

The Superfluid-Insulator transition

Boson Hubbard model

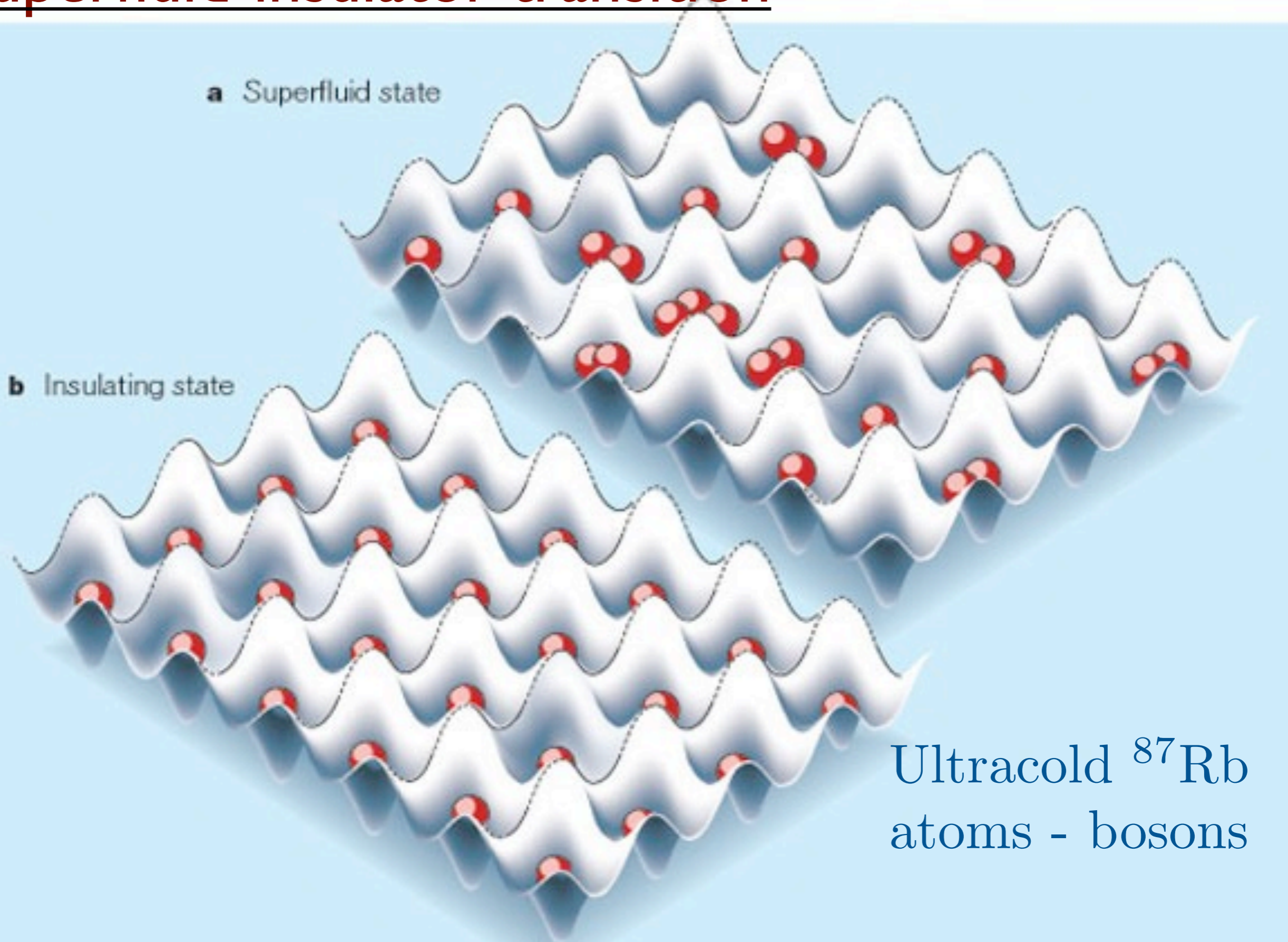
Degrees of freedom: Bosons, b_j^\dagger , hopping between the sites, j , of a lattice, with short-range repulsive interactions.

$$H = -t \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} b_i^\dagger b_j - \mu \sum_j n_j + \frac{U}{2} \sum_j n_j (n_j - 1) + \dots$$

$$n_j \equiv b_j^\dagger b_j$$

M.P. A. Fisher, P.B. Weichmann, G. Grinstein,
and D.S. Fisher, *Phys. Rev. B* **40**, 546 (1989).

Superfluid-insulator transition



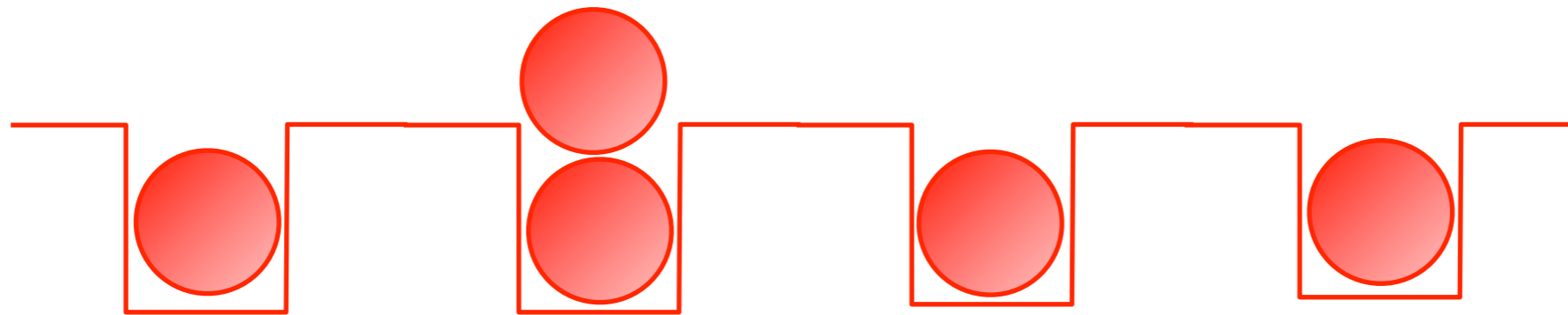
Ultracold ^{87}Rb
atoms - bosons

M. Greiner, O. Mandel, T. Esslinger, T. W. Hänsch, and I. Bloch, *Nature* **415**, 39 (2002).



Insulator (the vacuum) at large U

Excitations:



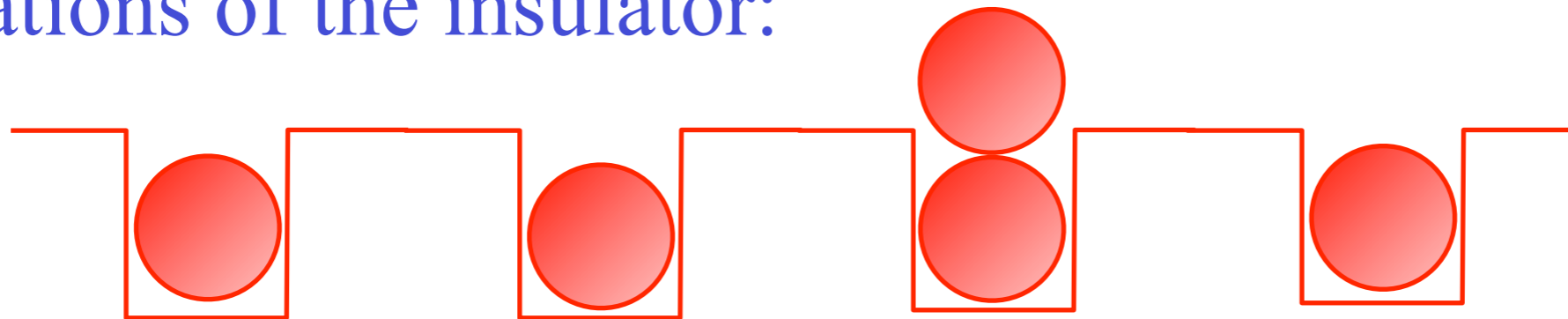
Particles $\sim \psi^\dagger$

Excitations:



Holes $\sim \psi$

Excitations of the insulator:



Particles $\sim \psi^\dagger$



Holes $\sim \psi$

Density of particles = density of holes \Rightarrow

“relativistic” field theory for ψ :

$$\mathcal{S} = \int d^2r d\tau \left[|\partial_\tau \psi|^2 + v^2 |\vec{\nabla} \psi|^2 + (g - g_c) |\psi|^2 + \frac{u}{2} |\psi|^4 \right]$$

Insulator $\Leftrightarrow \langle \psi \rangle = 0$

Superfluid $\Leftrightarrow \langle \psi \rangle \neq 0$

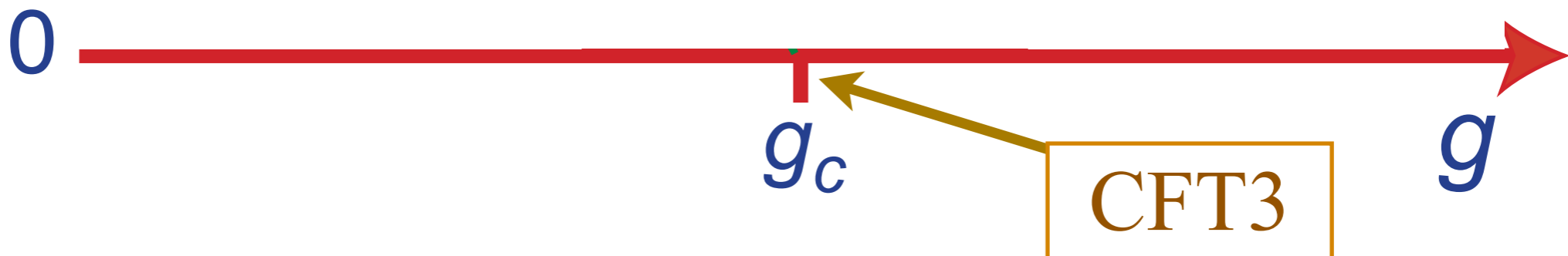
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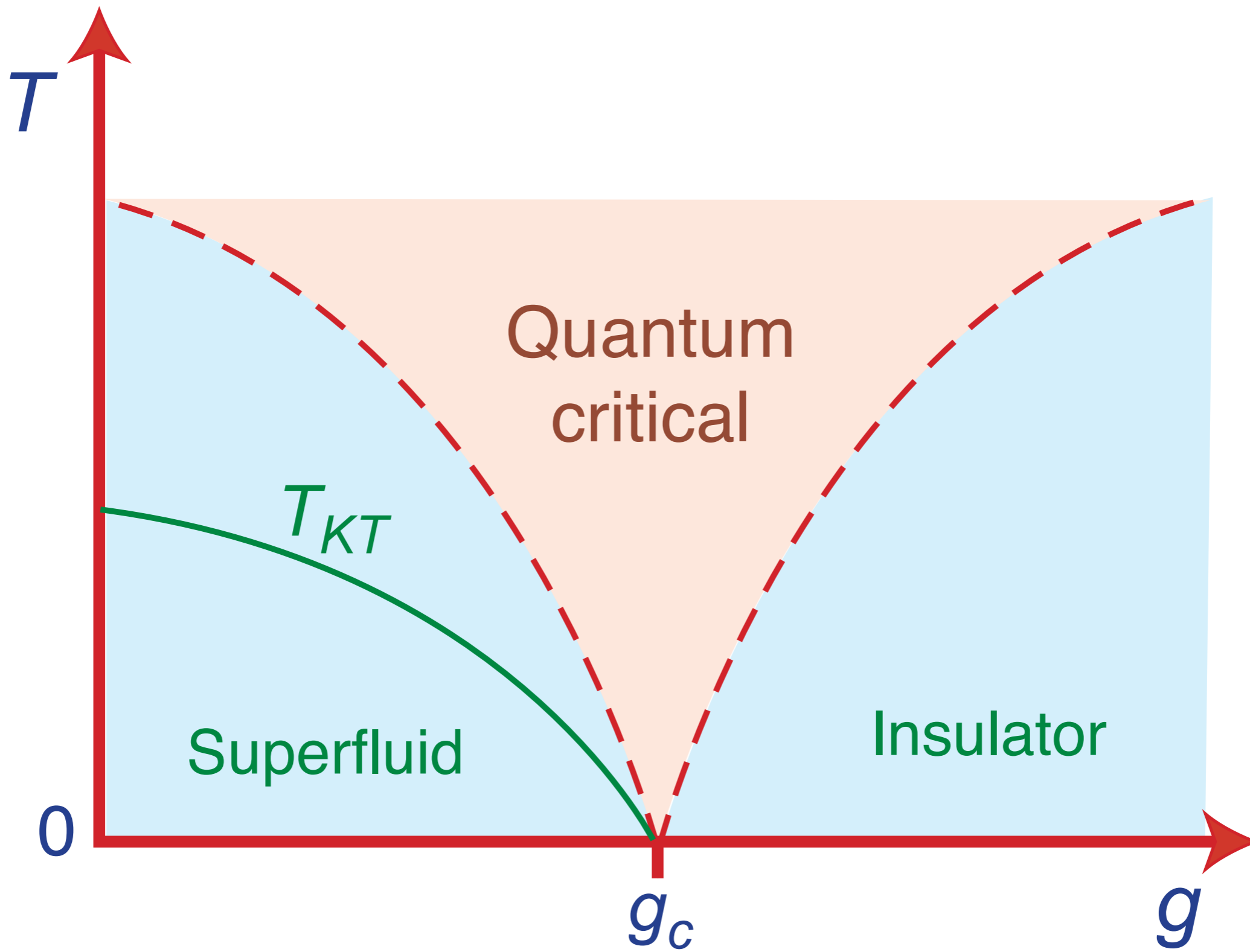
$$\langle \psi \rangle \neq 0$$

Superfluid

$$\langle \psi \rangle = 0$$

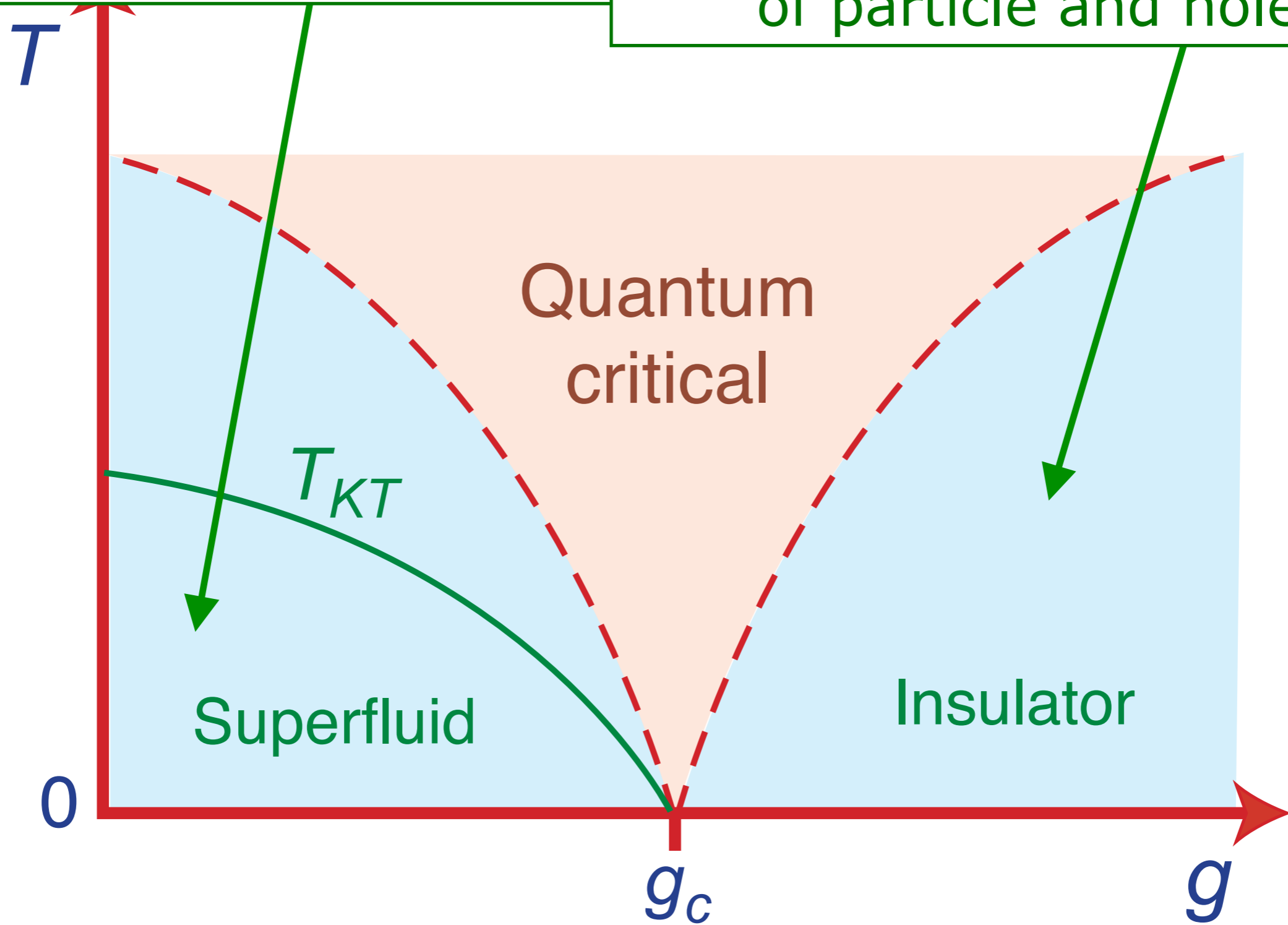
Insulator

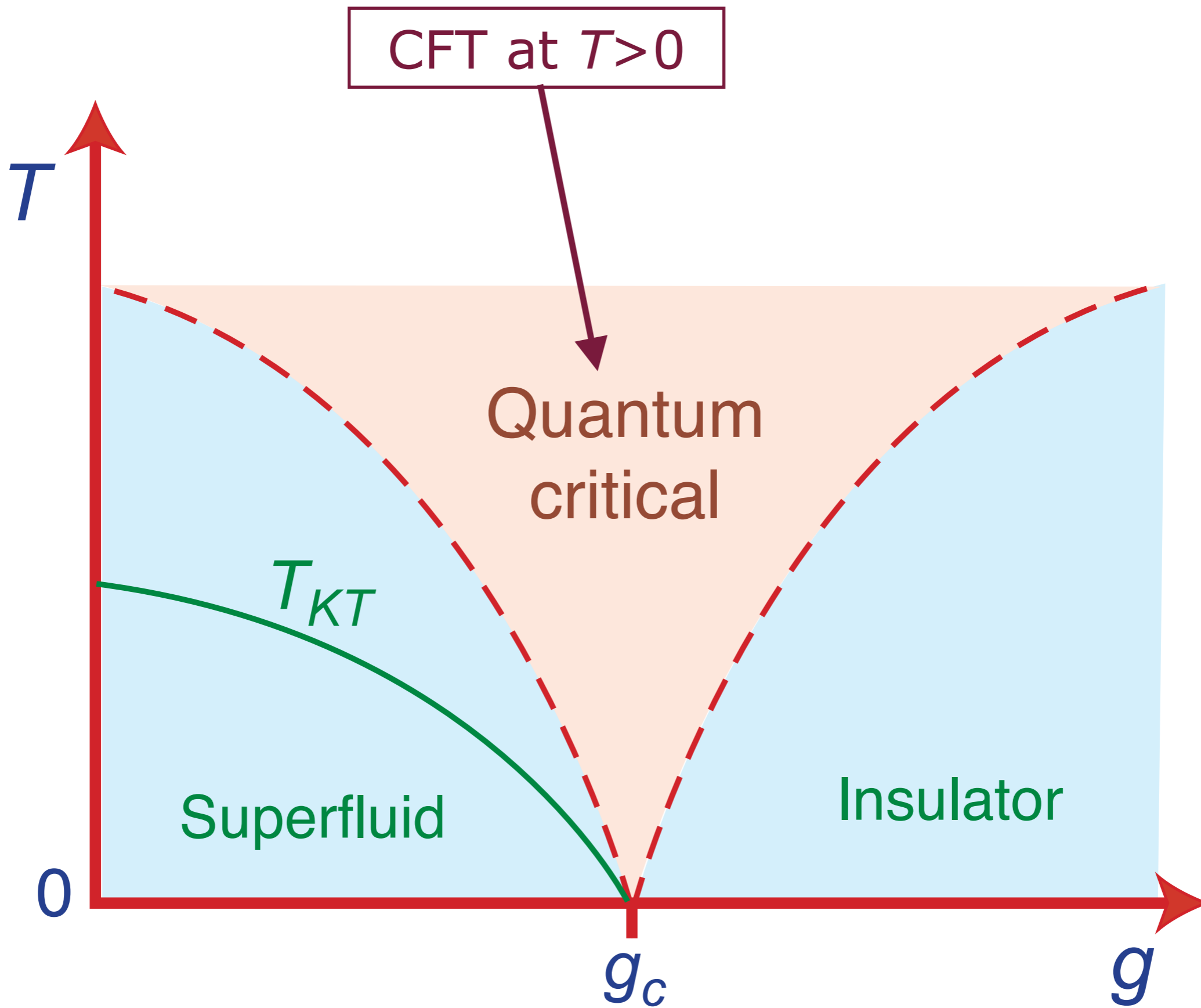




Classical vortices and wave oscillations of the condensate

Dilute Boltzmann/Landau gas of particle and holes





Conformal field theory: Wilson-Fisher fixed point

Superfluid

$$\langle \psi \rangle \neq 0$$

$$\sigma = \infty$$

Insulator

$$\langle \psi \rangle = 0$$

$$\sigma = 0$$



Using the boson quasiparticle excitations of the insulator $\sim \psi$

$$\mathcal{S} = \int d^3x \left[|\partial_\mu \psi|^2 + s|\psi|^2 + \frac{u}{2}|\psi|^4 \right]$$

Conformal field theory: Wilson-Fisher fixed point

Superfluid

$$\langle \psi \rangle \neq 0$$

$$\langle \varphi \rangle = 0$$

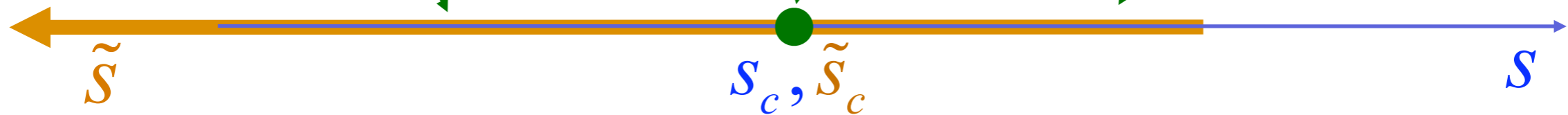
$$\sigma = \infty$$

Insulator

$$\langle \psi \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle \varphi \rangle \neq 0$$

$$\sigma = 0$$



Using the boson quasiparticle excitations of the insulator $\sim \psi$

$$\mathcal{S} = \int d^3x \left[|\partial_\mu \psi|^2 + s|\psi|^2 + \frac{u}{2}|\psi|^4 \right]$$

is dual to

Using the vortex quasiparticle excitations of the superfluid $\sim \varphi$

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{dual}} = \int d^3x \left[|(\partial_\mu - iA_\mu)\varphi|^2 + \tilde{s}|\varphi|^2 + \frac{\tilde{u}}{2}|\varphi|^4 + \frac{1}{2e^2}(\epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda}\partial_\nu A_\lambda)^2 \right]$$

C. Dasgupta and B.I. Halperin, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **47**, 1556 (1981)

Outline

1. Introduction to the Hubbard model

Superexchange and antiferromagnetism

2. Coupled dimer antiferromagnet

CFT₃: the Wilson-Fisher fixed point

3. Honeycomb lattice: semi-metal and antiferromagnetism

CFT₃: Dirac fermions and the Gross-Neveu model

4. Quantum critical dynamics

AdS/CFT and the collisionless-hydrodynamic crossover

5. Hubbard model as a SU(2) gauge theory

Spin liquids, valence bond solids: analogies with SQED and SYM

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Quantum critical transport

Quantum “*perfect fluid*”
with shortest possible
relaxation time, τ_R

$$\tau_R \gtrsim \frac{\hbar}{k_B T}$$

Quantum critical transport

Transport co-efficients not determined
by collision rate, but by
universal constants of nature

Electrical conductivity

$$\sigma = \frac{e^2}{h} \times [\text{Universal constant } \mathcal{O}(1)]$$

K. Damle and S. Sachdev, *Phys. Rev. B* **56**, 8714 (1997).

Quantum critical transport

Transport co-efficients not determined
by collision rate, but by
universal constants of nature

Momentum transport

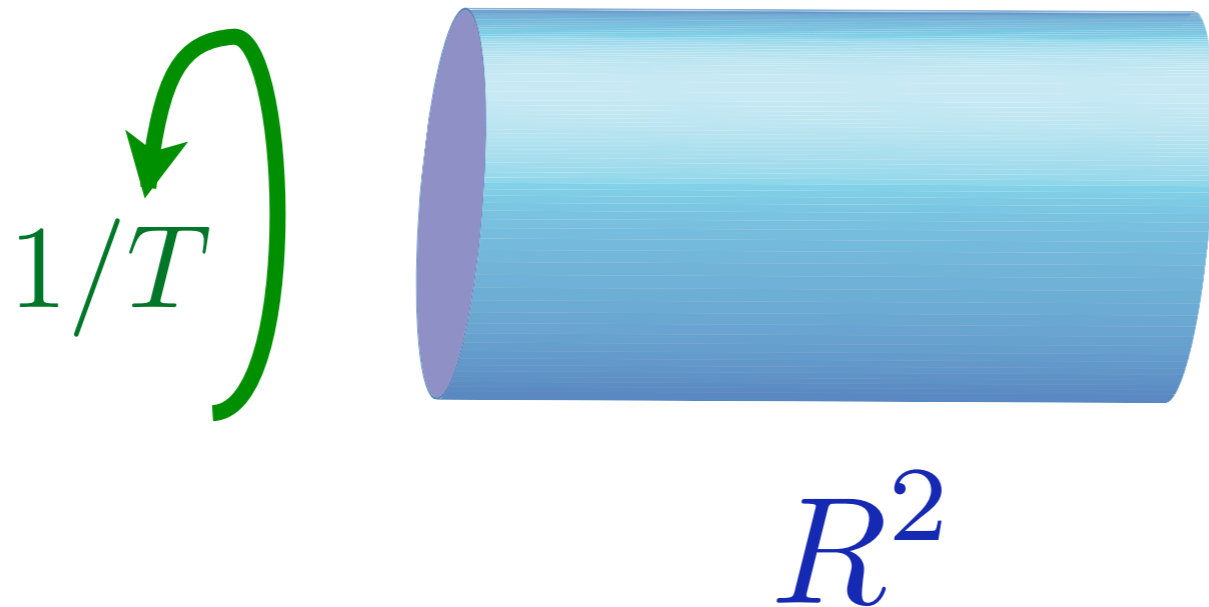
$$\frac{\eta}{s} \equiv \frac{\text{viscosity}}{\text{entropy density}}$$
$$= \frac{\hbar}{k_B} \times [\text{Universal constant } \mathcal{O}(1)]$$

P. Kovtun, D. T. Son, and A. Starinets, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **94**, 11601 (2005)

Quantum critical transport

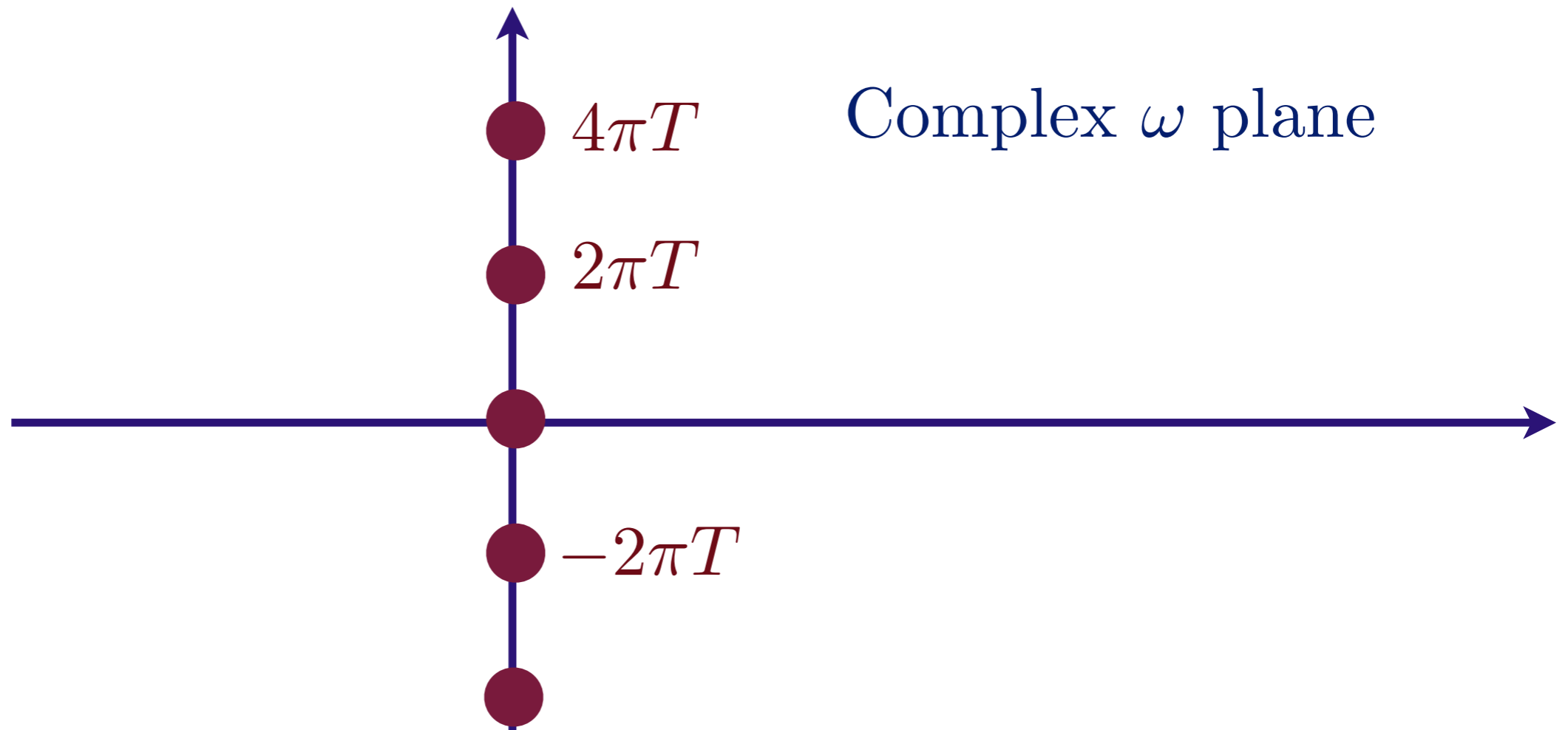
Euclidean field theory:

Compute current correlations on $R^2 \times S^1$ with circumference $1/T$



Quantum critical transport

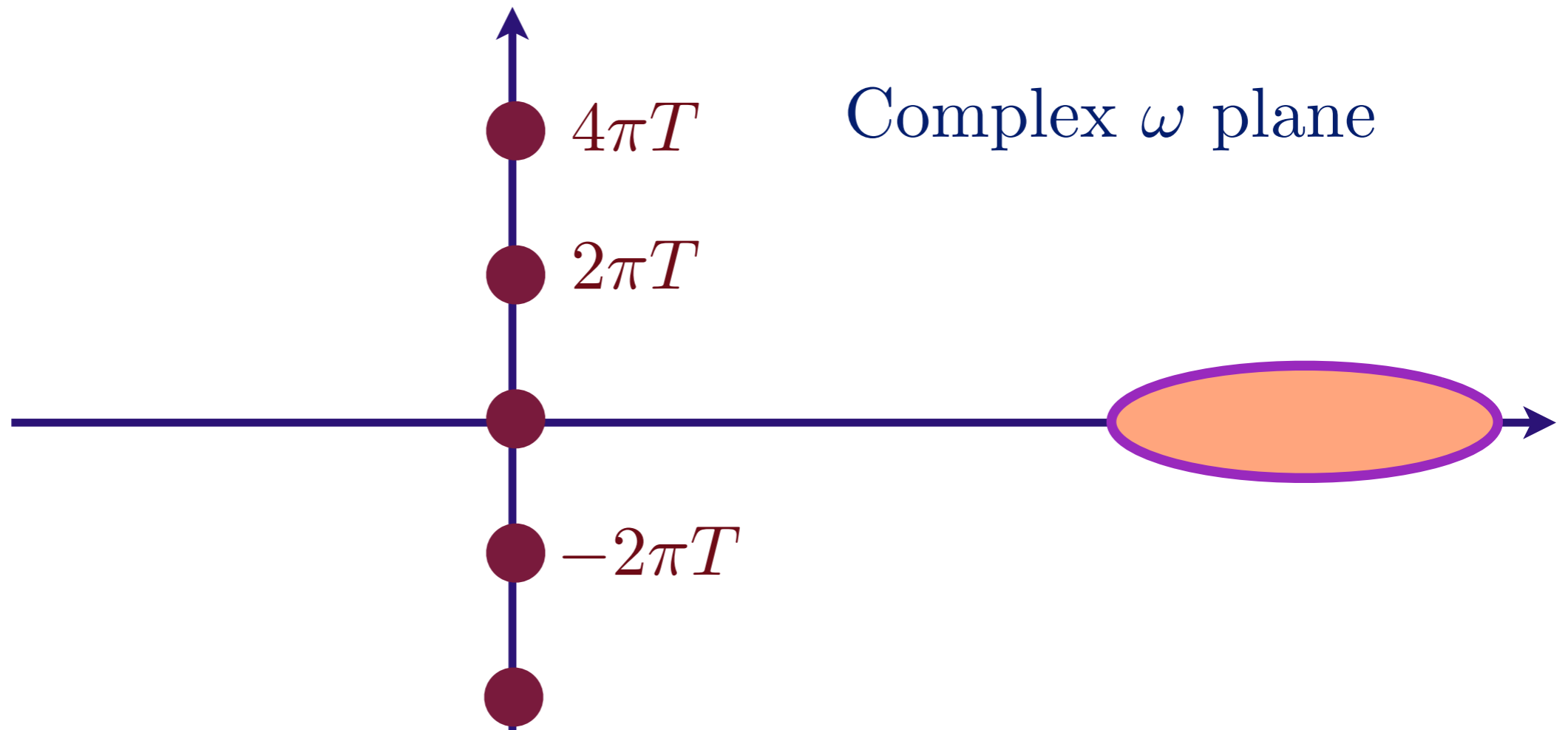
Euclidean field theory: Compute current correlations on $R^2 \times S^1$ with circumference $1/T$



Direct $1/N$ or ϵ expansions for correlators at the Euclidean frequencies $\omega_n = 2\pi n T i$ (n integer) or in the conformal “collisionless” regime, $\hbar\omega \gg k_B T$.

Quantum critical transport

Euclidean field theory: Compute current correlations on $R^2 \times S^1$ with circumference $1/T$



Direct $1/N$ or ϵ expansions for correlators at the Euclidean frequencies $\omega_n = 2\pi n T i$ (n integer) or in the conformal “collisionless” regime, $\hbar\omega \gg k_B T$.

Density correlations in CFTs at $T > 0$

Two-point density correlator, $\chi(k, \omega)$

Kubo formula for conductivity $\sigma(\omega) = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{-i\omega}{k^2} \chi(k, \omega)$

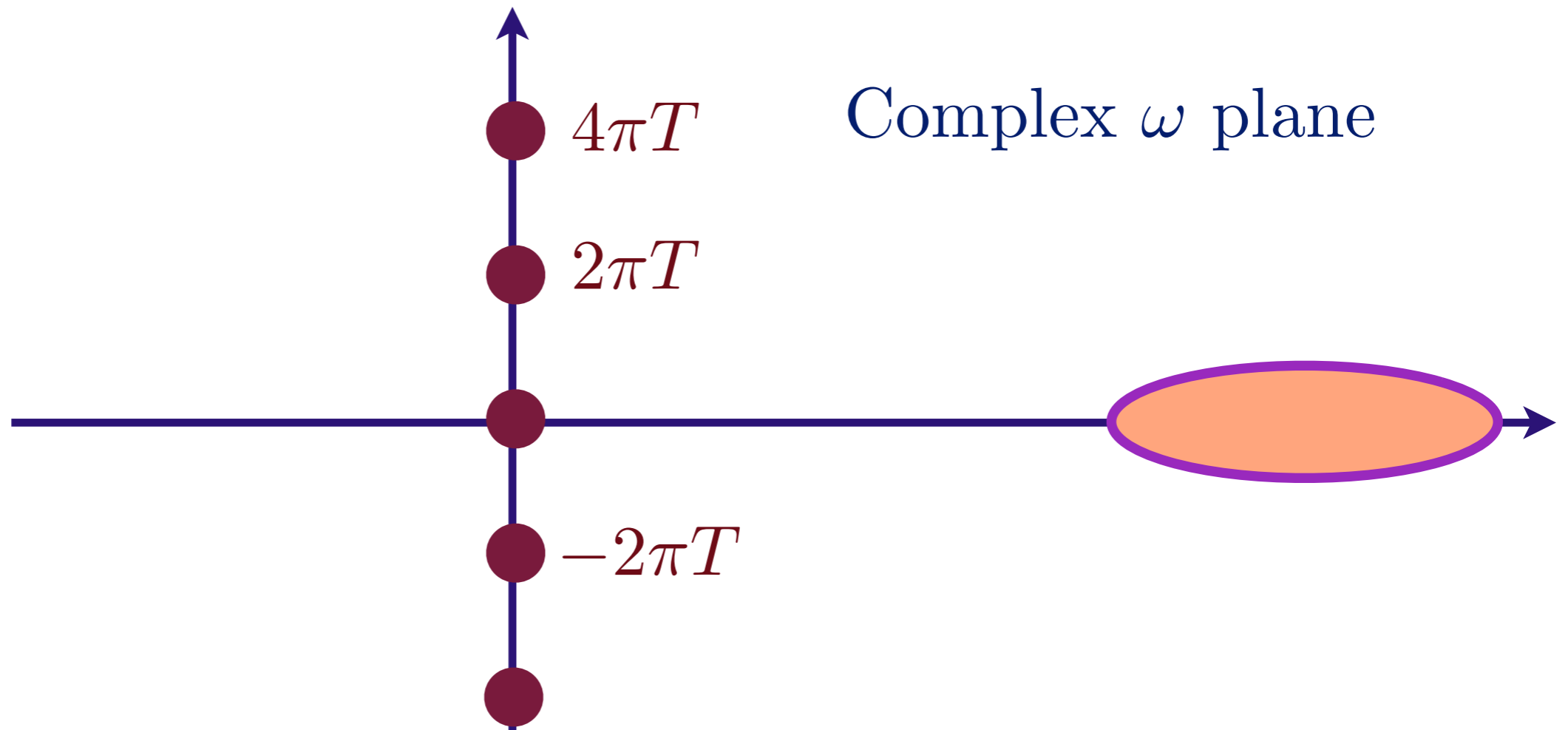
For *all* CFT3s, at $\hbar\omega \gg k_B T$

$$\chi(k, \omega) = \frac{4e^2}{h} K \frac{k^2}{\sqrt{v^2 k^2 - \omega^2}} ; \quad \sigma(\omega) = \frac{4e^2}{h} K$$

where K is a universal number characterizing the CFT3, and v is the velocity of “light”.

Quantum critical transport

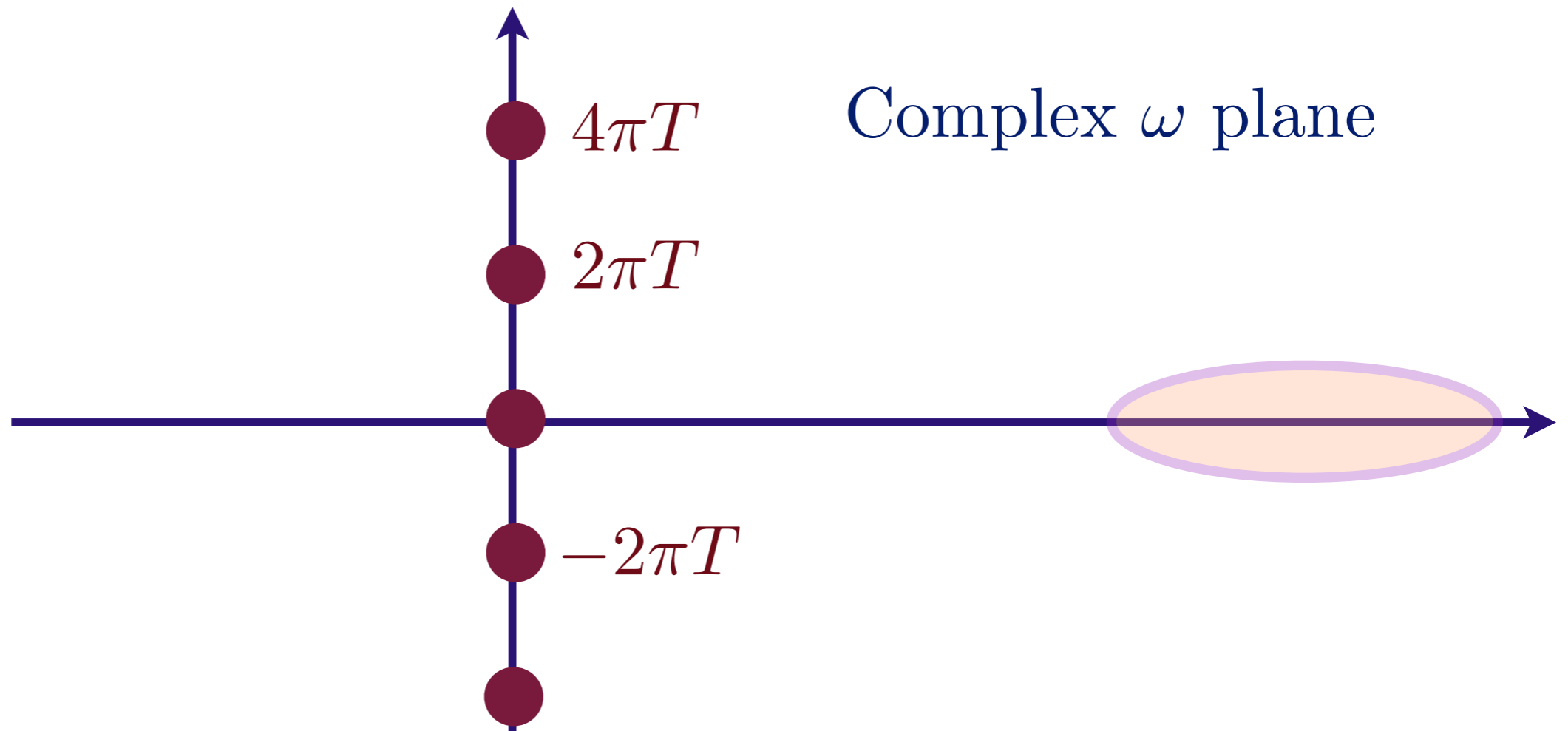
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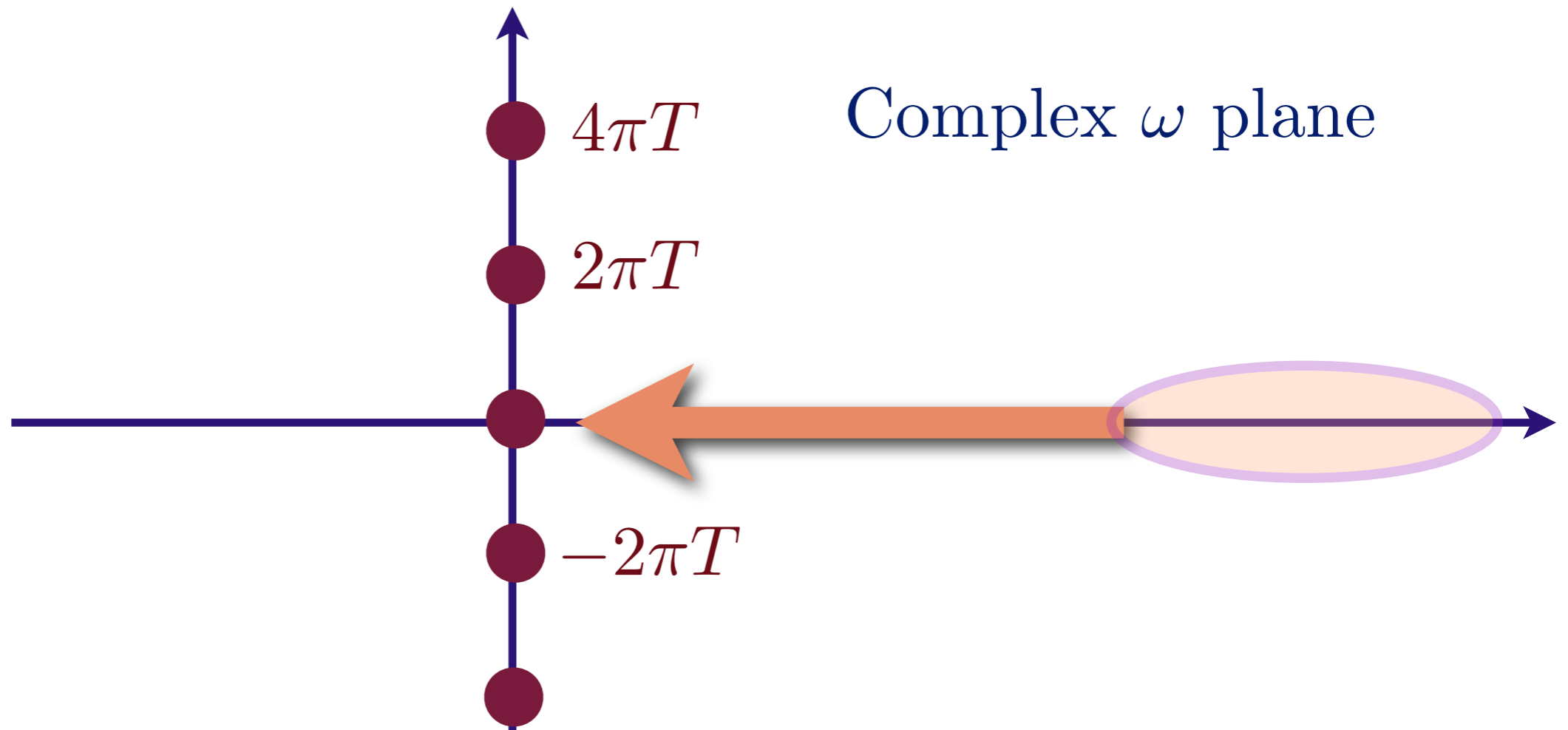


Strong coupling problem:

Correlators at $\hbar\omega \ll k_B T$, along the real axis, in the collision-dominated hydrodynamic regime.

Quantum critical transport

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Density correlations in CFTs at $T > 0$

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Kubo formula for conductivity $\sigma(\omega) = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{-i\omega}{k^2} \chi(k, \omega)$

For *all* CFT3s, at $\hbar\omega \ll k_B T$, we have the Einstein relation

$$\chi(k, \omega) = e^2 \chi_c \frac{Dk^2}{Dk^2 - i\omega} \quad ; \quad \sigma(\omega) = e^2 D \chi_c = \frac{e^2}{h} \Theta_1 \Theta_2$$

where the **compressibility**, χ_c , and the **diffusion constant** D obey

$$\chi = \frac{k_B T}{(h\nu)^2} \Theta_1 \quad ; \quad D = \frac{h\nu^2}{k_B T} \Theta_2$$

with Θ_1 and Θ_2 universal numbers characteristic of the CFT3

K. Damle and S. Sachdev, *Phys. Rev. B* **56**, 8714 (1997).

Density correlations in CFTs at $T > 0$

In CFTs collisions are “phase” randomizing, and lead to relaxation to local thermodynamic equilibrium. So there is a crossover from collisionless behavior for $\hbar\omega \gg k_B T$, to hydrodynamic behavior for $\hbar\omega \ll k_B T$.

$$\sigma(\omega) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^2}{h} K & , \quad \hbar\omega \gg k_B T \\ \frac{e^2}{h} \Theta_1 \Theta_2 \equiv \sigma_Q & , \quad \hbar\omega \ll k_B T \end{cases}$$

and in general we expect $K \neq \Theta_1 \Theta_2$ (verified for Wilson-Fisher fixed point).

SU(N) SYM3 with $\mathcal{N} = 8$ supersymmetry

- Has a single dimensionful coupling constant, e_0 , which flows to a strong-coupling fixed point $e_0 = e_0^*$ in the infrared.
- The CFT3 describing this fixed point resembles “critical spin liquid” theories.
- This CFT3 is the low energy limit of string theory on an M2 brane. The AdS/CFT correspondence provides a dual description using 11-dimensional supergravity on $\text{AdS}_4 \times S_7$.
- The CFT3 has a global SO(8) R symmetry, and correlators of the SO(8) charge density can be computed exactly in the large N limit, even at $T > 0$.

SU(N) SYM3 with $\mathcal{N} = 8$ supersymmetry

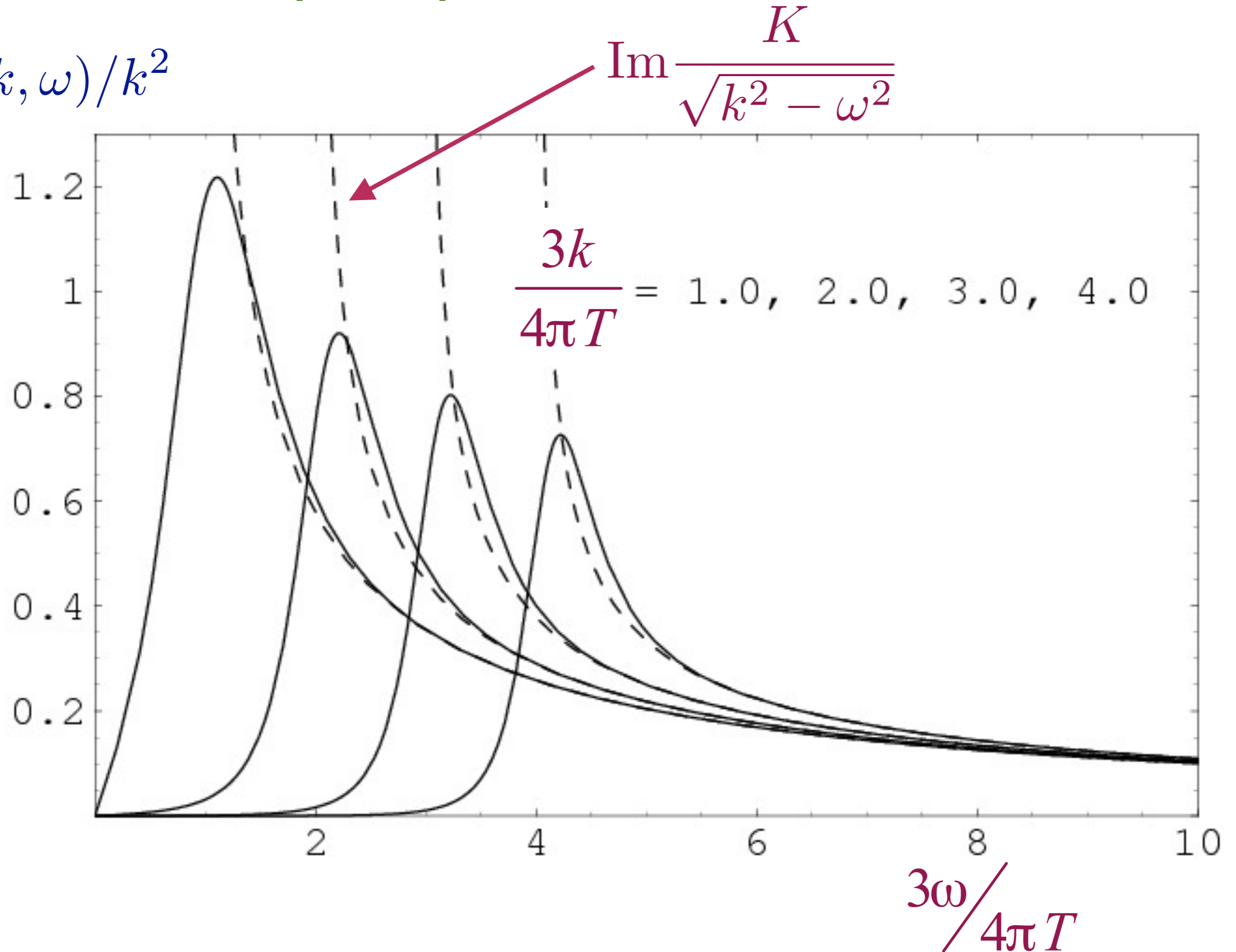
- The SO(8) charge correlators of the CFT3 are given by the usual AdS/CFT prescription applied to the following gauge theory on AdS4:

$$\mathcal{S} = -\frac{1}{4g_{4D}^2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} g^{MA} g^{NB} F_{MN}^a F_{AB}^a$$

where $a = 1 \dots 28$ labels the generators of SO(8). Note that in large N theory, this looks like 28 copies of an Abelian gauge theory.

Collisionless to hydrodynamic crossover of SYM3

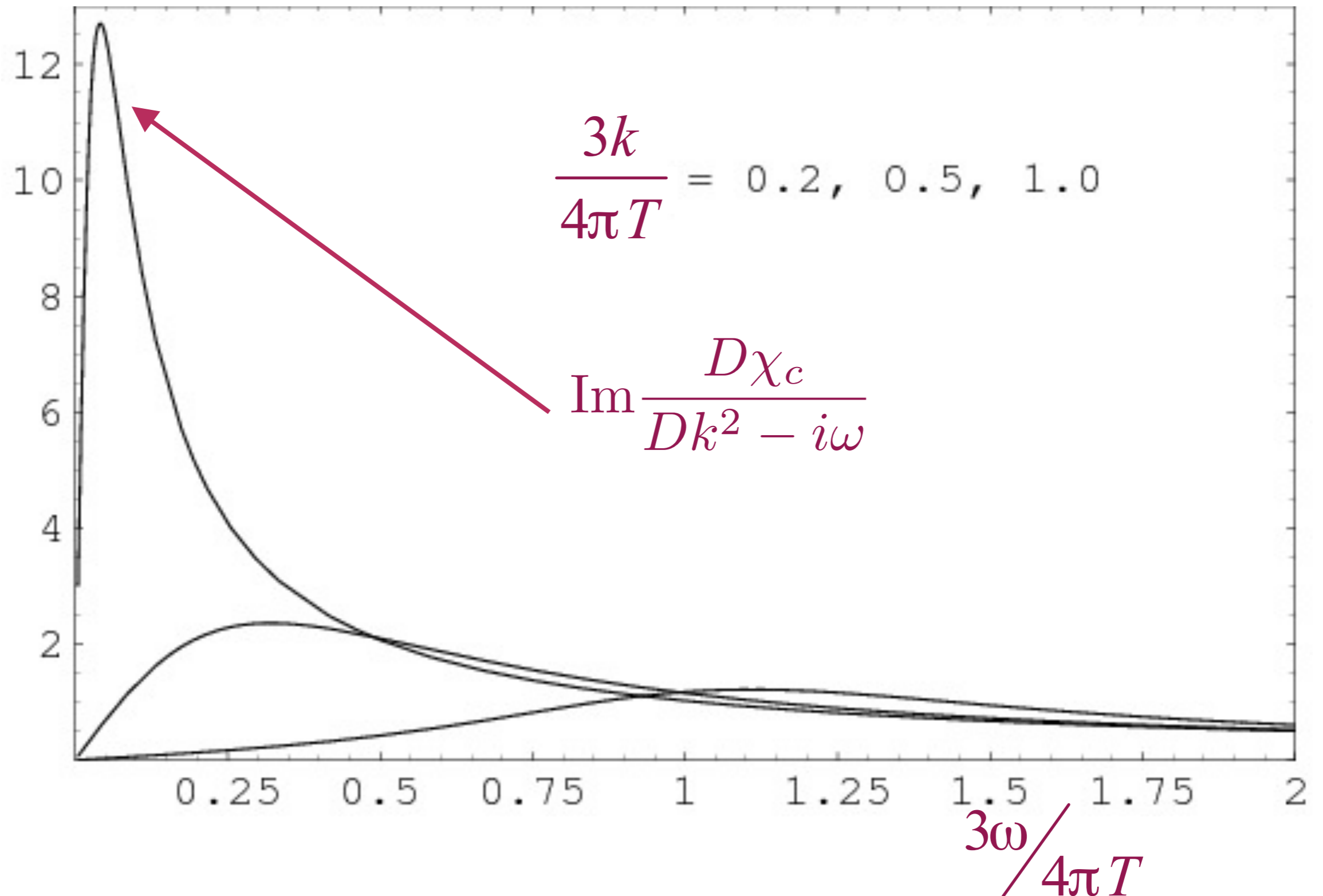
$$\text{Im}\chi(k, \omega)/k^2$$



P. Kovtun, C. Herzog, S. Sachdev, and D.T. Son, Phys. Rev. D **75**, 085020 (2007)

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Universal constants of SYM3

$$\chi_c = \frac{k_B T}{(h\nu)^2} \Theta_1$$
$$D = \frac{h\nu^2}{k_B T} \Theta_2$$
$$\sigma(\omega) = \begin{cases} K & , \quad \hbar\omega \gg k_B T \\ \Theta_1 \Theta_2 & , \quad \hbar\omega \ll k_B T \end{cases}$$

$$K = \frac{\sqrt{2} N^{3/2}}{3}$$
$$\Theta_1 = \frac{8\pi^2 \sqrt{2} N^{3/2}}{9}$$
$$\Theta_2 = \frac{3}{8\pi^2}$$

C. Herzog, JHEP **0212**, 026 (2002)

P. Kovtun, C. Herzog, S. Sachdev, and D.T. Son, Phys. Rev. D **75**, 085020 (2007)

Electromagnetic self-duality

- Unexpected result, $K = \Theta_1 \Theta_2$, and $\sigma(\omega)$ is frequency *independent*.

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- The conductivity takes the *self-dual* value $\sigma(\omega) = 1/g_{4D}^2$.
- All these special features are *generic* to theories with a Maxwell-Einstein gravity dual. They are not expected to survive stringy $1/N^2$ corrections

Lessons from AdS/CFT

Strongly interacting quantum-critical systems are nearly “perfect fluids”. The AdS description of such perfect fluids suggests that

- All continuous global symmetries are (approximately) self dual.
- We can define a conductivity $\sigma(\omega)$ for each global symmetry: $\sigma(\omega)$ is (nearly) ω independent
- The value of $\sigma(\omega)$ is close to the self dual value

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These features are found in experimental and numerical studies

Resistivity of Bi films

Conductivity σ

$$\sigma_{\text{Superconductor}}(T \rightarrow 0) = \infty$$

$$\sigma_{\text{Insulator}}(T \rightarrow 0) = 0$$

$$\sigma_{\text{Quantum critical point}}(T \rightarrow 0) \approx \frac{4e^2}{h}$$

- Self-dual value = $4e^2/h$

D. B. Haviland, Y. Liu, and A. M. Goldman,
Phys. Rev. Lett. **62**, 2180 (1989)

M. P. A. Fisher, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **65**, 923 (1990)

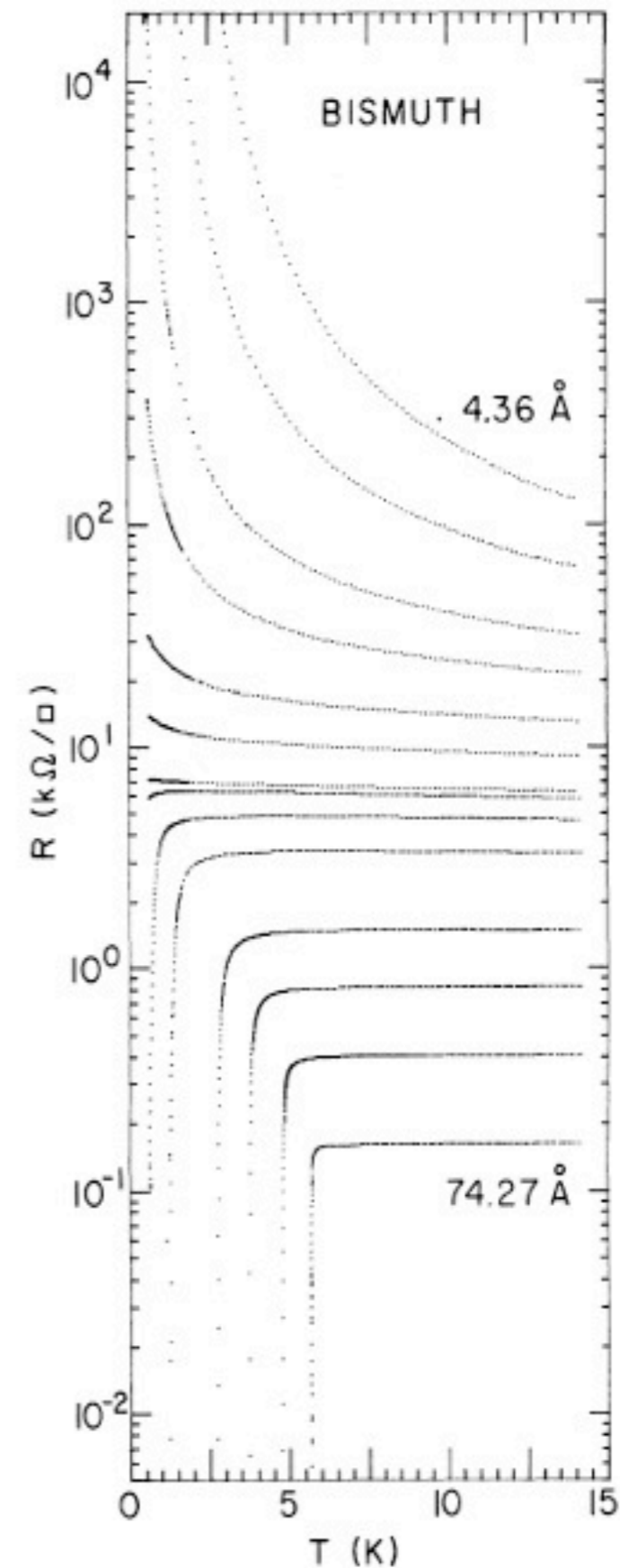


FIG. 1. Evolution of the temperature dependence of the sheet resistance $R(T)$ with thickness for a Bi film deposited onto Ge. Fewer than half of the traces actually acquired are shown. Film thicknesses shown range from 4.36 to 74.27 Å.

Quantum critical transport in graphene

$$\sigma(\omega) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^2}{h} \left[\frac{\pi}{2} + \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{1}{\ln(\Lambda/\omega)} \right) \right] & , \quad \hbar\omega \gg k_B T \\ \frac{e^2}{h\alpha^2(T)} \left[0.760 + \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{1}{|\ln(\alpha(T))|} \right) \right] & , \quad \hbar\omega \ll k_B T \alpha^2(T) \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{\eta}{s} = \frac{\hbar}{k_B \alpha^2(T)} \times 0.130$$

where the “fine structure constant” is

$$\alpha(T) = \frac{\alpha}{1 + (\alpha/4) \ln(\Lambda/T)} \underset{T \rightarrow 0}{\sim} \frac{4}{\ln(\Lambda/T)}$$

L. Fritz, J. Schmalian, M. Müller and S. Sachdev, *Physical Review B* **78**, 085416 (2008)
M. Müller, J. Schmalian, and L. Fritz, *Physical Review Letters* **103**, 025301 (2009)

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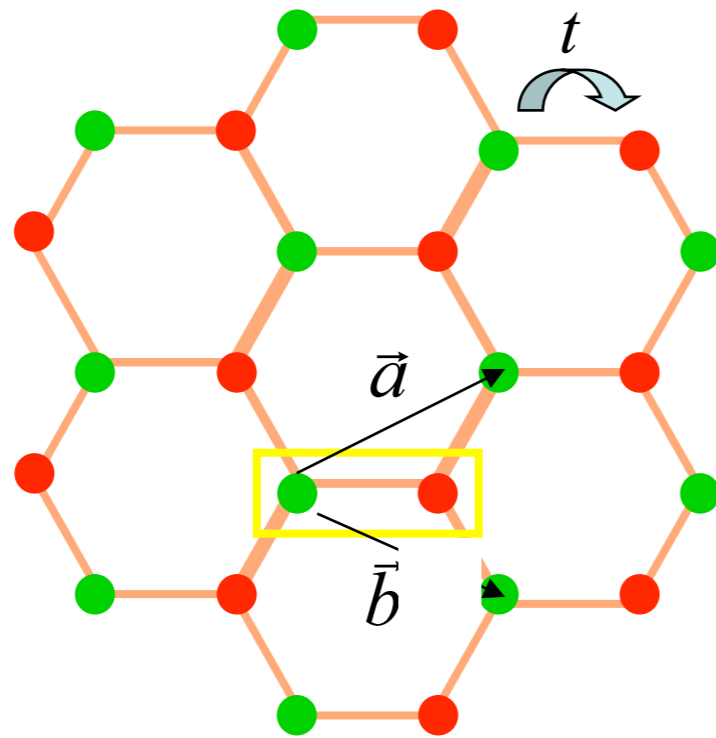
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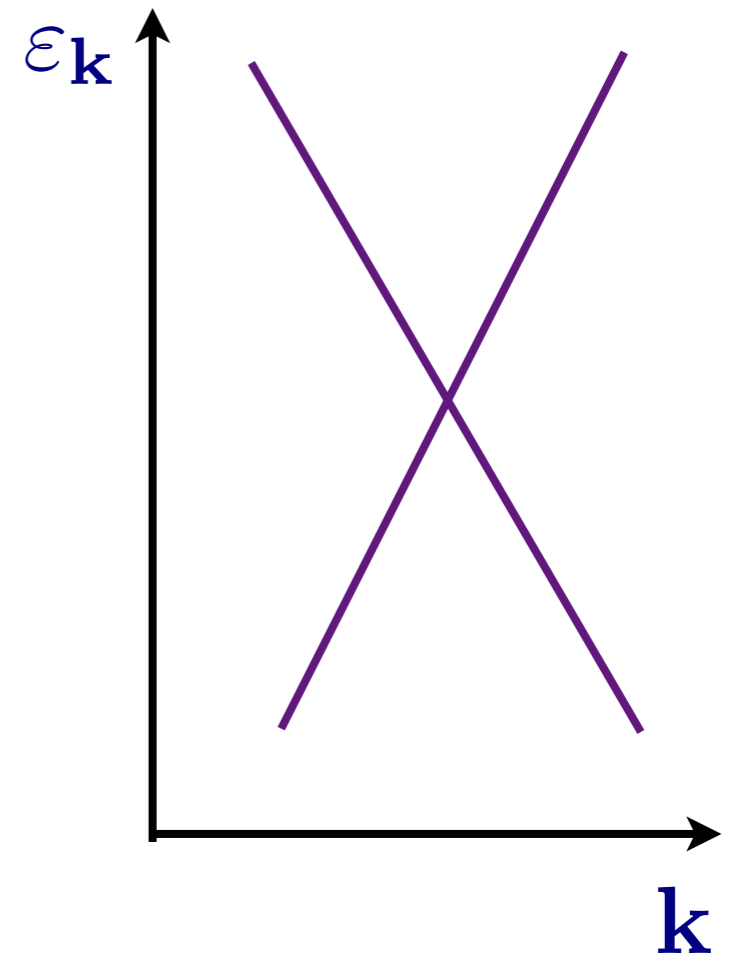
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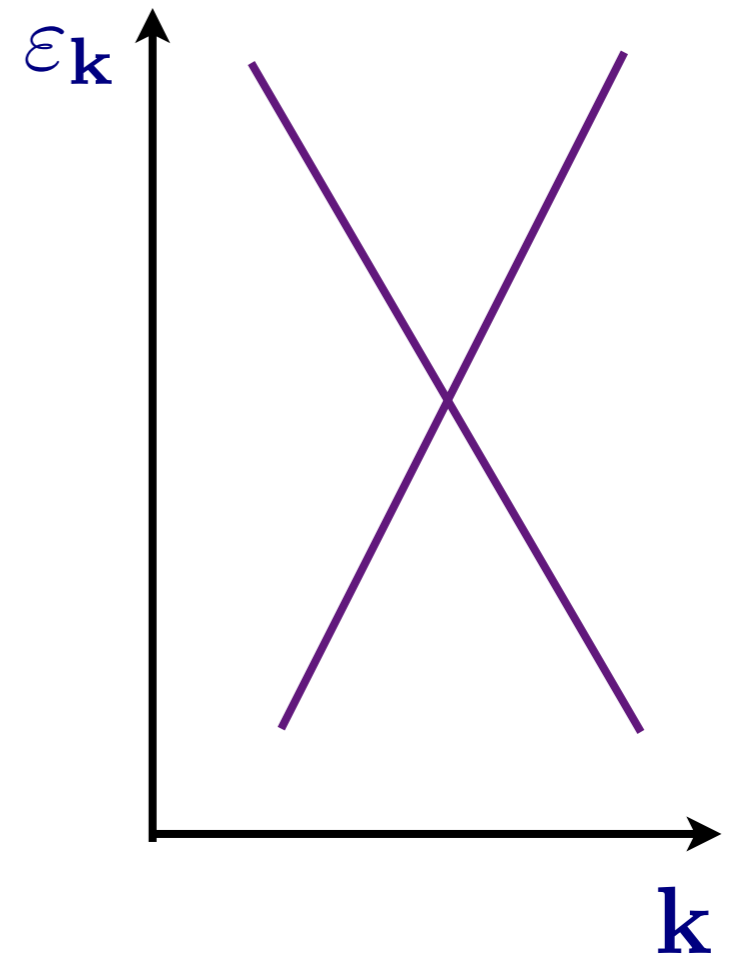
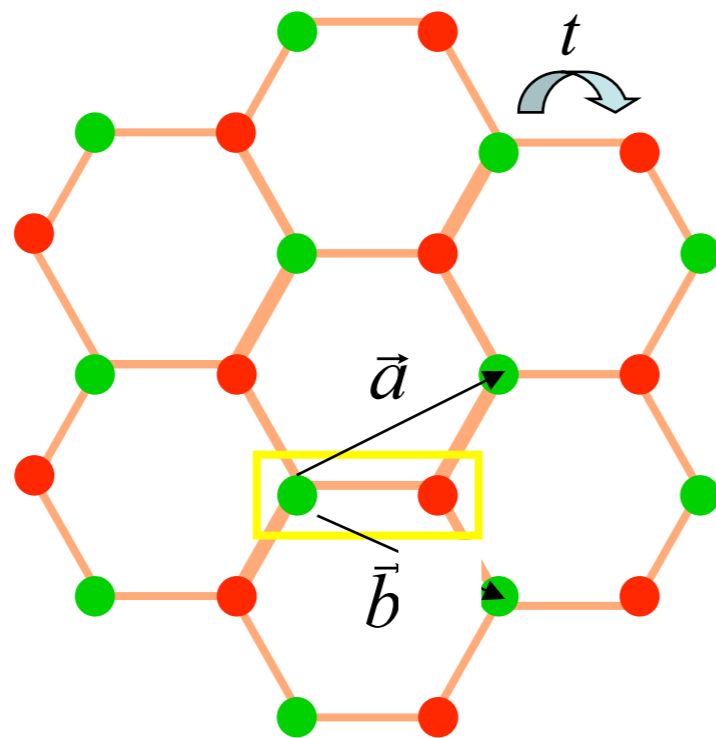
Spin liquids, valence bond solids: analogies with SQED and SYM



$$H_0 = - \sum_{i < j} t_{ij} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha}$$



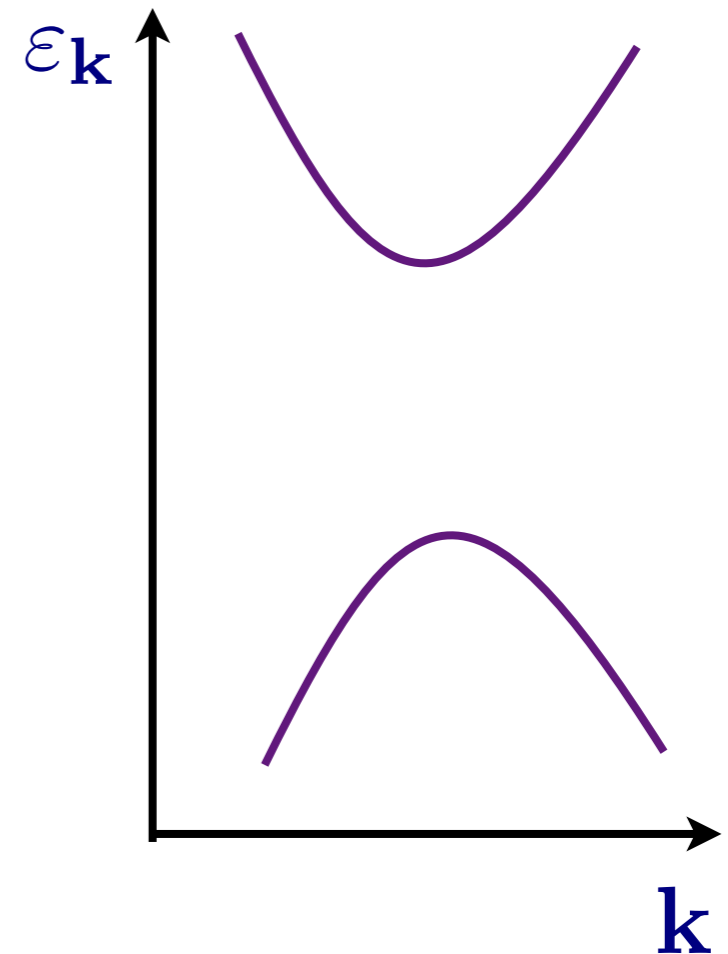
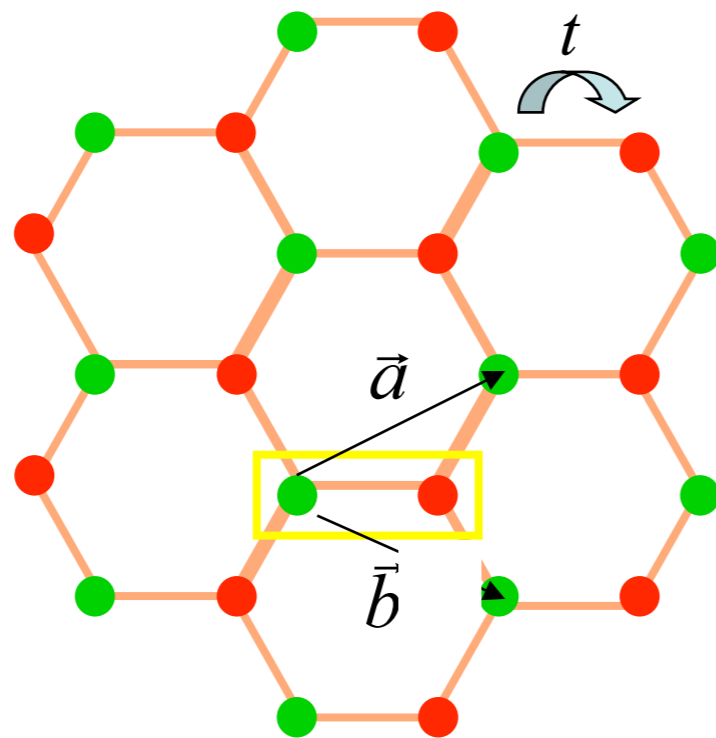
- Begin with free electrons.



$$H_0 = - \sum_{i < j} t_{ij} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha}$$

- Begin with free electrons.
- Add local antiferromagnetism with order parameter $\vec{\varphi}$

$$H_{sdw} = - \sum_i \vec{\varphi}(\mathbf{r}_i) (-1)^i c_{i\alpha}^\dagger \vec{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} c_{i\beta}$$



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- Begin with free electrons.
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$$H_{sdw} = - \sum_i \vec{\varphi}(\mathbf{r}_i) (-1)^i c_{i\alpha}^\dagger \vec{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} c_{i\beta}$$

- The phase with $\langle \vec{\varphi} \rangle \neq 0$ is an insulator with a gap between conduction and valence bands.

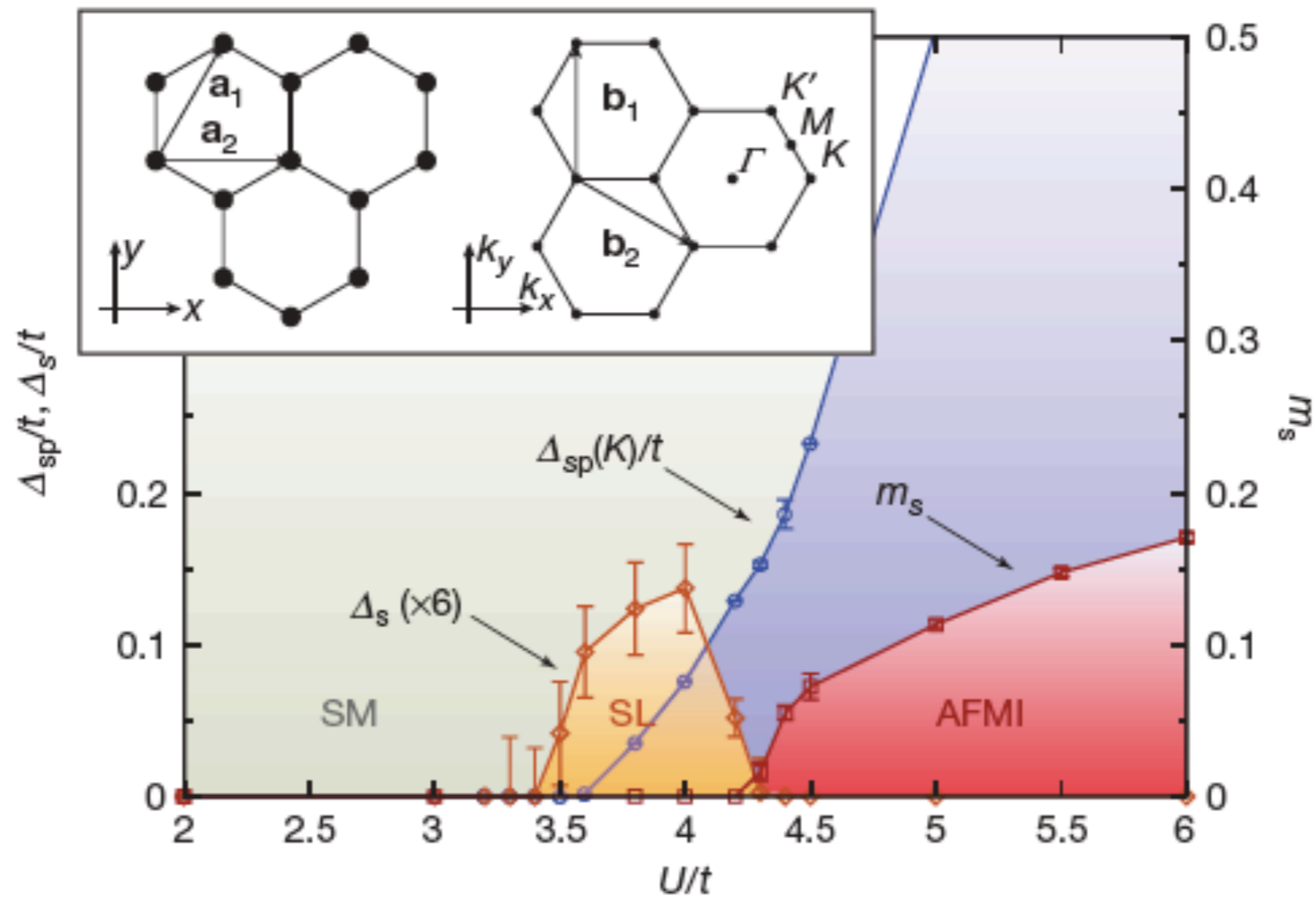


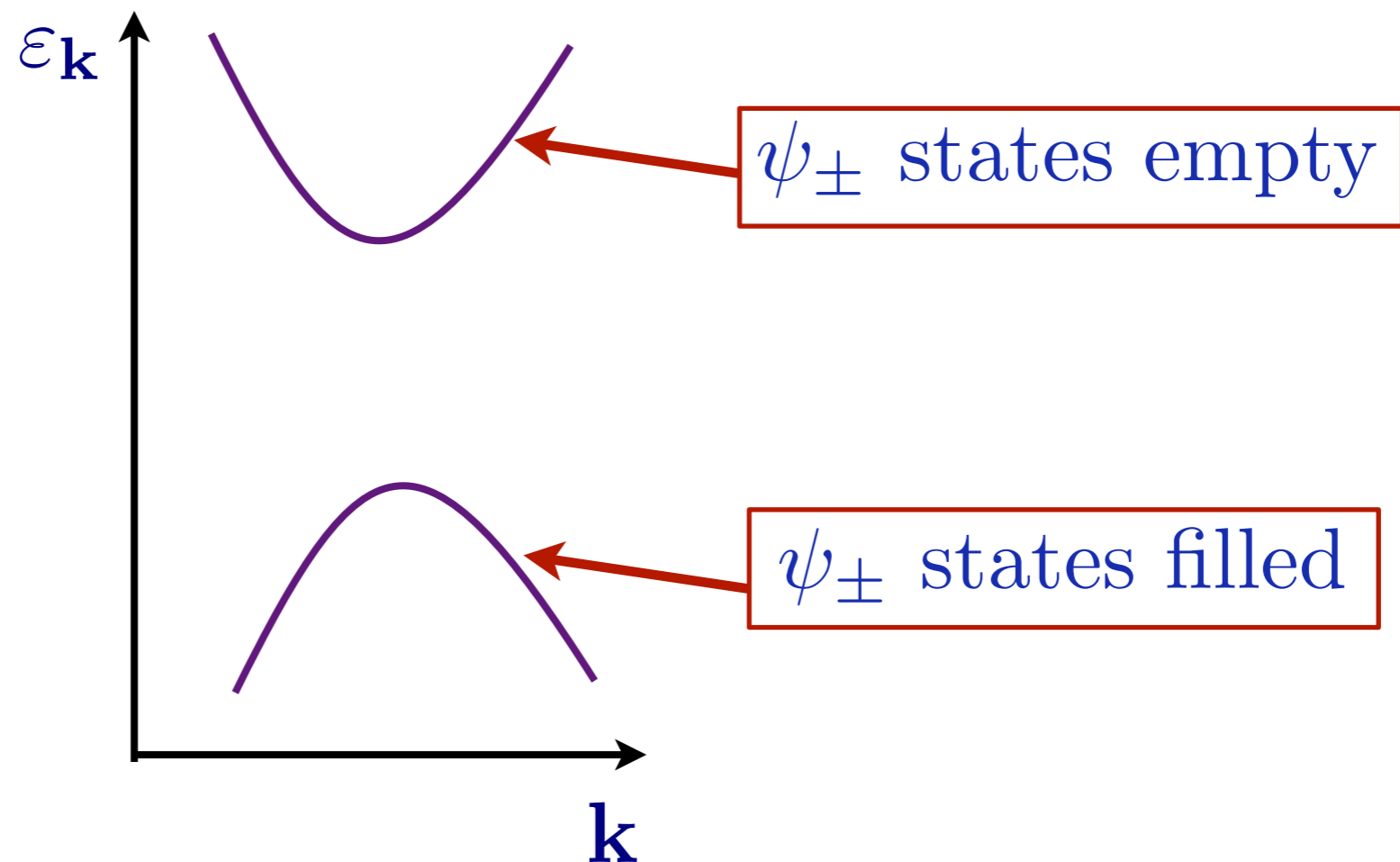
Figure 1 | Phase diagram for the Hubbard model on the honeycomb lattice at half-filling. The semimetal (SM) and the antiferromagnetic Mott insulator (AFMI) are separated by a gapped spin-liquid (SL) phase in an intermediate-coupling regime. $\Delta_{sp}(K)$ denotes the single-particle gap and Δ_s denotes the spin gap; m_s denotes the staggered magnetization, whose saturation value is $1/2$. Error bars, s.e.m. Inset, the honeycomb lattice with primitive vectors \mathbf{a}_1 and \mathbf{a}_2 , and the reciprocal lattice with primitive vectors \mathbf{b}_1 and \mathbf{b}_2 . Open and filled sites respectively indicate two different sublattices. The Dirac points K and K' and the M and Γ points are marked.

Z. Y. Meng *et al.*, Nature **464**, 847 (2010).

$$\mathcal{R}_z(x, \tau) |\text{Néel}\rangle$$

Perform $SU(2)$ rotation \mathcal{R}_z on filled band of electrons:

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_{\uparrow} \\ c_{\downarrow} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} z_{\uparrow} & -z_{\downarrow}^* \\ z_{\downarrow} & z_{\uparrow}^* \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_{+} \\ \psi_{-} \end{pmatrix}$$



Quantum “disordering” magnetic order

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_{\uparrow} \\ c_{\downarrow} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} z_{\uparrow} & -z_{\downarrow}^* \\ z_{\downarrow} & z_{\uparrow}^* \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_{+} \\ \psi_{-} \end{pmatrix}$$

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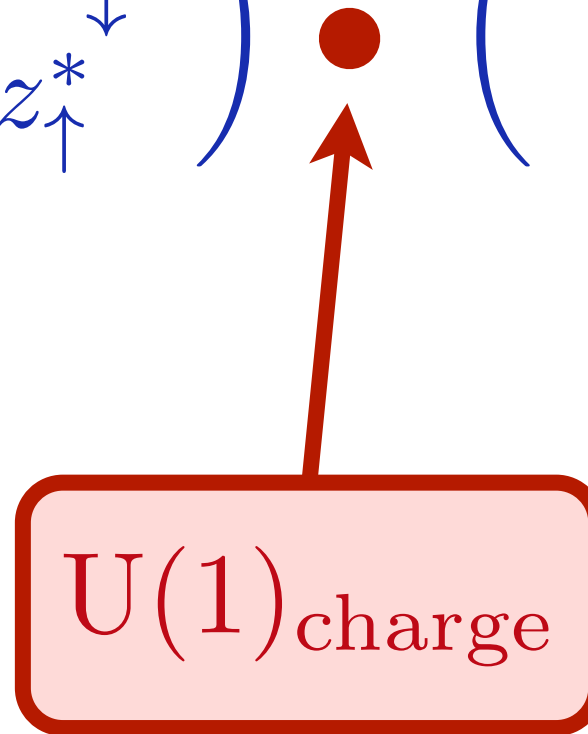
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$SU(2)_{\text{spin}}$

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U(1) charge



Quantum “disordering” magnetic order

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$U \times U^{-1}$
 $SU(2)_{\text{s;gauge}}$

S. Sachdev, M. A. Metlitski, Y. Qi, and S. Sachdev *Phys. Rev. B* **80**, 155129 (2009)

Quantum “disordering” magnetic order

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_{\uparrow} \\ c_{\downarrow} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} z_{\uparrow} & -z_{\downarrow}^* \\ z_{\downarrow} & z_{\uparrow}^* \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_{+} \\ \psi_{-} \end{pmatrix}$$

The Hubbard model can be written *exactly* as a lattice gauge theory with a

$$SU(2)_{s;g} \times SU(2)_{\text{spin}} \times U(1)_{\text{charge}}$$

invariance.

The $SU(2)_{s;g}$ is a gauge invariance, while $SU(2)_{\text{spin}} \times U(1)_{\text{charge}}$ is a global symmetry

Matter context of $SU(2)_{s;g} \times SU(2)_{\text{spin}} \times U(1)_{\text{charge}}$ theory

- Fundamental fermions ψ transforming as $(\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1}, 1)$,
- Fundamental scalar z transforming as $(\bar{\mathbf{2}}, \mathbf{2}, 0)$, connecting local to global Néel order,
- Adjoint scalar $\vec{N}(\mathbf{r}_i) = \psi_i^\dagger \vec{\sigma} \psi_i$ transforming as $(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, 0)$, measuring local Néel order.

Phase diagram

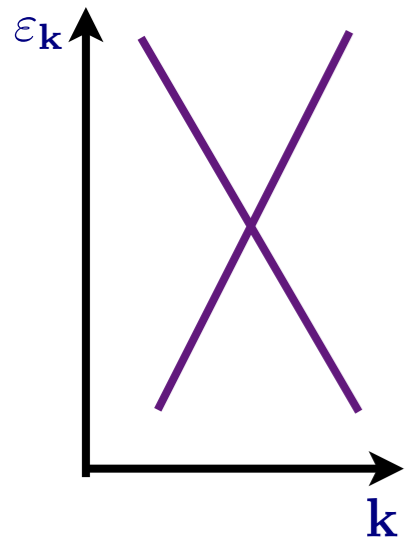
$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0, \quad \langle N \rangle \neq 0$$

$$\langle z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle N \rangle \neq 0$$

Phase diagram



Semi-metal

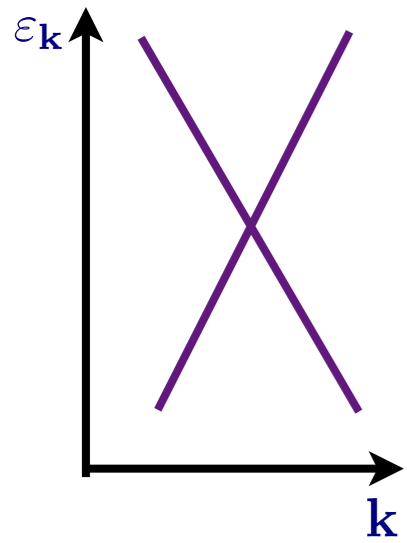
$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0, \quad \langle N \rangle \neq 0$$

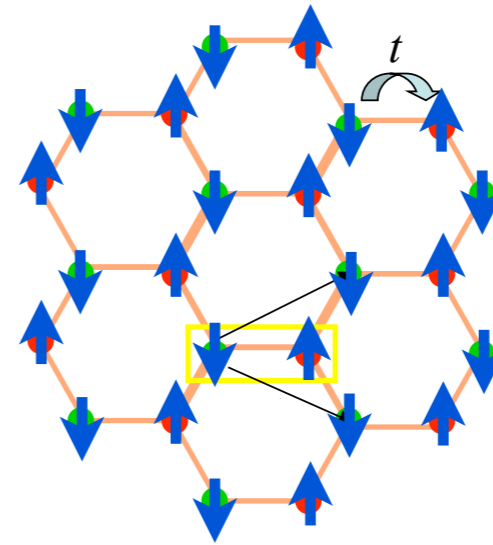
$$\langle z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle N \rangle \neq 0$$

Phase diagram



Semi-metal



Insulator
with Neel
order

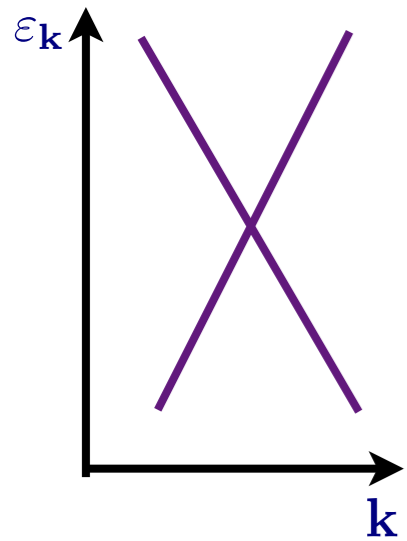
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$$\langle z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle N \rangle \neq 0$$

Phase diagram



Semi-metal

SU(2) QCD with $N_f = 4$ massless Dirac quarks

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{g^2} F_{\mu\nu}^2 + \bar{\psi} \gamma_\mu (\partial_\mu - iA_\mu) \psi$$

Could describe a CFT3 like SYM, but could also be unstable to confinement.

$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$

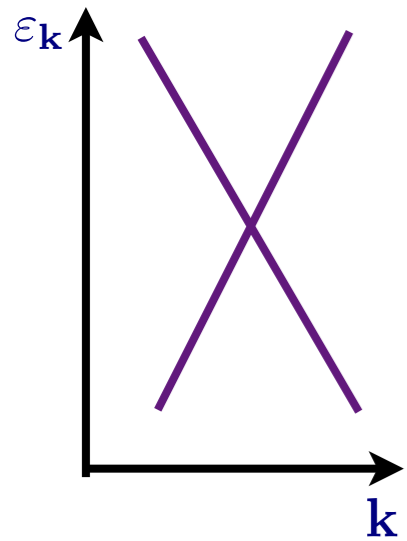
$$\langle z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle N \rangle \neq 0$$



or
eel
,

Phase diagram

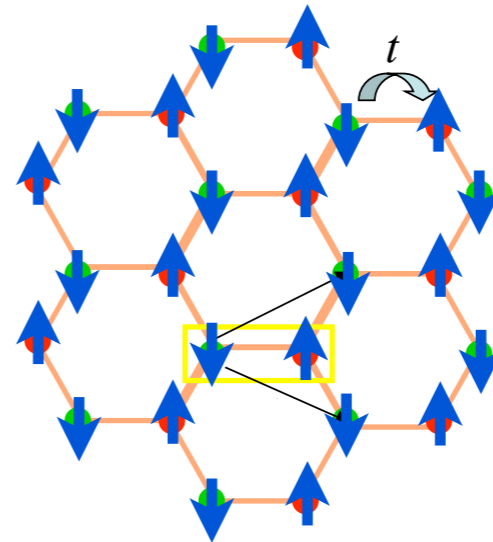


Semi-metal

$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$

Spin liquid:
CFT of SU(2) QCD
with $N_f=4$ massless
Dirac quarks



Insulator
with Neel
order

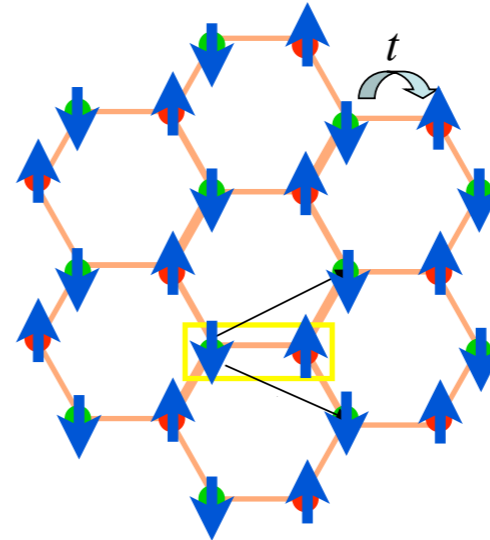
$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0, \quad \langle N \rangle \neq 0$$

$$\langle z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle N \rangle \neq 0$$

Phase diagram

ϵ_k ↑

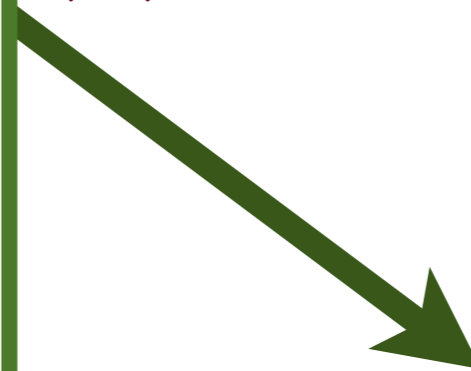
- $SU(2)$ is Higgsed down to $U(1)$.
- All matter fields are gapped.
- $U(1)$ monopoles drive Polyakov confinement
- Spectral flow in filled fermion bands leads to Berry phases of monopoles, endowing them with crystal momentum.
- Confining state has valence bond solid (VBS) order



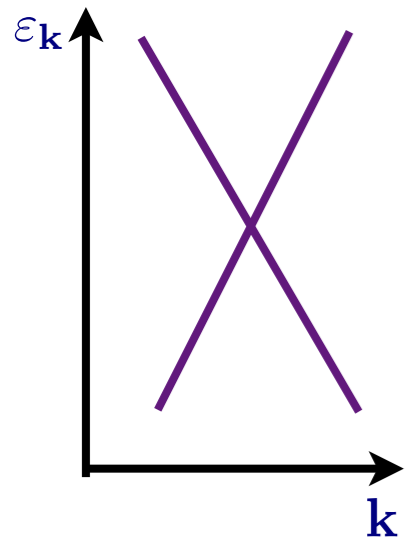
Insulator
with Neel
order

$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0 \quad , \quad \langle N \rangle \neq 0$$

$$\langle z \rangle = 0 \quad , \quad \langle N \rangle \neq 0$$

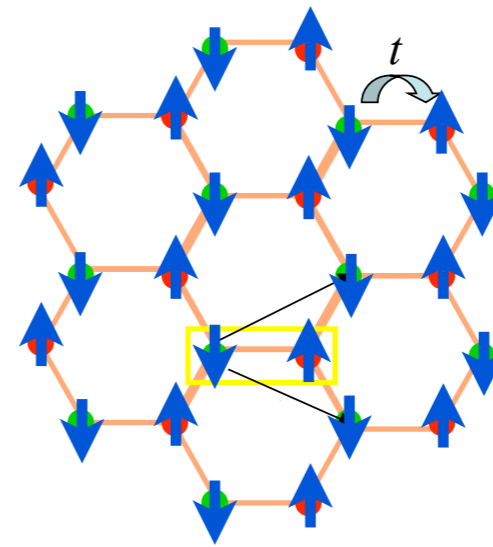


Phase diagram



Semi-metal

$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$



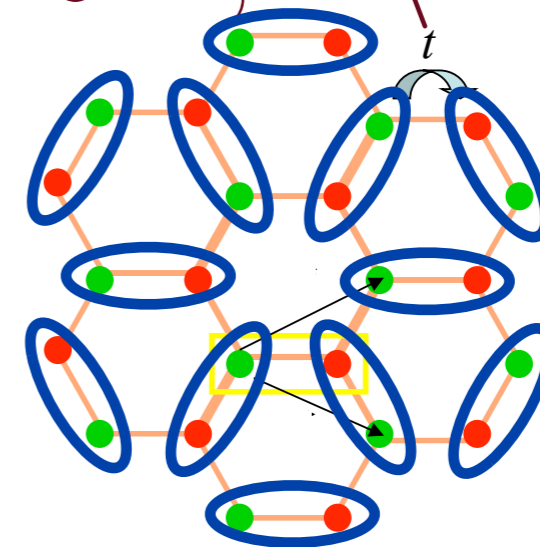
Insulator with Néel order

$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0, \quad \langle N \rangle \neq 0$$

$$\langle z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$

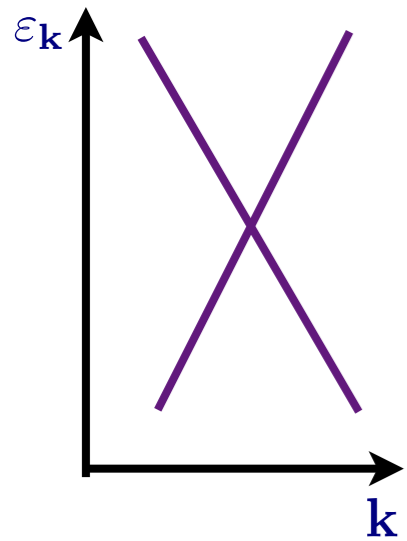
Spin liquid:
CFT of SU(2) QCD
with $N_f=4$ massless
Dirac quarks

$$\langle z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle N \rangle \neq 0$$

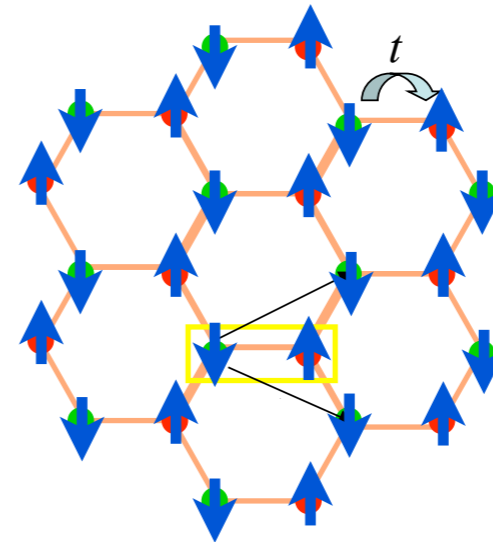


Confining insulator with
VBS (kekule) order

Phase diagram



Semi-metal



Insulator with Neel order

$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$

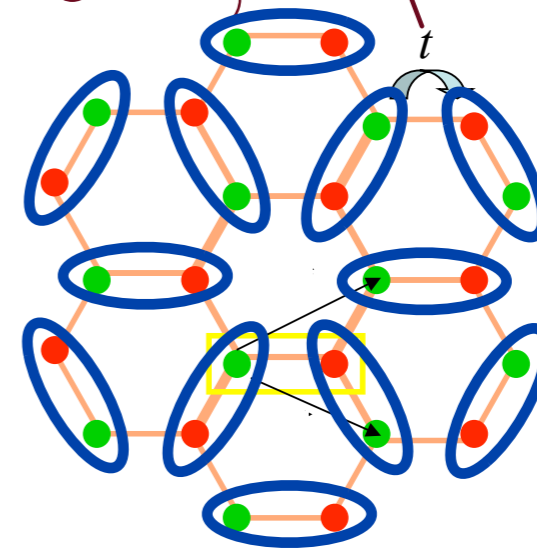
M

$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0, \quad \langle N \rangle \neq 0$$

$$\langle z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$

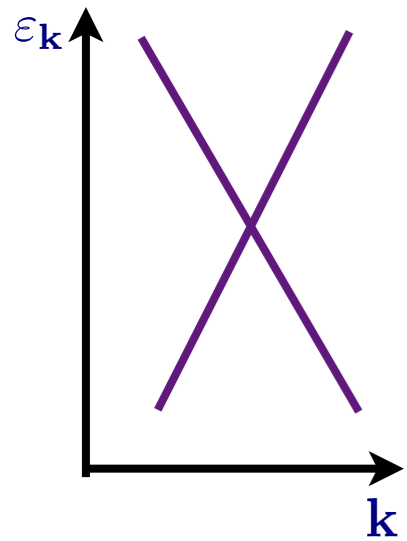
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Spin liquid:
CFT of SU(2) QCD
with $N_f=4$ massless
Dirac quarks

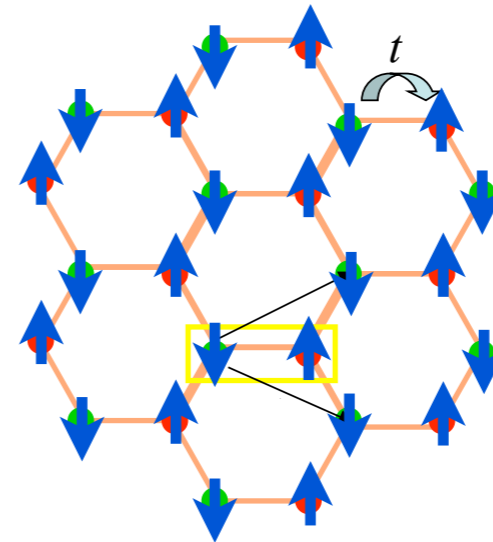


Confining insulator with
VBS (kekule) order

Phase diagram



Semi-metal



Insulator with Néel order

$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$

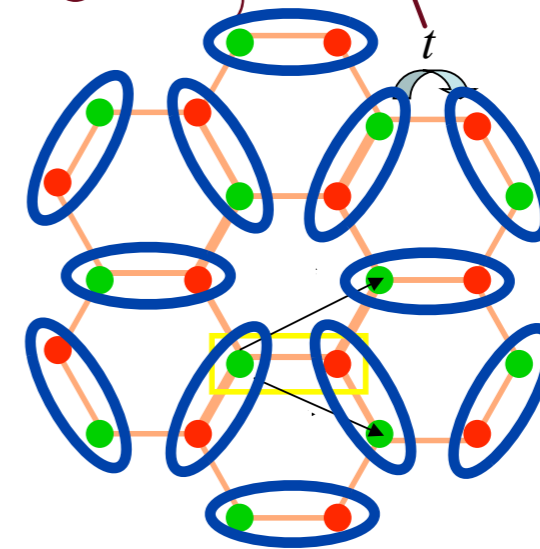
M

$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0, \quad \langle N \rangle \neq 0$$

$$\langle z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$

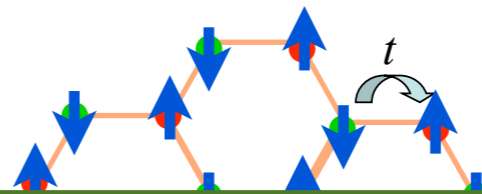
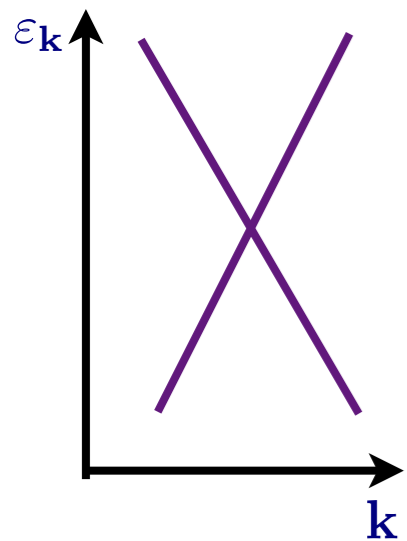
$$\langle z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle N \rangle \neq 0$$

Spin liquid:
CFT of SU(2) QCD
with $N_f=4$ massless
Dirac quarks



Confining insulator with
VBS (Kekulé) order

Phase diagram



Insulator
with Neel
order

Multicritical point M :

$SU(2)$ QCD with $N_f = 4$ massless Dirac quarks, 4 real fundamental scalars, and 3 real adjoint scalars.

$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0$$

$$\langle V \rangle \neq 0$$

$$\langle z \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle V \rangle \neq 0$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{g^2} F_{\mu\nu}^2 + \bar{\psi} \gamma_\mu (\partial_\mu - i A_\mu) \psi$$

$$+ |(\partial_\mu - i A_\mu) z|^2 + ((\partial_\mu - i A_\mu) \phi)^2$$

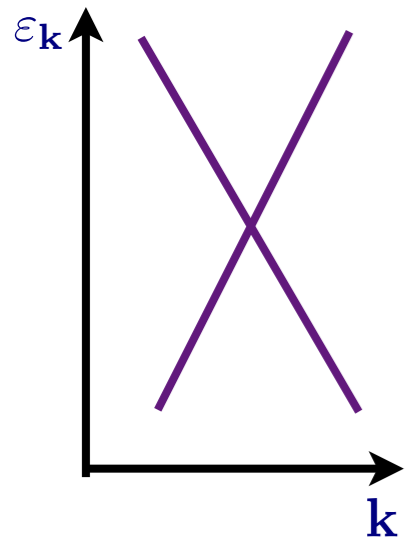
Could describe a CFT3 like SYM, but could also be unstable to confinement.

Spiral
CFT of S
with N_f
Dirac

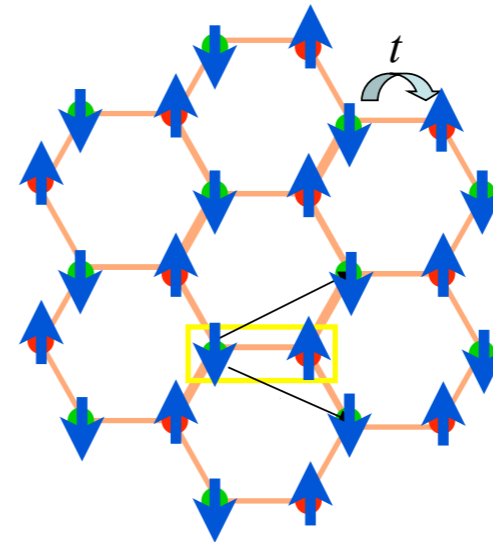


Insulator with
VBS (Kekule) order

Phase diagram



Semi-metal



Insulator with Neel order

$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$

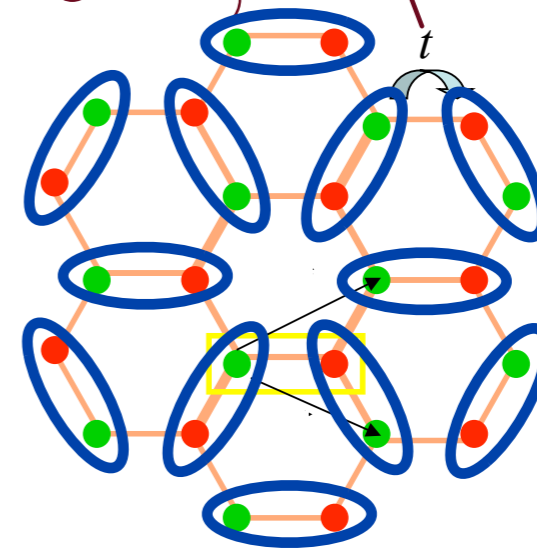
M

$$\langle z \rangle \neq 0, \quad \langle N \rangle \neq 0$$

$$\langle z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle N \rangle = 0$$

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Spin liquid:
CFT of SU(2) QCD
with $N_f=4$ massless
Dirac quarks



Confining insulator with
VBS (kekule) order