# ROLE OF ANDREEV SCATTERING IN BULK SUPERCONDUCTORS & NANOSTRUCTURES

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IFJ PAN Kraków, 28 May 2019

## • Quasiparticles in superconductors

 $\Rightarrow$  particle vs hole dilemma

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  - J. Bardeen, A.F. Andreev & E. Majorana







# **Bulk superconductors**

## SUPERCONDUCTOR

## **Perfect conductor**



## SUPERCONDUCTOR



#### HALLMARKS OF ELECTRON PAIRING

BCS ground state :

$$|\mathrm{BCS}
angle = \prod_k \left( u_k + v_k \ \hat{c}^\dagger_{k\uparrow} \ \hat{c}^\dagger_{-k\downarrow} 
ight) \ |\mathrm{vacuum}
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Effective (Bogoliubov) quasiparticles

formally due to

$$\hat{\gamma}_{k\uparrow} = u_k \hat{c}_{k\uparrow} + \tilde{v}_k \hat{b}_{q=0} \hat{c}^{\dagger}_{-k\downarrow}$$
  
 $\hat{\gamma}^{\dagger}_{-k\downarrow} = -\tilde{v}_k \hat{b}^{\dagger}_{q=0} \hat{c}_{k\uparrow} + u_k \hat{c}^{\dagger}_{-k\downarrow}$ 

### **BOGOLIUBOV QUASIPARTICLES**

# Quasiparticle spectrum of conventional superconductors consists of the Bogoliubov (p/h) branches gaped around $E_F$



## Let us consider the interface of metal ${f N}$ and superconductor ${f S}$



#### where incident electron ...

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#### **Practical evidence:**



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#### **Practical evidence:**



- $\Rightarrow$  upon injecting an electron to superconductor
- $\Rightarrow$  a hole is reflected back (Andreev scattering).

## Superconductivity in nanosystems

## IMPURITIES IN SOLIDS

#### Various kinds of impurities in solids



### **IMPURITIES IN SOLIDS**

#### Various kinds of impurities in solids



Are they foes or friends to a superconducting host?

## **SPECIFIC EXAMPLES**

Impurities/defects:

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$\Rightarrow$	magnetic atoms (for instance Fe, Co)
$\Rightarrow$	correlated quantum dots (Anderson-type)
$\Rightarrow$	molecules(multi-level or vibrating)
$\Rightarrow$	magnetic islands (Shiba glasses and/or lattices)
$\Rightarrow$	nanowires (carbon nanotubes, Fe-chains)

etc.

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How can we observe the induced electron pairing ?

### **IN-GAP STATES**

#### Spectrum of a single impurity hybridized with superconductor:



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Bound states appearing in the subgap region  $E \in \langle -\Delta, \Delta \rangle$ are dubbed Yu-Shiba-Rusinov (or Andreev) quasiparticles.

#### **PROBING IN-GAP STATES**

#### STM as a tool for probing the spectra of proximitized impurities



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R. Žitko et al, Phys. Rev. B 83, 054512 (2011).

#### **TOPOGRAPHY AND SPATIAL EXTENT**

#### Empirical data obtained from STM measurements for NbSe<sub>2</sub>



a) bound states extending to 10 nm

b) alternating particle-hole oscillations

G.C. Menard et al., Nature Phys. 11, 1013 (2015).

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A. Ptok, Sz. Głodzik and T. Domański, Phys. Rev. B 96, 184425 (2017).

#### ANDREEV TUNNELING SPECTROSCOPY

For probing the subgap states one can measure the conductance of tunneling current through the quantum dot (QD) coupled between the normal (N) and superconducting (S) electrodes



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#### This is a particular realization of the single-electron-transistor.
## CORRELATIONS VS PAIRING

#### The proximitized quantum dot can described by

$$\hat{H}_{\text{QD}} = \sum_{\sigma} \epsilon_d \; \hat{d}^{\dagger}_{\sigma} \; \hat{d}_{\sigma} \; + \; U_d \; \hat{n}_{d\uparrow} \hat{n}_{d\downarrow} - \left( \Delta_d \; \hat{d}^{\dagger}_{\uparrow} \hat{d}^{\dagger}_{\downarrow} + \text{h.c.} 
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Eigen-states of this problem are represented by:

 $\begin{array}{ccc} |\uparrow\rangle & \text{and} & |\downarrow\rangle & \Leftarrow & \text{doublet states (spin <math>\frac{1}{2})} \\ u |0\rangle - v |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle \\ v |0\rangle + u |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle \end{array} & \Leftarrow & \text{singlet states (spin 0)} \end{array}$ 

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Upon varrying the parameters  $\varepsilon_d$ ,  $U_d$  or  $\Gamma_S$  there can be induced quantum phase transition between these doublet/singlet states.

#### **QUANTUM PHASE TRANSITION**

## Subgap spectrum of the correlated QD $\xi_d = \varepsilon_d + \frac{1}{2}U_d$



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#### Kondo effect near the quantum phase transition



#### Kondo effect near the quantum phase transition



T. Domański et al, Scientific Reports 6, 23336 (2016).

#### Constructive influence of the induced pairing on the Kondo state



T. Domański et al, Scientific Reports 6, 23336 (2016).

#### Physical observability in the Andreev differential conductance



T. Domański et al, Scientific Reports 6, 23336 (2016).

# Zero-pi transition

#### Quantum dot embedded in Josephson & Andreev circuits.



T. Domański ... V. Janiš & T. Novotný, Phys. Rev. B 95, 045104 (2017).

## JOSEPHSON/ANDREEV HETEROSTRUCTURE

#### Spectrum of the half-filled quantum dot



T. Domański ... V. Janiš & T. Novotný, Phys. Rev. B 95, 045104 (2017).

## JOSEPHSON/ANDREEV HETEROSTRUCTURE

#### Scaling of the Kondo temperarture T<sub>K</sub>



T. Domański ... V. Janiš & T. Novotný, Phys. Rev. B 95, 045104 (2017).

## JOSEPHSON/ANDREEV HETEROSTRUCTURE

#### Reversal of Josephson current at 'zero-pi' transition.



T. Domański ... V. Janiš & T. Novotný, Phys. Rev. B 95, 045104 (2017).

## NONLOCAL ANDREEV SCATTERING

#### In 3-terminal junctions there can occur:



## NONLOCAL ANDREEV SCATTERING

#### In 3-terminal junctions there can occur:



#### either the direct or crossed Andreev reflections.

#### DIRECT VS CROSSED ANDREEV SCATTERING

#### Physical consequences: selective charge/heat transfer



G. Michałek, T. Domański, B.R. Bułka, K.I. Wysokiński, Sci. Rep. <u>5</u>, 14572 (2015).
G. Michałek, M. Urbaniak, B.R. Bułka, T. Domański, K.I. Wysokiński,
Phys. Rev. B <u>93</u>, 235440 (2016).

# **Characteristic temporal scales**

## Let's consider abrupt coupling of QD to external leads



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R. Taranko and T. Domański, Phys. Rev. B 98, 075420 (2018).

Important questions:

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R. Taranko and T. Domański, Phys. Rev. B 98, 075420 (2018).

#### Important questions:

• how much time does it take to form the in-gap states?

## Let's consider abrupt coupling of QD to external leads



R. Taranko and T. Domański, Phys. Rev. B 98, 075420 (2018).

#### Important questions:

- how much time does it take to form the in-gap states?
- are there some characteristic time-scales?

## **RELAXATION VS QUANTUM OSCILLATIONS**

## Time-dependent charge of the quantum dot



- relaxation time is proportional to  $1/\Gamma_N$
- oscillations depend on energies of in-gap states

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## **RELAXATION VS QUANTUM OSCILLATIONS**

## Time-dependent charge current



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oscillations depend on energies of in-gap states

#### **EXPERIMENTALLY ACCESSIBLE QUANTITIES**



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

## **PHASE-CONTROLLED TRANSIENT EFFECTS**



R. Taranko, T. Kwapiński and T. Domański Phys. Rev. B 99, 165419 (2019).

## PHASE-CONTROLLED TRANSIENT EFFECTS



R. Taranko, T. Kwapiński and T. Domański Phys. Rev. B 99, 165419 (2019).

## **Physical issues:**

## • phase-controlled emergence of in-gap states,

#### **PHASE-CONTROLLED TRANSIENT EFFECTS**



R. Taranko, T. Kwapiński and T. Domański Phys. Rev. B 99, 165419 (2019).

## **Physical issues:**

- phase-controlled emergence of in-gap states,
- dynamics of the  $0 \pi$  transition.

#### **PHASAL + TRANSIENT EFFECTS**

## Quasienergies and time-dependent $n_{\sigma}(t)$ of QD



#### PHASAL TRANSIENT EFFECTS



R. Taranko, T. Kwapiński and T. Domański Phys. Rev. B 99, 165419 (2019).

# Floquet description of bound states

## BOUND STATES OF A DRIVEN QUANTUM IMPURITY

#### Quantum impurity with periodically oscillating energy level



#### BOUND STATES OF A DRIVEN QUANTUM IMPURITY

## Floquet spectrum averaged over a period $T=2\pi/\omega$



 $\Gamma_{SC} = 0, B_0 = B = 0$ 

 $\Gamma_S = 0.0$ 

B. Baran and T. Domański, arXiv:1903.10303 (2019).

#### BOUND STATES OF A DRIVEN QUANTUM IMPURITY

## Floquet spectrum averaged over a period $T = 2\pi/\omega$



 $\Gamma_{SC} = 0.1\omega, B_0 = B = 0$ 

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B. Baran and T. Domański, arXiv:1903.10303 (2019).
#### Floquet spectrum averaged over a period $T = 2\pi/\omega$



 $\Gamma_{SC} = 0.25\omega, B_0 = B = 0$ 

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B. Baran and T. Domański, arXiv:1903.10303 (2019).

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B. Baran and T. Domański, arXiv:1903.10303 (2019).

#### Floquet spectrum averaged over a period $T=2\pi/\omega$



 $\Gamma_{SC} = 0.5\omega, B_0 = B = 0$ 

 $\Gamma_S = 0.5\omega$ 

B. Baran and T. Domański, arXiv:1903.10303 (2019).

#### Floquet spectrum averaged over a period $T = 2\pi/\omega$



 $\Gamma_{SC} = 0.75\omega, B_0 = B = 0$ 

 $\Gamma_S = 0.75\omega$ 

B. Baran and T. Domański, arXiv:1903.10303 (2019).

#### Floquet spectrum averaged over a period $T=2\pi/\omega$



 $\Gamma_{SC} = 1.0\omega, B_0 = B = 0$ 

 $\Gamma_S = 1.0\omega$ 

B. Baran and T. Domański, arXiv:1903.10303 (2019).

Bound states of an "oscillating" quantum dot:

- are characterized by a series of side-peaks,
- of spectral weights dependent on amplitude
- and internal splittings dependent on  $\Gamma_s$ .

# **Topological superconductors**

#### Nanochain of magnetic impurities embedded in superconductor:



T.-P. Choy, J.M. Edge, A.R. Akhmerov, and C.W.J. Beenakker, Phys. Rev. B <u>84</u>, 195442 (2011).

#### Nanochain of magnetic impurities embedded in superconductor:



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arrange the in-gap bound states into Shiba-band(s).

M.H. Christensen ... J. Paaske, Phys. Rev. B 94, 144509 (2016).

#### Itinerant 1D fermions with intersite (p-wave) pairing

$$\hat{H} = t \sum_{i} \left( \hat{c}_{i}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{i+1} + \text{h.c.} \right) - \mu \sum_{i} \hat{c}_{i}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{i} + \Delta \sum_{i} \left( \hat{c}_{i}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{i+1}^{\dagger} + \text{h.c.} \right)$$

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This toy-model can be recast in the Majorana basis

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ight) \end{array}$$



Yu. Kitaev, Phys. Usp. 44, 131 (2001).

In particular, for  $\Delta = t$  and when  $|\mu|$  is inside the band two operators  $\hat{\gamma}_{1,1}$  and  $\hat{\gamma}_{2,N}$  *decouple* from all the rest



inducing the zero-energy modes at the chain edges.

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inducing the zero-energy modes at the chain edges. They can be regarded as *fractions* of non-local fermion

$$\hat{c}_{nonlocal} \equiv \left(\hat{\gamma}_{1,1} + i\hat{\gamma}_{N,2}\right)/\sqrt{2} \\ \hat{c}_{nonlocal}^{\dagger} \equiv \left(\hat{\gamma}_{1,1} - i\hat{\gamma}_{N,2}\right)/\sqrt{2}$$

#### as manifested by a number of unique phenomena.

## **PROPERTIES OF MAJORANA QPS**

- particle = antiparticle
- $\Rightarrow$  neutral in charge
- $\Rightarrow$  of zero energy
- fractional character
- $\Rightarrow$  half occupied/empty
- spatially nonlocal
- $\Rightarrow$  exist in pairs near boundaries/defects
- topologically protected
- $\Rightarrow$  immune to dephasing/decoherence

$$\hat{\gamma}_{i,n}^{\dagger}=\hat{\gamma}_{i,n}$$

$$\hat{\gamma}_{i,n}^{\dagger} \ \hat{\gamma}_{i,n} = 1/2$$

Intersite pairing of the same spin electrons can be driven e.g. by the spin-orbit (Rashba) interaction in presence of the external magnetic field, using nanowires proximitized to *s-wave* superconductor.



R. Lutchyn, J. Sau, S. Das Sarma, Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 077001 (2010).Y. Oreg, G. Refael, F. von Oppen, Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 177002 (2010).

#### Nanowire



A. Das et al, Nature Phys. 8, 887 (2012).

#### Nanowire + Rashba



A. Das et al, Nature Phys. 8, 887 (2012).

#### Nanowire + Rashba + magnetic field



A. Das et al, Nature Phys. 8, 887 (2012).

#### Nanowire + Rashba + magnetic field + superconductor



A. Das et al, Nature Phys. 8, 887 (2012).

 $B < B_{cr} \rightarrow$  trivial superconducting phase

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 $B > B_{cr} \rightarrow nontrivial$  superconducting phase

#### **EVOLUTION FROM TRIVIAL TO TOPOLOGICAL PHASE**

### Effective quasiparticle states of the Rashba nanowire



M.M. Maśka, A. Gorczyca-Goraj, J. Tworzydło, T. Domański, PRB 95, 045429 (2017).

#### SPATIAL PROFILE OF MAJORANA QPS

### Majorana qps are exponentially localized at the edges



R. Aguado, Riv. Nuovo Cim. 40, 523 (2017).

## DIFFERENT SCENARIO FOR MAJORANA QPS IN DIM=1



B. Braunecker et. al. Phys. Rev. B 82, 045127 (2010)

### DIFFERENT SCENARIO FOR MAJORANA QPS IN DIM=1



B. Braunecker et. al. Phys. Rev. B 82, 045127 (2010)

### DIFFERENT SCENARIO FOR MAJORANA QPS IN DIM=1







$$\begin{split} H &= -t \sum_{i\sigma} \hat{c}_{i,\sigma}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{i+1,\sigma} - \mu \sum_{i\sigma} \hat{c}_{i,\sigma}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{i,\sigma} + J \sum_{i} S_{i} \cdot \hat{s}_{i} + \Delta \sum_{i} \hat{c}_{i\uparrow} \hat{c}_{i\downarrow} + \text{H.c.}, \\ \text{electron spin:} \quad \hat{s}_{i} &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \hat{c}_{i,\alpha}^{\dagger} \sigma_{\alpha\beta} \hat{c}_{i,\beta} \end{split}$$

magnetic moment:  $S_i = S(\sin \theta_i \cos \phi_i, \sin \theta_i \sin \phi_i, \cos \theta_i)$ 

$$S 
ightarrow \infty, \ J 
ightarrow 0, \ JS - finite$$

This scenario has been studied by:

- M. M. Vazifeh and M. Franz, PRL 111, 206802 (2013)
- I. Reis et al., PRB 90, 085124 (2014)
- W. Hu et al., PRB 92, 115133 (2015)
- T.-P. Choy et al., PRB 84, 195442 (2011)
- M. H. Christensen et al., PRB 94, 144509 (2016)
- ...many other





Ground state energy vs the pitch vector *q* 

In-gap Shiba states

This nanochain self-tunes to its topological phase (topofilia)

A. Gorczyca-Goraj, T. Domański & M.M. Maśka, arXiv:1902.1902.06750.
























$$A(q) = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{jk} e^{iq(j-k)} \langle S_j \cdot S_k \rangle$$



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### INFLUENCE OF TEMPERATURE ON TOPOLOGY















Finite (nonzero) temperature can lead to:

 $\Rightarrow$  changeover of topological  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  number

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In realistic systems such critical temperature:

 $\Rightarrow T_c \approx 5 \text{ K}$ 

# Trivial vs Majorana qps

#### TRIVIAL VS MAJORANA BOUND STATES

#### Schematics of a quantum dot – nanowire hybrid structure.



A. Ptok, A. Kobiałka & T. Domański, Phys. Rev. 96, 195403 (2017).

#### KITAEV CHAIN + NORMAL SITE



E. Vernek et al., Phys. Rev. B 89, 165314 (2014).

#### KITAEV CHAIN + NORMAL SITE

#### Subtle leakage of a Majorana mode into a quantum dot



E. Vernek et al., Phys. Rev. B 89, 165314 (2014).

## LEAKAGE OF MAJORANAS ON QUANTUM DOT

#### 'Coalescence' of the Andreev into Majorana qps



M.T. Deng, ..., and Ch. Marcus, Science 354, 1557 (2016).

/ Niels Bohr Institute, Copenhagen, Denmark /

#### QD spectrum vs gate potential $V_g$ for several magnetic fields h.



A. Ptok, A. Kobiałka & T. Domański, Phys. Rev. 96, 195403 (2017).

#### QD spectrum vs gate potential $V_g$ for various spin-orbit couplings $\lambda$ .



A. Ptok, A. Kobiałka & T. Domański, Phys. Rev. 96, 195403 (2017).





D. Chevallier, ... and J. Klinovaja, Phys. Rev. B 97, 04504 (2018).

### **ANDREEV VS MAJORANA: CONCLUSIONS**

## • Low energy features are very distinct:

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- $\Rightarrow$  avoided-crossing behavior of Andreev/Shiba qps
- $\Rightarrow$  leakage of the zero-energy Majorna qps

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- $\Rightarrow$  avoided-crossing behavior of Andreev/Shiba qps
- $\Rightarrow$  leakage of the zero-energy Majorna qps
- Misinterpretation:
- $\Rightarrow$  coalescence of Andreev into Majorna qps

# Edge modes in dim=2 systems
# **TWO-DIMENSIONAL MAGNETIC STRUCTURES**

#### Magnetic island of Co atoms deposited on the superconducting Pb surface



Diameter of island: 5 - 10 nm

G. Ménard, ..., and <u>P. Simon</u>, Nature Commun. **8**, 2040 (2017). / **P. & M. Curie University (Paris, France)** /

# EVIDENCE FOR DELOCALIZED MAJORANA MODES

## Majorana modes propagating along magnetic islands



G. Ménard, ..., and <u>P. Simon</u>, Nature Commun. **8**, 2040 (2017). / P. & M. Curie University (Paris, France) /

# **PROPAGATING MAJORANA EDGE MODES**

#### Magnetic island of Fe atoms deposited on the superconducting Re surface



Chern number: C = 20

A. Palacio-Morales, ..., and <u>R. Wiesendanger</u>, arXiv:1809.04503 (preprint). / University of Hamburg (Germany) /

# **PROPAGATING MAJORANA EDGE MODES**

Real space maps of the tunneling conductance (top panel) and deconvoluted DOS (bottom panel) obtained for various energies (as indicated) in the subgap regime ( $\Delta = 240 \mu eV$ ).



A. Palacio-Morales, ..., and R. Wiesendanger, arXiv:1809.04503 (preprint).

/ University of Hamburg (Germany) /

# Mixed – dimensionality structures

# CAN MAJORANA QPS BE DECONFINED ?

#### Our project: Majorana qps of the 1D–2D hybrid structure



Constituents of this hybrid-system belong to different homotopy groups:

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featured by the Berry phase  $\pm 1$  around the Brillouin zone

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which can be characterized by the Chern number, that is equivalent to the Thouless–Kohmoto–Nightingale–den Nijs number.

For details, concerning the topological criteria see e.g.

- A. Kitaev, AIP Conf. Proc. <u>1134</u>, 22 (2009);
- M.Z. Hasan & C.L. Kane, Rev. Mod. Phys. <u>82</u>, 3045 (2010);
- X.-L. Qi & S.-C. Zhang, Rev. Mod. Phys. <u>83</u>, 1057 (2011).

# TRIVIAL VS MAJORANA MODES

## Majorana/Andreev quasiparticles of a wire-plaquette hybrid



#### plaquette: nontopological

nanowire: topological

# TRIVIAL VS MAJORANA MODES

### Majorana/Andreev quasiparticles of a wire-plaquette hybrid



Both regions are assumed to be in topological sc phase.

# HOW TO DETECT (DE)LOCALIZED MAJORANA QPS

#### Maps of the SESAR tunneling conductance at zero-bias.



#### SESAR = Selective Equal Spin Andreev Reflection

# DIMENSIONAL HYBRID: CONCLUSION

Plaquette-nanowire hybrid structures enables:

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Is this edge mode itinerant ?

# **Further outlook**

# ISLAND + NONOWIRE

#### Itinerant Majorana mode leaking into side-attached nanowire.



E. Mascot, S. Cocklin, S. Rachel, and D.K. Morr, arXiv:1811.06664 Univ. of Illinois at Chicago (USA)

# ISLAND + NONOWIRE

## Majorana modes leaking to the side-attached nanowires.



# **DEFECTS IN MAGNETIC ISLAND**

#### Localized Majorana at point-like defect, coexisting with itinerant

Majorana edge mode (observed in Co-Si island on disordered Pb)



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- Majorana quasiparticles
- ⇒ A. Kobiałka (Lublin), A. Ptok (Kraków),
  - M. Maśka & A. Gorczyca-Goraj (Katowice)
- Shiba states/bands in topological phases
- $\Rightarrow$  Sz. Głodzik (Lublin)
- Subgap Kondo effect
- ⇒ I. Weymann & K. Wójcik (Poznań), G. Górski (Rzeszów),
  - T. Novotný, M. Žonda & V. Janiš (Prague),
  - M. Barańska & J. Barański (Dęblin).
- Dynamics of in-gap states
- ⇒ R. Taranko, B. Baran & T. Kwapiński (Lublin)
- Nonlocal Andreev processes
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# HTTPS://WWW.PKS.MPG.DE/BOSSA19/



7-10 April 2019, M. Planck Inst. (Dresden, Germany)

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# AFM & STM data for Fe chain on Pb(110) surface



R. Pawlak, M. Kisiel *et al*, npj Quantum Information **2**, 16035 (2016). / University of Basel, Switzerland /

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