Kicked Hall systems: Quantum-dynamical and spectral manifestations of generic superweak chaos

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Classical "kicked Hall systems" (KHSs), i.e., periodically kicked charges in the presence of uniform magnetic and electric fields that are perpendicular to each other and to the kicking direction, have been introduced and studied recently. It was shown that KHSs exhibit, under generic conditions, the phenomenon of "superweak chaos" (SWC), i.e., for small kick strength κ a KHS behaves as if this strength were effectively κ^2 rather than κ . Here we investigate quantum-dynamical and spectral manifestations of this generic SWC. We first derive general expressions for quantum effective Hamiltonians for the KHSs. We then show that the phenomenon of quantum antiresonance (QAR), i.e., "frozen" quantum dynamics with flat quasienergy (QE) bands, takes place for integer values of a scaled Planck constant \hbar_s and under the same generic conditions for SWC. This appears to be the most generic occurrence of QAR in quantum systems. The vicinity of QAR is shown to correspond semiclassically to SWC. A global spectral manifestation of SWC is the fact that a scaled QE spectrum as function of \hbar_s , at fixed small value of κ/\hbar_s , features an approximately "doubled" structure. In the case of standard (cosine) potentials, this structure is that of a universal (parameters-independent) double Hofstadter butterfly. Also, for standard potentials and for small \hbar_s (semiclassical regime), the evolution of the kinetic-energy expectation value exhibits a relatively slow quantum-diffusive behavior having universal features. These approximate spectral and quantum-dynamical universalities agree with predictions from the effective Hamiltonian.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Low-dimensional quantum systems, whose classical counterparts are nonintegrable with chaotic dynamics, exhibit a rich variety of behaviors both in semiclassical and fully quantum regimes. Two basically different classes of such systems have become paradigmatic in the field of "quantum chaos." The first class includes the kicked rotor (KR) and several variants of it [1–15]. The classical KR features unbounded chaotic diffusion on a cylindrical phase space for sufficiently strong nonintegrability or kicking parameter [2–5]. Quantally, this diffusion is suppressed due to dynamical localization in angular-momentum space for generic (irrational) values of a scaled (dimensionless) Planck constant \hbar_s [1,7,9,14]. The dynamical localization is a consequence of an essentially discrete quasienergy (QE) spectrum [7]. For rational \hbar_s , the QE spectrum is band continuous, leading to the diametrically opposite phenomenon of quantum resonance (QR) [8,10-12], i.e., a quadratic growth in time of the expectation value of the quantum KR kinetic energy. Experimental realizations of both dynamical localization [13] and QR phenomena [14,15] were achieved using atom-optics methods with cold atoms or Bose-Einstein condensates.

A second class of systems, introduced by Zaslavsky and coworkers [16,17] and subsequently generalized in other works [18–22], are charged particles periodically driven or kicked by a spatially periodic potential in a direction perpendicular to a uniform magnetic field **B**. Unlike the classical KR, these systems can exhibit, at least for some parameter values, an unbounded chaotic diffusion on an infinite "stochastic web" in the phase plane for arbitrarily small nonintegrability strength [16,17,21,22]. Quantally, the QE spectrum of such weak-chaos web systems was numerically shown to have a fractal structure

for generic \hbar_s [23], leading to quantum diffusion [23–25], i.e., an almost linear increase in time of the kinetic-energy expectation value. QR again occurs in these systems for rational \hbar_s .

Recently, another class of systems has been introduced and their classical dynamics was studied. These are the "kicked Hall systems" (KHSs) [26], obtained from the Zaslavsky systems by adding a uniform electric field **E** perpendicular to both the magnetic field **B** and the kicking direction. It was shown [26] that for resonant values of *B* and *E* and for small kicking strength κ there exists a *generic* family of periodic kicking potentials for which the Hall effect from **B** and **E** significantly suppresses the weak chaos in the Zaslavsky systems, replacing it by "*superweak*" chaos (SWC). This means that the system behaves as if the kicking strength were κ^2 rather than κ . Classical manifestations of SWC are a decrease in the instability of periodic orbits, a narrowing of the chaotic layers, and slower chaotic diffusion on stochastic webs, relative to the ordinary weak-chaos case (E = 0) [26].

In this paper, we investigate quantum-dynamical and spectral manifestations of SWC in KHSs by restricting ourselves, for simplicity, to stochastic webs with square rotational symmetry. The content and organization of the paper are as follows. In Sec. II, we present a summary of relevant properties of classical KHSs (see more details in Ref. [26]). In Sec. III, the basic evolution operator for the quantum KHS and general expressions for quantum effective Hamiltonians are given. In Sec. IV, we show that for integer values of \hbar_s and for the same generic family of kicking potentials for which SWC occurs, there takes place the phenomenon of quantum antiresonance (QAR), i.e., frozen quantum dynamics with flat (infinitely degenerate) QE bands. This QAR in KHSs is much more

generic than the rare QAR occurring in the KR [8] (or variants of it [9]) and in the Zaslavsky systems [21,25]. We also show that the vicinity of QAR (\hbar_s close to integers) corresponds semiclassically to SWC. In Sec. V, we show the following global spectral manifestation of SWC: A scaled QE spectrum as function of \hbar_s , at fixed small value of κ/\hbar_s , features an approximately "doubled" structure. In the case of standard (cosine) potentials, this structure is that of a universal (parametersindependent) double Hofstadter butterfly. In Sec. VI, we study numerically the evolution of the kinetic-energy expectation value of the KHS for standard potentials in a semiclassical regime (small irrational \hbar_s). This evolution is found to exhibit an approximate quantum-diffusive behavior which is slower than that in the ordinary weak-chaos case and has universal features under variations of the electric field. The observed approximate universalities are in accordance with predictions from the effective Hamiltonian. A summary and conclusions are presented in Sec. VII. Detailed derivations of several results are given in the Appendices.

II. SUMMARY OF PROPERTIES OF CLASSICAL KHSs

The KHS is a charged particle in uniform magnetic and electric fields, $\mathbf{B} = B\hat{\mathbf{z}}$ and $\mathbf{E} = E\hat{\mathbf{y}}$, respectively, and periodically kicked by a spatially periodic potential V(x) in the x direction. Assuming, without loss of generality, a particle of unit mass and charge, the Hamiltonian is

$$H = \frac{\Pi^2}{2} - Ey + \kappa V(x) \sum_{s=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t - sT), \qquad (1)$$

where $\mathbf{\Pi} = \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{r}/(2c)$ is the kinetic momentum, κ is a nonintegrability parameter, and *T* is the time period. It is useful to express (1) in the two natural degrees of freedom in a magnetic field [27], given by the independent conjugate pairs (x_c , y_c) (coordinates of the cyclotron-orbit center) and ($u = \Pi_x / \omega$, $v = \Pi_y / \omega$), with $\omega = B/c$ being the cyclotron angular velocity. From simple geometry one has $x = x_c - v$ and $y = y_c + u$. Defining the variable $u' = u - E/\omega^2$, which we redenote by *u*, the Hamiltonian (1) can then be expressed as follows:

$$H = \omega^{2}(u^{2} + v^{2})/2 - Ey_{c} + \kappa V(x_{c} - v) \sum_{s = -\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t - sT),$$
(2)

where a constant $E^2/(2\omega^2)$ was omitted. Choosing units such that $\omega = 1$ from now on, the conjugate pairs above have Poisson brackets $\{y_c, x_c\} = \{u, v\} = 1$. From the Hamilton equation $\dot{x}_c = -\partial H/\partial y_c = E$, we see that x_c evolves linearly in time (Hall effect):

$$x_{\rm c} = x_{\rm c}^{(0)} + Et.$$
 (3)

Using Eq. (3), we see that the Hamiltonian (2) is just that of a harmonic oscillator [in the conjugate pair (u, v)] periodically kicked by a time modulated potential $V(x_c^{(0)} + Et - v)$. For $E = 0, x_c$ is a constant of the motion.

From $\{u, v\} = 1$, the Hamilton equations for (u, v) are $\dot{u} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial v}$ and $\dot{v} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial u}$, where *H* is given by (2) with (3). Integrating the latter equations from t = sT - 0 to t = (s + 1)T - 0 and denoting $u_s = u(t = sT - 0)$, $v_s = v(t = sT - 0)$ 0), one obtains the one-period Poincaré map for the KHS:

$$M_{\gamma,\eta}: \ z_{s+1} = \left[z_s + \kappa f \left(x_c^{(0)} + s\eta - v_s \right) \right] e^{-i\gamma}, \qquad (4)$$

where $z_s = u_s + iv_s$, f(x) = -dV/dx, $\gamma = \omega T = T$, and $\eta = ET$. We assume the period of V(x) to be 2π , without loss of generality, and that γ and η satisfy the resonance conditions:

$$\frac{\gamma}{2\pi} = \frac{m}{n}, \quad \frac{\eta}{2\pi} = \frac{k}{\ell},$$
 (5)

where (m, n) and (k, ℓ) are two pairs of coprime integers. Let $r = \text{lcm}(n, \ell)$ be the least common multiple of n and ℓ . Then, the map from z_s to z_{s+r} is given by

$$M_{\gamma,\eta}^{r}: z_{s+r} = z_{s} + \kappa \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} f(x_{c}^{(0)} + (s+j)\eta - v_{s+j})e^{ij\gamma}.$$
(6)

The map (6) is the smallest iterate of the map (4) that is a near identity $(z_{s+r} \approx z_s)$ for small κ . Thus, (6) may be considered as the basic map for the system.

The map (4) for n = 1, 2 ($\gamma = 0, \pi$) is integrable for all η , so that chaos may emerge only for n > 2. We say that the map (6) for n > 2 and small $\kappa \ll 1$ exhibits SWC if its expansion in powers of κ starts from κ^2 ,

$$M_{\gamma,\eta,r}: z_{s+r} = z_s + O(\kappa^2). \tag{7}$$

This is unlike ordinary weak chaos, with $z_{s+r} = z_s + O(\kappa)$. Equation (7) implies [26] a decrease of the instability of hyperbolic fixed points (or periodic orbits), i.e., the local Lyapunov exponent of such a point in a SWC regime is significantly smaller than that in a case of ordinary weak chaos. As a consequence, a SWC layer emanating from this fixed point is narrower than an ordinary weak-chaos layer (see Figs. 3 and 4 in Ref. [26]). Also, the SWC diffusion on stochastic webs is significantly slower than the ordinary weak-chaos one (see Figs. 1, 2, 6, and 7 in Ref. [26]).

Given the general family of 2π -periodic potentials with finite Fourier expansion,

$$V(x) = \sum_{g=-N}^{N} V_g \exp(igx), \quad V_0 = 0,$$
 (8)

one can show the following [26]. For E = 0, Eq. (7) holds only if *n* is even and the function $V(x_c - v)$ is odd: $V(x_c + v) = -V(x_c - v)$. For $E \neq 0$, with the resonance conditions (5), let us write $n/\ell = n'/\ell'$, where (n', ℓ') are coprime integers. Then, if

$$\ell' > N, \tag{9}$$

Eq. (7) for SWC holds for *arbitrary* potential (8) and initial value $x_c^{(0)}$ in Eq. (6), independently of the parity of *n*. Thus, unlike the case of E = 0, SWC for $E \neq 0$ occurs under quite generic conditions.

From now on, we shall restrict ourselves to the case of $\gamma = \pi/2$, i.e., m/n = 1/4 in Eq. (5), corresponding to chaotic motion on stochastic webs having translational invariance in both *u* and *v* with period 2π and an approximately square web cell for small κ ; see, e.g., Fig. 1. This case was extensively considered in the study of classical KHSs [26].



FIG. 1. Portions of stochastic webs in the $2\pi \times 2\pi$ unit cell of periodicity $-\pi \le u, v < \pi$ for $V(x) = -\cos(x), \gamma = \pi/2, x_c^{(0)} = 0$, and (a) $\kappa = 0.6, \eta = 0$ (ordinary weak-chaos case); (b) $\kappa = 0.1$, $\eta = 4\pi/3$ (SWC case). Notice the approximately square web cell in both cases. The web-cell area in case (a) is approximately twice that in case (b).

III. QUANTUM EVOLUTION OPERATOR AND EFFECTIVE HAMILTONIANS

The quantum analogs of the Poisson brackets $\{y_c, x_c\} = \{u, v\} = 1$ are the commutators $[\hat{y}_c, \hat{x}_c] = [\hat{u}, \hat{v}] = i\hbar$, where the quantum variables (operators) are indicated by carets as usual. From Eq. (2) (with $\omega = 1$ in our units), the quantum Hamiltonian is written as

$$\hat{H} = \hbar (\hat{a}^{\dagger} \hat{a} + 1/2) - E \hat{y}_{c} + \kappa V (\hat{x}_{c} - \hat{v}) \sum_{s=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t - sT),$$
(10)

where $\hat{a} = (\hat{v} - i\hat{u})/\sqrt{2\hbar}$. The basic evolution operator for the Hamiltonian (10), from t = sT - 0 to t = (s + r)T - 0, corresponding to the basic classical map (6), is derived in Appendix A in the case assumed in this paper, i.e., $\gamma = \pi/2$. After omitting nonrelevant terms, the final result is

$$\hat{U}_r = \prod_{j=1}^r \exp[-i\mu V(\hat{x}_c - j\eta - \hat{v}_j)],$$
 (11)

where $\mu = \kappa/\hbar$, \hat{x}_c can be considered from now on as a constant number x_c , and the factors in the product are arranged from left to right in order of increasing *j* after defining $\hat{v}_1 = \hat{u}$, $\hat{v}_2 = -\hat{v}$, $\hat{v}_3 = -\hat{u}$, $\hat{v}_4 = \hat{v}$, with \hat{v}_j being periodic in *j* with period 4.

The operator (11) is a unitary one and can then be formally written as

$$\hat{U}_r = \exp(-i\mu\hat{H}_e), \qquad (12)$$

where \hat{H}_e is a Hermitian operator, the quantum effective Hamiltonian. Denoting $\hbar_s = \hbar/(2\pi)$, the following results are derived in Appendix A:

$$\hat{H}_{e} = \hat{H}_{0}(\hat{u}, \hat{v}) + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \epsilon^{i} \hat{H}_{i}(\hat{u}, \hat{v}; \hbar_{s}),$$
(13)

where

$$\hat{H}_0(\hat{u},\,\hat{v}) = \sum_{j=1}^r V(x_c - j\eta - \hat{v}_j),\tag{14}$$

$$\epsilon = \mu \sin(\pi \hbar_{\rm s}) = \frac{\kappa}{2} \frac{\sin(\pi \hbar_{\rm s})}{\pi \hbar_{\rm s}},\tag{15}$$

and $\hat{H}_{\iota}(\hat{u}, \hat{v}; \hbar_{s})$ is 2π -periodic in both (\hat{u}, \hat{v}) and nonvanishing for integer \hbar_{s} . The ι th term in the expansion (13) is a linear combination of (repeated) commutators, each involving $\iota + 1$ operators (A3) [for example, $[\hat{A}, [\hat{A}, \hat{B}]]$ in Eq. (A4) involves three operators]. An explicit general expression for $\hat{H}_{1}(\hat{u}, \hat{v}; \hbar_{s})$ is derived in Appendix B, see Eq. (B8).

IV. QAR, QAR VICINITY, AND SWC

A. QAR

The QAR phenomenon in time-periodic systems occurs when the evolution operator in some basic time interval (given by a fixed number of time periods) is equal to the identity operator times a constant phase factor for some parameter values [8,9,21,25]. This implies a frozen quantum dynamics, i.e., no wave packet evolves after times multiples of the above time interval. In the case of the basic operator (11) or (12) in *r* time periods, QAR occurs only if \hat{H}_e is equal to the identity times a constant, which can be chosen to be zero without loss of generality. Then, since the eigenvalues of a unitary operator (12) must have the form $\exp(-i\mathcal{E})$, where the phases \mathcal{E} are the QEs, all the QE spectrum collapses into a flat (infinitely degenerate) band $\mathcal{E} = 0$ under QAR conditions.

From Eq. (13), we see that $\hat{H}_e = 0$ identically provided two conditions are satisfied: (1) $\epsilon = 0$, i.e., \hbar_s is integer from Eq. (15); (2) $\hat{H}_0(\hat{u}, \hat{v}) = 0$. Using Eq. (14) with Eq. (8) and $r = \text{lcm}(n = 4, \ell) = 4\ell'$ (see Sec. II), we get

$$\hat{H}_{0}(\hat{u}, \hat{v}) = \sum_{j=1}^{r} \sum_{g=-N}^{N} V_{g} e^{ig(x_{c}-j\eta)} e^{-ig\hat{v}_{j}}$$

$$= \sum_{g=-N}^{N} V_{g} e^{igx_{c}} \sum_{\bar{n}=1}^{4} \sum_{l=0}^{\ell'-1} e^{-ig[(4l+\bar{n})\eta+\hat{v}_{4l+\bar{n}}]}$$

$$= \sum_{g=-N}^{N} V_{g} e^{igx_{c}} \sum_{\bar{n}=1}^{4} e^{-ig(\bar{n}\eta+\hat{v}_{\bar{n}})} \frac{1-e^{-2\pi ikn'g}}{1-e^{-2\pi ikn'g/\ell'}},$$
(16)

where we used the periodicity of \hat{v}_j with period n = 4 and the fact that $4\eta = 2\pi kn/\ell = 2\pi kn'/\ell'$ [see Sec. II, in particular Eq. (5)] to perform the sum over *l*. The latter is a geometric sum, equal to the ratio in the last line of Eq. (16). Clearly, this ratio is identically zero for all *g* only if $\ell' > N$, which is precisely the SWC condition (9). We thus see that QAR in KHSs occurs for integer \hbar_s under the same generic conditions as SWC, i.e., for general potential (8) with $N < \ell'$ and for arbitrary constant x_c .

B. QAR vicinity and SWC

Consider the close vicinity of QAR, i.e., \hbar_s close to an integer value $\hbar_s^{(0)}$ (assumed to be odd, for simplicity and without loss of generality): $\hbar_s = \hbar_s^{(0)} - \delta$, $0 < \delta \ll 1$. Then, from Eq. (15),

$$\kappa \approx \kappa' = \frac{\kappa \delta}{2(\hbar_{\rm s}^{(0)} - \delta)}.$$
(17)

Since $\hat{H}_0(\hat{u}, \hat{v}) = 0$ under the QAR condition $\ell' > N$ (see Sec. IV A), the evolution operator (12), with $\mu = \kappa/\hbar$ and

the expansion (13), is approximately given by

$$\hat{U}_r \approx \exp\left[-i\frac{(\kappa')^2}{\hbar'}\hat{H}_1(\hat{u},\hat{v};\hbar_s)\right], \quad \hbar' = \frac{\hbar\delta}{2(\hbar_s^{(0)} - \delta)}, \quad (18)$$

after using Eq. (17). Equation (18) is a quantum map deviating from the identity by quantities of order $(\kappa')^2$, $\kappa' \ll 1$. This quantum map is precisely a semiclassical approximation of the classical SWC map (7) with $\kappa = \kappa'$ and effective small Planck constant $\hbar' \ll 1$. Thus, the QAR vicinity corresponds to semiclassical SWC.

V. SWC AND NEARLY DOUBLED GLOBAL QE SPECTRUM

We study here the QE spectrum under SWC conditions. We recall that a QE is the phase \mathcal{E} determining the eigenvalues $\exp(-i\mathcal{E})$ of the basic evolution operator (11): $\hat{U}_r |\Psi_{\mathcal{E}}\rangle = \exp(-i\mathcal{E})|\Psi_{\mathcal{E}}\rangle$. The QE spectra can be calculated for rational values of \hbar_s using, e.g., the formalism in Ref. [28], which we summarize in Appendix C for the reader convenience.

Under the classical SWC condition (9), the leading term (14) in the expansion (13) vanishes (see Sec. IV A), so that for sufficiently small $\mu = \kappa/\hbar$ the basic operator (12) is approximately given by

$$\hat{U}_r \approx \exp[-i\mu\epsilon \hat{H}_1(\hat{u}, \hat{v}; \hbar_s)], \qquad (19)$$

where an expression for $\hat{H}_1(\hat{u}, \hat{v}; \hbar_s)$ is derived in Appendix B, see Eq. (B8). Let us now assume that $\ell' > 2N$, a condition stronger than the SWC one (9). Then, the second sum in Eq. (B8) does not appear, so that $\hat{H}_1(\hat{u}, \hat{v}; \hbar_s)$ does not depend on x_c and the phases of V_g . Also it depends on (\hat{u}, \hat{v}) only through the new phase-space variables $\hat{u}' = \hat{u} + \hat{v}$ and $\hat{v}' = \hat{v} - \hat{u}$. This implies that the unit cell of periodicity of $\hat{H}_1(\hat{u}, \hat{v}; \hbar_s)$ in phase space is half the size of the ordinary $2\pi \times 2\pi$ unit cell. Classically, this means that the SWC web cell is expected to be approximately half the size of the ordinary weak-chaos web cell. This is demonstrated by the example in Fig. 1(b) [to be compared with Fig. 1(a)], showing the case of $\ell' = 3 > 2N = 2$ for N = 1.

Quantally, the eigenvalues of the operator (19) only approximate the exact eigenvalues $\exp(-i\mathcal{E})$, so that the scaled QE $\mathcal{E}/(\mu\epsilon)$ should approximate the eigenvalues of $\hat{H}_1(\hat{u}, \hat{v}; \hbar_s)$. The latter operator depends on the variables \hat{u}' and \hat{v}' above which satisfy $[\hat{u}', \hat{v}'] = 2\pi i \hbar'_s$, where $\hbar'_s = 2\hbar_s$. Now the exact QE spectrum of the operator (12) at fixed μ is periodic in \hbar_s with period 1 since the matrices in Eq. (C4) exhibit this periodicity, as one can see from Eq. (C12). Similarly, the spectrum of $\hat{H}_1(\hat{u}, \hat{v}; \hbar_s)$ must be periodic in \hbar'_s with period 1. But when \hbar_s covers the interval $0 \leq \hbar_s < 1$, $\hbar'_s = 2\hbar_s$ will cover the interval $0 \leq \hbar'_s < 2$. Therefore, the scaled QE spectrum $\mathcal{E}/(\mu\epsilon)$ at fixed μ should exhibit an approximately double structure, i.e., this spectrum for $0 \leq \hbar_s < 1/2$ should look almost the same as that for $1/2 \leq \hbar_s < 1$.

Let us illustrate this in detail in the case of standard potentials (8) with N = 1 and $\ell' > 2N = 2$; in this case, other results can be derived. Choosing, for the sake of definiteness, $|V_1| = 1/2$ [corresponding to the cosine potential $V(x) = \cos(x + \alpha)$ for arbitrary phase α], Eq. (B8) can be rewritten in

this case as

$$\frac{2\cos(\eta)\hat{H}_{1}(\hat{u},\,\hat{v};\hbar_{\rm s})}{\ell'} = -[\cos(\hat{u}') + \cos(\hat{v}')],\qquad(20)$$

using $J(1; \hbar_s) = 1$ from Eq. (A7). Since the eigenvalues of $\hat{H}_1(\hat{u}, \hat{v}; \hbar_s)$ are approximately $\mathcal{E}/(\mu\epsilon)$ (see above), the eigenvalues of the operator on the left-hand side of Eq. (20) will approximate $\tilde{\mathcal{E}} = 2\cos(\eta)\mathcal{E}/(\ell'\mu\epsilon) = 8\cos(\eta)\mathcal{E}/(r\mu\epsilon)$. The operator on the right-hand side of Eq. (20) is the Harper one [29,30], whose spectra for all \hbar'_s in the interval $0 \le \hbar'_s < 1$ form the well-known Hofstadter "butterfly" [30]. Therefore, by the above general considerations, the exact spectra $\tilde{\mathcal{E}}$ at fixed μ will be approximated by a *double* Hofstadter butterfly, as shown in Fig. 2 for several values of η . In terms of the variable $\tilde{\mathcal{E}}$, obtained by scaling the QE \mathcal{E} by quantities including $\cos(\eta)$, the spectra assume an almost universal form, nearly independent of η .

Measures of the small deviations of the exact spectra from the universal form of the double Hofstadter butterfly for small μ are studied in some detail in Appendix D; we briefly summarize here the main results. While the exact spectra for $\hbar_s = 0$, 1 coincide with those from Eq. (20), there will be small differences between the two spectra at general values of \hbar_s . In particular, the exact spectra slightly depend on x_c [due to high-order terms in the expansion (13)], unlike the spectra from Eq. (20). For example, for $\hbar_s = 1/2$ the difference between the width of the exact spectrum and that of the approximate one (which coincides with that for $\hbar_s = 0$, 1) is an expansion in powers of μ starting from μ^2 and featuring a dependence on x_c from sufficiently high-order terms. Also, the exact spectrum for $\eta \neq 0$ and $\hbar_s = 1/2$ generally consists of two bands separated by a small gap, which is visible in Fig. 2(a).

VI. QUANTUM EVOLUTION AND DIFFUSION

In this section, we study the time evolution of wave packets and expectation values in semiclassical weak-chaos and SWC regimes for a generic, irrational value of \hbar_s . Let us apply s' times the basic evolution operator (11) to an initial wave packet $\Phi_0(u)$ in the *u* representation. Since the operator (11) corresponds to *r* time steps (kicks), the final wave packet will be labeled by s = rs' time steps:

$$\Phi_{s=rs'}(u) = \hat{U}_r^{s'} \Phi_0(u).$$
(21)

As in Sec. V, we shall consider a N = 1 potential (8), $V(x) = -\cos(x)$, and we shall assume the strong SWC condition $\ell' > 2N = 2$. Then, Eq. (20) holds, so that, using Eqs. (19), (20), and $\ell' = r/4$, we get

$$\hat{U}_{r}^{s'} \approx \exp\left\{i\mu\epsilon \frac{rs'}{8\cos(\eta)}[\cos(\hat{u}') + \cos(\hat{v}')]\right\}.$$
 (22)

Defining the scaled time variable

$$\tau = \frac{rs'}{8|\cos(\eta)|} = \frac{s}{8|\cos(\eta)|},\tag{23}$$

we see that the approximate evolution operator (22) exhibits, in terms of τ , a universal form independent of η . This is analogous to the universal double Hofstadter butterfly in terms of the scaled QE $\tilde{\mathcal{E}} = 8 \cos(\eta) \mathcal{E}/(r \mu \epsilon)$, see Sec. V and Fig. 2. Indeed, one may include in τ a factor $\mu \epsilon$, in analogy to $\tilde{\mathcal{E}}$, so that



FIG. 2. Scaled QE spectra $\tilde{\mathcal{E}} = 8\cos(\eta)\mathcal{E}/(r\mu\epsilon)$ for $\mu = 0.1$, $x_c = 0$, and (a) $\eta/(2\pi) = 2/3$; (b) $\eta/(2\pi) = 3/5$; (c) $\eta/(2\pi) = 8/13$. The scaled Planck constant \hbar_s takes the rational values q/p for all coprime integers p and q with $p \leq 30$ and q < p. The approximate structure of a double Hofstadter butterfly is evident in all the plots.

the operator (22) will be approximately independent also of μ and ϵ for small μ . We shall not consider here this generalized definition of τ , since we shall not vary μ and ϵ .

To verify the universality predicted by Eq. (22) with Eq. (23) and to study other topics, we calculate expectation values in the evolving state (21) as functions of *s* using the exact evolution

operator (11). These calculations can be easily performed by well-known methods [10,25], which we briefly summarize in Appendix E.

As the initial wave packet, we choose a normalized coherent state centered at a hyperbolic fixed point z' = u' + iv' of the basic classical map (6) (i.e., $z_r = z_0$ for $z_0 = z'$):

$$\Phi_0(u) = (\pi\hbar)^{-1/4} \exp[i v' u/\hbar - (u - u')^2/(2\hbar)].$$
(24)

Denoting $\delta \hat{u} = \hat{u} - u'$ and $\delta \hat{v} = \hat{v} - v'$, we consider the expectation value

$$\langle \delta \hat{u}^2 + \delta \hat{v}^2 \rangle_s = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} du \Phi_s^*(u) (\delta \hat{u}^2 + \delta \hat{v}^2) \Phi_s(u)$$
(25)

 $(\hat{v} = -i\hbar d/du)$ in the evolving state (21) with (24). A classical quantity analogous to (25) is

$$\langle (u_s - u_0)^2 + (v_s - v_0)^2 \rangle,$$
 (26)

where (u_s, v_s) (s = rs') is determined from the map (6) and $\langle \rangle$ denotes average over an ensemble of initial conditions (u_0, v_0) uniformly distributed over a disk centered at (u', v') and of radius $\sqrt{2\hbar}$. Since (u', v') is a hyperbolic fixed point from which there emanates a stochastic web (see Fig. 1), the quantity (26) will reflect both the classical chaotic diffusion on the web and the stable (elliptic) motions near the web. Our calculations of (25) and (26) were performed for $\mu = 0.1$, $\hbar_s = 1/[11 + (\sqrt{5} - 1)/2]$ (corresponding to $\kappa \approx 0.054$), and for several values of $\eta/(2\pi)$ and x_c .

The results are shown in Fig. 3. In Fig. 3(a), the quantities (25) and (26) are plotted in the ordinary weak-chaos case of $\eta/(2\pi) = 0/1$ (= 0) and in the SWC case of $\eta/(2\pi) = 2/3$, with $x_c = 0$ in both cases. The plots of (25) (thick solid line and dashed line) start with a transient behavior almost coinciding with the classical quantity (26) (thin solid lines) up to some crossover time $s \sim s^*$. For $s > s^*$, the quantity (26) saturates to a constant value, due to the fact that for the small value of $\kappa \approx 0.054$ the classical chaotic diffusion is very close to a regular motion on separatrix lines approximating the stochastic web and connecting the hyperbolic fixed points (see Fig. 1). This motion essentially stops when δu and δv are of the order of the size of the web cell, i.e., δu , $\delta v \sim 2\pi$ in the weak-chaos case [Fig. 1(a)] and δu , $\delta v \sim \pi$ in the SWC case [Fig. 1(b)]. On the other hand, the quantum wave packet continues to spread because of tunneling between neighboring web cells, leading to quantum diffusion of (25) for $s > s^*$. The quantum diffusion is due to the fractal nature of the spectrum (approximately given by a double Hofstadter butterfly, see Fig. 2) for irrational \hbar_s [23,24]. As expected, the quantum-diffusion rate in the weakchaos case is significantly larger than that in the SWC case.

Figure 3(b) shows, for $\eta/(2\pi) = 2/3$ and *s* not too large, that the quantities (25) for two extreme values of x_c almost coincide, in consistency with the approximate evolution operator (22), which is independent of x_c . The dependence on x_c emerges only at large *s*, due to high-order terms in the expansion (13). A similar independence on x_c is featured by the corresponding classical quantities (26) [almost coinciding thin solid lines in Fig. 3(b)], due to an analog of Eq. (22) for the classical map (6) [26].

Figure 3(c) shows the quantities (25) for $\eta/(2\pi) = 2/3, 3/5, 8/13$ and $x_c = 0$. The closeness of these quantities



FIG. 3. Plots of the quantities (25) for $\mu = 0.1$, $\hbar_s = 1/[11 + (\sqrt{5} - 1)/2]$, and several values of $\eta/(2\pi)$ or x_c , as specified in the legends. The classical quantities (26) [close to their quantum counterparts (25) for small *s*] are plotted as thin solid lines. (a) Cases of $\eta/(2\pi) = 0/1$, 2/3 for $x_c = 0$. (b) Cases of $\eta/(2\pi) = 2/3$ for $x_c = 0, \pi/2$. (c) Cases of $\eta/(2\pi) = 2/3, 3/5, 8/13$ for $x_c = 0$; the classical quantities (26) (thin solid lines) correspond to $\eta/(2\pi) = 2/3, 8/13, 3/5$ in order of descending lines at s = 5000. (d) Same



FIG. 4. Probability distributions $|\tilde{\Phi}_s(x)|^2$ in real space x for the wave packet $\tilde{\Phi}_s(x)$ after s time steps in the two cases of Fig. 3(a) with $x_c = x_c^{(0)} = 0$: (a) Ordinary weak-chaos case of $\eta/(2\pi) = 0/1$; (b) SWC case of $\eta/(2\pi) = 2/3$. In both cases, the values of s in the three plots, from above to below, are s = 120, 3600, 48 000. The wave packet $\tilde{\Phi}_s(x)$ was calculated using the relation $x = x_c - v$, so that $\tilde{\Phi}_s(x) = \bar{\Phi}_s(v = x_c - x)$, where $\bar{\Phi}_s(v)$ is the wave packet in the v representation, see Appendix E. Also, in case (b), the time (s) dependence of x_c as $x_c = x_c^{(0)} + \eta rs$ [see Eq. (3) with t = rsT and $\eta = ET$] was removed by plotting $|\tilde{\Phi}_s(x)|^2$ in the moving Hall frame, so that $x_c = x_c^{(0)} = 0$.

to the corresponding classical ones (26), up to some crossover time $s \sim s^*$, can now be seen for different SWC values of η . Again, for $s > s^*$, the classical quantities (26) saturate while the quantum ones (25) feature quantum diffusion. If all these quantities are plotted versus the scaled time variable (23), as in Fig. 3(d), we get an almost perfect coincidence of the quantities (25) for all values of η , provided s is not too large. This is in agreement with the predictions from Eqs. (22) and (23); the deviations from coincidence for large s are due to high-order terms in the expansion (13). The very good coincidence of the classical quantities (26) for all η is again due to the analog of Eq. (22) for the classical map (6).

Figure 4 shows the probability distributions in real space x for the evolving wave packets in the two cases of Fig. 3(a). It is clear that the quantum diffusion of the wave packet in the ordinary weak-chaos case [Fig. 4(a)] is much faster than that in the SWC case [Fig. 4(b)].

VII. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, we have studied quantum-dynamical and spectral manifestations of classical SWC in KHSs, defined by the general Hamiltonian (1). The presence of an electric field $E = E_y$, satisfying the resonance conditions (5) with

FIG. 3. (*Continued*) plots as in (c) but versus the scaled time variable (23); there is an almost perfect coincidence of the quantities (25) for the different values of $\eta/(2\pi)$ and even a better coincidence of the corresponding classical quantities (26).

 $\eta = ET \neq 0$, causes SWC, defined by Eq. (7), to be a generic phenomenon in KHSs, occurring for arbitrary potential (8) with $N < \ell'$ [Eq. (9)] and arbitrary initial value $x_c^{(0)}$ in Eq. (3) [26].

We have shown that quantum antiresonance (QAR), with the QE spectrum of the basic evolution operator (11) consisting of just one flat (infinitely degenerate) band, occurs for integer values of a scaled Planck constant \hbar_s and under the same generic classical conditions for SWC. Thus, QAR may be viewed as a quantum analog of SWC. In fact, in the close vicinity of QAR (\hbar_s close to an integer), the evolution operator (12) was shown to describe a regime of semiclassical SWC. The generic QAR in KHSs should be compared with the rare one occurring in other systems [8,9,21,25].

We remark that a phenomenon similar to QAR is known to take place for tight-binding electrons in two-dimensional periodic structures perpendicular to a magnetic field [31]. When the magnetic flux per unit cell is some rational multiple of the quantum of flux, the energy eigenstates are localized on just a finite number of sites, forming a bounded region known as "Aharonov-Bohm cage," and the energy spectrum then consists of a finite number of flat bands [31].

A global spectral manifestation of SWC was shown in the general case of $\ell' > 2N$, a condition stronger than the usual SWC one (9): The plot of a scaled QE spectrum versus \hbar_s at fixed small value of $\mu = \kappa/\hbar$ exhibits an approximately doubled structure, i.e., it is approximately periodic in \hbar_s with period 1/2 rather than the ordinary period 1. This reflects the classical fact that the unit cell of the SWC web cell for $\ell' > 2N$ is approximately half the size of the ordinary weak-chaos web cell, see Fig. 1. In the case of standard (cosine) potentials, with N = 1 and $\ell' > 2$, the plot of a scaled QE spectrum is approximately a double Hofstadter butterfly having universal features; see Sec. V and Fig. 2.

This universality is reflected in the quantum evolution of wave packets for standard potentials. This evolution was predicted to exhibit an approximately universal behavior, independent of η and x_c , in terms of the scaled time variable (23). We have verified this prediction for times not too large by numerical studies of the evolution of the kinetic-energy expectation value for a small generic (irrational) value of \hbar_s ; see Sec. VI and Fig. 3.

For an electric field in an arbitrary direction on the (x, y) plane, the generic conditions for SWC and its quantum manifestations in KHSs will depend only on the *y* component E_y of the field. In fact, one can easily show that the directed Hall drift (3) will *always* hold exactly with *E* replaced by E_y , while E_x will essentially add only a constant phase to the argument $x_c - v$ of the kicking potential in the Hamiltonian (2). This phase is equivalent to a change in the initial condition $x_c^{(0)}$ in Eq. (3). However, SWC in KHSs occur for arbitrary values of $x_c^{(0)}$ (see Sec. II and Ref. [26]), so that E_x will not affect the SWC conditions.

If the kicking potential in the KHS is replaced by a timeindependent two-dimensional periodic potential in the (x, y)plane, one gets a system studied in works [32,33]. Unlike the quantum manifestations of SWC in KHSs, the quantum properties of this system strongly depend on the direction of the electric field in the (x, y) plane [33]. Also, for fields in some fixed direction, say y, the directed Hall drift may take place only for specific initial conditions and for electric-field



FIG. 5. Similar to Fig. 3(a) but in the ordinary weak-chaos case of $\eta/(2\pi) = 1/4$ ($\ell' = 1$) and in the SWC case of $\eta/(2\pi) = 1/8$ ($\ell' = 2$); in both cases, $x_c = 0.3\pi/2$. It is evident that the asymptotic quantum evolution is now that of a ballistic motion rather than quantum diffusion. Again, however, the rate of this motion in the SWC case is significantly smaller than that in the weak-chaos case. The thin solid lines are the corresponding classical quantities (26), calculated as explained in Sec. VI, which again agree reasonably well with the quantum behaviors.

magnitudes smaller than a critical value; otherwise, wave packets spread ballistically in both directions orthogonal to the electric field [32]. In KHSs, an asymptotic quantum ballistic spreading in the (u, v) or (x, y) variables may occur for irrational \hbar_s only in special cases, e.g., $\ell' = 1, 2$ for standard potentials; see Fig. 5. This is in contrast with the asymptotic quantum-diffusive behavior, illustrated by Fig. 3, occurring under much more generic conditions.

We remark that since the general KHS is essentially equivalent to a modulated kicked harmonic oscillator, as explained after Eq. (3), the quantized KHS may be experimentally realizable as it was done for the ordinary quantum kicked harmonic oscillator using either atom-optics methods with Bose-Einstein condensates [34] or paraxial-optics methods with light beams [35].

APPENDIX A

Results in Sec. III are derived here in some detail.

Basic evolution operator. The one-period evolution operator for the Hamiltonian (10), from t = sT - 0 to t = (s + 1)T - 0, is given by

$$\hat{U} = \hat{U}_{\gamma} \hat{U}'_{\eta} \exp\left[-i\mu V(\hat{x}_{\rm c} - \hat{v})\right],\tag{A1}$$

where $\hat{U}_{\gamma} = \exp\left[-i\gamma(\hat{a}^{\dagger}a+1/2)\right]$ $(\gamma = \omega T = T)$, $\hat{U}'_{\eta} = \exp(i\eta\hat{y}_c/\hbar)(\eta = ET)$, and $\mu = \kappa/\hbar$. The operator \hat{U}_{γ} is a rotation by angle γ in the (u, v) phase plane: $\hat{U}_{\gamma} f(\hat{a}^{\dagger}, \hat{a})\hat{U}_{\gamma}^{-1} = f(\hat{a}^{\dagger}e^{-i\gamma}, \hat{a}e^{i\gamma})$, for arbitrary function $f(\hat{a}^{\dagger}, \hat{a})$ [36]. In the case assumed in this paper, i.e., $\gamma = \pi/2$, this is a clockwise rotation by $\pi/2$: $v \to u \to -v \to -u \to v$. From $[\hat{y}_c, \hat{x}_c] = i\hbar$, one has $\hat{y}_c = i\hbar d/dx_c$, so that $\hat{U}'_{\eta} = \exp(-\eta d/dx_c)$, a translation of \hat{x}_c by $-\eta$. Using all this and Eq. (5), one can then write the basic evolution operator for the KHS, \hat{U}^r $[r = \operatorname{lcm}(n = 4, \ell) = 4\ell'$, see Sec. II], corresponding to the basic classical map (6):

$$\hat{U}^{r} = \hat{U}_{r}(-1)^{\ell'} \exp(-2\pi n' k d/dx_{c}),$$
(A2)

where \hat{U}_r is defined by Eq. (11). The two terms besides \hat{U}_r in Eq. (A2) are as follows: $(-1)^{\ell'} = \hat{U}_{\gamma}^r$, since $\hat{U}_{\gamma}^4 = -1$ and $r = 4\ell'$; $\exp(-2\pi n'kd/dx_c) = (\hat{U}_{\eta}')^r$ from Eq. (5) and $r = n'\ell$. Since the first term is just a constant and we shall consider only wave functions in the (u, v) degree of freedom, independent of (x_c, y_c) , these terms will be ignored from now on, so that \hat{U}^r is given by just Eq. (11) with \hat{x}_c replaced by a constant number x_c .

Effective Hamiltonian. We shall now derive an expression for the effective Hamiltonian \hat{H}_e in Eq. (12). Assuming a general potential (8), the argument of the exponent under the product sign in Eq. (11) is given by

$$\hat{O}_j = -i\mu V(x_c - j\eta - \hat{v}_j)$$

= $-i\mu \sum_{g=-N}^N V_g \exp[ig(x_c - j\eta)] \exp(-ig\hat{v}_j).$ (A3)

Now, given two operators \hat{A} and \hat{B} , one has [37]

$$\exp(\hat{A})\exp(\hat{B}) = \exp\left(\hat{A} + \hat{B} + \frac{1}{2}[\hat{A}, \hat{B}] + \frac{1}{12}[\hat{A}, [\hat{A}, \hat{B}]] + \frac{1}{12}[[\hat{A}, \hat{B}], \hat{B}] + \dots\right),$$
(A4)

involving a series of repeated commutators on the right-hand side. Equation (A4) can be applied to derive systematically an expansion for \hat{H}_e in Eq. (12) as follows. From the definition of \hat{v}_j after Eq. (11), we see that if $\hat{v}_j = \hat{u}$ or $\hat{v}_j = \hat{v}$ (up to sign) then $\hat{v}_{j+1} = \hat{v}$ or $\hat{v}_{j+1} = \hat{u}$ (up to sign), respectively. Therefore, the commutator $[\hat{O}_j, \hat{O}_{j+1}]$ of two adjacent operators (A3) will be a linear combination of commutators of the form

$$[i\mu e^{ig_1\hat{u}}, i\mu e^{ig_2\hat{v}}] = 2i\mu^2 \sin(g_1g_2\pi\hbar_s)e^{i(g_1\hat{u}+g_2\hat{v})}$$
(A5)

for integers g_1 and g_2 , after using Eq. (A4) with $[\hat{u}, \hat{v}] = i\hbar$ and denoting $\hbar_s = \hbar/(2\pi)$. More generally, for integers g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4 ,

$$\begin{bmatrix} i\mu e^{i(g_1\hat{u}+g_2\hat{v})}, i\mu e^{i(g_3\hat{u}+g_4\hat{v})} \end{bmatrix}$$

= $2i\mu^2 \sin[(g_1g_4 - g_2g_3)\pi\hbar_s]e^{i(g_1+g_3)\hat{u}+i(g_2+g_4)\hat{v}}.$ (A6)

We also note that for nonzero integer a one has

$$\sin(a\pi\hbar_{\rm s}) = J(a;\hbar_{\rm s})\sin(\pi\hbar_{\rm s}),\tag{A7}$$

where the function $J(a; \hbar_s)$ does not vanish for integer \hbar_s . It is then easy to see from Eqs. (A5)–(A7) that the repeated commutators of operators (A3) in Eq. (A4) imply the expansion (13) with Eqs. (14) and (15).

APPENDIX B

We derive here an explicit expression for $\hat{H}_1(\hat{u}, \hat{v}; \hbar_s)$ in Eq. (13) for the general potential (8). From what we mentioned at the end of Sec. III, we see that this expression results entirely from the simple (nonrepeated) commutators in Eq. (A4). Using then Eqs. (11), (A3), and (A4), we can write

$$\epsilon \hat{H}_{1}(\hat{u}, \hat{v}; \hbar_{s}) = -\frac{1}{2i\mu} \sum_{j=1}^{r} \sum_{j'=j}^{r} [\hat{O}_{j}, \hat{O}_{j'}]$$
$$= -\frac{i\mu}{2} \sum_{g=-N}^{N} \sum_{g'=-N}^{N} V_{g,g'}(x_{c}) \hat{F}_{g,g'}, \quad (B1)$$

where $V_{g,g'}(x_c) = V_g V_{g'} e^{i(g+g')x_c}$ and

$$\hat{F}_{g,g'} = \sum_{j=1}^{r} \sum_{j'=j}^{r} \hat{C}_{g,g'}^{(j,j')}$$
(B2)

with

$$\hat{C}_{g,g'}^{(j,j')} = \left[e^{-ig(j\eta + \hat{v}_j)}, e^{-ig'(j'\eta + \hat{v}_{j'})} \right].$$

We decompose $\hat{F}_{g,g'}$ in Eq. (B2) into three summations as follows:

$$\hat{F}_{g,g'} = \sum_{j=-3}^{r-4} \sum_{j'=j+4}^{r} \hat{C}_{g,g'}^{(j+4,j')}$$

$$= e^{-i4g\eta} \sum_{j'=1}^{r} \sum_{j=-3}^{j'-4} \hat{C}_{g,g'}^{(j,j')}$$

$$= e^{-i4g\eta} \sum_{j'=1}^{r} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{j'} + \sum_{j=-3}^{0} - \sum_{j=j'-3}^{j'} \right) \hat{C}_{g,g'}^{(j,j')}$$

$$= e^{-i4g\eta} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{r} \sum_{j'=j}^{r} \hat{C}_{g,g'}^{(j,j')} + \sum_{j=-3}^{0} \sum_{j'=1}^{r} \hat{C}_{g,g'}^{(j,j')} - \sum_{j'=1}^{r} \sum_{j=j'-3}^{j'} \hat{C}_{g,g'}^{(j,j')} \right), \quad (B3)$$

where we used the periodicity of \hat{v}_j in *j* with period 4 to get the second equality. The first summation in the last parentheses of Eq. (B3) is $\hat{F}_{g,g'}$ itself [see Eq. (B2)] and the second one does not contribute since $\sum_{j'=1}^{r} e^{-ig'(j'\eta+\hat{v}_{j'})} = 0$ under the SWC condition $\ell' > N$, as shown in the derivation of Eq. (16). Therefore, $\hat{F}_{g,g'}$ is expressed by the third summation as

$$\hat{F}_{g,g'} = \frac{e^{-i4g\eta}}{e^{-i4g\eta} - 1} \sum_{j'=1}^{r} \sum_{j=j'-3}^{j'} \hat{C}_{g,g'}^{(j,j')}$$

$$= \frac{1}{e^{-i4g\eta} - 1} \sum_{l=0}^{\ell'-1} e^{-i4(g+g')\eta l} \sum_{\bar{n}=1}^{4} e^{-ig\bar{n}\eta}$$

$$\times \sum_{\bar{n}'=1}^{4} e^{-i(g+g')\bar{n}'\eta} [e^{-ig\hat{v}_{\bar{n}+\bar{n}'}}, e^{-ig'\hat{v}_{\bar{n}'}}], \quad (B4)$$

where the second equality is obtained after the successive replacements $j \rightarrow j' + \bar{n} - 4$, $j' \rightarrow 4l + \bar{n}'$, and by using the periodicity of \hat{v}_j in j with period 4 in $\hat{C}_{g,g'}^{(j,j')}$. For $\ell' > N$, one has $|g + g'| < 2\ell'$, so that the geometric sum over l in Eq. (B4) gives

$$\sum_{l=0}^{\ell'-1} e^{-i4(g+g')\eta l} = \ell'(\delta_{g+g',0} + \delta_{g+g',\ell'} + \delta_{g+g',-\ell'}).$$
(B5)

Using Eqs. (B5) and (A5), and also the fact that the commutator in Eq. (B4) is nonzero only for $\bar{n} = 1, 3$, we find, after some lengthy but straightforward calculations,

$$\hat{F}_{g,g'} = \frac{1}{2}(\hat{f}_{g,g'} + \hat{f}_{g',g}),$$
 (B6)

where

$$\begin{split} \hat{f}_{g,g'} &= -4\ell' \frac{\sin(gg'\pi\hbar_s)}{\sin(2g\eta)} (\delta_{g+g',0} + \delta_{g+g',\ell'} + \delta_{g+g',-\ell'}) \\ &\times [e^{-ig\eta} \cos(g'\hat{u} + g\hat{v} + (g + g')\eta) \\ &- e^{ig\eta} \cos(g'\hat{u} - g\hat{v} + (g + g')\eta)]. \end{split}$$
(B7)

Note that the denominator $\sin(2g\eta)$ in Eq. (B7) does not vanish, since its argument $2g\eta = \pi kn'g/\ell'$ is never an integer multiple of π except for g = 0, which can be ignored since we take $V_0 = 0$ by definition in Eq. (8). Substituting Eq. (B6) with (B7) into (B1) and using (A7), we obtain the explicit expression for $\hat{H}_1(\hat{u}, \hat{v}; \hbar_s)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{H}_{1}(\hat{u}, \hat{v}; \hbar_{s}) &= -2\ell' \sum_{g=1}^{N} J(g^{2}; \hbar_{s}) \frac{|V_{g}|^{2}}{\cos(g\eta)} \\ &\times \{ \cos[g(\hat{u} + \hat{v})] + \cos[g(\hat{u} - \hat{v})] \} \\ &- 4\ell' \Im \Biggl(e^{i\ell'x_{c}} \sum_{g=\ell'-N}^{N} J[g(\ell' - g); \hbar_{s}] \frac{V_{g} V_{\ell'-g}}{\sin(2g\eta)} \\ &\times \{ e^{-ig\eta} \cos[(\ell' - g)\hat{u} + g\hat{v} + \ell'\eta] \\ &- e^{ig\eta} \cos[(\ell' - g)\hat{u} - g\hat{v} + \ell'\eta] \} \Biggr). \end{aligned}$$
(B8)

We see from Eq. (B8) that the dependence on x_c and the phases of V_g in $\hat{H}_1(\hat{u}, \hat{v}; \hbar_s)$ arises only from the second sum, which does not appear for $\ell' > 2N$.

APPENDIX C

We present here a general expression for the QE eigenstates and consider some basic properties of them, as well as useful matrix representations of the evolution operator \hat{U}_r based on them. Clearly, \hat{U}_r in Eq. (11) commutes with translations by 2π in \hat{u} and \hat{v} . Since $[\hat{u}, \hat{v}] = 2\pi i \hbar_s$, one has $\hat{u} = 2\pi i \hbar_s d/dv$ and $\hat{v} = -2\pi i \hbar_s d/du$, so that the translations above are given by the operators $\hat{D}_0 = \exp(i\hat{v}/\hbar_s)$ and $\hat{D}_1 = \exp(-i\hat{u}/\hbar_s)$. In general, the latter operators do not commute. However, for rational $\hbar_s = q/p$, where q and p are coprime integers, the operators \hat{D}_1 and $\hat{D}_2 = \hat{D}_0^q = \exp(ip\hat{v})$ commute and, of course, they commute also with \hat{U}_r . The simultaneous QE eigenstates of \hat{U}_r , \hat{D}_1 , and \hat{D}_2 in the v-representation can be written as [28]:

$$\langle v | \Psi_{b, \mathbf{w}} \rangle = \sum_{d=0}^{p-1} \phi_b(d; \mathbf{w}) \sum_{l=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{il(w_1/q + 2\pi d/p)} \\ \times \delta(v - w_2 + 2\pi l/p).$$
 (C1)

Here the index b = 1, ..., p labels p QE bands $\mathcal{E}_b(\mathbf{w})$, where $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, w_2)$ is a Bloch wave vector ranging in the Brillouin zone $0 \leq w_1 < 2\pi q/p, 0 \leq w_2 < 2\pi/p; \{\phi_b(d; \mathbf{w})\}_{d=0}^{p-1}, b = 1, ..., p$, are p independent vectors of coefficients. Assuming the QE eigenvalues to be all different at any fixed \mathbf{w} , i.e., $\exp[-i\mathcal{E}_b(\mathbf{w})] \neq \exp[-i\mathcal{E}_{b'}(\mathbf{w})]$ for $b \neq b'$, it is easy to see that each QE band $\mathcal{E}_b(\mathbf{w})$ is q-fold degenerate. In fact, the q operators $\hat{D}_0^J, J = 0, ..., q - 1$, commute with \hat{U}_r but not

with \hat{D}_1 . Thus, the q states $\hat{D}_0^j | \Psi_{b, \mathbf{w}} \rangle$ are all different and are degenerate eigenstates belonging to QE band b.

The eigenvalue problem for \hat{U}_r can be written as that of a $p \times p$ unitary matrix in the basis of general states (C1), as follows. We first define the operator $\hat{U}_r = \hat{S}\hat{U}_r\hat{S}^{\dagger}$, where $\hat{S} =$ exp $[-i\mu V(x_c - \hat{v})]$. Then, using Eq. (11), we find that

r = 1

$$\hat{\mathcal{U}}_{r} = \prod_{j=0}^{r-1} \exp[-i\mu V(x_{c} - j\eta - \hat{v}_{j})]$$
$$= \prod_{j=0}^{r/2-1} \hat{U}_{\text{KH}}^{(j)}(\hat{u}, \hat{v}), \qquad (C2)$$

where

$$\hat{U}_{\rm KH}^{(j)}(\hat{u}, \hat{v}) = \exp[-i\mu V(x_{\rm c} - 2j\eta - (-1)^{j}\hat{v})] \\ \times \exp[-i\mu V(x_{\rm c} - (2j+1)\eta - (-1)^{j}\hat{u})]$$
(C3)

is a generalized "kicked Harper" evolution operator [28]. In the basis (C1), the operator (C3) is represented by a $p \times p$ wdependent unitary matrix $\mathbf{M}_{\mathrm{KH}}^{(j)}(\mathbf{w})$, whose elements are given below in an explicit and compact form. Then, the operator (C2) is represented by the $p \times p$ unitary matrix

$$\mathbf{M}_{r}(\mathbf{w}) = \prod_{j=0}^{r/2-1} \mathbf{M}_{\mathrm{KH}}^{(j)}(\mathbf{w}), \qquad (C4)$$

whose diagonalization gives the QE eigenvalues of $\hat{\mathcal{U}}_r$. By definition of $\hat{\mathcal{U}}_r$, its eigenvalues are the same as those of $\hat{\mathcal{U}}_r$. As explained below, the eigenstates $\langle v | \bar{\Psi}_{b, \mathbf{w}} \rangle$ of $\hat{\mathcal{U}}_r$ are given by Eq. (C1) with $\phi_b(d; \mathbf{w})$ replaced by $\exp(-idw_2)\bar{\phi}_b(d; \mathbf{w})$, where $\{\bar{\phi}_b(d; \mathbf{w})\}_{d=0}^{p-1}$ are the eigenvectors of the matrix (C4). Finally, the eigenstates of $\hat{\mathcal{U}}_r$ are obtained as $|\Psi_{b,\mathbf{w}}\rangle = \hat{S}^{\dagger} | \bar{\Psi}_{b,\mathbf{w}} \rangle$.

We now derive the matrix elements of $\mathbf{M}_r(\mathbf{w})$ in Eq. (C4). To this end, we start from a generalized kicked-Harper evolution operator [28] defined by

$$\hat{U}_{\rm KH} = \exp\left[-i\mu W_2(\hat{v})\right] \exp\left[-i\mu W_1(\hat{u})\right],$$
 (C5)

where $W_1(x)$ and $W_2(x)$ are arbitrary 2π -periodic functions. Each factor in \hat{U}_{KH} can be expanded in a Fourier series as

$$\exp\left[-i\mu W_1(\hat{u})\right] = \sum_{s=-\infty}^{\infty} J_{1,s} e^{is\hat{u}},$$
$$\exp\left[-i\mu W_2(\hat{v})\right] = \sum_{s=-\infty}^{\infty} J_{2,s} e^{is\hat{v}}.$$
 (C6)

By applying the operator (C5) to the states (C1) and using Eqs. (C6), we get

$$\langle v | \hat{U}_{\text{KH}} | \Psi_{b, \mathbf{w}} \rangle = \sum_{l, l'=0}^{p-1} \tilde{F}_{1, l}(w_1) \tilde{F}_{2, l'}(w_2) e^{i(lw_1 + l'w_2)} \\ \times \sum_{d=0}^{p-1} \phi_b(d; \mathbf{w}) e^{2\pi i l d\hbar_s} \psi_{w_1 + 2\pi (d-l')\hbar_s, w_2}(v),$$
(C7)

where, for j = 1, 2,

$$\tilde{F}_{j,l}(w_j) = \sum_{s=-\infty}^{\infty} J_{j,sp+l} e^{ispw_j}$$
(C8)

and

$$\psi_{\mathbf{w}}(v) = \sum_{l=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ilw_{1}/q} \delta(v - w_{2} + 2\pi l/p)$$
(C9)

are "kq" distributions [38]. Defining

$$\bar{\phi}_b(d; \mathbf{w}) \equiv e^{idw_2} \phi_b(d; \mathbf{w}), \tag{C10}$$

and using the independence of the kq distributions (C9) for different w's [38], we obtain from Eq. (C7) the eigenvalue equation for the column vector $\mathbf{V}_b(\mathbf{w}) \equiv \{\bar{\phi}_b(d;\mathbf{w})\}_{d=0}^{p-1}$:

$$\mathbf{M}_{\mathrm{KH}}(\mathbf{w})\mathbf{V}_{b}(\mathbf{w}) = \exp[-i\mathcal{E}_{b}(\mathbf{w})]\mathbf{V}_{b}(\mathbf{w}), \qquad (C11)$$

where $\mathbf{M}_{\mathrm{KH}}(\mathbf{w})$ is a $p \times p$ unitary matrix with elements

$$(\mathbf{M}_{\mathrm{KH}})_{d,d'}(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{p} \sum_{s=0}^{p-1} \exp[-i\mu W_1(w_1 + 2\pi\hbar_s d') -i\mu W_2(w_2 + 2\pi s/p) -i(w_2 + 2\pi s/p)(d'-d)], \quad (C12)$$

d, d' = 0, ..., p - 1. The matrix $\mathbf{M}_r(\mathbf{w})$ in Eq. (C4) is the product of matrices $\mathbf{M}_{\text{KH}}^{(j)}(\mathbf{w})$ having elements (C12) with

$$W_1(x) = V[x_c - (2j+1)\eta - (-1)^j x],$$

$$W_2(x) = V[x_c - 2j\eta - (-1)^j x].$$
 (C13)

Since the eigenvalue equation for each matrix $\mathbf{M}_{\mathrm{KH}}^{(J)}(\mathbf{w})$ has the form (C11), also the eigenvalue equation for the matrix (C4) will have this form, where $\mathbf{V}_b(\mathbf{w}) \equiv \{\bar{\phi}_b(d; \mathbf{w})\}_{d=0}^{p-1}$ and $\bar{\phi}_b(d; \mathbf{w})$ are given by Eq. (C10) with $\phi_b(d; \mathbf{w})$ being the coefficients in Eq. (C1).

APPENDIX D

We evaluate here the spectrum width and gap width for $\hbar_s = 1/2$ and several SWC values of η in the case of the potential $V(x) = -\cos(x)$. For $\hbar_s = 1/2$ (p = 2), $\mathbf{M}_r(\mathbf{w})$ in Eq. (C4) is the product of 2×2 matrices $\mathbf{M}_{\text{KH}}^{(j)}(\mathbf{w})$ having elements (C12) with (C13). For $V(x) = -\cos(x)$, these matrices can be compactly written as

$$\mathbf{M}_{\rm KH}^{(j)}(\mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{D}_{w_2} e^{i\mu \cos[x_{\rm c} - 2j\eta - (-1)^j w_2]\sigma_{\rm x}} \\ \times e^{i\mu \cos[x_{\rm c} - (2j+1)\eta - (-1)^j w_1]\sigma_{\rm z}} \mathbf{D}_{w_2}^{-1}, \quad (D1)$$

where σ_x and σ_z are Pauli matrices and $\mathbf{D}_{w_2} = \text{diag}(1, e^{iw_2})$. Equations (C4) and (D1) imply that det $\mathbf{M}_r(\mathbf{w}) = 1$. Thus, if the QE eigenvalues of $\mathbf{M}_r(\mathbf{w})$ are $\exp[-i\mathcal{E}_1(\mathbf{w})]$ and $\exp[-i\mathcal{E}_2(\mathbf{w})]$, we must have $\mathcal{E}_1(\mathbf{w}) = -\mathcal{E}_2(\mathbf{w})$. Also, $\operatorname{Tr}[\mathbf{M}_r(\mathbf{w})] = 2 \cos[\Delta \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{w})/2]$, where $\Delta \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{w}) = \mathcal{E}_1(\mathbf{w}) - \mathcal{E}_2(\mathbf{w}) = 2\mathcal{E}_1(\mathbf{w})$.

For $\eta = 0$ (r = 4, $\ell' = 1$), SWC occurs only at $x_c = \pi/2$. In this case, we get from Eqs. (C4) and (D1) the exact result

$$\Delta \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{w}) = 4 \arcsin\{\sin[\mu \sin(w_1)] \sin[\mu \sin(w_2)]\}.$$
(D2)

It is clear from Eq. (D2) that the spectrum width $\Delta = \Delta \mathcal{E}(\pi/2, \pi/2)$ and the gap width $\delta = \Delta \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{w}')$, where $\mathbf{w}' = (w_1, 0), (0, w_2)$:

$$\Delta = 4 \arcsin[\sin^2(\mu)] = 4\mu^2(1 - \mu^2/3 + \cdots),$$

$$\delta = 0.$$
 (D3)

Thus, there is no gap in this case.

For $\eta \neq 0$ with odd ℓ' , Tr[**M**_{*r*}(**w**)] has symmetries in the Brillouin zone of **w**. This can be shown by the following calculation, using Eq. (C4) with $r = 4\ell'$:

$$\operatorname{Tr}[\mathbf{M}_{r}(-\mathbf{w})] = \operatorname{Tr}\left[\prod_{j=0}^{2\ell'-1} \mathbf{M}_{\mathrm{KH}}^{(j)}(-\mathbf{w})\right]$$
$$= \operatorname{Tr}\left[\prod_{j=0}^{\ell'-1} \mathbf{M}_{\mathrm{KH}}^{(j)}(-\mathbf{w})\prod_{j=\ell'}^{2\ell'-1} \mathbf{M}_{\mathrm{KH}}^{(j)}(-\mathbf{w})\right]$$
$$= \operatorname{Tr}\left[\prod_{j=\ell'}^{2\ell'-1} \mathbf{M}_{\mathrm{KH}}^{(j-\ell')}(-\mathbf{w})\prod_{j=0}^{\ell'-1} \mathbf{M}_{\mathrm{KH}}^{(j+\ell')}(-\mathbf{w})\right].$$
(D4)

In the last line of Eq. (D4), the shift by $\pm \ell'$ in *j* gives both a sign change $-\mathbf{w} \rightarrow \mathbf{w}$ and a phase shift by $2\ell'\eta = \pi n'k$ in the cosine functions in Eq. (D1). For even n'k, this shift can be ignored; we then get, using also the identity $\text{Tr}(\mathbf{AB}) = \text{Tr}(\mathbf{BA})$,

$$Tr[\mathbf{M}_r(-\mathbf{w})] = Tr[\mathbf{M}_r(\mathbf{w})].$$
(D5)

In the case of odd n'k, the phase shift leads to changes of the sign of the exponents in Eq. (D1); however, using the formula $e^{-ia\sigma_{x,z}} = \sigma_y e^{ia\sigma_{x,z}}\sigma_y$, for any number *a*, and the fact that σ_y^2 is the 2 × 2 identity matrix, we see that Eq. (D5) holds also in this case.

For $\hbar_s = 1/2$ the spectrum of the matrix (C4), like that of (C12), is periodic in both w_1 and w_2 with period π [28]. Therefore, Eq. (D5) can be generalized:

$$Tr[\mathbf{M}_r(\mathbf{w}_t - \mathbf{w})] = Tr[\mathbf{M}_r(\mathbf{w})], \tag{D6}$$

where $\mathbf{w}_t = (0, 0), (\pi, 0), (0, \pi), (\pi, \pi)$. It follows from Eq. (D6) and Tr[$\mathbf{M}_r(\mathbf{w})$] = 2 cos[$\Delta \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{w})/2$] that $\Delta \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{w})$ is symmetric under inversion around four symmetry centers: $\mathbf{w}_{sc} = (0, 0), (\pi/2, 0), (0, \pi/2), (\pi/2, \pi/2)$. Each of these symmetry centers should be an extremum point of $\Delta \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{w})$. In fact, our numerical observations for all the values of η considered below indicate that $\Delta \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{w})$ has a global minimum at $\mathbf{w}_{sc} = (0, 0)$, a global maximum at $\mathbf{w}_{sc} = (\pi/2, \pi/2)$, and saddles at $\mathbf{w}_{sc} = (\pi/2, 0), (0, \pi/2)$. Therefore, the spectrum width $\Delta = \Delta \mathcal{E}(\pi/2, \pi/2)$ and the gap width $\delta = \Delta \mathcal{E}(0, 0)$. Expressions for the latter quantities were calculated using Mathematica. In terms of the scaled QE $\tilde{\mathcal{E}} = 2 \cos(\eta) \mathcal{E}/(\ell' \mu \epsilon)$ (see Sec. V), where $\epsilon = \mu$ for $\hbar_s = 1/2$, these expressions are given by

$$\tilde{\Delta} = 4 \left[1 - \mu^2 + \frac{1}{360} (685 - \cos(6x_c))\mu^4 + \cdots \right],$$

$$\tilde{\delta} = 2 \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3} |\cos(3x_c)| \mu \left(1 - \frac{1}{4}\mu^2 + \cdots \right)$$
(D7)

for
$$\eta/(2\pi) = 2/3$$
,
 $\tilde{\Delta} = 4\left(1 - \frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{2}\mu^2 + \frac{246 - 107\sqrt{5}}{36}\mu^4 + \cdots\right),$
 $\tilde{\delta} = \frac{\sqrt{2}(6 + \sqrt{5})}{30} |\cos(5x_c)|\mu^3\left(1 - \frac{81 + 2\sqrt{5}}{186}\mu^2 + \cdots\right)$
(D8)

for $\eta/(2\pi) = 3/5$, and

$$\tilde{\Delta} = 4(1 - a_2\mu^2 + a_4\mu^4 + \cdots),$$

$$\tilde{\delta} = 0.00389344 |\cos(13x_c)|\mu^{11} + \cdots$$
(D9)

for $\eta/(2\pi) = 8/13$, where $a_2 = -0.446215$ and $a_4 = 0.324429$ are roots of sixth-degree algebraic equations.

APPENDIX E

We summarize here briefly well known methods [10,25] for calculating the evolving state (21) and expectation values in it using the exact evolution operator (11). Let us first express $\Phi_0(u)$ (assumed to be normalized) by its *v*-representation $\bar{\Phi}_0(v)$:

$$\Phi_0(u) = \hbar^{-1} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv \exp(iuv/\hbar) \bar{\Phi}_0(v)$$
$$= \int_0^1 d\beta \exp(i\beta u) \Phi_{0,\beta}(u), \qquad (E1)$$

$$\Phi_{0,\beta}(u) = \sum_{l=-\infty}^{\infty} \bar{\Phi}_0[(l+\beta)\hbar] \exp(ilu).$$
(E2)

Since the function (E2) is clearly 2π -periodic in u, Eq. (E1) is a decomposition of $\Phi_0(u)$ into Bloch functions $\exp(i\beta u)\Phi_{0,\beta}(u)$ with quasimomenta $\beta\hbar$, $0 \le \beta < 1$. By applying to such a function the evolution operator (11), denoted here by $\hat{U}_r(\hat{u}, \hat{v})$, and using $\hat{v} = -i\hbar d/du$, we easily get:

$$\hat{U}_{r}(\hat{u},\hat{v})e^{i\beta u}\Phi_{0,\beta}(u) = e^{i\beta u}\hat{U}_{r,\beta}(\hat{u},\hat{v})\Phi_{0,\beta}(u),$$
(E3)

where

$$\hat{U}_{r,\beta}(\hat{u},\hat{v}) = \hat{U}_r(\hat{u},\hat{v}+\beta\hbar) = \hat{U}_r(\hat{u},\beta\hbar - i\hbar d/du).$$
(E4)

Then, by applying s' times the operator (11) to the initial wave packet (E1) and using Eq. (E3), we obtain

$$\Phi_{s}(u) = \hat{U}_{r}^{s'}(\hat{u}, \hat{v})\Phi_{0}(u) = \int_{0}^{1} d\beta \exp(i\beta u)\Phi_{s,\beta}(u), \quad (E5)$$

where s = rs' and

$$\Phi_{s,\beta}(u) = \hat{U}_{r,\beta}^{s'}(\hat{u}, \hat{v}) \Phi_{0,\beta}(u)$$
$$= \sum_{l=-\infty}^{\infty} \bar{\Phi}_{s}[(l+\beta)\hbar] \exp(ilu).$$
(E6)

We thus see that the time evolution (E5) can be decomposed or "fibrated" [10] into independent evolutions (E6) under the operator (E4) at fixed β . The latter evolutions are relatively easy to calculate, as explained below, since they involve a Fourier series rather than a Fourier transform. Also, the expectation value of any Hermitian operator function of \hat{v} , $F(\hat{v})$, in the evolving state (E5) can be written as

$$\langle F(\hat{v}) \rangle_{s} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} du \Phi_{s}^{*}(u) F(\hat{v}) \Phi_{s}(u) = \int_{0}^{1} d\beta \langle F(\hat{v}) \rangle_{s,\beta},$$
(E7)

where

$$\langle F(\hat{v}) \rangle_{s,\beta} = 2\pi \sum_{l=-\infty}^{\infty} |\bar{\Phi}_s[(l+\beta)\hbar]|^2 F[(l+\beta)\hbar], \quad (E8)$$

namely, the expectation value (E7) can be fibrated into the expectation values (E8) at fixed β , $0 \leq \beta < 1$.

In Eq. (E6), the discrete *v*-representation $\overline{\Phi}_s[(l+\beta)\hbar]$ of the evolving wave packet for s = rs' + j', $j' = 0, \ldots, r-1$, can be calculated, for even j', by multiplying $\overline{\Phi}_0[(l+\beta)\hbar]$ by terms j = r - j' in the product (11) with \hat{v} replaced by $(l+\beta)\hbar$; the application of the \hat{u} -dependent terms for odd j' in (11) is equivalent to a convolution in the discrete $v = (l+\beta)\hbar$ space. We thus have

$$\Phi_{rs'+j'+1}[(l+\beta)\hbar] = \exp\{-i\mu V[x_{c}+j'\eta-(-1)^{j'/2} \\ \times (l+\beta)\hbar]\}\bar{\Phi}_{rs'+j'}[(l+\beta)\hbar],$$
(E9)

.....

for $j' = 0, 2, 4, \dots, r - 2$ and

$$\bar{\Phi}_{rs'+j'+1}[(l+\beta)\hbar] = \sum_{l'=-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{J}_{(-1)^{(j'-1)/2}(l-l')}(x_{c}+j'\eta;\mu) \\ \times \bar{\Phi}_{rs'+j'}[(l'+\beta)\hbar], \quad (E10)$$

for $j' = 1, 3, 5, \ldots, r - 1$, where $\tilde{J}_l(x; \mu)$ is defined by

$$\exp\left[-i\mu V(x+u)\right] = \sum_{l=-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{J}_l(x;\mu) \exp(ilu). \quad (E11)$$

As Fourier coefficients in Eq. (E11), $\tilde{J}_l(x; \mu)$ usually decay fast with |l|, so that the sum in Eq. (E10) can be truncated to get accurate enough results in a simple way.

Similarly, the expectation value of any Hermitian operator function of \hat{u} , $G(\hat{u})$, in the evolving state can be calculated by fibrating it into the expectation values at fixed quasiposition $\lambda\hbar$ for all λ , $0 \leq \lambda < 1$; i.e., in Eqs. (E7) and (E8), one essentially replaces \hat{v} , u, β by \hat{u} , v, λ , respectively, exchanging also Φ_s and $\bar{\Phi}_s$. One can then calculate expectation values such as (25) in Sec. VI.

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