Ballistic effects in hBN-encapsulated graphene and moiré superlattice minibands in G/hBN heterostructures

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Graphene: gapless semiconductor with Dirac electrons

$$\hat{H} = v\vec{\sigma}\cdot\vec{p}$$



hBN ('white graphene') sp² – bonded insulator with a large band gap, Δ >5eV

$$\hat{H} = \Delta \sigma_z + v' \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p}$$

Graphene at its best: ballistic electrons in graphene (G) encapsulated in van der Waals heterostructures with hexagonal boron nitride (hBN)

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 Moiré superlattice in graphene – hBN heterostructures, moiré minibands, and Zak-Brown magnetic minibands



hBN-encapsulated graphene: multi-µm ballistic transport proven by transverse electron focusing

 $\frac{\pi L}{2}$



Transverse magnetic focusing (caustics of skipping orbits) of ballistic electrons



Taychatanapat, Watanabe, Taniguchi, Jarillo-Herrero - Nature Phys 9, 225 (2013)

Lee, Wallbank, Gallagher, Watanabe, Taniguchi, Fal'ko, Goldhaber-Gordon - Science 353, 1526 (2016)





Fabry-Perot oscillations of I(V) and critical supercurrent in hBN/G/hBN with S-leads



Ben-Shalom, Zhu, Fal'ko, Mishchenko, Kretinin, Novoselov, Woods, Watanabe, Taniguchi, Geim, Prance Nature Physics 12, 318 (2015)

QT devices using ballistic SGS



Calado, Goswami, Nanda, Diez, Akhmerov, Watanabe, Taniguchi, Klapwijk, Vandersypen Nature Nanotechnology 10, 761 (2015)



Lancaster graphene FET-based SQUID: supercurrent can be switched on/off fast using electrostatic gates:





quantum device for magnetic field measurement

PN junctions



Tunneling PN junctions in semiconductors

Ballistic PN junction in graphene is highly transparent for Dirac electrons



Cheianov, VF - PR B 74, 041403 (2006) Katsnelson, Novoselov, Geim, Nature Physics 2, 620 (2006)



Cheianov, Fal'ko, Altshuler - Science 315, 1252 (2007)

Veselago lens for electrons in ballistic grapheneusing bipolar PNPl > 2wgraphene transistor



Cheianov, Fal'ko, Altshuler - Science 315, 1252 (2007)



Negative refraction of Dirac electrons in hBN/G/hBN

nature physics

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- Graphene at its best: ballistic electrons in graphene (G) encapsulated in van der Waals heterostructures with hexagonal boron nitride (hBN)
- Moiré superlattice in graphene – hBN heterostructures, moiré minibands, and Zak-Brown magnetic minibands



Xue, Sanchez-Yamagishi, Bulmash, Jacquod, Deshpande, Watanabe, Taniguchi, Jarillo-Herrero, LeRoy - Nature Mat 10, 282 (2011) _ misalignment

lattice mismatch $\delta = 0.018$ for non-strained graphene on hBN

Long-period moiré patterns are generic for all G/hBN heterostructures, grown and mechanically transferred

Both graphene and hBN lattices are honeycomb,



hence, moiré superlattice is hexagonal



$$\vec{b}_n = \vec{G}_n^G - \vec{G}_n^{hBN}$$



Due to a separation between layers larger than distance between atoms within the layers, moiré perturbation is dominated by the simplest spatial harmonics

Lopes dos Santos, Peres, Castro Neto - PRL 99, 256802 (2007) Lopes dos Santos, Peres, Castro Neto - arXiv:1202.1088 (2012) Bistritzer, MacDonald - PRB 81, 245412 (2010) Kindermann, Uchoa, Miller - Phys. Rev. B 86, 115415 (2012)

$$\vec{b}_{0} = \vec{b}_{G} - \vec{b}_{BN} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - (1 + \delta)^{-1} \hat{R}_{\theta} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{4\pi}{3a} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$|\vec{b}_{0}| \equiv b \approx \frac{3\pi}{4a} \sqrt{\delta^{2} + \theta^{2}}$$
$$|\text{attice mismatch} \qquad \text{misalignment}$$
$$1.8\% \text{ for G/hBN} \qquad <2^{0}$$







electrons in G/hBN moiré superlattices



$$a_z > a \implies only \ \vec{b}_m = \vec{G}_m^G - \vec{G}_m^{hBN} \longrightarrow \delta H_{moire}$$

electrostatic modulation

sublattice asymmetry

hopping between sublattices, leading to a pseudomagnetic field

$$\hat{H} = vp \cdot \sigma + u_0 vbf_1(r) + u_3 vbf_2(r)\sigma_3\tau_3 + u_1 v\left[l_z \times \nabla f_2(r)\right] \cdot \sigma\tau_3$$
 inversion sympletic constraints in the sympletic constraints of the symplet

mmetric

+





Wallbank, Patel, Mucha-Kruczynski, Geim, Fal'ko - PRB 87, 245408 (2013)

Optical signature of moiré minibands







Shi, Jin, Yang, Ju, Horng, Lu, Bechtel, Martin, Fu, Wu, Watanabe, Taniguchi, Zhang, Bai, Wang, Zhang, Wang arXiv:1405.2032



Ponomarenko, Gorbachev, Elias, Yu, Patel, Mayorov, Woods, Wallbank Mucha-Kruczynski, Piot, Potemski, Grigorieva, Guinea, Novoselov, Fal'ko, Geim - Nature 497, 594 (2013) Manifestation of minibands in magneto-transport and capacitance spectroscopy



Yu, Gorbachev, Tu, Kretinin, Cao, Jalil, Withers, Ponomarenko, Chen, Piot, Potemski, Elias, Watanabe, Taniguchi, Grigorieva, Novoselov, Fal'ko, Geim, Mishchenko Nature Physics 10, 525 (2014)

Transverse magnetic focusing of electrons in moiré minibands in almost aligned G/hBN



Lee, Wallbank, Gallagher, Watanabe, Taniguchi, Fal'ko, Goldhaber-Gordon - Science 353, 1526 (2016)

Transverse magnetic focusing of electrons in moiré minibands in almost aligned G/hBN



Lee, Wallbank, Gallagher, Watanabe, Taniguchi, Fal'ko, Goldhaber-Gordon - Science 353, 1526 (2016)

Landau levels of Dirac electrons in a magnetic field



Should be the same for the secondary Dirac electrons at the edge of the 1st moiré miniband



Magneto-transport in oriented graphene-BN heterostructures



Ponomarenko, Gorbachev, Elias, Yu, Patel, Mayorov, Woods, Wallbank, Mucha-Kruczynski, Piot, Potemski, Grigorieva, Guinea, Novoselov, Fal'ko, Geim Nature 497, 594 (2013)

Magneto-capacitance

Yu, Gorbachev, Tu, Kretinin, Cao, Jalil, Withers, Ponomarenko, Chen, Piot, Potemski, Elias, Watanabe, Taniguchi, Grigorieva, Novoselov, Fal'ko, Geim, Mishchenko Nature Physics 10, 525 (2014)



Brown, PR 133, A1038 (1964); Zak, PR 134, A1602 & A1607 (1964)



$$\phi \equiv BS = \frac{p}{q}\phi_0, \ \phi_0 = \frac{h}{e}$$

Magnetic minibands at rational values of magnetic field flux per super-cell

'Magnetic lattice' with a q^2 times bigger effective supercell and q^2 times smaller mini Brillouin zone.

Each state in this mini Brillouin zone is *q* times degenerate.

Known as fractal 'Hofstadter butterfly' spectrum.



Example for the tightbinding model on a square lattice

Hofstadter PRB 14, 2239 (1976)



Zak-Brown magnetic minibands



 $G_{qM} = \{\Theta_R, R = qm_1\vec{a}_1 + qm_2\vec{a}_2\} \subset G_M$



Chen, Wallbank, Patel, Mucha-Kruczynski, McCann, Fal'ko - PRB 89, 075401 (2014)

Low-T magneto-transport in aligned G/BN heterostructures

What is left of such oscillations at high T>> Δ ?

gaps matter



Ponomarenko, Gorbachev, Elias, Yu, Patel, Mayorov, Woods, Wallbank, Mucha-Kruczynski, Piot, Potemski, Grigorieva, Guinea, Novoselov, VF, Geim - Nature 497, 594 (2013)

High-temperature (T>>Δ) Brown-Zak oscillations

Hierarchy of Brown-Zak minibands:

widest minibands at 1/N fractions; then at 2/(2N+1)

all others are much smaller.



High-temperature Brown-Zak oscillations

$$50 \div 200K >> \varepsilon_{band}, \hbar \omega_{c}$$

• calculated





Kumar, Ponomarenko, Geim, Chen, Fal'ko (2016)

Magnetic minibands at $\phi = \frac{p}{q} \phi_0$ - gapped Dirac electrons



Chen, Wallbank, Patel, Mucha-Kruczynski, McCann, Fal'ko – PRB 89, 075401 (2014)

Capacitance spectroscopy of gaps between magnetic minibands

Yu, Gorbachev, Tu, Kretinin, Cao, Jalil, Withers, Ponomarenko, Chen, Piot, Potemski, Elias, Watanabe, Taniguchi, Grigorieva, Novoselov, VF, Geim, Mishchenko - Nature Physics 10, 525 (2014)



 Ballistic electrons in hBN/G/hBN heterostructures
Zak-Brown minibands in g/hBN moiré superlattices: many different 2D metals in one material

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