



Conformal anomaly in condensed matter systems





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(3+1)D





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1. Dirac physics: HEP vs CM

QFT fermions



The Dirac equation has negative energy solutions: Vacuum: the infinite, filled, Dirac sea. Particles: quantum excitations of the Dirac sea The standard model of condensed matter The Landau Fermi liquid for metals*



a) Metal

 $\varepsilon(k) = k^2 / 2m^*$

Fermi level

Vacuum: the Fermi sea

 $\varepsilon(k) = k^2 / 2m^*$ $m^* = \partial^2 \varepsilon(k) / \partial k^2 \big|_{kF}$ d) semimetal





Quasiparticles: quantum excitations of the (filled) Fermi sea.

*HEP ref.: J. Polchinski, Effective Field Theory and the Fermi Surface, hep-th/9210046 5

Particles and quasiparticles





Dirac and Fermi seas



Same equations, same solutions!

Dirac matter

Effective low energy description around band crossings in crystals. $\mathcal{E}(k) = \pm v |k|$ a W2 *Ek* 0 W1 (2+1)D: graphene (3+1)D: Dirac and Weyl semimetals $\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{\Lambda} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \bar{\psi} i D \!\!\!/ \psi \,,$ QPs are charged massless fermions

Relativistic QFT at work

Cd₃As₂

Na₃Bi₂

 $C_{\rm FS} = \pm 1$

2. Conformal anomaly (3+1)

Warning

Scale vs conformal symmetry

For a rigid scale transformation $\sigma = \text{const.}$

T

$$\int \mathrm{d}^d x \sqrt{g} \, T^{\mu}{}_{\mu} = 0$$

Implies the existence of a "virial" current D_{μ}

 $T^{\mu}{}_{\mu} = \nabla_{\mu} D^{\mu}$

The current must not have anomalous dimension, but I believe

 $\langle T^{\mu}{}_{\mu} - \nabla_{\mu}D^{\mu} \rangle =$ beta terms + anomaly

Omar Zanusso

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I will call this scale, or conformal anomaly

3D: QED conformal anomaly

$$\mathscr{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu} + \bar{\psi}i\gamma^{\mu}D_{\mu}\psi$$

Massless QED is scale invariant: no masses, dimensionless coupling

After quantizing, the running coupling constant induces a scale anomaly

Anomaly induced transport

3D Condensed matter

Scale magnetic effectNernst effect $\sqrt[V]{\phi}$ $\sqrt[V]{\psi}$ $\sqrt[V]{\phi}$ $\sqrt[V]{T}$ $\nabla \phi \leftrightarrow \frac{\nabla T}{T}$ $\sqrt[V]{\psi}$

$$\boldsymbol{J} = -\frac{2\beta(e)}{e} \boldsymbol{\nabla} \tau(x) \times \boldsymbol{B}(x).$$

$$\label{eq:J} \boldsymbol{J} = \frac{e^2 v_F}{18 \pi^2 T \hbar} \boldsymbol{B} \times \boldsymbol{\nabla} T \, .$$

Experimental signatures

The thermoelectric coefficient α should.

- Extrapolate to a non zero value as T->0 and μ =0.
- Linear in B.
- Proportional to v_F (larger in cleaner samples).

Anomaly based: Chernodub, Cortijo, MV, **PRL120**, 206601 (2018) Kubo calculation: Arjona, Chernodub , MV, PRB**99** , 235123 (2019) Effect of tilt: Ballestad, Cortijo, MV, Qaiumzadeh, PRB**107** , 014410 (2023)

$$\boldsymbol{J} = \boldsymbol{\sigma} \boldsymbol{E} + \boldsymbol{\alpha} \boldsymbol{\nabla} \boldsymbol{T},$$

$$\alpha \sim v_F B/T$$

3. Graphene: QED(2+1)?

Summary of graphene features





TB Dispersion relation

Low energy expansion around a Fermi point

$$H_{K}^{e\!f\!f} = v_{F}\vec{\sigma}.\vec{p}$$
 $v_{F} = \frac{3}{2}t.a \sim \frac{c}{300}$ $E \leq 1-1.5 \text{ eV}$

Free action: (2+1) Dirac

$$\mathcal{L} = \int dt d^2 x \bar{\Psi} \gamma^{\mu} \partial_{\mu} \Psi \ , \ \gamma^{\mu} = (\gamma^0, v_F \gamma^i)$$

Coulomb interaction

J. González, F. Guinea, MV Nucl. Phys. **B424**, 593 (1994)

$$\mathcal{H} = v_F \int d^2 \mathbf{r} \bar{\psi}(\mathbf{r}) \, \gamma^i \partial_i \psi(\mathbf{r}), \qquad \mathcal{H}_{\text{int}} = e^2 \int d^2 \mathbf{r} d^2 \mathbf{r}' \frac{\psi^+(\mathbf{r}) \psi(\mathbf{r}) \psi^+(\mathbf{r}') \psi(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}. \qquad \alpha \equiv \frac{e^2}{4\pi v_F}$$

Substitute the four fermi non-local interaction by a local term



$$L = \int d^2 r \bar{\Psi}(\mathbf{r}, t) \gamma^{\mu} (\partial_{\mu} - i e A_{\mu}) \Psi(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

Non-relativistic QED (2+1)?

$$J^{\mu} \sim (\bar{\Psi} \gamma^0 \Psi, v \bar{\Psi} \vec{\gamma} \Psi)$$

Graphene: brain reduced QED



Effective dimensionless coupling constant

$$\alpha \equiv \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon v_F} = \alpha_{QED} \frac{c}{v_F} \frac{\epsilon_0}{\epsilon}$$

Unlike QED(2+1) (superrenormalizable) this theory is renormalizable. And scale invariant!

RG Analysis. Results



The electric charge is not renormalized (non-perturbative result)

J. González, F. Guinea, MAHV Nucl. Phys. **B424**, 593 (94) Phys. Rev. Lett.**77**, 3589 (96) Phys. Rev. **B59**, R2474 (99)

RG Analysis. Results

Retarded interaction: v/c finite

- New zero of the beta function: V_F-> c
- Non trivial infrared fixed point with $g=\alpha_{QED}$

• Wave function renormalization (anomalous dimension)

J. González, F. Guinea, MAHV Nucl. Phys. B *'*94

Experimental confirmation of $v_F(E)$



E

From cyclotron mass-Suspended. Clean. (Elias et al Nat. Phys. 2011)



From ARPES. Epitaxial (Lanzara's group PNAS 2011)

Energy dependent!

Coulomb interactions make it grow at lower energies. Disorder does the opposite. If you see it constant as decreasing energies it intrinsically grows.

(Also space dependent in deformed samples)

A reasonable question: will v_F (E) generate a scale anomaly? (With observable consequences?)



4. Conformal anomaly in graphene: thermodynamics and hydro effects

Hydro aspects of Dirac matter





 $\tau_{ee} >> \tau_{any}$ Fermi liquids in ultrapure crystals



Negative magnetoresistivity in chiral fluids and holography Karl Landsteiner, Yan Liu and Ya-Wen Sun

Negative local resistance caused by viscous electron backflow in graphene SCIENCE 4 MARCH 2016

D. A. Bandurin,¹ I. Torre,² R. Krishna Kumar,^{1,3} M. Ben Shalom,^{1,4} A. Tomadin,⁵ A. Principi,⁶ G. H. Auton,⁴ E. Khestanova,^{1,4} K. S. Novoselov,⁴ I. V. Grigorieva,¹ L. A. Ponomarenko, ^{1,3} A. K. Geim, ^{1*} M. Polini^{7*}

ELECTRON TRANSPORT

Observation of the Dirac fluid and the breakdown of the Wiedemann-Franz law in graphene SCIENCE 4 MARCH 2016

Jesse Crossno,^{1,2} Jing K. Shi,¹ Ke Wang,¹ Xiaomeng Liu,¹ Achim Harzheim,¹ Andrew Lucas,¹ Subir Sachdev,^{1,3} Philip Kim,^{1,2}* Takashi Taniguchi,⁴ Kenji Watanabe,⁴ Thomas A. Ohki,⁵ Kin Chung Fong⁵*

Evidence for hydrodynamic electron flow in PdCoO₂

Philip J. W. Moll,^{1,2,3} Pallavi Kushwaha,³ Nabhanila Nandi,³ Burkhard Schmidt.³ Andrew P. Mackenzie^{3,4}*

SCIENCE

4 MARCH 2016

ARTICLE

NATURE COMMUNICATIONS (2018)

OPEN DOI: 10.1038/s41467-018-06688-

Thermal and electrical signatures of a hydrodynamic electron fluid in tungsten diphosphide

J. Gooth^{1,2}, F. Menges^{1,4}, N. Kumar², V. Süß², C. Shekhar ⁽¹⁾ ², Y. Sun ⁽¹⁾ ², U. Drechsler¹, R. Zierold³, C. Felser ² & B. Gotsmann¹

Hydrodynamic theory of thermoelectric transport and negative magnetoresistance in Weyl semimetals

Andrew Lucas^{a,1}, Richard A. Davison^{a,1}, and Subir Sachdev^{a,b,1}

August 23, 2016

Graphene: more recent hydro exp.

Visualizing Poiseuille flow of hydrodynamic

electrons Sulpizio, Geim et al Nature | Vol 576 | 5 December 2019 Scanning carbon nanotube single-electron transistor to image the Hall voltage of electronic flow through channels of high-mobility graphene.

Article

Imaging viscous flow of the Dirac fluid in graphene

Nature | Vol 583 | 23 July 2020 | 537

Probing viscous electronic transport via magnetic field imaging

Kim, Jacobi et al

Observation of hydrodynamic plasmons and energy waves in graphene

THz absorption spectra. Zhao et al.

Nature | Vol 614 | 23 February 2023

Experimental signatures of the transition from acoustic plasmon to electronic sound in graphene

Driving viscous hydrodynamics in bulk electron flow in graphene using micromagnets

Jack N. Engdahl, Avdın Cem Keser, Thomas Schmidt, and Oleg P. Sushkov Phys. Rev. B 109, 195402 – Published 2 May 2024







Key expressions

General for massless QED

• The action

- $S_{0} = \int dt \ d^{2}\vec{x} \ \bar{\Psi} \ i \ (\gamma^{t}\partial_{t} + v_{F}\vec{\gamma}\cdot\vec{\nabla})\Psi$ $T^{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{2}\bar{\Psi} \left(\gamma^{\mu}\nabla^{\nu} + \gamma^{\nu}\nabla^{\mu}\right)\Psi \eta^{\mu\nu}\bar{\Psi} \ i \ (\gamma^{t}\partial_{t} + v_{F}\vec{\gamma}\cdot\vec{\nabla})\Psi$ $\epsilon \equiv T^{00} = -v_{F}\bar{\Psi}i\vec{\gamma}\cdot\vec{\nabla}\Psi$
- The stress tensor
- The energy density
- The trace

 $T^{\alpha}_{\ \alpha} = -2\bar{\psi}i\gamma^{\mu}\nabla_{\mu}\psi \equiv 0 \qquad \text{(traceless using eq. of motion)}$

The (new) conformal anomaly

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{Under a scale transformation} & g_{\mu\nu} = e^{2\tau}\eta_{\mu\nu} &, \quad \delta g_{\mu\nu} = 2\tau\eta_{\mu\nu} \\ S \rightarrow S_{\tau} = S + \tau \int dt d^{2}\vec{x} \; T^{\mu}_{\mu}(x) + O(\tau^{2}) & \hline v_{F} \rightarrow v_{F} + \tau\beta_{\nu} \\ \\ \frac{\partial S_{\psi}}{\partial \tau} = < \int dt \; d^{2}\vec{x} \; T^{\mu}_{\mu} > & \hline T^{\mu}_{\mu} = \beta_{\nu} < \bar{\Psi}i\vec{\gamma} \; \overline{\nabla} \; \Psi > = -\frac{\beta_{\nu}}{v_{F}} < \epsilon > \end{array}$

Consequences of conformal anomaly on hydro

• Conformal equation of state:

 $\overline{\langle T^{\mu}_{\mu} \rangle} = E - 2P = 0$, E = 2P

• Conformal anomaly:

$$< T^{\mu}_{\mu} > = - \frac{\beta_{\nu}}{\nu_{E}} < E >$$

• Modified EOS:

$$\left(1 + \frac{\beta_v}{v_F}\right)E = 2P$$

Specific heat*



* First noticed by Vafek PRL07.

Measurable



• Sound wave velocity

EOS of relativistic fluid ($c \rightarrow v_F$)

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial E} = \frac{v_s^2}{v_F^2} \qquad \left(1 + \frac{\beta_v}{v_F}\right)E = 2P \qquad v_s(T) = \frac{v_F(T)}{\sqrt{2}} \left(1 - \frac{\beta_v}{v_F(T)}\right)^{-1/2}$$

Measurable?





Bulk viscosity

Kubo:

$$\zeta = \lim_{\omega \to 0} \frac{1}{4\omega} \int_0^\infty dt \int d^2x \, e^{i\omega t} \big\langle [T^\mu_\mu(x), T^\nu_\nu(0)] \big\rangle.$$

Graphene:

$$\zeta = \underbrace{\beta_v^2}_{4 \ \omega \to 0} \frac{i}{\omega} \lim_{\mathbf{k} \to 0} G^R_{TT}(\omega, \mathbf{k}).$$

$$G^R_{TT}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) \ = \ \frac{1}{iv_F^2} \int_0^\infty dt \, e^{i\omega t} \int d^2x \, e^{-i\mathbf{k}\mathbf{x}} \big\langle [\bar{\Psi}(x)i\gamma^t\partial_t\Psi(x), \bar{\Psi}(0)i\gamma^t\partial_t\Psi(0)] \big\rangle,$$

Measurable?

Main effect: acoustic dispersion (attenuation)

Temperature dependence of bulk viscosity in water using acoustic spectroscopy

To cite this article: M J Holmes et al 2011 J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. 269 012011

Summary and conclusion

• Novel CM systems modeled with massless Dirac -> scale invariant

• Coulomb interactions { 3D -> standard QED 2D -> brane QED

• Novel scale anomaly in (2+1) from renormalization of Fermi velocity

• Thermodynamics and hydro effects

• Experimentally accessible?

Condensed matter merges HEP (again)













The adventure of our science of physics is a perpetual attempt to recognize that the different aspects of nature are really different aspects of the same thing.



Tolman-Ehrenfest effect

Precursors



TEMPERATURE EQUILIBRIUM IN A STATIC GRAVITATIONAL FIELD

By RICHARD C. TOLMAN AND PAUL EHRENFEST

The problem: thermodynamic equilibrium in gravitational fields.

heat has weight

$$\frac{1}{T}\boldsymbol{\nabla}T = -\frac{1}{c^2}\boldsymbol{\nabla}\Phi,$$

Variations of gravitational potentials induce variations of temperature

14 SEPTEMBER 1964

Theory of Thermal Transport Coefficients*

How can we get Kubo formulas for thermal transport coefficients?

Just as the space- and time-varying external electric potential produced electric currents and density variations, so a varying gravitational field will produce, in principle,⁷ energy flows and temperature fluctuations.

Gravitational potential Φ as a local source of thermal (energy) currents

$$\frac{1}{T}\boldsymbol{\nabla}T = -\frac{1}{c^2}\boldsymbol{\nabla}\Phi,$$

⁷ calling these interesting references to my attention.) Although the effect is very small, in practice we are only interested in questions of principle, and an arbitrarily small effect is just as good as a large one. In fact, if the gravitational field didn't exist, one could invent one for the purposes of this paper.



Digression: A puzzling question still remaining in graphene

Early experiments explained with single particle picture. Continuum model accounts for most (almost all) low energy features.



Fractional Quantum Hall Effect



E. Andrei's and P. Kim's groups Nature 09

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Novoselov et al, Nature 2005

$$\alpha \equiv \frac{e^2}{\epsilon v_F} = \alpha_{QED} \frac{c}{v_F} \frac{\epsilon_0}{\epsilon} \sim 300 \alpha_{QED} \frac{\epsilon_0}{\epsilon}$$

Coulomb interactions (I)

Nucl. Phys. **B424**, 593 (94) Phys. Rev. Lett.77, 3589 (96) $H = \frac{3}{2} ta \int d^2 r \overline{\psi} (\mathbf{r}) \gamma \cdot \nabla \psi (\mathbf{r}) + \frac{e^2}{2} \int d^2 r_1 d^2 r_2 \frac{\overline{\psi} (r_1) \sigma_3 \psi (r_1) \overline{\psi} (r_2) \sigma_3 \psi (r_1)}{4\pi |r_1 - r_2|}$ Phys. Rev. **B59**, R2474 (99) $L_i = j^{\mu} A_{\mu} ,$ Substitute the four fermions non-local interaction by a local term Non-relativistic QED (2+1) $L = \frac{3}{2} v_F \int d^2 r \, \mathrm{dt} \, \overline{\psi}(\mathbf{r}, t) \gamma^{\mu} (\partial_{\mu} - i e A_{\mu}) \psi(\mathbf{r}, t)$ $j^{\mu} \sim (\overline{\psi}\gamma^{0}\psi, v\overline{\psi}\gamma\overline{\psi})$ $L = L[\Psi, A, v_F, \alpha]$ **Feymann diagrams building blocks:** $G^{0}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = i \frac{-\gamma_{0}\omega + v\gamma_{0}\mathbf{k}}{-\omega^{2} + v^{2}\mathbf{k}^{2} - i\varepsilon}$ ω.**k** $\prod_{r}^{0} \mu v = \langle TA_{\mu}(t, \mathbf{r}) A_{\nu}(t', \mathbf{r}') \rangle = -i\delta_{\mu\nu} \int \frac{d^{4}k}{(2\pi)^{4}} \frac{e^{i\mathbf{k}(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}')-i\omega(t-t')}}{-\omega^{2}+\mathbf{k}^{2}-i\varepsilon}$ $\Gamma^0_{\mu}(k_1,k_2,k_3) = ie$ 32

Electron self-energy



- (b) Renormalization of the Fermi velocity (or hopping parameter).
- (c),(d) Wave function renormalization
- Quasiparticle lifetime.
- $\tau^{-1} \sim \lim_{\omega \to 0} \operatorname{Im} \Sigma(\omega, \mathbf{0})$
- \bullet Anomalous exponent: η

(affects the interlayer hopping)

 $G(\omega) \sim_{\omega \to 0} \frac{1}{\omega^{1-\eta}}$

Photon self-energy and vertex

• Photon self-energy: $\Pi(\omega, \mathbf{k})$



Its real part renormalizes the interaction. Im $\chi(\omega, \mathbf{k})$ gives the density of electron-hole pairs. Its real poles give the plasmon spectra.



$$\Pi_{\mu\nu}(k) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{e^2}{v^2} \frac{k^2}{\sqrt{v_F^2 k^2 - \omega^2}} \left(g_{\mu\nu} - \frac{k_{\mu}k_{\nu}}{k^2}\right)$$

Finite at the one loop level

• Vertex corrections:



Renormalizes the electric charge. Related to photon self-energy by gauge invariance.

 $Z_A^{1/2} = Z_e^{-1}$

The electric charge is not renormalized. Coulomb unscreened. The result stays at a non-perturbative level if gauge inv. is maintained.

RG Analysis. Results

$$Z_{v} = 1 - \frac{1}{16\pi} \frac{e^{2}}{v} \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{\omega}\right) \qquad \text{The Fermi velocity grows in the infrared } (v \rightarrow c).$$
Quantum critical point
$$M_{\mu\nu}(k) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{e^{2}}{v^{2}} \left(g_{\mu\nu} - \frac{k_{\mu}k_{\nu}}{k^{2}}\right) |\mathbf{k}| \qquad \text{The electric charge is not renormalized } (non-perturbative result).$$
The effective coupling constant e^{2}/v_{F} renormalizes to zero. Free IR fixed point.
$$Z_{\mu}(k_{F}\omega) \sim 1 - \frac{1}{16\pi^{2}} \frac{e^{4}}{v^{2}} \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{\omega}\right)$$

$$M_{\mu\nu}(k) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{e^{4}}{v^{2}} \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{\omega}\right)$$

A non-perturbative fixed point

Phys. Rev. **B59**, R2474 (99)



is connected to it through RG transformations.

3D Condensed matter II



Conformal electromagnetic edge effects¹

$$J^{\mu}(x) = -\frac{2c\beta_e}{e\hbar} \frac{F^{\mu\nu}(x)n_{\nu}}{x}, \qquad \qquad \rho = -\frac{2v_F\beta_e}{e\hbar c^2} \frac{\vec{n} \cdot \vec{E}}{x}.$$

It generates a "conformal screening"²

$$\frac{E(x)}{E(0)} \propto x^{-\nu} \,, \quad \nu = \frac{2\beta_e}{ec\hbar\varepsilon_0} = \frac{e^2}{6\pi^2\hbar v_F\varepsilon\varepsilon_0}$$



0

 $\propto e$

Thomas-Fermi screening

Measuring the screening exponent?

1.D. M. McAvity and H. Osborn, A DeWitt expansion of the heat kernel for manifolds with a boundary, Class. Quantum Gravity 8, 603 (1991).

2. M. Chernodub, MV, Direct measurement of a beta function and an indirect check of the Schwinger effect near the boundary in Dirac semimetals, PRR1, 032002(R) (2019).

Conformal anomaly in graphene

Stress–Energy Tensor

(Source of the gravitational field in the Einstein's Gravity)





$$\frac{\partial S_{\psi}}{\partial \tau} = \beta_v \int \mathrm{d}t \,\mathrm{d}^2 \boldsymbol{x} \, \langle \bar{\Psi} i \boldsymbol{\gamma} \boldsymbol{D} \Psi \rangle, \tag{29}$$

so finally we obtain - via Eq. (27) - the following equation for the conformal anomaly:

$$\langle T^{\mu}_{\ \mu} \rangle = \beta_v \langle \Psi i \gamma \nabla \Psi \rangle.$$
 (30)

Repeating the derivation with a coordinate-dependent factor $\tau = \tau(x)$, using a variation instead of the differential operator in Eq. (29), we also get a relation for a matrix element with arbitrary insertions of T^{μ}_{μ} 's:

$$\left\langle T^{\mu}_{\ \mu}(x_1)\dots T^{\mu}_{\ \mu}(x_n)\right\rangle = \beta^n_v \left\langle \Psi(x_1)i\boldsymbol{\gamma}\boldsymbol{\nabla}\Psi(x_1)\dots \Psi(x_n)i\boldsymbol{\gamma}\boldsymbol{\nabla}\Psi(x_n)\right\rangle. \tag{31}$$

This formula implies the validity of the local relation:

$$T^{\mu}_{\ \mu}(x) = \beta_v \bar{\Psi}(x) i \gamma \nabla \Psi(x).$$
 (32)



Viscosity



Fluids: (characterized by velocity field u)



Rotational invariance 2D

Bulk Shear

$$\eta_{ijkl} = \zeta(\omega)\delta_{ij}\delta_{kl} + \eta_{sh}(\omega)(\delta_{ik}\delta_{jl} + \delta_{il}\delta_{jk} - \delta_{ij}\delta_{kl})$$

An interesting point of view

Relating hydro and thermodynamics



Graphene is neither Relativistic nor Non-Relativistic case: Thermodynamics Aspects, T. Zaw et al, arXiv:2307.05395

(No v renormalization but fun reading)

Measuring the bulk viscosity



Figure 3: A survey of available methods for estimation of bulk viscosity.

A brief introduction to bulk viscosity of fluids
<u>Bhanuday Sharma</u>, <u>Rakesh Kumar</u> arXiv:2303.08400