Thouless pumping

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We shall find that the Berry phase appears when a quantum state undergoes an adiabatic evolution with a time-dependent Hamiltonian. This sets the stage to explore the yet another interesting quantization phenomenon, the *Thouless pumping*. Here the parameter space is torus and spanned by the time t and the wave number k, both of which are periodic.

I. BERRY PHASE AND ADIABATIC CHANGES OF A QUANTUM STATE [1–4]

So far we investigated the Berry phase with path integral method, which basically means that we treated the inherently quantum-mechanical electron spin as the *classical* magnetic moment, $\boldsymbol{n} = \frac{\boldsymbol{m}}{m_0} = \begin{bmatrix} \sin\theta\cos\phi\\\sin\theta\sin\phi\\\cos\theta \end{bmatrix}$. Now, we shall revisit the Berry phase by analyzing the adiabatic evolution of a *quantum state* $|\uparrow(t)\rangle$, which is the lowest energy eigenstate of a time-dependent Hamiltonian H(t).

A. Adiabatic changes of a quantum state

Let the time-dependent Hamiltonian be

$$H(t) = -\boldsymbol{m} \cdot \boldsymbol{B}(t) = \hbar \gamma_s \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \boldsymbol{B}(t).$$
(1)

Suppose that the magnetic field at t = 0 is $B(0) = B(0) \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0\\1 \end{bmatrix}$ and the spin starts at t = 0 in one of the eigenstates

$$\underbrace{|\uparrow(0)\rangle}_{\text{for magnetic moment}} = \underbrace{|\Downarrow(0)\rangle}_{\text{for spin}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\1 \end{bmatrix}$$
(2)

with the energy $\epsilon_{\uparrow}(0) = \epsilon_{\Downarrow}(0) = -\frac{1}{2}\hbar\gamma_s B(0)$. When the time-variation of the Hamiltonian H(t) is *adiabatic* the spin state remains in the instantaneous eigenstate of H(t), that is,

$$|\uparrow(t)\rangle = |\Downarrow(t)\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} -e^{-i\frac{\phi(t)}{2}}\sin\frac{\theta(t)}{2}\\ e^{i\frac{\phi(t)}{2}}\cos\frac{\theta(t)}{2} \end{bmatrix},$$
(3)

with the energy $\epsilon_{\uparrow}(t) = \epsilon_{\downarrow}(t) = -\frac{1}{2}\hbar\gamma_s B(t)$. Here, at t the magnetic field is assumed to be

$$\boldsymbol{B}(t) = B(t) \begin{bmatrix} \sin\theta(t)\sin\phi(t)\\ \sin\theta(t)\cos\phi(t)\\ \cos\theta(t) \end{bmatrix}.$$
(4)

Now suppose that, at the end of the evolution t = T, the Hamiltonian returns to the original one, that is, H(T) = H(0)and thus the state must come back to the original state with some phase factor, that is,

$$|\uparrow(T)\rangle = e^{-i\Phi(T)}|\uparrow(0)\rangle.$$
(5)

We shall see that the phase can be written as [5]

$$\Phi(T) = \underbrace{\Phi(0)}_{\text{initial phase}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{\hbar} \int_{0}^{T} dt \epsilon_{\uparrow}(t)}_{\text{dynamical phase}} - \underbrace{\gamma_{\uparrow}}_{\text{Berry phase}}.$$
(6)

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Let us start by considering the time-dependent Schrödinger equation:

$$i\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial t}|\psi(t)\rangle = H(t)|\psi(t)\rangle,\tag{7}$$

where the wave function $|\psi(t)\rangle$ can be assumed to be the instantaneous eigenstate $|\uparrow(t)\rangle$ with some phase factor, that is,

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = e^{-i\Phi(t)}|\uparrow(t)\rangle \tag{8}$$

since $|\psi(t)\rangle$ changes adiabatically from $|\uparrow(0)\rangle$ to $|\uparrow(T)\rangle$ in a course of time evolution. This adiabatic approximation is essentially equivalent to performing a *projection operation* on the state $|\psi(t)\rangle$ to restrict it to the eigenstates $|\uparrow(t)\rangle$ [1]. Plugging this form of wave function into Eq. (7) and operate $\langle\uparrow(t)|$ from the left we have

$$\hbar \frac{\partial \Phi(t)}{\partial t} + i\hbar \left\langle \uparrow(t) \middle| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \middle| \uparrow(t) \right\rangle = \epsilon_{\uparrow}(t).$$
(9)

By integrating both sides with respect to t from 0 to T we have

$$\hbar \left(\Phi(T) - \Phi(0) \right) + \hbar \int_0^T dt \ i \left\langle \uparrow(t) \middle| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \middle| \uparrow(t) \right\rangle = \int_0^T dt \epsilon_{\uparrow}(t), \tag{10}$$

which indeed indicates Eq.(6) with the Berry phase [5]:

$$\begin{split} \gamma_{\uparrow} &= \int_{0}^{T} dt \; i \left\langle \uparrow (t) \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right| \uparrow (t) \right\rangle \\ &= \int_{0}^{T} dt \left(i \left\langle \uparrow (\sigma(t)) \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma(t)} \right| \uparrow (\sigma(t)) \right\rangle \right) \dot{\sigma}(t) \\ &= \oint_{C} d\sigma \cdot \underbrace{\left(i \left\langle \uparrow (\sigma) \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} \right| \uparrow (\sigma) \right\rangle \right)}_{\boldsymbol{A}_{\uparrow: \text{ Berry connection}}} \\ &= \int_{\mathcal{A}} d\boldsymbol{S} \cdot \underbrace{\left(\boldsymbol{\nabla} \times \boldsymbol{A}_{\uparrow} \right)}_{\boldsymbol{\Omega}_{\uparrow: \text{ Berry curvature}}} . \end{split}$$
(11)

This establishes the close link between the Berry phase and adiabatic evolution of the quantum state $|\uparrow(t)\rangle$. Note that γ_{\uparrow} does not depend on the velocity $\dot{\sigma}$ in this setting and stems from the *geometry* of the space where the eigenstates $|\uparrow(t)\rangle$ lives. Thus, the Berry phase is also called the *geometric phase*.

II. THOULESS PUMPING [1, 4]

Now we shall extend our interest to solid state physics and explore the Berry phase accompanying Bloch electron. The model Hamiltonian is one for a 1D electron in a slowly varying periodic potential

$$H(t) = \frac{p}{2m} + V(x, t),$$
(12)

where the potential V(x,t) assumes the periodic boundary condition V(x+a,t) = V(x,t) all the time, where a is the lattice constant. According to Bloch's theorem the instantaneous eigenstates can be given by the Bloch form:

$$|\psi_{n,k}(x,t)\rangle = e^{ikx}|u_{n,k}(x,t)\rangle,\tag{13}$$

with the *twisted* periodic boundary condition:

$$|\psi_{n,k}(x+a,t)\rangle = e^{ika}|\psi_{n,k}(x,t)\rangle \tag{14}$$

where n stands for the band index and k does for the wave number. To eliminate the extra phase factor e^{ika} in the twisted periodic boundary condition, Eq. (14), we can use the cell-periodic part $|u_{n,k}(x,t)\rangle$ of the Bloch form Eq. (13)

as the instantaneous eigenstates. This is basically a gauge-transformation. The boundary condition for $|u_{n,k}(x,t)\rangle$ is the ordinary one,

$$|u_{n,k}(x+a,t)\rangle = |u_{n,k}(x,t)\rangle,\tag{15}$$

at the expense of the Hamiltonian Eq. (12) being changed into k-dependent form

$$H(k,t) = e^{-ikx}H(t)e^{ikx} = \frac{1}{2m}(p+\hbar k)^2 + V(x,t).$$
(16)

The k-dependent Hamiltonian can be derived from the fact that

$$e^{-ikx}pe^{ikx} = e^{-ikx}\left(-i\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right)e^{ikx}$$
$$= \hbar k - i\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \hbar k + p.$$
(17)

A. Zero-order current: j_0

The velocity of the electron can be given by

$$v = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \left[x, H \right]. \tag{18}$$

The velocity of the electron in a state of given k and band index n can then be obtained by

$$\begin{split} v_{n,k}^{(0)} &\equiv \langle u_{n,k} | e^{-ikx} v e^{ikx} | u_{n,k} \rangle \\ &= -\frac{i}{\hbar} \langle u_{n,k} | e^{-ikx} [x, H] e^{ikx} | u_{n,k} \rangle \\ &= -\frac{i}{\hbar} \langle u_{n,k} | \left[x, e^{-ikx} H e^{ikx} \right] | u_{n,k} \rangle \\ &= -\frac{i}{\hbar} \langle u_{n,k} | \left[x, \frac{1}{2m} \left(\left(p + \hbar k \right)^2 + V(x) \right) \right] \right] | u_{n,k} \rangle \\ &= -\frac{i}{\hbar} \langle u_{n,k} | \left[x, \frac{1}{2m} \left(\left(-i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hbar k \right)^2 + V(x) \right) \right] \right] | u_{n,k} \rangle \\ &= \langle u_{n,k} | \frac{1}{m} \left(p + \hbar k \right) | u_{n,k} \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{\hbar} \langle u_{n,k} | \frac{\partial H}{\partial k} | u_{n,k} \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{\hbar} \frac{\partial \epsilon_{n,k}}{\partial k}. \end{split}$$

Integrating over the Brillouin zone we have the zero total current:

$$j_{0} = -e \sum_{n} \int_{BZ} \frac{dk}{2\pi} v_{n,k}^{(0)}$$

$$= -e \sum_{n} \frac{1}{\hbar} \int_{BZ} \frac{dk}{2\pi} \frac{\partial \epsilon_{n,k}}{\partial k}$$

$$= -e \sum_{n} \frac{1}{\hbar} \int_{BZ} d\epsilon_{n,k}$$

$$= -e \sum_{n} \frac{1}{\hbar} \left[\epsilon_{k=\frac{\pi}{a},n} - \epsilon_{k=-\frac{\pi}{a},n} \right] = 0.$$
(20)

(19)

B. First-order current: j_1

Now let us look at the first-order correction to the adiabatic eigenstates $|u_{n,k}\rangle$. The perturbation theory tells us (see Appendix A) that the first-order approximation of the adiabatic eigenstates can be given by

$$|u_{k,n}^{(1)}\rangle = |u_{n,k}\rangle - i\hbar \sum_{n' \neq n} \frac{|u_{n',k}\rangle \left\langle u_{n',k} \right| \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial t} \right\rangle}{\epsilon_{n,k} - \epsilon_{k,n'}}.$$
(21)

Thus the first-order correction to the velocity reads

$$v_{n,k}^{(1)} \equiv \frac{1}{\hbar} \langle u_{n,k} | \frac{\partial H}{\partial k} | \left(-i\hbar \sum_{n' \neq n} \frac{|u_{n',k}\rangle \left\langle u_{n',k} | \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial t} \right\rangle}{\epsilon_{n,k} - \epsilon_{k,n'}} \right) + \frac{1}{\hbar} \left(i\hbar \sum_{n' \neq n} \frac{\left\langle \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial t} | u_{n',k} \right\rangle \left\langle u_{n',k} | \frac{\partial H}{\partial k} | u_{n,k} \right\rangle}{\epsilon_{n,k} - \epsilon_{k,n'}} \right) | \frac{\partial H}{\partial k} | u_{n,k} \rangle$$

$$= -i \sum_{n' \neq n} \frac{1}{\epsilon_{n,k} - \epsilon_{k,n'}} \left(\left\langle u_{n,k} | \frac{\partial H}{\partial k} | u_{n',k} \right\rangle \left\langle u_{n',k} | \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial t} \right\rangle - \left\langle \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial t} | u_{n',k} \right\rangle \left\langle u_{n',k} | \frac{\partial H}{\partial k} | u_{n,k} \right\rangle \right).$$

$$(22)$$

Now, let us exploit the similar relations as Eqs.(B8) and (B9):

$$\left\langle u_{n',k} \middle| \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial k} \right\rangle = \frac{1}{\epsilon_{n,k} - \epsilon_{k,n'}} \left\langle u_{n',k} \middle| \frac{\partial H}{\partial k} \middle| u_{n,k} \right\rangle \tag{23}$$

$$\left\langle \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial k} \middle| u_{n',k} \right\rangle = \frac{1}{\epsilon_{n,k} - \epsilon_{k,n'}} \left\langle u_{n,k} \middle| \frac{\partial H}{\partial k} \middle| u_{n',k} \right\rangle,\tag{24}$$

to get

$$v_{n,k}^{(1)} = -i \sum_{n' \neq n} \left(\left\langle \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial k} \middle| u_{n',k} \right\rangle \left\langle u_{n',k} \middle| \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial t} \right\rangle - \left\langle \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial t} \middle| u_{n',k} \right\rangle \left\langle u_{n',k} \middle| \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial k} \right\rangle \right)$$
$$= -i \left(\left\langle \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial k} \middle| \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial t} \right\rangle - \left\langle \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial t} \middle| \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial k} \right\rangle \right).$$
(25)

Remembering that

$$\sum_{n'\neq n} \left(\left\langle \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial k} \middle| u_{n',k} \right\rangle \left\langle u_{n',k} \middle| \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial t} \right\rangle - \left\langle \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial t} \middle| u_{n',k} \right\rangle \left\langle u_{n',k} \middle| \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial k} \right\rangle \right)$$

$$= \sum_{n'\neq n} \underbrace{\left[\left\langle \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial k} \middle| u_{n',k} \right\rangle \right]}_{\left\langle \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial R} \middle| u_{n',k} \right\rangle} \times \underbrace{\left[\left\langle u_{n',k} \middle| \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial k} \right\rangle \right]}_{\left\langle u_{n',k} \middle| \frac{\partial u_{n,k}}{\partial t} \right\rangle}, \qquad (26)$$

and comparing the form of the Berry curvature in Eq. (B5) we can recognize that $v_{n,k}^{(1)}$ is nothing but the Berry curvature:

$$v_{n,k}^{(1)} = -\Omega_{n,k}.$$
 (27)

This Berry curvature measures the curvature of the space spanned by the time t and the wave number k. Here t assumes the periodic boundary conditions t + T = t and k assumes the periodic boundary conditions k + G = k where $G = \frac{2\pi}{a}$, the parameter space is *torus*. Integrating over the Brillouin zone we have the Berry-curvature induced *adiabatic current*:

$$j_{1} = -e \sum_{n} \int_{BZ} \frac{dk}{2\pi} v_{n,k}^{(1)} = e \sum_{n} \int_{BZ} \frac{dk}{2\pi} \Omega_{n,k}$$
(28)

C. Quantization of charge transport [1, 6]

Now we shall see the number of charges transported by the *n*th-band adiabatic current per one-cycle of periodic time evolution is quantized! To see this, let us integrate the $\frac{j_1}{e}$ over the one cycle of periodic time evolution:

$$c_n = \int_0^T dt \int_{\mathrm{BZ}} \frac{dk}{2\pi} \Omega_{n,k}.$$
 (29)

The quantity $2\pi c_n$ is nothing but the Berry phase of this problem since the value is obtained by integrating the Berry curvature over the surface of the parameter space. By rescaling $t \to x = \frac{t}{T}$ and $k \to y = \frac{k}{G}$, we have

$$c_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^1 dx \int_0^1 dy \ \Omega(x, y),$$
(30)

where

$$\Omega(x,y) = \frac{\Omega_{n,k}}{TG}.$$
(31)

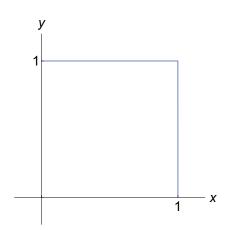


FIG. 1. Path $(0,0) \rightarrow (1,0) \rightarrow (1,1) \rightarrow (0,1) \rightarrow (0,0)$ is used to evaluate the integral Eq. (32).

We can now use the Stokes theorem to obtain the line integral form of Eq. (30), that is,

$$c_{n} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \oint_{C} dl A(x, y)$$

= $\frac{1}{2\pi} \left(\int_{0}^{1} dx A(x, 0) + \int_{0}^{1} dy A(1, y) + \int_{1}^{0} dx A(x, 1) + \int_{1}^{0} dy A(0, y) \right)$
= $\frac{1}{2\pi} \left(\int_{0}^{1} dx \left(A(x, 0) - A(x, 1) \right) + \int_{0}^{1} dy \left(A(1, y) - A(0, y) \right) \right),$ (32)

where the line integral is along the path $(0,0) \rightarrow (1,0) \rightarrow (1,1) \rightarrow (0,1) \rightarrow (0,0)$ in Fig. 1. Here, the Berry connection A(x,y) is given by

$$A(x,y) = i \langle u(x,y) | \nabla | u(x,y) \rangle.$$
(33)

Now, a question regarding the gauge choice arises. We have tacitly assumed the so-called *parallel transport gauge* (see Appendix A), with which we have A(x, y) = 0 in the bulk but $A(x, y) \neq 0$ at the edge, that is, we have used the following boundary conditions [1, 4]:

$$|u(x,1)\rangle = e^{i\theta_x(x)}|u(x,0)\rangle \tag{34}$$

$$|u(1,y)\rangle = e^{i\theta_y(y)}|u(0,y)\rangle. \tag{35}$$

Thus,

$$A(x,0) - A(x,1) = i \left\langle u(x,0) \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right| u(x,0) \right\rangle + i \left\langle u(x,1) \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right| u(x,1) \right\rangle$$
$$= i \left\langle u(x,0) \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right| u(x,0) \right\rangle + i \left\langle u(x,0) \left| e^{-i\theta_x(x)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} e^{i\theta_x(x)} \right| u(x,0) \right\rangle$$
$$= \frac{\partial \theta_x(x)}{\partial x}, \tag{36}$$

and similarly

$$A(0,y) - A(1,y) = \frac{\partial \theta_y(y)}{\partial y}.$$
(37)

Consequently, the line integral Eq. (32) becomes

$$c_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left(\int_0^1 \frac{\partial \theta_x(x)}{\partial x} dx - \int_0^1 dy \frac{\partial \theta_y(y)}{\partial y} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left(\int_0^1 d\theta_x(x) - \int_0^1 d\theta_y(y) \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left(\theta_x(1) - \theta_x(0) - \theta_y(1) + \theta_y(0) \right).$$
(38)

Since the wave function acquires the phase $\theta_y(0)$ from (0,0) to (1,0), $\theta_x(1)$ from (1,0) to (1,1), $-\theta_y(1)$ from (1,1) to (0,1), and $-\theta_x(1)$ from (0,1) to (0,0), we have

$$|u(1,1)\rangle = \exp\left[i\left(\theta_x(0) + \theta_y(1) - \theta_x(1) - \theta_y(0)\right)\right]|u(0,0)\rangle.$$
(39)

The single-valuedness of the wave function then requires $(\theta_x(0) + \theta_y(1) - \theta_x(1) - \theta_y(0)) = 2\pi Z$. We thus conclude that

$$\theta_y(0) + \theta_x(1) - \theta_y(1) - \theta_x(0) = 2\pi Z, \tag{40}$$

where Z is integer, which leads to the line integral in Eq. (38) being

$$c_n = Z. \tag{41}$$

This proves the initial statement that the number of charges transported by the *n*th-band adiabatic current per onecycle of periodic time evolution is quantized. This kind of quantized charge transport is called *Thouless pumping* [6].

Appendix A: First-order correction of the quantum adiabatic theorem [1, 4]

Here we derive $|u_{n,k}^{(1)}\rangle$ in Eq. (21) with the perturbation theory. The relevant time-dependent Schrödinger equation reads

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\psi_k(t)\rangle = H_k(t) |\psi_k(t)\rangle.$$
(A1)

The state $|\psi_k(t)\rangle$ can be expanded using the instantaneous eigenstates $|u_{n,k}(t)\rangle$ as

$$|\psi_k(t)\rangle = \sum_n \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{t_0}^t dt' \epsilon_{n,k}\right] a_{n,k}(t) |u_{n,k}(t)\rangle, \qquad (A2)$$

where $a_{n,k}$ are the coefficients. By plugging Eq. (A2) into Eq. (A1) and multiply $\langle u_{n',k} |$ from the left we find that the coefficients $a_{n,k}$ satisfy

$$\dot{a}_{n',k}(t) = -\sum_{n} a_{n,k}(t) \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{t_0}^t dt' \left(\epsilon_{n,k} - \epsilon_{n',k}\right)\right] \left\langle u_{n',k}(t) \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right| u_{n,k}(t) \right\rangle.$$
(A3)

Now we use the parallel transport gauge [1, 4], that is, the phase of $|u_{n,k}\rangle$ is chosen to be satisfy

$$\left\langle u_{n,k}(t) \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right| u_{n,k}(t) \right\rangle = 0$$
 (A4)

except for the edge region. This means that the Berry connection is zero in the bulk but non-zero at the edge. This brings us to the conclusion that

$$\dot{a}_{n,k}(t) = 0 \tag{A5}$$

when $a_{n,k}(0) = 1$, that is, the state is initially in the eigenstate $|u_{n,k}\rangle$. Thus $|u_{n,k}\rangle$ stays in the same state. This is the quantum adiabatic theorem.

The first-order correction of this situation is crucial for now. Suppose that, at time t = 0, $a_{n,k}(0) = 1$ and $a_{n',k}(0) = 0$ for $n' \neq n$. We have from Eq. (A3) with $a_{n,k}(t) \sim 1$

$$\dot{a}_{n',k}(t) = -\exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar}\int_{t_0}^t dt' \left(\epsilon_{n,k} - \epsilon_{n',k}\right)\right] \left\langle u_{n',k} \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right| u_{n,k} \right\rangle.$$
(A6)

The solution of this integro-differential equation can be obtained by assuming that $\langle u_{n',k} | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} | u_{n,k} \rangle$ is more or less constant as compared with the exponential part. The resultant solution is given by

$$a_{n',k}(t) = -\frac{i\hbar}{\epsilon_{n,k} - \epsilon_{n',k}} \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{t_0}^t dt' \left(\epsilon_{n,k} - \epsilon_{n',k}\right)\right] \left\langle u_{n',k} \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right| u_{n,k} \right\rangle.$$
(A7)

Plugging this results for $a_{n',k}(t)$ and $a_{n,k}(t) = 1$ into Eq. (A2), we have

$$|\psi_{k}(t)\rangle = \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar}\int_{t_{0}}^{t}dt'\epsilon_{n,k}\right]\left(\underbrace{|u_{n,k}(t)\rangle - i\hbar\sum_{n'\neq n}\frac{|u_{n',k}\rangle\langle u_{n',k}|\frac{\partial}{\partial t}|u_{n,k}\rangle}{\epsilon_{n,k} - \epsilon_{n',k}}}_{|u_{n,k}^{(1)}\rangle}\right).$$
(A8)

Appendix B: Calculation of Berry curvatures

Unlike the Berry connection, the Berry curvature and the Berry phase are gauge-independent and observable. Especially the Berry curvature can be evaluated locally at σ , that is, in the Euler angle representation, at (ϕ, θ) . Let us explore several ways in which the Berry curvature Ω_{\uparrow} can be calculated.

1. From Euler angle representation

We know from the last lecture that

$$\Omega_{\uparrow}(\phi,\theta) = \mathbf{\nabla} \times \mathbf{A}_{\uparrow}(\phi,\theta)$$
$$= \mathbf{\nabla} \times \begin{bmatrix} 0\\ 0\\ \frac{1-\cos\theta}{\sin\theta} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}\sin\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} \left(\sin\theta \left(\frac{1-\cos\theta}{\sin\theta}\right)\right)\\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2\\ 0\\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = 2\mathbf{e}_r. \tag{B1}$$

2. From spinor representation

The Berry connection ${\pmb A}_\uparrow$ can also be written in terms of spinor representation as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}_{\uparrow} &\equiv \mathbf{A}_{\Downarrow} = i \left\langle \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \middle| \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle \\ &= i \left\langle \Downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \middle| \Downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle \\ &= i \left(\left[-e^{i\frac{\phi}{2}} \sin\frac{\theta}{2}, e^{-i\frac{\phi}{2}} \cos\frac{\theta}{2} \right] \cdot \left(\nabla \left[\frac{-e^{-i\frac{\phi}{2}} \sin\frac{\theta}{2}}{e^{i\frac{\phi}{2}} \cos\frac{\theta}{2}} \right] \right) \right) \\ &= i \left(\left[-e^{i\frac{\phi}{2}} \sin\frac{\theta}{2}, e^{-i\frac{\phi}{2}} \cos\frac{\theta}{2} \right] \cdot \left(e_{\theta} \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left[\frac{-e^{-i\frac{\phi}{2}} \sin\frac{\theta}{2}}{e^{i\frac{\phi}{2}} \cos\frac{\theta}{2}} \right] + e_{\phi} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} \sin\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \left[\frac{-e^{-i\frac{\phi}{2}} \sin\frac{\theta}{2}}{e^{i\frac{\phi}{2}} \cos\frac{\theta}{2}} \right] \right) \right) \\ &= i \left(\left[-e^{i\frac{\phi}{2}} \sin\frac{\theta}{2}, e^{-i\frac{\phi}{2}} \cos\frac{\theta}{2} \right] \cdot \left(\left[\frac{-e^{-i\frac{\phi}{2}} \cos\frac{\theta}{2}}{-e^{i\frac{\phi}{2}} \sin\frac{\theta}{2}} \right] e_{\theta} + \frac{1}{\sin\theta} \left[\frac{ie^{-i\frac{\phi}{2}} \sin\frac{\theta}{2}}{ie^{i\frac{\phi}{2}} \cos\frac{\theta}{2}} \right] e_{\phi} \right) \right) \\ &= i \left(\left(\sin\frac{\theta}{2} \cos\frac{\theta}{2} - \cos\frac{\theta}{2} \sin\frac{\theta}{2} \right) e_{\theta} + \frac{1}{\sin\theta} \left(-i\sin^{2}\frac{\theta}{2} + i\cos^{2}\frac{\theta}{2} \right) e_{\phi} \right) \\ &= -\frac{\cos\theta}{\sin\theta} e_{\phi}. \end{aligned}$$
(B2)

With this Berry connection, we arrive at the same Berry curvature:

$$\Omega_{\uparrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) = \boldsymbol{\nabla} \times \boldsymbol{A}_{\uparrow} \\
= \boldsymbol{\nabla} \times \left(i \left\langle \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \middle| \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle \right) \\
= \boldsymbol{\nabla} \times \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -\frac{\cos\theta}{\sin\theta} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}\sin\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin\theta \left(-\frac{\cos\theta}{\sin\theta} \right) \right) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\
= \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = 2\boldsymbol{e}_{r}.$$
(B3)

3. From first-order correction to the adiabatic eigenstates

From the vector identity

$$\boldsymbol{\nabla} \times (f \boldsymbol{\nabla} g) = \boldsymbol{\nabla} f \times \boldsymbol{\nabla} g, \tag{B4}$$

the second expression in Eq. (B3) can also be written as

$$\Omega_{\uparrow}(\sigma) = \nabla \times (i \langle \uparrow (\sigma) | \nabla | \uparrow (\sigma) \rangle)
= i \langle \nabla \uparrow (\sigma) | \times | \nabla \uparrow (\sigma) \rangle
= i \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} \uparrow (\sigma) \right| \times \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} \uparrow (\sigma) \right\rangle
= i \sum_{m=\uparrow,\downarrow} \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} \uparrow (\sigma) \right| m(\sigma) \right\rangle \times \left\langle m(\sigma) \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} \uparrow (\sigma) \right\rangle$$
(B5)

$$= i \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle \times \left\langle \downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle, \tag{B6}$$

where last equality comes from the fact that

$$\left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle = -\left\langle \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle.$$
(B7)

This form allows us to explore the relation between the Berry curvature and degeneracy points. To see this relation, let us exploit the following relations:

$$\left\langle \downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle = \frac{1}{\epsilon_{\uparrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) - \epsilon_{\downarrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})} \left\langle \downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \frac{\partial H(\boldsymbol{\sigma})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \middle| \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle$$
(B8)

$$\left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle = \frac{1}{\epsilon_{\uparrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) - \epsilon_{\downarrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})} \left\langle \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \frac{\partial H(\boldsymbol{\sigma})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \middle| \downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle, \tag{B9}$$

where $|\uparrow(\boldsymbol{\sigma})\rangle (|\downarrow(\boldsymbol{\sigma})\rangle)$ and $\epsilon_{\uparrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) (\epsilon_{\downarrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}))$ are the eigenstate and the eigenvalue of the Hamiltonian $H(t) = H(\boldsymbol{\sigma}(t))$ in Eq. (1). The relation (B8) can be obtained by differentiating the eigen-equation

$$H(\boldsymbol{\sigma})|\uparrow(\boldsymbol{\sigma})\rangle = \epsilon_{\uparrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})|\uparrow(\boldsymbol{\sigma})\rangle \tag{B10}$$

with respect to σ , i.e.,

$$\frac{\partial H(\boldsymbol{\sigma})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \left|\uparrow\left(\boldsymbol{\sigma}\right)\right\rangle + H(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \left|\frac{\partial\uparrow\left(\boldsymbol{\sigma}\right)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}}\right\rangle = \frac{\partial\epsilon_{\uparrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \left|\uparrow\left(\boldsymbol{\sigma}\right)\right\rangle + \epsilon_{\uparrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \left|\frac{\partial\uparrow\left(\boldsymbol{\sigma}\right)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}}\right\rangle$$

and then by projecting on to the state $|\downarrow (\sigma)\rangle$, i.e.,

$$\left\langle \downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \frac{\partial H(\boldsymbol{\sigma})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \middle| \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle + \underbrace{\left\langle \downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| H(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \frac{\partial \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \right\rangle}_{\epsilon_{\downarrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \left\langle \downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \frac{\partial \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \right\rangle} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial \epsilon_{\uparrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \left\langle \downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle}_{0} + \epsilon_{\uparrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \left\langle \downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \frac{\partial \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \right\rangle.$$

The relation (B9) can also be obtained in the similar way. With Eqs. (B8) and (B9), the Berry curvature Eq. (B6) becomes

$$\boldsymbol{\Omega}_{\uparrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) = i \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle \times \left\langle \downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle \\
= \frac{i}{\left(\epsilon_{\uparrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) - \epsilon_{\downarrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})\right)^{2}} \left\langle \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \frac{\partial H(\boldsymbol{\sigma})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \middle| \downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle \times \left\langle \downarrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \middle| \frac{\partial H(\boldsymbol{\sigma})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \middle| \uparrow (\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right\rangle, \tag{B11}$$

suggesting that when $\epsilon_{\uparrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \sim \epsilon_{\downarrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})$ the Berry curvature $\Omega_{\uparrow}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})$ becomes large. Note that the advantage of the last formula Eq. (B11) is that there is no differentiation on the wave function.

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