

# Thermoelectric enhancement in molecular junctions

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### **Outline**

- 1) The GOLLUM code
- 2) Thermoelectric properties of molecular junctions
- 3) Symmetry-induced thermoelectric effects

## 1) Introduction. The GOLLUM code

#### - Equilibrium and ab-initio-code-independent



#### From 2 to 4 electrodes



#### - Large scale simulations



Graphene break junctions



DNA sequencing nanopores (L. A. Algharagholy ,H. Sadeghi)

#### - Multi-scale simulations





**Transport properties of molecules in solvents (D. Manrique, I. Grace)** 

#### - Pulling curves



Conductance as a function of distance. MCBJ experiments (D. Manrique)

#### - Kondo and Coulomb blockade

#### Part of the system is strongly correlated



Also, LDA+U



#### Quantitative and qualitative changes in the transport properties





- Other things: phonon transport, superconductivity, etc.

### 2) Thermoelectric properties of molecular junctions

- Two electron reservoirs at different temperature



$$L_n = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (E - E_{\rm F})^n T(E) \frac{\partial f(E, V, T)}{\partial E} dE$$

Figure of merit. Efficiency of heat to current converters  $ZT = \frac{S^2GT}{\kappa} = \frac{1}{\frac{L_0L_2}{L_1^2} - 1}$ 

#### - Interference-driven thermoelectricity

 $\Gamma \stackrel{\mathcal{E}_0}{\frown} \Gamma$ 

**Breit-Wigner** 



Multiple path











 $\overline{ZT = \frac{S_0 \Lambda^2(0)}{t^4(0)\Gamma^4 - S_0 \Lambda^2(0)}}$ 

# - OPE molecule with rotating rings or side groups

Rotation-induced movement of the resonances and antiresonances







#### - Thermopower and figure of merit



Huge enhancement due to the Fano resonance in the first case

#### - OPE molecules. MP interference



On-site energy-induced movement of the antiresonance

Reduction of G and  $\kappa$ . Enhancement of S and ZT

## 3) Symmetry-induced thermoelectric effects

#### - System: magnetic molecule couple to metallic leads



Metalloporphyrin molecule coupled via sulfur contacts to gold leads

Metal = Fe, Co, Ni, Cu or Zn



#### - Symmetry-dependent molecular orbitals



*d* state coupled to  $\pi$  orbitals

#### Model: four levels coupled to featureless leads



## - Thermoelectric properties as a function of temperature for the Fe metalloporphyrin



Thermoelectric properties as a function of temperature

# - Thermoelectric properties as a function of the position of the d state and its coupling to the rest of the molecule ( $\gamma$ )





 $T = 250 \, {\rm K}$ 

 $\gamma_1 = 0.2$ 

 $\gamma_2 = 0.4$ 

Cu metalloporphyrin

Changes in

width and

features

position of

#### - Temperature dependence of S



#### - Temperature dependence of ZT



#### - Spin-dependent thermoelectric coefficients

$$\begin{pmatrix} I \\ \dot{Q} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{h} \begin{pmatrix} e^{2} (L_{0}^{\uparrow} + L_{0}^{\downarrow}) & (e/T) (L_{1}^{\uparrow} + L_{1}^{\downarrow}) \\ e(L_{1}^{\uparrow} + L_{1}^{\downarrow}) & (1/T) (L_{2}^{\uparrow} + L_{2}^{\downarrow}) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta V \\ \Delta T \end{pmatrix}$$

$$L_{n}^{\sigma} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (E - E_{\rm F})^{n} T^{\sigma} (E) \frac{\partial f(E, V, T)}{\partial E} dE$$

$$G = \frac{e^{2}}{h} (L_{0}^{\uparrow} + L_{0}^{\downarrow}) \qquad S = \frac{-1}{eT} \frac{L_{1}^{\uparrow} + L_{1}^{\downarrow}}{L_{0}^{\uparrow} + L_{0}^{\downarrow}} \qquad \Pi = \frac{1}{e} \frac{L_{1}^{\uparrow} + L_{1}^{\downarrow}}{L_{0}^{\uparrow} + L_{0}^{\downarrow}} \qquad \kappa = \frac{1}{hT} \left( L_{2}^{\uparrow} + L_{2}^{\downarrow} - \frac{(L_{1}^{\uparrow} + L_{1}^{\downarrow})^{2}}{L_{0}^{\uparrow} + L_{0}^{\downarrow}} \right)$$

$$ZT = \frac{1}{\frac{(L_0^{\uparrow} + L_0^{\downarrow})(L_2^{\uparrow} + L_2^{\downarrow})}{(L_1^{\uparrow} + L_1^{\downarrow})^2} - 1}$$

One of the spin components can mask the effect of the other

.

#### - Effect of the coupling to the electrodes



### **Conclusions**

- Largest thermopower and *ZT* produced by multiple-path interference effects

- Qualitative details of the figure of merit depend on molecular intrinsic properties

- The highest value of the figure of merit is determined by the coupling strength

## Thank you