

Title: Theories of non-Fermi liquids

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Abstract: I will review and compare numerous models for metallic states without quasiparticle excitations. The solvable SYK model provides a useful starting point, and also has remarkable holographic connections to the quantum gravity of black holes in AdS2. Quantum critical states of two-dimensional metals are obtained by coupling the fermions to fluctuating bosonic order parameters or gauge fields: I will discuss their physical properties and possible connections to experiments.

What is a non-Fermi liquid ?

- A compressible phase at $T = 0$: the density \mathcal{Q} varies smoothly as a function of μ . Global U(1) symmetry is unbroken.
- No quasiparticle excitations
- Shortest possible local-equilibration/de-phasing/ transition-to-quantum-chaos with

$$\tau_\varphi \geq C \frac{\hbar}{k_B T}$$

S. Sachdev, *Quantum Phase Transitions* (1999)

$$\frac{\eta}{s} \geq \frac{\hbar}{4\pi k_B}$$

P. Kovtun, D.T. Son, and A.O. Starinets, PRL 94, 111601 (2005)

$$\frac{D}{v_b^2} \geq \tilde{C} \frac{\hbar}{k_B T}$$

Saturation requires fixed point with disorder and interactions

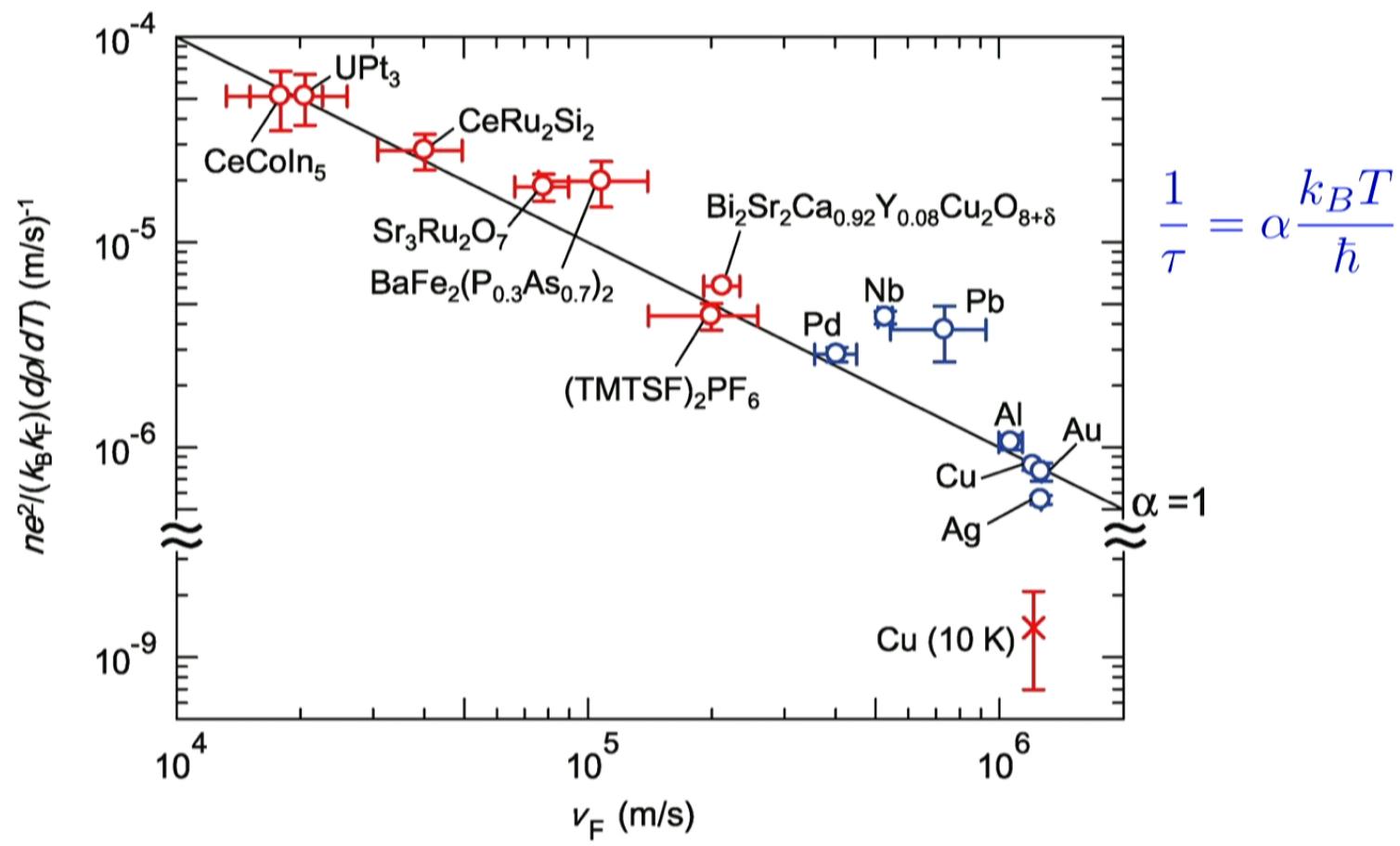
S.A. Hartnoll, Nature Physics 11, 54 (2015)

M. Blake, PRL 117, 091601 (2016)

$$\tau_L \geq \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\hbar}{k_B T}$$

J. Maldacena, S. H. Shenker and D. Stanford, JHEP 08 (2016) 106

In Fermi liquids, $\tau \sim 1/T^2$; in gapped systems, $\tau \sim e^{\Delta/T}$.



J. A. N. Bruin, H. Sakai, R. S. Perry, A. P. Mackenzie, *Science*. **339**, 804 (2013)

Theories of non-Fermi liquids

- Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model
- Ising-nematic criticality in $d=2$
- Higgs criticality in the cuprates

Infinite-range model with quasiparticles

$$H = \frac{1}{(N)^{1/2}} \sum_{i,j=1}^N t_{ij} c_i^\dagger c_j + \dots$$

$$c_i c_j + c_j c_i = 0 \quad , \quad c_i c_j^\dagger + c_j^\dagger c_i = \delta_{ij}$$

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_i c_i^\dagger c_i = Q$$

t_{ij} are independent random variables with $\overline{t_{ij}} = 0$ and $\overline{|t_{ij}|^2} = t^2$

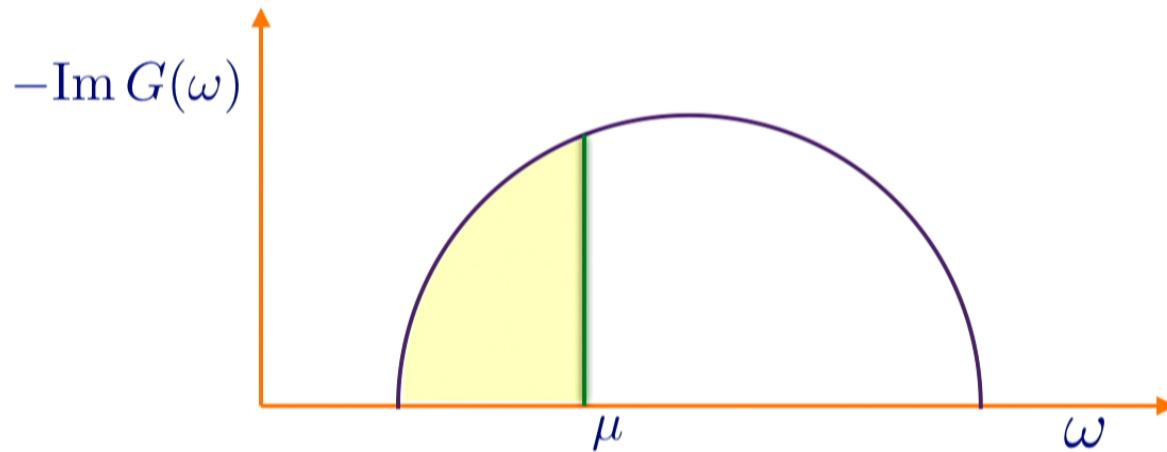
Fermions occupying the eigenstates of a
 $N \times N$ random matrix

Infinite-range model with quasiparticles

Feynman graph expansion in $t_{ij..}$, and graph-by-graph average, yields exact equations in the large N limit:

$$G(i\omega) = \frac{1}{i\omega + \mu - \Sigma(i\omega)} \quad , \quad \Sigma(\tau) = t^2 G(\tau)$$
$$G(\tau = 0^-) = \mathcal{Q}.$$

$G(\omega)$ can be determined by solving a quadratic equation.



Infinite-range model with quasiparticles

Now add weak interactions

$$H = \frac{1}{(N)^{1/2}} \sum_{i,j=1}^N t_{ij} c_i^\dagger c_j + \frac{1}{(2N)^{3/2}} \sum_{i,j,k,\ell=1}^N J_{ij;k\ell} c_i^\dagger c_j^\dagger c_k c_\ell$$

$J_{ij;k\ell}$ are independent random variables with $\overline{J_{ij;k\ell}} = 0$ and $\overline{|J_{ij;k\ell}|^2} = J^2$. We compute the lifetime of a quasiparticle, τ_α , in an exact eigenstate $\psi_\alpha(i)$ of the free particle Hamiltonian with energy E_α . By Fermi's Golden rule, for E_α at the Fermi energy

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\tau_\alpha} &= \pi J^2 \rho_0^3 \int dE_\beta dE_\gamma dE_\delta f(E_\beta)(1 - f(E_\gamma))(1 - f(E_\delta)) \delta(E_\alpha + E_\beta - E_\gamma - E_\delta) \\ &= \frac{\pi^3 J^2 \rho_0^3}{4} T^2 \end{aligned}$$

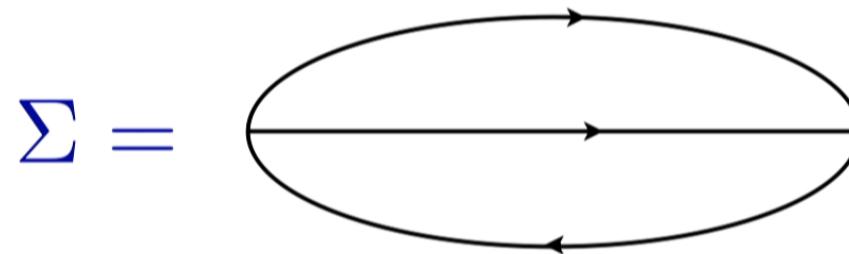
where ρ_0 is the density of states at the Fermi energy.

Fermi liquid state: Two-body interactions lead to a scattering time of quasiparticle excitations from in (random) single-particle eigenstates which diverges as $\sim T^{-2}$ at the Fermi level.

SYK model

Feynman graph expansion in $J_{ij..}$, and graph-by-graph average, yields exact equations in the large N limit:

$$G(i\omega) = \frac{1}{i\omega + \mu - \Sigma(i\omega)} \quad , \quad \Sigma(\tau) = -J^2 G^2(\tau) G(-\tau)$$
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S. Sachdev and J. Ye, Phys. Rev. Lett. **70**, 3339 (1993)

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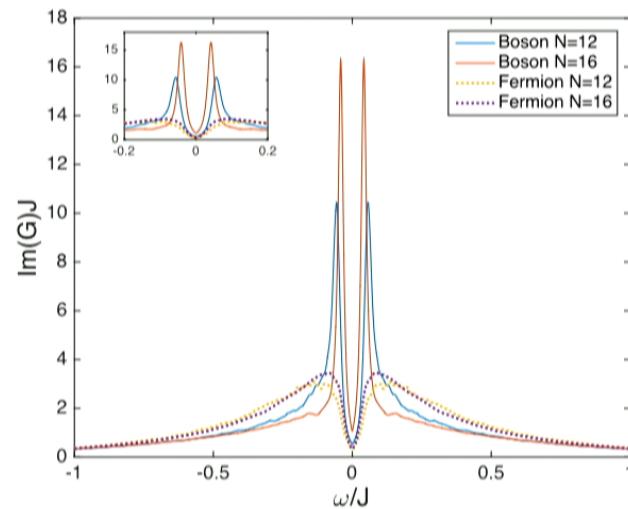
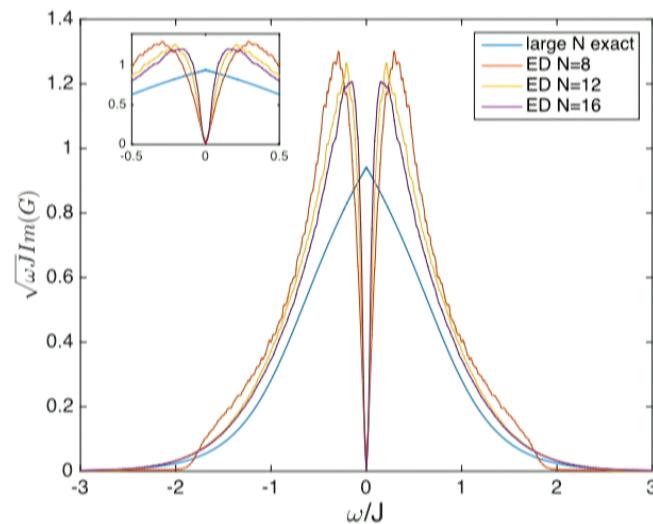
Low frequency analysis shows that the solutions must be gapless and obey

$$\Sigma(z) = \mu - \frac{1}{A} \sqrt{z} + \dots \quad , \quad G(z) = \frac{A}{\sqrt{z}}$$

for some complex A . The ground state is a non-Fermi liquid, with a continuously variable density \mathcal{Q} .

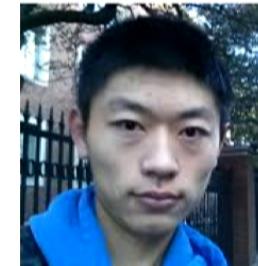
S. Sachdev and J. Ye, Phys. Rev. Lett. **70**, 3339 (1993)

SYK model



Large N solution of equations for G and Σ agree well with exact diagonalization of the finite N Hamiltonian \Rightarrow no spin-glass order

However, exact diagonalization of the same model with hard-core bosons indicates the presence of spin-glass order in the ground state.



W. Fu and S. Sachdev, arXiv: 1603.05246

It would be nice to have a solvable model of holography.

theory	bulk dual	anom. dim.	chaos	solvable in $1/N$	black hole
SYM	Einstein grav.	large	maximal	no	yes
$O(N)$	Vasiliev	$1/N$	$1/N$	yes	no
SYK	$\ell_s \sim \ell_{AdS}$	$O(1)$	maximal	yes	yes

Slide by D. Stanford at Strings 2016, Beijing

column
added
by SS

SYK model

- $T = 0$ Green's function $G \sim 1/\sqrt{\tau}$
- $T > 0$ Green's function implies conformal invariance
 $G \sim 1/(\sin(\pi T \tau))^{1/2}$
- Non-zero entropy as $T \rightarrow 0$, $S(T \rightarrow 0) = NS_0 + \dots$

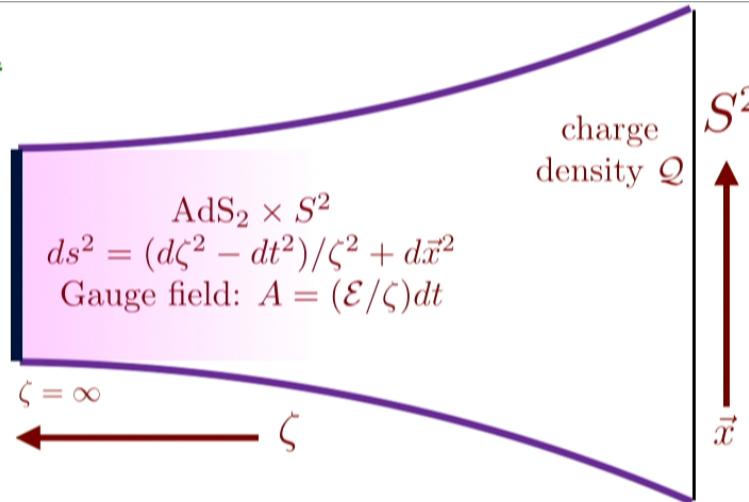
A. Georges, O. Parcollet, and S. Sachdev, Phys. Rev. B 63, 134406 (2001)

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- Non-zero entropy as $T \rightarrow 0$, $S(T \rightarrow 0) = NS_0 + \dots$
- These features indicate that the SYK model is dual to the low energy limit of a quantum gravity theory of black holes with AdS_2 near-horizon geometry. The Bekenstein-Hawking entropy is NS_0 .

S. Sachdev, PRL 105, 151602 (2010)

SYK and AdS₂



PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS **105**, 151602 (2010)



Holographic Metals and the Fractionalized Fermi Liquid

Subir Sachdev

Department of Physics, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, USA

(Received 23 June 2010; published 4 October 2010)

We show that there is a close correspondence between the physical properties of holographic metals near charged black holes in anti-de Sitter (AdS) space, and the fractionalized Fermi liquid phase of the lattice Anderson model. The latter phase has a “small” Fermi surface of conduction electrons, along with a spin liquid of local moments. This correspondence implies that certain mean-field gapless spin liquids are states of matter at nonzero density realizing the near-horizon, $\text{AdS}_2 \times \mathbb{R}^2$ physics of Reissner-Nordström black holes.

SYK model

- $T = 0$ Green's function $G \sim 1/\sqrt{\tau}$
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- Non-zero entropy as $T \rightarrow 0$, $S(T \rightarrow 0) = NS_0 + \dots$
- These features indicate that the SYK model is dual to the low energy limit of a quantum gravity theory of black holes with AdS_2 near-horizon geometry. The Bekenstein-Hawking entropy is NS_0 .
- There is a scalar zero mode associated with the breaking of reparameterization invariance down to $\text{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$. The same pattern of symmetries is present in gravity theories on AdS_2 .

A. Kitaev, KITP talk, 2015

SYK model

- The dependence of S_0 on the density \mathcal{Q} matches the behavior of the Wald-Bekenstein-Hawking entropy of AdS_2 horizons in a large class of gravity theories.
- The scalar zero mode leads to a linear-in- T specific heat

$$S(T \rightarrow 0) = NS_0 + N\gamma T + \dots$$

An identical scalar zero mode is also present in the low energy limit of theories of quantum gravity on AdS_2 .

J. Maldacena and D. Stanford, arXiv:1604.07818

SYK model

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An identical scalar zero mode is also present in the low energy limit of theories of quantum gravity on AdS_2 .

- The Lyapunov time to quantum chaos saturates the lower bound both in the SYK model and in quantum gravity.

$$\tau_L = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\hbar}{k_B T}$$

A. Kitaev, KITP talk, 2015

J. Maldacena and D. Stanford, arXiv:1604.07818

SYK model

After integrating the fermions, the partition function can be written as a path integral with an action S analogous to a Luttinger-Ward functional

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}G(\tau_1, \tau_2) \mathcal{D}\Sigma(\tau_1, \tau_2) \exp(-NS)$$
$$S = \ln \det [\delta(\tau_1 - \tau_2)(\partial_{\tau_1} + \mu) - \Sigma(\tau_1, \tau_2)]$$
$$+ \int d\tau_1 d\tau_2 \Sigma(\tau_1, \tau_2) [G(\tau_2, \tau_1) + (J^2/2)G^2(\tau_2, \tau_1)G^2(\tau_1, \tau_2)]$$

A. Georges, O. Parcollet, and S. Sachdev,
Phys. Rev. B **63**, 134406 (2001)

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$$+ \int d\tau_1 d\tau_2 \Sigma(\tau_1, \tau_2) [G(\tau_2, \tau_1) + (J^2/2)G^2(\tau_2, \tau_1)G^2(\tau_1, \tau_2)]$$

A. Georges, O. Parcollet, and S. Sachdev,
Phys. Rev. B **63**, 134406 (2001)

At frequencies $\ll J$, the time derivative in the determinant is less important, and without it the path integral is invariant under the reparametrization and gauge transformations

$$\tau = f(\sigma)$$

A. Georges and O. Parcollet
PRB **59**, 5341 (1999)
A. Kitaev, unpublished
S. Sachdev, PRX **5**, 041025 (2015)

$$G(\tau_1, \tau_2) = [f'(\sigma_1)f'(\sigma_2)]^{-1/4} \frac{g(\sigma_1)}{g(\sigma_2)} G(\sigma_1, \sigma_2)$$

$$\Sigma(\tau_1, \tau_2) = [f'(\sigma_1)f'(\sigma_2)]^{-3/4} \frac{g(\sigma_1)}{g(\sigma_2)} \Sigma(\sigma_1, \sigma_2)$$

where $f(\sigma)$ and $g(\sigma)$ are arbitrary functions.

SYK model

Let us write the large N saddle point solutions of S as

$$G_s(\tau_1 - \tau_2) \sim (\tau_1 - \tau_2)^{-1/2} \quad , \quad \Sigma_s(\tau_1 - \tau_2) \sim (\tau_1 - \tau_2)^{-3/2}.$$

These are not invariant under the reparametrization symmetry but are invariant only under a $\text{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ subgroup under which

$$f(\tau) = \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d} \quad , \quad ad - bc = 1.$$

So the (approximate) reparametrization symmetry is spontaneously broken.

Reparametrization zero mode

Expand about the saddle point by writing

$$G(\tau_1, \tau_2) = [f'(\tau_1)f'(\tau_2)]^{1/4} G_s(f(\tau_1) - f(\tau_2))$$

(and similarly for Σ) and obtain an effective action for $f(\tau)$. This action does not vanish because of the time derivative in the determinant which is not reparameterization invariant.

J. Maldacena and D. Stanford, arXiv:1604.07818

See also A. Kitaev, unpublished, and J. Polchinski and V. Rosenhaus, arXiv:1601.06768

SYK model

However the effective action must vanish for $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ transformations because G_s, Σ_s are invariant under it. In this manner we obtain the effective action as a Schwarzian

$$NS_{\text{eff}} = -\frac{N\gamma}{4\pi^2} \int d\tau \{f, \tau\} \quad , \quad \{f, \tau\} \equiv \frac{f'''}{f'} - \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{f''}{f'} \right)^2 ,$$

where the specific heat, $\mathcal{C} = N\gamma T$.

The Schwarzian effective action implies that the SYK model *saturates* the lower bound on the Lyapunov time

$$\tau_L = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\hbar}{k_B T}$$

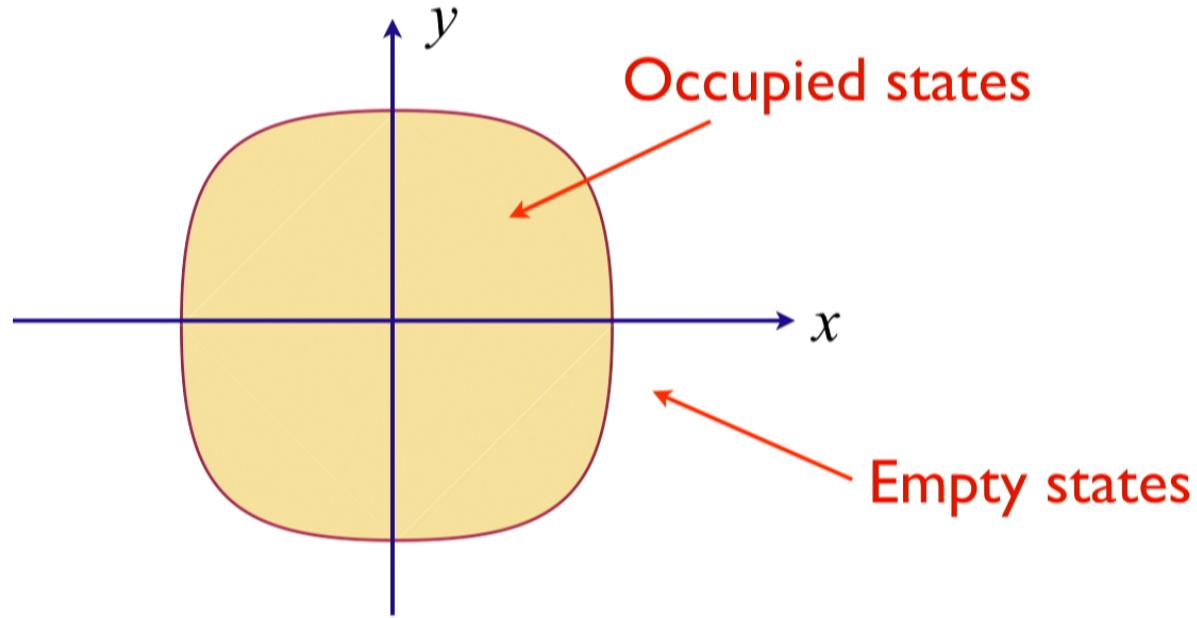
J. Maldacena and D. Stanford, arXiv:1604.07818

See also A. Kitaev, unpublished, and J. Polchinski and V. Rosenhaus, arXiv:1601.06768

Theories of non-Fermi liquids

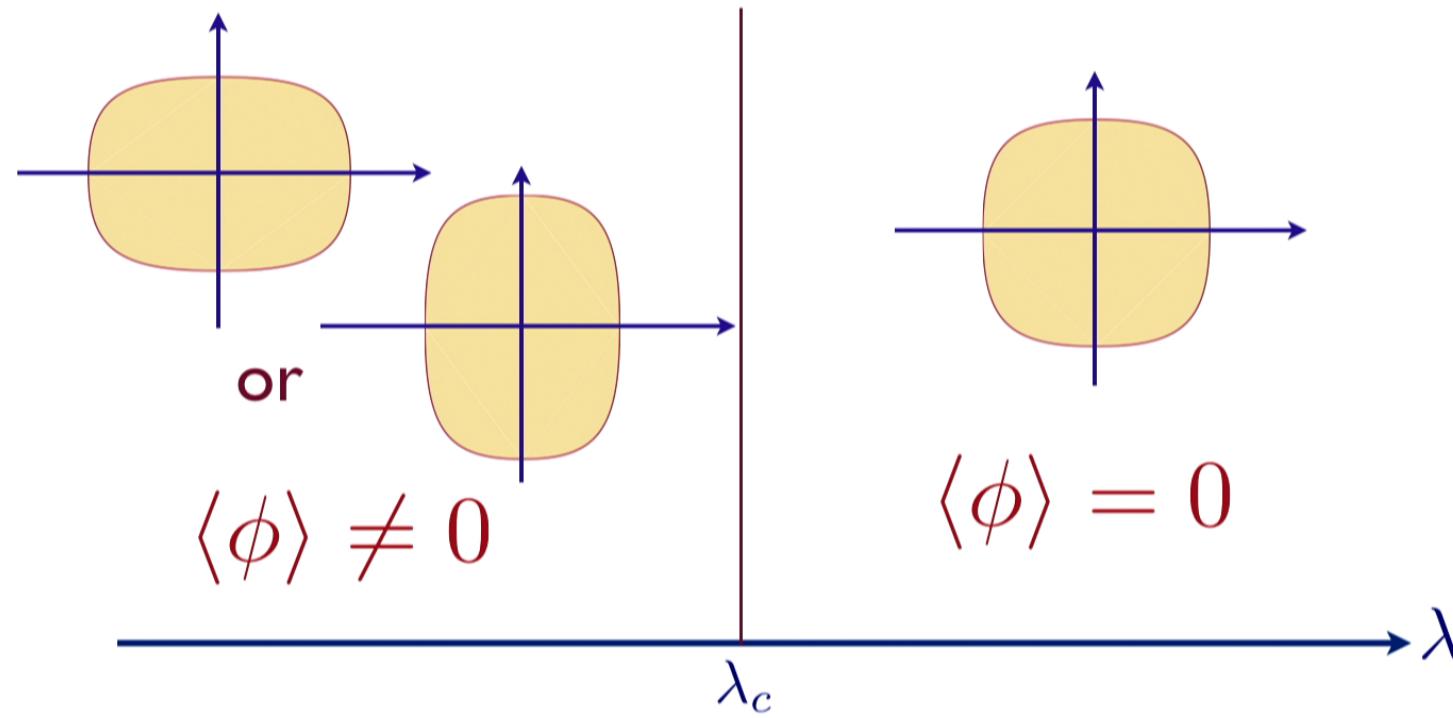
- Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model
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Quantum criticality of Ising-nematic ordering in a metal



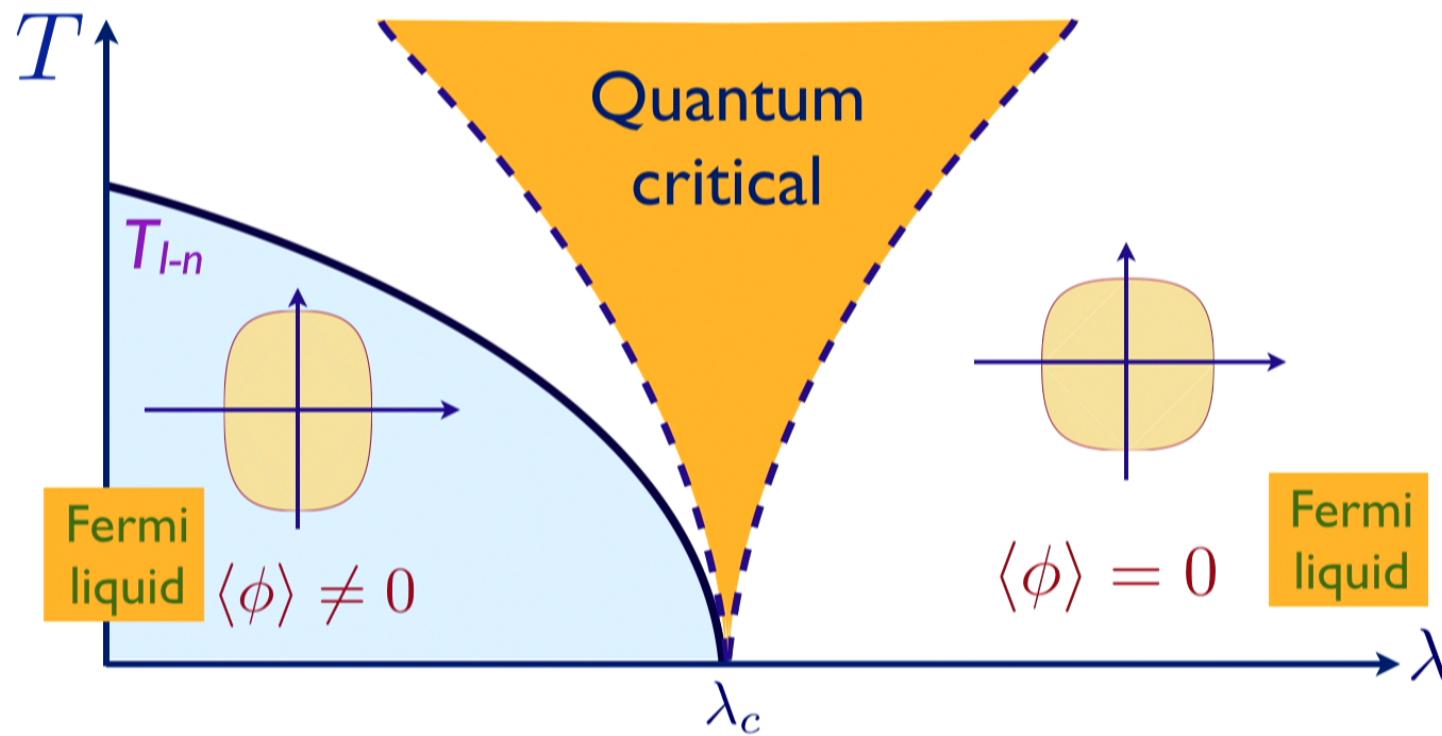
A metal with a Fermi surface
with full square lattice symmetry

Quantum criticality of Ising-nematic ordering in a metal



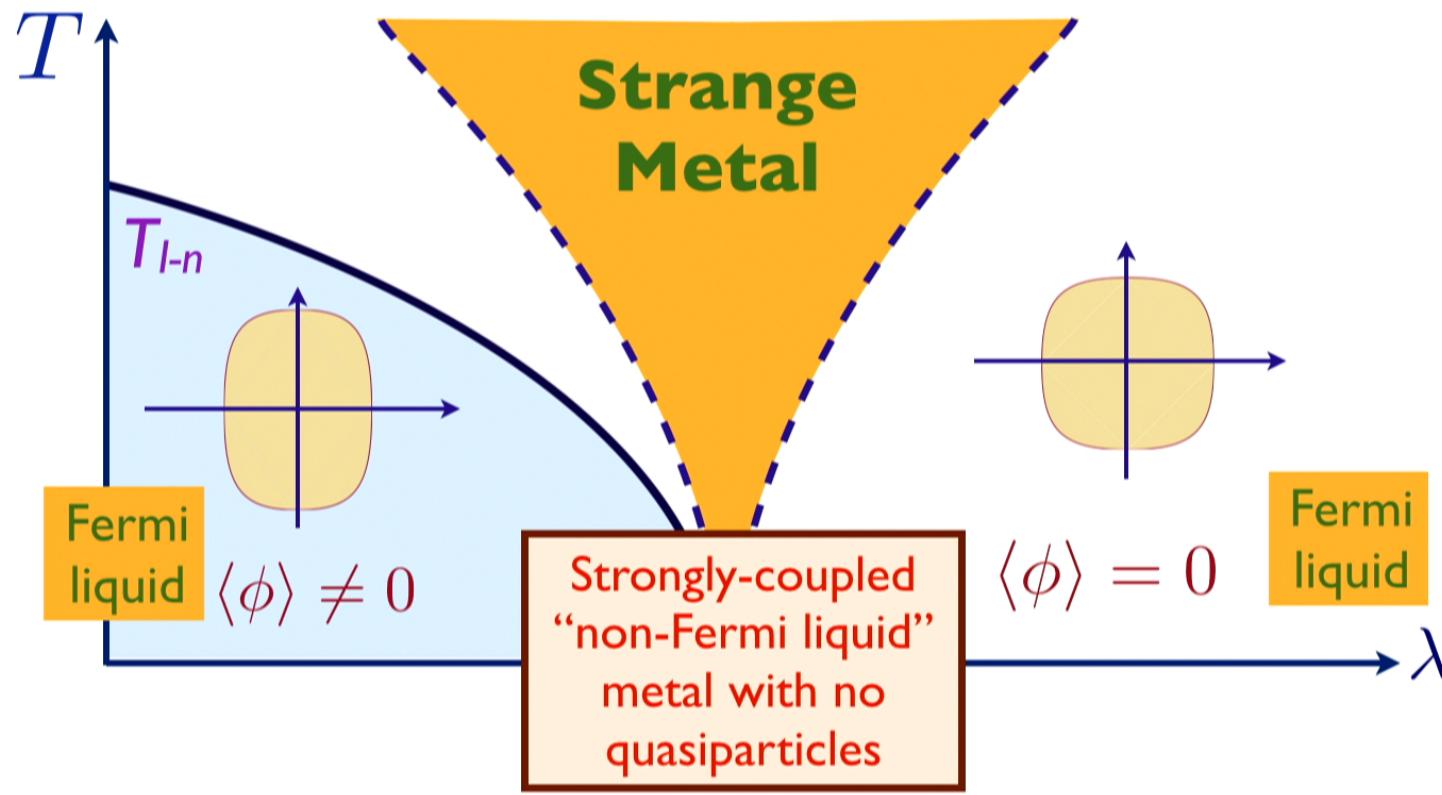
Pomeranchuk instability as a function of coupling λ

Quantum criticality of Ising-nematic ordering in a metal



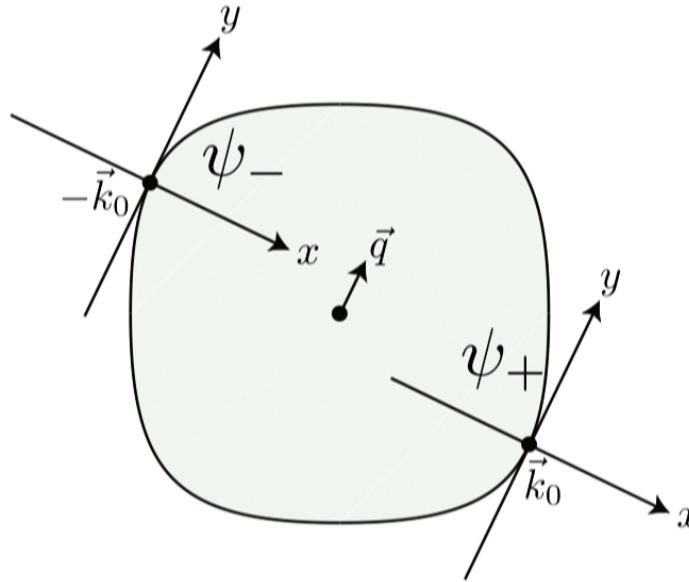
Phase diagram as a function of T and λ

Quantum criticality of Ising-nematic ordering in a metal



Phase diagram as a function of T and λ

Quantum criticality of Ising-nematic ordering in a metal



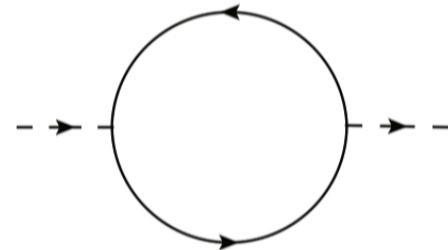
- Exact solution for some exponents for the ‘one-sided’ chiral model (Shouvik Sur and Sung-Sik Lee, PRB **90**, 045121 (2014)).
- Expansion in $\epsilon = 5/2 - d$ (D. Dalidovich and Sung-Sik Lee, PRB **88**, 245106 (2013)).

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}[\psi_{\pm}, \phi] = & \psi_+^\dagger (\partial_\tau - i\partial_x - \partial_y^2) \psi_+ + \psi_-^\dagger (\partial_\tau + i\partial_x - \partial_y^2) \psi_- \\ & - \phi (\psi_+^\dagger \psi_+ + \psi_-^\dagger \psi_-) + \frac{1}{2g^2} (\partial_y \phi)^2\end{aligned}$$

M. A. Metlitski and S. Sachdev, Phys. Rev. B **82**, 075127 (2010)

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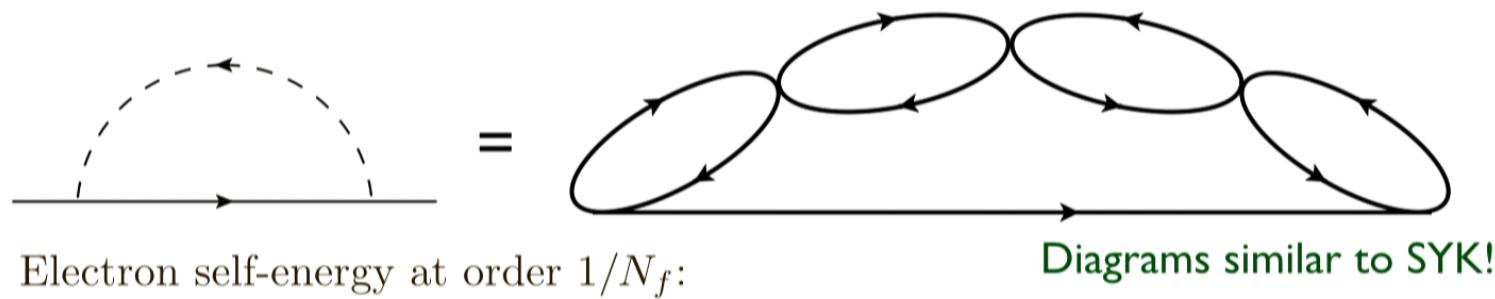
One loop ϕ self-energy with N_f fermion flavors:

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma_\phi(\vec{q}, \omega) &= N_f \int \frac{d^2 k}{4\pi^2} \frac{d\Omega}{2\pi} \frac{1}{[-i(\Omega + \omega) + k_x + q_x + (k_y + q_y)^2] [-i\Omega - k_x + k_y^2]} \\ &= \frac{N_f}{4\pi} \frac{|\omega|}{|q_y|}\end{aligned}$$

Landau-damping

Quantum criticality of Ising-nematic ordering in a metal

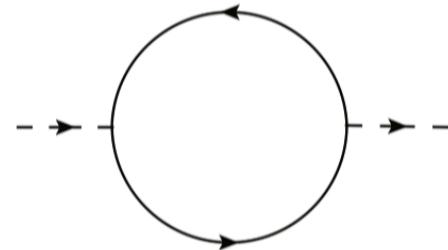
$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} = & \psi_+^\dagger (\partial_\tau - i\partial_x - \partial_y^2) \psi_+ + \psi_-^\dagger (\partial_\tau + i\partial_x - \partial_y^2) \psi_- \\ & - \phi (\psi_+^\dagger \psi_+ + \psi_-^\dagger \psi_-) + \frac{1}{2g^2} (\partial_y \phi)^2\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma(\vec{k}, \Omega) &= -\frac{1}{N_f} \int \frac{d^2 q}{4\pi^2} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \frac{1}{[-i(\omega + \Omega) + k_x + q_x + (k_y + q_y)^2] \left[\frac{q_y^2}{g^2} + \frac{|\omega|}{|q_y|} \right]} \\ &= -i \frac{2}{\sqrt{3} N_f} \left(\frac{g^2}{4\pi} \right)^{2/3} \text{sgn}(\Omega) |\Omega|^{2/3} \quad \sim |\Omega|^{d/3} \text{ in dimension } d.\end{aligned}$$

Quantum criticality of Ising-nematic ordering in a metal

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Simple scaling argument for $z = 3/2$.

Under the rescaling $x \rightarrow x/s$, $y \rightarrow y/s^{1/2}$, and $\tau \rightarrow \tau/s^z$, we find invariance provided

$$\begin{aligned}\phi &\rightarrow \phi s \\ \psi &\rightarrow \psi s^{(2z+1)/4} \\ g &\rightarrow g s^{(3-2z)/4}\end{aligned}$$

So the action is invariant provided $z = 3/2$.

Quantum criticality of Ising-nematic ordering in a metal

The entropy density, s , obeys

$$s \sim T^{(d-\theta)/z} \sim T^{2/3}$$

Y. B. Kim, A. Furusaki, X.-G. Wen, and
P.A. Lee, PRB 50, 17917 (1994)

where $z = 3/2$ is the dynamic critical exponent for fermionic excitations dispersing normal to the Fermi surface, and $d - \theta = 1$ is the number of dimensions normal to the Fermi surface.

A RG analysis using a dimensionality expansion below $d = 5/2$ shows that the optical conductivity obeys

$$\sigma \sim \omega^{(d-\theta-2)/z} \sim \omega^{-2/3}$$

A. Eberlein, I. Mandal, and S. Sachdev,
PRB 94, 045133 (2016)

We also computed the shear viscosity and found

$$\eta \sim T^{(d-\theta-2)/z} \sim T^{-2/3}$$



Note that $\eta/s \sim T^{-2/z}$ does not scale to a constant: so for the viscosity we do not have a system of reduced dimensionality, a consequence of the anisotropic scaling between the directions normal and parallel to the Fermi surface.

A. A. Patel, A. Eberlein, and S. Sachdev, arXiv:1607.03894

SU(2) gauge theory by transformation to a rotating reference frame

Field	Symbol	Statistics	SU(2) _{gauge}	SU(2) _{spin}	U(1) _{e.m.charge}
Electron	c	fermion	1	2	-1
AF order	Φ	boson	1	3	0
Chargon	ψ	fermion	2	1	-1
Spinon	R or z	boson	2	2	0
Higgs	H	boson	3	1	0

S. Sachdev, M. A. Metlitski, Y. Qi, and C. Xu, PRB **80**, 155129 (2009); D. Chowdhury and S. Sachdev, PRB **91**, 115123 (2015); S. Sachdev and D. Chowdhury, arXiv:1605.03579

Non-Fermi liquids

- Shortest possible “phase coherence” time, fastest possible local equilibration time, or fastest possible Lyapunov time towards quantum chaos, all of order $\frac{\hbar}{k_B T}$
- Realization in solvable SYK model, which saturates the lower bound on the Lyapunov time. Its properties have some similarities to non-rational, large central charge CFT2s.
- Remarkable match between SYK and quantum gravity of black holes with AdS_2 horizons, including a $\text{SL}(2,\mathbb{R})$ -invariant Schwarzian effective action for thermal energy fluctuations.
- Transport of non-Fermi liquids described by collective flow of fluid around impurities. Non-Fermi liquids with a critical Fermi surface have a divergent η/s as $T \rightarrow 0$. This is a consequence of the spatial anisotropy in the vicinity of a Fermi surface point, and unlike existing holographic models.
- Higgs criticality is an attractive model for the strange metal in the cuprates, consistent with recent measurements of the Hall effect as a function of doping.