

Abstract Submitted  
for the MAR16 Meeting of  
The American Physical Society

**Phase coexistence in the  $O(N)\oplus O(M)$  nonlinear sigma model: a conformal bootstrap study** CHRIS HOOLEY, SAM RIDGWAY, University of St Andrews, U.K. — The low-temperature physics of systems with competing orders is a ubiquitous topic in modern condensed matter physics. A commonly studied field theory of such systems is the  $O(N)\oplus O(M)$  nonlinear sigma model: an  $O(N + M)$  model with a mass term attached to  $N$  of the field components. Depending on the sign of the mass term, order in the  $O(N)$  sector or the  $O(M)$  sector is favored. However, the physics near the high-symmetry point is subtle, and in some cases (e.g.  $N = M = 2$ ) it remains unclear whether there is a first-order spin-flop transition or a finite-width microscopic coexistence phase. In this talk, we present an analysis of the  $O(N)\oplus O(M)$  model based on the conformal bootstrap method. This allows us to classify the critical points of the models in question, and by extension determine whether a coexistence phase exists or not.

Chris Hooley  
University of St Andrews

Date submitted: 06 Nov 2015

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