

Modern theory of charge polarization

A. Charge polarization

1. Zak phase
2. Quantized charge pump

B. Su-Schrieffer-Heeger model

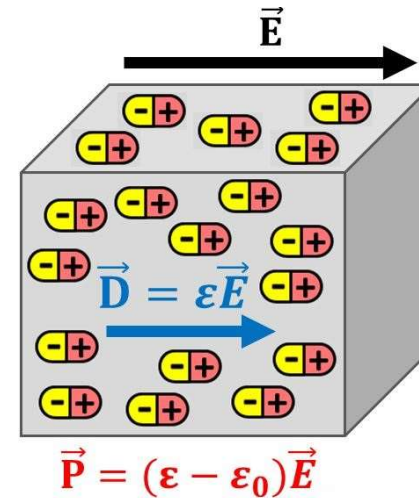
1. Zak phase
2. Domain wall state

C. Rice-Mele model

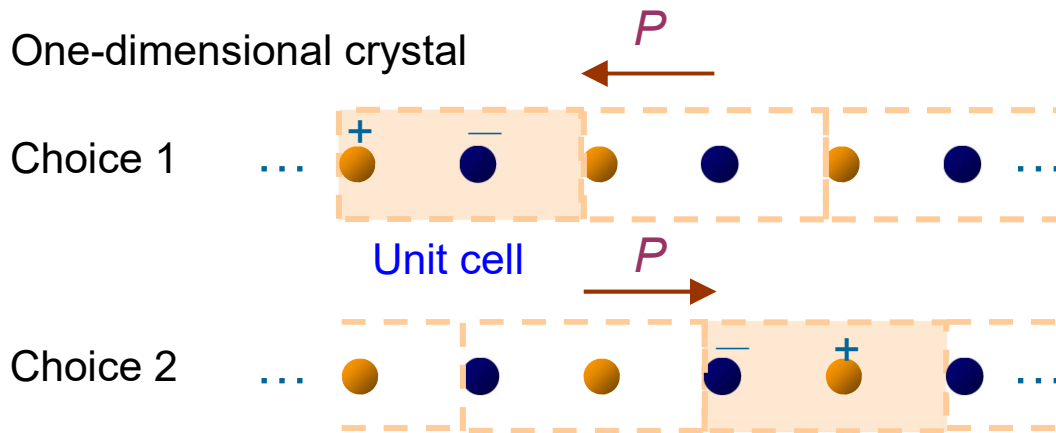
Electric polarization $\vec{P} = \frac{1}{V} \int d^3r \vec{r} \rho(\vec{r})$

- well defined for finite system (sensitive to boundary)
- for crystal with localized dipoles

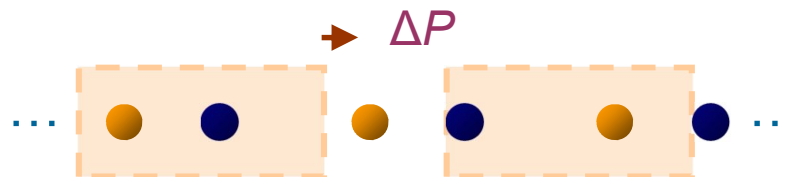
P = dipole moments/volume
 (Clausius-Mossotti theory)



- P is **not** well defined for infinite system with non-localized dipoles



- However, the change of P is well-defined



Modern theory of charge polarization (King-Smith and Vanderbilt, PRB 1993)

Consider a one-dimensional crystal (λ =atomic displacement in a unit cell)

- Bloch basis

$$P = \frac{q}{L} \sum_{nk} \langle \psi_{nk}^\lambda | r | \psi_{nk}^\lambda \rangle \quad \psi_{nk}^\lambda(\mathbf{r}) = e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}} u_{nk}^\lambda(\mathbf{r})$$

ill-defined

- Wannier basis (ΔP from the shift of the charge center of Wannier function)

$$P = q \sum_{\text{filled } n} \langle n0 | x | n0 \rangle, \quad q = -e$$

➔
$$P(\lambda) = qa \sum_n \int_{BZ} \frac{dk}{2\pi} \langle u_{nk}^\lambda | i \frac{\partial}{\partial k} | u_{nk}^\lambda \rangle \quad \text{Berry connection}$$

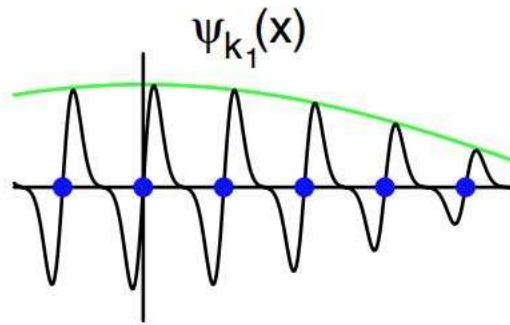
$$= qa \sum_n \frac{\gamma_n}{2\pi}$$

- Zak phase (PRL, 1989), Berry phase in one-dimension

$$\gamma_n \equiv \int_{BZ} dk A_{nk}$$

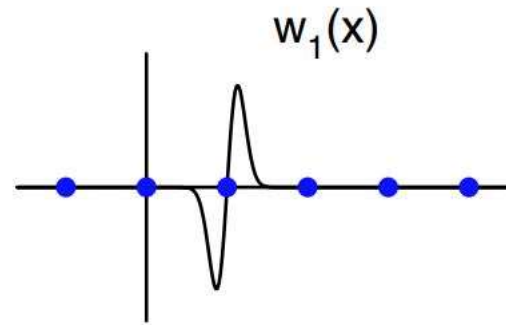
Bloch functions

$$\psi_{nk}(x) = e^{ikx} u_{nk}(x)$$



Wannier functions (localized)

$$|nR_\ell\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{k=-\pi/a}^{\pi/a} e^{-ikR_\ell} |\psi_{nk}\rangle$$



- Both sets are **complete** and **orthonormal** bases

$$\langle \psi_{n'k'} | \psi_{nk} \rangle = \delta_{nn'} \delta_{kk'} \quad \langle n'R' | nR \rangle = \delta_{nn'} \delta_{RR'}$$

Note: **atomic orbitals** are also localized, but they are not orthonormal basis

Polarization from the shift of charge center

$$\begin{aligned}
 P &= q \sum_{\text{filled } n} \langle n0|x|n0\rangle, \quad q = -e \\
 &= \frac{q}{N} \sum_n \sum_{kk'} \langle u_{nk'} | e^{-ik'x} \frac{1}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial k} (e^{ikx}) | u_{nk} \rangle \\
 &= \frac{q}{N} \sum_n \sum_{kk'} \langle u_{nk'} | e^{i(k-k')x} i \frac{\partial}{\partial k} | u_{nk} \rangle.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rightarrow P &= \frac{q}{N} \sum_n \sum_k \langle u_{nk} | i \frac{\partial}{\partial k} | u_{nk} \rangle \\
 &= qa \sum_n \int_{-\pi/a}^{\pi/a} \frac{dk}{2\pi} A_n(k).
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle u_{nk'} | e^{i(k-k')x} i \frac{\partial}{\partial k} | u_{nk} \rangle &= N \delta_{k,k'} \langle u_{nk} | i \frac{\partial}{\partial k} | u_{nk} \rangle_{\text{cell}} \\
 &= \delta_{k,k'} \langle u_{nk} | i \frac{\partial}{\partial k} | u_{nk} \rangle,
 \end{aligned}$$

- Gauge transformation

$$|u'_{nk}\rangle = e^{i\chi_{nk}} |u_{nk}\rangle$$

$$\rightarrow P'_n = P_n - qa \frac{\chi_{n\pi/a} - \chi_{n-\pi/a}}{2\pi} \quad \chi_{nk+2\pi/a} = \chi_{nk} + 2\pi ma$$

$$\rightarrow P'_n = P_n - qma \quad \text{same } \Delta P$$

Inversion symmetry

With inversion symmetry $A_n(-k) = -A_n(k)$

$$\rightarrow P_n \rightarrow P'_n = qa \int_{-\pi/a}^{\pi/a} \frac{dk}{2\pi} A_n(-k) = -P_n$$

$$P_n = -P_n \pmod{qa}$$
$$\rightarrow P_n = 0 \text{ or } q\frac{a}{2} \pmod{qa}$$

- For a one-dimensional lattice **with inversion symmetry** (if the origin is a symmetric point)

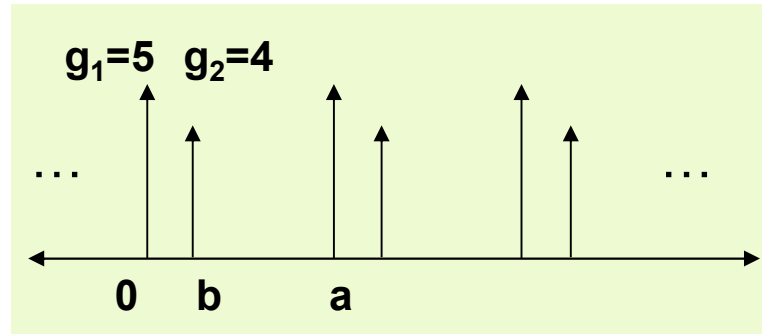
$$\gamma_n = 0 \text{ or } \pi \quad (\text{Zak, PRL 1989})$$

- Other values are possible **without** inversion symmetry

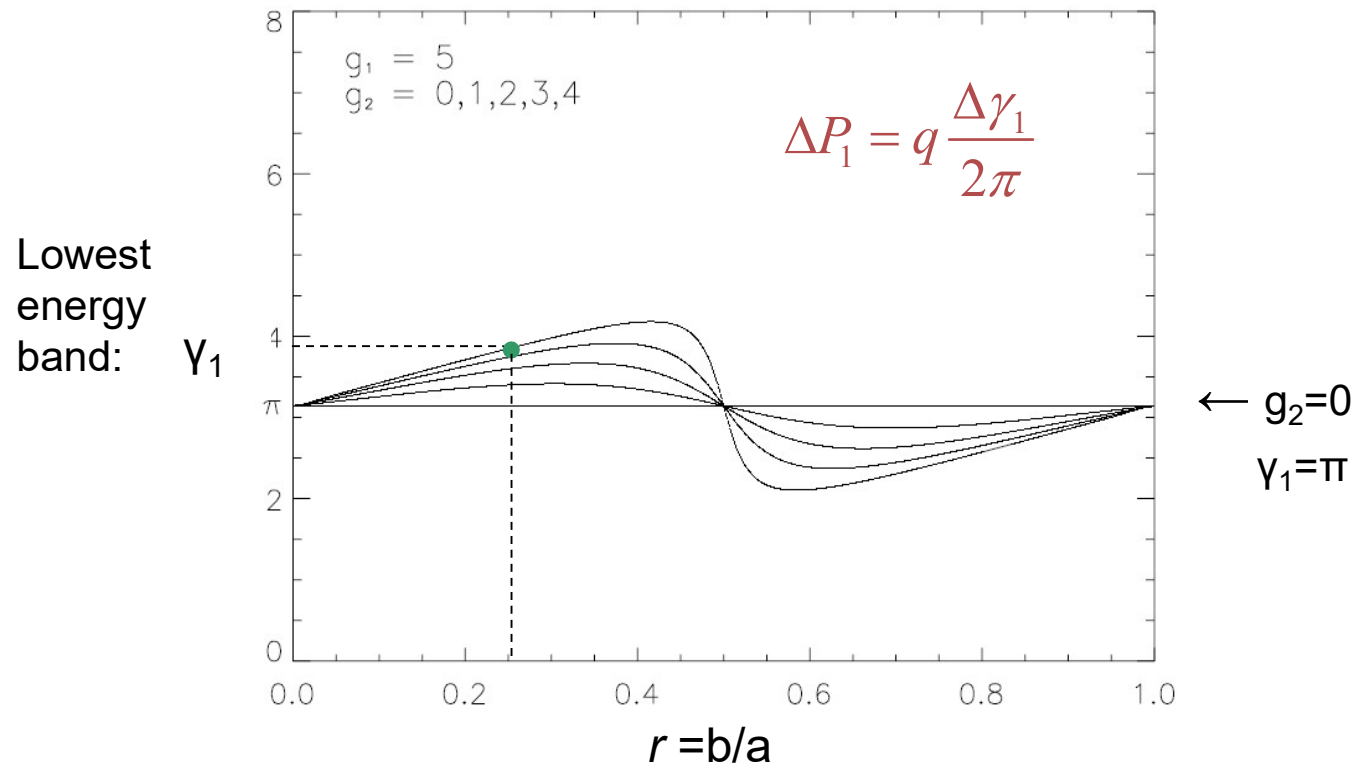
Review: Resta, J. Phys.: Condens. Matter 12, R107 (2000)

Berry phase and electric polarization

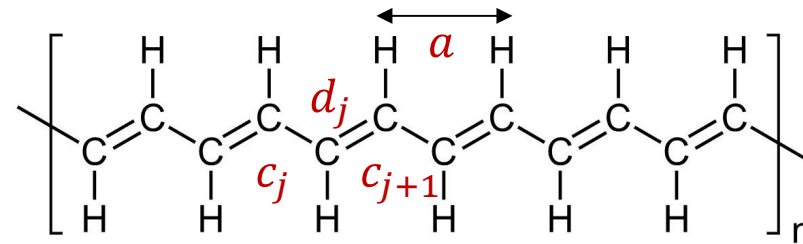
Dirac comb model:



Rave and Kerr, EPJ B 2005



Su-Schrieffer-Heeger (SSH) model, a model of polyacetylene (PRL 1979)



- Tight-binding formulation (for **spinless** electrons)

$$H = \sum_{j=1}^N t_- (c_j^\dagger d_j + h.c.) + \sum_{j=1}^N t_+ (c_{j+1}^\dagger d_j + h.c.)$$

Fourier transform

$$\begin{cases} c_j = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_k e^{ijak} c_k \\ d_j = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_k e^{ijak} d_k \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow H &= \sum_k (c_k^\dagger, d_k^\dagger) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & t_- + t_+ e^{-iak} \\ t_- + t_+ e^{iak} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_k \\ d_k \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \sum_k (c_k^\dagger, d_k^\dagger) H(k) \begin{pmatrix} c_k \\ d_k \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

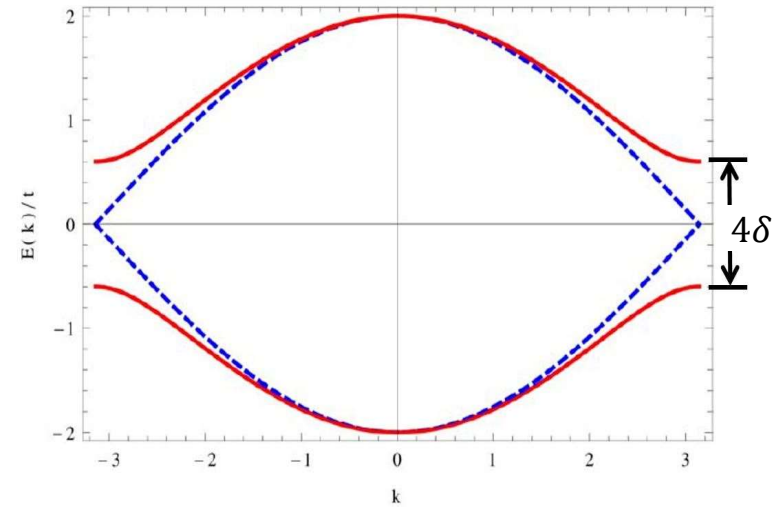
$$H(k) = \mathbf{h}(k) \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}$$

$$\mathbf{h}(k) = (t_- + t_+ \cos ka, t_+ \sin ka, 0)$$

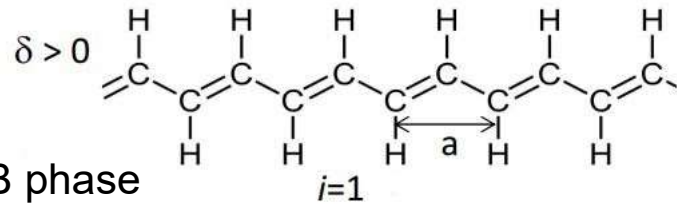
$$\rightarrow \varepsilon_{\pm} = \pm \sqrt{(t_- + t_+ \cos ka)^2 + (t_+ \sin ka)^2}$$

$$(t_{\pm} = t \pm \delta)$$

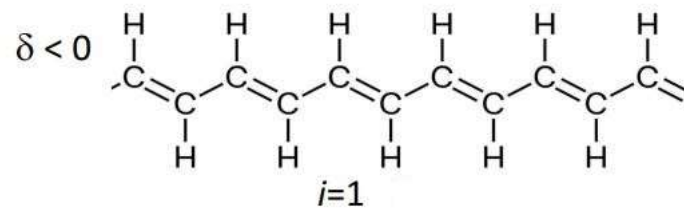
It's gapped when $\delta \neq 0$



A phase



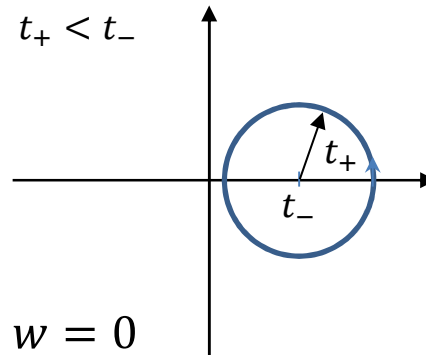
B phase



Winding number of $\mathbf{h}(k)$

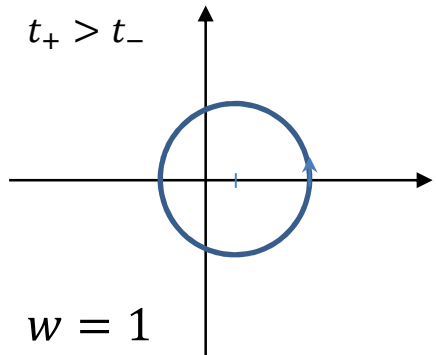
B phase

$$t_+ < t_-$$



A phase

$$t_+ > t_-$$



Note:
$$w = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{BZ} dk \frac{1}{h^2} \hat{\mathbf{z}} \cdot \mathbf{h} \times \frac{d\mathbf{h}}{dk}$$

Zak phase $\gamma = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dk A(k)$ = solid angle of the $\mathbf{h}(k)$ loop w.r.t. the origin

→ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{A phase } t_+ > t_- (w=1): \gamma = \pi \\ \text{B phase } t_+ < t_- (w=0): \gamma = 0 \end{array} \right.$

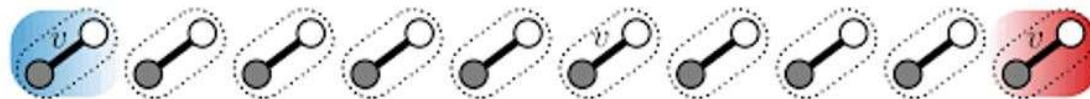
measurement of Zak phase using optical lattice: Atala et al, Nat Phys 2013

Edge state, bulk-edge correspondence

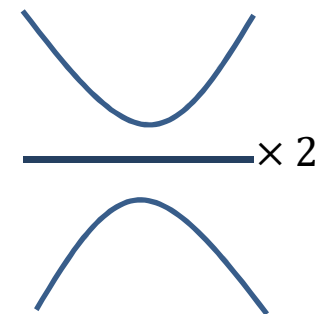
- A: $t_+ > t_-$, $w = 1$, $\gamma = \pi$



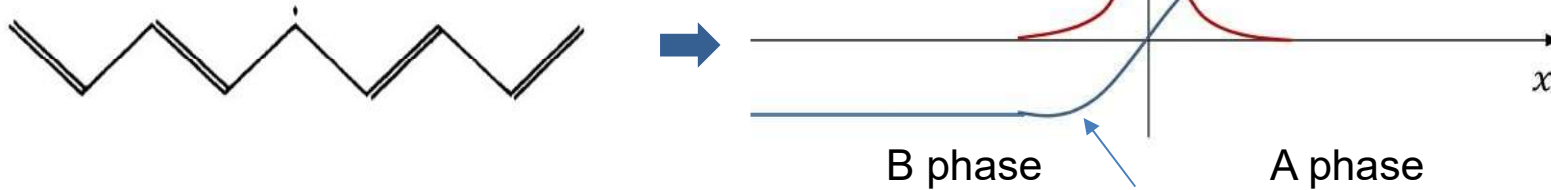
- B: $t_+ < t_-$, $w = 0$, $\gamma = 0$



1. Edge states are located at zero energy
 2. There is one electron **per dimer** (for spinless case)
- When an electron fills the right end, it has charge $q/2$, while the left end is $-q/2$ (w.r.t. to the trivial case)



Localized state near a domain wall



- Low-energy continuum theory

Called a **kink**, or a **soliton**

Requantization:

$$k \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{a} + q ; \quad \boxed{q \rightarrow -i\partial_x}$$

valid when the environment varies slowly (Slater, Phys Rev 1949)

$$\rightarrow H \simeq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\delta + it_+ q \frac{a}{2} \\ -\delta - it_+ q \frac{a}{2} & 0 \end{pmatrix} = -\delta(x) \sigma_x - t_+(x) q \frac{u}{2} \sigma_y$$

~ Jackiw-Rebbi model (1976)

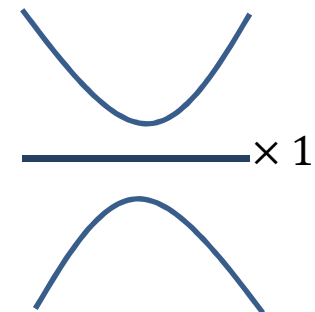
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\delta + t_+ \frac{a}{2} \frac{d}{dx} \\ -\delta - t_+ \frac{a}{2} \frac{d}{dx} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{pmatrix} = E \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Zero-energy solution (**domain-wall state**)

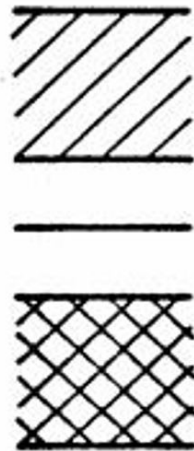
$$\Psi_0(x) = e^{-\int_0^x dx' \frac{2}{t_+(x')a} \delta(x')} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

If filled (empty), its charge is $-e/2$ ($e/2$)

But electrons have spins

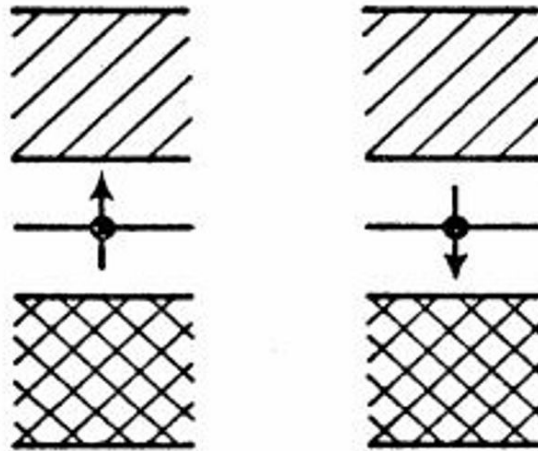


Electron with spin



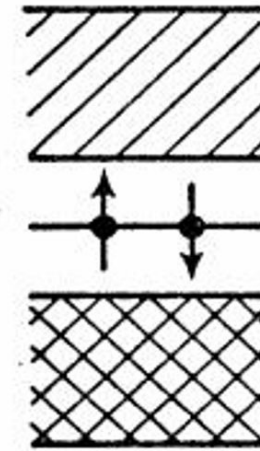
$$Q = e$$

$$S = 0$$



$$Q = 0$$

$$S = 1/2$$



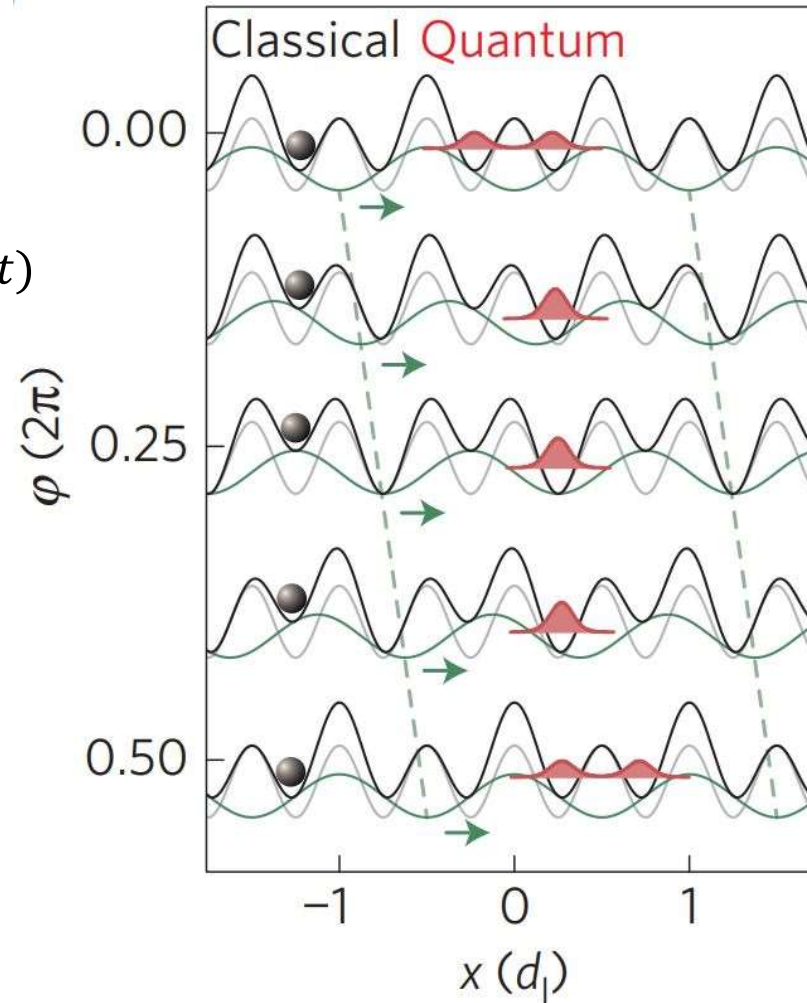
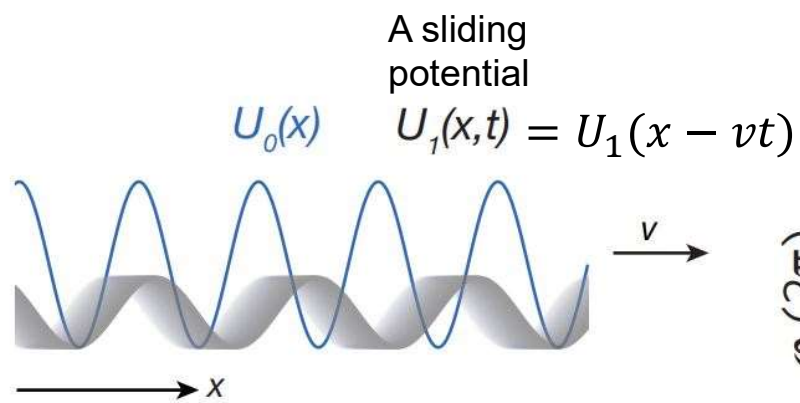
$$Q = -e$$

$$S = 0$$

Exp't
Ikehata et al, PRL 1980

Goldberg et al, J Chem Phys 1979

Quantized charge pump (Thouless, 1983)



Quantized charge pump (coherence, filled band)

$$P(\lambda_2) - P(\lambda_1) = qa \int_{-\pi/a}^{\pi/a} \frac{dk}{2\pi} [A(k, \lambda_2) - A(k, \lambda_1)]$$

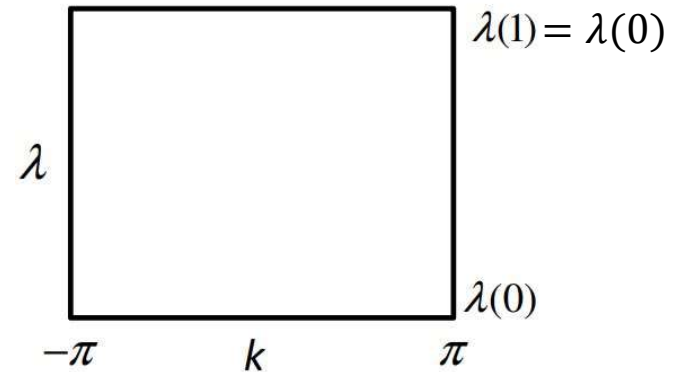
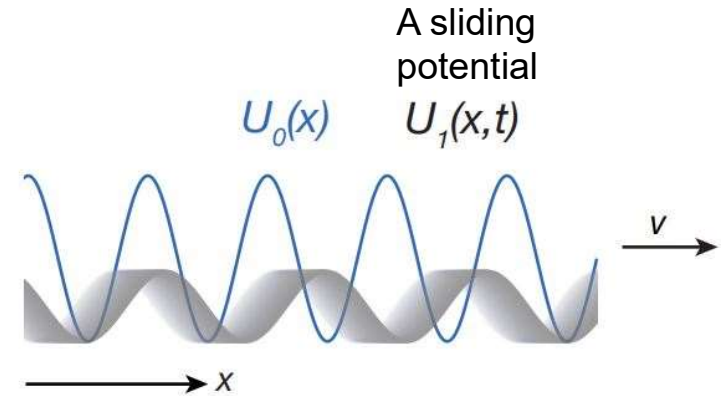
Demand $\langle u_{nk} | \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} | u_{nk} \rangle = 0.$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \Delta P &= -\frac{qa}{2\pi} \oint d\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{k}), \quad \mathbf{k} \equiv (k, \lambda) \\ &= -\frac{qa}{2\pi} \int d^2k F_z(\mathbf{k}), \end{aligned}$$

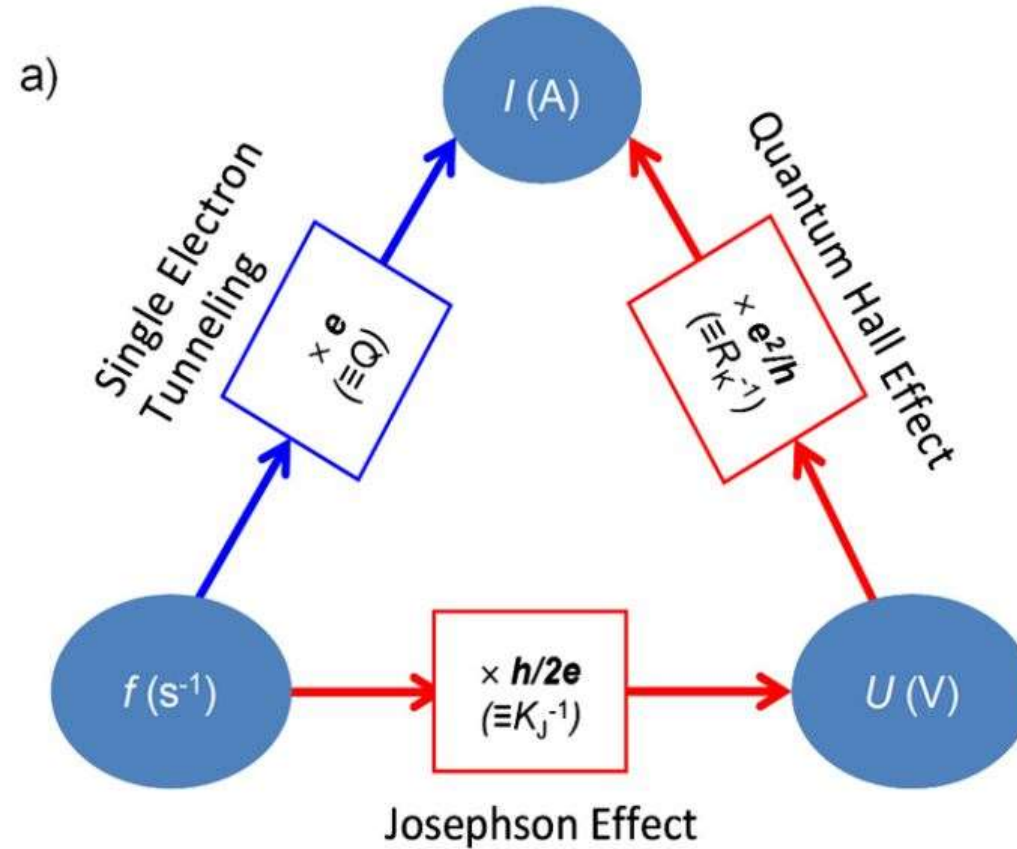
where $F_z(\mathbf{k}) = \partial_k A_\lambda - \partial_\lambda A_k$, and $A_\lambda = i \langle u_{\mathbf{k}} | \partial_\lambda | u_{\mathbf{k}} \rangle.$

(1D space + 1D time ~ 2D quantum Hall)

$$\rightarrow \Delta P = qaC_1$$



Quantum metrology triangle



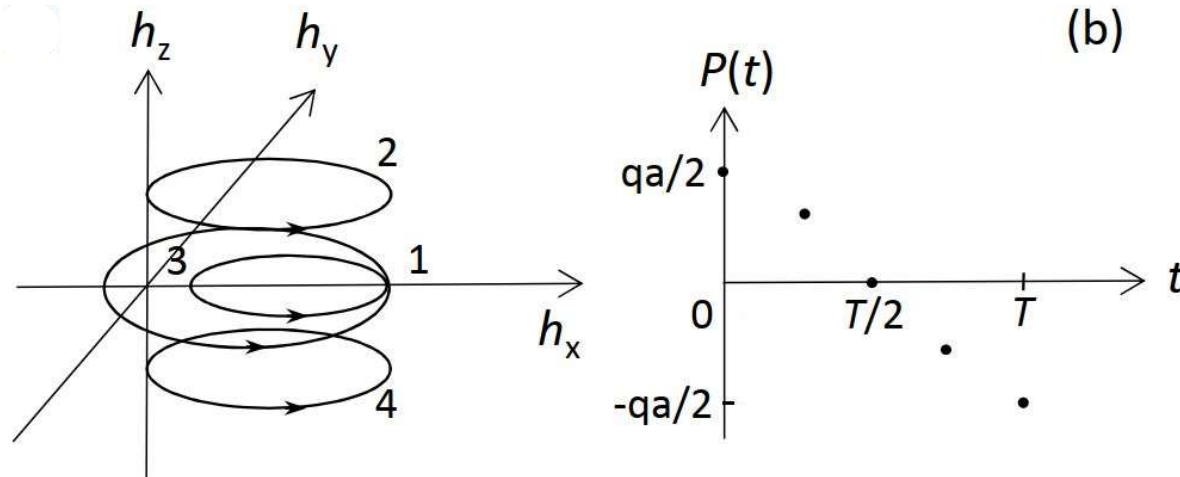
Rice-Mele model, a generalization of the SSH model

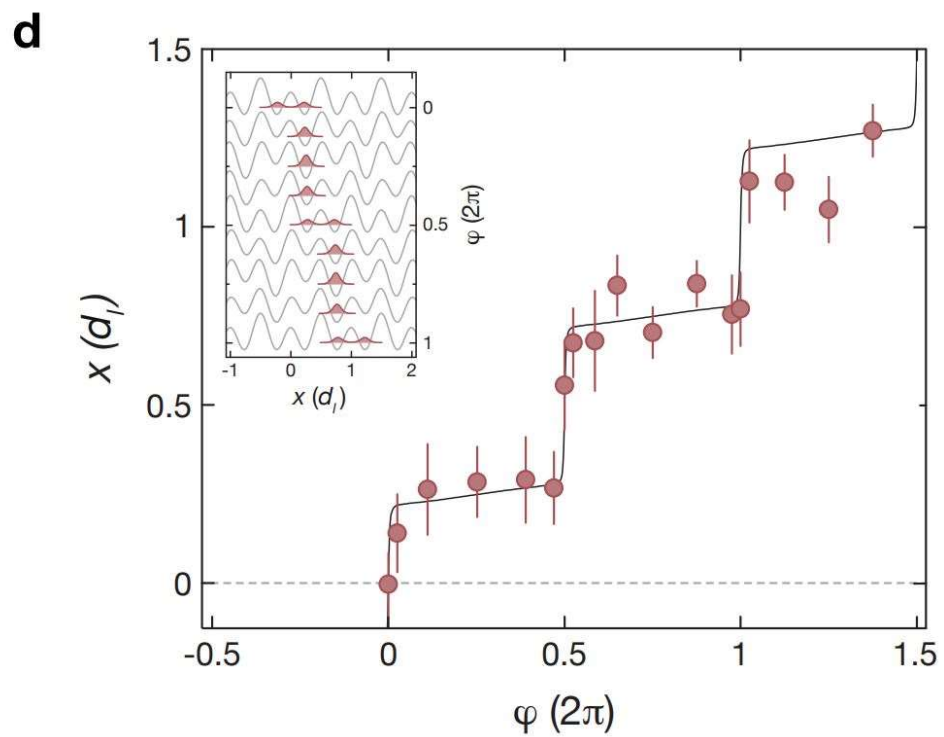
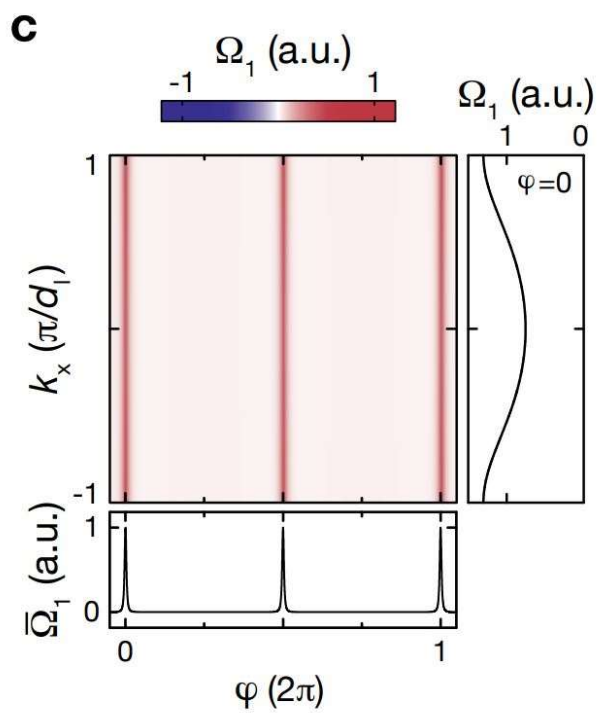
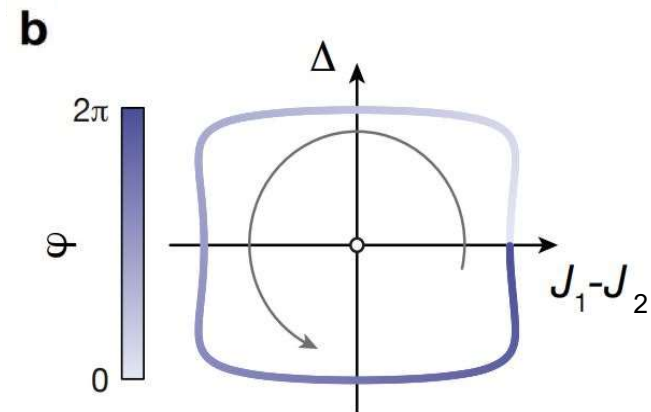
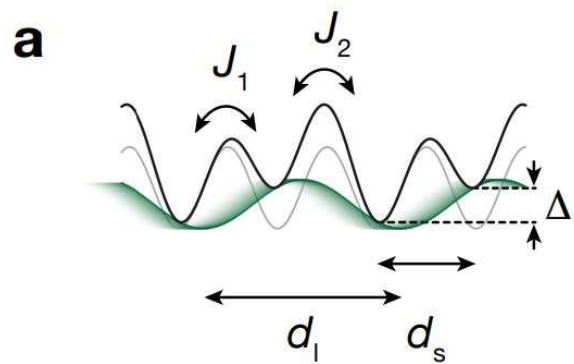
$$H = H_{SSH} + \sum_{j=1}^N \Delta c_j^\dagger c_j - \sum_{j=1}^N \Delta d_j^\dagger d_j$$

$$\rightarrow H = \sum_k (c_k^\dagger, d_k^\dagger) \begin{pmatrix} \Delta & t_- + t_+ e^{-iak} \\ t_- + t_+ e^{iak} & -\Delta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_k \\ d_k \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \mathbf{h}(k) \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \quad \mathbf{h}(k) = (t_- + t_+ \cos ka, t_+ \sin ka, \Delta)$$

$$(\delta(t), \Delta(t)) = \left(\delta_0 \cos 2\pi \frac{t}{T}, \Delta_0 \sin 2\pi \frac{t}{T} \right)$$





Term report

1. A reading report with 4 to 6 pages
2. At least 5 references
3. Level: 1st year graduate student
4. Some topic related to what we have learned this semester
5. You can turn it in anytime, starting from today till the last day of the class