

Theory of Mesoscopic Systems

Boris Altshuler

*Princeton University,
Columbia University &
NEC Laboratories America*

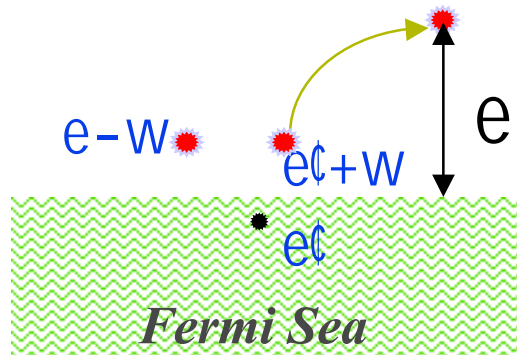


CONFÉRENCE UNIVERSITAIRE
DE SUISSE OCCIDENTALE

Lecture 4 20 June 2006

Previous Lecture

Quasiparticle decay rate at $T = 0$ in a *clean* Fermi Liquid.



	e^2/e_F	$d = 3$
$\frac{\hbar}{t_{e-e}(e)}$	$\propto (e^2/e_F) \log(e_F/e)$	$d = 2$
	e	$d = 1$

Conclusions:

1. For $d=3,2$ from $e \ll e_F$ it follows that $et_{e-e} \gg \hbar$, i.e., that the **quasiparticles** are well determined and the Fermi-liquid approach is applicable.
2. For $d=1$ et_{e-e} is of the order of \hbar , i.e., that the Fermi-liquid approach is not valid for **1d** systems of interacting fermions.

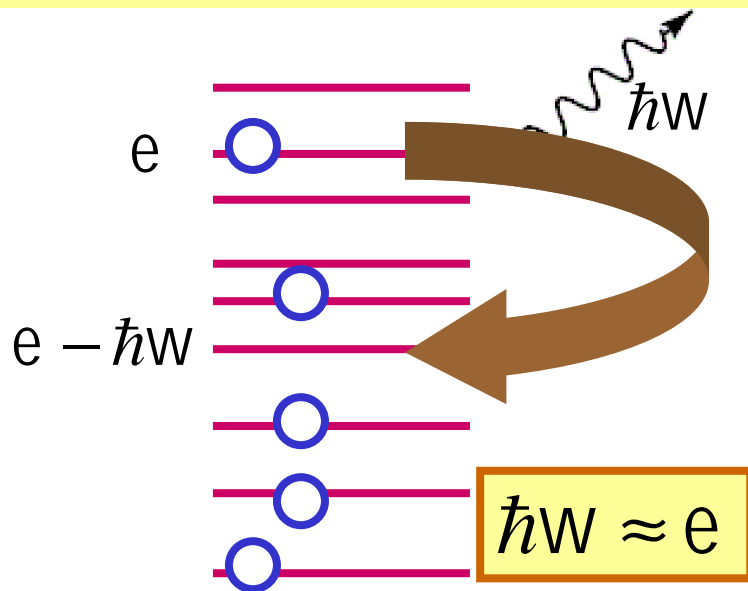
Luttinger liquids

Applicability of the FL approach is determined by the phase relaxation time

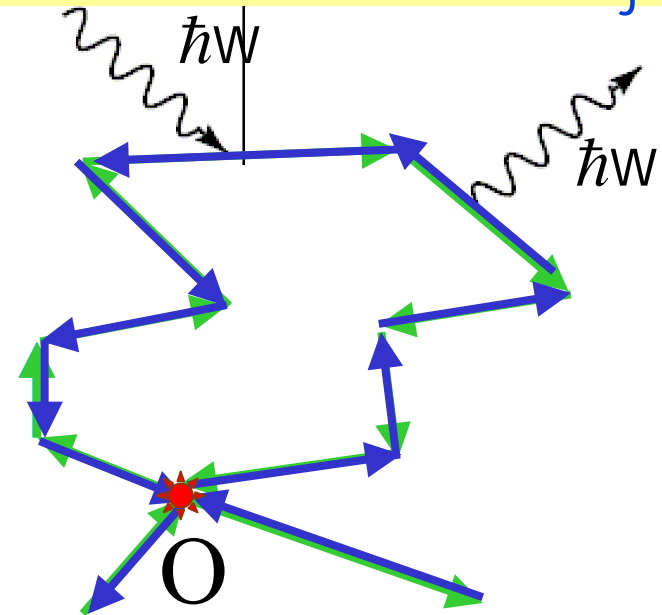
$$\text{de}(t^*) \gg \frac{\hbar}{t^*} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{df}(t^*) \gg 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{matrix} t^* \gg t_j \\ \text{De}_{\min} \gg \hbar/t_j \end{matrix}$$

It is dephasing rate that determines the accuracy at which the energy of the quantum state can be measured in principle.

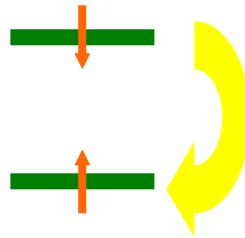
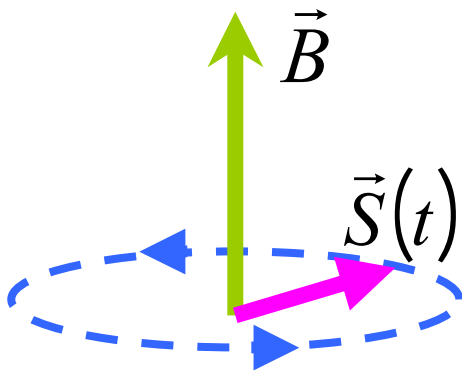
Energy relaxation rate $1/t_e$



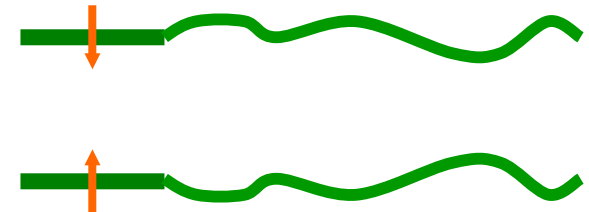
Inelastic dephasing rate $1/t_j$



Analogy: NMR relaxation rates T_1 and T_2

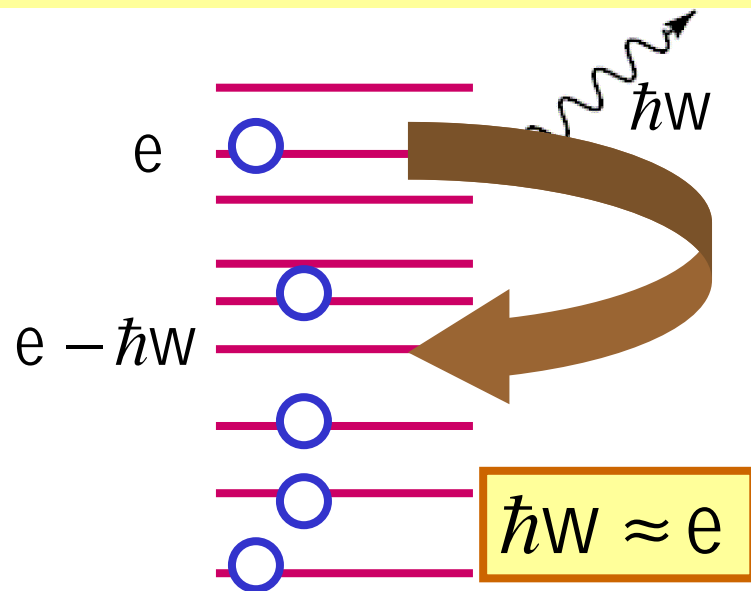


relaxation of $S_z - T_1$

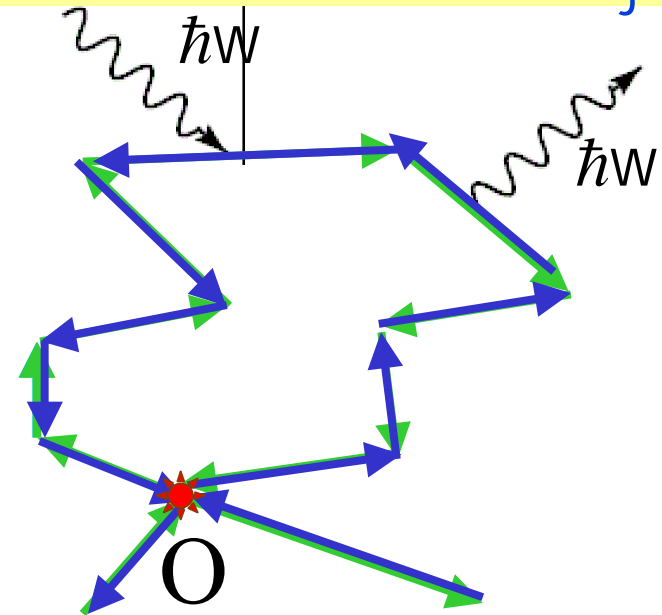


relaxation of $S_z - T_1$

Energy relaxation rate $1/t_e$



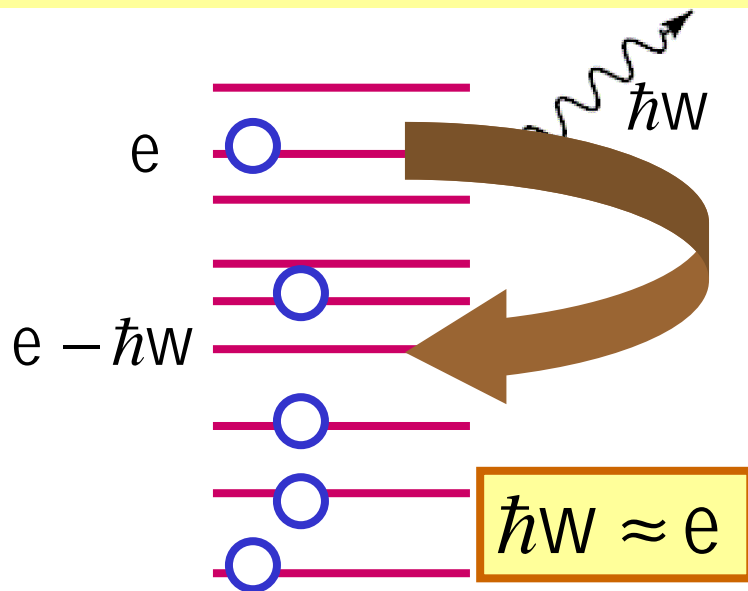
Inelastic dephasing rate $1/t_j$



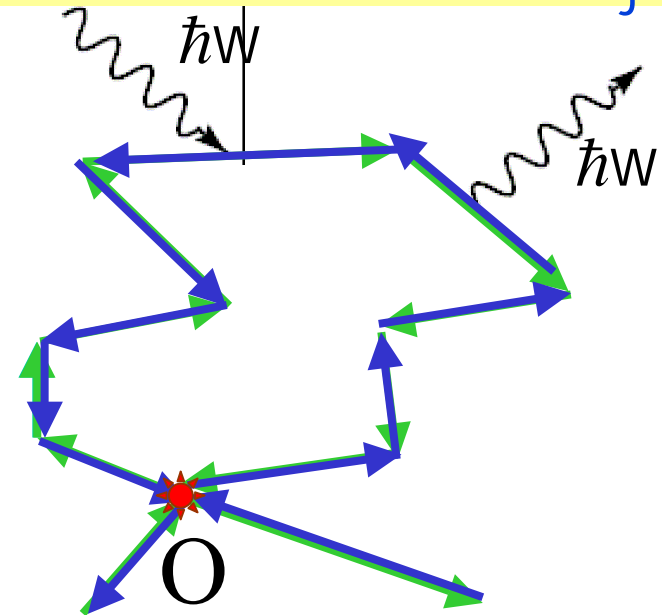
Problem: quasielastic scattering

Given the energy transfer in each scattering act ω and the inelastic rate $1/t_{in}$ determine the rates $1/t_j$ and $1/t_e$. Consider both cases $\omega t_{in} \ll 1$ and $\omega t_{in} \gg 1$.

Energy relaxation rate $1/t_e$



Inelastic dephasing rate $1/t_j$



For electron-electron interaction in the presence of disorder

$$\frac{\hbar}{t_e} \approx \frac{e}{g(L_e)}$$

$$L_e = \sqrt{\hbar D/e}$$

g – Thouless conductance

D – diffusion constant

n – density of states

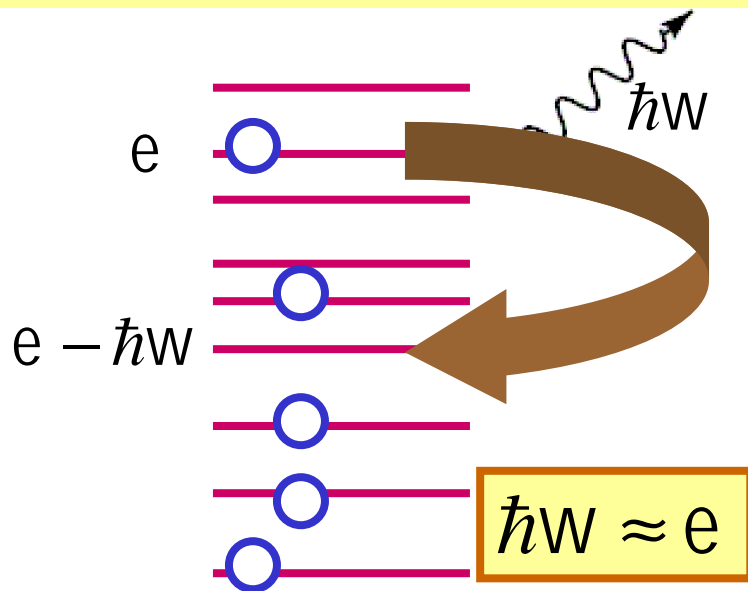
$$\frac{\hbar}{t_e} \approx \frac{e^{d/2}}{n D^{d/2}}$$

$$\frac{\hbar}{t_j} \approx \frac{\hbar^{d-6/d-4}}{n^{2/d-4} D^{d/d-4}} T^{2/d-4}$$

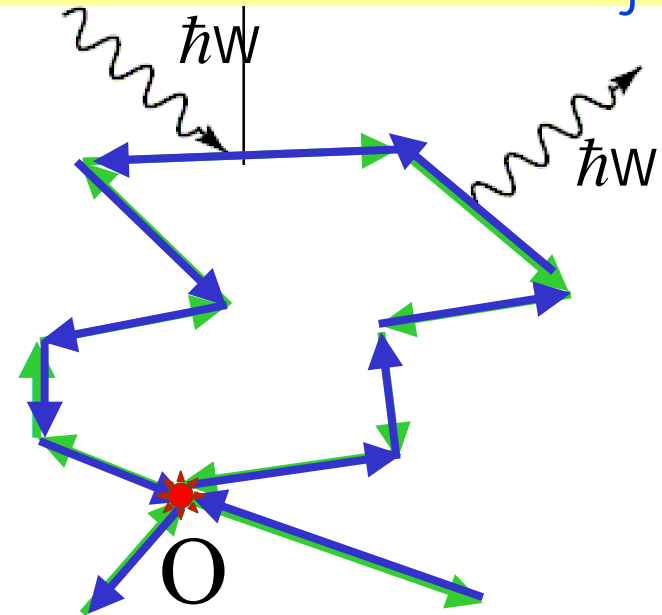
$$\frac{\hbar}{t_j} \approx \frac{T}{g(L_j)}$$

$$L_e = \sqrt{D t_j}$$

Energy relaxation rate $1/t_e$



Inelastic dephasing rate $1/t_j$



For electron-electron interaction in the presence of disorder

$$\frac{\hbar}{t_e} \approx \frac{e}{g(L_e)}$$

$$L_e = \sqrt{\hbar D/e}$$

$$t_e \xrightarrow{e, T \rightarrow 0} \infty$$

$$t_j \xrightarrow{T \rightarrow 0} \infty$$

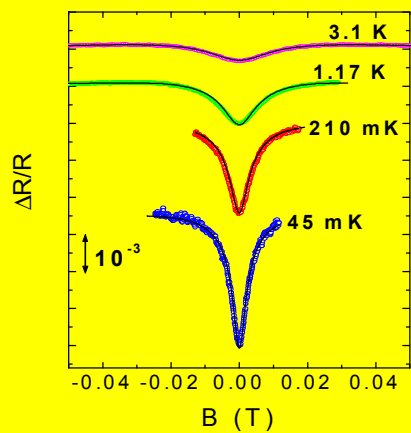
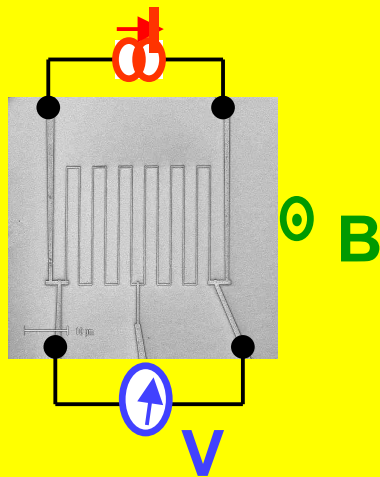
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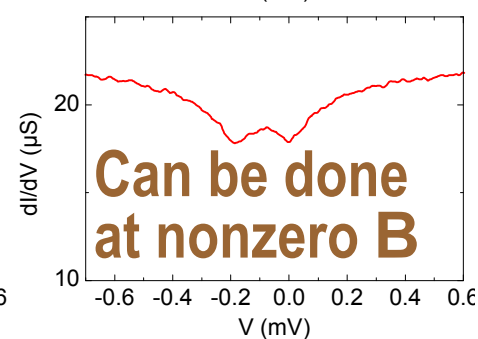
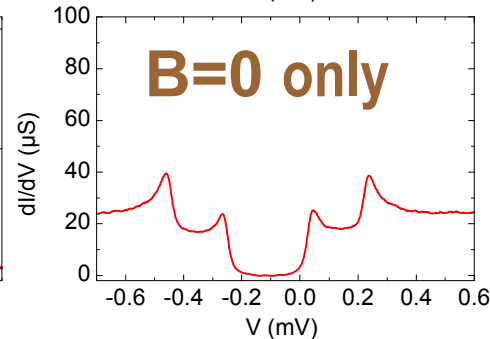
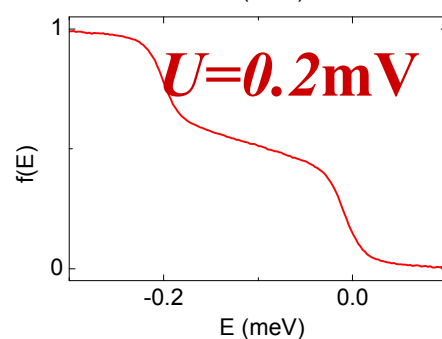
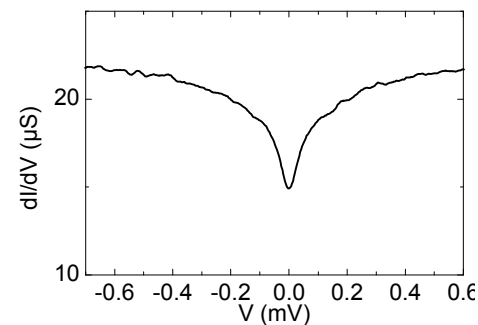
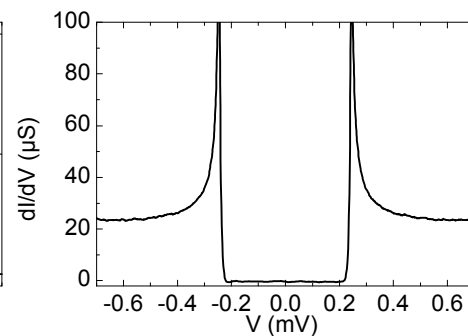
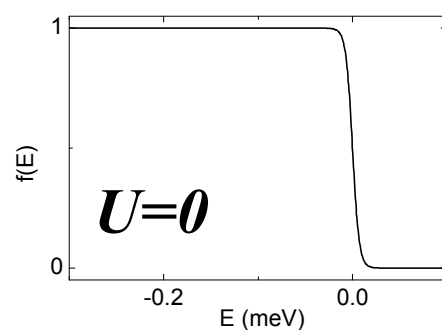
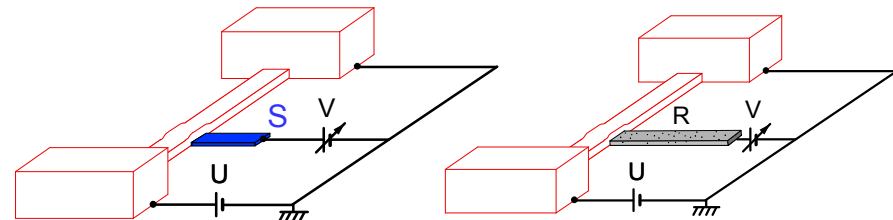
$$\frac{\hbar}{t_e} \approx \frac{e^{d/2}}{n D^{d/2}}$$

$$\frac{\hbar}{t_j} \approx \frac{\hbar^{d-6/d-4}}{n^{2/d-4} D^{d/d-4}} T^{2/d-4}$$

Energy relaxation?



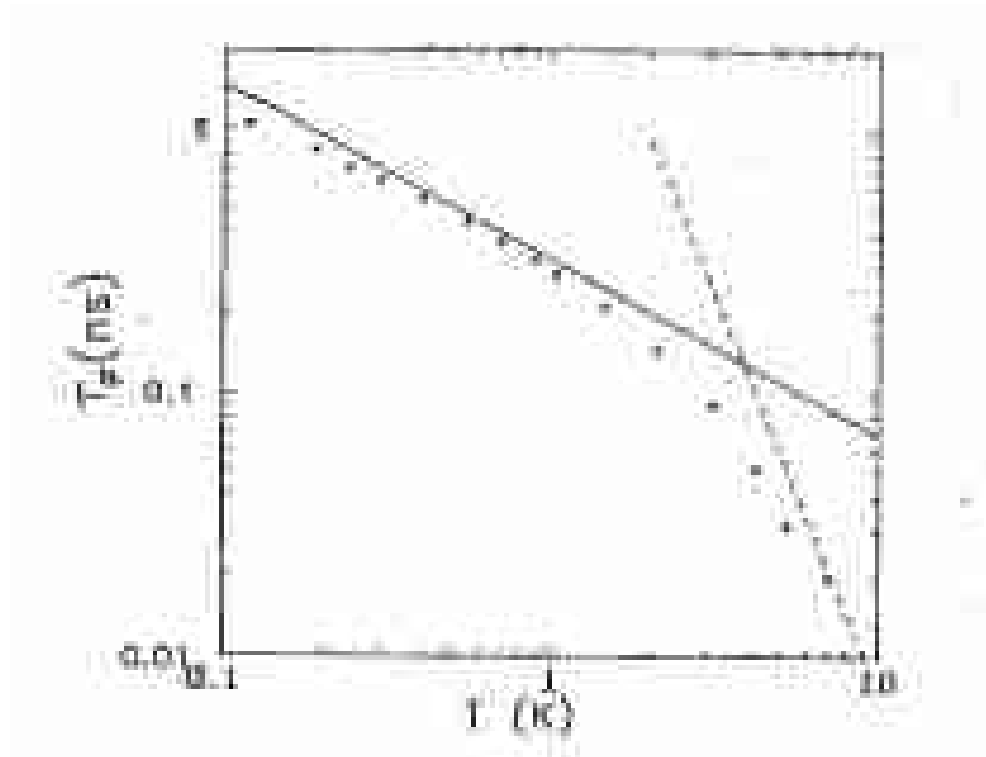
Phase
relaxation
rate



Can be done
at nonzero B

Deconvolution [
Energy relaxation

Temperature dependence of t_f (from magnetoresistance)



Echternach, Gershenson, Bozler, Bogdanov & Nilsson,
PRL 48, 11516 (1993)

Intrinsic Decoherence in Mesoscopic Systems

P. Mohanty, E. M. Q. Jariwala, and R. A. Webb

Center for Superconductivity Research, Department of Physics, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742

(Received 17 December 1996)

Saturation
is not due
to magnetic
impurities

Saturation is
not due to
overheating

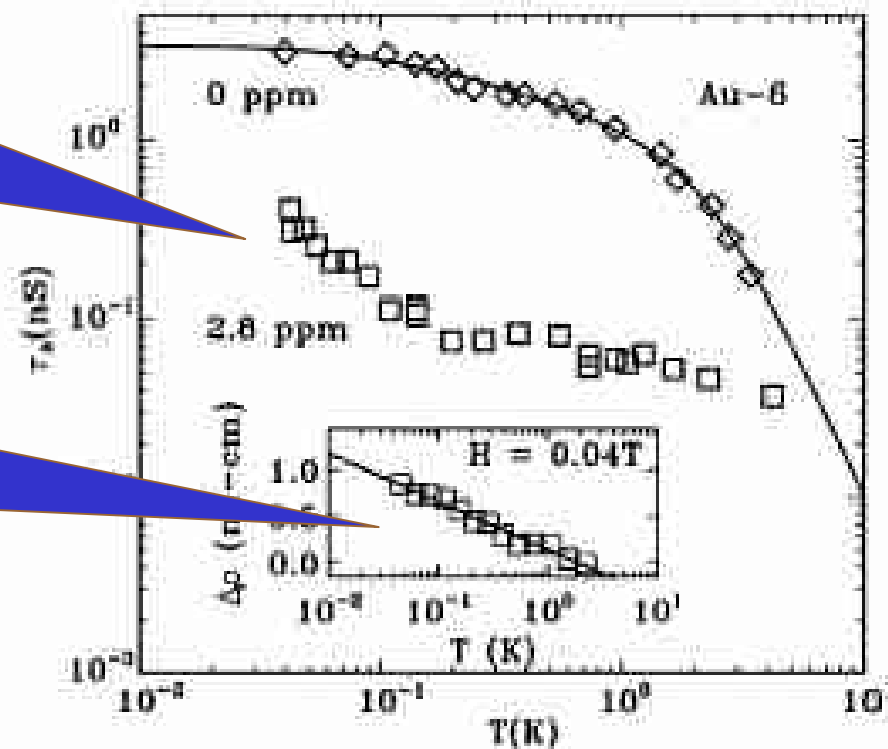
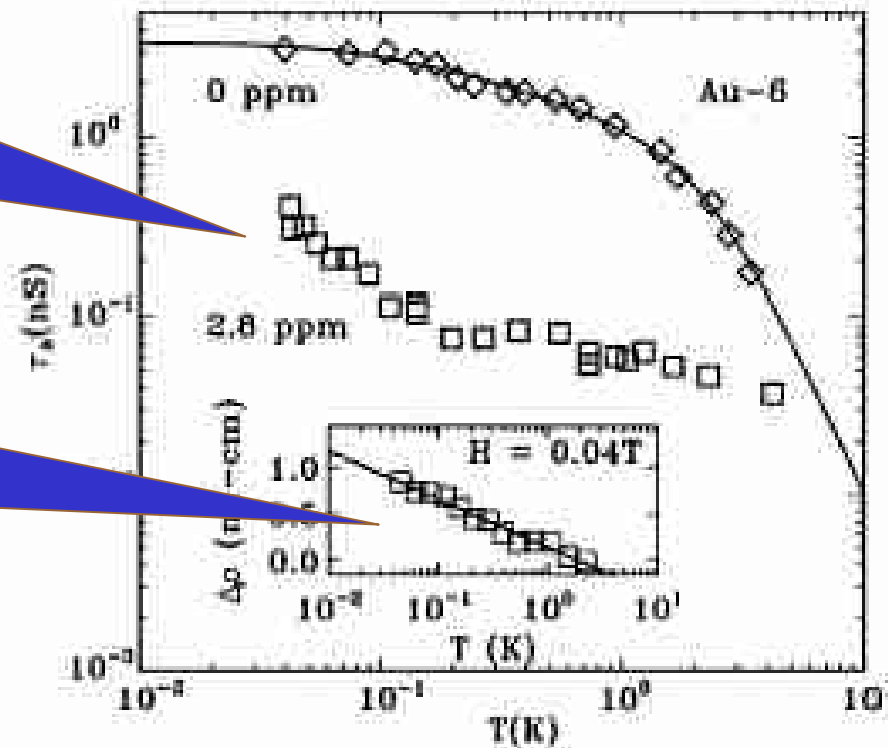


FIG. 3. Temperature dependence of τ_A before (diamonds) and after (boxes) Fe implantation. The solid line is a fit to Eq. (1) with phonons. The inset shows the $\log(T)$ dependence of $\Delta\rho$ due to magnetic impurities with a theoretical fit.



Saturation
is not due
to magnetic
impurities

Saturation is
not due to
overheating



It could be magnetic impurities with low Kondo temperature (Mn)

It could also be **external radiation !**
Dephasing without heating

Effect of microwave radiation on weak localization

Dephasing without
heating

e-e interaction – Electric noise

Fluctuation- dissipation theorem:

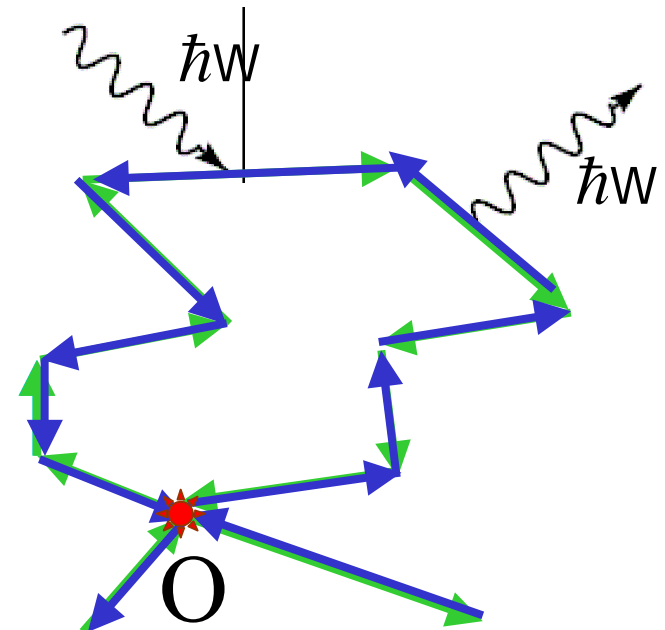
Electric noise - **randomly** time and space - dependent electric field $E^a(\vec{r}, t) \hat{=} E^a(\vec{k}, \omega)$. Correlation function of this field is completely determined by the conductivity $S(\vec{k}, \omega)$

$$\langle E^a E^b \rangle_{\omega, \vec{k}} = \frac{\omega}{S_{ab}(\omega, \vec{k})} \coth\left(\frac{\omega}{2T}\right) \frac{k_a k_b}{k^2} \propto \frac{T}{S_{ab}(\omega, \vec{k})}$$

Noise intensity **increases** with the temperature, T , and with resistance

What is the effect of microwave radiation ?

External noise ?



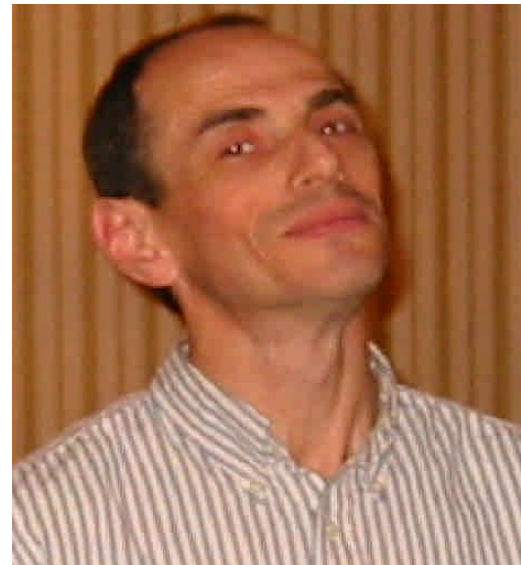
Microwave-Induced Dephasing in One-Dimensional Metal Wires

J. Wei, S. Pereverzev, and M. E. Gershenson*

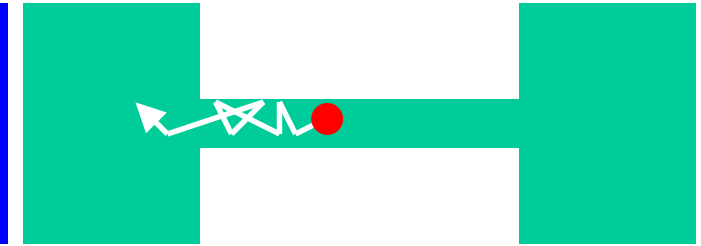
Department of Physics and Astronomy, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ 08854

(Dated: August 4, 2005)

We report on the effect of monochromatic microwave (MW) radiation on the weak localization corrections to the conductivity of quasi-one-dimensional silver wires. Due to the improved electron cooling in the wires, the MW-induced dephasing was observed without a concomitant overheating of electrons over wide ranges of the MW power P_{MW} and frequency f . The observed dependences of the MW-induced dephasing rate on P_{MW} and f are in agreement with the theory by Altshuler, Aronov, and Khmelnitsky [1]. Our results suggest that the saturation of dephasing time, often observed at $T \leq 0.1$ K, may be caused by an insufficient screening of the sample from the external microwave noise.



Dephasing without Heating in 1D



$$P_{es} \gg \frac{2p}{e} \frac{k_B}{e} \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{\phi} \frac{TD}{R}$$

power that gets out of the sample due to diffusion of “**hot**” electrons to “**cold**” leads, given the overheating DT

$$P_{es} \gg \frac{2}{e} \frac{k_B T}{\hbar} \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{\phi} \frac{e^2 R}{\hbar}$$

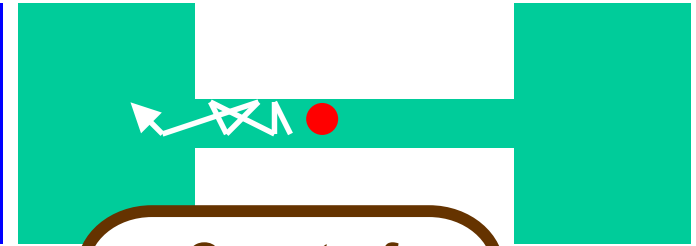
power at which dephasing effect of the radiation compares with the effect of the thermal noise

$$\frac{P_{es}}{P_j} \gg \frac{2}{e} \frac{h}{e^2 R} \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{\phi} \frac{DT}{T}$$

the shorter the wire, the larger resistance R , the bigger the range of powers with “Dephasing – without – overheating”

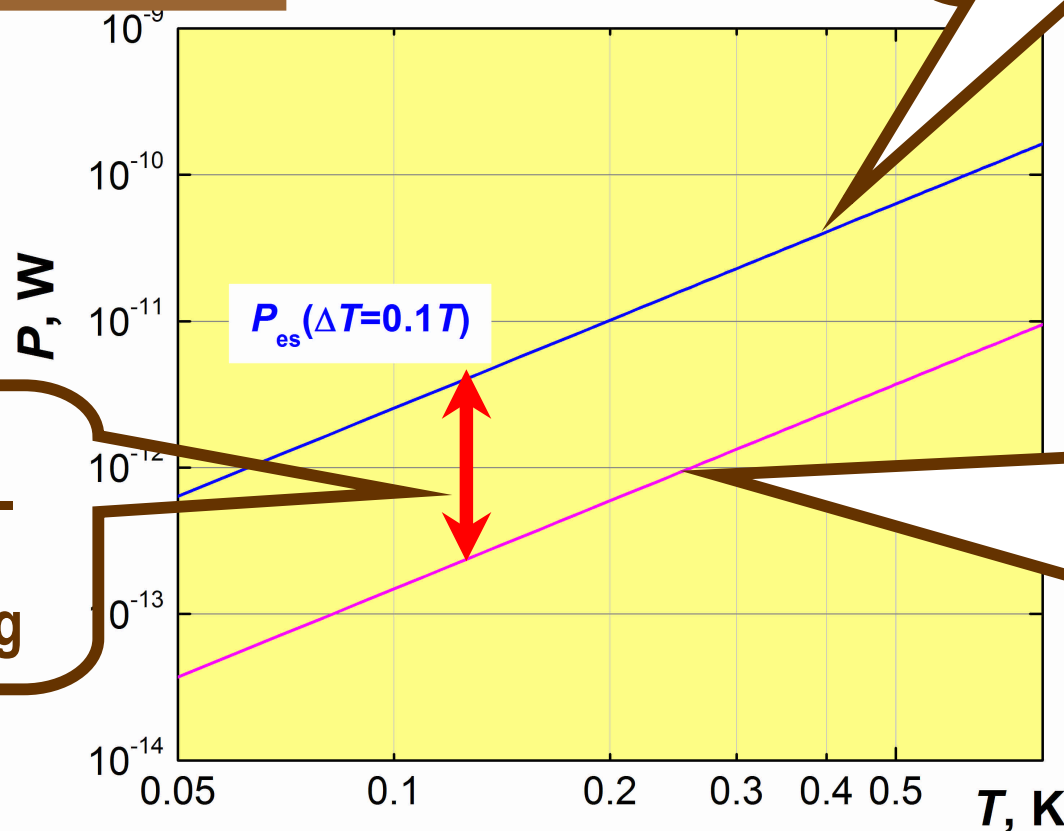
No “Dephasing – without – overheating” as long as $R \gg R_q = h/e^2$

Dephasing without Heating in 1D



$$\frac{P_{es}}{P_j} \gg \frac{\hbar}{e} \frac{\hbar^2}{e^2 R \hbar} \frac{DT}{T}$$

Onset of significant overheating in the sample ($L=30\text{mm}$)



MW dephasing without overheating

Power at which the radiation dominates the dephasing



SUPPRESSION OF LOCALIZATION EFFECTS BY THE HIGH FREQUENCY FIELD AND THE NYQUIST NOISE

B.L.Altshuller, A.G.Aronov

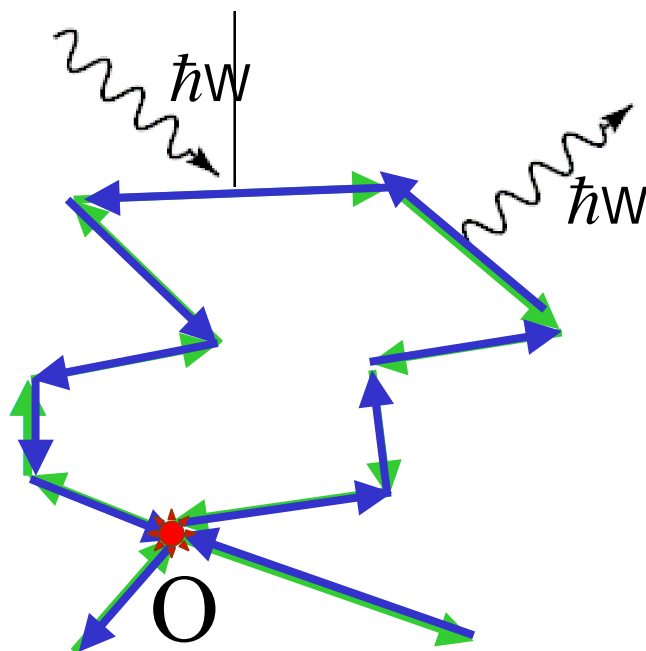
Leningrad Nuclear Physics Institute, Gatchina,
Leningrad 188350, USSR

D.E.Khmelnitsky

L.D.Landau Institute for Theoretical Physics,
Chernogolovka, Moscow 142432, USSR

$$\hat{e}DS_1\hat{u}_{B=0} = \frac{2e^2}{\hbar} \sqrt{\frac{D}{pW}} \int_{Wt_{im}}^{\infty} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x}} I_0(a f(x)) e^{-a f(x) - \frac{2x}{W} t_j}$$

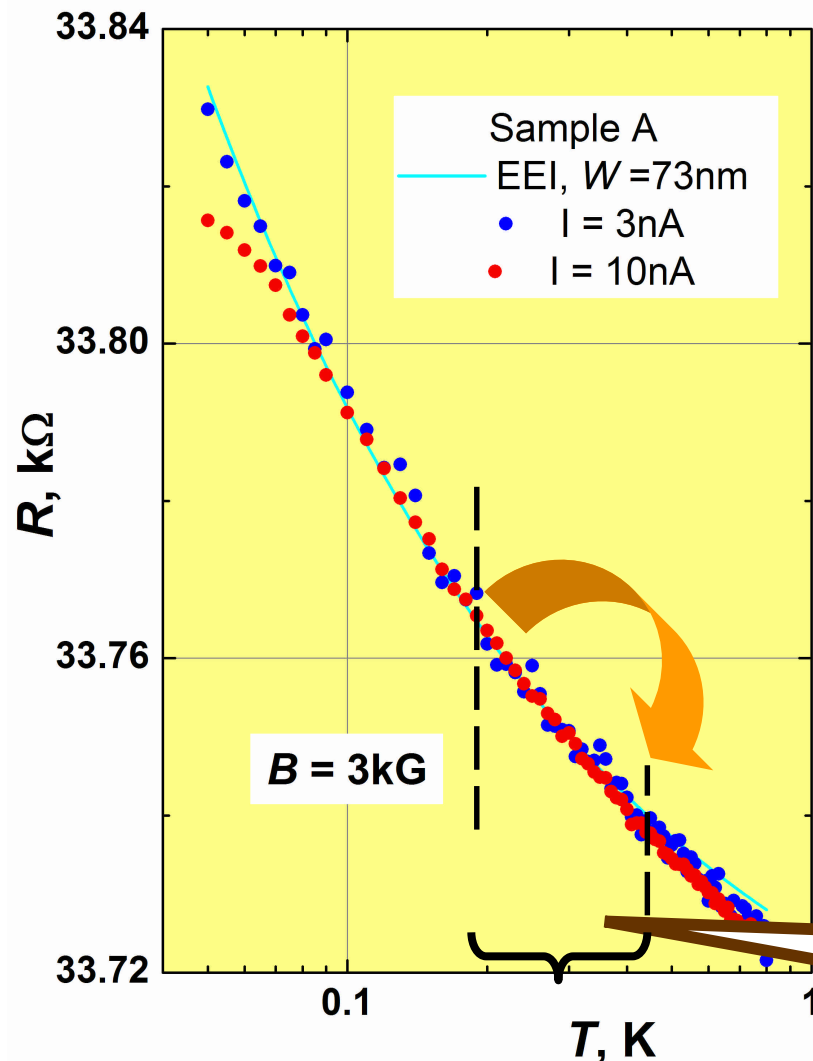
$$f(x) = x \frac{\pi}{c} \left(1 + \frac{\sin 2x}{2x} - 2 \frac{\sin^2 x}{x^2} \right) \quad a = \frac{2e^2}{\hbar^2} \frac{DE^2}{W^3}$$



$$\epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \partial_{\mu} S_1 \partial_{\nu} B=0 = \frac{2e^2}{\hbar} \sqrt{\frac{D}{pW}} \oint_{Wt_{im}} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x}} I_0(a f(x)) e^{-a f(x) - \frac{2x}{W} t_j}$$

$$f(x) = x \frac{a}{c} 1 + \frac{\sin 2x}{2x} - 2 \frac{\sin^2 x}{x^2} \div \emptyset \quad a = \frac{2e^2}{\hbar^2} \frac{DE^2}{W^3}$$

Interaction Corrections as a Built-in Thermometer



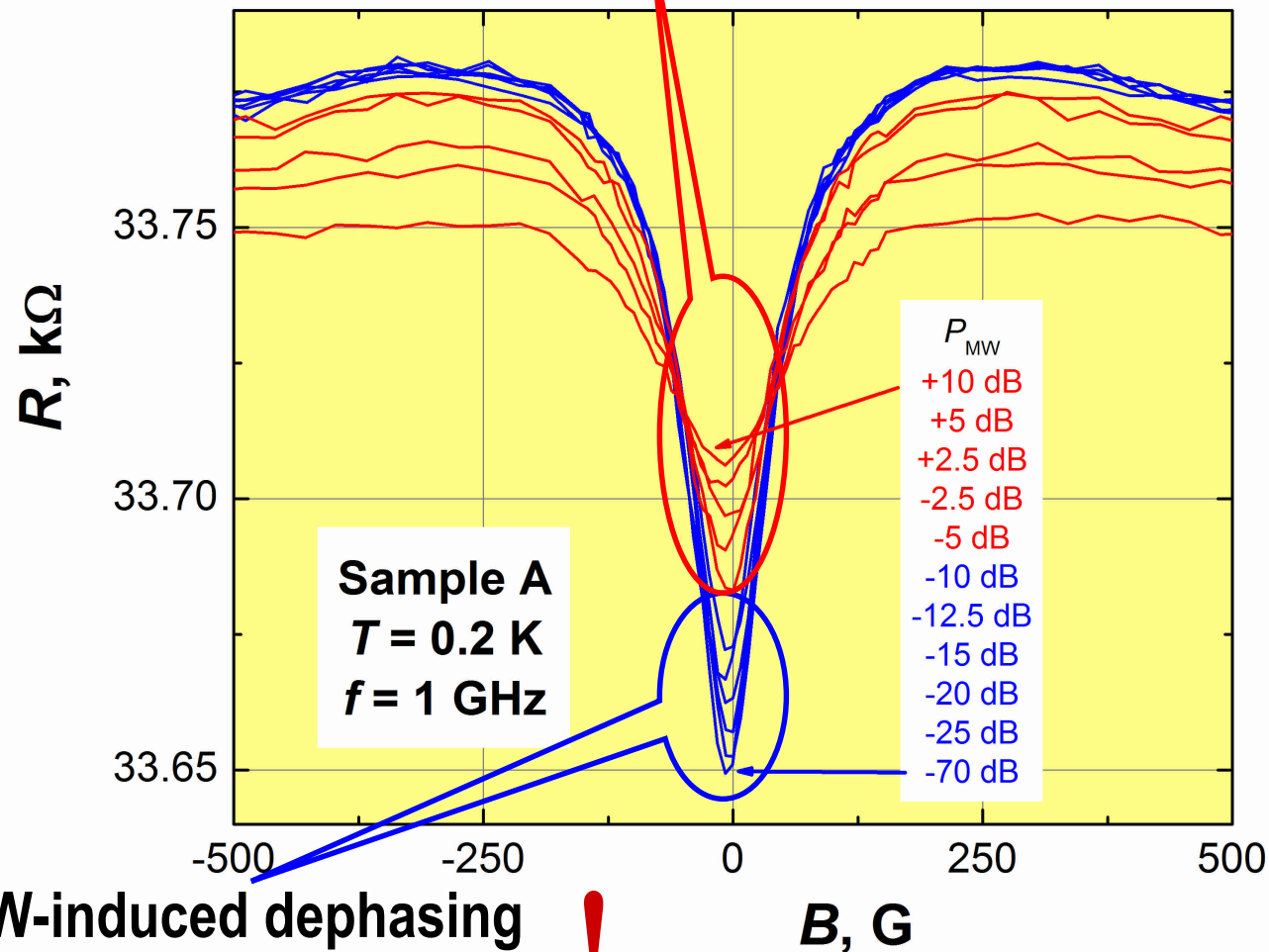
In a strong magnetic field ($L_H \ll L_j$), $R(T)$ is determined by the interaction corrections $DS_{EEI}(T_e)$.

The measurements of R in strong B provide both the direct measurement of T_e and calibration of the MW power dissipated in the sample, P_{MW} .

Overheating that corresponds to $P_{MW} = +10\text{ dB}$ at $f = 1\text{ GHz}$

Effect of Microwave Radiation on the WL MR

MW-induced dephasing
+ overheating



MW-induced dephasing
without overheating



Effect of the radiation at zero magnetic field

$$[DS_1]_{B=0} = \frac{2e^2}{\hbar} \sqrt{\frac{D}{pW}} \int_{Wt_{im}}^{\infty} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x}} I_0(a f(x)) \exp\left(-a f(x) - \frac{2x}{W} \frac{1}{t_j}\right)$$

$$f(x) = x \left(1 + \frac{\sin 2x}{2x} - 2 \frac{\sin^2 x}{x^2} \right)$$

S_1 - conductivity per unit length

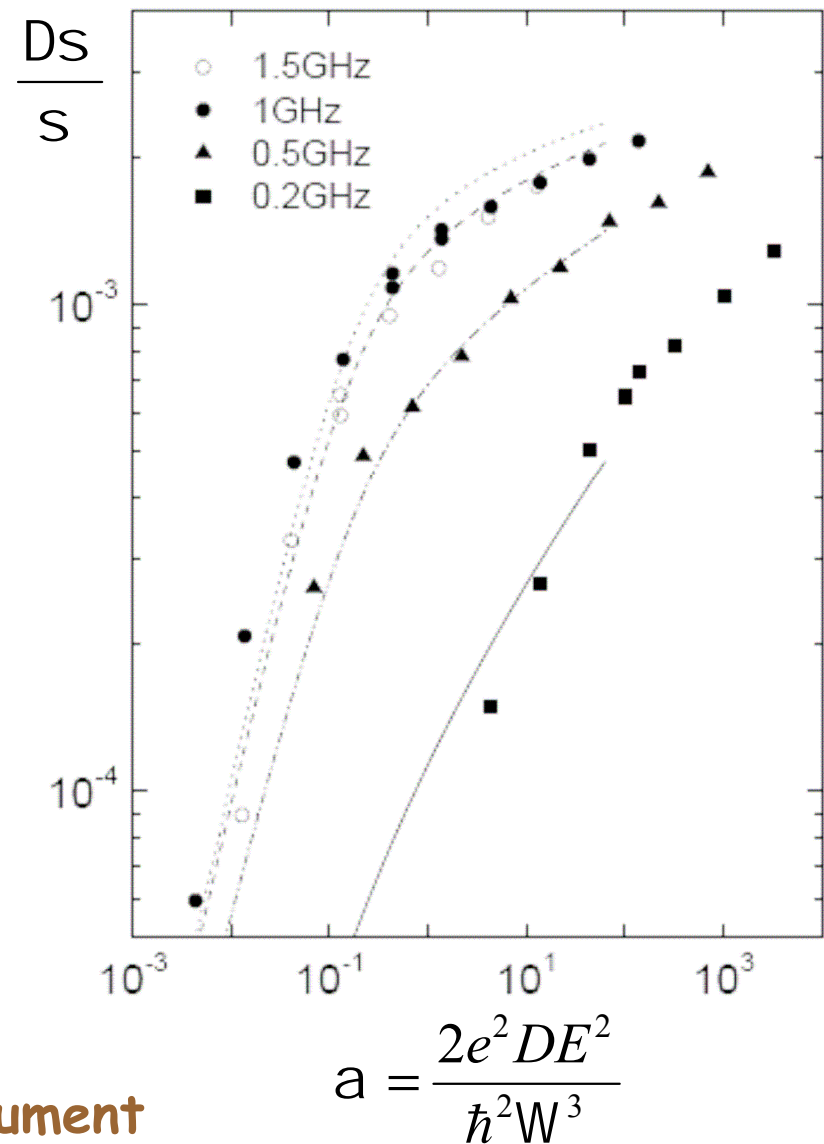
W - microwave frequency

D - diffusion constant of electrons

W - width of the wire

$I_0(z)$ - Bessel function of a complex argument

E - amplitude of the el. field in the microwave



Radiation effect on magnetoresistance

$$\frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_0} = \frac{8e^4}{3\hbar^3} \sqrt{\frac{D^3}{pW^3}} W^2 \int_0^\infty dx I_0(ax) f(x)$$

$$f(x) = x \exp\left(-\frac{2x}{W} \frac{1}{t_j}\right) - a f(x) - \frac{2x}{W} \frac{1}{t_j}$$

$$f(x) = x \left[1 + \frac{\sin 2x}{2x} - 2 \frac{\sin^2 x}{x^2} \right]$$

σ_1 - conductivity per unit length

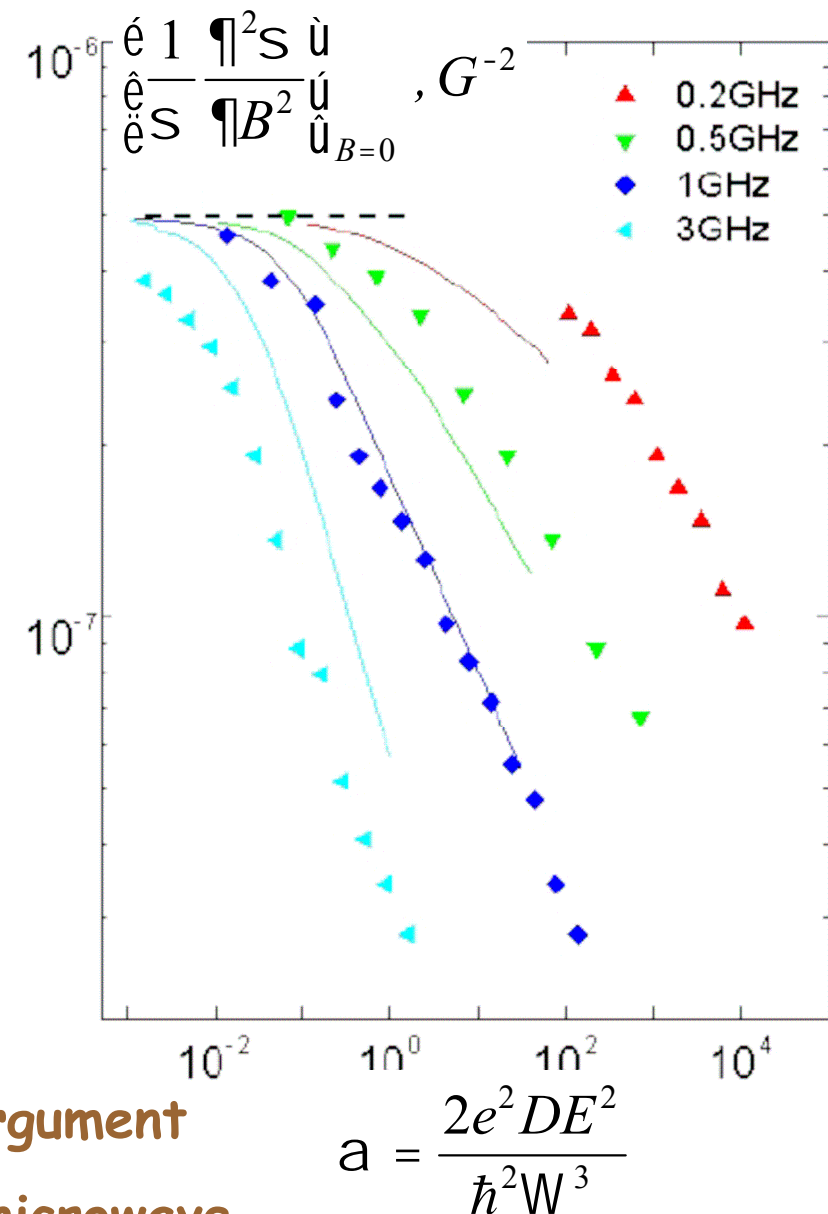
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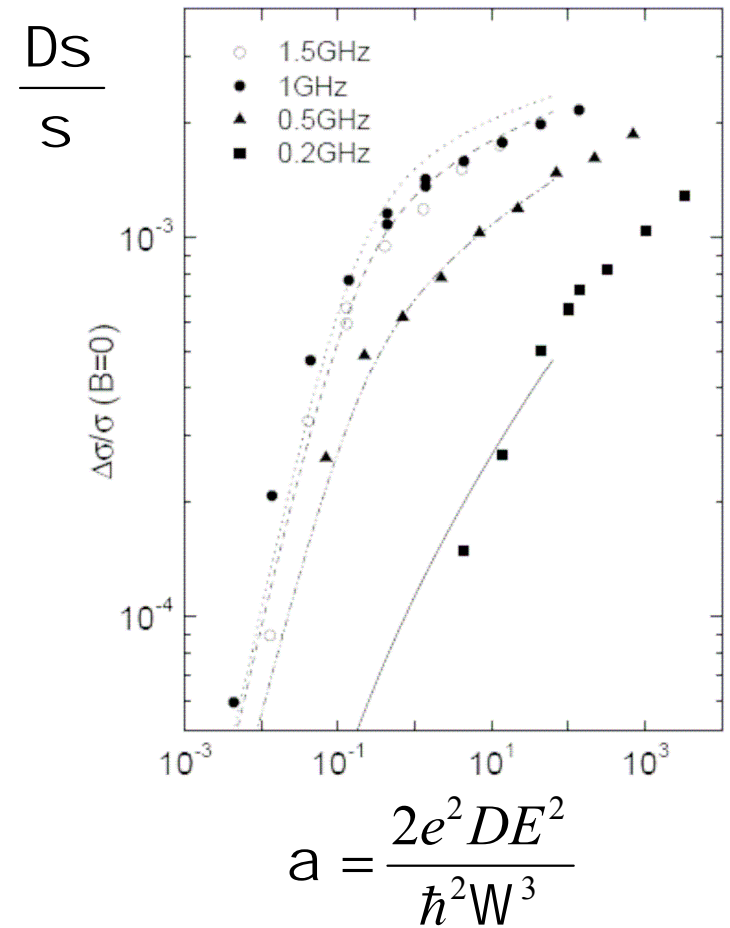
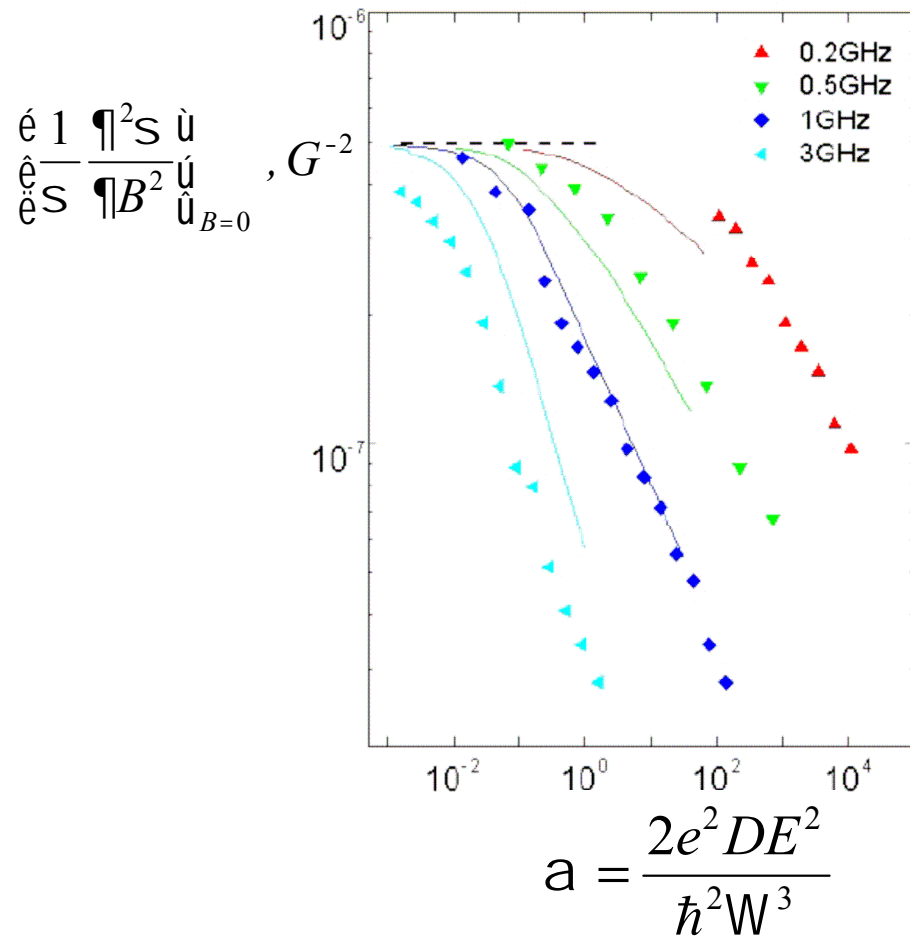
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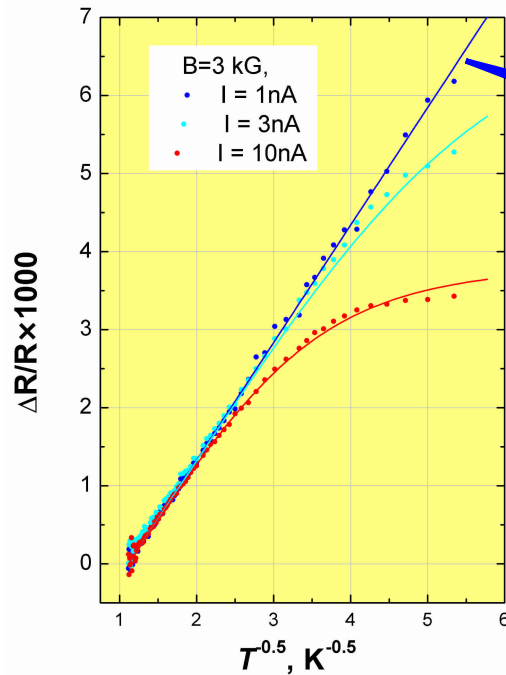




$$DS_1 = \frac{2e^2}{\hbar} \sqrt{\frac{D}{pW}} \int_{Wt_{im}}^{\infty} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x}} I_0(a f(x)) \exp \left(-a f(x) - \frac{2x}{W} \left(\frac{1}{t_j} + \frac{D}{3\hbar^2 c^3} (eBW)^2 \right) \right)$$

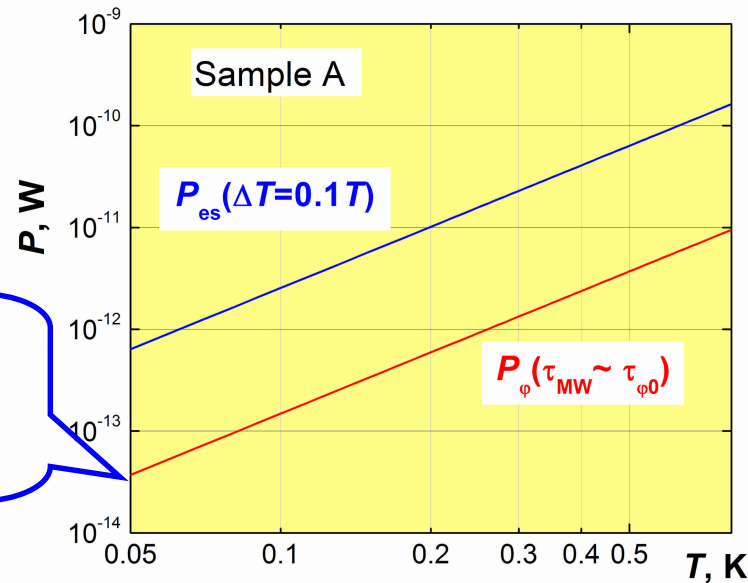
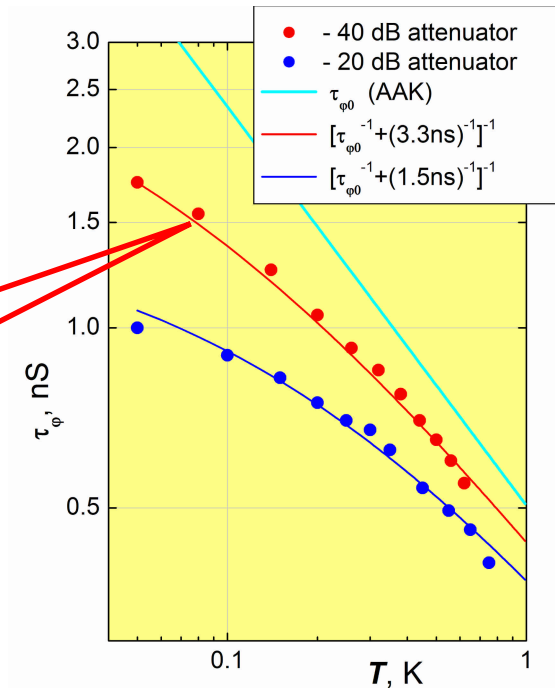
No adjustable parameters !

Low- T saturation of t_j



the upper bound on the external noise power $\sim 3 \cdot 10^{-14} \text{ W}$

$$t_j^{-1}(T) = t_{j0}^{-1}(T) + (3.3 \text{ ns})^{-1}$$



$P_{\text{MW}} = 3 \cdot 10^{-14} \text{ W}$
 leads to $t_{\text{MW}} \sim$
 $t_j(50 \text{ mK}) = 3.7 \text{ ns}$

Conclusion: at least in this experiment, the reason for $t_j(T)$ saturation may be the external electromagnetic noise

Saturation of the dephasing rate

- **Birge, Pothier et al – Magnetic impurities**
- **Gershenson et al - External noise**
- **Mohanty & Webb - ????**

**No reason to expect zero-temperature
dephasing by zero-point oscillations**

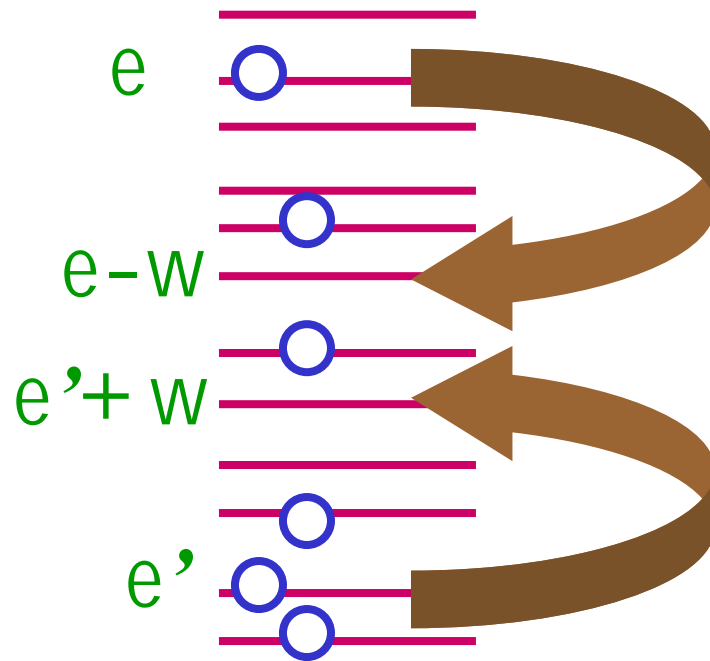
One-particle excitations in finite closed systems

Can one localize a
quasiparticle

Wigner-Dyson random matrix statistics follows from the delocalization.

Q: *Why the random matrix theory (RMT) works so well for nuclear spectra* **?**

Spectra of Many-Body excitations !



Offdiagonal
matrix
element

$$M(w, e, e') \propto \frac{d_1}{g} \ll d_1$$

Problem: in a discrete random spectrum it is impossible to satisfy the conservation law **exactly** ! Probability that

$$e_a + e_b = e_g + e_d$$

equals to zero

Decay of a quasiparticle with an energy ϵ in Landau Fermi liquid

ϵ ●

$\epsilon - W$ ●

$\epsilon_1 + W$ ●

Fermi Golden rule:

$$g(\epsilon) \propto \frac{1}{\Delta \epsilon} \frac{\epsilon^2}{E_T}$$

Mean level
spacing

Thouless
energy

zero-dimensional case

one-particle spectrum is **discrete**

equation $\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2 = \epsilon'_1 + \epsilon'_2$
can not be satisfied exactly

ϵ_1 ●

Fermi Sea

Chaos in Nuclei – Delocalization?

Timeline diagram showing generations 1 to 6. A green dot labeled 'e' is positioned at generation 1.

Delocalization in Fock space

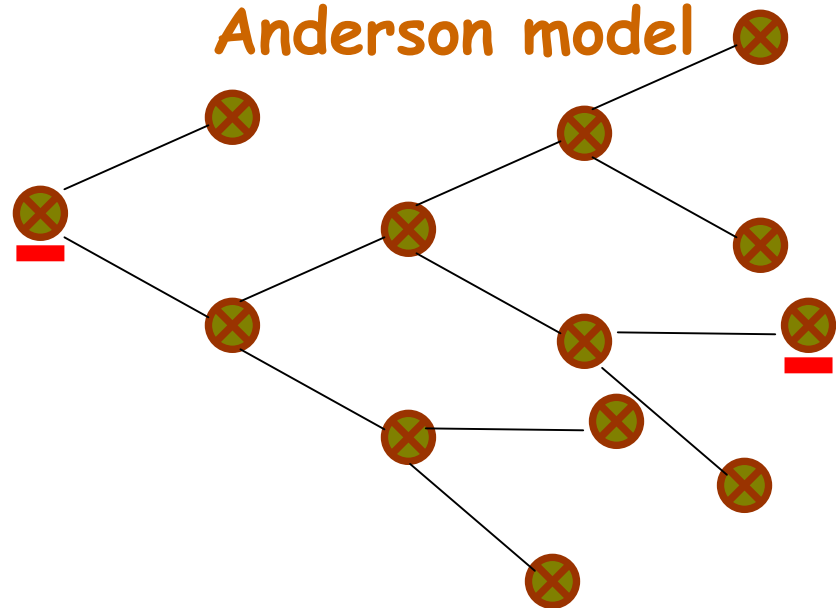
e' ●

 e_1' ● e_1

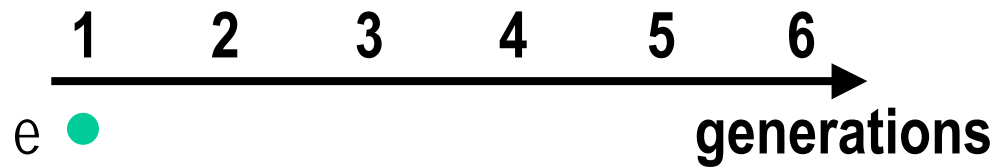
Fermi Sea

Can be mapped (approximately)
to the problem of localization
on Cayley tree

Anderson model



Chaos in Nuclei – Delocalization?

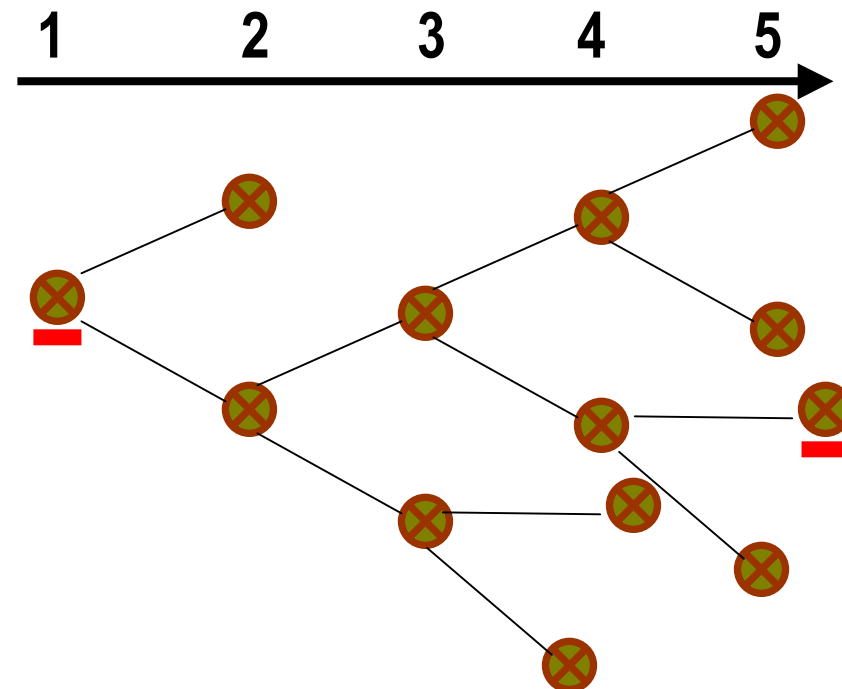
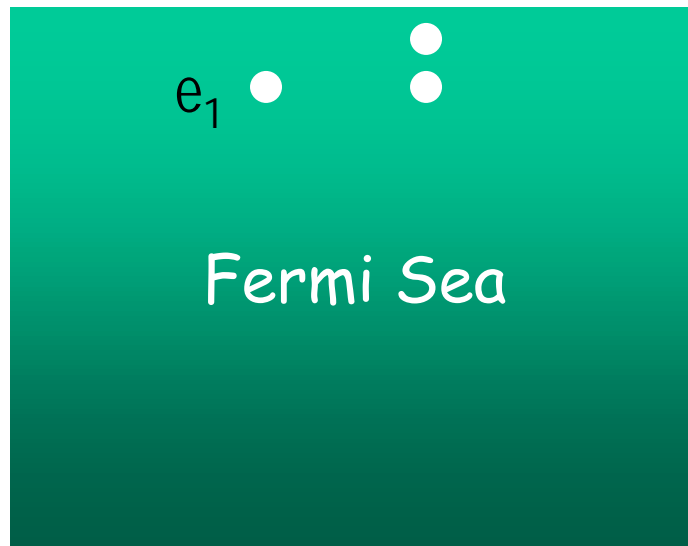


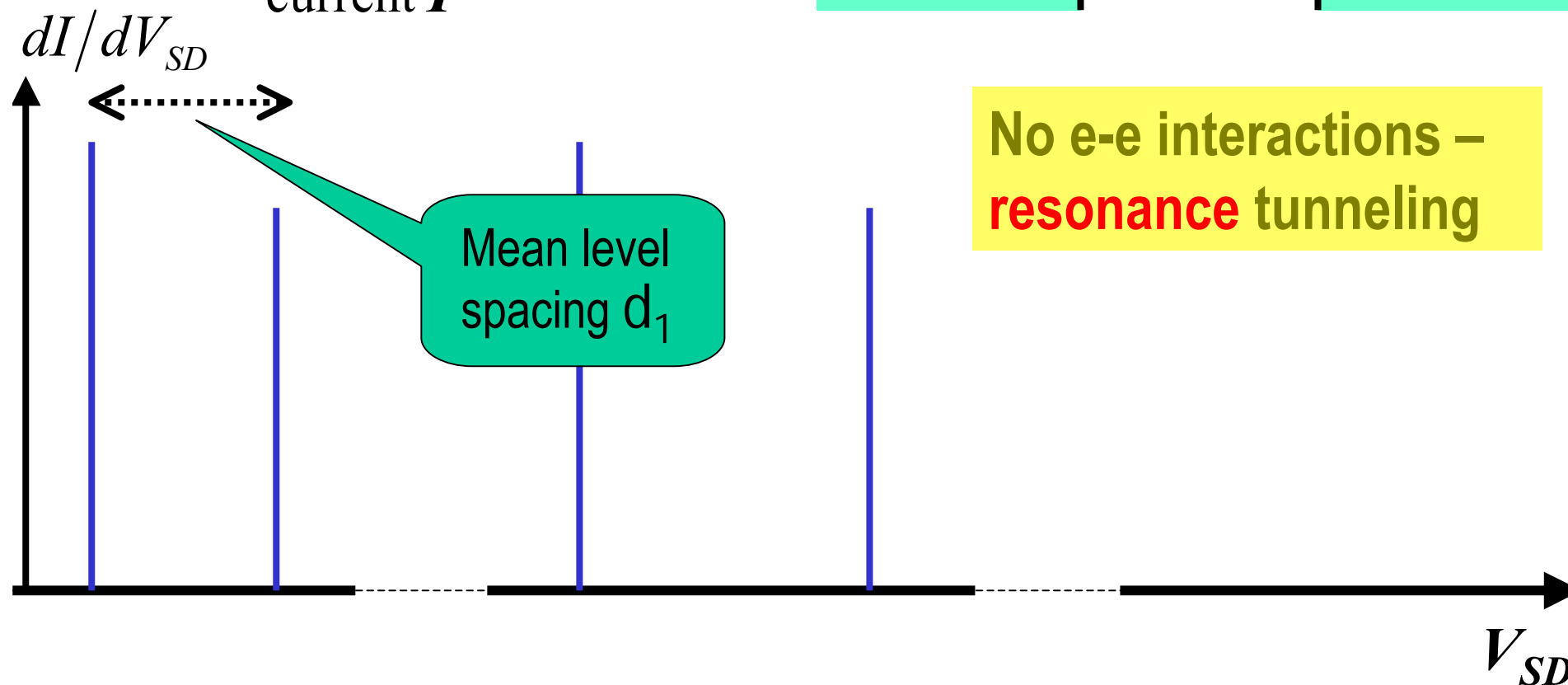
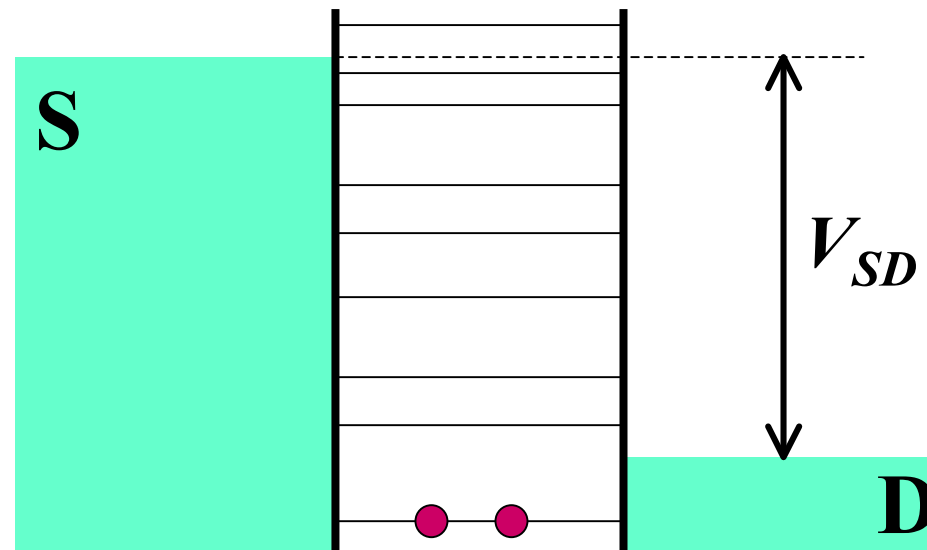
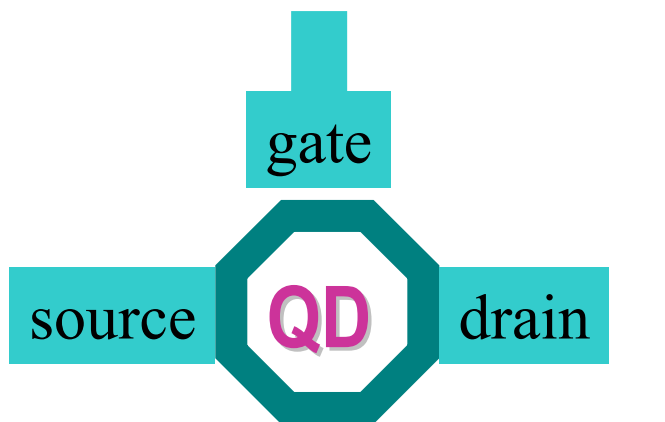
**Delocalization
in Fock space**

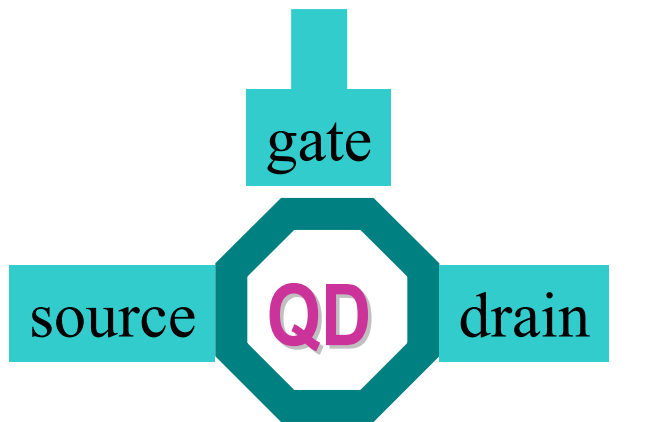
$e - W$ ●

$e_1 + W$ ● ● ● ...

Can be mapped (approximately)
to the problem of localization
on Cayley tree

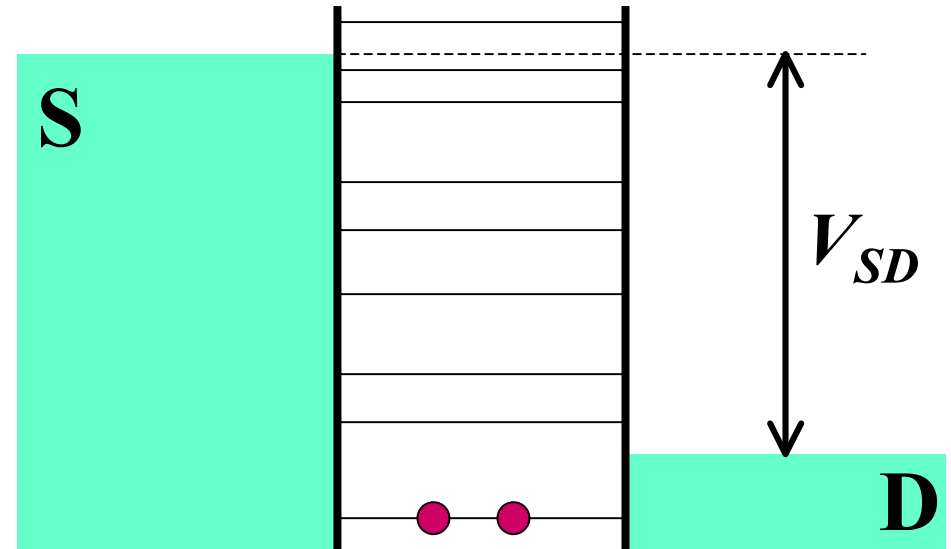
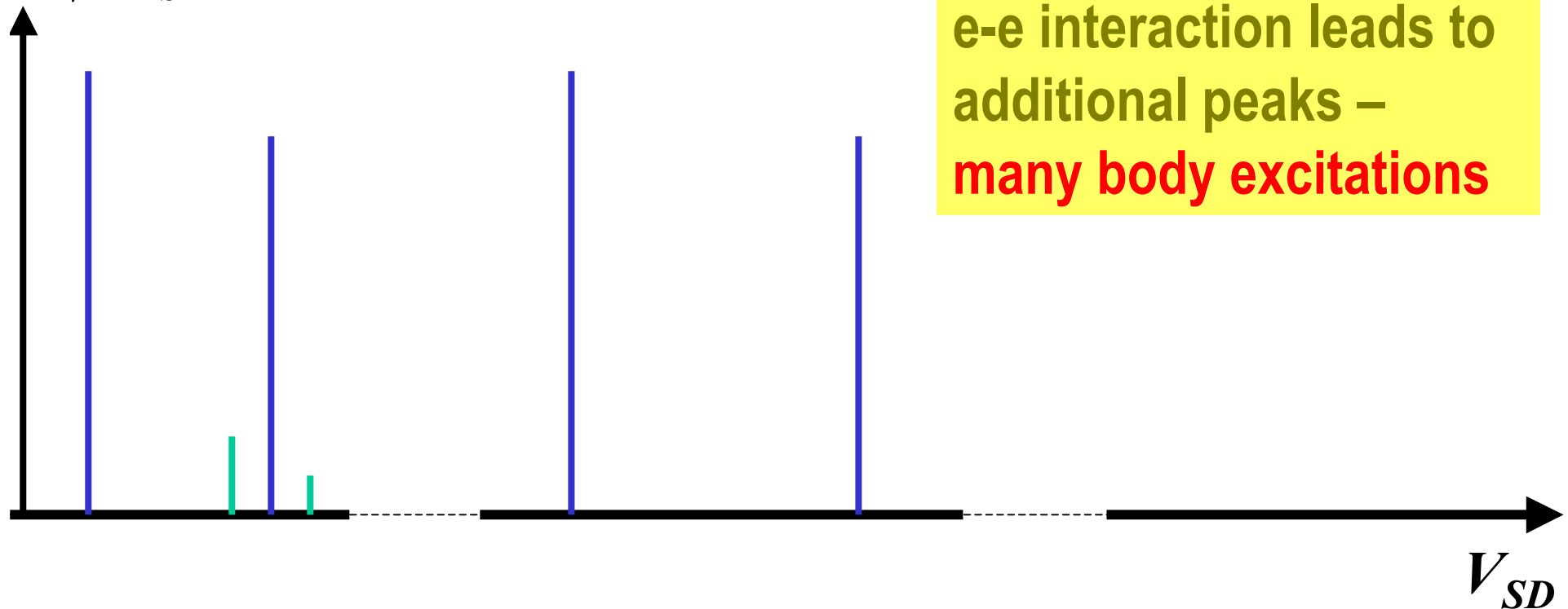




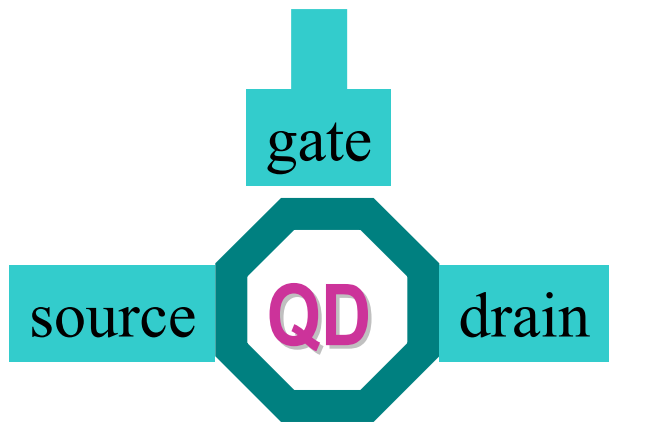


current I

dI/dV_{SD}

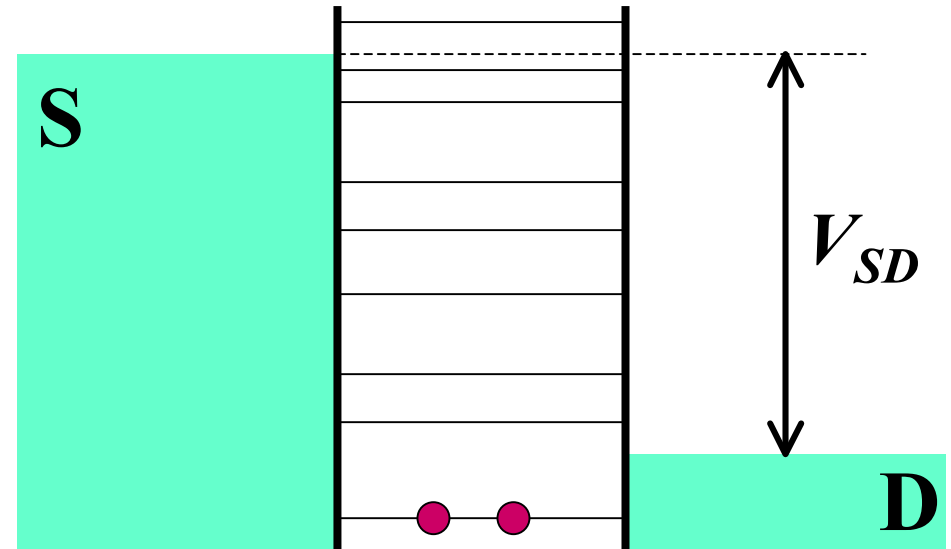
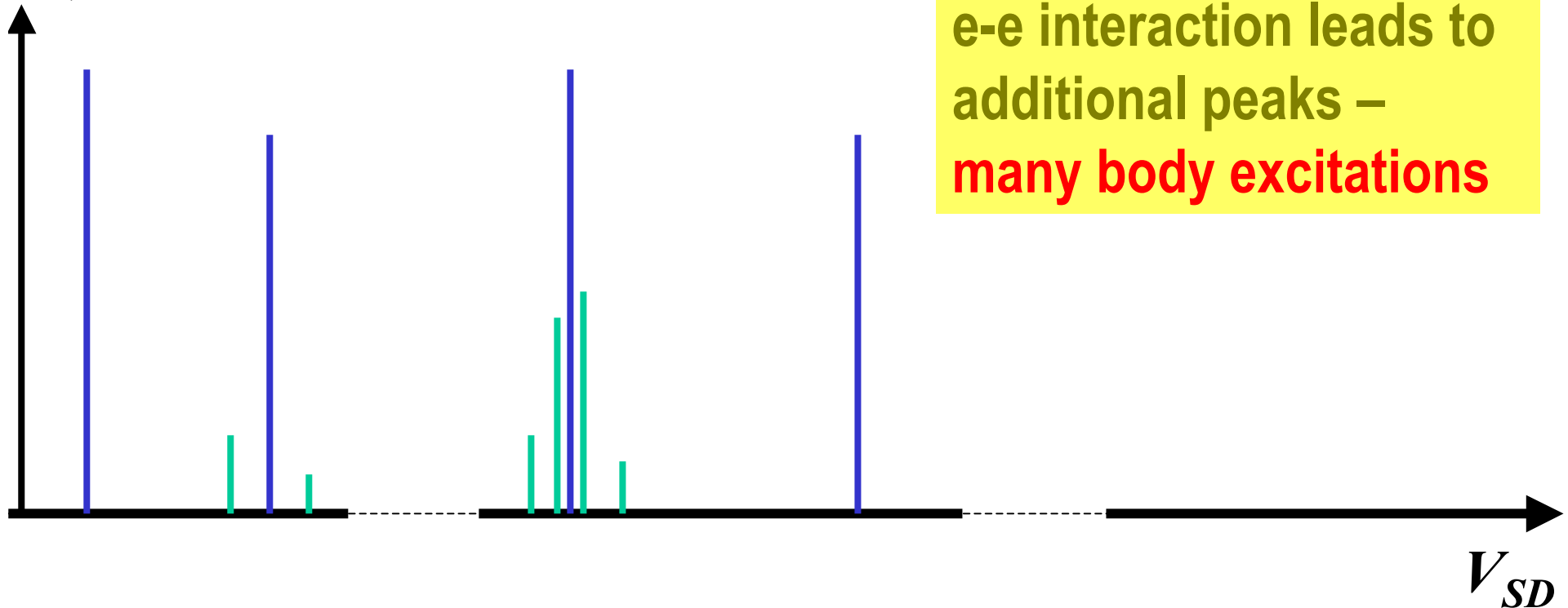


e-e interaction leads to additional peaks – many body excitations

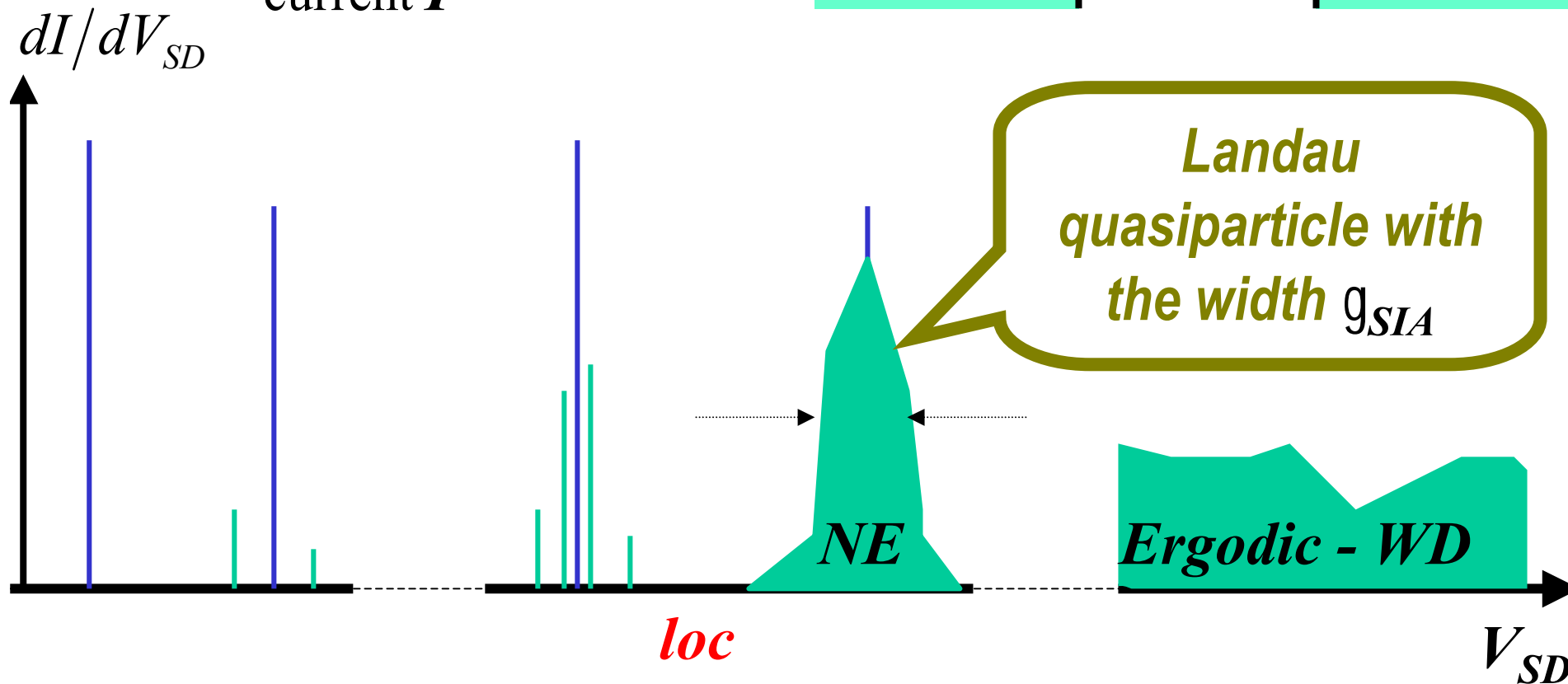
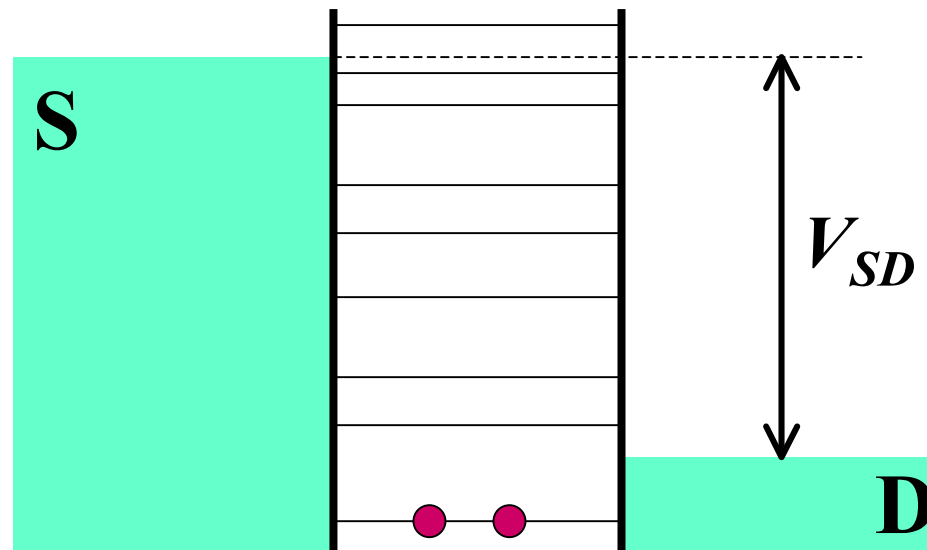
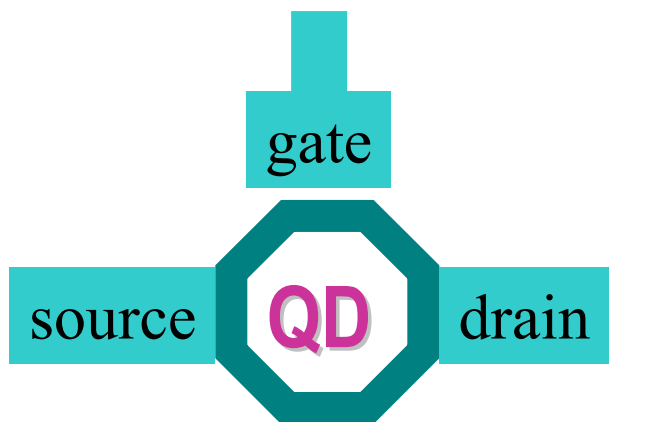


current I

dI/dV_{SD}



e-e interaction leads to additional peaks – many body excitations



Many Body Localization

Can hopping conductivity
exist without phonons



Problem: can e - e interaction alone
sustain hopping conduction
in a localized system?

Given:

1. All one-electron states are localized
2. Electrons interact with each other
3. The system is closed (no phonons)
4. Temperature is low but finite

Find: DC conductivity $\sigma(T, \omega=0)$
(zero or finite?)

“All states are localized”

means

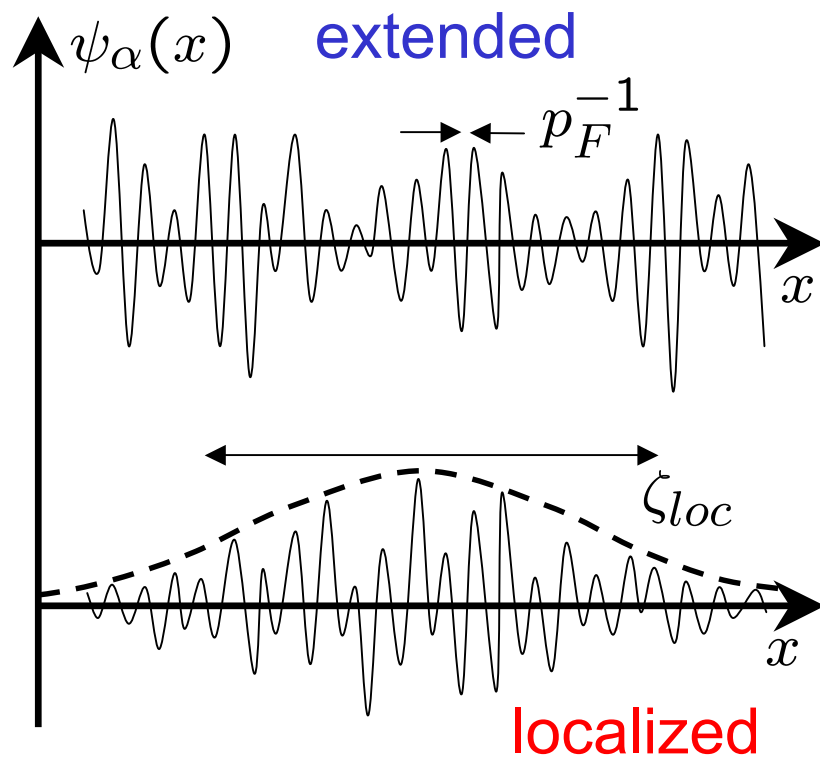
Probability to find an extended state:

$$\mathcal{P}_{ext} \propto \exp \left(-\# \frac{L}{\zeta_{loc}} \right)$$

System size

1. Localization of single-electron wave-functions:

$$\left[-\frac{\nabla^2}{2m} + U(\mathbf{r}) - \epsilon_F \right] \psi_\alpha(\mathbf{r}) = \xi_\alpha \psi_\alpha(\mathbf{r})$$



$d=1$; All states are localized

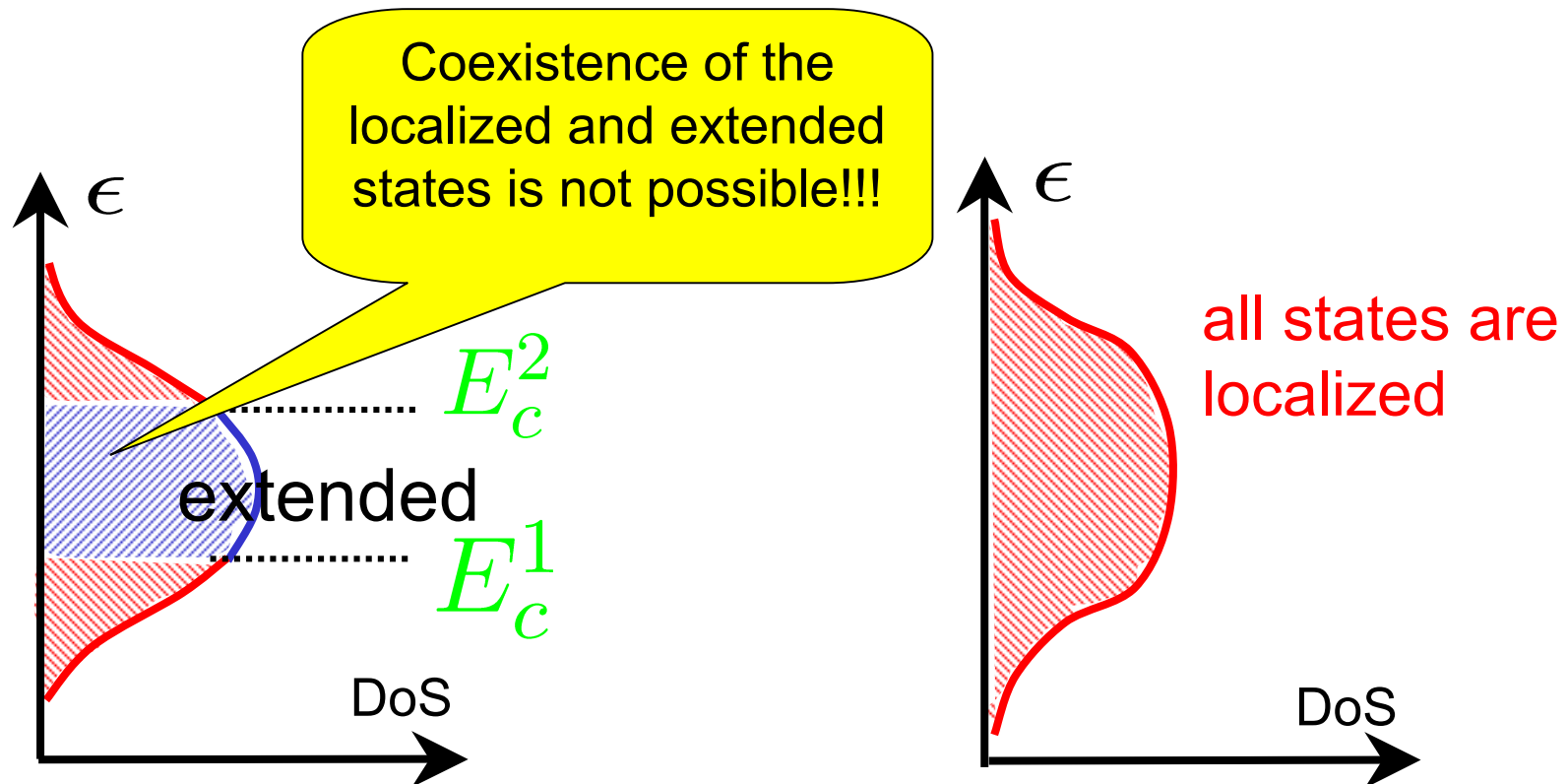
$d=2$; All states are localized

$d>2$; Anderson transition

Anderson model; Anderson Transition

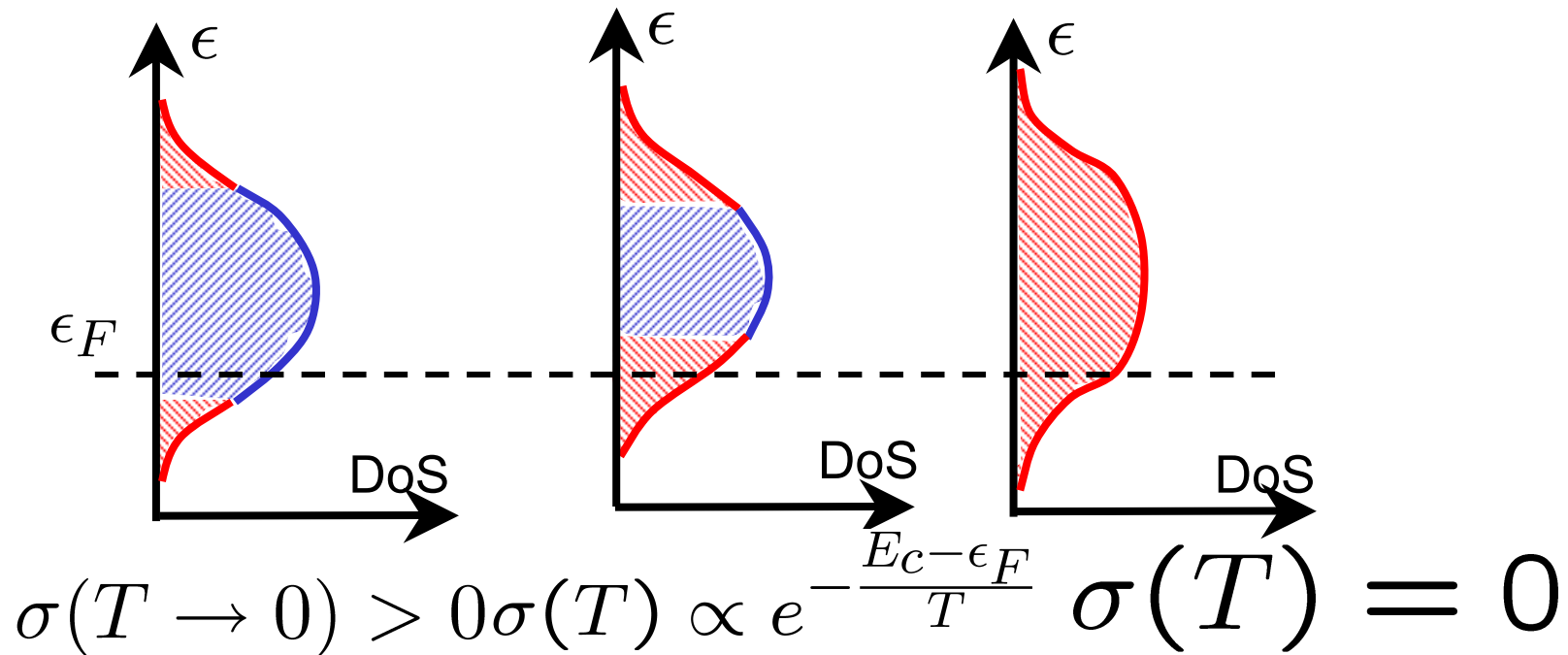
$$I > I_c$$

$$I < I_c$$



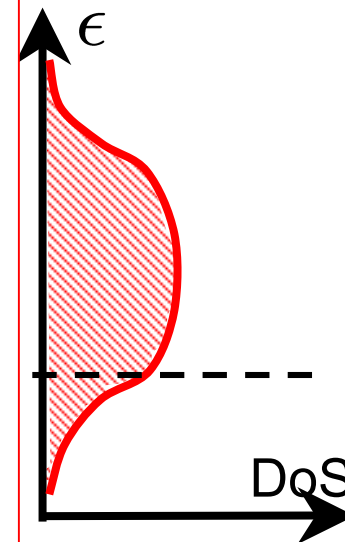
E_c - mobility edges (one particle)

Temperature dependence of the conductivity of noninteracting electrons



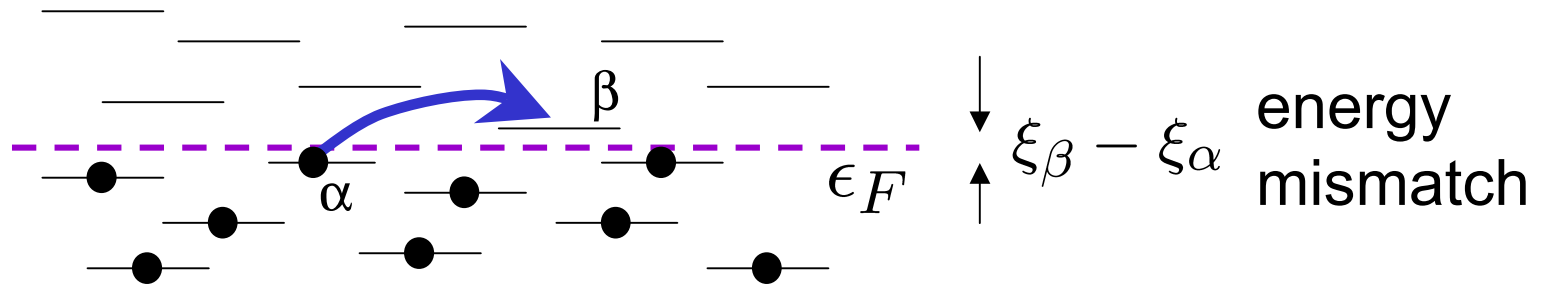
Temperature dependence of the conductivity of noninteracting electrons

Assume that all the states
are localized



$$\sigma(T) = 0$$

Inelastic processes) transitions between localized states

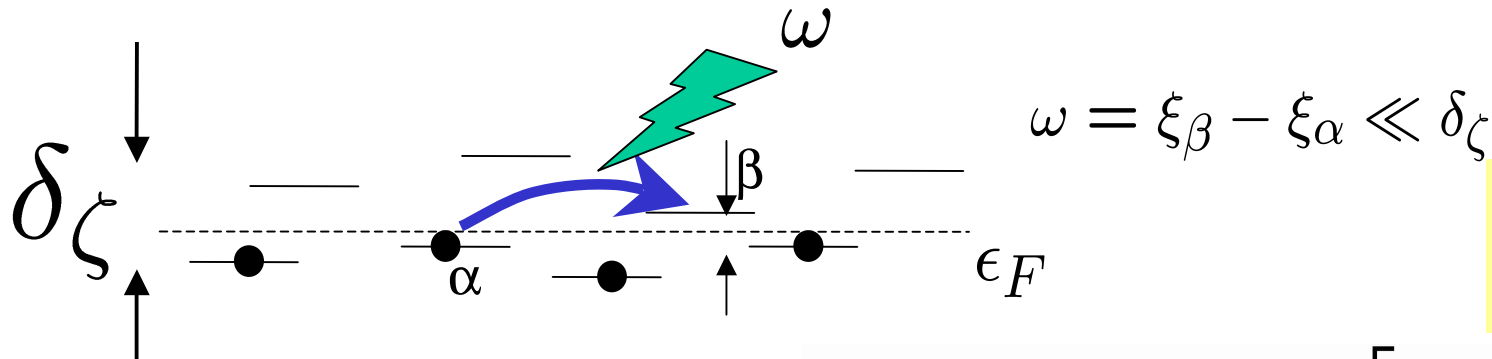


$$\sigma(T) \propto \Gamma_\alpha \text{ (inelastic lifetime)}^{-1}$$

$$T = 0 \Rightarrow \sigma = 0 \text{ (any mechanism)}$$

$$T > 0 \Rightarrow \sigma = ?$$

Phonon-induced hopping



energy difference
can be matched
by a phonon

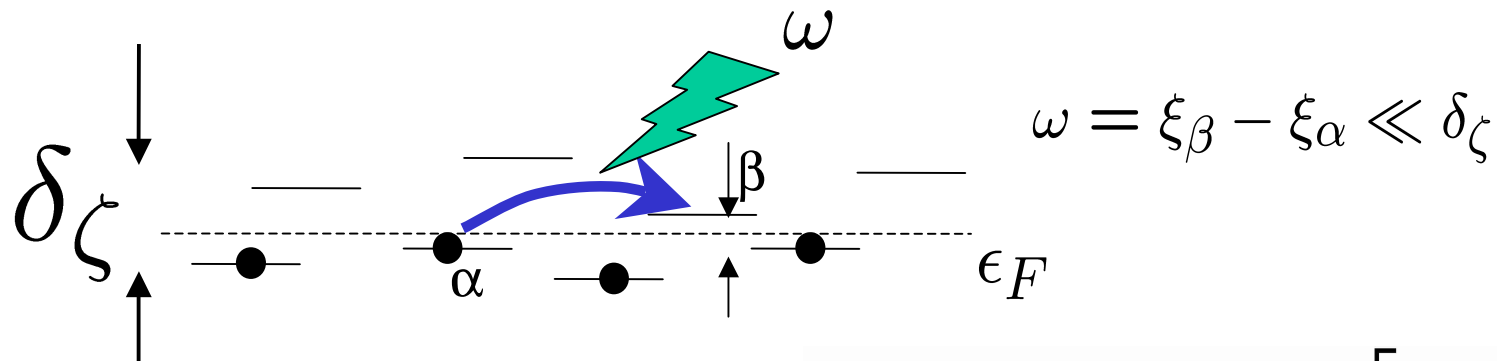
Variable Range Hopping
Sir N.F. Mott (1968)

$$\sigma(T) \propto T^\gamma \exp \left[- \left(\frac{\delta\zeta}{T} \right)^{\frac{1}{d+1}} \right]$$

Mechanism-dependent
prefactor

Without Coulomb gap
A.L.Efros, B.I.Shklovskii (1975)

Phonon-induced hopping



Variable Range Hopping
Sir N.F. Mott (1968)

$$\sigma(T) \propto T^\gamma \exp \left[- \left(\frac{\delta_\zeta}{T} \right)^{\frac{1}{d+1}} \right]$$

Mechanism-dependent
prefactor

Optimized
phase volume

Any bath with a continuous spectrum of delocalized
excitations down to $\omega = 0$ will give the same exponential

Q: Can we replace phonons with e-h pairs and obtain phonon-less VRH?

A#1: Sure

Easy steps:

1) Recall phonon-less AC conductivity:

Sir N.F. Mott (1970)

$$\sigma(\omega) \simeq \frac{e^2 \zeta_{loc}^{d-2}}{\hbar} \left(\frac{\hbar\omega}{\delta\zeta} \right)^2 \ln^{d+1} \left| \frac{\delta\zeta}{\hbar\omega} \right|$$

2) Calculate the Nyquist noise.

3) Use the electric noise instead of phonons.

4) Do self-consistency (whatever it means).

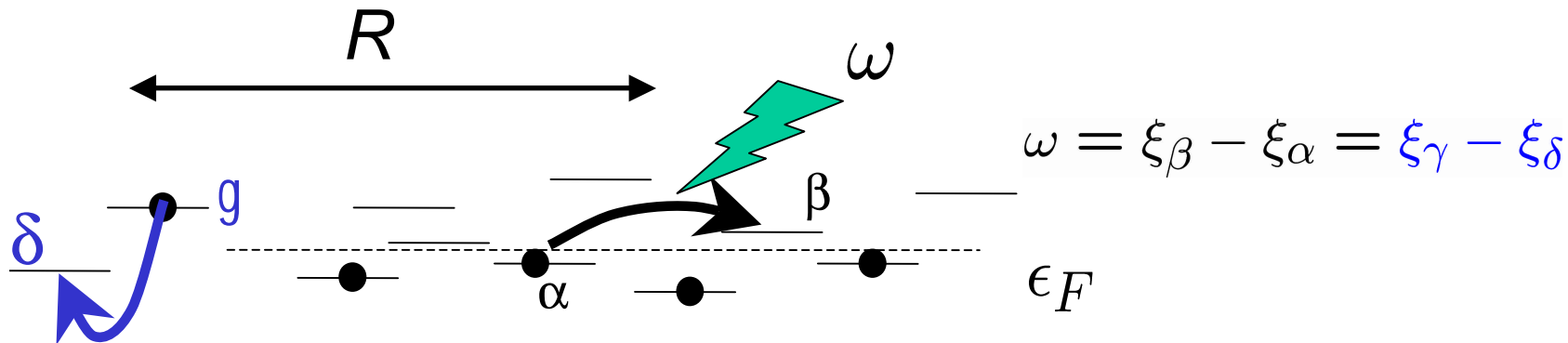
Q: Can we replace phonons with e-h pairs and obtain phonon-less VRH?

A#1: Sure

A#2: No way [L. Fleishman, P.W. Anderson (1980)]
(for Coulomb interaction in 3D – may be)

$$\sigma(\omega) \simeq \frac{e^2 \zeta_{loc}^{d-2}}{\hbar} \left(\frac{\hbar\omega}{\delta\zeta} \right)^2 \ln^{d+1} \left| \frac{\delta\zeta}{\hbar\omega} \right|$$

is contributed by rare resonances

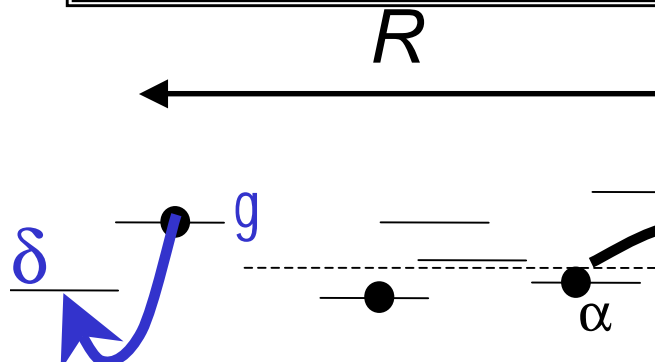


Q: Can we replace phonons with e-h pairs and obtain phonon-less VRH?

A#1: Sure

A#2: No way [L. Fleishman, P.W. Anderson (1980)]
(for Coulomb interaction in 3D – may be)

$R \rightarrow \infty$ Thus, the matrix element vanishes !!!



The diagram shows two sites, labeled g and α , with energy levels. A blue arrow labeled δ indicates a transition from a lower level to an upper level at site g . A black arrow labeled α indicates a transition from a lower level to an upper level at site α . A double-headed arrow labeled R connects the two sites. A green arrow labeled ω points to the right, indicating a frequency or energy scale.

$$\sigma(T) \propto 0^* \exp \left[- \left(\frac{\delta \zeta}{T} \right)^{\frac{1}{d+1}} \right]$$

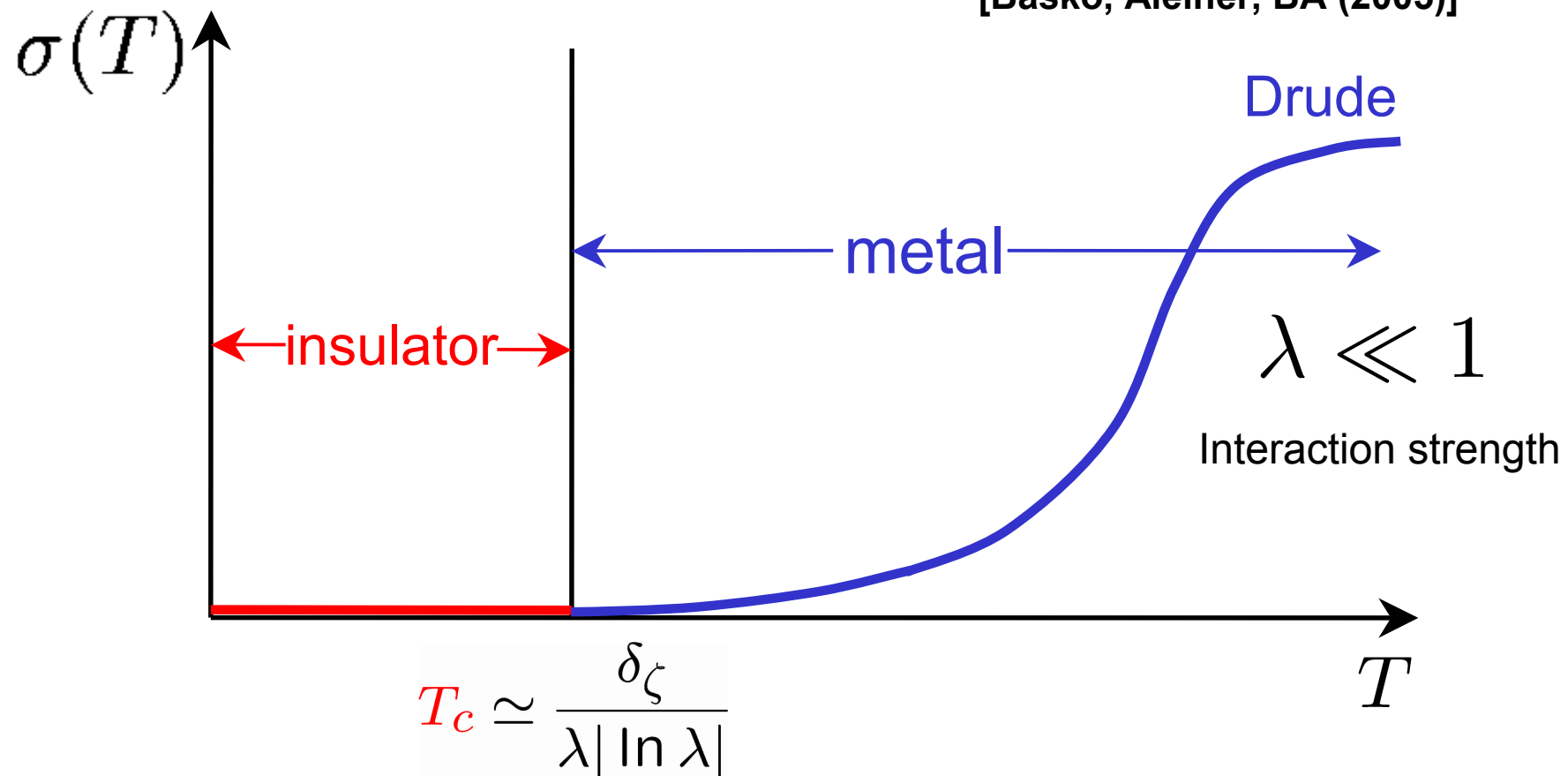
Q: Can we replace phonons with e-h pairs and obtain phonon-less VRH?

A#1: Sure [a person from the street (2005)]:

A#2: No way [L. Fleishman. P.W. Anderson (1980)]

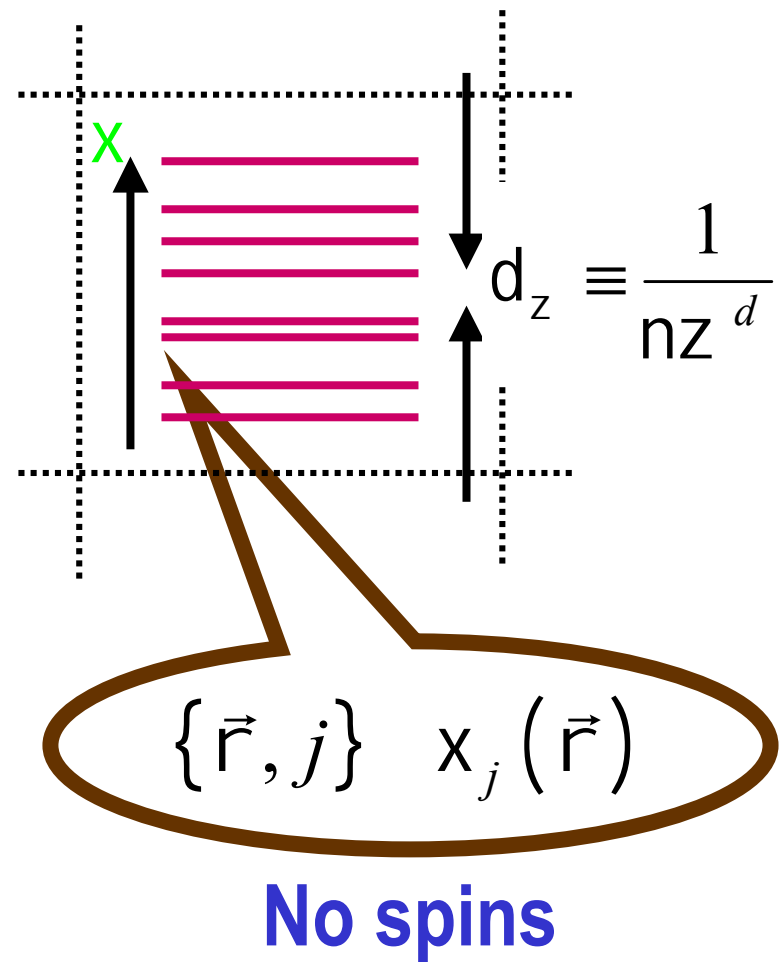
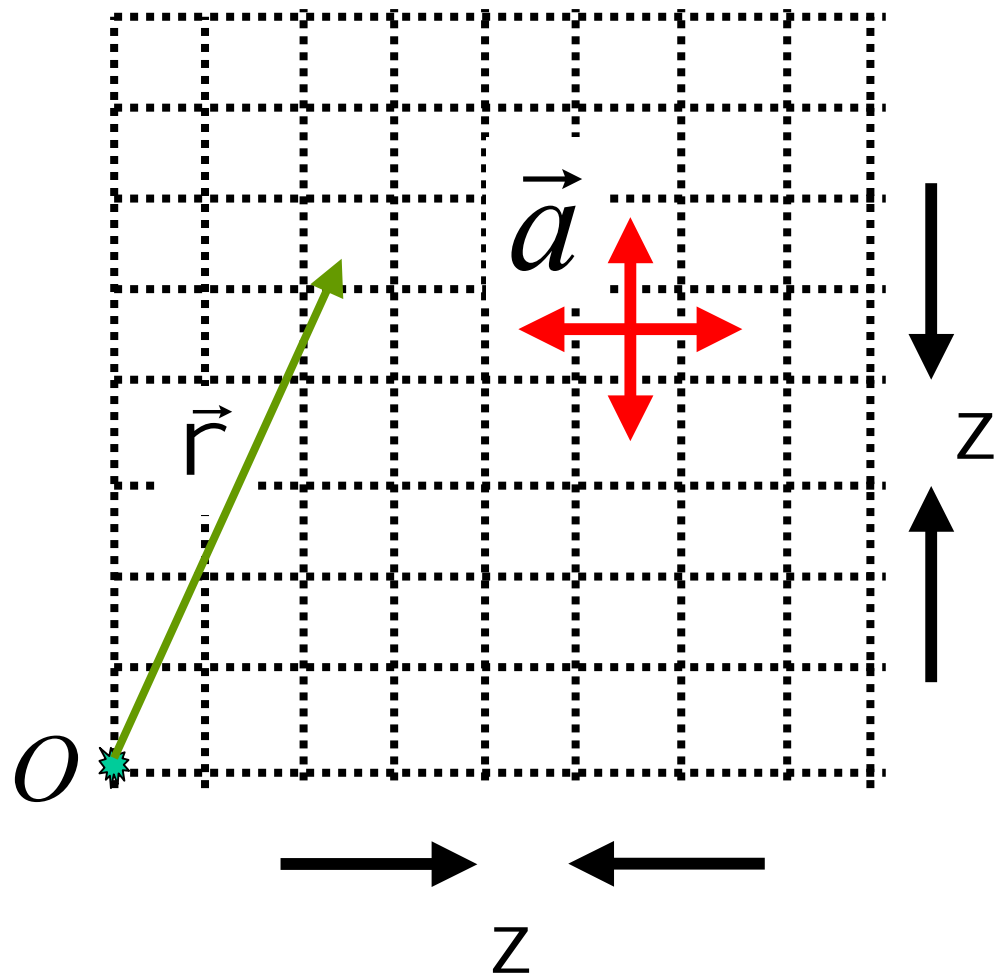
A#3: Finite T Metal-Insulator Transition

[Basko, Aleiner, BA (2005)]

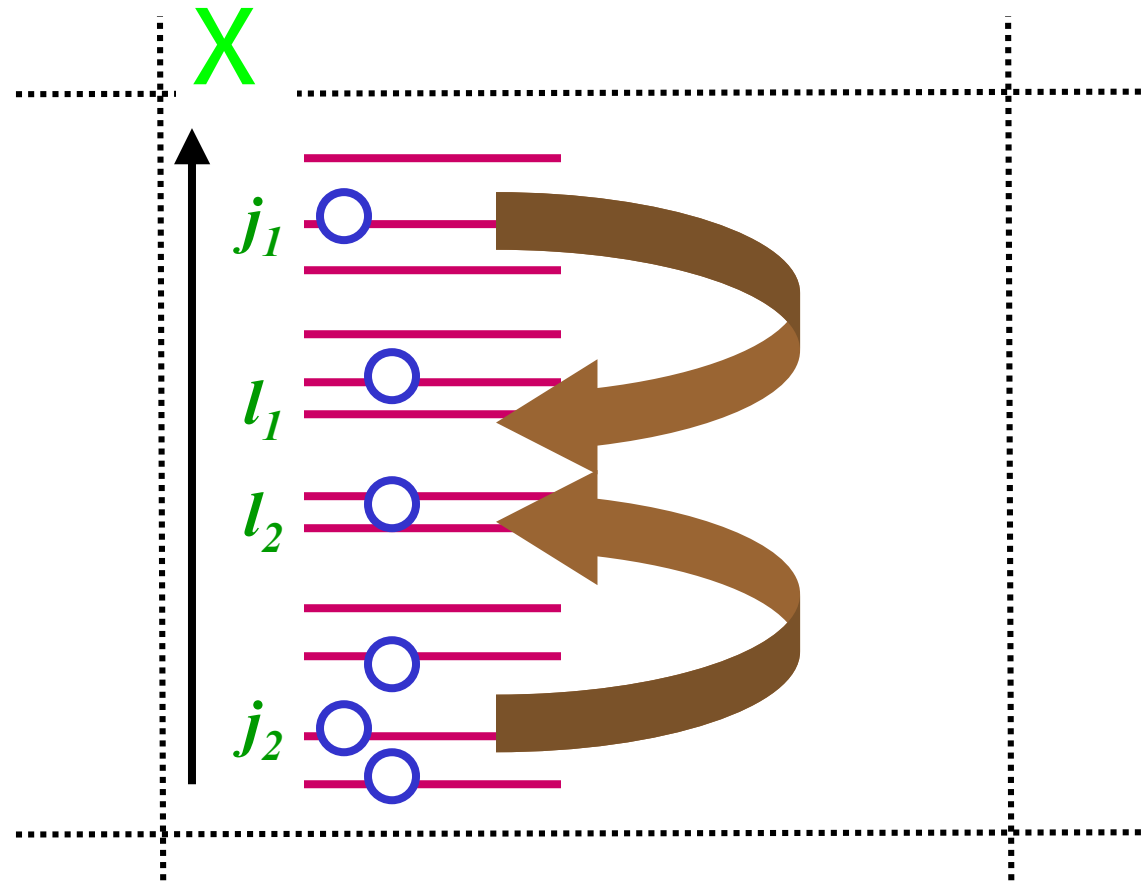


We have to take into account that

- 1. A one-electron wave function decays exponentially as a function of the distance from its center.**
- 2. Matrix elements of the interaction decay (probably as a power law) when differences between the energies of involved quasiparticles is increased.**
- 3. These matrix elements have random sign.**



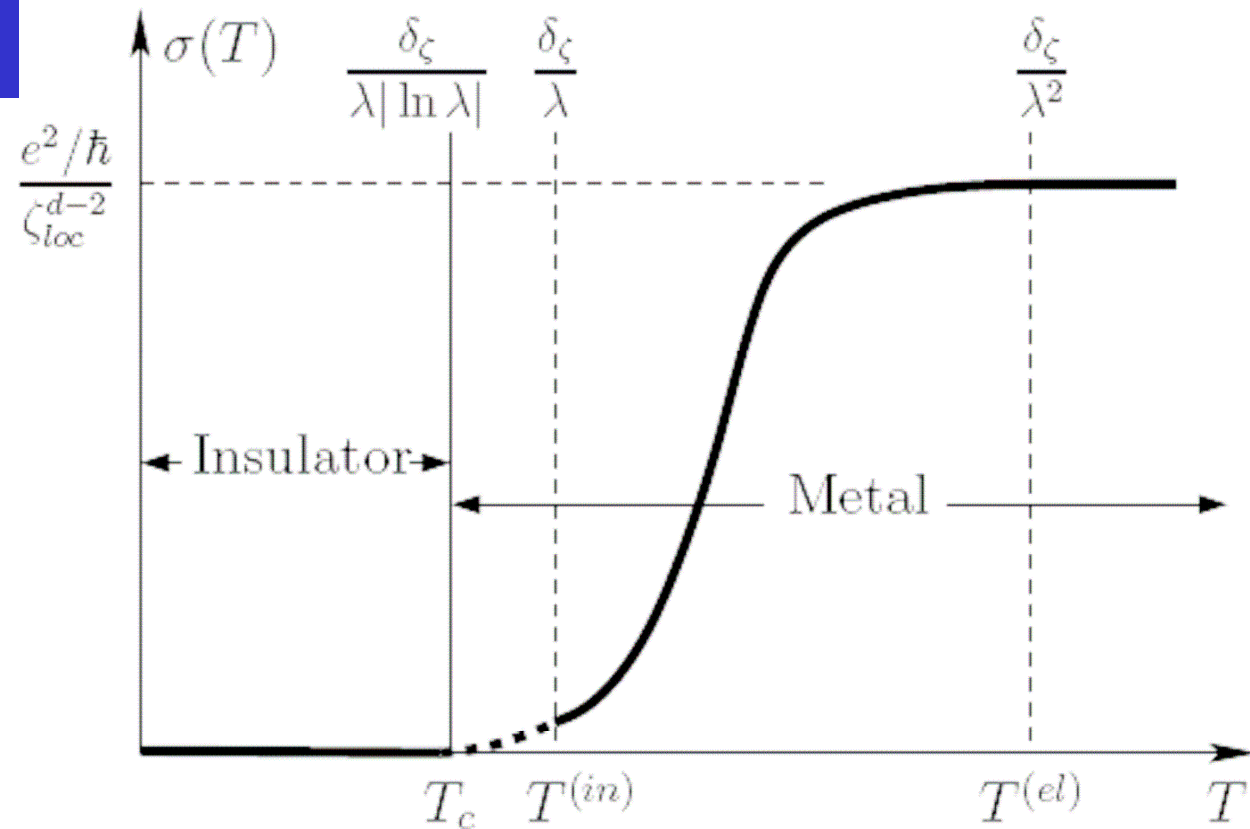
$$\hat{H}_0 = \sum_{\vec{r}, l} \hat{a} \hat{c}_l^\dagger(\vec{r}) \sum_{\vec{e}} \hat{e} x_l(\vec{r}) \hat{c}_l(\vec{r}) + Id_z \sum_{\vec{a}, m} \hat{a} \hat{c}_m(\vec{r} + \vec{a})$$



$$\hat{V}_{\text{int}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\vec{r}; l_1, l_2; j_1, j_2} \mathfrak{a} V_{l_1, l_2}^{j_1, j_2}(\vec{r}) \hat{c}_{l_1}^\dagger(\vec{r}) \hat{c}_{l_2}^\dagger(\vec{r}) \hat{c}_{j_1}(\vec{r}) \hat{c}_{j_2}(\vec{r})$$

**Interaction only within the same cell;
no diagonal matrix elements**

Technique



**Self-Consistent
Born
Approximation**

**Boltzmann
Equation**

Absence of Diffusion in Certain Random Lattices

P. W. ANDERSON

Bell Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, New Jersey

(Received October 10, 1957)

This paper presents a simple model for such processes as spin diffusion or conduction in the "impurity band." These processes involve transport in a lattice which is in some sense random, and in them diffusion is expected to take place via quantum jumps between localized sites. In this simple model the essential randomness is introduced by requiring the energy to vary randomly from site to site. It is shown that at low enough densities no diffusion at all can take place, and the criteria for transport to occur are given.

J. Phys. C: Solid State Phys., Vol. 6, 1973. Printed in Great Britain. © 1973

A selfconsistent theory of localization

R Abou-Chacra[†], P W Anderson^{‡§} and D J Thouless[†]

[†] Department of Mathematical Physics, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, B15 2TT

[‡] Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, England and Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, New Jersey, 07974, USA

Received 12 January 1973

Idea of the calculation:

1. Start with some infinitesimal width \hbar (*Im* part of the self-energy due to a bath) of each one-electron eigenstate
2. Consider *Im* part of the self-energy G in the presence of tunneling and *e-e* interaction.
3. Calculate the **probability distribution** function $P(G)$

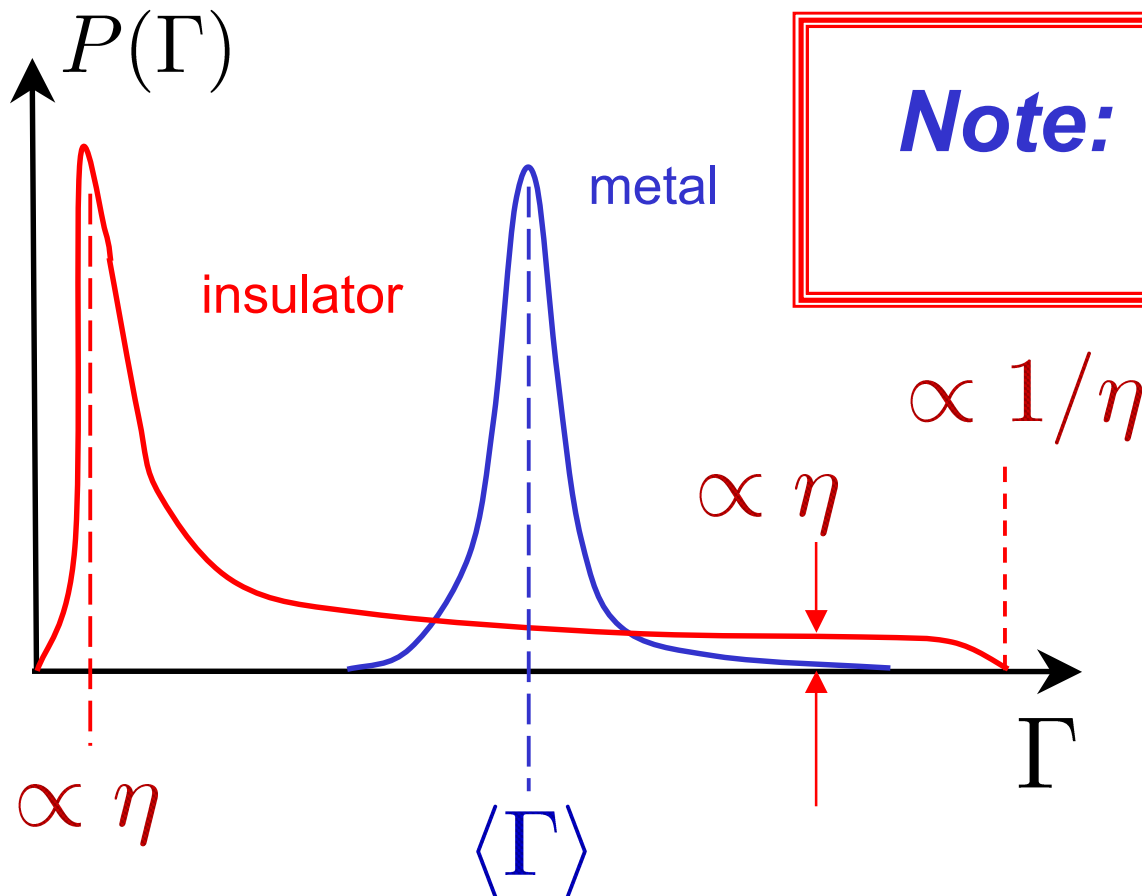
4. Consider the limit: $\lim_{\hbar \rightarrow 0; W \rightarrow \infty} P(G) \equiv P_0(G)$

W is the
volume of
the system

$$P_0(G) = \delta(G) \quad \text{- insulator}$$

$$P_0(G) \neq 0 \text{ for } G \neq 0 \quad \text{- metal}$$

Probability Distribution



Note: $\langle \Gamma \rangle = \langle \Gamma \rangle$

Look for:

$$\lim_{\eta \rightarrow +0} \lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} P(\Gamma > 0) = \begin{cases} > 0; & \text{metal} \\ 0; & \text{insulator} \end{cases}$$

Stability of the insulating phase: NO spontaneous generation of broadening

- $\Gamma_\alpha(\epsilon) \equiv 0$ is always a solution
- $\epsilon \rightarrow \epsilon + i\eta$ - **linear** stability analysis:

$$\frac{\Gamma}{(\epsilon - \xi_\alpha)^2 + \Gamma^2} \rightarrow \pi \delta(\epsilon - \xi_\alpha) + \frac{\Gamma}{(\epsilon - \xi_\alpha)^2}$$

- after n iterations of SCBA equations:

$$P_n(\Gamma) \propto \frac{\eta}{\Gamma^{3/2}} \left(\text{const} \cdot \frac{\lambda T}{\delta_\zeta} \ln \frac{1}{\lambda} \right)^n$$

first $n \rightarrow \infty$
then $\eta \rightarrow 0$

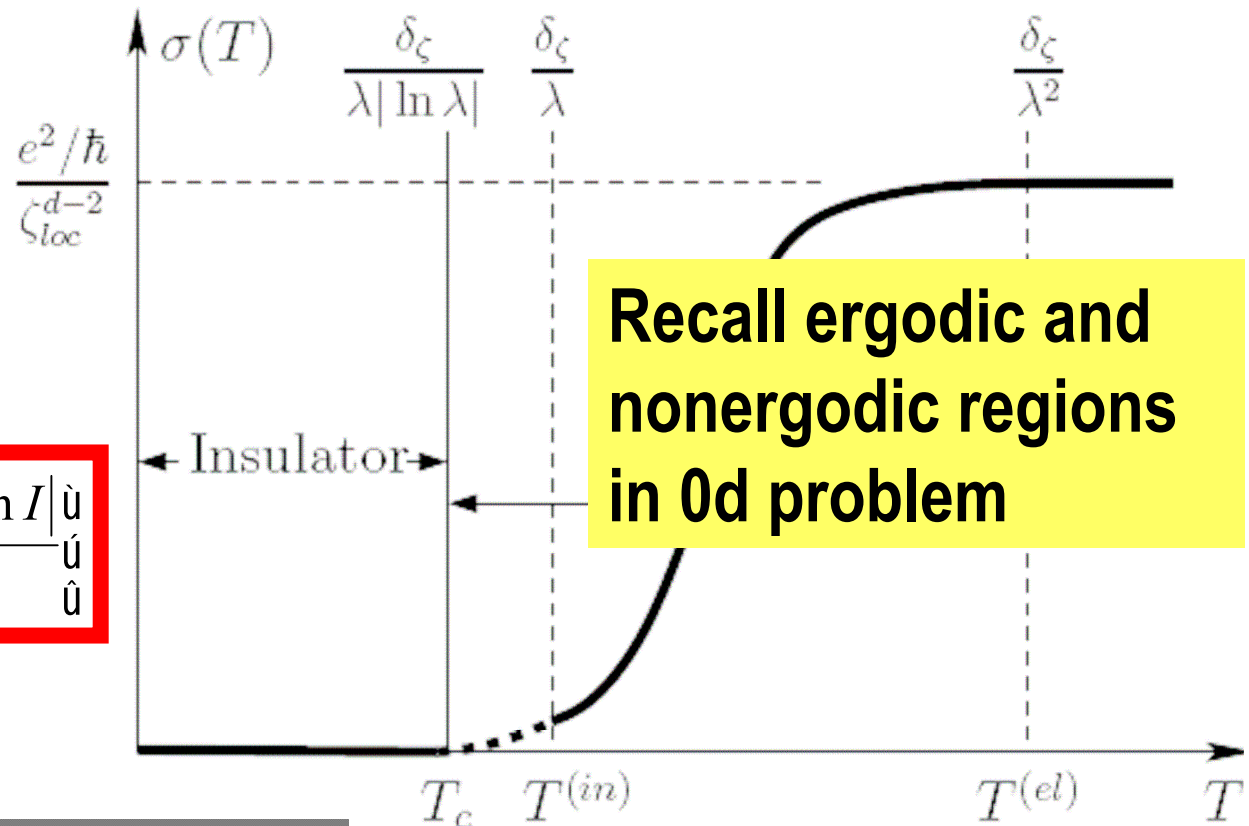
$(\dots) < 1$ – insulator is stable !

Stability of the metallic phase: Finite broadening is self-consistent

- $$P(\Gamma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\langle\delta\Gamma^2\rangle}} \exp\left[-\frac{(\Gamma - \langle\Gamma\rangle)^2}{2\langle\delta\Gamma^2\rangle}\right]$$
$$\sqrt{\langle\delta\Gamma^2\rangle} \ll \langle\Gamma\rangle \text{ as long as } T \gg \frac{\delta_\zeta}{\lambda}$$
- $\langle\Gamma\rangle \ll \delta_\zeta$ (levels well resolved)
- quantum kinetic equation for transitions between localized states
$$\sigma(T) \propto \lambda^2 T^\alpha \quad (\text{model-dependent})$$

T_c :

$$\frac{12 M T_c}{d_z} \ln \frac{1}{\zeta} = \exp \left(\frac{d_z |\ln I|}{T_c} \right)$$



Recall ergodic and nonergodic regions in 0d problem

$$T^{(in)} = \frac{d_z}{6 p M I}$$



$$\left\langle \left(dG^{(in)} \right)^2 \right\rangle = \left\langle G^{(in)} \right\rangle^2$$

$$T^{(el)} = \frac{d_z}{16 p^2 M d I^2}$$



$$\left\langle \left(dG^{(el)} \right)^2 \right\rangle = \left\langle G^{(el)} \right\rangle^2$$

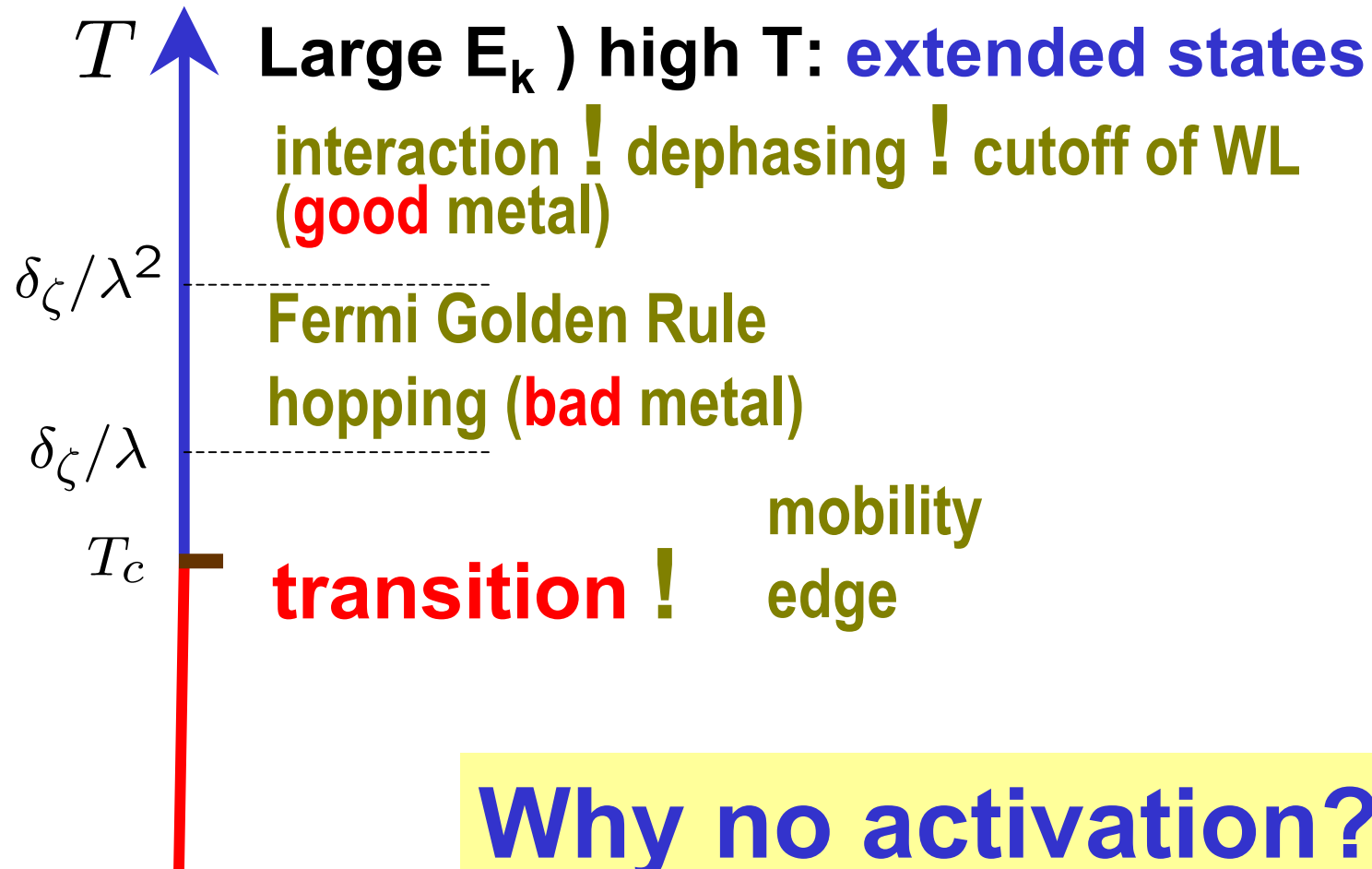
$$T \gg T^{(el)} = \frac{d_z}{16\pi^2 M d l^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma(T \gg \sqrt{\delta_\zeta T_{el}}) &\approx \sigma_\infty \left(1 - \frac{2}{3} \frac{\delta_\zeta T_{el}}{T^2}\right); \\ \kappa(T \gg \sqrt{\delta_\zeta T_{el}}) &\approx \kappa_\infty(T) \left[1 - \left(\frac{14}{5} - \frac{24}{\pi^2}\right) \frac{\delta_\zeta T_{el}}{T^2}\right] \\ \sigma_\infty &\equiv \frac{2\pi e^2 I^2 \zeta_{loc}^{2-d}}{\hbar}, \quad \kappa_\infty(T) \equiv \frac{2\pi^3 e^2 T I^2 \zeta_{loc}^{2-d}}{3\hbar}.\end{aligned}$$

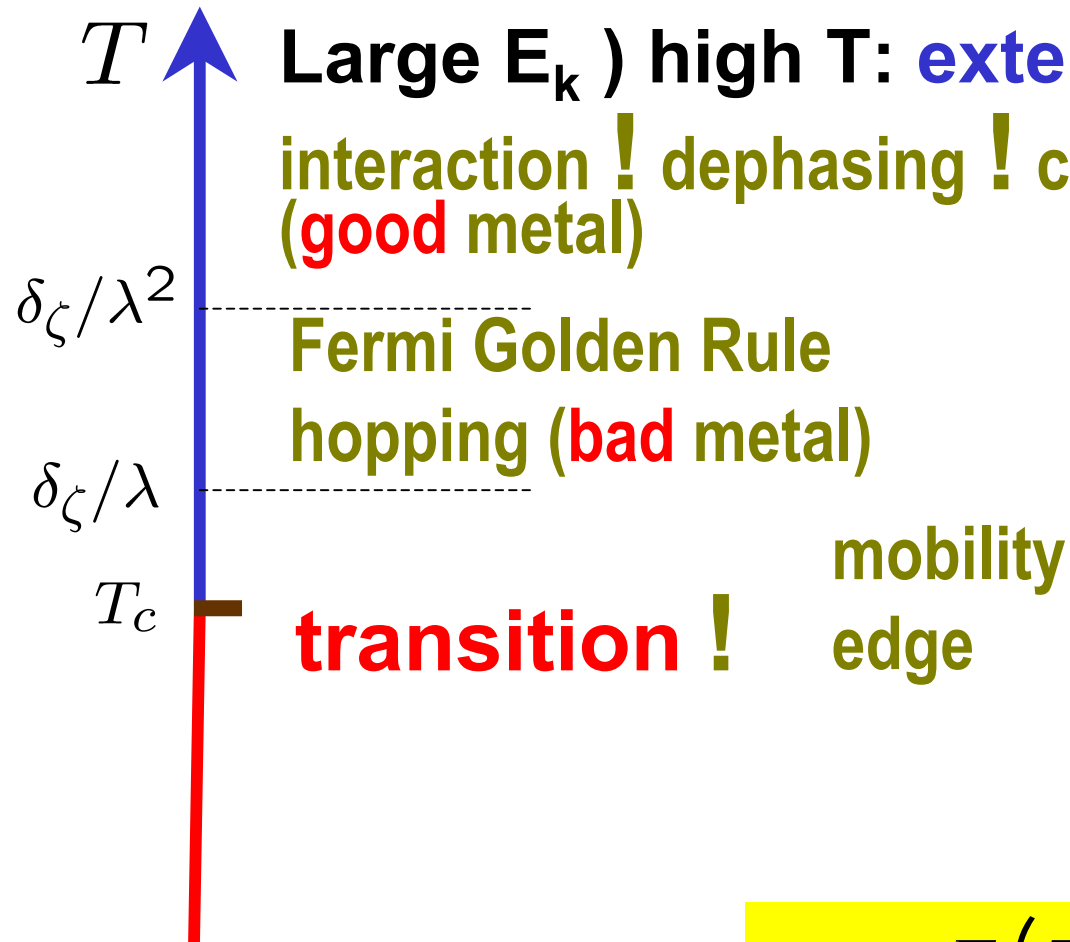
$$T^{el} \gg T \gg T^{(in)} = \frac{d_z}{6\pi M l}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma(T \ll \sqrt{\delta_\zeta T_{el}}) &= \sigma_\infty \frac{\pi}{4} \left(\frac{T^2}{\delta_\zeta T_{el}}\right), \\ \kappa(T \ll \sqrt{\delta_\zeta T_{el}}) &= \kappa_\infty(T) \frac{48G^2}{\pi^3} \left(\frac{T^2}{\delta_\zeta T_{el}}\right)\end{aligned}$$

Many-body mobility edge



Many-body mobility edge



No activation:

$$E_c \propto \frac{T_c^2}{d_z z^d} \quad \text{volume}$$

$E, E_c \propto \text{volume}$

$$\exp\left\{-\frac{E(T) - E_c}{T}\right\} \propto \frac{1}{\text{volume}^{\frac{3}{4}}}$$

Conclusions & Some speculations

Conductivity exactly vanishes at finite temperature. **Finite temperature phase transition without any apparent symmetry change!**

Is it an ordinary thermodynamic phase transition or low temperature phase is a glass?

We considered weak interaction.

What about strong electron-electron interactions?
Melting of a pinned Wigner crystal?

What if we now turn on phonons?

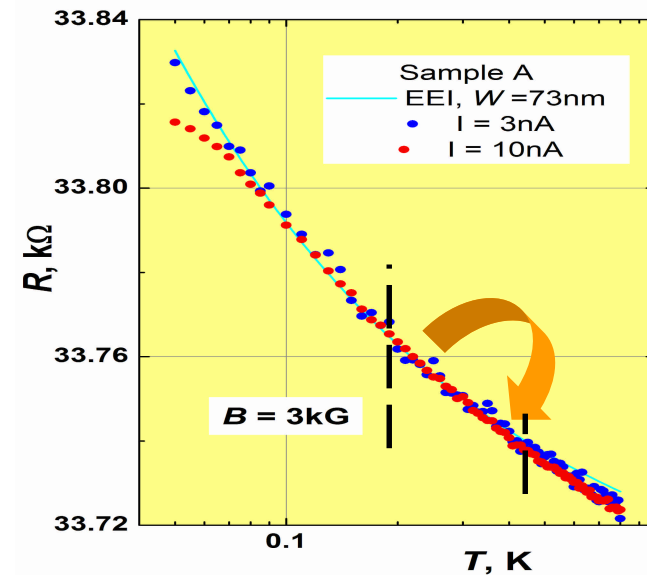
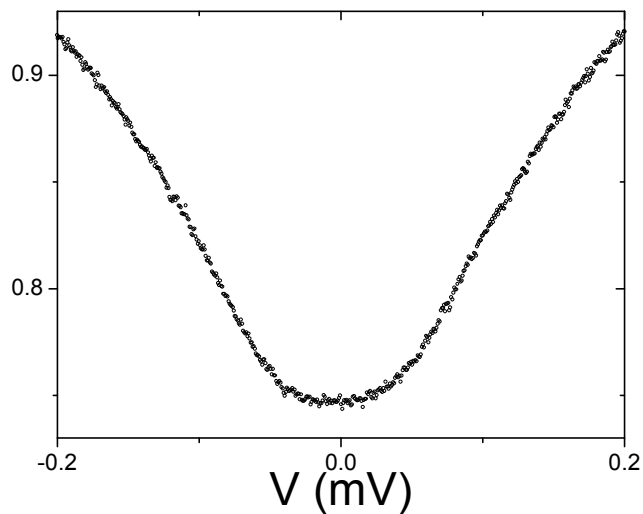
Cascades.

Is conventional hopping conductivity picture ever correct?

Orthogonality
catastrophe

Electron-electron interaction effects other than inelastic collisions

- Anomalies in the tunneling density of states
- Temperature dependence of the conductivity

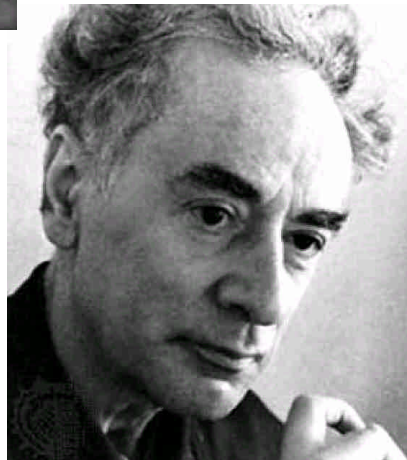


Disorder + interactions

strength
of the
disorder



Translation invariance
is violated by disorder



Fermi liquid



strength
of the
interaction

Wigner crystal

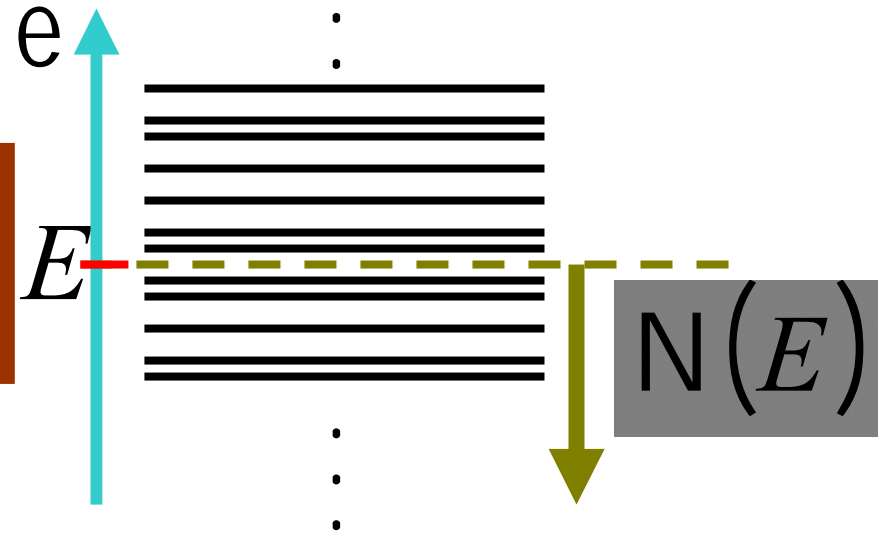
r_s

One-particle Density of States

0) Free fermions

$$n(E) \propto \frac{N(E+D) - N(E-D)}{2D \cdot \text{volume}}$$

$\text{volume} \gg D \gg 0$



Observables are determined by DoS at the chemical potential, μ :

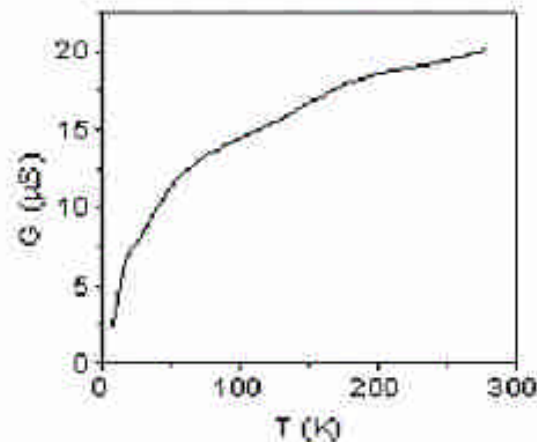
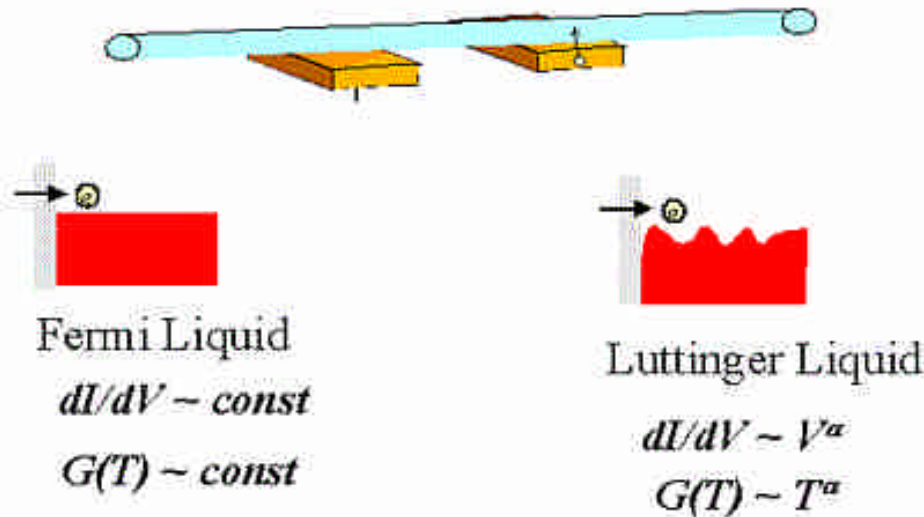
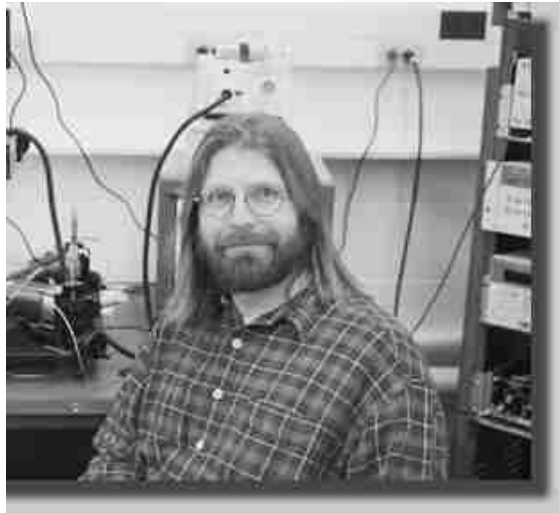
Compressibility	$dn/d\mu = n(\mu)$
Specific heat	$c/T = n(\mu)$
Magnetic susceptibility	$C/(g\mu_B) = n(\mu)$
Conductivity	$S = e^2 n(\mu) D$

$$n(\mu) = \text{const} > 0$$

“Carbon Nanoelectronics”

talk at ITP UCSB, Aug. 2001

Tunneling into a Luttinger Liquid



Expt:

Bockrath et al. (99)

Yao et al. (99)

Postma et al. (01)

Theory

Kane Balents and

Fisher (97)

Egger and Gogolin
(97)

*I. Excitations are **similar** to the excitations in a disordered **Fermi-gas**.*

II. Small decay rate

III. Substantial renormalizations

AND

These always are infrared singularities

Tunneling Density of States

Tunneling Phenomena in Solids

*Lectures presented at the
1967 NATO Advanced Study Institute at Risø, Denmark, 1967*

Edited by
ELIAS BURSTEIN

*Department of Physics
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

and

STIG LUNDQVIST

*Institute of Theoretical Physics
Chalmers Tekniska Högskola
Göteborg, Sweden*

Chapter 3

Metal-Insulator-Metal Tunneling

I. Giaever

*General Electric Research and Development Center
Schenectady, New York*

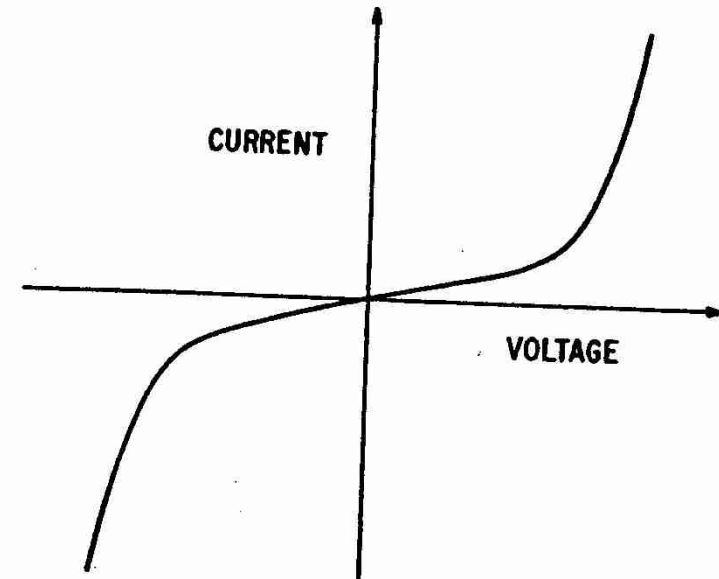
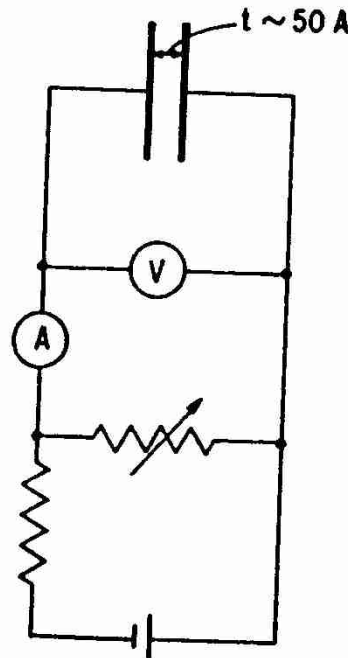
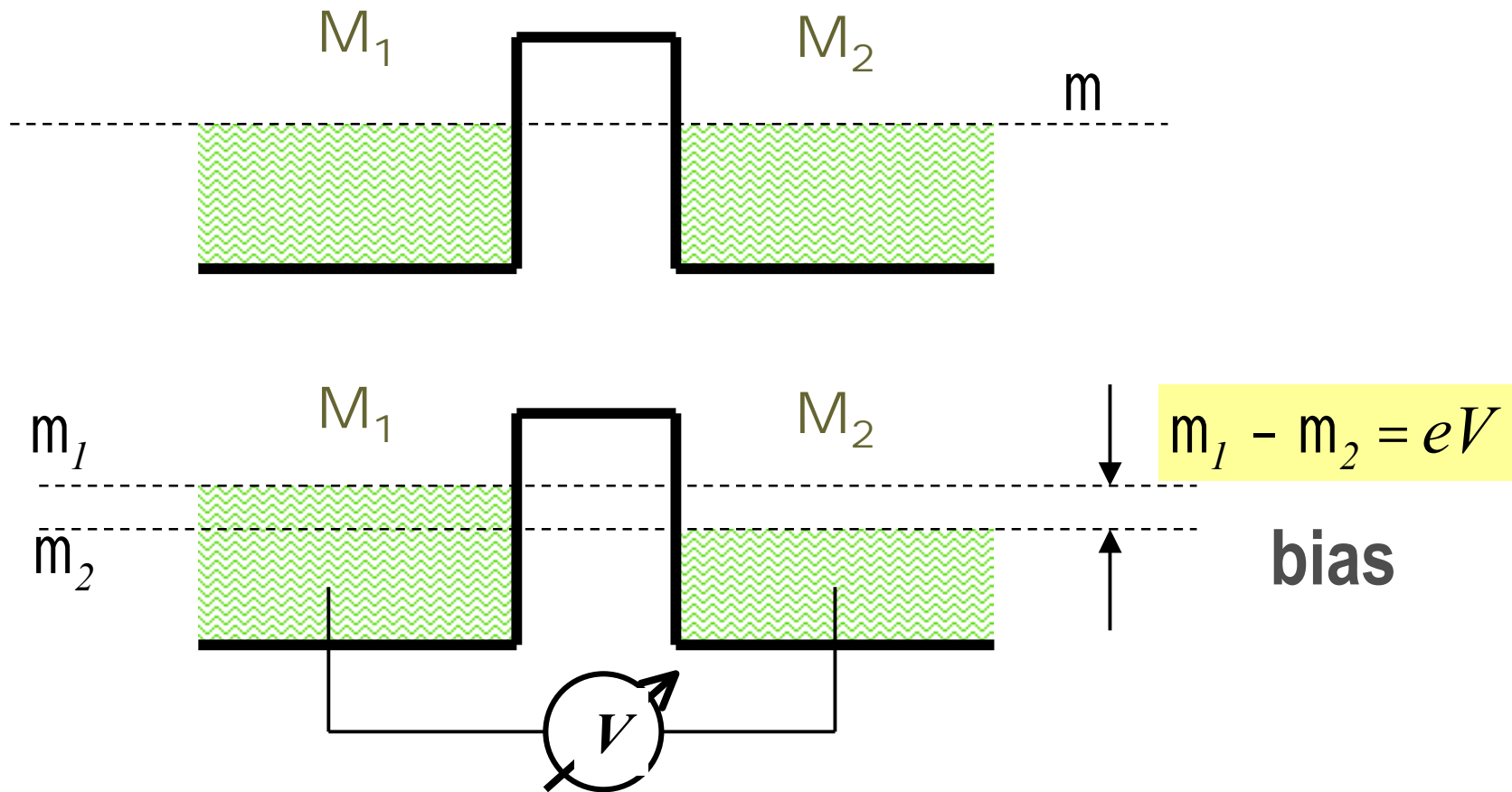
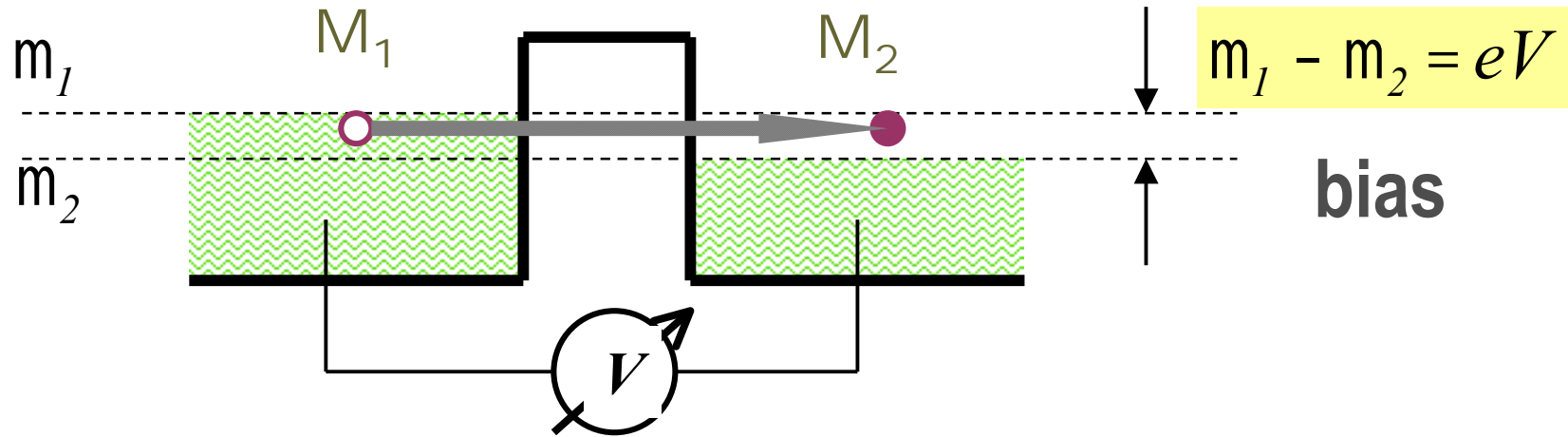


Fig. 1. Schematic drawing of a tunneling experiment. If the capacitor plates are spaced about 50 Å apart or less, a tunnel current will be easily observable. The current-voltage characteristic will be nearly symmetric about zero, linear at low voltages (below ~ 0.1 V), and nonlinear at higher voltages.

Tunneling Density of States



Tunneling Density of States



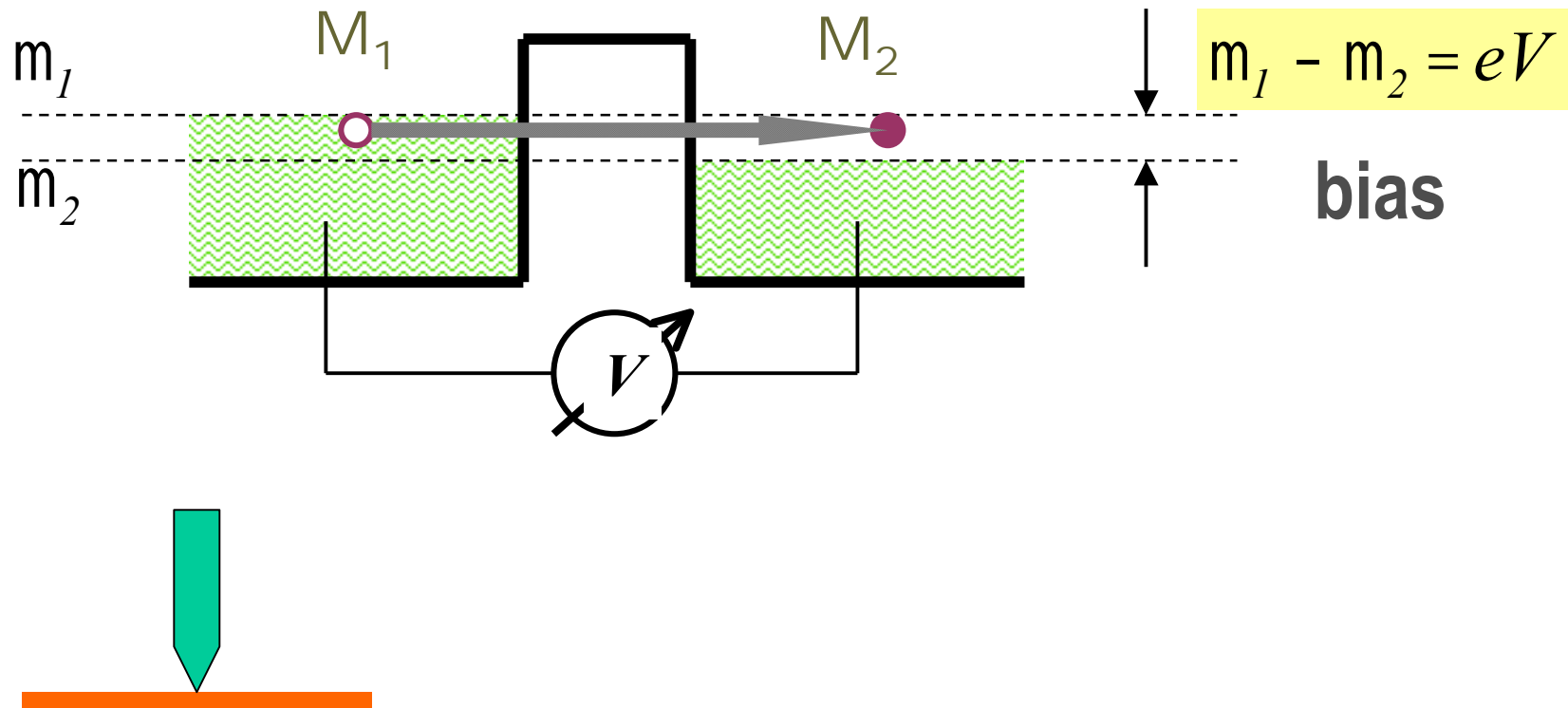
$$G(V) \propto \frac{dI(V)}{dV} \propto n_1(m) n_2(m) \gg \text{const}$$

tunneling
probability

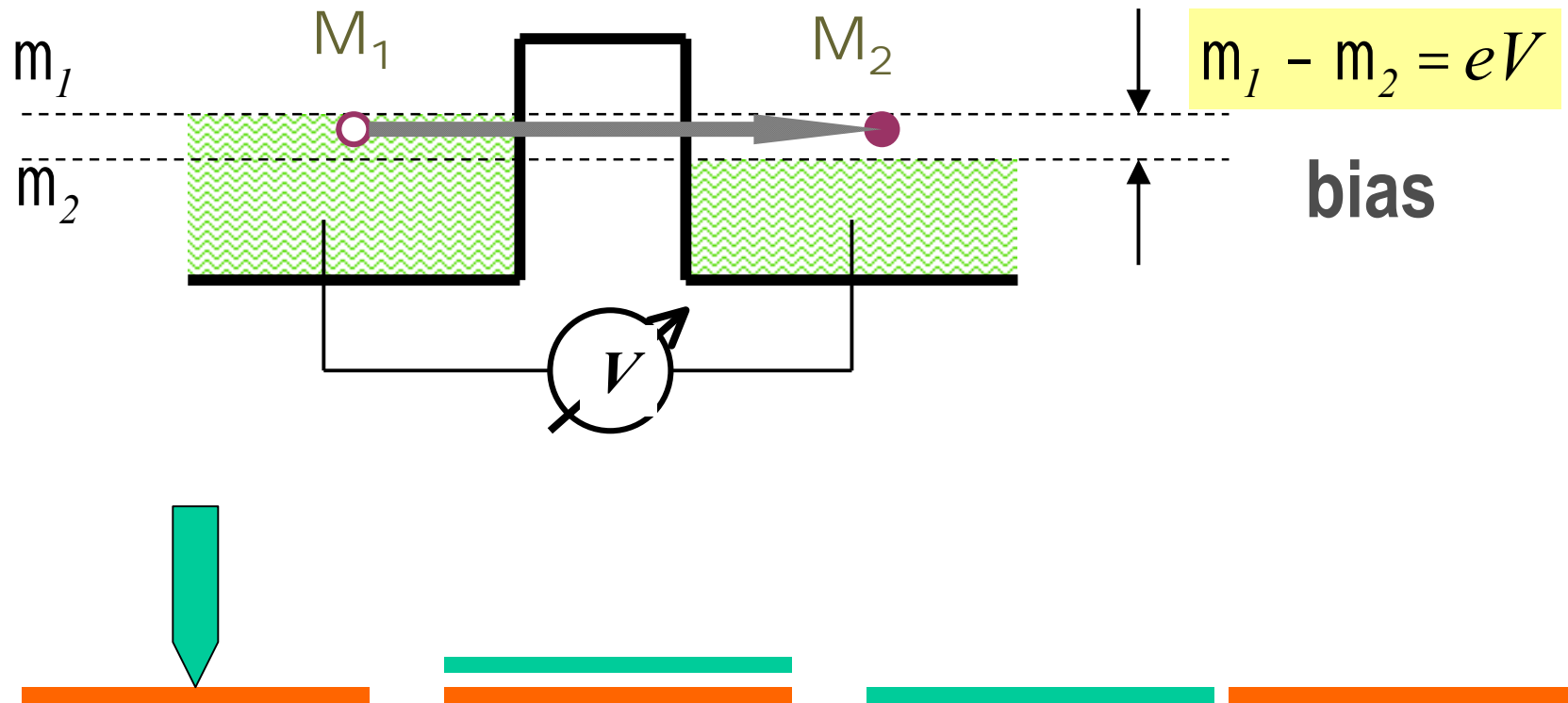
Depends on the bias
only on the scale of
the Fermi energy

?

Tunneling Density of States



Tunneling Density of States



A charge is created at $t=0$

DIRECT OBSERVATION OF POLARONS AND PHONONS DURING TUNNELING IN GROUP 3-5 SEMICONDUCTOR JUNCTIONS

R. N. Hall, J. H. Racette, and H. Ehrenreich

General Electric Research Laboratory, Schenectady, New York

(Received April 6, 1960)

First observation of the Zero Bias Anomaly

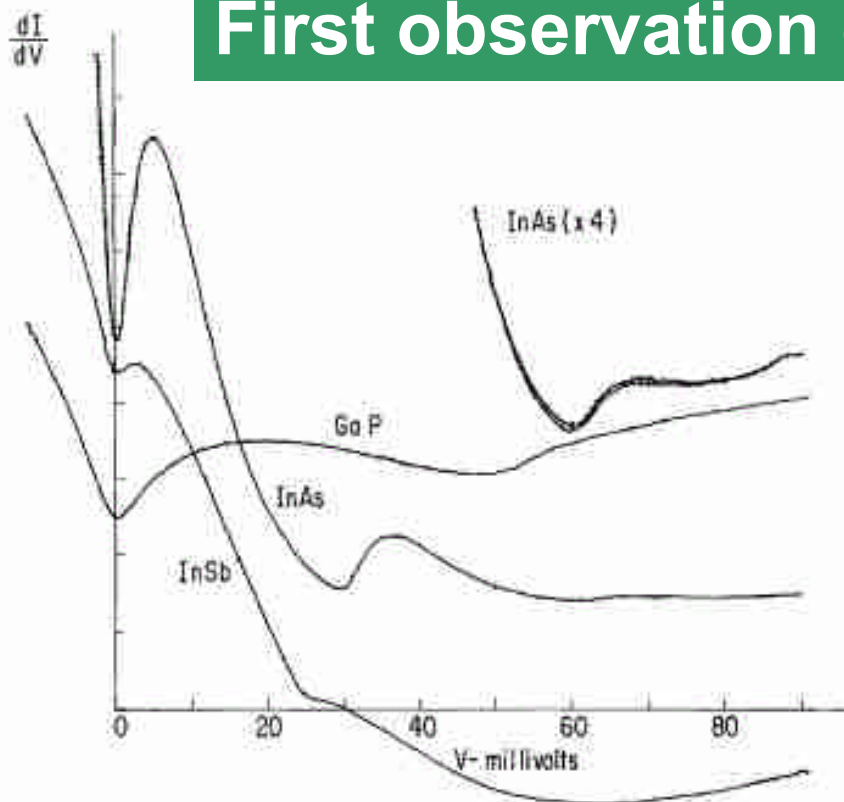


FIG. 1. Conductance (dI/dV) in arbitrary units vs voltage for several group 3-5 junctions.

Zero Bias Anomaly (ZBA)

Tunneling conductance, G_t , is determined by the product of the **tunneling probability, W ,** and the **densities of states** in the electrodes, n_t ($e = eV$) .

Originally ZBA was attributed to W :

- Paramagnetic impurities inside the barrier (Appelbaum-Andersdon theory) for the maximum of G_t .
- Phonon assisted tunneling for the minimum.

Now it is accepted that in most of cases

ZBA is a hallmark of the interactions between the electrons.

In other words, it is better to speak in terms of anomalies in the tunneling DoS.

DIRECT OBSERVATION OF POLARONS AND PHONONS DURING TUNNELING IN GROUP 3-5 SEMICONDUCTOR JUNCTIONS

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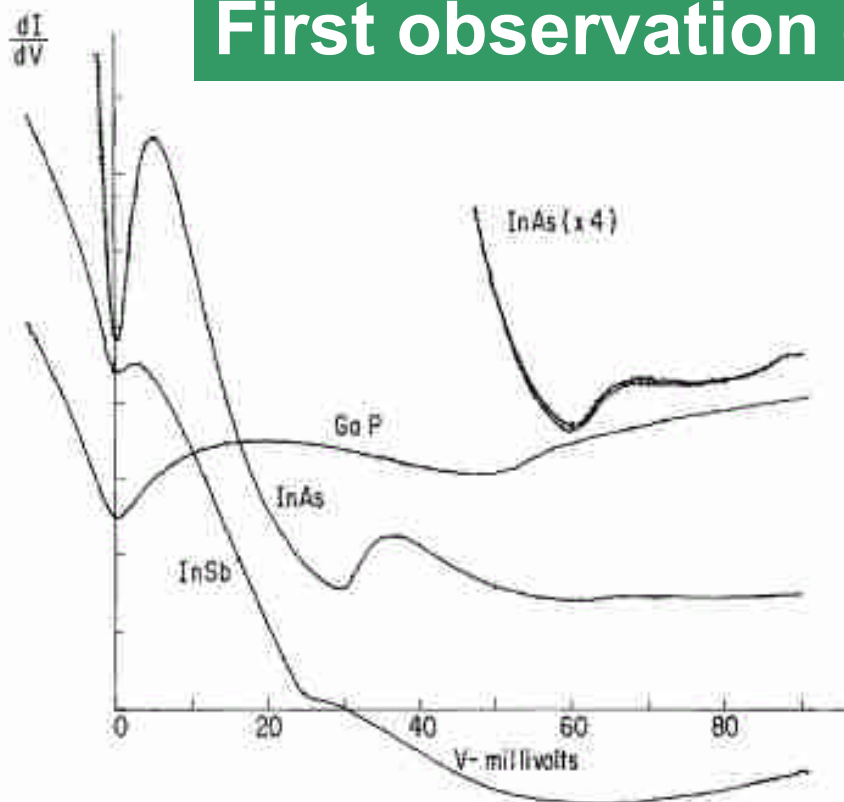


FIG. 1. Conductance (dI/dV) in arbitrary units vs voltage for several group 3-5 junctions.

Minimum in the
conductance at zero
bias



Minimum in the
density of states at
the Fermi level



Tunneling is
suppressed at
small energies

INFRARED CATASTROPHE IN FERMI GASES WITH LOCAL SCATTERING POTENTIALS

P. W. Anderson

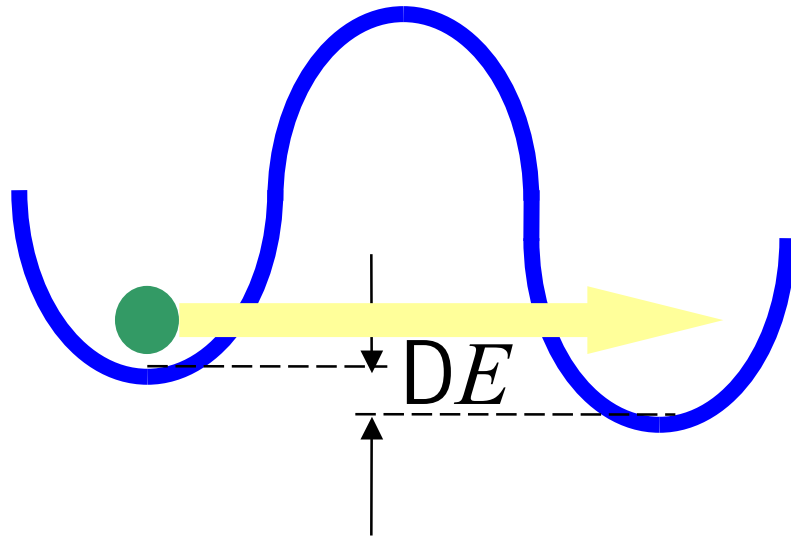
Bell Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, New Jersey

(Received 27 March 1967)

We prove that the ground state of a system of N fermions is to the ground state in the presence of a finite range scattering potential, as $N \rightarrow \infty$. This implies that the response to application of such a potential involves only emission of excitations into the continuum, and that certain processes in Fermi gases may be blocked by orthogonality in a low - T , low - energy limit.

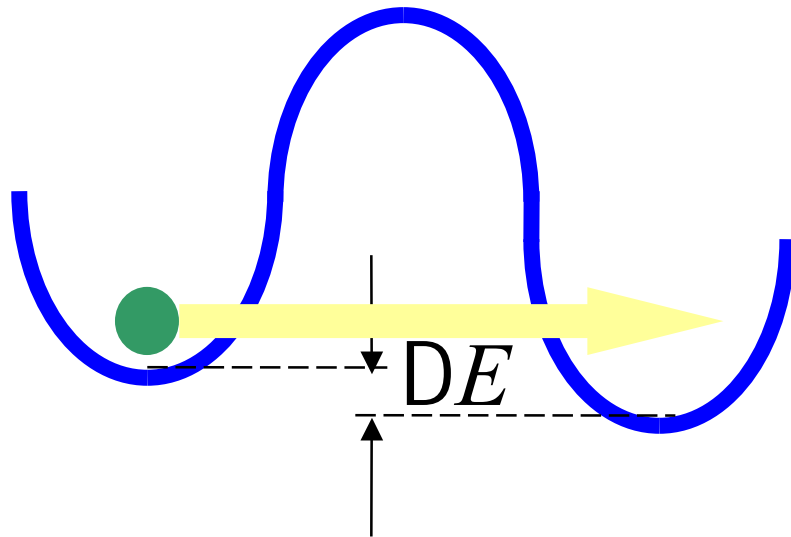


Orthogonality catastrophe

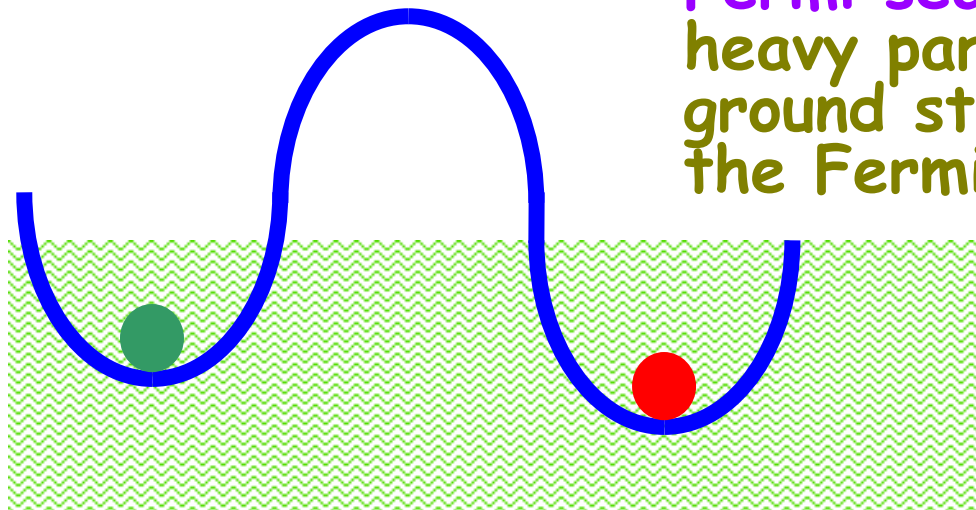


Tunneling probability is more or less independent on DE

Orthogonality catastrophe



Tunneling probability is more or less independent on DE



Tunneling in the presence of the Fermi sea: the fact that the heavy particle found itself in the ground state does not mean that the Fermi sea also remains in its ground state - the Fermi sea also has to tunnel

Soft pairs are created

INFRARED CATASTROPHE IN FERMI GASES WITH LOCAL SCATTERING POTENTIALS

P. W. Anderson

Bell Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, New Jersey

(Received 27 March 1967)

We believe this theorem is related to Fermi-surface anomalies both in tunneling and in impurity resistance,^{2,3} and a paper on this application is being prepared.

²J. M. Rowell and L. Y. L. Shen, Phys. Rev. Letters 17, 15 (1966).

³B. R. Coles, Phys. Letters 8, 243 (1964). M. P. Sarachik, to be published; I am grateful to Mrs. Sarachik for seeing her preliminary data.

DIRECT OBSERVATION OF POLARONS AND PHONONS DURING TUNNELING IN GROUP 3-5 SEMICONDUCTOR JUNCTIONS

R. N. Hall, J. H. Racette, and H. Ehrenreich

General Electric Research Laboratory, Schenectady, New York

(Received April 6, 1960)

First observation of the Zero Bias Anomaly

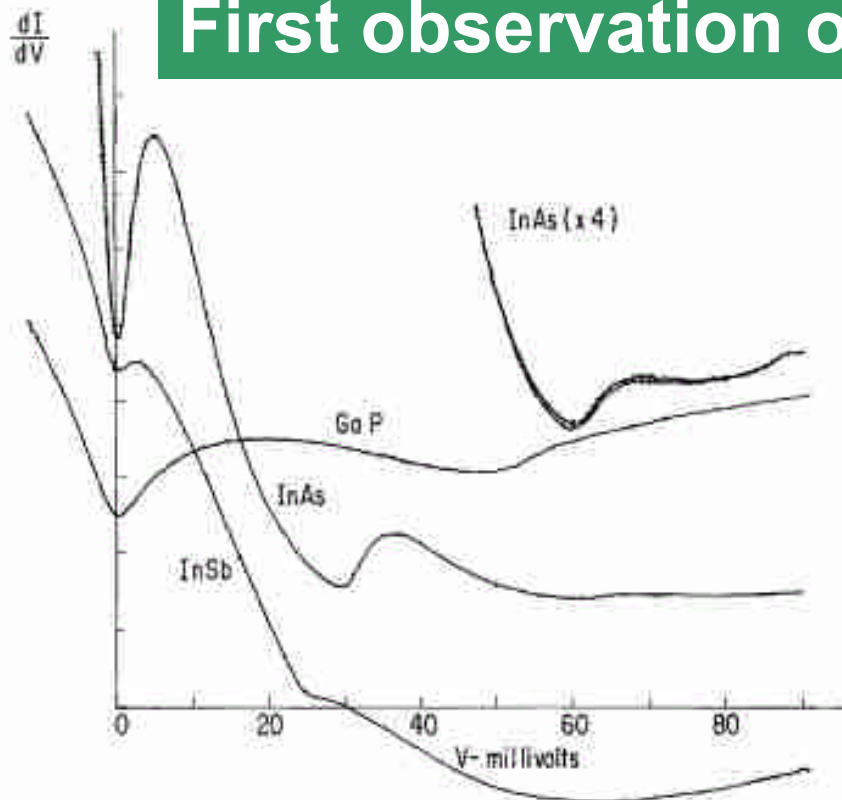


FIG. 1. Conductance (dI/dV) in arbitrary units vs voltage for several group 3-5 junctions.

Minimum in the
conductance at zero
bias



Minimum in the
density of states at
the Fermi level



Tunneling is
suppressed at
small energies

INFRARED CATASTROPHE IN FERMI GASES WITH LOCAL SCATTERING POTENTIALS

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ZERO-BIAS ANOMALIES IN NORMAL METAL TUNNEL JUNCTIONS

J. M. Rowell and L. Y. L. Shen

Bell Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, New Jersey

(Received 20 May 1966)

We have investigated the current flow through thin chromium-oxide layers from 1°K to 290°K. We believe that current flows by means of a tunneling mechanism, but the dependence of the dynamic resistance of the junction on voltage and temperature is completely anomalous in terms of expected tunneling behavior. Some new results on other metal-oxide junctions strongly suggest that properties of the oxide layer are responsible for the anomaly observed by Wyatt in tantalum oxide junctions.

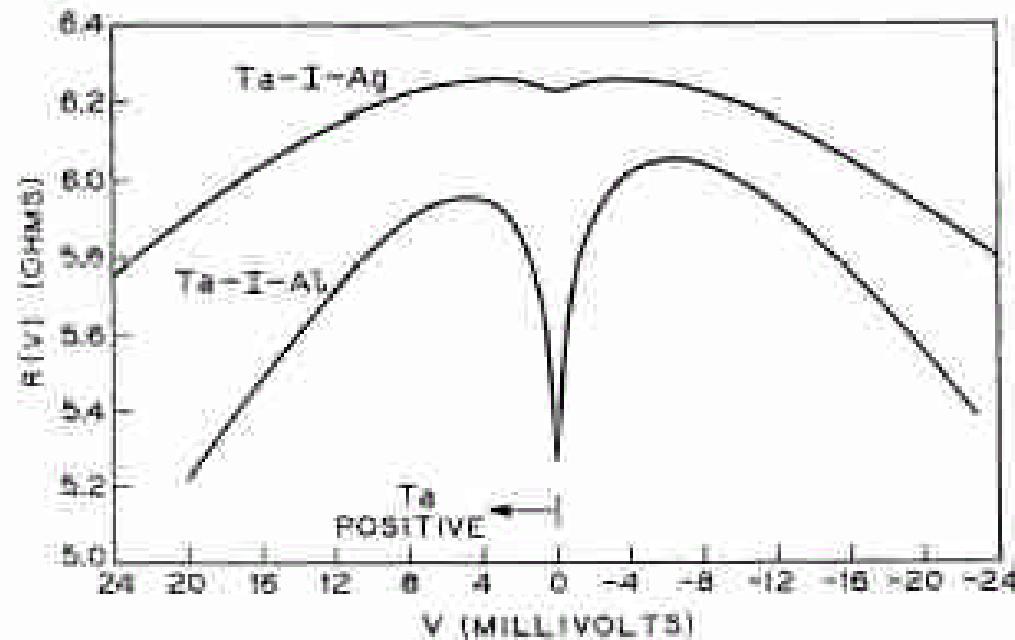


FIG. 3. Dynamic resistance versus voltage for Ta-I-Al and Ta-I-Ag junctions at 0.9°K. A field of 3 kG was used to drive the tantalum normal.

Minimum in the
resistance at zero bias



Maximum in the
density of states at
the Fermi level



Tunneling is
enhanced at
small energies

A NEW TYPE OF LOW-TEMPERATURE RESISTANCE ANOMALY IN ALLOYS

B. R. COLES

Dept. of Physics, Imperial College, London S.W.7

Received 27 January 1964

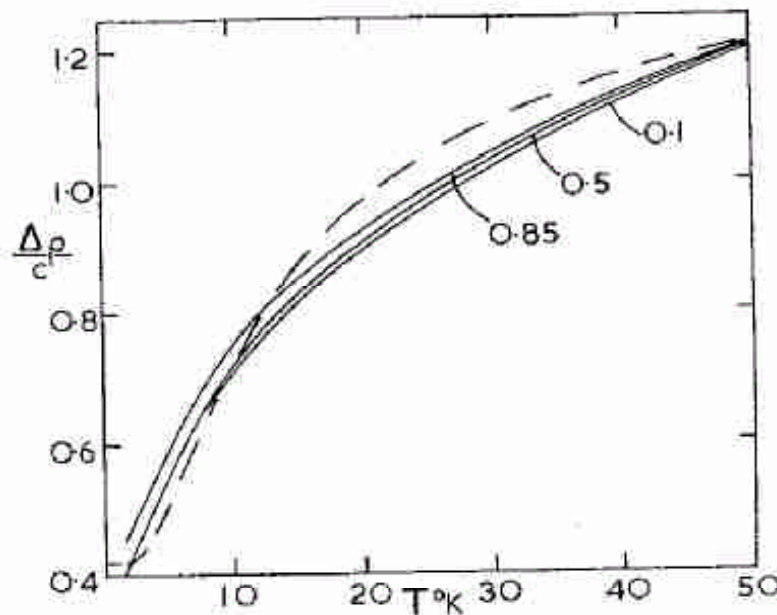


Fig. 2. Resistivity increment ($\Delta \rho/c = (\rho - \rho_{Rh})/\%$ Fe in microhm·cm per % iron) for dilute rhodium-iron alloys.

Dotted curve is $0.42 + \exp(-12/T)$

(Small arbitrary adjustments in the iron content will make the experimental curves lie even more closely together.)

Again:

Maximum in the density of states at the Fermi level

Correction to the DoS in the disordered case:

BA & A.G. Aronov, Solid St. Comm. 30, 115 (1980).

BA, A.G. Aronov, & P.A. Lee, PRL, 44, 1288 (1980).



Effect appears already in the first order in the perturbation theory

→ its sign is not determined

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$$dn(e) = \frac{l_d}{e(\hbar D l e)^{d/2}} \propto \begin{array}{ll} -\sqrt{e} & d = 3 \\ \log e & d = 2 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{e}} & d = 1 \end{array}$$

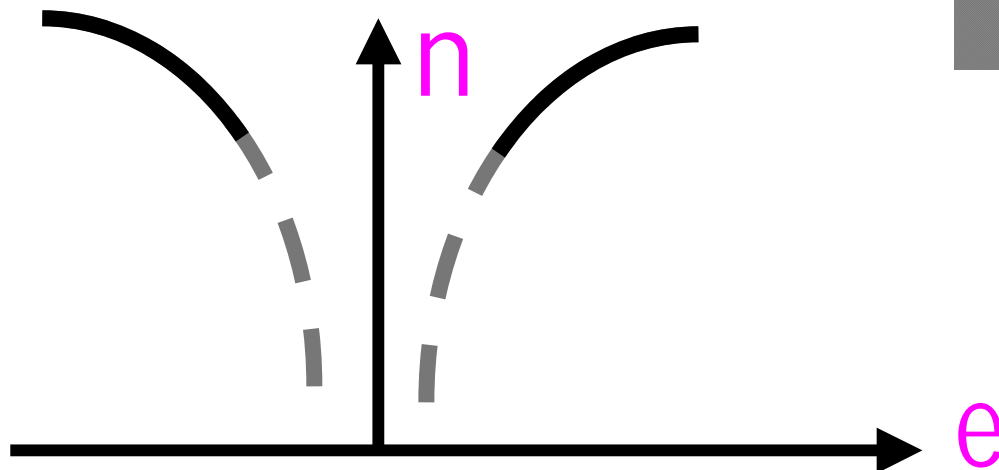
e electron energy
counted from the Fermi
level

D diffusion constant of
the electrons

d # of the dimensions

l effective coupling
constant;

$l > 0$ -repulsion



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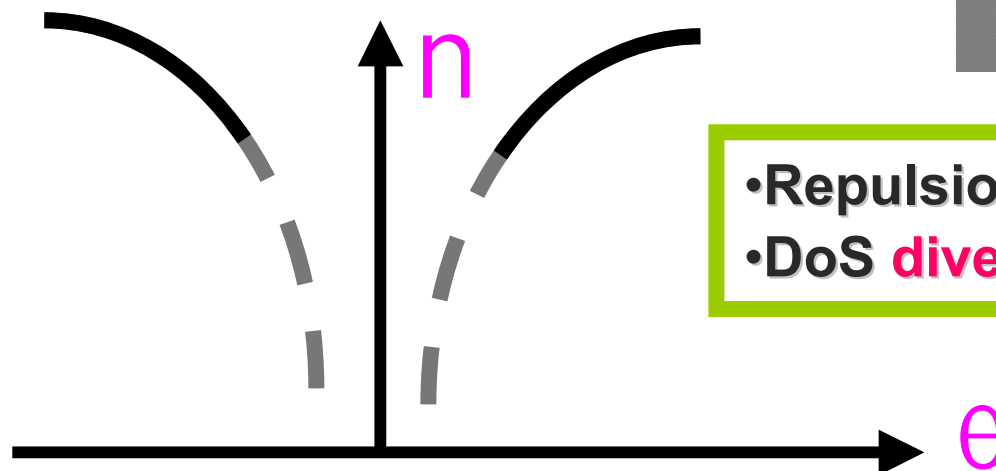
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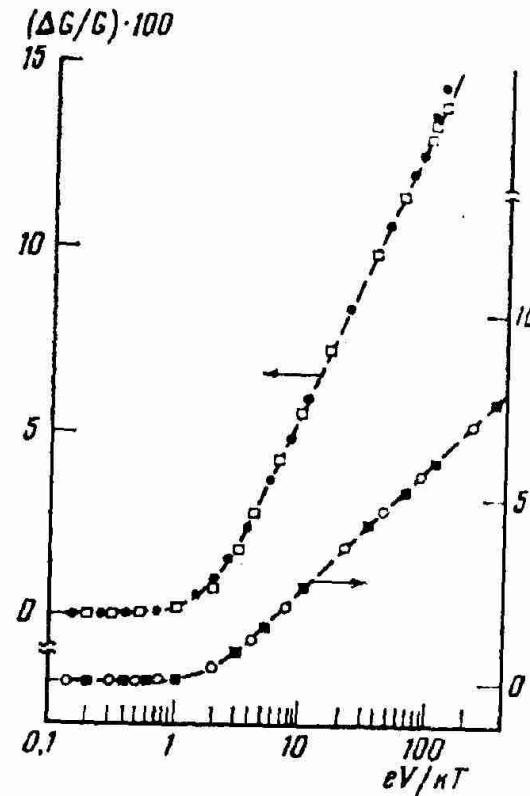
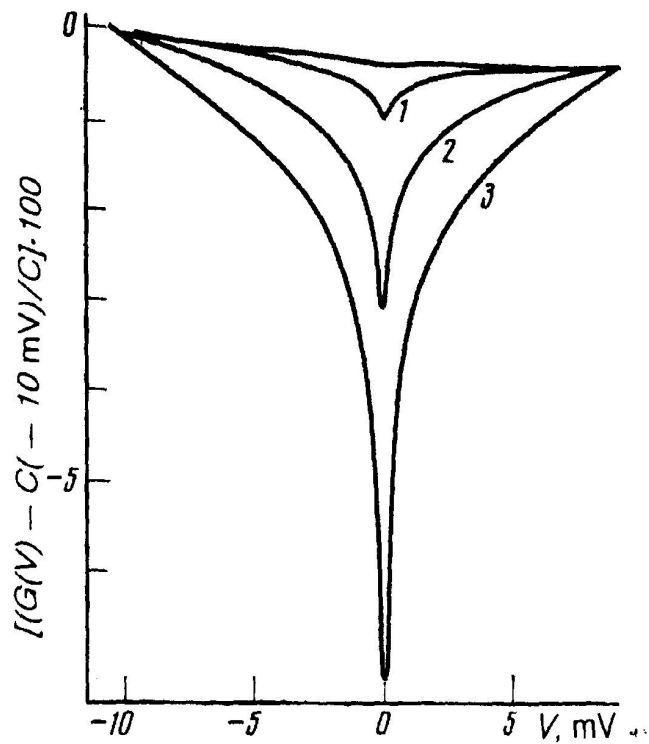
$|$ effective coupling constant;

$| > 0$ -repulsion



- Repulsion - **minimum** in the DoS;
- DoS **diverges** at low dimensions

Zero Bias Tunneling Anomaly



The conductivity of the tunnel junctions **Al-I-Al** ($T=0.4\text{K}$, $B=3.5\text{T}$) for 2D films with different R_{O} : 1 – 40 Ω , 2 – 100 Ω , 3 – 300 Ω . Right panel: comparison with the theoretical prediction for the interaction-induced ZBA.

Gershenson et al, *Sov. Phys. JETP* 63, 1287 (1986)

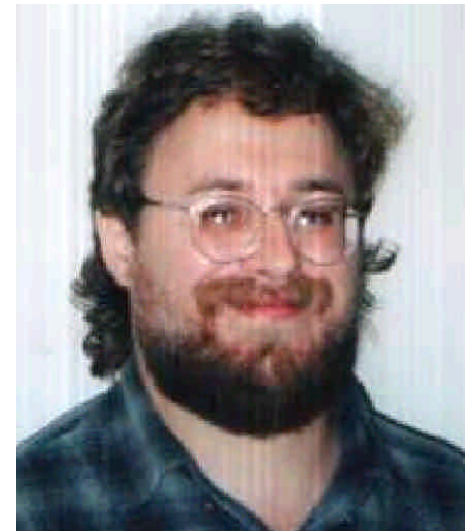
Tunneling Density of States (DoS)

$n(e)$

Role of the Friedel Oscillations

K.A. Matveev, D.Yue, and L.I. Glazman Phys. Rev. Lett., v.71, p.3351 (1993)

A.M. Rudin, I.L. Aleiner, and L.I. Glazman; Phys. Rev. v.B71, #15 (1997)



$$n(e) = \frac{1}{\text{volume}} \sum_a d(e - e_a) = -\frac{2}{p} \int \text{Im } G^R(\vec{r}, \vec{r}) \frac{d\vec{r}}{\text{volume}}$$

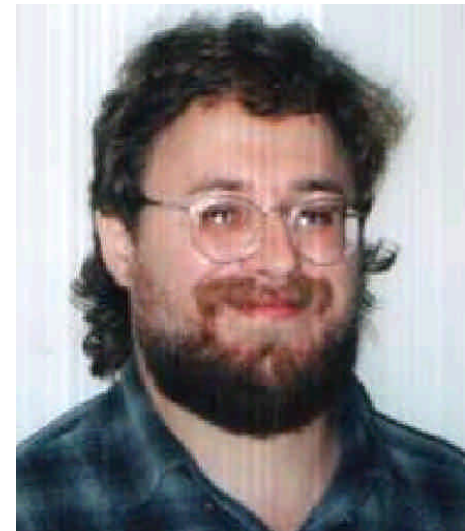
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DoS at a given point \vec{R} in space is determined by the quantum mechanical amplitude to come back to this point

Tunneling Density of States (DoS)

$n(e)$

DoS at a given point \vec{R} in space is determined by the quantum mechanical amplitude to come back to this point

- 0) No disorder
No interactions between the electrons



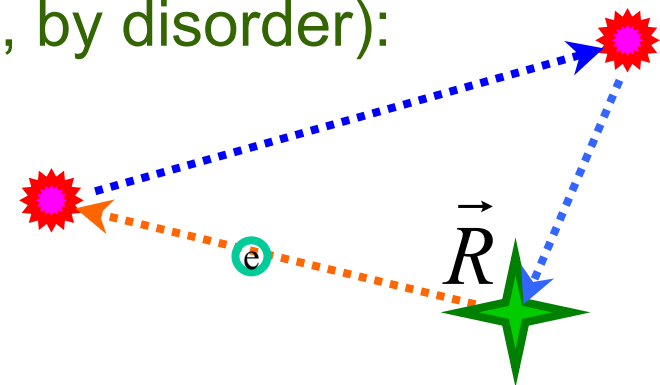
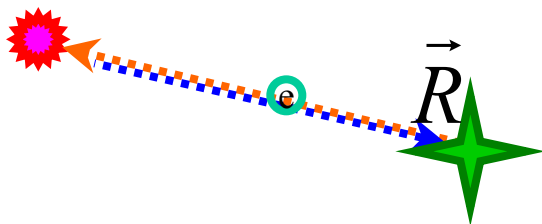
Non of the classical trajectories returns to the original point

DoS is a **smooth** function of the energy

(Energy e is counted from the Fermi level)

$$n(e) \propto (e + e_F)^{-1+d/2} \approx \text{const}$$

- 1) Such classical trajectories appear as soon as translation invariance is violated (e.g., by disorder):

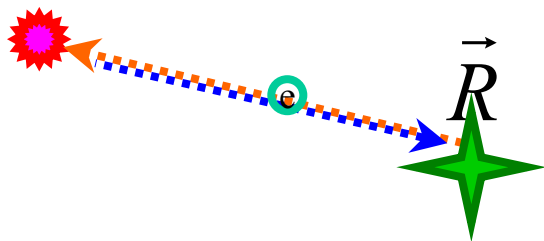


Tunneling Density of States (DoS)

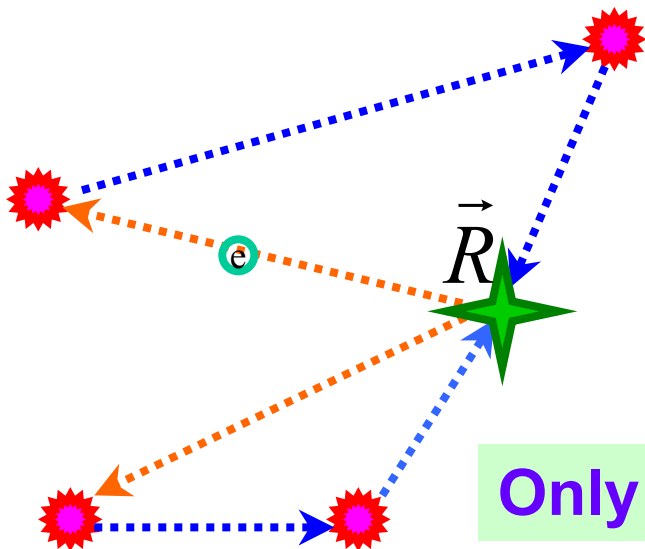
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- 1) Such classical trajectories appear as soon as translation invariance is violated (e.g., by disorder):**



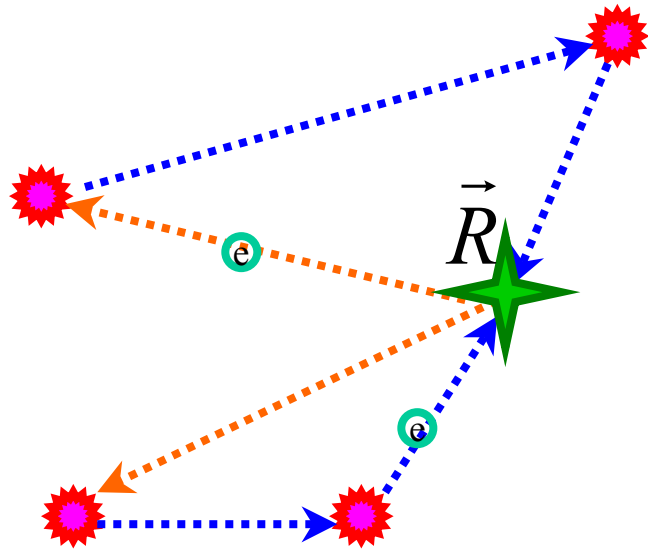
The return amplitude contains the phase factor. The phase $j = 2k_F R$ is large (if the distance between the original point and the impurity exceeds the Fermi wavelength). The correction to the DoS vanishes when averaged over the sample volume



Different trajectories are characterized by different phase factors

$$\langle e^{ij} \rangle_{disorder} = 0$$

Only mesoscopic fluctuations



Different trajectories have different phase factors

$$\langle e^{ij} \rangle_{disorder} = 0$$

Without electron-electron interactions (averaged) DoS is not effected by the disorder.

Only mesoscopic fluctuations

Friedel Oscillations



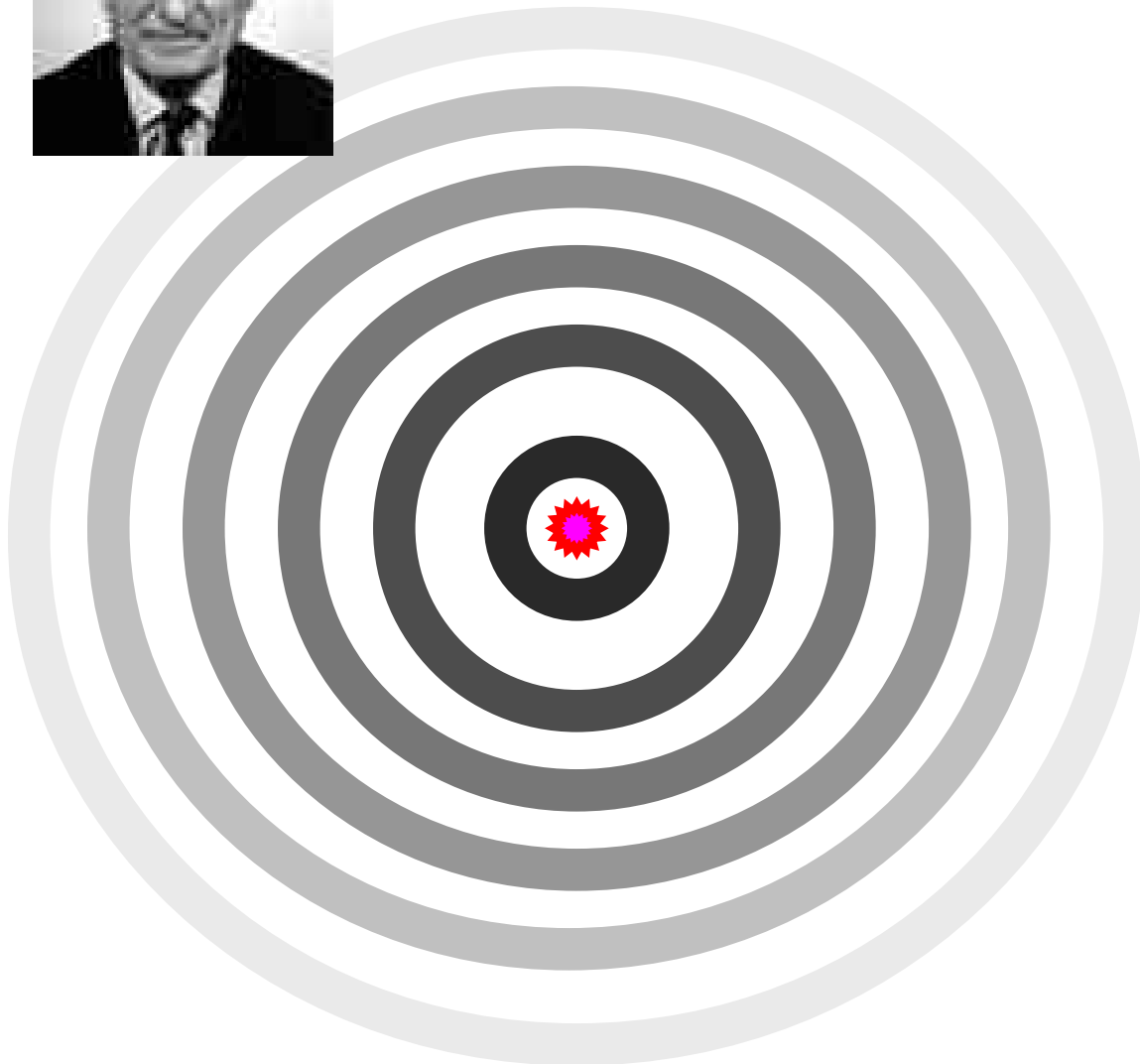
$$\delta n(\vec{r}) \propto \frac{\sin(2k_F r)}{r^d}$$

Electron density **oscillates** as a function of the distance from an impurity.

The period of these oscillations is determined by the Fermi wave length.

The amplitude of the oscillations decays only **algebraically**.

These oscillations **are not** screened

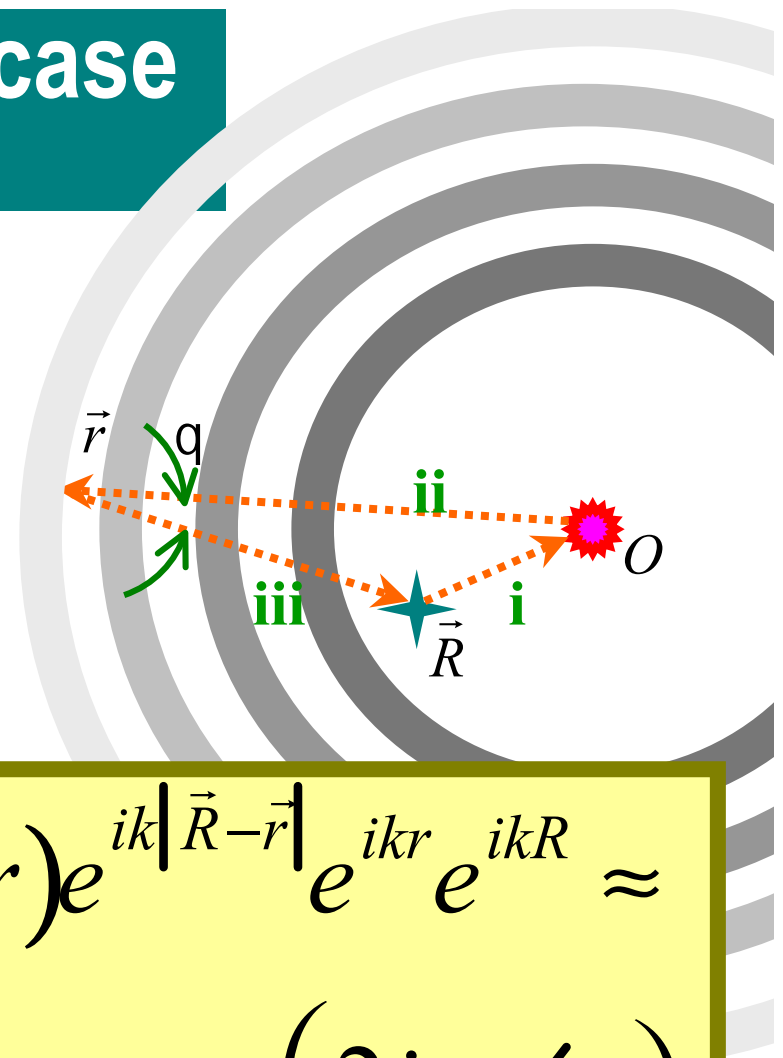


Single impurity (ballistic) case

Compensation of Phases

An electron right after the tunneling finds itself at a point R . It moves, then

- (i) gets scattered off an impurity at a point O ,
- (ii) gets scattered off the Friedel oscillation **created by the same impurity (interaction !!!)**, and
- (iii) returns to the point R .



Phase factor at small angle q :

$$\sin(2k_F r) e^{ik|\vec{R}-\vec{r}|} e^{ikr} e^{ikR} \approx e^{2i(k-k_F)r} = \exp\left(\frac{2ier}{v_F}\right)$$

No oscillations in the limit

$$e \rightarrow 0; r_e \rightarrow \infty$$

ZBA !

An electron right after the tunneling finds itself at a point R . It moves, then

- (i) gets scattered off an impurity at a point O ,
- (ii) gets scattered off the Friedel oscillation **created by the same impurity**, and
- (iii) returns to the point R .

No oscillations in the limit $e \rightarrow 0$

Phase fluctuates only when $r > r_e$ where

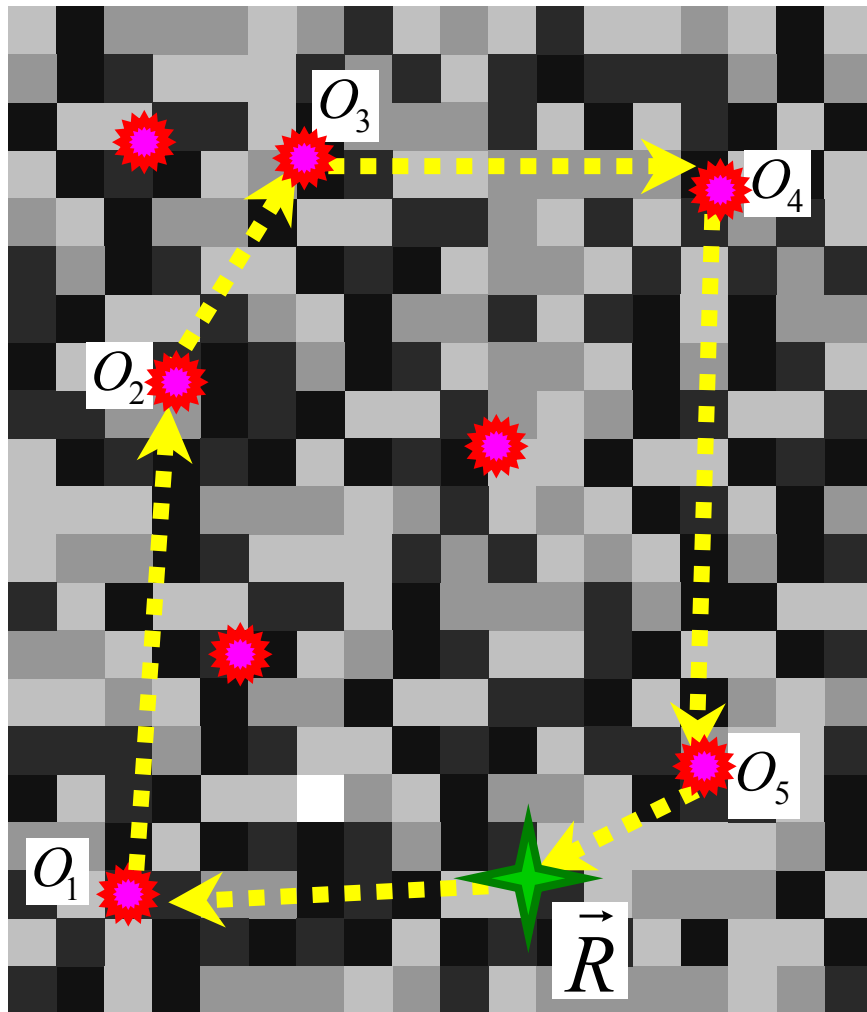
$$r_e \approx v_F / e \rightarrow \infty$$

→ **ZBA !**

Important: this effect exists already in the **first order** of the perturbation theory in the interaction between the electrons (between the probe electron and the Friedel oscillation), i.e., in the **Hartree-Fock** approximation. As a result the DoS correction as well as **ZBA** can have **arbitrary sign**.

Multiple impurity scattering - diffusive case.

Compensation of Phases



“Messy” Friedel oscillations - combination of the Friedel oscillations from different scatterers

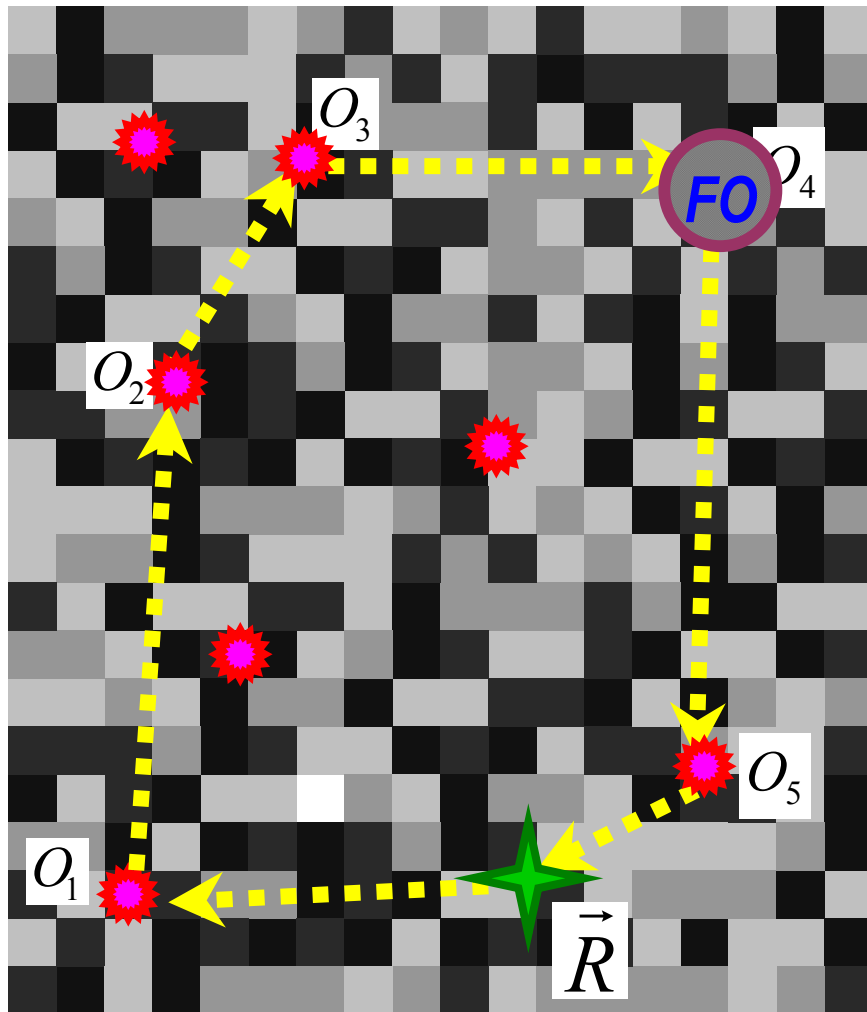
$$dr(\vec{r}) \propto \sum_{\text{paths } a} A_a \sin(k_F L_a)$$

$a = \{O_1, O_2, O_3, \dots, O_n\}$ a path

L_a total length of this path

Multiple impurity scattering - diffusive case.

Compensation of Phases



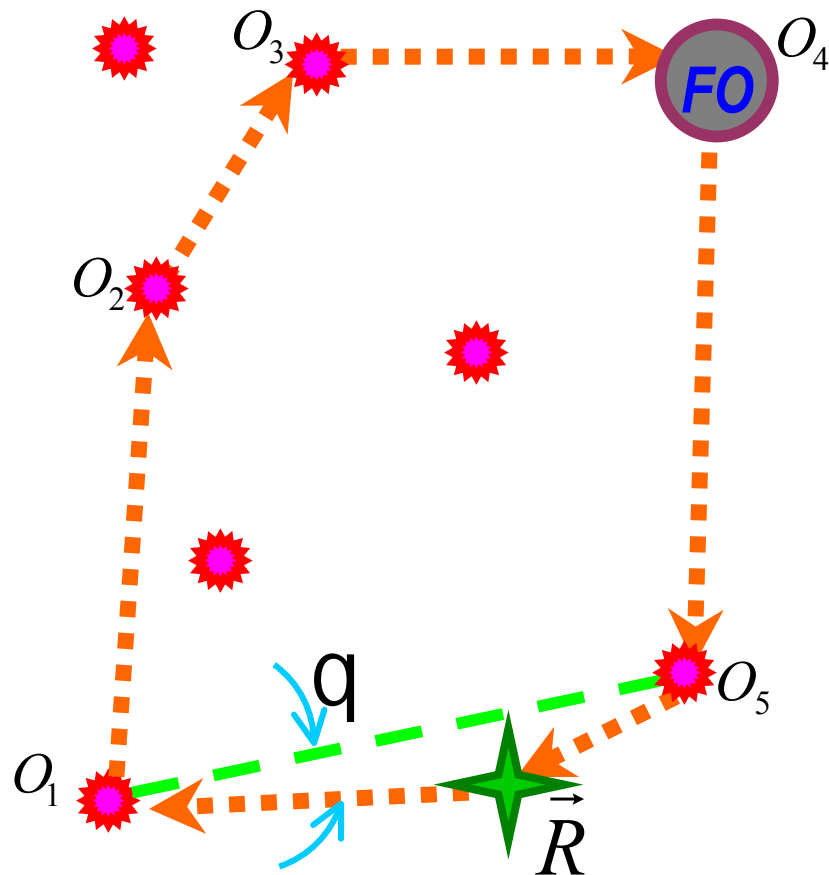
“Messy” Friedel oscillations - combination of the Friedel oscillations from different scatterers

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Multiple impurity scattering - diffusive case Compensation of Phases



“Messy” Friedel oscillations - combination of the Friedel oscillations from different scatterers

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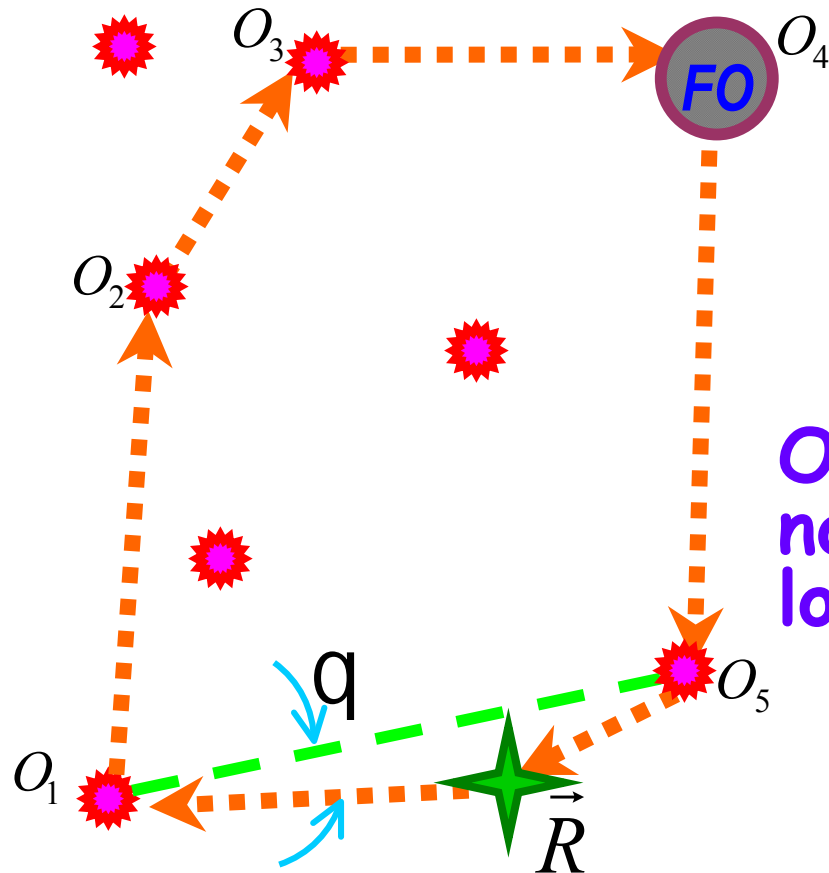
phase factor at small angle q :

$$\sin(k_F L_a) e^{ik_F L_a} \approx \exp\left(\frac{ieL_a}{v_F}\right)$$

Again, oscillations are not important as long as

$$L_a < r_e \approx \frac{v_F}{e} \rightarrow \infty$$

Multiple impurity scattering - diffusive case Compensation of Phases



phase factor at small angle q :

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Oscillations are not important as long as

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Magnitude of the correction to the DoS is determined by the return probability

If the interaction is not weak, the relative corrections to the DoS are the same as the weak localization corrections to the conductivity

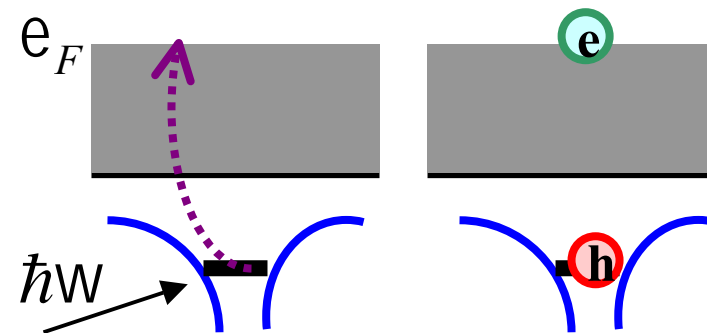
Tunneling Density of States **Two singular contributions**

**Anderson
Orthogonality
Catastrophe:**

Creation of **virtual** soft electron-hole pairs
Second order in the e-e interaction

This effect exists in disordered systems as well !

Analogy with the **X-ray**
edge singularity problem:
(no translation invariance)



Two distinct singular terms in the ionization probability:

1. **Mahan term** - interaction between the “new born” electron and the localized hole
2. **Anderson term** - interaction between the hole and the rest of the Fermi sea

Tunneling Density of States

Role of the translation invariance

In the presence of the disorder the anomaly is due to the simultaneous scattering of the electrons off the disorder and off the Friedel oscillations.

Role of the disorder:

1. It preforms Friedel oscillations
2. It increases the return probability

1. It is only due to the disorder the nontrivial correction to the density of states appears already in the first order in the interaction constant
2. DoS singularity gets stronger due to the disorder (e.g, $e^{-1/2}$ instead of $\log \epsilon$ in 1D)

Tunneling Density of States. **Leading correction**

t - mean free time
 n - density of states
 E_F - Fermi energy

$V(q)$ - Fourier transform of the **short range** interaction potential

$dn(e)/n$	$d=3$	$d=2$	$d=1, N \text{ channels}$
Diffusive $et \ll \hbar$	$\frac{1}{(E_F t)^2} \sqrt{et}$	$\frac{1}{E_F t} \log\left(\frac{e}{E_F}\right)$	$\frac{1}{N \sqrt{et}}$
Ballistic $1 \otimes 0$; $et \gg \hbar$	$\frac{1}{E_F t} \log\left(\frac{e}{E_F}\right)$	$\frac{1}{E_F t} \left \frac{e}{E_F} \right $	$\frac{1}{N} \log\left(\frac{e}{E_F}\right)$
Clean $t \otimes \text{¥}$; $1 \ll 1$	$\frac{1^2 e^2}{E_F^2} \log\left(\frac{e}{E_F}\right)$	$1^2 \frac{ e }{E_F}$	$\frac{1^2}{N} \log\left(\frac{e}{E_F}\right)$

$$1 \propto [V(0) - 2V(2p_F)]\hbar$$

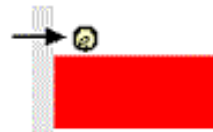
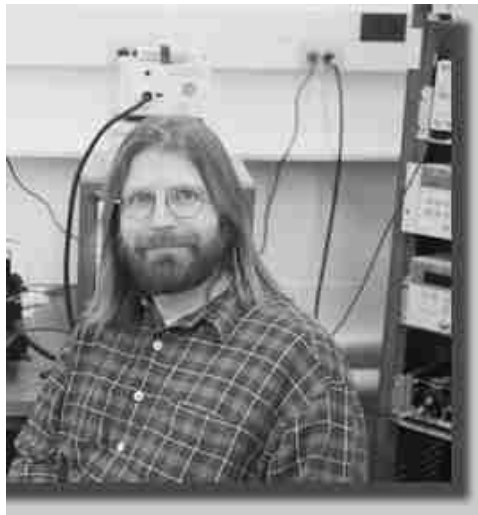
Fock

Hartree

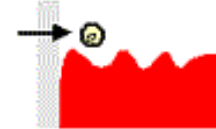
“Carbon Nanoelectronics”

talk at ITP UCSB, Aug. 2001

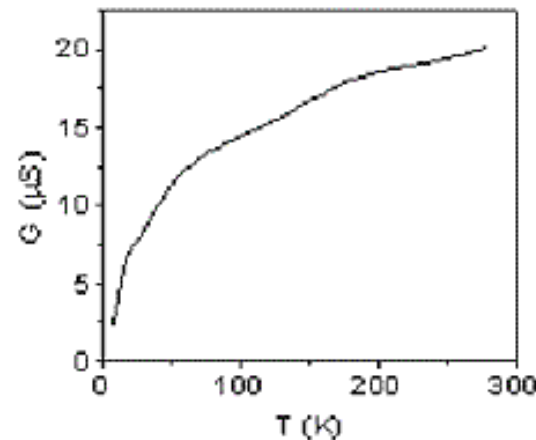
Tunneling into a Luttinger Liquid



Fermi Liquid
 $dI/dV \sim \text{const}$
 $G(T) \sim \text{const}$



Luttinger Liquid
 $dI/dV \sim V^\alpha$
 $G(T) \sim T^\alpha$



Expt:

Bockrath et al. (99)

Yao et al. (99)

Postma et al. (01)

Theory

Kane Balents and

Fisher (97)

Egger and Gogolin
(97)

Luttinger Liquid 1D

$$G_t(eV, T) \propto (\max\{eV, T\})^a$$

$$x^a = \exp(a \ln x) = 1 + a \ln x + (a \ln x)^2 + \dots$$

Tunneling to the bulk - translation invariance is **preserved**. Effect starts from the **second order** of the perturbation theory.

Tunneling to the end - translation invariance is **violated**. Effect exists already in the **first order** of the perturbation theory.

$$a_{bulk} = \frac{(1-K)^2}{8K} \propto (1-K)^2 \quad a_{end} = \frac{1-K}{4K} \propto 1-K$$

$1-K$ is the perturbative coupling const.

Theory

C.L.KANE & M.P.A.FISHER,
PRL, 68, 1220 (1992).

K.A.MATVEEV & L.I.GLAZMAN,
PRL, 70, 990-993 (1993).

Experiment:

MARC BOCKRATH,
DAVID H. COBDEN, JIA LU,
ANDREW G. RINZLER,
RICHARD E. SMALLEY,
LEON BALENTS & PAUL L. MCEUEN

Nature 397, 598 - 601 (1999)

+Disorder

Beyond the first correction

Yu. V. Nazarov, Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz. 95, 975 (1989)[Sov. Phys. JETP 68, 561 (1990)].

L.S.Levitov & A.V.Shytov, JETP Lett. 66, 215 (1997)

A.Kamenev & A.Andreev, Phys. Rev. **B60**, 2218 (1999)

$d > 1$

$d = 1$ *Luttinger Liquid*

E.Mishchenko, A.Andreev, & L.Glazman, PRL, **87**, #24 (2001)

$$\frac{n(e, T)}{n_0} = T \cosh \frac{e}{2T} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\cos et \, dt}{\cosh p T t} * \\ \exp \left\{ \int_0^{\infty} d\omega \, V(\omega) \frac{\cosh(\omega/2T) - \cos \omega t}{\sinh(\omega/2T)} \right\}$$

$$V(\omega) = -\sqrt{\frac{2K}{p^2 N}} \Re \left(\frac{\sqrt{\omega + i/t}}{\omega^{3/2}} \right) \\ K = \frac{p e^2}{4 v_F} \ln \left(\frac{L}{R} \right)$$

Gives both Clean(Luttinger Liquid) and disordered limits

What about zero dimensions, i.e., quantum dots ?

Zero Bias
Anomaly



Coulomb
Blockade

$d=1,2,3$

Interaction channels: spin singlet;
spin triplet &
Cooper

Universal Hamiltonian

$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_0 + E_c \hat{n}^2 + J \hat{S}^2 + |_{BCS} \hat{T}^+ \hat{T}.$$

\hat{n} total number of electrons

\hat{S} total spin of the electrons

$$\hat{T}^+ = \sum_a \hat{a} a_{a,-}^+ a_{a,-}^+$$

Environment Theory

Yu. V. Nazarov, Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz. 95, 975 (1989)[Sov. Phys. JETP 68, 561 (1990)].

M. H. Devoret, D. Esteve, H. Grabert, G.-L. Ingold, H. Pothier & C. Urbina, PRL, 64, 1824 (1990)

S.M. Girvin, L.I. Glazman, M. Jonson, D.R. Penn & M.D. Stiles, PRL, 64, 3183 (1990)

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F. Pierre, H. Pothier, P. Joyez, Norman O. Birge, D. Esteve, & M. H. Devoret, PRL, 86, #8, 1590 (2001)

Electrodynamic Dip in the Local Density of States of a Metallic Wire

F. Pierre, H. Pothier, P. Joyez, Norman O. Birge,* D. Esteve, and M. H. Devoret

Service de Physique de l'Etat Condensé, Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique, Saclay, 91191 Gif-sur-Yvette, France

(Received 15 January 1999; revised manuscript received 3 February 2000)

We have measured the differential conductance of a tunnel junction between a thin metallic wire and a thick ground plane, as a function of the applied voltage. We find that near zero voltage, the differential conductance exhibits a dip, which scales as $1/\sqrt{V}$ down to voltages $V \sim 10k_B T/e$. The precise voltage and temperature dependence of the differential conductance is accounted for by the effect on the tunneling density of states of the macroscopic electrodynamic contribution to electron-electron interaction, and not by the short-ranged screened-Coulomb repulsion at microscopic scales.

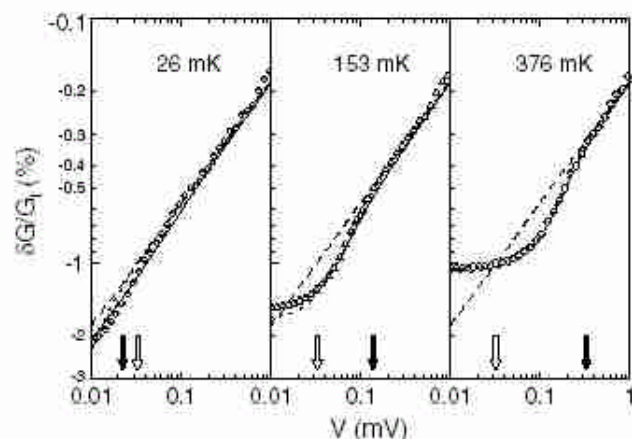


FIG. 2. Symbols: measured variations of the differential conductance of the tunnel junction, normalized to $G_T = 26.392 \mu S$, as a function of voltage V , for 3 values of the temperature. Each curve corresponds to an average of ten to fifteen voltage sweeps. Solid lines: prediction of the full theory including the effect of temperature and of the finite length of the wire [equivalent circuit shown in Fig. 1(b)]. Dotted lines: predictions for an infinite wire with the same parameters, including the temperature. Dashed lines: predictions for the infinite wire at $T = 0$ showing the $V^{-1/2}$ dependence. Black arrows indicate the position of the crossover voltage $V = 10k_B T/e$. White arrows indicate the energy $\hbar D^*/(L/2)^2$.

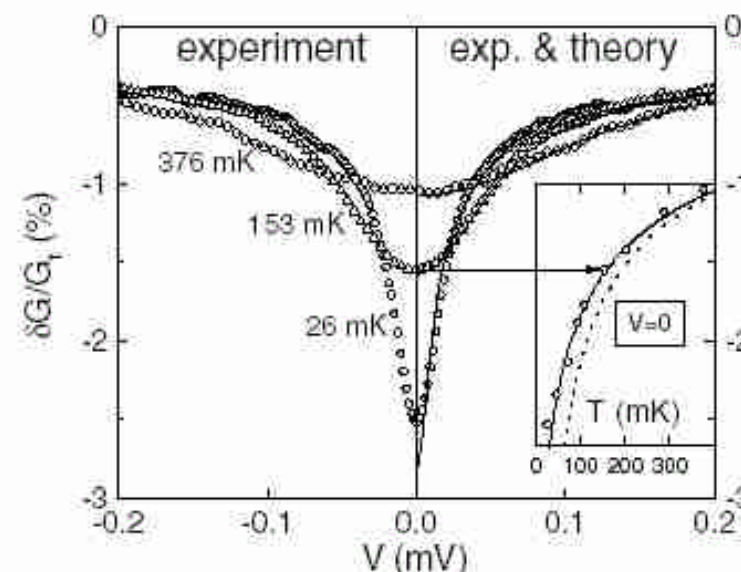


FIG. 3. Symbols in main panel: same experiment as in Fig. 2, but with data near $V = 0$ plotted on linear scale. Solid lines: Predictions for our finite length wire. Inset: $V = 0$ differential conductance. Solid line: Prediction for our finite length wire. Dotted line: $T^{-1/2}$ dependence expected for an infinite wire.

Environment Theory

Yu. V. Nazarov, Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz. 95, 975 (1989)[Sov. Phys. JETP 68, 561 (1990)].

M. H. Devoret, D.Esteve, H. Grabert, G.-L. Ingold, H. Pothier & C. Urbina, PRL, 64, 1824 (1990)

S.M. Girvin, L.I. Glazman, M. Jonson, D.R. Penn & M.D. Stiles, PRL, 64, 3183 (1990)

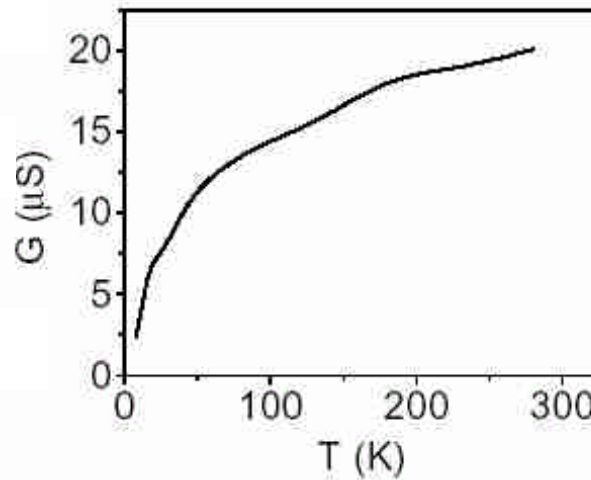
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F.Pierre, H.Pothier, P.Joyez, Norman O.Birge, D.Esteve, & M. H. Devoret, PRL, 86, #8, 1590 (2001)

Environment theory is a bit incomplete

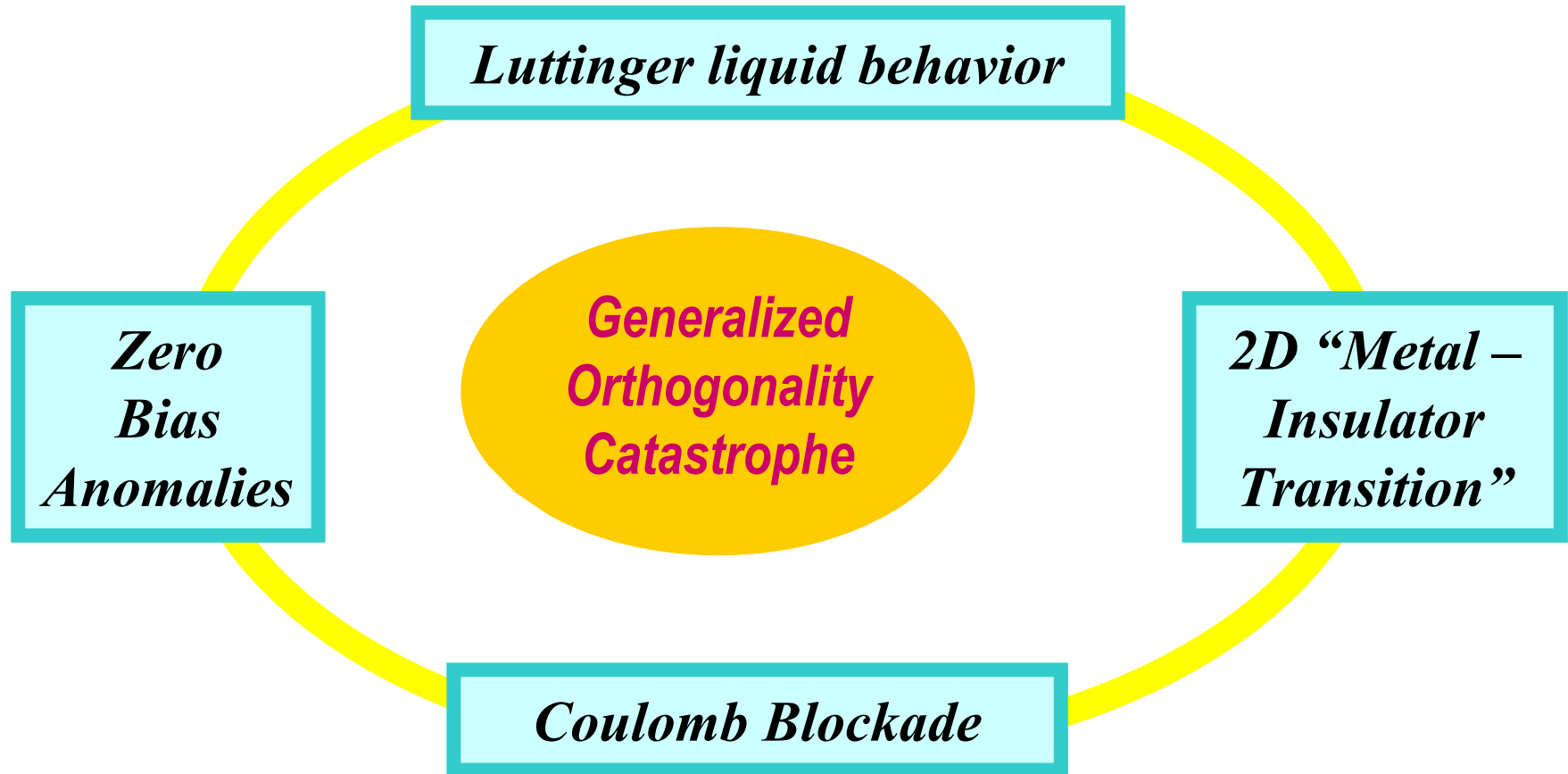
Most important point: it takes into account only **electromagnetic** fluctuations of the environment and **neglects** its **spin** fluctuations.

As a result – **only minimum** in the tunneling DoS (!)



Q • Is it a Luttinger liquid
• or maybe it is environment
• or it is electron-electron interaction ?

A • All the above is also
• electron-electron interaction
• in a form of **generalized orthogonality catastrophe**



! have nothing to do with any dephasing !

The End