

Quantum matter without quasiparticles

Electron-electron Interactions in Topological Materials,
Center for Advanced 2D Materials,
National University of Singapore, June 28-30, 2017

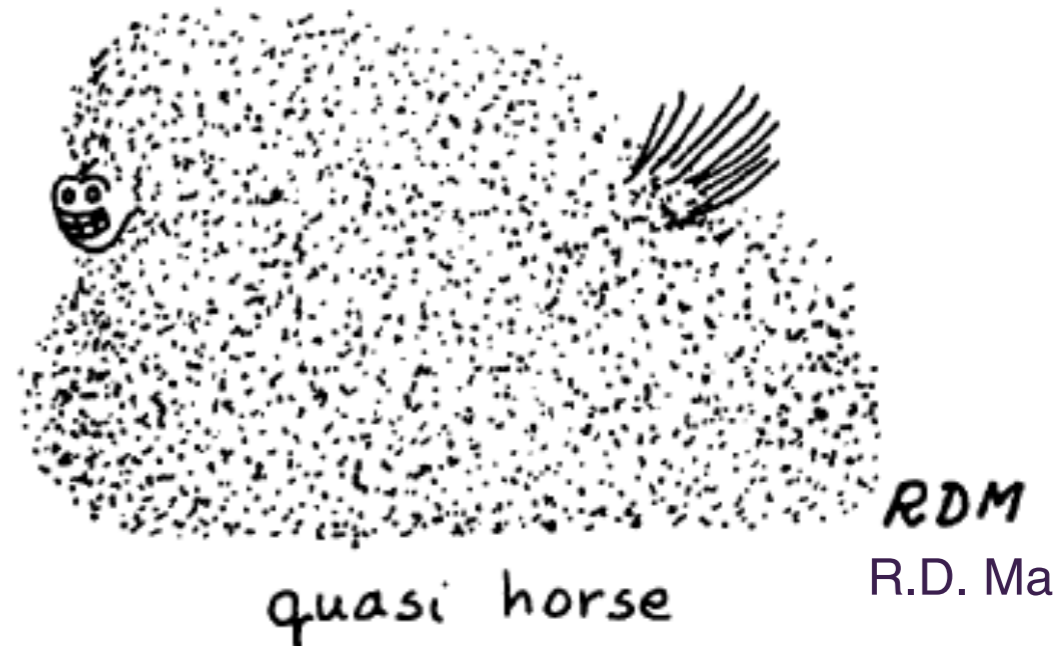
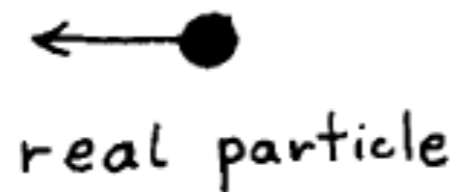
Subir Sachdev

Talk online: sachdev.physics.harvard.edu



Quantum matter with quasiparticles:

A quasiparticle is an “excited lump” in the many-electron state which responds just like an ordinary particle.



RDM

R.D. Mattuck

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

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

- **Note:** The electron liquid in one dimension and the fractional quantum Hall state both have quasiparticles; however, the quasiparticles do not have the same quantum numbers as an electron.

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 is of order $\hbar E_F / (k_B T)^2$ as $T \rightarrow 0$, where E_F is the Fermi energy.

Quantum matter without quasiparticles:

- No quasiparticle decomposition of low-lying states
- Rapid thermalization

Local thermal equilibration or phase coherence time, τ_φ :

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

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

where C is a T -independent constant.

- Systems *without* quasiparticles have

$$\tau_\varphi \sim \frac{\hbar}{k_B T},$$

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

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

Strange metal

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

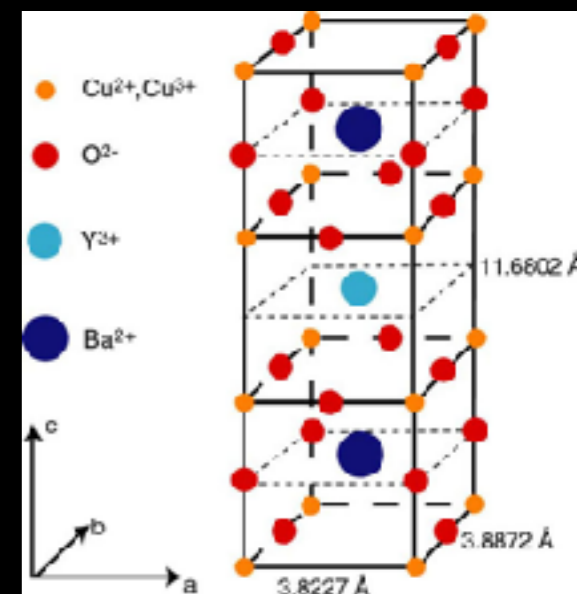
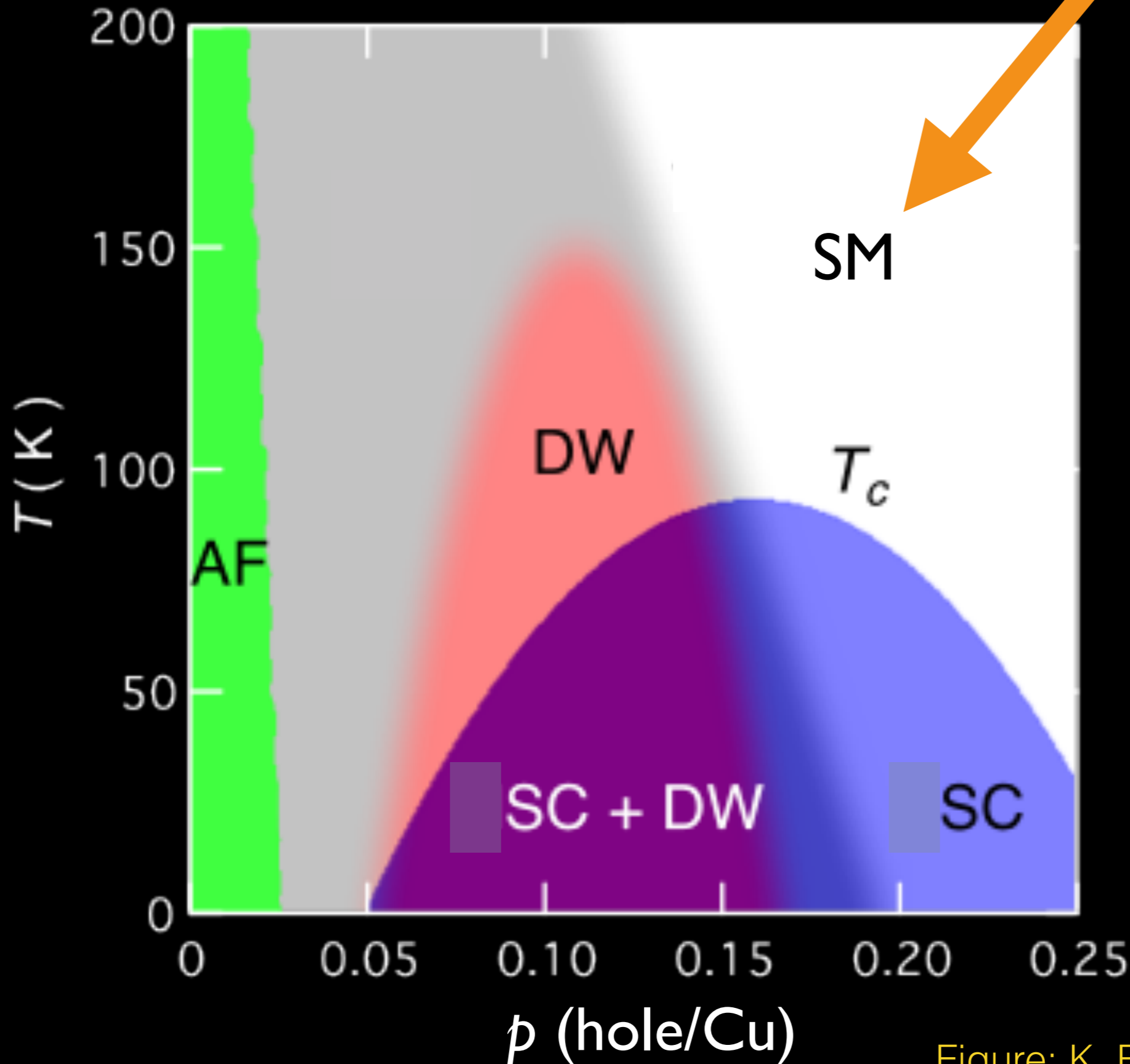
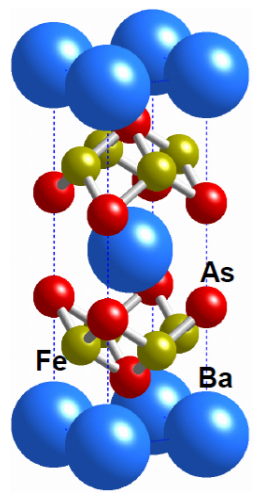
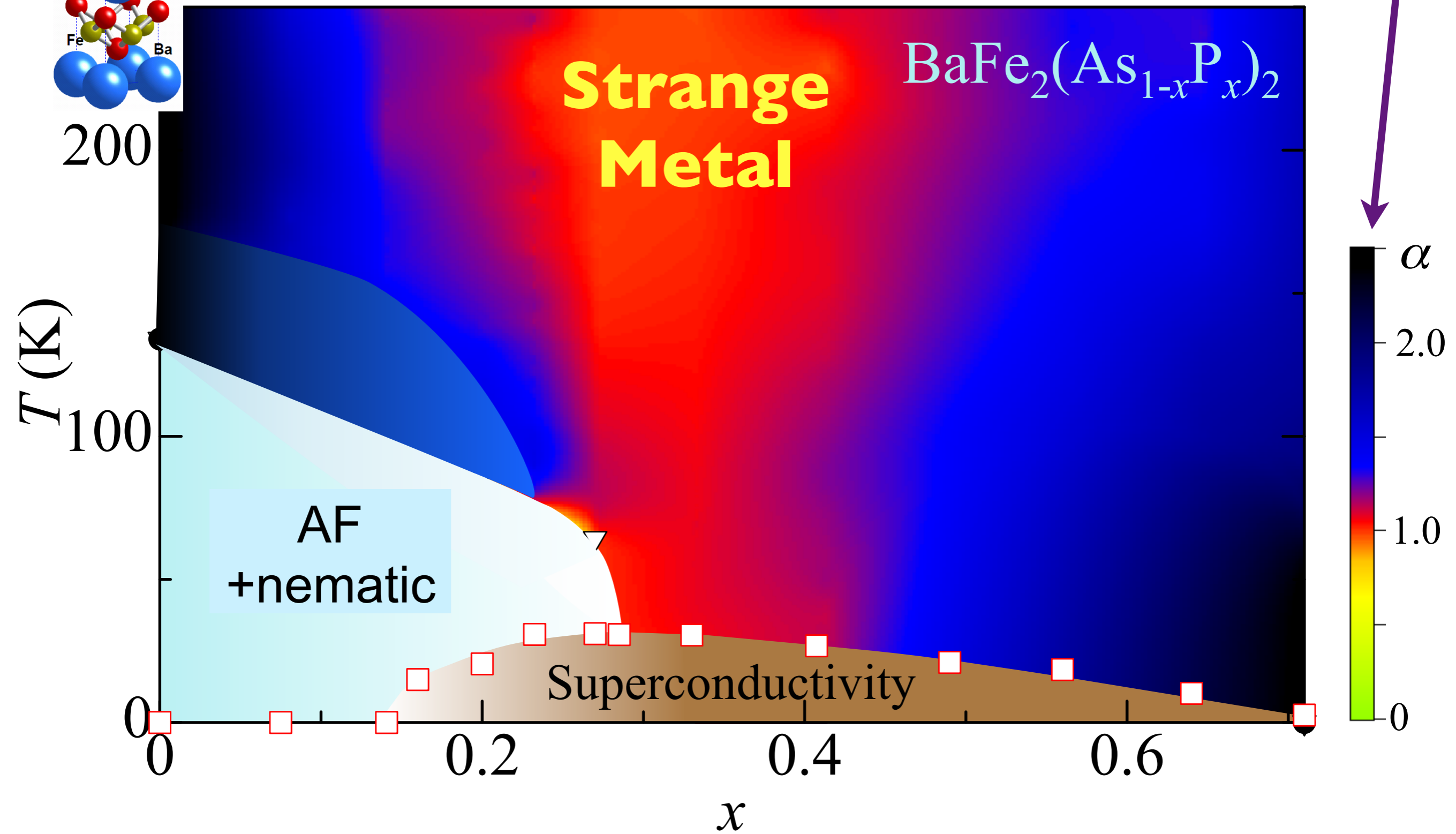


Figure: K. Fujita and J. C. Seamus Davis

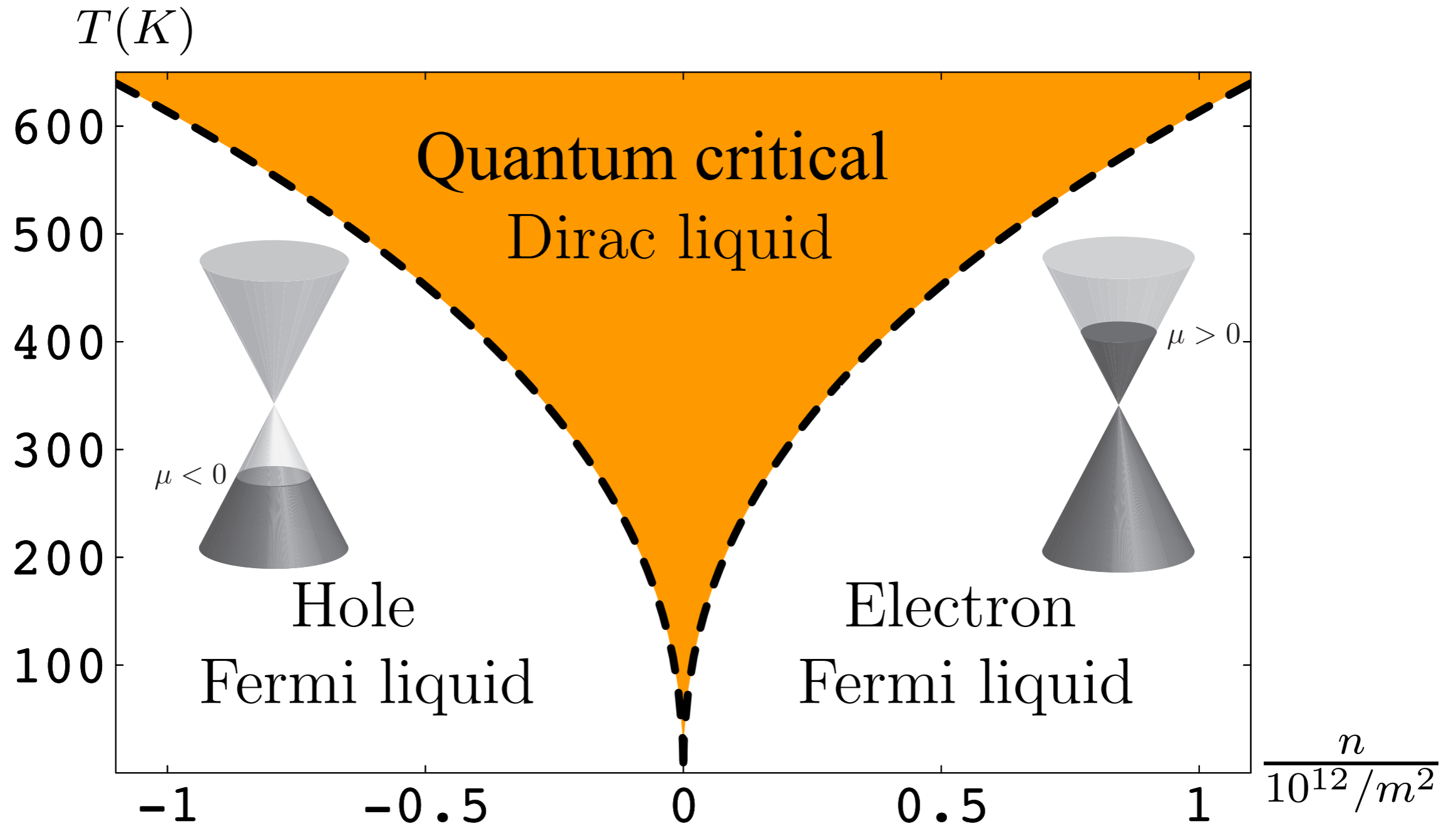


Resistivity
 $\sim \rho_0 + AT^\alpha$



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, *Physical Review B* **81**, 184519 (2010)

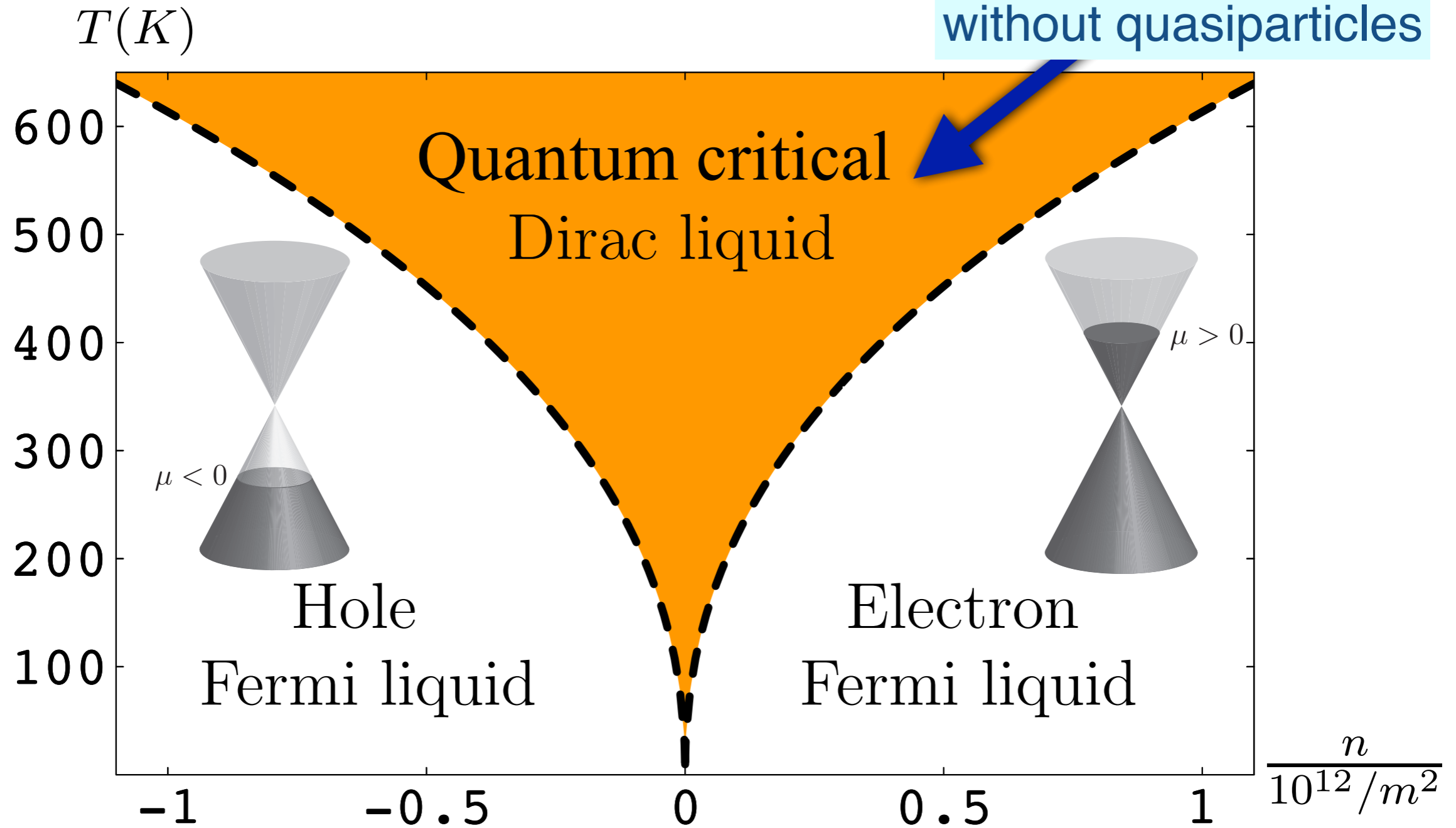
Graphene



D. E. Sheehy and J. Schmalian, PRL **99**, 226803 (2007)
M. Müller, L. Fritz, and S. Sachdev, PRB **78**, 115406 (2008)
M. Müller and S. Sachdev, PRB **78**, 115419 (2008)

Graphene

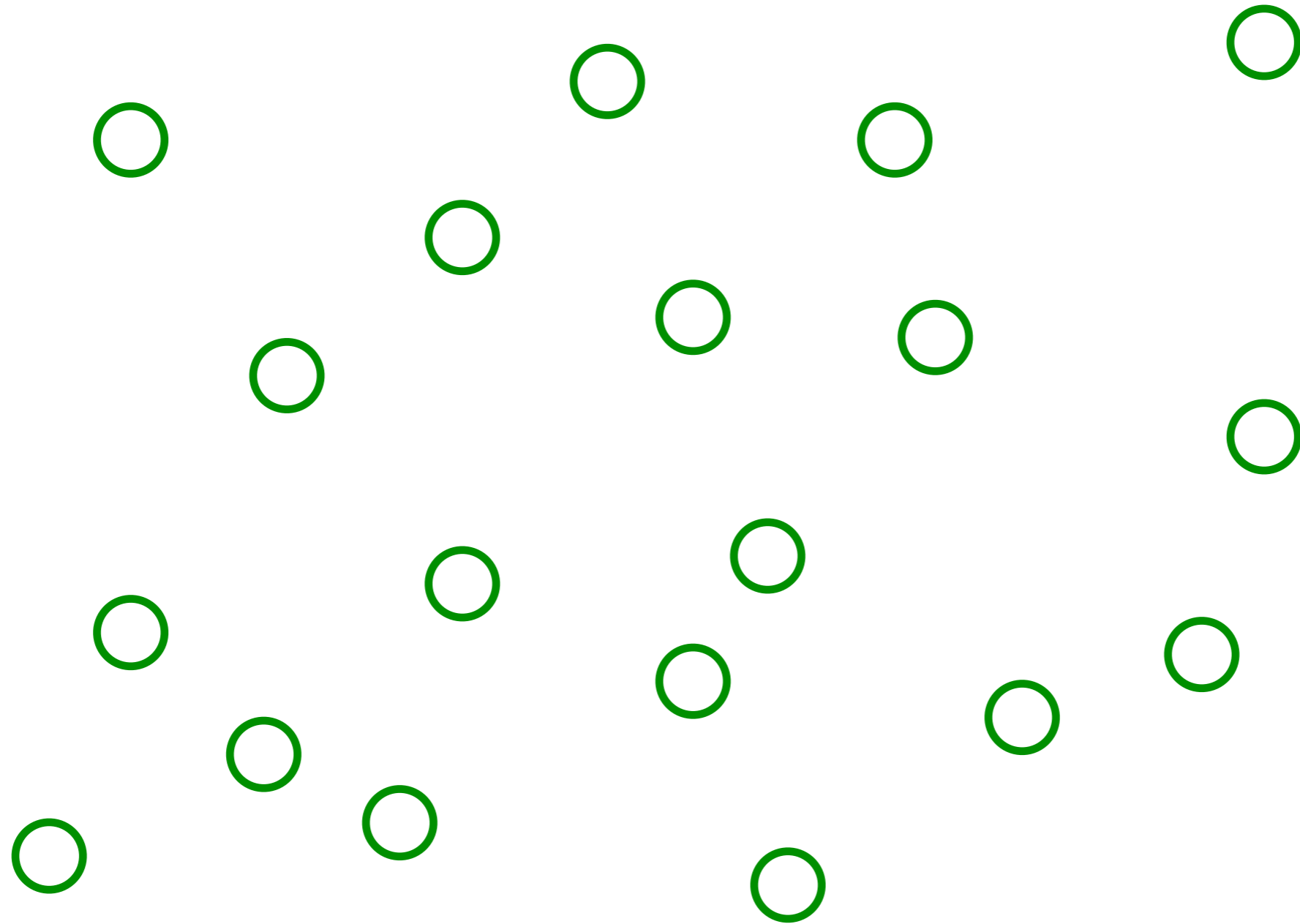
Predicted
“strange metal”
without quasiparticles



M. Müller, L. Fritz, and S. Sachdev, PRB **78**, 115406 (2008)

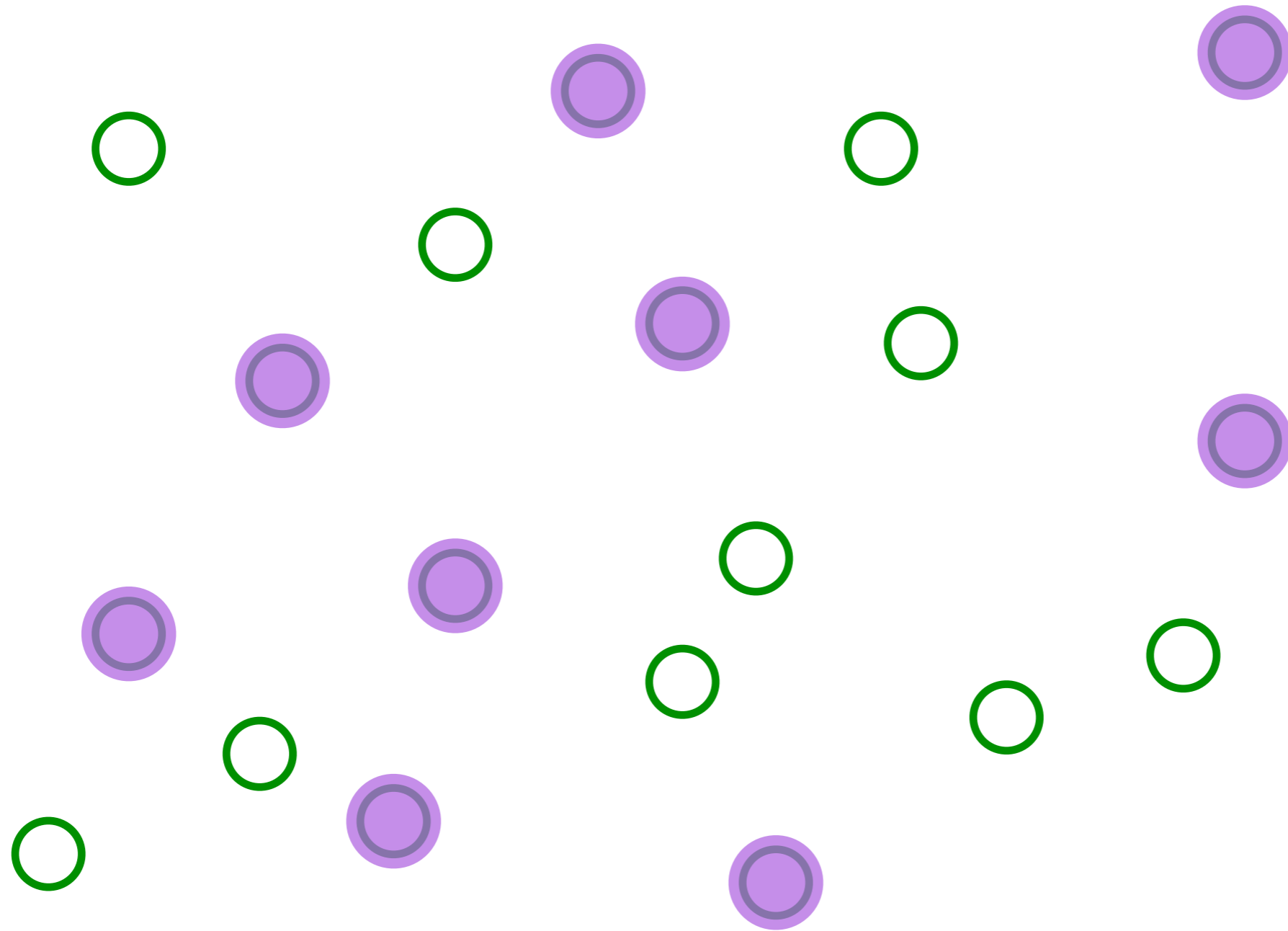
M. Müller and S. Sachdev, PRB **78**, 115419 (2008)

A simple model of a metal with quasiparticles



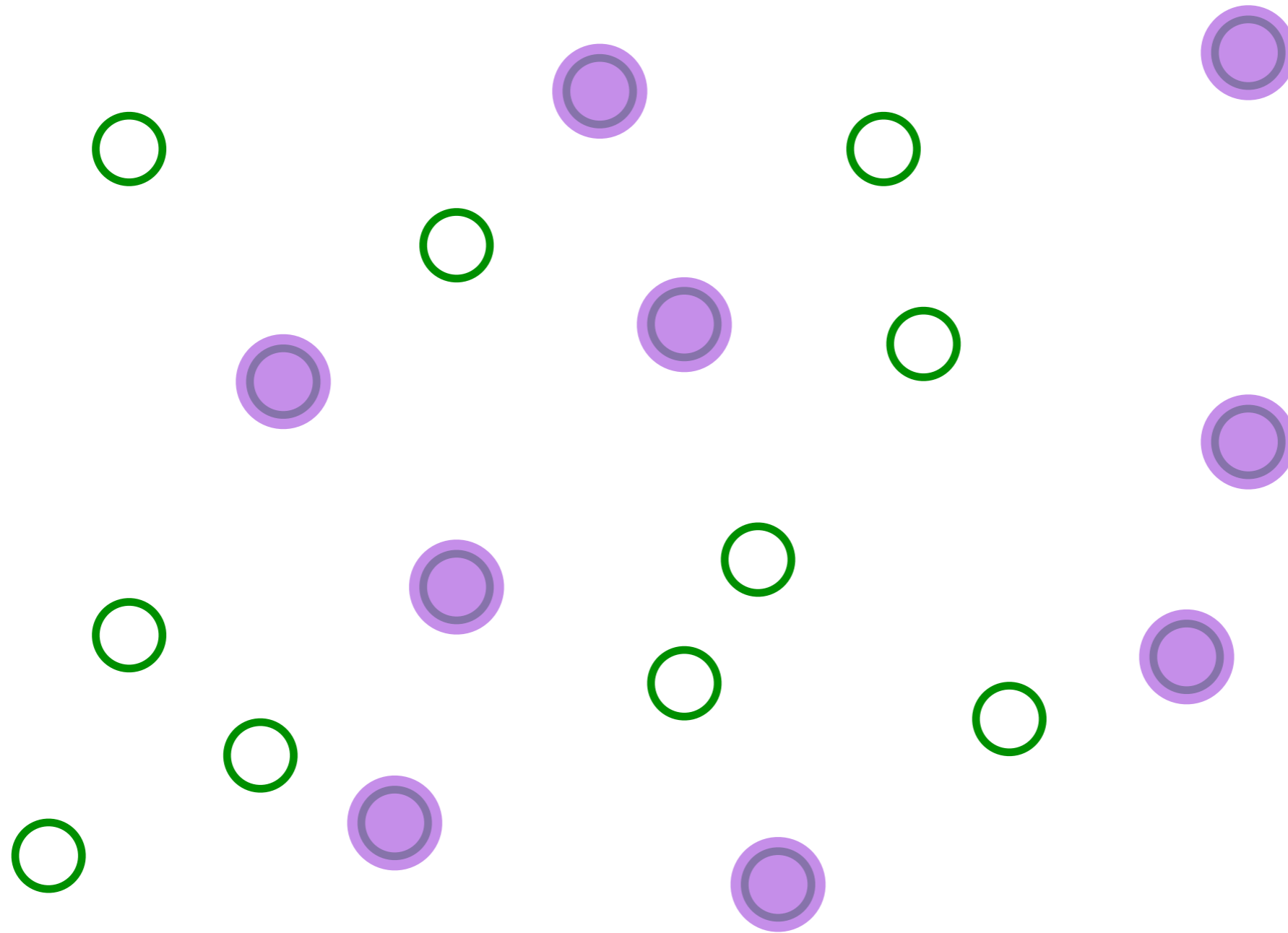
Pick a set of random positions

A simple model of a metal with quasiparticles



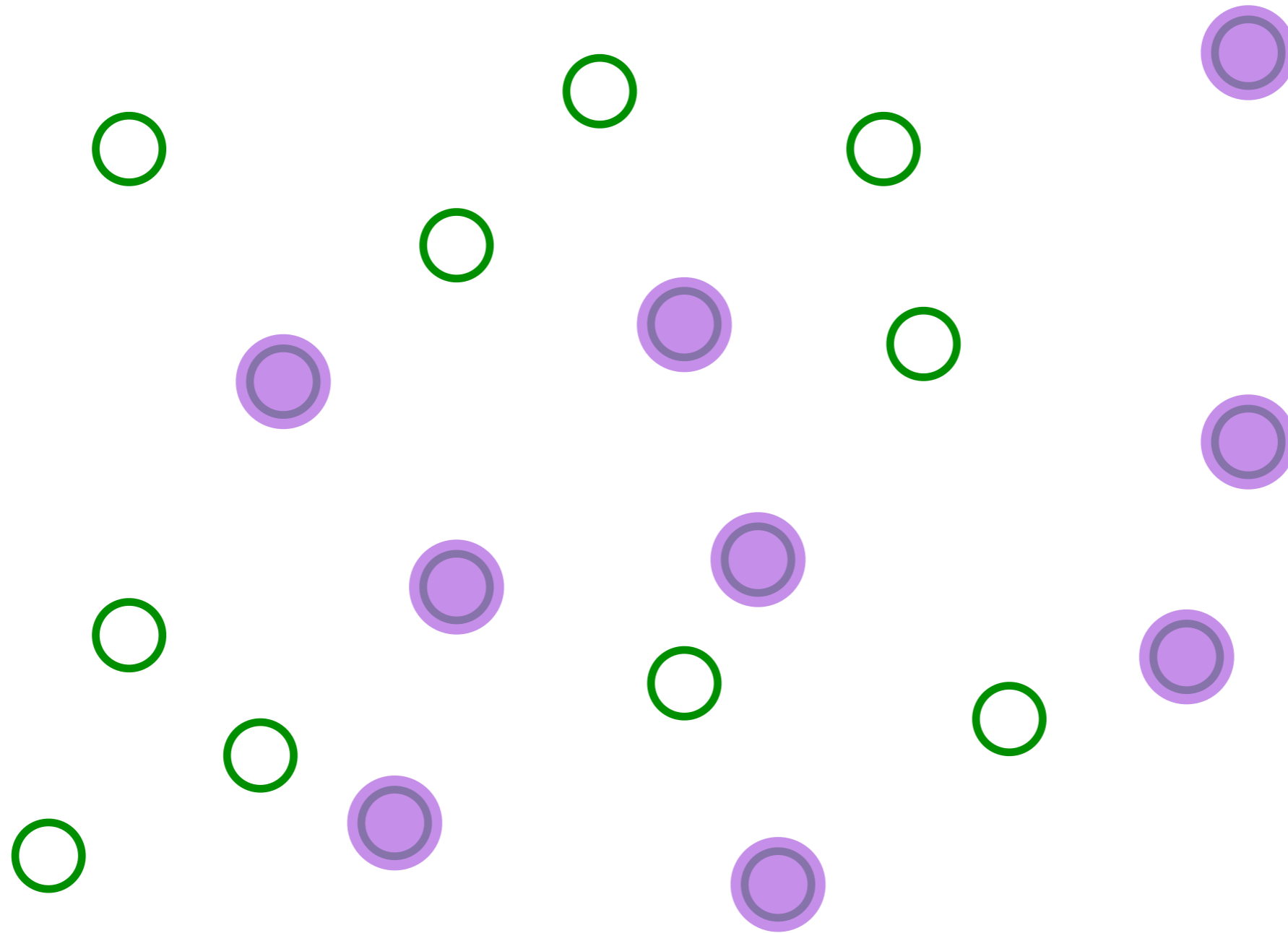
Place electrons randomly on some sites

A simple model of a metal with quasiparticles



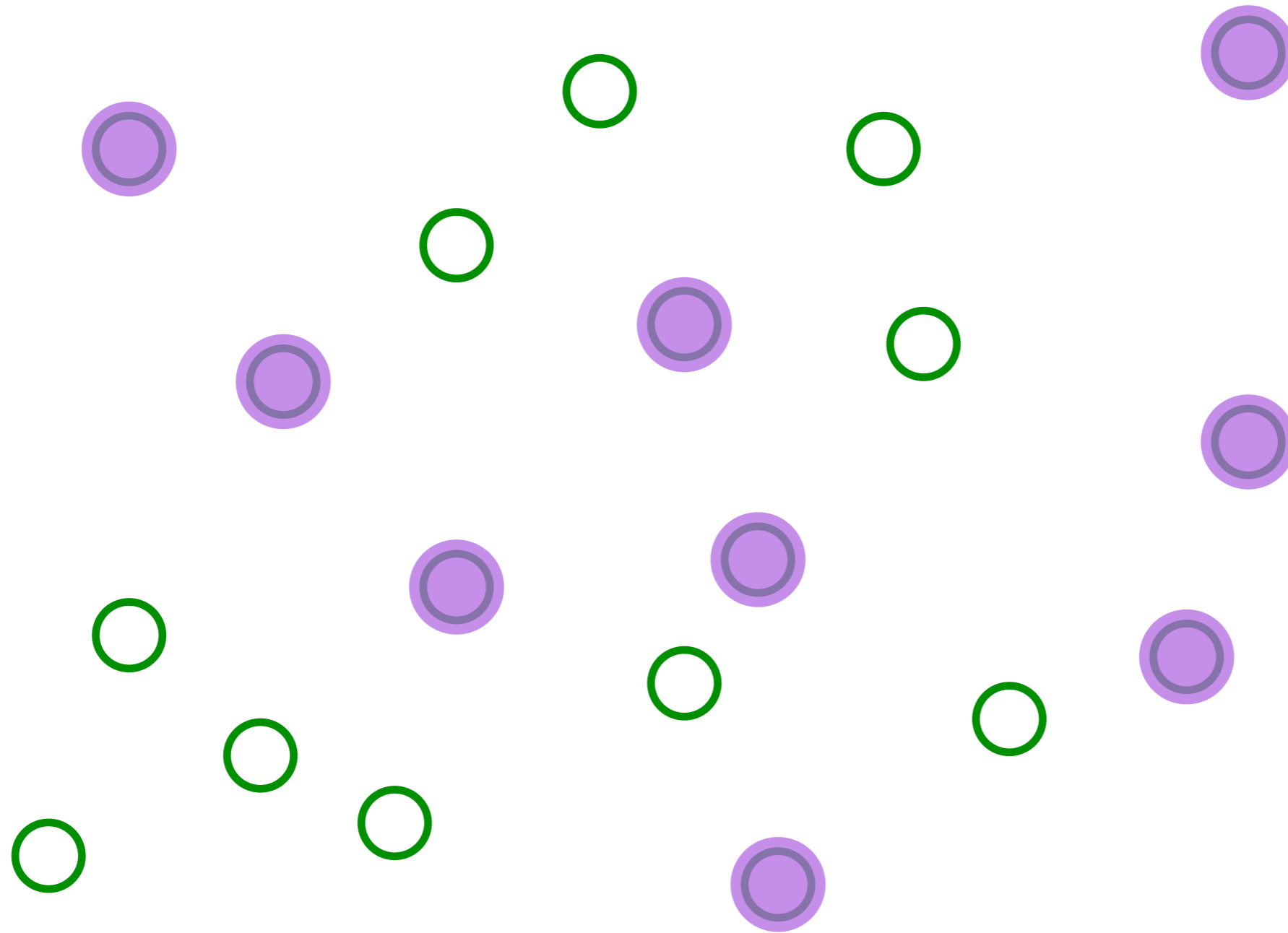
Electrons move one-by-one randomly

A simple model of a metal with quasiparticles



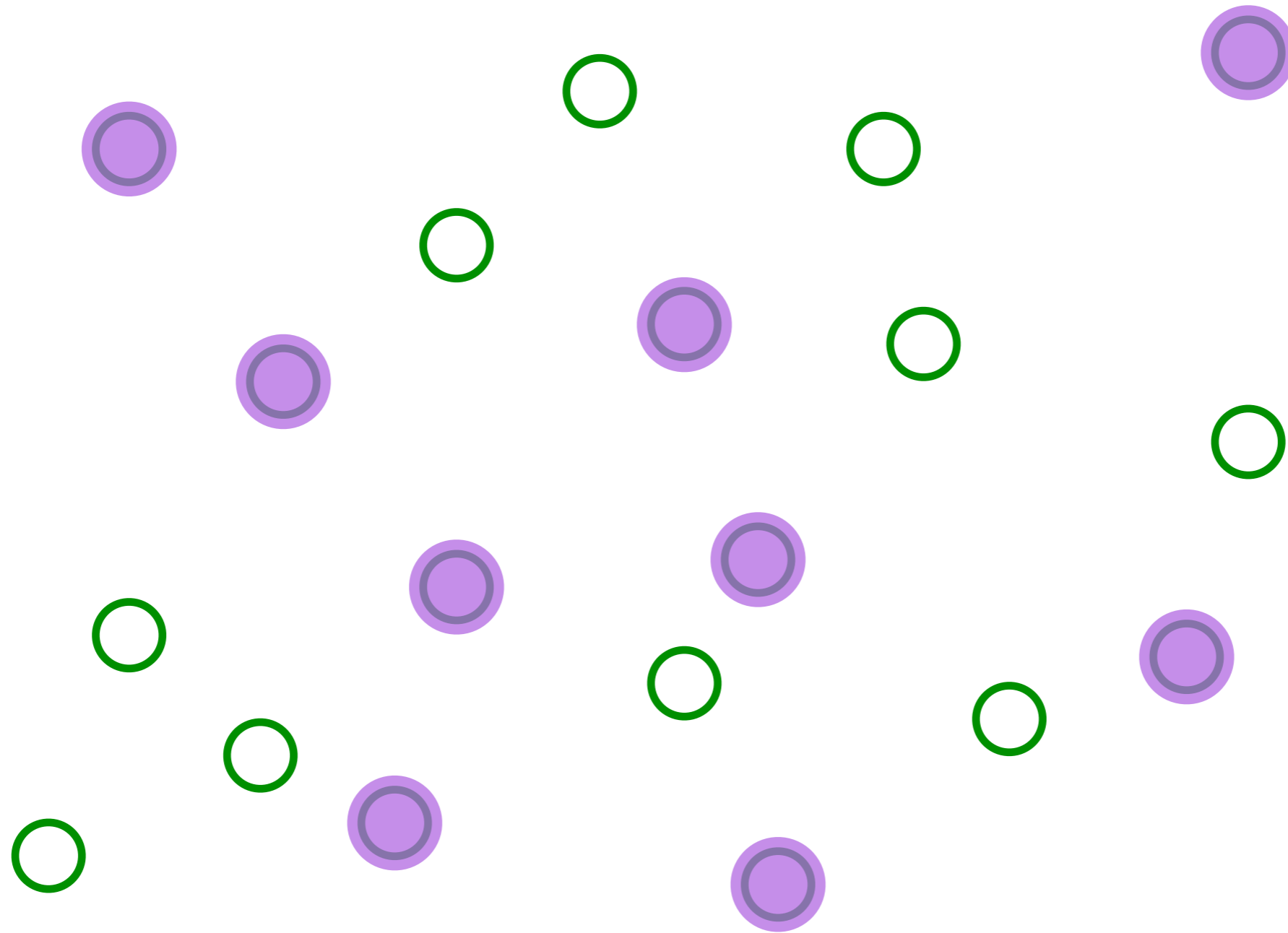
Electrons move one-by-one randomly

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Electrons move one-by-one randomly

A simple model of a metal with quasiparticles



Electrons move one-by-one randomly

A simple model of a metal with quasiparticles

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

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

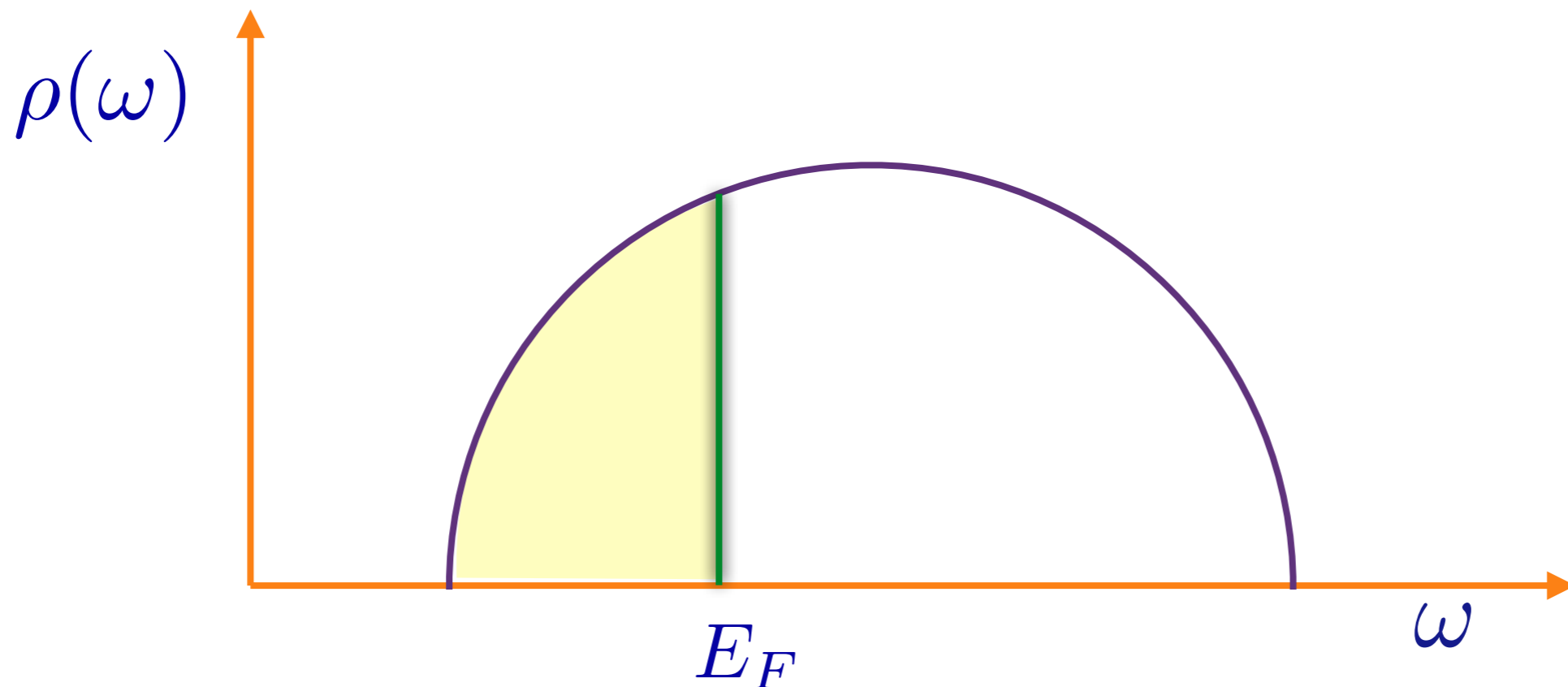
$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_i c_i^\dagger c_i = Q$$

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

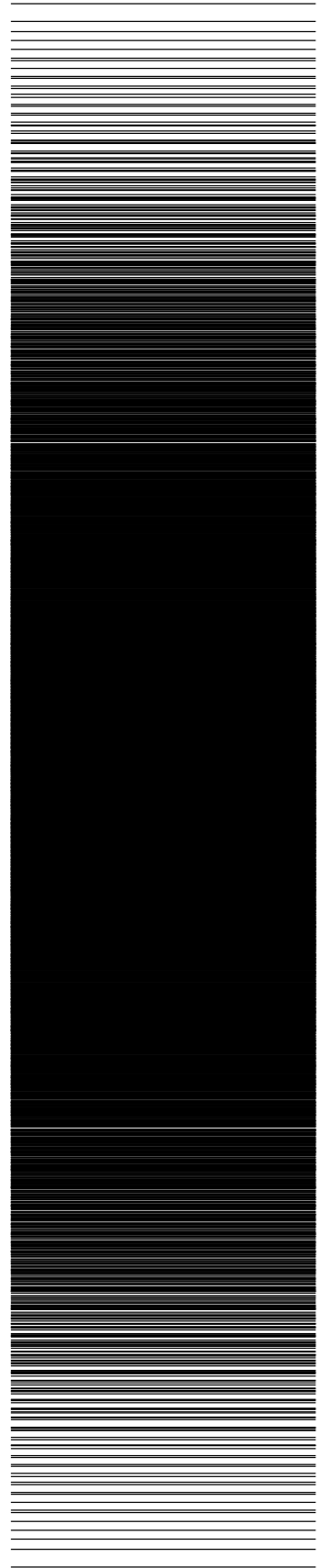
**Fermions occupying the eigenstates of a
 $N \times N$ random matrix**

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 density of states is $\rho(\omega) = (1/N) \sum_\alpha \delta(\omega - \varepsilon_\alpha)$.



A simple model of a metal with quasiparticles



Many-body
level spacing
 $\sim 2^{-N}$

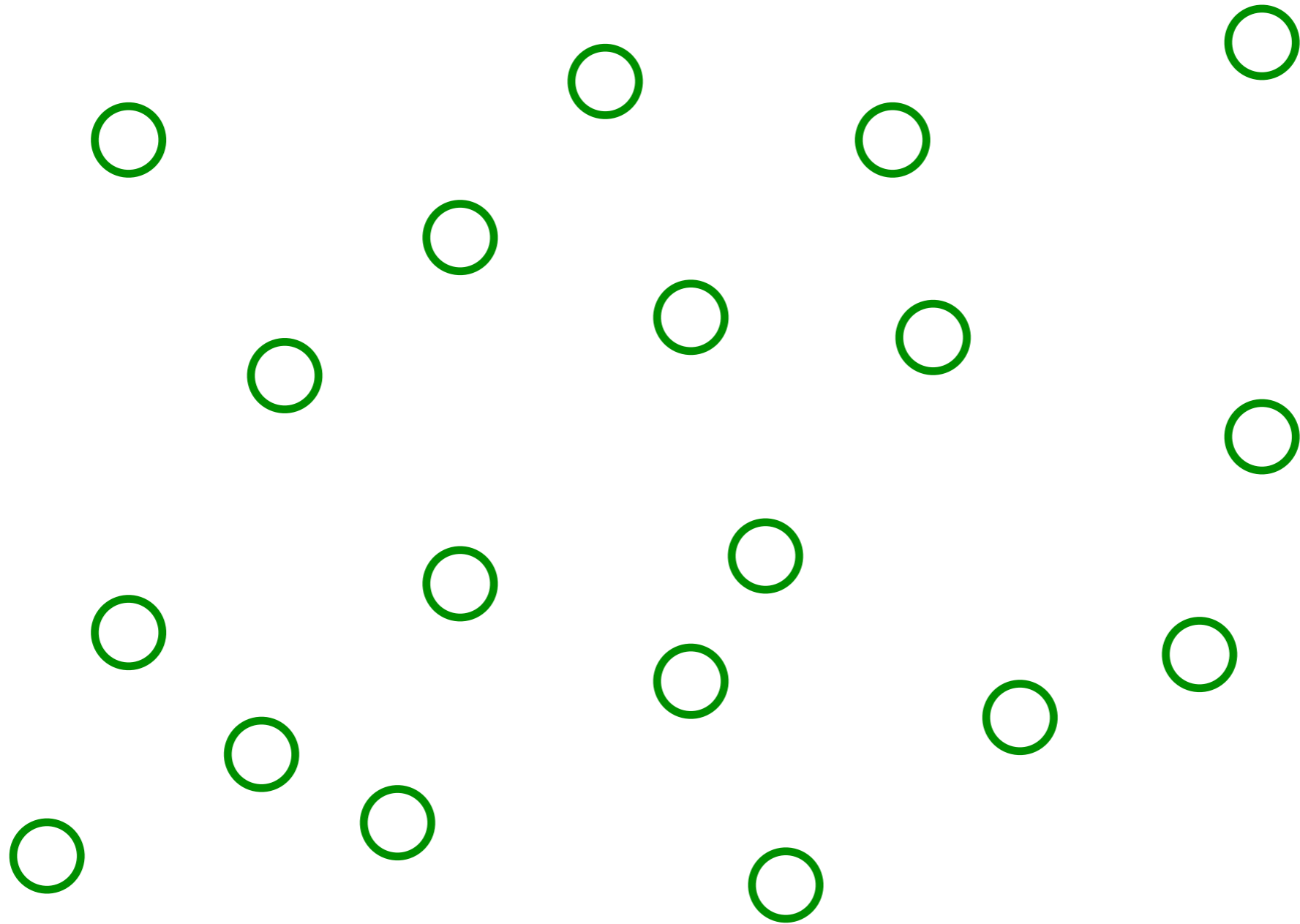
Quasiparticle
excitations with
spacing $\sim 1/N$

There are 2^N many
body levels with energy

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

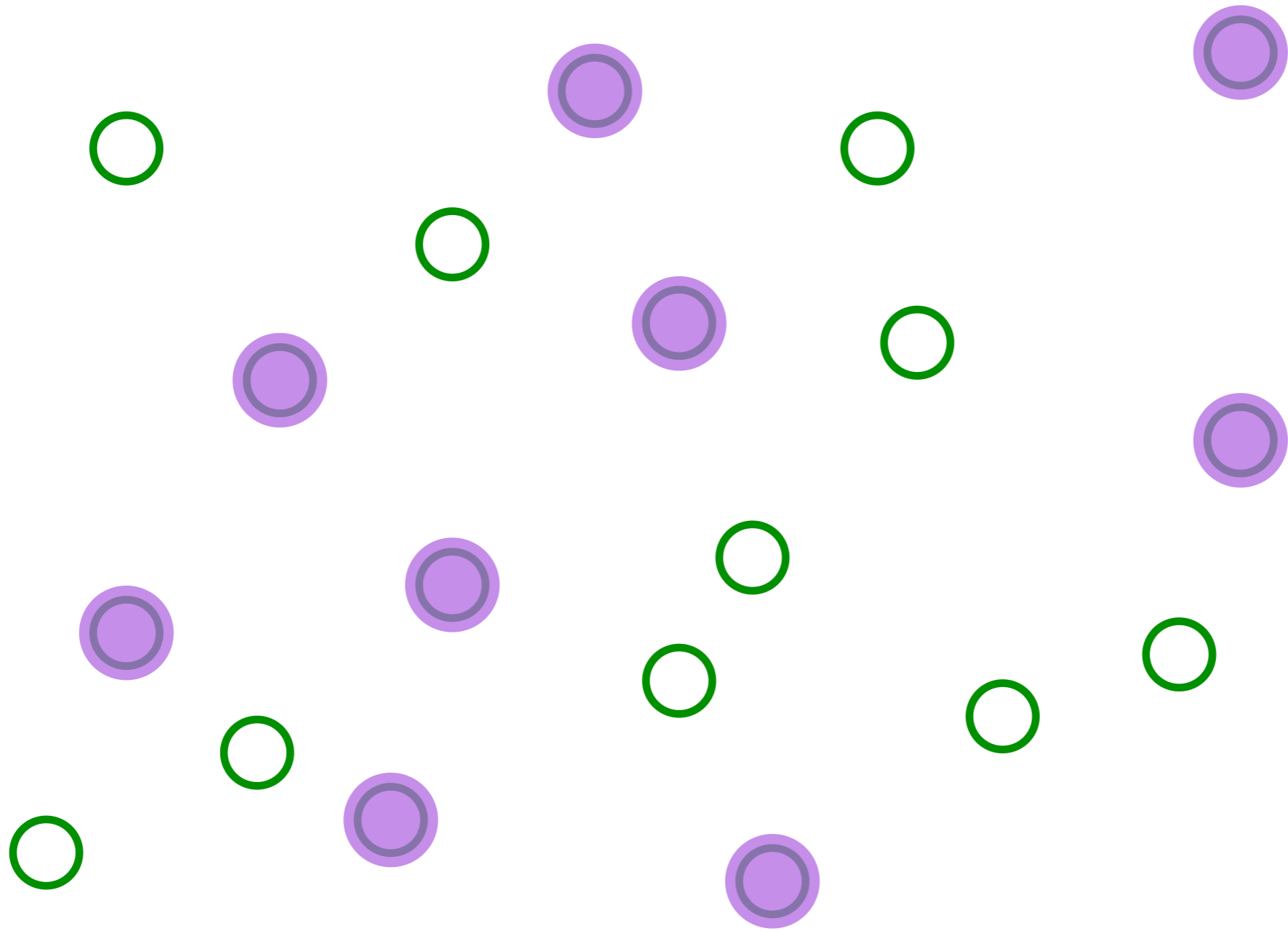
where $n_{\alpha} = 0, 1$. Shown
are all values of E for a
single cluster of size
 $N = 12$. The ε_{α} have a
level spacing $\sim 1/N$.

The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model



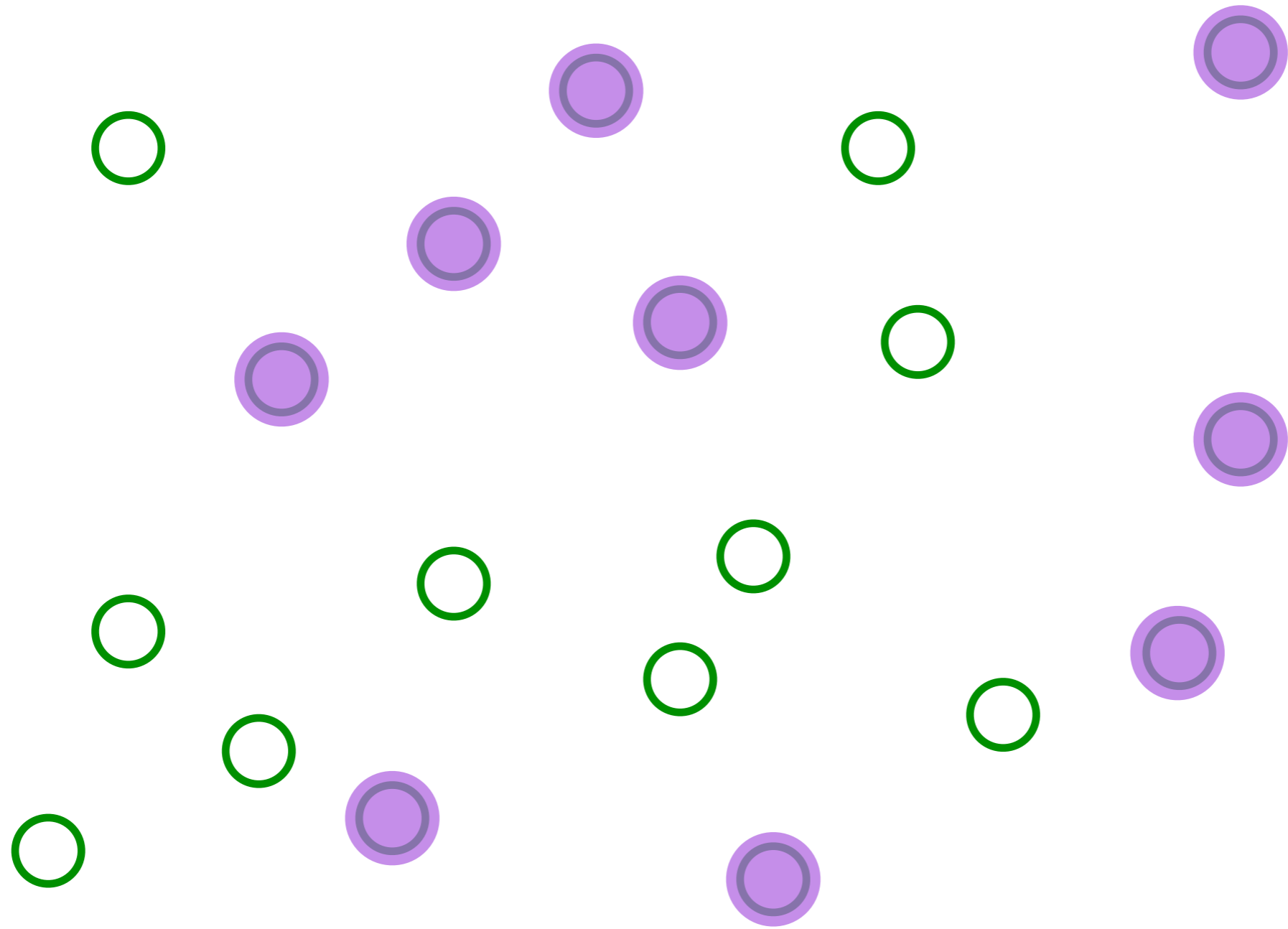
Pick a set of random positions

The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model



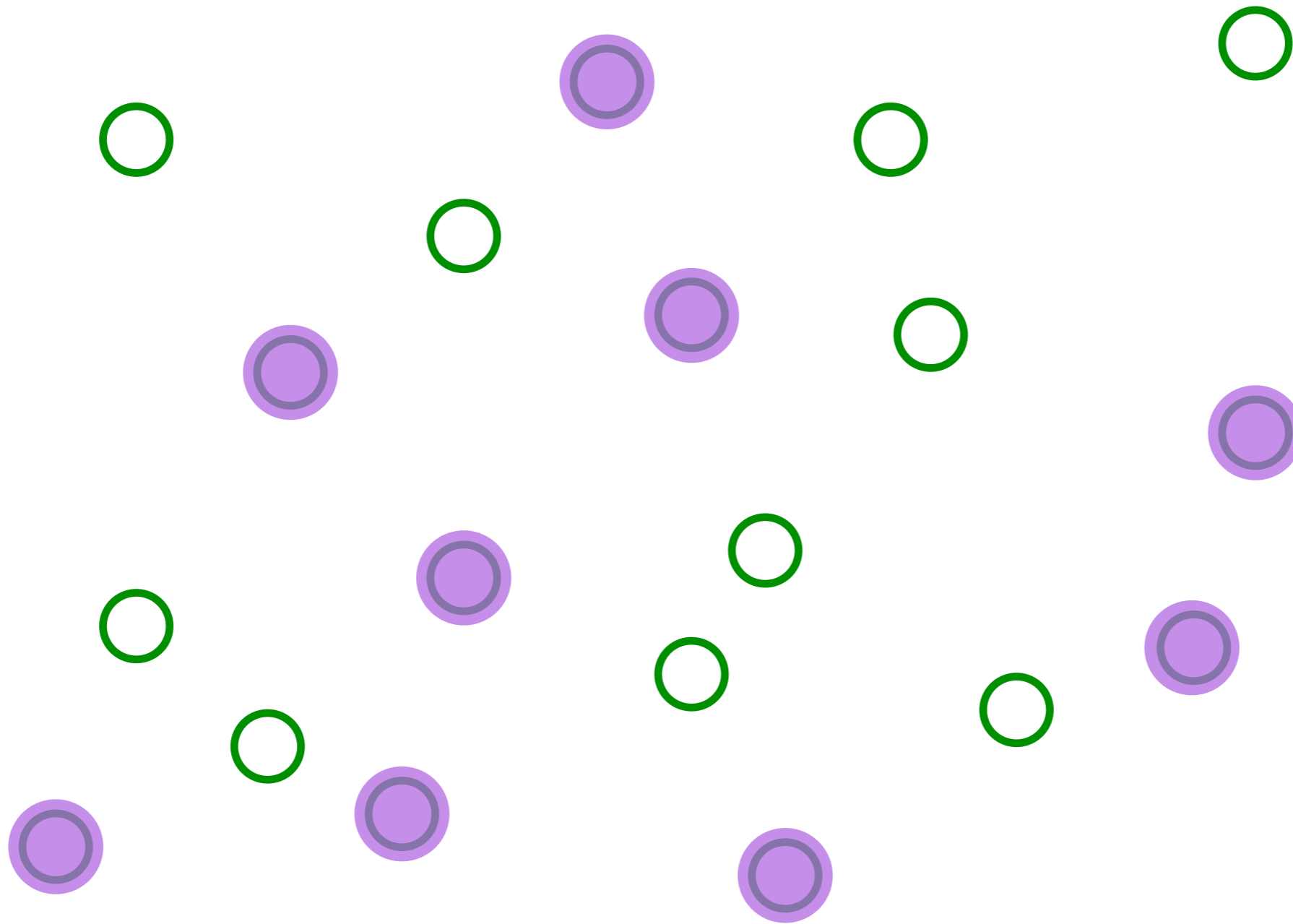
Place electrons randomly on some sites

The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model



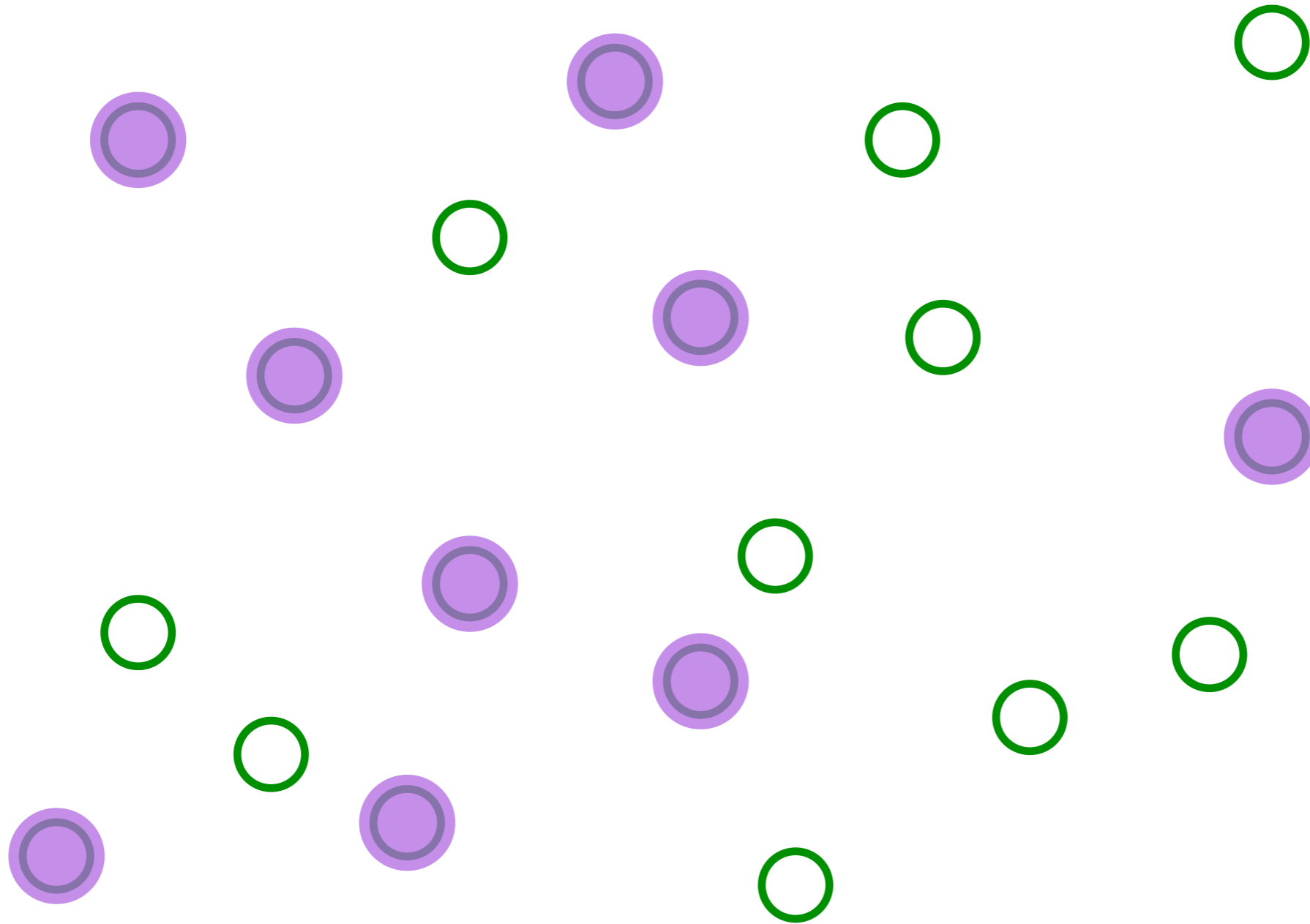
Entangle electrons pairwise randomly

The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model



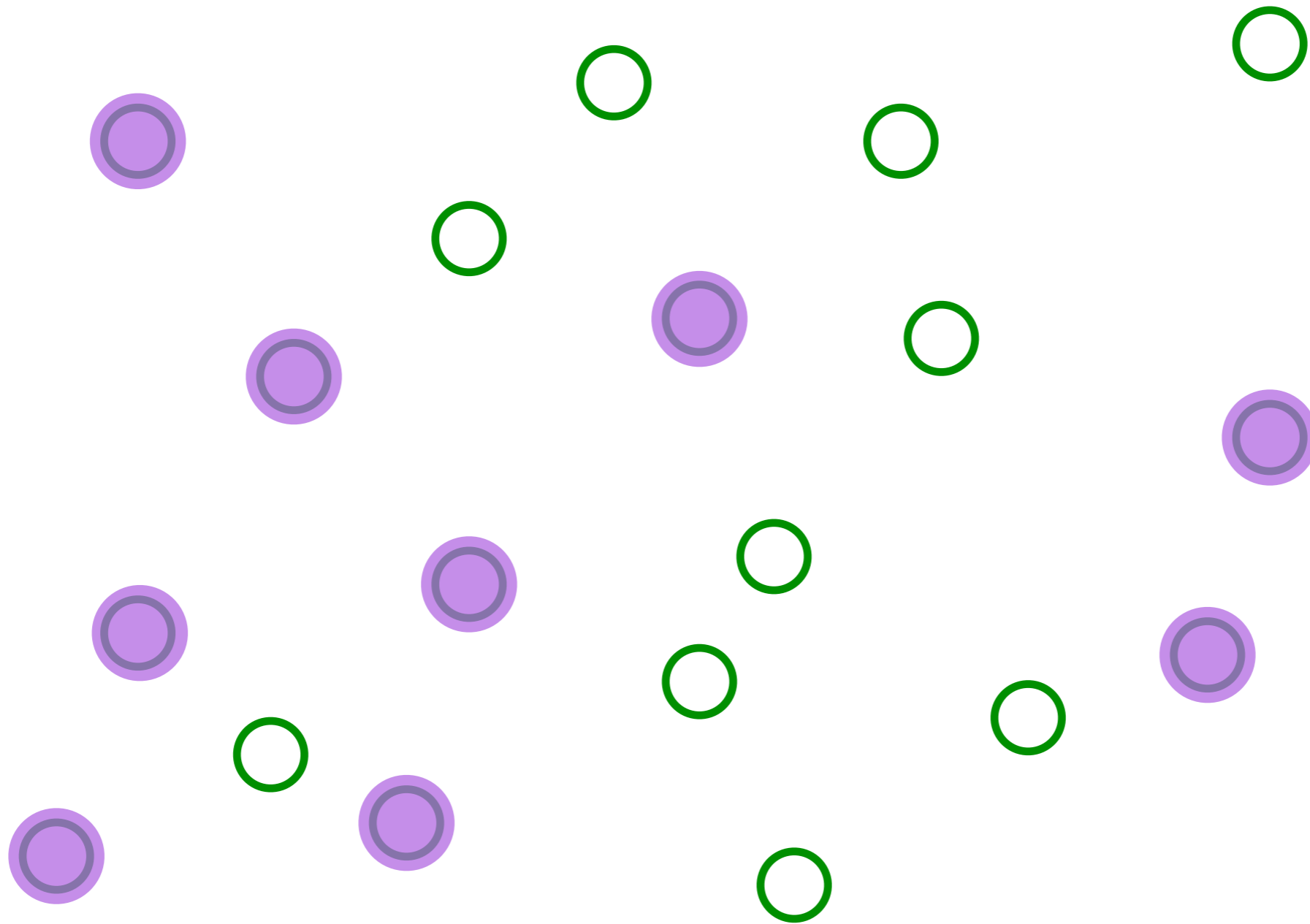
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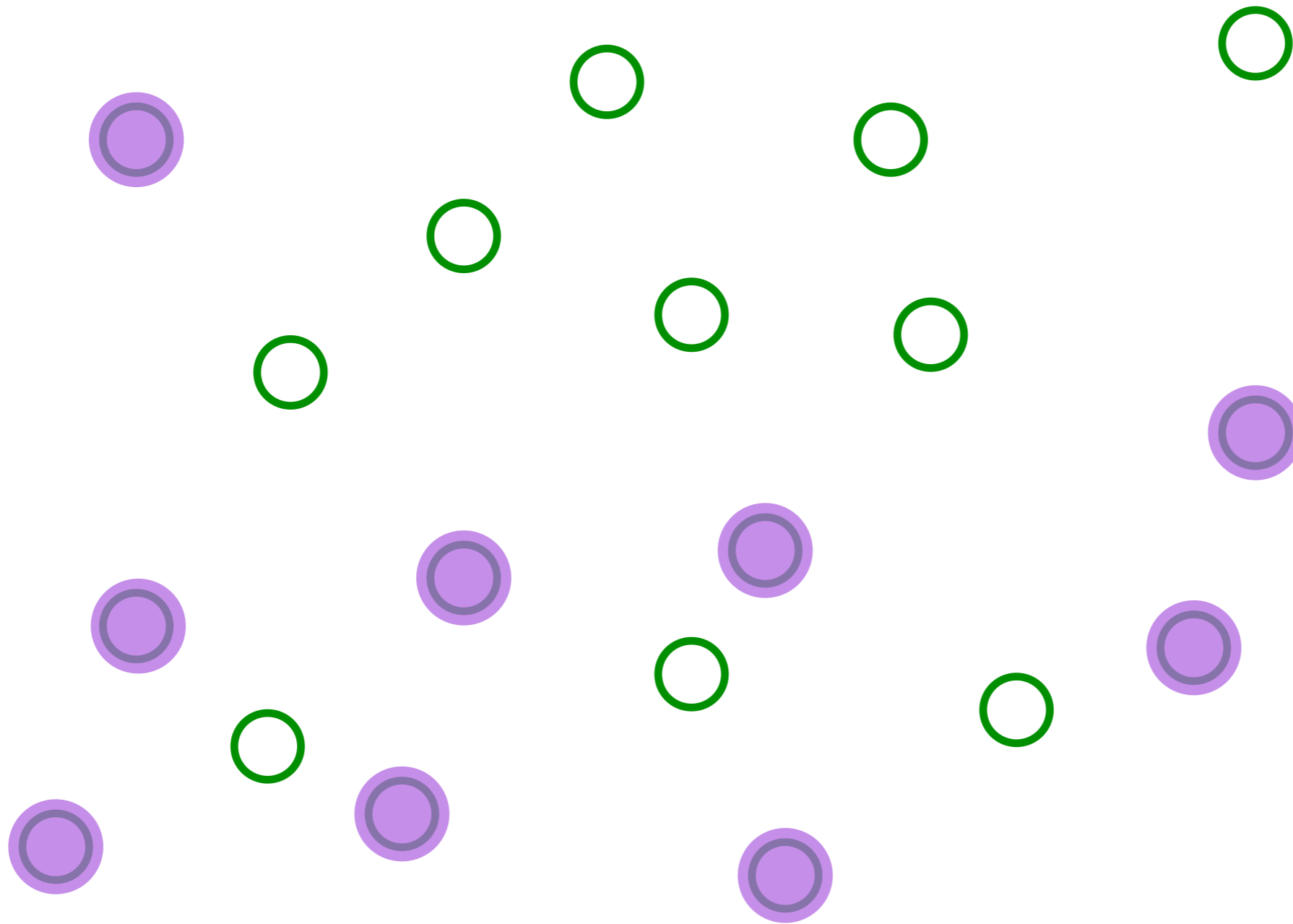
Entangle electrons pairwise randomly

The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model



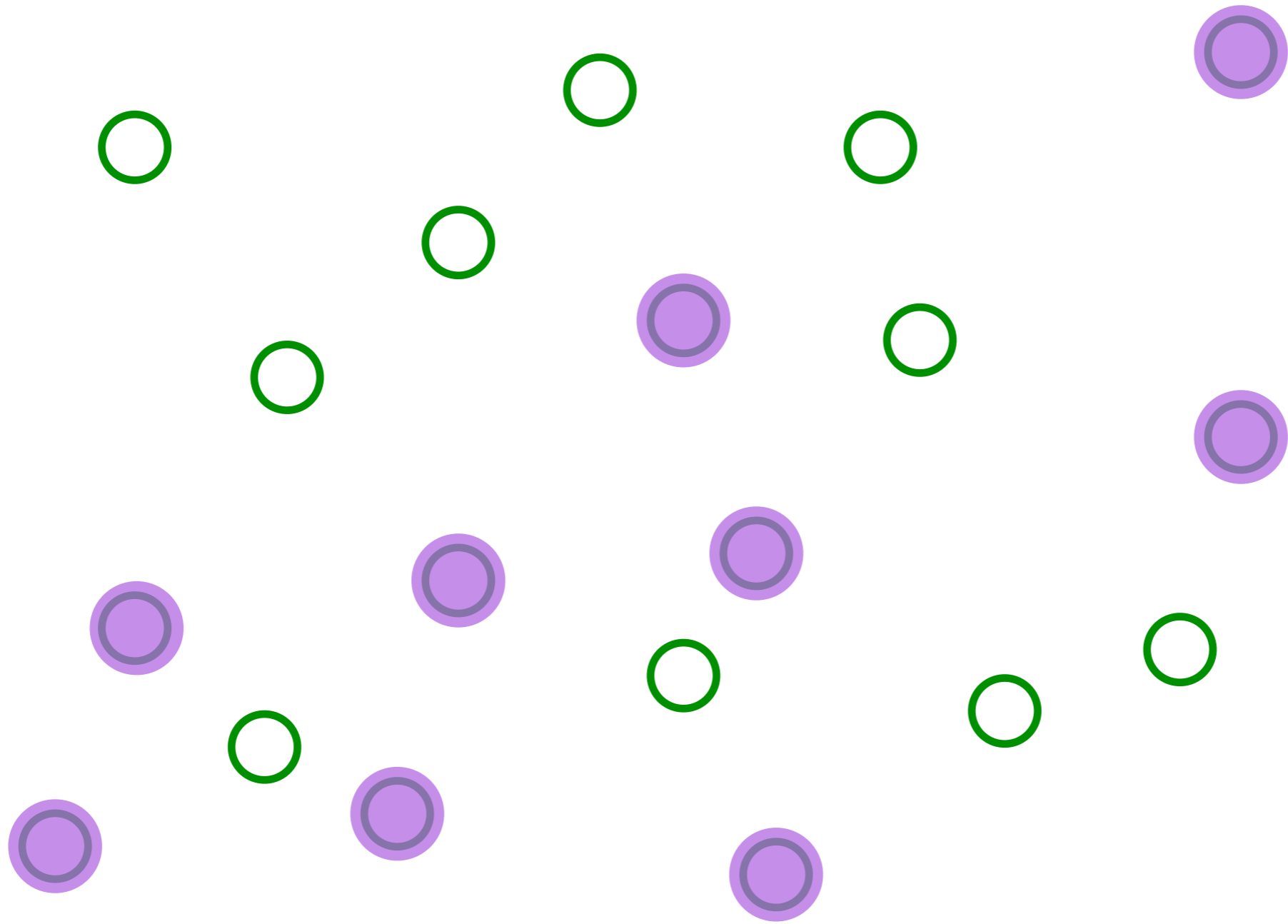
Entangle electrons pairwise randomly

The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model



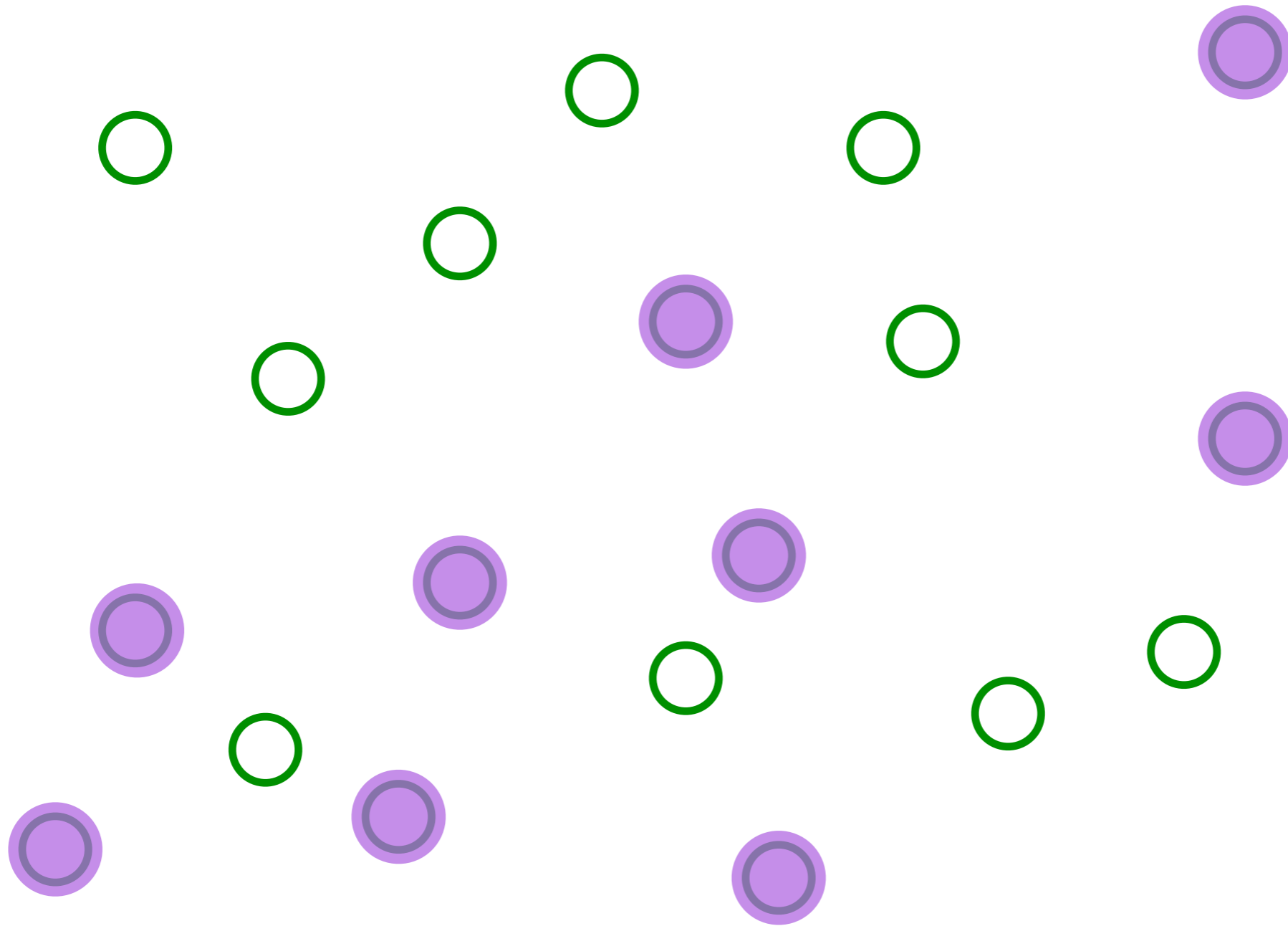
Entangle electrons pairwise randomly

The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model



Entangle electrons pairwise randomly

The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model



This describes both a strange metal and a black hole!

The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model

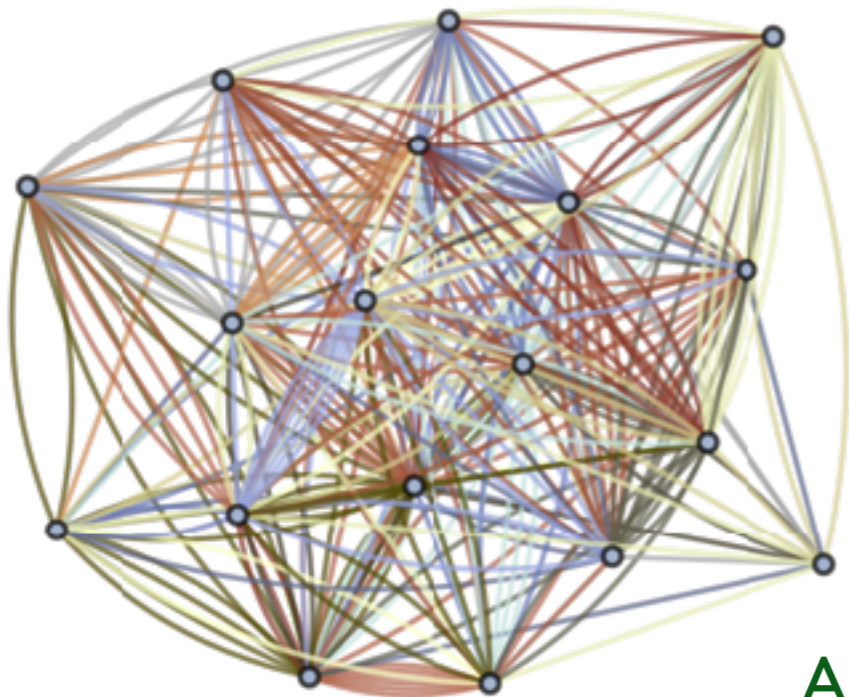
(See also: the “2-Body Random Ensemble” in nuclear physics; did not obtain the large N limit; T.A. Brody, J. Flores, J.B. French, P.A. Mello, A. Pandey, and S.S.M. Wong, Rev. Mod. Phys. **53**, 385 (1981))

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

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

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

$J_{ij;kl}$ 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)

The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model

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 $T \rightarrow 0$ state has an entropy S_{GPS} with

Many-body level spacing $\sim 2^{-N} = e^{-N \ln 2}$

$$\frac{S_{GPS}}{N} = \frac{G}{\pi} + \frac{\ln(2)}{4} = 0.464848\dots < \ln 2$$

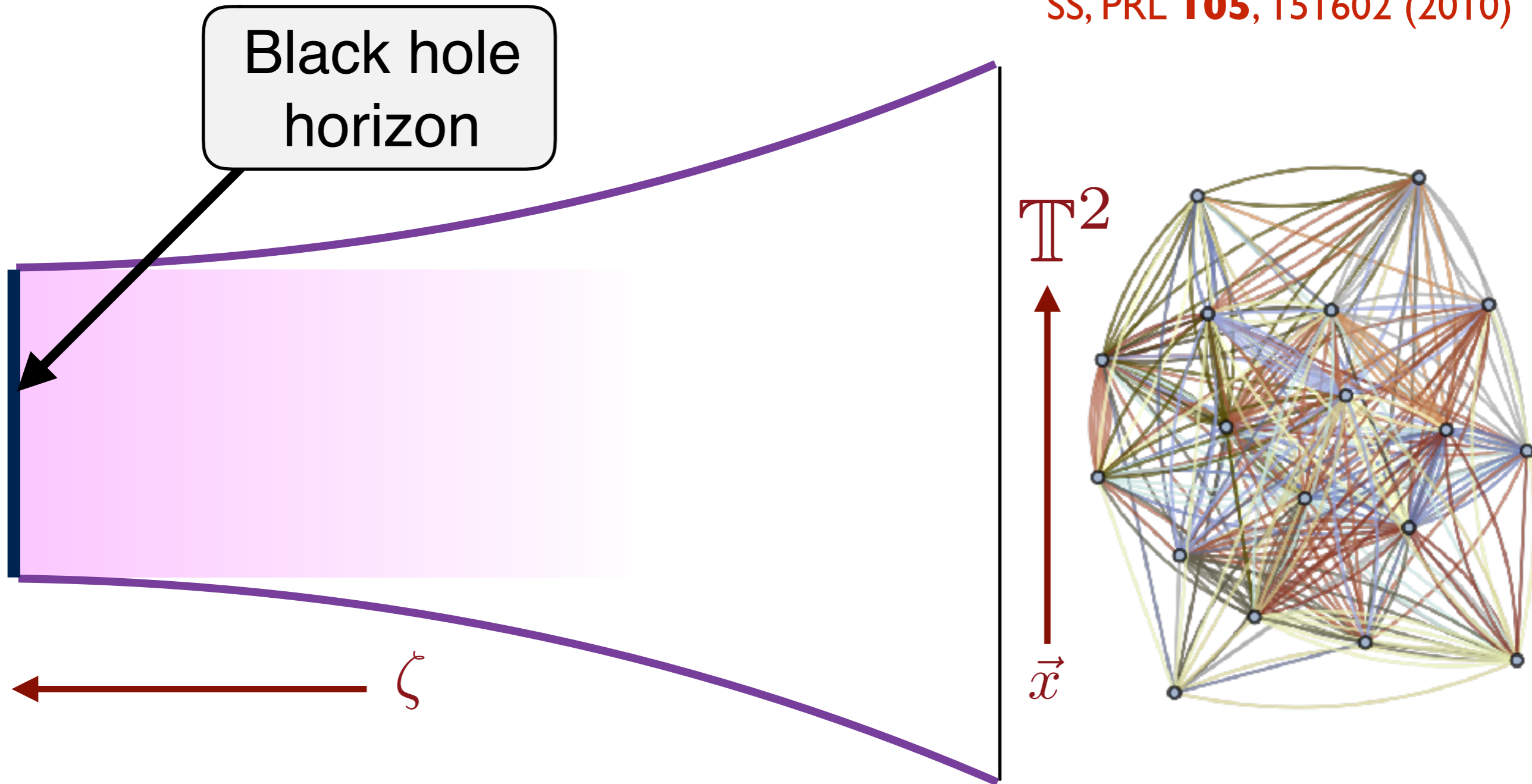
where G is Catalan's constant, for the half-filled case $Q = 1/2$.

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

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

SYK and black holes

SS, PRL **105**, 151602 (2010)

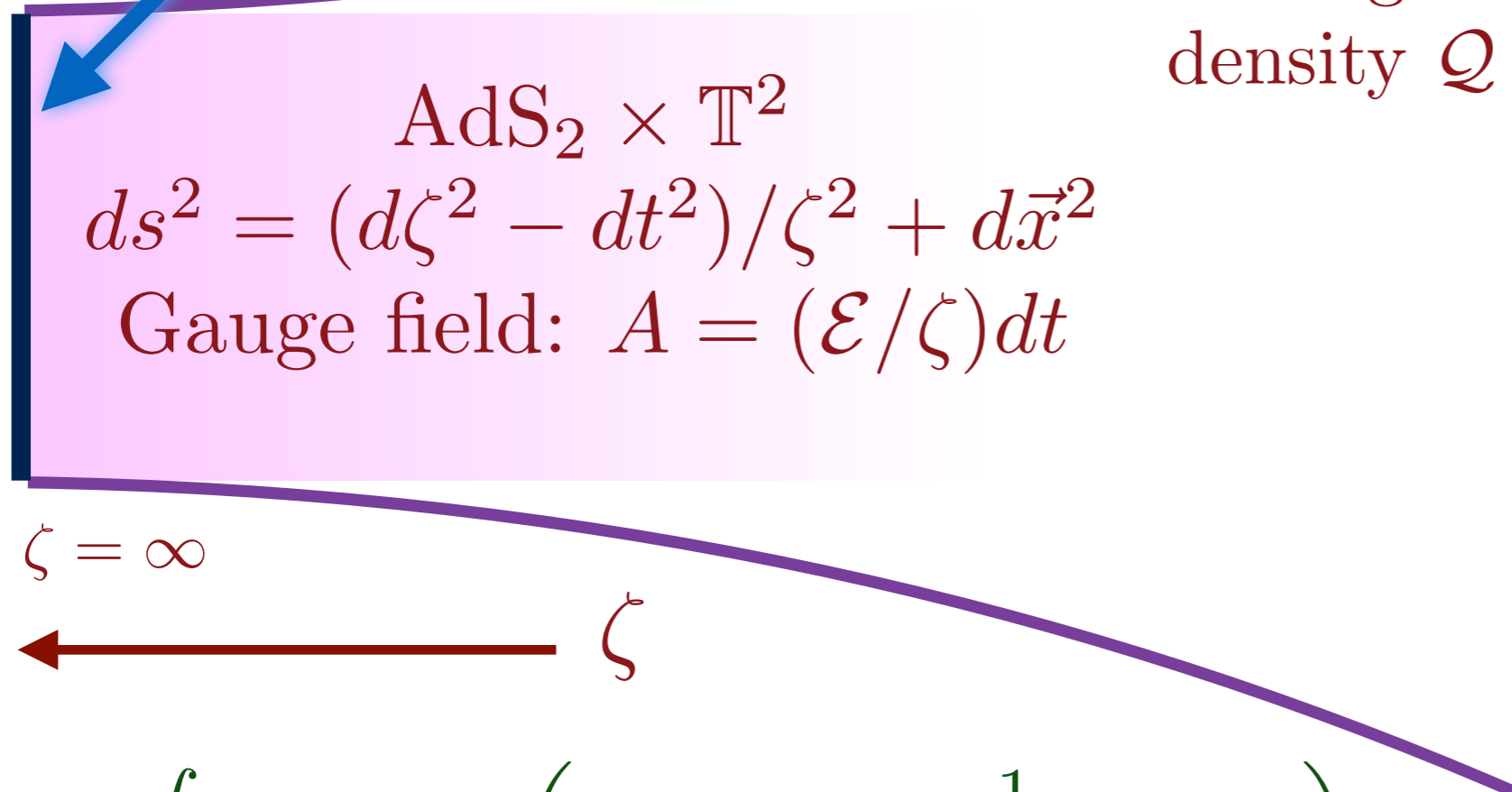


The SYK model has “dual” description in which an extra spatial dimension, ζ , emerges. The curvature of this “emergent” spacetime is described by Einstein’s theory of general relativity

SYK and black holes

Bekenstein-Hawking
black hole entropy

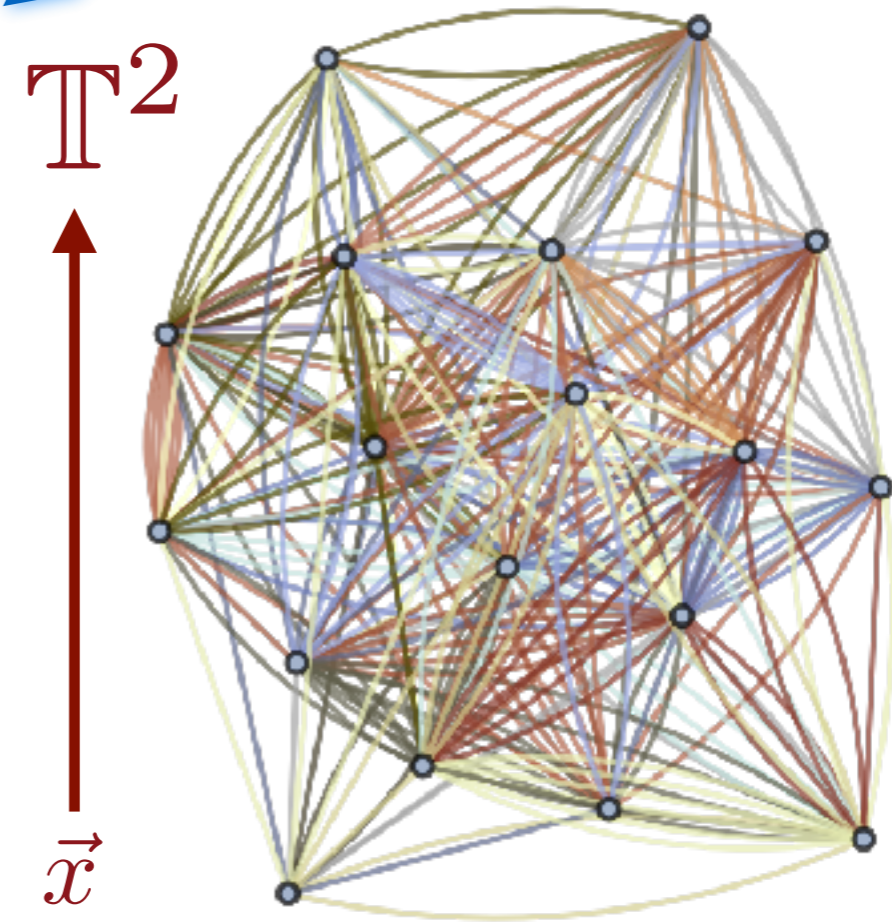
GPS
entropy



$$AdS_2 \times \mathbb{T}^2$$

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

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



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

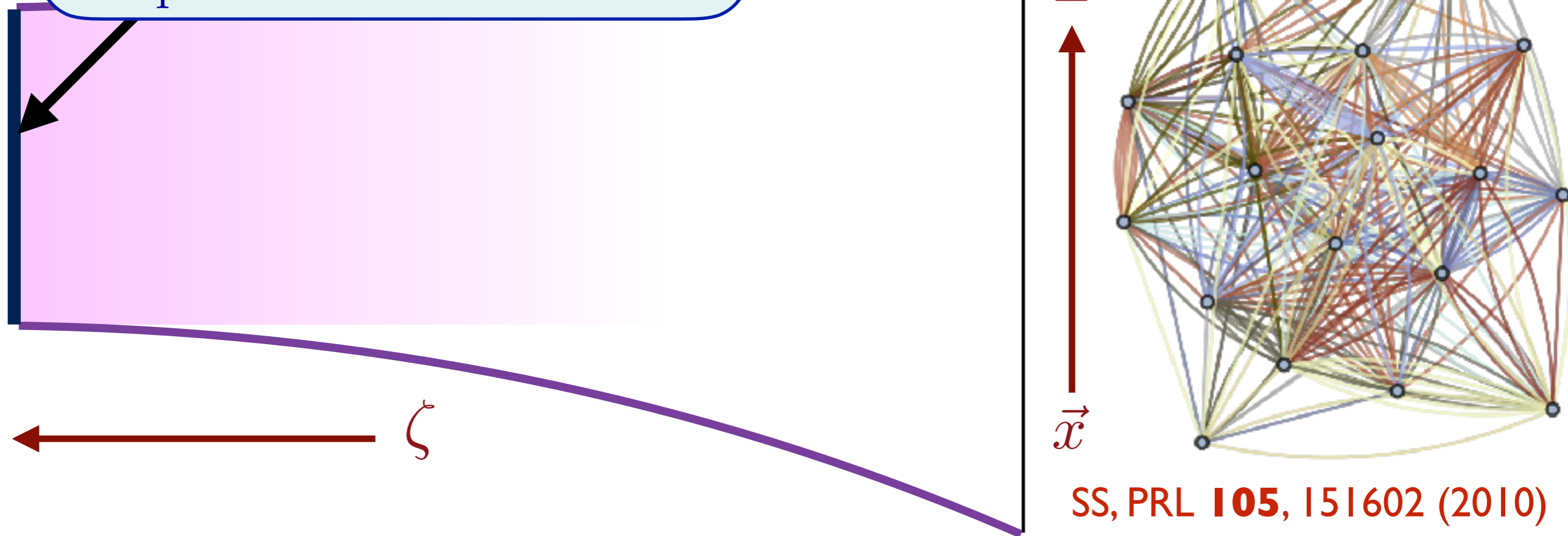
SS, PRL **105**, 151602 (2010)

The BH entropy is proportional to the size of \mathbb{T}^2 , and hence the surface area of the black hole. Mapping to SYK applies when temperature $\ll 1/(\text{size of } \mathbb{T}^2)$.

SYK and black holes

Black hole quasi-normal modes relax to thermal equilibrium in a time $\sim \hbar/(k_B T_H)$, where T_H is the Hawking temperature.

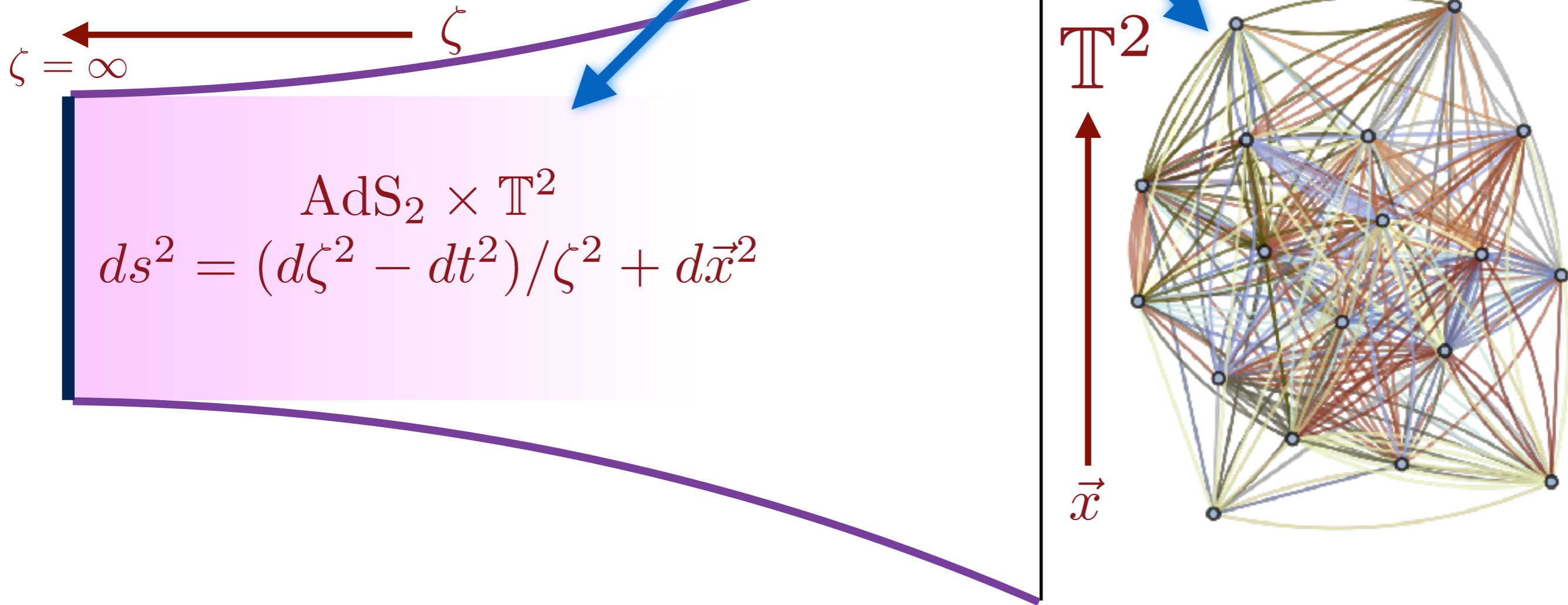
$$\tau_\varphi \sim \hbar/(k_B T)$$



The SYK model has “dual” description in which an extra spatial dimension, ζ , emerges. The curvature of this “emergent” spacetime is described by Einstein’s theory of general relativity

SYK and AdS₂

Equilibrium and non-equilibrium* dynamics described by a theory with $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ invariance, and effective Schwarzian action, $S[h(\tau)]$, of a time reparameterization $\tau \rightarrow h(\tau)$.



SYK and AdS₂

Equilibrium and non-equilibrium* dynamics described by a theory with $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ invariance, and effective Schwarzian action, $S[h(\tau)]$, of a time reparameterization $\tau \rightarrow h(\tau)$.

$\zeta = \infty$

ζ

$$AdS_2 \times T^2$$
$$ds^2 = (d\zeta^2 - dt^2)/\zeta^2 + d\vec{x}^2$$

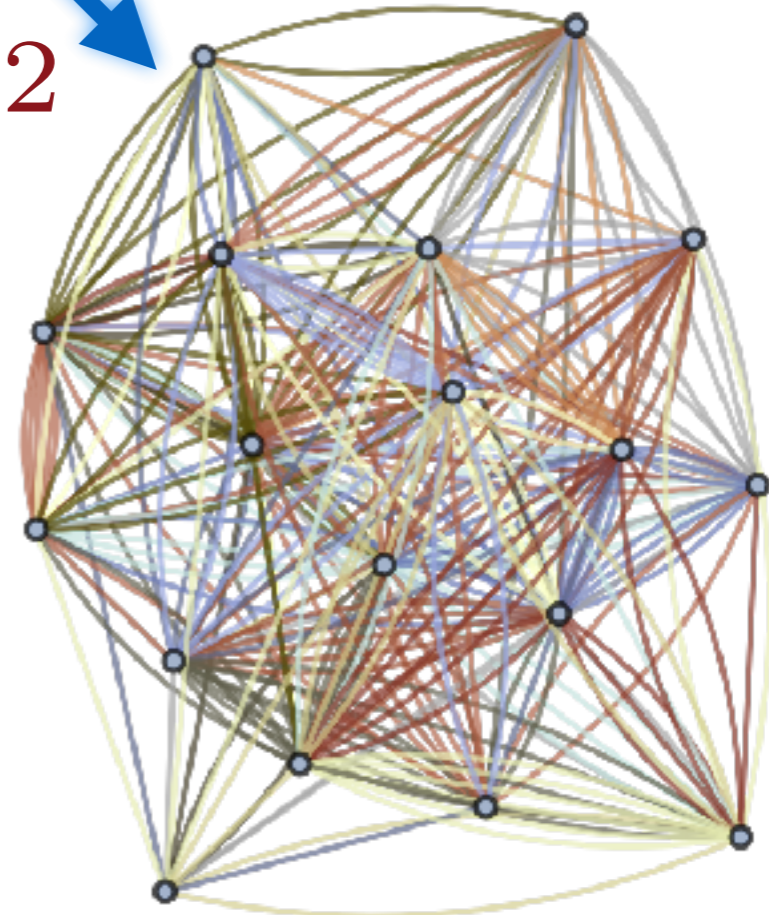
$SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ is the isometry group of AdS_2 :
 $ds^2 = (d\tau^2 + d\zeta^2)/\zeta^2$ is invariant under

$$\tau' + i\zeta' = \frac{a(\tau + i\zeta) + b}{c(\tau + i\zeta) + d}$$

with $ad - bc = 1$.

T^2

\vec{x}

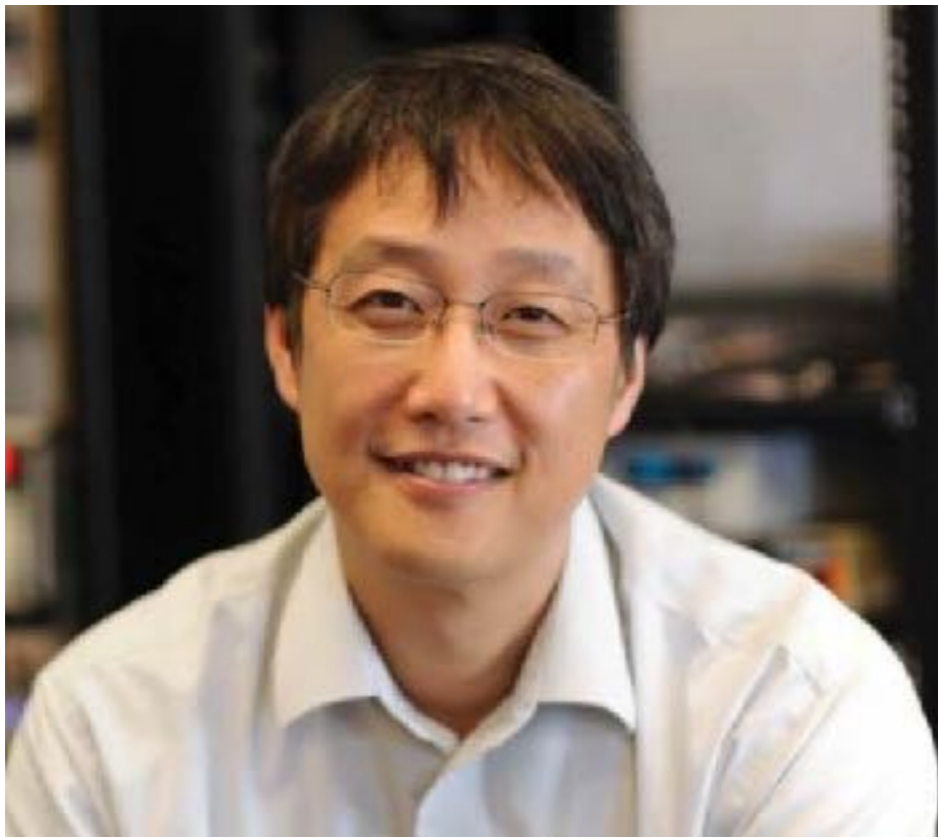


- Graphene

Non-quasiparticle “strange metal” transport

Theoretical predictions inspired by holography

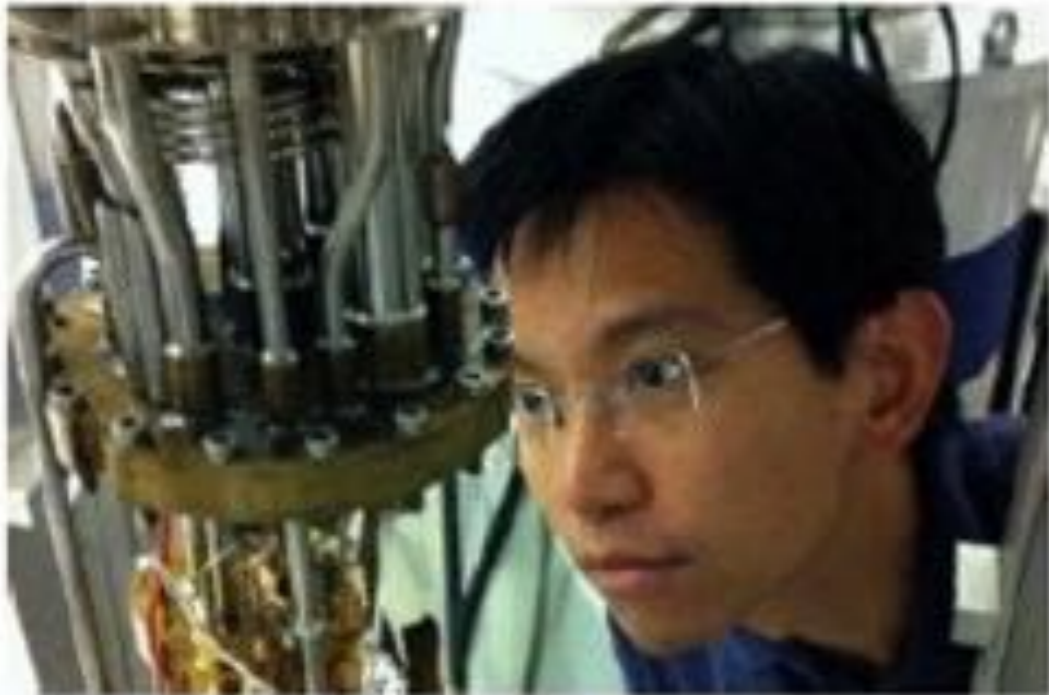
Comparison with experiments



Philip Kim



Jesse Crossno

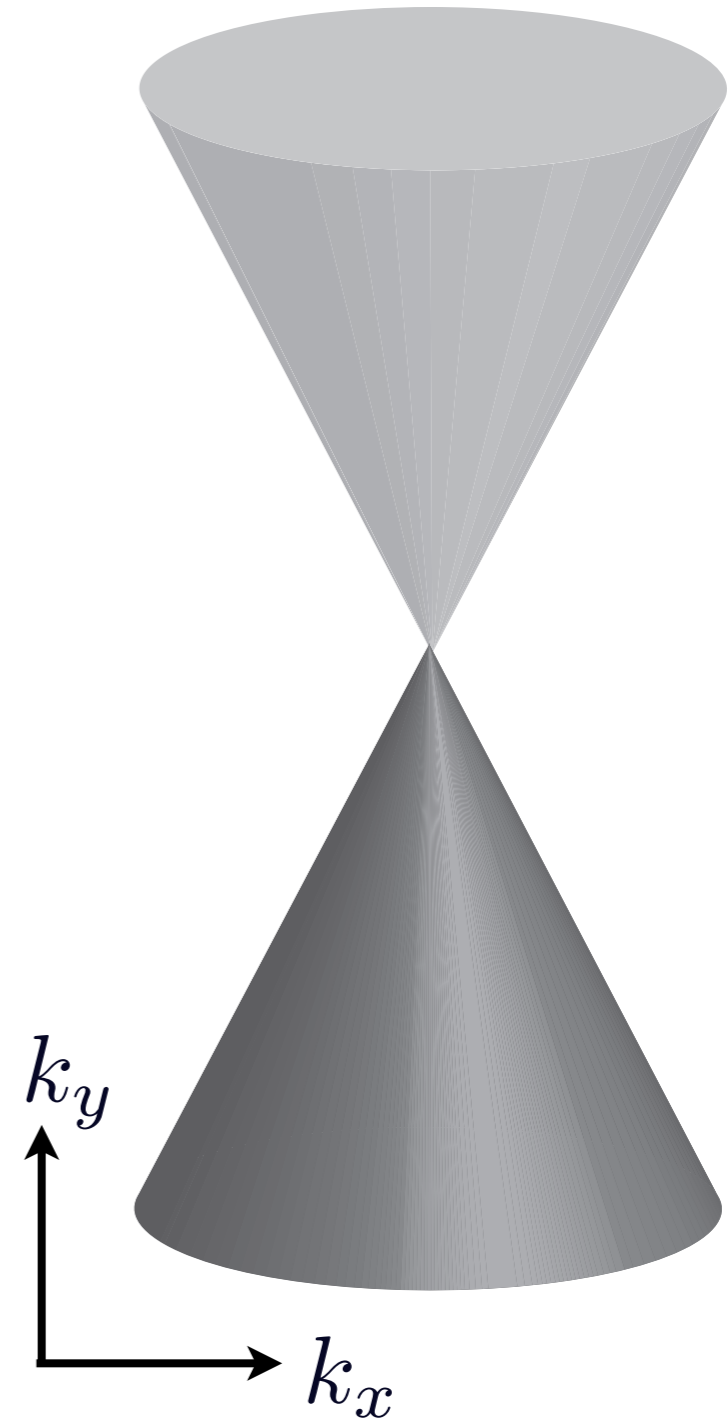
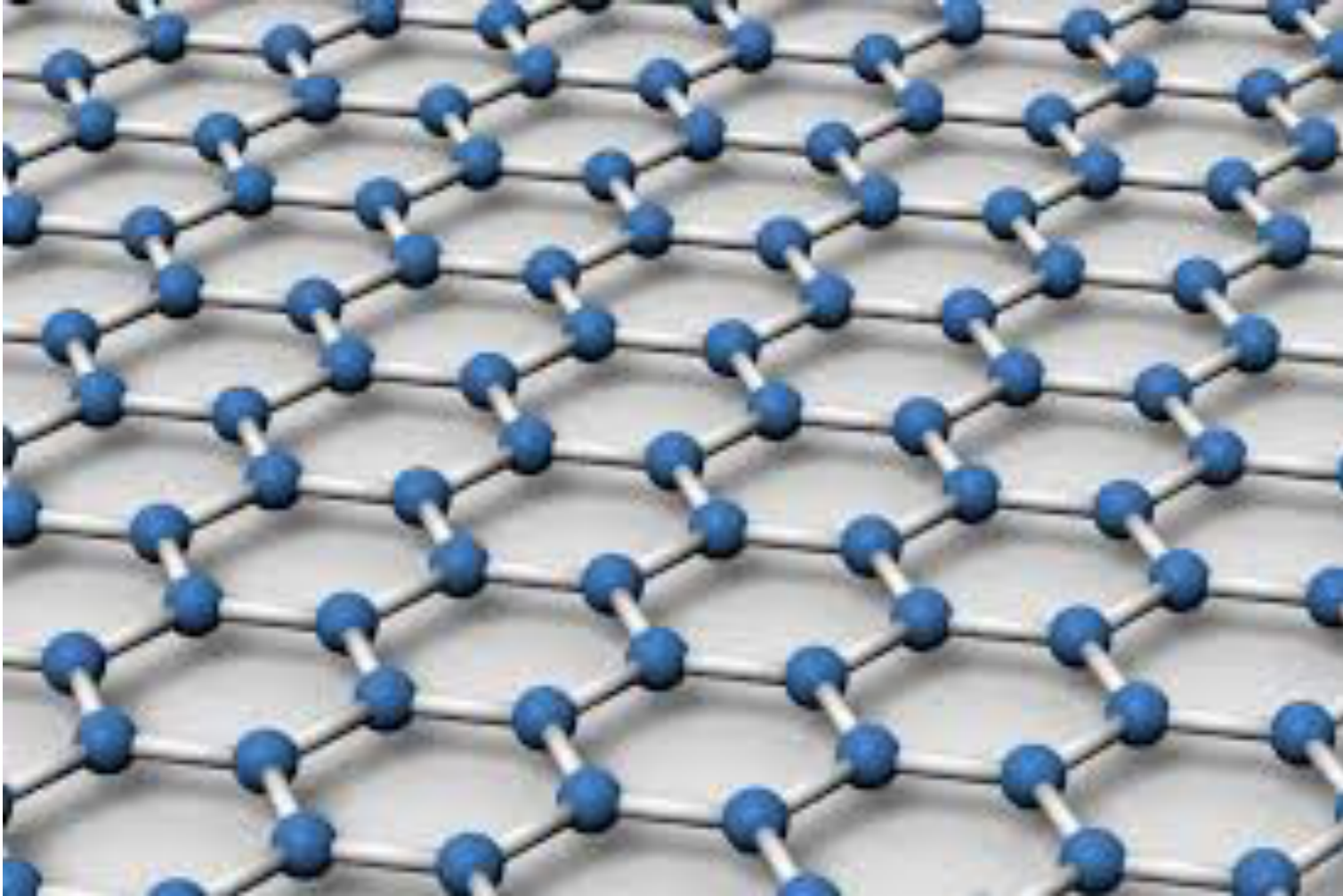


Kin Chung Fong

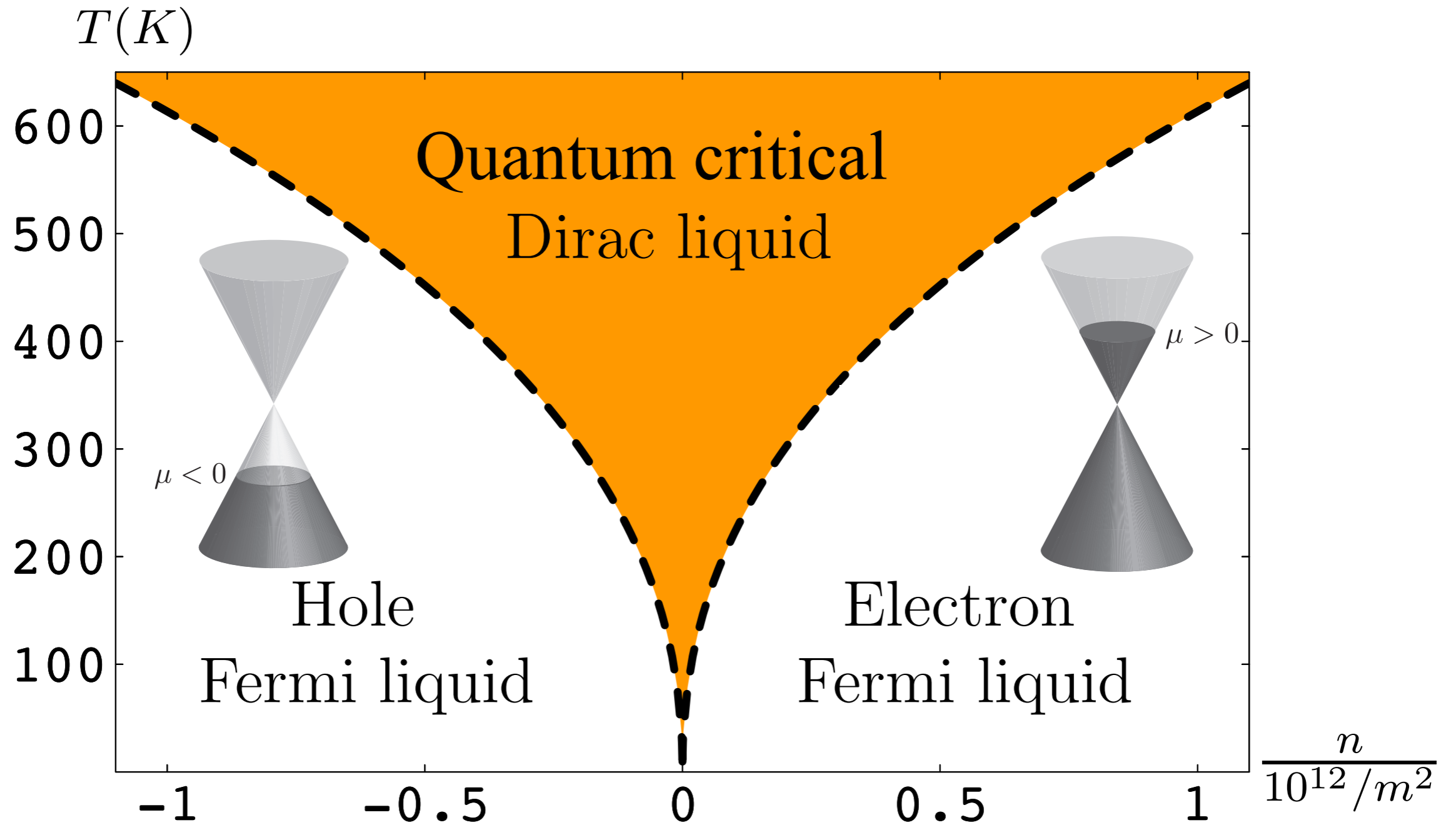


Andrew Lucas

Graphene



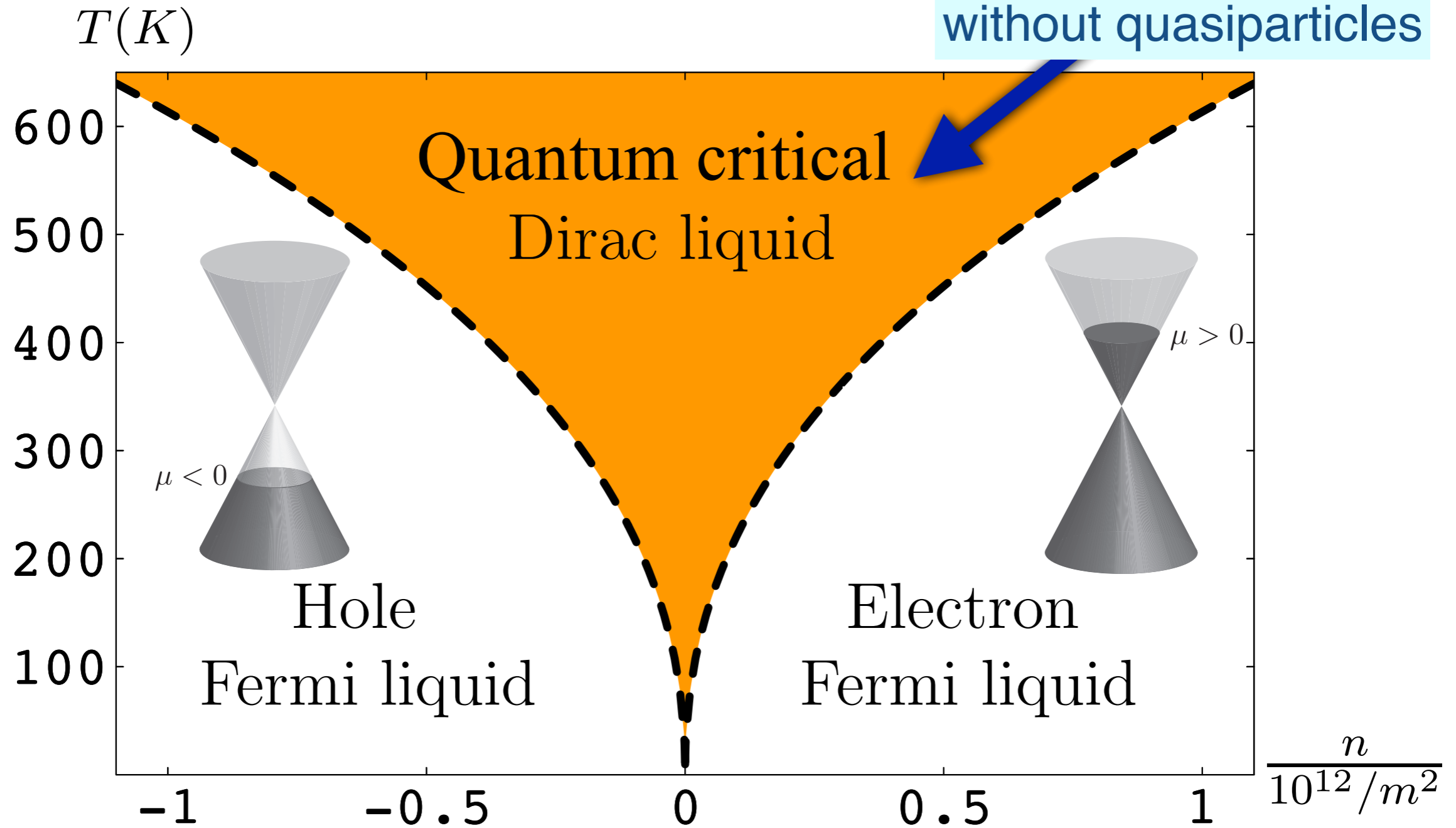
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D. E. Sheehy and J. Schmalian, PRL **99**, 226803 (2007)
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Graphene

Predicted
“strange metal”
without quasiparticles



M. Müller, L. Fritz, and S. Sachdev, PRB **78**, 115406 (2008)

M. Müller and S. Sachdev, PRB **78**, 115419 (2008)

Graphene at half-filling; no impurities

Low energy theory has 4 two-component Dirac fermions, ψ_σ , $\sigma = 1 \dots 4$, interacting with a $1/r$ Coulomb interaction

$$\mathcal{S} = \int d^2r d\tau \psi_\sigma^\dagger \left(\partial_\tau - i v_F \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \right) \psi_\sigma + \frac{e^2}{2} \int d^2r d^2r' d\tau \psi_\sigma^\dagger \psi_\sigma(r) \frac{1}{|r - r'|} \psi_{\sigma'}^\dagger \psi_{\sigma'}(r')$$

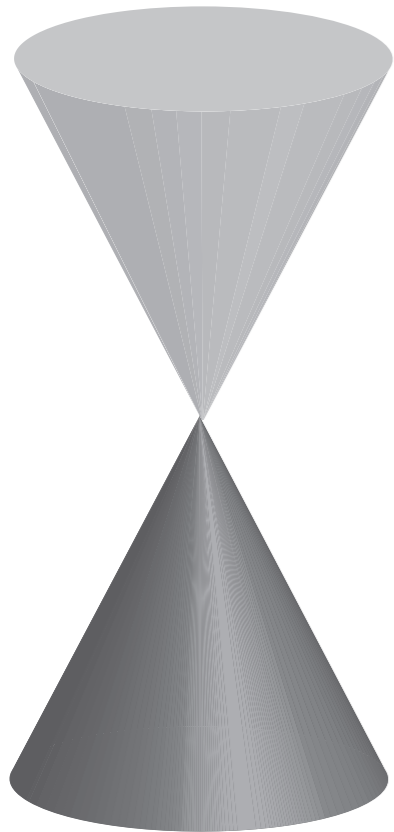
Dimensionless “fine-structure” constant $\alpha = e^2 / (\hbar v_F)$.

RG flow of α :

$$\frac{d\alpha}{d\ell} = -\alpha^2 + \dots$$

Behavior is similar to a conformal field theory (CFT) in 2+1 dimensions with $\alpha \sim 1 / \ln(\text{scale})$

Electrical conductivity is finite
without impurities and
with particle-hole symmetry



Momentum

Particles

Holes



Electrical current



Collisionless-hydrodynamic crossover in graphene

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

I. Herbut, V. Juricic, and O. Vafek, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **100**, 046403 (2008).

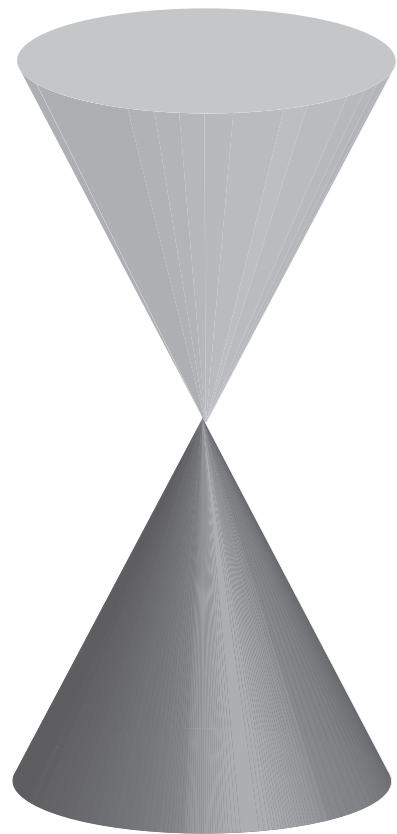
where $\alpha(T)$ is the T -dependent fine structure constant which obeys

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

Crossover takes place on a time scale $\sim \hbar/(\alpha^2 k_B T)$

L. Fritz, M. Mueller, J. Schmalian and S. Sachdev, *PRB* **78**, 085416 (2008)

Electrical conductivity is finite
without impurities and
with particle-hole symmetry



Momentum

Particles

Holes

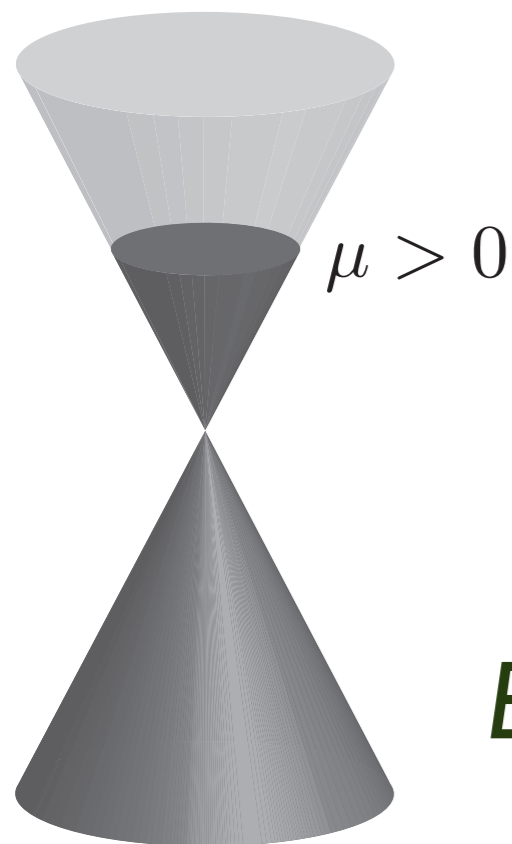


Electrical current



And thermal conductivity is infinite
(stress-energy tensor is symmetric)

Electrical conductivity is infinite
without impurities at
non-zero doping



Momentum

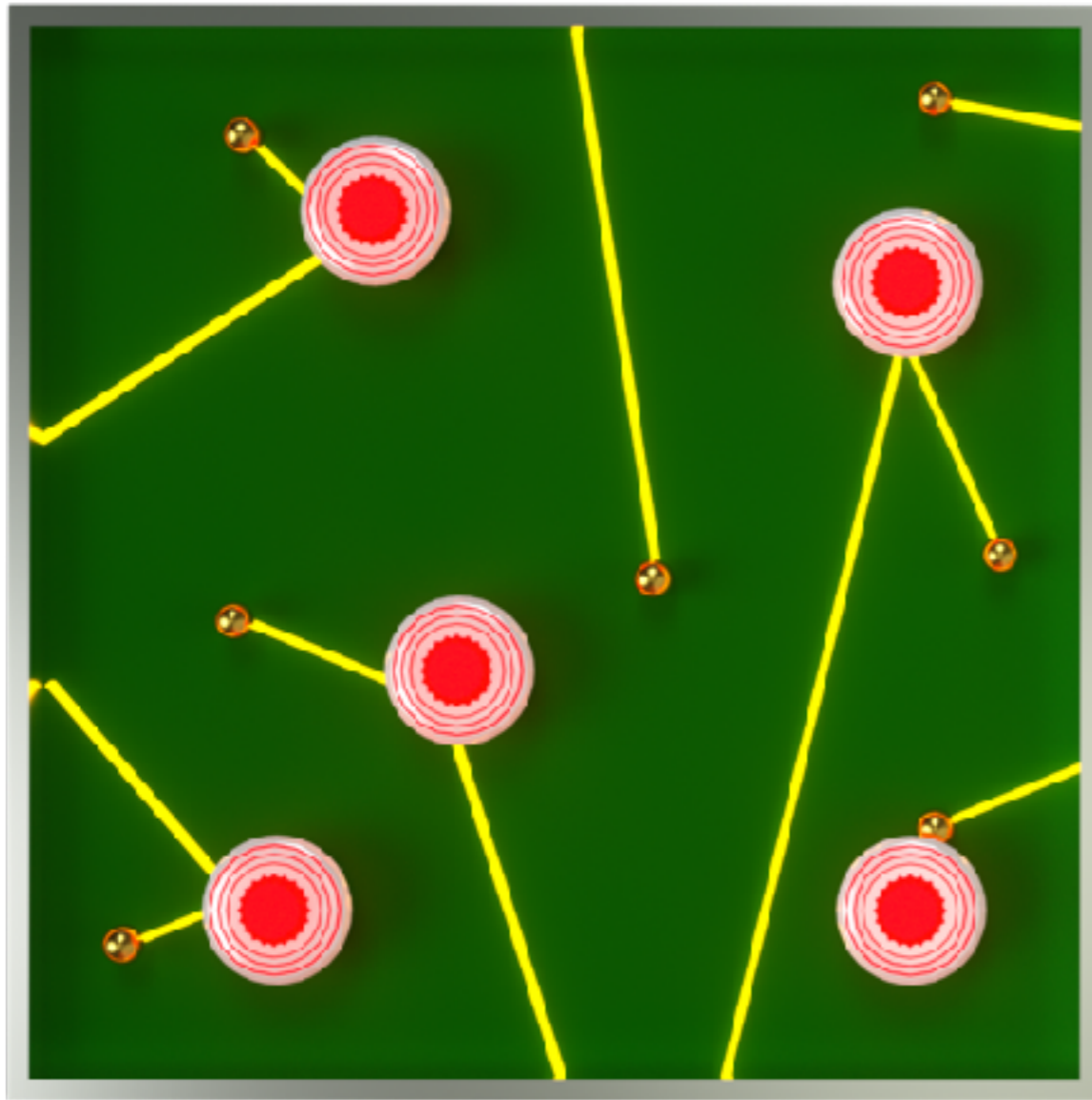
Particles



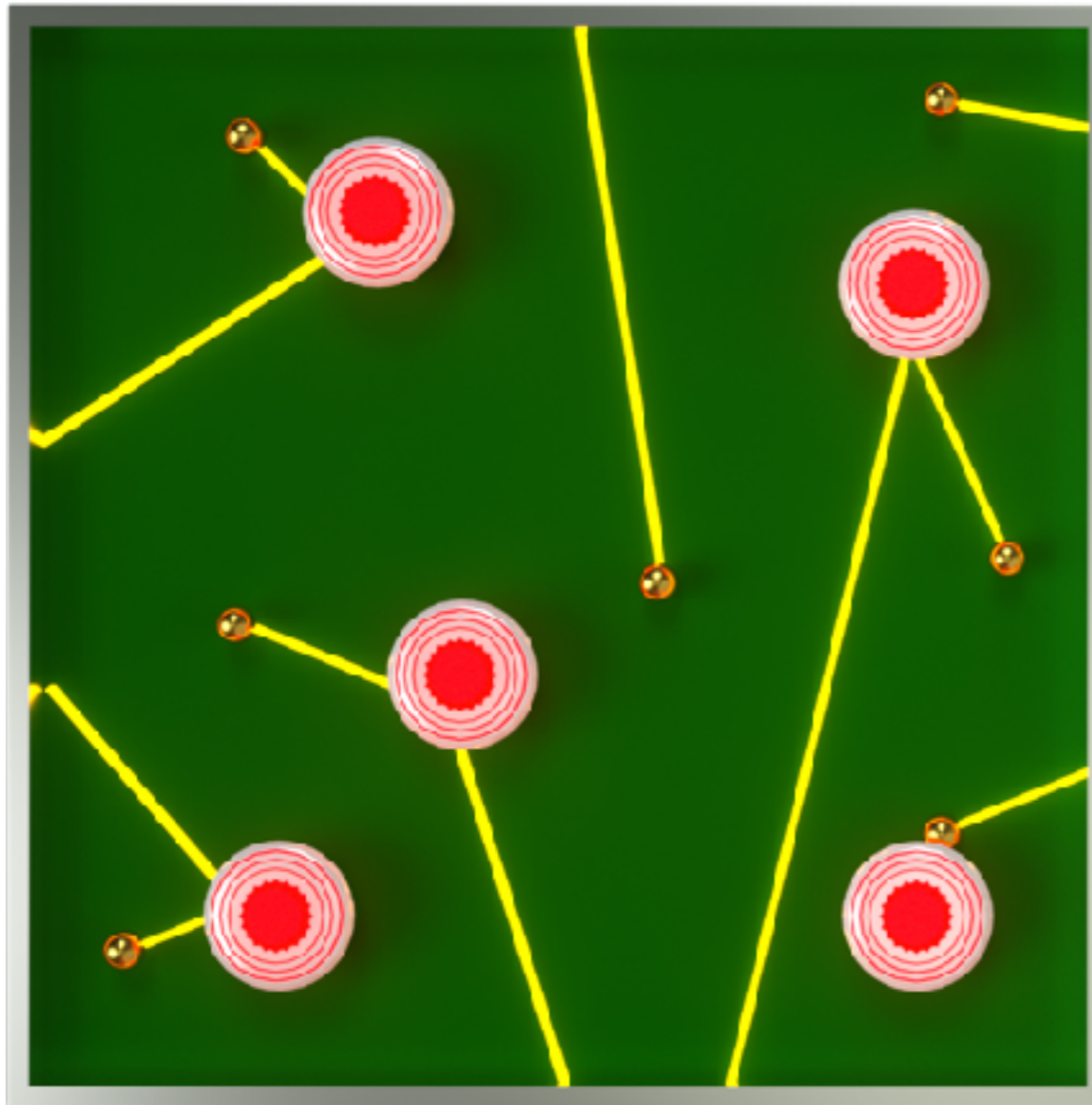
Electrical current



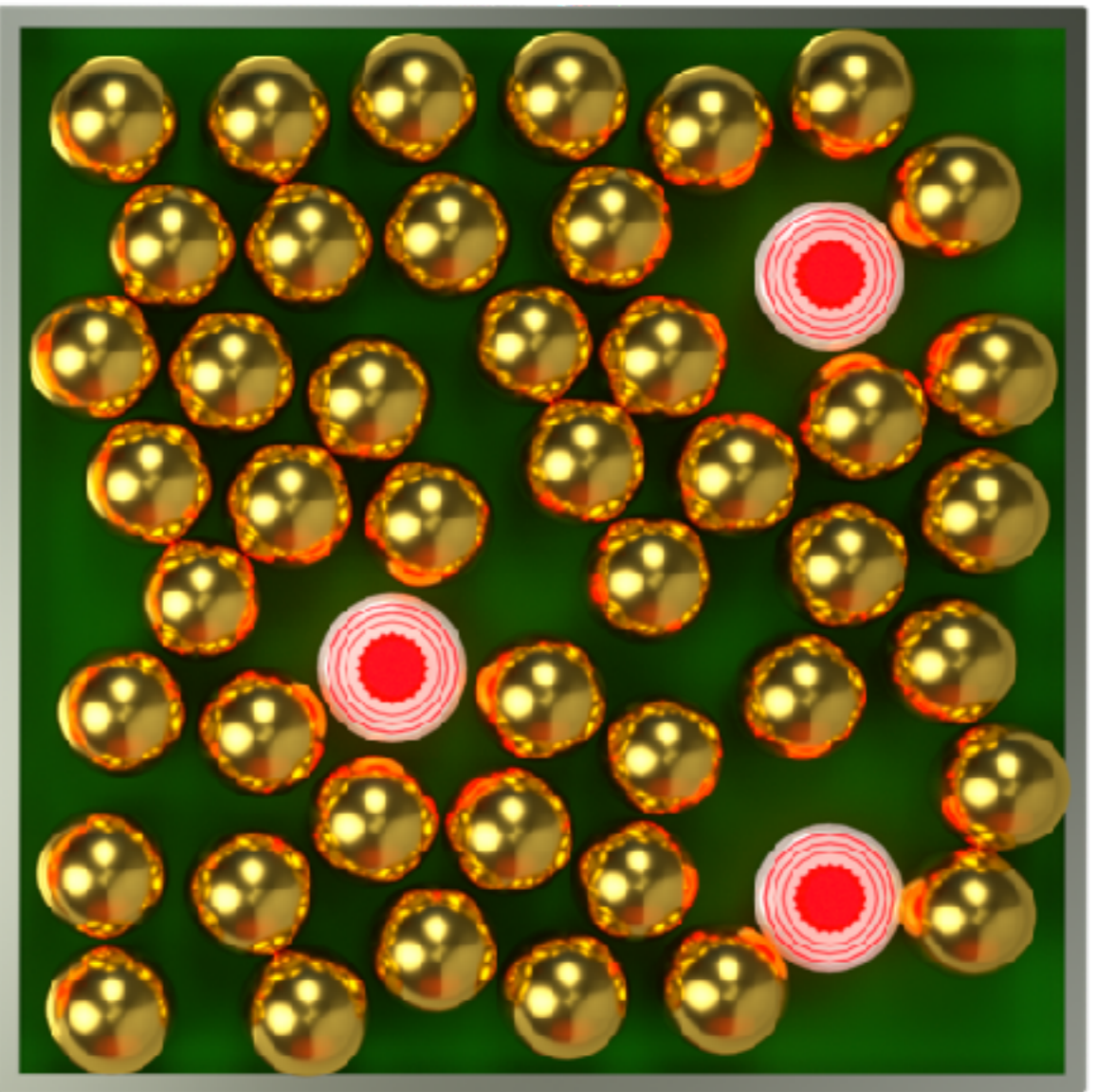
And thermal conductivity is finite



Fermi liquids: quasiparticles moving ballistically between impurity (red circles) scattering events

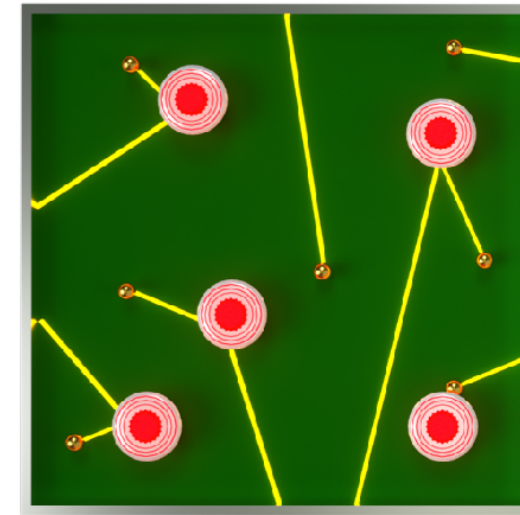


Fermi liquids: quasiparticles moving ballistically between impurity (red circles) scattering events



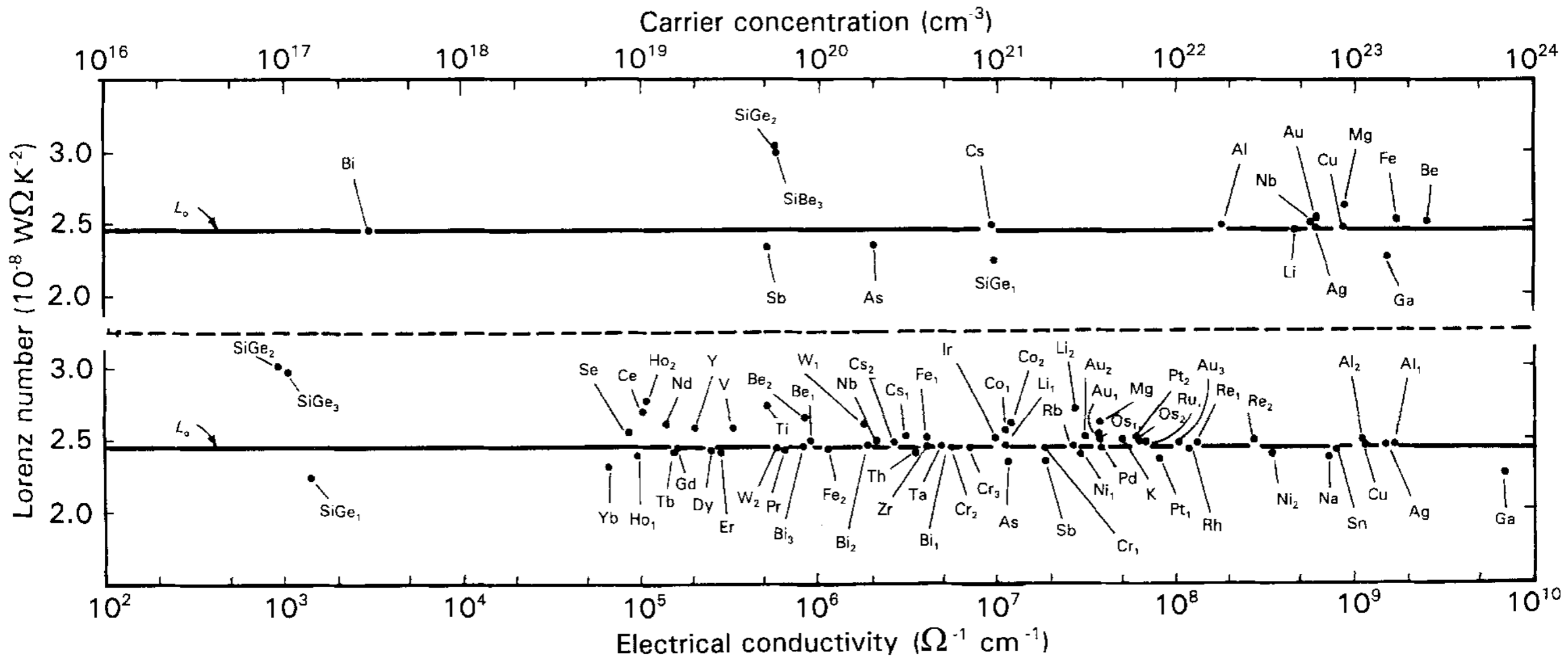
Strange metals: electrons scatter frequently off each other, so there is no regime of ballistic quasiparticle motion. The electron “liquid” then “flows” around impurities

Thermal and electrical conductivity with quasiparticles



- Wiedemann-Franz law in a Fermi liquid:

$$L_0 = \frac{\kappa}{\sigma T} \approx \frac{\pi^2 k_B^2}{3e^2} \approx 2.45 \times 10^{-8} \frac{\text{W} \cdot \Omega}{\text{K}^2}.$$



To understand a realistic strange metal, we use a hydrodynamic approach and include

- A bias voltage, leading to particle-hole asymmetry
- Dilute concentration of impurities
- A weak magnetic field

The variables entering the hydrodynamic theory are

- the external magnetic field $F^{\mu\nu}$,

$$F^{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & B \\ 0 & -B & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

- $T^{\mu\nu}$, the stress energy tensor,
- J^μ , the current,
- ρ , the **difference** in density from undoped graphene.
- ε , the local energy
- P , the local pressure,
- u^μ , the local velocity, and
- σ_Q , a universal conductivity, which is the **single transport co-efficient**.

The dependence of ε , P , σ_Q on T and v follows from simple scaling arguments

Lorentz invariance and positivity of entropy production lead to the hydrodynamic equations of motion and constitutive relations:

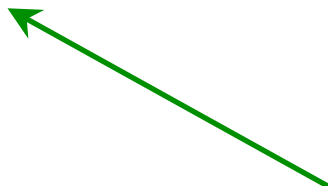
Lorentz invariance and positivity of entropy production lead to the hydrodynamic equations of motion and constitutive relations:

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_\mu J^\mu &= 0 \\ \partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} &= F^{\mu\nu} J_\nu\end{aligned}$$

← Conservation laws/equations of motion

Lorentz invariance and positivity of entropy production lead to the hydrodynamic equations of motion and constitutive relations:

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_\mu J^\mu &= 0 \\ \partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} &= F^{\mu\nu} J_\nu \\ T^{\mu\nu} &= (\varepsilon + P)u^\mu u^\nu + P g^{\mu\nu} \\ J^\mu &= \rho u^\mu\end{aligned}$$



Constitutive relations which follow from Lorentz transformation to moving frame

Lorentz invariance and positivity of entropy production lead to the hydrodynamic equations of motion and constitutive relations:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \partial_\mu J^\mu &= 0 \\
 \partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} &= F^{\mu\nu} J_\nu \\
 T^{\mu\nu} &= (\varepsilon + P)u^\mu u^\nu + P g^{\mu\nu} \\
 J^\mu &= \rho u^\mu + \underbrace{\sigma_Q (g^{\mu\nu} + u^\mu u^\nu)}_{\text{New dissipative term}} \left[(-\partial_\nu \mu + F_{\nu\lambda} u^\lambda) + \mu \frac{\partial_\mu T}{T} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

New dissipative term allowed by requirement of positive entropy production. There is only one independent transport co-efficient

Lorentz invariance and positivity of entropy production lead to the hydrodynamic equations of motion and constitutive relations:

Momentum relaxation from impurities



$$\partial_\mu J^\mu = 0$$

$$\partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = F^{\mu\nu} J_\nu + \frac{1}{\tau_{\text{imp}}} (\delta_\nu^\mu + u^\mu u_\nu) T^{\nu\gamma} u_\gamma$$

$$T^{\mu\nu} = (\varepsilon + P) u^\mu u^\nu + P g^{\mu\nu}$$

$$J^\mu = \rho u^\mu + \sigma_Q (g^{\mu\nu} + u^\mu u^\nu) \left[(-\partial_\nu \mu + F_{\nu\lambda} u^\lambda) + \mu \frac{\partial_\mu T}{T} \right]$$

Solve initial value problem and relate results to response functions (Kadanoff+Martin)

Prediction for transport in the graphene strange metal

For a strange metal with a “relativistic” Hamiltonian, hydrodynamic, holographic, and memory function methods yield for the Lorentz ratio $L = \kappa/(T\sigma)$

$$\sigma = \sigma_Q \left(1 + \frac{e^2 v_F^2 Q^2 \tau_{\text{imp}}}{\mathcal{H} \sigma_Q} \right), \quad \kappa = \frac{v_F^2 \mathcal{H} \tau_{\text{imp}}}{T} \left(1 + \frac{e^2 v_F^2 Q^2 \tau_{\text{imp}}}{\mathcal{H} \sigma_Q} \right)^{-1}$$

$$L = \frac{v_F^2 \mathcal{H} \tau_{\text{imp}}}{T^2 \sigma_Q} \left(1 + \frac{e^2 v_F^2 Q^2 \tau_{\text{imp}}}{\mathcal{H} \sigma_Q} \right)^{-2},$$

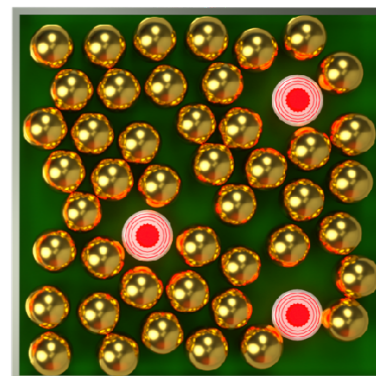
where \mathcal{H} is the enthalpy density, τ_{imp} is the momentum relaxation time (from impurities), while $\sigma = \sigma_Q$, an intrinsic, finite, “quantum critical” conductivity.

- For $Q = 0$, as $\tau_{\text{imp}} \rightarrow \infty$, σ remains finite, while $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$, and so $L \rightarrow \infty$.
- For $Q \neq 0$, as $\tau_{\text{imp}} \rightarrow \infty$, $\sigma \rightarrow \infty$, while κ remains finite, and so $L \rightarrow 0$.

Prediction: L diverges as $1/Q^4$ near $Q = 0$ in clean graphene.

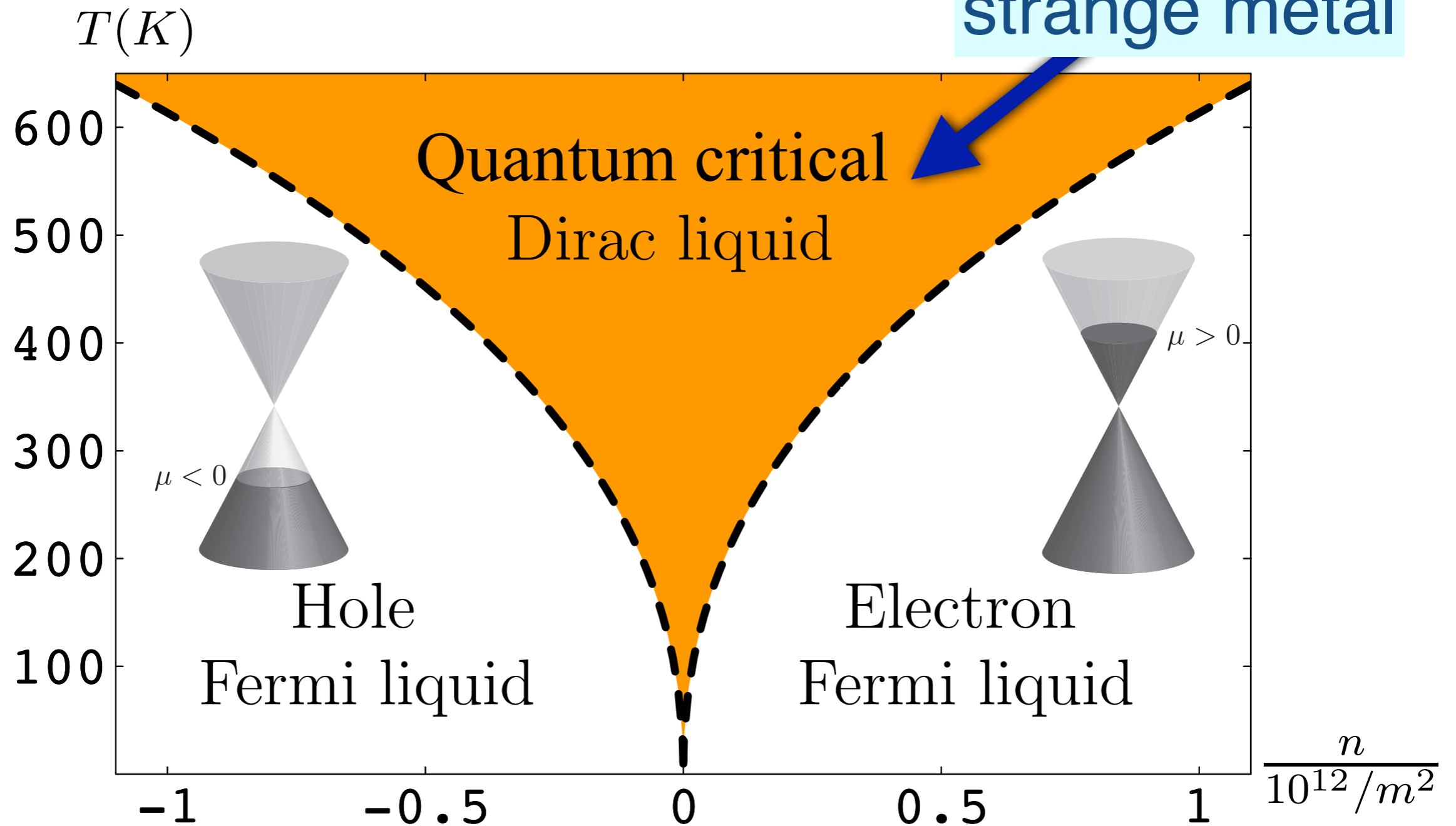
S. A. Hartnoll, P. K. Kovtun, M. Müller, and S. Sachdev, PRB **76**, 144502 (2007)

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Graphene

Predicted
strange metal

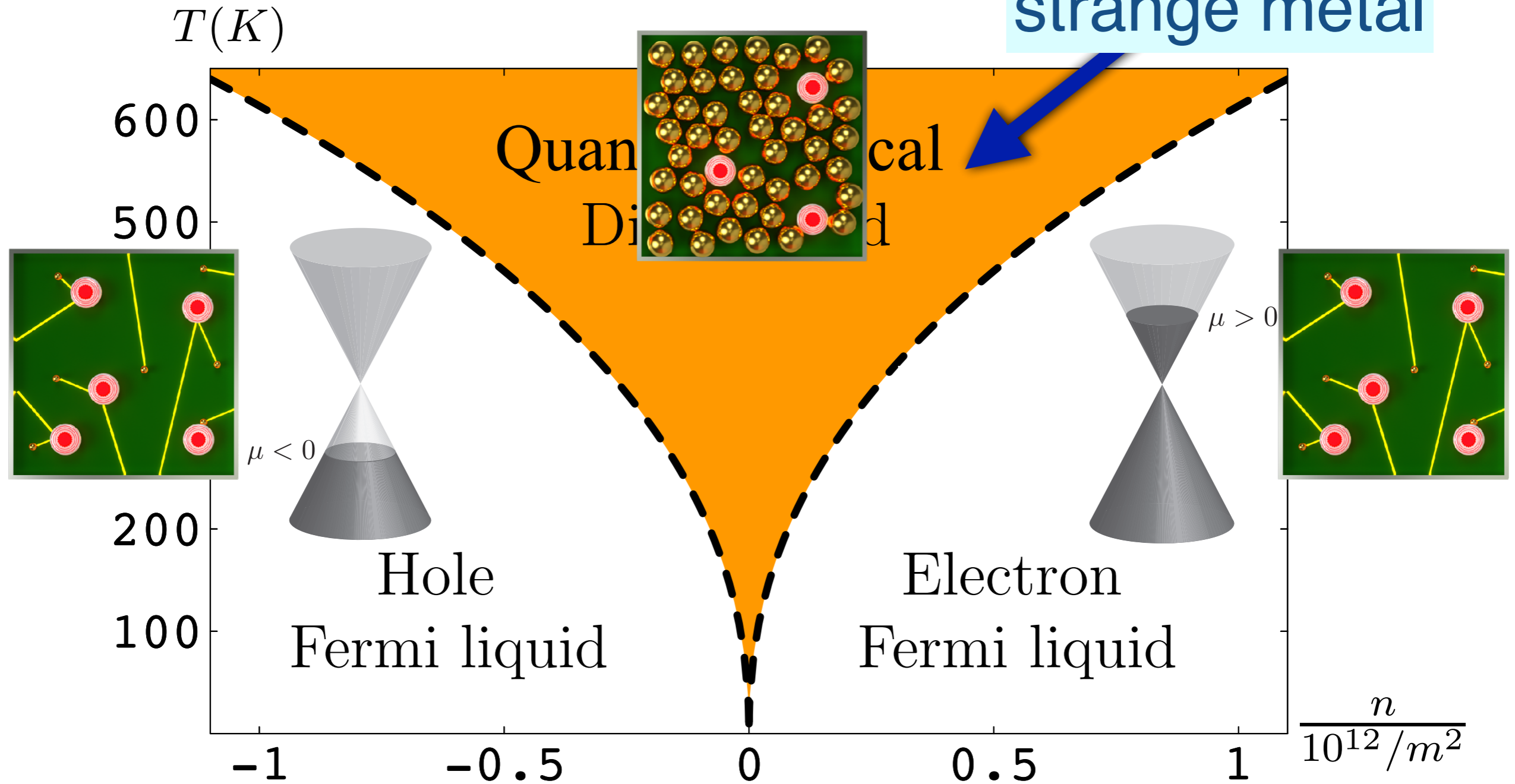


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Graphene

Predicted
strange metal

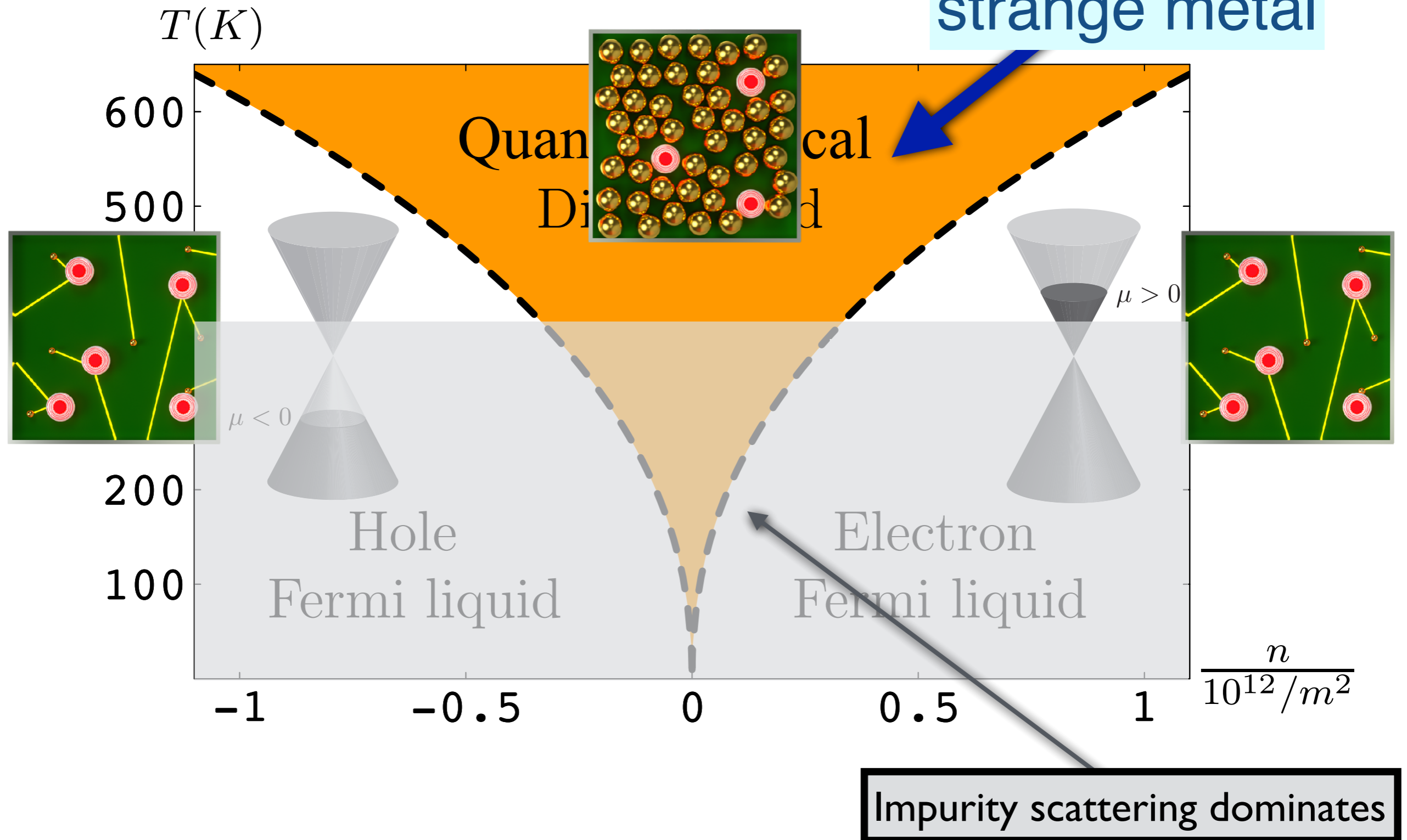


M. Müller, L. Fritz, and S. Sachdev, PRB **78**, 115406 (2008)

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Graphene

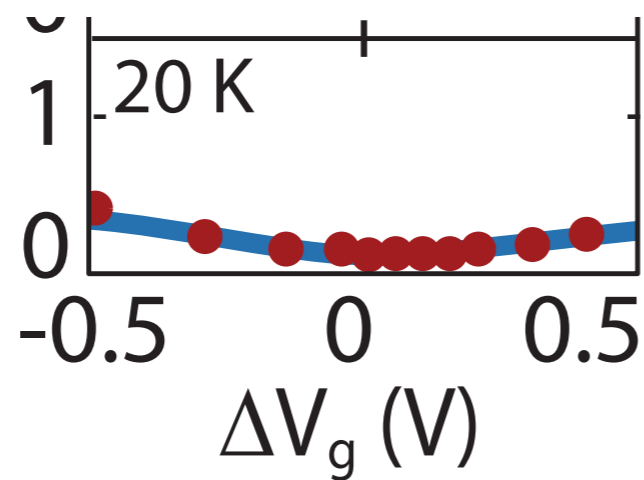
Predicted
strange metal



M. Müller, L. Fritz, and S. Sachdev, PRB **78**, 115406 (2008)

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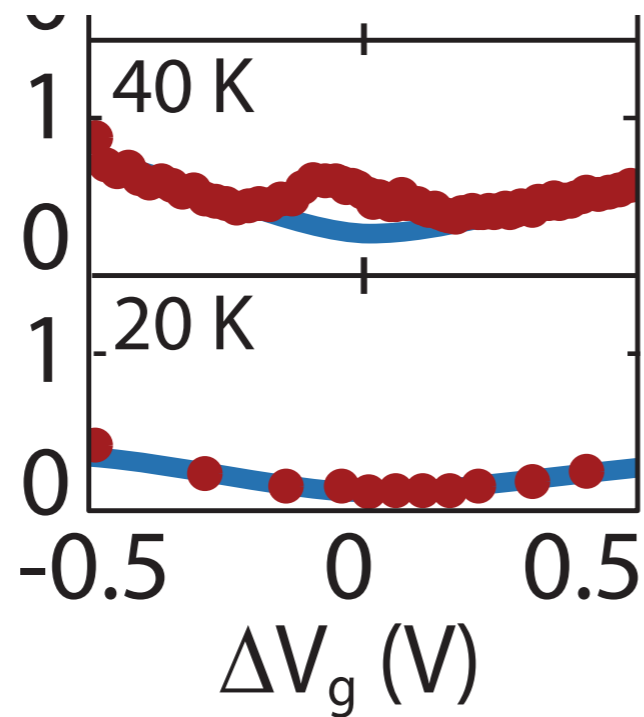
Thermal Conductivity (nW/K)



Red dots: data

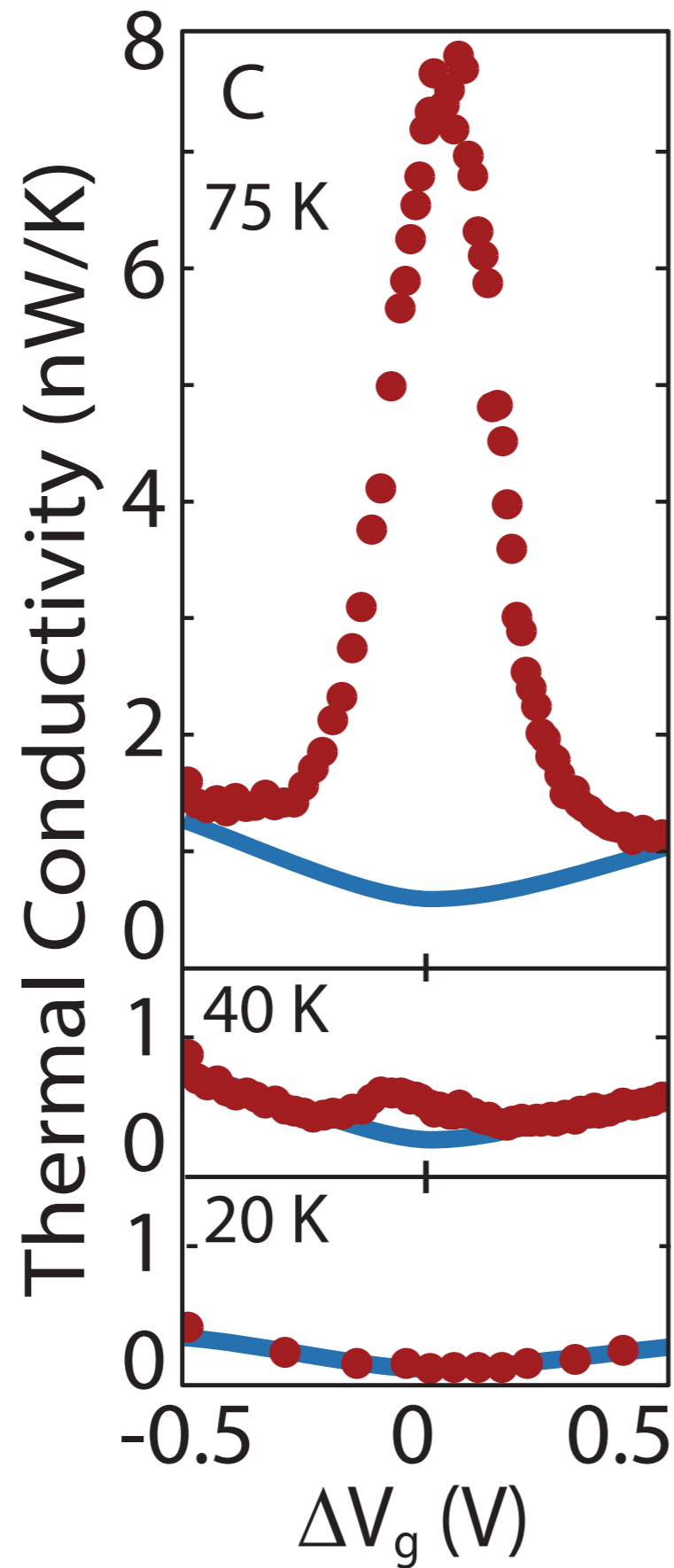
Blue line: value for $L = L_0$

Thermal Conductivity (nW/K)



Red dots: data

Blue line: value for $L = L_0$

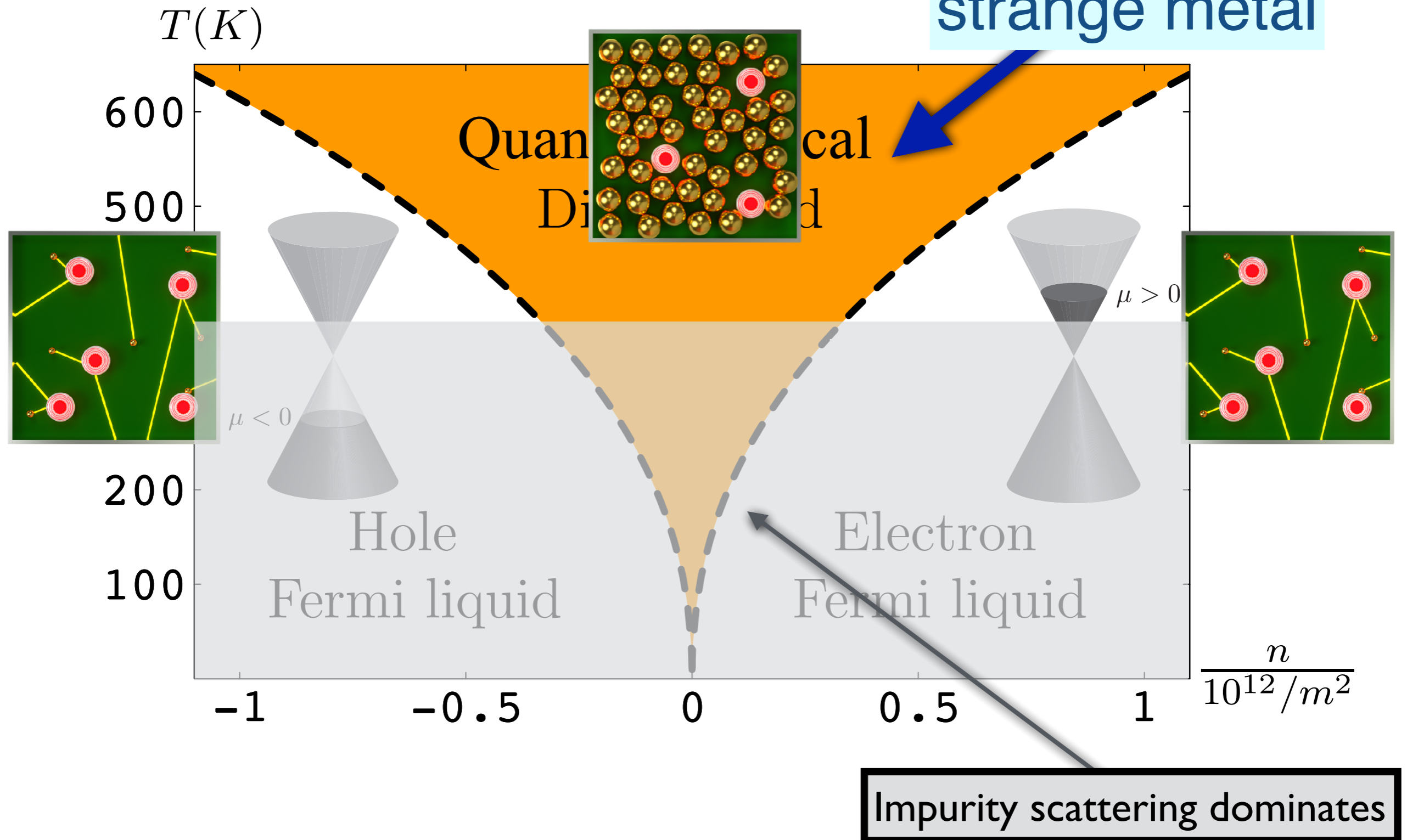


Red dots: data

Blue line: value for $L = L_0$

Graphene

Predicted
strange metal

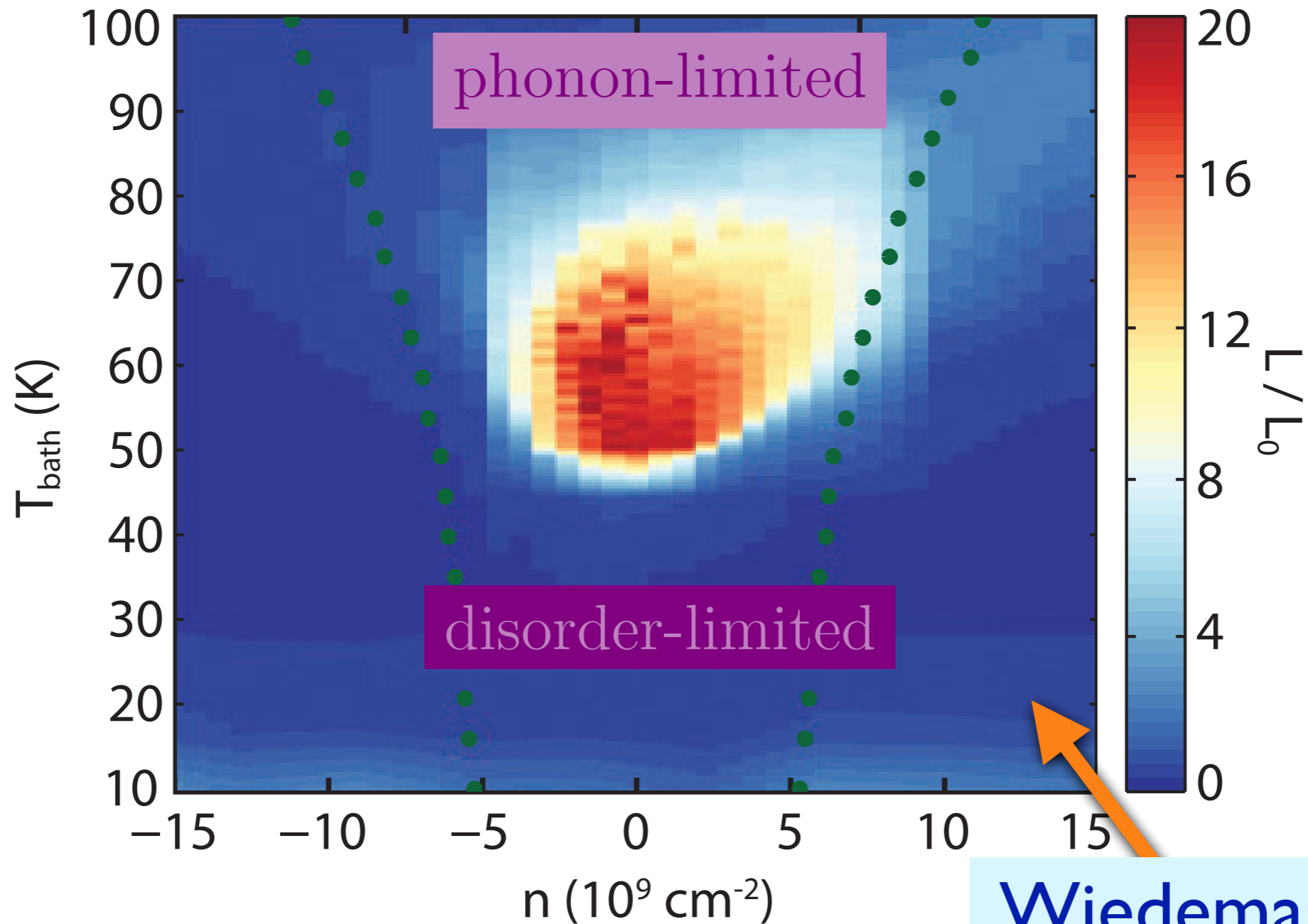
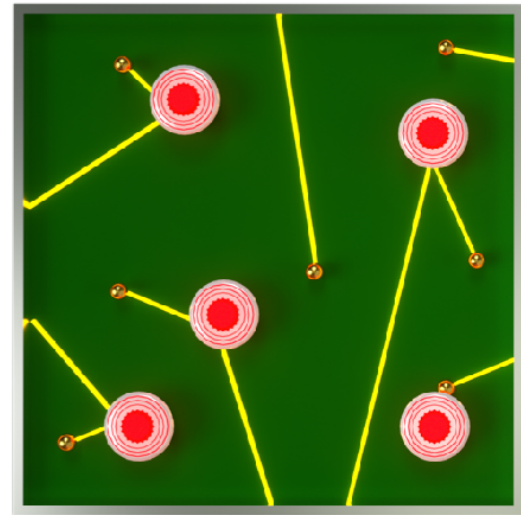


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J. Crossno et al., Science **351**, 1058 (2016)

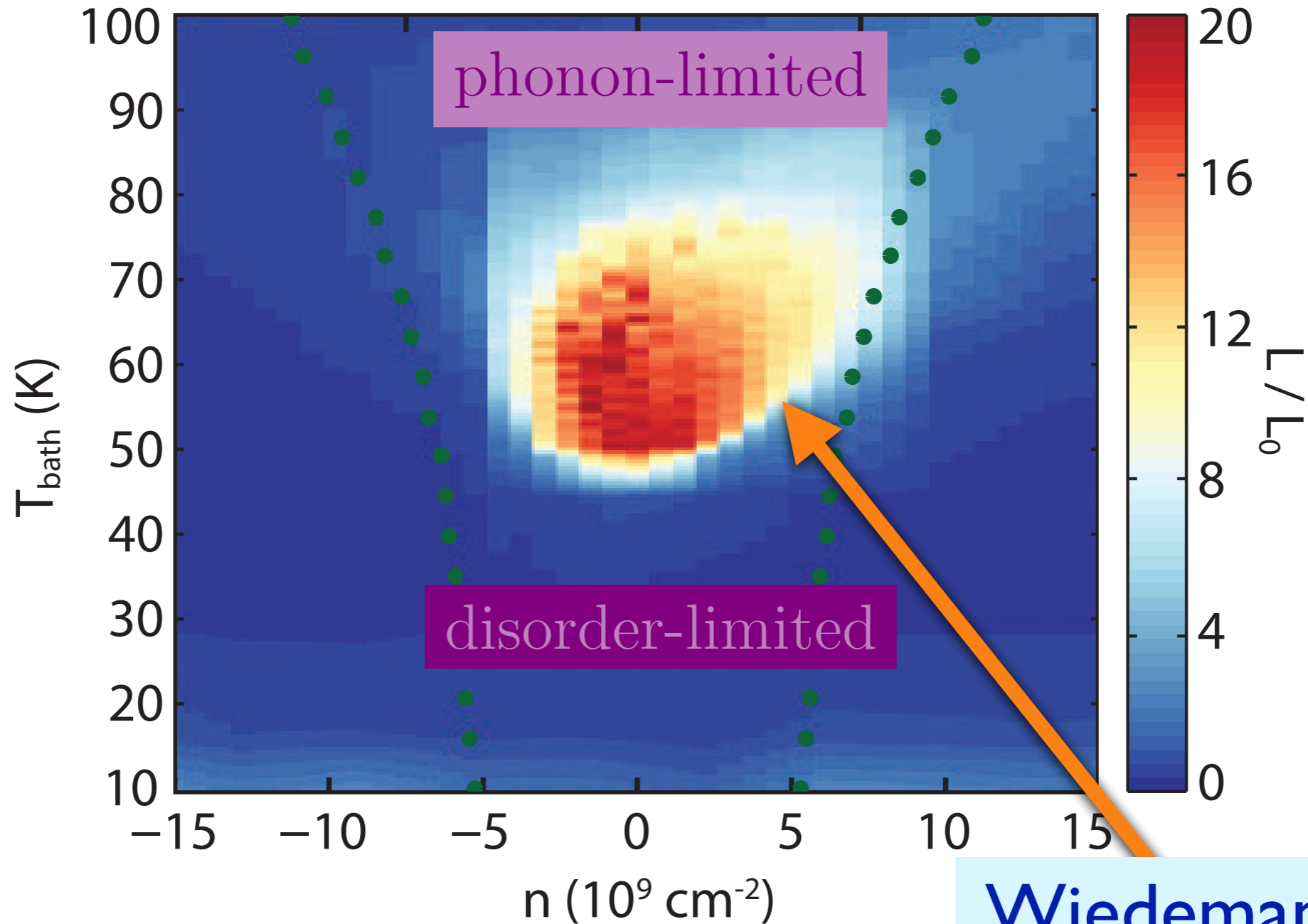
Strange metal in graphene



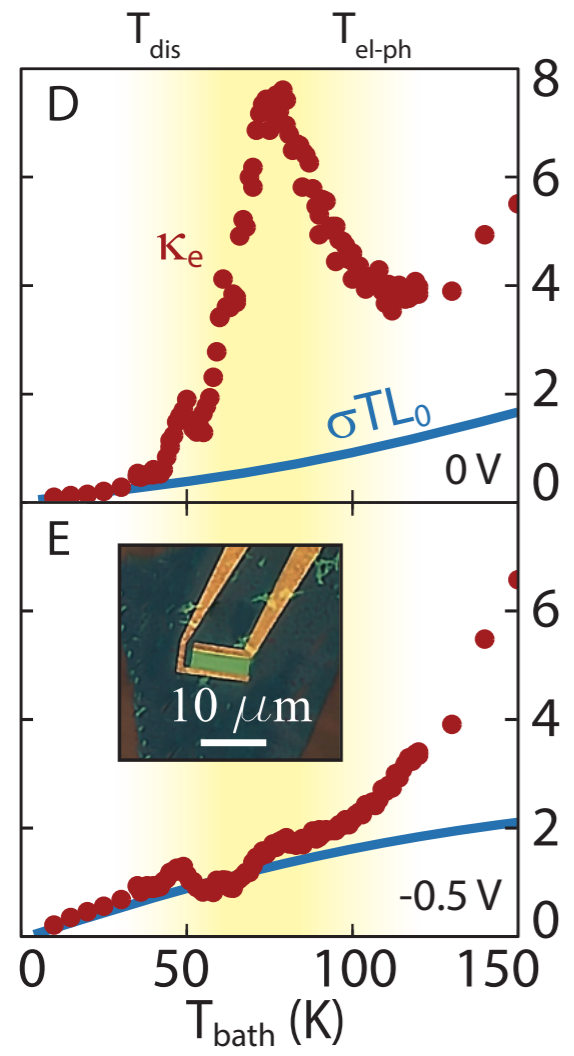
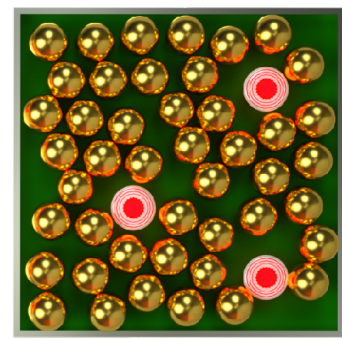
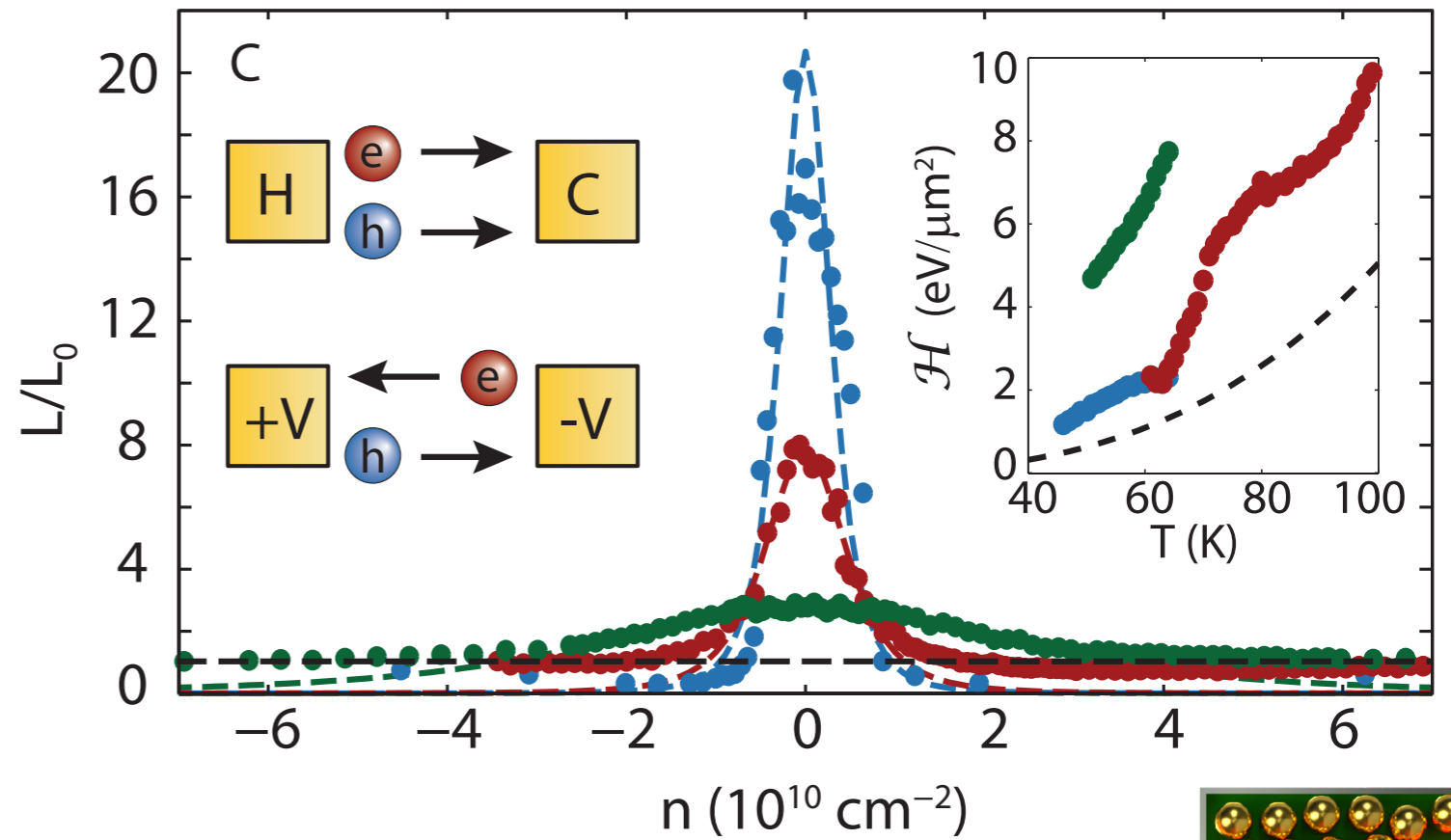
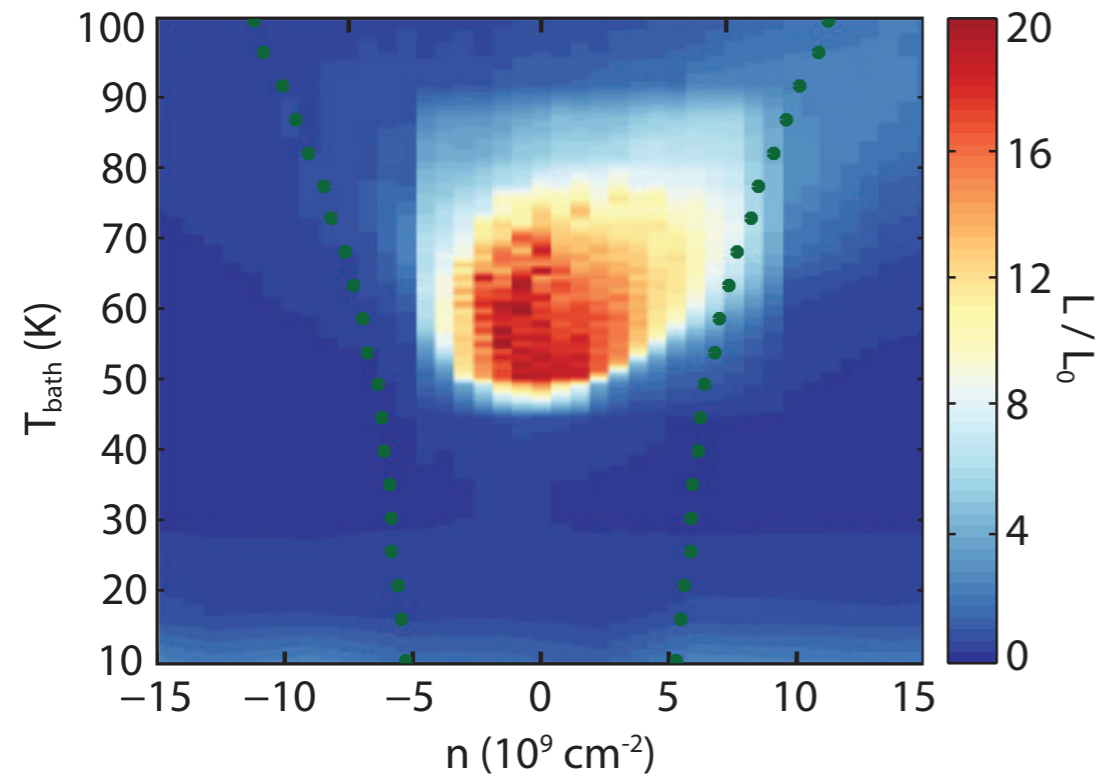
Wiedemann-Franz
obeyed

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Strange metal in graphene



**Wiedemann-Franz
violated !**



Lorentz ratio $L = \kappa / (T\sigma)$

$$= \frac{v_F^2 \mathcal{H} \tau_{\text{imp}}}{T^2 \sigma_Q} \frac{1}{(1 + e^2 v_F^2 Q^2 \tau_{\text{imp}} / (\mathcal{H} \sigma_Q))^2}$$

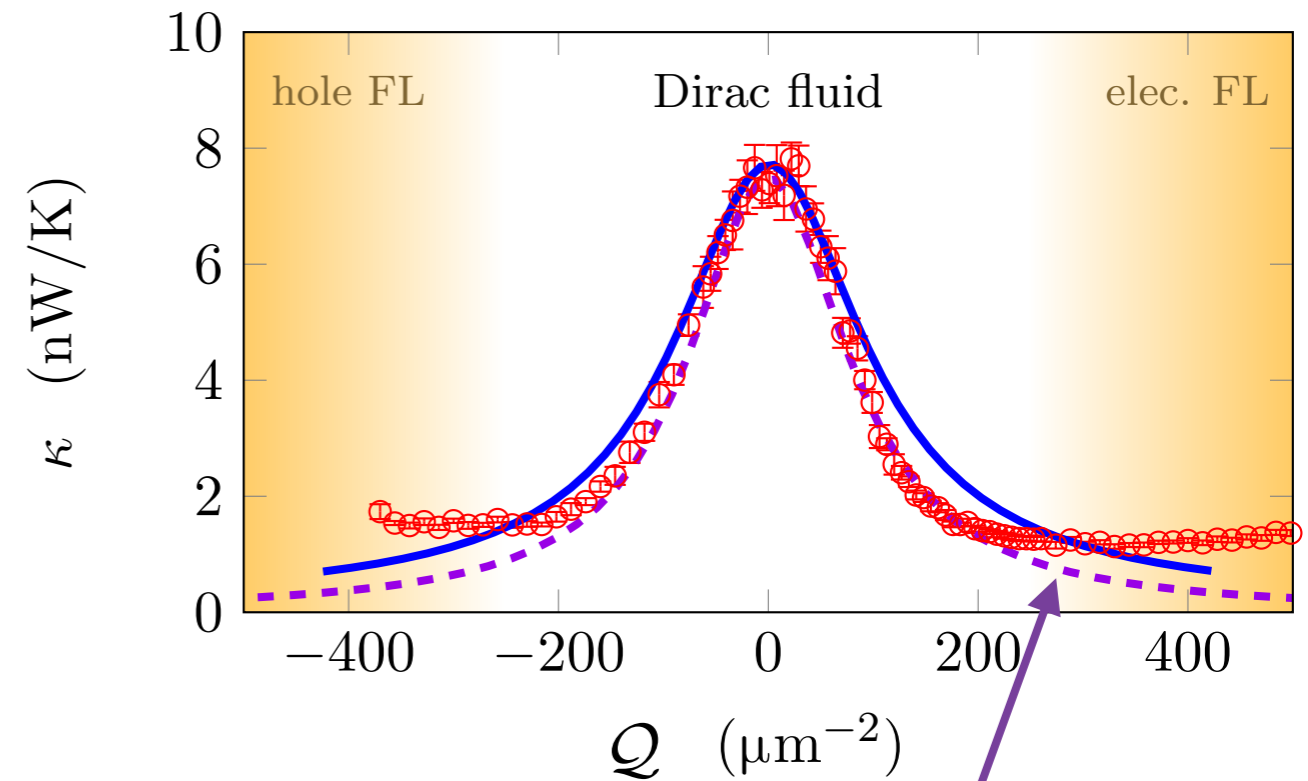
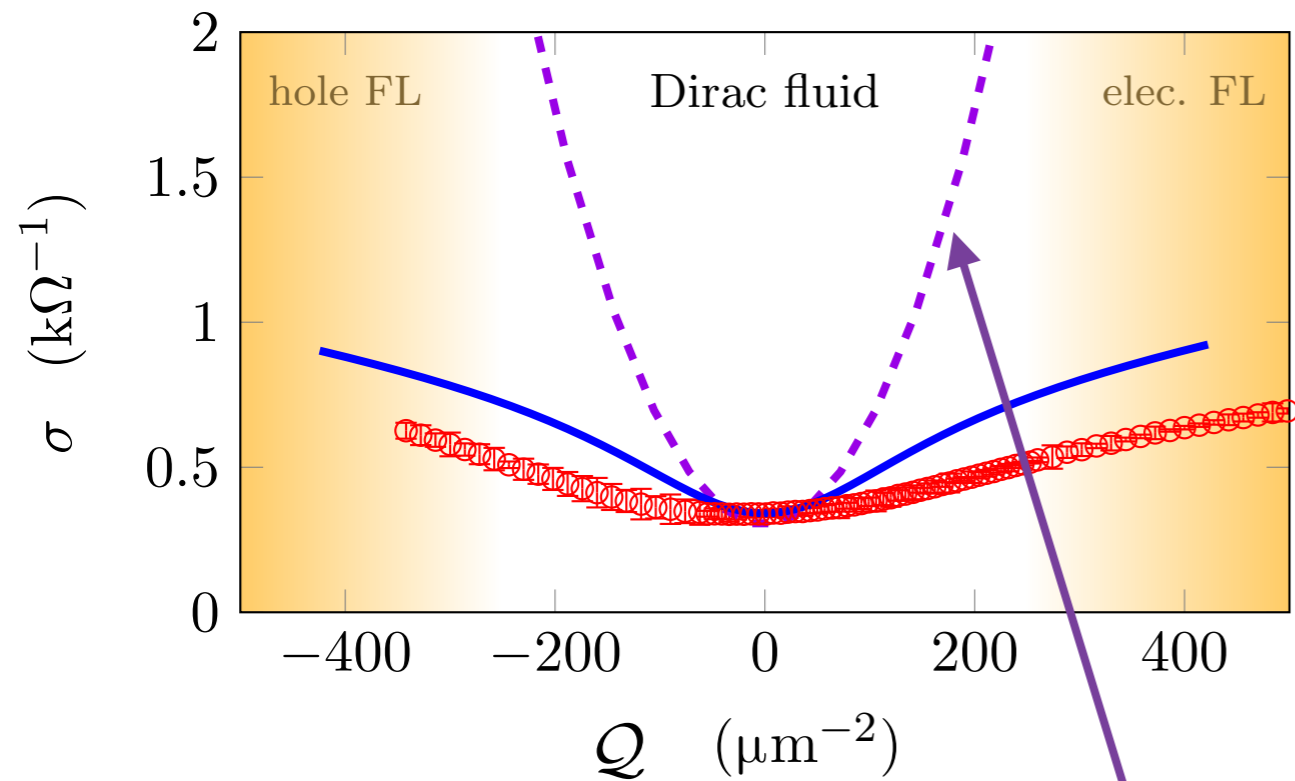
$Q \rightarrow$ electron density; $\mathcal{H} \rightarrow$ enthalpy density

$\sigma_Q \rightarrow$ quantum critical conductivity

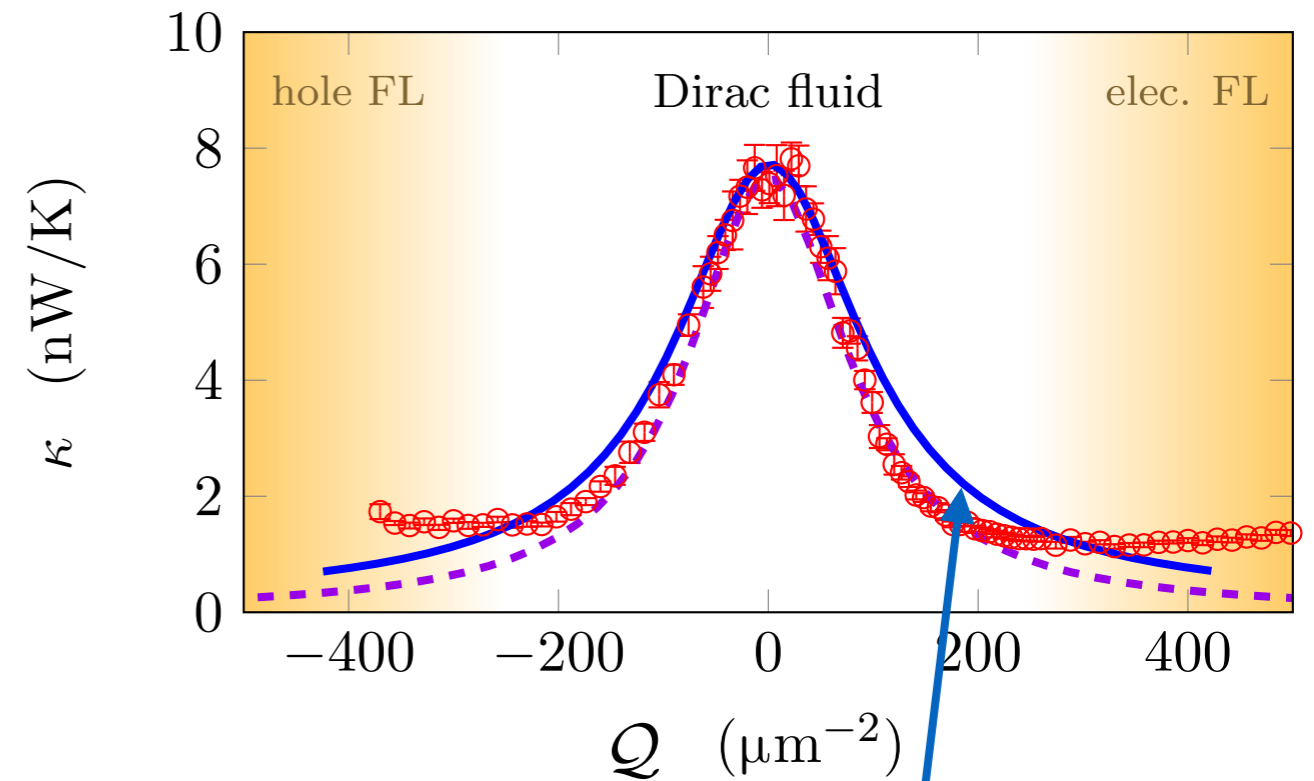
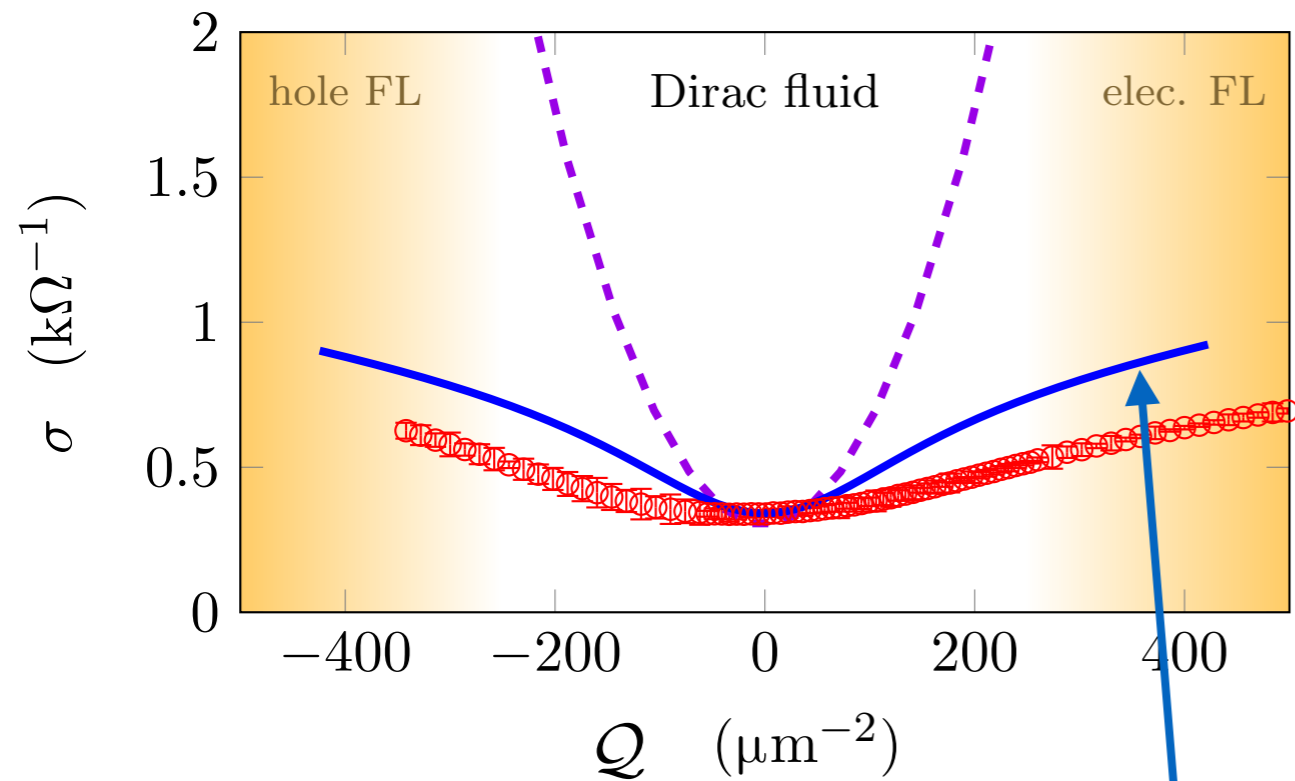
$\tau_{\text{imp}} \rightarrow$ momentum relaxation time from impurities

S. A. Hartnoll, P. K. Kovtun, M. Müller, and S. Sachdev, PRB **76**, 144502 (2007)

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Comparison to theory with a single momentum relaxation time τ_{imp} . Best fit of density dependence to thermal conductivity does not capture the density dependence of electrical conductivity

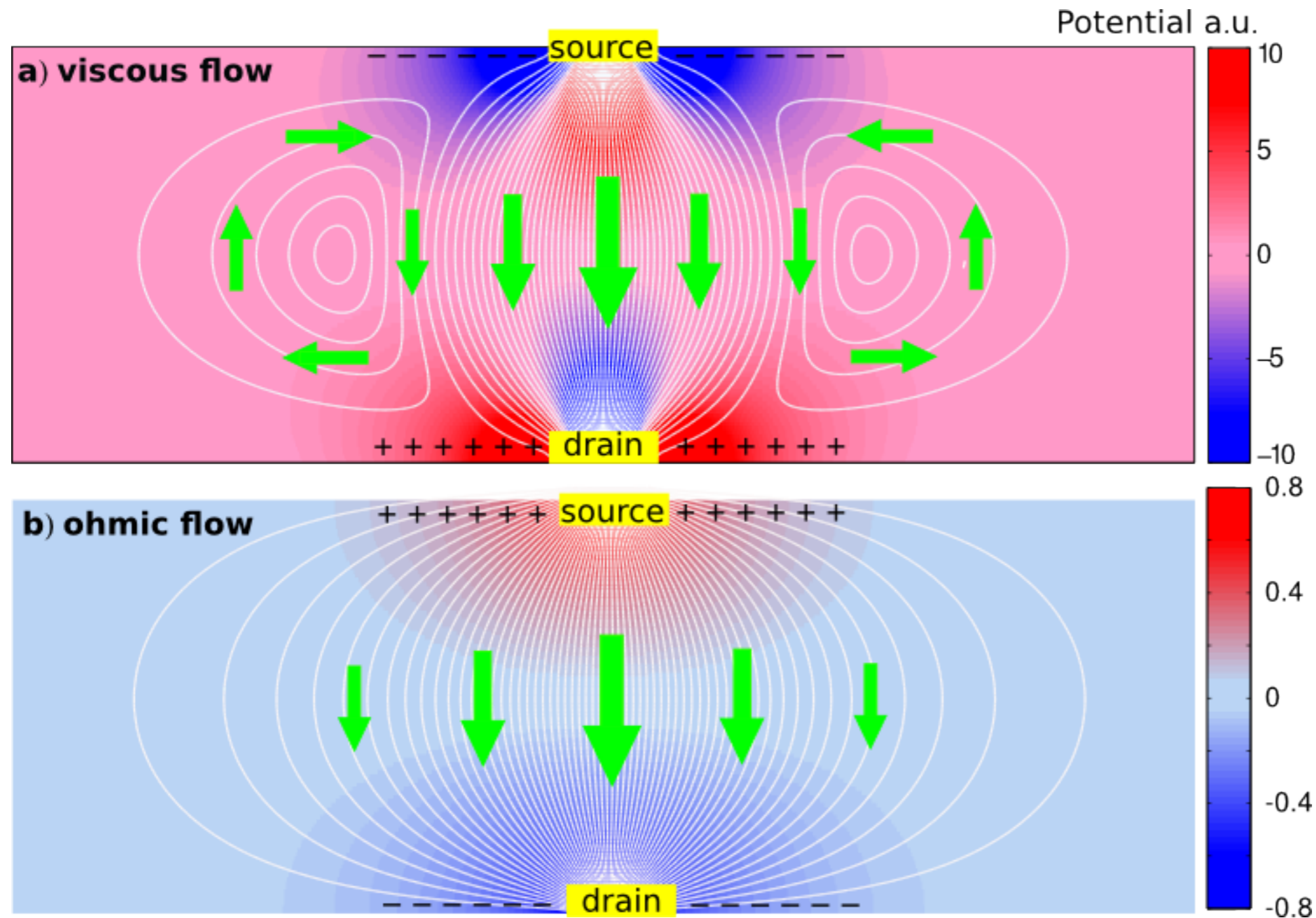


Solution of the hydrodynamic equations in the presence of a space-dependent chemical potential.

Best fit of density dependence to thermal conductivity now gives a better fit to the density dependence of the electrical conductivity (for $\eta/s \approx 10$). The T dependencies of other parameters also agree well with expectation.

Strange metal in graphene

Negative local resistance due to viscous electron backflow in graphene



L. Levitov and G. Falkovich, arXiv:1508.00836, *Nature Physics online*

Strange metal in graphene

Science **351**, 1055 (2016)

Negative local resistance due to viscous electron backflow in graphene

D. A. Bandurin¹, I. Torre^{2,3}, R. Krishna Kumar^{1,4}, M. Ben Shalom^{1,5}, A. Tomadin⁶, A. Principi⁷, G. H. Auton⁵, E. Khestanova^{1,5}, K. S. Novoselov⁵, I. V. Grigorieva¹, L. A. Ponomarenko^{1,4}, A. K. Geim¹, M. Polini^{3,6}

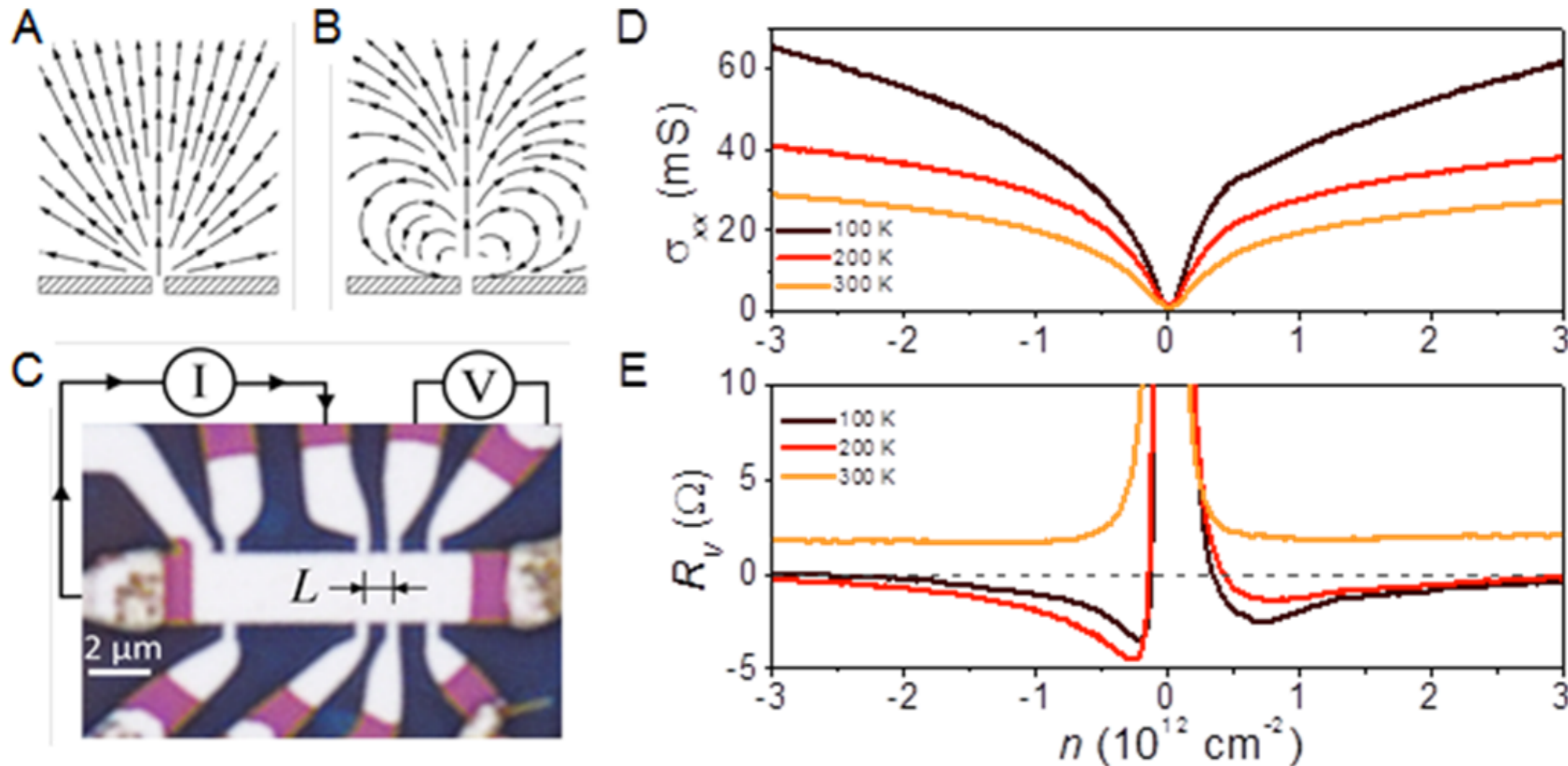


Figure 1. Viscous backflow in doped graphene. (a,b) Steady-state distribution of current injected through a narrow slit for a classical conducting medium with zero ν (a) and a viscous Fermi liquid (b). (c) Optical micrograph of one of our SLG devices. The schematic explains the measurement geometry for vicinity resistance. (d,e) Longitudinal conductivity σ_{xx} and R_V for this device as a function of n induced by applying gate voltage. $I = 0.3 \mu\text{A}$; $L = 1 \mu\text{m}$. For more detail, see Supplementary Information.

Entangled quantum matter without quasiparticles

- Is there a connection between strange metals and black holes?
Yes, the SYK model leads to an explicit duality mapping.
- Why do they have the same local equilibration time $\sim \hbar/(k_B T)$?
Strange metals don't have quasiparticles and thermalize rapidly;
General relativity leads to black hole quasi-normal modes, whose decay time $\sim \hbar/(k_B T_H)$, where T_H is the Hawking temperature".
- Theoretical predictions for strange metal transport in graphene agree well with experiments