Spin Structure and Critical Nucleation Frequency of Fractionalized Vortices in 2D Topologically Ordered Superfluids of Cold Atoms

JUNLIANG SONG, FEI ZHOU, University of British Columbia — We have studied spin structures of fluctuation-driven fractionalized vortices and topological spin order in 2D nematic superfluids of cold sodium atoms. Our Monte Carlo simulations suggest a softened $\pi$-spin disclination structure in a half-quantum vortex when spin correlations are short ranged; in addition, calculations indicate that a unique non-local topological spin order emerges simultaneously as cold atoms become a superfluid below a critical temperature. We have also estimated fluctuation-dependent critical frequencies for half-quantum vortex nucleation in rotating optical traps and discussed probing these excitations in experiments.

1This work is in part supported by the office of the Dean of Science, UBC, NSERC (Canada), Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, and the A. P. Sloan foundation.

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Date submitted: 18 Nov 2008