TRANSFER MATRICES, RIEMANN SURFACES AND TOPOLOGICAL PHASES OF MATTER

(VD, V Chua, PRB 93 (2016) 134304)

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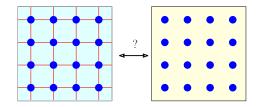


University of Cologne



NONINTERACTING TOPOLOGICAL INSULATORS

Gapped in bulk, but distinguished from trivial (atomic) insulator by "topology"

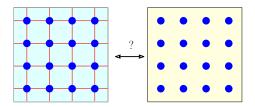


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Noninteracting topological insulators

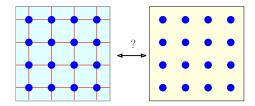
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Gapped in bulk, but distinguished from trivial (atomic) insulator by "topology" ↓ Cannot be continuously deformed into an atomic insulator without closing the bulk gap.

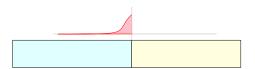


Noninteracting topological insulators

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Exponentially localized modes at interface with atomic insulator, which cannot be removed by local deformations.

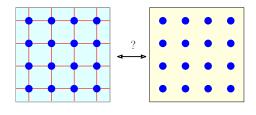


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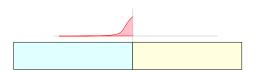
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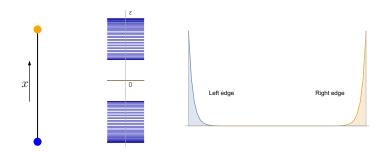


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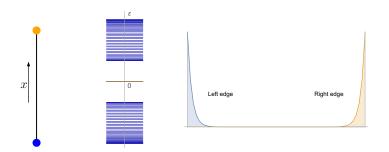
Described by single particle Hamiltonians without interactions:

$$\mathcal{H}|\psi\rangle = \varepsilon |\psi\rangle, \qquad |\psi\rangle = \sum_{\mathbf{n},\alpha} \psi_{\mathbf{n},\alpha} \, |\mathbf{n},\alpha\rangle.$$

EXAMPLE: 1D TOPOLOGICAL INSULATOR



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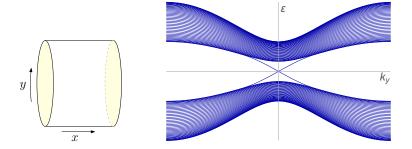


Topological invariant = Net Berry phase across the bulk Brillouin zone

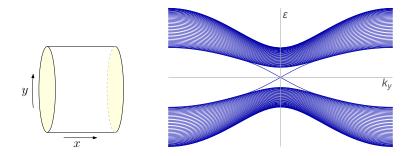
$$\mathfrak{C} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \oint_{S^1} \mathfrak{a} \in \mathbb{Z}, \qquad \mathfrak{a} \equiv -i \langle \widetilde{\psi}_k | d\widetilde{\psi}_k \rangle.$$

Winding number (Brouwer degree) of the map $BZ \cong S^1 \to S^1 : k \mapsto \arg(\widetilde{\psi}_k)$

Example: 2D Chern insulator



EXAMPLE: 2D CHERN INSULATOR



Topological invariant = Net Berry flux across the bulk Brillouin zone

$$\mathfrak{C} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \oint_{\mathbb{T}^2} \mathfrak{F} \in \mathbb{Z}, \qquad \mathfrak{F} \equiv -i \langle d\widetilde{\psi}_{\mathbf{k}} | \wedge | d\widetilde{\psi}_{\mathbf{k}} \rangle.$$

First Chern number of a principal U(1) bundle over the Brillouin zone $BZ \cong \mathbb{T}^2$.

THE BULK AND THE BOUNDARY



Bulk states: Momentum space (Bloch's theorem)

EDGE STATES: POSITION SPACE (Decaying ansatz solution)

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THE BULK AND THE BOUNDARY



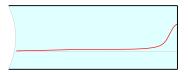
BULK STATES: MOMENTUM SPACE (Bloch's theorem)

Bulk topological invariant

EDGE STATES: POSITION SPACE (Decaying ansatz solution)

Edge invariants

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BULK STATES: MOMENTUM SPACE (Bloch's theorem) EDGE STATES: POSITION SPACE (Decaying ansatz solution)

Bulk topological invariant

Edge invariants

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BULK-BOUNDARY CORRESPONDENCE

e.g: Chern number = Number of "nontrivial" edge states on a given edge



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Treat edge and bulk on an equal footing??



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Treat edge and bulk on an equal footing?? "TRANSFER MATRICES"

- \circ Analytically tractable treatment in position space.
- Potential algebraic proof of bulk-boundary correspondence(s)?

PHYSICAL REVIEW B

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Edge states in the integer quantum Hall effect and the Riemann surface of the Bloch function

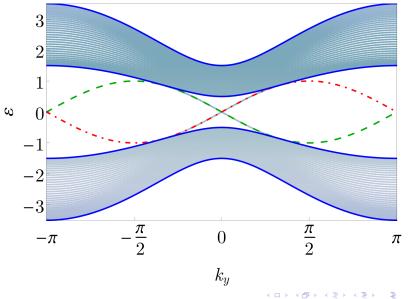
Yasuhiro Hatsugai*

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We study edge states in the integral quantum Hall effect on a square lattice in a rational magnetic field $\phi = p/q$. The system is periodic in the y direction but has two edges in the x direction. We have found that the energies of the edge states are given by the zero points of the Bloch function on some Riemann surface (RS) (complex energy surface) when the system size is commensurate with the flux. The genus of the RS, g = q - 1, is the number of the energy aps. The energies of the edge states move around the holes of the RS as a function of the momentum in the y direction. The Hall conductance σ_{xy} is given by the winding number of the edge states around the holes, which gives the Thouless, Kohmoto, Nightingale, and den Nijs integers in the infinite system. This is a topological number on the RS. We can check that σ_{xy} given by this treatment is the same as that given by the Diophantine equation numerically. Effects of a random potential are also discussed.

"...the energies of the edge state; are given by the zero points of the Bloch function on some Riemann surface (RS) (complex energy surface) when the system size is commensurate with the flux..."

THE APPETIZER: CHERN INSULATOR



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FORMAL SETUP: Consider a family of vector spaces $\mathcal{V}_n \cong \mathbb{C}^{2r}$; $r \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, $n \in f \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$ A transfer matrix is then a linear operator $T \in SL(2r, \mathbb{C})$. Given a vector $\phi \in V_0$, can use T to define $\phi_n \equiv T \phi_0 \in V_n$. We are primarily interested in the asymptotics of $\|\phi_n\|$ as $n \rightarrow \pm \infty$. $(f = \mathbb{Z})$ But asymptotics of $||\phi_n|| \sim \text{spectrum of } T \equiv \sigma[T]$ 6 Let The = pho : 11 poll = 1. Then, $|\rho| = | \Rightarrow || \varphi_n || = 1 \text{ as } n \Rightarrow \pm \infty : "bulk"$: "edge" $|P| \ge 1 \Rightarrow || \Rightarrow || \Rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \Rightarrow \mp \infty$ To explain what "bulk" and "edge" states mean, we consider an example : (Simple) Tight-binding model: Hilbert space: $\mathcal{H} \equiv \text{span} \{ \ln \}_{n \in f} \equiv \text{single particle states}$ localized at site n. dual: $\mathcal{H} \equiv \text{span} \{ \langle n | \hat{j}_{n \in g} ; \langle m | n \rangle = \delta_{mn}.$ Consider the Hamiltonian $\mathcal{H}: \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{H}$ defined by

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{n \in f} \left[t | n+1 \rangle \langle n| + \mu | n \rangle \langle n| + t | n \rangle \langle n+1| \right] ; t, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$$
for $t \in \mathbb{C}$, absorb
 for $t \in \mathbb{C}$, absorb
 the phase in $|n\rangle$.
 We seek to solve the (time-independent) Schrödinger equation
 $\mathcal{H} | \psi \rangle = \varepsilon | \psi \rangle ; | \psi \rangle = \sum_{n \in g} \psi_n | n \rangle ; \psi_n \in \mathbb{C}.$

Substituting 24 and 14>,

$$\sum_{m,n} \left[\frac{1}{m+1} \times m \right] + \mu(m) \times m \left[\frac{1}{m} \times m + 1 \right] \psi_n(n) = \sum_n \varepsilon \psi_n(n)$$

$$\Rightarrow t \psi_{n+1} + \mu \psi_n + t \psi_{n-1} = \varepsilon \psi_n \quad \forall n \quad (not true at boundaries)$$

$$\varphi_{n+1} \qquad T(\varepsilon) \qquad \varphi_n = T' \varphi_n$$

Clearly, $T(\varepsilon) \in SL(2, \mathbb{C}) \quad \forall \epsilon$. What can we compute with this?

Consider the eigenvalue problem $T\phi = P\phi$; $\phi = \begin{pmatrix} \beta \\ \alpha \end{pmatrix}$

$$\therefore \left(\begin{array}{cc} \frac{\varepsilon - \mu}{t} & -1\\ 1 & 0\end{array}\right) \begin{pmatrix} \beta\\ \alpha \end{pmatrix} = \rho \begin{pmatrix} \beta\\ \alpha \end{pmatrix} \implies \left(\begin{array}{cc} \frac{\varepsilon - \mu}{t}\beta - \alpha\\ \beta \end{array}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} \rho\beta\\ \rho\alpha \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\beta = \rho \propto \Rightarrow \phi_0 = \varkappa \begin{pmatrix} \rho \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\therefore \quad \phi_n = \tau^n \phi_s = \rho^n \phi_s = \varkappa \begin{pmatrix} \rho^{n+1} \\ \rho^n \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{But } \phi_n = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_n \\ \psi_{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \psi_n = \varkappa \rho^{n+1}$$

:.
$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha p \sum_{n} p^{n} |n\rangle \Rightarrow But |\psi_{n}|^{2} \propto \text{ probability of particle}$$

being on site n!

• For
$$|\rho| = 1$$
, define $\rho = e^{ik}$; $k \in (-\pi, \pi]$
 $\Rightarrow |\psi\rangle = \# \sum_{n \in I} e^{ikn} |n\rangle$ "Bloch wave"
 \Rightarrow for $f = \mathbb{Z}$ (infinite system), we only have these states (with
a delta function normalization)

• For $|P| \ge 1$, the state is not normalizable on \mathbb{Z} , but is normalizable on half lines!

$$\rightarrow |p| < 1 \Rightarrow |\psi_n| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

$$(J) Taking f = \mathbb{Z}^+, |\psi\rangle = \# \sum_n p^n |n\rangle \text{ is localized near } n=0$$

$$\|eff edge''$$

$$\rightarrow |p| > 1 \Rightarrow |\psi_n| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow -\infty : "right edge"$$

Aside : Symmetry

translation invariance = "momentum is a good quantum number" L> symmetry group (of H) = Z for f = ZL> abelian => all unitary irreps are 1D, labelled by characters $X = e^{ik} \in S^{1}$.

- : Each eigenstate of H carries a 1D representation of \mathbb{Z} , and k labels the corresponding character.
- For f ⊂ Z, no symmetry group (but semigroup) and x ∉ s¹
 anymore: Representations of _?

Thus, to study this system, we should look at eigenvalues of T. But det T = 1, define $\Delta(\varepsilon) \equiv t \cdot T(\varepsilon)$ to get

$$P_{\pm} = \frac{+\Delta \pm \sqrt{\Delta^2 - 4}}{2}$$
 : $|P| = 1$ if $\Delta^2 - 4 \le 0$

The quantity $\Delta(\varepsilon)$ is the Floquet discriminant. Ly Generically a polynomial in ε .

Allowing ε to be complex, it must live on a Riemann surface Rwith map $R \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$: $\varepsilon \leftrightarrow +\Delta \pm \sqrt{B^2 - 4}$. More explicitly, consider the tight binding model, where

$$\Delta = \frac{\varepsilon - \mu}{t} \Rightarrow \Delta^2 - 4 = 0 \text{ for } \varepsilon = \mu \pm 2|t|$$

Genus of
$$R = (\# \text{ of } \sqrt{-branch cuts}) - 1$$
 (Riemann-Hurwitz)
= (# of bulk bands) - 1 = 0 (for this case)
 $\Rightarrow R \equiv S^2$, $\pi_1(S^2) = 0 \Rightarrow$ no noncontractible loops.

More generally, the Floquet discriminant is a polynomial in ε of order $N \Rightarrow N$ bulk bands $\Rightarrow N$ branch cuts

: I an associated Riemann surface of genus N-1.

GENERALIZATION :

Consider a vector space Cª; 9 < 00 associated with each lattice site n 4 physically spin/orbitals/ ... Also consider finite range hopping, so that $\mathcal{H} = \sum_{n \in \mathfrak{A}'} \sum_{\alpha \beta=1}^{n} \left[\sum_{l=1}^{R} \left(t_{l,\alpha\beta} | n+l,\alpha\rangle \langle n,\beta|' + t_{l,\alpha\beta}^{*} | n,\alpha\rangle \langle n+l,\beta|' \right) \right]$ + Map In, a > <n, BI]

where $\mathcal{H}: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H} = \operatorname{Span} \{ |n, \alpha \rangle^{2} \operatorname{sne} \}, \alpha = 1..q.$

Group these sites into supercells, so that I only nearest neighbor hopping between the supercells to get

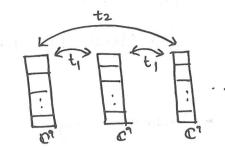
$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{n \in \mathcal{J}} \sum_{ab=1}^{N} \left[J_{ab} \left[n+1, a \right] \langle n, b \right] + M_{ab} \left[n, a \right] \langle n, b \right] + J_{ab}^{*} \left[n, a \right] \langle n+1, b \right]$$

=> Can be thought of as a "basis transformation" on Il.

The Schrödinger equation becomes

$$J\psi_{n+1} + M\psi_n + J^{\dagger}\psi_{n-1} = \varepsilon\psi_n$$

If J is nonsingular, can write



What happens when J is singular?

L> Need to quotient out kerJ and invert on $\mathbb{C}^N/\ker J$.

(Reduced) Singular value decomposition:

$$J = V \equiv W^{\dagger} ; \quad V = (v_1 \dots v_r), \quad W = (w_1 \dots w_r)$$

$$\int_{U}^{U} \int_{U}^{U} \int_{U}^{U}$$

Would like to construct an orthonormal basis of \mathbb{C}^N using these vectors (v's, w's): Need an extra condition

$$J^2 = 0 \iff \langle v_i, w_j \rangle = 0 \quad \forall i, j$$

Can always do this by enlarging the supercell. Thus, $r \leq \frac{N}{2}$, and form the basis

$$\begin{cases} v_1 \dots v_r, w_1 \dots w_r, \chi_{q \dots} \chi_{N-2r} \end{cases}$$

so that

$$V^{\dagger}V = W^{\dagger}W = 1_{r}, X^{\dagger}X = 1_{N-2r}, V^{\dagger}W = V^{\dagger}X = W^{\dagger}X = 0.$$

Given $\psi \in \mathbb{C}^N$, expand in this basis as

$$\psi = \sum_{i=1}^{r} \psi_i \langle \psi_i, \psi \rangle + \sum_{i=1}^{r} \psi_i \langle \psi_i, \psi \rangle + \sum_{i=1}^{r} \chi_i \langle \chi_i, \psi \rangle$$
$$= V\alpha + W\beta + X\gamma ; \quad \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}^r, \ \gamma \in \mathbb{C}^{N-2r}$$

so that $\alpha = V^{\dagger} \psi$, $\beta = W^{\dagger} \psi$ etc.

The recursion relation becomes

$$J \psi_{n+1} + J^{\dagger} \psi_{n-1} = (\epsilon 1 - M) \psi_{n}$$

$$\Psi_n = GJ \Psi_{n+1} + GJ^{\dagger} \Psi_{n-1}$$

But

$$J\psi_{n+1} = V \equiv W^{\dagger} (V\alpha_{n+1} + W\beta_{n+1} + X\beta_{n+1}) = V \equiv \beta_{n+1}$$

$$J^{\dagger}\psi_{n-1} = W \equiv V^{\dagger} (V\alpha_{n-1} + W\beta_{n-1} + X\beta_{n-1}) = W \equiv \alpha_{n-1}$$

so that

$$\psi_n = gV = \beta_{n+1} + gW = \alpha_{n-1}$$

Take projections along V, W to get

$$\alpha_n = v^{\dagger} \psi_n = g_{vv} \cdot \Xi_{n+1}^{\beta} + g_{wv} \cdot \Xi_{n-1}^{\alpha}$$

$$\beta_n = w^{\dagger} \psi_n = g_{vw} \cdot \Xi_{n+1}^{\beta} + g_{ww} \cdot \Xi_{n-1}^{\alpha}$$

Rearrange to get

$$\begin{pmatrix} \beta_{n+1} \\ \alpha_n \end{pmatrix} = T \begin{pmatrix} \beta_n \\ \alpha_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}; T = \begin{pmatrix} \Xi^{-1} g_{vw} & -\Xi^{-1} g_{vw} g_{ww} \Xi \\ g_{vv} g_{vw} & (g_{ww} - g_{vv} g_{vw} g_{ww}) \Xi \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \beta_{n+1} \\ \phi_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}; T = \begin{pmatrix} \Xi^{-1} g_{vw} & -\Xi^{-1} g_{vw} g_{ww} \Xi \\ g_{vv} g_{vw} & (g_{ww} - g_{vv} g_{vw} g_{ww}) \Xi \end{pmatrix}$$

where by construction, $G_{vv}^{t} = G_{vv}$, $G_{ww}^{t} = G_{ww}$, $G_{vw}^{t} = G_{wv}$.

Also, $\phi_n \in \mathbb{C}^{2r}$ (instead of \mathbb{C}^{2N}), where $r = \operatorname{rank} J$

Ly Use rank(J) to identify the relevant (propagating) degrees of freedom.

Real symplectic: $T \in Sp(2r, \mathbb{R}) \Rightarrow [G_{ab}, \Xi] = 0$; $a, b \in \{v, w\}$ If that is the case, then eigenvalues come in reciprocal pairs $\{P, \frac{1}{p}\}$. Let the characteristic polynomial be

$$P(\rho) = \sum_{n=0}^{2r} \alpha_n \rho^n = 0 = P\left(\frac{1}{\rho}\right) = \sum_{n=0}^{2r} \frac{\alpha_n}{\rho^n}$$

 \Rightarrow P(x) is palindromic, i.e. $a_i = a_{2r-i}$, so that

$$P(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{r-1} a_n p^n + a_r p^r + \sum_{n=r+1}^{2r} a_{2r-n} p^n$$

= $\sum_{n=0}^{r-1} a_n (p^n + p^{2r-n}) + a_r p^r$
= $p^r \left[a_r + \sum_{n=0}^{r-1} a_n (p^{r-n} + p^{-(r-n)}) \right]$

Define $\rho + \rho^{-1} = \Delta \Rightarrow \rho^{n} + \rho^{-n} = 2T_{n}\left(\frac{\Delta}{2}\right)$: Chebyshev polynomial $\Rightarrow P(x), \rho^{-r} = a_{r} + \sum_{n=0}^{r-1} 2a_{n}T_{r-n}\left(\frac{\Delta}{2}\right) = 0$: Solve for Δ $\Rightarrow r$ solutions $\Delta_{l}..\Delta_{r}$

$$P_{n,\pm} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\Delta_n \pm \sqrt{\Delta_n^2 - 4} \right] ; n = 1...r$$

⇒ Decompose the system into r chains.

Aside : Homology ?

 $J^{2}=0 \implies \dots C_{n-1} \xrightarrow{J} C_{n} \xrightarrow{J} C_{n+1} \xrightarrow{} \dots \text{ is a chain}$ complex, with $C_{n} = \mathbb{C}^{N} \forall n$. Clearly, $\text{im } J \cong \mathbb{C}^{n}$, $\text{ker } J \cong \mathbb{C}^{2N-2r}$ $\Rightarrow H_{n}(C_{*}) = \frac{\text{ker } J}{\text{im } J} \cong \mathbb{C}^{N-2r}$ By SVD, we are essentially quotienting out this homology? (8)

CHERN INSULATOR:

Easiest to state as the Bloch Hamiltonian

 $H_{\text{Bloch}} = \operatorname{sink}_{x} \sigma^{x} + \operatorname{sink}_{y} \sigma^{y} + (2 - m - \cos k_{x} - \cos k_{y}) \sigma^{z}$ Where $\sigma's$ are Pauli matrices:

$$\sigma^{\mathsf{X}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma^{\mathsf{Y}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma^{\mathsf{Z}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

The bulk chern number is

$$C = \begin{cases} +1 ; & 0 \leq m \leq 2 \\ -1 ; & 2 < m < 4 \end{cases}$$
 Gap closes for $m = 0, 2, 4$
0; otherwise

For finite strip along x, inverse Fourier transform and compute the Schrödinger equation as

$$J_{m+1} + M_{m+1} + J^{\dagger} \psi_{n-1} = \varepsilon \psi_{n}$$

with

$$J = \frac{1}{2i} (\sigma^{x} - i\sigma^{2}) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ -i & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \text{ rank } J = 1$$

$$M = \operatorname{Sin} k_{y} \sigma^{y} + \Lambda(k_{y}) \sigma^{2} ; \Lambda(k_{y}) = 2 - m - \operatorname{cos} k_{y}$$

The transfer matrix becomes

$$T = \frac{1}{|\Lambda|} \begin{pmatrix} -\epsilon^2 + \Lambda^2 + \sin^2 ky & \epsilon - \sinh y \\ -(\epsilon + \sinh y) & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Floquet discriminant

$$\Delta(\varepsilon, k_y) = \frac{1}{|\Lambda|} \left(1 - \varepsilon^2 + \Lambda^2 + \sin^2 k_y \right) \quad ; \text{ band edges : } \Delta^2 = 4$$

For edge states, impose Dirichlet boundary condition

Left:
$$\phi_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
, $T\phi_0 = \rho\phi_0 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \# \\ -(\varepsilon + \sin k_y) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
 $\Rightarrow \varepsilon_L = -\sin ky$

Right:
$$\phi_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
, $\forall \phi_0 = \rho \phi_0 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon - \sin ky \\ \# \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \rho \end{pmatrix}$
 $\Rightarrow \varepsilon_R = \sin ky$

Consider the "left" one: $\beta_{L} = \left(-\epsilon^{2} + \Lambda^{2} + \sin^{2}k_{y}\right)|_{\epsilon = -\sin k_{y}} = \Lambda^{2}$ = $\left(2 - m - \cos k_{y}\right)^{2}$

 $\exists \alpha$ Riemann surface $\forall k_y$, but they all have genus 1 \Rightarrow Map to a single Riemann surface (by rescaling)

$$|f_{L}| = 1 \quad \text{for} \quad 2 - m - \cos k_{y} = \pm 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos k_{y} = (2 \pm 1) - m$$
Take $m \in (0, 2) \Rightarrow k_{y} = \pm \cos^{-1}(1 - m) = \pm 0$

$$\therefore \quad \text{for} \quad -\theta < k_{y} < \theta, \quad \varepsilon \text{ on top sheet} \qquad \text{Top sheet} : |p| > 1$$
Bottom sheet: $|p| < 1$

$$Bottom sheet: |p| < 1$$

: $\mathcal{E}_{L}(k_{y})$ is noncontractible on \mathcal{R} (with winding number + 1) $\mathcal{E}_{R}(k_{y})$ winds the other way round.

Finally: $k_y \mapsto T(\mathcal{E}_L(k_y), k_y)$ is a curve on $Sp(2, \mathbb{R})$ and $\pi_1(Sp(2, \mathbb{R})) \cong \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow Associated winding \# \equiv Maslov index$