

Topological Superconductivity

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Quantum Matter Theory

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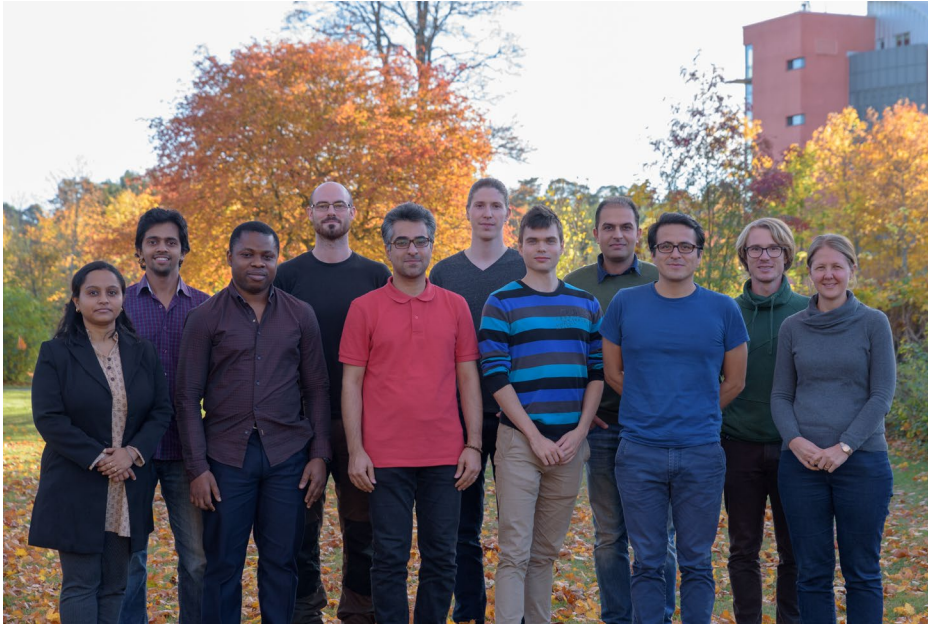
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Content

- Introduction to superconductivity
 - BCS, BdG, group theory
- Topological superconductivity
 - Chiral superconductors, e.g. $d+id'$ -wave superconductivity
 - “Spinless” p-wave superconductors \rightarrow Majorana fermions



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Introduction to Superconductivity

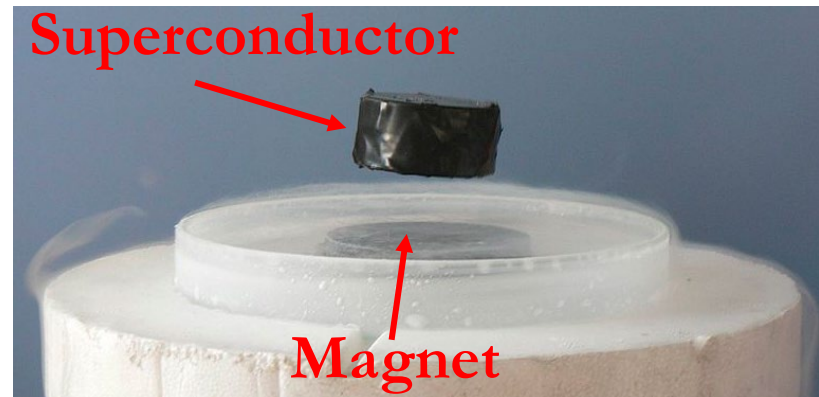
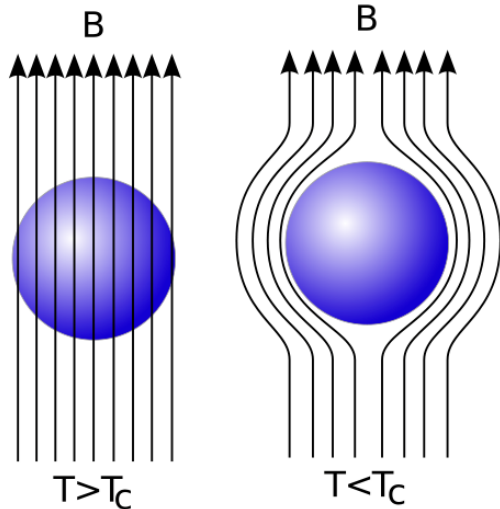
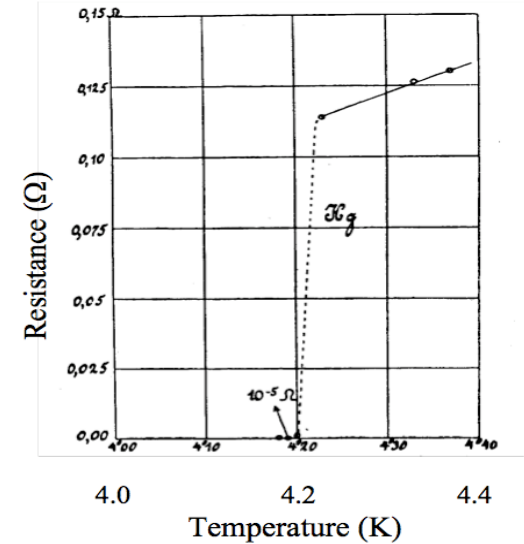
What is it?

How do we describe it?



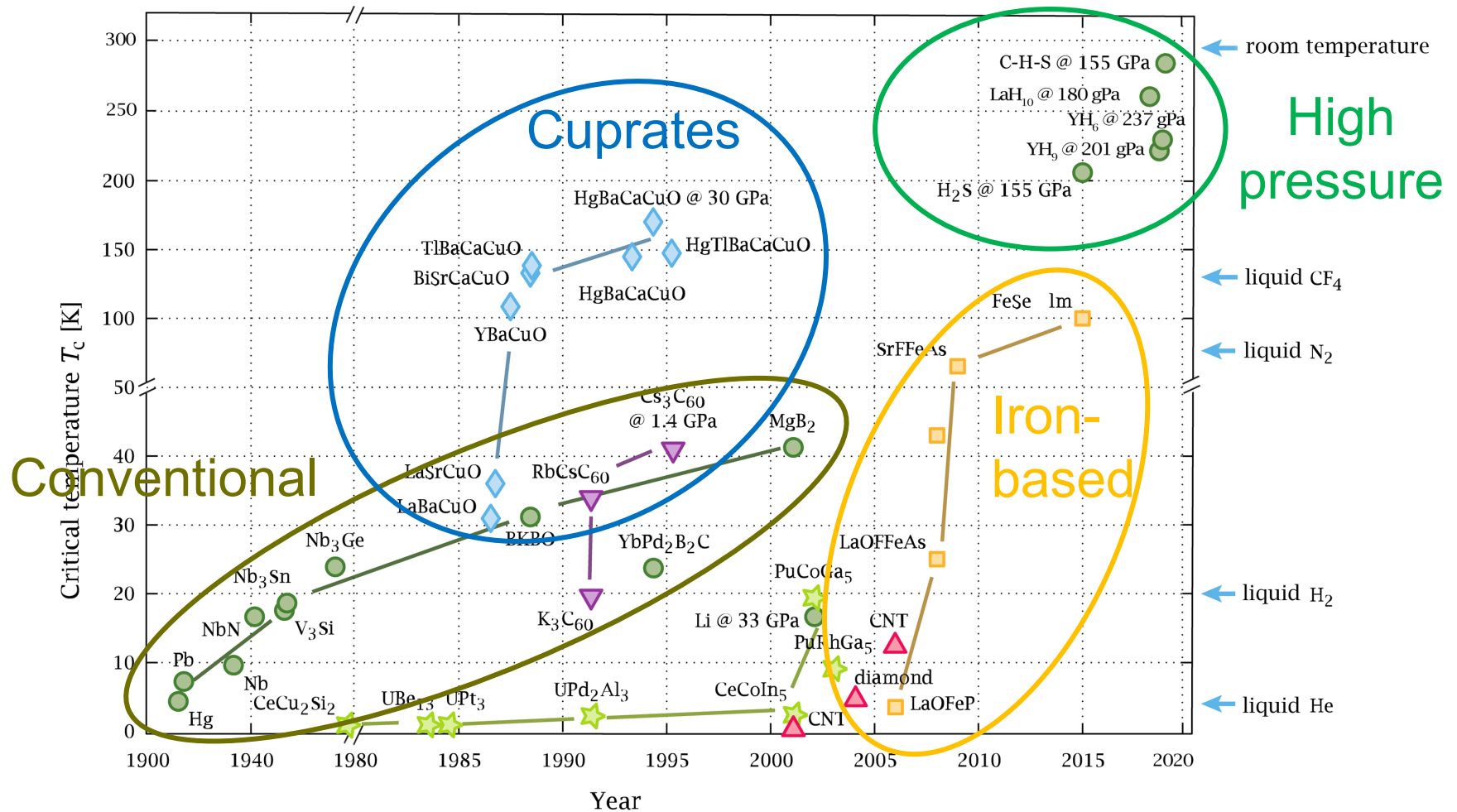
What is Superconductivity?

- Electric transport without resistance
- Meissner effect





Superconductors





How?

- But how do electrons move without resistance?
 - All electrons in coherent quantum state with fixed phase (condensate)

$$\Psi = \Delta_0 e^{i\varphi}$$

- **Bardeen-Cooper-Schrieffer (BCS) theory**
 - Condensation of electron (Cooper) pairs
(with fermionic wave function)
 - Many-body state, but possible to describe within mean-field theory



BCS Hamiltonian

Pairing Hamiltonian:

$$H = \sum_{\mathbf{k}\sigma} \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}\sigma} c_{\mathbf{k}\sigma}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{k}\sigma} + \sum_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'} V_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'} c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger c_{-\mathbf{k}'\downarrow} c_{\mathbf{k}'\uparrow}$$

↙
↘

Kinetic (band) energy
 Electron pairing

$$V_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'} = \begin{cases} -g_0/V, & (|\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}| < \omega_D) \\ 0 & (\text{otherwise}) \end{cases}$$

Mean-field theory with $F_{\mathbf{k}} = \langle c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow} c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow} \rangle$ (pair amplitude at \mathbf{k})

$$\sum_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'} V_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'} c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger c_{-\mathbf{k}'\downarrow} c_{\mathbf{k}'\uparrow} = \sum_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'} V_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'} [(c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger - F_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger) + F_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger] [(c_{-\mathbf{k}'\downarrow} c_{\mathbf{k}'\uparrow} - F_{\mathbf{k}'}^\dagger) + F_{\mathbf{k}'}^\dagger] \approx$$

$$\sum_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'} V_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'} (F_{\mathbf{k}'}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger + F_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger c_{-\mathbf{k}'\downarrow} c_{\mathbf{k}'\uparrow} - F_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger F_{\mathbf{k}'})$$

↓
 Ignore fluctuations
 $(c^\dagger c^\dagger - F^\dagger)(cc - F)$

Set **order parameter** $\Delta_{\mathbf{k}} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}'} V_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'} F_{\mathbf{k}'} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}'} V_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'} \langle c_{-\mathbf{k}'\downarrow} c_{\mathbf{k}'\uparrow} \rangle$

$$\rightarrow H_{\text{MF}} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}\sigma} \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} c_{\mathbf{k}\sigma}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{k}\sigma} + \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \Delta_{\mathbf{k}} c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger + \text{H.c.} + \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{V}{g_0} \Delta_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger \Delta_{\mathbf{k}}$$

See e.g. Tinkham: Introduction to superconductivity



Matrix Formulation (BdG)

Define the Nambu spinor $\psi_{\mathbf{k}} = \begin{pmatrix} c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow} \\ c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger \end{pmatrix}$ $\psi_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger = (c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger, c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow})$

$$\rightarrow \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} (c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow} - c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow} c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger + 1) = (c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger, c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}) \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} & 0 \\ 0 & -\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow} \\ c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger \end{pmatrix} + \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} \rightarrow \text{constant}$$

TRS: $\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} = \epsilon_{-\mathbf{k}}$

$$\rightarrow \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} \sum_{\sigma} c_{\mathbf{k}\sigma}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{k}\sigma} + [\bar{\Delta} c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow} c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow} + c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger \Delta] = (c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger, c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}) \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} & \Delta \\ \bar{\Delta} & -\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow} \\ c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger \end{pmatrix}$$

Bogliubov-de Gennes (BdG) formulation

2x2 matrix problem

→ Solve by finding eigenvalues and vectors



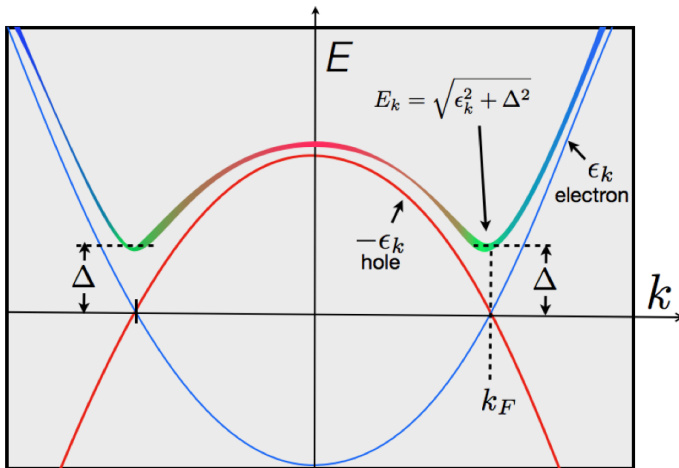
Eigenstates = Quasiparticles

QP energies (eigenvalues): $E_{\mathbf{k}} = \pm \sqrt{\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}^2 + |\Delta_{\mathbf{k}}|^2}$

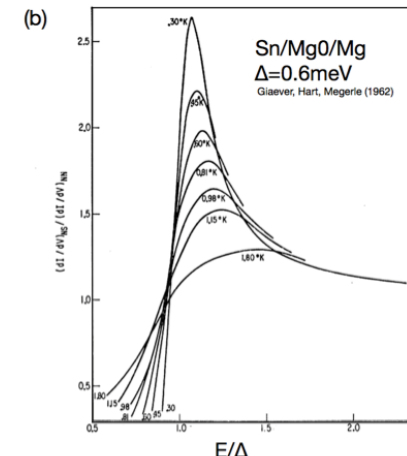
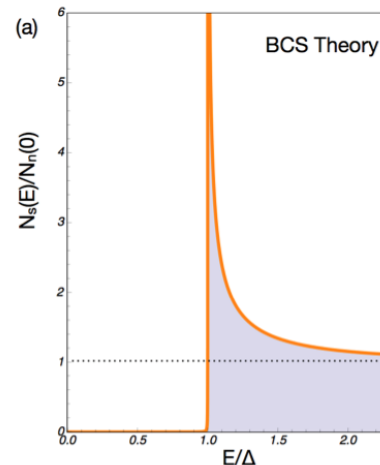
QP operators (eigenvectors): $\begin{cases} a_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger = \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger \cdot \begin{pmatrix} u_{\mathbf{k}} \\ v_{\mathbf{k}} \end{pmatrix} = c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger u_{\mathbf{k}} + c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow} v_{\mathbf{k}} \\ a_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow} = \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -v_{\mathbf{k}}^* \\ u_{\mathbf{k}}^* \end{pmatrix} = c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow} u_{\mathbf{k}}^* - c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger v_{\mathbf{k}}^* \end{cases}$ Bogoliubov transformation

$$u_{\mathbf{k}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \left[1 + \frac{\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}}{E_{\mathbf{k}}} \right]} \quad v_{\mathbf{k}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \left[1 - \frac{\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}}{E_{\mathbf{k}}} \right]}$$

Band structure



Density of states (DOS)





Superconducting Order

Self-consistent order parameter:

$$\Delta_{\mathbf{k}} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}'} V_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}'} \langle c_{-\mathbf{k}'\downarrow} c_{\mathbf{k}'\uparrow} \rangle = \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}'} V_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}'} u_{\mathbf{k}'} v_{\mathbf{k}'}^* \langle a_{\mathbf{k}'\uparrow}^\dagger a_{\mathbf{k}'\uparrow} + a_{-\mathbf{k}'\downarrow}^\dagger a_{\mathbf{k}'\downarrow} - 1 \rangle$$

$\langle a_{\mathbf{k}'\sigma}^\dagger a_{\mathbf{k}'\sigma} \rangle = (1 + e^{E_{\mathbf{k}'/k_B T})^{-1}$ Fermi-Dirac distribution

Generalized order: fermionic, odd under particle exchange:

$$\Delta_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{k}) = -\Delta_{\beta\alpha}(-\mathbf{k})$$

$$\Delta_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{k}) = \Delta e^{i\varphi} \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{orbital}}}{\eta(\mathbf{k})} \underset{\substack{\nwarrow \\ \text{spin}}}{\chi_{\alpha\beta}}$$

$$\chi_{\alpha\beta} \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) & (S=0) \\ \begin{array}{l} |\uparrow\uparrow\rangle \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) \\ |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle \end{array} & \begin{array}{l} (S=1, S_z=1) \\ (S=1, S_z=0) \\ (S=1, S_z=-1) \end{array} \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \eta \text{ odd function in } \mathbf{k}$$

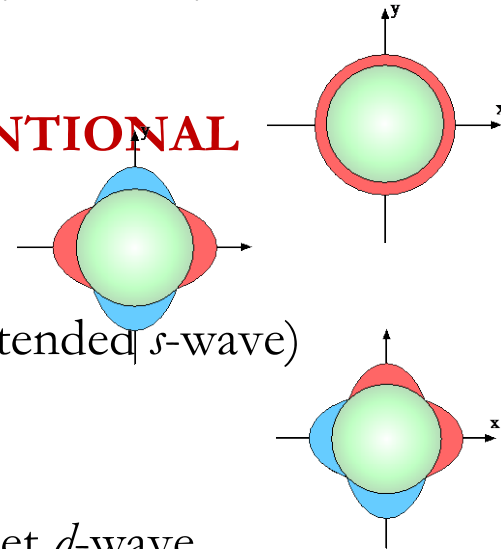
$\rightarrow \eta \text{ even function in } \mathbf{k}$



Superconducting Pairing

$V_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'}$ (and the band structure) determine the pairing symmetry, but often very hard to determine

- Lattice fluctuations (phonon): spin-singlet s -wave **CONVENTIONAL**
- Cuprate high- T_c superconductors: spin-singlet d -wave
- Antiferromagnetic spin fluctuations: spin-singlet d -wave (extended s -wave)
- Ferromagnetic spin fluctuations: spin-triplet p -wave
- Strong on-site repulsion (Heisenberg interaction): spin-singlet d -wave
- ...



Can we determine the possible pairing symmetries in a material without knowing $V_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'}$?

Yes, by a general group theory analysis



General Solution

$$4 \times 4 \text{ BdG equation: } \tilde{\mathcal{H}} = \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon(\mathbf{k}) & \hat{\Delta}(\mathbf{k}) \\ \hat{\Delta}^\dagger(\mathbf{k}) & -\varepsilon(\mathbf{k}) \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{k}}$$
$$\left[\mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{k}} = (a_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}, a_{\mathbf{k}\downarrow}, a_{-\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger, a_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger)^\top \right]$$

$$\text{Self-consistency equation: } v\Delta_{s_1 s_2}(\mathbf{k}) = - \sum_{s_3 s_4} \langle V_{s_2 s_1 s_3 s_4}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') \Delta_{s_3 s_4}(\mathbf{k}') \rangle_{\mathbf{k}'}$$

- Linear equation close to T_c
 - Largest eigenvalue gives T_c
 - Eigenfunction (Δ) belongs to irreducible representation (irrep) of symmetry group

→ Possible SC symmetries belong to **irreps of symmetry group of H**

→ SC state always breaks U(1), can also break

- Crystal lattice, spin-rotation, time-reversal, ... symmetries



Basis Gap Functions: D_{4h}

- D_{4h} = tetragonal symmetry (cuprates with $k_z = 0$)

Irreducible representation Γ	Basis function
	(a) Spin-singlet
Γ_1^+	$\psi(\Gamma_1^+; \mathbf{k}) = 1, k_x^2 + k_y^2, k_z^2$ <i>s-wave, extended s-wave</i>
Γ_2^+	$\psi(\Gamma_2^+; \mathbf{k}) = k_x k_y (k_x^2 - k_y^2)$
Γ_3^+	$\psi(\Gamma_3^+; \mathbf{k}) = k_x^2 - k_y^2$ <i>d(x²-y²)-wave</i>
Γ_4^+	$\psi(\Gamma_4^+; \mathbf{k}) = k_x k_y$ <i>d(xy)-wave</i>
Γ_5^+	$\psi(\Gamma_5^+, 1; \mathbf{k}) = k_x k_z$
	$\psi(\Gamma_5^+, 2; \mathbf{k}) = k_y k_z$
	(b) Spin-triplet
Γ_1^-	$\mathbf{d}(\Gamma_1^-; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{x}k_x + \hat{y}k_y, \hat{z}k_z$
Γ_2^-	$\mathbf{d}(\Gamma_2^-; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{x}k_y - \hat{y}k_x$
Γ_3^-	$\mathbf{d}(\Gamma_3^-; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{x}k_x - \hat{y}k_y$
Γ_4^-	$\mathbf{d}(\Gamma_4^-; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{x}k_y + \hat{y}k_x$
Γ_5^-	$\mathbf{d}(\Gamma_5^-, 1; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{x}k_z, \hat{z}k_x$
	$\mathbf{d}(\Gamma_5^-, 2; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{y}k_z, \hat{z}k_y$ } <i>p(x)- and p(y)-wave degenerate</i>



Basis Gap Functions: D_{6h}

- D_{6h} = hexagonal symmetry (graphene, Bi_2Se_3 TIs with $k_z = 0$),

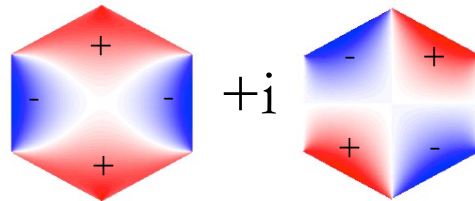
Irreducible representation Γ	Basis functions
	(a) Spin-singlet
Γ_1^+	$\psi(\Gamma_1^+; \mathbf{k}) = 1, k_x^2 + k_y^2, k_z^2$ <i>s-wave, extended s-wave</i>
Γ_2^+	$\psi(\Gamma_2^+; \mathbf{k}) = k_x k_y (k_x^2 - 3k_y^2) (k_y^2 - 3k_x^2)$
Γ_3^+	$\psi(\Gamma_3^+; \mathbf{k}) = k_z k_x (k_x^2 - 3k_y^2)$
Γ_4^+	$\psi(\Gamma_4^+; \mathbf{k}) = k_z k_y (k_y^2 - 3k_x^2)$
Γ_5^+	$\psi(\Gamma_5^+, 1; \mathbf{k}) = k_x k_z$ $\psi(\Gamma_5^+, 2; \mathbf{k}) = k_y k_z$
Γ_6^+	$\psi(\Gamma_6^+, 1; \mathbf{k}) = k_x^2 - k_y^2$ $\psi(\Gamma_6^+, 2; \mathbf{k}) = 2k_x k_y$ <i>d(x²-y²)-wave and d(xy)-wave degenerate</i>
	(b) Spin-triplet
Γ_1^-	$\mathbf{d}(\Gamma_1^-; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{\mathbf{x}}k_x + \hat{\mathbf{y}}k_y, \hat{\mathbf{z}}k_z$
Γ_2^-	$\mathbf{d}(\Gamma_2^-; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{\mathbf{x}}k_y - \hat{\mathbf{y}}k_x$
Γ_3^-	$\mathbf{d}(\Gamma_3^-; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{\mathbf{z}}k_x (k_x^2 - 3k_y^2),$ $k_z [(k_x^2 - k_y^2)\hat{\mathbf{x}} - 2k_x k_y \hat{\mathbf{y}}]$
Γ_4^-	$\mathbf{d}(\Gamma_4^-; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{\mathbf{z}}k_y (k_y^2 - 3k_x^2),$ $k_z [(k_y^2 - k_x^2)\hat{\mathbf{y}} - 2k_x k_y \hat{\mathbf{x}}]$
Γ_5^-	$\mathbf{d}(\Gamma_5^-, 1; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{\mathbf{x}}k_z, \hat{\mathbf{z}}k_x$ $\mathbf{d}(\Gamma_5^-, 2; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{\mathbf{y}}k_z, \hat{\mathbf{z}}k_y$
Γ_6^-	$\mathbf{d}(\Gamma_6^-, 1; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{\mathbf{x}}k_x - \hat{\mathbf{y}}k_y$ $\mathbf{d}(\Gamma_6^-, 2; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{\mathbf{x}}k_y - \hat{\mathbf{y}}k_x$



Multiple Order Parameters

SC state highly unconventional if multiple components at T_c

- Two-dimensional irreps often gives $\Delta_1 + i\Delta_2$ at $T < T_c$
 - Only combination with full gap \rightarrow Highest energy gain
 - Singlet $d(x^2 - y^2) + id(xy)$ -wave for hexagonal/trigonal lattices



- Triplet ($m_z = 0$) $p(x) + ip(y)$ -wave for square lattices

Chiral superconductors

full energy gap, break time-reversal symmetry (TRS), topological



Introduction to Superconductivity

What is it?

A charged superfluid of Cooper pairs (2 electrons) with fermionic character

Cooper pairs formed by effective attractive interaction

How do we describe it?

BCS theory (mean-field theory of condensation)

BdG matrix formalism

Symmetry of order parameter (group theory)



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Topological Superconductivity

Introduction

Chiral superconductors

Spin-singlet $d+id'$ -wave (spin-triplet $p+ip'$ -wave) superconductors

Spinless superconductors

Majorana fermions

Engineered systems



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Classification

All forms of matter can be classified according to the symmetry they break

→ **Local order parameter**

Except topological matter

Topological insulators: 2005 (quantum Hall effect: 1980)

- Ordered but no symmetry breaking
- Topology of energy bands (or wave functions)

→ **Global topological order**

Topological superconductors have both!



Topological Matter

Topological states of matter have

- **Bulk topological invariant**

- Number classifying the topological class
- Only changes with the bulk gap closing

- **Protected boundary states**

- At any boundary to other topological or trivial region
(vacuum, normal metal, s -wave SC = trivial topological order)

Bulk-boundary correspondence

of boundary states = change in topological invariant at boundary



Topological Classification (gapped systems)

Non-interacting (single-particle) insulators and superconductors: 10-fold way

		time-reversal TRS	particle-hole PHS	sublattice (chiral) SLS	Topological invariants		
					$d=1$	$d=2$	$d=3$
Standard (Wigner-Dyson)	A (unitary)	0	0	0	-	\mathbb{Z}	-
	AI (orthogonal)	+1	0	0	-	-	-
	AII (symplectic)	-1	0	0	-	\mathbb{Z}_2	\mathbb{Z}_2
Chiral (sublattice)	AIII (chiral unitary)	0	0	1	\mathbb{Z}	-	\mathbb{Z}
	BDI (chiral orthogonal)	+1	+1	1	\mathbb{Z}	-	-
	CII (chiral symplectic)	-1	-1	1	\mathbb{Z}	-	\mathbb{Z}_2
BdG	D	0	+1	0	\mathbb{Z}_2	\mathbb{Z}	-
	C	0	-1	0	-	\mathbb{Z}	-
	DIII	-1	+1	1	\mathbb{Z}_2	\mathbb{Z}_2	\mathbb{Z}
	CI	+1	-1	1	-	-	\mathbb{Z}



Superconductors

AZ class	SU(2)	TRS	Examples in two dimensions
D	×	×	Spinless chiral ($p \pm ip$) wave
DIII	×	○	Superposition of ($p+ip$) and ($p-ip$) waves
A	△	×	Spinful chiral ($p \pm ip$) wave
AIII	△	○	Spinful p_x or p_y wave
C	○	×	$(d \pm id)$ wave
CI	○	○	$d_{x^2-y^2}$ or d_{xy} wave

		TRS	PHS	SLS	$d=1$	$d=2$	$d=3$
Standard (Wigner-Dyson)	A (unitary)	0	0	0	-	Z	-
	AI (orthogonal)	+1	0	0	-	-	-
	AII (symplectic)	-1	0	0	-	Z_2	Z_2
Chiral (sublattice)	AIII (chiral unitary)	0	0	1	Z	-	Z
	BDI (chiral orthogonal)	+1	+1	1	Z	-	-
	CII (chiral symplectic)	-1	-1	1	Z	-	Z_2
BdG	D	0	+1	0	Z_2	Z	-
	C	0	-1	0	-	Z	-
	DIII	-1	+1	1	Z_2	Z_2	Z
	CI	+1	-1	1	-	-	Z

Spinless $p+ip$ -wave in 1D \rightarrow BDI
because effective TRS



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Spin-singlet $d+id$ -wave (spin-triplet $p+ip$ -wave) superconductors

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Engineered systems



d-wave SC from Strong Repulsion

Strong Coulomb repulsion, antiferromagnetic correlations
(e.g. Hubbard model near half-filling)

→ Spin-singlet pairing

→ Double electron occupation unfavorable

→ No *s*-wave pairing

→ Spin-singlet *d*-wave pairing

(best state = least number of nodes)

2D hexagonal lattice →

Spin-singlet $d(x^2-y^2)+id(xy)$ pairing

(Only combination with full energy gap)

Irreducible representation Γ	Basis functions
(a)	
Γ_1^+	$\psi(\Gamma_1^+; \mathbf{k}) = 1, k_x^2 + k_y^2, k_z^2$
Γ_2^+	$\psi(\Gamma_2^+; \mathbf{k}) = k_x k_y (k_x^2 - 3k_y^2)(k_y^2 - 3k_x^2)$
Γ_3^+	$\psi(\Gamma_3^+; \mathbf{k}) = k_z k_x (k_x^2 - 3k_y^2)$
Γ_4^+	$\psi(\Gamma_4^+; \mathbf{k}) = k_z k_y (k_y^2 - 3k_x^2)$
Γ_5^+	$\psi(\Gamma_5^+, 1; \mathbf{k}) = k_x k_z$ $\psi(\Gamma_5^+, 2; \mathbf{k}) = k_y k_z$
Γ_6^+	$\psi(\Gamma_6^+, 1; \mathbf{k}) = k_x^2 - k_y^2$ $\psi(\Gamma_6^+, 2; \mathbf{k}) = 2k_x k_y$ $d(x^2-y^2) + id(xy)$
(b)	
Γ_1^-	$d(\Gamma_1^-; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{x}k_x + \hat{y}k_y, \hat{z}k_z$
Γ_2^-	$d(\Gamma_2^-; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{x}k_y - \hat{y}k_x$
Γ_3^-	$d(\Gamma_3^-; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{z}k_x (k_x^2 - 3k_y^2),$ $k_z [(k_x^2 - k_y^2)\hat{x} - 2k_x k_y \hat{y}]$
Γ_4^-	$d(\Gamma_4^-; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{z}k_y (k_y^2 - 3k_x^2),$ $k_z [(k_y^2 - k_x^2)\hat{y} - 2k_x k_y \hat{x}]$
Γ_5^-	$d(\Gamma_5^-, 1; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{x}k_z, \hat{z}k_x$ $d(\Gamma_5^-, 2; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{y}k_z, \hat{z}k_y$
Γ_6^-	$d(\Gamma_6^-, 1; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{x}k_x - \hat{y}k_y$ $d(\Gamma_6^-, 2; \mathbf{k}) = \hat{x}k_y - \hat{y}k_x$



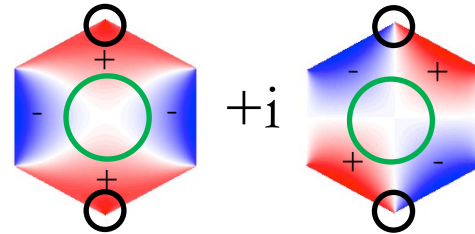
Chiral $d+id'$ SCs?

- Superconducting graphene
- SrPtAs
- $\text{Na}_x\text{CoO}_2 \cdot y\text{H}_2\text{O}$
- $\beta\text{-MnCl}$
- $\kappa\text{-(BEDT-TTF)}_2\text{X}$
- (111) bilayer SrIrO_3
- $\text{In}_3\text{Cu}_2\text{VO}_9$
- Twisted ($\sim 45^\circ$) cuprate bilayers

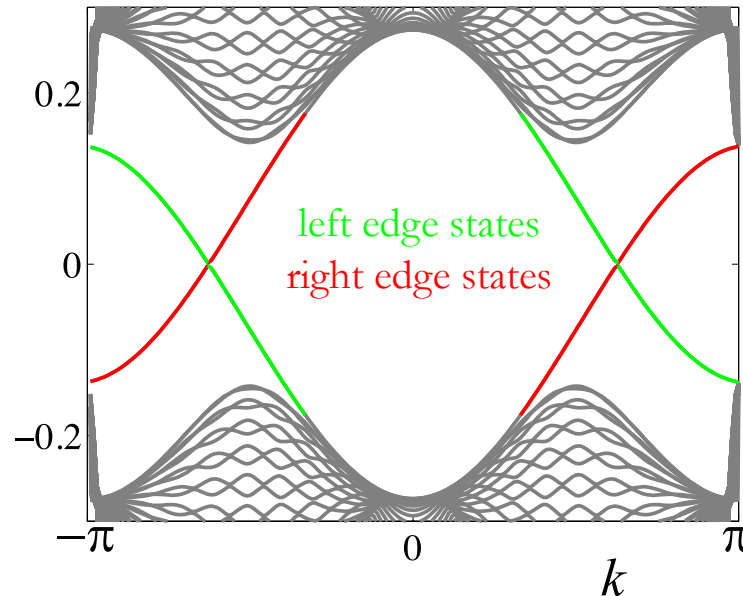


Bulk and Edge Properties

- Fully gapped bulk $E_{\text{QP}}(\mathbf{k}) = \sqrt{\varepsilon(\mathbf{k})^2 + |\Delta(\mathbf{k})|^2}$



- Two chiral (co-propagating) edge states per edge



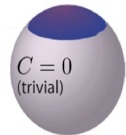


Topological Invariant

$d+id'$ -wave SC breaks TRS \rightarrow Chern number invariant

$$\mathcal{N} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\text{BZ}} d^2k \hat{\mathbf{m}} \cdot \left(\frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{m}}}{\partial k_x} \times \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{m}}}{\partial k_y} \right)$$

Skymion number $\hat{\mathbf{m}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon(\mathbf{k})^2 + |\Delta(\mathbf{k})|^2}} \begin{pmatrix} \text{Re } \Delta(\mathbf{k}) \\ \text{Im } \Delta(\mathbf{k}) \\ \varepsilon(\mathbf{k}) \end{pmatrix}$



Counts unit sphere area spanned by \mathbf{m} as \mathbf{k} covers the BZ

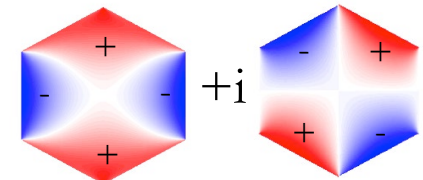
Bottom of band: $\mathbf{m} \sim -\mathbf{z}$

Top of band: $\mathbf{m} \sim \mathbf{z}$

\rightarrow Non-zero N iff Δ has finite winding along lines of constant ε

$d+id'$ -wave winds twice around $\Gamma \rightarrow |\mathbf{N}| = 2$

\rightarrow 2 chiral edge states

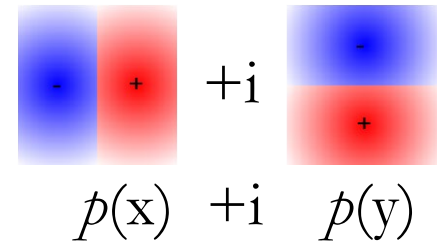




Chiral $p+ip$ SCs

Spin-triplet $p(x)+ip(y)$ -wave spin-triplet, $\mathbf{d} = (0, 0, k_x+ik_y)$

- Fully gapped in the bulk $E_{QP}(\mathbf{k}) = \sqrt{\varepsilon(\mathbf{k})^2 + |\Delta(\mathbf{k})|^2}$



- Breaks TRS \rightarrow finite Chern number/Skyrmion winding

$$\mathcal{N} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\text{BZ}} d^2k \hat{\mathbf{m}} \cdot \left(\frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{m}}}{\partial k_x} \times \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{m}}}{\partial k_y} \right)$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{m}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon(\mathbf{k})^2 + |\Delta(\mathbf{k})|^2}} \begin{pmatrix} \text{Re } \Delta(\mathbf{k}) \\ \text{Im } \Delta(\mathbf{k}) \\ \varepsilon(\mathbf{k}) \end{pmatrix}$$

$p+ip'$ -wave winds once around $\Gamma \rightarrow |\mathbf{N}| = 1$

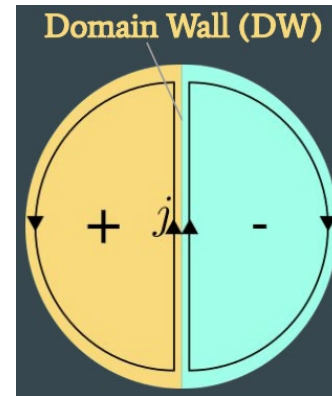
\rightarrow One chiral edge state per edge



Different Chiralities

- Bulk: $d \pm id'$ -wave states are degenerate
→ One solution chosen spontaneously
- Domain walls: $\Delta \mathbf{N} = 2 \mathbf{N} \rightarrow 2\mathbf{N}$ DW boundary states

$p(x) + ip(y)$:

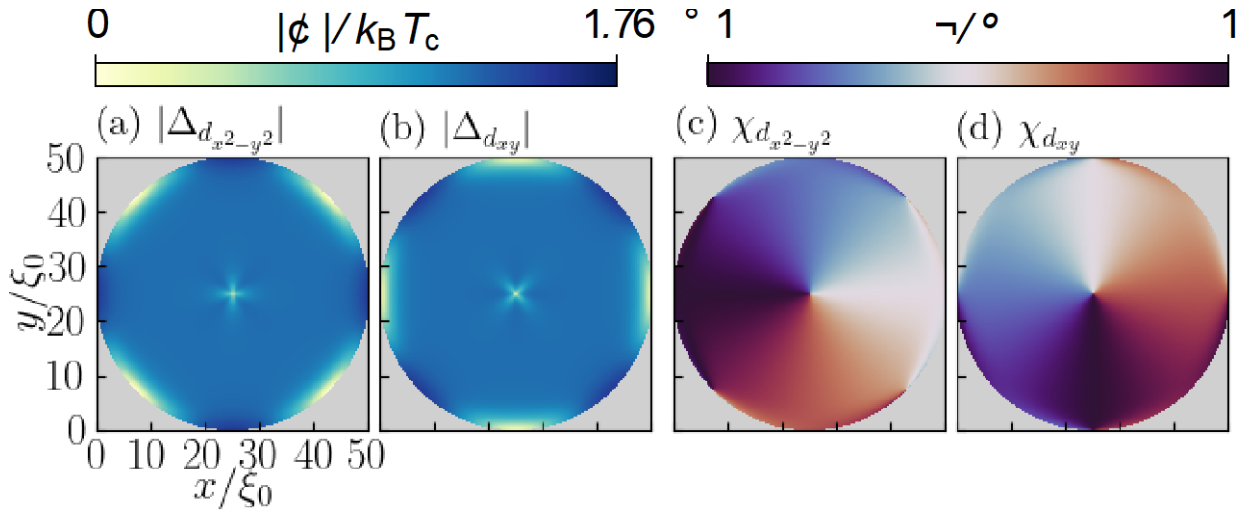


- Edges/Defects: Both chiral solutions may appear
 - Different edges are pair breaking for different parts of Δ

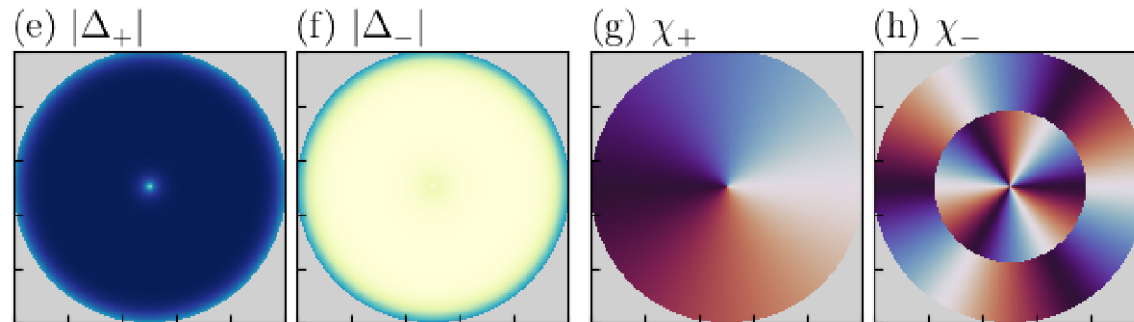


Vortex in Chiral SC

Nodal:
 $d(x^2-y^2)$
 $d(xy)$



Chiral:
 $\Delta_+ = d+id'$
 $\Delta_- = d-id'$

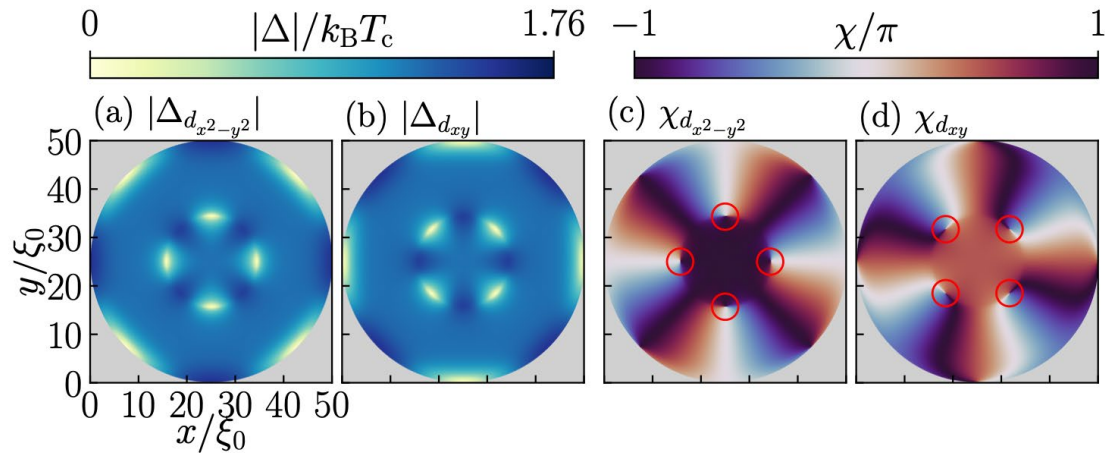


(Abrikosov) vortex: Full 2π phase winding in dominant (Δ_+) chirality component



Coreless Vortex

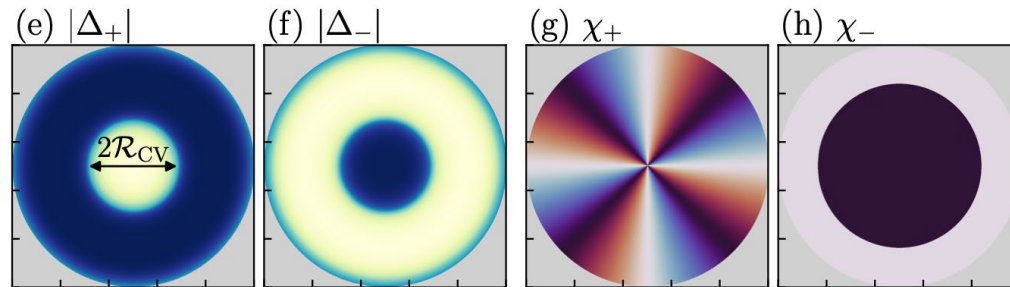
Nodal:
 $d(x^2-y^2)$
 $d(xy)$



Chiral:

$$\Delta_+ = d+id'$$

$$\Delta_- = d-id'$$



- Phase winding center in chiral component with no amplitude
→ coreless vortex (CV)
- Fractional vortices in nodal components at DW



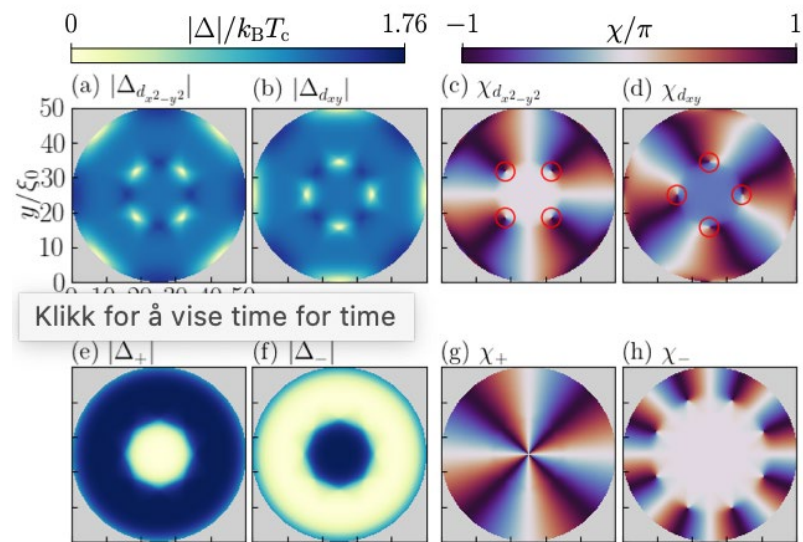
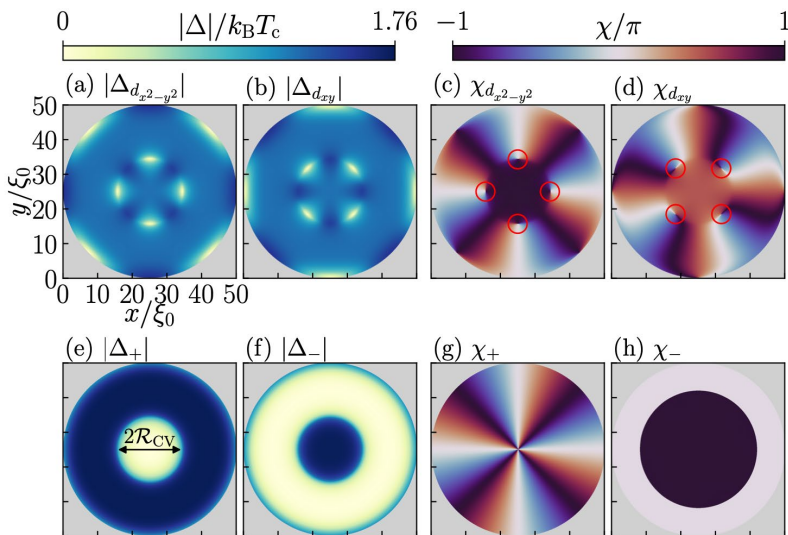
Changing Field Direction

Global phase winding in dominant chiral component: m

Local phase winding in subdominant chiral component: $p = m + 2N$

Positive magnetic field ($m < 0$)

Negative magnetic field ($m > 0$)



Antiparallel CV: $m = -4, p = 0$

Parallel CV: $m = 4, p = 8$



Topological Superconductivity

Chiral superconductors

Spin-singlet $d+id'$ -wave (spin-triplet $p+ip'$ -wave) superconductors

Appear often for 2D irreps

Fully gapped bulk

Finite Chern number N , set by in-plane phase winding of Δ

Break TRS, preserve at least S_z symmetry

Chiral edge states crossing bulk gap, $\# = N$

Host coreless vortices



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Topological Superconductivity

Introduction

Chiral superconductors

Spin-singlet $d+id'$ -wave (spin-triplet $p+ip'$ -wave) superconductors

Spinless superconductors

Majorana fermions

Engineered systems



“Spinless” $p+ip$ Superconductor

- Spinless superconductor \rightarrow p -wave pairing
- No known intrinsic “spinless” SC
- Multiple proposals for engineered “spinless” $p+ip$ superconductors last ~ 10 years
 - 1D spinless $\Delta \sim k$ (class BDI)
 - 2D spinless $\Delta \sim k_x + ik_y$ (class D)

Can be **topological superconductors**

Topological boundary states are **Majorana Fermions (MFs)**

1D: Localized zero-energy end states

2D: Dispersive edge modes or localized zero-energy vortex states



Schrödinger, Dirac, and Majorana

Schrödinger (1925)

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \psi = i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi$$

relativistically
correct

Dirac (1928)

$$\sum_{\mu=0}^3 i\hbar \gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \psi = mc\psi$$

4x4 complex matrices

- Spin-1/2
- Electron & positron (hole)

$$c^\dagger \neq c$$

Majorana (1937)

$$\sum_{\mu=0}^4 i\hbar \tilde{\gamma}^\mu \partial_\mu \psi = mc\psi$$

4x4 imaginary matrices

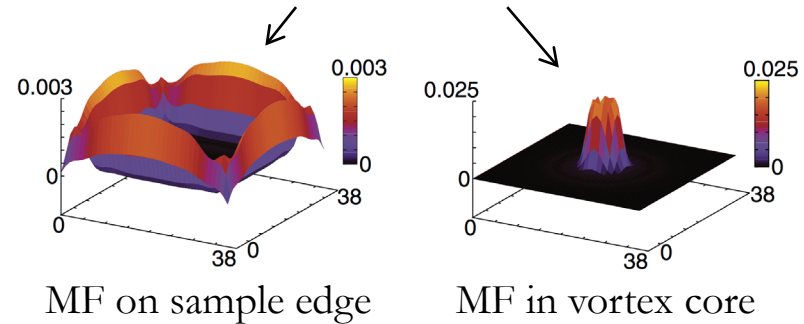
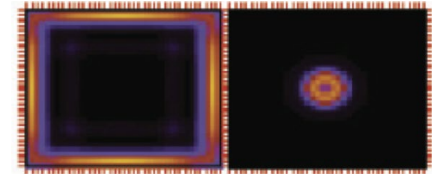
- Particle = Antiparticle: $\gamma^\dagger = \gamma$
- Electron “=“ 2 Majorana fermions: $c^\dagger = \gamma_1 + i\gamma_2$



Majorana Fermions

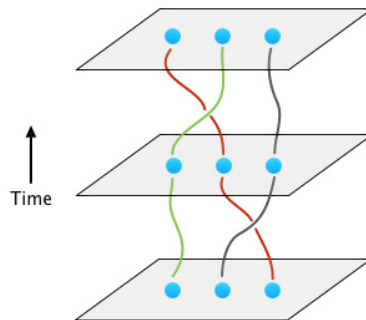
New particle $\sim 1/2$ electron

- Emergent particle
 - Appears in pairs
- } Condensed matter systems



Non-Abelian statistics in 2D

→ **Robust quantum computation by braiding**



Quantum gate operation
= particle braiding



Excitations in Superconductors

Quasiparticles in a superconductor:

- Part electron and part hole
- Mixed spin-up and spin-down

$$\begin{cases} a = uc_{\uparrow}^{\dagger} + vc_{\downarrow} \\ a^{\dagger} = u^*c_{\uparrow} + v^*c_{\downarrow}^{\dagger} \\ |v_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 = 1 - |u_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}}{E_{\mathbf{k}}} \right) \end{cases}$$

→ **$E = 0$ states are Majorana fermions: $\gamma^{\dagger} = \gamma$ (if we ignore spin)**

But ...

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc} \text{h} & + & \text{e} \\ +1 & + & -2 \\ & & = \\ & & -1 \end{array} \right)$$

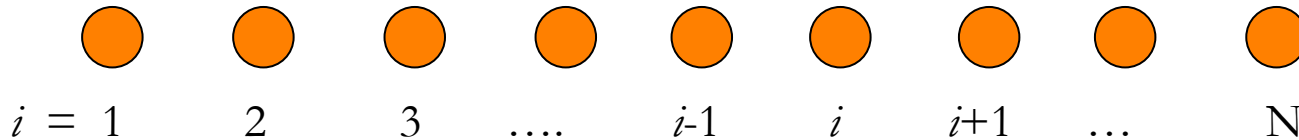
- Superconductors often have an energy gap
 - Topological SCs have $E = 0$ boundary states
- $E = 0$ states are often spin-degenerate (2 Majorana → 1 electron)

→ **“Spinless” topological superconductor for MFs**



Kitaev's 1D Toy Model

1D chain of spinless electrons with superconducting pairing



$$H = -\mu \sum_i c_i^\dagger c_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_i t c_i^\dagger c_{i+1} + \Delta c_i c_{i+1} + \text{H.c.}$$

Chemical potential

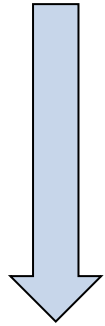
Nearest neighbor
hopping

Spinless p -wave pairing



Majorana Basis

$$H = -\mu \sum_i c_i^\dagger c_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_i t c_i^\dagger c_{i+1} + \Delta c_i c_{i+1} + \text{H.c.}$$



$$c_i = \frac{1}{2}(\gamma_i^B + i\gamma_i^A)$$

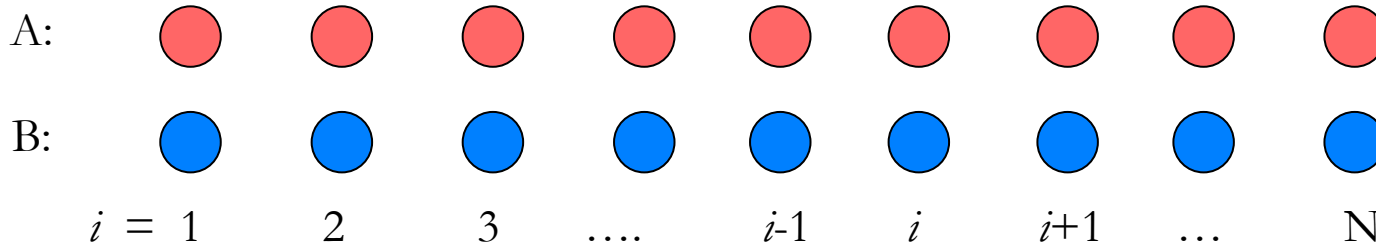


$$\begin{aligned} (\gamma_i^\alpha)^\dagger &= \gamma_i^\alpha \\ \{\gamma_i^\alpha, \gamma_j^\beta\} &= 2\delta_{ij}\delta_{\alpha\beta} \end{aligned}$$

Majorana fermions

Change basis

$$H = -\frac{\mu}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (1 + i\gamma_i^B \gamma_i^A) - \frac{i}{4} \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} [(\Delta + t)\gamma_i^B \gamma_{i+1}^A + (\Delta - t)\gamma_i^A \gamma_{i+1}^B]$$

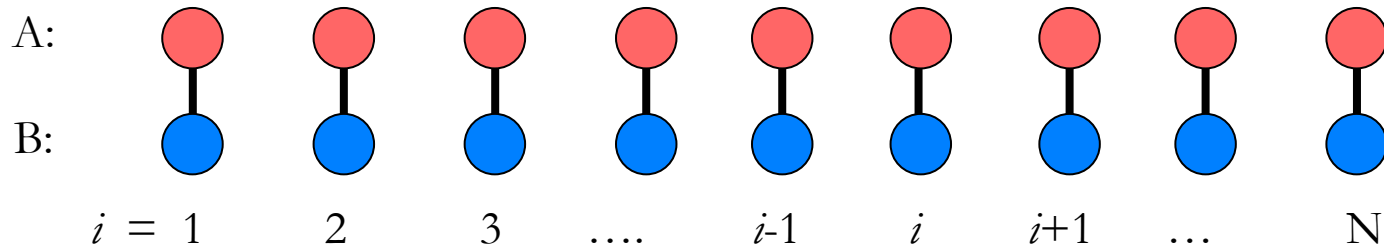




Trivial Phase

$$H = -\frac{\mu}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (1 + i\gamma_i^B \gamma_i^A) - \frac{i}{4} \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} [(\Delta + t)\gamma_i^B \gamma_{i+1}^A + (\Delta - t)\gamma_i^A \gamma_{i+1}^B]$$

Topological trivial phase: $\Delta = t = 0, \mu < 0$



Unique ground state

- Vacuum state for electrons
- Finite bulk gap ($|\mu|$ lowest excitation energy)



Majorana Fermions in BdG

How can we get “1/2 electron” in the BdG formalism?

Never if
$$\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} \sum_{\sigma} c^{\dagger}_{\mathbf{k}\sigma} c_{\mathbf{k}\sigma} + [\bar{\Delta} c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow} c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow} + c^{\dagger}_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow} c^{\dagger}_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow} \Delta] = (c^{\dagger}_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}, c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}) \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} & \Delta \\ \bar{\Delta} & -\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow} \\ c^{\dagger}_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow} \end{pmatrix}$$

→ Not in spin-degenerate (e.g. chiral $p+ip'$ or $d+id'$) superconductors

But if
$$\tilde{\mathcal{H}} = \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger} \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon(\mathbf{k}) & \hat{\Delta}(\mathbf{k}) \\ \hat{\Delta}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{k}) & -\epsilon(\mathbf{k}) \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{k}} \quad \left[\mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{k}} = (a_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}, a_{\mathbf{k}\downarrow}, a^{\dagger}_{-\mathbf{k}\uparrow}, a^{\dagger}_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}) \right]$$

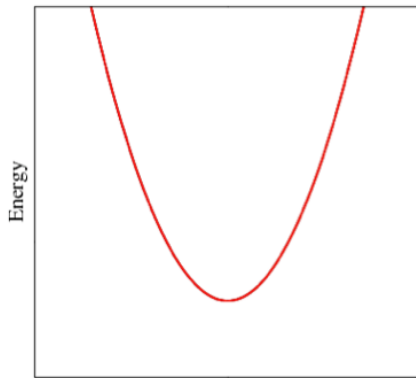
1 electron represented by 2 eigenvector components

→ MF if $E=0$ eigenstate has no spatial overlap with other states

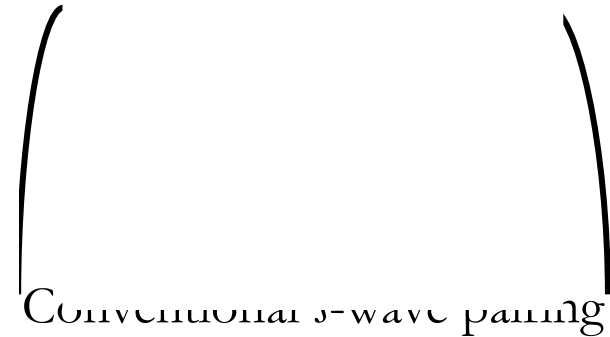


SOC Semiconductors

Spin-orbit coupled (SOC) semiconductor + magnetic field



Semiconductor,
spin degenerate



Conventional s-wave pairing

4x4 BdG description needed due to SOC + Zeeman field

Spinless $p+ip$ ' superconductor with MFs if $|V_z| > |\Delta|$



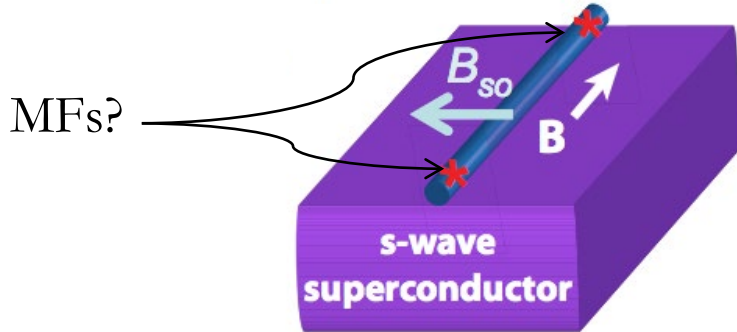
Experimental Hunt in Nanowires

1D InSb nanowire

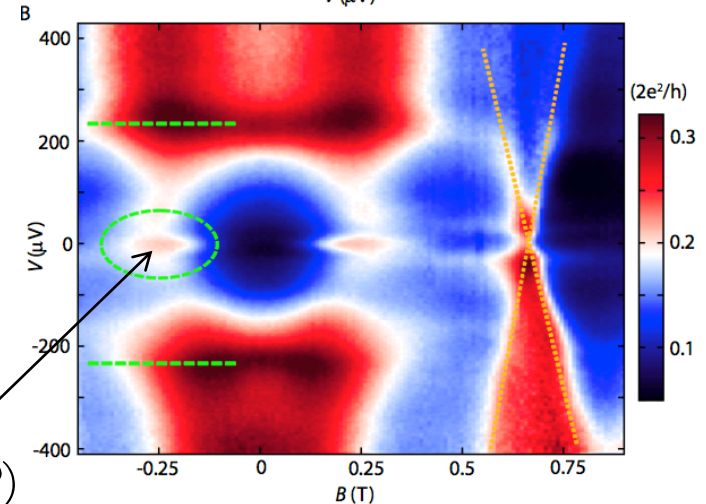
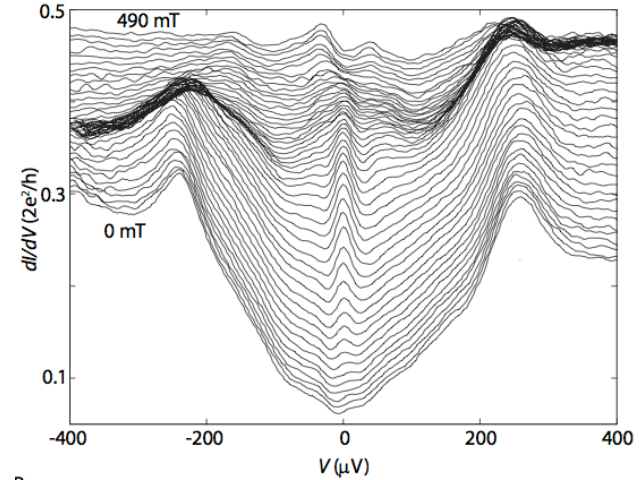
(Semiconductor with strong SOC)

+ *s*-wave superconductor

+ Magnetic field



Conductance through wire

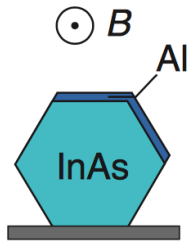
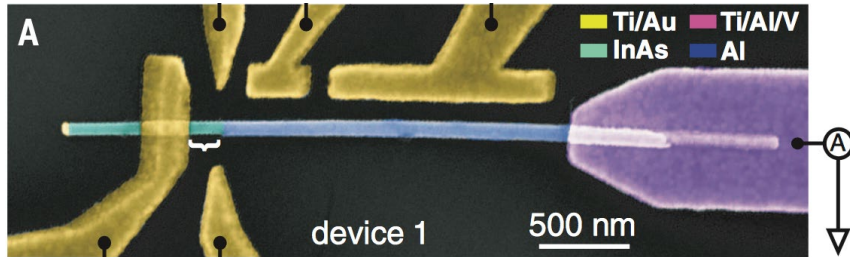


MFs (?)

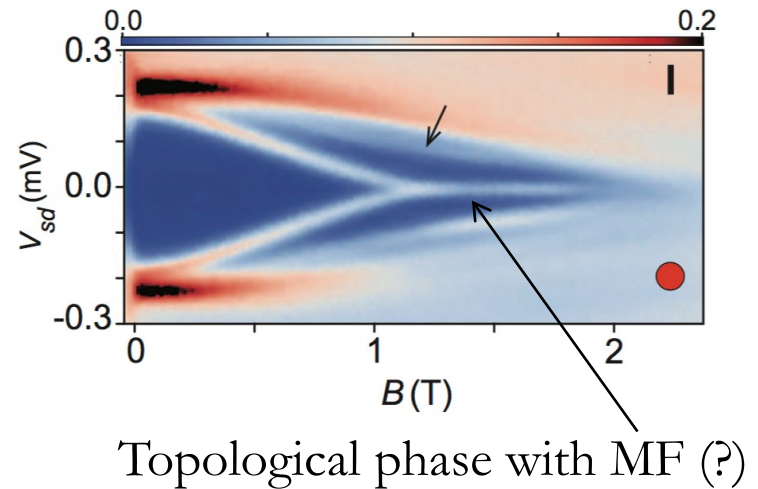
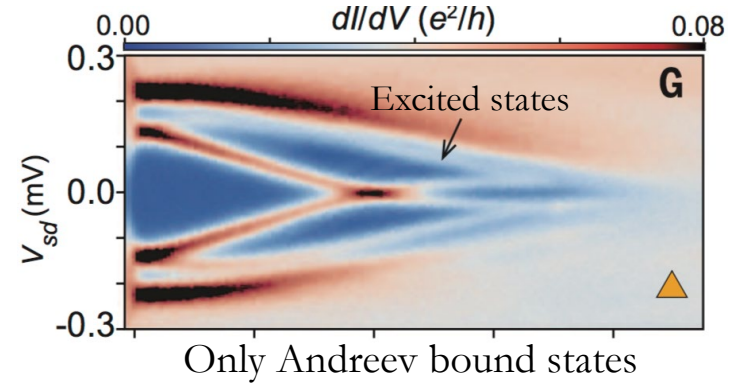


Nanowires with Hard Gaps

1D InAs nanowire
+ Al superconductor } Hard
+ Magnetic field } SC gap



Conductance at different gate biases



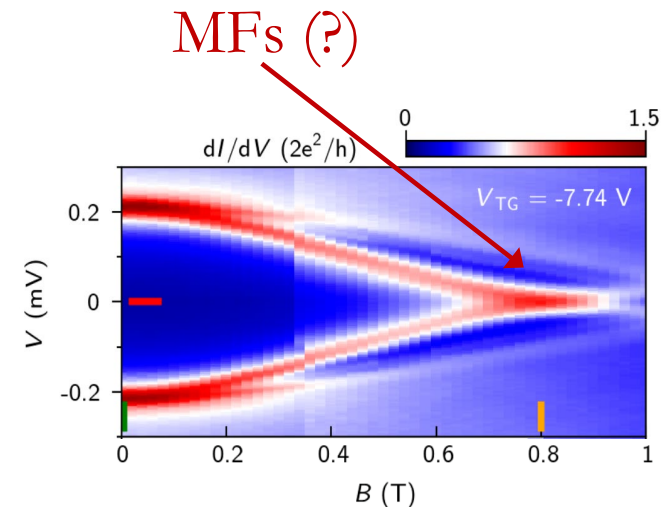


Is it a Majorana?

How to distinguish MFs?

- Stable zero-energy peak
- Quantized conductance
- Bulk gap closing
- ...

Not unique
to MBS

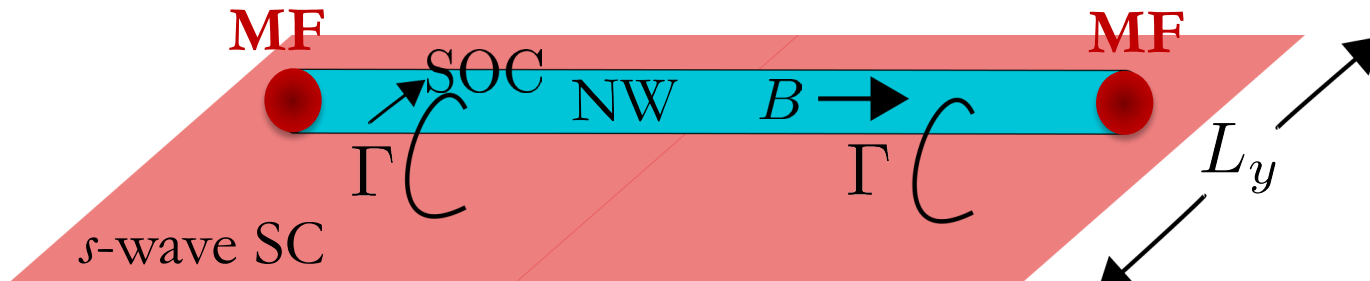


Problem:

Interfaces/edges/impurities often host trivial (accidental) zero-energy Andreev bound states (ABS)

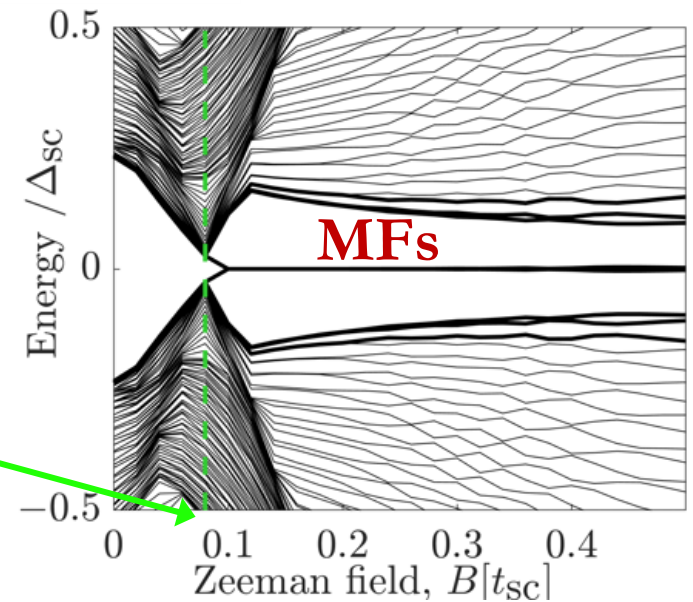


Nanowire + Superconductor



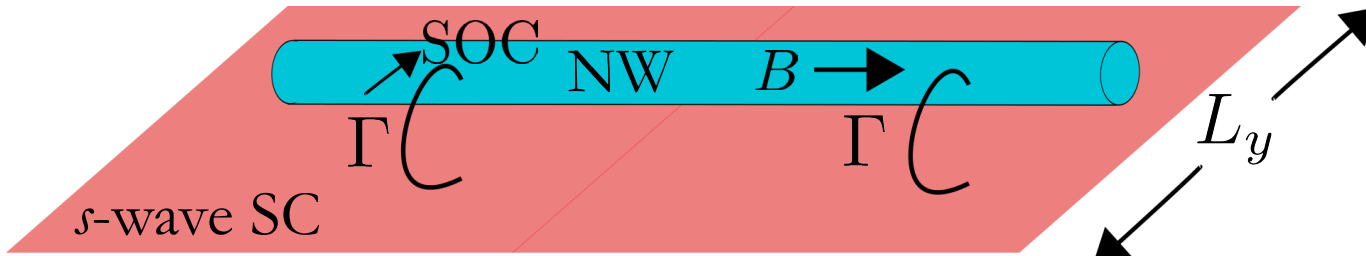
$$H = H_{\text{SC}} + H_{\text{NW}} + H_{\text{SC-NW}}^{\Gamma}$$

MBS beyond topological
phase transition (TPT) at B_c



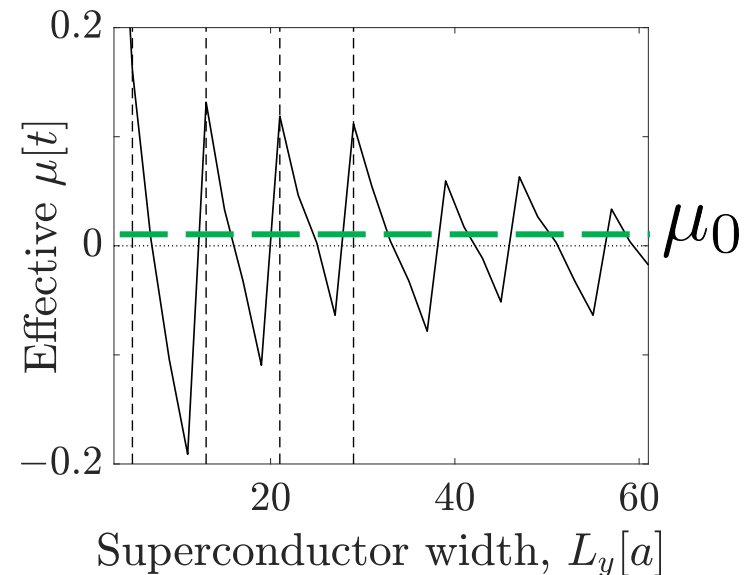


Nanowire + Superconductor



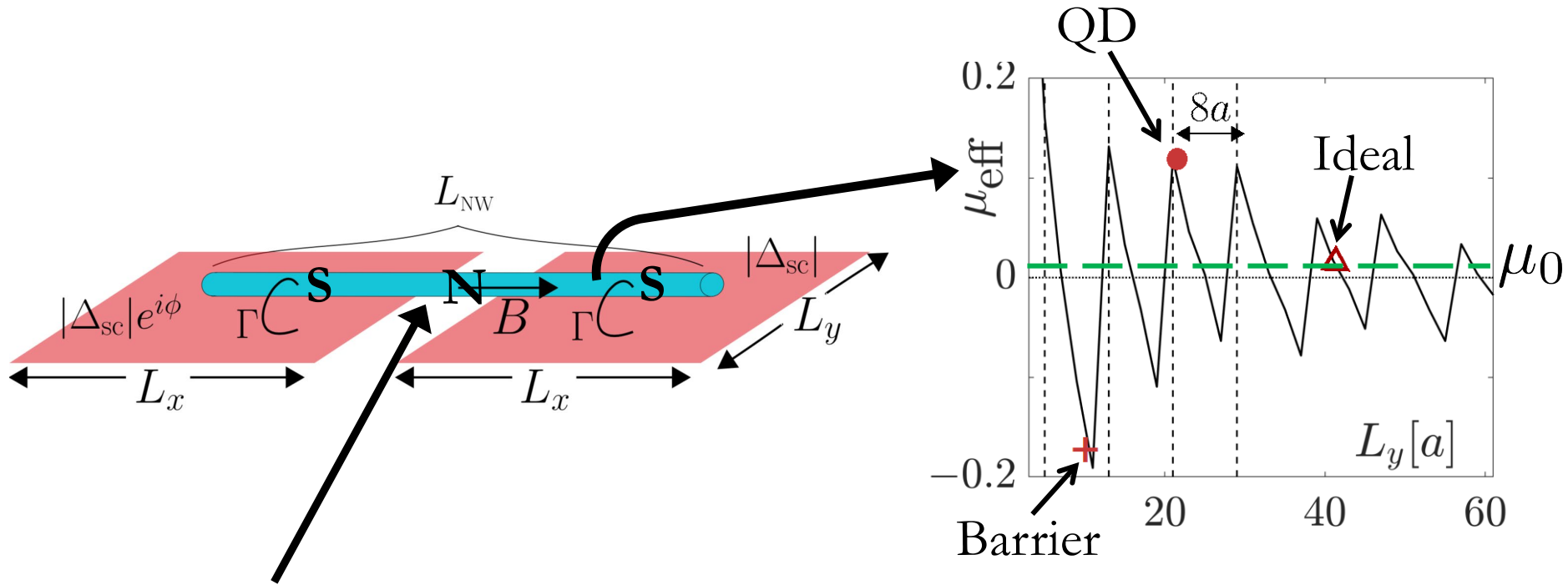
$$H = H_{SC} + H_{NW} + H_{SC-NW}^{\Gamma}$$

Heavily modified effective
chemical potential (and SOC)
in NW





Short SNS Junction

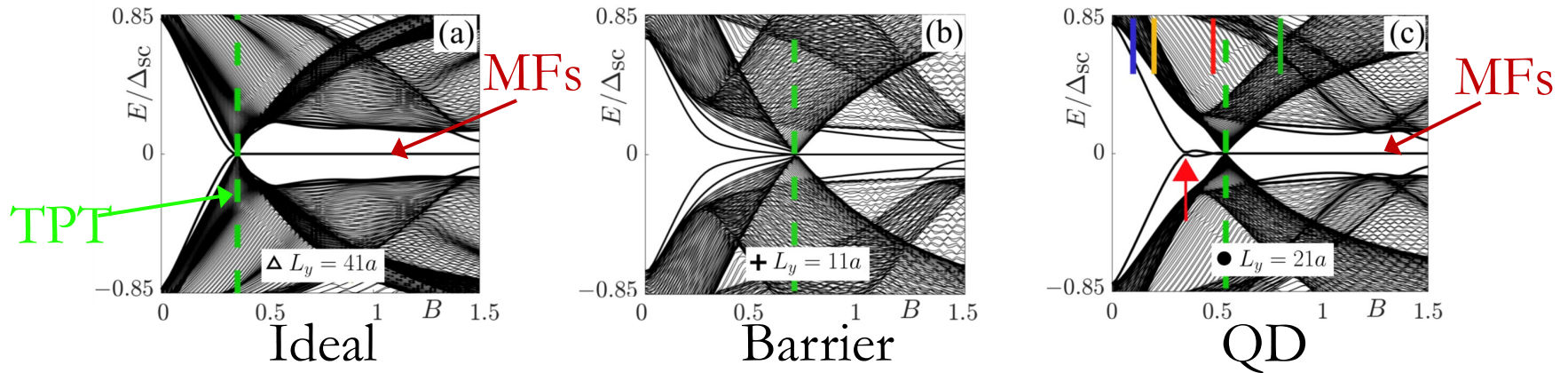


Quantum dot (QD) or barrier emerges
spontaneously in short NW junctions



False MFs in QD Regime

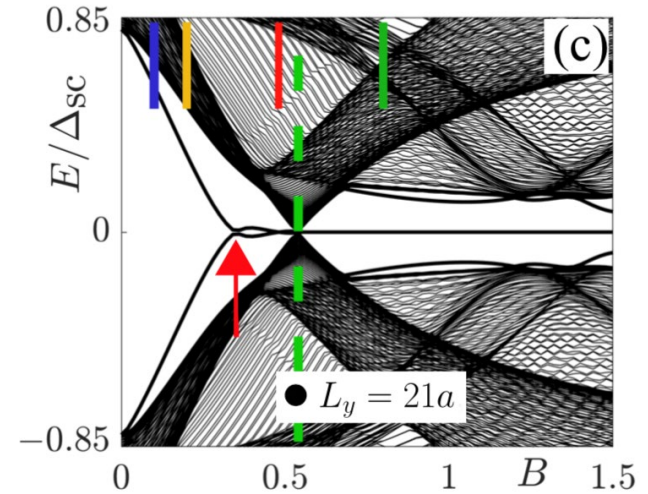
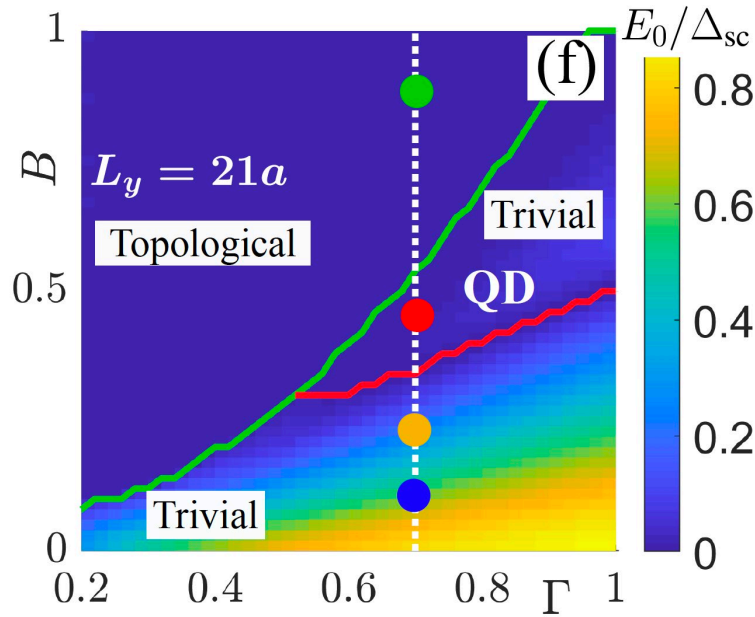
Energy spectrum of junction



Zero-energy QD states before TPT
→ **false MFs**



False MFs in QD Regime



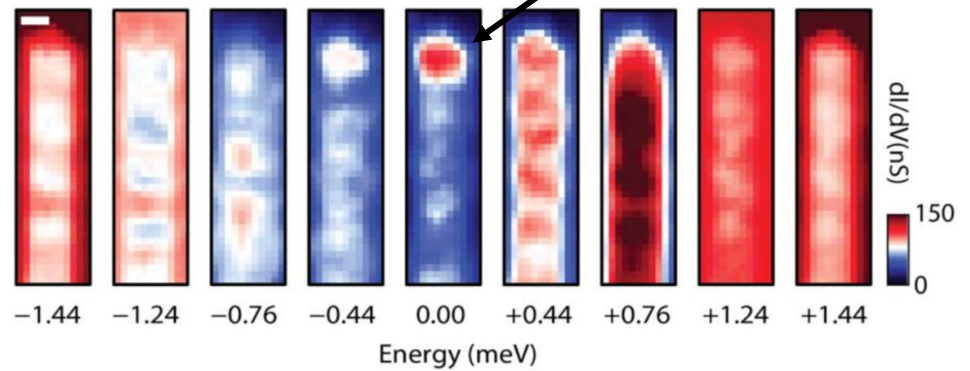
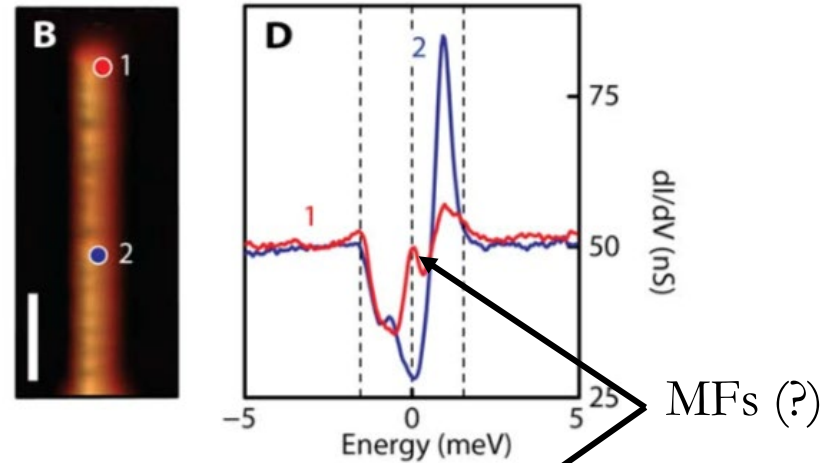
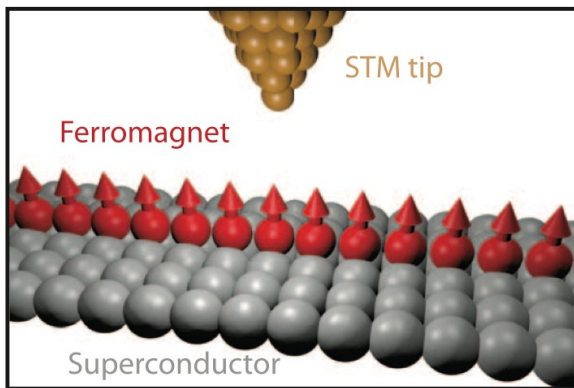
Zero-energy (trivial) QD states
always in strong coupling regime



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Hunt with Magnetic Atoms

Pb substrate
(SC with strong SOC)
+ Fe ad-atoms

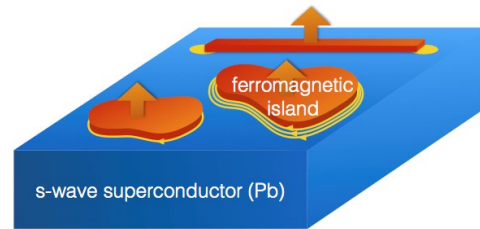
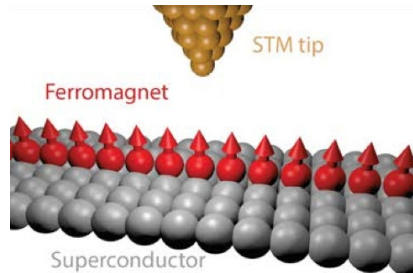


Also: MFs with predicted spin-polarization



Magnetic Atoms on Superconductors

Magnetic atoms on a SOC superconductor



$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_{kin} + \mathcal{H}_{SO} + \mathcal{H}_{sc} + \mathcal{H}_{V_z}$$

SOC superconductor

$$\mathcal{H}_{kin} = -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} - \mu \sum_{i, \sigma} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{i\sigma}$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{SO} = -\frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{i}} \left[(c_{\mathbf{i}-\hat{x}\downarrow}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{i}\uparrow} - c_{\mathbf{i}+\hat{x}\downarrow}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{i}\uparrow}) \right. \\ \left. + i(c_{\mathbf{i}-\hat{y}\downarrow}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{i}\uparrow} - c_{\mathbf{i}+\hat{y}\downarrow}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{i}\uparrow}) + \text{H.c.} \right]$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{sc} = \sum_{\mathbf{i}} \Delta_{\mathbf{i}} (c_{\mathbf{i}\uparrow}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{i}\downarrow}^\dagger + \text{H.c.})$$

Magnetic atoms on sites \mathbf{a} (to 1st approximation)

$$\mathcal{H}_{V_z} = - \sum_{\mathbf{a}, \sigma, \sigma'} (V_z(\mathbf{a}) \hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma})_{\sigma\sigma'} c_{\mathbf{a}\sigma}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{a}\sigma'}$$

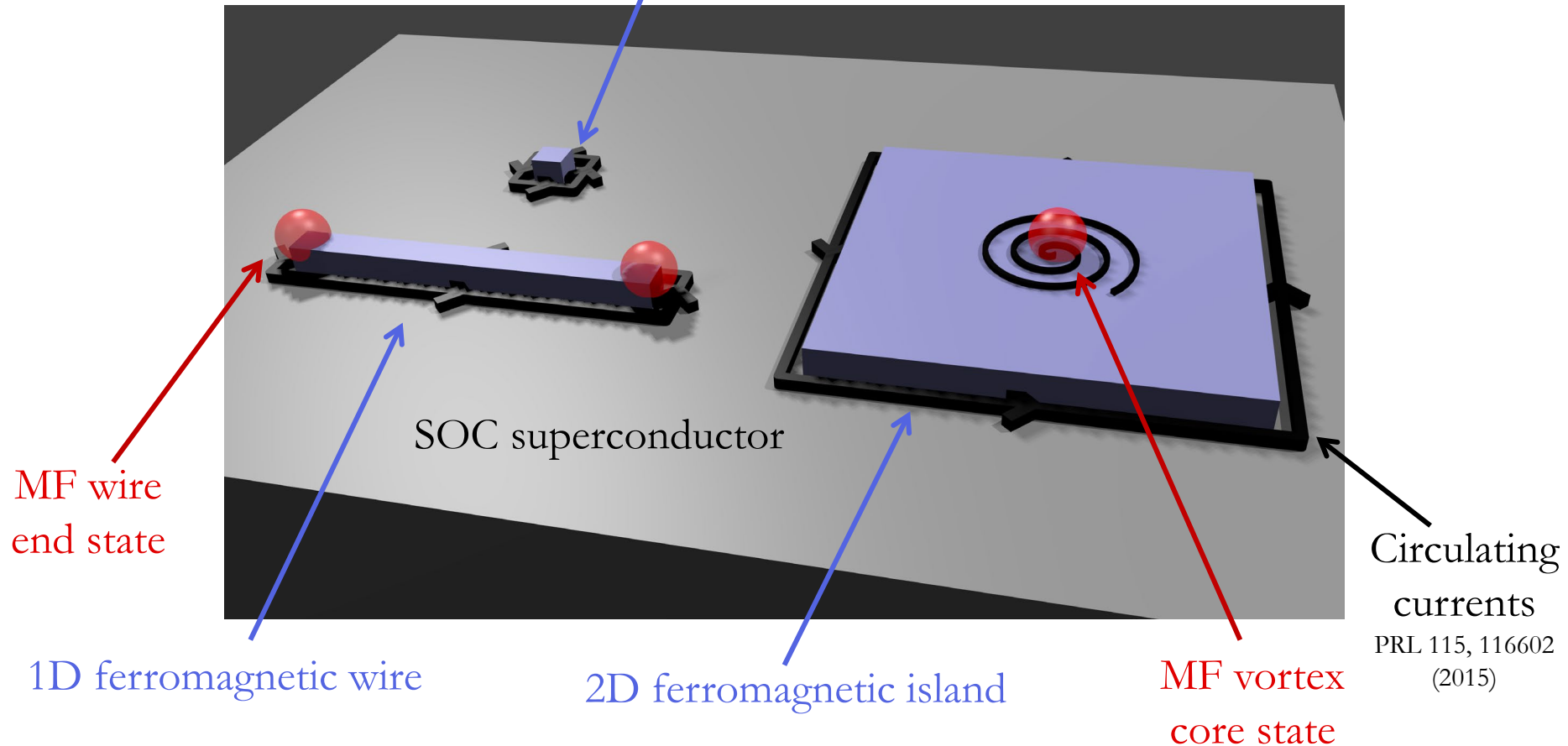


Flexible Setup

Self-consistent solution for the superconducting order parameter

$$\left[\Delta_{\mathbf{i}} = -V_{sc} \langle c_{\mathbf{i}\downarrow} c_{\mathbf{i}\uparrow} \rangle \right]$$

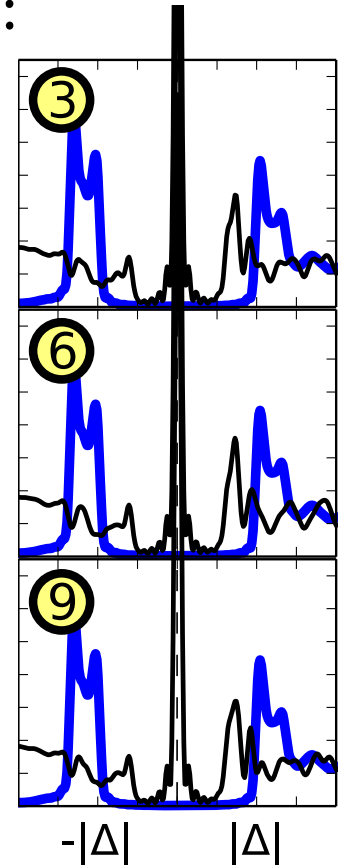
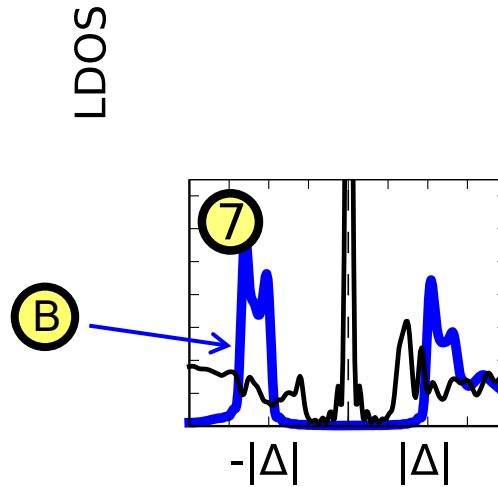
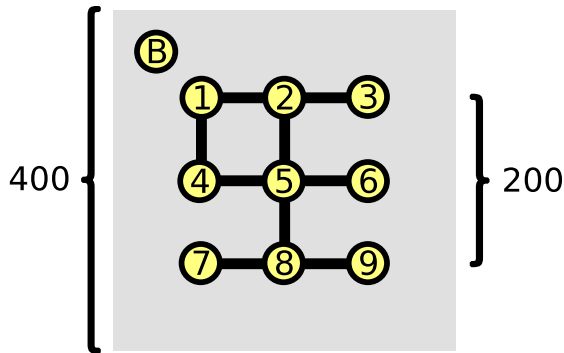
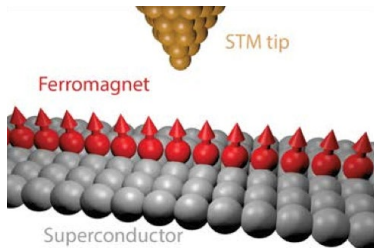
Single magnetic impurity





Ferromagnet Atom Chain Network

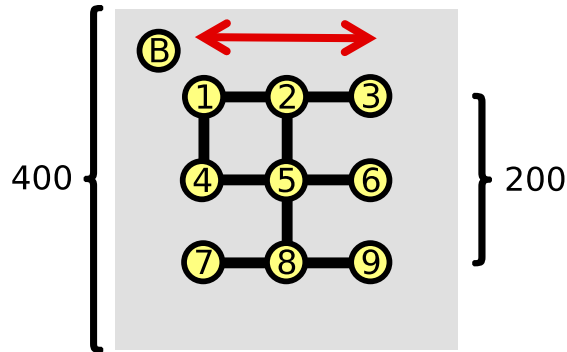
Wire network for more unique signature of MFs:



Zero-energy MFs at odd-wire junctions (black)
No subgap states at even-wire junctions (red)

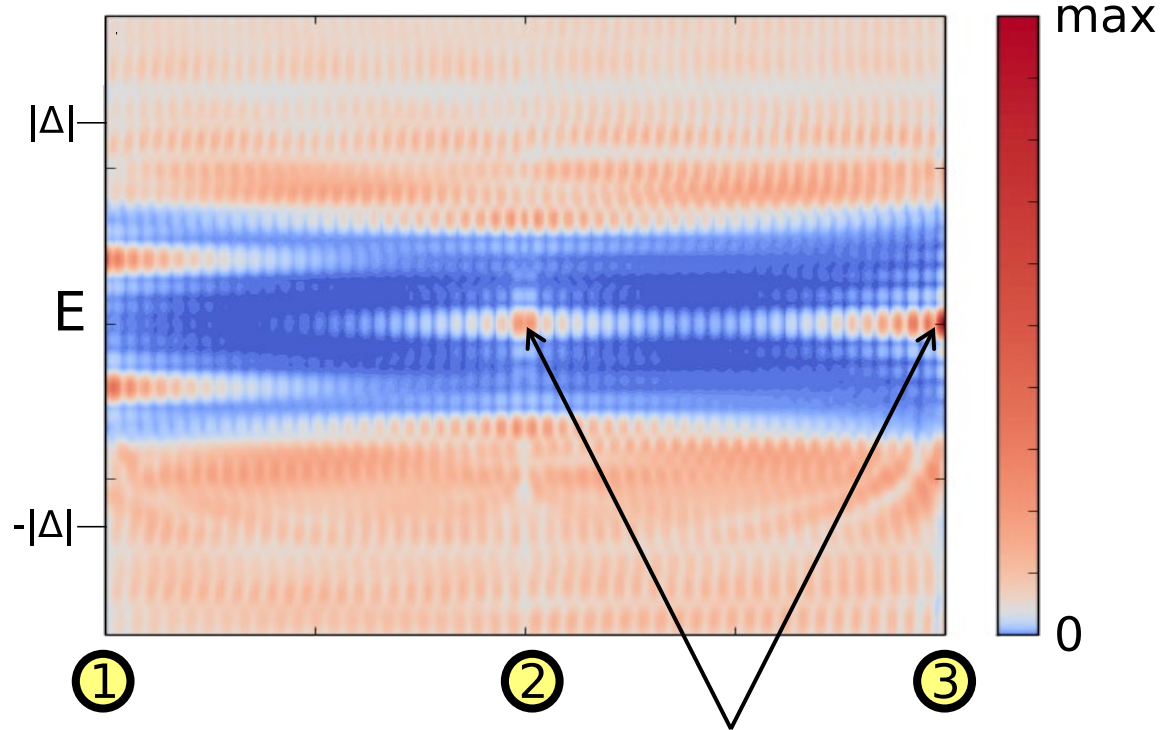


Odd- and Even-Wire Junctions



Only clear subgap states are MFs at odd-wire junctions

LDOS along upper wire segment



MF wire end states



Topological Superconductivity

Spinless superconductors

Prototype: Kitaev model for 1D spinless SC

Materials: SOC + magnetism + s -wave SC

Majorana fermion:

- Non-local, “ $1/2$ electron”
- Zero-energy topological boundary state in spinless SCs
 - Protected by energy gap
 - Note: not all zero-energy states in SCs are MFs



Summary

- Introduction to superconductivity
 - BCS, BdG, group theory
- Topological superconductivity
 - **Chiral superconductivity: $p+ip'$ - and $d+id'$ -wave symmetry**
 - Appears often in 2D irreps
 - Topology set by Chern number (winding of order parameter)
 - Chiral (electronic) edge states
 - **Spinless topological superconductivity**
 - SOC + magnetism + s -wave superconductivity
 - Zero-energy edge state = Majorana fermion



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General Hamiltonian

$$\begin{aligned} \text{General Hamiltonian: } \mathcal{H} = & \sum_{\mathbf{k}, s} \varepsilon(\mathbf{k}) a_{\mathbf{k}s}^\dagger a_{\mathbf{k}s} \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}', s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4} V_{s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') a_{-\mathbf{k}s_1}^\dagger a_{\mathbf{k}s_2}^\dagger a_{\mathbf{k}'s_3} a_{-\mathbf{k}'s_4} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Mean-field order: } \Delta_{ss'}(\mathbf{k}) = - \sum_{\mathbf{k}', s_3, s_4} V_{s'ss_3s_4}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') \langle a_{\mathbf{k}'s_3} a_{-\mathbf{k}'s_4} \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{H}} = & \sum_{\mathbf{k}, s} \varepsilon(\mathbf{k}) a_{\mathbf{k}s}^\dagger a_{\mathbf{k}s} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{k}, s_1, s_2} [\Delta_{s_1 s_2}(\mathbf{k}) a_{\mathbf{k}s_1}^\dagger a_{-\mathbf{k}s_2}^\dagger \\ & - \Delta_{s_1 s_2}^*(-\mathbf{k}) a_{-\mathbf{k}s_1} a_{\mathbf{k}s_2}] \end{aligned}$$



Matrix Formulation

4-component notation (Nambu): $\mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{k}} = (a_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}, a_{\mathbf{k}\downarrow}, a_{-\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger, a_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger)^\top$

$$\rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{H}} = \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon(\mathbf{k})\sigma_0 & \hat{\Delta}(\mathbf{k}) \\ \hat{\Delta}^\dagger(\mathbf{k}) & -\varepsilon(\mathbf{k})\sigma_0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{k}}$$

Spin-singlet pairing: $\hat{\Delta}(\mathbf{k}) = i\hat{\sigma}_y \psi(\mathbf{k}) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \psi(\mathbf{k}) \\ -\psi(\mathbf{k}) & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ψ even
function of \mathbf{k}

$$\left[\psi(\mathbf{k}) [c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger - c_{\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger c_{-\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger] \right]$$

Spin-triplet pairing: $\hat{\Delta}(\mathbf{k}) = i(\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{k}) \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}) \hat{\sigma}_y$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -d_x(\mathbf{k}) + id_y(\mathbf{k}) & d_z(\mathbf{k}) \\ d_z(\mathbf{k}) & d_x(\mathbf{k}) + id_y(\mathbf{k}) \end{bmatrix}$$
 \mathbf{d} vector odd
function of \mathbf{k}

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} m_z = 0: d_z(\mathbf{k}) [c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger c_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger + c_{\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger c_{-\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger] \\ m_z = 1: [-d_x(\mathbf{k}) + id_y(\mathbf{k})] c_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger c_{-\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger \end{array} \right)$$



General Solution

QP energy (eigenvalue): $E_{\mathbf{k}} = \sqrt{\varepsilon(\mathbf{k})^2 + |\psi(\mathbf{k})|^2}$
 $E_{\mathbf{k}} = \sqrt{\varepsilon(\mathbf{k})^2 + |\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{k})|^2 \pm \mathbf{q}(\mathbf{k})}$

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \hat{\Delta} \hat{\Delta}^\dagger = |\mathbf{d}|^2 \hat{\sigma}_0 + \mathbf{q} \cdot \hat{\sigma} \\ \mathbf{q} = i(\mathbf{d} \times \mathbf{d}^*) \\ \text{Finite } \mathbf{q} = \text{non-unitary} \end{array} \right)$$

Self-consistency equation, linear close to T_c :

$$v \Delta_{s_1 s_2}(\mathbf{k}) = - \sum_{s_3 s_4} \langle V_{s_2 s_1 s_3 s_4}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') \Delta_{s_3 s_4}(\mathbf{k}') \rangle_{\mathbf{k}'}$$

$$\frac{1}{v} = N(0) \int_0^{\varepsilon_c} d\varepsilon \frac{\tanh \left[\frac{\beta_c \varepsilon(k)}{2} \right]}{\varepsilon(\mathbf{k})} = \ln(1.14 \beta_c \varepsilon_c)$$

- Largest eigenvalue gives T_c
- Eigenfunction (Δ) belongs to irreducible representation (irrep) of symmetry group

→ Possible SC symmetries belong to **irreps of symmetry group of H**

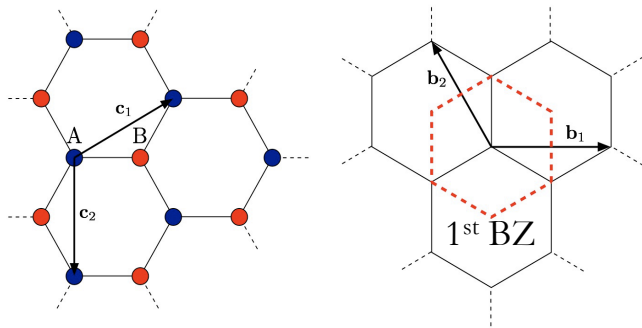
→ SC state always breaks U(1), can also break

- Crystal lattice, spin-rotation, time-reversal, ... symmetries

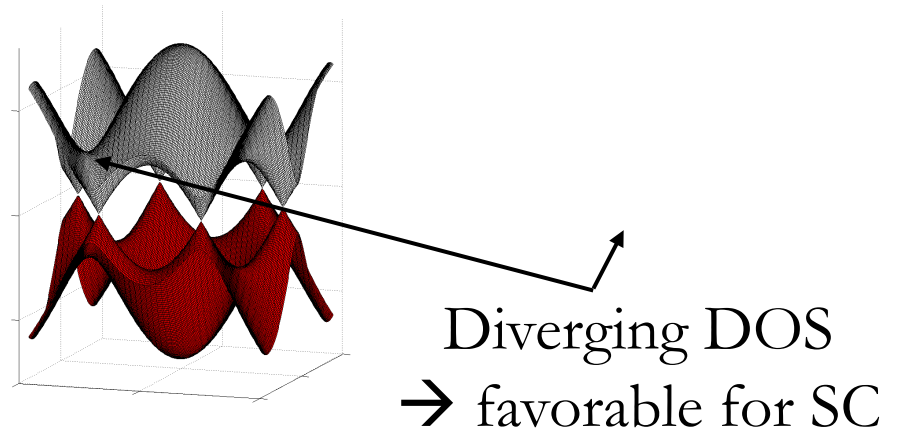


Graphene a $d+id'$ SC?

Honeycomb lattice

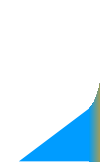
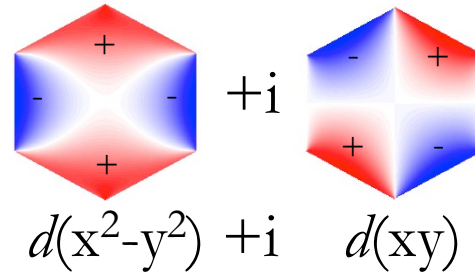


Band structure with van Hove singularities



Pairing from repulsive interactions

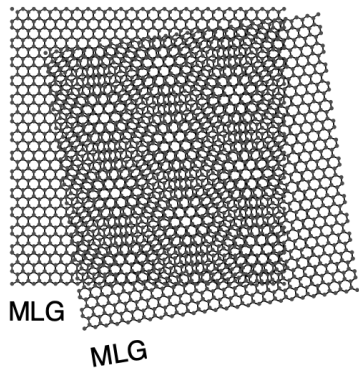
- Strong interactions [1]
- Perturbative RG [2]
- Functional RG [3]



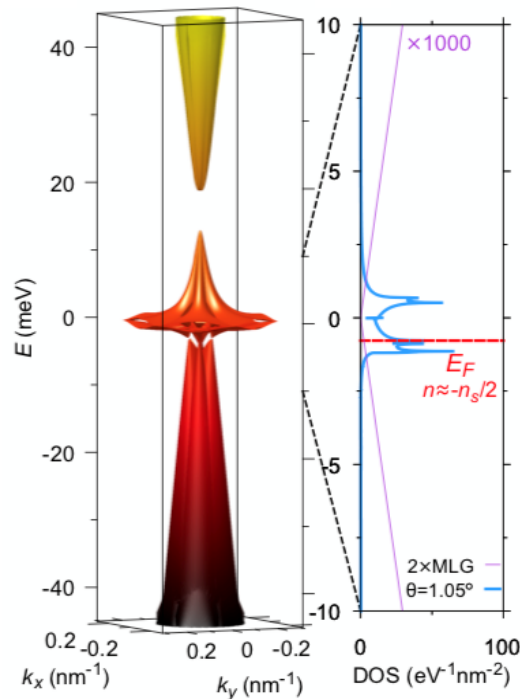


Twisted Bilayer Graphene

Supercell moiré
pattern



Small “magic” angles →
low energy flat bands



Superconducting domes
throughout moiré flat band

