

# Wigner solids of wide quantum wells near Landau filling $\nu = 1$

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Microwave spectroscopy within the Landau filling ( $\nu$ ) range of the integer quantum Hall effect (IQHE) has revealed pinning mode resonances signifying Wigner solids (WSs) composed of quasiparticles or -holes. We study pinning modes of WSs in wide quantum wells (WQWs) for  $0.8 \leq \nu \leq 1.2$ , varying the density,  $n$ , and tilting the sample by angle  $\theta$  in the magnetic field. Three distinct WS phases are accessed. One phase, S1, is phenomenologically the same as the WS observed in the IQHEs of narrow QWs. The second phase, S2, exists at  $\nu$  further from  $\nu = 1$  than S1, and requires a sufficiently large  $n$  or  $\theta$ , implying S2 is stabilized by the Zeeman energy. The melting temperatures of S1 and S2, estimated from the disappearance of the pinning mode, show different behavior versus  $\nu$ . At the largest  $n$  or  $\theta$ , S2 disappears and the third phase, S1A, replaces S1, also exhibiting a pinning mode. This occurs as the WQW  $\nu = 1$  IQHE becomes a two-component, Halperin-Laughlin  $\Psi_{111}$  state. We interpret S1A as a WS of the excitations of  $\Psi_{111}$ , which has not been previously observed.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

At the extremes of low temperature and high applied magnetic field, two-dimensional electron systems (2DESs) exhibit a vast array of phenomena. Among the most prominent of these are the quantum Hall effects that can occur at integer (IQHE) and fractional (FQHE) values of the Landau level filling factor,  $\nu = nh/eB_{\perp}$ , where  $n$  is the carrier density,  $B_{\perp} = B_i \cos \theta$  is the perpendicular component of the magnetic field, and  $B_i$  is the total magnetic field. At the large  $B_{\perp}$  termination of the FQHE series, the kinetic energy of the 2DES is frozen out, and the preferred ground state is a Wigner solid (WS) [1–11], which is insulating due to pinning by residual disorder. In single-layer,  $n$ -type 2DESs, this termination occurs for  $\nu \lesssim 1/5$ . Additionally, WSs have been observed within IQHEs by microwave spectroscopy [12–14], NMR [15], and tunneling spectroscopy [16]. IQHE WSs are composed of an effectively dilute concentration of quasi-particles or quasi-holes that crystallize in the presence of a filled Landau level within the  $\nu$  range of IQHE plateau, though not exactly at integer  $\nu$ .

Microwave spectroscopy is of value for the study of WSs because these phases exhibit a characteristic microwave or rf resonance [3,6,12–14,17–22]. The resonance is understood as a pinning mode, in which the solid oscillates within the disorder potential. This paper will describe the behavior of the pinning modes of multiple solid phases [20,23,24] found in the neighborhood of the IQHE around  $\nu = 1$  in GaAs wide quantum wells (WQWs). Pinning resonances in narrower quantum wells, where only one subband is occupied, were observed within IQHEs some time ago [12]. The resonances are absent at exactly  $\nu = 1$ , but as  $\nu$  moves away from 1

in either direction they develop and exhibit a maximum in intensity and sharpness, and disappear for  $\nu$  farther than about 0.15 from 1. The peak frequency,  $f_{pk}$ , is largest for  $\nu$  closest to 1, and decreases monotonically as  $\nu$  moves away from 1. We refer to the solid that gives rise to the resonances seen in narrower wells as S1.

In the WQWs that concern us in this paper, there is evidence from dc transport [23,24] and from earlier microwave spectroscopy [20] that an additional solid, which we call S2, can form under certain conditions on either side of  $\nu = 1$  at  $\nu$  further away from  $\nu = 1$  than S1. Reference [24] showed that FQHEs for several  $\nu$  on either side of 1 exhibited spin state transitions, which appeared at particular Zeeman energies,  $E_Z$ , at which the FQHE was suppressed. For  $E_Z$  sufficient to produce the FQHE transitions at  $\nu = 4/5$  or  $6/5$  a reentrant integer quantum Hall effect [23] (RIQHE) appeared around the fractional filling. The RIQHE is a signature of insulating behavior in the partially filled Landau level. The  $\nu$  range of the RIQHE is not contiguous with the IQHE centered at  $\nu = 1$ , but still has Hall resistance quantized at  $h/e^2$  and vanishing dc longitudinal resistance. Reference [24] ascribes the  $4/5$  (or  $6/5$ ) FQHE in the WQW to a mixed state of different two-flux composite fermion [25] ( $^2\text{CF}$ )  $\Lambda$ -levels (analogous to Landau levels). Here the lower  $\Lambda$ -level is spin up on both sides of the spin transition and the upper  $\Lambda$ -level changes from spin down to spin up. The emergence of the RIQHE was associated with a fully spin-polarized  $^2\text{CF}$  Wigner solid [9,10,26].

The microwave spectroscopic studies on the same system [20] showed that at even higher density ( $n$ ) relative to the spin transition (hence higher  $E_Z$ ), a microwave resonance was present well outside the normal  $\nu$  range of the pinning modes of the IQHE centered at  $\nu = 1$ , and at relatively higher peak frequency,  $f_{pk}$ . The  $\nu$ -region of enhanced  $f_{pk}$  was taken as a signature of S2 of which the RIQHE was a precursor seen in dc transport at lower  $n$  and farther from  $\nu = 1$ . In all cases S2 gave way to S1 as  $\nu$  got close enough to 1, and the pinning

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mode gave evidence of a solid-solid transition from S2 to S1 as  $\nu = 1$  was approached.

In this paper we systematically study the evolution of the pinning mode resonance around  $\nu = 1$  in a WQW by investigating the role of  $n$ , *in situ* sample rotation, and temperature. At relatively low  $n$  and small tilt angle ( $\theta$ ) we observe a resonance that can be associated with S1. With increase of either  $n$  or  $\theta$  (hence, total magnetic field and  $E_Z$ ) S2 is observed as well, characterized by an enhanced- $f_{pk}$  region that occurs farther from  $\nu = 1$ . Upon increasing  $E_Z$ , starting from low  $E_Z$  without S2 present, S2 first sets in for  $\nu < 1$ , at low  $\nu$  (higher  $E_Z$ , far from  $\nu = 1$ ), then sets in for  $\nu > 1$ , again at low  $\nu$  (in this case near  $\nu = 1$ ). This is consistent with an  $E_Z$  stabilizing S2, and we find that at all  $n$  and  $\theta$ , S2 sets in for roughly constant  $E_Z$  in units of the Coulomb energy. The temperature dependence is different for the two solids, consistent with the two solids being made up of different types of carriers such as different flux-number CFs. Near the large  $n$  and  $\theta$  limits of our studies S2 again disappears; this occurs as the  $\nu = 1$  IQHE state becomes the two-component Halperin-Laughlin  $\Psi_{111}$  state [27–30]. The remaining resonance, which is found close to  $\nu = 1$  like the S1 resonance, is then a pinning mode of WS of the quasiparticles or -holes of the  $\Psi_{111}$  state. We denote this solid, for which the present paper provides the first evidence, as S1A.

## II. EXPERIMENTAL METHODS

Our microwave spectroscopy technique [12,17–22] uses a meandering coplanar waveguide (CPW) patterned in Cr:Au on the sample surface. Figure 1(b) shows a schematic diagram of the microwave measurement technique, and Fig. 1(c) shows a cutaway side view of the sample. A Cu back gate was in direct contact with the back of the sample and a NiCr front gate was deposited on a piece of glass that was etched to space it from the CPW by  $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$ , as in Refs. [20–22]. We balanced the charge in the growth direction between the front and back halves of the well by biasing front and back gates such that individually each would change the carrier density by equal amounts. Charge asymmetry of 10% was found not to affect our results. The samples were mounted on a rotatable sample stage with flexible, low-reflection broadband microwave microstrip in a dilution refrigerator running at 40 mK, unless otherwise noted. We find  $\theta$ , defined as the angle between the sample normal and applied magnetic field, from the total magnetic field,  $B_t$ , of prominent IQHE features of known  $\nu = nh/eB_\perp$ . The microwave measurements were carried out in the low-power limit, where the measurement is not sensitive to the excitation power.

As in earlier work [12,17,19–21] we calculate the diagonal conductivity as  $\sigma_{xx}(f) = (s/lZ_0) \ln(t/t_0)$ , where  $s = 30 \mu\text{m}$  is the distance between the center conductor and ground plane,  $l = 28 \text{ mm}$  is the length of the CPW,  $Z_0 = 50 \Omega$  is the characteristic impedance without the 2DES, and  $t/t_0$  is the normalized transmitted signal with  $t$  the amplitude at the receiver and  $t_0$  the amplitude for  $\nu = 1$ . Hence,  $\sigma_{xx}(f)$  is the difference between the conductivity and that for  $\nu = 1$ ; just at  $\nu = 1$  the conductivity is vanishing at low temperature. Using  $t_0$  to normalize for  $\nu = 2$  instead produced a shift of the spectra by  $\lesssim 1 \mu\text{S}$ , which does not affect our conclusions.

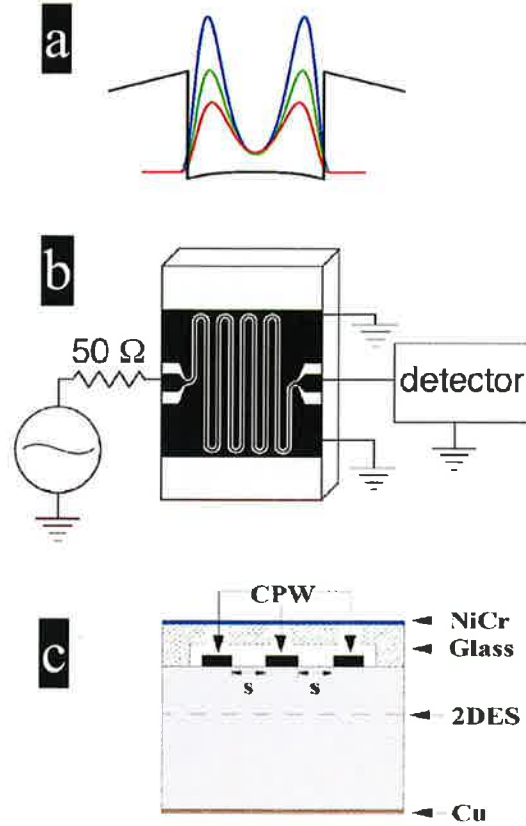


FIG. 1. (a) Charge distributions in a 65-nm-wide quantum well, for densities  $n = 1.5, 2.0$ , and  $2.5 \times 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ . (b) Schematic of the microwave measurement set-up. The metal of the CPW is shown in black. (c) The microwave set-up shown in a cutaway side view.

In this paper, the peak frequency of a resonance,  $f_{pk}$ , is found using the condition [20]  $\text{Im}(\sigma_{xx}) = 0$ .

To cover the density range of interest, microwave spectra were obtained from two WQW wafers, Samples A and B, with well width  $w = 65 \text{ nm}$  but as-cooled densities,  $n = 1.4$  and  $n = 2.5$  and mobilities  $\mu = 5.2 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$  and  $8.8 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$ , respectively. Throughout the paper  $n$  will retain units of  $10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ , which will be omitted for brevity. Sample A could only be gated up to 1.97 and Sample B could only be gated down to 2.28. Figure 1(a) shows charge distributions for a 65 nm WQW with densities like those studied here.

## III. RESULTS

### A. Spectra as density and tilt angle change

This section will show the development of the experimental signature of S2, which appears as  $n$  or  $\theta$  increase, but vanishes at the largest  $n$  or  $\theta$ .

Figures 2(a)–2(d) show  $\text{Re}(\sigma_{xx})$  versus  $f$  spectra, at different  $n$ , for pinning modes near  $\nu = 1$ . The spectra are offset upward proportional to  $\nu$ , which is marked at right. For reference, the development of S1 alone is shown in Fig. 2(a), for Sample A at  $n = 1.5$ . As  $\nu$  moves away from 1, the resonance frequency decreases, while the amplitude first increases then eventually vanishes. We ascribe this behavior,

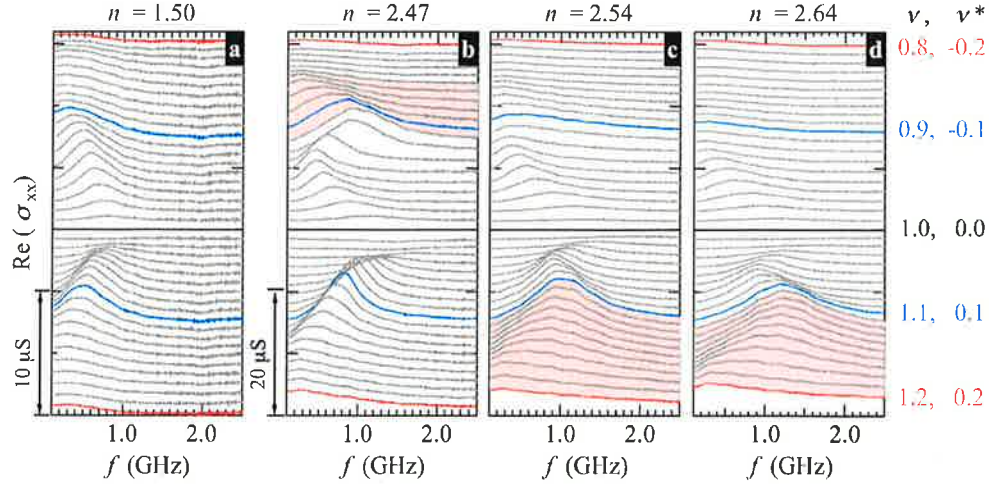


FIG. 2. Microwave spectra,  $\text{Re}(\sigma_{xx})$  vs.  $f$ , at fixed  $\nu$  from 0.8 (top) to 1.2 (bottom) with a step of 0.01 at different  $n$ , as marked. Both  $\nu$  and  $\nu^* = 1 - \nu$  are marked along the right axis. (a) Microwave spectra for Sample A, successive traces vertically offset from each other by  $0.75 \mu\text{S}$ . (b)–(d) Spectra for Sample B, successive traces vertically offset from each other by  $1.5 \mu\text{S}$ . Shaded areas mark spectra from well-developed S2.

first observed [12] long ago, to the evolution of a single solid, which we call S1, as its carrier density changes. Because the solid is made up of quasiparticles or -holes created as  $\nu$  moves away from one, its charge density is proportional to  $|\nu^*|$ , where  $\nu^* = \nu - 1$ . While in some cases the quasiparticle and -hole  $f_{pk}$  versus  $|\nu^*|$  are nearly symmetric around  $\nu = 1$ , this is not the case for much of the data presented here. The lack of symmetry could plausibly be due to the features of the disorder potential (which may for example have sharp spikes of one sign only) not acting in the same way on positively and negatively charged WS. The dependence on charge density, which we call the “density effect,” is generic to pinning modes [12,19,31] and is qualitatively predicted in weak-pinning theories [32–34]. WSs of lower charge density (here, smaller  $|\nu^*|$ ) have larger  $f_{pk}$  because they are less stiff, and carrier positions are more closely associated with the disorder potential [31]. The intensity of the resonance initially increases because the charge density of the solid increases, but at large enough  $|\nu^*|$  falls off as the solid gives way to fractional quantum Hall liquid states.

Figure 2(b) shows spectra for  $n = 2.47$  in Sample B. The development of spectra for  $\nu > 1$  is similar to that in Fig. 2(a), but is markedly different for  $\nu < 1$ , where the signature of S2 develops. This signature is most easily shown in a graph of  $f_{pk}$  versus  $\nu$ . Figure 3(a) shows such data from the spectra in Fig. 2(b) with  $\nu^*$  also on the top axis, to summarize the interpretation [20] of the data in terms of S1 and S2. At this  $n$ , for  $\nu > 1$ ,  $f_{pk}$  decreases monotonically as  $|\nu^*|$  increases; this is interpreted as due to the density effect in a single solid (S1). For  $\nu < 1$ , as  $|\nu^*|$  first increases, in the region marked S1,  $f_{pk}$  decreases, then shows a sharp upturn in the region marked M, then begins to decrease again. The region of increase of  $f_{pk}$  with  $|\nu^*|$  cannot be explained by the density effect, so the existence of another WS phase is implied [20], which we call S2. The region marked S2 shows  $f_{pk}$  again decreasing with  $|\nu^*|$ , because the density effect acts on S2. The region M is interpreted as a transition, with a mixture of S1 and S2. The

points in the S2 region are filled, as will be the convention for the rest of this paper. The signature of S2 is the region of  $f_{pk}$  enhanced above what would be expected by extrapolating S1 versus  $\nu^*$ . The extrapolated  $f_{pk}$  for S1 is represented by a dashed line in the Fig. 3(a).

In Fig. 2, spectra from S2 are highlighted by shading between the traces. While Fig. 2(b) shows S2 only for  $\nu < 1$ , Figs. 2(c) and 2(d) show that on increasing  $n$  further, the enhancement of  $f_{pk}$  in S2 becomes weaker for  $\nu < 1$  as it emerges and grows stronger for  $\nu > 1$ . At  $n$  of 2.54, in

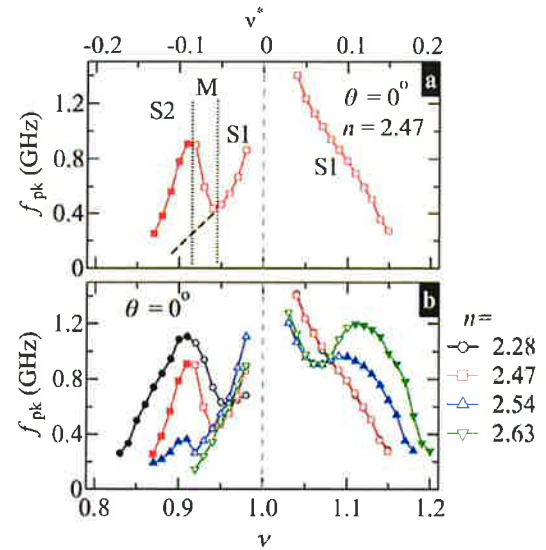


FIG. 3. Data for Sample B. (a)  $f_{pk}$  vs.  $\nu$  for  $n = 2.47$ , tilt angle  $\theta = 0^\circ$ . The regions of solids S1, S2 are marked, as is the region (M) of transition between S1 and S2. Symbols within well-developed S2 are filled. (b)  $f_{pk}$  vs.  $\nu$  at different  $n$  with sample perpendicular to magnetic field,  $\theta = 0^\circ$ . For  $\nu > 1$  the data for  $n = 2.28$  lie directly under those for  $n = 2.47$ .

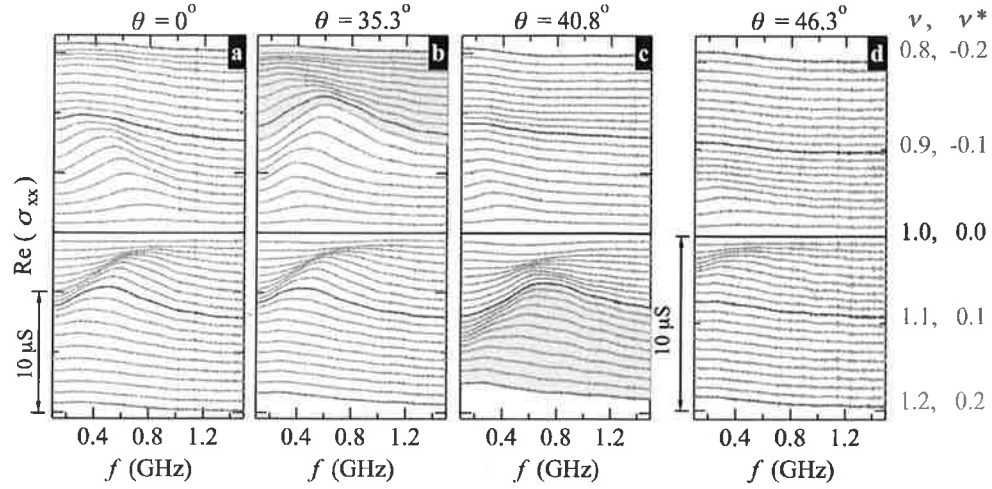


FIG. 4. (a)–(d) Microwave spectra,  $\text{Re}(\sigma_{xx})$  vs.  $f$ , at fixed  $\nu$  from 0.8 (top) to 1.2 (bottom) with a step of 0.01 for  $n = 1.50$  at different tilt angles from Sample A. Both  $\nu$  and  $\nu^*$  are marked along the right axis of (d). Successive traces are vertically offset by  $0.75 \mu\text{S}$  in (a)–(c) and by  $0.5 \mu\text{S}$  in (d). Traces with heavier lines correspond to the marked  $\nu$ . Shaded areas mark spectra from well-developed S2.

Fig. 2(c), S2 is present on both sides of  $\nu = 1$ . For Fig. 2(d), with data for  $n = 2.64$ , only S1 is present for  $\nu < 1$ , although S2 remains well-developed for  $\nu > 1$ .

The  $f_{pk}$  versus  $\nu$  curves of Fig. 3(b) summarize the development of S2 with increasing  $n$ . For  $\nu < 1$ , the  $f_{pk}$  enhancement of S2 is largest for  $n = 2.28$ , and is absent for  $n = 2.63$ . For  $\nu > 1$ , S2 is not visible for  $n < 2.54$ , and the amount of  $f_{pk}$  enhancement due to S2 is increasing up to the largest  $n$  of 2.63.

Increasing  $\theta$  has much the same effect as increasing  $n$ , causing the signature of S2 to turn on, then subside. This is illustrated as spectra in Fig. 4 and as  $f_{pk}$  versus  $\nu$  in Figs. 5(a) and 5(b). In Fig. 4 the spectra are from Sample A with  $n = 1.50$ , at different  $\theta$ . Figure 4(a), for  $\theta = 0^\circ$  [same as Fig. 2(a)], shows no sign of S2. Figure 4(b), with spectra taken at  $\theta = 35.3^\circ$ , shows S2 for  $\nu < 1$  only, but is essentially the same as panel (a) for  $\nu > 1$ . In Fig. 4(c), with data taken at larger  $\theta = 40.8^\circ$ , S2 has subsided for  $\nu < 1$ , but is well-developed for  $\nu > 1$ . Finally, in panel (d), for  $\theta = 46.3^\circ$  there is no signature of S2 on either side of  $\nu = 1$ .

Figures 5(a) and 5(b) show the evolution of  $f_{pk}$  versus  $\nu$  with  $\theta$ . In Fig. 5(a), for Sample A at  $n = 1.50$ , as  $\theta$  increases, S2 emerges and then disappears, first for  $\nu < 1$ , then for  $\nu > 1$ . In Fig. 5(b) at  $n = 2.28$ , for Sample B, the development with increasing  $\theta$  is similar, but S2 is already present at  $\theta = 0^\circ$ .

The observed appearance of the S2 signature as either  $n$  or  $\theta$  are increased is consistent with S2 becoming visible at sufficiently large total magnetic field  $B_t$ , which at fixed  $\nu$  increases with both  $\theta$  and  $n$ . This suggests the Zeeman energy,  $E_Z = g\mu_B B_t$ , where  $|g| = 0.44$ , is important to stabilizing S2, as Ref. [24] pointed out for the RIQHE phases that lie further from  $\nu = 1$ . The disappearance of S2 at still higher  $n$  or  $\theta$  is dealt with below in Sec. III C.

To quantify the role of Zeeman energy we present the minimum  $E_Z/E_C$  required to observe S2, where the Coulomb energy is defined as  $E_C = e^2/4\pi\epsilon_0\epsilon\ell_B$  and  $\ell_B = (\hbar/eB_\perp)^{1/2}$  is the magnetic length.

For each  $n$ , we find the minimum  $\theta$  for which S2 can be seen, then calculate  $E_Z/E_C$  at the highest  $\nu$  (lowest  $B_t$ ) within S2. This gives a minimum  $E_Z/E_C$  for each  $n$ , plotted in Fig. 5(c) as closed symbols. We do not continuously vary  $\theta$ , so the differences between  $\theta$  for which S2 is seen and  $\theta$  for which it is not are used to obtain error bars. In addition, for  $\theta = 0^\circ$  we measured  $f_{pk}$  versus  $\nu$  at many fixed  $n$ , as exemplified by the data in Fig. 3(b). We also estimate a minimum  $E_Z/E_C$  from the lowest  $n$  for which S2 can be seen, choosing the lowest- $B_t$  point within S2. Figure 5(b) shows data for S2 minimum  $E_Z/E_C$  required to observe S2 for  $\nu < 1$  (triangles) as well as for  $\nu > 1$ . Averaging all the minimum  $E_Z/E_C$  obtained in this way gives an estimated  $E_Z/E_C$  of 0.017 for the emergence of S2. The close grouping of the points in Fig. 5(c) is consistent with  $E_Z$  stabilizing S2.

## B. Temperature dependence

The interpretation of S1 and S2 as distinct solids is in accord with different temperature ( $T$ ) dependencies of their pinning modes. Figures 6(a) and 6(b) show  $f_{pk}$  versus  $\nu$  at various temperatures for  $n = 2.40$  and  $n = 2.68$ , with S2, respectively, present for  $\nu < 1$  and  $\nu > 1$ . The region of well-developed S2, for which  $f_{pk}$  decreases with  $|\nu^*|$  is shaded. As  $T$  increases  $f_{pk}$  decreases, at all  $\nu$ , indicating the pinning is weaker at higher  $T$ . The position of the transitions from S1 to S2, as marked by the local maxima in  $f_{pk}$  versus  $\nu$ , are nearly insensitive to  $T$ .

Figures 7(a) and 7(b) show  $\sigma_{pk}$  ( $\text{Re}[\sigma_{xx}(f_{pk})]$ ) versus  $\nu$  also for  $n = 2.40$  and  $n = 2.68$ . The maxima in  $\sigma_{pk}$  versus  $\nu$  do not occur at the same place as the maxima in  $f_{pk}$  versus  $\nu$ . As  $T$  increases, the resonance  $\sigma_{pk}$  decreases and the  $\nu$ -range of its existence shrinks, with the resonance farthest from  $\nu = 1$  disappearing first.

Following Ref. [35], we estimate a melting temperature,  $T_m$ , as the temperature at which  $\sigma_{pk}$  versus  $T$  extrapolates to



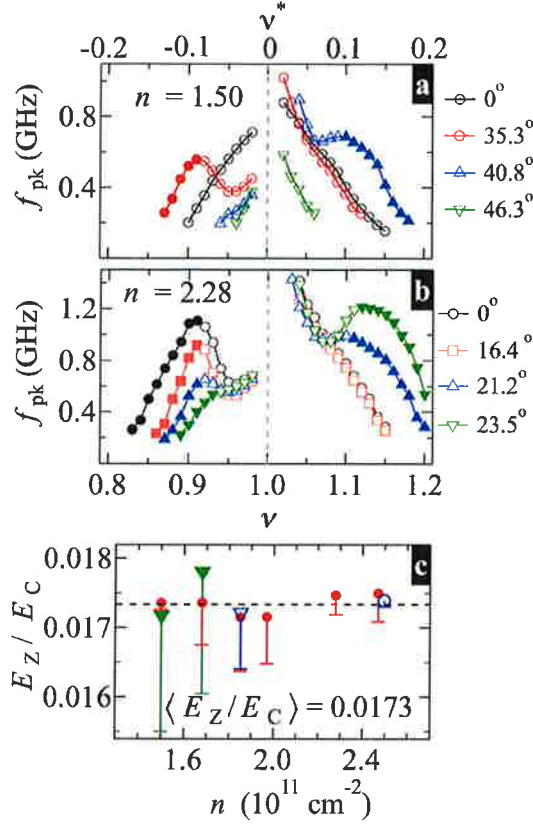


FIG. 5. (a)  $f_{pk}$  vs.  $\nu$  for  $n = 1.50$  at different  $\theta$ , for Sample A. Symbols within well-developed S2 are filled. (b)  $f_{pk}$  vs.  $\nu$  for  $n = 2.28$  at different  $\theta$ , for Sample B. Symbols within well-developed S2 are filled. (c) Zeeman energy in units of Coulomb energy,  $E_Z/E_C$ , at the lowest  $E_Z/E_C$  for which the S2 resonance is observed (see text), plotted vs. density,  $n$ . Triangles are for  $\nu < 1$ , circles are for  $\nu > 1$ . Closed symbols are obtained by varying  $\theta$  at fixed  $n$ ; open symbols are for  $\theta = 0$ , and are estimated by varying  $n$ . The dotted line marks the average for the points,  $\langle E_Z/E_C \rangle = 0.0173$ . Data with  $n \geq 2.28$  are from Sample B, lower  $n$  data are from Sample A.

zero. The inset of Fig. 7(b) shows  $\sigma_{pk}$  versus  $T$  with the lines used to extrapolate, for  $n = 2.68$  at  $\nu = 0.91$  and  $0.93$ .

Figures 8(a) and 8(b) show  $T_m$  versus  $\nu$  for  $n = 2.40$  and  $n = 2.68$ , respectively. As  $|\nu^*|$  increases, the main trend is for  $T_m$  to decrease, similar to the behavior seen for  $T_m$  versus  $\nu$  in Ref. [35]. The  $\nu$ -ranges of S2 are marked as shaded regions, and are identified as explained above from the low- $T$   $f_{pk}$  versus  $\nu$  in Fig. 6, as the regions further from  $\nu = 1$  than the local maximum in  $f_{pk}$  versus  $\nu$ . Dotted lines, as guides to the eye, are drawn in the S1 and S2 regions of Fig. 8. S2 shows a much weaker dependence of  $T_m$  on  $\nu$  than S1; the magnitude of the slope for S2 is about a factor of three smaller for  $\nu < 1$  at  $n = 2.40$  and a factor of six smaller for  $\nu > 1$  at  $n = 2.68$ . In Fig. 8(a), with S2 present for  $\nu < 1$ , there is a local maximum in  $T_m$  versus  $\nu$  just at the local maximum in  $f_{pk}$  versus  $\nu$ , i.e., just at the edge of the shaded S2 region. In Fig. 8(b), with S2 present for  $\nu > 1$ , the local maximum in  $T_m$  versus  $\nu$  occurs at  $\nu = 1.07$ , which is closer to  $\nu = 1$  than the

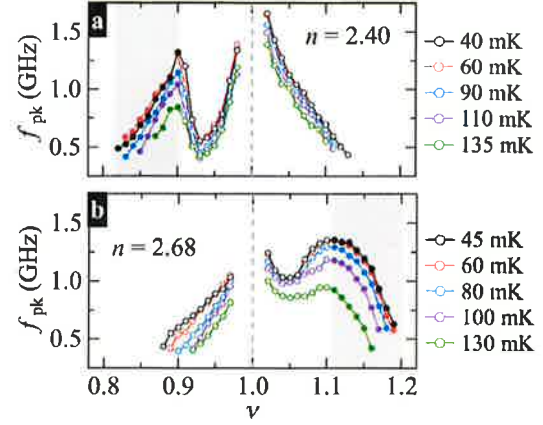


FIG. 6. (a) and (b)  $f_{pk}$  vs.  $\nu$  for different temperatures, as labeled at right, for  $n = 2.40$  and  $2.68$ , respectively.

$f_{pk}$  versus  $\nu$  maximum Fig. 6(b), in the region of increasing  $f_{pk}$  versus  $|\nu^*|$ .

### C. Bilayer transition

We have shown that S2 is present for sufficiently high  $n$  or  $\theta$ , but then disappears if  $n$  or  $\theta$  is increased further, as in Fig. 2(d) for  $\nu < 1$  and in Fig. 4(d). It is clear from our data in tilted field and also inferred from dc transport data [24] that larger  $E_Z$  plays a role in stabilizing S2. In this section

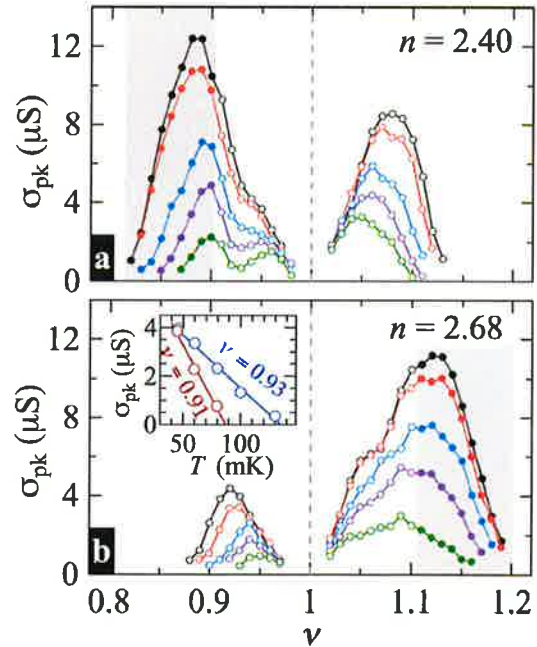


FIG. 7. Pinning mode resonance maximum of the real part of the conductivity,  $\sigma_{pk}$ , vs.  $\nu$  at various temperatures ( $T$ ). Larger peaks correspond to lower  $T$ . (a) Data for  $n = 2.40$ , at  $T = 40, 60, 90, 110, 135$  mK (b) Data for  $n = 2.68$ , at  $T = 45, 60, 80, 100, 130$  mK. Inset:  $\sigma_{pk}$  vs.  $T$  at  $\nu = 0.91$  and  $\nu = 0.93$  for  $n = 2.68$ . These show the extrapolation of  $\sigma_{pk}(T)$  to zero, from which we obtain  $T_m$ .

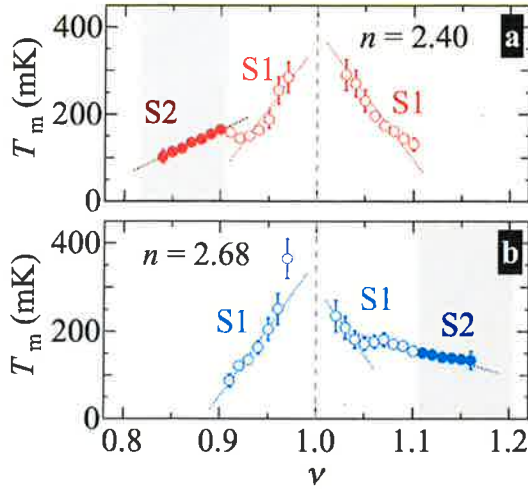


FIG. 8. (a), (b) Melting temperature,  $T_m$ , vs.  $\nu$  for  $n = 2.40$  and  $n = 2.68$ , respectively, as obtained from the dependence of the pinning mode on temperature.

we show that the disappearance of S2 at still larger  $n$  or  $\theta$  can be explained by the system undergoing a transition from a single-layer to a bilayer state.

Even when the system is a bilayer, the  $\nu = 1$  IQHE is clear in the data, and is understood as a two-component, interlayer-correlated,  $\Psi_{111}$  state [27–29,36], which emerges when intra- and interlayer interactions have comparable importance.

Single-layer to bilayer transitions are well-known in WQWs at sufficiently large  $n$  or in-plane magnetic field [30,36–42]. The dimensionless parameter  $\gamma \equiv E_C/\Delta_{\text{SAS}}$  [38–40] is a measure of the tendency of the system to be in a bilayer state, where  $\Delta_{\text{SAS}}$  is the interlayer tunneling gap. Experimentally [38–40] the change from one-component (1C) to bilayer two-component (2C) states has been shown to occur when  $\gamma \sim 13.5$ . While  $\gamma$  is not well-defined at large in-plane fields, the in-plane field is known to suppress tunneling and to drive a WQW into a bilayer state [30,36,41,42].

For  $n = 2.47$  and several  $\theta$ , varying through the range where S2 disappears at large tilt, Fig. 9 shows the 0.5 GHz magnetoconductivity as  $\text{Re}(\sigma_{xx})$  versus  $\nu$ , with  $f_{\text{pk}}$  versus  $\nu$  superposed. At  $\theta = 0^\circ$ ,  $\text{Re}(\sigma_{xx})$  shows FQHE minima centered at  $\nu = 4/5$  and  $4/3$ , and S2 is present for  $\nu < 1$  but not for  $\nu > 1$ . In the  $\theta = 18.9^\circ$   $f_{\text{pk}}$  versus  $\nu$  data in Fig. 9, S2 is lost for  $\nu < 1$ , but is present for  $\nu > 1$ . At the same  $\theta$ , a  $\text{Re}(\sigma_{xx})$  minimum at  $\nu = 29/35$  becomes clear. Under further sample rotation to  $\theta = 23.8^\circ$ , the S2 enhanced- $f_{\text{pk}}$  region for  $\nu > 1$  is reduced relative to that at  $\theta = 18.9^\circ$ , and with this weakening of S2 a new  $\text{Re}(\sigma_{xx})$  minimum at  $\nu = 19/15$  starts to develop. By  $\theta = 26.1^\circ$  this minimum is well-developed and S2 is no longer observable on either side of  $\nu = 1$ . Hence, minima at  $\nu = 29/35$  and  $19/15$  appear just as S2 fades on their respective sides of  $\nu = 1$ .

Transport studies [41] of WQWs have identified the  $\nu = 29/35$  and  $19/15$  FQHE states as inherently 2C and stabilized by a spontaneous interlayer charge transfer. For such states, the capacitive energy that works against charge transfer is compensated by the energy gained by forming incompressible FQHE states. The  $\nu = 29/35$  state is stabilized by one layer

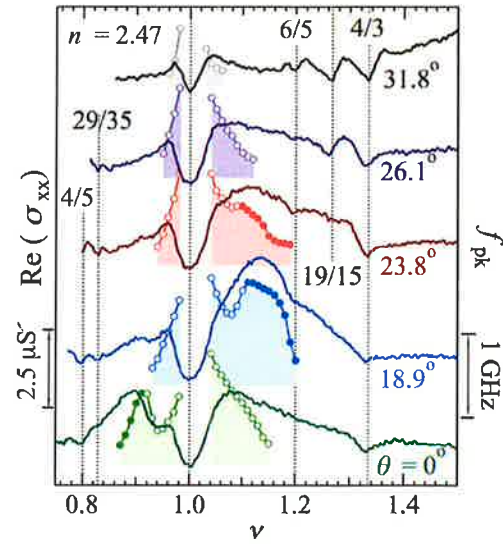


FIG. 9. Real part of the conductivity,  $\text{Re}(\sigma_{xx})$ , obtained at fixed frequency,  $f = 0.5$  GHz, vs.  $\nu$  (left axis) at various  $\theta$  as marked. For each  $\theta$ ,  $f_{\text{pk}}$  vs.  $\nu$  (right axis) shaded to  $f_{\text{pk}} = 0$ . Traces are vertically offset for clarity. The vertical lines mark  $\nu = 4/5$ ,  $1$ ,  $6/5$ , and  $4/3$ , as well as  $29/35$  and  $19/15$ .

supporting a  $2/5$  FQHE and the other layer a  $3/7$  FQHE; similarly for  $\nu = 19/15$  the layer fillings are  $2/3$  and  $3/5$ . Observation of these FQHE states in  $\text{Re}(\sigma_{xx})$  versus  $\nu$  indicates the system is in a bilayer state. The appearance of bilayer-state minima just as S2 disappears at large  $\theta$  suggests the destabilization of S2 is associated with bilayer formation.

The turn-off of S2 at large  $n$  and  $\theta = 0^\circ$ , at which  $\gamma$  is well-defined, is demonstrated in Fig. 10, which shows that S2 fades as  $\gamma$  approaches the value for the transition to bilayer. The figure shows traces of  $f_{\text{pk}}$  versus  $\gamma$  for various  $n$ , with the transitions from S1 to S2 marked by arrows. Ranges of filling immediately next to  $\nu = 1$  correspond to the gaps between curves for each  $n$ , and as  $n$  is increased, the traces move to higher  $\gamma$ .

In Fig. 10(a) the development of S2 with increasing  $n$  occurs as described above, with  $n = 1.50$ , S1 only at low  $\gamma$  for which the charge distribution is single-layer. On increasing  $n$  to  $1.68$ ,  $1.85$ , and  $1.97$  the traces show S2 for  $\nu < 1$  ( $\nu < 1$

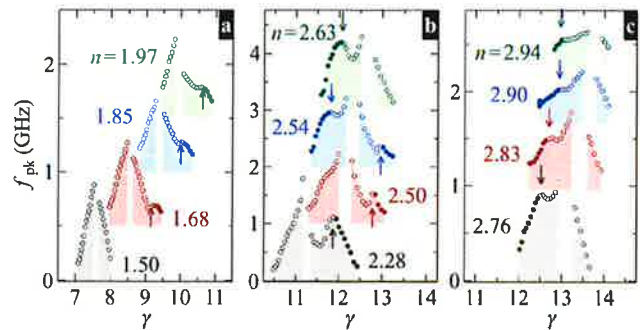


FIG. 10. (a)–(c)  $f_{\text{pk}}$  vs.  $\gamma$  at various  $n$ , as marked, for  $\theta = 0^\circ$ . Traces are vertically offset from one another for clarity and shaded to  $f_{\text{pk}} = 0$ .  $\uparrow$  and  $\downarrow$  mark the S2-S1 transition for  $\nu < 1$  and  $\nu > 1$ , respectively.

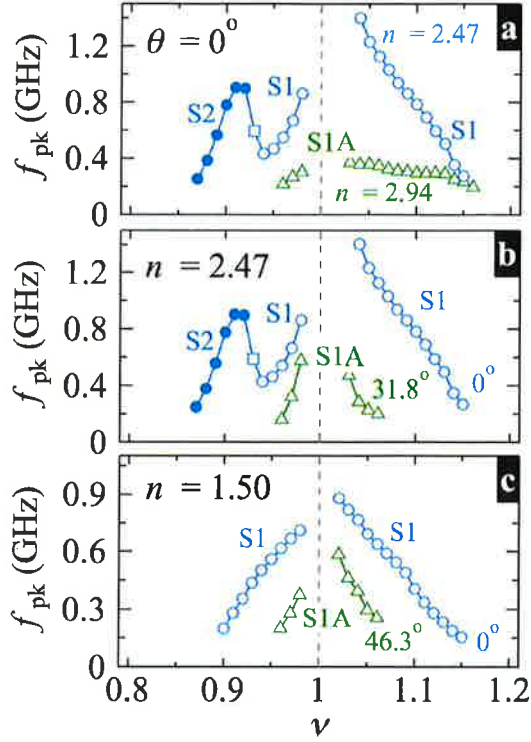


FIG. 11.  $f_{pk}$  vs.  $\nu$ . Regions of solids S1, S2 and S1A shown respectively with open circles, closed circles, and triangles. Transition regions between S1 and S2 shown as open squares. (a)  $\theta = 0^\circ$  for  $n = 2.47$  (upper curves) and  $2.94$  (lower curves), from Sample B. (b)  $f_{pk}$  vs.  $\nu$  at  $n = 2.47$  for  $\theta = 0^\circ$  (upper curves) and  $31.8^\circ$  (lower curves), from Sample B. (c)  $f_{pk}$  vs.  $\nu$  at  $n = 1.50$  for  $\theta = 0^\circ$  (upper curves) and  $46.3^\circ$  (lower curves), from Sample A.

corresponds to the high- $\gamma$  side of  $\nu = 1$ ) developing and growing stronger. Turning to Fig. 10(b), at  $n = 2.28$ , the  $f_{pk}$ -enhancement of S2 for  $\nu < 1$  is most pronounced, but further increase of  $n$  results in a decrease in the size of this enhancement. Increasing  $n$  from 2.54 to  $n = 2.63$  causes the enhanced- $f_{pk}$  region of S2 for  $\nu < 1$  to disappear as  $\gamma \sim 13$  is approached. For  $\nu > 1$ , on the left sides of the gaps in the curves, S2 appears for  $n = 2.54$  and strengthens as  $n$  goes to 2.63. In Fig. 10(c), the  $\nu < 1$  curves exhibit no sign of S2, but S2 for  $\nu > 1$  also disappears as  $\gamma$  approaches 13.

Figure 11 compares  $f_{pk}$  versus  $\nu$  traces in single-layer and bilayer states. In Fig. 11(a),  $f_{pk}$  versus  $\nu$  is plotted at  $n = 2.47$  and  $2.94$ , for  $\theta = 0$ . The  $n = 2.47$  density is too low to show S2 for  $\nu > 1$ , and shows S1 and S2 for  $\nu < 1$ . At  $n = 2.94$ ,  $\nu = 1$  has  $\gamma = 13.7$  and is in the  $\Psi_{111}$  state, S2 is completely suppressed for  $\nu < 1$  and nearly suppressed for  $\nu > 1$ . It is clear that  $f_{pk}$  near  $\nu = 1$  is much smaller when the  $\nu = 1$  IQHE is of the  $\Psi_{111}$  type. We ascribe this reduced- $f_{pk}$  resonance to a solid of quasiparticles or -holes of the  $\Psi_{111}$  state, which we refer to as S1A. Figures 11(b) and 11(c) compare  $f_{pk}$  versus  $\nu$  at  $\theta = 0$  and at  $\theta$  sufficiently large to suppress S2 on both sides of  $\nu = 1$ . As in Fig. 11(a), in the high- $\theta$  cases when  $\nu = 1$  is bilayer,  $f_{pk}$  is markedly reduced from that of S1 (or S2) in the single-layer  $\theta = 0$  cases, and we

ascribe the high- $\theta$  resonance to S1A. The spectra from which Fig. 11(c) is derived are shown in Figs. 4(a) and 4(d).

#### IV. DISCUSSION

Earlier microwave studies [20] showed that S2 was an extension, as  $\nu$  approaches 1, of the RIQHE observed in transport [23]. The RIQHE is insulating as expected for a pinned solid, but does not exhibit a pinning mode resonance except in the range that we denote as supporting S2. An explanation may be that the RIQHE is a solid, but has pinning modes that are overdamped, for example, by thermally excited carriers, even at our lowest working temperature. That would be consistent with the shrinking  $\nu$ -range of the S2 resonance seen on increasing temperature, as mentioned in Sec. III B.

Reference [24] shows that the RIQHE emerges on the high  $E_Z/E_C$  side of clear spin transitions exhibited by the 4/5 and 6/5 FQHEs as  $E_Z/E_C$  was increased. The high  $E_Z/E_C$  FQHE states alongside of which the RIQHEs develop are fully spin-polarized, composed of a fully filled  $^2CF$   $\Lambda$  level from the partly filled higher  $^2CF$   $\Lambda$  level. The 4/5 FQHE in this picture is the interacting state of  $^2CF$ s at their filling  $\nu^{CF} = \nu/(1 - 2\nu) = -4/3$ , with the lower  $\Lambda$  level fully filled, and the upper level 1/3 filled. The 6/5 state is explained the same way, taking particle-hole conjugate accounting for spin,  $\nu \rightarrow 2 - \nu$ . On the high  $E_Z/E_C$  side of the spin transition, where the RIQHE and S2 are present, the upper  $\Lambda$  level has the same spin as the lower one. S2 seen here which lies closer to  $\nu = 1$  (which is  $\nu^{CF} = -1$ ) than the 4/5 or 6/5 FQHEs is inferred also to be composed of CFs from the same  $\Lambda$  levels, but with the upper  $\Lambda$  level *less filled*. The picture advanced in Ref. [24] explicitly requires interaction of CFs, as do CF WSs. The present  $n$  and  $\theta$  dependence studies on either side of  $\nu = 1$  show directly from the pinning mode that S2 requires a sufficiently large  $E_Z/E_C$ , consistent with the interpretation of S2 as composed of fully spin-polarized states.

If the lower  $\Lambda$  level remains filled, S2 can then be thought of as composed of carriers in the partly filled upper  $\Lambda$  level. A different case of CF solid in the presence of CF liquid, quasiparticles of an FQHE liquid coexisting with that liquid, was described theoretically in Refs. [9,26], where it was referred to as type-II CF WS. Such a WS, of quasiparticles and -holes of the 1/3 FQHE state, was reported from microwave spectroscopy [14]. (Type-I CF WS on the other hand referred to WSs without the coexisting liquid, such as can be found at the low- $\nu$  termination of the FQHE series.) Solids of type II were shown to have different wave functions than those of type I. The different  $f_{pk}$  and  $T_m$  seen here for S1 and S2 raise the question of whether the underlying filled  $\Lambda$  level present for S2 is affecting its wave functions or playing a role in stabilizing it when both  $\Lambda$  levels have the same spin.

The different  $\nu$ -dependencies of  $T_m$  for S1 and S2, as shown in Fig. 8, confirm our interpretation of S1 and S2 as distinct phases. In weak pinning [32–34], enhanced  $f_{pk}$  (as for S2) is an indication of a smaller shear modulus (as in the density effect), or an increased “effective disorder.” Effective disorder is the disorder potential integrated over the charge profile for a carrier. Studies [35] of pinned WSs for  $\nu$  well below the low- $\nu$  termination of the FQHE series show that the pinning affects  $T_m$ , such that larger disorder



produces both larger  $f_{pk}$  and higher  $T_m$  for the same  $\nu$ , while  $n$  (which affects the shear modulus) had little effect on  $T_m$  when  $\nu$  was held constant in a given sample. For S2,  $T_m$ , and  $f_{pk}$  are enhanced relative to their values for S1 extrapolated to the larger  $|\nu^*|$  at which S2 exists, suggesting S2 experiences larger effective disorder.

Regardless of  $E_Z/E_C$ , when  $|\nu^*|$  is below about 0.09, S2 does not survive, and S1 prevails. In theories [9,10,26] of single-layer systems, recently corroborated near  $\nu = 1$  in tunneling experiments [16], low  $|\nu^*|$  favors CF crystals of larger vortex number  $2p$ . Applying those theories to the S1 quasiparticles and -holes near  $\nu = 1$ , in the range of partial filling  $|\nu^*|$  below 0.09,  $2p \geq 6$ . However, it is not unreasonable to assume that the  $|\nu^*|$ -range of  $2p = 4$  may be modified when the theory is applied to the case of the IQHE instead of the low- $\nu$  case.

Neglecting the correlations that give rise to CFs, Skyrme crystals have also been reported [14,43–45] near  $\nu = 1$ . Reference [14] reported  $f_{pk}$  to be reduced when  $|\nu^*|$  was small and for low  $E_Z/E_C$ , i.e., under conditions which Ref. [45] discussed crystallization of spin skyrmions containing two or more spins. The reduction of  $f_{pk}$  in Ref. [14] was strongest for the resonances seen at the smallest  $|\nu^*|$  and was strongly  $\theta$ -dependent for samples of similar  $n$  to those in this work. This  $f_{pk}$  reduction is clearly not observed here, for example, in Fig. 5(a), in which the points of smallest  $|\nu^*|$ , in S1, have little  $\theta$  dependence. The present QW samples, unlike the samples of Ref. [14], are wide enough and have sufficiently high  $n$  that two subbands are occupied at  $B_i = 0$ . It may be that the correlations of CFs overwhelm the spin skyrmion effects in the present case.

S1A, which supplants S1 in the extreme case of our measurements for large  $E_Z$  or  $n$ , is taken as a WS composed of excitations of the bilayer  $\Psi_{111}$  state. It has been proposed [46,47] that such excitations, for the layer separations and  $\Delta_{SAS}$  of

the present samples, are merons connected together by a domain wall. A variety of bilayer WS phases near  $\nu = 1$  were considered in Ref. [48], although those calculations apply at smaller layer separations than those of the present samples.

## V. SUMMARY

To summarize, we have studied systematically the evolution with  $n$  and  $\theta$  of the solids S1 and S2 found near  $\nu = 1$  in WQWs. We find that S2 is an extension of the RIQHE of Refs. [23,24] to  $\nu$  closer to 1, at which a pinning mode can be observed. The appearance of S2 as  $n$  or  $\theta$  increase is enabled by sufficiently large Zeeman energy,  $E_Z/E_C$  above 0.017, to produce a fully polarized combined state of  $\Lambda$  levels. S2, however, does not extend closer to  $\nu = 1$  than 0.09. At larger  $n$  or  $\theta$ , S2 disappears as the state becomes a bilayer. We also have seen pinning modes due to excitations of the  $\Psi_{111}$  state for  $\nu = 1$ , and find they have smaller  $f_{pk}$  than for S1 in single-layer states.

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