

Nonabelian hierarchies

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Quantum Hall hierarchies, [arXiv:1601.01697](https://arxiv.org/abs/1601.01697)



Outline

Haldane-Halperin hierarchy

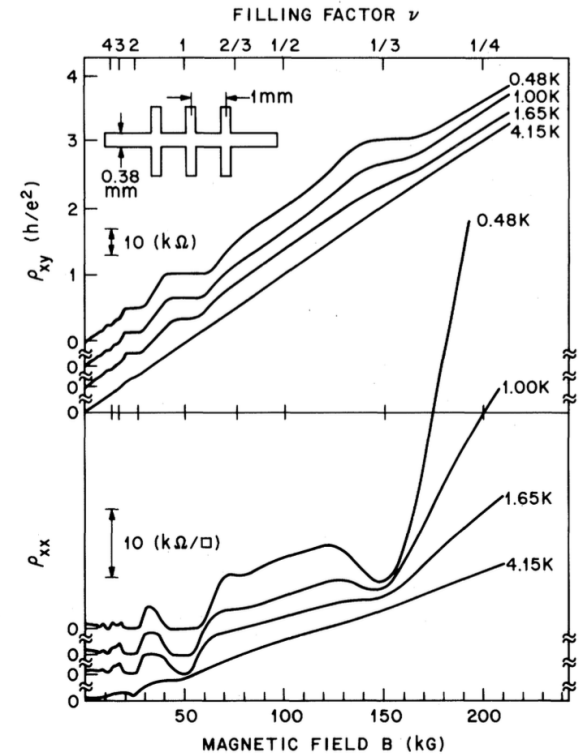
conformal field theory description of FQH states

nonabelian hierarchies

- Levin-Halperin
- Bonderson-Slingerland
- Hermanns

Laughlin's 1/3 wave function

$$\nu = 1 : \psi_1 = \prod_{i < j} (z_i - z_j) e^{-\sum_j |z_j|^2 / (4\ell^2)}$$



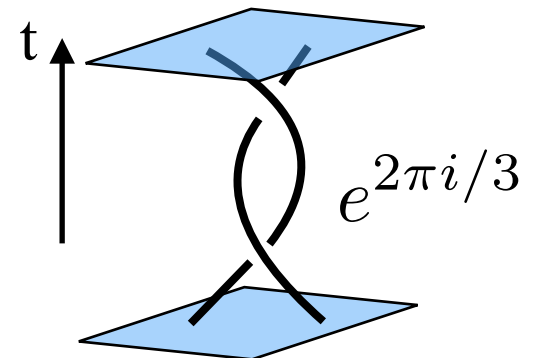
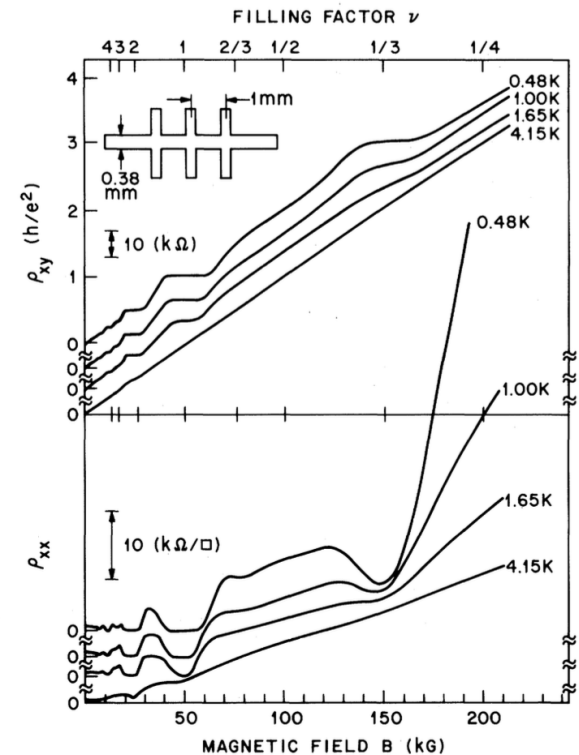
Laughlin's 1/3 wave function

$$\psi_{\frac{1}{3}} = \prod_{i < j} (z_i - z_j)^3 e^{-\sum_j |z_j|^2 / (4\ell^2)}$$

Laughlin 'confirmed validity' of wave function by overlap calculation with N=4 exact diagonalization ground state

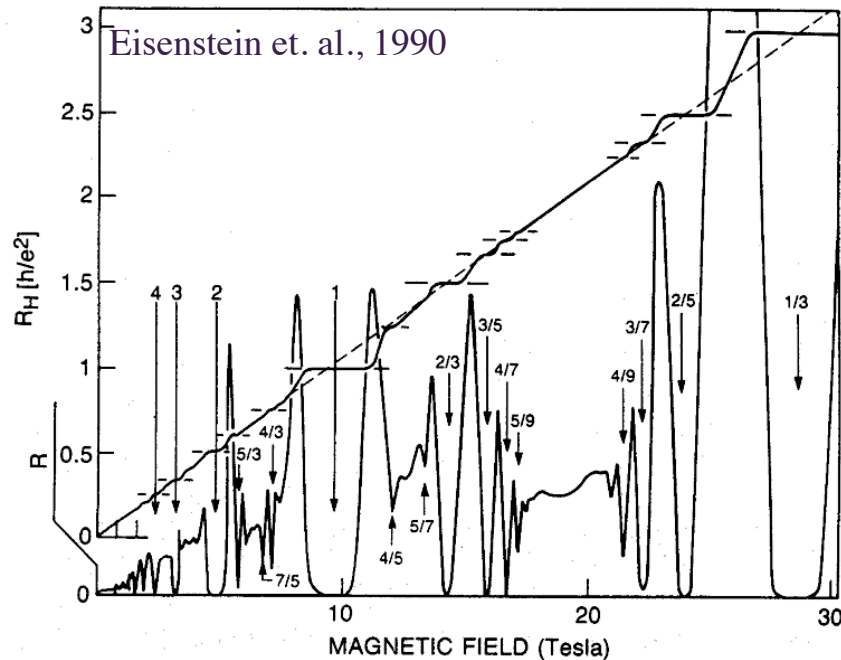
properties (plasma analogy)

- $|\psi|^2 \sim$ partition function of a classical plasma
- screening
- uniform charge density
- incompressible liquid
- excitations have fractional charge $e/3$
- fractional statistics (Arovas, Schrieffer, Wilczek)



Fractional Quantum Hall effect

zoo of FQH states

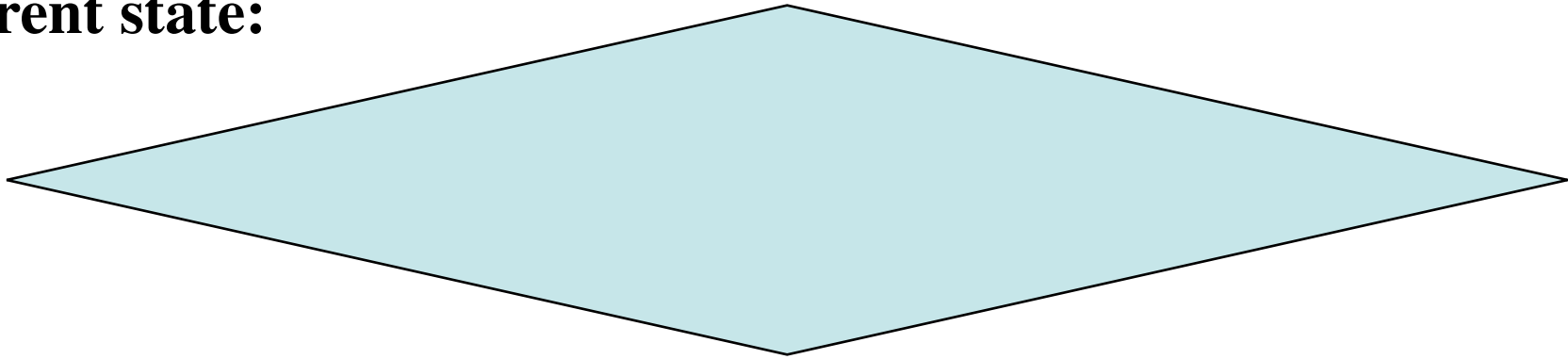


experimental signatures:

- fractional Hall conductance
- fractional electric charge
- (fractional statistics) controversial!

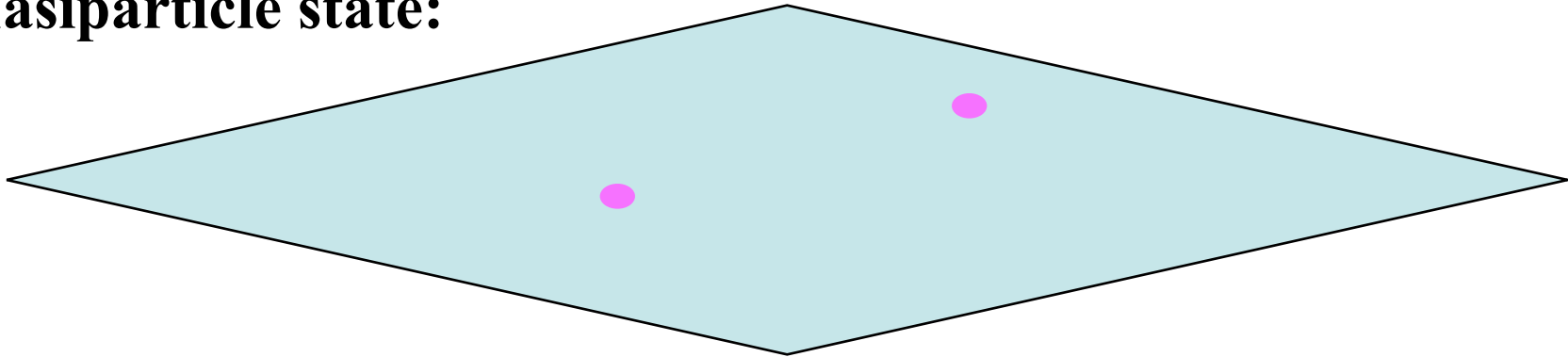
The Haldane-Halperin idea

Parent state:



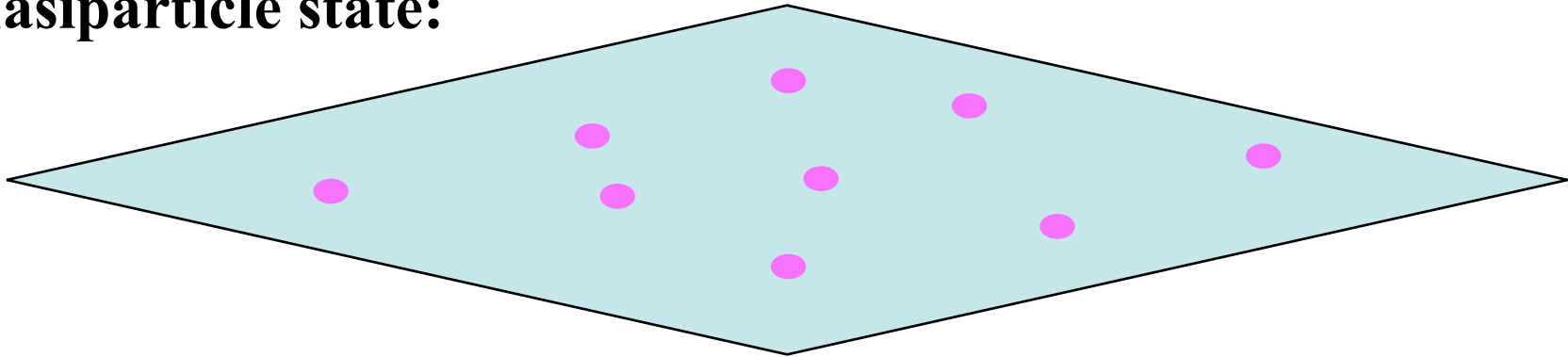
The Haldane-Halperin idea

Quasiparticle state:



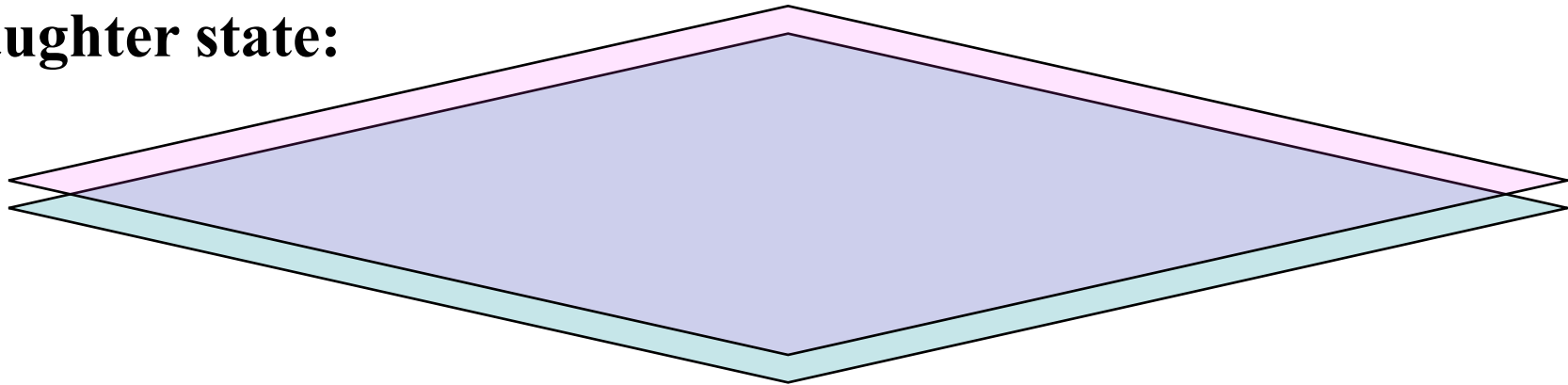
The Haldane-Halperin idea

Quasiparticle state:



The Haldane-Halperin idea

Daughter state:



The Haldane-Halperin hierarchy

Haldane 1983, Halperin 1983

Halperin's proposal:

$$\Psi_{n+1}(z_1 \dots z_N) = \int d^2 \vec{R}_1 \dots \int d^2 \vec{R}_M \Phi^*(\vec{R}_1 \dots \vec{R}_M) \Psi_n(\vec{R}_1 \dots \vec{R}_M; z_1 \dots z_N)$$

ground state wave function at hierarchy level n+1

pseudo wave function

multi-quasiparticle wave function at hierarchy level n

The Haldane-Halperin hierarchy

Haldane 1983, Halperin 1983

Halperin's proposal:

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- Multi-quasiparticle wave function has (usually) trivial monodromies (bosonic/fermionic)
- In general no explicit expressions as integration cannot be performed analytically
- Exception: using particular form of quasielectron and quasihole wave functions \rightarrow positive Jain CF series (Hansson, MH, Viefers 2009)
full hierarchy (Suorsa, Viefers, Hansson 2010)

realizes any filling fraction p/q with q odd

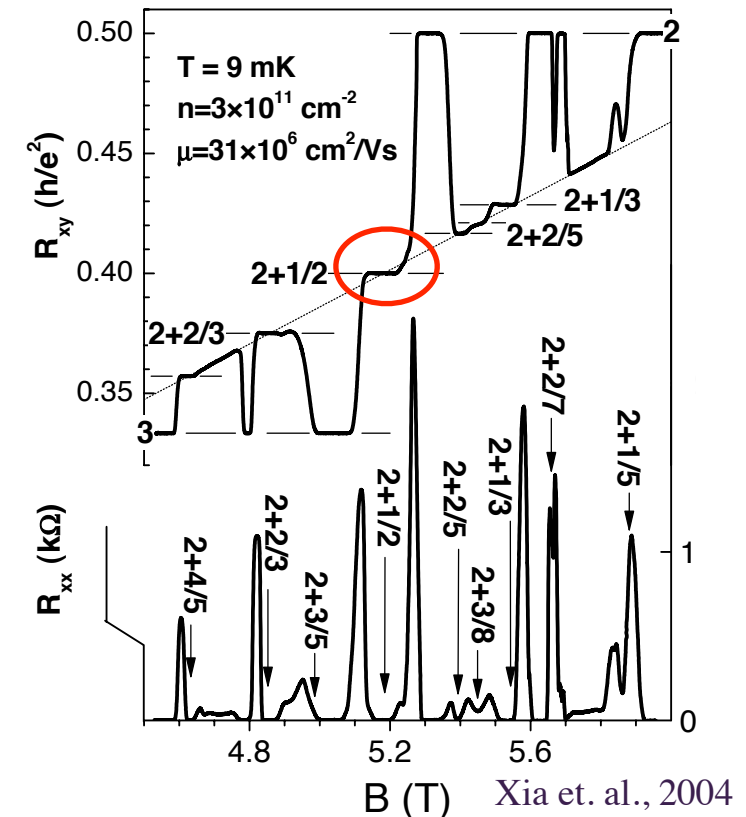
properties: (no plasma analogy!)

- fractional charge ✓
- relative stability ✓
- screening ✗
- anyonic braiding statistics ✗ (Wen-Zee effective Chern Simons theory)

First excited Landau level

The fractional quantum Hall effect at $\nu=5/2$ was discovered in 1987 (Willet et al. 1987)

- numerics suggests that the Moore-Read state (or alternatively the anti-Pfaffian) describes this quantum Hall liquid (Morf 1998, Rezayi et al. 2001, Li&Haldane 2008)
- excitations have charge $e/4$
- believed to be non-Abelian
- other nonabelian candidates:
 $7/3, 8/3, 12/5$ (Read & Rezayi 1999, Wojs 2001)



The Moore-Read idea

Laughlin's wave functions “look like” correlation functions in a Conformal Field Theory. (Fubini, Moore&Read)

- QH wave functions are the conformal blocks of a unitary, rational conformal field theory
- electrons and quasiholes are represented as local operators
- quasihole statistics encoded in the braiding properties of the corresponding operators (if conformal blocks are orthogonal)
- generalization to other FQH states (Moore-Read, Read-Rezayi, NASS, composite fermions, etc.)
- quasielectrons are more complicated (Hansson, MH, Regnault, Viefers 2009)

massless scalar boson field: $\langle \varphi(z)\varphi(w) \rangle = -\ln(z-w)$

particles are described by **vertex** operators: $V_\alpha(z) = e^{i\alpha\varphi(z)}$

$\langle V_\alpha(z)V_\beta(w) \rangle \sim (z-w)^{\alpha\beta} \longrightarrow$ fermionic statistics for α^2 odd integer

Laughlin 1/3: $V(z) = e^{i\sqrt{3}\varphi(z)}$

$H(w) = e^{\frac{i}{\sqrt{3}}\varphi(w)}$

The Moore-Read state

using Ising conformal field theory (Moore and Read, 1991)

$$\Psi_{5/2} = \text{Pf} \left(\frac{1}{z_i - z_j} \right) \prod_{i < j} (z_i - z_j)^2$$

Ising CFT description

$$V(z) = \psi(z) e^{i\sqrt{2}\varphi(z)}$$

$$H(w) = \sigma(w) e^{\frac{i}{\sqrt{8}}\varphi(w)}$$

$$\psi \times \psi = 1$$

$$\sigma \times \psi = \sigma$$

$$\sigma \times \sigma = 1 + \psi$$

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- Pairing of electrons
- Fundamental quasiholes have charge 1/4
- For $2n$ quasiholes at fixed position there are 2^{n-1} linear independent, degenerate states
- Braiding and quasihole degeneracy are manifest plasma analogy (Read 2009; Bonderson, Gurarie, Nayak 2011)

$$\psi \times \psi = 1$$

$$\sigma \times \psi = \sigma$$

$$\sigma \times \sigma = 1 + \psi$$

The Moore-Read state

using two layer description (Cappelli et al. 2001)

$$\Psi_{5/2} = \mathcal{S} \left[\prod_{\alpha < \beta} (z_\alpha - z_\beta)^2 \prod_{a < b} (z_a - z_b)^2 \right] \prod_{i < j} (z_i - z_j) \quad \begin{array}{l} \alpha, \beta = 1, \dots, \frac{N}{2} \\ a, b = \frac{N}{2} + 1, \dots, N \end{array}$$

Bosonic CFT description

$$\begin{aligned} V(z) &= \cos \phi(z) e^{i\sqrt{2}\varphi(z)} \\ H_{\pm}(\eta) &= e^{\pm i\phi(\eta)/2} e^{\frac{i}{2\sqrt{2}}\varphi(\eta)} \end{aligned}$$

- Pairing of electrons
- Fundamental quasiholes have charge 1/4
- For $2n$ quasiholes at fixed position there are 2^{n-1} linear independent, degenerate states
- Braiding properties are hidden
- Easy generalization to more layers (Read-Rezayi series) and different filling fractions within the layers \rightarrow nonabelian hierarchy
- Allows construction of quasielectron operator

Nonabelian hierarchy

hierarchy construction using the Moore-Read state as parent state:

$$\Psi_{n+1}(z_1 \dots z_N) = \int d^2 \vec{R}_1 \dots \int d^2 \vec{R}_M \Phi^*(\vec{R}_1 \dots \vec{R}_M) \Psi_n(\vec{R}_1 \dots \vec{R}_M; z_1 \dots z_N)$$



multi-qp wave function **not unique**

- macroscopic degeneracy
- branch cuts

Nonabelian hierarchy

$$\Psi_{n+1}(z_1 \dots z_N) = \int d^2 \vec{R}_1 \dots \int d^2 \vec{R}_M \Phi^*(\vec{R}_1 \dots \vec{R}_M) \Psi_n(\vec{R}_1 \dots \vec{R}_M; z_1 \dots z_N)$$

Bonderson & Slingerland (2008):

interactions between Ising anyons lead to energy splitting of fusion channels 1 and ψ
(Baraban et al. 2009)

pairing of Ising anyons \rightarrow abelian excitations of charge $e/2$

use abelian pseudo wave function for hierarchical states

nonabelian statistics remains unchanged (Ising anyons)

Example: pairing in 1-channel

$$\Psi_\nu = \text{Pf} \left(\frac{1}{z_i - z_j} \right) \Psi_\nu^{(HH)}(z_1, \dots, z_N)$$

‘Moore-Read state with altered charge factor’

Nonabelian hierarchy

$$\Psi_{n+1}(z_1 \dots z_N) = \int d^2 \vec{R}_1 \dots \int d^2 \vec{R}_M \sum_{\alpha} \Phi_{\alpha}^*(\vec{R}_1 \dots \vec{R}_M) \Psi_n^{\alpha}(\vec{R}_1 \dots \vec{R}_M; z_1 \dots z_M)$$

Levin & Halperin (2009):

use appropriate vector-valued pseudo wave function

$$\Phi_{\alpha}^*(\vec{R}_1, \dots, \vec{R}_M) = \langle \prod_{j=1}^M \bar{\sigma}(\bar{\eta}_j) e^{i\sqrt{2m+1/8} \bar{\phi}(\bar{\eta}_j)} \mathcal{O}_{bg} \rangle_{\alpha}$$

no branch cuts as full Ising correlators contain both holomorphic and anti-holomorphic pieces (Belavin, Polyakov, Zamolodchikov 1983)

Abelian daughter states

Nonabelian hierarchy

$$\Psi_{n+1}(z_1 \dots z_N) = \int d^2 \vec{R}_1 \dots \int d^2 \vec{R}_M \Phi^*(\vec{R}_1 \dots \vec{R}_M) \Psi_n(\vec{R}_1 \dots \vec{R}_M; z_1 \dots z_N)$$

Hermanns (2010):

hide statistics in Berry phase by using Cappellis two-layer description

two types of quasiparticles that are not correlated

each has their own pseudo wave function

unique daughter state despite macroscopic degeneracy

$$\Psi_{1/2}(\vec{r}_1 \dots \vec{r}_n) = \mathcal{S} [\Psi_{1/2}(\vec{r}_1 \dots \vec{r}_{N/2}) \Psi_{1/2}(\vec{r}_{N/2+1} \dots \vec{r}_N)] \prod_{i < j} (z_i - z_j)$$



qe-condensate with maximal density

$$\Psi_{4/7}(\vec{r}_1 \dots \vec{r}_n) = \mathcal{S} [\Psi_{2/3}(\vec{r}_1 \dots \vec{r}_{N/2}) \Psi_{2/3}(\vec{r}_{N/2+1} \dots \vec{r}_N)] \prod_{i < j} (z_i - z_j)$$

General form of hierarchical states $\Psi_{\tilde{\nu}} = \mathcal{S} \left[\underbrace{\Psi_{\nu} \Psi_{\nu} \dots \Psi_{\nu}}_{k \text{ layers}} \right] \prod_{i < j} (z_i - z_j)$

Properties?

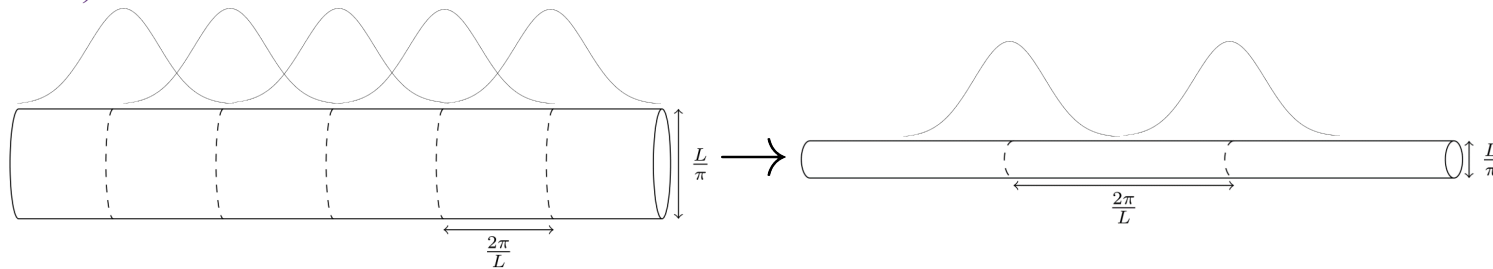
Nonabelian hierarchy

Tournois&Hermanns, in preparation

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quasiparticle charge e/q for $\nu = p/q$

$SU(q)_k$ fusion rules can be derived using the thin torus analysis (Ardonne 2009)



surprisingly: many properties retained (ground state degeneracy, fractional charge, domain wall structure, fusion rules)

Nonabelian hierarchy

explicit CFT description possible for filling fractions $\nu=(q-1)/q$ (Jain series) using the close relation to generalizations of the nonabelian spin singlet states (Schoutens&Ardonne 1999)

Gepner parafermions (Gepner 1987, Ardonne PhD thesis 2002)

$$\psi_\alpha = \Phi_\alpha^1 \quad \sigma_\omega = \Phi_\omega^\omega \quad (\tilde{\alpha}_i, \tilde{\alpha}_j) = 1 + \delta_{i,j} \quad (\tilde{\alpha}_i, \omega_j) = \delta_{i,j}$$

electron operators: $V_{\tilde{\alpha}_n}(z) = \psi_{\tilde{\alpha}_n}(z) \exp \left[\frac{i}{\sqrt{k}} (\tilde{\alpha}_n \cdot \varphi)(z) \right]$

hole operators: $H_{\omega_n}(w) = \sigma_{\omega_n}(w) \exp \left[\frac{i}{\sqrt{k}} (\omega_n \cdot \varphi)(w) \right]$

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spin-polarize state ▶ introduce derivative (orbital spin)
▶ symmetrize over ‘spin’

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spin-polarize state ▶ introduce derivative (orbital spin)
▶ symmetrize over ‘spin’

Quasihole state counting and braiding believed to remain unchanged by symmetrization due to different orbital spin

Open questions & future directions

gain deeper understanding of nonabelian $SU(n)$ singlet states and their braiding properties

verify properties of model wave functions such as

- screening
- quasiparticle braiding statistics

↪ MPS description from CFT description (Zaletel & Mong 2012)

effective low energy gauge theories for nonabelian hierarchy states