For L=2, we found $\Phi_{[1]}^{\rm exact} \propto Q_2$, with the index [i] indicating the energy ordering in the full EXD spectrum (including both spurious and TI states). Since [see Eq. (34)]

$$Q_2 \propto (z_1 - z_c)(z_2 - z_c) + (z_1 - z_c)(z_3 - z_c) + (z_2 - z_c)(z_3 - z_c), \tag{39}$$

this result agrees with the findings of Refs. [25, 59] concerning ground states of bosons in the range $0 \le L \le N$. For L=3, one finds $\Phi_{[1]}^{\rm exact} \propto \Phi_3^{\rm RBM}$. Since [see Eq.

$$\Phi_3^{\text{RBM}} \propto (z_1 - z_c)(z_2 - z_c)(z_3 - z_c),$$
 (40)

this result agrees again with the findings of Refs. [25, 59]. For L=5, the single nonspurious state is an excited one, $\Phi_{[2]}^{\rm exact} \propto \Phi_3^{\rm RBM} Q_2$.

For L=6 ($\nu=1/2$), the ground-state is found to be

$$\Phi_{[1]}^{\text{exact}} \propto -\frac{160}{9} \Phi_6^{\text{RBM}} + \frac{1}{4} Q_2^3
= (z_1 - z_2)^2 (z_1 - z_3)^2 (z_2 - z_3)^2, \quad (41)$$

i.e., the bosonic Jastrow-Laughlin function for $\nu=1/2$ is equivalent to an RBM state that incorporates vibrational correlations.

For $L \geq N(N-1)$ (i.e., $\nu \leq 1/2$), the EXD yrast energies equal zero, and with increasing L the degeneracy of the zero-energy states for a given L increases. It is important that this nontrivial behavior is reproduced faithfully by the present method (see TABLE I).

B. Three electrons

Although unrecognized, the solution of the problem of three spin-polarized electrons in the LLL using molecular trial functions was presented by Laughlin in Ref. [60]. Indeed, the main result of Ref. [60] [see Eq. (18) therein] were the following wave functions (we display the polynomial part only)

$$|k,m\rangle \propto \left[\frac{(z_a+iz_b)^{3k}-(z_a-iz_b)^{3k}}{2i}\right](z_a^2+z_b^2)^m,$$
 (42)

where the three-particle Jacobi coordinates are

$$z_c = \frac{z_1 + z_2 + z_3}{3},\tag{43}$$

$$z_a = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{1/2} \left[\frac{z_1 + z_2}{2} - z_3\right],$$
 (44)

$$z_b = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(z_1 - z_2). \tag{45}$$

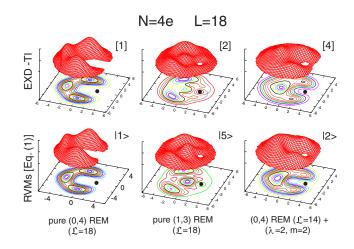


FIG. 3: (Color online) CPDs for N=4 LLL electrons with L=18 ($\nu=1/3$). Top row: The three lowest-in-energy EXD^{TI} states (see TABLE II). Bottom row: The RVM trial functions associated with the largest expansion coefficients (underlined, see TABLE III) of these three EXD^{TI} states in the correlated RVM basis. See the text for details. The solid dot denotes the fixed point ${\bf r}_0$. Distances in nm.

Expression (42) is precisely of the form $\Phi_{3k}^{\text{REM}}Q_2^m$, as can be checked after transforming back to Cartesian coordinates z_1 , z_2 , and z_3 . Thus the wave functions $|k,m\rangle$ of Ref. [60] describe both pure molecular rotations, as well as vibrational excitations, and they cover the translationally invariant LLL subspace. We note that the pairs of indices $\{k,m\}$ are universal and independent of the statistics, i.e., the same for both bosons [Eq. (36)] and electrons [Eq. (42)], as can be explicitly seen through a comparison of TABLE I here and TABLE I in Ref. [60].

We further note that Laughlin did not present molecular trial functions for electrons with N > 3, or for bosons for any N. This is done in the present paper.

C. Four electrons

For N=4 spin-polarized electrons, one needs to consider two distinct molecular configurations, i.e., (0,4) and (1,3). Vibrations with $\lambda \geq 2$ must also be considered. In this case the RVM states are not always orthogonal, and the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization is implemented.

Of particular interest is the L=18 case ($\nu=1/3$) which is considered [2] as the prototype of quantum-liquid states. However, in this case we found (see TABLE II) that the exact TI solutions are linear superpositions of the following seven RVM states [involving both the (0,4) and (1,3) configurations]:

$$\begin{split} |1\rangle &= \Phi_{18}^{\text{REM}}(0,4), \quad |2\rangle = \Phi_{14}^{\text{REM}}(0,4)Q_2^2, \\ |3\rangle &= \Phi_{10}^{\text{REM}}(0,4)Q_2^4, \quad |4\rangle = \Phi_6^{\text{REM}}(0,4)Q_2^6, \\ |5\rangle &= \Phi_{18}^{\text{REM}}(1,3), \quad |6\rangle = \Phi_{12}^{\text{REM}}(1,3)Q_2^3, \\ |7\rangle &= \Phi_{15}^{\text{REM}}(1,3)Q_3. \end{split} \tag{46}$$