





Heat Transport and Thermo-power in a Single-Quantum Dot Transistor

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General objective:

understand thermal effects in QD-based devices

Metallic quantum dot devices

Connecting a single quantum dot

Electromigration of a metallic constriction.

Biasing stopped when conductance drops: nm to few-nm gaps obtained



200 nm



F. Kuemmeth et al., Nano Lett. (2008)



N. Roch, F. Balestro, W. Wernsdorfer et al., Nature (2008)

Quantum dot devices

Al or Pt electromigration junctions + 5 nm Au nanoparticles

Charging energy $E_c > 100 \text{ meV}$ Level spacing $\delta \approx 1-10 \text{ meV}$ Superconducting gap $\Delta = 260 \text{ µeV}$ Tunnel coupling $\Gamma \approx 2 \text{ µeV}$

Clear hierarchy of energy scales: $E_c \gg \delta \gg \Delta \gg k_B T > \Gamma$

Energy spectra unmodified by gating





D. van Zanten, F. Balestro, H. Courtois, C. B. Winkelmann, PRB (2015).



Mono-chromatic single electron source

D. van Zanten, D. M. Basko, I. M. Khaymovich, J. P. Pekola, H. Courtois, C. B. Winkelmann, PRL (2016).



Josephson junction thermometry

SNS Josephson junction thermometry

Zero-resistance Josephson coupling between two S through a N



Critical current temperature dependence used as an electronic thermometer.



Performance of the SNS thermometer

Calibration against the bath. Noise = 200 $\mu K/\sqrt{Hz}$



Direct Joule heating of the N part (100 aW):



Heat transport in a single quantum dot

Heat transport through a QD junction



Coulomb blockaded temperature map

Bias & heat (6 fW) bias : Coulomb diamond structure in T_e map.

Local quasi-equilibrium e⁻-ph coupling / Joule heat.

Lower T at degeneracy point because of improved thermal conductance of the QD junction.

B. Dutta et al. (2019)



Thermopower of a Kondo-correlated quantum dot junction

Thermo-voltage and thermo-power

Two reservoirs with a temperature difference ΔT



Thermo-voltage and thermo-power

Two reservoirs with a temperature difference ΔT

Thermovoltage ΔV

Seebeck coefficient (thermopower):

$$S = \frac{\Delta V}{\Delta T} \bigg|_{I=0}$$

Mott's law:
$$S = -eL_0T \left[\frac{\partial ln(G(E))}{\partial E} \right]_{E=E_F}$$

Thermopower is related to electron-hole asymmetry.



Early experiment on thermopower of a quantum dot junction



FIG. 2. Grey-scale plot of the differential conductance as a function of the QD potential ($\propto V_{\rm E}$) and the externally applied bias voltage across the QD ($V_{\rm SD}$). Alternating regimes of low and high conductance are observed between each successive conductance peak within the CB diamonds (dashed lines). Inset: Bias-voltage ($V_{\rm SD}$) depending traces of the differential conductivity of the dot for $V_{\rm E} = -1.08$ V and $V_{\rm E} = -1.21$ V [indicated by arrows].



FIG. 3. Comparison of the thermovoltage measurement $(V_{\rm T})$, the conductance (G), and the calculated thermopower $S_{\rm Mott}$ as expected from the Mott relation [Eq. (2), where $E \propto (-eV_{\rm E})$] as a function of applied gate voltage $V_{\rm E}$. The horizontal bars indicate the regions of spin correlations within the gate-voltage range of strong coupling of the quantum dot to the leads ($V_{\rm E} > -1.1$ V).

R. Scheibner, H. Buhmann, D. Reuter, M. N. Kiselev, and L. W. Molenkamp, PRL 95, 176602 (2005)

Thermoelectric effect and conductance



Hamiltonian for single Anderson impurity model with two leads α :

$$H = \sum_{\sigma} \varepsilon_0 d_{\sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma} + U d_{\uparrow}^{\dagger} d_{\downarrow} d_{\downarrow} + \sum_{k \propto \sigma} \varepsilon_{k\sigma} c_{k\alpha\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{k\alpha\sigma} + \sum_{k\alpha\sigma} t_{\alpha} (c_{k\alpha\sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma} + H.c.)$$

QD level energy $\varepsilon_0(V_g)$ charging kinetic energy in leads tunneling leads <-> dot

NRG impurity spectral function A(E) plays the role of a transmission coefficient

$$G(T) = G_0 I_0(T)$$
 $I_n(T) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} -\frac{\partial f(E,T)}{\partial E} E^n A(E,T) dE$ E: example of the second second

E : excitation energy with respect to E_F

Thermopower $S(T) = -\frac{1}{|e|T} \frac{I_1(T)}{I_0(T)}$ related to $\frac{dA}{dE}\Big|_{E_F}$

T. Costi, V. Zlatic, PRB 81, 235127 (2010)

A quantum dot

Energy levels in the QD

Spectral function A(E)



A quantum dot coupled to leads

Energy levels in the QD smeared by the tunnel coupling to leads

Spectral function A(E)



The Kondo effect

Energy levels in the QD smeared by the tunnel coupling to leads At T < T_{K} : tunneling resonance of width $k_{B}T_{K}$ in the spectral function near E_{F}



Sequential tunnelling: sawtooth in thermopower



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Moderate coupling and strong blockade: co-tunnelling cancels the thermopower



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Moderate coupling and strong blockade: co-tunnelling cancels the thermopower Kondo effect appears at stronger coupling and low temperature: 2e-periodicity



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Moderate coupling and strong blockade: co-tunnelling cancels the thermopower Kondo effect appears at stronger coupling and low temperature: 2e-periodicity



Experiment: Thermopower of a QD junction

Similar but different sample from heat transport experiment



A quantum dot in the Kondo regime



Current map in the Kondo regime



Thermovoltage in the Kondo regime



2e-periodic in gate-induced charge demonstrates electron-hole assymetry

See also A. Svilans, M. Josefsson, A. M. Burke, S. Fahlvik, C. Thelander, H. Linke, M. Leijnse, PRL (2018).

Spectral function

Kondo resonance shifted by about $k_{B}T_{K}$ from E_{F}



Spectral function

Kondo resonance shifted by about $k_B T_K$ from E_F : sign change of thermopower with temperature expected



Sign reversal of the thermopower



Sign change of S with increasing temperature in odd states only

B. Dutta, D. Majidi, A. García Corral, P. A. Erdman, S. Florens, T. A. Costi, H. Courtois & C. B. Winkelmann, Nano Lett. (2019).

Sign reversal of the thermopower



Sign change of S with increasing temperature in odd states only.

Good agreement with model, proof of Kondo origin.

B. Dutta, D. Majidi, A. García Corral, P. A. Erdman, S. Florens, T. A. Costi, H. Courtois & C. B. Winkelmann, Nano Lett. (2019).

Summary, acknowledgements

Josephson current electronic thermometry used to measure heat transport in a QD

Thermopower of a QD in the Kondo regime shows how the Kondo resonance is shifted from the Fermi level

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