

## 5. FRACTIONAL QUANTUM HALL EFFECT

---

- Early expts showed that for  $\nu < 1$ ,  $\sigma_{xx}$  &  $\sigma_{xy}$  varied, as expected from the perspective of the IQHE. However, with the invention of **modulation doping** in GaAs quantum wells, much higher quality samples were possible, with much less disorder.
- A Wigner crystal was expected for low enough  $e^-$  concentrations in pure samples. Pinned by disorder it would be insulating.
- 1982 Tsui, Störmer & Gossard discovered a QH plateau at  $\nu = 1/3$ , with  $\sigma_{xx} \rightarrow 0$  &  $\sigma_{xy} = 1/3 e^2/h$ .
- Tsui joked that it might be quarks! The effect did not involve quarks, but incredibly, the electrons in the  $\nu = 1/3$  FQH state have indeed condensed into a state with fractional charge excitations  $q^* = 1/3 e$ .
- Many more fractions observed
- Because  $\sigma_{xx} \rightarrow 0$ , this is a dissipationless state,

with a gap, presumably driven by the  $e^-e^-$  Coulomb interaction.

- The new ideas developed to explore & understand these new phases of matter & their topological properties have had profound implications for physics, both in the lab, and the cosmos!

## 5.1 PRELIMINARIES: Mechanical Momentum. + Guiding Centers.

Recall 
$$H = \frac{(\vec{p} + e\vec{A})^2}{2m} = \frac{\vec{\pi}^2}{2m}$$

where

$$\vec{\pi} \equiv (\pi_x, \pi_y) = \vec{p} + e\vec{A}(\vec{r})$$

MECHANICAL  
MOMENTUM

This is a gauge-invariant quantity, but unlike the canonical momentum,  $\pi_x$  &  $\pi_y$  do not commute

$$\begin{aligned} [\pi_x, \pi_y] &= [p_x, eA_y] + [eA_x, p_y] \\ &= e([-i\hbar\partial_x, A_y] - [-i\hbar\partial_y, A_x]) \end{aligned}$$

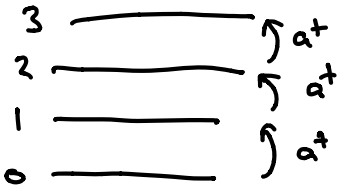
$$[\pi_x, \pi_y] = -i\hbar e \underbrace{(\partial_x A_y - \partial_y A_x)}_{B_z = -B} = i\hbar e B = \frac{i\hbar^2}{e^2} \left(\frac{\hbar}{eB} = l^2\right)$$

$$a = \frac{\ell}{\sqrt{2\hbar}} (\pi_x + i\pi_y), \quad a^\dagger = \frac{\ell}{\sqrt{2\hbar}} (\pi_x - i\pi_y)$$

L.L operators.

$$\Rightarrow [a, a^\dagger] = \frac{\ell^2}{2\hbar^2} ([\pi_x, -i\pi_y] + [i\pi_y, \pi_x]) = 1$$

$$H = \hbar\omega_c \left( a^\dagger a + \frac{1}{2} \right).$$



$$\Rightarrow E_n = \hbar\omega_c \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

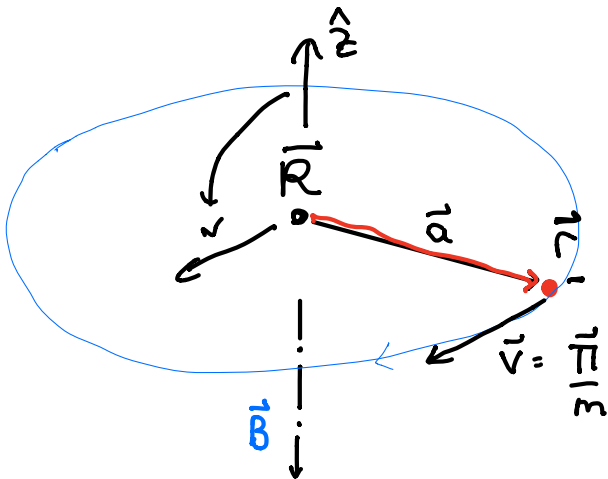
States in the lowest Landau level satisfy

$$a|4\rangle = 0 \quad \text{in any gauge.}$$

Now over, we can not see the massive degeneracy ( $\propto N_\Phi$ ).

This requires the introduction of **guiding center** coordinates.

$$\vec{R} = (R_x, R_y) = \vec{r} - \frac{\ell^2}{\hbar} (\hat{z} \times \vec{\pi})$$



$$v = \omega_c a$$

$$\Rightarrow a = \frac{v}{\omega_c} = \frac{\pi}{eB} = \frac{\ell^2 \pi}{\hbar}$$

$$\vec{a} = \frac{\ell^2}{\hbar} \hat{z} \times \vec{\pi}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{R} = \vec{r} - \frac{\ell^2}{\hbar} (\hat{z} \times \vec{\pi})$$

$$[R_x, R_y] = \left[ r_x + \frac{\ell^2}{\hbar} \pi_y, r_y - \frac{\ell^2}{\hbar} \pi_x \right]$$

$$= \frac{\ell^2}{\hbar} \left( \underbrace{[\pi_y, r_y] + [\pi_x, r_x]}_{-2i\hbar} \right) + \left( \frac{\ell^2}{\hbar} \right)^2 \overbrace{[\pi_x, \pi_y]}^{i\hbar^2/\ell^2} = -i\ell^2$$

"QUANTUM GEOMETRY"  
 $\Delta R_x \Delta R_y \gtrsim \ell^2/2$

$$b = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\ell} (R_x - iR_y), \quad b^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\ell} (R_x + iR_y)$$

$$[b, b^\dagger] = \frac{1}{2\ell^2} \left( \overbrace{[-iR_y, R_x]}^{\ell^2} + \overbrace{[R_x, iR_y]}^{\ell^2} \right) = 1$$

$$[R_x, \pi_x] = \left[ r_x + \frac{\ell^2}{\hbar} \pi_y, \pi_x \right] = \overbrace{[r_x, p_x]}^{i\hbar} - \frac{\ell^2}{\hbar} \overbrace{[\pi_x, \pi_y]}^{i\hbar^2/\ell^2} = 0$$

$$[R_x, \pi_y] = \left[ r_x + \frac{\ell^2}{\hbar} \pi_y, \pi_y \right] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow [R_i, \pi_j] = [R_i, \mathcal{H}] = 0$$

Commute + Hamiltonian

$$[a, b] = [a, b^\dagger] = 0$$

$$[b, \mathcal{H}] = 0$$

$$|n, m\rangle$$

$$= \frac{(a^\dagger)^n (b^\dagger)^m}{\sqrt{n!} \sqrt{m!}} |0\rangle$$

Guiding c. coords  $\equiv$  projection of position into LL

$$P_n \vec{r} P_n = P_n \left( \ell \frac{(b+b^\dagger)}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{i\ell}{\sqrt{2}\ell} (a - a^\dagger) \right) P_n$$

$$= R_x P_n \equiv R_x$$

$$P_n = \sum_m |n, m\rangle \langle n, m|$$

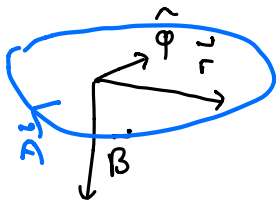
So  $\vec{R} = P_n \vec{r} P_n$  is the projection of the position

Co-ordinate into the  $n^{\text{th}}$  Landau level.

## 16.2 THE SYMMETRIC GAUGE

$$\vec{A} = -\frac{1}{2} \vec{r} \times \vec{B} = -\frac{rB}{2} \hat{\varphi}$$

$$\vec{B} = -B\hat{z}$$



Convenient to introduce  $z = (x + iy)/\ell$ ,  $\bar{z} = (x - iy)/\ell$

$$a = \frac{\ell}{\sqrt{2}\ell} \left[ \frac{-i\hbar 2}{\ell} \frac{\partial}{\partial z^*} - \frac{ieB}{2} (x + iy) \right]$$

$$y = \frac{z - z^*}{2i} \ell$$

$$x = \frac{z + z^*}{2} \ell$$

$$= \frac{-i}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ \frac{z}{2} + 2 \frac{\partial}{\partial z^*} \right]$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z^*} = \frac{\partial x}{\partial z^*} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial y}{\partial z^*} \frac{\partial}{\partial y}$$

$$= \frac{\ell}{2} (\partial_x + i\partial_y)$$

$$a = \frac{-i}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ \frac{z}{2} + 2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} \right]$$

$$a^\dagger = \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ \frac{\bar{z}}{2} - 2 \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right]$$

$$b = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \frac{\bar{z}}{2} + 2 \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right)$$

$$b^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \frac{z}{2} - 2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} \right)$$

"Guiding center"

$$\psi(x,y) = f(z) e^{-\bar{z} z / 4}$$

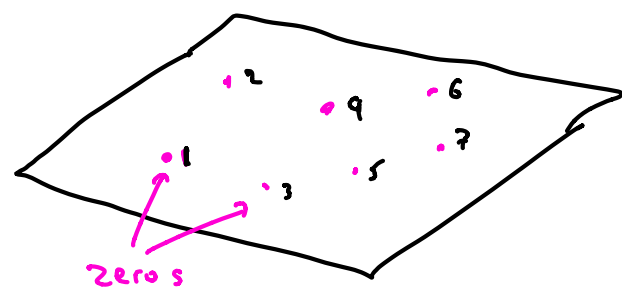
State in the lowest Landau level.

$$a = \frac{-i}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ \frac{z}{2} + 2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} \right]$$

$$2 \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \bar{z}} = -\frac{1}{2} z \psi \quad , \Rightarrow \quad \underline{a \psi = 0}$$

General analytic form for  $f(z)$

$$f(z) = \prod_{j=1}^N (z - z_j)$$



Another useful form is

$$f_{\lambda}(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}e^{\lambda}} e^{\frac{1}{2}\bar{\lambda}z} e^{-\frac{1}{4}\bar{\lambda}\lambda} \quad \boxed{\text{COHERENT STATE}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\Psi_{\lambda}\rangle^2 &= |f_{\lambda}|^2 e^{-\bar{z}z/2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi e^{\lambda}} e^{\frac{1}{2}(\bar{\lambda}z + \bar{z}\lambda) - \frac{\bar{z}z}{2} - \frac{\bar{\lambda}\lambda}{2}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi e^{\lambda}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}(\bar{z}-\bar{\lambda})(z-\lambda)\right] \sim P_0 \delta^2(\vec{r}-\vec{\lambda}) P_0 \end{aligned}$$

Normalized  $\Psi$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_m(x,y) &= \Phi_m(z, \bar{z}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} e^{\lambda} 2^m m!} z^m e^{-|z|^2/4} \\ L_z &= m\hbar \quad n = \frac{1}{2\pi e^{\lambda}} \int \frac{1}{n} \left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^m \frac{1}{m!} e^{-\frac{|z|^2}{4}} \end{aligned}$$

## • One body potential

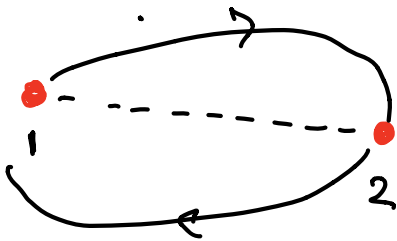
If  $U(\vec{r}) = U(|\vec{r}|)$ , then  $U$  conserves angular momentum &

does not mix  $\Phi_m$  &  $\Phi_{m'}$  ( $m \neq m'$ ). In a strong field,

$\Phi_m$  is an eigenstate, & a potential just shifts the energies. by

$$U_m = \langle \Phi_m | V | \Phi_m \rangle \quad E_m = \frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega + U_m$$

## 5.3

Two body Problem + Kaldane Pseudopotentials

$$T = \frac{\vec{\pi}_1^2 + \vec{\pi}_2^2}{2m}$$

$$= \frac{\vec{\pi}_{cm}^2}{2M} + \frac{\vec{\pi}_r^2}{2\mu}$$

$$\vec{\pi}_{cm} = \vec{\pi}_1 + \vec{\pi}_2$$

$$M = 2m$$

$$\vec{\pi}_r = (\vec{\pi}_1 - \vec{\pi}_2)/2$$

$$\mu = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{m} + \frac{1}{m}} = \frac{m}{2}$$

$$[\pi_{cm}, \pi_r] = 0$$

$$\hat{\pi}_{cm} = \frac{\pi_{cm}}{\sqrt{2}} \quad \hat{\pi}_{rel} = \sqrt{2} \pi_{rel}$$

$$(\hat{\pi}_{cm}^x, \hat{\pi}_{cm}^y) = \frac{\hbar^2}{\rho^2} \quad (\hat{\pi}_{rel}^x, \hat{\pi}_{rel}^y) = \frac{\hbar^2}{\rho^2}$$

Both cm + relative motion involve the same  $\omega_c$  &  $\ell$ .

$$\Psi_{mM} = (z_1 - z_2)^m (z_1 + z_2)^M e^{-\frac{1}{4}(\bar{z}_1 z_1 + \bar{z}_2 z_2)}$$

- Lies in the LLL
- $L_{rel} = \hbar m$      $L_{cm} = \hbar M$

EXACT SOLUTION FOR  
RELATIVE POTENTIAL  
 $V(|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|)$



Corresponding energy eigenvalue is simply

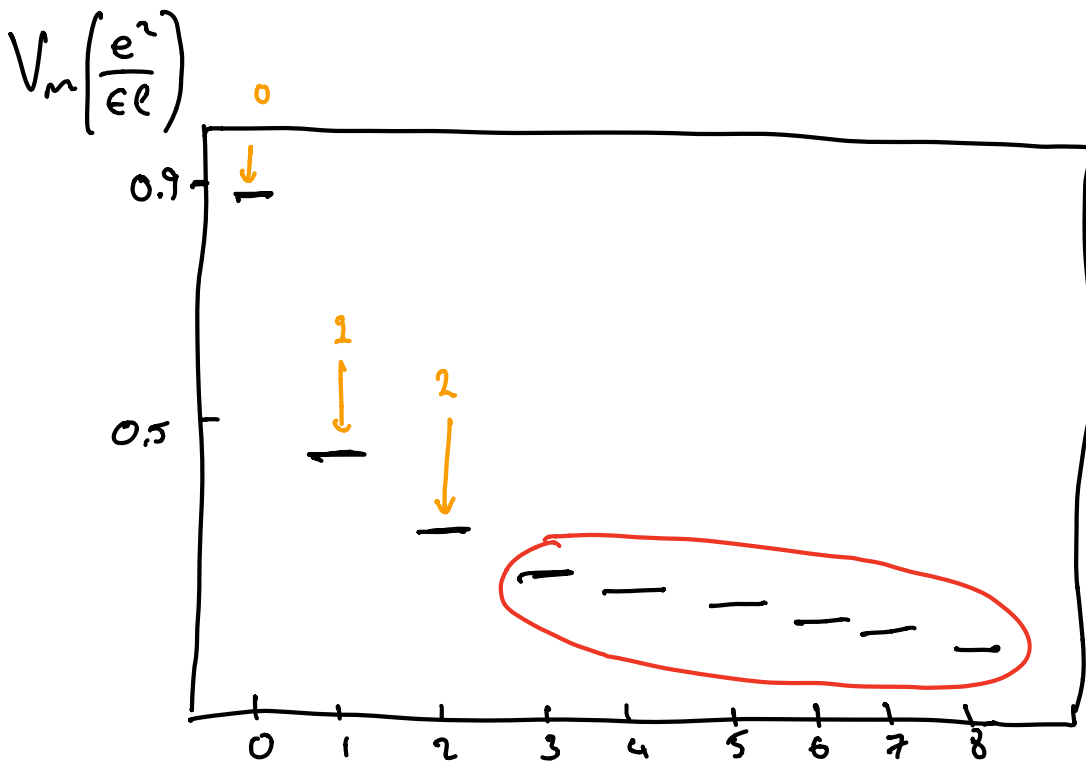
$$V_m = \frac{\langle mM | V | mM \rangle}{\langle mM | mM \rangle}$$

Haldane  
Pseudopotential

e.g. Coulomb interaction

$$V = \frac{e^2}{\epsilon r}$$

$$V_m = \frac{e^2}{2\epsilon l} \frac{\Gamma(m + \frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma^2(m + 1)}$$



This provides an important clue to the Full many body problem.

e.g Calculate  $V_m$  for Coulomb Interaction  $V = e^2 / \epsilon r$ .

$$|z_1|^2 + |z_2|^2 = \left(\frac{z_r + z_{cm}}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{z_r - z_{cm}}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{|z_r|^2 + |z_{cm}|^2}{2}$$

$$dz_1 dz_2 = dz_{cm} dz_{rel}$$

$$V_m = \frac{\int d\bar{z}_r dz_r \left(\frac{e^2}{\epsilon \sqrt{\bar{z}_r z_r}}\right) (\bar{z}_r z_r)^m e^{-\frac{1}{4}|z_r|^2}}{\int d\bar{z}_r dz_r e^{-\frac{1}{4}|z_r|^2} (\bar{z}_r z_r)^m}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{e^2}{\epsilon} \int r dr r^{2m-1} e^{-r^2/4}}{\int r dr r^{2m} e^{-r^2/4}} = \frac{\frac{e^2}{\epsilon} \int 2du (4u)^{\frac{2m-1}{2}} e^{-u}}{\int 2du (4u)^{\frac{2m}{2}} e^{-u}} = \frac{e^2}{\epsilon} \frac{1}{2} \frac{\left(\frac{2m-1}{2}\right)!}{\left(\frac{2m}{2}\right)!}$$

$$x! = \Gamma(x+1)$$

$$V_m = \frac{e^2}{\epsilon \rho} \frac{\Gamma\left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right)}{2\Gamma(m+1)}$$

e.g  $B = 10T$   $e = 10$

$$\rho = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{eB}} = \sqrt{\frac{1.05 \times 10^{-34}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 10}} = 8.1 \text{ nm}$$

$$\frac{e^2}{4\pi \epsilon_0 \rho} = \frac{(1.602 \times 10^{-19})^2}{4\pi \times (8.854 \times 10^{-12}) \times 10 \times 8.1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}} = 2.84 \times 10^{-21} \text{ J} \approx 206 \text{ K}$$

$$\hbar \omega_c = 13.4 \text{ K}$$

$$V_3 = 0.28 \times 206 \text{ K} = \underline{\underline{57 \text{ K}}}$$

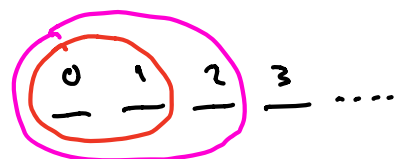
## 5.4 The $\nu=1$ STATE

$$\Psi_1^S[z] = f[z] e^{-\frac{1}{4} \sum_j |z_j|^2} \quad \text{SLATER DET}$$

Two particles

$$c_1^+ c_0^+ |0\rangle$$

$$f_2[z] = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ z_1 & z_2 \end{vmatrix} = (z_2 - z_1)$$



SLATER DETERMINANT

Three particles

$$c_2^+ c_1^+ c_0^+ |0\rangle$$

$$f_3(z) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ z_1 & z_2 & z_3 \\ (z_1)^2 & (z_2)^2 & (z_3)^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

Zero when two columns are equal

$$z_i = z_j$$

$$= (z_3 - z_1)(z_3 - z_2)(z_2 - z_1)$$

$$= \prod_{i>j} (z_i - z_j)$$

$$f_N = \prod_{i>j} (z_i - z_j)$$



- Highest power of any  $z_i$  is  $z_i^{N-1}$
- Antisymmetry guarantees single occupancy.  $\therefore$  states  $m \in [0, N-1]$  are occupied.

$$\Psi_1(z) = \left( \prod_{i < j} (z_i - z_j) \right) \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{4} \sum_j |z_j|^2 \right]$$

Filled L.L.

Jastrow Fn.

$$|\Psi_1(z)|^2 = \prod_{i < j} |z_i - z_j|^2 \exp -\frac{1}{2} \sum_j |z_j|^2$$

$$= e^{-\beta U_{\text{eff}}} = e^{-\frac{2}{m} \left( \frac{m}{2} \ln |\Psi|^2 \right)}$$

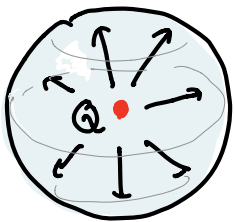
$$\beta = 2/m$$

$$U_{\text{eff}} = m^2 \sum_{i < j} \ln |z_i - z_j| + \frac{m}{4} \sum_j |z_j|^2$$

"Plasma Analogy"

Recall Electrostatics

3D



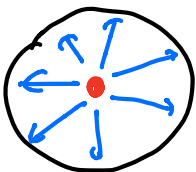
$$\int \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = 4\pi Q$$

$$\vec{E} = Q \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2}$$

$$\phi = -\nabla E = Q/r$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = -\nabla^2 \phi = 4\pi Q \delta^3(r)$$

2D



$$\int \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = 2\pi Q$$

$$\vec{E} = (Q/r) \hat{r}$$

$$\phi = Q \left( -\ln r/r_0 \right)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = -\nabla^2 \phi = 2\pi Q \delta^2(r)$$

$$U_0 = m^2 \sum_{i>j} -\ln |z_i - z_j|$$

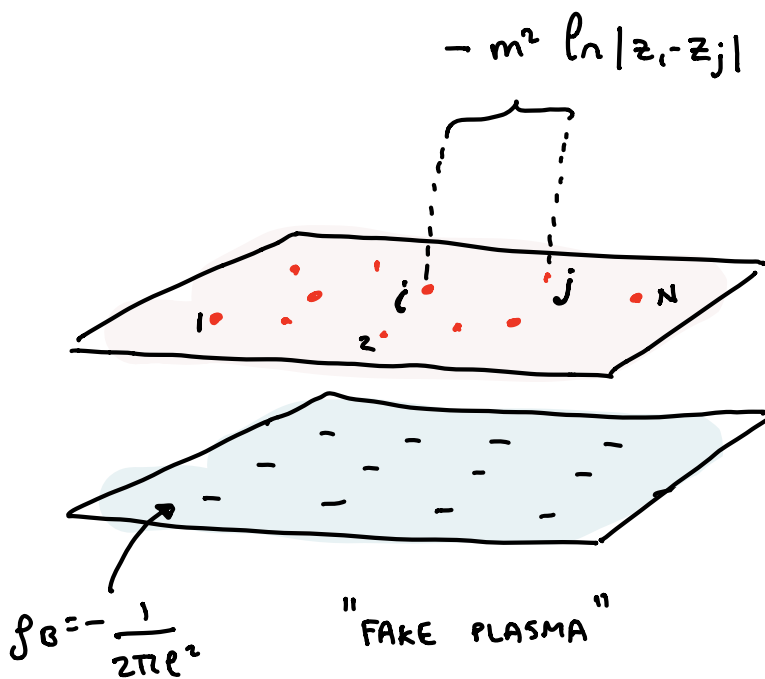
Coulomb Interaction Energy

$$m \left( \frac{1}{4} \sum_j |z_j|^2 \right) = m \sum_j \phi(z_j)$$

Potential from constant background charge  $\rho_B = -\frac{1}{2\pi e^2}$

$$-\nabla^2 \left( \frac{1}{4} |z_j|^2 \right) = -(\nabla_x^2 + \nabla_y^2) \left( \frac{1}{4} (x^2 + y^2) \right) = -\frac{1}{e^2} = 2\pi \rho_B$$

$$\Rightarrow \rho_B = -\frac{1}{2\pi e^2}$$



Neutrality  $\Leftrightarrow$  Largest  $|\Psi|^2$

$$nm + \rho_B = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow n = \frac{1}{m} \left( \frac{1}{2\pi e^2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{m} \left( \frac{N_\phi}{A} \right)$$

$\equiv \frac{1}{m}$  th filled L.L.

$$2\pi e^2 \rho_B = \phi_0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2\pi e^2} = \frac{\rho_B}{\phi_0} = \frac{\phi}{\phi_0 A} = \frac{N_\phi}{A}$$



$$m=5$$