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A Holographic Quantum Hall Ferromagnet

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Quantum Hall effect

Consider 2D electron system in x - y plane with magnetic filed B



Longitudinal conductivity

Hall conductivity

filling fraction \equiv charge density/B

The non-zero width of plateaus indicates that a QHS is an incompressible gapped state. It forms around an integer # of filling fraction in IQHE or a rational # in FQHE.

Away from these values, the state is un-gapped, the longitudinal conductivity is non-zero and the Hall conductivity varies.

The formation of gapped state is very well understood in terms of the Landau states(IQHE) or the Laughlin states(FQHE).

Also, there are good theoretical arguments for the persistence of the IQHE in the presence of *electron-electron interactions*, at least when the *interactions are weak* enough that pert. theory can be applied.

TO EXPLORE:

Whether any feature of the IQHE can persist when the *coupling is strong* beyond the reach of perturbation theory?

An example: Graphene



These features were observed in the initial experiments soon after the discovery of graphene in 2004.

Later, with stronger magnetic field and cleaner sample, the formation of new plateaus were discovered.

The mechanism for formation of these additional plateaus is thought to be SSB and has an elegant explanation at weak coupling: when electrons are non-interacting a partially filled Landau level is a highly deg. state. Any interaction no matter how weak will split the degeneracy.

But the Coulomb interaction in graphene is strong!

AdS/CFT:

Gauge theory

(3+1)-dim 𝒴 4 SYM + infinite flat (2+1)-dim SC defect Gravity theory

N coincident D3-branes + N5/N7 coincident D5/D7-branes

N5 & N7 << N

The geometric set-up:

We embed D5 and D7 probe branes in the asymptotically $AdS_5 \times S^5$ black hole bgr: AdS_5 $ds^{2} = \sqrt{\lambda}\alpha' \left[r^{2}(-h(r)dt^{2} + dx^{2} + dy^{2} + dz^{2}) + \frac{dr^{2}}{h(r)r^{2}} +$ $+d\psi^2 + \sin^2\psi(d\theta^2 + \sin^2\theta d\phi^2) + \cos^2\psi(d\tilde{\theta}^2 + \sin^2\tilde{\theta} d\tilde{\phi}^2) \Big]$ S^2 $\psi \in [0, \pi/2]$ $\tilde{\varsigma}^2$ RR 4-form of IIB $h(r) = 1 - \frac{r_h^4}{r^4}$ $T = r_h/\pi$ $C^{(4)} = \lambda {\alpha'}^2 \left[h(r) r^4 dt \wedge dx \wedge dy \wedge dz + \frac{c(\psi)}{2} d\cos\theta \wedge d\phi \wedge d\cos\tilde{\theta} \wedge d\tilde{\phi} \right]$



Asymptotic behavior of the solutions:



However, for v = 1 the D7 EOM *diverges* at the horizon.

We can still find a solution if $\psi = 0$ at some $r_0 > r_h$. This is called a Minkowski embedding and corresponds to a *gapped* solution.

Numerical results (comparing free energies):



Composite systems ($\nu > 1$):



Conclusion:

✓ For $\nu < 1$ there are three solutions: D5 Ch. Sym. solution, D5&D7 SChSB solutions competing and the one with lower free energy is stable.

✓ D7-brane solutions are ungapped for all values of filling fraction except for $\nu = 1$ which is an incompressible gapped solution.

✓ For $\nu > 1$ there are also composite systems (D5-D7 or D7-D7) competing with the above mentioned solutions.

Phase diagrams showing the stability regions of all solutions have been obtained numerically.

 Our holographic model resembles some of the observed features in graphene which has strong Coulomb interactions.

Probe D5-branes (N5<<N):

$$S_{5} = \frac{T_{5}}{g_{s}} N_{5} \int d^{6}\sigma \left[-\sqrt{-\det(g + 2\pi\alpha'\mathcal{F}_{5})} + 2\pi\alpha'C^{(4)} \wedge \mathcal{F}_{5} \right]$$
$$C^{(4)} = \lambda {\alpha'}^{2} \left[h(r)r^{4}dt \wedge dx \wedge dy \wedge dz + \frac{c(\psi)}{2}d\cos\theta \wedge d\phi \wedge d\cos\tilde{\theta} \wedge d\tilde{\phi} \right]$$

$$2\pi\alpha'\mathcal{F}_5 = \sqrt{\lambda}\alpha' \left[\frac{d}{dr}a(r)dr \wedge dt + bdx \wedge dy\right]$$

$$\rho = \frac{1}{V_{2+1}} \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \frac{\delta S_5}{\delta \frac{d}{dr} a(r)}$$



$$\mathcal{L}_{5} = \sqrt{4\sin^{4}\psi f^{2}(1+r^{4}) + (\pi\nu)^{2}}\sqrt{1+h(r)\left(r\frac{d\psi}{dr}\right)^{2}}$$

Probe D7-branes (N7=1):

$$S = \frac{T_7}{g_s} \int d^8 \sigma \left[-\sqrt{-\det(g + 2\pi\alpha' \mathcal{F}_7)} + \frac{(2\pi\alpha')^2}{2} C^{(4)} \wedge \mathcal{F}_7 \wedge \mathcal{F}_7 \right]$$

$$2\pi\alpha'\mathcal{F}_7 = \sqrt{\lambda}\alpha'\left(\frac{d}{dr}a(r)dr\wedge dt + bdx\wedge dy + \frac{f}{2}d\cos\tilde{\theta}\wedge d\tilde{\phi}\right)$$

$$c(\psi) = \psi - \frac{1}{4}\sin 4\psi - \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{7} = \sqrt{4\sin^{4}\psi(f^{2} + 4\cos^{4}\psi)(1 + r^{4}) + (\pi(\nu - 1) + 2\psi - \frac{1}{2}\sin 4\psi)^{2}} \times \sqrt{1 + h(r)\left(r\frac{d\psi}{dr}\right)^{2}},$$