



Tutorial on Electronic Transport

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...for newcomers in the field...

Prior knowledge:

- What is a carbon nanotube
- (Some) nanotube band structure
- Ohm's first law



Our aim: Understand the two-terminal electrical transport



Rich on exciting physics and surprising phenomena
 Key for interpreting wide range of experiments

- > Many possible variations over this theme:
 - electrostatic gates
 - contact materials (magnetic, superconducting)
 - sensitive to environment (chemical, temperature...)
 - interplay with nano-mechanics, optics, ...

Outline

- Electronic structure (1D, 0D)
 - density of states
- Electron transport in 1D systems (general)
 - quantization, barriers, temperature
- Transport in nanotubes (1D)
 - contacts, field-effect,...
- Nanotube quantum dots (0D)
 - Coulomb blockade, shells, Kondo, ...
- Nanotube electronics, various examples
- Problem session
- Wellcome party



Nanoscale electrical transport

Electrons



Charge -*e*

Single-electron effects





Wave function

Size quantization

Mesoscopic transport; quantum transport ...



Electronic structure



1D density of states per unit length:

$$g_{1D}(E) = \frac{2}{h} \sqrt{\frac{2m}{E}} = \frac{2}{hv(E)} = \frac{2}{\pi} \left(\frac{dE}{dk}\right)^{-1} \qquad v_{\text{group}} = \frac{d\omega}{dk} = \frac{1}{\hbar} \frac{dE}{dk}$$

Tunneling spectroscopy (STM)



van Hove singularities: $dI/dV \sim DOS \sim (E)^{-1/2}$

Cees Dekker, Physics Today, May 1999

Electronic transport

Resistance and conductance

Ohm's first law: $V = R \cdot I$

Ohm's second law: R = V/I [Ω]

Bulk materials; resistivity ρ : $R = \rho L / A$





R is additive

Nanoscale systems (coherent transport):

R is a **global** quantity, cannot be decomposed into local resistivities (see why later)

Conductance G: G = 1/R = I/V [unit e^2/h]

(Not *conductivity* σ)

Conductance of 1D quantum wire



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

Conductance is fixed, regardless of length *L*, no well defined conductivity σ

Conductance from transmission





Landauer formula:

Rolf Landauer (1927-1999); - *G* controversial issue in 80'ies

$$G = \frac{2e^2}{h}T \quad \text{(transmission probability } T\text{)}$$

With *N* parallel 1D channels (subbands):

$$G(E_F) = \frac{2e^2}{h} \sum_{n} T_n(E_F) \ (T=0)$$



Quasi-1D channel in 2D electron system

$$G(E_F) = \frac{2e^2}{h} \sum_n T_n(E_F) \approx \frac{2e^2}{h} N(E_F) \quad (T = 0 \mathrm{K})$$

4.2 K

1.6 K

0.6 K

0.3 K

2e²/h

-1.8

-1.6



Finite temperature

• Electrons populate leads according to Fermi-Dirac distribution:

$$\rightarrow f(E, E_F) = \frac{1}{\exp\left(\frac{E - E_F}{k_B T}\right) + 1}$$

• Conductance at finite temp. T:

 E_F

$$G(E_F,T) = \frac{2e^2}{h} \sum_n \int T_n(E) \left(-\frac{df}{dE}\right) dE \approx \frac{2e^2}{h} \sum_n f(E_n - E_F)$$

eg. thermal smearing of conductance staircase (previous slide)

Higher T: incoherent transport

(dephasing due to inelastic scattering, phonons etc)

Where's the resistance?

One-channel case again:



Resonant transport

Two identical barriers in series:



Coherent transport; complex transmission and reflection amplitudes:

$$\begin{aligned} t &= |t| e^{i \phi_t} \\ r &= |r| e^{i \phi_r} \end{aligned}$$

Total transmission:

$$T_{\text{total}} = \frac{|t|^4}{1 + |r|^4 - 2|r|^2 \cos(\phi)}, \quad \phi = 2kL + \phi_{r1} + \phi_{r2}$$

Resonant transmission when round trip phase shift $\phi = 2\pi n$:

For
$$\phi = 2\pi n$$
: $T_{\text{total}} = \frac{|t|^4}{(1-|r|^2)^2} = \frac{T^2}{(1-R)^2} = \frac{T^2}{T^2} = 1$

Perfect transmission even though transmission of individual barriers $T = |t|^2 < 1$!

Resonance condition (if $\phi_r=0$): $kL = \pi n$ ('particle-in-a-box' states, $n(\lambda/2)=L$)

Resonant transport, II

Two identical barriers in series:



Quasi-bound states:

('electron-in-a-box')



Spectrum (0D system) Transport measurement

Resonant transmission:

...spectroscopy by transport... (quantum dots, see later)

Т

Incoherent transport

Separation *L* > phase coherence length L_{ϕ} :



Electron phase randomized between barriers

Total transmission (no interference term):

$$T_{\text{total}} = \frac{|t_1|^2 |t_2|^2}{1 - |r_1|^2 |r_2|^2}$$

Resistors in series:

Resistance =
$$\frac{h}{2e^2} \left(1 + \frac{|r_1|^2}{|t_1|^2} + \frac{|r_2|^2}{|t_2|^2} \right)$$

Ohmic addition of resistances from independent barriers





Transport regimes (simplified)

Length scales: λ_F

Fermi wavelength (only electrons close to Fermi level contribute to *G*) momentum relaxation length (static scatterers) phase relaxation length (fluctuating scatterers) sample length

- Ballistic transport, $L \ll L_m$, L_{ϕ}
 - no scattering, only geometry (eg. QPC)
 - when $\lambda_{\rm F} \sim L$: quantized conductance $G \sim e^2/h$
- **Diffusive**, $L > L_m$

L_{\oplus}

- scattering, reduced transmission
- Localization, $L_{\rm m} << L_{\phi} << L$
 - $-R \sim \exp(L)$ due to quantum interference at low T
- **Classical** (incoherent), L_{ϕ} , $L_{m} << L$
 - ohmic resistors







Brief conclusion - prediction:

Conductance of one-dimensional ballistic wire is quantized:



With perfect contacts:

$$G = current / voltage$$

= $2^* 2e^2 / h$

(two subbands in NT)

Quantum of resistance: $h/e^2 = 25 \text{ kOhm}$

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Tutorial on Electronic Transport



II. Electronic transport in nanotubes

Electrical measurements on individual tubes



- Nanotubes deposited or grown (CVD)
- Localize nanotubes (AFM)
- Electron-beam lithography to define electrodes
- Evaporate metal contacts on top

(Au, Pd, Al, Ti, Co, ...)



100 µm

Typical device fabrication



Another (UV) lithography step for bond pads before mounting

AFM and alignment marks; EFM





Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM)

Electrostatic Force Microscopy (EFM)

T.S. Jespersen



Bockrath et al, NanoLetters (2002) Jespersen et al, NanoLetters (2005)



Room temperature transport





Seen first by Tans et al, Nature (1998)

Data from Appl. Phys. A 69, 297 (1999).

Chirality determines bandstructure



In reality, also Type III: Small-gap semiconducting tubes (zigzag metals)

First interpretation of

Semiconducting nanotube FET [Field Effect Transistor]

On 0.6 Linear increase in $G-V_{a}$ drain $E_{\rm F}$ source ie limited by mobility (diffusive transport) $G(e^{2}/h)$ gate Slope: $dG/dV_a = \mu C_a/L^2$ (from Drude $\sigma = ne\mu$) $\Rightarrow \mu \approx 10,000 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$ Off 0.0 -(For silicon $\mu \approx 450$) -5 -10 Ó 10 $V_{\rm q}$ (V) <u>Mobility:</u> $\mu = v_d / E$ Saturation due to electric field E "Off" at positive V_{a} contact resistance, \Rightarrow p type FET $\sim e^2/h$ (intrinsic *p* doping?)

drift velocity \boldsymbol{v}_{d}

Later work showed importance of (Schottky) contacts!

Schottky barriers in nanotube FETs



Heinze et al (IBM), PRL 89, 106801 (2002)

Different workfunctions (eg due to O_2 exposure)



Asymmetry due to modulation of contact Schottky barriers

(Gas sensors)

 E_{F}

10

Ballistic transport in metal tubes



1D conductor

- Near the theoretical limit $4e^2/h$ (with two subbands)
- Close to Fermi level backscattering is suppressed
 in armchair (metal) tubes by symmetry

Kong et al, PRL 87, 106801 (2001) McEuen et al, PRL 83, 5098 (1999) (Ballistic transport also possible in very short semiconducting tubes, otherwise mostly diffusive)

Quantized current limiting





High electric field transport

- electrons are accelerated
- emit (optical) phonons when $E \sim E_{phonon}$
- electron-phonon scattering for high bias
- Z. Yao, C. Kane and C. Dekker PRL 84, 2941 (2000)

Steady state current: $I_0 = 4e/h E_{phonon}$ ~ 4e/h * 160 meV~ $15-30 \mu \text{A}$

Metal contacts; rarely ideal



Room temperature resistance of CVD grown SWNT devices

Babic et al, AIP Conf. Proc. Vol. 723, 574-582 (2004); cond-mat

Room temperature transport

- Ballistic transport possible (near 4*e*²/*h*)
 - ideal wires
 - current limiting ~ 25 μA
- Field effect transistors
 - high performance
 - optimised geometries (not shown)

NB: Nanotube quality and contact transparency are important

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Transport in metallic tube – oscillations at low T



Seen first in data by Bockrath et al and Tans et al (1997)

Power laws in tunneling



tunneling into end of Luttinger liquid

$$\alpha = (g^{-1}-1)/4$$
 $g = Luttinger$
parameter

$$\alpha = 0.6 \rightarrow g \sim 0.29$$

Bockrath *et al*, Nature (1999) Evidence for Luttinger liquids

Predicted: Egger & Gogolin (1997), Kane, Balents & Fischer (1997)
Initiator for breakthroughs 1997+

Availability of high quality single walled nanotube material (Smalley group, Rice University, 1995-96)







Low temperature transport





sample

Low temperature data



Coulomb blockade in the quantum regime below ~4 K

- "Nanotube quantum dot"

First by Tans et al. (1997), Bockrath et al. (1997)





except when E(N)=E(N+1)...



Published data not always typical...



Non-linear characteristics



Appl. Phys. A 69, 297 (1999).



Color map of dl/dV (white: high *R*, blue: low *R*)



Measurement at T = 100 mK

Electron transport governed by:

- tunneling processes
- discrete electron charge
- orbitals of the molecule
- electron-electron interactions

and many-body effects

Transport spectroscopy of a tube quantum dot







Molecular spectroscopy by electrical measurements PRL 89, 46803 (2002)

4-electron shells and excited states





- (small) exchange energy J
- (small) residual Coulomb energy dU

Experiment



(Liang et al, PRL 88, 126801 (2002)) Sapmaz et al, PRB 71, 153402 (2005)

Semiconducting quantum dot with electron-hole symmetry



Jarillo-Herrero et al, Nature 429, 389 (2005).



From closed to open quantum dots



Gray scale plots of the differial conductance dI/dV vs. V_a and V



Metallic contacts strong coupling limit

1D 'molecular Fabry-Perot etalon' Liang et al, Nature (2001).

Fabry-Perot resonances in nanotube waveguide



- Generally high conductance a coherent electron waveguide
- Dips in conductance due to interference in the resonant cavity



Liang et al, Nature 411, 665 (2001)

With medium-transparency contacts



Cotunneling and Kondo



Coherent superposition

Μ

 $|\Psi|$

resonance b

blockade

 $T > T_{\rm K}$

The Kondo effect, correlations





...recent data...

Superconductor-SWCNT-Superconductor junction



dI/dV (e^2/h)



Superconducting leads

Poster

Four-period shell filling. Ec~ Δ E ~ 3-4meV

SWCNT contacted to Ti/Al/Ti 5/40/5 nm leads ($T_c = 760$ mK)

Clear sign of Multiple Andreev Reflections, i.e., structure in dl/dV vs bias at $V_n=2\Delta/en$, n=1,2,3,...

Kasper Grove-Rasmussen et al

Ferromagnetic contacts



Difference between tunnel resistance for parallel (R_p) and antiparallel (R_{ap}) magnetised contacts (Julliere, 1975):

$$\frac{\Delta R}{R_{ap}} = \frac{R_{ap} - R_p}{R_{ap}} = \frac{2P^2}{1 + P^2}$$

P: fraction of polarised conduction electrons in the FM.

Multiwall tubes with magnetic leads

K. Tsukagoshi, B.W. Alphenaar, H. Ago, Nature 401, 572 (1999)



Two-terminal <u>resistance</u> vs. B-field for three different devices at 4.2 K



In the best case: $\Delta R/R_a \sim 9 \%$ Multiwall tubes: diffusive conductors intrinsic magnetoresistance

Spin-polarized transport ?



The simplified picture





Jensen et al, PRB (June 2005)

"Spin-tronics" Use the electronic spin rather than charge as carrier of information

Gold nanoparticle single-electron transistor with carbon nanotube leads



APL 79, 2106 (2001).

Electrons in nanotubes

Attach leads to 1D electron system Low T measurements

Normalmetal

Nanoparticle

Single-electron effects

- spectroscopy, shells (2, 4)
- Fabry-Perot resonances

Correlated states

-Kondo effect, long-range interactions, Luttinger liquid

Magnetic contacts

Spin transport, spin transistors?

Superconducting contacts

Ferromagne. - supercurrents?

AFM manipulation of nanoscale objects

- Gold particle transistor, 1D-0D-1D





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Crossed Nanotube Devices



Optical micrograph showing five sets of leads to crossed nanotube devices AFM image of one pair of crossed nanotubes (green) with leads (yellow)

Crossed Nanotube Junctions



Fuhrer et al., Science (2000)

Metal-Semiconductor Nanotube Junction



Fuhrer et al., Science (2000)



Bachtold et al, Science 2001

Integration of CNT with Si MOS

UC Berkeley and Stanford, Tseng et al., Nano Lett. 4, 123 (2004).



- N-channel MOS-FET circuit (standard Si IC processing)
- Nanotubes grown by Chemical Vapor Deposition
- Growth from $CH_4 + H_2$ at 900 C (compatible with MOS)
- Contacted by Mo electrodes

22 binary inputs to probe 2¹¹=2048 nanotube devices on single chip

Proof of concept

(only 1% showed significant gate dependence)

Random access nanotube test chip (switching network):



Nanotube grown expitaxially into a semiconductor crystal





- Epitaxial overgrowth by MBE (single crystal)
- Nanotubes survive being buried
- Hybrid electronics from molecular and solid state elements

J.R. Hauptmann et al Poster

NanoLetters 4, 349 (2004)





V. New aspects of tube electronics

- Optoelectronics
- Nanoelectromechanical systems (NEMS)

Optical emission from NT-FET



Effective p-n junction in semiconducting CNT (Schottky barriers + appropriate bias)





ambipolar nanotube FET moving "LET"

Avouris group (IBM), PRL 2004
Transport in suspended tubes



 $\Delta V_{\rm g} \sim e/C_{\rm g}$, gate capacitance decreases

Appl. Phys. Lett. 79, 4216 (2001)

Nanotube Electromechanical Oscillator



Resonance

Actuation and detection of vibrational modes

Frequency (MHz)

- Employing sensitive semiconducting tube
- Resonance (tension) tuned by DC gate voltage:



Electrostatic interaction with underlying gate electrode pulls tube towards gate

Put AC signal on source and gate

Sazonova et al, Nature 431, 284 (2004)

Nanorelay

Switch based on nanotube beam suspended above gate and source electrodes:



Reversible operation of switch

S.W. Lee et al, Nano Letters 4, 2027 (2004)

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Anti-conclusion

- what we have not covered...

- High-performance FET transistors
- Behavior in magnetic field
- Luttinger liquid behavior, correlated electrons in 1D
- Small-gap tubes
- Sensors (chemical, bio, mechanical)
- Problems in separation and positioning
- Bottom-up fabrication of devices, self-assembly
- Many other recent developments (see NT05)

Focused on the basic understanding of transport and electrons in NT

Recommended reading

- Electronic transport (general)
 - S. Datta, *Electronic Transport in Mesoscopic Systems* (Cambridge Uni. Press, 1995)
 - C. Kittel, Introduction to Solid State Physics (Wiley, 2005) Chapter 18 by P.L. McEuen in 8th edition only!



- Nanotubes and transport
 - R. Saito et al, *Physical Properties of Carbon Nanotubes* (Imperial College, 1998)
 - M.S. Dresselhaus et al, *Carbon Nanotubes* (Springer, 2001)
 - S. Reich et al, Carbon Nanotubes (Wiley-VCH, 2004)
 - P.L. McEuen et al, "Single-Walled Carbon Nanotube Electronics," *IEEE Transactions on Nanotechnology*, 1, 78 (2002)
 - Ph. Avouris et al, "Carbon Nanotube Electronics", Proceedings of the IEEE, 91, 1772 (2003)

"Carbon gives biology, but silicon gives geology and semiconductor technology."

In: C. Kittel, *Introduction to Solid State Physics*

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2004



Enjoy the conference!

 $2e^2$ h