The Tomonaga-Luttinger Model and the Chern-Simons Theory for the Edges of Multi-layer Fractional Quantum Hall Systems

D. Orgad
Racah Institute of Physics, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem 91904, Israel
(Dated: March 23, 2022)

Wen’s chiral Tomonaga-Luttinger model for the edge of an $m$-layer quantum Hall system of total filling factor $\nu = m/(pm \pm 1)$ with even $p$, is derived as a random-phase approximation of the Chern-Simons theory for these states. The theory allows for a description of edges both in and out of equilibrium, including their collective excitation spectrum and the tunneling exponent into the edge. While the tunneling exponent is insensitive to the details of a $\nu = m/(pm + 1)$ edge, it tends to decrease when a $\nu = m/(pm - 1)$ edge is taken out of equilibrium. The applicability of the theory to fractional quantum Hall states in a single layer is discussed.

PACS numbers: 71.10.Pm

I. INTRODUCTION

The physics at the edges of quantum Hall systems has been the subject of both theoretical and experimental research since the early days following the discovery of the integer quantum Hall effect, and up to the present. When the system exhibits the integer or the fractional quantum Hall effect (FQHE) the edge attains a unique role as the only region in the sample where gapless excitations exist. The low-energy physics associated with these edge excitations is especially rich under the conditions of the FQHE. In a pioneering series of papers, Wen has developed a theory for the edges of FQHE samples in terms of several interacting chiral Tomonaga-Luttinger liquids (CTLL), and predicted a power-law current-voltage characteristic for tunneling into such edges.

Subsequent tunneling experiments have found a non-ohmic conductivity $I \sim V^\gamma$, with an exponent which approximately scales as $\gamma \sim 1/\nu$. However, with the exception of filling factor $\nu = 1/3$, this result is at odds with the predictions of Wen’s theory. Moreover, the experiments suggest that a single charged-mode CTLL model appears to apply to filling factors in which the system is compressible and lacks the energy-gap needed to distinguish the edge as the region where the low-energy physics resides. While various theories have been put forward there is no consensus on the solution to the problem.

In order to better understand the conditions under which the CTLL model for the FQHE edge is applicable it is desirable to test its predictions and study the way it arises from the underlying theory using as many theoretical approaches as possible. Previous research aiming at achieving this objective has included numerical calculations as well as analytical studies with Laughlin’s wave-function and the Chern-Simons (CS) theory for the FQHE as their departure points. These studies have been concerned predominantly with the Laughlin fractions $\nu = 1/(p+1)$, with even $p$. Here we wish to extend our previous treatment of Ref. to multi-component FQHE systems. We concentrate on $m$-layer quantum Hall systems with total filling factor $\nu = m/(pm \pm 1)$, with even $p$, whose state is described by an $m$-component generalization of the Laughlin wavefunction, as first introduced by Halperin. We also consider the issues which arise when trying to apply a similar treatment to the Jain fractions, i.e. to the single-layer FQHE states with the same filling factors.

Our plan is to obtain the one-dimensional CTLL theory for the edge as the low-energy limit of the underlying CS theory for the two-dimensional system. The CS description, presented in Section III, follows closely the points of view taken by Jain and Wen. We first transform the electrons to composite fermions which fill, for the special filling factors under consideration, the lowest effective Landau level in each layer of the multi-layer system or $m$ such levels in the single-layer problem. We then transform each of the layers (or in the case of the Jain states, filled Landau levels) into a bosonic condensate. The study of the coupled dynamics of these condensates constitutes the major part of the work.

We begin, in Section III, by considering the solutions to the CS mean-field equations. We find that the solutions form an $m$-dimensional manifold parameterized by the conserved momenta along the edge of the $m$ condensates, or equivalently, by the charges which they carry. Only a small fraction of the manifold describes equilibrium configurations which minimize the energy for a given total charge at the edge. These configurations are typically, but not always, symmetrical with all the condensates sharing the same state. The remaining solutions correspond to edges which are not in equilibrium and are generally asymmetrical. The conditions for the realization of a particular solution are discussed.

Once the mean-field configurations are at hand we proceed to consider small oscillations about them and obtain the edge excitations as the random-phase approximation (RPA) modes of the theory. We identify $m$ RPA branches of edge excitations whose $k \to 0$ limit is composed of the edge states of the $m$ types of vortex-like excitations that exist in the bulk. Out of these $m$ modes one is the edge magnetoplasmon which arises from in-phase oscillations of the condensates while the remaining posses acoustic dispersion, propagate with or against the magnetoplasm-
mon [for \( \nu = m/(pm + 1) \) and \( \nu = m/(pm - 1) \) respectively] and describe out of phase motion of the electron liquids. While most characteristics of the edge modes do not depend on the detailed nature of the underlying mean-field solution there are, however, some differences between the excitations of symmetrical and asymmetrical configurations; for example the net charge which is involved in the fluctuations. Consequently, we consider the two cases separately in Sections IV and V.

Finally, by using the edge modes to expand the deviations of the various fields from their mean-field average configurations we recover the CTLL model for the edge. The expansion coefficients become upon quantization the density operators in terms of which the model is formulated. Their commutation algebra as well as their Hamiltonian are deduced from the quadratic expansion of the density operators. These results can be used express the original electronic operator at the edge in terms of the density operators. These results can be used to invert the CS transformation from the mean-field solutions there are, however, some differences in the deviations. By inverting the CS transformation from the mean-field solutions the above transformation results, on the mean-field level, in \( \pm m \) filled composite fermions Landau levels within the layer. One can use the Landau wave-function to describe out of phase motion of the electron.

\[ \psi_I(r) = e^{i\Lambda(r)}\psi_I(r), \quad \Lambda(r) = \int d^2r' f_I(r - r') \rho(r'), \]

where \( \rho(r) = \sum_I \psi_I^\dagger(r)\psi_I(r) = \sum_I \psi^\dagger_I(r)\psi_I(r) \) is the total density. The new fields are fermionic provided \( f_I(r - r') = f_I(r' - r) + \pi \rho \) and \( \rho \) is even. The CS transformation introduces additional terms in the equation of motion of the \( \psi_I(r) \) which couple to them as vector and scalar potentials

\[ a(r) = -\frac{\hbar}{e} \int d^2r' F_1(r - r') \rho(r'), \]

\[ a_0(r) = -\frac{\hbar}{e} \int d^2r' F_1(r - r') \rho(r') v(r'), \]

where \( F_1(r - r') = \nabla_r f_I(r - r') \) and \( v(r) \) is the total velocity operator. These "statistical gauge potentials" tend to reduce the external fields. As a result, for electronic filling factors \( \nu = m/(pm \pm 1) \) and within the mean-field approximation, the composite fermions filling factor in the residual magnetic field is \( \nu_{CF} = \pm m \) with a single occupied Landau level in each layer (the minus sign corresponds to the fractions \( \nu = m/(pm - 1) \) for which the direction of the residual field is opposite to that of the external field).

The resulting Lagrangian density reads

\[
\mathcal{L} = \sum_{I=1}^{m} \left\{ \psi^\dagger_I \left[ i\hbar \partial_t + e (A_0 + a_0) \right] \psi_I - \frac{1}{2M} \psi^\dagger_I \left[ -i\hbar \nabla + \frac{e}{c} (A + a) \right]^2 \psi_I \right\} - \frac{1}{2} \int d^2r' \rho(r) U(r - r') \rho(r') - \frac{e}{2\rho_0} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\sigma} a_\mu \partial_\nu a_\sigma,
\]

(5)

where \( M \) is the band mass. Here we have assumed that there is no tunneling between different layers. We will comment on the effects of such tunneling processes when we discuss the electronic propagator at the edge.
functions in the residual field (and in the presence of the edge) to expand the composite fermion operator
\( \psi(r) = \sum I \lambda I c I \lambda L^{-1/2} e^{iky} \phi I (x - k I l^2) \equiv \sum I \psi I (r) \).
The operators \( \psi I \) defined here are not fermionic. Although operators which correspond to different Landau levels anti-commute, operators on the same level obey \( \{ \psi I (r), \psi J (r') \} = \delta I J \delta (r - r') \).

For example, away from the edge \( \Delta I (x, x', y - y') \neq \delta I J \delta (r - r') \).

\[
\text{For example, away from the edge } \Delta I (x, x', y - y') = 1/(2 \pi l^2) \exp \left[ - (1/4) (r - r')^2 + (i/2) (x + x') (y - y') \right], \text{ where } r \text{ is measured in units of the magnetic length in the residual field and in the presence of }
\]

\[
\Delta I \text{ or the edge may reconstruct by creating a strip of electrons separated from the bulk of the sample\textsuperscript{22,23}. Under such conditions one expects to find extra edge channels and edge modes. These cases will not be addressed in the present work and we will consider } m \text{ electronic liquids (one per layer) that occupy the entire plane of the system.}
\]

Next, we transform each of the fermionic fields \( \psi I \) into a bosonic field \( \phi I \) through an attachment of a single flux line in the \( \pm \hat{z} \) direction, namely,

\[
\phi I (r) = e^{i \Lambda I (r)} \psi I (r), \quad \Lambda I (r) = \int d^2 r' f_2 (r - r') \rho I (r'),
\]

with \( f_2 (r - r') = f_2 (r' - r) \pm \pi \). The new gauge potentials introduced by this transformation

\[
a I (r) = \mp \frac{\hbar c}{e} \int d^2 r' F_2 (r - r') \rho I (r'), \quad a_{I_0} (r) = \mp \frac{\hbar c}{e} \int d^2 r' F_2 (r - r') \rho I (r') \nu I (r'),
\]

where \( F_2 (r - r') = \nabla_+ f_2 (r - r') \), cancel on the average the residual magnetic field in the bulk of the sample. Their dynamics is controlled by an additional CS term \( \mp (e/2 \phi_0) \sum I \nu I a_{I_0} \partial_+ a_{I_0} \) in the Lagrangian density \[4\]. Note that contrary to the flux lines attached by the first transformation \[2\] the new ones are felt only by particles in the same condensate as the particle carrying the flux.

By shifting \( a_{I_0} \) to \( a_{I_0} + a_\mu \), integrating over \( a_\mu \) and introducing the phase and velocity fields

\[
\phi I = \sqrt{\rho I} e^{i \theta I}, \quad \nu I = \frac{\hbar}{M} \nabla \theta I + \frac{e}{Mc} (a I + A),
\]

we obtain the final hydrodynamic form of the Lagrangian and Hamiltonian densities\textsuperscript{26}.

![FIG. 1: A schematic plot of the composite fermions Landau levels for a sharp \( \nu = 2/3 \) edge. The dotted line represents the Fermi energy and \( k \) denotes the conserved \( y \) momentum of the states. When the edge is made smoother higher Landau levels (indicated by the dashed line) may cross the Fermi energy at the vicinity of the edge.](image)
Henceforth length is measured in units of the magnetic length $l$, time is normalized by the inverse cyclotron frequency $\omega_c = eB/Mc$, energy by $\hbar \omega_c$ and the density by the Landau level degeneracy $\rho_0 = 1/2\pi l^2$. The above densities have been derived under the assumption that no localized vortices are present in the sample. Anticipating the use of the mean-field approximation we have included in the action additional contact interactions in order to partially account for the kinetic energy coming from the short range structure of the wave-function which is absent in this approximation\textsuperscript{7,18}. We comment on the values of their couplings $\lambda_{IJ}$ below. The matrix $(K^{-1})_{IJ} = \mp j/(pm \pm 1) + \delta_{IJ}$ is the inverse of $K = \rho C \mp 1$ with 1 and $C$ being the identity and pseudo-identity matrices ($C_{IJ} = 1$). The matrix $K$ is an example of the general classification scheme, introduced by Wen and Zee\textsuperscript{17,30} of Abelian FQHE states. Its elements $K_{IJ}$ are the number of flux lines affecting the phase of a particle in the $I$-th condensate when it encircles a particle in the $J$-th condensate.

### III. MEAN-FIELD SOLUTIONS

Variation of the action\textsuperscript{11} with respect to the variables $a_{Ia}$, $v_I$, $\theta_I$ and $\rho_I$ results in the mean-field equations

\begin{equation}
\sum_{j=1}^{m} (K^{-1})_{IJ} \epsilon_{ij} \partial_j v_j^I = \frac{\nu}{m} - \rho_I, \tag{12a}
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
\sum_{j=1}^{m} (K^{-1})_{IJ} \left( \partial_i \partial_j \theta_J - \partial_i \rho_j v_j^I - \partial_i a_{Ja} \right) = \epsilon_{ij} \rho_j v_j^I, \tag{12b}
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
\partial_i \rho_I = -\nabla (\rho_I v_I), \tag{12c}
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
\partial_i \theta_I = -\frac{1}{2} \rho_i' + \frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 \sqrt{\rho_I'} + A_0 + a_{Ia}. \tag{12d}
\end{equation}

In the absence of confining potentials these equations support a uniform solution $\rho_I = \nu/m$ with $v_I = a_{Ia} = 0$ and $\theta_I = -\mu t$. The correct noninteracting ($U = 0$) energy density $\mathcal{H} = \nu \hbar \omega_c/2$ for this solution is recovered by taking $\lambda_{IJ} = 2\pi m/\nu \delta_{IJ}$. One also finds $\mu_I = \hbar \omega_c$ indicating that mean-field configurations with slightly different filling factor and which are continuously connected to the constant solution necessarily involve higher Landau levels\textsuperscript{28}. This choice is not unique. Taking $\lambda_{IJ} = 2\pi K_{IJ}$ also recovers the correct noninteracting energetics. As we shall see, the form of $\lambda_{IJ}$ affects some of the details of the mean field solutions. It does not, however, modify any of the general conclusions of our study.

Up to this point we have not specified the kernels $f_{1,2}$ of the CS transformations\textsuperscript{23} or equivalently fixed the gauge for the statistical potentials $a_{\mu}$ and $a_{I\mu}$. The canonical choice

\begin{equation}
f_{1,2}(r-r') = \alpha_{1,2} \arctan \left( \frac{y-y'}{x-x'} \right), \tag{13}
\end{equation}

with $\alpha_{1,2} = p, \pm 1$, induces, through $F_{1,2}(r-r') = \lim_{\epsilon \to 0^+} \alpha_{1,2} \hat{z} \times (r-r')/([r-r']^2 + \epsilon)$, a symmetric gauge which is in conflict with the translational symmetry of the problem in the $y$ direction. We are free, however, to add to $f_{1,2}$ functions $g_{1,2}$ satisfying $g_{1,2}(r-r') = g_{2,2}(r'-r)$, corresponding to a regular gauge transformation in the Lagrangian formalism. We choose

\begin{equation}
g_{1,2}(r-r') = \lim_{\epsilon \to 0^+} \alpha_{1,2} \frac{y-y'}{\sqrt{(y-y')^2 + \epsilon}} \times \arctan \left( \frac{x-x'}{\sqrt{(y-y')^2 + \epsilon}} \right). \tag{14}
\end{equation}

As a result $(f + g)_{1,2}(r-r') = \pi \alpha_{1,2} [1 - \epsilon(y-y')]$ with $\epsilon(x) = \Theta(x) - 1/2$ where $\Theta(x)$ is the step function. $(f + g)_{1,2}$ has a branch cut which we take to be along the positive $x - x'$ axis and therefore $\nabla_x (f + g)_{1,2} = [0, 2\pi \alpha_{1,2} \epsilon(x-x') \delta(y-y')]$. Accordingly, the statistical potentials [after the shift performed in obtaining\textsuperscript{10}] are in the Landau gauge

\begin{equation}
a_I(r) = \left[ 0, -\int dx' \sum_{J=1}^{m} K_{IJ} \epsilon(x-x') \rho_J(x', y) \right], \tag{15}
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
a_{Ia}(r) = -\int dx' \sum_{J=1}^{m} K_{IJ} \epsilon(x-x') \rho_J(x', y) v_j^I(x', y). \tag{16}
\end{equation}

We will find it more convenient to obtain the static solutions and the edge modes in a slightly different gauge where we replace $\epsilon(x-x')$ in\textsuperscript{15,16} by $\Theta(x-x')$. Using this gauge we look for static solutions of the form

\begin{equation}
\theta_I = \kappa_I y - \mu_I \{\kappa_I\} t, \quad \rho_I = \rho_I(x). \tag{17}
\end{equation}

Taking for definiteness the confining potential to be an infinite wall situated at $x \leq 0$ we set the density to zero on the edge. For the external vector potential we use the gauge $A = [0, Bx]$ which gives velocity fields of the form $v_x = 0$ and $v_y = v_y(x)$. Assuming that $a_{Ia}$ are also functions of $x$ only and inserting the above ansatz into\textsuperscript{12m,12l} we obtain a set of coupled equations for the various fields appearing in the problem. We solve the equations numerically for the cases of short-range interaction $U = 2\pi \lambda \delta(r-r')$ and Coulomb interaction
\[ U = \frac{(2\pi\lambda_c)}{|r - r'|} \] with \( \lambda_c = e^2/(2\pi\hbar\omega_c) \) plus a constant positive neutralizing background. Representative solutions are presented in Figs. 2 and 3.

The solutions to the mean-field equations form an \( m \)-dimensional manifold which is parameterized by the quantum numbers \( \{\kappa_I\} \). These quantum numbers are the conserved momenta along the edge of the different condensates and may be thought of as their collective guiding center coordinates. Varying their values translates the condensates in the \( x \) direction. They also determine the amount of excess charge (per unit length in the \( y \) direction) carried by each of the condensates relative to a step-like constant density profile. To demonstrate this relation we integrate Eq. (12d), noting that the ansatz (17) implies \( \rho_I'/(0) = \kappa_I \) and that the velocity vanishes in the bulk of the system. Consequently we obtain

\[ \sum_{j=1}^{m} (K^{-1})_{IJ} \kappa_I = \int \left( \rho_I - \frac{\nu}{m} \right) dx. \tag{18} \]

For a given set \( \{\kappa_I\} \) the values of \( \{\mu_I\} \) are determined by the requirement that far from the edge the density attains its bulk value \( \nu \). To appreciate their physical meaning we consider the energy difference between two neighboring mean-field solutions differing by the number of particles in one of the condensates. For our ansatz such a variation is achieved by a suitable change of center coordinates. Varying their values translates into a suitable change of their bulk values exponentially in the distance from the wall.

In case of short-range interaction the fields approach their bulk values exponentially in the distance from the wall (cf. Fig. 2). As a result we obtain from Eq. (12d) for large \( x = a_{l0} = -\mu_I + \nu\lambda_s + 1 \). Noting that in our gauge \( a_{l0}(0) = 0 \) we integrate Eq. (12d) to obtain the following relation connecting the chemical potentials \( \{\mu_I\} \) to the currents carried by the different condensates

\[ \sum_{j=1}^{m} (K^{-1})_{IJ} \mu_J = \frac{\nu}{m}(1 + \nu \lambda_s) = I_I . \tag{20} \]

For Coulomb interaction the asymptotic behavior of the fields at large distances from the edge is determined by the total charge carried by the system relative to the constant neutralizing background. From (18) we
find the linear charge density along the edge to be \( \sigma = (\nu/m) \sum_{\nu=1}^{m} \kappa_{\nu} \). Assuming that the length of the sample \( L \) is much larger than the length over which the density changes appreciably \( (\sim \sigma/\nu) \), we can integrate the interaction term in Eq. (21) to find \( (1/2\pi) \int U(x-r) [\rho(x') - \nu]d^2r' \approx 2\lambda_c\sigma \ln L - 2\lambda_c \int \rho(x') - \nu \ln |x - x'| dx' \). The constant term is the leading contribution to the chemical potentials. It corresponds to the dominant part of the charging energy of the edge \( \lambda_c\sigma^2L \ln L \). The remaining contributions to the chemical potentials will be denoted by \( \mu_1 = \mu_L - 2\lambda_c\sigma \ln L \). When \( \sigma \neq 0 \) we find at large distances \( \rho_1 \approx \nu/m + 2\lambda_c\sigma/x^2 \), \( v_1^2 \approx 2\lambda_c\sigma/x \) and \( a_1 \approx -\mu_L + 1 - 2\lambda_c\sigma \ln x \) (with or without relative oscillations between the condensates, cf. Fig 3). The slow decay of the current density results in a logarithmically diverging contribution to the integrated current from the wall to a point \( x \). Defining \( \tilde{I}_t = I_t - 2\lambda_c\sigma(\nu/m) \ln x \) one obtains

\[
\sum_{J=1}^{m} (K^{-1})_{J,t} \tilde{\mu}_J - \frac{\nu}{m} = \tilde{I}_t .
\]  

(21)

If \( \sigma = 0 \) the fields relax to their bulk values more rapidly \( \rho_1 \approx \nu/m + x^{-3} \), \( v_1^2 \approx x^{-2} \) and \( a_1 \approx -\mu_L + 1 + x^{-1} \). Consequently the current is finite and a similar relation to (21) holds for \( \{\mu_1\} \) and \( \{I_1\} \).

We remark that (21) leads to the appropriate quantized Hall conductance for a wide band \( (L \gg W \gg \kappa L) \). Consider two edges in equilibrium with chemical potentials \( \mu_{1,2} \) and charge densities \( \pm \sigma \). Summing over the edge channels we find

\[
I = I_1 - I_2 = \nu(\mu_1 - \mu_2 + 4\lambda_c\sigma \ln(W/L)) \equiv \nu V_{\text{Hall}} .
\]  

(22)

The expression for the Hall voltage reflects the modification of the edge chemical potential due to the electrostatic potential induced by the opposite edge.

The particular solution to be realized out of the manifold of mean-field configurations is determined by the external constraints imposed on the system. Strictly speaking, since the \( \kappa_{1} \) are conserved quantities, the entire manifold corresponds to equilibrium states of the system. Taking, however, a more experimentally motivated point of view we will identify the equilibrium configurations as those which minimize the energy for a given total charge at the edge, as determined by the electrostatic potentials applied to the edge. Any perturbation which breaks the translation invariance in the \( y \) direction will cause the system to seek and eventually settle down in this solution. A similar definition may be applied to the case where the edge is constrained to sustain a given total current instead of charge.

As can be seen from Eq. (19) the symmetrical configurations \( (\kappa_1 = \kappa, \mu_2 = \mu) \) are extrema of the energy functional for a fixed total charge at the edge \( (\sum \delta N_I = 0) \). From our numerical results we find that as long as this charge is not too large they indeed correspond to equilibrium solutions, see Figs. 4 and 5. However, when the charge is increased the symmetrical solutions turn into unstable regions, as described in the text. The inset shows a similar map for \( \kappa_{1} = 2\pi K_{1,1} \). Note the bifurcation of the equilibrium line \( \kappa_1 = \kappa_2 \) upon entering the unstable region and the new asymmetric equilibrium states.
local energy maxima and new asymmetrical equilibrium states appear. This is particularly clear in the case of the \( \nu = 2/3 \) edge, see Fig. 5, but the effect also exists for large \( \kappa \) in the \( \nu = 2/5 \) edge.

In the following section we will obtain the gapless edge excitations. As we have mentioned in the introduction they consist of a single magnetoplasmon mode and \( m - 1 \) acoustic branches. For a \( \nu = 2/3 \) edge we find that the latter become soft inside a parameter region, denoted by the shaded area in Fig. 5, whose extent depends on the particular model interactions (see also the inset in Fig. 5). Since in the acoustic mode the two condensates oscillate out of phase this softening signals a tendency of the edge to reconstruct by transferring charge from one condensate to the other, i.e. by deviating from the symmetrical solution along the direction of the neutrality line. Fig. 5 confirms this conclusion. We note that in reality the edge reconstruction may involve population of additional Landau levels in the vicinity of the edge. Such processes, however, fall outside of the model studied here.

When no constraints are imposed on the system it will choose the globally lowest available state. In the case of Coulomb interaction such a solution corresponds to a neutral configuration (\( \kappa_I = 0 \)) that minimizes the dominant charging energy (in realistic edges, for example in overgrown cleaved edge samples, additional potentials due to near-by charges may alter this conclusion). For short-range interaction the chemical potential of a system in equilibrium is a monotonically increasing function of \( \kappa \). Consequently energy is gained by placing the edge as far as possible from the confining wall. In order to fix the edge one has to introduce an additional confining potential.

The equilibrium solutions compose only a small fraction of the mean-field manifold. The rest of the solutions describe possible realizations of the edge out of equilibrium. Deliberate action must be taken in order to place the system in one of these configurations. Experimentally, this may be achieved through selective population of edge channels employing gates over the edge. The relatively large equilibration lengths found in experiments\(^{34,35}\) (few \( \mu m \)) raise the possibility of observing such states.

IV. SYMMETRICAL EDGES

A. Edge Excitations

Having obtained the mean-field solutions we are now in a position to study small fluctuations about them. To this end we consider the RPA equations which are derived from Eqs. 12a–12d by linearization around one of the mean-field configurations

\[
\begin{align}
\sum_{j=1}^{m} (K^{-1})_{Ij} \epsilon_{ij} \partial_i \delta v_j^v &= -\delta \rho_I , \quad (23a) \\
\sum_{j=1}^{m} (K^{-1})_{Ij} \left( \partial_i \partial_j \delta \theta I - \partial_i \delta v_j^v - \partial_j \delta a_{Ij} \right) &= \epsilon_{ij} \delta v_I^v + \epsilon_{ij} \rho I \delta v_I^v , \quad (23b) \\
\partial_t \delta \rho_I &= -\nabla (\delta \rho_I \nu_I + \rho_I \delta \nu_I) , \quad (23c) \\
\partial_t \delta \theta I &= -v_I^v \delta v_I^v + P(\rho_I, \delta \rho_I) + \frac{\partial^2 \delta \rho_I}{4 \rho_I} + \delta a_{Io} \\
&- \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_j \lambda_{IJ} \delta \rho_J - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int U(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \delta \rho(\mathbf{r}') d^2 r' . \quad (23d)
\end{align}
\]

Here \( P(\rho_I, \delta \rho_I) \) is the part of the linearized "quantum pressure" term, i.e., the second term on the right-hand side of 12d containing \( x \) derivatives, and \( \delta \rho = \sum_{I=1}^{m} \delta \rho_I \).

We can easily identify \( m \) independent solutions to the above equations. These are the small variations that connect the static solution, around which we linearized, and its neighboring configurations on the mean-field manifold. They are obtained from the static solution by taking
its derivatives with respect to the $m$ conserved momenta $\kappa_I$. Representative examples of these translation modes are shown in the inset of Fig. B. Evidently they correspond to a shift of the condensates in the $x$ direction and hence to the addition and removal of charge from the vicinity of the edge. At present the amount of this charge is arbitrary since, due to the linearity of (23a)-(23d), it is determined only up to a multiplicative constant. However, we will show that the periodic boundary conditions impose on it discrete values in units of $\nu/m$. We therefore interpret these modes as edge states of the $m$ types of quasiparticles that can be generated by threading one of the condensates with an extra flux line (or the type associated with the CS transformation [6]).

The translation modes are the building blocks for the construction of the $m$ gapless excitation branches supported by the edge of the system. Considering the long-wavelength limit we find

$$\delta \rho_I^{\alpha,k} = \sum_{j=1}^{m} A_j^{\alpha}(k) \frac{\partial \rho_I(x)}{\partial \kappa_j} e^{-i(ky-\omega_{\alpha}t)} ,$$

$$\delta v_I^{x,\alpha,k} = \frac{i}{\rho_I(x)} \sum_{j,L=1}^{m} A_j^{\alpha}(k) \left( K^{-1}_L \right)_{IJ} \left[ \omega_I \frac{\partial v_J^L(x)}{\partial \kappa_J} - k \frac{\partial a_L(x)}{\partial \kappa_J} - \omega_I \delta_{JL} \right] e^{-i(ky-\omega_{\alpha}t)} ,$$

$$\delta v_I^{y,\alpha,k} = \sum_{j=1}^{m} A_j^{\alpha}(k) \frac{\partial v_I^y(x)}{\partial \kappa_j} e^{-i(ky-\omega_{\alpha}t)} ,$$

$$\delta a_I^{\alpha,k} = \sum_{j=1}^{m} A_j^{\alpha}(k) \frac{\partial a_I(x)}{\partial \kappa_j} e^{-i(ky-\omega_{\alpha}t)} ,$$

$$\delta \theta_I^{\alpha,k} = \frac{i}{k} A_I^{\alpha}(k)e^{-i(ky-\omega_{\alpha}t)} ,$$

where $\alpha = 1, \cdots, m$ is the branch index. The real and imaginary parts of (24) are, to first order in $k$, independent solutions of the RPA equations. The expansion coefficients $A_j^{\alpha}(k)$ and the dispersion relations $\omega_{\alpha}(k)$ are determined from the secular equation obtained by plugging (24) into (23a)-(23d)

$$\sum_{j=1}^{m} \left[ B_{IJ} - \frac{\omega_{\alpha}}{k} \delta_{IJ} \right] A_j^{\alpha}(k) = 0 ,$$

$$B_{IJ} = \frac{\partial \mu_I}{\partial \kappa_J} + 2\lambda_c \nu \ln \left( \frac{2e^{-\gamma}}{|k|} \right) .$$

(25)

$\gamma$ is the Euler constant appearing in the long wavelength limit of the Coulomb interaction term (This and the following results hold also in the case of short-range interaction after replacing $\bar{\mu}$ by $\mu$ and setting $\lambda_c = 0$).

Due to the assumed symmetry of the mean-field solution $\delta \mu_I/\delta \kappa_J = \eta_I$ and $\delta \mu_I/\delta \kappa_J = \eta_J$ for all $J \neq I$. As a result the matrix $B$ is symmetric and takes the form

$$B = \left[ \eta_2 + 2\lambda_c \nu \ln \left( \frac{2e^{-\gamma}}{|k|} \right) \right] C + (\eta_1 - \eta_2) 1 .$$

Here again $C$ is the pseudo-identity matrix.

The eigenvalue problem (25) is readily solved to give one edge-magnetoplasmon mode and $m - 1$ degenerate branches with acoustic dispersion [26]. The magnetoplasmon corresponds to a coherent in-phase oscillation of the condensates with $A_j^{\alpha}(k) = 2\pi/L\nu$ (cf. Fig. 3). We have normalized the eigenvector such that the charge carried by its density profile is $\int d^2 r \sum_{j=1}^{m} A_j^{\alpha}(k)(\partial \rho_I/\partial \kappa_J) = 2\pi (1 \text{ in dimensional units})$ as can be easily verified using (18). Its dispersion relation is

$$v_1 \equiv \frac{\omega_1}{k} = \eta_1 + (m - 1)\eta_2 + 2\nu \lambda_c \nu \ln \left( \frac{2e^{-\gamma}}{|k|} \right) .$$

(27)

We will show below that this mode propagates in the positive $y$ direction for all fractions.

The rest of the modes are degenerate and have acoustic dispersion with velocity

$$v_2 \equiv \frac{\omega_2}{k} = \eta_1 - \eta_2 .$$

(28)

They correspond to excitations in which the different condensates oscillate out of phase under the condition $\sum_{j=1}^{m} A_j^{\alpha}(k) = 0$ and are therefore neutral (this perfect neutrality is not expected to hold in the case of a single-layer system). In the following we take them to be orthogonal and normalized according to $|A^\alpha|^2 = 2\pi/L$.

The direction in which the neutral modes propagate depends on the filling factor. The reason for this stems from the relation between the velocity of the mode $v_2$ and the inverse compressibility of the edges of the condensates. The latter can be viewed, according to Eq. (18), as one-dimensional systems of length $L$ and $N_I = L \sum_{j=1}^{m} (K^{-1})_{IJ} \kappa_{IJ}$ particles (where negative values of $N_I$ correspond to minus the number of holes on the edge). Consider the inverse compressibility of the edge $\chi_{I}^{-1} = (N_I^2/L) (\delta \mu_I/\delta \kappa_I)$ under the constraint of fixed total charge, i.e. for variations satisfying $\sum_{j} \delta \kappa_{IJ} = 0$. Using Eq. (18) and the form of $K^{-1}$ one finds for the symmetric solutions $\chi_{I}^{-1} = \pm(N_I^2/L^2)(\eta_1 - \eta_2)$. The stability requirement $\chi_l > 0$ then implies that $\text{sgn}(v_2) = \pm 1$ for $\nu = m/(pm \pm 1)$.

We remark that for short range interaction the preceding analysis can be carried out to second order in $k$. To this order the RPA solution is the same as (24) but with $\delta \rho_I^{\alpha,k}$, $\delta v_I^{x,\alpha,k}$ and $\delta a_I^{\alpha,k}$ multiplied by $(1 + k)$. As a result one finds for the dispersion relations

$$\omega_1(k) = [\eta_1 + (m - 1)\eta_2]k(1 + k) ,$$

$$\omega_2(k) = (\eta_1 - \eta_2)k(1 + k) .$$

(29)

(30)

The inverse compressibility vanishes when the edge of the static solution is far away from the wall (i.e. at large negative $\kappa$) for which case $\omega_2 \sim k^3$. A similar result for the case $\nu = 1$ was obtained in Ref. [37].
B. The Tomonaga-Luttinger model

In addition to the gapless edge modes a general excited state of the system may include other types of excitations such as bulk magnetoplasmions, magnetorotons, quasiparticles and quasiholes. However, since all of them involve an energy gap the edge modes are expected to dominate the low energy physics. We will thus restrict our consideration to cases in which the deviations of the various fields from their static ground state configurations can be expanded solely in terms of the gapless excitations. Our plan is to plug these expansions into the Lagrangian \ref{10} in order to obtain its low energy effective form and to use them to invert the CS transformations \ref{20}. The result will be an expression for the original electronic operators in terms of the bosonic edge modes. For this purpose we are interested to use the kernels \ref{13,14} and accordingly have to transform back to the gauge \ref{15,16} which they induce. As a result the gauge dependent quantities \(a_i\) and \(\theta_i\) change, the latter to \(|\kappa_i - 1/2| dz \sum_{\alpha=1}^m K_{ij}(x) y - |\mu_j - 1/2| dz \sum_{\alpha=1}^m K_{ij}(x) y\). The expansion of the deviation fields is then

\[
\begin{align*}
\delta \rho_I &= \sum_{\alpha=1}^m \sum_{k} \rho_\alpha(k) \delta \rho_\alpha^e(k), \\
\delta v_I^x &= \sum_{\alpha=1}^m \sum_{k} \rho_\alpha(k) \delta v_\alpha^x, \\
\delta v_I^y &= \sum_{\alpha=1}^m \sum_{k} \rho_\alpha(k) \delta v_\alpha^y, \\
\delta a_i &= \sum_{\alpha=1}^m \left\{ \rho_\alpha(0) \left[ \delta a_\alpha^0 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^m A_j^\alpha(0) \frac{\partial \mu_1}{\partial B_j} \right] \right. \\
&\left. + \sum_{k \neq 0} \rho_\alpha(k) \left[ \delta a_\alpha^k - \frac{1}{2} A_0^\alpha(k) \omega_\alpha(k e^{-iky}) \right] \right\}, \\
\delta \theta_i &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha=1}^m \left\{ \rho_\alpha(0) A_0^\alpha(0) y + \sum_{k \neq 0} \rho_\alpha(k) \delta \theta_\alpha^k \right\}.
\end{align*}
\]

In \ref{31} the time dependence has been shifted from the eigenmodes to the expansion coefficients \(\rho_\alpha(k)\) which are going to become upon quantization the creation and annihilation operators of the edge excitations. Similarly the coefficients \(\rho_\alpha(0)\) will play the role of the number operators of the zero modes [the \(k \to 0\) limit of the real part of \ref{24}]. They, in turn, are related to the number operators \(\rho_j(0)\) which measure the total excess charge at the edge relative to the background mean-field configuration due to the presence of translation modes \((2\pi m/\nu L) (\partial \rho_1/\partial z)\). Explicitly

\[
\rho_1(0) = \frac{L \nu}{2\pi m} \sum_{\alpha=1}^m A_j^\alpha(0) \rho_\alpha(0).
\]

In the following we take these operators to be time independent corresponding to fixed total charge at the edge.

The effective low energy Lagrangian is obtained by substituting \ref{31} into \ref{10} and keeping terms to lowest order in \(k\),

\[
L_{sym} = - \frac{2\pi \hbar}{L \nu} \sum_{k>0} \frac{i}{k} \delta \rho_1(k) \rho_1(-k) + \frac{2\hbar}{L} \sum_{\alpha=2}^m \sum_{k>0} \frac{i}{k} \delta \rho_\alpha(k) \rho_\alpha(-k) - \frac{\pi}{L \nu} \left[ n_1 + (m-1) n_2 \right] \rho_1(0) \rho_1(0) + \frac{\pi}{L} \left( n_1 - n_2 \right) \sum_{\alpha=2}^m \rho_\alpha(0) \rho_\alpha(0) \\
- \frac{2\hbar}{L} \sum_{k>0} v_1(k) \rho_1(k) \rho_1(-k) + \frac{2\hbar v_0}{L} \sum_{\alpha=2}^m \sum_{k>0} \rho_\alpha(k) \rho_\alpha(-k)
\]

where we have restored the units of dimensions. The first two terms of the Lagrangian constitute its symplectic part containing the information about the algebra satisfied by the density operators. Taking \(\rho_\alpha(k) > 0\) to be the coordinates we find that \(\rho_\alpha(k < 0)\) (up to constants) play the role of their conjugate momenta. Accordingly their commutation relations are given by \((k > 0)\)

\[
[\rho_1(k), \rho_1(-p)] = -\frac{kL \nu}{2\pi} \delta_{kp}, \quad \rho_\alpha(k), \rho_\beta(-p) = \pm \frac{kL}{2\pi} \delta_{\alpha\beta} \delta_{kp}, \quad \alpha, \beta = 2, \cdots, m
\]

(34)

The number operators \(\rho_\alpha(0)\), or equivalently \(\rho_1(0)\), are absent from the above algebra due to our assumption of constant edge charge. In case this assumption does not hold one needs to introduce additional operators, conjugated to \(\rho_1(0)\), that change this charge\ref{36}.

The effective low energy Hamiltonian is given by \((\text{minus})\) the remaining part of the Lagrangian. Its first two terms correspond to the energy due to excess charge on the edge while the last two terms describe the energy of the gapless excitations. Using the commutation relations \ref{34} one finds that \(\rho_\alpha(k)\) indeed create and destroy the eigenmodes \ref{24} with frequencies \(\omega_\alpha(k)\). Note that for the Hamiltonian to be bounded from below the velocity of the magnetoplasmon \(v_1\) should be positive while the neutral modes must propagate along the \(\pm y\) direction \((v_2 \geq 0)\) for the fractions \(\nu = m/(pm \pm 1)\), as argued previously and affirmed by our numerical calculations.

To lowest order in \(k\) we find that in the gauge defined by \ref{15,16} the bosonic operators are given by \(\phi_1(r) = \sqrt{\rho_1(x)} \exp[i(\theta_1 + \delta \theta_1(y))]\). Using Eqs. \ref{15,16} the CS transformations \ref{20} can be inverted to obtain from \(\phi_1(r)\) an approximate form for the electronic operator \(\psi_1(r)\). It contains the low energy edge components of the exact \(\psi_1(r)\). As a final step we project the two-dimensional operator on the edge by integrating over the...
indicating that edge as it should. The proper anticommutation between different \(\psi\) \(\varphi\) \(\psi\) \(\varphi\) which is easily obtained using the orthogonality relations to take discrete values in multiples of \(\nu/m\). This observation conforms with our earlier identification of the translation levels as discussed following Eq. (5). In an effective theory, as edge states of quasiparticles [see discussion following (26)], was found to persist.

\[\psi(y) = L^{-1/2} \exp[i\varphi(y)] , \]

\[\varphi(y) = \kappa y + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{m} A_{\alpha}^{\alpha}(0) \rho_{\alpha}(0)y \]

\[+ \sum_{k \neq 0} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{m} \frac{1}{k} A_{\alpha}^{\alpha}(k) \rho_{\alpha}(k) e^{-iky} , \]

which constitutes the bosonization formula of the CTLL model. It is interesting that in the gauge we are using \(\varphi\) is composed in equal parts of contributions from the CS phase \(\Lambda + \Lambda_{I}\) and from the phase \(\partial \varphi_{I}\) of the bosonic field. We also note, using (32,35), that the spectrum of \(\rho(0)\) is constrained by the periodic conditions on \(\psi\). The result is similar to the appendix one can show that (36) and consequently \(\Lambda_{I}\) and \(\rho(0)\) do not create its eigenmodes. Nevertheless we can still express the \(\psi\) in terms of them. The result is similar to the one found in the symmetric case except that now \(\kappa\) is replaced by \(\kappa_{I}\). Using the identity proven in the appendix one can show that (36) and consequently the anti-commutation relations and the charge associated with \(\psi\) remain unchanged with respect to the symmetric case.

The above expression for \(\psi\) obeys fermionic anticommutation relations. It is a result of

\[\{\varphi(y), \varphi(y')\} = (p \pm \delta_{ij}) \pi i \text{sgn}(y - y') , \]

which is easily obtained using the orthogonality relation \(\sum_{\alpha=1}^{m} (A_{\alpha}^{\alpha})^2 = (2\pi/L)^2(1 - 1/m)\) (in order to have the proper anticommutation between different \(\psi\) one also needs to introduce Klein factors). Additionally Eqs. (41,44) can be utilized to derive \(\{\delta \rho(y), \psi_{I}^{\dagger}(y')\} = \delta(y - y') \psi_{I}^{\dagger}(y')\), where \(\delta \rho(y,t) = \int dx \sum_{\alpha=1}^{m} \delta \rho_{\alpha}(r,t)\), indicating that \(\psi_{I}^{\dagger}\) creates a localized unit charge at the edge as it should.

The bosonization formula \(\Lambda_{I}\) and the fact that the \(\rho_{\alpha}\) create eigenmodes of the system enable a straightforward evaluation of the edge propagator, which in the case of short range interaction is

\[\langle \psi(y,t) \psi(0,0) \rangle \propto (y - v_{1}t)^{1/2} (y - v_{2}t)^{-(1 - 1/2)} . \]

The theory thus reproduces the power-law behavior \(I \sim V^{\gamma}\) for tunneling into FQHE edges as predicted previously by Wen.\[\] One finds \(\gamma = p + 1\) for the \(\nu = m/(pm + 1)\) fractions and \(\gamma = p + 1 - 2/m\) if \(\nu = m/(pm - 1)\). In the presence of Coulomb interactions the magneto-plasmon contribution to the propagator introduces an additional correction \(\sim (\ln t)^{1/2}\) at long times \(2\nu \lambda_{m} t \gg 1\).

So far we did not take into account the possibility of tunneling between the various condensates. Such processes may exist in multi-layer systems with small interlayer separation (of the kind needed to establish correlations between the layers as assumed in our theory). They necessarily arise in single-layer FQHE systems from the terms connecting different composite fermions Landau levels as discussed following Eq. (5). In an \(m = 2\) symmetric edge Eq. (36) implies that \(\psi_{I=1,2} \propto \exp[i(\varphi_{c} + \varphi_{n})]\) where \(\varphi_{c}\) and \(\varphi_{n}\) are the magnetoplasmon and the neutral mode contributions to \(\varphi_{I}\) respectively. Consequently a tunneling term \(\psi_{I}^{\dagger} \psi_{I=2} + \text{h.c.}\) modifies the neutral sector of the free edge theory into a chiral sine-Gordon theory. The edge propagator for a \(\nu = 2/(2p+1)\) system under such circumstances has been calculated by Naud et.al \(39\) and an algebraic decay, with the same exponent as in Eq. (36), was found to persist.

\section{V. ASYMMETRICAL EDGES}

When the edge configuration is asymmetric the matrix \(B\) appearing in the secular equation (26) is no longer symmetric and the eigenvectors \(A^{\alpha}\) do not form in general an orthogonal set. More notably the latter do not correspond to eigenmodes of the effective Hamiltonian and an additional diagonalization procedure is needed.

To demonstrate this point we proceed to evaluate the effective Lagrangian, as described in the previous section, continuing to use the normalization \(\sum_{I=1}^{m} A_{I}^{\alpha} = 2\pi m/L\nu\) in which the solutions carry a unit charge. The symplectic part yields the following algebra for the density operators

\[\rho_{\alpha}(k), \rho_{\beta}(-p) = -\frac{kL}{2\pi} (M^{-1})_{\alpha\beta} \delta_{kp} \ (k > 0) , \]

\[M_{\alpha\beta} = \pm p(pm \pm 1) \pm \left( \frac{L}{2\pi} \right)^{2} \sum_{l=1}^{m} A_{l}^{\alpha} A_{l}^{\beta} . \]

Note that now \(A^{\alpha}\) and therefore also \(M\) are (even) functions of \(k\). For notational convenience we avoid an additional \(k\) index on these quantities. The effective Hamiltonian reads

\[H = \frac{L\hbar}{4\pi} \sum_{l=1}^{m} \frac{\partial H_{I}}{\partial \kappa_{l}} (K^{-1})_{I,I} A_{l}^{\alpha} A_{l}^{\beta} \rho_{\alpha}(0) \rho_{\beta}(0) \]

\[+ \frac{\pi\hbar}{L} \sum_{l=1}^{m} \sum_{\alpha,\beta=1}^{m} \frac{M_{\alpha\beta}}{k} \rho_{\alpha}(k) \rho_{\beta}(-k) . \]

It is now clear that the frequencies \(\omega_{\alpha}\) obtained from the secular equation are not the eigenfrequencies of \(H\) and \(\rho_{\alpha}\) do not create its eigenmodes. Nevertheless we can still express the \(\psi_{I}\) in terms of them. The result is similar to the one found in the symmetric case except that now \(\kappa\) is replaced by \(\kappa_{I}\). Using the identity proven in the appendix one can show that (36) and consequently the anti-commutation relations and the charge associated with \(\psi_{I}\) remain unchanged with respect to the symmetric case.

In the following we will derive the eigenmodes of (39), consider their coupling to an external electric field and calculate the tunneling exponent into the edge. We will consider a generic fraction of the form \(\nu = m/(pm + 1)\) and restrict most of the discussion of the other fractions to \(\nu = 2/3\).
A. $\nu = m/(pm + 1)$

In order to make progress we note that the matrices $M$ and $K^{-1}$ are congruent

$$M = (pm \pm 1)^2 A K^{-1} \tilde{A}, \quad (40)$$

where $A$ is defined in Appendix A. Accordingly they have the same signature. Since the spectrum of $K^{-1}$ is composed of the eigenvalue $\nu/m$ and $m - 1$ degenerate states with eigenvalues $\pm 1$ we conclude that $M$ has $m$ positive eigenvalues for the $\nu = m/(pm + 1)$ fractions and a single positive and $m - 1$ negative eigenvalues if $\nu = m/(pm - 1)$.

Thus, there exists a (real nonorthogonal) matrix $U$ such that $UM^{-1}\tilde{U} = \sigma$ where $\sigma$ is diagonal containing the signs of the eigenvalues of $M^{-1}$. Concentrating on the $\nu = m/(pm + 1)$ case, where $\sigma = 1$, we use it to define for $k > 0$ the bosonic operators

$$a_{\alpha k} = \left( \frac{2\pi}{kL} \right)^{1/2} \sum_{\beta = 1}^{m} (VU)_{\alpha\beta} \rho_{\beta}(-k), \quad (41)$$

in terms of which

$$\rho_{\alpha}(-k) = \left( \frac{kL}{2\pi} \right)^{1/2} \sum_{\beta = 1}^{m} \left( U^{-1}\tilde{V} \right)_{\alpha\beta} a_{\beta k}. \quad (42)$$

$V$ is an orthogonal matrix to be determined below. The hermitian conjugates of (41,42) are obtained using $V$ is an orthogonal matrix to be determined below. The hermitian conjugates of $\rho_{\alpha}(-k) = \rho_{\alpha}^+(k)$. Defining the real symmetric matrices

$$N_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} M_{\alpha\beta} (\omega_{\alpha} + \omega_{\beta}) \quad , \quad R = U^{-1} N U^{-1}, \quad (43)$$

the $k \neq 0$ part of $H$ takes the form

$$\frac{2\pi \hbar}{L} \sum_{\alpha,\beta = 1}^{m} \sum_{k < 0} N_{\alpha\beta}^2 k \rho_{\alpha}(k)\rho_{\beta}(-k) =$$

$$\hbar \sum_{\alpha = 1}^{m} \sum_{k > 0} \Omega_{\alpha}(k) a_{\alpha k}^\dagger a_{\alpha k}, \quad (44)$$

provided we choose $VR\tilde{V} = \Omega$ with $\Omega$ diagonal. Thus, once $U$ and $V$ have been calculated the eigenmodes of $H$ are determined. In practice, however, we find them to be very close to the solutions of the secular equation $\tilde{H}$. As a result, in the long wavelength limit and in the presence of Coulomb interactions the distinction between a single magnetoplasmon mode and $m - 1$ modes with acoustic dispersion is preserved. The dispersion relations receive small, linear in $k$, corrections which lift the degeneracy between the acoustic modes. For short range interactions our numerical results indicate that increasing the amount of asymmetry tend to increase the velocity of the in-phase mode while decreasing the velocity of the out-of-phase oscillations.

Expressing $\varphi_1$ through $a_{\alpha k}$ we can calculate the edge propagator. Assuming short range interaction we obtain

$$\langle \psi_1^+(y,t)\psi_1(0,0) \rangle \propto \prod_{\alpha = 1}^{m} (y - v_{\alpha t})^{-\gamma_1^\alpha}, \quad (45)$$

$$\gamma_1^\alpha = \left( \frac{L}{2\pi} \right)^2 \sum_{\beta,\gamma = 1}^{m} A_{\beta}^\alpha A_{\gamma}^\beta \left( U^{-1}\tilde{V} \right)_{\beta\alpha} \left( V\tilde{U}^{-1} \right)_{\alpha\gamma}. \quad (46)$$

Using $U^{-1}\tilde{U}^{-1} = M^{-1}$ and the result of the appendix one finds that the time dependence of the propagator is insensitive to the details of the edge configuration

$$\gamma_1 = \sum_{\alpha = 1}^{m} \gamma_1^\alpha = p + 1, \quad (46)$$

in agreement with the universal tunneling exponent predicted by Wen.\(^{17}\)

For asymmetrical configurations the acoustic modes are no longer neutral. Consequently they couple to an external potential. The response of the edge to such a potential is given by the retarded density-density correlation function which is given by

$$C_{\text{ret}}(k,\omega) = -\sum_{\alpha = 1}^{m} \frac{Q_{\alpha}^2(k)}{2\pi} \frac{k}{\omega - \Omega_{\alpha}(k) + i\delta}, \quad (47)$$

$$Q_{\alpha} = \sum_{\beta = 1}^{m} \left( V\tilde{U}^{-1} \right)_{\alpha\beta}. \quad (48)$$

The mode couplings obey the sum rule\(^{3}\)

$$\sum_{\alpha = 1}^{m} Q_{\alpha}^2 = \sum_{\alpha,\beta = 1}^{m} (M^{-1})_{\alpha\beta} = \nu, \quad (48)$$
as shown in the appendix. Fig. 7 depicts the way the couplings evolve as a $\nu = 2/5$ edge with short range interactions is taken out of equilibrium. Clearly the charge of the out-of-phase mode increases with the degree of asymmetry, at the expense of the in-phase mode. In the case of Coulomb interactions a similar trend exists but the couplings become $k$-dependent. In particular the coupling of the acoustic mode decreases as $1/\ln(k)$ in the long-wavelength limit (see also Fig. 11) thus making it more difficult to detect.

![Figure 8: Edge excitations of a neutral $\nu = 2/3$ edge out of equilibrium $\kappa_1 = -\kappa_2 = \kappa$ with Coulomb interaction $\lambda_c = 0.2$ and $\lambda_{ij} = 2\pi m/\nu \delta_{ij}$. They were calculated assuming a wavevector $kL = 10^{-4}$. The magnetoplasmon is shown in (a) where the dashed, dotted and solid lines present the density variations $\delta \rho_1, \delta \rho_2$ and their sum, respectively. The corresponding quantities for the acoustic mode are shown in (b).](image)

**FIG. 8:** Edge excitations of a neutral $\nu = 2/3$ edge out of equilibrium $\kappa_1 = -\kappa_2 = \kappa$ with Coulomb interaction $\lambda_c = 0.2$ and $\lambda_{ij} = 2\pi m/\nu \delta_{ij}$. They were calculated assuming a wavevector $kL = 10^{-4}$. The magnetoplasmon is shown in (a) where the dashed, dotted and solid lines present the density variations $\delta \rho_1, \delta \rho_2$ and their sum, respectively. The corresponding quantities for the acoustic mode are shown in (b).

**B. $\nu = 2/3$**

Here the edge supports two modes with $\sigma_1 = 1$ and $\sigma_2 = -1$. The introduction of the bosonic operators

$$a_{\alpha k} = \left( \frac{2\pi}{kL} \right)^{1/2} \sum_{\beta=1}^2 U_{\alpha \beta} \rho_\beta(-\sigma_\alpha k),$$

$$\rho_\alpha(-k) = \left( \frac{kL}{2\pi} \right)^{1/2} \left[ (U^{-1})_{\alpha 1} a_{1k} + (U^{-1})_{\alpha 2} a_{2k}^\dagger \right],$$

does not lead to a diagonalized $H$ and an additional Bogoliubov transformation

$$b_{1,2k} = \cosh \theta_k a_{1,2k} - \sinh \theta_k a_{2,1k}^\dagger,$$

with

$$\tanh 2\theta_k = -\frac{2R_{12}}{R_{11} + R_{22}},$$

is needed to achieve the desired form. For an example of the resulting eigenmodes refer to Fig. 5.

The eigenfrequencies are

$$\Omega_{1,2}(k) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \pm (R_{11} - R_{22}) + \sqrt{(R_{11} + R_{22})^2 - 4R_{12}^2} \right].$$

While $\Omega_{1,2}$ are both positive Eqs. 49, 50 imply that the two eigenmodes have velocities of opposite signs. The mode with acoustic dispersion continues to propagate with negative velocity $v_2 = -\Omega_2/k$.

The velocities in the presence of Coulomb interaction are presented in Fig. 9. The parameter $\kappa$ controls the width of the outer strip in which the density is larger than its bulk value $\nu = 2/3$ (cf. Fig. 3). Varying its value introduces small $O(1/\ln k)$ corrections to the logarithmic $k$ dependence of $v_1$ and to the constancy of $v_2$. It does, however, modify the $k$ independent parts of the velocities. Increasing the width decreases their values in accordance with the findings of Ref. 40. The numerical values found for $v_{1,2}$ are also quite close to those obtained in Ref. 40.

![Figure 9: Phase velocities of edge modes in neutral non-equilibrium configurations $\kappa_1 = -\kappa_2 = \kappa$ of a $\nu = 2/3$ edge with Coulomb interaction $\lambda_c = 0.2$ and $\lambda_{ij} = 2\pi m/\nu \delta_{ij}$. The solid lines depict, from top to bottom $v_1$ for $\kappa = 0, 1, 2, 3$ and 4. The dotted lines correspond in the same order to $|v_2|$.](image)

The edge propagator in the presence of short range interaction exhibits a power-law behavior similar to (45) but with non-universal exponents
$$\gamma_I = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{2} \gamma_I^\alpha = \left( \frac{L}{2\pi} \right)^2 \sum_{\alpha,\beta=1}^{2} A_I^\alpha A_I^\beta \left[ (U^{-1}\bar{U}^{-1})_{\alpha\beta} \cosh 2\theta_k + 2 (U^{-1})_{\alpha 1} (U^{-1})_{\beta 2} \sinh 2\theta_k \right].$$ (53)

In Fig. 10 we present the tunneling exponents for neutral configurations with $\kappa_1 = -\kappa_2 = \kappa$. Increasing $\kappa$ causes the leading edges of the two condensates to move away from the wall. When the edge nearest to the wall (that of the $I = 2$ condensate in this case) looses contact with the wall we find that $\gamma_{1,2}$ recover their equilibrium values.

In Fig. 11: The coupling of the acoustic mode for neutral asymmetric configurations $\kappa_1 = -\kappa_2 = \kappa$ of a $\nu = 2/3$ edge with Coulomb interaction $\lambda_c = 0.2$ and $\lambda_{IJ} = 2\pi m/\nu \delta_{IJ}$. The inset presents $Q_2^2$ for similar configurations but in the presence of short range interaction with $\lambda_s = 0.2$. According to (55) the coupling of the magnetoplasmon mode $Q_1^2$ is given by $2/3 + Q_2^2$.

The presence of Coulomb interactions makes the couplings acquire a $1/\ln k$ dependence and reduces the coupling of the acoustic mode relative to the case of short range interactions (see Fig. 11). For the latter type of interactions we observe that once $\kappa$ is large enough such that the condensates are no longer in contact with the wall $Q_2^2$ vanishes. The near neutrality of the counter-propagating mode makes its detection difficult especially in experiments where charge fluctuations are induced and detected over a wide range near the edge. The increase of the coupling of this mode to an external probe once the edge is taken out of equilibrium might help in its detection in similar experimental setups. Alternatively one should excite the two condensates selectively by carefully placing a close top gate over part of the edge region.

VI. CONCLUSION

We have provided an explicit demonstration of the way in which the CTLL model for edges of multi-layer FQHE systems emerges as the RPA low-energy limit of the CS theory for such systems. The theory offers a unified de-
scription of edges both in and out of equilibrium and yields an edge spectrum composed of a single magneto-plasmon branch and \( m - 1 \) acoustic modes together with their dependence on the underlying edge configuration. An attempt to carry the same treatment over to single-layer FQHE states is possible only if one avoids reference to the detailed structure of the composite fermion Landau levels and neglects transitions between them. It is not clear to what extent such approximations are valid.

As far as the question of the tunneling exponent is concerned, we find agreement with the universal results for the \( \nu = m/(pm + 1) \) states, obtained by previous studies. For \( \nu = m/(pm - 1) \) the minimal tunneling exponent depends on the structure of the edge and tends to decrease when the edge is driven away from equilibrium. While this behavior may account for some of the discrepancy between theory and experiment for \( \nu > 1/2 \) it is inconsistent with the observed approximate \( 1/\nu \) dependence of the exponent over a wide range \( 1 > \nu > 1/4 \) of filling factors containing both compressible and incompressible states. Moreover, additional processes, not taken into account here such as impurity scattering, may drive the system back to equilibrium and diminish the effect. We hope that a careful study of the approximations needed in order to apply the theory to single-layer systems, as mentioned above, may help to settle this issue.

Acknowledgments

This research was supported by the United States- Israel Binational Science Foundation (grant No. 2004162).

APPENDIX

In this appendix we prove the identity

\[
(L/2\pi)^2 \sum_{\alpha,\beta=1}^{m} (M^{-1})_{\alpha\beta} A^\alpha_I A^\beta_J = p \pm \delta_{I,J}, \quad (A.1)
\]

used in calculating the commutation relations and the propagator of \( \psi_L \). To this end we define the matrices

\[
\bar{M}_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{M_{\alpha\beta}}{(pm \pm 1)^2}, \quad A_{\alpha I} = \frac{A^\alpha_I}{\sum_{J=1}^{m} A^\alpha_J}, \quad (A.2)
\]

in terms of which we can write (68) as

\[
\bar{M} = \mp \frac{p}{pm \pm 1} C \pm A \bar{A}, \quad (A.3)
\]

where \( C \) is the pseudo-identity matrix and tilda denotes transposition. Using the fact \( \sum_{I=1}^{m} A_{\alpha I} = 1 \) we have \( AC = C \) and thus also \( A^{-1} C = C \) and \( CA^{-1} = C \). As a result

\[
T = \pm A^{-1} \bar{M} A^{-1} = 1 - \frac{p}{pm \pm 1} C. \quad (A.4)
\]

Its inverse is readily found to be

\[
T^{-1} = \pm A \bar{M}^{-1} A = 1 \pm pC, \quad (A.5)
\]

which is just Eq. (A.1). Summing over \( I \) and \( J \) in Eq. (A.1) we obtain

\[
\sum_{\alpha,\beta=1}^{m} (M^{-1})_{\alpha\beta} = \nu, \quad (A.6)
\]

thus implying the sum rules (68) (69).

1. B. I. Halperin, Phys. Rev. B 25, 2185 (1982).
2. For a review of recent developments see, A. M. Chang, Rev. Mod. Phys. 75, 1449 (2003).
3. X. G. Wen, Phys. Rev. Lett. 64, 2206 (1990); Phys. Rev. B 43, 11025 (1991); Phys. Rev. B 44, 5708 (1991).
4. A. M. Chang, L. N. Pfeiffer and K. W. West, Phys. Rev. Lett. 77, 2538 (1996).
5. M. Grayson, D. C. Tsui, L. N. Pfeiffer, K. W. West and A. M. Chang, Phys. Rev. Lett. 80, 1062 (1998).
6. A. M. Chang, M. K. Wu, C. C. Chi, L. N. Pfeiffer and K. W. West, Phys. Rev. Lett. 86, 143 (2000).
7. M. Hilke, D. C. Tsui, M. Grayson, L. N. Pfeiffer and K. W. West, Phys. Rev. Lett. 87, 186806 (2001).
8. L. S. Levitov, A. V. Shkolov and B. I. Halperin, Phys. Rev. B 64, 075322 (2001) and references therein.
9. J. J. Palacios and A. H. MacDonald, Phys. Rev. Lett. 76, 118 (1996).
10. S. S. Mandal and J. K. Jain, Phys. Rev. Lett. 89, 096801 (2002).
11. X. Wan, F. Evers and E. H. Rezayi, Phys. Rev. Lett. 94, 166804 (2005).
12. A. Boyarsky, V. V. Cheianov and O. Ruchayskiy, Phys. Rev. B 70, 235309 (2004).
13. D. Orgad, Phys. Rev. Lett. 79, 475 (1997).
14. Y. Yu, W. Zheng and Z. Zhu, Phys. Rev. B 56, 13279 (1997).
15. B. I. Halperin, Helv. Phys. Acta 56, 75 (1983).
16. J. K. Jain, Phys. Rev. Lett. 63, 190 (1989).
17. X. G. Wen, Adv. Phys. 44, 405 (1995).
18. B. Blok and X. G. Wen, Phys. Rev. B 42, 8133 (1990).
19. For the statistical vector potential we distinguish between \( a = [a^x, a^y] = \{a^I\} \) and \( a_i = -a^i \).
U. Zülicke, J. J. Palacios and A. H. MacDonald, Phys. Rev. B 67, 045303 (2003).

M. Huber, M. Grayson, M. Rother, W. Biberacher, W. Wegscheider and G. Abstreiter, Phys. Rev. Lett. 94, 016805 (2005).

L. Brey, Phys. Rev. B 50, 11861 (1994).

D. B. Chklovskii, Phys. Rev. B 51, 9895 (1995).

C. de C. Chamon and X. G. Wen, Phys. Rev. B 49, 8227 (1994).

X. Wan, K. Yang and E. H. Rezayi, Phys. Rev. Lett. 88, 056802 (2002).

T. Morinari and N. Nagaosa, Solid State Commun. 100, 163 (1996).

Z. Ezawa and A. Iwazaki, J. Phys. Soc. Jap. 61, 4133 (1992).

D. Orgad and S. Levit, Phys. Rev. B 53, 7964 (1996).

There are other configurations which remain in the lowest Landau level but involve topological defects, i.e. quasiholes, that can not be reached by a smooth variation of the constant solutions.

X. G. Wen, A. Zee, Phys. Rev. B 46, 2290 (1992).

The value of \( \lambda_c \) used in calculating the static mean-field configuration may be different than the one appropriate for determining the edge excitations. One should use \( \epsilon = \epsilon_{GaAs} \) for both purposes as long as \( kd > 1 \) where \( k \) is the wavelength of the excitation and \( d \) the distance from the 2D electronic system to the surface of the device. In most experimental cases the latter condition is not fulfilled and \( \epsilon \simeq 1 \) is a reasonable approximation when considering the excitations, see Ref. The value of \( \lambda_c \) used in calculating the static mean-field configuration may be different than the one appropriate for determining the edge excitations. One should use \( \epsilon = \epsilon_{GaAs} \) for both purposes as long as \( kd > 1 \) where \( k \) is the wavelength of the excitation and \( d \) the distance from the 2D electronic system to the surface of the device. In most experimental cases the latter condition is not fulfilled and \( \epsilon \simeq 1 \) is a reasonable approximation when considering the excitations, see Ref. 32. We use \( \epsilon = (1 + \epsilon_{GaAs})/2 \) in both calculations which results in \( \lambda_c = 0.2 \) for a typical \( \nu = 2/3 \) FQHE sample.

A. V. Volkov, D. V. Galchenkov, L. A. Galchenkov, I. M. Grodzenskii, O. R. Matov and S. A. Mikhailov, Pis'ma Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz. 44, 510 (1986) [JETP Lett. 44, 655 (1986)].

A. H. MacDonald, Phys. Rev. Lett. 64, 220 (1990).

L. P. Kouwenhoven, B. J. van Wees, N. C. van der Vaart, C. J. P. M. Harmans, C. E. Timmering and C. T. Foxon, Phys. Rev. Lett. 64, 685 (1990).

A. M. Chang and J. E. Cunningham, Phys. Rev. Lett. 69, 2114 (1992).

In the uniform system a quasiparticle of type \( I \), localized at the origin, is described by a mean-field solution with \( \theta_j = \varphi \delta_{ij} \) where \( \varphi \) is the azimuthal angle. The excess charge carried by this solution is \( \sum_{m=1}^{m} (K^{-1})_{ij} = \nu/m \).

S. Giovanazzi, L. Pitaevskii, and S. Stringari, Phys. Rev. Lett. 72, 3230 (1994).

J. von Delft and H. Schoeller, Annalen Phys. 7, 225 (1998).

J. D. Naud, L. P. Pryadko and S. L. Sondhi, Nucl. Phys. B 565, 572 (2000).

U. Zülicke, A. H. MacDonald and M. D. Johnson, Phys. Rev. B 58, 13778 (1998).

R. C. Ashoori, H. L. Stormer, L. N. Pfeiffer, K. W. Baldwin, and K. West., Phys. Rev. B 45, 3894 (1992).

C. L. Kane and M. P. A. Fisher, Phys. Rev. B 51, 13449 (1995).