

Scattering theory on surface Majorana fermions by an impurity in $^3\text{He-B}$

The University of Tokyo

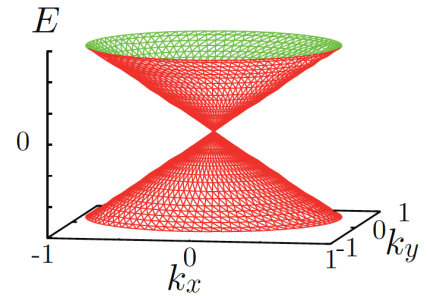
Yasumasa Tsutsumi

Y. Tsutsumi, Phys. Rev. Lett. **118**, 145301 (2017).

H. Ikegami, S. B. Chung, and K. Kono, J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. **82**, 124607 (2013).

K. Kono, presentation in next Half Plenary, 084.

Outline



- Surface Majorana fermions in ^3He B-phase
- An experiment to detect the Majorana fermions
 - ion mobility below **a free surface** H.Ikegami et al., JPSJ 82, 124607 (2013).
- Scattering theory on the Majorana fermions
 - ion (impurity) scattering \rightarrow ion mobility
 - Majorana fermion \rightarrow plane wave with spin & particle-hole channels
- Calculated mobility
 - mobility parallel to a free surface \rightarrow **quantitative agreement with experiment**
 - mobility perpendicular to a free surface \rightarrow **more affected by Majorana fermions**

Surface Majorana fermions in $^3\text{He-B}$

Bogoliubov-de Gennes equation

$$\begin{pmatrix} \xi(\mathbf{k}) & -\hat{\Delta}(\mathbf{k}) \\ -\hat{\Delta}^\dagger(\mathbf{k}) & -\xi(\mathbf{k}) \end{pmatrix} \Psi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = E_{\mathbf{k}} \Psi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\xi(\mathbf{k}) = \hbar(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}_F) \cdot \mathbf{v}_F \quad (\text{Andreev approximation})$$

$$\hat{\Delta}(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{\Delta}{k_F} \begin{pmatrix} -k_x + ik_y & k_z \\ k_z & k_x + ik_y \end{pmatrix}$$

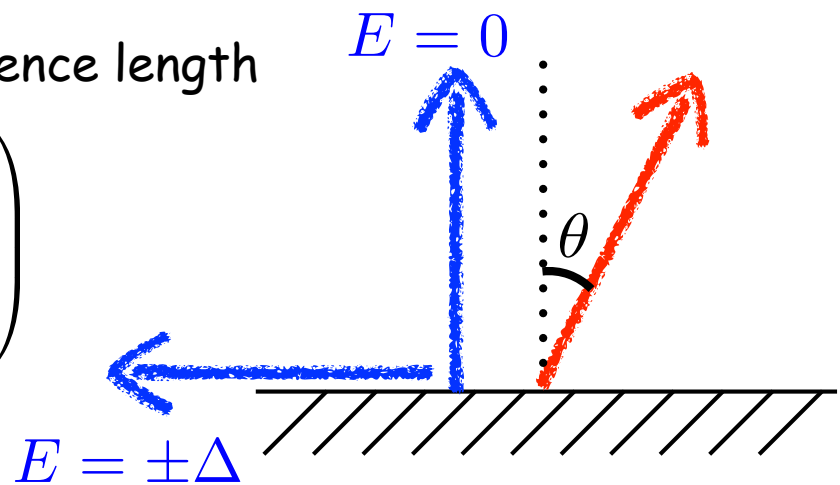
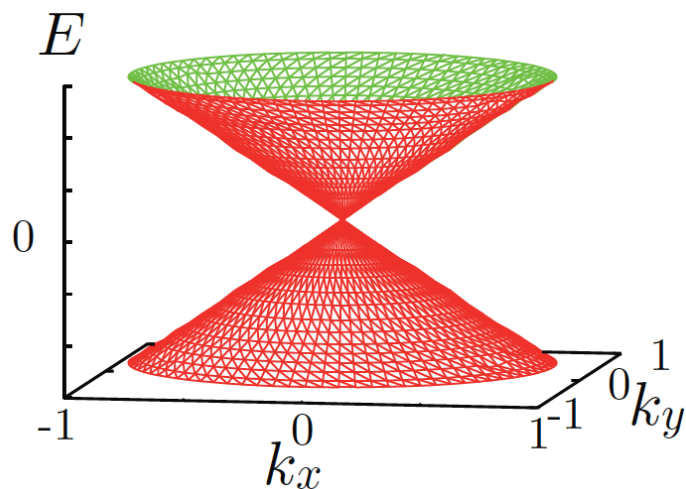
quasiparticle energy

$$E_{\mathbf{k}}^\pm = \pm \Delta \sin \theta$$

$$\Psi_{\mathbf{k}}^\pm(\mathbf{r}) = N e^{i\mathbf{k}_F \cdot \mathbf{r}} \exp\left(-\frac{z}{2\xi_0}\right) \Phi_{\mathbf{k}_\parallel}^\pm$$

$$\xi_0 \equiv \frac{\hbar v_F}{2\Delta} : \text{coherence length}$$

$$\Phi_{\mathbf{k}_\parallel}^\pm = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\phi/2} \\ \mp i e^{i\phi/2} \\ \pm e^{i\phi/2} \\ i e^{-i\phi/2} \end{pmatrix}$$



Surface Majorana fermions in $^3\text{He-B}$

wave function of bound state

$$\Psi_{\mathbf{k}_{\parallel}}^{\pm}(\mathbf{r}) = N e^{i\mathbf{k}_{\parallel} \cdot \mathbf{r}} \sin(k_{\perp} z) \exp\left(-\frac{z}{2\xi_0}\right) \Phi_{\mathbf{k}_{\parallel}}^{\pm} \quad k_{\perp} = \sqrt{k_{\text{F}}^2 - k_{\parallel}^2}$$

field operator

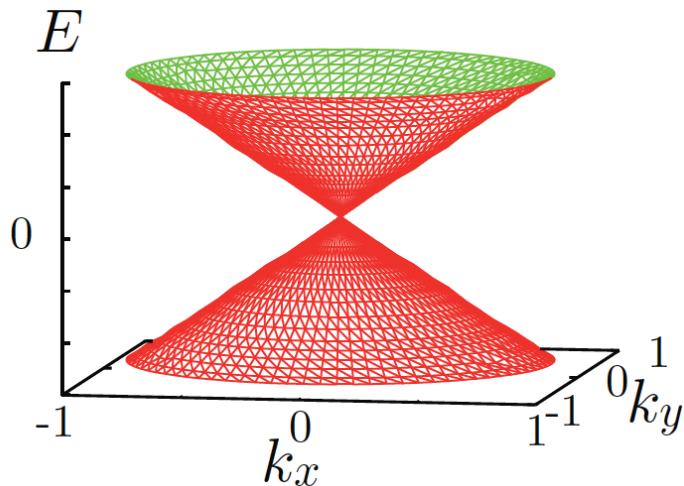
$$\hat{\Psi}(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\Psi}_{\uparrow}(\mathbf{r}) \\ \hat{\Psi}_{\downarrow}(\mathbf{r}) \\ \hat{\Psi}_{\uparrow}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{r}) \\ \hat{\Psi}_{\downarrow}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{r}) \end{pmatrix} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}_{\parallel}} \left[\hat{\gamma}_{\mathbf{k}_{\parallel}} \Psi_{\mathbf{k}_{\parallel}}^{+}(\mathbf{r}) + \hat{\gamma}_{-\mathbf{k}_{\parallel}}^{\dagger} \Psi_{\mathbf{k}_{\parallel}}^{-}(\mathbf{r}) \right]$$

$$\hat{\Psi}_{\sigma}(\mathbf{r}) = \hat{\Psi}_{\sigma}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{r}) \quad \text{Majorana fermion}$$

quasiparticle energy

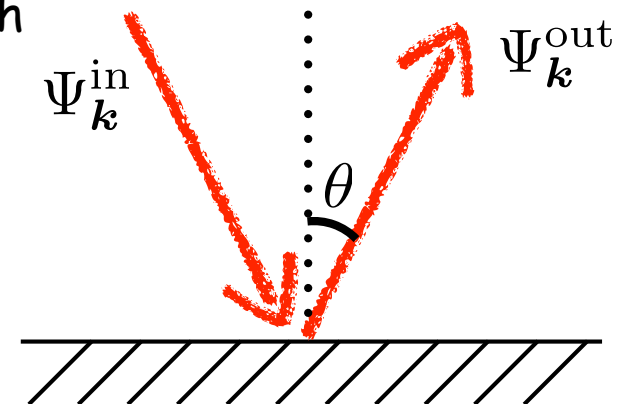
$$E_{\mathbf{k}}^{\pm} = \pm \Delta \sin \theta$$

$$\Psi_{\mathbf{k}}^{\pm}(\mathbf{r}) = N e^{i\mathbf{k}_{\text{F}} \cdot \mathbf{r}} \exp\left(-\frac{z}{2\xi_0}\right) \Phi_{\mathbf{k}_{\parallel}}^{\pm}$$



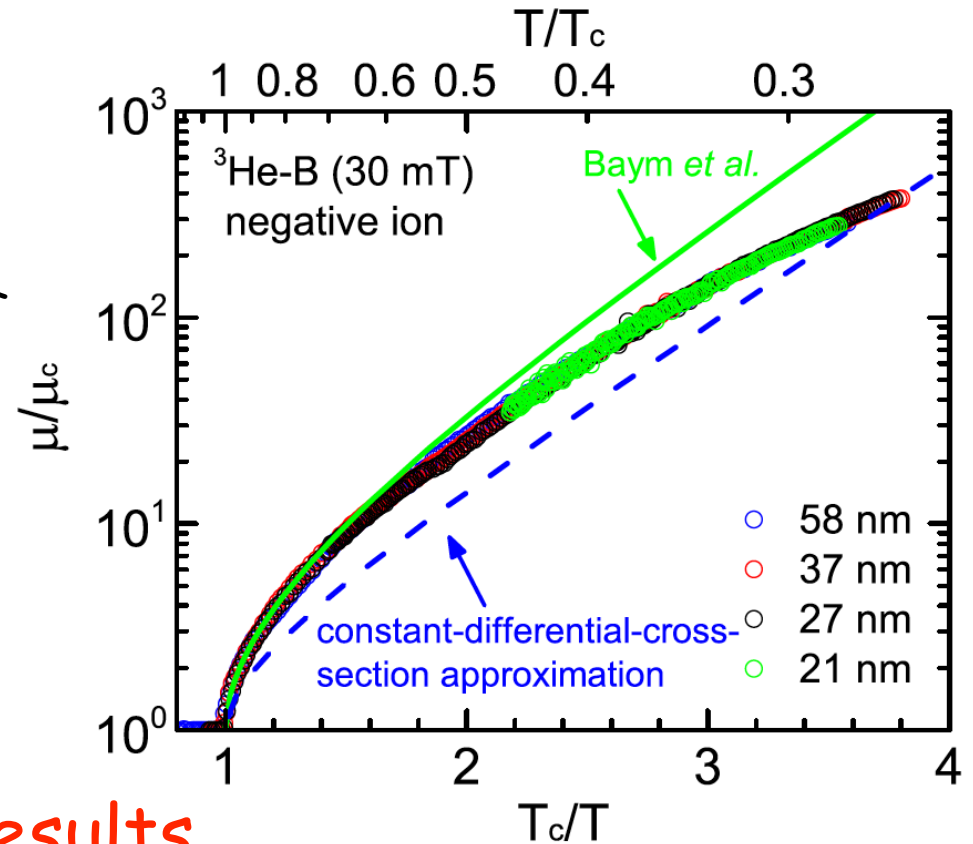
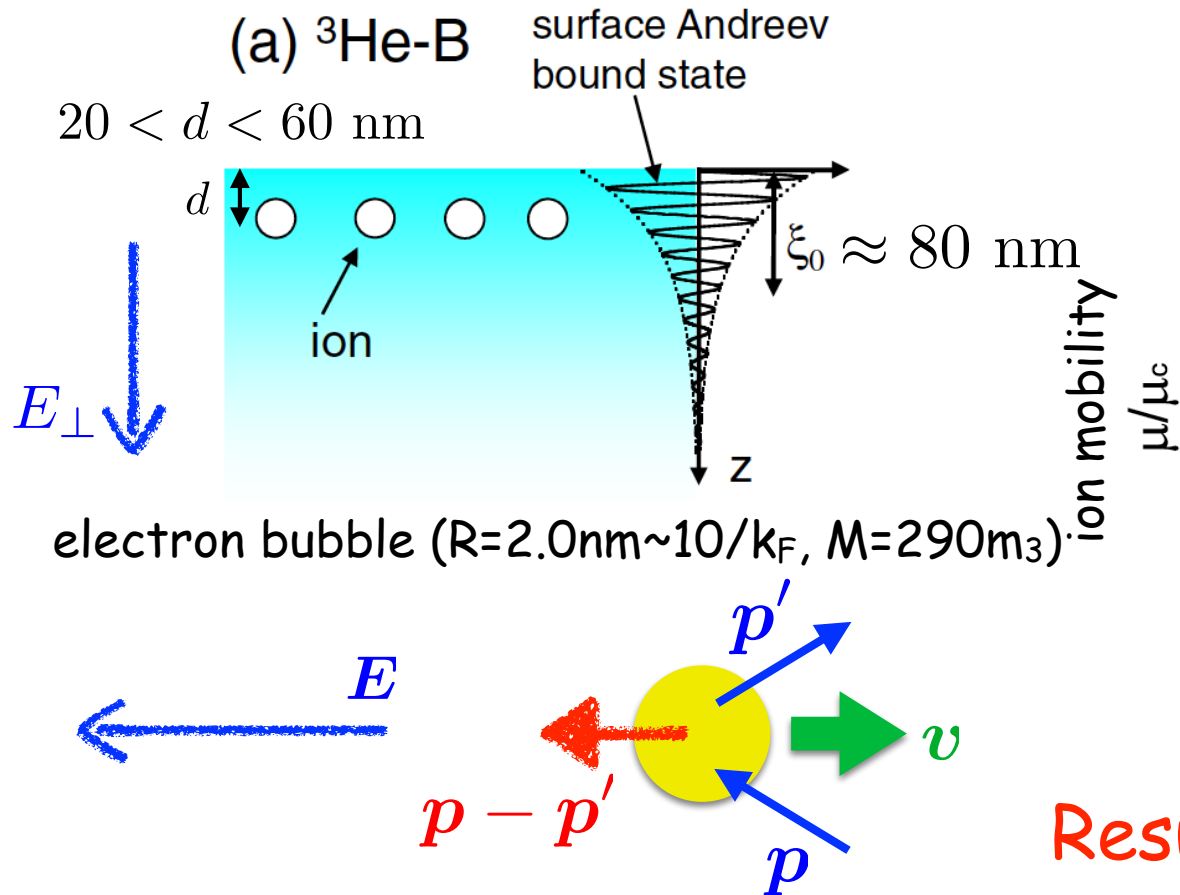
$\xi_0 \equiv \frac{\hbar v_{\text{F}}}{2\Delta}$: coherence length

$$\Phi_{\mathbf{k}_{\parallel}}^{\pm} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\phi/2} \\ \mp i e^{i\phi/2} \\ \pm e^{i\phi/2} \\ i e^{-i\phi/2} \end{pmatrix}$$



Experiment for ions trapped below a free surface

H. Ikegami *et al.*, JPSJ **82**, 124607 (2013).



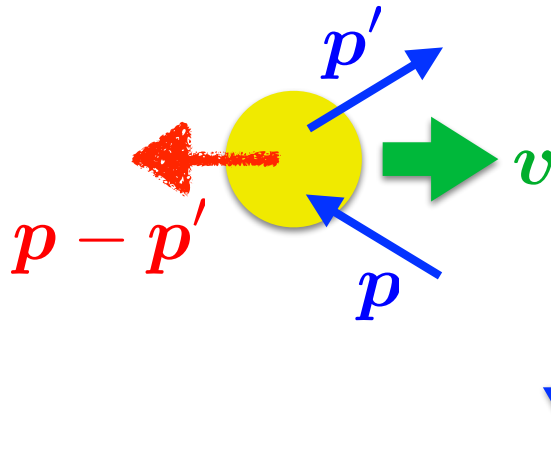
Results

Mobility is smaller than the bulk value.
scattering by surface bound state

Mobility is independent of trapped depth.
despite spatial dependence of SBS

Mobility at $d = 35 \text{ nm}$ without magnetic field exhibits the same temperature dependence.

Equation of motion for electron bubble



$$\frac{d\mathbf{P}}{dt} = - \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}', \sigma, \sigma'} \hbar(\mathbf{k}' - \mathbf{k})(1 - f_{\mathbf{k}'})f_{\mathbf{k}}\Gamma_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{k}, \sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{k}', \sigma')$$

$p = \hbar\mathbf{k}$: quasiparticle momentum $f_{\mathbf{k}} = \left(e^{E_{\mathbf{k}}/k_{\text{B}}T} + 1\right)^{-1}$: Fermi distribution
 σ : quasiparticle spin $E_{\mathbf{k}}$: quasiparticle energy

first order of \mathbf{v}

$$\frac{d\mathbf{P}}{dt} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2k_{\text{B}}T} \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}', \sigma, \sigma'} (\mathbf{k}' - \mathbf{k})(\mathbf{k}' - \mathbf{k}) \cdot \mathbf{v}(1 - f_{\mathbf{k}'})f_{\mathbf{k}}\Gamma(\mathbf{k}, \sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{k}', \sigma')$$

transition rate: $\Gamma(\mathbf{k}, \sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{k}', \sigma') = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar}\delta(E_{\mathbf{k}'} - E_{\mathbf{k}})|t(\mathbf{k}, \sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{k}', \sigma')|^2$

Stokes drag force: $\frac{d\mathbf{P}}{dt} = -\eta\mathbf{v}$

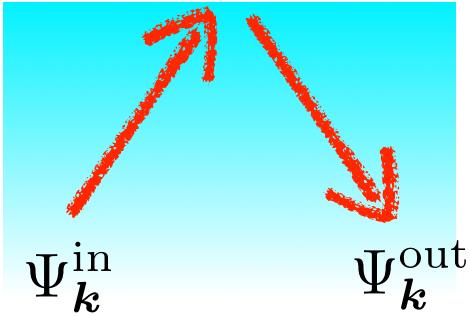
elastic scattering

driving force: $e\mathbf{E} = \frac{e}{\mu}\mathbf{v}$

parallel $\frac{e}{\mu_{\parallel}} = \eta_{\parallel} = \frac{\pi\hbar}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}'} (k'_{\parallel} - k_{\parallel})^2 \left(-\frac{\partial f_{\mathbf{k}}}{\partial E_{\mathbf{k}}}\right) \delta(E_{\mathbf{k}'} - E_{\mathbf{k}}) \sum_{\sigma, \sigma'} |t(\mathbf{k}, \sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{k}', \sigma')|^2$

perpendicular $\frac{e}{\mu_{\perp}} = \eta_{\perp} = \pi\hbar \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}'} (k'_z - k_z)^2 \left(-\frac{\partial f_{\mathbf{k}}}{\partial E_{\mathbf{k}}}\right) \delta(E_{\mathbf{k}'} - E_{\mathbf{k}}) \sum_{\sigma, \sigma'} |t(\mathbf{k}, \sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{k}', \sigma')|^2$

T-matrix



$$\sum_{\sigma, \sigma'} |t(\mathbf{k}, \sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{k}', \sigma')|^2 = \sum_{\sigma, \sigma' = \uparrow, \downarrow} |\langle \Psi_{\mathbf{k}', \sigma'} | T_S | \Psi_{\mathbf{k}, \sigma} \rangle|^2$$

momentum eigenstate

radius of electron bubble: $R \sim k_F^{-1} \ll \xi$

$$\langle \mathbf{r} | \Psi_{\mathbf{k}, \sigma} \rangle = \Psi_{\mathbf{k}, \sigma}(\mathbf{r}) = N e^{i\mathbf{k}_F \cdot \mathbf{r}} \exp\left(-\frac{z}{2\xi}\right) \Phi_{\mathbf{k}, \sigma}$$

$$\approx N \exp\left(-\frac{z_0}{2\xi}\right) e^{i\mathbf{k}_F \cdot \mathbf{r}} \Phi_{\mathbf{k}, \sigma}$$

normalization $\rightarrow \Phi_{\mathbf{k}, \sigma} \langle \mathbf{r} | \mathbf{k}_F \rangle$

$$\Phi_{\mathbf{k}, \uparrow} = \frac{e^{-i\phi/2}}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ i \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Phi_{\mathbf{k}, \downarrow} = \frac{e^{i\phi/2}}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ i \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

T-matrix element

$$\langle \mathbf{k}'_F | T_S | \mathbf{k}_F \rangle \equiv T_S(\hat{\mathbf{k}}', \hat{\mathbf{k}}, E, z_0) = T_N(\hat{\mathbf{k}}', \hat{\mathbf{k}}) + N_F \int \frac{d\Omega_{\mathbf{k}''}}{4\pi} T_N(\hat{\mathbf{k}}', \hat{\mathbf{k}}'') \left[\underline{g_S(\hat{\mathbf{k}}'', E, z_0) - g_N} \right] T_S(\hat{\mathbf{k}}'', \hat{\mathbf{k}}, E, z_0)$$

intermediate state

YT and K. Machida, JPSJ **81**, 074607 (2012).
H. Wu and J. A. Sauls, PRB **88**, 184506 (2013).

T-matrix element in normal state

$$T_N(\hat{\mathbf{k}}', \hat{\mathbf{k}}) = \begin{pmatrix} t_N(\hat{\mathbf{k}}', \hat{\mathbf{k}}) \hat{1} & 0 \\ 0 & -t_N(-\hat{\mathbf{k}}', -\hat{\mathbf{k}})^* \hat{1} \end{pmatrix}, \quad t_N(\hat{\mathbf{k}}', \hat{\mathbf{k}}) = -\frac{1}{\pi N_F} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1) \underline{e^{i\delta_l} \sin \delta_l P_l(\hat{\mathbf{k}}' \cdot \hat{\mathbf{k}})}$$

phase shift: δ_l

hard sphere potential $\rightarrow \tan \delta_l = j_l(k_F R) / n_l(k_F R) \quad k_F R = 11.17$

O. Shevtsov and J. A. Sauls, PRB **94**, 064511 (2016).

Mobility

parallel $\frac{e}{\mu_{\parallel}} = \frac{\pi \hbar}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}'} (k'_{\parallel} - k_{\parallel})^2 \left(-\frac{\partial f_{\mathbf{k}}}{\partial E_{\mathbf{k}}} \right) \delta(E_{\mathbf{k}'} - E_{\mathbf{k}}) \sum_{\sigma, \sigma'} |t(\mathbf{k}, \sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{k}', \sigma')|^2$

perpendicular $\frac{e}{\mu_{\perp}} = \pi \hbar \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}'} (k'_z - k_z)^2 \left(-\frac{\partial f_{\mathbf{k}}}{\partial E_{\mathbf{k}}} \right) \delta(E_{\mathbf{k}'} - E_{\mathbf{k}}) \sum_{\sigma, \sigma'} |t(\mathbf{k}, \sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{k}', \sigma')|^2$



$$\sum_{\mathbf{k}} \rightarrow \int_{-\Delta}^{\Delta} dE_{\mathbf{k}} \int \frac{d\Omega_{\mathbf{k}}}{4\pi} N(\hat{\mathbf{k}}, E_{\mathbf{k}}, z_0)$$

$$\frac{e}{\mu_{\parallel, \perp}} = \frac{\pi^2}{4} \exp\left(-2\frac{z_0}{\xi}\right) n_3 p_F \int_{-\Delta}^{\Delta} dE \left(-\frac{\partial f}{\partial E} \right) \sigma_{\text{tr}}^{\parallel, \perp}(E, z_0)$$

DOS

$$N(E, z) = \frac{\pi}{2} N_F \frac{|E|}{\Delta} \exp\left(-\frac{z}{\xi}\right) \quad n_3 : {}^3\text{He particle density}$$

Mobility parallel to surface

$$\frac{e}{\mu_{\parallel}} = \frac{\pi^2}{4} \exp\left(-2\frac{z_0}{\xi}\right) n_{3pF} \int_{-\Delta}^{\Delta} dE \left(-\frac{\partial f}{\partial E}\right) \sigma_{\text{tr}}^{\parallel}(E, z_0)$$

total cross section

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{\parallel}(E, z) \equiv \frac{3}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi \overline{\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}}(\varphi, E, z)$$

transport cross section

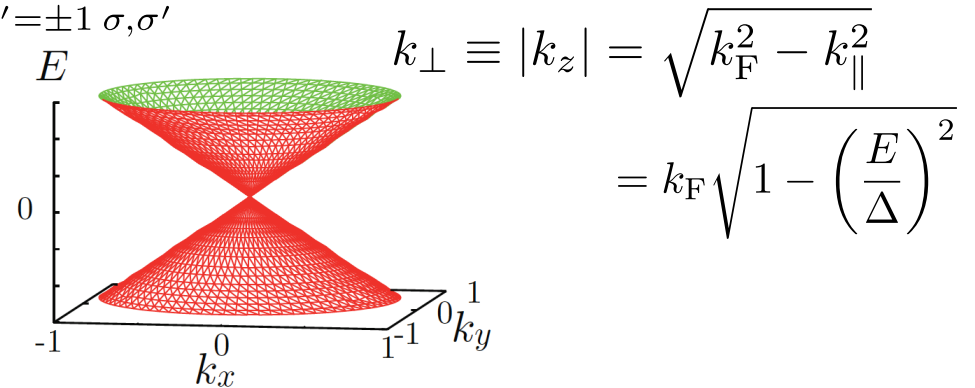
$$\sigma_{\text{tr}}^{\parallel}(E, z) \equiv \frac{3}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi (1 - \cos \varphi) \overline{\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}}(\varphi, E, z)$$

$$\varphi \equiv \phi - \phi'$$

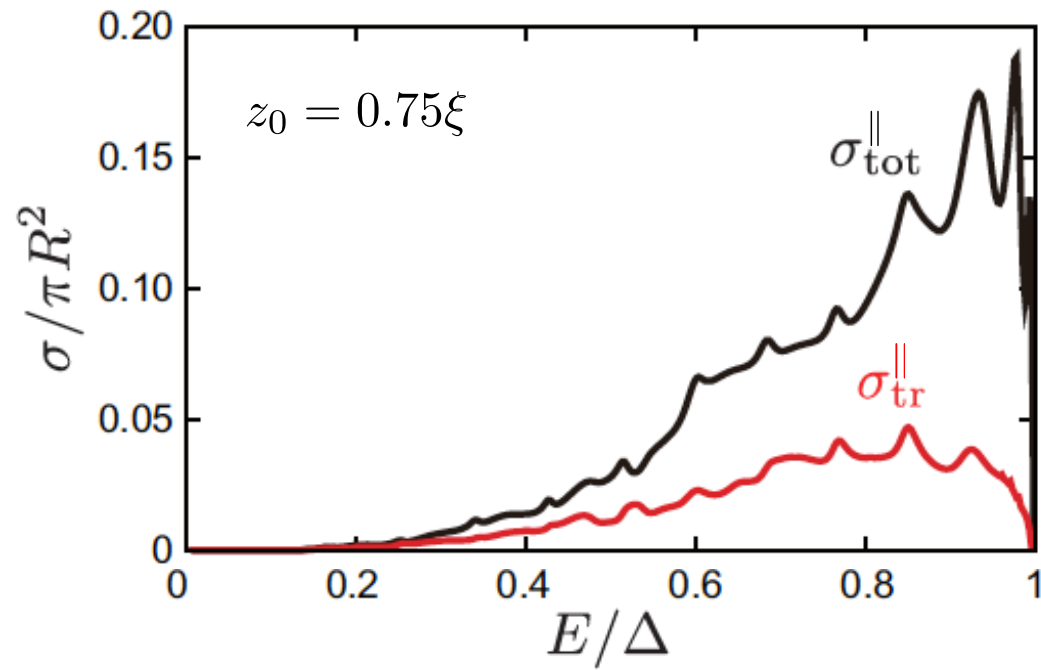
averaged differential cross section

$$\overline{\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}}(\varphi, E, z) = \left(\frac{\pi N_F}{k_F}\right)^2 \left(\frac{E}{\Delta}\right)^4 \frac{1}{4} \sum_{s, s' = \pm 1} \sum_{\sigma, \sigma'} |t(\mathbf{k}_{\parallel}, s k_{\perp}, \sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{k}'_{\parallel}, s' k_{\perp}, \sigma')|^2$$

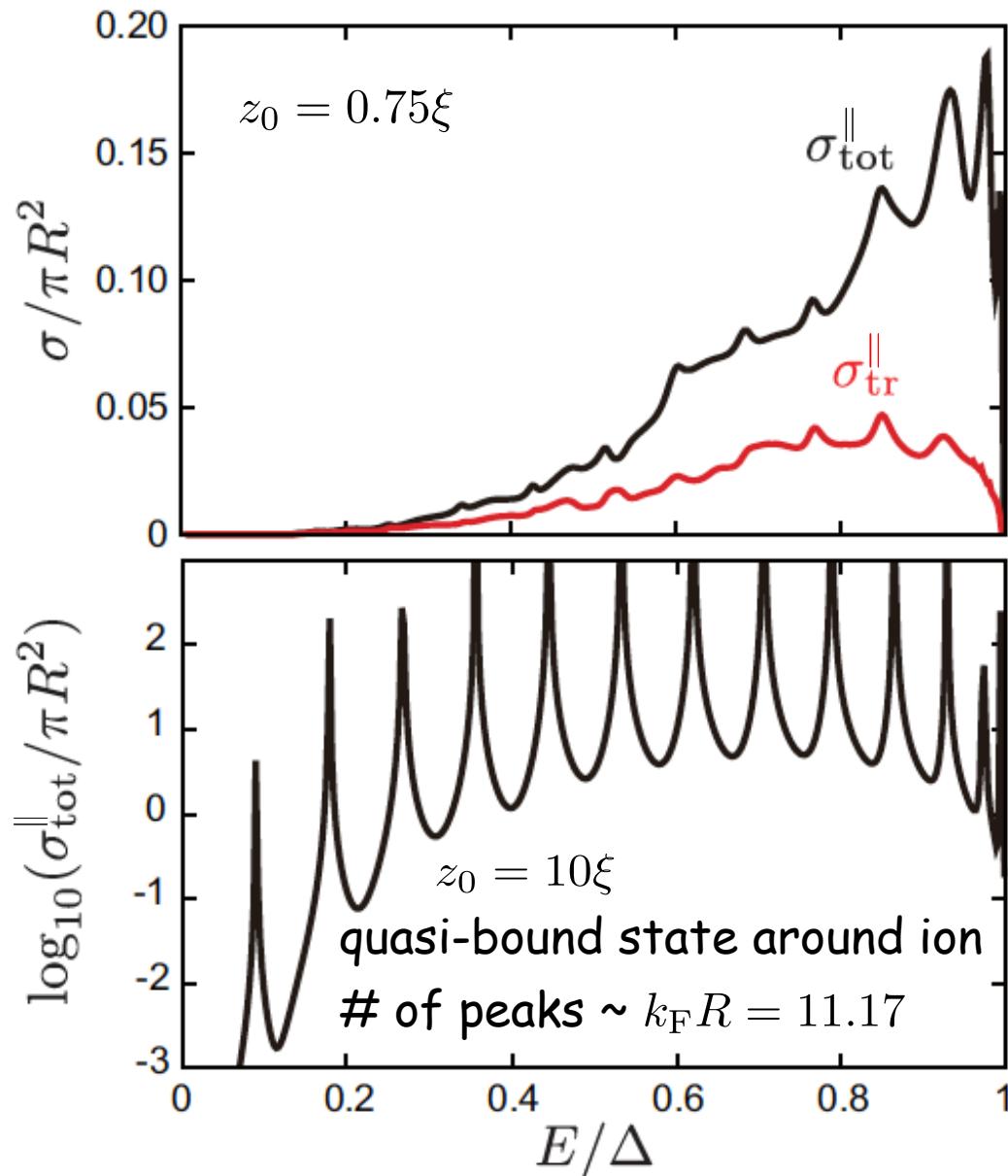
$$[k_{\parallel}(E) N(E)]^2$$



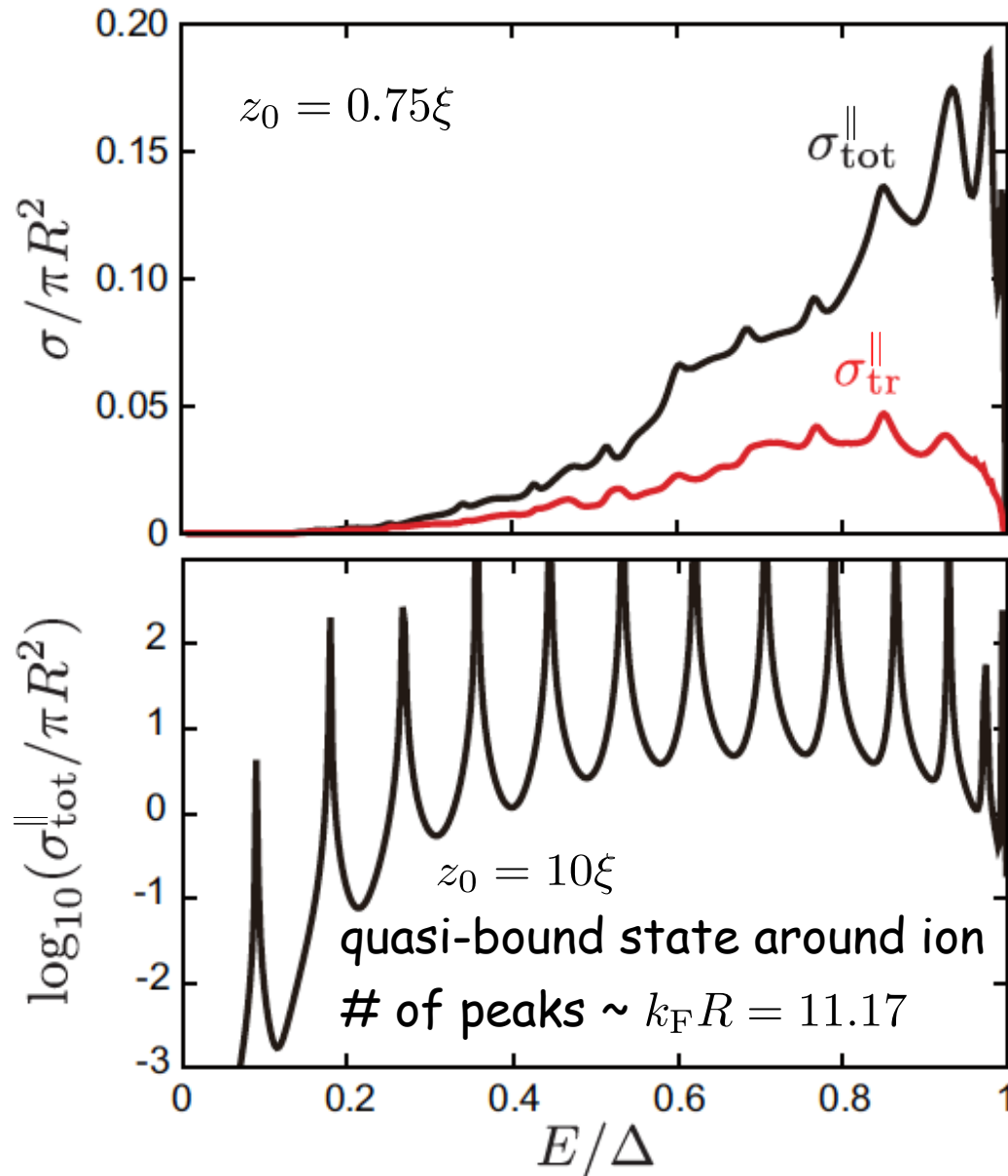
Scattering cross section



Scattering cross section

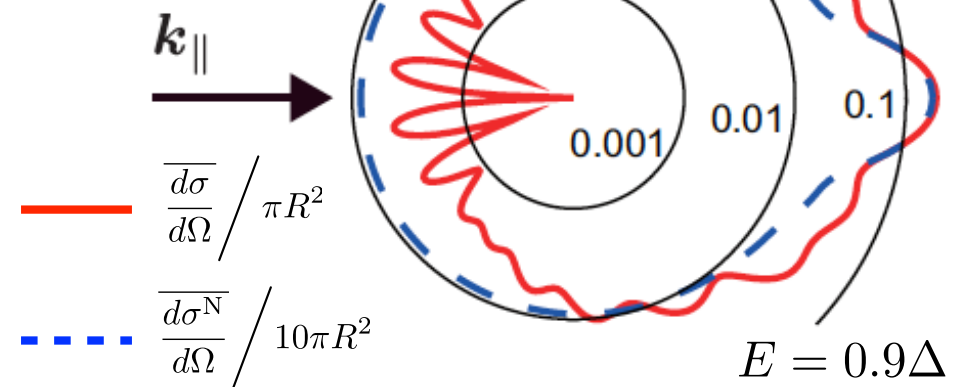


Scattering cross section



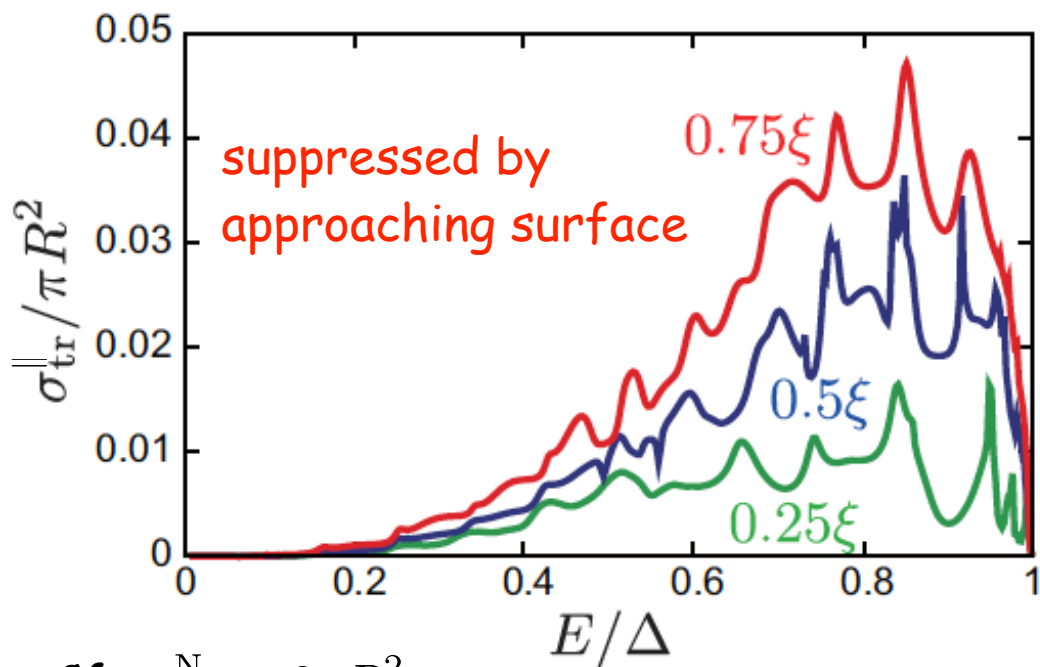
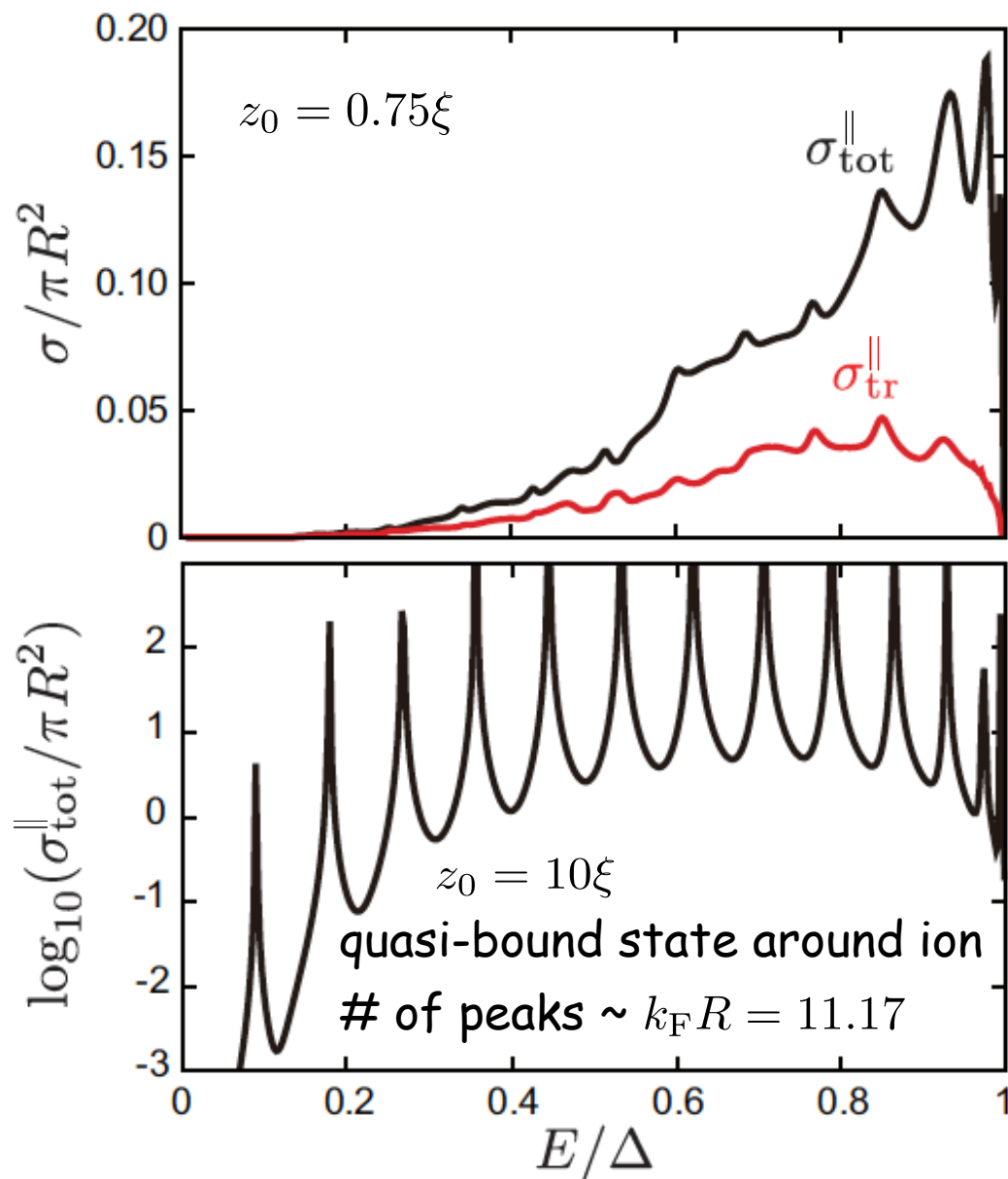
Cf. $\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{\text{N}} \approx 2\pi R^2$

$\sigma_{\text{tr}}^{\text{N}} \approx \pi R^2$



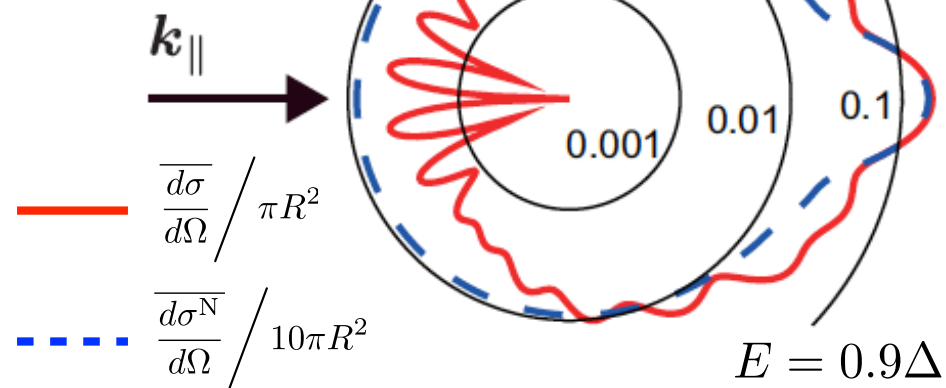
forbidden perfect backscattering

Scattering cross section



Cf. $\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{\text{N}} \approx 2\pi R^2$

$\sigma_{\text{tr}}^{\text{N}} \approx \pi R^2$



forbidden perfect backscattering

Mobility parallel to surface

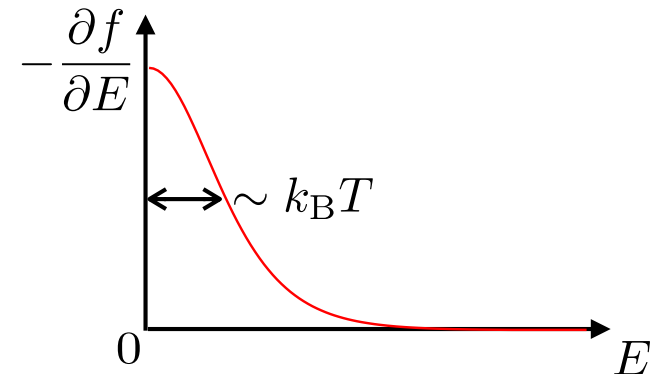
$$\mu_{\parallel} = \frac{e}{\eta_{\parallel} + \eta_{\text{cont}}}$$

$$\eta_{\parallel} = \frac{\pi^2}{4} \exp\left(-2\frac{z_0}{\xi}\right) n_{3\text{pF}} \int_{-\Delta}^{\Delta} dE \left(-\frac{\partial f}{\partial E}\right) \sigma_{\text{tr}}^{\parallel}(E, z_0)$$

DOS

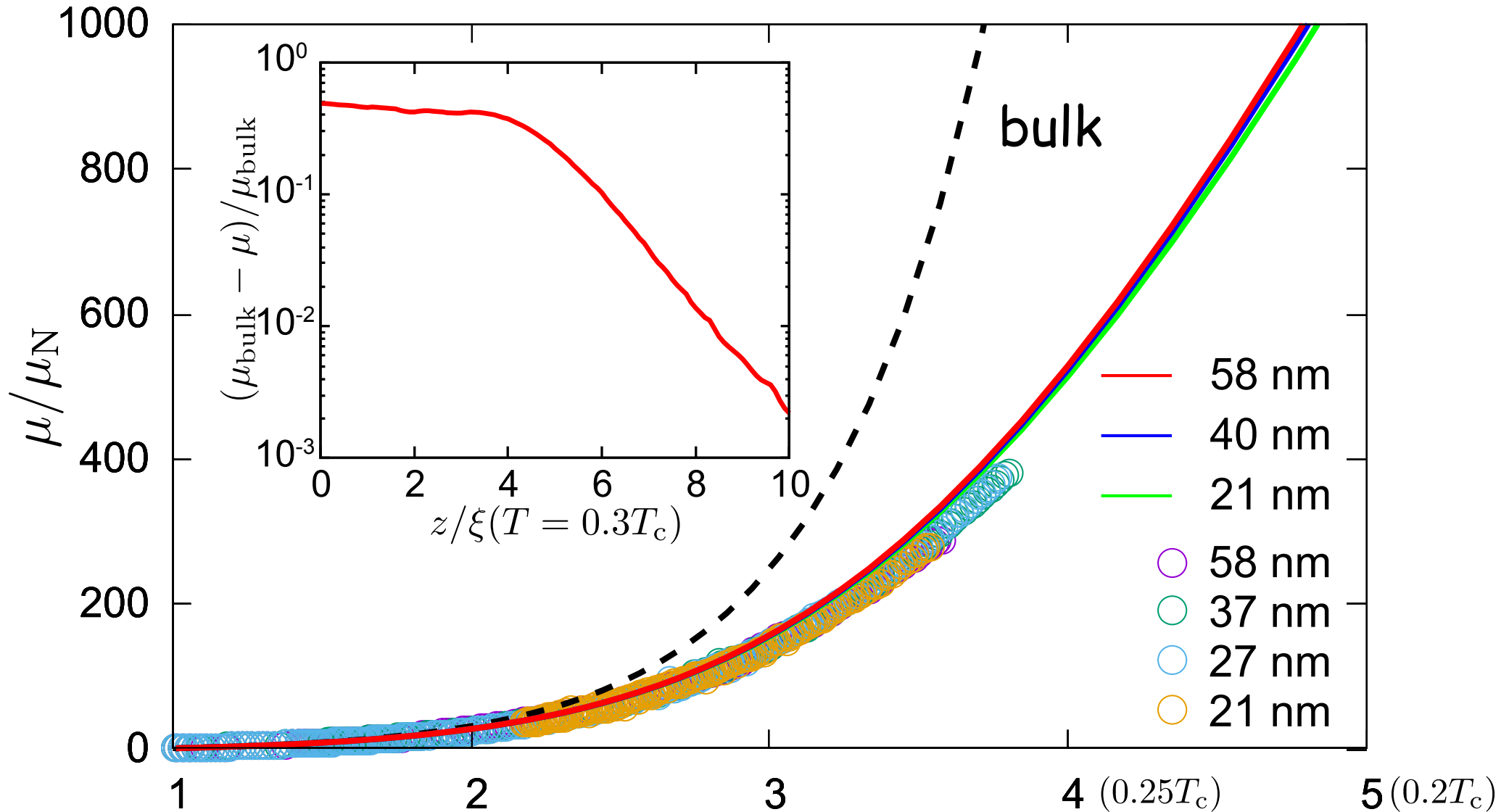
$$\eta_{\text{cont}} \sim \eta_{\text{B}} = 2n_{3\text{pF}} \int_{\Delta}^{\infty} dE \left(-\frac{\partial f}{\partial E}\right) \sigma_{\text{tr}}^{\text{B}}(E)$$

$$\left(-\frac{\partial f}{\partial E}\right) \propto \text{sech}^2\left(\frac{E}{2k_{\text{B}}T}\right)$$



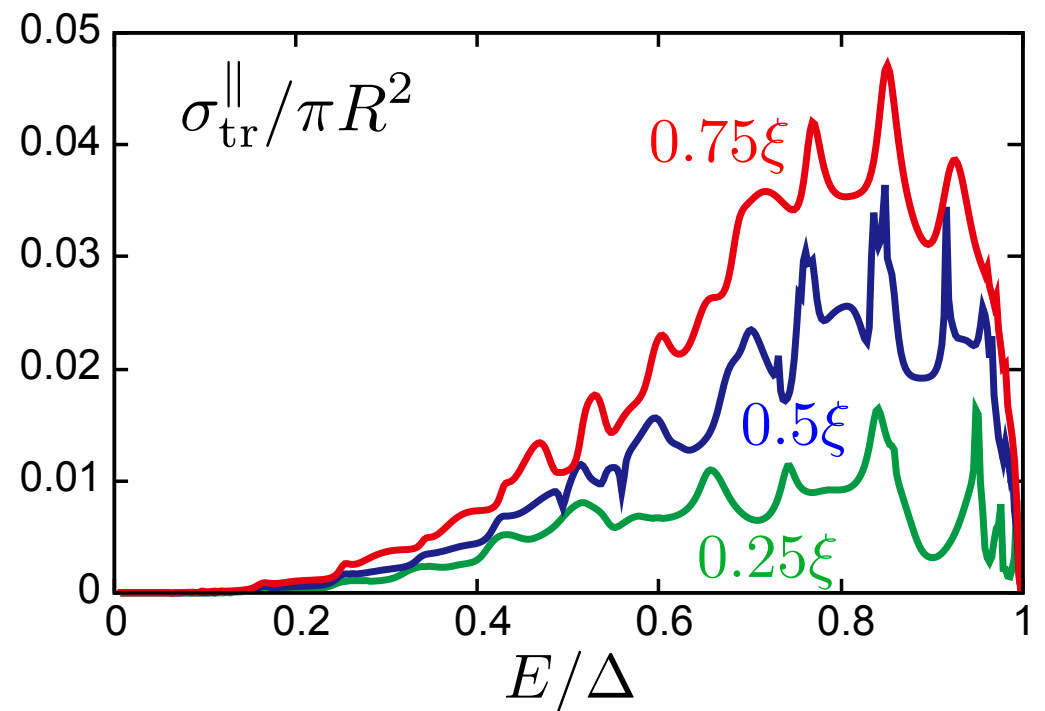
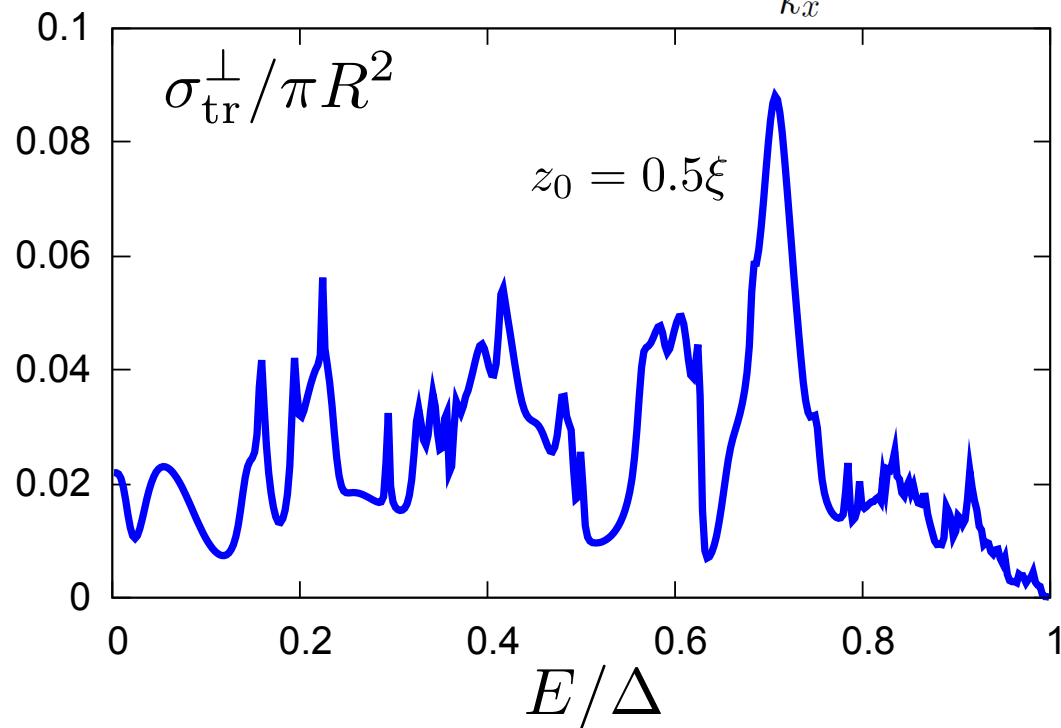
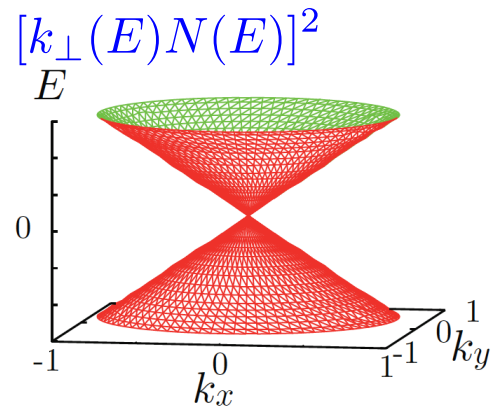
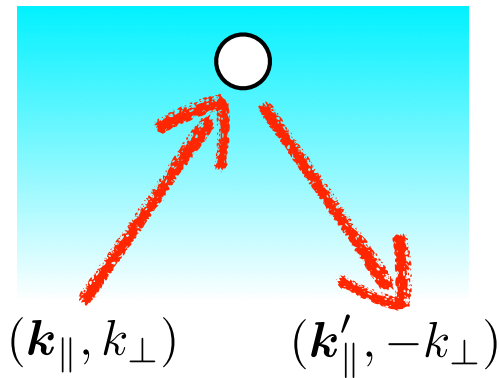
Mobility parallel to surface

$$\mu_{\parallel} = \frac{e}{\eta_{\parallel} + \eta_{\text{cont}}} \quad \eta_{\parallel} = \frac{\pi^2}{4} \exp\left(-2\frac{z_0}{\xi}\right) n_{3pF} \int_{-\Delta}^{\Delta} dE \left(-\frac{\partial f}{\partial E}\right) \sigma_{\text{tr}}^{\parallel}(E, z_0)$$

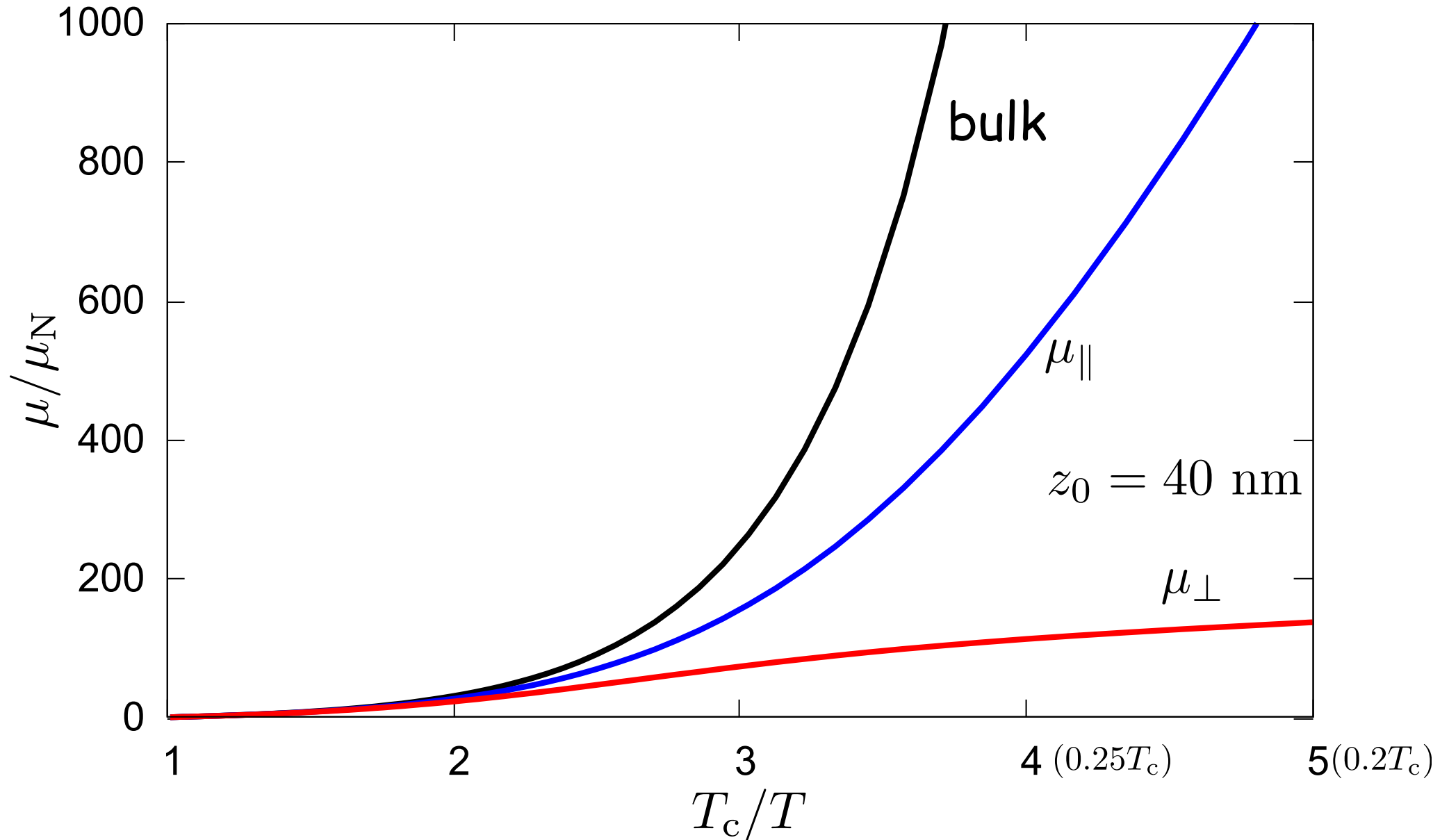


Cross section on perpendicular mobility

$$\sigma_{\text{tr}}^{\perp}(E, z) = \left(\frac{\pi N_{\text{F}}}{k_{\text{F}}}\right)^2 \frac{(\Delta^2 - E^2)E^2}{\Delta^4} 3 \int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi \sum_{s=\pm 1} \sum_{\sigma, \sigma'} |t(\mathbf{k}_{\parallel}, sk_{\perp}, \sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{k}'_{\parallel}, -sk_{\perp}, \sigma')|^2$$



Mobility perpendicular to surface



Summary

We can quantitatively reproduce observed mobility by formulating impurity scattering of surface Majorana fermions.



Surface Majorana fermions have been detected.

³He-B is the first system hosting Majorana fermions where experiment and theory show quantitative agreement.

Depth dependence of mobility is observed if electron bubbles are trapped over $4\xi \sim 500$ nm.

Perpendicular mobility is strongly suppressed in low temperatures.