

Title: Viscous Electron Fluids: Higher-Than-Ballistic Conduction Negative Nonlocal Resistance and Vortices

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Abstract:

# **Viscous Electron Fluids: Higher-than-Ballistic Conduction, Negative Nonlocal Resistance and Vortices**

Leonid Levitov (MIT)

Low Energy Challenges in High Energy Physics  
Perimeter Institute 08/23/2016



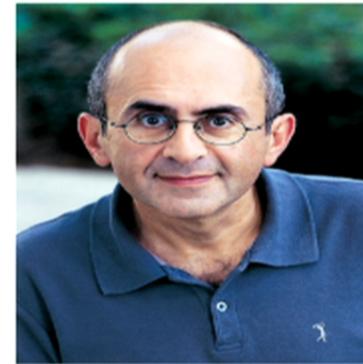
# Collaboration



Haoyu Guo MIT



Andrey Shytov  
Exeter UK



Gregory Falkovich  
WIS Israel



# Is hydrodynamics ever relevant?

- In one-comp fluid or gas a hydrodynamic approach works b/c one has 1) local equilibrium and 2) locally conserved energy and momentum
- All transport properties governed by just 3 quantities: the shear viscosity ( $\eta$ ), the second viscosity ( $\zeta$ ), and the thermal conductivity ( $\kappa$ )



# Is hydrodynamics ever relevant in metals?

- In one-comp fluid or gas a hydrodynamic approach works b/c one has 1) local equilibrium and 2) locally conserved energy and momentum
- All transport properties governed by just 3 quantities: the shear viscosity ( $\eta$ ), the second viscosity ( $\zeta$ ), and the thermal conductivity ( $\kappa$ )
- Electron fluid in a solid can exchange energy and momentum with the lattice. Hydrodynamics not relevant? Not so fast...
- High-mobility electron systems (GaAs 2DES, graphene):
- Non-Fermi liquids, high-Tc superconductors, strange metals

08/16/2016

# Critical electron fluids

- Interactions strong near CP (e.g. enhanced in 2D, graphene)
- Vanishing DOS but long-range interactions, strong coupling
- Fast p-conserving collisions, shear viscosity
- AdS CFT, black holes and **new collective phenomena**



3

VOLUME 56, NUMBER 14

1

## Nonzero-temperature transport near quantum critical points

Kedar Damle and Subir Sachdev

*Department of Physics, P.O. Box 208120, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut 06520-8120*

PRL 94, 111601 (2005)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS



605

## Viscosity in Strongly Interacting Quantum Field Theories from Black Hole E

P. K. Kovtun,<sup>1</sup> D. T. Son,<sup>2</sup> and A. O. Starinets<sup>3</sup>

# Critical electron fluids

- Interactions enhanced in 2D, strong near DP
- Vanishing DOS but long-range interactions, strong coupling
- Fast p-conserving collisions, shear viscosity
- AdS CFT, black holes and new collective phenomena
- Near-perfect fluid: record-low viscosity – how to measure?



025301 (2009)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS



## Graphene: A Nearly Perfect Fluid

Markus Müller,<sup>1</sup> Jörg Schmalian,<sup>2</sup> and Lars Fritz<sup>3</sup>



JULY



01 (2014)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS



5

14

## Corbino Disk Viscometer for 2D Quantum Electron Liquids

Andrea Tomadin,<sup>1,\*</sup> Giovanni Vignale,<sup>2</sup> and Marco Polini<sup>1</sup>

# Carrier collisions vs. disorder scattering in graphene

$\gamma_{ee} \sim (k_B T)^2 / E_F$  in the degenerate limit

Near charge neutrality, the rate  $\gamma_{ee}$  grows

$\gamma_{ee} \approx A\alpha^2 k_B T / \hbar$ , where  $\alpha$  is the interaction strength.

Fritz, L., Schmalian, J., Müller, M. & Sachdev, S. Quantum critical transport in clean graphene. Phys. Rev. B **78**, 085416 (2008). Kashuba, A. B. Conductivity of defectless graphene. Phys. Rev. B 78, 085415 (2008).

$$\gamma_{ee}^{-1} \approx 80 \text{ fs}$$

Disorder scattering can be estimated from mean free path values, which reach a few microns at large doping

$$\gamma_p \propto n^{-1/2} \quad n \lesssim 10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-2}$$

$$\gamma_p^{-1} \sim 0.5 \text{ ps}$$

8/22/16

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8/22/16

# Hydrodynamic description of electron transport

$$\gamma_p \ll \gamma_{ee}$$

Navier-Stokes equation

$$\partial_t v + (v \nabla) v - v \nabla^2 v = -\nabla P / mn$$

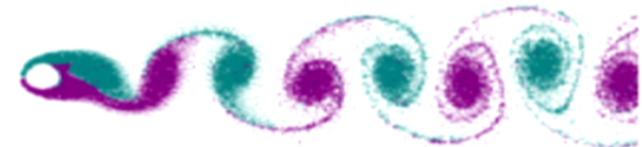
$$v \approx (1/2) v_F^2 \gamma_{ee}^{-1}$$

$$v_{el} \approx 0.1 \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1} \gg v_{honey} \approx 0.002 - 0.005 \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$P = e \int_{n_0}^n \Phi(n') dn'$$

Reynolds number  $Re = vL/\nu$

Laminar flows (low Re), turbulent flows (high-Re)



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8/22/16



# Signatures of viscous flows

- T-dependent scattering time  $\tau_{ee} \sim E_F/T^2$
- Sample width  $w \ll l_{ee}$  (low T) Knudsen-Fuchs regime
- $w \gg l_{ee}$  (higher T) Poiseuille-Gurzhi regime
- Control value  $\tau_{ee}$  by current
- Gurzhi effect: p-relaxation slows down due to diffusion
- $R = dV/dI$  vs. I first grows then decreases



w  
↓

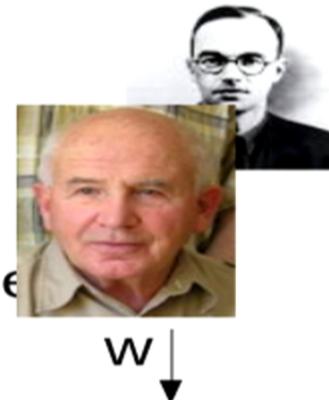


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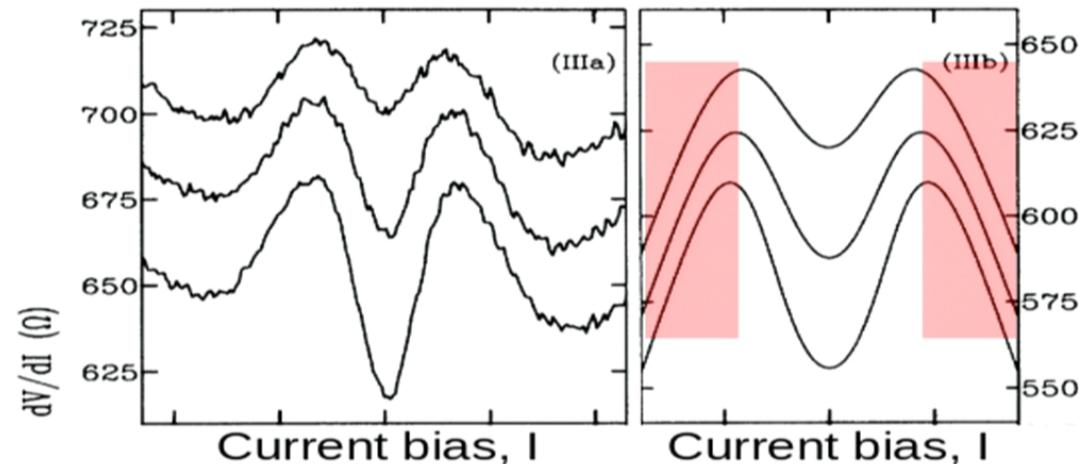
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Tested in ballistic wires  
de Jong & Molenkamp  
1995

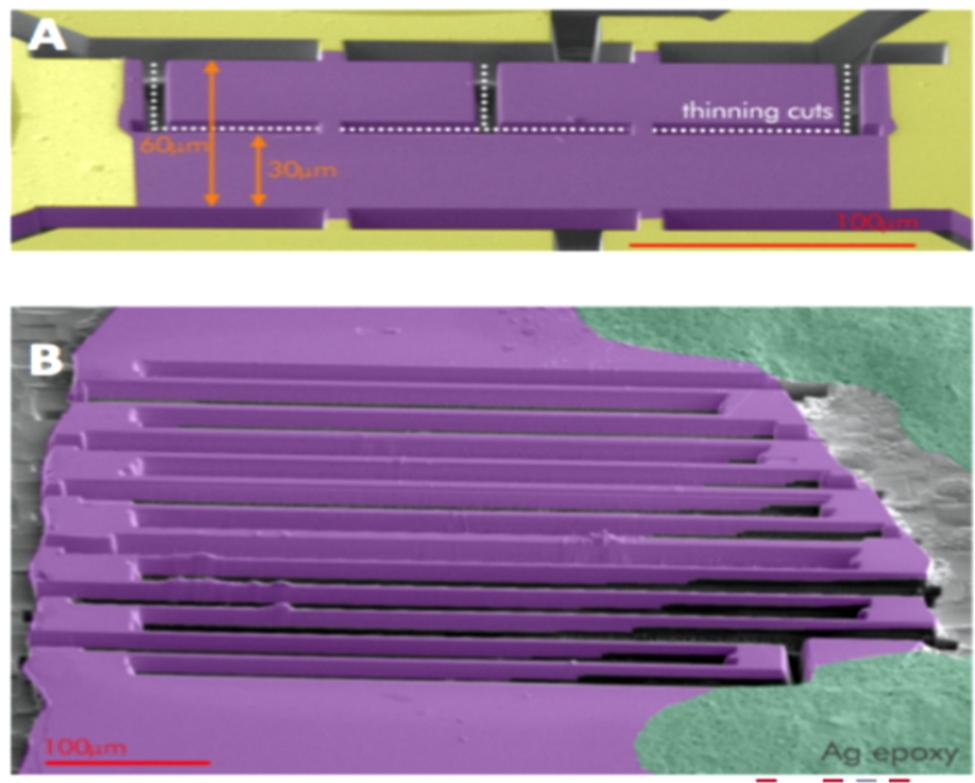
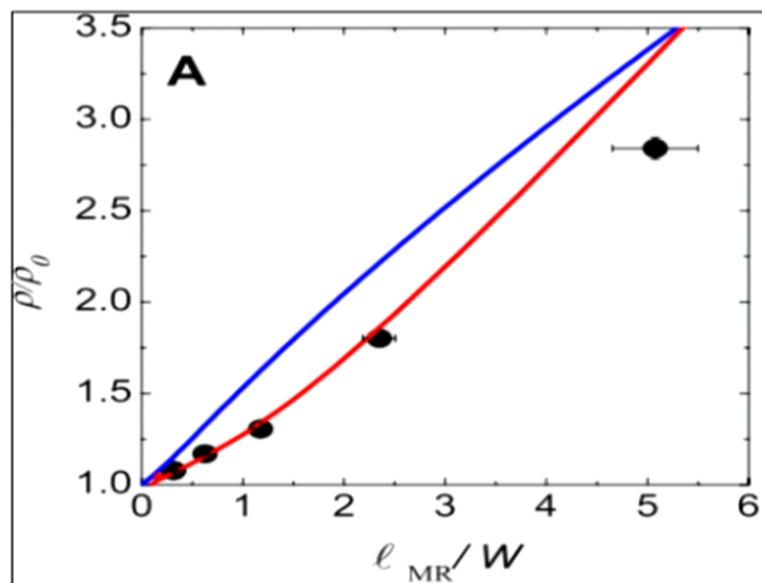
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# Evidence for hydrodynamic electron flow in ultra-pure PdCoO<sub>2</sub> wires

(Moll, Mckenzie, et al. Science 2016)

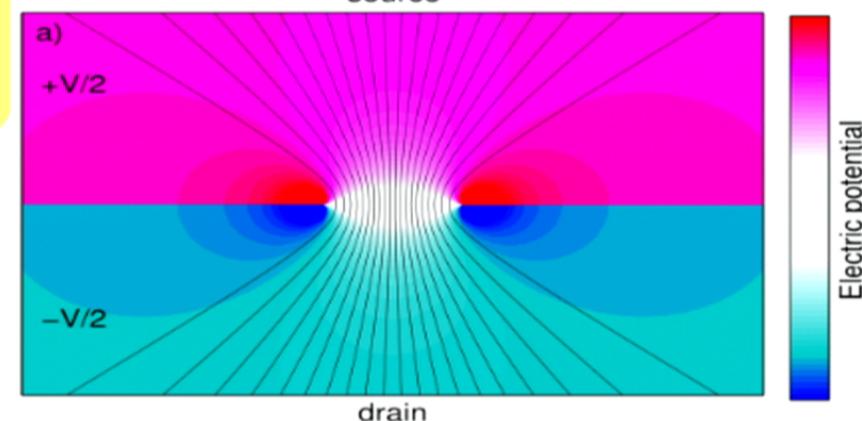
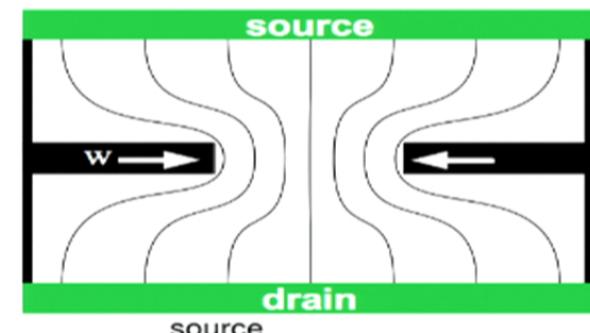
- 1) low resistivity ( $\sim 100 \text{ n}\Omega \text{ cm}$ );
- 2) apparent mean free paths larger than the wire width;
- 3) superlinear scaling  $\rho$  vs.  $1/W$



# Measure viscosity in a constriction

- Viscous point contact (VPC):  $I_{ee} \ll w$
- Resistance dominated by viscosity
- Characteristic scaling:  $G_{\text{viscous}} \sim W^2$  vs.  $G_{\text{ballistic}} \sim W$

$$R = \frac{32 \eta}{\pi (ne)^2 w^2} = \frac{l_T^2}{w^2} 4 k \Omega, \quad l_T = \frac{\hbar v}{T}$$



Other approaches:  
Mueller, Schmalian, Fritz '09  
Mendoza, Herrmann, Pucci '11  
Tomadin, Vignale, Polini '14

Continuity of charge:

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{j} = n e \vec{v}$$

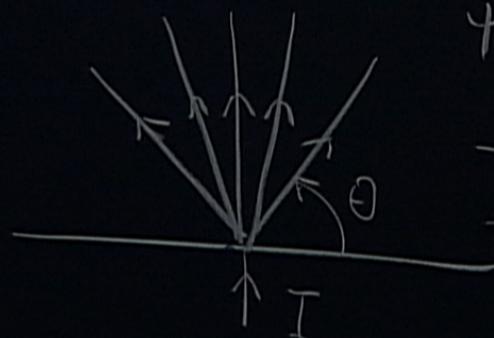
$$\nabla \cdot \vec{V} = 0 \rightarrow \vec{V} = \hat{\vec{z}} \times \vec{\nabla} \psi \quad (\text{stream function})$$

$$\text{Stokes eq. } \nabla^2 \vec{V} = n e \vec{\nabla} \phi \xrightarrow{\text{rot}} (\nabla^2)^2 \psi = 0$$

$$\text{general soln } \psi(x, y) = \text{Re} \left( f_1(z) + \sum f_2(\bar{z}) \right) \quad \begin{matrix} \text{analytic fns} \\ z = x + iy \end{matrix}$$

$$\text{b.c. } 1) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial n} = j(x) \quad 2) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial n} = 0 \quad (\text{no slip})$$

① point-like source Q,  $y > 0$  half plane

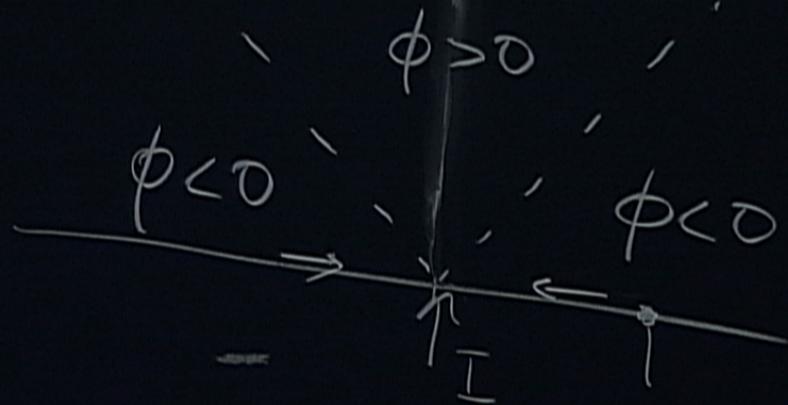


$$\psi(x, y) = \frac{I}{4\pi n_e} (\sin 2\theta - 4\theta)$$

- radial flow

- directional effect (plume)

$$\beta = \frac{n}{2\pi e^2}$$



$$V = RI$$

$$R < 0$$

$$\tau_p = \frac{X^2}{V \ell_{\text{dr}}}$$

$$\phi(x, y) = \beta I \operatorname{Re} z^{-2}$$

$$= -\beta I \frac{\cos 2\theta}{r^2}$$

- negative potential  
(measured)

- negative resistance

$$R = \frac{m}{n \rho^2} \frac{1}{\tau_p}$$

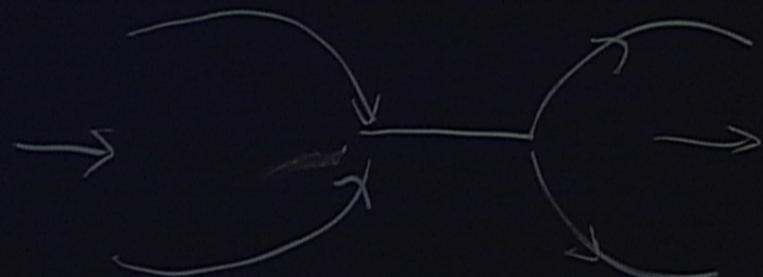
constriction:

$$\phi(x, y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx' g(x-x', y) j(x')$$

$$y \rightarrow 0+ \quad \phi(x) = \frac{e}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx' \left( \frac{j(x')}{(x-x'+i0)^2} + c.c. \right)$$

integral eqn.  $\phi = 0$   $|x| < \frac{w}{2}$

3D electrostatics



$$\begin{array}{lll} 3D, Y=0 & X & \phi(x) \\ & \downarrow & \\ 2D, y=0 & X & -\frac{\mu}{2} \frac{\partial j}{\partial x} \end{array}$$

$$\Phi_{3D}(X, Y) = \lambda \left( \frac{w^2}{4} - \zeta^2 \right) \frac{Y^2}{2}$$

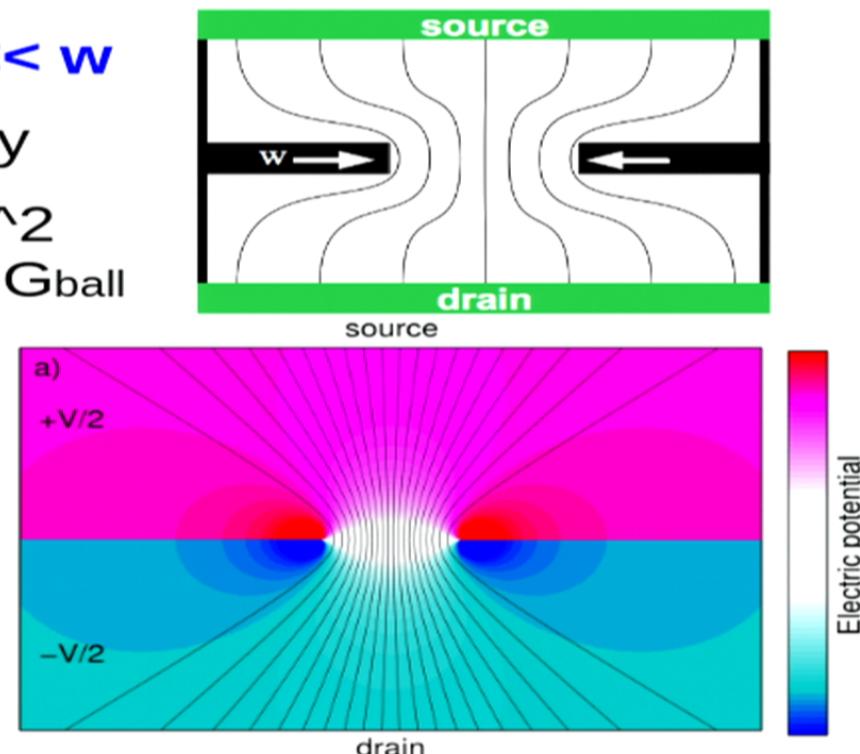
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- Resistance dominated by viscosity
- Characteristic scaling:  $G_{viscous} \sim W^2$  vs.  $G_{ballistic} \sim W$ : can make  $G_{visc} >> G_{ball}$

$$R = \frac{32\eta}{\pi(ne)^2 w^2} = \frac{l_T^2}{w^2} 4k\Omega, \quad l_T = \frac{\hbar v}{T}$$

## Features:

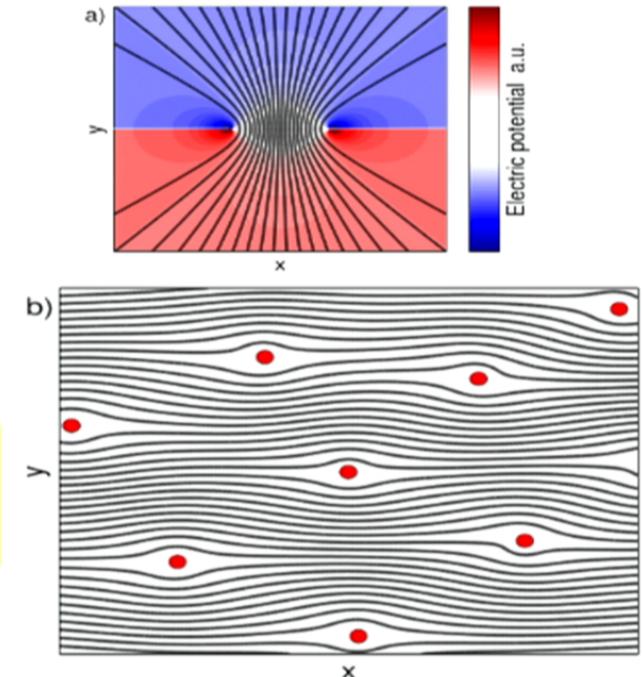
- Viscous-to-ballistic transition by varying  $n$  or  $T$
- Conductance **higher** than  $G_{ballistic}$
- Origin: zigzag trajectories, long “mean free path”  $\xi = w^2/I_{ee} \gg w$
- Resistance **decreases** as temperature increases b/c  $I_{ee} \sim 1/T^2$



Other approaches:  
 Mueller, Schmalian, Fritz '09  
 Mendoza, Herrmann, Pucci '11  
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# Higher-than-ballistic conduction

- Recall Landauer transport of degenerate fermions  $G(\mu) = G_0 \sum_n t_n(\mu)$ ,  $0 < t_n(\mu) \leq 1$ ,  $G_0 = \frac{e^2}{\pi \hbar} 7.75 \times 10^{-5} \Omega^{-1}$
- Governed by the number of channels for a constriction (Sharvin contact)  $N = \sum_n t_n(\mu) = \frac{2w}{\lambda_F}$
- **Enhanced conductance of a viscous flow a result of correlated transport**
- **Cooperation:** electrons achieve jointly what they cannot accomplish individually
- Ballistic and viscous regimes realized in a single device (at  $T=0$  and  $T>0$ )
- Similar behavior in other systems. **Flow lines bundle up in plumes and streams to circumnavigate disorder**



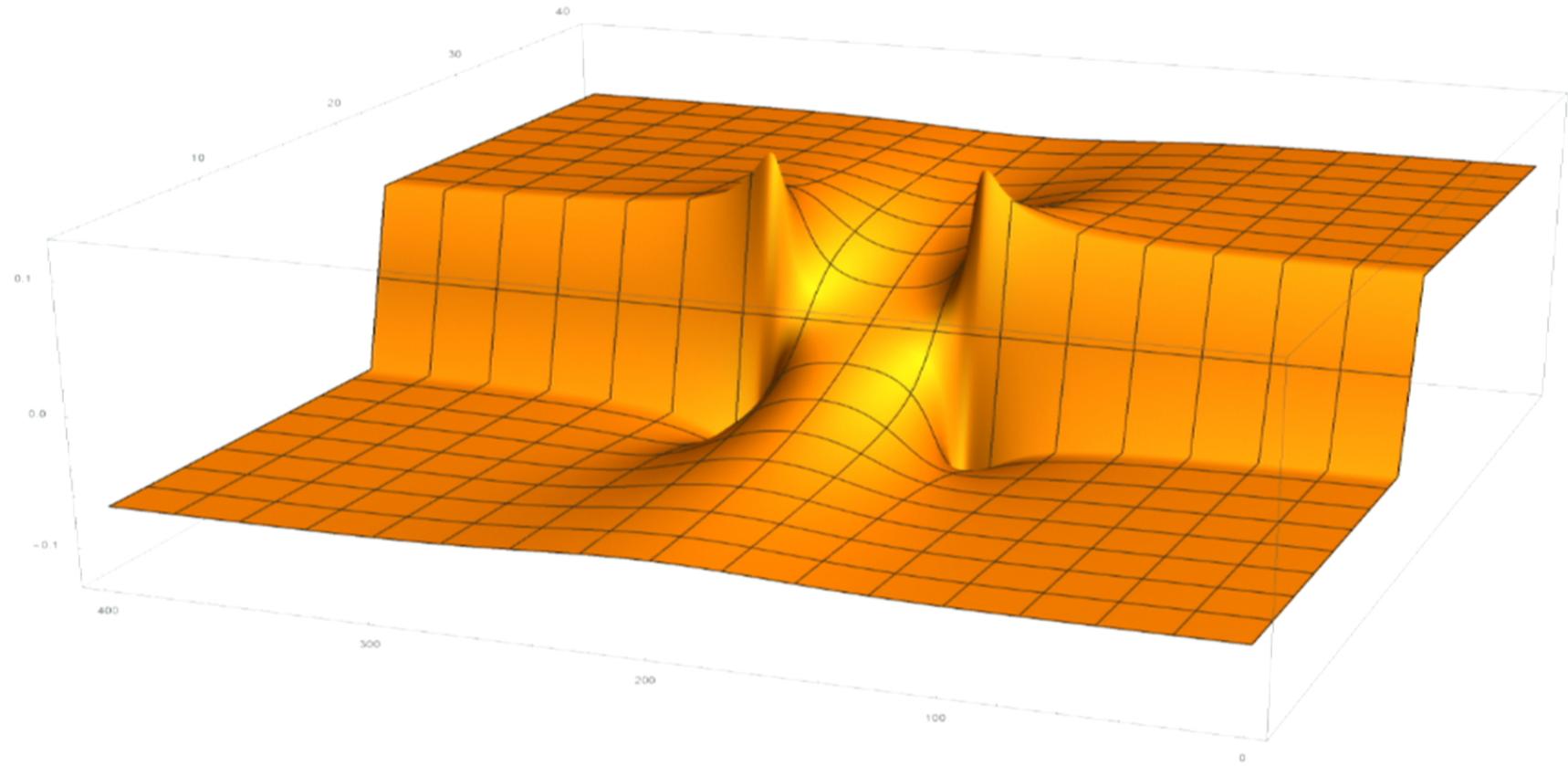
08/16/2016

# The viscous-to-ballistic crossover

- Solve quantum kinetic eqn w full account taken of zero modes ( $p_x, p_y, n$ )  
$$(\partial_t + v \nabla) f = I_{ee}(f) + I_b(f)$$
- $\tau$ -apprx for the collision integral  
$$I_{ee} = -\gamma (f - P_3 f)$$
- Project on the 3D zero-mode subspace  
$$I_b = -\alpha(x) \delta(y) P_2 f$$

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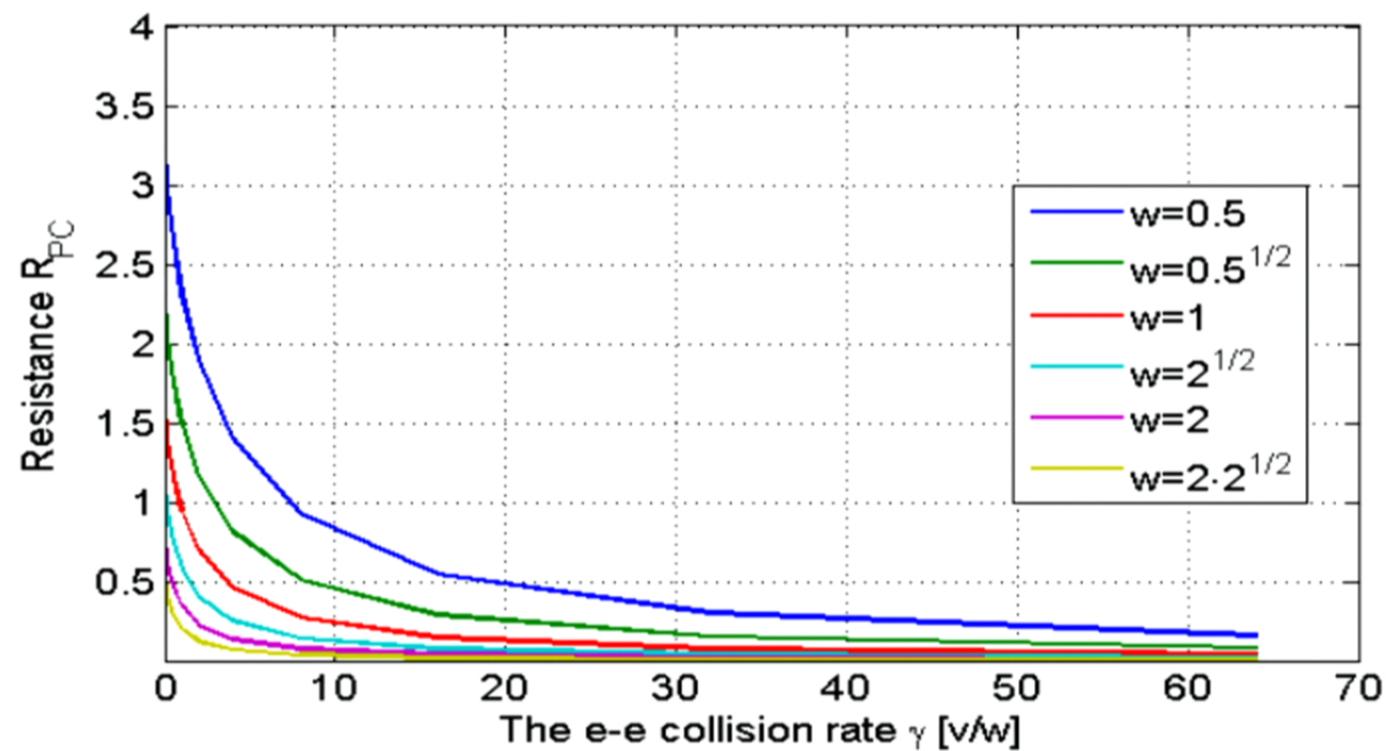
# Potential distribution, high $\gamma_{ee}$



- Agrees w exact solution (hydro)
- Negative E-field at the edge

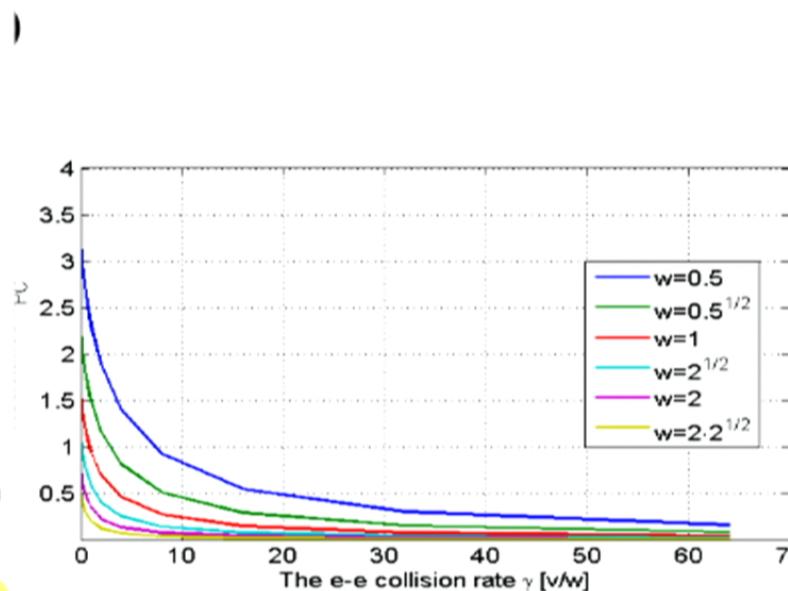
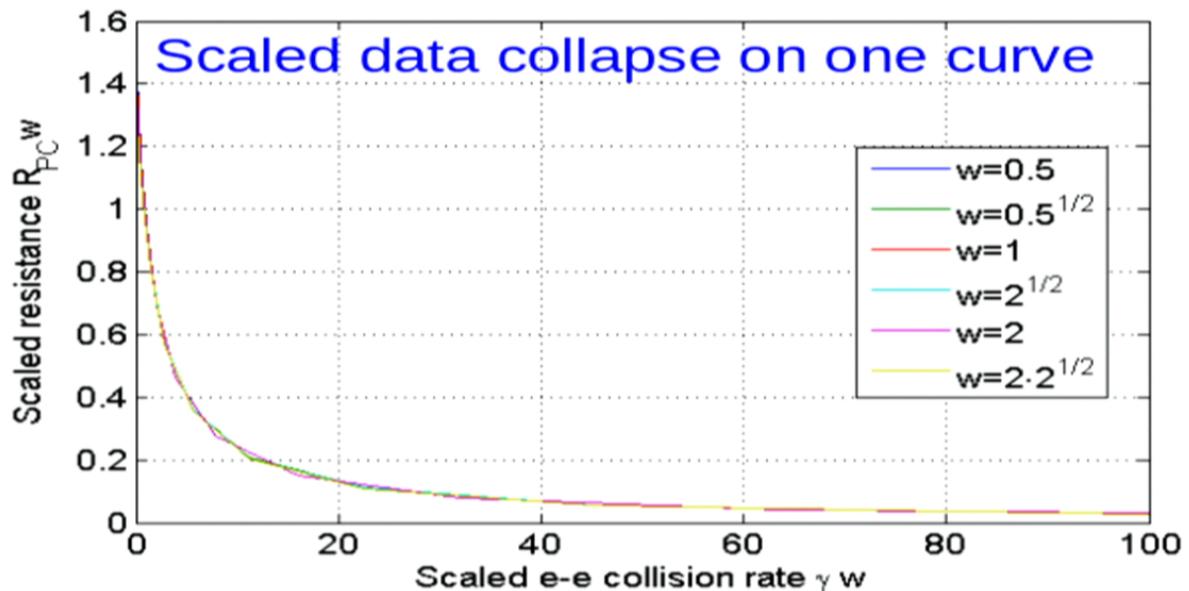
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# Conductance of a VPC



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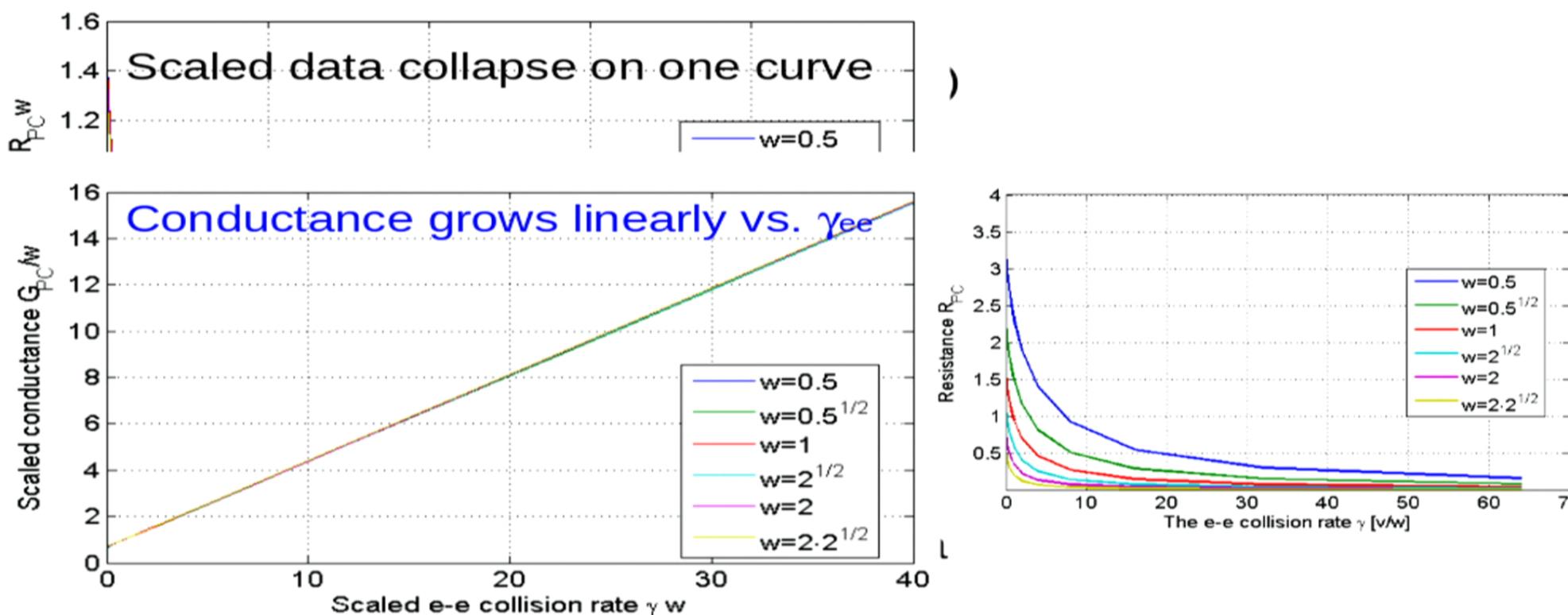
# Conductance of a VPC



- For all  $\gamma$ , results expressed through a universal function of  $\gamma w/v$

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# Conductance of a VPC



- With numerical precision find a simple linear dependence (exact solution?)

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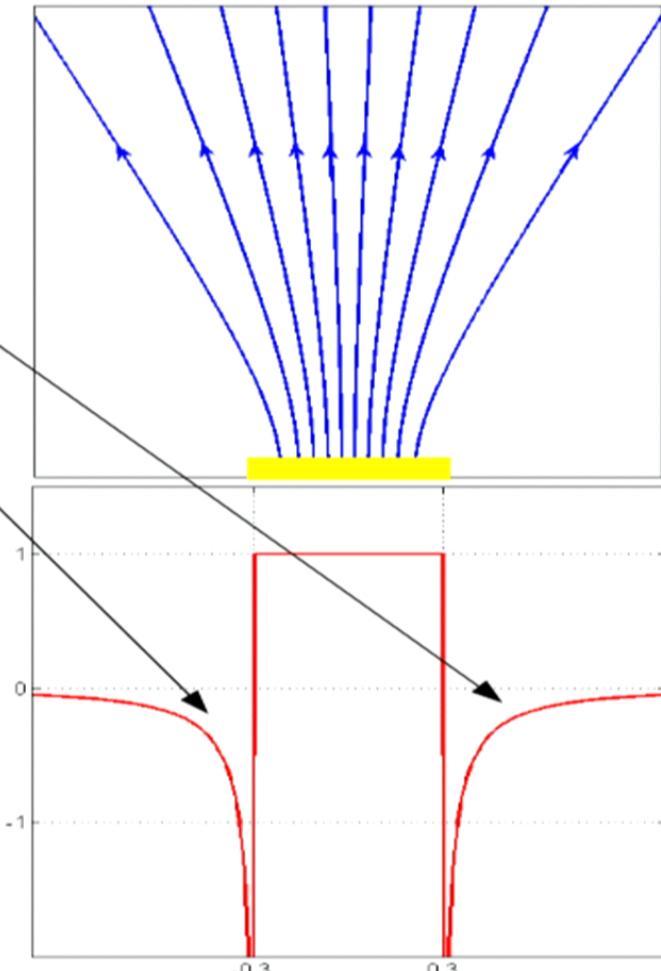
$$G_{exact} = G_{ball} + G_{hydro} = \frac{4e^2}{h} N + \frac{\pi(ne)^2 w^2}{32\eta}$$

# Superballistic conduction summary & future

- A new collective effect: hydrodynamic screening of disorder, conductance enhancement:  $G_{\text{visc}} \gg G_{\text{ball}}$
  - Low dissipation in the viscous limit
  - Division of labor of different carriers: high-current streams and low-current buffer regions
  - Ballistic and viscous conductances additive in the two cases studied (no Mathiessen rule):  $G = G_{\text{ball}} + G_{\text{hydro}}$
  - Probe ballistic-to-viscous crossover as a function of temperature
- How general is this behavior?
  - How high  $G$  values can be reached?
  - Limits on dissipation?

# Current and potential for a point source

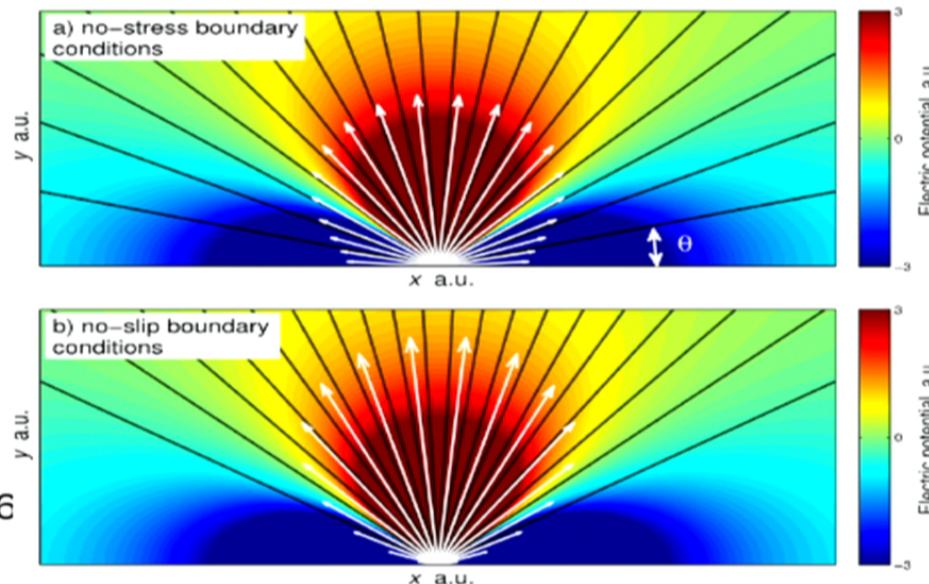
- Plumes of current (a directional effect)
- Low-current, high-vorticity regions
- E-field opposite to current, negative voltage at the edge



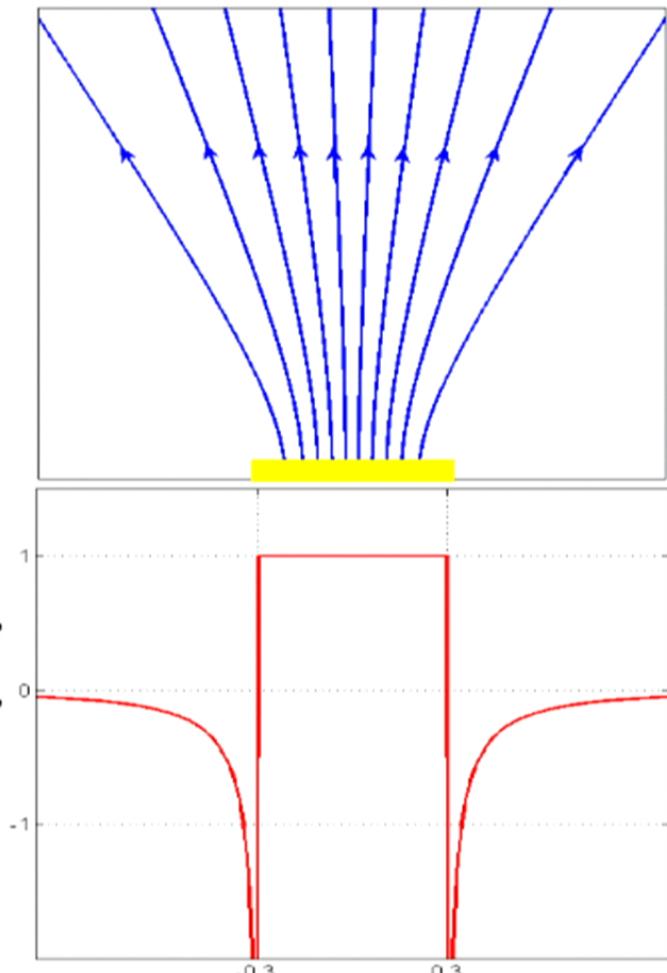
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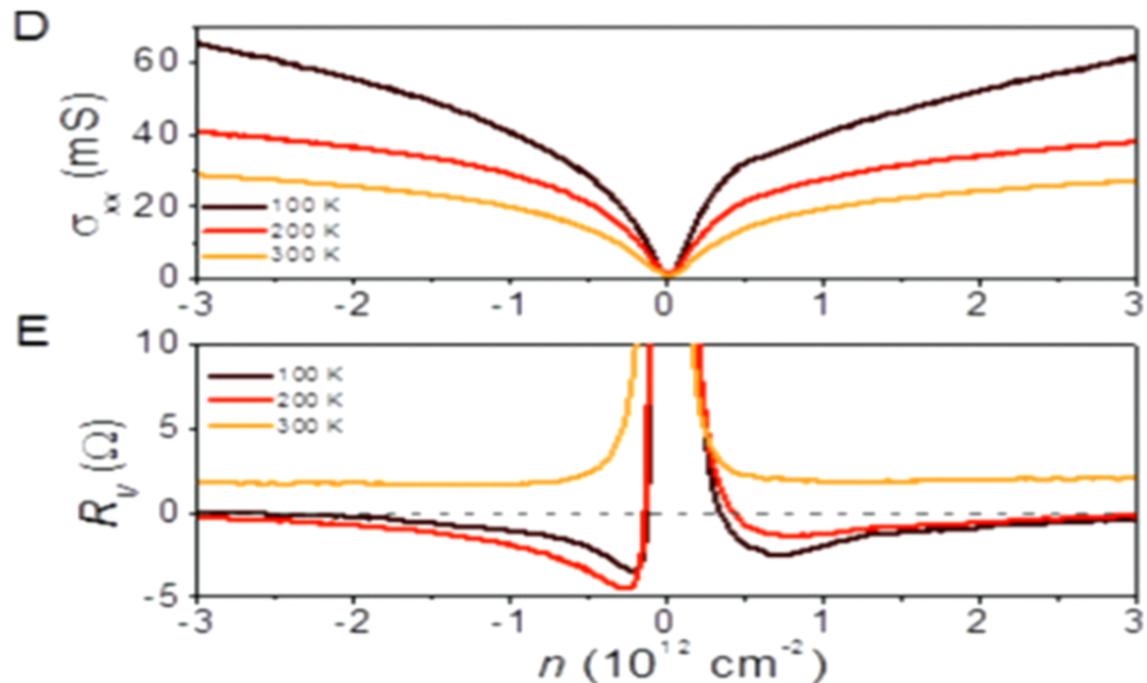
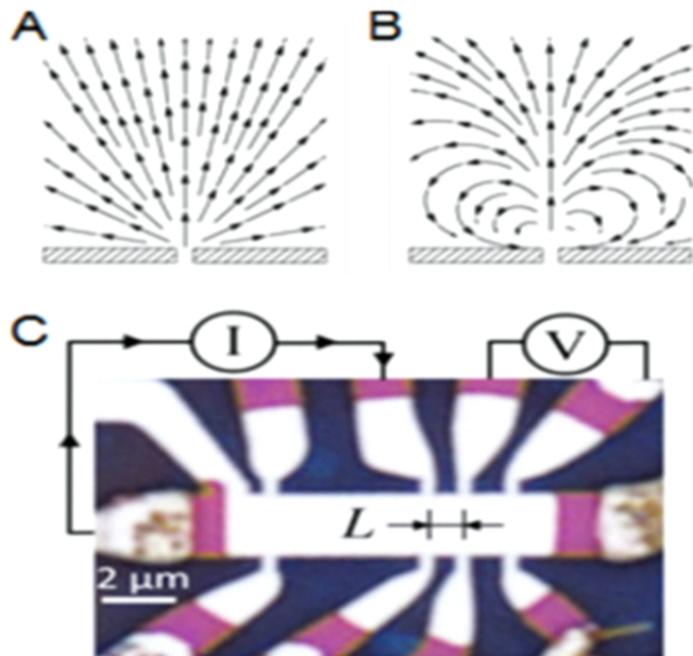
- Plumes of current (a directional effect)
- Low-current, high-vorticity regions
- E-field opposite to current, negative voltage at the edge
- No one-to-one relation between potentials and currents



08/16



# Strong $V < 0$ in recent measurements



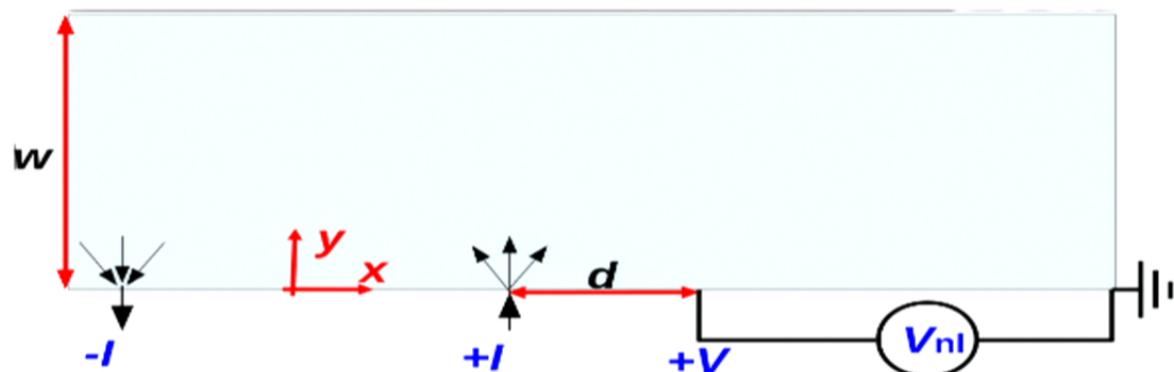
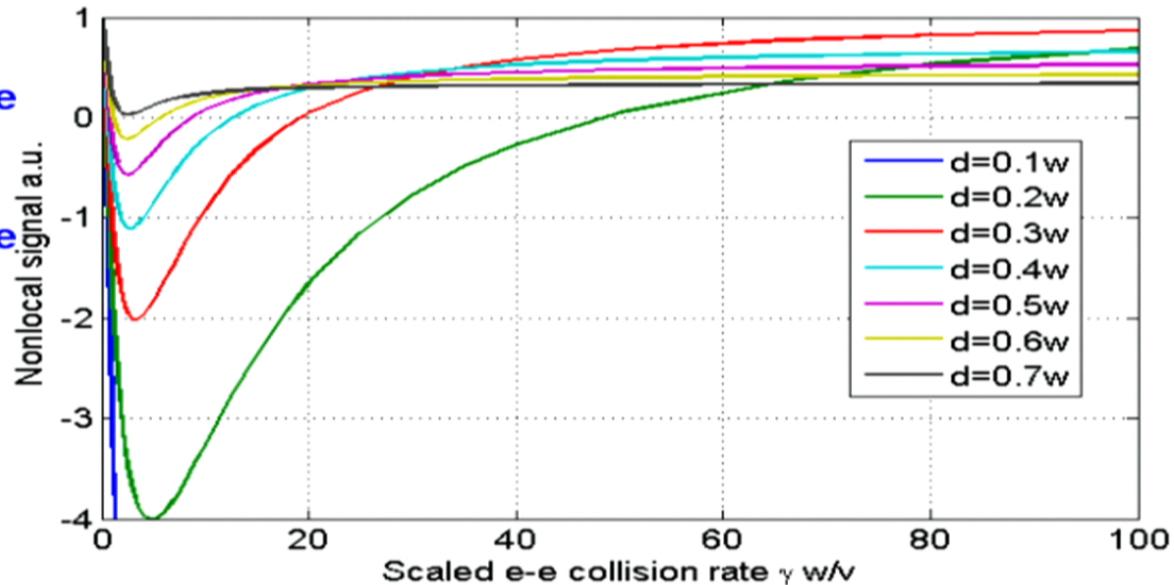
Bandurin et al (2015)

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- Negative nonlocal resistance  $V = RI$
- Negative  $V$  is strongest before reversing sign and turning positive

# Theory of negative nonlocal response

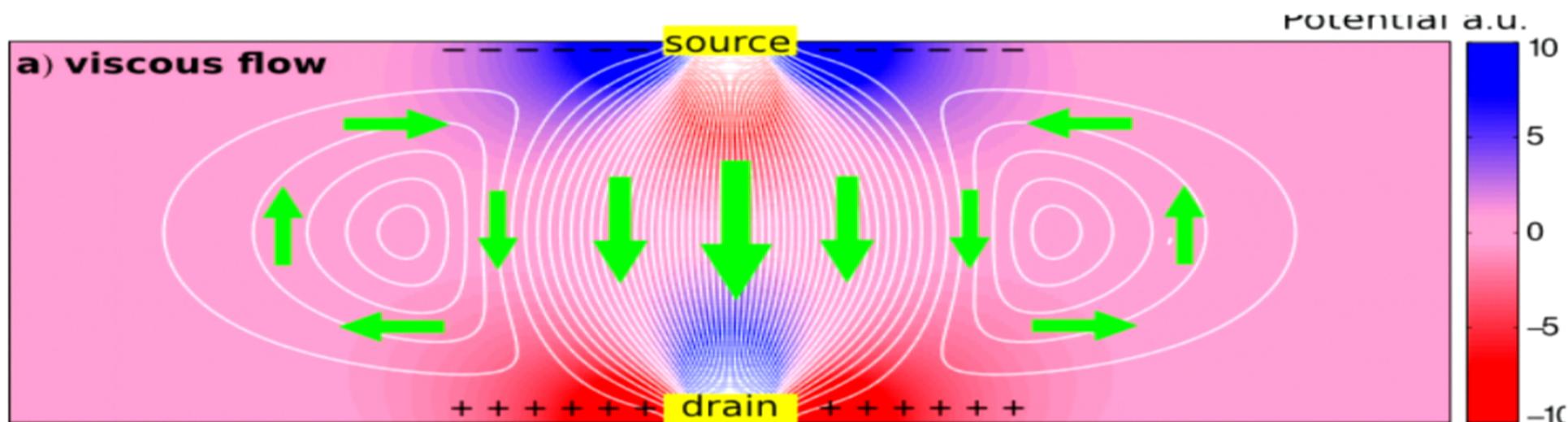
- Ballistic regime,  $V > 0$ ,  
small  $d, T$ , large  $n$ :  $d \ll l_{ee}$
- Viscous regime,  $V < 0$ ,  
large  $d, T$ , small  $n$ :  $d \gg l_{ee}$



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# Two VPC in series: nonlocal current-field relation can lead to rich spatial structures

- Vortices launched by shear flow
- Reverse E field buildup



# Negative voltage needs no backflow

- Does the  $V < 0$  response **always** signal the presence of a backflow and vortices?

08/16/2016

LL & Falkovich arXiv:1508.00836 Nat Phys (2016)

# Summary & Future

- The current-field relation **nonlocal** due to viscosity.  
**Negative voltage** as a signature of viscous flow
- Sign change as a function of position, if observed, allows to **directly measure** the viscosity-to-resistivity ratio
- **Vortices** and **backflow** launched by a shear flow
- In agreement w measurements in high-mobility graphene
- Caveats? **Other neutral modes**. Convective heat transport, negative thermoelectric effect due to **energy flow**. Control by lattice cooling?

02.05.2016

# Observation of critical fluid

The breakdown of the Wiedemann-Franz law in graphene indicates **convective heat propagation**  
(Crossno ... KC Fong, Science 2016)

