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with

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Dec 2009

Chiral Majorana Fermion modes





Chiral Majorana Fermion modes



Z_2 – Interferometers

Two prototypes





Mach-Zehnder

Fu & Kane, PRL, 2009 Akhmerov, Nilsson & Beenakker, PRL, 2009 **Fabry-Perot**

Law, Lee & Ng, PRL, 2009

Z_2 – Interferometers



Mach-Zehnder

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Fabry-Perot

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Motivation

Novel type of particles:

Neutral Majorana modes

Formulation of the scattering problem in a Majorana basis

Theory in which charge and current are not diagonal operators

Charge and current are a manfestation of interference

Scattering theory – the building block













PHS & scattering matrix electron-hole basis

$$\mathcal{P} = \sigma_x \mathcal{K}$$

• PHS on electron/hole states $\mathcal{P}(a|k, E; e\rangle) = a^*|-k, -E; h\rangle$ Group velocity is unchanged!

 $S_{\alpha\beta}(E) = S^*_{\bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta}}(-E) \quad (\alpha,\beta=e,h;\bar{e}=h,\bar{h}=e)$

• Simplest example (2-by-2 matrix; *E* = 0)

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} b & a \\ a^* & b^* \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{array}{l} b^*a + a^*b = 0 \\ 2ab = 2a^*b^* = 0 \\ 0 & e^{-i\varphi_b} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad S = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & e^{i\varphi_a} \\ e^{-i\varphi_a} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Only total normal reflection or total Andreev reflection is allowed!
$$Det(S) = +1 \qquad Det(S) = -1$$

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PHS & scattering matrix Majorana basis

$$\mathcal{P} = \sigma_x \mathcal{K}$$

- PHS on Majorana states $|E;m\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(e^{i\varphi}|E;e\rangle + e^{-i\varphi}|E;h\rangle)$ $\mathcal{P}(a|E;m\rangle) = \mathcal{P}\left[\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}(e^{i\varphi}|E;e\rangle + e^{-i\varphi}|E;h\rangle)\right]$ $= \frac{a^*}{\sqrt{2}}(e^{-i\varphi}|-E;h\rangle + e^{i\varphi}|-E;e\rangle)$ $= a^*|-E;m\rangle$ $S_{m_1m_2}(E) = S^*_{m_1m_2}(-E)$
- Simple example (2-by-2 matrix; E = 0)

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \varphi_b & -\sin \varphi_b \\ \sin \varphi_b & \cos \varphi_b \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad S = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \varphi_a & \sin \varphi_a \\ \sin \varphi_a & -\cos \varphi_a \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Det}(S) = +1 \\ \text{total normal reflection} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{Det}(S) = -1 \\ \text{total Andreev reflection} \end{array}$$

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Changing basis



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Changing basis





$\underline{N=1}$ $S_M \in O(3)$

+1

 $^{+1}$



 $\underline{N=1} \quad S_{M} \in O(3)$

• Euler decomposition

$$S_{M} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & R_{0}(\alpha) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{0}(\theta) & 0 \\ 0 & \pm 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & R_{0}(\beta) \end{pmatrix}$$
$$R_{0}(\xi) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \xi & -\sin \xi \\ \sin \xi & \cos \xi \end{pmatrix} \quad (\xi = \alpha, \beta, \theta)$$



+1





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$$R_{0}(\xi) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \xi & -\sin \xi \\ \sin \xi & \cos \xi \end{pmatrix} \quad (\xi = \alpha, \beta, \theta)$$
$$\left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & R_{0}(-\alpha) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma^{(+)} \\ \eta^{(+)}_{1} \\ \eta^{(+)}_{2} \end{pmatrix} \right] = \begin{pmatrix} R_{0}(\theta) & 0 \\ 0 & +1 \end{pmatrix} \left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & R_{0}(\beta) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma^{(-)} \\ \eta^{(-)}_{1} \\ \eta^{(-)}_{2} \end{pmatrix} \right]$$





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$$R_{0}(\xi) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \xi & -\sin \xi \\ \sin \xi & \cos \xi \end{pmatrix} \quad (\xi = \alpha, \beta, \theta)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \gamma_{1}^{(+)} \\ \tilde{\eta}_{2}^{(+)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} R_{0}(\theta) & 0 \\ 0 & +1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_{1}^{(-)} \\ \tilde{\eta}_{2}^{(-)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\eta}_{1}^{(+)} \\ \tilde{\eta}_{2}^{(+)} \end{pmatrix} = R_{0}(-\alpha) \begin{pmatrix} \eta_{1}^{(+)} \\ \eta_{2}^{(+)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(e^{i\alpha}\psi_{e}^{(+)} + e^{-i\alpha}\psi_{h}^{(+)}) \\ \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}(e^{i\alpha}\psi_{e}^{(+)} - e^{-i\alpha}\psi_{h}^{(+)}) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\eta}_{1}^{(-)} \\ \tilde{\eta}_{2}^{(-)} \end{pmatrix} = R_{0}(\beta) \begin{pmatrix} \eta_{1}^{(-)} \\ \eta_{2}^{(-)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(e^{-i\beta}\psi_{e}^{(-)} + e^{i\beta}\psi_{h}^{(-)}) \\ \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}(e^{-i\beta}\psi_{e}^{(-)} - e^{i\beta}\psi_{h}^{(-)}) \end{pmatrix}$$



 $\underline{N=1} \quad S_{M} \in O(3)$

• Euler decomposition

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physically relevant S_{M}

$$R_{0}(\xi) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \xi & -\sin \xi \\ \sin \xi & \cos \xi \end{pmatrix} \quad (\xi = \alpha, \beta, \theta)$$
relevant S_{M}

$$U(1) \text{ gauge transformation} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma^{(+)} \\ \tilde{\eta}^{(+)}_{1} \\ \tilde{\eta}^{(+)}_{2} \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\left(\begin{pmatrix} R_{0}(\theta) & 0 \\ 0 & +1 \end{pmatrix} \right)}_{\left(\begin{pmatrix} \eta^{(-)} \\ \eta^{(-)}_{2} \\ \eta^{($$

$$S_M = \left(\begin{array}{cc} R_0(\theta) & 0 \\ 0 & \pm 1 \end{array} \right) \ r_2 = +1$$



$$S_M = \begin{pmatrix} r_1 & -t_1 \\ t_1 & r_1 \\ & & r_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad r_2 = +1$$



• Physics w/ reduced S_M $S_M = \begin{pmatrix} r_1 & -t_1 \\ t_1 & r_1 \\ r_2 \end{pmatrix}, r_2 = +1$ $\hat{\gamma} \quad \hat{\eta}_1 \quad \hat{\eta}_2$



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• Physics w/ reduced S_M $S_M = \begin{pmatrix} r_1 & -t_1 \\ t_1 & r_1 \\ r_2 \end{pmatrix}, r_2 = +1$ $\hat{\gamma} \quad \hat{\eta}_1 \quad \hat{\eta}_2$ • Current



Current $I_n = I_{nm} + I_{nn}$ $I_{nm} = -\frac{e}{h} \int_{E>0} dE \ S_{nm}^{\dagger} \sigma_z S_{nm} f_m(E) = 0$ $I_{nn} = \frac{e}{h} \int_{E>0} dE \ \operatorname{Tr}[(\sigma_z - S_{nn}^{\dagger} \sigma_z S_{nn}) F_n(E)]$ $= \frac{e}{h} \int_{E>0} dE \ [1 - \operatorname{Re}(r_1^* r_2)][f_e(E) - f_h(E)]$ $S_{nm} = U_0^{\dagger} \begin{pmatrix} t_1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ $S_{nm} = U_0^{\dagger} \begin{pmatrix} t_1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ $F_n(E) = \begin{pmatrix} f_e(E) & 0 \\ 0 & f_h(E) \end{pmatrix}$

$$S_{M} = \begin{pmatrix} r_{1} & -t_{1} \\ t_{1} & r_{2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad r_{2} = +1$$

$$\hat{\gamma} \quad \hat{\eta}_{1} \quad \hat{\eta}_{2}$$
• Current
$$I_{n} = I_{nm} + I_{nn}$$

$$I_{nm} = -\frac{e}{h} \int_{E>0} dE \quad S_{nm}^{\dagger} \sigma_{z} S_{nm} f_{m}(E) = 0$$

$$I_{nn} = \frac{e}{h} \int_{E\geq0} dE \quad \operatorname{Tr}[(\sigma_{z} - S_{nn}^{\dagger} \sigma_{z} S_{nn}) F_{n}(E)]$$

$$= \frac{e}{h} \int_{E\geq0} dE \quad (1 - \operatorname{Re}(r_{1}^{*}r_{2})) [f_{e}(E) - f_{h}(E)]$$

Current is determined only by reflection part of S matrix

• Physics w/ reduced *S*_M

M

• Current in terms of Majorana fermions



$$I_n = \frac{c}{h} \int_{E \ge 0} dE \ [1 - \operatorname{Re}(r_1^* r_2)] [f_e(E) - f_h(E)]$$

• Current in terms of Majorana fermions



Current in terms of Majorana fermions



• Current in terms of Majorana fermions



current is given by the interference of (a pair of) Majorana fermions (even though each individual of them does not carry charge)

N = 1 Interferometer-case 0 $\phi(E) = EL/\hbar v_m + \pi + n_v \pi$ M π Berry phase n $S_M = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{r}_1 \\ r_2 \end{pmatrix}$ # of vortices r_2 $\tilde{r}_1 = \frac{r_1 - e^{i\phi}}{1 - r_1 e^{i\phi}}$ $I_n = \frac{e}{h} \int_{E > 0} dE \ [1 - \operatorname{Re}(\tilde{r}_1^* r_2)] [f_e(E) - f_h(E)]$ $E = 0, \ \phi = (n_v + 1)\pi; \ r_2 = +1$ $n_v \text{ even } \implies \tilde{r_1} = 1, \implies G = 0,$ normal reflection $n_v \text{ odd} \implies \tilde{r_1} = -1, \implies G = 2e^2/h,$ perfect Andreev reflection



N=1



N=1



Left (Right) contact contributes no current to Right (Left) lead

N=1



Left (Right) contact contributes no current to Right (Left) lead









<u>N=1</u> "normal" Fabry-Perot interferometry

$$\frac{L}{\int_{0}^{n} \int_{0}^{n} \int_{0}^{n} \int_{0}^{n} \frac{R}{\int_{0}^{n} \frac{R$$

<u>N=1</u> "normal" Fabry-Perot interferometry



noise































[B. Béri, Phys. Rev. B 79, 245315 (2009)]











K terminals * *N*_k modes



K terminals * *N*_k modes

$$I_{k} = I_{kk} \qquad (I_{kj} = 0 \text{ if } j \neq k)$$

= $\frac{e}{h} \int_{E \ge 0} dE \left(N_{k} - \sum_{i=1}^{N_{k}} \operatorname{Re}\left[(r_{i}^{(k)})^{*} r_{i+1}^{(k)} \right] \right) [f_{ke}(E) - f_{kh}(E)]$

$$P_{kj}(\omega = 0) = P_{kj}(\omega = 0)$$

= $-\frac{e^2}{h} \int_{E \ge 0} dE \left[2\text{Re}(r_2^{(k)*}t^{(kj)}r_2^{(j)*}t^{(jk)}/4) \right]$
 $\cdot [f_{ke}(E) - f_{kh}(E)][f_{je}(E) - f_{jh}(E)]$

$$K \text{ terminals } * N_k \text{ modes}$$

$$I_k = I_{kk} \qquad (I_{kj} = 0 \text{ if } j \neq k)$$

$$= \frac{e}{h} \int_{E \ge 0} dE \qquad \left(N_k - \left[\sum_{i=1}^{N_k} \operatorname{Re}[(r_i^{(k)})^* r_{i+1}^{(k)}] \right] \right) [f_{ke}(E) - f_{kh}(E)]$$

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$$P_{kj}(\omega = 0) = P_{kj}(\omega = 0) \quad \text{In many-mode case,}$$

$$\operatorname{resonance at r1 will be} \quad \operatorname{exchange contribution}$$

$$= -\frac{e^2}{h} \int_{E \ge 0} dE \left[\left[2\operatorname{Re}(r_2^{(k)*} t^{(kj)} r_2^{(j)*} t^{(jk)}/4) \right] \\ \cdot [f_{ke}(E) - f_{kh}(E)][f_{je}(E) - f_{jh}(E)] \right]$$

K terminals * Nk modes

$$I_{k} = I_{kk} \quad (I_{kj} = 0 \text{ if } j \neq k)$$

$$= \frac{e}{h} \int_{E \ge 0} dE \left(N_{k} - \left[\sum_{i=1}^{N_{k}} \operatorname{Re}[(r_{i}^{(k)})^{*}r_{i+1}^{(k)}] \right] \left[f_{ke}(E) - f_{kh}(E) \right]$$

$$P_{kj}(\omega = 0) = P_{kj}(\omega = 0)$$

$$In \operatorname{many-mode case,}_{resonance at r1 will be} \operatorname{washed out}$$

$$P_{kj}(\omega = 0) = P_{kj}(\omega = 0)$$

$$= -\frac{e^{2}}{h} \int_{E \ge 0} dE \left[2\operatorname{Re}(r_{2}^{(k)*}t^{(kj)}r_{2}^{(j)*}t^{(jk)}/4) \right]$$

$$\cdot [f_{ke}(E) - f_{kh}(E)][f_{je}(E) - f_{jh}(E)]$$
Noise keeps track of MF feature

Z_2-Mach-Zehnder Interferometer

Fu, Kane, PRL 2009; Akhmerov, Nilsson and Beenakker, PRL 2009



Z_2 – Two –particle interferometer

Strübi, Belzig, Choi and Bruder, Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 136403 (2011)



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Scattering problem in Majorana basis leads to a decomposition of the s-matrix with a minimal number of parameters directly related to the current and noise

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The current is determined by the interference of (a pair of) Majorana fermions.

Scattering problem in Majorana basis leads to a decomposition of the s-matrix with a minimal number of parameters directly related to the current and noise

The current is determined by the interference of (a pair of) Majorana fermions.

Exchange interference of two pairs of Majorana fermions. Exchange is sensitive to transmission even in geometries where current is only determined by the reflection matrix.