Exciton-phonon interaction breaking all antiunitary symmetries in external magnetic fields

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Recent experimental investigations by M. Aßmann et al. [Nature Mater. 15, 741 (2016)] on the spectrum of magnetoexcitons in cuprous oxide revealed the statistics of a Gaussian unitary ensemble (GUE). The model of F. Schweiner et al. [Phys. Rev. Lett. 118, 046401 (2017)], which includes the complete cubic valence band structure of the solid, can explain the appearance of GUE statistics if the magnetic field is not oriented in one of the symmetry planes of the cubic lattice. However, it cannot explain the experimental observation of GUE statistics for all orientations of the field. In this paper we investigate the effect of quasi-particle interactions or especially the exciton-phonon interaction on the level statistics of magnetoexcitons and show that the motional Stark field induced by the exciton-phonon interaction leads to the occurrence of GUE statistics for arbitrary orientations of the magnetic field in agreement with experimental observations. Importantly, the breaking of all antiunitary symmetries can be explained only by considering both the exciton-phonon interaction and the cubic crystal lattice.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Excitons are fundamental quasi-particles in semiconductors, which are the elementary excitations of the electronic system. Consisting of a negatively charged electron in the conduction band and a positively charged hole in the valence band, which interact via a screened Coulomb interaction, excitons are often regarded as the hydrogen analog of the solid state. Especially excitons in cuprous oxide (Cu$_2$O) are of interest due to their high Rydberg energy. Only three years ago an almost perfect hydrogen-like absorption series has been observed in Cu$_2$O up to a principal quantum number of $n = 25$ by T. Kazimierczuk et al. [1]. This experiment has opened the field of research of giant Rydberg excitons and has stimulated a large number of experimental and theoretical investigations [2–15], in particular as concerns the level statistics and symmetry-breaking effects [16–19].

If symmetries are broken, the classical dynamics of a system often becomes nonintegrable and chaotic. However, since the description of chaos by trajectories and Lyapunov exponents is not possible in quantum mechanics, classical chaos manifests itself in quantum mechanics in a different way [20,21]. The Bohigas-Giannoni-Schmit conjecture [22] suggests that quantum systems with few degrees of freedom and with a chaotic classical limit can be described by random matrix theory [23,24] and show typical level spacings. If the classical dynamics is regular, the level spacing obeys Poissonian statistics. At the transition to chaos, the level spacing statistics changes to the statistics of a Gaussian orthogonal ensemble (GOE), a Gaussian unitary ensemble (GUE) or a Gaussian symplectic ensemble (GSE) as symmetry reduction leads to a correlation of levels and hence to a strong suppression of crossings [20]. To which of the three universality classes, i.e., to the orthogonal, the unitary or the symplectic universality class, a given system belongs is determined by the remaining symmetries in the system. While GOE statistics appears if there is at least one remaining antiunitary symmetry in the system, for GUE statistics all antiunitary symmetries have to be broken. GSE statistics can be observed for systems with time-reversal invariance possessing Kramer’s degeneracy but no geometric symmetry at all [20].

The hydrogen-like model of excitons is often too simple to account for the large number of effects due to the surrounding solid. Some essential corrections to this model comprise, e.g., the inclusion of the complete cubic valence band structure [5,7,25–30], which leads to a complicated fine-structure splitting, or the interaction with quasi-particles like phonons [2,31–33].

An important experimental observation by M. Aßmann et al. [16,17], which cannot be explained by the hydrogen-like model, is the appearance of GUE statistics for excitons in an external magnetic field in Cu$_2$O. This observation implies that all antiunitary symmetries are broken in the system. However, for most of the physical systems still there is at least one antiunitary symmetry left [34,35]. This also holds for atoms in constant external fields [36–38]. Hence, based on the hydrogen-like model one would expect to observe the statistics of a Gaussian orthogonal ensemble (GOE).

As an explanation, M. Aßmann et al. [16,17] attributed the breaking of all antiunitary symmetries observed for magnetoexcitons to the interaction of excitons with phonons. In a recent letter we have shown theoretically that the combined presence of an external magnetic field and the cubic valence band structure of Cu$_2$O is sufficient to break all antiunitary symmetries in the system without the need for phonons [18]. However, this breaking appears only if the magnetic field is not oriented in one of the symmetry planes of the cubic lattice of Cu$_2$O. Hence, our model cannot explain the fact that GUE statistics has been observed in the experiment for
all directions of the magnetic field \[16\] \[17\]. This raises again the question about the influence of the exciton-phonon interaction on the level spacing statistics of the exciton spectra.

In this paper we will discuss in detail the effects which leads to the appearance of GUE statistics whether or not the external fields are oriented in one of the symmetry planes of the cubic lattice. For fields oriented in a symmetry plane of the lattice, we explain that the interaction of the exciton with other quasi-particles like phonons is not able to restore the broken antiunitary symmetries. As regards the other orientations of the external fields, we discuss that the exciton-phonon interaction leads to a finite momentum of the exciton center of mass and thus to the appearance of a magneto Stark effect in an external magnetic. The electric field connected to this effect then causes in combination with the cubic lattice the breaking of all antiunitary symmetries. Hence, we explain the appearance of GUE statistics for all orientations of the external fields.

The paper is organized as follows: In Sec. II A we discuss the Hamiltonian of excitons in Cu$_2$O when considering the complete valence band structure and the presence of external fields. We explain how to solve the corresponding Schrödinger equation numerically by using a complete basis. In Sec. II B we discuss the kinetic energies of the electron and the hole is not necessary due to their negligible size \[14\].

The kinetic energy of a hole within these valence bands is given by \[16\] \[17\] \[30\]

$$H_h(p_h) = H_{so} + (1/2\hbar^2 m_0) \left\{ \hbar^2 (\gamma_1 + 4\gamma_2) p_h^2 + 2(\eta_1 + 2\eta_2) p_h^2 (I \cdot S_h) - 6\gamma_2 \left( p_{h1}^2 I_1^2 + c.p. \right) - 12\eta_2 \left( p_{h1}^2 I_1 S_{h1} + c.p. \right) - 12\gamma_3 \left\{ \{p_{h1}, p_{h2}\} (I_1, I_2) + c.p. \right\} - 12\eta_3 \left( \{p_{h1}, p_{h2}\} (I_1 S_{h2} + I_2 S_{h1}) + c.p. \right) \right\} \tag{4}$$

with $p = (p_1, p_2, p_3)$, \(a, b = 1/2\) \((ab + ba)\) and c.p. denoting cyclic permutation. The three Luttinger parameters \(\gamma_i\) as well as the parameters \(\eta_i\) describe the behavior and the anisotropic effective mass of the hole in the vicinity of the \(\Gamma\) point. Note that the parameters \(\eta_i\) are often much smaller than the Luttinger parameters and are neglected in the following \[16\] \[17\] \[25\]. We have recently shown that the inclusion of quartic and higher-order terms in \(p\) in the kinetic energies of the electron and the hole is not necessary due to their negligible size \[14\].

The quasispin \(I = 1\) describes the threefold degenerate valence band and is a convenient abstraction to denote the three orbital Bloch functions \(xy, yz, \text{and } zx\) \[52\]. The matrices \(I_j\) and \(S_{hj}\) denote the three spin matrices of the quasispin \(I\) and the hole spin \(S_h = 1/2\) while \(I\) and \(S_h\) are vectors containing these matrices. Hence, the scalar product of these vectors is given by

$$I \cdot S_h = \sum_{j=1}^{3} I_j S_{hj}. \tag{5}$$

The Hamiltonian of excitons in Cu$_2$O when considering the complete valence band structure and the presence of external fields is given by \[28\] \[29\] \[30\] \[31\] \[32\] \[33\] \[34\] \[35\]

$$H = E_g + V(r_e - r_h) + H_e(p_e) + H_h(p_h) \tag{1}$$

with the energy \(E_g\) of the band gap between the lowest conduction band and the highest valence band. The Coulomb interaction between the electron (e) and the hole (h) is screened by the dielectric constant \(\varepsilon\):

$$V(r_e - r_h) = -\frac{\varepsilon^2}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 \varepsilon} \frac{1}{|r_e - r_h|}. \tag{2}$$

Since the conduction band is close to parabolic at zone center, the kinetic energy of the electron is given by the simple expression

$$H_e(p_e) = \frac{p_e^2}{2m_e}, \tag{3}$$

with the effective mass \(m_e\) of the electron. As regards the valence bands, the situation is more complicated. In all crystals with zinc-blende and diamond structure the valence band is threefold degenerate at the center of the first Brillouin zone or the \(\Gamma\) point \[28\] \[43\]. Due to the spin-orbit coupling \[43\] \[50\], the degeneracy is lifted in Cu$_2$O and two of the three valence bands are shifted towards lower energies \[51\]. This is shown in Fig. 1. The competition between the dispersion of the threefold degenerate orbital valence band with the spin-orbit splitting is responsible for a strong non-parabolicity of the valence bands.

The kinetic energy of a hole within these valence bands is given by \[16\] \[17\] \[30\]
The components of the matrices $I_i$ read \[ I_{i, jk} = -i \hbar \varepsilon_{ijk} \] (6)
with the Levi-Civita symbol $\varepsilon_{ijk}$.

We have to note that the matrices $I_i$ of the quasi-spin $I = 1$ given by Eq. (6) are not the standard spin matrices $S_i$ of spin one \[ S_3 \text{.} \] However, a unitary transformation can be found so that $U^\dagger I_i U = S_i$ holds. The corresponding transformation matrix reads
\[ U = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -i & 0 & -i \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (7) \]
Since in Ref. \[ 53 \] the behavior of the standard spin matrices under symmetry operations such as time reversal and reflections are given, we will use the standard spin matrices in the following but denote them also by $I_i$.

The spin-orbit coupling $H_{so}$ in Eq. (4) is given by \[ 52 \]
\[ H_{so} = \frac{2}{3} \Delta \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\hbar^2} I \cdot S_h \right) \quad (8) \]
with the spin-orbit coupling constant $\Delta$. This coupling can be diagonalized by introducing the effective hole spin $J = I + S_h$. We choose the form of the spin-orbit coupling so that the energy of the valence band with $J = 1/2$ remains unchanged while the two valence bands with $J = 3/2$ are shifted by an amount of $\Delta$ towards lower energies. Note that we neglect the central-cell corrections treated in Ref. \[ 14 \] in the Hamiltonian as they do not affect the exciton states of high energy considered here.

The expression for $H_h (p_h)$ can be written in terms of irreducible tensors (see, e.g., Refs. \[ 7 \, 8 \, 27 \, 55 \]):

\[ H_h (p_h) = H_{so} + \gamma_1 \frac{p_h^2}{2m_0} \rho^2 + \frac{\gamma_1'}{2\hbar^2 m_0} \left[ -\frac{\mu^\prime}{3} F^{(2)} \cdot I^{(2)} + \frac{\delta'}{3} \left( \sum_{k=\pm 4} \left[ P_h^{(2)} \times F^{(2)} \right]_k \right) + \frac{\sqrt{70}}{3} \left[ P_h^{(2)} \times F^{(2)} \right]_0 \right] \quad (9) \]

In this case one can clearly distinguish between the terms having spherical symmetry and the terms having cubic symmetry. While the first three terms have spherical symmetry, the last part with the coefficient $\delta'$ has cubic symmetry. The coefficients $\mu'$ and $\delta'$ are given in terms of the three Luttinger parameters as $\mu' = (6\gamma_3 + 4\gamma_2) / 5\gamma_1'$ and $\delta' = (\gamma_3 - \gamma_2) / \gamma_1$ with $\gamma_1' = \gamma_1 + m_0/m_e$ \[ 7 \, 27 \, 54 \].

When applying external fields, the corresponding Hamiltonian is obtained via the minimal substitution. We additionally introduce relative and center of mass coordinates \[ 56 \, 58 \]. Hence, we replace the coordinates and momenta of electron and hole with
\[ r_e = R + (m_h / M) r, \quad (10a) \]
\[ r_h = R - (m_e / M) r, \quad (10b) \]
\[ p_e = (m_e / M) P + p + eA(r), \quad (10c) \]
\[ p_h = (m_h / M) P - p + eA(r), \quad (10d) \]
where $M = m_e + m_h = m_e + m_0 / \gamma_1$ denotes the yellow exciton mass. Then the Hamiltonian of the exciton reads \[ 56 \, 58 \, 63 \]
\[ H_{exc} = E_e + V (r) + e\Phi (r) + H_B \]
\[ + H_e ((m_e / M) P + p + eA(r)) \]
\[ + H_h ((m_h / M) P - p + eA(r)) \]. \quad (11) \]
We use the vector potential $A = (B \times r) / 2$ of a constant magnetic field $B$ and the electrostatic potential $\Phi (r) = -F \cdot r$ of a constant electric field $F$.

Since the Hamiltonian depends only on the relative coordinate $r$, the generalized momentum of the center of mass is a good quantum number, i.e., $[P, H_{exc}] = 0$, and one can generally set $P = \hbar K$ \[ 29 \, 57 \, 64 \]. When neglecting the exciton-phonon interaction, one can especially assume $K \approx 0$, as the wave vector of photons, by which the excitons are created, is very close to the origin of the Brillouin zone \[ 62 \].

The additional term $H_B$ in Eq. (11) describes the energy of the spins in the magnetic field \[ 30 \, 52 \, 60 \, 63 \]:
\[ H_B = \mu_B \left[ g_s S_e + (3k + g_s / 2) I - g_s S_h \right] \cdot B / \hbar. \quad (12) \]
Here $\mu_B$ denotes the Bohr magneton, $g_s \approx 2$ the $g$-factor of the hole spin $S_h$, $g_e$ the $g$-factor of the conduction band or the electron spin $S_e$, and $\kappa$ the fourth Luttinger parameter. All relevant material parameters of Cu$_2$O are listed in Table 1:

| Material parameters of Cu$_2$O. |  |
|-------------------------------|---|
| band gap energy $E_g$ | 2.17208 eV \[ 1 \] |
| electron mass $m_e$ | 0.99 $m_0$ \[ 65 \] |
| dielectric constant $\varepsilon$ | 7.5 \[ 66 \] |
| spin-orbit coupling $\Delta$ | 0.131 eV \[ 6 \] |
| Luttinger parameters $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3, \kappa$ | 1.76, 0.7532, 0.3668, 0.5 \[ 6 \] |
| $g$-factor of cond. band $g_e$ | 2.1 \[ 67 \] |

As we will show in Sec. III the symmetry breaking in the system depends on the orientation of the fields.
with respect to the crystal lattice. We will denote the orientation of $B$ and $F$ in spherical coordinates via

$$ B (\varphi, \vartheta) = B \begin{pmatrix} \cos \varphi \sin \vartheta \\ \sin \varphi \sin \vartheta \\ \cos \vartheta \end{pmatrix} $$

and similar for $F$ in what follows.

Before we solve the Schrödinger equation corresponding to the Hamiltonian (11), we rotate the coordinate system to make the quantization axis coincide with the direction of the magnetic field (see Appendix A) and then express the Hamiltonian (11) in terms of irreducible tensors [27, 55, 63].

### B. Complete basis

For our numerical investigations, we calculate a matrix representation of the Schrödinger equation corresponding to the Hamiltonian $H_{\text{exc}}$ of Eq. (11) using a complete basis.

As regards the angular momentum part of the basis, we have to consider that the spin orbit coupling $H_{\text{so}}$ couples the quasispin $I$ and the hole spin $S_h$ to the effective hole spin $J = I + S_h$. The remaining parts of the kinetic energy of the hole couple the effective hole spin $J$ and the angular momentum $L$ of the exciton to the effective angular momentum $F = L + J$. The electron spin $S_e$ or its $z$ component $M_{S_e}$ is a good quantum number. For the radial part of the exciton wave function we use the Coulomb-Sturmian functions of Ref. [68]

$$ U_{NL} (r) = N_{NL} (2\rho)^L e^{-\rho} L_N^{2L+1} (2\rho) $$

with $\rho = r/\alpha$, a normalization factor $N_{NL}$, the associated Laguerre polynomials $L_n^\alpha (x)$ and an arbitrary scaling parameter $\alpha$. Note that we use the radial quantum number $N$, which is related to the principal quantum number $n$ via $n = N + L + 1$. Finally, we make the following ansatz for the exciton wave function

$$ |\Psi\rangle = \sum_{NLJFM} c_{NLJFM} |\Pi\rangle |S_e, M_{S_e}\rangle, $$

$$ |\Pi\rangle = |N, L; (I, S_h) J; F, M_F\rangle $$

with complex coefficients $c$. The parenthesis and semicolons in Eq. (15) shall illustrate the coupling scheme of the spins and the angular momenta.

Inserting the ansatz (15) in the Schrödinger equation $H \Psi = E \Psi$ and multiplying from the left with another basis state $\langle \Pi' |$ yields a matrix representation of the Schrödinger equation of the form [18]

$$ Dc = EMc. $$

The vector $c$ contains the coefficients of the expansion (15). Since the functions $U_{NL} (r)$ actually depend on the coordinate $r = r/\alpha$, we substitute $r \rightarrow \rho r$ in the Hamiltonian (11) and multiply the corresponding Schrödinger equation by $\alpha^2$. All matrix elements which enter the hermitian matrices $D$ and $M$ can be calculated similarly to the matrix elements given in Refs. [7] [8]. The generalized eigenvalue problem (16) is finally solved using an appropriate LAPACK routine [69].

Since in numerical calculations the basis cannot be infinitely large, the values of the quantum numbers are chosen in the following way: For each value of $n = N + L + 1 \leq n_{\text{max}}$ we use

$$ L = 0, \ldots, n - 1, $$

$$ J = 1/2, 3/2, $$

$$ F = |L - J|, \ldots, \min (L + J, F_{\text{max}}), $$

$$ M_F = -F, \ldots, F. $$

The values $F_{\text{max}}$ and $n_{\text{max}}$ are chosen appropriately large so that as many eigenvalues as possible converge. Additionally, we can use the scaling parameter $\alpha$ to enhance convergence [68]. However, it should be noted that the value of $\alpha$ does not influence the theoretical results for the exciton energies in any way, i.e., the converged results do not depend on the value of $\alpha$.

### C. Level spacing distributions

Having solved the generalized eigenvalue problem (16) the level statistics of the exciton spectra can be determined. Before analyzing the nearest-neighbor spacings,
we have to unfold the spectra to obtain a constant mean spacing \( [19, 20, 22, 35, 46] \). The unfolding procedure separates the average behavior of the non-universal spectral density from universal spectral fluctuations and yields a spectrum in which the mean level spacing is equal to unity \([47]\). We leave out a certain number of low-lying sparse levels to remove individual but nontypical fluctuations \([46]\).

Since the external fields break all symmetries in the system and limit the convergence of the solutions of the generalized eigenvalue problem with high energies \([7]\), the number of level spacings analyzed here is comparatively small. In this case, the cumulative distribution function \([20]\)

\[
F(s) = \int_0^s P(x) \, dx
\]

is often more meaningful than histograms of the level spacing probability distribution function \(P(s)\).

We will compare our results with the distribution functions known from random matrix theory \([16, 22]\): the Poissonian distribution

\[
P_0(s) = e^{-s}
\]

for non-interacting energy levels, the Wigner distribution

\[
P_{\text{GOE}}(s) = \frac{\pi}{2} s e^{-\pi s^2/4},
\]

and the distribution

\[
P_{\text{GUE}}(s) = \frac{32}{\pi^2} s^2 e^{-4s^2/\pi}
\]

for systems without any antiunitary symmetry. Note that the most characteristic feature of GOE or GUE statistics is the linear or quadratic level repulsion for small \( s \), respectively.

In Ref. \([17]\) also analytical expressions for the spacing distribution functions in the transition region between the different statistics have been derived using random matrix theory for 2 \( \times \) 2 matrices. As in our case only the transition from GOE to GUE statistics will be important, we only give the analytical formula for this transition:

\[
P_{\text{GOE} \rightarrow \text{GUE}}(s; \lambda) = C s e^{-D s^2} \text{erf} \left( \frac{Ds}{\lambda} \right)
\]

with

\[
D(\lambda) = \frac{\sqrt{1 + \lambda^2}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( \frac{\lambda}{1 + \lambda^2} + \text{arccot} (\lambda) \right),
\]

\[
C(\lambda) = 2 \sqrt{1 + \lambda^2} D(\lambda)^2.
\]

For the special cases of \( \lambda \rightarrow 0 \) or \( \lambda \rightarrow \infty \) GOE or GUE statistics is obtained, respectively. However, already for \( \lambda \gtrsim 0.8 \) the transition to GUE statistics is almost completed \([37]\).

As in Ref. \([47]\), we calculate the distribution functions for \( \lambda = 0.01 \times 1000^{(k-1)/999} \) with \( k = 1, \ldots, 1000 \) and then numerically integrate the results to obtain the corresponding cumulative distribution functions \( P_{\text{GOE} \rightarrow \text{GUE}}(s; \lambda)\).

### III. FIELDS NOT ORIENTED IN SYMMETRY PLANE OF THE LATTICE

In a previous paper \([18]\) we have shown analytically that the last remaining antiunitary symmetry known from the hydrogen atom in external fields is broken for the exciton Hamiltonian \([11]\) if the plane spanned by the external fields is not identical to one of the symmetry planes of the solid. Here we discuss this symmetry breaking in more detail and also explain that the presence of quasi-particle interactions will not restore the broken symmetries.

In the special case of \( \gamma_2 = \gamma_3 = 0 \), the exciton Hamiltonian \([11]\) is of the same form as the Hamiltonian of a hydrogen atom in external fields. It is well known that this Hamiltonian is invariant under the combined symmetry of time inversion \( K \) followed by a reflection \( S_a \) at the specific plane spanned by both fields \([20]\). This plane is given by the normal vector

\[
\hat{n} = (\hat{B} \times \hat{F}) / |\hat{B} \times \hat{F}|
\]

or \( \hat{n} \perp \hat{B} = \hat{B} / B \) if \( F = 0 \) holds. Due to this antiunitary symmetry, the hydrogen-like system shows GOE statistics in the chaotic regime \([46, 71]\). However, we have to note that this is the last remaining antiunitary symmetry when applying external fields.

Since the hydrogen atom is spherically symmetric in the field-free case, it makes no difference whether the magnetic field is oriented in \( z \) direction or not. However, in a semiconductor with \( \delta' \neq 0 \) the exciton Hamiltonian has cubic symmetry and the orientation of the external fields with respect to the crystal axis of the lattice becomes important. Any rotation of the coordinate system with the aim of making the \( z \) axis coincide with the direction of the magnetic field will also rotate the cubic crystal lattice. Hence, the antiunitary symmetry mentioned above is only present if the plane spanned by both fields is identical to one of the nine symmetry planes of the cubic lattice since then the reflection \( S_a \) transforms the lattice into itself. However, if none of the normal vectors \( \hat{n}_i \) of these nine symmetry planes (cf. Appendix B) is parallel to the direction \( \hat{n} \) given in Eq. \([23]\), or, in the case of \( F = 0 \), if none of these vectors is perpendicular to \( \hat{B} = \hat{B} / B \), the last antiunitary symmetry is broken. In these cases the commutator of the exciton Hamiltonian \([11]\) with the operator \( K S_a \) does not vanish as we will show in the following.

Under time inversion \( K \) and reflections \( S_a \) at a plane perpendicular to a normal vector \( \hat{n} \) the vectors of position \( r \), momentum \( p \) and spin \( S \) transform according to \([53]\)

\[
K r K^\dagger = r,
\]

\[
K p K^\dagger = -p,
\]

\[
K S K^\dagger = -S.
\]
and

\[
S_n r S_n^d = r - 2 \hat{n} (\hat{n} \cdot r), \quad (25a)
\]
\[
S_n p S_n^d = p - 2 \hat{n} (\hat{n} \cdot p), \quad (25b)
\]
\[
S_n S_n^d = -S + 2 \hat{n} (\hat{n} \cdot S). \quad (25c)
\]

For all orientations of the external fields the hydrogen-like part of the Hamiltonian \([11]\) is invariant under \(K S_n\) with \(\hat{n}\) given by Eq. (23). However, other parts of the Hamiltonian such as \(H_c = (\hat{p}_1^2 \hat{I}_1^2 + \text{c.p.})\) are not invariant if the fields are not oriented in one symmetry plane of the lattice. For example, for the case with \(B(0, 0)\) and \(F(\pi/6, \pi/2)\), we obtain

\[
S_n K H_c K^\dagger S_n^\dagger - H_c = 1/8 \left[ 2 \sqrt{3} (I_2^2 - I_1^2) p_1 p_2 \right. \\
+ 3 (I_1^2 p_2^2 + I_2^2 p_1^2) - 3 (I_1^2 p_1^2 + I_2^2 p_2^2) \\
\left. + \left\{ I_1, I_2 \right\} \right] \left( 2 \sqrt{3} (p_2^2 - p_1^2) + 12 p_1 p_2 \right) \neq 0 \quad (26)
\]

with \(\hat{n} = (-1/2, \sqrt{3}/2, 0)^T\). Note that even though \(H_c\) does not depend on the external fields, the normal vector \(\hat{n}\) is determined by these fields via Eq. (23). Otherwise, the hydrogen-like part of the Hamiltonian would not be invariant under \(K S_n\).

Since the expression in Eq. (26) is not equal to zero, we have shown for \(B(0, 0)\) and \(F(\pi/6, \pi/2)\) that the generalized time-reversal symmetry of the hydrogen atom is broken for excitons due to the cubic symmetry of the semiconductor. The same calculation can also be performed for other orientations of the external fields. As we have stated above, the antiunitary symmetry remains unbroken only for those specific orientations of the fields, where \(\hat{n}\) given by Eq. (23) is parallel to one of the normal vectors in Eq. (21).

In the previous treatment we have neglected quasiparticle interactions like the exciton-phonon interaction. Hence, one may ask whether these interactions are able to restore the broken symmetries.

It is well known that when adding an additional interaction to a Hamiltonian, this interaction will often further reduce the symmetry of the problem and not increase it. Indeed, it is not possible that the effects of the band structure and quasiparticle interactions on the symmetry or the level spacing statistics will cancel each other out, in particular for all values of the external field strengths. The quasiparticle interaction would have to have the same form as the operators in our Hamiltonian to make the commutator of the Hamiltonian and the symmetry operator \(K S_n\) vanish. However, if we, e.g., consider the interaction between excitons and phonons, the interaction operators \([49]\) look quite different than the operators in the exciton Hamiltonian \([11]\). Hence, phonons or other interactions in the solid do not restore the broken antiunitary symmetries if the external fields are not oriented in one symmetry plane of the solid.

IV. FIELDS ORIENTED IN SYMMETRY PLANE OF THE LATTICE

In this section we discuss the case that the plane spanned by the external fields coincides with a symmetry plane of the lattice. Without the exciton-phonon interaction one would expect to observe only GOE statistics according to the explanations given in Sec. [11]. However, recent experiments indicate that the spectrum of magnetoexcitons reveals GUE statistics for all orientations of the magnetic field applied \([16, 17]\). Hence, we will now concentrate on the effects of the exciton-phonon interaction in more detail and show that they lead, in combination with the cubic valence band structure, to a breaking of all antiunitary symmetries for an arbitrary orientation of the external fields.

The Hamiltonian describing the exciton-phonon interaction \([49]\) does not only depend on the relative coordinate \(r\) but also on the coordinate of the center of mass \(R\). Hence, when considering the Hamiltonian of excitons and photons the momentum of the center of mass \(P\) is not a good quantum number, i.e., the Hamiltonian and the operator \(P\) no longer commute. Consequently, we are not allowed to set the momentum of the center of mass to zero, as has been done in the calculation of Sec. [11].

Hence, the consideration of the valence band structure, a finite momentum of the center of mass, the external fields, and the phonons is very complicated. Hence, we concentrate only on the main effects to show that the exciton-phonon interaction will lead to a breaking of all antiunitary symmetries even if the plane spanned by the external fields is identical to a symmetry plane of the lattice.

When considering a finite momentum \(P = \hbar K\) of the exciton center of mass in an external magnetic field, the motional Stark effect occurs \([57]\). Since the insertion of a finite momentum of the center of mass in the complete Hamiltonian \([11]\) is quite laborious (cf. Ref. [15]), we treat only the leading term of the motional Stark effect, which has the form \([57]\)

\[
H_{ms} = \frac{\hbar e}{M} (K \times B) \cdot r \quad (27)
\]

with the isotropic exciton mass \(M = m_e + m_h = m_e + m_0/\gamma_1\). Note that this term has the same form as the electric field term in the Hamiltonian \([11]\). Hence, the effect of the motional Stark effect is the same as that of an external electric field and we can introduce a total electric field

\[
F_{tot} = F + F_{ms} = F - \frac{\hbar}{M} (K \times B). \quad (28)
\]

One could now, in principle, do the same calculation as in Eq. (26) to show that the antiunitary symmetry known from the hydrogen atom is broken if the plane spanned by \(B\) and \(F_{tot}\) is not identical to one symmetry plane of the solid. However, we have to consider the specific properties, i.e., the size and the orientation, of the motional
FIG. 2: Transition from GOE to GUE statistics when deflecting the field $F_{ms}$ in Eq. (32) from the symmetry plane $y = 0$ by an angle $\varphi_{ms}$. For the magnetic field we have set $B(\varphi = 0, \vartheta = \pi/6)$ with $B = 3$ T. To obtain enough eigenvalues for a statistical evaluation, we used the simplified model of Ref. [18], in which the spins of the electron and hole are neglected. To visualize the differences between the cumulative distribution functions more clearly, we subtract $F_{\text{GOE}}(s)$ from them. The data points (red) were fitted with the analytical function $F_{\text{GOE}} \to \text{GUE}(s; \lambda)$ defined in Sec. II C. The optimum values of the fit parameter $\lambda$ are given in each panel and are also shown in Fig. 3. One can observe a good agreement between the numerical data and the analytical function describing the transition between the two statistics in dependence on $\lambda$. For further information see text.

The stark field $F_{ms}$ related to the size and the orientation of $K$.

The size of the momentum $\hbar K$ is determined by the interaction between excitons and phonons. Instead of considering the huge number of phonon degrees of freedom, we assume a thermal distribution at a finite temperature $T$. The direction of $K$ is then evenly distributed over the solid angle and its average size is determined by

$$
\frac{3}{2} k_B T = \frac{\hbar^2 K^2}{2M}
$$

with the Boltzmann constant $k_B$. We assume for all of our calculations a temperature of $T = 0.8$ K, which is even slightly smaller than the temperature in experiments [1]. The relation (29) leads to a field strength of

$$
F_{ms} = \sqrt{\frac{3k_B T}{M}} B.
$$

Note that the value of $K$ determined by Eq. (29) is of the same order of magnitude as the value estimated via experimental group velocity measurements of the $1S$ ortho exciton [72, 73].

We will now show that the motional Stark field $F_{ms}$ leads to GUE statistics if the external magnetic field $B$ is oriented in one of the symmetry planes of the lattice. In the general case, the magnetic field then fulfills $B \perp \hat{n}_i$ with one of the nine normal vectors $\hat{n}_i$ given in Eq. (B1). In our numerical example we choose the magnetic field

$$
B = B(\varphi = 0, \vartheta = \pi/6) = \frac{B}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \sqrt{3} \end{pmatrix} \perp \hat{n}_2
$$

with a constant field strength of $B = 3$ T. The external electric field is set to $F = 0$. The motional Stark field is oriented perpendicular to $B$. Hence, we assume it for $\varphi_{ms}$ to be oriented perpendicular to the magnetic field and to be initially lying in the same symmetry plane $y = 0$ of the lattice. Then $F_{ms}$ is deflected from this plane, i.e., the field is rotated by an angle $\varphi_{ms}$ about the axis given...
by the magnetic field of Eq. (31):

\[ F_{ms}(\varphi_{ms}) = \frac{F_{ms}}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{3} \cos \varphi_{ms} \\ 2 \sin \varphi_{ms} \\ -\cos \varphi_{ms} \end{pmatrix}. \]  

(32)

Here \( F_{ms} \) is given by Eq. (30) with \( B = 3 \) T and \( T = 12.8 \) K. According to the explanations given in Sec. III, we expect to obtain GOE statistics with our numerical results only for the cases \( \varphi_{ms} = 0 \) and \( \varphi_{ms} = \pi \), since

\[ \hat{n} = (B \times F) / |B \times F| = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -\sqrt{3} \sin \varphi_{ms} \\ 2 \cos \varphi_{ms} \\ \sin \varphi_{ms} \end{pmatrix}. \]  

(33)

is parallel to \( \hat{n}_2 \) only for these two values of \( \varphi_{ms} \). The decisive question is how fast the transition from GOE to GUE statistics takes place if the field \( F_{ms} \) is deflected from the symmetry plane \( y = 0 \). This is shown in Fig. 2.

As we have already stated in Ref. 18 and Sec. II C, the number of eigenvalues which can be used for a statistical analysis is limited due to the required computer memory or the limited size of our basis. Therefore, to enhance the number of converged states, we used for the calculation of Fig. 2 the simplified model of Ref. 18 with \( \Delta = H_B = 0 \), \( m_e = m_0 \), \( \gamma_1 = 2 \) and \( \delta = -0.15 \). However, we expect a qualitatively similar behavior for Cu\(_2\)O, i.e., when considering \( \Delta \neq 0 \), as we will discuss and show below.

For a quantitative analysis the results are fitted with the function \( F_{GOE-GUE}(s; \lambda) \) [cf. Eq. (22)] describing the transition between both statistics. We show the resulting values of the fit parameter \( \lambda \) in Fig. 3. It can be seen that the parameter \( \lambda \) increases very rapidly with increasing values of \( \varphi_{ms} \). Already for \( \varphi_{ms} = 5^\circ \) the statistics is almost purely GUE statistics. Hence, the motional Stark field has a strong influence on the level spacing statistics. This implies that for a majority of the orientations of \( F_{ms} \) GUE statistics will be observable. Our main argument for the observed level statistics is now that since the momentum \( K \) and hence also the field \( F_{ms} \) is evenly distributed over the angle \( \varphi_{ms} \), the exciton spectrum will show GUE statistics on average.

One might argue whether the effects of \( F_{ms} \) cancel each other out if the field is evenly distributed over the solid angle. This can be ruled out when considering the effect of the field on the exciton states for all values of the angle \( \varphi_{ms} \) as shown for a selection of exciton states in Fig. 3. It can be seen that the fields \( F_{ms}(\varphi_{ms}) \) and \( F_{ms}(\pi + \varphi_{ms}) = -F_{ms}(\varphi_{ms}) \) shift the exciton states in the same direction and not in opposite direction as regards their energies. Hence, on average the exciton states are shifted towards higher or lower energies and do not remain at their position. This argument holds both when using the model with the parameters of Ref. 18 and when using all material parameters of Cu\(_2\)O. In Fig. 4 the results for Cu\(_2\)O are shown.

Even though we cannot obtain enough converged exciton energies for a statistical analysis when using the
FIG. 5: (a) Splitting of the \( n = 5 \) exciton states of \( \text{Cu}_2\text{O} \) in an external magnetic field \( \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B} (\varphi = 0, \vartheta = \pi/6) \) with \( F_{ms} = 0 \). At \( B \approx 1.98 \text{T} \) an avoided crossing can be observed (see inset and red box). (b) Energy of the \( n = 5 \) states for \( B = 1.98 \text{T} \) and (i) \( F_{ms} = 0 \) (blue lines), (ii) \( F_{ms} = 9.57 \times 10^3 \text{V/m} \) given by Eq. (32) with \( \varphi_{ms} = 0 \) (red lines), and (iii) \( F_{ms} \) given by Eq. (32) but taking the position of the states when averaging over \( \varphi_{ms} = 0 \) (green lines). (c) Normalized spacings for the three cases considered. It can be seen that the motional Stark effect further suppresses small spacings. For a comparison, we also show the distribution functions for Poisson statistics (blue dash-dotted line), GOE statistics (red dashed line), and GUE statistics (green solid line).

parameters of \( \text{Cu}_2\text{O} \), we can use the small number of converged states to show that the magneto Stark field has the small effect of increasing level spacings, which is a characteristic feature of GUE compared to GOE statistics [cf. Eqs. (20) and (21)].

To this aim, we consider at first the spectrum of \( \text{Cu}_2\text{O} \) in a magnetic field \( \mathbf{B} (\varphi = 0, \vartheta = \pi/6) \) to find an avoided crossing (see panel (a) of Fig. 5). We then choose the magnetic field strength of \( B = 1.98 \text{T} \), where an avoided crossing appears, to be fixed, and calculate the spectrum in dependence on the angle \( \varphi_{ms} \). The strength of the motional Stark field is given by Eq. (30) with \( B = 1.98 \text{T} \) and \( T = 1.2 \text{K} \). We now calculate the energies of the states for the following three cases, where the magnetic field strength is always given by \( B = 1.98 \text{T} \): (i) \( F_{ms} = 0 \), (ii) \( F_{ms} = \sqrt{2k_B T/M} B \) and \( \varphi_{ms} = 0 \), (iii) \( F_{ms} = \sqrt{2k_B T/M} B \) and taking the average of the exciton energies over \( \varphi_{ms} \). These energies are shown in panel (b) of Fig. 5. We assume a constant density of states due to the small energy range considered here. Then the normalized spacings between two neighboring exciton states are determined as \( s_i = (E_i - E_{i+1})/E \) with \( E \) denoting the mean value of all spacings considered. One can see from panel (c) of Fig. 5 that the level spacings change for the three cases considered. Especially for small values of \( s \) the spacing increases, which illustrates the repulsion of levels and the transition to GUE statistics.

Overall, it can be stated that the exciton-phonon interaction leads to a finite momentum of the center of mass of the exciton, which is evenly distributed over the solid angle. The size of this momentum is on average determined by the Boltzmann distribution. In an external magnetic field this finite momentum causes the motional Stark effect. The electric field corresponding to this effect breaks in combination with the cubic lattice all antiunitary symmetries in the system even if the plane spanned by the external fields coincides with one symmetry plane of the lattice.

V. SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

We have shown analytically that the combined presence of the cubic valence band structure and external fields breaks all antiunitary symmetries for excitons in \( \text{Cu}_2\text{O} \). When neglecting the exciton-phonon interaction, this symmetry breaking appears only if the plane spanned by the external fields is not identical to one of the symmetry planes of the cubic lattice of \( \text{Cu}_2\text{O} \). We have discussed that for these cases the additional presence of the exciton-phonon interaction is not able to restore the broken symmetries.

For the specific orientations of the external fields, where the plane spanned by the fields is identical to one of the symmetry planes of the cubic lattice, the exciton-phonon interaction becomes important. This interaction causes a finite momentum of the exciton center of mass, which leads to the motional Stark effect in an external
magnetic field. If the cubic valence band structure is considered, the effective electric field connected with the motional Stark effect finally leads to the breaking of all antiunitary symmetries. Since the exciton-phonon interaction is always present in the solid, we have thus shown that GUE statistics will be observable in all spectra of magnetoexcitons irrespective of the orientation of the external magnetic field, which is in agreement with the experimental observations in Refs. 16-17.

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Appendix A: Hamiltonian

Here we give the complete Hamiltonian of Eq. (11) and describe the rotation necessary to make the quantization axis coincide with the direction of the magnetic field. Let us write the Hamiltonian (11) in the form

$$H = H_0 + (eB)H_1 + (eB)^2H_2 - eF \cdot r$$

$$+ E_g - \frac{e^2}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r} + \frac{2}{3} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\hbar^2 I \cdot S_h} \right)$$

with $B = |B|$. Using $\hat{B}_i = B_i/B$ with the components $B_i$ of $B$, the terms $H_0, H_1, \text{and } H_2$ are given by

$$H_0 = \frac{1}{2m_0} (\gamma' + 4\gamma_2) p^2 + \frac{1}{\hbar^2 m_0} (\eta_1 + 2\eta_2) (I \cdot S_h) p^2$$

$$- \frac{3\gamma_2}{\hbar^2 m_0} [I_1 p_1^2 + \text{c.p.}] - \frac{6\eta_2}{\hbar^2 m_0} [I_1 S_{h1} p_1^2 + \text{c.p.}]$$

$$- \frac{6\gamma_3}{\hbar^2 m_0} \left( [I_1, I_2] p_1 p_2 + \text{c.p.} \right) - \frac{6\eta_3}{\hbar^2 m_0} \left( (I_1 S_{h2} + I_2 S_{h1}) p_1 p_2 + \text{c.p.} \right),$$

$$H_1 = \frac{1}{2m_0} \left( \frac{2m_0}{m_e} - \gamma_1 + 4\gamma_2 \right) \hat{B} \cdot L - \frac{1}{\hbar^2 m_0} (\eta_1 + 2\eta_2) (I \cdot S_h) \hat{B} \cdot L$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2m_0} \left[ g_s S_e + \left( 3\kappa + \frac{g_s}{2} \right) I - g_s S_h \right] \cdot \hat{B}$$

$$+ \frac{3\gamma_2}{\hbar^2 m_0} \left[ I_1 \left( \hat{B}_2 r_3 p_1 - \hat{B}_3 r_2 p_1 \right) + \text{c.p.} \right] + \frac{6\eta_2}{\hbar^2 m_0} \left[ I_1 S_{h1} \left( \hat{B}_2 r_3 p_1 - \hat{B}_3 r_2 p_1 \right) + \text{c.p.} \right]$$

$$+ \frac{3\gamma_3}{\hbar^2 m_0} \left( [I_1, I_2] \left( \hat{B}_2 r_3 p_2 - \hat{B}_3 r_3 p_1 + \hat{B}_3 r_1 p_1 - \hat{B}_3 r_2 p_2 \right) + \text{c.p.} \right)$$

$$+ \frac{3\eta_3}{\hbar^2 m_0} \left( (I_1 S_{h2} + I_2 S_{h1}) \left( \hat{B}_2 r_3 p_2 - \hat{B}_3 r_3 p_1 + \hat{B}_3 r_1 p_1 - \hat{B}_3 r_2 p_2 \right) + \text{c.p.} \right),$$

$$H_2 = \frac{1}{8m_0} (\gamma' + 4\gamma_2) \left[ \hat{B}^2 r^2 - \left( \hat{B} \cdot r \right)^2 \right] + \frac{1}{4\hbar^2 m_0} (\eta_1 + 2\eta_2) (I \cdot S_h) \left[ \hat{B}^2 r^2 - \left( \hat{B} \cdot r \right)^2 \right]$$

$$- \frac{3\gamma_2}{4\hbar^2 m_0} \left[ I_1 \left( \hat{B}_2 r_3 - \hat{B}_3 r_2 \right)^2 + \text{c.p.} \right] - \frac{3\eta_2}{2\hbar^2 m_0} \left[ I_1 S_{h1} \left( \hat{B}_2 r_3 - \hat{B}_3 r_2 \right)^2 + \text{c.p.} \right]$$

$$- \frac{3\gamma_3}{2\hbar^2 m_0} \left( [I_1, I_2] \left( \hat{B}_2 r_3 - \hat{B}_3 r_2 \right) \left( \hat{B}_3 r_1 - \hat{B}_1 r_3 \right) + \text{c.p.} \right)$$
In our calculations, we express the magnetic field in spherical coordinates [see Eq. (13)]. For the different orientations of the magnetic field we rotate the coordinate system by

\[
\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix}
\cos \varphi \cos \theta & \sin \varphi \cos \theta & -\sin \varphi \\
-\sin \varphi & \cos \varphi & 0 \\
\cos \varphi \sin \theta & \sin \varphi \sin \theta & \cos \varphi
\end{pmatrix},
\]

i.e., we replace \( \mathbf{x} \to \mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{x} \) with \( \mathbf{x} \in \{ r, p, L, I, S \} \) to make the quantization axis coincide with the direction of the magnetic field \[55, 63\]. Finally we express the Hamiltonian in terms of irreducible tensors (see, e.g., Refs. \[7, 8, 27, 55\]) and calculate the matrix elements of the matrices \( \mathbf{D} \) and \( \mathbf{M} \) in the generalized eigenvalue problem \[16\].

**Appendix B: Normal vectors**

Here we list the normal vectors the nine symmetry planes of the cubic lattice mentioned in the discussion

\[
\hat{n}_1 = (1, 0, 0)^T, \\
\hat{n}_2 = (0, 1, 0)^T, \\
\hat{n}_3 = (0, 0, 1)^T, \\
\hat{n}_4 = (1, 1, 0)^T / \sqrt{2}, \\
\hat{n}_5 = (0, 1, 1)^T / \sqrt{2}, \\
\hat{n}_6 = (1, 0, 1)^T / \sqrt{2}, \\
\hat{n}_7 = (1, -1, 0)^T / \sqrt{2}, \\
\hat{n}_8 = (0, 1, -1)^T / \sqrt{2}, \\
\hat{n}_9 = (-1, 0, 1)^T / \sqrt{2}.
\]

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