

# The time reparameterization soft mode

Simons Collaboration on Ultra-Quantum Matter  
Virtual Meeting  
June 2-4, 2020

Subir Sachdev

Talk online: [sachdev.physics.harvard.edu](https://sachdev.physics.harvard.edu)

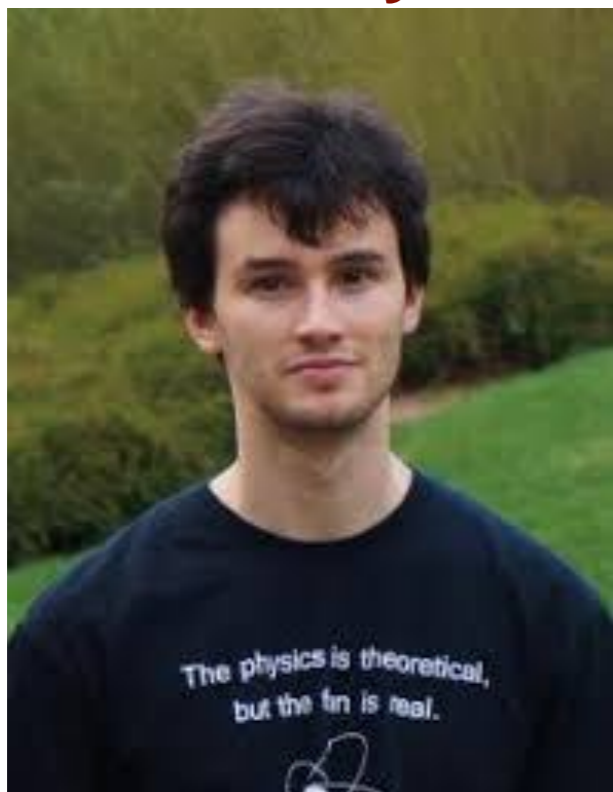




Darshan Joshi



Chenyuan Li



Grigory Tarnopolsky

Physical Review X  
10, 021033 (2020)

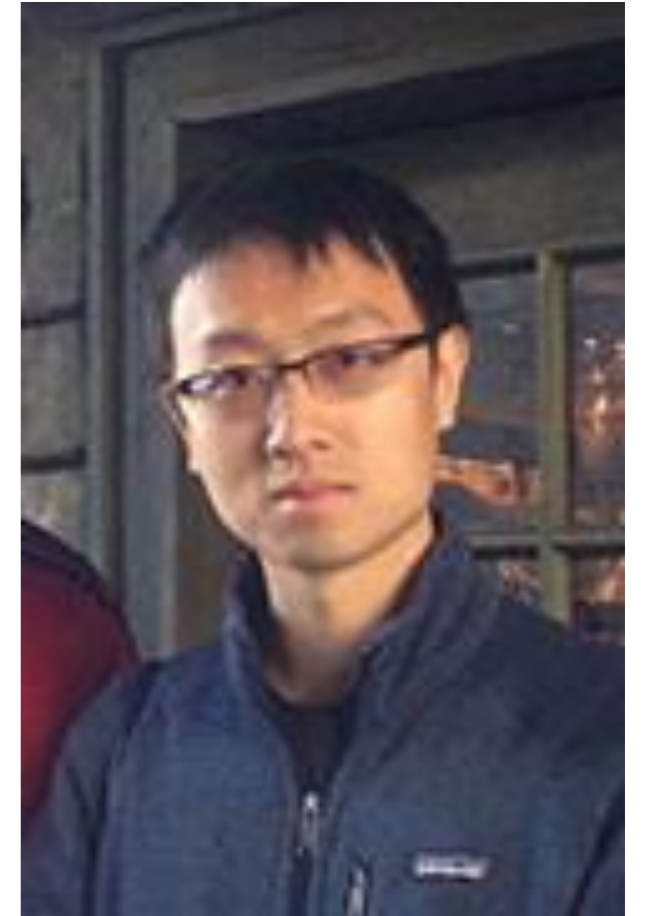


Antoine Georges



Haoyu Guo

Annals of Physics,  
**418**, 168202 (2020)



Yingfeu Gu

## Challenge for theory:

A model of a metal in which the resistivity,  $\rho$ , obeys

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow 0} \frac{d\rho}{dT} \neq 0$$

$$\rho(T) = \rho(0) + AT + \dots, \quad T \rightarrow 0.$$

## 2 key ingredients

### 1. Emergent gauge symmetry and fractionalization

$$c_\alpha = f_\alpha b^\dagger$$
$$f_\alpha \rightarrow e^{i\phi} f_\alpha, \quad b \rightarrow b e^{i\phi}$$

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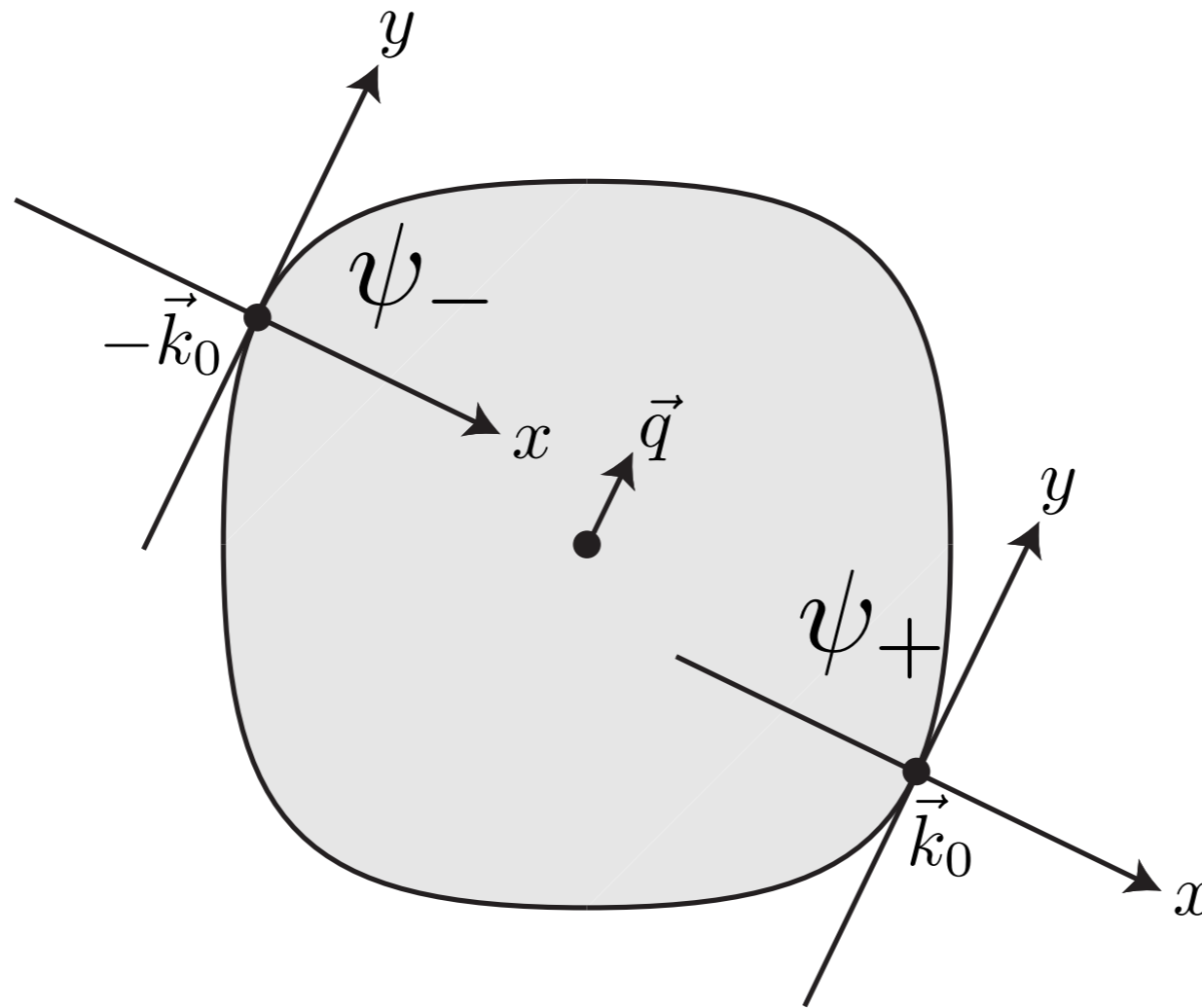
$$c_\alpha = f_\alpha b^\dagger$$
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### 2. Time reparameterization symmetry

$$\tau \rightarrow f(\tau)$$

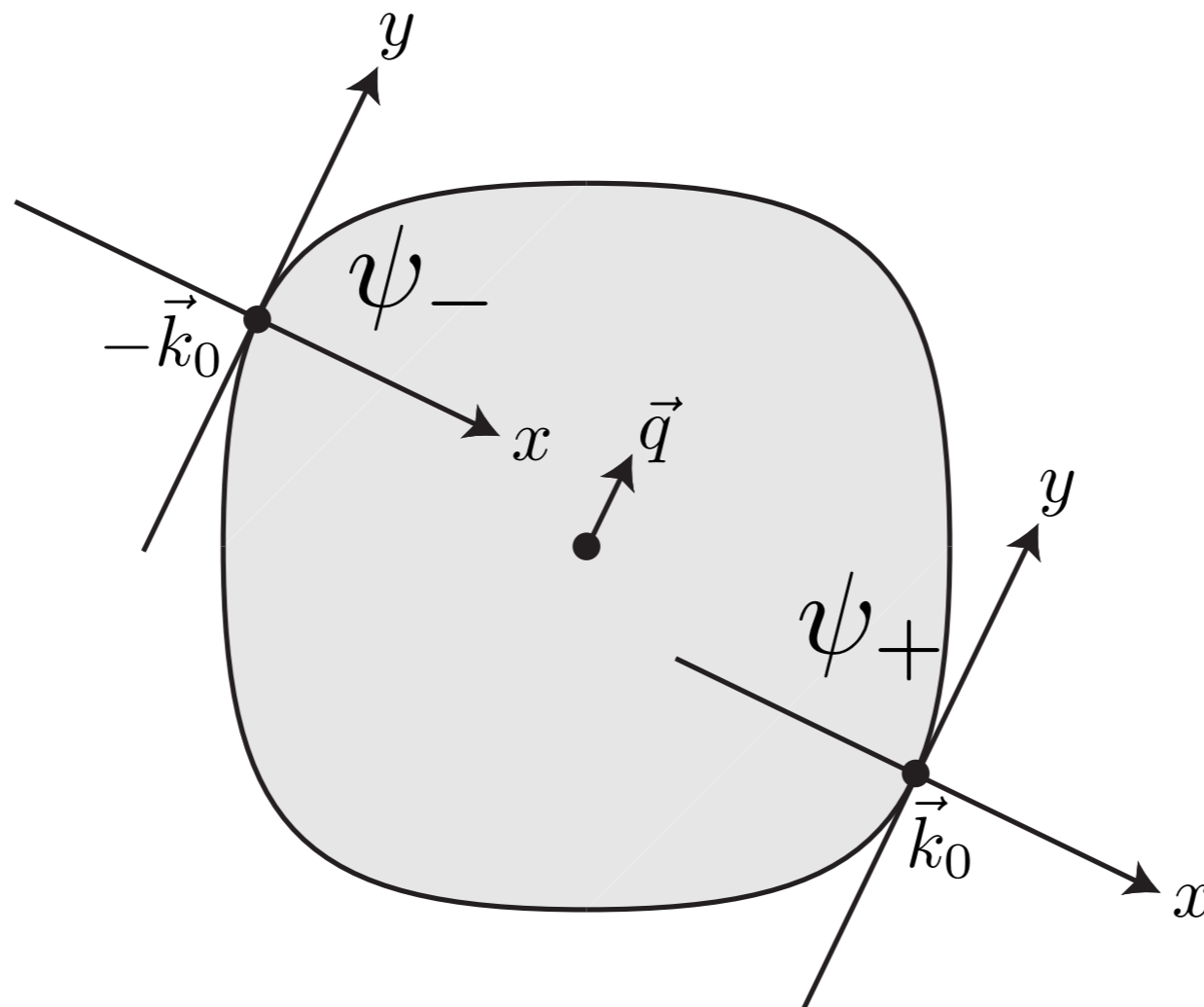
Present in models of non-Fermi liquids:  
quantum matter at variable density  
without quasiparticle excitations

# Fermi surface coupled to a gauge field



- Gauge fluctuation at wavevector  $\vec{q}$  couples most efficiently to fermions near  $\pm\vec{k}_0$ .
- Expand fermion kinetic energy at wavevectors about  $\pm\vec{k}_0$ . In Landau gauge  $\vec{A} = (a, 0)$ .

# Fermi surface coupled to a gauge field



$$\mathcal{L}[\psi_{\pm}, a] = \psi_+^{\dagger} (\partial_{\tau} - i\partial_x - \partial_y^2) \psi_+ + \psi_-^{\dagger} (\partial_{\tau} + i\partial_x - \partial_y^2) \psi_- - a \left( \psi_+^{\dagger} \psi_+ - \psi_-^{\dagger} \psi_- \right) + \frac{1}{2g^2} (\partial_y a)^2$$

# Fermi surface coupled to a gauge field

$$\mathcal{L} = \psi_+^\dagger (\partial_\tau - i\partial_x - \partial_y^2) \psi_+ + \psi_-^\dagger (\partial_\tau + i\partial_x - \partial_y^2) \psi_- - a (\psi_+^\dagger \psi_+ - \psi_-^\dagger \psi_-) + \frac{1}{2g^2} (\partial_y a)^2$$

Simple scaling argument for  $z = 3/2$ .

Under the rescaling  $x \rightarrow x/s$ ,  $y \rightarrow y/s^{1/2}$ , and  $\tau \rightarrow \tau/s^z$ , we find invariance provided

$$a \rightarrow a s$$

$$\psi \rightarrow \psi s^{(2z+1)/4}$$

$$g \rightarrow g s^{(3-2z)/4}$$

So the action is invariant provided  $z = 3/2$ .

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Because the bare time derivatives are irrelevant, the critical theory has an emergent time reparameterization symmetry:

$$\begin{aligned} \tau &\rightarrow f(\tau) \\ d\tau &\rightarrow f'(\tau) d\tau \\ x &\rightarrow [f'(\tau)]^{1/z} x \\ y &\rightarrow [f'(\tau)]^{1/(2z)} y \\ A &\rightarrow [f'(\tau)]^{1/z} A \\ \psi &\rightarrow [f'(\tau)]^{-(2z+1)/(4z)} \psi \end{aligned}$$

Work in progress with  
Haoyu Guo and  
Aavishkar Patel

1. SYK criticality +  
*time reparameterization soft mode*
2. SYK lattice models
3. *Fractionalization* and SYK criticality  
in  $t$ - $J$  models with random exchange

1. SYK criticality +

*time reparameterization soft mode*

2. SYK lattice models

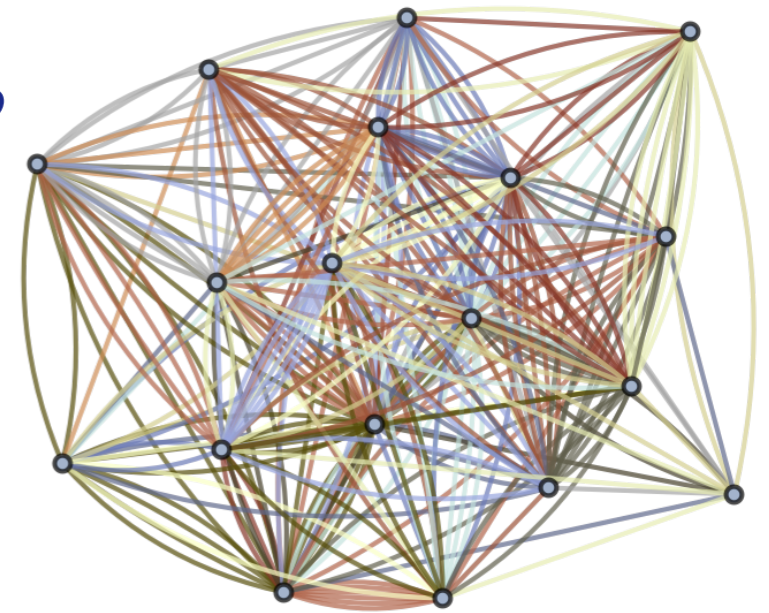
3. *Fractionalization* and SYK criticality  
in  $t$ - $J$  models with random exchange

# The complex SYK model

$$H = \frac{1}{(2N)^{3/2}} \sum_{a,b,c,d=1}^N U_{ab;cd} c_a^\dagger c_b^\dagger c_c c_d - \mu \sum_a c_a^\dagger c_a$$

$$c_a c_b + c_b c_a = 0 \quad , \quad c_a c_b^\dagger + c_b^\dagger c_a = \delta_{ab}$$

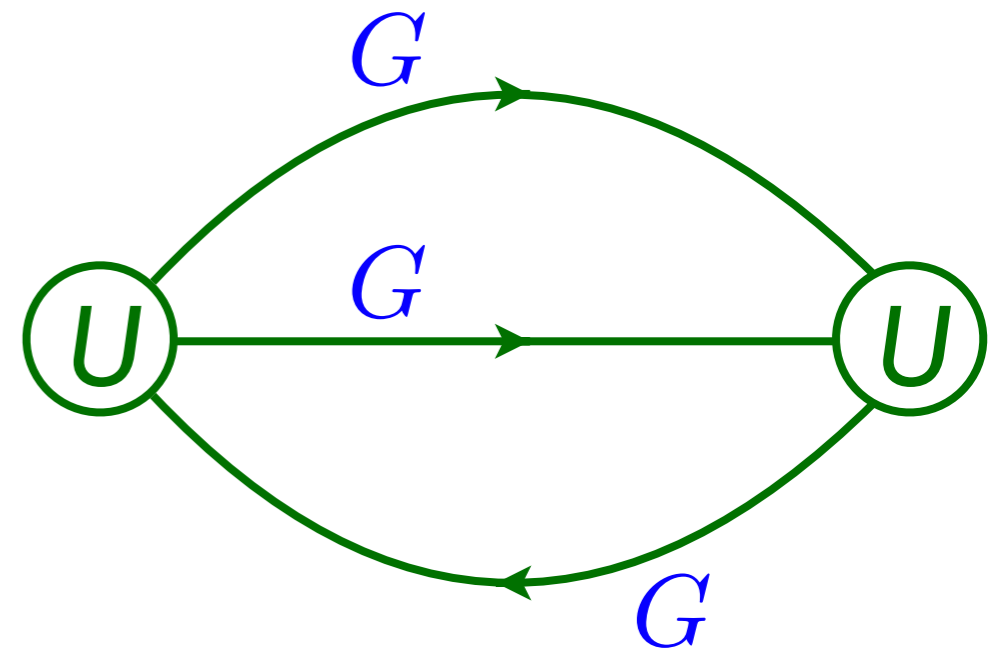
$$Q = \frac{1}{N} \sum_a c_a^\dagger c_a$$



$U_{ab;cd}$  are independent random variables

with  $\overline{U_{ab;cd}} = 0$  and  $\overline{|U_{ab;cd}|^2} = U^2$

$$G(i\omega) = \frac{1}{i\omega + \mu - \Sigma(i\omega)} \quad \Sigma =$$



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

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

# The complex SYK model

## Key properties

1. There is a quantum critical state, without quasiparticle excitations, for a range of charge densities around  $Q = 1/2$ .

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2. There is a non-zero extensive entropy as  $T \rightarrow 0$

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

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow 0} \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S}{N} = \mathcal{S}_0(\mathcal{Q}) \neq 0$$

This entropy is not due to an exponentially large ground degeneracy. Instead, it reflects an exponentially small many-body level spacing  $\sim e^{-N\mathcal{S}_0}$  down to the ground state.

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3. Thermal equilibration in a ‘Planckian time’  $\sim \hbar/(k_B T)$

A. Eberlein, V. Kasper, S. Sachdev, and J. Steinberg, PRB **96**, 205123 (2017)

# The complex SYK model

## Key properties

4. The leading low temperature behavior of many observables is controlled by a time reparameterization soft mode. A Schwarzian action for this soft mode is implied by an emergent  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  symmetry. Specifically, the entropy is  $S(T)/N = \mathcal{S}_0(Q) + \gamma T$ , where  $\gamma$  is proportional to the coefficient of the Schwarzian.

A. Kitaev, KITP talk (2015)

J. Maldacena and D. Stanford, PRD **94**, 106002 (2016)

A. Kitaev and J. Suh, JHEP 183 (2018)

# The complex SYK model

$$G(i\omega) = \frac{1}{i\omega + \mu - \Sigma(i\omega)} \quad , \quad \Sigma(\tau) = -U^2 G^2(\tau) G(-\tau)$$
$$\Sigma(z) = \mu - \frac{1}{A} \sqrt{z} + \dots \quad , \quad G(z) = \frac{A}{\sqrt{z}}$$

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At frequencies  $\ll U$ , the  $i\omega + \mu$  can be dropped, and without it equations are invariant under the reparametrization and gauge transformations.

The singular part of the self-energy and the Green's function obey

$$\int_0^\beta d\tau_2 \Sigma_{\text{sing}}(\tau_1, \tau_2) G(\tau_2, \tau_3) = -\delta(\tau_1 - \tau_3)$$

$$\Sigma_{\text{sing}}(\tau_1, \tau_2) = -U^2 G^2(\tau_1, \tau_2) G(\tau_2, \tau_1)$$

A. Kitaev, 2015

S. Sachdev,  
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5. Maximal quantum Lyapunov exponent for the out-of-time-order correlator (OTOC):

$$\left\langle c_a^\dagger(t) c_b(0) c_a(t) c_b^\dagger(0) \right\rangle = C_0 + C_1 \left( \frac{e^{\lambda t}}{N} \right) + \dots$$

with  $\lambda = 2\pi k_B T / \hbar$ .

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with  $\lambda = 2\pi k_B T / \hbar$ .

6. For spinful fermions, spin correlations decay as

$$\left\langle \vec{S}(\tau) \cdot \vec{S}(0) \right\rangle \sim 1/|\tau|$$

1. SYK criticality +

*time reparameterization soft mode*

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3. *Fractionalization* and SYK criticality  
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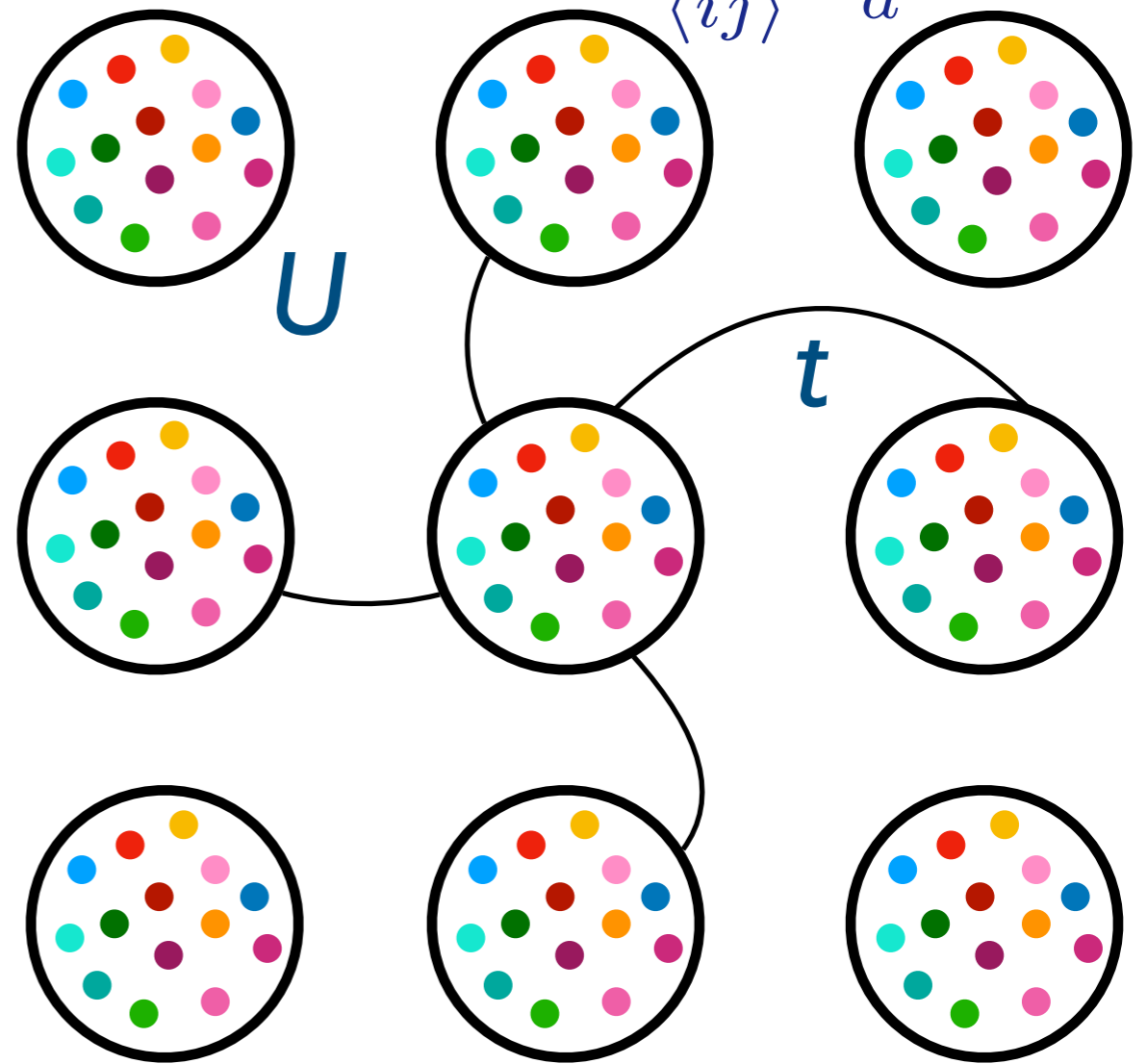
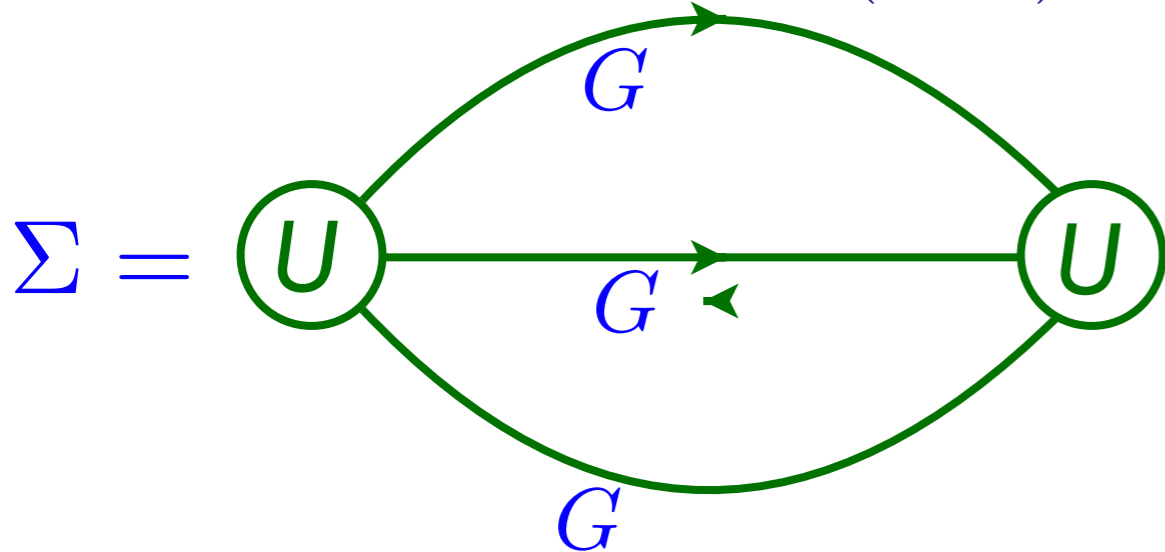
# A strange metal: lattice of SYK islands

$$H = \frac{1}{(2N)^{3/2}} \sum_i \sum_{a,b,c,d=1}^N U_{i,ab;cd} c_{ia}^\dagger c_{ib}^\dagger c_{ic} c_{id} - t \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \sum_a c_{ia}^\dagger c_{ja}$$

Random interaction within each island  $U$ .

Amplitude to hop between islands  $t$ .

$$G(k, i\omega) = \frac{1}{i\omega - \epsilon_k - \Sigma(k, i\omega)}$$



Xue-Yang Song, Chao-Ming Jian, and L. Balents, PRL **119**, 216601 (2017);  
 Pengfei Zhang, PRB **96**, 205138 (2017); Debanjan Chowdhury, Yochai Werman, Erez Berg, T. Senthil, PRX **8**, 031024 (2018); Aavishkar A. Patel, John McGreevy, Daniel P. Arovas, Subir Sachdev, PRX **8**, 021049 (2018)

See also Antoine Georges and Olivier Parcollet PRB **59**, 5341 (1999)

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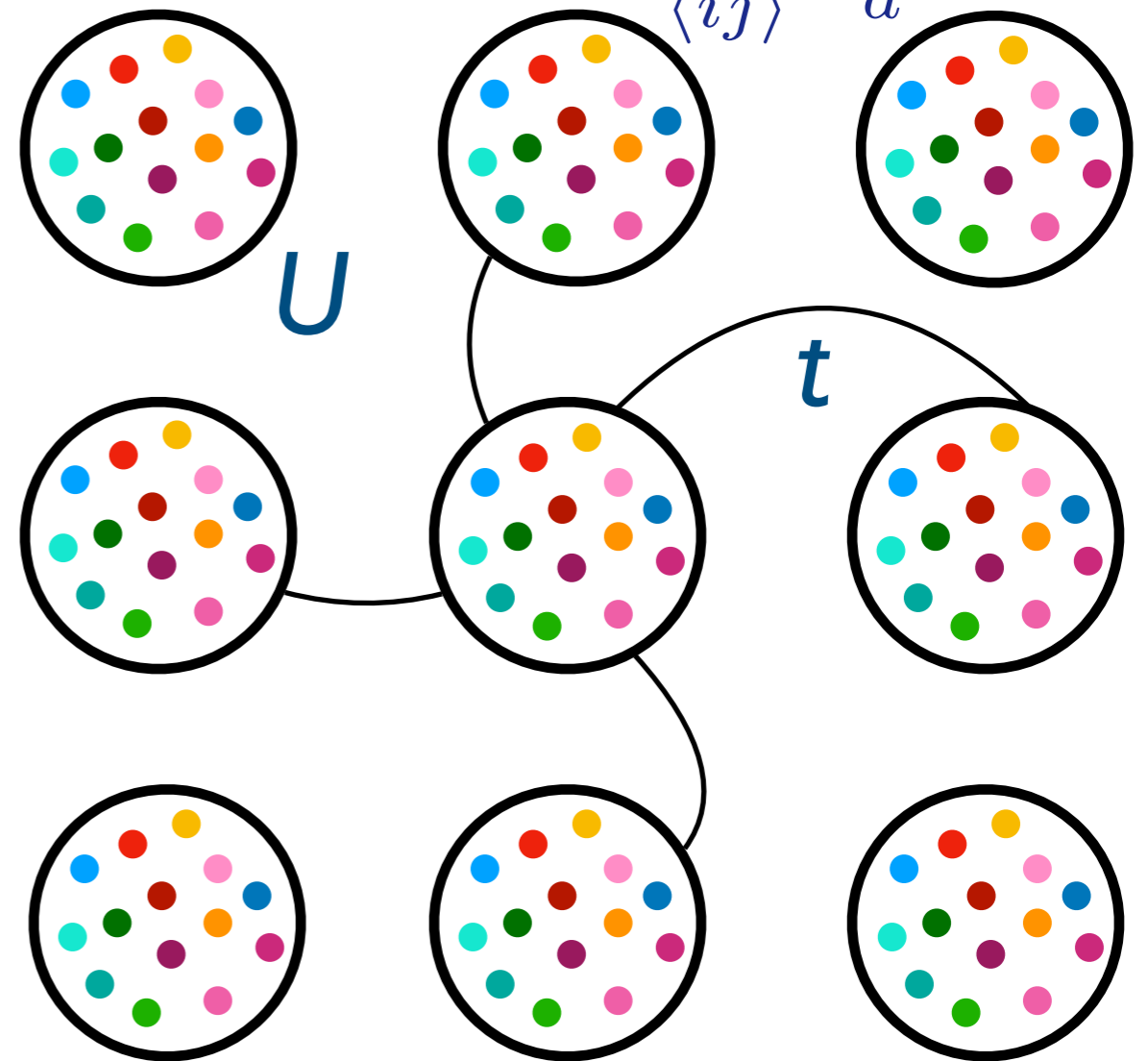
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Amplitude to hop between islands  $t$ .

Model yields SYK criticality and resistivity

$$\rho \sim T$$

$$\text{for } t^2/U \lesssim T \lesssim U$$



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# The $t$ - $J$ model

$$H = -\frac{t}{\sqrt{z}} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{z}} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} J_{ij} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j$$

We consider the hole-doped case, with no double occupancy.

$$\alpha = \uparrow, \downarrow, \quad \{c_{i\alpha}, c_{j\beta}^\dagger\} = \delta_{ij} \delta_{\alpha\beta}, \quad \{c_{i\alpha}, c_{j\beta}\} = 0$$

$$\vec{S}_i = \frac{1}{2} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger \vec{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} c_{i\beta}, \quad \boxed{\sum_{\alpha} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{i\alpha} \leq 1}, \quad \sum_{\alpha} \langle c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{i\alpha} \rangle = 1 - p$$

We take the large  $z$  limit in a lattice with co-ordination number  $z$

and  $J_{ij}$  random,  $\overline{J_{ij}} = 0$ ,  $\overline{J_{ij}^2} = J^2$

$$\text{---} \\ |0\rangle$$

$$\text{---} \uparrow \\ c_{\uparrow}^\dagger |0\rangle$$

$$\text{---} \downarrow \\ c_{\downarrow}^\dagger |0\rangle$$

# Fractionalization in the $t$ - $J$ model

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Each site has 3 states which we map to the ‘*superspin*’ space of a boson  $b$  (the holon) and a fermion  $f_\alpha$  (the spinon):

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{—} & \text{—} \uparrow & \text{—} \downarrow \\
 b^\dagger |v\rangle & f_\uparrow^\dagger |v\rangle & f_\downarrow^\dagger |v\rangle
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 c_\alpha &= f_\alpha b^\dagger \\
 \vec{S} &= \frac{1}{2} f_\alpha^\dagger \sigma_{\alpha\beta} f_\beta
 \end{aligned}$$

$$f_\alpha^\dagger f_\alpha + b^\dagger b = 1$$

U(1) gauge invariance,  $b \rightarrow be^{i\phi}, \quad f_\alpha \rightarrow f_\alpha e^{i\phi}$

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$$b \rightarrow b e^{i\phi}, \quad f_\alpha \rightarrow f_\alpha e^{i\phi}$$

The physical electron ( $c_\alpha$ ) and spin ( $\vec{S}$ ) operators are rotations in this SU(1|2) superspin space; both  $t$  and  $J$  terms in  $H$  are *quartic* in terms of fractionalized particles.

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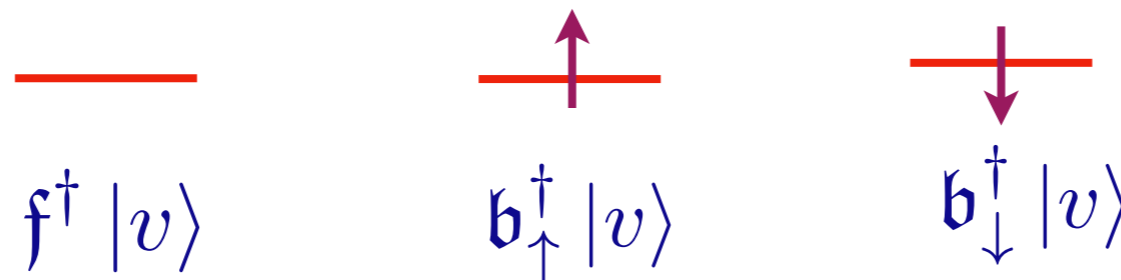
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$$\text{SU}(1|2) \equiv \text{SU}(2|1)$$

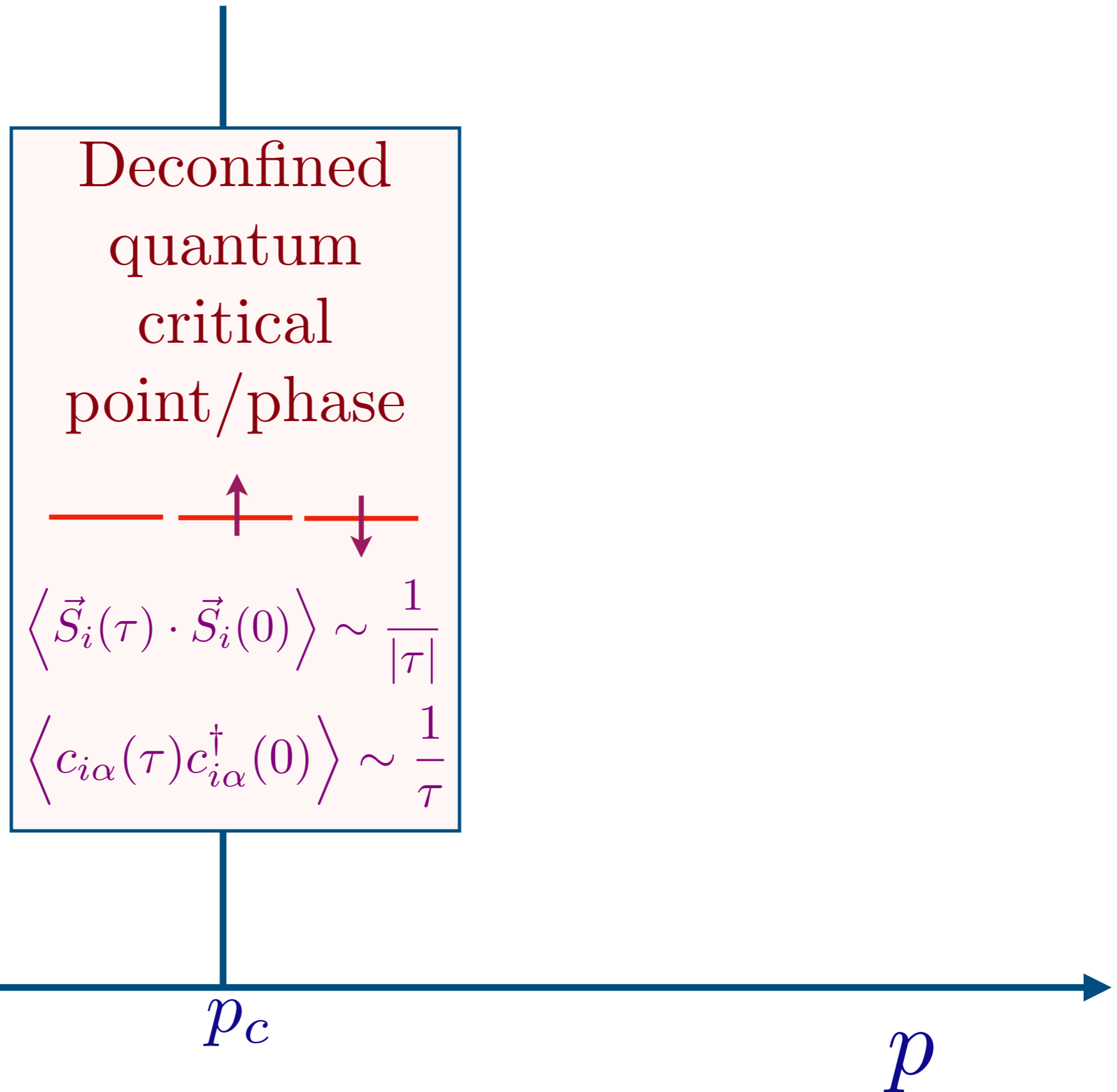
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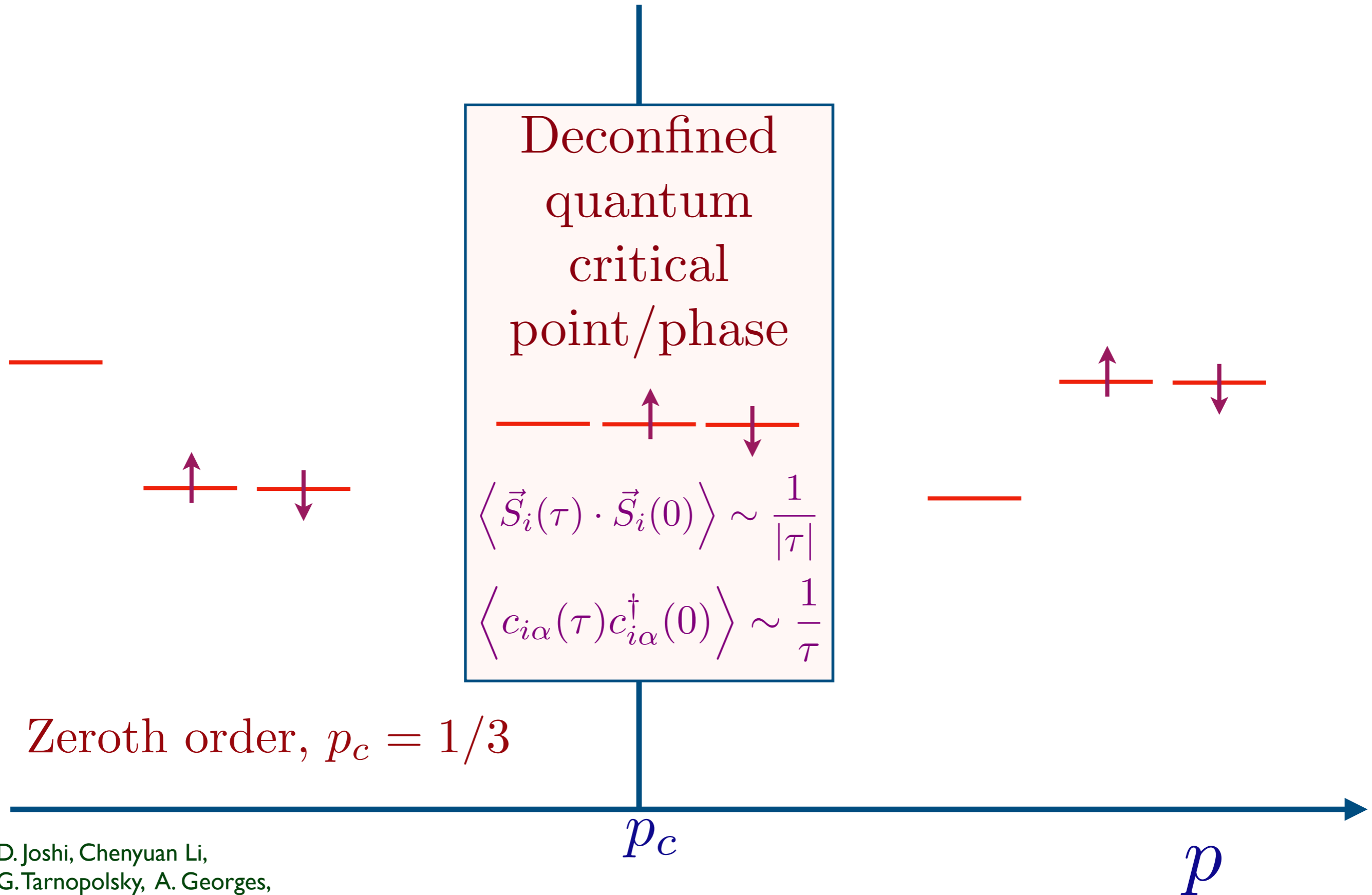
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$t$ - $J$  phase diagram: RG using *either*  $SU(2|1)$  or  $SU(1|2)$





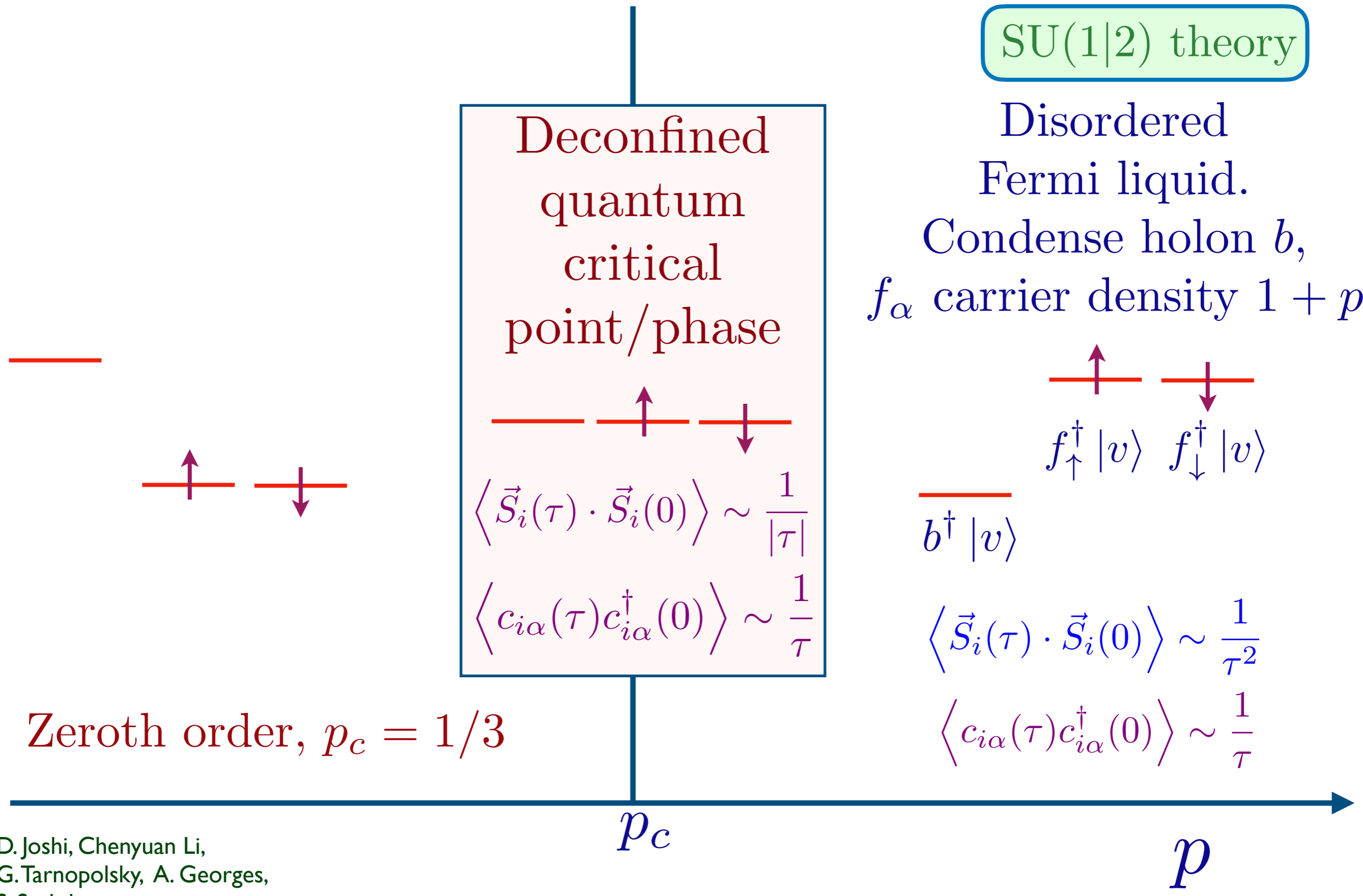
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**SU(1|2) theory**

Disordered Fermi liquid.  
Condense holon  $b$ ,  
 $f_\alpha$  carrier density  $1 + p$



Deconfined quantum critical point/phase

$\text{---} \uparrow \text{---} \downarrow \text{---}$

$$\langle \vec{S}_i(\tau) \cdot \vec{S}_i(0) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{|\tau|}$$

$$\langle c_{i\alpha}(\tau) c_{i\alpha}^\dagger(0) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{\tau}$$

$\text{---} \uparrow \text{---} \downarrow \text{---}$

$$f_\uparrow^\dagger |v\rangle \quad f_\downarrow^\dagger |v\rangle$$


---


$$b^\dagger |v\rangle$$

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Zeroth order,  $p_c = 1/3$

$p_c$

$p$

$t$ - $J$  phase diagram: RG using *either*  $SU(2|1)$  or  $SU(1|2)$

$SU(2|1)$  theory

Metallic  
spin glass.

Condense spinon  $\mathbf{b}_\alpha$ ,  
f carrier density  $p$

$f^\dagger |v\rangle$

$\mathbf{b}_\uparrow^\dagger |v\rangle \quad \mathbf{b}_\downarrow^\dagger |v\rangle$

$\langle \vec{S}_i(\tau) \cdot \vec{S}_i(0) \rangle \sim \text{constant}$

$\langle c_{i\alpha}(\tau) c_{i\alpha}^\dagger(0) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{\tau}$

Deconfined  
quantum  
critical  
point/phase

$\langle \vec{S}_i(\tau) \cdot \vec{S}_i(0) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{|\tau|}$

$\langle c_{i\alpha}(\tau) c_{i\alpha}^\dagger(0) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{\tau}$

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$SU(1|2)$  theory

Disordered  
Fermi liquid.

Condense holon  $b$ ,  
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$b^\dagger |v\rangle$

$\langle \vec{S}_i(\tau) \cdot \vec{S}_i(0) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{\tau^2}$

$\langle c_{i\alpha}(\tau) c_{i\alpha}^\dagger(0) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{\tau}$

$p_c$

$p$

# Fractionalization in the $t$ - $J$ model

## Large $M$ limit of $SU(M'|M)$ theory

Assuming the bosons are not condensed, we obtain SYK-like equations for the boson and fermion Green's functions:

$$\begin{aligned}G_b(i\omega_n) &= \frac{1}{i\omega_n + \mu_b - \Sigma_b(i\omega_n)} \\ \Sigma_b(\tau) &= -t^2 G_f(\tau) G_f(-\tau) G_b(\tau) \\ G_f(i\omega_n) &= \frac{1}{i\omega_n + \mu_f - \Sigma_f(i\omega_n)} \\ \Sigma_f(\tau) &= -J^2 G_f^2(\tau) G_f(-\tau) + k t^2 G_f(\tau) G_b(\tau) G_b(-\tau)\end{aligned}$$

Here  $\mu_f$  and  $\mu_b$  are chemical potentials chosen to satisfy

$$\langle f^\dagger f \rangle = \frac{1}{2} - kp \quad , \quad \langle b^\dagger b \rangle = p .$$

# Fractionalization in the $t$ - $J$ model

Large  $M$  limit of  $SU(M'|M)$  theory

The critical solution which is self-consistent in both the  $t$  and  $J$  terms has  $\Delta_b = \Delta_f = 1/4$ , implying

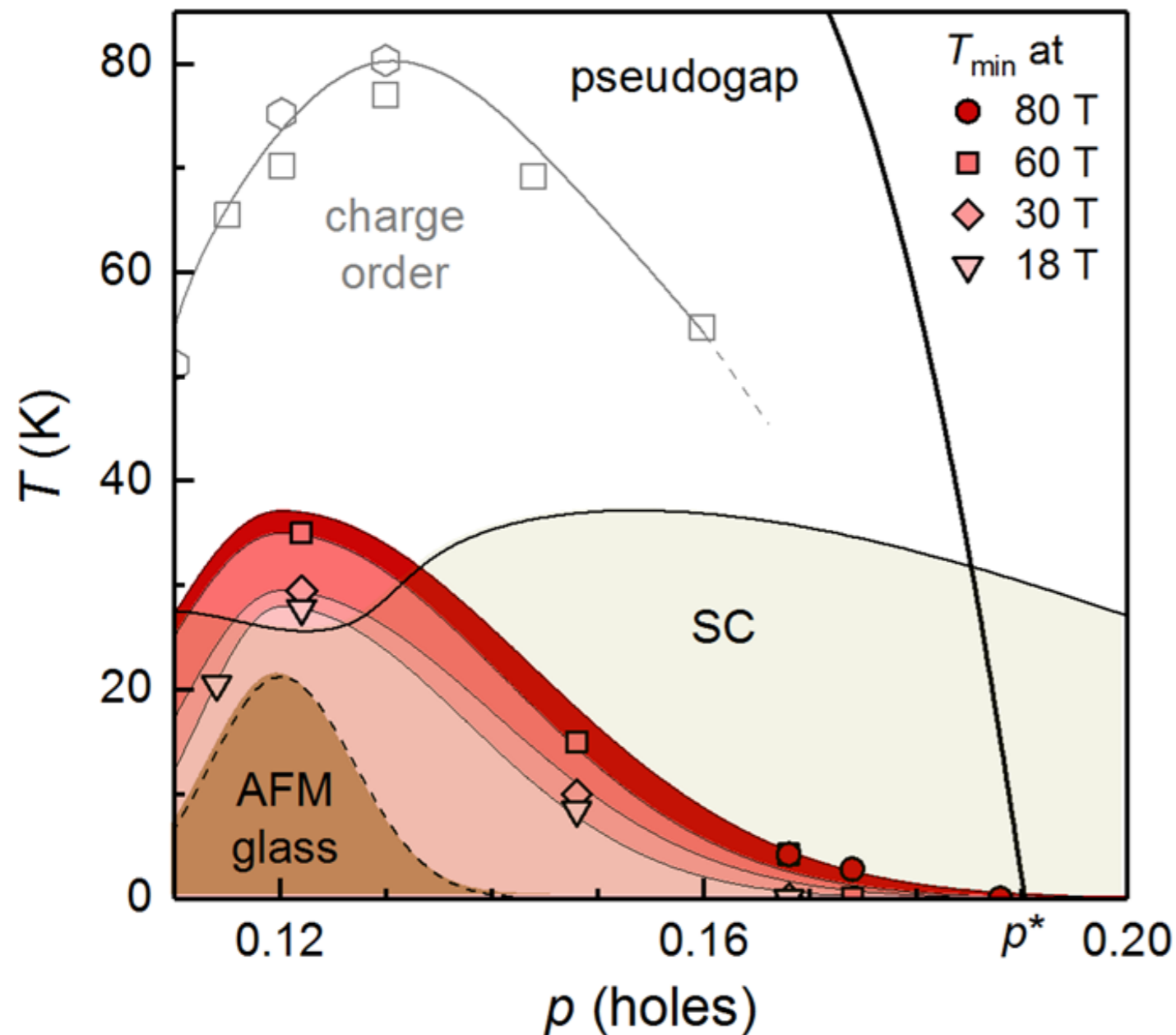
$$\langle c_\alpha(\tau) c_\alpha^\dagger(0) \rangle \sim \begin{cases} \frac{A_+}{|\tau|} & , \quad \tau > 0 \\ -\frac{A_-}{|\tau|} & , \quad \tau < 0 \end{cases} , \quad \langle \vec{S}(\tau) \cdot \vec{S}(0) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{|\tau|} .$$

RG computations show that these results for the exponents of gauge-invariant operators are expected to be exact beyond the large  $M$  limit.

# Hidden magnetism at the pseudogap critical point of a high temperature superconductor

arXiv:1909.10258

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**Quasi-static magnetism in the pseudogap state of  $\text{La}_{2-x}\text{Sr}_x\text{CuO}_4$ .** Temperature – doping phase diagram representing  $T_{\min}$ , the temperature of the minimum in the sound velocity, at different fields. Since superconductivity precludes the observation of  $T_{\min}$  in zero-field, the dashed line (brown area) represents the extrapolated  $T_{\min}(B=0)$ . While not exactly equal to the freezing temperature  $T_f$  (see Fig. 2),  $T_{\min}$  is closely tied to  $T_f$  and so is expected to have the same doping dependence, including a peak around  $p = 0.12$  in zero/low fields (ref. 2). Onset temperatures of charge order are from ref. 33 (squares) and 35 (hexagons).

At the critical point/phase of the  $t$ - $J$  model, the Fermi liquid-like behavior of the electron Green's function

$$\left\langle c_{i\alpha}(\tau) c_{i\alpha}^\dagger(0) \right\rangle \sim \frac{1}{\tau}$$

leads to a non-zero *residual resistivity*,  $\rho(0) \neq 0$ .

At the critical point/phase of the  $t$ - $J$  model, the Fermi liquid-like behavior of the electron Green's function

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leads to a non-zero *residual resistivity*,  $\rho(0) \neq 0$ .

However, the critical state is *not* a Fermi liquid, as indicated by the slow decay of the spin correlations

$$\left\langle \vec{S}_i(\tau) \cdot \vec{S}_i(0) \right\rangle \sim \frac{1}{|\tau|}$$

Moreover, in a Fermi liquid, we expect  $\rho(T) - \rho(0) \sim T^2$ , which also does not hold here.

# Time reparameterization soft mode

The leading corrections to the  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  invariant critical Green's function arise from the time reparameterization soft mode, and these take the form

$$\left\langle c_{i\alpha}(\tau) c_{i\alpha}^\dagger(0) \right\rangle \sim \frac{\pi T}{\sin(\pi T \tau)} \left( 1 + \alpha_G \frac{T}{J} \Phi_{\text{non-conformal}}(T\tau) \right)$$

where  $\Phi_{\text{non-conformal}}(T\tau)$  is a computable (in the large  $M$  limit) scaling function, and  $\alpha_G$  is universally proportional to the co-efficient  $\alpha_S$  of the Schwarzian action for the time reparameterization mode.

J. Maldacena and D. Stanford, PRD **94**, 106002 (2016)

A. Kitaev and J. Suh, JHEP 183 (2018)

Haoyu Guo, Yingfei Guo, S. Sachdev, Annals of Physics **418**, 168202 (2020)

# Time reparameterization soft mode

Finally, computing the resistivity from this Green's function via the Kubo formula, we find

$$\rho(T) = \rho(0) \left( 1 + 8\alpha_G \frac{T}{J} + \dots \right)$$

Haoyu Guo, Yingfei Guo, S. Sachdev, *Annals of Physics* **418**, 168202 (2020)

# Random $t$ - $J$ - $U_H$ model

$$H = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i,j=1}^N t_{ij} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i<j=1}^N J_{ij} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j + U_H \sum_{i=1}^N n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$$

$$\alpha = \uparrow, \downarrow, \quad \vec{S}_i = \frac{1}{2} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger \vec{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} c_{i\beta}, \quad n_{i\alpha} = c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{i\alpha},$$

$$J_{ij} \text{ random, } \overline{J_{ij}} = 0, \overline{J_{ij}^2} = J^2$$

$$t_{ij} \text{ random, } \overline{t_{ij}} = 0, \overline{t_{ij}^2} = t^2$$

$$U_H > 0 \text{ non-random}$$

# Random $t$ - $J$ - $U_H$ model

$$H = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i,j=1}^N t_{ij} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i<j=1}^N J_{ij} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j + U_H \sum_{i=1}^N n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$$

$1/U_H$

L. Arrachea and M. J. Rozenberg, PRB **65**, 224430 (2002)

$$n_{i\uparrow} + n_{i\downarrow} = 1$$

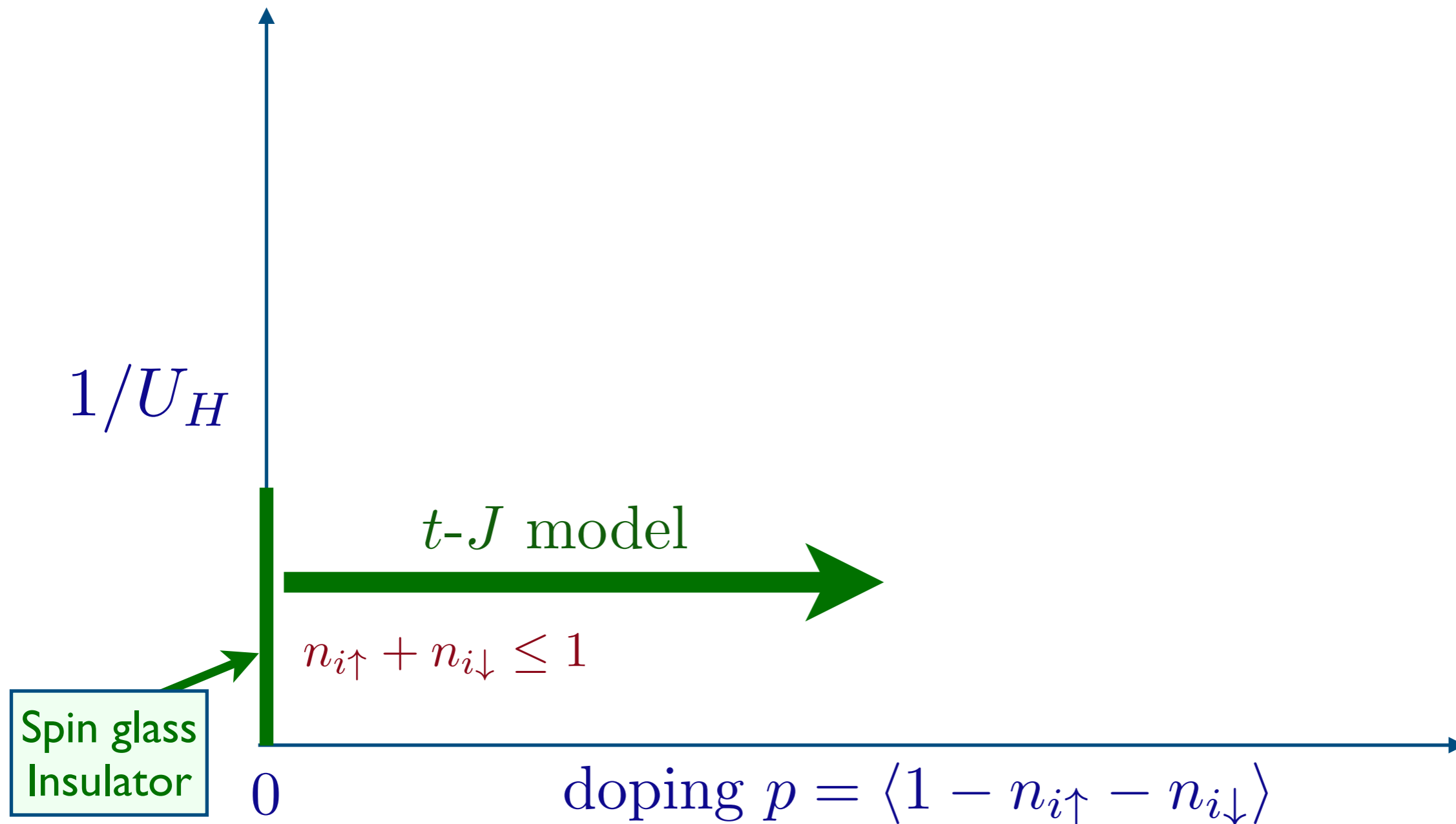
Spin glass  
Insulator

0

doping  $p = \langle 1 - n_{i\uparrow} - n_{i\downarrow} \rangle$

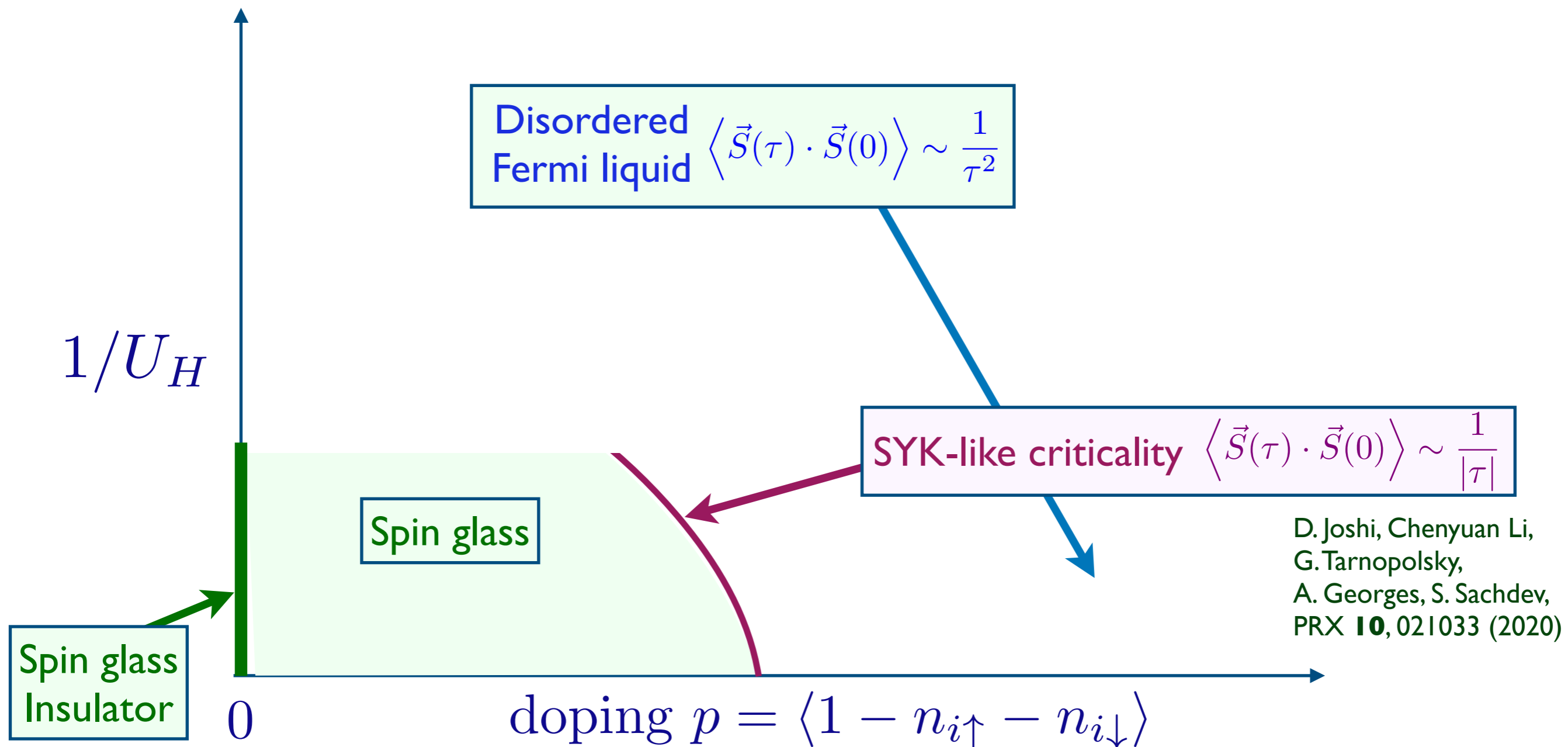
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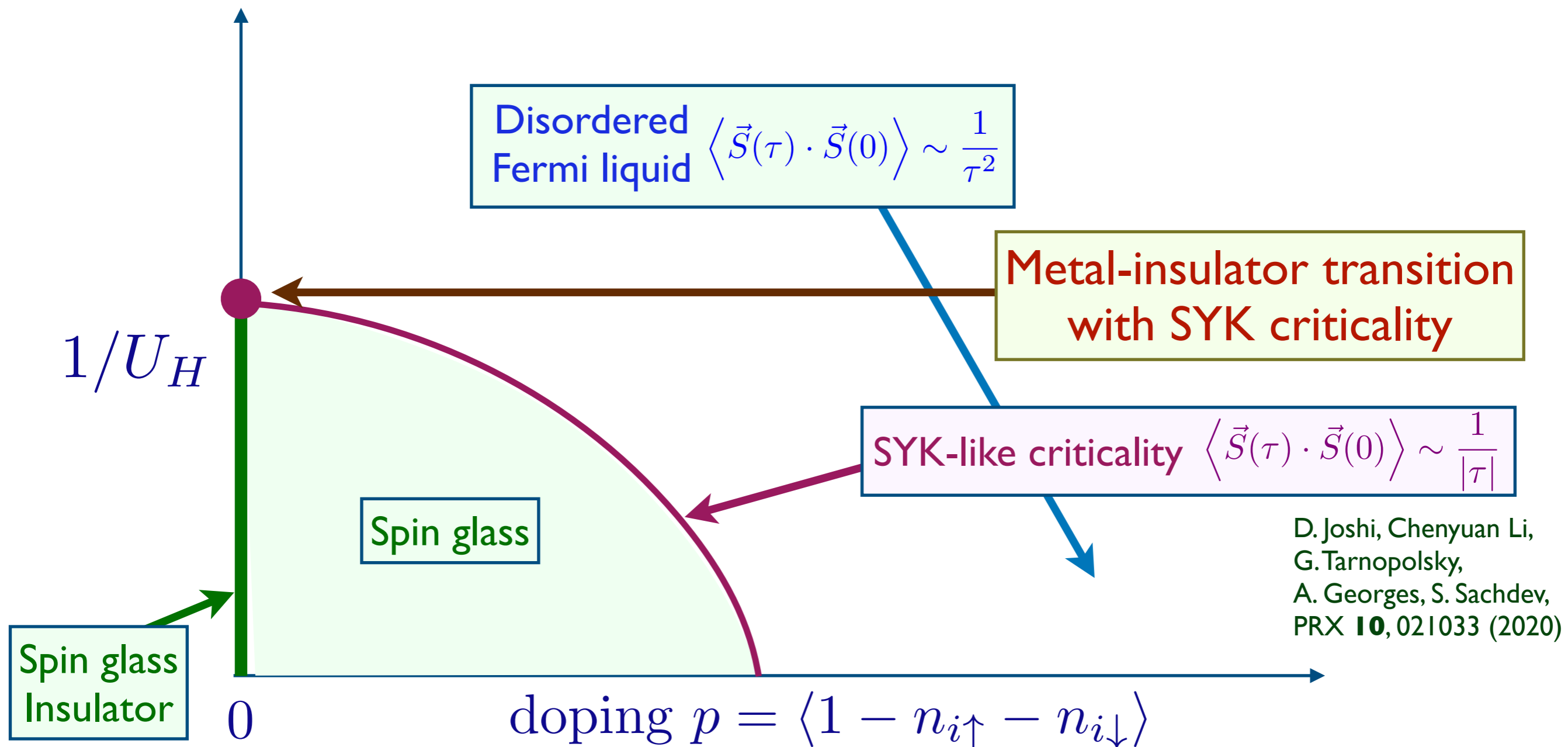
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# Random $t$ - $J$ - $U_H$ model

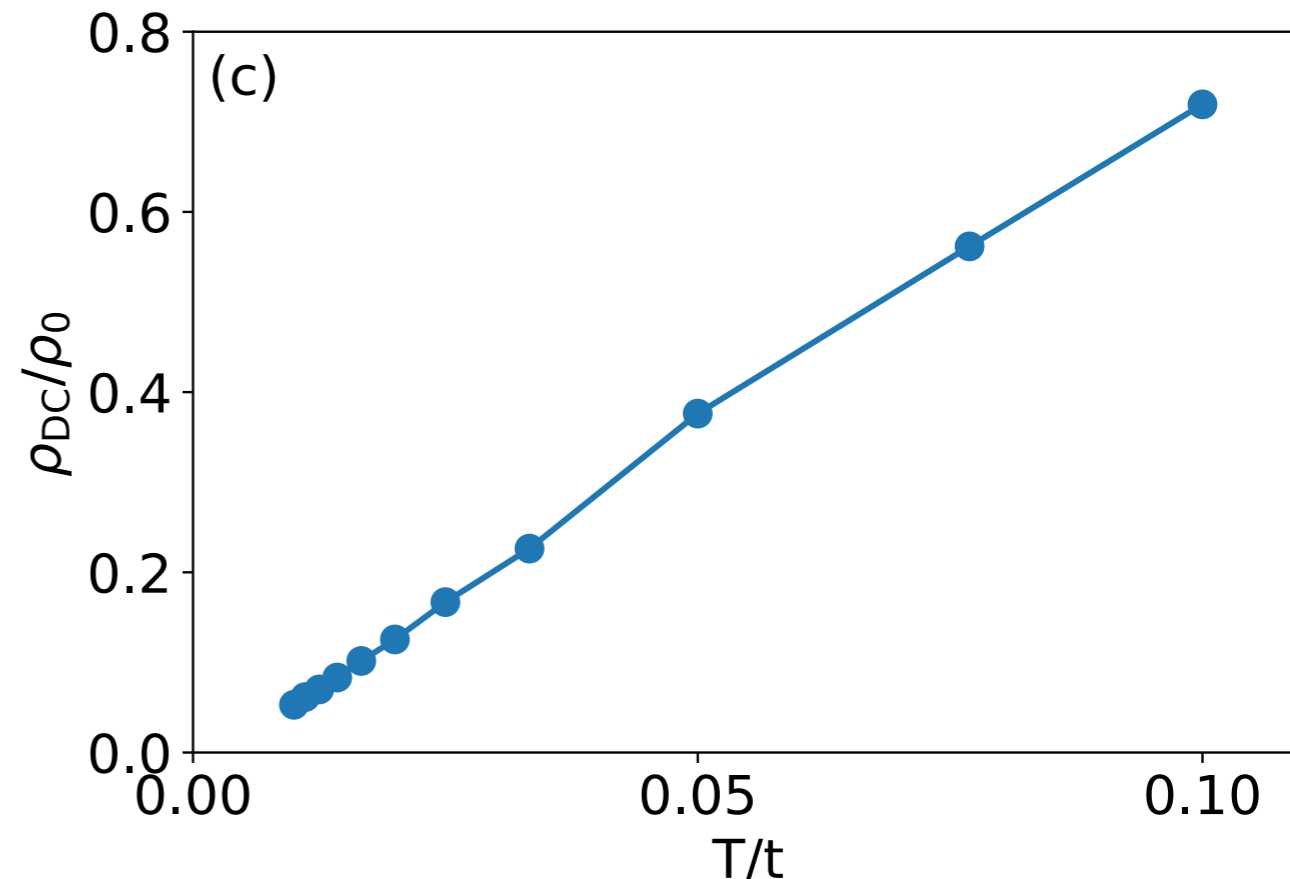
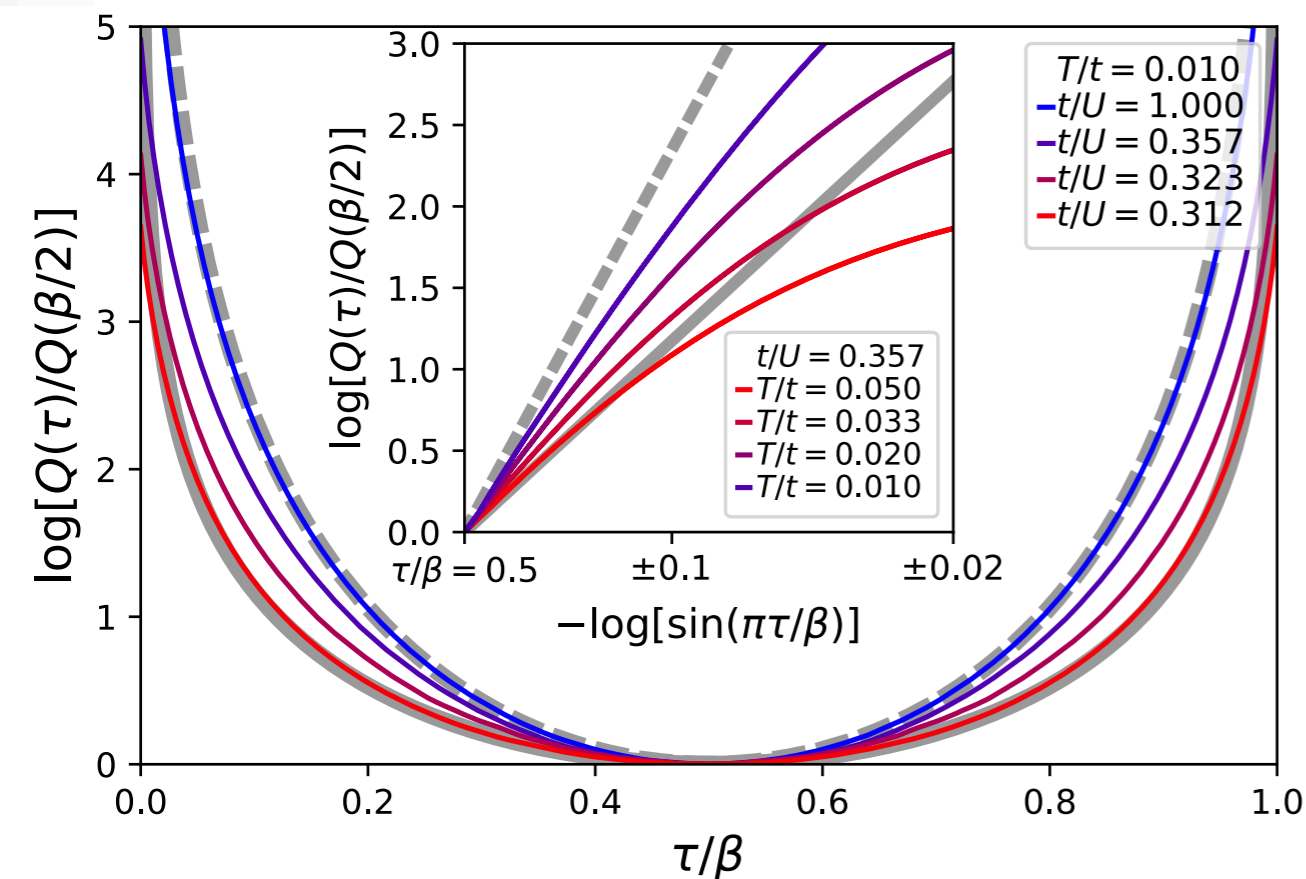
$$H = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i,j=1}^N t_{ij} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i<j=1}^N J_{ij} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j + U_H \sum_{i=1}^N n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$$



D. Joshi, Chenyuan Li,  
G. Tarnopolsky,  
A. Georges, S. Sachdev,  
PRX **10**, 021033 (2020)

# Linear resistivity and Sachdev–Ye–Kitaev (SYK) spin liquid behavior in a quantum critical metal with spin-1/2 fermions

Peter Cha, Nils Wentzell, Olivier Parcollet, Antoine Georges, Eun-Ah Kim



Critical spin correlations:

$$\langle \vec{S}(\tau) \cdot \vec{S}(0) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{|\tau|}$$

Resistivity  $\rho \sim T$  to the lowest  $T$  at the critical point in a large-dimension model

## Challenge for theory:

A model of a metal in which the resistivity,  $\rho$ , obeys

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow 0} \frac{d\rho}{dT} \neq 0$$

$$\rho(T) = \rho(0) + AT + \dots, \quad T \rightarrow 0.$$

## 2 key ingredients

### 1. Emergent gauge symmetry and fractionalization

$$c_\alpha = f_\alpha b^\dagger$$
$$f_\alpha \rightarrow e^{i\phi} f_\alpha, \quad b \rightarrow b e^{i\phi}$$

### 2. Time reparameterization symmetry

$$\tau \rightarrow f(\tau)$$

Present in models of non-Fermi liquids:  
quantum matter at variable density  
without quasiparticle excitations