

CHERN INSULATORS

Part 2

Emil J. Bergholtz
FU Berlin



Lectures on
"Numerical and analytical methods for strongly correlated systems"
Benasque, Spain, September 2 & 5, 2014

Two lectures: rough plan

- The quantum Hall effect
 - Crash course on integer and fractional effects
 - Why look for alternative realizations?
 - Integer Chern insulators ~ lattice quantum Hall systems at zero field
 - Example lattice models
 - General properties, comparison with continuum Landau levels
 - Experiments!
 - Fractional Chern insulators
 - Brief comments on challenge and methods
 - Relation to FQH states (adiabatic continuity, entanglement spectra, edge states, etc.)
 - Which FQH analogues to expect, when and why?
 - Competing instabilities
 - Higher Chern numbers
 - Various constructions and why only some host FCIs
 - Topology + frustration: novel FCIs in surface bands of Weyl semi-metals
 - Experiments?
- Done!
- Skipped, ask me if interested...
- Topics of today's lecture

Fractional Chern insulators

Continued

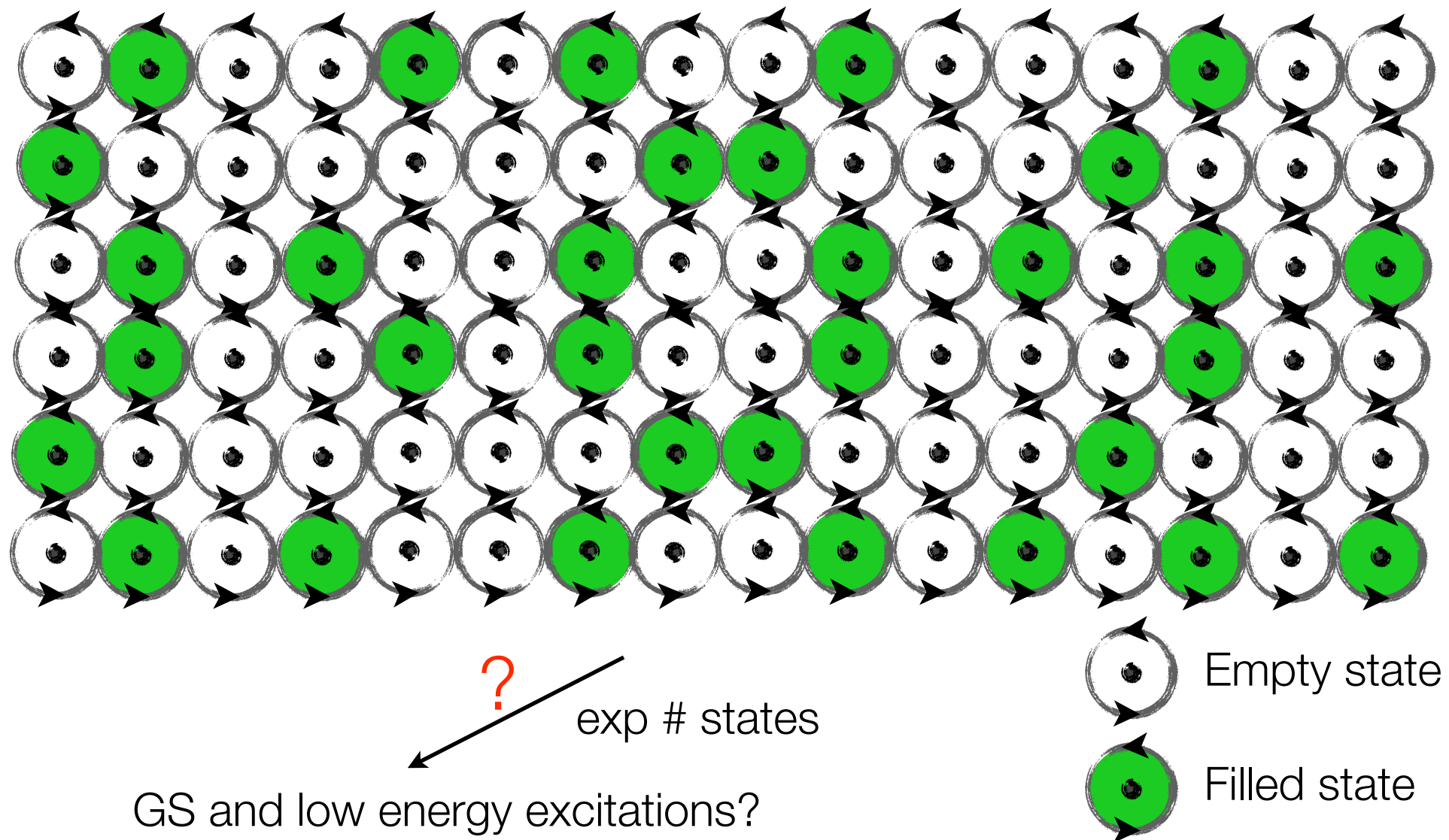
Useful references:

S. A. Parameswaran, R. Roy & S. L. Sondhi
Fractional Quantum Hall Physics in Topological Flat Bands
C. R. Physique 14, 816 (2013) [arXiv:1302.6606]

E. J. Bergholtz & Z. Liu
Topological Flat Band Models and Fractional Chern Insulators
Int. J. Mod. Phys. B 27, 1330017 (2013) [arXiv:1308.0343]

Recap: the problem

- Interactions projected to a flat band with non-zero Chern number



- Extremely hard, non-perturbative problem with no generically applicable cure.
 - complicated by the (unavoidable) algebraic tails of the Wannier functions

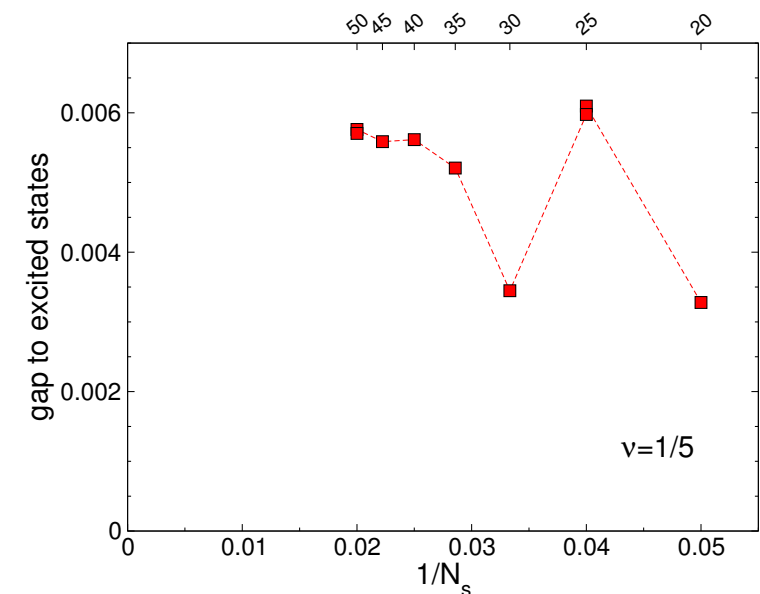
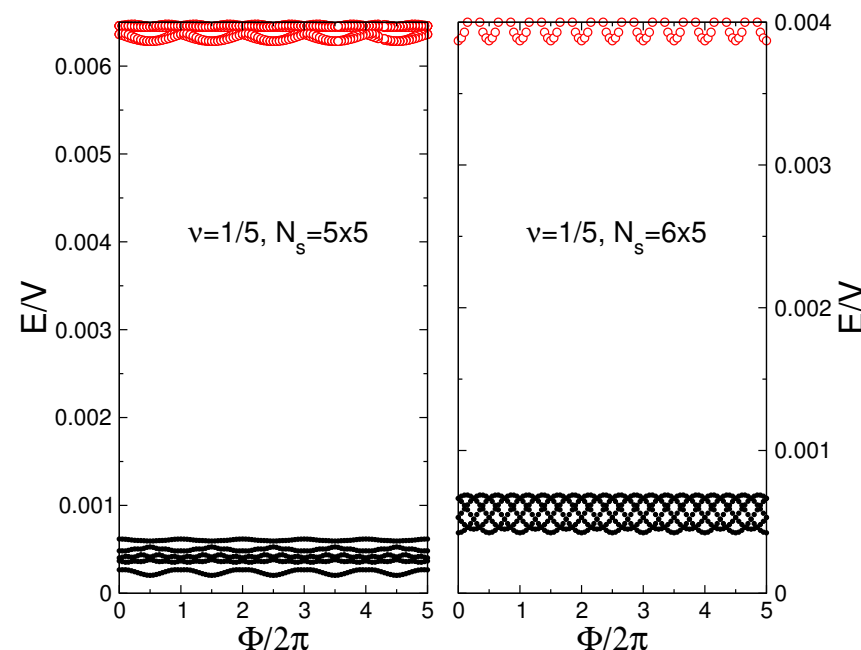
Early numerical evidence for FCIs in flat $C=1$ bands

- Laughlin-like states well established
- Non-abelian states (Moore-Read, Read-Rezayi) are found (for multi-particle interactions)
- Some hierarchy / composite fermion states

See arXiv:1308.0343 for original references...

- Evidence from numerical diagonalization: gaps, topological degeneracies, spectral flow, particle entanglement spectra etc.

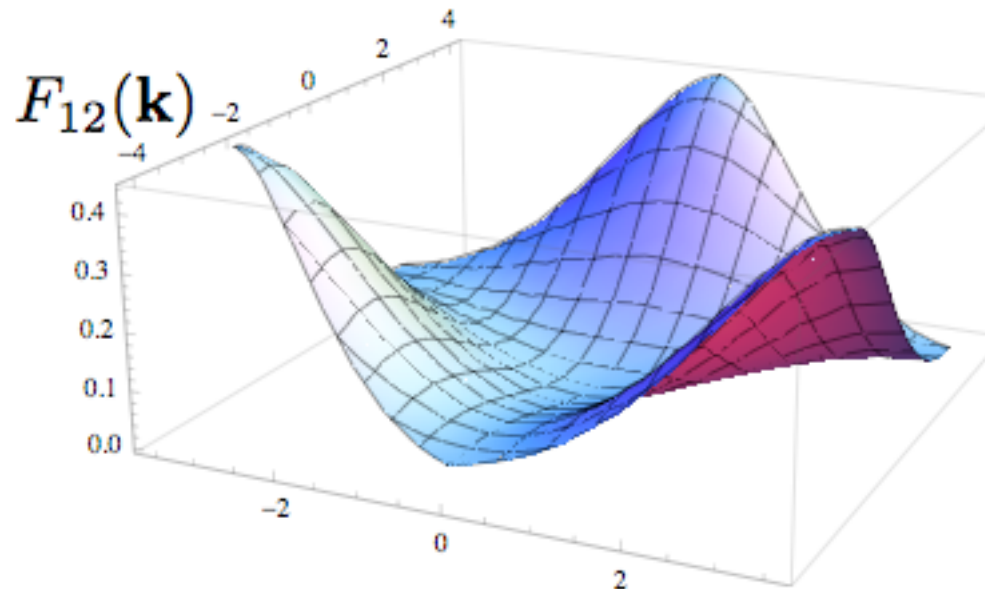
- Later: orbital entanglement, adiabatic continuation, edge states, modular matrices,...



Are flat C=1 bands identical to Landau levels?

- No, there is a “memory” of the underlying lattice, hence less “universal” physics.
- The Berry curvature *is not completely flat* in models with a finite number of bands.

- In the continuum there are infinitely many Landau bands and the Berry curvature is constant



$$A_j(\mathbf{k}) = -i\langle n_{\mathbf{k}} | \partial_{k_j} | n_{\mathbf{k}} \rangle, \quad F_{ij} = \partial_{k_i} A_j(\mathbf{k}) - \partial_{k_j} A_i(\mathbf{k})$$

$$C = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{BZ} F_{12}(\mathbf{k}) d^2k = 1$$

Quantized

Sensitive to details, never uniform

- Less symmetry -- no translation invariance (in reciprocal space)

- Reminiscent of a spatially varying magnetic field
- May cause deviations from Landau level physics
- Generally no nice (analytic) wave functions

See e.g. T.S. Jackson, G. Möller & R. Roy, arXiv: 1408.0843

(Kapit-Mueller is a striking exception)

- Exception: certain small finite size systems at peculiar filling fractions

T. Scaffidi and S. Simon
arXiv:1407.1321

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

Why just some states and what about their relative stability?

A.M. Läuchli, Z. Liu, E.J. Bergholtz
and R. Moessner, PRL, 111, 126802 (2013)

- Pseudopotential analogy

- Extremely useful in Landau levels

F. D. M. Haldane, Phys. Rev. Lett. **51**, 605 (1983).

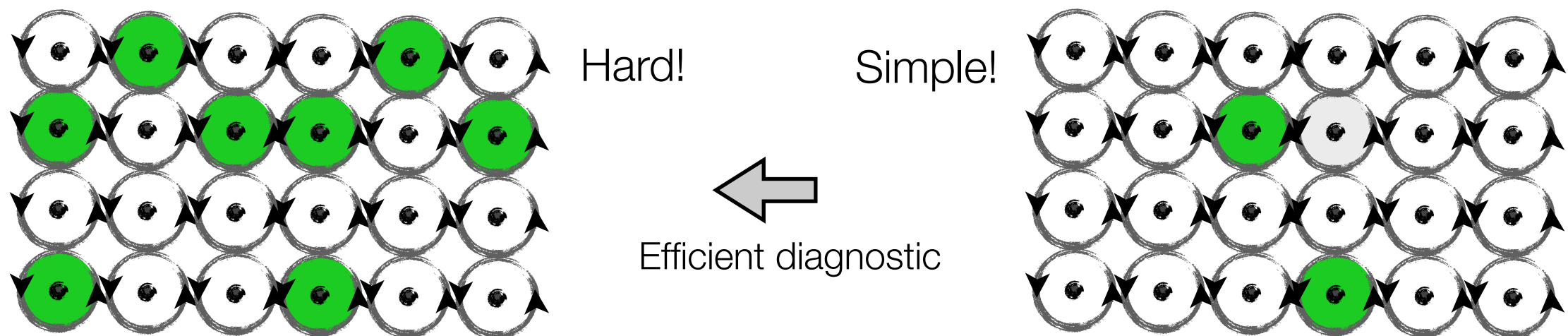
$$H = \sum_{i < j} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{V}_m P_m(M_{ij}), \quad H = \sum_{i < j} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{V}_m L_m(-\nabla_i^2) \delta(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j), \quad \mathcal{V}_m = \int_0^{\infty} q \tilde{V}(q) L_m(q^2) e^{-q^2} dq,$$

$$f_{\text{rel}}^{(q)}(z_1 - z_2) = \vartheta_1((z_1 - z_2)/L_1|\tau)^q \sim (z_1 - z_2)^q$$

- Given the pseudopotential parameters we essentially know the phase diagram
- But there are typically no nice wave functions in the Chern bands. What to do?

Insight: the pseudopotential parameters, \mathcal{V}_m , can also be extracted from the spectrum of two interacting particles in a Landau level

- Can be directly generalized to the Chern band case



Pseudopotential analogy

A.M. Läuchli, Z. Liu, E.J. Bergholtz
and R. Moessner, PRL, 111, 126802 (2013)

- Example of two-particles interacting within the Chern band:

$$H_{\text{int}} = \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} n_i n_j \quad \textbf{projected} \text{ to the flat } C=1 \text{ band.}$$

- For a Checkerboard model this gives 4 finite energy levels per CM momenta (on kagome it gives 6 etc)

- FQH analogy suggests 2 energy levels per pseudopotential (due to the lower number of CM sectors in the Chern band)

- Numerics essentially agree with pseudopotential predictions

- We find FCI phases at filling

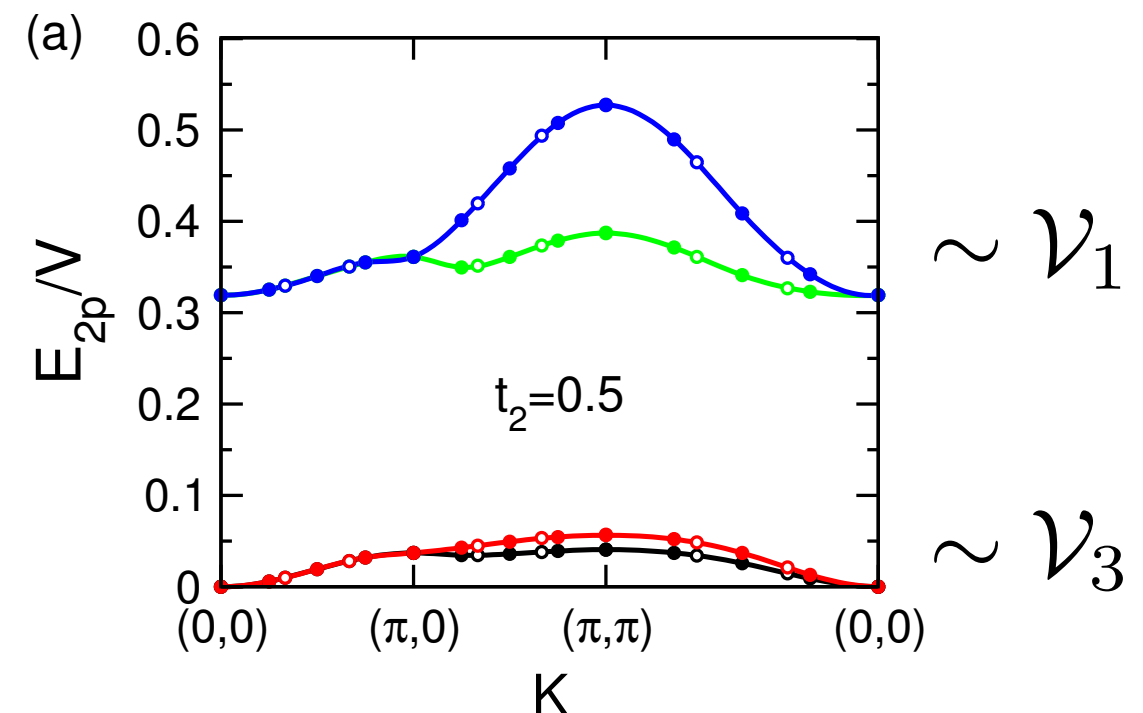
$$\nu = 1/3, 2/5, 3/7, 4/9, 5/9, 4/7, 3/5$$

Stabilized by \mathcal{V}_1

$$\nu = 1/5, 2/7$$

Stabilized by \mathcal{V}_3

- Often efficient as a *diagnostic* for a given flat band model



Example: “engineering” of complex FCI

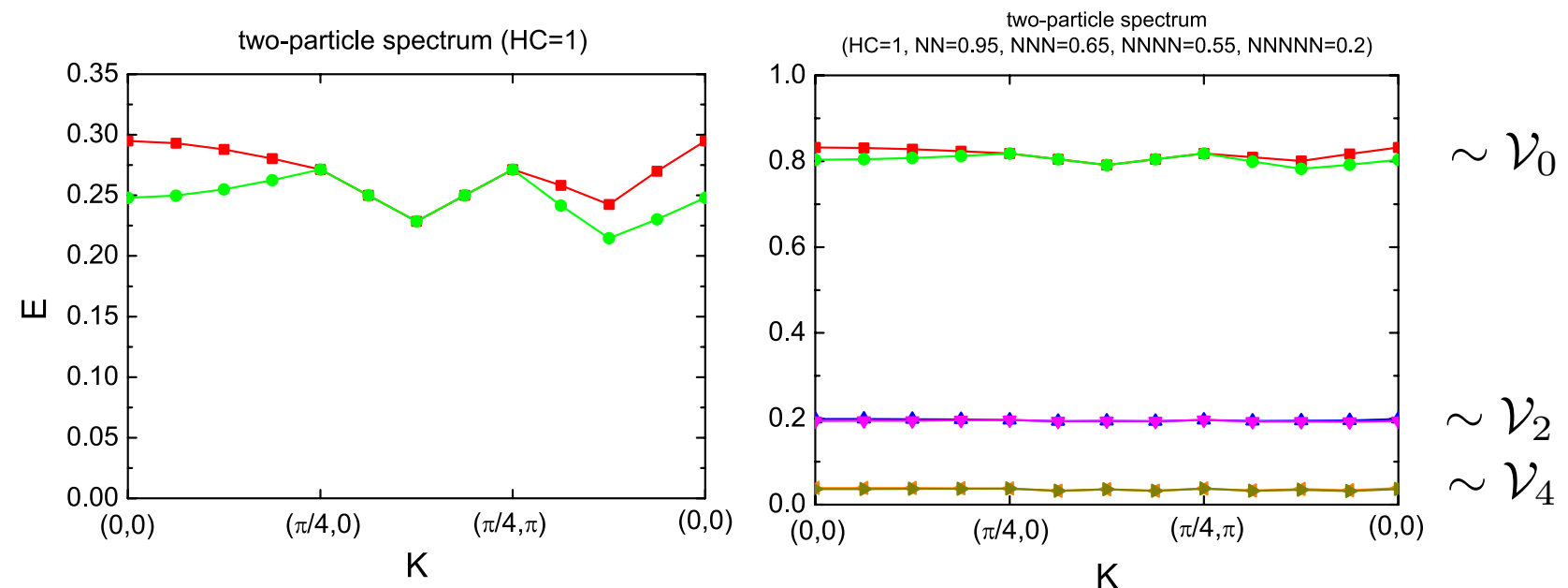
Z. Liu, E.J. Bergholtz and Eliot Kapit,
PRB 88, 205101 (2013)

- Choose a good workhorse: the Kapit-Mueller model

E. Kapit and E. Mueller, Phys. Rev. Lett. **105**, 215303 (2010).

- Consider the two-particle problem (here bosons)

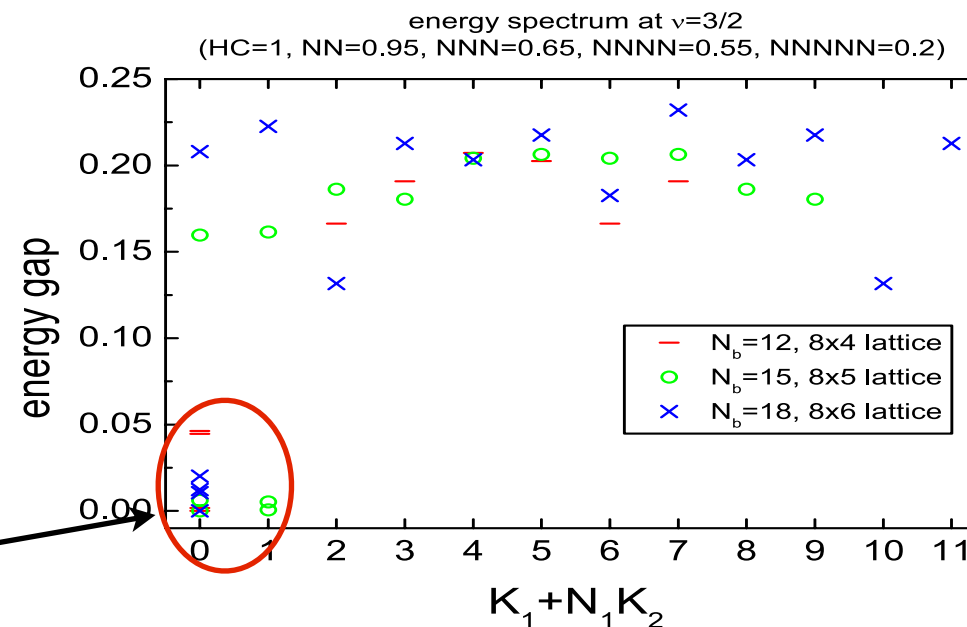
- Look for an interaction that mimics the desired pseudo-potential spectra



- Back to the many-body problem

- We find exotic non-abelian FCI states (Moore-Read and Read Rezayi) for reasonable two-body interactions!

4-fold topological degeneracy of the $k=3$ RR state (Fibonacci anyons)



Are there new competing instabilities in the lattice case?

A.M. Läuchli, Z. Liu, E.J. Bergholtz
and R. Moessner, PRL, 111, 126802 (2013)

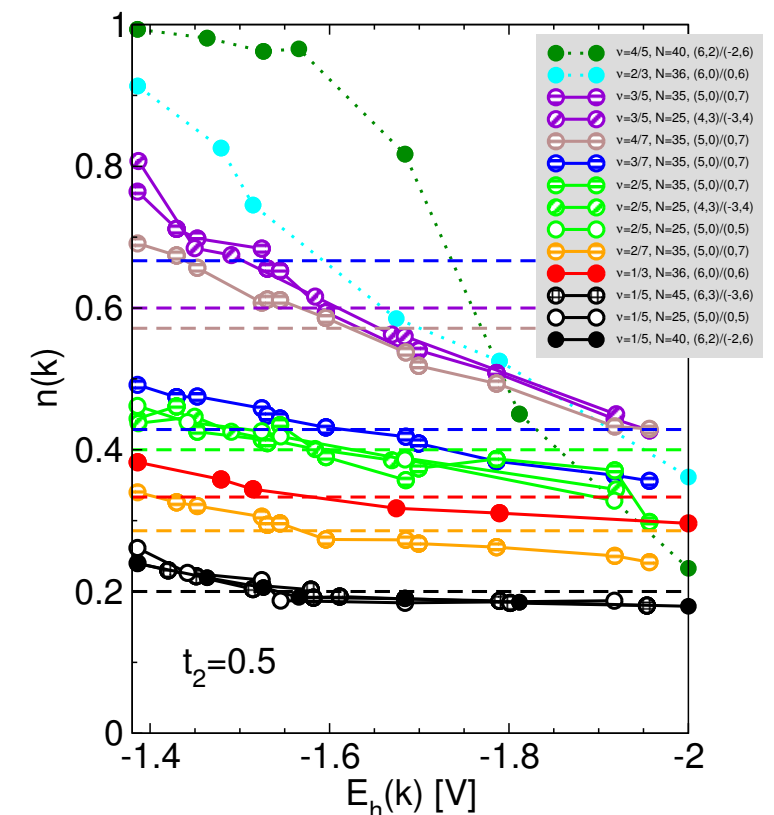
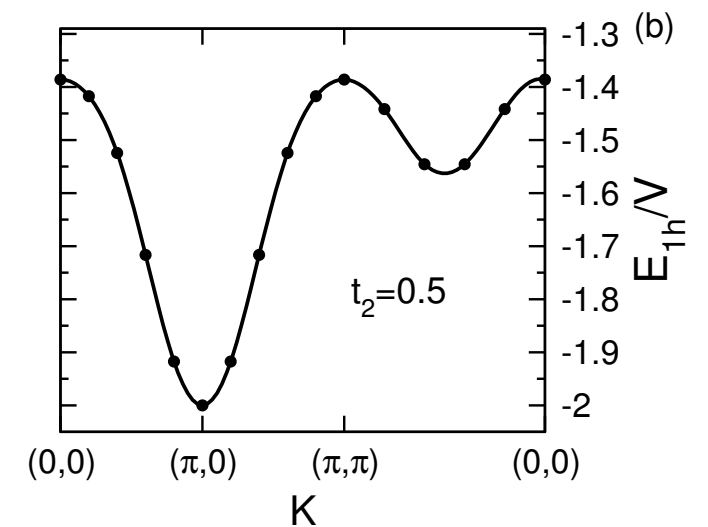
- Lack of translation invariance in reciprocal space spoils particle-hole symmetry
- Particle-hole transformation generates a dispersive single-hole term

$$c_{\mathbf{k}} \rightarrow c_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger : H = \sum_{\mathbf{k}_1 \mathbf{k}_2 \mathbf{k}_3 \mathbf{k}_4} V_{\mathbf{k}_1 \mathbf{k}_2 \mathbf{k}_3 \mathbf{k}_4} c_{\mathbf{k}_1}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{k}_2}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{k}_3} c_{\mathbf{k}_4},$$

$$\rightarrow \sum_{\mathbf{k}_1 \mathbf{k}_2 \mathbf{k}_3 \mathbf{k}_4} V_{\mathbf{k}_1 \mathbf{k}_2 \mathbf{k}_3 \mathbf{k}_4}^* c_{\mathbf{k}_1}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{k}_2}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{k}_3} c_{\mathbf{k}_4} + \sum_{\mathbf{k}} E_h(\mathbf{k}) c_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{k}}$$

- Non-negligible dispersion ($E_h(\mathbf{k})$ is a constant in a Landau level)
- Generically gives a non-constant $n(\mathbf{k})$
- Wins over the conventional two-body terms at high filling fractions!

Interaction-only induced gapless states



Summary on fractional Chern insulators in $C=1$ bands

Huge potential:

- Interaction scale set by lattice spacing $\Rightarrow \Delta E \sim 500K!?$
(very optimistic estimate due to Tang, Mei & Wen, PRL '11)
- No need for strong magnetic fields

FQH/FCI states survive despite strong lattice effects

- Many interesting differences compared to the continuum, but fairly well understood problem by now

More details in the reviews:

S. A. Parameswaran, R. Roy & S. L. Sondhi
Fractional Quantum Hall Physics in Topological Flat Bands
C. R. Physique 14, 816 (2013) [arXiv:1302.6606]

E. J. Bergholtz & Z. Liu
Topological Flat Band Models and Fractional Chern Insulators
Int. J. Mod. Phys. B 27, 1330017 (2013) [arXiv:1308.0343]

Higher Chern numbers

Useful references:

M. Udagawa, & E. J. Bergholtz

Correlations and entanglement in flat band models with variable Chern numbers

arXiv:1407.0329

M. Barkeshli, X.-L. Qi

Topological Nematic States and Non-Abelian Lattice Dislocations

Phys. Rev. X 2, 031013 (2012)

E.J. Bergholtz, Z. Liu, M. Trescher, R. Moessner & M. Udagawa

Topology and interactions in a frustrated slab: tuning from Weyl

semi-metal to $C > 1$ fractional Chern insulators

arXiv:1408.3669

Flat $C > 1$ bands

- Can be constructed in many ways

- Longer-range hopping
- Larger unit-cells

- Example, Dirac model: $\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{k}) = \mathbf{d}(\mathbf{k}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}$

$$\begin{cases} d_x(\mathbf{k}) = \sin(N_x k_x) \\ d_y(\mathbf{k}) = \sin(N_y k_y) \\ d_z(\mathbf{k}) = m + \cos(N_x k_x) + \cos(N_y k_y) \end{cases} \Rightarrow C = \begin{cases} N_x N_y & \text{for } 0 < m < 2 \\ -N_x N_y & \text{for } -2 < m < 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Multi-layer and long-range interpretation a matter of taste (think of a square lattice)
- Somewhat trivial, but...

- Boundary conditions are important for topologically ordered states

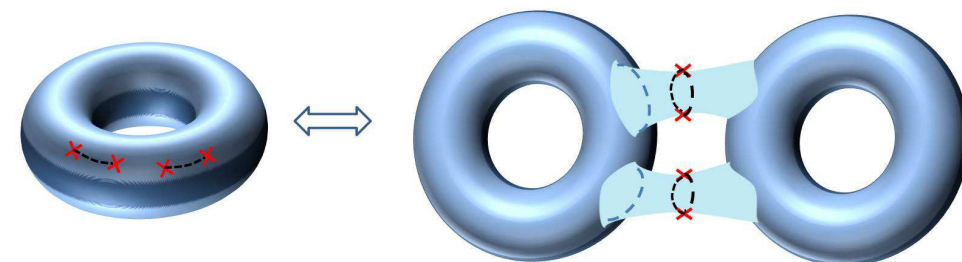
- related to the ground state degeneracy

(Wen '90, Haldane '85)

- Non-trivial boundary conditions could hence lead to qualitatively new phenomena.

- Dislocations as non-Abelian “wormholes” aka “genons”!?

- would correspond to a change topology and thereby the enhance the degeneracy



M. Barkeshli and X.-L. Qi, Phys. Rev. X **2**, 031013 (2012).

A lot of related activity....

- FCIs and/or flat bands with $C > 1$ (far from a complete list)

F. Wang and Y. Ran, *Nearly flat band with Chern number $C = 2$ on the dice lattice*, [Phys. Rev. B **84**, 241103\(R\) \(2011\)](#).

M. Trescher and E. J. Bergholtz, *Flat bands with higher Chern number in pyrochlore slabs*, [Phys. Rev. B **86**, 241111\(R\) \(2012\)](#).

Z. Liu, E.J. Bergholtz, H. Fan, and A.M. Läuchli, *Fractional Chern Insulators in Topological Flat bands with Higher Chern Number*, [Phys. Rev. Lett. **109**, 186805 \(2012\)](#).

A. Sterdyniak, C. Repellin, B. Andrei Bernevig, and N. Regnault, *Series of Abelian and non-Abelian states in $C > 1$ fractional Chern insulators*, [Phys. Rev. B **87**, 205137 \(2013\)](#).

S. Yang, Z.-C. Gu, K. Sun, and S. Das Sarma, *Topological flat band models with arbitrary Chern numbers*, [Phys. Rev. B **86**, 241112\(R\) \(2012\)](#).

L. Hormozi, G. Moller, and S. H. Simon, *Fractional Quantum Hall Effect of Lattice Bosons Near Commensurate Flux*, [Phys. Rev. Lett. **108**, 256809 \(2012\)](#).

A. G. Grushin, T. Neupert, C. Chamon, and C. Mudry, *Enhancing the stability of fractional Chern insulators against competing phases*, [Phys. Rev. B **86**, 205125 \(2012\)](#).

Y.-L. Wu, N. Regnault, and B. A. Bernevig, *Bloch Model Wave Functions and Pseudopotentials for All Fractional Chern Insulators*, [Phys. Rev. Lett. **110**, 106802 \(2013\)](#).

D. Wang, Z. Liu, J. Cao, and H. Fan, *Tunable Band Topology Reflected by Fractional Quantum Hall States in Two-Dimensional Lattices*, [Phys. Rev. Lett. **111**, 186804 \(2013\)](#).

Y.-H. Wu, J. K. Jain, and K. Sun, *Fractional Topological Phases in Generalized Hofstadter Bands with Arbitrary Chern Numbers*, [arXiv:1309.1698](#).

Related early work:

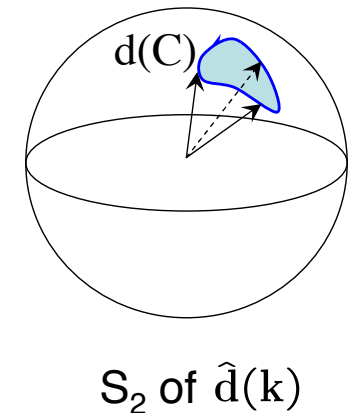
G. Moller and N.R. Cooper, *Composite Fermion Theory for Bosonic Atoms in Optical Lattices*, [Phys. Rev. Lett. **103**, 105303 \(2009\)](#).

A more “homogenous” example

- Change the wrapping of the sphere directly

$$C = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int dk_x \int dk_y \hat{\mathbf{d}} \cdot \left(\frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{d}}}{\partial k_x} \times \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{d}}}{\partial k_y} \right)$$

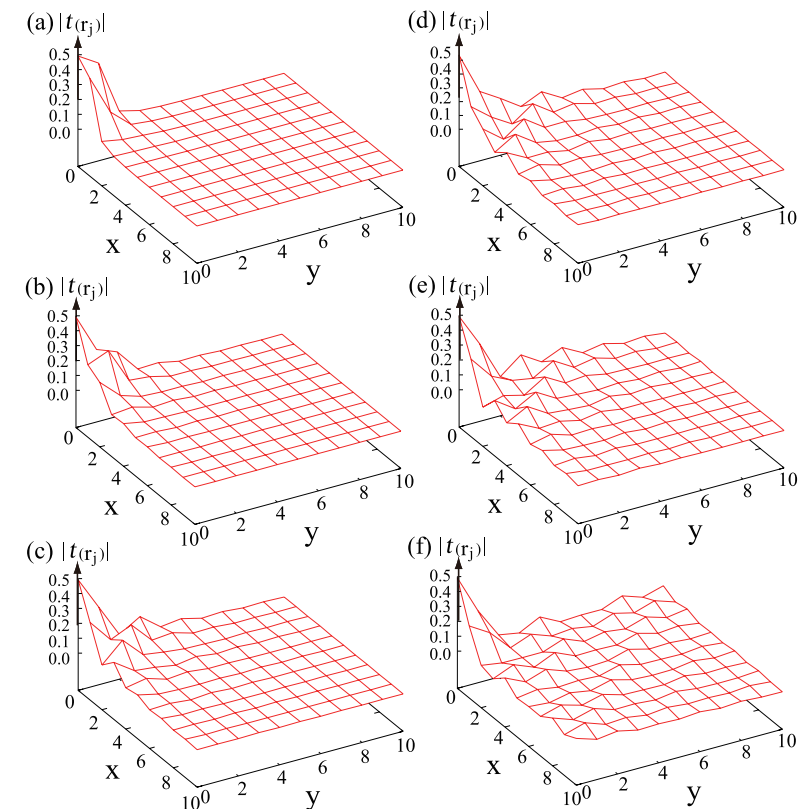
$$\hat{\mathbf{d}}(\mathbf{k}) \rightarrow \hat{\mathbf{d}}^{(N)}(\mathbf{k}) = \left(\sin \theta_k \cos(N \phi_k), \sin \theta_k \sin(N \phi_k), \cos \theta_k \right)$$



- Also gives $C=N$, but with more “homogenous” hopping

- Chern number lost if hopping truncated

- In this case hopping at distance $d > C$ needed
- Generally, for fixed number of bands hopping with range $d \sim \sqrt{C}$ needed



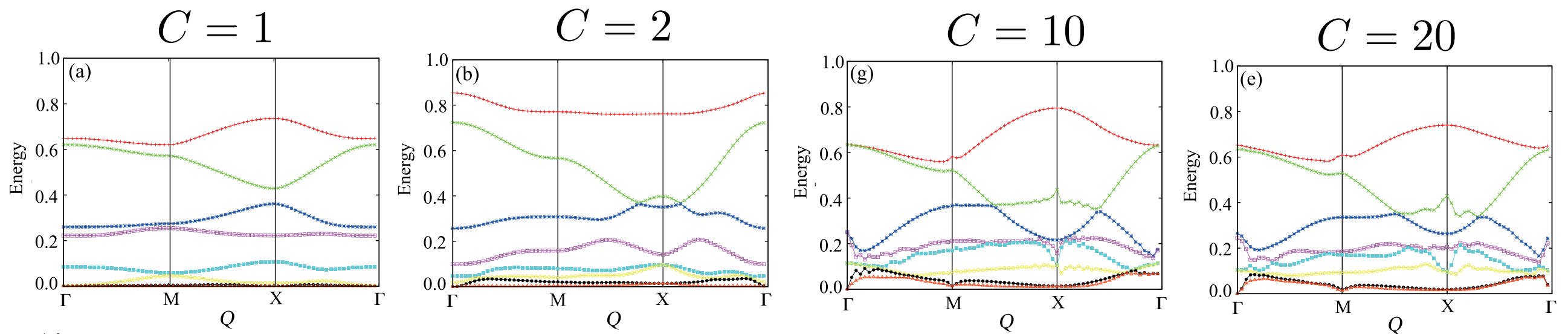
(with a flat band model as starting point)

Two-particle problem

M. Udagawa, & E. J. Bergholtz
arXiv:1407.0329

- Two-band Dirac model defined above for various Chern numbers

(otherwise fixed parameters)



Quite smooth spectrum,
somewhat separated spectra



Jagged spectrum, no clear
separation of scales

- Gives a rationale for why $C > 1$ FCIs were hard to find initially

- We tried something else...

Flat $C > 1$ bands from geometrical frustration: novel FCIs, Weyl semimetals and Fermi arcs

- We asked: Is it possible to make N $C=1$ bands hybridize so that one band absorbs all the topology ($C=N$) while the others become trivial ($C=0$)?

$$1 + 1 \rightarrow 2 + 0?$$

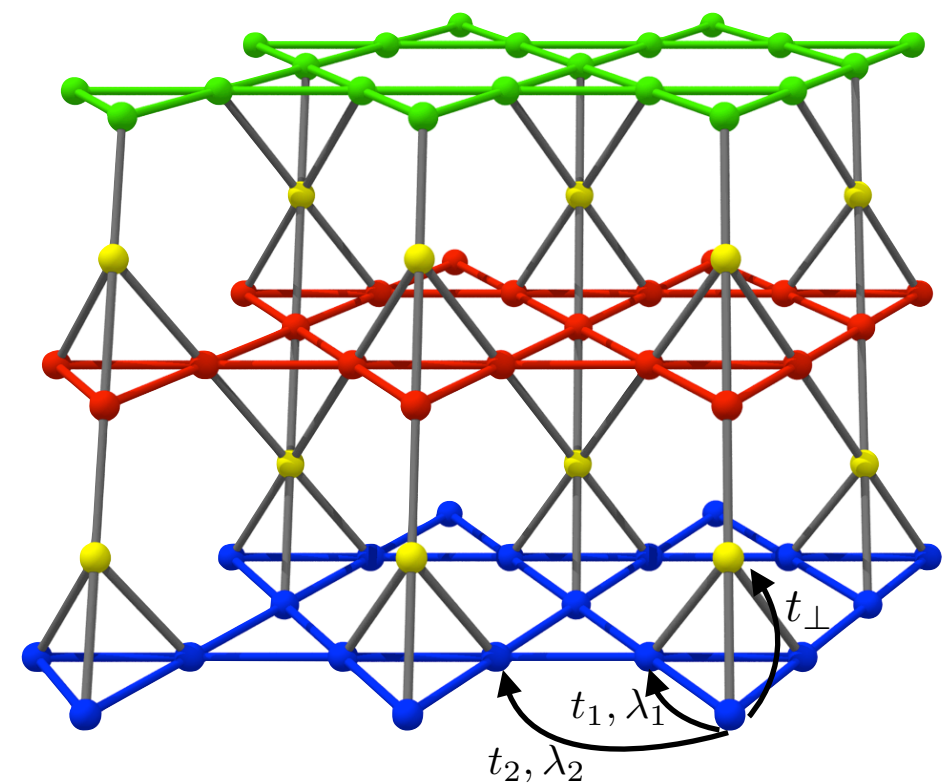
- ...and answer: yes, using
 - Multilayer systems
 - Geometrical frustration

M. Trescher and E.J. Bergholtz,
Phys. Rev. B 86, 241111(R) (2012)

- Note: no interlayer tunneling give N degenerate $C=1$ bands -- this is not what we wanted...

- We implement our idea on pyrochlore slabs inspired by pyrochlore based spin-orbit coupled materials, e.g. iridates.

$$H = \sum_{i,j,\sigma} t_{ij} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + i \sum_{i,j,\alpha,\beta} \lambda_{ij} (\mathbf{E}_{ij} \times \mathbf{R}_{ij}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\beta}$$

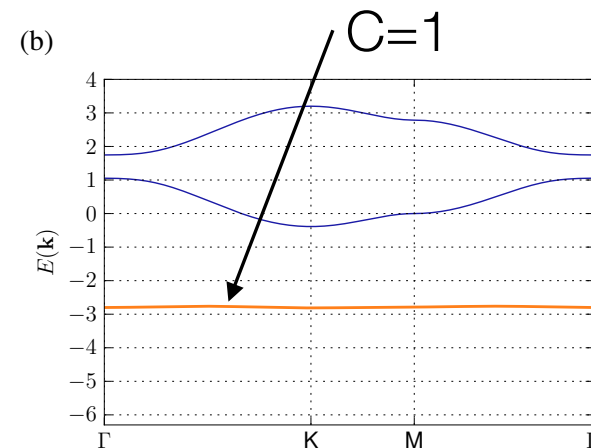
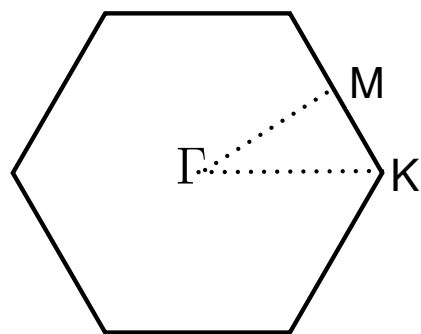


Results: 2d bulk dispersion

M. Trescher and E.J. Bergholtz,
Phys. Rev. B 86, 241111(R) (2012)

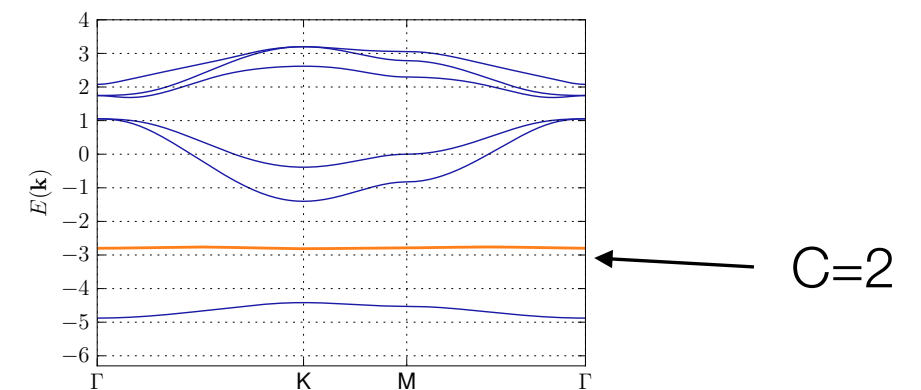
● Dispersion for one layer

(a)

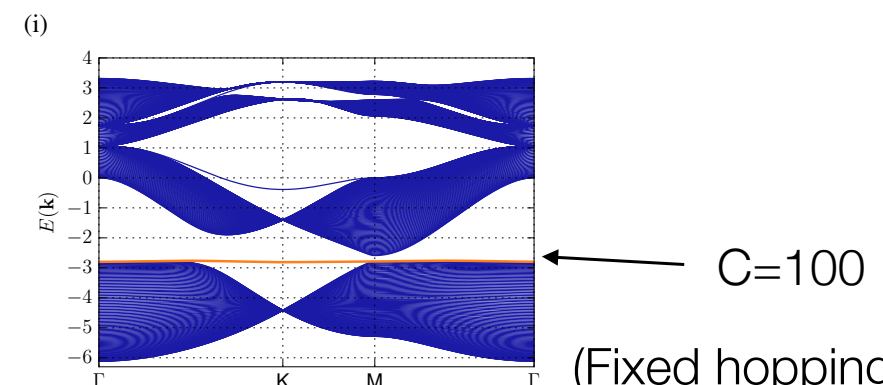
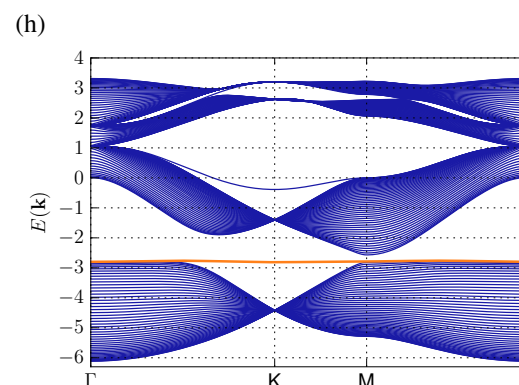
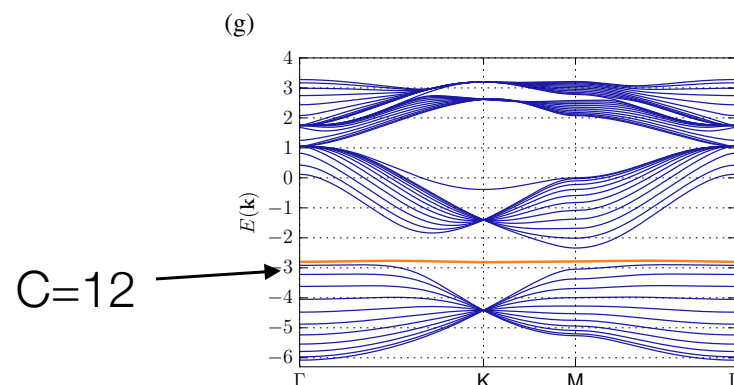
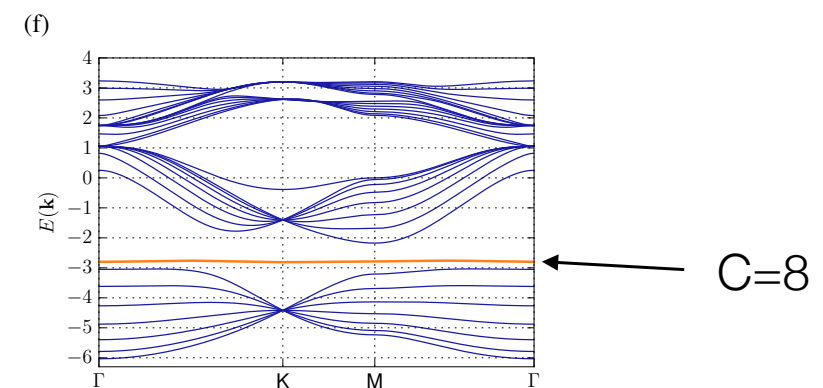
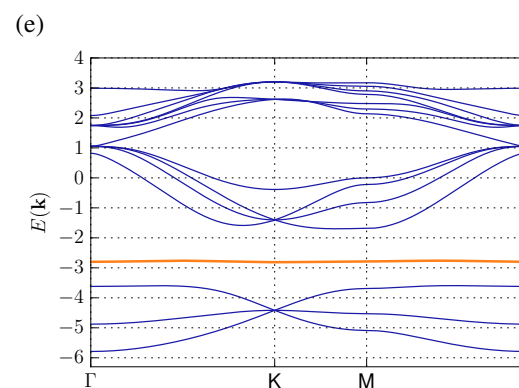
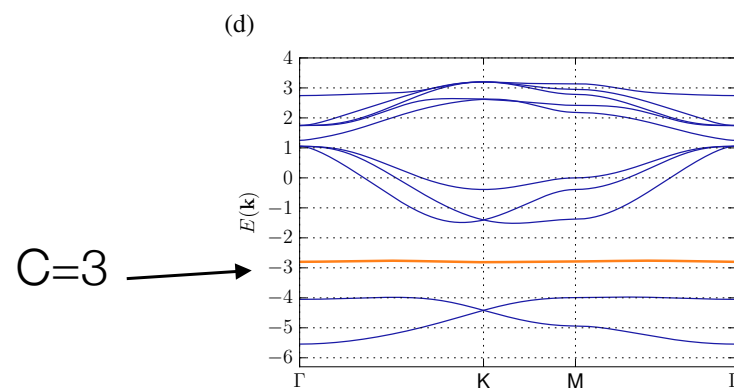


● Dispersion with two layers

(c)



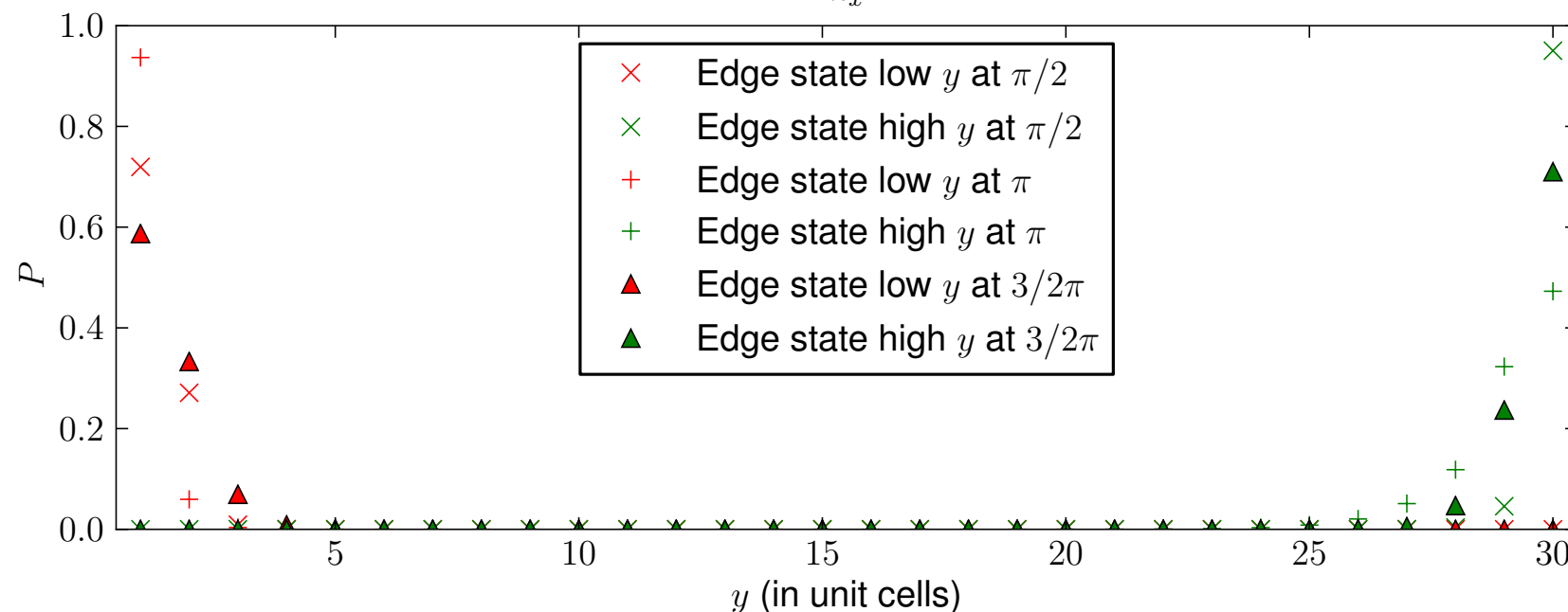
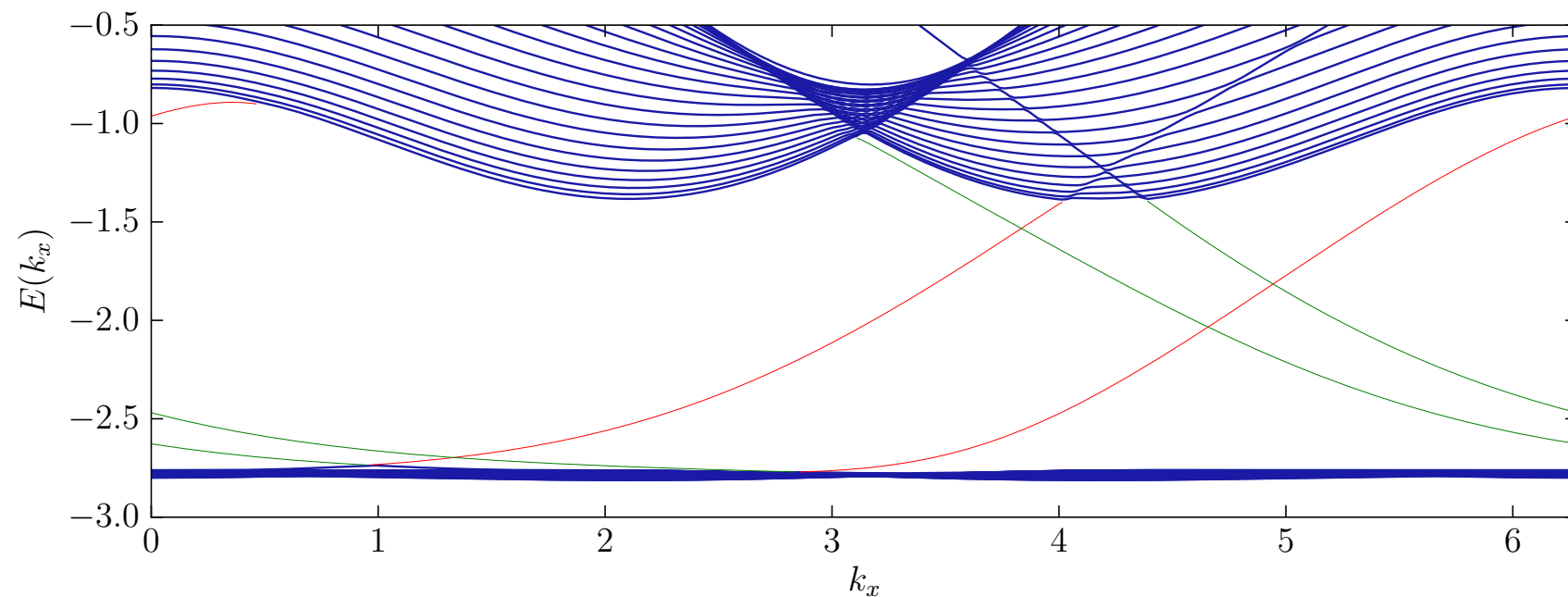
● For N kagome layers we find a flat band with $C=N!$



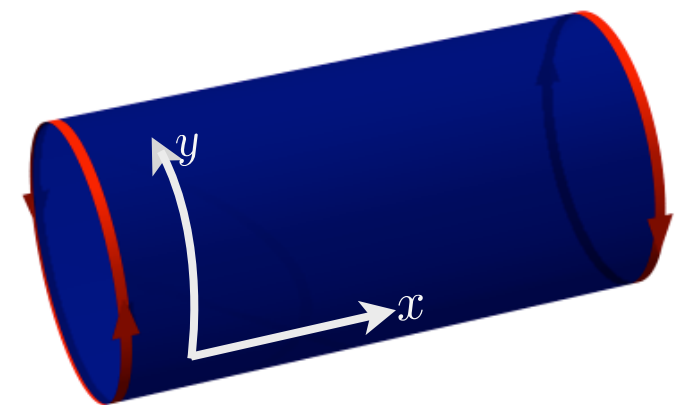
(Fixed hopping parameters here, just changing N)

1d edge states: revealed in cylinder geometry

- Example: the $C=2$ band has 2 gapless chiral edge states at each end



(Microscopically different edges to avoid deceiving degeneracies)

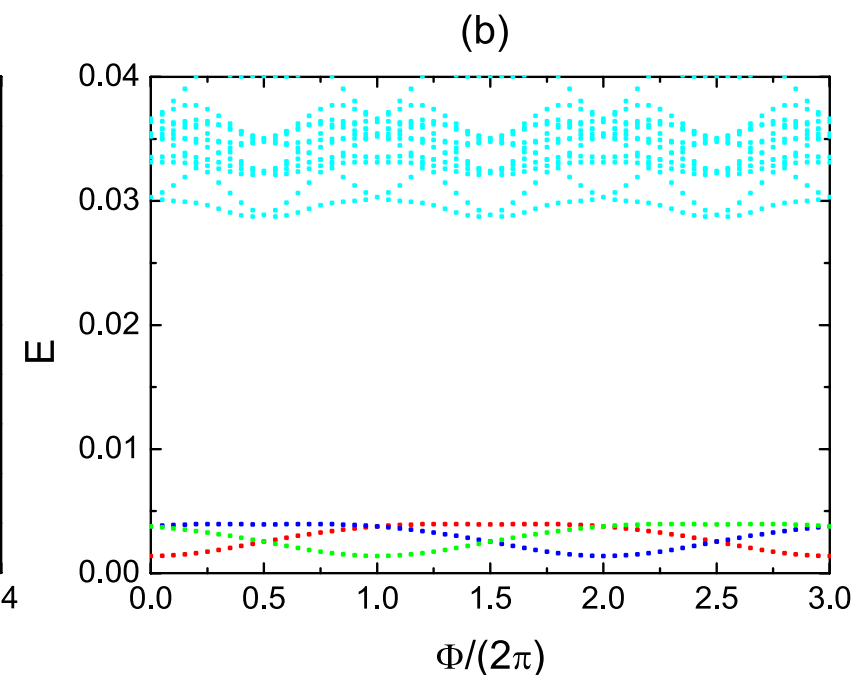
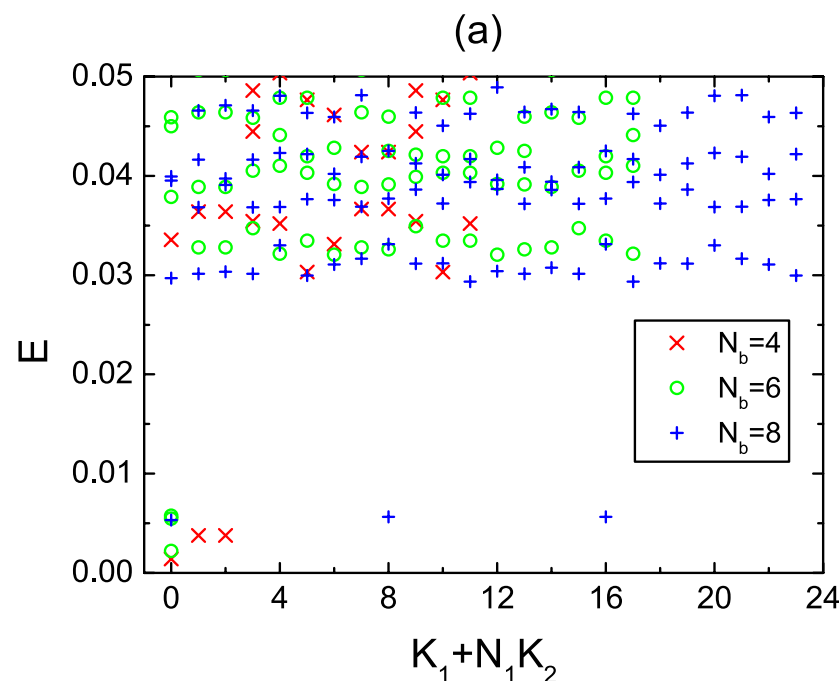


Can qualitatively new FCI phases form within $C > 1$ bands?

Z. Liu, E.J. Bergholtz, H. Fan, A. M. Läuchli
Phys. Rev. Lett. 109, 186805 (2012)

- Yes, we find convincing evidence for a series of bosonic FCI states at $\nu_b = 1/(C + 1)$

$C = 2, \nu_b = 1/3 :$



- Fermionic states at $\nu_f = 1/(2C + 1)$ (likely absent at higher filling fractions!)

- Strong evidence also for $C > 1$ generalizations of non-Abelian FQH states found in this model!

E.J. Bergholtz, Z. Liu, M. Trescher, R. Moessner, and M. Udagawa, arXiv:1408.3669

A. Sterdyniak, C. Repellin, B.A. Bernevig, and N. Regnault, Phys. Rev. B 87, 205137 (2013)

- Different from standard multi-layer systems...

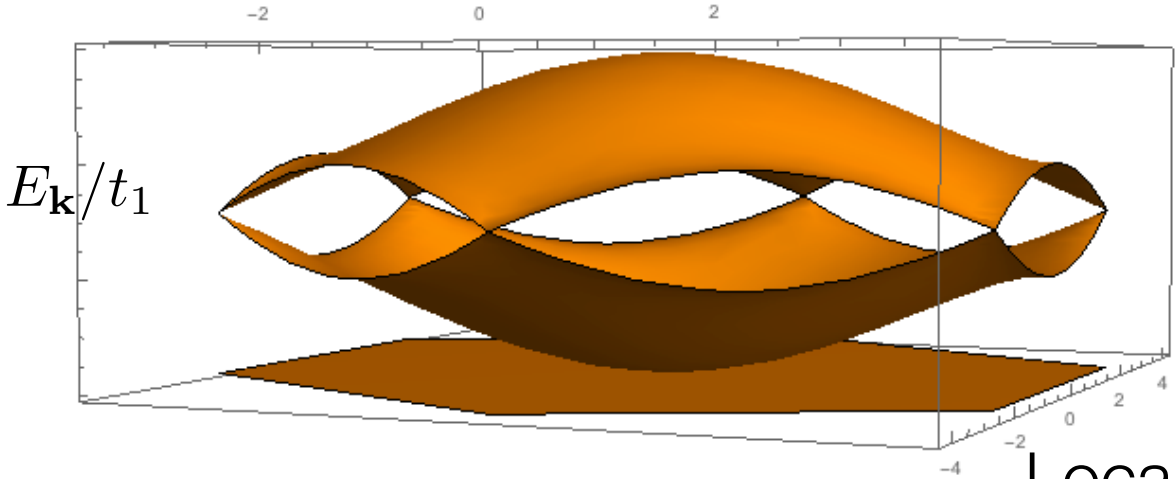
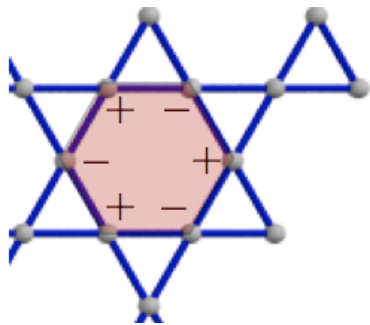
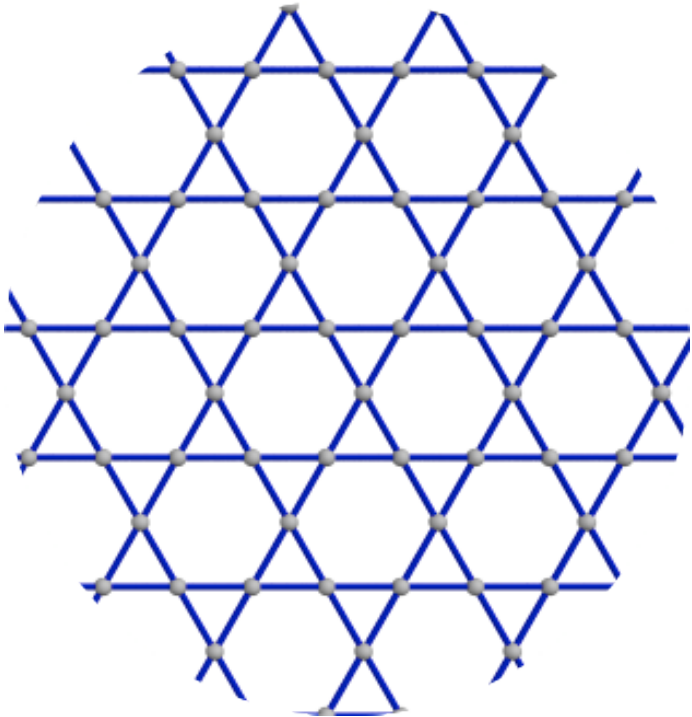
Can we analytically understand the C=N states?

- Quick recap: Flat bands and localized modes on frustrated lattices

- Example: nearest neighbor hopping on a kagome lattice

$$H = t_1 \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} c_i^\dagger c_j$$

Bloch Hamiltonian:
$$\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{k}} = t_1 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 + e^{ik_1} & 1 + e^{ik_2} \\ 1 + e^{-ik_1} & 0 & 1 + e^{-ik_3} \\ 1 + e^{-ik_2} & 1 + e^{ik_3} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



“Graphene + a flat band”

Localized modes explain the flat band

- But these states are neither topological nor and not Wannier functions!
 - Need a slightly refined concept...

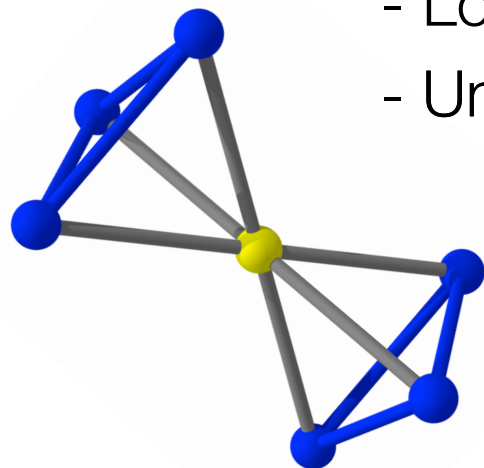
The $C > 1$ bands are surface bands!

M. Trescher and E.J. Bergholtz,
Phys. Rev. B 86, 241111(R) (2012)

E.J. Bergholtz, Z. Liu, M. Trescher, R. Moessner, and M. Udagawa,
arXiv:1408.3669

- Despite the non-locality of the Wannier functions, geometrical frustration provides an avenue to novel surface states
- Crucial insight: surface bands localized to the kagome layers only if the total hopping amplitude to the triangular layer vanish.

- Local constraint, destructive interference
- Unique solution, independent of details!

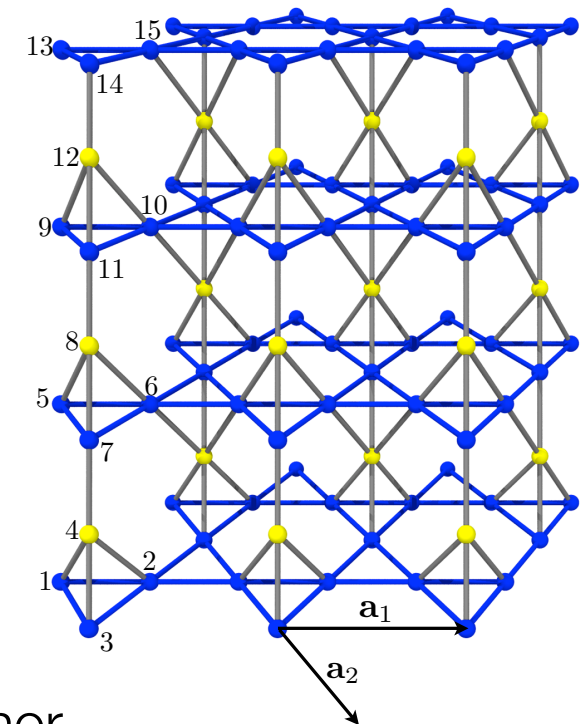


$$|\psi^i(\mathbf{k})\rangle = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{k}) \sum_{m=1}^N \left(r(\mathbf{k}) \right)^m |\phi^i(\mathbf{k})\rangle_m$$

$$r(\mathbf{k}) = - \frac{\phi_1^i(\mathbf{k}) + \phi_2^i(\mathbf{k}) + \phi_3^i(\mathbf{k})}{e^{-ik_2} \phi_1^i(\mathbf{k}) + e^{i(k_1 - k_2)} \phi_2^i(\mathbf{k}) + \phi_3^i(\mathbf{k})}$$

components of the single layer Bloch spinor

- Inherits the dispersion of the single layer model
- Localized to top or bottom layer, depending on $|r(\mathbf{k})|$

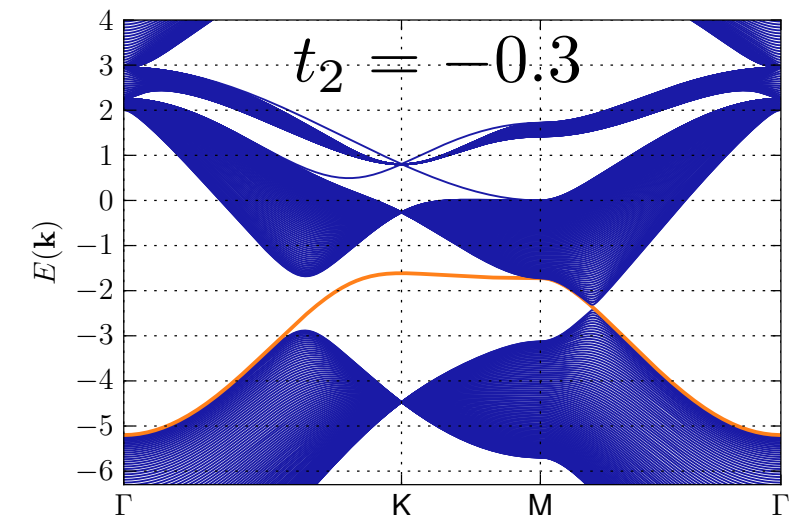
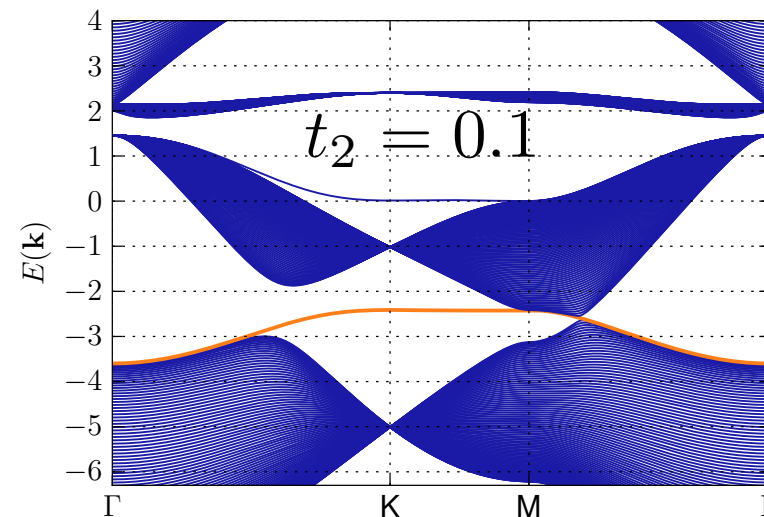
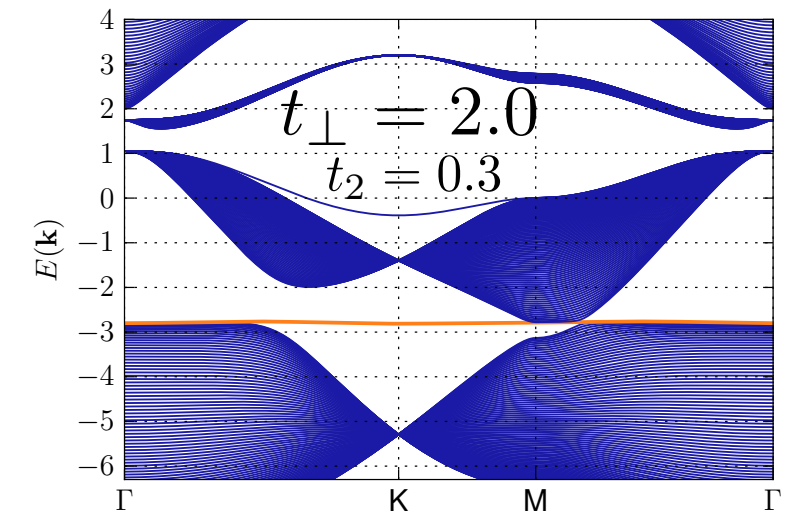
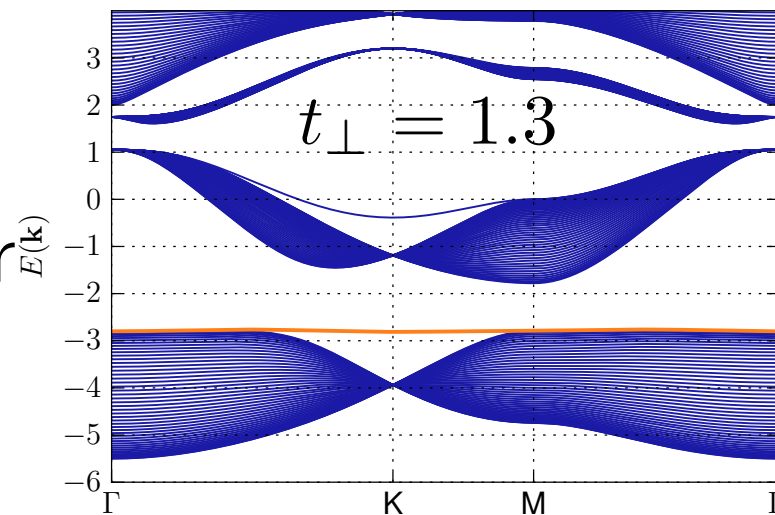


- When each kagome layer is a Chern insulator, these are precisely the states with Chern number $C=N$!
 - Simple way of generating (flat) bands with any Chern number

What's the nature of the surface states?

E.J. Bergholtz, Z. Liu, M. Trescher, R. Moessner, and M. Udagawa, arXiv:1408.3669

- Another look at the bulk spectrum...
- Increase the interlayer tunneling -- this leaves the flat band unchanged
- Change the nearest neighbor hopping
- Band touching described by the Weyl Hamiltonian



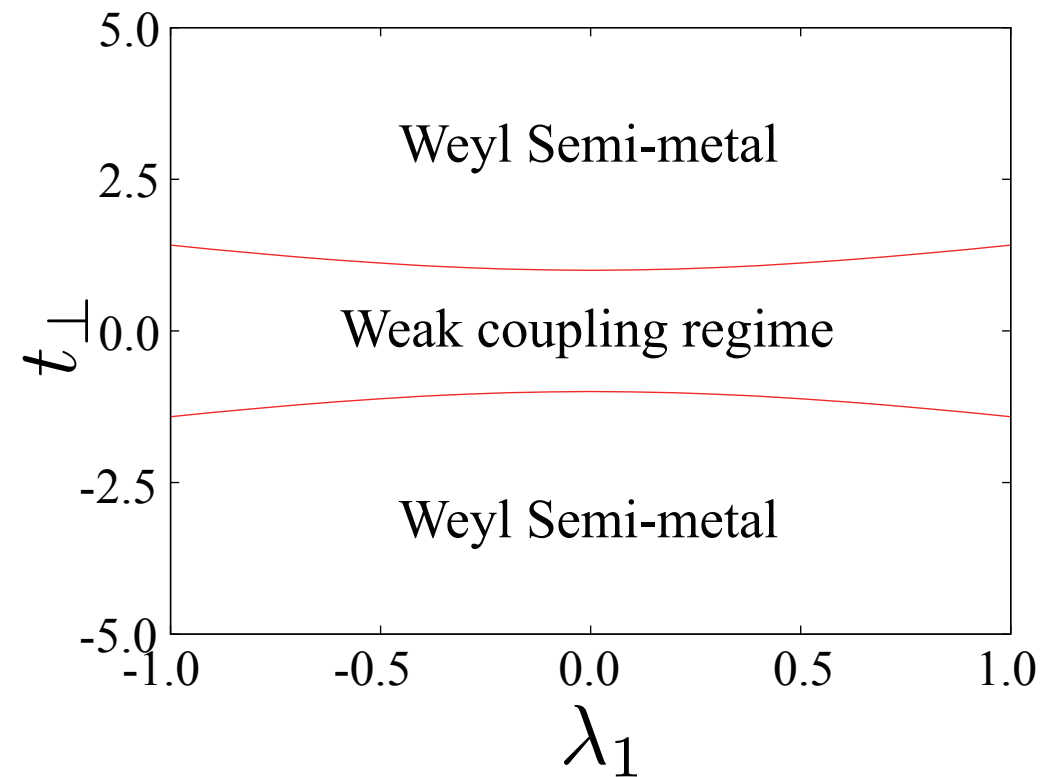
$$H_{\text{Weyl}} = \sum_i v_i \sigma_i k_i + E_0(\mathbf{k}) \mathbb{I}$$

- Nb. this holds in each case, also when the touching cone is nearly flat!

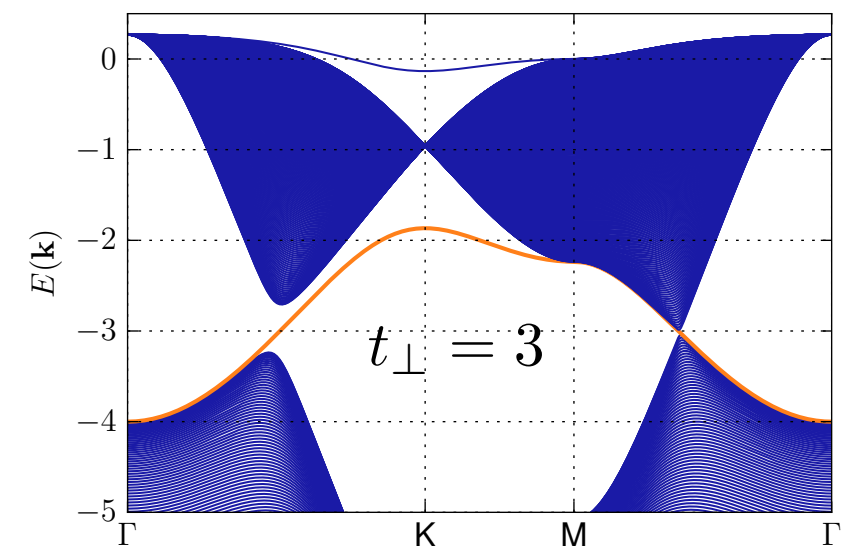
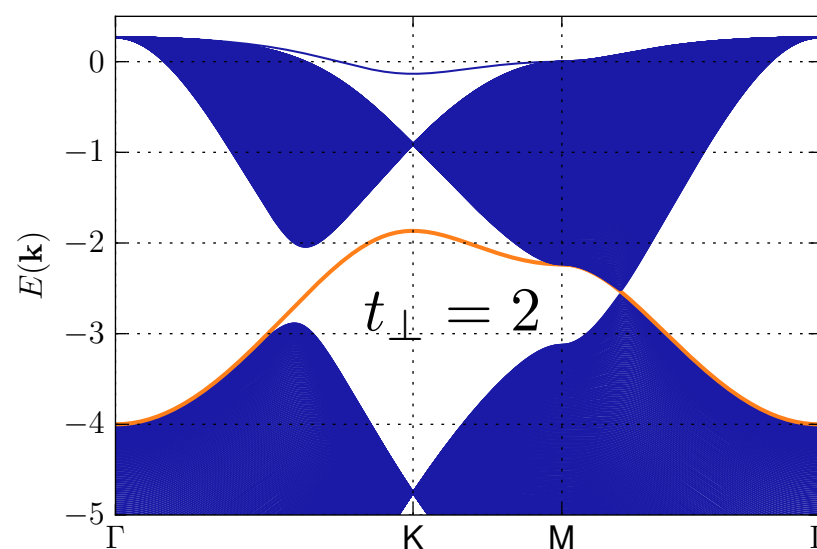
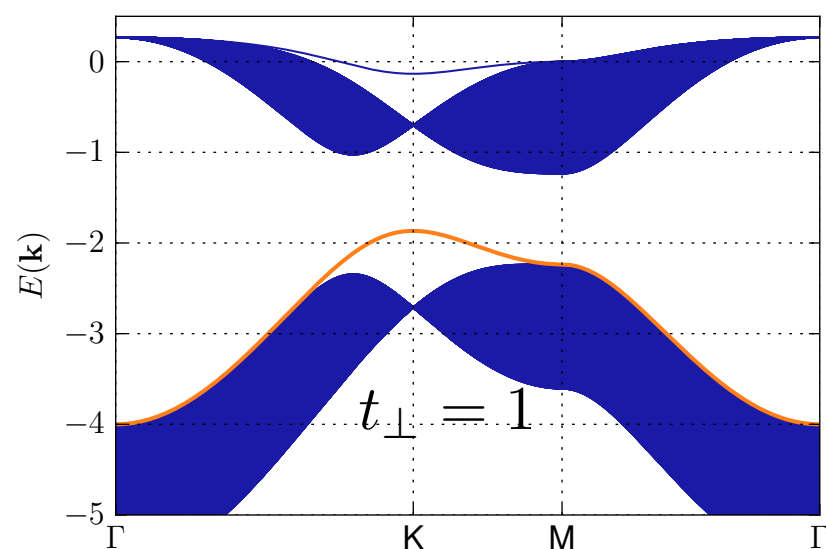
Works generically

E.J. Bergholtz, Z. Liu, M. Trescher, R. Moessner, and M. Udagawa, arXiv:1408.3669

- Phase diagram (more complicated for very strong spin-orbit coupling)



- Generic example ($t_{\perp} = -1, \lambda_1 = 0.5$)



- Nb. the surface states are entirely independent on t_{\perp}

Weyl semi-metals

- Topological gapless phase in three dimensions

- stable touching points, protected by a Chern number
- half a gapless Dirac theory

$$H_{\text{Weyl}} = \sum_i v_i \sigma_i k_i + E_0(\mathbf{k}) \mathbb{I}$$

- many fascinating transport phenomena, e.g., the chiral anomaly

- Subject to intense experimental (and theoretical) activity

- no ideal realization yet, but similar “Dirac metals” with symmetry protected Weyl features found recently
- many new ideas and and engineered structures materials are being tested...

- Predicted in pyrochlore iridates

- Alternative layer prescription for WSMs exist

- details and ingredients are however very different

- The topology is manifested through exotic surface states, “Fermi arcs”

Reviews:

A.M. Turner and A. Vishwanath, Beyond Band Insulators: Topology of Semi-metals and Interacting Phases, arXiv:1301.0330

P. Hosur and X. Qi, Recent developments in transport phenomena in Weyl semimetals, arXiv:1309.4464

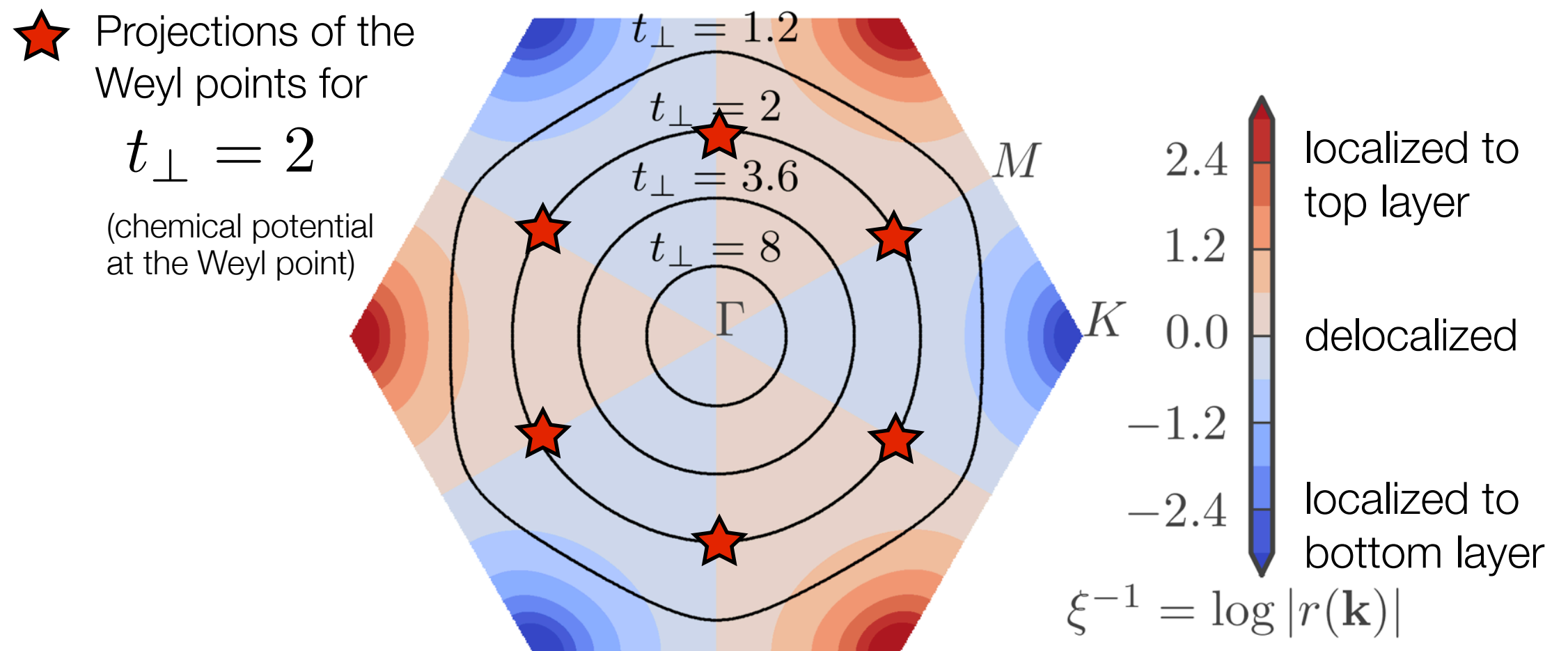
X. Wan, A. M. Turner, A. Vishwanath, and S. Y. Savrasov, Phys. Rev. B 83, 205101 (2011).

A. A. Burkov and L. Balents, Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 127205 (2011).

Fermi arcs in the pyrochlore slab

E.J. Bergholtz, Z. Liu, M. Trescher, R. Moessner, and M. Udagawa, arXiv:1408.3669

- Constant energy lines, “Fermi circles”, are split into Fermi arcs!



- Here we have an exact solutions for the Fermi arcs, and seen as a family, they carry a huge Chern number.
- The Fermi arcs also exist in absence of Weyl nodes in the bulk!

Experiments?

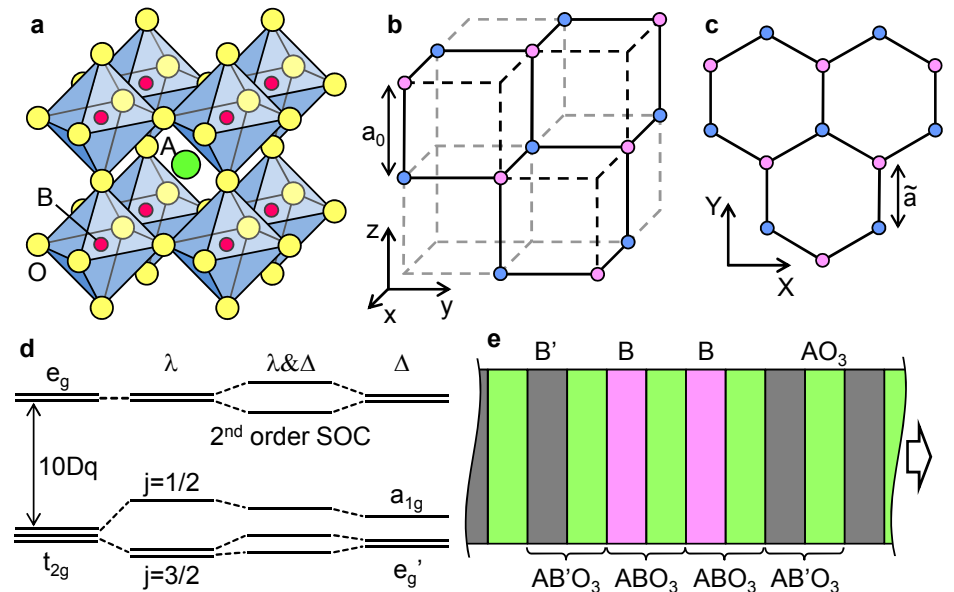
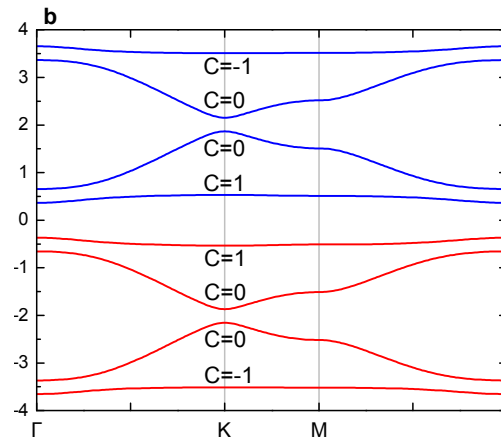
Oxide interfaces & geometrically frustrated systems with strong spin-orbit coupling

- Perovskite materials, ABO_3 , routinely grown in sandwich structures in the $[100]$ direction
 - Instead (111) slabs would be good for topological physics (relatively flat $C=1$ bands).

Epitaxial growth of (111) -oriented $LaAlO_3/LaNiO_3$ ultra-thin superlattices

S. Middey,^{1, a)} D. Meyers,¹ M. Kareev,¹ E. J. Moon,¹ B. A. Gray,¹ X. Liu,¹ J. W. Freeland,² and J. Chakhalian¹
¹⁾ Department of Physics, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701, USA
²⁾ Advanced Photon Source, Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois 60439, USA

arXiv:1212.0590v1

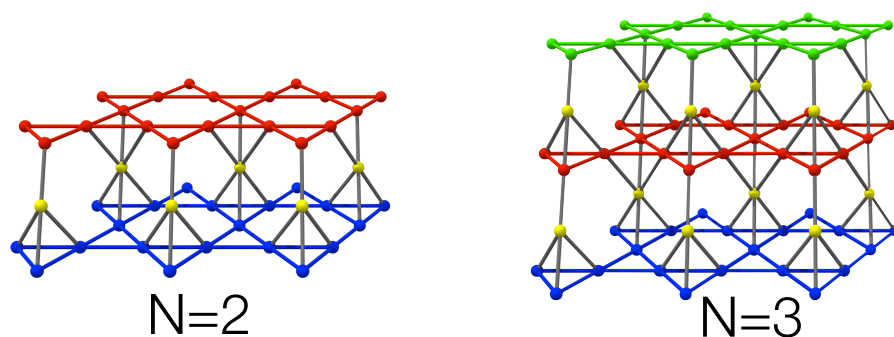


D. Xiao, W. Zhu, Y. Ran, N. Nagaosa, and S. Okamoto, Nature Commun. **2**, 596 (2011).

- But $[111]$ is not a natural cleavage/growth direction...

- **Suggestion:** Grow (111) slabs of pyrochlore transition metal oxides, in particular $A_2Ir_2O_7$ iridate thin films

- Natural cleavage/growth direction!
- Currently pursued by several experimental groups



- Might, *mutatis mutandis*, realize the pyrochlore slab model and the $C=N$ bands
- Stable surface states likely to be observed
- Stoichiometry enforce chemical potential at the Weyl point, i.e., in the surface band!
- Novel FCIs in thin slabs?!?

...much further work need

Topological flat bands in realistic cold atom/ molecule setups

PRL 110, 185302 (2013)  Selected for a [Viewpoint](#) in *Physics*
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS week ending
3 MAY 2013



Realizing Fractional Chern Insulators in Dipolar Spin Systems

N. Y. Yao,¹ A. V. Gorshkov,² C. R. Laumann,^{1,3} A. M. Läuchli,⁴ J. Ye,⁵ and M. D. Lukin¹

¹*Physics Department, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, USA*

²*Institute for Quantum Information and Matter, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California 91125, USA*

³*ITAMP, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, USA*

⁴*Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of Innsbruck, A-6020 Innsbruck, Austria*

⁵*JILA, National Institute of Standards and Technology and University of Colorado, Department of Physics, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado 80309, USA*

(Received 11 January 2013; published 29 April 2013)

PRL 110, 185301 (2013)  Selected for a [Viewpoint](#) in *Physics*
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS week ending
3 MAY 2013



Reaching Fractional Quantum Hall States with Optical Flux Lattices

Nigel R. Cooper¹ and Jean Dalibard^{2,3}

¹*T.C.M. Group, Cavendish Laboratory, J. J. Thomson Avenue, Cambridge CB3 0HE, United Kingdom*

²*Laboratoire Kastler Brossel, CNRS, UPMC, ENS, 24 rue Lhomond, F-75005 Paris, France*

³*Collège de France, 11, place Marcelin Berthelot, 75005 Paris, France*

(Received 14 December 2012; published 29 April 2013)

- The rotational degrees of freedom in spin-models (in optical lattices) freedom can form FCIs
- Artificial gauge fields by applying lasers with spatially modulated frequency
- Both setups give rather flat bands “for free” (...well not quite, but still promising)
- Several other promising ideas around...

Outlook

- Experimental realizations?!
Many possible directions here...
- Time-reversal invariant states?
Preliminary results are slightly disappointing -- exponentially localized Wannier functions as an explanation? (See Levin & Stern, PRL '09 for alternative picture)
- Detailed theory of anomalous states in higher-C bands
- Lattice defects, dislocations and disorder
- MPS and tensor network approaches
 - Local finite-dimensional Hamiltonian without projection!
 - Entanglement (area law) estimates indicate that this is feasible but there are at the same time considerable issues to solve for chiral phases described by 2D networks
- Three-dimensional generalizations and strongly correlated phases in other surface bands
-

thank you!