

# Edge states at spin quantum Hall transitions

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Workshop at GGI, Florence:  
New quantum states of matter in and out of equilibrium  
24/04/2012

Based on  
BJS: arXiv:1101.4361, BGJOS: arXiv:1109.4866

# Outline

## ① Motivations

Anderson transitions: IQHE, SQHE  
Edge states

## ② The model

Quantum network models  
Quantum-classical localization

## ③ Solution

Superspins and  $\sigma$ -models  
Universality and critical exponents

## ④ Conductance and numerics

# Anderson transitions

- Disordered non-interacting electrons
  - Symmetry classification [Dyson '62, Altland,Zirnbauer '97]
    - 10 classes (WD, Chiral, BdG)
    - E. g. : IQHE in class A,  $e^{i\mathcal{H}t} \in U(N)$
  - Escaping localization in 2d [Evers,Mirlin '08]

- MIT

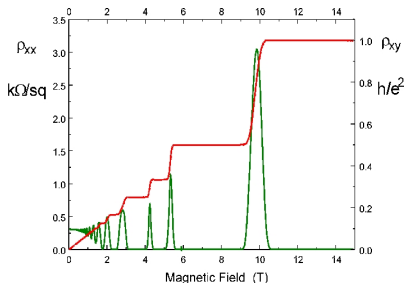


- Topological phases

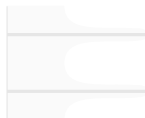


# Integer Quantum Hall Effect

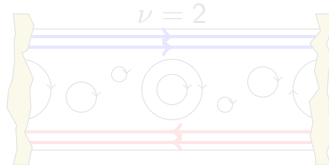
- 2DEG at high  $B$ , low  $T$
- Plateaus  $\rho_{xy} = \frac{h}{e^2\nu}$   
[Von Klitzing Nobel '85]



## 1 Disorder

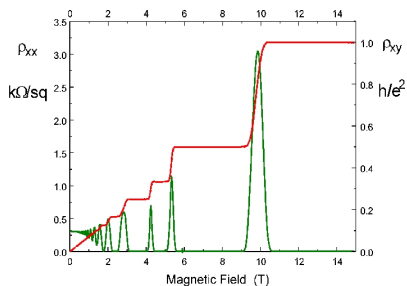


## 2 Chiral edge states



# Integer Quantum Hall Effect

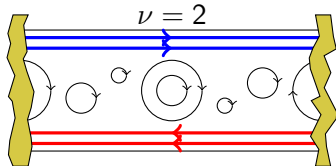
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## 1 Disorder



## 2 Chiral edge states



# Spin quantum Hall effect (SQHE)

- $d + id$  disordered superconductors [Senthil,Marston,Fisher '99]
- $e^{it\mathcal{H}} \in \text{Sp}(2N)$ , class C
- Topological superconductor in 2d:  $\sigma^{\text{spin}} \in 2\mathbb{Z}$
- $\neq$  QSH ( $\in$  AII,  $T^2 = -1$ , [Kane,Mele '05])
- Some aspects exactly solvable!

# Low-energy field theories

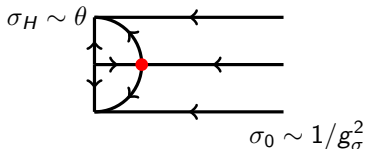
- Non linear  $\sigma$ -model [Wegner '79, Efetov '83]:

$$S = \frac{1}{2g_\sigma^2} \int d^2z \partial_\mu^\dagger Z_\alpha^\dagger \partial_\mu Z_\alpha$$

- IQHE criticality: topological term [Pruisken '84]

$$S_{\text{top}} = i\theta N[Z]$$

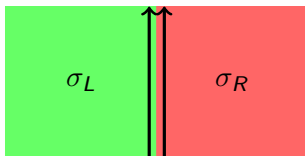
- At  $\theta = \pi(\text{mod } 2\pi)$ ,  $g_\sigma = O(1)$ , LogCFT  $c = 0$  (?)



- Bulk exponents,  $\xi$ , etc. indep. of  $\theta$  (if  $\theta = \pi(\text{mod } 2\pi)$ )

# Edge states and the $\theta$ -angle

- Bulk-boundary



$$\#(\text{edge states}) = \sigma_R - \sigma_L$$

- Edge states as  $\theta$  increased
  - 1D QED: quark-antiquark screen  $F \propto \theta$  [Coleman '75, Affleck '85]
  - Boundary properties dep. on **exact** value  $\theta$  [Xiong,Read,Stone '97]

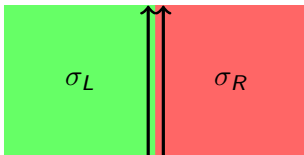
Aim of the talk

Edge states for SQHE



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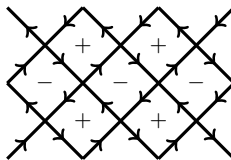
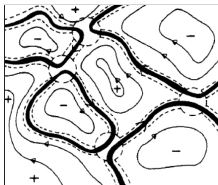
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## Aim of the talk

### Edge states for SQHE

# Network models: quantum percolation

- Chalker-Coddington model [Chalker, Coddington '88]:

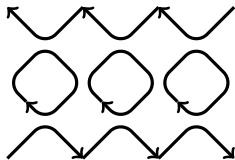


- $$S = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{1-t^2} & t \\ -t & \sqrt{1-t^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow U_{e,e'} = S_{e',e} U_e, \quad U_e \in U(1)$$

# Edge states in CC model

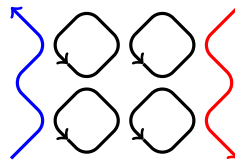
- Extreme limits



$t = 1$ : Insulator



$$t_c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$



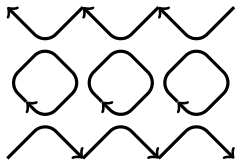
$t = 0$ : QH state  $\nu = 1$

- Higher plateaus: **chiral** extra edge channels [BGJOS '12]:



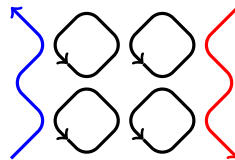
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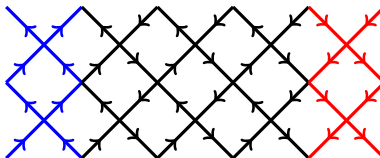
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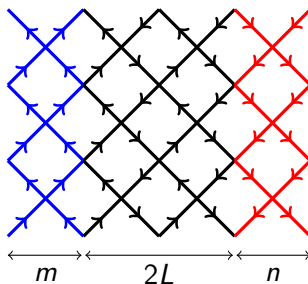


# Network model SQHE with edge channels

- $U_e \in SU(2)$


-  :  $S_x = \mathbf{1} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{1-t_x^2} & t_x \\ -t_x & \sqrt{1-t_x^2} \end{pmatrix}$

- $\mathcal{L} = m, \mathcal{R} = n$  :

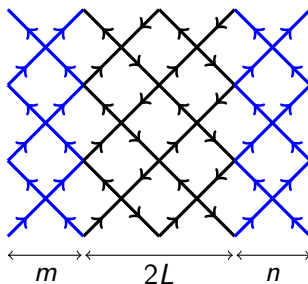


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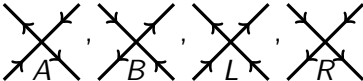
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- $\mathcal{L} = m, \mathcal{R} = -n$  :

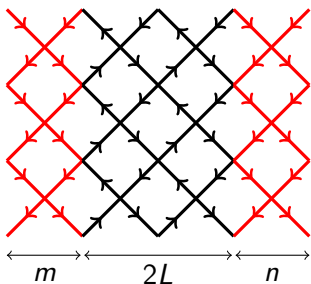


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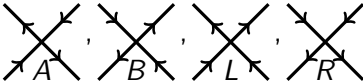
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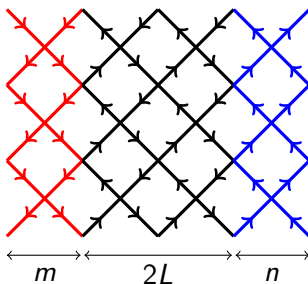


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# Disorder average I

[Gruzberg, Read, Ludwig '99, Beamond, Cardy, Chalker '02, Mirlin, Evers, Mildenberger '03, Cardy '04]

- $G(e, e', z) = \langle e | (1 - z\mathcal{U})^{-1} | e' \rangle = \sum_{\gamma(e, e')} \cdots z U_{e_j} s_j \cdots$
- SUSY path integral
  - $x_\sigma(e), \eta_\sigma(e), \sigma = \uparrow, \downarrow$
  - Lattice action:  $W[x, \eta] = zx^*(e')\mathcal{U}_{e', e}x(e) + z\eta^*(e')\mathcal{U}_{e', e}\eta(e)$
  - $\langle \bullet \rangle = \int D\mu(x, \eta) \bullet \exp(W[x, \eta])$

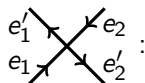
$$\Rightarrow G(e, e', z) = \langle x(e)x^*(e') \rangle$$

# Disorder average II

- ①  $\int dU =$  projects  $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^{1|1})$  onto SU(2)-inv. :

**Truncation:**  $\Psi = \left(1, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(x_{\uparrow}\eta_{\downarrow} - x_{\downarrow}\eta_{\uparrow}), \eta_{\uparrow}\eta_{\downarrow}\right)$

- ② Dilute-dense mapping:



$$\prod_i \Psi_{\alpha'_i}(e'_i) [\delta_{\alpha_1, \alpha'_1} \delta_{\alpha_2, \alpha'_2} S_{11} S_{22} - \delta_{\alpha_1, \alpha'_2} \delta_{\alpha_2, \alpha'_1} S_{12} S_{21}] \prod_j \Psi_{\alpha_j}^*(e_j)$$

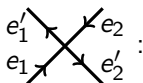
- **Example:**  $\Psi = 1: (1 - t^2) + t^2 = 1$
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# New geometrical model

- Decomposition:

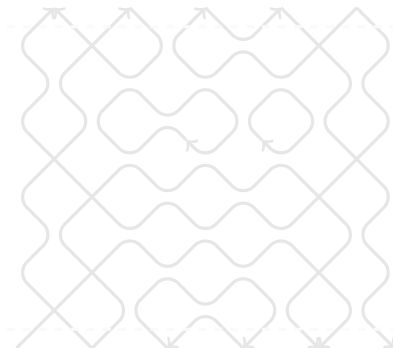
$$A \begin{array}{c} \nearrow \searrow \\ \nwarrow \nearrow \end{array} = (1 - t_A^2) \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array} + t_A^2 \begin{array}{c} \nearrow \searrow \\ \nwarrow \nearrow \end{array}$$

$$B \begin{array}{c} \nearrow \searrow \\ \nwarrow \nearrow \end{array} = (1 - t_B^2) \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array} + t_B^2 \begin{array}{c} \nearrow \searrow \\ \nwarrow \nearrow \end{array}$$

$$L \begin{array}{c} \nearrow \searrow \\ \nwarrow \nearrow \end{array} = (1 - t_L^2) \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array} + t_L^2 \begin{array}{c} \nearrow \searrow \\ \nwarrow \nearrow \end{array}$$

$$R \begin{array}{c} \nearrow \searrow \\ \nwarrow \nearrow \end{array} = (1 - t_R^2) \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array} + t_R^2 \begin{array}{c} \nearrow \searrow \\ \nwarrow \nearrow \end{array}$$

⇒ Classical loops (fug. = 1):

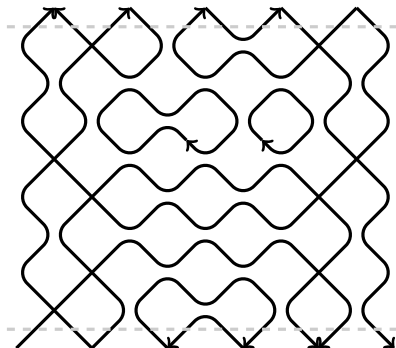


# New geometrical model

- Decomposition:

$$\begin{aligned}
 A &= (1 - t_A^2) \left[ \text{right-pointing arrow} \right] + t_A^2 \left[ \text{crossing with arrows} \right] \\
 B &= (1 - t_B^2) \left[ \text{left-pointing arrow} \right] + t_B^2 \left[ \text{crossing with arrows} \right] \\
 L &= (1 - t_L^2) \left[ \text{right-pointing arrow} \right] + t_L^2 \left[ \text{crossing with arrows} \right] \\
 R &= (1 - t_R^2) \left[ \text{left-pointing arrow} \right] + t_R^2 \left[ \text{crossing with arrows} \right]
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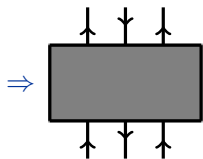


# Conductance

- Landauer: PCC  $g = \text{Tr } \mathbf{t} \mathbf{t}^\dagger$ ,  $\mathbf{t} = \langle e^{\text{out}} | (1 - \mathcal{U})^{-1} | e^{\text{in}} \rangle$

- No replicas:

$$\bar{g} = 2 \langle \eta_\downarrow(e^{\text{out}}) \eta_\uparrow(e^{\text{out}}) \eta_\uparrow^*(e^{\text{in}}) \eta_\downarrow^*(e^{\text{in}}) \rangle = 2P(e^{\text{in}}, e^{\text{out}})$$



$$\bar{g} = 2 \sum_{e \in C^{\text{in}}} \sum_{e' \in C^{\text{out}}} P(e, e')$$

⇒ **Loops**  $\equiv$  transport

What next:

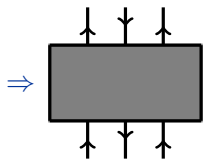
Solve loop model, then go back to SQH.

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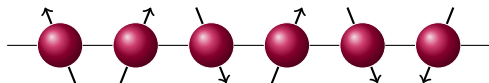
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# Edge states in superspin chains



- $\mathfrak{sl}(2|1)$ -irreps.  $\uparrow \equiv V, \downarrow \equiv V^*$   $\dim=3, \text{sdim}=1$

- $\mathcal{H}^{\mathcal{L},\mathcal{R}} = \begin{cases} V^{\otimes m} \otimes (V \otimes V^*)^{\otimes L} \otimes (V^*)^{\otimes n} & (m; n) \\ V^{\otimes m} \otimes (V \otimes V^*)^{\otimes L} \otimes V^{\otimes n} & (m; -n) \\ (V^*)^{\otimes m} \otimes (V \otimes V^*)^{\otimes L} \otimes (V^*)^{\otimes n} & (-m; n) \\ (V^*)^{\otimes m} \otimes (V \otimes V^*)^{\otimes L} \otimes V^{\otimes n} & (-m; -n). \end{cases}$



# Hamiltonian

- $P_i^{sl}: V_i \otimes V_{i+1} (V_i^* \otimes V_{i+1}^*)$

- $E_i^{sl}: V_i \otimes V_{i+1}^* (V_i^* \otimes V_{i+1})$

$$\Rightarrow H = -u \sum P_i^{sl} - \sum E_i^{sl} - v \sum P_i^{sl}$$

↑  
bulk  
boundary

- Indefinite inner product, Jordan cells, ... [Read, Saleur '07]

# Bulk topological $\sigma$ -models

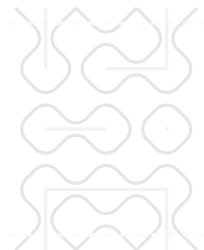
- Continuum limit periodic chain [Gruzberg, Read, Ludwig '99, Read, Saleur '01]:

- Target:  $\mathbb{CP}^{1|1} = \frac{U(2|1)}{U(1) \times U(1|1)}$ ,  $\pi_2 = \mathbb{Z}$

- $S = \frac{1}{2g_\sigma^2} \int d^2z D_\mu^\dagger Z_\alpha^\dagger D_\mu Z_\alpha - \frac{i\theta}{2\pi} \int d^2z \epsilon^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu a_\nu$

- At  $\theta = \pi \pmod{2\pi}$ ,  
 $g_\sigma = O(1)$ , percolation

$\Rightarrow$  Bulk exponents ( $n$ -hulls),  
Loc. length ( $\nu = 4/3$ )



# Bulk topological $\sigma$ -models

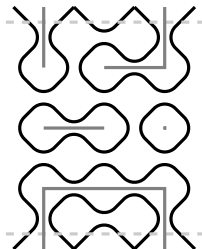
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# Edge states as conformal boundaries

- Symmetric CBC [Candu, Mitev, Quella, Saleur, Schomerus '10]

$$(\partial_y + ia_y)Z_\alpha = \Theta_1 g_\sigma^2 (\partial_x + ia_x)Z_\alpha ,$$

$$(\partial_y - ia_y)Z_\alpha^\dagger = -\Theta_1 g_\sigma^2 (\partial_x - ia_x)Z_\alpha^\dagger$$

$$\Theta_1 = (2\mathcal{L} + \theta/\pi), \quad \Theta_2 = (2\mathcal{R} + \theta/\pi)$$

⇒ Dep. on **exact** value of  $\theta$ :

$$\theta \rightarrow \theta + 2\pi p \iff (V \otimes V^*)^{\otimes L} \rightarrow V^{\otimes p} \otimes (V \otimes V^*)^{\otimes L} \otimes (V^*)^{\otimes p}$$

- $\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{R}$  monopole charges

# Remarks on conformal boundary conditions

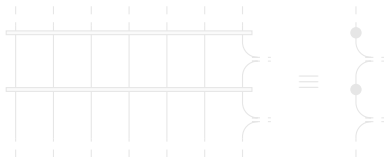
- Disorder leads to **non unitary, non rational** (Log) CFT
- Trivial in unitary, rational case. E.g.  $O(3)$  model:
  - Bulk CFT:  $SU(2)_1$  WZW, spin chain: XXX
  - Only two  $SU(2)$  CBC ( $P_i \sim E_i$ ).
- Situation is far **richer** in our case.

# Relation blob-edge states

- $\tilde{H} := -u \frac{1}{(m+1)!} \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_L} \sigma - \sum E_i - v \frac{1}{(n+1)!} \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_R} \sigma$

⇒ When  $L \rightarrow \infty$ :  $H \simeq \tilde{H}$

⇒ Effective boundary loops

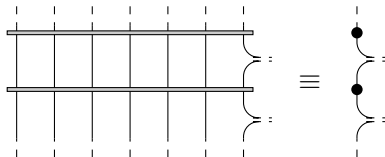


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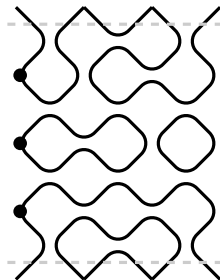
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# Boundary loop models

- Blob algebra [Martin,Saleur '94]
  - $\circlearrowleft = \delta$
  - $h_{r(\delta),r(\delta)+2j}$  [Jacobsen,Saleur '06]
    - 1 Irrational
    - 2 Indep. of  $\lambda$
- Two-bdry [Dubail,Jacobsen,Saleur'09]



## What we compute

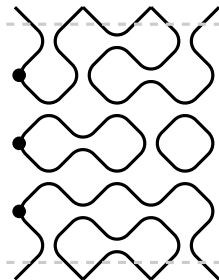
Leading exponents  $h^{m,n}(k)$  in sector  $k$





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    - 1 Irrational
    - 2 Indep. of  $\lambda$
- Two-bdry [Dubail,Jacobsen,Saleur'09]



## What we compute

Leading exponents  $h^{m,n}(k)$  in sector  $k$

- E. g. :

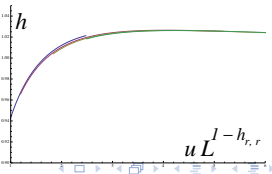
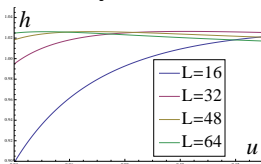
# Critical exponents

$k$	$\#(\text{legs})$	$h^{m,n}(k)$
0	$m - n$	$h_{r_0, r_0} = 0$
1	$m - n + 2$	$h_{r_1, r_1}$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$n$	$n + m$	$h_{r_n, r_n}$
$n + 1$	$n + m + 2$	$h_{1,3}$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$n + j$	$n + m + 2j$	$h_{1,1+2j}$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$

$$r_k = \frac{6}{\pi} \arccos\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sqrt{\frac{(n+1-k)(m+1+k)}{(m+1)(n+1)}}\right)$$

$$h_{r,s} = \frac{((3r-2s)^2 - 1)}{24}$$

- Indep. of  $m, n$  for  $\#(\text{legs}) > n + m$
- Irrational
- Indep. of couplings: boundary RG flow



# Symmetries and other cases

① Left  $\leftrightarrow$  Right:  $h^{\mathcal{L},\mathcal{R}}(k) = h^{\mathcal{R},\mathcal{L}}(k)$

②  $\uparrow \leftrightarrow \downarrow$

$$\bullet \quad \begin{array}{c} \overbrace{\uparrow \uparrow}^m \quad \overbrace{\downarrow \downarrow}^{2L} \quad \overbrace{\uparrow \uparrow}^n \\ \uparrow \uparrow \quad \downarrow \downarrow \quad \uparrow \uparrow \end{array} \equiv \begin{array}{c} \overbrace{\downarrow \downarrow}^{-m-1} \quad \overbrace{\downarrow \downarrow}^{2L-2} \quad \overbrace{\downarrow \downarrow}^{-n-1} \\ \downarrow \downarrow \quad \downarrow \downarrow \quad \downarrow \downarrow \end{array}$$

$\Rightarrow h^{-m,-n}(k) = h^{m-1,n-1}(k)$

③  $\mathcal{L} \cdot \mathcal{R} < 0$ ,  $\#(\text{legs}) \geq |\mathcal{L}| + |\mathcal{R}|$

$$\bullet \quad \begin{array}{c} \overbrace{\downarrow \downarrow}^{-m} \quad \overbrace{\downarrow \downarrow}^{2L} \quad \overbrace{\downarrow \downarrow}^n \\ \downarrow \downarrow \quad \downarrow \downarrow \quad \downarrow \downarrow \end{array} \equiv \begin{array}{c} \overbrace{\downarrow \downarrow}^{-m+1} \quad \overbrace{\downarrow \downarrow}^{2L+1} \quad \overbrace{\downarrow \downarrow}^n \\ \downarrow \downarrow \quad \downarrow \downarrow \quad \downarrow \downarrow \end{array}$$

$\Rightarrow h^{-m,n}(k) = h^{m,-n}(k) = h_{1,2+2k} = \frac{k(2k+1)}{3}$

# Critical conductance in a strip

- Bottom-top  $\bar{g}^{\mathcal{L},\mathcal{R}} = 2 \max(0, \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{R}) + 2 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k P(k, L_T/L)$

drain

source

$$P(k, L_T/L) = \langle D | T^{2L_T} | S \rangle \approx e^{-\pi h^{m,n}(k) \frac{L_T}{L}}$$

$\frac{L_T}{L} \rightarrow \infty$

- In quasi 1D geometry:

$$\bar{g}^{\mathcal{L},\mathcal{R}} \sim 2 \max(0, \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{R}) + Ae^{-\pi h^{\mathcal{L},\mathcal{R}}(1) \frac{L_T}{L}}$$

# Numerics for network model

- $g^{\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{R}}$  from transfer matrices
  - Fit  $\bar{g}^{\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{R}} \sim g_\infty + Ce^{-\lambda \frac{L_T}{L}}$
  - Typically  $L_T/L \in [2, 40]$ , disorder  $\mathcal{O}(10^5) \sim \mathcal{O}(10^6)$
- ⇒ Confirmed  $h^{\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{R}}(1)$
- ⇒ Verified indep. on bdry couplings (even random)

$\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{R}$	numerics	analytical
	$h^{\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{R}}(1)$	$h^{\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{R}}(1)$
0, 0	0.3333(12)	1/3
0, 1	0.3330(7)	1/3
0, 10	0.3325(24)	
1, 1	0.03775(25)	0.037720
2, 2	0.01600(2)	0.015906
1, 2	0.0520(25)	0.052083
2, 4	0.02954(7)	0.029589
-2, -2	0.0377(4)	0.037720
-3, -2	0.0522(2)	0.052083
-1, 0	0.999(9)	1
-2, 0	0.999(3)	
-2, 1	0.998(3)	

# Conclusions and Outlooks

- Mapping SQH extra edge channels to classical loop model
- Exact critical exponents of boundary CFT
- Verified predictions of decay conductance
- Outlooks
  - Fractal properties of wave function near extra edges  
[Mirlin,Evers,Mildenberger '03]
  - Exact conductance [Cardy '00]
  - Edge states of wires in other AZ classes