

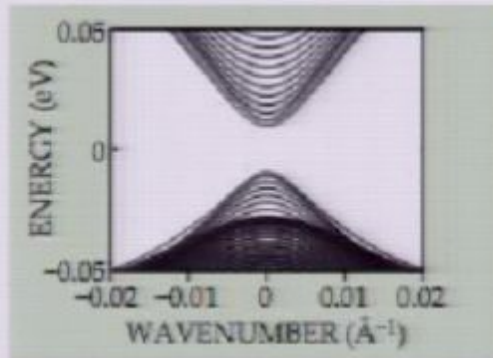
Title: Strange metal from holography

Date: May 28, 2010 11:45 AM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/10050083>

Abstract: This talk is about a class of non-Fermi liquid metals, identified using the AdS/CFT correspondence.

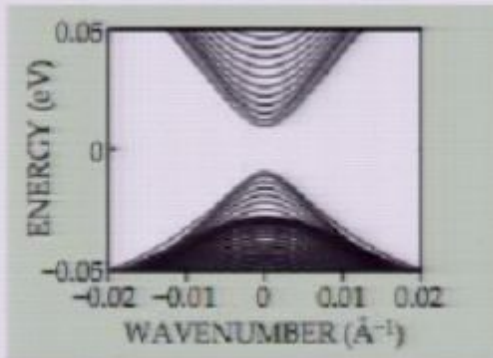
# Slightly subjective musical classification of states of matter



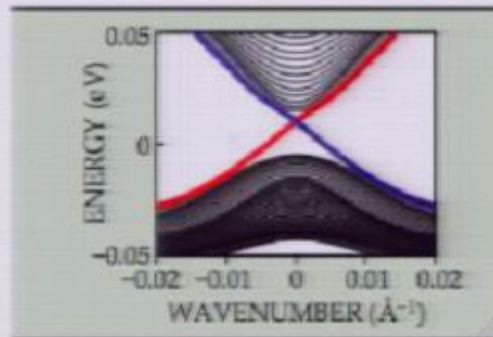
insulator



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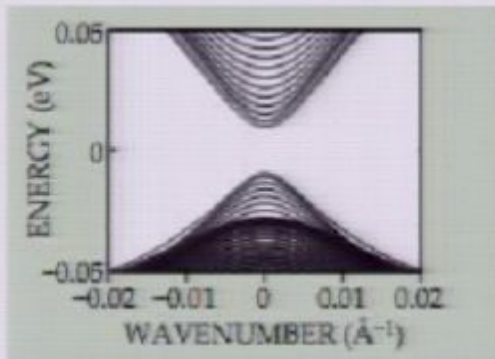
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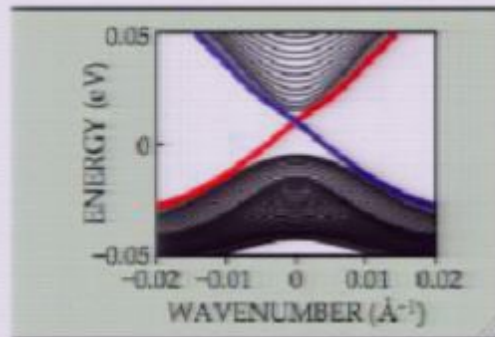
top. insulator



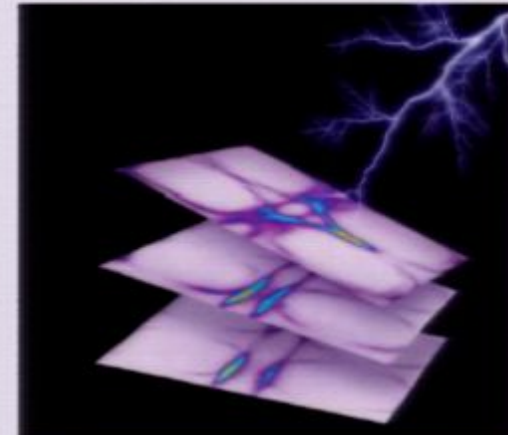
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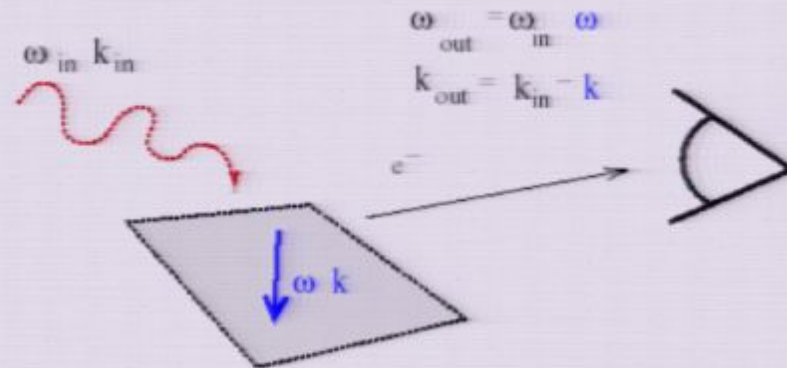
# The standard description of metals

The metallic states that we understand well are described by **Landau's Fermi liquid theory**.

Landau quasiparticles  $\rightarrow$  poles in single-fermion Green function  $G_R$

at  $k_{\perp} \equiv |\vec{k}| - k_F = 0, \omega = \omega_*(k_{\perp}) \sim 0$ : 
$$G_R \sim \frac{Z}{\omega - v_F k_{\perp} + i\Gamma}$$

Measurable by ARPES (angle-resolved photoemission):



Intensity  $\propto$   
spectral density: 
$$A(\omega, k) \equiv \text{Im } G_R(\omega, k) \xrightarrow{k_{\perp} \rightarrow 0} Z \delta(\omega - v_F k_{\perp})$$

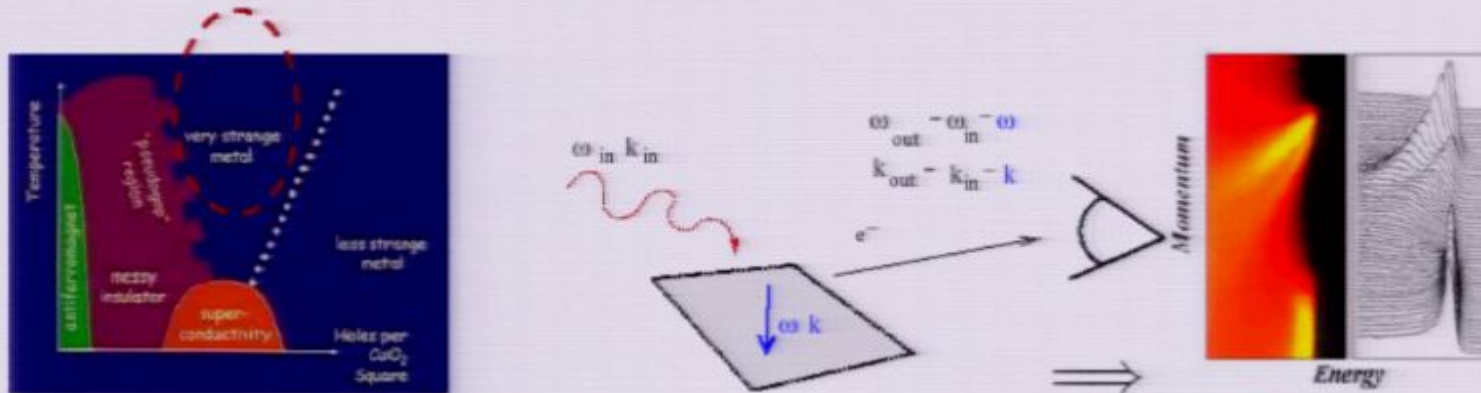
Landau quasiparticles are long-lived: width is  $\Gamma \sim \omega_*^2$ .

residue  $Z$  (overlap with external  $e^-$ ) is finite on Fermi surface.

Reliable calculation of thermodynamics and transport relies on this.

# Non-Fermi liquids exist, but are mysterious

e.g.: 'normal' phase of optimally-doped cuprates: ('strange metal')



among other anomalies: ARPES shows gapless modes at finite  $k$  (FS!)

with width  $\Gamma(\omega_*) \sim \omega_*$ , vanishing residue  $Z \xrightarrow{k_{\perp} \rightarrow 0} 0$ .

Working definition of NFL:

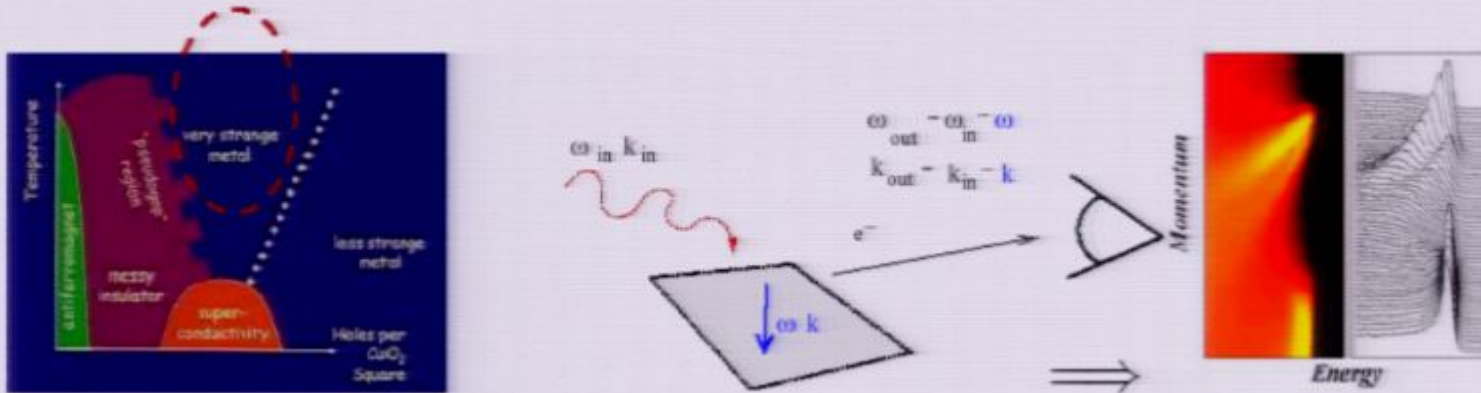
Still a sharp Fermi surface (nonanalyticity of  $A(\omega \sim 0, k \sim k_F)$ )  
but no long-lived quasiparticles.

[Anderson, Senthil] 'critical fermi surface'



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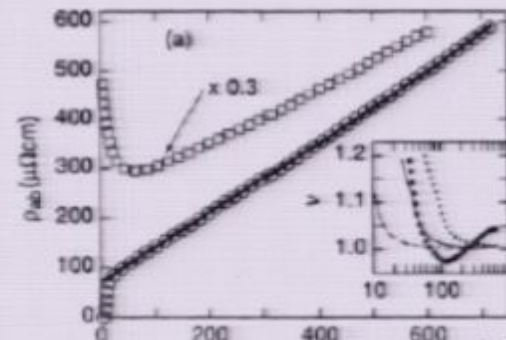
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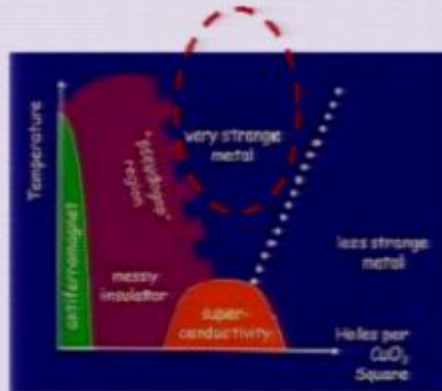
Most prominent mystery of the strange metal phase:

no scattering:  $\rho \sim T^2$ , e-phonon:  $\rho \sim T^5$ ,

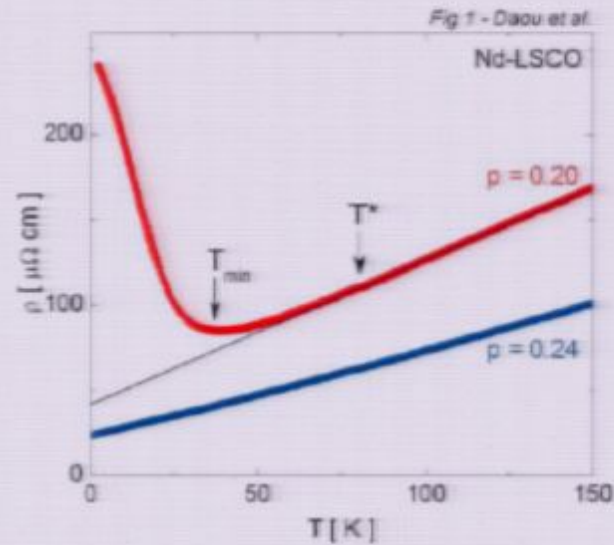
no known robust effective theory:  $\rho \sim T$



# Superconductivity is a distraction



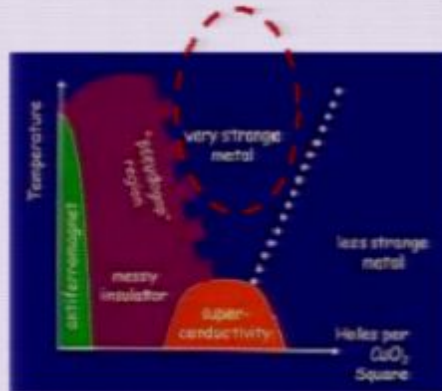
Look 'behind' superconducting dome by turning on magnetic field:



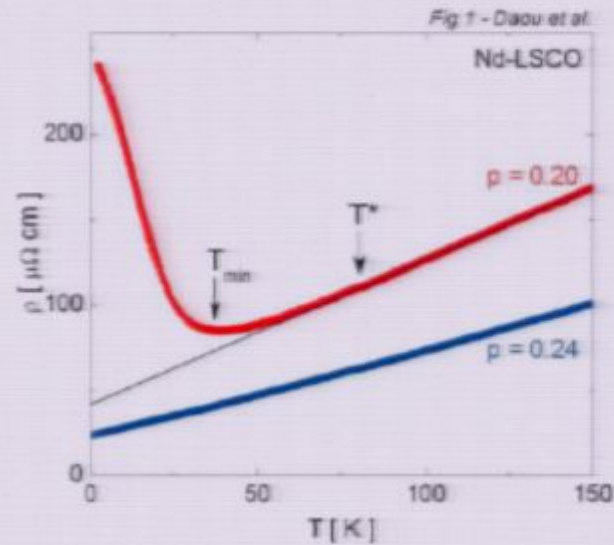
Strange metal persists to  $T \sim 0$ .



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# Theoretical status of NFL

- Luttinger liquid (1+1-d)  $G(k, \omega) \sim (k - \omega)^{2g}$  ✓

- loophole in RG argument:

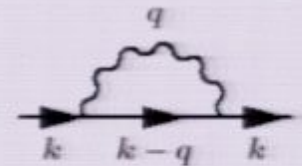
couple a Landau FL **perturbatively** to a gapless bosonic mode (magnetic photon, slave-boson gauge field, statistical gauge field, ferromagnetism, SDW, Pomeranchuk order parameter...)

[Holstein et al, Baym et al, .... Halperin-Lee-Read,

Polchinski, Altshuler-Ioffe-Millis, Nayak-Wilczek, Schafer-Schwenzer, Chubukov et al,

Y-B Kim et al, Fradkin et al, Lawler et al, Metzner et al, S-S Lee, Metlitski-Sachdev, Mross et al]

→ nonanalytic behavior in  $G^R(\omega) \equiv \frac{1}{v_F k_{\perp} + \Sigma(\omega, k)}$  at FS:



$$\Sigma(\omega) \sim \begin{cases} \omega^{2/3} & d = 2 + 1 \\ \omega \log \omega & d = 3 + 1 \end{cases} \implies Z^{k_{\perp} \rightarrow 0} \neq 0, \quad \frac{\Gamma(k_{\perp})}{\omega_{*}(k_{\perp})} \xrightarrow{k_{\perp} \rightarrow 0} \text{const}$$

These NFLs are **not** strange metals in terms of transport.

**FL killed by gapless boson:** small-angle scattering dominates  $\implies$

(forward scattering does not degrade current)

'transport lifetime'  $\neq$  'single-particle lifetime'

i.e. in models with  $\Gamma(\omega_{*}) \sim \omega_{*}, \rho \sim T^{\alpha > 1}$ .

## Can string theory be useful here?

It would be valuable to have a non-perturbative description of such states in more than one dimension.

### Gravity dual?

Certain strongly-coupled many body systems can be solved using an auxiliary theory of gravity in extra dimensions.

We're not going to look for a gravity dual of the whole material  
or of the Hubbard model.

Rather: lessons for principles of "non-Fermi liquid".



# Lightning review of holographic duality

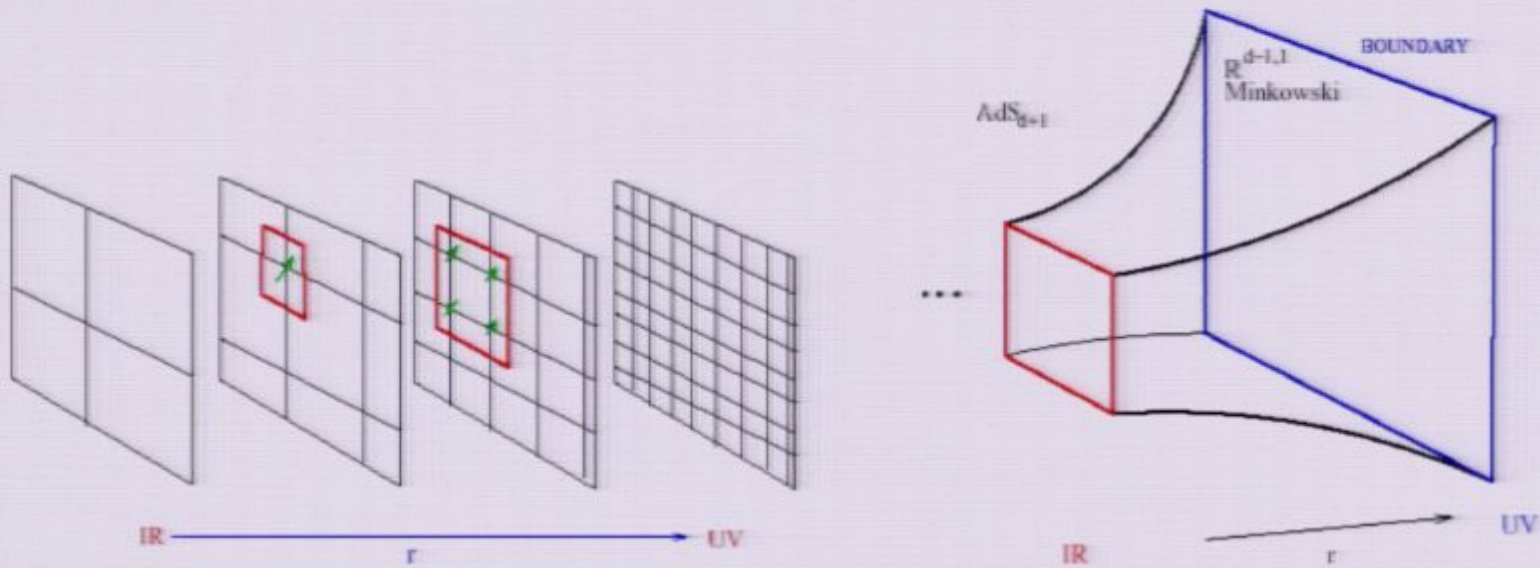
# Holographic duality (AdS/CFT)

[Maldacena; Witten; Gubser-Klebanov-Polyakov]

gravity in  $AdS_{d+1} = d$ -dimensional Conformal Field Theory  
(many generalizations, CFT is best-understood.)

$$AdS : ds^2 = \frac{r^2}{R^2} (-dt^2 + d\vec{x}^2) + R^2 \frac{dr^2}{r^2}$$

isometries of  $AdS_{d+1} \leftrightarrow$  conformal symmetry



The extra ('radial') dimension is the resolution scale.

(The bulk picture is a hologram.)

when is it useful?

$$Z_{QFT}[\text{sources}] = Z_{\text{quantum gravity}}[\text{boundary conditions at } r \rightarrow \infty] \\ \approx e^{-N^2 S_{\text{bulk}}[\text{boundary conditions at } r \rightarrow \infty]} \Big|_{\text{extremum of } S_{\text{bulk}}}$$

classical gravity (sharp saddle)  $\Leftrightarrow$  many degrees of freedom per point,  $N^2 \gg 1$

fields in  $AdS_{d+1}$   $\Leftrightarrow$  operators in CFT  
mass  $\Leftrightarrow$  scaling dimension

boundary conditions on bulk fields  $\Leftrightarrow$  couplings in field theory

e.g.: boundary value of bulk metric  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} g_{\mu\nu}$   
= source for stress-energy tensor  $T^{\mu\nu}$

different couplings in bulk action  $\Leftrightarrow$  different field theories

large  $AdS$  radius  $R$   $\Leftrightarrow$  strong coupling of QFT



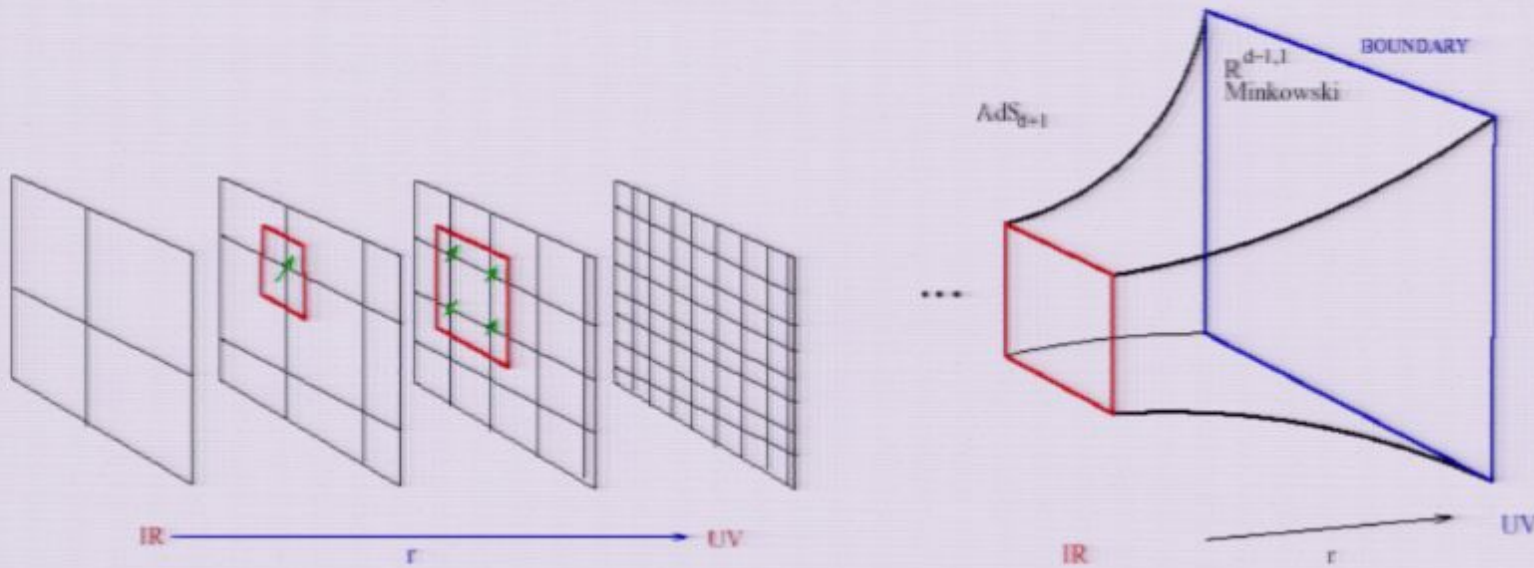
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large  $AdS$  radius  $R$   $\leftrightarrow$  strong coupling of QFT

## confidence-building measures

- ▶ 1. **Many** detailed checks in special examples  
examples: relativistic gauge theories (fields are  $N \times N$  matrices), with extra symmetries (conformal invariance, supersymmetry)  
checks: 'BPS quantities,' integrable techniques, some numerics
- ▶ 2. sensible answers for physics questions  
rediscoveries of known physical phenomena: e.g. color confinement, chiral symmetry breaking, thermo, hydro, thermal screening, entanglement entropy, chiral anomalies, superconductivity, ...  
Gravity limit, when valid, says who are the correct variables.  
Answers questions about thermodynamics, transport, RG flow, ...  
in terms of geometric objects.
- ▶ 3. applications to quark-gluon plasma (QGP)  
benchmark for viscosity, hard probes of medium, approach to equilibrium

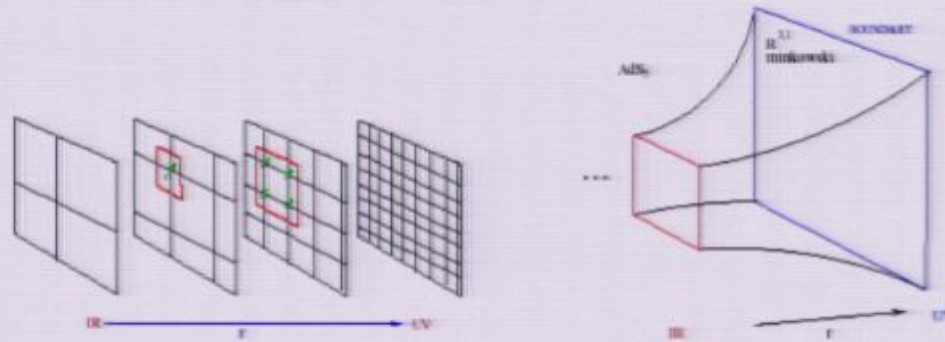


# simple pictures for hard problems, an example

Bulk geometry is a spectrograph separating the theory by energy scales.

$$ds^2 = w(r)^2 (-dt^2 + d\vec{x}^2) + R^2 \frac{dr^2}{r^2}$$

CFT: bulk geometry goes on forever, warp factor  $w(r) = \frac{r}{R} \rightarrow 0$ :

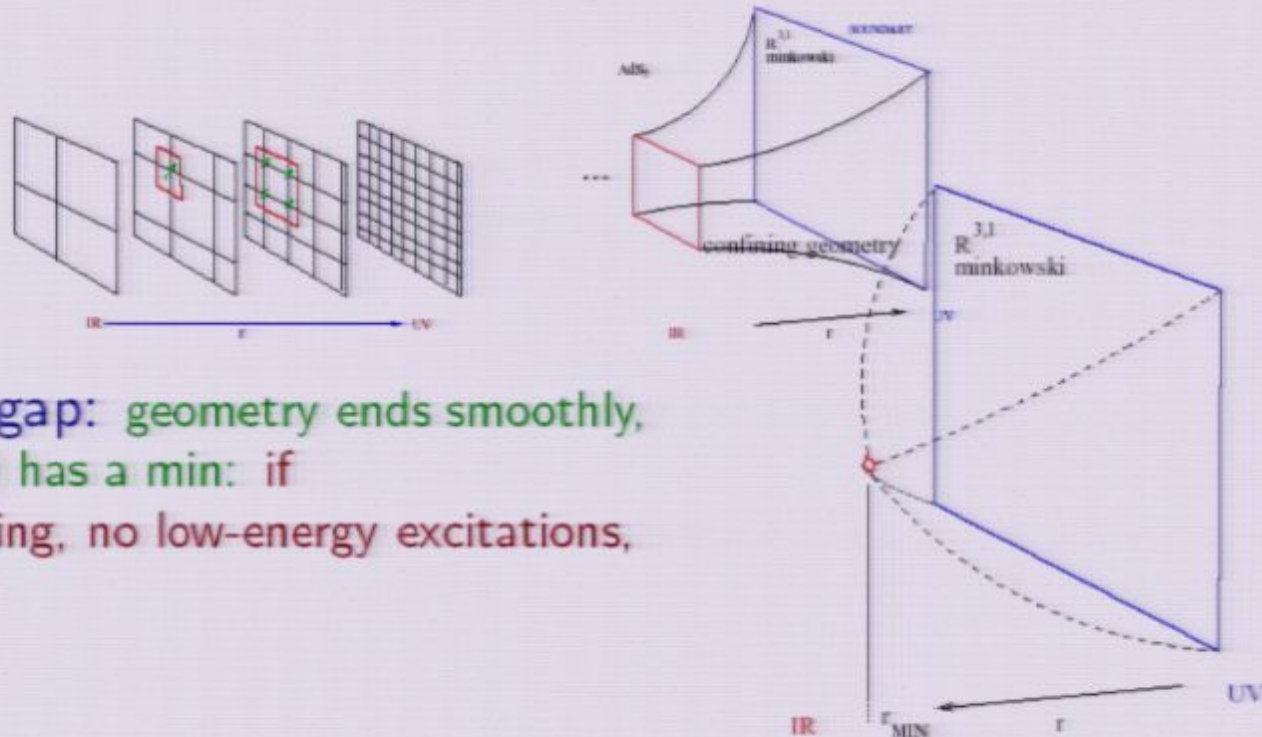


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Model with a gap: geometry ends smoothly,  
warp factor  $w(r)$  has a min: if  
IR region is missing, no low-energy excitations,  
energy gap.

# Strategy to find a holographic Fermi surface

Consider any relativistic CFT with a gravity dual

a conserved  $U(1)$  symmetry      proxy for fermion number       $\rightarrow A_\mu$

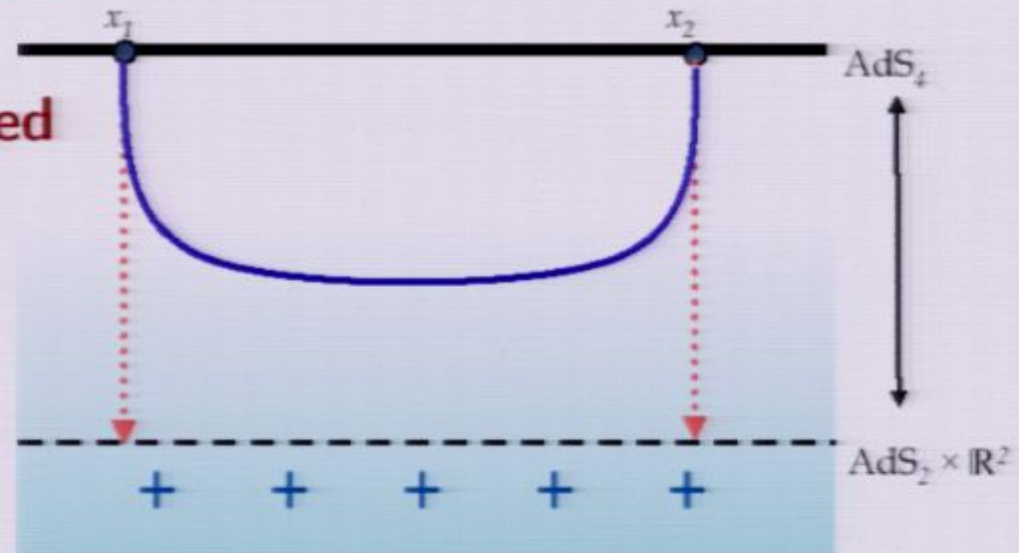
and a charged fermion operator      proxy for bare electrons       $\rightarrow \psi$ .

Any  $d > 1 + 1$ , focus on  $d = 2 + 1$ .

CFT at finite density: **charged**  
black hole (BH) in  $AdS$ .

To find FS: [Sung-Sik Lee 0809.3402]

look for sharp features  
in fermion Green functions  
at finite momentum  
and small frequency.



To compute  $G_R$ : solve Dirac equation in charged BH geometry.



## What we are doing, more precisely

Consider any relativistic  $\text{CFT}_d$  with

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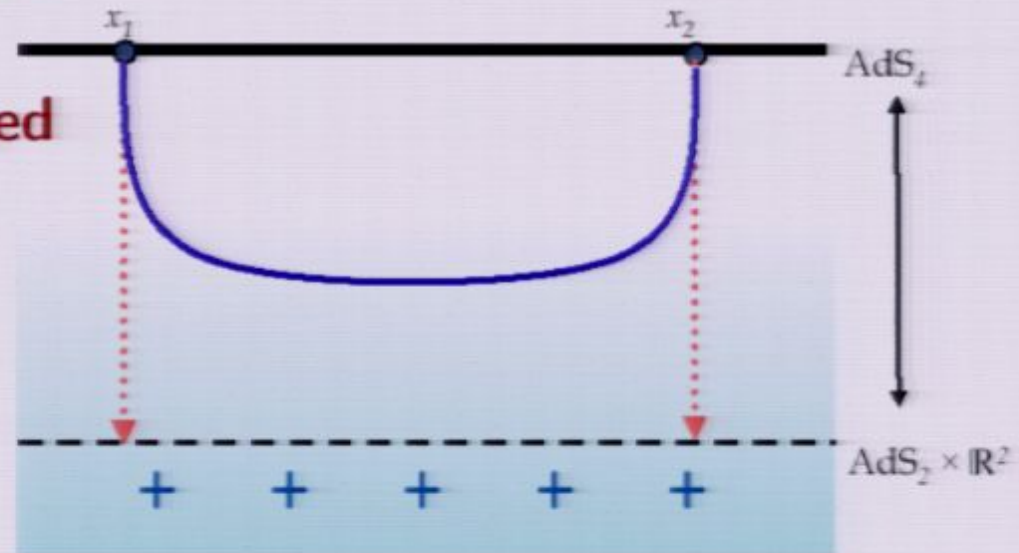
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→ gauge field  $F = dA$  in the bulk.

An ensemble with finite chemical potential for that current is described by the AdS Reissner-Nordstrom black hole:

$$ds^2 = \frac{r^2}{L^2} (-f dt^2 + d\vec{x}^2) + L^2 \frac{dr^2}{r^2 f}, \quad A = \mu \left( 1 - \left( \frac{r_0}{r} \right)^{d-2} \right) dt$$

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with  $D_\mu \psi = \left( \partial_\mu + \frac{1}{4} \omega_\mu \cdot \Gamma - iq A_\mu \right) \psi$  ( $\Delta = \frac{d}{2} \pm mL$ ,  $q = q$ )

'Bulk universality': for two-point functions, the interaction terms don't matter.

Results only depend on  $q, \Delta$ .

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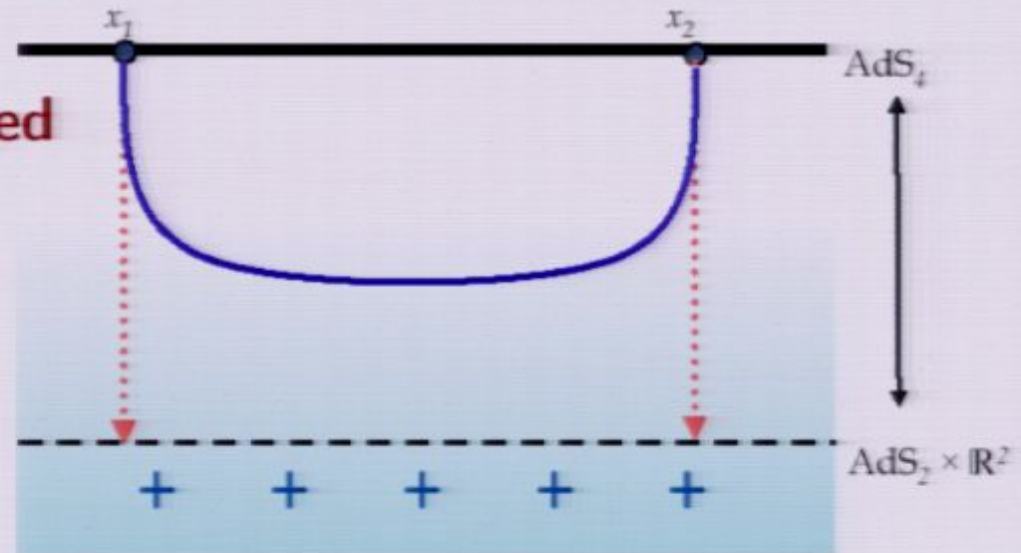
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## Comments about the strategy

- ▶ There are many string theory vacua with these ingredients. In specific examples of dual pairs (e.g. M2-branes  $\leftrightarrow$  M th on  $AdS_4 \times S^7$ ), interactions and  $\{q, m\}$  are specified. Which sets  $\{q, m\}$  are possible and what correlations there are is not clear.
- ▶ This is a large complicated system ( $\rho \sim N^2$ ), of which we are probing a tiny part ( $\rho_\Psi \sim N^0$ ).
- ▶ In general, both bosons and fermions of the dual field theory are charged under the  $U(1)$  current: this is a Bose-Fermi mixture.

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## Computing $G_R$

Translation invariance in  $\vec{x}, t \implies$  ODE in  $r$ .

Rotation invariance:  $k_i = \delta_i^1 k$

Near the boundary, solutions behave as  $(\Gamma^L = -\sigma^3 \otimes \mathbf{1})$

$$\psi \stackrel{r \rightarrow \infty}{\approx} a_\alpha r^m \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + b_\alpha r^{-m} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Matrix of Green's functions, has two independent eigenvalues:

$$G_\alpha(\omega, \vec{k}) = \frac{b_\alpha}{a_\alpha}, \quad \alpha = 1, 2$$

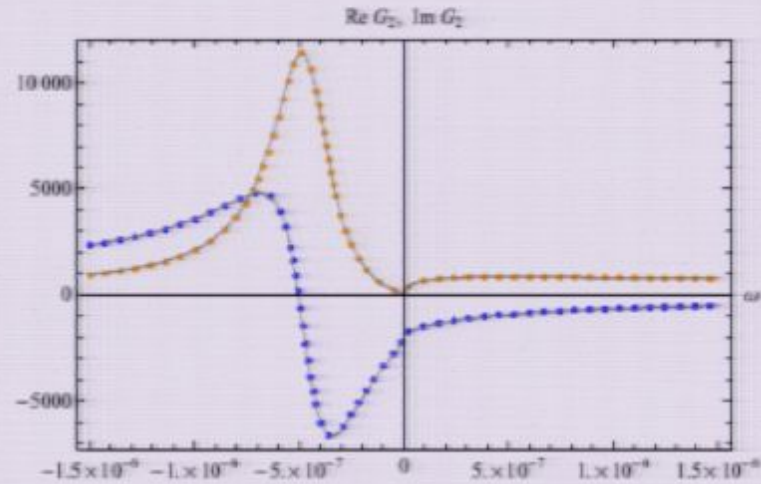
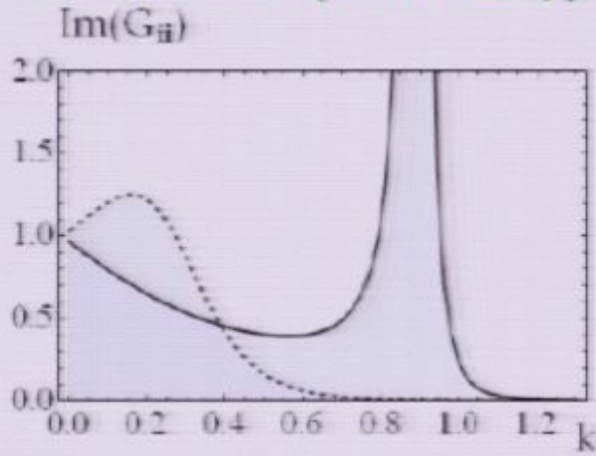
To compute  $G_R$ : solve Dirac equation in BH geometry,  
impose infalling boundary conditions at horizon [Son-Starinets...Iqbal-Liu].

Like retarded response, falling into the BH is something that *happens*.



# Fermi surface!

At  $T = 0$ , we find (numerically):



'MDC':  $G(\omega = -0.001, k)$

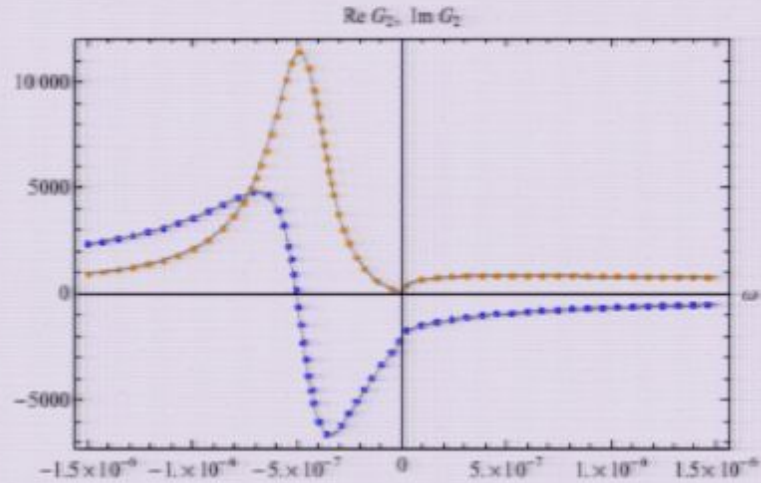
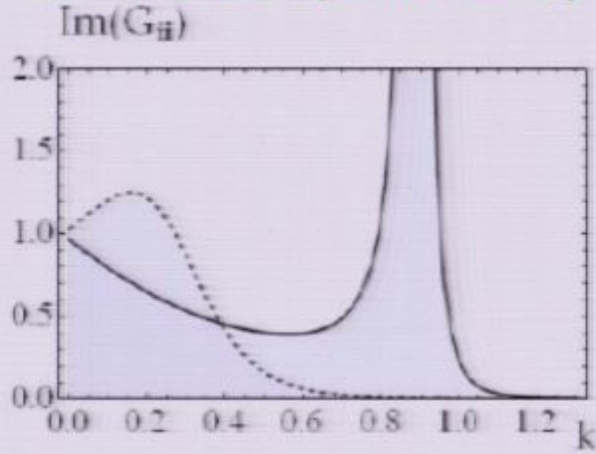
'EDC':

$G(\omega, k = 0.9)$

For  $q = 1, m = 0$ :  $k_F \approx 0.918528499$

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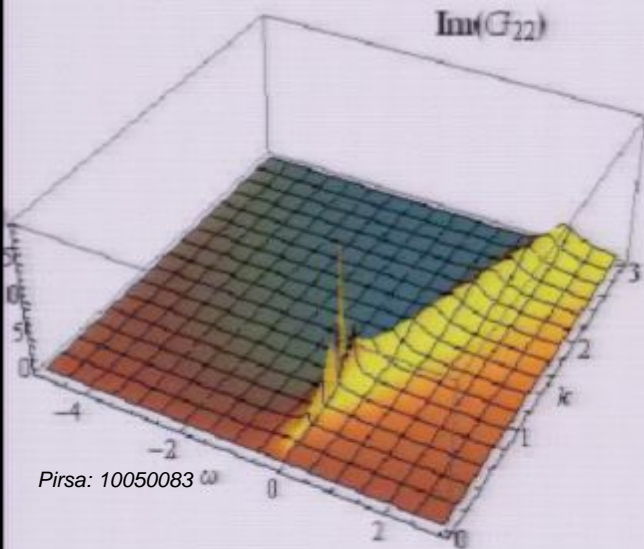


'MDC':  $G(\omega = -0.001, k)$

$G(\omega, k = 0.9)$

For  $q = 1, m = 0$ :  $k_F \approx 0.918528499$

'EDC':



But it's not a Fermi liquid:

The peak moves

with dispersion relation  $\omega \sim k_{\perp}^z$  with

$z = 2.09$  for  $q = 1, \Delta = 3/2$ .

$z = 5.32$  for  $q = 0.6, \Delta = 3/2$

and the residue vanishes.

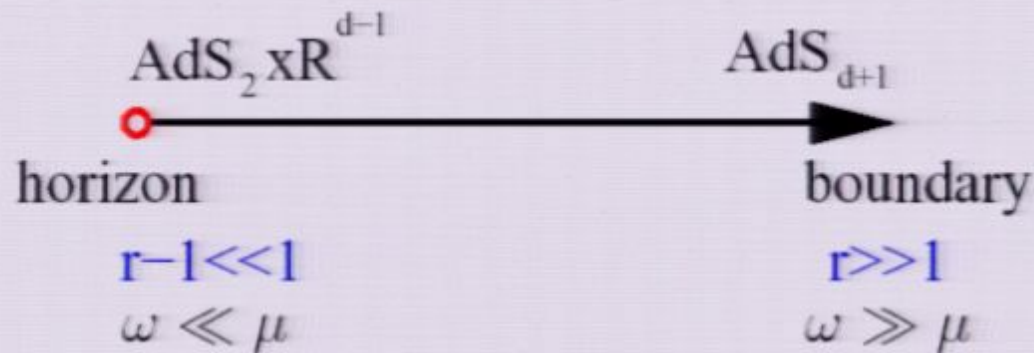
# Emergent quantum criticality

Whence these exponents?

Near-horizon geometry of black hole is  $AdS_2 \times \mathbb{R}^{d-1}$ .

The conformal invariance of this metric is **emergent**.

(We broke the microscopic conformal invariance with finite density.)



$AdS/CFT \implies$  the low-energy physics governed by dual **IR CFT**.

The bulk geometry is a picture of the RG flow from the  $CFT_d$  to this NRCFT.

Idea for analytic understanding of FS behavior:

solve Dirac equation by matched asymptotic expansions.

In the QFT, this is RG matching between UV and IR CFTs.



## Analytic understanding of Fermi surface behavior: results

$$G_R(\omega, k) = \frac{b_+^{(0)} + \omega b_+^{(1)} + O(\omega^2) + \mathcal{G}_k(\omega) \left( b_-^{(0)} + \omega b_-^{(1)} + O(\omega^2) \right)}{a_+^{(0)} + \omega a_+^{(1)} + O(\omega^2) + \mathcal{G}_k(\omega) \left( a_-^{(0)} + \omega a_-^{(1)} + O(\omega^2) \right)}$$

The location of the Fermi surface ( $a_+^{(0)}(k = k_F) = 0$ ) is determined by short-distance physics (analogous to band structure –

$a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  from normalizable sol'n of  $\omega = 0$  Dirac equation in full BH)

but the low-frequency scaling behavior near the FS is universal

(determined by near-horizon region – IR CFT  $\mathcal{G}$ ).

$\mathcal{G} = c(k)\omega^{2\nu}$  is the retarded  $G_R$  of the op to which  $\mathcal{O}_F$  matches.

its scaling dimension is  $\nu + \frac{1}{2}$ , with (for  $d = 2 + 1$ )

$$\nu \equiv L_2 \sqrt{m^2 + k^2 - q^2/2}$$

$L_2$  is the 'AdS radius' of the IR  $AdS_2$ .

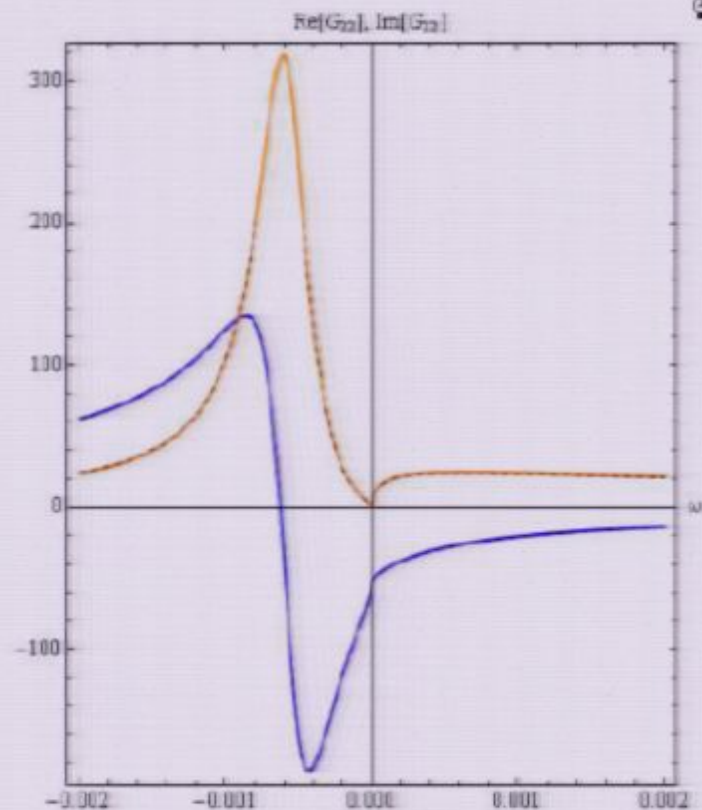
# Consequences for Fermi surface

$$G_R(\omega, k) = \frac{h_1}{k_{\perp} - \frac{1}{v_F}\omega - h_2 c(k)\omega^{2\nu_{k_F}}}$$

$h_{1,2}, v_F$  real, UV data.

The AdS<sub>2</sub> Green's function

is the self-energy  $\Sigma = \mathcal{G} = c(k)\omega^{2\nu}$  !



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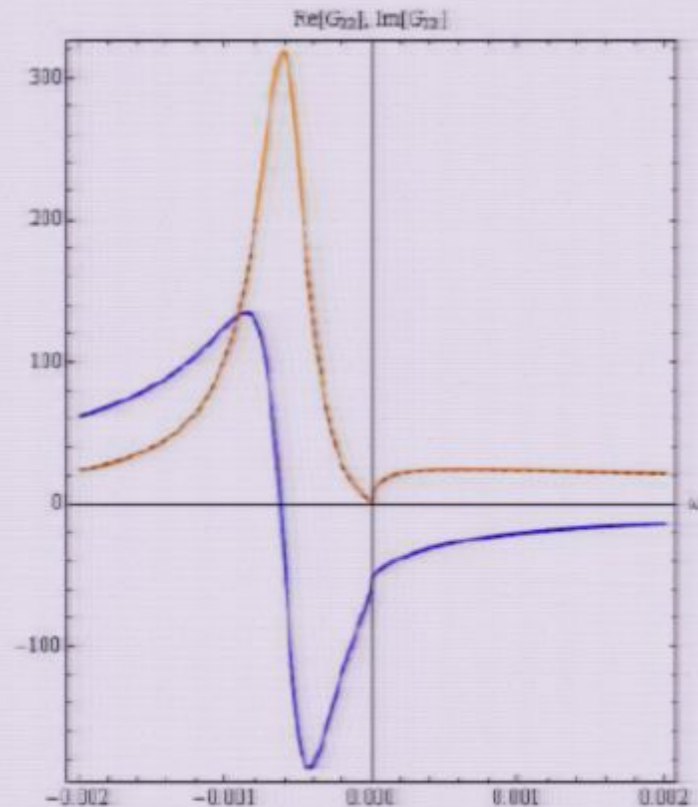
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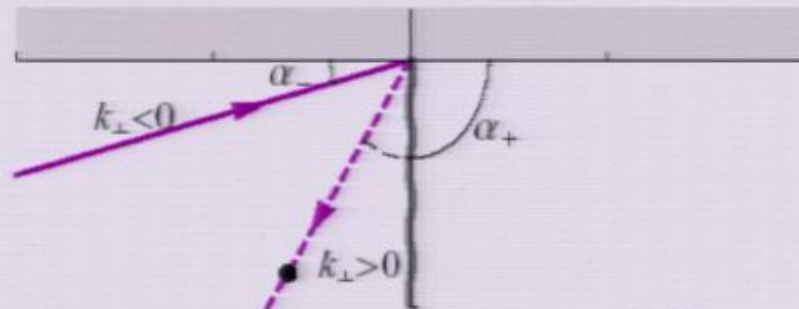


Correctly fits numerics near FS:

$\nu < \frac{1}{2}$ : non-Fermi liquid

$$G_R(\omega, k) = \frac{h_1}{k_{\perp} - \frac{1}{v_F}\omega - c\omega^{2\nu_{kF}}}$$

if  $\nu_{kF} < \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\omega_*(k) \sim k_{\perp}^z$ ,  $z = \frac{1}{2\nu_{kF}} > 1$



$$\frac{\Gamma(k)}{\omega_*(k)} \xrightarrow{k_{\perp} \rightarrow 0} \text{const}, \quad Z \propto k_{\perp}^{\frac{1-2\nu_{kF}}{2\nu_{kF}}} \xrightarrow{k_{\perp} \rightarrow 0} 0.$$

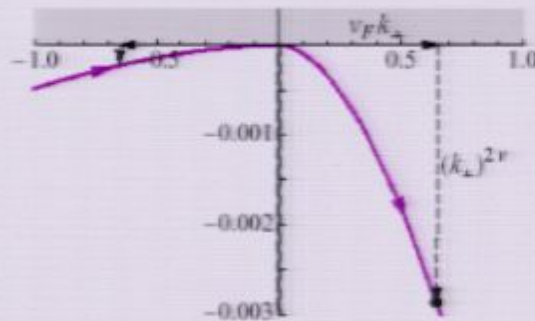
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$c$  is complex.



$$\frac{\Gamma(k)}{\omega_*(k)} \propto k_{\perp}^{2\nu_{k_F}-1} \begin{matrix} k_{\perp} \rightarrow 0 \\ \rightarrow 0 \end{matrix} \quad Z \begin{matrix} k_{\perp} \rightarrow 0 \\ \rightarrow 0 \end{matrix} h_1 v_F.$$

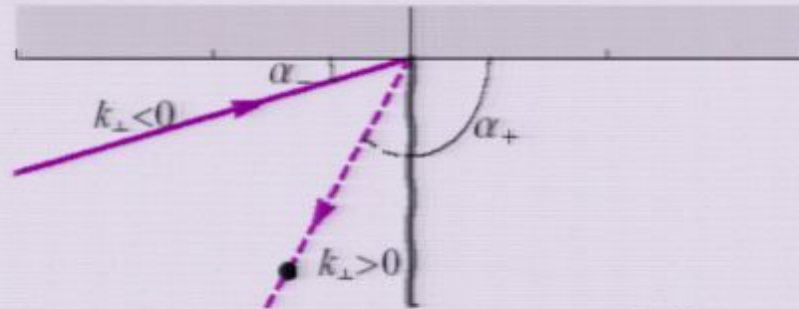
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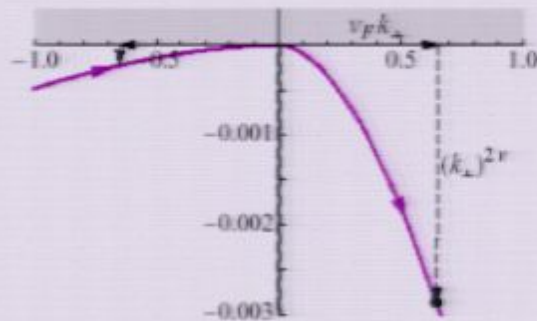
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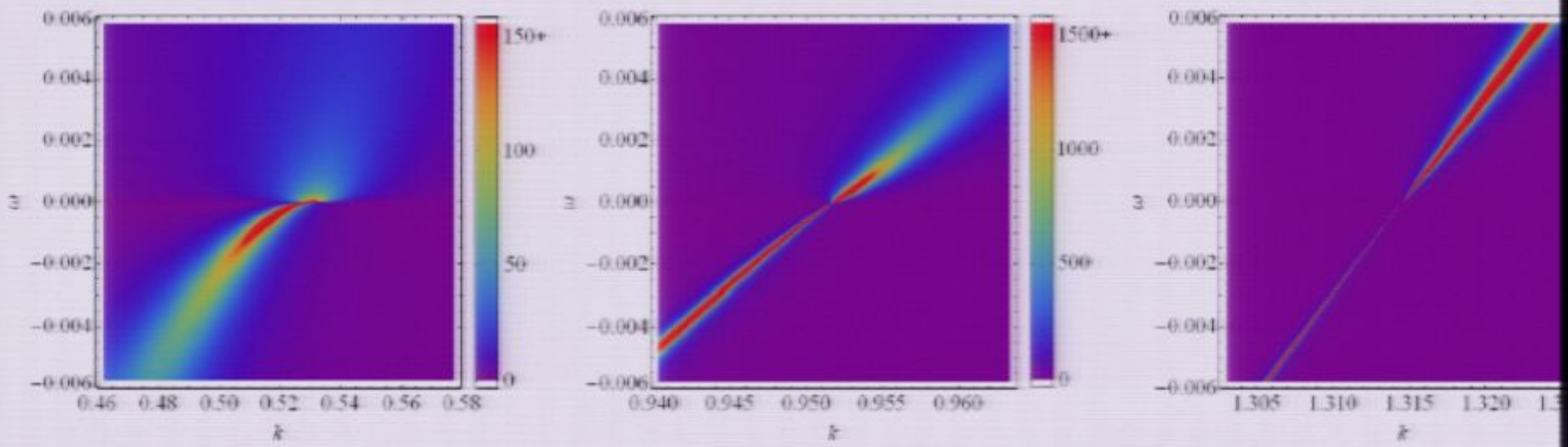
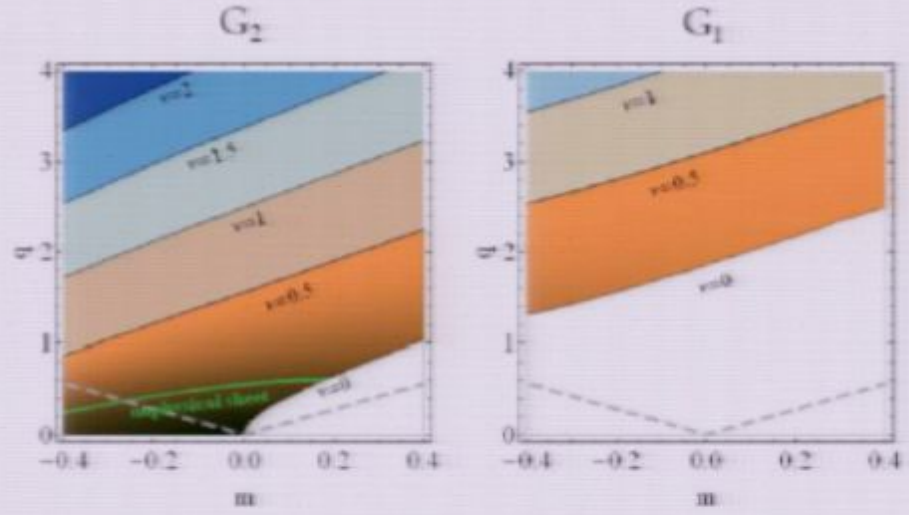


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A stable quasiparticle, but never **Landau** Fermi liquid.

# Summary of spectral properties

Depending on the dimension of the operator  $(\nu + \frac{1}{2})$  in the IR CFT, we find Fermi liquid behavior (but not Landau) or non-Fermi liquid behavior:



$$\nu < \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\nu = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\nu > \frac{1}{2}$$

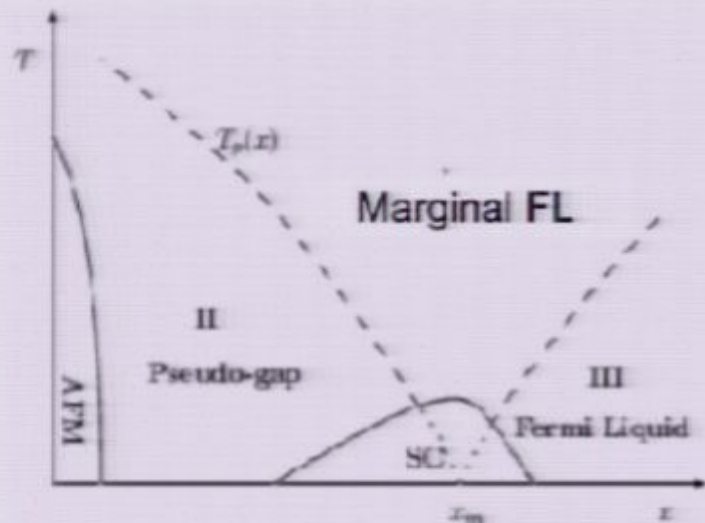


$\nu = \frac{1}{2}$ : Marginal Fermi liquid

$$G_R \approx \frac{h_1}{k_{\perp} + \tilde{c}_1 \omega \ln \omega + c_1 \omega}, \quad \tilde{c}_1 \in \mathbb{R}, \quad c_1 \in \mathbb{C}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma(k)}{\omega_*(k)} \xrightarrow{k_{\perp} \rightarrow 0} \text{const}, \quad Z \sim \frac{1}{|\ln \omega_*|} \xrightarrow{k_{\perp} \rightarrow 0} 0.$$

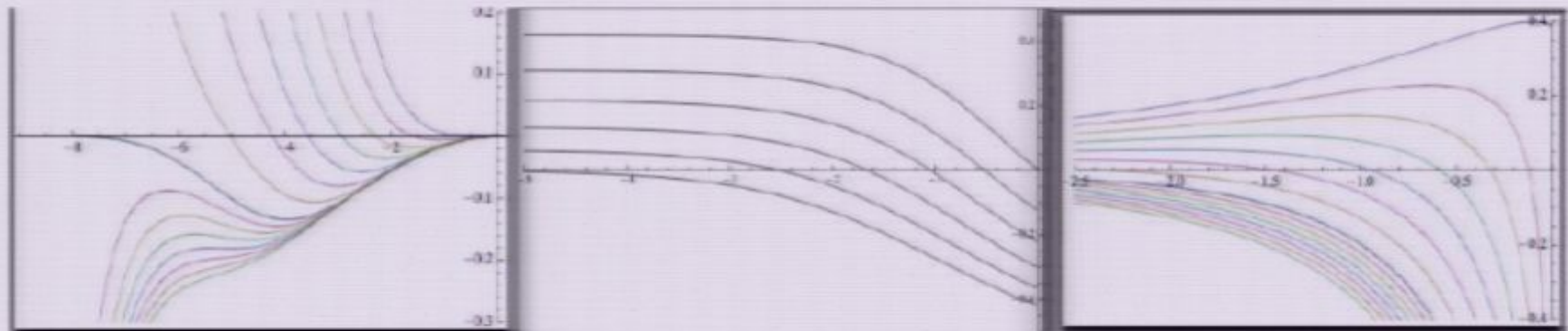
A well-named **phenomenological** model of high- $T_c$  cuprates near optimal doping



[Varma et al, 1989].

## UV data: where are the Fermi surfaces?

Above we supposed  $a(k_F)_+^{(0)} = 0$ . This happens at  $k_F$ :  $k$  s.t.  $\exists$  normalizable, incoming solution at  $\omega = 0$ :  
The black hole can acquire 'inhomogenous fermionic hair'.



Schrodinger potential  $V(\tau)/k^2$  at  $\omega = 0$  for  $m < 0, m = 0, m > 0$ .

$\tau$  is the tortoise coordinate    Right ( $\tau = 0$ ) is boundary; left is horizon.

$k > qe_d$ : Potential is always positive

$k < k_{osc} \equiv \sqrt{(qe_d)^2 - m^2}$ : near the horizon  $V(x) = \frac{\alpha}{\tau^2}$ , with

$\alpha < -\frac{1}{4}$  ("oscillatory region")

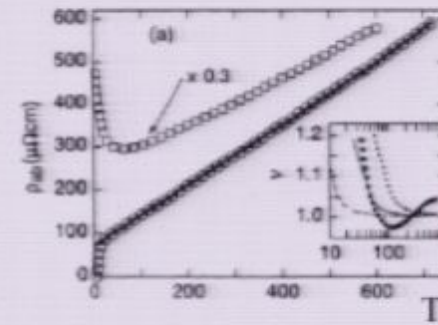
$k \in (qe_d, k_{osc})$ : the potential develops a potential well, indicating possible existence of a zero energy bound state.

# Charge transport

Most prominent mystery  
of strange metal phase:  $\sigma_{DC} \sim T^{-1}$

$$(j = \sigma E)$$

e-e scattering:  $\sigma \sim T^{-2}$ , e-phonon scattering:  $\sigma \sim T^{-5}$ , **nothing**:  $\sigma \sim T^{-1}$





# Charge transport

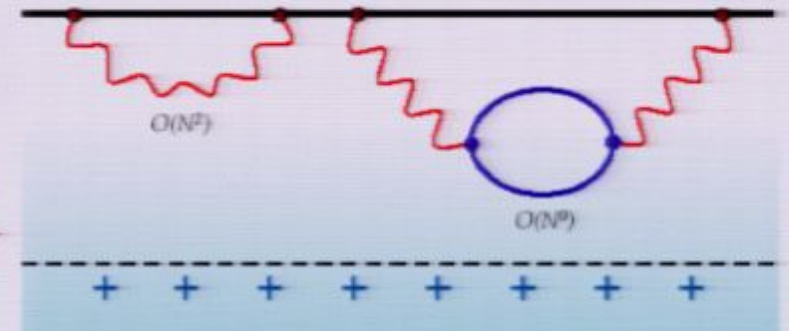
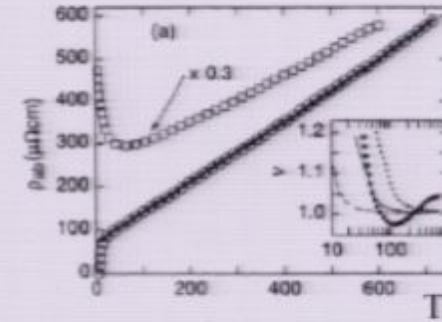
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We can compute the contribution to the conductivity from the Fermi surface. [Faulkner, Iqbal, Liu, JM, Vegh]

Note: this is not the dominant contribution. →



$$\sigma_{\text{DC}} = \lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \text{Im} \frac{1}{\omega} \langle j^x j^x \rangle (\omega, \vec{0}) \sim N^2 \frac{T^2}{\mu^2} + N^0 (\sigma_{\text{DC}}^{\text{FS}} + \dots)$$

## Charge transport by holographic non-Fermi liquids

**slight complication:** gauge field  $a_x$  mixes with metric perturbations.

There's a big charge density. Pulling on it with  $\vec{E}$  leads to momentum flow.

# Charge transport by holographic non-Fermi liquids

Like Fermi liquid calculation,  $\vec{J} \sim i\psi^\dagger \vec{\nabla} \psi$

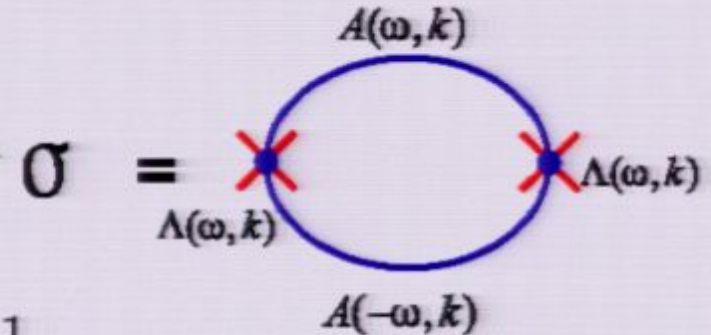
but with extra integrals over  $r$ , and no vertex corrections.

$$\sigma_{\text{DC}}^{\text{FS}} = C \int_0^\infty dk k \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \frac{df}{d\omega} \Lambda^2(k, \omega) A^2(\omega, k)$$

$f(\omega) = \frac{1}{e^{\frac{\omega}{T}} + 1}$ : the Fermi distribution function

$\Lambda$ : an effective vertex, data analogous to  $v_F, h_{1,2}$ .

$$\Lambda \sim q \int_{r_0}^\infty dr \sqrt{g} g^{xx} a_x(r, 0) \frac{\bar{\psi}^b(r) \Gamma^x \psi^b(r)}{W_{ab}} \sim \text{const.}$$

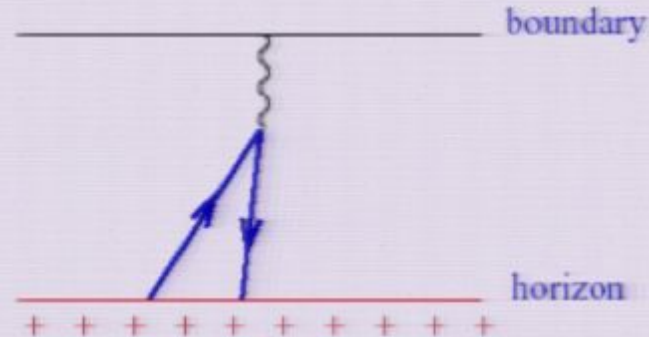
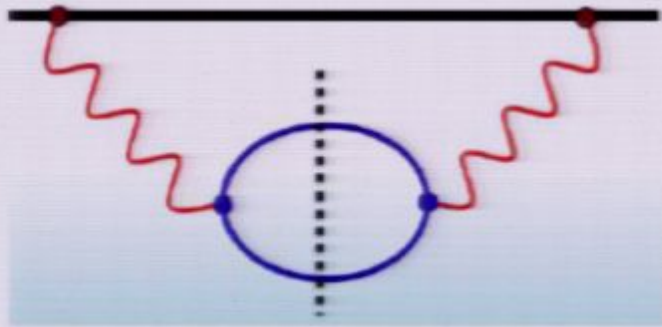


$$\int dk A(k, \omega)^2 \sim \frac{1}{T^{2\nu} g(\omega/T)}$$

scale out  $T$ -dependence  $\implies \sigma^{\text{DC}} \sim T^{-2\nu}$ .



# Dissipation mechanism

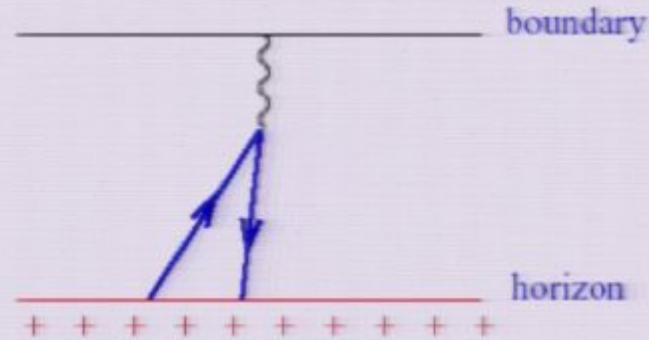
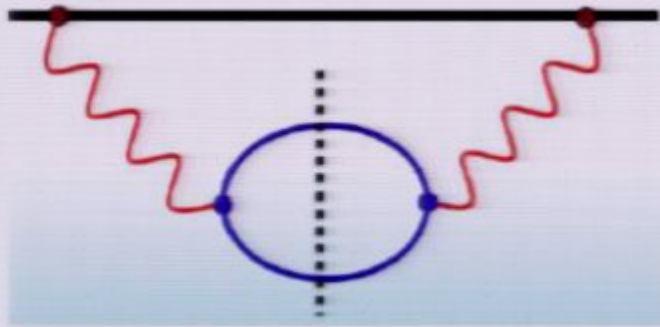


$\sigma_{DC} \propto \text{Im} \langle jj \rangle$  comes from fermions falling into the horizon.  
 dissipation of current is controlled by the decay of the fermions into the  $AdS_2$  DoFs.

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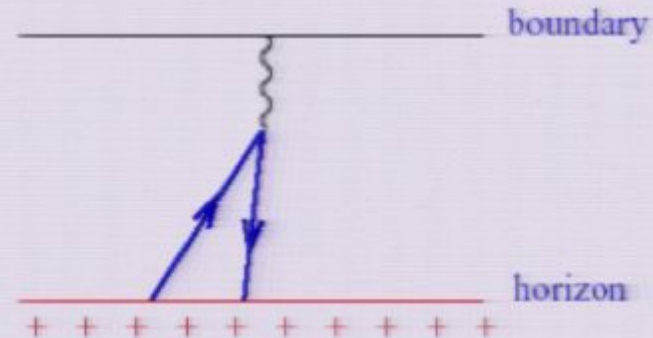
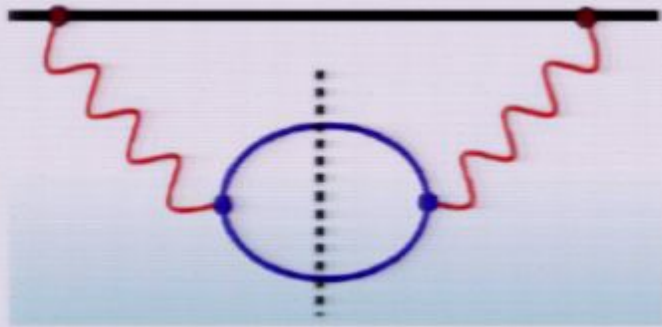
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# Questions regarding the stability of this state

# Charged AdS black holes and frustration

Entropy density of black hole:

$$s(T=0) = \frac{1}{V_{d-1}} \frac{A}{4G_N} = 2\pi e_d \rho. \quad (e_d \equiv \frac{g_F}{\sqrt{2d(d-1)}})$$

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we're describing the state where the SC instability is removed by hand (**here:** don't include charged scalars, **expt:** large  $\vec{B}$ ).

[Hartnoll-Polchinski-Silverstein-Tong, 0912.]: bulk density of fermions modifies extreme near-horizon region (out to  $\delta r \sim e^{-N^2}$ ), removes residual entropy. (Removes non-analyticity in  $\Sigma(\omega)$  for  $\omega < e^{-N^2} \mu$ )



# Stability of the groundstate

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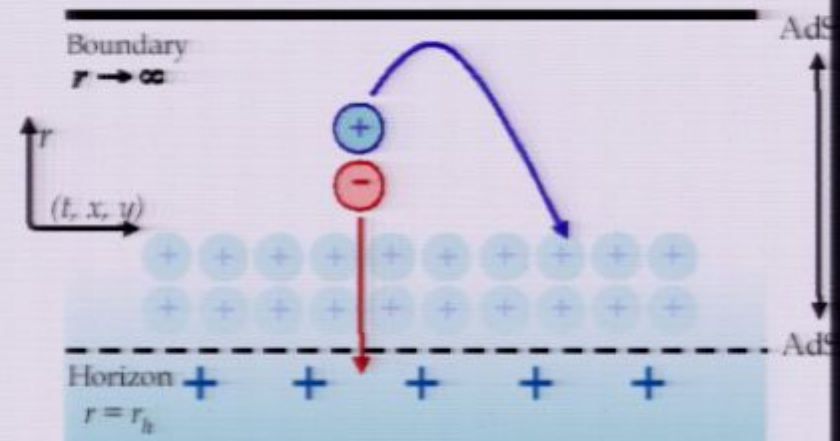
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negative energy states get filled.

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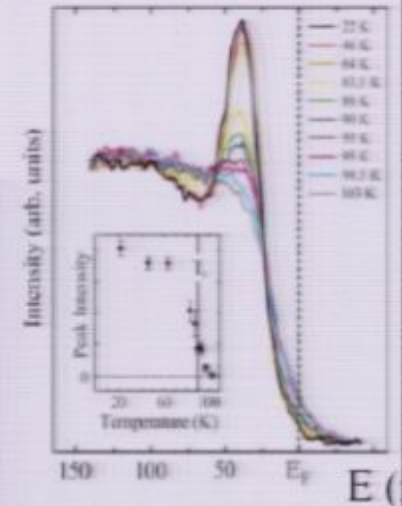
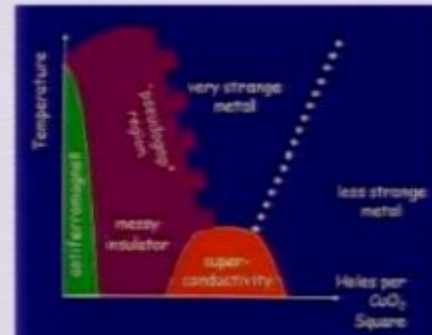
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# Photoemission 'exp'ts' on holographic superconductors

So far: a model of  
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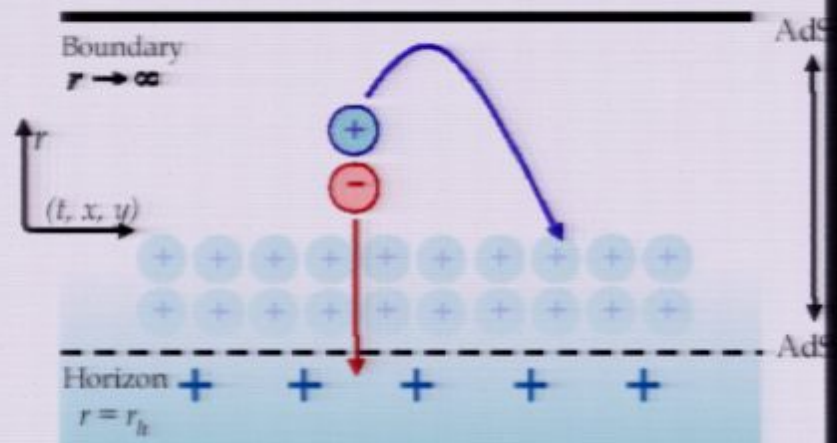
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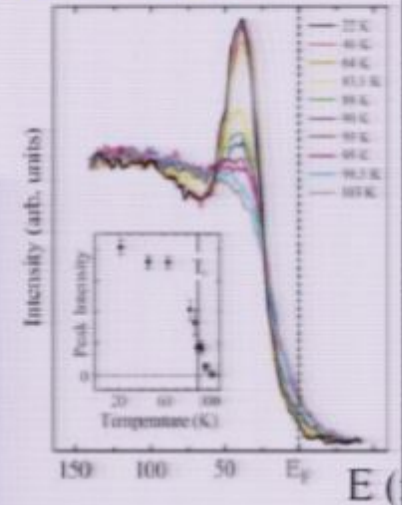
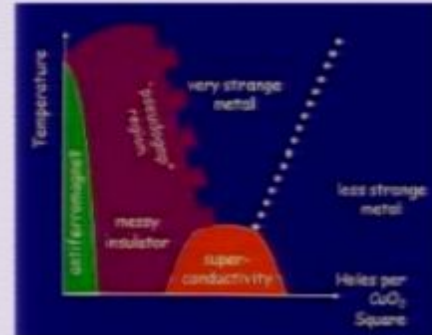




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With a suitable coupling between  $\psi$  and  $\varphi$ ,  
 the superconducting condensate  
 opens a gap in the fermion spectrum.

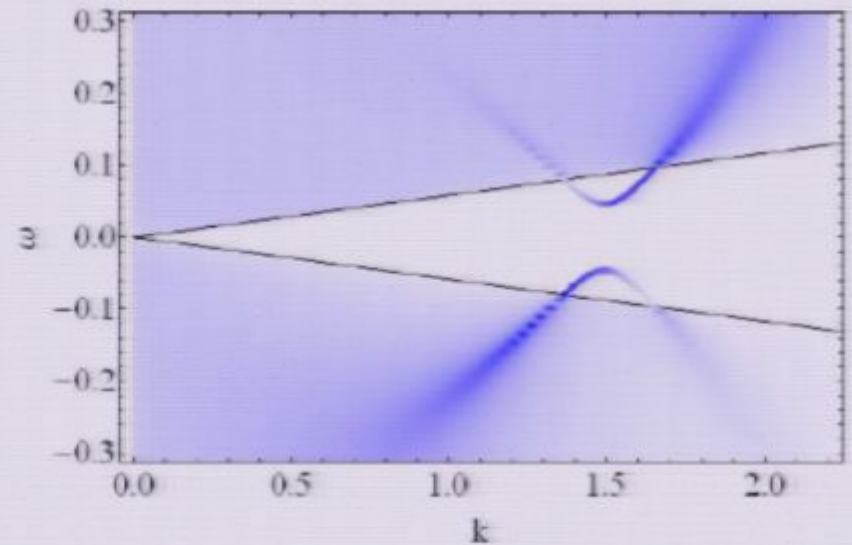
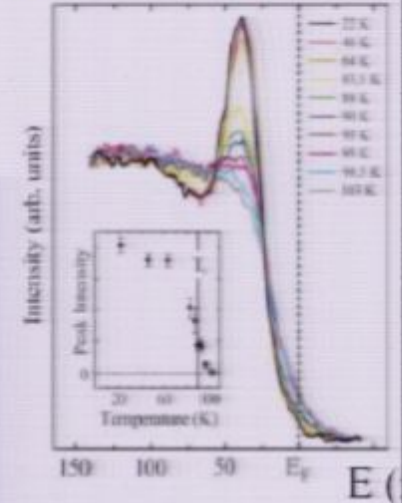
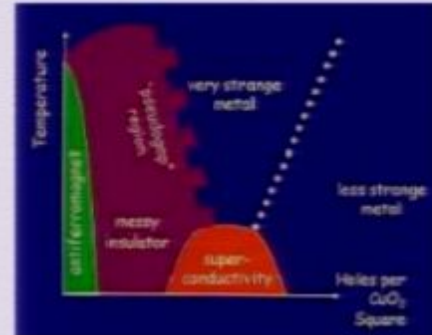
[Faulkner, Horowitz, JM, Roberts, Vegh]

if  $q_\varphi = 2q_\psi$  we can have

$$L_{\text{bulk}} \ni \eta_5 \varphi \bar{\psi} C \Gamma^5 \bar{\psi}^T + \text{h.c}$$

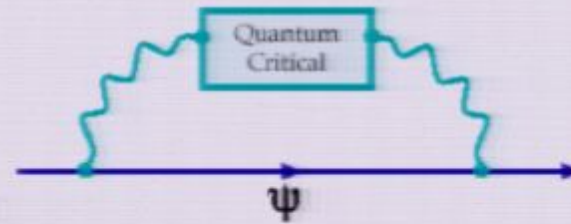
The (gapped) quasiparticles  
 are exactly stable in a certain  
 kinematical regime

(outside the lightcone of the IR CFT) –  
 the condensate lifts the IR CFT modes  
 into which they decay.



# Framework for non-Fermi liquid

a cartoon of the mechanism:



a similar picture has been advocated by [Varma et al]



# Comparison of ways of killing a FL

- a Fermi surface coupled to a critical boson field

$$L = \bar{\psi}(\omega - v_F k)\psi + \bar{\psi}\psi a + L(a)$$

small-angle scattering dominates.

- a Fermi surface **mixing** with a **bath** of critical **fermionic** fluctuations with large dynamical exponent [FLMV 0907.2694, Faulkner-Polchinski

1001.5049, FLMV+Iqbal 1003.1728]

$$L = \bar{\psi}(\omega - v_F k)\psi + \bar{\psi}\chi + \psi\bar{\chi} + \bar{\chi}\mathcal{G}^{-1}\chi$$

$\chi$ : IR CFT operator



$$\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle = \frac{1}{\omega - v_F k - \mathcal{G}} \quad \mathcal{G} = \langle \bar{\chi}\chi \rangle = c(k)\omega^{2\nu}$$

$\nu \leq \frac{1}{2}$ :  $\bar{\psi}\chi$  coupling is a relevant perturbation.

## Concluding remarks

1. The green's function near the FS is of the form ('local quantum criticality', analytic in  $k$ .) found previously in perturbative calculations, but the nonanalyticity can be order one.
2. This is an *input* of many studies. (Dynamical Mean Field Theory)
3. [Denef-Hartnoll-Sachdev, Hartnoll-Hofman] The leading  $N^{-1}$  contribution to the free energy exhibits quantum oscillations in a magnetic field.
4. Main challenge: step away from large  $N$ . So far:
  - Fermi surface is a small part of a big system.
  - Fermi surface does not back-react on IR CFT.
  - IR CFT has  $z = \infty$ .

The end.

Thanks for listening.



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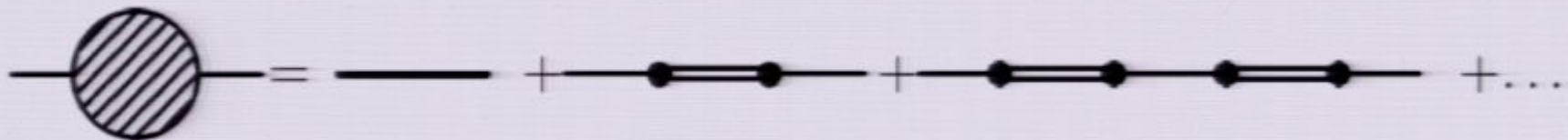
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