alpha}(i)] [t_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(j) + t_{\alpha}(j)], \qquad (2a)$$

and \mathcal{H}_{ext} is the part containing extended interactions

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}_{\text{ext}} &= \left[V_c \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} + V'_c \sum_{\langle \langle ij \rangle \rangle} \right] n_h(i) n_h(j) \\ &- J_\pi \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left[t_h^{\dagger}(i) t_h(j) t_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(j) t_{\alpha}(i) + \text{H.c.} \right] \\ &+ V_\pi \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left[n_h(i) n_{\alpha}(j) + n_h(j) n_{\alpha}(i) \right] \\ &+ \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \sum_{S=0,1,2} V_S(t_i t_j) _S^{\dagger}(t_i t_j)_S. \end{aligned}$$
(2b)

The model is subjected to the hard-core constraint

$$\sum_{\alpha} n_{\alpha}(i) + n_{h}(i) \le 1.$$
(3)

Here, Δ_c and Δ_s are the energy costs to create a hole-pair and magnon, respectively. J_c and J_s are the hopping terms of hole-pairs and magnons. $t_h(i)$ and $t_h^{\dagger}(i)$ are the annihilation and creation operators of hole-pair on plaquette *i*. $t_{\alpha}(i)$ and $t_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(i)$ are the annihilation and creation operators of magnon on plaquette *i* for $\alpha = x, y, z$. $\langle \cdots \rangle$ and $\langle \langle \cdots \rangle \rangle$ denote nearestneighbor (nn) and next-nearest-neighbor (nnn), respectively. $n_h(i) = t_h^{\dagger}(i)t_h(i)$ and $n_{\alpha}(i) = t_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(i)t_{\alpha}(i)$ are the hole-pair density and magnon density operators on plaquette *i*, respectively. The hole-pair density of n_h per plaquette corresponds to *twice* the real doping of δ holes per lattice site, i.e.,

$$\delta = n_h/2. \tag{4}$$

Finally, $(t_i t_j)_S^{\dagger}$ creates two magnons simultaneously on plaquettes *i* and *j*, which are coupled into total spin *S*. \mathcal{H}_{ext} contains nn and nnn hole pair interactions V_c and V'_c , exchange hopping terms J_{π} between t_{α} and t_h bosons, interaction V_{π} between nn magnons and hole-pairs. The 4-magnon interactions $V_{0,1,2}$ are important in the pure AF phase but we can neglect them since we are mostly interested in the doped phase where magnon density decreases. According to the CORE calculation on 2-plaquettes and fixing $J_s=1$ as the unit of energy, one obtains from the t-J model with $J/t \approx 0.4$ (relevant for cuprates):

$$\frac{J_c}{2.} \qquad \frac{J_{\pi}}{-0.6} \qquad \frac{V_c}{10} \qquad \frac{V_0}{-1} \qquad \frac{V_1}{-1} \qquad \frac{V_2}{-1} \qquad \frac{V_{\pi}}{-3}$$

For $J_c \sim 2$, \mathcal{H}_0 is approximately SO(5) symmetric at the mean field level.^{27,30,33}

The CORE derivation of the SO(5) model (1) is only approximate. It should also be borne in mind that the *t-J* and the Hubbard models are also approximate models of the real cuprates themselves. If one started from a different microscopic model (for example, next-nearest-neighbor hopping, extended Coulomb repulsion, etc.), one would have obtained a similar effective Hamiltonian with different parameters. Therefore, in this paper, we shall take the CORE parameters as a guidance, and study the robust properties of the SO(5) model with a more general set of parameters, as to reproduce well-known results and compare directly with experiments.

At half-filling $(n_h=0)$, the model involves only the singlet and the magnon, and the effective Hamiltonian containing only J_s and Δ_s can be rewritten as

$$H = 2J_s \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \frac{t_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(i) + t_{\alpha}(i)}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{t_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(j) + t_{\alpha}(j)}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{\Delta_s}{2} \sum_i L_{\alpha\beta}^2(i), \quad (5)$$

where $[t_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(i) + t_{\alpha}(i)]/\sqrt{2}$ is the AF moment and $L_{\alpha\beta}(i)$ is the SO(3) symmetry generator²⁷

$$L_{\alpha\beta}(i) = -i[t^{\dagger}_{\alpha}(i)t_{\beta}(i) - t^{\dagger}_{\beta}(i)t_{\alpha}(i)].$$
(6)

This model is similar to the nonlinear σ model $(NL\sigma M)$,^{65,66}

$$H = \rho_s \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} m_i^{\alpha} m_j^{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\chi} \sum_i S_i^2, \qquad (7)$$

where m_i^{α} is the α component of the AF moment and S_i is the angular moment on site *i*. After rescaling of time using the spin velocity $c = \sqrt{\rho_s/\chi}$ and up to a prefactor, the Lagrangian density of the *NM \sigma M* can be cast in the usual form in the continuum limit

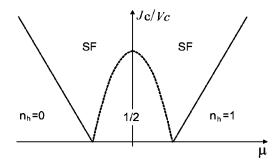


FIG. 2. Phase diagram of a hard-core boson model with nearestneighbor interaction. There are one superfluid (SF) state and three insulating states: zero-doping state $(n_h=0)$, half-filled state $(n_h$ =1/2), and fully occupied state $(n_h=1)$. At the next level of the hierarchy, longer ranged interactions lead to new insulating states with $n_h=1/4$ and $n_h=3/4$, as shown in Fig. 3.

$$\mathcal{L}_{NL\sigma} = \frac{1}{g} (\partial_x m)^2 + g (\partial_\tau m)^2, \qquad (8)$$

where $g \sim 1/\sqrt{\rho_s \chi}$ is a dimensionless constant. This model has been studied extensively.⁶⁶ It has a transition towards a disordered state at $g_c = 1.45$. From the computation of the staggered moment, we can find g such that the original Heisenberg value (0.3) of the AF moment is recovered: g_H = 1.125. On the other hand, we know from mean-field calculations and QMC simulation that the disordered phase occurs at $\Delta_s/J_s = 8$. We then obtain the proportionality factor between g and $1/\sqrt{\rho_s \chi}$. Using g_H , we find that an effective model for Heisenberg corresponds to $\Delta_s/J_s = 4.8$.

In most parts of this paper, we shall consider the simplified model with $J_{\pi}=V_{\pi}=0$.

III. HEURISTIC ARGUMENT ON THE SELF-SIMILARITY BETWEEN PAIR-DENSITY-WAVE (PDW) STATES

Let us ignore for a moment the magnons, and consider a hard-core boson model with extended interactions. The phase diagram^{61,62} of a hard-core boson model with nn interaction

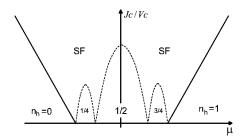


FIG. 3. Phase diagram of a hard-core boson model with nn and nnn interactions. There are a superfluid (SF) state and five insulating states with doping 0/4, 1/4, 2/4, 3/4, and 4/4. At the next level of the hierarchy, new insulating states are developed at doping level $n_h=1/8$, $n_h=3/8$, $n_h=5/8$, and $n_h=7/8$. This hierarchy construction can be iterated *ad infinitum*, to obtain a self-similar phase diagram with insulating phases at doping level $p/2^n$, with integers p and n, such that 0 .

contains one superfluid state and three Mott-insulating states, corresponding to zero-doping $(n_h=0)$, half-filling $(n_h=1/2)$, and fully occupied $(n_h=1)$, as sketched in Fig. 2. The half-filling state has checkerboard charge order. If one transforms the hard-core boson model into an AF Heisenberg model, the checkerboard order of the bosons simply corresponds to the AF order of the Heisenberg spins. The following argument assumes that the checkerboard order at half-filling is a basic and robust form of order, such that it is repeated at all different levels of the hierarchy.

If we regard the empty sites of the half-filled checkerboard state as an inert background, we obtain a fullyoccupied Mott-insulating state on the coarse-grained lattice, with lattice spacing $\sqrt{2a} \times \sqrt{2a}$. The nnn interaction on the original lattice becomes the nn interaction on the coarsegrained lattice, and a new half-filled checkerboard state can be stabilized on the coarse-grained lattice. Such a state corresponds to doping $n_h = 1/4$ on the original lattice. Similarly, we can regard the filled sites of the original half-filled checkerboard lattice as an inert background, leaving with an empty state on the coarse-grained lattice. A new checkerboard state can again be stabilized on the coarse-grained lattice, which corresponds to doping $n_h = 3/4$ on the original lattice. This hierarchical procedure of forming a new daughter checkerboard state from two parent checkerboard state can obviously be iterated ad infinitum, to obtain a fractal-like, selfsimilar phase diagram as shown in Fig. 3. It is interesting to note that the nearest-neighbor interaction on the coarsegrained lattice is just the next-nearest-neighbor interaction on the original lattice. There is also the possibility that small regions with coexisting SF and PDW orders ("supersolids") are present around the Mott-insulating lobes in the phase diagram.62,63,67,68

Having presented the generic phase diagram for the charge boson only, we consider now the inclusion of the magnons in the full SO(5) with extended interactions. Generally, charge ordered insulating states also have AF order. The $n_h=0$ state of the charge boson corresponds to the undoped parent Mott insulator. The $n_h = 1/2$ state of the charge boson would correspond to $\delta = 1/4$ doping for the cuprates, which is probably at or beyond the limit of applicability of our bosonic model. Therefore, the phase diagram of the hardcore boson model in the range of $0 < n_h < 1/2$ from Fig. 3 would translate into a phase diagram of the cuprates in the doping range of $0 < \delta < 1/4$, as shown in Fig. 4. As we shall show later, this phase diagram is supported by accurate QMC calculations of the SO(5) model with extended interactions. We expect that the insulating states of $\delta = 1/16$ and 1/8 are AF ordered. Since the magnon density decreases with increasing doping, the $\delta = 3/16$ state may not be AF ordered.

The nature of the phase boundary between two different phases shown in Fig. 4 requires careful characterization. We can classify all phase transitions into two broad classes. Class A describes transitions at fixed chemical potential, typically at an effectively particle-hole symmetric point around the tip of the Mott lobe. Class B describes transitions where the chemical potential or the density is varied. Each broad class is further classified into three types, 1, 2, and 1.5. Generically, the phase transition between two ordered phases can be either a single first-order transition or two second order transitions, with a mixed state in between, where both order parameters are nonzero. A third marginal possibility occurs at a symmetric point, when these two second order phase transitions collapse into a single one. In the context of high T_c cuprates, these three types are shown in phase diagrams of Ref. 1 as Figs. 1(a)—1(c), respectively. This situation can be easily understood by describing the competition in terms of a Landau-Ginzburg functional of two competing order parameters,⁶⁹ which is given by

$$F = \frac{1}{2}r_1\phi_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}r_2\phi_2^2 + u_1\phi_1^4 + u_2\phi_2^4 + 2u_{12}\phi_1^2\phi_2^2, \qquad (9)$$

where ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 are vector order parameters with N_1 and N_2 components, respectively. In the context of SO(5) theory, $N_1=2$ and $N_2=3$, and we can view ϕ_1^2 as a SC component of the superspin vector, and ϕ_2^2 as the AF component of the superspin vector. These order parameters are obtained by minimizing the free energy *F*. By tuning r_1 , one can drive a quantum phase transition from AF to SC. For $u_{12} > \sqrt{u_1u_2}$, the quantum phase transition from AF to SC is a single first order transition of "type 1." For $u_{12} < \sqrt{u_1u_2}$, the transition from AF to SC coexist uniform AF to SC coexist uniform AF to SC coexist uniformly; the transition is of "type 2." For $u_{12}=\sqrt{u_1u_2}$, the phase transition occurs at

$$\frac{r_1}{\sqrt{u_1}} = \frac{r_2}{\sqrt{u_2}},$$
(10)

where the free energy takes the SO(5) symmetric form

$$F = \frac{r_1 \sqrt{u_1}}{2} \tilde{\phi}^2 + u_{12}^2 \tilde{\phi}^4$$
 (11)

with

$$\tilde{\phi}^2 = \frac{\phi_1^2}{\sqrt{u_1}} + \frac{\phi_2^2}{\sqrt{u_2}}.$$
(12)

Since the free energy depends only on $\tilde{\phi}$, one order parameter can be smoothly rotated into the other without any energy cost. At this point, the chemical potential is held fixed, but the SC order parameter and the charge density can change continuously according the condition that $\tilde{\phi}^2$ is constant. This is a special case intermediate between "type 1 and 2" transitions, where two second order phase transitions collapse into one. This transition can only occur at an SO(5) symmetric point. We thus classify it as "type 1.5." The full quantum SO(5) symmetry can only be realized in the class A transition of "type 1.5." On the other hand, the static, or projected SO(5) symmetry can be realized in class B transitions of "type 1.5."

In HTSC cuprates, the charge gap at half-filling is very large, of the order of $U \sim 6$ eV, it is not possible to induce the "class A1" transition from the AF to the SC state by conventional means. However, the charge gap in the fractional insulating states is much smaller, of the order of J_c , and it is possible to induce the "class A2" or "class A3"

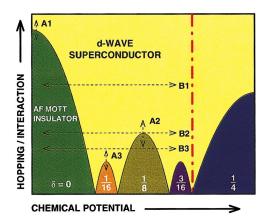


FIG. 4. (Color) A typical global phase diagram of the cuprates in the parameter space of chemical potential and the ratio of boson hopping energy over Coulomb interaction energy. This phase diagram shows self-similarity among the insulating PDW states at halffilling and other rational filling fractions. There are two types of superfluid-insulator transition. The quantum phase transition of "class A" can be approached by varying the hopping energy, for example, by applying a pressure and magnetic field at constant doping. The quantum phase transition of "class B" can be realized by changing the chemical potential or doping. There can be either a direct first order phase transition or two second order phase transitions between the SC state and the PDW state, with the possibility of an intermediate "supersolid" phase, where both orders are present. Different families of cuprates correspond to different traces of "class B." For example, we believe YBCO is B1-like, BSCO may be close to B2-like and LSCO is B3-like. The vertical dashed-dotted line denotes a boundary in the overdoped region beyond which our pure bosonic model becomes less accurate.

insulator to superconductor transition by applying pressure^{70,71} or by applying a magnetic field.^{72,73}

As the chemical potential or the doping level is varied, a given system, roughly corresponding to a fixed value of the quantum parameter J_c/V_c , traces out different one dimensional slices in this phase diagram, with typical slices B1, B2, and B3 depicted in Fig. 4. The nature of the phase transition B1 is similar to that of the superspin-flop transition discussed in Ref. 1. In this case, the phase transition from the AF to the SC state can be further classified into "types 1, 1.5, and 2," with the last two cases leading to an AF/SC mixed phase at the phase transition boundary. For lower values of J_c/V_c , the trace B3 encounters the $\delta = 1/8$ insulating phase. The key signature of this type of phase transition is that the SC T_c will display a pronounced minimum as the doping variation traces through the $\delta = 1/8$ insulating state. Meanwhile, the AF ordering [possibly at a wave vector shifted from (π, π)] will show reentrant behavior as doping is varied. The phase transition around the fractional insulating phases can again be classified into "types 1, 1.5, and 2," with possible AF/SC, AF/PDW, SC/PDW, and AF/PDW/SC mixed phases.

We believe that the AF to SC transition in the *YBCO*, *BCCO*, and the *NCCO* systems corresponds to a "class B1" transition. These systems only have an AF to SC transition, which can be further classified into "types 1, 1.5, and 2," but they do not encounter additional statically ordered fractional

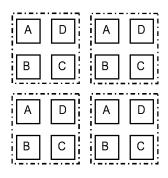


FIG. 5. The schematic plot of the unit cell of a quarter-filled magnetic insulating state. The solid square denotes a plaquette of the original lattice and the dashed-dotted square denotes a 2-plaquette by 2-plaquette unit cell.

insulating phases. On the other hand, the phase transition in the *LSCO* system, where T_c displays a pronounced dip at $\delta = 1/8$, corresponds to the "class B3" transition.

IV. MEAN-FIELD PHASE DIAGRAM OF THE MODEL

A. Four-sublattice ansatz and mean-field phase diagram

Since the Hamiltonian (1) contains up to nnn interactions, we can introduce the following four-sublattice ansatz within mean field theory:

$$|\Psi\rangle = \prod_{r,m} \left[e_m + h_m t_h^{\dagger}(m,r) + x_m t_x^{\dagger}(m,r) \right] |\Omega\rangle, \qquad (13)$$

where $|\Omega\rangle$ is the singlet ground state, e_m, x_m, h_m are real variational parameters, m=A,B,C,D denote the sites in a unit cell, and *r* is the coordinate in the lattice of unit cells, as sketched in Fig. 5. The mean-field energy $E_{\rm MF}$ reads

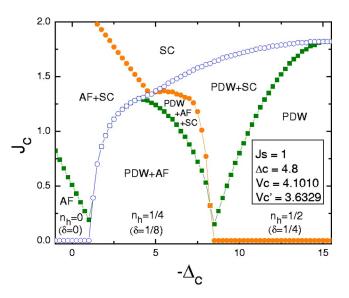


FIG. 6. (Color online) The MF phase diagram obtained by minimizing the energy functional (14) subjected to the hard-core constraint (15). J_{π} and V_{π} are taken to be zero.

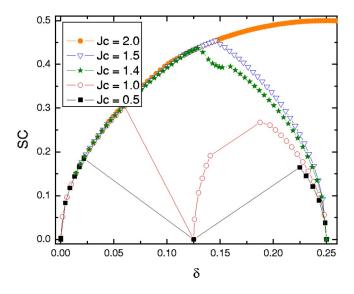
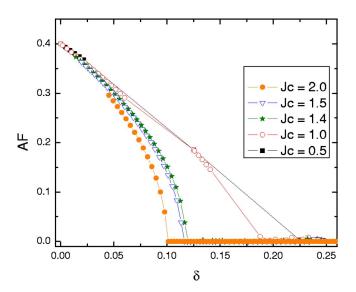


FIG. 7. (Color online) Doping dependence of SC order parameter for different J_c . For small J_c , there is a dip around hole-pair doping $n_h=1/4$ (real doping $\delta=1/8$).

$$\frac{4E_{\rm MF}}{N} = \Delta_c (h_A^2 + h_B^2 + h_C^2 + h_B^2) - 2J_c [e_A h_A + e_C h_C] [e_B h_B + e_D h_D] + \Delta_s (x_A^2 + x_B^2 + x_C^2 + x_B^2) - 4J_s [e_A x_A + e_C x_C] \times [e_B x_B + e_D x_D] - 4J_\pi [h_A x_A + h_C x_C] [h_B x_B + h_D x_D] + 2V_c [h_A^2 + h_C^2] [h_B^2 + h_D^2] + 4V_c' [h_A^2 h_C^2 + h_B^2 h_D^2] + 2V_\pi ([h_A^2 + h_C^2] [x_B^2 + x_D^2] + [h_B^2 + h_D^2] [x_A^2 + x_C^2])$$
(14)

with the hard-core constraint



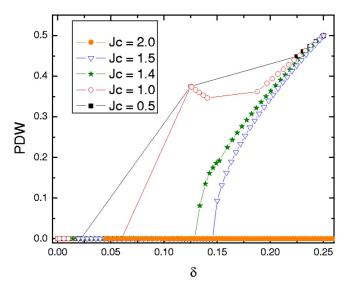


FIG. 9. (Color online) Doping dependence of PDW order defined for difference J_c . For $J_c < 1.3$, a strong peak is present at $n_h = 1/4$ or real doping $\delta = 1/8$.

$$h_m^2 + x_m^2 + e_m^2 = 1, \quad m = A, B, C, D.$$
 (15)

Here, N/4 is the number of unit-cells and N is the number of plaquettes.

By minimizing the energy functional (14) subjected to the hard-core constraint (15), we obtain the mean-field ground state for a given set of parameters. Figure 6 plots the mean-field global phase diagram, for Δ_s =4.8, V_c =4.1010, V'_c =3.6329, and J_{π} = V_{π} =0.

This phase diagram displays some rich features as expected. It has three insulating states: an undoped antiferromagnetic (AF) state, an insulating AF PDW state with holepair density $n_h=1/4$ ($\delta=1/8$) and an insulating PDW state with hole-pair density $n_h=1/2$ ($\delta=1/4$). Besides these insulating states, it also has a pure SC phase, a supersolid phase and mix phases of coexisting AF and SC order.

In Figs. 7 and 8, we plot the doping dependence of SC and AF orders for different J_c . If one follows a "class B1" trace, such as the one with fixed $J_c=1.5$, the doping dependence of SC order mimics the behavior of *YBCO* and *BSCO* families with a underdoped region $n_h < 0.3$ ($\delta < 0.15$) and an overdoped region $n_h > 0.3$ ($\delta > 0.15$). If one follows a "class B3" trace, such as the one with fixed $J_c=1.0$, the SC order displays a pronounced dip and the AF ordering is strongly enhanced around $n_h=1/4$ ($\delta=1/8$). Therefore, the "class B2" trace mimics the behavior of the *LSCO* family.

The doping dependence of charge order parameter is also plotted in Fig. 9. It measures the charge modulation defined by

$$PDW = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{m} |n_h(m) - n_h|, \qquad (16)$$

FIG. 8. (Color online) Doping dependence of AF order parameter for different J_c . For $J_c > 1.3$, AF order decreases as doping increases and vanishes around $\delta = 0.1$.

where n_h is the average hole-pair density and *m* is summed over A,B,C,D. While "class B1" trace shows no charge ordering in underdoped region, "class B3" trace displays a clear signature of charge ordering around $\delta = 1/8$.

B. Slave-boson approach, effective Hamiltonian, and dynamical SO(5) symmetry

The hard-core constraint (3) can also be enforced by introducing a slave-boson $t_e^{\dagger}(i)$ for each lattice.²⁷ The presence of this boson indicates that the plaquette *i* is empty. The hard-core condition (3) is then replaced by

$$\hat{Q}(i) = \left(\sum_{\alpha} t_{\alpha}^{\dagger} t_{\alpha}(i) + t_{h}^{\dagger} t_{h}(i) + t_{e}^{\dagger} t_{e}(i) - 1\right) = 0.$$
(17)

This constraint can be enforced by introducing an additional site dependent field $\lambda(i)$ and adding to the Hamiltonian (1) an additional term

$$H_{\lambda} = -\sum_{i} \lambda(i)Q(i).$$
(18)

Since in physical states one always has one and only one boson per lattice sites, destruction (creation) of a boson $t_a(t_a^{\dagger})$, a=x,y,z,h, must always be accompanied by creation (destruction) of the empty boson $t_e^{\dagger}(t_e)$. In this way, the whole Hamiltonian takes the form

$$\mathcal{H}_{sb} = \Delta_c \sum_i t_h^{\dagger}(i) t_h(i) + \Delta_s \sum_i t_\alpha^{\dagger}(i) t_\alpha(i)$$

$$- J_c \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} [t_h^{\dagger}(i) t_e(i) t_e^{\dagger}(j) t_h(j) + \text{H.c.}] - J_s \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} [t_\alpha^{\dagger} t_e(i)$$

$$+ t_e^{\dagger} t_\alpha(i)] [t_\alpha^{\dagger} t_e(j) + t_e^{\dagger} t_\alpha(j)] - \sum_i \lambda(i) Q(i) + \mathcal{H}_{\text{ext}}.$$

(19)

By integrating out the λ field in the partition function, one automatically enforces the hard-core constraint Q(i)=0 on each site. The saddle point approximation to (19) corresponds to replacing the boson operators and λ field with real constants to minimize the energy. Within the four-sublattice ansatz, this is equivalent to minimizing the energy functional subjected to the hard-core constraint (15). After obtaining the ground state, we can expand the boson operators around their mean-field values and drop quartic terms in the Hamiltonian (19) to yield an effective Hamiltonian of the boson operators around the ground state.

We shall now study the checkerboard state characterized by following mean-field solution:

$$h_A = 1, \quad x_A = e_A = h_B = h_C = h_D = 0$$
 (20)

for the simplified model with $J_{\pi} = V_{\pi} = 0$.

The saddle-point of the slave-boson Hamiltonian (19) can be solved to yield

$$x_D = x_B = x_C = 0, \qquad (21a)$$

$$e_D = e_B = e_C = 1, \qquad (21b)$$

$$\lambda_D = \lambda_B = \lambda_C = 0, \qquad (21c)$$

$$\lambda_A = \Delta_c, \qquad (21d)$$

for $\Delta_s/Js \ge 4\sqrt{2}$ and

$$x_D = x_B = \sqrt{\frac{1}{16} \left[8 - \frac{\Delta_s}{J_s} \sqrt{\frac{64J_s^2 + \Delta_s^2}{16J_s^2 + \Delta_s^2}} \right]},$$
 (22a)

$$e_D = e_B = \sqrt{\frac{1}{16}} \left[8 + \frac{\Delta_s}{J_s} \sqrt{\frac{64J_s^2 + \Delta_s^2}{16J_s^2 + \Delta_s^2}} \right], \quad (22b)$$

$$x_{C} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{8} \left[4 - \frac{\Delta_{s}}{J_{s}} \sqrt{\frac{16J_{s}^{2} + \Delta_{s}^{2}}{64J_{s}^{2} + \Delta_{s}^{2}}} \right]},$$
 (22c)

$$e_C = \sqrt{\frac{1}{8} \left[4 + \frac{\Delta_s}{J_s} \sqrt{\frac{16J_s^2 + \Delta_s^2}{64J_s^2 + \Delta_s^2}} \right]},$$
 (22d)

$$\lambda_{C} = \frac{\Delta_{s}}{2} - 2J_{s} \sqrt{\frac{64J_{s}^{2} + \Delta_{s}^{2}}{16J_{s}^{2} + \Delta_{s}^{2}}},$$
 (22e)

$$\lambda_A = \Delta_c, \qquad (22f)$$

$$\lambda_D = \lambda_B = \frac{\Delta_s}{2} - 4J_s \sqrt{\frac{16J_s^2 + \Delta_s^2}{64J_s^2 + \Delta_s^2}}$$
(22g)

for $\Delta_s/J_s \leq 4\sqrt{2}$.

The bosons are then expanded around their mean-field values as

$$t_h(m,r) = h_m + \hat{b}_h(m,r),$$
 (23a)

$$t_x(m,r) = x_m + \hat{b}_x(m,r),$$
 (23b)

$$t_e(m,r) = e_m + \hat{b}_e(m,r),$$
 (23c)

$$t_y(m,r) = \hat{b}_y(m,r), \qquad (23d)$$

$$t_z(m,r) = \hat{b}_z(m,r).$$
 (23e)

Again, m=A,B,C,D and r is the coordinate in the coarsegrained lattice of unit cells. Plug (23a)–(23e) into the slaveboson Hamiltonian (19) and drop the quartic terms to yield the quadratic effective Hamiltonian

$$H^{\rm eff} = E_0 + H_h^{\rm eff} + H_x^{\rm eff} + H_y^{\rm eff} + H_z^{\rm eff}$$
(24)

with E_0 the mean-field ground state energy given by

$$E_0 = 2N(\Delta_c - \lambda_B)x_B^2 + N(\Delta_c - \lambda_C)x_C^2 + 4Nx_Ce_Cx_Be_B$$
(25a)

and H_x^{eff} , H_h^{eff} , H_y^{eff} , and H_z^{eff} ,

$$H_x^{\text{eff}} = \sum_{m=\text{B,C,D}} \left[\sum_q (\Delta_s - \lambda_m) \hat{b}_x^{\dagger} \hat{b}_x(m,q) - \sum_q \lambda_m \hat{b}_e^{\dagger} \hat{b}_e(m,q) \right]$$
$$- J_s \sum_q \left[4e_B x_B (\hat{b}_x^{\dagger}(C,q) \hat{b}_e(C,q) + \text{H.c.}) + B \leftrightarrow C \right]$$
$$- 2J_s \sum_q \left[e_C [\hat{b}_x^{\dagger}(C,q) + \hat{b}_x(C,-q)] + x_C [\hat{b}_e^{\dagger}(C,q) + \hat{b}_x(C,-q)] \right]$$

$$+ \hat{b}_{e}(C, -q)]] \times [\cos q_{x}(e_{B}[\hat{b}_{x}^{\dagger}(B, -q) + \hat{b}_{x}(B, q)] \\ + x_{B}[\hat{b}_{e}^{\dagger}(B, -q) + \hat{b}_{e}(B, q)]) + \cos q_{y}(B \leftrightarrow D)], \quad (25b)$$

$$\begin{aligned} H_h^{\text{eff}} &= \sum_q \left(\Delta_c - \lambda_B + 2V_c \right) [\hat{b}_h^{\dagger} \hat{b}_h(B,q) + \hat{b}_h^{\dagger} \hat{b}_h(D,q)] + \sum_q \left(\Delta_c - \lambda_c + 4V_c' \right) \hat{b}_h^{\dagger} \hat{b}_h(C,q) + \sum_q \left(\Delta_s - \Delta_c \right) \hat{b}_x^{\dagger} \hat{b}_x(A,q) \\ &- \lambda_A \sum_q \hat{b}_e^{\dagger} \hat{b}_e(A,q) - J_s \sum_q 8e_B x_B [\hat{b}_x^{\dagger}(A,q) \hat{b}_e(A,q) \\ &+ \hat{b}_e^{\dagger}(A,q) \hat{b}_x(A,q)] - 2J_c e_B \sum_q \left[\cos q_y (\hat{b}_e(A,q) \hat{b}_h(B,-q) \right. \\ &+ \hat{b}_h^{\dagger}(B,-q) \hat{b}_e^{\dagger}(A,q) + \cos q_x(B \leftrightarrow D) \right] \\ &- 2J_c e_B e_C \sum_q \left[\cos q_x (\hat{b}_h^{\dagger}(C,q) \hat{b}_h(B,q) \\ &+ \hat{b}_h^{\dagger}(B,q) \hat{b}_h(C,q) \right] + \cos q_y(B \leftrightarrow D) \right], \end{aligned}$$
(25c)

$$H_{\alpha}^{\text{eff}} = \sum_{q} (\Delta_{s} - \lambda_{B}) (\hat{b}_{\alpha}^{\dagger} \hat{b}_{\alpha}(B, q) + \hat{b}_{\alpha}^{\dagger} \hat{b}_{\alpha}(D, q)) + \sum_{q} (\Delta_{s} - \lambda_{C}) \hat{b}_{\alpha}^{\dagger} \hat{b}_{\alpha}(C, q) + \sum_{q} (\Delta_{s} - \Delta_{c}) \hat{b}_{\alpha}^{\dagger} \hat{b}_{\alpha}(A, q) - 2J_{s} e_{C} e_{B} \sum_{q} [\hat{b}_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(C, q) + \hat{b}_{\alpha}(C, -q)] [\cos q_{y}(\hat{b}_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(D, -q) + \hat{b}_{\alpha}(D, q)) + \cos q_{x}(D \leftrightarrow B)], \quad \alpha = y, z.$$
(25d)

Here, the operators $\hat{b}(m,q)$ are the Fourier transforms of the bosonic operators $\hat{b}(m,r)$

$$\hat{b}(m,q) = \sum_{r} e^{iqr} \hat{b}(m,r), \quad m = A, B, C, D,$$
(26)

where the summation of r is over the lattice of unit cells.

This effective Hamiltonian has four decoupled parts, H_h^{eff} , H_x^{eff} , H_y^{eff} , and H_z^{eff} . Among these four decoupled parts, H_y^{eff} and H_z^{eff} are just the Hamiltonian for the gapped magnetic mode on sublattice A and gapless magnetic Goldstone modes on sublattice B, C, and D due to the spontaneous symmetry breaking of SO(3) spin symmetry. These two gapless Goldstone modes correspond to the gapless uniform rotation of the AF ordering from x direction to y or z direction. H_x^{eff} is the Hamiltonian of gapped x-magnon mode on sublattice B, C, and D due to the condensation of x-magnons on these sublattices. The remaining H_h^{eff} is of great interest for it is the Hamiltonian of the charge modes and x-magnon mode on sublattice A.

Under the insulating lobe of checkerboard state, the charge modes are gapped. The charge gap ω_0 is given by the solution to the quartic equation of the form

$$\omega_0^4 + C_2 \omega_0^2 + C_3 = 0, \qquad (27)$$

where C_2 and C_4 are quadratic functions of J_c . This equation is quartic because fields with momentum q and -q are coupled and there are $t^{\dagger}t^{\dagger}$ terms in the effective Hamiltonian.

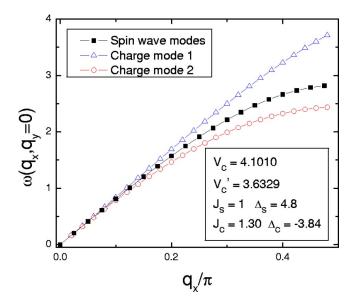


FIG. 10. (Color online) Dispersion of four gapless modes at a quantum multicritical point, located tip of the $\delta = 1/8$ checkerboard lobe illustrated in Fig. 6. The two spin wave modes have exactly the same dispersion due to the SO(3) symmetry of the AF moment. For the parameters shown in the figure, these four modes have the same speed at the multicritical point. These four modes correspond the four Goldstone modes required by the quantum dynamical SO(5) symmetry.

The condition $C_3=0$ gives the lobe-shaped second order phase boundary where one charge mode becomes soft and a phase transition from the PDW state to the SC state occurs. However, one must be careful since it is possible that the system takes a first order transition before the charge mode softens. This indeed happens for lower left part of the lobe, where the PDW state takes a first order transition to an AF +SC mixed state. In the following discussion, we assume the tip and some of the left part of the lobe survive, as in the case plotted in Fig. 6.

As one approaches the left part of the second order lobe following a trajectory with constant J_c , the energy cost of removing hole-pair decreases and becomes zero at the phase boundary. This observation leads to the conclusion that a particlelike charge mode becomes soft on the left part of the lobe. Similarly, one can argue that a holelike charge mode becomes soft at the right part. At the tip, where the left part and right part of the lobe meet, both particlelike and holelike modes become soft. Consequently, an effective particle-hole symmetry is dynamically restored. One can check that C_2 indeed vanishes at the tip of the lobe.

At the tip of the lobe, the speed of gapless charge modes is determined by the interaction V_c and V'_c . For appropriate values of V_c and V'_c , the speed of the gapless charge mode can be the same as the speed of the two gapless AF spin wave modes. When quantum SO(5) symmetry is spontaneously broken to an SO(4) symmetry, there should be exactly four degenerate gapless Goldstone bosons. This model shows that such a dynamical symmetry is possible at the multicritical point around the tip of the $\delta = 1/8$ lobe. Figure 10 plots the dispersions of four gapless modes at the tip of an AF insulating checkerboard lobe in the phase diagram of Fig. 6.

V. PHASE DIAGRAM OBTAINED FROM QUANTUM MONTE CARLO SIMULATION

A. Numerical simulation

Because of the bosonic nature, the minus-sign problem is absent in the quantum SO(5) model. Therefore, simulations can be carried out for systems with sizes much larger than the ones available with fermionic QMC simulation in the physically interesting region. The pioneering numerical works^{30-33,74,75} show that the projected SO(5) model can give a realistic description of the phase diagram of the HTSC cuprates and account for many of their physical properties. In this section, we shall present the simulation of the SO(5)model with extended interactions using the stochastic series expansion (SSE) method⁷⁶⁻⁷⁸ with operator-loop update.⁷⁸ This quantum Monte Carlo method was shown to be very efficient for simulations of hardcore bosonic systems.^{30,63,79} The overall topology of the phase diagram agrees well with the mean field calculation presented in the previous section, although the parameters are strongly renormalized.

From the values given in Sec. II, we see that we can safely neglect J_{π} which is rather small so that only remains J_c and J_s which are both positive. In this section, $J_{\pi}=0$.

In order to avoid the notorious sign problem in the quantum Monte Carlo simulations of the SO(5) model with extended interactions, all off-diagonal terms should be positive. On a square lattice with only nearest-neighbor nonzero offdiagonal terms, the sign of these matrix elements can be safely changed by a harmless unitary transformation acting on hopping terms in only one of the sublattices.

For each simulation, the number of loops (or "worms") made during the loop operator update⁷⁸ is calculated selfconsistently during the thermalization part, such that on average the number of vertices visited by worms during each loop operator update is equal to $C\langle n \rangle$. Here $\langle n \rangle$ is the average number of non-identity vertices in the operator string (see Ref. 78) and *C* a proportionality constant, usually taken between 1 and 5 (the larger *C*, the more autocorrelations between successive Monte Carlo configurations are reduced).

In order to plot the phase diagram, we should compute the order parameters corresponding to AF, SC, and PDW phase. We use the superfluid density ρ_c to locate SC phases. Indeed, ρ_c can be related to the winding numbers of the world-lines which can be directly computed during the QMC simulations.^{77,80} Here the winding number only involves the charged particles, i.e., the hole pair hopping. We can take a similar definition with the magnetic bosons to define the spin stiffness.

It is straightforward to measure the density-density correlations and their Fourier transform, the structure factors $N(q_x, q_y)$ which indicate PDW phases

$$N(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{L^2} \sum_{i,\mathbf{r}} \exp(i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}) \langle n_h(i) n_h(i+\mathbf{r}) \rangle.$$

These quantities characterize the diagonal long-range order. On finite clusters, the structure factor at the appropriate momentum diverges as the volume of the system in the ordered phase, so that, by plotting $N(q_x, q_y)/L^2$ vs 1/L (*L* is the linear

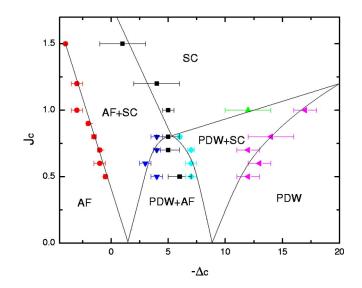


FIG. 11. (Color online) The global phase diagram obtained by QMC. The parameters used in simulation are Δ_s =4.8, V_c =4.1010, V'_c =3.6329, and $J_{\pi}=V_{\pi}=0$. The lines are guides to the eye only. The overall topology of the phase diagram agrees well with the mean-field phase diagram of Fig. 6, although the parameters are renormalized.

size of the system), a scaling analysis can demonstrate long range order.

Due to the intrinsic complexity of the projected SO(5) model and to the large number of interaction types, we restricted the simulations to small lattices (4×4 up to 10×10 lattices) at low temperatures (typically β =10), to mainly be in the ground state. Even using the powerful SSE method, we found that for specific points in the phase diagram (near phase boundaries for example), autocorrelation times of different observables or tunneling times between two neighboring phases can be long, decreasing the statistical precision. This sometimes prevents us from providing definitive statements about the nature of phase transitions. However, outside of these regions, we can clearly distinguish the nature of the different phases.

B. Limiting cases

The pure projected SO(5) model corresponds to $V_c = V'_c$ = $V_{\pi}=0$ and $J_c=2J_s$. This model has been studied with the same technique.³⁰ A first-order transition between AF and SC phases was observed. It was already recognized that a small V_c and V'_c were enough to turn this transition into a secondorder phase transition.

Another interesting case occurs when the triplet density becomes small. In that limit, the model reduces to one type of hard-core boson with hopping J_c and nearest and next-nearest neighbor repulsion V_c and V'_c respectively.

$$H = -J_{c}\sum_{\langle ij\rangle} \left[t_{h}^{\dagger}(i)t_{h}(j) + \text{H.c.}\right] + \left[V_{c}\sum_{\langle ij\rangle} + V_{c}'\sum_{\langle\langle ij\rangle\rangle}\right] n_{h}(i)n_{h}(j)$$
(28)

so that we can fix $J_c=1$ as the energy unit. This model has been extensively studied in Ref. 63 and some results have

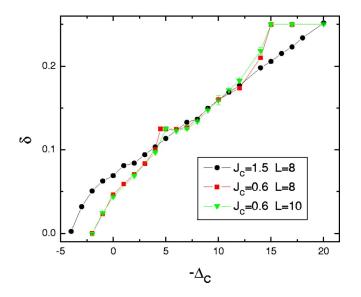


FIG. 12. (Color online) $\delta = n_h/2$ vs chemical potential for J_c = 1.5 and J_c =0.6. The presence of plateaux indicates incompressible PDW phases. The finite size effects are rather small.

been obtained with the same SSE method. Let us review a few useful results.

1. Half-filling

The phase diagram at half-filling is well known and exhibits solid phases with either $(\pi, 0)$ (stripe) or (π, π) (checkerboard) structures. In between exists a superfluid phase with a nonzero superfluid density ρ_c . We recover the same results as Hebert *et al.*:⁶³ with our choice of interactions, by varying J_c , we can drive the system from a superfluid toward a $(\pi, 0)$ (stripe) phase.

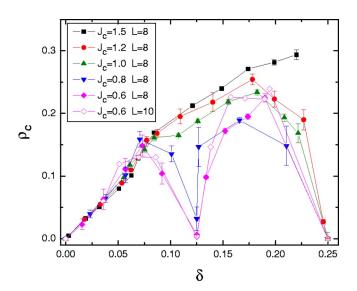


FIG. 13. (Color online) Superfluid density as a function of doping for various J_c . The "class B1" trace with $J_c=1.0$ bears great similarity with the famous domelike phase diagram of many cuprate families. Also, the "class B3"-like trace with $J_c \leq 0.8$ has a pronounced dip at $\delta=1/8$ as the phase diagram of the *LSCO* family does.

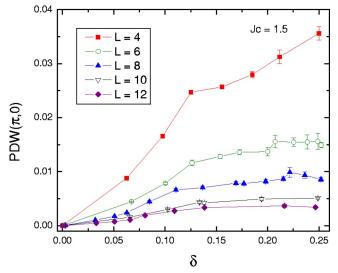


FIG. 14. (Color online) Scaling of $(\pi, 0)$ PDW order parameter $[N(\pi, 0)/L^2]$ for various sizes (L=6 to 12 from top to bottom) with $J_c=1.5$. We checked that it extrapolates to 0 for all δ .

2. Away from half-filling

Away from half-filling, our grand-canonical algorithm is able to check whether we are in a phase separated state or not by looking at the histogram of the density during the simulation. On general grounds, the presence of a double peak structure shows the presence of true phase separation in the system.

With our choice of parameters, we find that away from the striped state, there is a phase, close to half-filling, where both $N(0, \pi)/L^2$ (PDW order parameter) and ρ_c are finite, that is a supersolid phase. Moreover, there is no sign of phase separation so that it is a true homogeneous phase, as claimed in Ref. 63.

C. Global phase diagram

Now that the parameters are fixed, we can compute the phase diagram for various J_c and chemical potential Δ_c (see Fig. 11). In order to discuss these results, we plot in the following most of the data as a function of doping $\delta = n_h/2$ which depends on the chemical potential Δ_c as shown in Fig. 12, but has no strong finite-size effects. Let us comment on some results.

1. Large J_c

For all values of J_c , the superfluid density increases linearly with doping, for small doping, thus capturing a key piece of the Mott physics. For large J_c ($J_c=1.5$ for example), reducing hole density starting from $\delta=1/4$, we have a smooth decrease of superfluid density (see Fig. 13). At the same time, magnon density increases and gives rise to AF. Figure 14 shows typical data of $N(\pi,0)/L^2$ which is the PDW order parameter for various sizes. In order to get information on the thermodynamic limit, we have performed a finite-size scaling of our data, and it vanishes for all fillings. We have a superconducting state for all dopings, with a pos-

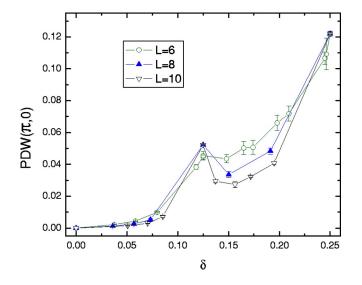


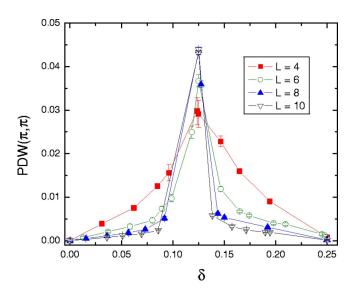
FIG. 15. (Color online) $(\pi, 0)$ PDW order as a function of δ for various sizes (*L*=6,8, and 10) for *Jc*=0.6. We checked that, within the system sizes simulated, finite PDW order survives in the thermodynamic limit for $n_h \ge 0.25$ ($\delta \ge 0.125$).

sible coexistence with AF at low-doping. When the doping vanishes, we recover a pure AF phase.

2. Small J_c

For smaller J_c , the long-range interactions between hole pairs start to play a role.

a. Large doping. The first example is the appearance of a $(\pi, 0)$ PDW insulating phase at $n_h=1/2$ ($\delta=1/4$). Indeed, close to this doping, the magnon density is very small so that the model is similar to the single hardcore boson case. We therefore recover a transition at fixed $n_h=1/2$ ($\delta=1/4$) as a function of J_c between a superfluid phase (SC) and an insulating stripe phase (with a finite PDW order and a vanishing superfluid density). A finite-size scaling of the PDW order



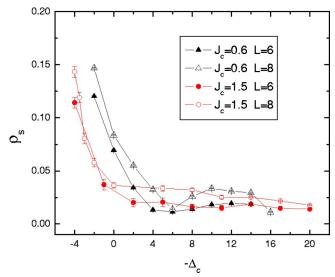


FIG. 17. (Color online) The spin stiffness vs chemical potential for different sizes and J_c .

parameter showing a finite value is shown in Fig. 15 for $n_h = 0.5$ ($\delta = 0.25$) and $J_c = 0.6$. In Fig. 13, we see that below $J_c \sim 1.3$, the superfluid density vanishes at $n_h = 1/2$ ($\delta = 1/4$) in agreement with what has been found for the single-boson model.⁶³ Mean-field results find a higher value ($V'_c/2 \approx 1.8$).

b. Intermediate doping. A second example of the interaction effect is given by the appearance of an insulating PDW phase at $n_h=0.25$ ($\delta=0.125$) for low enough $J_c(J_c \le 0.7)$. A finite PDW order parameter and $\rho_c=0$ are shown again in Figs. 15 and 13 for $J_c=0.6$. This state corresponds to a localization of one hole-pair every 4 sites, so that this n_h =1/4 ($\delta=1/8$) checkerboard also possesses a finite $N(\pi,\pi)/L^2$ as shown in Fig. 16. We find that this n_h $=1/4(\delta=1/8)$ checkerboard is insulating, with a vanishing superfluid density. However, it could be possible to have a supersolid phase.⁸¹

For intermediate dopings $0.25 < n_h < 0.5$ (0.125 $< \delta < 0.25$) and small J_c , we find a finite superfluid density and possibly a finite PDW order, that is a supersolid region. We checked that this phase is stable against phase separation. We cannot be conclusive about its extension in the phase diagram, due to the long autocorrelation time for some observables. This explains the large error bars in some parts of the phase diagram. However, since we know that such a phase exists and is stable close to half-filling, we can assume that it has a finite extension. It would be interesting to check whether this supersolid also exists for a single hard-core boson model close to $n_h = 1/4$ ($\delta = 1/8$), which is much easier to simulate. It is remarkable that for J_c values close to the transition, we see a dip in the superfluid density (Fig. 13), which is due to the proximity to the insulating state.

3. Magnetic properties

FIG. 16. (Color online) (π, π) PDW order as a function of δ for various sizes (L=4, 6, 8 and 10) and $J_c=0.7$. We checked that it is finite only for $n_h=1/4$ ($\delta=1/8$) checkerboard.

As shown in Fig. 17, the spin stiffness shows a monotonic decrease with chemical potential (or doping) so that it is difficult to locate precisely where it vanishes. For small doping δ or chemical potential $-\Delta_c$, we observe a rapid linear

decrease so that we can estimate roughly where AF could vanish in the thermodynamic limit. These phase boundaries are shown in Fig. 11 and are in agreement with what has been found at the mean-field level.

For small J_c , AF seems to vanish at $n_h=1/4$ ($\delta=1/8$). However, our data of ρ_s also show a shallow peak above this filling, which could indicate a reentrance of AF as found in mean-field. Unfortunately, with our current limitation on available sizes and statistics, we cannot conclude for sure about this possibility.

D. Summary

The qualitative features found at the mean-field level are still present in a full numerical calculation and we have a very nice overall agreement (see Figs. 6 and 11). Of course, exact critical values of J_c for superconducting-insulator transition are different from mean-field values but this does not change the physical conclusions.

It is very difficult to point precisely where AF vanishes since spin stiffness does not show any sharp drop. However, we clearly see a strong reduction of ρ_s , which seems to decrease linearly with doping. With the chosen parameters, it seems plausible that both this line and the PDW transition line merge close to the tip of the n=1/4 lobe as was found at the mean-field level. This result was associated to the dynamical restoration of SO(5) symmetry at this point. Our data might be an indication that this is indeed the case (we have taken the same V_c and V'_c so it seems pretty robust). However, a complete answer can only be provided by computing dynamical correlations, which is more involved and requires good statistics.

VI. EXPERIMENTAL CONSEQUENCE AND PREDICTIONS

In this work we have constructed a single quantum Hamiltonian based on the projected SO(5) model with extended interactions, and presented detailed analytical and numerical calculations which give a consistent global phase diagram as depicted in Fig. 4. This schematic phase diagram is obtained from the quantitative model calculations summarized in Figs. 6 and 11. This model captures the overall topology of the cuprates phase diagram, including the domelike feature of T_c , which is determined within our model by the superfluid density, the 1/8 anomaly due to charge ordering, the coexistence of SC with AF and possibly with charge order. As mentioned in the Introduction, some of these features have been discussed in other theoretical contexts before, however, it is rather remarkable that they are all reproduced by a single quantum model accessible by reliable QMC. Below we shall discuss some of these features and present more detailed theoretical predictions.

A. Dependence of superfluid density on doping

A remarkable feature of the HTSC cuprates is the domelike dependence of T_c on doping. Experiments have also shown a remarkable dependence of superfluid density on doping. On the underdoped side, both T_c and the superfluid density scale linearly with doping, a fact commonly referred to as the "Uemura plot." Further examination also shows that the superfluid density in the overdoped regime decreases with increasing doping, which is commonly referred to as the "boomerang effect." In cuprate system, the muon spin relaxation rate $\sigma(T \rightarrow 0)$ is proportional to n_s/m^* where n_s is the superfluid density and m^* is the effective mass of hole-pairs.⁸² To explain the deviation from the linear relation between σ and doping in the overdoped regime, Uemura proposed that some of the doped holes do not form pairs and are phase separated from the SC hole-pairs, even at zero temperature.⁸² A similar phase separation picture was proposed by Uchida.⁸³ However, it has always been rather puzzling that if the phase separated normal electrons existed at zero temperature, they should provide a channel of relaxations, which has not been observed experimentally.

Within our effective bosonic model, T_c is directly determined by the superfluid density ρ_c . As we can see from Fig. 13, ρ_c indeed scales linearly with the doping density for small doping, and has a domelike dependence for higher doping for intermediate values of J_c . It peaks around δ $\sim 18\%$ for $J_c = 1.2$. The physical reason for the behavior on the overdoped side arises from the tendency of hole pairs to form a competing charge ordering state at either 3/16 or 1/4. Within this picture, when more holes are added into the system on the overdoped side, the holes are still paired, but some of them form a charge ordered PDW state, with preferred doping of 3/16 or 1/4. This charge ordered PDW state either phase separates from the SC state, or coexists with it, but either way, the superfluid density is reduced because of the repulsive coupling between the two forms of order. Therefore, this picture predicts a new charge ordered state on the overdoped side, which should be tested experimentally. Since the magnon density decreases monotonically with doping, the charge ordered states on the overdoped side may not be AF ordered, which makes it hard to observe by neutron scattering. Furthermore, on the overdoped side, our purely bosonic model also becomes less accurate, and a fully quantitative theory has to include the low energy fermionic excitations.

B. The 1/8 anomaly and pressure experiments

In the *LSCO* systems, T_c has a pronounced dip near doping of $\delta = 1/8$.⁸⁴ More recently, it has been demonstrated that the competition between the nearly insulating 1/8 phase and the SC phase in the *LSCO* family can be controlled by pressure. There are two different approaches. One is to apply hydrostatic or uniaxial pressure on single crystal.⁷⁰ In this way, the pressure in *ab* plane increases T_c while the pressure in *c* direction decreases T_c . The other is to introduce compressive or expansive strain into thin films with the help of the lattice mismatch between the film and substrate.⁷¹ Enhanced T_c and disappearance of the 1/8 anomaly for compressed film and strong reduction of T_c for expanded film were observed.⁷¹

Our model reproduces the $\delta = 1/8$ effect for $J_c < 1$, as one can see from Fig. 13. The pronounced dip is caused from the competition between the SC state and the insulating PDW states. Varying doping corresponds to the "B2" or "B3"

traces as depicted in Fig. 4. On the other hand, pressure in the *ab* plane reduces the lattice constant, thus increases the hopping term J_c . Therefore, applying pressure in the *ab* plane is equivalent to following a "class A2" trace starting from a small J_c in the global phase diagram. The doping dependence of T_c for different films given in Fig. 3 of Sato *et al.*⁷¹ shares many common features with our doping dependence of SC order parameter, both MF results (Fig. 7) and QMC results (Fig. 13). The destructive effect on T_c of the pressure in the *c* direction can also be understood in terms of the Poisson effect. The lattice constant in *ab* plane will increase when the sample is compressed in the *c* direction. This will lead to the decrease of T_c as argued previously.

Similar to the "class A2" trace, "class A3" trace can also be realized by applying pressure. Therefore, we predict a similar pressure induced superconductor-to-insulator transition at $\delta = 1/16$.

In this way, the pressure effect on the 1/8 anomaly is understood in terms of the bosonic superfluid-to-insulator transition at the fixed density of δ =1/8. Standard predictions on the superfluid-to-insulator transition apply to the δ =1/8 transition. In addition, we argued that the tip of the δ =1/8 lobe can possibly have the full quantum SO(5) symmetry. This prediction can be experimentally tested by comparing both the static and dynamic charge and magnetic responses, as we have discussed in Sec. II B.

C. The vortex phase and the ground state above H_{c2}

The "class A2" and "class A3" traces can also be approached in the cuprates by applying a magnetic field along the *c*-axis, which effectively reduces the hopping term J_c . In underdoped *LSCO* samples, we predict that the magnetic field destroys SC order by localizing hole-pairs into a PDW state. This naturally leads to the field-induced insulating behavior in underdoped *LSCO*.^{72,73} For the *YBCO* and *BSCO* systems, the magnetic field could drive the hole-pairs into a disordered state before the lobe of $\delta = 1/8$ or $\delta = 1/16$ is reached.

Recently, a striking feature is revealed in the STM experiments by Hoffman *et al.*,³⁷ where the local density of states (DOS) near the vortex core shows a two-dimensional checkerboardlike modulation with a $4a \times 4a$ charge unit cell. Here *a* is the lattice spacing of the CuO₂ plane. This modulation decays exponentially away from the center of the vortex core, with a decay length of about 10*a*. A similar pattern has also been seen in the absence of the applied magnetic field.³⁸ possibly induced by the impurities at the surface. In the case of vortex core experiment, SC is destroyed by the magnetic field, and the nature of the competing state is revealed. The case of impurity scattering is more complex, and the experimental observation can also be interpreted as due to quasiparticle interference.^{39–41}

The $\delta = 1/8$ insulating PDW state was proposed as an explanation for the STM measurements.⁴³ This state has the $4a \times 4a$ checkerboard symmetry as observed in the experiment, and the doping level for the insulating $\delta = 1/8$ state is reasonably close to the optimal doping level of the cuprates. On the other hand, if the holes themselves, rather than the

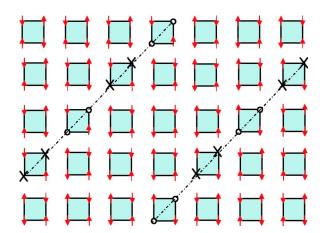


FIG. 18. (Color online) The hole-pair checkerboard state with antiphase magnetic domain at doping level $\delta = 1/16$. Circles denote holes and arrows denote spins while black crosses denote spins in a singlet bond.

hole pairs, form a Wigner crystal state, the periodicity of the charge ordering would be larger by a factor of $\sqrt{2}$, inconsistent with the experiment. Therefore, by forming the Wigner crystal state of the hole pairs rather than the holes themselves, the doping level can be compatible with the observed size of the charge unit cell. In Ref. 43, the hole pair checkerboard state was established by a mean field calculation. A main result of the present work is to establish the existence of this state by QMC calculations.

Our calculations as summarized in Figs. 6 and 11 show that the charge ordered insulating states are also accompanied by AF magnetic order. Enhanced AF fluctuation in the vortex state was originally predicted within the SO(5) theory in Refs. 1 and 17 and has been experimentally observed in a number of HTSC cuprate families by a variety of experimental techniques.^{18–24} More recently, AF order has been detected by neutron scattering above H_{c2} , in electron doped cuprates.^{25,26} This magnetic field induced quantum phase transition from the SC state to the AF state corresponds to the "A2" trace as depicted in Fig. 4.

D. Charge localization and suppression of thermal conductivity

In previous subsections, we argue that the competition between PDW and SC can be tuned by applying pressure or magnetic field. In particular, we show that the PDW ordering of hole-pairs can develop in the vortex core. The localized hole-pairs in a PDW state are expected to have little contribution to the transport properties such as thermal conductivity. This leads to the argument of the suppression of thermal conductivity by applying a magnetic field in *c*-axis below some temperature T_K . Since the onset temperature T_K is expected to be proportional to the superfluid density, T_K has weak dependence on the magnetic field and follows T_c in the underdoped cuprates. Moreover, the closer the system is to the charge ordered insulating state such as the 1/8 PDW state, the smaller the suppression effect would be. Finally, the in-plane magnetic field has little effect on the thermal

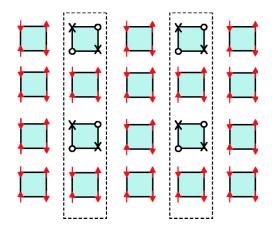


FIG. 19. (Color online) The hole-pair checkerboard state with in-phase magnetic domain at doping level $\delta = 1/8$. Circles denote holes and arrows denote spins while black crosses denote spins in a singlet bond.

conductivity due to the fact that it does not create vortex in the *ab* plane.

Therefore, trace "A2" in our global phase diagram and the charge localization into a hole pair crystal can possibly explain the recent experiment on the suppression of thermal conductivity by applying a magnetic field in the *c* direction.⁸⁵ We also predict that applying pressure will also induce the suppression or enhancement of the thermal conductivity around the 1/8 doping, assuming the pressure will not induce strong effect of the lattice structure which can also change the thermal conductivity.

E. 1/16 doping

As discussed in Sec. III, additional insulating lobes at $\delta = 1/16$ and $\delta = 3/16$ doping levels are predicted if interactions are more extended than the nnn interactions included in this work. The charge and spin ordering patterns for this state are depicted in Fig. 18. Even though the current paper does not investigate this type of more extended interactions ex-

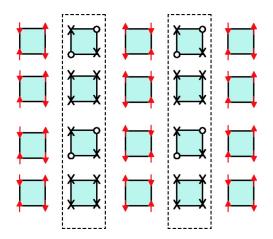


FIG. 20. (Color online) The hole-pair checkerboard state with antiphase magnetic domain at doping level $\delta = 1/8$. Circles denote holes and arrows denote spins while black crosses denote spins in a singlet bond.

plicitly due to numerical complexities, it is clear that the physics of these PDW states are similar to the 1/8 doping. Preliminary evidence for the δ =1/16 insulating state exists for the *LSCO* material.^{60,86} As we see from Figs. 18 and 19, the charge ordering pattern rotates from diagonal at δ =1/16 to square at δ =1/8. This transition between states with different rotational symmetries could possibly be related to the diagonal to square transition observed in the neutron scattering experiments at δ ~5% in the *LSCO* material.^{87,88}

F. Magnetic order

In this paper, we focused our discussion on the checkerboard charge order at $\delta = 1/8$. Strictly within our model, the accompanied AF magnetic order is commensurate, as sketched in Fig. 19. This type of magnetic structure is consistent with the recently observed field induced magnetic order in the NCCO material,^{25,26} but not consistent with the magnetic structure observed in the LSCO material, which has antiphase domain walls. We would like to stress that this is not a limitation on the fundamental approach taken here. As shown in Fig. 20, checkerboard charge order of the hole pairs can be fully consistent with the AF magnetic structure with antiphase domain walls. However, stability of this type of magnetic structure requires more extended magnetic interactions. Since the complexity of both the CORE algorithm and the QMC increases substantially, we have not yet been able to derive such extended interactions from the microscopic models, and simulate them with QMC.

G. Coexistence phases

While the simple SO(5) model¹ predicts the coexistence phases of AF and SC, more regions with coexisting charge, AF and SC orders are predicted in the global phase diagram of Figs. 6 and 11. In particular, the "type 1" first order transition from undoped AF state to SC state predicted by simple SO(5) model is turned into two "type 2" second order transitions by the interactions V_c and V'_c , which is consistent with previous study.³⁰ While the width of these coexistence regions is model dependent, coexistence phases are important qualitative predictions of our theory. Experiments on cuprates have indeed suggested such coexistence phases.^{89–94}

As we see from Fig. 8, the AF order disappears around δ =0.10. This is consistent with the value obtained from the t-J model.95 The width of the AF/SC coexistence phase largely depends on the values of J_{π} and V_{π} . As determined by the CORE method, J_{π} is negative and V_{π} is positive. Thus, at the mean-field level, both J_{π} and V_{π} terms induce a repulsion between AF and SC in the mixed state of coexisting AF and SC. When these terms are included, one would expect a smaller region of the AF/SC coexistence state in the global phase diagram. On the other hand, these two terms have different effects on the checkerboard state. Since the mean-field value of π -operator in the PDW state is zero, the J_{π} interaction will not induce any interaction terms at the mean-field level. In contrast, the V_{π} term effectively changes the local chemical potential of hole-pairs (magnons) due to the nonzero mean-field value of magnons (hole-pairs) on the nn plaquette. Therefore, V_{π} also reduces the height of the insulating PDW lobe.

VII. CONCLUSIONS

Starting from commonly used microscopic models of high T_c cuprates, an effective bosonic model can be derived by the CORE algorithm.^{28,29} In addition to the simple interactions included in the original projected SO(5) model,^{27,30,33} extended interactions play an important role in determining the global phase diagram of the model. This model can be studied systematically by the analytical mean field theory and by the QMC method, thanks to the absence of the minus sign problem. The global phase diagram consists of self-similar insulating PDW phases at rational filling fractions, immersed in the background of the uniform SC phase, as depicted schematically in Fig. 4. Different families of cuprates are attributed to different traces in the global phase diagram. The

overall topology of the phase diagram obtained from our model agrees well with the experiments, and so are the behaviors of various physical quantities. Inclusion of longer ranged interactions could bring detailed and quantitative agreements with the cuprate phase diagram.

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