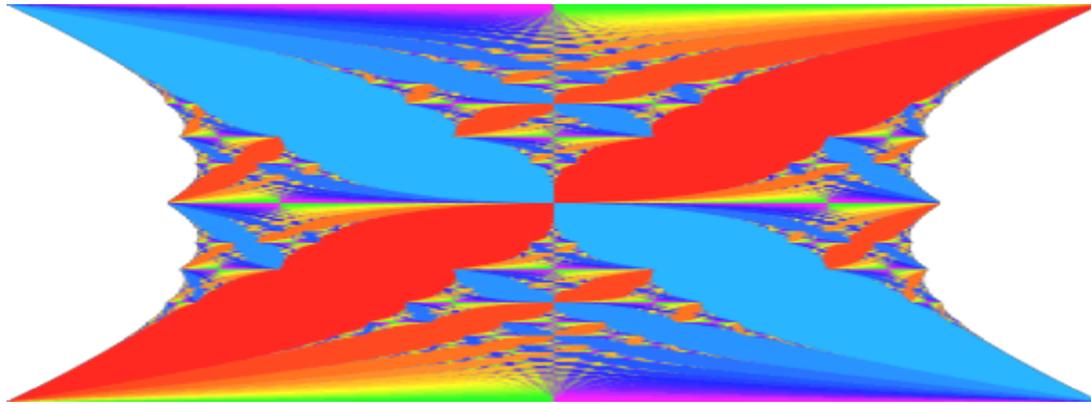


# Topological Phases of Matter

## Modeling and Classification



**Zhenghan Wang**  
**Microsoft Station Q**  
**RTG in Topology and Geometry, UCSB Oct 21, 2011**

# Prediction of Quantum Theory

- **Quantum computing is possible**
- **There are non-abelian anyons**

**Thm: Prediction 2 implies Prediction 1.**

**Anyon=Localized Non-Local Properties**

# Favorite Theorems

- Poincare-Hopf Index Thm
- Gauss-Bonnet-Chern Thm

# Quantum Systems

- A pair  $Q=(\mathcal{L}, H)$ , where  $\mathcal{L}$  is a Hilbert space and  $H$  an Hermitian operator, physically  $H$  should be local.

- Examples:

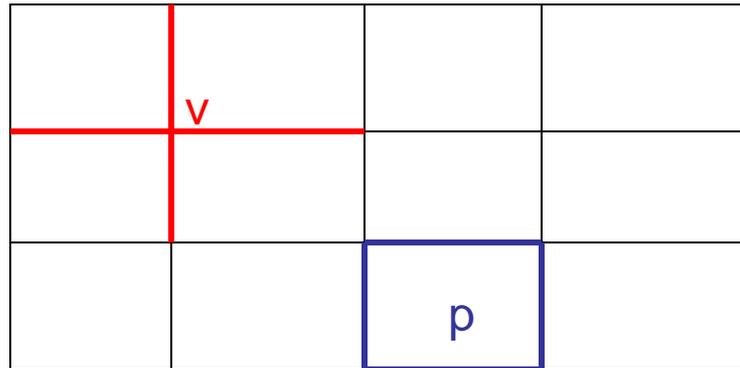
0)  $\mathcal{L} = \otimes_i \mathbf{C}^2$ ,  $H = \sum_i I \otimes \sigma_z^i \otimes I$ , g.s. =  $|1\rangle \otimes \dots \otimes |1\rangle$ ,  $\mathbf{C}^2 = \mathbf{C} |0\rangle \oplus \mathbf{C} |1\rangle$

1) Toric code--- $Z_2$ -homology (Turaev-Viro type TQFT or Levin-Wen model)

2) Hofstadter model---Chern number  $c_1$  (Free fermions )

# Toric Code

$$H = -g \sum_v A_v - J \sum_p B_p$$



$=T^2$

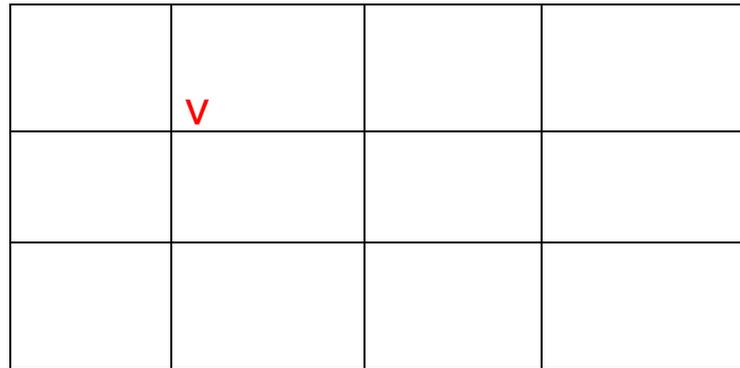
$$\mathcal{L} = \bigotimes_{edges} \mathbf{C}^2$$

$$A_v = \bigotimes_{e \in v} \sigma^z \otimes_{others} \text{Id}_e,$$

$$B_p = \bigotimes_{e \in p} \sigma^x \otimes_{others} \text{Id}_e,$$

# Hofstadter Model

$$H(\varphi, \mu) = -\sum_{v,v'} h_{v,v'} a_v^\dagger a_{v'} - \mu \sum_v a_v^\dagger a_v$$



=T<sup>2</sup>

Where  $h_{(m,n),(m',n')}$

$\mathcal{L} = \otimes_{\text{vertices}} \mathbb{C}^2$

=1 if  $m=m' \pm 1, n = n'$

= $e^{\pm 2\pi i m \varphi}$  if  $n=n' \pm 1, m = m'$

=0 otherwise

and  $v=(m,n), v'=(m',n')$  are vertices,  $a_v^\dagger, a_{v'}$  are fermion creation and annihilation operators at  $v, v'$ .

# All Physics Is Local

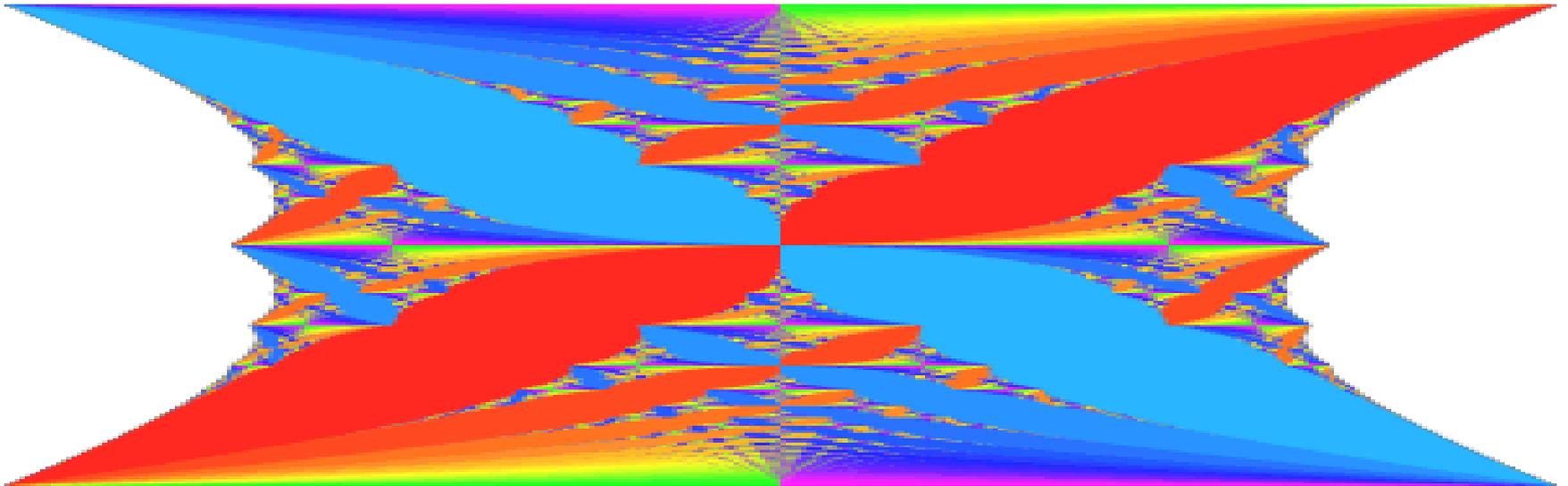
- A physical quantum system  $Q=(\mathcal{L}, H)$  on a space  $Y$  has a decomposition  $=\otimes_{\alpha} L_{\alpha}$  or  $\oplus_{\alpha} L_{\alpha}$ , and  $H$  is **local** w.r.t. the decomposition.
- An  $n$ -dim quantum **theory** is a Hamiltonian **schema** that defines a quantum system on each  $n$ -manifold (space)  $Y$ .

# Phase Diagram

- Given a set of quantum systems  $Q(x)$  indexed by a parameter set  $X$ , a subset  $X \setminus C$  of admissible ones, and an equivalence relation on  $X \setminus C$ , then each **equivalence class** of  $X \setminus C$  is a **phase**.
- The set  $X \setminus C$  divided into phases is a **phase diagram**.

# Hofstadter Butterfly

Fractal phase diagram of the Hofstadter model



Each of the infinite phases is characterized by the Chern number of its Hall conductance. Warm colors indicate positive Chern numbers; cool colors, negative numbers, and white region Chern numbers=0

H-axis=chemical potential, V-axis=magnetic flux

D. Osadchy, J. Avron, J. Math. Phys. 42, 2001

# Topological Phases of Matter

A **topological quantum phase** is represented by a quantum theory whose low energy physics in the thermodynamic limit is modeled by a **stable** unitary **topological quantum field theory (TQFT)** and **topological responses**.

Remarks:

1. Low energy physics might be modeled only partially
2. Stability is related to energy gap

# Ground States Form TQFTs

Given a quantum theory  $H$  on a physical space  $Y$  with Hilbert space  $L_Y \cong \bigoplus V_i(Y)$ , where  $V_i(Y)$  has energy  $\lambda_i$ , and  $V_0(Y)$  is the ground state manifold. If  $H$  is topological, then the functor  $Y \rightarrow V(Y)$  is a part of a TQFT.

**Classification of topological phases of matter, to first approximation, is to classify unitary topological quantum field theories?**

# Atiyah's Axioms of $(n+1)$ -TQFT

(TQFT w/o excitations and anomaly)

A symmetric monoidal functor  $(V, Z)$ :

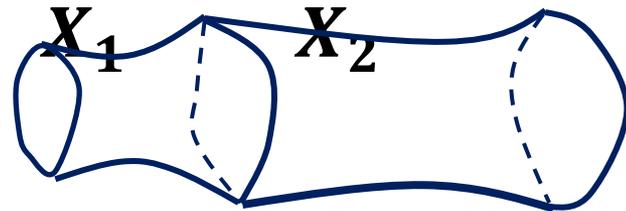
$$\text{Bord}(n+1) \rightarrow \text{Vec}$$

e.g.  $n=2, V(Y) = \mathbf{C}[H_1(Y; \mathbf{Z}_2)]$

**Oriented closed  $n$ -mfd  $Y \rightarrow$  vector space  $V(Y)$**

**Orient  $(n+1)$ -mfd  $X$  with  $\partial X = Y \rightarrow$  vector  $Z(X) \in V(\partial X)$**

- $V(\emptyset) \cong \mathbf{C}$
- $V(Y_1 \cup Y_2) \cong V(Y_1) \otimes V(Y_2)$
- $V(-Y) \cong V^*(Y)$
- $Z(Y \times I) = \text{Id}_{V(Y)}$
- $Z(X_1 \cup_Y X_2) = Z(X_1) \cdot Z(X_2)$



$$Z(X_1) \quad Z(X_2)$$

# 2D Topological Phases in Nature

- **Quantum Hall States**

1980 Integral Quantum Hall Effect (QHE)---von Klitzing  
(1985 Nobel, **now called Chern Insulators**)

1982 Fractional QHE---Stormer, Tsui, Gossard at  $\nu=1/3$   
(1998 Nobel for Stormer, Tsui and Laughlin)

1987 Non-abelian FQHE $???$ ---R. Willet et al at  $\nu=5/2$   
(All are more or less Witten-Chern-Simons TQFTs)

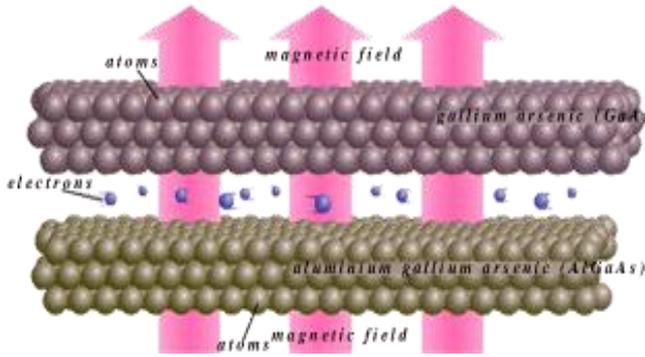
- **Topological superconductor  $p+ip$  (Ising TQFT)**

- 2D topological insulator HgTe

- ...

# Quantum Hall States

N electrons in a plane bound to the interface between two semiconductors immersed in a perpendicular magnetic field



Classes of ground state wave functions that have similar properties or no phase transitions as  $N \rightarrow \infty$  ( $N \sim 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ )

Interaction is dynamical entanglement and quantum order is materialized entanglement

**Fundamental Hamiltonian:**

$$H = \sum_1^N \left\{ \frac{1}{2m} [\nabla_j - q A(z_j)]^2 + V_{bg}(z_j) \right\} + \sum_{j < k} V(z_j - z_k)$$

**Model Hamiltonian:**

$$H = \sum_1^N \left\{ \frac{1}{2m} [\nabla_j - q A(z_j)]^2 \right\} + \text{?}, \text{ e.g. } \sum_{j < k} \delta(z_j - z_k) \quad z_j \text{ position of } j\text{-th electron}$$

# Classical Hall effect

On a new action of the magnet on electric currents  
Am. J. Math. Vol. 2, No. 3, 287—292

E. H. Hall, 1879

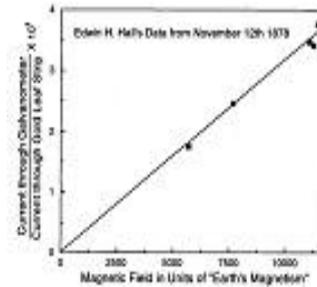
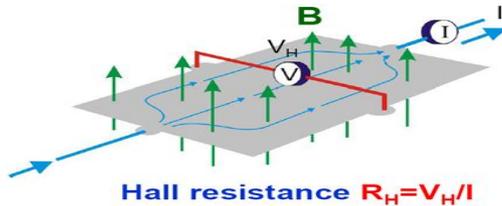
“It must be carefully remembered, that the mechanical force which urges a conductor carrying a current across the lines of magnetic force, acts, not on the electric current, but on the conductor which carries it...”

Maxwell, Electricity and Magnetism Vol. II, p.144

# Birth of Integer Quantum Hall Effect

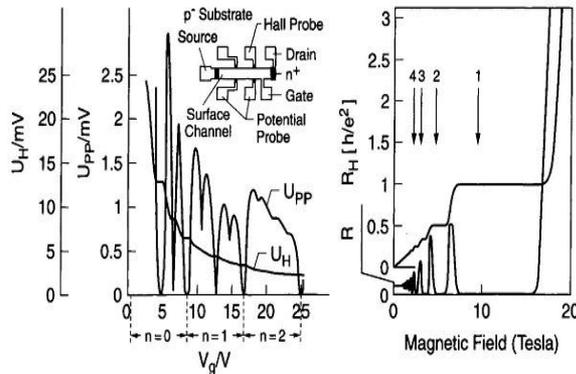
## Hall Effect

Edwin H. Hall (1879)



New Method for High-Accuracy Determination of the Fine-Structure Constant Based on Quantized Hall Resistance,

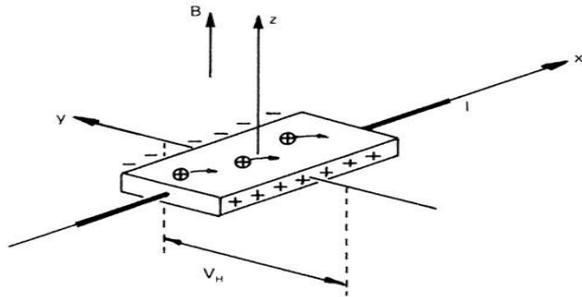
K. v. Klitzing, G. Dorda and M. Pepper  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 45, 494 (1980).



5.2.1980 BIRTHDAY OF QHE  
(at 2 a.m.)

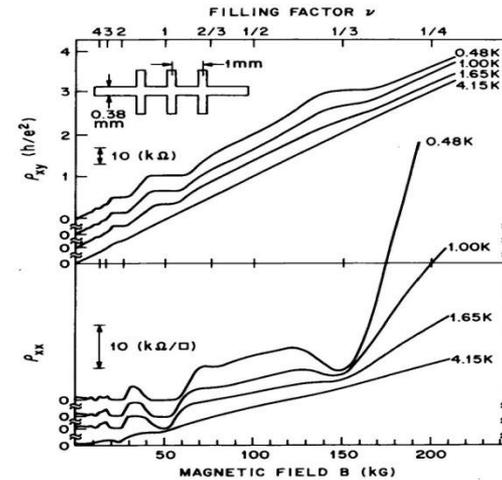
These experimental data, available to the public 3 years before the discovery of the quantum Hall effect, contain already all information of this new quantum effect so that everyone had the chance to make a discovery that led to the Nobel Prize in Physics 1985. The unexpected finding in the night of 4./5.2.1980 was the fact, that the plateau values in the Hall resistance x-y are not influenced by the amount of localized electrons and can be expressed with high precision by the equation  $R_H = \frac{h}{ve^2}$

## Fractional Quantum Hall Effect



D. Tsui enclosed the distance between  $B=0$  and the position of the last IQHE between two fingers of one hand and measured the position of the new feature in this unit. He determined it to be three and exclaimed, “quarks!” H. Stormer

The FQHE is fascinating for a long list of reasons, but it is important, in my view, primarily for one: It established experimentally that both particles carrying an exact fraction of the electron charge  $e$  and powerful gauge forces between these particles, two central postulates of the standard model of elementary particles, can arise spontaneously as emergent phenomena. R. Laughlin

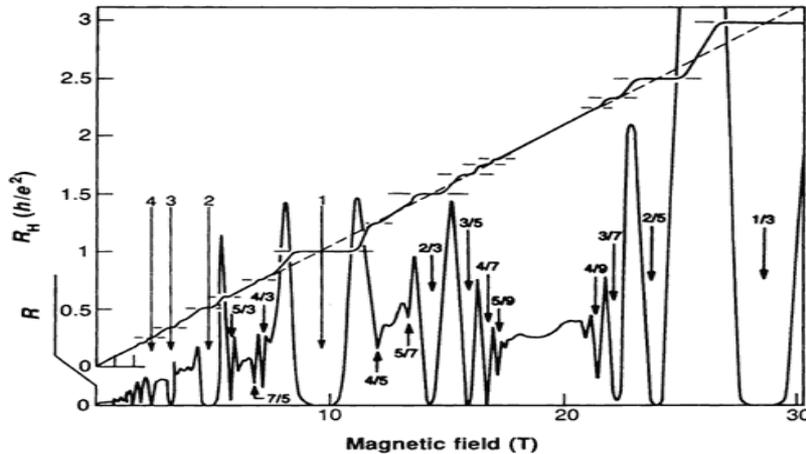


In 1998, Laughlin, Stormer, and Tsui are awarded the Nobel Prize

*“ for their discovery of a new form of quantum fluid with fractionally charged excitations.”*

D. C. Tsui, H. L. Stormer, and A. C. Gossard  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 48, 1559 (1982)

# How Many Fractions Have Been Observed? ~80



$$\nu = \frac{N_e}{N_\phi}$$

filling factor or fraction

$N_e$  = # of electrons

$N_\phi$  = # of flux quanta

How to model the quantum state(s) at a filling fraction?

What are the electrons doing at a plateau?

1/3	1/5	1/7	1/9	2/11	2/13	2/15	2/17	3/19	5/21	6/23	6/25
2/3	2/5	2/7	2/9	3/11	3/13	4/15	3/17	4/19	10/21		
4/3	3/5	3/7	4/9	4/11	4/13	7/15	4/17	5/19			
5/3	4/5	4/7	5/9	5/11	5/13	8/15	5/17	9/19			
7/3	6/5	5/7	7/9	6/11	6/13	11/15	6/17	10/19			
8/3	7/5	9/7	11/9	7/11	7/13	22/15	8/17				
	8/5	10/7	13/9	8/11	10/13	23/15	9/17				
	11/5	12/7	25/9	16/11	20/13						
	12/5	16/7		17/11							
		19/7									
		m/5, m=14, 16, 19									

5/2

7/2

19/8

FEATURING  
THE QUANTUM  
SPINNERS

$T = 0.05K$



0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0  
0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0

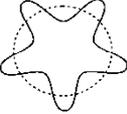
ELECTRON  
SQUARE  
DANCE  
TONIGHT

IN  
CRYSTAL'S  
BARN

PHYSICISTS  
NOT  
WELCOME

# Pattern of long-ranged entanglement

All electrons participate in a collective dance following strict rules to form a **non-local, internal, dynamical pattern**---topological order

1. Electrons stay away from each other as much as possible
2. Every electron is in its own constant cyclotron motion 
3. Each electron takes an integer number of steps to go around another electron

$\nu=1/3$

$$\psi_{1/3} = \prod_{i < j} (z_i - z_j)^3 e^{-\sum z_i \bar{z}_i / 4}$$

**R. Laughlin**

**U(1)-WCS theory, abelian anyons**

$\nu=5/2$  ?

$$\psi_{5/2} = Pf \left( \frac{1}{z_i - z_j} \right) \prod_{i < j} (z_i - z_j)^2 e^{-\sum z_i \bar{z}_i / 4}$$

**Moore-Read**

**Ising TQFT or "SU(2)<sub>2</sub>" WCS theory, non-abelian anyons**

# Classify Fractional Quantum Hall States

## Wave functions of **bosonic** FQH liquids

- Chirality:  
 $\Psi(z_1, \dots, z_N)$  is a polynomial (Ignore Gaussian)
- Statistics:  
**symmetric**=anti-symmetric divided by  $\prod_{i<j}(z_i-z_j)$
- Translation invariant:  
 $\Psi(z_1+c, \dots, z_N+c) = \Psi(z_1, \dots, z_N)$  for any  $c$
- Filling fraction:  
 $\nu = \lim \frac{N}{N_\phi}$ , where  $N_\phi$  is max degree of any  $z_i$

Conformal blocks of CFTs  $\rightarrow$  TQFTs

# FQH States = WCS TQFTs?

**Physical Thm:** Topological properties of **abelian** bosonic FQH liquids are modeled by Witten-Chern-Simons theories with **abelian** gauge groups  $T^n$ .

**Conjecture:** Topological properties of FQH liquids at  $\nu = 2 + \frac{k}{k+2}$  are modeled (partially) by  $SU(2)_k$ -WCS theories.  
 $k=1,2,3,4$ ,  $\nu = \frac{7}{3}, \frac{5}{2}, \frac{13}{5}, \frac{8}{3}$ . (Read-Rezayi). **5/2** ✓ **physically**

# Expansion of Quantum Hall Physics

- Topological phases of free fermion systems—  
local gapped free fermions
- Topological phases with anyons in 2D---  
Schwartz type (2+1)-TQFTs including Witten-  
Chern-Simons theories
- Short-ranged entangled phases---Witten type  
cohomological TQFTs?

# I: Free Fermions

$$H_h = \sum_{j,k} \mathbf{h}_{j,k} a_j^\dagger a_k$$

$h = (h_{j,k})$  is an  $l \times l$  Hermitian matrix

**Introduce Majorana operators**

$$H_X = \frac{i}{4} \sum_{j,k} \mathbf{x}_{j,k} \gamma_j^\dagger \gamma_k$$

$X = (x_{j,k})$  is a real  $2l \times 2l$  anti-symmetric matrix

**“Gapped”**, and **“local”**: the hopping matrix local  $x_{j,k} = 0$  if  $|j-k|$  large.

# Kitaev Periodic Table

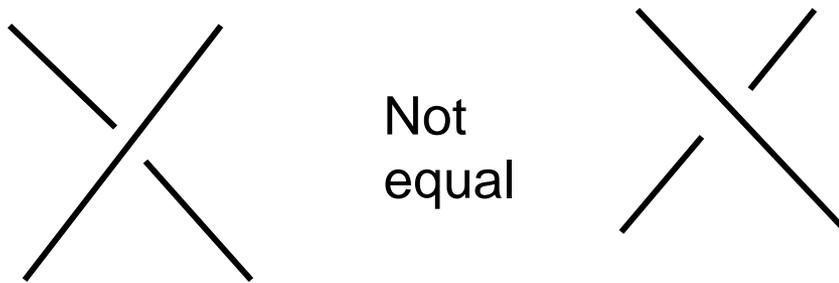
Symm\Dim d	0	1	2	3
Q	ZxU/UxU	U	ZxU/UxU	U
Q+SLS	U	ZxU/UxU	U	ZxU/UxU
No or P.H.S	O/U	O	ZxO/OxO	U/O
T only	U/Sp	O/U	O	ZxO/OxO
T and Q	Sp/Sp <sub>x</sub> Sp <sub>x</sub> Z	U/Sp	O/U	O
Three -1	Sp	Sp/Sp <sub>x</sub> Sp <sub>x</sub> Z	U/Sp	O/U
Four	Sp/U	Sp	Sp/Sp <sub>x</sub> Sp <sub>x</sub> Z	U/Sp
Five	U/O	Sp/U	Sp	Sp/Sp <sub>x</sub> Sp <sub>x</sub> Z
Six	Zx O/OxO	U/O	Sp/U	Sp
Seven	O	Zx O/OxO	U/O	Sp/U

# Topological Invariants $\pi_0$

Symm\Dim d	0	1	2	3
A	$\mathbb{Z}$	0	$\mathbb{Z}$ IQHE	0
AIII	0	$\mathbb{Z}$	0	$\mathbb{Z}$
D	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}$	0
DIII	0	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$ HgTe	$\mathbb{Z}$
AII	$\mathbb{Z}$	0	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$
CII	0	$\mathbb{Z}$	0	$\mathbb{Z}_2$
C	0	0	$\mathbb{Z}$	0
CI	0	0	0	$\mathbb{Z}$
AI	$\mathbb{Z}$	0	0	0
BDI	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}$	0	0

## II: 2D with Anyons

In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , an exchange is of infinite order



**Braids form groups  $B_n$ , then braid statistics of anyons is  $\lambda: B_n \rightarrow U(k)$**

**If  $k=1$ , but not 1 or -1, **abelian** anyons**

**If  $k>1$ , but not in  $U(1)$ , **non-abelian****

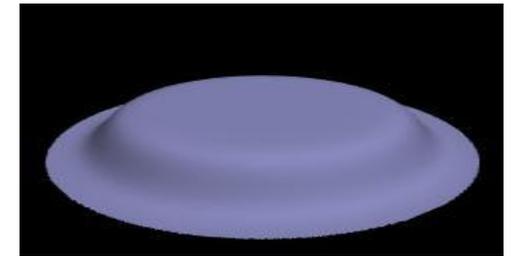
# Laughlin wave function for $\nu=1/3$

Laughlin 1983

Good trial wavefunction for N electrons at  $z_i$  in ground state

$$\Psi_{1/3} = \prod_{i < j} (z_i - z_j)^3 e^{-\sum_i |z_i|^2 / 4}$$

Gaussian



## Physical Theorem:

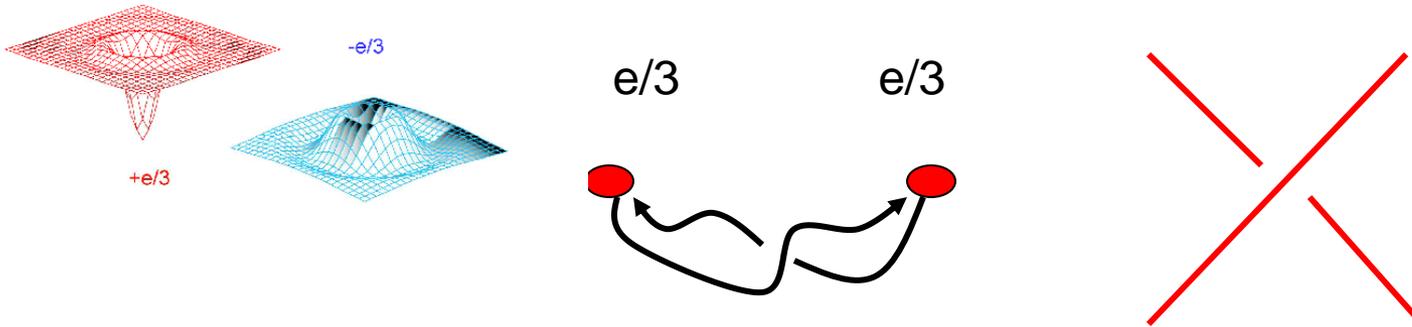
1. Laughlin state is incompressible: density and gap in limit (Laughlin 83)
2. Elementary excitations have charge  $e/3$  (Laughlin 83)
3. Elementary excitations are **abelian anyons** (Arovas-Schrieffer-Wilczek 84)

## Experimental Confirmation:

1. and 2.  $\checkmark$ , but 3.  $?$ , thus Laughlin wave function is a good model

# Elementary Excitations=Anyons

Quasi-holes/particles in  $\nu=1/3$  are **abelian** anyons



$$\Psi_{1/3} = \prod_k (\eta_0 - \mathbf{z}_j)^3 \prod_{i < j} (\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{z}_j)^3 e^{-\sum_i |\mathbf{z}_i|^2 / 4}$$

$$= \prod_k (\eta_1 - \mathbf{z}_j) \prod_k (\eta_2 - \mathbf{z}_j) \prod_k (\eta_3 - \mathbf{z}_j) \prod_{i < j} (\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{z}_j)^3 e^{-\sum_i |\mathbf{z}_i|^2 / 4}$$

$n$  anyons at well-separated  $\eta_i$ ,  $i=1,2,\dots, n$ ,  
there is a **unique** ground state

$$\psi \rightarrow e^{\pi i/3} \psi$$

# Non-abelian Anyons

Given  $n$  anyons of type  $x$  in a disk  $D$ , their ground state degeneracy

$$\dim(V(D,x,\dots,x))=D_n \sim d^n$$

The asymptotic growth rate  $d$  is called the quantum dimension.

An anyon  $d=1$  is called an abelian anyon, e.g. Laughlin anyon,  $d=1$

An anyon with  $d > 1$  is a non-abelian anyon, e.g. the Ising anyon  $\sigma$ ,  $d=\sqrt{2}$ .

For  $n$  even,  $D_n = \frac{1}{2} 2^{\frac{n}{2}}$  with fixed boundary conditions,

$$n \text{ odd, } D_n = 2^{\frac{n-1}{2}}. \quad (\text{Nayak-Wilczek 96})$$

Degeneracy for non-abelian anyons in a disk grows exponentially with # of anyons, while for an abelian anyon, no degeneracy---it is always 1.

# Non-abelian Statistics

If the ground state is not unique, and has a basis  $\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_k$

Then after braiding some particles:

$$\psi_1 \longrightarrow a_{11}\psi_1 + a_{12}\psi_2 + \dots + a_{k1}\psi_k$$

$$\psi_2 \longrightarrow a_{12}\psi_1 + a_{22}\psi_2 + \dots + a_{k2}\psi_k$$

.....

$$\lambda: \mathbf{B}_n \longrightarrow \mathbf{U}(k),$$

when  $k > 1$ , **non-abelian anyons.**

# Moore-Read or Pfaffian State

G. Moore, N. Read 1991

Pfaffian wave function (MR w/  $\approx$  charge sector)

$$\Psi_{1/2} = \text{Pf}\left(\frac{1}{(z_i - z_j)}\right) \prod_{i < j} (z_i - z_j)^2 e^{-\sum_i |z_i|^2/4}$$

Pfaffian of a  $2n \times 2n$  anti-symmetric matrix  $M = (a_{ij})$  is

$$\omega^n = n! \text{Pf}(M) dx^1 \wedge dx^2 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{2n} \quad \text{if } \omega = \sum_{i < j} a_{ij} dx^i \wedge dx^j$$

## Physical Theorem:

1. Pfaffian state is gapped
2. Elementary excitations are non-abelian anyons, called Ising anyon  $\sigma$

..... Read 09

# Enigma of $\nu=5/2$ FQHE

R. Willett et al discovered  $\nu=5/2$  in 1987

- Moore-Read State, Wen 1991
- Greiter-Wilczek-Wen 1991
- Nayak-Wilczek 1996
- Morf 1998
- ...

MR (maybe some variation) is a good trial state for  $5/2$

- Bonderson, Gurarie, Nayak 2011,

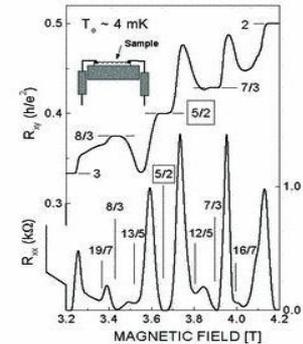
Willett et al, PRL 59 1987

A landmark (physical) proof for the MR state

“Now we eagerly await the next great step: experimental confirmation.”  
---Wilczek

Experimental confirmation of  $5/2$ :

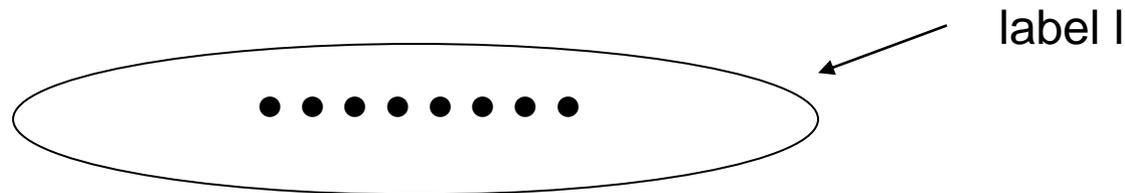
gap and charge  $e/4$ , but non-abelian anyons ???



# Extended (2+1)-TQFT

Put a theory  $H$  on a closed surface  $Y$  with anyons  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  at  $\eta_1, \dots, \eta_n$  (punctures), **the (relative) ground states** of the system “outside”  $\eta_1, \dots, \eta_n$  is a Hilbert space  $V(Y; a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$ .

For anyons in a surface w/ boundaries (e.g. a disk), the boundaries need conditions.



Stable boundary conditions correspond to anyon types (**labels, super-selection sectors, topological charges**). Moreover, each puncture (anyon) needs a tangent direction, so anyon is modeled by a small arrow (combed point), not just a point.



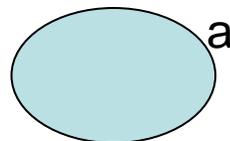
# Extended (2+1)-TQFT Axioms

Moore-Seiberg, Walker, Turaev,...

Let  $L=\{a,b,c,\dots,d\}$  be the labels (particle types),  $a \rightarrow a^*$ , and  $a^{**}=a$ ,  
0 (or 1) =trivial type

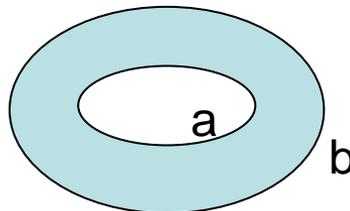
Disk Axiom:

$V(D^2; a)=0$  if  $a \neq 0$ ,  $C$  if  $a=0$



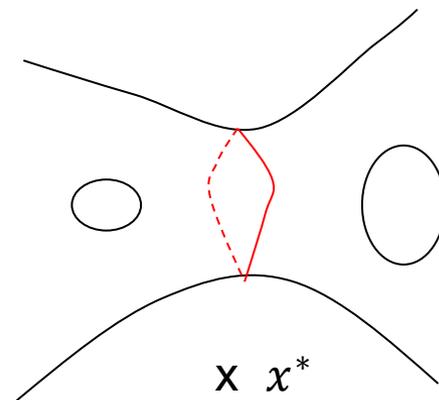
Annulus Axiom:

$V(A; a,b)=0$  if  $a \neq b^*$ ,  $C$  if  $a=b^*$



Gluing Axiom:

$V(Y; l) \cong \bigoplus_{x \in L} V(Y_{cut}; l, x, x^*)$

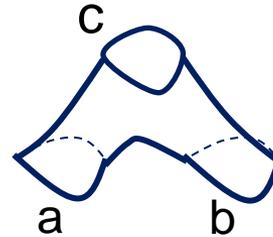


# Algebraic Theory of Anyons

$L=\{a,b,c,\dots d\}$  a label set and  $P_{ab,c}$  a pair of pants labeled by a,b,c.

$N_{ab,c}=\dim V(P_{ab,c})$ , then  $N_{ab,c}$  is the fusion rule of the theory.

$$a \otimes b = \bigoplus N_{ab,c} c$$



Every surface  $Y$  can be cut into disks  $D$ , annuli  $A$ , and pairs of pants. If  $V(D)$ ,  $V(A)$ ,  $V(P_{ab,c})$  are known, then  $V(Y)$  is determined by the gluing axiom.

Conversely a TQFT can be constructed from  $V(Y)$  of disk, annulus and pair of pants. Need **consistent conditions: a modular tensor category**

**Unitary modular categories** are algebraic data of unitary (2+1)-TQFTs and algebraic theories of anyons: anyon=simple object, fusion=tensor product, statistics of anyons are representations of the mapping class groups.

# Rank < 5 Unitary Modular Categories

joint work w/ E. Rowell and R. Stong

	A Trivial	1			
	A Semion	2		NA Fib	2
	A (U(1),3)	2	NA Ising	8	NA (SO(3),5)
A Toric code	A (U(1),4)	4	NA Fib x Semion BU	4	NA (SO(3),7) BU
				2	NA DFib BU

The  $i$ th-row is the classification of all rank= $i$  unitary modular tensor categories. Middle symbol: fusion rule. Upper left corner: A=abelian theory, NA=non-abelian. Upper right corner number=the number of distinct theories. Lower left corner BU=there is a universal braiding anyon.

# Witt Group

- Two modular categories are Witt equivalence if they are the same up to Drinfeld centers
- All equivalence classes form an Abelian group.

# III. Short-ranged Entangled

- Group cohomology

X.-G. Wen et al

Complete classification of 1D gapped phases

- Generalized cohomology theory

A. Kitaev

# Table of Topological Phases of Matter

## **Mathematically, define and classify unitary TQFTs**

- Stability? Energy gap
- How to combine TQFTs with symmetry?
- Where is the geometry?

“All physics is geometry”---J. A. Wheeler

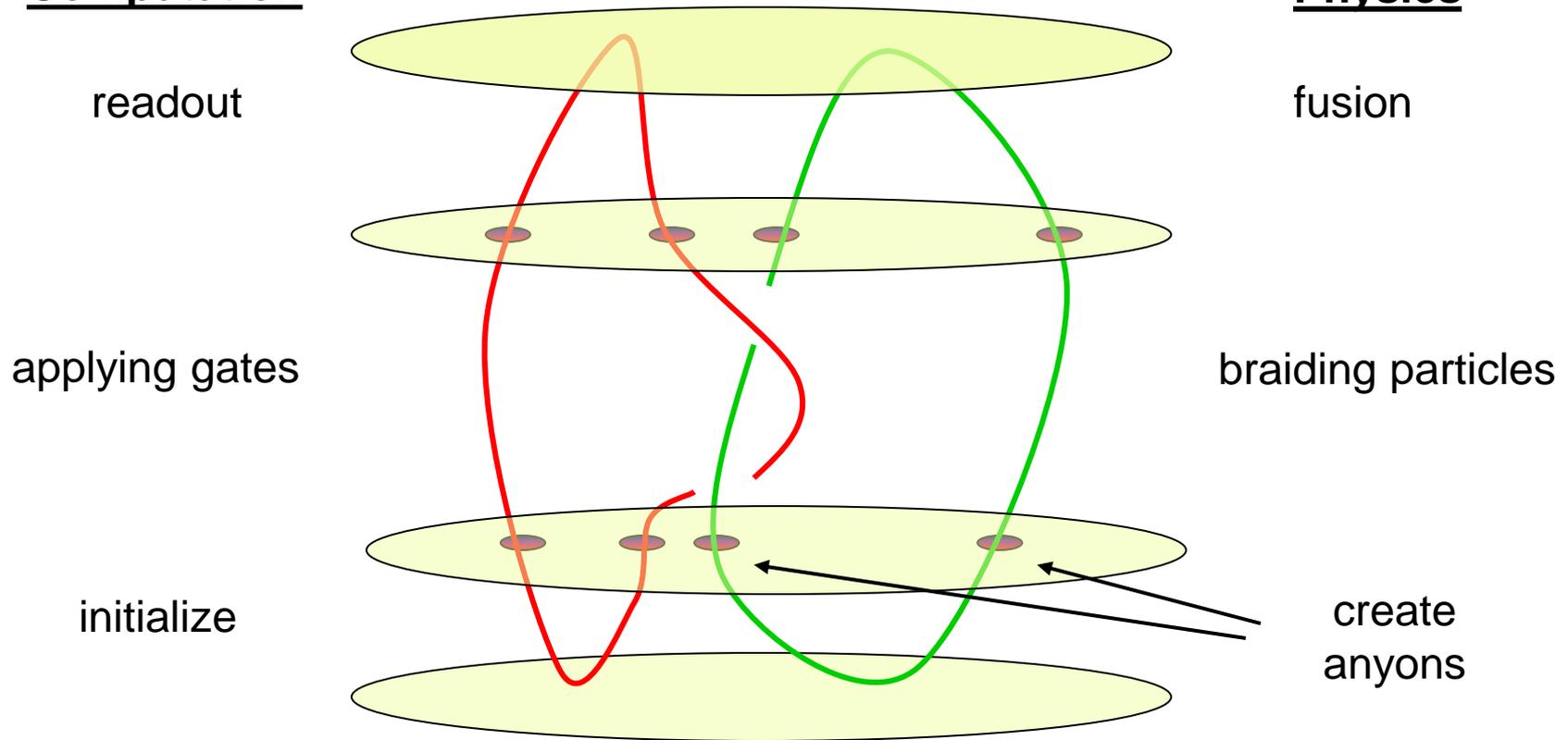
## **Quantum topology + Quantum geometry**

to better understand quantum phases of matter

# Topological Quantum Computation

## Computation

## Physics



# Topological Quantum Computation

