# Pillar 3 – Topological superconductivity



Introduction to pillar 3 Erik Bakkers(TU/e) & Alexander Brinkman (UT)

3.1 Topological superconductorsemiconductor heterostructures with extreme properties Riccardo Reho (UU Theory), and Jason Jung (TU/e Experiment)

3.2 Topological superconductivity based on transition metal dichalcogenides Justin Ye (RUG)

**3.3 Topological superconductivity in** *Kitaev chains* Srijit Goswami (TUD)

# Majorana Zero Modes in a Nanowire

Majorana Zero Modes should emerge in engineered solid state systems:



V. Mourik et al., Science **2012**, 336, 1003

Ingredients:

- 1D semiconductor
- Strong Spin-orbit interactions
- Proximity-induced Superconductivity
- Magnetic field

Based on 2010 proposals:

- Roman M. Lutchyn, Jay D. Sau, S. Das Sarma
- Yuval Oreg, Gil Refael, Felix von Oppen

# Disorder in a Device

## Superconductor:

- Grain boundaries/defects
- Thickness variations

## Super/Semi interface:

- Roughness
- Metallization





## Semiconductor wire

- Defects/impurities
- Surface
- Quantization

Strain and thermal expansion





# How to overcome these challenges ?

### Need

- More advanced device fabrication
- More extreme materials
- Better understanding of interfaces

# Pillar 3

## **Open research questions**

- Can we realize Majorana- and parafermions in topological materials and unambiguously prove their existence by demonstration of their unique features?
- Can we probe and control the non-local nature of Majoranas and parafermions? Length scales?
- Which material-related factors determine the robustness of the Majorana and parafermion quantum states? Can we increase (1) the gap of the topological insulator, (2) the gap of the superconductors?

## Central goal is to demonstrate and manipulate Majorana (MZM) and parafermion modes

# Expected breakthroughs in Pillar 3

## **New Materials**

- New hybrid semiconductor/superconductor nanowire architectures with atomically sharp interfaces.
- Use of robust quantum spin Hall insulators proximitized by novel broad-gap 2D superconductors.

## New measurement techniques

- Improve the local characterization of MZM by combining wavefunction amplitude measurements with noise measurements, phase measurements and detection of nonlocal correlations.
- Study fusion of Majorana and parafermion states by using interferometric devices.
- New types of scanning probe experiments that come very close to braiding.

# Getting Ge devices "topo-ready"

Semiconductor	Superconductor	$\mu$	$\hbar/2\tau$	$\Delta^*$	$l_{SO}$	$g^*$	$T_1$	$T_2^*$	1Q gate fidelity
		$(\times 10^3{\rm cm}^2/{\rm Vs})$	$(\mu eV)$	$(\mu eV)$	(nm)		(ms)	(ns)	(%)
Ge/SiGe, 2D	PtSiGe	615	10	70	76	0.76 - 15	32	830	99.99
InSb, nw	Al	44	940	250	100	26-51	na	8	na
InAs, nw	Al	- 25	890	270	60	8	0.001	8	na
	Pb			1250					
InAs, 2D	Al	60	370	190	45	10	na	na	na
InSbAs, 2D	Al	28	1200	220	60	55	na	na	na

NB: Material platforms with a hard-gap measured in SN spectroscopy only

#### InAs-Al Hybrid Devices Passing the Topological Gap Protocol

Microsoft Quantum<sup>†</sup> (Dated: July 11, 2022)

In the limit in which the clean topological gap  $\Delta_{\rm T}$  is small, the stability condition for the topological phase is  $\ell_c > \xi_{\rm T}$  [90], where  $\ell_c$  is the localization length in the normal state (which in one dimension is equal to twice the mean free path for short-range disorder [98]) and  $\xi_{\rm T}$  is the coherence length in the clean topological superconductor. Equivalently, this can be rephrased in terms of energy scales as  $\Delta_{\rm T}\tau > \hbar/2$ , where  $\tau$  is the elastic scattering

#### arXiv:2207.02472v2

#### Planar Josephson junctions



Luethi et al arxiv2022

#### Increase the superconducting gap by:

- Stacks of superconductors
- New superconducing ge-silicides with higher T<sub>c</sub>



#### Applications:

- Topological superconductivity in planar JJ
- Kitaev chains
- Coupling of spin-qubits via topo-protected links

#### Artificial Kitaev chain



Saul & Das Sarma NatComm 2012)

Spin-qubit coupling *via* cross Andreev reflection



Leijnse et al. PRL (2013)

# Low-disorder holes in strained germanium quantum wells



By tuning strain in the quantum well, high mobility and spin orbit engineering.

# Superconductivity in low-disorder Ge/SiGe

Tosato et al arXiv 2022



- Ge-silicidation for superconducting PtGeSi: additive nanofab
- Quantum well is buried -> High mobility Ge (6x10<sup>5</sup>cm<sup>2</sup>/Vs)
- Semi-super oxygen free interface
- SN QPC spectroscopy: reproducible superconducting gap free of subgap states (hard gap across devices)

# Superconductivity and intrinsic topology

Read-Green (2000): chiral p-wave superconductor has special edge states

Fu-Kane (2008): chiral Majorana at the STI-MTI interface, or at a vortex



# Superconductors with strong SOI



Crystal structure of transition metal dichalcogenides  $(MoS_2, WS_2, NbSe_2...)$ 



Lu, J. M., et al. "Evidence for two-dimensional Ising superconductivity in gated MoS2." *Science* 350.6266 (2015): 1353-1357.

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# Topological superconductivity & dimensionality

**Read-Green (2000):** chiral p-wave superconductor has special edge states

**Fu-Kane (2008):** chiral Majorana at the STI-MTI interface, or at a vortex

Tanaka-Yokoyama-Nagaosa (2009): chiral Majorana as an Andreev bound state



# From 2D to 1D



# Superconductivity as a probe for edge contribution



Fraunhofer pattern SQUID-like pattern

1D higher order topological hinge states in Cd<sub>3</sub>As<sub>2</sub> Dirac semimetal:



Reducing Electronic Transport Dimension to Topological Hinge States by Increasing Geometry Size of Dirac Semimetal Josephson Junctions Cai-Zhen Li, An-Qi Wang, Chuan Li, Wen-Zhuang Zheng, Alexander Brinkman, Da-Peng Yu, Zhi-Min Liao Phys. Rev. Lett. **124**, 156601 (2020).





# First-Principles Topological Superconductivity

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October 26, 2022



### **Density Functional Theory**

- Fully capture the quantum nature of atomistic interactions
- Parameter-free
- Realistic materials
- Predicts:
  - Structure
  - Electronic bands
  - Magnetism
  - Topology
  - Quantum electron transport

### Superconductivity (SC)

- Conventional BCS superconductors
- Unconventional cuprate and iron families of superconductors (high T<sub>c</sub>)

### First-principles (Topological) superconductivity

- Nature of unconventional SC
- Dimensionality effects
- Interplay between SC and magnetic phases
- Proximity induced SC
- Visualization of zero energy states



First-principles theory and simulation to study exotic forms of superconductivity (SC) in realistic materials





# **Superconducting (Cooper pairing) potential**

• Localized atomic orbitals  $\varphi_{\mu}$  with  $\mu \equiv R, n, l, m$ (R atom index, n, l, m quantum numbers)

$$\Delta_{\mu\nu} = \int \varphi_{\mu} \Delta \varphi_{\nu}$$

•  $\Delta_{\mu
u}$  : Coupling between one electron in orbital  $arphi_{\mu}$  and one hole in orbital  $arphi_{
u}$ 







# Selective Area Growth of PbTe Nanowire Networks QuMat Kick-Off

Jason Jung, Sander G. Schellingerhout, Orson A.H. van der Molen, Markus F. Ritter, Sofieke C. ten Kate, Wouter H.J. Peeters, Sem de Loijer, Marcel A. Verheijen, Heike Riel, Fabrizio Nichele, Erik P.A.M. Bakkers



Spin-orbit coupling [eV Å] Landé g-Factor

Plugge, S. et al. New Journal of Physics 19, 012001 (2017)

Lutchyn, R. M. et al. Nature Reviews Materials **3**, 52–68 (2018) Yuan, S. et al. Physical Review B **55**, 4607–4619 (1997) Cao, Z. et al. Physical Review B **105**, 085424 (2022)

## Goal: Scalable growth of single-crystalline PbTe networks









After 30 min 99.84 ± 0.06% of the film volume exhibits the twinned (111)-orientation















$$\mu_{\rm H} = 5600 \ {\rm cm}^2/({\rm Vs})$$

 $l_{\phi} > 21 \ \mu \mathrm{m}$ 

# Conclusions

- Reorientation process facilitates single crystalline layer
  - large lattice mismatch
  - varying crystal structure
  - diverging thermal expansion coefficient
- SAG of PbTe on InP (111)A
- Flexible in its design, scalable, and reproducible
- Hall mobility up to 5600 cm²/(Vs) and a phase-coherence length exceeding 21  $\mu m$



# Outlook



# Outlook






























H3PO4 / Anneal / Pregrowth



H3PO4 / Anneal / Pregrowth



H3PO4 / Anneal / Pregrowth



H3PO4 / Anneal / Pregrowth



H3PO4 / Anneal / Pregrowth



а	200 nm			200 nm	200 nm 🔥 🛦 🛦 🛦 🛦 🛦
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					<b>AAAAAAA</b>
				6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	
-					
b	40 nm	60 nm	80 nm		



10 min growth







а





# Outlook









# **Topological Superconductivity Based on Transition Metal Dichalcogenides**

## Justin Ye

Device Physics of Complex Materials Zernike Institute for Advanced Materials, University of Groningen



QuMat Kickoff, 2022

### 3.2 Topological Superconductivity Based on Transition Metal Dichalcogenides

3.2	2: Topological superconductivity based on transition metal dichalcogenides	3 PhD*					
		RUG, RU, UU					
Ai	Aim: This research will develop two-dimensional topological superconductors based on transition metal						
dichalcogenides and their heterostructures. We will synthesize and characterize several transition metal							
dichalcogenides / van der Waal heterostructures, including FeSe on insulating SrTiO₃ (see also projects in Pillar 1). We							
will develop novel transport methods at ultra-low temperatures and high magnetic fields, to explore the various							
electronic and superconducting properties of these hybrid materials. In the clean regime with a mean free path longer							
than the coherence length, we will examine the topological aspects of the 2D superconducting states, including the							
yet unsolved topological phase in the Berezinskii-Kosterliz-Thouless transition.							
т	Intrinsic superconductivity in transition metal dichalcogenides - PhD; Ye (RUG),	Rösner (RU), Khajetoorians (RU).					
S	We will fabricate TMD-based hybrid materials with a clean 2D superconducting	state with very long mean free path					
D	in the normal state to facilitate the realization of a robust topological supercon	ducting state. A 2H-type monolayer					
	TMD can host a nodal topological superconductor where the nodal points appear when Ising spin-orbit interaction						
	vanishes at certain points in the Brillouin zone. A strong Ising protection the	hat disappears in one pocket gets					
	reversely Ising-protected in the other pocket. For $MoS_2$ and $WS_2$ , the Ising sup	erconductivity is in the conduction					
	band with protection residing at the zone edge. The competing pocket can be o	controllably introduced by adding a					
	second layer, resulting in a Q pocket centered between the zone corner a	and zone center. We will use DFT					
	calculations to predict the optimal location of the Fermi level. Simple device	es will be fabricated to allow gate-					
	controlled scanning probe spectroscopy, which we will use to study the superc	onductivity, and zero-energy states					

(see third sub-project). S Probing unconventional order parameter symmetry – PhD; Hussey (RU), Ye (RUG), McCollam (RU).

D We will make a superconductor-insulator-superconductor (SIS) tunneling junction and use a tunneling experiment
C on TMDs under a high magnetic field (in collaboration with HFML in Nijmegen) to detect and differentiate the two possible phases of a nodal superconductor and nodal topological superconductor. We expect to observe a "V-shaped" spectrum for the nodal superconductor and a "V shape" spectrum with low energy features for the

C In-situ phase tuning of topological superconductors – PhD (0.5 FTE)\*; Swart (UU), Khajetoorians (RU).
A vacuum suitcase transfer infrastructure will be developed to transfer successful devices of projects 3.1 and 3.2 to advanced scanning tunneling spectroscopy set-ups. Phase-biased experiments will be developed and equipped with tunnel probe read-out. Corbino-disk type experiments will be performed where Majoranas are swapped at high frequency while probing the tunneling density of states. Furthermore, the zero-energy modes will be characterized by shot-noise measurements.

#### **RUG/RU** Projects

- 1. Intrinsic Topological Superconductivity
- 2. Probing Unconventional Order Parameter (HFML, Tunnelling measurement)

### UU/RU Project

3. STM-based study (Majorana zero-energy mode)

#### Expertise involved

- 1. Nanofabrication/ SC devices (RUG).
- 2. DFT Theory (RU)
- 3. STM, UV growth characterization (RU/UU)

# **Topological Superconductors**

Intrinsic topological superconductors

Sr<sub>2</sub>RuO<sub>4</sub>. *p* wave superconductor Cu<sub>x</sub>Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>.  $T_c$  up to ~4 K was discovered in 2010

Engineered topological superconductors

S-wave SC + Semiconductor (large SOC) + B Field (Zeeman effect)

Semiconductor NW (large SOC) +S-wave SC





#### Review by Frolov, et al. Nature Physics

ARTICLE

Received 13 Jul 2013 | Accepted 4 Oct 2013 | Published 28 Oct 2013



# Topological Fulde-Ferrell-Larkin-Ovchinnikov states in spin-orbit-coupled Fermi gases

Wei Zhang $^1$  & Wei Yi $^2$ 

Zhang, et al. Nature Comm. 2013

# **Topological metals and finite-momentum superconductors**

Noah F. Q. Yuan<sup>a,b,1,2</sup> and Liang Fu<sup>b,1,2</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Shenzhen JL Computational Science and Applied Research Institute, Shenzhen 518109, China; and <sup>b</sup>Department of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02139

S-wave SC + large Rashba SOC + B Field (Zeeman



Noah F. Q. Yuan, and Liang Fu, PNAS 2021

# Topic 1: Ion-Gated Transistors for Clean 2D Superconductivity



- 1. Start from a semiconducting TMDs, such as: MoS<sub>2</sub>, WS<sub>2</sub> 2. E field: 50 MV/cm, n<sub>2D</sub>: ~10<sup>14</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup> 3. Electrostatically induced SC? Yes Intrinsic Monolayer **Field-Induced** Superconductor Monolayer
  - $1T' WTe_2$  $1T' - MoTe_2$  $2H - TaS_2$  $2H - NbSe_2$ Monolayer BSCCO,

Air Unstable

- Reduced  $T_c$ , compared with bulk.
- Reduced RRR, due to degradation.

Superconductor

 $2H - MoS_2$  $2H - WS_2$  $2H - WS_{2}2$ ZrNCI, etc.

Air Stable

- $T_{\rm c}$  comparable or higher than bulk.
- Large RRR, Pristine crystal quality, no degradation.

# Topic 1: Accessing Clean Superconductivity in 2D Single Crystals



# Ising superconductivity and Rashba SOC from Ionic Gating





-0.5

μ H (T)

0.5



Interlayer Interaction for New Quantum states

Interlayer Hopping
Formation of flat band in twisted bilayer
graphene (SC, Ferromagnetism)



Yuan Cao, 556, 43 (2018)

• Interlayer Exchange interaction J FM/AFM laver dependence in 2D Ferromagnets





• Interlayer Josephson Interaction (tunneling) *t* Formation of finite-momentum Cooper pairing



Possibility of forming FFLO state C. X. Liu, *PRL* **118**, 087001 (2017)

### Finite momentum pairing in Ising superconductors (Orbital FFLO)

z





# Majorana Bound States in Artificial Kitaev Chains

## Srijit Goswami



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#### <u>Delft</u>

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#### <u>Purdue</u>

Di Xiao Candice Thomas Michael Manfra

# Majorana Bound States in Artificial Kitaev Chains

### Srijit Goswami



- Introduction to 2DEGs and Kitaev Chain
- Ongoing experiments in 2DEGs
- Goals within QuMat







# **1D hybrid systems for Majoranas**







Mourik, Science (2012)

#### Current status

- Tremendous improvement in materials/hybrids
- Better fabrication protocols
- Many 'signatures' of Majoranas claimed
- Convincing demonstration of a global topological phase missing



# Why 2DEGs



#### Exploit flexibility: understand microscopics



Are the MZMs really localized at the ends? Are they correlated? What's happening in the bulk?





Better architectures beyond NWs?

# **Ternary 2DEGs**

#### Wafer stack



Moehle, Nano Letters (2021)



#### Strong spin-orbit interaction





#### Strong induced superconductivity



*V* (mV)



# **Probing the bulk**







- No correlations; no extended state
- Strong local variations



# The Kitaev chain: Hamiltonian engineering





### **QD-ABS-QD** device





### **QD-ABS-QD** device




## **Device elements**



- Extended Andreev bound states
- Spin polarized QDs





## **Elastic co-tunneling and Crossed Andreev reflection**



## The 'Poor Man's Majorana' proposal



The 'Majorana Sweet Spot':

Leijnse, M. & Flensberg, K. Phys Rev B 86, 134528 (2012)

QuTech

## Within QuMat

