From the SYK model to a theory of the strange metal

International Centre for Theoretical Sciences, Bengaluru

Subir Sachdev December 8, 2017

Talk online: sachdev.physics.harvard.edu







Magnetotransport in a model of a disordered strange metal

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Aavishkar Patel

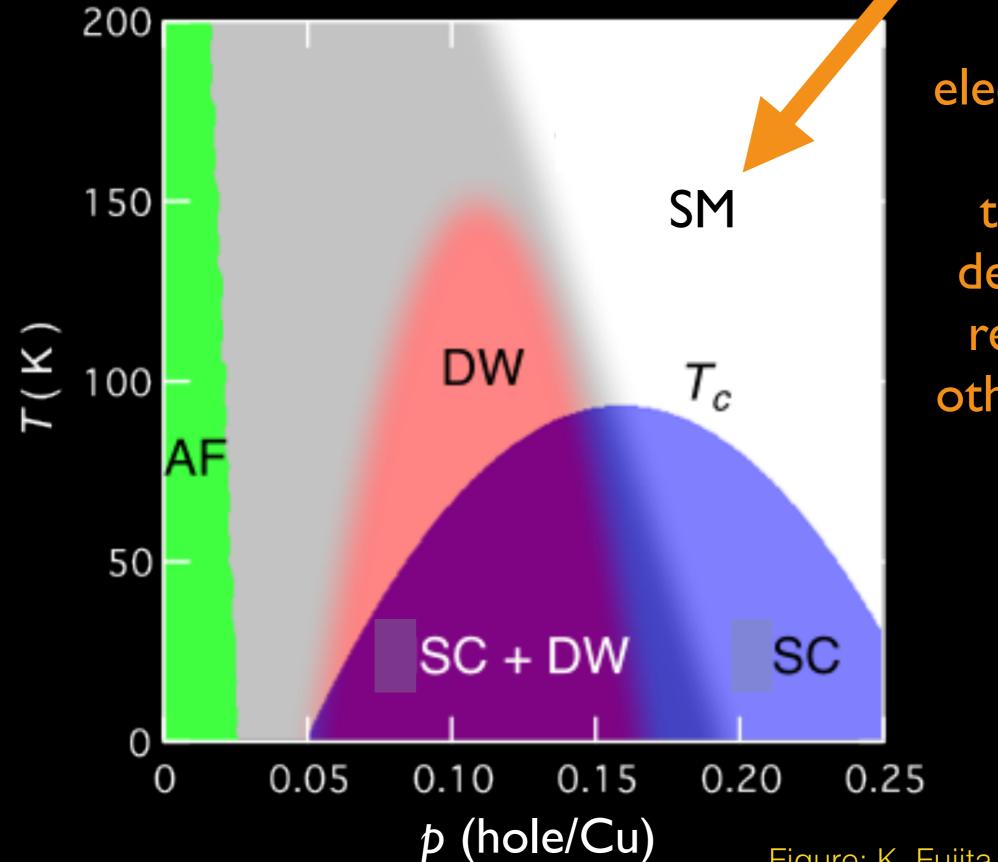
Quantum matter with quasiparticles:

The quasiparticle idea is the key reason for the many successes of quantum condensed matter physics:

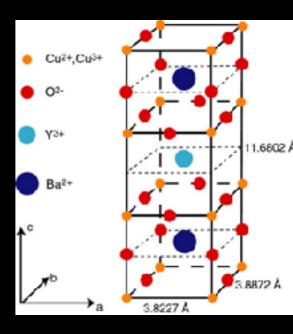
- Fermi liquid theory of metals, insulators, semiconductors
- Theory of superconductivity (pairing of quasiparticles)
- Theory of disordered metals and insulators (diffusion and localization of quasiparticles)
- Theory of metals in one dimension (collective modes as quasiparticles)
- Theory of the fractional quantum Hall effect (quasiparticles which are `fractions' of an electron)

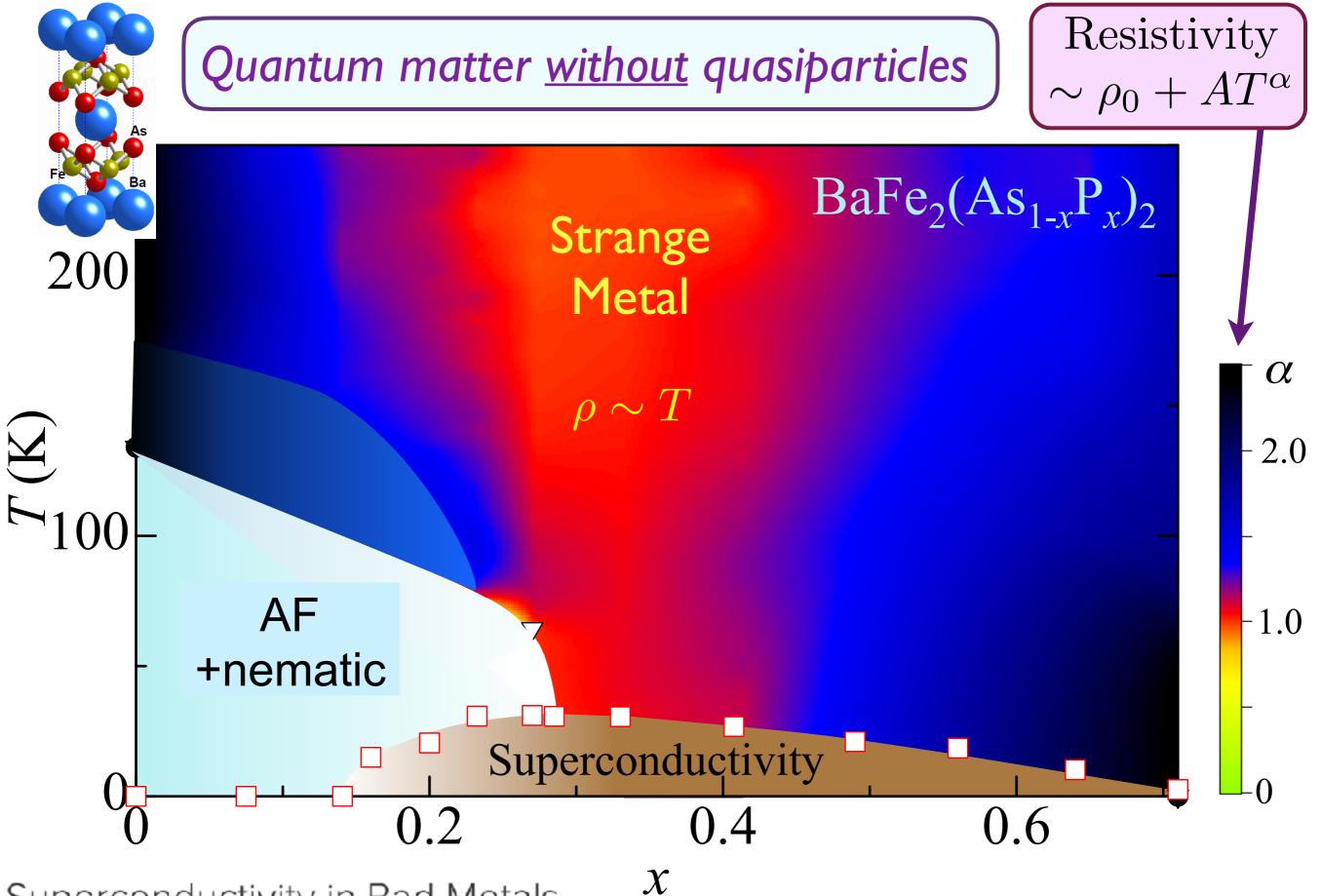
Quantum matter without quasiparticles

Strange metal



Entangled electrons lead to "strange" temperature dependence of resistivity and other properties





Superconductivity in Bad Metals

V. J. Emery and S. A. Kivelson Phys. Rev. Lett. **74**, 3253 – Published 17 April 1995 S. Kasahara, T. Shibauchi, K. Hashimoto, K. Ikada, S. Tonegawa, R. Okazaki, H. Shishido, H. Ikeda, H. Takeya, K. Hirata, T. Terashima, and Y. Matsuda, *PRB* 81, 184519 (2010)



"Strange",





or "Incoherent",

metal has a resistivity, ρ , which obeys

 $\rho \sim T$,

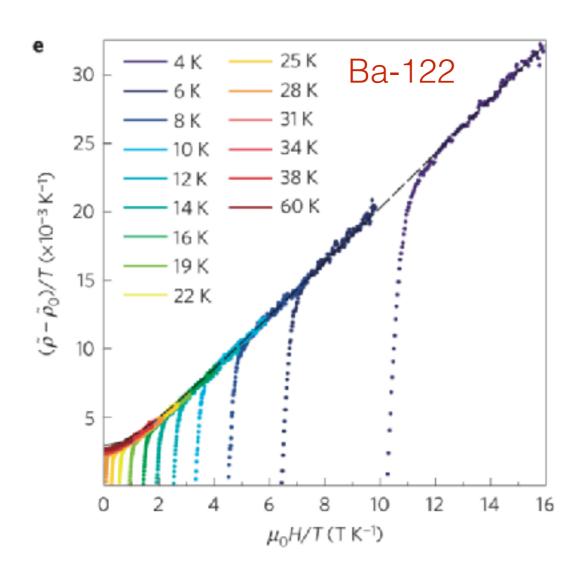
and

in some cases $\rho \gg h/e^2$

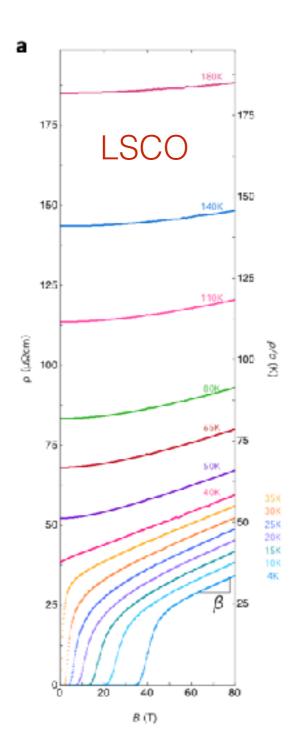
(in two dimensions), where h/e^2 is the quantum unit of resistance.

Strange metals just got stranger...

B-linear magnetoresistance!?



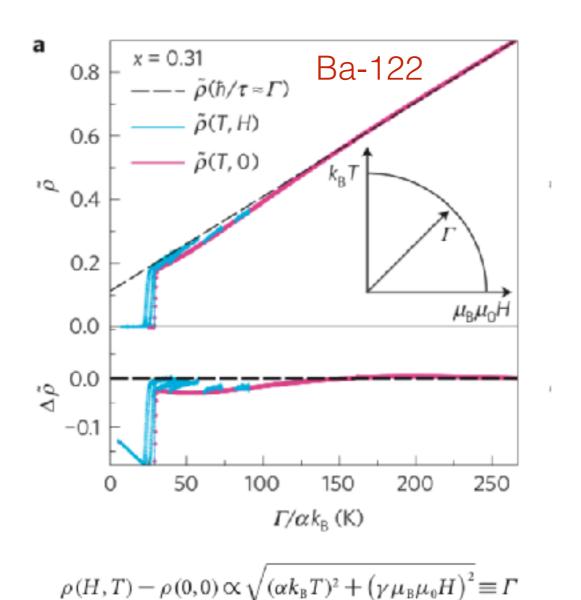
I. M. Hayes et. al., Nat. Phys. 2016



P. Giraldo-Gallo et. al., arXiv:1705.05806

Strange metals just got stranger...

Scaling between B and T!?



I. M. Hayes et. al., Nat. Phys. 2016

Quantum matter with quasiparticles:

• Quasiparticles are additive excitations:

The low-lying excitations of the many-body system can be identified as a set $\{n_{\alpha}\}$ of quasiparticles with energy ε_{α}

$$E = \sum_{\alpha} n_{\alpha} \varepsilon_{\alpha} + \sum_{\alpha,\beta} F_{\alpha\beta} n_{\alpha} n_{\beta} + \dots$$

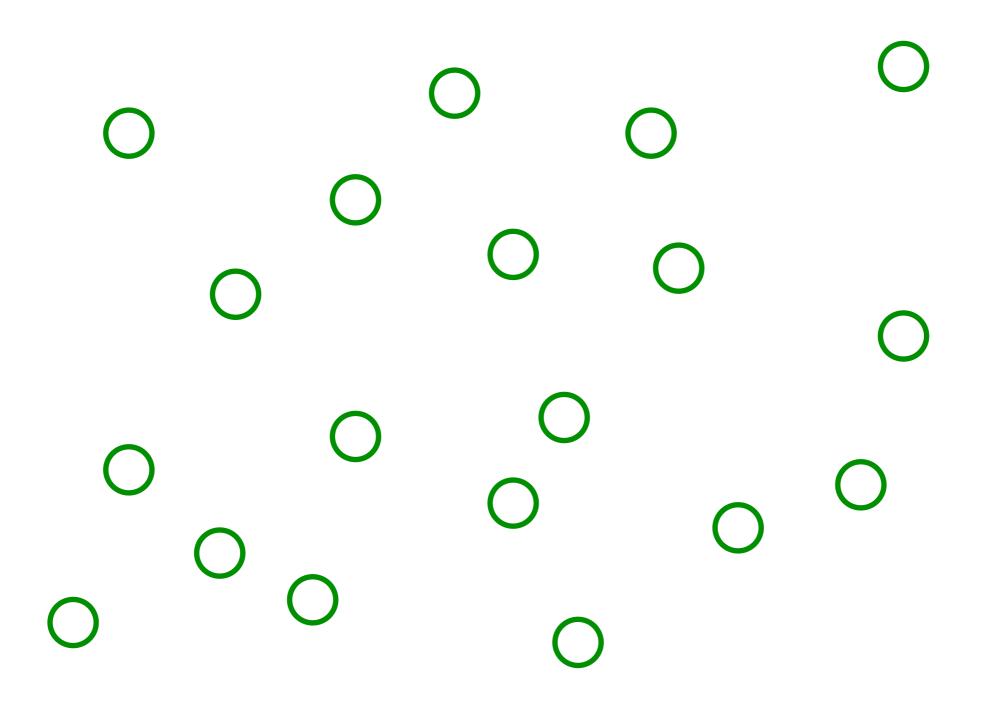
In a lattice system of N sites, this parameterizes the energy of $\sim e^{\alpha N}$ states in terms of poly(N) numbers.

Quantum matter with quasiparticles:

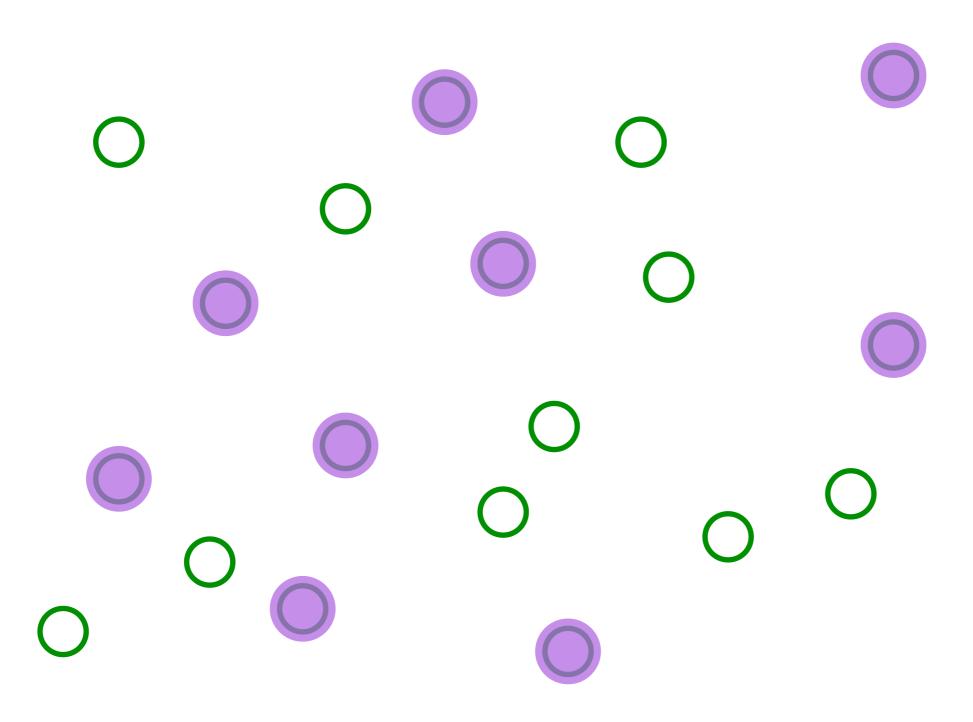
• Quasiparticles eventually collide with each other. Such collisions eventually leads to thermal equilibration in a chaotic quantum state, but the equilibration takes a long time. In a Fermi liquid, this time diverges as

$$au_{
m eq} \sim rac{\hbar E_F}{(k_B T)^2} \quad , \quad {
m as} \ T o 0,$$

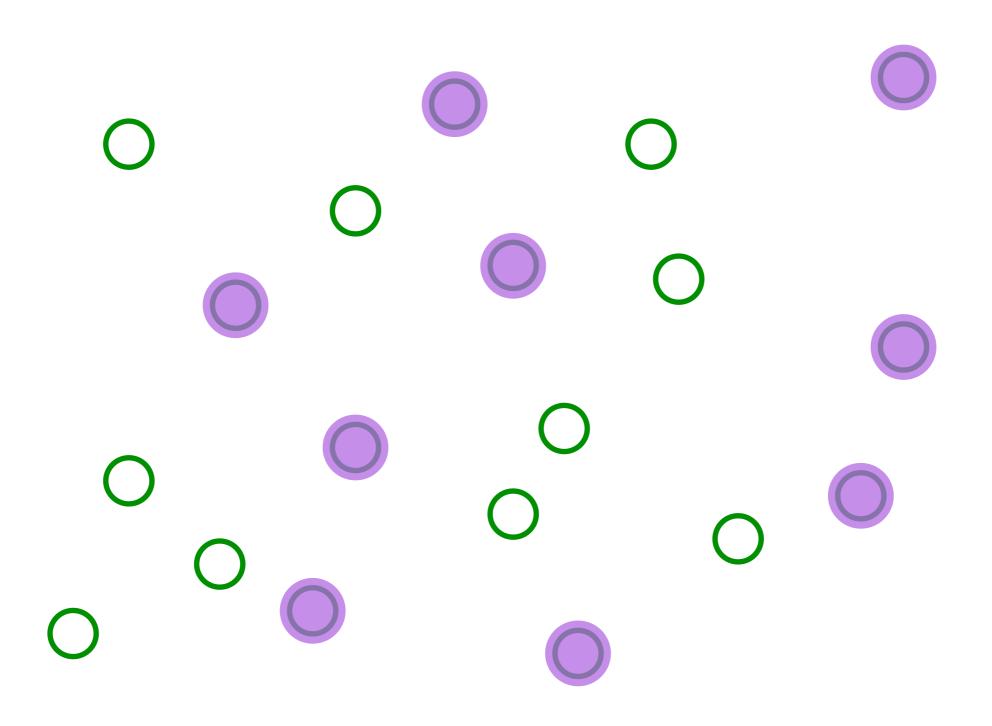
where E_F is the Fermi energy.

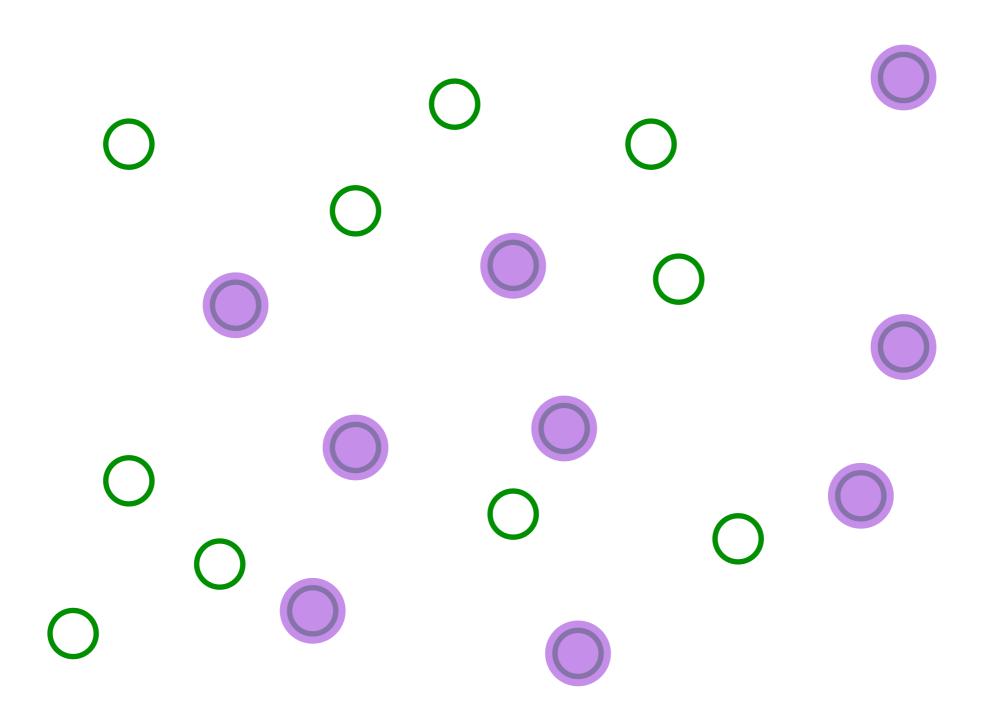


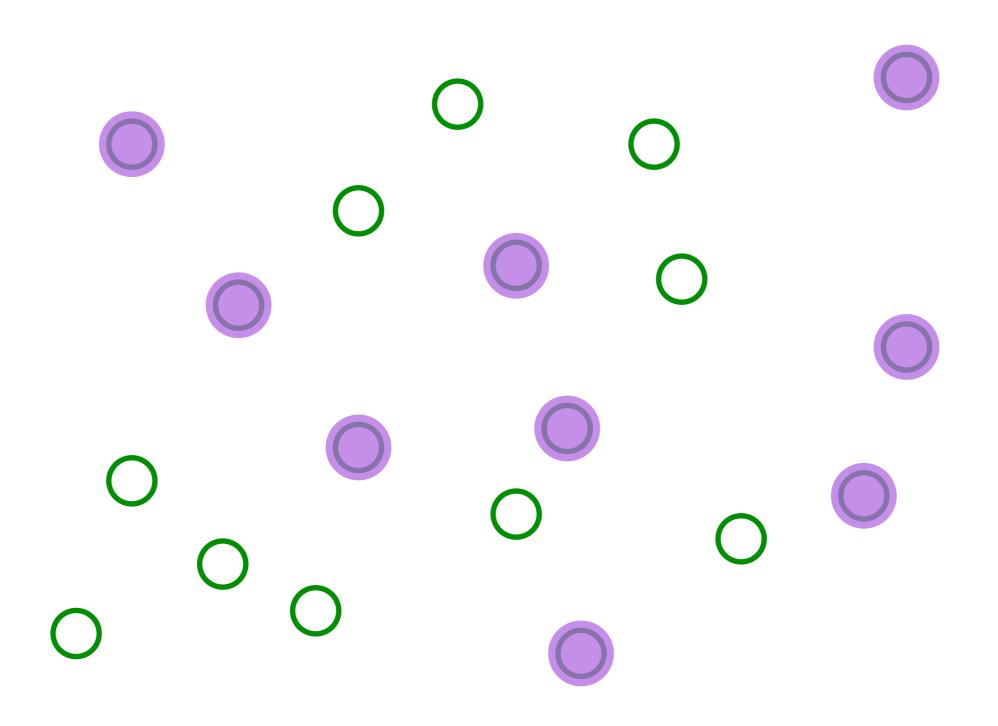
Pick a set of random positions

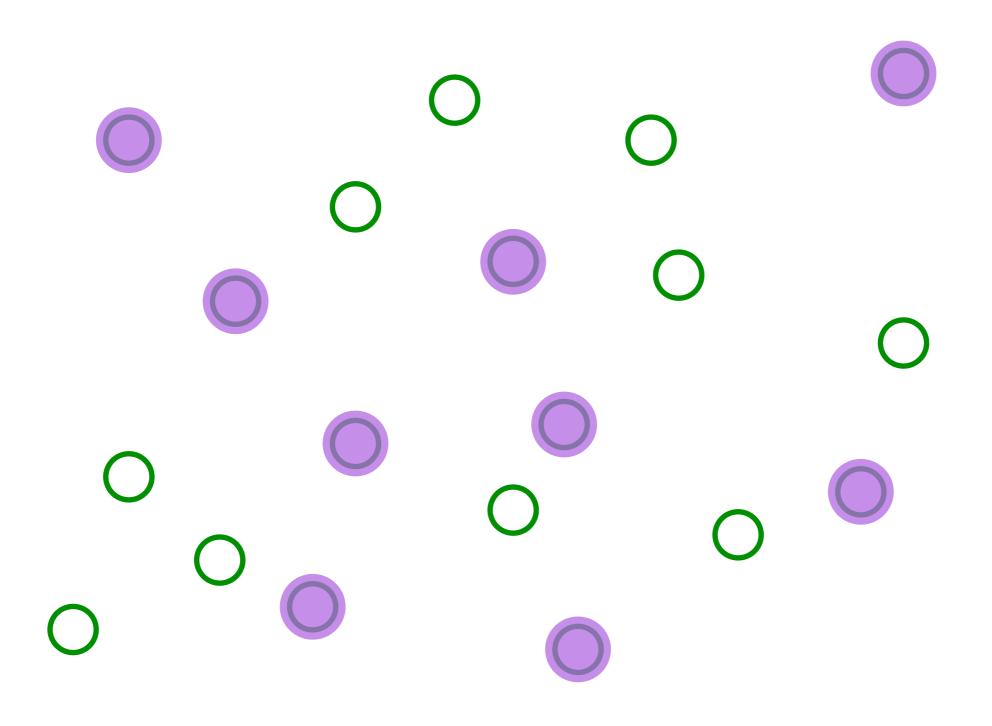


Place electrons randomly on some sites









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

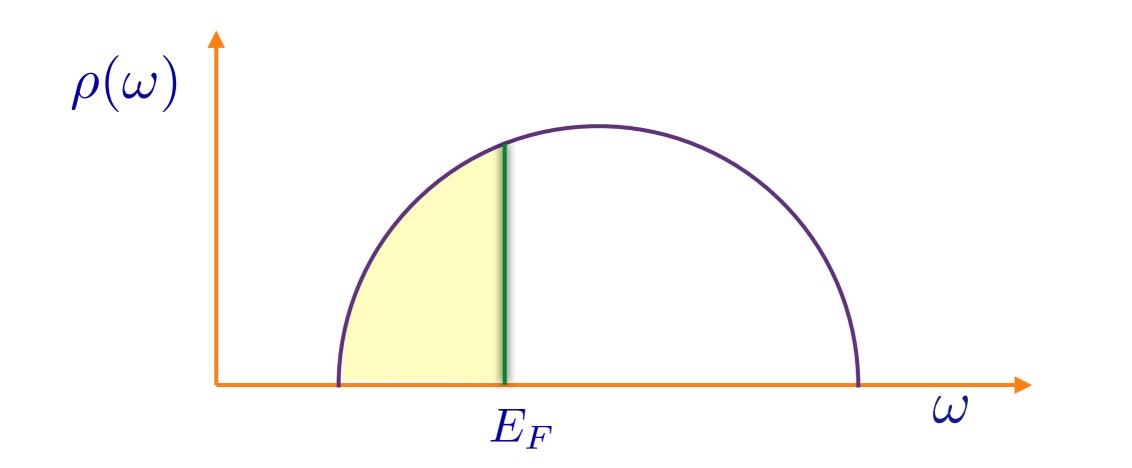
$$c_i c_j + c_j c_i = 0 \quad , \quad c_i c_j^{\dagger} + c_j^{\dagger} c_i = \delta_{ij}$$

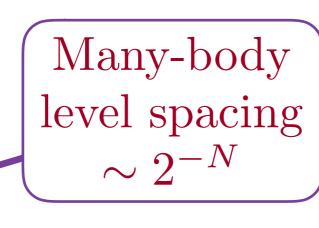
$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_i c_i^{\dagger} c_i = \mathcal{Q}$$

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

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

Let ε_{α} be the eigenvalues of the matrix t_{ij}/\sqrt{N} . The fermions will occupy the lowest $N\mathcal{Q}$ eigenvalues, upto the Fermi energy E_F . The density of states is $\rho(\omega) = (1/N) \sum_{\alpha} \delta(\omega - \varepsilon_{\alpha})$.





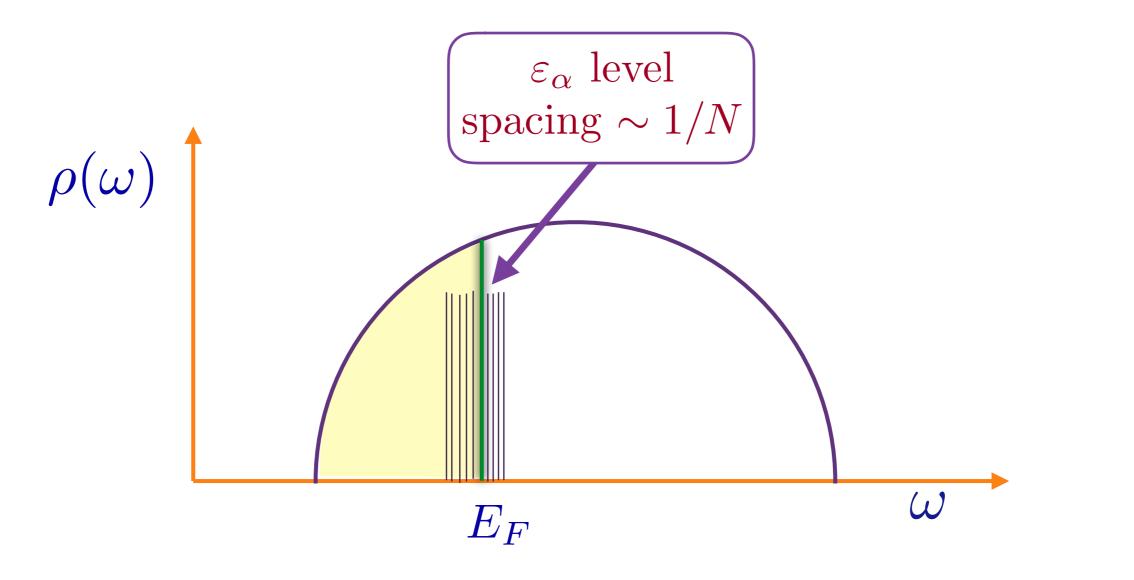
Quasiparticle excitations with spacing $\sim 1/N$

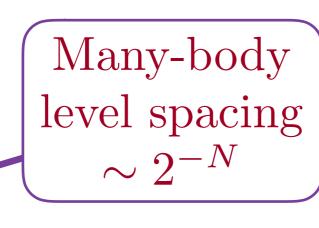
There are 2^N many body levels with energy

$$E = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N} n_{\alpha} \varepsilon_{\alpha},$$

where $n_{\alpha} = 0, 1$. Shown are all values of E for a single cluster of size N = 12. The ε_{α} have a level spacing $\sim 1/N$.

Let ε_{α} be the eigenvalues of the matrix t_{ij}/\sqrt{N} . The fermions will occupy the lowest NQ eigenvalues, upto the Fermi energy E_F . The density of states is $\rho(\omega) = (1/N) \sum_{\alpha} \delta(\omega - \varepsilon_{\alpha})$.





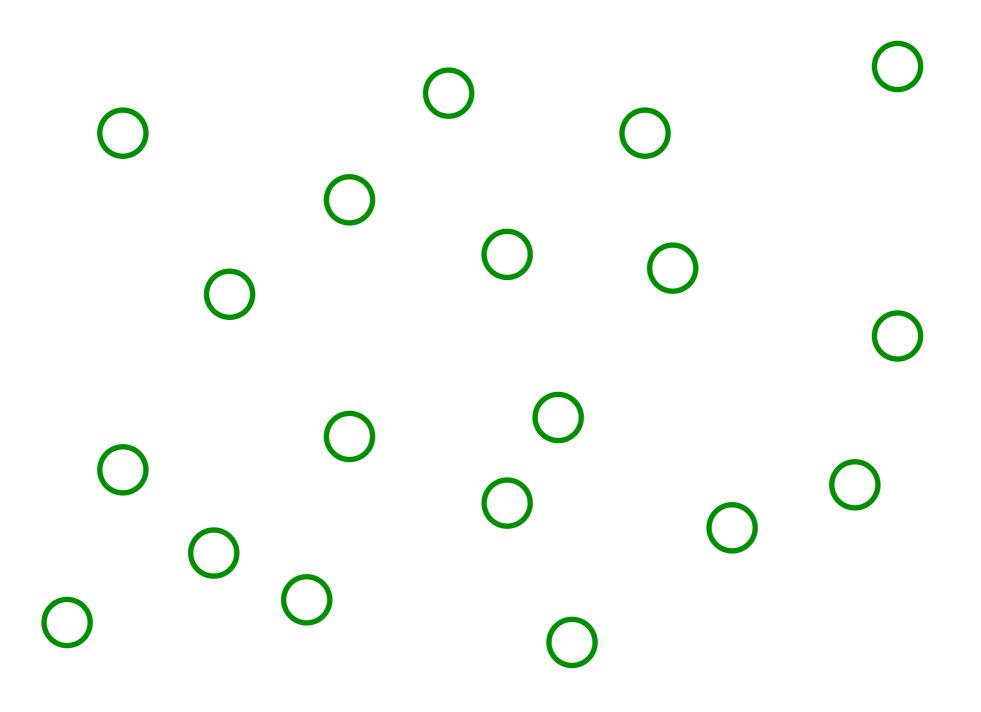
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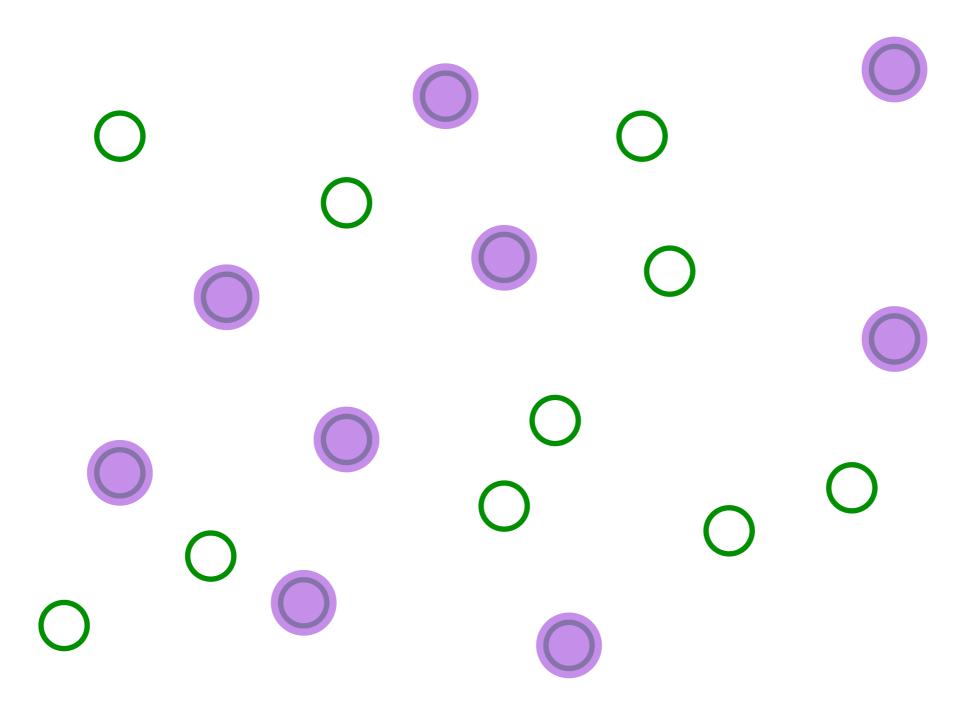
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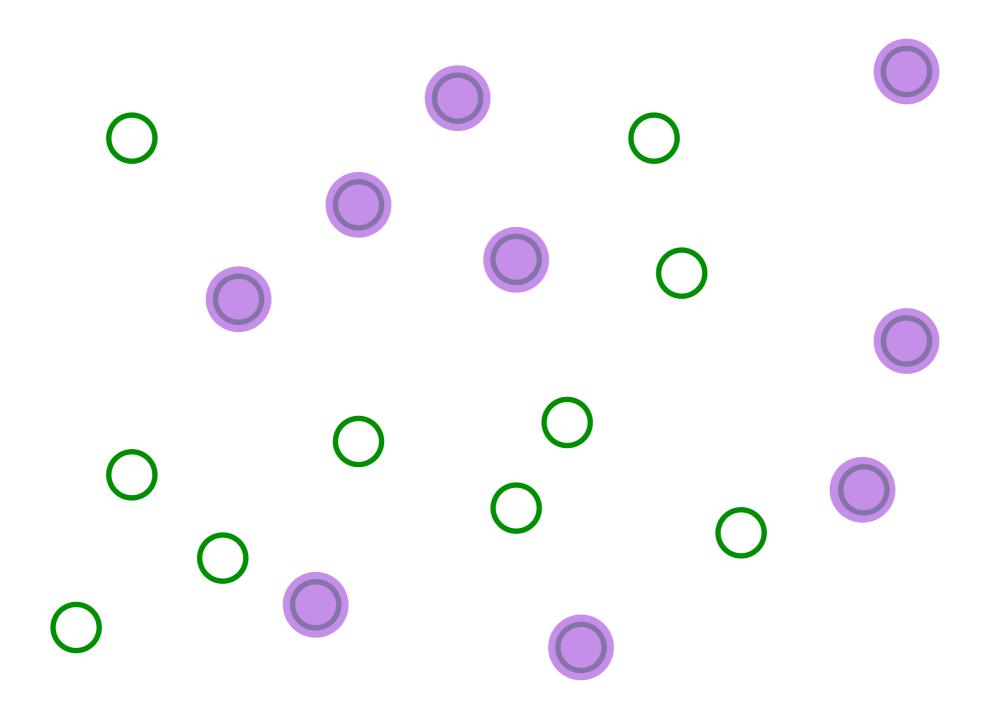
The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model

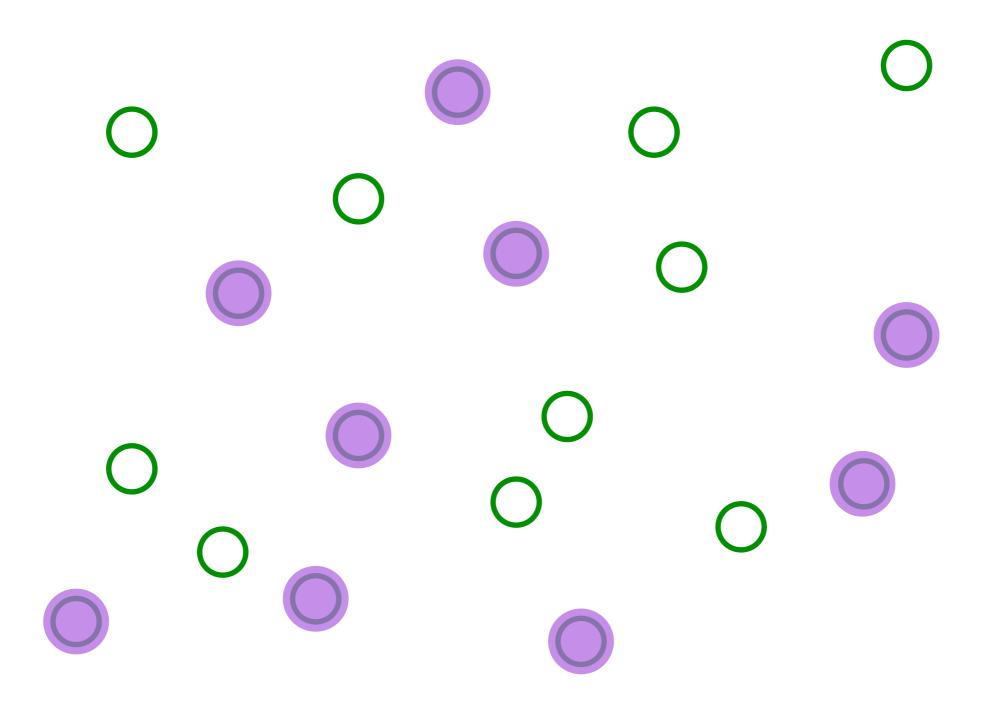


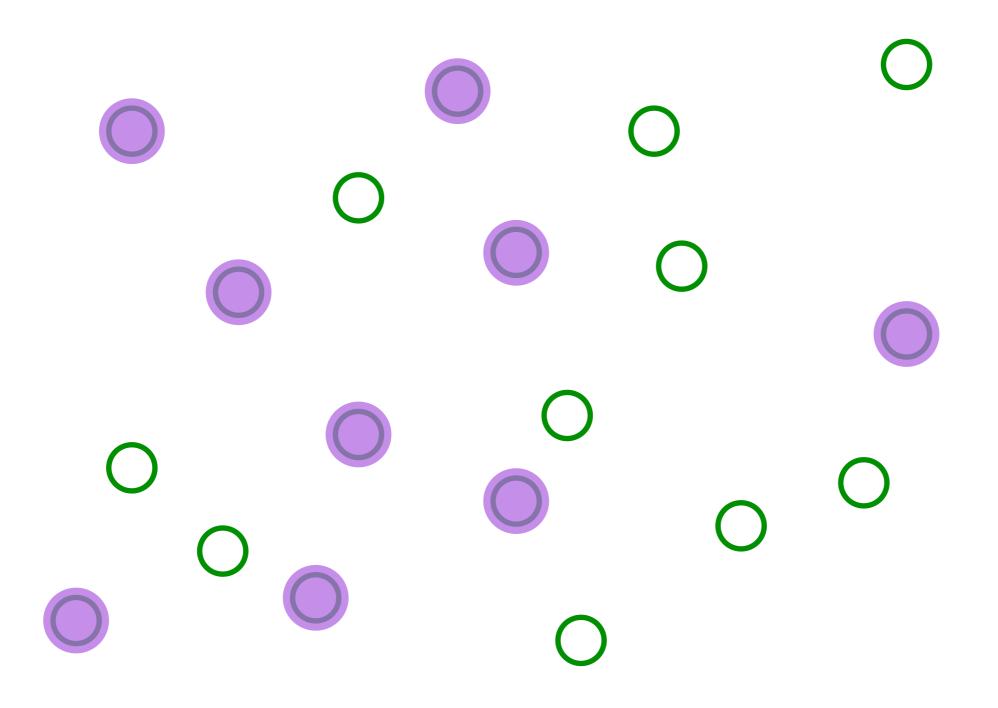
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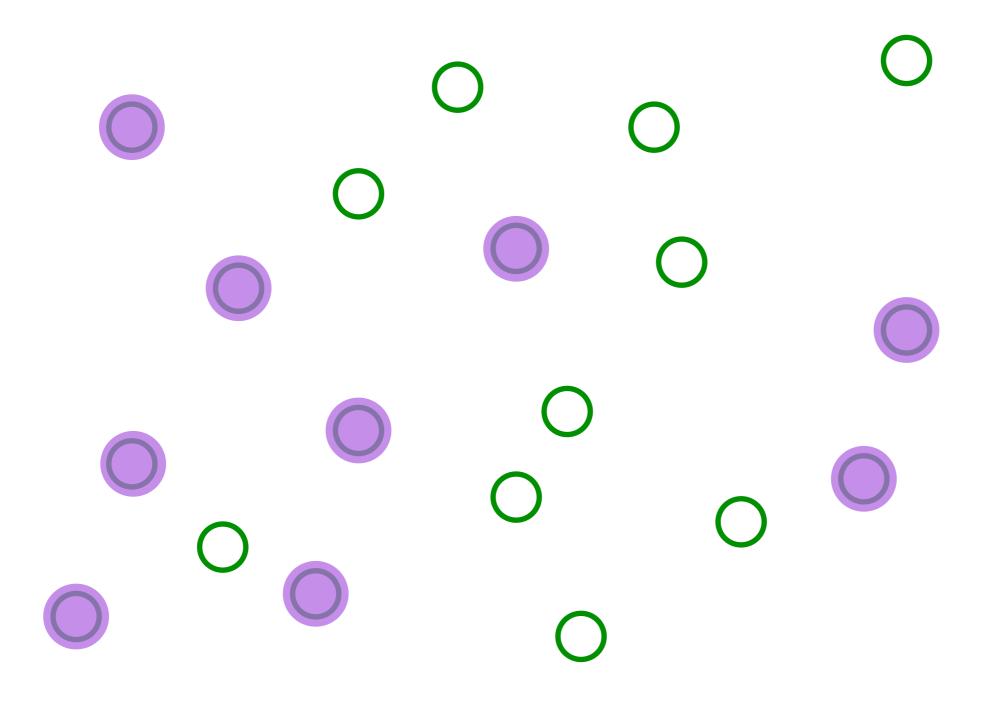


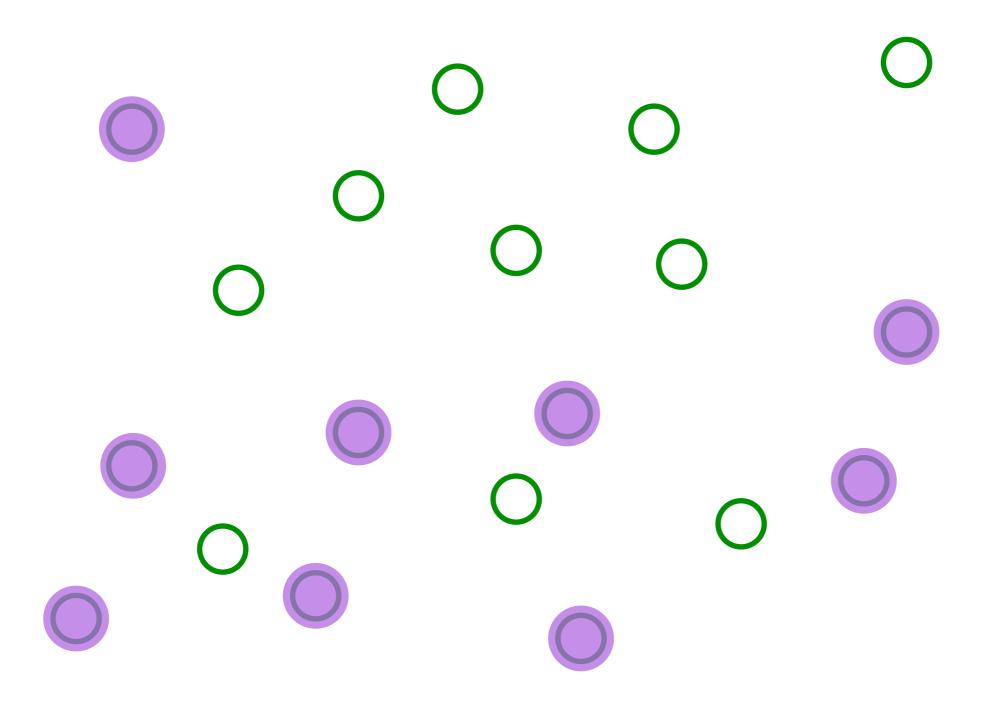
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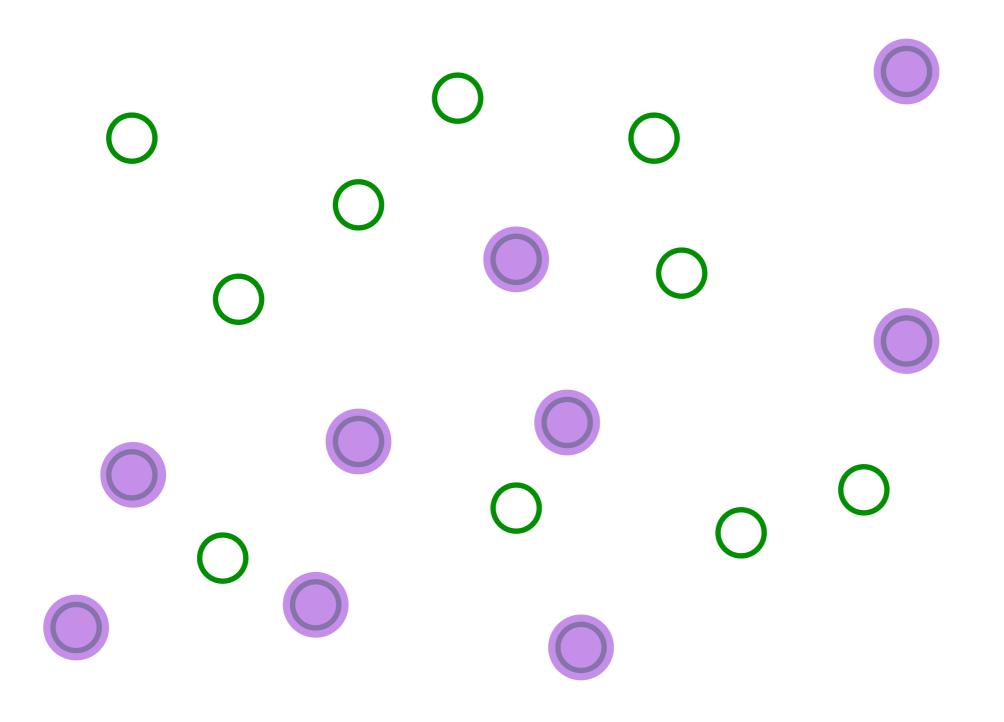


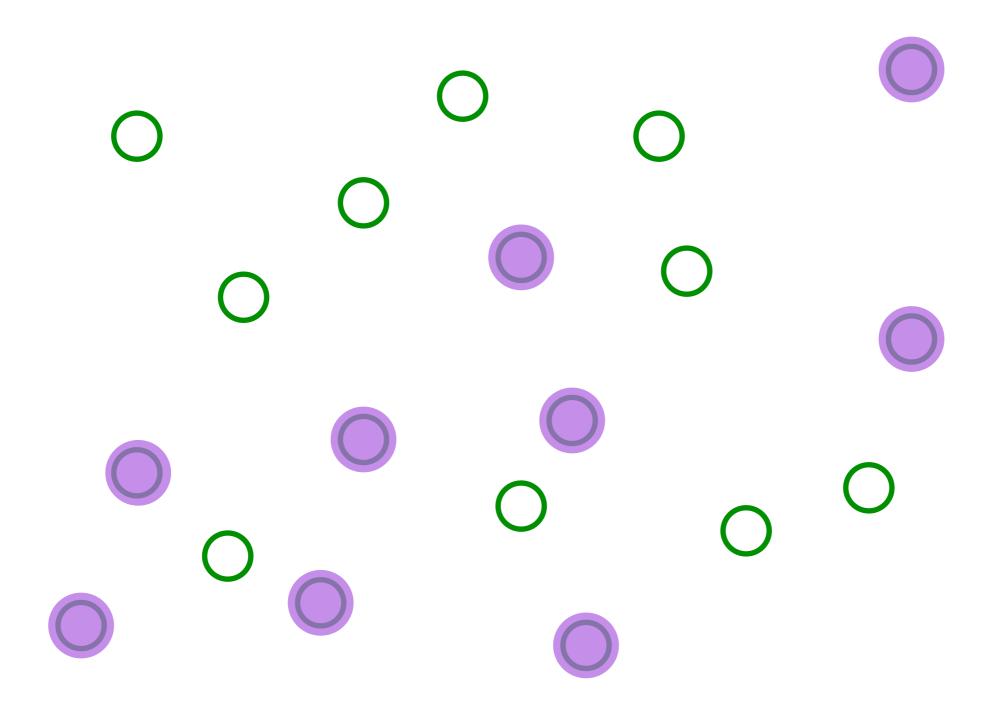










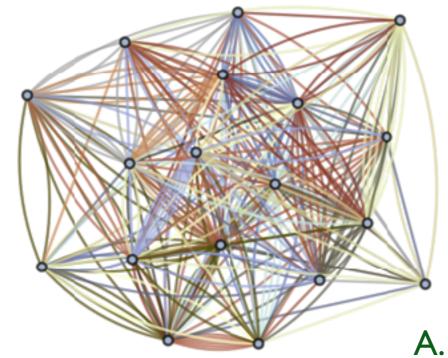


This describes both a strange metal and a black hole!

(See also: the "2-Body Random Ensemble" in nuclear physics; did not obtain the large N limit; T.A. Brody, J. Flores, J.B. French, P.A. Mello, A. Pandey, and S.S.M. Wong, Rev. Mod. Phys. **53**, 385 (1981))

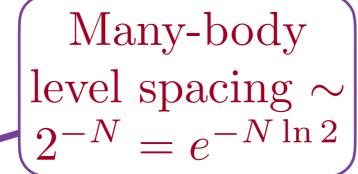
$$H = \frac{1}{(2N)^{3/2}} \sum_{i,j,k,\ell=1}^{N} U_{ij;k\ell} c_i^{\dagger} c_j^{\dagger} c_k c_{\ell} - \mu \sum_i c_i^{\dagger} c_i$$
$$c_i c_j + c_j c_i = 0 \quad , \quad c_i c_j^{\dagger} + c_j^{\dagger} c_i = \delta_{ij}$$
$$\mathcal{Q} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i c_i^{\dagger} c_i$$

 $U_{ij;k\ell}$ are independent random variables with $\overline{U_{ij;k\ell}} = 0$ and $\overline{|U_{ij;k\ell}|^2} = U^2$ $N \to \infty$ yields critical strange metal.



S. Sachdev and J. Ye, PRL **70**, 3339 (1993)

A. Kitaev, unpublished; S. Sachdev, PRX 5, 041025 (2015)



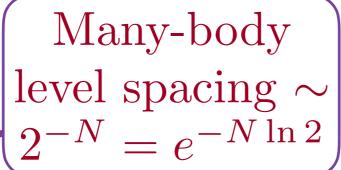
There are 2^N many body levels with energy E, which do not admit a quasiparticle decomposition. Shown are all values of E for a single cluster of size N=12. The $T\to 0$ state has an entropy $S_{GPS}=Ns_0$ with

$$s_0 = \frac{G}{\pi} + \frac{\ln(2)}{4} = 0.464848...$$
< $\ln 2$

where G is Catalan's constant, for the half-filled case Q = 1/2.

Non-quasiparticle excitations with spacing $\sim e^{-Ns_0}$

GPS: A. Georges, O. Parcollet, and S. Sachdev, PRB **63**, 134406 (2001)



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PRB 63, 134406 (2001)

Non-quasiparticle excitations with spacing $\sim e^{-Ns_0}$

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

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

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

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

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

• Low energy, many-body density of states $\rho(E) \sim e^{Ns_0} \sinh(\sqrt{2(E-E_0)N\gamma})$

(for Majorana model)

A. Georges, O. Parcollet, and S. Sachdev, PRB 63, 134406 (2001)

D. Stanford and E. Witten, 1703.04612

A. M. Garica-Garcia, J.J.M. Verbaarschot, 1701.06593

D. Bagrets, A. Altland, and A. Kamenev, 1607.00694

• Low energy, many-body density of states $\rho(E) \sim e^{Ns_0} \sinh(\sqrt{2(E-E_0)N\gamma})$

• Low temperature entropy $S = Ns_0 + N\gamma T + \dots$

A. Kitaev, unpublished J. Maldacena and D. Stanford, 1604.07818

The SYK model

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• T=0 fermion Green's function is incoherent: $G(\tau)\sim \tau^{-1/2}$ at large τ . (Fermi liquids with quasiparticles have the coherent: $G(\tau)\sim 1/\tau$)

S. Sachdev and J.Ye, PRL **70**, 3339 (1993)

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- T > 0 Green's function has conformal invariance $G \sim e^{-2\pi\mathcal{E}T\tau} (T/\sin(\pi k_B T\tau/\hbar))^{1/2};$ \mathcal{E} measures particle-hole asymmetry.

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

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- T > 0 Green's function has conformal invariance $G \sim e^{-2\pi\mathcal{E}T\tau} (T/\sin(\pi k_B T\tau/\hbar))^{1/2};$ \mathcal{E} measures particle-hole asymmetry.
- The last property indicates $\tau_{\rm eq} \sim \hbar/(k_B T)$, and this has been found in a recent numerical study.

• If there are no quasiparticles, then

$$E \neq \sum_{\alpha} n_{\alpha} \varepsilon_{\alpha} + \sum_{\alpha,\beta} F_{\alpha\beta} n_{\alpha} n_{\beta} + \dots$$

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

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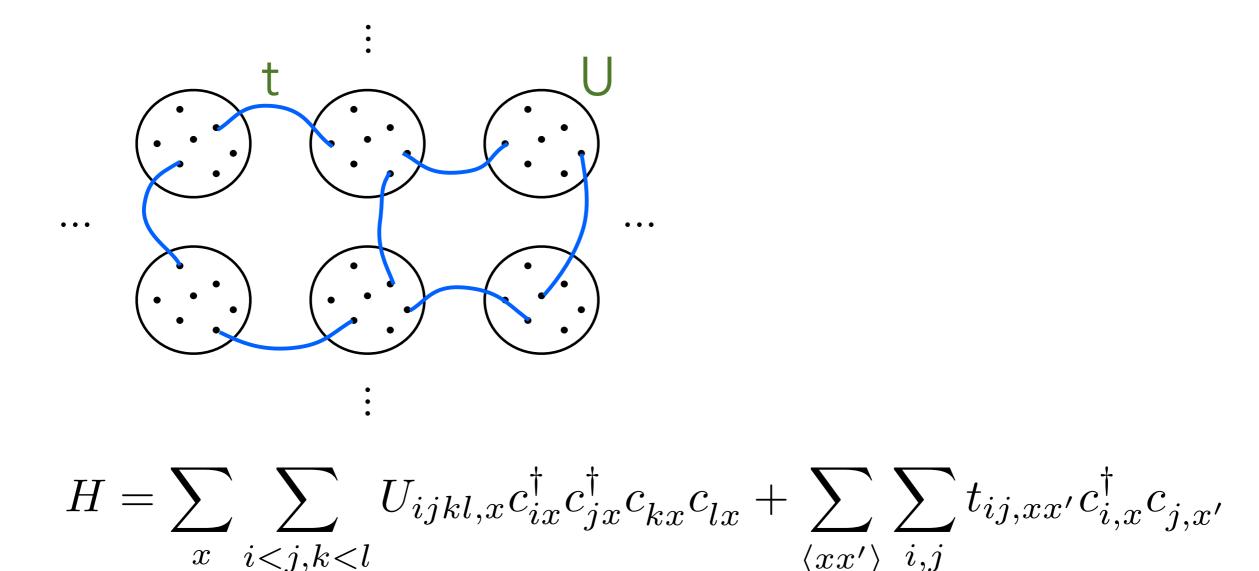
• Systems without quasiparticles are the fastest possible in reaching local equilibrium, and all many-body quantum systems obey, as $T \to 0$

$$au_{\rm eq} > C \frac{\hbar}{k_B T} \,.$$

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

- In Fermi liquids $\tau_{\rm eq} \sim 1/T^2$, and so the bound is obeyed as $T \to 0$.
- This bound rules out quantum systems with e.g. $\tau_{eq} \sim \hbar/(Jk_BT)^{1/2}$.
- There is no bound in classical mechanics ($\hbar \to 0$). By cranking up frequencies, we can attain equilibrium as quickly as we desire.

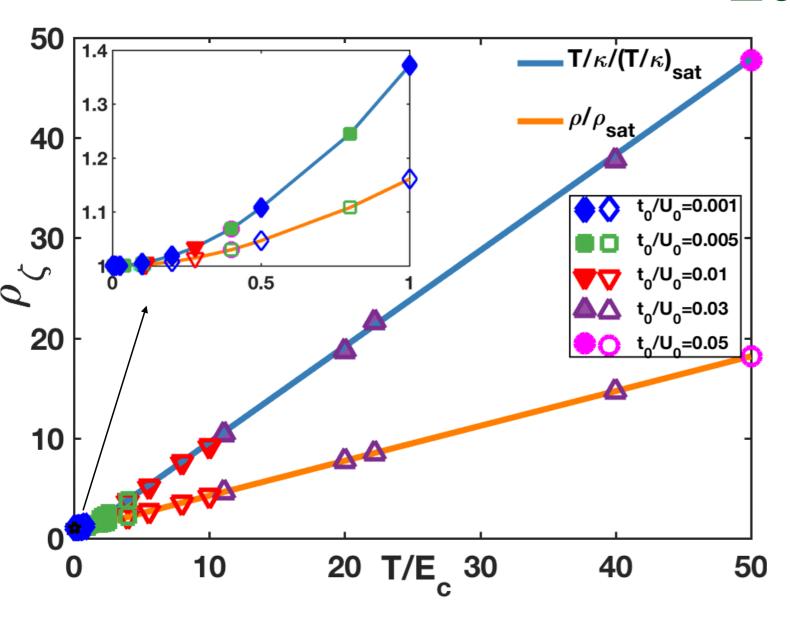
Title: A strongly correlated metal built from Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev models Authors: <u>Xue-Yang Song</u>, <u>Chao-Ming Jian</u>, <u>Leon Balents</u>



$$\overline{|U_{ijkl}|^2} = \frac{2U^2}{N^3} \qquad \overline{|t_{ij,x,x'}|^2} = t_0^2/N.$$

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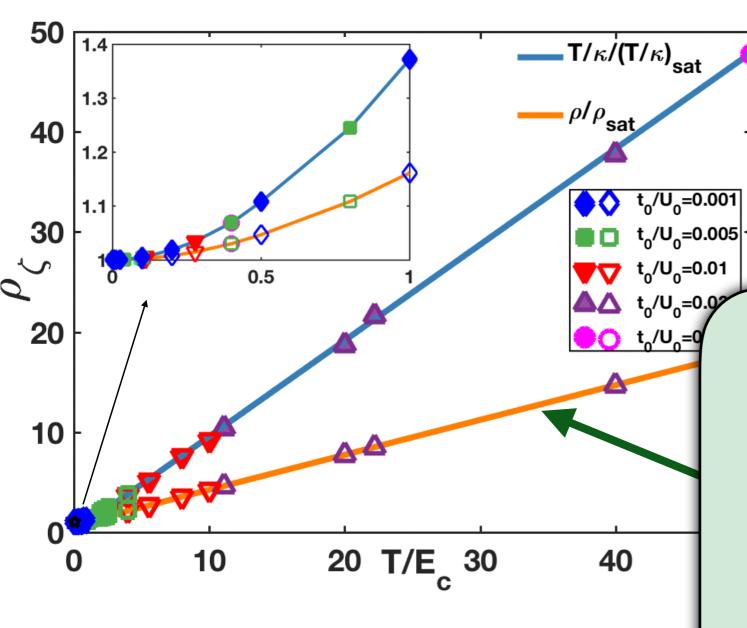
Low 'coherence' scale



$$E_c \sim \frac{t_0^2}{U}$$

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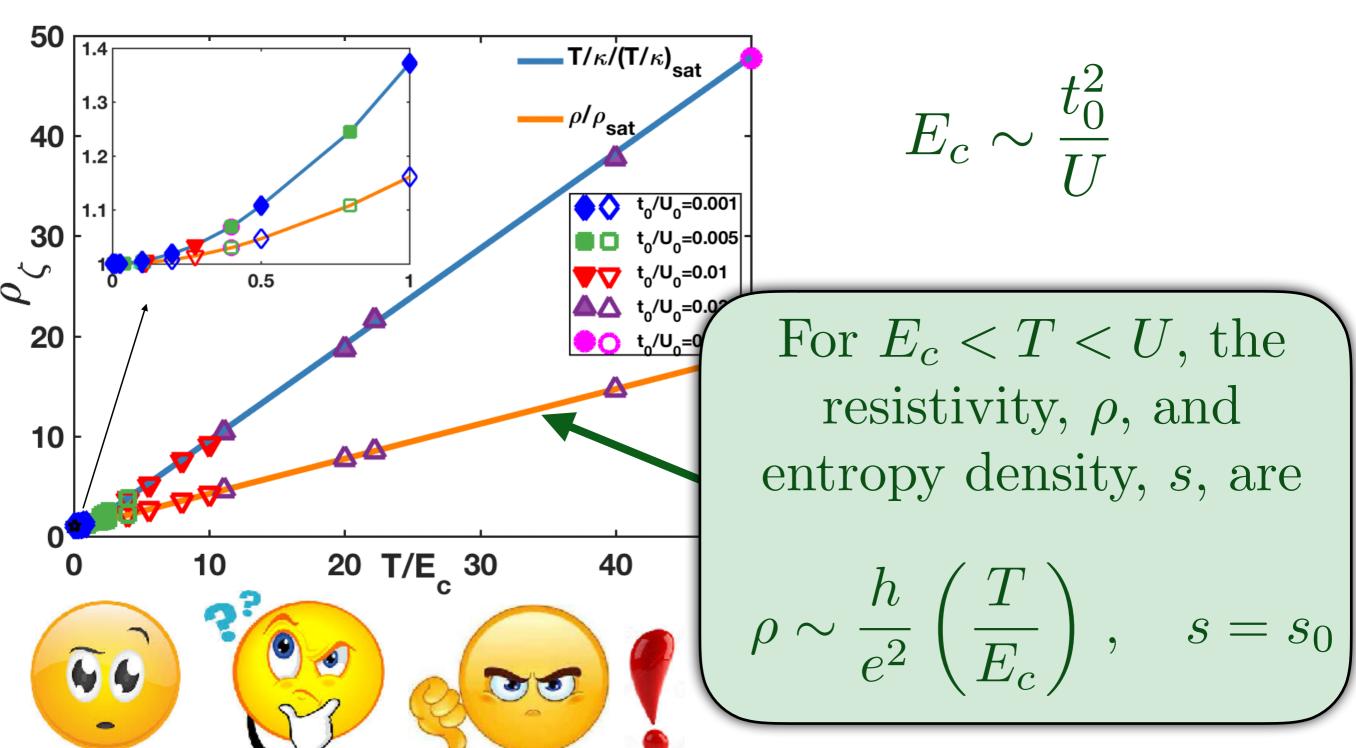
$$E_c \sim \frac{t_0^2}{U}$$

For $E_c < T < U$, the resistivity, ρ , and entropy density, s, are

$$\rho \sim \frac{h}{e^2} \left(\frac{T}{E_c} \right) , \quad s = s_0$$

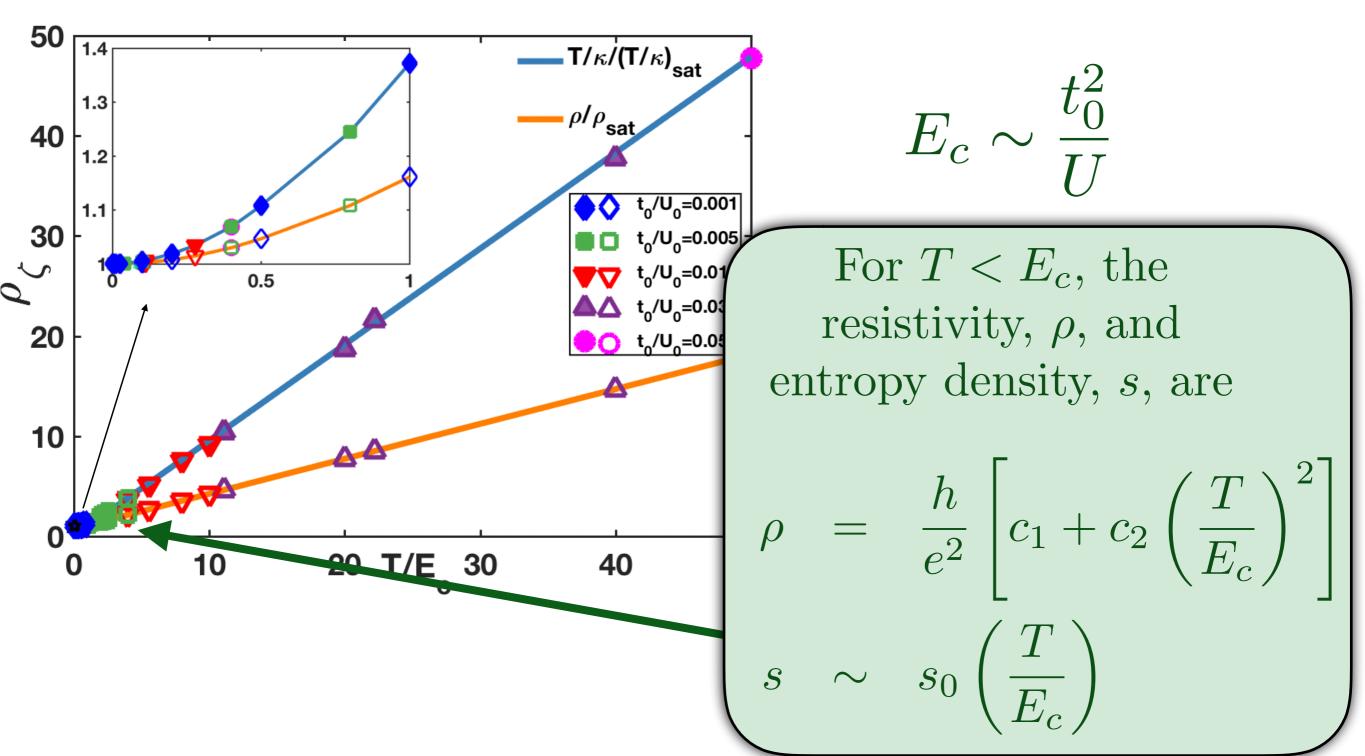
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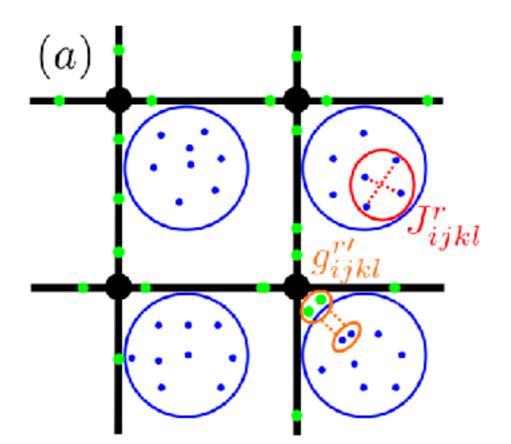


Infecting a Fermi liquid and making it SYK

 Can we build a bridge between the 0-dimensional SYK model and a more conventional FS-based system?

$$H = -t \sum_{\langle rr' \rangle; i=1}^{M} (c_{ri}^{\dagger} c_{r'i} + \text{h.c.}) - \mu_{c} \sum_{r; i=1}^{M} c_{ri}^{\dagger} c_{ri} - \mu \sum_{r; i=1}^{N} f_{ri}^{\dagger} f_{ri}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{NM^{1/2}} \sum_{r; i,j=1}^{N} \sum_{k,l=1}^{M} g_{ijkl}^{r} f_{ri}^{\dagger} f_{rj} c_{rk}^{\dagger} c_{rl} + \frac{1}{N^{3/2}} \sum_{r; i,j,k,l=1}^{N} J_{ijkl}^{r} f_{ri}^{\dagger} f_{rj}^{\dagger} f_{rk}^{\dagger} f_{rl}.$$



A. A. Patel, J. McGreevy, D. P. Arovas and S. Sachdev, to appear...

See also: D. Ben-Zion and J. McGreevy, arXiv: 1711.02686

Infecting a Fermi liquid and making it SYK

$$\Sigma(\tau - \tau') = -J^2 G^2(\tau - \tau') G(\tau' - \tau) - \frac{M}{N} g^2 G(\tau - \tau') G^c(\tau - \tau') G^c(\tau' - \tau),$$

$$G(i\omega_n) = \frac{1}{i\omega_n + \mu - \Sigma(i\omega_n)}, \quad \text{(f electrons)}$$

$$\Sigma^{c}(\tau - \tau') = -g^{2}G^{c}(\tau - \tau')G(\tau - \tau')G(\tau' - \tau),$$

$$G^{c}(i\omega_{n}) = \sum_{k} \frac{1}{i\omega_{n} - \epsilon_{k} + \mu_{c} - \Sigma^{c}(i\omega_{n})} \cdot \text{(c electrons)}$$

Exactly solvable in the large N,M limits!

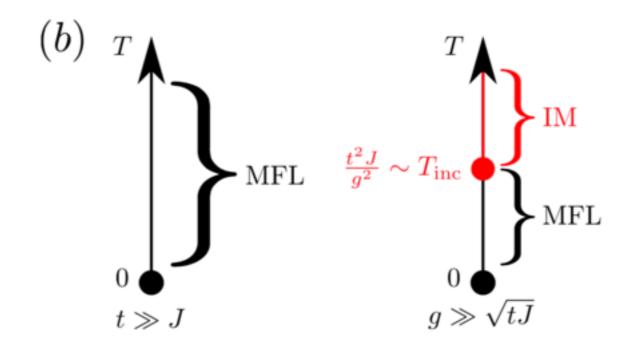
Low-T phase: c electrons form a Marginal Fermi-liquid (MFL), f electrons are local SYK models

$$\Sigma^{c}(i\omega_{n}) = \frac{ig^{2}\nu(0)T}{2J\cosh^{1/2}(2\pi\mathcal{E})\pi^{3/2}} \left(\frac{\omega_{n}}{T}\ln\left(\frac{2\pi Te^{\gamma_{E}-1}}{J}\right) + \frac{\omega_{n}}{T}\psi\left(\frac{\omega_{n}}{2\pi T}\right) + \pi\right),$$

$$\Sigma^{c}(i\omega_{n}) \to \frac{ig^{2}\nu(0)}{2J\cosh^{1/2}(2\pi\mathcal{E})\pi^{3/2}}\omega_{n}\ln\left(\frac{|\omega_{n}|e^{\gamma_{E}-1}}{J}\right), \quad |\omega_{n}| \gg T \quad (\nu(0) \sim 1/t)$$

Infecting a Fermi liquid and making it SYK

 High-T phase: c electrons form an "incoherent metal" (IM), with local Green's function, and no notion of momentum; f electrons remain local SYK models



$$G^{c}(\tau) = -\frac{C_{c}}{\sqrt{1 + e^{-4\pi\mathcal{E}_{c}}}} \left(\frac{T}{\sin(\pi T \tau)}\right)^{1/2} e^{-2\pi\mathcal{E}_{c}T\tau}, \quad G(\tau) = -\frac{C}{\sqrt{1 + e^{-4\pi\mathcal{E}}}} \left(\frac{T}{\sin(\pi T \tau)}\right)^{1/2} e^{-2\pi\mathcal{E}T\tau}, \quad 0 \le \tau < \beta$$

$$C = \cosh^{1/4}(2\pi\mathcal{E}) \frac{\pi^{1/4}}{J^{1/2}} \left(1 - \frac{M}{N} \frac{\Lambda \nu(0)}{2\pi} \frac{\cosh(2\pi\mathcal{E})}{\cosh(2\pi\mathcal{E}_{c})}\right)^{1/4}, \quad C_{c} = \frac{\cosh^{1/2}(2\pi\mathcal{E})\Lambda^{1/2}\nu^{1/2}(0)}{2^{1/2}Cg},$$

$$(\Lambda \sim t, \quad \nu(0) \sim 1/t)$$

Linear-in-T resistivity

Both the MFL and the IM are not translationally-invariant and have linear-in-T resistivities!

$$\sigma_0^{\text{MFL}} = 0.120251 \times MT^{-1}J \times \left(\frac{v_F^2}{g^2}\right) \cosh^{1/2}(2\pi\mathcal{E}). \ (v_F \sim t)$$

$$\sigma_0^{\text{IM}} = (\pi^{1/2}/8) \times MT^{-1}J \times \left(\frac{\Lambda}{\nu(0)g^2}\right) \frac{\cosh^{1/2}(2\pi\mathcal{E})}{\cosh(2\pi\mathcal{E}_c)}.$$

[Can be obtained straightforwardly from Kubo formula in the large-N,M limits]

The IM is also a "Bad metal" with $\,\sigma_0^{\mathrm{IM}}\ll 1\,$

Magnetotransport: Marginal-Fermi liquid

 Thanks to large N,M, we can also exactly derive the linear-response Boltzmann equation for non-quantizing magnetic fields...

$$(1 - \partial_{\omega} \operatorname{Re}[\Sigma_{R}^{c}(\omega)]) \partial_{t} \delta n(t, k, \omega) + v_{F} \hat{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}(t) \ n_{f}'(\omega) + v_{F} (\hat{k} \times \mathcal{B} \hat{z}) \cdot \nabla_{k} \delta n(t, k, \omega) = 2 \delta n(t, k, \omega) \operatorname{Im}[\Sigma_{R}^{c}(\omega)],$$
$$(\mathcal{B} = eBa^{2}/\hbar) \text{ (i.e. flux per unit cell)}$$

$$\sigma_L^{\text{MFL}} = M \frac{v_F^2 \nu(0)}{16T} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dE_1}{2\pi} \operatorname{sech}^2\left(\frac{E_1}{2T}\right) \frac{-\operatorname{Im}[\Sigma_R^c(E_1)]}{\operatorname{Im}[\Sigma_R^c(E_1)]^2 + (v_F/(2k_F))^2 \mathcal{B}^2},$$

$$\sigma_H^{\text{MFL}} = -M \frac{v_F^2 \nu(0)}{16T} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dE_1}{2\pi} \operatorname{sech}^2\left(\frac{E_1}{2T}\right) \frac{(v_F/(2k_F))\mathcal{B}}{\operatorname{Im}[\Sigma_R^c(E_1)]^2 + (v_F/(2k_F))^2 \mathcal{B}^2}.$$

$$\sigma_L^{\text{MFL}} \sim T^{-1} s_L((v_F/k_F)(\mathcal{B}/T)), \quad \sigma_H^{\text{MFL}} \sim -\mathcal{B}T^{-2} s_H((v_F/k_F)(\mathcal{B}/T)).$$

$$s_{L,H}(x \to \infty) \propto 1/x^2, \quad s_{L,H}(x \to 0) \propto x^0.$$

Scaling between magnetic field and temperature in orbital magnetotransport!

Macroscopic magnetotransport in the MFL

 Let us consider the MFL with additional macroscopic disorder (charge puddles etc.)

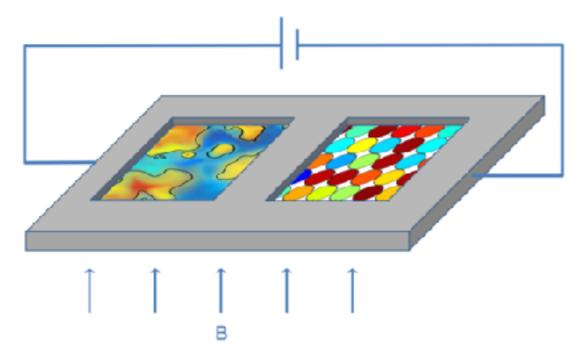


Figure: N. Ramakrishnan et. al., arXiv: 1703.05478

 No macroscopic momentum, so equations describing charge transport are just

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{I}(\mathbf{x}) = 0, \quad \mathbf{I}(\mathbf{x}) = \sigma(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x}) = -\nabla \Phi(\mathbf{x}).$$

 Very weak thermoelectricity for large FS, so charge effectively decoupled from heat transport.

Physical picture

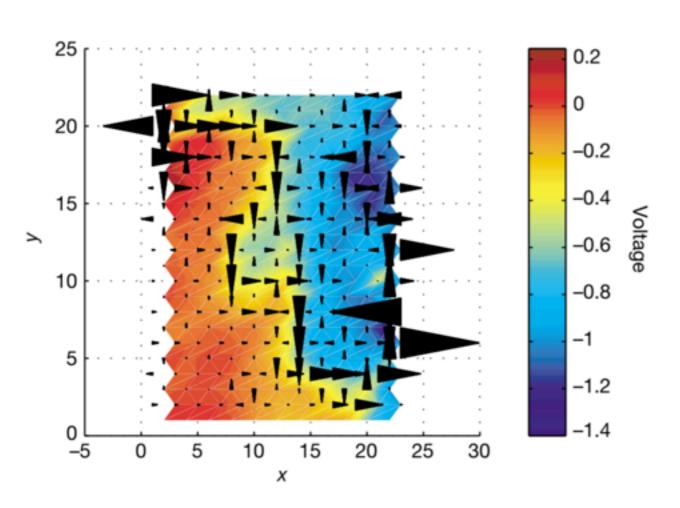
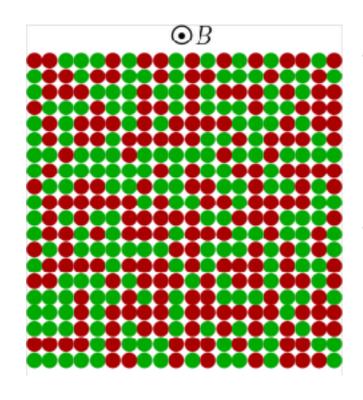


Figure 3 Visualization of currents and voltages at large magnetic field in a 10×10 random network of disks with radii 1 (arbitrary units), where the potential difference U=-1 V. The black arrows represent the currents, and arrow size depicts the magnitude of the current. The major current path is perpendicular to the applied voltage for a significant proportion of the time, which implies that the magnetoresistance is provided internally by the Hall effect, which is therefore linear in H.

• Current path length increases linearly with *B* at large *B* due to local Hall effect, which causes the global resistance to increase linearly with *B* at large *B*.

Exact numerical solution of charge-transport equations in a random-resistor network. (M. M. Parish and P. Littlewood, Nature 426, 162 (2003))

Solvable toy model: two-component disorder



- Two types of domains a,b with different carrier densities and lifetimes randomly distributed in approximately equal fractions over sample.
- Effective medium equations can be solved exactly

$$\left(\mathbb{I} + \frac{\sigma^a - \sigma^e}{2\sigma_L^e}\right)^{-1} \cdot (\sigma^a - \sigma^e) + \left(\mathbb{I} + \frac{\sigma^b - \sigma^e}{2\sigma_L^e}\right)^{-1} \cdot (\sigma^b - \sigma^e) = 0.$$

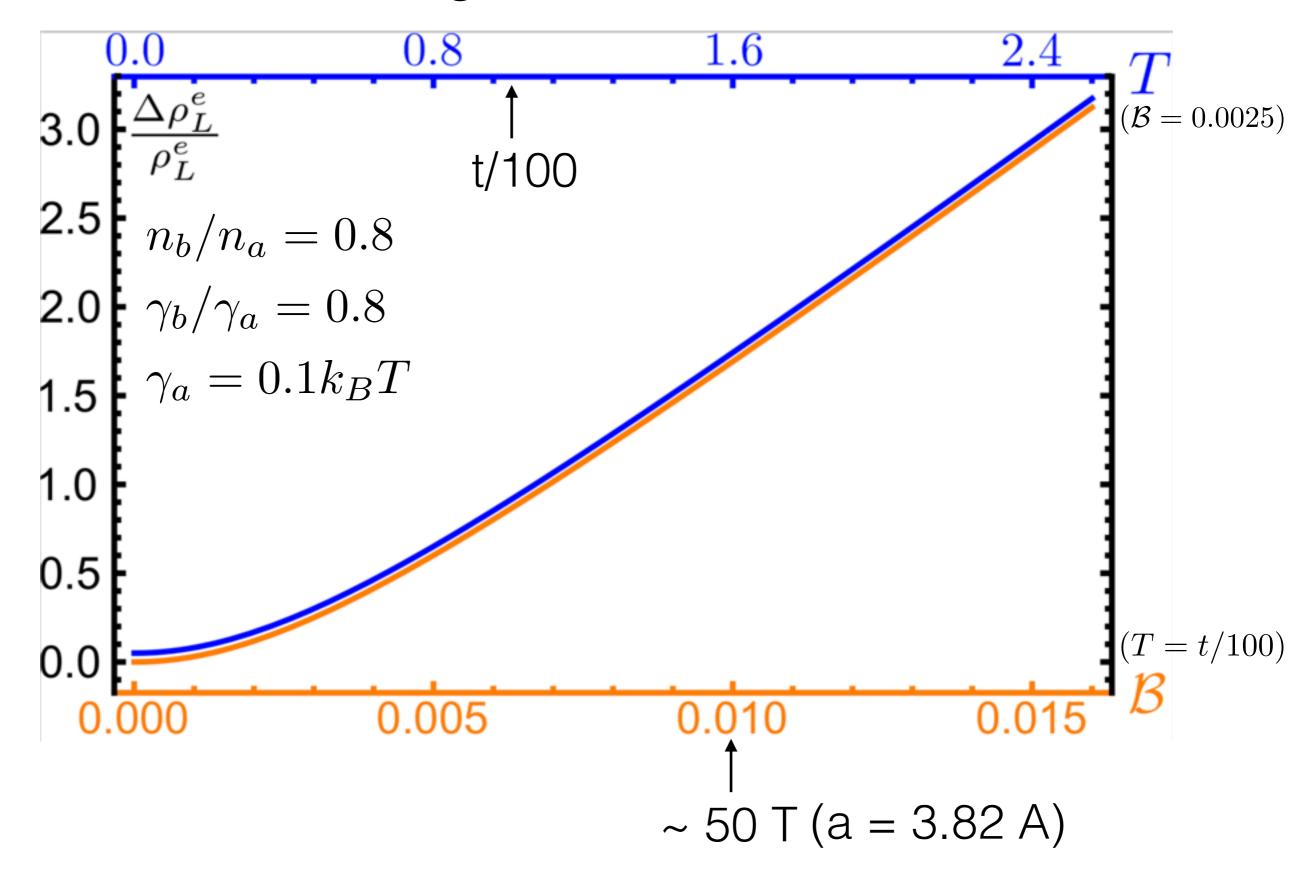
$$\rho_{L}^{e} \equiv \frac{\sigma_{L}^{e}}{\sigma_{L}^{e2} + \sigma_{H}^{e2}} = \frac{\sqrt{(\mathcal{B}/m)^{2} \left(\gamma_{a} \sigma_{0a}^{\text{MFL}} - \gamma_{b} \sigma_{0b}^{\text{MFL}}\right)^{2} + \gamma_{a}^{2} \gamma_{b}^{2} \left(\sigma_{0a}^{\text{MFL}} + \sigma_{0b}^{\text{MFL}}\right)^{2}}}{\gamma_{a} \gamma_{b} (\sigma_{0a}^{\text{MFL}} \sigma_{0b}^{\text{MFL}})^{1/2} \left(\sigma_{0a}^{\text{MFL}} + \sigma_{0b}^{\text{MFL}}\right)}},$$

$$\rho_{H}^{e} \equiv -\frac{\sigma_{H}^{e}/\mathcal{B}}{\sigma_{L}^{e2} + \sigma_{H}^{e2}} = \frac{\gamma_{a} + \gamma_{b}}{m \gamma_{a} \gamma_{b} \left(\sigma_{0a}^{\text{MFL}} + \sigma_{0b}^{\text{MFL}}\right)}. \quad (m = k_{F}/v_{F} \sim 1/t)$$

 $\gamma_{a,b} \sim T$ (i.e. effective transport scattering rates)

$$\rho_L^e \sim \sqrt{c_1 T^2 + c_2 B^2}$$

Scaling between B and T



• No quasiparticle decomposition of low-lying states:

$$E \neq \sum_{\alpha} n_{\alpha} \varepsilon_{\alpha} + \sum_{\alpha,\beta} F_{\alpha\beta} n_{\alpha} n_{\beta} + \dots$$

- Thermalization and many-body chaos in the shortest possible time of order $\hbar/(k_BT)$.
- These are also characteristics of black holes in quantum gravity.

Magnetotransport in strange metals

- Engineered a model of a Fermi surface coupled to SYK quantum dots which leads to a marginal Fermi liquid with a linear-in-T resistance, with a magnetoresistance which scales as $B \sim T$.
- Macroscopic disorder then leads to linear-in-B magnetoresistance, and a combined dependence which scales as $\sim \sqrt{B^2 + T^2}$
- Higher temperatures lead to an incoherent metal with a local Green's function and a linear-in-T resistance, but negligible magnetoresistance.