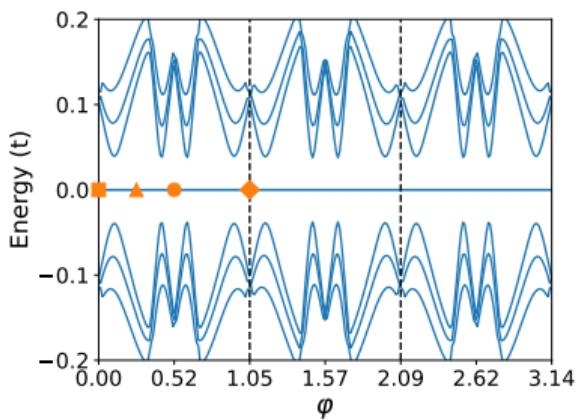




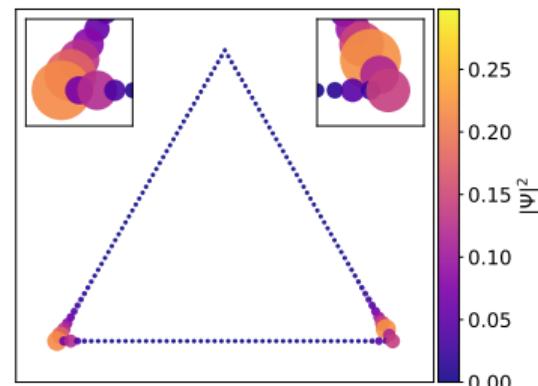
# Emergent Topological Phenomena in Low-Dimensional Systems Induced by Gauge Potentials



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Hua Chen

Department of Physics  
Colorado State University

March 14, 2025





# Presentation objectives

## Part I: Topological superconducting triangular islands

- Construct a new platform for topological quantum logic gates via:
  - Triangular geometry
  - Applied gauge potentials

## Part II: Floquet quantum Hall effect

- Induce quantum Hall effect with inhomogeneous, circularly polarized light via:
  - Floquet theorem
  - High-frequency approximation



# Part I: Topological superconducting triangular islands outline

- Background:
  - What does topology offer for quantum computing
  - What are Majorana fermions and where to find them
  - Kitaev chain and Majorana number
- Motivation:
  - Braiding and topological quantum computing
  - T-junctions to triangular structures
- Results:
  - Minimal Kitaev triangle
  - Hollow triangular islands
  - Minimal braiding example
- Summary



# What does topology offer for quantum computing?

- Quantum computers have two prominent “local” errors (noise, perturbations).
  - Classical error: flips a qubit from empty to occupied,  $|0\rangle \rightarrow |1\rangle$ , or vice versa.
  - Phase error: changes the sign of an occupied qubit,  $|1\rangle \rightarrow -|1\rangle$ .
  - Normal qubits have various means for reducing error and achieving fault-tolerance.



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- Topological qubits have fault-tolerance baked in.
  - Their qubit information is stored “non-locally”, making the above errors unlikely to occur.
  - What system allows for topological qubits?



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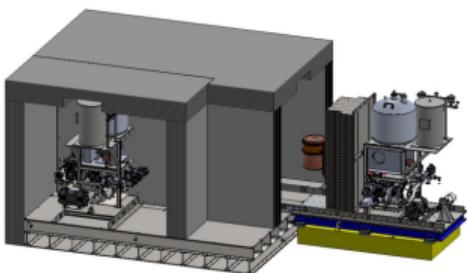
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**Majorana fermions are candidates for building topological quantum computers.**



# What are Majorana fermions?

Ettore Majorana



MAJORANA project

## ■ Fermions

- Fermi-Dirac statistics
- Pauli exclusion principle
- Half-odd-integer spin

## ■ Majorana Fermions (MFs)

- Particle = Antiparticle
- Neutral, Massive
- Negative results for Majorana particles as elementary particles



# Where to find Majorana fermions?

- Superconductors (SCs)
  - Cooper pairs
    - Electron-phonon interaction pairs two electrons with opposite spin and momenta.

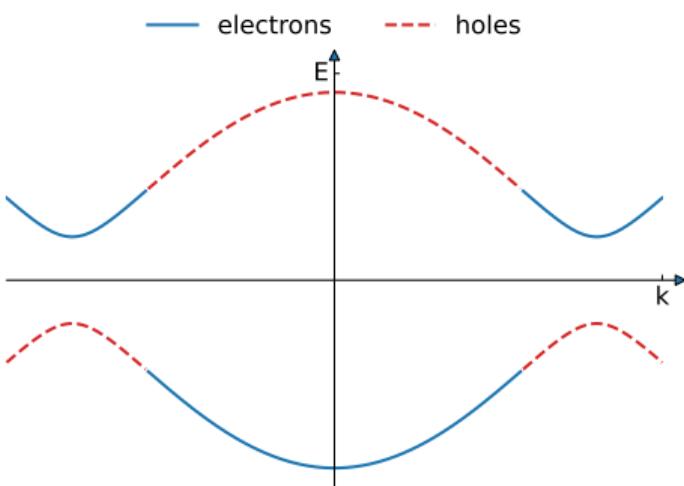


# Where to find Majorana fermions?

- Superconductors (SCs)
  - Cooper pairs
    - Electron-phonon interaction pairs two electrons with opposite spin and momenta.
  - Bogoliubov quasiparticles
    - Excitation, pairs an electron to a hole with opposite momenta.

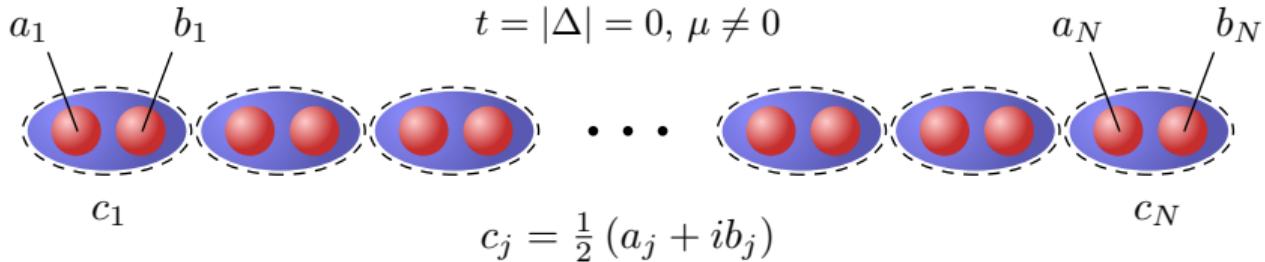
$$H_{BdG} = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon(k) & \Delta(k) \\ \Delta^*(k) & -\epsilon(-k) \end{bmatrix}$$

- Zero-energy excitations in non-trivial  $p$ -wave SC may be MFs.
- Come in pairs.



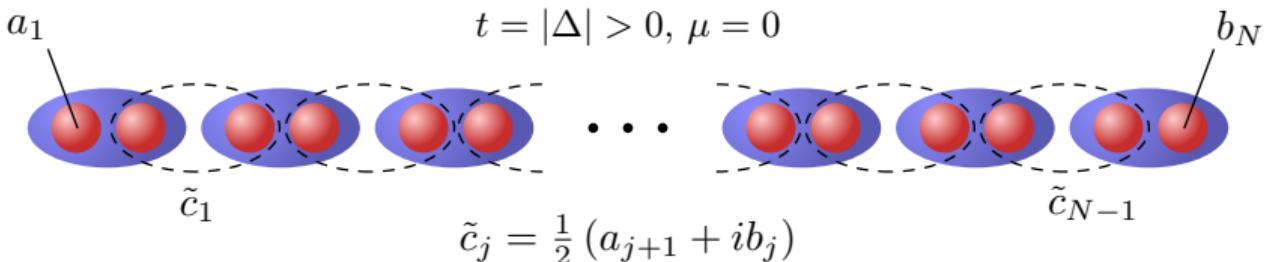
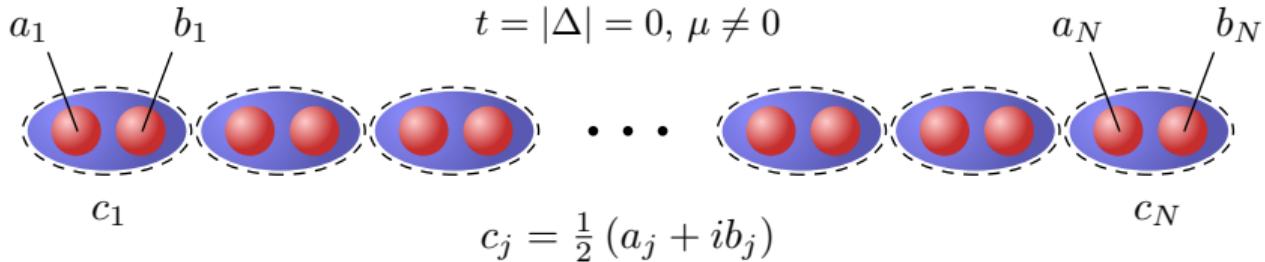


# Kitaev chain - 1D $p$ -wave superconducting wire



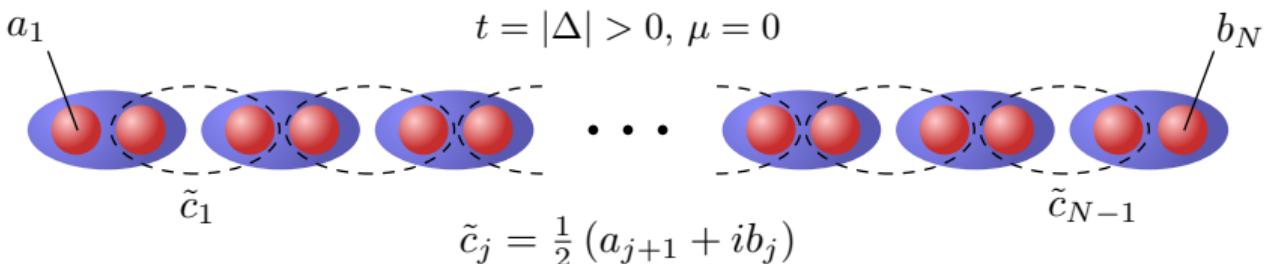
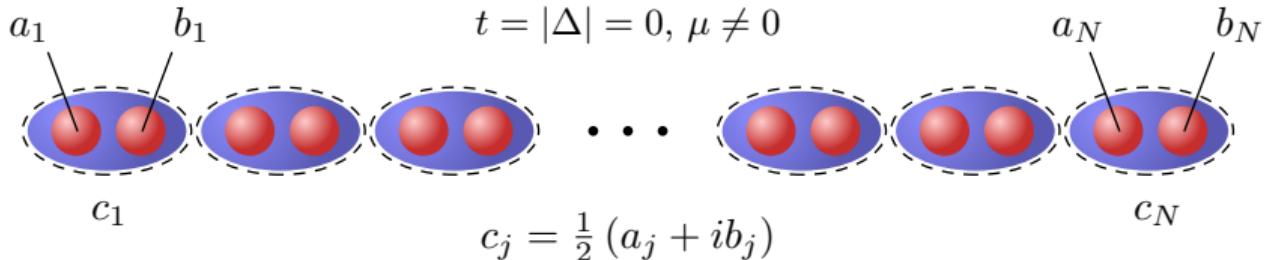


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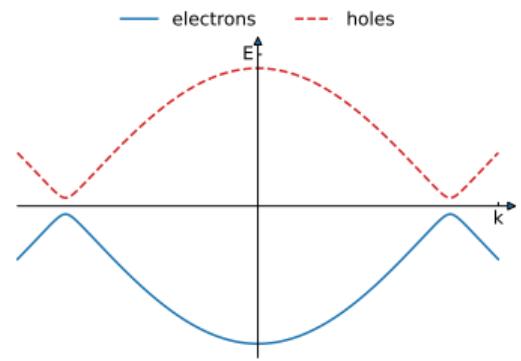
# Kitaev chain - 1D $p$ -wave superconducting wire



$$f = \frac{1}{2} (a_1 + i b_N)$$



# Band gap and topological phase



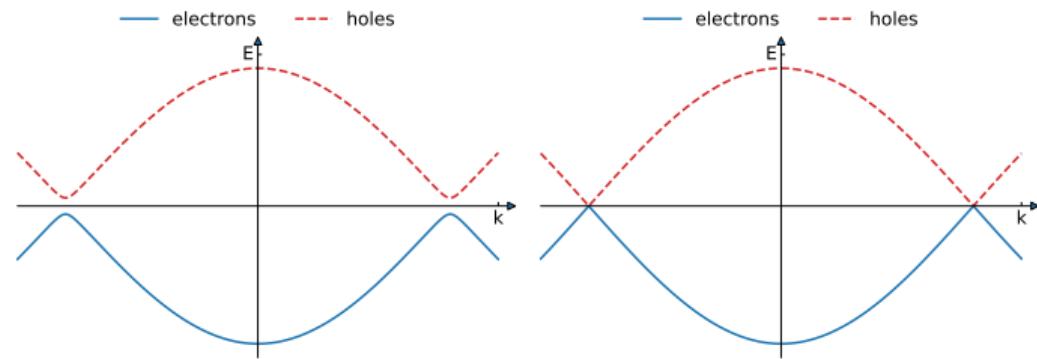
$$\mu = 2.25t$$

$$\mathcal{M} = 1$$

Trivial



# Band gap and topological phase



$$\mu = 2.25t$$

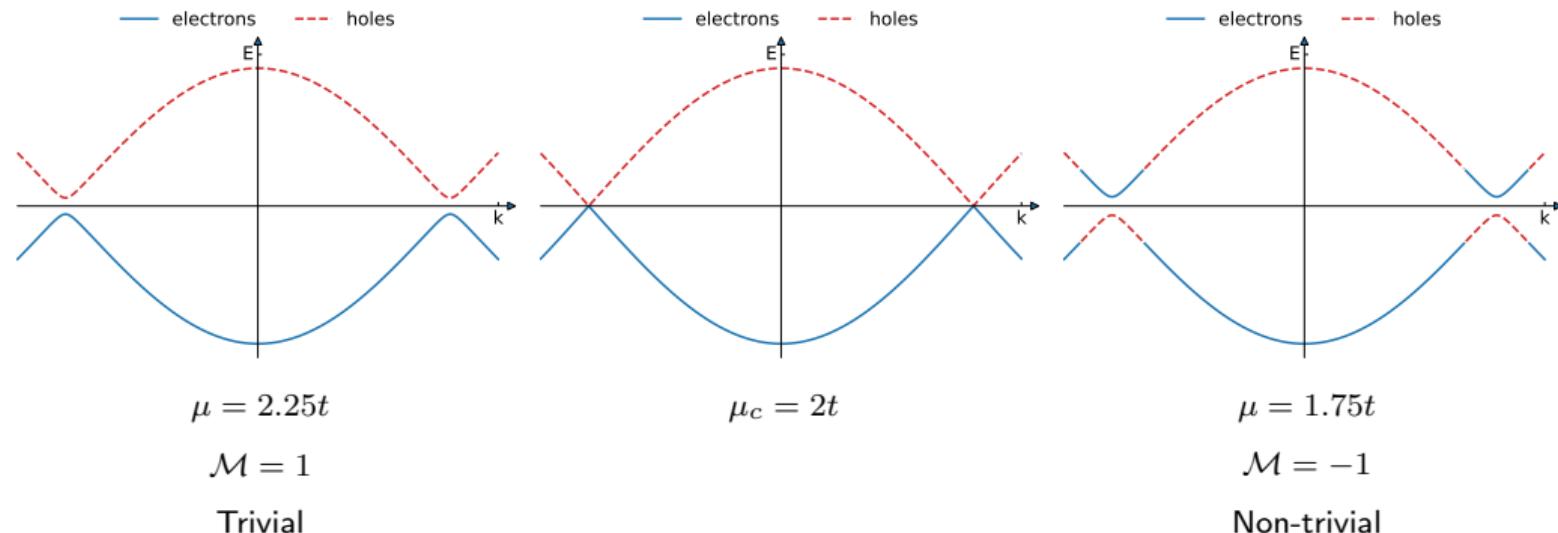
$$\mu_c = 2t$$

$$\mathcal{M} = 1$$

Trivial

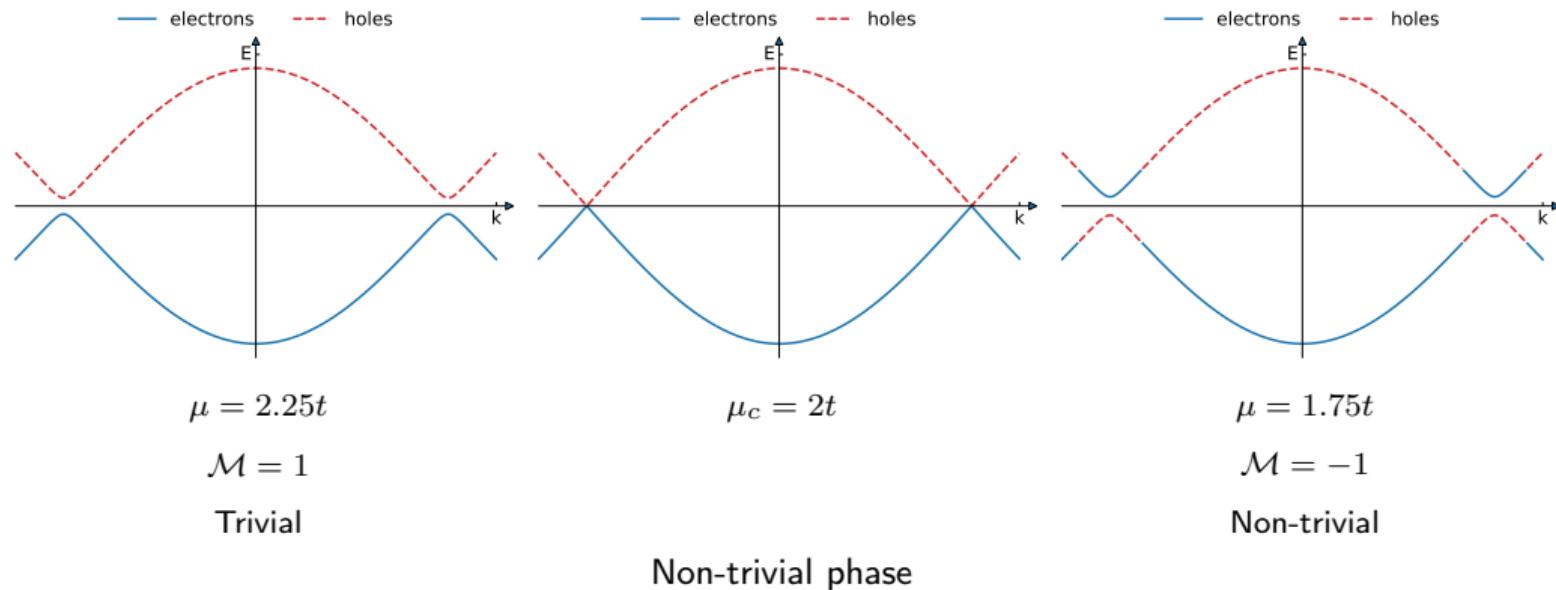


# Band gap and topological phase





# Band gap and topological phase



larger band gap  $\rightarrow$  more robust against local errors  $\rightarrow$  stronger topological protection



# Majorana number & bulk-edge correspondence

Transform to Majorana basis

$$A = -iU\mathcal{H}U^\dagger$$

Majorana number

$$\mathcal{M} = \text{sgn}[\text{Pf}(A)]$$

- If  $|\mu| > 2t$ ,  $\mathcal{M} = +1$ , trivial topology
- If  $|\mu| < 2t$ ,  $\mathcal{M} = -1$ , non-trivial topology



# Majorana number & bulk-edge correspondence

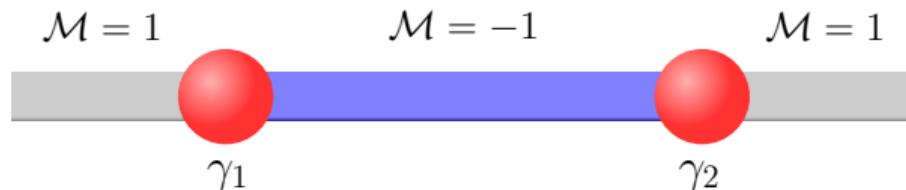
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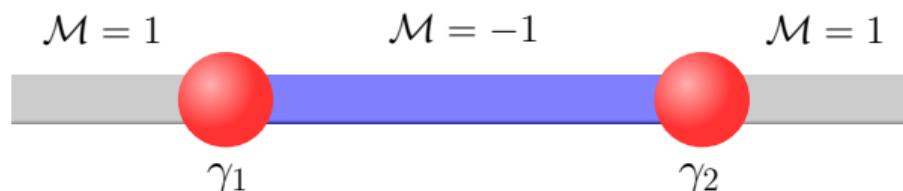
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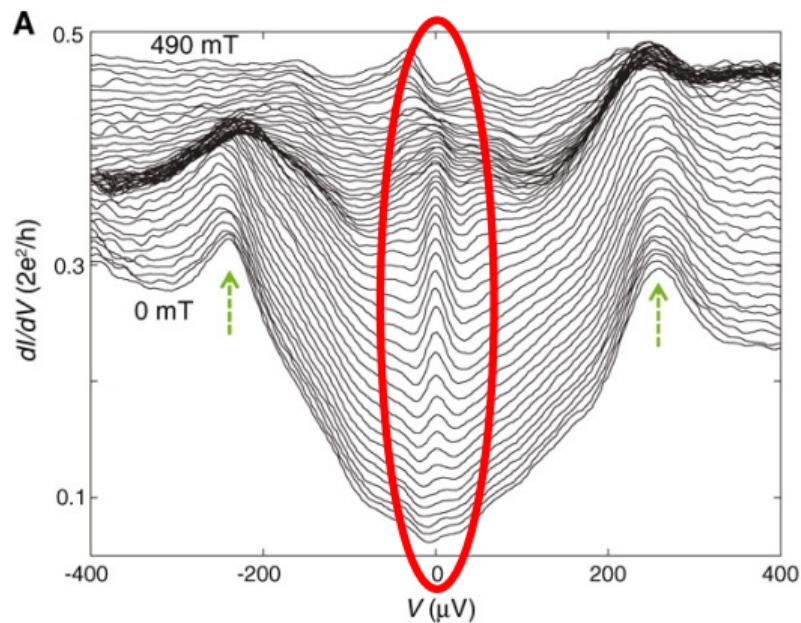
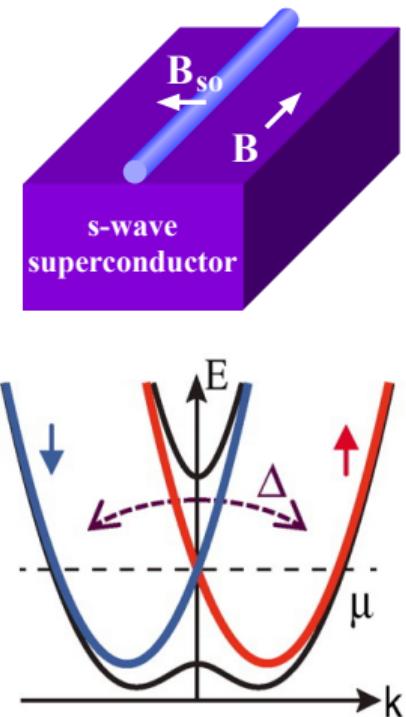
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**Warning! There are no  $p$ -wave SCs currently, but we can build effective  $p$ -wave SCs!**



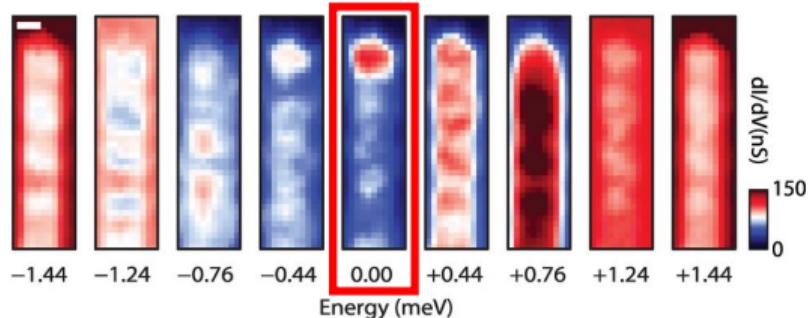
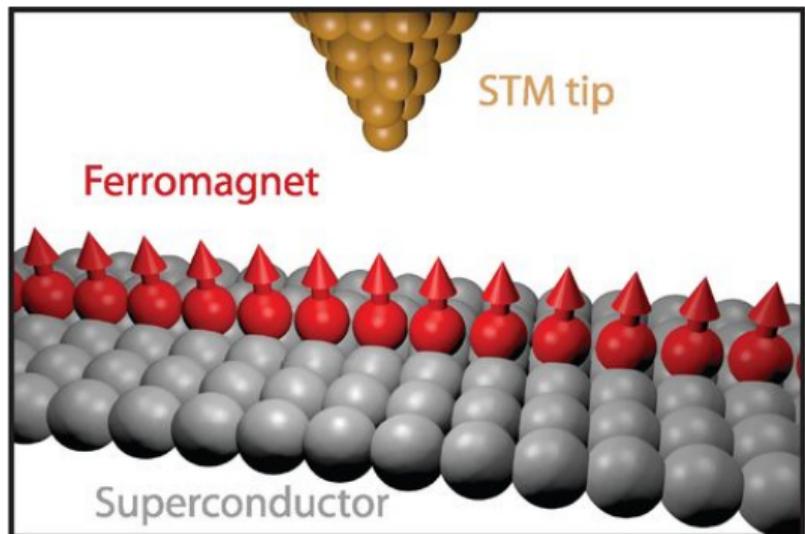
# Experimental evidence of Majorana fermions I



Mourik et al., *Science* **336**, 1003 (2012)



# Experimental evidence of Majorana fermions II



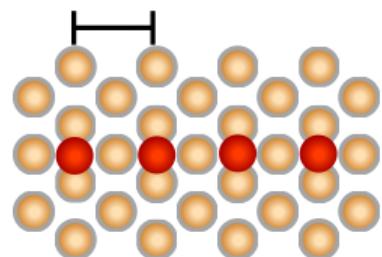
Nadj-Perge et al., *Science* **346**, 602 (2014)



# Experimental evidence of Majorana fermions III

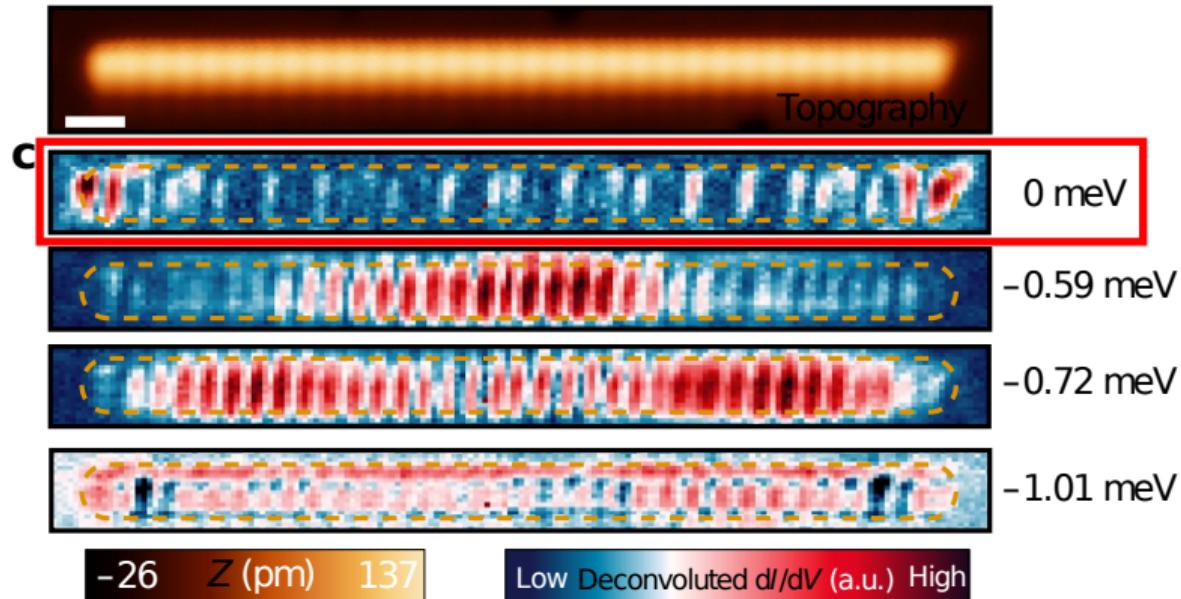
a

$d = 0.47 \text{ nm}$



(001)

→ (1̄10)



Mn atoms (red spheres) on top of superconducting Nb (brown spheres).

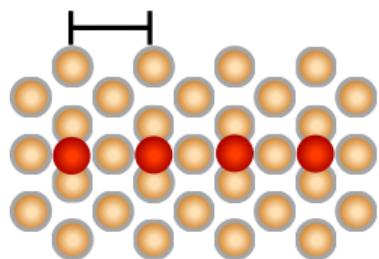
Schneider et al., *Nature Nanotechnology* **17**, 384 (2022)



# Experimental evidence of Majorana fermions III

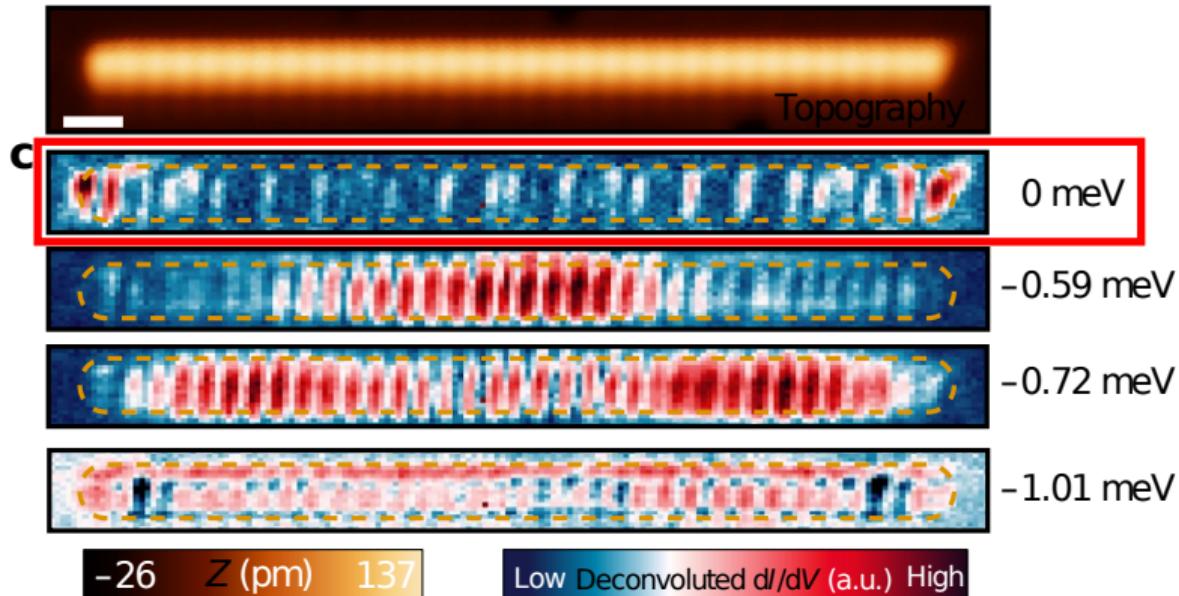
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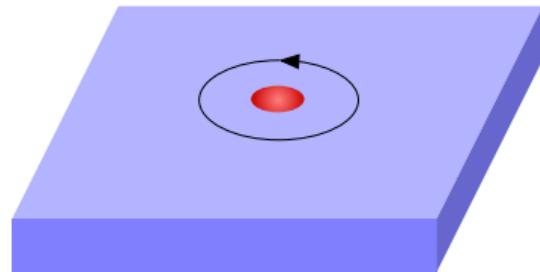
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Zero-energy states could be Andreev bound states. “Braiding” can distinguish them.



# What makes Majorana fermions so cool?

- 2D  $p$ -wave (triplet pairing) SC exhibit half-quantum vortices.



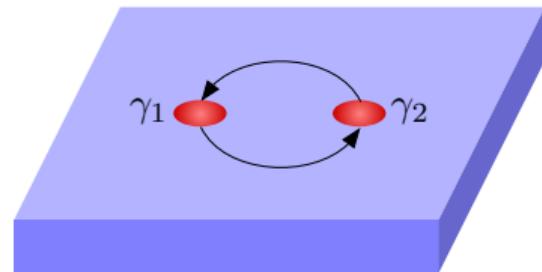


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- MF state accumulate  $e^{i\theta/2}$  phase.

$$\gamma_1 \rightarrow -\gamma_2$$

$$\gamma_2 \rightarrow \gamma_1$$



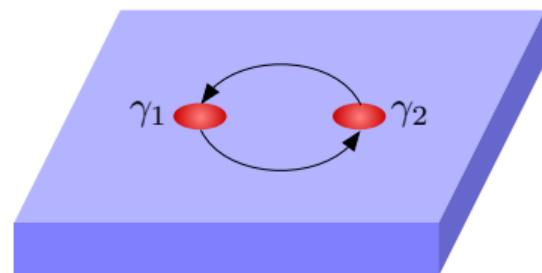


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 $A * B \neq B * A$ ,  
→ Allows for a universal quantum computer.

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$$U_{12} = \exp \left( \pm \frac{\pi}{4} \gamma_1 \gamma_2 \right)$$

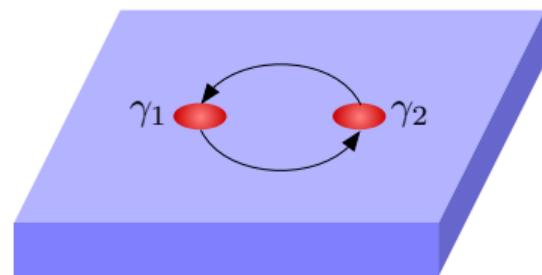


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 $A * B \neq B * A$ ,  
→ Allows for a universal quantum computer.
- Combine with MFs topological protection,  
→ Topological quantum computer.  
→ Benefits: fewer repeated operations compared to normal qubits.

$$\gamma_1 \rightarrow -\gamma_2$$

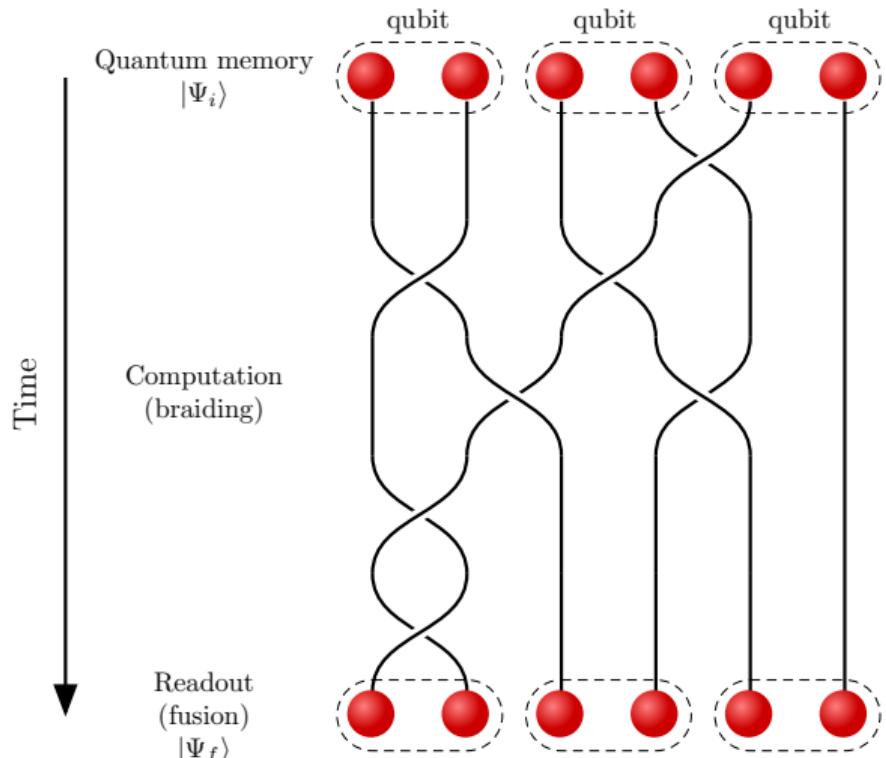
$$\gamma_2 \rightarrow \gamma_1$$



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# Braiding in a topological quantum computer



Generalized braiding of two neighboring MFs

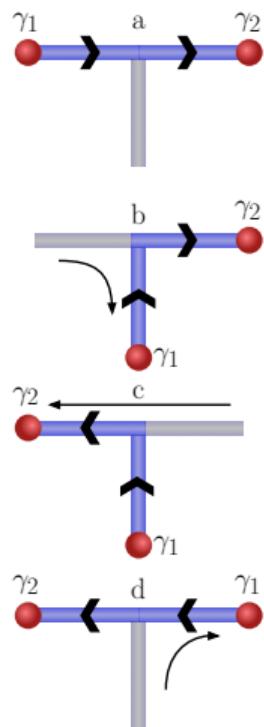
$$U_{nm} = \exp\left(\pm \frac{\pi}{4} \gamma_n \gamma_m\right)$$

Readout after braiding

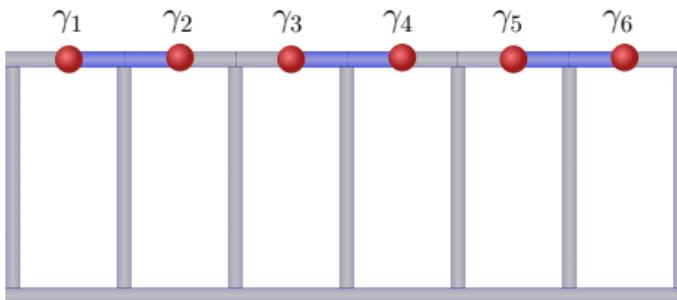
$$|\Psi_f\rangle = U_{n'm'} \cdots U_{nm} |\Psi_i\rangle$$



# T-junction as a quantum logic gate



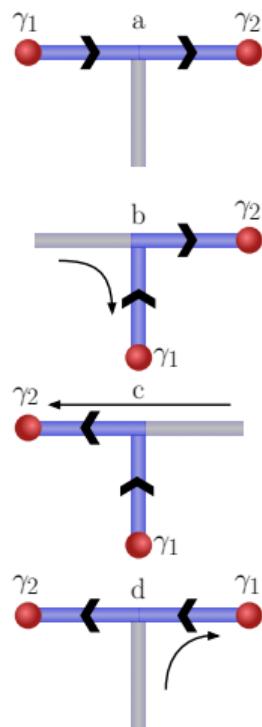
- Take pairing term  $|\Delta| e^{i\phi} c_j c_{j+1}$  such that the site indices:
- Increase moving  $\rightarrow / \uparrow$  in the horizontal/vertical wires:  $\phi = 0$ ,
- Decrease moving  $\leftarrow / \downarrow$  in the horizontal/vertical wires:  $\phi = \pi$ .



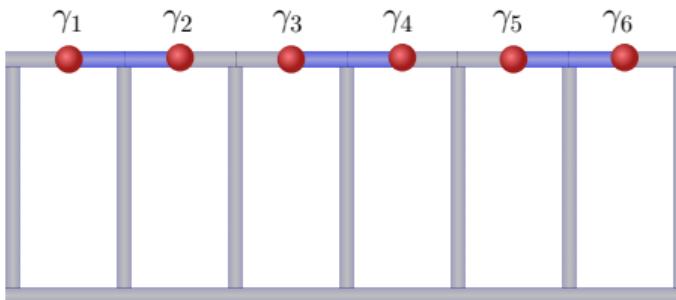
Alicea et al., *Nature Phys.* **7**, 412 (2011)



# T-junction as a quantum logic gate



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Alicea et al., *Nature Phys.* **7**, 412 (2011)

**Difficult to build, manipulate, and read.**

**Not a smooth connection between 1D and 2D SCs.**



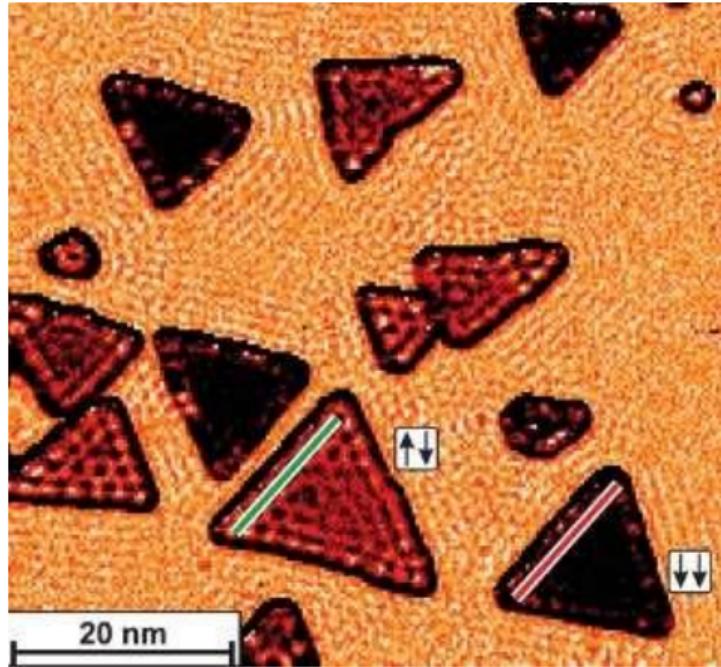
# Triangular structures for braiding

- T-junction → Triangle
- 3 endpoints → 3 vertices



# Triangular structures for braiding

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- Islands of three-fold rotational symmetry occur naturally in epitaxial growth on close-packed metal surfaces.

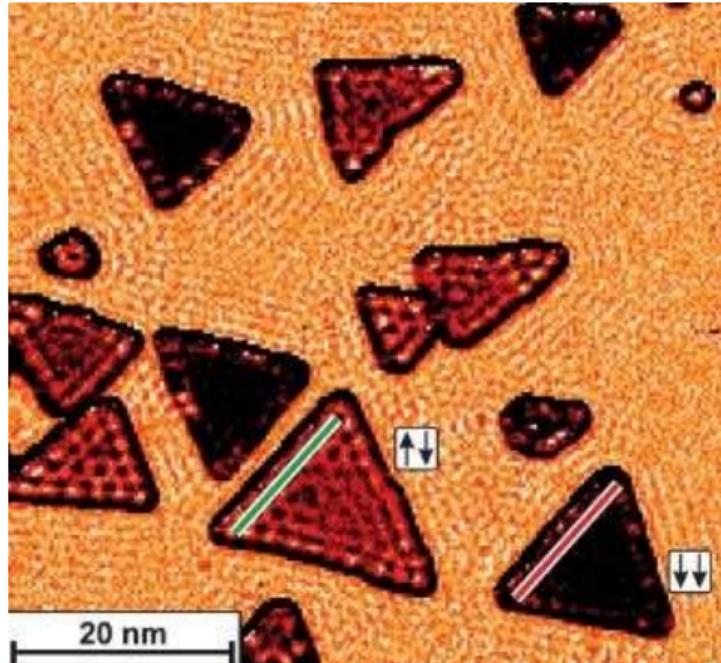


Triangular Co islands on Cu(111).  
Pietzsch et al., *PRL* **96**, 237203 (2006)



# Triangular structures for braiding

- T-junction → Triangle  
3 endpoints → 3 vertices
- Islands of three-fold rotational symmetry occur naturally in epitaxial growth on close-packed metal surfaces.
- In plane gauge potentials can break a triangle's 3-fold symmetry.
- Make a smoother connection between 1D and 2D superconductors.



Triangular Co islands on Cu(111).  
Pietzsch et al., *PRL* **96**, 237203 (2006)



# Two proposals

- Exactly solvable minimal “Kitaev Triangle”
  - Three fermion sites compared to minimal four in T-junctions
  - Three edges controlled by Peierls phase



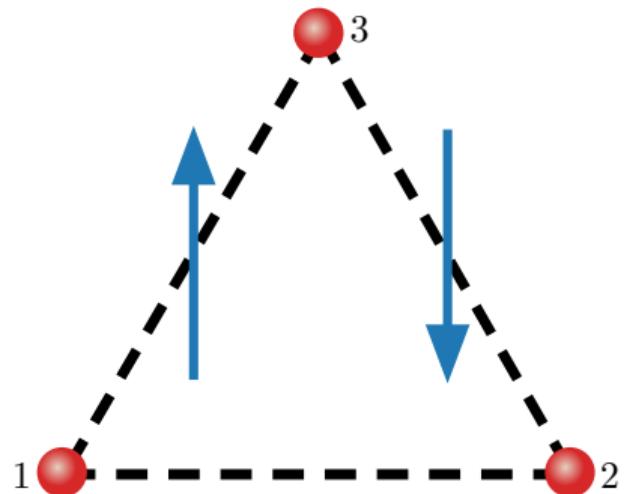
# Two proposals

- Exactly solvable minimal “Kitaev Triangle”
  - Three fermion sites compared to minimal four in T-junctions
  - Three edges controlled by Peierls phase
- Finite-size triangle with hollow interior
  - Uniform gauge potential
  - Bulk-edge correspondence



# Kitaev triangle

$$\mathbf{A} = [1 - 2\Theta(x)] \frac{2\pi}{3\sqrt{3}} \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$



I: Background  
oooooooooooo

I: Motivation  
oooo

I: Results  
o●oooooooo

II: Background  
oooo

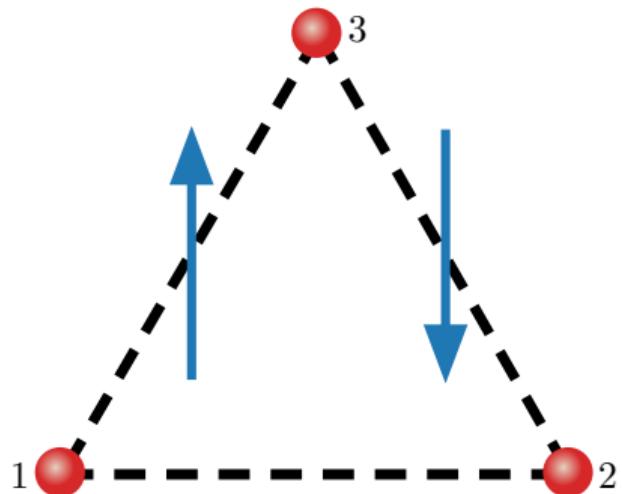
II: Formulation  
ooo

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oooo



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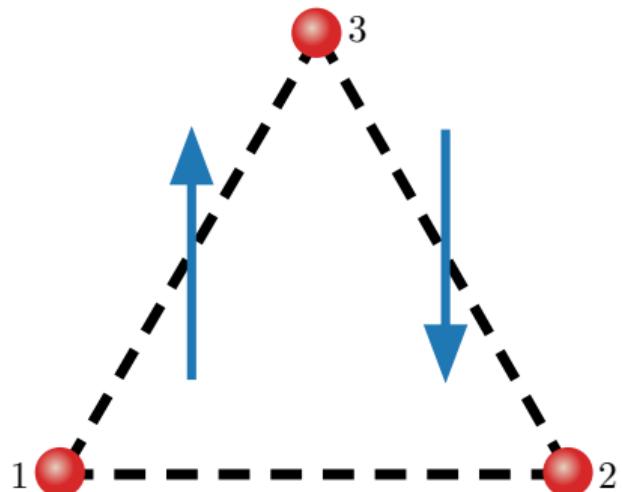
$$\phi_{jl} = \frac{ie}{\hbar} \int_{r_j}^{r_l} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{l}$$

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{\langle j,l \rangle} (-te^{i\phi_{jl}} c_j^\dagger c_l + \Delta c_j^\dagger c_l^\dagger + h.c.) - \mu c_j^\dagger c_j$$



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In Kitaev limit,  $t = \Delta \neq 0$  and  $\mu = 0$ ,

$$(\phi_{12}, \phi_{23}, \phi_{31}) = (0, -\frac{\pi}{3}, -\frac{\pi}{3}) = \phi_1$$

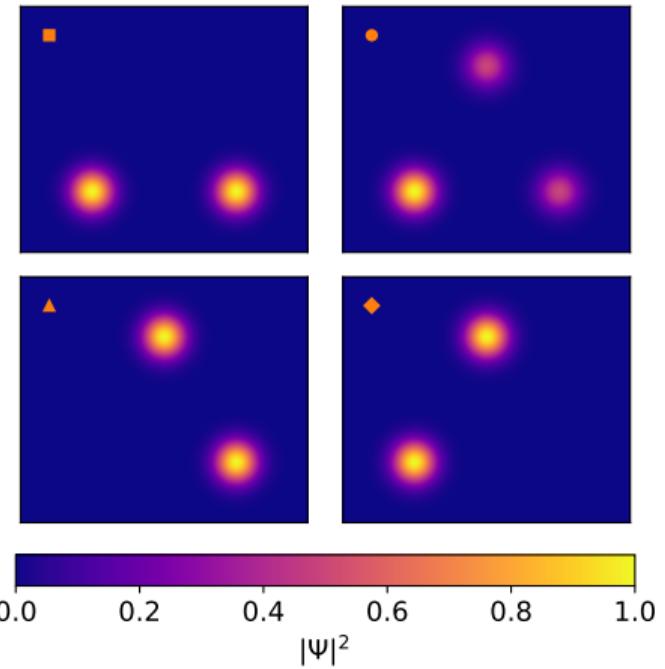
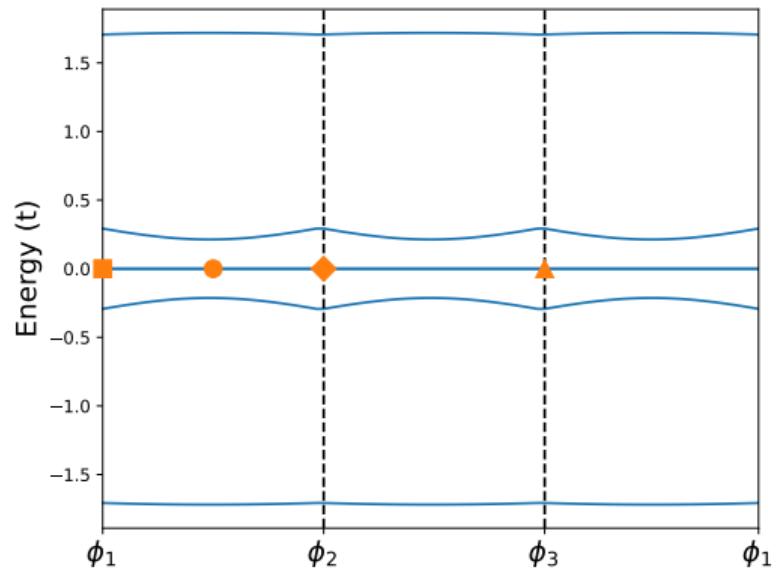
MZMs localized at sites 1 and 2



# Kitaev triangle braiding

A closed parameter path linearly interpolated between the following sets of  $\phi_{jk}$ :

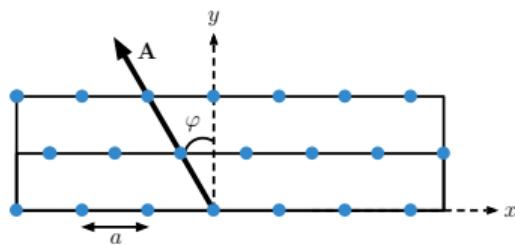
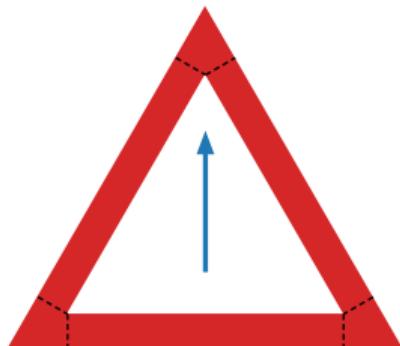
$$(\phi_{12}, \phi_{23}, \phi_{31}) : \phi_1 \rightarrow \phi_2 \rightarrow \phi_3 \rightarrow \phi_1 \quad (1)$$





# Triangular ribbon and topological phases

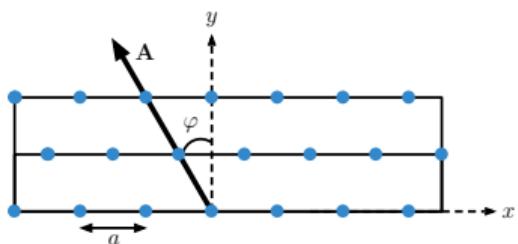
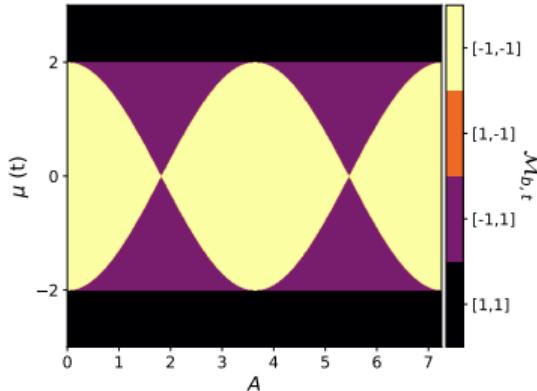
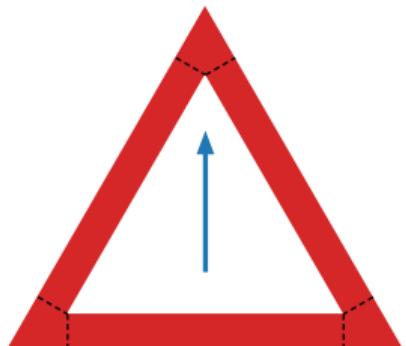
$$\phi_{jl} = \frac{e}{\hbar} \int_{\mathbf{r}_j}^{\mathbf{r}_l} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{jl} = -\phi_{lj}$$





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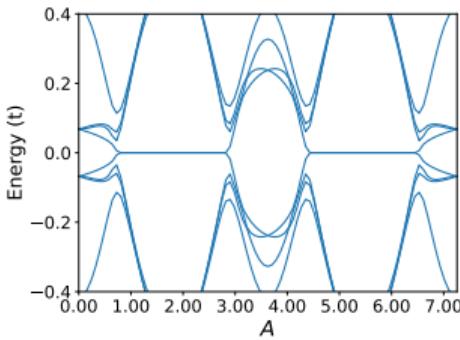
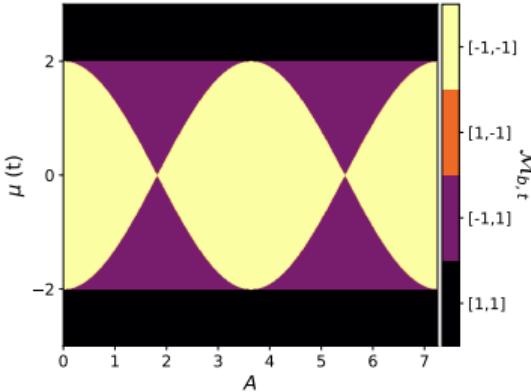
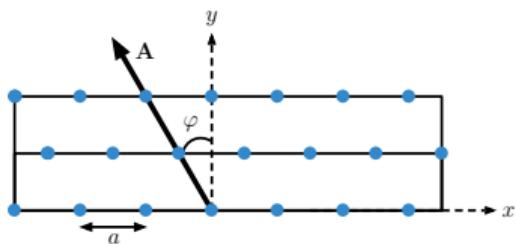
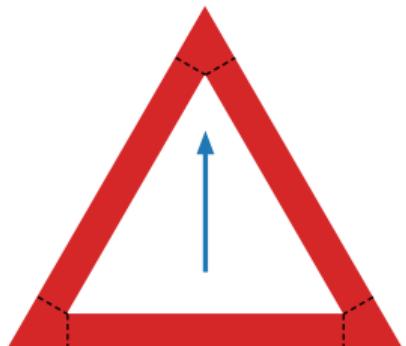
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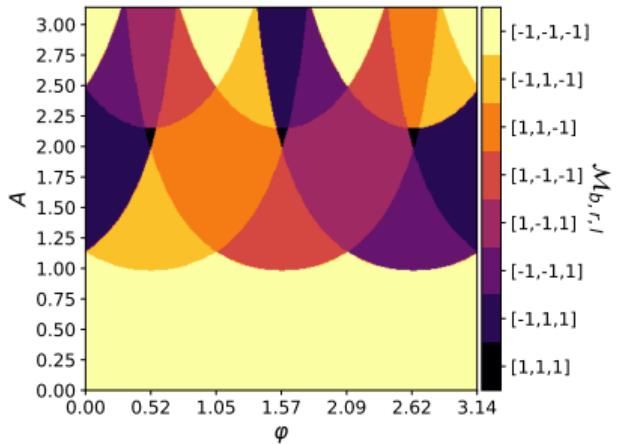
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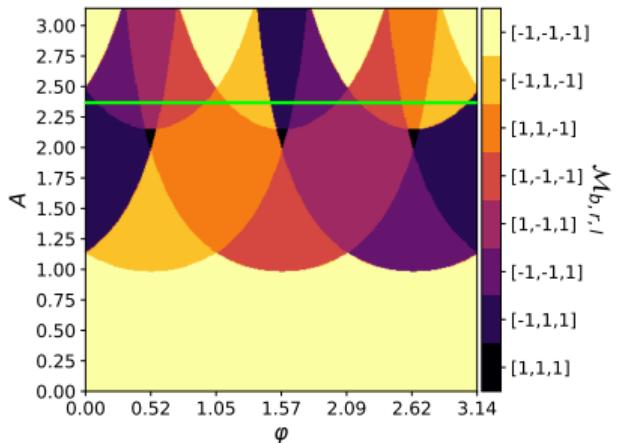


# Braiding Majorana zero modes triangular chain ( $W=1$ )



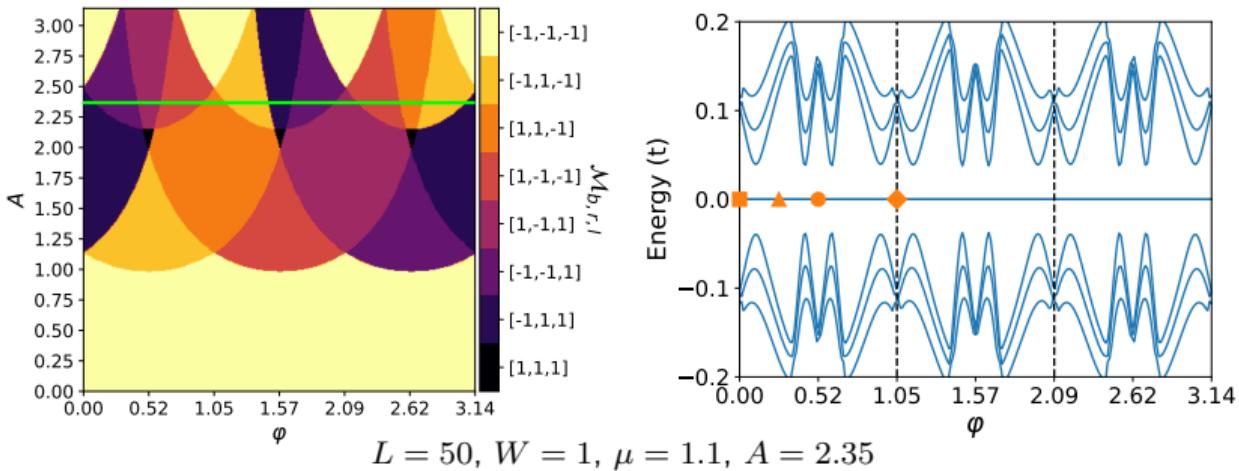


# Braiding Majorana zero modes triangular chain ( $W=1$ )



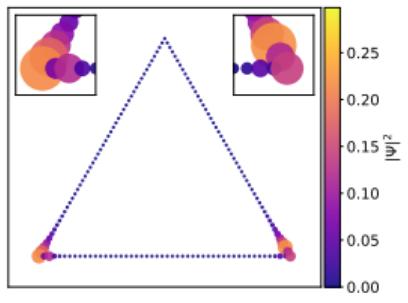
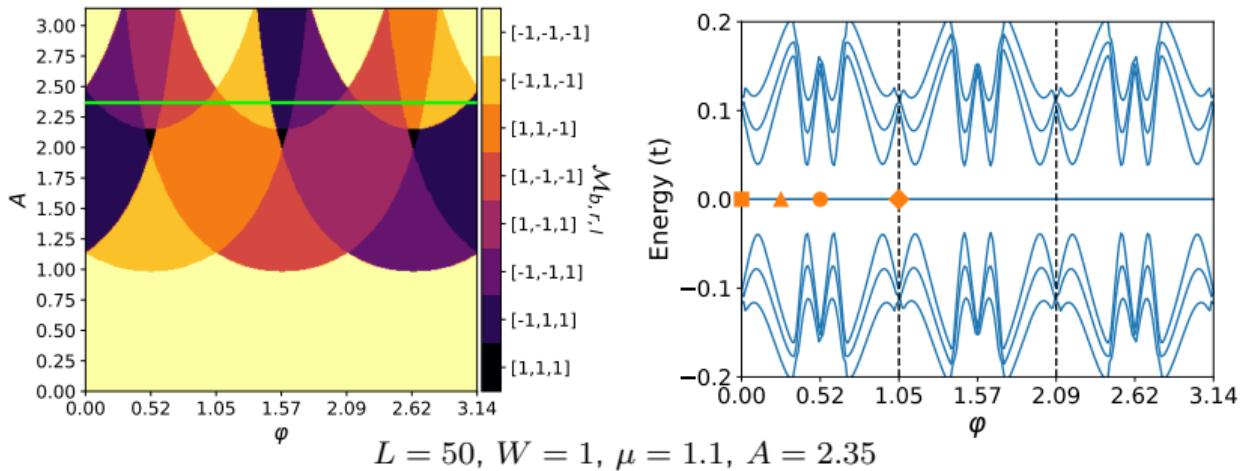


# Braiding Majorana zero modes triangular chain ( $W=1$ )



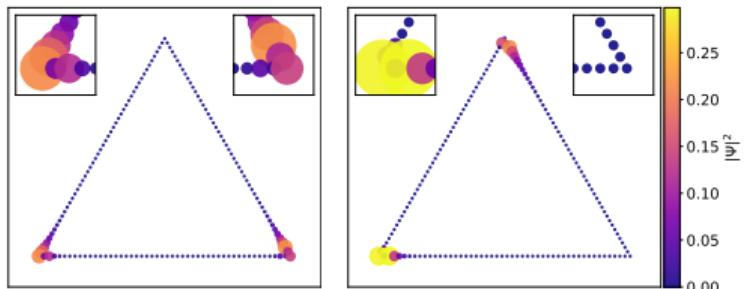
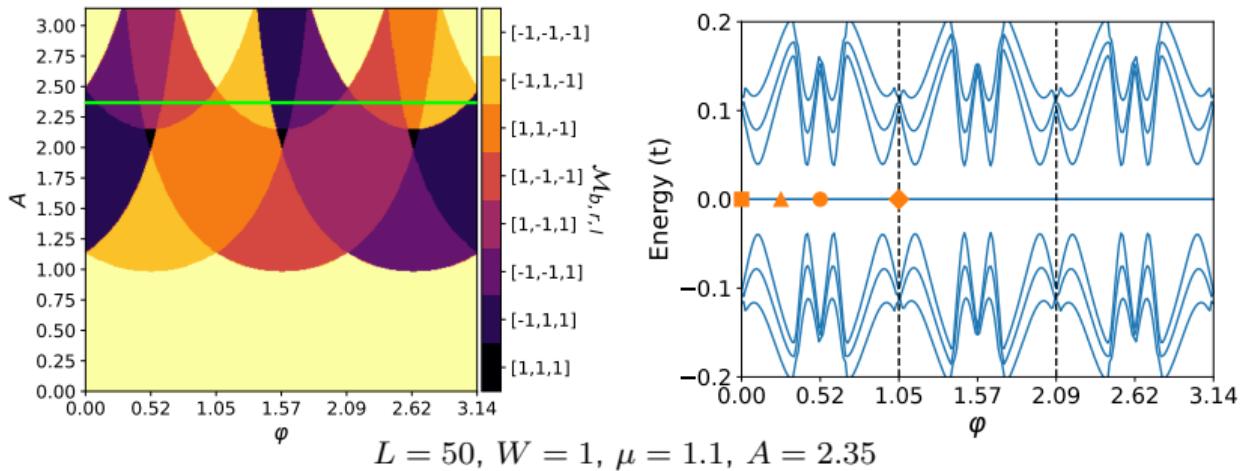


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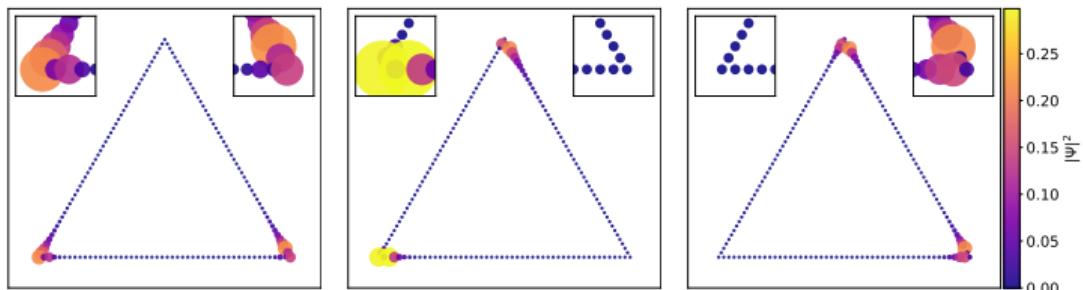
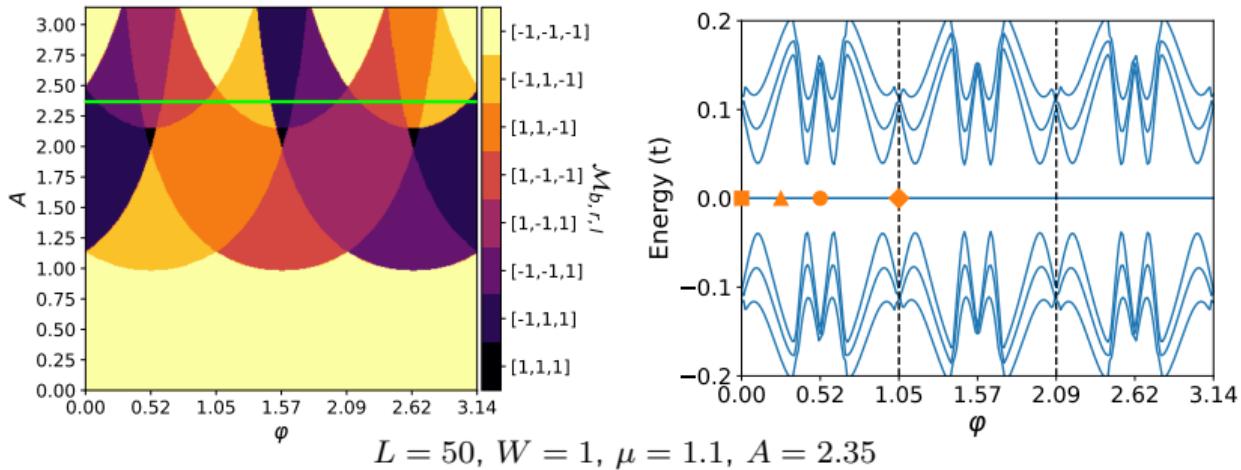


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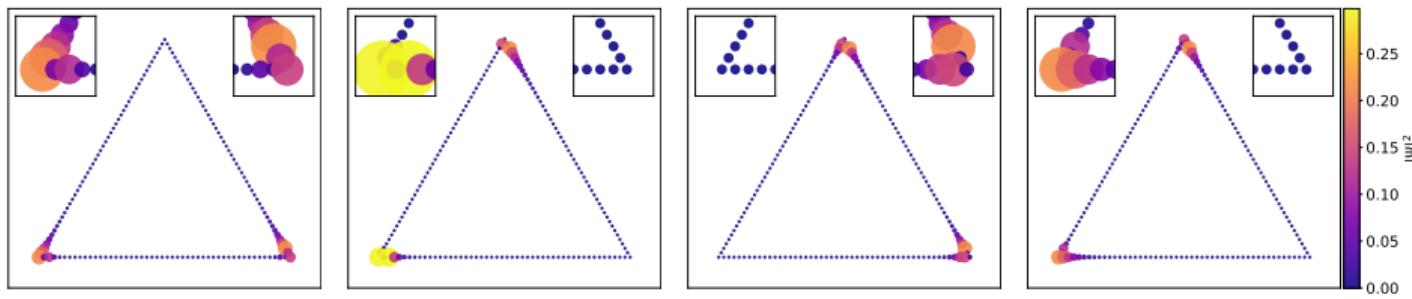
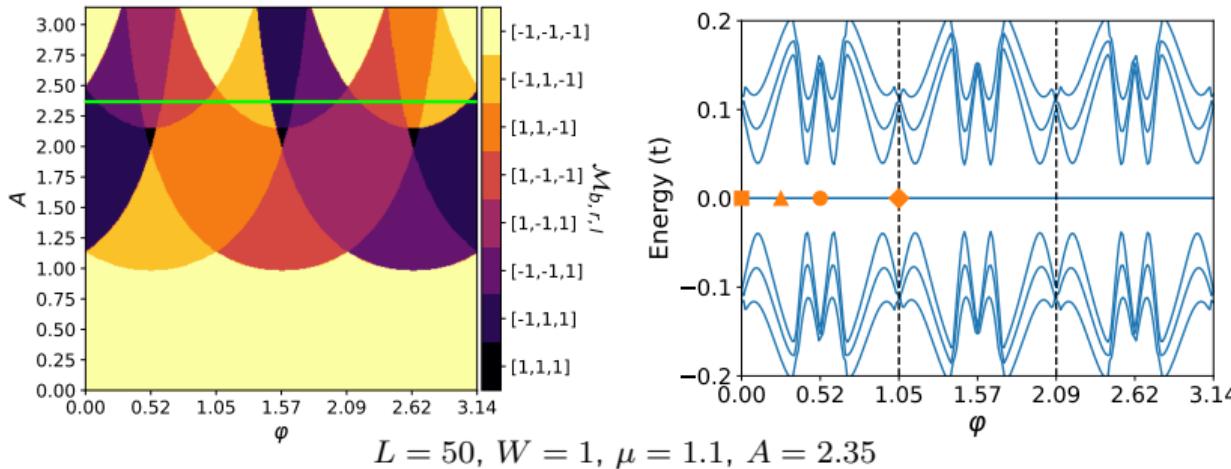




# Braiding Majorana zero modes triangular chain ( $W=1$ )



# Braiding Majorana zero modes triangular chain ( $W=1$ )



I: Background  
oooooooooooo

I: Motivation  
oooo

I: Results  
oooo●ooo

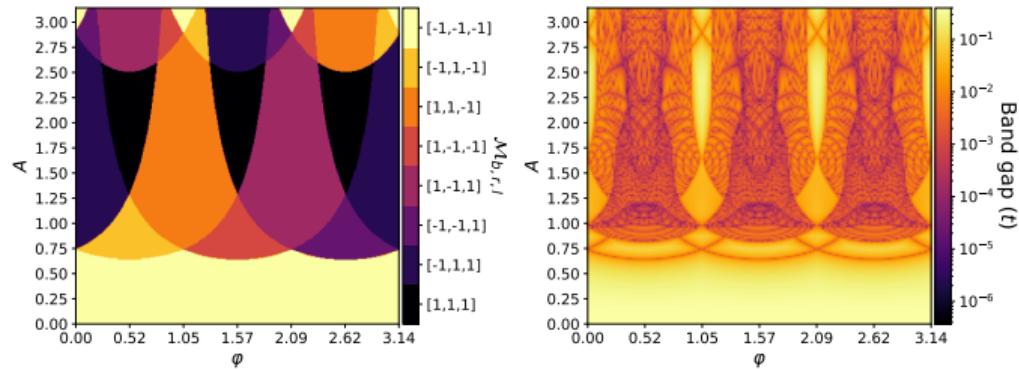
II: Background  
oooo

II: Formulation  
ooo

II: Results  
oooo

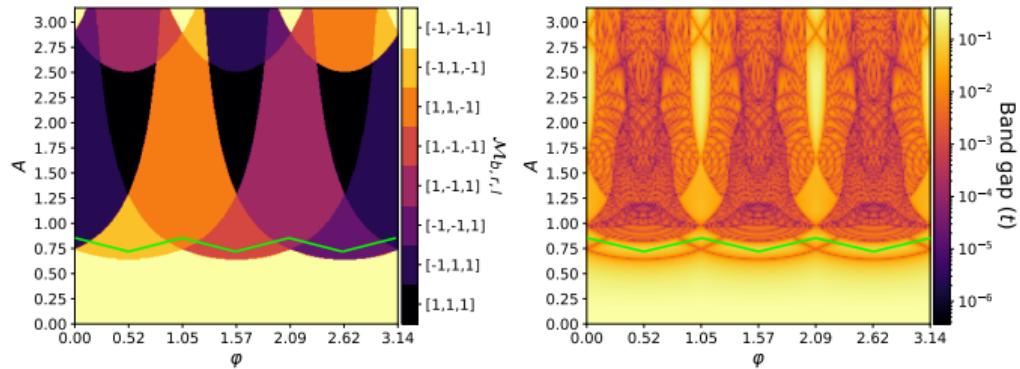


# Braiding Majorana zero modes hollow triangle ( $W=3$ )



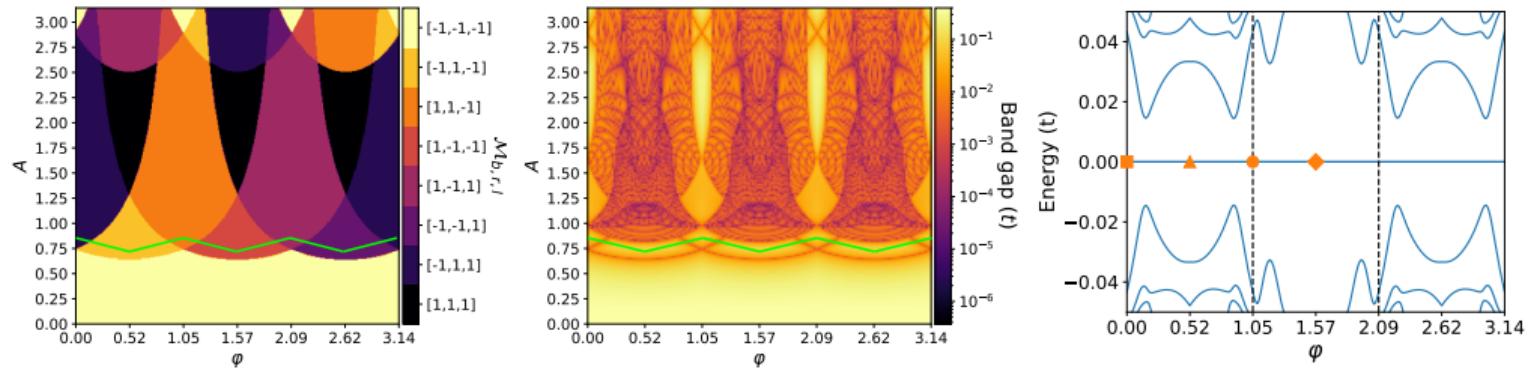


# Braiding Majorana zero modes hollow triangle ( $W=3$ )





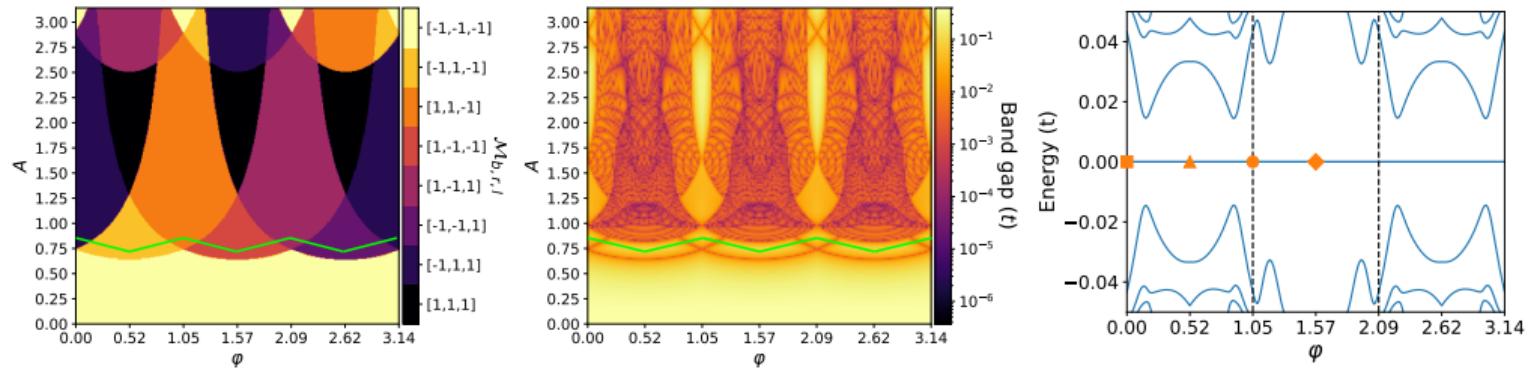
# Braiding Majorana zero modes hollow triangle ( $W=3$ )



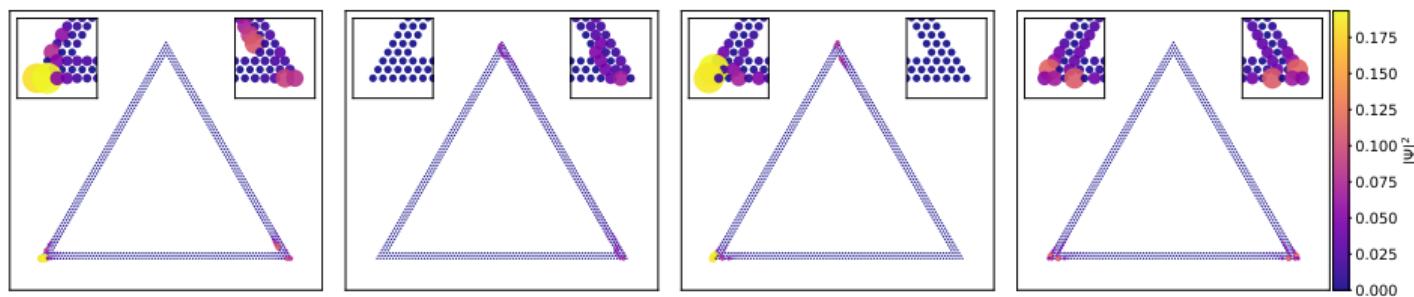
$$L = 80, W = 3, \mu = 1.6, (A, \varphi) = (0.83, 0) \rightarrow (0.77, \frac{\pi}{6}) \rightarrow (0.83, \frac{\pi}{3}) \rightarrow (0.77, \frac{\pi}{2}) \dots$$



# Braiding Majorana zero modes hollow triangle ( $W=3$ )

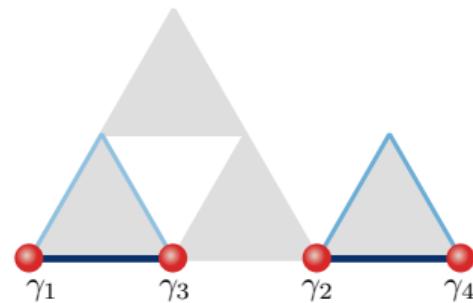
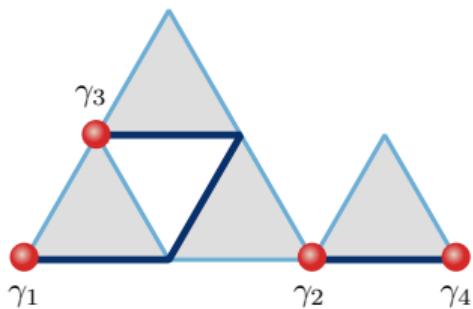
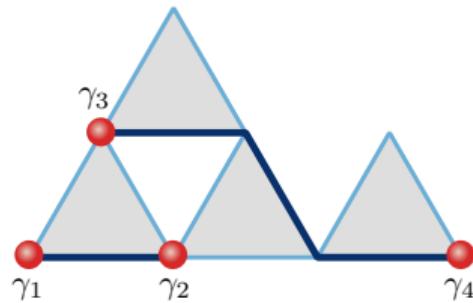
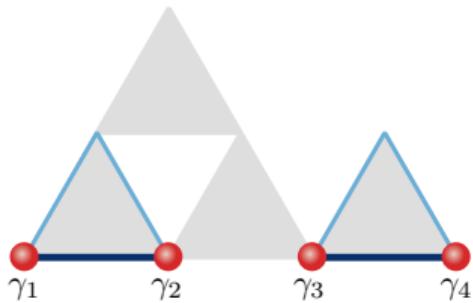


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# Braiding Two of Four Majorana zero modes



I: Background  
○○○○○○○○○○

I: Motivation  
○○○○

I: Results  
○○○○○○○○○○

II: Background  
○○○○

II: Formulation  
○○○

II: Results  
○○○○



# Part I: Summary

- A minimal Kitaev triangle can emerge as an effective theory for three fermionic sites and is sufficient for braiding.
- Hollow triangles maintain 1D bulk-edge correspondence, gauge potential strength and rotation allows for additional topological tunability, and demonstrates braiding.
- MZMs can be hosted and braided on a network of triangular islands.

Aidan Winblad and Hua Chen, *PRB* **109**, 205158 (2024).

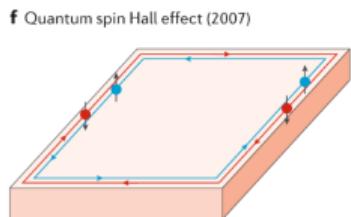
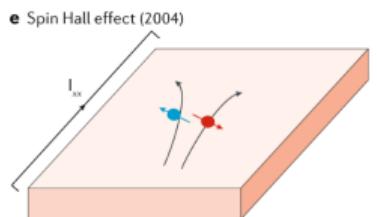
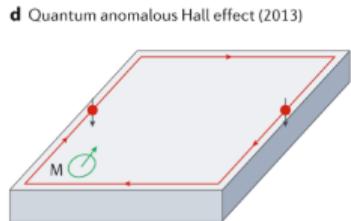
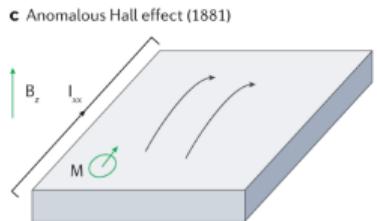
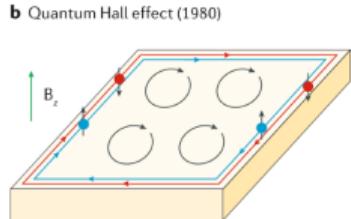
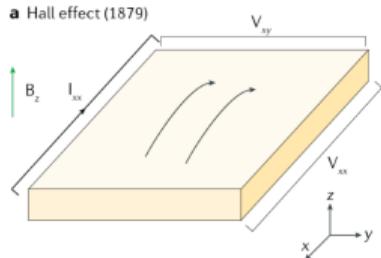


# Part II: Floquet quantum Hall effect outline

- Background & Motivation:
  - Quantum Hall effect
  - Floquet engineering and nonequilibrium physics
- Formulation:
  - Floquet theorem and high-frequency approximation
  - Inhomogeneous, circularly polarized light
- Results:
  - Dirac and 2DEG systems
- Summary



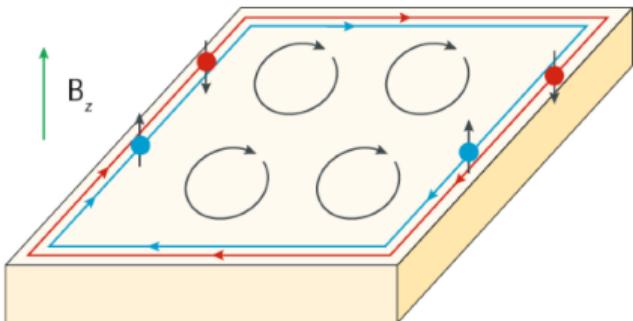
# Quantum Hall effect at the Hall effect Zoo



von Klitzing et al. *Nat. Rev. Phys.* **2**, 397-401 (2020)



# Quantum Hall effect at the Hall effect Zoo

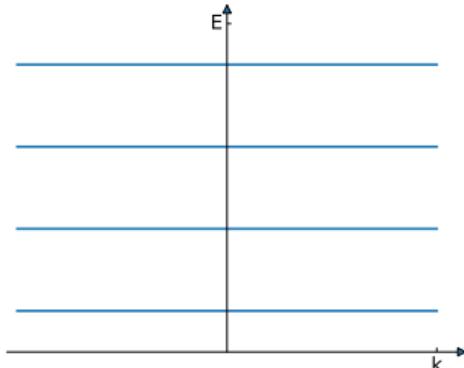
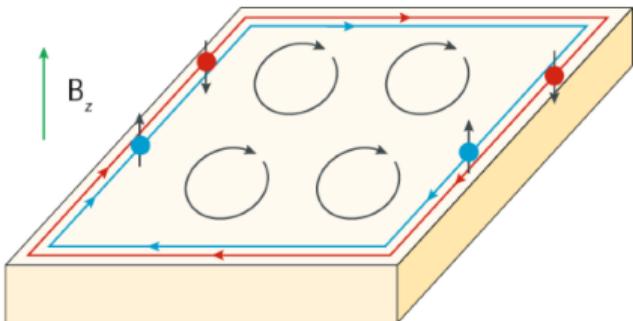


Dirac: 
$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{H}^D = v_F \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{p} + eBx\hat{\mathbf{y}}) \\ \epsilon_n^D = \pm v_F \sqrt{2n\hbar eB} \end{cases}$$

2DEG: 
$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{H}^{2\text{DEG}} = \frac{1}{2m^*}(\mathbf{p} + eBx\hat{\mathbf{y}})^2 \\ \epsilon_n^{2\text{DEG}} = \frac{\hbar eB}{m^*} \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) \end{cases}$$



# Quantum Hall effect at the Hall effect Zoo

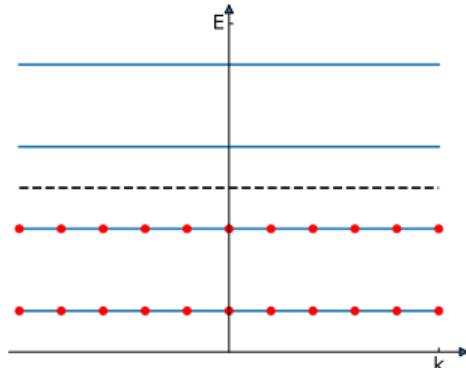
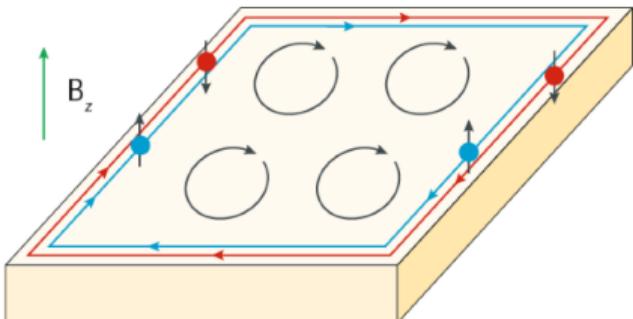


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# Quantum Hall effect at the Hall effect Zoo



Dirac: 
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**QHE has quantized Hall conductance:**

$$\sigma_H = -\frac{Ce^2}{h}$$



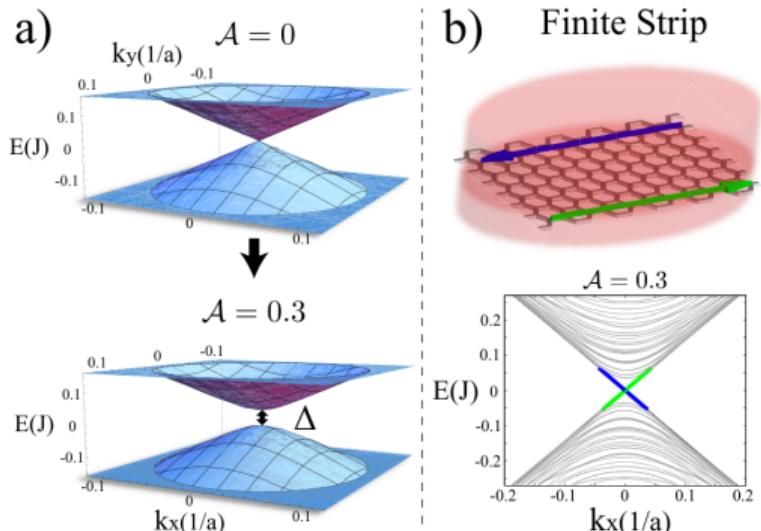
# Floquet exhibit at the Hall effect Zoo

**Pioneer research on nonequilibrium systems exhibiting equilibrium physics.  
Circularly polarized light provides time periodicity to use Floquet theorem and  
high-frequency approximation.**

- Photovoltaic Hall effect in graphene
  - Oka et al., *PRB* **79**, 0814406(R) (2009)
- Floquet topological insulator in semiconductor quantum wells
  - Lindner et al., *Nat. Phys.* **7**, 490-495 (2011)
- Observations of Floquet-Bloch states on the surface of a topological insulator
  - Wang et al., *Science* **342**, 453-457 (2013)
- Floquet Fractional Chern Insulators
  - Grushin et al., *PRL* **112**, 156801 (2014)



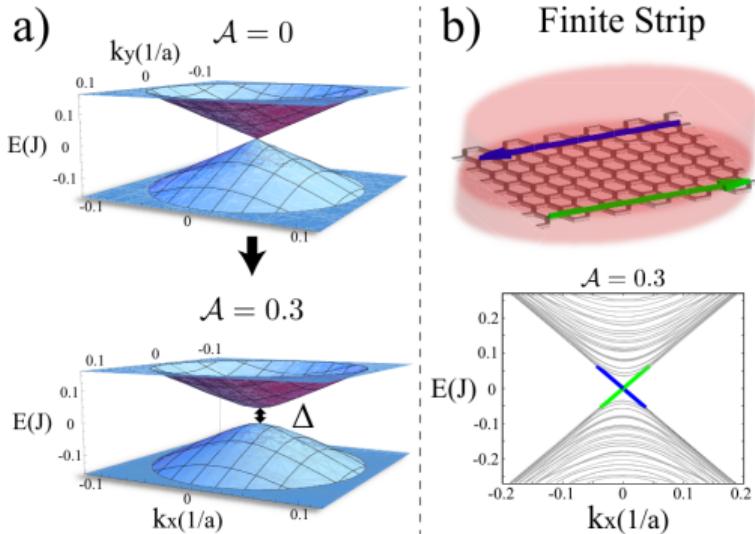
# Floquet quantum anomalous Hall effect



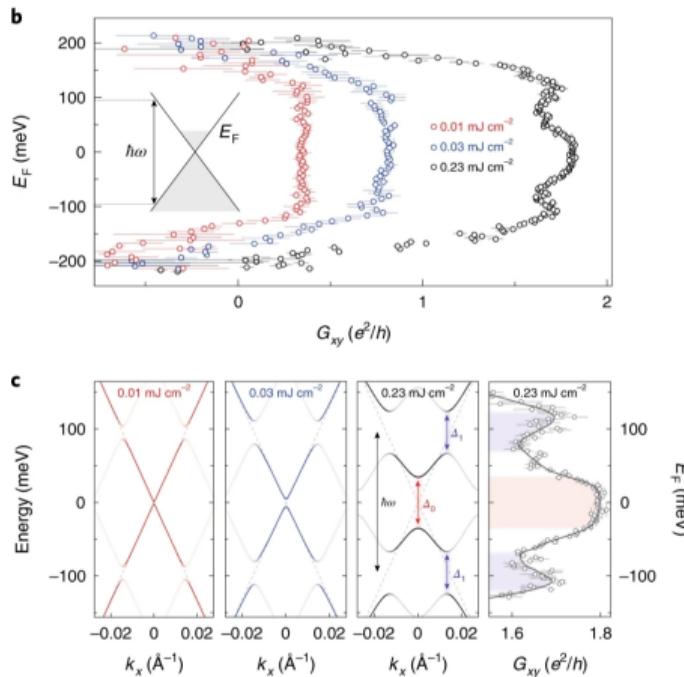
Kitagawa et. al., *PRB* **84**, 235108 (2011)



# Floquet quantum anomalous Hall effect



Kitagawa et. al., *PRB* **84**, 235108 (2011)



McIver et. al., *Nature Phys.* **16**, 38 (2020)



## Analogous to Bloch's theorem



# Floquet Theorem

**Analogous to Bloch's theorem**

Exhibits discrete time translation symmetry

$$H(t + T) = H(t)$$



# Floquet Theorem

## Analogous to Bloch's theorem

Exhibits discrete time translation symmetry

$$H(t + T) = H(t)$$

For such a system, Floquet theorem must hold

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_\epsilon(t) &= e^{-i\epsilon t/\hbar} u_\epsilon(t) \\ u_\epsilon(t + T) &= u_\epsilon(t)\end{aligned}$$

Let wavefunction be an arbitrary wave  
approximation

$$\psi(t) = \sum_{\epsilon} u_{\epsilon} e^{-i\epsilon t/\hbar}$$



# Floquet Theorem

## Analogous to Bloch's theorem

Exhibits discrete time translation symmetry

$$H(t + T) = H(t)$$

Discrete time Fourier series of Hamiltonian

$$H(t) = \sum_n H_n e^{in\omega t}$$

For such a system, Floquet theorem must hold

$$\psi_\epsilon(t) = e^{-i\epsilon t/\hbar} u_\epsilon(t)$$

Where

$$u_\epsilon(t + T) = u_\epsilon(t)$$

$$H_n = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T H(t) e^{-in\omega t} dt$$

Let wavefunction be an arbitrary wave approximation

$$\psi(t) = \sum_\epsilon u_\epsilon e^{-i\epsilon t/\hbar}$$



# Floquet Theorem

## Analogous to Bloch's theorem

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Where

$$H_n = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T H(t) e^{-in\omega t} dt$$

Let wavefunction be an arbitrary wave approximation

$$\psi(t) = \sum_\epsilon u_\epsilon e^{-i\epsilon t/\hbar}$$

Then,  $i\hbar\partial_t\psi(t) = H(t)\psi(t)$  becomes

$$\bar{Q}_{m,m+n} = H_n - m\hbar\omega\delta_{n0}$$



# Floquet Theorem

## Analogous to Bloch's theorem

Exhibits discrete time translation symmetry

$$H(t+T) = H(t)$$

Discrete time Fourier series of Hamiltonian

$$H(t) = \sum_n H_n e^{in\omega t}$$

For such a system, Floquet theorem must hold

$$\psi_\epsilon(t) = e^{-i\epsilon t/\hbar} u_\epsilon(t)$$

$$u_\epsilon(t+T) = u_\epsilon(t)$$

Where

$$H_n = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T H(t) e^{-in\omega t} dt$$

Let wavefunction be an arbitrary wave approximation

$$\psi(t) = \sum_\epsilon u_\epsilon e^{-i\epsilon t/\hbar}$$

Then,  $i\hbar\partial_t\psi(t) = H(t)\psi(t)$  becomes

$$\bar{Q}_{m,m+n} = H_n - m\hbar\omega\delta_{n0}$$

$\bar{Q}$  is an infinite quasienergy matrix! How do we handle such a matrix?



# Quasienergy operator and high-frequency approximation

$$\bar{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \\ \cdots & H_0 - \hbar\omega & H_{-1} & H_{-2} & \cdots \\ \cdots & H_1 & H_0 & H_{-1} & \cdots \\ \cdots & H_2 & H_1 & H_0 + \hbar\omega & \cdots \\ \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$



# Quasienergy operator and high-frequency approximation

$$\bar{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \\ \cdots & H_0 - \hbar\omega & H_{-1} & H_{-2} & \cdots \\ \cdots & H_1 & H_0 & H_{-1} & \cdots \\ \cdots & H_2 & H_1 & H_0 + \hbar\omega & \cdots \\ \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow H_{\pm n} \ll \hbar\omega \rightarrow$$



# Quasienergy operator and high-frequency approximation

$$\bar{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \\ \cdots & H_0 - \hbar\omega & H_{-1} & H_{-2} & \cdots \\ \cdots & H_1 & H_0 & H_{-1} & \cdots \\ \cdots & H_2 & H_1 & H_0 + \hbar\omega & \cdots \\ \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow H_{\pm n} \ll \hbar\omega \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \\ \cdots & H_{\text{eff}} - \hbar\omega & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ \cdots & 0 & H_{\text{eff}} & 0 & \cdots \\ \cdots & 0 & 0 & H_{\text{eff}} + \hbar\omega & \cdots \\ \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$



# Quasienergy operator and high-frequency approximation

$$\bar{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} \ddots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \ddots \\ \cdots & H_0 - \hbar\omega & H_{-1} & H_{-2} & \cdots & & \\ \cdots & H_1 & H_0 & H_{-1} & \cdots & & \\ \cdots & H_2 & H_1 & H_0 + \hbar\omega & \cdots & & \\ \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & & \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow H_{\pm n} \ll \hbar\omega \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \ddots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \ddots \\ \cdots & H_{\text{eff}} - \hbar\omega & 0 & 0 & \cdots & & \\ \cdots & 0 & H_{\text{eff}} & 0 & \cdots & & \\ \cdots & 0 & 0 & H_{\text{eff}} + \hbar\omega & \cdots & & \\ \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & & \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H_{\text{eff}} = H^{F(1)} + H^{F(2)} + H^{F(3)} + \dots$$

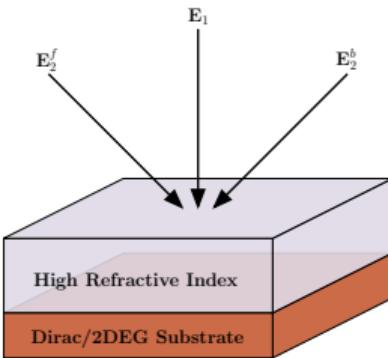
$$H^{F(1)} = H_0$$

$$H^{F(2)} = \sum_{m>0} \frac{2[H_m, H_{-m}]}{m\hbar\omega}$$

$$H^{F(3)} = \sum_{m>0} \left( \frac{[H_{-m}, [H_0, H_m]] + h.c.}{2(m\hbar\omega)^2} + \sum_{m' \neq m} \frac{[H_{-m'}, [H_{m'-m}, H_m]] + h.c.}{3mm'(\hbar\omega)^2} \right)$$



# Inhomogeneous, circularly polarized light on 2D systems



Generalized electric field at substrate surface

$$\mathbf{E} = E \langle \cos(a\omega t), -\cos(Kx) \sin(b\omega t) \rangle$$

where

$$K = \frac{\omega \sin(\theta_i)}{v_p}$$



# Dirac systems

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{H}(t) &= v_F \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{p} + e\mathbf{A}(t)) \\ \mathbf{E} &= E \langle \cos(\omega t), \sin(Kx) \sin(2\omega t) \rangle\end{aligned}$$



# Dirac systems

$$\mathcal{H}(t) = v_F \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{p} + e\mathbf{A}(t))$$

$$\mathbf{E} = E \langle \cos(\omega t), \sin(Kx) \sin(2\omega t) \rangle$$

Use floquet theorem and high-frequency approximation, and in limit  $Kx \ll 1$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}}^D = v_F \sigma_x p_x + v_F \sigma_y (C p_y + e B^D x)$$

$$B^D = \frac{K v_F^2 e^2 E^3}{4 \hbar^2 \omega^5}$$



# 2DEG systems

$$\mathcal{H}(t) = \frac{1}{2m^*}(\mathbf{p} + e\mathbf{A}(t))^2$$
$$\mathbf{E} = E\langle \cos(\omega t), -\cos(Kx)\sin(\omega t) \rangle$$



# 2DEG systems

$$\mathcal{H}(t) = \frac{1}{2m^*}(\mathbf{p} + e\mathbf{A}(t))^2$$
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Use floquet theorem and high-frequency approximation, and in limit  $Kx \ll 1$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{2DEG}} = \frac{1}{2m^*} \left[ p_x^2 + (p_y - eB^{\text{2DEG}}x)^2 \right]$$
$$B^{\text{2DEG}} = \frac{K^2 e E^2}{m^* \omega^3}$$



# 2DEG systems

$$\mathcal{H}(t) = \frac{1}{2m^*}(\mathbf{p} + e\mathbf{A}(t))^2$$
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$$B^{\text{2DEG}} = \frac{K^2 e E^2}{m^* \omega^3}$$

**Effective Hamiltonians are approximations, energies and states are Landau level like.**



# Expected analytical values and tight-binding models

- Parameters from previous literature can produce effective magnetic fields on the order of mT to hundreds of mT in Dirac and 2DEG.
- Tight-binding models were performed for both systems
  - Strong agreement with high-frequency approximation.
  - Interpreting data of lower frequencies is difficult and inconclusive when modes overlap.



## Part II: Summary

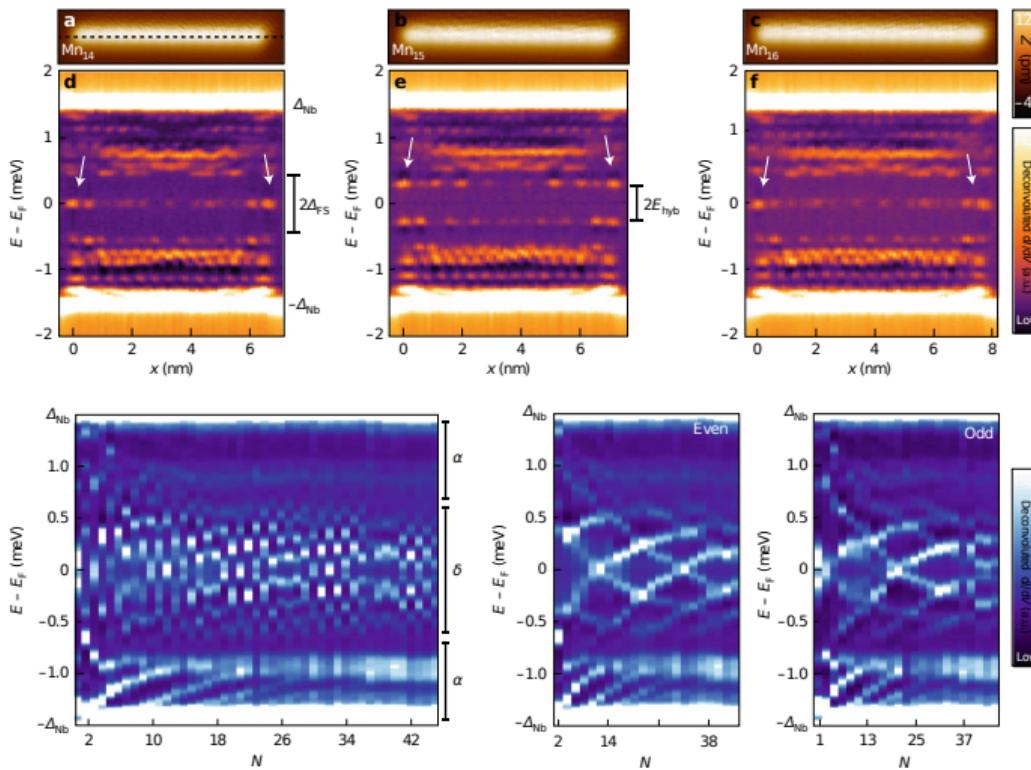
- Inhomogeneous, circularly polarized light induces QHE in Dirac and 2DEG systems.
- Showed nonequilibrium systems exhibit equilibrium physics.
- Effective magnetic field can be enhanced by several parameters.

# Acknowledgments



- Advisor: Dr. Hua Chen
- Committee: Dr. Martin Gelfand, Dr. Richard Eykholt, Dr. Olivier Pinaud
- Informative Discussions: Chris Ard and Muhammad Tahir
- Friends and Family
- CSU Mental Health Services

## Additional results from Schneider et al.





# Majorana fermion notation and coupling isolation

The complex fermion operator can be written as a superposition of two Majorana fermions  $c_j = \frac{1}{2}(a_j + ib_j)$ . Due to the nature of Majorana fermions,  $a_j^\dagger = a_j$ , the creation operator is  $c_j^\dagger = \frac{1}{2}(a_j - ib_j)$ .

$$H = -\frac{i\mu}{4} \sum_j (a_j b_j - b_j a_j) - \frac{i}{4} \sum_{<j,l>} [(t \sin \phi - \Delta \sin \theta) a_l a_j + (t \sin \phi + \Delta \sin \theta) b_l b_j + (t \cos \phi + \Delta \cos \theta) a_l b_j - (t \cos \phi - \Delta \cos \theta) b_l a_j].$$

$$(t \sin \phi_{j,l} - \Delta \sin \theta_{j,l}) a_l a_j, \tag{2}$$

$$(t \sin \phi_{j,l} + \Delta \sin \theta_{j,l}) b_l b_j, \tag{3}$$

$$(t \cos \phi_{j,l} + \Delta \cos \theta_{j,l}) a_l b_j, \tag{4}$$

$$(t \cos \phi_{j,l} - \Delta \cos \theta_{j,l}) b_l a_j \tag{5}$$



# Gauge potentials in Hamiltonians

## Minimal Coupling

$$\mathbf{p}_{\text{can}} = \mathbf{p}_{\text{kin}} + q\mathbf{A} \quad (6)$$

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{2m}(\mathbf{p}_{\text{can}} - q\mathbf{A})^2 + qV \quad (7)$$

## Peierls Phase

$$c_j^\dagger c_l \rightarrow c_j^\dagger c_l \exp \left[ \frac{iq}{\hbar} \int_{\mathbf{r}_j}^{\mathbf{r}_l} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{l} \right] = e^{i\phi_{jl}} c_j^\dagger c_l \quad (8)$$

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{\langle j,l \rangle} t e^{i\phi_{jl}} c_j^\dagger c_l + h.c. \quad (9)$$



# Braiding in a 2D $p$ -wave superconductor

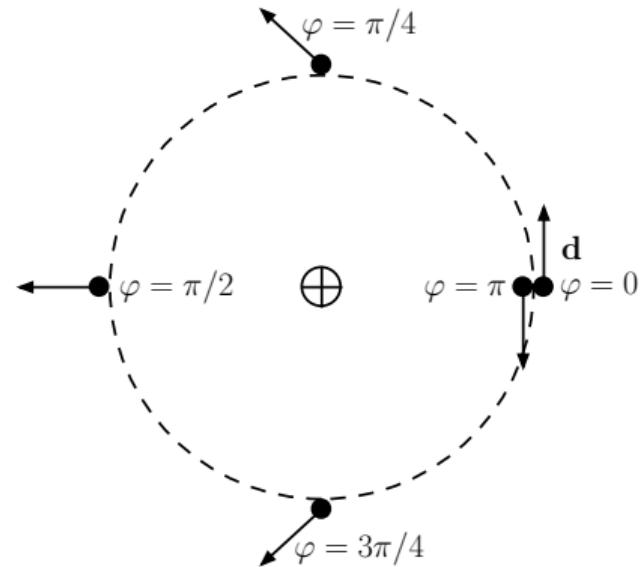
- $p$ -wave superconductors can exhibit half-quantum vortices.

- Triplet pairing

$$\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{k}) = \Delta e^{i\phi} \langle \cos \alpha, \sin \alpha, 0 \rangle (k_x + ik_y)$$

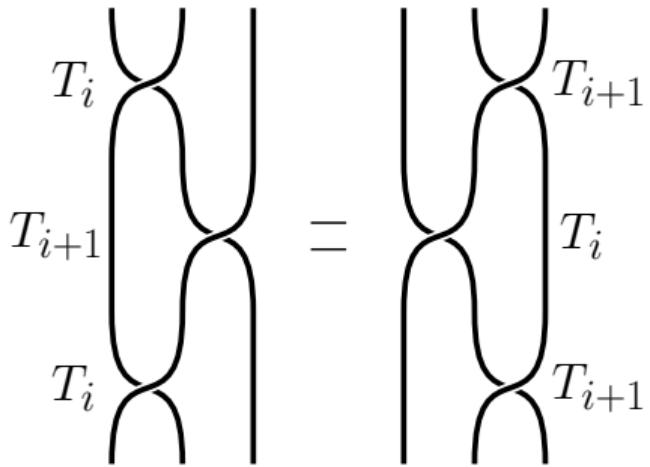
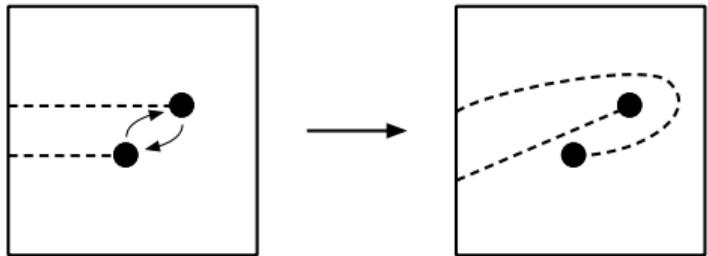
- The order phase  $\phi$  and angle  $\alpha$  of  $\mathbf{d}$  rotate by  $\pi$ :  $(\phi, \mathbf{d}) \mapsto (\phi + \pi, -\mathbf{d})$ .
- The order parameter  $\theta$  maps to itself,  $(0, 2\pi)$ , under the simultaneous change of both  $\mathbf{d}$  and  $\phi$ :  $\theta = \phi + \alpha$ .

$$\mathcal{H}_\Delta = \int d^2\mathbf{r} \Delta \left[ \Psi^\dagger \left[ e^{i\theta} * (\partial_x + i\partial_y) \right] \Psi + h.c. \right]$$



- if overall phase shifts by  $\theta$ :  $\Psi_\alpha \mapsto e^{i\theta/2} \Psi_\alpha$ .
- $(u, v) \mapsto (ue^{i\theta/2}, ve^{-i\theta/2})$

# Braiding in a 2D $p$ -wave superconductor



- Interchanging two MFs:

$$\gamma_1 \rightarrow \gamma_2$$

$$\gamma_2 \rightarrow -\gamma_1$$

- Exhibit Non-Abelian Statistics

- $a * b \neq b * a$

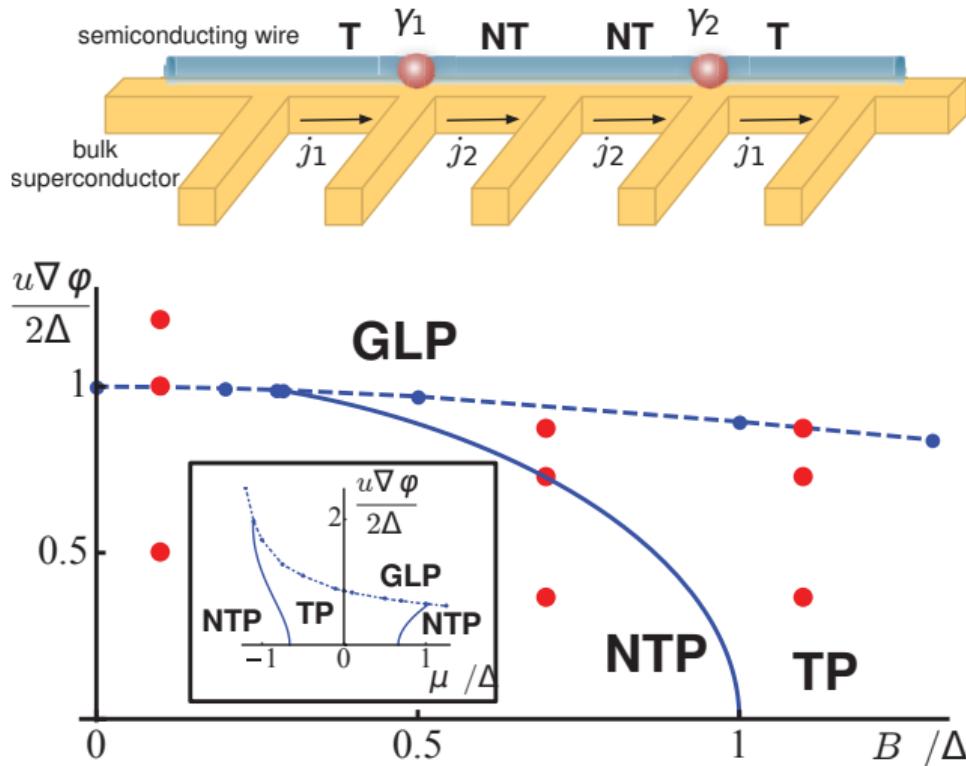
$$T_i T_j = T_j T_i$$

$$T_i T_{i+1} T_i = T_{i+1} T_i T_{i+1}$$

Ivanov, PRL **86**, 268 (2001).



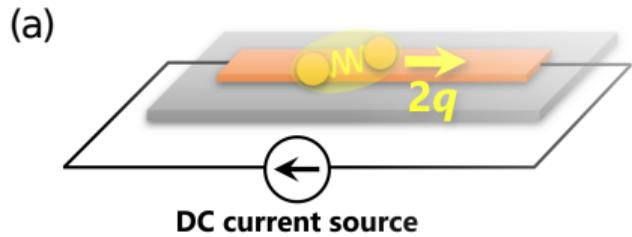
# Topological phase transition induced by a supercurrent



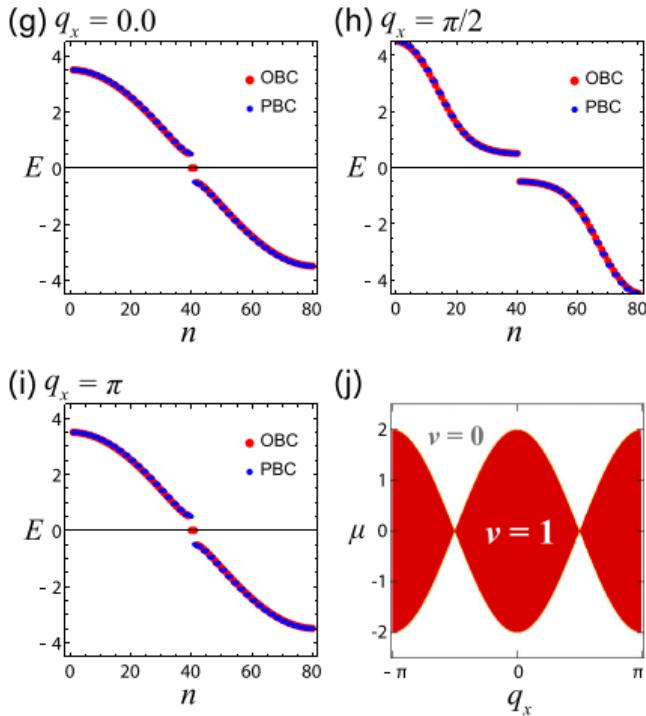
Romito et al., PRB 85, 020502(R) (2012).



# Topological phase transition induced by a supercurrent

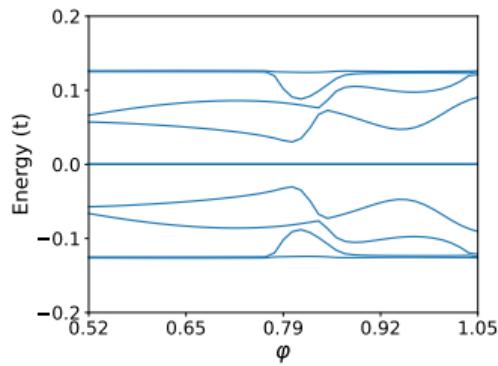
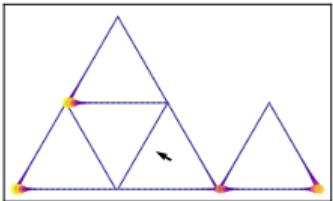
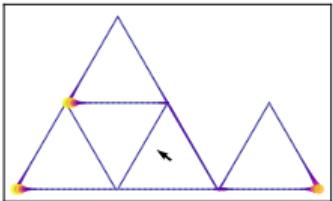
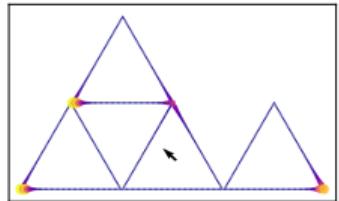
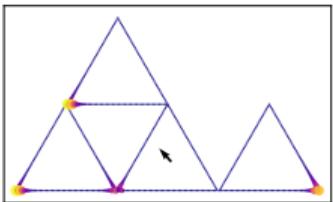
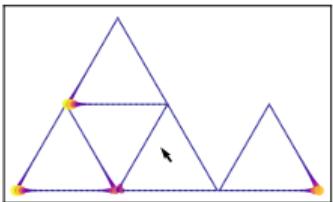
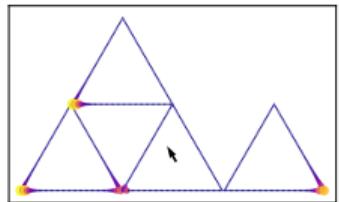


Takasan et al., *PRB* **106**, 014508 (2022).





# Braiding 2 of 4 MZMs eigenstate and spectral flow





$$\mathcal{H}(t) = v_F \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{p} + e\mathbf{A}(t)) \quad (10)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{E}_1 &= E \cos(\omega t) \hat{\mathbf{x}}, \\ \mathbf{E}_2 &= E \sin(Kx) \sin(2\omega t) \hat{\mathbf{y}}\end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Perform Fourier time-transform, HF approximation, and the limit  $Kx \ll 1$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}}^D = v_F \sigma_x p_x + v_F \sigma_y \left( C p_y + e B^D x \right), \quad (12)$$

where  $C = 1 - \left( \frac{v_F e E}{\hbar \omega^2} \right)^2$  and

$$B^D = \frac{K v_F^2 e^2 E^3}{4 \hbar^2 \omega^5}, \quad (13)$$

$$\epsilon_n^D = \pm v_F^2 \sqrt{\frac{n K e^3 E^3}{2 \hbar \omega^5}} \quad (14)$$



# 2DEG systems

$$\mathcal{H}(t) = \frac{1}{2m^*} (\mathbf{p} + e\mathbf{A}(t))^2 \quad (15)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{E}_1 &= E \cos(\omega t) \hat{\mathbf{x}}, \\ \mathbf{E}_2 &= -E \cos(Kx) \sin(\omega t) \hat{\mathbf{y}}\end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

Perform Fourier time-transform, HF approximation, apply periodic potential  $V(x)$ , and the limit  $Kx \ll 1$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{2DEG}} = \frac{1}{2m^*} \left[ p_x^2 + \left( p_y - eB^{\text{2DEG}}x \right)^2 \right], \quad (17)$$

where

$$B^{\text{2DEG}} = \frac{K^2 e E^2}{m^* \omega^3}, \quad (18)$$

$$\epsilon_n^{\text{2DEG}} = \frac{\hbar K^2 e^2 E^2}{m^{*2} \omega^3} \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right) \quad (19)$$