Solvable Models for Strange Metals

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Outline

• What is a strange metal?

• A view from the large-N limit

 Strange metal from superconducting puddles



Resistivity of a conventional metal



What is a strange metal?

A metal that cannot be explained by the conventional paradigm (Fermi liquid)+Boltzmann theory In the limit $T \rightarrow 0$.

Common diagnostic: the resistivity $\rho(T) = \rho_0 + AT^{\alpha}$ With $\alpha < 2$ (often $\alpha = 1$)



Daou,...,Taillefer (2009)

Jaoui,...,Efetov (2022)

What is a strange metal?

In a Fermi liquid,
$$\frac{1}{\tau} \propto \max(T^2, \varepsilon^2)$$



Strange metal

 $\frac{1}{\tau} \propto \max(T^{\alpha}, \varepsilon^{\alpha}) \text{ requires high DOS}$ of low-energy excitations

VHS in 2D with $\nu(\varepsilon) \propto \nu_0 \log \frac{W}{\varepsilon}$ gives $\rho(T) \propto T^2 \ln \frac{W}{T}$



Strain Turning through VHS Sr₂RuO₄



Resistivity at ε_{VHS} consistent with $\rho \sim T^2 \log(1/T)$ *Mousatov, EB, Hartnoll (2020); Stangier, EB, Schmalian (2022)*



Strange metal from flat+itinerant bands?

What DOS gives $\rho - \rho_0 \propto T$?



Mousatov, EB, Hartnoll (2020)

Quantum Critical Point?

$$\rho \propto T$$
, $\frac{c}{T} \propto \log \frac{1}{T}$ in metals tuned to a QCP



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"Standard models" of strongly correlated electrons

N-band Hubbard models:



"Standard models" of strongly correlated electrons

 $N \rightarrow \infty$ limit



- Introduce a symmetry (exact or statistical) between the orbitals
- Large number of degrees of freedom acts like a "bath"

But...

• Readily access non-perturbative, "non-quasiparticle" regimes!

Higher dimensional extension



Other lattice generalizations of SYK: *Parcollet, Georges; Gu, Qi, Stanford; Song, Jian, Balents; C. Xu et al; Patel, Sachdev et al.;...*

Electron self-energy



$$\Sigma(\omega_n) \sim i \frac{J}{W} \omega_n \ (\Sigma \ll W;$$

"correlated FL")

$$\omega_n, T \ll \frac{W^2}{J}$$

$$\Sigma(\omega_n) \sim i\sqrt{J|\omega_n|} \operatorname{sgn}(\omega_n) \qquad \omega_n, T \gg \frac{W^2}{J}$$

$$\Sigma \gg W; \text{ "Incoherent Metal"}$$

D. Chowdhury, Y. Werman, EB, T. Senthil, PRX (2018)

Extended strange metallic behavior from SC puddles







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Strange transport in correlated metals



La_{2-x}Sr_xCuO₄ Cooper,..., Hussey (09')

 $\rho \propto T$ over extended doping range: Critical *phase*?

Linear in T regime terminates approximately at the end of SC dome



Review: Taillefer (10')

Superconducting "puddles" in overdoped cuprates



Superconducting "puddles" in overdoped cuprates

Gap inhomogeneity revealed in STM



K. Gomez ..., A. Yazdani, Nature (07') W. Tromp, ..., M. Allan, Nature Mat. (23') Superfluid density (overdoped LSCO)



Further evidence: optical conductivity, specific heat H.-H. Wen (04'); J. Wade (94'); F. Mahmood,..., P. Armitage (19')

Theory: Z.-X. Li, S. Kivelson, D.-H. Lee (21')

Superconducting "puddles"

Inelastic Andreev scattering



Extended $\rho \propto T$ regime?



Model



$$H_{\text{int}} = \sum_{k,k'} g_{\perp}(k,k') e^{i\widehat{\theta}} c_{k,\uparrow} c_{k',\downarrow} + h.c$$
$$+ \sum_{k,k',s} g_{z}(k,k') \,\widehat{n} \, c_{k,s}^{\dagger} c_{k',s},$$

Model

At low energies, $E \ll U_r$ (renormalized charging energy): Project to two low-lying levels

$$H_{\rm pud} \rightarrow -\frac{\Delta}{2}\sigma^z$$
,

$$\begin{split} H_{\rm int} &\to \sum_{k,k'} g_{\perp}(k,k') \sigma^+ c_{k,\uparrow} c_{k',\downarrow} + h.c \\ &+ \sum_{k,k',s} \frac{g_z(k,k')}{2} \sigma^z c_{k,s}^{\dagger} c_{k',s}, \\ H_{\rm pud} &\to -\frac{\Delta}{2} \sigma^z, \end{split}$$

C.f.: electrons interacting with localized (charge-neutral) two-level systems:



N. Bashan, E. Tulipman, J. Schmalian, EB, PRL (24')

Large-N limit and saddle point equations

$$H_{\text{int}} = \sum_{k,k'} g_{\perp}(k,k') \sigma^+ c_{k,\uparrow} c_{k',\downarrow} + h.c$$
$$+ \sum_{k,k',s} \frac{g_z(k,k')}{2} \sigma^z c_{k,s}^{\dagger} c_{k',s},$$

Treat the matrices $g_{\perp,z}(k,k')$ as random with a large dimension N

Physically,
$$N \sim k_F R$$



Large-N limit and saddle point equations

Expand the action in g(k, k')



$$= \sigma^{\dagger}(\tau) \sigma^{-}(\tau) \pi(\tau - \tau')$$



Spin coupled to harmonic bosonic bath with correlator $\Pi(\tau)$

"Spin-boson" problem!

Model

 $U_r \sim Ue^{-\alpha_{\perp}}$ Dimensionless coupling: $\alpha_{\perp} = \sum_{k,k'} \frac{|g_{\perp}|^2}{v_k v_{k'}}$

RG equations:*

 α_{\perp} marginally irrelevant

$$\partial_{\ell} \alpha_{\perp} = -2\alpha_{\perp}^{2}$$
$$\partial_{\ell} \Delta = (1 - 2\alpha_{\perp}) \Delta$$

 Δ uniformly distributed in $[-U_r, U_r]$

Marginal Fermi liquid:

$$\chi''(\Omega) = \overline{\langle \tau^+ \tau^- \rangle_{\Delta}} \sim \frac{n_{\rm p}}{U_r} \max\left(\frac{|\Omega|}{T}, 1\right) \, \text{sgn}(\Omega)$$
$$\rho(T) \sim \frac{h}{e^2} \frac{\alpha_\perp n_{\rm p}}{U_r} T$$
$$c(T) \sim T \ln(U_r/T)$$

 $n_{\rm p}$: concentration of SC puddles

*lgnoring α_z



Why linear in *T*?



Low-T breakdown (finite-N corrections)

At low T, the SC impurity is "Kondo screened"



Charge Kondo scale exponentially suppressed in droplet size

"Infinite-channel Kondo problem" (random g_{k,k'}): G. Zarand, G. Zimanyi, F. Wilhelm (00')

Summary

Route to solvability: Make it random, make *N* large!



Strange metal from coupling to SC puddles?



 $\rho \sim T^{1/\alpha_{\perp}}$ $U_r \sim U e^{-\alpha_{\perp}}$ $\rho \sim T$ $-T_{K-\gamma} U_r e^{-k_F R}$ $\rho \sim T^2$

Thank you!

Model for a marginal Fermi liquid

Model: lattice of Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) dots





$$H_{c} = \sum_{i=1,k}^{N} \varepsilon_{k} c_{ki}^{\dagger} c_{ki} + \sum_{ijkl=1,r}^{N} \frac{U_{ijkl}}{N^{3/2}} c_{ri}^{\dagger} c_{rj}^{\dagger} c_{rk} c_{rl} + \sum_{ij=1,r}^{N} \frac{W_{ij,r}}{N^{1/2}} c_{ri}^{\dagger} c_{rj}$$

 $U_{ijkl} = 0$, $\overline{U_{ijkl}^2} = U^2$ **Translationally invariant** in every realization

"Kondo lattice": Two bands c, f with bandwidths $W_f \ll W_c$

$$H = H_{c} + H_{f} + \sum_{ijkl=1,r}^{N} \frac{V_{ijkl}}{N^{3/2}} c_{ri}^{\dagger} c_{rj} f_{rk}^{\dagger} f_{rl}$$

D. Chowdhury, Y. Werman, EB, T. Senthil, PRX (2018) See also: A. Patel, J. McGreevy, D. Arovas, S. Sachdev, PRX (2018)