



Anomalous phenomena in Dirac and Weyl semimetals Igor Shovkovy Arizona State University

The 6th International Conference on Chirality, Vorticity and Magnetic Field in Heavy Ion Collisions Stony Brook University, November 1-5, 2021



Chiral plasma

- Heavy-ion collisions (high temperature) [Kharzeev, Liao, Voloshin, Wang, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 88, 1 (2016)]
- Super-dense matter in compact stars (high density) [Effects seem negligible due slow chirality production and a large chirality flip rate]
- Early Universe (high temperature) [Joyce & Shaposhnikov, PRL 79, 1193 (1997)] talk by Kahniashvili

Magnetospheres of magnetars (electron-positron plasma at moderately high temperature) [Gorbar & Shovkovy, arXiv:2110.11380]

- Electron plasma in Dirac/Weyl (semi-)metals [Gorbar, Miransky, Shovkovy, Sukhachov, *Electronic Properties of Dirac and Weyl Semimetals* (World Scientific, Singapore, 2021)]
- Other: cold atoms, superfluid ³He-A, etc. [Bevan, Manninen, Cook, Hook, Hall, Vachaspati, Volovik, Nature 386, 689 (1997)]

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-this talk



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Chernodub, Ferreiros, Grushin, Landsteiner & Vozmediano, Thermal transport, geometry, and anomalies, arXiv:2110.05471

- Ong & Liang, *Experimental signatures of the chiral anomaly in Dirac–Weyl semimetals*, Nature Rev. Phys. **3**, 394 (2021); arXiv:2010.08564
- Armitage, Mele & Vishwanath, *Weyl and Dirac semimetals in three-dimensional solids*, Rev. Mod. Phys. **90**, 015001 (2018); arXiv:1705.01111
- Gorbar, Miransky, Shovkovy & Sukhachov, *Anomalous transport properties of Dirac and Weyl semimetals*, Low Tem. Phys. **44**, 487 (2018); arXiv:1712.08947
- Landsteiner, Acta Phys. Polon. B 47, 2617 (2016); arXiv:1610.04413

ASU Reviews on Dirac & Weyl semimetals

• Gorbar, Miransky, Shovkovy & Sukhachov, *Electronic Properties* of Dirac and Weyl Semimetals, (World Scientific, Singapore, 2021)





Dirac/Weyl quasiparticles

• Electron quasiparticles with a wide range of properties are possible

• They may even have the emergent spinor structure of *massless* Weyl fermions,

 $H_W \approx \pm v_F \left(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{k} \right)$

In fact, such nodes are common! Na₃Bi, Cd₃As₂, ZrTe₅, TaAs, NbAs, ...

[Liu et al., Science 343, 864 (2014)]
[Neupane et al., Nature Commun. 5, 3786 (2014)]
[Borisenko et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 113, 027603 (2014)]
[Li et al., Nature Physics 12, 550 (2016)]
[S.-Y. Xu et al., Science 349, 613 (2015)]
[B. Q. Lv et al., Phys. Rev. X 5, 031013 (2015)]
[S.-Y. Xu et al., Nature Physics 11, 748 (2015)]
[S.-Y. Xu et al., Science Adv. 1, 1501092 (2015)]
[F. Y. Bruno et al., Phys. Rev. B 94, 121112 (2016)]



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Dirac and Weyl quasiparticles

Idealized Hamiltonians of Dirac and Weyl materials

 P

$$H = \int d^{3}\mathbf{r}\,\overline{\psi} \Big[-i\nu_{F} \Big(\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{p}} \Big) - \Big(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{\gamma} \Big) \gamma^{5} + b_{0} \gamma^{0} \gamma^{5} \Big] \psi$$

Dirac (e.g., Na₃Bi, Cd₃As₂, ZrTe₅)

Weyl (e.g., TaAs, NbAs, TaP, NbP, EuCd₂As₂)





Weyl quasiparticles

• The quasiparticle eigenstates for Weyl Hamiltonian $H_{\lambda} = \lambda v_F(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{\sigma})$ are

$$\psi_{k}^{\lambda} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{\epsilon_{k}^{2} + \lambda v_{F}\epsilon_{k}k_{z}}} \begin{pmatrix} v_{F}k_{z} + \lambda\epsilon_{k} \\ v_{F}k_{x} + iv_{F}k_{y} \end{pmatrix}$$

- The quasiparticle energy $\epsilon_k = v_F \sqrt{k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2}$ is relativistic-like
- Mapping $k \to \psi_k^{\lambda}$ has a nontrivial topology
- Consider adiabatic evolution of the wave function from ψ_k to $\psi_{k+\delta k}$: $\langle \psi_k | \psi_{k+\delta k} \rangle \approx 1 + \delta k \cdot \langle \psi_k | \nabla_k | \psi_k \rangle \approx e^{ia_k \cdot \delta k}$

where $a_k = -i \langle \psi_k | \nabla_k | \psi_k \rangle$ is the Berry connection



Berry curvature & topology

• For Weyl eigenstates, the Berry curvature is

$$\boldsymbol{\Omega}_{k} \equiv \boldsymbol{\nabla}_{k} \times \boldsymbol{a}_{k} = \lambda \frac{\boldsymbol{k}}{2k^{3}}$$

- The Chern number (topological charge) $C = \frac{1}{2\pi} \oint \mathbf{\Omega}_k \cdot d\mathbf{S}_k = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \oint \frac{\vec{k}}{2k^3} \cdot \frac{\vec{k}}{k} k^2 \sin\theta \, d\theta d\varphi = \lambda$
- In a solid state material, the Brillouin zone is compact
- A closed surface around a node at \vec{k}_0 is also a closed surface around the rest of the Brillouin zone
- Thus, Weyl fermions come in pairs of opposite chirality [Nielsen & Ninomiya, Nucl. Phys. B 193, 173 (1981); B 185, 20 (1981)]



Image credit [Morimoto & Nagaosa, Scientific Reports 6, 19853 (2016)]

Anomalous effects in semimetals

- Observable properties of Dirac/Weyl semimetals are sensitive to (i) the chiral anomaly, (ii) the values of b_0 and \vec{b} , and (iii) nontrivial topology
- Partial list of potential anomalous effects:
 - Negative magnetoresistance (ρ_{\parallel} decreasing with *B*)
 - New types of collective modes (anomalous Hall waves, pseudo-magnetic helicons, chiral zero sound, etc.)
 - Anomalous thermoelectric effects (e.g., $\vec{J}_Q \propto \vec{b} \times \vec{E}$ and $\vec{J}_Q \propto \vec{b} \times \vec{\nabla}T$)
 - Strain/torsion induced CME $(\vec{J} \propto u_{33}\vec{B} \text{ and } \vec{J} \propto \mu \vec{B}_5)$
 - Strain/torsion dependent conductivity/resistance
 - Quantum oscillations in thin films $[T \propto v_F/(\mu b)]$
 - Strain/torsion induced quantum oscillations (pseudo-Landau levels)
 - Nonlocal anomalous transport



Image credit [Zhang et al., Nat. Commun. 7, 10735 (2016)]

NEGATIVE MAGNETORESISTANCE

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Steady CME current

• Homogeneous chiral plasma:

[Nielsen & Ninomiya, Phys. Lett. B **130**, 390 (1983)] [Son & Spivak, Phys. Rev. B **88**, 104412 (2013)]

$$\frac{\partial n_5}{\partial t} + \bigvee_5 = \frac{e^2 \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}}{2\pi^2} - \frac{n_5}{\tau_{\rm ch}}$$

• Steady state $(\tau_{ch} \sim 1 \text{ ps to } 1 \text{ ns})$



$$n_5 = \frac{e^2 \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}}{2\pi^2} \tau_{ch} \longrightarrow \mu_5 = \frac{n_5}{\chi_5} \approx \frac{3v^3 n_5}{T^2 + \mu^2 / \pi^2}$$

• The CME current

$$J_{i} = \frac{e^{2}}{2\pi^{2}} \mu_{5} B_{i} = \left(\frac{e^{2}}{2\pi^{2}}\right)^{2} \tau_{ch} \frac{B_{i} B_{k}}{\chi_{5}} E_{k} \rightarrow \sigma_{CME}^{\parallel} = \left(\frac{e^{2}}{2\pi^{2}}\right)^{2} \tau_{ch} \frac{B^{2}}{\chi_{5}}$$

i.e.,

$$\rho_{\text{total}}^{\parallel} = \frac{1}{\sigma_0 + a(T)B^2}$$



Negative Magnetoresistance

• Experimental confirmation

$$\rho_{\text{total}}^{\parallel} = \frac{1}{\sigma_0 + a(T)B^2} \qquad 2$$

Dirac semimetals:

[Kim et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. **111**, 246603 (2013)] [Li et al., Nat. Mater. **12**, 550 (2016)] [Xiong et al., Science **350**, 413 (2015)] [Feng, et al., Phys. Rev. B **92**, 081306 (2015)] [Li et al., Nat. Commun. **6**, 10137 (2015)] [Li et al., Nat. Commun. **7**, 10301 (2016)]

Weyl semimetals:

[Huang et al., Phys. Rev. X 5, 031023 (2015)] [Zhang et al., Nat. Commun. 7, 10735 (2016)] [Hirschberger et al., Nat. Mater. 15, 1161 (2016)] 0.0 [Wang et al., Phys. Rev. B 93, 121112 (2016)] -9 [Du et al., Sci. China Phys. Mech. Astron. 59, 657406 (2016)] [Li et al., Front. Phys. 12, 127205 (2017)]



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Chiral charge pumping (theory)

- Weyl semimetal TaAs
 - $-\vec{B} \neq 0$ & oscillating $\vec{E} \parallel \vec{B}$
- The nonlinear contribution to chiral charge-pumping conductivity

$$\delta\sigma_{\rm ch}^{\rm NL} = i \frac{9\alpha^2 e^5 v^3}{8h^2 \omega^3} \left(\frac{\tilde{\mathbf{E}}_{\rm pump} \cdot \mathbf{B}}{B}\right)^2 B$$

• The reflection coefficient

$$R(T) = \left| \frac{1 - \sqrt{\epsilon}}{1 + \sqrt{\epsilon}} \right|^2 \quad \text{where} \quad \epsilon = \epsilon_{\infty} + i \frac{\sigma}{\omega \epsilon_0}$$

[Jadidi et al., Phys. Rev. B 102, 245123 (2020)]

relax (T

relax (T



Chiral charge pumping (data)

• Experimental setup



• Chiral charge relaxation time $1 \text{ ns} \ll \tau_{ch} < 77 \text{ ns}$

[Jadidi et al., Phys. Rev. B 102, 245123 (2020)]

• Measurements:



Nonlocal anomalous transport

• Theory

[Parameswaran, Grover, Abanin, Pesin, Vishwanath, PRX 4, 031035 (2014)]



• Experiment (challenge: Ohmic diffusion) [Zhang et al., Nat. Commun. 8, 13741 (2017)]



$$\alpha_{NL} = \frac{R_{NL}}{R_L} \propto e^{-L/L_V} \qquad \circ \boxed{R_{78}}$$

• Measurements:

$$L_V \sim 2 \ \mu m$$



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CHIRAL STRAINTRONICS

[Zubkov, Annals Phys. **360**, 655 (2015)] [Cortijo, Ferreiros, Landsteiner, Vozmediano. Phys. Rev. Lett. **115**, 177202 (2015)] [Grushin, Venderbos, Vishwanath, Ilan, Phys. Rev. X **6**, 041046 (2016)] [Cortijo, Kharzeev, Landsteiner, Vozmediano, Phys. Rev. B **94**, 241405 (2016)] [Pikulin, Chen, Franz, Phys. Rev. X **6**, 041021 (2016)]

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Pseudo-electromagnetic fields

• Strains modify the low-energy effective Weyl Hamiltonian

$$H = \int d^{3}\mathbf{r} \,\overline{\psi} \Big[-i\nu_{F} \left(\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{p}} \right) - \left(\vec{b} + \vec{A}_{5} \right) \cdot \vec{\gamma} \,\gamma^{5} + \left(b_{0} + A_{5,0} \right) \gamma^{0} \gamma^{5} \Big] \psi$$

via the emergent chiral gauge fields are

[Zubkov, Annals Phys. **360**, 655 (2015)] [Cortijo, Ferreiros, Landsteiner, Vozmediano. PRL **115**, 177202 (2015)] [Pikulin, Chen, Franz, PRX **6**, 041021 (2016)] [Grushin, Venderbos, Vishwanath, Ilan, PRX **6**, 041046 (2016)] [Cortijo, Kharzeev, Landsteiner, Vozmediano, PRB **94**, 241405 (2016)]

$$A_{5,||} \propto \alpha \left| \vec{b} \right|^2 \partial_{||} u_{||} + \beta \sum_i \partial_i u_i$$

leading to the pseudo-EM fields

 $A_{5,0} \propto b_0 \left| \vec{b} \right| \partial_{||} u_{||}$

 $A_{5,\perp} \propto \left| \vec{b} \right| \partial_{||} u_{\perp}$

$$\vec{B}_5 = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}_5$$
 and $\vec{E}_5 = -\vec{\nabla}A_0 - \partial_t \vec{A}_5$

Continuity relations (with $\vec{B}_5 \& \vec{E}_5$)

• Naïve continuity relations from chiral kinetic theory:

$$\frac{\partial \rho_5}{\partial t} + \boldsymbol{\nabla} \cdot \mathbf{j}_5 = \frac{e^3}{2\pi^2 \hbar^2 c} \Big[(\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}) + (\mathbf{E}_5 \cdot \mathbf{B}_5) \Big] \qquad \checkmark$$
$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \boldsymbol{\nabla} \cdot \mathbf{j} = \frac{e^3}{2\pi^2 \hbar^2 c} \Big[(\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}_5) + (\mathbf{E}_5 \cdot \mathbf{B}) \Big] \qquad \bigstar$$

• Extra Bardeen-Zumino (Chern-Simons) terms are needed, i.e.

$$\delta \rho = -\frac{e^3}{2\pi^2 \hbar^2 c^2} \left(\left(\vec{b} + \vec{A}_5 \right) \cdot \vec{B} \right)$$

$$\delta \vec{j} = -\frac{e^3}{2\pi^2 \hbar^2 c^2} \left(b_0 + A_{5,0} \right) \vec{B} + \frac{e^3}{2\pi^2 \hbar^2 c^2} \left[\left(\vec{b} + \vec{A}_5 \right) \times \vec{E} \right]$$

- Electric charge is conserved ($\partial_{\mu} J^{\mu} = 0$)
- Anomalous Hall effect is reproduced
- No CME in equilibrium $(\mu_5 = -eb_0)$ Gorbar, Miransky, Shovkovy, Sukhachov, Phys. Rev. B 97, 121105(R) (2018)]



[Landsteiner, PRB 89, 075124 (2014)]

[Landsteiner, Acta Phys. Polon. B 47, 2617 (2016)]

[Gorbar, Miransky, Shovkovy, Sukhachov, PRL 118, 127601 (2017)]

[Gorbar, Miransky, Shovkovy, Sukhachov, PRB 96, 085130 (2017)]



INSTRUCTIVE EXAMPLE: COLLECTIVE MODES

[Gorbar, Miransky, Shovkovy, Sukhachov, Phys. Rev. B 97, 121105(R) (2018)]

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Maxwell equations

Faraday's law:



or in momentum space:



 $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} = \frac{4\pi}{c}\vec{J} + \frac{1}{c}\frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \qquad \vec{P} = -$

Ampere-Maxwell's law:

or in momentum space:

$$\frac{c}{\omega}\vec{k}\times\left(\frac{c}{\omega}\vec{k}\times\vec{E}\right) = -\left(4\pi\frac{i}{\omega}\vec{J} + \vec{E}\right)$$

Gauss's law constrains \vec{E} as follows: $i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{E} = 4\pi\rho$

Anomalous

contributions

enter here



Chiral magnetic plasmons



[Gorbar, Miransky, Shovkovy, Sukhachov, Phys. Rev. Lett. **118**, 127601 (2017)] [Gorbar, Miransky, Shovkovy, Sukhachov, Phys. Rev. B **95**, 115202 (2017)]



Strain-induced helicons (B = 0)

• Strain-induced pseudo-magnetic field $B_{0,5}$ leads to

$$\omega_{h}|_{B_{0}\to 0,\mu\to 0} \stackrel{b_{0}\to -\mu_{5}/e}{=} \frac{eB_{0,5}c^{3}\hbar^{2}\pi v_{F}^{2}k^{2}}{\pi\hbar^{2}c^{2}\Omega_{e}^{2}\mu_{5} + 2B_{0,5}e^{4}v_{F}^{2}b_{\parallel}} + O(k^{3})$$

[E.V. Gorbar, V.A. Miransky, I.A. Shovkovy, and P.O. Sukhachov, Phys. Rev. B 95, 115422 (2017)]

- Properties:
 - Gapless electromagnetic wave propagates in metals without magnetic field!
 - Chiral shift modifies effective helicon dispersion
 - In equilibrium, i.e., $\mu_5 = -eb_0$, the term linear in the wave vector is **absent**



Helicons at different b_{\parallel}

 $eb_0 = -\mu_5, B_{0,5} = 10^{-2}$ T, $\mu_5 = 5$ meV, $\mu = 0, eb^* = 0.3\pi\hbar v_F/c_3$



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ANOMALOUS CHIRAL HYDRODYNAMICS

[Son, Surowka, Phys. Rev. Lett. **103**, 191601 (2009)] [Neiman and Oz, JHEP **03**, 023 (2011)]

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Electron hydrodynamics

• First ideas date back to the 1960s [Radii Gurzhi, JETP 17, 521 (1963)]



Hydrodynamics in Weyl semimetals

Weyl semimetals WP₂ & WTe₂ [Gooth et al., Nat. Comm. 9, 4093 (2018); Vool, et al., arXiv:2009.04477]



Chiral Hydrodynamics (plasma)

• Evolution of conserved quantities:

[Son, Surowka, Phys. Rev. Lett. **103**, 191601 (2009)] [Neiman and Oz, JHEP **03**, 023 (2011)]

$$\frac{\partial T^{j0}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial T^{ji}}{\partial x^{i}} = -enE^{j} - e(\vec{j} \times \vec{B})^{j} + F_{\text{other}}^{j}$$

$$\frac{\partial T^{00}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial T^{0i}}{\partial x^{i}} = -e(\vec{E} \cdot \vec{j}) + W_{\text{other}}$$

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{j} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial n_5}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{j}_5 = -\frac{e^2(\vec{B} \cdot \vec{E})}{2\pi^2} - \Gamma_5 n_5$$

 \bigoplus Maxwell equations

Note:

$$T^{00} = \varepsilon + \cdots$$

$$T^{0i} = wv^{i} + \cdots$$

$$T^{ij} = wv^{i}v^{j} - P\delta^{ij} + \cdots$$

$$w = \varepsilon + P$$

Constitutive relations

• Expressions for currents and $T^{\mu\nu}$

[Son, Surowka, Phys. Rev. Lett. **103**, 191601 (2009)] [Neiman and Oz, JHEP **03**, 023 (2011)]

$$\vec{j} = n\vec{v} + \vec{j}_a + \vec{j}_{dis}$$

 $\vec{j}_5 = n_5\vec{v} + \vec{j}_{5,a} + \vec{j}_{5,dis}$

$$T^{\mu\nu} = \varepsilon v^{\mu} v^{\nu} - \Delta^{\mu\nu} P + h^{\mu} v^{\nu} + v^{\mu} h^{\nu} + \tau^{\mu\nu}_{dis}$$

• Anomalous terms:

$$\vec{j}_a = \vec{j}_{CS} + \sigma_\omega \vec{\omega} + \sigma_B \vec{B} \quad \& \quad \vec{j}_{5,a} = \vec{j}_{5,CS} + \sigma_\omega^5 \vec{\omega} + \sigma_B^5 \vec{B}$$

where

$$\sigma_{\omega} = \frac{\mu\mu_5}{\pi^2\hbar^2}, \qquad \sigma_B = \frac{e\mu_5}{2\pi^2\hbar^2}$$
$$\sigma_{\omega}^5 = \frac{3(\mu^2 + \mu_5^2) + \pi^2 T^2}{6\pi^2\hbar^2}, \quad \sigma_B^5 = \frac{e\mu}{2\pi^2\hbar^2}$$

Rich spectrum of hydro modes

• One example: longitudinal anomalous Hall wave (with $\boldsymbol{k} \parallel \boldsymbol{B}_0$ and $\boldsymbol{b} \perp \boldsymbol{B}_0$):

$$\omega_{\text{IAHW},\pm} \approx \pm \frac{\hbar B_0 k_{\parallel} \sqrt{3 v_{\text{F}}^3 \left(\pi^3 c^4 \hbar T_0^2 + 3 e^4 \mu_m v_{\text{F}}^3 b_{\perp}^2\right)}}{c T_0 \sqrt{\pi^3 \mu_m \left(3 \varepsilon_e v_{\text{F}}^3 \hbar^3 B_0^2 + 4 \pi e^2 T_0^2 b_{\perp}^2\right)}} + O(k_{\parallel}^3)$$

n continuity equation

 n_5 continuity equation

$$\frac{T^2\omega}{3v_{\rm F}^3\hbar}\delta\mu + \frac{eB_0k_{\parallel}}{2\pi^2c}\delta\mu_5 = 0$$

$$\frac{eB_0k_{\parallel}}{2\pi^2c}\delta\mu + \frac{T^2\omega}{3v_{\rm F}^3\hbar}\delta\mu_5 - i\frac{e^2B_0}{2\pi^2c}\delta E_{\parallel} = 0$$

$$\varepsilon_{e}\omega\delta E_{\parallel} + i\frac{2e^{2}}{\pi c\hbar^{2}}\left(B_{0}\delta\mu_{5} + eb_{\perp}\delta\tilde{E}_{\perp}\right) = 0 \qquad \left(\omega^{2} - \frac{c^{2}k_{\parallel}^{2}}{\varepsilon_{e}\mu_{m}}\right)\delta\tilde{E}_{\perp} - i\frac{2e^{3}\omega b_{\perp}}{\pi c\varepsilon_{e}\hbar^{2}}\delta E_{\parallel} = 0$$
Maxwell's equations
$$\delta\tilde{E}_{\perp} \parallel [B_{0} \times b]$$

Summary

- Chiral anomaly can be realized and tested in Dirac/Weyl semimetals
- Chiral magnetic effect is strongly supported by experimental data
- Chiral charge, which is relatively long-lived, can be optically pumped and manipulated
- Many other **anomalous effects** are proposed theoretically
- Plethora of **collective modes** with anomalous features may exist
- Some anomalous properties can also appear in the regime of electron hydrodynamics