

Topology in Condensed Matter Physics: Quantum Hall Effect, Chern Number, Topological Insulators, and All That Jazz



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Colloquium Pyeong-Chang Summer Institute (PSI) July 29, 2015 The quantum Hall effect (QHE) is one of the most fascinating phenomena in physics, induced by a topological quantum state of matter.



Written by Edwin A. Abbott in 1884



Pan et al., PRL 88, 176802 (02)

Classical Hall effect



The Hall resistance is given by the steady-state condition balancing the two forces.

$$R_{xy} = \frac{E_y}{j_x} = \frac{B}{\rho ec}$$

Integer quantum Hall effect (IQHE)



$$R_{xy} = \frac{h}{ne^2}$$

Von Klitzing, Dorda, Pepper (1980)

Figure: Nobel prize press release (1988)

• With help of the disorder-induced Anderson localization, the incompressibility of completely filled Landau levels at integer filling factors can explain the IQHE.

Magnetic algebra

• There is a close similarity between the Hamiltonian of a particle moving in 2D under a uniform magnetic field and that of an 1D harmonic oscillator.

$$H = \frac{1}{2m} \left(\mathbf{p} - \frac{e}{c} \mathbf{A} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{2m} (\pi_x^2 + \pi_y^2) \qquad H = \frac{1}{2m} \left[p^2 + (m\omega)^2 x^2 \right]$$
$$\left[\pi_x, \pi_y \right] = \frac{i\hbar e}{c} \nabla \times \mathbf{A} = \frac{i\hbar^2}{l_B^2} \qquad l_B^2 = \frac{\hbar c}{eB} \qquad [x, p] = i\hbar$$
$$a = \frac{l_B/\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} (\pi_x + i\pi_y) \qquad a^{\dagger} = \frac{l_B/\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} (\pi_x - i\pi_y) \qquad a^{\dagger} = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}} \left(x + i\frac{p}{m\omega} \right)$$
$$a^{\dagger} = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}} \left(x - i\frac{p}{m\omega} \right)$$
$$H = \hbar \omega_C \left(a^{\dagger} a + \frac{1}{2} \right) \qquad \omega_C = \frac{eB}{mc} \qquad H = \hbar \omega \left(a^{\dagger} a + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

Landau levels in the Landau gauge

 L_y

• In the Landau gauge, the Hamiltonian reduces to that of an 1D harmonic oscillator with its center location proportional to the perpendicular momentum, $k_v l_B^2$.

$$H = \frac{1}{2m} \left[p_x^2 + \left(p_y - \frac{eB}{c} x \right)^2 \right]$$
$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2m} p_x^2 + \frac{1}{2} m \omega_C^2 (x - k_y l_B^2)^2$$

$$\Psi(x,y) = \psi(x) e^{ik_y y}$$

• Each Landau level has a macroscopic degeneracy!

$$k_{y,\max}l_B^2 = L_x$$
$$\frac{2\pi n_{\max}}{L_y}l_B^2 = L_x$$
$$n_{\max} = \frac{L_x L_y}{2\pi l_B^2} = \frac{BA}{2\pi\hbar c/e} = \frac{\Phi}{\phi_0}$$



Laughlin's gauge argument for the quantized Hall resistance

Laughlin, PRB 23, 5632 (1981)

- Magnetic moment: $\mu = IA/c$
- Energy change: $\delta E = \mu \ \delta B = \mu \ \delta \Phi / A = I \ \delta \Phi / c$
- Therefore, $I = c \ \delta E / \delta \Phi$

$$R_{xy} = \frac{V}{I} = \frac{h}{ne^2}$$

Eigenstate wave function in the Landau gauge:

- Gaussian wave packet in the *x*-direction
- Plane wave in the *y*-direction
- $x_0 = k_v l^2$ with *l* a magnetic length

Effect of adding test flux $\delta \Phi$:

- $\delta \Phi$ increases a vector potential shifting k_{v} .
- The center of wave packets moves.
- When $\delta \Phi = hc/e$, the physics must be invariant.
- Therefore, the wave packets move by one unit.
- When *n* Landau level is filled, *n* electrons are transferred with the energy gain $\delta E = neV$.

The Hall resistance is so precisely quantized since only the extended states can respond to the global flux change.

"Landauer" approach for the quantized Hall resistance

• The fluctuation-dissipation theorem is a general result of statistical mechanics stating that the fluctuation in a given system at equilibrium is related with the response of the system to a small applied perturbation.

Fluctuation/Correlation	Dissipation/Response function
Density-density	Dielectric function
Spin-spin	Spin susceptibility
Current-current along the same direction	Conductivity
Current-current between orthogonal directions	Hall conductivity

• The Kubo formula provides the precise mathematical formulation of the fluctuationdissipation theorem.

$$\sigma_{xy} \propto \int_0^\infty dt \, \langle J_x(t) J_y(0) \rangle$$

Connection between the Chern number and the Hall conductance

• Kubo formula:
$$\sigma_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{q},\omega) = \frac{i}{\omega} \left[\Pi_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{q},\omega) + \frac{n_0 e^2}{m} \delta_{\alpha\beta} \right]$$

$$\Pi_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{q},\omega) = -\frac{i}{V} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{i\omega t} \theta(t) \langle \Psi | [j_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{q},t), j_{\beta}(\mathbf{q},0)] | \Psi \rangle$$

• Current operator in the long wavelength limit:

$$j_{\alpha}(\mathbf{q} \to 0) = ev_{\alpha} = e\sum_{\mathbf{k}} \hat{v}_{\alpha}(\mathbf{k}) = e\sum_{\mathbf{k}} \mathbf{c}_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger} \frac{\partial H_{\mathbf{k}}}{\partial k_{\alpha}} \mathbf{c}_{\mathbf{k}}$$

• Hall conductivity in the long wavelength limit:

$$\sigma_{xy}(\omega+i\eta) = \frac{-ie^2}{V(\omega+i\eta)} \sum_{n,m} f(\epsilon_n) \left[\frac{\langle \epsilon_n | v_x | \epsilon_m \rangle \langle \epsilon_m | v_y | \epsilon_n \rangle}{\omega+i\eta+\epsilon_n-\epsilon_m} + \frac{\langle \epsilon_n | v_y | \epsilon_m \rangle \langle \epsilon_m | v_x | \epsilon_n \rangle}{-(\omega+i\eta)+\epsilon_n-\epsilon_m} \right]$$

Chern number as a topological order parameter: TKNN formula

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{xy} \propto & \int_{\mathbf{k}\in\mathrm{BZ}} d^2 \mathbf{k} \sum_{\epsilon_{\mu}(\mathbf{k})<\epsilon_{\mathrm{F}}<\epsilon_{\nu}(\mathbf{k})} \frac{\langle u_{\mu}(\mathbf{k}) | \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} H(\mathbf{k}) | u_{\nu}(\mathbf{k}) \rangle \times \langle u_{\nu}(\mathbf{k}) | \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} H(\mathbf{k}) | u_{\mu}(\mathbf{k}) \rangle}{[\epsilon_{\mu}(\mathbf{k}) - \epsilon_{\nu}(\mathbf{k})]^2} \cdot \hat{z} \\ &= \int_{\mathbf{k}\in\mathrm{BZ}} d^2 \mathbf{k} \sum_{\epsilon_{\mu}(\mathbf{k})<\epsilon_{\mathrm{F}}} \langle \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} u_{\mu}(\mathbf{k}) | \times |\nabla_{\mathbf{k}} u_{\mu}(\mathbf{k}) \rangle \cdot \hat{z} \end{aligned}$$

where $u_{u\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})$ is the periodic part of a Bloch wave function:

$$\left[\frac{1}{2m}\left(-i\hbar\nabla + \hbar\mathbf{k} - \frac{e}{c}\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r})\right)^2 + U(\mathbf{r})\right]u_{\mu\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_{\mu\mathbf{k}}u_{\mu\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})$$

• This is the famous Thouless-Kohmoto-Nightingale-Nijs (TKNN) formula relating the the topologically invariant "order parameter" called the Chern number with the Hall conductivity via $\sigma_{xv} = ne^2/h$.

$$n = \sum_{\epsilon_{\mu}(\mathbf{k}) < \epsilon_{\mathrm{F}}} \mathcal{C}_{\mu} \qquad \qquad \mathcal{C}_{\mu} = \frac{i}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathrm{BZ}} d^{2}\mathbf{k} \langle \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} u_{\mu}(\mathbf{k}) | \times |\nabla_{\mathbf{k}} u_{\mu}(\mathbf{k}) \rangle \cdot \hat{z}$$

Berry curvature flux piercing through the Brillouin zone (BZ) for the μ-th energy band

QHE in the lattice: Hofstadter's Butterfly

Topology plays an intriguing role in quantum physics under the name of the Berry phase.

Adiabatic evolution and geometrical phase

• Adiabatic theorem (originally by Born and Fock, 1928):

A physical system remains in its *instantaneous* energy eigenstate if a given perturbation is acting on it slowly enough and if there is a gap between the eigenvalue and the rest of the spectrum.

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\psi(t)
angle = H(t) |\psi(t)
angle$$

$$H(t)|\psi_{n*}(t)\rangle = E_{n*}(t)|\psi_{n*}(t)\rangle$$

$$|\psi_n(t)\rangle \simeq |\psi_{n*}(t)\rangle e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}\int_0^t dt' E_{n*}(t')} e^{i\Gamma_n(t)} \mathbf{\uparrow}$$

Berry realized that there was an additional geometrical phase that can have a physical effect. Berry, "Quantal Phase Factors Accompanying Adiabatic Changes," Proc. R. Soc. A **392**, 45 (1984)

Formal theory of the Berry phase

 $\begin{aligned} \langle \psi_n(\vec{\alpha}) | \psi_n(\vec{\alpha} + \Delta \vec{\alpha}) \rangle \\ &= 1 + \Delta \vec{\alpha} \langle \psi_n(\vec{\alpha}) | \nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} | \psi_n(\vec{\alpha}) \rangle \\ &= e^{-i\Delta \vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{A}}_n(\vec{\alpha})} \end{aligned}$

• Berry connection: vector potential

 $\vec{\mathcal{A}}_n(\vec{\alpha}) = i \langle \psi_n(\vec{\alpha}) | \nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} | \psi_n(\vec{\alpha}) \rangle$

• Berry curvature: *magnetic field*

$$\vec{\mathcal{B}}_n(\vec{\alpha}) = \nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} \times \vec{\mathcal{A}}_n(\vec{\alpha}) = i \left\langle \nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} \psi_n(\vec{\alpha}) \right| \times \left| \nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} \psi_n(\vec{\alpha}) \right\rangle$$

• Berry phase: *Aharonov-Bohm phase*

$$\Gamma_n = \oint_C d\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{A}}_n(\vec{\alpha}) = \int_A d\vec{S} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{B}}_n(\vec{\alpha}) = i \int_A d\vec{S} \cdot \langle \nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} \psi_n(\vec{\alpha}) | \times |\nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} \psi_n(\vec{\alpha}) \rangle$$

Formal theory of the Berry phase

$$\begin{split} \Gamma_n &= i \int_A d\vec{S} \cdot \langle \nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} \psi_n(\vec{\alpha}) | \times |\nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} \psi_n(\vec{\alpha}) \rangle \\ &= i \int_A d\vec{S} \cdot \sum_{m \neq n} \langle \nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} \psi_n(\vec{\alpha}) | \psi_m(\vec{\alpha}) \rangle \times \langle \psi_m(\vec{\alpha}) | \nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} \psi_n(\vec{\alpha}) \rangle \\ &= i \int_A d\vec{S} \cdot \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{\langle \psi_n(\vec{\alpha}) | \nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} H(\vec{\alpha}) | \psi_m(\vec{\alpha}) \rangle \times \langle \psi_m(\vec{\alpha}) | \nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} H(\vec{\alpha}) | \psi_n(\vec{\alpha}) \rangle}{[E_n(\vec{\alpha}) - E_m(\vec{\alpha})]^2} \end{split}$$

Note

$$H(\vec{\alpha})|\psi_{n}(\vec{\alpha})\rangle = E_{n}(\vec{\alpha})|\psi_{n}(\vec{\alpha})\rangle$$

$$\int Multiplying both sides by \langle \psi_{m}(\vec{\alpha})|\nabla_{\vec{\alpha}}$$

$$\langle \psi_{m}(\vec{\alpha})|\nabla_{\vec{\alpha}}\psi_{n}(\vec{\alpha})\rangle = \frac{\langle \psi_{m}(\vec{\alpha})|\nabla_{\vec{\alpha}}H(\vec{\alpha})|\psi_{n}(\vec{\alpha})\rangle}{E_{n}(\vec{\alpha}) - E_{m}(\vec{\alpha})}$$

TKNN formula revisited

• The TKNN formula tells us that the Hall conductivity is proportional to the Berry phase of a closed path encompassing the entire Brillouin zone.

When does the topology become non-trivial?

An answer to this question reveals that there is a profound connection between the Rabi oscillation and topological insulators.

Rabi oscillation

$$H(t) = \frac{\hbar\Omega}{2}\hat{\sigma}_z + \gamma(\cos\omega t\hat{\sigma}_x + \sin\omega t\hat{\sigma}_y)$$
$$\Omega = |g|B_0 \qquad \gamma = \hbar|g|B_1/2$$

$$i\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial t}|\psi(t)\rangle = H(t)|\psi(t)\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} \hbar\Omega/2 & \gamma e^{-i\omega t} \\ \gamma e^{i\omega t} & -\hbar\Omega/2 \end{pmatrix} |\psi(t)\rangle$$

• Exact solution:

$$\hbar \tilde{\Omega} = \sqrt{\hbar^2 (\Omega - \omega)^2 / 4 + \gamma^2} \qquad \sin \theta = \frac{\gamma}{\hbar \tilde{\Omega}} \qquad \cos \theta = \frac{\hbar (\Omega - \omega) / 2}{\hbar \tilde{\Omega}}$$

Geometrical meaning of the Berry phase

• In the adiabatic limit, i.e., $\omega \ll \Omega$, the exact solution says:

 $S(\dot{\theta}_*)$

$$E_{\pm*}(t) = \pm \sqrt{\hbar^2 \Omega^2 / 4 + \gamma^2} = \pm \hbar \Omega_* / 2$$

$$|\psi_+(t)\rangle \simeq \begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{\theta_*}{2} e^{-i\frac{\omega t}{2}} \\ \sin \frac{\theta_*}{2} e^{i\frac{\omega t}{2}} \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\frac{\tilde{\Omega} t}{2}}$$

$$\simeq \begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{\theta_*}{2} e^{-i\frac{\omega t}{2}} \\ \sin \frac{\theta_*}{2} e^{i\frac{\omega t}{2}} \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\frac{\Omega^* t}{2}} e^{\frac{i}{2}\frac{\Omega}{\Omega_*}\omega t}$$

$$\Gamma_+(t) = \frac{1}{2}\frac{\Omega}{\Omega_*}\omega t = \frac{1}{2}\cos\theta_*\omega t$$

$$\langle \psi_+(t=2\pi/\omega)|\psi_+(t=0)\rangle = e^{-i\frac{\pi\omega_*}{\omega}}e^{-\frac{i}{2}S(\theta_*)}$$

Solid angle enclosed by a circular path

Magnetic monopole in the Rabi oscillation

$$H(\vec{B}) = |g|\vec{S} \cdot \vec{B} \qquad \longrightarrow \qquad H(\vec{\alpha}) = \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\alpha}$$

$$\vec{\mathcal{B}}_{+}(\vec{\alpha}) = i \frac{\langle \psi_{+}(\vec{\alpha}) | \nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} H(\vec{\alpha}) | \psi_{-}(\vec{\alpha}) \rangle \times \langle \psi_{-}(\vec{\alpha}) | \nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} H(\vec{\alpha}) | \psi_{+}(\vec{\alpha}) \rangle}{[E_{+}(\vec{\alpha}) - E_{-}(\vec{\alpha})]^{2}}$$

Note

$$\nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} H(\vec{\alpha}) = \vec{\sigma} \qquad |\psi_{\pm}(\vec{\alpha})\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\frac{\theta}{2}e^{-i\frac{\phi}{2}} \\ \sin\frac{\theta}{2}e^{i\frac{\phi}{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$E_{\pm}(\vec{\alpha}) = \pm |\vec{\alpha}| = \pm \alpha \qquad |\psi_{\pm}(\vec{\alpha})\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} -\sin\frac{\theta}{2}e^{-i\frac{\phi}{2}} \\ \cos\frac{\theta}{2}e^{i\frac{\phi}{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{\mathcal{B}}_+(\vec{\alpha}) = -\frac{\hat{\alpha}}{2\alpha^2}$$

"Magnetic field" exerted by a Dirac monopole at the center with the strength -1/2 B

$$\Gamma_{+} = \int_{A} d\vec{S} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{B}}_{+}(\vec{\alpha}) = -\frac{1}{2} (\text{Solid angle})$$

Topological insulators (TIs) are generated by a magnetic monopole in the pseudospin space.

Graphene

 \sum

Graphene Hamiltonian:

$$H = -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} (|\mathbf{r}_i\rangle \langle \mathbf{r}_j| + |\mathbf{r}_j\rangle \langle \mathbf{r}_i|)$$

$$H = -t \int_{BZ} d^{2}\mathbf{k} \left[(e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\boldsymbol{\delta}_{1}} + e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\boldsymbol{\delta}_{2}} + e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\boldsymbol{\delta}_{3}}) |\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{A}\rangle\langle\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{B}| + \text{H.c.} \right]$$
$$= \int_{BZ} d^{2}\mathbf{k} \left(|\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{A}\rangle | |\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{B}\rangle \right) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & f_{\mathbf{k}} \\ f_{\mathbf{k}}^{*} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \langle \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{A} | \\ \langle \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{B} | \end{pmatrix}$$

$$H_{\mathbf{k}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & f_{\mathbf{k}} \\ f_{\mathbf{k}}^* & 0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \qquad f_{\mathbf{k}} = -t(e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\boldsymbol{\delta}_1} + e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\boldsymbol{\delta}_2} + e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\boldsymbol{\delta}_3})$$

• Energy dispersion: $E_{\mathbf{k}} = \pm |f_{\mathbf{k}}|$

 $H_{\mathbf{k}=\mathbf{K}+\mathbf{q}} \simeq \hbar v_{\mathrm{F}} \mathbf{q} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}^{*}$ $H_{\mathbf{k}=\mathbf{K}'+\mathbf{q}} \simeq \hbar v_{\mathrm{F}} \mathbf{q} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}$ $\hbar v_{\mathrm{F}} = 3at/2$

Massless Dirac Hamiltonian, or the Hamiltonian for "Zeeman coupling" with **B** replaced by \mathbf{q}

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Model for a Quantum Hall Effect without Landau Levels: Condensed-Matter Realization of the "Parity Anomaly"

F. D. M. Haldane

Department of Physics, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, California 92093 (Received 16 September 1987)

A two-dimensional condensed-matter lattice model is presented which exhibits a nonzero quantization of the Hall conductance σ^{xy} in the *absence* of an external magnetic field. Massless fermions *without spectral doubling* occur at critical values of the model parameters, and exhibit the so-called "parity anomaly" of (2+1)-dimensional field theories.

$$\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{k}) = 2t_2 \cos\phi \left[\sum_i \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{b}_i) \right] \mathbf{I} + t_1 \left[\sum_i \left[\cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{a}_i) \sigma^1 + \sin(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{a}_i) \sigma^2 \right] \right] + \left[M - 2t_2 \sin\phi \left[\sum_i \sin(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{b}_i) \right] \right] \sigma^3$$

FIG. 1. The honeycomb-net model ("2D graphite") showing nearest-neighbor bonds (solid lines) and second-neighbor bonds (dashed lines). Open and solid points, respectively, mark the Aand B sublattice sites. The Wigner-Seitz unit cell is conveniently centered on the point of sixfold rotation symmetry (marked "*") and is then bounded by the hexagon of nearestneighbor bonds. Arrows on second-neighbor bonds mark the directions of positive phase hopping in the state with broken time-reversal invariance.

 $\mathbf{a}_i / \mathbf{b}_i$: vectors connecting between nearest/next nearest neighbors

$$H(\mathbf{k}) = \begin{pmatrix} g_{\mathbf{k}} & f_{\mathbf{k}} \\ f_{\mathbf{k}}^* & -g_{\mathbf{k}} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}$$
$$\mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{k}} = (\operatorname{Re} f_{\mathbf{k}}, -\operatorname{Im} f_{\mathbf{k}}, g_{\mathbf{k}})$$
$$f_{\mathbf{k}} = t_1 \sum_{i} e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{a}_i}$$
$$g_{\mathbf{k}} = M + 2t_2 \sum_{i} \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{b}_i + \phi)$$

Chern number from the Landau level structure

• Energy of the Landau levels:

$$E_n = \operatorname{sgn}(n)\sqrt{(m_\alpha v_{\rm F}^2)^2 + 2e\hbar v_{\rm F}^2|nB|} \quad (n \neq 0)$$
$$E_0 = \alpha m_\alpha v_{\rm F}^2 e \operatorname{sgn}(B)$$
$$m_\alpha v_{\rm F}^2 = M - 3\sqrt{3}\alpha t_2 \sin \phi$$

FIG. 2. Phase diagram of the spinless electron model with $|t_2/t_1| < \frac{1}{3}$. Zero-field quantum Hall effect phases ($v = \pm 1$, where $\sigma^{xy} = ve^2/h$) occur if $|M/t_2| < 3\sqrt{3} |\sin\phi|$. This figure assumes that t_2 is positive; if it is negative, v changes sign. At the phase boundaries separating the anomalous and normal (v=0) semiconductor phases, the low-energy excitations of the model simulate undoubled massless chiral relativistic fermions.

Graphene Landau levels

Chern number from the Berry phase: Connection between the Rabi oscillation and TI

Momentum space

Bloch sphere

Chern number, or the winding number:

$$\mathcal{C} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^2 \mathbf{k} \; \hat{\mathbf{d}}_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot (\partial_{k_x} \hat{\mathbf{d}}_{\mathbf{k}} \times \partial_{k_y} \hat{\mathbf{d}}_{\mathbf{k}})$$

Kane-Mele model: spin-orbit-coupled graphene

Kane, Mele, PRL 95, 226801 (2005)

$$H_{\rm KM}^{(\uparrow)} = \int_{\rm BZ} d^2 \mathbf{k} \left(\begin{array}{cc} c_{\mathbf{k},\rm A}^{\dagger} & c_{\mathbf{k},\rm B}^{\dagger} \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{cc} g_{\mathbf{k}} & f_{\mathbf{k}} \\ f_{\mathbf{k}}^{*} & -g_{\mathbf{k}} \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{cc} c_{\mathbf{k},\rm A} \\ c_{\mathbf{k},\rm B} \end{array} \right)$$

 $f_{\mathbf{k}} = -t \sum_{i=1}^{3} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\boldsymbol{\delta}_{m}} \qquad g_{\mathbf{k}} = -i\lambda_{\mathrm{SO}} \sum_{i=1}^{6} (-1)^{m} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\boldsymbol{\eta}_{m}}$

Low-energy effective Hamiltonian for the Kane-Mele model

$$H_{\rm KM}^{(\uparrow)}(\mathbf{k}) = \begin{pmatrix} g_{\mathbf{k}} & f_{\mathbf{k}} \\ f_{\mathbf{k}}^* & -g_{\mathbf{k}} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \qquad \mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{k}} = (\operatorname{Re}f_{\mathbf{k}}, -\operatorname{Im}f_{\mathbf{k}}, g_{\mathbf{k}})$$
$$H^{(\downarrow)}(\mathbf{k}) = H^{(\uparrow)*}(-\mathbf{k}) \qquad \text{Time-reversal symmetry}$$

(1) The energy spectrum is gapped: $E_{\pm,\mathbf{k}} = \pm |\mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{k}}| = \pm \sqrt{|f_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 + g_{\mathbf{k}}^2}$

(2) The low-energy effective Hamiltonian:

• Around
$$\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{K} + \mathbf{q}$$
,
 $f_{\mathbf{q}} = \hbar v_{\mathrm{F}}(q_x + iq_y)$ $g_{\mathbf{q}} = -3\sqrt{3}\lambda_{\mathrm{SO}} + \frac{9\sqrt{3}}{4}\lambda_{\mathrm{SO}}a^2(q_x^2 + q_y^2)$

• Around
$$\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{K}' + \mathbf{q}$$
,
 $f_{\mathbf{q}} = \hbar v_{\mathrm{F}}(q_x - iq_y) \qquad g_{\mathbf{q}} = 3\sqrt{3}\lambda_{\mathrm{SO}} - \frac{9\sqrt{3}}{4}\lambda_{\mathrm{SO}}a^2(q_x^2 + q_y^2)$

Condition for topological non-triviality

$$H_{\mathrm{KM}}^{(\uparrow)}(\mathbf{k}) = \mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \qquad \qquad H^{(\downarrow)}(\mathbf{k}) = H^{(\uparrow)*}(-\mathbf{k})$$
$$\mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{k}=\mathbf{K}+\mathbf{q}} \simeq (Aq_x, -Aq_y, M + B(q_x^2 + q_y^2))$$

M/B > 0

Topologically trivial

Topologically non-trivial

How to measure: quantum spin Hall effect (QSHE)

Interface between a quantum Hall insulator (in the Haldane model) and an ordinary insulator

Interface between a quantum spin Hall insulator (in the Kane-Mele model) and an ordinary insulator

Hasan, Kane, RMP 82, 3045 (2010)

1D energy bands for a strip of spinorbit coupled graphene as described by the Kane-Mele model

Bernevig-Hughes-Zhang (BHZ) model: HgTe quantum well

•Schematically speaking, a half of the Kane-Mele model

Bernevig, Hughes, Zhang, Science 314, 1757 (2006)

König et al., Science **318**, 766 (2007), adapted by Qi, Zhang, Phys. Today **63**, 33 (2010)

How to promote TI from 2D to 3D?

3D TI as a system of stacked 2D TI layers: weak TI

• Unfortunately, unlike the 2D helical edge states, the time-reversal symmetry does not protect the surface states in a *weak* TI. Here, the surface states may be localized in the presence of disorder.

Strong 3D TI: BiSe-family materials

$$H(\mathbf{k}) = \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} \mathbb{I} + \begin{pmatrix} M + B_{1}k_{\perp}^{2} + B_{2}k_{z}^{2} & A_{1}(k_{x} + ik_{y}) & 0 & A_{2}k_{z} \\ A_{1}(k_{x} - ik_{y}) & -(M + B_{1}k_{\perp}^{2} + B_{2}k_{z}^{2}) & A_{2}k_{z} & 0 \\ A_{2}k_{z} & 0 & A_{2}k_{z} & 0 \\ A_{2}k_{z} & 0 & A_{2}k_{z} & -A_{1}(k_{x} - ik_{y}) \\ -A_{1}(k_{x} + ik_{y}) & -(M + B_{1}k_{\perp}^{2} + B_{2}k_{z}^{2}) & -A_{1}(k_{x} - ik_{y}) \\ -A_{1}(k_{x} + ik_{y}) & -(M + B_{1}k_{\perp}^{2} + B_{2}k_{z}^{2}) \end{pmatrix}$$
• Lattice regularization: $k_{\alpha} \rightarrow \sin(k_{\alpha}a)/a \quad k_{\alpha}^{2} \rightarrow 2(1 - \cos(k_{\alpha}a))/a^{2}$

• Strong TI:

A 3D TI becomes a *strong* TI if band topology is opposite between two 2D subsystems in the **k**-space containing one set of time-reversal invariant momenta (TRIM) and the other.

Helical surface states: spin-momentum locking

Chen *et al.*, Science **325**, 178 (2009), adapted by Qi, Zhang, Phys. Today **63**, 33 (2010)

Xia *et al.*, Nature Phys. **5**, 398 (2009), Hsieh *et al.*, Nature **460**, 1101 (2009), adapted by Qi, Zhang, RMP **83**, 1057 (2011)

How to measure topology directly in the bulk without reference to boundaries? A quotation from Lord Kelvin, "To measure is to know."

Bloch oscillation

Experiments

Waschke et al., PRL (1993): Semiconductor superlattice Dahan et al., PRL (1996): Optical lattice

The electron motion in the lattice is bounded and oscillatory due to the fact that no states are available outside the energy band.

• Another way of viewing this is that the group velocity becomes negative once the crystal momentum crosses the zone boundary.

Quantized Bloch oscillation: Wannier-Stark ladder (WSL)

$$\mathcal{E}_n(k_\perp) = \bar{\mathcal{E}}(k_\perp) + neEa_\parallel$$

Zak phase: the WSL revisited

W.-R. Lee & KP, arXiv:1503.01870

Winding number of the WSL: BHZ model

Winding number of the WSL: Kane-Mele model

Winding number of the WSL: Strong 3D TI model

W.-R. Lee & KP, arXiv:1503.01870

• 3D TI

Winding number of the WSL: Strong 3D TI model

W.-R. Lee & KP, arXiv:1503.01870

Topological insulators provide one of the most dramatic physical examples accentuating an intriguing role of the geometrical phase in quantum physics.