

Non-equilibrium signatures of electron pairing in quantum dots coupled to superconductors

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Physical issue:

1. time-resolved phenomena
(observable for in-gap bound states)
2. out-of-equilibrium transport
(realized via Andreev scattering)

SUPERCONDUCTING PROXIMITY EFFECT

Quantum dot (QD) coupled to itinerant electrons of bulk superconductor (SC) is affected by:

⇒ **on-dot pairing**

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spectroscopically manifested by:

⇒ **in-gap bound states**

SUPERCONDUCTING PROXIMITY EFFECT

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spectroscopically manifested by:

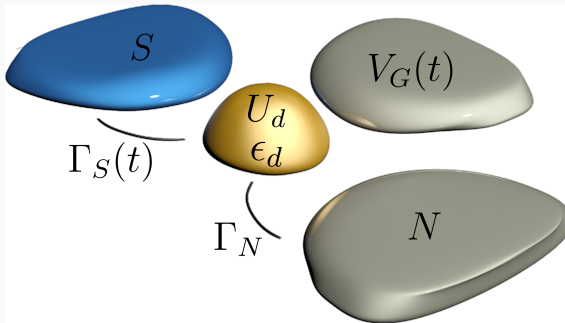
⇒ **in-gap bound states**

which originate from:

⇒ **leakage of Cooper pairs on QD** (Andreev)

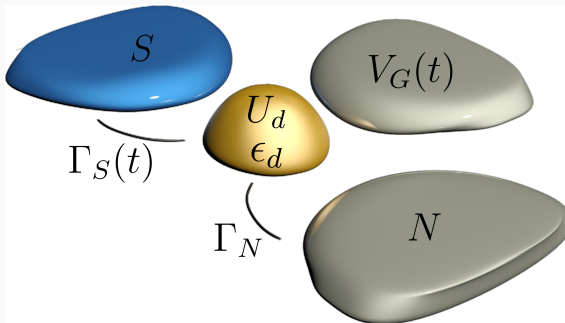
⇒ **exchange int. of QD with SC** (Yu-Shiba-Rusinov)

DYNAMICS OF IN-GAP STATES



Empirical protocols of time-resolved phenomena:

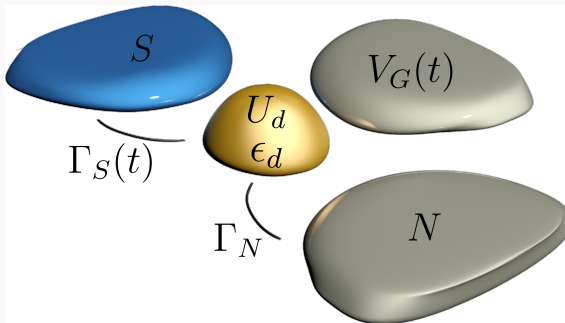
DYNAMICS OF IN-GAP STATES



Empirical protocols of time-resolved phenomena:

⇒ variation of the coupling Γ_S to superconductor

DYNAMICS OF IN-GAP STATES



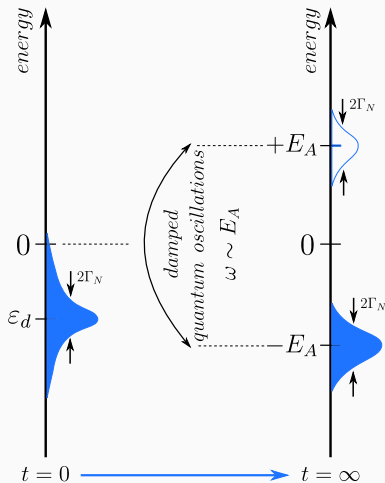
Empirical protocols of time-resolved phenomena:

⇒ **variation of the coupling Γ_S to superconductor**

⇒ **change of the gate potential V_G**

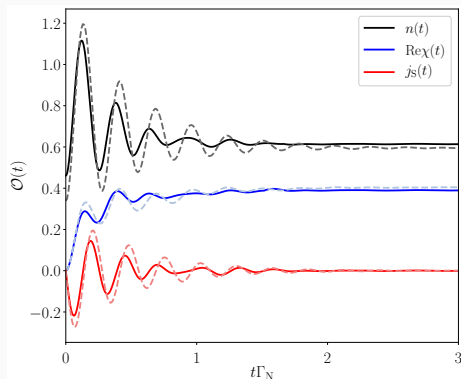
BUILDUP OF IN-GAP STATES

Sudden coupling of QD to superconductor $0 \rightarrow \Gamma_S$



BUILDUP OF IN-GAP STATES

Time-dependent observables driven by the quantum quench $0 \rightarrow \Gamma_S$



$n(t)$ electron number

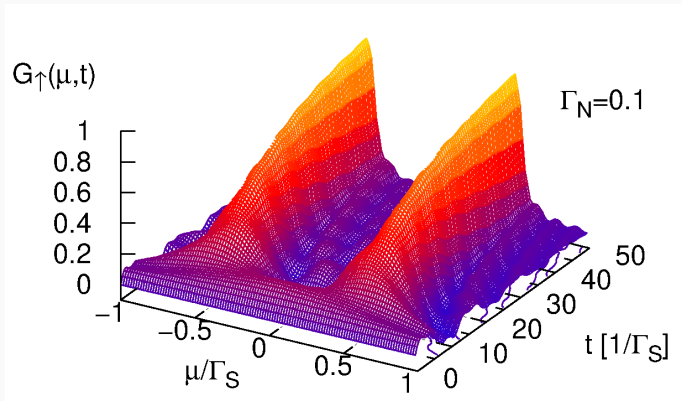
$\chi(t) = \langle \hat{d}_\downarrow \hat{d}_\uparrow \rangle$ on-dot pairing

$j_S(t)$ charge current

solid lines - time dependent NRG

dashed lines - Hartree-Fock-Bogolubov

TIME-DEPENDENT TUNNELING CONDUCTANCE

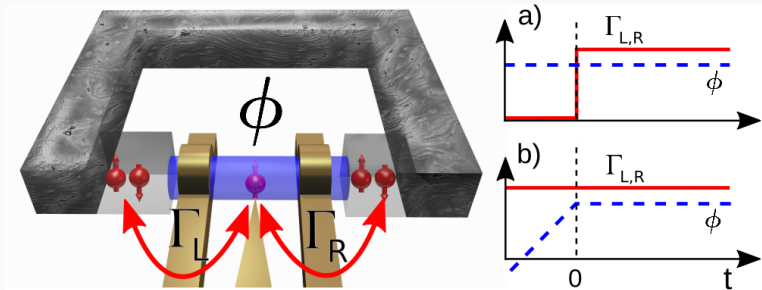


Subgap tunneling conductance $G_{\sigma} = \frac{\partial I_{\sigma}}{\partial t}$ vs time (t) and voltage (μ)

K. Wrzeńniewski, B. Baran, R. Taranko, T. Domański & I. Weymann, PRB 103, 155420 (2021).

ANDREEV STATES IN JOSEPHSON JUNCTION

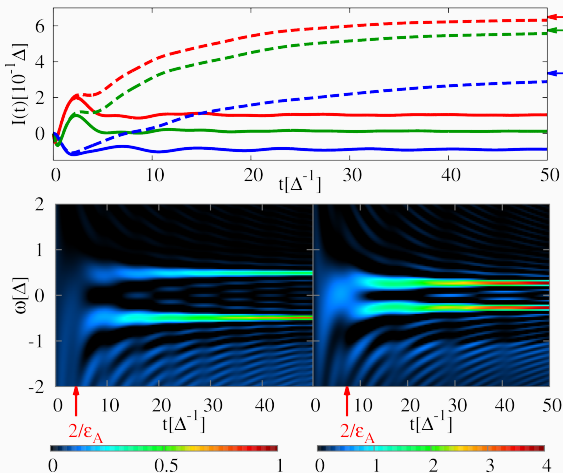
Quantum quench imposed on QD in Josephson junction geometry



R. Seoane Souto, A. Martín-Rodero, A. Levy Yeyati, Phys. Rev. Lett. 117, 267701 (2016).

ANDREEV STATES IN JOSEPHSON JUNCTION

Transient current and quasiparticle spectrum obtained for different ratios of Γ/Δ (from top to bottom: 10, 5 and 1).



communications physics

ARTICLE

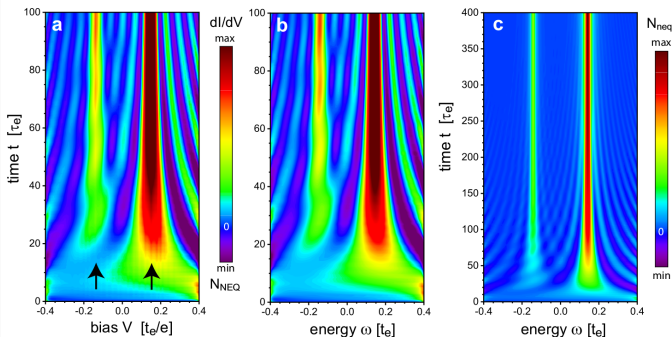
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s42005-022-01050-7>

OPEN



Emergence and manipulation of non-equilibrium Yu-Shiba-Rusinov states

Jasmin Bedow¹, Eric Mascot^{1,2} & Dirk K. Morr¹



Triplet (Andreev) blockade

[in double-quantum-dot junctions]

Theory of Andreev blockade in a double quantum dot with a superconducting lead

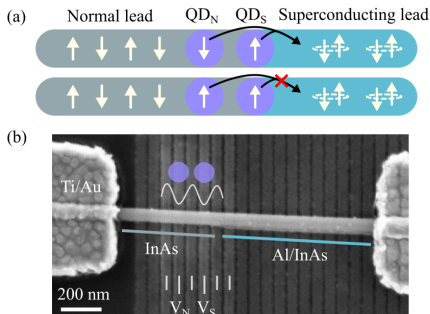
David Pekker, Po Zhang and Sergey M. Frolov

Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, 15260

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Triplet-blockaded Josephson supercurrent in double quantum dots

Daniël Bouman¹,² Ruben J. J. van Gulik,¹ Gorm Steffensen,² Dávid Pataki³,⁴ Péter Boross,⁴ Peter Krogstrup,² Jesper Nygård²,⁵ Jens Paaske,² András Pályi,³ and Attila Geresdi^{1,5,*}

¹*QuTech and Kavli Institute of Nanoscience, Delft University of Technology, NL-2600 GA Delft, The Netherlands*

²*Center for Quantum Devices, Niels Bohr Institute, University of Copenhagen, DK-2100 Copenhagen, Denmark*

³*Department of Theoretical Physics and MTA-BME Exotic Quantum Phases Research Group, Budapest University of Technology and Economics, H-1111 Budapest, Hungary*

⁴*Institute for Solid State Physics and Optics, Wigner Research Centre for Physics, P.O. Box 49, H-1525 Budapest, Hungary*

⁵*Quantum Device Physics Laboratory, Department of Microtechnology and Nanoscience, Chalmers University of Technology, SE-41296 Gothenburg, Sweden*



(Received 12 August 2020; accepted 2 December 2020; published 21 December 2020)

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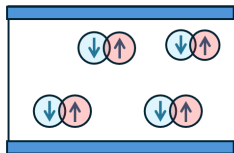


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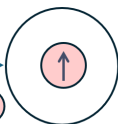
Conclusion: “magnetic field dependence of the supercurrent amplitude in the even occupied state reveals the presence of a supercurrent blockade in the spin-triplet ground state”

DYNAMICAL ANDREEV BLOCKADE

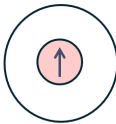
Superconducting lead



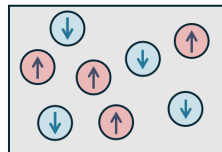
QD₁



QD₂



Normal lead

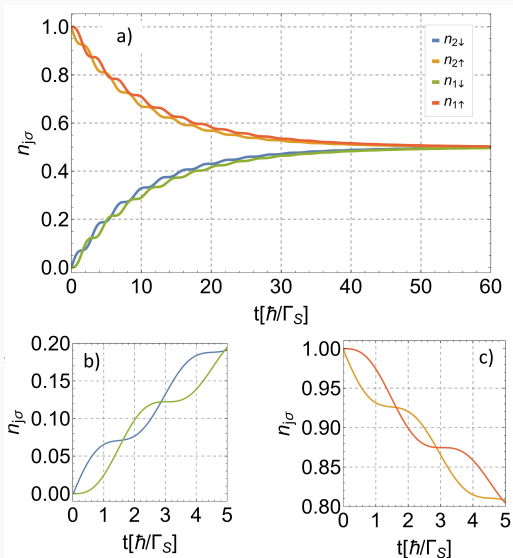


Superconducting proximity effect is blocked:

⇒ **when both quantum dots are singly occupied**

⇒ **by the same spin (for example \uparrow) electrons**

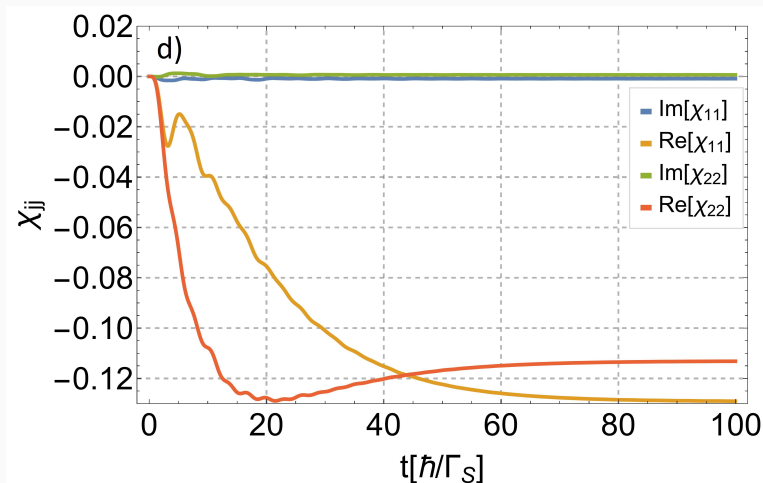
TRANSIENT BLOCKADE



Occupancy of the quantum dots initially occupied by \uparrow electrons.

TRANSIENT BLOCKADE

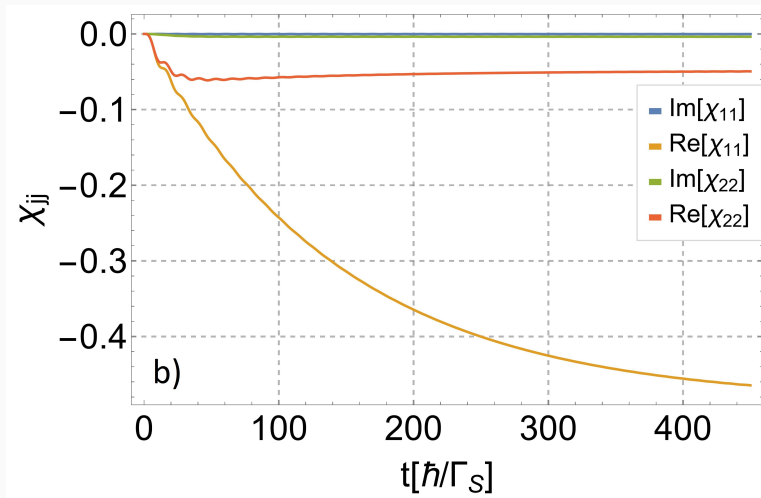
Results for $\chi_{jj}(t) \equiv \langle \hat{d}_{j\downarrow} \hat{d}_{j\uparrow} \rangle$ in the strong inter-dot coupling $V_{12} = \Gamma_S$.



Pairing in the quantum dots initially occupied by \uparrow electrons

TRANSIENT BLOCKADE

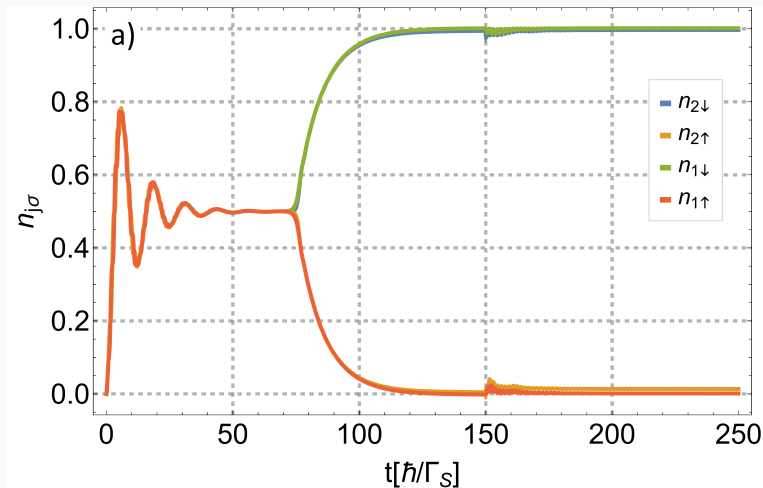
Results for $\chi_{jj}(t) \equiv \langle \hat{a}_{j\downarrow} \hat{a}_{j\uparrow} \rangle$ in the weak inter-dot coupling $V_{12} = 0.1\Gamma_S$.



Pairing in the quantum dots initially occupied by \uparrow electrons

ZEEMAN INDUCED BLOCKADE

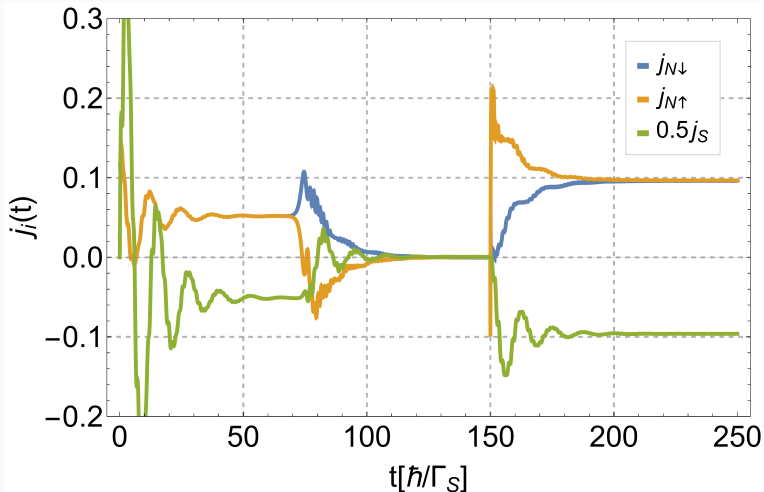
Magnetic field $B = 10\Gamma_S/\mu_B$ is switched on at $t = 75\Gamma_S/\hbar$



Occupancy of the initially empty quantum dots.

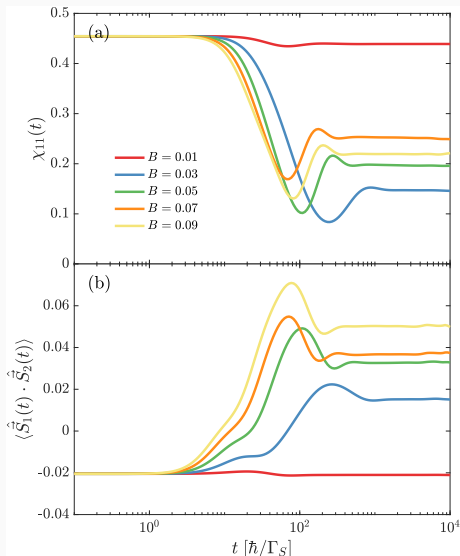
NON-EQUILIBRIUM CHARGE TRANSPORT

Magnetic field $B = 10\Gamma_S/\mu_B$ is switched on at $t = 75\Gamma_S/\hbar$ and bias voltage is strongly amplified at $t = 150\Gamma_S/\hbar$



CORRELATED SYSTEM

Results obtained by time-dependent NRG calculations



Model parameters:

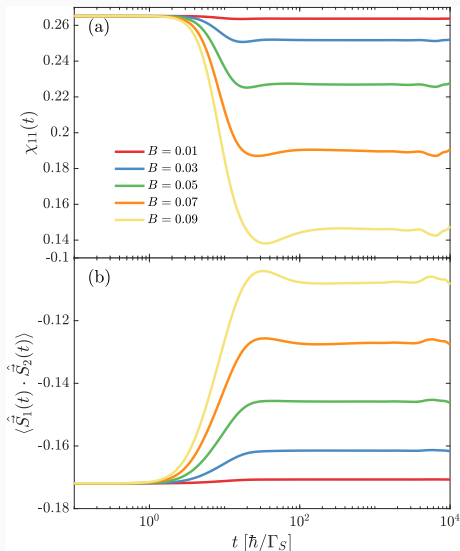
$$U_1 = 0.9\Gamma_S, \quad U_2 = 0,$$

$$\varepsilon_1 = -U_1/2, \quad \varepsilon_2 = 0,$$

$$V_{12} = 0.045\Gamma_S$$

CORRELATED SYSTEM

Results obtained by time-dependent NRG calculations



Model parameters:

$$U_1 = 0.9\Gamma_S, \quad U_2 = 0,$$

$$\varepsilon_1 = -U_1/2, \quad \varepsilon_2 = 0,$$

$$V_{12} = 0.225\Gamma_S$$

SUMMARY

**By attaching the quantum impurity to bulk superconductor
(or when its energy level / coupling strength is varied):**

- **Rabi-type oscillations are induced** (due to particle-hole mixing)
- **leading to buildup (re-arrangement) of the in-gap states**
- **dynamical phase transition can occur** (changeover of ground state)

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These phenomena could be detected in the charge transport measurements, using time-resolved Andreev spectroscopy.