

Strange metals and black holes

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Dynamics and Disorder in
Quantum Many Body Systems Far from Equilibrium
Les Houches Summer School, August 19-21, 2019



Remarkable recent observation of ‘Planckian’ strange metal transport in cuprates, pnictides, magic-angle graphene, and ultracold atoms: the resistivity, ρ , is

$$\rho = \frac{m^*}{ne^2} \frac{1}{\tau}$$

with a universal scattering rate

$$\frac{1}{\tau} \approx \frac{k_B T}{\hbar},$$

independent of the strength of interactions!



Remarkable recent observation of ‘Planckian’ strange metal transport in cuprates, pnictides, magic-angle graphene, and ultracold atoms: the resistivity is associated with a universal scattering time $\approx \hbar/(k_B T)$.

Universal T -linear resistivity and Planckian dissipation in overdoped cuprates

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A. Legros^{1,2}, S. Benhabib³, W. Tabis^{3,4}, F. Laliberté¹, M. Dion¹, M. Lizaire¹, B. Vignolle³, D. Vignolles³, H. Raffy⁵, Z. Z. Li⁵, P. Auban-Senzier⁵, N. Doiron-Leyraud¹, P. Fournier^{1,6}, D. Colson², L. Taillefer^{1,6*} and C. Proust^{3,6*}

arXiv:1902.01034

Planckian dissipation and scale invariance in a quantum-critical disordered pnictide

Yasuyuki Nakajima,^{1,2} Tristin Metz,² Christopher Eckberg,² Kevin Kirshenbaum,² Alex Hughes,² Renxiong Wang,² Limin Wang,² Shanta R. Saha,² I-Lin Liu,^{2,3,4} Nicholas P. Butch,^{2,4} Zhonghao Liu,^{5,6} Sergey V. Borisenko,⁵ Peter Y. Zavalij,⁷ and Johnpierre Paglione^{2,8}

Strange metal in magic-angle graphene with near Planckian dissipation

Yuan Cao,^{1,*} Debanjan Chowdhury,^{1,*} Daniel Rodan-Legrain,¹ Oriol Rubies-Bigordà,¹ Kenji Watanabe,² Takashi Taniguchi,² T. Senthil,^{1,†} and Pablo Jarillo-Herrero^{1,†}

arXiv:1901.03710

Bad metallic transport in a cold atom Fermi-Hubbard system

Science **363**, 379–382 (2019)

Peter T. Brown¹, Debayan Mitra¹, Elmer Guardado-Sanchez¹, Reza Nourafkan², Alexis Reymbaut², Charles-David Hébert², Simon Bergeron², A.-M. S. Tremblay^{2,3}, Jure Kokalj^{4,5}, David A. Huse¹, Peter Schauf^{1*}, Waseem S. Bakr^{1†}

Material		n (10^{27} m^{-3})	m^* (m_0)	A_1 / d (Ω / K)	$h / (2e^2 T_F)$ (Ω / K)	α
Bi2212	$p = 0.23$	6.8	8.4 ± 1.6	8.0 ± 0.9	7.4 ± 1.4	1.1 ± 0.3
Bi2201	$p \sim 0.4$	3.5	7 ± 1.5	8 ± 2	8 ± 2	1.0 ± 0.4
LSCO	$p = 0.26$	7.8	9.8 ± 1.7	8.2 ± 1.0	8.9 ± 1.8	0.9 ± 0.3
Nd-LSCO	$p = 0.24$	7.9	12 ± 4	7.4 ± 0.8	10.6 ± 3.7	0.7 ± 0.4
PCCO	$x = 0.17$	8.8	2.4 ± 0.1	1.7 ± 0.3	2.1 ± 0.1	0.8 ± 0.2
LCCO	$x = 0.15$	9.0	3.0 ± 0.3	3.0 ± 0.45	2.6 ± 0.3	1.2 ± 0.3
TMTSF	$P = 11 \text{ kbar}$	1.4	1.15 ± 0.2	2.8 ± 0.3	2.8 ± 0.4	1.0 ± 0.3

Slope of T -linear resistivity vs Planckian limit in seven materials.

$$\frac{1}{\tau} = \alpha \frac{k_B T}{\hbar}$$

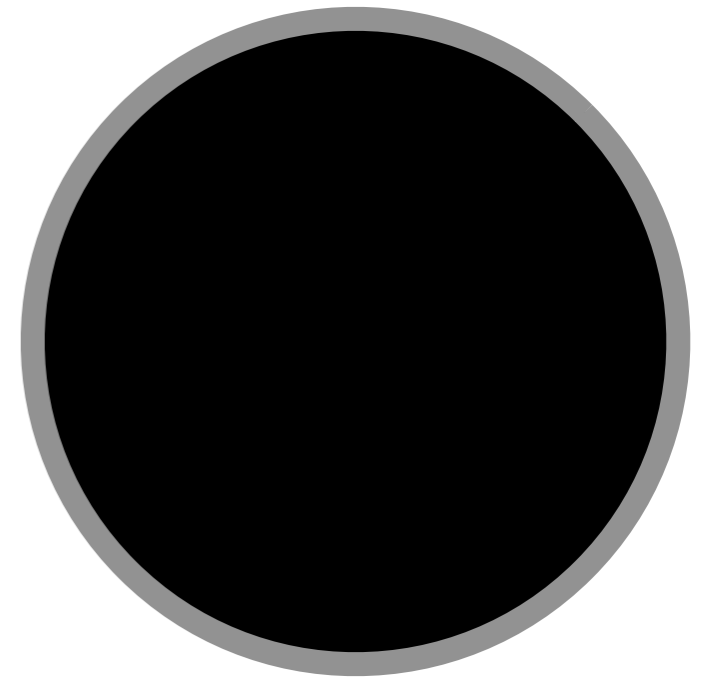
A. Legros, S. Benhabib, W. Tabis, F. Laliberté, M. Dion, M. Lizaire, B. Vignolle, D. Vignolles, H. Raffy, Z. Z. Li, P. Auban-Senzier, N. Doiron-Leyraud, P. Fournier, D. Colson, L. Taillefer, and C. Proust, *Nature Physics* **15**, 142 (2019)

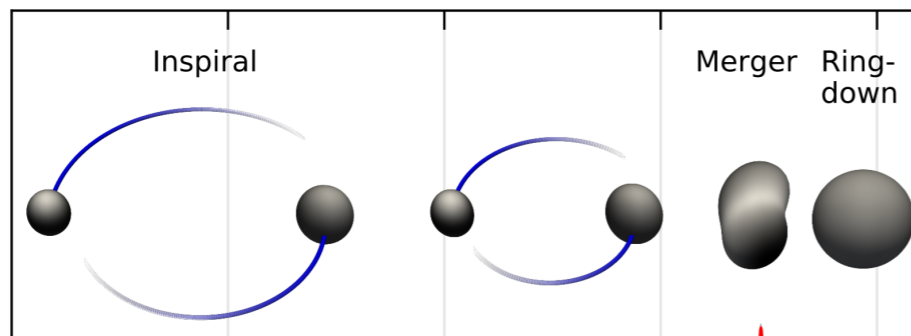
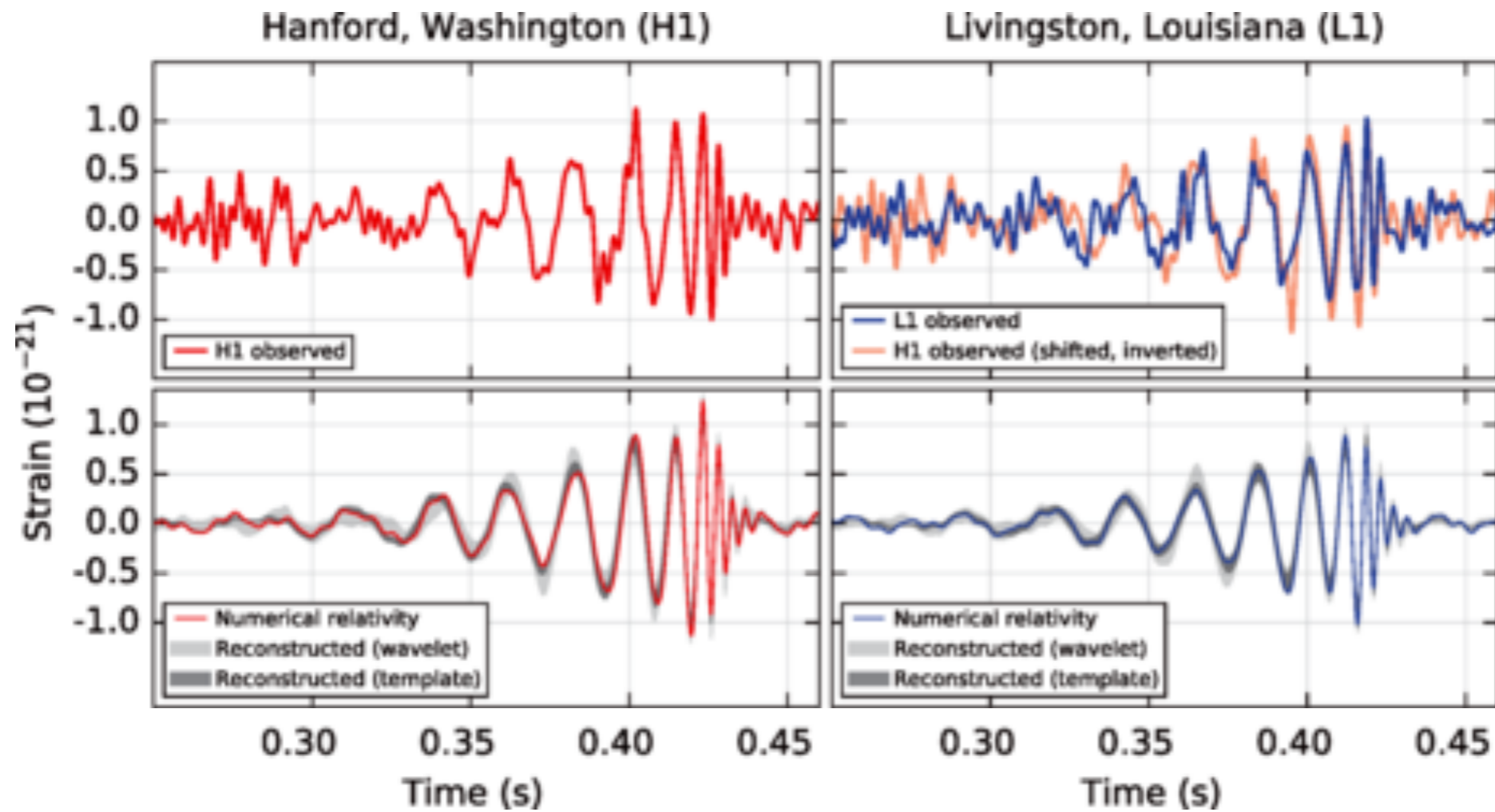
Black Holes

Objects so dense that light is gravitationally bound to them.

In Einstein's theory, the region inside the black hole **horizon** is disconnected from the rest of the universe.

Horizon radius $R = \frac{2GM}{c^2}$





LIGO
September 14, 2015

- The ring-down is predicted by General Relativity to happen in a time $\frac{8\pi GM}{c^3} \sim 8$ milliseconds. Curiously this happens to equal $\frac{\hbar}{k_B T_H}$; so the ring down can also be viewed as the approach of a quantum system to thermal equilibrium at the fastest possible rate!

Black holes

- Black holes have an entropy and a temperature, $T_H = \hbar c^3 / (8\pi G M k_B)$.
- The entropy is proportional to their surface area.
- They relax to thermal equilibrium in a Planckian time $\sim \hbar / (k_B T_H)$.



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Holography:

Quantum black holes “look like” quantum many-particle systems without quasiparticle excitations, residing “on” the surface of the black hole

1. Quantum matter with quasiparticles:
random matrix model
2. Quantum matter without quasiparticles:
the complex SYK model
3. Fluctuations, and the Schwarzian
4. Models of strange metals
5. Einstein-Maxwell theory of charged
black holes in AdS space

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What are 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.

Ordinary metals and 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

$$\tau_{\text{eq}} \sim \frac{\hbar E_F^3}{U^2 (k_B T)^2} \quad , \quad \text{as } T \rightarrow 0,$$

where U is the strength of interactions, and E_F is the Fermi energy.

- Similarly, a quasiparticle model implies a resistivity

$$\rho = \frac{m^*}{ne^2} \frac{1}{\tau} \sim U^2 T^2 \quad \text{with } \tau \sim \tau_{\text{eq}}$$



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- These times are much longer than the 'Planckian time' $\hbar/(k_B T)$, which we will find in systems without quasiparticle excitations.

$$\tau \sim \tau_{\text{eq}} \gg \frac{\hbar}{k_B T} \quad , \quad \text{as } T \rightarrow 0.$$



A simple model of a metal with quasiparticles

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

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

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

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

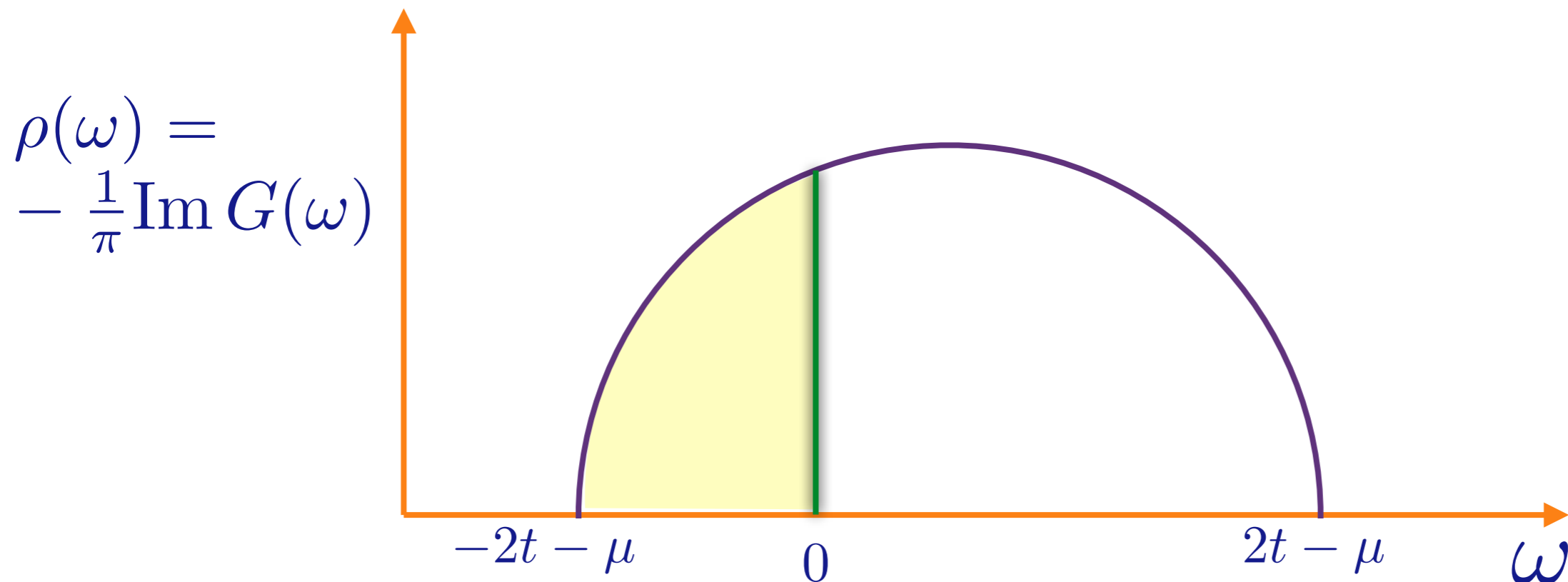
**Fermions occupying the eigenstates of a
 $N \times N$ random matrix**

A simple model of a metal with quasiparticles

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

$$G(\tau) \equiv -T_\tau \left\langle c_i(\tau) c_i^\dagger(0) \right\rangle$$
$$G(i\omega) = \frac{1}{i\omega + \mu - \Sigma(i\omega)} \quad , \quad \Sigma(\tau) = t^2 G(\tau)$$
$$G(\tau = 0^-) = Q.$$

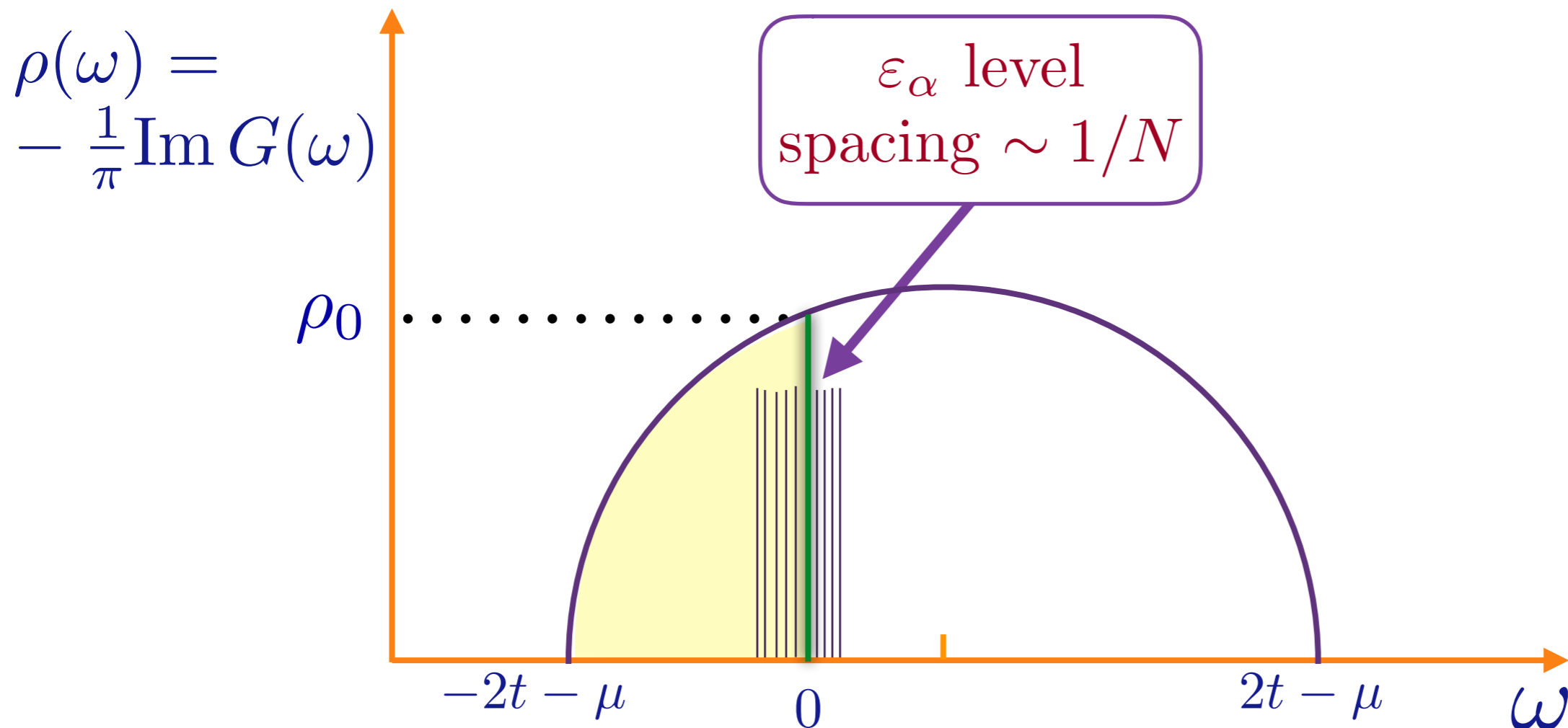
$G(\omega)$ can be determined by solving a quadratic equation.



A simple model of a metal with quasiparticles

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 single-particle density of states is

$$\rho(\omega) = (1/N) \sum_\alpha \delta(\omega - \varepsilon_\alpha), \text{ and } \rho_0 \equiv \rho(\omega = 0).$$



A simple model of a metal with quasiparticles

The grand potential $\Omega(T)$ at low T is (from the Sommerfeld expansion)

$$\Omega(T) - E_0 = N \left(-\frac{\pi^2}{6} \rho_0 T^2 + \mathcal{O}(T^4) \right) + \dots$$

where $\rho_0 \equiv \rho(0)$ is the *single* particle density of states at the Fermi level.

We can also define the *many* body density of states, $D(E)$, via

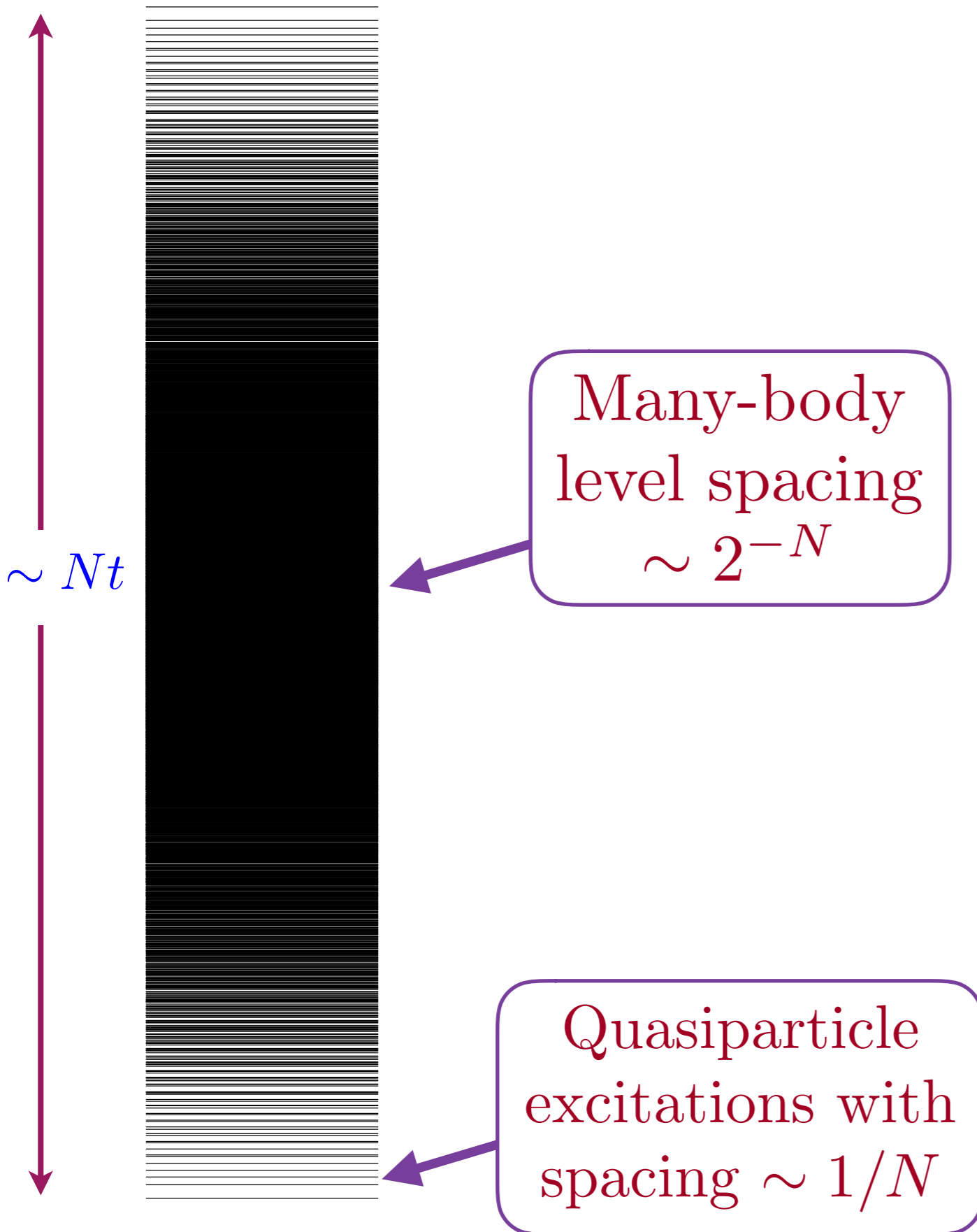
$$Z = e^{-\Omega(T)/T} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dE D(E) e^{-E/T}$$

The inversion from $\Omega(T)$ to $D(E)$ has to be performed with care (it does not commute with the $1/N$ expansion), and we obtain

$$D(E) \sim \exp \left(\pi \sqrt{\frac{2N\rho_0(E - E_0)}{3}} \right), \quad E > E_0, \quad \frac{1}{N} \ll \rho_0(E - E_0) \ll N$$

and $D(E) = 0$ for $E < E_0$. This is related to the asymptotic growth of the partitions of an integer, $p(n) \sim \exp(\pi\sqrt{2n/3})$. Near the lower bound, there are large sample-to-sample fluctuations due to variations in the lowest quasiparticle energies.

A simple model of a metal with quasiparticles



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 $\sim 1/N$.

A simple model of a metal with quasiparticles

Now add weak interactions

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

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

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

where ρ_0 is the density of states at the Fermi energy, and $f(\varepsilon) = 1/(e^{\varepsilon/T} + 1)$ is the Fermi function.

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.

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The complex SYK model

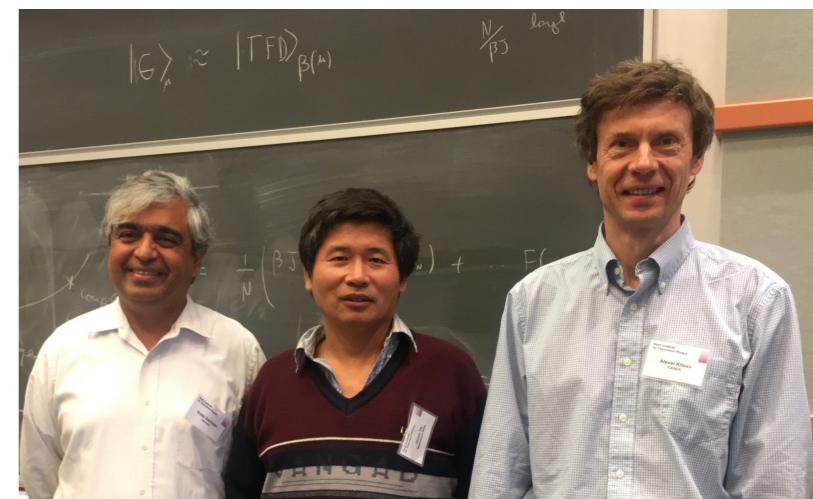
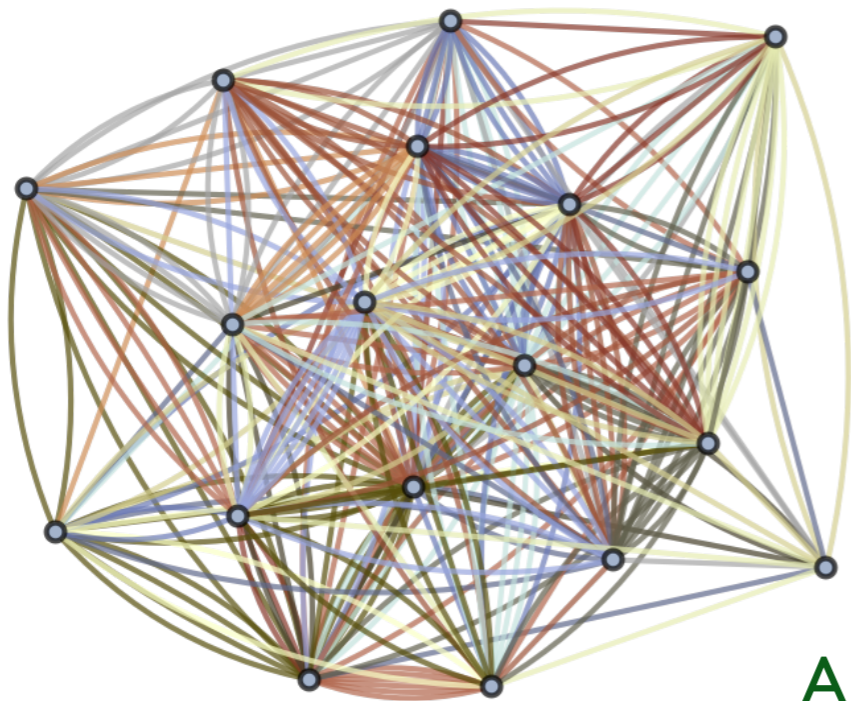
(See also: the “2-Body Random Ensemble” in nuclear physics; did not obtain the large N limit; T.A. Brody, J. Flores, J.B. French, P.A. Mello, A. Pandey, and S.S.M. Wong, Rev. Mod. Phys. **53**, 385 (1981))

$$H = \frac{1}{(2N)^{3/2}} \sum_{\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta=1}^N U_{\alpha\beta; \gamma\delta} c_{\alpha}^{\dagger} c_{\beta}^{\dagger} c_{\gamma} c_{\delta} + \epsilon \sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha}^{\dagger} c_{\alpha}$$

$$c_{\alpha} c_{\beta} + c_{\beta} c_{\alpha} = 0 \quad , \quad c_{\alpha} c_{\beta}^{\dagger} + c_{\beta}^{\dagger} c_{\alpha} = \delta_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$Q = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha}^{\dagger} c_{\alpha}$$

$U_{\alpha\beta; \gamma\delta}$ are independent random variables with $\overline{U_{\alpha\beta; \gamma\delta}} = 0$ and $\overline{|U_{\alpha\beta; \gamma\delta}|^2} = U^2$
 $N \rightarrow \infty$ yields critical strange metal.



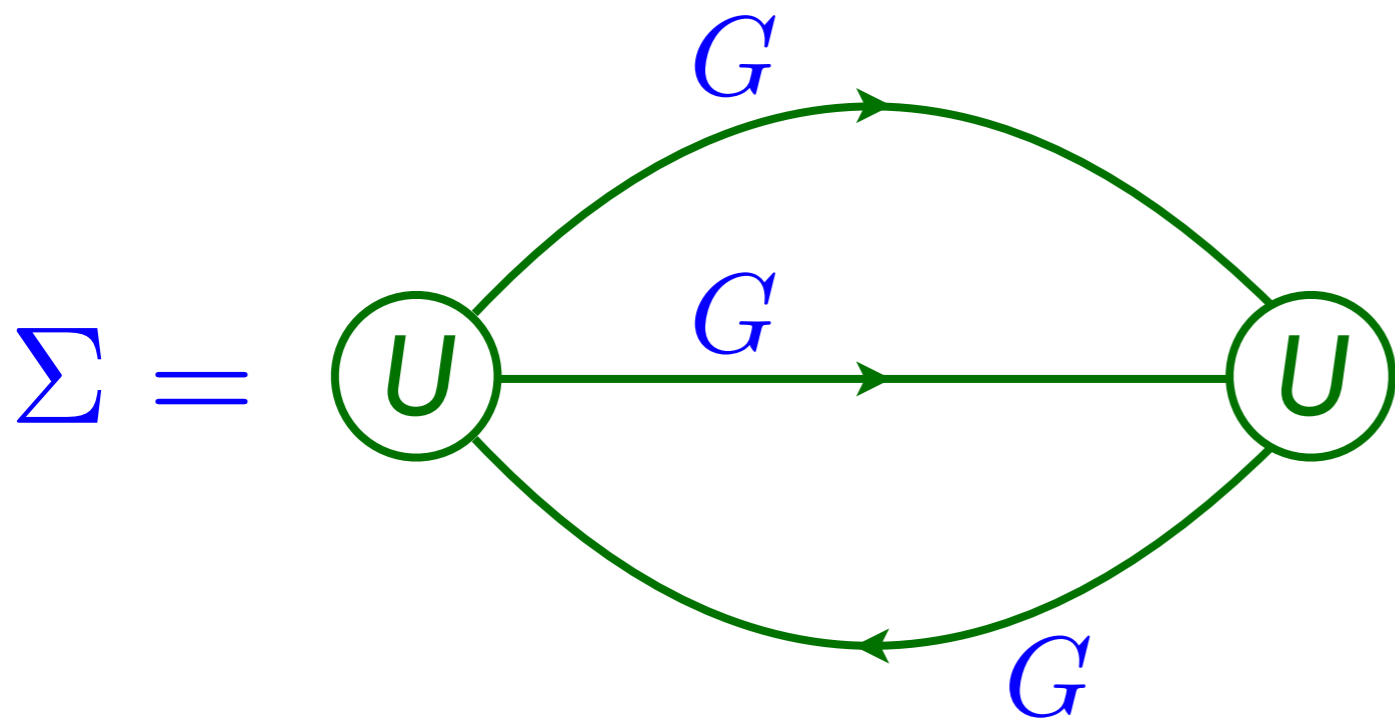
S. Sachdev and J. Ye, PRL **70**, 3339 (1993)

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

The complex SYK model

Feynman graph expansion in $U_{\alpha\beta;\gamma\delta}$, and graph-by-graph average, yields exact equations in the large N limit:

$$G(i\omega) = \frac{1}{i\omega - \epsilon - \Sigma(i\omega)} \quad , \quad \Sigma(\tau) = -U^2 G^2(\tau) G(-\tau)$$
$$G(\tau = 0^-) = Q.$$



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

