# Topological insulators and superconductors

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**Topological superconductors** 

- Topological superconductors in 1D: Kitaev model
- Topological superconductors in 2D: chiral p-wave SC
- Helical superconductors (top. SCs w/ TRS)
- 3D time-reversal invariant superconductor

## **Bogoliubov-de Gennes theory for superconductors**

Superconductor = Cooper pairs (boson) + Bogoliubov quasiparticles (fermions)



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Superconductor = Cooper pairs (boson) + Bogoliubov quasiparticles (fermions)



Particle-hole symmetry + bulk-boundary correspondence:

Majorana edge state at zero energy

# **1D topological superconductor: Majorana chain**

[Kitaev 2000]

**One-dimensional spinless p-wave** superconductor: Majorana chain

Experiments: InSb-nanowire-heterostructures

Hamiltoniar

Hamiltonian: 
$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{j} \left[ t(c_{j}^{\dagger}c_{j+1} + c_{j+1}^{\dagger}c_{j} - \mu c_{j}^{\dagger}c_{j} + \Delta(c_{j+1}^{\dagger}c_{j}^{\dagger} + c_{j}c_{j+1}) \right]$$
  
in momentum space: 
$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k} \left( c_{k}^{\dagger} \quad c_{-k} \right) \mathcal{H}_{BdG}(k) \begin{pmatrix} c_{k} \\ c_{-k}^{\dagger} \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\mathcal{H}_{BdG}(k) = \mathbf{d}(k) \cdot \vec{\tau}$$

$$d_x(k) = 2i\Delta \sin k \quad d_y(k) = 0$$
$$d_z(k) = 2t\cos k - \mu$$

Particle-hole symmetry:

$$\tau_x \mathcal{H}^*_{\mathrm{BdG}}(k) \tau_x = -\mathcal{H}_{\mathrm{BdG}}(-k)$$

Time-reversal symmetry:

$$\tau_z \mathcal{H}^*_{\mathrm{BdG}}(k) \tau_z = +\mathcal{H}_{\mathrm{BdG}}(-k)$$

energy spectrum:  $E_{\pm} = \pm |\mathbf{d}(k)|$ 



 $|\mu| > 2t:$ 

trivial superconductor

topological superconductor

 $<sup>|\</sup>mu| < 2t:$ 

# **1D topological superconductor: Majorana chain**

To reveal zero-energy edge states, consider different viewpoint: Majorana representation

Majorana fermion: Particle = Antiparticle

$$c_{j} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \gamma_{1j} + i \gamma_{2j} \right) \qquad c_{j}^{\dagger} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \gamma_{1j} - i \gamma_{2j} \right)$$

Anti-commutation relations:  $\{\gamma_{lj}, \gamma_{l'j'}\} = 2\delta_{ll'}\delta_{jj'} \quad (\gamma_{lj})^2 = 1$ 

 $\implies$  Majorana chain for spinless fermions

$$H = \frac{i}{2} \sum_{j} \left[ -\mu \gamma_{1j} \gamma_{2j} + (\Delta - t) \gamma_{2j} \gamma_{1j+1} + (\Delta + t) \gamma_{1j} \gamma_{2j+1} \right]$$

for  $\Delta = -t$ : nearest neighbor Majorana chain



[Kitaev 2000]

# **Experimental detection of 1D spinless topological SC**

1D spinless chiral p-wave superconductor is likely (?) realized in InSb-nanowire-heterostructures

magnetic field B



• Condition for topological phase:

$$B \propto E_{\rm Zeeman} > \sqrt{\Delta^2 - \mu^2}$$

[Sau, Lutchyn, Tewari, das Sarma, et al 2009] [Oreg, von Oppen, et al 2010]

[after Alicea, Rep. Prog. Phys. 2012]



[Mourik, Kouwenhoven et al, Science 2012]



# Majorana fermions in chiral p-wave superconductor

> Bulk-boundary correspondence: n = # Majorana edge modes

Majorana edge states are perfect heat conductor

Quantized thermal Hall conductance

$$\frac{\kappa_{xy}}{T} = \frac{\pi k_B^2}{48h} \int_{\mathrm{BZ}} d^2 \mathbf{k} \, \epsilon^{\mu\nu} \hat{\mathbf{m}} \cdot \left[ \partial_{k_{\mu}} \hat{\mathbf{m}} \times \partial_{k_{\nu}} \hat{\mathbf{m}} \right]$$

- Majorana zero mode at a vortex:
  - vortex: small hole with edge states
  - Majorana zero mode for  $\Phi = p \frac{h}{2e}$  with p odd (periodic vs. anti-periodic BC)











<sup>[</sup>Caroli, de Gennes, Matricon '64]

 $q_m$ 

# **Experimental detection of spinful chiral p-wave SC**

The transition-metal-oxide Sr<sub>2</sub>RuO<sub>4</sub> is likely (?) a *spinful* chiral p-wave superconductor with Chern number n=2 (per layer)

- Ru t<sub>2g</sub>-orbitals (4d<sup>4</sup>-electrons) hybridized with O p-oribitals form quasi-two-dimensional Fermi surfaces
- transition temperature  $T_C = 1.5K$
- strong anisotropies in spin dependent responses (NMR and Knight shift)
- signatures of edge states in tunneling conductance







**PRL 20001** 

tunneling conductance

#### [Maeno et al. JPSJ 81, 011009]

[Kashiwaya et al. PRL 2011]

# Helical superconductors (w/ time-reversal symmetry)



#### **Superconducting pairing with spin:**



CI ↑ <sup>Θ<sup>2</sup></sup> AI BDI

$$H_{\rm MF} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}\sigma} \xi_{\mathbf{k}} c^{\dagger}_{\mathbf{k}\sigma} c_{\mathbf{k}\sigma} + \sum_{\mathbf{k}\sigma\sigma'} \left[ \Delta_{\sigma\sigma'}(\mathbf{k}) c^{\dagger}_{\mathbf{k},\sigma} c^{\dagger}_{-\mathbf{k},\sigma'} + \Delta^{*}_{\sigma\sigma'}(\mathbf{k}) c_{-\mathbf{k},\sigma'} c_{\mathbf{k},\sigma} \right]$$

**2 x 2 Gap matrix:**  $\Delta(\mathbf{k}) = [\Delta_s(\mathbf{k})\sigma_0 + \mathbf{d}(\mathbf{k}) \cdot \vec{\sigma}]i\sigma_y$ 

Time-reversal symmetry:  $\sigma_y \Delta^{\dagger}(\mathbf{k}) \sigma_y = \Delta^{\mathrm{T}}(-\mathbf{k})$ 

Different spin-pairing symmetries: (anti-symmetry of wavefunction)

spin-triplet:

$$\begin{aligned} d_x(\mathbf{k}) - id_y(\mathbf{k}) &: |\uparrow\uparrow\rangle \\ d_x(\mathbf{k}) + id_y(\mathbf{k}) &: |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle & \text{odd parity:} \quad \mathbf{d}(\mathbf{k}) = -\mathbf{d}(-\mathbf{k}) \\ d_z(\mathbf{k}) &: \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) \end{aligned}$$

(also known as "helical superconductor")

Square lattice BdG Hamiltonian in the presence of time-reversal symmetry:

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{Simplest model:} \\ \text{(spinless chiral p-wave SC)}^2 \end{array} \quad \mathcal{H}_{\mathrm{BdG}}(\mathbf{k}) = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{H}_{p+ip}(\mathbf{k}) & 0 \\ 0 & \mathcal{H}_{p-ip}(\mathbf{k}) \end{pmatrix} \end{array}$ 

 $\varepsilon(\mathbf{k}) = 2t(\cos k_x + \cos k_y) - \mu \qquad d_x(\mathbf{k}) = \sin k_x \quad d_y(\mathbf{k}) = \sin k_y \quad d_z(\mathbf{k}) = 0$ 

TRS: 
$$T\mathcal{H}_{BdG}(\mathbf{k})T^{-1} = +\mathcal{H}_{BdG}(-\mathbf{k})$$
  $T = i\sigma_y \otimes \tau_0 \mathcal{K}$   $T^2 = -1$   
PHS:  $C\mathcal{H}_{BdG}(\mathbf{k})C^{-1} = -\mathcal{H}_{BdG}(-\mathbf{k})$   $C = \sigma_0 \otimes \tau_x \mathcal{K}$   $C^2 = +1$   $\begin{cases} class DIII \\ class DIII \end{cases}$ 

Combination of time-reversal and particle-hole symmetry:

(chiral symmetry)  $U_S = (i\sigma_y \otimes \tau_0)(\sigma_0 \otimes \tau_x) \qquad U_S \mathcal{H}_{BdG}(\mathbf{k}) + \mathcal{H}_{BdG}(\mathbf{k})U_S = 0$ 

 $\blacktriangleright$   $\mathcal{H}_{BdG}$  can be brought into block-off diagonal form: (transform to basis in which S is diagonal)

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{BdG}(\mathbf{k}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & D(\mathbf{k}) \\ D^{\dagger}(\mathbf{k}) & 0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad D(\mathbf{k}) = (i\sigma_y) \left\{ \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} \sigma_0 + i\Delta_t [\mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \vec{\sigma}] \right\}$$

> TRS acts on 
$$D(\mathbf{k})$$
 as follows:  $D^T(-\mathbf{k}) = -D(\mathbf{k})$ 

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Simplest model: (spinless chiral p-wave SC)<sup>2</sup>  $\mathcal{H}_{BdG}(\mathbf{k}) = \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon(\mathbf{k})\sigma_0 & \Delta_t[\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{k})\cdot\vec{\sigma}](i\sigma_y) \\ \Delta_t(-i\sigma_y)[\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{k})\cdot\vec{\sigma}] & -\varepsilon(\mathbf{k})\sigma_0 \end{pmatrix}$   $\varepsilon(\mathbf{k}) = 2t(\cos k_x + \cos k_y) - \mu \quad d_x(\mathbf{k}) = \sin k_x \quad d_y(\mathbf{k}) = \sin k_y \quad d_z(\mathbf{k}) = 0$ TRS:  $T\mathcal{H}_{BdG}(\mathbf{k})T^{-1} = +\mathcal{H}_{BdG}(-\mathbf{k}) \quad T = i\sigma_y \otimes \tau_0 \mathcal{K} \quad T^2 = -1$ 

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$$\widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{BdG}(\mathbf{k}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & D(\mathbf{k}) \\ D^{\dagger}(\mathbf{k}) & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{where:} \quad D(\mathbf{k}) = (i\sigma_y) \left\{ \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} \sigma_0 + i\Delta_t [\mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \vec{\sigma}] \right\}$$

Spectrum flattening:  $Q = \mathbb{1}_{4N} - 2P$ Projector onto filled Bloch bands  $Q(\mathbf{k}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & q(\mathbf{k}) \\ q^{\dagger}(\mathbf{k}) & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ 

> TRS acts on  $q(\mathbf{k})$  as follows:  $q(\mathbf{k}) = -q^T(-\mathbf{k})$ 

The eigenfunctions of  $Q(\mathbf{k})$  are:

$$|u_a^{\pm}(\mathbf{k})\rangle_{\mathrm{N}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} n_a \\ \pm q^{\dagger}(\mathbf{k})n_a \end{pmatrix}$$
 where:  $(n_a)_b = \delta_{ab}$ 

are globally defined.

 $(-1)^{\nu} = \prod_{a=1}^{4} \frac{\Pr\left[\omega(\Lambda_a)\right]}{\sqrt{\det\left[\omega(\Lambda_a)\right]}} = \pm 1 \qquad \qquad \omega(\mathbf{k}) = \sqrt{u_a^-(-\mathbf{k})} |\Theta u_b^-(\mathbf{k})\rangle_{\mathrm{N}}$ **Z**<sub>2</sub> topological invariant:  $\Rightarrow \left| (-1)^{\nu} = \prod_{a=1}^{4} \frac{\Pr\left[q^{T}(\Lambda_{a})\right]}{\sqrt{\det\left[q(\Lambda_{a})\right]}} = \pm 1 \right| \begin{array}{c} q(\mathbf{k}) = -q^{T}(-\mathbf{k}) \\ q^{\dagger}(\mathbf{k}) = q^{-1}(\mathbf{k}) \end{array} \right|_{\text{formation}}$ 

same symmetries as sewing matrix)



#### **Bulk-boundary correspondence:**

By analogy to chiral p-wave SC: (for  $|\mu| < 4t$ ) two counter-propagating Majorana edge modes

-protected by TRS and PHS

 possible condensed matter realization: thin film of CePt<sub>3</sub>Si? helical Majorana edge states:

 $k_x$ 

Cubic lattice BdG Hamiltonian in the presence of time-reversal symmetry:

$$\mathcal{H}_{\mathrm{BdG}}(\mathbf{k}) = \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon(\mathbf{k})\sigma_0 & \Delta_t[\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{k})\cdot\vec{\sigma}](i\sigma_y) \\ \Delta_t(-i\sigma_y)[\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{k})\cdot\vec{\sigma}] & -\varepsilon(\mathbf{k})\sigma_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\varepsilon(\mathbf{k}) = 2t(\cos k_x + \cos k_y + \cos k_z) - \mu$$

$$\overset{\Theta H(\mathbf{k})\Theta^{-1} = + H(-\mathbf{k}); \Theta^2 = \pm 1}{\underset{\Pi \neq \mathbf{k}}{\overset{\Theta^2}{=}} + \underset{\Pi \neq \mathbf{k}}{\overset{\Theta^2}{=} + \underset{\Pi \neq \mathbf{k}}{\overset{\Theta^2}{=}} + \underset{\Pi \neq \mathbf{k}}{\overset{\Theta^2}{=} + \underset{\Pi \neq \mathbf{k}}{\overset{\Theta^2}{=}} + \underset{\Pi \neq \mathbf{k}}{\overset{\Theta^2}{=}} + \underset{\Pi \neq \mathbf{k}}{\overset{\Theta^2}{=} + \underset{\Pi \neq \mathbf{k}}{\overset{\Theta^2}{=}} + \underset{\Pi \neq \mathbf{k}}{\overset{\Theta^2}{=} + \underset{\Pi \to \mathbf{k}}{\overset{\Theta^2}{=} + \underset{\Pi \to \mathbf{$$



TRS 
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Chiral symmetry (TRS x PHS):  $U_S \mathcal{H}_{BdG}(\mathbf{k}) + \mathcal{H}_{BdG}(\mathbf{k})U_S = 0$ 

 $\sim$   $\mathcal{H}_{BdG}$  can be brought into block-off diagonal form: (transform to basis in which S is diagonal)

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{BdG}(\mathbf{k}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & D(\mathbf{k}) \\ D^{\dagger}(\mathbf{k}) & 0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad D(\mathbf{k}) = (i\sigma_y) \left\{ \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} \sigma_0 + i\Delta_t [\mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \vec{\sigma}] \right\}$$

> TRS acts on 
$$D(\mathbf{k})$$
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Lattice BdG Hamiltonian: 
$$\widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{BdG}(\mathbf{k}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & D(\mathbf{k}) \\ D^{\dagger}(\mathbf{k}) & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
  
 $\blacktriangleright$  Off-diagonal block:  $D(\mathbf{k}) = (i\sigma_y) \{ \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} \sigma_0 + i\Delta_t [\mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \vec{\sigma}] \}$   
Mapping  $D(\mathbf{k})$ : Brillouin zone  $\longmapsto D(\mathbf{k})$  TRS:  $D(\mathbf{k}) = -D^T(\mathbf{k})$   
 $\blacktriangleright$  Spectrum flattening:  $q(\mathbf{k}) = \sum_a \frac{1}{\lambda_a(\mathbf{k})} u_a(\mathbf{k}) u_a^{\dagger}(\mathbf{k}) D(\mathbf{k}) \quad u_a(\mathbf{k})$ : eigenvectors of  $DD^{\dagger}$   
Mapping  $q(\mathbf{k})$ : Brillouin zone  $\longmapsto q(\mathbf{k}) \in U(2)$   
 $\pi_2[U(2)] = 0$   
 $\text{TRS: } q(\mathbf{k}) = -q^T(-\mathbf{k})$   
 $\pi_3[U(2)] = \mathbb{Z}$ 

### Bulk-boundary correspondence:

|W| = # Kramers-degenerate Majorana states

Possible condensed matter realization: CePt<sub>3</sub>Si, Li<sub>2</sub>Pt<sub>3</sub>B, CeRhSi<sub>3</sub>, CeIrSi<sub>3</sub>, etc.

