

# Gate-tunable topological superconductivity in a supramolecular electron spin lattice

Jung-Ching Liu,<sup>1†</sup> Chao Li,<sup>1†</sup> Richard Hess,<sup>1†</sup> Hongyan Chen,<sup>2</sup>  
Carl Drechsel,<sup>1</sup>, Ping Zhou,<sup>3</sup> Robert Häner,<sup>3</sup> Ulrich Aschauer,<sup>3,4</sup>  
Thilo Glatzel,<sup>1</sup> Silvio Decurtins,<sup>3</sup> Daniel Loss,<sup>1</sup> Jelena Klinovaja,<sup>1</sup>  
Shi-Xia Liu,<sup>3\*</sup> Wulf Wulfhekel,<sup>2</sup> Ernst Meyer,<sup>1</sup> Rémy Pawlak<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Physics, University of Basel, Klingelbergstrasse 82,  
4056 Basel, Switzerland

<sup>2</sup>Physikalisches Institut, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology,  
Wolfgang-Gaede-Str. 1, 76131 Karlsruhe, Germany

<sup>3</sup>Department of Chemistry, Biochemistry and Pharmaceutical Sciences,  
University of Bern, Freiestrasse 3, 3012 Bern, Switzerland

<sup>4</sup>Department of Chemistry and Physics of Materials, University of Salzburg,  
Jakob-Haringer-Strasse 2A, 5020 Salzburg, Austria

<sup>†</sup>These authors equally contributed;

\*To whom correspondence should be addressed;

E-mails: remy.pawlak@unibas.ch, shi-xia.liu@unibe.ch

**Topological superconductivity emerges in chains or arrays of magnetic atoms coupled to a superconductor. However, the external controllability of such systems with gate voltages is detrimental for their future implementation in a topological quantum computer. Here we showcase the supramolecular assembly of radical molecules on Pb(111), whose discharge is controlled by the tip of a scanning tunneling microscope. Charged molecules carry a spin-1/2 state, as confirmed by observing Yu-Shiba-Rusinov in-gap states by tunneling spec-**

**troscopy at millikelvin temperature. Low energy modes are localized at island boundaries with a long decay towards the interior, whose spectral signature is consistent with Majorana zero modes protected by mirror symmetry. Our results open up a vast playground for the synthesis of gate-tunable organic topological superconductors.**

**One sentence summary:** Radical molecules generated on superconducting Pb(111) represents a novel platform for topological superconductivity

**Keywords:** Topological crystalline superconductor, tetraazapyrene radicals, scanning tunneling microscopy, atomic force microscopy, molecular quantum dot, Yu-Shiba-Rusinov states

## Introduction

Majorana zero modes (MZM) in topological superconductors obey non-Abelian statistics and are considered as the most promising building blocks for constructing topological qubits (*1*). Topological superconductivity (TS) can be obtained in hybrid systems by coupling semiconducting nanowires with strong spin-orbit interaction (*2, 3*), ferromagnetic atomic chains (*4–9*) or magnetic islands (*10–13*) to a *s*-wave superconductor. The hallmark of TS is the detection of MZM in transport measurements or, when using a scanning tunneling microscope (STM), as a zero-energy conductance peak (near-zero conductance peaks) at the end of one-dimensional (two-dimensional) structures. Since disorder has a detrimental effect on the topological non-trivial phase by severely affecting the proximitized superconducting states, assigning MZMs from the variety of mechanisms producing trivial zero-modes remains experimentally challenging and requires an atomic-scale understanding of the system parameters (*14–17*).

The ability of STM to create and probe lattices with single-atom precision using manipulation techniques has offered unique opportunities for realizing designer quantum materials at the atomic scale (*18*). With the spectral resolution of scanning tunneling spectroscopy (STS), the detection of Yu-Shiba-Rusinov (YSR) states arising from magnetic moments on a superconductor (*19–21*) has revealed how important surface coordination (*22*), interatomic coupling (*14–17*) or magnetic anisotropy (*23*) are to the formation of a complex YSR band diagram. Moreover, the analysis of these YSR bands in atomic structures has led to the emergence of topological non-trivial phases by probing localized zero-bias peaks consistent with their topological origin, and thus attributed to MZMs (*4–13*).

Beyond densely-packed atomic structures governed by nearest neighbor exchange interaction

(24), dilute spin chains or two-dimensional "Shiba" lattices are also an exciting platform for the emergence of topological superconductivity (25–32). By increasing the spacing  $a$  between magnetic impurities while keeping it smaller than the coherence length of the superconductor  $\xi$ , the YSR band formation remains possible by the in-gap state hybridization over a large number of nearest neighbors mediated by Ruderman–Kittel–Kasuya–Yosida interaction. In such a regime (i.e.  $\sqrt{k_F a} \gg 1$ ), two-dimensional ferromagnetic Shiba lattices are predicted to host topological superconductivity with a large number of phases of high Chern numbers  $\mathcal{C}$  (29–31), with chiral MZMs localized at edges of the island with a short (exponential) and a long (power-law) spatial decay towards the island's interior (29). Recently, topological phases protected by spatial symmetries have been proposed to create a rich variety of topological crystalline superconductors (33–35). Using STM, the first attempt to build and probe such atomic lattices showed interesting signatures of edge modes consistent with a mirror-symmetry-protected topological superconductor (32).

While the physics of YSR states and edge states can be addressed by tunneling spectroscopy, the control over the chemical potential near these artificial structures, an essential prerequisite for future applications to tune the system with external gate voltages from trivial to topological, remains an open issue. Inspired by recent works on the charge-state control of organic molecules using the electric field of an STM tip (36–38), our work explores the experimental realization of a two-dimensional spin lattice using the supramolecular assembly of gate-tunable radical molecules on superconducting Pb(111). This system could not only serve as a unique starting point for investigating the interplay of a prototypical array of electron spins with a superconductor but also provide a general playground for discovering crystalline topological superconductivity in metal-free supramolecular network-superconductor hybrids.

## Results and Discussion

***Supramolecular assembly of TBTAP molecules on superconducting Pb(111).*** As precursor, we used the 4,5,9,10-tetrabromo-1,3,6,8-tetraazapyrene (TBTAP) molecule (Fig. 1A) consisting of an acceptor tetraazapyrene backbone equipped with four peripheral bromine atoms (39). We recently showed that  $\text{TBTAP}^{\bullet-}$  radicals with a 1/2 spin state retain a single electron on Ag(111) without using a decoupling layer (38). To obtain large supramolecular domains of more than 100 nanometers in diameter, we were sublimed TBTAP molecules in ultra high vacuum on a Pb(111) substrate kept at about 200 K (40) (Fig. 1B). A densely packed rectangular network of lattice parameter  $a_1 = 12.3 \text{ \AA}$  and  $b_1 = 17.2 \text{ \AA}$  (arrows in Fig. 1C), is observed by STM as alternating dark and bright rows. The corresponding image obtained by atomic force microscopy (AFM) (Fig. 1D) shows each Br atom bound to the TAP backbone as bright protrusion allowing us to assign the exact molecule position in the array (see models in Fig. 1D). Similar to STM imaging, two AFM contrasts are observed as a function of the considered rows denoted in the following as charged ( $c$ ) (dashed line) and neutral ( $n$ ) (dotted line), which will be discussed later.

Using density functional theory (DFT) (40), we relaxed the TBTAP network on Pb(111) (Fig. 1E, supplementary text and fig. S1). The assembly is in registry with the Pb(111) surface in agreement with the experimental data ( $a_1 = 12.1 \text{ \AA}$  and  $b_1 = 17.5 \text{ \AA}$ , fig. S1). Molecules are stabilized by a combination of halogen bonds between Br atoms (C–Br...Br–C) and TAP units (C–N...Br–C). Dashed and dotted lines correspond to rows of charged ( $c$ ) and neutral ( $n$ ) molecules, respectively. Molecules lie flat in a plane  $3.4 \text{ \AA}$  above the surface, suggesting that the variation of STM/AFM contrasts between neighboring rows is due to the coexistence of two molecule charge states in the network (37), rather than a difference in relative height (see fig. S1).

**Electrical control of molecule’s charge state in the assembly.** To confirm this, we compared  $dI/dV$  point-spectra of TBTAP molecules located in  $c$  and  $n$  rows, respectively (Fig. 2B). Molecule  $c$  (blue spectra) shows a strong resonance  $D$  at  $V_D \approx 1$  V, which is absent for molecule  $n$  (red spectra). The  $D$  resonance is assigned to a charge-state transition induced by the local electric field of the tip from the anionic TBTAP $^{\bullet-}$  molecule to its neutral TBTAP $^0$  counterpart (36–38). Without gating, radical TBTAP $^{\bullet-}$  molecules are obtained by the transfer of one electron from the surface to the lowest unoccupied molecular orbitals (LUMO) (36, 38), leading to the LUMO splitting into a singly-unoccupied molecular orbital (SUMO) and a singly-occupied molecular orbital (SOMO) (see supplementary text, figs. S2-S4). Charging events expected as a dip in  $dI/dV$  spectra for negative voltages were not observed for both type of molecules.

Figure 2C shows a constant-height  $dI/dV$  map acquired at the threshold voltage  $V_D$ . Rings/dots of high conductance centered to molecules  $c$  are the hallmark of a successful discharge, which also indicates the spatial position of the electron in TBTAP $^{\bullet-}$  molecules prior to its removal. Using the double-junction tunneling barrier (DJTB) model (36–38), the efficiency with which the tip locally discharges nearby molecules is characterized by the lever arm  $\mathcal{L}$ , which at first approximation linearly depends on the tip-sample voltage  $V_S$  and its position with respect to the molecule (supplementary text, figs. S4-S6). Figure 2D shows a  $dI/dV$  cross-section acquired across  $n$ - $c$ - $n$  rows (plain line in Fig. 2A). Discharging rings are absent along  $n$  rows since no charge can be extracted from neutral TBTAP $^0$ . The discharge parabola is centered to the TBTAP $^{\bullet-}$  with its bottom ( $\approx 0.9$  V) corresponding to the resonance. Due to the linear voltage-dependency of  $\mathcal{L}$  the parabola branches expand with increasing  $V_S$ , thus reflecting the increase in size of rings in  $dI/dV$  maps with increasing voltages (Figs. 2F-I, see supplementary text).

At fixed  $V_S \geq V_{rmd}$ , discharging rings form a superlattice of parameter  $a_2 = 20 \text{ \AA}$  and  $b_2 = 39.7 \text{ \AA}$  and rotated by  $30^\circ$  with respect to the molecular lattice observed in  $dI/dV$  mapping (Fig. 2C). Their diameters vary between neighboring  $\text{TBTAP}^{\bullet-}$  as the result of a local modulation of the resonance, estimated to  $\approx 150 \text{ mV}$  by comparing the bottom of each parabola (dashed line in Fig. 2E). For  $V_S \geq 1.1 \text{ V}$  and when the tip is located between two neighboring molecules, the parabolas start to merge promoting the removal of two electrons  $2e$  from the neighboring molecules (region  $e \geq 1$ ). Accordingly, increasing  $V_S$  in a series of spatial  $dI/dV$  maps leads to ring expansion (Fig. 2G) followed by their coalescence (Fig. 2H). In contrast to a simple superposition of rings expected for non-interacting quantum dots, their fusion as observed in Figs. 2H-I indicates a cascade discharge along  $c$  rows and thus a manifestation of the electron correlation in the supramolecular assembly (41) (see supplementary text, fig. S6).

***Yu-Shiba-Rusinov bound states of radical molecules.*** Radical  $\text{TBTAP}^{\bullet-}$  on  $\text{Pb}(111)$  feature a  $S = 1/2$  ground state with a strong spin-polarization according to DFT calculations (Fig. 3A). We probed YSR bound states of radical  $\text{TBTAP}^{\bullet-}$  in the middle of a molecular island using tunneling spectroscopy with a metallic tip at  $T = 35 \text{ mK}$  (Fig. 3B) (40). Figure 3C compares  $dI/dV$  spectra of three neighboring  $\text{TBTAP}^{\bullet-}$  molecules marked in Fig. 3B (black spectra, Fig. 3C) with that of  $\text{Pb}(111)$  (blue) and a neutral  $\text{TBTAP}^0$  (red). For the last two, a hard gap centered to  $E_F$  and framed by the two coherence peaks of  $\text{Pb}(111)$  (42) is systematically measured without in-gap states. Each  $\text{TBTAP}^{\bullet-}$  spectrum additionally shows one pair of YSR states at energies  $\varepsilon_\alpha = \pm 700 \text{ \mu eV}$ ,  $\varepsilon_\beta = \pm 850 \text{ \mu eV}$  and  $\varepsilon_\gamma = \pm 980 \text{ \mu eV}$  (dotted lines), resulting from the spin-1/2 nature of radical  $\text{TBTAP}^{\bullet-}$ . By applying an out-of-plane magnetic field of  $0.5 \text{ T}$ , we also quenched the superconductivity state to probe the Kondo resonance (figs. S8) and estimated its

Kondo temperature  $T_K$  to be 10.3 K (figs. S7) (38). Electron-like and hole-like wave-functions of TBTAP $\bullet^-$  were also probed by  $dI/dV$  mapping at the  $\varepsilon_\alpha^\pm$ ,  $\varepsilon_\beta^\pm$  and  $\varepsilon_\gamma^\pm$  energies (Figs. 3E-G), respectively. The typical donut-shape is similar to the spin density map (Fig. 3A), while their energies depends on the molecule positions in the assembly. We also infer that the shift of the YSR states to higher energies as compared to that of the isolated molecule (fig. S10) and their spatial distribution points to a coupling of the quasi-particle excitations within the supramolecular network (17). Figure 3G shows a  $dI/dV$  cross-section across the island (red arrow of Fig. 3D), where white dotted lines refer to the  $\varepsilon_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}^\pm$  YSR energies. Broader resonances near  $E_F$  coexist with the YSR peaks as marked by black arrows in Figs. 3C and G. These low-energy modes (LEM) are systematically observed with the highest magnitude for molecules aligned along the white dashed lines marked in the zero-energy  $dI/dV$  map of Fig. 3D.

***Spectral signature and localization length of low-energy modes near an island edge.*** The intrinsic electron-hole symmetry of zero-energy modes, imposed by the Bogoliubov quasi-particle character, can be probed by tunneling spectroscopy using superconducting STM tips ( $\Delta_T = 1.35$  meV is the superconducting pairing energy of the tip). Experimentally, a zero-energy peak appears in  $dI/dV$  spectra as a pair of peaks of equal amplitude shifted from zero to the finite voltages  $eV = \pm \Delta_T$ , while the superconducting edge is observed at  $\pm (\Delta_T + \Delta_S) = \pm 2.7$  meV ( $\Delta_S = 1.35$  meV is the superconducting gap of the substrate). Using bulk Pb tips at  $T = 1$  K (Fig. 4) (40), we confirmed the presence of YSR in-gap states at the TBTAP $\bullet^-$  locations by  $dI/dV$  point-spectra (Fig. 4B) acquired along seven TBTAP $\bullet^-$  molecules of a  $c$  row (Fig. 4A, fig. S9). Due to the larger thermal broadening of  $\approx 90$ -100  $\mu$ eV at 1K, the accurate assignment of the  $\varepsilon_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}$  energies is less evident than that of the millikelvin measurements since these peaks merge into a single resonance found at  $eV = \pm (\Delta_T + \varepsilon_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}) \approx \pm 2.1$  meV. Note also that the



YSR states are always accompanied by a broader resonance near zero-energy (i.e.  $\pm \Delta_T$ ) which is the fingerprint of the low-energy modes using superconducting tips.

In a series of constant-height  $dI/dV$  maps (Figs. 4C-F), we next explore the spatial distribution of the LEM wavefunctions at  $+\Delta_T$  near the edge of an island as compared to the hole-like wavefunctions at  $\varepsilon^+$  and at the superconducting edge ( $\Delta_T + \Delta_S$ ). Figure 4G further shows a  $dI/dV(V,X)$  cross-section acquired across the edge along one LEM line marked by a blue dashed line in Fig. 4C. All sub-gap excitations appear at zero energy with equal amplitudes between electron-like and hole-like regions (Fig. 4H). This observation, in stark contrast with the strong intrinsic electron-hole asymmetry of the YSR resonances (Fig. 4B) underlines the zero-energy character of these edge modes.

We next characterize the LEM localization length (Fig. 4I) by comparing  $dI/dV(X)$  profiles along the LEM line (blue) with that obtained at the YSR energy (gray) (see also supplementary text, fig. S12). In contrast to the continuous DOS at  $\varepsilon^+$ , the LEM wavefunction has a maximum amplitude at the border of the island ( $X = 0$ ) with a long decay inside its interior but without completely vanishing. We explain this decay by assuming the TBTAP $^{\bullet-}$  network as a lattice of spin-1/2 impurities with long-range YSR overlap coupled to a superconductor, as reported (29,30). The localization length of such an edge mode then expresses with a short (exponential) and long-range (power-law) decay terms such as :

$$f(x) \propto A \frac{|\Delta|}{\sqrt{k_F a}} \cdot \frac{e^{-ax/\xi}}{\sqrt{ax}} \quad (1)$$

with  $A$  is a normalization factor,  $\Delta = 1.35$  meV is the Pb superconducting gap,  $k_F = 5.2 \text{ nm}^{-1}$  is the Fermi wave-vector,  $a$  is the molecular spacing and  $\xi = 85 \text{ nm}$  is the superconducting coherence length of Pb. In Fig. 4I, the  $f(x)$  function is superimposed as a dashed line to the

experimental LEM decay, unveiling a good agreement with its envelope (6).

**Theoretical analysis.** To further rationalize our findings, we used a tight binding model on a rectangular spin lattice introduced by Soldini *et al.* (32) in order to describe the symmetry-protected topological order of an antiferromagnet-superconductor hybrid structure (40). As suggested by our tunneling measurements (fig. S10), we assume an antiferromagnetic ordering of the spin (schematized by red and blue arrows in Fig. 5A and Fig. 1E), along the lattice imposed by the TBTAP molecular assembly (dashed line). Based on our STM observations (Fig. 1B and Fig. 4C), we construct a prototypical "Shiba" island mimicking the supramolecular network boundaries by considering only edges along the [110] directions with respect to the molecular lattice (red line in Fig. 5A). Figure 5B shows the calculated zero-energy LDOS map of the system, which demonstrates the formation of edge modes in agreement with reference (32). Theoretical LDOS spectra are plotted in Figs. 5C and D for two edge positions marked by green and red squares in Fig. 5B, respectively. These edge modes have two typical spectral signatures consisting of either two peaks of equal amplitude split from zero energy (green in Fig. 5C) or three resonances centered to  $E_F$  (red in Fig. 5C). They are both framed by a topological gap ( $\pm\Delta_{\text{Top}}$ ) extracted at the center of the island (yellow spectra in Figs. 5C-D) as well as the superconducting gap at  $\pm\Delta_S$  (black spectra). Since the 45°-edges selected in our model lattice are protected by spatial symmetries (32), these edge modes possess a topological character due to the formation of a gapped topological crystalline superconductor. The experimental spectroscopic signatures of the LEM (Figs. 5E and F), acquired near an edge at 50 mK with a metallic tip (see fig. S13), is in good agreement with the theoretical predictions of these topological edge modes.

## Conclusion and outlook

In conclusion, we demonstrate the formation of an extended array of electron spins on superconducting Pb(111) through the supramolecular assembly of organic radicals. Occupied by a single electron transferred from the substrate, radical molecules are in a spin-1/2 ground state confirmed by probing one pair of Yu-Shiba-Rusinov in-gap states in differential conductance spectra. In the two-dimensional supramolecular assembly, spectroscopic signatures of low energy modes (LEM) are observed in tunneling spectroscopy near edges of the island with a long decay towards the interior. Using both metallic and superconducting tips, we characterized the near zero-energy character of this resonance, its intrinsic particle-hole symmetry, the localization length as well as site-dependent spectral signatures. Altogether, these key features confirmed by theory are consistent with the emergence of topological non-trivial modes in an antiferromagnet-superconductor hybrid structure that can be assigned to Majorana zero-modes (32).

Such a symmetry-protected topological superconductor can have however complex topological phase diagrams which can derive from edge terminations of the system boundaries (fig. S14) as well as the lattice parameter  $a$  (i.e. hopping parameters  $t$ ) (32). In fig. S13 (see supplementary text), we also explored disorders or alternative boundaries that can break the mirror symmetry of the system. Since  $a$  depends on the molecular spacing, future work could explore the design of the precursor's side groups to access variable sizes and lattice symmetries on alternative superconducting platforms (43). Importantly, our findings demonstrate the reversible control of the charge (spin) in radical molecules by the local electric field of the tip, opening interesting avenues for the fine-tuning of the system with external gate voltages. Creating local charge defects in the molecular assembly using tip-chemistry (44) might also allow to investigate the

effect of disorder on the topological phase as well as the topological edge modes. Overall, our work constitutes key advances in designing organic topological superconductors by the self-assembly of organic metal-free molecules in proximity to superconducting Pb(111). This could further serve to demonstrate non-Abelian Majorana exchange statistics in supramolecular arrays and possibly form the robust quantum bits required for a topological quantum computer.

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**Authors contributions:** R.P., S.-X.L., S.D and E.M. conceived the experiments. P.Z., Ro.H., S.-X.L. and S.D. synthesized the materials. C.D., C.L., and R.P. performed the STM/AFM measurements at 1 K. J.-C.L., H.C. and W.W. performed the millikelvin measurements. U.A. performed DFT calculations. Ri.H., D.L. and J.K. performed tight-binding calculations. R.P. analyzed the data and wrote the manuscript. All authors discussed on the results and revised the manuscript.

**Competing interests:** The authors declare no competing financial interests.

**Data and materials availability:** Data in formats other than those presented within this paper are available from the corresponding authors upon reasonable request.

## Supplementary materials

Materials and Methods

Supplementary Text

Figs. S1 to S14

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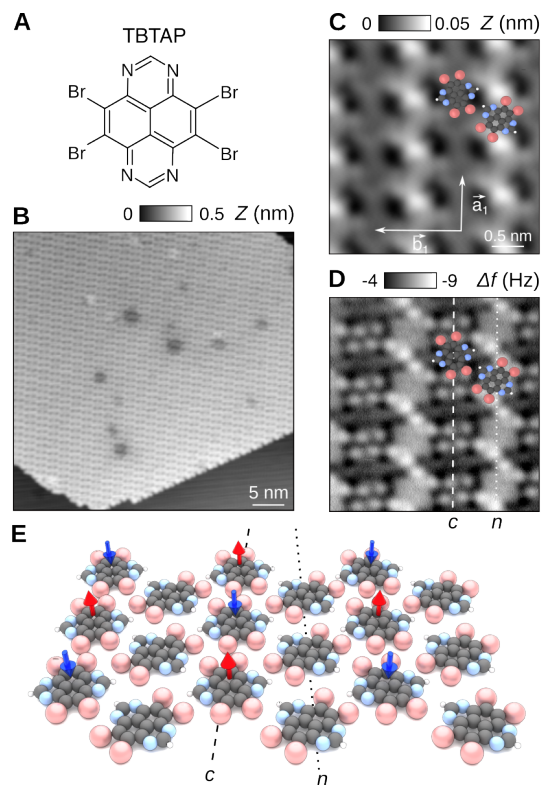
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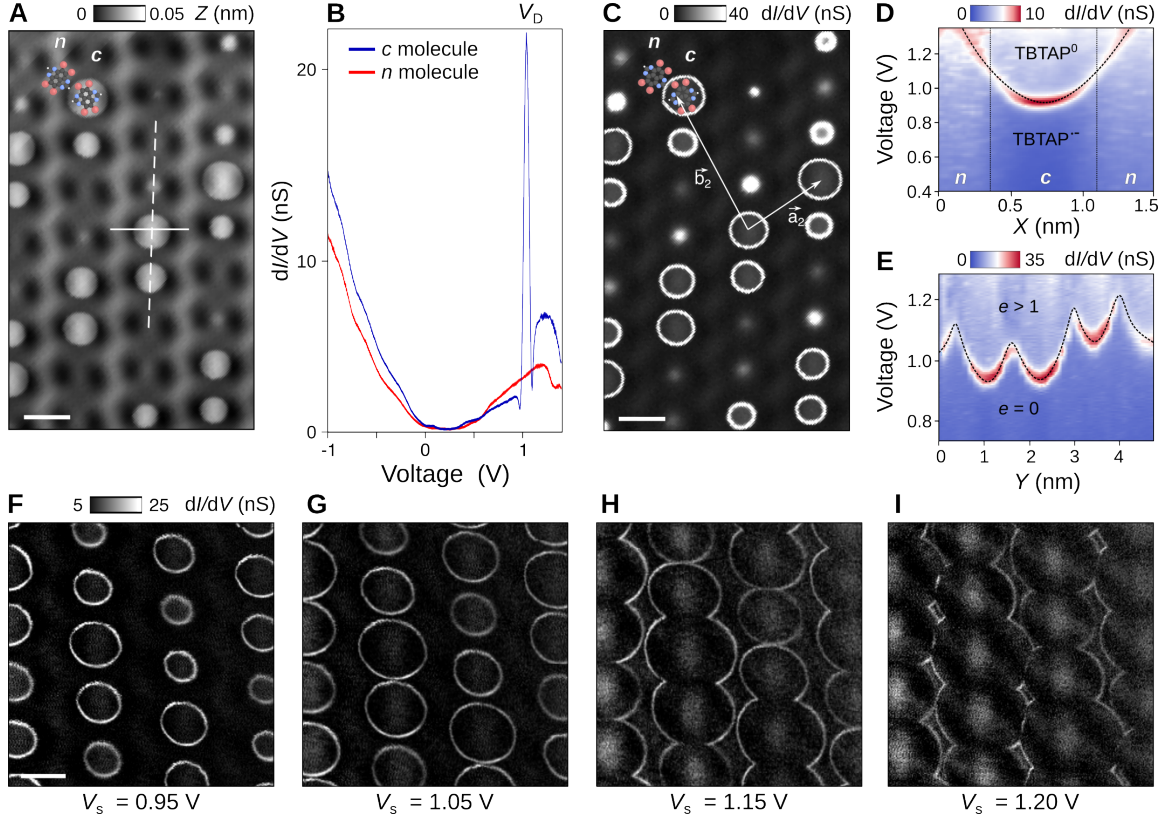
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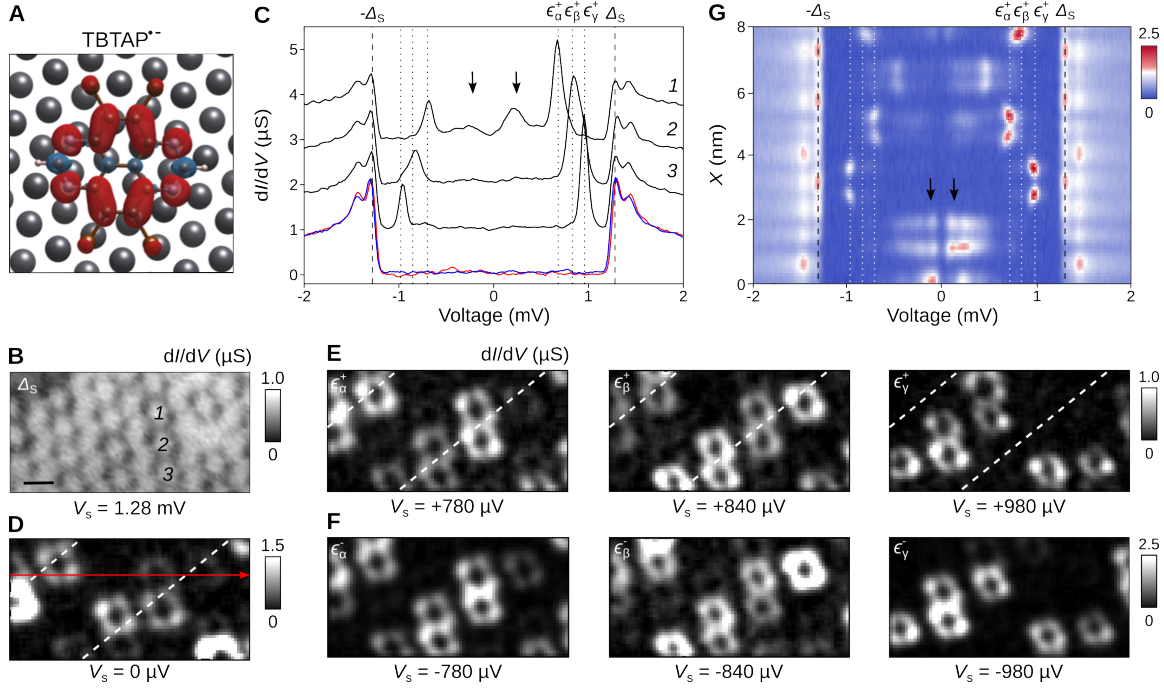




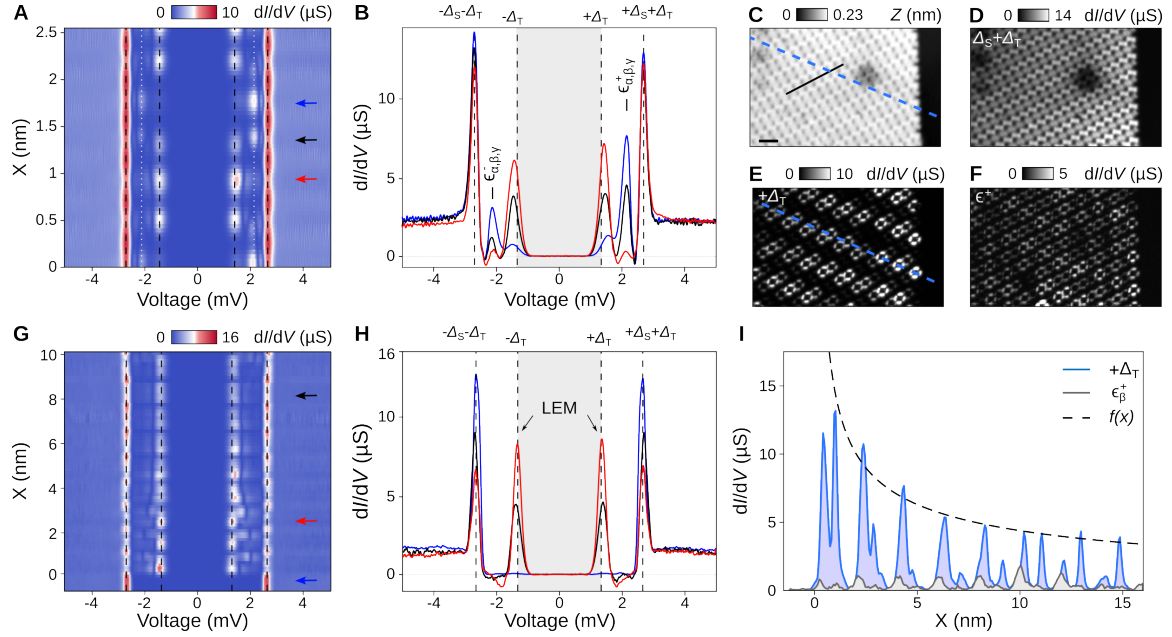
**Fig. 1: Supramolecular assembly of radical TBTAP $\bullet^-$  molecules on Pb(111).** (A), Chemical structure of the 4,5,9,10-tetrabromo-1,3,6,8-tetraazapyrene (TBTAP) molecule. (B), STM overview of the supramolecular assembly on Pb(111) ( $V_s = -0.5$  V,  $I_t = 1$  pA). (C), Close-up STM image of the molecular lattice ( $V_s = 0.8$  V,  $I_t = 0.8$  pA). The unit cell is marked with arrows. (D), Corresponding AFM image acquired with Br-terminated tip. The molecular lattice consists of rows of charged ( $c$ ) and neutral ( $n$ ) TBTAP molecules. Red, blue, white and black colors of the ball-and-stick models refer to bromide, nitrogen, hydrogen and carbon atoms. (E), Perspective view of the TBTAP assembly on Pb(111) optimized by DFT calculations (fig. S1). Dashed and dotted lines correspond to rows of charged ( $c$ ) and neutral ( $n$ ) molecules, respectively. Red and blue arrows represent the spin lattice of the TBTAP assembly.



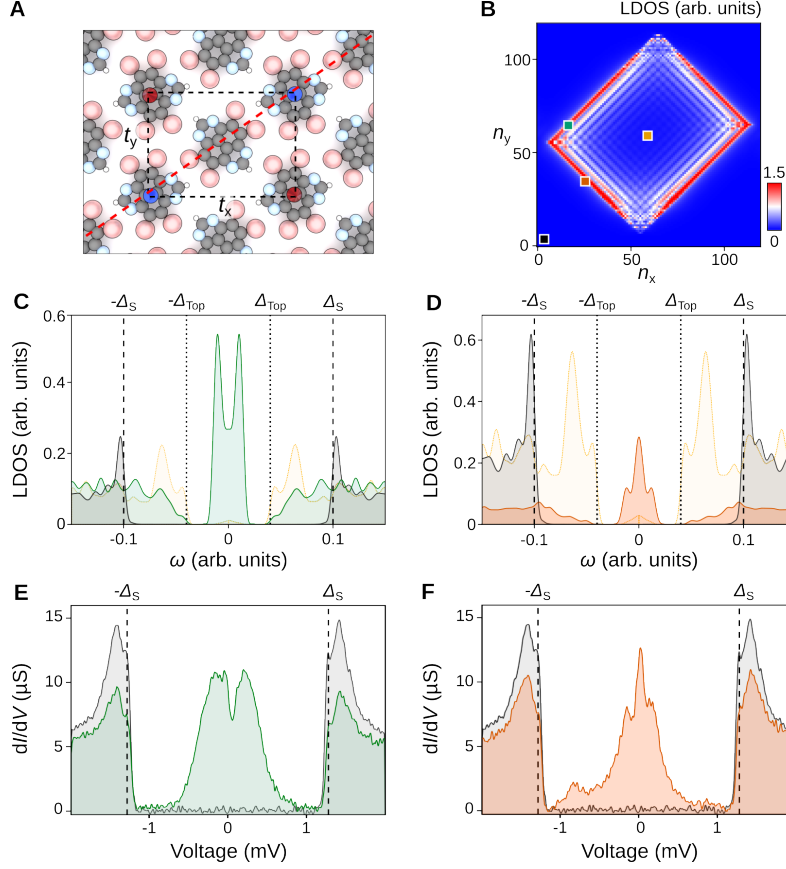
**Fig. 2: Electron superlattice of the supramolecular assembly.** (A), STM image of the molecular assembly ( $V_s = 0.8$  V,  $I_t = 50$  pA). (B), Single-point  $dI/dV$  spectra of  $c$  (blue) and  $n$  (red) molecules. The  $D$  resonance peak corresponds to the tip-induced discharge event (Set-points : 100 pA, -0.8 V, lock-in parameters:  $f = 611$  Hz,  $A_{mod} = 20$  mV). (C)  $dI/dV$  mapping showing discharge rings centered to each molecule of  $c$  rows. (D),  $dI/dV$  cross-section across  $n$ - $c$ - $n$  rows (plain line in A) showing the electron localization. (E),  $dI/dV$  cross-section across five  $TBAP^{\bullet-}$  molecules (dashed line in A). The dashed line corresponds to multiple discharge events ( $e$  is the number of removed charges) induced by tip gating. (F-I), Series of  $dI/dV$  mapping for increasing tip-sample voltage  $V_s$  showing the expansion of the ring diameter and cascade discharge for  $V_s \geq 1.15$  V. Scale bars are 1 nm.



**Fig. 3: Yu-Shiba-Rusinov states of TBATP $\bullet^-$  molecules.** (A), Spin density map of the TBATP $\bullet^-$  molecule on Pb(111) calculated by DFT. (B)  $dI/dV$  map of the TBATP $\bullet^-$  assembly acquired at  $T = 35$  mK with a metallic tip for  $V_s = 1.28$  meV (scale bar is 1 nm, lock-in parameters:  $f = 3.2$  kHz,  $A_{\text{mod}} = 20$   $\mu\text{V}$ ). (C), Exemplary  $dI/dV$  point-spectra of Pb(111) (red) and a neutral TBATP $^0$  (blue). Black curves are three representative spectra of TBATP $\bullet^-$  molecules marked in B. Spectra are shifted by 1  $\mu\text{S}$  for clarity. Pairs of YSR resonances at  $\epsilon_\alpha = \pm 780$   $\mu\text{eV}$ ,  $\epsilon_\beta = \pm 840$   $\mu\text{eV}$  and  $\epsilon_\gamma = \pm 980$   $\mu\text{eV}$  are molecule-dependent along the  $c$  row. The black arrows mark the low-energy modes near  $E_F$ . (D), Zero-energy  $dI/dV$  map showing the spatial distribution of the LEM lines (white dashed lines). (E-F) Series of  $dI/dV$  maps extracted at energies of  $\pm \epsilon_\alpha$ ,  $\pm \epsilon_\beta$  and  $\pm \epsilon_\gamma$ , respectively. (G),  $dI/dV(V,Y)$  cross-section acquired along the red arrow of D. White dotted lines refer to  $\pm \epsilon_\alpha$ ,  $\pm \epsilon_\beta$  and  $\pm \epsilon_\gamma$  energies. Black dashed lines show the superconducting edge  $\pm \Delta$  while black arrows mark the LEM.



**Fig. 4: Tunneling spectroscopy with superconducting tips of the LEM near an edge .** (A),  $dI/dV$  cross-section acquired along seven molecules of a  $c$  row (black line in C) (lock-in parameters:  $f = 611$  Hz,  $A_{\text{mod}} = 25$   $\mu\text{V}$ ). White dotted lines are the  $\epsilon_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}^{\pm}$  energies. Dashed lines correspond to  $\pm (\Delta_T + \Delta_S)$  and  $\pm \Delta_T$ , respectively. (B),  $dI/dV$  spectra extracted at the red, blue and black arrows of A. (C), STM topographic image of an edge and (D-F),  $dI/dV$  maps acquired near the island edge of the LEM wavefunction as compared to the superconducting gap and the  $\epsilon^+$  energy. Scale bar is 1 nm. (G),  $dI/dV$  cross-section across the edge taken along one LEM line (blue dashed line of C). (H),  $dI/dV$  spectra at the blue, red and black arrows of G. The LEM appears as a pair of peaks of equal magnitude at  $\pm \Delta_T$ . (I), Extracted decay length of the LEM wavefunction (blue) as compared to the  $\epsilon^+$  energy (gray) along the blue dashed line of C. The island border is set at  $X = 0$  nm.  $f(x)$  is the theoretical decay length of MZM in a 2D Shiba lattice on superconducting Pb.



**Fig. 5: Comparison of LEM theoretical modeling with experimental data.** (A), Antiferromagnetic spin lattice (dashed) formed by the supramolecular assembly (red, spin up; blue, spin down). The molecular lattice imposes different hopping strengths  $t_x$  and  $t_y$  in  $x$  and  $y$  directions. Red dashed line is the assumed  $45^\circ$ -edge with respect to the molecular lattice. (B), Spatial LDOS map of the lattice at zero energy showing the emergence of edge modes. (C-D), Theoretical LDOS( $\omega$ ) spectra of the LEM extracted at edges (green and orange squares in A) as compared to the pristine Pb spectrum (black) and the spectrum at the center of the island (yellow). Dashed and dotted lines refer to the superconducting ( $\pm \Delta_S$ ) and topological gaps ( $\pm \Delta_{Top}$ ), respectively. (E-F), Experimental  $dI/dV$  spectra of the edge modes acquired at 50 mK with a metallic tip (lock-in parameters:  $f = 3.2$  kHz,  $A_{mod} = 20$   $\mu$ V).