

Strongly correlated systems

- Wigner crystal
- Hall effect
- Integer quantum Hall effect
- Fractional quantum Hall effect
- Kondo effect

Wigner crystal

Consider electrons at low density

Intuition from classical physics:

Low density \Rightarrow Long distances between electrons \Rightarrow Weak interactions

What do we get from quantum mechanics?

Kinetic energy: $E_{kin} \sim p^2 / 2m \sim \hbar^2 / ma^2$

Potential energy (no screening): $E_{pot} \sim e^2 / a$

Low density of electrons: $a > \hbar^2 / me^2 = a_B$

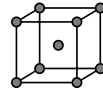
Potential energy dominates!

Wigner crystal

What is the ground state of the electron system at low density?

We need to minimize the potential energy!

Wigner crystal Bulk-centered cubic lattice



Problems with observation:

- Difficult to create a low density
- No uniform positive background
- Destroyed by disorder

$$a > \hbar^2 / me^2 = a_B$$

Realisations:

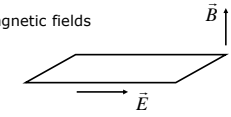
- Electrons at helium surface
- Semiconducting heterostructures

Hall effect

Electron moving in crossed electric and magnetic fields

$$\vec{F} = e \left(\vec{E} + \frac{1}{c} \vec{v} \times \vec{B} \right)$$

$$y\text{-direction: no force } E_y = \frac{1}{c} B v_x$$



voltage in the transverse direction
Hall effect

$$\frac{I = env_x W}{V_H = E_y W} \Rightarrow R_H = \frac{V_H}{I} = \frac{B}{enc} \quad \text{-(classical) Hall resistance}$$

Impurity independent $\omega_c \gg 1/\tau$

Proportional to the magnetic field

Landau quantization in 2D

A free electron in magnetic field: $\vec{B} \parallel \hat{z}$

$$\text{Schrödinger equation: } -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left(\nabla^2 + \frac{ie\vec{A}}{\hbar c} \right)^2 \psi = \epsilon \psi \quad A_y = Bx; A_x = A_z = 0$$

Solutions: labeled by one index n

$$\psi_n(\vec{r}) = \exp(ik_y y) \varphi_n(x - \hbar c k_y / eB)$$

φ_n - wave functions of a harmonic oscillator

Energies: $\epsilon_n = (e\hbar B / mc)(n + 1/2) \equiv \hbar \omega_c (n + 1/2)$ - strongly degenerate!!

(Landau levels)

$$\omega_c = eB / mc \quad \text{- cyclotron frequency}$$

Filling factor

$\epsilon_n = \hbar \omega_c (n + 1/2)$ How many states are there in the area A on one LL?

$$\psi_n(\vec{r}) = \exp(ik_y y) \varphi_n(x - \hbar c k_y / eB)$$

$$\text{Quantize } k_y \quad k_y = 2\pi m_y / W$$

$$\text{Condition for the maximal } x: L = \hbar c k_y / eB = k_y l^2 = 2\pi l^2 m_{\max} / W$$

$$l = \sqrt{\hbar c / eB} \quad \text{- magnetic length}$$

$$\# \text{ of states: } m_{\max} = A / 2\pi l^2 \equiv n_B A$$

$$\text{Filling factor: } \nu = \frac{\# \text{ electrons}}{\# \text{ states}} = \frac{n}{n_B} = \frac{2\pi \hbar c n}{eB}$$

Fix electron concentration:
Higher magnetic fields
correspond to lower filling
factors

Integer Quantum Hall effect

$G_H = \frac{enc}{B}$

Integer filling factor: $\nu = m \in \mathbb{N}$

$G_H = G_0 m$

$G_0 \equiv e^2 / 2\pi\hbar$

Experiment (Von Klitzing '80)

Integer Quantum Hall effect

Clean g

Disordered E

$\nu = 1/2$ $\nu = 1$ $\nu = 3/2$

Quantization
(nothing changes at the plateau)

Edge states

Where does current flow?

Transport can be described by chiral edge states: no backscattering

Circular motion in the bulk: no contribution to transport

Fractional Quantum Hall effect

Experiment (Tsui, Störmer, Gossard '81) : additional plateaus at $\nu = p/(2m+1)$

$G_H = \frac{p}{2m+1} G_0$

New states of matter (Laughlin states)
Interactions are important!

Laughlin wave function

Consider a state with $\nu = 1/(2m+1)$

Wave function: $z_n = x_n + iy_n$

$\Psi(z_1, \dots, z_n) \propto \prod_{ij} (z_i - z_j)^{2m+1} \prod_i e^{-|z_i|^2/2l}$

Fermionic!

Properties:

- ❖ Equivalent to a system of Coulomb charges in a confining potential;
- ❖ Excitations: fractional charge $e/(2m+1)$, can be probed in experiments
- ❖ Excitations: fractional statistics (not bosonic nor fermionic)
- ❖ Edge states: $(2m+1)$ channels; not very well understood

$\nu = p/(2m+1)$ Excitations still have fractional charge $e/(2m+1)$ and fractional statistics

Electrons in magnetic field

FQHE states
Excitation charge $e/5$

FQHE states
Excitation charge $e/3$

Very high magnetic fields (10T and higher)
Electron density is too low
No more FQHE states
Wigner crystal; melts at roughly 1/5
 $\nu \ll 1$

Classical Hall effect
 $\nu \gg 1$

Kondo effect

Experimentally: resistance minimum in some very clean metals (Cu, Au)

Explanation: spin-flip scattering

$$V = -J \sum_i \vec{\sigma}_i \cdot \vec{S}_i \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{R}_i)$$

σ - electron spin (vector of Pauli matrices)
 S - impurity spin

What if we treat it in the perturbation theory?

Amplitude of electron scattering from σ to σ' :

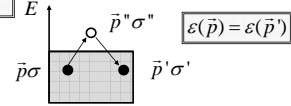
First order: $-J (\vec{\sigma} \vec{S})_{\sigma\sigma'}$

Kondo effect

$$V = -J \sum_i \vec{\sigma}_i \cdot \vec{S}_i \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{R}_i)$$

Amplitude of electron scattering from σ to σ' :

Second order:



$$J^2 \sum_{\vec{p}'\sigma''} \frac{(\sigma S)_{\sigma\sigma'} (\sigma S)_{\sigma''\sigma}}{\epsilon(\vec{p}) - \epsilon(\vec{p}'')} (1 - f(\vec{p}''))$$

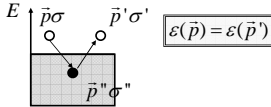
Makes sure the intermediate state is empty

Kondo effect

$$V = -J \sum_i \vec{\sigma}_i \cdot \vec{S}_i \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{R}_i)$$

Amplitude of electron scattering from σ to σ' :

More second order:



$$-J^2 \sum_{\vec{p}'\sigma''} \frac{(\sigma S)_{\sigma\sigma'} (\sigma S)_{\sigma''\sigma} f(\vec{p}'')}{\epsilon(\vec{p}'') - \epsilon(\vec{p})}$$

Makes sure the intermediate state is occupied

Kondo effect

Summing up: Amplitude of electron scattering from σ to σ' :

$$-J (\sigma S)_{\sigma\sigma'} \left[1 - Jg \ln \frac{E_F}{\max(T, \xi)} \right]$$

First order

Second order

$J > 0$: ferromagnetic; the total spin of electron and impurity $S+1/2$

But the total spin of electron and impurity is conserved



Spin-flip impossible; amplitude goes down

$J < 0$: antiferromagnetic; amplitude goes up (spin-flip scattering)

Resistance minimum

Resistance: proportional to the amplitude squared

$$R \sim R_{non-Kondo} + R_K (1 - 2Jg \ln E_F / k_B T)$$

$J < 0$: increases at low temperatures

Other contributions (usually phonons):
always decrease at low temperatures



Resistance minimum

Kondo resonance

Amplitude of electron scattering from σ to σ' :

$$-J (\sigma S)_{\sigma\sigma'} \left[1 - Jg \ln \frac{E_F}{\max(T, \xi)} \right]$$

Kondo temperature:

$$T_K = E_F \exp(-1/g|J|)$$

For antiferromagnetic interaction, $T < T_K$
the perturbation theory breaks down

❖ Exact solution (one impurity; no solution for several impurities)

❖ Summation of the leading terms

$$R \sim R_{non-Kondo} + \frac{R_K}{(1 + Jg \ln E_F / k_B T)^2}$$

$J < 0$: diverges!!!

Resonance corresponding to a bound state of an impurity and an electron cloud: Collective effect