

# Spin Qubits in Semiconducting Nanostructures

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\$\$: Swiss NSF, Nano Basel, Quantum ETH/Basel, EU

# Outline

- I. & II: Quantum dots, spin qubits, quantum gates, **decoherence**, hole spins in Si/Ge nanowires, scalable systems, surface code, long-distance coupler...
- III: Topological quantum computing in nanowires with Majorana fermions, parafermions,..., **hybrid spin-Majorana qubits**;

*Prospects for Spin-Based Quantum Computing in Quantum Dots*  
Kloeffel and Loss, Annu. Rev. Condens. Matter Phys. 4, 51 (2013)

*Quantum Memories at Finite Temperature*  
Brown, Loss, Pachos, Self, and Wootton, Rev. Mod. Phys. 88, 045005 (2016)

# Front-Runners for Quantum Computers

- spin qubits in semiconductors ‘small & fast’
  - superconducting devices
  - trapped ions
  - topological quantum computing?  
‘semi-superconductor hybrids’
- } more advanced  
but not so  
‘small & fast’
- ‘exotic’  
Majorana  
Para- or  
Fibonacci  
fermions?

# Front-Runners for Quantum Computers

- spin qubits in semiconductors 'small & fast'

*semiconducting nanostructures*

- topological quantum computing?  
'semi-superconductor hybrids'

'exotic'  
Majorana  
Para- or  
Fibonacci  
fermions?

## A bit of the action

In the race to build a quantum computer, companies are pursuing many types of quantum bits, or qubits, each with its own strengths and weaknesses.



### Superconducting loops

A resistance-free current oscillates back and forth around a circuit loop. An injected microwave signal excites the current into superposition states.

#### Longevity (seconds)

0.00005

### Trapped ions

Electrically charged atoms, or ions, have quantum energies that depend on the location of electrons. Tuned lasers cool and trap the ions, and put them in superposition states.

>1000

### Silicon quantum dots

These "artificial atoms" are made by adding an electron to a small piece of pure silicon. Microwaves control the electron's quantum state.

0.03 → 30-60 s

### Topological qubits

Quasiparticles can be seen in the behavior of electrons channeled through semiconductor structures. Their braided paths can encode quantum information.

N/A

?

### Diamond vacancies

A nitrogen atom and a vacancy add an electron to a diamond lattice. Its quantum spin state, along with those of nearby carbon nuclei, can be controlled with light.

10

#### Number entangled

9

14

2

N/A

6

#### Company support

Google, IBM, Quantum Circuits

IonQ

Intel

Microsoft,  
Bell Labs

Quantum Diamond  
Technologies

#### Pros

Fast working. Build on existing semiconductor industry.

Very stable. Highest achieved gate fidelities.

Stable. Build on existing semiconductor industry.

Greatly reduce errors.

Can operate at room temperature.

#### Cons

Collapse easily and must be kept cold.

Slow operation. Many lasers are needed.

Only a few entangled. Must be kept cold.

Existence not yet confirmed.

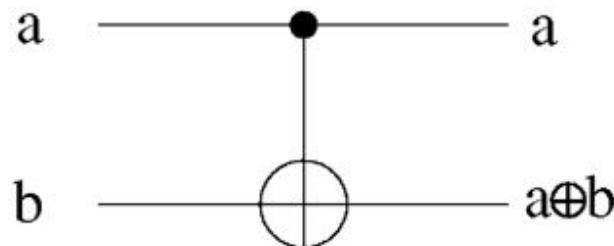
Difficult to entangle.

**Note:** Longevity is the record coherence time for a single qubit superposition state, logic success rate is the highest reported gate fidelity for logic operations on two qubits, and number entangled is the maximum number of qubits entangled and capable of performing two-qubit operations.

# Quantum Information

## Classical digital computer

network of ‘Boolean logic gates’, e.g. XOR (CNOT)



a b	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	0

- bits:  $a, b = 0, 1$
- physical implementation:  
e.g. 2 voltage levels
- ‘gate’: electronic circuit

## Quantum computer

- qubits  $|a\rangle, |b\rangle \hat{=} \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle, |\alpha|^2 + |\beta|^2 = 1$
- physical implementation:  
quantum 2-level-system:  $|\uparrow\rangle \equiv |0\rangle, |\downarrow\rangle \equiv |1\rangle$
- ‘quantum gate’: unitary transformation  
(is reversible!)

# Quantum Computing (basics)

- basic unit: **qubit** → any state of a quantum two-level system

$$|\Psi\rangle = a|1\rangle + b|0\rangle$$

"natural" candidate: **electron spin**

- quantum computation:

- 1) prepare N qubits (input)
- 2) apply unitary transformation in  $2^N$ -dim. Hilbert space  
→ computation
- 3) measure result (output)

- quantum computation faster than classical:

- factoring algorithm (**Shor 1994**):  $\exp N \rightarrow N^2$
- database search (**Grover 1996**):  $N \rightarrow N^{1/2}$
- quantum simulations

...

## What a quantum computer could do (faster):

- ...search large database (→ biology, climate, physics...)
- ...break 'RSA-Encryption' (banking, industry, military,...)
- ...simulate physical und chemical processes (or models\*)  
(→ energy, catalysts, C-capture, material science, drug design,...)
- ...machine learning & cloud computing
- ...play quantum games
- ...and many unforeseen applications (hopefully)

Intense search for new quantum algorithms !

\*) See e.g. Wecker et al., Phys. Rev. A 92, 062318 (2015)  
'Solving the 2D Hubbard model on a quantum computer'

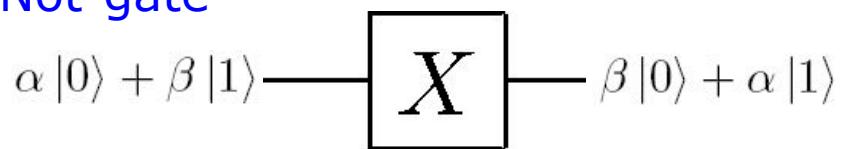
# Quantum Computing with Quantum Gates

Barenco et al., PRA **52**, 3457 (1995)

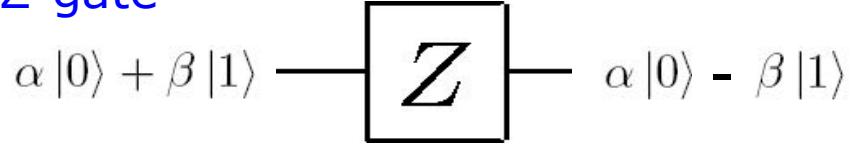
Single-qubit operations and a two-qubit gate that generates **entanglement** are sufficient for **universal quantum computation**:

## Single-qubit gates

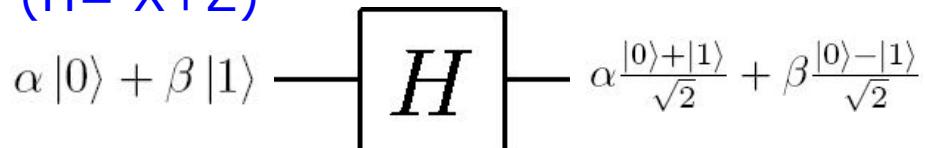
### Not-gate



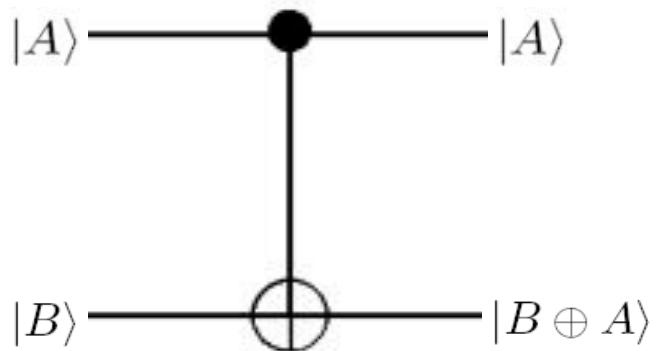
### Z-gate



### Hadamard-gate ( $H = X+Z$ )



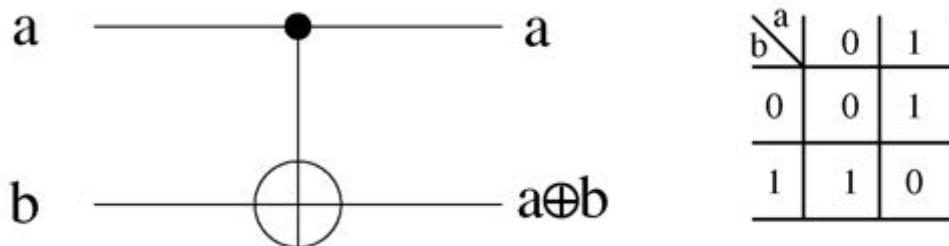
## 2-qubit gate: CNOT (XOR) gate



↔ entanglement

# Quantum Gates

- quantum gate: unitary transformation acting on a few qubits at a time (universal set of quantum gates: all unitary operations on n qubits [ $U(2^n)$ ] can be expressed as a composition of these gates)
- XOR together with one-qubit gates is a universal set for quantum computation (Barenco et al. 1995)



- action of the quantum XOR gate:  
two-particle state  $|\psi\rangle = \alpha|00\rangle + \beta|01\rangle + \gamma|10\rangle + \delta|11\rangle$

$$|00\rangle \mapsto |00\rangle, |01\rangle \mapsto |01\rangle, |10\rangle \mapsto |11\rangle, |11\rangle \mapsto |10\rangle$$

$$U_{XOR} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \exp\left(-\frac{i}{\hbar} \int dt H(t)\right)$$

# Spin Qubits under Study (Among Others)

Quantum dots (spin and charge states)

Molecular magnets

Donor atoms

Defects in diamond

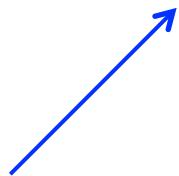
Optically trapped atoms

ion traps

...

# Spin Qubits under Study (Among Others)

Quantum dots (spin and charge states)



In this lecture, we  
will mostly discuss  
spin qubits in  
quantum dots

Molecular magnets

Donor atoms

Defects in diamond

Optically trapped atoms

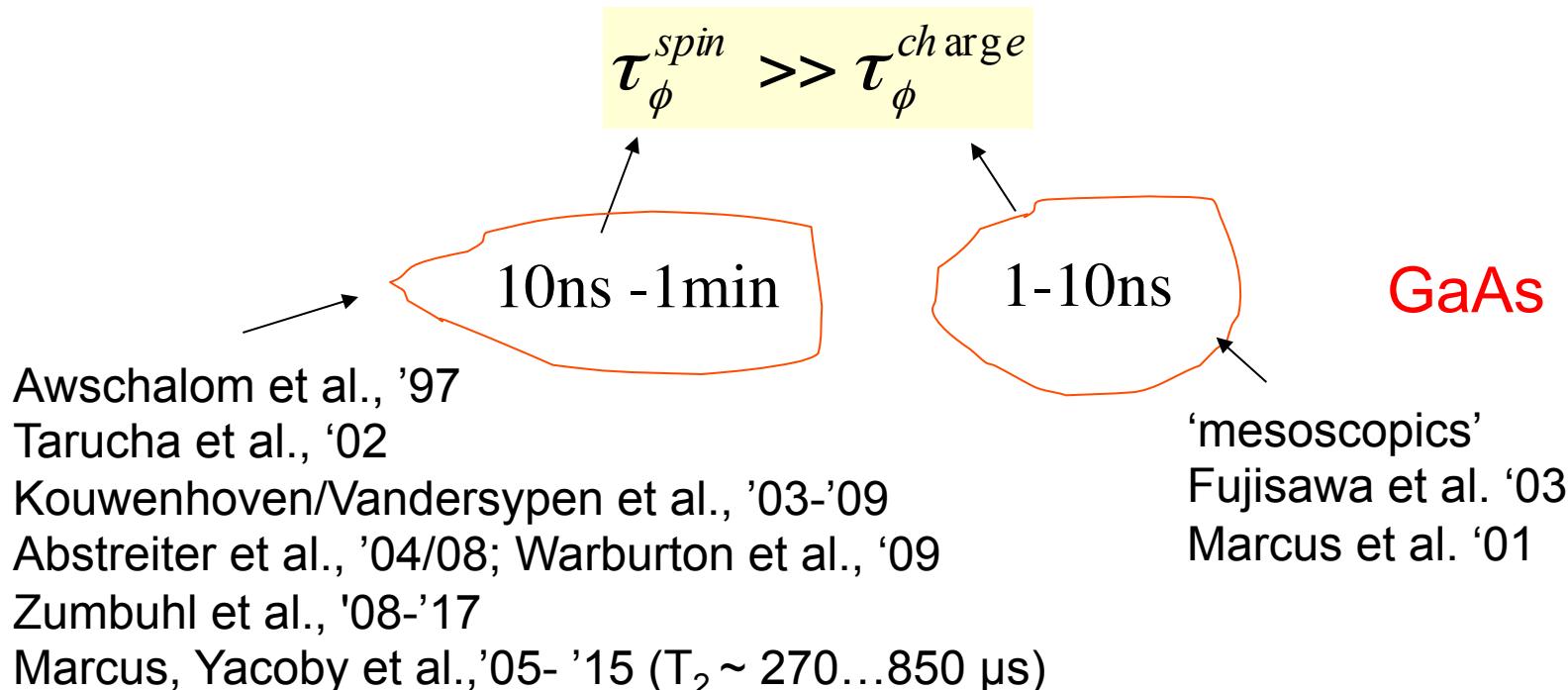
ion traps

...

# Historical remarks:

## Electron qubit: `spin better than charge'

due to longer relaxation/decoherence\* times



→ natural choice for qubit: spin  $\frac{1}{2}$  of electron

\*) theory:  $T_2 \sim T_1$  for single spin in GaAs dot ('everything optimized')

Magnetic moment of single spin (Bohr magneton)  
is very weak:

Advantage: spin couples weakly to environment

→ spin has long decoherence time (0.001-1000  $\mu$ s)

Disadvantage: spin couples weakly to “observer”

→ spin is difficult to control

Instead: control spin via charge, made possible by  
Pauli exclusion principle which “locks spin to charge”



manipulation & detection of spin-dynamics via  
charge (orbital) degrees of freedom of electron

# Quantum computation with quantum dots

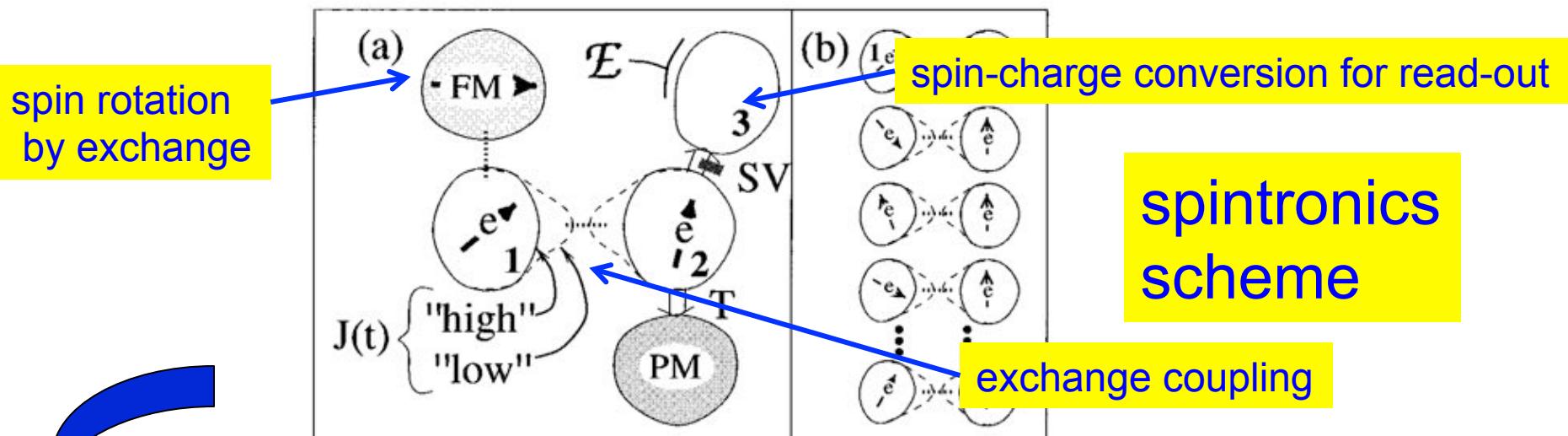
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<sup>3</sup>IBM Research Division, T.J. Watson Research Center, P.O. Box 218, Yorktown Heights, New York 10598

(Received 9 January 1997; revised manuscript received 22 July 1997)



$$U_{XOR} = e^{\frac{i\pi}{2}S_1^z} e^{-\frac{i\pi}{2}S_2^z} U_{SW}^{1/2} e^{i\pi S_1^z} U_{SW}^{1/2}$$

'spintronics' = spin-electronics = all-electrical spin control

Times Cited:  
~ 6400

## Quantum computation with quantum dots

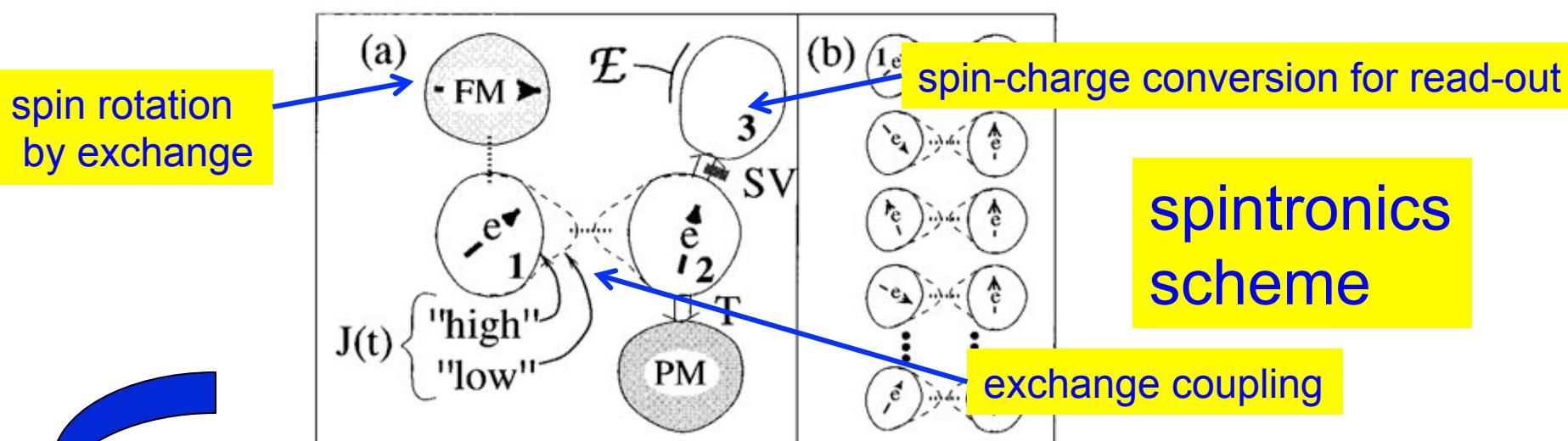
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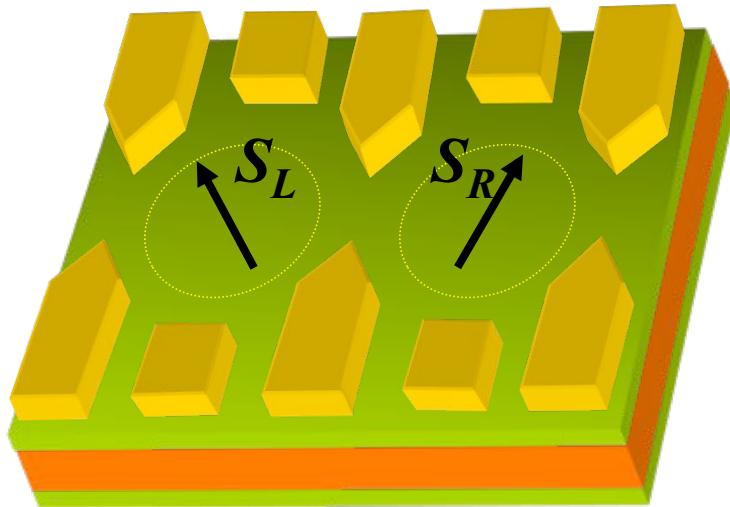
# Electric fields vs. Magnetic fields

- Strong electric fields easy to produce (gates, STM-tips, etc)
- Fast switching of electric fields (picoseconds)
- Easy to apply electric fields locally and on nanoscale
- Strong magnetic (ac) fields hard to produce
- Slow switching of magnetic fields (nanoseconds)
- Hard to apply magnetic fields locally and on nanoscale

spintronics

# Quantum Processor for Spin-Qubits

DL & DiVincenzo, PRA 57 (1998)



2 quantum dots, each with  
1 electron-spin (= qubit)

Key idea:  
**all-electrical** control of spins  
→ scalable nanotechnology

Simple effective Hamiltonian:

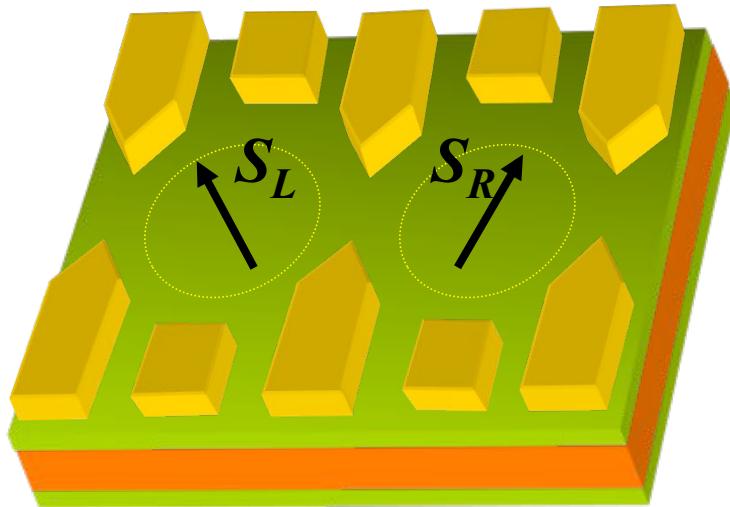
$$H(t) = J(t)\mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2 + \mathbf{b}_1(t) \cdot \mathbf{S}_1 + \mathbf{b}_2(t) \cdot \mathbf{S}_2$$

Exchange coupling

Zeeman couplings

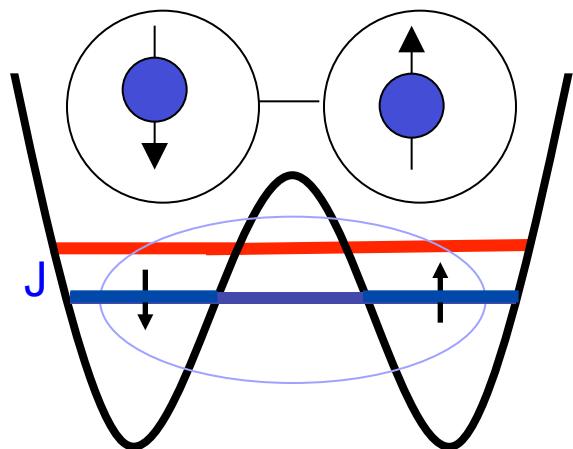
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Key idea:  
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artificial hydrogen molecule → exchange splitting  $J \sim t^2/U$

→ 'CNOT quantum gate'

# Quantum Dot Molecular Physics

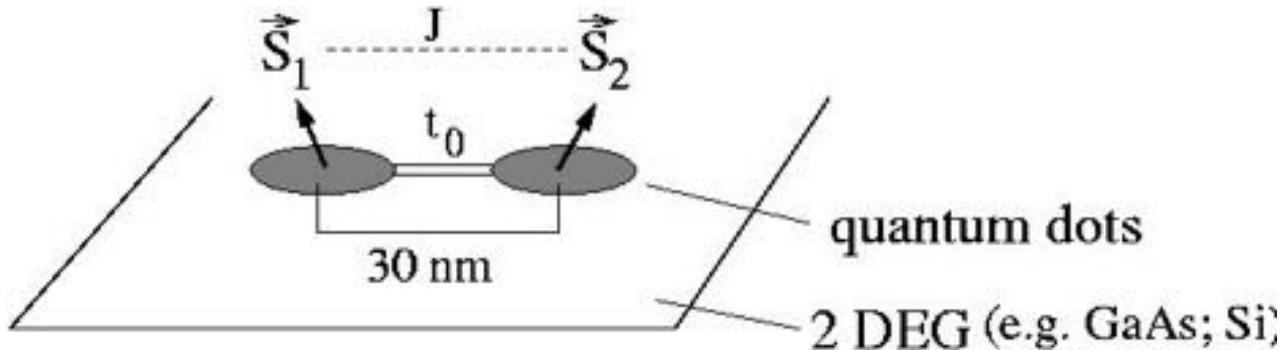
- two coupled dots = artificial “H<sub>2</sub> – molecule”
- use approximative methods from molecular physics:
  - Heitler-London (valence orbits) Burkard ea, PRB 59, '99
  - Hund-Mullikan (molecular orbits) Burkard ea, PRB 59, '99
  - large scale numerics: Das Sarma & Hu '01, Leburton ea '01, Landman ea '01

	artificial atom	real atom
energy	$\approx 1 \text{ meV}$	$1 \text{ Ry} = 13.6 \text{ eV}$
length $a_B$	$\approx 100 - 500 \text{ \AA}$	$0.5 \text{ \AA}$

- scale:

- magnetic length  $l_B \approx 100 \text{ \AA}$  at  $B \approx 1 \text{ T}$  → molecular properties of quantum dots are very **sensitive to magnetic fields B**
- time dependent  $B$  field: →  $J(t) = J(B(t))$   
electrical gate  $V(t)$ : →  $J(t) = J(V(t))$

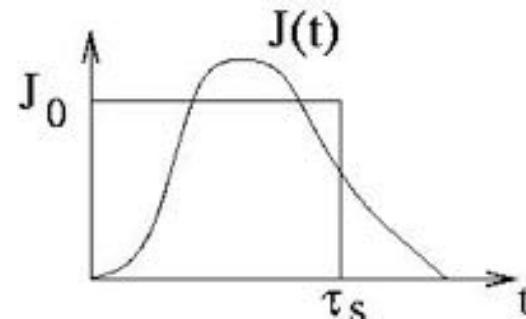
# quantum gate = two coupled dots



- idea: Hubbard physics:  $J(t) \approx 4 t_0(t)^2/U$  exchange  
 $t_0 = t_0(t)$ : tunable tunneling barrier
- e.g. swap and square-root-of-swap  $U_{SW}^{1/2}$ :

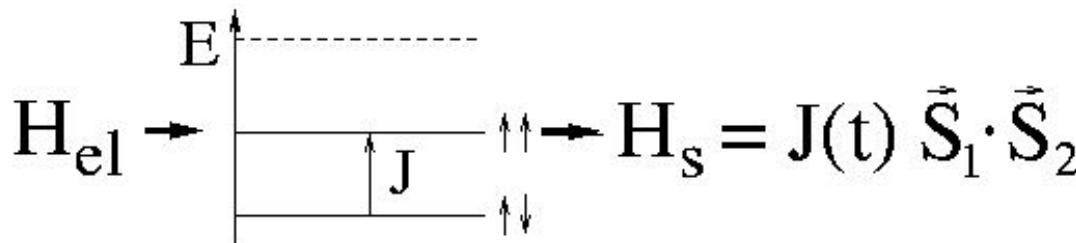
$$\int_0^t J(t') dt' / \hbar \approx J_0 \tau_s / \hbar = \pi / 2 (\text{mod } \pi)$$

note:  $\tau_s = 50 \text{ ps} \ll T_2 = 1 \text{ ms}$  (GaAs)

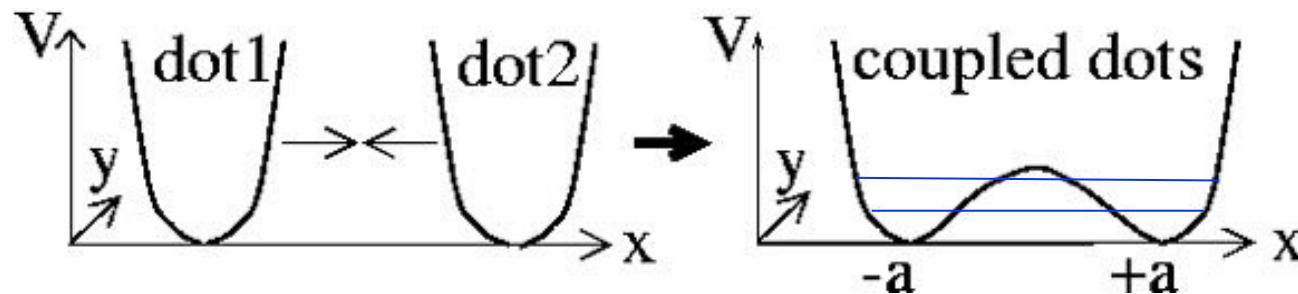


# Electronic Model

- how do we find the exchange coupling  $J$ ?



- 2D potential for electrons:



- Hamiltonian for one electron per dot:

$$\begin{aligned} H &= \sum_{i=1,2} h_i + \frac{e^2}{\epsilon |\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|} \\ h_i &= \frac{1}{2m} \left( \vec{p}_i - \frac{e}{c} \vec{A}(\vec{r}_i) \right)^2 + e\chi_i E + \frac{m\omega^2}{2} \left( \frac{1}{4a^2} (x_i^2 - a^2)^2 + y_i^2 \right) \\ \vec{A}(\vec{r}) &= \frac{B}{2}(-y, x, 0); \quad \vec{r} = (x, y, 0) \end{aligned}$$

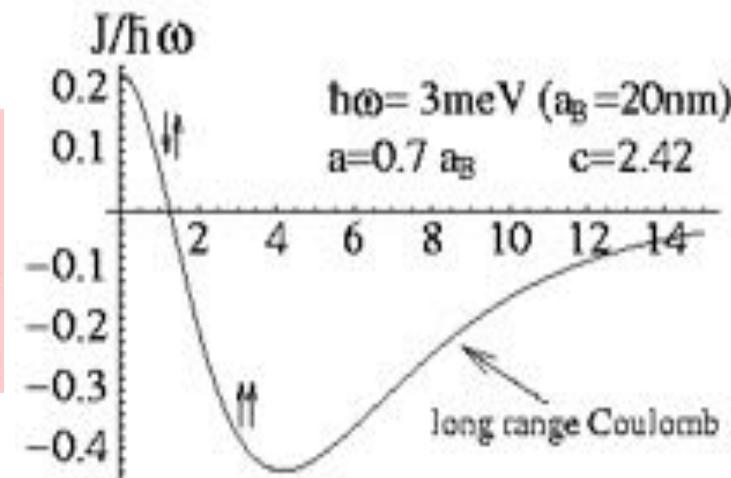
# I. Heitler-London Method

- single-dot problem in a magnetic field has exact solution  
(Fock '28,Darwin '30)  $\rightarrow \varphi(\vec{r})$   
two-particle trial wavefunction (Heitler-London)

$$\begin{aligned}\Psi_{\pm} &= N [\varphi_{-a}(\vec{r}_1)\varphi_{+a}(\vec{r}_2) \pm \varphi_{-a}(\vec{r}_2)\varphi_{+a}(\vec{r}_1)] \\ J &= \langle \Psi_- | H_{el} | \Psi_- \rangle - \langle \Psi_+ | H_{el} | \Psi_+ \rangle\end{aligned}$$

- results:  $d = a/a_B$ ,  $b^2 = 1 + \omega_L^2/\omega_0^2$ ,  $c \sim (e^2/\epsilon a_B)/\hbar\omega_0$ ,  $\omega_L = eB/2m$   
(Burkard,Loss,DiVincenzo '99)

$$\begin{aligned}J &= \frac{\hbar\omega_0}{\sinh(2d^2(2b-1/b))} \left[ c\sqrt{b} \left( e^{-bd^2} I_0(bd^2) \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. - e^{d^2(b-1/b)} I_0(d^2(b-1/b)) \right) + \frac{3}{4b} (1 + bd^2) \right]\end{aligned}$$



- Theorem:  $J > 0$  for 2 electrons and  $B = 0$ .

(see also numerics by X. Hu et al., PRB '00, include higher orbitals)

## II. Hund-Mullikan calculation

Burkard, Loss, DiVincenzo, PRB **59**, 2070 (1999)

- confinement is approximated by a quartic potential, with typically  $\hbar\omega_0=3$  meV

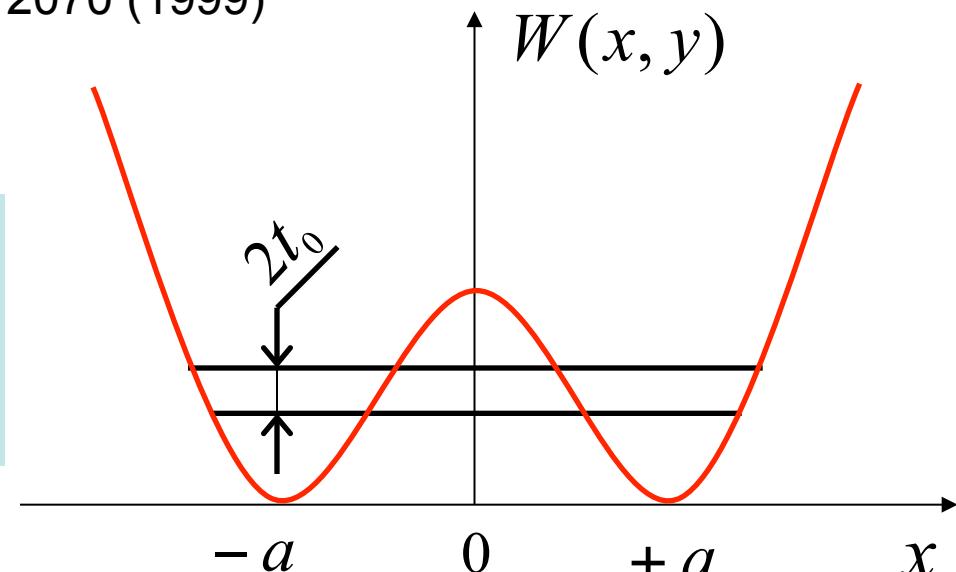
$$W(x, y) = \frac{m\omega_0^2}{2} \left( \frac{(x^2 - a^2)^2}{4a^2} + y^2 \right)$$

- separates into two harmonic wells, if

$$a \gg a_B \equiv \sqrt{\hbar/m\omega_0}$$

- Hamiltonian (neglecting the Zeeman splitting for GaAs):

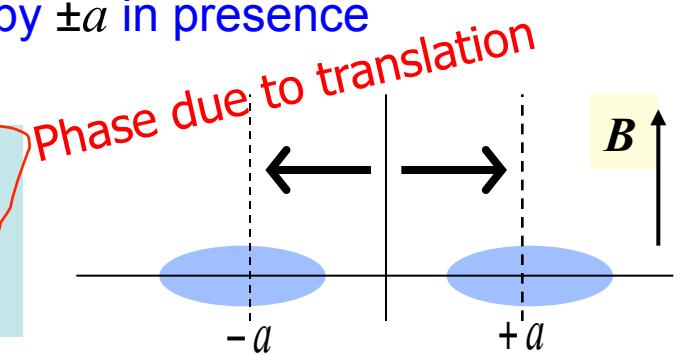
$$H_d = \sum_{i=1,2} \left[ \frac{1}{2m} \left( \mathbf{p}_i - \frac{e}{c} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}_i) \right)^2 + W(\mathbf{r}_i) \right] + \frac{e^2}{\kappa |\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|}$$



- gauge:  $\mathbf{A} = (-yB/2, xB/2, 0) \Rightarrow B \parallel z$

- Fock-Darwin states (Fock '28;Darwin '30), translated by  $\pm a$  in presence of magnetic field  $B$  (Burkard,Loss,DiVincenzo '99):

$$\varphi_{\pm a}(x, y) = \frac{1}{\lambda\sqrt{\pi}} \exp \left[ -\frac{(x \mp a)^2 + y^2}{2\lambda^2} \mp \frac{iya}{2l^2} \right]$$



$$l = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar c}{|e|B}}$$

$$\lambda = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{m\omega}}$$

$$\omega = \sqrt{\omega_0^2 + \omega_L^2}$$

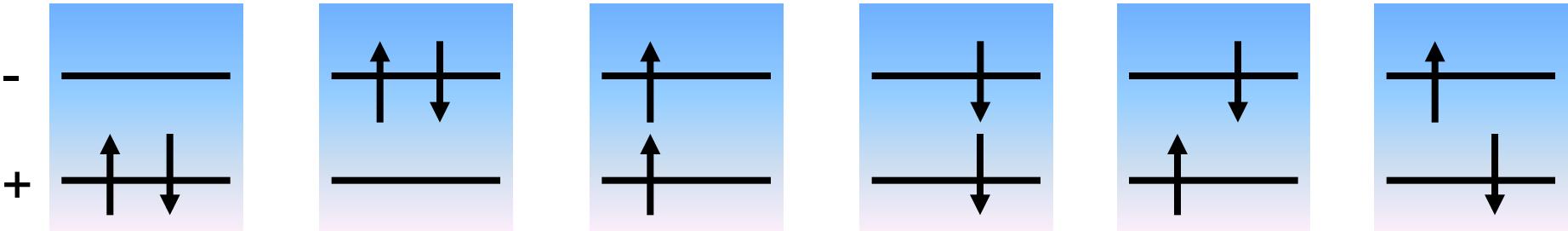
$$\omega_L = \frac{|e|B}{2mc}$$

$d_{\pm, \sigma} :$

$$\psi_{\pm, \sigma} = \chi_\sigma (\varphi_{-a} \pm \varphi_{+a}) / \sqrt{2(1 \pm S)}$$

$$S = \langle \varphi_{\pm a} | \varphi_{\mp a} \rangle$$

- two-particle states:  $\rightarrow 6$  possible configurations



J. Schliemann, D. Loss, and A. H. MacDonald, Phys. Rev. B 63, 085311 (2001)  
 V. Golovach and D. Loss, Europhys. Lett. 62, 83 (2003)

## Lowest energy eigenstates of DD:

$$|S1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (d_{-\uparrow}^\dagger d_{+\downarrow}^\dagger - d_{-\downarrow}^\dagger d_{+\uparrow}^\dagger) |0\rangle$$

$$|S2\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+\phi^2}} (\phi d_{+\uparrow}^\dagger d_{+\downarrow}^\dagger + d_{-\uparrow}^\dagger d_{-\downarrow}^\dagger) |0\rangle$$

$$|T_+\rangle = d_{-\uparrow}^\dagger d_{+\uparrow}^\dagger |0\rangle, \quad |T_-\rangle = d_{-\downarrow}^\dagger d_{+\downarrow}^\dagger |0\rangle$$

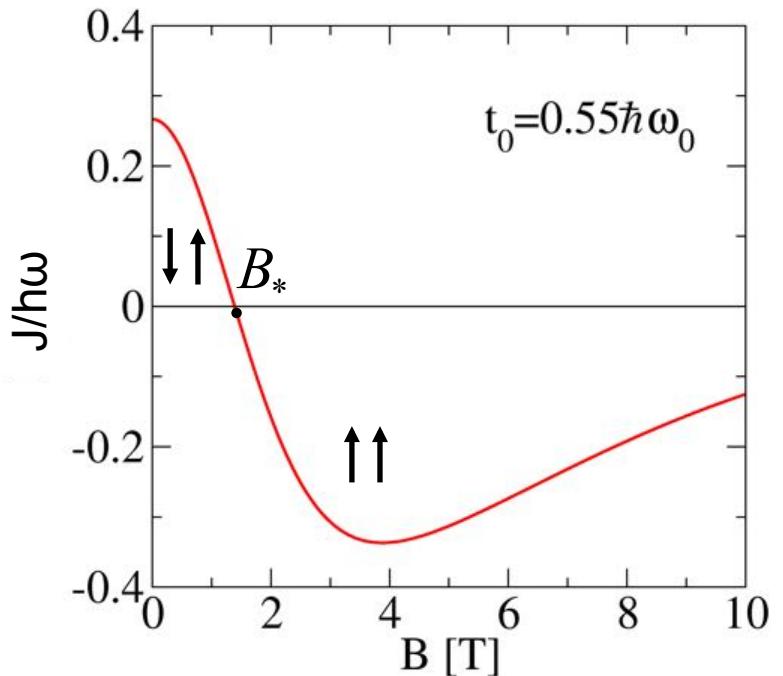
$$|T_0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (d_{-\uparrow}^\dagger d_{+\downarrow}^\dagger + d_{-\downarrow}^\dagger d_{+\uparrow}^\dagger) |0\rangle$$

$$|S\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+\phi^2}} (d_{+\uparrow}^\dagger d_{+\downarrow}^\dagger - \phi d_{-\uparrow}^\dagger d_{-\downarrow}^\dagger) |0\rangle$$

$$\phi = \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{4t_H}{U_H}\right)^2} - \frac{4t_H}{U_H}$$

## Exchange:

$$J = v - \frac{U_H}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{U_H^2 + 16t_H^2}$$



concurrence:

double occupancy:

$$c[|S\rangle] = \frac{2\phi}{1+\phi^2}$$

$$D[|S\rangle] = \frac{(1-\phi)^2}{2(1+\phi^2)^2}$$

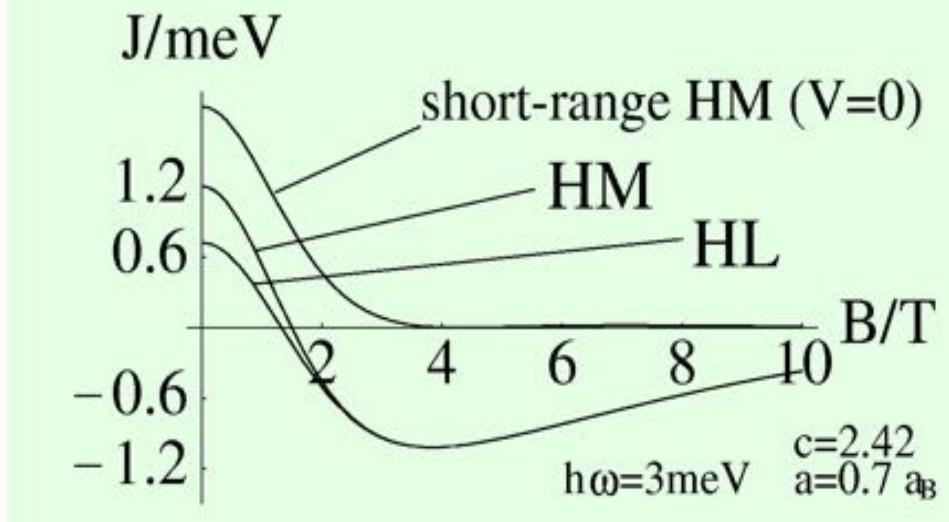
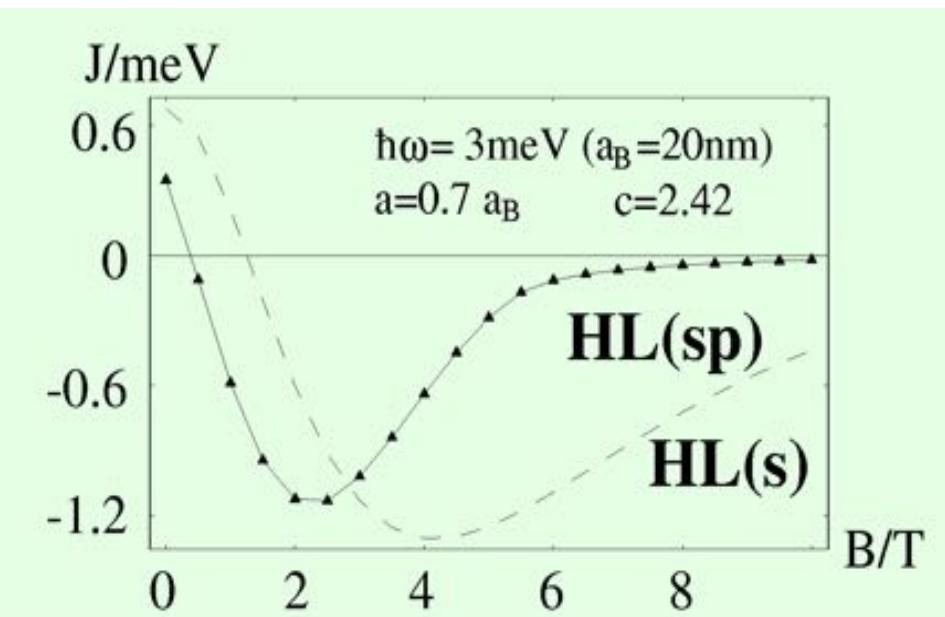
# Lateral Coupling (GaAs dots)

- **extended Hubbard physics:**

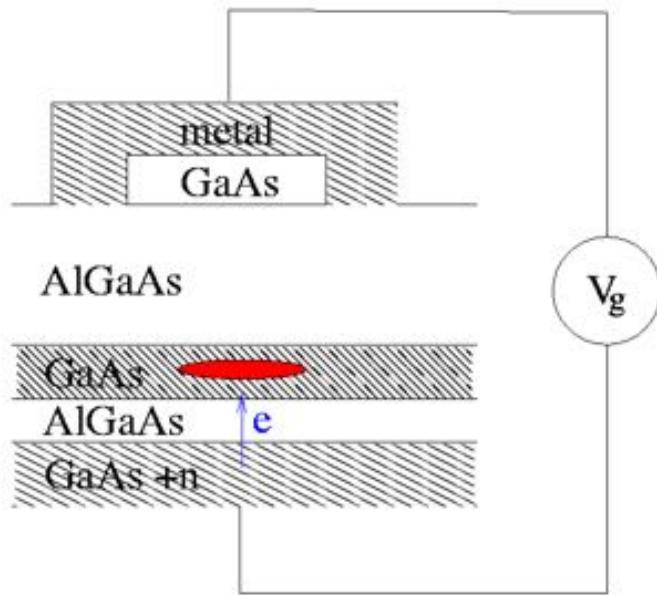
$$J = \frac{4t^2}{U} + V(B)$$

- note: HM  $\rightarrow$  HL for increasing on-site Coulomb repulsion, i.e.

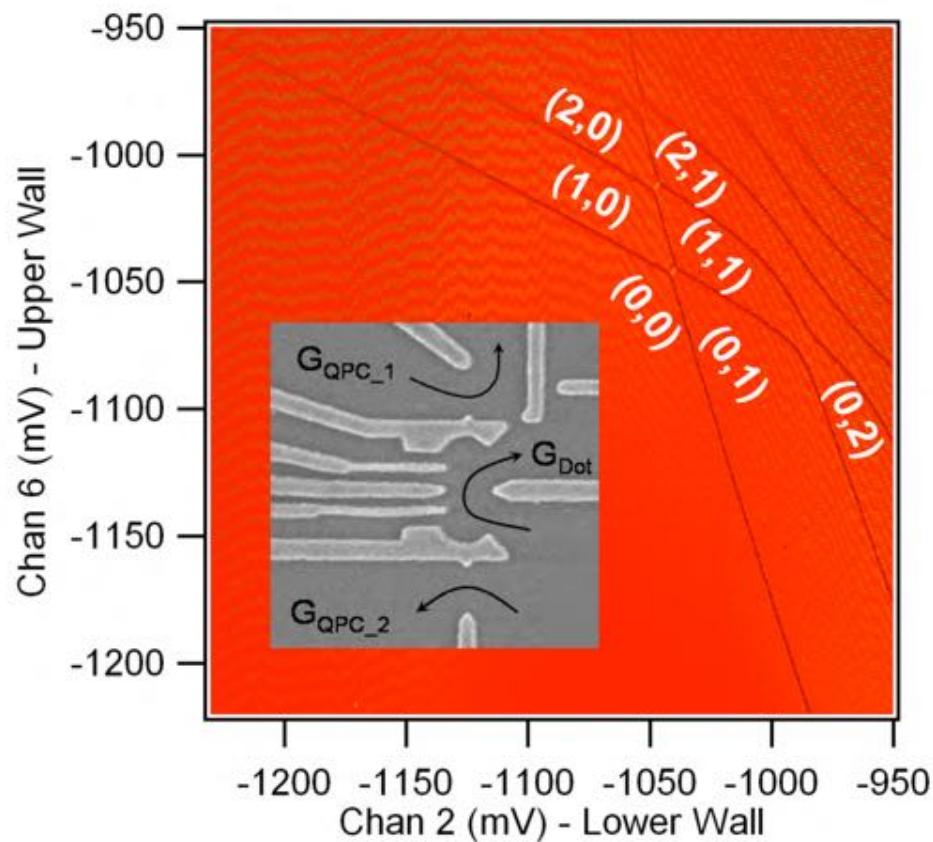
$$U(B, c) \sim c\sqrt{B} \nearrow$$



GaAs/AlGaAs Heterostruktur  
2DEG 90 nm depth,  $n_s = 2.9 \times 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$



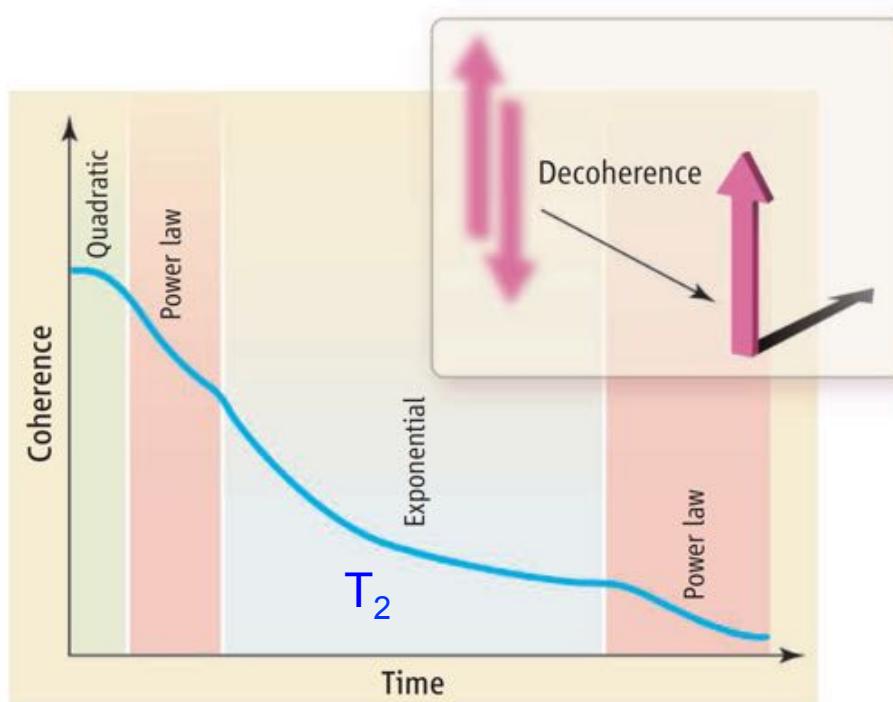
Temp.: 100 mK



C. Marcus *et al.*, PRL 2004

# Many sources cause **decoherence** of spin qubit:

Fischer and DL, Science 324, 1277 (2009)



time scale:  $T_2$

The goal is to reach long decoherence times  $T_2$  and short gate times  $\tau$  such that  $T_2 / \tau > 10^3$  !

## Sources of spin decoherence in GaAs quantum dots:

- **spin-orbit interaction** (band structure effects):  
couples lattice vibrations with spin → **spin-phonon** interaction, but weak in quantum dots due to 1. low momentum, 2. no 1<sup>st</sup> order s-o terms due to confinement (Khaetskii&Nazarov, '00; Golovach et al., '04-'10)
- **spin-orbit intercation** → gate errors (XOR); but they can be minimized (Bonesteel et al., Burkard et al., '02, '03)
- **dipole-dipole interaction**: weak
- **hyperfine interaction** with **nuclear spins**: dominant decoherence source (Burkard, DL, DiVincenzo, PRB '99; Coish &DL, 2004-10, Das Sarma 2006..., Erlingson&Nazarov 2002,...), but absent e.g. in Si/Ge based dots!

# Switching Rate

Determine  $N_{Op} \approx \tau_\phi / \tau_s$  for GaAs

- calculate  $J(v)$  **statically** and then take  $J(t) = J(v(t))$  for time-dependent  $v(t)$ , where  $v = V, B, a, E$  is control parameter
- sufficient criterion for this to work [  $\bar{J} = (1/\tau_s) \int_0^{\tau_s} dt J(t)$  ]

$$1/\tau_s \approx |\dot{v}/v| \ll \bar{J}/\hbar \quad \text{adiabaticity condition}$$

- compatible with  $J\tau_s = n\pi$ ,  $n = 1, 3, 5, \dots$  (needed for XOR)
- self-consistency of calculation of  $J$ :  $J \ll \Delta\epsilon$
- thus:  $1/\tau_s \ll \bar{J}/\hbar \ll \Delta\epsilon/\hbar, \pi U^2 / 8t_0$  (no double occupancy)
- numbers:  $J \approx 0.2 \text{ meV} \rightarrow \tau_s \gtrsim 50 \text{ ps}$  → very fast gate
- decoherence of spin ca.  $100 \mu\text{s}$



$$N_{Op} \approx \tau_\phi / \tau_s \approx 10^6$$

sufficient for upscaling

# Quantum XOR (CNOT) via Hamiltonian

$$U(t) = T \exp \left\{ -\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_0^t H(t') dt' \right\}, \quad H \neq 0 \text{ during } \tau_s$$

can show that: (Loss+DiVincenzo, PRA 57 (120), 1998)

$$U_{\text{XOR}} \leftrightarrow \int^t H_{\text{XOR}} = \pi S_1^z S_2^z - \frac{\pi}{2}(S_1^z + S_2^z) \quad s = \frac{1}{2}$$

$H_{\text{XOR}}$  is **pure Ising**: not very physical (for **real** spin) !

instead use **Heisenberg**  $H = JS_1 \cdot S_2$  for  $U_{\text{XOR}}$

and **Zeeman**  $H_B = \mathbf{B}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_1 + \mathbf{B}_2 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2$  for single-qubit operations

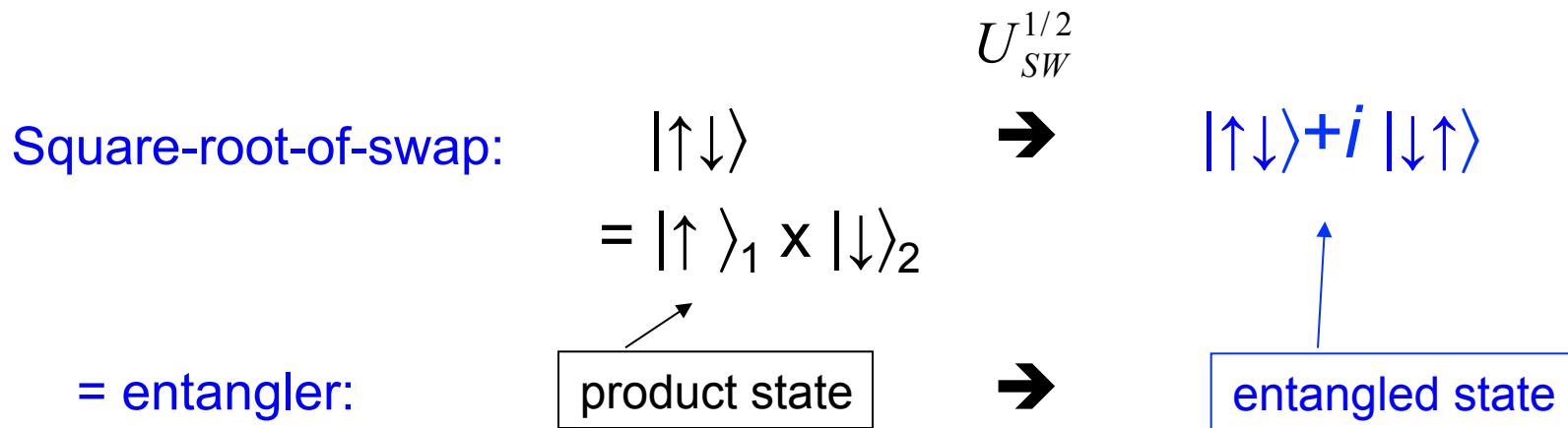
e.g. **swap** gate: qubit 1↔qubit 2, choose  $\int^t J(t)/\hbar \approx J_0 \tau_s / \hbar = \pi \pmod{2\pi}$

$$\Rightarrow U(t) = e^{i\pi/4} U_{\text{sw}} = e^{i\pi/4} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \boxed{\begin{array}{l} \text{basis:} \\ \{| \uparrow\uparrow \rangle, | \uparrow\downarrow \rangle, | \downarrow\uparrow \rangle, | \downarrow\downarrow \rangle \} \end{array}}$$

$$U_{\text{XOR}} = e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}S_1^z} e^{-i\frac{\pi}{2}S_2^z} U_{\text{sw}}^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{i\pi S_1^z} U_{\text{sw}}^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (\text{DL+DDV '97})$$

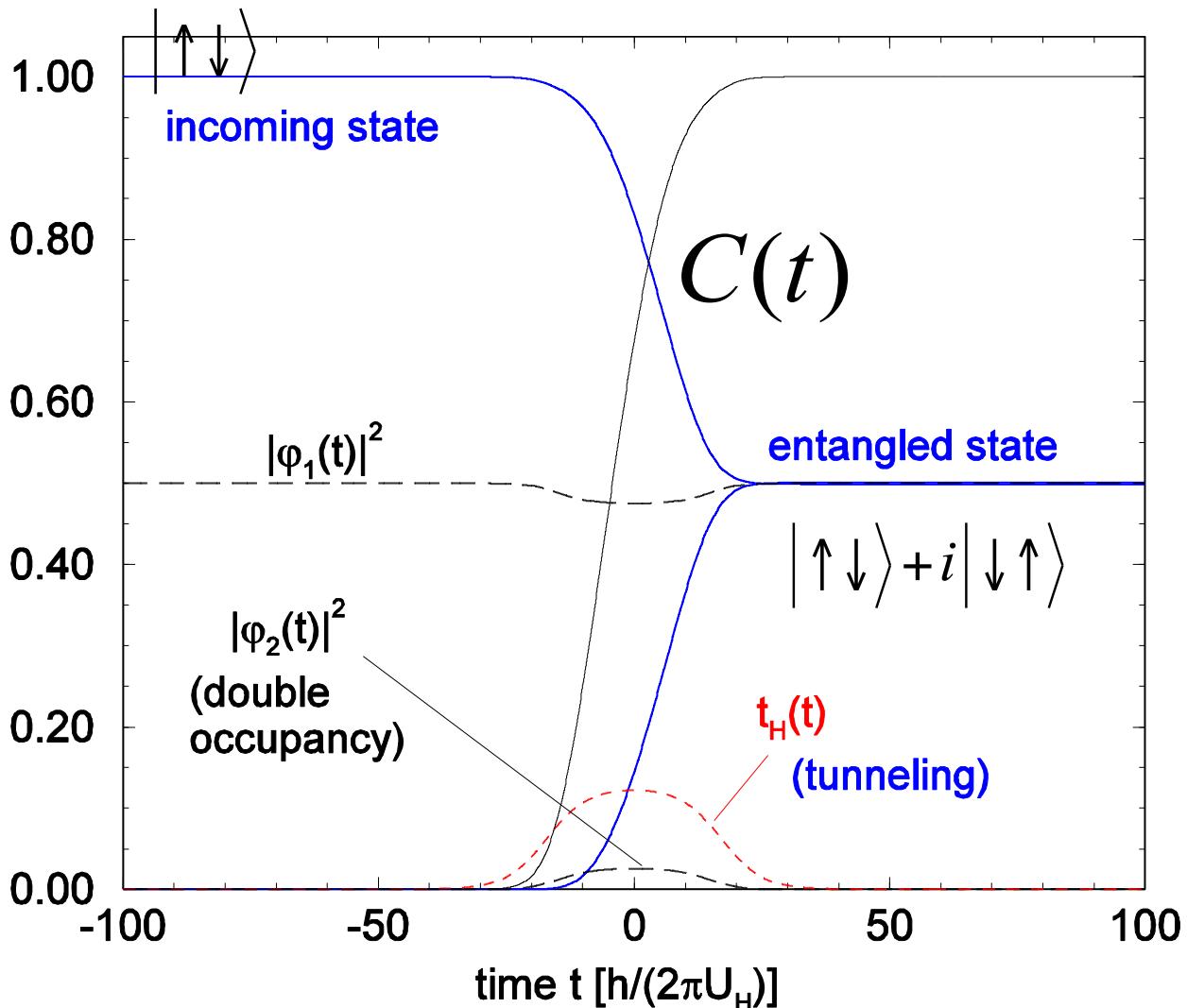
# Entanglement with 'sqrt-of-swap'

$$U_{XOR} = e^{i(\pi/2)S_1^z} e^{-i(\pi/2)S_2^z} U_{SW}^{1/2} e^{+i\pi S_1^z} U_{SW}^{1/2},$$



→ Entanglement is crucial for quantum computing!

# Dynamics of Entanglement for square-root-of-swap



The square-root of a swap is obtained by halving the duration of the tunneling pulse.

The result is a fully entangled two-qubit state having only a vanishingly small amplitude for double-occupancies of one of the dots.

During the process the indistinguishability of electrons and their fermionic statistics are essential.

# Quantum XOR gate (DL & DDV '97)

$$U_{XOR} = e^{\frac{i\pi}{2}S_1^z} e^{-\frac{i\pi}{2}S_2^z} U_{SW}^{1/2} e^{+i\pi S_1^z} U_{SW}^{1/2},$$

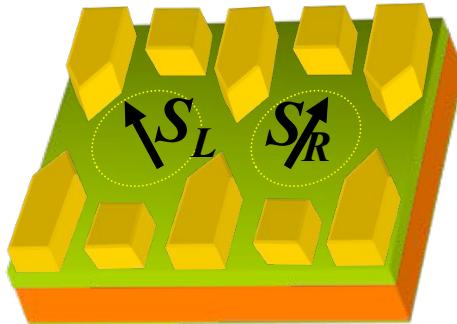
	$ \uparrow\uparrow\rangle$	$ \uparrow\downarrow\rangle$	$ \downarrow\uparrow\rangle$	$ \downarrow\downarrow\rangle$
$U_{SW}^{1/2}$	$\downarrow$	$\downarrow$	$\downarrow$	$\downarrow$
	$ \uparrow\uparrow\rangle$	$\frac{e^{-i\pi/4}}{\sqrt{2}}( \uparrow\downarrow\rangle + i \downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$	$\frac{e^{-i\pi/4}}{\sqrt{2}}(i \uparrow\downarrow\rangle +  \downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$	$ \downarrow\downarrow\rangle$
$e^{i\pi S_1^z}$	$\downarrow$	$\downarrow$	$\downarrow$	$\downarrow$
	$i \uparrow\uparrow\rangle$	$\frac{ie^{-i\pi/4}}{\sqrt{2}}( \uparrow\downarrow\rangle - i \downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$	$\frac{ie^{-i\pi/4}}{\sqrt{2}}(i \uparrow\downarrow\rangle -  \downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$	$-i \downarrow\downarrow\rangle$
$U_{SW}^{1/2}$	$\downarrow$	$\downarrow$	$\downarrow$	$\downarrow$
	$i \uparrow\uparrow\rangle$	$ \uparrow\downarrow\rangle$	$- \downarrow\uparrow\rangle$	$-i \downarrow\downarrow\rangle$
$e^{-i\frac{\pi}{2}S_2^z}$	$\downarrow$	$\downarrow$	$\downarrow$	$\downarrow$
$\times e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}S_1^z}$	$i \uparrow\uparrow\rangle$	$i \uparrow\downarrow\rangle$	$i \downarrow\uparrow\rangle$	$-i \downarrow\downarrow\rangle$

# How to make entanglement ‘visible’

Loss & DiVincenzo, 1998

$$| \downarrow \uparrow \rangle - i | \uparrow \downarrow \rangle$$

$$| \downarrow \uparrow \rangle$$

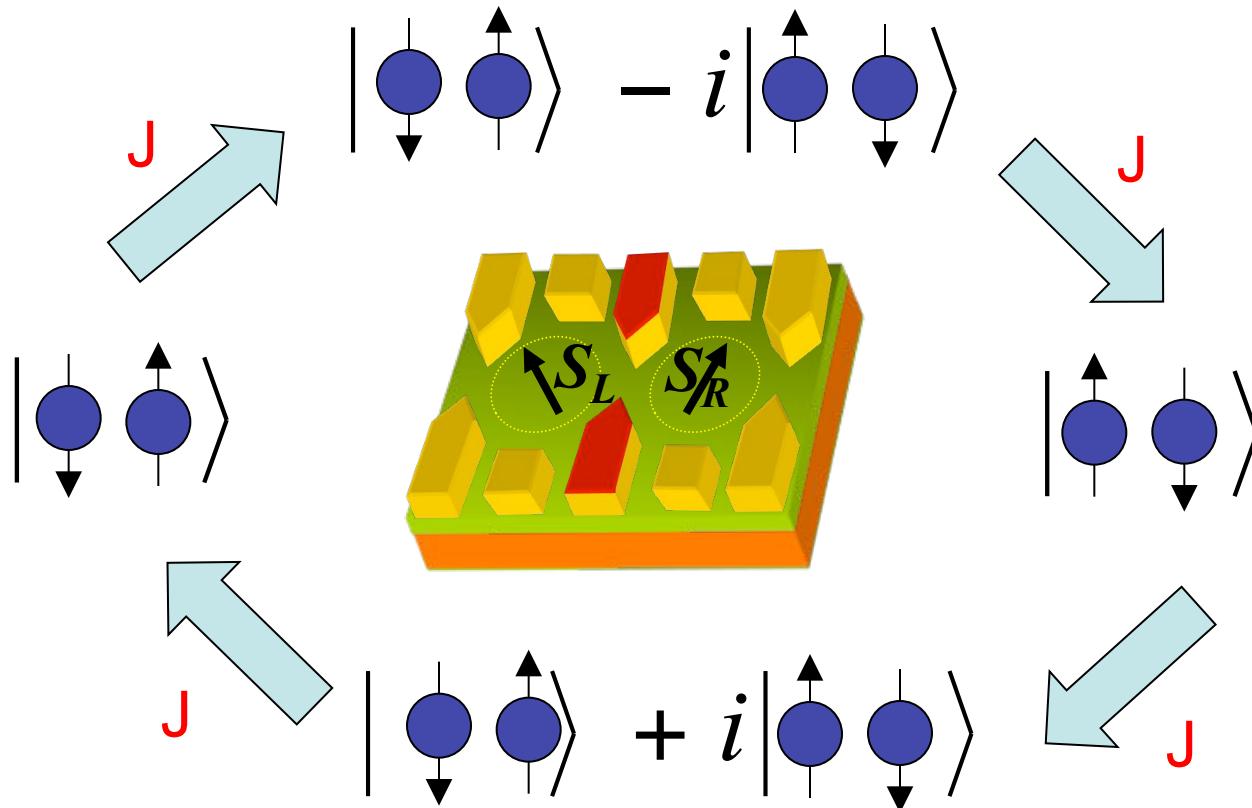


$$| \uparrow \downarrow \rangle$$

$$| \downarrow \uparrow \rangle + i | \uparrow \downarrow \rangle$$

# How to make entanglement ‘visible’

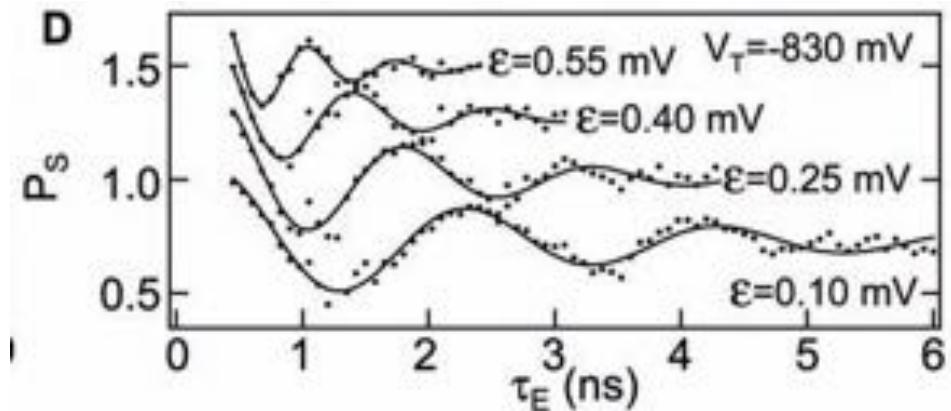
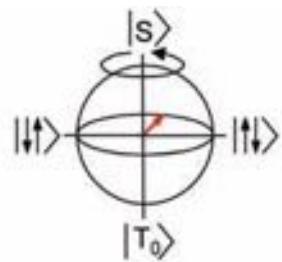
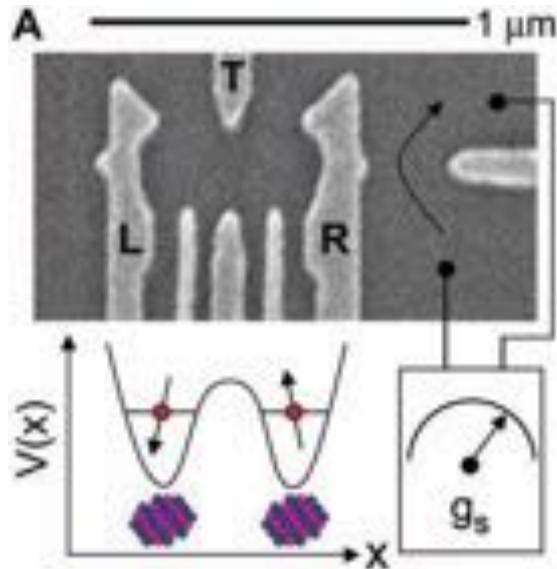
Loss & DiVincenzo, 1998



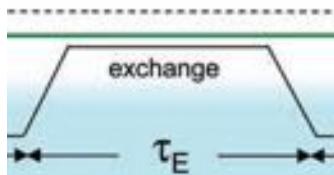
→ entanglement oscillates !

# Entanglement oscillations

Petta, Yacoby, Marcus et al., Science 2005

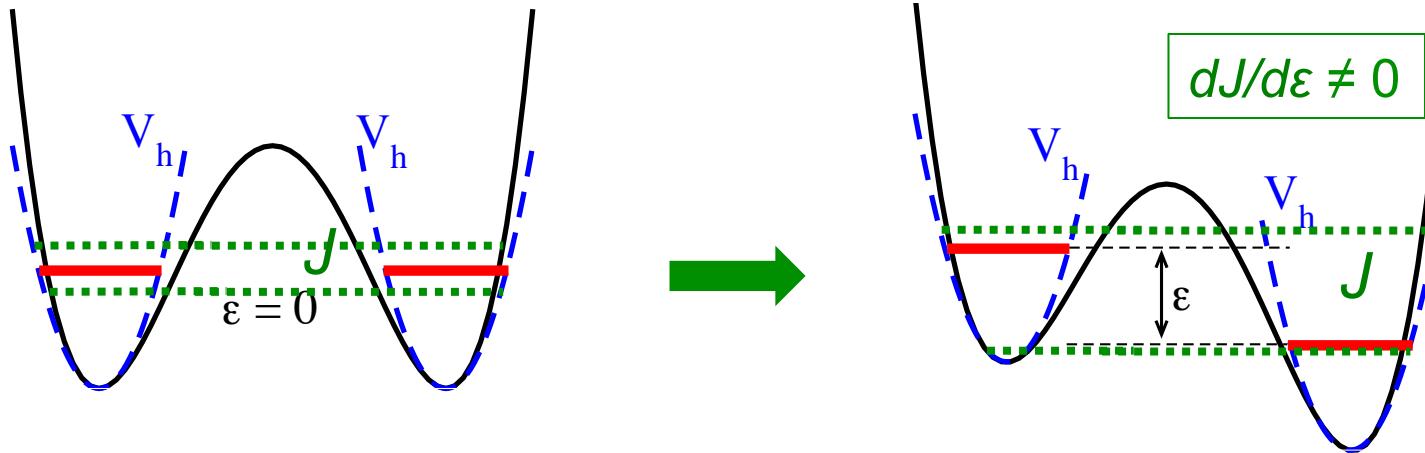


ultra-fast ‘clock speed’: entanglement generated in 180 ps !

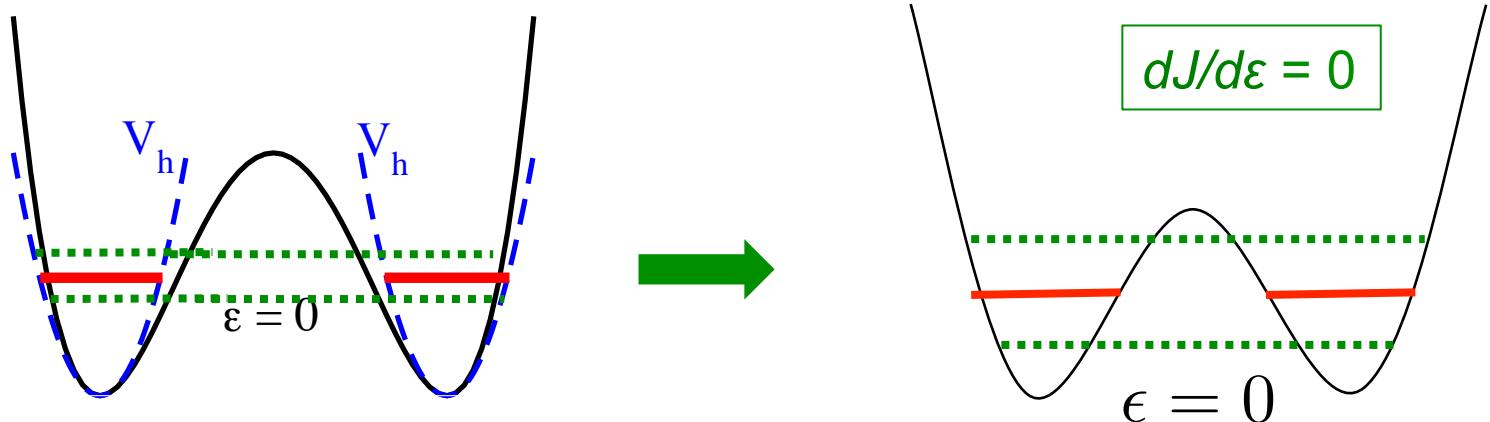


# Switching of exchange $J$

## 1. Asymmetric via bias $\varepsilon$



## 2. Symmetric via barrier height





# Noise Suppression Using Symmetric Exchange Gates in Spin Qubits

Frederico Martins,<sup>1</sup> Filip K. Malinowski,<sup>1</sup> Peter D. Nissen,<sup>1</sup> Edwin Barnes,<sup>2,3</sup> Saeed Fallahi,<sup>4</sup> Geoffrey C. Gardner,<sup>5</sup> Michael J. Manfra,<sup>4,5,6</sup> Charles M. Marcus,<sup>1</sup> and Ferdinand Kuemmeth<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Center for Quantum Devices, Niels Bohr Institute, University of Copenhagen, 2100 Copenhagen, Denmark*

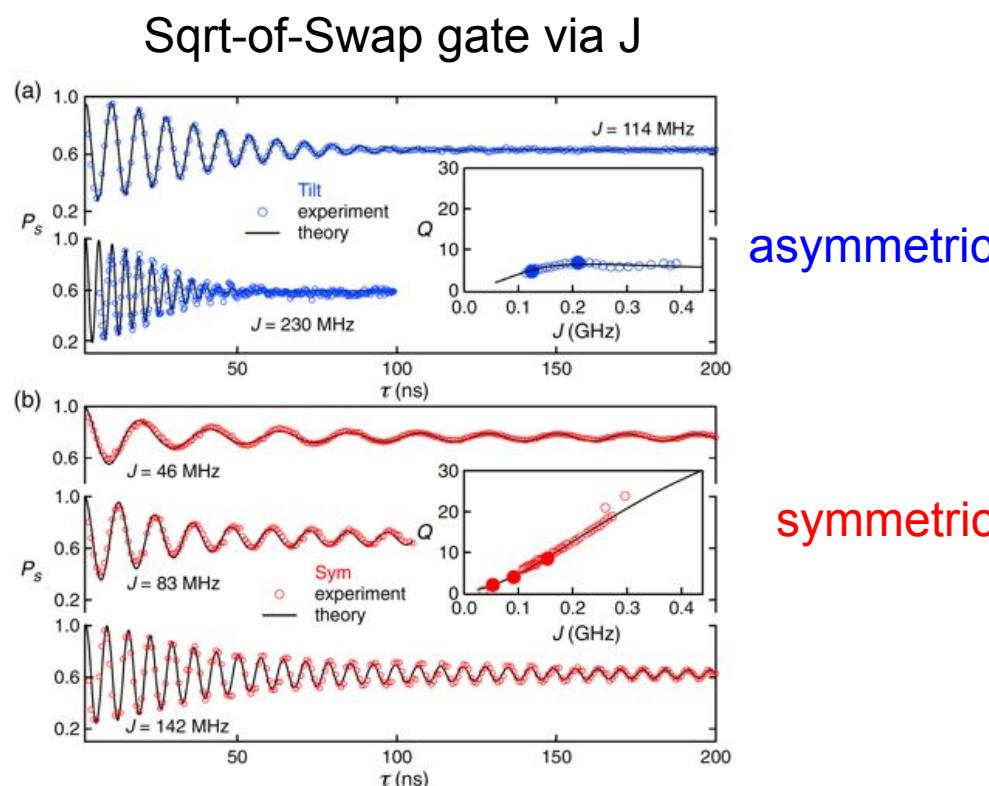
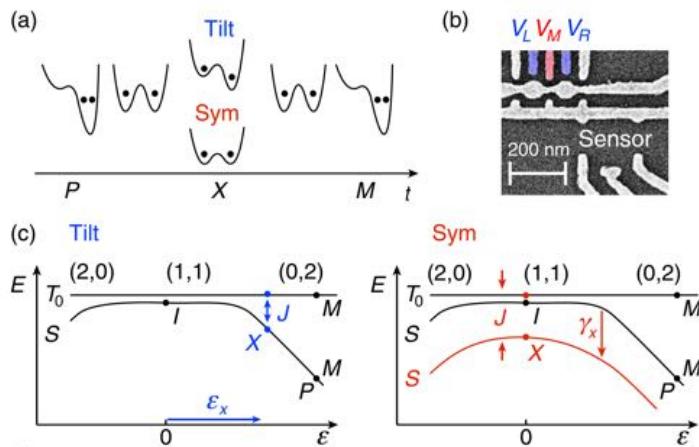


FIG. 3. (a) Tilt-induced exchange oscillations (i.e.,  $\gamma_x = 0$  mV) for  $\epsilon_x = 79.5$  and 82 mV, generating oscillation frequencies indicated by  $J$ . (b) Same as (a) but for the symmetric mode of operation ( $\epsilon_x = 13.5$  mV), with  $\gamma_x = 100$ , 120, and 140 mV.



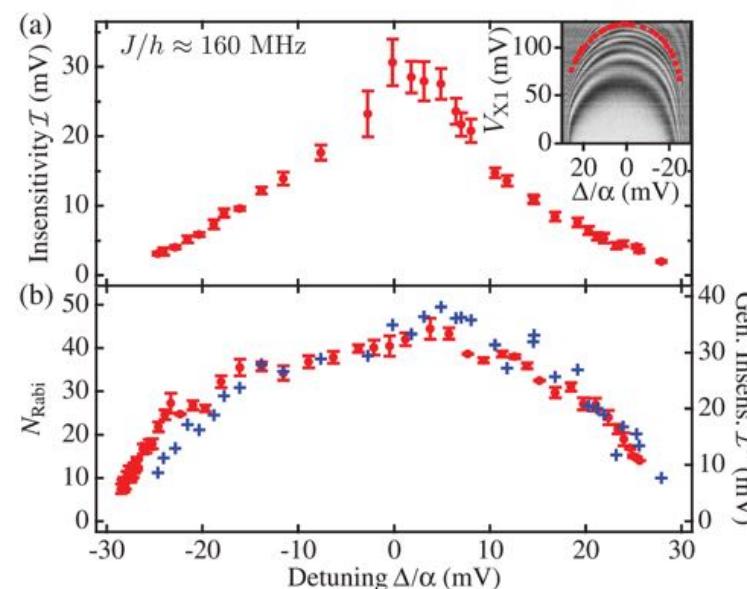
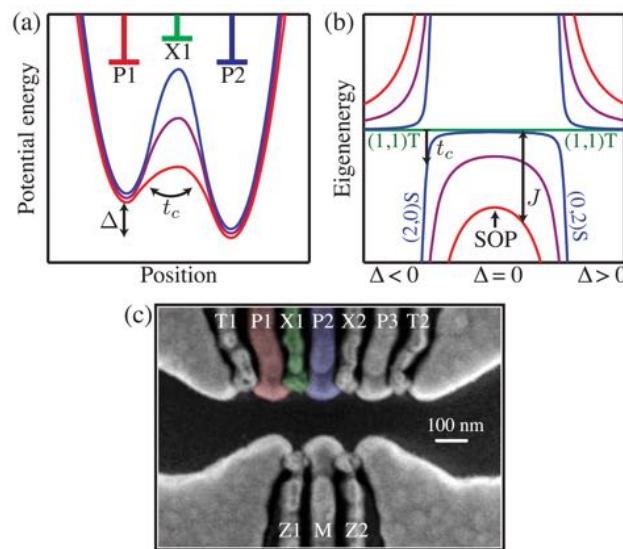
# Reduced Sensitivity to Charge Noise in Semiconductor Spin Qubits via Symmetric Operation

M. D. Reed, B. M. Maune, R. W. Andrews, M. G. Borselli, K. Eng, M. P. Jura, A. A. Kiselev,  
 T. D. Ladd, S. T. Merkel, I. Milosavljevic, E. J. Pritchett, M. T. Rakher, R. S. Ross,  
 A. E. Schmitz, A. Smith, J. A. Wright, M. F. Gyure, and A. T. Hunter\*

*HRL Laboratories, LLC, 3011 Malibu Canyon Road, Malibu, California 90265, USA*

(Received 5 August 2015; published 16 March 2016)

## Si/Ge quantum dots



# Serial vs. Parallel gate

I. Serial gate: LD, PRA 57, 120 (1998)

$H(t) = J(t)\mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2 + \mathbf{b}_1(t) \cdot \mathbf{S}_1 + \mathbf{b}_2(t) \cdot \mathbf{S}_2$  controlled such that

$$H(t) = J(t)\mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2 \quad \text{or} \quad H(t) = \mathbf{b}_1(t) \cdot \mathbf{S}_1 + \mathbf{b}_2(t) \cdot \mathbf{S}_2$$

$$U_{SW}^{1/2} = \exp\left(i \int_0^{\tau_s} dt J(t) \mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2\right), \quad \text{if} \quad \int_0^{\tau_s} dt J(t) = \pi/2 + 2\pi n$$

$$U_{XOR} = e^{-i(\pi/2)S_2^y} [e^{i(\pi/2)S_1^z} e^{-i(\pi/2)S_2^z} U_{SW}^{1/2} e^{+i\pi S_1^z} U_{SW}^{1/2}] e^{i(\pi/2)S_2^y}$$

→ need 7 pulses (5 for CPF)

## Serial vs. Parallel gate

II. Parallel gate: Burkard et al., PRB 60, 11404 (1999)

$$H(t) = J(t)\mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2 + \mathbf{b}_1(t) \cdot \mathbf{S}_1 + \mathbf{b}_2(t) \cdot \mathbf{S}_2$$

$$U_{CPF} = \exp\left(i \int_0^{\tau_s} dt H(t)\right)$$

only 1 pulse for CPF !

$$\text{if } \int J = \pi/2, \text{ and } \int b_{1/2}^z = \pi(1 \pm \sqrt{3})/4$$

$$U_{XOR} = e^{-i(\pi/2)S_2^y} U_{CPF} e^{i(\pi/2)S_2^y}$$

→ need only 3 pulses

Implementation scheme: Meunier et al., PRB 83, 121403 (2011)

# Single-Qubit Operations or *How to Flip a Spin?*

## 1. Electron Spin Resonance (ESR)

An **ac magnetic field** is applied perpendicular to a **static magnetic field**, with a frequency that matches the Zeeman splitting

## 2. Electric-Dipole-Induced Spin Resonance (EDSR)

Exploits **spin-orbit interaction** and **ac electric field**

## 3. Electrically Driven ESR in a Slanting Magnetic Field

Exploits a **magnetic field gradient** and **ac electric field**

## 4. Electrically Driven ESR in an exchange field of auxilliary spin

Exploits the **exchange field**, **magnetic field gradient**, and **ac electric field**

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Fast

## 3. Electrically Driven ESR in a Slanting Magnetic Field

Exploits a **magnetic field gradient** and **ac electric field**

N  
H  
G

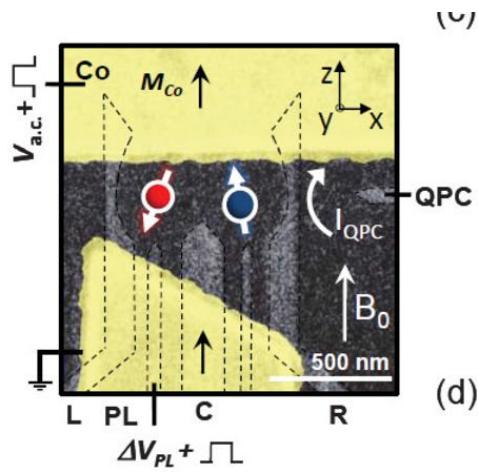
## 4. Electrically Driven ESR in an exchange field of auxilliary spin

Exploits the **exchange field**, **magnetic field gradient**, and **ac electric field**

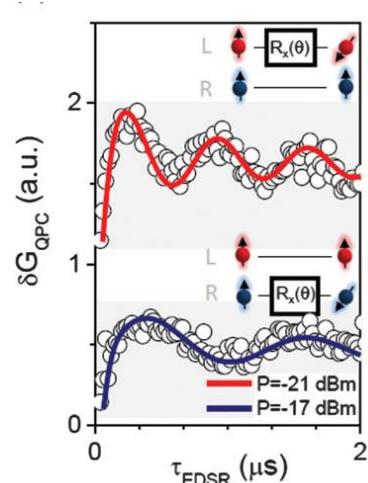


# Two-Qubit Gate of Combined Single-Spin Rotation and Interdot Spin Exchange in a Double Quantum Dot

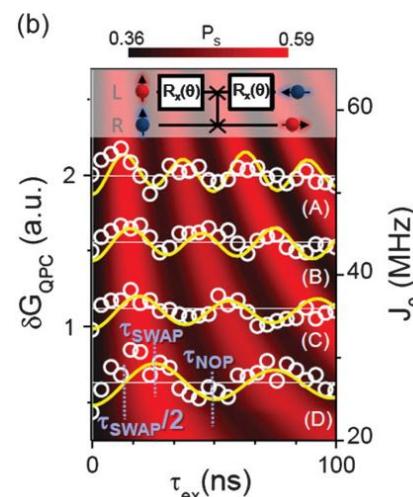
R. Brunner,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Y.-S. Shin,<sup>1</sup> T. Obata,<sup>1,3</sup> M. Pioro-Ladrière,<sup>4</sup> T. Kubo,<sup>5</sup> K. Yoshida,<sup>1</sup> T. Taniyama,<sup>6,7</sup> Y. Tokura,<sup>1,5</sup> and S. Tarucha<sup>1,3</sup>



double dot in  
B field gradient



EDSR  
~ MHz



entanglement  
~ GHz

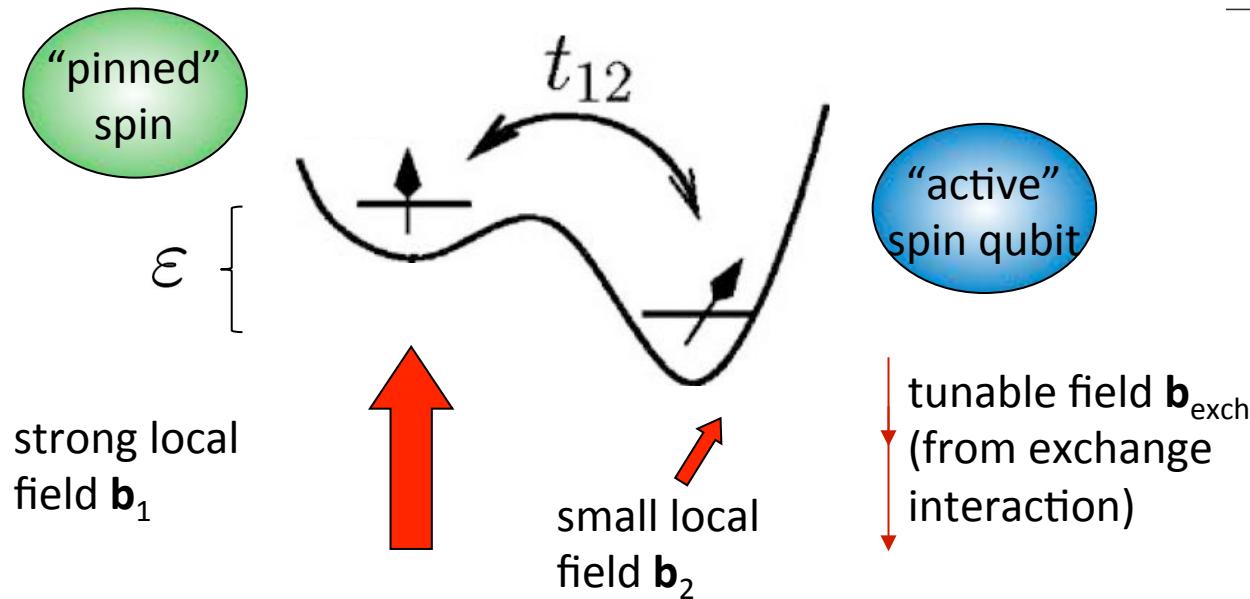
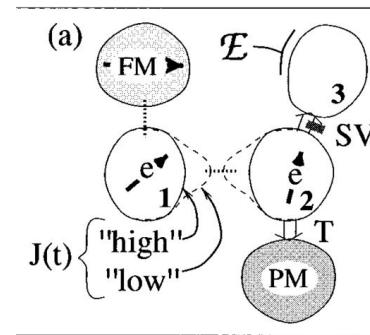
# Ultra-fast single-qubit gates via exchange

Alternative to ESR/EDSR: double dot with pulsed J-gate!

DL and DiVincenzo, PRA 57 (1998)

Coish and DL, PRB 75, 161302 (2007)

Chesi, Wang, Yoneda, Otsuka, Tarucha, and DL, PRB 90, 235311 (2014)



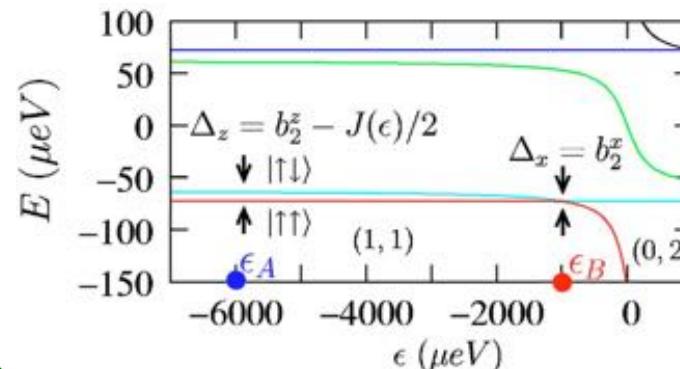
Single-qubit gates with high fidelity and ultrafast  $\sim 1$  ns

# Single-spin rotation via exchange: Two regimes

I.

$$b_1 \gg b_2$$

Advantage: hybridization of logical states and (1,1) charge configuration can be made very small; **but difficult to reach**



Coish & DL,  
PRB 2007

II.

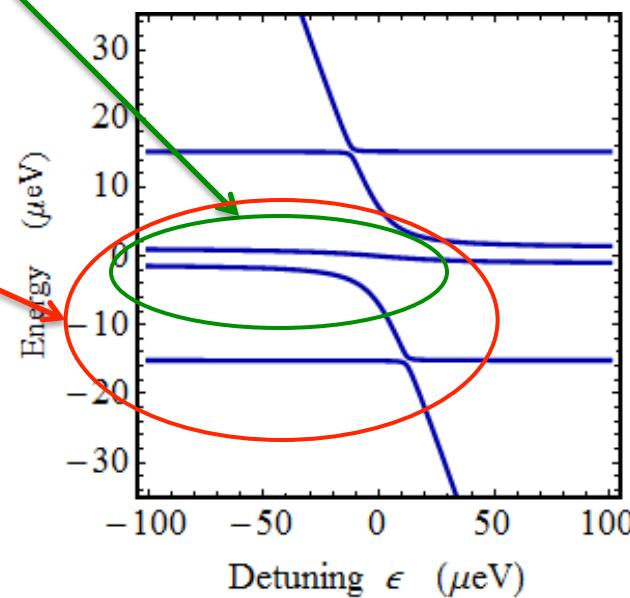
$$b_1 \simeq b_2 \simeq B$$

This is a more typical situation in exp.:

$B \gtrsim 1 \text{ T}$  (due to saturation field of micromagnet)

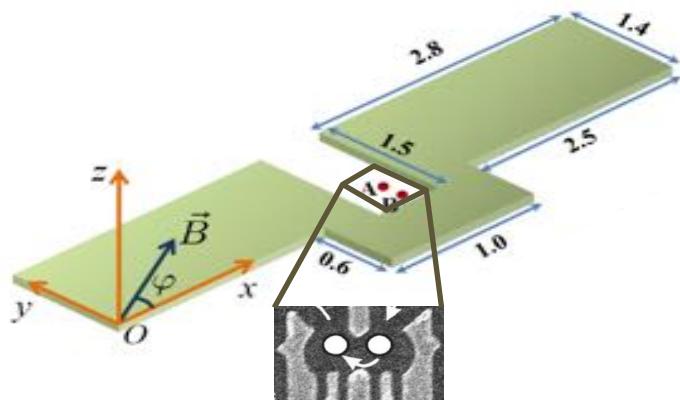
$$\Delta b = b_1 - b_2 \simeq 10 - 50 \text{ mT}$$

Ultra-short gate times: 1 ns, with very high fidelity for GaAs double dots



Chesi et al.,  
PRB 2014

# Single-spin manipulation in double dots with micromagnet

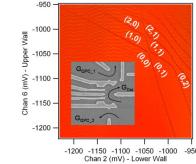
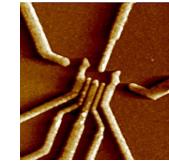
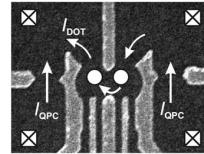
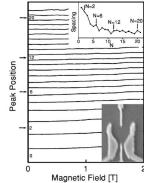
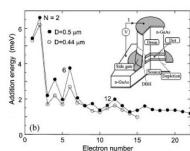
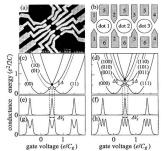


Chesi et al., PRB **90**, 235311 (2014)

- Single-qubit gates implemented via exchange (as for two-qubit gates)
- Ultra-short gate times: 1 ns, with very high fidelity for GaAs double dots
- Noise sources: Nuclear and charge noise present but not a problem

# Most Advanced: Spin qubits in GaAs quantum dots

Kloeffel & DL, Annu. Rev. Condens. Matter Phys. 4, 51 (2013)



Westervelt  
Gossard 1995

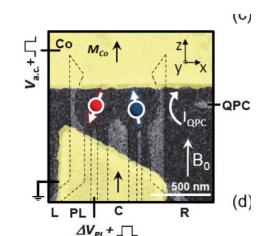
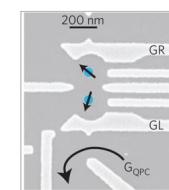
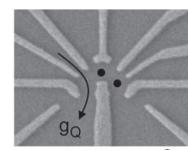
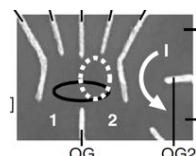
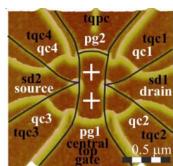
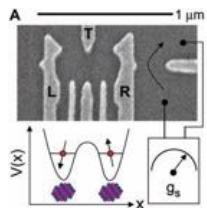
Kouwenhoven  
Tarucha 1996

Sachrajda  
2000

Kouwenhoven  
Tarucha 2003-13

Vandersypen,  
Koppens, 2003

Marcus 2004



Petta, Marcus,  
Yacoby 2005

Ensslin, Ihn  
2006

Zumbuhl,  
Kastner  
2008

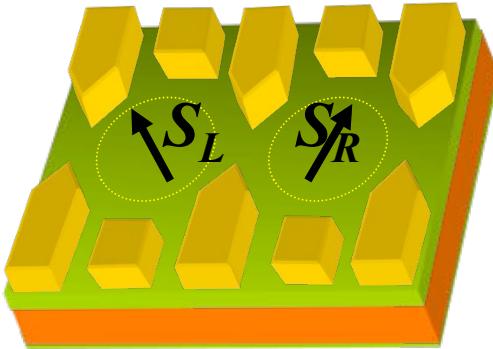
Petta 2010

Bluhm, Dial,  
Yacoby 2010-13  
 $T_2 \sim 300 \mu\text{s}$

Brunner,  
Pioro-Ladriere,  
Tarucha 2011

... and many more ...

# Spin-Qubits from Electrons

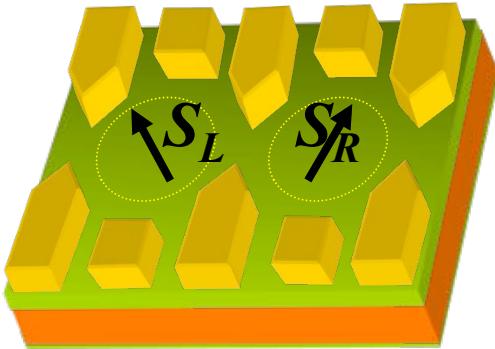


simplest spin-qubit:  
spin-1/2 of 1 electron  $|0\rangle = \uparrow$ ,  $|1\rangle = \downarrow$

Many more choices for spin qubits:

- 'exchange-only qubits' DiVincenzo, Burkard *et al.* '00; Sachrajda '12; Marcus '13;  
3 electrons:  $|0\rangle = S \uparrow$ ,  $|1\rangle = T_+ \downarrow - T_0 \uparrow$  Doherty '15; Taylor '16; Rashba/Halperin '13
- 'singlet-triplet' qubits Levy '02, Taylor *et al.* '05, Klinovaja *et al.* '12  
2 electrons:  $|0\rangle = S$ ,  $|1\rangle = T_0$
- 'spin-cluster qubits' Meier, Levy & DL, '03  
N electrons: AF spin chains, ladders, clusters,...
- 'spin-orbit qubits' Golovach, Borhani & DL, '07; Kouwenhoven *et al.*, '11;
- hole spins: Bulaev & DL, '05; Marcus *et al.*, '11; Kloeffel, Trif & DL, '11-'16 (Si/Ge NW)
- molecular magnets Leuenberger & DL, '01; Affronte *et al.*, '06,  
Lehmann *et al.*, '07; Trif *et al.*, '08, '10, '16

# Spin-Qubits from Electrons

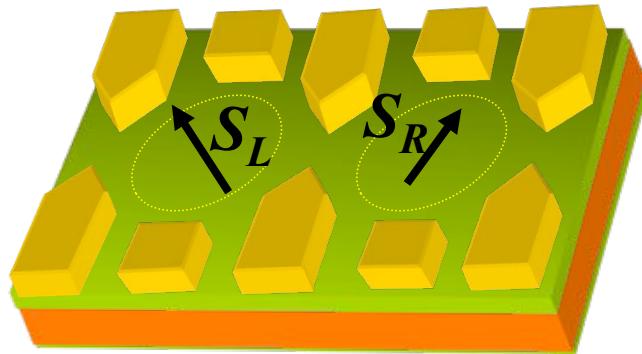


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- molecular magnets Leuenberger & DL, '01; Affronte *et al.*, '06, Lehmann *et al.*, '07; Trif *et al.*, '08, '10, '16

# Most popular spin qubits (in GaAs)



LD spin qubit:

spin-1/2 of 1 electron

Loss and DiVincenzo, *Phys. Rev. A* **57**, p120 (1998)

'singlet-triplet' qubits :

2 electrons:

Levy (2002), Taylor *et al.* (2005)

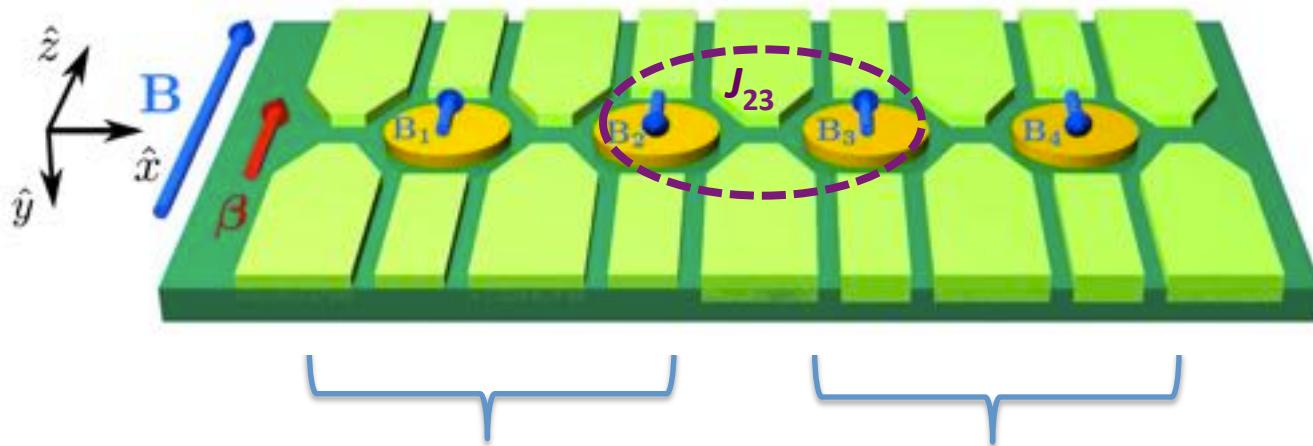
$$|0\rangle = \uparrow, |1\rangle = \downarrow$$

$$|0\rangle = S, |1\rangle = T_0$$

*Prospects for Spin-Based Quantum Computing in Quantum Dots*

C. Kloeffel and D. Loss, *Annu. Rev. Condens. Matter Phys.* **4**, 51 (2013);

# Singlet-Triplet (ST) Qubit



four dots = two ST-qubits

Computational basis:

$$S^z = 0$$

$$[11] = (+ - + -)$$

$$[10] = (+ - - +)$$

$$[01] = (- + + -)$$

$$[00] = (- + - +)$$

Note: Decoherence time is very long T<sub>2</sub> ~ 250 μs

Bluhm et al., Nat. Phys. 7, 109 (2011)

# CNOT Gate via Exchange: fast and noise-free

Klinovaja, Stepanenko, Halperin, and DL, PRB 86, 085423 (2012)



$$H^B = \sum_{i=1}^4 (b + b_i) \hat{S}_i^z$$

Zeeman interaction

$$b = g\mu_B B \text{ and } b_i = g\mu_B B_i,$$

global magnetic field  $B \rightarrow$  quantization axis  
local magnetic field  $B_i \rightarrow$  single qubit operations

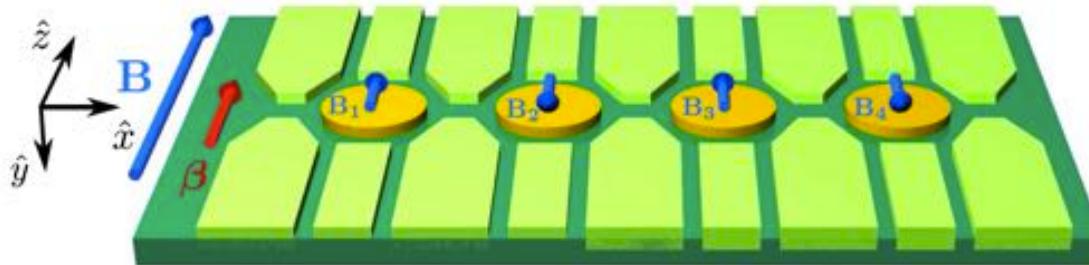
$$H_{\text{ex}}(t) = J_{12}(t) \mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2 + J_{23}(t) \mathbf{S}_2 \cdot \mathbf{S}_3 + J_{34}(t) \mathbf{S}_3 \cdot \mathbf{S}_4 \quad \text{exchange interaction}$$

Rashba SOI leads to\*)  $H_{SO} = \beta(t) \cdot (\mathbf{S}_i \times \mathbf{S}_j)$  Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya (SOI) term

\*) Burkard and Loss, Phys. Rev. Lett. 88, 047903 (2002)

# CNOT Gate via Exchange: fast and noise-free

Klinovaja, Stepanenko, Halperin, and DL, PRB 86, 085423 (2012)



$$H^B = \sum_{i=1}^4 (b + b_i) \hat{S}_i^z$$

$$b = g\mu_B B \text{ and } b_i = g\mu_B B_i,$$

Zeeman interaction

global magnetic field  $B \rightarrow$  quantization axis  
local magnetic field  $B_i \rightarrow$  single qubit operations

$$H_{\text{ex}}(t) = J_{12}(t) \mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2 + J_{23}(t) \mathbf{S}_2 \cdot \mathbf{S}_3 + \dots$$

same time-dependence!

Rashba SOI leads to\*)  $H_{SO} = \beta(t) \cdot (\mathbf{S}_i \times \mathbf{S}_j)$  Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya (SOI) term

\*) Burkard and Loss, Phys. Rev. Lett. 88, 047903 (2002)

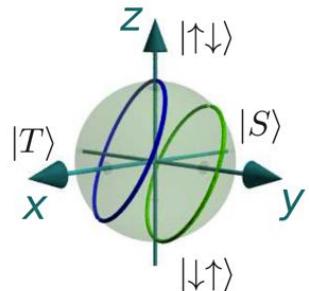
# Computational scheme

Klinovaja et al., PRB 86, 085423 (2012)

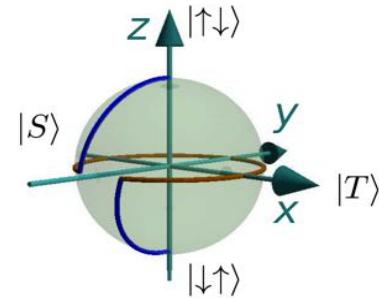
- phase gate  $C_{23}$  for spins on dots 2 and 3
- $\pi_{12}$  pulses ( $J_{12}$  swaps spins 1 and 2) and  $\pi_{34}$  ( $J_{34}$  swaps spins 3 and 4)
- phase gate  $C_{23}$  for spins on dots 2 and 3
- $\pi_{12}$  ( $J_{12}$  swaps spins 1 and 2) and  $\pi_{34}$  ( $J_{34}$  swaps spins 3 and 4)



$C_{23}$  phase gate



$\pi$  pulses



rotation axis:  $J_{23}\mathbf{e}_x - \beta_{23}\mathbf{e}_y + \Delta b_{23}\mathbf{e}_z$

rotation axis:  $J_{12}\mathbf{e}_x - \beta_{12}\mathbf{e}_y + \Delta b_{12}\mathbf{e}_z$

...from one to many quantum dots...

# 12 quantum dots - 4 RX spin qubits

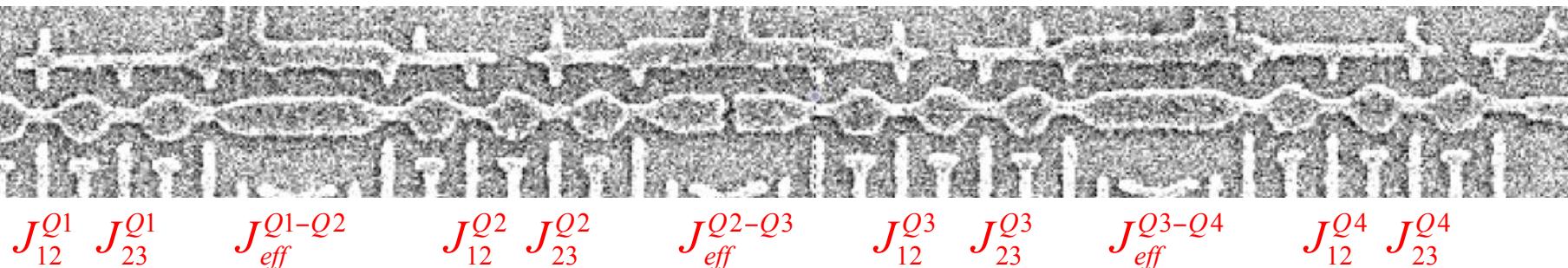
Marcus & Kuemmeth et al., 2015/16

Qubit 1

Qubit 2

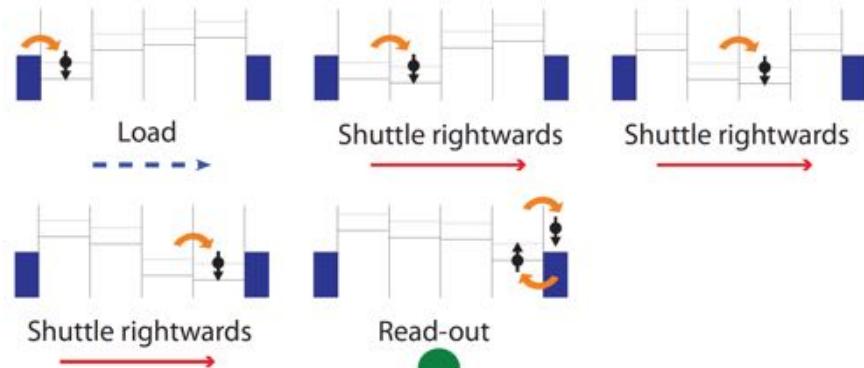
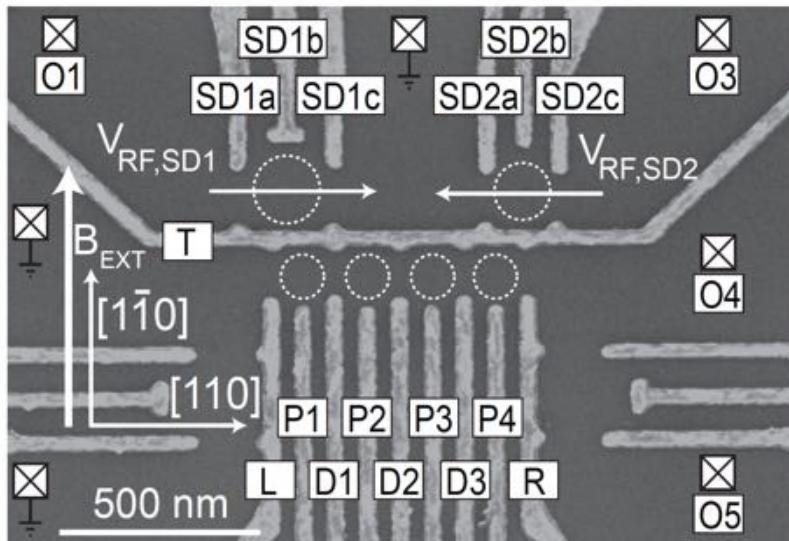
Qubit 3

Qubit 4



# Quadruple-quantum-dot

Baart, Jovanovic, Reichl, Wegscheider, and Vandersypen, arXiv:1606.00292



**FIG. 1:** (a) SEM image of a sample nominally identical to the one used for the measurements. Dotted circles indicate quantum dots, squares indicate Fermi reservoirs in the 2DEG, which are connected to ohmic contacts. The gates that are not labeled are grounded. The reflectance of SD2,  $V_{RF,SD2}$ , is monitored. (b) Charge stability diagram of the quadruple dot. The occupancy of each dot is denoted by  $(l, m, n, p)$  corresponding to the number of electrons in dot 1 (leftmost), 2, 3 and 4 (rightmost) respectively. The fading of charge transition lines from dot 2 and 3 can be explained in a similar way as in Ref. 17 (black dotted lines indicate their positions) and becomes less prominent for a slow scan (see Supplementary Information II). The pulse sequence for loading and read-out is indicated in the charge stability diagram via arrows, see also panel b. The black rectangle corresponds to the hot spot in dot 4 where spins relax on a sub-microsecond timescale; this hot spot is only used for the measurements of Fig. 3. (c) Read from left to right and top to bottom. The system is initialized by loading one electron from the left reservoir. Next, we shuttle the electron to dot 2, 3 and 4 sequentially and finally read out the spin state using spin-selective tunneling.



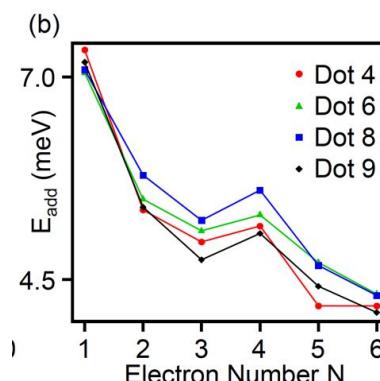
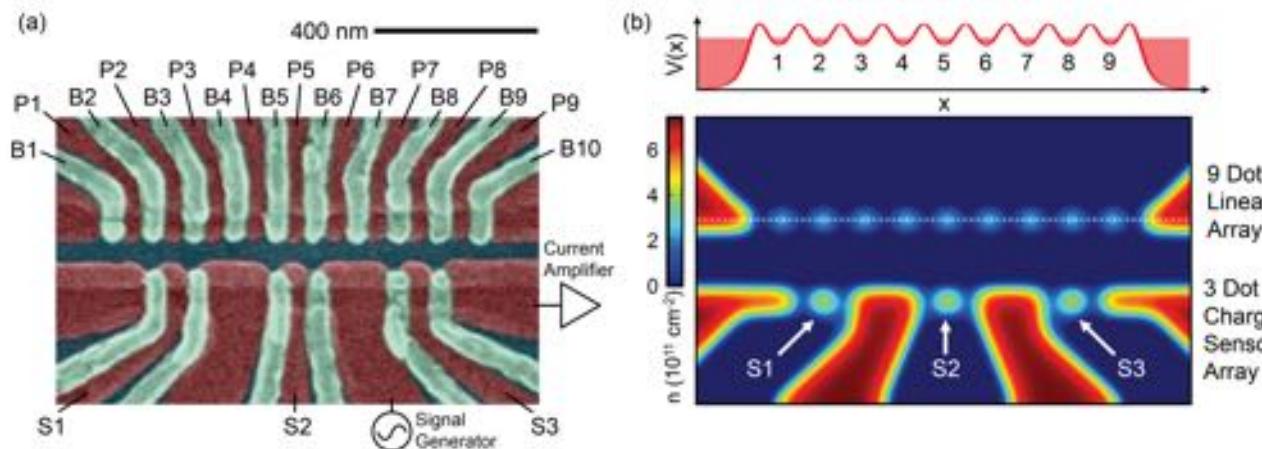
# Scalable Gate Architecture for a One-Dimensional Array of Semiconductor Spin Qubits

D. M. Zajac,<sup>1</sup> T. M. Hazard,<sup>1</sup> X. Mi,<sup>1</sup> E. Nielsen,<sup>2</sup> and J. R. Petta<sup>1</sup>

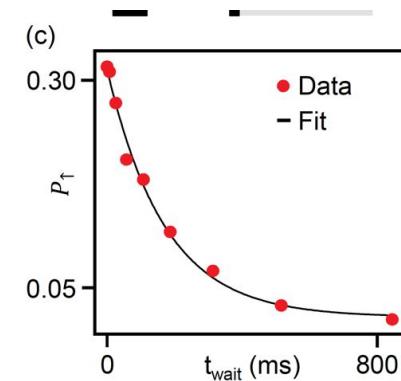
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<sup>2</sup>*Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185, USA*

## 12 (=9+3) quantum dots in Si/SiGe heterostructure



Dot	$\alpha$ (meV/mV)	$E_c$ (meV)	$E_{orb}$ (meV)
1	0.14	6.6	2.7
2	0.13	6.1	2.6
3	0.11	5.6	2.1
4	0.14	7.3	3.3
5	0.14	7.2	3.3
6	0.14	7.1	3.0
7	0.14	7.7	3.5
8	0.14	7.1	3.4
9	0.13	7.2	3.4



# A logical qubit in a linear array of semiconductor quantum dots

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arXiv:1608.06335

