# Experimental realization of Majorana fermions

#### -Quasi degenerate perturbation theory

- -Proximity effect near s-wave
- -Effective p-wave pairing from s-wave proposals for experiments
- -Delft experiment

### Quasi degenerate perturbation theory



## Quasi degenerate perturbation theory

$$H = H^0 + H' = H^0 + H^1 + H^2$$

$$\tilde{H} = e^{-S} H e^{S} = \sum_{j} \frac{1}{j!} \left[ H, S \right]^{(j)}$$

- $H^0$  diagonal part of diagonal block
- $H^1$  off-diagonal part of diagonal block
- $H^2$  off-diagonal block
- S choose off-diagonal block!

$$\tilde{H}_{d} = \sum_{j} \frac{1}{(2j)!} \left[ H^{0} + H^{1}, S \right]^{(2j)} + \sum_{j} \frac{1}{(2j+1)!} \left[ H^{2}, S \right]^{(2j+1)}$$
$$\tilde{H}_{n} = \sum_{j} \frac{1}{(2j+1)!} \left[ H^{0} + H^{1}, S \right]^{(2j+1)} + \sum_{j} \frac{1}{(2j)!} \left[ H^{2}, S \right]^{(2j)} = ! = 0$$

Results up to second order in H':

$$\begin{array}{ll} H_{mm'}^{(0)} &= H_{mm'}^{0} \\ H_{mm'}^{(1)} &= H_{mm'}^{'} \end{array} & H_{mm'}^{(2)} &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{l} \frac{H_{ml}^{\prime}}{E_{m} - E_{l}} H_{lm'}^{\prime} + H_{ml}^{\prime} \frac{H_{lm'}^{\prime}}{E_{m'} - E_{l}} \end{array}$$

## Proximity effect



$$H = \sum_{ij} h_{ij}^{N} c_{i}^{\dagger} c_{j} + \sum_{ij} h_{ij}^{S} b_{i}^{\dagger} b_{j} + \sum_{ij} (\Delta_{ij} b_{i} b_{j} + h.c.) + \sum_{ij} \left( \Gamma_{ij} b_{i}^{\dagger} c_{j} + h.c. \right)$$
$$H_{BdG} = \begin{pmatrix} H_{N} & 0 & \Gamma & 0 \\ 0 & -H_{N}^{*} & 0 & -\Gamma \\ \Gamma^{\dagger} & 0 & H_{S} & \Delta \\ 0 & -\Gamma^{\dagger} & \Delta^{\dagger} & -H_{S}^{*} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c \\ c^{\dagger} \\ b \\ b^{\dagger} \end{pmatrix}$$



Effective descripton of the normal region?



$$H_{BdG}^{Eff} = \begin{pmatrix} H_N' & \Delta' \\ \Delta'^{\dagger} & -H_N'^* \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c \\ c^{\dagger} \end{pmatrix}$$

### Proximity effect s-wave case

A simple model: 1D quantum wire on top of a 1D s-wave superconductor



$$\varepsilon_i = p^2/2m_i - \mu_i$$

#### Proximity effect s-wave case

Diagonalizing the superconductor:

$$H_{BdG} = \left(\begin{array}{cc} N & T \\ T^{\dagger} & S \end{array}\right) \to H'_{BdG} = \left(\begin{array}{cc} N' & T' \\ T'^{\dagger} & S' \end{array}\right)$$

$$S = \sqrt{\varepsilon_2^2 + \Delta^2} \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\varphi) & 0 & 0 & \sin(\varphi) \\ 0 & \cos(\varphi) & -\sin(\varphi) & 0 \\ 0 & -\sin(\varphi) & -\cos(\varphi) & 0 \\ \sin(\varphi) & 0 & 0 & -\cos(\varphi) \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\varphi) \\ \sin(\varphi) \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_2^2 + \Delta^2}} \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_2 \\ \Delta \end{pmatrix}$$
$$S' = W^{\dagger}SW = \sqrt{\varepsilon_2^2 + \Delta^2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \qquad W = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\varphi/2) & 0 & 0 & -\sin(\varphi/2) \\ 0 & \cos(\varphi/2) & \sin(\varphi/2) & 0 \\ 0 & -\sin(\varphi/2) & \cos(\varphi/2) & 0 \\ \sin(\varphi/2) & 0 & 0 & \cos(\varphi/2) \end{pmatrix}$$

Transformed coupling:

$$T' = TW = t \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\varphi/2) & 0 & 0 & -\sin(\varphi/2) \\ 0 & \cos(\varphi/2) & \sin(\varphi/2) & 0 \\ 0 & \sin(\varphi/2) & -\cos(\varphi/2) & 0 \\ -\sin(\varphi/2) & 0 & 0 & -\cos(\varphi/2) \end{pmatrix}$$

#### Proximity effect s-wave case

Apply second order quasi degenerate perturbation theory:

$$\begin{array}{ll} H^{(0)}_{mm'} = H^0_{mm'} \\ H^{(1)}_{mm'} = H^{'}_{mm'} \end{array} & H^{(2)}_{mm'} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_l \frac{H^{\prime}_{ml}}{E_m - E_l} H^{\prime}_{lm'} + H^{\prime}_{ml} \frac{H^{\prime}_{lm'}}{E_{m'} - E_l} \end{array}$$

0

Effective BdG operator for normal part:

$$N' \approx \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_{1} & \alpha \\ \alpha & \varepsilon_{1} \\ & -\varepsilon_{1} & -\alpha \\ & -\alpha & -\varepsilon_{1} \end{pmatrix}}_{H^{(0)} + H^{(1)}} & \Delta eff \approx \frac{t^{2}}{\Delta} \\ s-wave characteristics \\ is inherited! \\ + \underbrace{\frac{1}{\varepsilon_{2}^{2} + \Delta^{2} - \varepsilon_{1}^{2}}}_{t^{2}\Delta} \begin{pmatrix} -(\varepsilon_{1} + \varepsilon_{2})t^{2} & t^{2}\Delta \\ & -(\varepsilon_{1} + \varepsilon_{2})t^{2} & -t^{2}\Delta \\ & -t^{2}\Delta & (\varepsilon_{1} + \varepsilon_{2})t^{2} \\ & (\varepsilon_{1} + \varepsilon_{2})t^{2} \end{pmatrix}}_{(\varepsilon_{1} + \varepsilon_{2})t^{2}} \underbrace{$$

### Andreev reflection in s- and p-wave



# Effective p-wave pairing from s-wave

HgTe edge in proximity to an s-wave superconductor



Because of the chiral nature of electrons Andreev and inverse Andreev reflection have different phase! ZBCP expected in NIS junction!!

L. Fu and C. L. Kane, Phys. Rev. B, 79, 161408(R) (2009).

# Effective p-wave pairing from s-wave



L. Fu and C. L. Kane, Phys. Rev. B, 79, 161408(R) (2009).

## Lutchyn's wire

1D quantum wire with spin orbit coupling in a magnetic field on top of a superconductor

$$H_{wire} = p^2 - \mu + h\sigma_z + p\alpha\sigma_y$$
$$E_{\pm} = p^2 \pm \sqrt{h^2 + \alpha^2 p^2} - \mu$$



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

### Four possible junctions and smoking guns



## Delft experiment



V. Mourik, K. Zuo, S. M. Frolov, S. R. Plissard, E. P. A. M. Bakkers, L. P. Kouwenhoven, Science, 336, 1003 (2012)

### Delft experiment

