# Universal and Exact Aspects of Ideal Flatbands

--- quantum geometry and momentum space curved quantum Hall effect

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## Outline

- Fractional Chern insulators
  - motivation, stability (Girvin-MacDonald-Platzmann or  $W-\infty$  algebra)
- Common lore: no exact GMP algebra in flat band (lattice) systems
  - Concrete models that violates it

### • Ideal flatbands:

- Quantum geometry
- <u>Universal wavefunction</u>
- Emergent exact GMP algebra
- Implications to real materials
  - moire graphene, moire TMD

#### Key References:

- Exact Landau level description of geometry and interaction in a flatband
- Hierarchy of ideal flatband in chiral twisted multilayer graphene models
- Origin of model fractional Chern insulators in all topological ideal flatbands

Jie Wang, Cano, Millis, Liu and Yang (PRL, 2021); Jie Wang and Zhao Liu (PRL, 2022); Jie Wang, Klevtsov and Zhao Liu (PRR, 2022).

Related on similar topics (partial list): Bergholtz, Cano, Crepel, Estienne, Fu, Kruchkov, Ozawa, Mera, Mora, Repellin, Vishwanath.

## Introduction to Chern bands and fractional Chern insulators

Fractionally quantized Hall plateau





Chiral edge modes Anyon excitation





Chiral edge modes Anyon excitation



### Applications:

### Topological quantum computation





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## **Fractional Chern insulator in Chern band**



FCI = partial filling + interaction ?

Not guaranteed! Competing phases (Fermi liquid, CDW), geometry important!

Haldane (88)

## **Comparing Landau level and flatband**

В

### Landau levels:

- Zero dispersion
- Uniform, continuous translation symmetry

Landau level

- Chern number C=1
- Holomorphic LLL wave function



#### Flat Chern bands:

- Dispersive
- Lattice translation symmetry
- Chern number C=0,1,2,...,
- Non-holomorphic wave function

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Exact zero energy ground state for model interactions  $(W-\infty algebra, Haldane-pseudopotential)$ 



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Usually interacting ground state is not **exact**. (Ideal flatbands are exceptions)

Haldane (83) Girvin, MacDonald, Platzmann (86) A. Cappelli, Trugenberger, Zemba (92)



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- Only Landau level has exact GMP algebra
- It's destroyed by Berry curvature fluctuation

Even if we ignore one-body dispersion, and consider projected short-ranged interaction:

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Formalism of Band Theory. E. Blount (62)

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### Reasoning is in below:

Can define projected coordinates

 $R_k^a = -i\partial_k^a + A_k^a$ 

- However, algebra no longer closes:
  - $[R_k^a, R_k^b] = -i\Omega_k \epsilon^{ab}$
  - $[R_k^a, [R_k^b, R_k^c]] \sim \partial_k \Omega_k + \dots$
- No closed density algebra, because of the lack of continuous translation invariance.





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## **Quantum geometry**

Berry connection:  $A^{a}(k) \equiv -\langle u_{k} | i \partial_{k}^{a} u_{k} \rangle$ 

Covariant derivative:  $|D_{\mathbf{k}}^{a}u_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle = (\partial_{\mathbf{k}}^{a} - iA_{\mathbf{k}}^{a})|u_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle, \quad \langle u_{\mathbf{k}}|D_{\mathbf{k}}^{a}u_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle = 0.$ 

Quantum geometric tensor:  $\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbf{k}}^{ab} \equiv \langle D_{\mathbf{k}}^{a}u_{\mathbf{k}} | D_{\mathbf{k}}^{b}u_{\mathbf{k}} \rangle$ 

Quantum geometric tensor:



Fubini-Study metric

Berry curvature





 $\mathscr{Q}^{ab}_{\mathbf{k}}$  can be expressed by band projectors:  $\mathscr{Q}^{ab} = 2\langle \partial^a_{\mathbf{k}} u | (\mathbb{I} - P_{\mathbf{k}}) | \partial^b_{\mathbf{k}} u \rangle$  where  $P_{\mathbf{k}} = |u_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle \langle u_{\mathbf{k}}|$ . So it is positive semi-definite with two eigenvalues  $\lambda'_{\mathbf{k}} \ge \lambda_{\mathbf{k}} \ge 0$ .

## **Exceptions: concrete models and common feature**

Criteria for "strong correlation":  $|t/U| \ll 1$ 









Santos, Peres, Neto (07); Bistritzer, MacDonald (11)





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## Band structure of twisted bilayer graphene



Moire (mini) Brillouin zone



### Band structure of twisted bilayer graphene





 $K_{+}$ 







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Top n-layer, Bernal stacked



Bottom n-layer, Bernal stacked

Top n-layer, Bernal stacked



Bottom n-layer, Bernal stacked



Exact flat band exhibits nonuniform  $\Omega_{\mathbf{k}}$ , but strictly satisfies  $\mathrm{Tr}g_{\mathbf{k}} = \Omega_{\mathbf{k}}$ .
# Exception II: chiral twisted multilayer graphene models (C>1)

Top n-layer, Bernal stacked



Bottom n-layer, Bernal stacked



Exact flat band exhibits nonuniform  $\Omega_k$ , but strictly satisfies  $\text{Tr}g_k = \Omega_k$ .



- Short range interaction exact zero modes start to occur at  $\nu = 1/(2C+1)$  .
- Exactly Halperin state's filling fraction (C-layered Landau level).
- Entanglement properties all agree with model Halperin state (infinity entanglement gap).

The above are not **specific** features of twisted graphene models, but in fact something **general**.

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Other models exhibit exact many-body zero modes

#### (1) Kapit-Mueller model

(A variant of Hofstadter model with fine tuned toppings)

$$H = \sum_{j \neq k} J(z_j, z_k) a_j^{\dagger} a_k \qquad J(z_j, z_k) = W(z) e^{(\pi/2)(z_j z^* - z_j^* z)\phi}$$

 $W(z) = t \times G(z)e^{-\frac{\pi}{2}[(1-\phi)|z|^2]} \quad G(z) = (-1)^{x+y+xy}$ 

#### (2) Dirac fermion in periodic magnetic field



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 $\operatorname{Tr}_{\omega}g_{\mathbf{k}} \equiv \omega_{ab}g_{\mathbf{k}}^{ab}$ 

#### All common features:

- Exact flat single-particle dispersion.
- Positive-definite Berry curvature  $\Omega_{\mathbf{k}} > 0$ .
- Satisfies the trace relation:  $\text{Tr}_{\omega}g_{\mathbf{k}}^{ab} = \Omega_{\mathbf{k}}$  for all  $\mathbf{k}$ .

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#### These <u>define</u> ideal flatband.

JW, J. Cano, A.J. Millis, Z. Liu, B. Yang; PRL (2021). JW, S Kletsov, Z. Liu; arXiv (2022).

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#### All these examples strongly suggest:

- Universal properties implied from quantum geometry.
- Emergent projective properties (hidden GMP algebra)
- High Chern number corresponds to multiple Landau-levels.

JW, J. Cano, A.J. Millis, Z. Liu, B. Yang; PRL (2021). JW, S Kletsov, Z. Liu; arXiv (2022).

# **Ideal flatbands**



Quantum geometric tensor: 
$$\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbf{k}}^{ab} = g_{\mathbf{k}}^{ab} + \frac{\iota}{2} \epsilon^{ab} \Omega_{\mathbf{k}}.$$

Denote its two eigenvalues  $\lambda'_{\mathbf{k}} \geq \lambda_{\mathbf{k}} \geq 0$  and eigenvectors  $\omega'_{\mathbf{k},a}, \omega_{\mathbf{k},a}$ .

$$\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbf{k}}^{ab}\omega_{\mathbf{k},b}^{\prime} = \lambda_{\mathbf{k}}^{\prime}\omega_{\mathbf{k}}^{\prime a} \qquad \mathcal{Q}_{\mathbf{k}}^{ab}\omega_{\mathbf{k},b} = \lambda_{\mathbf{k}}\omega_{\mathbf{k}}^{a}$$

Quantum geometric tensor:  $\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbf{k}}^{ab} = g_{\mathbf{k}}^{ab} + \frac{i}{2} \epsilon^{ab} \Omega_{\mathbf{k}}.$ 

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From its positive semi-definite property:  $\operatorname{Tr}_{\omega}(g_k) \ge |\det g_k| \ge |\Omega_k|$ .

Quantum geometric tensor: 
$$\mathcal{Q}^{ab}_{\mathbf{k}} = g^{ab}_{\mathbf{k}} + \frac{\iota}{2} \epsilon^{ab} \Omega_{\mathbf{k}}$$

Denote its two eigenvalues  $\lambda'_{\mathbf{k}} \geq \lambda_{\mathbf{k}} \geq 0$  and eigenvectors  $\omega'_{\mathbf{k},a}, \omega_{\mathbf{k},a}$ .

$$\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbf{k}}^{ab}\omega_{\mathbf{k},b}' = \lambda_{\mathbf{k}}'\omega_{\mathbf{k}}'^{a} \qquad \mathcal{Q}_{\mathbf{k}}^{ab}\omega_{\mathbf{k},b} = \lambda_{\mathbf{k}}\omega_{\mathbf{k}}^{a}$$

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Physical intuition (make analogous to Landau level physics)



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Physical intuition (make analogous to Landau level physics)





 $\mathcal{Q}^{ab}_{\mathbf{k}}\omega_{\mathbf{k}}=0$ 

 $\omega_{ab} = \omega_a \omega_b^* + \omega_a^* \omega_b$ 

Saturation of the trace bound  $(\operatorname{Tr}_{\omega}g_{\mathbf{k}} = \Omega_{\mathbf{k}})$  is fully equivalent to momentum space holomorphilicity. The cell-periodic part of Bloch wavefunction  $u_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) \equiv e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}}\psi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})$ is holomorphic in  $k \equiv \omega^{a}\mathbf{k}_{a}$  up to a norm:  $u_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = N_{\mathbf{k}} u_{k=\omega^{a}k_{a}}^{\text{holo}}(\mathbf{r})$ 

> Bruno Mera, T. Ozawa; PRB (2021). M. Claassen et al PRL (2015). Ledwith et al PRR (2020). JW et al PRL (2021)

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Torus lowest Landau level wavefunction in terms of Weierstrass Sigma function  $\sigma(z+a_{1,2})=-\,e^{a^*(z+a/2)}\sigma(z)$ 

 $\Phi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = \sigma(z - z_k)e^{z_k^* z} e^{-\frac{1}{2}|z|^2} e^{-\frac{1}{2}|z_k|^2} \qquad z_k \equiv -ik = -i\omega^a \mathbf{k}_a$ 



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To check: 
$$u_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}}\psi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = N_{\mathbf{k}}e^{-\frac{1}{2}|z_{k}|^{2}} \times \sigma(z - z_{k})e^{z^{*}z_{k}}e^{-\frac{1}{2}|z|^{2}}$$
  
Non-holomorphic part Holomorphic in  $k$  (normalization)

Jie Wang, J. Cano, A.J. Millis, Z. Liu, B. Yang; PRL (2021).



Torus lowest Landau level wavefunction in terms of Weierstrass Sigma function  $\sigma(z + a_{1,2}) = -e^{a^*(z+a/2)}\sigma(z)$ 

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Generalized Laughlin wavefunction (exact zero modes):

$$\Psi_{\text{FCI}} = \prod_{i} \mathscr{B}(r_i) \times \Psi_{\text{Laughlin}}.$$
$$\Psi_{\text{Laughlin}} = \prod_{i < j}^{i} \sigma^3(z_i - z_j) \prod_{i=1}^{3} \sigma(\sum_{i} z_i - \alpha_i).$$

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Generalized Laughlin wavefunction (exact zero modes):

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Factor  $\mathscr{B}(\mathbf{r})$  satisfies  $\mathscr{B}(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{a}) = e^{-\frac{i}{2}\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{r}} \mathscr{B}(r)$ :

- k-independent, quasi-periodic (s.t.  $\psi_k$  is Bloch).
- breaks translation symmetry from continuous to lattice
- Determines Berry curvature distribution (next slides)

Jie Wang, J. Cano, A.J. Millis, Z. Liu, B. Yang; PRL (2021).



Momentum-space plots of  $|\Psi_k(r)|$  for fixed r

$$C = C(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint dk \ \partial_k \ln u_k(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint dk \ \partial_k \ln |u_k\rangle$$

- Topology = zeros (Riemann-Roch Theorem)
- $\bullet$  Dual Thouless pumping:  ${\boldsymbol r}$  is a "boundary condition"
- Color-entangled wavefunction.



One set of LLL wave functions:  $v_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})$ .

Here 
$$v_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = \sigma(z - z_k)e^{\frac{1}{C}z^*z_k}e^{-\frac{1}{2C}|z|^2}e^{-\frac{1}{2C}|z_k|^2}$$

JW, Semyon Klevtsov, Zhao Liu. (2022)

### Consequence from holomorphicity - II: Kahler potential & GMP algebra

Wavefunction:  $u_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = N_{\mathbf{k}} \times u_{k}^{\text{holo}}(\mathbf{r})$ 

Anti-holomorphic Berry connection: 
$$\bar{A}_k \equiv \langle u_{\mathbf{k}} | \bar{\partial}_k u_{\mathbf{k}} \rangle = i \left( i N_{\mathbf{k}}^{-1} \bar{\partial}_k N_{\mathbf{k}} \right) \int_{\mathbf{r}} N_{\mathbf{k}}^2 u_k^{\text{holo}*}(\mathbf{r}) u_k^{\text{holo}}(\mathbf{r}) = - \bar{\partial}_k \log N_{\mathbf{k}}$$

Berry curvature:  $\Omega_{\mathbf{k}} = -i\partial_k \bar{A}_k + i\bar{\partial}_k A_k = \nabla_{\mathbf{k}}^2 \log N_{\mathbf{k}}$ 

**Important:** this relates the Berry curvature to normalization factors

## Consequence from holomorphicity - II: Kahler potential & GMP algebra



JW, Semyon Klevtsov, Zhao Liu. (2022)

Emergent exact new "guiding center" and "Landau orbital" operators

 $\bar{Q}^a = -i\partial_k^a + C\epsilon^{ab}k_b/2$ 

 $[Q^a, Q^b] = -i\epsilon^{ab}C \qquad [\bar{Q}^a, \bar{Q}^b] = +i\epsilon^{ab}C$ 

Exact dual LLL condition  $\bar{a}u_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = \omega_a Q^a u_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = 0$ 

Exact dual magnetic translation  $e^{i\mathbf{q}_{1}\cdot\mathbf{Q}}e^{i\mathbf{q}_{2}\cdot\mathbf{Q}} = e^{iC\mathbf{q}_{1}\times\mathbf{q}_{2}/2}e^{i(\mathbf{q}_{1}+\mathbf{q}_{2})\cdot\mathbf{Q}}$  $e^{i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{Q}}u_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = e^{\frac{i}{2}\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{r}}u_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}+C\epsilon^{ab}q_{b})$ 

- Exact closed density algebra for unnormalized states (emergent, hidden).
- Normalization does not affect interacting zero modes.
- Position-momentum duality is important.

# Implication to real materials



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# Application of ideal flatband theory - I: twisted bilayer graphene



Single-electron transistor microscopy

Yonglong Xie et, al; Nature (21)

# Application of ideal flatband theory - I: twisted bilayer graphene



Yonglong Xie et, al; Nature (21)

# Application of ideal flatband theory - I: twisted bilayer graphene



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## Application of ideal flatband theory - II: twisted TMD



#### Strong spin-orbit coupling

Monolayer hole-band

K, spin-up





# Application of ideal flatband theory - II: twisted TMD



# Application of ideal flatband theory - II: twisted TMD



N. Duran, Jie Wang, Kaxiras group, Repellin, Cano (2023).

# Application of ideal flatband theory - II: twisted TMD (twisted MoTe2)

Two independent experiments show evidence of zero field fractional Chern insulator.



Theory: Di Xiao group, Liang Fu group.

## Summary:

#### Take home message:

- Common wisdom that only Landau level has GMP algebra is now revisited.
- Ideal flatbands are ideal platform to study quantum Hall effect on curved manifold.
- Quantum geometry (especially overlooked Fubini-Study metric) are important indicator for real experiment.



Jie Wang, J. Cano, A.J. Millis, Z. Liu, B. Yang; <u>PRL (2021).</u> Jie Wang, Zhao Liu; <u>PRL (2022).</u> Jie Wang, Y. Zheng, A.J. Millis, J. Cano; <u>PRR (2021).</u> Jie Wang, S. Klevtsov, Z. Liu; <u>arXiv (2022).</u> J. Dong, Jie Wang, Liang Fu; <u>arXiv (2022).</u> N. Duran, Jie Wang, Kaxiras group, Repellin, Cano <u>(2023).</u>

# **Backup slides**

# Fractional Chern insulator: to be or not to be?

$$\Delta \to \infty, D \to 0$$
  $\nu = \frac{1}{3}$ 

Is fractional Chern insulator guaranteed?
$$\Delta \to \infty, D \to 0$$
  $\nu = \frac{1}{3}$ 

Is fractional Chern insulator guaranteed?

No! <u>Wavefunctions</u> can still be highly nonuniform! Flatband-projected interacting Hamiltonian:  $H = \sum_{\mathbf{q}} v_{\mathbf{q}} : \rho_{\mathbf{q}}\rho_{-\mathbf{q}} :, \quad \rho_{\mathbf{q}} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \langle u_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} | u_{\mathbf{k}} \rangle c_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{\dagger} c_{\mathbf{k}}$ 

$$\Delta \to \infty, D \to 0$$
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Is fractional Chern insulator guaranteed?

Bloch wavefunction (lattice translational invariant)



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Bloch wavefunction (lattice translational invariant)





$$\Delta \to \infty, D \to 0$$
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Is fractional Chern insulator guaranteed?

Bloch wavefunction (lattice translational invariant)



If wavefunction varies strongly

Charge density wave/ Wigner crystal is favored



Key question of this talk: How to characterize wavefunction's role in interacting physics?



Uncorrelated state (single slater determinant)



Small spin-orbit coupling: spin degenerate

8 flatbands = 2 spin, 2 valley, 2 sub-lattice





Small spin-orbit coupling: spin degenerate

8 flatbands = 2 spin, 2 valley, 2 sub-lattice





Small spin-orbit coupling: spin degenerate

8 flatbands = 2 spin, 2 valley, 2 sub-lattice

Schematic illustration of the 8 flatbands of TBG Valley  $\zeta = +1$  Valley  $\zeta = -1$ Without hBN C<sub>2</sub>T symmetric

Hexagonal boron nitride (hBN) encapsulation





Observation of anomalous Hall effect @  $\nu = 3/4$ 



Observation of anomalous Hall effect @  $\nu = 3/4$ 



Non-interacting



Observation of anomalous Hall effect @  $\nu = 3/4$ 



Non-interacting



Interaction driven spontaneous time-reversal breaking





#### Lattice relaxation and the chiral model of twisted bilayer graphene



Bistritzer, MacDonald (PNAS 11) Tarnopolsky, Kruchkov, Vishwanath (PRL 19)

#### Lattice relaxation and the chiral model of twisted bilayer graphene



Bistritzer-MacDonald:  $w_{AA} = w_{AB} = 100 \text{ meV}$ 

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#### Lattice relaxation and the chiral model of twisted bilayer graphene



Bistritzer-MacDonald:  $w_{AA} = w_{AB} = 100 \text{ meV}$ 

Bistritzer, MacDonald (PNAS 11) Tarnopolsky, Kruchkov, Vishwanath (PRL 19)

# Universality of the flatband wavefunction

Start from k-space holomorphic function

 $u_{k+b}(\mathbf{r}) = e^{i\phi_{k,b}}e^{-i\mathbf{b}\cdot\mathbf{r}}u_k(\mathbf{r})$ 

Boundary condition is constrained by the Chern number

$$C = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \left( \phi_{k_0 + b_1, b_2} - \phi_{k_0, b_2} + \phi_{k_0, b_1} - \phi_{k_0 + b_2, b_1} \right)$$



Trick: origin of Brillouin zone is a 'gauge choice', so C is independent on it:

 $\phi_{k,b}$  Is constrained to be linear, holomorphic function of k (fixed form up to gauge transformations)

Therefore, the most general form of C=1 ideal flatband wavefunction is chiral TBG's:

 $\Psi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = N_{\mathbf{k}} \ \mathscr{B}(\mathbf{r}) \ \Phi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})$ 

Thank you for attention