# Introduction to even-denominator FQHE: composite fermions

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# **Integer Quantum Hall Effect**

- Phenomenology
  - von Klitzing sees IQHE in silicon MOSFET in 1980
  - Landau level Filling fraction or Hall conductivity:



• Landau level degeneracy = **total** number of flux quanta  $(N_{\phi})$ 



# **Fractional Quantum Hall Effect**

#### • Phenomenology

- Tsui & Stormer see v = 1/3 in GaAs quantum well in 1982
- Landau level Filling fraction or Hall conductivity:

$$\nu = \left(\frac{e^2}{h}\right)^{-1} \frac{I}{V_{\rm H}} = \frac{N_{\phi}}{N_e}$$

• Partially filled **non-interacting** Landau level  $(n + p/q \equiv p/q)$ 





#### **Aharonov-Bohm Effect**

- Quantum effect that lacks gauge invariance
  - Phase picked up by a quantum particle of charge q:

$$\varphi = \frac{q}{\hbar} \int_{\mathcal{C}} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot d\mathbf{x}$$

• Gauge choice and parameterization

$$A_{\theta}(r) = \frac{Ba^2}{2r} = \frac{B(\pi a^2)}{2\pi r} = \frac{\Phi}{2\pi r}$$

• Phase picked up for arc subtending angle  $\theta$  in the circle

$$\varphi = \frac{q}{\hbar} \left[ \frac{\Phi}{2\pi r} (r\theta) \right] = \theta \frac{N\phi_0 q}{h}$$

• Quantum of flux is defined as:

S: 
$$\phi_0 = \frac{h}{e} \approx 4 \times 10^{-11} \text{ T} \cdot \text{cm}^2 \Rightarrow \quad \varphi = \left(\frac{q}{e}\right) N\theta$$

• For q = e and  $\theta = \pi$  we have:

$$e^{i\varphi} = \begin{cases} +1 & N \text{ even} \\ -1 & N \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

#### "Gauge invariance" in many disguises

- Laughlin's gauge argument
  - Quantization of Hall resistance from thought experiment

$$0 \le x \le L \qquad 0 \le y \le W$$

$$\phi_{\rm t} = \frac{B_y L^2}{4\pi} \equiv N\phi_0 \qquad \phi = B_z LW \equiv N_\phi \phi_0$$

g(E)

• Gauge choices

$$\mathbf{A}_{t} = \frac{N\phi_{0}}{L}\hat{\mathbf{x}} \qquad \mathbf{A} = -B_{z}y\,\hat{\mathbf{x}}$$

• Hamiltonian

$$H = \frac{1}{2m_{\rm b}} \left(\hbar \mathbf{k} + \frac{e}{c}\mathbf{A} + \frac{e}{c}\mathbf{A}_{\rm t}\right)^2$$
$$\Psi = \exp\left[-\mathrm{i}\frac{e}{\hbar c}\int^x \mathbf{A}_{\rm t} \cdot d\mathbf{l}\right]\Psi'$$
$$\Psi'(x, y) = \Phi(y)\mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i}k_x x}$$

• Periodicity in x:  $k_x = \frac{2\pi}{L}(j-N)$  g(E)



# "Gauge invariance" in many disguises

#### • Superconductivity

- Also a macroscopic quantum effect like QHE
- Complex order parameter  $\Delta = \Delta_0 e^{i\theta}$
- Flux quantization (Aharonov-Bohm effect)

$$\varphi = \frac{q}{\hbar} \int_{\mathcal{C}} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot d\mathbf{x}$$
$$A_{\theta}(r) = \frac{Ba^2}{2r} = \frac{B(\pi a^2)}{2\pi r} = \frac{\tilde{\phi}_0}{2\pi r}$$
$$\varphi = \frac{q}{\hbar} \left[ \frac{\tilde{\phi}_0}{2\pi r} (r\theta) \right] = \theta \frac{\tilde{\phi}_0 q}{h}$$

• With cooper pair charge q = 2eand single-valued  $\Delta$ 

$$\tilde{\phi}_0 = \frac{h}{2e} \approx 2 \times 10^{-11} \text{ T} \cdot \text{cm}^2 = \frac{\phi_0}{2}$$

• Fundamental principle behind SQUIDs (Josephson effect)





- Experimental Background
  - Wide range of fractions discovered after the 1982 discovery



- Theoretical Background
  - Challenge: solve Schrodinger's equation

$$H\Psi = E\Psi$$

$$H = \sum_{j} \frac{1}{2m_{\rm b}} \left[ \frac{\hbar}{i} \boldsymbol{\nabla}_{j} + \frac{e}{c} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}_{j}) \right]^{2} + \frac{e^{2}}{\epsilon} \sum_{j < k} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_{j} - \mathbf{r}_{k}|} + \sum_{j} U(\mathbf{r}_{j}) + g\mu \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{S}$$

• Important energy/length scales

• Laughlin writes **many-body** wavefunction *ansatz* for a specific set of FQHE states with v = 1/m

$$\Psi_{1/m}(\{z_i\}) = \prod_{j$$

- Laughlin wavefunction
  - Laughlin wavefunction v = 1/m FQHE states (with units)

$$\Psi_{1/m}(\{z_i\}) = \prod_{j < k}^{N} \left(\frac{z_j - z_k}{\ell_{\rm B}}\right)^m \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{4\ell_{\rm B}^2} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N} |z_\ell|^2\right\}$$

- What does it mean?
  - 1. It vanishes as *any* two electrons approach each other due to:

 $\prod_{j < k}^{N} (z_j - z_k)^m \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{repulsion between electrons}$ 

2. Larger  $m \Rightarrow$  electrons farther apart  $\Rightarrow$  larger angular momentum  $m = \frac{N_{\phi}}{N_e} \Rightarrow \text{ larger } m \Rightarrow \text{ lower electron density}$ 

3. Electrons within  $\ell_B$  feel "attraction" to the origin; analogous to classical 2D plasma  $\Rightarrow$  Boltzmann probability distribution

$$\Psi_m(\{z_i\})|^2 = \exp\{-\beta\phi(\{z_i\})\}$$
  
$$\phi(\{z_i\}) = -2m^2 \sum_{j < k} \ln|z_j - z_k| + \frac{m}{2} \sum_{\ell=1}^N |z_\ell|^2$$

- Laughlin quasiparticle
  - Laughlin wave function describes ground state of charge *e* electrons
  - Where do charge *e/m* anyons come from?
  - Excitations create anyons. What causes excitations?



#### **FQHE: Haldane's hierarchical structure**

- "Daughter" states
  - Haldane proposed hierarchical construction for other fractions



• FQHE of Laughlin quasiparticles of the 1/m state



#### **FQHE: Review of the K-matrix**

- Example of v = 2/5 and 3/7: "Shut up and calculate!"
- Chern-Simons effective theory  $\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} K_{\mathrm{IJ}} a_{\mathrm{I}\mu} \partial_{\nu} a_{\mathrm{J}\lambda} + \frac{e}{2\pi} q_{\mathrm{I}} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} A_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} a_{\mathrm{I}\lambda} + l_{\mathrm{I}} a_{\mathrm{I}\mu} j^{\mu}$  $\frac{2}{5}$ • Formulas for v and quasiparticle charge (Q)  $\nu = \mathbf{q}^T K^{-1} \mathbf{q} \qquad \qquad Q = |e| \mathbf{q}^T K^{-1} \mathbf{l}$ • v = 2/5 from Laughlin state v = 1/3 $\frac{4}{9}$  $\mathbf{q} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad K = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{l} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  $\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \left\{ \frac{1}{5} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{2}{5} \qquad Q = |e| \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \left\{ \frac{1}{5} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{|e|}{5}$ • v = 3/7 from daughter state v = 2/5

$$\mathbf{q} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad K = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{l} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

• K matrix dimension equal to the hierarchy level

# **Composite fermion "trick" (or theory)?**

#### • Mapping to IQHE

• Composite particle by "attaching" even (2*p*) flux quanta (*h*/*e*)

 $B = B^* + 2p\rho\phi_0$ 

• Real and effective filling factors

$$\nu = \frac{\rho \phi_0}{B}$$
  $\nu^* = \frac{\rho \phi_0}{B^*}$   $\nu = \frac{\nu^*}{2p\nu^* \pm 1}$ 

• Physical picture of flux attachment: real electron + 2*p* fluxes ⇒ "composite fermion" (CF)



CF Landau level (Λ level) degeneracy
= total effective flux quanta

$$N_{\phi}^{\text{eff}} = N_{\phi} - 2pN_{e}$$



IQHE ground state

FQHE ground state

# **Composite fermion "trick" (or theory)?**

- What about Laughlin quasiparticles?
  - CFs carry charge -*e* and spin 1/2
  - Consider ground state at *arbitrary*  $v(v^*)$

$$\nu = \frac{\nu^*}{2p\nu^* + 1}$$

• Degeneracy of each Λ level:

$$N_{\phi}^{\text{eff}} = N_{\phi} - 2pN_{e}$$

- Add a **real** electron to  $(v^* + 1)^{\text{th}} \Lambda$  level (*local* excitation)
- Modified degeneracy of each  $\Lambda$  level:  $\tilde{N}_{\phi}^{\text{eff}} = N_{\phi} 2p(N_e + 1)$ =  $N_{\phi}^{\text{eff}} - 2p$
- Each  $\Lambda$  level contributes to 2p CF-quasiparticle excitations
- Total  $(2pv^* + 1)$  CF-quasiparticles = external electron
- Charge on each CF quasiparticle

$$Q = \frac{-e}{2p\nu^* + 1}$$





# Halperin-Lee-Read (HLR) phase

- Theory of the half-filled "Landau level"?
  - Does the composite fermion picture have *any* predictive power?
  - HLR make hypothesis if Fermi liquid state at v = 1/2 in 1993



### **HLR phase: Chern-Simons Theory**

- Mathematical flux attachment
  - Simplest Hamiltonian of FQHE

$$H = \frac{1}{2m^*} \int d^2 \mathbf{r} \ \psi_{\rm e}^{\dagger} (-\mathrm{i} \boldsymbol{\nabla} + e\mathbf{A})^2 \psi_{\rm e} + V$$

• Attach flux via gauge transformation



• Transformed Hamiltonian

$$H = \frac{1}{2m^*} \int d^2 \mathbf{r} \ \psi^{\dagger} (-\mathbf{i} \nabla + e\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{r}))^2 \psi + V \qquad \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{r}) \equiv \tilde{\phi} \int d^2 \mathbf{r}' \frac{\hat{\mathbf{z}} \times (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^2} \rho(\mathbf{r}')$$

- Fictitious magnetic field:  $\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{r}) \equiv \mathbf{\nabla} \times \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{r}) = 2\pi\rho(\mathbf{r})\tilde{\phi}$
- Fictitious and external (real) B-field cancel on average at exactly v = 1/2 $B_{\text{eff}} = B - \langle b(\mathbf{r}) \rangle = B - 2\pi \tilde{\phi} n_{\text{e}}$

# **Composite fermion "theory"!**

- Experimental verification
  - Most important parameters of a Fermi liquid?

 $k_{\rm F} = \sqrt{4\pi n_e} \qquad m_{\rm eff}$ 

• Testing biggest hypothesis: do quasiparticles really see  $B_{eff}$ ?

 $B_{\rm eff} = B - B_{\nu=1/2}$ 

• Yes! Surface acoustic wave (SAW) experiment on  $\nu = 1/2$  prove composite Fermi liquid hypothesis

To spectrum





#### **Composite fermion "theory"!**

- Surface acoustic wave (SAW) propagation experiment
  - HLR predicted SAW resonance for probe wavelength less than CF mean free path (ℓ)

$$\frac{\Delta v}{v} = \left(\frac{\alpha^2}{2}\right) \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{\sigma_{xx}(\omega, q)}{\sigma_{\rm m}}\right)^2}$$

AlGaAs

GaAs

To spectrum

Substrate

analyzer





#### **Composite fermion "theory"!**

- Mass of a composite fermion
  - Cyclotron gap between  $\Lambda$  levels?

$$\Delta = \hbar \omega_{\rm c}^* = \frac{e\hbar \Delta B}{m^*}$$



#### **Odd-denominator states as "composite bosons"**

- Non-composite fermion flux attachment schemes
  - Heike Kamerlingh Onnes produces liquid <sup>4</sup>He on 10 July, 1908
  - On 8 April, 1911 he discovered superconduct-ivity in a solid Hg wire at 4.2 K
  - Quantum origins of superconductivity a mystery until 1957



Einstein, Ehrenfest, Langevin, Kamerlingh Onnes, and Weiss at a workshop in Leiden October 1920. The blackboard discussion, on the Hall effect in superconductors



# **Closing remarks: spin DOF?**

- QHE in GaAs
  - Heike Kamerlingh Onnes produces liquid <sup>4</sup>He on 10 July, 1908
  - On 8 April, 1911 he discovered superconductivity in a solid Hg wire at 4.2 K
  - Quantum origins of superconductivity a mystery until 1957





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#### **Closing remarks: edge states?**

- Composite Fermi liquid or Luttinger liquid?
  - Heike Kamerlingh Onnes produces liquid <sup>4</sup>He on 10 July, 1908
  - On 8 April, 1911 he discovered superconduct-ivity in a solid Hg wire at 4.2 K
  - Quantum origins of superconductivity a mystery until 1957

#### Next time: even-denominator "plateaus"

- Moore-Read state (v = 5/2 = 2 + 1/2)
  - Effects of composite fermion formation
    - Absorb flux  $\Rightarrow$  metal in zero B-field at even denominators
    - Absorb interactions  $\Rightarrow$  mass of composite fermions



- Residual B-field  $\Rightarrow$  IQHE of composite fermions  $\Rightarrow$  odd denominators
- Residual interactions  $\Rightarrow$  back to intractable interacting problem?
- Attractive interactions? ⇒ BCS instability?



# **Thanks for listening**

