

The SYK Hamiltonian (complex ed.)

$$\hat{H} = \sum_{i,j,h,e=1}^N J_{ijhe} c_i^\dagger c_j^\dagger c_h c_e$$

- c_i : Fermion annihilators
- $N \gg 1$ 'nuclear physics type' large
- J_{ijhe} all-to-all interaction. Often random

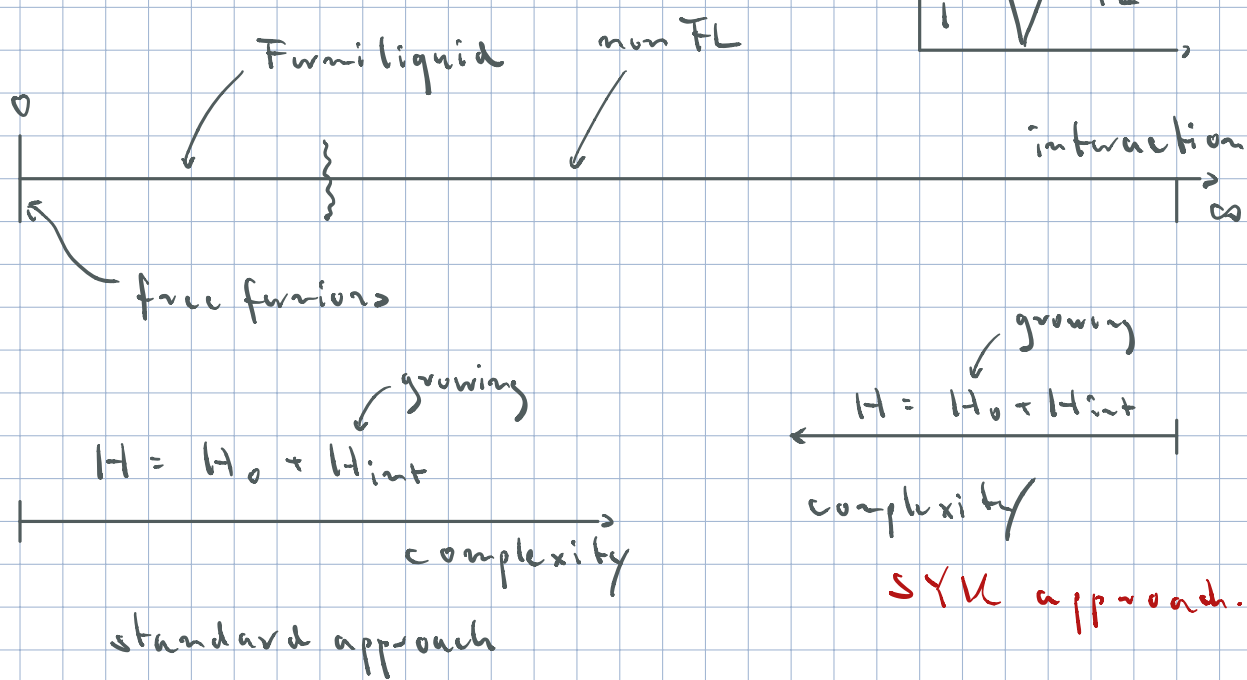
$$\langle J_{ijhe} \rangle = 0 \quad \langle |J_{ijhe}|^2 \rangle = \text{const.} \times \frac{J^2}{N^3}$$

J : high energy scale (many body band width:
 $\sim J N^{1/2}$)

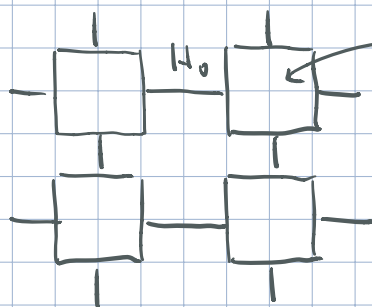
Why interesting: three perspectives

- Condensed matter
- Quantum Chaos
- Holography

Condensed Matter perspective



SYK approach to correlated quantum matter



microscopically large
cells with:

- N d.o.f. (fermions)
- maximum entropy all-to-all interaction
- $\sim$ no Fermi liquid
- described by $H_{int} = H_{SYK}$

Quantum chaos perspective

• Early 70's nuclear physics



- strongly interacting,
- classically chaotic
- quantum liquid

N nucleons

< 70's : describe $D \sim e^N$ -dim Hamiltonian as gaussian distributed random matrix $\approx$ RMT $\approx$ effective theory of quantum chaos

$H = \begin{pmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{pmatrix}$ H_{nm} i.i.d. distributed 'knobs'
exp. large.

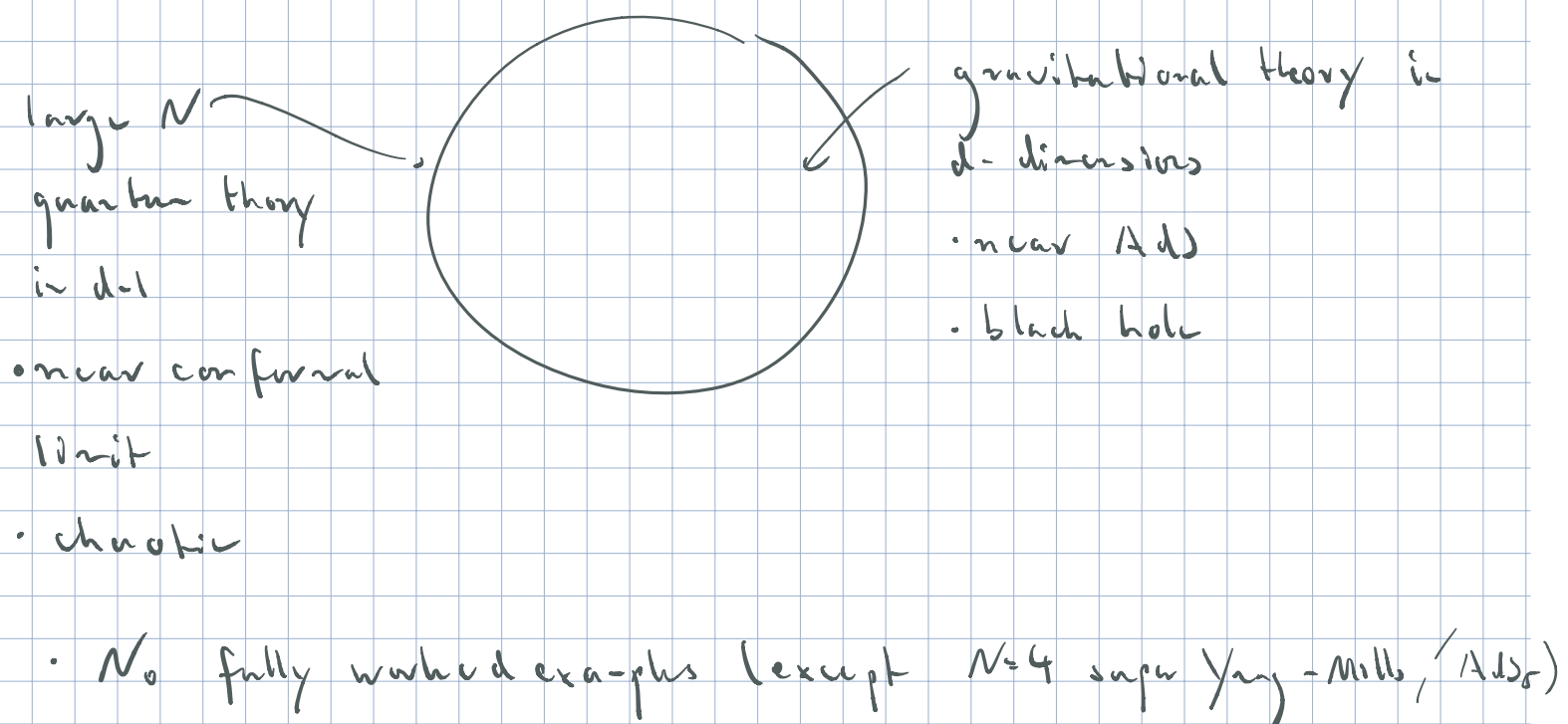
70's : ambition to 'inject' chaos into fermionic Fock space in more subtle ways

$H = H_{\text{sys}} \approx$ only $O(N^4)$ 'knobs' $\exists$ sym

Model considered unsolvable (error!). Connections to chaos/RMT now understood

Holography perspective

Holography (vulgar cartoon)



- ~ SYK: • chaotic ✓
 • near conformal ✓
 • $d=1$ (time = GM)

gravitational partner: Zachary-Teitelboim gravity

Genesis of SYK models

- Early 70's: $\hat{H} = \sum_{ijkl} J_{ijkl} c_i c_j c_k c_l$

(Bohigas, French, Mello, Wiedemann)

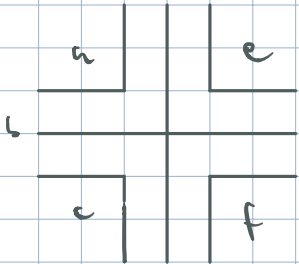
- Numerical results for many body DOS, spectral correlations
- Early 90's: rediscovered by Sachdev-Ye. Discover conformal symmetry
- 2015 Majorana version. Kitaev

$$\hat{H} = \sum_{ijkl} J_{ijkl} \tau_i \tau_j \tau_k \tau_l$$

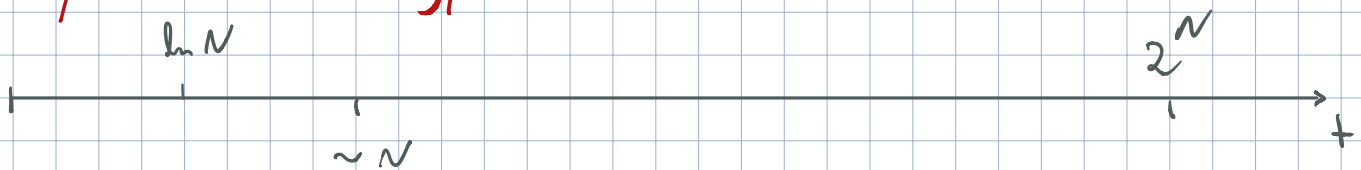
$$\{\tau_i, \tau_j\} = 2\delta_{ij} \quad \langle |J_{ijkl}|^2 \rangle = \frac{6J^2}{2N^4}$$

- No particle number conservation.
- Model for a maximally random / interacting superconductor

• 2016 Model w/o randomness (Witten; Klebanov - Tarnopolshi)

$$\hat{H} = g \sum_{a \dots f} c^{abc} + c^{def} + c^{ebf} + c^{fda}$$


Physics: Energy - time scales



$G\bar{I}$ theory

nonlin & model

exponential instabilities

scrambling

conformal symmetry (breaking)

collective quantum fl.

quantum ergodicity/

collective spectral fl.

causal symmetry breaking

MBL (in extended models)

cond-mat

chaos

holography

Short time physics $t \sim \mathcal{O}(N)$

- Goals:
- Explain non-Fermi liquid
 - Conformal symmetry
 - effective low energy theory

- applications

Mean field approach to the SYK non Fermi liquid

$$\hat{H} = \sum_{ijhe}^N J_{ijhe} z_i z_j z_h z_e$$

$\nearrow$ large
 $\nwarrow$ all-to-all

$\sim$ mean field. But how?

- Pick good observable: $G(\tau) = \langle z_i(\tau) z_i(0) \rangle_{q_n, \beta}$

building block in computation of various other observables

- Path integral approach.

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}z \ e^{-\int d\tau \left(\sum_i \dot{z}_i^2 z_i - H \right)}$$

- Compute G 'perturbatively' in H .

- 0th order

$$G(\tau) = \text{diagram} = \langle \tau | \frac{1}{-\partial_\tau} | 0 \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \text{sgn}(\tau)$$

Majorana = $1/2$ Fermion
 $\downarrow$
 Fermi stat.

- 1st order

$$H = \sum_{ijhe} \text{diagram} \quad \langle H \rangle_\beta = 0$$

• 2nd order

$$\omega(i) = \text{diagram} \quad \text{moton}$$
$$\sim \frac{\mathfrak{Z}^4}{N^3} \propto N^3$$

• 4th order

$$\text{diagrams} \quad \downarrow \quad \left(\frac{\mathfrak{Z}^2}{N^3} \right)^2 N^5 \sim N^{-1}$$

→ self consistent moton approximation

$$\text{line} = \text{line} + \text{line} \times \text{bubble}$$

$$\omega = \frac{1}{\left(\text{line} \right)^{-1} - \Sigma}$$

algebraic representation:

$$\omega = - \frac{1}{\mathcal{J}_\tau + \Sigma}$$

$$\Sigma = \mathfrak{Z}^2 \omega^3$$

$$(\Sigma(\tau, \tau') = \mathfrak{Z}^2 (\omega(\tau, \tau'))^3)$$

Solution:

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{\Sigma} - \cancel{\frac{1}{\Sigma}}$$

$\mathcal{O}(\text{energy scales of interest}) \ll \mathcal{O}(\Sigma)$

algebraic equations: $\alpha = \frac{1}{\Sigma} \quad \Sigma = \Sigma^2 \alpha^3$

Solution (e.g. by dimensional analysis $\leadsto$ ex.)

$$\alpha(\tau, \tau') = -\frac{b}{\Sigma^{1/2}} \frac{\text{sgn}(\tau - \tau')}{|\tau - \tau'|^{1/2}} \quad (*)$$

$$\Sigma(\tau, \tau') = -\underbrace{b^3 \Sigma^{1/2}}_{\text{numerical factor}} \frac{\text{sgn}(\tau - \tau')}{|\tau - \tau'|^{3/2}}$$

Key feature: $[\alpha] \sim [z z] \sim t^{-1/2} \Rightarrow [z] \sim t^{-1/4}$

Non-Fermi liquid

reminder: Fermi liquid $[z] = [c] = -1/2$

in f.w. e.g. from action: FL $S = \int d\tau (z \partial_\tau z - z^4)$
 $[S] = 1 \sim [z] = \tau^{-1/2}$

SYM $S = \int d\tau (\cancel{z \partial_\tau z} - \Sigma z^4)$

$$[z] = \tau^{1/4}$$

Q: Is (*) the only solution?

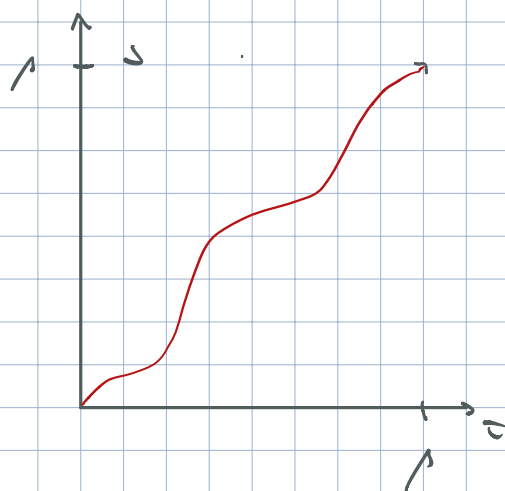
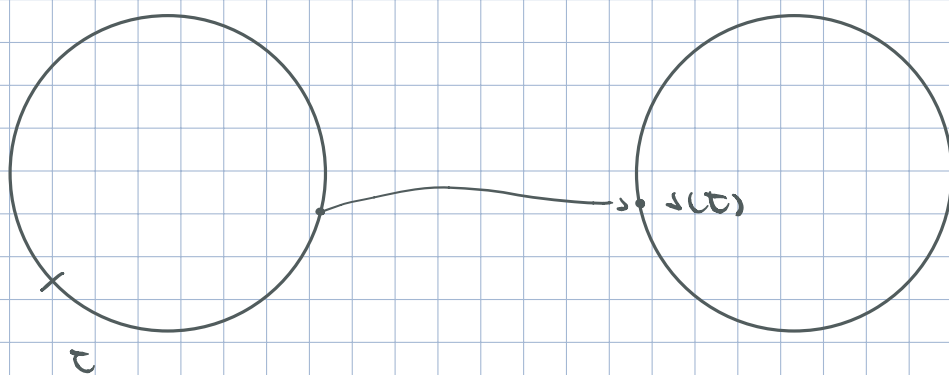
A: No, there are lots more

Conformal symmetry

Consider action $S = \int dt \left(\cancel{\dot{z} \dot{\bar{z}}} - \underbrace{3 z^4}_{\text{local in time}} \right)$

local in time

It is invariant under reparametrizations of time



• 1-1
 • smooth

} diffeomorphic

$$s: [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1] \in \text{Diff}(S^1)$$

$$\tau \rightarrow s(\tau)$$

Diffeomorphisms - group of circle

$$z(\tau) \rightarrow \tilde{z}(\tau) = z(s(\tau)) \left(\frac{ds}{d\tau} \right)^{1/4}$$

$$S[\tilde{\gamma}]_{\partial\tilde{\gamma} \rightarrow 0} = S[\gamma] \quad (NCFT,)$$

$\uparrow \quad \uparrow$
 nearly identity

• Note: ∞ many functions in $\text{Diff}(S^1)$: an ∞ dim symmetry

• By itself: useless

• However, not in SYM

• Q: How does mean field respond to symmetry?

Cf: $S_{\text{magnet}}[\uparrow] = S_{\text{magnet}}[R\uparrow]$

mean field $\swarrow$ Paramagnet $\uparrow \rightarrow \uparrow$ invariant
 $\searrow$ Ferro-magnet $\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow$ changes

A: $C(\tau, \tau') \sim \frac{\text{sgn}(\tau - \tau')}{|\tau - \tau'|^{1/2}} \longrightarrow \tilde{C}(\tau, \tau') = \left(\frac{ds}{d\tau} \frac{ds'}{d\tau'} \right)^{1/2} C(s(\tau), s(\tau'))$

$\tilde{C}(\tau, \tau') \neq C(\tau, \tau')$ except for $s(\tau) = \frac{a\tau + b}{d\tau + c}$, $ad - bc = 1$

special conformal trafo. Parametrised by $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ $ad - bc = 1 \sim SL(2, \mathbb{R})$

$\leadsto$ magnetic analogy:

$\text{Diff}(S^1)$
 $\nwarrow \quad \uparrow$
 $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$
 $\uparrow$
 $\mathfrak{a}$

Goldstone mode M_f : $\text{Diff}(S)/_{SL(2, \mathbb{R})}$ (vs. $G(3)/O(2)$)

Note: We are in d=1 (time). Mermin-Wagner theorem:
Goldstone mode fluctuations become large at long
time scales.

Q: What effective action governs these fluctuations

analogy: $\uparrow$ B-explicit sym branching

$\nearrow \nearrow \nearrow \nearrow \nearrow \nearrow$ $\nearrow \phi$, $S[\phi] = \int B \wedge \phi$
 $\downarrow$ $\downarrow$
 $S(\tau)$ S_τ

expect $S[\psi] = \int dt \mathcal{L}(\psi, \dot{\psi})$

Derivation of effective action

- Starting point $\alpha \Sigma$ -functional (Sachdev-Ye, 91)

$$\text{tr} \left(e^{-\beta H} \right) \underset{\text{exact}}{=} \int D\alpha D\Sigma e^{-S[\alpha, \Sigma]}$$

$\uparrow$ replica index
 $\alpha = \{ \alpha(\tau, \tau') \}$
 $\Sigma = \{ \Sigma^{\tau\tau'}(\tau, \tau') \}$

$$S[a, \Sigma] = -\frac{N}{2} \ln |\Sigma + \Sigma| +$$

sym. breaking

$$+ \int_0^1 d\tau d\tau' \left(\frac{1}{4} \tilde{a}_{\tau, \tau'}^4 + \tilde{\Sigma}_{\tau, \tau'} \tilde{a}_{\tau, \tau'} \right) \}$$

• Note: Prefactor N stabilizes mean field

• Variation $\frac{\delta S}{\delta a} = \frac{\delta S}{\delta \Sigma} = 0$ produces m.f. eq.

• $\leadsto$ Fields a and Σ represent phys.
 a and Σ , resp.

• Strategy: Substitute $\tilde{a}(\tau, \tau') = \tilde{a}_s(\tau, \tau')$ into
 $\tilde{\Sigma}(\tau, \tau') = \tilde{\Sigma}_s(\tau, \tau')$

functional integral and expand in $\{s, \partial_\tau\}$. $\leadsto$
 $\leadsto$ a lengthy calculation plagued by UV issues
(A. Bayreuth, Karsner 17)

$$S[s] = \frac{M}{2} \int d\tau \left(\frac{s''}{s'} \right)^2 =$$

Schwarzsian
action

$$= -M \int d\tau \{s, \tau\}$$

$$\bullet M = \frac{b^2}{32\pi} N \ln N$$

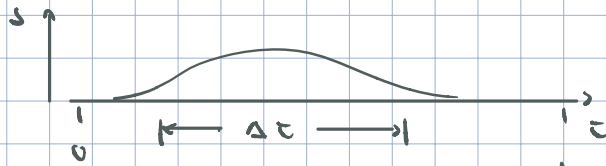
Schwarzsian derivative:

$$\{s, \tau\} = -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{s''}{s'} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{s'''}{s'} \right)'$$

$\{$
surface term

• Comments:

- Consider fluctuation



$$\text{action: } \sim M \Delta t \Delta \tilde{t}^{-2} \sim M \Delta \tilde{t}^{-1} \quad \text{for } \{s, \tilde{t}\}$$

fluctuations on large time scales $\Delta \tilde{t} > M$
cost little action.

M defines threshold between semi-classical short time regime and (quantum) fluctuation dominated long time regime.

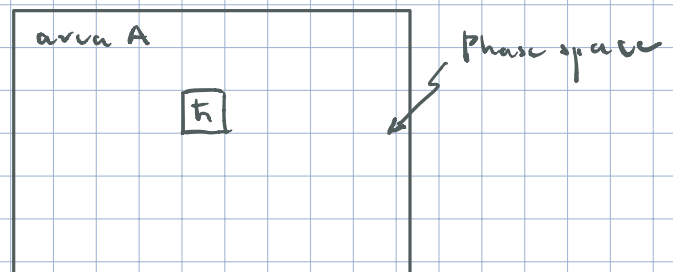
- Note: semiclassical time scales in quantum chaos:

$$\sim h e^{\lambda t} \sim \Delta S_{cl}$$

$$\Rightarrow t \sim \frac{1}{\lambda} \ln\left(\frac{\Delta S_{cl}}{h}\right)$$

Ehrenfest time

What is h ?



$$\text{Dimension Hilbert space } D \sim \frac{A}{h} \Rightarrow D \sim h^{-1}$$

$$\text{Hence: } D \sim 2^N \Rightarrow h \sim N$$

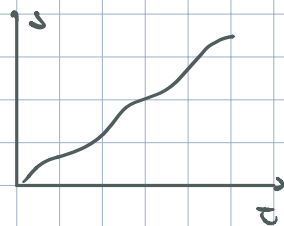
Conclusion: I: Ehrenfest time of quantum chaos compatible with semiclassical time scale M . II: Ehrenfest time often defined differently.

ently, see below.

- Schwarzian action not friendly. + complicated measure
$$\int \mathcal{D}s e^{-S[s]}$$
$$\text{Diff}(S)/\text{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$$

Liouville action

- Idea: use freedom of reparametrization to obtain more manageable description.



$$\sim s(\tau) = e^{\phi(\tau)}$$

$$\sim Z = \int \mathcal{D}\phi e^{-S[\phi]}$$

↑
flat

$$S[\phi] = M \int d\tau \left(\frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 + 2 e^{-\phi} \right)$$

Liouville action (a-Burgers - Kummer, 17)

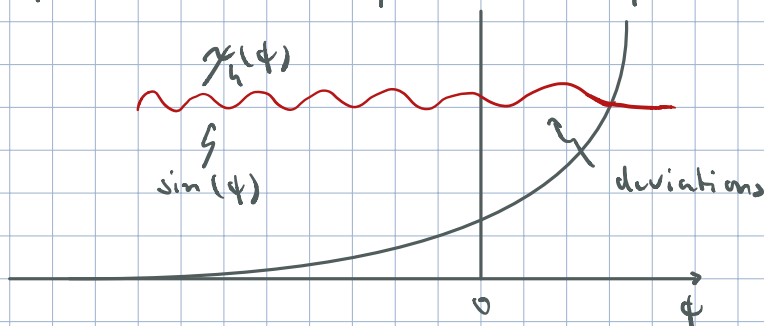
SYK model and Liouville QM

- Low energy ($\ll J$) physics of SYK model described in terms of Liouville action. D.o.f. reparametrization coordinate.
- At time scales $\gg M$: Quantum fluctuations strong

Q: What is Liouville QM?

A : • simple

- $S[\varphi] = M \int d\tau \left(\frac{1}{2} \dot{\varphi}^2 + 2e^{-\varphi} \right)$ is action of point particle in exponential potential (almost half ∞ space)



Eigen functions / - values of $\hat{H} = -\frac{\partial^2}{2m} + \gamma e^{\varphi}$

known: $E_h = \frac{h^2}{2m}$

$$\chi_h(\varphi) \sim K \text{erfi}(c \cdot e^{\varphi/2}) \sim e^{ih\varphi} \quad \varphi \ll 0$$

Most crucial feature: Liouville universality (Tsvetlich-Shelton, 98)

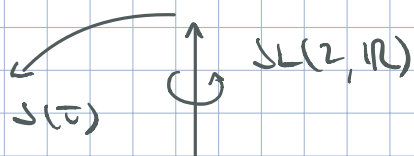
For all local operators $\mathcal{O} = \varphi, \partial\varphi, \varphi'', \dots$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \mathcal{O}(\tau') \rangle \sim \frac{1}{|\tau - \tau'|^{3/2}}$$

This power law determines the temporal behavior of pretty much all late time SYK correlation functions!

Green's function and Liouville CFT

• Recall



$$G(\tau, \tau') \sim \frac{1}{|\tau - \tau'|^{1/2}}$$

$$\alpha_s(\tau, \tau') = \left(\frac{ds}{d\tau} \frac{ds'}{d\tau'} \right)^{\gamma} \alpha(s(\tau), s(\tau'))$$

Q: What is $\langle \alpha_s(\tau, \tau') \rangle_s$

A: Expect $\langle \alpha_s(\tau, \tau') \rangle_s \sim \alpha(\tau, \tau') \quad |\tau - \tau'| \ll M$
 $\rightarrow 0 \quad \quad \quad " \gg "$

$$\langle \alpha_s(\tau, \tau') \rangle_s = \int \mathcal{D}\phi \, e^{-S[\phi]} \alpha_{s(\phi)}(\tau, \tau')$$

$s' = e^\phi$

} spectral decomposition

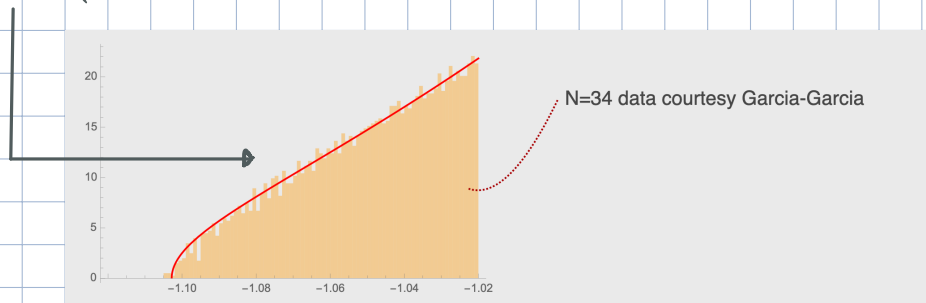
← E. (16) - (25) DAK

• Another 'fundamental' observable: many body DoS:

$$Z = \text{tr} (e^{-1/H}) \sim \int \mathcal{D}\phi \, e^{-S[\phi]} \sim \dots \sim \int_0^\infty d\epsilon \, p(\epsilon) e^{-1/\epsilon}$$

DoS

$$p(\epsilon) \sim \sinh(2\pi\sqrt{M\epsilon})$$



Applications I: Early time ($t < e^N$) quantum chaos

- Principal diagnostics: Out of time ordered correlation functions (OTOC, Larkin-Ovchinnikov, 68)

Q: What are OTOCs?

A: The observables testing for quantum signatures of exp. chaotic instabilities

$$F(t) = \text{tr} \left(e^{-\beta \hat{H}} \hat{X} \hat{Y}(t) \hat{X} \hat{Y}(t) \right)$$

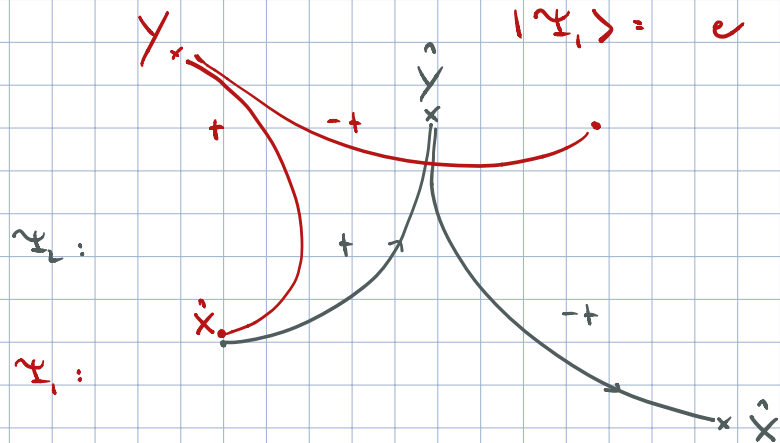
$\hat{X}, \hat{Y}$ some (non-commuting) operators

Interpretation as **quantum butterfly** observable

Consider $T=0$: $e^{\beta \hat{H}}$ projects on $|\psi\rangle$. Draw

$$F(t) = \langle \psi_1 | \psi_2 \rangle \quad |\psi_2\rangle = \hat{X} e^{i\hat{H}t} \hat{Y} e^{-i\hat{H}t} |\psi\rangle$$

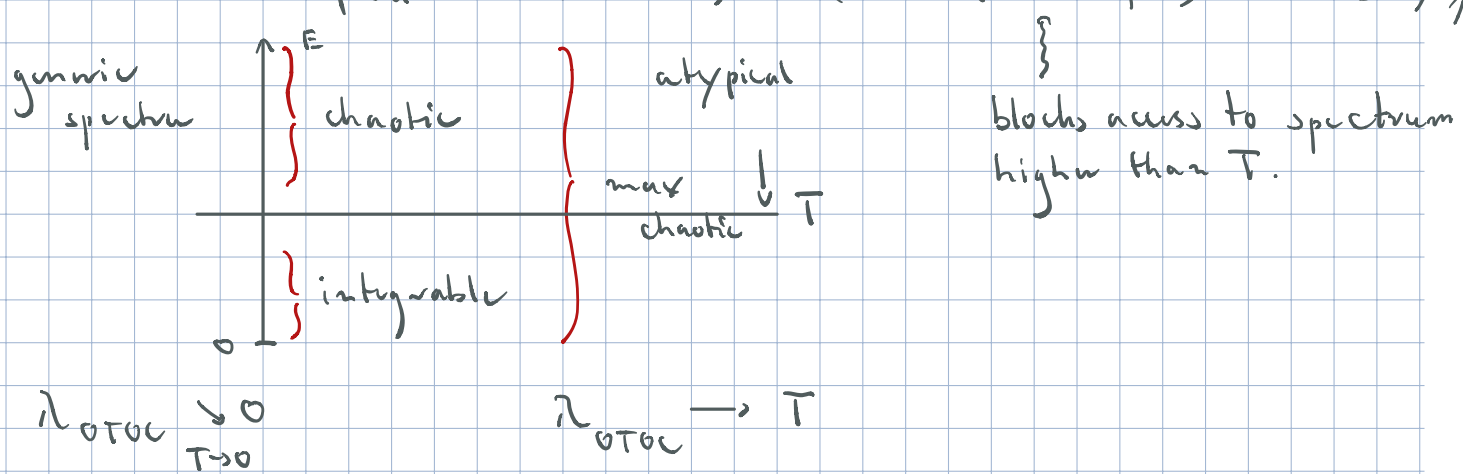
$$|\psi_1\rangle = e^{i\hat{H}t} \hat{Y} e^{-i\hat{H}t} \hat{X} |\psi\rangle$$



$F(t)$ of classically chaotic quantum system expected to show $\sim \exp(\lambda t)$ instability.

Q: What is the maximal value of λ a chaotic system can show (in OTOC)?

Consider 'modified' OTOC: $F(t) = \text{tr} \left(e^{-\beta \frac{\hat{H}}{4}} \hat{X} e^{-\beta \frac{\hat{H}}{4}} \hat{Y}(t) e^{-\beta \frac{\hat{H}}{4}} \hat{X} e^{-\beta \frac{\hat{H}}{4}} \hat{Y}(t) \right)$



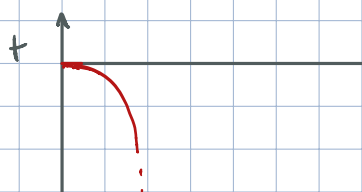
Q: But what happens after 'semi-classical' time scales? (A seldomly asked question.)

OTOC, of SYK model

- $\hat{X} = \gamma_i$, $\hat{Y} = \gamma_j$ holographic interpretation suggests maximal chaos ('black hole') $\sim \lambda = T$
- Calculation: Troltwice $F(t) \sim$ integral over reparen-
nchizations.
- Results:
 - Short time - mean field analysis of G_E .

$$F(t) = 1 - \frac{1}{64\pi MT} e^{-2\pi t/T} \quad (\text{Maldacena et al. 16})$$

Chaos bound!





Something must happen at $\tilde{t}_E \sim T^{-1} \ln(MT) \sim T^{-1} \ln(N)$

t_E defines (Ehrenfest time)_{OTOC}. For single particle

chaotic systems this agrees parametrically with $\tilde{t}_E \sim \ln \tilde{t}''$. But not here. $\tilde{t}_E \neq t_E \sim M$

- times larger than t_E : Stationary phase 'New to - eq.' for Liouville action

$$F(t) = \ln(MT) e^{-\alpha T(t-t_E)}$$

ABK 17

- Semiclassics breaks down at $t \sim M$.
Integration over ν para's yields

$$F(t) \sim \left(\frac{M}{t}\right)^6 \text{ power law!}$$

ABK 17

Interpretation of power law OTOCs

- Liouville GM is gapless ($E_h = \frac{h^2}{L^2}$). Exp. time dependence needs gaps. Quantum chaos 'softer' than classical chaos

- Liouville universality

$$F(t) \sim \ln \left(\sum e^{-i\hat{H}t} \sum e^{i\hat{H}t} \sum e^{-i\hat{H}t} \sum e^{i\hat{H}t} \right)$$

~ 4 Liouville correlation functions in

$$\sim \left(t^{-3/2} \right)^4 \stackrel{\text{time}}{=} t^{-6}$$

- Hard quantum chaos interpretation:

Lehmann repr.

$$F(t) \sim \sum_{m_1 \dots m_4} \langle m_1 | z_i \rangle \langle m_2 | z_j \rangle \dots \langle m_4 \rangle \times$$

}

exact many body ef

$$\times e^{E_{m_1}(it - \frac{\Lambda}{4})} \dots e^{E_{m_4}(it - \frac{\Lambda}{4})}$$

assume statistical ind. of wave functions and eigen values.

$$\sim \left| \sum_m e^{-(\frac{\Lambda}{4} + it) E_m} \right|^4 \sim \int_0^\infty d\epsilon p(\epsilon) e^{-(\frac{\Lambda}{4} + it)\epsilon} \sim$$

}

$\text{sh}(\sqrt{\epsilon} t) \sim \sqrt{\epsilon}$

$$\sim t^{-6}$$

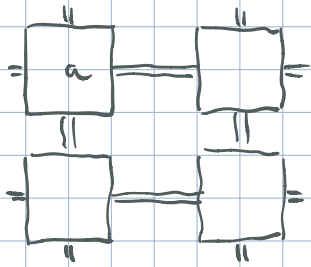
Summary

- SYK maximally chaotic non FL
- Strong symmetry breaking principle
- Goldstone modes $\leftarrow$ Liouville AM

- System under analytic control (for times $t \ll \exp N$)

Applications II: Phenomenology of strong correlation physics

- Idea: Model strongly correlated fermion matter as SYK arrays (Balents et al 17, Bag et al 17, ...)



$$\hat{H} = \sum_a \hat{H}_{\text{SM}}(z^a) + \hat{H}_T$$

$$\hat{H}_T = \frac{i}{2} \sum_{\langle ab \rangle} V_{ab}^{ij} z_i^a z_j^b$$

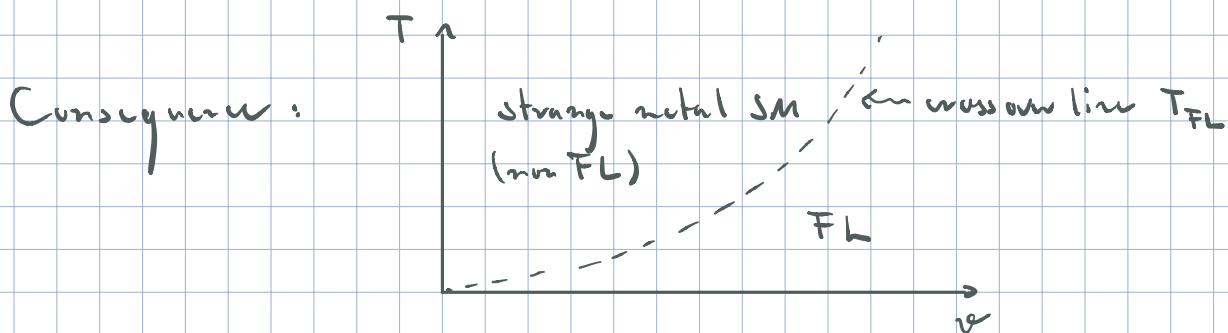
$$\langle (V_{ab}^{ij})^2 \rangle = \frac{2q^2}{N}$$

- mean field approach (Balents et al. 17)

Dimensional analysis $N \rightarrow \infty$ (replicas irrelevant)

$$[z] = t^{-1/4} \quad \sim \quad S_T = \int dt \, z \sqrt{z} \sim t^{1-2 \times (1/4)} = t^{1/2}$$

SYK₂ operator $z_i V_{ij}^{ij} z_j$ is RG relevant.



Q: Where does SM/FL crossover take place?

Compare (ex.) $\bigcirc$ SYK self energy $\left(\sim \int_0^{\beta} dt \, G^2 \right)$

$T_{FL} \sim \frac{J}{2} \frac{2q^2}{N}$



tunneling self energy

Q: What happens for finite N ?

Warfare between Goldstone modes and tunneling

- Consider lowering T at infinitesimally weak v but finite N .

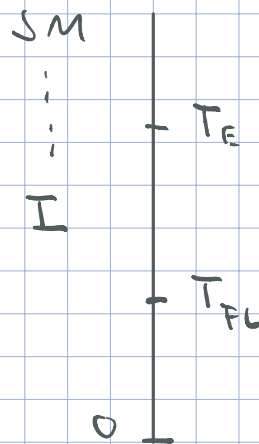
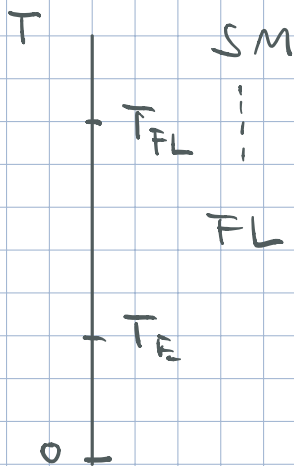
Below $T \sim M^{-1}$: $\Omega(\tau, \tau') \sim |\tau - \tau'|^{-3/4} \Rightarrow [z] = +^{-3/4}$

$$S_T \sim \int dt \langle \dot{z}^\dagger \dot{z} \rangle \sim +^{1 - 2 \times \frac{3}{4}} = +^{-1/2}$$

Relevant

Goldstone modes kill tunneling by quantum fluctuations
(Luzhin et al. 18) $\sim$ system becomes insulator

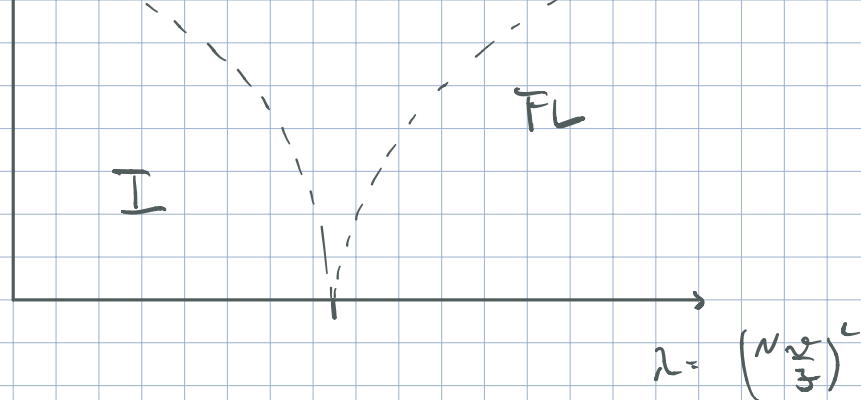
- Two scenarios:



Phase diagram



SM



← ABK 15

Applications

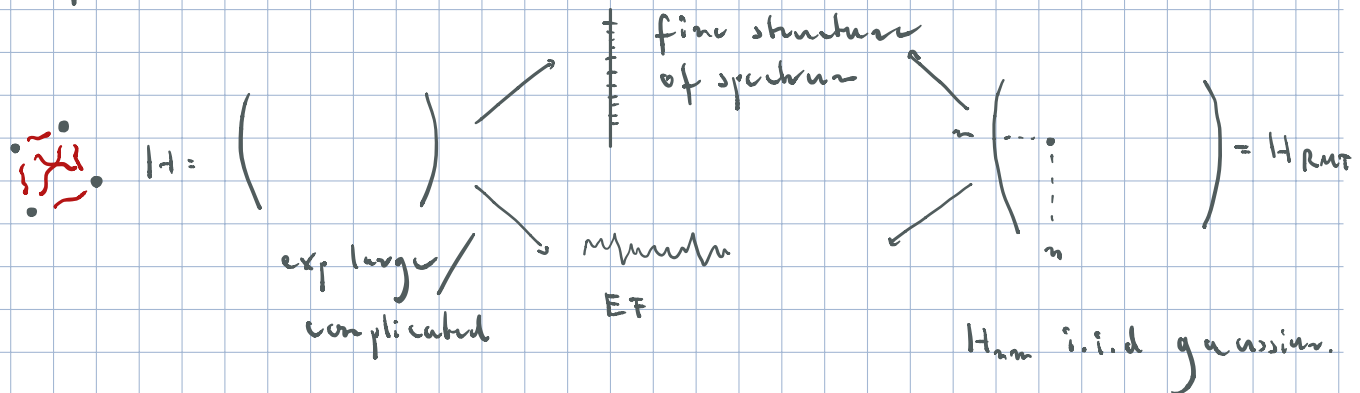
- Phenomenological modeling of correlated phases
Above phase diagram 'has the right features'
1) Coexistence of different phases in close parametric proximity 2) separated by QPT and showing insulating, FL, SM signatures. **Problem:** difficult to teach the approach superconductivity (Wang et al 20002. 11757)
- Physics of nanoscopic quantum transport
on single large molecules (1998. 11351)

Summary (Physics of correlations)

- SYK approach: Model correlations starting from hard core interacting cells $\rightarrow$ Strong phenomenology/with little effort!
- Need more activity.

Long time physics ($t \sim \mathcal{O}(2^n)$)

- Probe structures at level spacing scales of a hard chaotic system
- Bohigas-Giannoni-Schmit (BGS) conjecture physics at these time scales coincides with that of random matrix ensembles

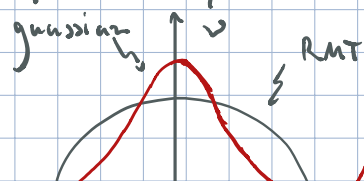


Q: How do we characterize fine structure of quantum spectra

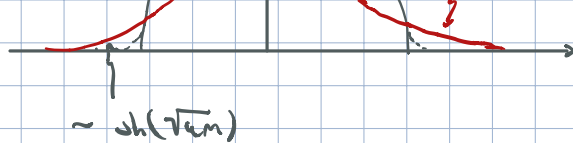
A: • Distinguish symmetry classes - symmetry of H under Time reversal, Charge conjugation, Chiral symmetries. $\exists$ 10 classes in total. Depending on value of $N \bmod 8$ SYK realises 8 of them! (1508.00995)

Here: class A / GUE (just hermiticity)

- (Many body) density of states (dos)



SYK and other many body systems.



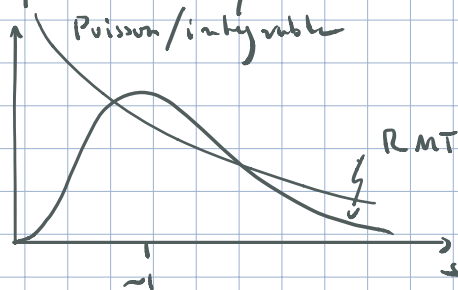
- correlations of spectra

$\rightarrow \quad \leftarrow \Delta$

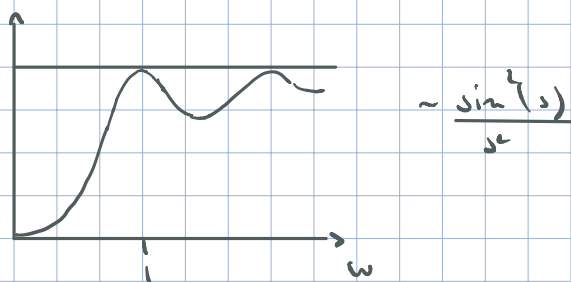
chaotic

integrable

- $P(s)$ probability to find levels at separation $s = \frac{E_i - E_j}{\Delta}$



- $R_2(s) = \frac{1}{\langle v \rangle^2} \left(\langle v(E+\omega) v(E) \rangle - \underbrace{\langle v \times v \rangle}_{\text{only weakly } \epsilon\text{-dependent}} \right)$



- $\Sigma_2(\omega) = \text{var \# of levels in interval } \omega$

