# Excitonic insulator phase and condensate dynamics in a topological one-dimensional model

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(Received 7 July 2020; accepted 2 December 2020; published 15 December 2020)

We employ mean-field approximation to investigate the interplay between the nontrivial band topology and the formation of excitonic insulator (EI) in a one-dimensional chain of atomic *s*-*p* orbitals in the presence of repulsive interorbital Coulomb interaction. We find that our model, in a noninteracting regime, admits topological and trivial insulator phases, whereas, in strong Coulomb interaction limit, the chiral symmetry is broken and the system undergoes a topological-excitonic insulator phase transition. The latter phase transition stems from an orbital pseudomagnetization and band inversion around k = 0. Our findings show that contrary to the topological insulator phase, electron-hole bound states do not form exciton condensate in the trivial band insulator phase due to lack of band inversion. Interestingly, the EI phase in low *s*-*p* hybridization limit hosts a Bardeen-Cooper-Schrieffer–Bose-Einstein condensation crossover. Irradiated by a pump pulse, our findings reveal that the oscillations of exciton states strongly depend on the frequency of the laser pulse. We further explore the signatures of dynamics of the exciton condensate in optical measurements.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevB.102.245121

## I. INTRODUCTION

The many-body problem of exciton formation driven by charge instability and Coulomb attraction between electronhole pairs has triggered intensive previous and contemporary investigations in bulk and low-dimensional semiconductors [1–10]. Excitonic insulators (EI) arising from the condensation of electron-hole bound states, despite being conceptually introduced decades ago [11–13], have received new attention in recent years due to possible realization in the bulk of semiconductors [14,15].

Few layered transition metal dichalcogenide (TMD), are reputedly known to host collective exciton condensation due to low dimensionality and strong light-matter coupling [16–18]. The prominent two-dimensional devices based on strong moire periodic potential in nearly aligned heterostructures of TMDs facilitate the observation of band dispersion flattening with the formation of strongly bound states. These devices are interesting platforms for various excitonic states studies, such as topological exciton bands and strongly correlated exciton Hubbard model [19]. In nearly aligned  $WSe_2/WS_2$ , within the A-exciton spectra region of WSe<sub>2</sub> layer, the spatially localized interlayer excitons have been reported to respond differently to back gate doping. The reason is ascribed to the spatial distribution of exciton wave function and electron-exciton interactions based on the electron doping region [19]. Thick encapsulation of TMDs with hexagonal Boron Nitride (hBN) layers leading to a weak coupling regime at nearly zero temperature can tune the coherent radiative decay rates of neutral excitons in these materials. Spontaneous photoinduced radiative recombination is believed to result in a photoluminescence spectra rise

during the laser pump exposure, while the high-energy exciton relaxation to radiative states dominates the post-laser pulse exposure. In fact, the suppression of environmental dielectric constant through the hBN encapsulation results in radiative lifetime enhancement [20] and suppression of nonradiative processes due to nearly zero temperature and the least existence of disorder and contamination [21].

Another intriguing platform to study the spontaneous exciton condensation is the promising quasi-one-dimensional (1D) chalcogenide  $Ta_2NiSe_5$  [22–26]. The large bandgap opening fingerprint in photoemission spectroscopy in a recent study, is believed to mark the enhancement of exciton order in the spatially separated Ni and Ta chains [23]. Moreover, the newly reported novel low-frequency mode in Raman spectra was proposed as evidence for the existence of an EI phase in Ta<sub>2</sub>NiSe<sub>5</sub> emerging below  $\approx$  328 K [23]. Further analytical investigations suggested that the phase transition is associated with a Bose-Einstein condensation (BEC) in the scheme of a 1D extended Falicov-Kimball model (EFKM) with an overlapping band semimetal as the normal state [27]. Meanwhile, another plausible scenario is argued to be a spontaneous Ta-Ni hybridization based on charge instability which breaks the symmetry [24]. Besides, the importance of structural phase transition as origin of electronic gap has been addressed in recent pump-probe [28] and Raman spectroscopy [29] measurements.

To date, the theorized models to understand the EI phase are mostly based on the idea of strong correlations in a semimetal with a small band overlap or a semiconductor with a small gap [3,11,30]. Given the importance of designing new models, here, we explore the EI phase in a 1D chain of atomic *s*-*p* orbitals with the inclusion of odd parity hybridization [31,32] [see Fig. 1(a)]. In the noninteracting scheme, this model exhibits topological insulator (TI) and trivial band insulator (BI) phases [32]. Adding the interorbital Coulomb

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FIG. 1. (a) Schematic illustration of a 1D *s*-*p* chain. The sphereshaped *s* orbitals and dumbbell-shaped *p* orbitals are marked in orange and green colors, respectively.  $t_s(t_p)$  and  $V_{sp}$  are the intraand interorbital tunneling parameters. (b) Contour plot of exciton parameter real part as a function of onsite energy ( $\epsilon$ ) and Coulomb interaction ( $U_{sp}$ ) for  $V_{sp} = 1/2$ . The TI phase with winding number  $\nu = -1$  and BI phase, share the zero exciton region (white area). In a strongly coupled *s*-*p* chain, however, the chiral symmetry is broken and the system undergoes a phase transition from TI to EI where excitons emerge.

interaction, our main objection is to answer the following questions. How do the latter phases change with correlations? Do the TI and EI phases compete or coexist? In the condensed phase, how do the collective modes affect the optical transitions? How does the nonequilibrium dynamics of exciton condensate, coupled to a phonon bath, respond to ultrafast pulses, and what are the experimental consequences in optical measurements?

In this article, we show that the EI phase emerges out of the topological insulator phase beyond a critical interaction, while the BI phase remains remote in forming exciton condensate. We show that both amplitude and phase collective modes are gaped which are manifest as many-body excitations in optical responses. Furthermore, our nonequilibrium analysis reveals that the oscillation of exciton condensate strongly depends on the frequency of driving pulse with signatures visible in optical conductivity.

The paper is organized as follows. In Sec. II we present the theoretical model for a 1D s-p chain in equilibrium and address the nature of spontaneous exciton condensation in a topological insulator phase. The linear response and collective mode signatures are addressed in the last part of this section. Next, we discuss the exciton dynamics in a stimulated pumpprobe situation in Sec. III. In Sec. IV, we present the results for the optical spectra of a s-p chain in a linear response regime. Our findings are summarized in Sec. V.

### **II. MODEL AND EQUILIBRIUM PHASE DIAGRAM**

In this section, we introduce the 1D *s*-*p* chain and present a comprehensive analysis of its equilibrium phase diagram.

#### A. Interacting s-p model

The noninteracting spinless model of a 1D chain of atoms with *s* and *p* orbitals and lattice spacing *a*, as shown in Fig. 1(a), reads [31-33]

$$H_{0} = \epsilon_{s} \sum_{j} c_{j}^{\dagger} c_{j} + \epsilon_{p} \sum_{j} p_{j}^{\dagger} p_{j} - \sum_{j} t_{s} (c_{j}^{\dagger} c_{j+1} + c_{j+1}^{\dagger} c_{j}) + \sum_{j} t_{p} (p_{j}^{\dagger} p_{j+1} + p_{j+1}^{\dagger} p_{j}) + V_{sp} \sum_{j} (c_{j}^{\dagger} p_{j+1} - c_{j+1}^{\dagger} p_{j}) - V_{ps} \sum_{j} (p_{j}^{\dagger} c_{j+1} - p_{j+1}^{\dagger} c_{j}),$$
(1)

where  $c_j^{\dagger}(c_j)$  and  $p_j^{\dagger}(p_j)$  are the charge creation and annihilation operators in *s* and *p* orbitals of *j*th atomic site, respectively.  $\epsilon_s(\epsilon_p)$  is the onsite energy, and  $t_s(t_p)$  is the hopping parameter between nearest neighbors with same orbitals. Also,  $V_{sp}(V_{ps})$  is the hybridization energy between s(p) and p(s) orbitals in a neighboring site with an odd parity, i.e.,  $V_{sp}(-x) = -V_{sp}(x)$ . This odd parity is responsible for the band inversion that leads to TI phase formation [32]. By Fourier transformation to momentum space, the Hamiltonian Eq. (1) becomes

$$H_0 = \sum_k (\epsilon_s - 2t_s \cos ka) c_k^{\dagger} c_k + \sum_k (\epsilon_p + 2t_p \cos ka) p_k^{\dagger} p_k$$
$$+ 2iV_{sp} \sum_k \sin ka \ c_k^{\dagger} p_k - 2iV_{ps} \sum_k \sin ka \ p_k^{\dagger} c_k.$$
(2)

In a more generic model where repulsive short-range Coulomb interactions are present, the interacting Hamiltonian is  $H_e = H_0 + H_U$ , where

$$H_U = U_{sp} \sum_j (c_j^{\dagger} c_j - 1/2) (p_j^{\dagger} p_j - 1/2).$$
(3)

Here,  $U_{sp}$  is the strength of interorbital Coulomb interaction between spinless electrons residing in local *s* and *p* orbitals. We treat the above interaction using the mean-field approximation and decouple the local two-body terms into density and exciton order parameter channels [10,34]. Fourier transforming Eq. (3), we obtain

$$U_{sp}\sum_{k} \left[ (n_{s}-1/2)p_{k}^{\dagger}p_{k} + (n_{p}-1/2)c_{k}^{\dagger}c_{k} - \phi p_{k}^{\dagger}c_{k} - \phi^{*}c_{k}^{\dagger}p_{k} \right],$$

where,  $\phi = \langle c_j^{\dagger} p_j \rangle$  is the exciton order parameter. Moreover,  $n_s = \langle c_j^{\dagger} c_j \rangle$  and  $n_p = \langle p_j^{\dagger} p_j \rangle$  are the charge density order parameters of *s* and *p* orbitals, respectively. In momentum space the two-band mean-field Hamiltonian is cast as a pseudospin in a pseudomagnetic field [35]:

$$H_e^{\rm MF} = \sum_{k,\gamma} B_k^{\gamma} S_k^{\gamma}, \qquad (4)$$

where  $S_k^{\gamma}$  is the pseudospin component,

$$S_k^{\gamma} = \frac{1}{2} \zeta_k^{\dagger} \sigma_{\gamma} \zeta_k, \quad \zeta_k^{\dagger} = (c_k^{\dagger}, p_k^{\dagger}), \tag{5}$$

with  $\sigma_{\gamma}$  ( $\gamma = 1 - 3$ ) being the Pauli matrices, and  $\sigma_0$ , the identity matrix. In what follows, we set the parameters as  $\epsilon_s = -\epsilon_p = \epsilon$ ,  $t_s = t_p = t$  and  $V_{sp} = V_{ps}$ . Also, for the sake of simplicity, we set a = 1 and t = 1, hereafter, unless otherwise stated. With these identifications, the components of the pseudomagnetic field,  $B_{\nu}^{\gamma}$ s, are

$$B_k^0 = U_{sp}(n_s + n_p - 1), (6a)$$

$$B_k^1 = -2U_{sp} \operatorname{Re} \phi, \tag{6b}$$

$$B_k^2 = -2U_{sp}\operatorname{Im}\phi - 4V_{sp}\sin k, \tag{6c}$$

$$B_k^3 = 2\epsilon - 4t\cos k + U_{sp}(n_p - n_s). \tag{6d}$$

Now, we adopt a self-consistent calculation to address the energy dispersion and the order parameters in equilibrium state at zero temperature. The procedure is as follows. First, we solve the eigenvalue problem  $(H_k^{\text{MF}} - E_{k,\pm})|k, \pm\rangle = 0$ , for the Bloch Hamiltonian driven from Eq. (5), to find the eigenvalues,  $E_{k,\pm} = [B_k^0 \pm |\mathbf{B}_k|]/2$ , and their corresponding eigen functions,  $|k, \pm\rangle$ . Next, we use this knowledge to evaluate the expectation values of pseudospin components at equilibrium using the following relation [35]:

$$\left\langle S_{k}^{\gamma}(0) \right\rangle = \begin{cases} \frac{B_{k}^{\gamma}(0)}{2|\mathbf{B}_{k}(0)|} \{f[E_{k,+}(0)] - f[E_{k,-}(0)]\} & (\gamma = 1 - 3), \\ \frac{1}{2} \{f[E_{k,+}(0)] + f[E_{k,-}(0)]\} & (\gamma = 0), \end{cases}$$
(7)

where  $f(E_{k,+}(0))$  is the Fermi-Dirac distribution function at equilibrium. We start with an initial guess for  $\langle S_k^{\gamma}(0) \rangle$  over all momentum vector k. We then obtain the mean-field order parameters via

$$\begin{bmatrix} n_0 & \phi^* \\ \phi & n_1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_k \left[ \langle \mathbf{S}_k \rangle \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} + \langle S_k^0 \rangle \sigma_0 \right]. \tag{8}$$

Eventually, the latter values are fed into  $H_e^{\text{MF}}$  to find  $\langle S_k^{\gamma}(0) \rangle$  through Eq. (7). Until reaching the convergence, this process is iterated with the following assumption that the system is at half filling, i.e.,  $n_s + n_p = 1$ .

Before we proceed any further, it is worthwhile to note a few points about the symmetry in the EI phase. In the absence of s - p orbitals hybridization,  $V_{sp}$ , in Hamiltonian Eq. (1), both valence and conduction bands enjoy U(1) charge conservation symmetry separately. This implies that the overall symmetry is  $U_s(1) \times U_p(1)$  for s and p bands, which is spontaneously broken in EI phase due to condensation of complex exciton order parameter,  $\phi = |\phi|e^{i\varphi}$ . Here,  $\varphi$  is the phase of the condensate whose fluctuations give rise to the phase mode [7,36]. The net symmetry in our model, however, is explicitly broken down to a U(1) symmetry of total charge conservation by a nonzero  $V_{sp}$  (and also by coupling to phonons which we will discuss in Sec. III A). We further find that the order parameter  $\phi$  becomes real,  $\text{Im}\phi = 0$ , at equilibrium, which could be attributed to locking of the order parameter to a particular direction due the aforementioned symmetry breaking in the equilibrium ground state.

## B. Equilibrium phase diagram

The equilibrium phase diagram in the plane of  $U_{sp}$  and onsite energy for a fixed value of interorbital hybridization

 $V_{sp} = 1/2$  is shown in Fig. 1(b). In the noninteracting limit, i.e.,  $U_{sp} = 0$ , a TI phase sets in for  $\epsilon < 2$ , while the trivial BI phase appears for  $\epsilon > 2$ , consistent with previous studies [32]. In the TI phase, the bands undergo an inversion around k = 0 and thus the winding number becomes  $\nu = -1$ . In the BI phase, however, the valence and conduction bands are mostly of *p* and *s* character, respectively, yielding a zero winding number  $\nu = 0$ . The definition of winding number and details of calculations can be found in Appendix A.

As can be seen in Fig. 1(b), the TI phase, interestingly, shrinks as the short-range interactions become stronger, until, eventually, the EI phase emerges at  $U_{sp} \approx 3$  for nearly zero onsite energies. Therefore, in strongly correlated systems, the EI phase surpasses the TI phase and we only have exciton and band insulator states. In an intermediate coupling strength, i.e.,  $2 < U_{sp} < 3$ , all three topological phases can be reached by varying onsite potential  $\epsilon$ . In both TI and BI phases, where the exciton order parameter vanishes,  $\phi = 0$ , the mean-field Bloch Hamiltonian has a chiral symmetry. This can be seen from Eq. (4) with the following Bloch Hamiltonian:

$$H_k^{\rm MF} = \mathbf{d}(k) \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma},\tag{9}$$

where  $\mathbf{d}(k) = 1/2(B_k^1, B_k^2, B_k^3)$ , and also,  $B_k^1 = 0$  when  $\phi = 0$ . Hence, since  $\{H_k^{\text{MF}}, \sigma_1\} = 0$ , the system is manifestly chiral symmetric and the winding of unit vector  $\hat{\mathbf{d}}(k) \equiv \mathbf{d}(k)/||\mathbf{d}(k)||$  around the origin in the *y*-*z* plane determines  $\nu$  as one crosses the one-dimensional Brillouin zone. Therefore, we obtain  $\nu = -1$  for TI phase and  $\nu = 0$  for BI phase.

In Figs. 2(a) and 2(b) the impact of the *s*-*p* orbitals hybridization on the phase diagram is shown. The plots in Figs. 2(a) and 2(b) depict the topological behavior of *s*-*p* chain for two specific values of  $U_{sp} = 3$  and 6, respectively. As can be seen in both panels, the EI state is limited to the low hybridization region and enhances towards larger hybridization as the short-range interactions become stronger. Thus, larger the interorbital Coulomb interaction is, larger value of hybridization is required for the TI phase to set in.

The physical picture obtained thus far is that the EI phase emerges out of the TI phase in the strong interaction regime. Therefore, the two phases compete with each other. Moreover, we find that the EI phase is topologically *trivial*, and the nonzero exciton parameter leads to  $B_k^1 \neq 0$  and, consequently, breaks the chiral symmetry. This implies that the unit vector  $\hat{\mathbf{d}}(k)$  tips out of the *y*-*z* plane, and thus the closed path traveled by  $\hat{\mathbf{d}}(k)$  can be shrunken to zero continuously. From a mathematical viewpoint, in the EI phase, the latter unit vector belongs to the surface of a sphere  $S^2$ , and since the first homotopy group of  $S^2$  is trivial  $\pi_1(S^2) = 0$  [37], the phase is trivial.

### C. Phase transition to EI phase

To understand the phase transition to EI, we present an analytical study of order parameters. To this end, we build the mean-field Hamiltonian based on pseudospin components, followed by calculation of the exciton parameter, so that we find the criteria at which the EI phase could emerge. From Eq. (8), we obtain the exciton parameter at the half filling



FIG. 2. [(a),(b)] Surface plots of equilibrium exciton order, as a function of onsite energy ( $\epsilon$ ) and *s*-*p* hybridization parameter ( $V_{sp}$ ) for fixed Coulomb interaction (a)  $U_{sp} = 3$ , and (b)  $U_{sp} = 6$ . [(c),(d)] Self-consistent solutions for exciton order (orange) and *z* component of pseudospin (red) as a function of Coulomb interaction. The onsite energy is  $\epsilon = 1/2$  for both panels, whilst, the interorbital hopping parameter is set to (c)  $V_{sp} = 1/2$ , and (d)  $V_{sp} = 1$ , respectively.  $S_3$  is proportional to  $n_s$ - $n_p$  and acts as an effective orbital pseudomagnetization. The susceptibility (i.e., the derivative of the pseudomagnetization) at a critical pseudomagnetic field (dashed line), becomes discontinuous, alluding a phase transition where excitons emerges.

state, i.e., 
$$f[E_{k,+}(0)] - f[E_{k,-}(0)] = -1$$
, as  

$$\phi = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k} \left( \langle S_{k}^{1} \rangle + i \langle S_{k}^{2} \rangle \right) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k} \left( U_{sp} \phi + 2i V_{sp} \sin k \right) / |\mathbf{B}_{k}|.$$
(10)

To further simplify the above equation, we expand the norm of the pseudomagnetic field vector,

$$|\mathbf{B}_{k}| = \sqrt{4U_{sp}^{2}|\phi|^{2} + 16V_{sp}^{2}\sin^{2}k + (2\epsilon - 4t\cos k - 2U_{sp}S_{3})^{2}},$$
(11)

which, in fact, involves the evaluation of  $S_3 = 1/N \sum_k \langle S_k^3 \rangle$ ,

$$S_3 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dk \frac{-2\epsilon + 4t \cos k + 2U_{sp}S_3}{|\mathbf{B}_k|}, \qquad (12)$$

that practically plays the role of a pseudomagnetic order parameter. Since  $|\mathbf{B}_k|$  is an even function of *k*, Eq. (10) simplifies to

$$\phi = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k} \frac{U_{sp}\phi}{|\mathbf{B}_k|},\tag{13}$$

which is not dissimilar to the Bardeen-Cooper-Schrieffer (BCS) superconductor gap equation. Eventually, we have two equations for  $\phi$  and S<sub>3</sub> that could be solved self-consistently to obtain a concrete condition over which the exciton parameter becomes nonzero. The results are displayed in Figs. 2(c)and 2(d) for the onsite energy  $\epsilon = 1/2$ , and interorbital hopping parameter  $V_{sp} = 1/2$  [Fig. 2(c)], and  $V_{sp} = 1$  [Fig. 2(d)]. As can be seen, a slope discontinuity occurs in z component of pseudospin,  $S_3$ , which presents the difference between s and p orbitals charge density  $(n_s - n_p)$ , acting as an effective pseudomagnetization in the orbital basis. From Eqs. (10)and (12), it is clear that  $\phi$  and  $S_3$  make the in-plane and out of plane components of the pseudomagnetization. With this identification, the interorbital Coulomb interaction  $U_{sp}$  acts like a magnetic field. Hence, it is seen that  $\partial S_3 / \partial U_{sp}$  becomes discontinuous at a critical value of interaction alluding a phase transition to an ordered phase, i.e., EI. The nonzero  $\phi$  amounts to developing an x component of pseudomagnetization. This is exactly the tipping of  $\hat{\mathbf{d}}(k)$  out of the y-z plane as we mentioned in the preceding subsection. Note that the creation of x-component is set by hybridization of s-p orbitals which is facilitated in the band-inverted TI phase. Thus, contrary to previous studies, in a BI phase in our model, no band mixing occurs which is detrimental in forming nonzero  $\phi$  even for strong interactions.

## D. BCS-BEC crossover in the EI phase

As we showed above, the strong interorbital Coulomb interaction can establish the EI phase in the s-p model. Our results further reveal that there is a BCS-BEC crossover within the EI phase by varying interaction and hybridization strength. To identify the crossover we use the shape of the bands as an estimation of BCS and BEC phases. For a more pricise identification of phases one has to use the size of excitons [33,35,38]. In the BCS regime, the momentum of maxima of valence band,  $k_F$ , appears away from k = 0, reflecting the existence of weakly bound excitons at finite k. When moving toward stronger interaction regime, the Hartree potential broadens the valence and conduction band densities and pushes the maxima to k = 0. For bands being flattend around the center of BZ, we use the increasing behavior of  $\phi$  by  $U_{sp}$  from BCS, bands with two minima and maxima, to characterize the crossover to the BEC phase. When  $\phi$  start to decrease, the BEC phase sets in (see Fig. 8 in Appendix B).

In Fig. 3 we present a phase diagram in  $U_{sp}$ - $V_{sp}$  plane where the domain of BCS and BEC phases is indicated. BCS phase can be only found in a low *s*-*p* hybridization energy limit and by increasing the short-range interaction strength, the bands are flattened until a BCS-BEC crossover occurs. In



FIG. 3. The exciton order of a 1D *s-p* chain at equilibrium with onsite energy of  $\epsilon = 1/2$ . The BCS-BEC crossover is visible at low values of  $V_{sp}$ . The details of BCS-BEC crossover with Coulomb coupling enhancement is shown and discussed in the caption of Fig. 8.

Appendix B we present the details of band evolution, which clearly shows how the crossover takes place.

The BCS-BEC crossover has been addressed very recently in a three-orbital model with the inclusion of spin-orbit coupling (SOC) [39]. It has been shown that the SOC-originated condensation of BCS type EI at intermediate Coulomb interaction region crosses over to a BEC type EI by increasing SOC strength. This suggests that SOC in their model acts analogously to the hybridization of the *s* and *p* orbital in our model. Furthermore, in a very recent study, the Ta<sub>2</sub>NiSe<sub>5</sub> phase transition that was observed as an anomaly in the resistivity at  $T_c \simeq 328$ K [1], has been modeled via 1D EFKM where a BEC type condensation occurs even though the normal state is an overlapping band semimetal [27]. This in fact alludes to the notion of BCS-BEC crossover.

## E. Collective modes

At equilibrium the mean-field ground state of the EI phase is characterized by the order parameter  $\phi$  discussed in preceding sections. The fluctuations of amplitude and phase of the order parameter create collective modes. To study the latter modes, we condenser the retarded density correlation function for the *s*-*p* chain using the Kubo formula,

$$\chi^{R}_{\mu\nu}(t) = -i\theta(t) \frac{\langle \Psi_{0} | [\rho_{\mu}(t), \rho_{\nu}(0)] | \Psi_{0} \rangle}{\langle \Psi_{0} | \Psi_{0} \rangle}.$$
 (14)

Here,  $\rho_{\mu} \equiv \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k} \zeta_{k}^{\dagger} \sigma_{\mu} \zeta_{k}$  is the collective charge and exciton modes, and  $|\Psi_{0}\rangle$  is the ground state of the interacting system. The perturbative expansion of Eq. (14) can be evaluated with the help of Wick's theorem in the interaction picture. By Fourier transformation to momentum and frequency domain, and within the random-phase approximation (RPA), Eq. (14) can be cast as

$$\chi^{R}(\omega, \mathbf{q}) = \chi^{0}(\omega, \mathbf{q}) + \chi^{0}(\omega, \mathbf{q})\mathcal{U} \ \chi^{R}(\omega, \mathbf{q}), \qquad (15)$$



FIG. 4. [(a),(c)] Amplitude mode and [(b),(d)] phase mode of the BCS and BEC exciton insulator. Results for a BCS EI with  $\epsilon = 1/2$ ,  $V_{sp} = 1/2$ ,  $U_{sp} = 2.8$ , are illustrated in [(a),(b)] and those for a BEC EI with  $\epsilon = 1/2$ ,  $V_{sp} = 1$ ,  $U_{sp} = 3.8$  are presented in panels (c) and (d). In all panels we set  $g \approx 0.07$  for electron-phonon coupling strength.

where  $\chi^0(\omega, \mathbf{q})$  is the bare susceptibility and  $\mathcal{U} = (U_{sp}/2)\text{diag}(1, -1, -1, -1) + \text{diag}(0, D, 0, 0)$ . Here,  $D = g^2 D_0/(1 - g^2 \chi_{11}^0 D_0)$  and  $D_0 = 2\omega_{ph}/((\omega + i0^+)^2 - \omega_{ph}^2)$  are the dressed and bare phonon propagators, with g as the electron-phonon coupling and  $\omega_{ph}$  being the frequency of optical phonons. The details of phonon Hamiltonian and electron-phonon coupling are discussed in next section.

The results for RPA susceptibility is shown in Fig. 4 for both BCS and BEC exciton condensates. Here, we have set  $\omega_{ph} = 0.1$  and used the broadening factor  $\eta = 0.01$ . Each row indicates the collective modes in the amplitude  $(-\chi_{11}^R/\pi)$  and phase  $(-\chi_{22}^R/\pi)$  direction for a specific *s*-*p* chain. Figures 4(a) and 4(c) clearly indicate the gapped nature of the amplitude mode, the lower excitation branch starting from a finite value at q = 0. The upper branch is the onset of continuum of excitations across the band gap.

The results for the dispersion of phase modes are shown in Figs. 4(b) and 4(d) for BSC and BEC condensates, respectively. It is clearly seen that the lower dispersive branch is also gapped. Indeed, in the model used in our paper the phase and amplitude modes are coupled to each other due to the interorbital coupling  $V_{sp}$ , and consequently the gapped amplitude modes result in massive phase modes in contrast to collective modes of a EFKM EI [34].

## **III. EXCITONS IN NONEQUILIBRIUM STATE**

Motivated by recent pump-probe measurements on flakes of Ta<sub>2</sub>NiSe<sub>5</sub> [26], in this section we study the nonequilibrium dynamics of the EI phase of the *s*-*p* model described in the preceding section. The nonequilibrium dynamics of excitons in a 1D *s*-*p* chain generated with a laser pump provides an excellent playground for understanding the collective behaviors. We first present the details of the studied nonequilibrium model, then we elaborate on the real-time evolution of exciton condensate. Note that, intra-atomic hybridization between nonlocalized *s* and *p* orbitals leads to the dipolar transitions [40], i.e.,  $H_{dip} = E(t) \sum_{j} (c_{j}^{\dagger} p_{j} + c_{j}^{\dagger} p_{j})$ , and consequently exciton order renormalization due to modification of pseudomagnetic field component,

$$B_k^1 = -2U_{sp} \operatorname{Re} \phi + 2gX + 2E(t),$$

where  $E(t) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t}A(t)$  is the laser pulse electric field, and A(t) is its electromagnetic vector potential. However, for the sake of simplicity we neglect the dipolar transitions.

### A. Coupling to phonons and laser pulses

We consider the charge interactions with a bath of optical phonons with  $\hbar \omega_{ph}$  energy. The Hamiltonian is modified as  $H = H_e + H_{ph}$ , where

$$H_{ph} = \hbar \omega_{ph} \sum_{j} b_{j}^{\dagger} b_{j} + g \sum_{j} (b_{j}^{\dagger} + b_{j}) (c_{j}^{\dagger} p_{j} + p_{j}^{\dagger} c_{j}), \quad (16)$$

g is the electron-phonon coupling, and  $b_j^{\dagger}(b_j)$  is the creation (annihilation) operator for phonons. The charge-phonon interaction in mean-field approximation reduces to

$$H_{\rm ph}^{\rm MF} = \hbar \omega_{\rm ph} \sum_{j} b_j^{\dagger} b_j + g X \sum_{j} (c_j^{\dagger} p_j + p_j^{\dagger} c_j) + g \sum_{j} (b_j^{\dagger} + b_j) (\phi + \phi^*), \qquad (17)$$

where  $X = \langle b_j^{\dagger} + b_j \rangle$  is the phonon displacement. The total Hamiltonian in momentum space thus can be written as the summation of Fourier transform of electron-phonon mean-field Hamiltonian and Eq. (4),

$$H^{\rm MF} = \bar{H}_e^{\rm MF} + \hbar\omega_{\rm ph} \sum_j b_j^{\dagger} b_j + 2g \operatorname{Re} \phi \sum_j (b_j^{\dagger} + b_j), \quad (18)$$

with  $\bar{H}_e^{\text{MF}}$  being the electronic part of the mean-field Hamiltonian with a slightly modified pseudomagnetic field component  $B_k^1 = -2U_{sp} \operatorname{Re} \phi + 2gX$ .

Next, we model an optical laser pump pulse impinging on the system. We assume the induced time-dependent electromagnetic vector potential as a Gaussian function,

$$\mathbf{A}(t) = \Theta(t) A_0 e^{-\frac{(t-t_p)^2}{2\tau_p^2}} \sin(\Omega t/\hbar).$$
(19)

Here, we set the pulse amplitude  $(A_0)$  to 0.05 and  $\hbar = 1$  throughout this paper. We also set  $t_p = 100$  and  $\tau_p = 30$  as the duration and width of the pulse, respectively. The nonequilibrium state could be modeled by a Peierls phase in the mean-field Hamiltonian [35]. The Heisenberg equation of motion provides the time evolution of electron-hole pairs,

$$\frac{\partial \langle \mathbf{S}_k(t) \rangle}{\partial t} = \mathbf{B}_k(t) \times \langle \mathbf{S}_k(t) \rangle, \qquad (20a)$$

$$\frac{\partial \langle S_k^0(t) \rangle}{\partial t} = 0, \tag{20b}$$

$$\frac{\partial X(t)}{\partial t} = \omega_{ph} P(t), \qquad (20c)$$

$$\frac{\partial P(t)}{\partial t} = -\omega_{ph}X(t) - 4g\operatorname{Re}\phi.$$
 (20d)

Here,  $P(t) = i\langle b_j^{\dagger} - b_j \rangle$  is phonon momentum. We solve the above set of Eqs. (20a)–(20d) numerically by Runge-Kutta fourth-order method, where we insert the self-consistent results as the initial value for exciton order parameter. We assume that the system is at zero temperature and thus the initial phonon momentum vanishes P(0) = 0. From Eq. (20d), this assumption yields  $X(0) = -4g\phi(0)/\omega_{\rm ph}$ . At equilibrium  $(t \leq 0)$  the pseudomagnetic field component discussed below Eq. (18), becomes  $B_k^1 = -2(U_{sp} + 2\lambda)\text{Re}\phi$ , with  $\lambda \equiv 2g^2/\omega_{\rm ph}$  being the electron-phonon coupling constant. Hence, at equilibrium the latter interaction only shifts  $U_{sp}$  [36]. In the following we discuss the evolution of system for t > 0irradiated by the pump pulse Eq. (19).

## B. Real-time evolution of EI condensate

The time evolution of the exciton order is illustrated in Fig. 5. Figures 5(a) and 5(b) show a BCS type EI dynamics, while Figs. 5(c) and 5(d) depict those for a BEC EI. All EI phases demonstrate an exciton order melt-down after the laser pump exposure as a consequence of photoinduced breaking of exciton bound states. In each panel, we show the real-time evolution of Re $\phi$  for different values of pulse frequency  $\Omega$ . The black dashed line shows  $\operatorname{Re}\phi(t)$  when  $\Omega$  equates the EI gap energy. From Fig. 5(b) we see that, when the pulse frequency is lower than the gap, the oscillation of condensate is almost the same for all. However, for  $\Omega$  being larger than the gap, the oscillations do depend on pulse frequency. This behavior can be ascribed to the type of band structure associated with the BCS condensate illustrated in the inset of Fig. 5(a). The variation of band structure near k = 0 introduces different resonance energy scales for the condensate. For frequencies well above the gap, these variations are smeared out; the same reasoning holds for frequencies below the gap as shown in Fig. 5(b).

The oscillation frequency  $\bar{\omega}$  of  $\text{Re}\phi(t)$  with respect to pulse frequency is depicted in the inset of Fig. 5(b). Note that in all latter cases,  $\bar{\omega}$  of exciton condensate coincides with the phonon frequency, i.e., with the oscillation of X(t). We note that in the absence of electron-phonon coupling the atoms oscillate with their natural optical frequency which we set to be  $\omega_{\text{ph}} = 0.1$  throughout. However, when coupled to exciton condensate the phonon frequencies change. The coupling between phonons and excitons has been argued to be crucial in understanding the recent pump-probe measurements on Ta<sub>2</sub>NiSe<sub>5</sub> [23,26,36].

The results of the condensate dynamics for BEC type EI are shown in Figs. 5(c) and 5(d). The band structure depicted in Fig. 5(c) clearly shows that the direct gap is located at k = 0. Again in this case the exciton order parameter is quenched by the pump pulse and oscillates afterward. The main observation now is that for pulse frequencies either below or above the bandgap, the exciton frequencies  $\bar{\omega}$  changes only mildly in contrast to the BCS case discussed above. The reason can be ascribed to the band structure of the BEC with only one direct bandgap at k = 0. The nonequilibrium dynamics of BEC condensate in our model is consistent with that of the EFKM BEC, meaning that the exciton condensate undergoes a photoinduced suppression. However, when moving energetically far away form the bandgap, we do not observe any exciton



FIG. 5. Time evolution of the exciton parameter for diverse *s*-*p* chain systems. Panels [(a),(b)] illustrate the results for a *s*-*p* chain with  $\epsilon = 1/2$ ,  $V_{sp} = 1/2$ ,  $U_{sp} = 1/2$ ,  $U_{sp} = 2.8$ , while panels [(c),(d)] show those for  $\epsilon = 1/2$ ,  $V_{sp} = 1$ ,  $U_{sp} = 3.8$ . Panels [(e),(f)] are exciton dynamics for  $\epsilon = 1/4$ ,  $V_{sp} = 1/2$ ,  $U_{sp} = 4$ . Black dashed line indicates the exciton order time evolution for laser frequency  $\Omega = E_g$ . For both EI phases, [(a),(b),(e),(f)] BCS and [(c),(d)] BEC, the exciton order melts down during the exposure of laser pump and oscillates afterward. In panels [(e),(f)] the exciton dynamics in  $t \in [300, 600]$  and  $\text{Re}\phi(t) \in [0.26, 0.28]$  window are magnified to ease the visualization. The left (right) column insets are the corresponding band dispersion (oscillation frequency). The dashed (solid) lines depict energy dispersion for noninteracting  $U_{sp} = 0$  (interacting  $U_{sp} \neq 0$ ) *s*-*p* chain in the inset. Phonon-charge interactions addressed in III A, are considered in preparation of this figure with the following assumptions.  $g = \sqrt{\lambda \omega_{ph}/2}$  is the charge-phonon interaction factor.  $\lambda = 0.1$  is the effective electron-phonon coupling parameter, and  $\omega_{ph} = 0.1$  is the optical phonon energy. Note that since the imaginary part of the condensate is negligibly small, here we only present Re  $\phi$ .

condensate enhancement [35]. The suppression of condensate by the photoexcitation for a BCS type EI is reported in a twoorbital Hubbard model, while the photoinduced enhancement of condensate is predicted for BEC condensate [41].

Finally, in Figs. 5(e) and 5(f), we present the results for nonequilibrium dynamics of condensate in an EI with large bandgap  $\sim$ 3.41. Two observations are manifest. First, we see that the condensate is less influenced by the laser pulse than

the other aforementioned cases. That is,  $\text{Re}\phi$  drops to a small fraction of its initial value; it changes from  $\text{Re}\phi \simeq 0.34$  to  $\text{Re}\phi \simeq 0.26$  even at the resonance with the gap energy. Second, in stark contrast to previous cases, no oscillation occurs for a full range of pulse frequencies below and above the EI gap. Compared to dynamics in Figs. 5(a)–5(d), one can see that the effective coupling of condensate to phonons only takes place in the EI phase with a narrow gap.

Before moving to the next section, a remark is in order. The condensate dynamics saturates to a mean steady value after a melt-down and does not decay, which can be attributed to the lack of damping mechanism induced by phonons, contamination, doping, and defects in general. This is actually the motivation behind the recent time-resolved photoluminescence measurements reporting a high exciton lifetime in encapsulated TMDs [20]. In our model the decay could be considered by adding a damping term as  $-\gamma P(t)$ , with  $\gamma$  as a damping parameter, phenomenologically [34] to the right side of Eq. (20d), which leads to decay of oscillations.

## IV. OPTICAL CONDUCTIVITY

This section aims to answer the last question posed in the Introduction seeking the signature of EI phases in optical measurements. The longitudinal optical conductivity can be found using the relation  $\sigma(\omega) = \lim_{q \to 0} \frac{i}{\omega} \Pi^R(\omega, \mathbf{q})$ , where  $\Pi^R(\omega, \mathbf{q})$  is the retarded current-current correlation function. The optical conductivity can be written as  $\sigma(\omega) = \sigma^0(\omega) + \sigma^v(\omega)$  where  $\sigma^0(\omega)$  is the bare optical conductivity and  $\sigma^v(\omega)$  includes the vertex corrections due to interorbital Coulomb interaction and electron-phonon coupling. The bare part reads as

$$\sigma^{0}(\omega) = \frac{i}{\omega} \int \frac{dk}{2\pi} \left( \frac{1}{\omega - \omega_{k} + i0^{+}} - \frac{1}{\omega + \omega_{k} + i0^{+}} \right) |\mathcal{J}|^{2},$$
(21)

where  $\omega_k = E_{k,+} - E_{k,-}$ ,  $\omega$  is the probe frequency, and  $\mathcal{J}$  is the current matrix element between the conduction and valence bands,

$$\mathcal{J} = -2e \left\{ t \sin k \frac{B_k^1 + iB_k^2}{|\mathbf{B}_k|} - i \frac{V_{sp}}{2} \cos k \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{B_k^3}{|\mathbf{B}_k|} \right) e^{2i\theta} + \left( 1 - \frac{B_k^3}{|\mathbf{B}_k|} \right) \right] \right\}, \quad (22)$$

with  $\theta = \arctan B_k^2/B_k^1$ . From Eq. (22) we see that, the current matrix element is a function of exciton parameter  $(B_k^1 + iB_k^2)$  and the *s*-*p* orbitals hybridization parameter  $(V_{sp})$ . Also, via setting  $V_{sp} = 0$ , one can reproduce the relation for current density operator of a 1D EFKM [35],  $\mathcal{J} = -2et \sin k(B_k^1 + iB_k^2)/|\mathbf{B}_k|$ . We also note that when both  $\phi$  and  $V_{sp}$  are zero, optical conductivity vanishes, since  $\mathcal{J} = 0$ . However, when the exciton condensation is formed, the matrix element becomes nonzero and optical response acquire finite values as a function of measured frequencies.

The real part of the bare optical conductivity  $\sigma^0(\omega)$  is shown in Fig. 6 for diverse values of Hamiltonian parameters at equilibrium. Figures 6(a) and 6(b) present the longitudinal optical spectra for BCS and BEC EIs, respectively. Note that both plots demonstrate condensations in the TI phase. From the optical spectra, one can clearly see that in the linear response regime denoted in orange color, more than one excitonic bound state form, including at exact bandgap energy transitions ( $E_{\alpha}$ ), and the BZ edge transitions [ $E_{\beta}$  in Figs. 6(c) and 6(d)]. Thus, the exciton order, at equilibrium state, is a superposition of all bound states. There also exists an additional peak in the optical absorption of BCS type EI which stems mostly from the zero momentum transitions ( $E_{\gamma}$ ).



FIG. 6. [(a),(b)] Optical conductivity and [(c),(d)] mean-field energy dispersion of 1D *s*-*p* chain at t = 0 (equilibrium state). Panels [(a),(c)] depict results for  $\epsilon = 1/2$ ,  $V_{sp} = 1/2$ ,  $U_{sp} = 3.2$ , while panels [(b),(d)] illustrate those for  $\epsilon = 1/2$ ,  $V_{sp} = 1/2$ ,  $U_{sp} = 5$ . In panels [(a),(b)] the orange curve indicates the real part of the bare optical conductivity  $\sigma^0(\omega)$ , and the optical conductivity including vertex corrections,  $\sigma(\omega)$ , is shown in dark red. In panels (c) and (d) black arrows depict the optical transitions with strongest contribution to the bare optical response. The appearance of many-body optical transition associated with the collective modes is manifest as a sharp peak in the single-particle gap. We set  $g \approx 0.07$  for electronphonon coupling.

The vertex corrected part of conductivity,  $\sigma^{v}(\omega)$ , is

$$\sigma^{\nu}(\omega) = \sum_{\mu\nu} \int \frac{dk}{2\pi} \frac{dk'}{2\pi} \Gamma_{\mu}(k',\omega) V_{\mu\nu}(\omega) \Gamma_{\nu}(k,\omega), \quad (23)$$

with the vertex  $\Gamma_{\mu}(k, \omega)$  reading as

$$\Gamma_{\mu}(k,\omega) = \sum_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \frac{\partial B_{k}^{\gamma}}{\partial k} \frac{f(E_{k,\alpha}) - f(E_{k,\beta})}{\omega + E_{k,\alpha} - E_{k,\beta} + i0^{+}} \sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma} \sigma_{\beta\alpha}^{\mu}, \quad (24)$$

where  $\sigma^{\mu}_{\alpha\beta} = \langle \alpha | \sigma^{\mu} | \beta \rangle$  are matrix elements of Pauli matrices w.r.t eigenstates of mean-field Hamiltonian Eq. (4). The effective interaction with polarization insertion is as follows:

$$V(\omega) = [1 - \mathcal{U}\chi^0(\omega)]^{-1}\mathcal{U}.$$
 (25)

The vertex corrections change the optical transitions substantially. The optical conductivity  $\sigma(\omega)$  is shown by dark red color in Figs. 6(a) and 6(b). It is clearly seen that the interactions smear out the single-particle  $\beta$  peak for both BSC and BEC phases. The single-particle transitions at  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  are also shifted. Besides, an additional many-body peak appear at low frequencies which is associated with the collective modes described in Sec. II E.

We now utilize a similar procedure to evaluate the optical absorption spectra in a photoinduced excited regime (nonequi-



FIG. 7. Optical response of (a)–(c) BCS, (d)–(f) BEC EI systems introduced in Fig. 6, for finite time after the laser pulse exposure. Each panel presents the optical conductivity for specific laser pump frequency ( $\Omega$ ). Black bottom line in each panel is the optical spectra for the corresponding EI at equilibrium. The energy dispersion at times shown in panels, are plotted for comparison (see top right of each panel). The dashed line indicates the energy dispersion at equilibrium. The electron-phonon coupling ( $\lambda$ ) is set to 0.1 in all panels.

librium state after the imposition of a laser pump). Figure 7 represents the real part of longitudinal optical conductivity for Figs. 7(a)–7(c) BCS and Figs. 7(d)–7(f) BEC EI previously discussed in Fig. 6. Each column depicts the optical response to a specific laser pump energy ( $\Omega$ ). The bottom plot marked in black in each panel depicts the equilibrium optical response for the corresponding system. As previously discussed, single-particle peaks and also many-body transition appear in the equilibrium optical response. The single-particle peaks stem from the optical transitions close to the BZ center [black bottom curves in Figs. 7(a)–7(c)].

At a finite time far away from the laser pump exposure time  $(t_p)$ , when the pulse energy is lower that the bandgap, we see that all excitonic transitions remain almost intact indicating that the energy bands are not significantly altered in both BCS and BEC EIs as shown in Figs. 7(a) and 7(d).

On the contrary, for the laser pulses with equal and larger energies compared to bandgap, in the BEC EI shown in Figs. 7(e) and 7(f), we observe that the manybody excitations are quenched while the single-particle excitations redshift to lower energies as a consequence of photoinduced bandgap shrinkage. This is clearly seen in the band dispersion shown in the top right of each panel; the energy dispersion (solid lines) at finite times compared to one at equilibrium (dashed line). Note the time scale over which the exciton order parameter changes, which is about  $\bar{\omega}^{-1} \sim 100$  fs, and is much larger than the intrinsic lifetime of the system, e.g.,  $E_g^{-1} \sim 1$  fs. Therefore, one can think of energy dispersion as instantaneous energies of Hamiltonian being evolved adiabatically. Moreover, each band structure can be measured in the angle-resolved photoemission spectroscopy within the time domain [3]. However, for a more precise evaluation of optical conductivity one may use the nonequilibrium two-time Green's function method [42].

The optical response to a pump laser pulse is rather complex in the BCS EI. The many-body peak is strongly pronounced at finite times long after the high energy pulse exposure and start to oscillate in time as shown in Fig. 7(b) through  $\phi(t)$ . Figure 7(c) shows that at much higher laser pulse frequency, stronger many-body transition appears at finite times long after the pulse exposure.

## **V. CONCLUSIONS**

In this paper, we studied the exciton insulator phase in a one-dimensional chain of atomic s-p orbitals in the presence



FIG. 8. The evolution of band dispersion for a 1D *s*-*p* chain with increment of  $U_{sp}$  from 3 to 7. Top row plots are for a *s*-*p* chain with  $\epsilon = 1/2$ ,  $V_{sp} = 1/2$ , and the bottom row plots for one with  $\epsilon = 1/2$ ,  $V_{sp} = 1$ . For bands being flattened near k = 0 we use the increasing behavior of  $\phi$  by  $U_{sp}$  from BCS, bands with two minima and maxima, to characterize the crossover to the BEC phase. Here, we clearly see a BCS-BEC crossover with enhancement of interorbital Coulomb interaction  $U_{sp}$ .

of onsite interorbital Coulomb interaction. The model in the noninteracting regime presents a topological phase transition from a TI to trivial BI, providing a playground to study the possible formation of the exciton condensate in insulators with a nontrivial band topology. At equilibrium, our mean-field study reveals that contrary to the absence of exciton formation in the trivial BI phase, exciton condensate is formed in the TI phase at strong Coulomb interaction. This implies that the band inversion is crucial in the formation of exciton condensate, meaning that the in-plain and out-of-plain pseudomagnetic field related to bands with different parities compete. Our findings also show that BCS-BEC crossover is present in the low s-p hybridization limit. Furthermore, we found that the collective modes in the phase direction are gaped as a consequence of interorbital coupling.

Motivated by recent pump-induced coherent dynamics of exciton condensates, we also studied the time-evolution of the exciton order parameter irradiated by a pump pulse and coupled to an optical phonon bath. We showed that exciton dynamics clearly depend upon the driven laser frequency, and the nature of EI phases, BCS versus BEC condensates, reveal different optical transitions. Also, the fingerprint of photoinduced bandgap shrinkage is observable as an energy redshift in the optical spectra of both EI types. Moreover, we found that long after the pulse exposure, the many-body transition is enhanced in the BSC EI phase, while it is suppressed in the BEC EI phase.

The model studied in this paper can be generalized to include the spin degrees of freedom and possibly a richer phase diagram emerges. Also, in the light of recent experiments on  $Ta_2NiSe_5$  and its quasi-one-dimensional nature, it would be interesting to see if the band parities might affect the exciton formation in this material, which we leave it for future study.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors acknowledge support from the Sharif University of Technology under Grant No. G960208 and Iran's National Elite Federation.

### **APPENDIX A: WINDING NUMBER**

In this Appendix we present the details of computation of winding number for noninteracting Hamiltonian (2). The Bloch Hamiltonian of Eq. (2), transforms under the following unitary transformation,

$$U = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1\\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix},$$
 (A1)

to

$$H_0(k) = \left(\frac{\epsilon_s + \epsilon_p}{2} - t_s \cos k + t_p \cos k\right) \mathbb{I}_{2 \times 2} + \mathbf{d}(k) \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma},$$
(A2)

where

$$d_x(k) = \frac{\epsilon_s - \epsilon_p}{2} - t_s \cos k - t_p \cos k, \qquad (A3)$$

$$d_y(k) = 2V_{sp}\sin k, \quad d_z(k) = 0.$$
 (A4)

For  $\epsilon_s = -\epsilon_p = \epsilon > 0$ ,  $t_s = t_p = t = 1$ , the  $H_0(k)$  is chiral symmetric, since  $\{H_0(k), \sigma_z\} = 0$ . Thus, the winding number can be written as [43]

$$\nu = \frac{1}{2i\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dk \frac{d}{dk} \ln \tilde{d}(k) = \frac{\bar{V}}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dk \frac{\bar{\epsilon} \cos k - 1}{(\bar{\epsilon} - \cos k)^2 + \bar{V}^2 \sin^2 k}, \quad (A5)$$

where we have used

$$d(k) = d_x(k) + id_y(k) = |\mathbf{d}(k)|e^{i\varphi_k}, \qquad (A6a)$$

$$|\mathbf{d}(k)| = \sqrt{(\epsilon - 2t\cos k)^2 + 4V_{sp}^2\sin^2 k},$$
 (A6b)

$$\varphi_k = \tan^{-1}[d_y(k)/d_x(k)], \qquad (A6c)$$

$$\bar{\epsilon} = \epsilon/2t,$$
 (A6d)

$$\bar{V} = V_{sp}/t. \tag{A6e}$$

Therefore, for a noninteracting *s*-*p* chain ( $U_{sp} = 0$ ), when  $\epsilon > 2 \Rightarrow d_x(k) > 0$ , and the winding number becomes zero. In fact, in a high onsite energy regime, *s* and *p* orbitals are

energetically separated leading to an effectively insignificant hybridization between *s* and *p* orbitals, thus a semiconductor forms. However, in a small  $\epsilon$  regime, the *s*-*p* hybridization significantly contributes to band inversion and leads to a TI

### APPENDIX B: BCS-BEC CROSSOVER

phase forming.

In the low *s-p* hybridization energy limit, the band structure of a BCS type EI evolves as the interorbital Coulomb interaction is enhanced. The valence and conduction bands are flattened at k = 0 with  $U_{sp}$  increment until eventually, a BCS-BEC crossover occurs. Figure 8 illustrates the gradual evolution of band dispersion proportional to  $U_{sp}$  strength.

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