Landau levels in lattices with long-range hopping

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Landau levels (LLs) are broadened in the presence of a periodic potential, forming a barrier for accurate simulation of the fractional quantum Hall effect using cold atoms in optical lattices. Recently, it has been shown that the degeneracy of the lowest Landau level (LLL) can be restored in a tight-binding lattice if a particular form of long-range hopping is introduced [Kapit and Mueller, Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 215303 (2010)]. In this paper, we investigate three problems related to such quantum Hall parent Hamiltonians in lattices. First, we show that there are infinitely many long-range hopping models in which a massively degenerate manifold is formed by lattice discretizations of wave functions in the continuum LLL. We then give a general method to construct such models, which is applicable to not only the LLL but also higher LLs. We use this method to give an analytic expression for the hoppings that restores the LLL, and an integral expression for the next LL. We also consider whether the space spanned by discretized LL wave functions is as large as the space spanned by continuum wave functions, and we find the constraints on the magnetic field for this condition to be satisfied. Finally, using these constraints and the first Chern numbers, we identify the bands of the Hofstadter butterfly that correspond to continuum LLs.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Cold-atom experiments are ideal for controlled exploration of some of the fundamental problems in many-particle physics. To date, there has been great progress for models such as resonant interactions [1] and the Mott transition [2], however one of the most important areas, namely the fractional quantum Hall effect, has remained elusive. Simulating quantum Hall effects by rotation [3] and artificial magnetic fields [4] in harmonic traps has not been possible, as these systems require extremely fine control over the uniformity of the artificial field or the rotation rate [5]. Recently, it has been demonstrated that optical lattices offer a variety of options for the creation of high artificial magnetic fields [6]. Optical lattice systems are generally easier to control, and the filling factor, which is the ratio of the number of particles to the number of flux quanta, can be lowered by standard methods in these systems [7]. It is reasonable to expect that quantum Hall physics will be probed by optical lattice experiments in the near future.

However, the presence of the optical lattice potential changes the physics of the quantum Hall problem significantly. A periodic potential lifts the degeneracy of the Landau levels (LLs) and broadens them into bands. The number of magnetic bands and their widths depend critically on the lattice constant [8]. The resulting energy spectrum is generally a self-similar fractal. For example, a nearest-neighbor tight-binding model in a square lattice gives the Hofstadter Butterfly [9] spectrum. (See Fig. 1.) The broadening of the LLs is especially important for the many-particle problem. Unless the LLs are flat enough, kinetic energy will dominate over interactions, and highly correlated states will not be observed. Even when the LL broadening is made much smaller than the interaction energy scale, the physics of the lattice system may differ from that of the continuum. There is compelling evidence for the existence of fractional quantum Hall states on the lattice which lack a continuum limit [10]. Thus, it would seem that an optical lattice experiment which has energy bands and wave functions with discrete symmetries will not directly probe the usual quantum Hall physics.

Cold-atom systems are extremely versatile, and in a surprising development Kapit and Mueller have shown that by introducing a particular form of long-range hopping to the square lattice, it is possible to create a system that exactly mimics the lowest Landau level (LLL) on the lattice [11]. In a lattice with Kapit-Mueller hoppings, there is an infinitely degenerate manifold, and the states forming this manifold are exactly LLL wave functions sampled on the square lattice. Thus, such a lattice Hamiltonian forms a parent Hamiltonian for certain fractional quantum Hall states. For example, the Laughlin wave function for $\nu = 1/3$ is an exact eigenstate on this lattice, and it is the ground state in the presence of on-site repulsive interactions.

The importance of this long-range hopping model is twofold. First, hopping strengths in an optical lattice can be modified by tailoring the lattice potential or by dynamical hopping methods [7], and an optical lattice with long-range hopping can experimentally realize fractional quantum Hall states. Second, as a theoretical development, this model bridges the gap between continuum and lattice models for quantum Hall physics, and it makes it possible to simulate quantum Hall effects with a new method [12]. Hence, it is important to investigate and generalize this long-range-hopping model, both to understand the underlying physics in greater detail and to search for models that can be experimentally implemented.

Beyond cold-atom systems, there are recent proposals for probing lattice quantum Hall physics using circuit QED [13,14], coupled dissipative optical resonators [15], or in a general quantum circuit architecture [16]. While these systems take a more indirect route toward realization of bosonic quantum Hall states, they present great potential for realization of lattice Hamiltonians with longer-range hopping. Models considered here can aid in the design of such artificial bosonic lattices to probe correlated states.

In this paper, we consider the general properties of long-range-hopping Hamiltonians which can mimic LL structure...
accurately. First, we investigate whether the Kapit-Mueller Hamiltonian is unique in creating a LLL on the lattice. A simple argument shows that there are infinitely many models which recreate the LLL in the desired form. For this argument we define the projection operators, which separates the subspace of the Hilbert space that is spanned by lattice-sampled LLL wave functions. While two different states in the continuum LLL are orthogonal, lattice wave functions that are formed by sampling them are not. Thus, an explicit expression for the projection operators is obtained by utilizing the symmetries of the problem.

Reference [11] relied on a lattice sum identity to find the long-range-hopping model. This identity is remarkable in its efficiency, however it is opaque in the underlying physics and not suitable for generalization. Here, using the projection operators, we formally describe a method to construct the most general long-range-hopping model that has a LLL. The method can be used in an arbitrary lattice, and to reconstruct any desired LL. For the LLL, we start from the formal expression in terms of the projection operators and find analytic expressions for hopping strengths that reconstruct the LLL. In Sec. IV, the method in the previous section is used to calculate explicit expressions for hopping strengths except for nearest neighbors. We empirically find that the first Chern numbers of the largest gaps facilitate quick identification of the corresponding LL for any band.

The paper is arranged as follows. In the next section, we introduce the problem in detail, set the notation, and review the result of Ref. [11]. Section III contains the details of the projection operators and the general expression for long-range-hopping models with the desired property. In Sec. IV, the method in the previous section is used to calculate explicit expressions for hopping strengths that reconstruct the LLL. In Sec. V, we first generalize the calculation to the first excited Landau level (1LL) and then present the results related to identification of LLs in the lattice problem. We conclude in Sec. VI with a summary and a discussion of the implications of our results. The Appendix contains a detailed evaluation of the integral used to calculate the LLL Hamiltonian.

II. PROBLEM DEFINITION

The Hamiltonian for a particle of mass $m$ and charge $e$ on a plane subject to a perpendicular magnetic field $B$ is

$$H_{\text{cont}} = \frac{1}{2m}(\vec{P} - e\vec{A})^2,$$  \hspace{1cm} (1)

where $P$ is the momentum operator and $\vec{A}$ is the vector potential. We choose the Landau gauge,

$$\vec{A} = B\vec{X} \hat{y},$$ \hspace{1cm} (2)

with $\vec{X}, \vec{Y}$ the continuous coordinates of the plane. The eigenfunctions are labeled by the LL index, an integer $n$, and a real number $k_y$. The wave functions in the LLL with $n = 0$,

$$\Psi_{k_y}(X, Y) = \frac{1}{(\pi \ell^2)^{1/4}} e^{-\frac{(X-k_y Y)^2}{2\ell^2}} e^{ik_y Y},$$ \hspace{1cm} (3)

are degenerate with energy $\epsilon_0 = \hbar \omega_c$. Magnetic length $\ell = \sqrt{eB/\hbar m}$, and cyclotron frequency $\omega_c = eB/m$ follow the standard definitions and $X_0 = \frac{\hbar k_y}{\pi \ell}$.

Now we introduce a lattice model, with one state localized at each site of the square lattice,

$$\vec{r} = x \hat{x} + y \hat{y},$$ \hspace{1cm} (4)

where the coordinates $x$ and $y$ take on integer values so that the lattice constant is unity. The localized state at $x, y$ is created
over the vacuum with
\[ |x,y⟩ = a_k^\dagger|\text{vac}⟩, \]
and any one-particle wave function can be written as
\[ |ψ⟩ = \sum_{x,y} ψ(x,y)|x,y⟩. \]

The objective is to find a one-particle Hamiltonian, defined through the hopping strengths \( J \) as
\[ \mathcal{H} = \sum_{x,y} J(\vec{r},\vec{r'})a_k^\dagger a_{k'}^\dagger, \]
so that a massively degenerate manifold is formed by lattice states \( ψ_k, \) which are obtained by sampling the continuum LLL wave functions at lattice points,
\[ ψ_k(x,y) = Ψ_k(\vec{x} = x,\vec{y} = y). \]
The long-range-hopping Hamiltonian can only depend on the magnetic flux per plaquette of the lattice \( φ \). We will assume that \( φ = p/q \) is a rational number with co-prime integers \( p \) and \( q \).

If the sampled wave functions are in one-to-one correspondence with the continuum LLL wave functions, and are degenerate, this lattice Hamiltonian will accurately mimic the continuum model. On-site interactions do not significantly modify the correspondence between the lattice and the continuum problems, especially for fractional quantum Hall states which minimize the local interaction between particles subject to the constraint of Landau levels.

It is of course not immediately clear that such a lattice model can be found. The simplest hopping models, such as the Hofstadter Hamiltonian with
\[ J(\vec{r},\vec{r'}) = \begin{cases} e^{iφ(y'y'−x'x')} & |\vec{r}−\vec{r'}| = 1, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise}, \end{cases} \]
hopping only to the nearest neighbors, give a spectrum of bands which are critically dependent on the flux per plaquette (see Fig. 1). The first example of a long-range-hopping model with a LLL was given by Kapit and Mueller [11], which in the Landau gauge is
\[ J_{KM}(\vec{r},\vec{r'}) = (-1)^{X+Y+XY} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(1−φ)[X^2+Y^2]} e^{−iφ Y(x'+y')}, \]
with \( X = x - x' \) and \( Y = y - y' \), creating the spectrum seen in Fig. 2. This model has a number of remarkable properties. While the hoppings are formally of infinite range, the absolute value of the hopping strength decays as a Gaussian, so unless the flux \( φ \) is close to 1, only a few nearest neighbors are important. The phase of the hopping strength follows a simple plus-minus pattern apart from the complex coefficients created by the magnetic field. Both of these qualities make the model more conducive to experimental realization [11].

However, the derivation in Ref. [11] relies on a sum rule, obtained through exploration of the completeness of coherent states for a harmonic oscillator [19]. Consequently, it is not clear if this Hamiltonian is unique in providing a LLL or whether similar lattice Hamiltonians can be engineered for higher Landau levels or other flatband models. In the next section, we consider the most general model with the same properties and argue that projection operators clarify the physics of the correspondence between the continuum and the lattice models.

\section*{III. PROJECTION OPERATORS}

We start by considering the Hilbert space \( Ω \) formed by all one-particle wave functions on the lattice, which is spanned by the set \( |x,y⟩ \). This Hilbert space can be separated into two disjoint sets: the subspace of wave functions \( Ω_0 \) that can be written as a linear combination of the discretized LLL wave functions \( ψ_k, \) and its complement \( Ω_0^\prime \). Then formally we can define the projection operator \( P_0 \) with
\[ P_0ψ = \begin{cases} ψ, & ψ ∈ Ω_0, \\ 0, & ψ ∈ Ω_0^\prime. \end{cases} \]

In terms of this projection operator, the following Hamiltonian can be defined:
\[ \mathcal{H} = ε_0P_0 + (1 − P_0)\mathcal{H}'(1 − P_0). \]

In this definition, \( ε_0 \) is an arbitrary real number and \( \mathcal{H}' \) is an arbitrary one-body Hamiltonian. We see that \( \mathcal{H} \) satisfies the two conditions we set for the long-range-hopping model with a LLL. All the states in the space \( Ω_0 \) have energy \( ε_0 \), thus they form a massively degenerate manifold. All the wave functions obtained by discretization of the LLL wave functions lie in \( Ω_0 \), thus they are part of this degenerate manifold. The required long-range-hopping strengths are obtained by
\[ J(\vec{r},\vec{r'}) = (x,y)|\mathcal{H}(x',y'). \]

The choice of \( \mathcal{H}' \) affects the real-space hoppings without altering the properties of the degenerate manifold. Hence all possible \( \mathcal{H}' \) yield long-range-hopping models with the same properties of the Kapit-Mueller Hamiltonian, showing that there are infinitely many such models.

While the existence of the projector \( P_0 \) is easily assured, its explicit construction is not straightforward. While two LLL
wave functions with \( k_y \neq k'_y \) are orthogonal,
\[
\langle \Psi_{k_y} | \Psi_{k'_y} \rangle = \int d\chi \, d\gamma \, \Psi_{k_y}^* (\chi, \gamma) \Psi_{k'_y} (\chi, \gamma) = 0, \tag{14}
\]
the functions formed by sampling them on the lattice are in general not so,
\[
\langle \psi_{k_y} | \psi_{k'_y} \rangle = \sum_{x,y} \psi_{k_y}^* (x,y) \psi_{k'_y} (x,y) \neq 0. \tag{15}
\]
Thus the projector \( P_0 \) cannot simply be expressed as
\[
P_0 \neq \sum_{k_y} | \psi_{k_y} \rangle \langle \psi_{k_y} |. \tag{16}
\]
Furthermore, as we discuss in Sec. V, the dimension of the subspace \( \mathcal{Q}_0 \) is not necessarily equal to the dimension of the Hilbert space spanned by continuum LLL wave functions.

Projection operators defined in this manner are not specific to the LLL, and this method can be easily extended to a higher LL, or to mimic continuum Hamiltonians with lattice models in general. However, explicit calculation of the long-range hopping strengths depends on the details of the wave functions in the degenerate manifold. In the next section, we construct the projection operator \( P_0 \) by forming a complete orthonormal set out of the projected LLL wave functions, and we give explicit expressions for hopping strengths. The following section contains the application of the method to the first excited LL, and restrictions involved in discretization.

IV. LOWEST LANDAU LEVEL

The wave functions in the LLL are labeled by the wave vector \( k_y \in \mathbb{R} \) in the Landau gauge,
\[
\psi_{k_y} (\chi, \gamma) = \left( \frac{1}{\pi \ell} \right) \frac{1}{\chi_0} e^{-i \frac{\pi}{\ell} k_y \gamma} e^{i k_y \chi}, \tag{17}
\]
with \( \chi_0 = \frac{h}{\ell e} \). We sample these wave functions on the (integer) lattice points \( x, y \) to form the discretized wave functions
\[
\psi_{k_y} (x,y) = \left( \frac{2 \pi}{q} \right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2 \pi \theta(\frac{i}{2})}} e^{-i \frac{\pi}{\ell} k_y \gamma} e^{i k_y \chi}. \tag{18}
\]
Here, the only parameter is the flux per plaquette of the lattice \( \phi = \frac{p}{q} \), with \( p \) and \( q \) co-prime integers. After discretization, the sampled wave functions are no longer normalized, as the inner product changes from an integration to a sum on the lattice. The normalized wave functions can be written as
\[
\psi_{k_y} (x,y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2 \pi \theta(\frac{i}{2})}} e^{-i \frac{\pi}{\ell} k_y \gamma} e^{i k_y \chi}, \tag{19}
\]
where \( \theta(z|\tau) \) is the third Jacobi theta function of \( z \), with quasiperiod \( \tau \) [20]. The discretization process also changes the orthogonality properties of the lattice wave functions. Continuum wave functions within the Landau gauge are orthogonal as \( \gamma \) translation is a continuous symmetry. Upon introduction of the lattice, this continuous symmetry is broken into a discrete translational symmetry, and as a result two lattice wave functions \( \psi_{k_y} \) and \( \psi_{k'_y} \) are no longer orthogonal if their wave vectors differ by an integer multiple of \( 2\pi \). Defining a restricted wave vector \( k_y = k_y + 2\pi l_1 \) and \( k'_y = k_y + 2\pi l_2 \), with \( l_1, l_2 \) integers and \( -\pi < k_y \leq \pi \), we calculate the overlap
\[
\langle \psi_{k_y + 2\pi l_1} | \psi_{k_y + 2\pi l_2} \rangle = e^{-\frac{\pi}{2} |l_1 - l_2|^2} \frac{\theta(\frac{q}{2} \frac{i}{2} l_1 + \frac{q}{2} l_2) \theta(\frac{q}{2} \frac{i}{2} l_1 + \frac{q}{2} l_2)}{\sqrt{\theta(\frac{q}{2} \frac{i}{2} l_1 + \frac{q}{2} l_2) \theta(\frac{q}{2} \frac{i}{2} l_1 + \frac{q}{2} l_2)}}. \tag{20}
\]
As discussed in the previous section, our aim is to form a projection operator \( P_0 \) into the subspace spanned by all these wave functions. The simplest way to achieve this is to orthogonalize the set \( \psi \), using the magnetic translation symmetry in the \( x \) direction. To illustrate the method with the least possible algebra, we now restrict \( p = 1 \) and assume that \( q \) is an even integer. At the end of the section, we discuss the extension to the general case.

For \( p = 1 \), the overlap between two states,
\[
\langle \psi_{k_y + 2\pi l_1} | \psi_{k_y + 2\pi l_2} \rangle = e^{-\frac{\pi}{2} |l_1 - l_2|^2}, \tag{21}
\]
is independent of \( k_y \). Thus discrete translation symmetry by \( q \) steps in the \( x \) direction leads to the definition of
\[
|k_y, k_x\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2 \pi \theta(\frac{i}{2})}} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i k_x m} |\psi_{k_y + 2\pi m} \rangle, \tag{22}
\]
where \( k_x \) is by definition bounded \( -\pi < k_x \leq \pi \). These states are orthonormal, satisfying
\[
\langle k_y, k_x | k'_y, k'_x \rangle = \delta(k_y - k'_y) \delta(k_x - k'_x). \tag{23}
\]

The projector is then written simply in terms of these states as
\[
P_0 = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dk_x \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dk_y |k_y, k_x\rangle \langle k_y, k_x| = \sum_{\tilde{k}, \tilde{l}} J(\tilde{r}, \tilde{r}') a^\dagger_{\tilde{k}, \tilde{l}} a_{\tilde{k}', \tilde{l}'} , \tag{24}
\]
Now we can construct the long-range model with the desired properties using \( P_0 \). The simplest choice is to use the projector \( P_0 \) as the Hamiltonian
\[
H = P_0 = \sum_{\tilde{r}, \tilde{r}'} J(\tilde{r}, \tilde{r}') a^\dagger_{\tilde{k}, \tilde{l}} a_{\tilde{k}', \tilde{l}'}, \tag{25}
\]
with the hopping strengths given by
\[
J(\tilde{r}, \tilde{r}') = -\int_0^{2\pi} dk_x \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dk_y \frac{2 \pi}{2 \pi \theta(\frac{i}{2})} \frac{\theta(\frac{q}{2} \frac{i}{2} l_1 + \frac{q}{2} l_2) \theta(\frac{q}{2} \frac{i}{2} l_1 + \frac{q}{2} l_2)}{\theta(\frac{q}{2} \frac{i}{2} l_1 + \frac{q}{2} l_2) \theta(\frac{q}{2} \frac{i}{2} l_1 + \frac{q}{2} l_2)}
\]
\[
\times e^{-\frac{\pi}{q} (k_x + i k_y) \gamma} e^{i k_x x} e^{i k_y y}. \tag{26}
\]
This integral is evaluated in the Appendix, yielding
\[
J(\tilde{r}, \tilde{r}') = -q e^{\frac{\pi}{q} (x+y) \gamma} \frac{4}{4 \left[ \theta(0) \right]^2} M_X(Y) M_Y(X), \tag{27}
\]
with $X = x - x', Y = y - y'$, and

$$\mathcal{M}_\alpha(b) = \begin{cases} \frac{\theta_a(\pi b/2)}{\sinh(\pi b/2)} & a \text{ even}, \\ \frac{\theta_a(\pi b/2)}{\cosh(\pi b/2)} & a \text{ odd}. \end{cases} \quad (27)$$

We calculated the energy spectrum for a lattice with these hopping strengths, for different values of $\phi = 1/q$. We see that the lowest band, with energy $-1$, is flat to our numerical precision. The bands for our hopping strengths (Fig. 3) should be contrasted with the usual nearest-neighbor hopping bands for $\phi = 1/3$ (Fig. 4). We performed another numerical check to make sure that the lattice LLL wave functions are eigenfunctions of this potential by directly applying the Hamiltonian to a few LLL wave functions, and we found that the deviation of their energy from $-1$ is less than our numerical precision ($10^{-7}$ in our dimensionless units).

We also explored how the Hofstadter butterfly spectrum evolves to the flatband spectrum using the following method. We defined a set of hoppings that interpolates from the nearest-neighbor hopping to our long-range-hopping model,

$$J_\alpha(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') = \begin{cases} \alpha J(\vec{r}, \vec{r}'), & |\vec{r} - \vec{r}'| > 1 \\ J(\vec{r}, \vec{r}'), & |\vec{r} - \vec{r}'| \leq 1 \end{cases} \quad (28)$$

for $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$. The result is displayed in Fig. 5 for $\phi = 1/3$, clearly showing the collapse of the lowest Hofstadter band to the LLL. The two higher bands coalesce into another flat band, as expected from the projector nature of our Hamiltonian.

An important property of the long-range-hopping model presented above is the fast decay of the hopping parameters. The hopping strengths decay exponentially with distance, and for all $\phi = 1/q$, even the third-nearest-neighbor hopping is almost negligible. In Fig. 6, we plot the absolute value of the hopping strengths. The finite range of the hopping increases the possibility of experimental realization of lattices with a LLL, and thus cold-atom fractional quantum Hall systems. One can also further optimize the most general Hamiltonian Eq. (12) so that the LLL is achieved with the introduction of hopping to the minimum number of sites.

It is also worth noting that all the orthogonal states found in Eq. (22) are normalizable. Because such an orthogonal basis can be labeled by $k_x$, it is proved that all the discretized LLL wave functions are linearly independent. So for the LLL, for all values of $\phi = 1/q$ the dimension of the Hilbert space spanned by the projected wave functions is equal to the dimension of the Hilbert space spanned by continuum LLL wave functions.

Lifting the restriction $p = 1$, the same orthogonalization method can be applied. However, now the discrete translational symmetry for sampled LLL states is reduced $p$-fold. Hence, one must modify the definition of the states in the orthonormal
basis spanning the lattice LLL by introducing a band index,
\[
|k_y,k_z\rangle = \sum_{r=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{s=0}^{p-1} e^{\imath k_y s} u_y(s) |\psi_k, 2\pi(m+sp)s\rangle,
\]
with \(\gamma\) defining the corresponding magnetic band. The eigenvector \(u_y(s)\) can be obtained by diagonalizing the \(p\)-by-\(p\) matrix,
\[
A_{s_1,s_2} = e^{-\frac{\imath \pi}{8}(n-s)^2} \times \\
\theta\left(\frac{q k_y}{2p} + \frac{q n}{2p}(s_1+s_2)\right) \theta\left(\frac{q k_y}{2p} - \frac{q n}{2p}(s_1-s_2)\right) e^{\frac{i q n}{2p} s_1} e^{\frac{i q n}{2p} s_2}.
\]

While it is possible to express the long-range-hopping strengths in terms of the inverse of the matrix \(A\), we have not been able to analytically evaluate this inverse for a general value of \(p\). Even for \(p = 2\), the resulting expressions are very long and provide little insight. It should be noted that it is numerically very easy to calculate the hopping strength for any lattice separation. Again numerical diagonalization of the matrix \(A\) for arbitrary values of \(k_y,k_z\), lead us to conclude that as \(\phi \rightarrow 1\), the number of LLL states is equal to the number of lattice sites, and the space spanned by them is the total Hilbert space of the lattice.

We also calculated the energy spectrum of a lattice with the hoppings given in Eq. (26) for general values of \(\phi\) by replacing \(q \rightarrow 1/\phi\). In the resulting energy spectrum, we obtain two distinct bands, and while the LLL band is not degenerate, kinetic energy is quenched to such a degree that the width of the band is always smaller than 3% of the separation between the bands. See Fig. 7.

V. HIGHER LANDAU LEVELS

The method presented in the preceding section does not depend on the properties of the LLL, and can easily be extended to a higher LLL. As an example, we consider the first excited LL (1LL). In the Landau gauge, the wave functions of the 1LL are
\[
\psi_{1,k}(x,y) = \frac{1}{(4\pi \ell^2)^{1/2}} e^{-\imath \frac{q k_y}{2\pi} x} e^{-\imath \frac{q k_z}{\ell} y}. \tag{31}
\]

Upon sampling on the square lattice, we obtain
\[
\psi_{1,k}(x,y) = \frac{[A_0(k_y)]^{-1}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{q}{\ell} x} e^{-\frac{q}{\ell} y} e^{\imath k_y x}. \tag{32}
\]

The normalization factor is defined as
\[
A_0(k_y) = \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} \left( x - \frac{q k_y}{2\pi} \right) e^{\frac{q}{\ell} x} e^{\imath k_y x}.
\]

The normalization factors can be expressed in terms of the Jacobi \(\theta\) functions and their derivatives as
\[
A_0(k_y) = e^{-\frac{q k_y^2}{4\pi^2}} \left[ -\frac{1}{4} \theta_3^2(\imath q k_y, 2i q) + i q k_y \theta_2^2(\imath q k_y, 2i q) + \frac{q^2 k_y^2}{4\pi^2} \theta_3^4(\imath q k_y, 2i q) \right]. \tag{34}
\]

To find the long-range-hopping model that has a massively degenerate first LL, we construct the operator \(P_1\), which projects into the Hilbert space spanned by all the \(|\psi_{1,k}\rangle\). This can again be achieved by forming an orthogonal set from linear combinations of these sampled states based on the discrete translational invariance. For mathematical simplicity, we again take \(p = 1\), in which case the overlap between two \(k_y\) states differing by an integer multiple of \(2\pi\) is
\[
\langle \psi_{k_y+2\pi l} | \psi_{k_y+2\pi m} \rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{A_{0,-1}(k_y)}{A_0(k_y)}. \tag{35}
\]
The orthogonal set can be formed by straightforward Fourier transformation,
\[
|\tilde{\psi}_{k_y,k_x}\rangle = \sum_{k_1} e^{ik_1x_1} |\psi_{k_y+2\pi k_1}\rangle,
\]
(36)
yielding
\[
\langle \tilde{\psi}_{k_y,k_x},|\psi_{k_y,k_x}\rangle = \delta(\tilde{k}_y - k_y) \delta(k_x - k_x) \sum_r e^{i\tilde{k}_r} \frac{A_r(k_y)}{A_0(k_y)}.
\]
(37)
The projector \(P_1\), and hence the long-range-hopping Hamiltonian, can be constructed out of these wave functions,
\[
P_1 = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\tilde{k}_y d\tilde{k}_x |\tilde{\psi}_{k_y,k_x}\rangle \langle \tilde{\psi}_{k_y,k_x}|,
\]
(38)
which in the lattice basis translates into the hopping strengths
\[
J_1(\vec{r},\vec{r}') = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\tilde{k}_y \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\tilde{k}_x \sum_{\ell_1,\ell_2 = -\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{i\tilde{k}_1(\ell_1 - \ell_2)}}{2\pi} S_{\ell_1,\ell_2}(k_y,k_x),
\]
\[
\times (x - \frac{q\ell_1}{2\pi} - q\ell_2)(x' - \frac{q\ell_1}{2\pi} - q\ell_2),
\]
\[
\times e^{i\tilde{k}_x(y-y') - \frac{q\ell_2}{2\pi}(x' - \frac{q\ell_2}{2\pi} - q\ell_2)^2},
\]
(39)
where \(S = \sum_{\ell = -\infty}^{\infty} e^{-i\tilde{k}_x r} A_r(k_y)\). We numerically verified that discretized 1LL wave functions are eigenfunctions of the Hamiltonian with these hopping strengths, forming a degenerate band as intended. Furthermore, as displayed in Fig. 8, these hopping strengths also fall off quickly beyond the first few neighbors, similar to the LLL. We remark that the most general form Eq. (12) can serve as a starting point to find hopping strengths with even shorter ranges.

There is one important distinction between the lattice versions of the LLL and 1LL created by the long-range-hopping models we give. For the LLL, the discretized set \(|\psi_{k}\rangle\) forms a linearly independent set as long as the flux per plaquette is below 1, \(\phi < 1\). In this sense, the dynamics of the continuum LLL is mimicked exactly by these states, even in the presence of local interactions. This is not the case for 1LL.

The set \(|\psi_{1,k}\rangle\) is linearly independent only if \(\phi < \frac{1}{2}\), while for larger flux the number of independent states in the lattice 1LL is smaller than the dimension of the continuum 1LL. This can be deduced by investigating the orthogonal set of states we constructed [see Eq. (36)]. These states diagonalize the matrix formed by the overlaps \(\langle \psi_{1,k},|\psi_{1,k}\rangle\). Thus the eigenvalues of this matrix are
\[
O(\tilde{k}_y,k_x) = \sum_{r} \frac{A_r(\tilde{k}_y)}{A_0(\tilde{k}_y)} e^{i\tilde{k}_r},
\]
(40)
which is plotted in Fig. 9 for \(\phi = 1/2\). At this flux, some of the eigenvalues of the overlap matrix becomes zero, showing that the set of states is no longer linearly independent.

The set \(|\psi_{1,k}\rangle\) forms a linearly independent set as long as the flux per plaquette is below 1, \(\phi < 1\). In this sense, the dynamics of the continuum LLL is mimicked exactly by these states, even in the presence of local interactions. This is not the case for 1LL.
an arbitrary point in real space winds around $2\pi$ as the first Brillouin zone is encircled in reciprocal space [22]. As this arbitrary point in real space may be chosen to lie on the lattice points, our discretization method conserves the Chern number of the bands. All the LLs in the continuum have their dimensionless Hall conductivity equal to 1, thus we expect the discretized bands to have the same value for their first Chern number. For the LLL, the continuous transformation between the nearest-neighbor (Hofstadter) model and our long-range-hopping model, as displayed in Fig. 5, shows that the first Chern number is conserved as the lowest Hofstadter band for $\phi = 1/q$ collapses into the discrete LLL. More generally, for $\phi = \frac{p}{q}$, it is the lowest $p$ bands that merge into the LLL.

The Hofstadter butterfly spectrum has clearly identifiable LLs only for very low $\phi \ll 1$, but at a general value of the flux the correspondence between the LLs and the magnetic bands of the spectrum is not clear. A mathematical correspondence can be made by asking the following question: “Which bands of the Hofstadter butterfly consist entirely of states that lie in the Hilbert space spanned by discretized LL wave functions at the same flux?” While this correspondence is not a guarantee that the physical properties of such bands will be directly inherited from the corresponding LL, it provides an unambiguous way to define the LL in the Hofstadter butterfly.

The Chern numbers, and correspondingly the Hall conductivities of the gaps in the Hofstadter butterfly, are easily determined through a Diophantine equation [22]. We numerically find that these Chern numbers make it possible to identify the correspondence between the bands and the LLs. While we only could check this extensively for the first two Landau levels, numerical evidence suggests that for $\phi < \frac{1}{n+1}$, the bands lying between the largest gaps with Hall conductivity $n$ and $n + 1$ are entirely within the Hilbert space spanned by discretized $n$th LL wave functions. In Fig. 10, we mark the regions that are associated with the first four LL on the Hofstadter butterfly. For $\phi > \frac{1}{n+1}$, the Hilbert space spanned by the discretized wave functions is smaller than the corresponding LL, which makes it impossible to use the Chern numbers and our long-range model construction to determine if the remaining bands in the Hofstadter butterfly can be classified as belonging to a LL.

VI. CONCLUSION

Simulation of the fractional quantum Hall effect and other correlated states using cold atoms remains an important goal. In this paper, we investigated how lattices with long-range hopping can be designed to aid that goal by quenching lattice kinetic energy of atoms. Our main results can be summarized as follows.

We find that there are infinitely many choices for hopping strengths that give a massively degenerate manifold formed out of the lattice-sampled LLL wave functions. All of these can be constructed starting from the projection operator for this manifold. The hopping strengths for the projector given in Eq. (26) decay very quickly with distance, similar to the model of Ref. [11]. This fast decay, and recent ideas on modification of tunneling parameters in optical lattices, leads us to believe that experimental realization of an optical lattice with a LLL is within reach. An important problem would be to find hopping parameters so that the LLL can be constructed by methods that are currently used in optical lattices by coupling the minimum number of neighbors.

We also show that the projection operator approach can be applied to higher Landau levels, and we find that the hoppings that create a degenerate LLL manifold also decay exponentially in space. We find that the one-to-one correspondence between the continuum LL and discretized wave functions of the $n$th LLL lasts only up to a flux of $\phi = \frac{1}{n+1}$. We suggest a method to unambiguously identify the LL in the nearest-neighbor Hofstadter model, based on a continuous mapping between this model and the calculated long-range hoppings. Furthermore, we found numerical evidence that this identification is easily accomplished by investigating the first Chern numbers of the gaps in the Hofstadter butterfly.

Our main point in this paper is that introduction of long-range hopping to optical lattices will increase the possibility of observing fractional quantum Hall effects in cold-atom systems. It is, however, important to notice that the method introduced in this paper, as well as the constructed projection operators, has the potential to be used as a tool for numerical simulation of correlated states. In a recent paper, the braiding statistics of lattice bosons were numerically demonstrated using the long-range-hopping model. Instead of the usual exact diagonalization calculations, which rely on conserved quantities to limit the size of the Hilbert space, projection to the relevant lattice states can be achieved using the long-range-hopping model [12]. It would be interesting to extend this method to lattices with non-Abelian gauge fields [23].

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APPENDIX: EVALUATION OF THE INTEGRAL

Jacobi $\theta$ functions of argument $z$ and quasiperiod $\tau$ are defined following [20] as
\[\theta_1(z|\tau) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^{(n+1)/2} e^{i\pi\tau(n+1/2)^2} e^{i(2n+1)\pi z},\]
\[\theta_2(z|\tau) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\pi\tau(n+1/2)^2} e^{i(2n+1)\pi z},\]
\[\theta_3(z|\tau) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\pi n^2} e^{2in\pi},\]
\[\theta_4(z|\tau) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n e^{i\pi n^2} e^{2in\pi}.\]

The integral for the hopping strengths Eq. (25) can be transformed using the identity
\[\theta_3(u|\tau)\theta_3(v|\tau) = \theta_3(u+v|2\tau)\theta_3(u-v|2\tau) + \theta_2(u+v|2\tau)\theta_2(u-v|2\tau)\]
(A2)
to obtain
\[J(\vec{r},\vec{r'}) = e^{-\frac{i}{2}(\vec{x}^2+\vec{y}^2)}[I_5I_1 + I_6I_2],\]
(A3)
where $I_5, I_1, I_6,$ and $I_2$ are the integrals with only one variable (either $k_x$ or $k_y$) given by
\[I_5 = \oint_{\gamma_1} dk_x \frac{e^{i[k_x(x+y)+i(y-y')]}\theta_3[iqk_y - i\pi(x+y')]}{2\pi} \theta_3(i\pi),\]
\[I_1 = \oint_{\gamma_1} dk_x \frac{\theta_3[k_x - i\pi(x-y')]|\frac{\pi}{2}|}{2\pi} \theta_3(i\pi),\]
\[I_6 = \oint_{\gamma_1} dk_x \frac{e^{i[k_x(x+y)+i(y-y')]}\theta_3[iqk_y - i\pi(x-y')]}{2\pi} \theta_3(i\pi),\]
\[I_2 = \oint_{\gamma_1} dk_x \frac{\theta_3[k_x - i\pi(x-y')]|\frac{\pi}{2}|}{2\pi} \theta_3(i\pi).\]
(A4)

We use the identity
\[\theta_2(2z|4\tau) = \frac{1}{2}[\theta_3(z|\tau) - \theta_4(z|\tau)]\]
(A5)
to write
\[I_1 = I_3 + I_4, \quad I_2 = I_3 - I_4,\]
(A6)
where $I_3$ and $I_4$ are given by
\[I_3 = \oint_{\gamma_1} dk_x \frac{\theta_3(i\pi/2 - i\pi(x-y'))|\frac{\pi}{2}|}{4\pi} \theta_3(i\pi),\]
\[I_4 = \oint_{\gamma_1} dk_x \frac{\theta_3(i\pi/2 - i\pi(x-y'))|\frac{\pi}{2}|}{4\pi} \theta_3(i\pi).\]
(A7)

$I_3$ and $I_4$ are evaluated by considering the contour shown in Fig. 11. The integrand has poles at $k_{0m} = \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\pi m}{2} + n\pi + m\pi \tau$, where $n,m \in \mathbb{Z}$. The contour integral shown in the figure is calculated by evaluating a residue at a single pole as
\[I_C = \oint_{\gamma_1} \frac{\theta_3(i\pi/2 - i\pi(x-y'))|\frac{\pi}{2}|}{4\pi} \theta_3(i\pi).\]
(A8)

Due to the quasiperiodicity of the $\theta$ functions, the contour integral is related to $I_3$ as $I_2 = I_3[1 - e^{i\pi(x-y')}]$. Using the Jacobi imaginary transform [20], $I_3$ is written as
\[I_3 = 1 \sqrt{2q} \sinh[\frac{\pi(x-y')}{2} q] \theta_3\left(\frac{\pi(x-y')}{2} q \right).\]
(A9)

By following the same procedure, one can obtain $I_4$ as
\[I_4 = 1 \sqrt{2q} \cosh[\frac{\pi(x-y')}{2} q] \theta_4\left(\frac{\pi(x-y')}{2} q \right).\]
(A10)

$I_3$ is evaluated by a similar method, considering the contour in complex $k_x$ plane shown in Fig. 12. The integrand has poles at the values $k_{0m} = -i\pi/2 + i\pi \tau + \frac{\pi m}{2} + m\pi \tau$, where $n,m \in \mathbb{Z}$. Once again, quasiperiodicity of $\theta$ functions relates the contour integral to $I_3$,
\[I_C = I_3[1 - e^{-i\pi(x-y')} e^{-\pi(y-y')}].\]
(A11)
There are \(q\) poles inside the integration contour, thus \(I_C = 2\pi i \sum_{m=0}^{q-1} \text{res}(m)\), where \(\text{res}(m)\) is the residue at the \(m\)th pole.

Using a series of transformation identities, the contour integral becomes

\[
I_C = -i \sum_{m=0}^{q-1} \frac{e^{\frac{x+1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}} e^{\frac{1}{2} q} e^{i(y-y')(\frac{x}{2} + \frac{i}{2})}}{\theta_1(0) \frac{1}{q}} S, \tag{A13}
\]

where \(S\) is a sum over the labels of the poles given by

\[
S = \sum_{m=0}^{q-1} (-1)^m e^{-\frac{\pi(x+y')}{2}} \theta_1 \left( \frac{m \pi}{q} + \frac{\pi(1 - x - x')}{2} i \frac{|i|}{2q} \right). \tag{A14}
\]

This sum is evaluated easily for each term of the series expansion of the \(\theta\) function, and a resummation yields

\[
S = q e^{-\frac{\pi y}{2}} e^{-\frac{\pi x+y}{2}} e^{\frac{1}{2} q Y} \theta_1 \left( \frac{i\pi Y}{2} + \frac{\pi(x+x')}{2} i \frac{q}{2} \right), \tag{A15}
\]

with \(Y = y - y'\). By using the final expression of the sum \(S\) in the contour integral expression in Eq. (23), one can obtain the contour integral \(I_C\), so the integral \(I_5\) is

\[
I_5 = e^{-\frac{\pi y}{2} x} e^{\frac{1}{2} q Y} M_{i-x}(y - y'). \tag{A16}
\]

where \(M_{i-x}(y - y')\) is a function of two integers with the definition

\[
M_{a,b}(y) = \begin{cases} 0, & a \text{ even}, \\ \frac{i(\pi x|2)}{\sinh(\frac{\pi x}{2})}, & a \text{ odd}. \end{cases} \tag{A17}
\]

Finally, \(I_6\) is related to \(I_5\) as

\[
I_6 = I_5(-1)^{(y-y')}, \tag{A18}
\]

which leads to Eq. (26).