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# Everything you always wanted to know about OTOC (chaos, scrambling, hydrodynamics and all that)

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**Saso Grozdanov**



**Vincenzo Scopelliti**

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# Chaos and hydrodynamics

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- Hydrodynamics from the Boltzmann equation

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \frac{\mathbf{p}}{m} \cdot \nabla f + \mathbf{F} \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{p}} = \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right)_{\text{coll}}$$

Here  $f = f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, t)$  one-particle distribution function

- Moments of the Boltzmann equation give Navier-Stokes

$$\int d\mathbf{p} m f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, t) = \rho(\mathbf{x}, t) \quad \partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0$$

$$\int d\mathbf{p} \mathbf{p} f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, t) = m \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}, t) \quad \partial_t (\rho \mathbf{v}_i) + \nabla_j (\rho \mathbf{v}_j \mathbf{v}_i + P_{ij}) = 0$$

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- The Boltzmann equation from statistical mechanics

The  $k$ -particle distribution function

$$f_k = f(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{p}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{p}_k, t)$$

Time-evolution governed by BBGKY hierarchy

$$\frac{d}{dt} f_n = \int d^3 q_{n+1} d^3 p_{n+1} \sum_{i=1}^n \{U, f_{n+1}\}_{\text{PB wrt } q_i, p_i}$$

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- Truncation of the BBGKY hierarchy

$$\frac{d}{dt} f_n = \int d^3 q_{n+1} d^3 p_{n+1} \sum_{i=1}^n \{U, f_{n+1}\}_{\text{PB}} \text{ wrt } q_i, p_i$$

Assumption of molecular chaos

$$f_2 \sim f_1^2$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \frac{\mathbf{p}}{m} \cdot \nabla f = \int d^3 \mathbf{p}_1 d^3 \mathbf{p}_2 d^3 \mathbf{p}_3 \sigma(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}_1 | \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) (f(\mathbf{p}_2, t) f(\mathbf{p}_3, t) - f(\mathbf{p}, t) f(\mathbf{p}_1, t))$$

- Linearized Boltzmann equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} f(\mathbf{p}, t) = \int_{\mathbf{k}} (R^{in}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k}) - R^{out}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k})) f(\mathbf{k}, t)$$

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- Transport from the Boltzmann equation

Maxwell

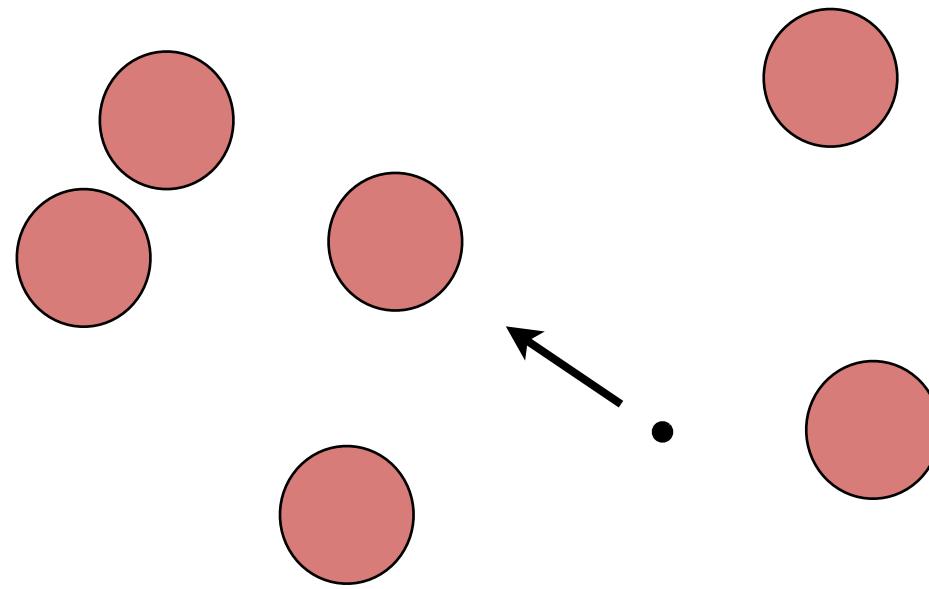
$$\eta = \frac{1}{3} m \rho \ell_{\text{m.f.p.}} \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle}$$

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- Transport from the Boltzmann equation

Maxwell

$$\eta = \frac{1}{3} m \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle} \frac{1}{\sigma_{2-to-2}}$$



Boltzmann is based on successive 2-2 collisions  
This microscopic picture is *also* what encodes chaotic trajectories

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- A very special feature of dilute gases

Maxwell

van Zon, van Beijeren,  
Dellago

$$\eta = \frac{1}{3} m \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle} \frac{1}{\sigma_{2\text{-to-}2}}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{\tau_{\text{ave}}} \left\langle \frac{1}{2} \ln(\Delta \vec{v})^2 \right\rangle \simeq \frac{\sqrt{\langle v_{\text{rel}}^2 \rangle}}{\ell_{\text{m.f.p.}}} \simeq \rho \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle} \sigma_{2\text{-to-}2}$$

- Transport follows from the Boltzmann equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} f(\mathbf{p}, t) = \int_{\mathbf{k}} (R^{in}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k}) - R^{out}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k})) f(\mathbf{k}, t)$$

- A very special feature of dilute gases

Maxwell

$$\eta = \frac{1}{3} m \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle} \frac{1}{\sigma_{2\text{-to-}2}}$$

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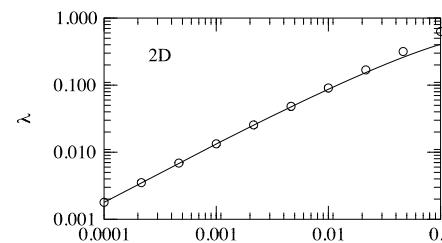
van Zon, van Beijeren,  
Dellago

- Can we understand chaos from a kinetic-like equation?

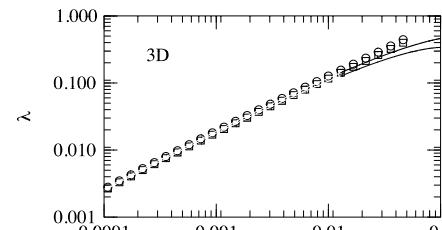
Ad hoc: clock equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} f_k = -f_k + f_{k-1}^2 + 2f_{k-1} \sum_{\ell=0}^{k-2} f_{\ell}$$

$f_k$  the fraction of particles which have experienced  $k$  collisions



van Zon, van Beijeren,  
Dorfman;  
Saarloos



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- Scrambling rate/Chaos is a microscopic “particle” property
- Transport diffusion is a macroscopic collective property

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- A generic system

particle picture

applies

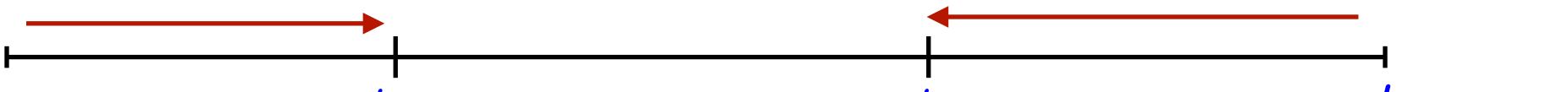
$t = 0$

$t_{\text{mfp}}$

hydro applies

$t_{\text{hydro-onset}}$

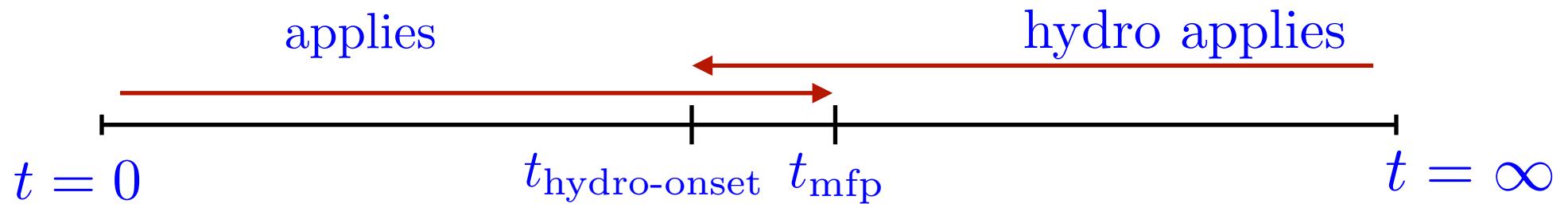
$t = \infty$



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- Special case: weakly coupled dilute gas

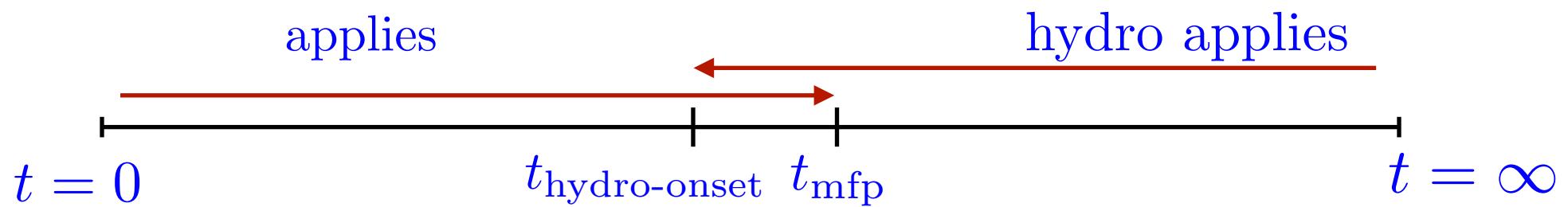
particle picture



$$\eta = \frac{1}{3} m \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle} \frac{1}{\sigma_{2-to-2}}$$

particle picture

applies



$$\eta = \frac{1}{3} m \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle} \frac{1}{\sigma_{2-to-2}}$$

Implies hydro/Boltzmann/kinetic theory should also know about chaos!

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scrambling=chaos=ergodicity is very different from local therm.=equilibration

There is a connection:

In classical thermalization chaos is the source of ergodicity

In special situations (weakly coupled dilute gas) they are set by the same physics

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- ~~Quantum~~ chaos from an out-of-time correlation function
- Semi-classical

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- A QFT way to detect chaos

$$C(t) = -\langle [W(t), V(0)]^\dagger [W(t), V(0)] \rangle$$

- Choose

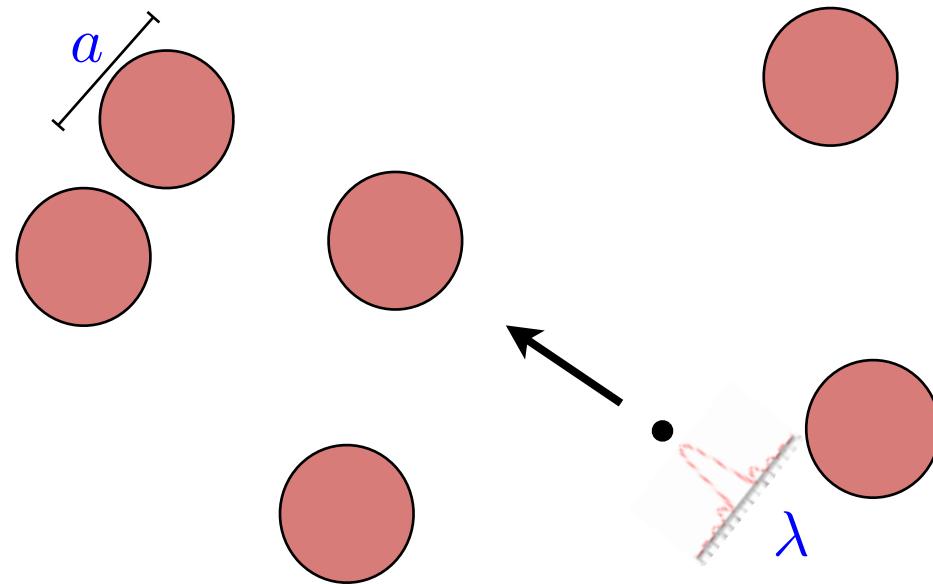
$$W = q(t) \quad V = p(0)$$

$$[W(t), V(0)] = [q(t), p(0)] = i\hbar\{q(t), p(0)\} = i\hbar \frac{\partial q(t)}{\partial q(0)}$$

$$\text{Chaos : } q(t) \sim \delta q(0) e^{\lambda_L t} \quad C(t) \sim \hbar^2 e^{2\lambda t} \text{ with } \lambda = \lambda_{\text{Lya}}$$

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- Semi-classical computation of conductivity in weak disorder



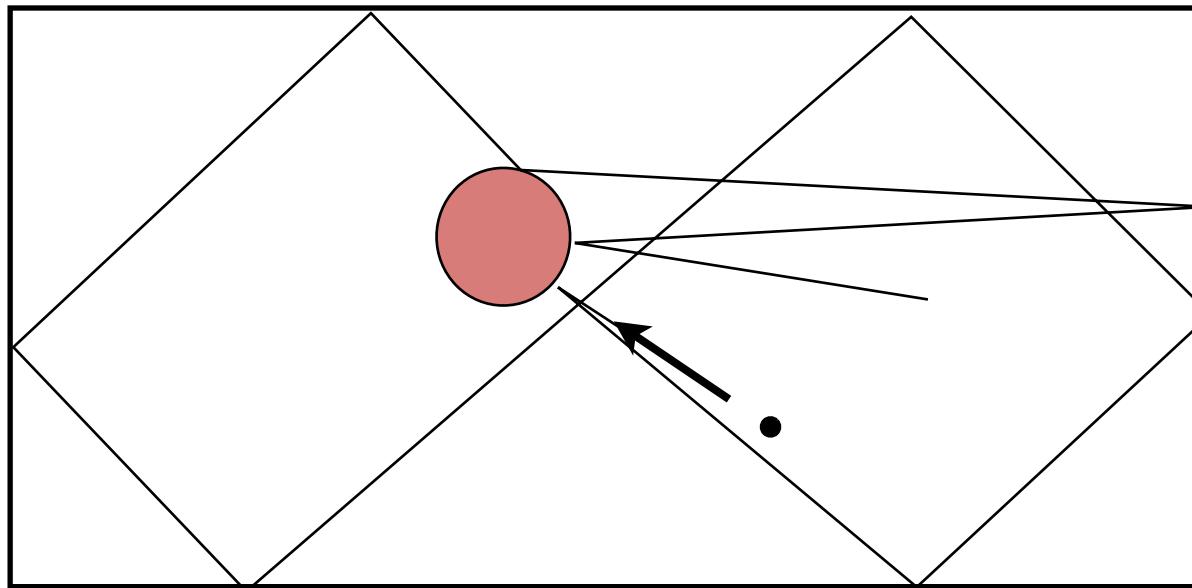
- Semiclassical regime  $\lambda \ll a$

Larkin, Ovchinnikov

$$C(t) = -\langle [W(t), V(0)]^\dagger [W(t), V(0)] \rangle \sim \hbar^2 e^{2\lambda t}$$

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- Semi-classical computation of conductivity in weak disorder

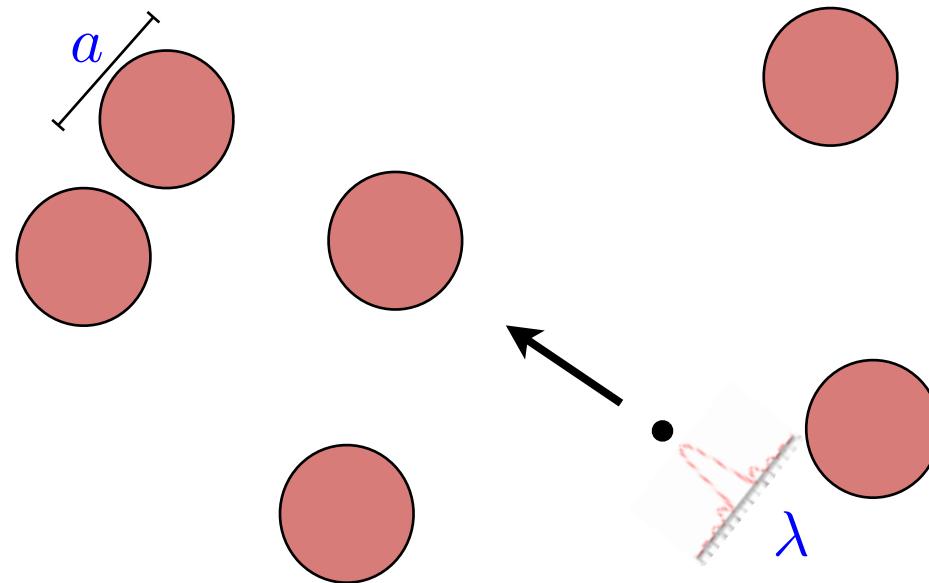


- Semiclassical regime  $\lambda \ll a$  variation on Sinai billiards

Larkin, Ovchinnikov

$$C(t) = -\langle [W(t), V(0)]^\dagger [W(t), V(0)] \rangle \sim \hbar^2 e^{2\lambda t}$$

- Semi-classical computation of conductivity in weak disorder



- Semiclassical regime  $\lambda \ll a$
- Nevertheless: quantum physics takes over when Larkin, Ovchinnikov

$$C(t) = -\langle [W(t), V(0)]^\dagger [W(t), V(0)] \rangle \sim \hbar^2 e^{2\lambda t} \sim 1$$

Ehrenfest time:

$$t_{Ehr} = \frac{1}{\lambda} \ln \frac{1}{\hbar}$$

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- Careful:

In the quantum regime chaotic behavior is hard.

i.e. most quantum analogues of classical systems with chaos do not exhibit exponential growth in this OTOC correlator.

- Need a small parameter e.g. Grozdanov, Kukuljan, Prosen
- In semi-classical systems  $\hbar$   $C(t) \sim \hbar^2 e^{2\lambda t}$

- In holography:  $\frac{1}{N}$   $C(t) \sim \frac{1}{N^2} e^{2\lambda t}$

Semi-classical single-trace lumps: large  $N$  classicalization/master field

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A bound on chaos = a bound on diffusion?

- A bound on chaos

Maldacena, Shenker, Stanford

- Related regulated function:

$$F(t) = \langle W(t)yV(0)yW(t)yV(0)y \rangle \sim 1 - e^{2\lambda t}$$

$$y^4 = \frac{e^{-\beta H}}{Z}$$

- Not time ordered: but  $|TFD\rangle = \sum_n e^{-\frac{\beta}{2}E} |n\rangle |n\rangle$

$$F(t) = \sum \langle TFD | (W(t)V(0) \otimes \mathbb{1})(1 \otimes W(t)V(0)) | TFD \rangle$$

$$F(t) \sim \sum \langle W(t)V(0) \rangle^\dagger \langle W(t)V(0) \rangle$$

- Analyticity in QFT demands

$$\lambda \leq 2\pi T$$

- A bound on chaos

Maldacena, Shenker, Stanford

- Related regulated function:

$$F(t) = \langle W(t)yV(0)yW(t)yV(0)y \rangle \sim 1 - e^{2\lambda t}$$

$$y^4 = \frac{e^{-\beta H}}{Z}$$

- Not time ordered: but  $|TFD\rangle = \sum_n e^{-\frac{\beta}{2}E} |n\rangle |n\rangle$

Careful:  
Answer depends  
on regulating.  
This one encodes  
chaos correctly

$$F(t) = \sum \langle TFD | (W(t)V(0) \otimes \mathbb{1})(1 \otimes W(t)V(0)) | TFD \rangle$$

$$F(t) \sim \sum \langle W(t)V(0) \rangle^\dagger \langle W(t)V(0) \rangle$$

Romero-Bermudez,  
Schalm,  
Scopelliti

- Analyticity in QFT demands

$$\lambda \leq 2\pi T$$

- Black holes saturate this bound: maximal chaos

$$\lambda_{BH} = 2\pi T$$

- This observation is the driving force behind SYK

Kitaev  
e.g. Stanford@Strings'16

It would be nice to have a solvable model of holography.

theory	bulk dual	anom. dim.	chaos	solvable in $1/N$
SYM	Einstein grav.	large	maximal	no
$O(N)$	Vasiliev	$1/N$	$1/N$	yes
SYK	“ $\ell_s \sim \ell_{AdS}$ ”	$O(1)$	maximal	yes

- A refined version

$$C(t, x) = -\langle [W(t, x), V(0)]^\dagger [W(t, x), V(0)] \rangle \sim \hbar^2 e^{\xi(x - v_{LR}t)}$$

gives you a “scrambling” velocity

$$\xi v_{LR} = 2\lambda$$

- First pioneered in 1+1 dimension systems
- Lieb-Robinson proved:

The velocity  $v_{LR}$  is an absolute upper bound on information spreading.

- $v_{LR}$  acts as an emergent lightcone.
- Idea: also in other systems this butterfly/Lieb-Robinson velocity is the maximum “speed” at which information spreads

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- Diffusion is characterized by a velocity

$$D \sim \frac{v^2}{T} \sim \frac{v^2}{\lambda}$$

- Long sought goal: a fundamental quantum bound on diffusion

$$\frac{\eta}{s} \geq \frac{1}{4\pi}$$

Kovtun, Son, Starinets

$$D \geq \frac{v_{inc}^2}{T}$$

Hartnoll  
Hartman, Hartnoll, Mahajan

- (Unstated) Hypothesis:  $v_{LR}$  provides this fundamental velocity

- Diffusion is characterized by a velocity

$$D \sim \frac{v^2}{T} \sim \frac{v^2}{\lambda}$$

- Long sought goal: a fundamental quantum bound on diffusion

$$\frac{\eta}{s} \geq \frac{1}{4\pi}$$

Kovtun, Son, Starinets

$$D \geq \frac{v_{inc}^2}{T} \quad \text{or} \quad D \leq \frac{v_{inc}^2}{T}$$

Hartnoll

Hartman, Hartnoll, Mahajan  
Lucas,

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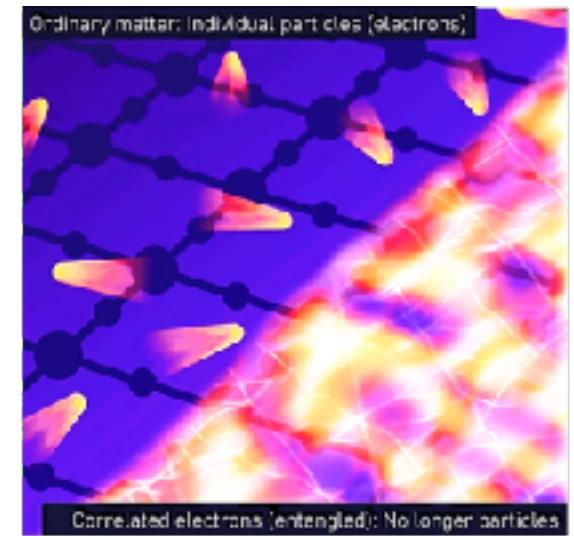
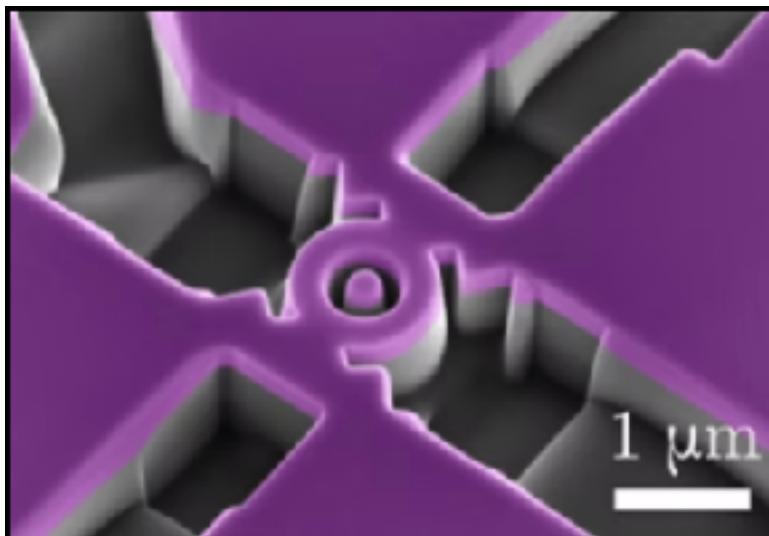
- (Unstated) Hypothesis:  $v_{LR}$  provides this fundamental velocity

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# Is there a fundamental *Quantum Limit* on diffusion?

Koenraad Schalm and Kaveh Lahabi

*LION, Leiden University*



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- This proposal:

A dedicated **experiment** to probe the quantum limits on diffusion directly in strongly correlated quantum matter.

- Theoretical basis:

Shock front (OTOC) travels at  $v_B$

Linear response travels at  $v_{\text{Diff}}$

*Quantum Limits are reached when these become the same*

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- Semi-classical chaos in weakly coupled systems

“Surprisingly a relation of the form  $D \sim v_{LR}^2 \tau$  shows up in a number of non-holographic contexts”

- Most of these are weakly coupled zero density field theory results.

This should not be a surprise. This is the classical dilute gas computation.

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- Scrambling rate/Chaos is a microscopic “particle” property
- Diffusion is a macroscopic collective property

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# A kinetic equation for semi-classical chaos

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- Semi-classical chaos in weakly coupled systems

“Surprisingly a relation of the form  $D \sim v_{LR}^2 \tau$  shows up in a number of non-holographic contexts”

- Most of these are weakly coupled zero density field theory results.

This should not be a surprise. This is the classical dilute gas computation.

From the point of view what you compute it is a *surprise*

## Scrambling in weakly coupled QFT is classical dilute gas

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- Object of interest for  $\lambda, v_{LR}$

$$C(t) = -\langle [W(t), V(0)]^\dagger [W(t), V(0)] \rangle \sim e^{2\lambda(t - \frac{x}{v_{LR}})}$$

*growing mode*

- Object of interest for  $D = \frac{\eta}{\chi}$

$$\eta = \lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{i\omega} \text{Im} \langle T_{xy}(\omega), T_{xy}(-\omega) \rangle_R$$

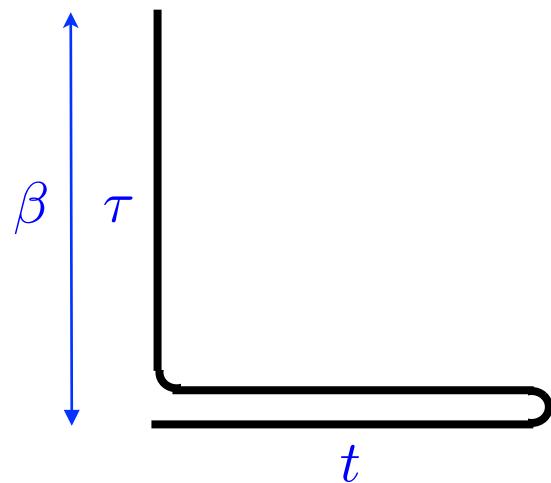
*Boltzmann transport only supports decaying modes:  
viscosity set by smallest decay mode — relaxation time approximation*

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- Transport

$$G_R(t) \sim p_x p_y q_x q_y \langle [\Phi^{ab} \Phi^{ab}, \Phi^{cd} \Phi_{cd}] \rangle_\beta$$

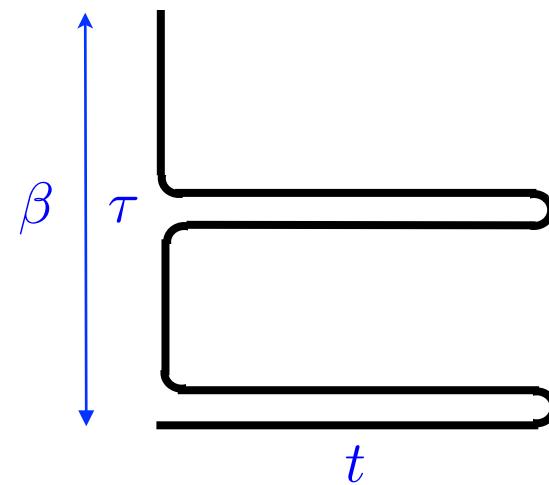
Schwinger-Keldysh contour



- Scrambling/Chaos

$$C(t) \sim \langle [\Phi^{ab}, \Phi^{cd}] [\Phi_{ab}, \Phi_{cd}] \rangle_\beta$$

OTOC contour



- Transport

$$G_R(t) \sim p_x p_y q_x q_y \langle [\Phi^{ab} \Phi^{ab}, \Phi^{cd} \Phi_{cd}] \rangle_\beta$$

Schwinger-Keldysh contour

- In free field theory

- Scrambling/Chaos

$$C(t) \sim \langle [\Phi^{ab}, \Phi^{cd}] [\Phi_{ab}, \Phi_{cd}] \rangle_\beta$$

OTOC contour

$$C(t) \sim G_R(t) = -2G_R^{\Phi\Phi}(t) + \mathcal{O}(\lambda)$$

- In perturbation theory Transport and Scrambling sum the same ladder diagrams

Stanford, Jeon

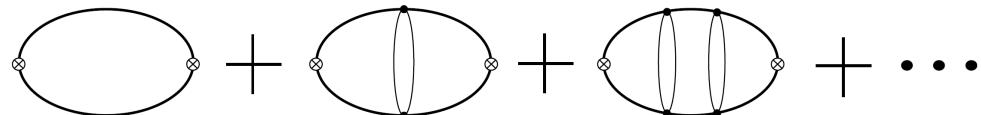
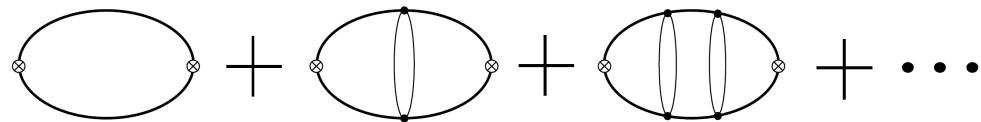


FIG. 2: Resummation of ladder diagrams. The insertions of the energy-momentum tensor operator  $\hat{T}^{xy}$  is denoted by the crossed dots and black dots are the vertices with the coupling constant  $\lambda$ .

## Schwinger Keldysh Contour

This Bethe-Salpeter eqn  
is the QFT version of the  
Boltzmann equation



$$\tilde{G}(p|k) = \frac{\pi}{E_p} \frac{\delta(p_0^2 - E_p^2)}{-i\omega + 2\Gamma_p} \left[ 1 + \int \frac{d^4 \ell}{(2\pi)^4} R(\ell - p) \tilde{G}(\ell|k) \right].$$

- Ansatz

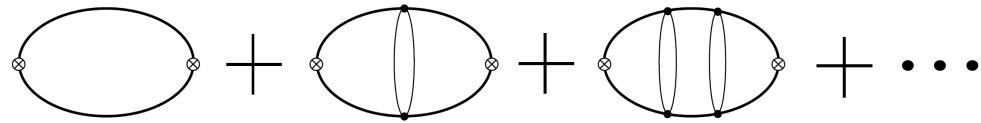
$$\tilde{G}(p|k) = \delta(p_0^2 - E_p^2) f(\mathbf{p}|k)$$

$$(-i\omega + 2\Gamma_p) f(\mathbf{p}|k) = \frac{\pi}{E_p} \left[ 1 + \int_{\mathbf{l}} (R(E_{\mathbf{l}} - E_p, \mathbf{l} - \mathbf{p}) + R(E_{\mathbf{l}} + E_p, \mathbf{l} - \mathbf{p})) f(\mathbf{l}|k) \right].$$

gives

$$\frac{d}{dt} f(\mathbf{p}, t) = \int_{\mathbf{k}} (R^{in}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k}) - R^{out}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k})) f(\mathbf{k}, t)$$

- SchwKeld



$$\tilde{G}(p|k) = \frac{\pi}{E_p} \frac{\delta(p_0^2 - E_p^2)}{-i\omega + 2\Gamma_p} \left[ 1 + \int \frac{d^4 \ell}{(2\pi)^4} R(\ell - p) \tilde{G}(\ell|k) \right].$$

- OTOC

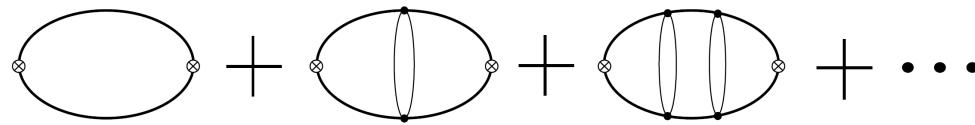
$$\tilde{\mathcal{G}}(p|k) = \frac{\pi}{E_p} \frac{\delta(p_0^2 - E_p^2)}{-i\omega + 2\Gamma_p} \left[ 1 + \int \frac{d^4 \ell}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{\sinh(\beta p^0/2)}{\sinh(\beta \ell^0/2)} R(\ell - p) \tilde{\mathcal{G}}(\ell|k) \right].$$

- Ansatz

$$\tilde{\mathcal{G}}(p|k) = \delta(p_0^2 - E_p^2) f(\mathbf{p}|k)$$

$$(-i\omega + 2\Gamma_p) f(\mathbf{p}|k) = \int \frac{\sinh(\beta p^0/2)}{\sinh(\beta \ell^0/2)} (R(\ell_+) - R(\ell_-)) f(\mathbf{k}|k)$$

- SchwKeld



$$\tilde{G}(p|k) = \frac{\pi}{E_p} \frac{\delta(p_0^2 - E_p^2)}{-i\omega + 2\Gamma_p} \left[ 1 + \int \frac{d^4\ell}{(2\pi)^4} R(\ell - p) \tilde{G}(\ell|k) \right].$$

- OTOC

$$\tilde{\mathcal{G}}(p|k) = \frac{\pi}{E_p} \frac{\delta(p_0^2 - E_p^2)}{-i\omega + 2\Gamma_p} \left[ 1 + \int \frac{d^4\ell}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{\sinh(\beta p^0/2)}{\sinh(\beta \ell^0/2)} R(\ell - p) \tilde{\mathcal{G}}(\ell|k) \right].$$

- Ansatz

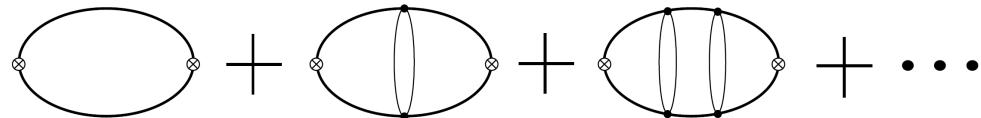
$$\tilde{\mathcal{G}}(p|k) = \delta(p_0^2 - E_p^2) f(\mathbf{p}|k)$$

$$(-i\omega + 2\Gamma_p) f(\mathbf{p}|k) = \int_1 \frac{\sinh(\beta p^0/2)}{\sinh(\beta \ell^0/2)} (R(l_+) - R(l_-)) f(\mathbf{k}|k)$$

- Transport

$$G_R(t) \sim p_x p_y q_x q_y \langle [\Phi^{ab} \Phi^{ab}, \Phi^{cd} \Phi_{cd}] \rangle_\beta$$

Schwinger-Keldysh contour



Boltzmann equation (net density)

$$\frac{d}{dt} f(\mathbf{p}, t) = \int_{\mathbf{k}} (R^{in}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k}) - R^{out}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k})) f(\mathbf{k}, t)$$

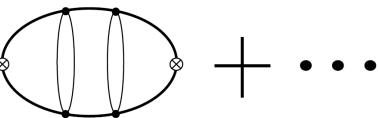
purely relaxational

$$f(\mathbf{p}, t) \sim e^{\lambda t} \text{ with } \lambda \leq 0$$

- Scrambling/Chaos

$$C(t) \sim \langle [\Phi^{ab}, \Phi^{cd}] [\Phi_{ab}, \Phi_{cd}] \rangle_\beta$$

OTOC contour



Kinetic equation (gross collisions)<sup>\*</sup>

$$\frac{d}{dt} f(\mathbf{p}, t) = \int_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{\epsilon(\mathbf{p})}{\epsilon(\mathbf{k})} (R^{in}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k}) + \widehat{R^{out}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k})) f(\mathbf{k}, t)$$

front propagation into unstable states

$$f(\mathbf{p}, t) \sim e^{\lambda t} \text{ with } \lambda \leq \lambda_{max} > 0$$

---

- Chaos follows from kinetic equation for gross energy exchange

$$\frac{d}{dt} f(\mathbf{p}, t) = \int_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{\epsilon(\mathbf{p})}{\epsilon(\mathbf{k})} (R^{in}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k}) + R^{out}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k}) - 2\delta(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{k})R^{out}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k})) f(\mathbf{k})$$

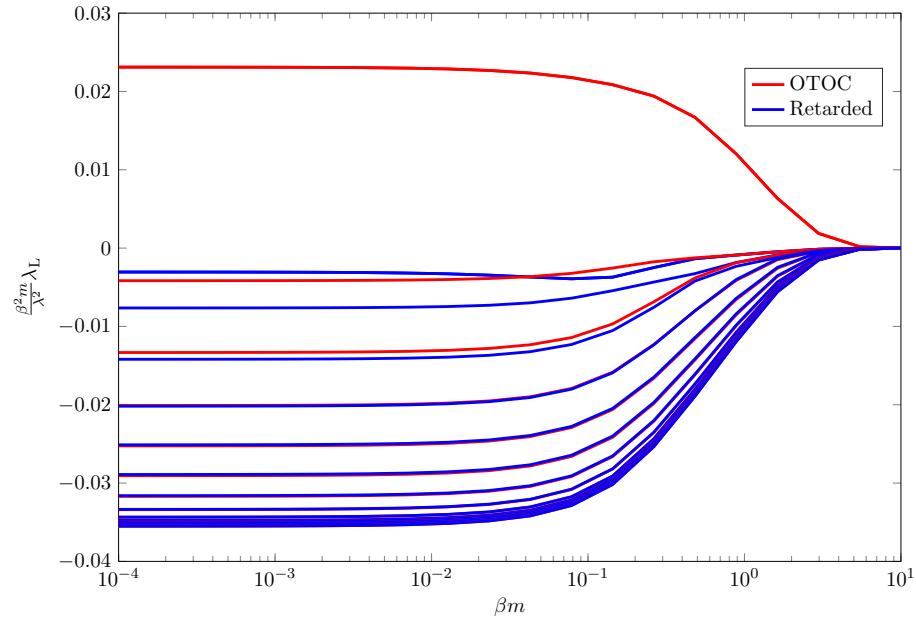
- This is derived as opposed to ad hoc clock model

$$\frac{d}{dt} f_k = -f_k + f_{k-1}^2 + 2f_{k-1} \sum_{\ell=0}^{k-2} f_{\ell}$$

Qualitatively physics is similar (unstable front dynamics)

---

blue: eigenvalues  $\lambda$  for SchwKeld/Boltzmann  
 red: eigenvalues  $\lambda$  for OTOC/Energy-exchange



- This explicitly shows in weakly coupled dilute QFT scrambling and diffusion are set by the same dynamics --- even though they are not identical.

$$\eta = \frac{1}{3} m \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle} \frac{1}{\sigma_{2-to-2}}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{\tau_{\text{ave}}} \left\langle \frac{1}{2} \ln(\Delta \vec{v})^2 \right\rangle \simeq \frac{\sqrt{\langle v_{\text{rel}}^2 \rangle}}{\ell_{\text{m.f.p.}}} \simeq \rho \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle} \sigma_{2-to-2}$$

---

- Chaos follows from kinetic equation for gross (energy) exchange

$$\frac{d}{dt} f(\mathbf{p}, t) = \int_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{\epsilon(\mathbf{p})}{\epsilon(\mathbf{k})} (R^{in}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k}) + R^{out}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k}) - 2\delta(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{k})R^{out}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k})) f(\mathbf{k})$$

- We have now shown that this holds in general:
  - For bosonic and fermionic systems (Gross-Neveu model)
  - Models near a QCP approached from perturbative regime (Wilson-Fisher  $\mathcal{O}(N)$  model)
  - Shorter derivation using 2PI formalism
- In all cases *off-shell* Bethe-Salpeter contains both chaos and Boltzmann transport.
  - One solution ansatz: Boltzmann. Complement: Chaos
  - pQFT analogue of Maxwell relation: weakly coupled dilute gas.
  - Pole-skipping....

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**Ultra strongly correlated systems are similar to dilute gases**

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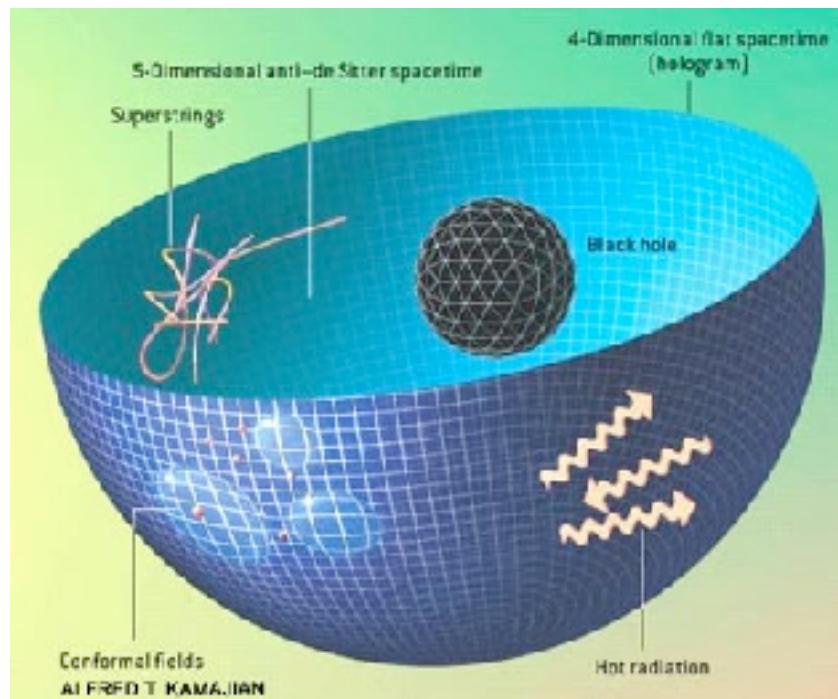
- Is scrambling rate related to diffusion?

$$D \sim \frac{v^2}{T} \sim \frac{v_{\text{LR}}^2}{\lambda}$$

# String Theory for Condensed Matter

## AdS-CFT duality

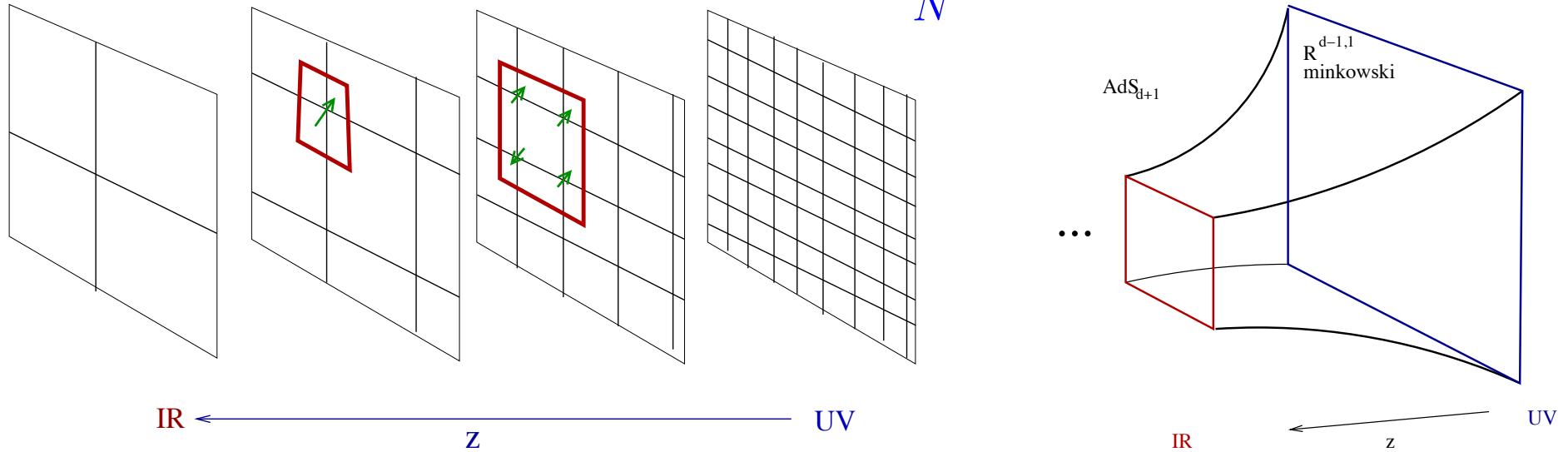
*strongly coupled field theories without an energy scale (CFT) have a dual description as a weakly coupled string theory in negatively curved space time (AdS).*



# Holography for Strongly coupled systems

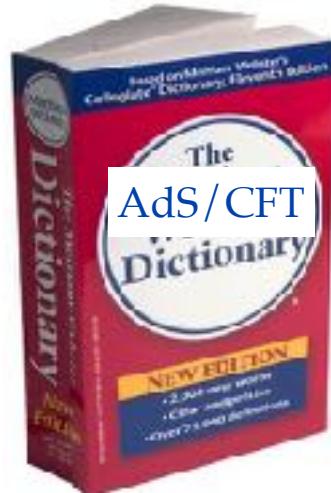
works best when d.o.f. are matrices  $\Phi_{ij}$   $i, j = 1 \dots N$  with  $N \gg 1$

semi-classical limit  $\frac{1}{N} \rightarrow 0$



$$Z_{CFT}(J) = \exp i S_{AdS}^{\text{on-shell}}(\phi(\phi_{\partial AdS} = J))$$

Quantum numbers  
 Finite Temp  
 Finite Density  
 Conserved Current  
 Energy dynamics

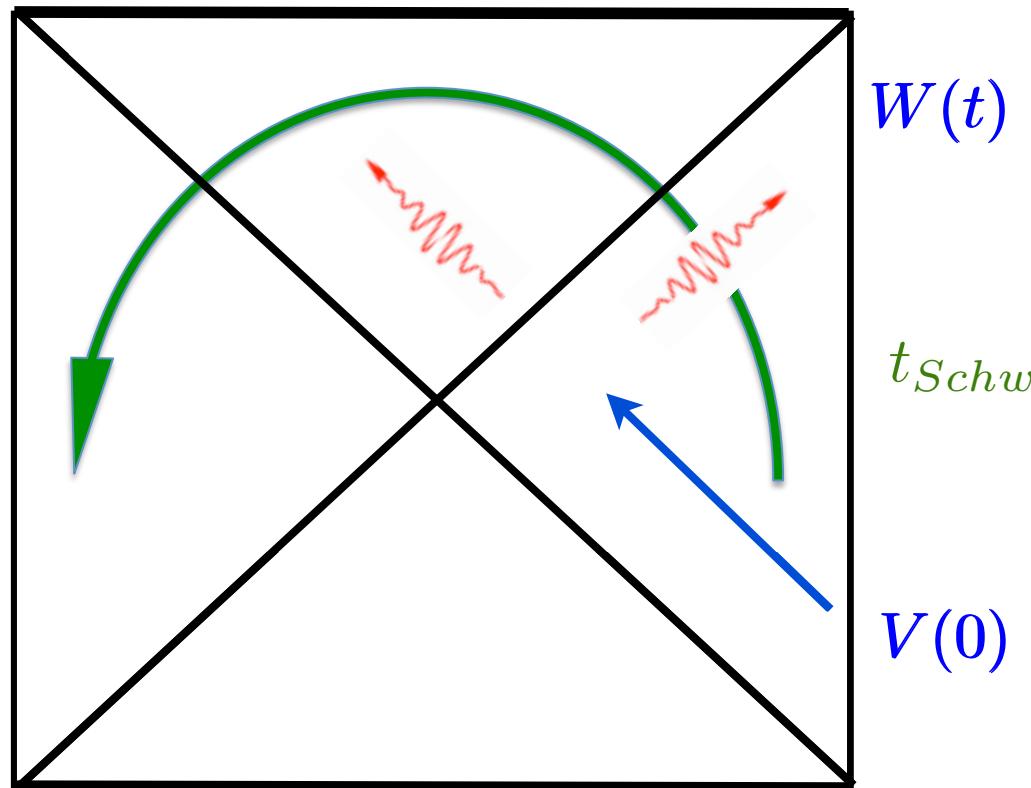


Quantum numbers  
 AdS Black hole  
 Extremal AdS black hole  
 Gauge field  
 Gravity dynamics

- Shockwave calculation in AdS BH

Roberts, Stanford, Susskind

$$F(t) = \sum \langle TFD | (W(t)V(0) \otimes \mathbb{1})(\mathbb{1} \otimes W(t)V(0)) | TFD \rangle$$



---

- Is scrambling rate related to diffusion?

$$D \sim \frac{v^2}{T} \sim \frac{v_{\text{LR}}^2}{\lambda}$$

- Is scrambling rate related to diffusion?

Blake;  
Davison, Fu, Georges, Gu,  
Jensen, Sachdev.

For “relevant diffusion” (=irrelevant suscep)

$$D = \frac{d - \theta}{\Delta_\chi} \frac{v_{LR}^2}{2\pi T} \quad \Delta_\chi \equiv [\rho] - [\mu] > 0$$

..similar results for massive gravity (mean-field disorder), but fails in general

- Refinement: charged systems with mean-field disorder
  - Thermal diffusivity set by horizon properties only

$D_P = \eta/sT$       PolICASTRO, Son, Starinets

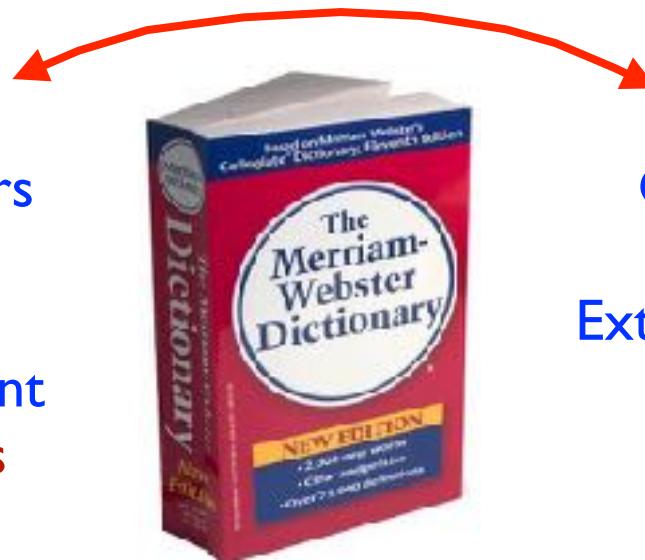
$D_T = \frac{z}{2z-2} \frac{v_{LR}^2}{\lambda_L}$       Blake, Davison, Sachdev

---

- From a physics perspective these are puzzling results:

$$Z_{CFT}(J) = \exp iS_{AdS}^{\text{on-shell}}(\phi(\phi_{\partial AdS} = J))$$

Quantum numbers  
Finite Temp  
Finite Density  
Conserved Current  
Energy dynamics



Quantum numbers  
AdS Black hole  
Extremal AdS black hole  
Gauge field  
Gravity dynamics

---

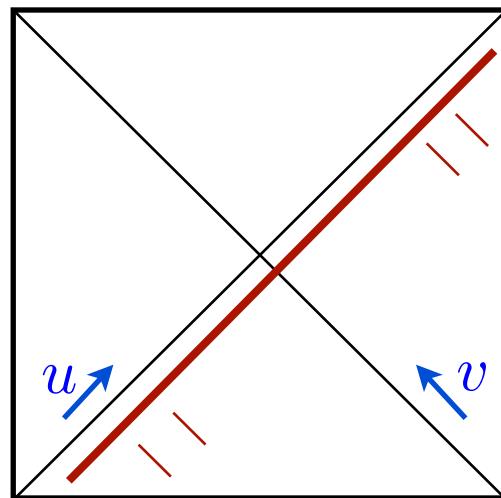
- Shock waves are sound

- General metric

$$ds_{d+2}^2 = A(UV)dUdV + B(UV)g_{ij}dx^i dx^j - A(U, V)h(U, \vec{x})dUdU$$

- Shock wave equation

$$\delta(U) \left( \Delta_g h - d \frac{B'}{A} h \right) = 32\pi E A \delta^d(\vec{x}) \delta(U)$$



---

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$$\delta(U) \left( \Delta_g h - d \frac{B'}{A} h \right) = 32\pi E A \delta^d(\vec{x}) \delta(U)$$

- Sound perturbation from AdS/CFT

$$\Delta_g h(U, \vec{x}) - 2d \frac{B}{A} h(U, \vec{x}) - d \frac{B'}{A} U \frac{\partial}{\partial U} h(U, \vec{x}) = 0$$

for  $h(U, \vec{x}) \sim \delta(U)h(\vec{x})$  reduces to shock

---

- Sound at *imaginary* values of frequency and momentum

$$\omega = 2\pi iT = i\lambda \quad , \quad k^2 = -\mu^2 = -6\pi^2 T^2 = -\frac{\lambda^2}{v_B^2}$$

- Hydrodynamical sound (known up to 3rd order analytically)

$$\omega(k) = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}k - \frac{i}{6\pi T}k^2 + \dots$$

- Relaxational modes: real momentum, complex/imaginary frequency

measures relaxation time

- Penetration depth: real frequency, complex/imaginary momentum

measures relaxation length (penetration depth)

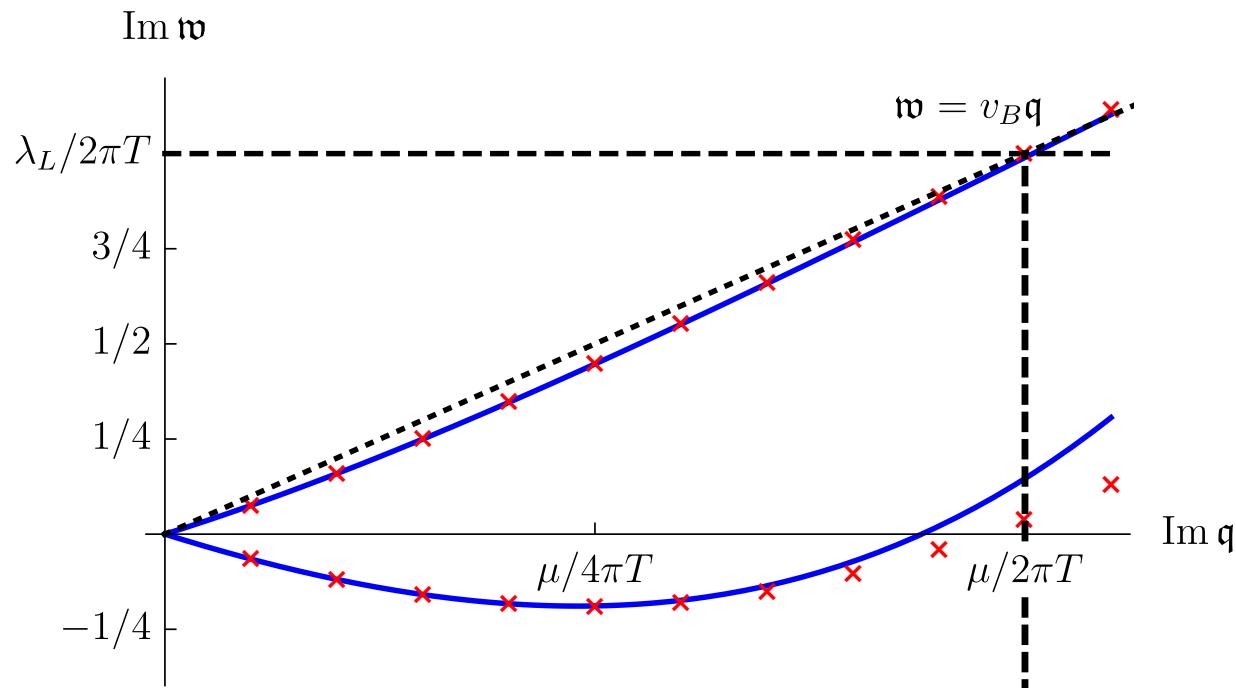
- Doubly imaginary: “temporal response” to “spatial profile”

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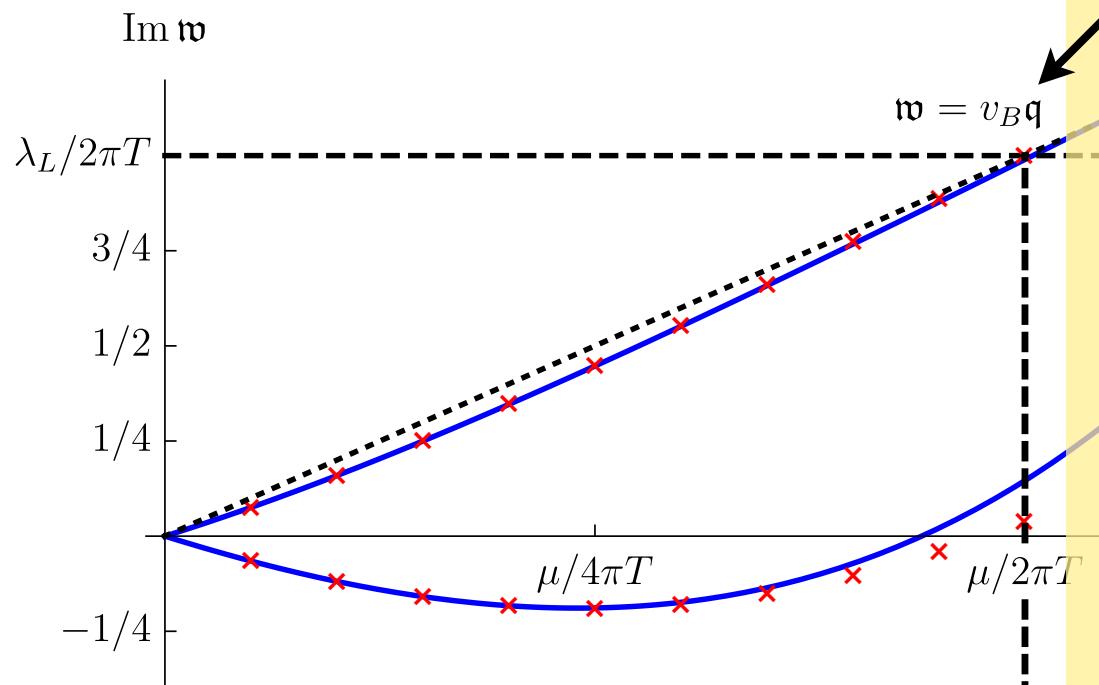


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**Pole-skipping:**

QNM mode residue vanishes precisely at  
 $\omega = 2\pi iT$

Also happens in SYK.  
[Gu, Qi, Stanford]

Direct consequence of the  
existence of the shockwave  
solution.  
[Blake, Lee, Liu]

Beautiful GR story:  
non-unique BC  
at the horizon  
[Blake, Davison, Grozdanov, Liu]

---

- In generality

$$S = \frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int d^5x \sqrt{-g} \left[ R + \frac{12}{L^2} + \mathcal{L}_{matter} \right]$$

$$ds^2 = -f(r)dt^2 + \frac{g(r)dr^2}{f(r)} + b(r)(dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2) - \left[ f(r)C_{\pm}W_{\pm}(dt \pm \frac{1}{f(r)}dr)^2 \right]$$

$$W_{\pm}(t, z, r) = e^{-i\omega \left[ t \pm \int^r \frac{dr'}{f(r')} \right] + ikz} h_{\pm}(r)$$

$$\partial_t W \pm |_{rh} = \mp \mathfrak{D} \partial_z^2 W_I |_{rh} \quad tr\text{-Einstein Eq.}$$

$$\mathfrak{D} \equiv \frac{v_{LR}^2}{\lambda_L}$$

---

- Is scrambling related to diffusion?

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  - In two-derivative gravity scrambling is a diffusive sound wave on the horizon with

$$\mathfrak{D} = \frac{v_{LR}^2}{\lambda_L}$$

- This *explains* Blake's observation and all previous results.
- However,

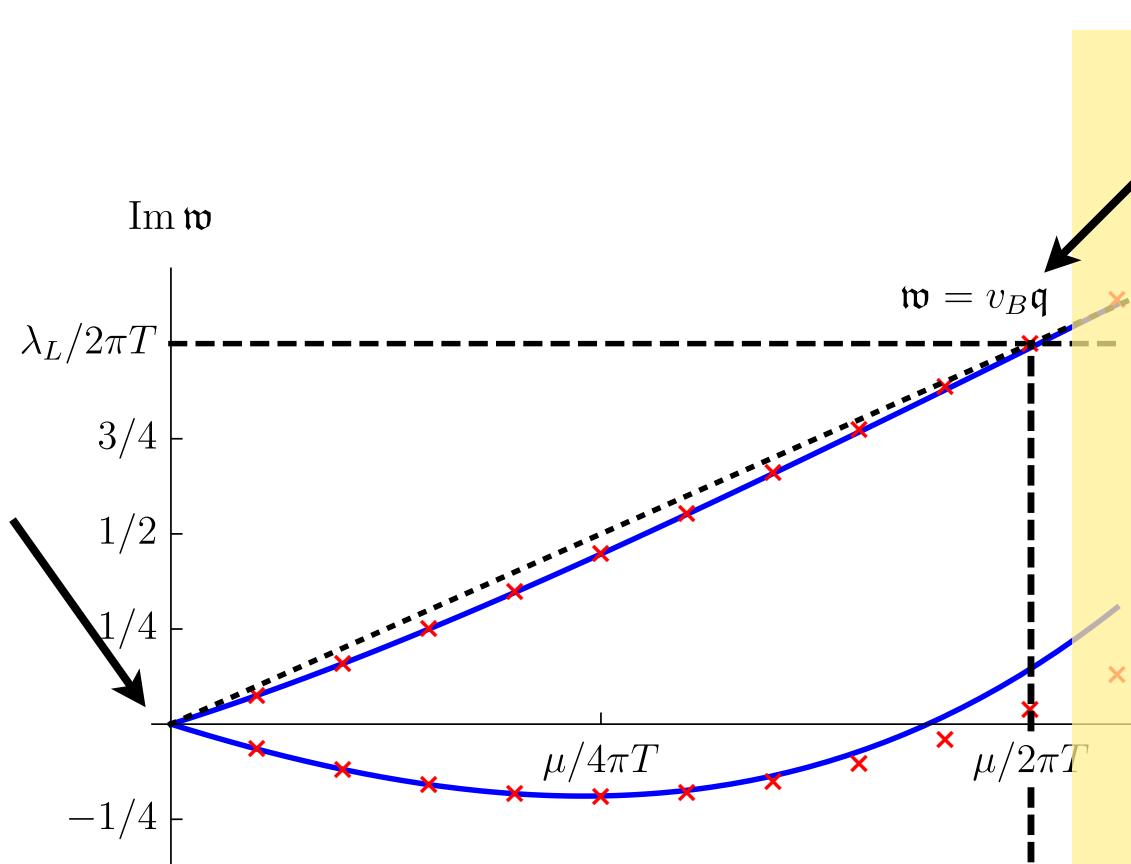
- This does not equal the diffusion constant in the CFT

$$D_{CFT} = \frac{\eta}{sT} = \frac{3}{4} D_{hor} \quad \quad \frac{D}{\mathfrak{D}} = \frac{3 b'(r_h)}{8\pi T},$$

- Even though this is also computed on the horizon (special to momentum diffusion)

Davison, Fu, Georges, Gu,  
Jensen, Sachdev.  
Blake, Davison, Sachdev

Physical diffusion is given by the behavior near  $\omega \ll 1$  by now verified in many models [Blake, Davison, Grozdanov, Liu]



### Pole-skipping:

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Also happens in SYK.

[Gu, Qi, Stanford]

Direct consequence of the existence of the shockwave solution.

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---

- A generic system

particle picture

applies

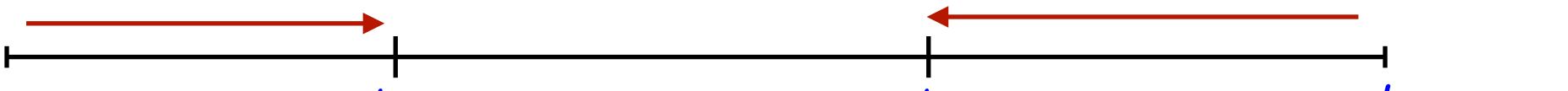
$t = 0$

$t_{\text{mfp}}$

hydro applies

$t_{\text{hydro-onset}}$

$t = \infty$



(conformal/long range entangled)

ultra strongly

coupled physics

hydro applies

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---

- Black hole scrambling is hydrodynamics
  - **A revolutionary result:**
    - Scrambling rate/Chaos is a microscopic “particle” property
    - Diffusion is a macroscopic collective property
- A priori these are set by very different physics
  - Except: a weakly coupled dilute gas.

Maxwell

$$\eta = \frac{1}{3} m \rho \ell_{\text{m.f.p.}} \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle}$$

Famous “first” result of molecular kinetic theory

---

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van Zon, van Beijeren,  
Dellago

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$$\lambda = \frac{1}{\tau_{\text{ave}}} \left\langle \frac{1}{2} \ln(\Delta \vec{v})^2 \right\rangle \simeq \frac{\sqrt{\langle v_{\text{rel}}^2 \rangle}}{\ell_{\text{m.f.p.}}} \simeq \rho \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle} \sigma_{2\text{-}to\text{-}2}$$

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- Except: two-derivative holography

*but now it is the macroscopic properties that set ergodicity*

---

Two open questions...

particle picture

applies

$t = 0$

$t_{\text{mfp}}$

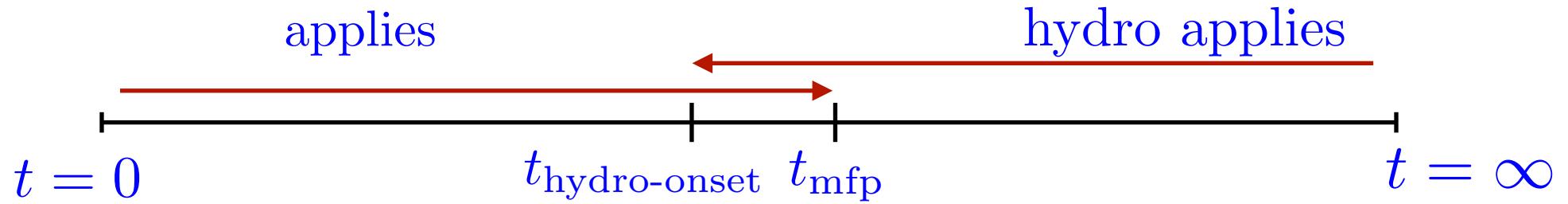
hydro applies

$t_{\text{hydro-onset}}$

$t = \infty$

---

particle picture



$$\eta = \frac{1}{3} m \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle} \frac{1}{\sigma_{2-to-2}}$$

And there is also a kinetic equation computing chaos!

$$\frac{d}{dt} f(\mathbf{p}, t) = \int_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{\epsilon(\mathbf{p})}{\epsilon(\mathbf{k})} (R^{in}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k}) + R^{out}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k}) - 2\delta(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{k})R^{out}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k})) f(\mathbf{k})$$

(conformal/long range entangled)

ultra strongly

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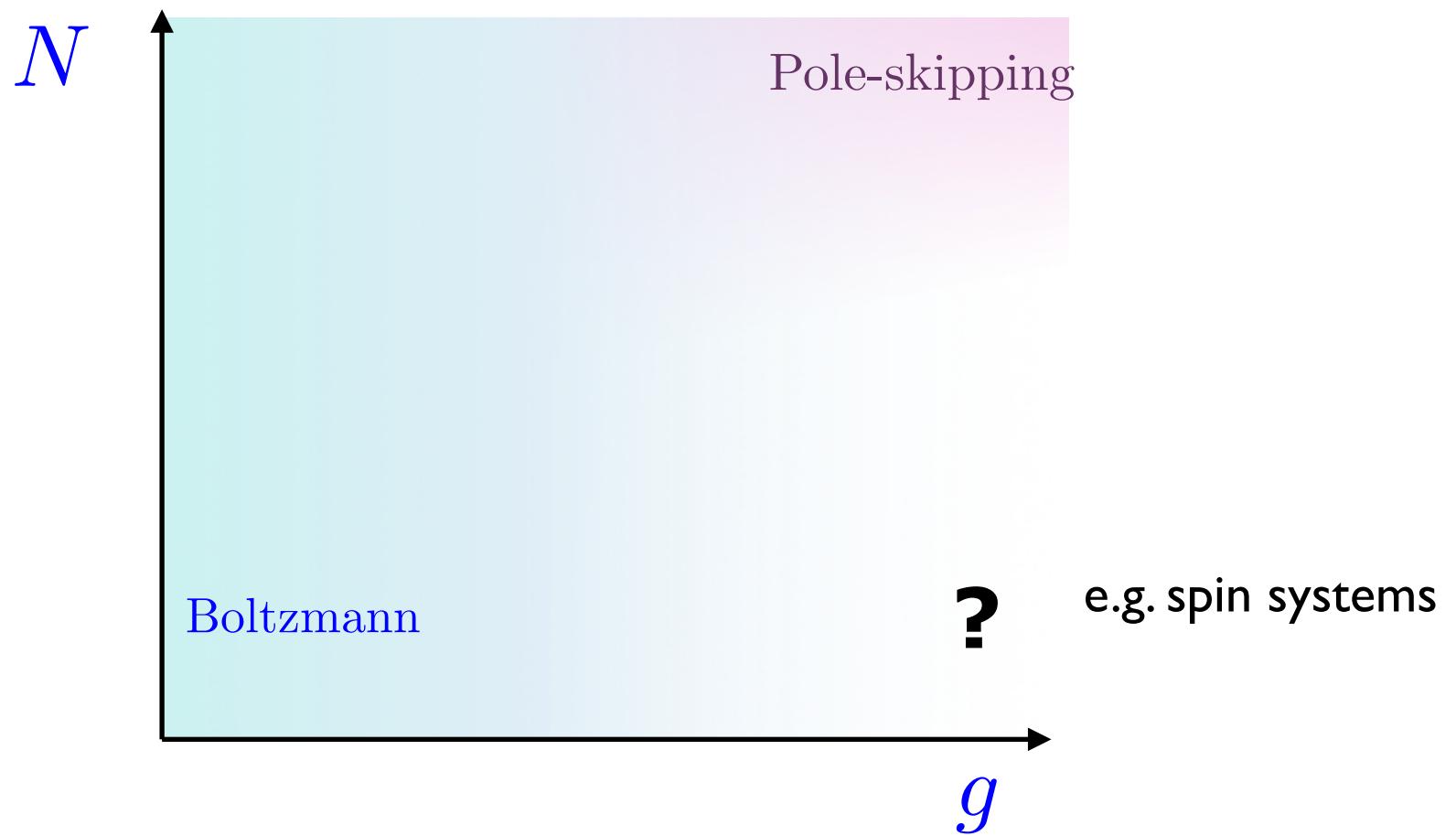
$t_{\text{hydro-onset}}$

$t = \infty$

Ultra strongly coupled systems are similar to weakly coupled dilute gases:  
chaos and transport are set by the same physics.

---

- Crucially these two exceptions rely on the existence of a small parameter.



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- OTOC in kicked Ising rotor

### Weak Quantum Chaos

Ivan Kukuljan,<sup>1</sup> Sašo Grozdanov,<sup>2</sup> and Tomaž Prosen<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Jadranska ulica 19, SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia*

<sup>2</sup>*Instituut-Lorentz for Theoretical Physics, Leiden University,  
Niels Bohrweg 2, Leiden 2333 CA, The Netherlands*

(Dated: February 1, 2017)

$$C(t) \leq t^{\#}$$

The OTOC is polynomially bounded...

In such models the physics of scrambling is  
*different*  
from the physics of thermalization

---

- Relation to complexity (inspired by circuit complexity).

Krylov complexity:

$\hat{O} \rightarrow |\mathcal{O}\rangle$  in doubled Hilbert space

$$i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\mathcal{O}\rangle = \mathcal{H}_{\text{doubled}} |\mathcal{O}\rangle$$

$$|\mathcal{O}_n\rangle = H_{\text{doubled}}^n |\mathcal{O}_0\rangle$$

construct an orthonormal basis out of  $|\mathcal{O}_n\rangle$

$$|\hat{O}(t)\rangle = \sum_n \phi_n(t) |\mathcal{O}_n\rangle$$

$$\mathcal{K}(t) \equiv \sum_n n |\phi_n(t)|^2$$

$$\mathcal{K}(t) \sim e^{2\alpha t}$$

**Claim**

$$\lambda_L \leq 2\alpha$$

Parker, Cao, Avdoshkin,  
Scaffidi, Altman;  
Avdoshkin, Dymarsky.

## Conclusion

---

### I. Quantum Chaos from an out-of-time-correlation function

$$C(t) = -\langle [W(t), V(0)]^\dagger [W(t), V(0)] \rangle \sim \hbar^2 e^{2\lambda t} \sim 1$$

### 2. Chaos and diffusion

different time scales: exception dilute gas

### 3. A bound on chaos = a bound on diffusion?

No, here, or trivial, or ...

### 4. Ultra strongly correlated systems are similar dilute gases

Scrambling and diffusion are set by the same **semi-classical** physics.

### 5. A kinetic equation for semi-classical chaos

**Grozdanov, Schalm, Scopelliti,**  
in graphene: **Klug, Scheurer, Schmalian**

$$\frac{d}{dt} f(\mathbf{p}, t) = \int_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{\epsilon(\mathbf{p})}{\epsilon(\mathbf{k})} (R^{in}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k}) + R^{out}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k}) - 2\delta(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{k})R^{out}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k})) f(\mathbf{k})$$

---

Thank you