Interacting anyons in topological quantum liquids

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Fractional quantum Hall liquids







Abelian vs. non-Abelian anyons

Consider a set of 'pinned' anyons at fixed positions.

Abelian



single state

$$\psi(x_2, x_1) = e^{i\pi\theta} \cdot \psi(x_1, x_2)$$

fractional phase

non-Abelian



(degenerate) manifold of states

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{matrix} \\ \psi(x_1 \leftrightarrow x_3) = \mathbf{M} \cdot \psi(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ \psi(x_2 \leftrightarrow x_3) = \mathbf{N} \cdot \psi(x_1, \dots, x_n) \end{array}$

In general *M* and *N* do not commute!

Non-Abelian anyons

Ising anyons = Majorana fermions

Moore-Read quantum Hall state topological insulators A₁ phase of ³He films p-wave superconductors Kitaev's honeycomb model

SU(2)₂

Fibonacci anyons

Read-Rezayi quantum Hall state Levin-Wen model

SU(2)₃

$SU(2)_k$

 $SU(2)\infty$

ordinary spins

quantum magnets

SU(2)_k = 'deformations' of SU(2)
Quantum numbers in SU(2)_k

$$0, \frac{1}{2}, 1, \frac{3}{2}, 2, ..., \frac{k}{2}$$
 cutoff level k
"quantization"
 $j_1 \times j_2 = |j_1 - j_2| + (|j_1 - j_2| + 1)$
 $+ ... + \min(j_1 + j_2, k - j_1 - j_2)$



A soup of non-Abelian anyons





What is the **collective state** of a set of interacting anyons?

Collective states: possible scenarios



The collective state of anyons is **gapped**. The parent liquid remains **unchanged**.

Collective states: possible scenarios



The collective state of anyons is a **gappless quantum liquid**. A **gapless phase nucleates** within the parent liquid.

Collective states: possible scenarios



The collective state of anyons is a **gapped quantum liquid**. A **novel liquid is nucleated** within the parent liquid.

A soup of non-Abelian anyons





Microscopic splitting





Connection to topological charge tunneling: P. Bonderson, PRL (2009)

Phys. Rev. Lett. 98, 160409 (2007).

SU(2)_k fusion rules "Heisenberg" Hamiltonian $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = 0 + 1 \xrightarrow[\text{energetically split}]{} H = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \prod_{ij}^{0}$ $H = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \prod_{ij}^{0}$



Phys. Rev. Lett. 98, 160409 (2007).





Prog. Theor. Phys. Suppl. 176, 384 (2008).





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Mapping & exact solution

The operators $X_i = -d H_i$ form a representation of the **Temperley-Lieb algebra**

The transfer matrix is an integrable representation of the RSOS model.



• Deformed spin-1/2 chains

| level k | $1/2 \times 1/2 \rightarrow 0$ 'antiferromagnetic' | $1/2 \times 1/2 \rightarrow 1$ |
|---------|--|---|
| 2 | $\frac{\mathbf{Ising}}{\mathbf{c}=1/2}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{Ising}}{\mathbf{c}=1/2}$ |
| 3 | tricritical Ising c = 7/10 | 3-state Potts $c = 4/5$ |
| 4 | $\boxed{SU(2)_{k-1} \times SU(2)_1}$ | $SU(2)_k$ |
| 5 | $SU(2)_k$ | U(1) |
| k | k-critical Ising c = 1-6/(k+1)(k+2) | Z_k -parafermions c = 2(k-1)/(k+2) |
| 00 | Heisenberg AFM c = 1 | Heisenberg FM c = 2 |

Gapless modes & edge states

Phys. Rev. Lett. 103, 070401 (2009).



Gapless modes & edge states

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Approaching two dimensions



The 2D collective state

A **gapped topological liquid** that is distinct from the parent liquid.

Supported by results for N-leg ladders.





Coupling two chains



A powerful correspondence

Phys. Rev. Lett. 103, 070401 (2009).















Experimental consequences





Caltech thermopower experiment

What changes (experimentally) as we move on the plateau?

electrical transport

unchanged – remain on the plateau

heat transport (neutral modes)

changes – evidence of the new liquid

Conclusions

- Interactions split the degeneracy of a set of localized, non-Abelian anyons.
- For a given topological liquid a finite density of interacting anyons nucleates a new topological liquid.
- The nucleated liquid is separated from the parent liquid by a **neutral, chiral edge state**.
- Relevant physics when moving off the center of quantum Hall plateau.

Phys. Rev. Lett. 98, 160409 (2007).
Phys. Rev. Lett. 101, 050401 (2008).
Prog. Theor. Phys. Suppl. 176, 384 (2008).
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