Dephasing and Disorder Effects in Topological Systems

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Outline

> Introduction

□ From quantum Hall systems to topological insulators

- Dephasing effects in topological insulators
 Edge states of 2D quantum spin Hall insulators
 Surface states of 3D topological insulators
 Disorder effects in topological insulators
 Tunable Anderson transition in 2D quantum spin Hall insulators
 - **U**Multiple Anderson transition in Weyl semimetals

Topology

□ Topology: an area of mathematics concerned with the properties of space that are preserved under continuous deformations.



Topological invariant: invariant under continuous transformation

Gauss-Bonnet-Chern formula:





Shiing-Shen Chern 陈省身先生

Connect the geometry to the topology.
 For 2D compact manifold, the topological invariant is the genus or Euler characteristic.

Hall effect



Edwin Hall (1879)



Hall resistance





Charge carrier is subjected to the electric field force and Lorentz force:

$$\vec{F} = \vec{F}_e + \vec{F}_m = q(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B})$$

For steady state, the resultant force in y direction is zero.

 $F_y=0$ $E_y=v_xB_z$

Current density in x direction

$$J_x = nqv_x$$

 $q = carrier charge \quad n = carrier density$

Hall resistivity

$$\mathcal{P}_{xy} = \frac{E_y}{J_x} = \frac{B}{nq}$$

Application of Hall measurement:

measure the carrier density.
ascertain the carrier type. electron (e<0) hole (q>0)

Quantum Hall effect



□ Under low temperatures and strong magnetic fields, the Hall conductance take on the quantized values.

$$o_{xy} = R_Q / n$$
 n = integer



R_o **Resistance quantum**

 $R_{\varrho} = h/e^2 = 25.812\ 807\ \mathrm{k}\Omega$

K.Von klitzing (1980)

Quantum Hall effect

□ Quantum Hall state provided the first example of a quantum state topologically distinct from all states of matter known before.

Normal physical quantities



Small perturbations to the system Small changes of physical quantities. **Quantum Hall effect**



Hall resistance does not change at all if the perturbation is small

The physical quantities are related to topological invariants





D. C. Tsui, H. L. Stomer et al (1982)

J. P. Eisenstein et al., (1990)

▶从整数量子霍尔效应到分数量子霍尔效应
 ■更高质量的样品,更强的磁场,更低的温度
 ■霍尔电阻分数量子化。 ρ_{xy} = (p/q)R_Q
 ▶ 理论方面
 ■ 电子在强磁场和相互作用下的集体行为.

□ 准粒子带有分数电荷 e/q

Topological origin of Quantum Hall effect

Laughlin's gedanken experiment



- □ Adding $\Delta \phi = hc/e$ maps the system back to itself
- □ The energy increase satisfy

 $I = c \frac{neV}{\Delta \phi} = \frac{ne^2 V}{h}.$

R. B. Laughlin, PRB (1981)

TKNN number (Chern number)

Bloch Bands

Brillouin zone



Bloch Bands $|\psi_n(q)\rangle = |\psi_n(q+G)\rangle$

$$\sigma_{xy} = \frac{e^2}{\hbar} \int_{\text{BZ}} \frac{d^2k}{(2\pi)^2} \Omega_{k_x k_y} = n \frac{e^2}{h}$$

 The Hall conductance is topological invariant (Chern number), which can only take integer values.

TKNN, PRL (1982)

Edge states in Quantum Hall effect



The bulk states form Landau Levels

The bulk of the sample is insulator, but it is distinct from normal insulator. The current flow on the edge of the sample.
 Chiral edge transport

Quantum Hall effect \rightarrow Quantum spin Hall effect



Chiral edge states.

Break TRS with B or M.

No backscattering.

Helical edge states.

Preserve time reversal symmetry (TRS).

No backscattering for TRS perturbations.

CL Kane, EJ Mele, PRL, 95, 226801, (2005). BA Bernevig, TL Hughes, SC Zhang, Science, 314, 1757 (2006). Quantum Hall effect \rightarrow Z2 Topological Insulator



M. Z. Hasan et. al. (review) arXiv: 1406.1040v1.

Helical surface states of 3D strong topological insulator







Gapless surface states

No backscattering for nonmagnetic impurities.

M. Z. Hasan and C. L. Kane, Rev. Mod. Phys. 82, 3045 (2010). X. L. Qi and S. C. Zhang, Rev. Mod. Phys. 83, 1057 (2011).

Realization of Quantum spin Hall effect



B.A Bernevig et al., Science 314,1757 (2006)

L. J. Du et al., arxiv:1306.1925v1 (2013)

HgTe/CdTe Quantum well



> d<dc normal insulator</pre>

≻d>dc 2D Topological insulator

□ In small samples, R14,23 is quantized, insensitive to W variations.

□ In large samples, R14,2 3 is no longer quantized. Why?

QSH signal is robust against temperature change.

M König, et al., Science 318, 766 (2007).

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Dephasing effects on 2D quantum Spin hall insulators

Try to answer the questions: Why longitudinal resistance only quantized in small sample?

□ Is there an observable physical quantity showing a quantized value in macroscopic samples ?

Two types of dephasing

- Normal dephasing: the electron-electron and electron-phonon interactions only destroy the electron phase memory. These dephasing strengths increase with rising temperature.
- Spin dephasing: Magnetic impurities, nuclear spin fluctuations and normal dephasing with strong spin-orbital interaction may destroy spin memory.

The dephasing mode for a QSHE system



$$\mathbf{i} = (\mathbf{i}_{x} \quad \mathbf{i}_{y} \quad \mathbf{t} \quad \hbar^{2} / 2m * a^{2}, \mathbf{\phi} = qB_{eff}a^{2} / \hbar$$

• The first term describes QSHE. This term can also describe QHE if the flux is spin independent.

• We use virtual leads to model dephasing processes. M. Buttiker, *Phys. Rev. B* 33 3020 (1986)

H. Jiang, S.G. Cheng, Q.F. Sun, and X.C. Xie, PRL 103,036803(2009)

Theoretical formalism and dephasing processes

The particle current in the lead-p (real or virtual lead) with spin σ can be expressed

$$I_{p\sigma} = \frac{e^2}{h} \sum_{q \neq p} T^{\sigma}_{pq} (V_{p\sigma} - V_{q\sigma})$$

Here $V_{p\sigma}$ is the spin-dependent bias in lead p. $T_{pq}^{\sigma} = Tr[\Gamma_{\mathbf{p}\sigma}\mathbf{G}^{\mathbf{r}}\Gamma_{\mathbf{q}\sigma}\mathbf{G}^{\mathbf{a}}]$ is the transmission coefficient from the lead q to p with spin σ , where the linewidth functions $\Gamma_{p\sigma} = i[\Sigma_{\mathbf{p}\sigma}^{\mathbf{r}} - \Sigma_{\mathbf{p}\sigma}^{\mathbf{r}+}]$, the Green function $\mathbf{G}^{r} = [\mathbf{G}^{a}]^{\dagger} = [E_{F}\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{H}_{cen} - \sum_{p\sigma}\Sigma_{p\sigma}^{r}]^{-1}$, \mathbf{H}_{cen} is the Hamiltonian in the central region, and $\Sigma_{\mathbf{p}}^{\mathbf{r}}$ is the retarded self-energy of lead-p that can be calculated numerically.

First type dephasing processes: normal dephasing

For each virtual lead i
$$I_{i\uparrow} = I_{i\downarrow} \equiv 0 \qquad V_{i\uparrow} \neq V_{i\downarrow}$$

The spin flip processes are forbidden.

Second type dephasing processes: spin dephasing

For each virtual lead i $I_{i\uparrow} + I_{i\downarrow} \equiv 0$ $V_{i\uparrow} = V_{i\downarrow}$

The spin flip processes are allowed.

H. Jiang, S.G. Cheng, Q.F. Sun, and X.C. Xie, PRL 103,036803(2009)

The dephasing in QHE system





 $E_F = -3t, L = 32a, W = 32a, M = 24a$

• The Fermi energy is fixed near the band bottom.

• The QHE is robust against dephasing.

Dephasing in QSHE system



• Fig.(a) illustrates the normal dephasing while Fig.(b) is for the spin dephasing.

•In the low field, the result is consistent to that of the semi-classical Drude model.

•The dephasing strength is characterized by Γ

The transport property is robust to normal dephasing, but fragile to spin dephasing.

H. Jiang, S.G. Cheng, Q.F. Sun, and X.C. Xie, PRL 103,036803(2009)

Dephasing in QSHE system: II



•The dashed line denotes the spin dephasing process, and the solid line denotes the normal dephasing process.

$$E_F = -3t, M = 24a$$

$$B_{\text{eff}} = 0.5, W = 32a...(a)B_{\text{eff}} = 0.3, L = 32a...(b)$$

The QSH signal is insensitive to width variation but sensitive to the length change.

H. Jiang, S.G. Cheng, Q.F. Sun, and X.C. Xie, PRL 103,036803(2009)

Spin accumulations: formula and reasoning



for a given edge

in the absence of dephasing



in the present of dephasing



spin flip

 $V_{p\uparrow} - V_{p\downarrow}$ I_1

H. Jiang, S.G. Cheng, Q.F. Sun, and X.C. Xie, PRL 103,036803(2009)

Dephasing in QSHE system





$$R_s = (V_{2\uparrow} - V_{2\downarrow})/I_{14}$$

Rs is robust against any dephasing processes

$$R_{2,s} = R_{3,s} = -R_{5,s} = -R_{6,s}$$

H. Jiang, S.G. Cheng, Q.F. Sun, and X.C. Xie, PRL 103,036803(2009)

Dephasing in QSHE system IV: HgTe/CdTe QWs



□ The longitudinal resistance of HgTe/CdTe QWs is insensitive to normal dephasing but sensitive to the spin dephasing.

□ Numerical calculation is consistent with the experimental data.

H. Jiang, S.G. Cheng, Q.F. Sun, and X.C. Xie, PRL, 103, 036803 (2009).H. Jiang, S.G. Cheng, Q.F. Sun, and X.C. Xie, Physics, 40, 454 (2011).

Conclusion on dephasing effect in 2D quantum Spin Hall insulators

- The spin dephasing plays important roles in QSHE, it makes the quantized longitudinal resistance only observable in mesoscopic systems. However, the spin accumulation measurement that is robust against any dephasing may provide a new playground.
- As far as helical edge state is not destroyed, the spin Hall resistance is quantized, independent of model or material detail. Therefore, it can better reflect the topological nature of QSHE. The spin Hall resistance can be measured by measurements of the polarization resistance.

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Anomalous 'gap-like' features in TlBi(S1-xSex)2 surface states

Anomalous 'gap-like' features around the Dirac point



TQPT in a tuneable spin orbital system.
 The TQPT occur at critical point δ = 0.5.



T. Sato, et al., Nature Physics 7, 840 (2011); Su-Yang Xu et al., arXiv: 1206.0278.

What mechanism leads to the anomolous 'gap-like' feature in helical surface states?

in the strong 3D topological insulator
preserve the spin-momentum locking (helical) property
no magnetic impurity, thus no spin dephasing
large sample thickness, thus no finite size effect

Re-examine the normal dephasing effect.

The role of dephasing effect on backscattering



The π Berry phase between A-path and B-path eliminates the backscattering.

The role of dephasing effect on backscattering



The phase uncertainty between A-path and B-path leads to backscattering.

Surface states Hamiltonian:

$$H\left(\mathbf{k}\right) = s\hbar v_{f}\left(\mathbf{\hat{z}}\times\mathbf{k}\right)\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma}$$

The scattered wave function:

$$\Psi = \varphi_{\vec{k}_{in}} \left(\vec{r} \right) + \frac{f \left(\theta_{in}, \theta_{out} \right)}{\sqrt{r}} \left(1 \quad e^{i \theta_{out}} \right)^{T} e^{ikr}$$

The scattering amplitude:

$$f(\theta_{in}, \theta_{out})$$

The scattering cross section:

$$\sigma\left(\theta_{in},\theta_{out}\right) = \left|f\left(\theta_{in},\theta_{out}\right)\right|^{2}$$

The scattering process is determined by the scattering cross section $\sigma(\theta_{in}, \theta_{out})$.

The backscattering amplitude: without dephasing



D. No Backscattering without dephasing because of destructive interference between A-path and B-path.

H.W. Liu, H. Jiang, Q.F. Sun, and X.C. Xie, PRL 113, 046805 (2014)

The backscattering amplitude: with normal dephasing



The backscattering cross-section:

D. Normal dephasing causes backscattering at the second order process, while the first order backscattering cross section remains zero.

Backscattering cross-section: Anderson impurity and charge impurity

Anderson impurity: $U_S(\mathbf{r} - R_i) = U_0 \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R_i})$

Backscattering cross-section:

 $\sigma_S(\pi + \theta_{in}, \theta_{in}) = \frac{8k^2 U_0^4 \langle \delta \varphi^2 \rangle}{\pi^2 v_f^4 |\mathbf{R}_2 - \mathbf{R}_1|} \propto k^2 \text{ Dominant at high energy}$

Charge impurity: $U_L \left(\mathbf{r} - R_i \right) = \frac{\hbar v_f \Delta}{|\mathbf{r} - R_i|}$

Backscattering cross-section: Don

Dominant at low energy

$$\sigma_L \left(\pi + \theta_{in}, \theta_{in} \right) = \frac{8\Delta^4 \left\langle \delta \varphi^2 \right\rangle}{\pi^2 k^2 |\mathbf{R}_2 - \mathbf{R}_1|} \propto 1/k^2$$

Combination of dephasing and charge impurity cause extremely large backscattering around the Dirac point. Combined effect of dephasing and charge impurity scattering

Band broadening effect of surface quasi-particle: $-2 Im \sum^{R} (k, \omega) = \frac{\hbar}{\tau} = \hbar v_f n_i \sigma_T$

The imaginary part of quasi-particle self energy:



Total transport cross section: Charge impurity concentration: Dephasing time:

 $\begin{array}{l} \sigma_T \\ n_i \\ \tau_\varphi \simeq 10^{-10} s \end{array}$

Temperature dependent

Comparison with experimental results



Experiment: T. Sato, et al., Nature Physics 7, 840 (2011).

The large ratio of S substitution for Se (>10%) may lead to substantial crystal vacancies, and these vacancies play the role of charge impurity.

Simulation: Bandwidth broadening effect.

> 3D TIs surface states:

□ The combined effect of normal dephasing and impurity scattering can cause backscattering in the helical SS.

□ Normal dephasing and charge impurity cause large backscattering around the Dirac point, and leads to the anomalous 'gap-like' features found in recent experiments.

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Background of Localization

All the states are localized in 1D and 2D without: (i) magnetic field; (ii) SOC; (iii) electron-electron

inter<u>action</u>

Anderson transition in 2D and symmetry class

Orthogonal : TRS and spin rotation symmetry

all the states localized

Unitary: break TRS Possible Metallic Phase?

• e.g. QHE and QAH, critical point

Symplectic : TRS without spin rotation symmetry

• **SOC**, metallic phase

A. Huckestein, RMP. 67, 357 (1995).F. Evers et al., RMP,80, 1355 (2008)



Scaling in IQHE (Unitary class): critical point but no metallic phase.



- The renormalized localization length of integer quantum Hall effect as a function of energy. The vertical break line marks the Landau level centre.
- □ The one parameter scaling of the renormalized localization length in integer quantum Hall effect.

JT Chalker and PD Coddington J. Phys. C. 21, 2665 (1988).

Tunable Anderson transition (AT) in QSH insulator

Spin-up BHZ Hamiltonian (Unitary) $H_0(k) = A(k_x\tau_x + k_y\tau_y) + (M - Bk^2)\tau_z + V_{dis}\tau_0$ \Box Tunable parameters

- topological mass M
- Electron-hole hybrid strength A
- Fermi energy E_F

Metallic phase in 2D unitary class

□ Anderson transitions are dependent on the parameter M

TI-Metallic-NI at large **M**

(a) A=0.28, E_F=0



Tunable Anderson transition (AT) in QSH insulator

Spin-up BHZ Hamiltonian (unitary) $H_0(k) = A(k_x\tau_x + k_y\tau_y) + (M - Bk^2)\tau_z + V_{dis}\tau_0$ (a) A=0.28, E_F=0 Investigations in four possible ways: **I** (I)Scaling localization length

□ (II)Energy level statistics

□ (III)Participation ratio

(IV)Intrinsic conductance



(I) Localization length scaling at different masses M



(II) Energy level statistics (ELS) at A=0.28, M=0.38 and EF=0



. 7

(III) Participation ratio (PR)



The extended states come into the gap with increasing disorder strength.

One parameter scaling behaviour

$$\Lambda(W,L) = \Lambda_c + \sum_{n=1}^{4} a_n (W - W_c)^n L^{-n/\nu} + b_0 L^y$$

$$\Lambda'(W,L) = \Lambda(W,L) - b_0 L^y$$



AT with different electron-hole hybrid strength and Fermi energy



Phase diagrams



Conclusion on Tunable Anderson transition in QSH insulator

➤Anderson transition is tunable by model parameters in the BHZ model.

≻We find a possible metallic phase in 2D unitary class.

□ localization length scaling, the conductance scaling, energy level statistics and participation ratio.

≻Our results are interpreted by the Berry phase or WAL.



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Hamiltonian and power spectrums

Hamiltonian



Hamiltonian and power spectrums (cont'd)

Hamiltonian



Phase diagram in clean limit + disorder

Clean Hamiltonian and phase diagram

$$H_0 = M_k \sigma_z + t_x \sin k_x \sigma_x + t_y \sin k_y \sigma_y$$

where $M_k = m_z - t_z \cos k_z + m_0 (2 - \cos k_x - \cos k_y)$



Disorder Hamiltonian

paramters: tx = ty = tz = 1, $m_0 = 2.1, m_z = -1.5 \sim 1.2$

$$H = H_0 + \left(\begin{array}{cc} V_1(\mathbf{r}) & 0\\ 0 & V_2(\mathbf{r}) \end{array}\right)$$

 $V_{1,2}(\mathbf{r}) \in [-W/2, W/2]$

Multiple Anderson transition

Renormalized localization length Λ v.s. disorder strength W



◆ WSM-QAH, NI-WSM : SCBA ◆ WSM-metal: bulk states

Phase diagram and multiple Anderson transition



Phase diagram and multiple Anderson transition

Clean Hamiltonian

$$H_0 = M_k \sigma_z + t_x \sin k_x \sigma_x + t_y \sin k_y \sigma_y$$

where $M_k = m_z - t_z \cos k_z + m_0 (2 - \cos k_x - \cos k_y)$

Hall conductance of WSMs

$$\begin{split} \sigma_{xy} &= \sum_{k_z \in BZ} \sigma_{xy}^{2D} & \text{kz} = 0, \pm \frac{2\pi}{N_z}, \pm \frac{2\pi}{N_z} * 2, \pm \frac{2\pi}{N_z} * 3, \dots, \pi \\ \sigma_{xy}^{2D}(k_z) &= \Theta(k_0 - |k_z|)e^2/h, \end{split}$$

Weyl nodes $\pm k_0$ with $k_0 = \arccos(m_z/t_z)$



Surface states and Hall conductance in x-y plane



□ WSM--QAH: $\sigma_{xy} = (7 \rightarrow 8) \frac{e^2}{h}$ reach BZ boundary □ WSM--metal: quantized to non-quantized Hall conductance □ NI--WSM: $\sigma_{xy} = (0 \rightarrow 1) \frac{e^2}{h}$

Conclusion on Anderson transitions in WSMs

- > multiple Anderson transitions
- **QAH-metal-NI**
- □ WSM-QAH-metal-NI
- □ WSM—metal—NI
- □ NI-WSM-metal-NI
- □ NI-meta-NI
- ◆ WSM--metal
 □two extended states
 □ Hall conductance
- ◆ WSM--3D QAH
 □ SCBA and Hall conductance



Related Publications:

H. Jiang et al., PRL, 103, 036803 (2009); Q.F. Sun et al., PRL, 104,066805 (2010); S. L Yu et al., PRL, 107, 010401 (2011); H. Jiang et al., PRL, 112, 176601 (2014); H. W. Liu et al., PRL, 113, 046805 (2014); H. Jiang et al., PRB, 80, 165316 (2009); H. Zhang et al., PRB, 83, 115402 (2011); L. Wang et al., PRB, 84, 205116 (2011); X. L. Liu et al., PRB, 83, 125105 (2011); J. T. Song et al., PRB, 85, 195125 (2012); D. W. Xu et al., PRB, 85, 195140 (2012); L. Wang et al., PRB, 85, 235135 (2012); X. L. Liu et al., PRB, 85, 235459 (2012);