

From the pseudogap to the strange metal

Common Threads in the Electronic Phase Diagram
of Unconventional Superconductors,
Lorentz Institute, Leiden

Subir Sachdev
March 2, 2017

Talk online: sachdev.physics.harvard.edu



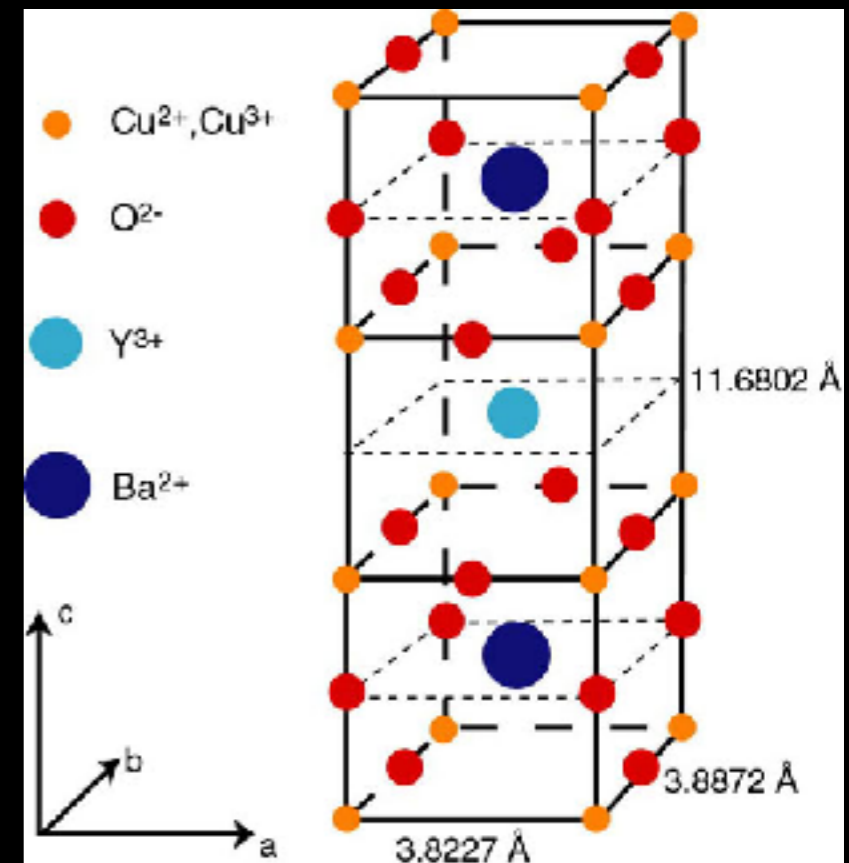
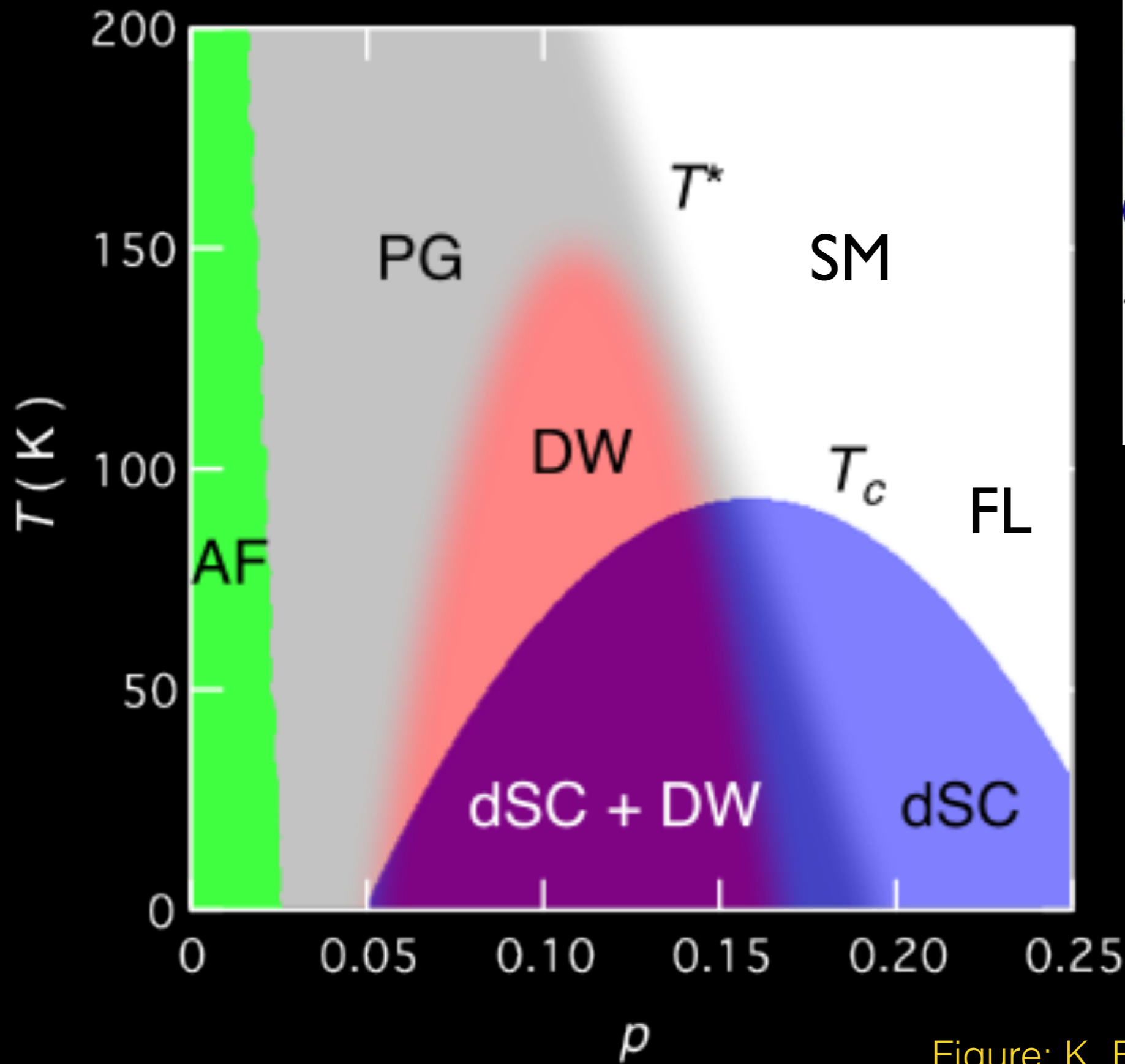
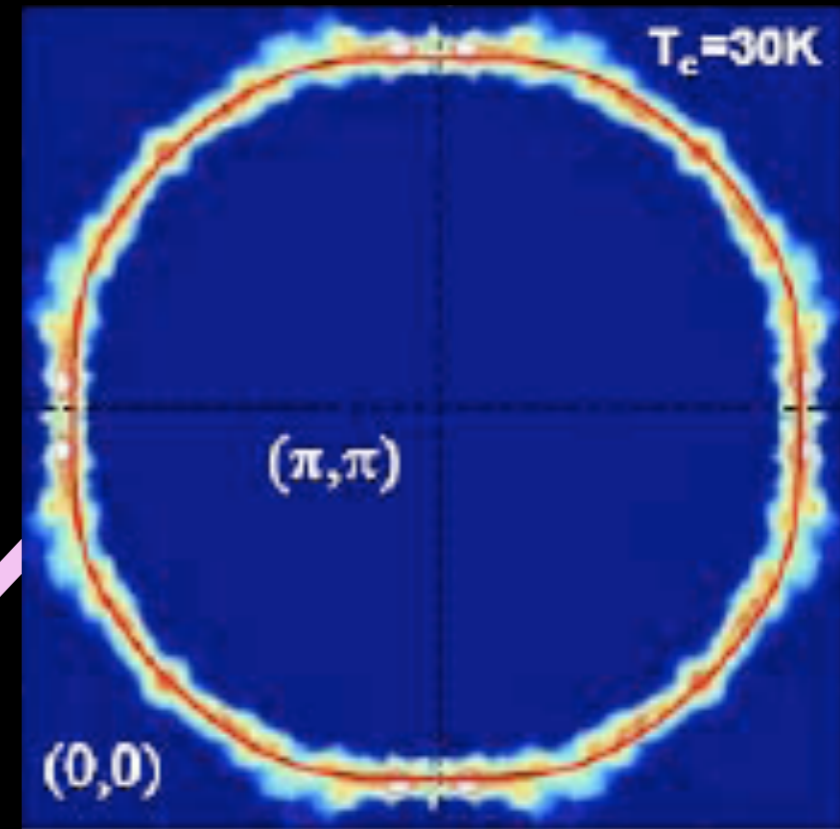
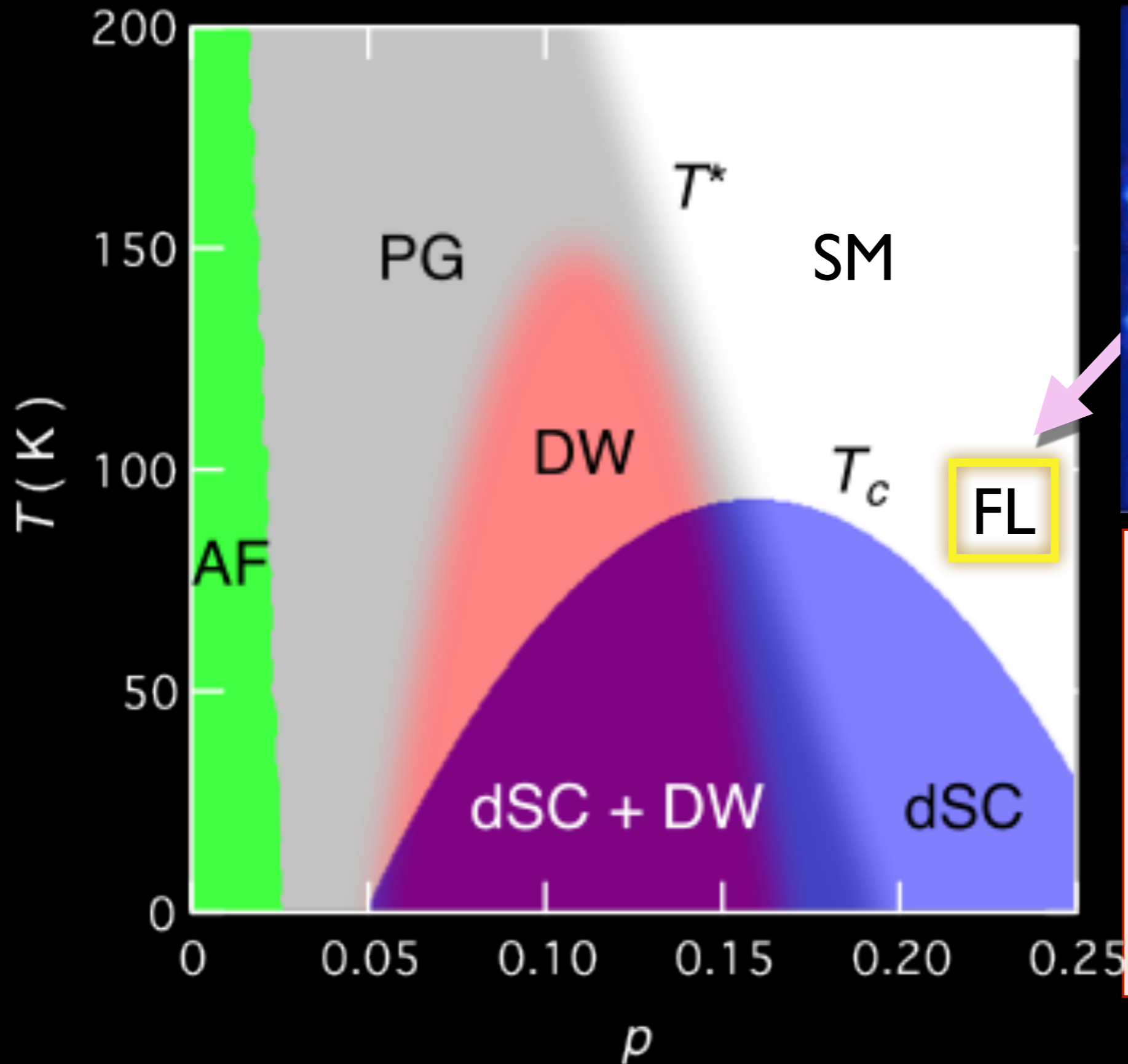


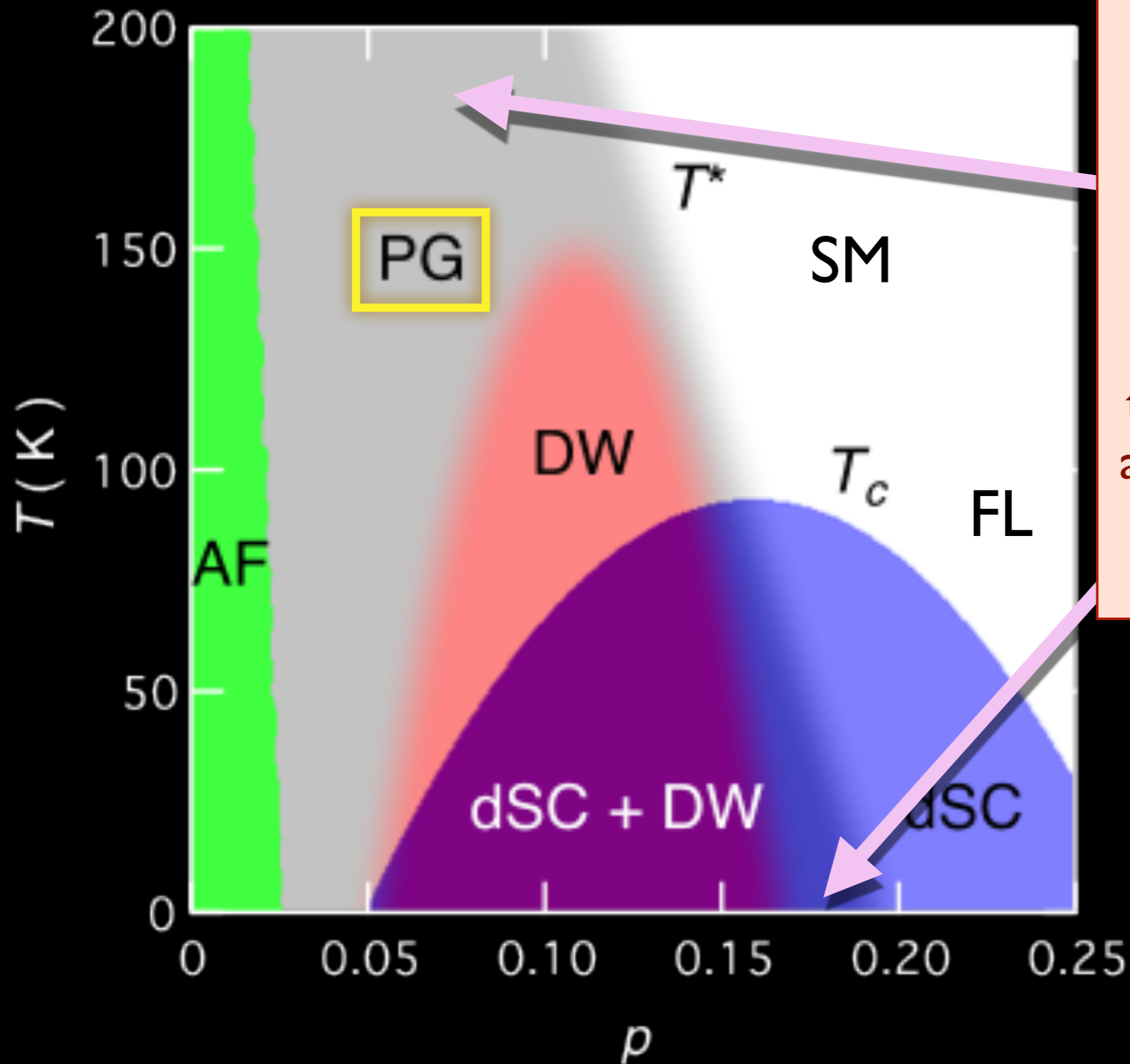
Figure: K. Fujita and J. C. Seamus Davis

M. Platié, J. D. F. Mottershead, I. S. Elfimov, D. C. Peets, Ruixing Liang, D. A. Bonn, W. N. Hardy, S. Chiuzbaian, M. Falub, M. Shi, L. Patthey, and A. Damascelli, Phys. Rev. Lett. **95**, 077001 (2005)



A conventional metal:
the Fermi liquid
with Fermi
surface of size
 $l+p$

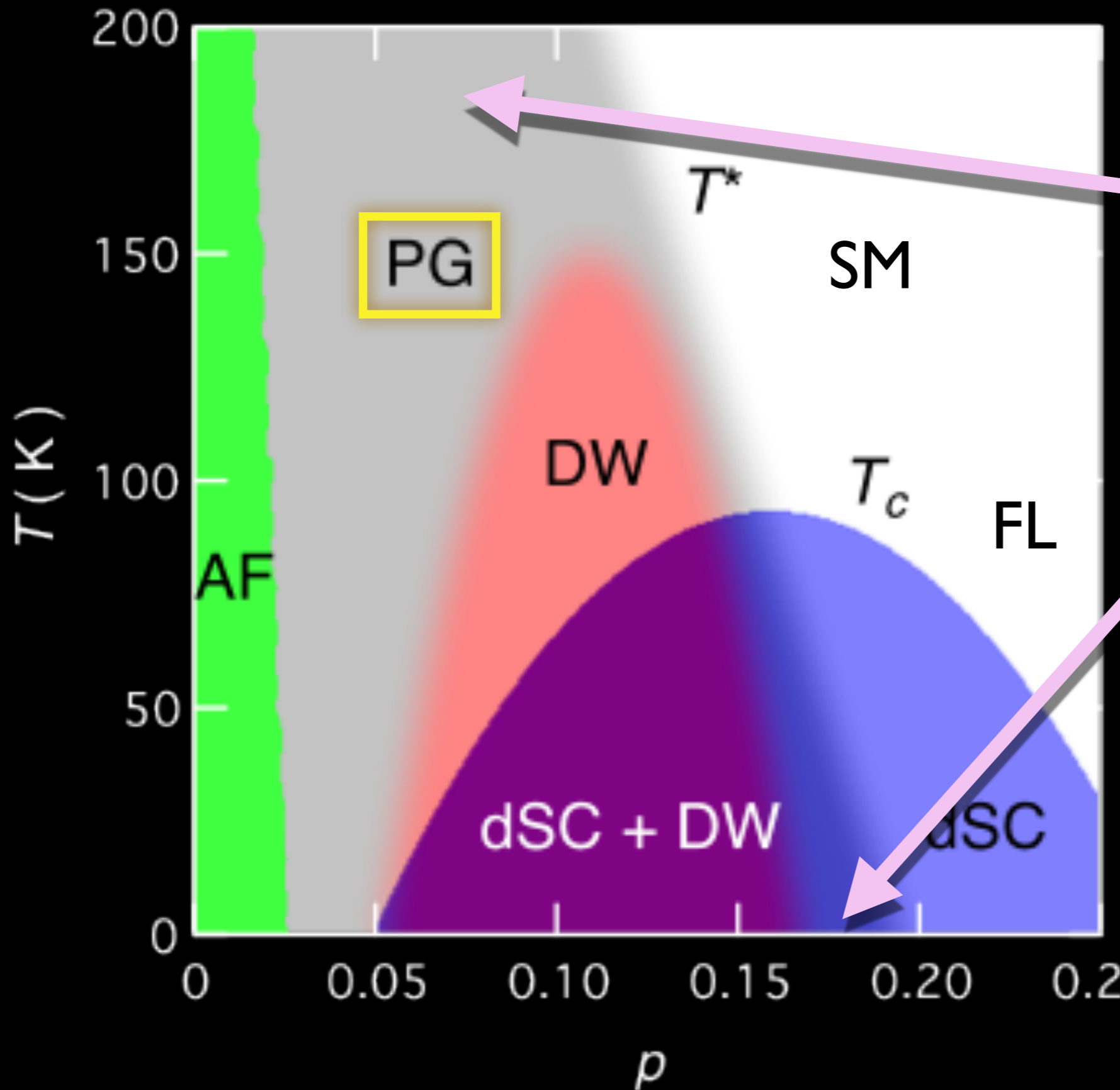
S. Badoux, W. Tabis, F. Laliberté, G. Grissonnanche, B. Vignolle, D. Vignolles, J. Béard, D.A. Bonn, W.N. Hardy, R. Liang, N. Doiron-Leyraud, L. Taillefer, and C. Proust, Nature **531**, 210 (2016).



Pseudogap
metal

at low p

Many indications that this metal behaves like a Fermi liquid, but with Fermi surface size p and *not* $1+p$.

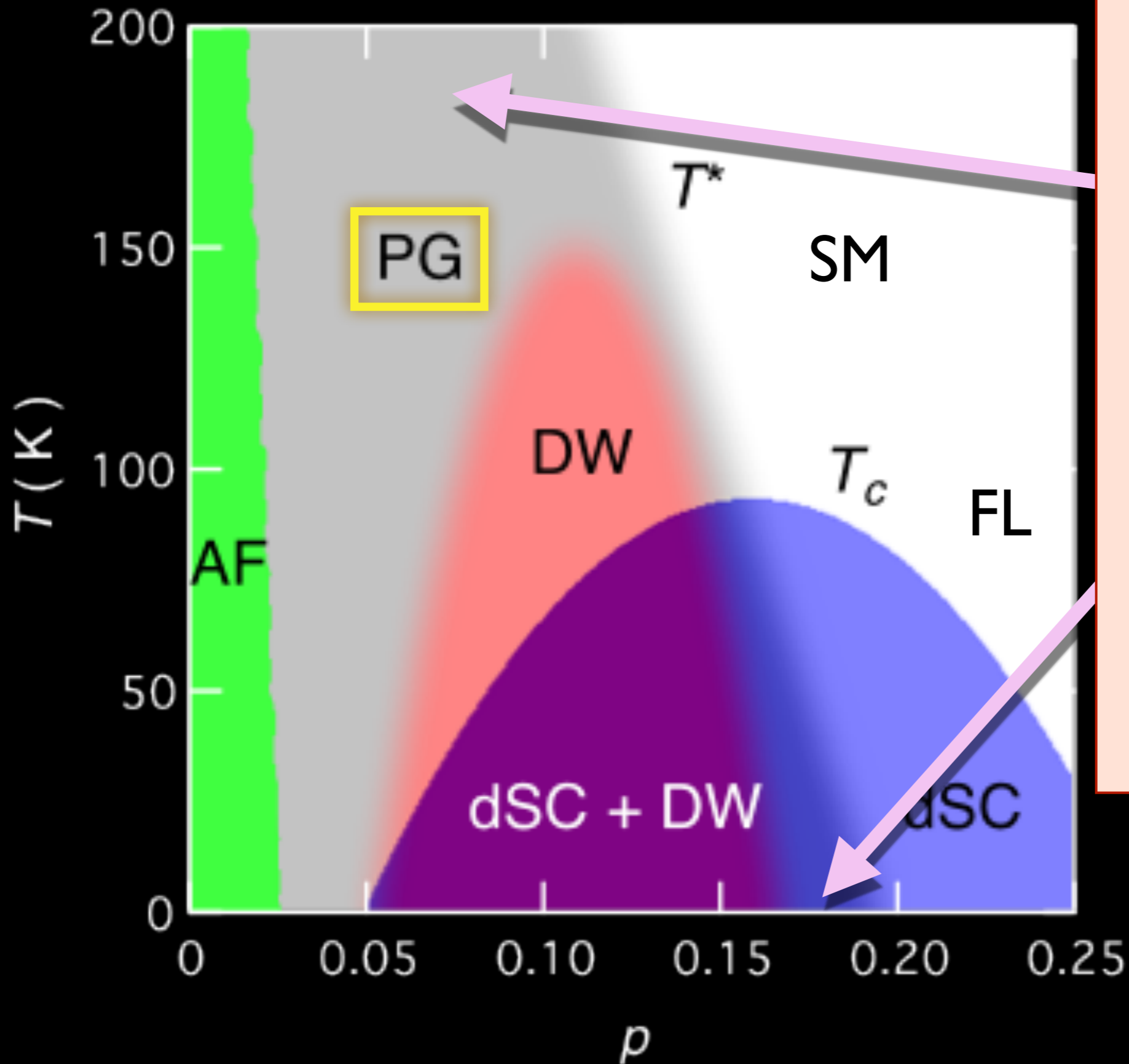


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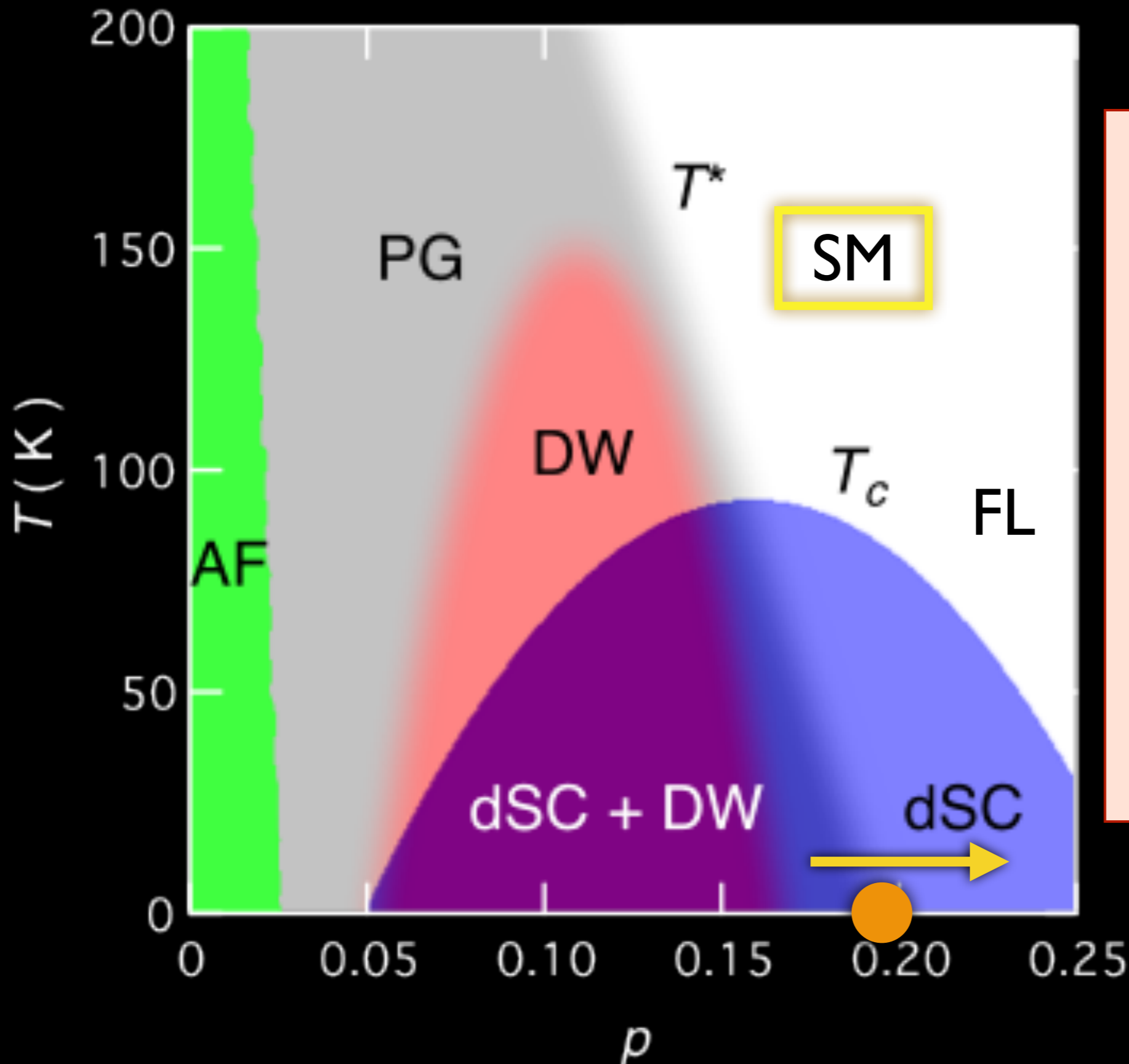
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If present at $T=0$, a metal with a size p Fermi surface (and translational symmetry preserved) must have topological order



Pseudogap
metal
at low p
Lattice gauge theory for a metal with topological order co-existing with broken time-reversal and inversion symmetries, and Ising-nematic order

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.



Gauge theory
for a
topological
phase
transition,
and
for the strange
metal (SM)

Insulators and metals with
topological order
and breaking of
time-reversal/inversion/lattice-rotation
symmetry

Begin with the “spin-fermion” model. **Electrons** $c_{i\alpha}$ on the square lattice with dispersion

$$\mathcal{H}_c = - \sum_{i,\rho} t_\rho \left(c_{i,\alpha}^\dagger c_{i+\mathbf{v}_\rho,\alpha} + c_{i+\mathbf{v}_\rho,\alpha}^\dagger c_{i,\alpha} \right) - \mu \sum_i c_{i,\alpha}^\dagger c_{i,\alpha} + \mathcal{H}_{\text{int}}$$

are coupled to an **antiferromagnetic order parameter** $\Phi^\ell(i)$, $\ell = x, y, z$

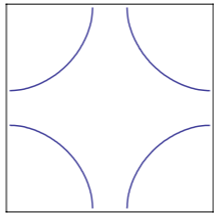
$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{int}} = -\lambda \sum_i \eta_i \Phi^\ell(i) c_{i,\alpha}^\dagger \sigma_{\alpha\beta}^\ell c_{i,\beta} + V_\Phi$$

where $\eta_i = \pm 1$ on the two sublattices.

When $\Phi^\ell(i) = \text{constant}$ independent of i , we have long-range AFM, and a gap in the fermion spectrum at the anti-nodes.

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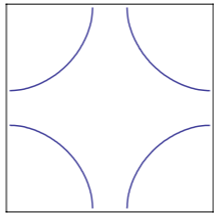
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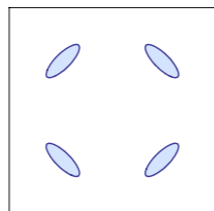


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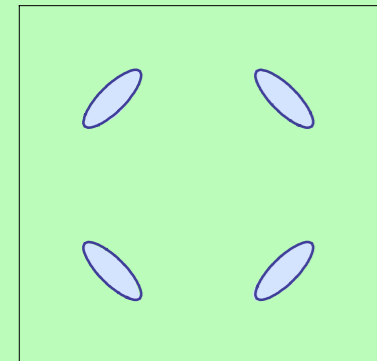
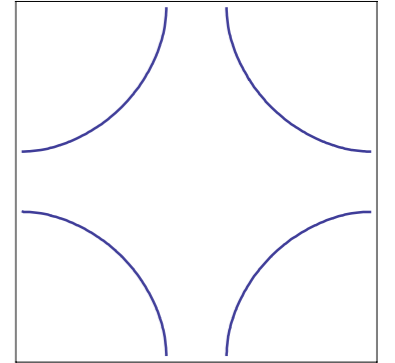
LGW-Hertz criticality
of antiferromagnetism

(A) Antiferromagnetic
metal

$$\langle \Phi \rangle \neq 0$$

(B) Fermi liquid with
large Fermi surface

$$\langle \Phi \rangle = 0$$



Criticality in Fe-based and
electron-doped-cuprate
materials

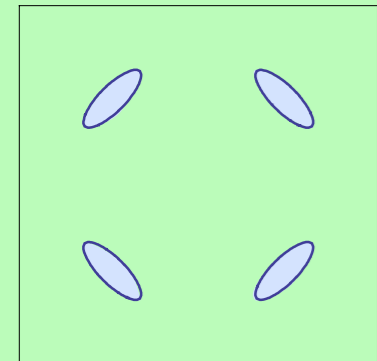
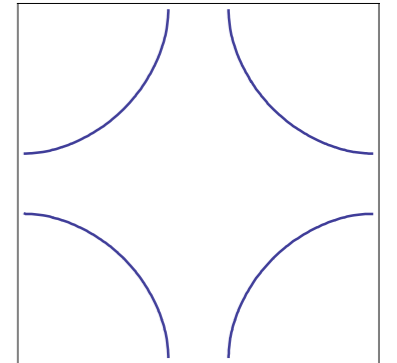
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Can we get a stable zero temperature state with “fluctuating antiferromagnetism” and a small Fermi surface (and so a gap near the anti-nodes) ?

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Yes

For fluctuating antiferromagnetism, we transform to a **rotating reference frame** using the SU(2) rotation R_i

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_{i\uparrow} \\ c_{i\downarrow} \end{pmatrix} = R_i \begin{pmatrix} \psi_{i,+} \\ \psi_{i,-} \end{pmatrix},$$

in terms of fermionic “chargons” ψ_s and a **Higgs field** $H^a(i)$

$$\sigma^\ell \Phi^\ell(i) = R_i \sigma^a H^a(i) R_i^\dagger$$

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Note that this representation is ambiguous up to a SU(2) gauge transformation, V_i

$$\begin{pmatrix} \psi_{i,+} \\ \psi_{i,-} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow V_i \begin{pmatrix} \psi_{i,+} \\ \psi_{i,-} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$R_i \rightarrow R_i V_i^\dagger$$

$$\sigma^a H^a(i) \rightarrow V_i \sigma^b H^b(i) V_i^\dagger.$$

Fluctuating antiferromagnetism

The simplest effective Hamiltonian for the fermionic chargons is the same as that for the electrons, with the **AFM order replaced by the Higgs field**.

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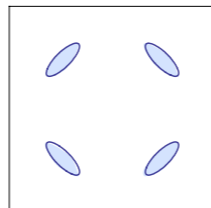
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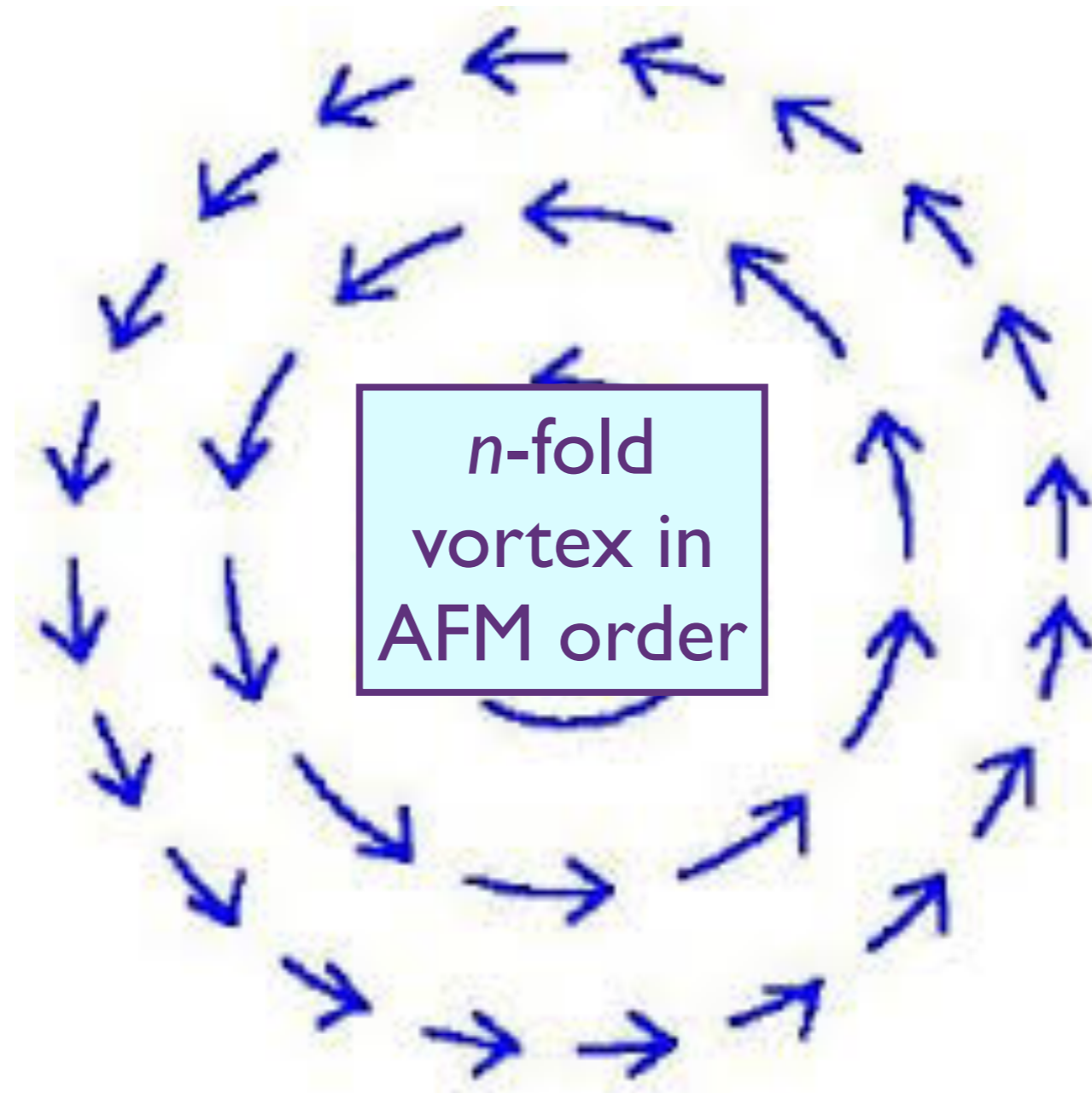
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IF we can transform to a rotating reference frame in which $H^a(i) =$ a constant independent of i and time, **THEN** the ψ fermions in the presence of fluctuating AFM will inherit the anti-nodal gap of the electrons in the presence of static AFM.



Fluctuating antiferromagnetism

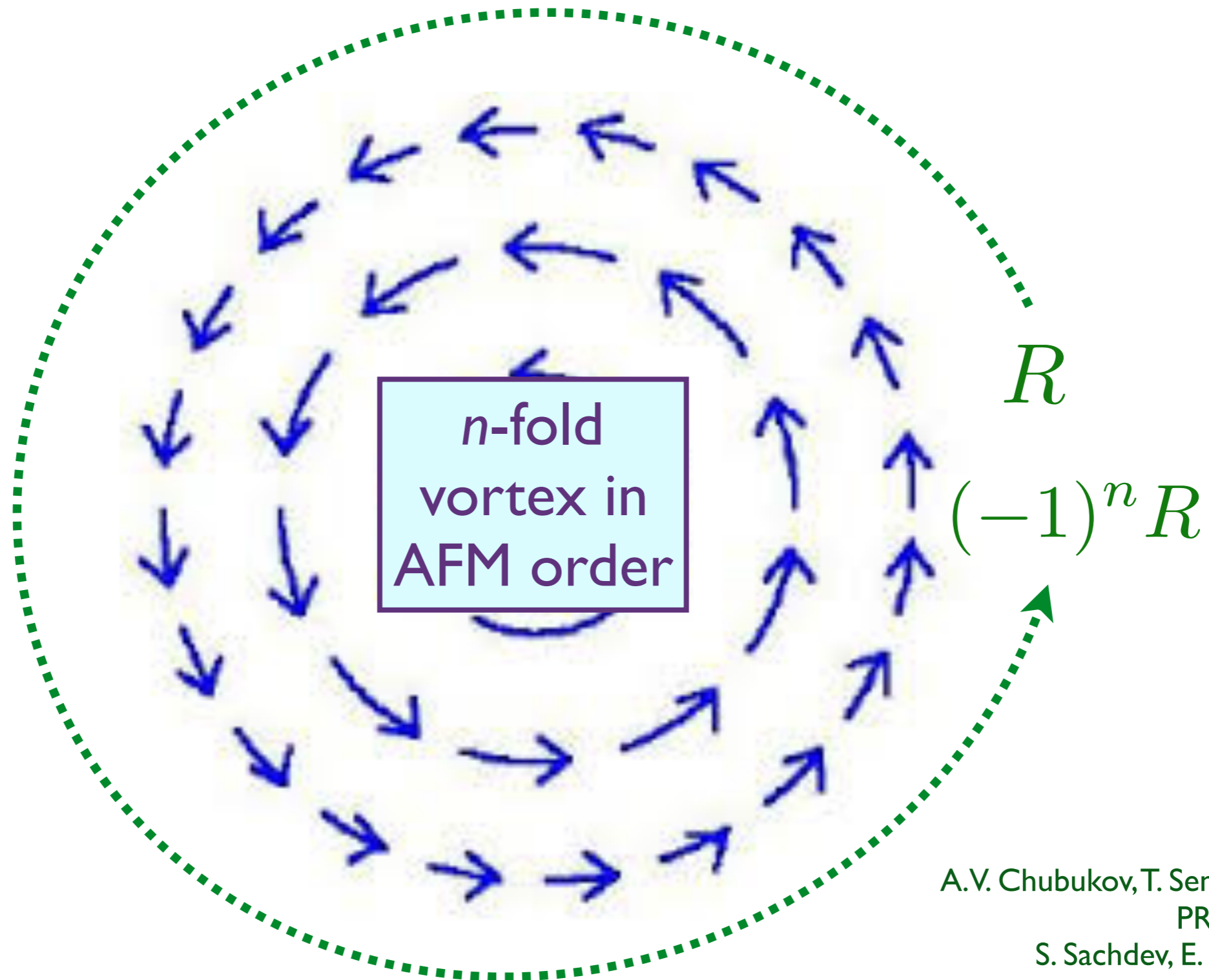
We cannot always find a single-valued $SU(2)$ rotation R_i to make the Higgs field $H^a(i)$ a constant !



A.V. Chubukov, T. Senthil and S. Sachdev,
PRL **72**, 2089 (1994);
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and Y. Schattner, PRB **94**, 115147 (2016)

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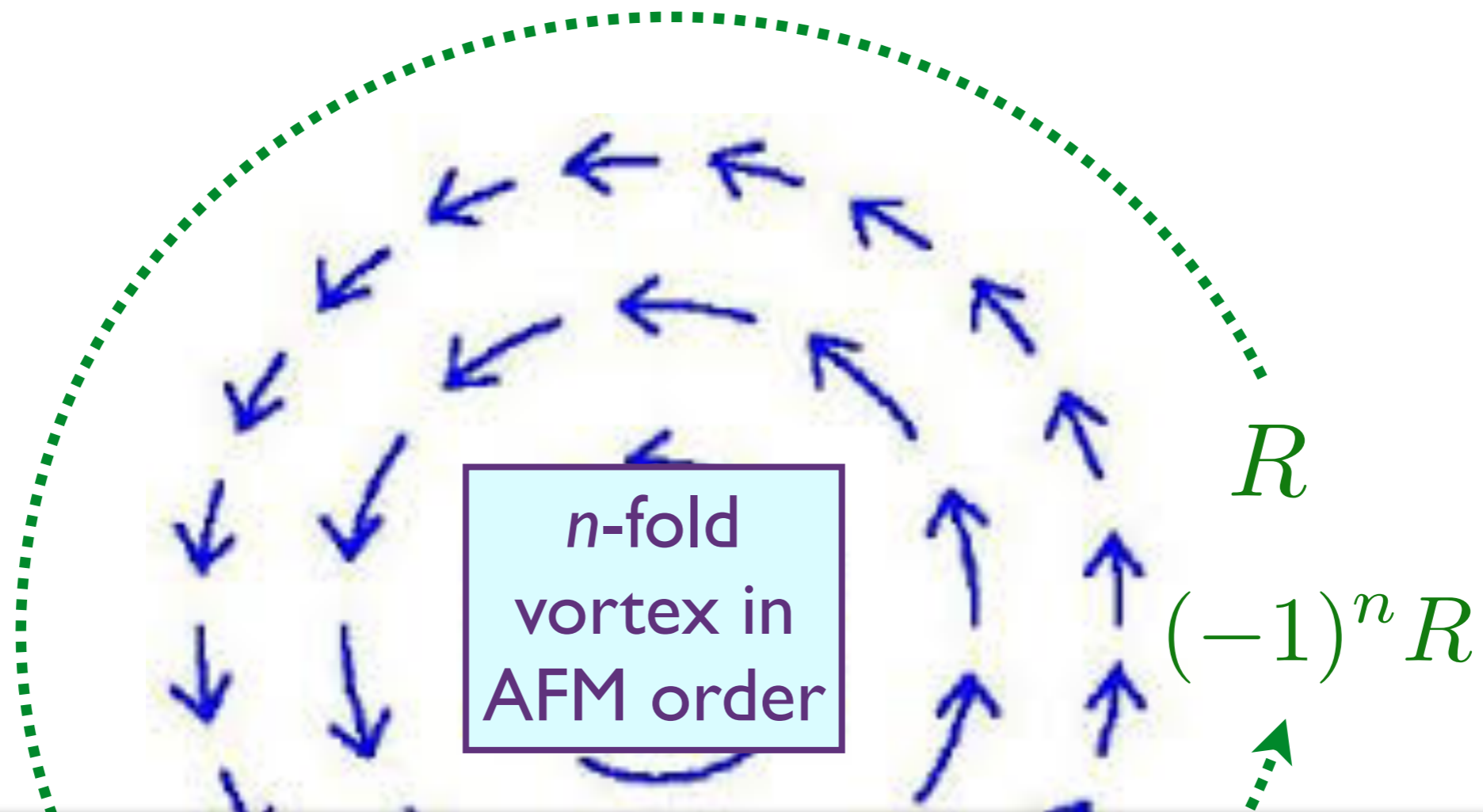
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Topological order

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Vortices with n odd must be suppressed: such a metal with “fluctuating antiferromagnetism” has \mathbb{Z}_2 **TOPOLOGICAL ORDER** and fermions which inherit the “pocket” Fermi surfaces of the antiferromagnetic metal *i.e.* a pseudogap.

Criticality in Fe-based and
electron-doped-cuprate
materials

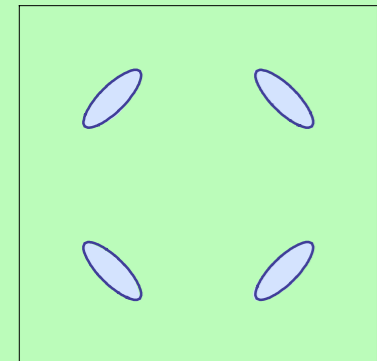
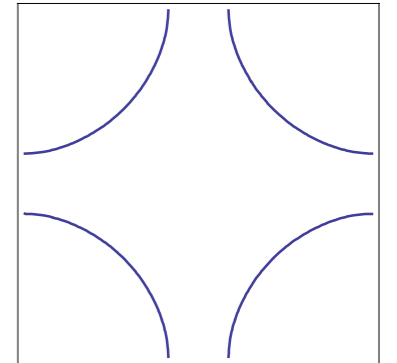
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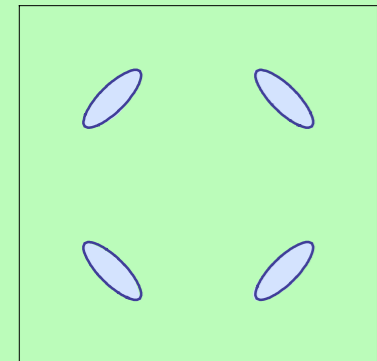
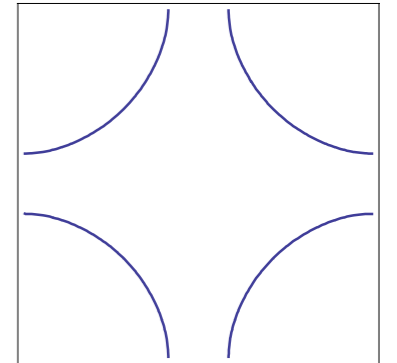
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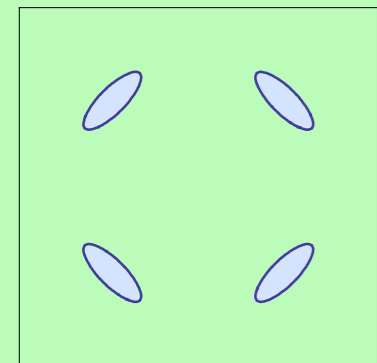
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Global phase diagram

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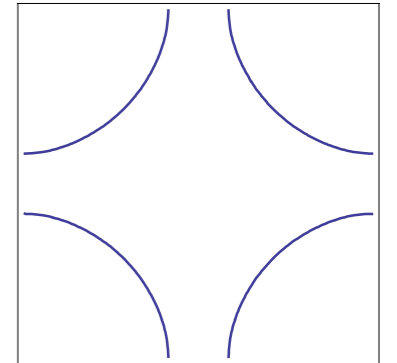


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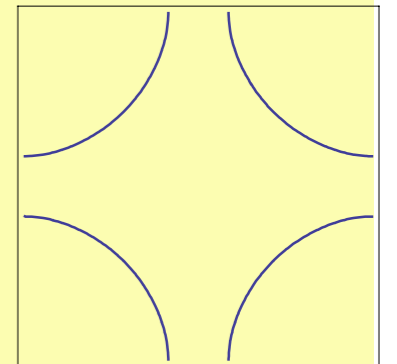
(C) Metal with Z_2 topological order

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Higgs criticality: Deconfined SU(2) gauge theory with large Fermi surface

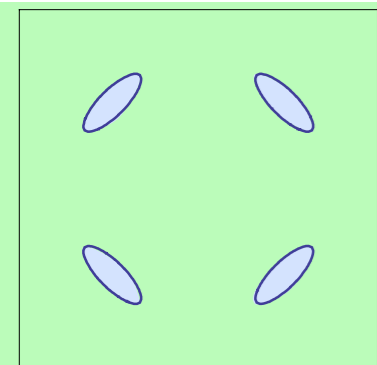
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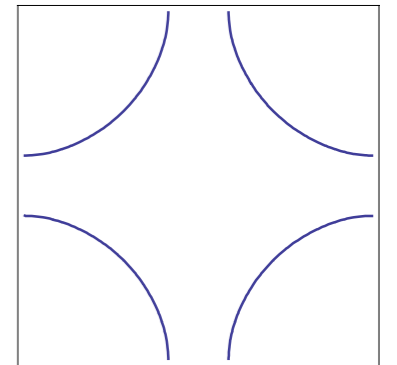


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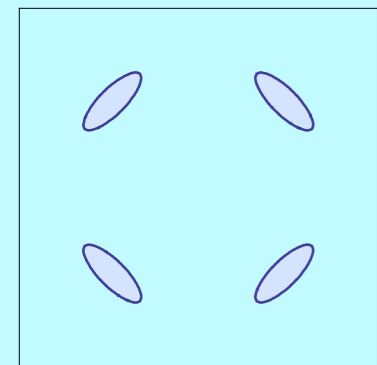
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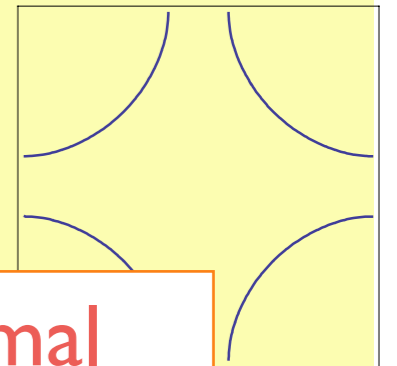
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Higgs criticality: Deconfined SU(2) gauge theory with large Fermi surface

Proposal for optimal doping criticality in hole-doped cuprates

Topological order

More generally, the effective Hamiltonian for the fermionic charges can also have non-trivial **SU(2) gauge connections** $U^\rho(i)$ along with the **Higgs field** $H^a(i)$.

$$\mathcal{H}_\psi = - \sum_{i,\rho} t_\rho \left(\psi_{i,s}^\dagger \psi_{i+\mathbf{v}_\rho,s'} + \text{H.c.} \right) - \mu \sum_i \psi_{i,s}^\dagger \psi_{i,s} + \mathcal{H}_{\text{int}}$$

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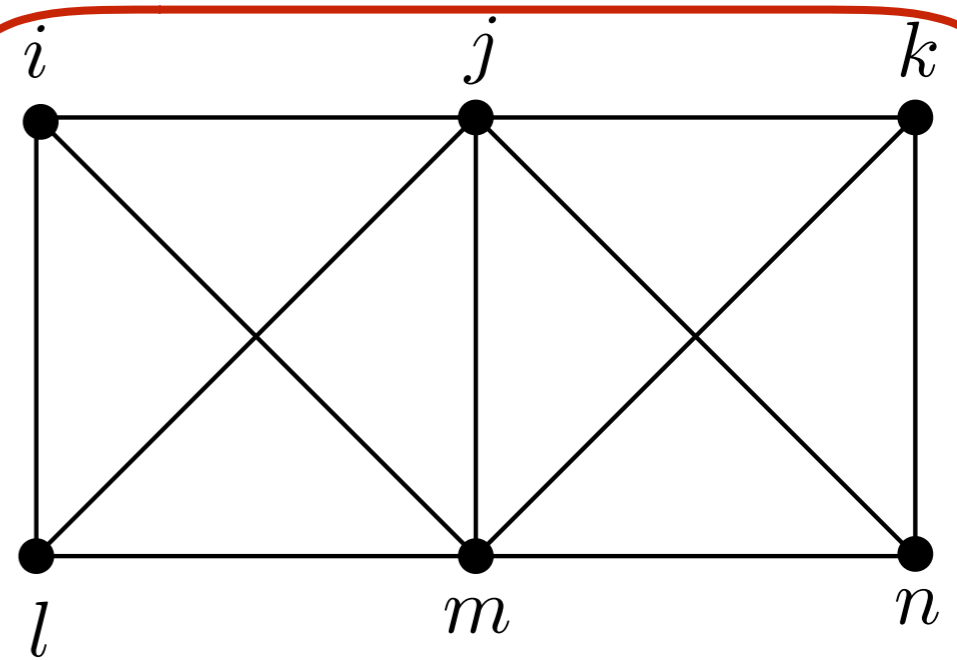
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Such a gauge-connection can induce various **gauge-invariant fluxes** which can break one or more of time-reversal, inversion, and lattice rotation symmetries.

Topological order

Gauge-invariant combinations of Higgs fields and gauge connections which are proportional to the electrical current on links



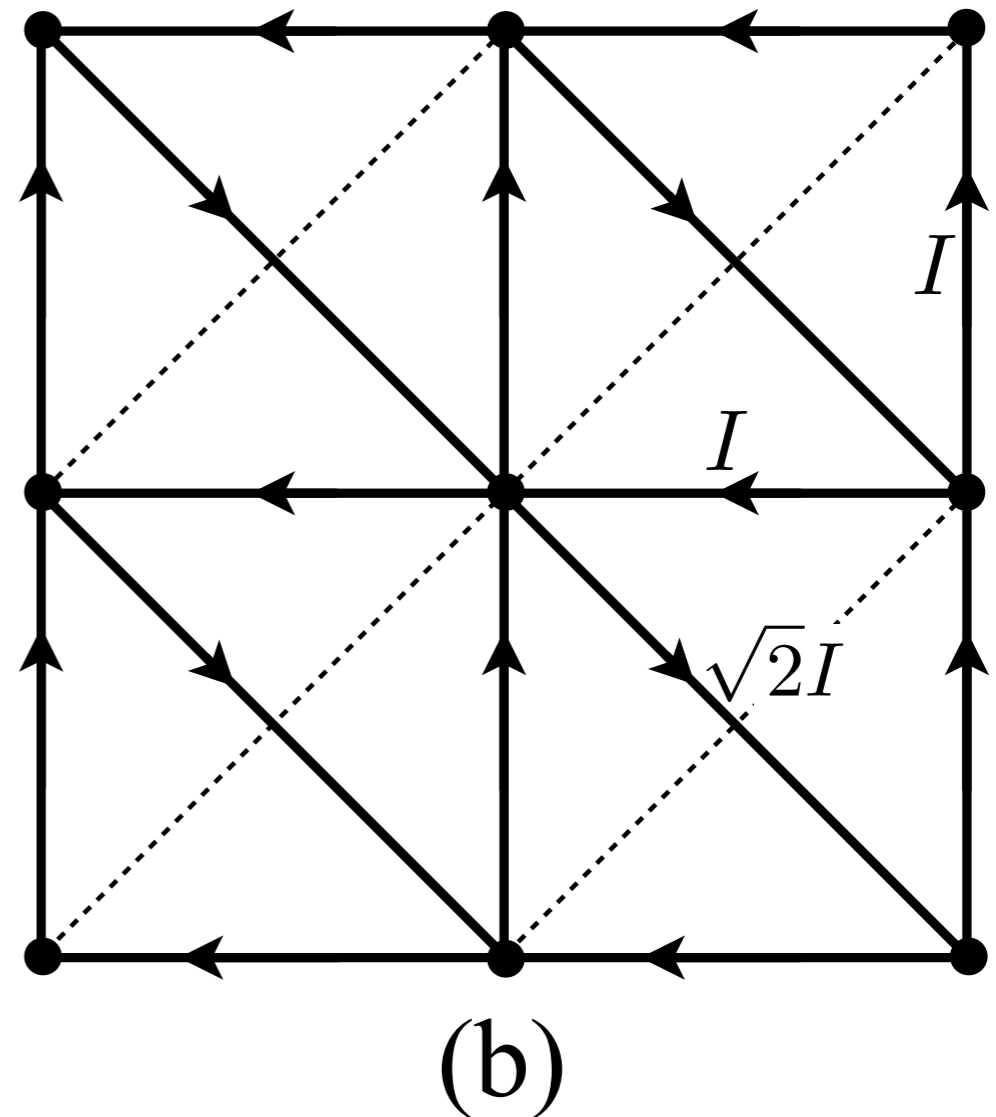
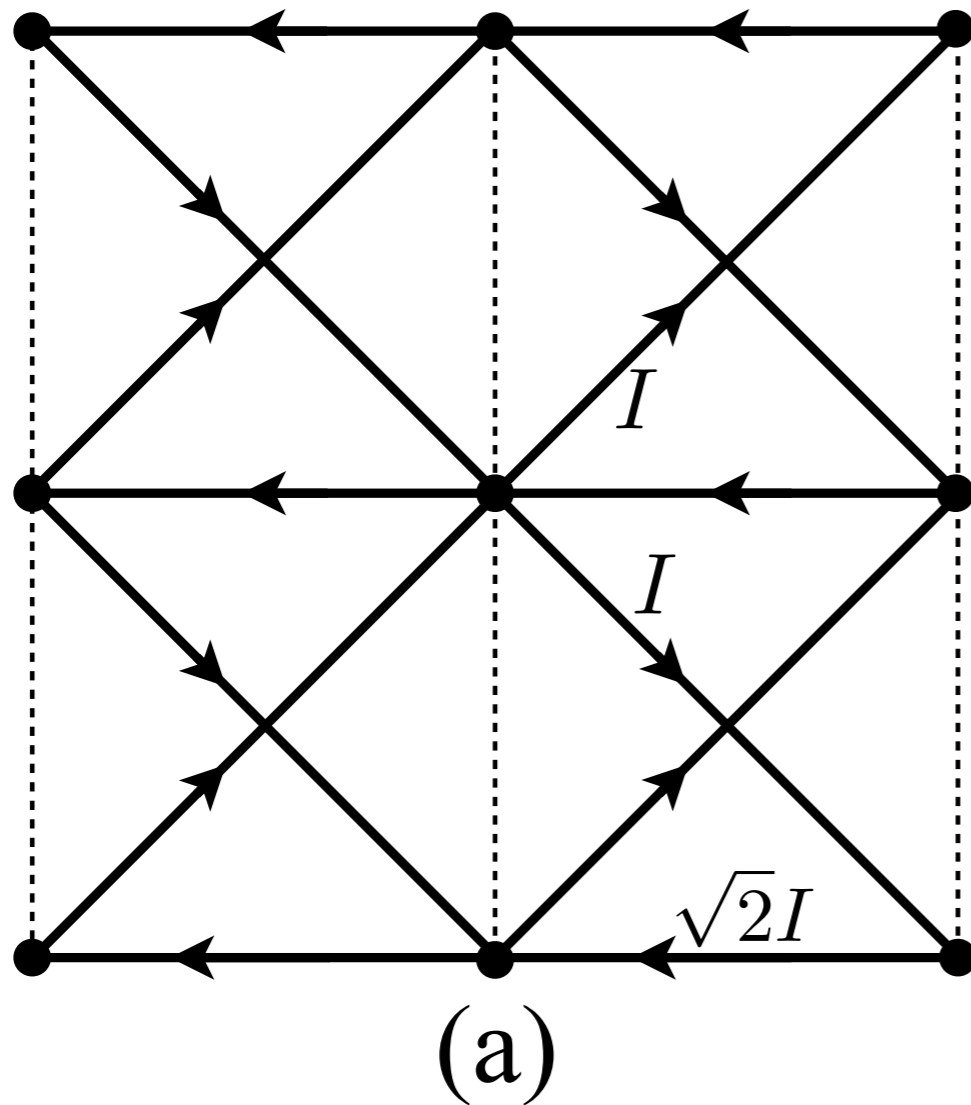
$$\begin{aligned} O_{mj} &= i \operatorname{Tr} (\sigma^a U_{mj} U_{jk} U_{km}) H^a(m) \\ &\quad - i \operatorname{Tr} (\sigma^a U_{jm} U_{mn} U_{nj}) H^a(j) \\ &\quad + i \operatorname{Tr} (\sigma^a U_{mj} U_{ji} U_{im}) H^a(m) \\ &\quad - i \operatorname{Tr} (\sigma^a U_{jm} U_{ml} U_{lj}) H^a(j) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} O_{mk} &= i \operatorname{Tr} (\sigma^a U_{mj} U_{jk} U_{km}) H^a(m) \\ &\quad - i \operatorname{Tr} (\sigma^a U_{kj} U_{jm} U_{mk}) H^a(k) \\ &\quad + i \operatorname{Tr} (\sigma^a U_{mn} U_{nk} U_{km}) H^a(m) \\ &\quad - i \operatorname{Tr} (\sigma^a U_{kn} U_{nm} U_{mk}) H^a(k) \end{aligned}$$

S. Sachdev and S. Chatterjee, arXiv:1703.00014

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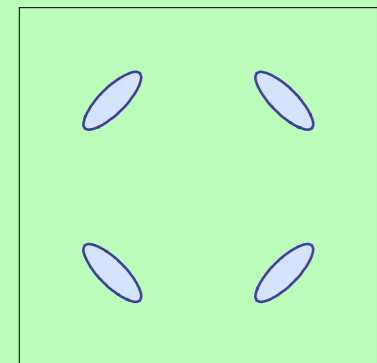
Topological order



States with topological order can have these patterns of spontaneous currents, while preserving translational symmetry. Both patterns are consistent with present neutron and light scattering experiments. Both patterns have Ising-nematic order: the Ising-nematic order of (a) is similar to that observed in the cuprates.

Global phase diagram

LGW-Hertz criticality of antiferromagnetism

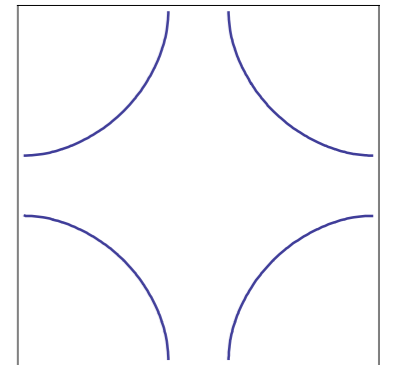


(A) Antiferromagnetic metal

$$\langle R \rangle \neq 0, \langle H^a \rangle \neq 0$$

(B) Fermi liquid with large Fermi surface

$$\langle R \rangle \neq 0, \langle H^a \rangle = 0$$



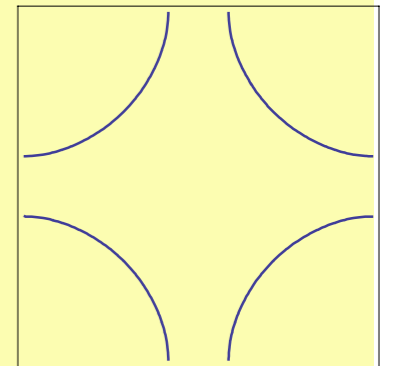
(C) Metal with Z_2 topological order

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Higgs criticality: Deconfined SU(2) gauge theory with large Fermi surface

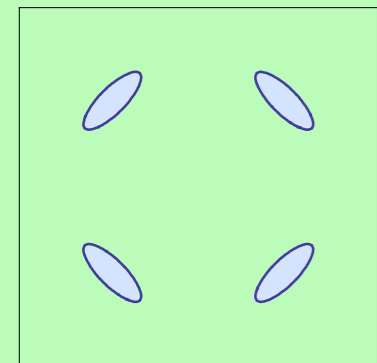
(D) SU(2) ACL eventually unstable to pairing and confinement

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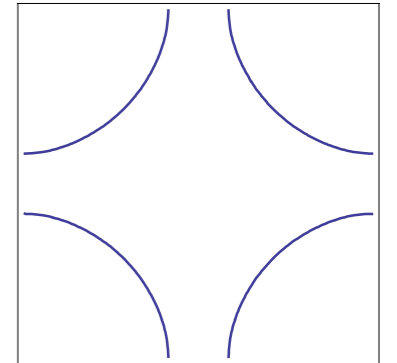


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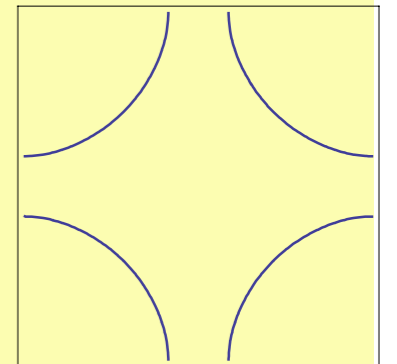
(C) Metal with Z_2 topological order and discrete symmetry breaking

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**Solvable models of disordered metals
without quasiparticle excitations**

Quantum matter without quasiparticles:

No quasiparticle structure to excitations.

But how can we be sure that no quasiparticles exist in a given system?
Perhaps there are some exotic quasiparticles inaccessible to current experiments.....

Consider how rapidly the system loses “phase coherence”, reaches local thermal equilibrium, or becomes “chaotic”

Local thermal equilibration or phase coherence time, τ_φ :

- There is an *lower bound* on τ_φ in all many-body quantum systems as $T \rightarrow 0$,

$$\tau_\varphi > C \frac{\hbar}{k_B T},$$

where C is a T -independent constant. Systems *without* quasiparticles have $\tau_\varphi \sim \hbar/(k_B T)$.

- In systems *with* quasiparticles, τ_φ is parametrically larger at low T ;
e.g. in Fermi liquids $\tau_\varphi \sim 1/T^2$,
and in gapped insulators $\tau_\varphi \sim e^{\Delta/(k_B T)}$ where Δ is the energy gap.

K. Damle and S. Sachdev, PRB **56**, 8714 (1997)

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

J. Zaanen, Nature **430**, 512 (2004)

A bound on quantum chaos:

- In classical chaos, we measure the sensitivity of the position at time t , $q(t)$, to variations in the initial position, $q(0)$, *i.e.* we measure

$$\left(\frac{\partial q(t)}{\partial q(0)}\right)^2 = (\{q(t), p(0)\}_{\text{P.B.}})^2$$

- By analogy, we define τ_L as the LYAPUNOV TIME over which the wavefunction of a quantum system is scrambled by an initial perturbation. This scrambling can be measured by

$$\left\langle \left| [\hat{A}(x, t), \hat{B}(0, 0)] \right|^2 \right\rangle \sim \exp\left(\frac{1}{\tau_L} \left[t - \frac{|x|}{v_B} \right]\right),$$

where v_B is the ‘butterfly velocity’. This time τ_L was argued to obey lower bound

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

There is no analogous bound in classical mechanics.

A. I. Larkin and Y. N. Ovchinnikov, JETP **28**, 6 (1969)

J. Maldacena, S. H. Shenker and D. Stanford, arXiv:1503.01409

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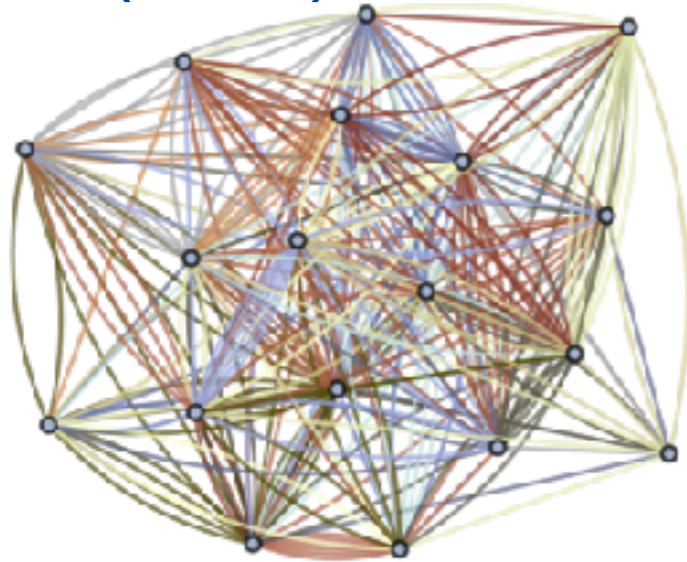
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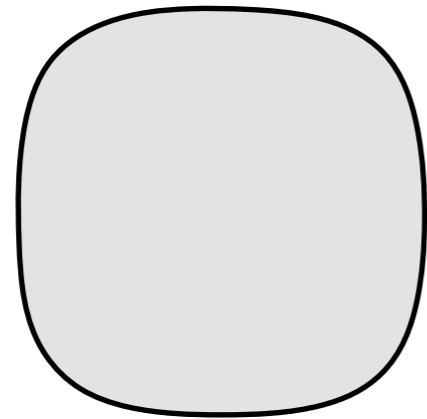
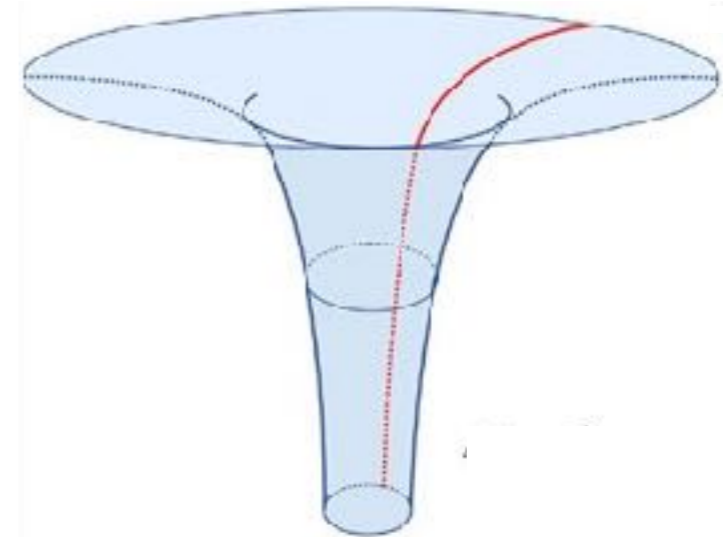
Quantum matter without quasiparticles
 \approx fastest possible many-body quantum chaos

Quantum matter without quasiparticles:

The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) models



Black holes with AdS₂ horizons

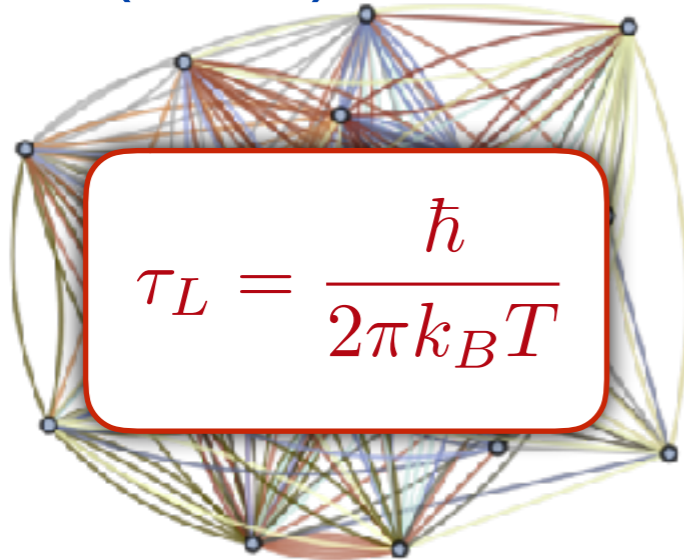


Fermi surface coupled to a gauge field

$$\mathcal{L}[\Psi, a] = \Psi^\dagger \left(\partial_\tau - ia_\tau - \frac{(\nabla - i\vec{a})^2}{2m} - \mu \right) \Psi + \frac{1}{2g^2} (\nabla \times \vec{a})^2$$

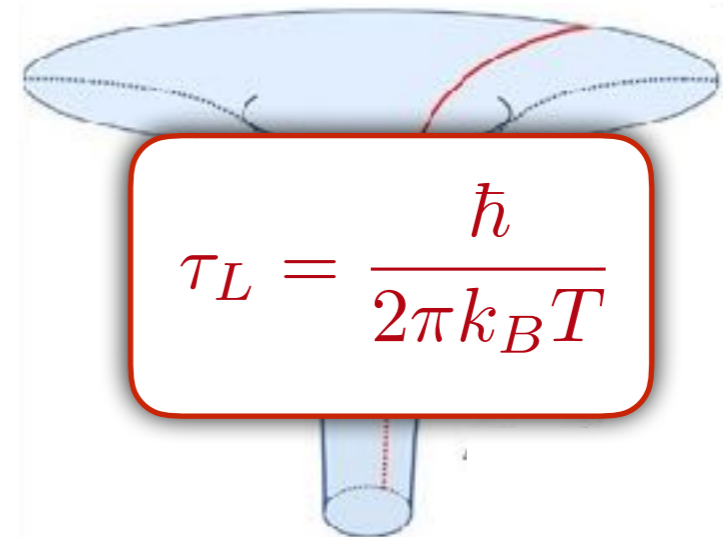
Quantum matter without quasiparticles:

The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) models

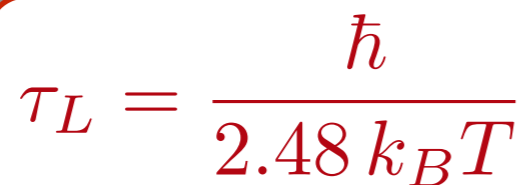


$$\tau_L = \frac{\hbar}{2\pi k_B T}$$

Black holes with AdS₂ horizons



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



A diagram illustrating a Fermi surface coupled to a gauge field. It shows a grey, semi-circular shape representing the Fermi surface, with a red box containing the Lyapunov time equation.

$$\tau_L = \frac{\hbar}{2.48 k_B T}$$

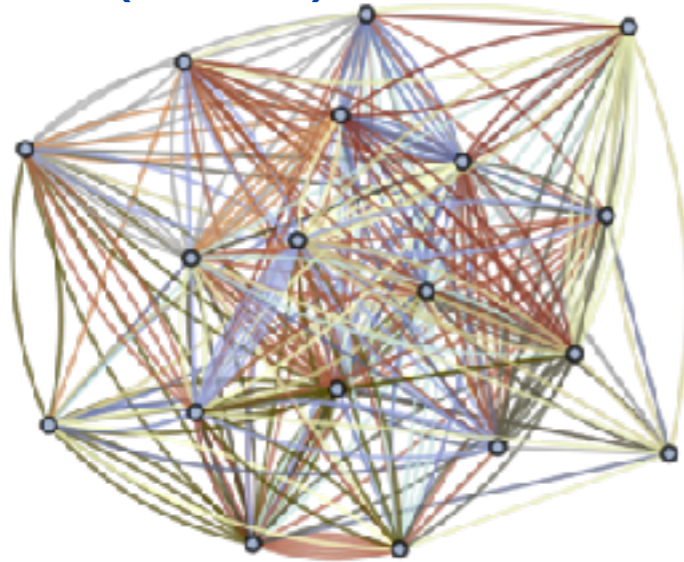
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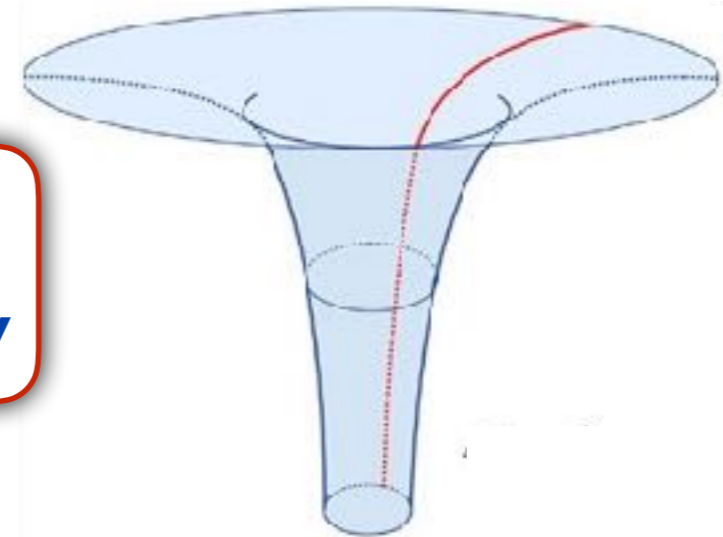
τ_L : the Lyapunov time to reach quantum chaos

Quantum matter without quasiparticles:

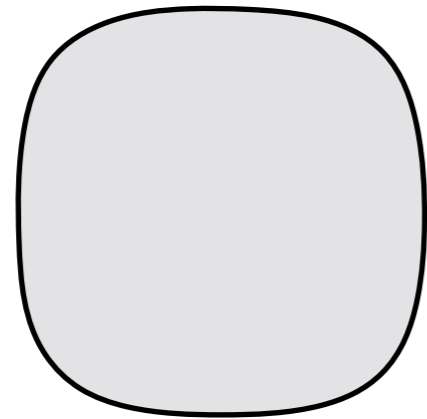
The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) models



Black holes with AdS₂ horizons



Same low energy theory



Fermi surface coupled to a gauge field

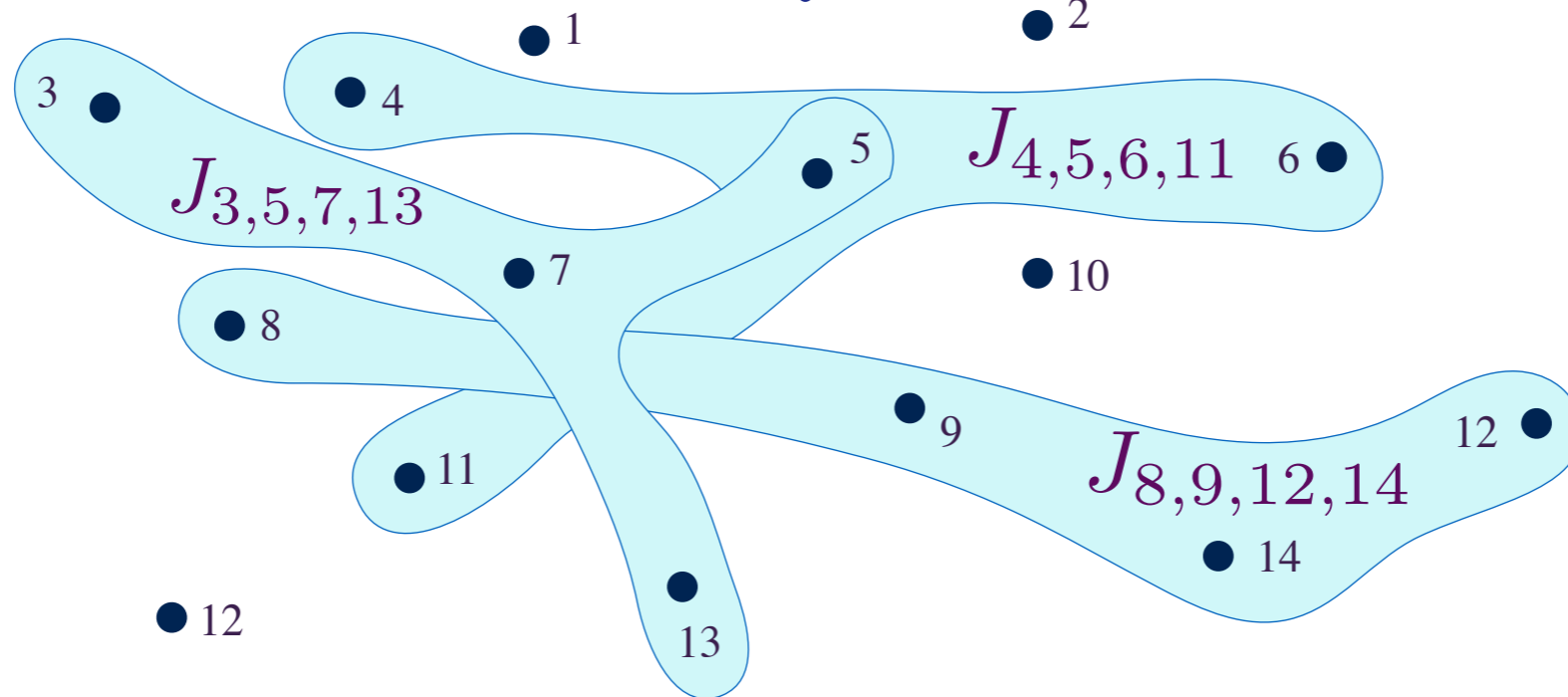
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SYK model

$$H = \frac{1}{(2N)^{3/2}} \sum_{i,j,k,l=1}^N J_{ij;kl} c_i^\dagger c_j^\dagger c_k c_l - \mu \sum_i c_i^\dagger c_i$$

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

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



$J_{ij;kl}$ are independent random variables with $\overline{J_{ij;kl}} = 0$ and $\overline{|J_{ij;kl}|^2} = J^2$
 $N \rightarrow \infty$ yields critical strange metal.

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

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

SYK model

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

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

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 Q .

SYK and AdS₂

- Non-zero GPS entropy as $T \rightarrow 0$, $S(T \rightarrow 0) = NS_0 + \dots$
Not a ground state degeneracy: due to an exponentially small (in N) many-body level spacing at all energies down to the ground state energy.



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

SYK and AdS₂

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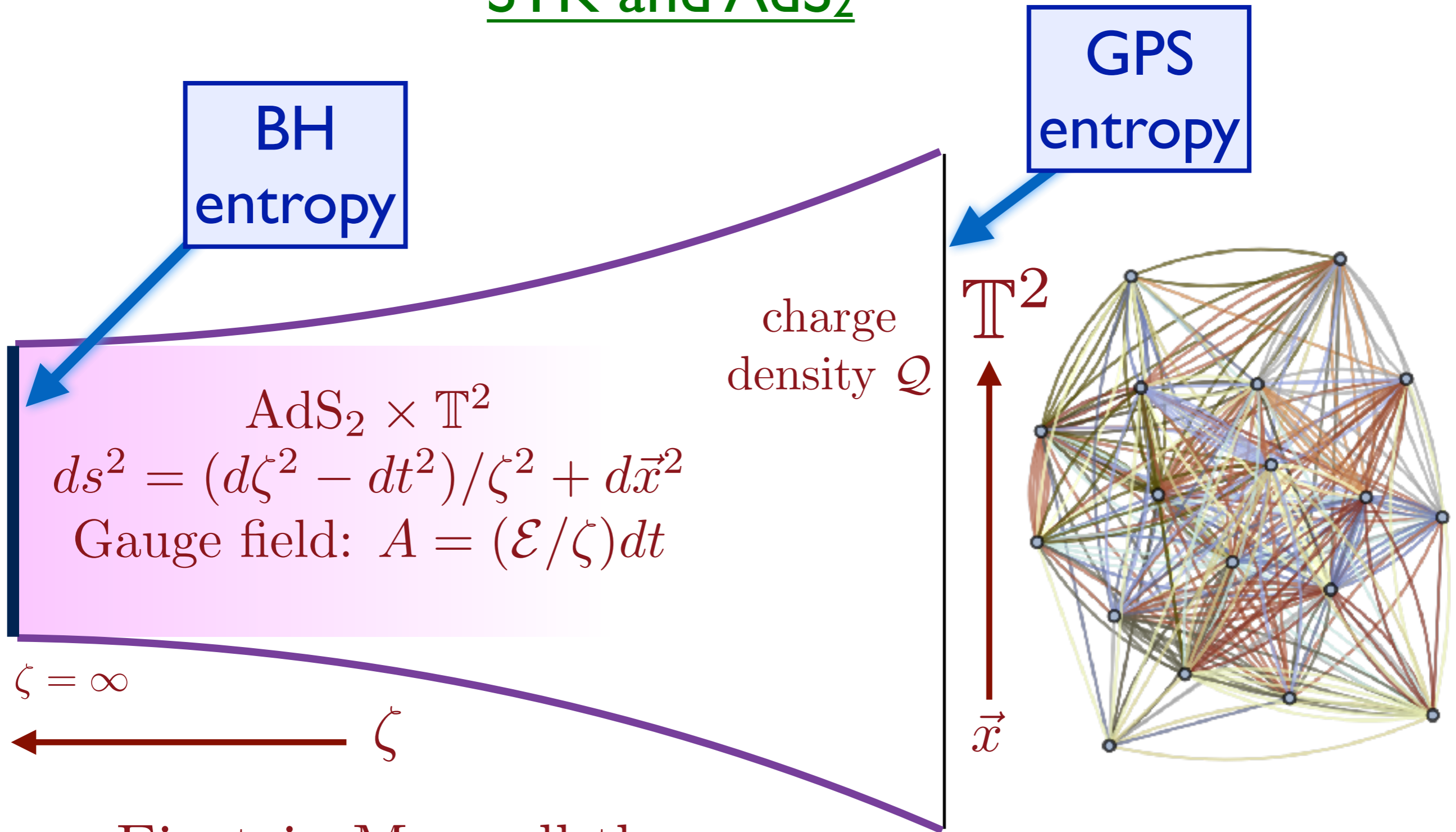
A. Georges, O. Parcollet, and S. Sachdev, PRB **63**, 134406 (2001)

- This entropy, and other dynamic correlators of the SYK models, imply that the SYK model is holographically dual to black holes with an AdS₂ horizon. The Bekenstein-Hawking entropy of the black hole equals NS_0 :

GPS = BH.

S. Sachdev, PRL **105**, 151602 (2010)

SYK and AdS₂



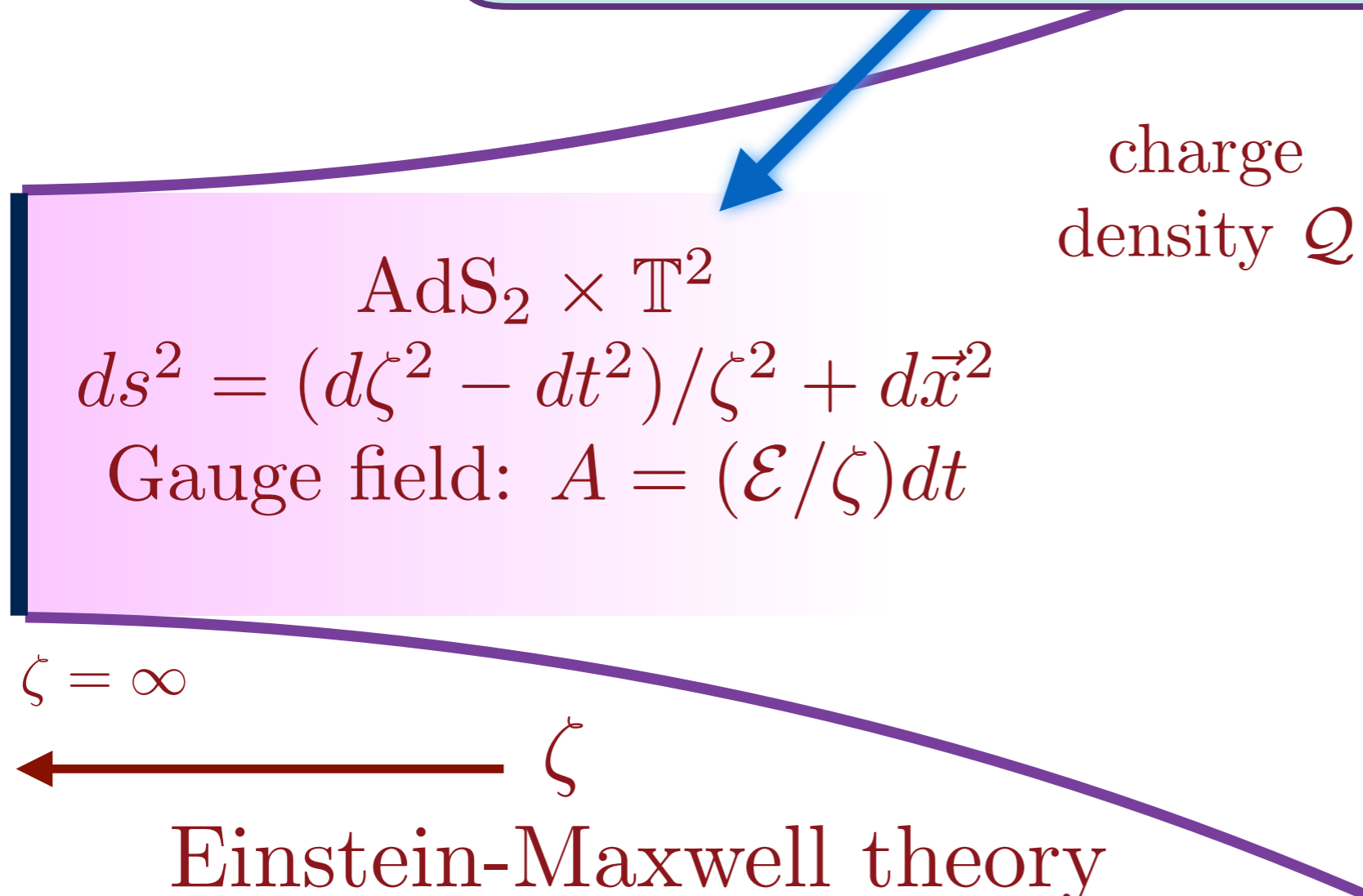
Einstein-Maxwell theory
+ cosmological constant

S. Sachdev, PRL **105**, 151602 (2010)

Mapping to SYK applies when temperature $\ll 1/(\text{size of } T^2)$

SYK and AdS₂

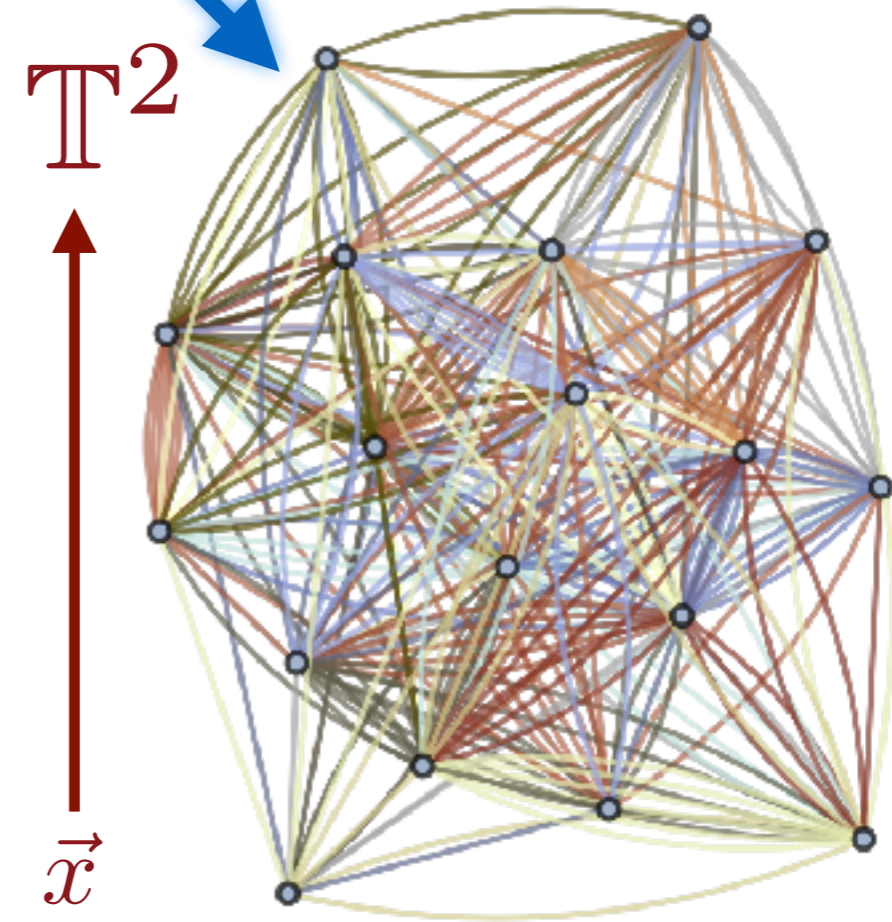
Same long-time effective action for energy and number fluctuations, involving Schwarzian derivatives of $f(\tau)$.



$$ds^2 = (d\zeta^2 - dt^2)/\zeta^2 + d\vec{x}^2$$

Gauge field: $A = (\mathcal{E}/\zeta)dt$

charge density \mathcal{Q}



Einstein-Maxwell theory
+ cosmological constant

Mapping to SYK applies when temperature $\ll 1/(\text{size of } \mathbb{T}^2)$

Coupled SYK models

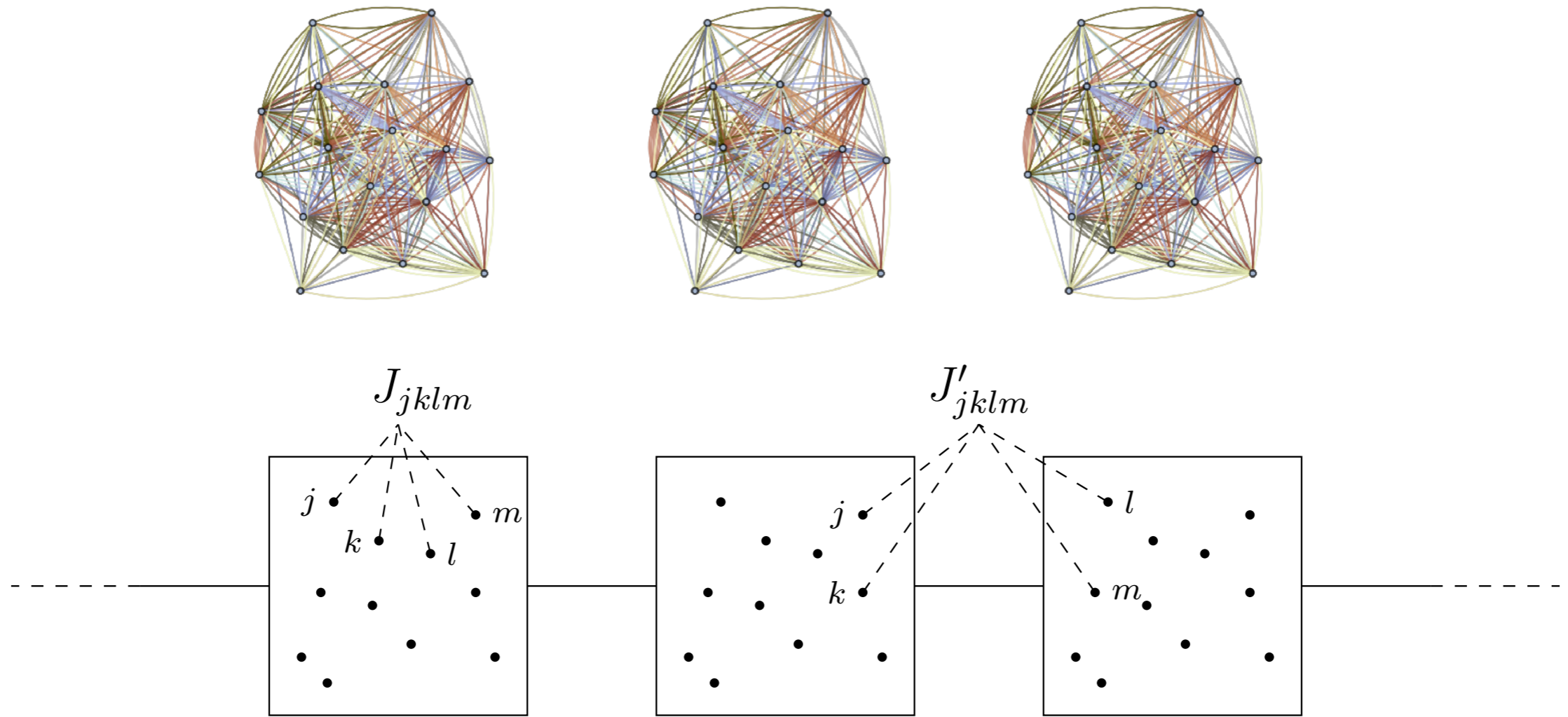
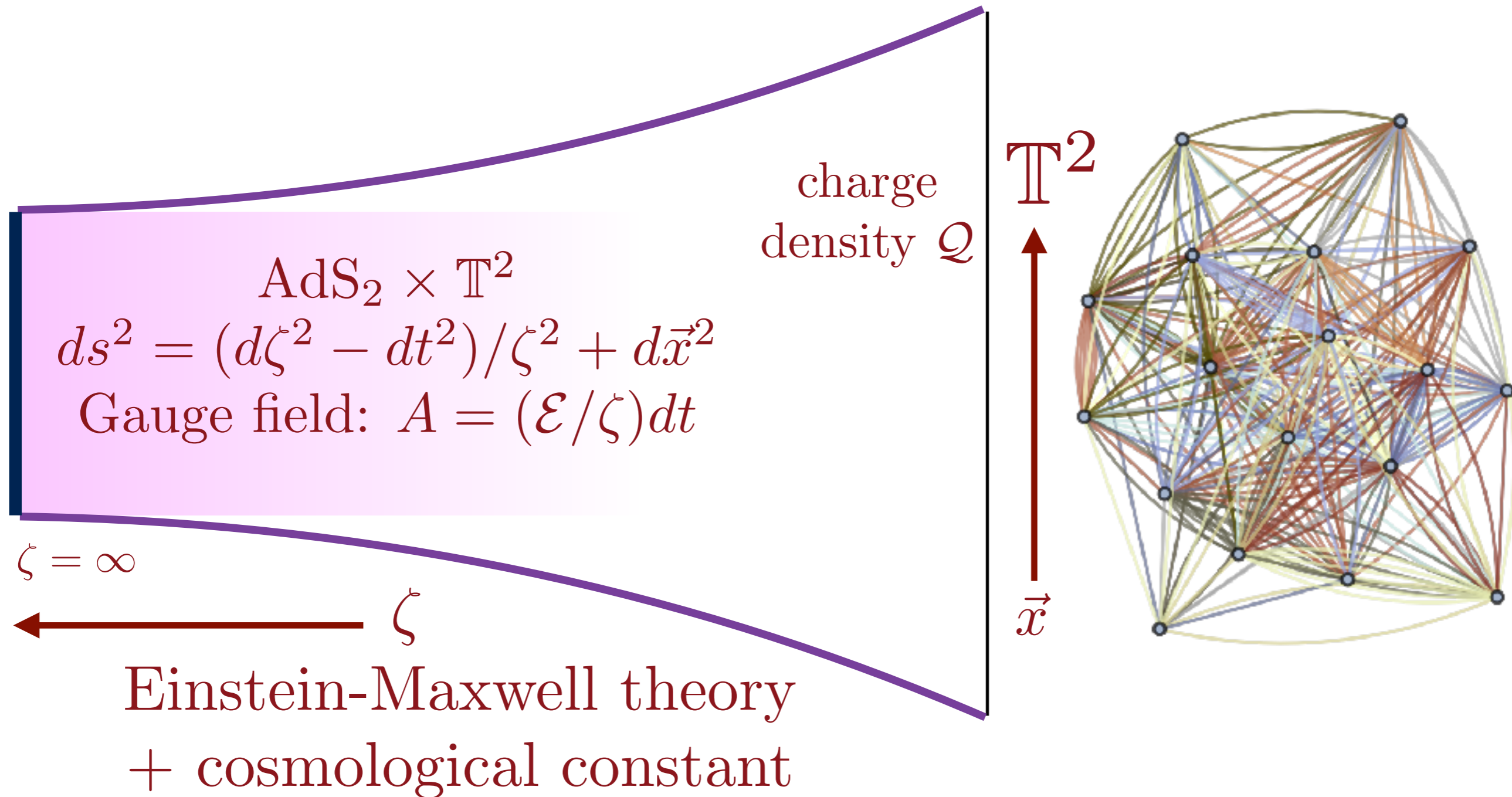


Figure 1: A chain of coupled SYK sites: each site contains $N \gg 1$ fermion with SYK interaction. The coupling between nearest neighbor sites are four fermion interaction with two from each site.

Yingfei Gu, Xiao-Liang Qi, and D. Stanford, arXiv:1609.07832
R. Davison, Wenbo Fu, A. Georges, Yingfei Gu, K. Jensen, S. Sachdev, arXiv:1612.00849

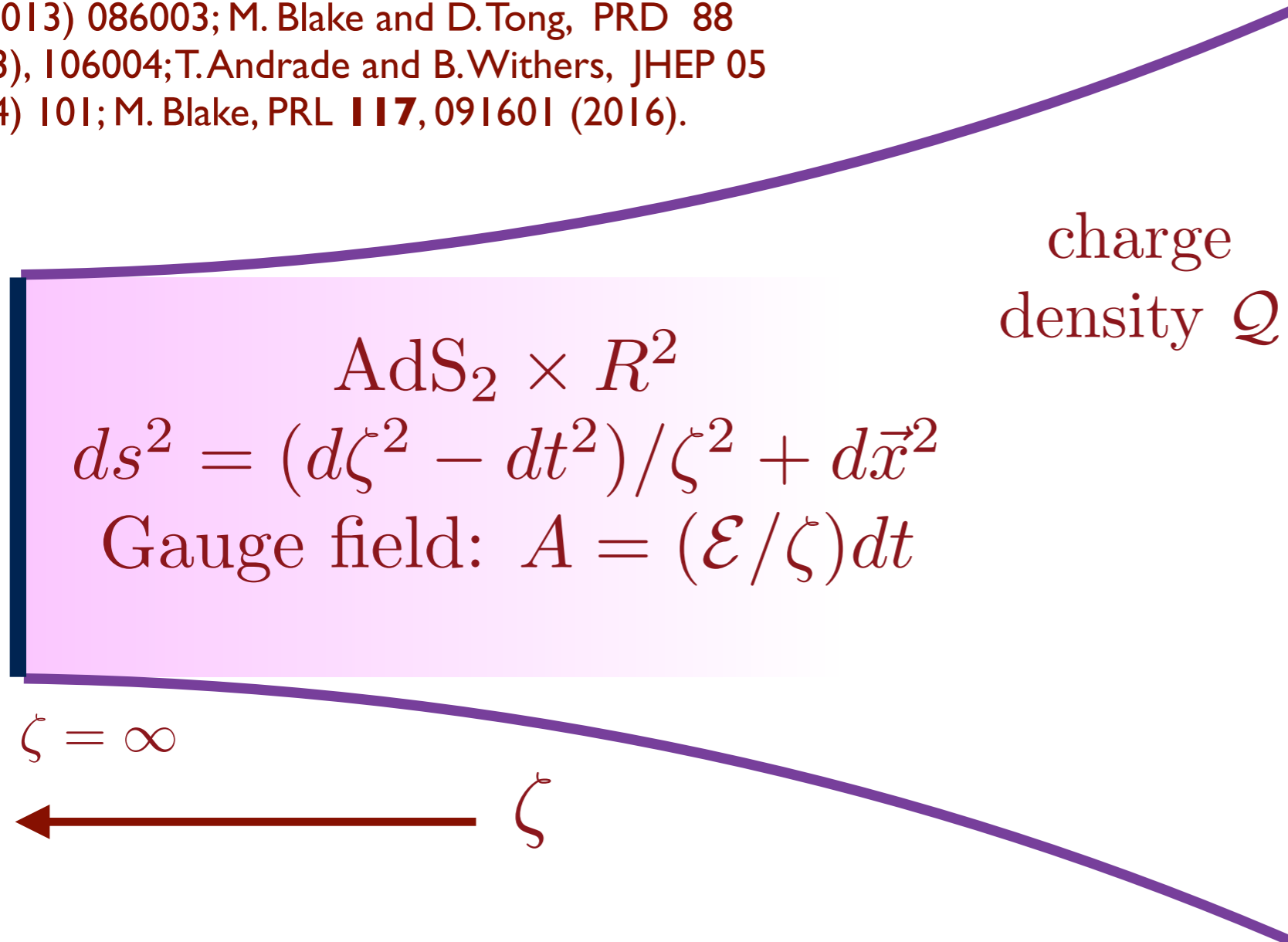
SYK and AdS₂



Mapping to SYK applies when temperature $\ll 1/(\text{size of } T^2)$

Coupled SYK and AdS₄

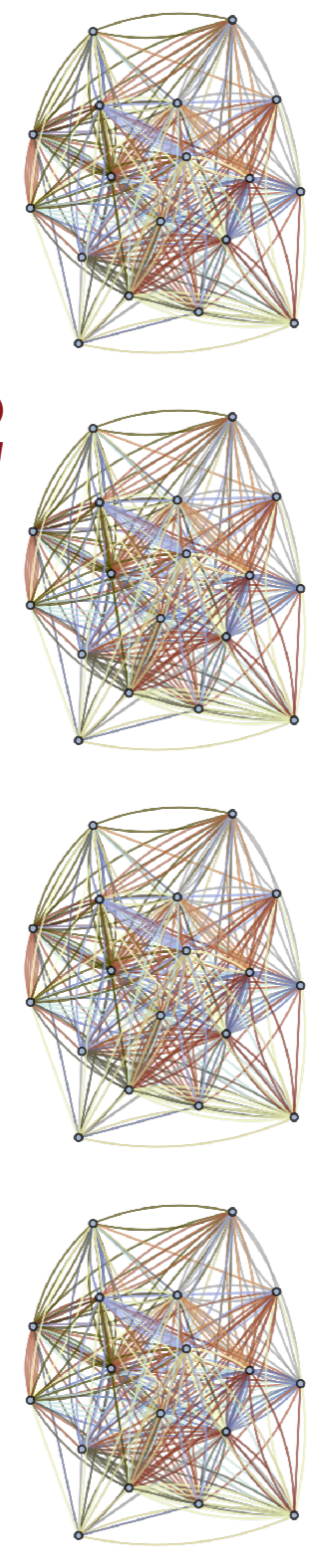
Y. Bardoux, M. M. Caldarelli, and C. Charmousis, JHEP 05 (2012) 054; D. Vegh, arXiv:1301.0537; R. A. Davison, PRD 88 (2013) 086003; M. Blake and D. Tong, PRD 88 (2013), 106004; T. Andrade and B. Withers, JHEP 05 (2014) 101; M. Blake, PRL 117, 091601 (2016).



charge density \mathcal{Q}

R^2

\vec{x}



R. Davison,
Wenbo Fu,
A. Georges,
Yingfei Gu,
K. Jensen,
S. Sachdev,
arXiv.
1612.00849

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-\hat{g}} \left(\hat{\mathcal{R}} + 6/L^2 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^2 (\partial \hat{\varphi}_i)^2 - \frac{1}{4} \hat{F}_{\mu\nu} \hat{F}^{\mu\nu} \right),$$

Einstein-Maxwell-axion theory with saddle point $\hat{\varphi}_i = kx_i$ leading to momentum dissipation

Coupled SYK and AdS₄

Matching correlators for thermoelectric diffusion,
and quantum chaos

$$\tau_L = \hbar / (2\pi k_B T), \quad v_B \sim T^{1/2},$$

and thermal diffusivity $D_E = v_B^2 \tau_L$

AdS₂ × R²

$$ds^2 = (d\zeta^2 - dt^2) / \zeta^2 + d\vec{x}^2$$

Gauge field: $A = (\mathcal{E} / \zeta) dt$

charge
density \mathcal{Q}

R²

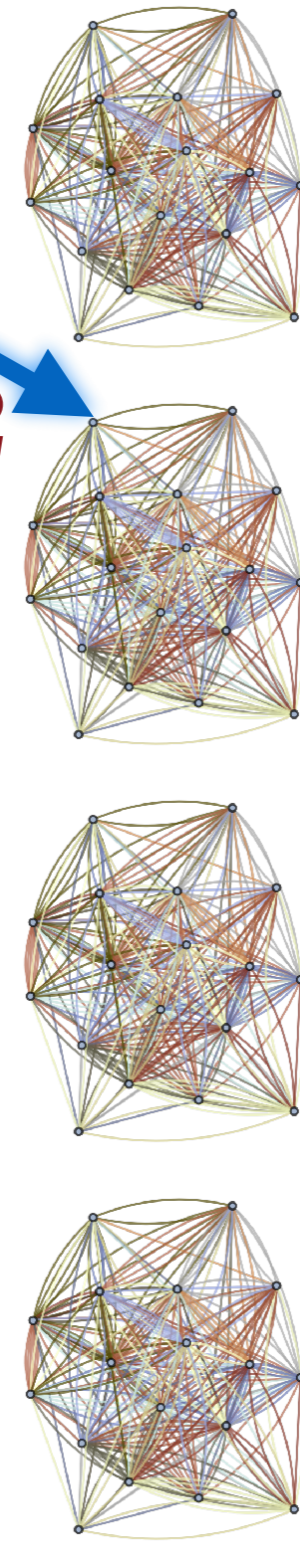
\vec{x}

$\zeta = \infty$

ζ

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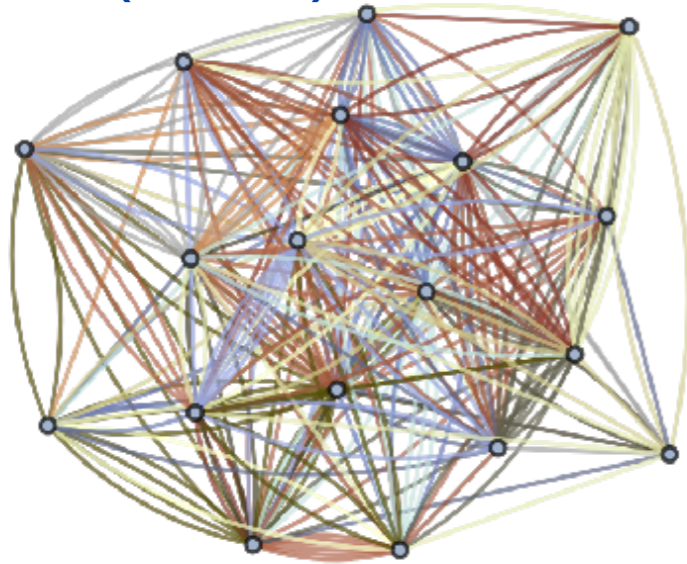
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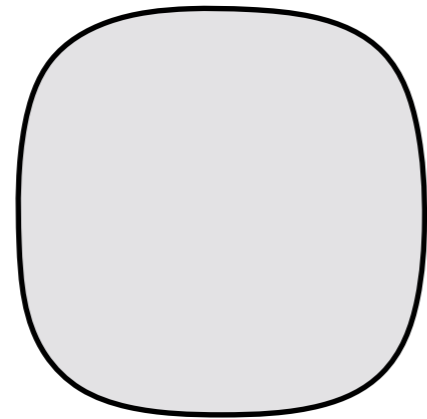
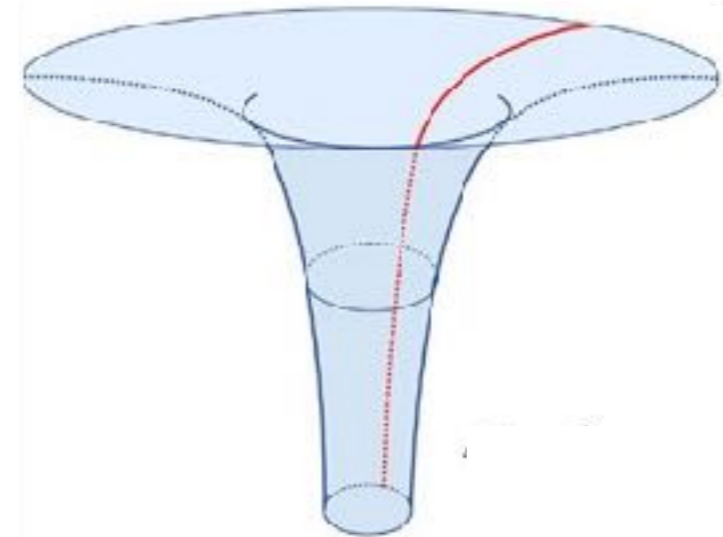
R. Davison,
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Quantum matter without quasiparticles:

The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) models



Black holes with AdS₂ horizons

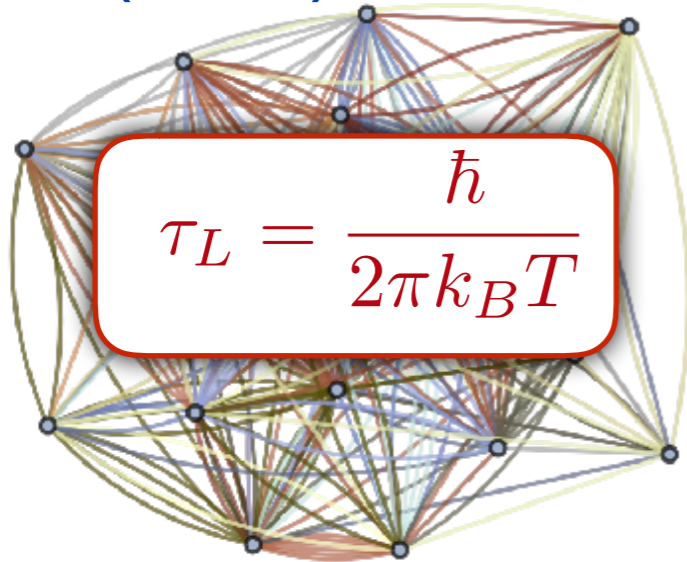


Fermi surface coupled
to a gauge field

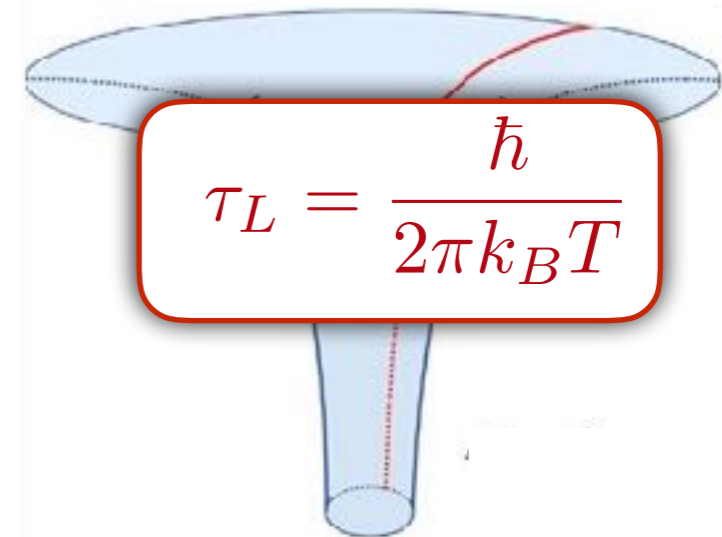
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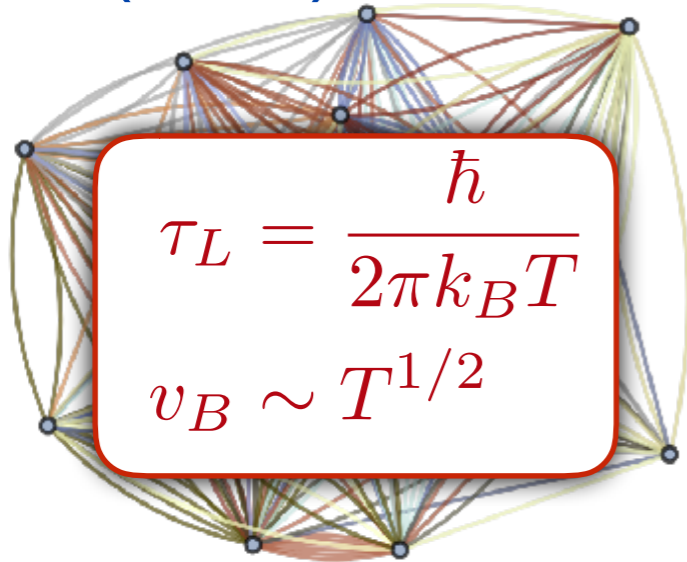
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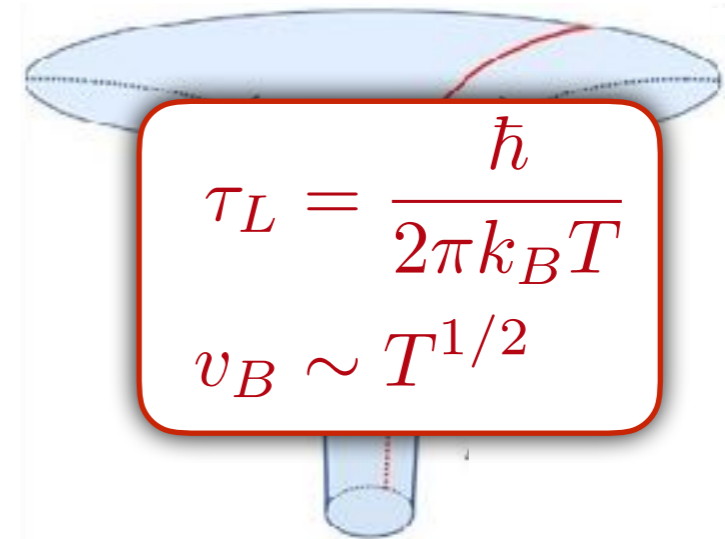
τ_L : the Lyapunov time to reach quantum chaos

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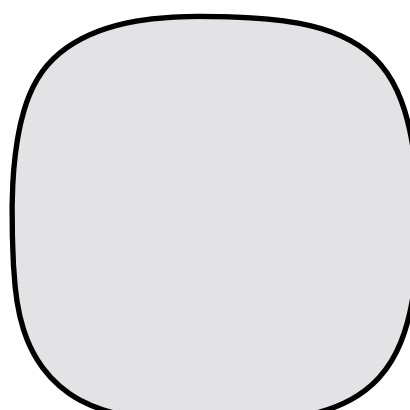
The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) models



Black holes with AdS₂ horizons



Fermi surface coupled to a gauge field



A diagram of a Fermi surface coupled to a gauge field, showing a gray, rounded rectangular shape representing the Fermi surface.

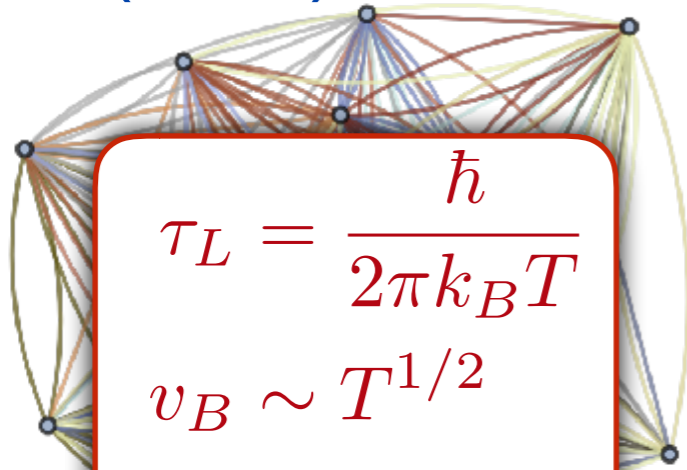
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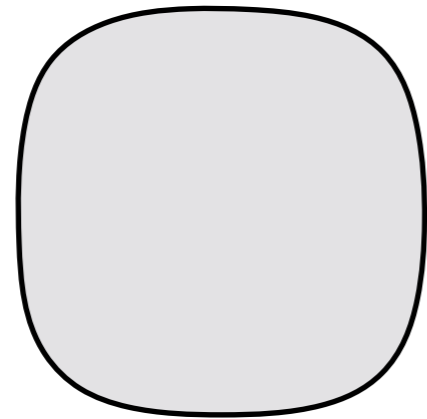


$$\tau_L = \frac{\hbar}{2\pi k_B T}$$
$$v_B \sim T^{1/2}$$
$$D_E = v_B^2 \tau_L$$

Black holes with AdS₂ horizons



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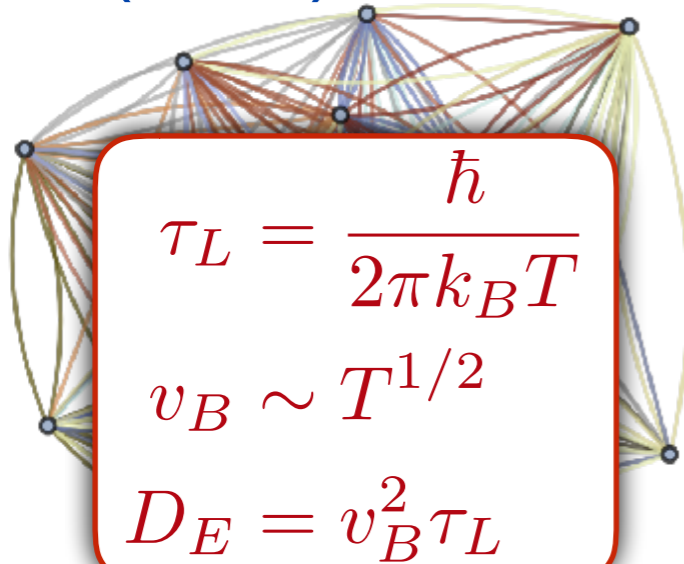
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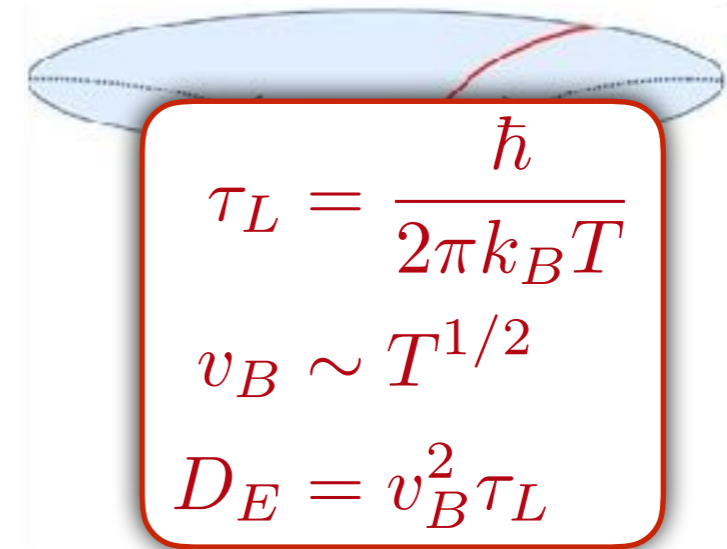


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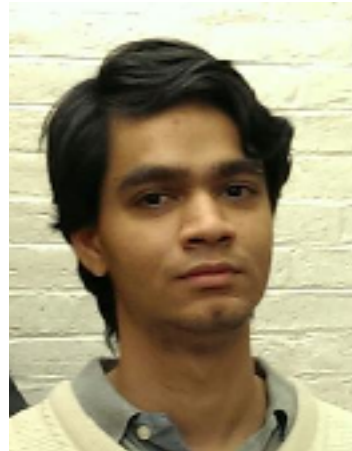
Black holes with AdS₂ horizons



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A. A. Patel
and
S. Sachdev,
arXiv:
1611.00003

$$\tau_L = \frac{\hbar}{2.48 k_B T}$$

$$v_B \sim \frac{N v_F^{5/3}}{e^{4/3} \gamma^{1/3}} T^{1/3}$$

$$D_E = 0.42 v_B^2 \tau_L$$

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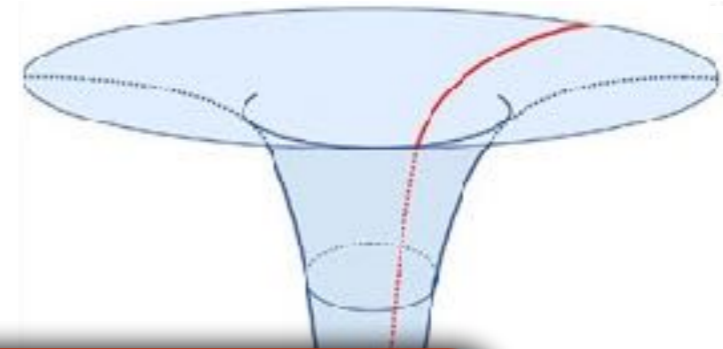
v_B : the “butterfly velocity” for the spatial propagation of chaos

Quantum matter without quasiparticles:

The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) models



Black holes with AdS₂ horizons



Thermal diffusivity, D_E :

$$D_E = (\text{universal number}) \times v_B^2 \tau_L$$

in all three models

Fermi surface coupled
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τ_L : the Lyapunov time to reach quantum chaos

v_B : the “butterfly velocity” for the spatial propagation of chaos

- Quantum chaos is intimately linked to the loss of phase coherence from electron-electron interactions. As the time derivative of the local phase is determined by the local energy, phase fluctuations and chaos are linked to interaction-induced energy fluctuations, and hence thermal diffusivity.