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Editors' Suggestion

Correlated Double-Electron Additions at the Edge of a Two-Dimensional Electronic System

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We create laterally large and low-disorder GaAs quantum-well-based quantum dots that act as small two-dimensional electron systems. We monitor tunneling of single electrons to the dots by means of capacitance measurements and identify single-electron capacitance peaks in the addition spectrum from occupancies of one up to thousands of electrons. The data show two remarkable phenomena in the Landau level filling factor range $\nu = 2$ to $\nu = 5$ in selective probing of the edge states of the dot: (i) Coulomb blockade peaks arise from the entrance of two electrons rather than one; (ii) at and near $\nu = 5/2$ and at fixed gate voltage, these double-height peaks appear uniformly in a magnetic field with a flux periodicity of $h/2e$, but they group into pairs at other filling factors.

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Motivation

- Long history of these types of devices
 - First *R.Ashoori et al., PRL 64, 681 (1990)*
- Improved sample quality enables new insights

Results

- Hints of Pairing in $\nu = 5/2$ fractional hall states

Sample fabrication

Quantumwell, 11.5nm deep (from top electrode)

Deposit ohmic contact(material), etch selectively to AlGaAs,

	substrate	GaAs (undoped)	
1	bottom initial growth	GaAs (intrinsic)	3000 Å
2	bottom blocking barrier	Al _{0.323} Ga _{0.677} As	4000 Å
3	bottom electrode	GaAs (n+, 4 × 10 ¹⁸)	2000 Å
4	bottom electrode	GaAs (n+, 1 × 10 ¹⁸)	1000 Å
5	bottom spacer	GaAs (intrinsic)	30 Å
6	cold growth/diffusion barrier	GaAs (intrinsic)	30 Å
7	blocking barrier	Al _{0.323} Ga _{0.677} As (intrinsic)	600 Å
8	quantum well	GaAs (intrinsic)	230 Å
9	tunnel barrier	Al _{0.323} Ga _{0.677} As (intrinsic)	90 Å
10	top spacer	GaAs (intrinsic)	25 Å
11	top electrode	GaAs (n+, 1 × 10 ¹⁸)	200 Å
12	top electrode	GaAs (n+, 4 × 10 ¹⁸)	400 Å
13	top electrode	Delta doped top layers	25 Å × 8

top surface

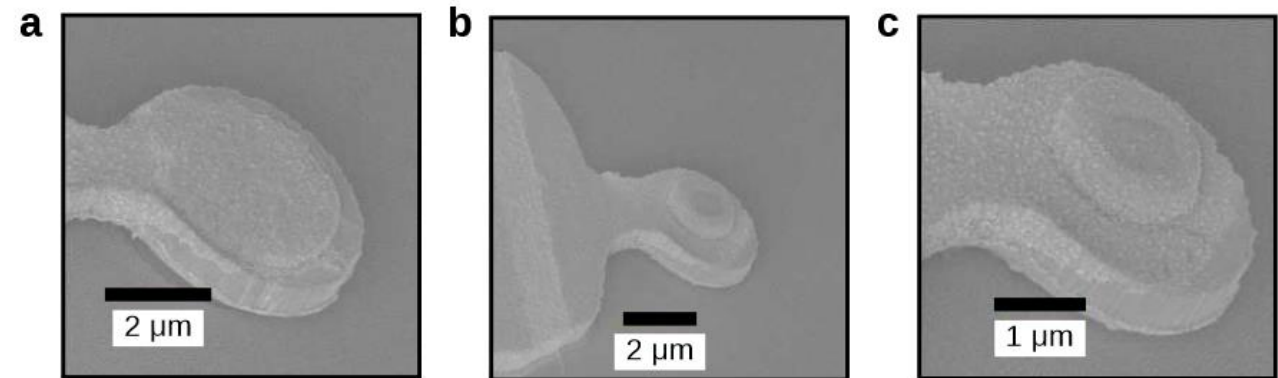
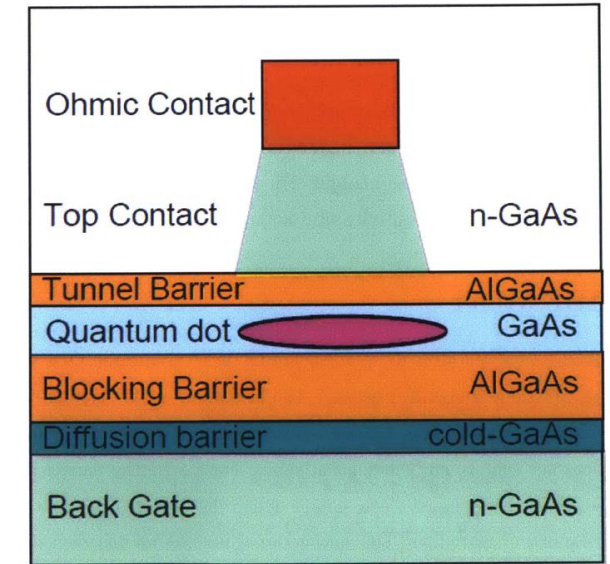
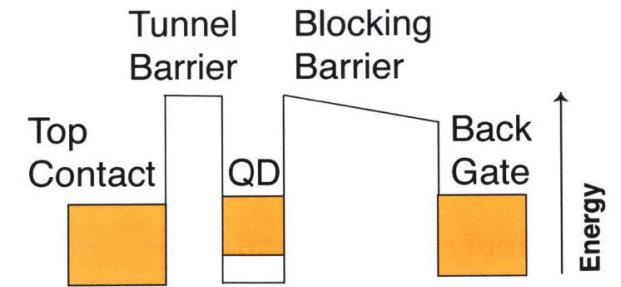
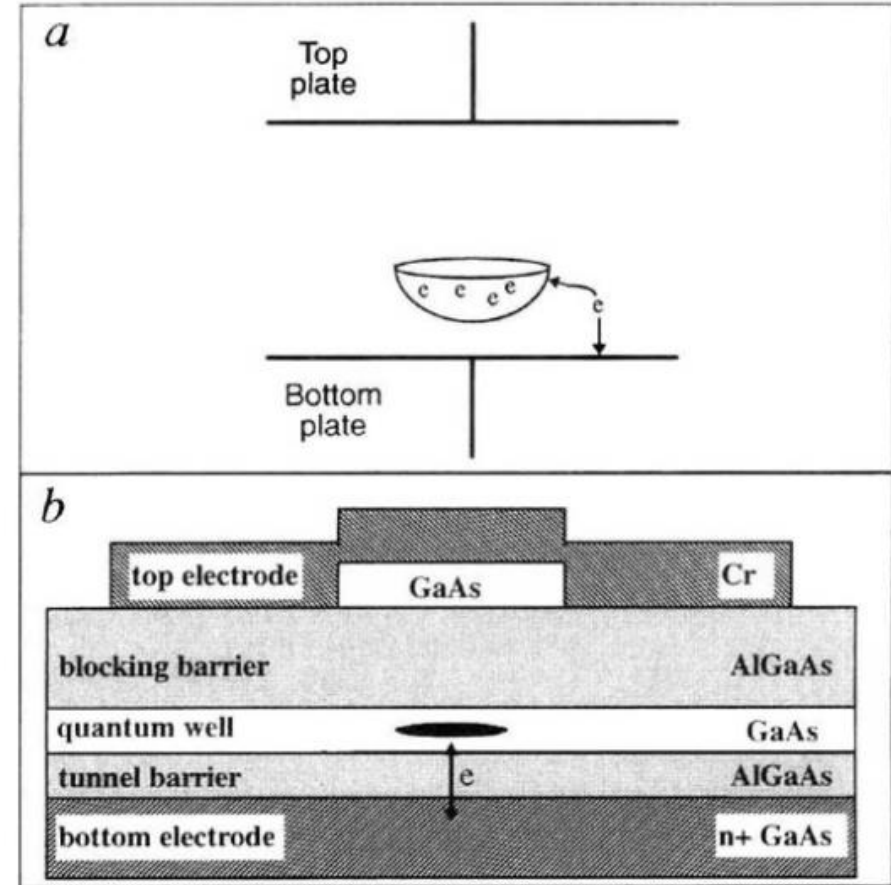
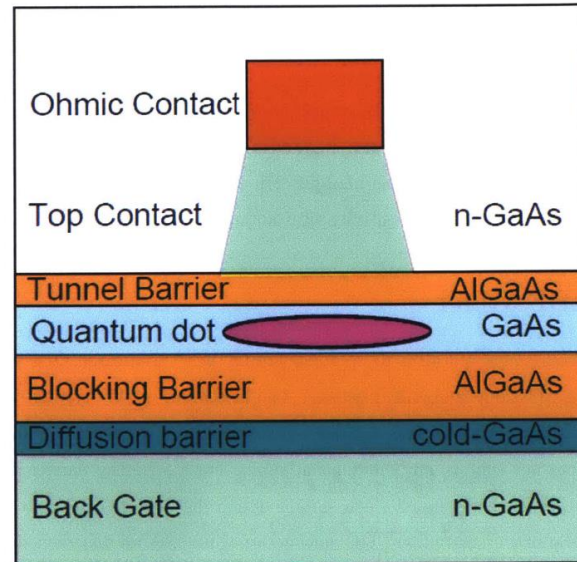
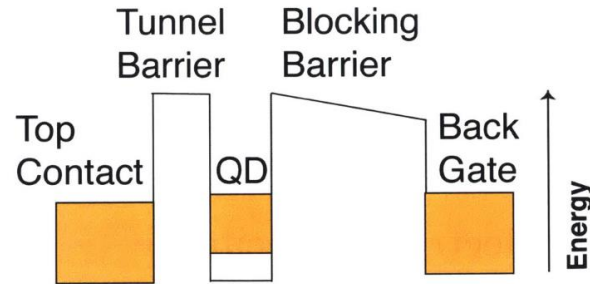


FIG. S1. SEM images of completed devices.

original sample design

New sample design

- no shottky Barrier
- no modulation doping



Ashoori, R. Electrons in artificial atoms. *Nature* **379**, 413–419 (1996).

Capacitance spectroscopy

- Balance condition:

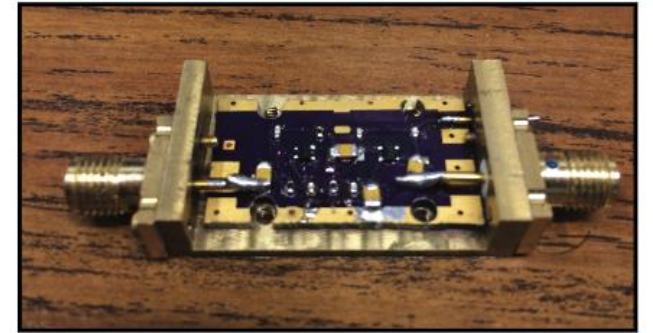
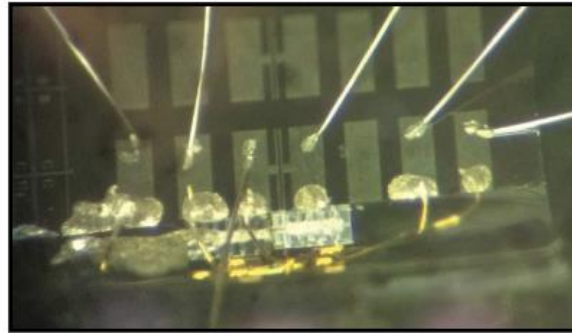
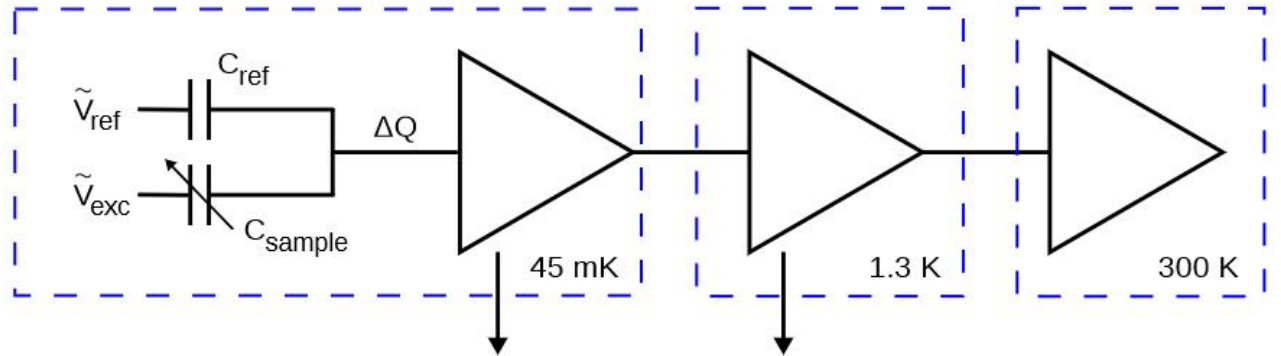
$$\frac{V_{ref}}{Z_{ref}} + \frac{V_{exc}}{Z_{sample}} = 0$$

- V_{ref} 180° out of phase

- $\rightarrow C_{sample} = C_{ref} \frac{V_{ref}}{V_{exc}}$

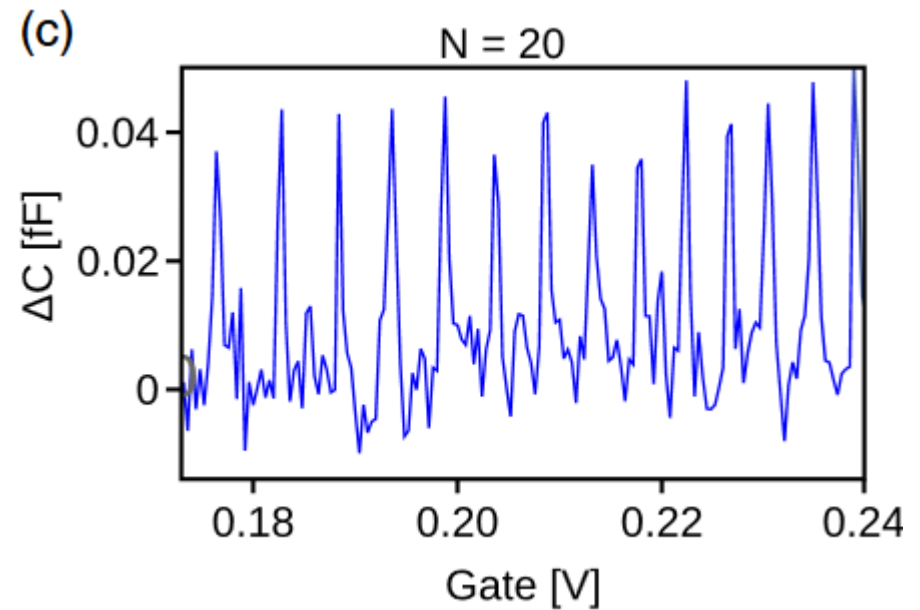
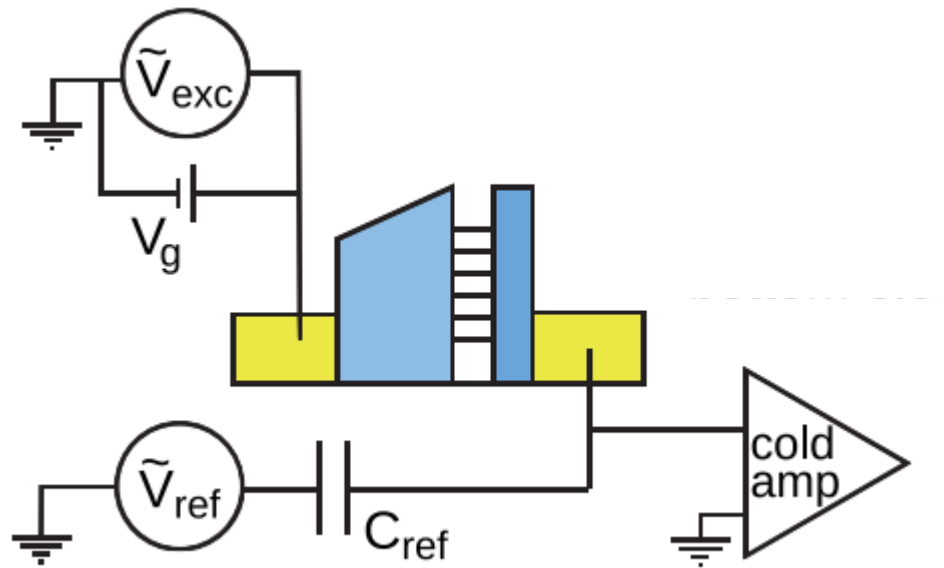
- Typical values:

$$V_{exc} = 200 \mu V @ 247 kHz$$



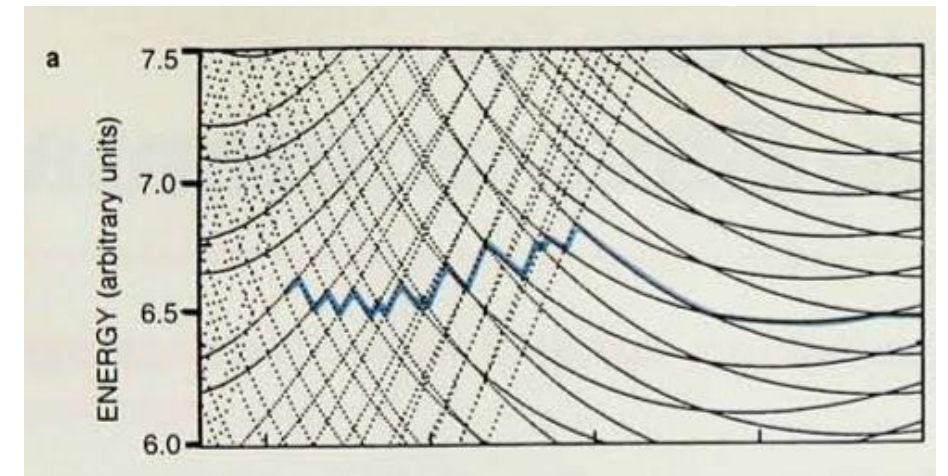
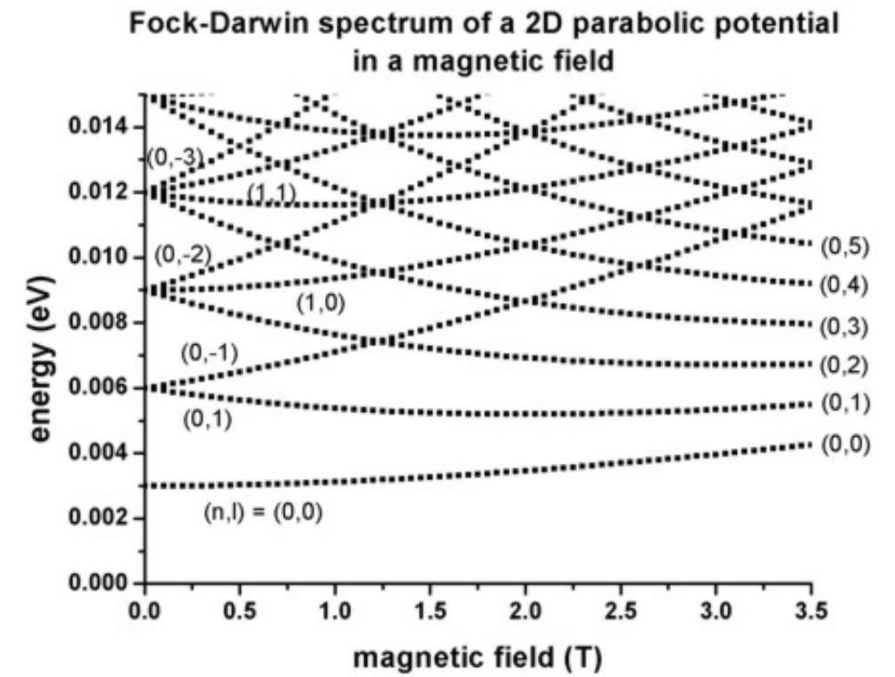
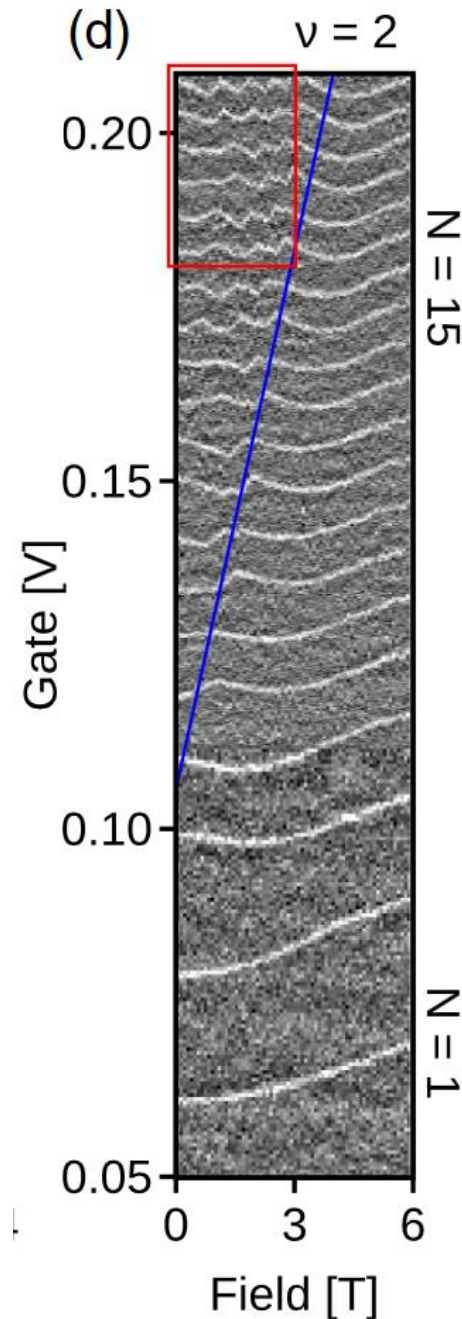
Typical measurement

- Small dot (120nm)
- Single electron addition



Small Dot in magnetic field

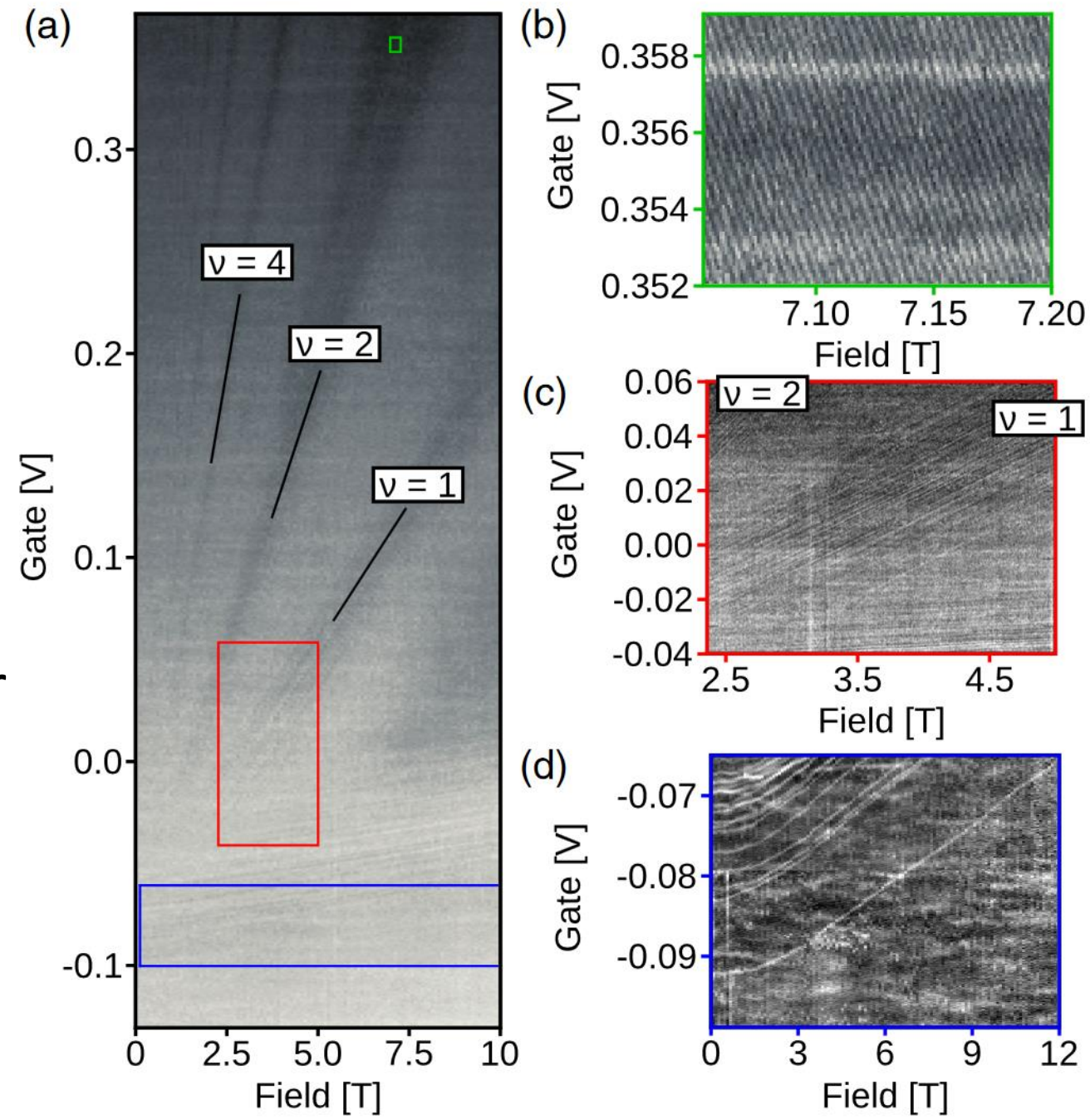
- Fock Darwin Spectrum in Magnetic Field



M. Kastner, Physics Today **46**, 1, 24 (1993)

Large dot in magnetic field

- Larger Dot ($\sim 800\text{nm}$)
 - Quantum Hall physics
- **Green**: electron addition near $\nu = 5/2$
- **Red**: localized states near integer fillings
- **Blue**: First few electron in magnetic field



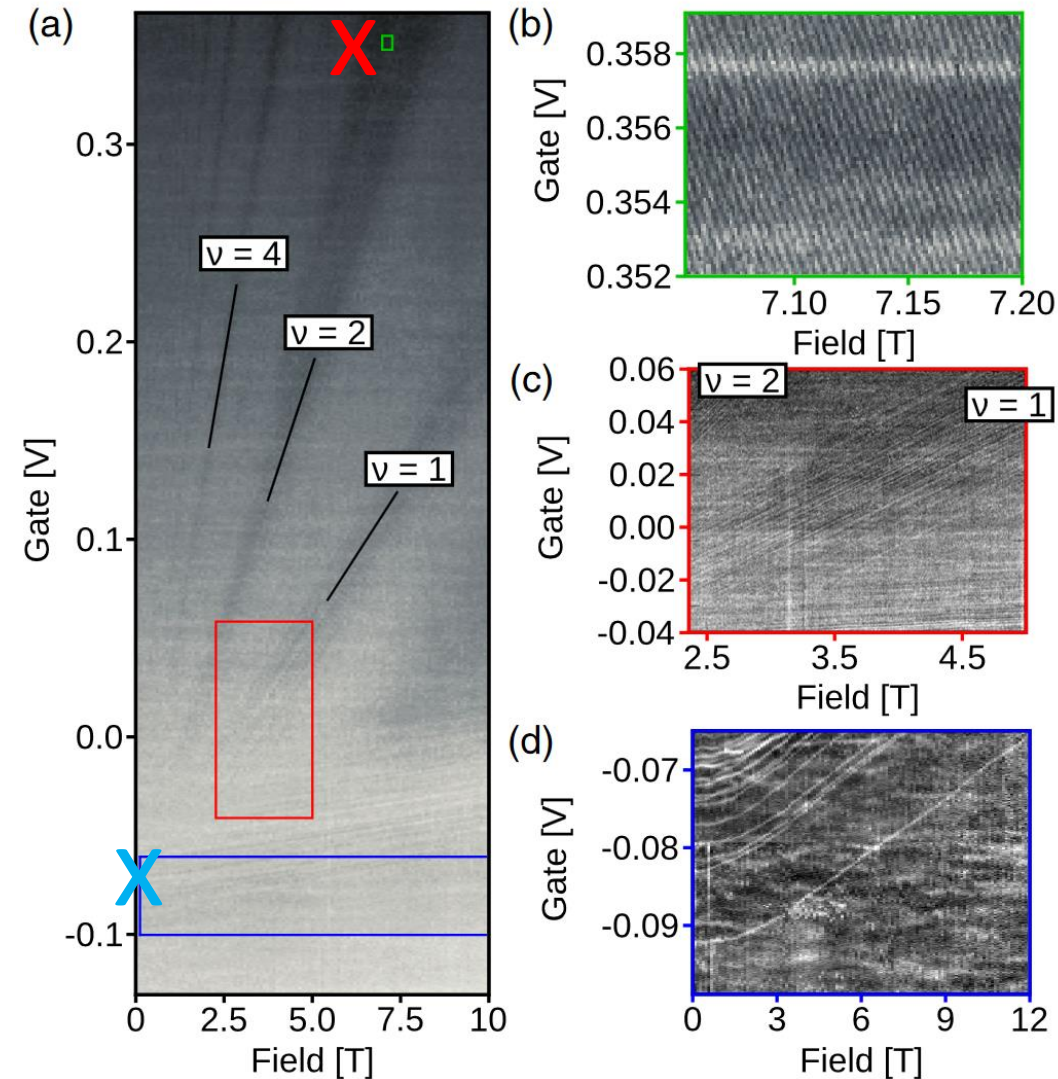
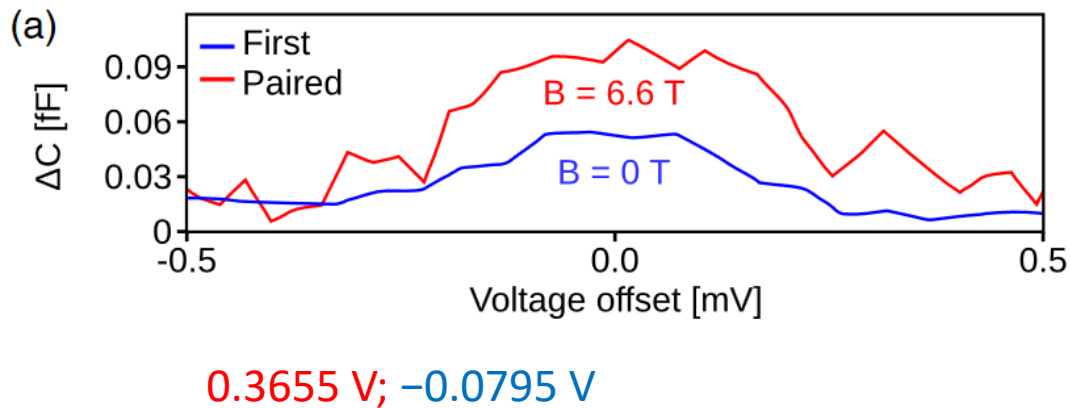
New observations

New observations

1. Doubling of peak height
2. Doubling of addition frequency
3. Bunching of double height peaks

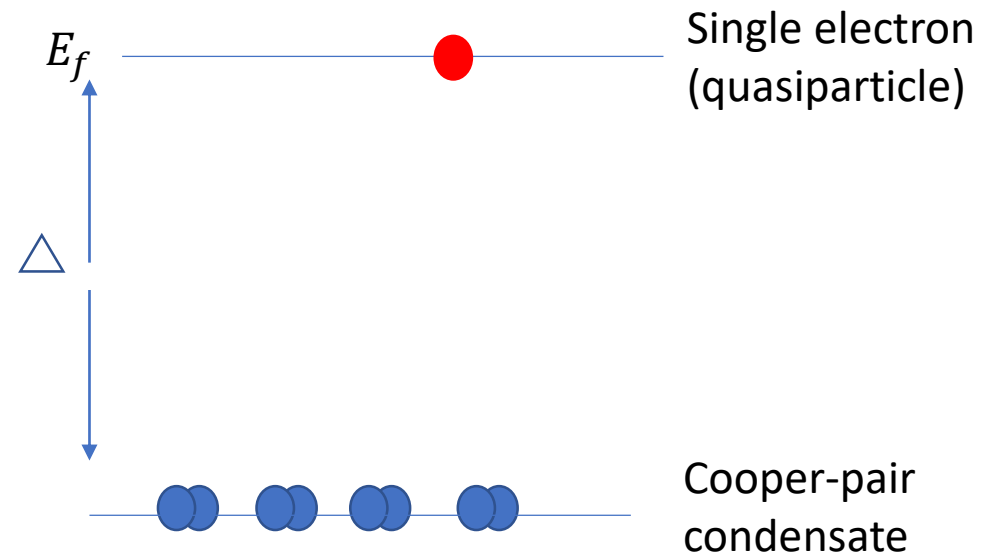
1 Paired addition of electrons

- Capacitance change doubles for addition to edgestates
- Peakheight is proportional to tunneling charge
→ $2e^-$ additon



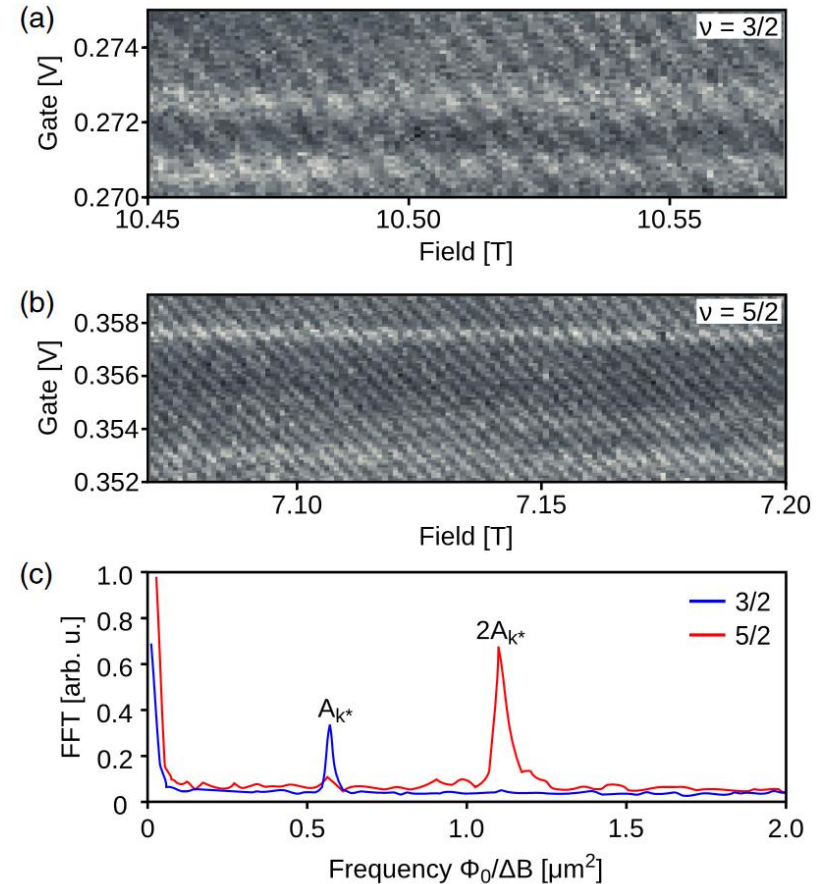
Implication: coulomb blockade violation

- Analogy:
Charging in a superconductor
 - Single electron addition $\Delta E = E_c + \Delta$
 - Cooper pair addition: $\Delta E = 2E_c$
 - Pair addition favourable for $\Delta > E_c$
- Strong interactions in Integer QHE?



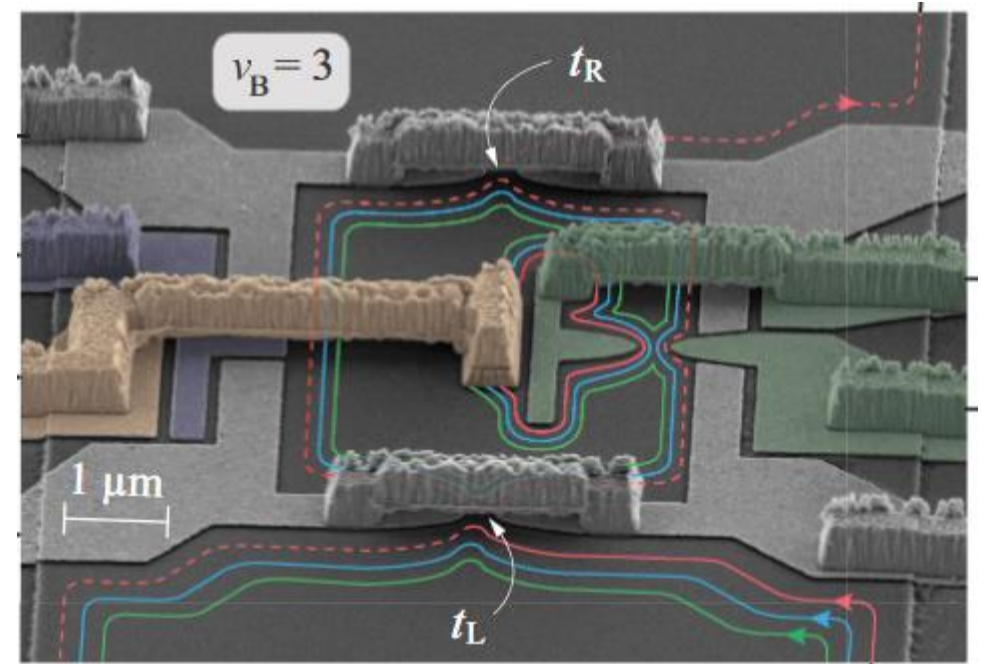
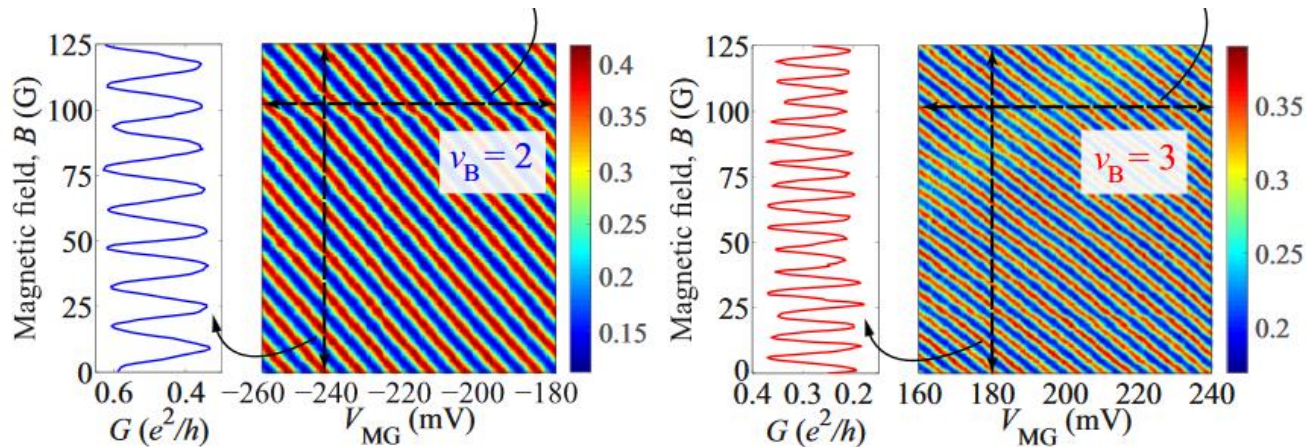
2 Addition frequency doubling

- a) $\Delta B = h/e$ at $\nu = \frac{3}{2}$
outside double addition range
($\nu = 2$ to $\nu = 5$)
- b) $\Delta B = h/2e$ at $\nu = \frac{5}{2}$
Essentially from ($\nu = 2$ to $\nu = 5$)



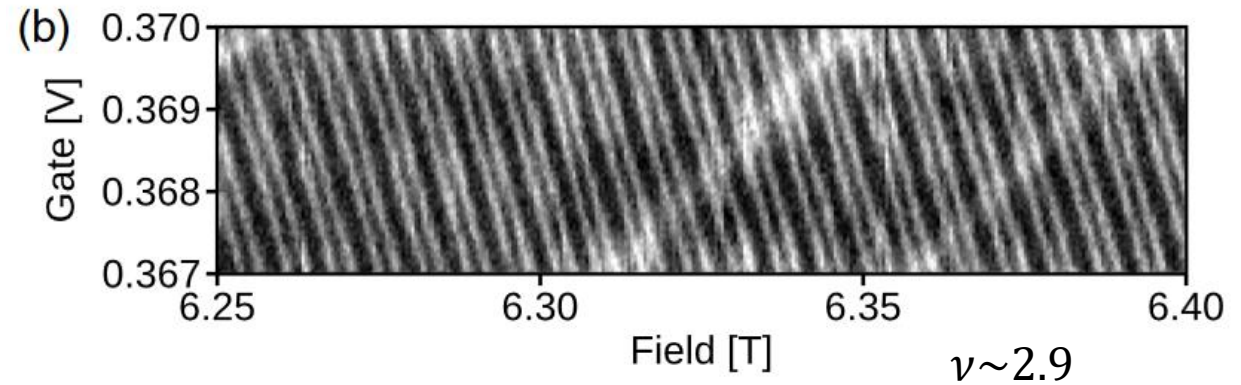
2 Addition frequency doubling

- flux periodicity of $h/2e$ observed for $\nu > 2.5$

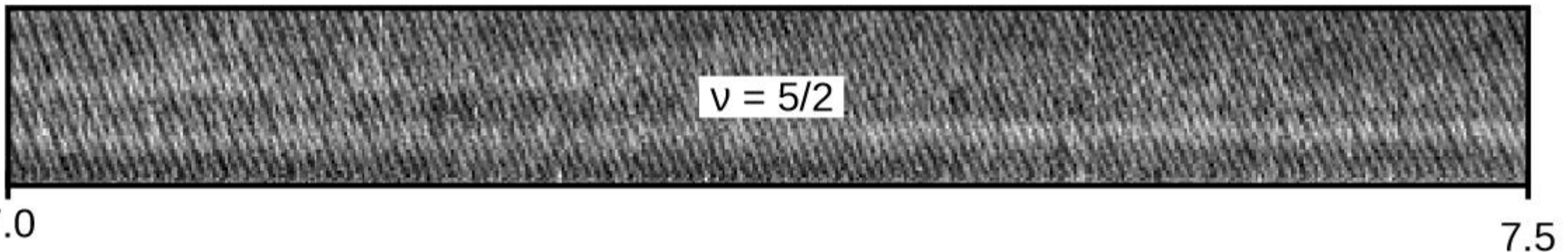


3 Bunching of pair addition

- Double Addition lines bunch up between $\nu = 2$ and $\nu = 5$
- Bunching vanishes at $\nu = 5/2$



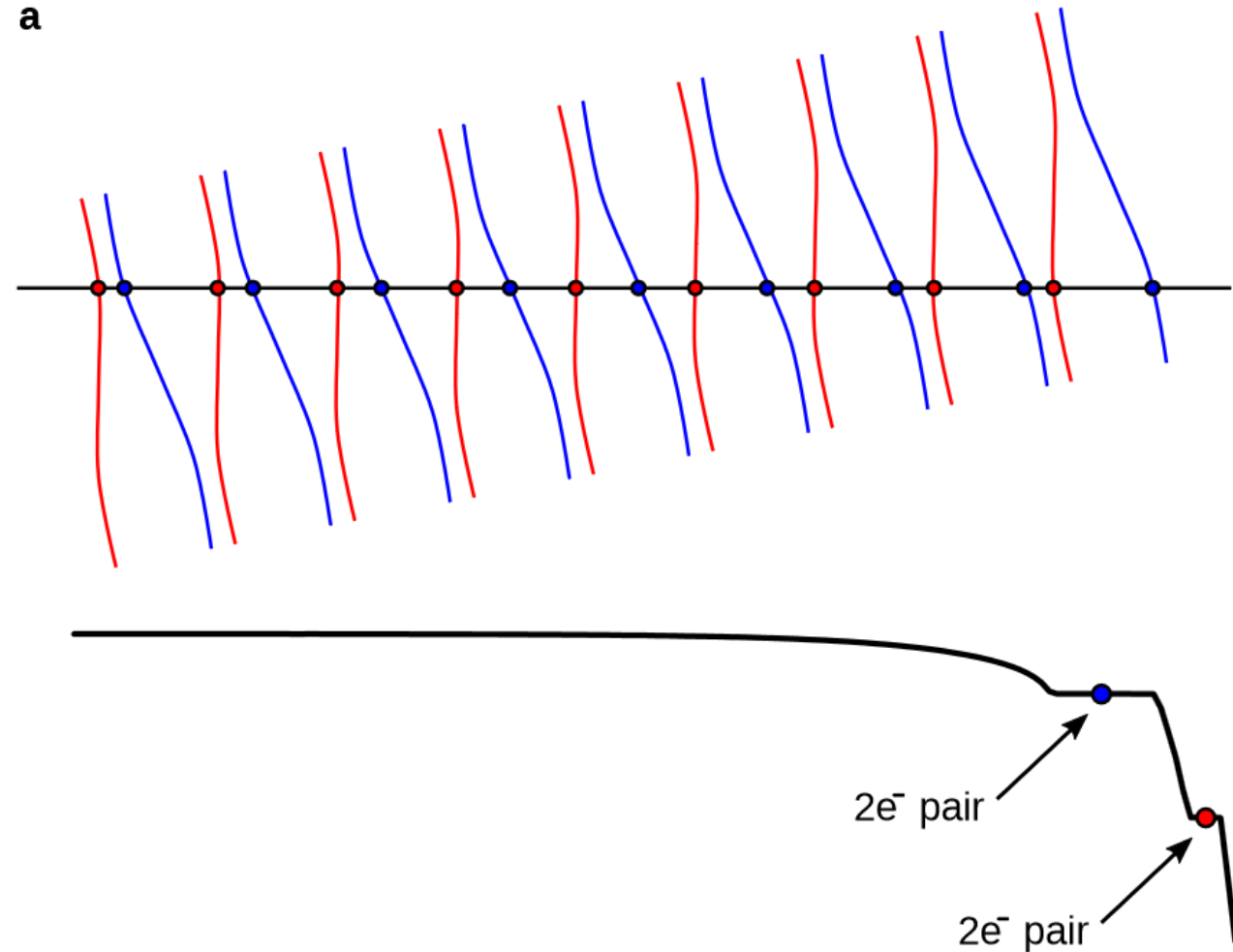
Bunching stops near $\nu = 5/2$



3 Bunching of pair addition

- Speculation:
 - Electron-pairs tunnel into same edgestate
 - different addition peaks, belong to different edgestates
- different area/Flux period

Doesnt explain why double addition happens



Outlook

- Behaviour around $\nu = 5/2$ maybe related to pairing mechanism []
- Pulsed capacitance spectroscopy may reveal full electronic structure
 - Condensate gaps, and quasiparticle peaks around every addition peak
- Requirements:
 - Higher sensitivity (SET for sensing)