

Create, manipulate and detect single electron wave packets

« à la manière de »

Quantum optics with single photon states in the 90's

(Materials + Tools) + (Principles + Implementation)

### Part 1 : 2d electron systems

- High-mobility semiconducting heterostructures
- Quantum Hall Effect
- Electrons in graphene

### Part 2 : 2d electron devices

- Electron reservoir and quantum transport
- Scattering by a quantum point contact
- The mesoscopic capacitor

*Semiconductor Nanostructures, Thomas Ihn, Oxford University Press (2010)*

### Part 3 : Introduction to electrons optics

- Electron optics principles
- Single electron sources
- The mesoscopic capacitor source: average current and noise

### Part 4 : Quantum optics experiments

- Partitioning single electrons
- Colliding indistinguishable electrons
- Decoherence and charge fractionalization

*Electron quantum optics in ballistic chiral conductors,*

*Bocquillon et al., Annalen der Physik 526, 1 (2014)*

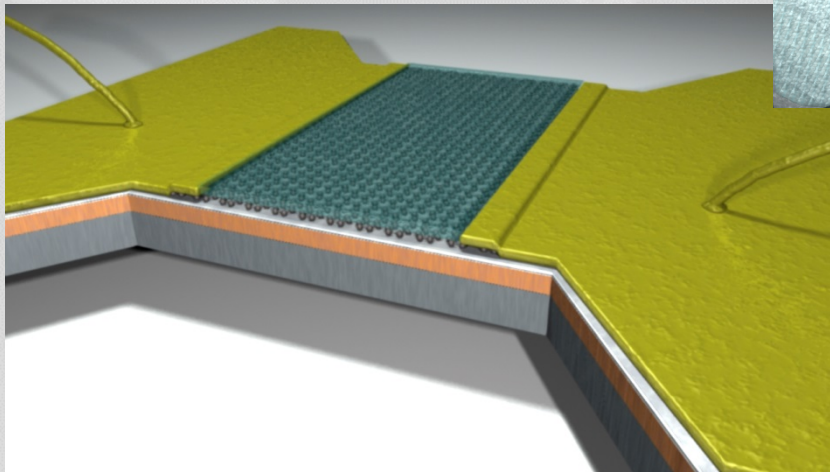
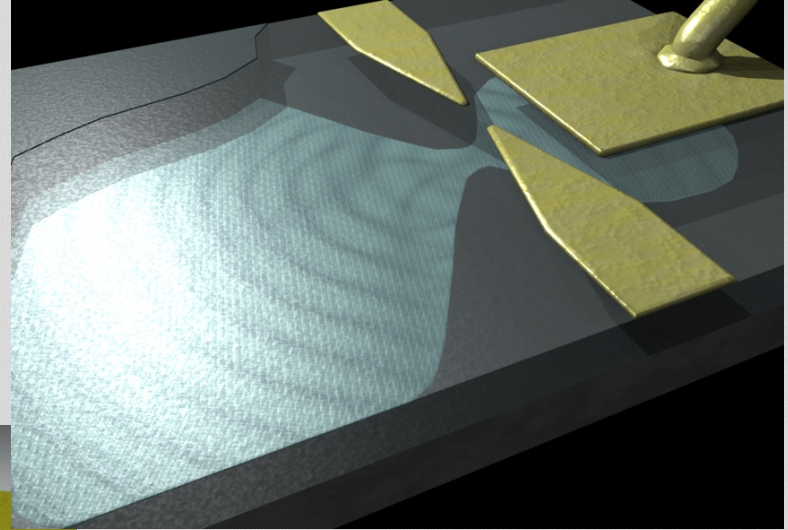


laboratoire pierre aigrain  
électronique et photonique quantiques

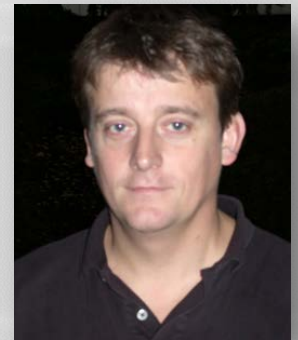
# 2D electron materials

Bernard Plaçais

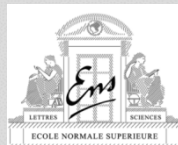
[placais@lpa.ens.fr](mailto:placais@lpa.ens.fr)



Gwendal Fève



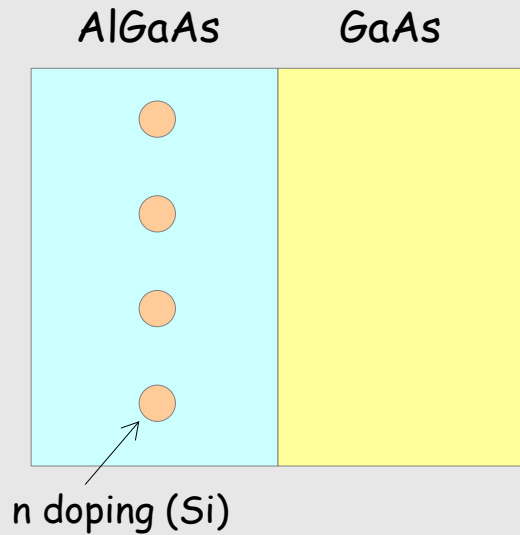
Jean-Marc Berroir



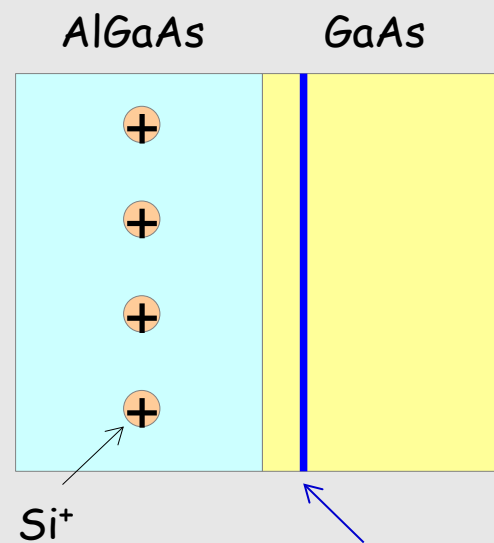
## modulation doped heterostructures

## equilibrium

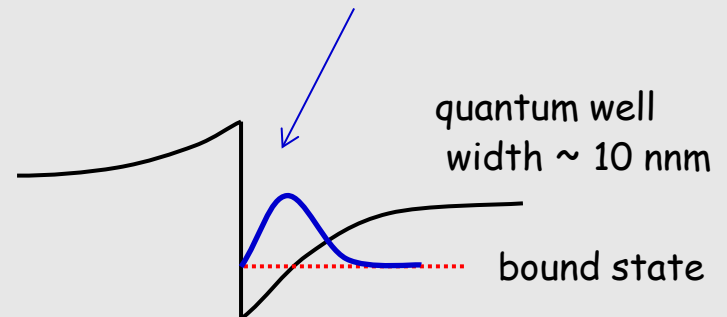
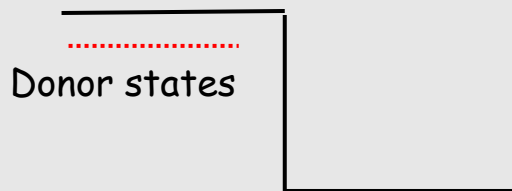
Electric field counterbalancing diffusion



Electron diffusion

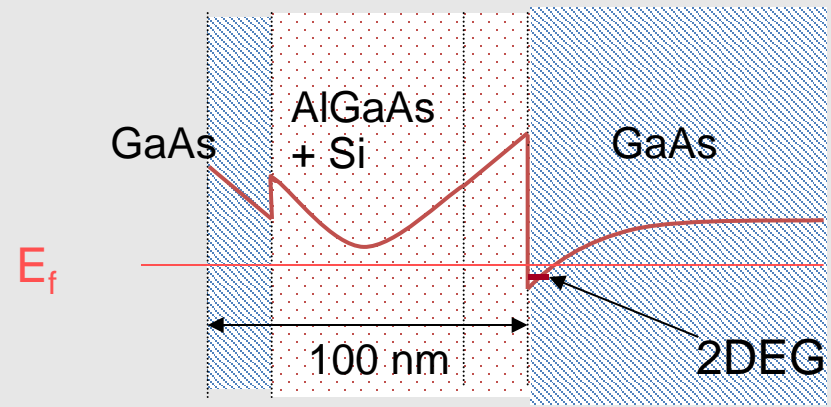
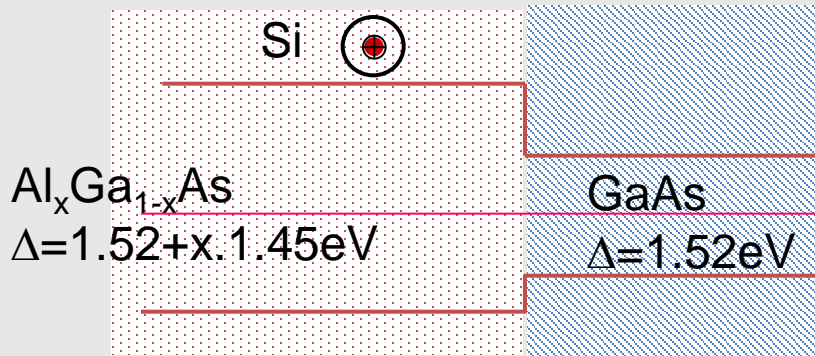
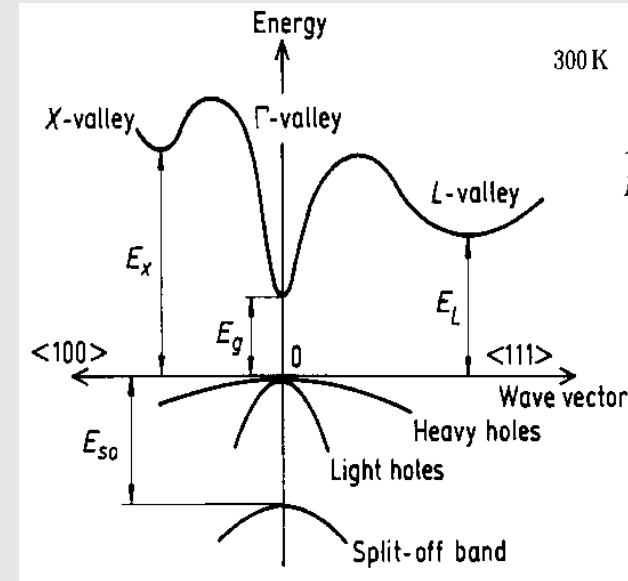
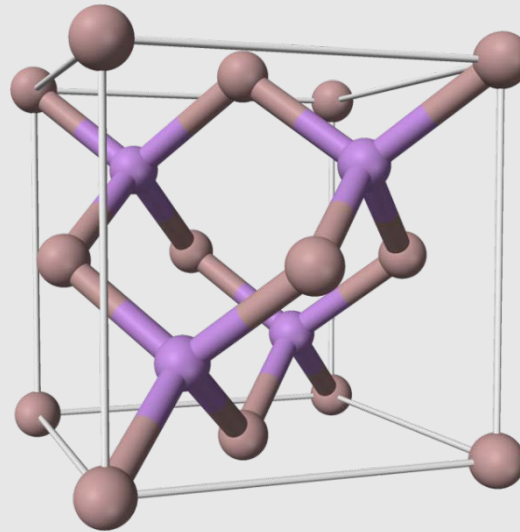


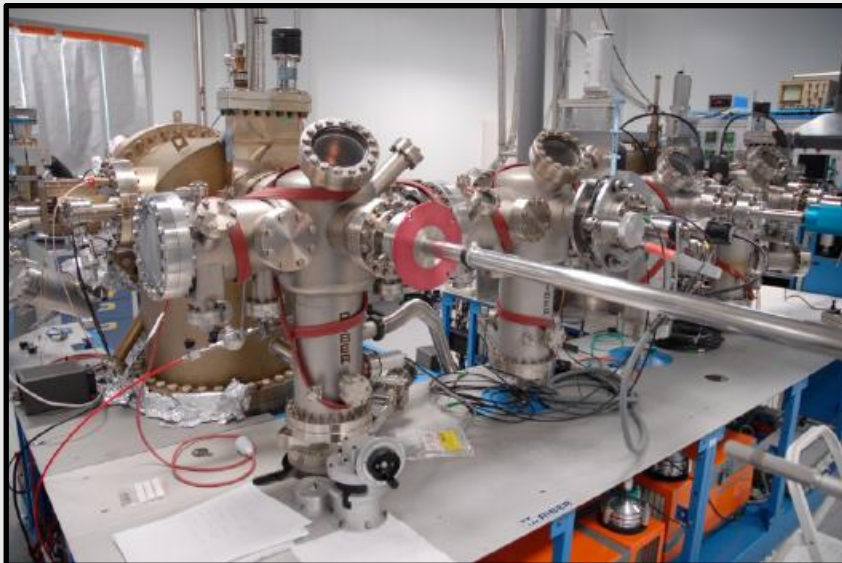
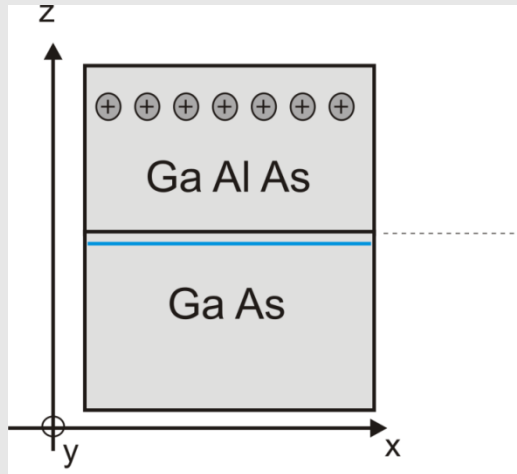
## conduction band profile



Schrödinger electrons :  $\varepsilon = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m^*}$

Effective mass :  $m^* = 0,067 \times m_0$





$$\lambda_F \sim 50 \text{ nm}$$

$$l_e \sim 10\text{-}20 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$$

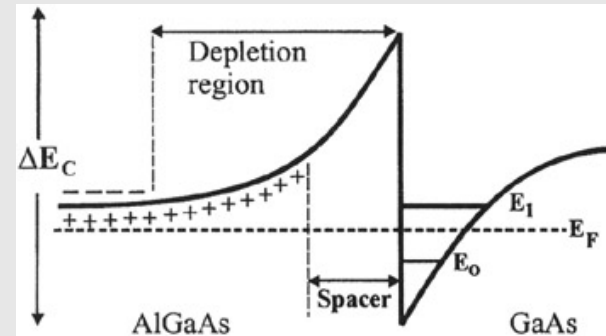
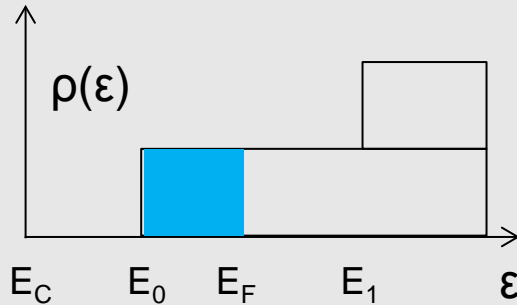
$$l_\phi \sim 15 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$$

( $T \sim 100 \text{ mK}$ )

*Laboratory of Photonics and Nanostructures,  
CNRS-LPN, Marcoussis, France*

# A (massive) 2d electron gas

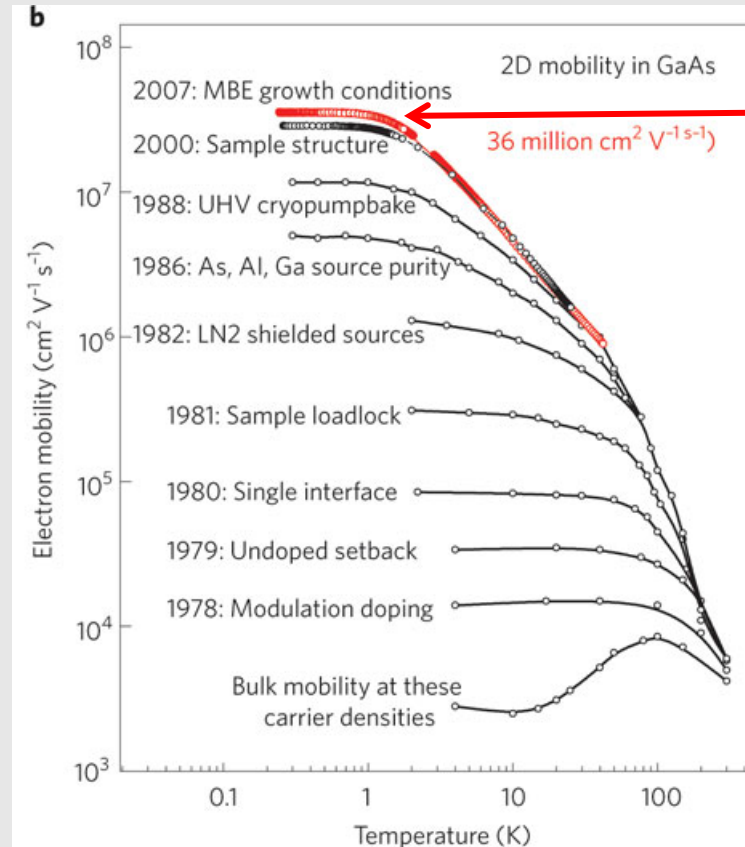
- Density of states :  $\rho(\varepsilon) = g_s g_v m^* / 2\pi\hbar^2$        $g_s = 2; g_v = 1$   
 $(e^2 \rho(\varepsilon_F) \approx 44 \text{ fF } \mu\text{m}^{-2} \equiv 2.6 \text{ nm GaAs})$



- Electron density :  $n \approx 10^{11} - 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-2}$       (determined by doping)
- Fermi-energy :  $\varepsilon_F = \frac{2\pi\hbar^2 n}{g_s g_v m^*}$       ( $\approx 10 \text{ meV}$  at  $3 \cdot 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ )
- Fermi wave length:  $\lambda_F = \sqrt{\frac{\pi g_s g_v}{n}}$       ( $\approx 25 \text{ nm}$  at  $3 \cdot 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ )      (>> metals !!)
- Fermi velocity :  $v_F = \frac{\hbar k_F}{m^*}$       ( $\approx 7 \cdot 10^4 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  at  $3 \cdot 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ )      (<< metals !!)



- Good conductivity :  $\sigma = R^{-1} L/W$   $(\sigma^{-1} \approx 1 - 10^4 \text{ Ohms})$
- High mobility :  $\mu(n) \equiv v_D/E = \sigma/ne$   $(\mu \approx 10^3 - 10^7 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1})$
- Diffusion const. :  $\sigma = e^2 \rho(\varepsilon_F) \times D(\varepsilon_F)$   $(D \approx 10 - 10^5 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1})$
- Diffusion length :  $l_e = 2D/v_F$   $(l_e \approx 30 \text{ nm} - 300\mu\text{m} !!)$



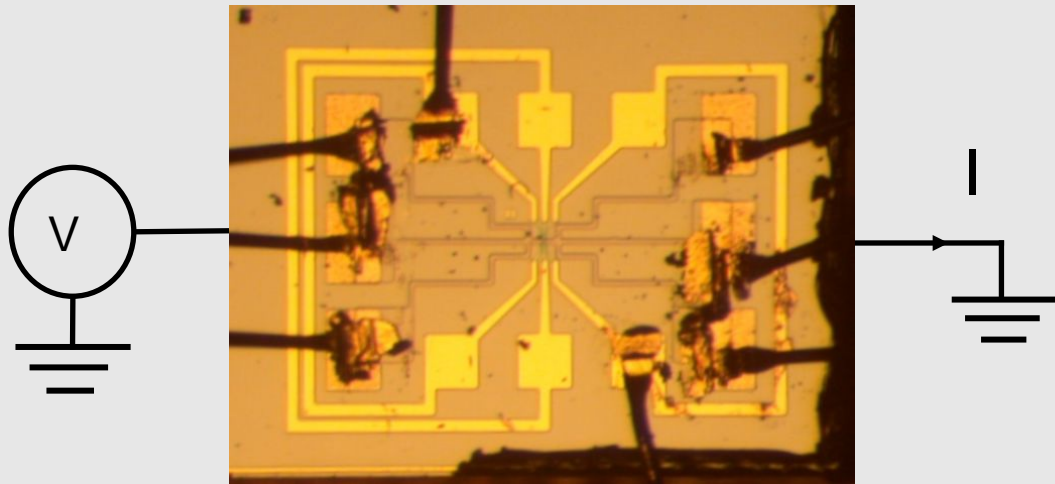
Ultra-clean limit  
(low-temp. physics)

Strong effect of temperature  
(phonons)

Room temperature  
(Nokia phones, ...)S

*N.D. Schlom, L.N. Pfeiffer, Nature Materials 9, 881–883 (2010)*

# Toward ballistic transport Shubnikov-de-Haas



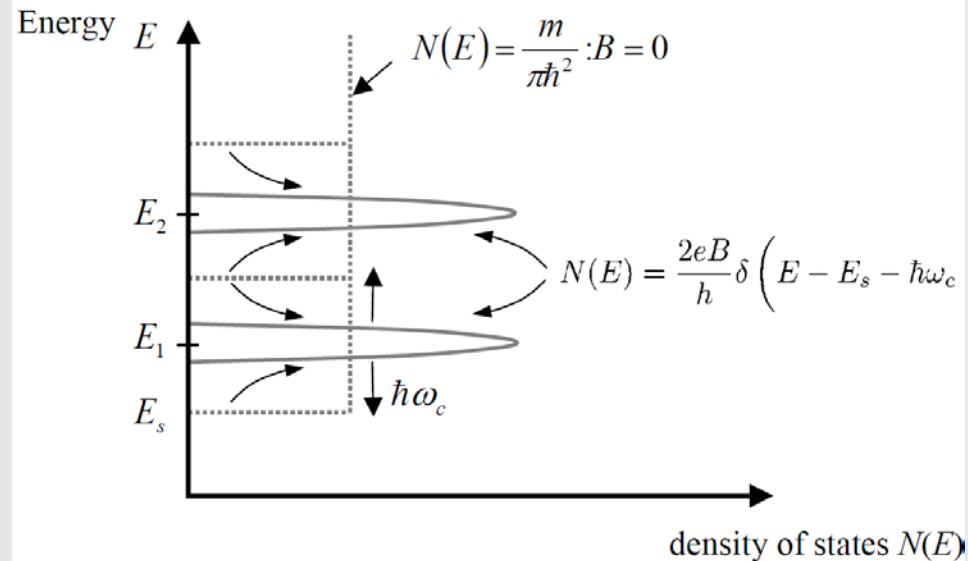
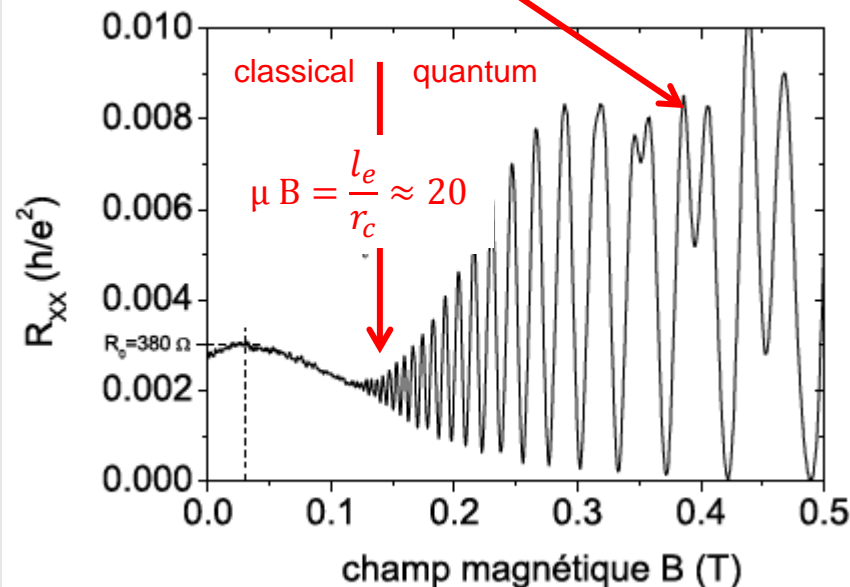
$$R_{XY} = (V_1 - V_3)/I = -B/ne$$

$$R_{XX} = (V_1 - V_2)/I = 1/ne\mu \times L/W$$

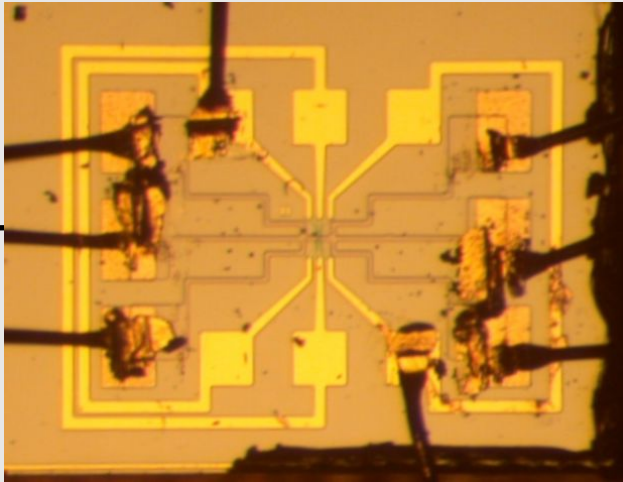
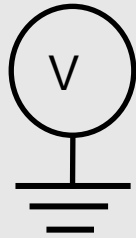
$$\mu \approx 1,3 \cdot 10^6 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$n \approx 1,35 \cdot 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$$

Zeeman splitting



# Ballistic transport Quantum Hall effect



$$R_{XY} = (V_1 - V_3)/I = -B/ne$$

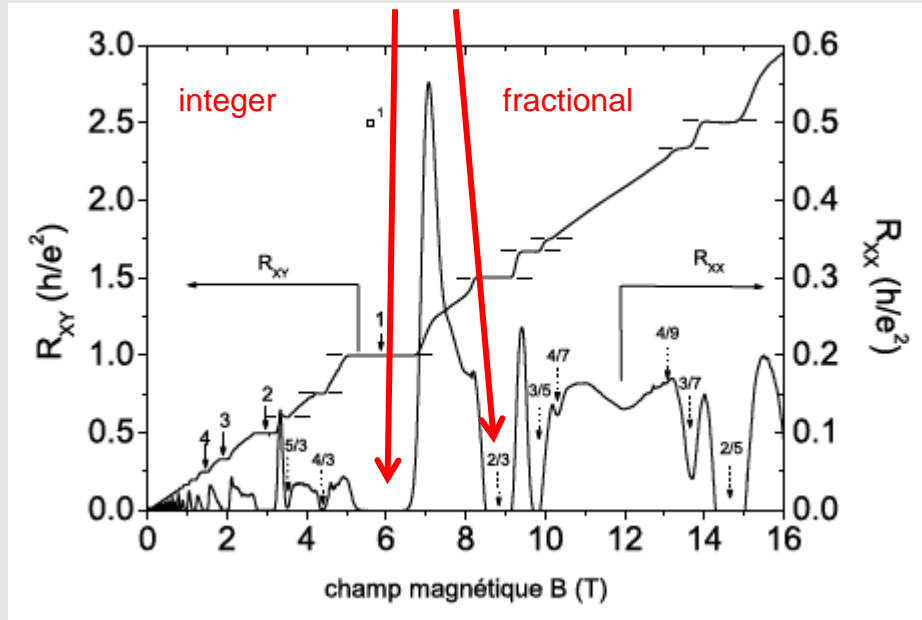
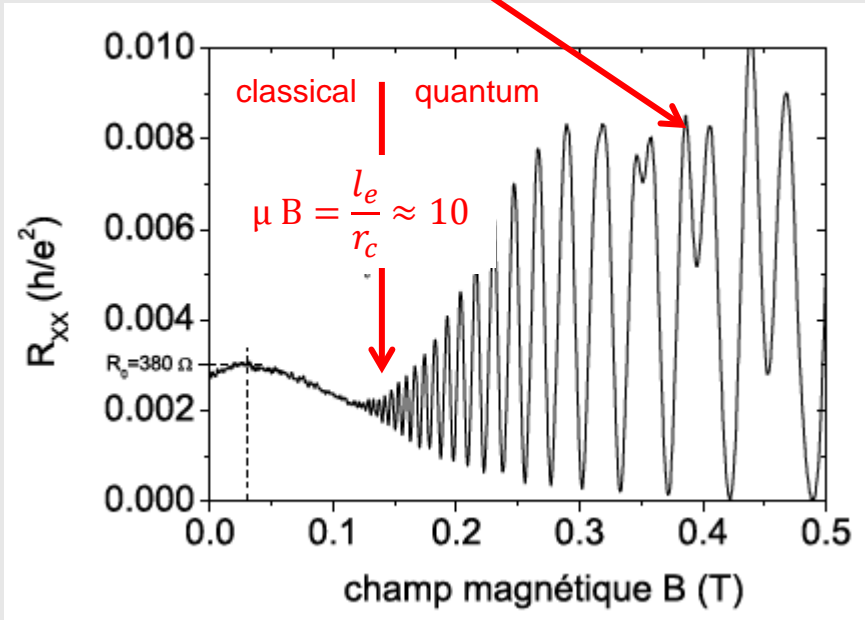
$$R_{XX} = (V_1 - V_2)/I = 1/ne\mu \times L/W$$

$$\mu \approx 1,3 \cdot 10^6 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$n \approx 1,35 \cdot 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$$

Zeeman splitting

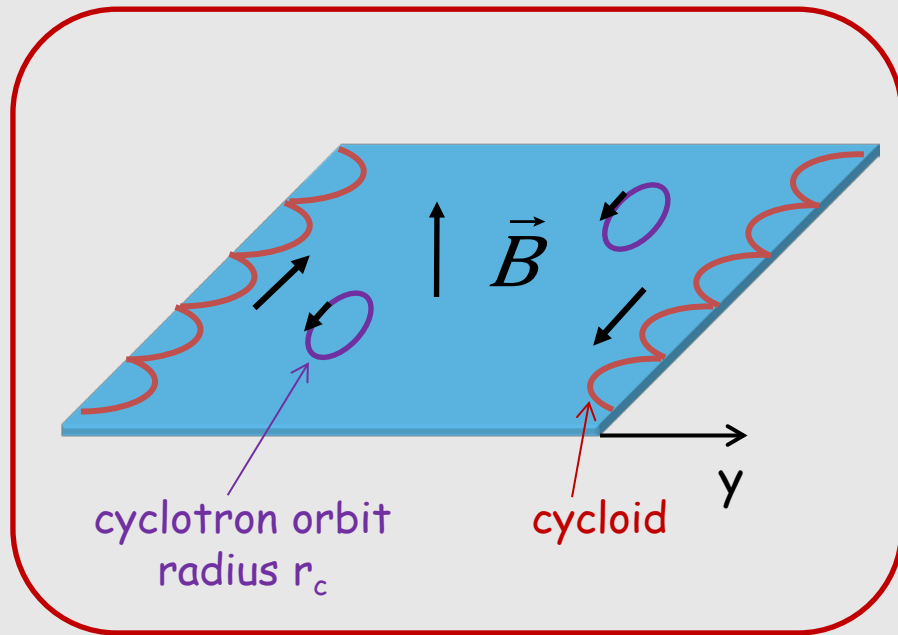
QHE filling factor:  $\nu = n \phi_0/B$  ( $\phi_0 = e/h$ )



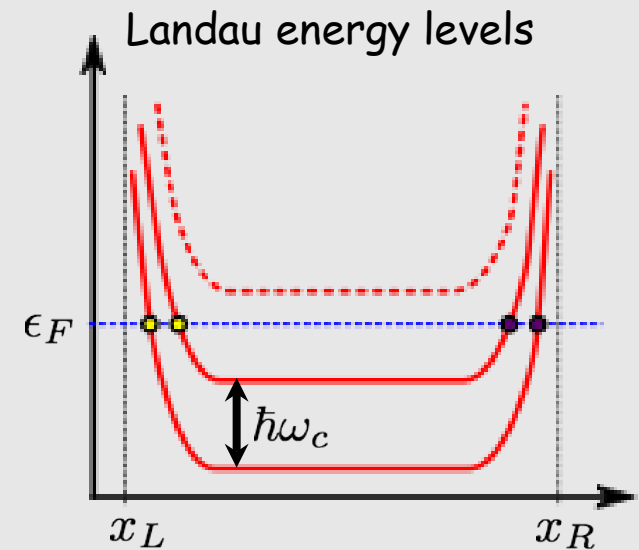
**Cyclotron frequency :**  $\omega_c = eB/m = v_F/r_c$

**Hamiltonian :**  $H = \frac{1}{2m}(p + eA)^2 + V(y) \dots/\dots$

## Classical motion



## Quantum mechanical motion



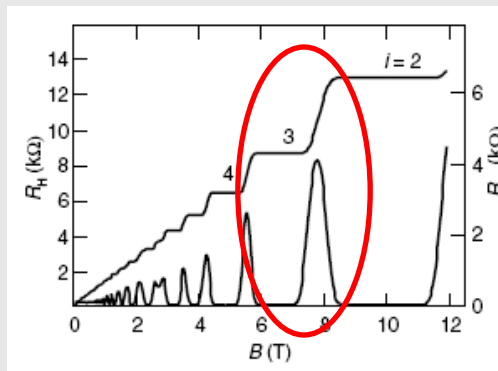
**Flux quantum :**  $\varphi_0 = h/e$  ; **Magnetic length :**  $l_B = \varphi_0/2\pi B$  ; **Landau levels :**  $E = \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) \hbar\omega_c$

**Drift velocity :**  $v_D = E/B$  (see T. Ihn) **Edge channels follow equipotential lines**

# Edge states : ballistic transport

Ballistic

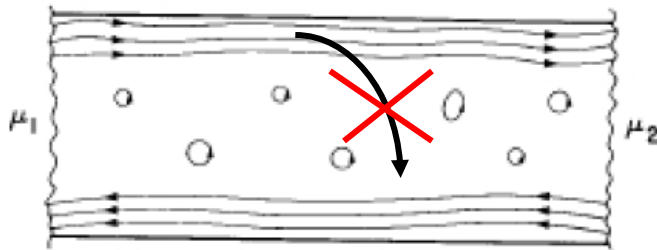
$$: R_{XX} = 0 ; R_{XY} = h/3e^2$$



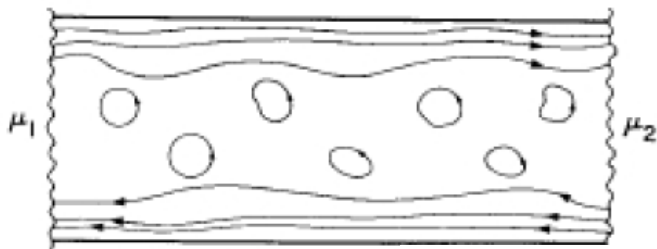
Diffusive

$$R_{XX} \neq 0 ; h/3e^2 < R_{XY} < h/2e^2$$

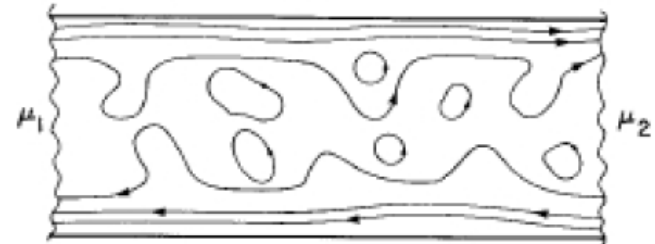
(a) Localized states



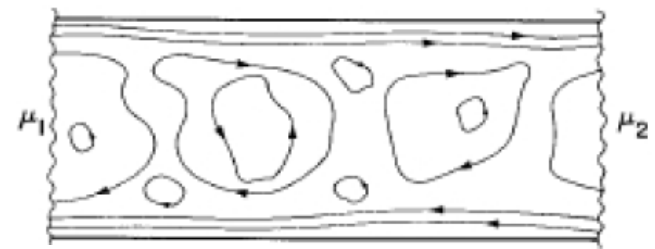
(b) No back-scattering



(c) extended states



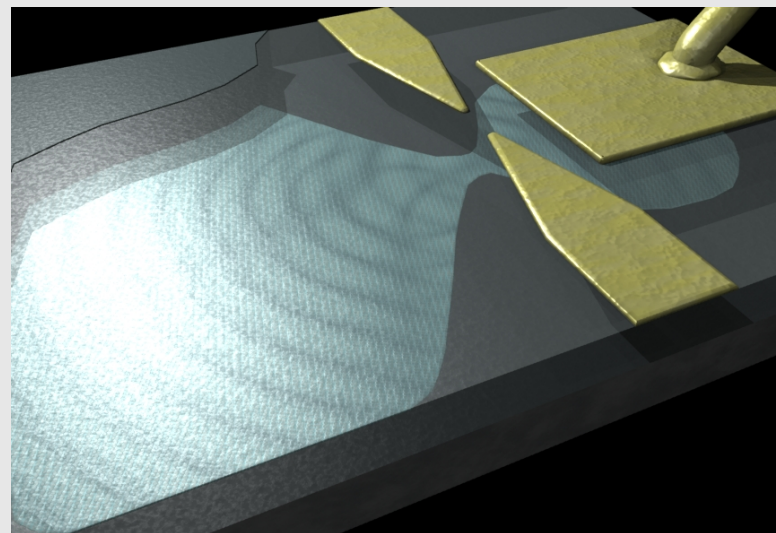
(d) back-scattering possible



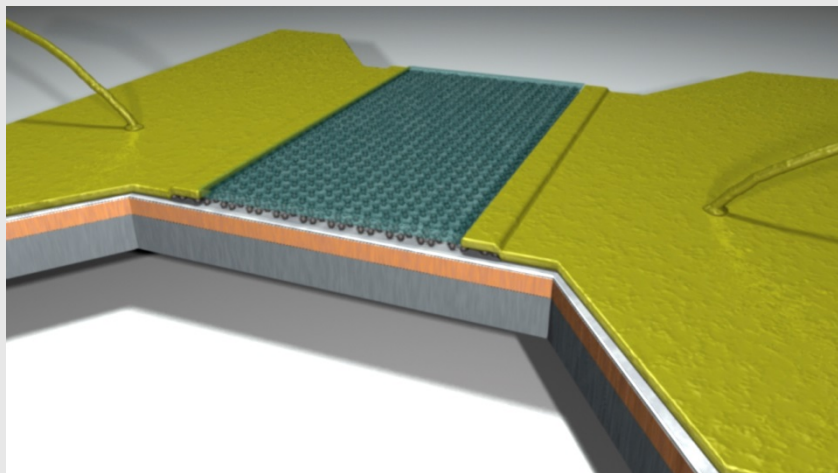
Edge channels follow equipotential lines !!

[http://www.metas.ch/LesHouches/downloads/talks/22\\_Buttiker.pdf](http://www.metas.ch/LesHouches/downloads/talks/22_Buttiker.pdf)

2degs in semiconducting heterostructures

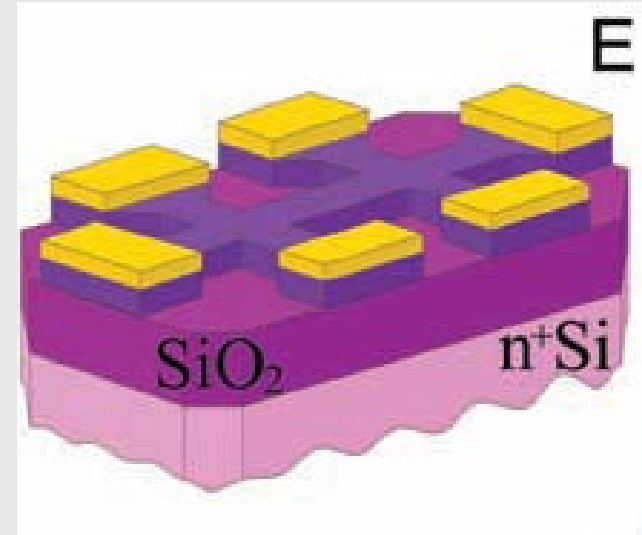
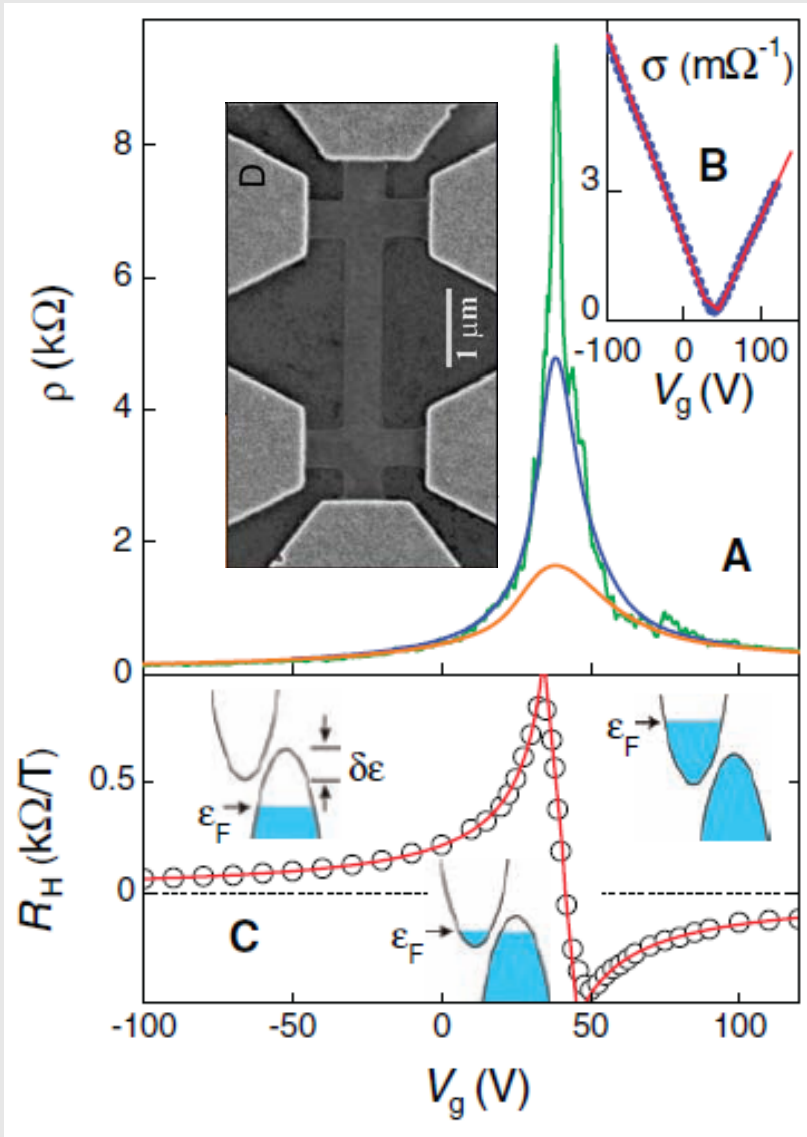


2degs in graphene

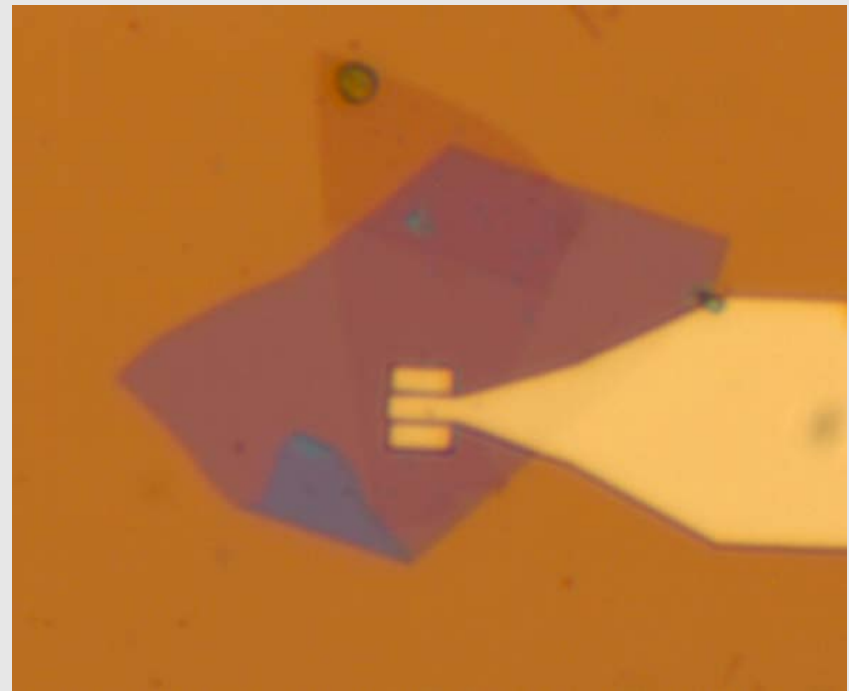
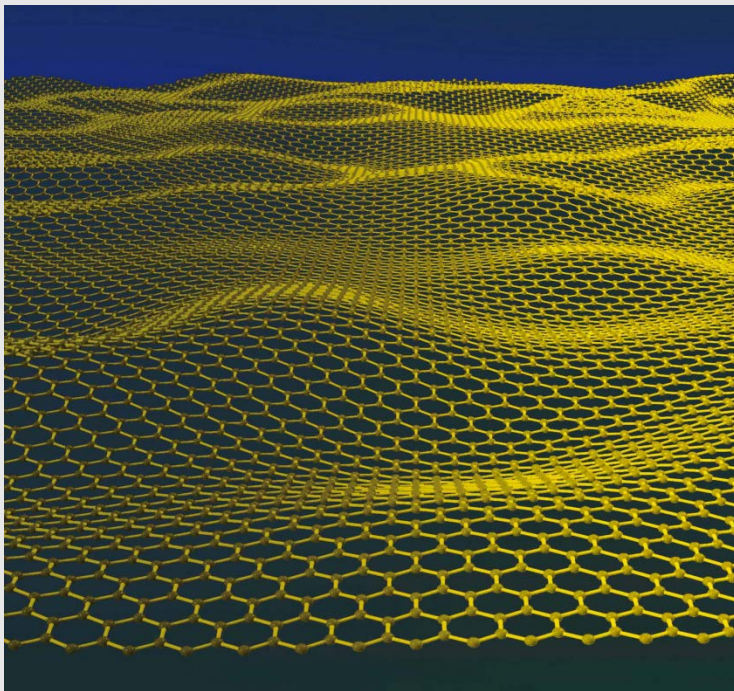
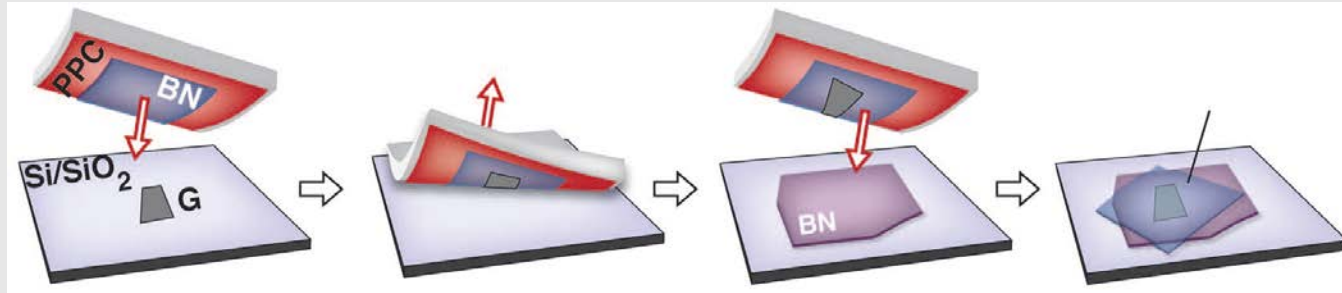


# Electrons in 2D graphene

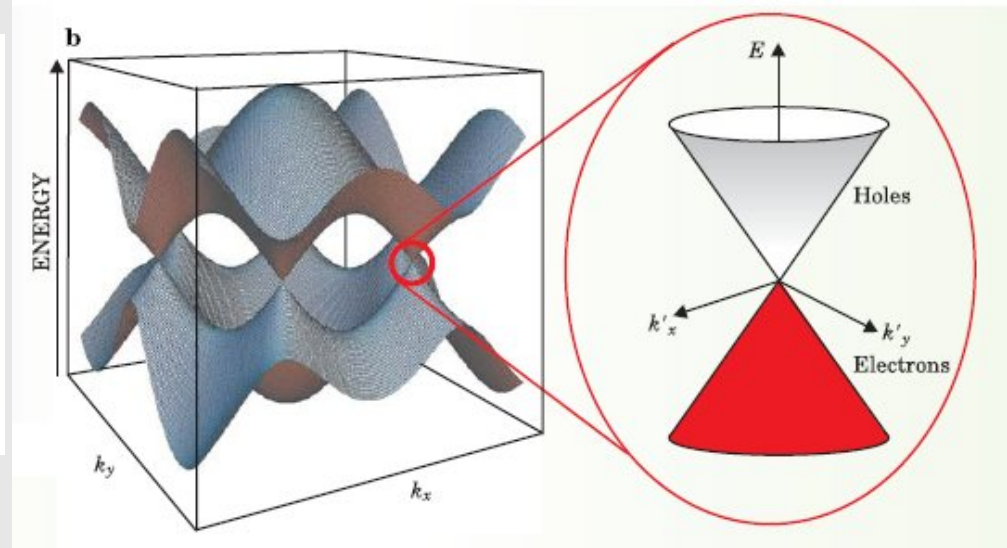
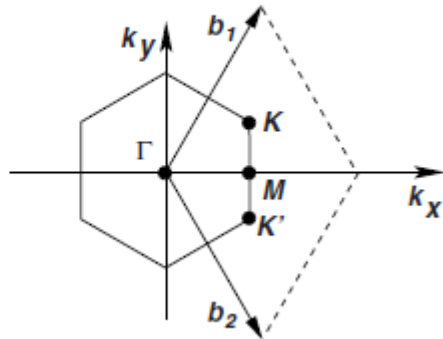
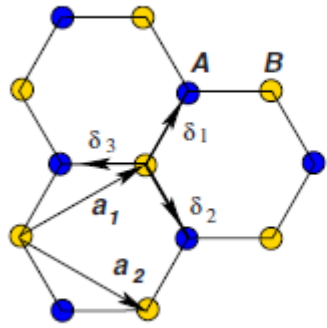
(K. Novoselov et al., Science 2004)



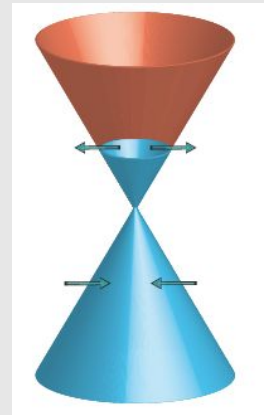




# Band structure of Graphene (tight-binding model, Wallace 1947)

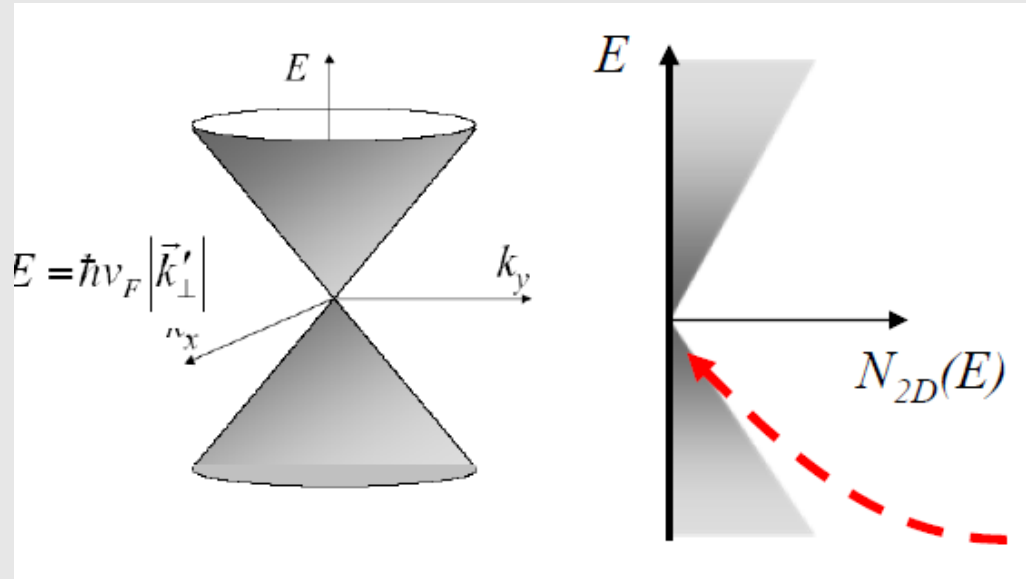


- Dirac electrons :  $\varepsilon = \hbar v_F q$  (linear dispersion relation)
- Large Fermi velocity :  $v_F = 10^6 \text{ m s}^{-1}$
- Effective mass :  $m^* = 0$  (no band-gap)
- 2-component spinor ! :  $\psi = e^{iqr} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ e^{i\varphi} \end{pmatrix}$  (chiral transport)



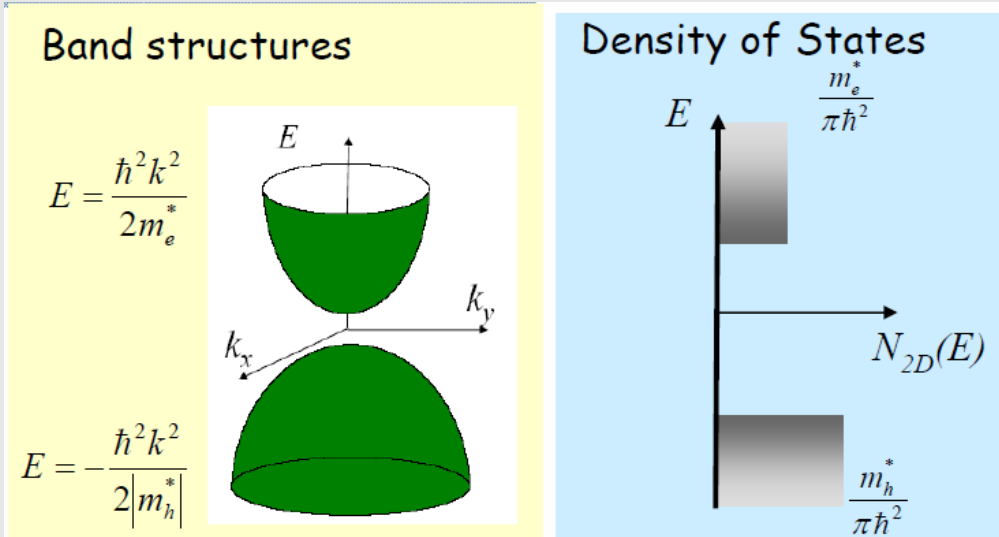
## Dirac electrons :

- Linear dispersion
- Mass-less fermions
- Constant Fermi-velocity
- Electron/hole symmetry
- No band-gap !!
- Wave function spinor

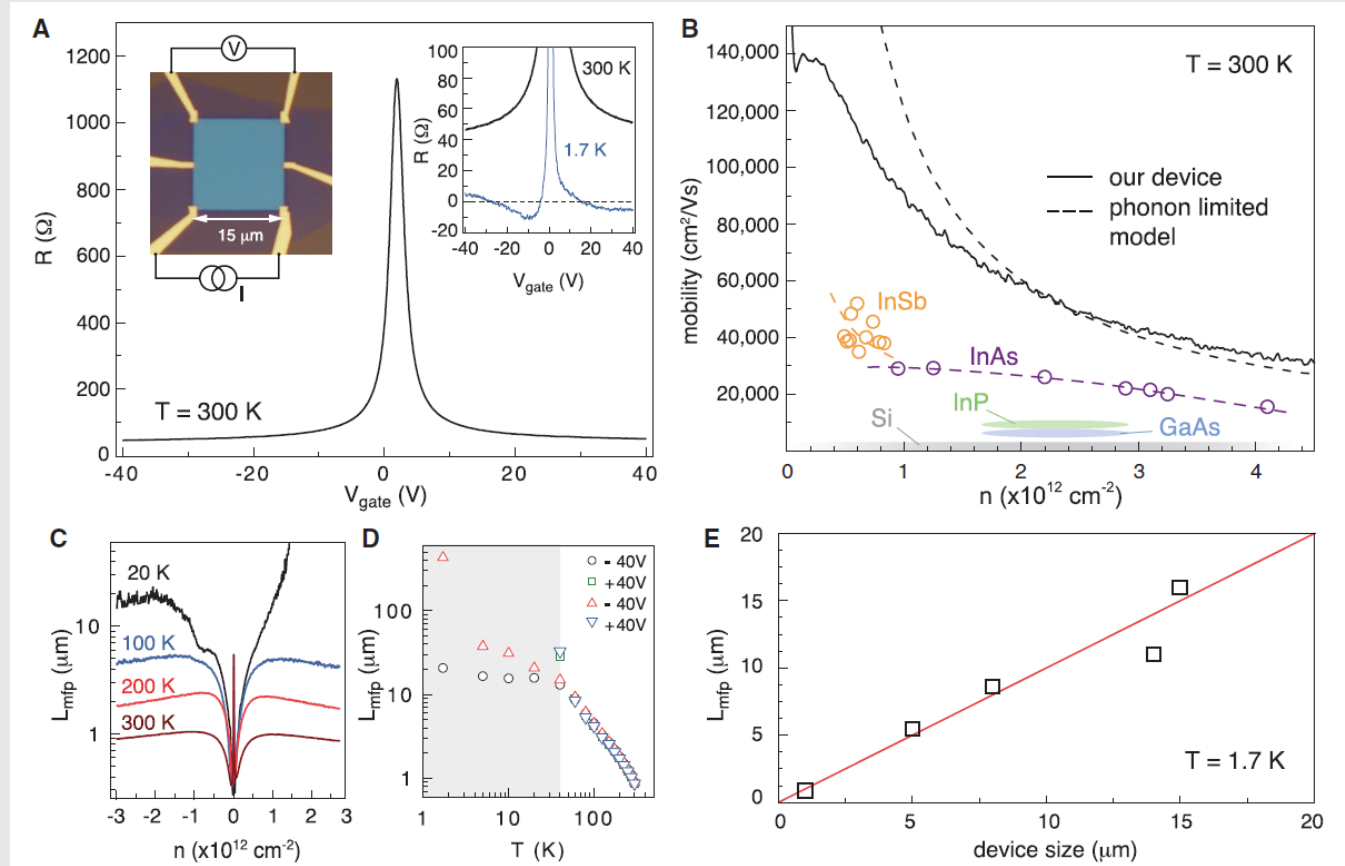
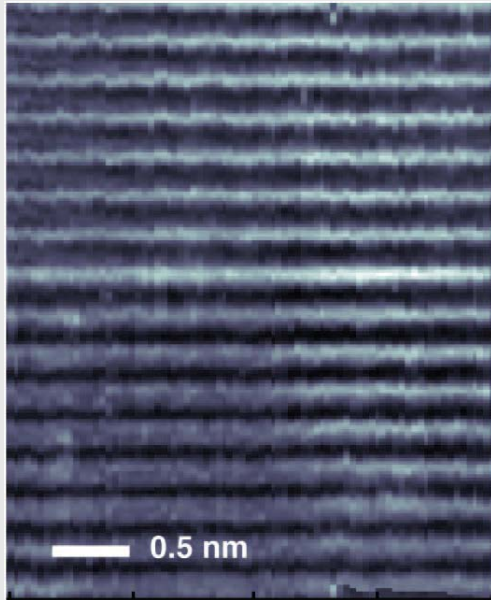


## Schrödinger electrons :

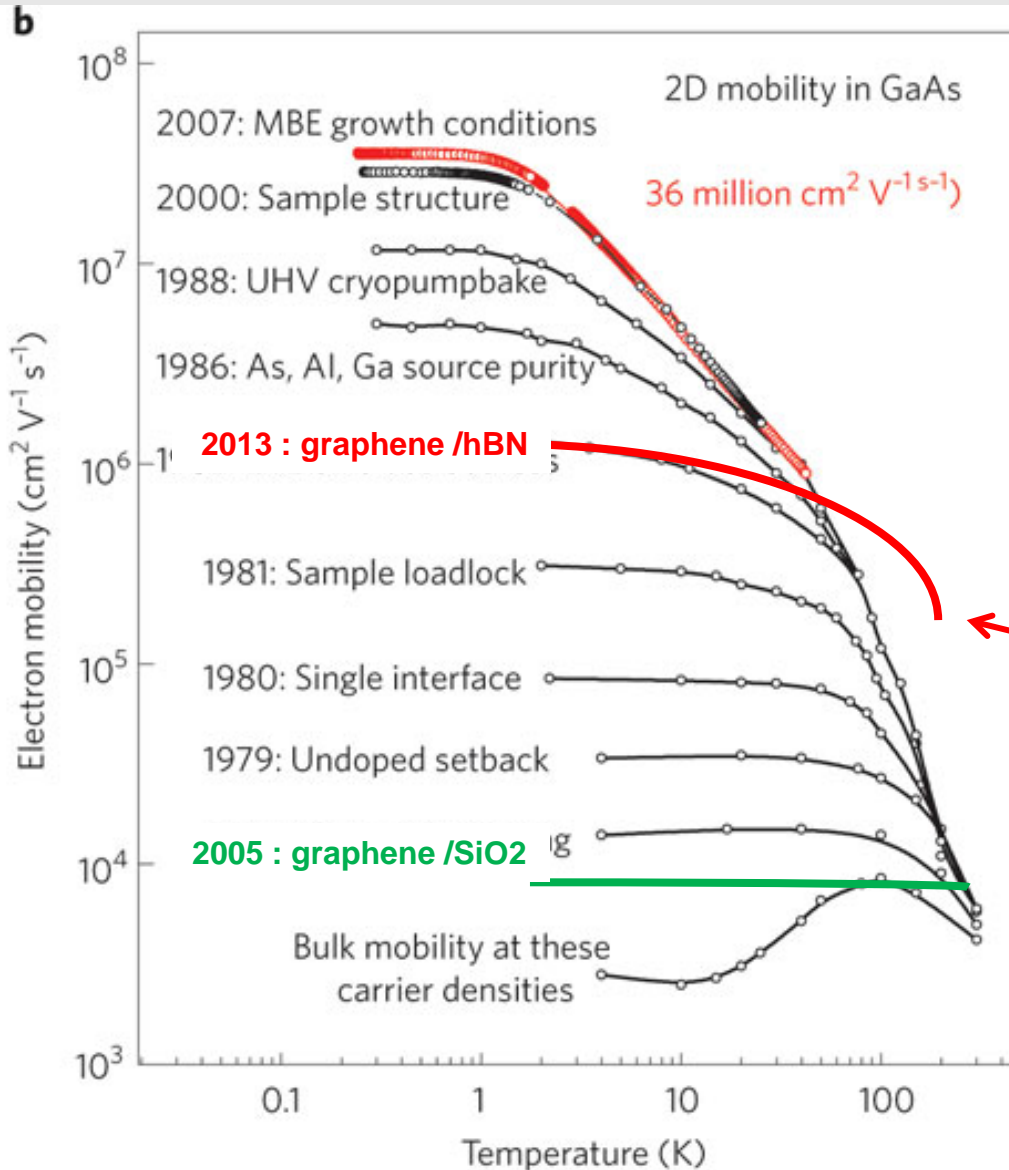
- parabolic dispersion
- Massive fermions
- Electrons  $\neq$  holes
- band-gap
- Wave function scaler



Dirac point



*L. Wang et al., Science 342, 614 (2013)*

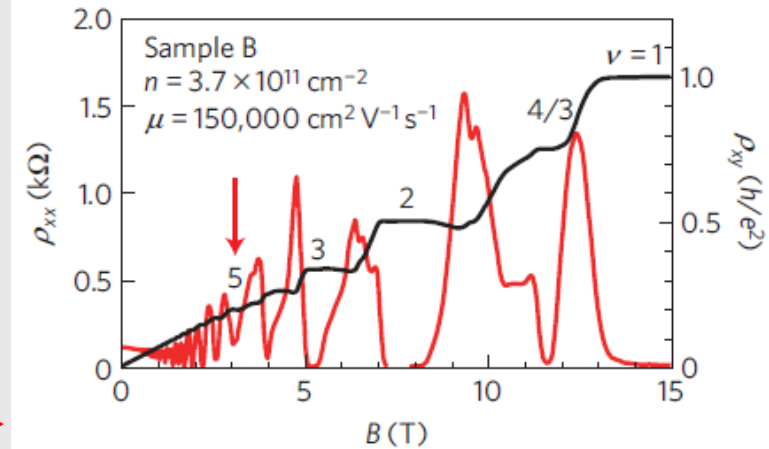


Very weak effect of phonons

Room temperature applications ?

## Schrödinger 2d electrons

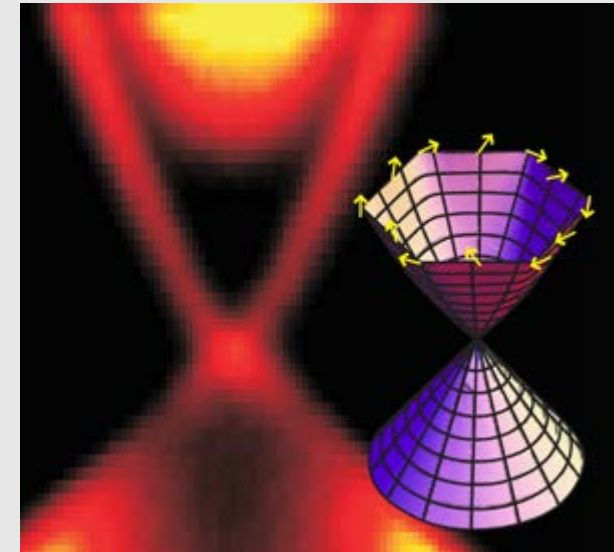
- 1980's : Si MOS-FETs
- 1990's : III-V GaAs, InAs, InP, GaN,
- 2010's : LaAlO<sub>3</sub>-SrTiO<sub>3</sub>, ZnO, →
- 2005's : Bilayer graphene



A. Tsukazaki, Nat. Mat. 9, 889 (2010)

## Dirac 2d electrons

- 2005's : graphene →
- 2010's : Topological Insulators, Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>
- 20XX's : New materials to be discovered ....



B. D. Hsieh, Nature 460, 1101 (2009)

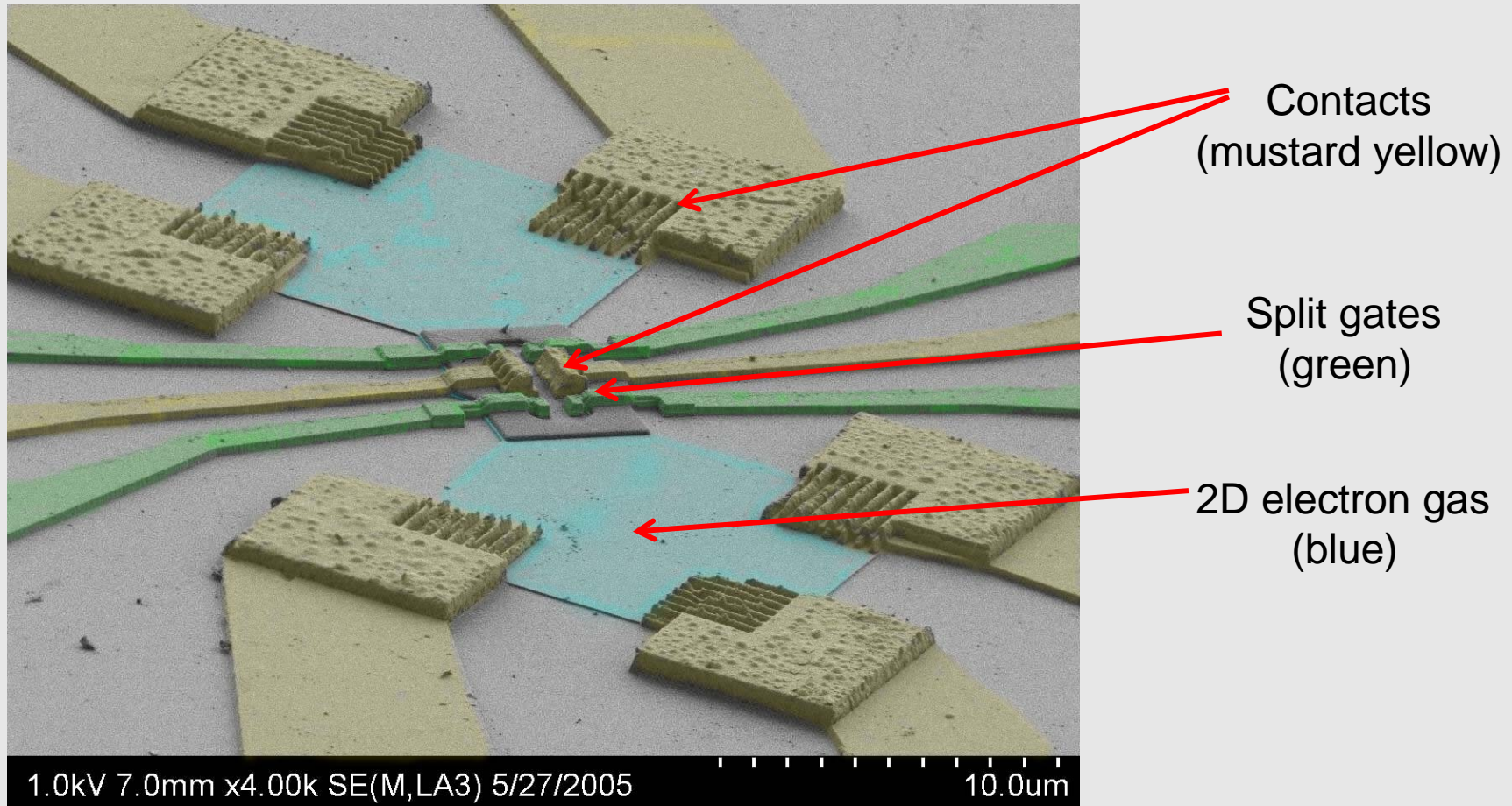
### Part 1 : 2d electron systems

- High-mobility semiconducting heterostructures
- Quantum Hall Effect
- Electrons in graphene

### Part 2 : 2d electron devices (GaAs only)

- Electron reservoir and quantum transport
- Scattering by a quantum point contact
- The mesoscopic capacitor

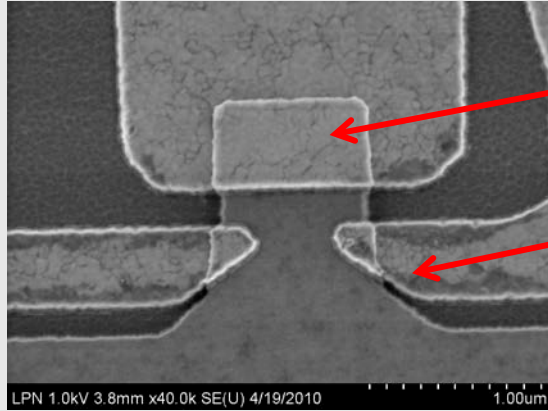
*Semiconductor Nanostructures, Thomas Ihn, Oxford University Press (2010)*



*D. Maily, Laboratory of Photonics and Nanostructures, CNRS-Marcoussis, France*



Single Electron AC-Source



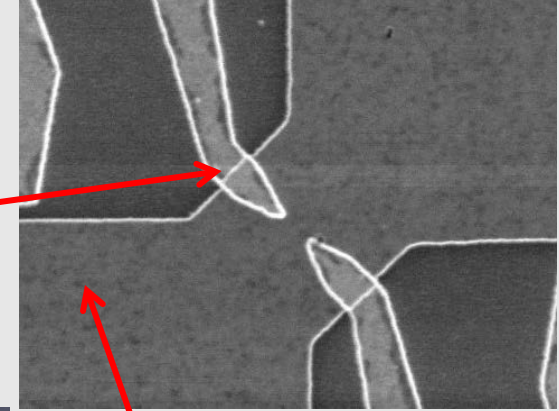
SEM image

mesoscopic capacitor

split gates of the Quantum Point Contact

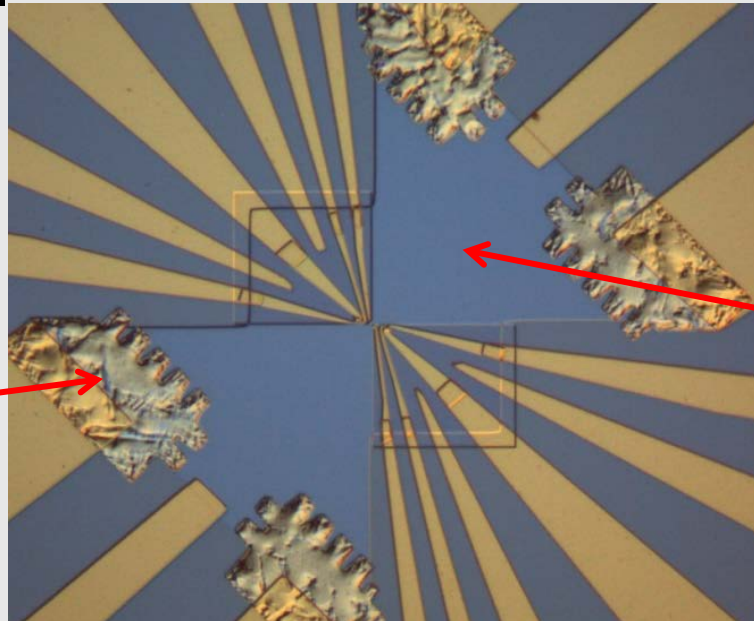
Optical image

Electron Beam Splitter



SEM Image

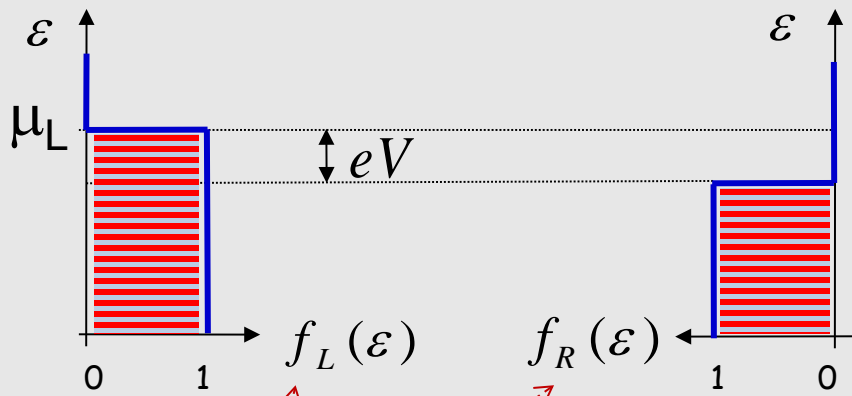
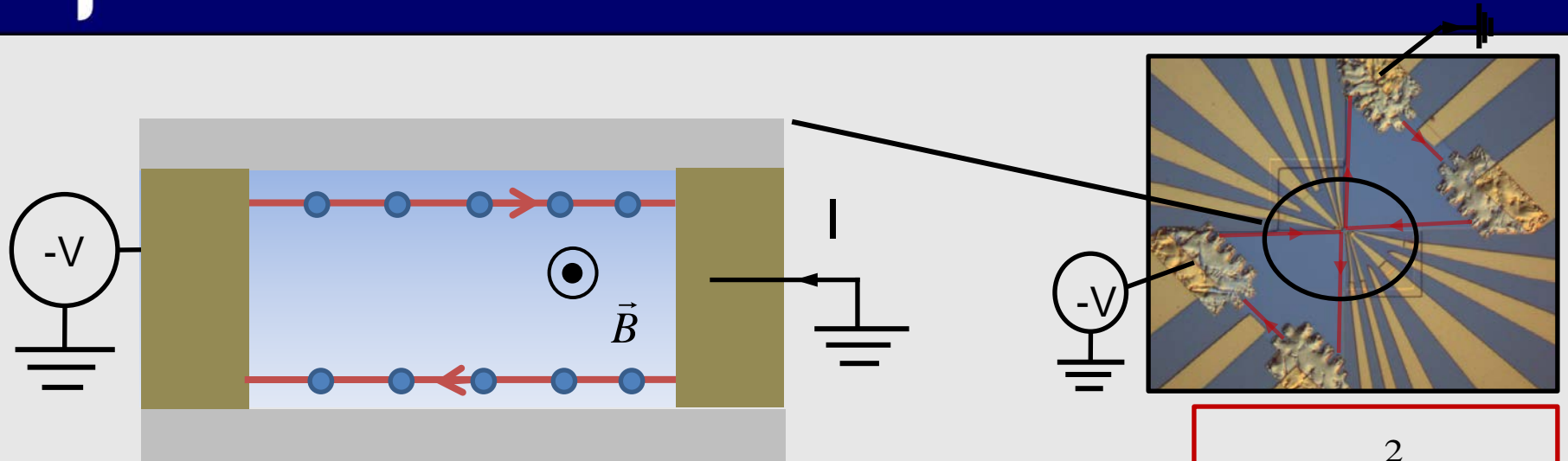
source contact  
Direct Current  
reservoir



burried 2DEG

*Y. Jin, Laboratory of Photonics and Nanostructures, CNRS-Marcoussis, France*

# Conductance quantization (one edge channel)



contact  $\leftrightarrow$  black body for photons  
**Fermi Dirac distribution**

$$I = \frac{e^2}{h} V$$

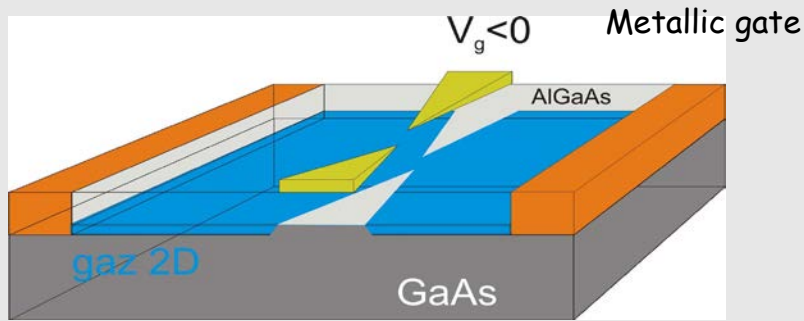
conductance quantum :  
 $(e^2/h = 38,740459 \mu S)$

$$S(\omega) = 2 \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \langle \Delta I(t) \Delta I(t+\tau) \rangle e^{i\omega\tau} d\tau$$

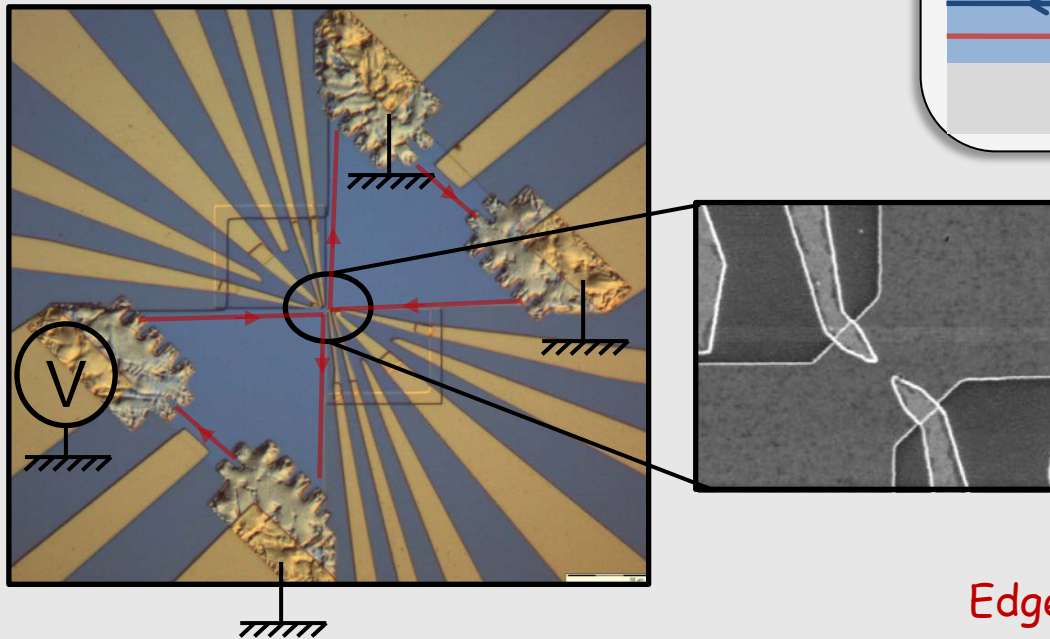
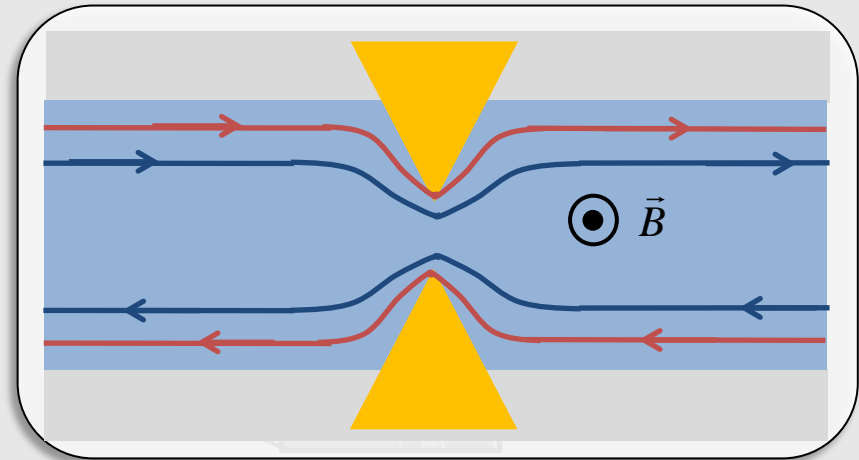
$$\langle \Delta I^2 \rangle = \int_0^\infty S(\omega) d\omega$$

$$S(\omega = 0) = 0 \quad \text{no noise !}$$

# The Quantum Point Contact (QPC)

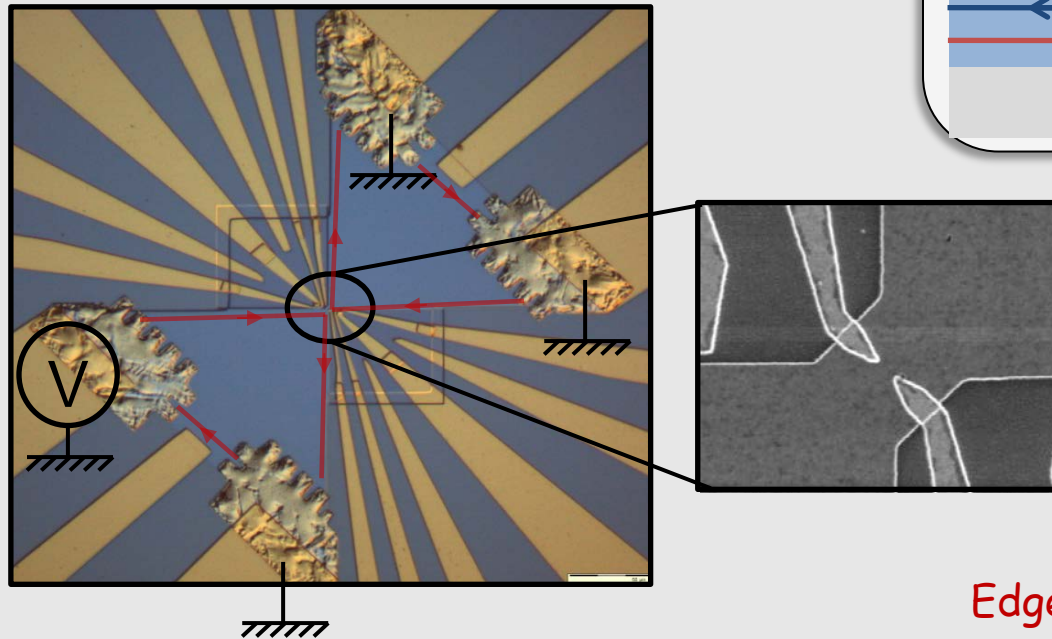
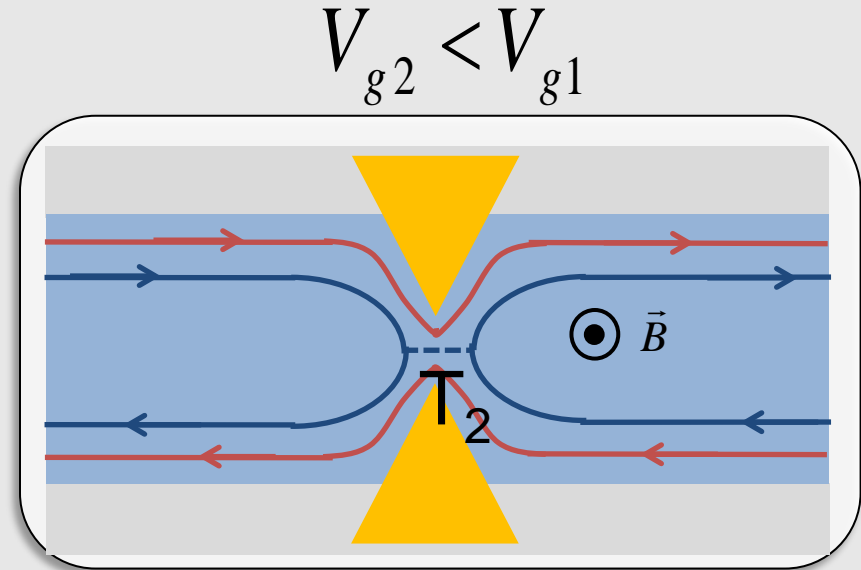
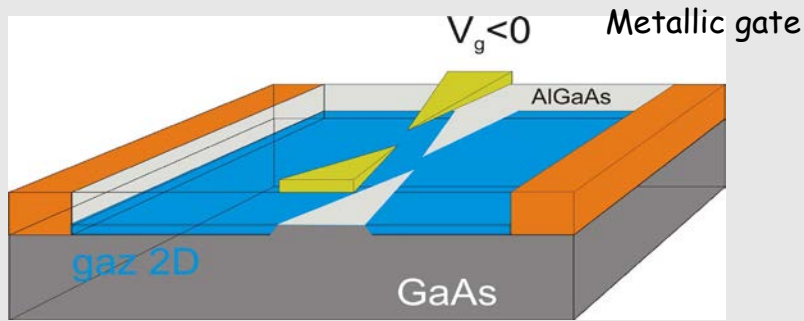


$$V_g = V_{g1}$$



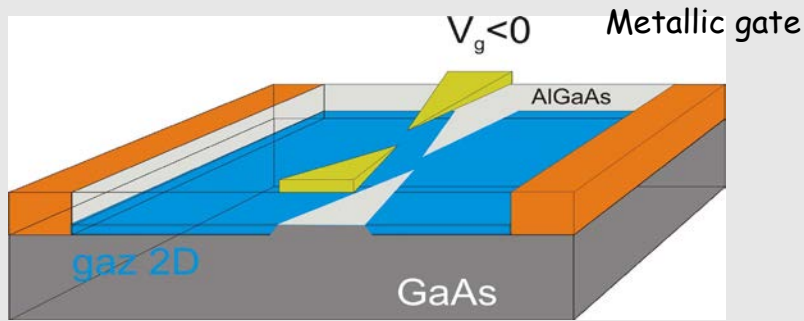
Edge channels follow equipotential lines

# The Quantum Point Contact (QPC)

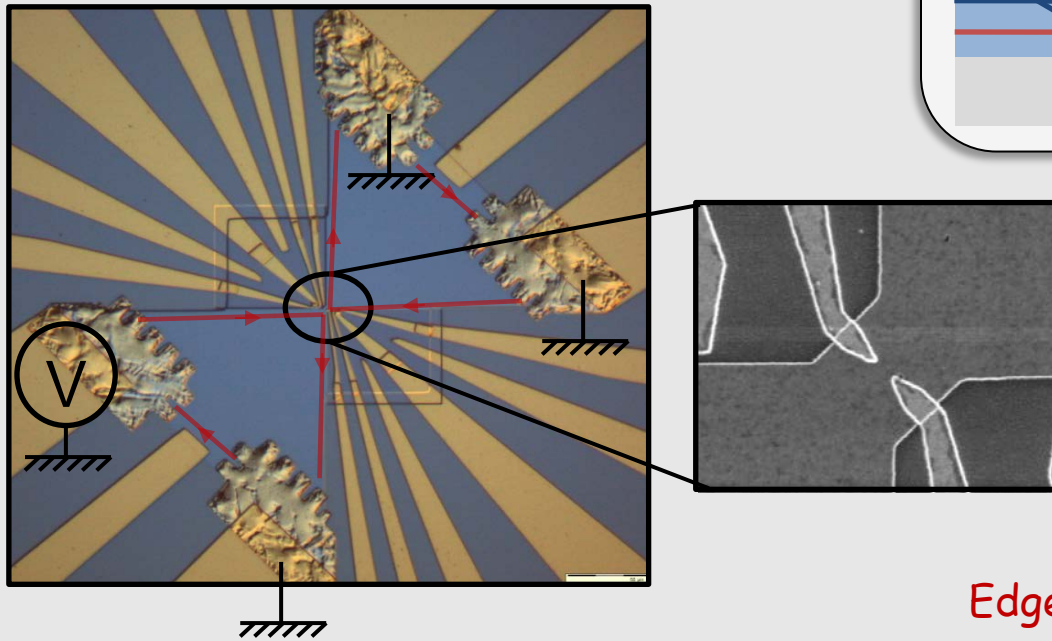
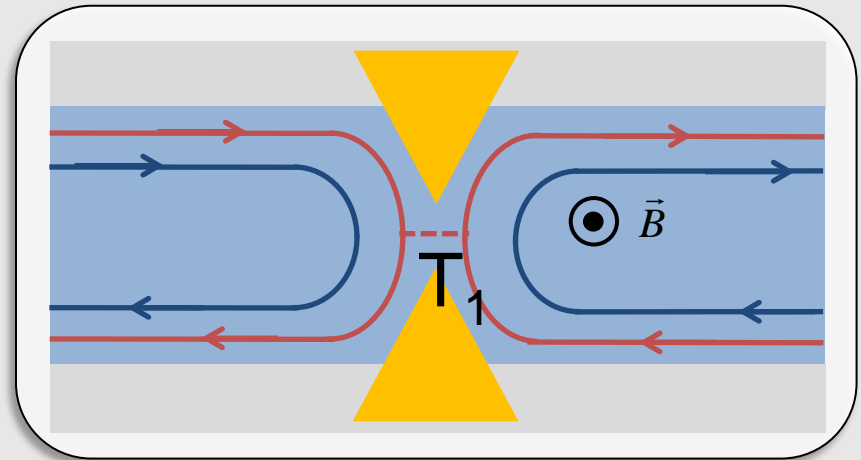


Edge channels follow equipotential lines

# The Quantum Point Contact (QPC)



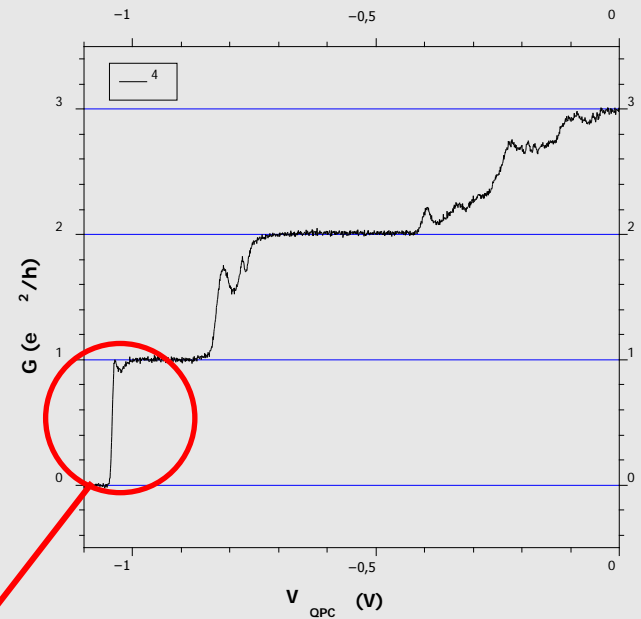
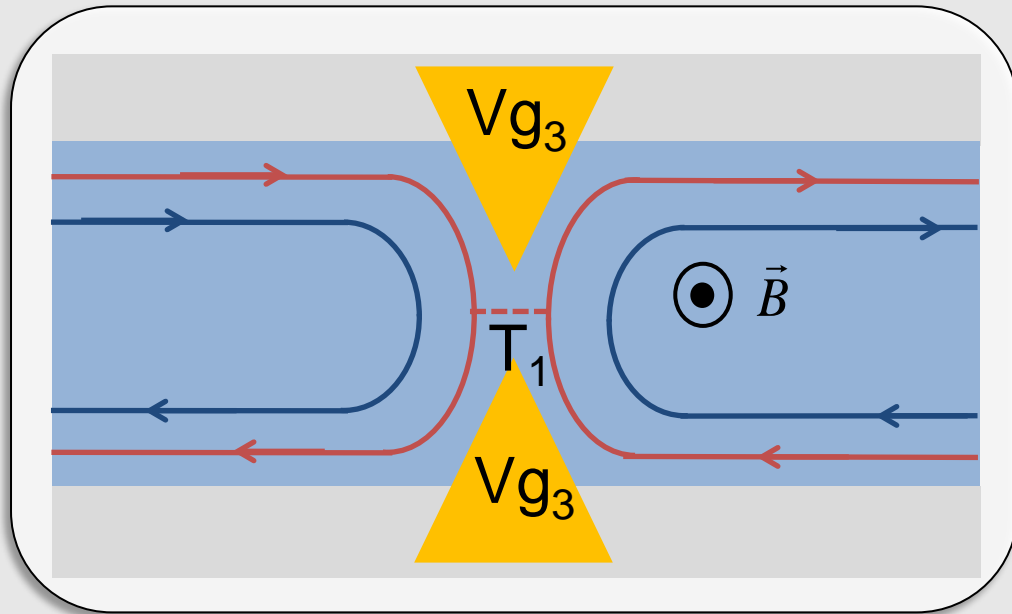
$$V_{g3} < V_{g2} < V_{g1}$$



Edge channels follow equipotential lines

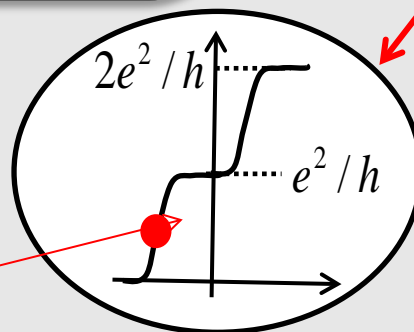
Conductance quantization

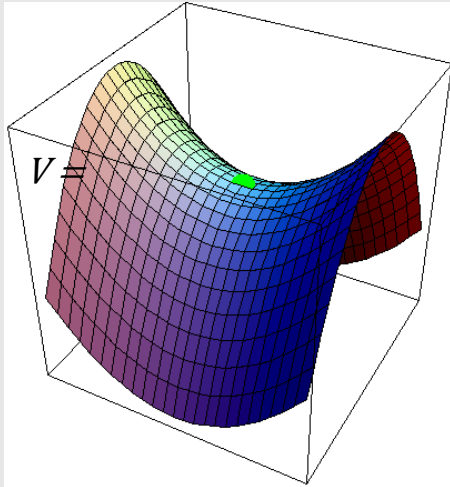
$$G = \frac{e^2}{h} \sum_n T_n$$



Tunable electronic beam splitter

$T_1 = 1/2$



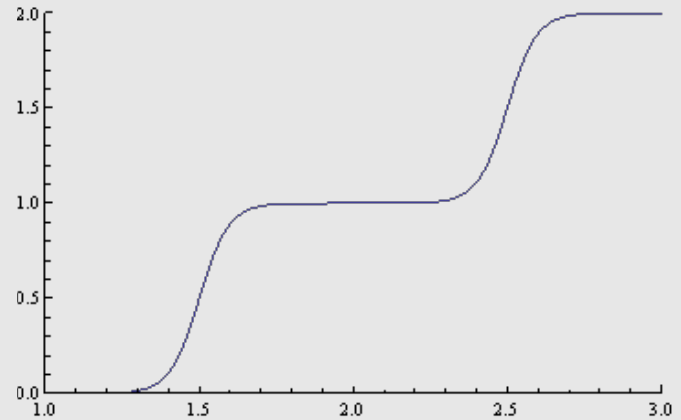


*saddle point barrier :*

$$V = V_0 - \frac{1}{2} m\omega_x^2 x^2 + \frac{1}{2} m\omega_y^2 y^2$$

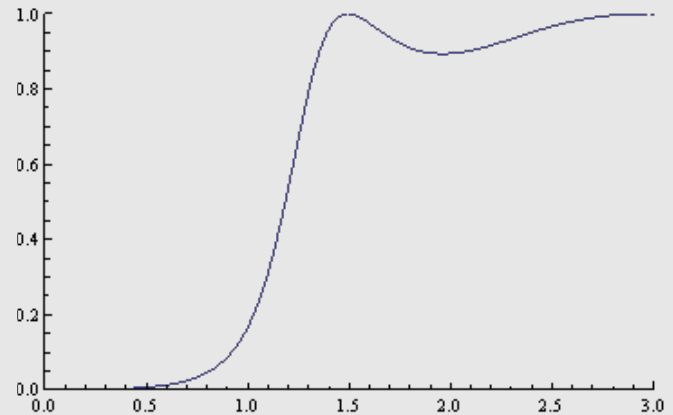
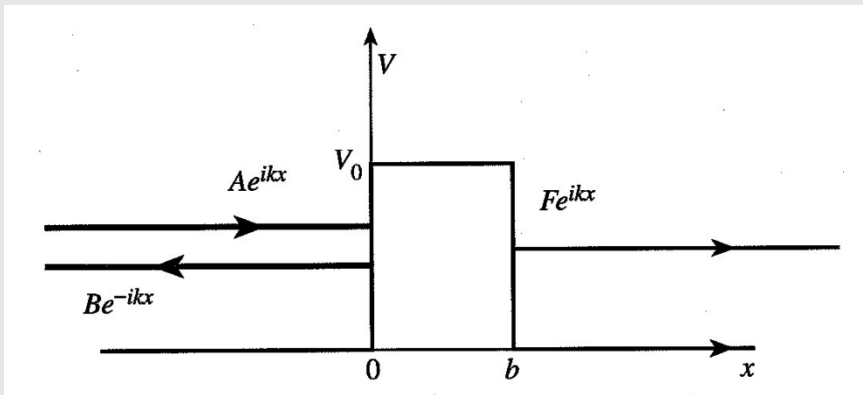
$$T_n = \left[ 1 + \text{Exp}[(\epsilon - (n + \frac{1}{2}) \hbar\omega_y) / \hbar\omega_x] \right]^{-1}$$

$$T_n = \left[ 1 + \text{Exp} - \pi(\omega_y / \omega_x)(y/l_B)^2 \right]^{-1}$$



*M. Büttiker , Phys. Rev. B41, 7906 1990*

*1D barrier :*  $T_n = \left[ 1 + \frac{V_0^2}{4E(V_0 - \epsilon)} \sinh^2(\alpha b) \right]^{-1}$



See e.g. <http://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/physics/people/mervynroy/lectures/tunnelling-results.pdf>

conductance is transmission

$$I = \frac{e}{h} \int T(E)[f_L - f_R]dE = T \frac{e^2}{h} V$$

transmission is stochastic => current is noisy

$$S_I = 2 \frac{e^2}{h} \int \{T[f_L(1 - f_L)] + R[f_R(1 - f_R)] + RT(f_L - f_R)^2\}dE$$

equilibrium : temperature  $\theta$

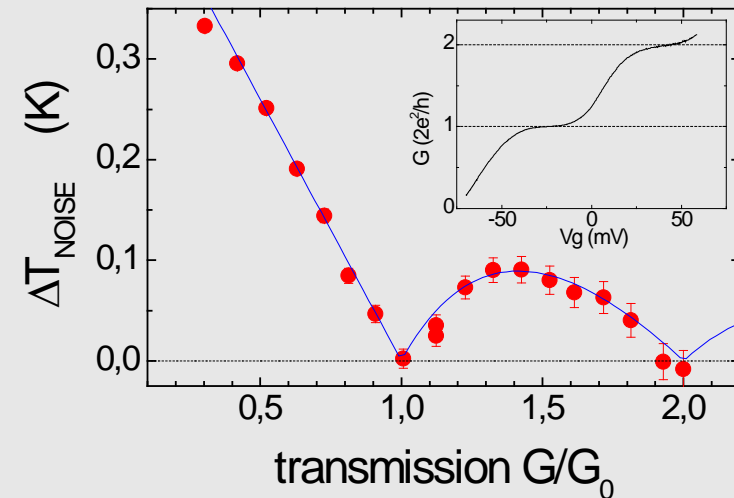
$$S_I = 4 \frac{e^2}{h} T \int k\theta f'(E)dE = 4Gk\theta$$

transport : partition noise

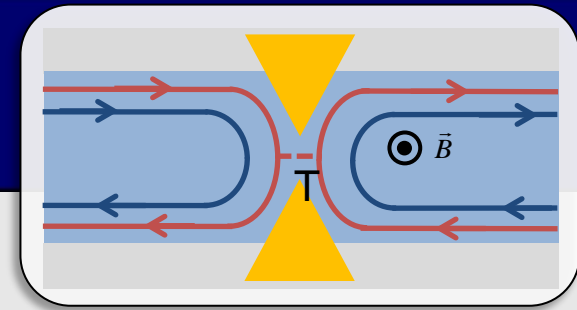
$$S_I = 2eT(1 - T) \frac{e^2}{h} V = 2eI (1 - T)$$

Several modes

$$G = \frac{e^2}{h} \sum_n T_n \quad ; \quad S_I = \frac{2e^2}{h} \sum_n T_n(1 - T_n) \quad ; \quad F = \frac{S_I}{2eI} = \frac{\sum_n T_n(1 - T_n)}{\sum_n T_n}$$



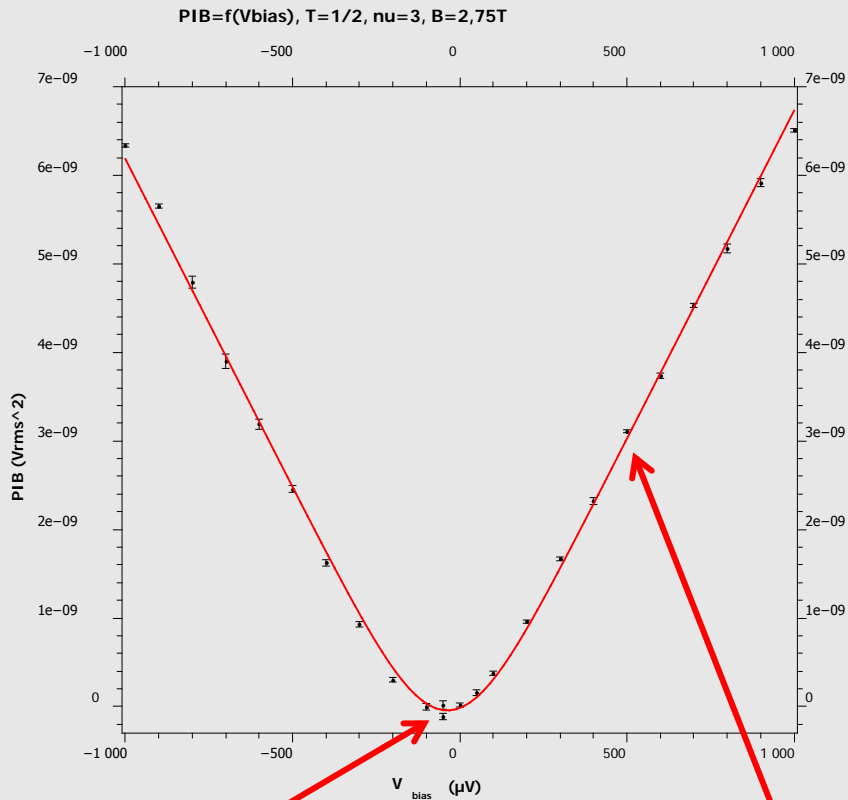




Thermal crossover

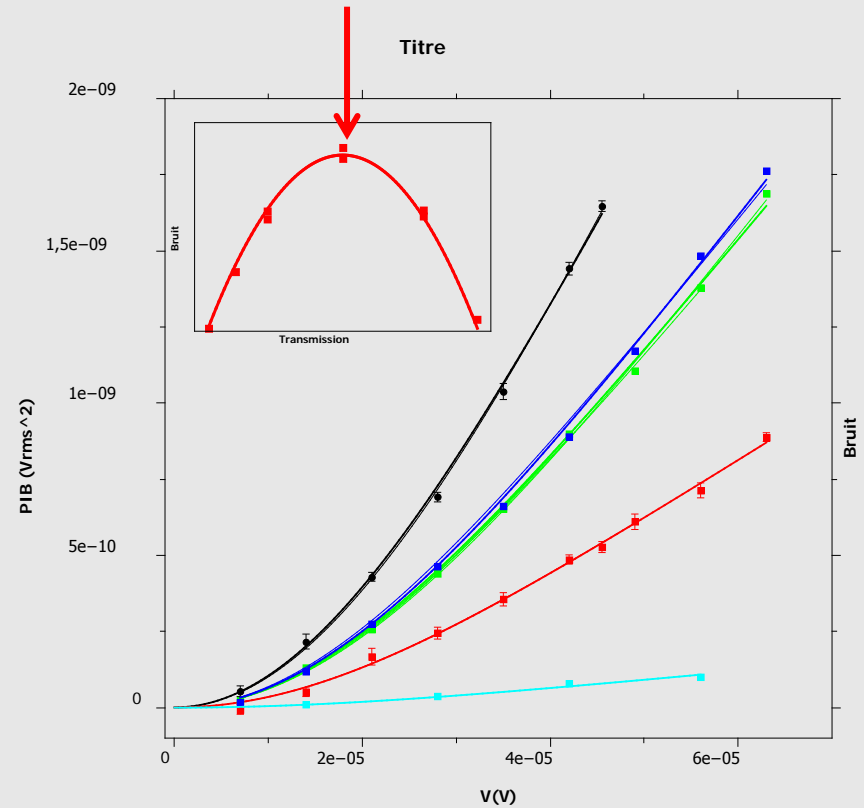
$$S_I = 2eI \tanh^{-1} \frac{eV}{2k\theta_e}$$

partition noise :  $S_I \propto T(1 - T)$



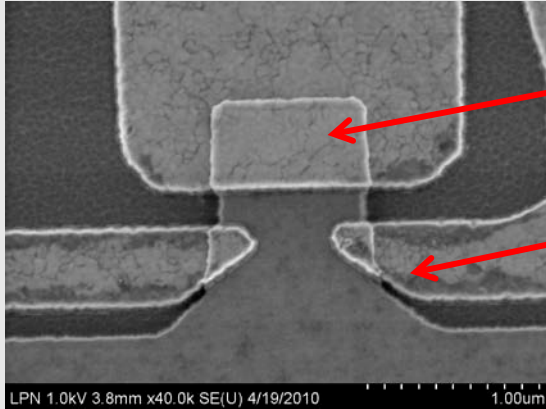
Thermal noise

partition noise



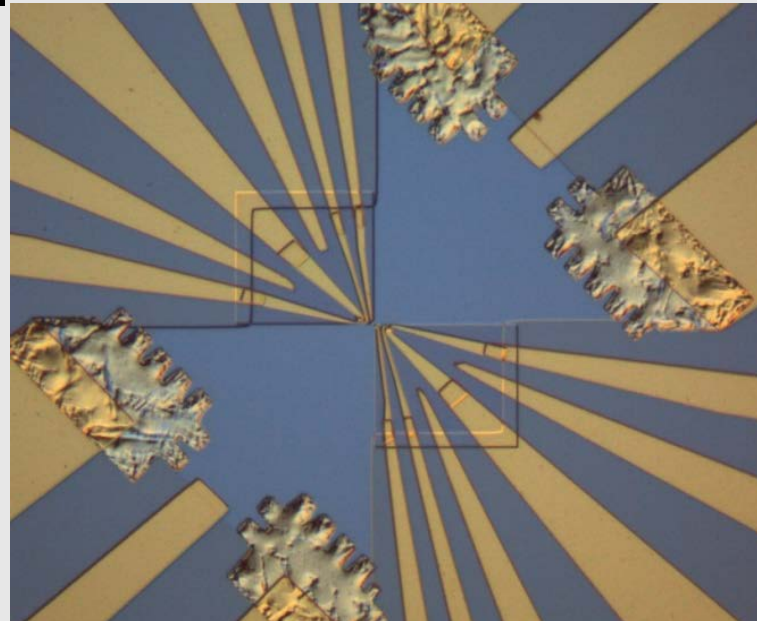
Bruit

## Single Electron Source

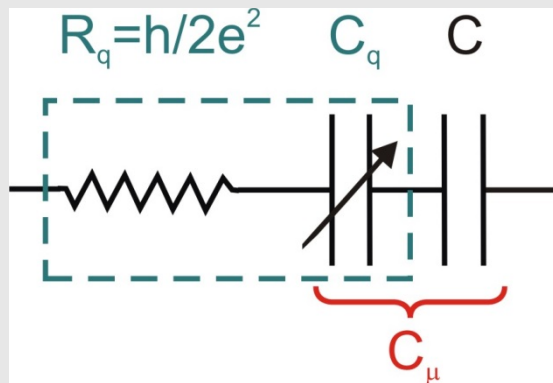
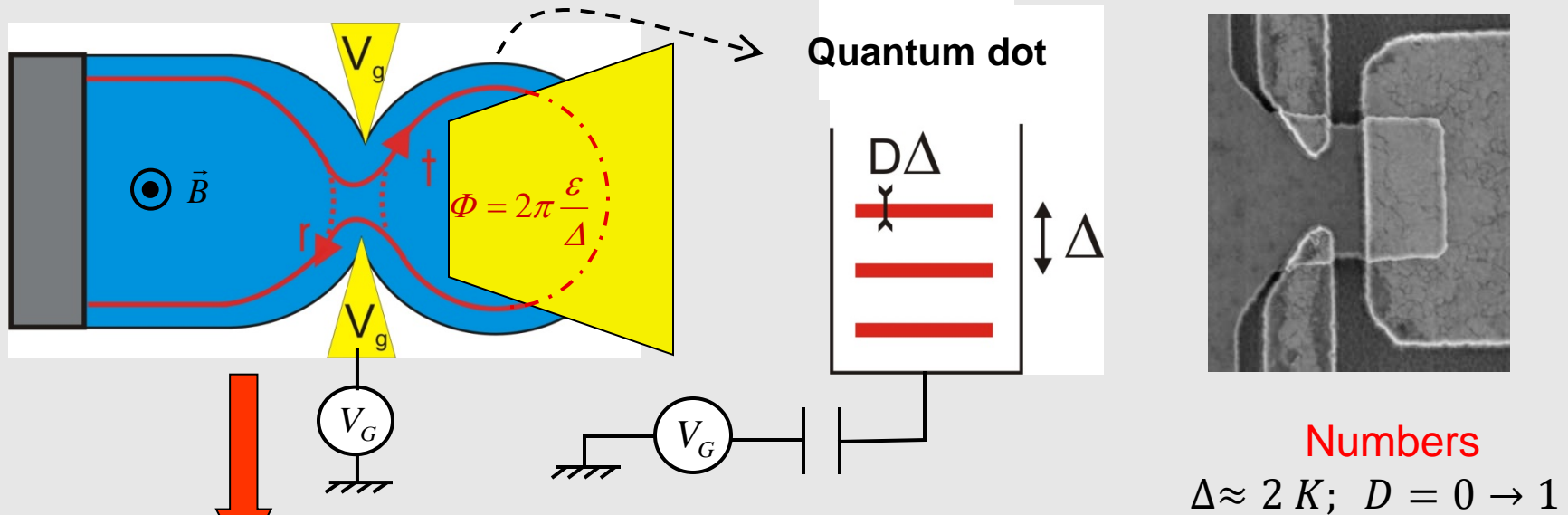


mesoscopic capacitor

split gates of the Quantum Point Contact



# The Mesoscopic capacitor



Quantum capacitance effect !

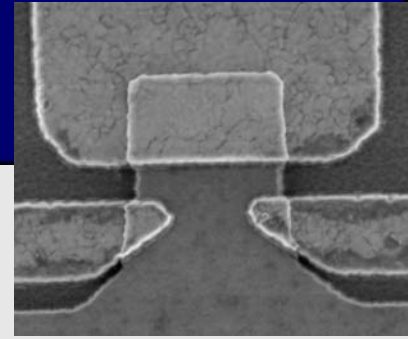
$$C_q = e^2 \rho(\epsilon_F)$$

Quantization of the charge relaxation resistance

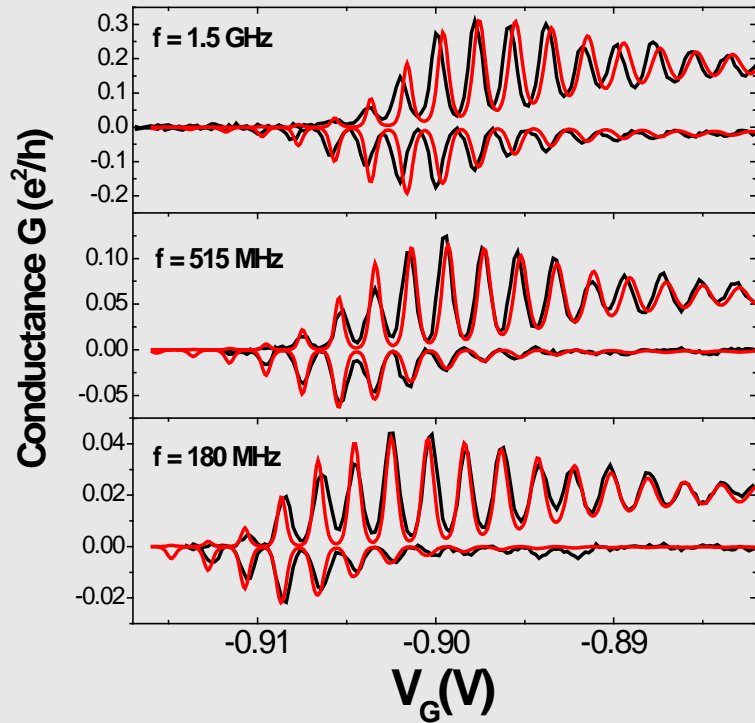
$$R_q = \frac{h}{2e^2}$$

Christen-Büttiker PRL 70, 4114 (1993)

Gabelli et al. Science 313, 499 (2006)



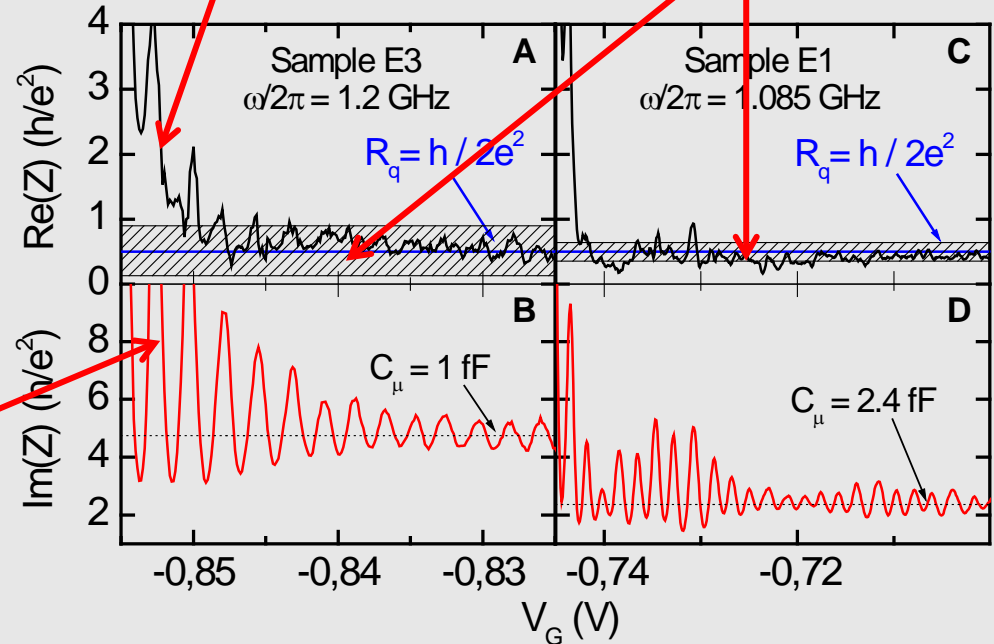
## Raw admittance measurements



$\rho(\varepsilon_F)$  oscillations in the dot

$$R_q = \frac{h}{De^2} \text{ (incoherent)}$$

$$R_q = \frac{h}{2e^2} \text{ (coherent)}$$



Gabelli et al., *Science* 313, 499 (2006)

Gabelli et al., *Rep. Prog. Phys.* 75, 126504 (2012)

### Part 3 : Introduction to electrons optics

- Electron optics principles
- Single electron sources
- The mesoscopic capacitor source : average current and noise

### Part 4 : Quantum optics experiments

- Partitioning single electrons
- Colliding indistinguishable electrons
- Decoherence and charge fractionalization

*Electron quantum optics in ballistic chiral conductors,*

*Bocquillon et al., Annalen der Physik 526, 1 (2014)*