Stability of FCI states on kagome lattice

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We investigate Fractional Chern Insulator (FCI) phases on kagome lattice and indicate their most stable areas within interactions parameter space. FCI are quantum phases related to partially filled Chern Insulators - insulators with nontrivial bands topology exhibiting a nonzero Hall conductance but contrary to Landau level physics, preserving lattice translational symmetry. [1-3] While FCI phases were observed for several lattice models and different filling fractions, [5-7] factors responsible for their stability are not fully determined.

In this work, we focus on FCI phases on kagome lattice. [4] We consider states with filling factors 1/3, 1/5, 1/7, 2/5, 3/7. Exact diagonalization is performed and phase stability maps in nearest and next nearest neighbor interaction parameters are analyzed. FCI phases are confirmed by looking at many-body ground state degeneracy, spectral flow upon flux insertion, and quasi-particle excitation spectra. A correlation between large many-body energy gap separating the ground state manifold with low energy excitations and constant berry curvature is shown. [8] We have found that for Laughlin-like series 1/n, next nearest neighbour interaction play a crucial role, in analogy to higher angular momentum pseudo potentials in fractional quantum Hall effect (FQHE). An evolution of phase diagrams with systems sizes are shown predicting a set of parameters for FCI phase existance in a thermodynamic limit. Sensitivity to periodic boundary condition are also observed.

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