

Two topics beyond perfect crystals: quantum geometry of evanescent surface states in rhombohedral graphite, and topological charges in quasicrystals

Päivi Törmä Aalto University

Topology and Geometry Beyond Perfect Crystals, Nordita, Stockholm, Sweden

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Quantum geometry and superconductivity

Lowest-Landau-level (LLL) quantum geometry of the surface states of rhombohedral graphite, and superconductivity

High topological charge lasing in a quasicrystal

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Quantum geometric tensor

Metric for the distance between quantum states Provost, Vallee, Comm. Math. Phys. **76**, 289 (1980)

$$d\ell^{2} = ||u(\mathbf{k} + d\mathbf{k}) - u(\mathbf{k})||^{2} = \langle u(\mathbf{k} + d\mathbf{k}) - u(\mathbf{k})|u(\mathbf{k} + d\mathbf{k}) - u(\mathbf{k})\rangle$$

$$\approx \sum_{i,j} \langle \partial_{k_{i}} u | \partial_{k_{j}} u \rangle dk_{i} dk_{j}$$
Introduce gauge invariant version $(u(\mathbf{k}) \leftrightarrow u(\mathbf{k})e^{i\phi(\mathbf{k})})$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Quantum geometric tensor (Fubini-Study metric)}$$

$$\mathcal{B}_{ij}(\mathbf{k}) = 2\langle \partial_{k_{i}} u | (1 - |u\rangle\langle u|) | \partial_{k_{j}} u \rangle$$

$$\text{Re } \mathcal{B}_{ij} = g_{ij} \qquad \text{quantum metric } d\ell^{2} = \sum_{ij} g_{ij} dk_{i} dk_{j}$$

$$\text{Im } \mathcal{B}_{ij} = [\mathbf{\Omega}_{\text{Berry}}]_{ij} \text{ Berry curvature}$$

Chern number:
$$C = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{B.Z.} d^2 \mathbf{k} \, \Omega_{Berry}(\mathbf{k})$$



Perspective on quantum geometry PT, PRL 2023 Review on quantum geometry Yu, Bernevig, Queiroz, Rossi, PT, Yang, arXiv 2025

Review on quantum geometric superconductivity PT, Peotta, Bernevig, Nat. Rev. Phys. 2022

Superconductivity: Cooper pair formation competes with kinetic energy



Weak interaction U Large kinetic energy (Fermi level) Low critical temperature

 $T_c \propto e^{-1/(Un_0(E_f))}$

Constituents: interactions, density of states (DOS)

Remove the kinetic energy/maximize DOS: interaction effects dominate!

Flat bands: interactions dominate



This is the critical temperature for Cooper pairing

$$\Delta(\mathbf{r}) = \langle \psi_{\sigma}(\mathbf{r})\psi_{\sigma'}(\mathbf{r})\rangle \quad \Delta(\mathbf{r}) = |\Delta(\mathbf{r})|$$

Superfluid weight: supercurrent and Meissner Effect



SupercurrentCurrent $\mathbf{j} = -D_s \mathbf{A}$ $\mathbf{j} = \sigma \mathbf{E}$ $\mathbf{E} = -\partial \mathbf{A} / \partial t$

Order parameter phase gradient $\Delta({f r}) = |\Delta({f r})| {
m e}^{2i\phi({f r})}$

 $abla \phi - e {f A}/\hbar$ Invariant under gauge transformations

Free energy change associated with phase gradient

$$\Delta F = \frac{\hbar^2}{2e^2} \int d^3 \mathbf{r} \sum_{ij} [D_s]_{ij} \partial_i \phi(\mathbf{r}) \partial_j \phi(\mathbf{r})$$

London equation and penetration depth

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{j}$$
$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 D_s \mathbf{B}$$
$$\lambda_L = (\mu_0 D_s)^{-1/2}$$

Superfluid weight: supercurrent and Meissner Effect



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Free energy change associated with phase gradient

$$\begin{split} \Delta F &= \frac{\hbar^2}{2e^2} \int \mathrm{d}^3 \mathbf{r} \sum_{ij} [D_s]_{ij} \partial_i \phi(\mathbf{r}) \partial_j \phi(\mathbf{r}) \\ \text{Conventional BCS:} \quad D_s &= \frac{e^2 n_\mathrm{p}}{m_\mathrm{eff}} \left(1 - \left(\frac{2\pi\Delta}{k_\mathrm{B}T}\right)^{1/2} \mathrm{e}^{-\Delta/(k_\mathrm{B}T)} \right) \\ \text{Zero at a flat band!!!} \\ \frac{n_\mathrm{p}}{m_\mathrm{eff}} & \text{Particle density} \\ \frac{1}{m_\mathrm{eff}} \propto J \propto \partial_{k_i} \partial_{k_j} \epsilon_\mathbf{k} \end{split} \text{Bandwidth} \qquad i, j = x, y, z \end{split}$$

Formation of flat bands



Superfluidity and quantum geometry





Andrei Bernevig







Murad Tovmasyan



Aaron Chew

Kukka-Emilia Huhtinen

Peotta, PT, Nat Comm 2015 Julku, Peotta, Vanhala, Kim, PT, PRL 2016 Tovmasyan, Peotta, PT, Huber, PRB 2016 Liang, Vanhala, Peotta, Siro, Harju, PT, PRB 2017 Liang, Peotta, Harju, PT, PRB 2017 Tovmasyan, Peotta, Liang, PT, Huber, PRB 2018 PT, Liang, Peotta, PRB(R) 2018 Huhtinen, Herzog-Arbeitman, Chew, Bernevig, PT, PRB 2022 Herzog-Arbeitman, Chew, Huhtinen, PT, Bernevig, arXiv 2022



Aleksi Julku Dong-Hee Kim

Jonah Herzog-Arbeitman





Tuomas Vanhala





Ari Harju

Topi Siro

Our multiband approach

MULTIBAND BCS MEAN-FIELD THEORY multiband two-component attractive Fermi-Hubbard model –U < 0



$$H = -\sum_{ij\alpha\beta\sigma} t^{\sigma}_{i\alpha j\beta} c^{\dagger}_{i\alpha\sigma} c_{j\beta\sigma} - U \sum_{i\alpha} n_{i\alpha\uparrow} n_{i\alpha\downarrow} - \mu \sum_{i\alpha\sigma} n_{i\alpha\sigma}$$

Introduce supercurrent

$$\Delta(\mathbf{r}) \to \Delta(\mathbf{r}) e^{2i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{r}}$$

$$2\mathbf{q} \text{ Cooper pair momentum}$$

$$\llbracket \mathbf{D}_{\$} \rrbracket_{ij} = \frac{e^2}{W} \frac{\mathrm{d}^2 \mathfrak{D}}{\mathrm{d}q_{ii} \mathrm{d}q_{jj}} \Vert_{\mathbf{q}=\mathbf{0}}$$

 $\nabla \phi - e\mathbf{A}/\hbar$ $\langle j_i(\omega, \mathbf{q}) \rangle = -\sum_j \chi_{ij}(\omega, \mathbf{q}) A_j(\omega, \mathbf{q})$ $D_s = \lim_{\mathbf{q} \to 0} \chi(\omega = 0, \mathbf{q})$

i, j = x, y, z

Superfluid weight in a multiband system

$$\begin{split} D_s &= D_{s, \text{conventional}} + D_{s, \text{geometric}} \\ &\propto \partial_{k_i} \partial_{k_j} \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} \end{split} \qquad \begin{array}{c} i, j = x, y, z \\ & & \\ \text{Can be nonzero also in a flat band} \\ & & \\ \text{Present only in a multiband case} \\ & & \\ \text{Proportional to the guantum metric} \end{array} \end{split}$$

 $[D_{s,\text{geometric}}]_{ij} \propto Ug_{ij}$

Lower bound for flat band superfluidity

Peotta, PT, Nat Comm 2015

The quantum geometric tensor \mathcal{B}_{ij} is complex positive semidefinite

$$\implies D_s \geqslant \int_{B.Z.} d^d \mathbf{k} |\mathbf{\Omega}_{\text{Berry}}(\mathbf{k})| \geqslant C$$

Time reversal symmetry assumed; C is a spin Chern number

Constituents: interactions, density of states (DOS) and Bloch functions = quantum geometry and topology

Why can there be transport in a flat band?



Twisted Bilayer Graphene (TBG) superconductivity since 2018

Reviews: Balents, Dean, Efetov, Young, Nat Phys 2020 Andrei, Efetov, Jarillo-Herrero, MacDonald, Mak, Senthil, Tutuc, Yazdani, Young, Nat Rev Mater 2021





Figure credits see Fig.1 in PT, Peotta, Bernevig, Nat Rev Phys 2022

Quantum geometry: Relevant for TBG superconductivity?

Theoretically suggested: Julku, Peltonen, Liang, Heikkilä, PT, PRB 2020 Hu, Hyart, Pikulin, Rossi, PRL 2020 Xie, Song, Lian, Bernevig PRL2020



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Quantum geometry of the surface states of rhombohedral graphite and its effects on the surface superconductivity



Guodong Jiang

Tero Heikkilä

Jiang, Heikkilä, PT, arXiv:2504.03617 (2025)



 $\widehat{H} = \{-\gamma_0 \sum_{n,\langle iA,jB \rangle} c^+_{niA} c_{njB} + \gamma_1 \sum_n c^+_{n+1,iA} c_{niB}\} + h.c. \text{ Drumhead}$

F. T.
$$h(k_x, k_y, k_z) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & c.c. \\ k_x + ik_y + e^{ik_z} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

In scaled units: γ_1 (energy), γ_0/v_f (momentum).

Degeneracies:

$$k_x + ik_y + e^{ik_z} = 0 \implies \begin{cases} k_x = -\cos k_z \\ k_y = -\sin k_z \end{cases}$$
 nodal spiral

Two incomplete pictures of RG surface states:



For RG, surface state decay length varies with k !





(2) Two-orbital effective model

From perturbation theory $(H = H_0 + H')$

$$H_{\rm eff} = E_0 + P_0 H' \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (\tilde{G}_0 H')^j P_0$$
 ,

 $P_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \\ 0 & \\ 0 & \\ 0 & \\ 0 & \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ is the projection to 1A and NB,

 Y_1

$$\tilde{G}_0 = P_1 \frac{1}{E_0 - H_0} P_1, P_1 = 1 - P_0 \implies H_{\text{eff}} = (-1)^{N-1} \begin{pmatrix} m & \pi^{*N} \\ \pi^N & -m \end{pmatrix}$$

 $\pi = k_x + ik_y$ McCann 2006, Guinea 2006, Min 2008, etc.

limitations:

- good dispersion near the center
- good quantum geometry at the rim
- topologically incorrect



v: valence band

QGT of RG surface states



(1) Nonzero at the center $N=\infty$ limit:

$$\psi_{\mathbf{k}}^{(\nu)}(z) = \frac{\sqrt{1-k^2}}{k} e^{\kappa(\mathbf{k})z} \begin{pmatrix} 1\\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\kappa(\mathbf{k}) = \ln[-(k_x + ik_y)]$$

QGT
$$B_{\mu\nu}^{(\nu)}(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{1}{(1-k^2)^2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & i \\ -i & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

The nonzero value is from the **momentum-dependent decay**, i.e. $\nabla_k \kappa$

(2) Peak at the rim A surface hybridization effect. At some momentum, $\lambda(\mathbf{k}) = 1/\kappa(\mathbf{k}) \sim N$.

$$B_{\mu\nu}^{(\nu)}(\mathbf{k}) \equiv \sum_{l} \langle \partial_{\mu} \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^{(\nu)} | \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^{(l)} \rangle \langle \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^{(l)} | \partial_{\nu} \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^{(\nu)} \rangle$$

Focus on the l = c term

$$\begin{array}{c}
0.4 \\
0.2 \\
0.0 \\
-0.2 \\
-0.4 \\
-1 \\
k_x/k_0
\end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\langle \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^{(v)} | \partial_{\mu} H_{\mathbf{k}} | \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^{(c)} \rangle \langle \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^{(c)} | \partial_{\nu} H_{\mathbf{k}} | \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^{(v)} \rangle}{\left(\varepsilon_{v,\mathbf{k}} - \varepsilon_{c,\mathbf{k}}\right)^{2}}$$

Jiang, Heikkilä, PT, arXiv: 2504.03617 Bernevig, Kwan, arXiv: 2503.09692 (Different approaches)

(3) N-independent at the center No surface hybridization ⇒ wavefunctions for different N are the same.

LLL quantum geometry

$$B = g - \frac{i}{2}\Omega$$
, $\operatorname{Tr}[g] \ge |\Omega|$

 $B_{\mu\nu}^{(\nu/c)}(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{1}{(1-k^2)^2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \pm i \\ \mp i & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ Quantum geometric tensor of RG



Hamiltonian of the LL problem:

$$(\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{A})^2$$

 $H = \frac{(\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{A})^2}{2m}, \qquad (e = \hbar = 1)$

A fictitious unit cell

$$B_{\mu\nu}^{n}(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{l_{B}^{2}}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 2n+1 & -i \\ i & 2n+1 \end{pmatrix}, \ n = 0, 1, \dots$$



The two surface bands of RG resemble a pair of decoupled LLLs with opposite B fields

Superconductivity and surface polarization





Displacement field has two effects:
(1) Flatten the band and enhance DOS;
(2) Polarize electron density to one surface

Once m is above the m_s , QGT is the same as previously discussed !

Nissinen, Heikkilä, Volovik (2021) PRB 103, 245115

Superconductivity and surface polarization

Gap equation in orbital basis (onsite pairing, s-wave and doped to the valence band)

$$\Delta_{\alpha} = -U\langle c_{i\alpha\downarrow}c_{i\alpha\uparrow}\rangle$$
 α =1A or NB

$$\Delta_{\nu}(k) = \left|\psi_{k,1A}^{(\nu)}\right|^2 \Delta_{1A} + \left|\psi_{k,NB}^{(\nu)}\right|^2 \Delta_{NB}$$

At full polarization, effective coupling strength for one order (e.g. Δ_{NB}) is doubled.



Superconductivity and topological heavy-fermion model

Fictitious superconducting state in large N-layer RG:

Distribution of superfluid stiffness in **k**-space:

$$D_{s,\mu\nu} = 2 \sum_{\mathbf{k}} [f_{\mu\nu}^{\text{conv}}(\mathbf{k}) + f_{\mu\nu}^{\text{geo}}(\mathbf{k})]$$

$$f_{\mu\nu}^{\text{conv}}(\mathbf{k}) = -\left(\frac{\xi_{\nu,\mathbf{k}}}{E_{\nu,\mathbf{k}}} + 1\right) \partial_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} \xi_{\nu,\mathbf{k}} \xrightarrow{\text{dispersion}} Pairing \text{ matrix}$$

$$f_{\mu\nu}^{\text{geo}}(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{1}{E_{\nu,\mathbf{k}}} \operatorname{Tr} \{\partial_{\mu} P_{\mathbf{k}}^{(\nu)} \widehat{\Delta} \partial_{\nu} P_{\mathbf{k}}^{(\nu)} \widehat{\Delta} - \partial_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} P_{\mathbf{k}}^{(\nu)} \widehat{\Delta} P_{\mathbf{k}}^{(\nu)} \widehat{\Delta}\} \xrightarrow{\text{Pairing matrix}} in \text{ orbital basis}$$

Fully polarized order parameter:

 $\widehat{\Delta} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & 0 & \\ & & & \Delta_{NB} \end{pmatrix}$ $f_{\mu\nu}^{\text{geo}}(\mathbf{k}) = 2\Delta_{NB}(\delta_{\mu\nu} + \frac{2}{1 - k^2}k_{\mu}k_{\nu})$



Superconductivity and topological heavy-fermion model

Unusual heavy-fermion picture of RG

Usual topological HF (Song, Bernevig, PRL 2022) f-electron localized in all dimensions; Wannierizable;

We find: Unusual RG HF

only localized in z direction, and delocalized in x-y direction (LLL QG); non-Wannierizable (topological)



Are there other examples of unusual HFs in condensed matter?

Summary

- RG surface bands have similar QGT to LLL
- Unusual HFs localized in reduced dimensions
- Implications for other correlated phases (fractional topological phases, etc.?)



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Plasmonic lattices Surface lattice resonances (SLRs)

Dispersive energy bands with polarization dependent properties



Garcia de Abajo, Rev. Mod. Phys. 2007 Wang, Ramezani, Väkeväinen, PT, Gomez-Rivas, Odom, Materials Today 2018 Kravets, Kabashin, Barnes, Grigorenko, Chemical Reviews 2018

Our previous work: strong coupling, lasing, Bose-Einstein condensation in a plasmonic lattice, e.g.

Hakala, Moilanen, Väkeväinen, Guo, Martikainen, Daskalakis, Rekola, Julku, PT, Nature Physics 2018

Väkeväinen, Moilanen, Necada, Hakala, Daskalakis, PT, Nature Communications 2020

Moilanen, Daskalakis, Taskinen, PT, PRL 2021

Taskinen, Kliuiev, Moilanen, PT, Nano Letters 2021

Now High topological charge lasing in a quasicrystal

High-topological charge lasing in quasicrystals

Arjas, Taskinen, Heilmann, Salerno, PT, Nature Communications 15, 9544 (2024)



Kristian Arjas



Jani Taskinen





Rebecca Heilmann

Grazia Salerno

Topological BICs are polarization vortices

Zhen... Soljačić, Phys. Rev. Lett. 113, 257401 (2014)

Hsu... Joannopoulos, Soljačić, Nat Rev Mater 1, 16048 (2016)



- High-Q BICs support lasing
- They offer vector vortex beams with a topological charge and can be used for creating beams of optical angular momentum

Rybin and Kivshar, *Nature* **541**, 164 (2017) Kodigala... Kante, *Nature* **541**, 196 (2017) Ha... Kutznetsov, *Nat. Nanotechnol.* **13**, 1042 (2018) Huang... Ge, Kivshar, Song, *Science* **367**, 1018 (2020) Wang... Shi, Zi, *Nat. Phot.* **14**, 623 (2020) Wu, Kang, Werner, *New J. Phys.* **24**, 033002 (2022) Kang... Werner, *Adv. Optical Mater.* **10**, 2101497 (2022) Topological BICs (bound state in continuum) cannot radiate because **there is no way to assign a far-field polarization** that is consistent with neighbouring k points.

Robust BICs are possible when there is vorticity in the polarization field, protected by the existence of a non-trivial topological invariant, the vortex charge:

$$q = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int \mathrm{d}\mathbf{k} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} \phi(\mathbf{k})$$

$$\Phi(\mathbf{k}) = \arg[\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{k}) \cdot \hat{x} + i\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{k}) \cdot \hat{y}]$$

 $\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{k}) = (\hat{x} \cdot \langle \mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}, z) \rangle) \hat{x} + (\hat{y} \cdot \langle \mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}, z) \rangle) \hat{y}$

Measuring the BIC charge from lasing

|q| = 'Number of blobs"/2 sgn(q) from rotation: clockwise (+), anti-clockwise (-)



Rotational symmetries and irreducible representations







$$\leftrightarrow \leftrightarrow$$

- Ci		()	r
Symmetry	IR	$ m arg(\epsilon_{IR})$	q
C_2	A	0	+1
	B	π^{-}	0
C_3	A	0	+1
	E^*	$2\pi/3$	0
C_4	A	0	+1
	B	π	-1
	E^*	$\pi/2$	0
C_6	Α	0	+1
	B	π	-2
	E_1^*	$\pi/3$	0
	E_2^*	$2\pi/3$	-1



$$q_{\rm irrep} = 1 - \frac{n}{2\pi} \arg(\epsilon_{\rm irrep})$$

Salerno, Heilmann, Arjas, Aronen, Martikainen, PT, PRL 2022

High topological charges by quasicrystals

Goal

Design a lattice capable of hosting a BIC with $\int_{\phi_{n-2}}^{\infty} \int_{\phi_{n-1}}^{\phi_{n-1}} \int_{C_n \text{ symme}}^{\phi_{n-1}} dr = 1 - \frac{n}{2\pi} \arg(\epsilon_{\text{IR}}) + n \cdot m$

Design idea

- 1. Generate electric field interference pattern with desired symmetries
 - Near field and far-field should have same symmetry properties
- 2. Minimize losses in the desired mode by placing particles
 - Targeted mode has lowest losses: highest quality factor



 $m \in \mathbb{Z}$

Step 1: Empty-lattice Interference pattern

Energy density
$$\rho_{IR}(\mathbf{r}) = \left|\sum_{j} \mathbf{E}_{IR,j}(\mathbf{k}_{j},\mathbf{r})\right|^{2} = \left|\sum_{j} e^{i\mathbf{k}_{j}\cdot\mathbf{r}} \begin{bmatrix} a_{IR,j} \\ b_{IR,j} \end{bmatrix}\right|^{2}$$



Step 2: Moiré-scheme



Particles placed in the shaded regions are roughly periodic in given direction. Selecting particles in darker regions allows us to find the particles that best fit with the desired diffracted orders.

Step 3: Density Equalization

C₁₂-sample SEM image



~3% of the total sample area

Measurements



θ_y (deg)

1

-1

0 θ_x (deg) -1

1

0 θ_x (deg)

0 θ_x (deg) -1

1

 $\hat{0}$ θ_x (deg)

0 θ_x (deg)

Two charges nearby



 θ_{y} (deg)

-1

 k_x

Polarization resolved measurements



Topological charges up to +19!

$$q_{\mathrm{IR}} = 1 - rac{n}{2\pi} \arg(\epsilon_{\mathrm{IR}}) + n \cdot m \quad m \in \mathbb{Z}$$



Why primes (-5, +7, -17, +19, ...)? $q_{\rm IR} = 1 - \frac{n}{2\pi} \arg(\epsilon_{\rm IR}) + n \cdot m \qquad m \in \mathbb{Z}$

For n=12, and the irrep character π , we have q = 1 + 6 (m-1) = 1 + 6 n'

Dirichlet's theorem: for any co-primes a and d, the are infinitely many primes of the form q = a + d n'



Flat-band-like emission

Lasing



Quasicrystals have a continuum of Bragg peaks



Summary

Quantum geometry allows flat band superconductivity

Rhombohedral graphite: LLL quantum geometry of surface states

Lasing with unprecedentedly high topological charges: -5, +7, -17 and +19! Novel quasicrystal design Flat-band like lasing

Outlook

Superconductivity at high temperatures

Interplay of quantum geometry and topology with interactions and gain

Exploiting quasicrystals for beam design, Transfer of the concept to other systems/materials



