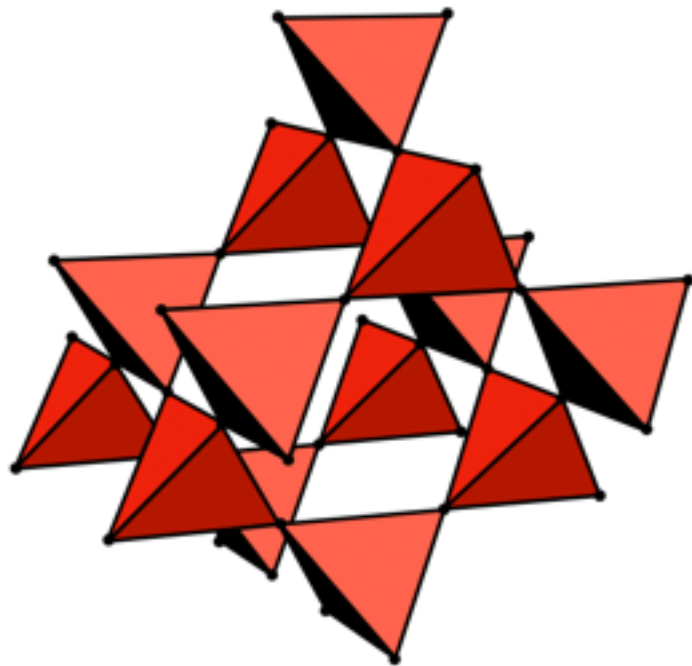


THE EMERGENT FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT IN QUANTUM SPIN ICE

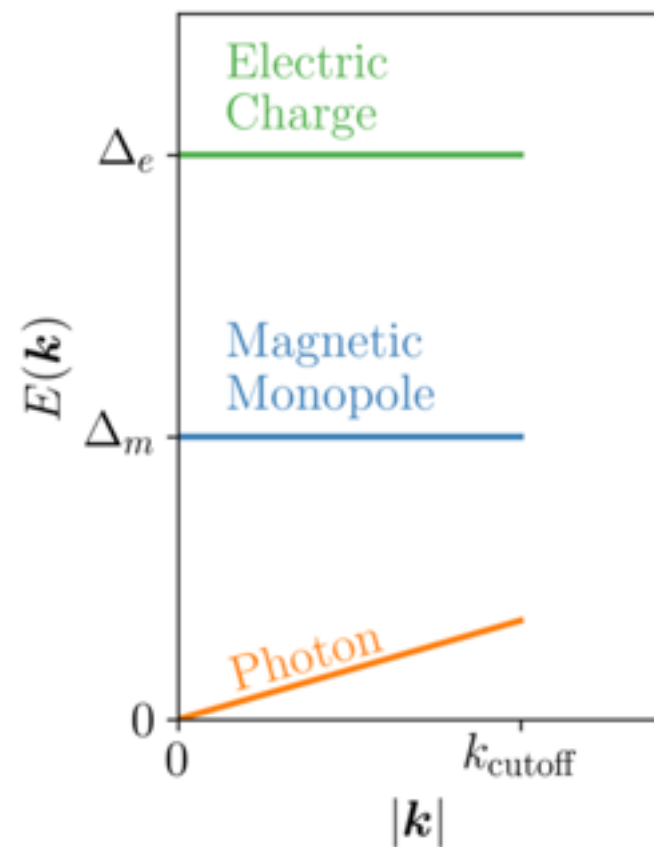
Sal Pace

OUR JOURNEY

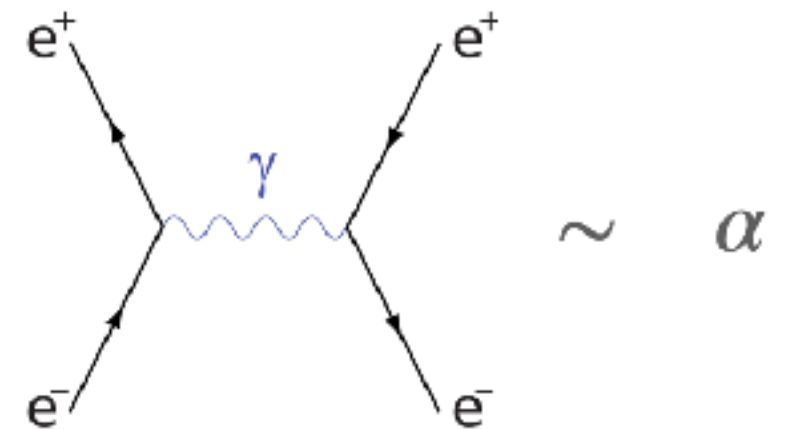
1) Quantum Spin Ice



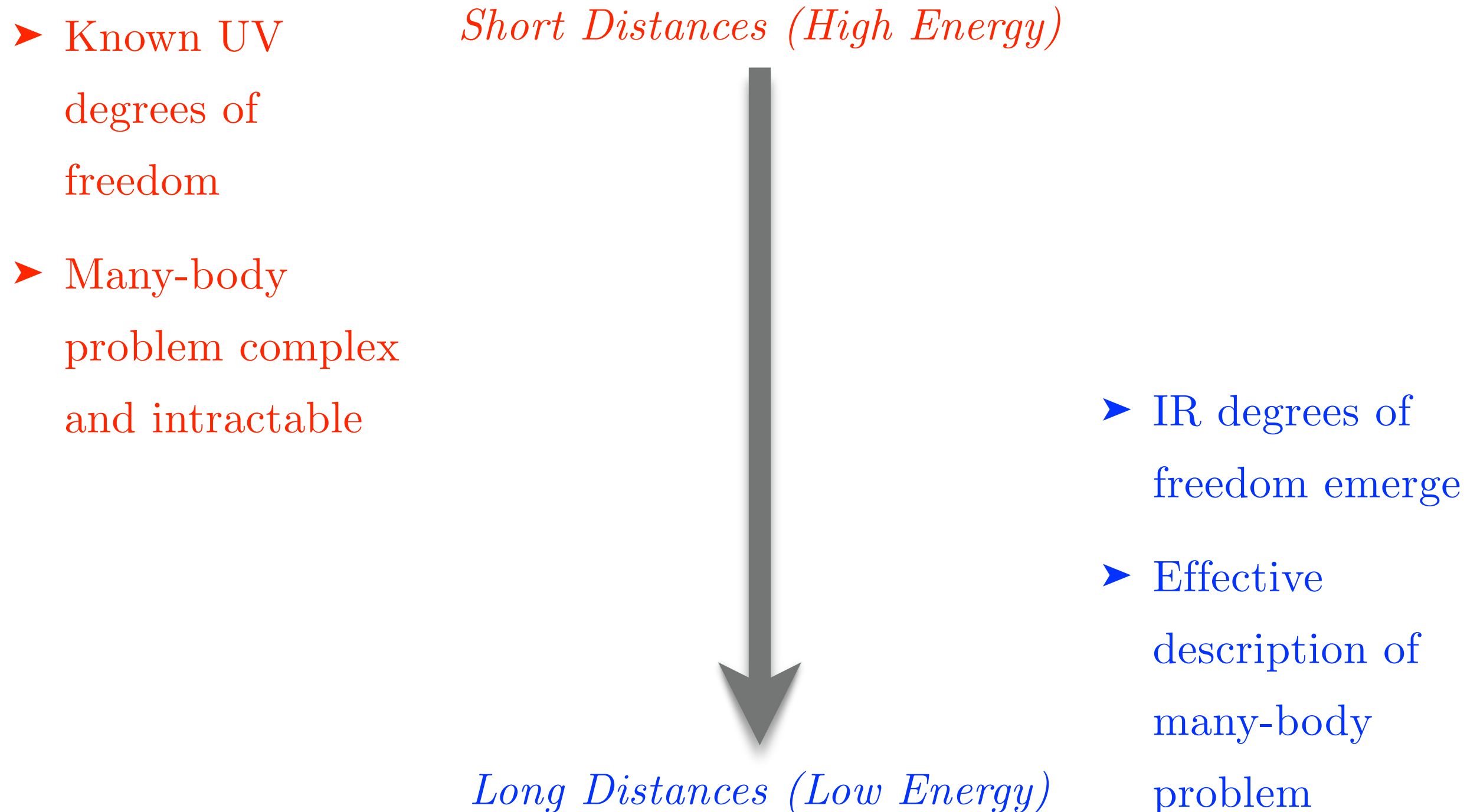
2) Emergent QED



3) Calculating the emergent fine structure constant



QUANTUM CONDENSED MATTER PHYSICS



EMERGENCE

Short Distances (High Energy)

Long Distances (Low Energy)



EMERGENCE

Short Distances (High Energy)

Long Distances (Low Energy)



EMERGENCE

Short Distances (High Energy)



Long Distances (Low Energy)



YouTube: "Richard Feynman FRS.mov," by Cheryl Field

EMERGENCE

Short Distances (High Energy)



Long Distances (Low Energy)



YouTube: "Richard Feynman FRS.mov," by Cheryl Field

Emergent Quantum Electrodynamics???

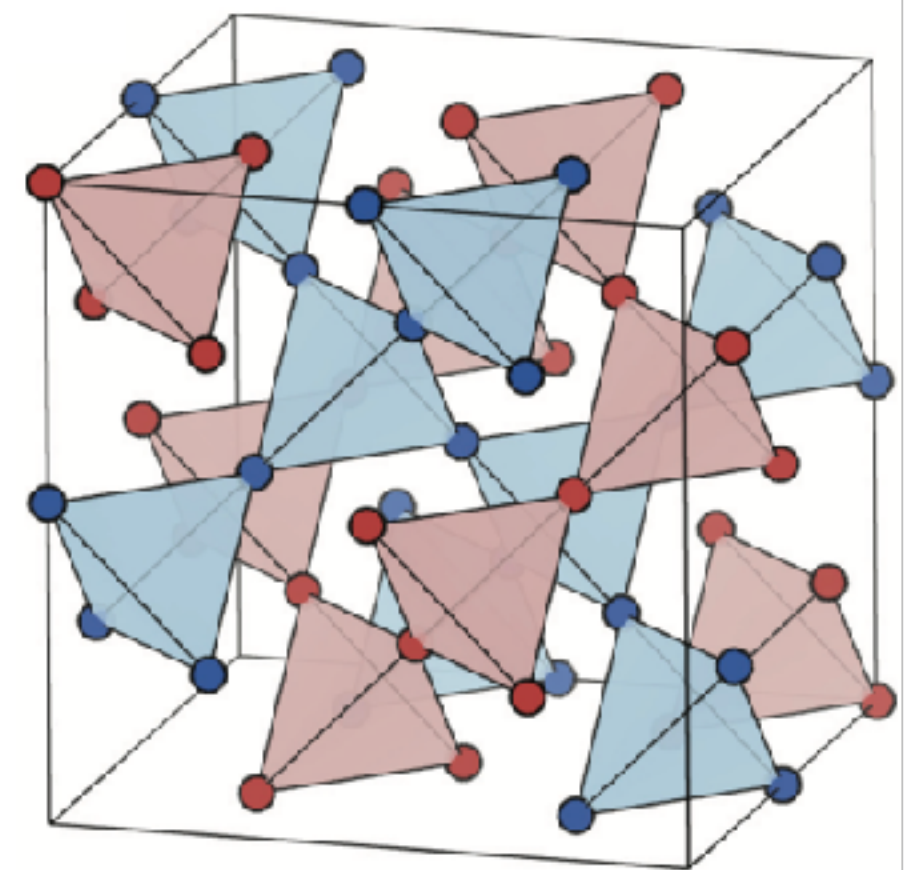
RARE-EARTH PYROCHLORE MAGNETS



Magnetic rare-earth ion

Non-magnetic

H																	He
Li	Be											B	C	N	O	F	Ne
Na	Mg											Al	Si	P	S	Cl	Ar
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe
Cs	Ba	La	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn
		Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu		
		Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr		



SPIN ICE MATERIALS



Classical spin ice



- Well established
- Order at low T

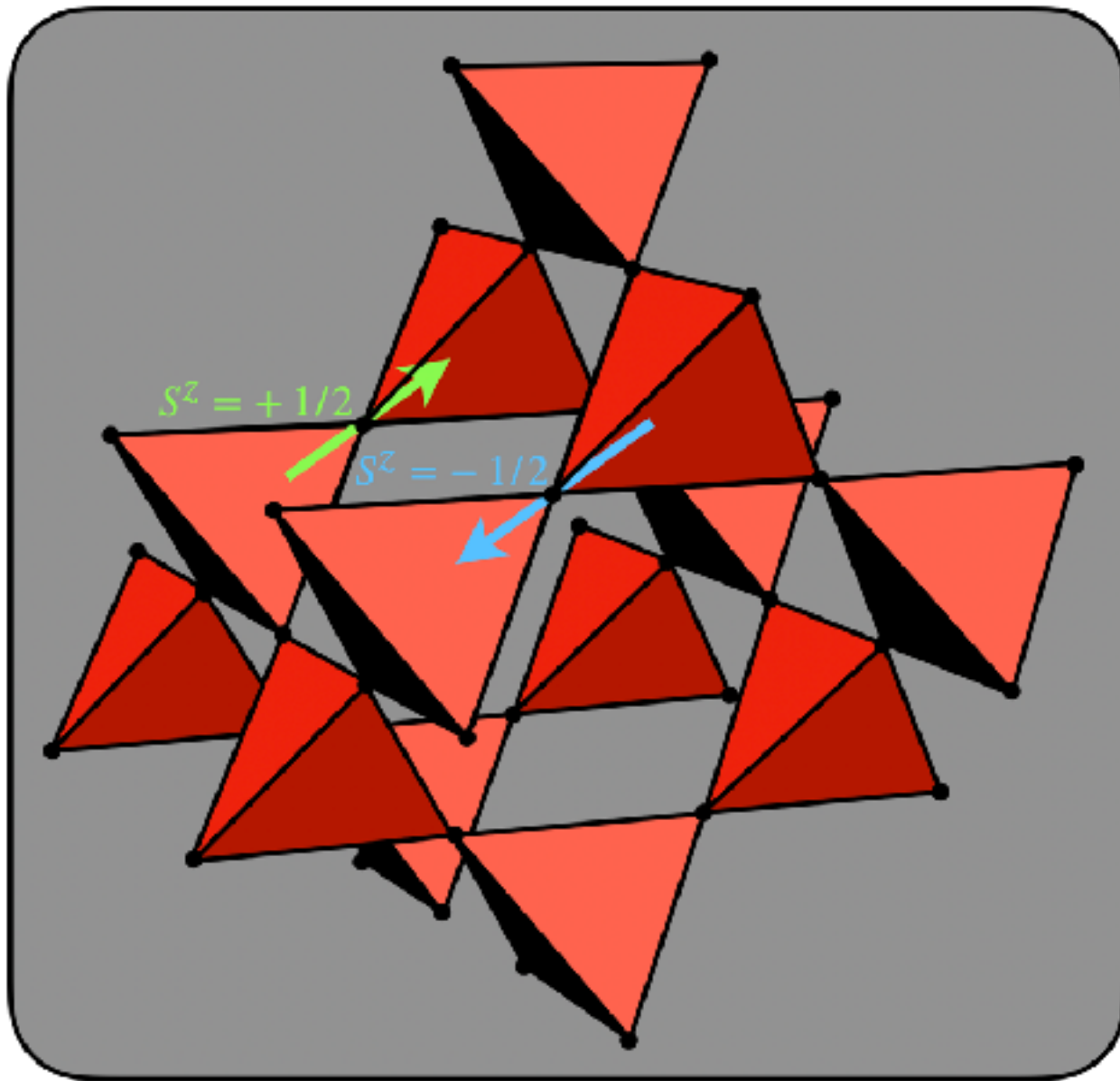
Candidate quantum spin ice



- Active area of experimental research
- No long-range order even at $T = 0$

CLASSICAL SPIN ICE

Pyrochlore Lattice



$$H_{\text{CSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} S_i^z S_j^z$$

➤ $\langle i, j \rangle$: Nearest neighbors

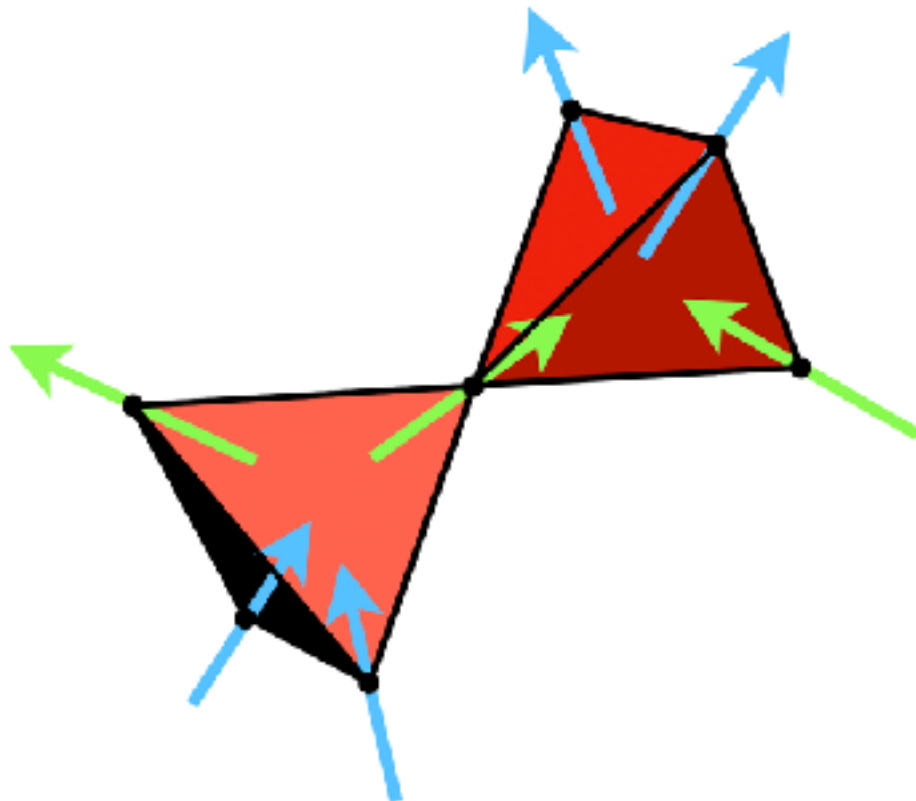
➤ $J_{zz} > 0$

CLASSICAL GROUND STATE AND EXCITATIONS

$$H_{\text{CSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} S_i^z S_j^z$$

Ground state

Local 2-in 2-out constraint: ice rule

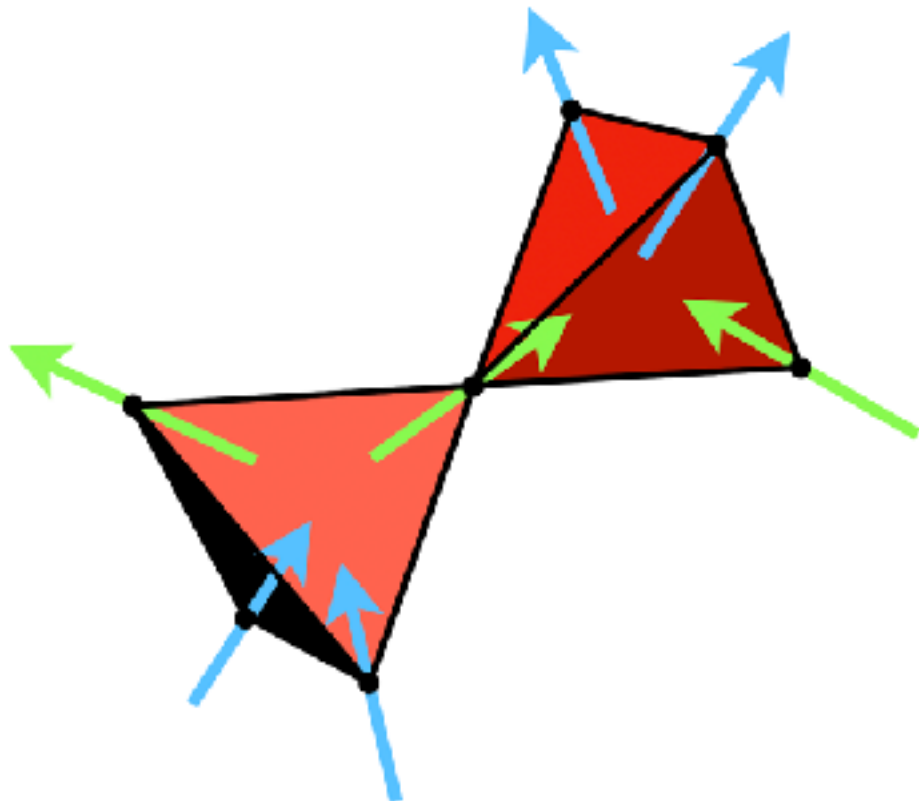


CLASSICAL GROUND STATE AND EXCITATIONS

$$H_{\text{CSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} S_i^z S_j^z$$

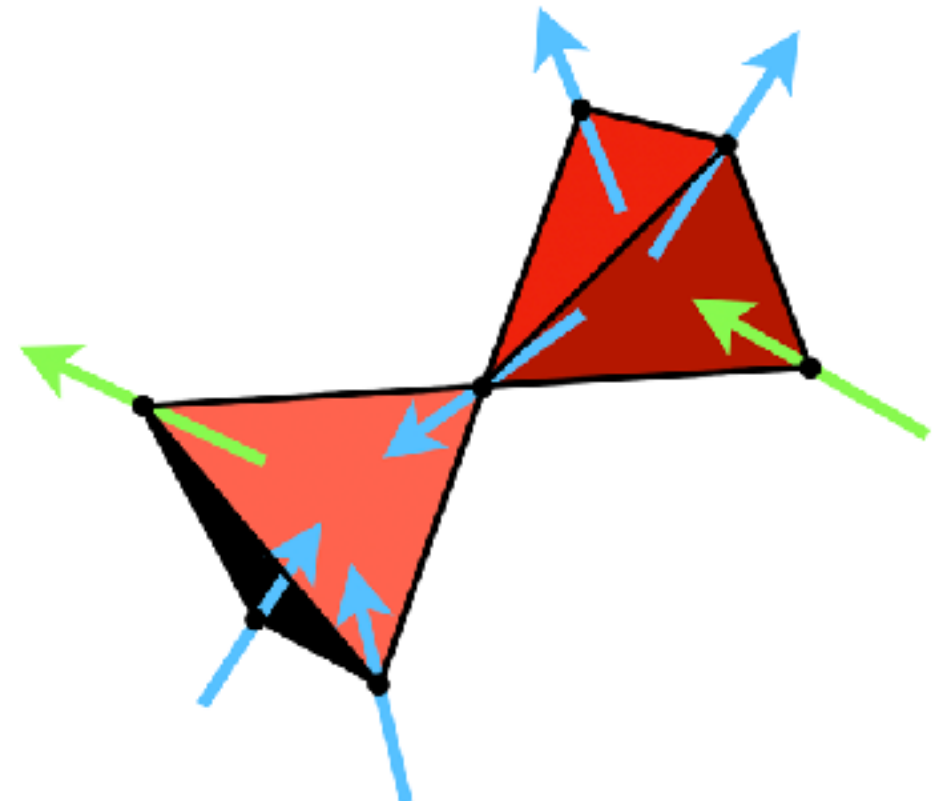
Ground state

Local 2-in 2-out constraint: ice rule



Excitation

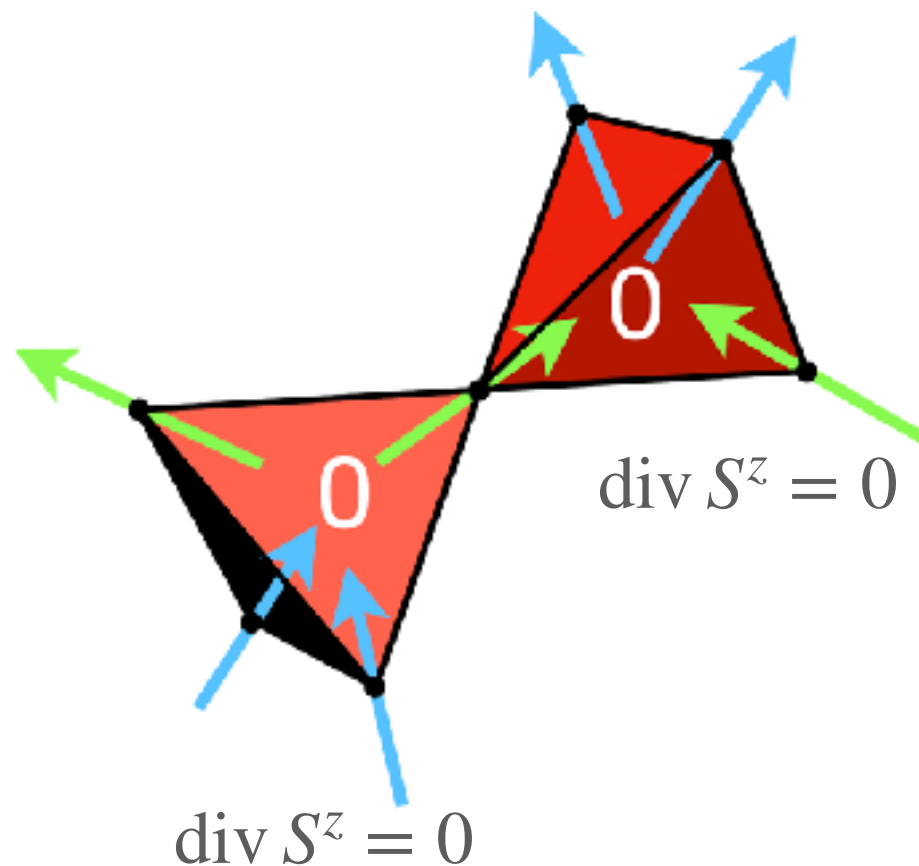
$2J_{zz}$ energy gap



AN EMERGENT GAUGE STRUCTURE

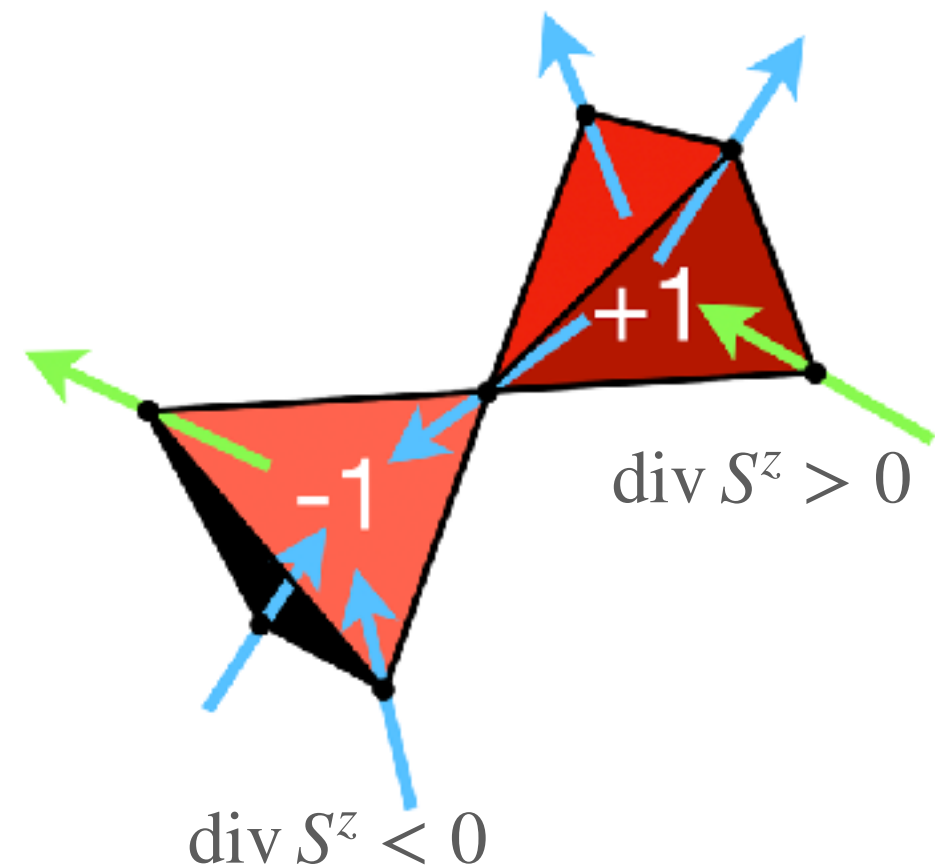
Ground state

Local constraint: 2-in 2-out



Excitation

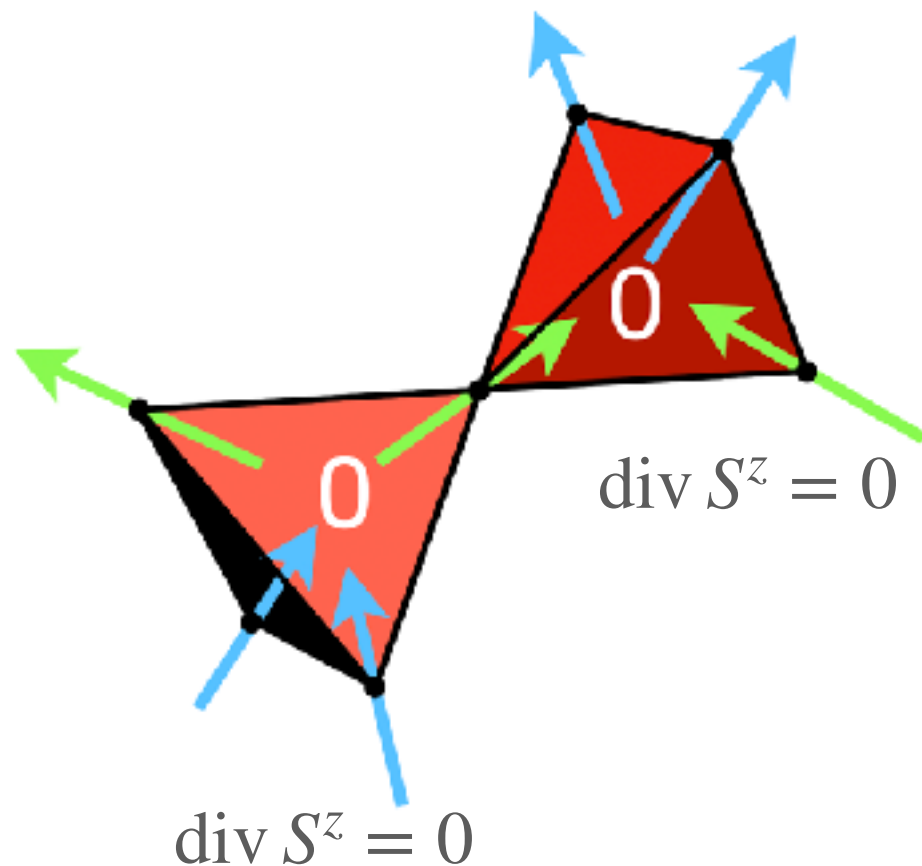
$2J_{zz}$ energy gap



AN EMERGENT GAUGE STRUCTURE

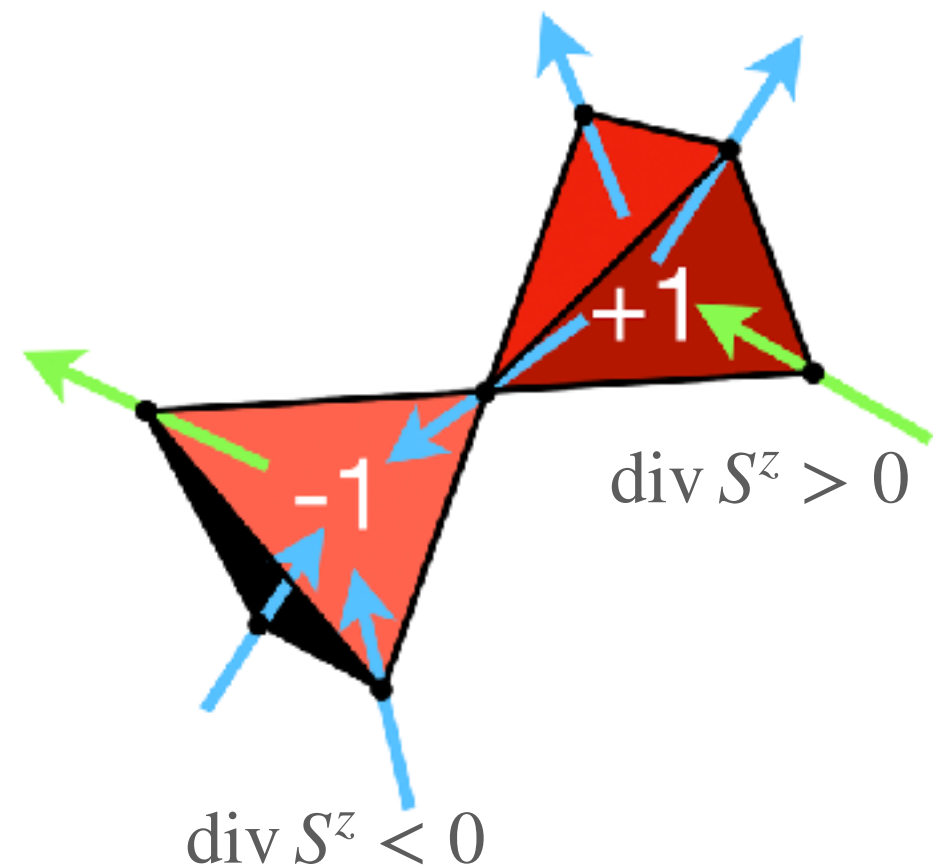
Ground state

Local constraint: 2-in 2-out



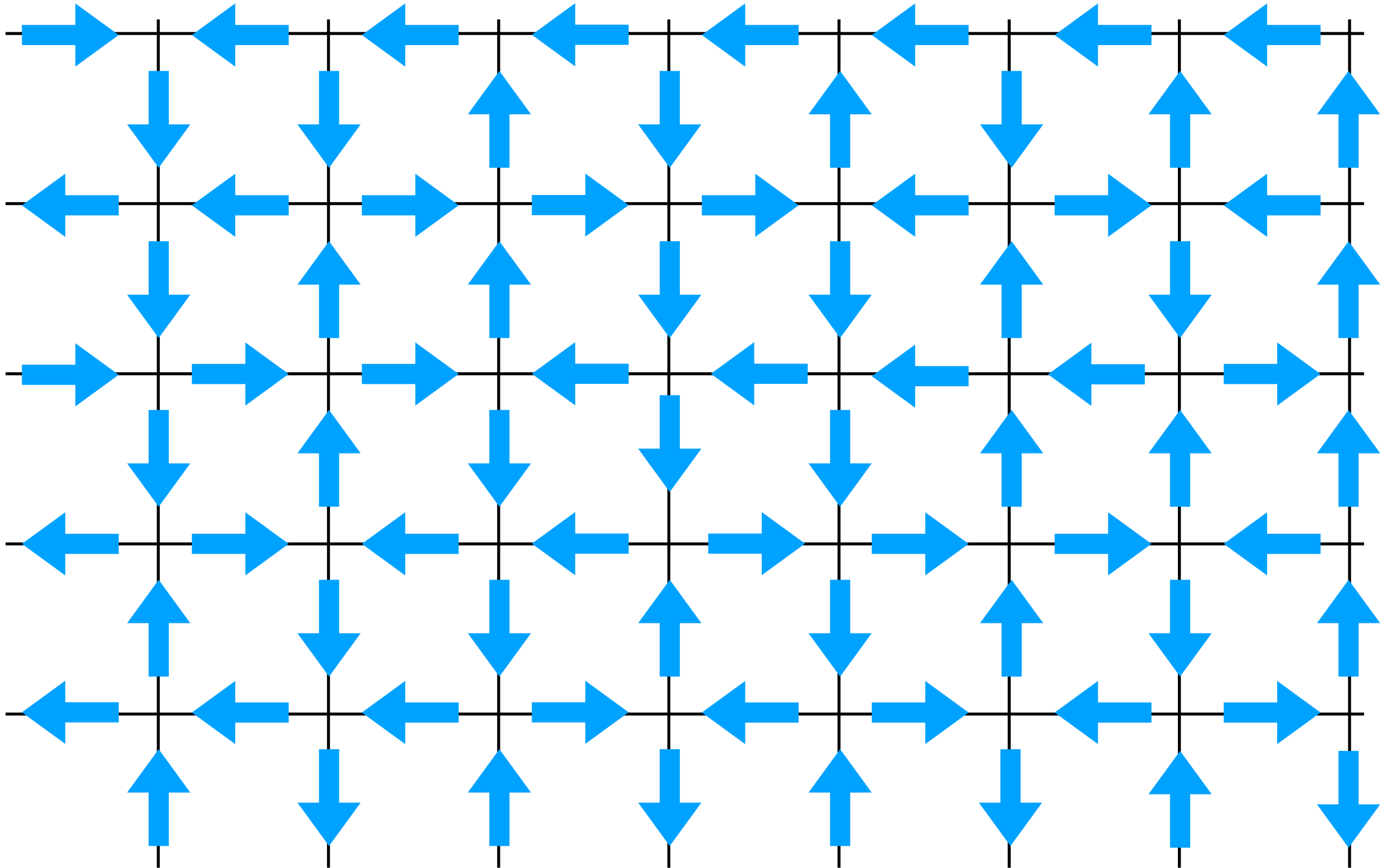
Excitation

$2J_{zz}$ energy gap

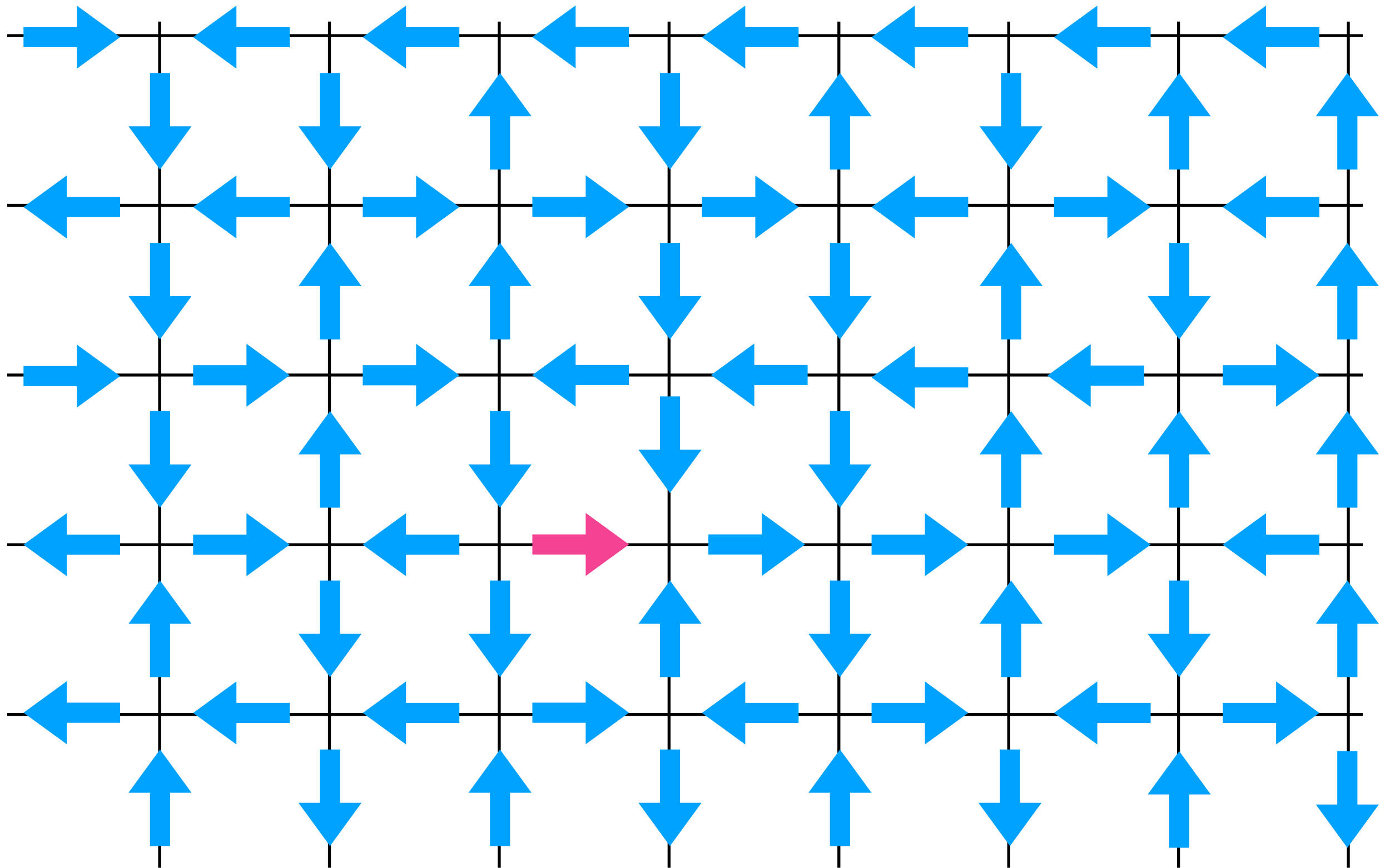


Emergent Gauss's Law: $\text{div}_t S^z = q$

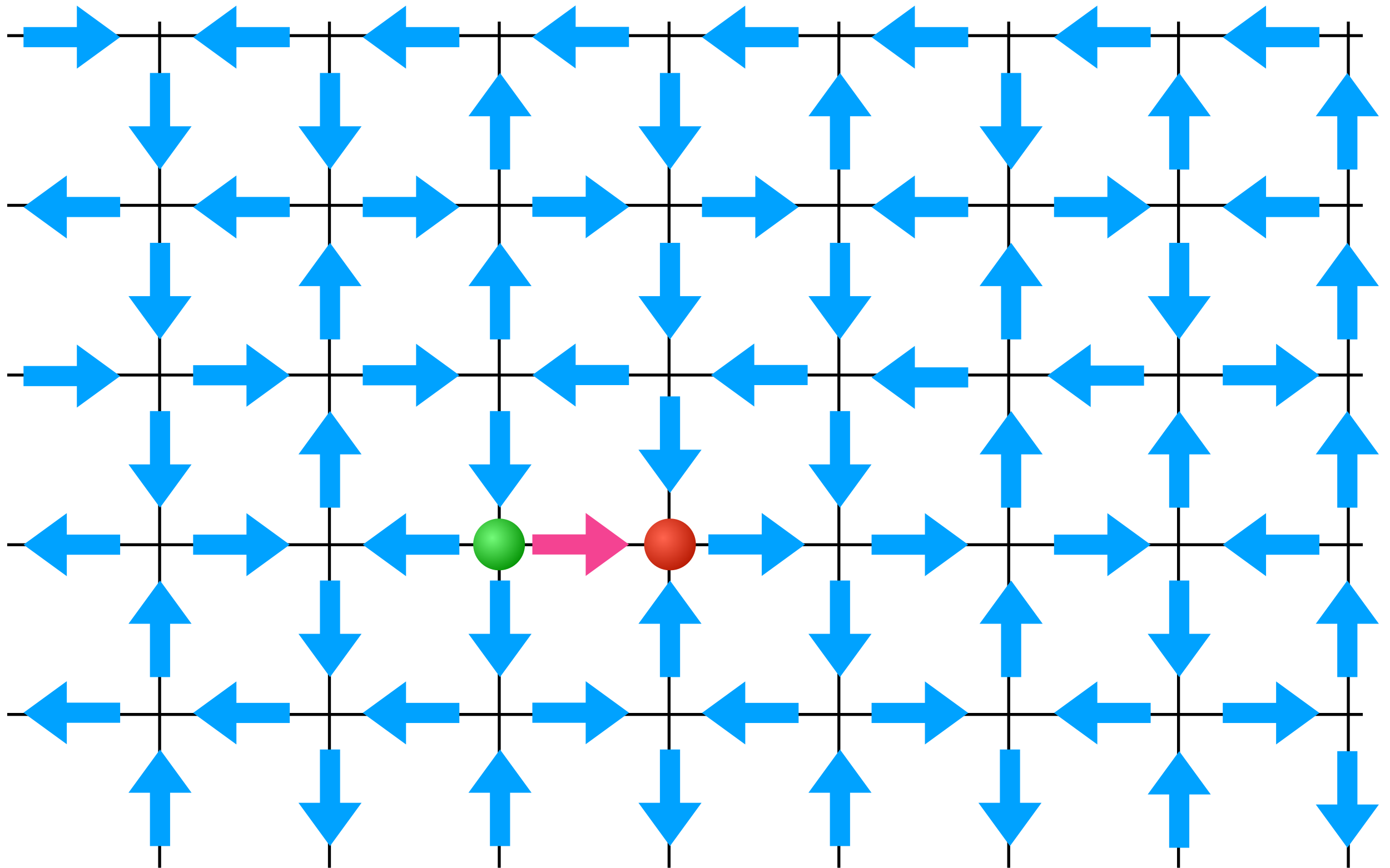
EMERGENT ELECTRODYNAMICS



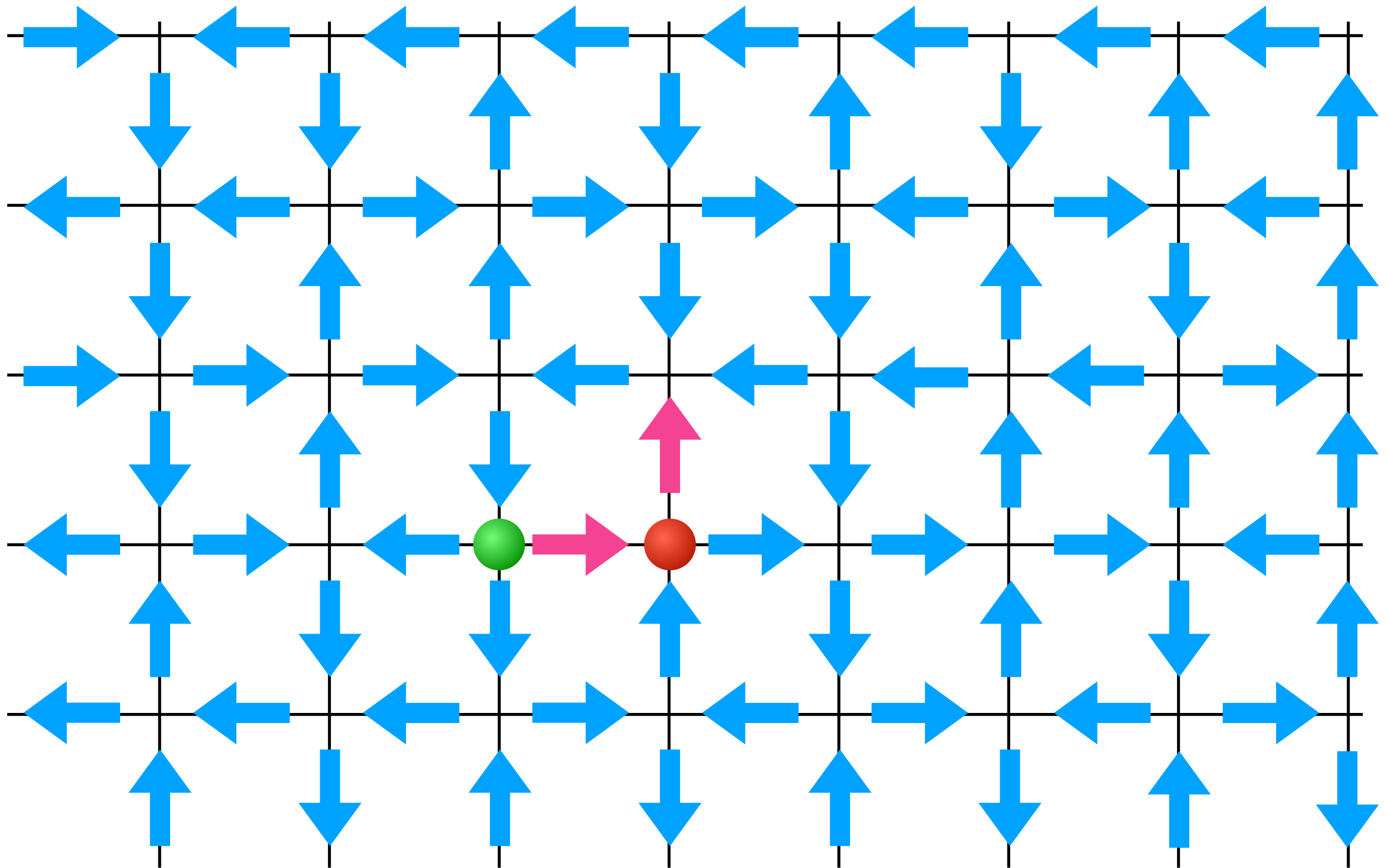
EMERGENT ELECTRODYNAMICS



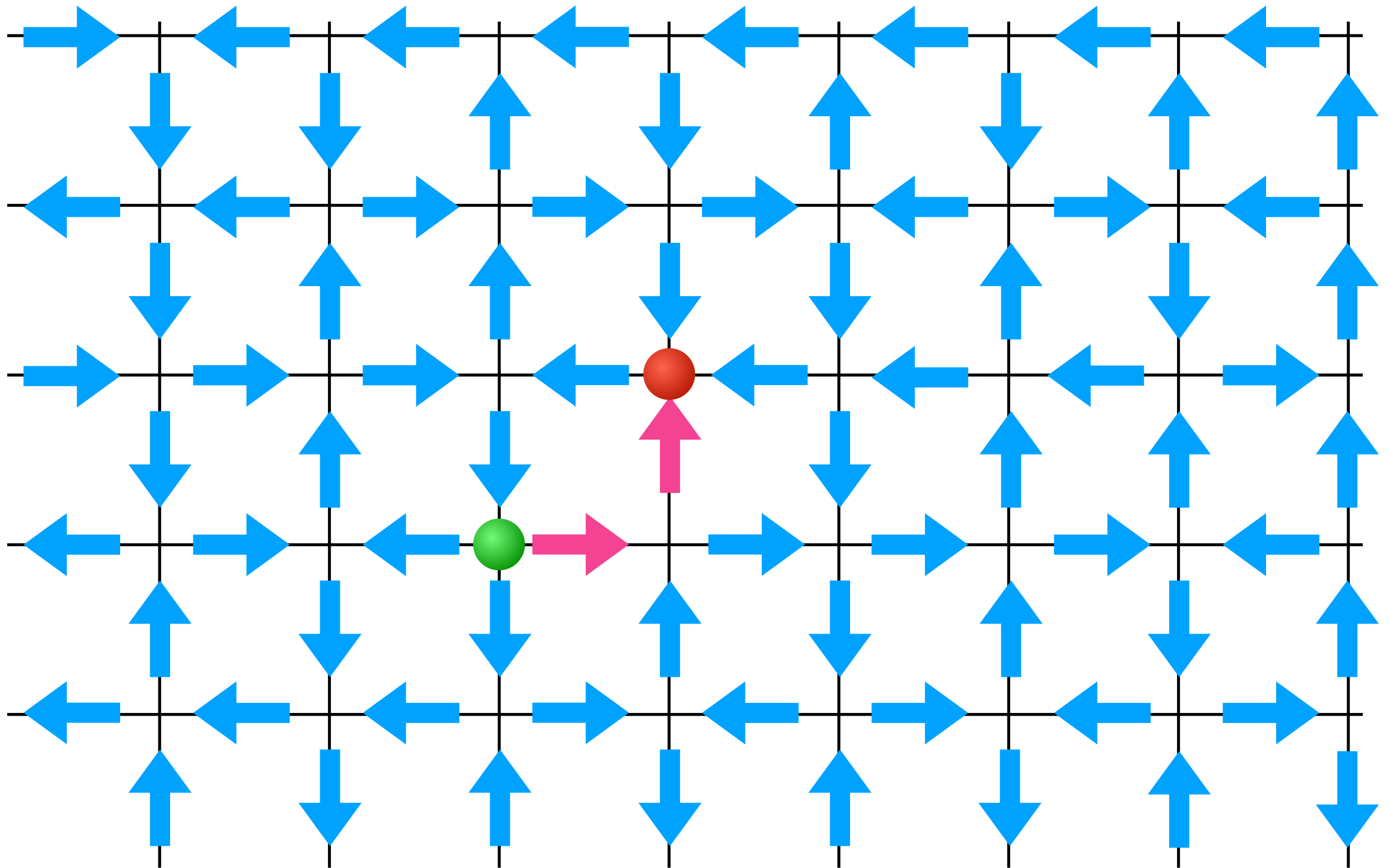
EMERGENT ELECTRODYNAMICS



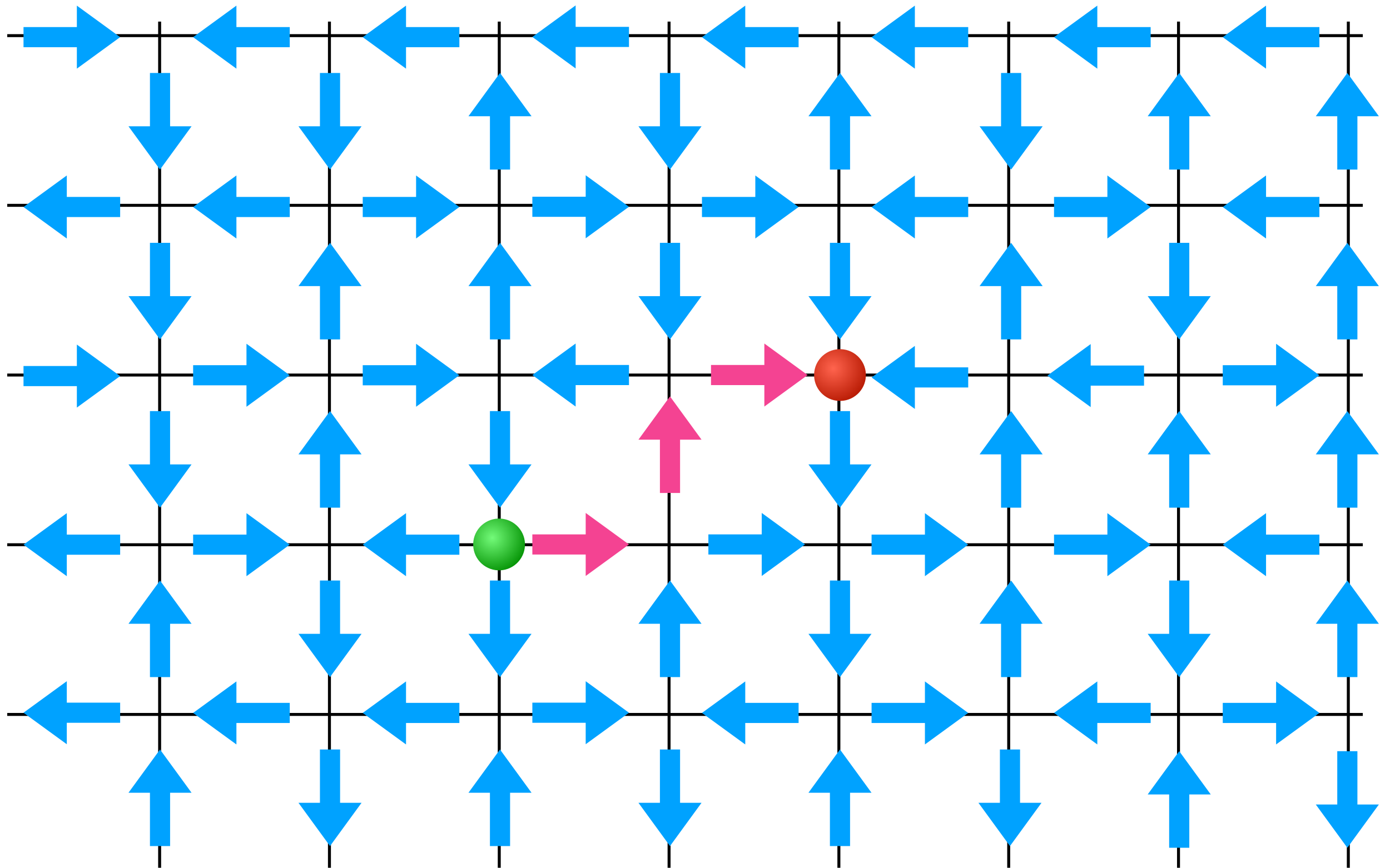
EMERGENT ELECTRODYNAMICS



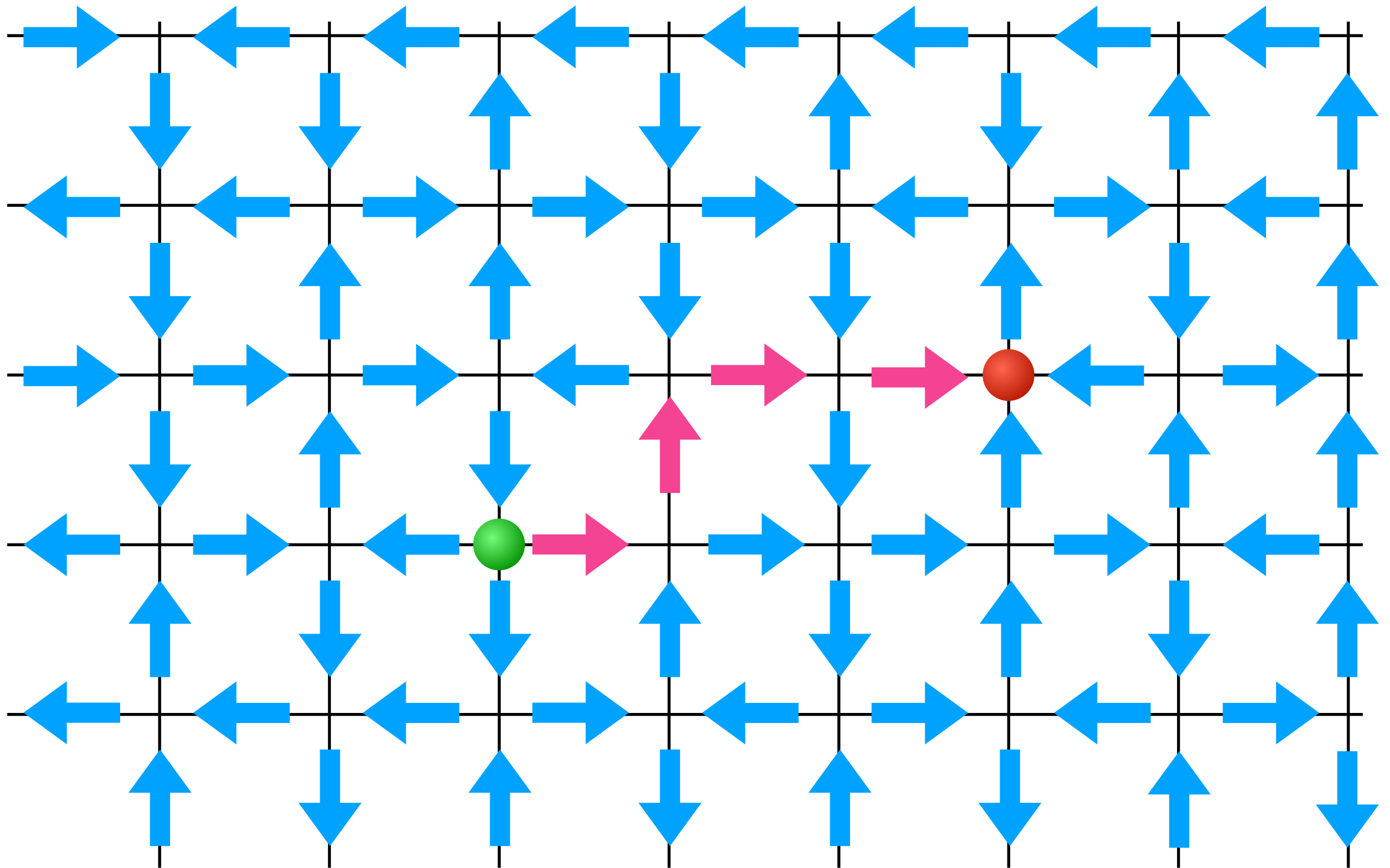
EMERGENT ELECTRODYNAMICS



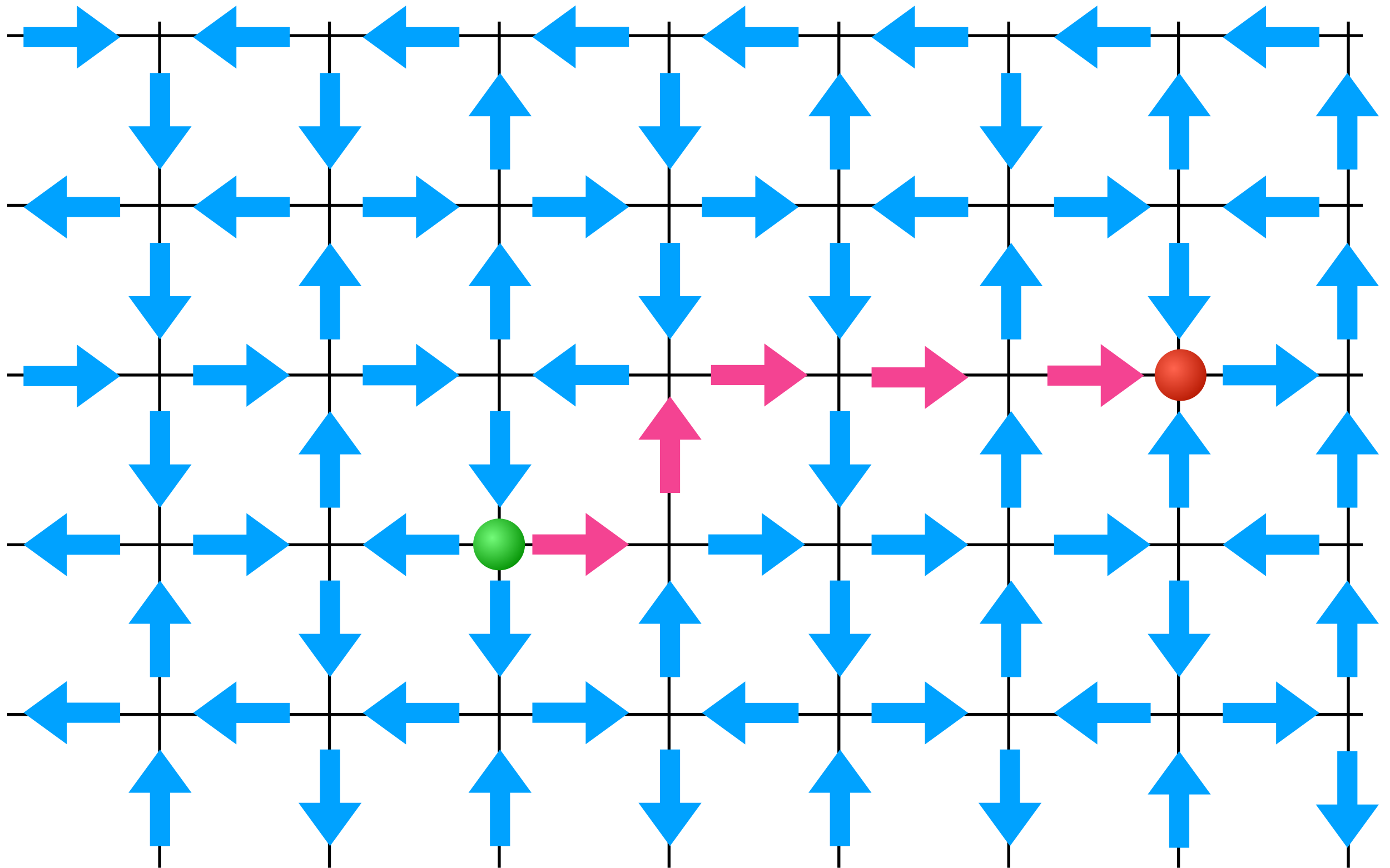
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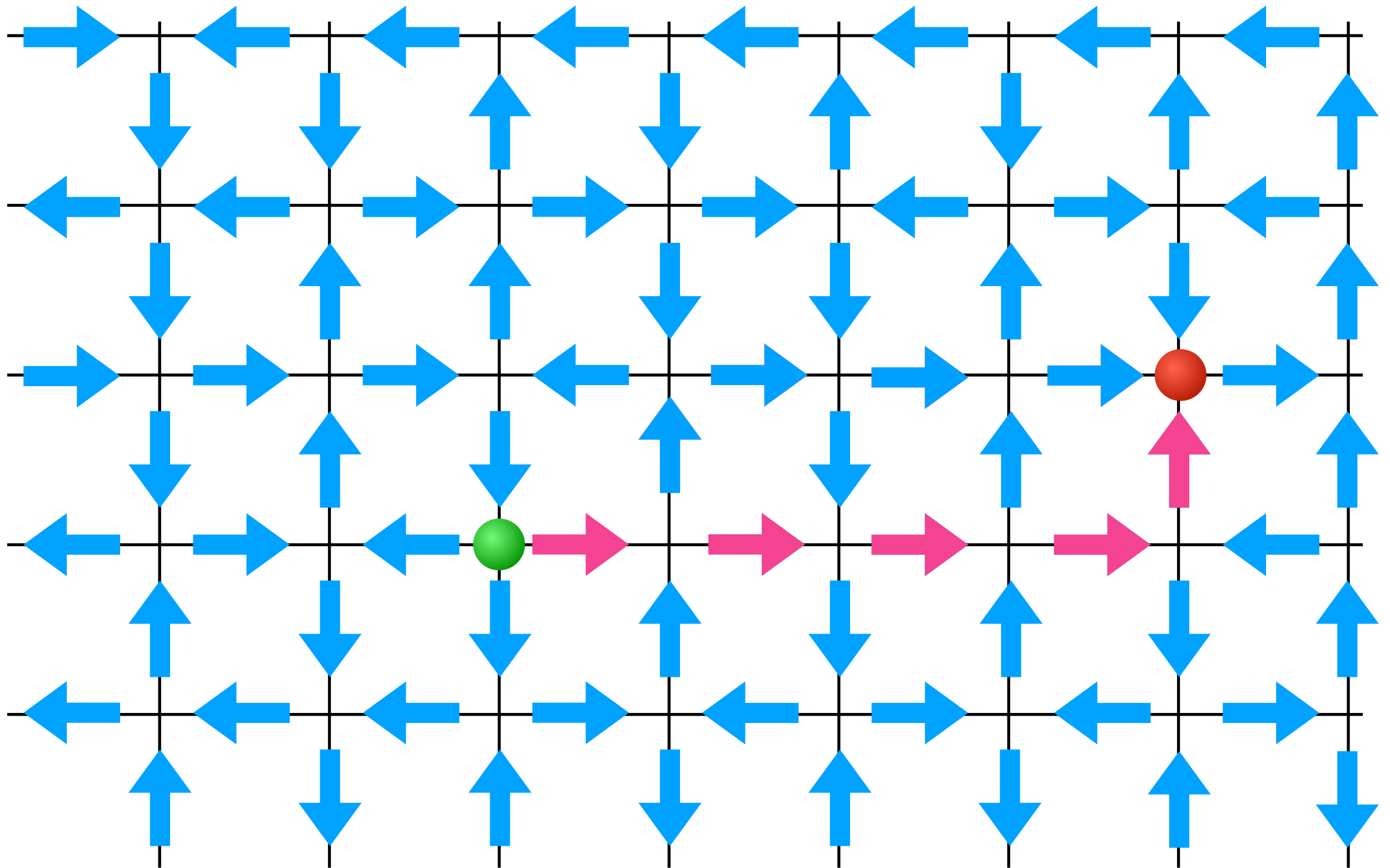
EMERGENT ELECTRODYNAMICS



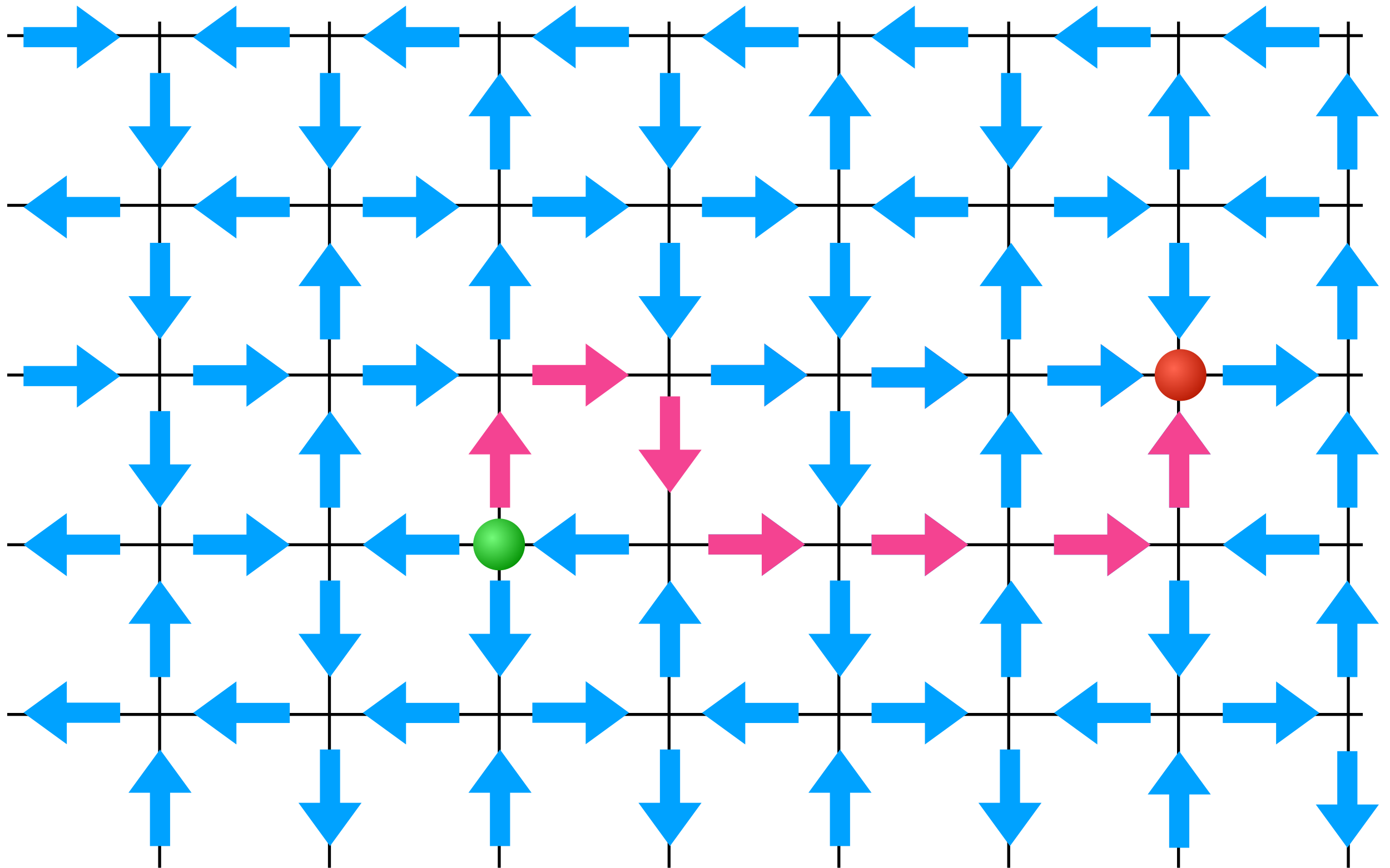
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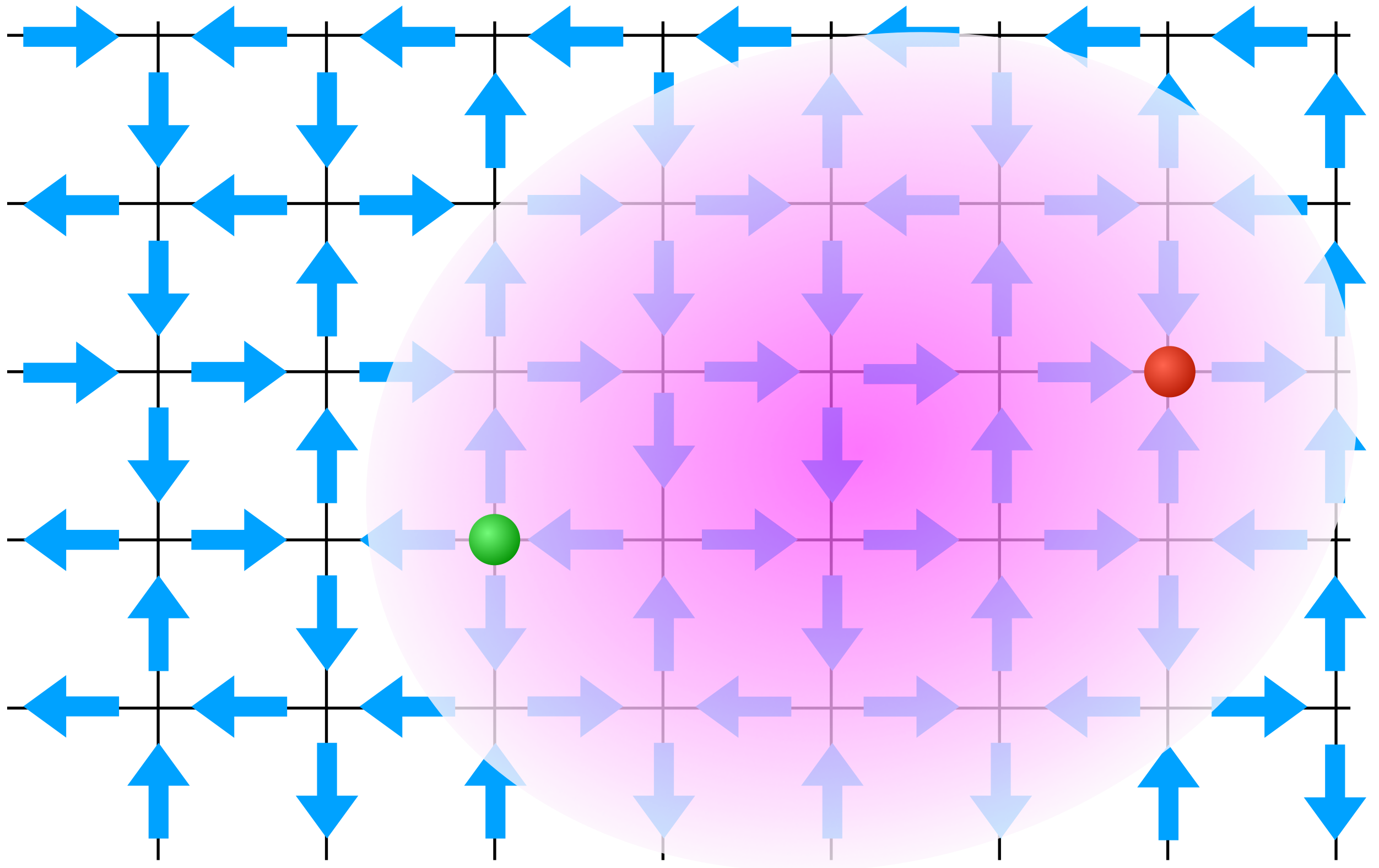
EMERGENT ELECTRODYNAMICS



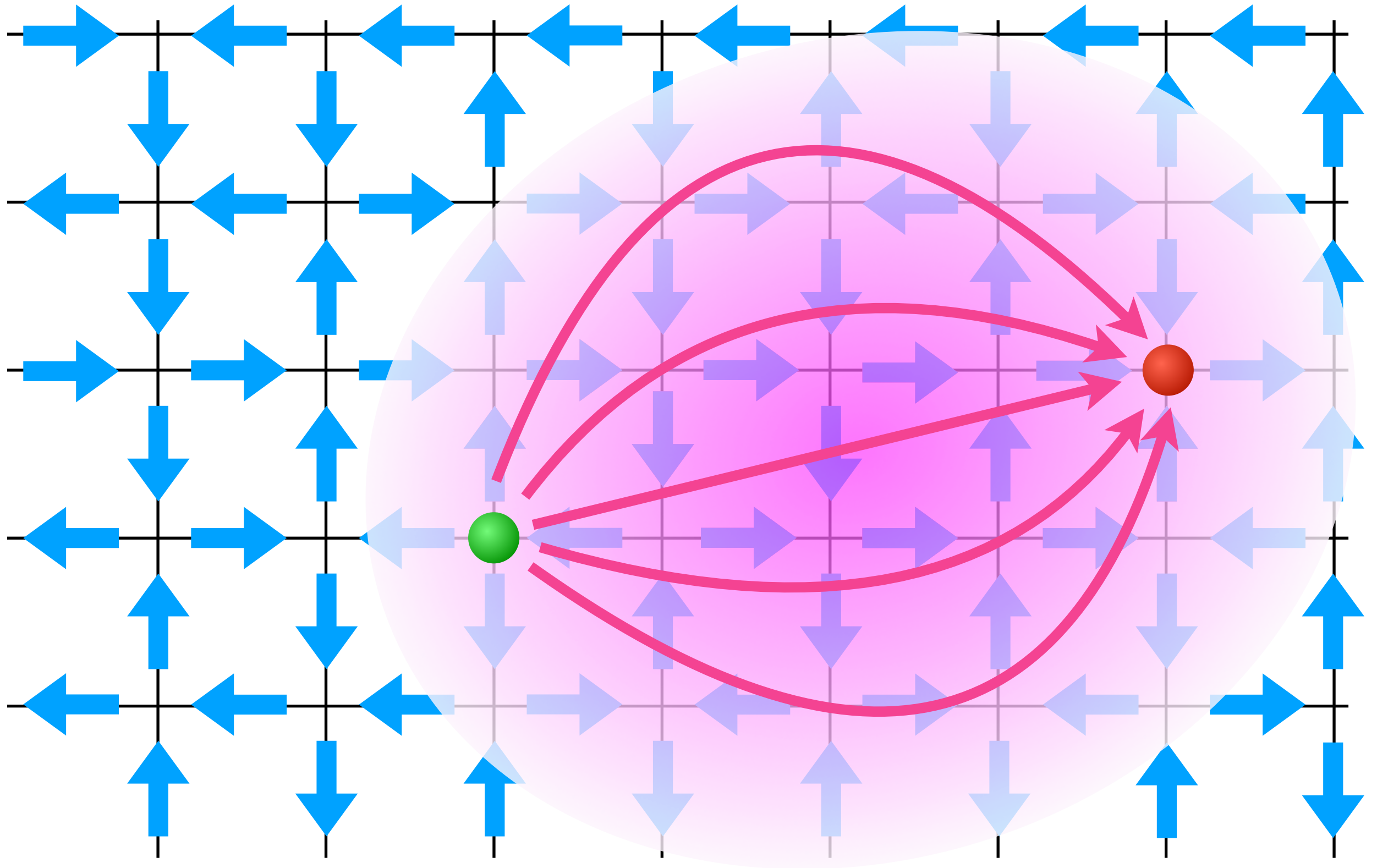
EMERGENT ELECTRODYNAMICS



EMERGENT ELECTRODYNAMICS

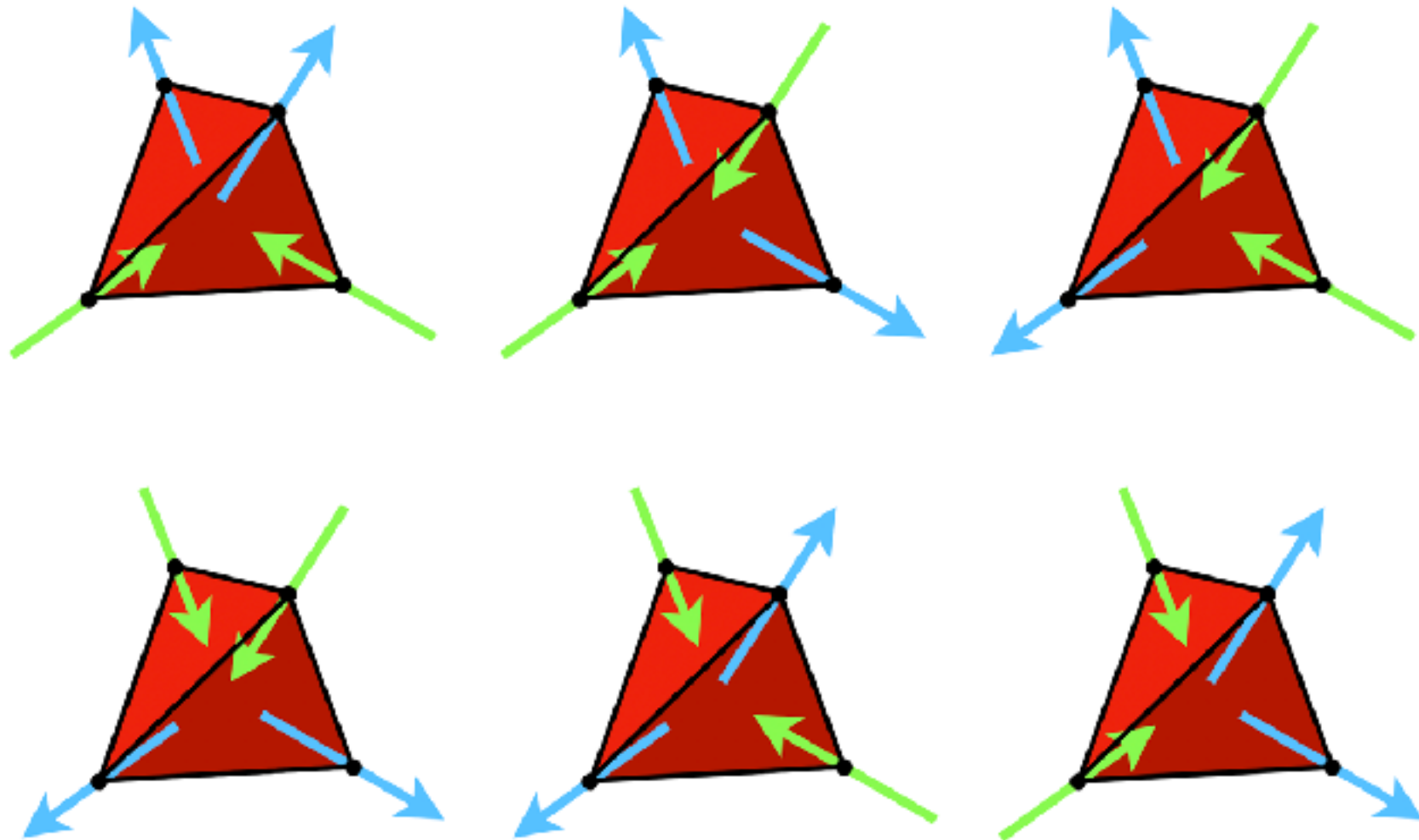


EMERGENT ELECTRODYNAMICS



GEOMETRICAL FRUSTRATION

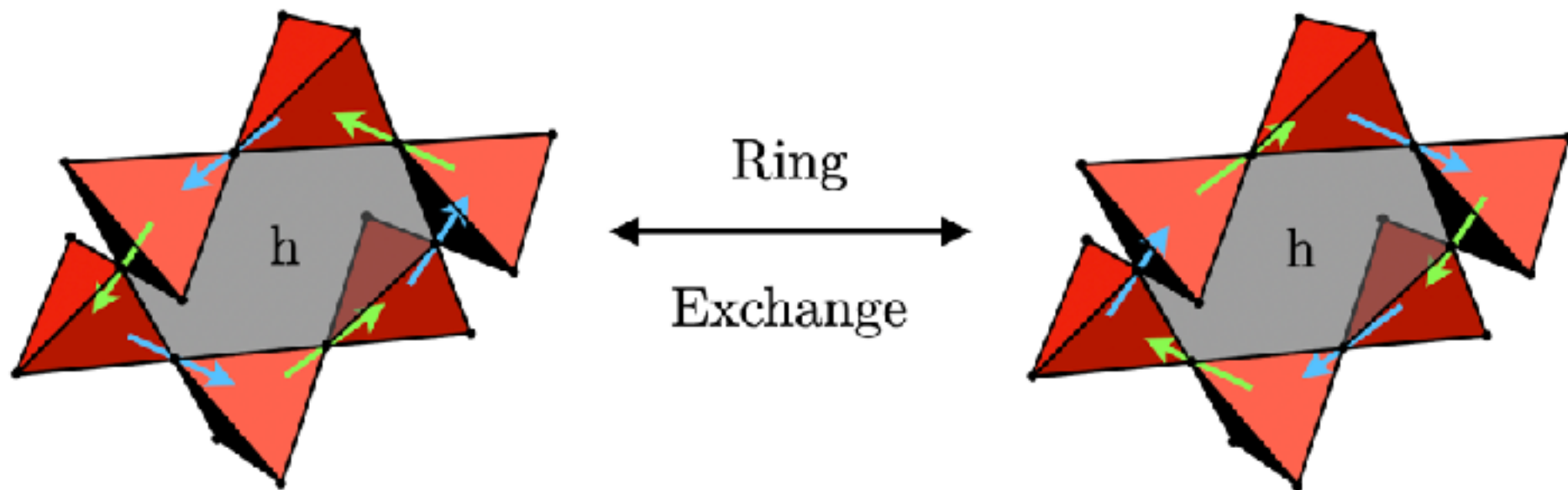
- Classical ground state is highly degenerate



$$\text{Residual Entropy} \approx N \ln 3/2$$

QUANTUM SPIN ICE: CANONICAL MODEL

- Define operator: $\hat{W}_h = \hat{S}_{h,1}^+ \hat{S}_{h,2}^- \hat{S}_{h,3}^+ \hat{S}_{h,4}^- \hat{S}_{h,5}^+ \hat{S}_{h,6}^-$



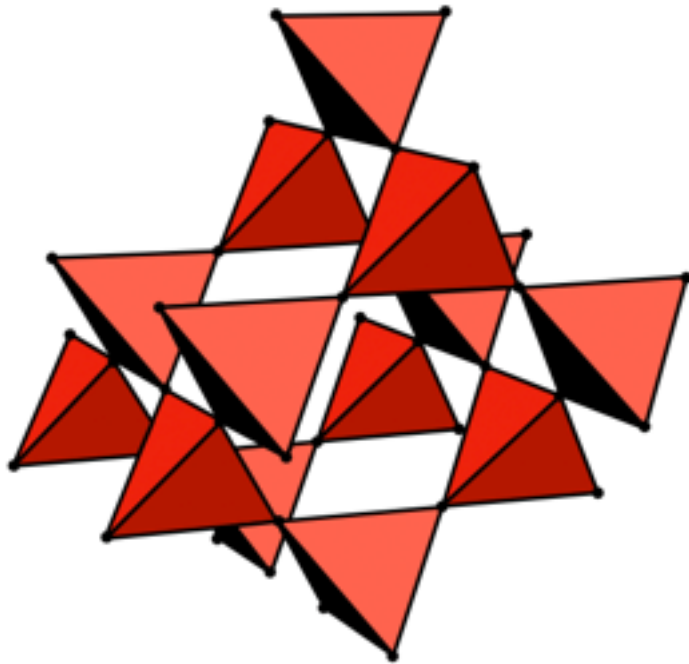
$$\hat{H}_{\text{QSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{S}_i^z \hat{S}_j^z - g \sum_h \left(\hat{W}_h + \hat{W}_h^\dagger \right)$$

- $J_{zz} \gg g > 0$

EMERGENT QED IN QUANTUM SPIN ICE

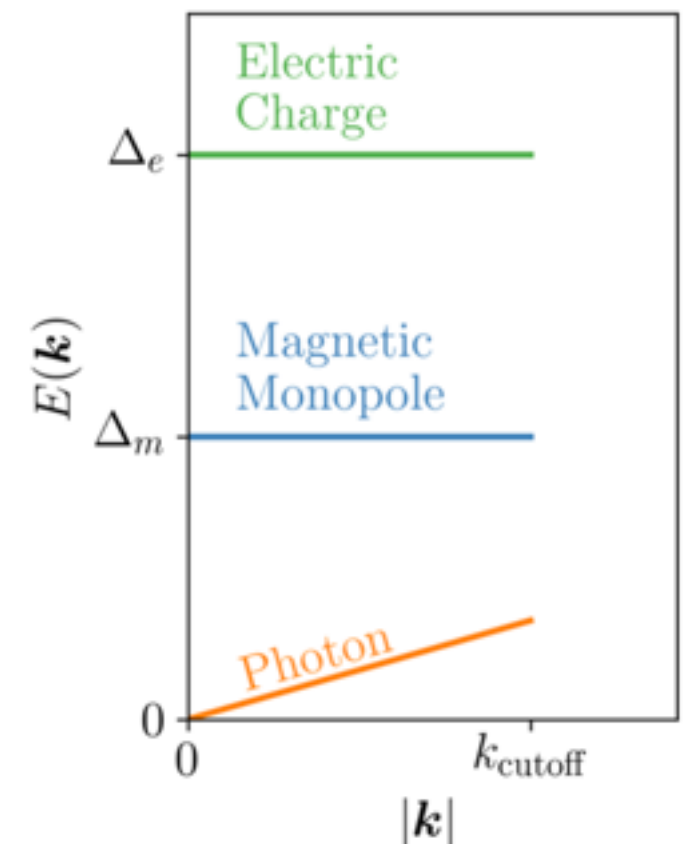
Short Distances (High Energy)

$$\hat{H}_{\text{QSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{S}_i^z \hat{S}_j^z - g \sum_{\text{h}} \left(\hat{W}_{\text{h}} + \hat{W}_{\text{h}}^\dagger \right)$$



$$\hat{H}_{\text{Maxwell}} = \int d^3x \left(\frac{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}}{2} |\hat{\mathbf{E}}(\mathbf{x})|^2 + \frac{1}{2\mu_{\text{QSI}}} |\hat{\mathbf{B}}(\mathbf{x})|^2 \right)$$

Long Distances (Low Energy)



Hermele, Michael, Matthew PA Fisher, and Leon Balents. *Physical Review B* 69.6 (2004): 064404.

Banerjee, Argha, et al. *Physical review letters* 100.4 (2008): 047208.

Shannon, Nic, et al. *Physical review letters* 108.6 (2012): 067204.

Kato, Yasuyuki, and Shigeki Onoda. *Physical review letters* 115.7 (2015): 077202.

Huang, Chun-Jiong, et al. *Physical review letters* 120.16 (2018): 167202.

Szabó, Attila, and Claudio Castelnovo. *Physical Review B* 100.1 (2019): 014417.

EMERGENT FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT

Quest: Use **exact diagonalization (ED)** techniques on

$$\hat{H}_{\text{QSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{S}_i^z \hat{S}_j^z - g \sum_{\text{h}} \left(\hat{W}_{\text{h}} + \hat{W}_{\text{h}}^\dagger \right)$$

to find the low-energy spectra and measure:

EMERGENT FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT

Quest: Use **exact diagonalization (ED)** techniques on

$$\hat{H}_{\text{QSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{S}_i^z \hat{S}_j^z - g \sum_{\text{h}} \left(\hat{W}_{\text{h}} + \hat{W}_{\text{h}}^\dagger \right)$$

to find the low-energy spectra and measure:

$$\frac{e_{\text{QSI}}^2}{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}}$$

$$c_{\text{QSI}}$$

EMERGENT FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT

Quest: Use **exact diagonalization (ED)** techniques on

$$\hat{H}_{\text{QSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{S}_i^z \hat{S}_j^z - g \sum_{\text{h}} \left(\hat{W}_{\text{h}} + \hat{W}_{\text{h}}^\dagger \right)$$

to find the low-energy spectra and measure:

A diagram illustrating the derivation of the fine structure constant α_{QSI} . Two boxes at the top, one containing $\frac{e_{\text{QSI}}^2}{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}}$ and the other containing c_{QSI} , have arrows pointing down to a central box containing the formula $\alpha_{\text{QSI}} = \frac{e_{\text{QSI}}^2}{4\pi\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}\hbar c_{\text{QSI}}}$.

$$\alpha_{\text{QSI}} = \frac{e_{\text{QSI}}^2}{4\pi\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}\hbar c_{\text{QSI}}}$$

NUMERICAL PLAN OF ATTACK

.....

Perform ED on systems with **up to 96 spins**

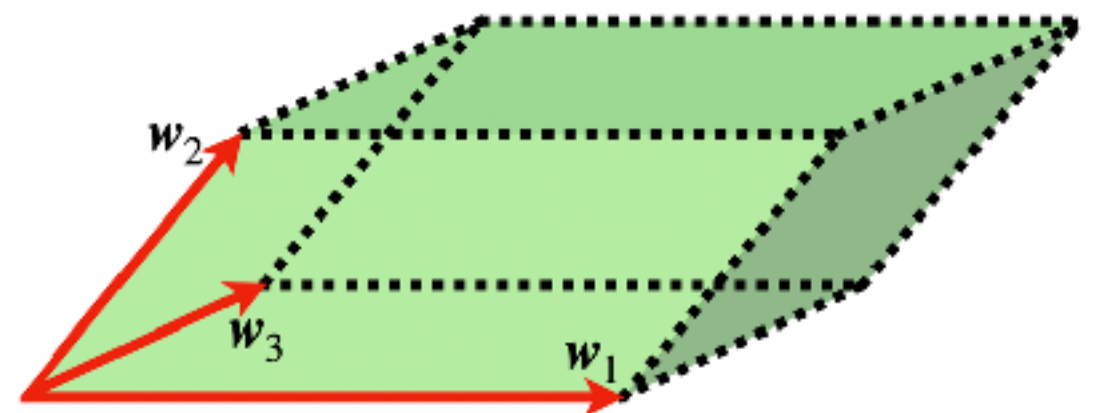
- Project to constrained Hilbert space satisfying ice rules
- Periodic Boundary Conditions allows additional projections

A) Electric topological sectors

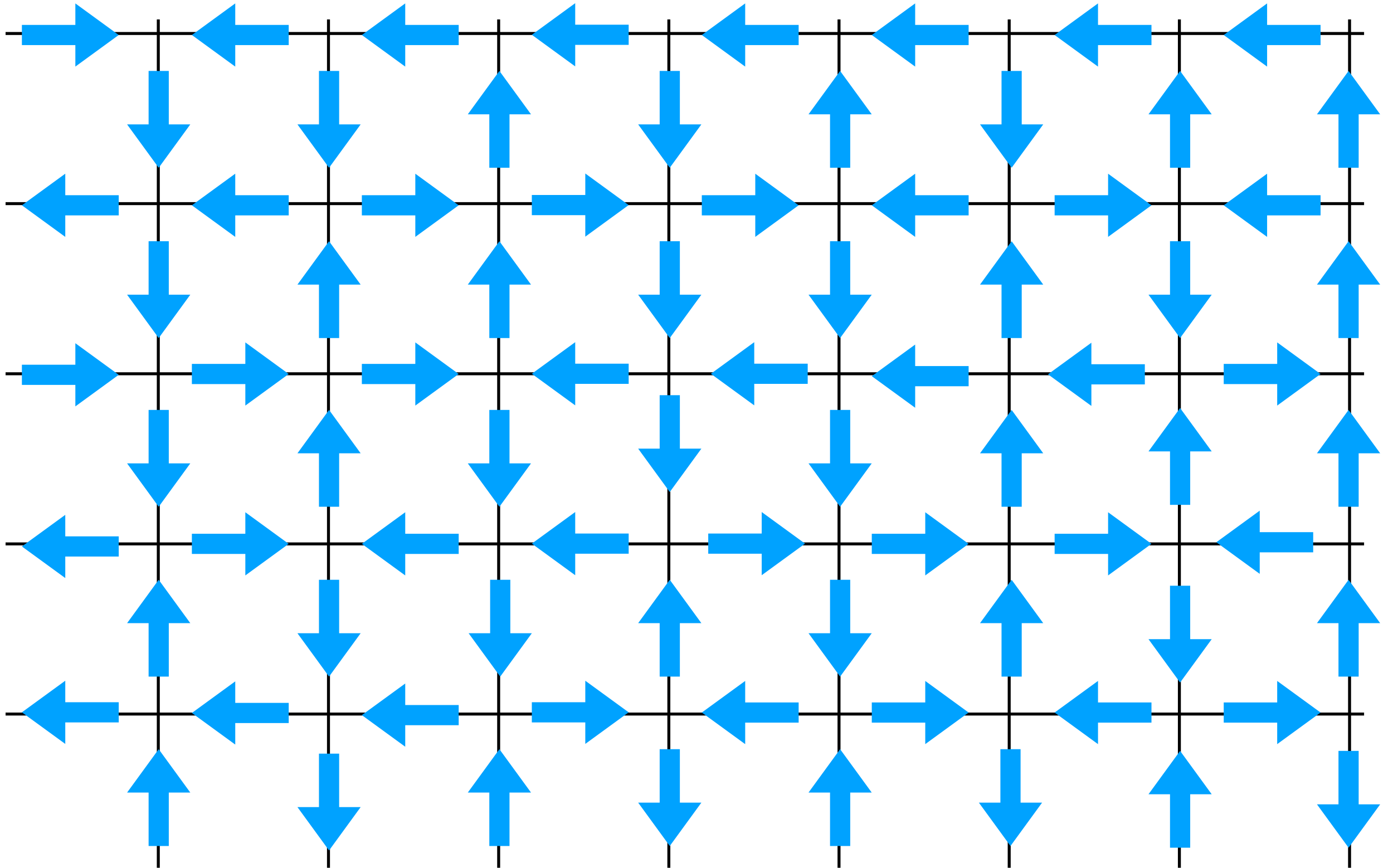
B) Momentum sectors

	Before Projections	After Projections
$\dim \mathcal{H}$	$2^{96} \approx 8 \times 10^{28}$	$2^{22.7} \approx 7 \times 10^6$

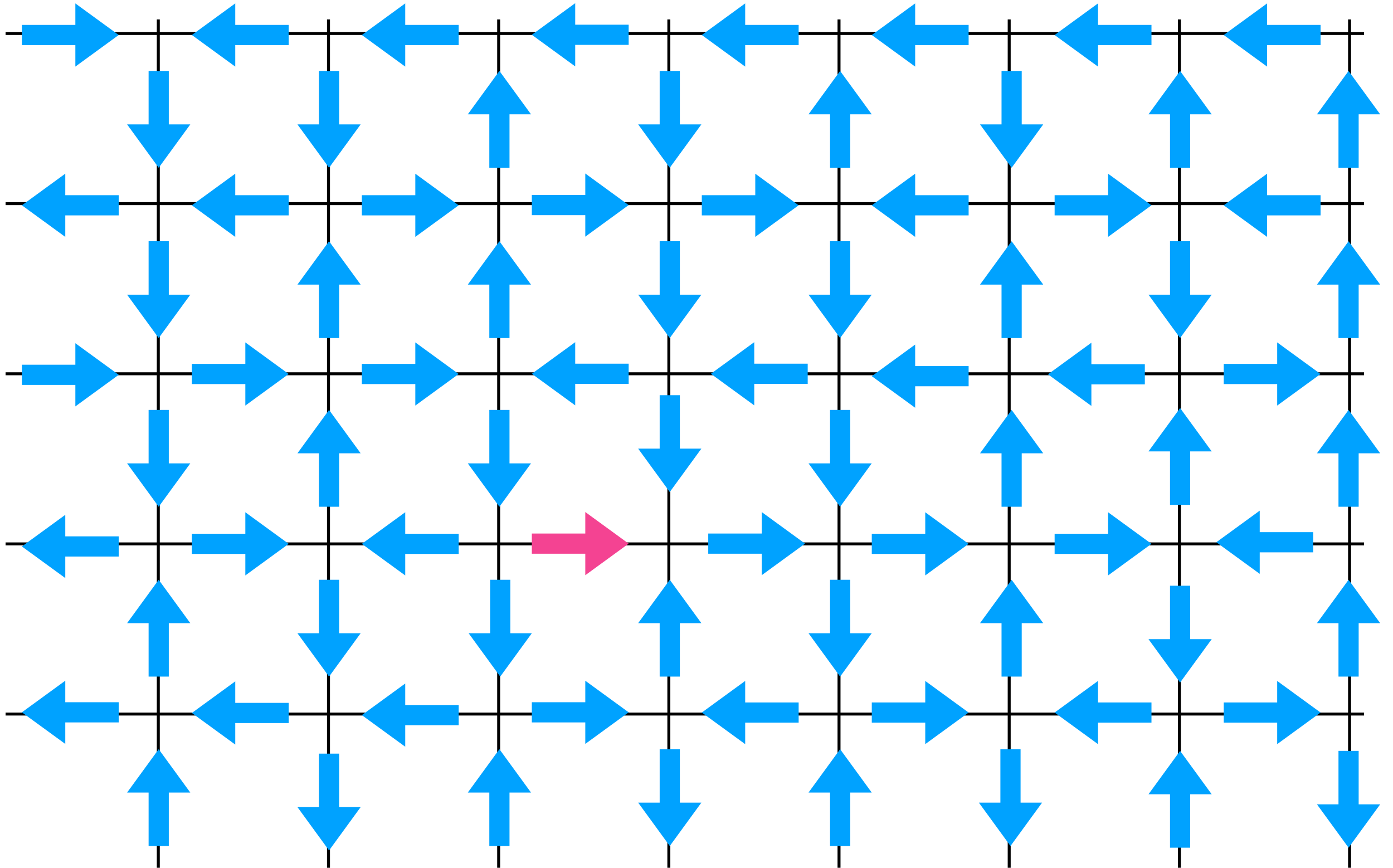
- Vary shape of periodic unit



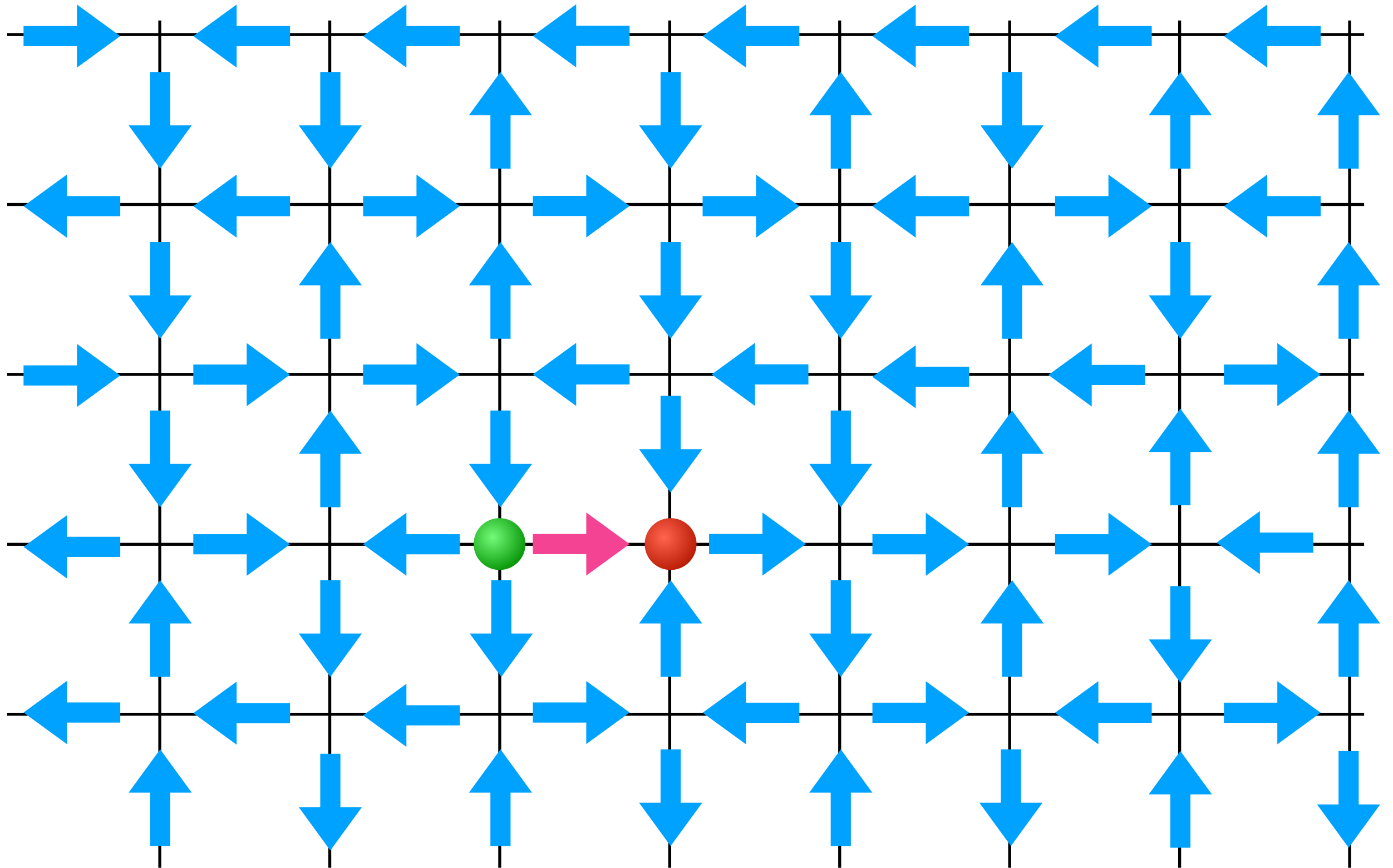
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



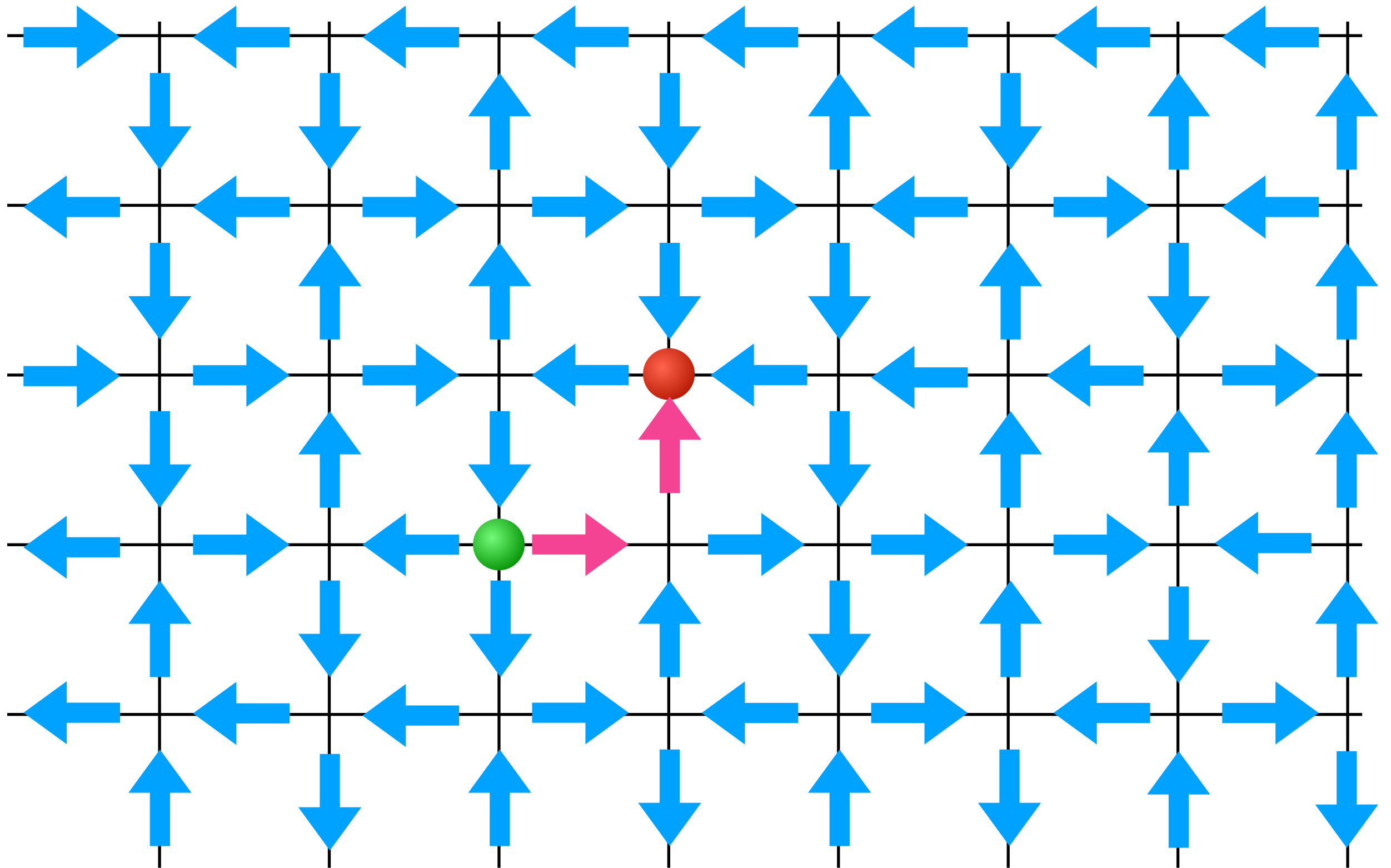
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



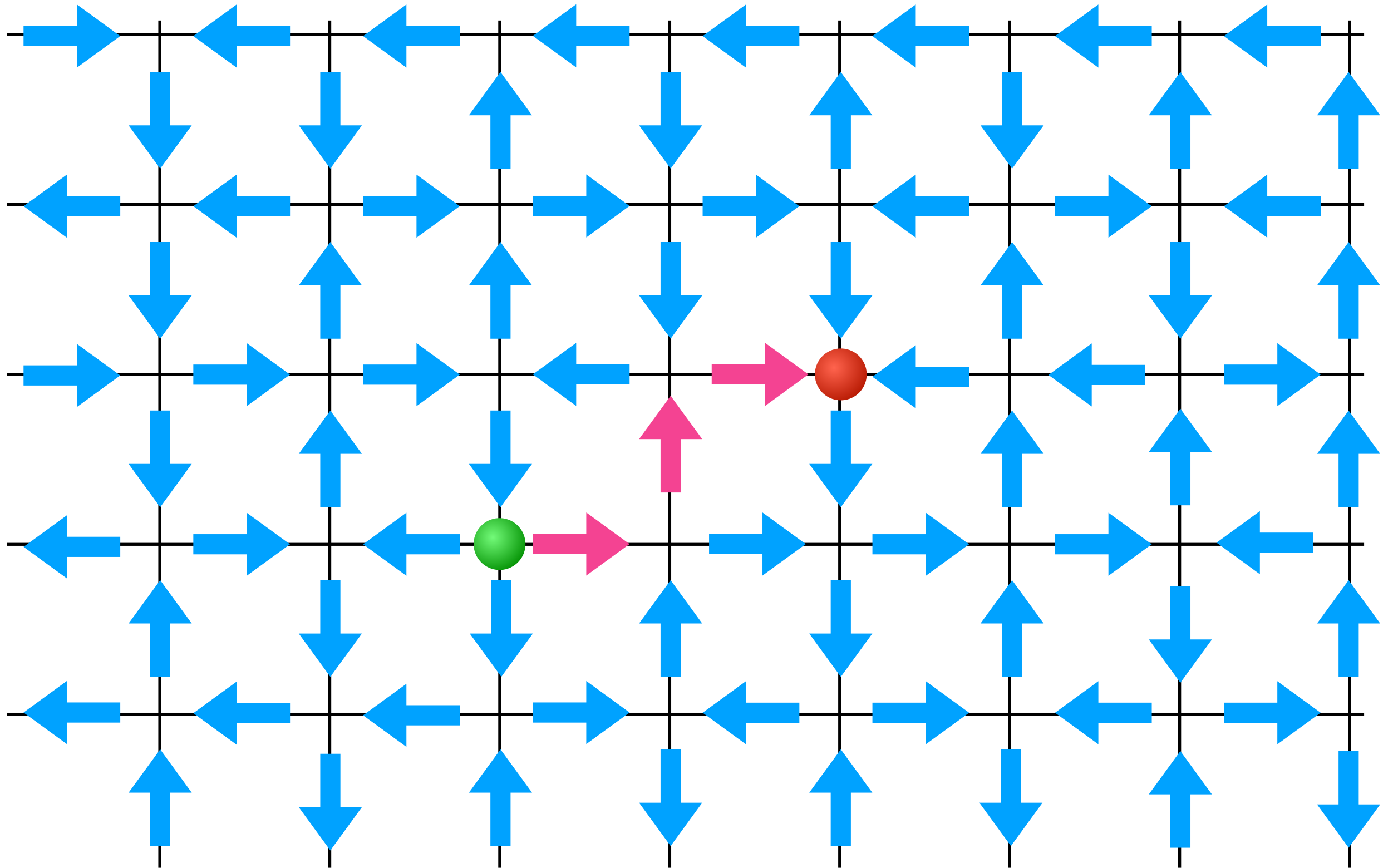
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



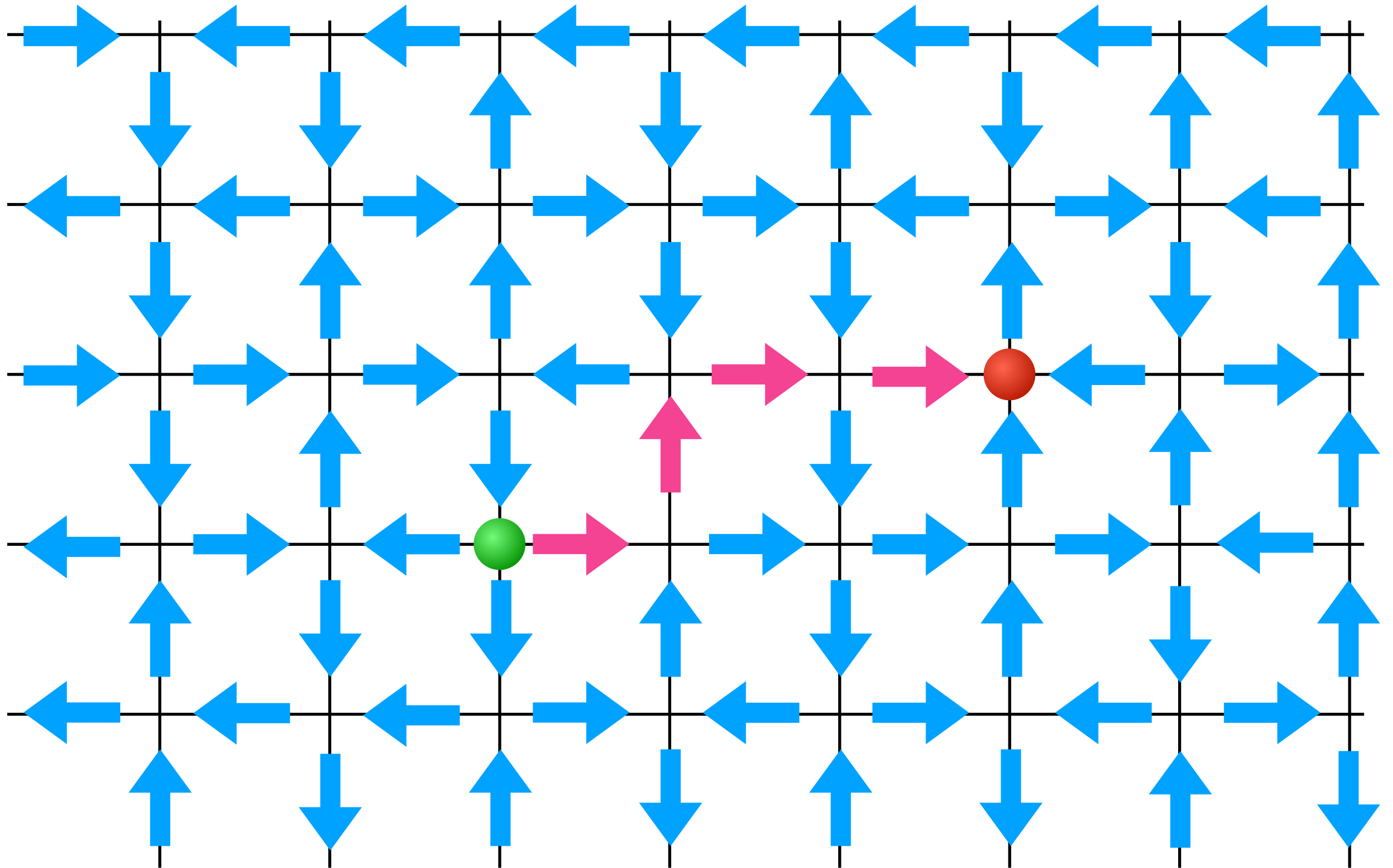
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



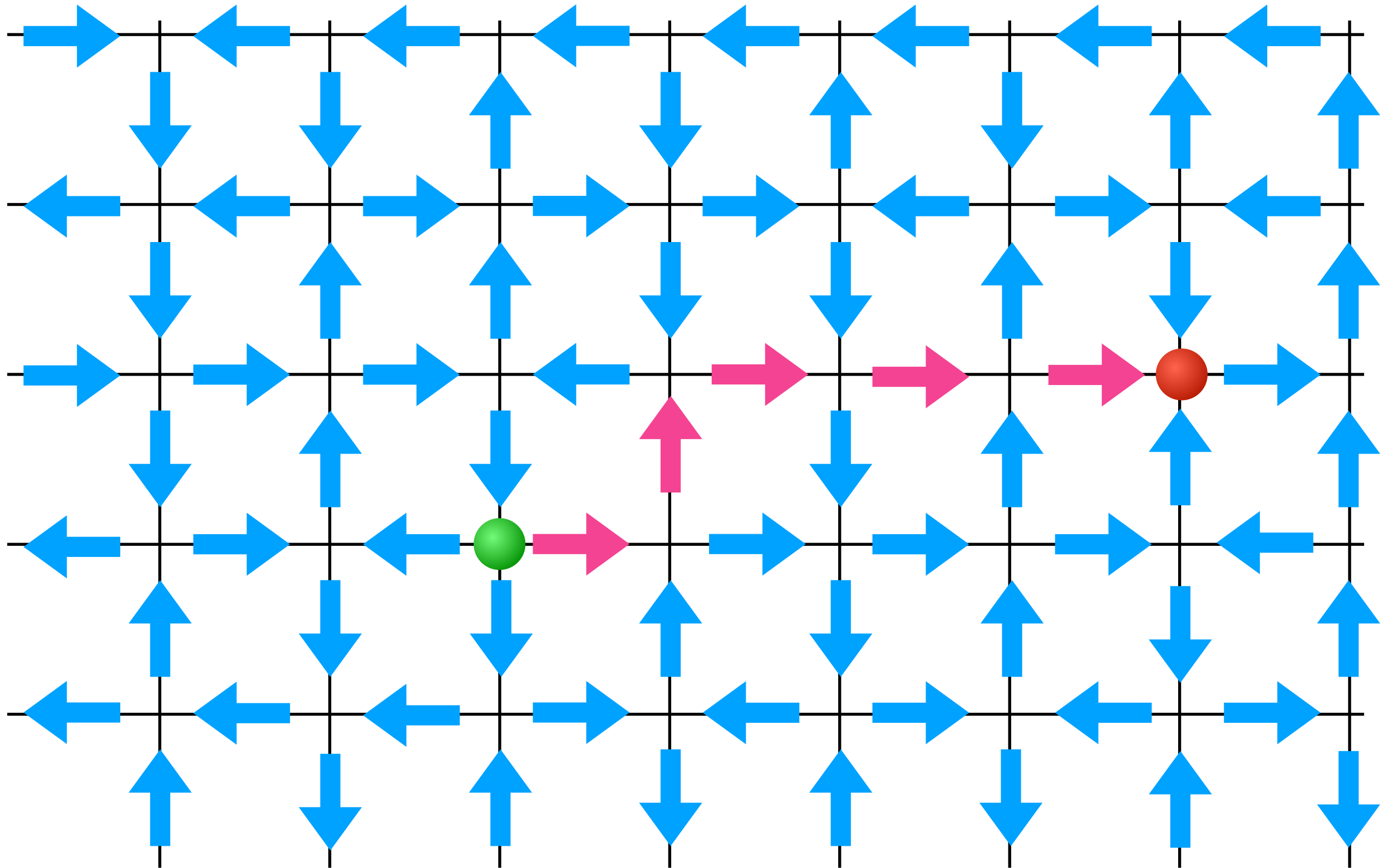
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



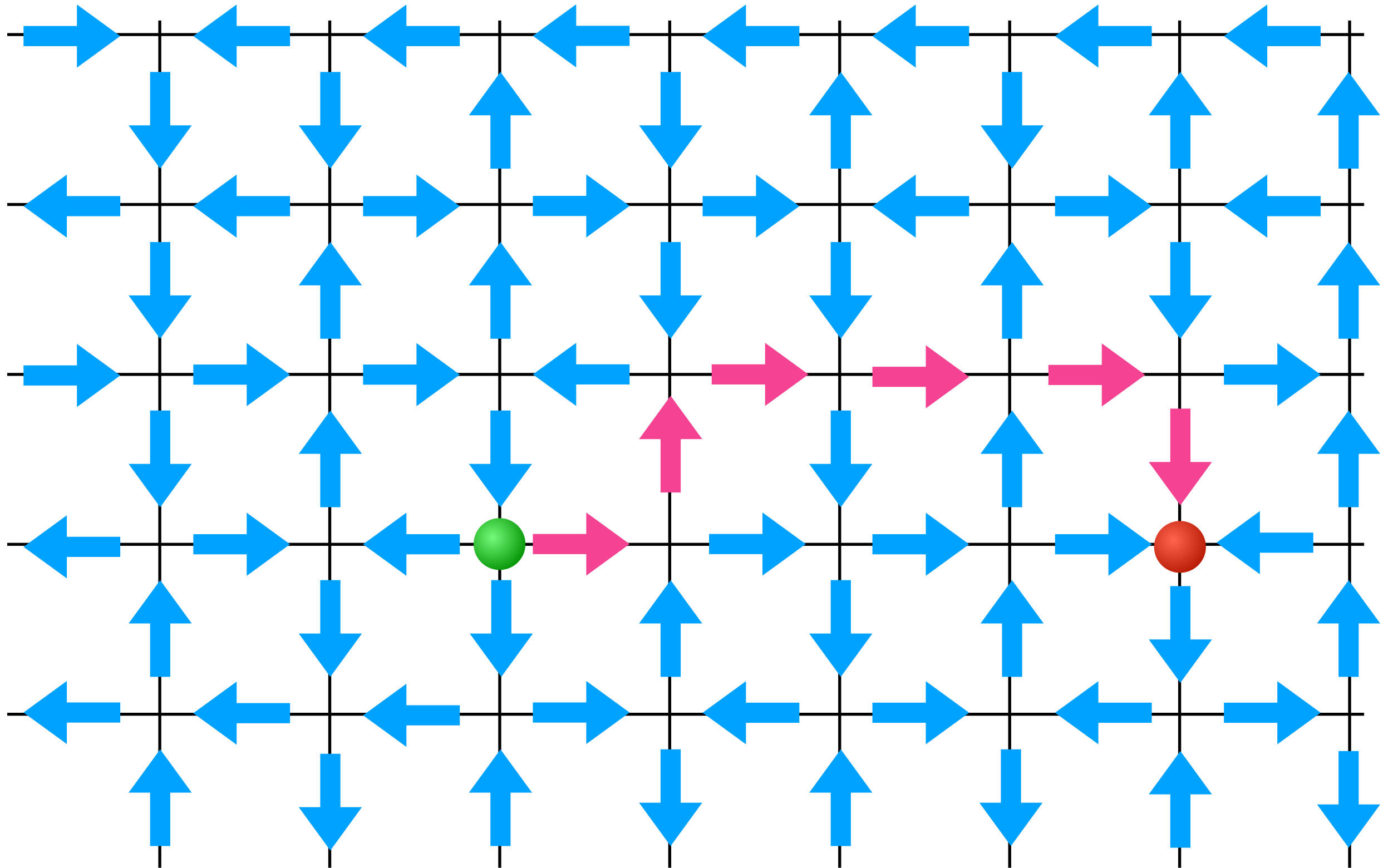
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



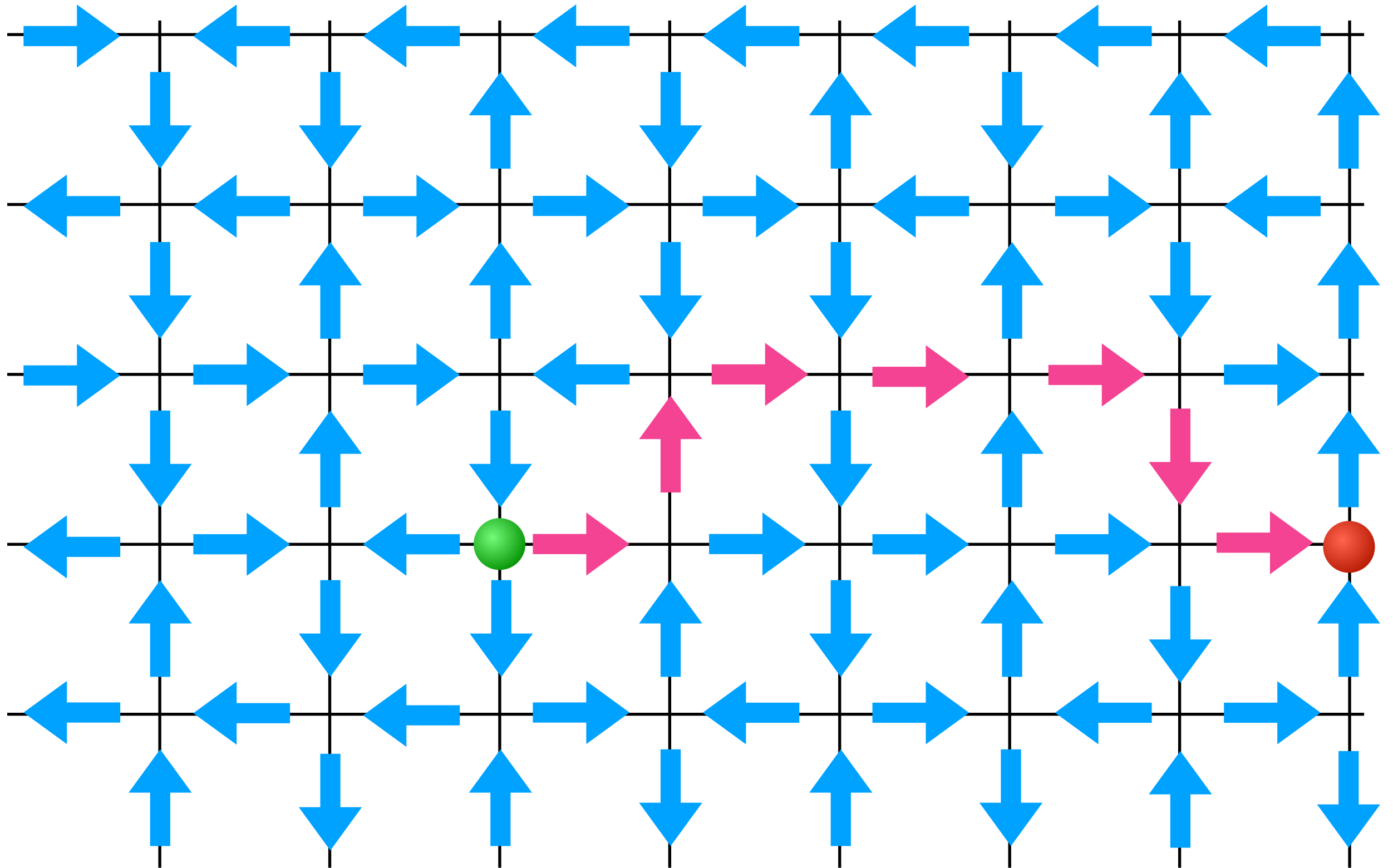
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



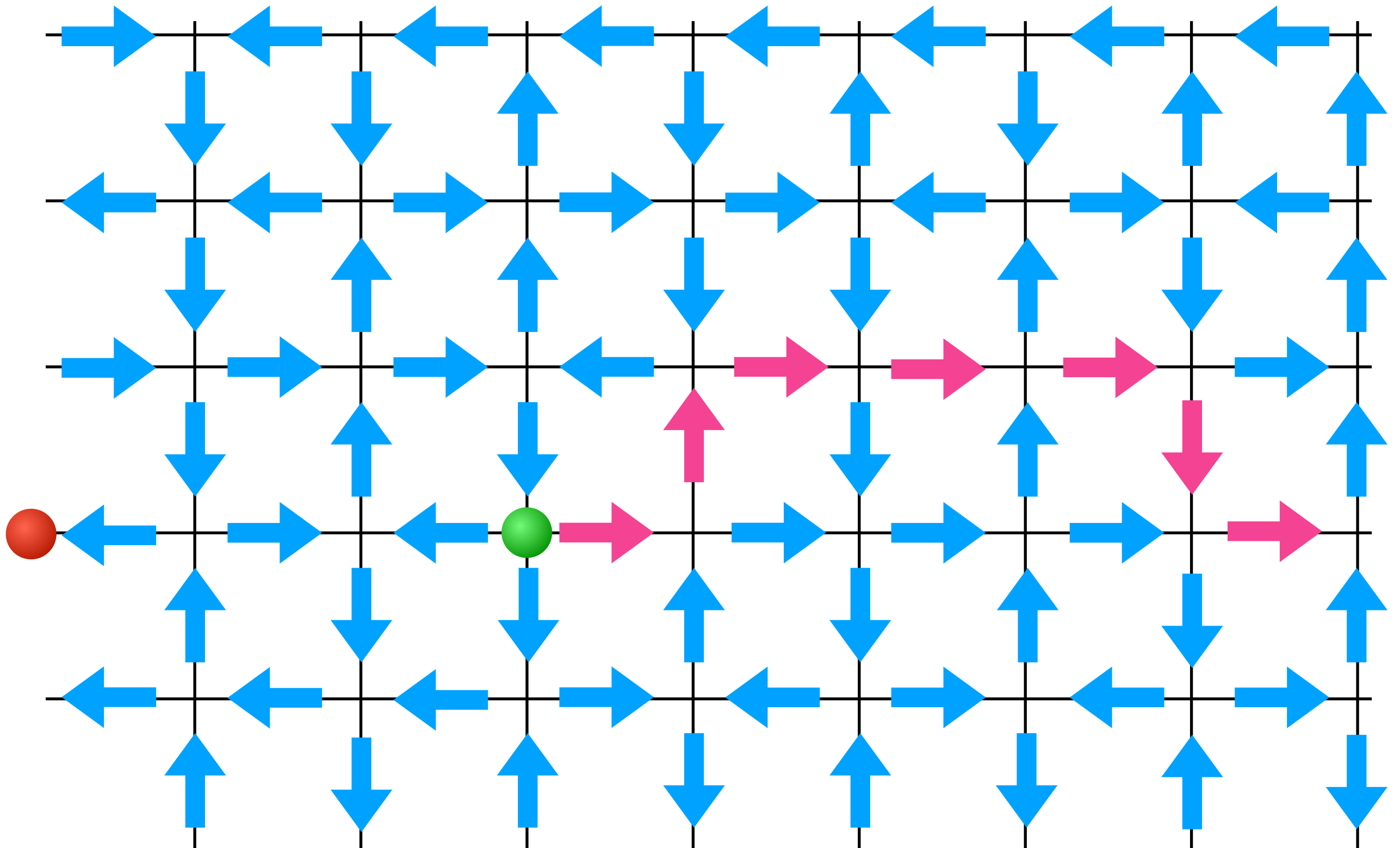
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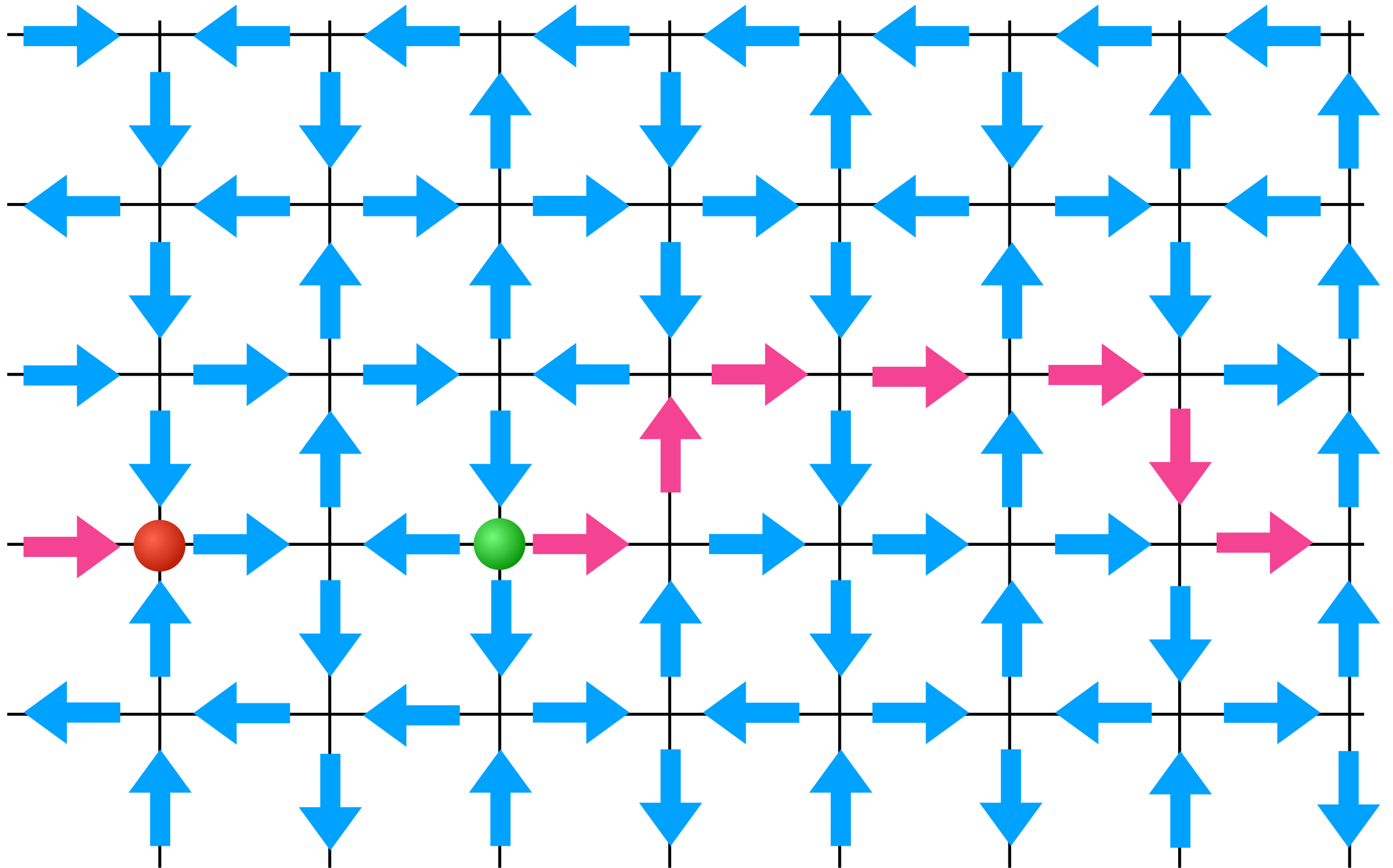
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



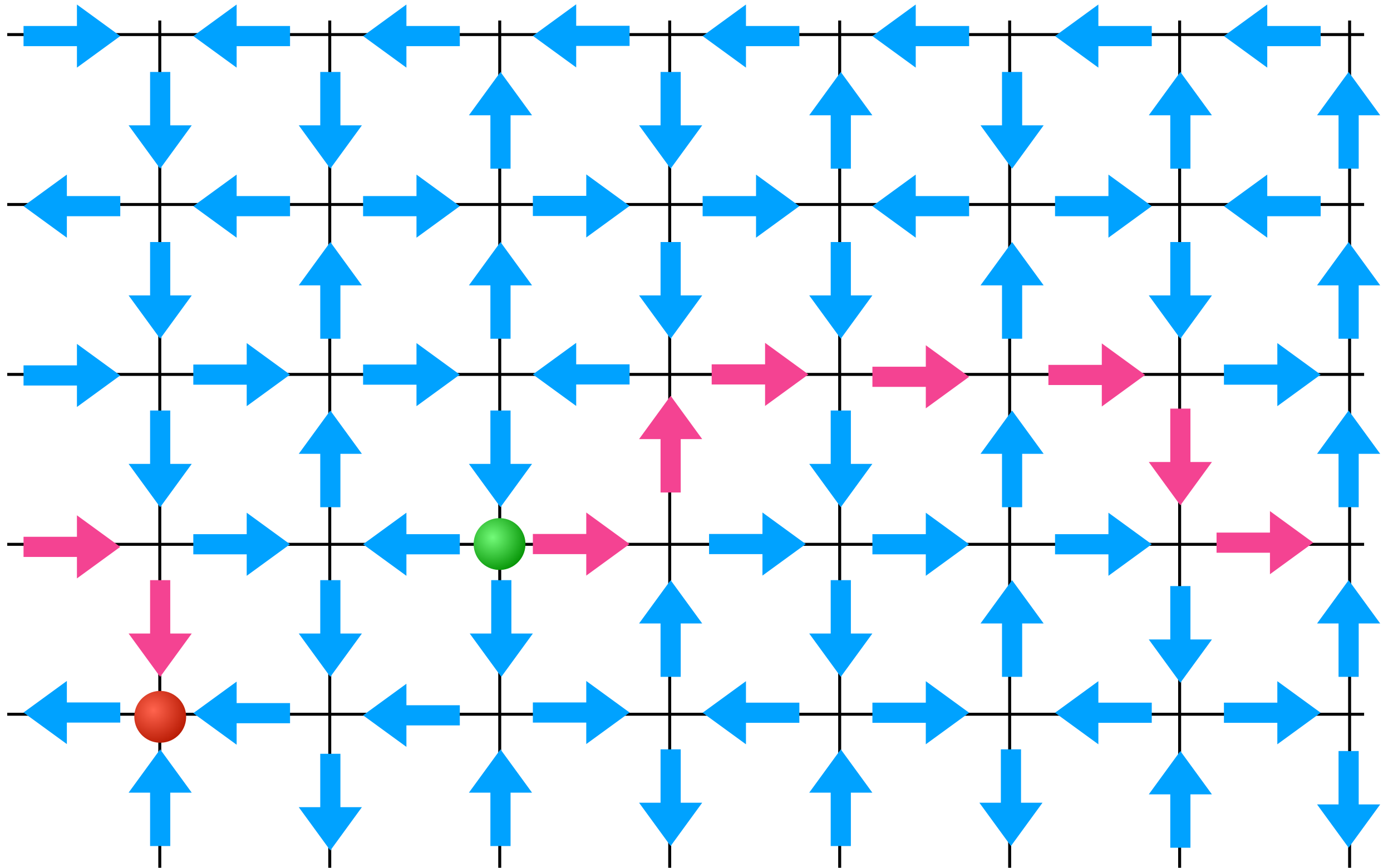
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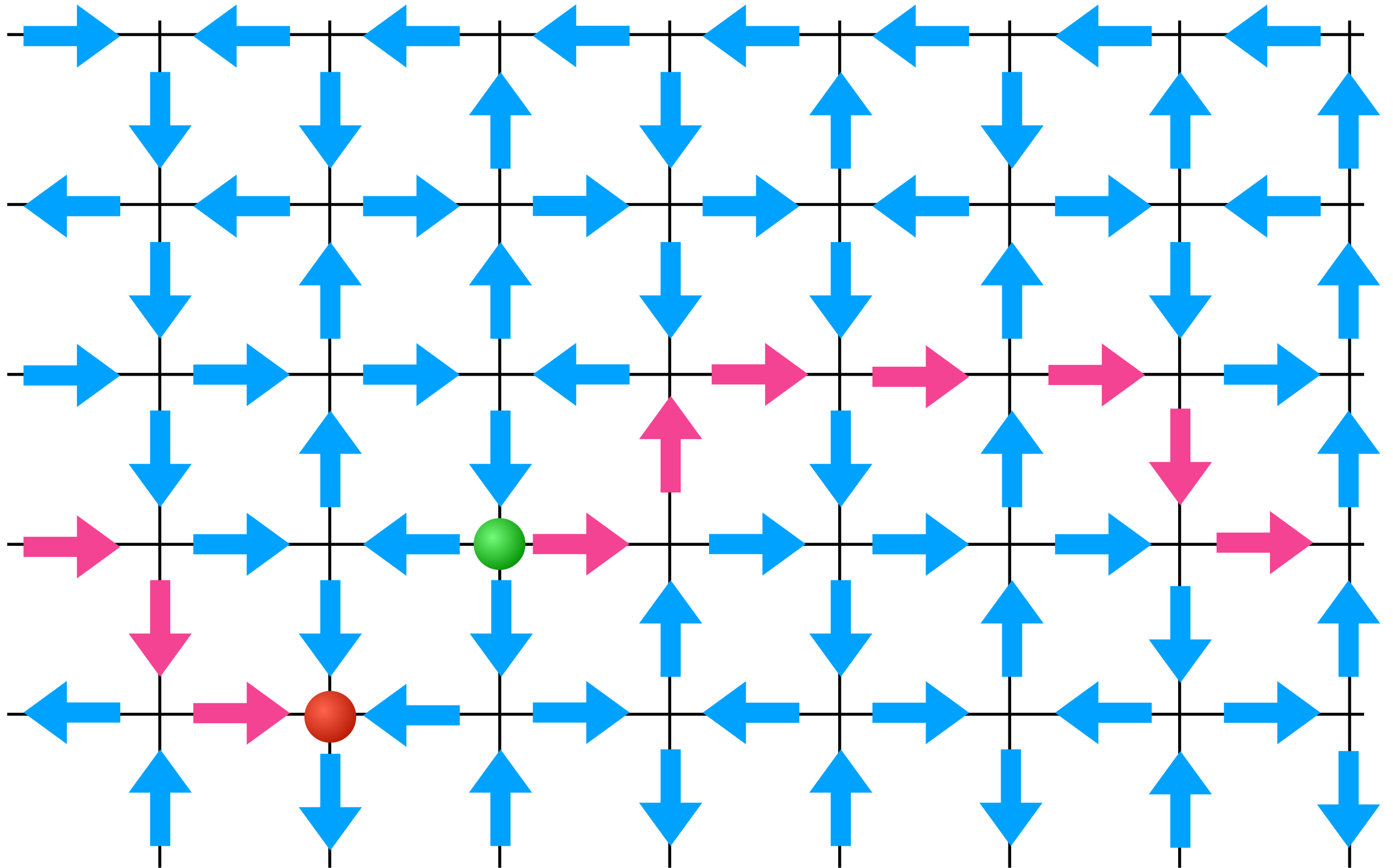
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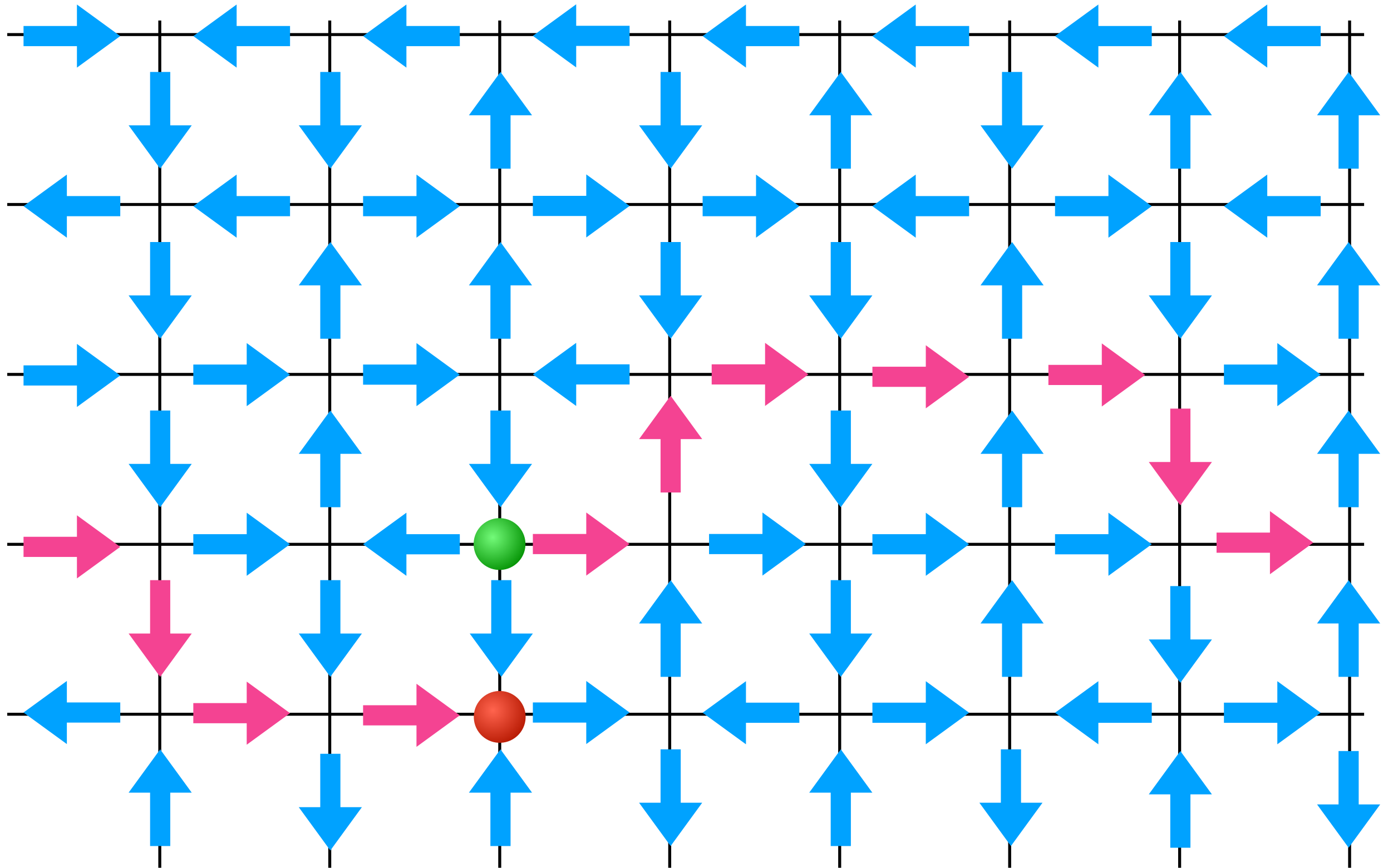
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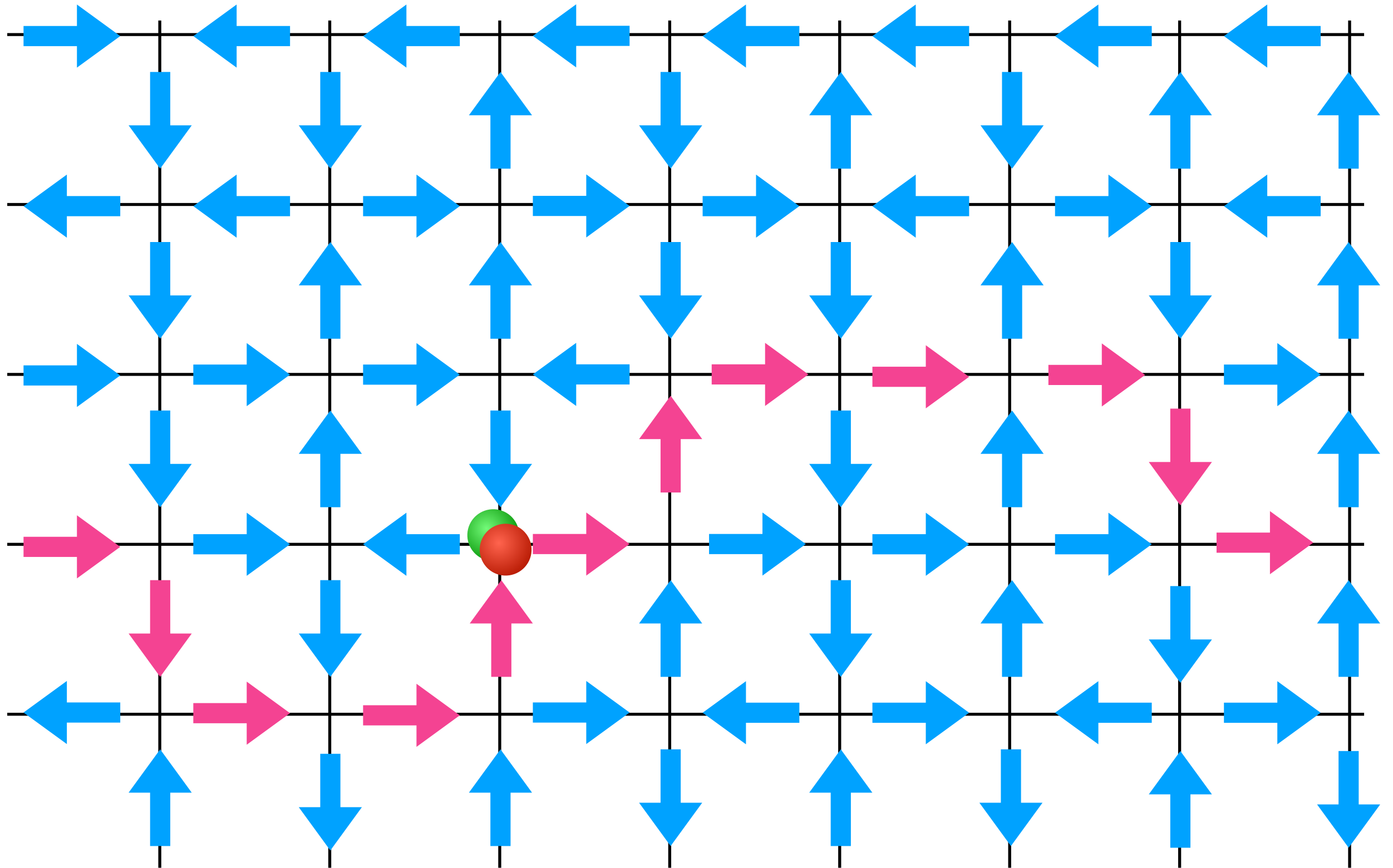
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS

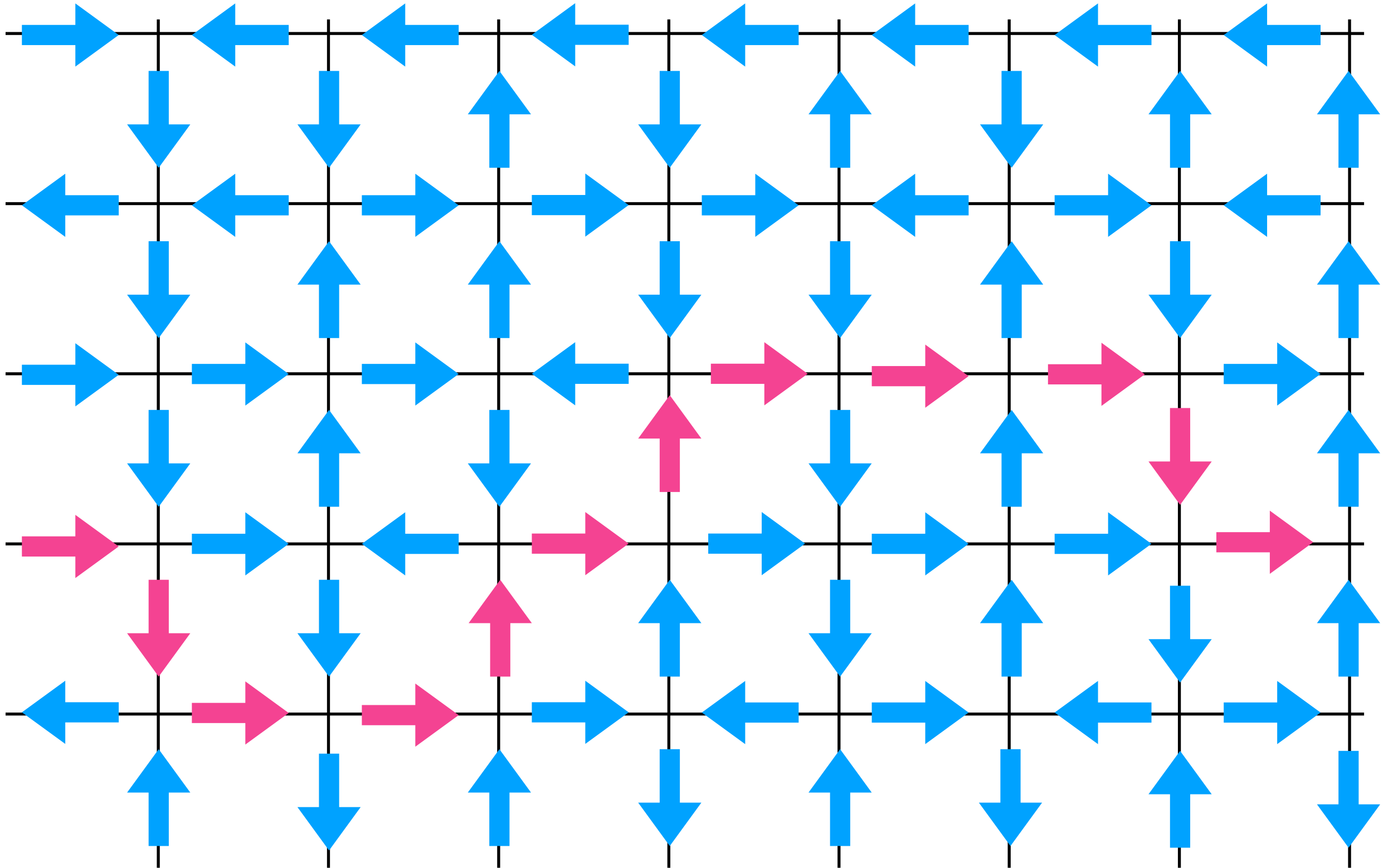


ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS

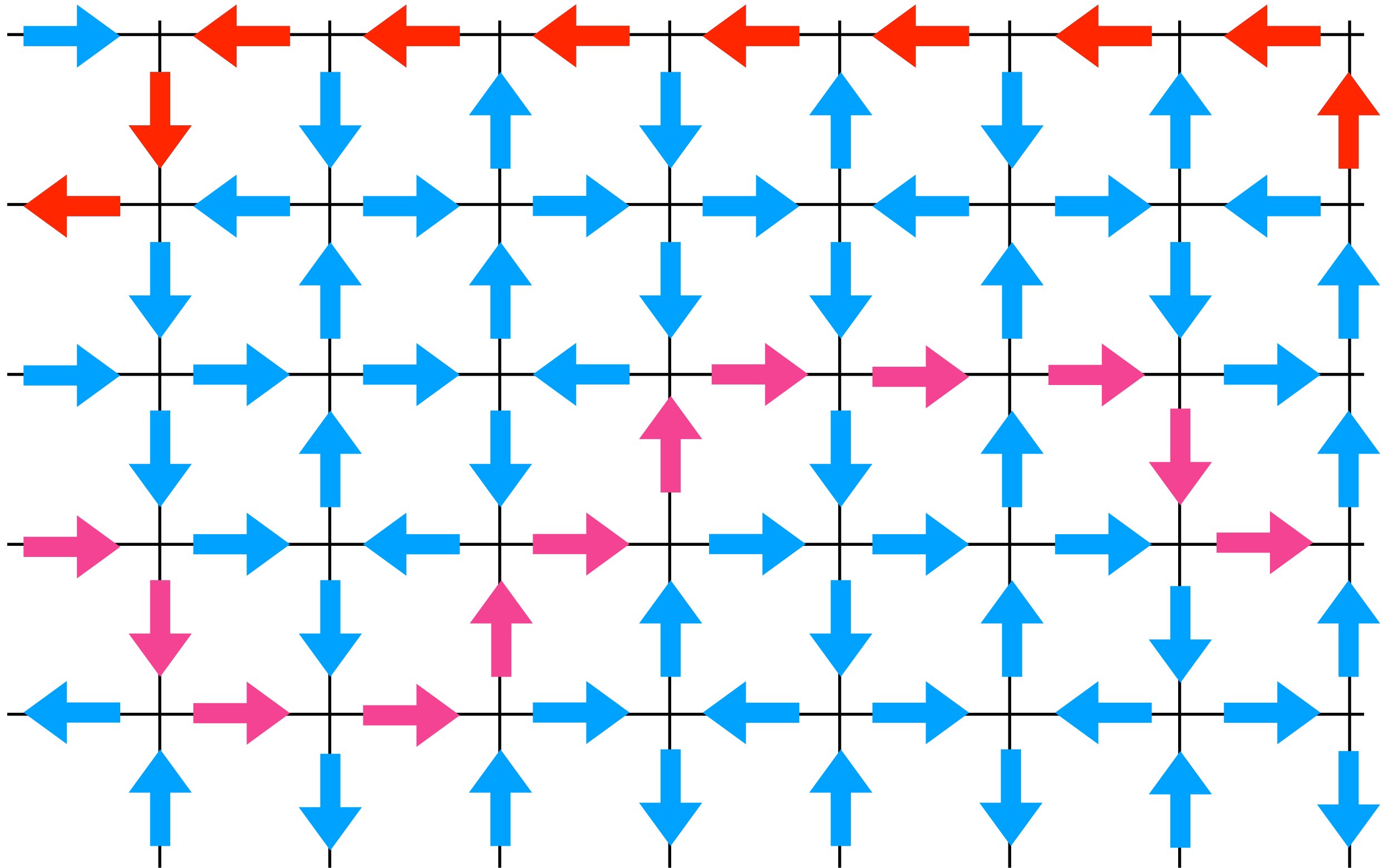


ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS

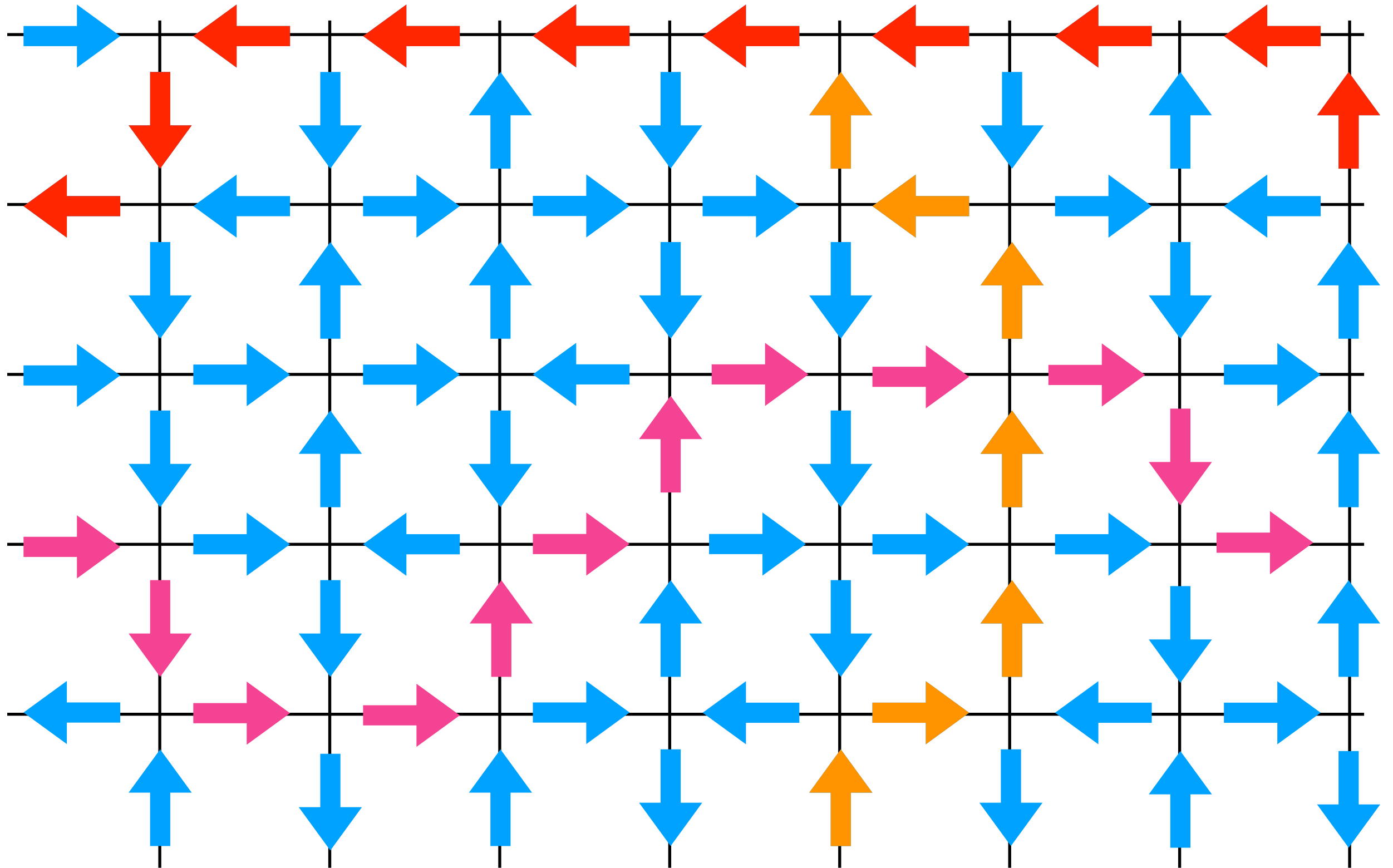




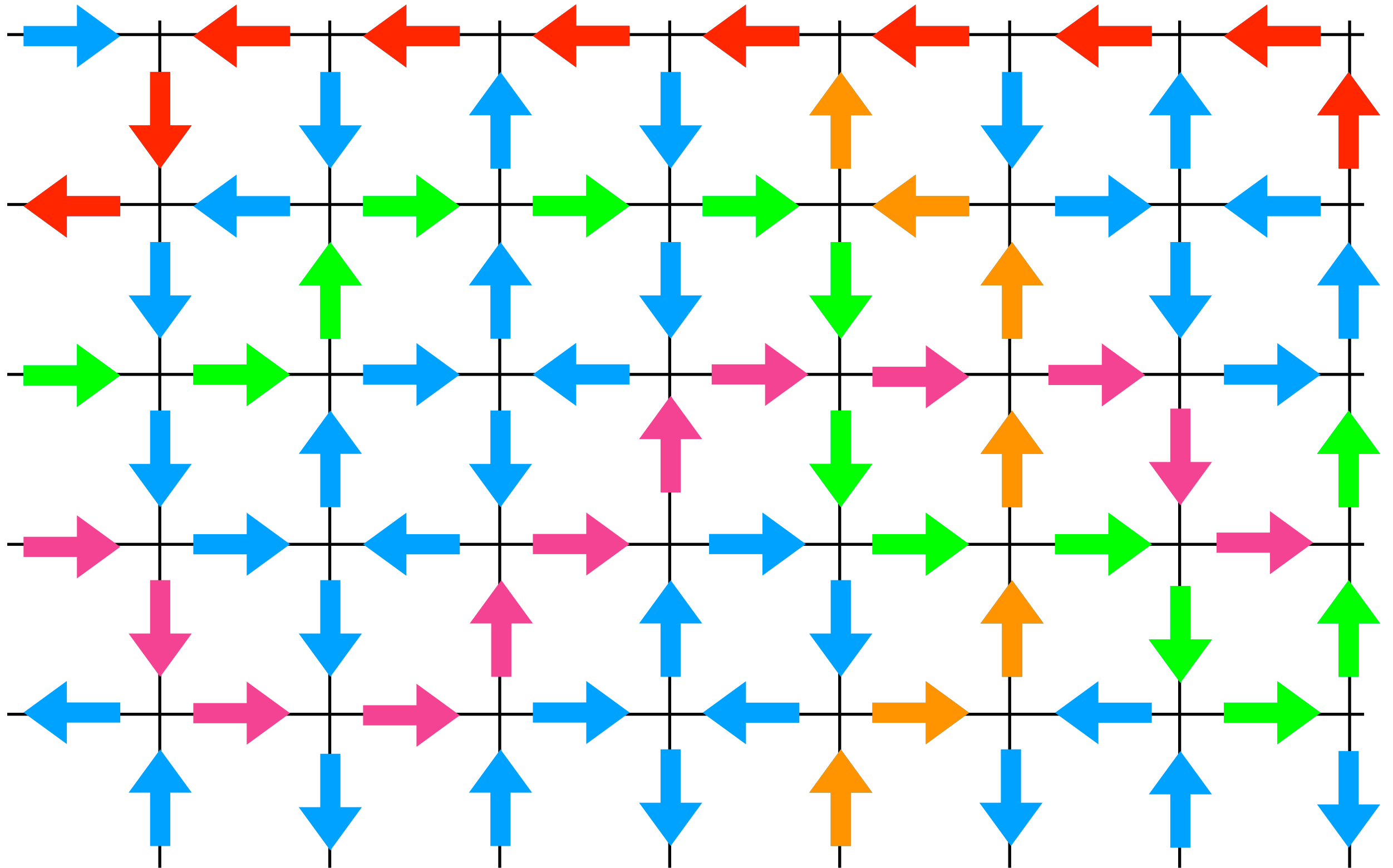
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



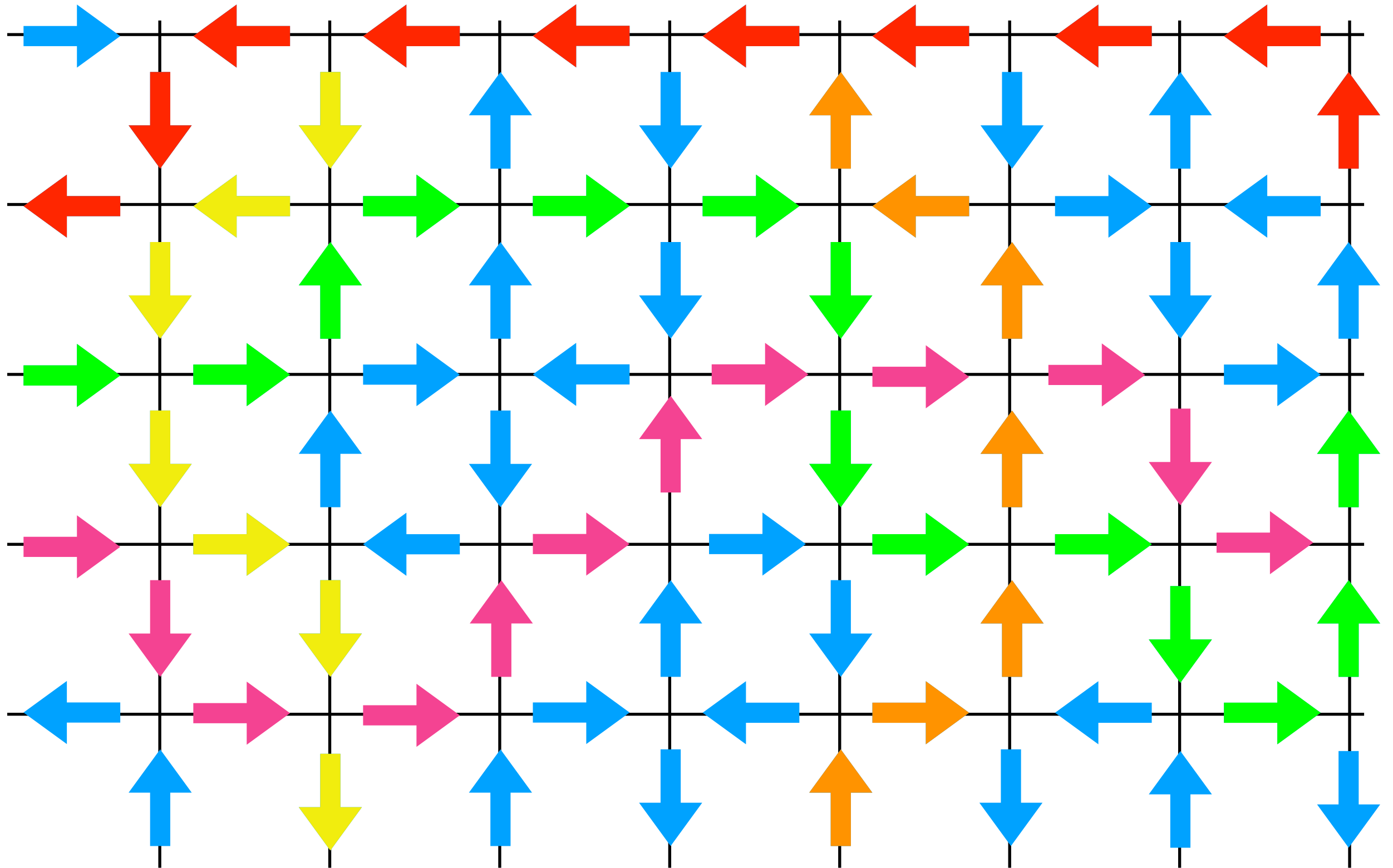
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



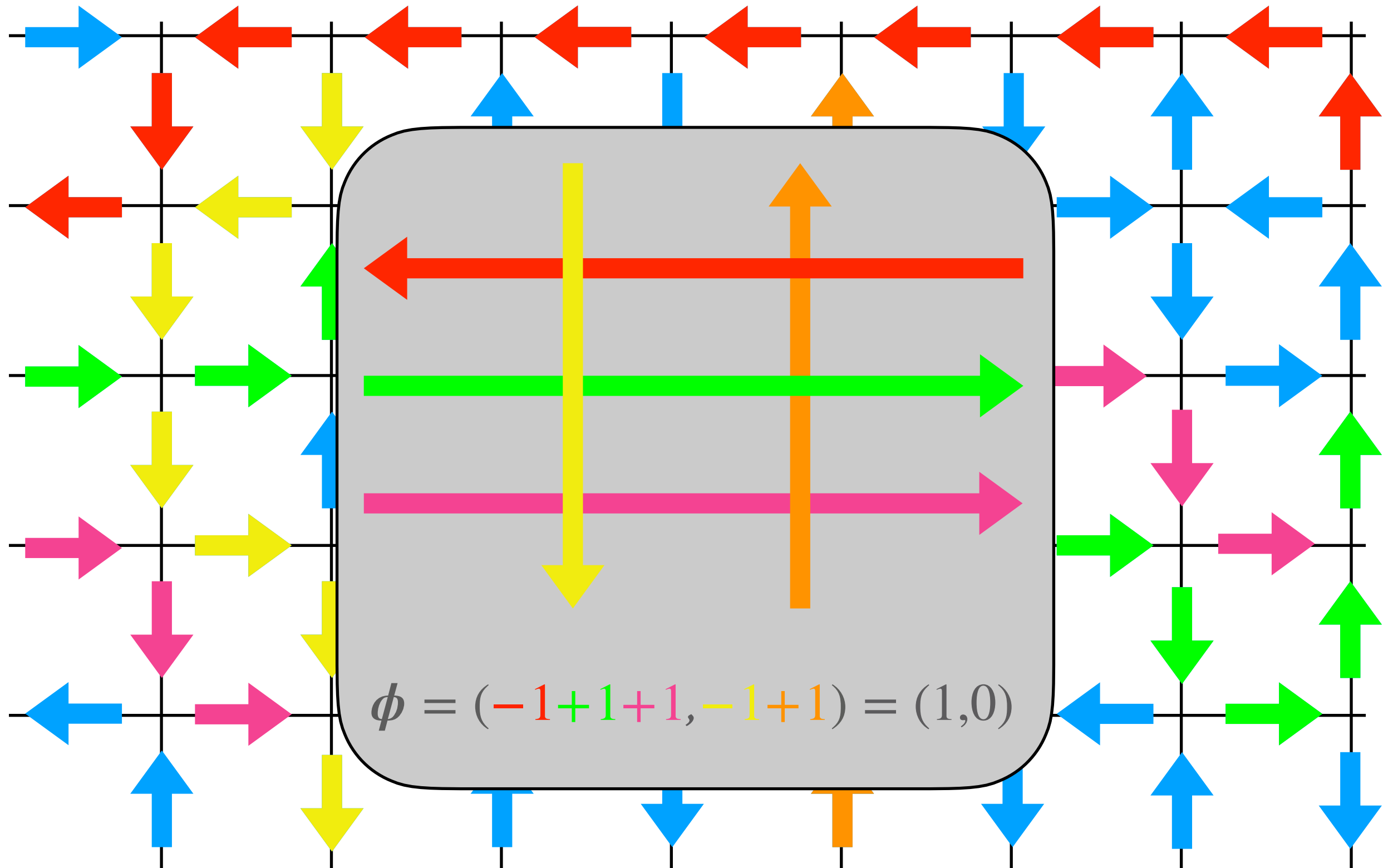
ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS

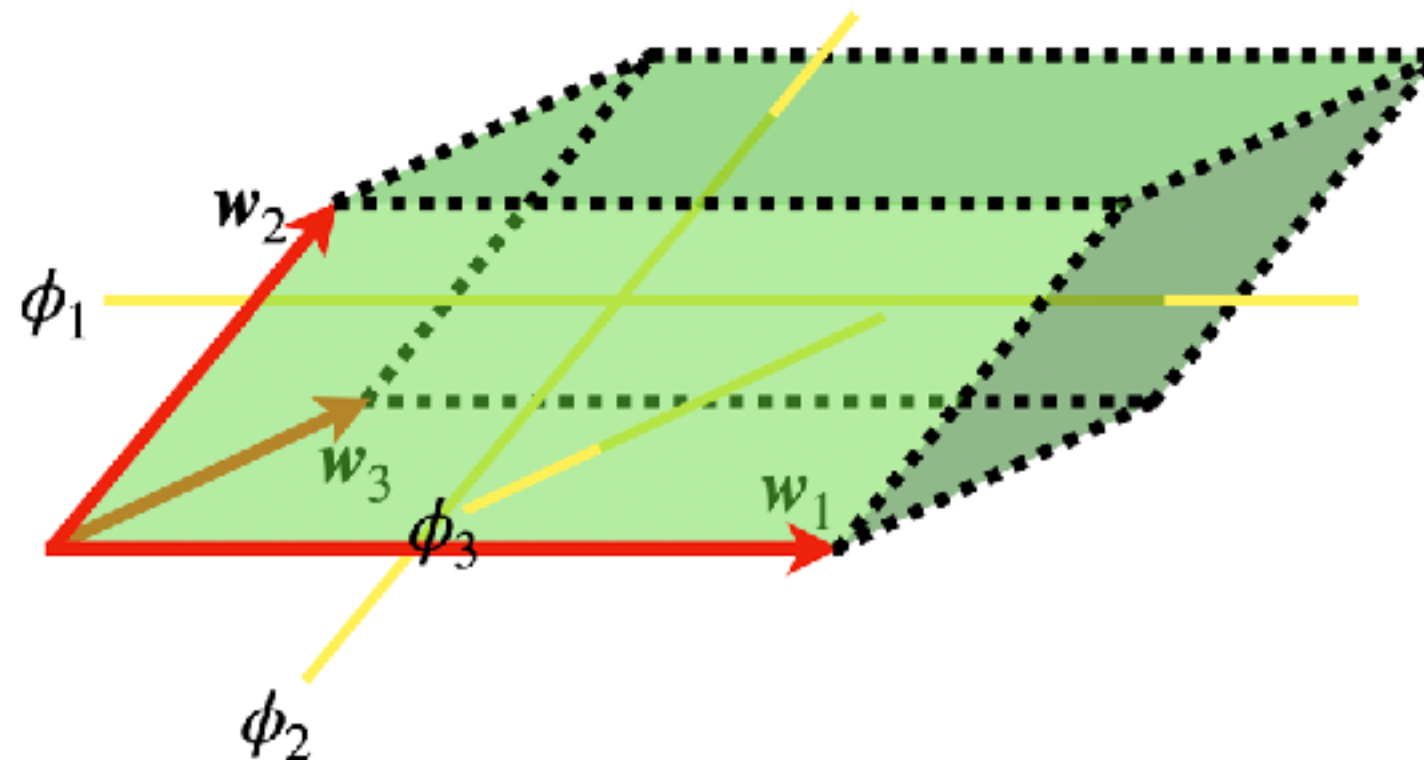


ELECTRIC TOPOLOGICAL SECTORS



MAXWELL ENERGY DENSITY

Electric Topological Sectors: $\phi = (\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3)$



ELECTRIC FIELD CALCULATION

► Gauss's Law:

$$\mathbf{E} \cdot (\mathbf{w}_1 \times \mathbf{w}_2) = \phi_3 e_{\text{QSI}} / \epsilon_{\text{QSI}}$$

$$\mathbf{E} \cdot (\mathbf{w}_2 \times \mathbf{w}_3) = \phi_1 e_{\text{QSI}} / \epsilon_{\text{QSI}}$$

$$\mathbf{E} \cdot (\mathbf{w}_3 \times \mathbf{w}_1) = \phi_2 e_{\text{QSI}} / \epsilon_{\text{QSI}}$$



$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{\phi_1 \mathbf{w}_1 + \phi_2 \mathbf{w}_2 + \phi_3 \mathbf{w}_3}{V} \frac{e_{\text{QSI}}}{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}}$$

► Q Matrix

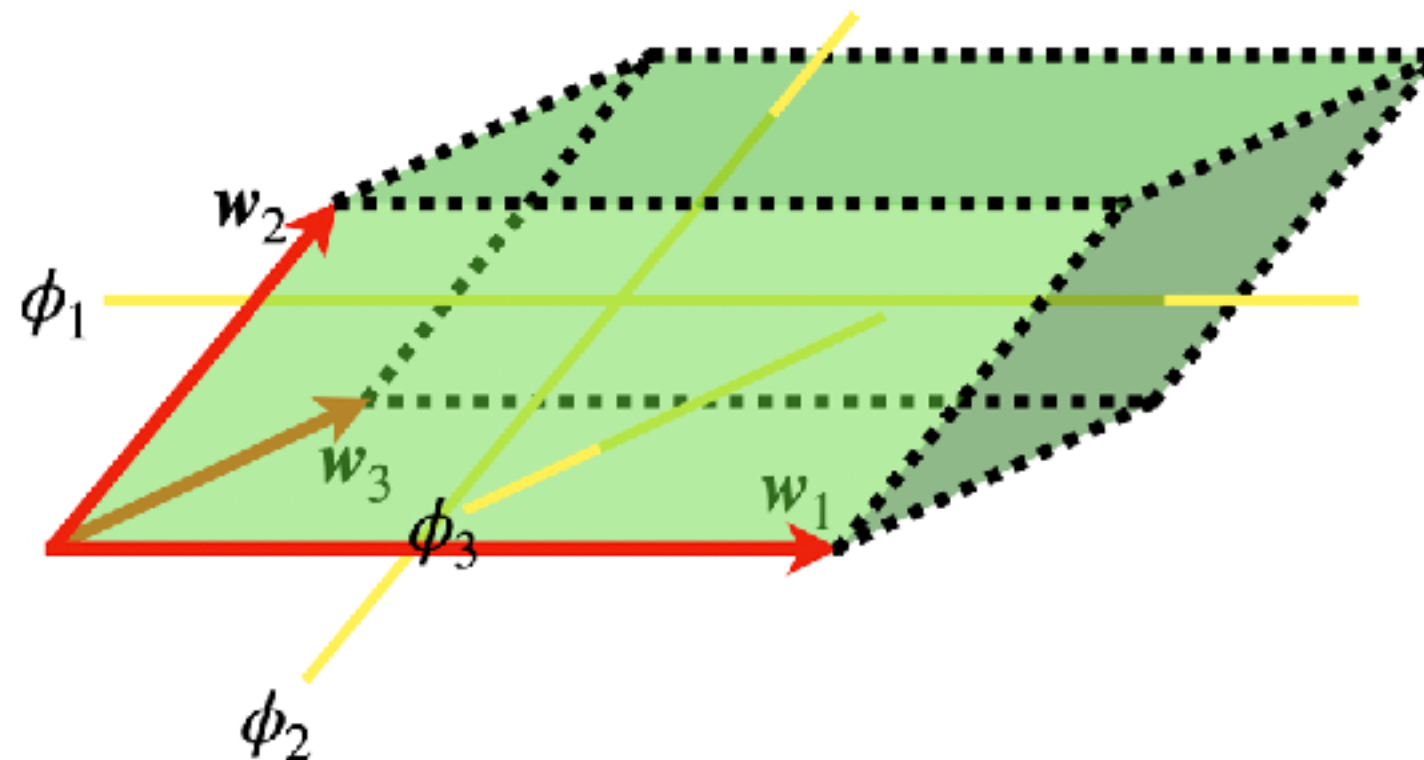
$$Q \equiv \frac{a^2}{V} \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | \\ \mathbf{w}_1 & \mathbf{w}_2 & \mathbf{w}_3 \\ | & | & | \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{Q\boldsymbol{\phi}}{a^2} \frac{e_{\text{QSI}}}{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}}$$

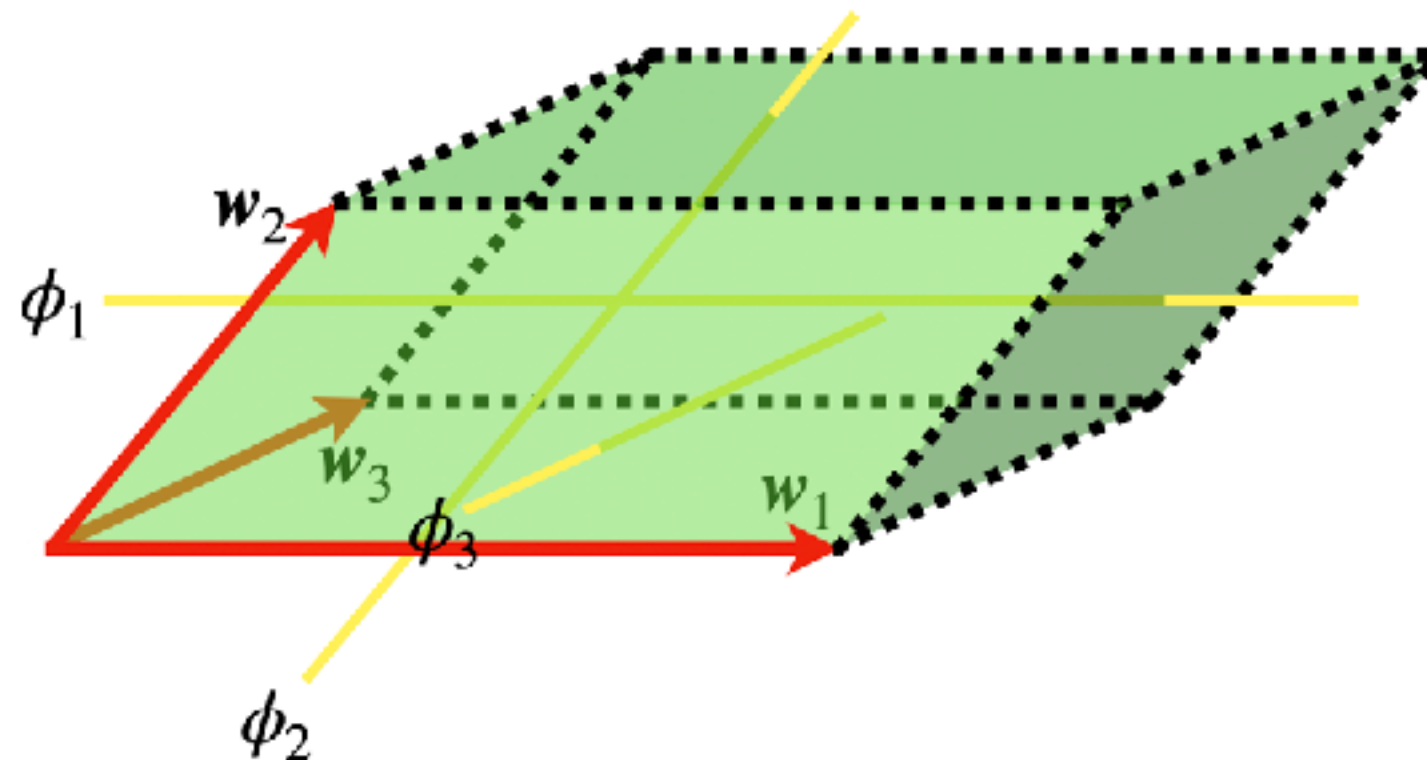
MAXWELL ENERGY DENSITY

Electric Topological Sectors: $\phi = (\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3)$



MAXWELL ENERGY DENSITY

Electric Topological Sectors: $\phi = (\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3)$

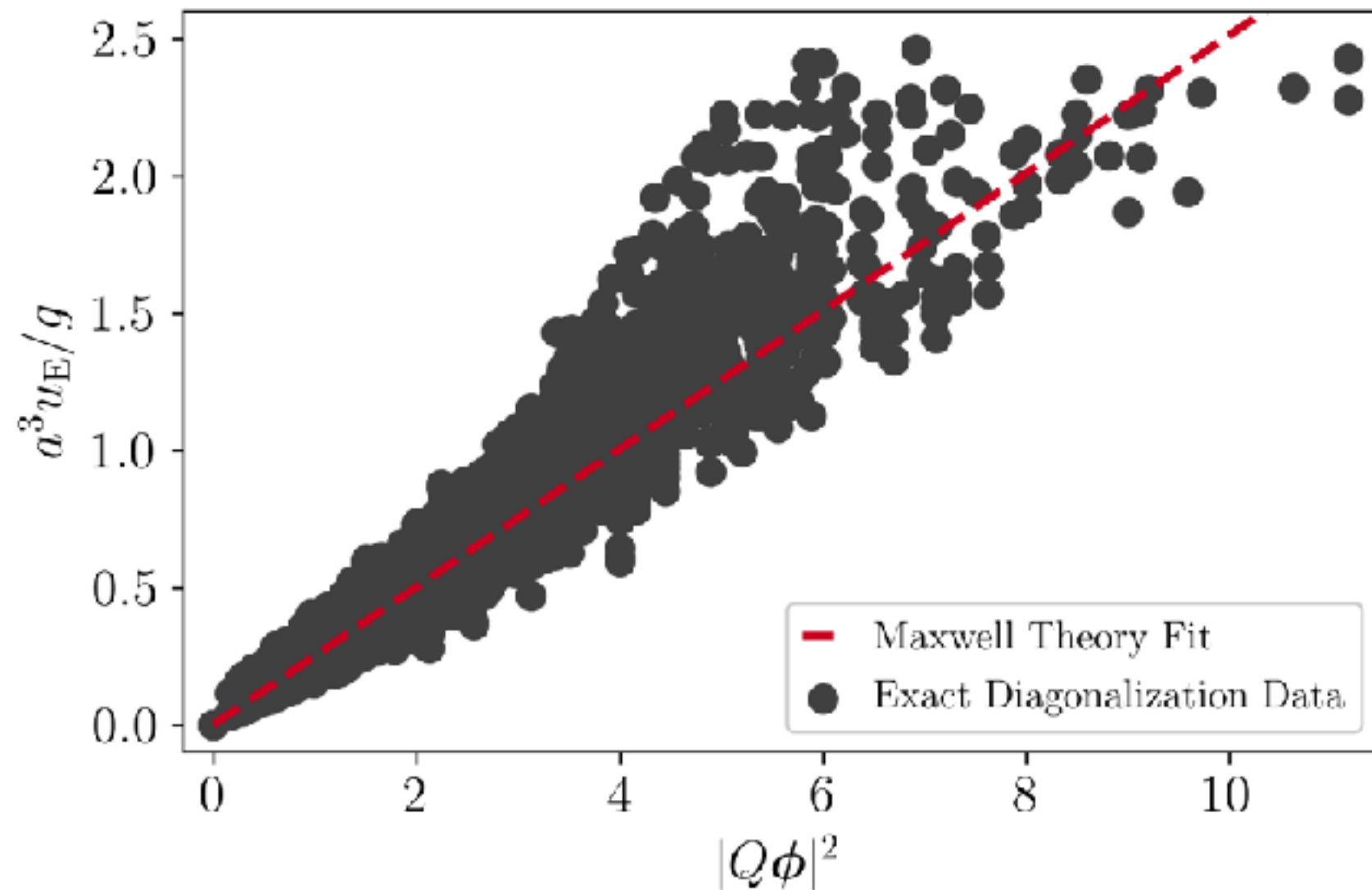


$$E = \frac{Q\phi}{a^2} \frac{e_{\text{QSI}}}{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}}$$



$$u_E = \frac{1}{2} \frac{|Q\phi|^2}{a^4} \frac{e_{\text{QSI}}^2}{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}}$$

FITTING $e_{\text{QSI}}^2/\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}$



$$\frac{e_{\text{QSI}}^2}{\epsilon_{\text{QSI}}} = (0.50 \pm 0.07)ag$$

GAUSSIAN PHOTON DISPERSION

➤ Start from Gaussian Theory: $H = \frac{U}{2} \sum_{\langle \mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}' \rangle} E_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}'}^2 + \frac{K}{2} \sum_h (\nabla \times A_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}'})$

➤ Write:

$$A_{(r,n)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{k,\alpha} \sqrt{\frac{U}{2\omega_\alpha(k)}} \left[e^{-ik \cdot (r + e_n/2)} \xi_{n\alpha}(k) a_\alpha(k) + e^{ik \cdot (r + e_n/2)} \xi_{\alpha n}^*(k) a_\alpha^\dagger(k) \right]$$

$$E_{(r,n)} = i \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{k,\alpha} \sqrt{\frac{\omega_\alpha(k)}{2U}} \left[e^{-ik \cdot (r + e_n/2)} \xi_{n\alpha}(k) a_\alpha(k) - e^{ik \cdot (r + e_n/2)} \xi_{\alpha n}^*(k) a_\alpha^\dagger(k) \right]$$

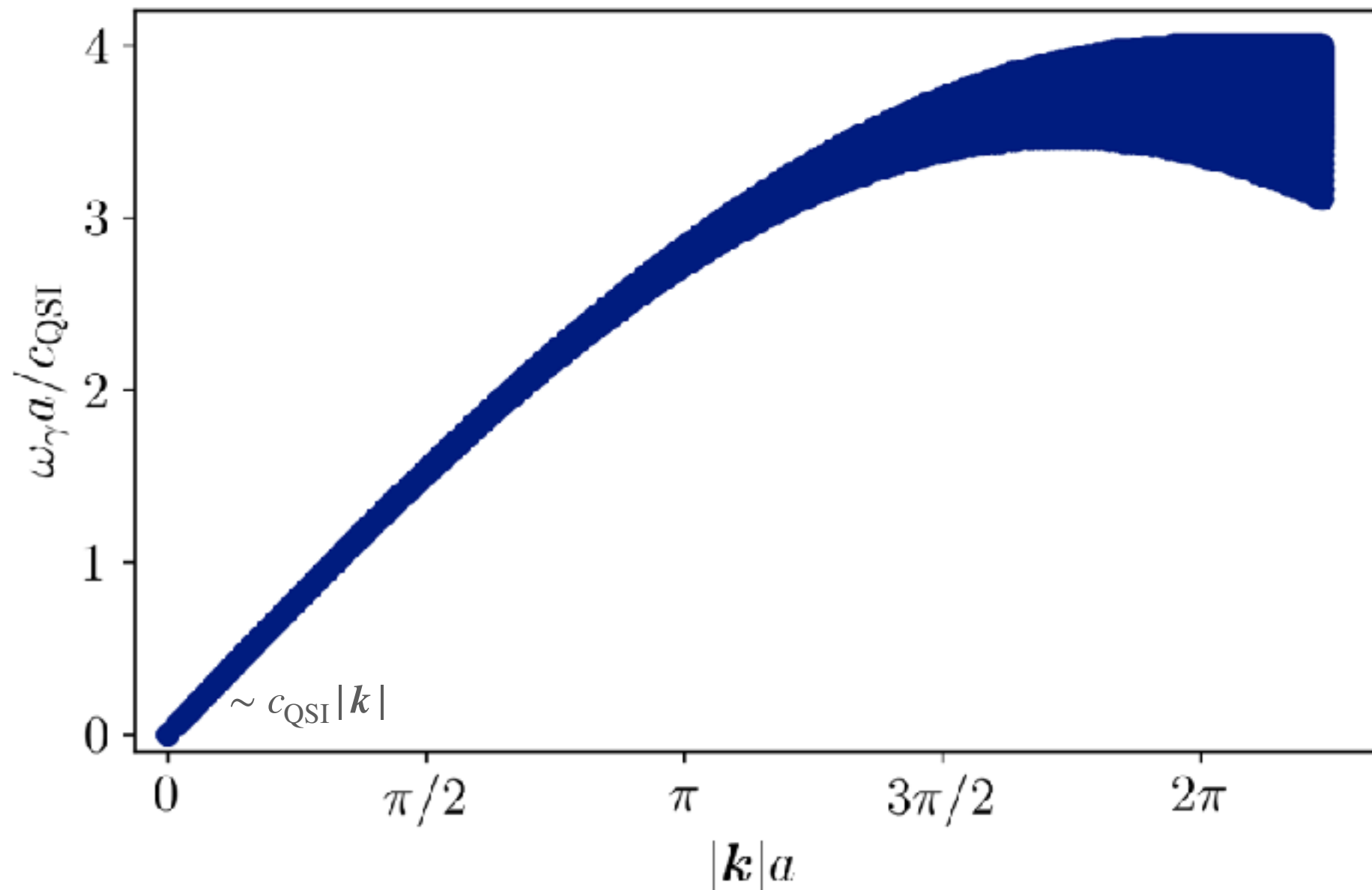
➤ ξ is spin-1 polarization tensor

➤ $a_\alpha(k)$ destroys photon of momentum k

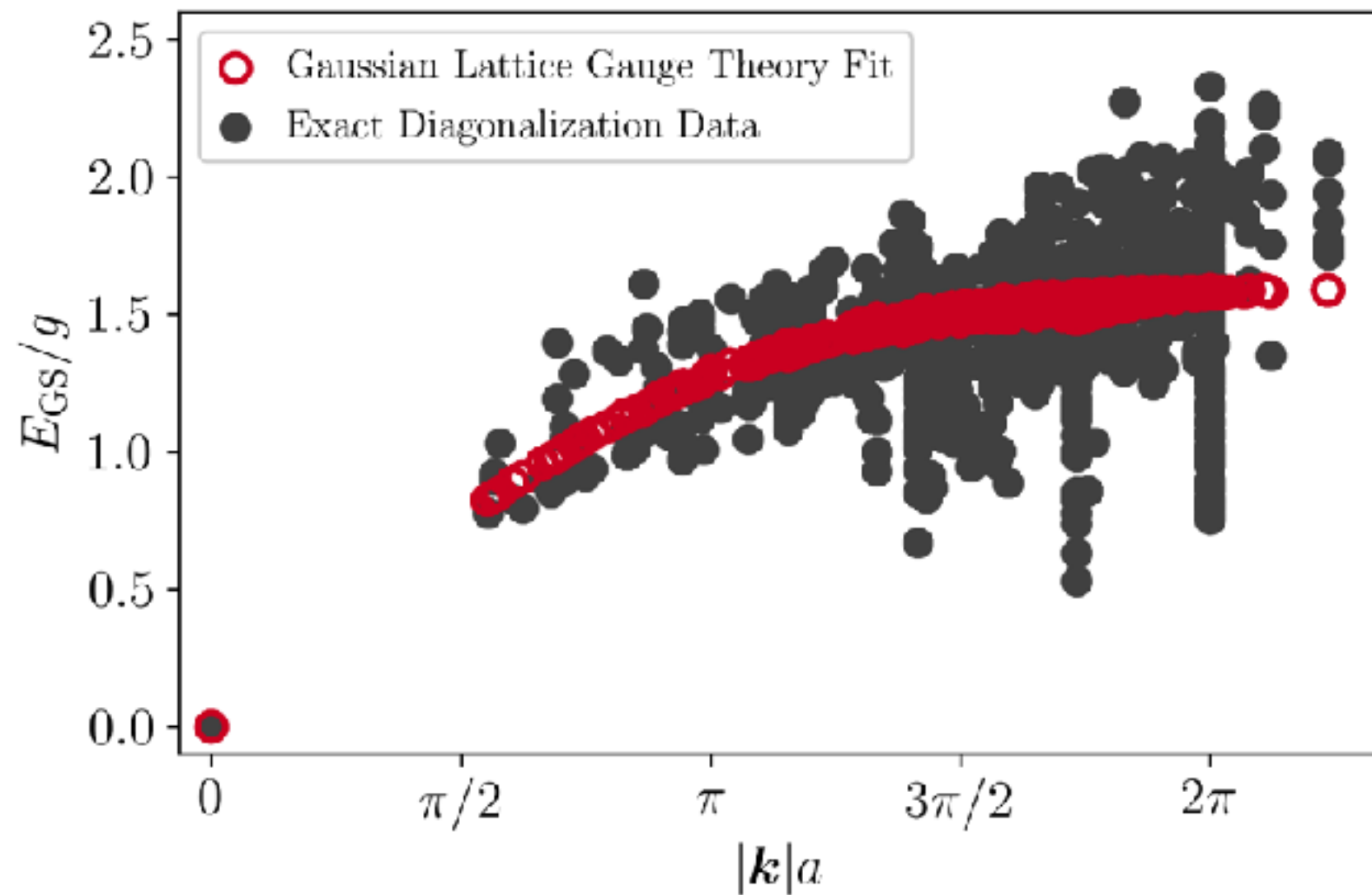
➤ ω is the photon dispersion

QSI GAUSSIAN PHOTON DISPERSION

$$\omega(k) = \frac{2c_{\text{QSI}}}{a} \sqrt{3 - \cos\left(\frac{k_1 a}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{k_2 a}{2}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{k_1 a}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{k_3 a}{2}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{k_2 a}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{k_3 a}{2}\right)}$$



FITTING c_{QSI}



$$c_{\text{QSI}} = (0.51 \pm 0.06)ag/\hbar$$

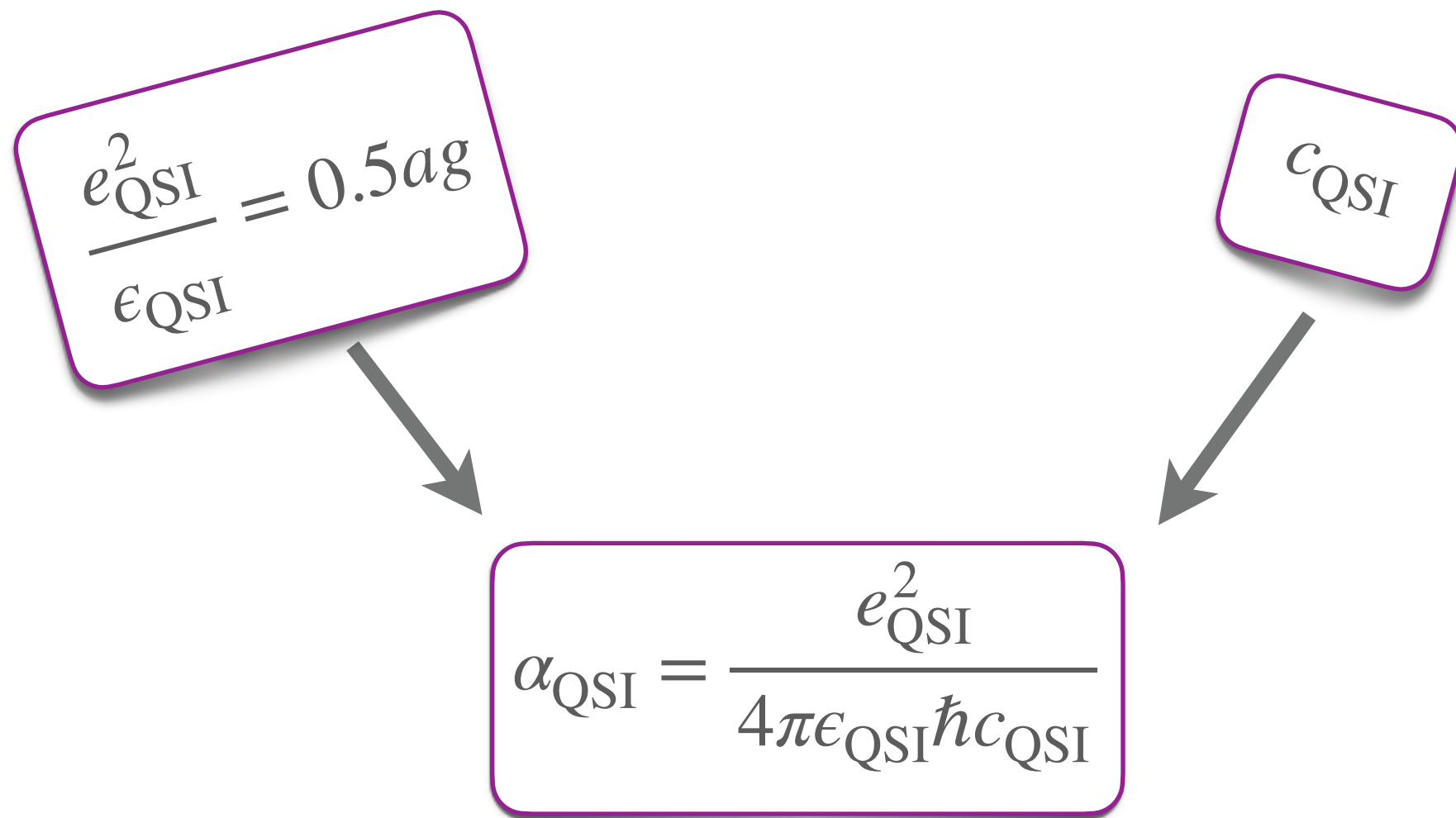
EMERGENT FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT

.....

The diagram illustrates the derivation of the emergent fine structure constant α_{QSI} . It features three boxes with purple borders. Two boxes at the top point towards a central box at the bottom. The left box contains the expression $\frac{e_{QSI}^2}{\epsilon_{QSI}}$. The right box contains the expression c_{QSI} . The central box contains the final equation:
$$\alpha_{QSI} = \frac{e_{QSI}^2}{4\pi\epsilon_{QSI}\hbar c_{QSI}}$$

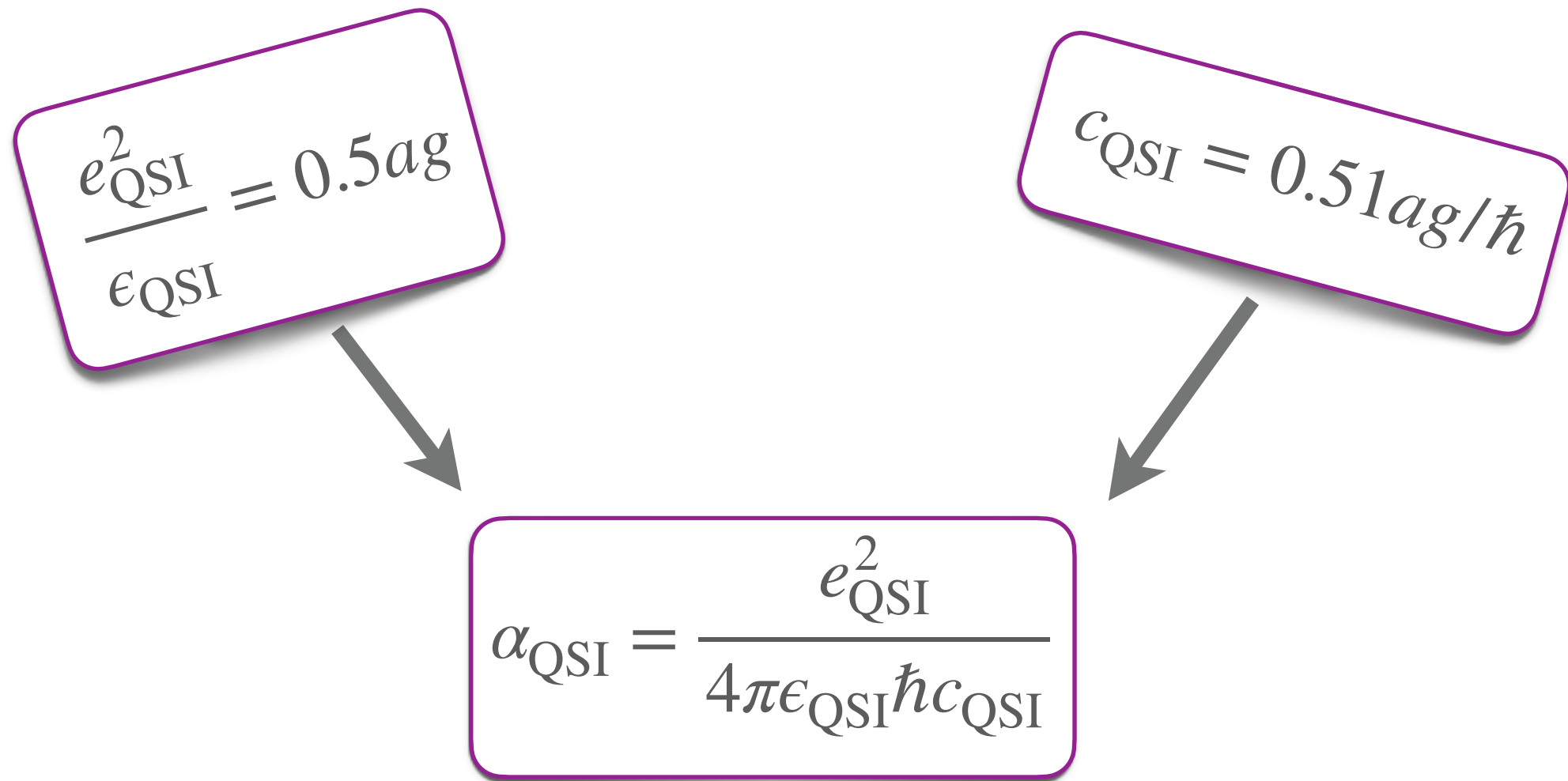
EMERGENT FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT

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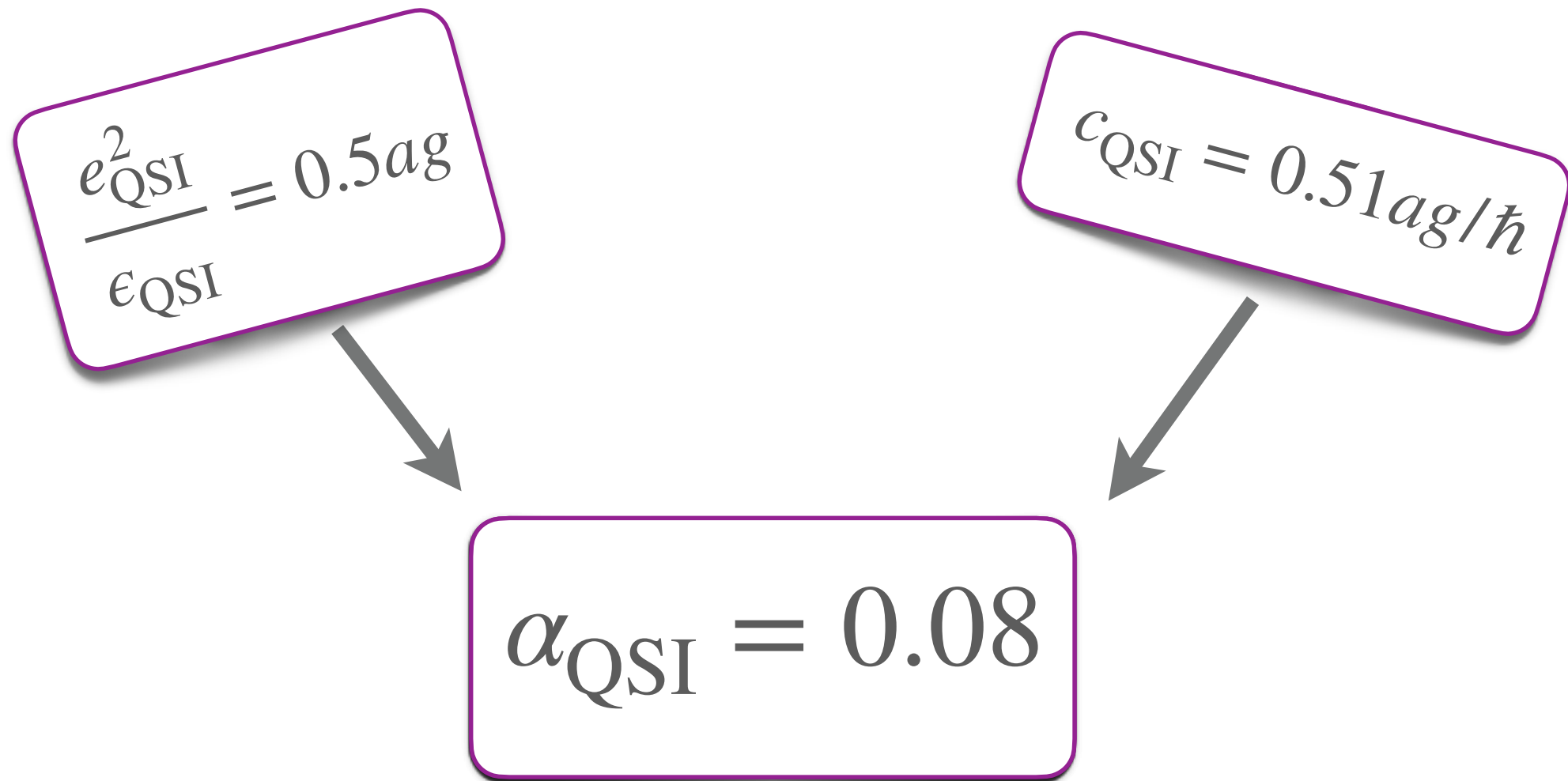


EMERGENT FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT

.....



EMERGENT FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT



QSI BALLPARK NUMBERS

- Lattice spacing: $a \sim 10 \text{ \AA}$
- Ring exchange energy: $g \sim 10 \text{ } \mu\text{eV}$

Parameters	QSI	QED
c	10 m/s	$3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$
e^2/ϵ	10^{-33} J m	$2.9 \times 10^{-27} \text{ J m}$
α	1/10	1/137

PERTURBING THE MODEL

$$\hat{H}_{\text{QSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{S}_i^z \hat{S}_j^z - g \sum_{\text{h}} \left(\hat{W}_{\text{h}} + \hat{W}_{\text{h}}^\dagger \right)$$

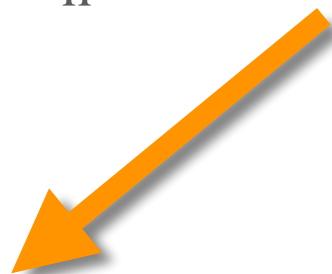
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$$\triangleright \hat{H}_{\text{p}} = \mu g \sum_{\text{h}} \left(\hat{W}_{\text{h}}^\dagger \hat{W}_{\text{h}} + \hat{W}_{\text{h}} \hat{W}_{\text{h}}^\dagger \right)$$



- Counts flippable hexagons
- QED phase: $-0.5 \lesssim \mu \leq 1$
- Rokhsar-Kivelson point: $\mu = 1$

PERTURBING THE MODEL

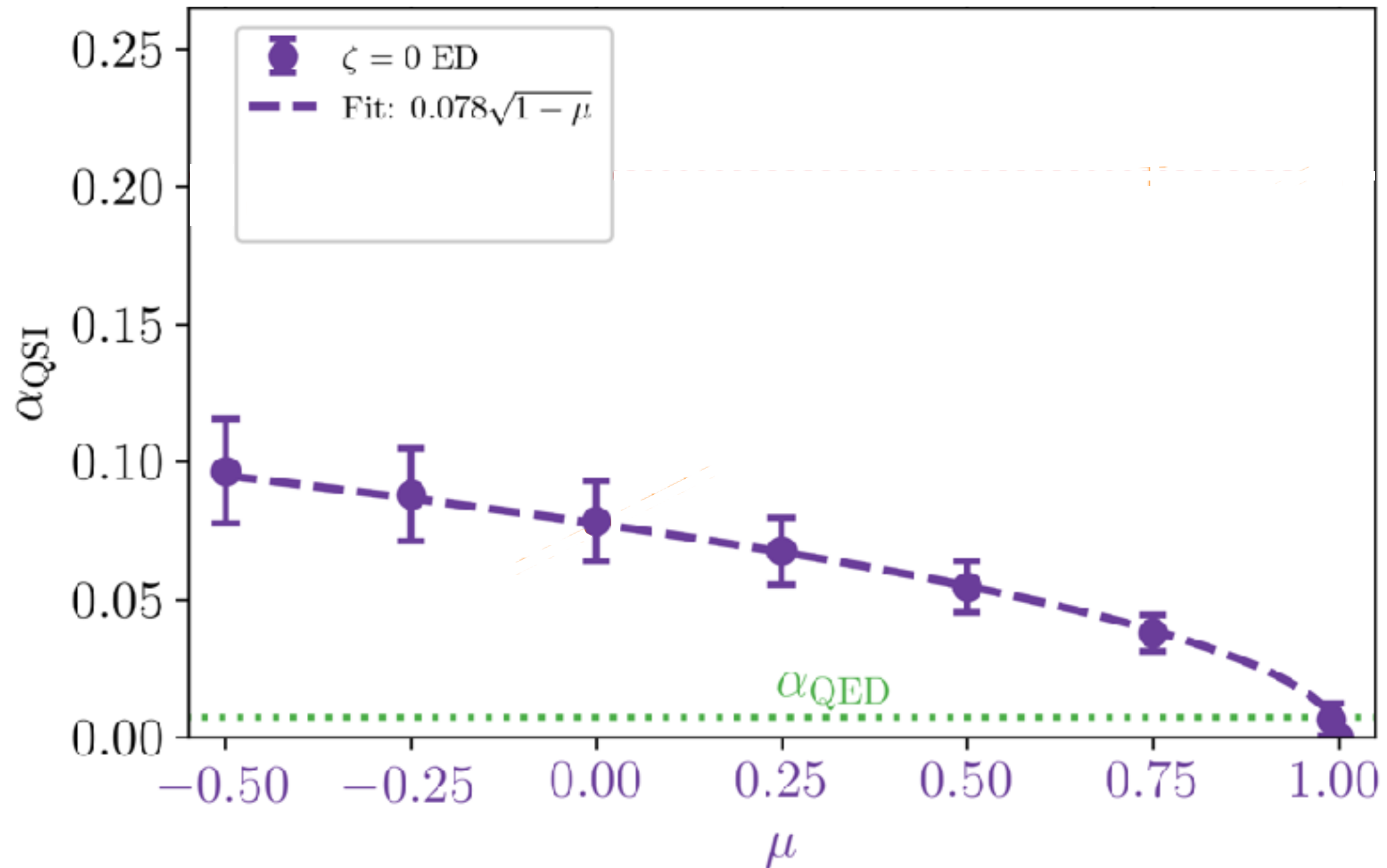
$$\hat{H}_{\text{QSI}} = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{S}_i^z \hat{S}_j^z - g \sum_{\text{h}} \left(\hat{W}_{\text{h}} + \hat{W}_{\text{h}}^\dagger \right) + \hat{H}_{\text{p}}$$

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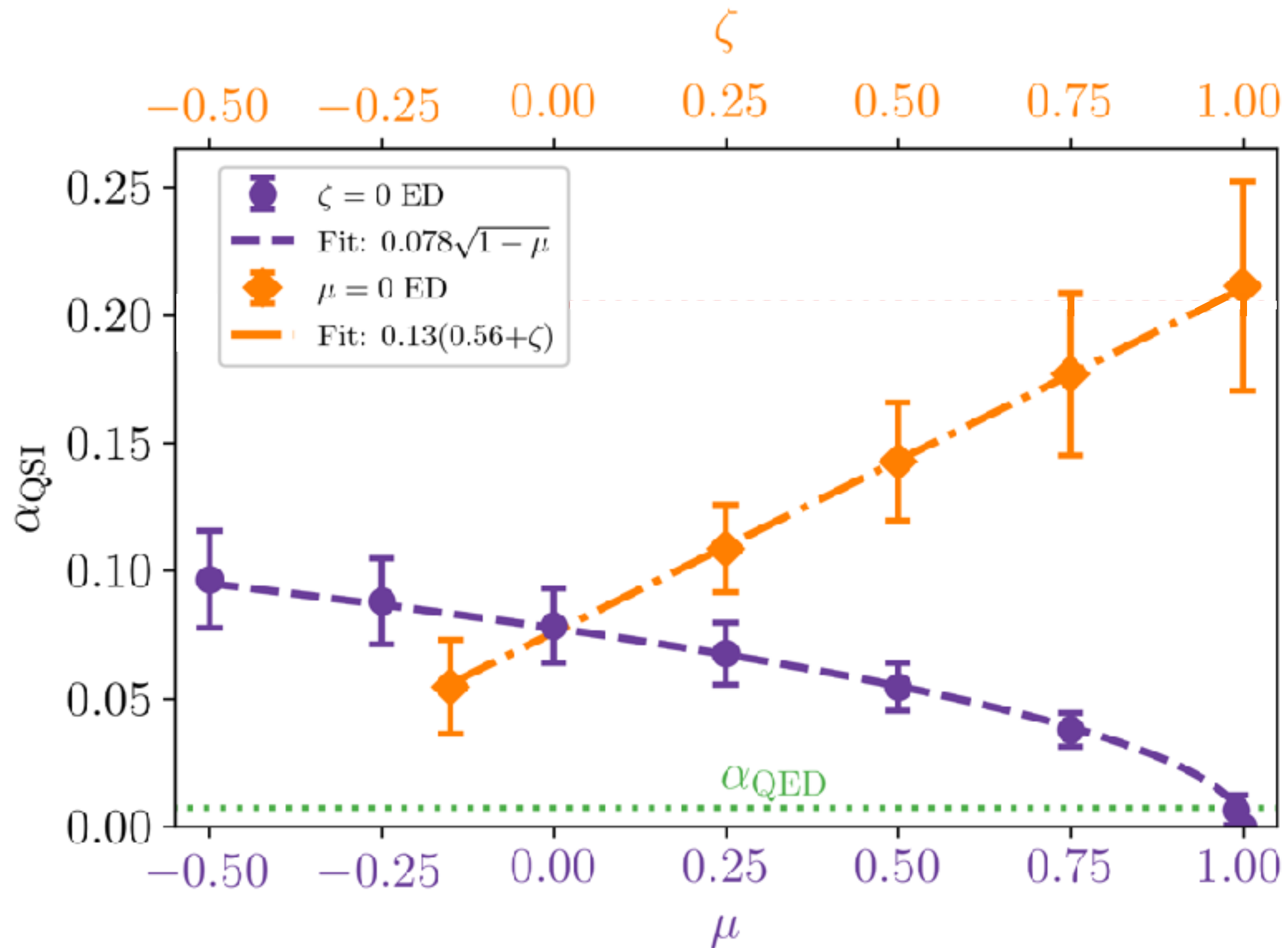
- Counts flippable hexagons
- QED phase: $-0.5 \lesssim \mu \leq 1$
- Rokhsar-Kivelson point: $\mu = 1$

- $\langle\langle\langle i,j \rangle\rangle\rangle$: Spins across hexagons
- Realistic two body term
- QED phase: $-0.2 \lesssim \zeta \lesssim 1$

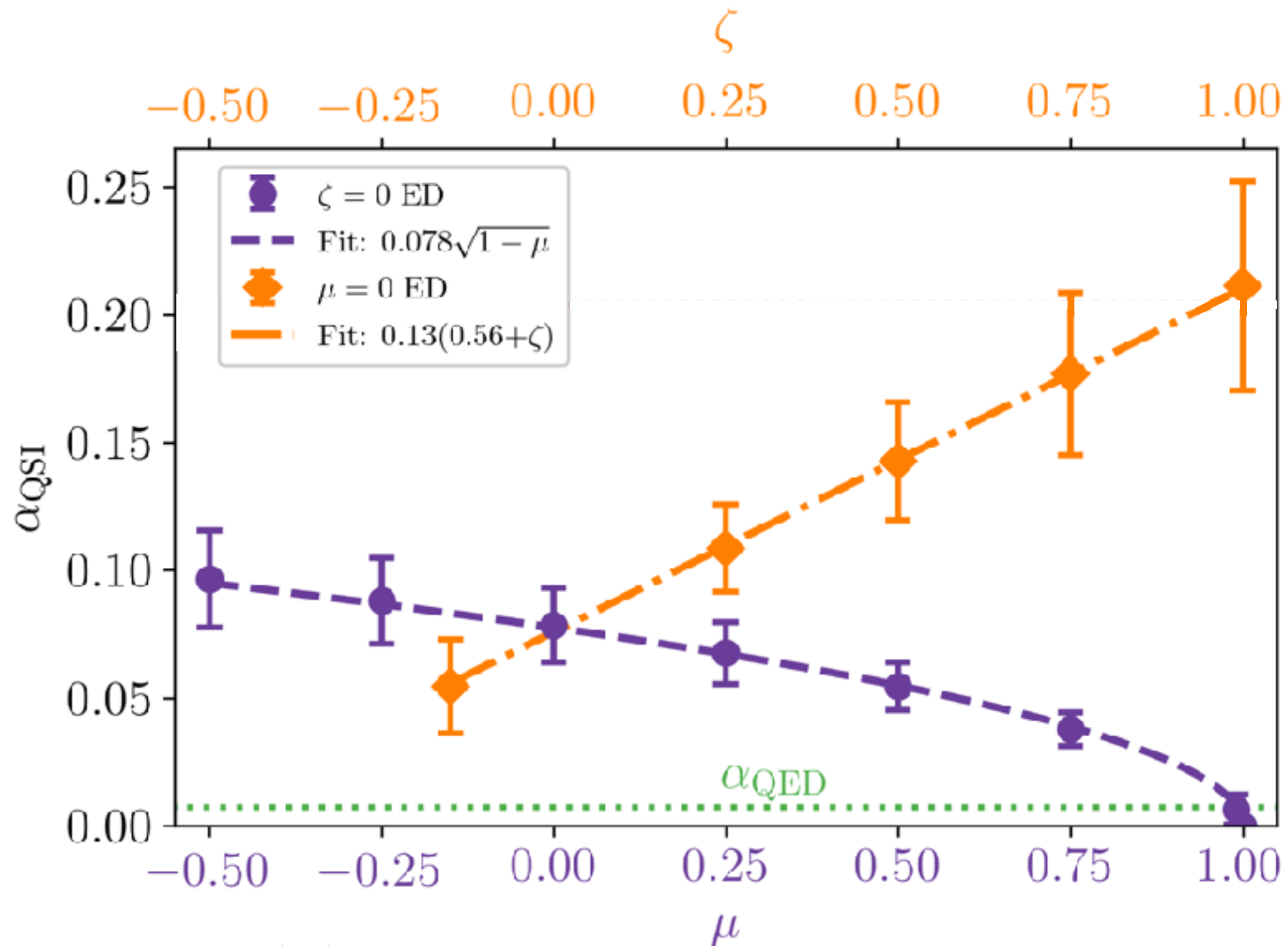
TUNING α_{QSI}



TUNING α_{QSI}



TUNING α_{QSI}

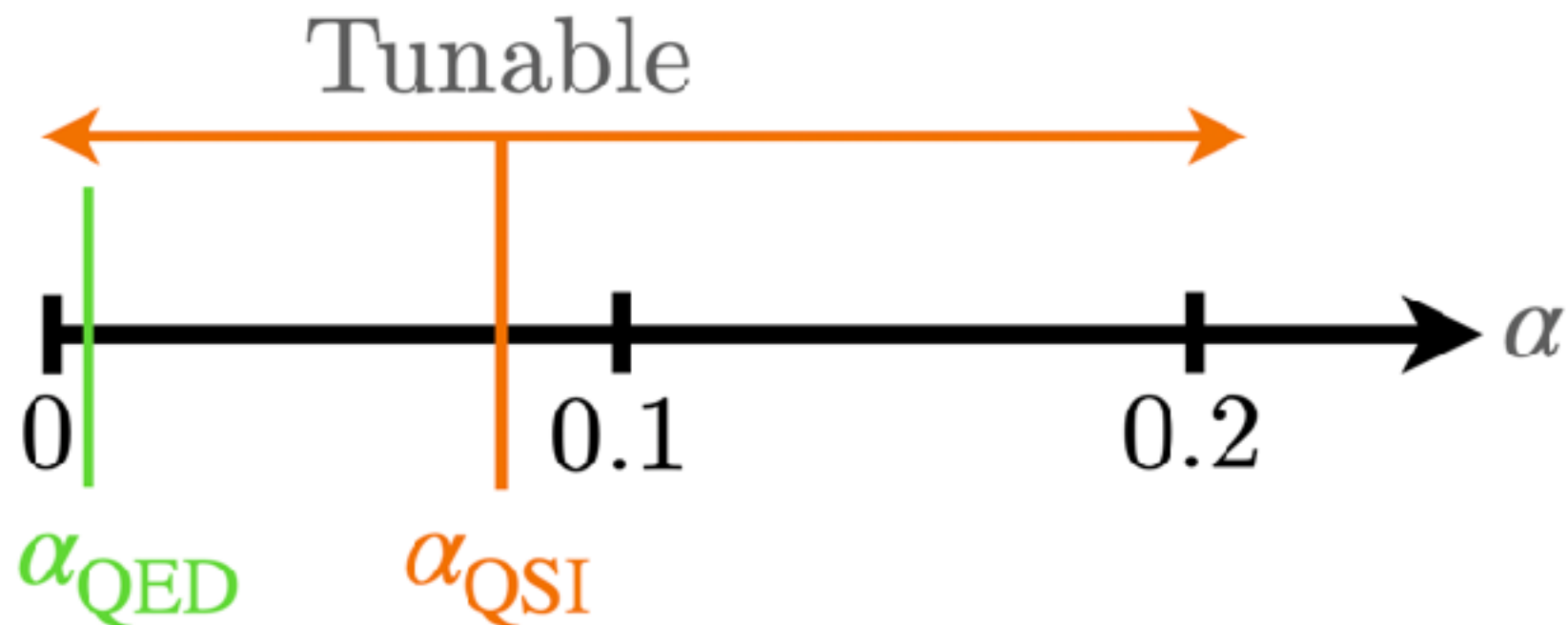
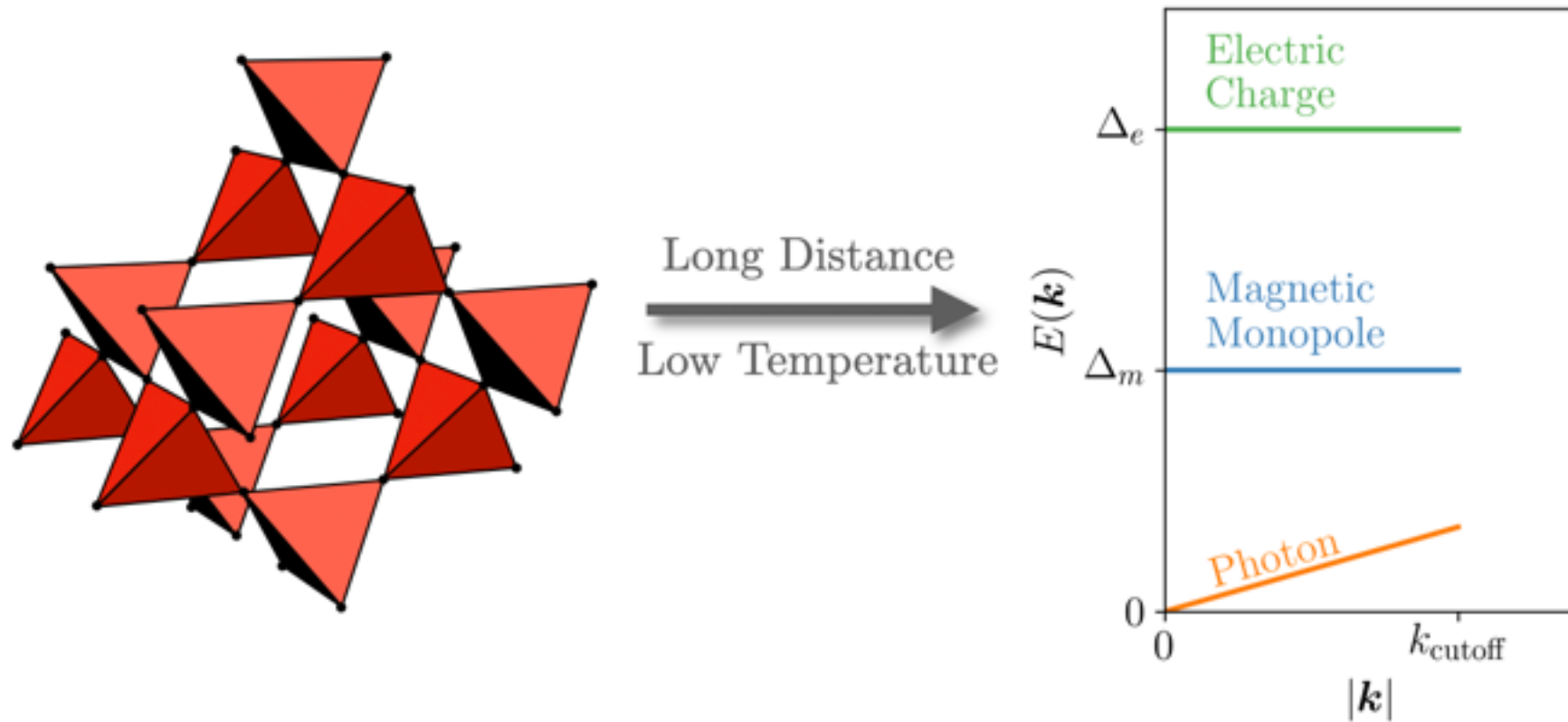


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RECAP



THANK YOU! QUESTIONS?

arXiv:2009.04499

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Sid Morampudi



MIT

QUANTUM SPIN ICE

- Most general quantum Hamiltonian:

$$H = \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} [J_{zz} S_i^z S_j^z - J_{\pm} (S_i^+ S_j^- + S_i^- S_j^+) \\ + J_{\pm\pm} [\gamma_{ij} S_i^+ S_j^+ + \gamma_{ij}^* S_i^- S_j^-] \\ + J_{z\pm} \left[S_i^z \left((\zeta_{ij} S_j^+ + \zeta_{ij}^* S_j^-) + i \leftrightarrow j \right) \right]]$$

- Experiments on $\text{Yb}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_7$ found that in meV:

$$J_{zz} = 0.17 \pm 0.04, \quad J_{\pm} = 0.05 \pm 0.01$$

$$J_{\pm\pm} = 0.05 \pm 0.01 \quad J_{z\pm} = -0.14 \pm 0.01$$

EXPERIMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

1. Cherenkov Radiation

- Theoretical study whose results where in terms of the fine structure constant
- Since the speed of light is being tuned too, the threshold for Cherenkov radiation is also moved

2. Dynamical Structure Factor

- Shows sharp lines from excitonic bound states and a continuum.
- We now have all the information to know the spacing between bound states in numerics and neutron scattering experiment.

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XXZ MODEL TO QSI

➤ Setting $J_{\pm\pm} = J_{z\pm} = 0$, XXZ model:

➤
$$H = J_{zz} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} S_i^z S_j^z + J_{\pm} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \left(S_i^+ S_j^- + \text{h.c.} \right)$$

➤ Study quantum fluctuations within spin ice manifold (Set spinon gap to infinity)

➤ For $J_{zz} \gg J_{\pm\pm}$, third order perturbation

➤
$$H_{eff} = P \left[H_{zz} + H_{\pm} - H_{\pm} \frac{1-P}{H_{zz}} H_{\pm} + H_{\pm} \frac{1-P}{H_{zz}} H_{\pm} \frac{1-P}{H_{zz}} H_{\pm} \right] P$$

$$H_{eff} = - \frac{3J_{\pm}^3}{2J_{zz}^2} \sum_h \left(S_{h,1}^+ S_{h,2}^- S_{h,3}^+ S_{h,4}^- S_{h,5}^+ S_{h,6}^- + \text{h.c.} \right)$$

➤
$$\equiv -g \sum_h \left(S_{h,1}^+ S_{h,2}^- S_{h,3}^+ S_{h,4}^- S_{h,5}^+ S_{h,6}^- + \text{h.c.} \right)$$

EMERGENT COMPACT QED

- Introduce quantum rotor variables: $S_i^\pm = e^{\pm i\phi_i}$
- Introduce oriented link variables
 - $A_i = \pm \phi_i$
- Hamiltonian becomes $H = -2g \sum_h \cos(\text{curl}A)$
- Consider Hamiltonian
 - $H = \frac{U}{2} \sum_r E_r^2 - K \sum_h \cos(\text{curl}A)$
 - When $U \gg K$, gives same low-energy physics as above.

EMERGENT COMPACT QED: COMMENTS

- $H = \frac{U}{2} \sum_r E_r^2 - K \sum_h \cos(\text{curl} A)$ is a compact $U(1)$ LGT.
- H is invariant under gauge transformation $A_{ij} \rightarrow A_{ij} + g_j - g_i$
- Canonically conjugate $[A, E] = i$
- magnetic monopoles
- Because $E_{ij} = \pm 1/2$, LGT is frustrated and non-trivial in $U \gg K$ limit

RECALL FINE STRUCTURE CONSTANT

➤ $\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} - \partial_\mu\phi^\dagger\partial^\mu\phi - m^2\phi^\dagger\phi - 2i\sqrt{\pi\alpha}\phi^\dagger\partial_\mu^{\leftrightarrow}\phi A^\mu - 4\pi\alpha A_\mu A^\mu\phi^\dagger\phi$

➤ Scalar QED Lagrangian

➤ α gives coupling strength between photon field and scalar boson field.

➤ Electron-positron to electron positron scatter leading order term is proportional to α

➤ In the QED of our universe, $\alpha = 1/137$

FULL DISPERSION

- Effective theory near the RK point, with $U = 1 - \mu$

$$H_{RK} = \frac{U}{2} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} E_{ij}^2 + \frac{K}{2} \sum_h (\nabla_h \times A)^2 + \frac{W}{2} \sum_h (\nabla_h \times E)^2$$

- Diagonalize to find the dispersion

$$\omega_{1,2}(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{2}{a} \sqrt{c^2 \zeta(\mathbf{k}) + V \zeta^2(\mathbf{k})}$$

$$\zeta(\mathbf{k}) = 3 - \cos\left(\frac{k_1 a}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{k_2 a}{2}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{k_1 a}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{k_3 a}{2}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{k_2 a}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{k_3 a}{2}\right)$$

$$c = \sqrt{UK}a \quad \text{and} \quad V = UW$$