# Many-body interference in the Fano map of a symmetric triple quantum dot

Milena Grifoni



#### About lateral TQD devices see ...







Hsieh et al., Rep. Prog. Phys. 75, 114501 (2012)

#### A frustrated trio



Seo et al, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **110**, 046804 (2013) Andergassen, *Nature* **495**, 321 (2013)

#### Coherent population trapping in quantum dots



- Finite Coulomb interaction, N=0 & N=1
- Finite bias → unidirectional motion

Michaelis, Emary and Beenakker, EPL 75, 677 (2006)

#### Coherent population trapping in quantum dots



Michaelis, Emary and Beenakker, EPL 75, 677 (2006)

# Symmetric triple quantum dot



# TQD Hamiltonian

Extended Hubbard model  

$$\hat{H}_{\mathsf{TQD}} = \xi \sum_{i\sigma} n_{i\sigma} + b \sum_{i \neq j,\sigma} d^{\dagger}_{j\sigma} d_{i\sigma} \qquad U$$

$$+ U \sum_{i} \left( n_{i\uparrow} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \left( n_{i\downarrow} - \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$+ V \sum_{i < j} (n_i - 1) (n_j - 1)$$

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$$\hat{H}_{\mathsf{TQD}} = \xi \sum_{i\sigma} n_{i\sigma} + b \sum_{i \neq j,\sigma} d^{\dagger}_{j\sigma} d_{i\sigma}$$

$$l = -1$$

$$l = +1$$

$$+ U \sum_{i} \left( n_{i\uparrow} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \left( n_{i\downarrow} - \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$+ V \sum_{i < j} (n_i - 1) (n_j - 1)$$

single particle part is diagonal in angular momentum basis

$$|l\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{j=0}^{2} e^{-i\frac{2\pi}{3}lj} |j\rangle, \quad l = 0, \pm 1$$

# TQD Hamiltonian

Extended Hubbard model  

$$\hat{H}_{\mathsf{TQD}} = \xi \sum_{i\sigma} n_{i\sigma} + b \sum_{i \neq j,\sigma} d^{\dagger}_{j\sigma} d_{i\sigma}$$

$$l = -1$$

$$l = +1$$

$$+ U \sum_{i} \left( n_{i\uparrow} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \left( n_{i\downarrow} - \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$+ V \sum_{i < j} (n_i - 1) (n_j - 1)$$

- single particle part is diagonal in angular momentum basis
- many-body states are fully characterized by

 $|n_{0\uparrow}, n_{1\uparrow}, n_{-1\uparrow}; n_{0\downarrow}, n_{1\downarrow}, n_{-1\downarrow}\rangle$ 

# TQD Spectrum

N	Eigenenergy	S	$S_z$	$L_z$	Eigenstate in the basis $\{ n_{0\uparrow}, n_{1\uparrow}, n_{-1\uparrow}; n_{0\downarrow}, n_{1\downarrow}, n_{-1\downarrow}\rangle\}$
0	$E_0 = 0$	0	0	0	$ 000,000\rangle$
1	$E_{1_0} = \xi - \frac{U}{2} - 2V + 2b$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\begin{array}{c}  000,100\rangle \\  100,000\rangle \end{array}$
	$E_{1_1} = \xi - \frac{U}{2} - 2V - b$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	-1 1	$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$
			$\frac{1}{2}$	-1 1	$\begin{array}{ }  001,000\rangle \\  010,000\rangle \end{array}$
	$E_{2_0} = 2\xi - U - 3V + b + \frac{U - V}{2} - s_{-2}$	0	0	0	$\cos(\phi_{-2}) 100,100\rangle - \sin(\phi_{-2})\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}( 010,001\rangle +  001,010\rangle)$
	$E_{2_1} = 2\xi - U - 3V + b$	1	-1	-1 1	000, 101>  000, 110>
			0	-1 1	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(  100,001\rangle -  001,100\rangle \right)$ $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(  100,010\rangle -  010,100\rangle \right)$
			1	-1	$ 101,000\rangle$
2	$E_{2_2} = 2\xi - U - 3V - \frac{b}{2} + \frac{U - V}{2} - s_1$	0	0	-1 1	$\frac{ 110,000\rangle}{\cos(\phi_1) 010,010\rangle - \sin(\phi_1)\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}( 100,001\rangle +  001,100\rangle)}$ $\frac{\cos(\phi_1) 001,001\rangle - \sin(\phi_1)\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}( 100,010\rangle +  010,100\rangle)}{\cos(\phi_1) 001,001\rangle - \sin(\phi_1)\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}( 100,010\rangle +  010,100\rangle)}$
	$E_{2_3} = 2\xi - U - 3V - 2b$	1	$-1 \\ 0$	0	$\frac{ 000,011\rangle}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}( 010,001\rangle -  001,010\rangle)}$
			1		
	$E_{2_4} = 2\xi - U - 3V - \frac{b}{2} + \frac{U - V}{2} + s_1$	0	0	-1 1	$\frac{\sin(\phi_1) 010,010\rangle + \cos(\phi_1)\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}( 100,001\rangle +  001,100\rangle)}{\sin(\phi_1) 001,001\rangle + \cos(\phi_1)\frac{1}{6}( 100,010\rangle +  010,100\rangle)}$
	$E_{2_5} = 2\xi + b - U - 3V + \frac{U - V}{2} + s_{-2}$	0	0	0	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sin(\phi_{-2}) 100,100\rangle + \cos(\phi_{-2})\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}( 010,001\rangle +  001,010\rangle)}$
	$E_{3_0} = 3\xi - \frac{3}{2}U - 3V + \frac{2}{3}\left(U - V\right)\left[1 - \frac{\lambda_0}{2 a }\right]$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	-1	$v_{0,1} 100,101\rangle - v_{0,0} 010,110\rangle - v_{0,-1} 001,011\rangle$
				1 -1 1	$\frac{v_{0,1} 100,110\rangle + v_{0,0} 001,101\rangle - v_{0,-1} 010,011\rangle}{v_{0,1} 101,100\rangle - v_{0,0} 110,010\rangle - v_{0,-1} 011,001\rangle}$
			$-\frac{3}{2}$	-	000,111
	$E_{3_1} = 3\xi - \frac{3}{2}U - 3V$	$\frac{3}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} ( 001, 10\rangle -  010, 101\rangle +  100, 011\rangle)}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} ( 011, 100\rangle -  101, 010\rangle +  110, 001\rangle)}$

# TQD Spectrum

N	Eigenenergy	S	$S_z$	$L_z$	Eigenstate in the basis $\{ n_{0\uparrow}, n_{1\uparrow}, n_{-1\uparrow}; n_{0\downarrow}, n_{1\downarrow}, n_{-1\downarrow}\rangle\}$
0	$E_0 = 0$	0	0	0	000,000
	$E_{1_0} = \xi - \frac{U}{2} - 2V + 2b$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	- 0	$\begin{array}{c}  000,100\rangle \\  100,000\rangle \end{array}$
1	$E_{1_1} = \xi - \frac{U}{2} - 2V - b$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	-1 1 -1	$ \begin{array}{c}  000,001\rangle \\  000,010\rangle \\  001,000\rangle \\ \end{array} $
(	$E_{2_0} = 2\xi - U - 3V + b + \frac{U - V}{2} - s_{-2}$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$\frac{ 010,000\rangle}{\cos(\phi_{-2}) 100,100\rangle - \sin(\phi_{-2})\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}( 010,001\rangle +  001,010\rangle)}$
	$E_{2_1} = 2\xi - U - 3V + b$		-1	-1 1	000,101/  000,110>
		1	0	-1 1	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(  100,001\rangle -  001,100\rangle \right)$ $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(  100,010\rangle -  010,100\rangle \right)$
0			1	-1 1	$ 101,000\rangle$ $ 110,000\rangle$
2	$E_{2_2} = 2\xi - U - 3V - \frac{b}{2} + \frac{U - V}{2} - s_1$	0	0	-1 1	$\frac{\cos(\phi_1) 010,010\rangle - \sin(\phi_1)\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}( 100,001\rangle +  001,100\rangle)}{\cos(\phi_1) 001,001\rangle - \sin(\phi_1)\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}( 100,010\rangle +  010,100\rangle)}$
	$E_{2_3} = 2\xi - U - 3V - 2b$	1	-1 0 1	0	$\frac{ 000,011\rangle}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}( 010,001\rangle -  001,010\rangle)}$ $ 011,000\rangle$
	$E_{2_4} = 2\xi - U - 3V - \frac{b}{2} + \frac{U - V}{2} + s_1$	0	0	-1 1	$\frac{\sin(\phi_1) 010,010\rangle + \cos(\phi_1)\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}( 100,001\rangle +  001,100\rangle)}{\sin(\phi_1) 001,001\rangle + \cos(\phi_1)\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}( 100,010\rangle +  010,100\rangle)}$
	$E_{2z} = 2\xi + b - U - 3V + \frac{U - V}{2} + s_{-2}$	0	0	0	$\sin(\phi_{-2}) 100,100\rangle + \cos(\phi_{-2}) \stackrel{1}{=} ( 010,001\rangle +  001,010\rangle)$
	$E_{3_0} = 3\xi - \frac{3}{2}U - 3V + \frac{2}{3}(U - V)\left[1 - \lambda_0/(2 a )\right]$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$		$ \begin{array}{c} v_{0,1}  100,101\rangle - v_{0,0}  010,110\rangle - v_{0,-1}  001,011\rangle \\ v_{0,1}  100,110\rangle + v_{0,0}  001,101\rangle - v_{0,-1}  010,011\rangle \\ v_{0,1}  101,100\rangle - v_{0,0}  110,010\rangle - v_{0,-1}  011,001\rangle \\ v_{0,1}  110,100\rangle - v_{0,0}  101,001\rangle + v_{0,-1}  011,010\rangle \\ \end{array} $
	$E_{3_1} = 3\xi - \frac{3}{2}U - 3V$	$\frac{3}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$ $-\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} ( 001, 110\rangle -  010, 101\rangle +  100, 011\rangle)$ $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} ( 011, 100\rangle -  101, 010\rangle +  110, 001\rangle)$

Symmetry protected orbital degeneracies  $\rightarrow$  potential existence of dark states





# Dark states (DS)

... but with vanishing amplitude at the R lead



#### Dark states in aTQD

Dark states  

$$|N, \alpha_i; DS\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ e^{i\frac{2\pi}{3}} |N, \alpha_i, L_z = 1 \rangle - e^{-i\frac{2\pi}{3}} |N, \alpha_i, L_z = -1 \rangle \right]$$

fulfills<sup>3</sup>

$$\langle N-1, \alpha_i; L_z = 0 | d_{1\sigma} | N, \alpha_j; DS \rangle = 0$$

<sup>3</sup>Kostryrko and Bulka, PRB **79**, 075310 (2009)

# Dark states in a TQD

The generic DS in a triple quantum dot

$$|N,\alpha_i;DS\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ e^{i\frac{2\pi}{3}} |N,\alpha_i,1\rangle - e^{-i\frac{2\pi}{3}} |N,\alpha_i,-1\rangle \right]$$

Proof:

$$\begin{split} \gamma_{R} = & \langle N - 1; 0 | d_{1\sigma} | N; DS \rangle = \\ & \langle N - 1; 0 | \sum_{l} e^{-il2\pi/3} d_{l\sigma} \left[ e^{i2\pi/3} | N; 1 \rangle - e^{-i2\pi/3} | N; -1 \rangle \right] \\ & = \langle N - 1; 0 | d_{l=1\sigma} | N; 1 \rangle - \langle N - 1; 0 | d_{l=-1\sigma} | N; -1 \rangle \\ & = 0, \end{split}$$

 $\gamma_L = \langle N - 1; 0 | d_{2\sigma} | N; DS \rangle \neq 0$ 



# Dark states in a TQD

DS in the position basis

one-particle first excited state with  $S_z = 1/2$ <sup>4</sup>  $|1, \alpha_1; DS\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \bigcirc - \bigcirc \bigcirc \right)$ 

two-particle first excited state with  $S_z = 0$ 

The right coupled dot CAN be occupied. The DS is antisymmetric with respect to <sup>4</sup>Michaelis, Emary and Beenakker, EPL **75**, 677 (2006)  $\sigma_{v1}: |1\tau\rangle \rightarrow |1\tau\rangle, \quad |0\tau\rangle \leftrightarrow |2\tau\rangle$ 



# Dark states in a TQD

DS in the position basis

three-particle ground state with  $S_z = 1/2$ 

$$|3, \alpha_0; \mathrm{DS}\rangle = v_1 \left( \begin{array}{c} & & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & &$$

## Transport

Generalized reduced density matrix

$$\rho_{\chi} = \operatorname{tr}_{\mathsf{res}} \left\{ e^{i\chi N} \rho^{\operatorname{tot}} \right\} = \rho + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(i\chi)^k}{k!} \mathcal{F}_k$$





orbital degeneracies require inclusion of coherences

## Transport

Stationary solution<sup>2</sup>

$$\mathcal{L}\rho^{\infty} = 0$$
  
$$\mathcal{L}\mathcal{F}_{1\perp}^{\infty} = \left(-eI - \mathcal{J}^{+} + \mathcal{J}^{-}\right)\rho^{\infty}$$

with  $\mathcal{F}_{1\perp} = (1 - \rho^{\infty} tr_{\mathsf{TQD}}) \mathcal{F}_1$ 

Current, noise and Fano factor  

$$I = -e\partial_t \langle N \rangle = -e \operatorname{tr}_{\mathsf{TQD}} \left\{ \left( \mathcal{J}^+ - \mathcal{J}^- \right) \rho^{\infty} \right\}$$

$$S = e^2 \partial_t \left( \langle N^2 \rangle - \langle N \rangle^2 \right)$$

$$= e^2 \operatorname{tr}_{\mathsf{TQD}} \left\{ 2 \left( \mathcal{J}^+ - \mathcal{J}^- \right) \mathcal{F}_{1\perp}^{\infty} + \left( \mathcal{J}^+ + \mathcal{J}^- \right) \rho^{\infty} \right\}$$

$$F = \frac{S}{e|I|}$$

<sup>2</sup>Kaiser and Kohler, Ann. Phys. **716**, 702 (2007)

#### Transport statistics



# Current stability diagram

 $U=5|b|,~V=2|b|,~k_BT=0.002|b|,~k_BT=20\Gamma$  and b<0



Donarini, Begemann and Grifoni, Nano Lett. 9, 2897 (2009)

## Fano stability diagram



Niklas, Trottmann, Donarini and Grifoni, PRB 95, 115133 (2017)

# Fano without principal parts

Principal parts ( $H_{LS}$ ) blur everything  $\rightarrow$  solve without



- clear polygons
- super-Poissonian noise (F > 1) indicates blocking

Niklas, Trottmann, Donarini and Grifoni, PRB 95, 115133 (2017)

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Niklas, Trottmann, Donarini and Grifoni, PRB 95, 115133 (2017)

# Blockade mechanisms



Coulomb blockade





Channel blockade<sup>5,6</sup> Interference blockade

In both cases a **two effective channels model** provides the Fano factor

$$F_{nv} = 1 + \frac{2\Gamma_L^f}{\Gamma_L^s + \Gamma_R^s}, \quad \mu_L > \mu_R$$

NB detaigT, PtR Bar 771, Drost Bioi1 (1R) (20005) P B r 95 h 14 5 a B 3 R R B 774, 125315 (2006)

## Interference at the $2_0 \leftrightarrow 3_0$ resonance

 $\Gamma_{\alpha}=\Gamma \mathcal{R}_{\alpha}$  and the rate matrices in



dark state basis  

$$\mathcal{R}_L = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{2} & -i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{R}_R = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$F_{nv} = 1 + \frac{2\Gamma_L^f}{\Gamma_L^s + \Gamma_R^s}$$



## Interference at the $2_0 \leftrightarrow 3_0$ resonance

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$$0 = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \left[ H_{\rm LS}, \rho_5 \right] + 2\Gamma \mathcal{R}_R \rho_6 - \frac{\Gamma}{2} \left\{ \mathcal{R}_L, \rho_5 \right\},$$
$$0 = \Gamma \mathrm{Tr}_{\rm TQD} \left( \mathcal{R}_L \rho_5 \right) - 4\Gamma \rho_6$$

## Lamb shift at the $5_0 \leftrightarrow 6_0$ resonance

$$\rho^{\infty} = \frac{1}{D} \begin{pmatrix} D - 3\omega_R^2 \\ 2\omega_R^2 \\ \omega_R^2 \\ -\sqrt{3}\omega_R(\Gamma - i2(\omega_L - \omega_R)) \\ -\sqrt{3}\omega_R(\Gamma + i2(\omega_L - \omega_R)) \end{pmatrix} \qquad \rho^{dd}$$

with 
$$D = 2\Gamma^2 + 8\omega_L^2 - 12\omega_L\omega_R + 9\omega_R^2$$
.

$$I = -e4\Gamma\omega_R^2/3D$$

$$F = \frac{16\omega_R^2 \left(2\Gamma^2 + 53\omega_L^2\right) - 176\omega_L\omega_R \left(\Gamma^2 + 4\omega_L^2\right)}{3D^2} + \frac{20 \left(\Gamma^2 + 4\omega_L^2\right)^2 - 576\omega_L\omega_R^3 + 195\omega_R^4}{3D^2}$$

# Lamb shift $\rightarrow$ precession dynamics



#### Robustness

We tested the robustness of the interference effects on the  $5_0 \leftrightarrow 6$  transition against the perturbation

$$H_{\Delta} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \Delta E \\ \Delta E & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

and kept  $\Delta E \ll k_B T$  to neglect modification of the tunnelling Liouvillean



# Conclusions

#### interference



Interference occurs when energetically equivalent paths involving degenerate states contribute to the dynamics

dark states

$$|2,\alpha_1;DS\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \left( \begin{array}{c} & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \end{array} \right) + 2 \begin{array}{c} & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \end{array} \right)$$

#### fingerprints of interference



super-Poissonian Fano factors (e.g. F = 5/3) which indicate a characteristic bunching dynamics

# and thanks to

avoid and and a

Michael Nicklas



Andreas Trottmann



Andrea Donarini



SFB 689

GRK 1570

## Lamb shift Hamiltonian

#### Hamiltonian

$$H_{\rm LS} = \hbar \sum_{\alpha} \omega_{\alpha} \mathcal{R}_{\alpha}$$

#### precession frequencies

The precession frequencies for the block  $\rho^N(E^*)$  with spin S is independent of  $S_z$  ( $\omega_{\alpha,S_z} = \omega_{\alpha}$ )

$$\omega_{\alpha} = \frac{\Gamma_{0\alpha}}{2\pi} \sum_{\tau,E} \langle N, \alpha^*, L_z | d_{0\tau} \mathcal{P}_{N+1,E} d_{0\tau}^{\dagger} | N, \alpha^*, -L_z \rangle p_{\alpha} \left( E - E^* \right)$$
$$+ \langle N, \alpha^*, L_z | d_{0\tau}^{\dagger} \mathcal{P}_{N-1,E} d_{0\tau} | N, \alpha^*, -L_z \rangle p_{\alpha} \left( E^* - E \right)$$

$$\mathcal{P}_{NE} = \sum_{S_z, L_z} |N, E; S, S_z, L_z\rangle \langle N, E; S, S_z, L_z|$$

$$p_\alpha \left(\Delta E\right) = -\operatorname{Re} \psi \left(\frac{1}{2} + i\frac{\Delta E - \mu_\alpha}{2\pi k_{\mathrm{B}}T}\right)$$

# Spectrum of the TQD

The single particle component of  $\,H_{\rm TQD}$  is diagonalized by the angular momentum states

$$|l\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{j=0}^{2} e^{-i\frac{2\pi}{3}lj} |j\rangle, \quad l = 0, \pm 1$$



The many-body states can be written in the basis

$$|n_{0\uparrow}, n_{1\uparrow}, n_{-1\uparrow}; n_{0\downarrow}, n_{1\downarrow}, n_{-1\downarrow}\rangle$$

 $H_{\mathrm{TQD}}$  commutes with the operators

$$N = \sum_{l\sigma} n_{l\sigma}$$
$$S^{2} = \sum_{i \, l\sigma\sigma'} (d^{\dagger}_{l\sigma} s^{i}_{\sigma\sigma'} d_{l\sigma'})^{2}$$
$$S_{z} = \frac{\hbar}{2} \sum_{l\sigma} \sigma n_{l\sigma}$$
$$L_{z} = \hbar \sum_{l\sigma} ln_{l\sigma}|_{\text{mod }3}$$

By exploiting these symmetries we diagonalize analytically  $H_{TQD}$  and obtain the eigenstates

 $|N, E; S, S_z, L_z\rangle$ 

Symmetry protected degeneracies are associated to the group of the Hamiltonian

 $\mathrm{C}_{3v}\otimes\mathrm{SU}(2)$


#### Generalized Landauer formula for time-dependent potentials and zero-bias dc current

Shmuel Gurvitz

Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot 7610001, Israel

based on: "Single-electron approach to electron transport" S.G. Physica Scripta, **T165**, 014013 (2015); S.G., A. Aharony and O. Entin-Wohlman, Phys. Rev. **B94**, 075437 (2016); S.G., to be submitted.



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## Zero-bias current



 $\Gamma_{L,R}(t) = \Gamma[1 \pm \xi \sin(\omega t)]^2$ Adiabatic limit:  $\omega \to 0$ 

$$I(t) = -\frac{2\mu\,\Gamma\,\xi\,\omega}{\pi(4\mu^2+\Gamma^2)} + O\left[\left(\frac{\omega}{\Gamma}\right)^3(\Gamma t)\right]$$

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Exact time-dependent current l(t) (solid lines) and the adiabatic limit (dashed lines) for  $\xi = 0.2$ ,  $\mu = 0.25 \Gamma$  and two values of oscillation frequency:  $\omega = 0.02 \Gamma$  (blue) and  $\omega = 0.05\Gamma$  (red) (S.G. Physica Scripta, **T165**, 014013 (2015)).



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Is it possible to find <u>steady-state</u> zero-bias current for time-dependent Hamiltonian?

### Resonant tunneling under the noise



The level  $E_0(t)$  randomly fluctuates:  $E_0(t) = \overline{E}_0 + \frac{U}{2}\xi(t)$ , where  $\xi(t) = \pm 1$ . The current I(t), averaged over the noise, reaches its steady-state,  $\langle I(t \to \infty) \rangle = \overline{I}$ . However,  $\overline{I} \to 0$  for  $\mu_L - \mu_R \to 0$ . No zero-bias current.



In contrast with the previous case, the steady-state current, averaged over the noise,  $\overline{l} = \langle l(t \to \infty) \rangle$ , survives at zero bias,

 $\overline{l} \neq 0$  when  $\mu_L - \mu_R \rightarrow 0$ 



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It happens when the transport takes place via a linear superposition of different isolate states of the system, which is destroyed by the noise (decoherence).



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It happens when the transport takes place via a linear superposition of different isolate states of the system, which is destroyed by the noise (decoherence). This in its turn, generate violation of the time-reversal symmetry:  $\overline{T}_{L \to R} \neq \overline{T}_{R \to L}$  where  $\overline{T}_{L \to R}$  and  $\overline{T}_{R \to L}$  are the transmission probabilities from left-to-right and right-to-left leads, averaged over the noise. As a result, the zero bias current would appear.

## Particular realization of the noise-source



Here  $\gamma$  is the tunneling rate for electrons entering the upper dot and leaving it. Electron in the upper dot interacts (capacitively) with electron, occupying the left site of the double-dot. As a result, the energy energy in the left site fluctuates randomly between  $E_1$  and  $E_1 + U$ .

# Particular realization of the noise-source



Here  $\gamma$  is the tunneling rate for electrons entering the upper dot and leaving it. Electron in the upper dot interacts (capacitively) with electron, occupying the left site of the double-dot. As a result, the energy energy in the left site fluctuates randomly between  $E_1$  and  $E_1 + U$ .

The set-up may resemble the Coulomb drag. However, direction of the zero-bias current is determined by the double-dot parameters only, and not related to the noise source.

# Another examples



Zero bias current appears due to decoherence, destroying the linear superposition of two dots states.

# Another examples



Zero bias current appears due to decoherence, destroying the linear superposition of two dots states.



One dots on the Aharonov-Bohm ring

No zero bias current, since there is no states in linear superposition inside the system.

#### Landauer formula (steady-state)

$$I = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} T(E) \left[ f_L(\mu_L, E) - f_R(\mu_R, E) \right] dE$$

where  $f_{L,R}(\mu_{L,R}, E)$  are the Fermi functions and T(E) is the transmission probability. For the resonant tunneling:



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where  $f_{L,R}(\mu_{L,R}, E)$  are the Fermi functions and T(E) is the transmission probability. For the resonant tunneling:



Problem with the Pauli exclusion principle:

On first sight the Landauer (scattering) approach does not prevent simultaneous occupation of the level  $E_0$  by two or more electrons.

### Single-Electron Approach



Modified Landauer formula for time-dependent potentials

$$I(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ T_{L \to R}(E, t) f_L(\mu_L, E) - T_{R \to L}(E, t) f_R(\mu_R, E) \right] dE$$

 $T_{L\to R}(E, t)$  and  $T_{R\to L}(E, t)$  are the transmission probabilities of a single electron from the left-to-right and right-to-left leads, respectively, at time *t*, where *E* is the electron <u>initial</u> energy (at t = 0) in the left or the right lead.

# Comparison with Landauer formula for zero temperature

#### Modified Landauer formula for time-dependent potentials

$$I(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\mu_L} T_{L \to R}(E, t) \frac{dE}{2\pi} - \int_{-\infty}^{\mu_R} T_{R \to L}(E, t) \frac{dE}{2\pi}$$

Landauer formula for time-independent potentials (steady state)

$$I = \int_{\mu_R}^{\mu_L} T(E) \frac{dE}{2\pi}$$

If for the steady-state the time-reversal symmetry holds,

 $T_{L\to R}(E, t \to \infty) = T_{R\to L}(E, t \to \infty) = T(E)$ , the both expressions coincide.

## Modified Landauer formula, averaged over the noise



 $E_0(t) = \bar{E}_0 + \frac{U}{2}\xi(t), \text{ where}$   $\xi(t) = \pm 1.$ The noise correlator:  $\langle \xi(t_1)\xi(t_2) \rangle = \exp(-\gamma|t_1 - t_2|)$ 

$$\langle I(t)\rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \langle T_{L \to R}(E, t) \rangle f_L(\mu_L, E) - \langle T_{R \to L}(E, t) \rangle f_R(\mu_R, E) \right] dE$$

# Modified Landauer formula, averaged over the noise



 $E_0(t) = \overline{E}_0 + \frac{U}{2}\xi(t)$ , where

$$\langle I(t)\rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \Big[ \langle T_{L \to R}(E, t) \rangle f_L(\mu_L, E) - \langle T_{R \to L}(E, t) \rangle f_R(\mu_R, E) \Big] dE$$

In the steady-state limit:  $\overline{I} = \langle I(t \to \infty) \rangle$ ,  $\overline{T}(E) = \langle T(E, t \to \infty) \rangle$ 

$$\bar{I} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \bar{T}_{L \to R}(E) f_L(\mu_L, E) - \bar{T}_{R \to L}(E) f_R(\mu_R, E) \right] dE$$

Noise does not violate the time-reversal symmetry:  $\overline{T}_{L\to R}(E) = \overline{T}_{R\to L}(E)$ . As a result:  $\overline{I} = 0$  for zero bias,  $\mu_L = \mu_R$ .

## Double-dot under the noise (steady-state current)

$$\overline{I} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \overline{T}_{L \to R}(E) f_L(\mu_L, E) - \overline{T}_{R \to L}(E) f_R(\mu_R, E) \right] dE$$

Noise *violates* the time-reversal symmetry:  $\overline{T}_{L \to R}(E) \neq \overline{T}_{R \to L}(E)$ As a result, zero bias current appears:

$$\bar{I}_{zb} = rac{1}{2\pi} \int\limits_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \bar{T}_{L o R}(E) - \bar{T}_{R o L}(E) 
ight] f(\mu, E) dE$$

where  $\mu_L = \mu_R = \mu$  and  $f_L(\mu_L, E) = f_R(\mu_R, E) = f(\mu, E)$ .

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where  $\mu_L = \mu_R = \mu$  and  $f_L(\mu_L, E) = f_R(\mu_R, E) = f(\mu, E)$ . Why it is different from the current through a single dot?

## Comparison with a single dot.

$$\bar{I}_{zb} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \bar{T}_{L \to R}(E) - \bar{T}_{R \to L}(E) \right] f(\mu, E) dE$$



Without the noise

 $\overline{T}_{L \to R}(E) = q_0^{(L)}(E)\Gamma_R$  $\overline{T}_{R \to L}(E) = q_0^{(R)}(E)\Gamma_L$  where  $q_0^{(L,R)}(E)$  are occupation of the dot for electrons, coming from left and right leads.

$$q_0^{(L)}(E) = rac{\Gamma_L}{(E-E_0)^2 + rac{\Gamma^2}{4}}, \quad q_0^{(R)}(E) = rac{\Gamma_R}{(E-E_0)^2 + rac{\Gamma^2}{4}}$$

#### Comparison with a single dot.

$$\bar{I}_{zb} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \bar{T}_{L \to R}(E) - \bar{T}_{R \to L}(E) \right] f(\mu, E) dE$$



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 $q_0^{(L)}(E) = rac{\Gamma_L}{(E - E_0)^2 + rac{\Gamma_2}{T}}, \quad q_0^{(R)}(E) = rac{\Gamma_R}{(E - E_0)^2 + rac{\Gamma_2}{T}}$ 

For asymmetric dot  $(\Gamma_L \neq \Gamma_R)$ , occupations probabilities  $(q_0^{(L,R)})$  are different. However, transmission probabilities remain symmetric under the time-reversal,  $\overline{T}_{L\to R}(E) = \overline{T}_{R\to L}(E) = \overline{T}(E)$ . This also holds in the presence of noise, since the noise only fluctuates the energy  $E_0$ , whereas  $\Gamma_{L,B}$  are energy independent (wide-band limit).

$$\bar{I}_{zb} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \bar{T}_{L \to R}(E) - \bar{T}_{R \to L}(E) \right] f(\mu, E) dE$$



Electron inside the system, is in the linear superposition of the two-dot states.

The off-diagonal density-matrix element (coherency)  $q_{12}^{(L,R)}(E)$  determines the electron current through the system.

$$\begin{split} T_{L \to R} &= 2 \Gamma_L \Omega \operatorname{Im}[q_{12}^{(L)}], \quad T_{R \to L} = -2 \Gamma_R \Omega \operatorname{Im}[q_{12}^{(R)}]. \text{ Without noise,} \\ \Gamma_L \operatorname{Im}[q_{12}^{(L)}] + \Gamma_R \operatorname{Im}[q_{12}^{(R)}] = 0, \text{ so that: } T_{L \to R} = T_{R \to L}. \end{split}$$

$$\bar{I}_{zb} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \bar{T}_{L \to R}(E) - \bar{T}_{R \to L}(E) \right] f(\mu, E) dE$$



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## Time-reversal symmetry (no noise)



 $E_0(t) = \overline{E}_0 + \frac{U}{2}\xi(t), \text{ where}$   $\mu \quad \xi(t) = \pm 1.$ The noise correlator:

 $\langle \xi(t_1)\xi(t_2)\rangle = \exp(-\gamma|t_1-t_2|)$ 

## Time-reversal symmetry (no noise)



No-noise 
$$\gamma = 0$$
;  $\mu = -1$ ,  $\Gamma_L = \Gamma_R = 1$ ,  $U = 1$ ,  $E_{1,2} = \pm 1/2$ 



## Time-reversal symmetry violation due to noise



 $E_0(t) = \overline{E}_0 + \frac{U}{2}\xi(t), \text{ where}$  $\mu \quad \xi(t) = \pm 1.$ 

The noise correlator:

 $\langle \xi(t_1)\xi(t_2)\rangle = \exp(-\gamma|t_1-t_2|)$ 

### Time-reversal symmetry violation due to noise



With noise  $\gamma = 1$ ;  $\mu = -1$ ,  $\Gamma_L = \Gamma_R = 1$ , U = 1,  $E_{1,2} = \pm 1/2$ 







The (time-dependent) Hamiltonian:

 $H(t) = \sum_{l} E_{l} \hat{c}_{l}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{l} + \sum_{r} E_{r} \hat{c}_{r}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{r} + E_{0}(t) \hat{c}_{0}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{0} + \left( \sum_{l} \Omega_{l}(t) \hat{c}_{l}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{0} + \sum_{r} \Omega_{r}(t) \hat{c}_{r}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{0} + H.c. \right)$ 

The initial state:  $|\Psi(0)\rangle = \prod_k \hat{c}_k^{\dagger} |0\rangle$ , where  $k \in \{E_l \le \mu_L, E_r \le \mu_R\}$ .



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The Anzatz: 
$$|\Psi(t)\rangle = \prod_k \hat{\Phi}^{(k)}(t)|0\rangle$$

where  $\left| \hat{\Phi}^{(k)}(t) = \sum_{l} b_{l}^{(k)}(t) \hat{c}_{l}^{\dagger} + b_{0}^{(k)}(t) \hat{c}_{0}^{\dagger} + \sum_{r} b_{r}^{(k)}(t) \hat{c}_{r}^{\dagger} \right|$ Substituting  $|\Psi(t)\rangle$  in the Schrödinger equation  $i\partial_{t}|\Psi(t)\rangle = H(t)|\Psi(t)\rangle$ , we find a set of couples equations for the amplitudes  $b_{i}^{(k)}(t)$ .



The initial state:  $|\Psi(0)\rangle = \prod_k \hat{c}_k^{\dagger} |0\rangle$ , where  $k \in \{E_l \le \mu_L, E_r \le \mu_R\}$ .

The Anzatz:  $|\Psi(t)\rangle = \prod_{k} \hat{\Phi}^{(k)}(t)|0\rangle$ where  $\hat{\Phi}^{(k)}(t) = \sum_{l} b_{l}^{(k)}(t) \hat{c}_{l}^{\dagger} + b_{0}^{(k)}(t) \hat{c}_{0}^{\dagger} + \sum_{r} b_{r}^{(k)}(t) \hat{c}_{r}^{\dagger}$ Substituting  $|\Psi(t)\rangle$  into  $i\partial_{t}|\Psi(t)\rangle = H(t)|\Psi(t)\rangle$ , we find  $i\dot{b}_{l}^{(k)}(t) = E_{l} b_{l}^{(k)}(t) + \Omega_{l}(t) b_{0}^{(k)}(t)$   $i\dot{b}_{0}^{(k)}(t) = E_{0}(t) b_{0}^{(k)}(t) + \sum_{l} \Omega_{l}(t) b_{l}^{(k)}(t) + \sum_{r} \Omega_{r}(t) b_{r}^{(k)}(t)$  $i\dot{b}_{r}^{(k)}(t) = E_{r} b_{r}^{(k)}(t) + \Omega_{r}(t) b_{0}^{(k)}(t)$ 

The states with different k are decoupled!

$$E_{k} - \frac{\mu_{L}}{E_{l}} \bullet \Omega_{l} = \Omega_{r} I = \frac{E_{r}}{\mu_{R}}$$

$$|\Psi(t)\rangle = \prod_{k} \left[ \sum_{l} b_{l}^{(k)}(t) \hat{c}_{l}^{\dagger} + b_{0}^{(k)}(t) \hat{c}_{0}^{\dagger} + \sum_{r} b_{r}^{(k)}(t) \hat{c}_{r}^{\dagger} \right] |0\rangle$$

$$i \dot{b}_{l}^{(k)}(t) = E_{l} b_{l}^{(k)}(t) + \Omega_{l}(t) b_{0}^{(k)}(t)$$

$$i \dot{b}_{0}^{(k)}(t) = E_{0}(t) b_{0}^{(k)}(t) + \sum_{l} \Omega_{l}(t) b_{l}^{(k)}(t) + \sum_{r} \Omega_{r}(t) b_{r}^{(k)}(t)$$

$$i \dot{b}_{r}^{(k)}(t) = E_{r} b_{r}^{(k)}(t) + \Omega_{r}(t) b_{0}^{(k)}(t)$$

The average charge in the right (left) reservoir:  $Q_{R(L)}(t)$ , and inside the quantum dot,  $Q_0(t)$  are given by

$$Q_{R(L)}(t) = \langle \Psi(t) | \sum_{r(l)} \hat{c}^{\dagger}_{r(l)} \hat{c}_{r(l)} | \Psi(t) \rangle = \sum_{k} \sum_{r(l)} |b^{(k)}_{r(l)}(t)|^{2}$$
$$Q_{0}(t) = \langle \Psi(t) | \hat{c}^{\dagger}_{0} \hat{c}_{0} | \Psi(t) \rangle = \sum_{k} |b^{(k)}_{0}(t)|^{2}$$

Sum over (l, r) takes place over all reservoir states.

## Solution of the single-electron equations

$$\begin{split} \dot{b}_{l}^{(k)}(t) &= E_{l} b_{l}^{(k)}(t) + \Omega_{L}(t) b_{0}^{(k)}(t) \\ \dot{b}_{0}^{(k)}(t) &= E_{0}(t) b_{0}^{(k)}(t) + \sum_{l} \Omega_{L}(t) b_{l}^{(k)}(t) + \sum_{r} \Omega_{R}(t) b_{r}^{(k)}(t) \\ \dot{b}_{r}^{(k)}(t) &= E_{r} b_{r}^{(k)}(t) + \Omega_{R}(t) b_{0}^{(k)}(t) \end{split}$$

From the first equation

$$b_{l}^{(k)}(t) = e^{-iE_{l}t} \Big[ \delta_{kl} - \int_{0}^{t} i \Omega_{l}(t') b_{0}^{(k)}(t') e^{iE_{l}t'} dt' \Big]$$

and the same from the third equation with  $I \leftrightarrow r$ . Substituting to the second equation we obtain in continuous limit  $\sum_{I} \rightarrow \int \varrho_L dE_I$ ,

$$\dot{b}_{0}^{(k)}(t) = \left(-iE_{0}(t) - \frac{\Gamma(t)}{2}\right)b_{0}^{(k)}(t) - i\Omega_{k}(t)e^{-iE_{k}t}$$

where the total width  $\Gamma(t) = 2\pi [\Omega_L^2(t)\varrho_L + \Omega_R^2(t)\varrho_R]$  is time-dependent.
#### **Final expressions**

$$b_0^{(k)}(t) = -i e^{-i\mathcal{E}_0(t)t} \int_0^t \Omega_k(t') e^{i[\mathcal{E}_0(t') - E_k]t'} dt'$$

where

$$\mathcal{E}_0(t) = \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \left[ E_0(t') - i \frac{\Gamma(t')}{2} \right] dt'$$

and

$$b_l^{(k)}(t) = e^{-iE_l t} \Big[ \delta_{kl} - \int_0^t i \Omega_l(t') b_0^{(k)}(t') e^{iE_l t'} dt' \Big]$$

and the same from the third equation with  $l \leftrightarrow r$ . The average charge on the dot and the currents

$$Q_0(t) = \sum_k |b_0^{(k)}(t)|^2, \ Q_{R(L)}(t) = \sum_k \sum_{r(l)} |b_{r(l)}^{(k)}(t)|^2 = \Gamma_{R(L)}(t)Q_0(t)$$

#### Fluctuating energy level (hopping amplitudes)



where  $\xi(t) = \pm 1$  is a random variable, which follows a Markov process: it jumps randomly from 1 to -1 (and vice versa) at the same rate  $\gamma/2$  (telegraph noise). We need to average the amplitude  $b_0^{(k)}(t) = \tilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)e^{-iE_kt}$  over the noise. It is better to do in the equation of motion

$$\frac{d}{dt}\widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t) = i\left[E_k - \overline{E}_0 - \xi(t)U/2 + i\Gamma/2\right]\widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t) - i\Omega_k$$

#### Average over the noise

$$E_k \stackrel{\mu_L}{\longrightarrow} \bullet \qquad \Omega_l \stackrel{E_0}{\longrightarrow} \Omega_r \stackrel{I}{\longrightarrow} E_r \\ \mu_R$$

 $E_0(t) = \bar{E}_0 + \xi(t)U/2$  where  $\xi(t) = \pm 1$ .

$$\frac{d}{dt}\langle \widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)\rangle = i[E_k + i\Gamma/2]\langle \widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)\rangle - iU\langle \xi(t)\widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)\rangle/2 - i\Omega_k$$

Multiply the equation of motion by  $\xi(t)$  and taking into account that  $\xi^2(t) = 1$ , we obtain

$$\langle \xi(t) \frac{d}{dt} \widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t) \rangle = i[E_k + i\Gamma/2] \langle \xi(t) \widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t) \rangle - iU \langle \widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t) \rangle /2$$

How to evaluate  $\langle \xi(t) \frac{d}{dt} \widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t) \rangle$ ?

#### Shapiro and Loginov formula, Physica 91 A, 563 (1978)



 $E_0(t) = \bar{E}_0 + \xi(t)U/2$  where  $\xi(t) = \pm 1$ .

In the case of an exponential noise-correlator,

 $\langle \xi(t_1)\xi(t_1+\tau)\rangle = e^{-\gamma\tau}$  one can derive the following "differential formula"

$$\langle \xi(t) rac{d}{dt} \widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t) 
angle = rac{d}{dt} \langle \xi(t) \widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t) 
angle + \gamma \langle \xi(t) \widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t) 
angle$$

Using this formula we find the system of closed linear equations for the averaged amplitude  $\langle \tilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t) \rangle$ .

#### **Final results**

$$E_k - \frac{\mu_L}{E_l} \bullet \Omega_l = \Omega_r I = E_r \\ \mu_R$$

$$E_0(t) = \overline{E}_0 + \xi(t)U/2$$
 with  $\langle \xi(t_1)\xi(t_1+\tau)\rangle = e^{-\gamma\tau}$ 

$$\frac{d}{dt}\langle \widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)\rangle = i[E_k + i\Gamma/2]\langle \widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)\rangle - iU\langle \xi(t)\widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)\rangle/2 - i\Omega_k$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}\langle\xi(t)\widetilde{b}_{0}^{(k)}(t)\rangle = i[E_{k} + i(\Gamma/2 + \gamma)]\langle\xi(t)\widetilde{b}_{0}^{(k)}(t)\rangle - iU\langle\widetilde{b}_{0}^{(k)}(t)\rangle/2$$

However, we need to evaluate  $\langle |\tilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)|^2 \rangle$ . We derive the following differential equation for this quantity

$$\frac{d}{dt}|\widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)|^2 = -\Gamma|\widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)|^2 - 2\Omega_k \operatorname{Im}\left[\widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)\right]$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}\langle \widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)\rangle = i[E_k + i\Gamma/2]\langle \widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)\rangle - iU\langle \xi(t)\widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)\rangle/2 - i\Omega_k$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}\langle\xi(t)\widetilde{b}_{0}^{(k)}(t)\rangle = i[E_{k} + i(\Gamma/2 + \gamma)]\langle\xi(t)\widetilde{b}_{0}^{(k)}(t)\rangle - iU\langle\widetilde{b}_{0}^{(k)}(t)\rangle/2$$

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$$\frac{d}{dt}|\widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)|^2 = -\Gamma|\widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)|^2 - 2\Omega_k \operatorname{Im}\left[\widetilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t)\right]$$

In the steady-state limit,  $\frac{d}{dt}|\tilde{b}_0^{(k)}(t \to \infty)|^2 \to 0$ , this relation is similar to the "Optical Theorem" of scattering theory. For transient regime

$$\langle |\widetilde{b}_{0}^{(k)}(t)|^{2} \rangle = -2\Omega_{k} \int_{0}^{t} e^{\Gamma(t'-t)} \mathrm{Im} \Big[ \langle \widetilde{b}_{0}^{(k)}(t') \rangle \Big] dt'$$

• Generalized Landauer formula for time-dependent potentials is used for randomly fluctuating energy levels.

- Generalized Landauer formula for time-dependent potentials is used for randomly fluctuating energy levels.
- For multi-dot systems, noise generates decoherence, depending on occupation of the dot, which is under the noise. If the occupation is different for electrons, coming from left or right leads, decoherence results in time-reversal symmetry breaking. This leads to <u>zero bias current</u>.

## Graph-theoretical Evaluation of the Inelastic Propensity Rules for Molecules with Destructive Quantum Interference Rudolf Sýkora and Tomáš Novotný



Department of Condensed Matter Physics Faculty of Mathematics and Physics Charles University in Prague

- Paper accepted in J. Chem. Phys.
- Code available at http://qi.karlov.mff.cuni.cz:1345
- Poster No. 7



# Introduction I

- electronic transport through molecules may often be coherent

   → room for quantum interference, for instance if several transport paths exist
   Review: C. J. Lambert, Chem. Soc. Rev. 44, 875, (2015)
- for certain setups (leads attachments, voltage bias) a molecule can display complete destructive quantum interference (DQI), i.e., ideally, no elastic current flows through the terminals, in practice strongly suppressed (orange dashed lines in our graphs), cf., e.g., C. M. Guedon et al., Nat Nano 7, 305 (2012)
- we want a means of DQI prediction in systems describable by Hückel's tight-binding approach; often, so-called conjugated molecules (having delocalized e<sup>-</sup>s moving through π-bonds) follow such a theory

# Introduction II

- we further want to estimate if and where the DQI is lifted when inelastic effects brought about by molecular vibrations are taken into account→ propensity rules

Letter Pubs.acs.org/NanoLett	rules in the first place)
Breakdown of Interference Rules in Azulene, a Nonalternant Hydrocarbon	NANOLETTERS pubs.acs.org/NanoLett
	Comment on "Breakdown of Interference Rules in Azulene, a
NANO LETTERS pubs.acs.org/NanoLett	AAA
Reply to "Comment on 'Breakdown of Interference Rules in Azulene, a Nonalternant Hydrocarbon'"	

## Introduction III

#### So we now have:







Vibration effects on paths with DQI:

$\{1, 4\}$	$m_{2,2}-m_{3,3}-m_{6,6}$
$\{1, 5\}$	$m_{2,2} - m_{3,3} + m_{6,6}$
$\{2,3\}$	$m_{1,1} - m_{4,4} - m_{5,5}$
$\{2,6\}$	$m_{1,1}-m_{4,4}+m_{5,5}$
$\{3,6\}$	$m_{1,1} + m_{4,4} - m_{5,5}$
$\{4, 5\}$	$m_{2,2} + m_{3,3} - m_{6,6}$



molecule look-up from a database

(access through Wolfram Mathematica)

(possibly interactive) selection of relevant subgraph (black: considered, light-blue: ignored) +

calculation of paths with **DQI** (orange)

effects of vibrations

... details follow

# Theory I – elastic part

Hückel: molecular-structure adjacency graph of π-conjugated subsystem

$$T_{\rm el}(\varepsilon) = \operatorname{Tr} \left[ \Gamma_L G(\varepsilon) \Gamma_R G^{\dagger}(\varepsilon) \right] \\ H_{\rm benzene}^{\rm Hückel} \propto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ dI/dV = 2e^2/h \times T_{\rm el}(\varepsilon_F) \qquad \varepsilon_F = 0$$

 $\Gamma_L = \gamma_L |L\rangle \langle L|, \quad \Gamma_R = \gamma_R |R\rangle \langle R|$ 

 $T_{\rm el}(\varepsilon_F) = \gamma_L \gamma_R |\langle L|G(\varepsilon_F)|R\rangle|^2$ 

# Theory II – inelastic part

Electron – vibration coupling:

$$H_{e-v} \propto \sum_{\lambda,i,j} m_{i,j}^{\lambda} c_i^{\dagger} c_j (a_{\lambda} + a_{\lambda}^{\dagger}) + H.c.$$

λ indexes vibration modes,  $c_i^{\dagger}$  creates e<sup>-</sup> at site *i*,  $a_{\lambda}^{\dagger}$  excites vibrational mode λ

Lowest-order-expansion: M. Paulsson et al., Phys. Rev. B 72, 201101 (2005); J. K. Viljas et al., Phys. Rev. B 72, 245415 (2005); L. de la Vega et al., Phys. Rev. B 73, 075428 (2006)

*m*<sub>i,j</sub> is the coupling matrix assumed nonzero only if *i*,*j* are the nearest neighbours in the π-conjugated system and on the diagonal *i* = *j*

## Theory III – inelastic (cont'd)

Change in transmission due to vibration (LOE) - 2 parts:

$$\begin{split} \Delta_{\lambda}^{\mathrm{Sym}} &= \mathrm{Tr} \Big[ G^{\dagger} \Gamma_{L} G \Big\{ M_{\lambda} G \Gamma_{R} G^{\dagger} M_{\lambda} + & A \equiv i (G - G^{\dagger}) \\ &+ \frac{i}{2} \big( \Gamma_{R} G^{\dagger} M_{\lambda} A M_{\lambda} - \mathrm{h.c.} \big) \Big\} \Big] \\ \Delta_{\lambda}^{\mathrm{Asym}} &= \mathrm{Tr} \Big[ G^{\dagger} \Gamma_{L} G \Big\{ \Gamma_{R} G^{\dagger} M_{\lambda} G \big( \Gamma_{R} - \Gamma_{L} \big) G^{\dagger} M_{\lambda} + \mathrm{h.c.} \Big\} \Big] \end{split}$$

Considerable simplification takes place when DQI occurs:

$$\mathsf{DQI} \leftrightarrow \langle L | G(\varepsilon_F) | R \rangle = 0$$

we are left only with

$$\Delta_{\lambda}^{\text{Sym}} = \gamma_L \gamma_R \left| \langle L | GM_{\lambda} G | R \rangle \right|^2 \approx \gamma_L \gamma_R \left| \langle L | G_{M_{\lambda}} | R \rangle \right|^2$$
$$G_{M_{\lambda}} \qquad H_{\text{mol}} \to H_{\text{mol}} + M_{\lambda}$$

# Justification, Range of Validity

• LOE valid for energy (nearly) independent GF's around Fermi energy; but good enough for realistic parameters



- Some vibrational modes invisible in our approach (as they couple to the  $\sigma$ -system); only  $\pi$ -active **subset of IETS**
- Hückel model described by the adjacency matrix of the conjugated part, i.e., constant nearest neighbor hopping elements – implicitly requires planarity (compare biphenyl)



- toy molecule (real, nonetheless), contacted at atoms 6 (L), 5 (R)
- possesses **DQI** between **5**, **6**

(also between other sites, here, exceptionally, not shown for clarity)

- we may understand this particular DQI by considering paths 6-4-1-3-5 vs. 6-4-1-2-1-3-5; the extra 1-2-1 piece changes phase by π exactly (at zero energy that we concentrate on); Fano resonance
- DQI lifted by vibrations active at site 2 which path interferometer

# Time for hands-on experience (hopefully...)



- $\{3,5\}$   $4m_{1,1} + m_{4,4} + m_{6,6} 4m_{7,7} 4m_{9,9} + m_{12,12}$
- $\{3,8\}$  2  $(-m_{4,4} + m_{6,6} + m_{12,12})$
- $\{3, 10\} \ 2(m_{4,4} m_{6,6} + m_{12,12})$
- {3,11}  $4m_{1,1} + m_{4,4} + m_{6,6} 4m_{7,7} + 4m_{9,9} + m_{12,12}$ {7,8} 0
- $\{7,9\}$  4  $(m_{3,3} + m_{5,5} m_{11,11})$
- $\{7, 10\}\ 0$
- $\{7, 12\}\ 2(m_{3,3} m_{5,5} m_{11,11})$

- DQI between {7,8} is
   'vibration resistent'
- although reported here for easier orientation, {7,10} and {3,10} are actually symmetry-equivalent to {7,8} and {3,8}, respectively

## Azulene

non-alternant hydrocarbon



- off-diagonal el.-vib. elem's are present (due to being non-alternant?; Gemma)
- (this molecule was much discussed in the literature in connection with applicability of various graphical rules for DQI prediction)

 $\begin{array}{ll} \{3,5\} & m_{1,1}+m_{1,2}-m_{1,5}-m_{2,1}-m_{2,2}+m_{2,6}+m_{3,1}-m_{3,7}-m_{4,2}+m_{4,7}-m_{7,7}+m_{8,5}-m_{8,8}-m_{8,10}-m_{9,6}-m_{9,9}+m_{9,10} \\ \{3,6\} & m_{1,1}+m_{1,2}-m_{1,5}-m_{2,1}-m_{2,2}+m_{2,6}+m_{3,1}-m_{3,7}-m_{4,2}+m_{4,7}-m_{7,7}+m_{8,5}+m_{8,8}-m_{8,10}-m_{9,6}+m_{9,9}+m_{9,10} \\ \{3,10\} & m_{1,1}+m_{1,2}-m_{1,5}-m_{2,1}-m_{2,2}+m_{2,6}+m_{3,1}-m_{3,7}-m_{4,2}+m_{4,7}-m_{7,7}+m_{8,5}+m_{8,8}-m_{8,10}-m_{9,6}-m_{9,9}+m_{9,10} \\ \{7,8\} & m_{3,3}-m_{4,4}+m_{5,5}-m_{6,6}-m_{10,10} \end{array}$ 

 $\{8,9\}$   $m_{3,3} + m_{4,4} + m_{5,5} + m_{6,6} - m_{10,10}$ 

# **Two Interesting Points**

 where the 'graphical rules' really fail (in spite of being applied correctly)



$$G_{LR} = \lim_{\eta \to 0^+} \frac{(-1)^{L+R} \det_{LR}(H_{\text{mol}} + i\eta)}{\det(H_{\text{mol}} + \Sigma_L + \Sigma_R + i\eta)}$$

- the **rules consider the numerator only,** while here the denominator is important: "0 / 0"
- this is relevant for physically existing systems, too → use of **pseudoinverse** in our code

 Fano resonance in the square with arbitrary asymmetry, a ≠ 1



## Conclusions

- automated code for evaluation of
   DQI configurations of wide class of conjugated molecules
- Combinations of el.-vib. matrix elements
   contributing to IETS calculated

## analysis in terms of propensity rules (effects of symmetries etc.)

 Still desperately missing Hückel-like prescription for el.-vib. matrix (only ab-initio now - shaky, nonintuitive)

## Thank you for your attention!



#### The many ways for a current to interact with ionic motion

Stefano Sanvito School of Physics and CRANN, Trinity College Dublin, IRELAND





University College Cork, Ireland Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh



#### The question

#### Mesoscopic

#### Molecules









#### Quantitative quantum transport: Smeagol

Quick overview (very quick!! ... with some new stuff)

#### Interference on a surface

Atomic-scale quantum devices on Si (100)

Moving atoms

Phonons in an electric field/current



## Quantitative quantum transport The *Smeagol* project



Alex Reily Rocha, Ivan Rungger, Chaitanya Das Pemmaraju, Maria Stamenova ....

#### The basic concept









NEGF + DFT (Siesta .... AIMS & CP2K)







## http://www.smeagol.tcd.ie/



Phys. Rev. B 73, 085414 (2006); Nature Materials 4, 335 (2005); Phys. Rev. B 78, 035407 (2008)

#### One question, many systems







#### What to ask to the electronic structure theory ?

Molecules	Solids
<ul> <li>Ionization potential (/) and electron affinity (EA) at the right place</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Correct band-alignment (and transport gap)</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Accurate for fractional</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Interface states well</li></ul>
occupation	described
<ul> <li>Scalable to large</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Scalable to large</li></ul>
number of electrons	number of electrons

#### Smeagol: what is new

#### **Constrained DFT**

A.M. Souza *et al.*, PRB **88**, 165112 (2013); S. Roychoudhury *et al.*, PRB **93**, 045130 (2016)





$$V(d) = \frac{-q^2}{4(d-d_0)}$$





## What to ask to the electronic structure theory ?

## Molecules

- Ionization potential (*I*) and electron affinity (EA) at the right place
- Accurate for fractional occupation

# Scalable to large number of electrons

#### **Solids**

• Correct band-alignment (and transport gap)

- Interface states well described
- Scalable to large number of electrons



#### **Recursive NEGF for order-***N*



## Smeagol: what is new



#### **STT and multi-scale**



atomistic micromagnetics


# Interference on a surface Single H on Si (100)



B. Naydenov, et al., PRB 84, 195321 (2011)

## H on Si (100)



Z

(a.u



B. Naydenov, et al., PRB 84, 195321 (2011)

# H on Si (100)





B. Naydenov, et al., PRB 84, 195321 (2011)

H on Si (100)



GW Band





J.E. Northrup, PRB 47, 10032 (1993)

# H on Si (100): single centre



3 nm

#### 20 nm

# H on Si (100): single centre





# Quantum interference device



B. Naydenov, et al., Nano Lett. 15, 2881 (2015)



<u>Quantum</u> <u>well</u>





### Theory









<u>Gating</u>









<u>Gating</u>



 $n_0=6.5 \times 10^{19}$ 

0.2

00

 $\begin{array}{c} 0.2 & 0.4 \\ E - E_{\rm F} \, ({\rm eV}) \end{array}$ 



0.5



0

 $\begin{array}{c} 0.2 & 0.4 \\ E - E_{\rm F} \, ({\rm eV}) \end{array}$ 



 $\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ V_{ds}(V) \end{array}$ 

0.08 eV

 $V_{\rm G}$ 

l g



- 1D devices on top of "peculiar" surfaces are possible
- Gating demonstrated
- Now need to put contact down (moving to Ge - more stable)!



### Ivan Rungger, Rouxing Zhang, Shimin Hou

# **Moving Atoms: Forces**



R. Zhang, I. Rungger, S. Sanvito and S. Hou, PRB 84, 085445 (2011)

Forces



 $\vec{F}_I = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \langle \Psi(t) | - i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \vec{R}_I} | \Psi(t) \rangle$ 





$$= \left[ -\langle \Psi | \frac{\partial \hat{H}(\vec{R}_{I})}{\partial \vec{R}_{I}} | \Psi \rangle \right]$$
Hellmann-Feynman  
$$+ \left[ -\left\langle \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \vec{R}_{I}} \middle| \hat{H}(\vec{R}_{I}) | \Psi \rangle - \langle \Psi | \hat{H}(\vec{R}_{I}) \middle| \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \vec{R}_{I}} \right\rangle \right]$$
Pulay







-

Wind force defined by subtraction

$$F = F_{Field} + F_{Wind}$$

$$\vec{F}_{\text{Field}}(V) = \vec{F}[\rho_{\mu\nu}(0); H_{\mu\nu}(0) + \Delta H_{\mu\nu}(V)]$$
$$\vec{F}_{\text{Wind}}(V) = \vec{F}[\rho_{\mu\nu}(V); H_{\mu\nu}(V)] - \vec{F}_{\text{Field}}(V)$$

### Forces







left electrode

right electrode



## Electromigration: Si @ CNT

#### Stable position: bridge site





## Electromigration







### Meilin Bai, Shimin Hou, Ivan Rungger, Clotilde Cucinotta

# Moving Atoms: Phonons



R. Zhang, I. Rungger, S. Sanvito and S. Hou, PRB 94, 035411 (2016)





### In equilibrium

$$\boldsymbol{C}_{\alpha i\beta j} = \left(\frac{\partial^2 \boldsymbol{V}}{\partial \boldsymbol{q}_{\alpha i} \partial \boldsymbol{q}_{\beta j}}\right)_0 = \left(\frac{\partial^2 \boldsymbol{E}}{\partial \boldsymbol{q}_{\alpha i} \partial \boldsymbol{q}_{\beta j}}\right)_0$$

Under bias

$$C_{\alpha i\beta j} = -\left(\frac{\partial F_{\alpha i}}{\partial q_{\beta j}}\right)_{0} = -\left(\frac{\partial F_{\beta j}}{\partial q_{\alpha i}}\right)_{0} = C_{\beta j\alpha i}$$

By finite difference: displacement 0.02A











Charge density difference D(1V)-D(0V)

Formation of a dipole under bias









H1-Au1'

H1'-Au1'

Bias (V)

-1

1

crystal orbital overlap population

crystal orbital Hamiltonian population





Electrostatic energy between H<sub>2</sub> and Au increases





- Calculations of phonon softening/hardening under bias demonstrated
- Interpretation in terms of bond strength change and electrostatic contribution
- How can we measure that?





## TCD Team:

Amaury Souza, Awadhesh Narayan, Ivan Rungger, Clotilde Cucinotta

## Beijing Team:

#### Shimin Hou, Meilin Bai, Rouxin Zhang





CRANN





King Abdullah University of Science and Technology









INSTITUTO DE CIENCIA DE MATERIALES DE MADRID (ICMM)

# Long range transport and quantum interferences in quantum dots arrays

G. Platero

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Dresden, MPI

april 2017



Universidad Carlos III de Madrid



Rafael Sánchez





Gloria Platero



CONSEIO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS INSTITUTO DE CIENCIA DE MATERIALES DE MADRID (ICMM)

#### Quantum State Transfer and Entanglement Distribution among Distant Nodes in a Quantum Network

J.I. Cirac,<sup>1,2</sup> P. Zoller,<sup>1,2</sup> H.J. Kimble,<sup>1,3</sup> and H. Mabuchi<sup>1,3</sup>



Volume 93, Number 12	PHYSICAL	REVIEW	LETTERS	week ending 17 SEPTEMBER 2004
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#### Mesoscopic One-Way Channels for Quantum State Transfer via the Quantum Hall Effect

T. M. Stace,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> C. H. W. Barnes,<sup>1</sup> and G. J. Milburn<sup>3</sup>



# LETTER

# On-demand single-electron transfer between distant quantum dots

R. P. G. McNeil<sup>1</sup>, M. Kataoka<sup>1,2</sup>, C. J. B. Ford<sup>1</sup>, C. H. W. Barnes<sup>1</sup>, D. Anderson<sup>1</sup>, G. A. C. Jones<sup>1</sup>, I. Farrer<sup>1</sup> & D. A. Ritchie<sup>1</sup>



## "Coherent transfer by adiabatic passage" (CTAP)

Steady-state coherent transfer by adiabatic passage

Electron transfer from dot 1 to dot 3 without occupying dot 2



Greentree et al., PRB 2004

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \Omega_{12} & 0 \\ \Omega_{12} & 0 & \Omega_{23} \\ 0 & \Omega_{23} & 0 \end{pmatrix}; \quad \begin{array}{l} \varepsilon = 0 \\ |\varphi\rangle = \cos\theta |1\rangle - \sin\theta |3\rangle \\ \theta = \arctan(\Omega_{12} / \Omega_{23}) \end{array}$$

Jan Huneke, Gloria Platero, and Sigmund Kohler, Phys. Rev. Lett. 110, 036802 (2013)



#### Quantum electron transfer between distant sites in triple quantum dots







M. Busl et al., Nature Nanotech, 8, 262 (2013).

#### Long range transfer by quantum superpositions





#### Quantum electron transfer between distant sites in triple quantum dots







M. Busl et al., Nature Nanotech, 8, 262 (2013).

#### Long range transfer by quantum superpositions




L-R resonance of (2,0,1) and (1,0,2), intermediate (1,1,1) far in energy





$$\Delta E \gg \tau \qquad |LR_{-}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\downarrow,0,\psi\rangle - |\psi,0,\uparrow\downarrow\rangle)$$

As an electron tunnels from one extreme to the other an arbitrary spin state  $\psi$  is transferred in the opposite direction:

$$\left|\psi\right\rangle_{l=L,R} = c_{\uparrow}\left|\uparrow\right\rangle_{l} + c_{\downarrow}\left|\downarrow\right\rangle_{l}$$

L-R resonance of (2,0,1) and (1,0,2), intermediate (1,1,1) far in energy





$$\Delta E \gg \tau \qquad |LR_{-}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\downarrow,0,\psi\rangle - |\psi,0,\uparrow\downarrow\rangle)$$

As an electron tunnels from one extreme to the other an arbitrary spin state  $\psi$  is transferred in the opposite direction:

$$\left|\psi\right\rangle_{l=L,R} = c_{\uparrow}\left|\uparrow\right\rangle_{l} + c_{\downarrow}\left|\downarrow\right\rangle_{l}$$

In the chemical bond: Resonance Hybrid States



L. Pauling 1931

In TQDs, Amaha et al., PRB, RC, 2012



All-electronic coherent population trapping in quantum dots



All-electronic coherent population trapping in quantum dots



All-electronic coherent population trapping in quantum dots



#### Quantum interferences in long range tunneling

#### Minimal system affected by charge and spin correlations: 2 electrons

Left-right resonance:  $(1,1,0) \leftrightarrow (0,1,1)$ TCR  $(1,1,0) \longrightarrow (0,2,0) \longrightarrow (0,1,1)$  $(1,1,0) \longrightarrow (1,0,1) \longrightarrow ((0,1,1))$ Transport state  $\hat{H}_{\text{TQD}} = \sum_{i\sigma} \varepsilon_i \hat{c}_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{i\sigma} + \sum_{i} U_i \hat{n}_{i\uparrow} \hat{n}_{i\downarrow} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i\sigma} U_{ij} \hat{n}_i \hat{n}_j$  $-\sum \tau_{ij}\hat{c}^{\dagger}_{i\sigma}\hat{c}_{j\sigma} + \text{H.c.}$  $i \neq i.\sigma$ 

 $\dot{\hat{\rho}} = -i\hbar^{-1}[\hat{H}_{\text{TQD}},\hat{\rho}] + \mathcal{L}_{\Gamma}\hat{\rho} \quad I = q\Gamma_{\text{R}}\sum_{\sigma\sigma'} \langle 0,\sigma,\sigma'|\hat{\rho}|0,\sigma,\sigma'\rangle$ 

#### Minimal system affected by charge and spin correlations: 2 electrons



#### 1D interferometer with branches defined by two different virtual intermediate states





By means of a perturbative expansion and tracing out (020) and (101) an effective Hamiltonian in the singlet –triplet basis (110) and (011) is obtained







The two singlet long range paths interfer destructively

$$\tau_{LC} = \tau_{CR} \qquad \Delta = \delta_{1,0,1} = -\frac{\delta_{020}}{2}$$

$$\tau_{eff}^{S} = 0 \implies |DS\rangle = \frac{1}{N} \left( \Delta |1,1,0\rangle - \tau |0,2,0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \tau |1,0,1\rangle \right)$$

$$N = \sqrt{\Delta^{2} + \frac{3}{2} \tau^{2}}$$

No contribution of  $|0,1,1\rangle$  which carries current to the right

The Dark State blocks the current



R. Sánchez, F. Gallego-Marcos, and G. Platero, Phys. Rev. B 89, 161402(R) (2014).

#### **Driving with periodic AC electric fields**



#### Dimer chain: AC driven transport to characterize the topology



#### Long range photo-assisted transport



$$\hat{H}_{\rm ac}(t) = \frac{V_{\rm ac}}{2}\cos(\omega t)\hat{n}_L$$

$$\hat{\tilde{H}}_{\tau}(t) = \sum_{\nu=-\infty}^{\infty} J_{\nu} \left( \frac{V_{AC}}{2\hbar\omega} \right) e^{i\nu\omega t} \sum_{\sigma} \tau_{LC} \hat{c}^{\dagger}_{L\sigma} \hat{c}_{C\sigma} + \sum_{\sigma} \left( \tau_{CR} \hat{c}^{\dagger}_{C\sigma} \hat{c}_{R\sigma} + \text{h.c.} \right)$$

$$\dot{\rho}(t) = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \left[ \hat{H}_{\epsilon} + \hat{\tilde{H}}_{\tau}(t), \rho(t) \right] + \mathcal{L}_{\Gamma} \rho(t)$$

 $I = e\Gamma_{\rm R}\bar{\rho}_{RR}$ 



**E<sub>R</sub>,E<sub>L</sub>** Effective hamiltonian

$$H_{\rm eff} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\epsilon}_L & -\tau_{\rm eff}(t) \\ -\tau_{\rm eff}(t) & \tilde{\epsilon}_R \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\tau_{\rm eff}(t) = \sum_{\nu} J_{\nu}(\alpha) \frac{\tau_{LC} \tau_{CR}}{\epsilon_{L} - \epsilon_{C} + \nu \hbar \omega} e^{i\nu \omega t}$$

#### **Rotating Wave Approx**

$$\hat{H}_{\text{RWA}} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\epsilon}_{L} & J_{n} \left(\frac{V_{\text{ac}}}{2\hbar\omega}\right) \frac{\tau_{LC}\tau_{CR}}{\epsilon_{L} - \epsilon_{C} + \nu\hbar\omega} \\ J_{n} \left(\frac{V_{\text{ac}}}{2\hbar\omega}\right) \frac{\tau_{LC}\tau_{CR}}{\epsilon_{L} - \epsilon_{C} + \nu\hbar\omega} & \tilde{\epsilon}_{R} - n\hbar\omega \end{pmatrix}$$



# Multiphoton Landau Zener Stückelberg Tunneling involving virtual transitions



# Multiphoton Landau Zener Stückelberg Tunneling involving virtual transitions





$$\hat{H}_{\rm ac}(t) = \frac{V_{\rm ac}}{2} \cos(\omega t) \hat{c}_L^{\dagger} \hat{c}_L + \frac{V_{\rm ac}}{2} \cos(\omega t + \phi) \hat{c}_R^{\dagger} \hat{c}_R$$







$$\hat{H}'_{\tau} = \sum_{\nu} t^{\nu}_{LC} \mathrm{e}^{i\nu\omega t} \hat{c}^{\dagger}_{C} \hat{c}_{L} + t^{\nu}_{CR} \mathrm{e}^{-i\nu\omega t} \hat{c}^{\dagger}_{R} \hat{c}_{C} + h.c.$$
$$t^{\nu}_{LC} = \tau_{LC} J_{\nu} (V_{\mathrm{ac}}/\hbar\omega) \quad t^{\nu}_{CR} = \tau_{CR} J_{\nu} (V_{\mathrm{ac}}/\hbar\omega) e^{-i\nu\phi}$$





$$\hat{H}_{\text{RWA}} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\epsilon}_{\text{L},n} + \Lambda_{\text{LL}}^{m,n} & t_{\text{LC}}^{-m} & \Upsilon_{\text{LR}}^{m,n^*}(\phi) \\ t_{\text{CL}}^{-m} & \tilde{\epsilon}_{\text{C},m+n} + \Lambda_{\text{CC}}^{m,n} & t_{\text{CR}}^{-m-n}(\phi) \\ \Upsilon_{\text{LR}}^{m,n}(\phi) & t_{\text{RC}}^{-m-n}(\phi) & \tilde{\epsilon}_{\text{R},0} + \Lambda_{\text{RR}}^{m,n} \end{bmatrix}$$
Effective hopping between left and right QDs:  $t_{13}$ 

$$\begin{split} \Upsilon_{\mathrm{LR}}^{m,n}(\phi) &= \tau_{\mathrm{LC}} \tau_{\mathrm{CR}} \sum_{\nu=-\infty}^{\infty} J_{\nu} \Bigg[ \frac{(J_{\nu+n} - J_{m+2n})e^{i\nu\phi}}{2(\nu - m - n)\hbar\omega} \\ &+ \frac{\left(J_{\nu-n}e^{i\nu\phi} - J_{m-n}e^{im\phi}\right)e^{-in\phi}}{2(\nu - m)\hbar\omega} \Bigg] \end{split}$$



$$\hat{H}_{\text{RWA}} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\epsilon}_{\text{L},n} + \Lambda_{\text{LL}}^{m,n} & t_{\text{LC}}^{-m} & \Upsilon_{\text{LR}}^{m,n^*}(\phi) \\ t_{\text{CL}}^{-m} & \tilde{\epsilon}_{\text{C},m+n} + \Lambda_{\text{CC}}^{m,n} & t_{\text{CR}}^{-m-n}(\phi) \\ \Upsilon_{\text{LR}}^{m,n}(\phi) & t_{\text{RC}}^{-m-n}(\phi) & \tilde{\epsilon}_{\text{R},0} + \Lambda_{\text{RR}}^{m,n} \end{bmatrix}$$
Effective hopping between left and right QDs:  $\mathbf{t}_{13}$ 

$$\mathcal{H} = \begin{pmatrix} \Delta & t_{12} & t_{13} \\ t_{12} & -\Delta & t_{23} \\ t_{13} & t_{23} & \epsilon \end{pmatrix}$$
Dark State Condition
$$\Delta = \Delta_0 \equiv \frac{t_{12}}{2t_{13}t_{23}}(t_{13}^2 - t_{23}^2)$$

$$|\Psi_{\text{dark}}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{t_{13}^2 + t_{23}^2}}(t_{23}|1\rangle - t_{13}|2\rangle)$$

C. Emary, PRB 2007





Dashed green lines: cotunnel suppression: Long Range CDT , J<sub>N</sub>=0

$$\hat{H}_{\text{RWA}}^{m,n}(\pi) \approx (\tilde{\epsilon}_{\text{L},n} - \tilde{\epsilon}_{\text{R},0})\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{z} - J_{n} \left(\frac{V_{\text{ac}}}{\hbar\omega}\right) \frac{\tau_{\text{LC}}\tau_{\text{CR}}}{m\hbar\omega} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{x}$$





RWA ------

 $\mathbf{2}$ 

$$\hat{H}^{0}_{\mathsf{RWA}} \approx \Delta \sigma_{z} + \tau_{\mathsf{LC}} \tau_{\mathsf{CR}} \sum_{\nu} \Omega_{\nu,m}(\Delta) \sigma_{x}$$

with the sideband-dependent couplings

$$\Omega_{\nu,m}(\Delta) = J_{\nu}^2/[(\nu-m)\hbar\omega-\Delta]$$

For



The system behaves as an ac driven interferometer of multiple virtual transitions.

Sidebands with positive (v>m) and negative (v<m) detuning destructively interfer.

F. Gallego-Marcos et al., PRB, 2016



interferometer of multiple virtual Sidebands with positive (v>m) and negative (v<m) detuning destructively

F. Gallego-Marcos et al., PRB, 2016

Long range energy and heat transfer: direct energy and heat transfer between outer dots

F. Gallego-Marcos et al., PRB 2017



#### Conclusions

#### Long range transport in triple quantum dots:

Electrons are transferred directly between edge dots with only virtual participation of the center dots: Different long range (virtual) transitions interfere Destructively.

Long range photoassisted transport: Photoassisted virtual transitions:

Destructive interferences between direct and virtual PAT transitions. Coherent destruction of cotunneling. Phase dependent transport.











# Quantum interference in large area molecular junctions

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C. Salhani, C. Bessis, R. Bonnet, M. L. Della Rocca, C. Barraud, P. Martin J.-C. Lacroix

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# Quantum interference in mesoscopic systems

Aharonov-Bohm effect in a metal ring



R. A. Webb et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 54, 2696 (1985)

phase coherent transport



 $\Delta \phi = \pi \Phi / \Phi_0$ 

# Quantum interference in molecules

Essence of QI: simultaneous coupling between two molecular orbital levels and a Fermi sea of conduction electrons



# Quantum interference in molecules

Essence of QI: simultaneous coupling between two molecular orbital levels and a Fermi sea of conduction electrons



Kondo effect: dynamical screening of an unpaired spin by conduction electrons. Coupling between an interacting discrete level and a Fermi sea of conduction electrons

# Molecules coupled to conduction electrons





Perrin et al., Nature Nanotech. 9, 830 (2014)

MCBJ + SAMs Delft, Leiden, Konstanz, Erlangen



Fracasso et al., JACS 133, 9556 (2011)

Capozzi et al., Nano Lett. 14, 1400 (2014) STM-BJ, Columbia, Arizona state



Thiele et al., Science 344, 1135 (2014) Electromigration + SMM Grenoble C-AFM or EGaIn on SAMs Harvard, Groningen, Leiden, Lille



Planar junctions + grafting Edmonton, Paris

### Experimental observation of quantum interference

Meta and para substituted benzene molecules, MCBJ

C. R. Arroyo et al., Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 52, 3152 (2013)





two-dimensional histograms of conductance


## Experimental observation of quantum interference

molecular junctions based on SAMs, statistical analysis

Evidence of QI: dip and negative curvature of the conductance



Guedon *et al.*, Nat. Nanotech. **7**, 305 (2012)

Carlotti et al., Nat. Comm. 7, 13904 (2016)

## **Electrochemichal grafting**



Au/AQ/TiAu junctions Area: from 5x5µm<sup>2</sup> to 75x75µm<sup>2</sup>

Growth of an organic film by electroreduction of diazonium salt



Fave C. et al., JACS **129**, 1890 (2007) Fave C. et al., JPC C **112**, 18638 (2008) A. Bousquet et al., Langmuir **28**, 1267 (2012)

formation of robust, disordered multilayers with covalent bonds 5 to 10 nm thick

# **Fabrication process**



 $5x5\mu m^2$  < junction area <  $75x75 \mu m^2$ 

A. J. Bergren *et al.*, J. Phys. Chem **114**, 15806 (2010) P. Martin *et al.*, JACS **134**, 154 (2012)

## Molecular layer caracterization



T. Fluteau *et al.*, J. Appl. Phys. **116**, 114509 (2014)

## Transport characteristics of AQ based junctions



## Conductance of AQ based junctions



# Molecular vs tunnel junctions

 $\rightarrow$  Metallic tunnel junctions Al/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/TiAu



Same fabrication process via shadow mask



LPN, Juin 2016

## Anthraquinone vs BTB junctions



# Other possible mechanisms for zero bias anomaly

DOS reduction due to e<sup>-</sup>-e<sup>-</sup> Coulomb interaction in barely insulating disordered solids

Variable range hopping in Mott insulator for non interacting electrons in the 3D limit N. F. Mott, J. Non-Cryst. Solids 1, 1 (1968)

$$\sigma(T) \propto exp\left(-\frac{T_0}{T}\right)^{\nu}$$
 with  $\nu = \frac{1}{4}$  1

... by including Coulomb interaction a Coulomb gap opens at low E and  $v = \frac{1}{2}$ 

A.L. Efros and B.I. Shklovskii, J. Phys. C 8, L49 (1975)





# Other possible mechanisms for zero bias anomaly

DOS reduction due to e<sup>-</sup>-e<sup>-</sup> Coulomb interaction in diffusive metallic leads of the junction





F. Pierre *et al.*, PRL **86**, 1590 (2001) B.L. Altshuler *et al.*, Sov. Phys. JETP **59**, 415 (1999) E.V. Sukhorukov *et al.*, PRB **56**, 1456 (1997)

# Other possible mechanisms for zero bias anomaly

Dynamical Coulomb blockade: inelastic electron tunneling with energy dissipation in the electromagnetic environnement



## DFT calculated transmission of AQ chains

Calculations by T. Markussen (Quantum Wise)





## Two-site model for quantum interference

Simplest model capturing the quantum interference effect



T. Markussen et al., PRB 89, 085420 (2014)

one site coupled to the leads

Transmission function  $T(E) = \text{Tr}[\mathbf{\Gamma}_L \mathbf{G}^r \mathbf{\Gamma}_R \mathbf{G}^a]$ 

 $\begin{bmatrix} \Gamma_{L/R} \text{ coupling matrices to leads L/R} \\ G^{r/a} \text{ Green functions of the molecule} \end{bmatrix}$ 

$$\Rightarrow T(E) = \frac{\gamma^2}{\left[ (E - \varepsilon_1) - \frac{t^2}{E - \varepsilon_2} \right]^2 + \gamma^2}$$

Transmission node at  $E = \varepsilon_2$ 



# Influence of electron-phonon interaction

Conductance of a single AQ molecule junction with el-ph interaction



Current calculated with DFT within the lowest order expansion

## Influence of el-ph in transport measurements

simultaneous fitting of G(V) and G(T)



model: lowest order expansion and two-site model

 $I(V,T) = I_{el}(V,T) + \sum_{\lambda} I_{in}(V,\lambda,T)$ sum over each phonon mode  $\hbar \omega_{\lambda}$ T. Markussen, K.S. Thygesen, Phys. Rev. B **89**, 085420 (2014)

## Calculated $d^2I/dV^2$



14 ph energies (5 – 160 meV), few dominant modes at low energy

## Conductance and el-ph interaction

G(V) and G(T) curves fitted to a two site model with el-ph interaction



# High temperature behaviour

Two sites model with el-ph interaction also described conductance at higher temperature

Solid curves calculated with parameters extracted at the lowest temperature



## Inelastic electron tunneling spectroscopy



measured d<sup>2</sup>I/dV<sup>2</sup> (raw and symmetrized)



## FWHM analysis

$$FWHM \approx \sqrt{W_{intrinsic}^2 + \frac{5.44k_BT}{e} + 1.7V_{rms}^2}$$

Peak at – 35 mV, T = 5 K



# **IETS** signal



# Vibrational modes



C. Salhani et al., Phys. Rev. B 95, 165431 (2017)

Poster n°8 by Chloe Salhani

no signature of Au-C bond, signatures of azo-bonds and AQ

## Comparaison with IR spectra



common modes at 100-130 meV and 160-200 meV

# Conclusions

- Conductance of large area anthraquinone based junctions based on anthraquinone described by a QI model including e-ph interaction
- IETS reveals vibrational modes and metal/molecule covalent bonds

#### Perspectives

- Change in the design of the junctions to include a gate electrode
- Thermoelectrics measurements

### Charge transport in molecular junctions: Vibrational effects, interference and decoherence

### Michael Thoss University of Erlangen-Nürnberg



Rainer Härtle (Göttingen), Uri Peskin (Haifa), Heiko Weber (Erlangen)

#### **Mechanisms and theoretical aspects**

- Molecular resonance states at metal surfaces
- Electron correlation, charging effects, Coulomb blockade, Kondo effect
- Coupling to vibrational degrees of freedom
- Heat transport
- Coupling to external fields, spin-dependent transport, ...



#### Vibrational effects in molecular junctions



- current-induced excitation of vibrational modes
- vibrational structures in current-voltage characteristics

#### Vibrational effects in molecular junctions



- current-induced excitation of vibrational modes
- vibrational structures in current-voltage characteristics



Song et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 94, 103110 (2009)



#### Vibrational effects in molecular junctions



- current-induced excitation of vibrational modes
- vibrational structures in current-voltage characteristics
- vibrational nonequilibrium effects: current-induced heating, cooling, decoherence, rectification, conformational changes, switching, negative differential resistance, noise

#### Charge transport in molecular junctions

#### Model





$$H = \sum_{k_L} \epsilon_{k_L} c_{k_L}^{\dagger} c_{k_L} + \sum_j \epsilon_j d_j^{\dagger} d_j + \sum_{k_R} \epsilon_{k_R} c_{k_R}^{\dagger} c_{k_R}$$
$$+ \sum_k (V_{jk} d_j^{\dagger} c_k + V_{kj} c_k^{\dagger} d_j)$$
$$+ \sum_k \omega_l a_l^{\dagger} a_l$$
$$+ \sum_l \omega_l a_l^{\dagger} a_l$$
$$+ \sum_{l,i,j} \lambda_{ij}^{(l)} (a_l + a_l^{\dagger}) d_i^{\dagger} d_j$$
$$+ \sum_{i,j} U_{ij} d_i^{\dagger} d_i d_j^{\dagger} d_j$$

molecule-metal interaction

metal – molecule – metal

vibrations

electronic-vibrational coupling

electron-electron interaction

#### **Transport methods**

Approximate methods

Scattering theory

$$I = \frac{e}{h} \int d\epsilon_i \int d\epsilon_f \left\{ \mathcal{T}_{R \leftarrow L}(\epsilon_f, \epsilon_i) f_L(\epsilon_i) [1 - f_R(\epsilon_f)] - \mathcal{T}_{L \leftarrow R}(\epsilon_f, \epsilon_i) f_R(\epsilon_i) [1 - f_L(\epsilon_f)] \right\}$$

Nonequilbrium Green's functions (NEGF)

$$I = \frac{e}{h} \int d\epsilon \left( \Sigma_L^{<}(\epsilon) G^{>}(\epsilon) - \Sigma_L^{>}(\epsilon) G^{<}(\epsilon) \right) \qquad G^{<} = G^r \Sigma^{<} G^a$$

Density matrix theory (Redfield)

$$I = \frac{e}{\hbar} \int_0^\infty d\tau \operatorname{tr}\{\left[V(\tau), \rho \rho_{\text{leads}}^{\text{eq}}\right] \hat{I}\}$$
  
$$0 = -i \left[H_0, \rho\right] - \int_0^\infty d\tau \operatorname{tr}_{\text{leads}}\{\left[V, \left[V(\tau), \rho \rho_{\text{leads}}^{\text{eq}}\right]\right]\}$$

Cizek Thoss, Domcke, PRB **70**, 125406 (2004); Härtle, Benesch, Thoss PRL **102**, 146801 (2009); Volkovich, Härtle, Thoss, Peskin, PCCP **13**, 14333 (2011); Erpenbeck, Härtle, Thoss, PRB **91**, 195418 (2015)

#### **Transport methods**

#### Approximate methods

Scattering theory, nonequilbrium Green's functions, density matrix theory (Redfield)

#### Numerically exact methods

Time-dependent multiconfiguration methods (ML-MCTDH)

$$I = -e\frac{d}{dt} \left\langle \sum_{k_l} c_{k_l}^{\dagger} c_{k_l}(t) \right\rangle = -e \sum_{\mathbf{nv}} \rho_{0\mathbf{nv}} \langle \Psi_{\mathbf{nv}} | e^{iHt} \hat{I} e^{-iHt} | \Psi_{\mathbf{nv}} \rangle$$

$$|\Psi(t)\rangle = \sum_{j_1} \cdots \sum_{j_M} A_{j_1 \cdots j_M}(t) \prod_{k=1}^M |\phi_{j_k}^k(t)\rangle$$

$$|\Psi(t)\rangle = \sum_{j_1} \cdots \sum_{j_M} A_{j_1 \cdots j_M}(t) \prod_{k=1}^M |\phi_{j_k}^k(t)\rangle$$

Density matrix theory (Hierarchical quantum master equation)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\rho_{\mathbf{j}}^{(n)} = -\left[\mathsf{i}\mathcal{L}_{\mathsf{S}} + \sum_{k=1}^{n}\gamma_{j_{k}}\right]\rho_{\mathbf{j}}^{(n)} - \mathsf{i}\sum_{k=1}^{n}\mathcal{B}_{j_{k}}\rho_{\mathbf{j}_{k}}^{(n-1)} - \mathsf{i}\sum_{j}\mathcal{A}^{\bar{\sigma}}\rho_{j\mathbf{j}}^{(n+1)}$$

Wang, Thoss, J. Chem. Phys. **131**, 024114 (2009); **145**, 164105 (2016); Wilner, Wang, Thoss, Rabani, PRB **92**, 195143 (2015); Schinabeck, Erpenbeck, Härtle, Thoss, PRB **94**, 201407(R) (2016)

#### Vibrational effects in molecular junctions: Basic mechanisms



$$H = \epsilon d^{\dagger}d + \sum_{k} \epsilon_{k} c_{k}^{\dagger} c_{k} + \sum_{k} (V_{k} d^{\dagger} c_{k} + V_{k} c_{k}^{\dagger} d) + \Omega a^{\dagger} a + \lambda (a + a^{\dagger}) d^{\dagger} d$$

 $\Omega = 0.1 \text{eV} \qquad \lambda = 0.2 \text{ eV}$  $\Gamma_{L/R} = 0.02 \text{ eV} \qquad T = 50 \text{ K}$ 

$$\Gamma_L = 2\pi \sum_{k_L} \left| V_{k_L} \right|^2 \delta(E - \epsilon_{k_L})$$

### Vibrational effects in molecular junctions: Basic mechanisms

#### **Current-induced vibrational excitation**



Härtle, Peskin, Thoss, PRB 83, 115414 (2011); Phys. Stat. Sol. B 250, 2452 (2013)

#### **Vibrational nonequilibrium effects**



Härtle, Peskin, Thoss, PRB 83, 115414 (2011); Phys. Stat. Sol. B 250, 2452 (2013)

### Vibrational effects in molecular junctions: Basic mechanisms



Härtle, Peskin, Thoss, PRB 83, 115414 (2011); Phys. Stat. Sol. B 250, 2452 (2013)
#### **Current-induced vibrational excitation**



Härtle, Benesch, Thoss, PRB 77, 205314 (2008); PRL 102, 146801 (2009)

#### Adiabatic vs. nonadiabatic electronic-vibrational coupling



cf. also:

Repp, Liljeroth, Meyer, Nature Phys. **130**, 975 (2010) Wegewijs, Schoeller, et al., EPL, **83**, 58001 (2008)

Erpenbeck, Härtle, Thoss, PRB 91, 195418 (2015)

#### Adiabatic vs. nonadiabatic electronic-vibrational coupling



Wegewijs, Schoeller, et al., EPL, **83**, 58001 (2008)

Erpenbeck, Härtle, Thoss, PRB 91, 195418 (2015)

#### Transport at low bias voltages: Inelastic electron tunneling spectroscopy (IETS)

low conductance ( $G < G_0/2$ )



high conductance ( $G > G_0/2$ )





Galperin, Ratner, Nitzan, J. Chem. Phys. **121**, 11965 (2004); Egger, Gogolin, PRB **77**, 113405 (2008); Entin-Wohlman, Imry, Aharony, PRB **80**, 035417 (2009); Avriller, Yeyati, Phys. Rev. B **80**, 041309 (2009); Novotny, Haupt, Belzig, PRB **84**, 113107 (2011); ...

#### IETS for weak molecule-lead coupling in off-resonant regime



Schinabeck, Erpenbeck, Härtle, Thoss, PRB 94, 201407(R) (2016)

#### **IETS for weak molecule-lead coupling**



Schinabeck, Erpenbeck, Härtle, Thoss, PRB 94, 201407(R) (2016)

#### **IETS: Peak-dip transition**



vibrations in **equilibrium** (NEGF-SCBA): transition at  $G_0/2$ 

#### vibrations in **nonequilibrium** (HQME): transition at $G \approx 0.63 G_0$

lowest-order expansion: transition at  $G = 0.625 G_0$ Novotny et al. PRB **84**, 113107 (2011) Utsumi et al. PRB **87**, 115407 (2013)

 $\Omega = 0.2 \,\mathrm{eV}$   $\lambda = 0.12 \,\mathrm{eV}$  T = 300 K

Schinabeck, Erpenbeck, Härtle, Thoss, PRB **94**, 201407(R) (2016)

#### **Current noise: Sign change of vibrational contribution**



 $\Omega = 0.2 \,\mathrm{eV}$   $\lambda = 0.12 \,\mathrm{eV}$  T= 300 K

#### Quantum interference in molecular junctions

#### Experimental Evidence for Quantum Interference and Vibrationally Induced Decoherence in Single-Molecule Junctions

Stefan Ballmann,<sup>1</sup> Rainer Härtle,<sup>2</sup> Pedro B. Coto,<sup>2,\*</sup> Mark Elbing,<sup>3</sup> Marcel Mayor,<sup>3,4</sup> Martin R. Bryce,<sup>5</sup> Michael Thoss,<sup>2,†</sup> and Heiko B. Weber<sup>1,†,‡</sup>

## Probing the conductance superposition law in single-molecule circuits with parallel paths

H. Vazquez<sup>1;;</sup>, R. Skouta<sup>2;</sup>, S. Schneebeli<sup>2</sup>, M. Kamenetska<sup>1;</sup>, R. Breslow<sup>2,\*</sup>, L. Venkataraman<sup>1,\*</sup> and M.S. Hybertsen<sup>3,\*</sup>





Nature Nanotech. 7, 663 (2013)

Phys. Rev. Lett. 109, 056801 (2012)

...; Solomon, Ratner et al., JACS **130**, 7788 (2008); Donarini, Grifoni et al., PRB **77**, 201406 (2008); Bergfield, Ratner et al., Nano Lett. **11**, 2759 (2011); van der Molen et al., Nature Nano. **7**, 305 (2012); Venkataraman, Hybertsen et al., Nature Nano. **7**, 663 (2012); Grozema, van der Zant et al., Angew. Chem. **52**, 3152 (2013); Markussen, Thygesen, PRB **89**, 085420 (2014); ...



Strongly enhanced current due to coupling to vibrational modes

Härtle, Butzin, Rubio-Pons, Thoss, Phys. Rev. Lett. **107**, 046802 (2011) Method: DFT-based model, NEGF transport calculations





$$H = \epsilon_1 d_1^{\mathsf{T}} d_1 + \epsilon_2 d_2^{\mathsf{T}} d_2 + \sum_k \epsilon_k c_k^{\mathsf{T}} c_k + \sum_{kj} (V_k d_j^{\mathsf{T}} c_k + V_k c_k^{\mathsf{T}} d_j) + \Omega a^{\dagger} a + \lambda d_1^{\mathsf{T}} d_1 (a + a^{\dagger})$$
  
Transport method: NEGF  $\Gamma_{L/R} = 0.02 \text{eV} \quad \lambda = 0.06 \text{eV} \quad \Omega = 0.1 \text{eV}$ 

Decoherence due to electronic-vibrational coupling results in quenching of electronic interference effects

#### Quenching of destructive interference: Equilibrium vs. nonequilibrium



#### Quantum interference and vibrationally induced decoherence

#### Analysis of interference/decoherence in terms of transmission function



#### Quantum interference and vibrationally induced decoherence

Adiabatic vs. nonadiabatic electronic-vibrational coupling



**Poster: Andre Erpenbeck** 

Erpenbeck, Härtle, Thoss, PRB 91, 195418 (2015)

#### **Temperature dependence of current**



In junctions with quasi-degenerate states and similar vibronic coupling, cooling due to electron-hole pair creation processes dominates heating, resulting in thermalization.

Härtle, Butzin, Thoss, Phys. Rev. B 87, 085422 (2013)

#### Quantum interference and vibrationally induced decoherence

#### Symmetric coupling interference scenario



#### Quantum interference and vibrationally induced decoherence

#### Symmetric coupling interference scenario



Härtle, Butzin, Thoss, Phys. Rev. B 87, 085422 (2013)





Decoherence due to electronic-vibrational coupling results in partial quenching of electronic interference effects

cf. experiment: S.J. van der Molen et al. Nature Nano. **7**, 305 (2012)

Härtle, Butzin, Rubio-Pons, Thoss, Phys. Rev. Lett. **107**, 046802 (2011)





Decoherence due to electronic-vibrational coupling results in partial quenching of electronic interference effects

#### **Experimental signature: Temperature dependence of electrical current**



I – T characteristics (experiment)







I – T characteristics (experiment) U = 0.6 V U = -0.6 VU = -0.6 V

-20 -30 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 Temperature of the leads [K]

#### no interference effects

Ballmann, Härtle, MT, Weber, et al. PRL **109**, 056801 (2012)

#### **Experimental signature: Temperature dependence of electrical current**



I – T characteristics (experiment)



destructive interference due to quasi-degenerate orbitals



#### Summary

- Molecular junctions are interesting architectures to investigate nonequilibrium transport processes at the nanoscale
- Electronic-vibrational coupling influences transport significantly and can cause pronounced vibrational nonequilibrium effects
- Transport in molecular junctions with closely lying electronic states may be strongly influenced by quantum interference effects
- Electronic-vibrational coupling provides decoherence mechanism that is particularly pronounced for larger voltage (resonant transport regime) and higher vibrational excitation

#### Acknowledgements

Michael Butzin Pedo Brana Coto Andre Erpenbeck Chriszandro Hofmeister Ivan Pshenichnyuk Oscar Robio-Pons Christian Schinabeck Dominik Weckbecker Rainer Härtle (Göttingen) Susanne Leitherer (Kopenhagen) Uri Peskin (Haifa) Eran Rabani (Berkeley/Tel Aviv) Haobin Wang (Denver) Eli Wilner (Tel Aviv) Stefan Ballmann (Erlangen) Konrad Ullmann (Erlangen) Heiko Weber (Erlangen)

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft DFG





## Quantum-interference-enhanced thermoelectricity in single-molecule junctions. Colin Lambert, Physics, Lancaster University Morecambe Bay

All succession of the second s



Can interference effects be exploited to enhance thermoelectric properties of single molecule devices and molecular films?

- Can room-temperature electronic quantum interference be used to enhance the Seebeck coefficient of single molecules?
- Can room-temperature phonon interference be exploited to reduce the thermal conductance of single molecules?
- Can these effects be translated into self-assembled arrays of molecules to create high-performance thin-film thermoelectric materials?



# Lancaster 🍱 **Preliminaries**

The Seebeck coefficient S:  $(V_2 - V_1) = -S(T_2 - T_1)$ 

The thermoelectric figure of merit ZT:  $ZT = S^2GT/(\kappa_p + \kappa_e)$ 



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- G = electrical conductance, T = mean temperature
- $\kappa_p$  = phonon thermal conductance,
- $\kappa_e$  = electronic thermal conductance

<u>Note regarding a target value for S and κ<sub>p</sub></u>

Wiedemann-Franz:  $\kappa_e = \alpha TG$ , so if  $\kappa_p < <\kappa_e$ ,  $ZT = S^2GT/\kappa_e = S^2/\alpha$ 

So to achieve ZT > 1 requires  $S^2 > \alpha$  ie S > 150µV/K

# More preliminaries:

Why is quantum interference expected to be helpful?

Mott formula:

 $S \sim - d[logT_e(E_F)]/dE_F$ 

 $T_e(E)$  = transmission probability for electrons of energy E travelling from the source to the drain via the molecule.

High slope = large S, provided the high slope coincides with the Fermi energy of the electrodes





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# Outline

- Evidence of room-temperature electronic quantum interference
- Strategies for enhancing the Seebeck coefficient of single molecules
- Strategies for reducing phonon thermal conductance

# Evidence of QI in electroburnt junctions

Sadeghi et al., PNAS 2015, 9, 2658-2663



### Molecules vs. Quantum dots



ancaste

Answer provided by a magic number table.

Magic Ratio Rule (MRR)  $G_{1,8}/G_{17,8}$  = ratio of the squares of their magic numbers

## An example of constructing M-table



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# Fun with magic numbers:the pyrene M-table



# Comparison with experiment JACS 137, 11425 (2015), JACS 137, 4469 (2015)



## **Anthanthrene - Bipartite Lattice**





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MRR:  $G_{72'}/G_{15'} = (-9)^2/(-1)^2 = 81/1 = 81$  Experiment:  $10^{-4.8}/10^{-6.7} = 79$
## Mid-gap Ratio Rule MRR – A new rule



Molecular heart	Anchor group	Literature notation "Conductance Ratio of connectivity"	Mid-gap MRR	Experimental ratios	GW prediction	DFT Prediction
Naphthalene	thiol	Red / Blue (JACS, 2012)	4	5.1	NA	2
Anthracene	thiol	Red / Blue (JACS, 2012)	16	10.2	NA	13
Pyrene	carbon	Red / Blue (JACS, 2015)	9	8	NA	9
Anthanthrene	pyridyl	Red / Blue (JACS, 2015)	81	79	NA	81
Azulene	thiochroman	Red / Blue (Nano Lett., 2014)	0.72	1	0.32	0.93
Azulene	thiochroman	Green / Blue (Nano Lett., 2014)	0.003	0.06	0.1	0.05

Sangtarash, et. al, JACS, 2015, 137(35), 11425; Xia, et. Al, Nano Lett., 2014, 14 (5), 2941; Kaliginedi, et. al, JACS, 2012, 134 (11), 5262

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#### **Phase coherent interferometers**



Sangtarash, et. al, JACS, 2015, 137(35), 11425

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#### Three terminal logic gate



0

0

-2

2

-2

2

-2

2



Inț	put	Output		
A1	A2	$ A1+A2 ^2$		
0	0	0		
1	0	1		
0	1	1		
1	1	0		

$\sigma_{2,9} = \sigma_{4,9} \propto  \pm 3 ^2$
$\sigma_{2,4;9} \propto  M_{2,9} + M_{4,9} ^2$
$\sigma_{2,4;9} \propto  -3+3 ^2 \equiv 0$

-3

3 -3 3

1

1 -1

-1

1

2 -2

3 -3

1 3

1

-1

5 -3

3

-3

3

0

3 -3

-3

3 -1

-3

3 -1

3

-3

0

3

1

1

5

-2

# Why does the MRR work?



1. Provided  $E_F$  lies within the HOMO-LUMO gap:  $G = G_{left} G_{core} G_{right} = G_{core} R$ , where R = random number.

2. Provided the distribution of R is connectivity independent, [most probable  $G_1$ ]/[most probable  $G_2$ ]=  $G_{core1}$ /  $G_{core2}$ 

3. Provided  $E_F$  lies near the centre HOMO-LUMO gap,  $G_{core}$ = (magic number)<sup>2</sup>

# Why does the MRR work? Effect of Coulomb interactions – PPP model

$$H = H_{molecule} + H_{leads} + H_{coupling}.$$

The molecule is described in terms of the Parr-Pariser-Pople (PPP) model[1, 2]

$$H_{molecule} = H_{molecule,NI} + H_{molecule,I}$$

containing a non-interaction part and a term describing the electron-electron interaction. The non-interacting part is

$$H_{molecule,NI} = -\sum_{i,j,\sigma} \gamma_{ij} c_{i,\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{j,\sigma} + \sum_{i} \varepsilon_{i} n_{i}.$$

Taking into account that next nearest neighbour hopping integrals in graphene are at least an order of magnitude smaller than nearest neighbour hopping integrals [3], in what follows we neglect all but nearest neighbour hopping integrals, for which we take a uniform value of  $\gamma = 2.4$  eV. The interacting part

$$H_{molecule,I} = \sum_{i} U_{ii}(n_{i,\uparrow} - \frac{1}{2})(n_{i,\downarrow} - \frac{1}{2}) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j \neq i} U_{ij}(n_i - 1)(n_j - 1)$$

consists of the on-site interaction  $U_{ii} = U$  and the long range interaction  $U_{ij}$ . We describe it with the Ohno interpolation [4]

$$U_{ij} = \begin{cases} U, & i = j, \\ U \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{U}{e^2/4\pi\epsilon_0 d_{ij}} \right)^2 \right]^{-1/2}, & i \neq j. \end{cases}$$

Ulcakar, Rejec, Ramsak, Jefferson et al. (2017)



non-interacting		2.97/2.97	3.97	2.97
interacting, $U = 0.5 U_0$	4.20	5.81/5.84	4.32	5.79
interacting, $U = U_0$	4.41	8.74/8.79	4.84	8.70
interacting, $U=1.5U_0$	4.59	11.75/11.80	5.65	11.90
interacting, $U = 2 U_0$	4.76	14.84/14.89	6.93	15.53
interacting with screening, distance = $1$	4.38	5.19/5.97	4.87	5.22/5.89
interacting with screening, distance = $2$	4.38	6.39/6.83	4.83	6.39/6.76
interacting with screening, distance = $4$		7.35/7.55	4.80	7.31/7.47
interacting with screening, distance = $\infty$	4.41	8.74/8.79	4.84	8.70

HF gap (eV)

Lanczos Lanczos gap

# More evidence of QI: A quantum circuit rule for room temperature conductance

Nat Comm 2015, 6, 6389





Nano Lett. 2016, 16, 1308

$$S_{ppp} + S_{mmm} = S_{mpm} + S_{pmp}$$
  
 $G_{ppp}G_{mmm} = G_{mpm}G_{pmp}$ 





A quantum circuit rule for room temperature conductance and thermopower:

$$\begin{split} S_{XBY} &= (S_{XBX} + S_{YBY})/2 \\ (G_{XBY})^2 &= G_{XBX}G_{YBY} \end{split}$$



Top of each grey line shows  $S_{XBX}$ . Bottom of grey line shows  $S_{YBY}$ .

## Strategies for controlling thermoelectric properties of single molecules

- 1. Creating quantum scatterers in series
- 2. Control of thermopower by mechanical gating
- 3. Electrostatic gating via charge transfer complexation
- 4. Suppression of phonon transport in 'edge-overedge' porphyrins and molecular Christmas trees



Incident electron of energy E

#### reflected electron

Scattering region

transmitted electron

Transmission probability  $T_e(E)$ 

At low temperature or for nottoo-narrow resonances:

S=-( $\Pi ^{2}k_{B}^{2}T/2e$ ) dInT<sub>e</sub>(E<sub>F</sub>)/dE<sub>F</sub>

Transmission probability  $T_e^2$ 

 $\ln T_e^2 = 2 \ln T_e$ 

So Seebeck coefficient should double!



Two scatterers in series

# Does it work? Application to $C_{60}$ molecular junctions



# Strategy 2: Control of thermopower by mechanical gating

L. Rincón-García, A. Ismael, et al. Nature Materials, 15, 289–293 (2016)



# Control of thermoelectricity via tip pressure

Nature Materials, 15, 289-293 (2016)



# Strategy 3: Electrostatic gating via charge transfer complexation in "crown-ether anthraquinones"

AK Ismael, I Grace, CJL, Nanoscale 7 (41), 17338-17342 (2015)





## Seebeck coefficient S and power factor P



**1** doped with TTF possesses S=-640  $\mu$ V/K, which is higher than any single-molecule thermopower measured to date. At room temp. P= 73  $\mu$ W m<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-2</sup> for **1** + TTF + 2Na and 90  $\mu$ W m<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-2</sup> for **2** + TTF. These compare favourably with other organic materials. eg P = 0.016, 0.045  $\mu$ W m<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-2</sup> and 12  $\mu$ W m<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-2</sup> for Polyaniline , Polypyrole and PEDOT:PSS.

## Thermoelectric properties of metallo-porphyrins 300

200

100





Mn(III)



Al-Galiby et al., Nanoscale, 2016, 8, 2428

# Reduction of thermal conductance by phonon engineering.

# Length dependence of the thermal conductance of alkanes





Experiment: Meier et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. (2014) 113, 060801



(2015) 15, 7467

## High-performance thermoelectricity in edge-overedge zinc-porphyrin molecular wires.



# Can phonon interference effects be exploited to reduce thermal conductance?

# Suppression of thermal conductance through molecular christmas trees



## Can QI effects be translated into thin films?

# Note: QI effects disappear when a molecule is too long.





Zhao et al, Chem. of Mat., 25 21 4340 (2013)

# Results for two C<sub>60</sub>s in parallel



# Summary

- QI in electroburnt graphene junctions
- Connectivity-driven electron transport
- Quantum circuit rules for single-molecule electrical junctions
- Fullerene-based thermoelectricity
- Thermoelectricity in crown-ether anthraquinones and metallo-porphyrins
- Suppression of phonon transport in molecular Christmas trees

Calculations were carried out by the following members of the Lancaster theory group: **Q. Wu, M. Famili**, H. Sadeghi, S. Bailey, I. Grace, S. Sangtarash, Q. Al-Galiby, D. Manrique, A. Ismael, M. Noori

#### Interference-induced thermoelectrics with quantum Hall edge states

#### Rafael Sánchez

Universidad Carlos III de Madrid



Dresden, 19 April, 2017

#### (Classical) Hall effect



$$V_{\rm H} = -\alpha BI$$

Transverse resistance increases linearly with the magnetic field

#### Quantum Hall effect.





$$R_{\rm H} = \frac{h}{Ne^2}$$

#### Quantum Hall effect



$$V_{\rm H} = V_1 - V_3 = \frac{h}{e^2}I$$

Propagation without backscattering along edge states

B. I. Halperin, Phys. Rev. B 25, 2185 (1982)
M. Büttiker, Phys. Rev. B 38, 9375 (1988)

#### Two terminal thermoelectrics



Charge current:

$$I_l^{\rm e} = \frac{e}{h} \int dE \mathcal{T}(E) [f_l(E) - f_{\bar{l}}(E)]$$

Heat current:

$$I_l^{\rm h} = \frac{1}{h} \int dE (E - E_{\rm F}) \mathcal{T}(E) [f_l(E) - f_{\bar{l}}(E)]$$

$$f_l(E) = \left[1 + e^{(E - eV_l)/k_{\mathsf{B}}T_l}\right]^{-1}$$

#### Seebeck effect



Useful for thermoelectric power generation

#### Onsager reciprocity relations



$$\begin{split} I_l^{\rm e} &= G_{lj} \frac{eV_j}{k_{\rm B}T} + L_{lj} \frac{k_{\rm B} \Delta T_j}{(k_{\rm B}T)^2} \\ I_l^{\rm h} &= M_{lj} \frac{eV_j}{k_{\rm B}T} + K_{lj} \frac{k_{\rm B} \Delta T_j}{(k_{\rm B}T)^2} \end{split}$$

$$rac{1}{e}L_{lj} = rac{1}{T}M_{jl}$$
 Seebeck ~ Peltier  $K_{lj} = K_{jl}$  No thermal rectification

#### Three terminal thermoelectrics



Energy harvesting demands three terminal devices

Separation of heat and charge currents

#### Three terminals. Mesoscopic thermocouple



Separate electrons and holes with energy-dependent scattering

#### Mesoscopic Thermocouple:



#### Resonant tunneling:

T. E. Humphrey, R. Newbury, R. P. Taylor, H. Linke, Phys. Rev. Lett. 89, 116801 (2002) A. N. Jordan, B. Sothmann, R. Sánchez, M. Büttiker, Phys. Rev. B 87, 075312 (2013) B. Sothmann, R. Sánchez, A. N. Jordan, M. Büttiker, New J. Phys. 15, 095021 (2013) Y. Choi, A. N. Jordan, Physica E 74, 465 (2015)

#### Edge states:

R. Sánchez, B. Sothmann, A. N. Jordan, Phys. Rev. Lett. 114, 146801 (2015)
New J. Phys. Rev. Lett. 17, 075006 (2015)
Physica E 75, 86 (2016)

#### Interaction based coupling to the heat source:



#### Coupled conductors:

R. Sánchez, and M. Büttiker, Phys. Rev. B 83, 085428 (2011)
B. Sothmann, R. Sánchez, A. N. Jordan, M. Büttiker, Phys. Rev. B 85, 205301 (2012)

#### Experiments:

- H. Thierschmann et al., Nature Nanotech. 10, 854 (2015)
- J. V. Koski et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 115, 260602 (2015)
- F. Hartmann et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 114, 146805 (2015)
- B. Roche et al., Nature Comm. 6, 6738 (2015)

#### Phonons:

O. Entin-Wohlman, Y. Imry, and A. Aharony, Phys. Rev. B 82, 115314 (2010)

#### Photons:

T. Ruokola, T. Ojanen, Phys. Rev. B 86, 035454 (2012)

#### Spins:

B. Sothmann, M. Büttiker, EPL 99, 27001 (2012)

Review: B. Sothmann, R. Sánchez, A. N. Jordan, Nanotechnology 26, 032001 (2015)

#### Scattering theory. Linear regime. No magnetic field



Onsager relates Seebeck and Peltier coefficients:

 $L_{ij} = eM_{ji}$ 

#### Scattering theory. Linear regime. No magnetic field



#### Energy harvesting: $L_{13} = k_{\rm B}T^2G(S_2-S_1)$

Energy harvesting if we break:

- Left-right symmetry
  - Particle-hole symmetry
#### Scattering theory. Linear regime. No magnetic field



Energy harvesting:

 $L_{13} = k_{\mathsf{B}} T^2 G(S_2 - S_1)$ 

No thermal rectification:

 $K_{ij} = K_{ji}$ 

(Onsager, again)

#### Edge states in the Quantum Hall regime



$$\mathcal{X}_l = \frac{k_{\mathsf{B}}T}{e^2} \frac{GG_l}{G_1 G_2} \left( eTS_l J_1 - J_2 \right)$$

#### Current in symmetric configurations!

#### Chiral (crossed) thermopower



$$\left. \begin{array}{l} S_2 = 0 \\ \mathcal{X}_1 = 0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow L_{13}(B) = ek_{\mathsf{B}}T^2G_1S_1 \\ \end{array}$$



 $\left. \begin{array}{l} S_2 = 0 \\ \mathcal{X}_2 = -ek_{\mathsf{B}}T^2G_1S_1 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow L_{13}(-B) = 0$ 



$$S_1 = 0$$
  

$$\mathcal{X}_1 = -ek_{\mathsf{B}}T^2G_2S_2 \quad \bigg\} \Rightarrow L_{13}(B) = 0$$



 $\left. \begin{array}{l} S_1 = 0 \\ \mathcal{X}_2 = 0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow L_{13}(-B) = ek_{\mathsf{B}}T^2G_2S_2$ 

#### Thermoelectric spin polarization of topological insutators



Spin polarization controlled by the QPCs

R. Sánchez, B. Sothmann, A.N. Jordan, Phys. Rev. Lett. 114, 146801 (2015)

#### Crossed (non-local) thermoelectrics.

Two QPCs modeled as step transmission:

$$\mathcal{T}_{l}(E) = \left[1 + e^{-2\pi(E - E_{l})/\hbar\omega_{l}}\right]^{-1}$$

position of the step:  $E_l$ broadening:  $\hbar\omega$ 



Oscillation of Seebeck or Peltier coefficients with a noisy QPC...

- P. Streda, J. Phys.: Condens. Matt. 1, 1025 (1989)
- L. W. Molenkamp et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 68, 3765 (1992)
- ... but only one!
- Extreme Seebeck to Peltier asymmetry

#### Thermoelectric performance:



 $\begin{array}{ll} {\rm Maximum \ power:} \quad P_{\rm m}=I_l^{\rm e}(V_{\rm m})V_{\rm m}\\ {\rm Efficiency \ at \ maximum \ power:} \quad \eta_{\rm maxP}=\frac{P_{\rm m}}{I_l^{\rm h}(V_{\rm m})}\\ \\ {\rm Carnot \ efficiency:} \quad \eta_C=1-\frac{T}{T_3} \end{array}$ 

(With resonances:  $\eta_{\text{maxP}} \approx 0.5 \eta_C$ )

R. Sánchez, B. Sothmann, A.N. Jordan, New J. Phys. 17, 075006 (2015)

Thermal rectification. Turning heat around the bend

$$\mathcal{R}_{12} = \frac{K_{12}}{K_{21}}$$

 $\mathcal{R}_{12} = 1$ : No thermal rectification

 $|\ln \mathcal{R}_{12}| \gg 1$ : Thermal diode





Thermal rectification. Turning heat around the bend

$$\mathcal{R}_{12} = \frac{K_{12}}{K_{21}}$$

 $\mathcal{R}_{12} = 1$ : No thermal rectification

 $|\ln \mathcal{R}_{12}| \gg 1$ : Thermal diode





# An ideal thermal diode!

R. Sánchez, B. Sothmann, A. N. Jordan, New J. Phys. 17, 075006 (2015)

#### Two-path thermoelectric interferometers



P. P. Hofer, B. Sothmann, Phys. Rev. B 91, 195406 (2015)



P. Samuelsson, S. Kheradsoud, B. Sothmann, arXiv:1611.02997 (2015)

#### (Three terminal) Fabry-Pérot thermoelectric interferometers

- B. J. van Wees et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 62, 2523 (1989)
- Y. Zhang et al., Phys. Rev. B 79, 241304 (2009)
- A. Kou et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 108, 256803 (2012)
- N. Pascher et al., Phys. Rev. B 89, 245408 (2014)

Breit-Wigner resonance: 
$$A_{ij} = \frac{\Gamma_i \Gamma_j}{(E - E_r)^2 + \Gamma^2/4}$$

M. Büttiker, Phys. Rev. B 38, 12724 (1988)

$$g_{ij} = \frac{e^2}{hk_{\rm B}T} \int dE \mathcal{A}_{ij}\xi(E) \qquad s_{ij} = \frac{e^2}{hg_{ij}k_{\rm B}T^2} \int dE \mathcal{A}_{ij}E\xi(E)$$

Assume energy-independent  $\Gamma_i$ 



R. Sánchez, B. Sothmann, A. N. Jordan, New J. Phys. 17, 075006 (2015)

#### Conclusions

- o Chirality detected by thermoelectric measurements
- o Three terminal junctions separate heat and charge flows
- o Edge states permit the manipulation of heat currents in micrometer distances
- Extreme asymmetries of Onsager matrix
- o Powerful and efficient energy harvesting in the crossed response
- o Ideal thermal diodes in the longitudinal terms
- · Manipulation of spin polarized currents in topological insulators
- o Interference induced thermoelectrics

Very few experiments:
 G. Granger, J. P. Eisenstein, J. L. Reno, Phys. Rev. Lett. 102, 086803 (2009)
 S.-G. Nam, E. H. Hwang, and H.-J. Lee, Phys. Rev. Lett. 110, 226801 (2013)

- R. Sánchez, B. Sothmann, A.N. Jordan, Phys. Rev. Lett. 114, 146801 (2015)
- R. Sánchez, B. Sothmann, A.N. Jordan, New J. Phys. 17, 075006 (2015)
- R. Sánchez, B. Sothmann, A.N. Jordan, Physica E 75, 86 (2016)
- B. Sothmann, R. Sánchez, A.N. Jordan, Europhys. Lett. 107, 47003 (2014)

Peltier effect



Useful for refrigeration

# Thermoelectrics with edge states



Separate left and right moving electrons

$$\mathcal{O}_{ij}(B) = \mathcal{O}_{ji}(-B)$$

#### Extreme Seebeck to Peltier asymmetry

Seebeck:  $L_{13}(B) = ek_{\rm B}T^2G_1S_1$ 

Onsager:  
$$M_{ij}(B) = L_{ji}(-B)$$



Peltier:

 $M_{31}(B) = L_{13}(-B) = 0$ 



R. Sánchez, B. Sothmann, A.N. Jordan, Phys. Rev. Lett. 114, 146801 (2015)

## Quantum Nernst engines



Inject only heat. Measure only charge.

#### Quantum Nernst engines



b) 0.12 -2 $\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ E_1/k_BT \end{array}$ 2 c) 0.25 0.2  $\frac{0.15}{2 \mu / d^2} = 0.15$ 0.05 -2 $\begin{array}{c} 0\\ E_1/k_BT \end{array}$ 2 -4

Boundary conditions:

$$I_1^e = I_3^e = 0$$
  
 $I_2^e = I_4^e = 0$ 



Quantum Nernst engine:  $\eta_{maxP} \leq \eta_c/4$ 

 $L \neq 0$ M = 0

B. Sothmann, R. Sánchez, A.N. Jordan, Europhys. Lett. 107, 47003 (2014)

#### Effect of inelastic scattering

Add a voltage probe:



R. Sánchez, B. Sothmann, A.N. Jordan, Physica E 75, 86 (2016)

#### Effect of inelastic scattering

Add a voltage probe:

#### Thermal rectification:



Heat diode effect up to  $\tau\sim99\%$ 

#### Crossed thermoelectrics

Extreme Seebeck to Peltier asymmetry!



$$\frac{\mathcal{L}_{13}^{eT}(B)}{\mathcal{L}_{31}^{hV}(B)} = \infty$$

Crossed response for symmetric configurations:  $\mathcal{L}_{13}^{eT} = e\mathcal{X}_1$ 



R. Sánchez, B. Sothmann, A.N. Jordan, Phys. Rev. Lett. 114, 146801 (2015)

#### Thermoelectric motor



Energy harvesting demands three terminal devices

#### Quantum Hall effect



K. von Klitzing, G. Dorda, M. Pepper, Phys. Rev. Lett. 45, 494 (1980)

#### Thermal rectification.

$$\mathcal{R}_{ij} = rac{\mathcal{L}_{ij}^{hT}}{\mathcal{L}_{ji}^{hT}}$$



$$|\ln \mathcal{R}_{ij}| \gg 1$$
: Thermal diode



$$\mathcal{R}_{12} = \frac{1}{1 - A_{12}(J_2, J_3)}$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{13} = [1 - B_{13}(J_2, J_3)]^{-1}$$
$$\mathcal{R}_{23} = 1 - B_{23}(J_2, J_3)$$

## Heat diode



## Back to three terminals



#### Quantum point contacts. Onsager matrix



Büttiker probes	Vibronic dephasing	Linear molecules	Destructive interference	DFTB+

# Quantum transport with dephasing: coherent to incoherent crossover

Dmitry A. Ryndyk with Patrick Karasch and Thomas Frauenheim Bremen Center for Computational Materials Science (BCCMS) Department of Physics University of Bremen

> Workshop "Many paths to interference" Dresden, 18 April 2017

Dmitry A. Ryndyk | Bremen Center for Computational Materials Science (BCCMS) · Department of Physics · Uni Bremen

Quantum transport with dephasing | Workshop "Many paths to interference" · Dresden 18.04.17



## When quantum transport with dephasing is important?

2DEG (GaAs,Si) at low temperatures

 $\lambda \approx 0.05 \ \mu m = 50 \ nm$  $l_p \approx 0.5 \ \mu m$  $l_{\varphi} \approx 1 \ \mu m$  $l_{\varepsilon} \approx 3 \ \mu m$ 

Au at T = 1 K

 $l_{\varphi} \approx 1 \ \mu m$ 

CNT(10,0) at room temperature



P. Avouris Chem. Phys. 281, 429 (2002)

- Interference
- Coherent to incoherent crossover and Ohmic limit
- Material parameters from first principles

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## Atomistic quantum transport beyond DFT/Landauer

Left electrode	Scattering region	Right electrode			

$$I(V) = \frac{e}{h} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} T(E, V) \left[ f_0(E + eV) - f_0(E) \right] dE$$

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## Atomistic quantum transport beyond DFT/Landauer



$$I(V) = \frac{e}{h} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} T(E, V) \left[ f_0(E + eV) - f_0(E) \right] dE$$



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Elastic dephasing (self-energy models)

$$\boldsymbol{G}_{\boldsymbol{C}}^{\boldsymbol{R}}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) = \left[ (\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} + i\boldsymbol{\eta})\boldsymbol{I} - \boldsymbol{H}_{\boldsymbol{C}} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\boldsymbol{L}}^{\boldsymbol{R}}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\boldsymbol{R}}^{\boldsymbol{R}}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\boldsymbol{deph}}^{\boldsymbol{R}}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) \right]^{-1},$$

 $\Sigma_{deph}^{R}(\varepsilon) \sim i\gamma(\varepsilon) \text{ or } \gamma^{2}(\varepsilon)G_{C}^{R}(\varepsilon)$ 

Dmitry A. Ryndyk | Bremen Center for Computational Materials Science (BCCMS) · Department of Physics · Uni Bremen Quantum transport with dephasing | Workshop "Many paths to interference" · Dresden 18.04.17 4 of 22 Elastic dephasing (self-energy models)

$$\boldsymbol{G}_{\boldsymbol{C}}^{\boldsymbol{R}}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) = \left[ (\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} + i\boldsymbol{\eta})\boldsymbol{I} - \boldsymbol{H}_{\boldsymbol{C}} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\boldsymbol{L}}^{\boldsymbol{R}}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\boldsymbol{R}}^{\boldsymbol{R}}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\boldsymbol{deph}}^{\boldsymbol{R}}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) \right]^{-1},$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{deph}^{R}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) \sim i \gamma(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) \text{ or } \gamma^{2}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) \boldsymbol{G}_{C}^{R}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon})$$

Current through a nanosystem (Meir-Wingreen formula)

$$I_{s=L(R)} = \frac{ie}{\hbar} \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \operatorname{Tr}\left\{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Gamma}}_{s}(\varepsilon - e\boldsymbol{\varphi}_{s}) \left(\boldsymbol{G}_{C}^{<}(\varepsilon) + f_{s}^{0}(\varepsilon - e\boldsymbol{\varphi}_{s}) \left[\boldsymbol{G}_{C}^{R}(\varepsilon) - \boldsymbol{G}_{C}^{A}(\varepsilon)\right]\right)\right\}.$$

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Elastic dephasing (self-energy models)

$$\boldsymbol{G}_{\boldsymbol{C}}^{\boldsymbol{R}}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) = \left[ (\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} + i\boldsymbol{\eta})\boldsymbol{I} - \boldsymbol{H}_{\boldsymbol{C}} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\boldsymbol{L}}^{\boldsymbol{R}}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\boldsymbol{R}}^{\boldsymbol{R}}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\boldsymbol{deph}}^{\boldsymbol{R}}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) \right]^{-1},$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{deph}^{R}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) \sim i \gamma(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) \text{ or } \gamma^{2}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) \boldsymbol{G}_{C}^{R}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon})$$

Current through a nanosystem (Meir-Wingreen formula)

$$I_{s=L(R)} = \frac{ie}{\hbar} \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \operatorname{Tr} \left\{ \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Gamma}}_{s}(\varepsilon - e\boldsymbol{\varphi}_{s}) \left( \boldsymbol{G}_{C}^{<}(\varepsilon) + f_{s}^{0}(\varepsilon - e\boldsymbol{\varphi}_{s}) \left[ \boldsymbol{G}_{C}^{R}(\varepsilon) - \boldsymbol{G}_{C}^{A}(\varepsilon) \right] \right) \right\}.$$

Nonequilibrium Green Functions (Kadanoff, Baym, Keldysh)

 $\check{\boldsymbol{G}} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{G}^{R} & \boldsymbol{G}^{<} \\ 0 & \boldsymbol{G}^{A} \end{pmatrix} \qquad \qquad \boldsymbol{A} = i \left( \boldsymbol{G}^{R} - \boldsymbol{G}^{A} \right) - \text{spectral function, the density of states} \\ \boldsymbol{G}^{<} \Rightarrow i A(\varepsilon) f(\varepsilon) - \text{the distribution function of quasiparticles} \end{cases}$ 

$$\check{\boldsymbol{G}} = \check{\boldsymbol{G}}_0 + \{\check{\boldsymbol{G}}_0\check{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}\check{\boldsymbol{G}}\} \Rightarrow \boldsymbol{G}^<(\varepsilon) = \boldsymbol{G}^R(\varepsilon)\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^<(\varepsilon)\boldsymbol{G}^A(\varepsilon)$$

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## Büttiker probe method for dephasing



Büttiker Probe (BP) Model

$$\left(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{deph}^{R}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon})\right)_{lphaeta} = -i \frac{\gamma_{BP}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon})}{2} \delta_{lphaeta}$$

with zero-current condition

$$I_{\alpha} = 0 \quad \mu_{\alpha} \neq 0$$

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## Büttiker probe method for dephasing



Büttiker Probe (BP) Model

$$\left(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{deph}^{R}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon})\right)_{lphaeta} = -i \frac{\gamma_{BP}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon})}{2} \delta_{lphaeta}$$

with zero-current condition

$$I_{\alpha}=0 \quad \mu_{\alpha}\neq 0$$

At small voltage and low temperatures

$$T_{eff}(E) = T_{LR}(E) + \sum_{ij}^{N} T_{Li} W_{ij}^{-1} \left( \{ T_{ij} \} \right) T_{jR}$$

J. L. D'Amato and H. M. Pastawski, Phys. Rev. B 41, 7411 (1990)

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## Conducting environment $(\mu_{\alpha} = 0 \quad I_{\alpha} \neq 0)$

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Linear molecule 000000

# Conducting environment $(\mu_{\alpha} = 0 \quad I_{\alpha} \neq 0)$

#### Molecular wires on metal surfaces



J. Cai, X. Feng, et al., Nature 466, 470 (2010)

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## Conducting environment $(\mu_{\alpha} = 0 \quad I_{\alpha} \neq 0)$

## Molecular wires on metal surfaces Precursor monomer 'Biradical' intermediate Dehalogenation C-C coupling Linear polymer Cyclodehydrogenation Graphene nanoribbon

J. Cai, X. Feng, et al., Nature 466, 470 (2010)

Molecules in conducting liquids



H. M. Osorio, et al., JACS 137, 14319 (2015)

	Büttiker probes	Vibronic dephasing	Linear molecules	Destructive interference	DFTB+
000		•0			

## Vibronic dephasing

Vibronic Dephasing (VD) Model

$$\left(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{deph}^{R}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon})\right)_{\alpha\beta} = \gamma_{VD}^{2}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) \left(\boldsymbol{G}_{C}^{R}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon})\right)_{\alpha\alpha} \delta_{\alpha\beta}$$

can be obtained from the electron-vibron interaction

$$\hat{H}_{V} = \sum_{q} \omega_{q} a_{q}^{\dagger} a_{q} + \sum_{\alpha \beta} \sum_{q} \lambda_{\alpha \beta}^{q} (a_{q} + a_{q}^{\dagger}) d_{\alpha}^{\dagger} d_{\beta}$$

Büttiker probes	Vibronic dephasing	Linear molecules	Destructive interference	DFTB+
	•0			

## Vibronic dephasing

Vibronic Dephasing (VD) Model

$$\left(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{R}_{deph}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon})\right)_{\alpha\beta} = \gamma^{2}_{VD}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) \left(\boldsymbol{G}^{R}_{C}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon})\right)_{\alpha\alpha} \delta_{\alpha\beta}$$

can be obtained from the electron-vibron interaction

$$\hat{H}_V = \sum_q \omega_q a_q^{\dagger} a_q + \sum_{lpha eta} \sum_q \lambda_{lpha eta}^q (a_q + a_q^{\dagger}) d_{lpha}^{\dagger} d_{eta}$$

In the self-consistent Born approximation (SCBA)

$$\begin{split} \boldsymbol{\varSigma}^{R(V)}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) &= \frac{i}{2} \sum_{q} \int \frac{d\boldsymbol{\omega}}{2\pi} \left( \boldsymbol{M}^{q} \boldsymbol{G}_{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}-\boldsymbol{\omega}}^{R} \boldsymbol{M}^{q} \boldsymbol{D}_{q\boldsymbol{\omega}}^{K} + \boldsymbol{M}^{q} \boldsymbol{G}_{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}-\boldsymbol{\omega}}^{K} \boldsymbol{M}^{q} \boldsymbol{D}_{q\boldsymbol{\omega}}^{R} \right. \\ & \left. - 2 \boldsymbol{D}_{q\boldsymbol{\omega}=0}^{R} \boldsymbol{M}^{q} \mathrm{Tr} \left[ \boldsymbol{G}_{\boldsymbol{\omega}}^{<} \boldsymbol{M}^{q} \right] \right), \\ \boldsymbol{\varSigma}^{<(V)}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) &= i \sum_{q} \int \frac{d\boldsymbol{\omega}}{2\pi} \boldsymbol{M}^{q} \boldsymbol{G}_{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}-\boldsymbol{\omega}}^{<} \boldsymbol{M}^{q} \boldsymbol{D}_{q\boldsymbol{\omega}}^{<}, \end{split}$$

 $G^{K}=2G^{<}+G^{R}-G^{A}$ ,  $M^{q}\equiv\lambda_{lphaeta}^{q}$ .

	Büttiker probes	Vibronic dephasing	Linear molecules	Destructive interference	DFTB+
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(Equilibrium) vibronic bath

$$D^{<}(q,\omega) = -2\pi i [(N_q + 1)\delta(\omega + \omega_q) + N_q \delta(\omega - \omega_q)]$$
$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{<}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) = \sum_{q} [(1 + N_q)\boldsymbol{M}^q \boldsymbol{G}^{<}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} + \omega_q)\boldsymbol{M}^q + N_q \boldsymbol{M}^q \boldsymbol{G}^{<}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} - \omega_q)\boldsymbol{M}^q]$$

Büttiker probes	Vibronic dephasing	Linear molecules	Destructive interference	DFTB+
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## (Equilibrium) vibronic bath

$$D^{<}(q,\omega) = -2\pi i [(N_q+1)\delta(\omega+\omega_q) + N_q\delta(\omega-\omega_q)]$$
$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{<}(\varepsilon) = \sum_{q} [(1+N_q)\boldsymbol{M}^q \boldsymbol{G}^{<}(\varepsilon+\omega_q)\boldsymbol{M}^q + N_q \boldsymbol{M}^q \boldsymbol{G}^{<}(\varepsilon-\omega_q)\boldsymbol{M}^q]$$

In the elastic approximation  $(\omega_q \ll ar{arepsilon})$ 

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{<}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) = \int d\boldsymbol{\omega} \sum_{q} \left[ (1 + N_{-\boldsymbol{\omega}}) \boldsymbol{\delta}(\boldsymbol{\omega} + \boldsymbol{\omega}_{q}) + N_{\boldsymbol{\omega}} \boldsymbol{\delta}(\boldsymbol{\omega} - \boldsymbol{\omega}_{q}) \right] \boldsymbol{M}^{q} \boldsymbol{G}^{<}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) \boldsymbol{M}^{q}$$

## (Equilibrium) vibronic bath

$$D^{<}(q,\omega) = -2\pi i [(N_q+1)\delta(\omega+\omega_q) + N_q\delta(\omega-\omega_q)]$$
  
 $\Sigma^{<}(\varepsilon) = \sum_q [(1+N_q)M^q G^{<}(\varepsilon+\omega_q)M^q + N_q M^q G^{<}(\varepsilon-\omega_q)M^q]$ 

In the elastic approximation  $(\omega_q \ll ar{arepsilon})$ 

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{<}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) = \int d\boldsymbol{\omega} \sum_{q} \left[ (1 + N_{-\boldsymbol{\omega}}) \boldsymbol{\delta}(\boldsymbol{\omega} + \boldsymbol{\omega}_{q}) + N_{\boldsymbol{\omega}} \boldsymbol{\delta}(\boldsymbol{\omega} - \boldsymbol{\omega}_{q}) \right] \boldsymbol{M}^{q} \boldsymbol{G}^{<}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) \boldsymbol{M}^{q}$$

In the local model  $(M^q \equiv \lambda^q_{lphaeta} = \lambda_q \delta_{lphaeta})$ 

$$J(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \sum_{q} \lambda_q^2 \delta(\boldsymbol{\omega} - \boldsymbol{\omega}_q)$$

$$\Sigma_{\alpha\alpha}^{<}(\varepsilon) = \gamma^{2} G_{\alpha\alpha}^{<}(\varepsilon), \quad \gamma^{2} = \int \left[ (1 + N_{-\omega}) J(-\omega) + N_{\omega} J(\omega) \right] d\omega \sim T V_{ev}$$

Büttiker probes	Vibronic dephasing	Linear molecules	Destructive interference	DFTB+
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## Linear molecules

#### DNA charge transport



L. Xiang et al., Nature Chem. 7, 221 (2015)

Büttiker probes	Vibronic dephasing	Linear molecules	Destructive interference
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DFTB+

Semi-infinite 1D electrodes





Semi-infinite 1D electrodes



Introduction	Büttiker probes	Vibronic dephasing	Linear molecules	Destructive interference	DFTB+
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### Wide-band limit

0.4

0.0 -3 -2 -1



coherent dephasing

 $0 \\ Energy[eV]$ 

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### Wide-band limit



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 Büttiker probes
 Vibronic dephasing
 Linear molecules
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Transmission (I(E)) for different dephasing models



Büttiker probes	Vibronic dephasing	Linear molecules	Destructive interference	DFTB+
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Resistance length dependence - the Ohmic limit





Towards coherent/incoherent transport in DNA



L. Xiang et al., Nature Chem. 7, 221 (2015)



## Destructive interference





C. M. Guédon., et al., Nature Nanotech. 7, 305 (2012)

Büttiker probes	Vibronic dephasing	Linear molecules	Destructive interference	DFTB+
			0000	

## Interference with dephasing



G. Penazzi, et al., J. Phys. Chem. C 120, 16383 (2016)

Introduction 000	Büttiker probes 00	Vibronic dephasing	Linear molecules 000000	Destructive interference	DFTB+ 0000

## Mechanically controlled interference



#### R. Frisenda, et al., Natur Chem. 8, 1099 (2016)

Linear molecule

Destructive interference

DFTB+ 0000

## Mechanically controlled interference





## Computational methods: DFTB+ package



http://www.dftb-plus.info/

 Introduction
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 Vibronic dephasing
 Linear molecules
 Destructive interference

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## Computational methods: DFTB+ package



The DFTB method

|lpha
angle – the basis of atomic orbitals,  $\langle lpha|eta
angle=S_{lphaeta}$ 

DFTB+ ••••

$$H_{\alpha\beta} = H^{0}_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2}S_{\alpha\beta}\sum_{k}\left(\gamma_{\alpha k} + \gamma_{\beta k}\right)\Delta q_{k}$$

http://www.dftb-plus.info/

$$\Delta q_{k} = \sum_{\alpha\beta\in k} \operatorname{Re}\left(\rho_{\alpha\beta}S_{\beta\alpha}\right) - q_{k}^{0}$$

Büttiker probes

DFTB+ 0000

## Computational methods: DFTB+ package



The DFTB method

 $\langle \alpha \rangle$  – the basis of atomic orbitals,  $\langle \alpha | \beta \rangle = S_{\alpha\beta}$ 

$$H_{\alpha\beta} = H^{0}_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2}S_{\alpha\beta}\sum_{k}\left(\gamma_{\alpha k} + \gamma_{\beta k}\right)\Delta q_{k}$$

http://www.dftb-plus.info/

$$\Delta q_{k} = \sum_{\alpha\beta\in k} \operatorname{Re}\left(\rho_{\alpha\beta}S_{\beta\alpha}\right) - q_{k}^{0}$$

J. Phys. Chem. A 2007, 111, 5678-5684

#### DFTB+, a Sparse Matrix-Based Implementation of the DFTB Method<sup>†</sup>

B. Aradi,\*,\* B. Hourahine,§ and Th. Frauenheim\*

Bremen Center for Computational Materials Science, Universität Bremen, Otto-Hahn-Alle 1, 28359 Bremen, Germany, and SUPA, Department of Physics, The University of Strathclyde, John Anderson Building, 107 Rottenrow, Glasgow G4 0NG, United Kingdom

Bremen Center for Computational Materials Science (BCCMS) · Department of Physics · Uni Bremen Dmitry A. Ryndyk Quantum transport with dephasing | Workshop "Many paths to interference" · Dresden 18.04.17 19 of 22

# Non-equilibrium Green's functions in density functional tight binding: method and applications

### A Pecchia<sup>1,2,3</sup>, G Penazzi<sup>1</sup>, L Salvucci<sup>1</sup> and A Di Carlo<sup>1</sup>

 <sup>1</sup> Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Rome 'Tor Vergata', Via del Politecnico 1, I-00133 Rome, Italy
 <sup>2</sup> CNR-INFM/CNISM Research Unit of University of Rome 'Tor Vergata', Via del Politecnico 1, I-00133 Rome, Italy
 E-mail: pecchia@ing.uniroma2.it

*New Journal of Physics* **10** (2008) 065022

## Non-equilibrium Green's functions in density functional tight binding: method and applications

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<sup>2</sup> CNR-INFM/CNISM Research Unit of University of Rome 'Tor Vergata',



# Non-equilibrium Green's functions in density functional tight binding: method and applications

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<sup>1</sup> Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Rome 'Tor Vergata', Via del Politecnico 1, I-00133 Rome, Italy

<sup>2</sup> CNR-INFM/CNISM Research Unit of University of Rome 'Tor Vergata',



# Non-equilibrium Green's functions in density functional tight binding: method and applications



## DFT/Landauer (TRANSIESTA, SMEAGOL, DFTB+ ...)



Pictures from A. Pecchia, A. Di Carlo, Rep. Prog. Phys. 67, 1497 (2004)



Pictures from A. Pecchia, A. Di Carlo, Rep. Prog. Phys. 67, 1497 (2004)

The many-body DFTB+ transport

$$\begin{split} H_{\alpha\beta} = & H^{0}_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} S_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{k} \left( \gamma_{\alpha k} + \gamma_{\beta k} \right) \overline{\Delta q_{k}} + e \varphi_{\alpha} \delta_{\alpha\beta} \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} U_{\alpha\beta} \hat{n}_{\alpha} \hat{n}_{\beta} + \sum_{q} \hbar \omega_{q} a^{\dagger}_{q} a_{q} + \sum_{\alpha \beta} \sum_{q} \lambda^{q}_{\alpha\beta} (a_{q} + a^{\dagger}_{q}) d^{\dagger}_{\alpha} d_{\beta} \\ I_{s=L(R)} = \frac{ie}{\hbar} \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \operatorname{Tr} \left\{ \tilde{\Gamma}_{s} (\varepsilon - e \varphi_{s}) \left( G^{<}_{C} (\varepsilon) + f^{0}_{s} (\varepsilon - e \varphi_{s}) \left[ G^{R}_{C} (\varepsilon) - G^{A}_{C} (\varepsilon) \right] \right) \right\}. \end{split}$$

The many-body DFTB+ transport

$$\begin{split} H_{\alpha\beta} = & H^{0}_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} S_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{k} \left( \gamma_{\alpha k} + \gamma_{\beta k} \right) \overline{\Delta q_{k}} + e \varphi_{\alpha} \delta_{\alpha\beta} \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} U_{\alpha\beta} \hat{n}_{\alpha} \hat{n}_{\beta} + \sum_{q} \hbar \omega_{q} a^{\dagger}_{q} a_{q} + \sum_{\alpha \beta} \sum_{q} \lambda^{q}_{\alpha\beta} \left( a_{q} + a^{\dagger}_{q} \right) d^{\dagger}_{\alpha} d_{\beta} \\ I_{s=L(R)} = \frac{ie}{\hbar} \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \operatorname{Tr} \left\{ \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Gamma}}_{s} \left( \varepsilon - e \varphi_{s} \right) \left( \boldsymbol{G}^{<}_{C} \left( \varepsilon \right) + f^{0}_{s} \left( \varepsilon - e \varphi_{s} \right) \left[ \boldsymbol{G}^{R}_{C} \left( \varepsilon \right) - \boldsymbol{G}^{A}_{C} \left( \varepsilon \right) \right] \right) \right\}. \end{split}$$



The many-body DFTB+ transport

$$\begin{split} H_{\alpha\beta} = & H^{0}_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} S_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{k} \left( \gamma_{\alpha k} + \gamma_{\beta k} \right) \overline{\Delta q_{k}} + e \varphi_{\alpha} \delta_{\alpha\beta} \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} U_{\alpha\beta} \hat{n}_{\alpha} \hat{n}_{\beta} + \sum_{q} \hbar \omega_{q} a^{\dagger}_{q} a_{q} + \sum_{\alpha \beta} \sum_{q} \lambda^{q}_{\alpha\beta} (a_{q} + a^{\dagger}_{q}) d^{\dagger}_{\alpha} d_{\beta} \\ I_{s=L(R)} = \frac{ie}{\hbar} \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \operatorname{Tr} \left\{ \tilde{\boldsymbol{T}}_{s} (\varepsilon - e \varphi_{s}) \left( \boldsymbol{G}^{<}_{C}(\varepsilon) + f^{0}_{s} (\varepsilon - e \varphi_{s}) \left[ \boldsymbol{G}^{R}_{C}(\varepsilon) - \boldsymbol{G}^{A}_{C}(\varepsilon) \right] \right) \right\}. \end{split}$$



Büttiker probes

Vibronic depha

Linear molecule

The many-body DFTB+ transport

$$H_{\alpha\beta} = H^{0}_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} S_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{k} (\gamma_{\alpha k} + \gamma_{\beta k}) \overline{\Delta q_{k}} + e \varphi_{\alpha} \delta_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} U_{\alpha\beta} \hat{n}_{\alpha} \hat{n}_{\beta} + \sum_{q} \hbar \omega_{q} a^{\dagger}_{q} a_{q} + \sum_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{q} \lambda^{q}_{\alpha\beta} (a_{q} + a^{\dagger}_{q}) d^{\dagger}_{\alpha} d_{\beta}$$

$$I_{s=L(R)} = \frac{ie}{\hbar} \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \operatorname{Tr} \left\{ \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Gamma}}_{s}(\varepsilon - e\varphi_{s}) \left( \boldsymbol{G}_{C}^{<}(\varepsilon) + f_{s}^{0}(\varepsilon - e\varphi_{s}) \left[ \boldsymbol{G}_{C}^{R}(\varepsilon) - \boldsymbol{G}_{C}^{A}(\varepsilon) \right] \right) \right\}.$$



The many-body DFTB+ transport

$$H_{\alpha\beta} = H_{\alpha\beta}^{0} + \frac{1}{2}S_{\alpha\beta}\sum_{k} (\gamma_{\alpha k} + \gamma_{\beta k})\overline{\Delta q_{k}} + e\varphi_{\alpha}\delta_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2}\sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} U_{\alpha\beta}\hat{n}_{\alpha}\hat{n}_{\beta} + \sum_{q}\hbar\omega_{q}a_{q}^{\dagger}a_{q} + \sum_{\alpha\beta}\sum_{q}\lambda_{\alpha\beta}^{q}(a_{q} + a_{q}^{\dagger})d_{\alpha}^{\dagger}d_{\beta}$$

$$I_{s=L(R)} = \frac{ie}{\hbar}\int \frac{de}{2\pi}\operatorname{Tr}\left\{\tilde{\Gamma}_{s}(\epsilon - e\varphi_{s})\left(G_{C}^{<}(\epsilon) + f_{s}^{0}(\epsilon - e\varphi_{s})\left[G_{C}^{R}(\epsilon) - G_{C}^{A}(\epsilon)\right]\right)\right\}.$$

$$I_{s=L(R)} = \frac{ie}{\hbar}\int \frac{de}{2\pi}\operatorname{Tr}\left\{\tilde{\Gamma}_{s}(\epsilon - e\varphi_{s})\left(G_{C}^{<}(\epsilon) + f_{s}^{0}(\epsilon - e\varphi_{s})\left[G_{C}^{R}(\epsilon) - G_{C}^{A}(\epsilon)\right]\right)\right\}.$$

$$I_{s=L(R)} = \frac{ie}{\hbar}\int \frac{de}{2\pi}\operatorname{Tr}\left\{\tilde{\Gamma}_{s}(\epsilon - e\varphi_{s})\left(G_{C}^{<}(\epsilon) + f_{s}^{0}(\epsilon - e\varphi_{s})\left[G_{C}^{R}(\epsilon) - G_{C}^{A}(\epsilon)\right]\right)\right\}.$$

$$I_{s=L(R)} = \frac{ie}{\hbar}\int \frac{de}{2\pi}\operatorname{Tr}\left\{\tilde{\Gamma}_{s}(\epsilon - e\varphi_{s})\left(G_{C}^{<}(\epsilon) + f_{s}^{0}(\epsilon - e\varphi_{s})\left[G_{C}^{R}(\epsilon) - G_{C}^{A}(\epsilon)\right]\right)\right\}.$$

$$I_{s=L(R)} = \frac{ie}{\hbar}\int \frac{de}{2\pi}\operatorname{Tr}\left\{\tilde{\Gamma}_{s}(\epsilon - e\varphi_{s})\left(G_{C}^{<}(\epsilon) + f_{s}^{0}(\epsilon - e\varphi_{s})\left[G_{C}^{R}(\epsilon) - G_{C}^{A}(\epsilon)\right]\right)\right\}.$$







# Destructive quantum interference in electron transport: A reconciliation of the molecular orbital and the atomic orbital perspective

## **Robert Stadler** Institute for Theoretical Physics TU Wien

Xin Zhao TU Wien Victor Geskin Universite de Mons

## **DQI for devices**



R. Stadler, M. Forshaw and C. Joachim Nanotechnology **14** (2003) 138



## BUN Bottom-Up Nanomachines





Special issue: Selected papers from the Trends in Nanotechnology (TNT2002) Conference (Santiago de Compostla, Spain, 9–13 September 2002) Guest editors: A Correia, J A Serena, JJ Saenz, M Welland and R Reifenberger



R. Stadler, S. Ami, M. Forshaw and C. Joachim, Nanotechnology 15 (2004) S115



IST-1999-11565

In a first evaluation of the vision on a tight bindingscattering theory level a **proof of concept** was achieved.



BUN Bottom-Up Nanomachines Within a single-particle picture, the transmission probability of an electron entering a molecular junction with an energy E can be reduced to

$$\mathscr{T}(E) = \gamma(E)^2 |G_{1N}(E)|^2 \tag{1}$$

assuming that the Hamiltonian describing the molecule  $H_{mol}$  is given in terms of a basis consisting of localized atomic-like orbitals,  $\phi_1, \phi_2, \ldots, \phi_N$ , and that only the two orbitals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_N$  couple to the leads [13, 14].

Often the energy dependence of the lead coupling strength,  $\gamma$ , can be neglected. It then follows that the transport properties are entirely governed by the matrix element  $G_{1N}(E)$ . The latter can be obtained using Cramer's rule

$$G_{1N}(E) = \frac{det_{1N}(E - H_{mol})}{det(E - H_{mol} - \Sigma_L - \Sigma_R)}$$
(2)

where  $det_{1N}(E - H_{mol})$  is the determinant of the matrix obtained by removing the 1st row and Nth column from  $E - H_{mol}$  and multiplying it by  $(-1)^{1+N}$ . Taking the Fermi energy to be zero without loss of generality, we can then state the condition for complete destructive interference of the zero bias conductance,  $G(E_F) = 0$ , as

$$det_{1N}(H_{mol}) = 0. ag{3}$$

For a general three site system, where the coupling constants between the orbitals  $a_{12}$ ,  $a_{13}$  and  $a_{23}$  are unspecified and their onsite energies  $\varepsilon_i = 0$  for all three atomic orbitals, the matrix  $H_{mol}$  can be written as

$$H_{mol} = \begin{bmatrix} -E & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{12} & -E & a_{23} \\ a_{13} & a_{23} & -E \end{bmatrix},$$
(4)

where for  $E = E_F$ 

$$det_{1N}(H_{mol}) = -a_{13}a_{23}.$$
 (5)

Derivation of a graphical design scheme to predict the occurrence or absence of interference effects from the NEGF formalism and tight binding Hamiltonians
# Tight binding matrices and their relation to paths through adjacent graphs

3 orbitals

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} -E & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{12} & -E & a_{23} \\ a_{13} & a_{23} & -E \end{bmatrix}, \quad M_{12} \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} & a_{23} \\ a_{13} & -E \end{bmatrix}, \quad c_0 = -a_{13} a_{23} \quad - \quad \bigvee_{3}^{1}$$

4 orbitals

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} -E \ a_{12} \ a_{13} \ a_{14} \\ a_{12} \ -E \ a_{23} \ a_{24} \\ a_{13} \ a_{23} \ -E \ a_{34} \\ a_{14} \ a_{24} \ a_{34} \ -E \end{bmatrix}, \qquad M_{12} \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} \ a_{23} \ a_{24} \\ a_{13} \ -E \ a_{34} \\ a_{14} \ a_{34} \ -E \end{bmatrix},$$

$$M_{12} \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} \ a_{23} \ a_{24} \\ a_{13} \ -E \ a_{34} \\ a_{14} \ a_{34} \ -E \end{bmatrix},$$

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} -E \ a_{12} \ a_{13} \ a_{14} \ a_{15} \\ a_{12} \ -E \ a_{23} \ a_{24} \ a_{25} \\ a_{13} \ a_{23} \ -E \ a_{34} \ a_{35} \\ a_{13} \ a_{23} \ -E \ a_{34} \ a_{35} \\ a_{14} \ a_{24} \ a_{34} \ -E \ a_{45} \\ a_{15} \ a_{25} \ a_{35} \ a_{45} \ -E \end{bmatrix}, \qquad M_{12} \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} \ a_{23} \ a_{24} \ a_{25} \\ a_{13} \ -E \ a_{34} \ a_{35} \\ a_{13} \ -E \ a_{34} \ a_{35} \\ a_{13} \ a_{24} \ -E \ a_{45} \\ a_{15} \ a_{25} \ a_{35} \ a_{45} \ -E \end{bmatrix}, \qquad M_{12} \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} \ a_{23} \ a_{24} \ a_{25} \\ a_{13} \ -E \ a_{34} \ a_{35} \\ a_{13} \ a_{34} \ -E \ a_{45} \\ a_{15} \ a_{35} \ a_{45} \ -E \end{bmatrix},$$

$$c_{0} = a_{34}^{2} \ a_{15} \ a_{25} \ a_{35} \ a_{45} \ -E \end{bmatrix}, \qquad M_{12} \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} \ a_{23} \ a_{24} \ a_{25} \\ a_{13} \ -E \ a_{34} \ a_{35} \\ a_{13} \ a_{34} \ -E \ a_{45} \\ a_{15} \ a_{35} \ a_{45} \ -E \end{bmatrix},$$



A larger number of orbitals leads also to an increase in the number of possible paths. But the individual terms contain more couplings as well and if only one bond is missing, the path does not exist. Additionally, paths with opposite signs can cancel each other out. For 6 orbitals, there are 46 possible paths, but for e. g. benzene there are only 2:  $\int_{5}^{1}\int_{2}^{2} - 2 \times \int_{5}^{6}\int_{2}^{2} \int_{3}^{2}$ 



2



BUN Bottom-Up Nanomachines

# Graphical rules - anthraquinone configurations



T. Markussen, R. Stadler and K. S. Thygesen, Nano Letters 10 (2010) 4260





#### Breakdown of Interference Rules in Azulene, a Nonalternant Hydrocarbon

Jianlong Xia,<sup>†,¶</sup> Brian Capozzi,<sup>‡,¶</sup> Sujun Wei,<sup>†</sup> Mikkel Strange,<sup>§</sup> Arunabh Batra,<sup>‡</sup> Jose R. Moreno,<sup>†</sup> Roey J. Amir,<sup>∥</sup> Elizabeth Amir,<sup>⊥</sup> Gemma C. Solomon,<sup>§</sup> Latha Venkataraman,<sup>\*,‡</sup> and Luis M. Campos<sup>\*,†</sup>



## Comment on "Breakdown of Interference Rules in Azulene, a Nonalternant Hydrocarbon"

Robert Stadler\*

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Nano Lett., **2014**, 14 (5), 2941–2945. DOI: 10.1021/nl5010702. Nano Lett., **2015**, 15. DOI: 10.1021/acs.nanolett.5b04154





Formally, any  $N \times N$  matrix can be developed according to Leibniz as a sum of permutations

$$\det(A) = \sum_{\sigma} \operatorname{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^{N} A_{i\sigma(i)}$$
(1)

where  $\sigma$  is a permutation of the numbers 1, 2, ..., N and sgn( $\sigma$ ) equals 1 (-1) for an even (odd) permutation. When A equals  $H_{\rm mol}$ , that is, the matrix defining the molecular topology on a TB level in ref 3, the condition that all onsite energies of atomic orbitals and therefore all diagonal elements of A are zero has as a consequence that only terms  $\prod_{i=1}^{N} A_{i\sigma(i)}$  corresponding to closed loops in the molecular topology remain finite in the summation of eq 1. When the determinant of A is now alternatively expanded in cofactors according to Laplace, which must result in the same sum of products as in eq 1 albeit not necessarily in the same sequence, it is evident that  $a_{1N} \det_{1N}(A)$ is the one term in the cofactor expansion, which contains exactly those terms in eq 1 with a direct projection from 1 to Nin the respective permutation and therefore invokes the condition of an open continuous path between the two external atomic sites on the products resulting from the determinant of the minor matrix  $det_{1N}(A)$ , which equals the numerator  $det_{1N}(H_{mol})$  in the expression defining the conductance in ref 3. Therefore, the rules (i) and (ii) as named above are completely general for any  $N \times N$  matrix  $H_{mol}$ regardless of its topology or size.

pubs.acs.org/NanoLett

Letter

#### Illusory Connection between Cross-Conjugation and Quantum Interference

Kim G. L. Pedersen,<sup>†,‡,¶</sup> Anders Borges,<sup>†,‡</sup> Per Hedegård,<sup>†,¶</sup> Gemma C. Solomon,<sup>†,‡</sup> and Mikkel Strange<sup>\*,†,‡</sup>

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J. Phys. Chem. C 2015, 119, 26919–26924

#### Frontier MO rules

#### An Orbital Rule for Electron Transport in Molecules

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Institute for Materials Chemistry and Engineering and International Research Center for Molecular Systems, Kyushu University, Fukuoka 819-0395, Japan

#### ACCOUNTS OF CHEMICAL RESEARCH = 1612–1621 = 2012 = Vol. 45, No. 9

(3)

 $\frac{C_{r\rm HOMO}C_{s\rm HOMO}^{*}}{E_{\rm F}-\varepsilon_{\rm HOMO}\pm i\eta}+\frac{C_{r\rm LUMO}C_{s\rm LUMO}^{*}}{E_{\rm F}-\varepsilon_{\rm LUMO}\pm i\eta}$ 

Considering the reversed signs in the denominators in eq 3, we can develop an orbital rule that is useful for chemical understanding. To obtain effective electron transport through a single molecule, (1) two atoms in which the sign of the product of the MO expansion coefficients in the HOMO ( $C_{rHOMO}C^*_{sHOMO}$ ) is different from that in the LUMO ( $C_{rLUMO}C^*_{sLUMO}$ ) should be connected with electrodes and (2) two atoms in which the orbital amplitudes of the HOMO and LUMO are significant should be connected with electrodes.



### Bending the rules (1)



The HOMO and LUMO of the diarylethene at the Hückel level of theory are shown in Fig. 1b. The atoms 3 and 10 are connected to the electrodes. The sign of product  $C_{3 \text{ HOMO}}C_{10 \text{ HOMO}}^*$  is different from that of product  $C_{3 \text{ LUMO}}C_{10 \text{ LUMO}}^*$  both in the open form and in the closed form. However, the closed form has larger orbital amplitudes of the HOMO and LUMO of the atoms 3 and 10 than the open form. Therefore, the qualitative expectation is that the closed form has high conductance while the open form is characterized with low conductance. Computed transmission spectra for the open and closed

form of diarylethene are shown as a function of the electron energy in Fig. 2. According to Eq. (1), the conductance is proportional to the transmission probability at the Fermi energy. Therefore, in Fig. 2 the transmission probability at the Fermi energy (E = 0) plays an essential role. Fig. 2 shows that at the Fermi energy the closed form is much more conductive than the open form. This result is in agreement with the qualitative expectations. Thus, the orbital view concept is very useful in the qualitative expectation of the molecular conductance.

#### Y. Tsuji, A. Staykov and K. Yoshizawa, Thin Solid Films 518, 444 (2009)

### Bending the rules (2)



*Figure 6.* The Hückel MOs of the closed-ring form (left) and open-ring form (right) of dithienylethene. The shape of the FMOs is indicated qualitatively; the black and white circles indicate orbital phases; the circle areas are proportional to the respective coefficient sizes. In each case, we can carry out a qualitative, HOMO/ LUMO-based analysis of the transmission—the outcome is that the frontier orbitals (HOMO/LUMO nearby HOMO+1/ LUMO-1) are a guidepost to the overall ON/OFF ratio. For instance, for the interesting case of the inverted conductance for a 3–4 junction, the contributions to the conductance in the open CPD form from the HOMO and HOMO-1 reinforce (as do those from the corresponding LUMOs), while for the closed DHP isomer, the contributions of HOMO1 and HOMO2 are of opposite phase.

The analysis we carry through is simplified. There are some cases with small LUMO/HOMO coefficients where the contributions of lower lying occupied/higher lying unoccupied orbitals are important, and lower the transmission at the Fermi level in the CPD form to zero. Conversely, there are also cases where the contributions of lower lying occupied/ higher lying unoccupied orbitals increase the transmission at the Fermi level and may obscure interference features.<sup>[29,30]</sup> But in general the frontier orbitals are a good guide to what happens.



Y. Tsuji and R. Hoffmann, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 53, 4093 (2014)

The Coulson-Rushbrooke pairing theorem

#### NOTE ON THE METHOD OF MOLECULAR ORBITALS

#### By C. A. COULSON AND G. S. RUSHBROOKE

Received 3 November 1939

For every MO energy  $\alpha + x \beta$  in an alternant hydrocarbon, there exists another energy  $\alpha - x \beta$ ; that is, the roots of the MO secular determinants occur in pairs, which are equal in magnitude and opposite in sign. Furthermore, the coefficients of paired MOs are the same except that the Algebraic sign at every second atom is opposite.

C. A. Coulson and G. S. Rushbrooke, Math. Proc. Cambridge Philos. Soc. 36, 193 (1940)



# Destructive quantum interference in electron transport: A reconciliation of the molecular orbital and the atomic orbital perspective

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$$T(E) = Tr[G^{r}(E)\Gamma_{L}(E)G^{a}(E)\Gamma_{R}(E)], \qquad (1)$$
  

$$T(E) = |G_{lr}^{mol}(E)|^{2}\Gamma_{ll}(E)\Gamma_{rr}(E). \qquad (2)$$
  

$$G_{lr}^{mol}(E) = [(E \pm i\eta)\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{H}_{mol}]^{-1}, \qquad (3)$$

$$G_{lr}^{mol}(E) = \sum_{m=1}^{N} \frac{C_{lm} C_{rm}^*}{E - \epsilon_m \pm i\eta},$$
(4)

$$G_{lr}^{mol}(E_F) = \sum_{k=0}^{N/2-1} \frac{C_{l,(H-k)}C_{r,(H-k)}^* - C_{l,(L+k)}C_{r,(L+k)}^*}{\epsilon_k}.$$
 (5)

$$\Gamma(E) = \sum_{m=1}^{N} \frac{\alpha_m \beta_m}{E - \epsilon_m}.$$
(6)

The pairing theorem now predicts for AOs l and r on the carbon atoms of the same subset that  $C_{l,(H-k)}C_{r,(H-k)}^*$  $= C_{l,(L+k)}C_{r,(L+k)}^*$  because either  $C_{l,(H-k)} = -C_{l,(L+k)}$  and simultaneously  $C_{r,(H-k)}^* = -C_{r,(L+k)}^*$  or  $C_{l,(H-k)} = C_{l,(L+k)}$  and simultaneously  $C_{r,(H-k)}^* = C_{r,(L+k)}^*$ , as all the coefficients in only one subset change their sign when comparing an occupied with its mirrored unoccupied level. Therefore, the terms in every CR pair of Eq. (5) cancel exactly at  $E_F$  for this case and DQI occurs as a result as has also been observed in Refs. 51 and 52.

If on the other hand, the contact AOs l and r belong to the carbon atoms from different subsets, then  $C_{l,(H-k)}C_{r,(H-k)}^*$  $= -C_{l,(L+k)}C_{r,(L+k)}^*$  because either  $C_{l,(H-k)} = -C_{l,(L+k)}$  and  $C_{r,(H-k)}^* = C_{r,(L+k)}^*$  or  $C_{l,(H-k)} = C_{l,(L+k)}$  and  $C_{r,(H-k)}^*$  $= -C_{r,(L+k)}^*$ . For this case, the contributions coming from the two individual parts of each CR pair of MOs (H - k, L + k) including the HOMO and the LUMO always add up constructively at  $E_F$  in Eq. (5).

Although any individual CR pair contribution is therefore nonvanishing, it is important to stress that destructive interference is still possible between CR pairs, as each of them can contribute either a positive or a negative term to  $G_{lr}^{mol}$ . The pairing theorem, however, does not provide the means for an assessment of prediction of such inter-pair interference.

## Relation between frontier MO rules and the pairing theorem

We now turn our attention to the molecular orbital rules derived by Yoshizawa and co-workers,<sup>35–40</sup> where the starting point was also the spectral representation of  $G_{lr}^{mol}$  given in Eq. (4). These rules are amongst the earliest formulated providing a link between the complex phenomenon of DQI in electron transmission and the standard output of quantum chemical calculations, in this case the sign of the amplitudes of MOs. Within a frontier orbital approximation they also become particularly simple to apply because then the entire sum in Eq. (5) is dominated by only one CR pair, namely the contribution to  $G_{lr}^{mol}(E_F)$  coming from the HOMO and the LUMO, and then the remaining pairs can all be neglected because their large energetic distance  $\epsilon_k$  to  $E_F$  results in large denominators in the respective terms, thereby making them numerically negligible.

From this assumption, it can be concluded that the transport through a single molecule would be effective, i.e., DQI would be absent, when on the two contact atoms to the two leads (i) the sign of the product of the MO expansion coefficients in the HOMO ( $C_{l,H}C_{r,H}^*$ ) is different from that in the LUMO ( $C_{l,L}C_{r,L}^*$ ) and (ii) all four involved amplitudes  $C_{l,H}$ ,  $C_{r,H}^*$ ,  $C_{l,L}$ , and  $C_{r,L}^*$  are of significant magnitude. If these conditions are not fulfilled, then "inefficient" transmission due to at least a partial cancellation of the contributions from the HOMO and LUMO was predicted which was not formulated as necessarily the zero transmission which is typical for DQI in a rigid sense. Such a frontier orbital approximation, however, only delivers correct results for the prediction of DQI where the CR pairing theorem<sup>42,43</sup> is applicable. If the atoms contacted by the two electrodes belong to the same subset (either starred or unstarred) of carbon atoms in an even-membered AH, the cancellation of the contributions from the HOMO and the LUMO to  $G_{lr}^{mol}(E_F)$  is a reliable indicator of DQI not necessarily because they are dominant, but because it also represents the cancellation of the contributions within all other CR pairs entering Eq. (5). This is the reason why DQI can be understood in this case in terms of the frontier orbitals alone.

For all other cases, all MOs in the system need to be considered. If an alternant hydrocarbon is contacted at atomic sites belonging to different subsets, i.e., one being starred and one being unstarred according to the CR framework, then although the contributions from the HOMO and LUMO can only interfere constructively, the tails related to lower lying occupied and higher lying unoccupied MOs might still cancel out with those of the frontier orbitals at  $E_F$  and cause DQI. For the non-alternant hydrocarbons and organic molecules containing hetero atoms, it turns out to be equally insufficient to limit the analysis to just one or even two CR pairs of MO contributions.

#### Benzene works for everybody



#### Butadiene as the simplest illustrative example







- Cases where the pairing
- theorem is not applicable
- nonalternant



hydrocarbons



## Convergence with respect to number of CR pairs (1)



Convergence with respect to number of CR pairs (2)



FIG. 6.  $\Gamma^2(E)$ , where  $\Gamma(E)$  is taken as the sum over all the five occupied (blue curve) or only the three occupied MOs closest to  $E_F$  (magenta curve) in Eq. (6) for the open form of the AH analog of DTE with the S atoms removed.

Another property that arises from the pairing theorem is that in the case of DQI for even-membered AHs connected at sites belonging to different subsets, the contributions from all occupied and all unoccupied MOs to  $\Gamma(E)$  in Eq. (6) must each cancel out individually at  $E_F$ . This is because in those cases the contribution from each half of a CR pair is equal to the other half in both sign and magnitude at  $E_F$ , which means that it is then sufficient to consider either all occupied or all unoccupied MOs alone.



Even MOs around 2 eV above or below the Fermi level can determine qualitatively whether DQI effects are observed in the conductance if their amplitudes at the contact atoms are high enough.

# Conclusions – DQI in planar hydrocarbons

1) The dependency of the occurrence of destructive quantum interference effects (DQI) on the molecular structure (configuration) can be already studied and understood on the level of topological tight binding models, where simple AO based graphical rules as well as frontier MO rules can be derived.

2) The graphical AO rules have been verified by NEGF-DFT calculations for a set of 10 anthraquinone configurations, where half of them showed QI and the Other half did not, which was correctly predicted by the model for each case. The most significant approximation in the model, namely that all onsite energies are equal to the Fermi energy has been lifted. A further generalisation has been introduced by G. Solomon and her co-workers. It is now beyond doubt that the graphical rules also predict DQI correctly for non-alternant hydrocarbons such as Azulene.

3) The frontier MO rules by Yoshizawa and co-workers have been related to the Coulson-Rushbrook pairing theorem where it could be shown that the rules only give correct predictions where these can be already seen from the CR theorem.

4) Where DQI cannot be predicted directly from the CR pairing theorem, the contributions from all MOs resulting related to the  $\pi$  electrons need to be considered explicitly for planar hydrocarbons.

## Branched molecules containing metal centers P27272



1) Coherent tunnelling vs. hopping electron transport?

2) Can phase-coherent QI be induced by asymmetry in oxidation states?

3) How is charge transport "distributed" over the two branches of the molecule?

4) How does the presence of a temporarily reduced metal centre M1 affect the redox properties of the other centre M2?



This is a collaboration with the group of **Tim Albrecht** at Imperial College London as experimental partner.



Junction geometries for the six neutral compounds we investigated.

Transmission functions for the six charge neutral ferrocene junctions, which we calculated from NEGF-DFT.

1.5

1

#### Ferrocene (2)

#### TB models – direct coupling



#### Ferrocene (3)

#### Charging of one redox center



### Outlook



1) Coherent tunnelling or hopping for molecule with Ru/Ru, Os/Os and Ru/Os with in-built asymmetry for comparison.

2) Electron hopping as alternative electron transport mechanism for this larger molecule.

3) Direct comparison with measurements using electrochemical STM in London where some of these molecules have been synthesized and the synthesis of the other ones is in progress.

#### Branched molecule containing Ru and/or Os



# Thank you for your attention!

## **Technical Details**



- **Program packages:** ASE/GPAW
- Theoretical framework: Density Functional Theory with a PBE (GGA) XC functional
- Basis set: LCAO (dzp)
- **Gridspacing for all potentials:** 0.18 Å
- **Metal surface:** fcc Au(111) with 2.88 Å Au-Au, 6x6 atoms in xyplane, 3 or 4 layers in z-direction, periodical boundary conditions
- **Relaxations:** Geometries were relaxed with a convergence criterion of 0.05 eV/Å per atom
- Electrode-Molecule distance: Equilibrium value determined by means of energy minimization
- **Atomic charges:** Bader analysis, Mulliken charges
- Solvent description: Generalized Born Approximation (GBA) with vdW-radii from OPLS force field

ASE: S. Bahn and K. W. Jacobsen, An object-oriented scripting interface to a legacy electronic structure code, Comput. Sci. Eng., Vol. 4, 56-66, 2002
GPAW: J. J. Mortensen, L. B. Hansen , and K. W. Jacobsen Real-space grid implementation of the projector augmented wave method Physical Review B, Vol. 71, 035109, 2005