



**HYDRO22 Colloquium:**

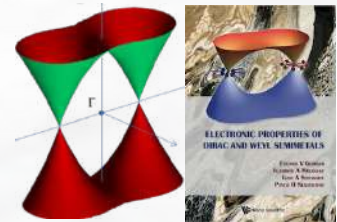
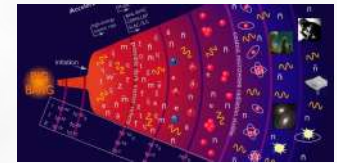
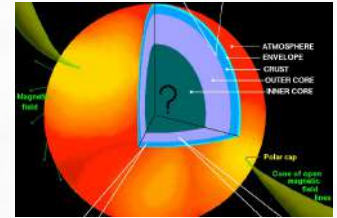
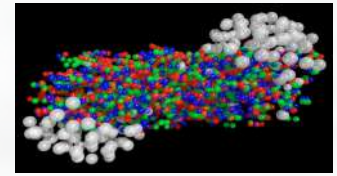
# **Relativistic-like electron hydrodynamics in Dirac semimetals**

**Igor Shovkovy**

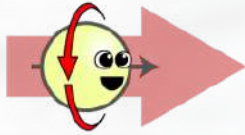


**Emergent Hydrodynamics in Condensed Matter and High-Energy Physics**

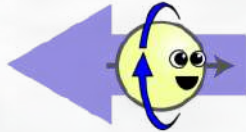
- **Heavy-ion collisions (high temperature)**  
[Kharzeev, Liao, Voloshin, Wang, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 88, 1 (2016)]
- **Super-dense matter in compact stars (high density)**  
[Effects seem negligible due slow chirality production and a large chirality flip rate]
- **Early Universe (high temperature)**  
[Joyce & Shaposhnikov, PRL 79, 1193 (1997)]
- **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  $^3\text{He-A}$ , etc.**  
[Bevan, Manninen, Cook, Hook, Hall, Vachaspati, Volovik, Nature 386, 689 (1997)]



- Only *massless* Dirac/Weyl fermions have a well-defined chirality ( $\gamma^5 \psi = \pm \psi$ )\*:



**Right-handed** (spin parallel to momentum)



**Left-handed** (spin opposite to momentum)

- The chirality of *massive* Dirac fermions is *almost* well-defined in the *ultra-relativistic* regime\*
  - High temperature:  $T \gg m$
  - High density:  $\mu \gg m$

\*Note: like the particle spin, chirality is a quantum property



# Anomalous chiral matter

- Relativistic matter made of chiral fermions may allow  $n_L \neq n_R$  existing on *macroscopic* time/distance scales
- The spacetime dynamics of  $n = n_R + n_L$  and  $n_5 = n_R - n_L$  is governed by continuity equations

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

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

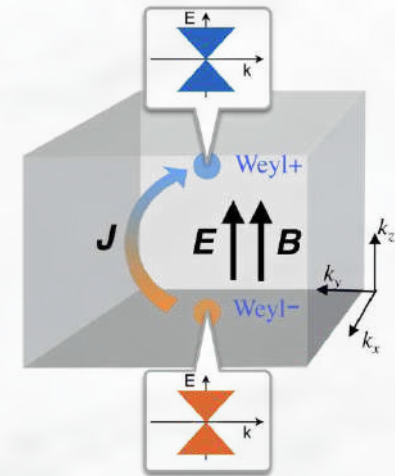
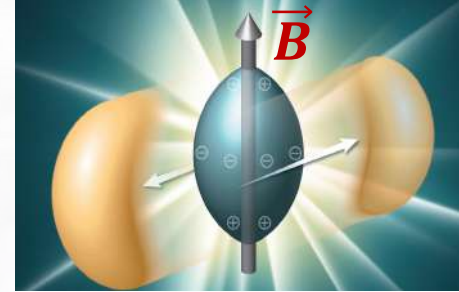
chiral anomaly

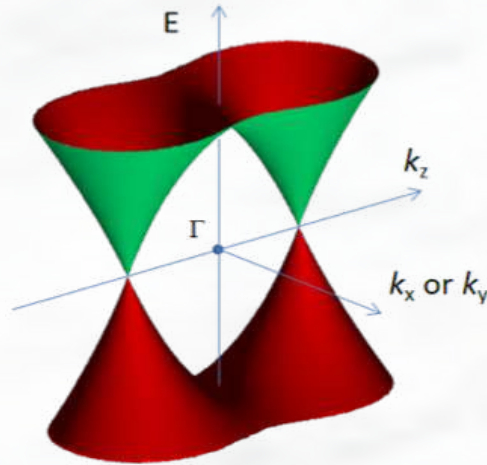
where a nonzero chirality flip rate is accounted by  $\Gamma_m$

- Chiral anomaly can produce *macroscopic* effects in plasmas

# Anomalous effects

- **Theory:** Many *macroscopic* chiral anomalous effects were proposed (chiral magnetic effect, chiral separation effect, etc.)
- **High-energy physics**
  - Charged particle correlations
  - Eccentricities of particle flows
  - New types of collective modes
  - Inverse magnetic cascade
  - ...
- **Condensed matter physics**
  - Negative longitudinal magnetoresistance
  - Nonlocal anomalous transport
  - Chiral charge pumping
  - ...





Credits: Borisenko et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 113, 027603 (2014)

# DIRAC & WEYL SEMIMETALS

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



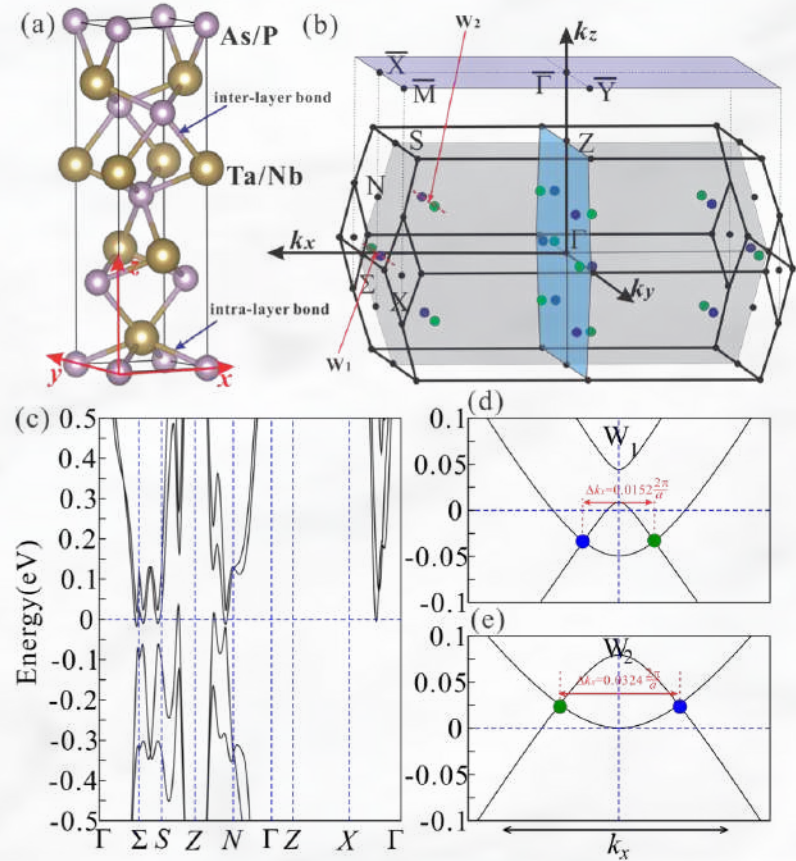
- Electron quasiparticles with a wide range of properties are possible
- They may even have an emergent spinor structure of Dirac/Weyl fermions, e.g.,

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

where  $\vec{k}$  is the momentum measured from the Weyl node and  $v_F$  is the Fermi velocity

- How common is this?

Weyl semimetals TaAs, TaP, NbAs, and NbP

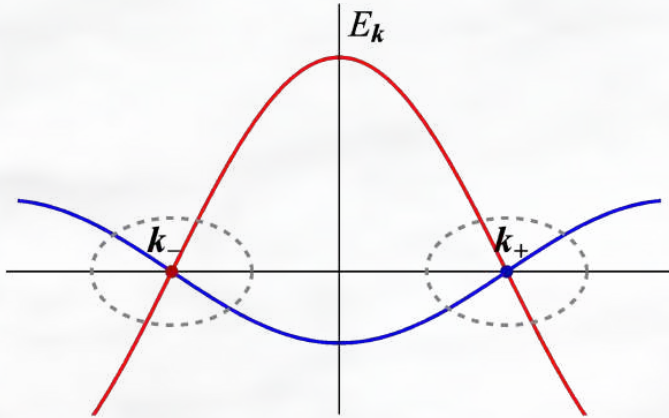


Sun, Wu & Yan, Phys. Rev. B **92**, 115428 (2015)

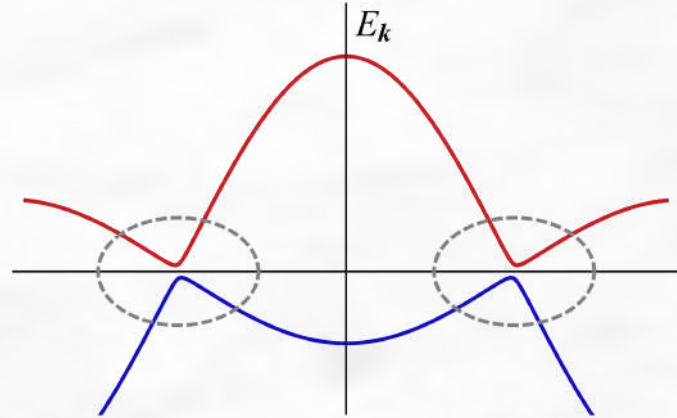


# Relativistic-like band crossing

Do energy levels cross?



Or do they repel?



A generic 2-band Hamiltonian reads

$$H_{\mathbf{k}} = a_{\mathbf{k}} + \vec{b}_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \vec{\sigma} \quad \Rightarrow \quad E_{\mathbf{k}} = a_{\mathbf{k}} \pm \sqrt{(\vec{b}_{\mathbf{k}})^2}$$

The bands cross when [Witten, Riv. Nuovo Cimento 39, 313 (2016)]

$$\vec{b}_{\mathbf{k}} = 0$$

These 3 equations can be solved by adjusting  $\vec{\mathbf{k}}$  in 3D



Near a band crossing (e.g.,  $\vec{k} \approx \vec{k}_+$ )

$$H_{\vec{k}} = a_{\vec{k}_+} + \cancel{(\vec{\nabla}_{\vec{k}} a_{\vec{k}} \cdot \delta \vec{k})} + \sum_{i,j} \sigma_i b_{ij} \delta k_j$$

cone tilting

After an orthogonal transformation

$$b_{ij} \equiv \partial b_i / \partial k_j \rightarrow \hbar v_i \delta_{ij}$$

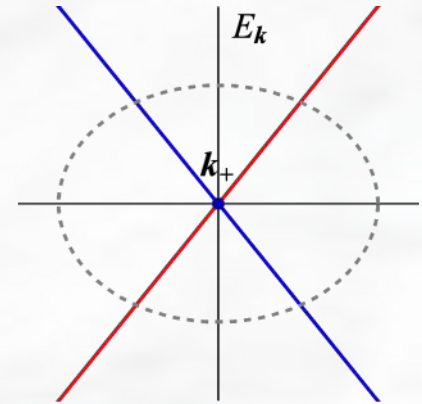
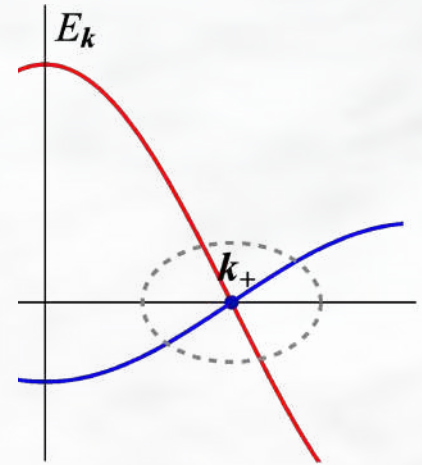
Assuming *isotropy* & a suitable *reference point*,

$$H_{\vec{k}} = \pm v_F (\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{k})$$

which is the Weyl Hamiltonian

The *chirality* is defined by

$$\lambda = \text{sign}[\det(b_{ij})]$$



# Weyl quasiparticles

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

$$\psi_{\mathbf{k}}^\lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} \sqrt{\epsilon_k^2 + \lambda v_F \epsilon_k k_z}} \begin{pmatrix} v_F k_z + \lambda \epsilon_k \\ v_F k_x + i v_F k_y \end{pmatrix}$$

- The quasiparticle energy  $\epsilon_k = v_F \sqrt{k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2}$  is relativistic-like
- Mapping  $k \rightarrow \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^\lambda$  has a nontrivial topology
- Consider adiabatic evolution of the wave function from  $\psi_{\mathbf{k}}$  to  $\psi_{\mathbf{k}+\delta\mathbf{k}}$ :

$$\langle \psi_{\mathbf{k}} | \psi_{\mathbf{k}+\delta\mathbf{k}} \rangle \approx 1 + \delta\mathbf{k} \cdot \langle \psi_{\mathbf{k}} | \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} | \psi_{\mathbf{k}} \rangle \approx e^{i\mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \delta\mathbf{k}}$$

where  $\mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{k}} = -i \langle \psi_{\mathbf{k}} | \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} | \psi_{\mathbf{k}} \rangle$  is the Berry connection

# Berry curvature & topology

- For Weyl eigenstates, the Berry curvature is

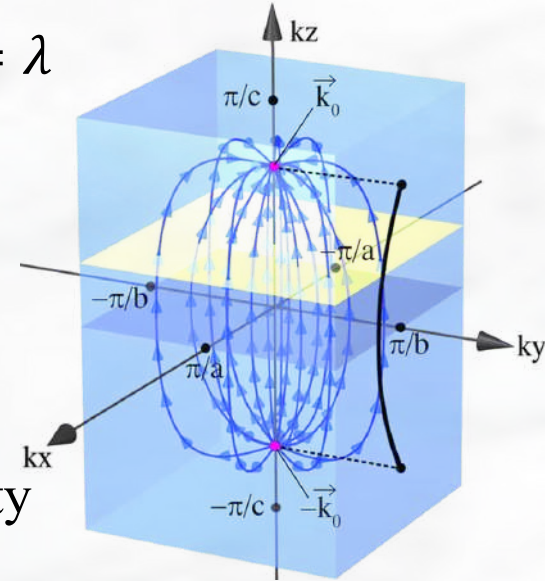
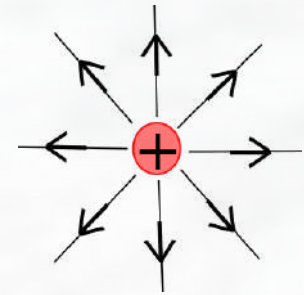
$$\mathbf{\Omega}_k \equiv \nabla_k \times \mathbf{a}_k = \lambda \frac{\vec{k}}{2k^3}$$

- 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)]



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



# Idealized Dirac and Weyl model

- Low-energy Hamiltonians of a Dirac and Weyl materials

$$H = \int d^3\mathbf{r} \bar{\psi} \left[ -iv_F (\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{p}}) - \underbrace{(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{\gamma})}_{\text{T}} \gamma^5 + \underbrace{b_0 \gamma^0 \gamma^5}_{\text{P}} \right] \psi$$

**Dirac** (e.g., Na<sub>3</sub>Bi, Cd<sub>3</sub>As<sub>2</sub>, ZrTe<sub>5</sub>)

**Weyl** (e.g., TaAs, NbAs, TaP, NbP, WTe<sub>2</sub>)

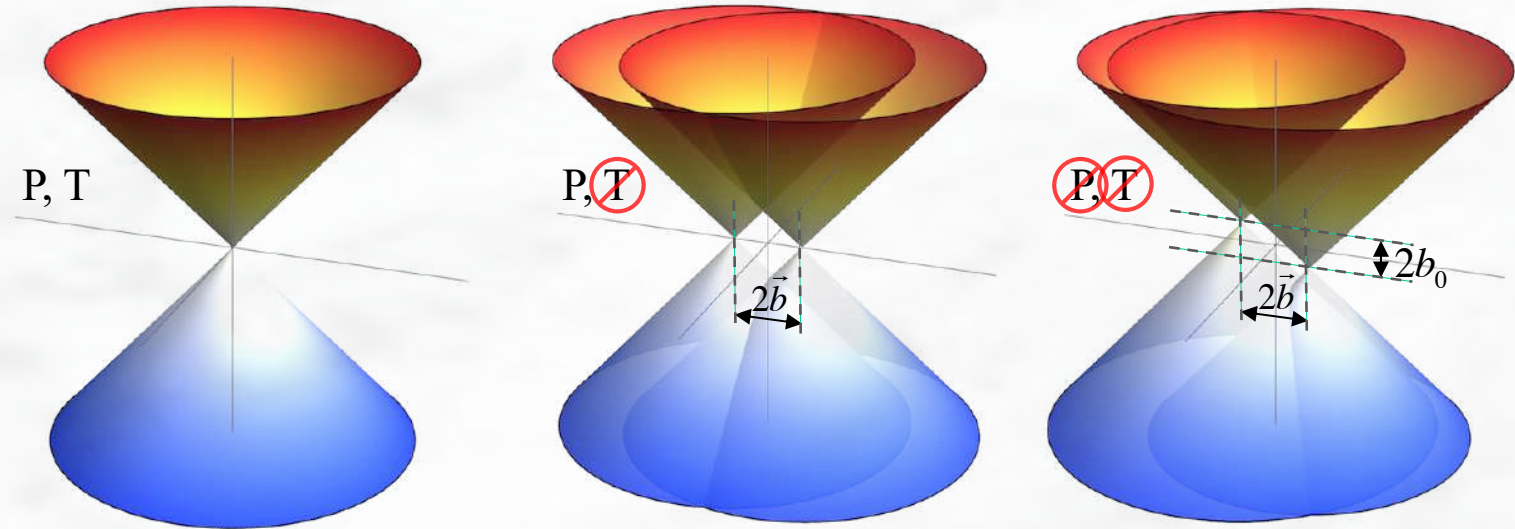




Image credit: Ryan Allen and Peter Allen, Second Bay Studios

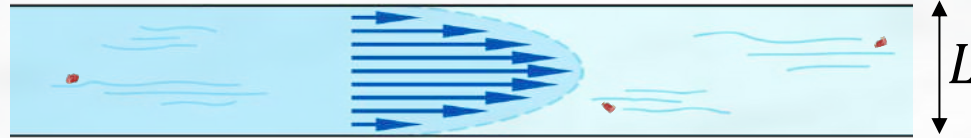
# ELECTRON HYDRODYNAMICS

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

Ballistic:

$$l_p \gg l_{ee} \gg L$$

$$R \sim L^{-1}$$



Hydro:

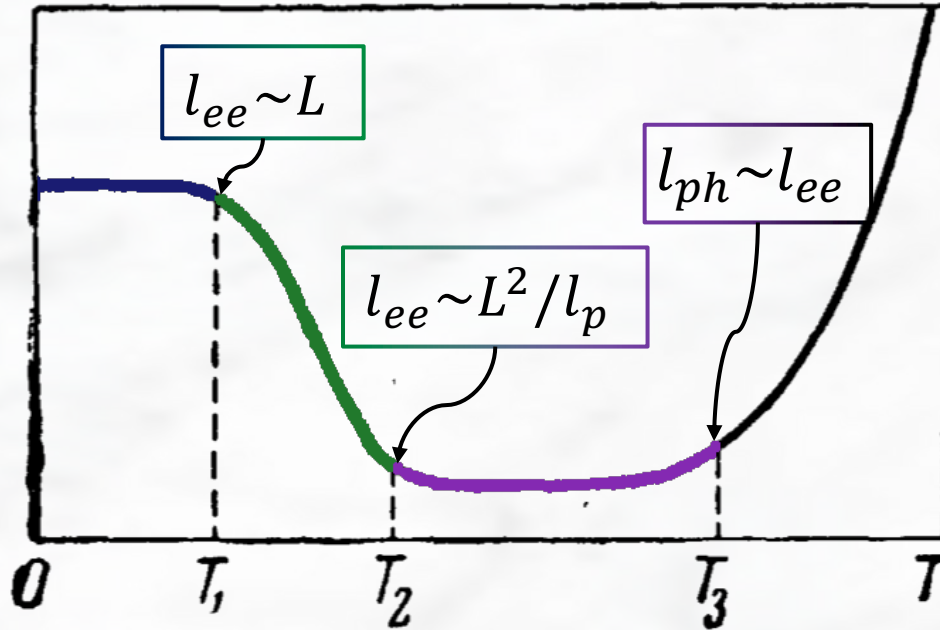
$$l_{ee} \ll L \ll l_p$$

$$R \sim l_{ee}/L^2 \sim T^{-5} L^{-2}$$

Hydro + impurities:

$$l_p \ll L^2/l_{ee}$$

$$R \sim l_p$$

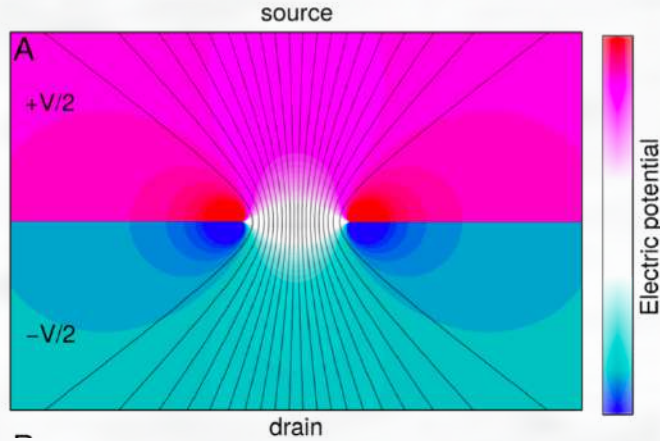


Ohmic ( $l_{ph} \ll l_p$ ):  $R \sim T^5$

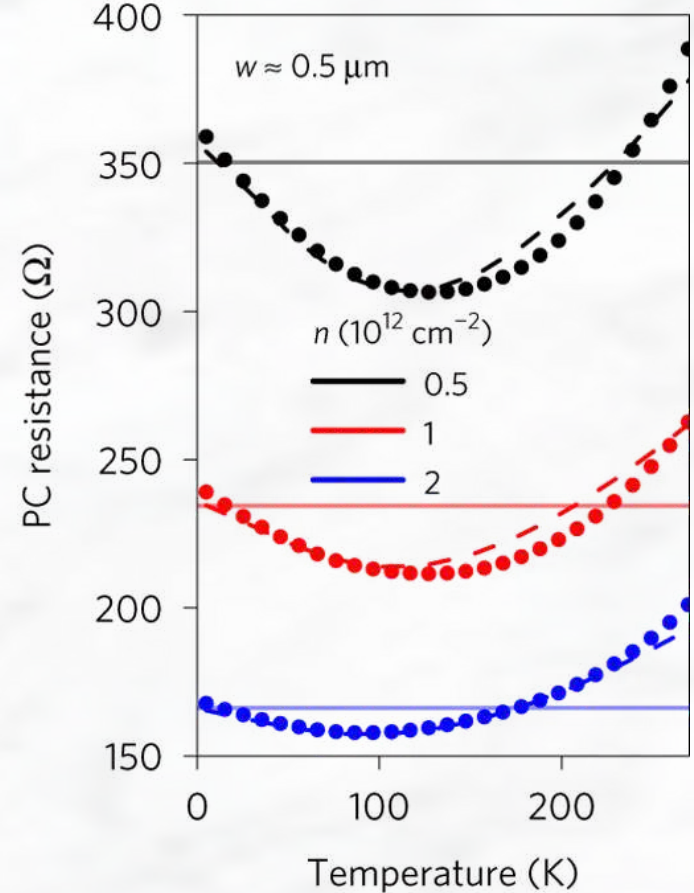
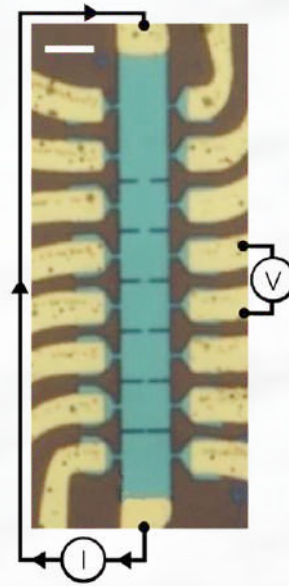


# Higher than ballistic transport

[Guo et al., PNAS USA **114**, 3068 (2017)]



[Kumar et al., Nat. Phys. **13**, 1182 (2017)]



## Other Signatures:

- **Negative nonlocal resistance**

[Torre et al., Phys. Rev. B **92**, 165433 (2015)]

[Bandurin et al., Science **351**, 1055 (2016)]

[Pellegrino et al., Phys. Rev. B **94**, 155414 (2016)]

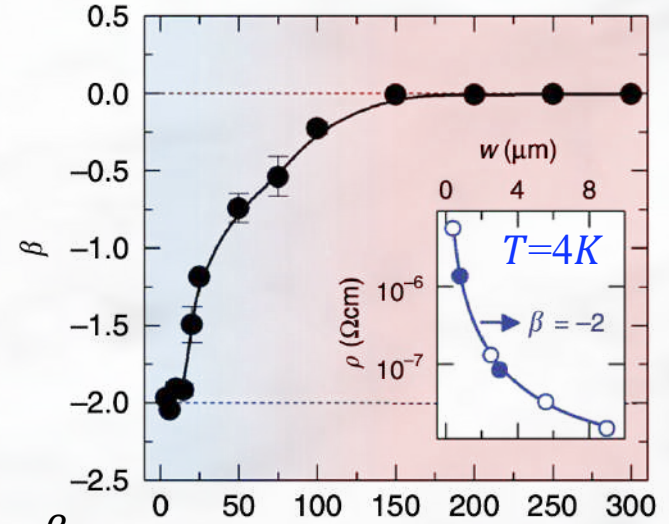
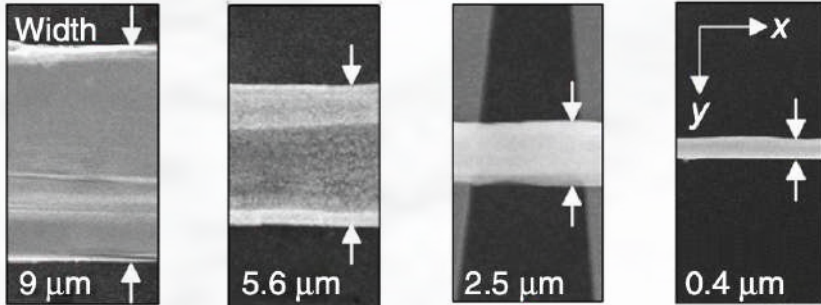
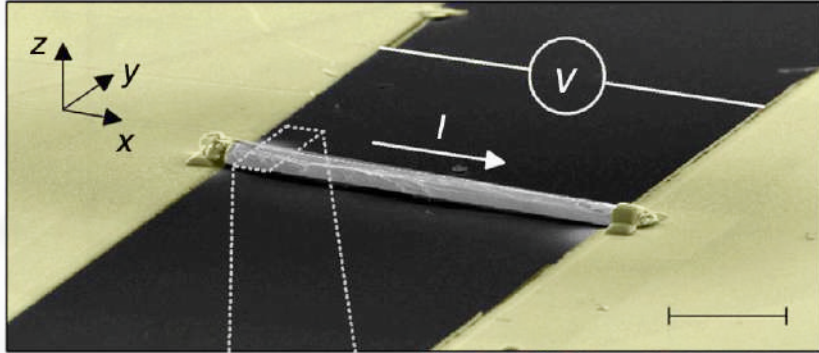
[Levitov & Falkovich, Nat. Phys. **12**, 672 (2016)]

- **Visualization of the Poiseuille flow**

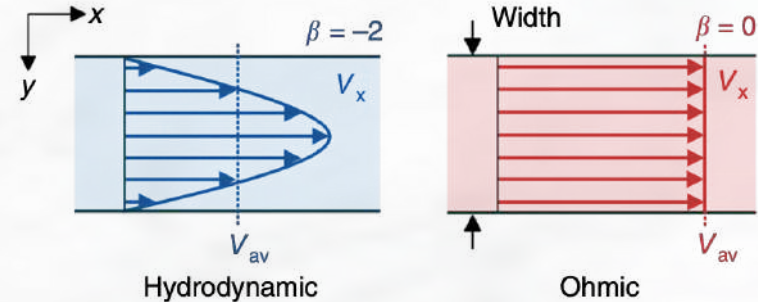
[Sulpizio et al., Nature **576**, 75 (2019)]

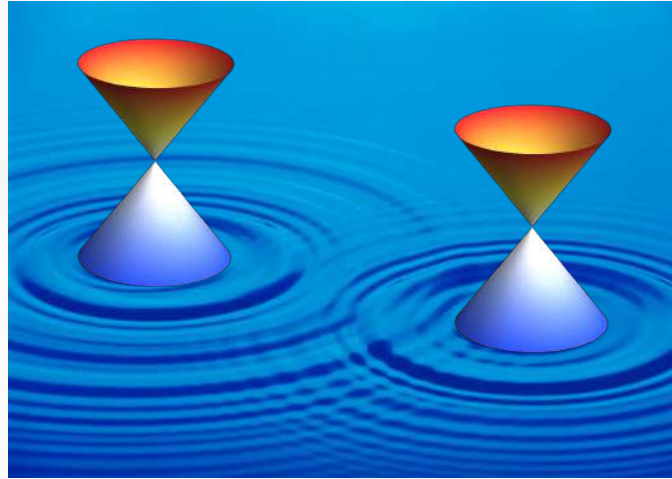
# Hydrodynamics in Weyl semimetals

Weyl semimetals  $WP_2$  &  $WTe_2$  [Gooth et al., Nat. Comm. 9, 4093 (2018); Vool, et al., arXiv:2009.04477]



$$\rho = \rho_0 + \rho_1 w^\beta$$





# RELATIVISTIC-LIKE ELECTRON HYDRODYNAMICS

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



- Evolution of conserved quantities:

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

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

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

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

⊕ Maxwell equations

Note:

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

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

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

$$w = \varepsilon + P$$

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

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

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

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

- 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

$$\sigma_\omega = \frac{\mu\mu_5}{\pi^2\hbar^2}, \quad \sigma_B = \frac{e\mu_5}{2\pi^2\hbar^2}$$

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

- The Euler equation from CKT:

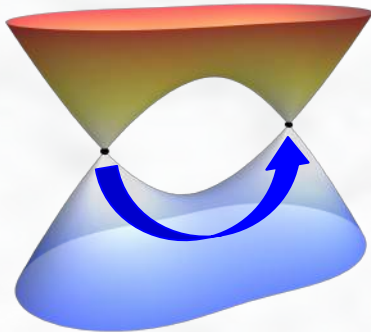
$$\frac{1}{v_F} \partial_t \left( \frac{\epsilon + P}{v_F} \mathbf{u} + \sigma^{(\epsilon, B)} \mathbf{B} \right) = -en \left( \mathbf{E} + \frac{1}{c} [\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B}] \right) + \frac{\sigma^{(B)} (\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B})}{3v_F^2} \mathbf{u} - \frac{\epsilon + P}{\tau v_F^2} \mathbf{u} + O(\nabla_r)$$

- The energy conservation from CKT

$$\partial_t \epsilon = -\mathbf{E} \cdot (en\mathbf{u} - \sigma^{(B)} \mathbf{B}) + O(\nabla_r)$$

## ⊕ Maxwell equations

- One must include topological Chern-Simons currents and densities,



$$\rho_{CS} = -\frac{e^3 (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{B})}{2\pi^2 \hbar^2 c^2}$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{CS} = -\frac{e^3 b_0 \mathbf{B}}{2\pi^2 \hbar^2 c} + \frac{e^3 [\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{E}]}{2\pi^2 \hbar^2 c}$$

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





# ANOMALOUS HYDRO MODES

[Sukhachov, Gorbar, Shovkovy, Miransky, J. Phys. Cond. Matt. **30**, 275601 (2018)]

- Local values of  $\delta\mu$ ,  $\delta\mu_5$ ,  $\delta T$ ,  $\delta\vec{u}$ , etc. oscillate
- Seek solutions of linearized equations as plane waves,

$$\delta\mu = \delta\mu_0 \exp(-i\omega t + i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}), \text{ etc.}$$

- Account for all constitutive relations, e.g.,

$$\delta\rho = -e\delta n + \text{anomalous terms}$$

$$\delta\rho_5 = -e\delta n_5 + \text{anomalous terms}$$

$$\delta\mathbf{J} = -en_0\delta\mathbf{u} + \text{anomalous terms}$$

$$\delta\mathbf{J}_5 = -en_{5,0}\delta\mathbf{u} + \text{anomalous terms}$$

# Rich spectrum of hydro modes

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

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

$n$  continuity equation

$$\frac{T^2 \omega}{3v_F^3 \hbar} \delta\mu + \frac{eB_0 k_{\parallel}}{2\pi^2 c} \delta\mu_5 = 0$$

$$\varepsilon_e \omega \delta E_{\parallel} + i \frac{2e^2}{\pi c \hbar^2} (B_0 \delta\mu_5 + e b_{\perp} \delta \tilde{E}_{\perp}) = 0$$

$n_5$  continuity equation

$$\frac{eB_0 k_{\parallel}}{2\pi^2 c} \delta\mu + \frac{T^2 \omega}{3v_F^3 \hbar} \delta\mu_5 - i \frac{e^2 B_0}{2\pi^2 c} \delta E_{\parallel} = 0$$

$$\left( \omega^2 - \frac{c^2 k_{\parallel}^2}{\varepsilon_e \mu_m} \right) \delta \tilde{E}_{\perp} - i \frac{2e^3 \omega b_{\perp}}{\pi c \varepsilon_e \hbar^2} \delta E_{\parallel} = 0$$

Maxwell's equations

$$\delta \tilde{E}_{\perp} \parallel [\mathbf{B}_0 \times \mathbf{b}]$$

[Sukhachov, Gorbar, Shovkovy, Miransky, J. Phys. Cond. Matt. **30**, 275601 (2018)]



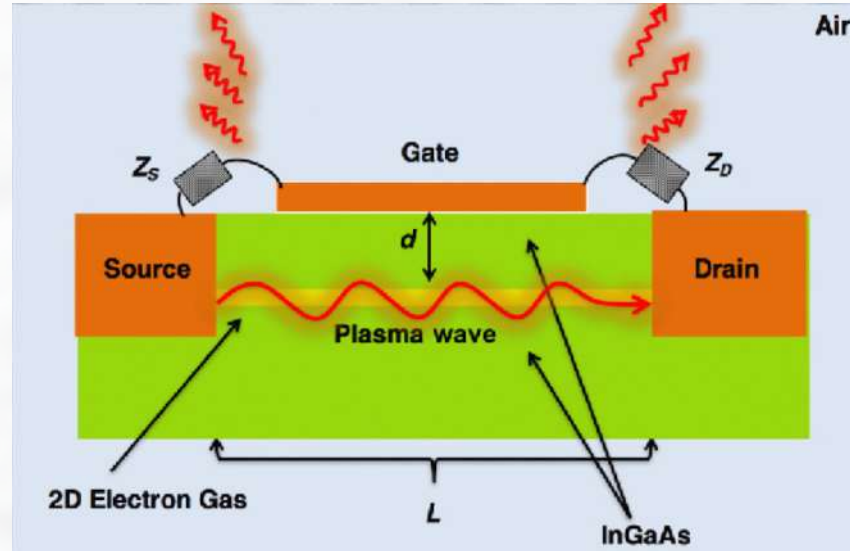


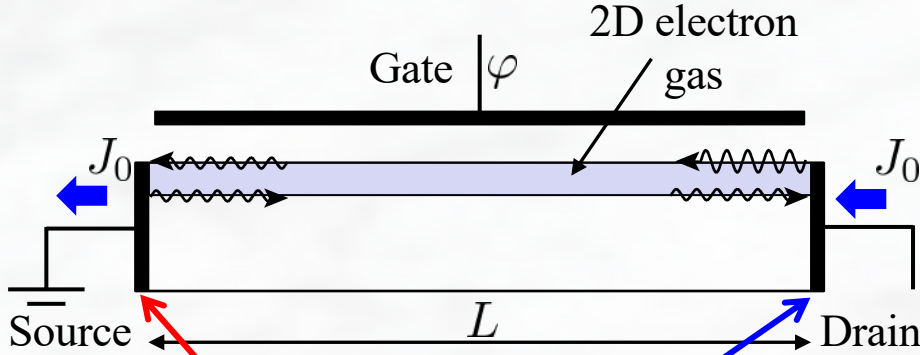
Image credit: Nafari, Aizin, Jornet, Phys. Rev. Applied **10**, 064025 (2018)

# ENTROPY WAVE INSTABILITY

[Sukhachov, Gorbar, Shovkovy, Phys. Rev. Lett. **127**, 176602 (2021)]

# Dyakonov-Shur instability

[Dyakonov, Shur, Phys. Rev. Lett. 71, 2465 (1993)]



Zero impedance

Infinite impedance

$$\delta\varphi(x=0) = 0$$

$$\delta J(x=L) = 0$$

$$\text{Re}[\omega] = \frac{|v_p^2 - u_0^2|}{v_p} \frac{\pi l}{2L}$$

$$\text{Im}[\omega] = \frac{v_p^2 - u_0^2}{2Lv_p} \ln \left| \frac{v_p + u_0}{v_p - u_0} \right|$$

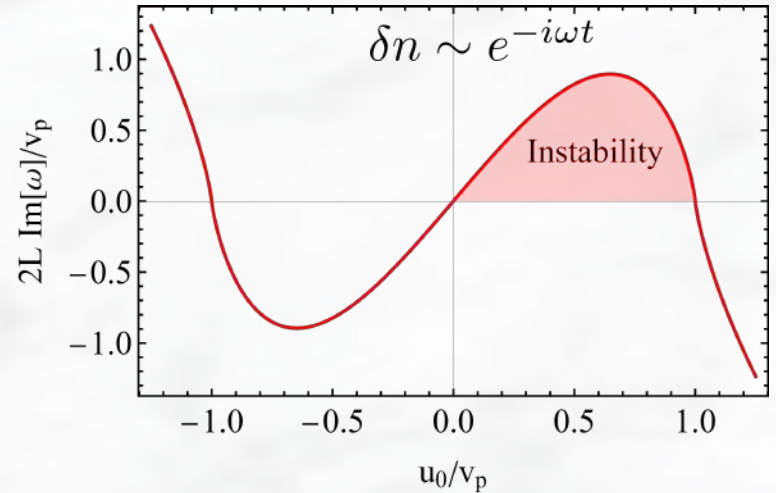
$$J_0 = -enu_0$$

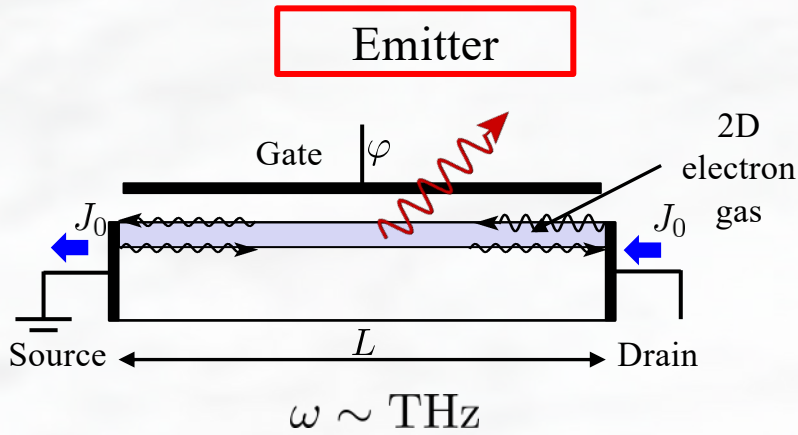
$$\partial_t u + u \partial_x u = -\frac{e}{m} \partial_x \varphi$$

$$\partial_t \varphi + \partial_x(\varphi u) = 0$$

Gradual channel approximation:

$$n \propto \varphi$$





Experimental observation:

~~✗~~ Emission

✓ Detection

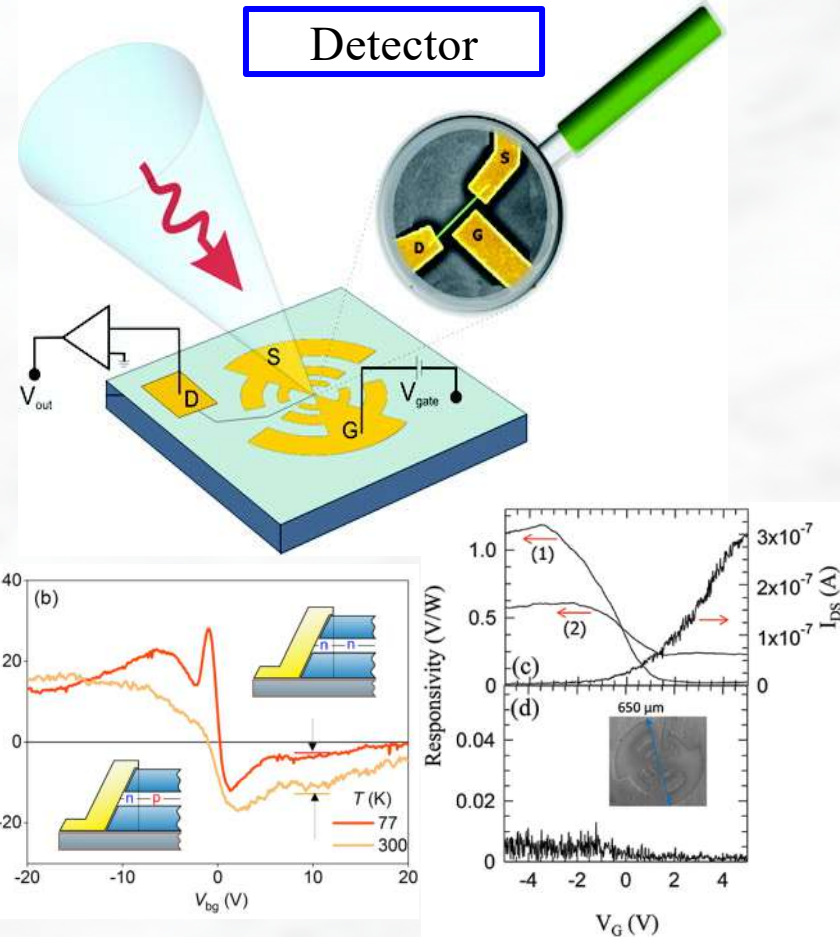
[Tauk, et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. **89**, 253511 (2006)]

[Vitiello, et al., Nano Lett. **12**, 96 (2012)]

[Vicarelli, et al., Nat. Mater. **11**, 865 (2012)]

[Giliberti, et al., Phys. Rev. B **91**, 165313 (2015)]

[Bandurin, et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. **112**, 141101 (2018)]



[Vitiello, et al., Nano Lett. **12**, 96 (2012)]



- System of equations

$$\frac{1}{v_F^2} [\partial_t + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)] (\mathbf{u}w) + \frac{1}{v_F^2} w\mathbf{u}(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) = -\nabla P + en\nabla\varphi + \eta\Delta\mathbf{u} + \frac{\eta}{d}\nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) - \frac{w\mathbf{u}}{v_F^2\tau},$$

$$-e\partial_t n + (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}) = 0,$$

$$\partial_t \epsilon + (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}^\epsilon) = (\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{J}),$$

$$\Delta\varphi = 4\pi e(n - n_0).$$

- Collective modes in an infinite system:

$$\text{3D: } \omega_{\pm} \approx \pm \sqrt{\omega_p^2 + v_s^2 k_x^2} + \frac{2}{3} u_0 k_x, \quad \leftarrow \text{Plasmons}$$

$$\text{2D: } \omega_{\pm} \approx \pm v_p k_x + \frac{1}{2} u_0 k_x, \quad \leftarrow \text{Plasmons}$$

$$\text{2D and 3D: } \omega_e \approx u_0 k_x. \quad \leftarrow \text{Entropy wave}$$

where  $v_s = v_F/\sqrt{d}$  and  $\omega_p^2 = 4\pi e^2 n_0^2 v_F^2 / w_0$

- Boundary conditions ( $\sim$  Dyakonov-Shur BC):

$$n_1(x=0) = 0,$$

$$J_x(x=L) \equiv n_0 u_1(x=L) + u_0 n_1(x=L) = 0,$$

$$T_1(x=0) = 0.$$

- Frequencies of the collective modes:

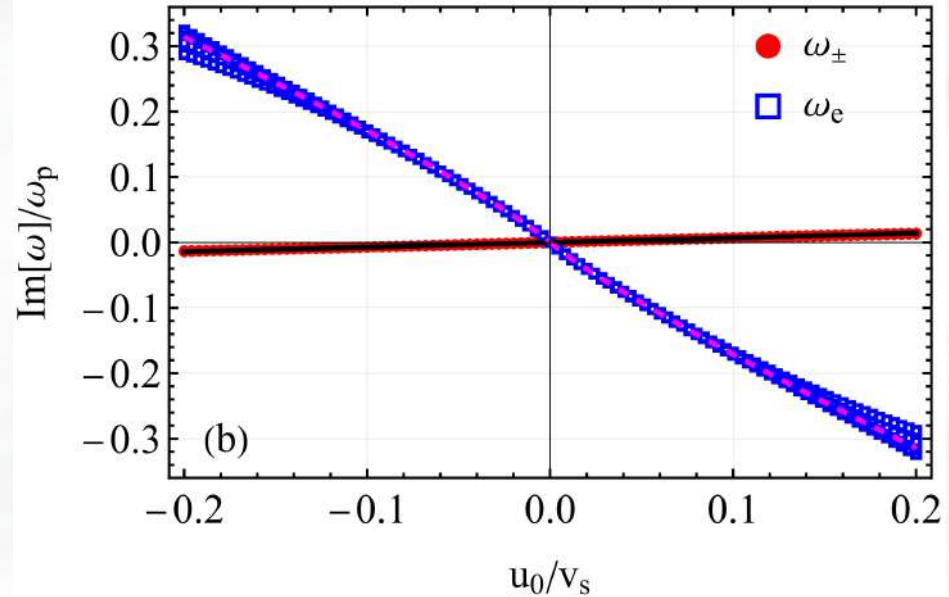
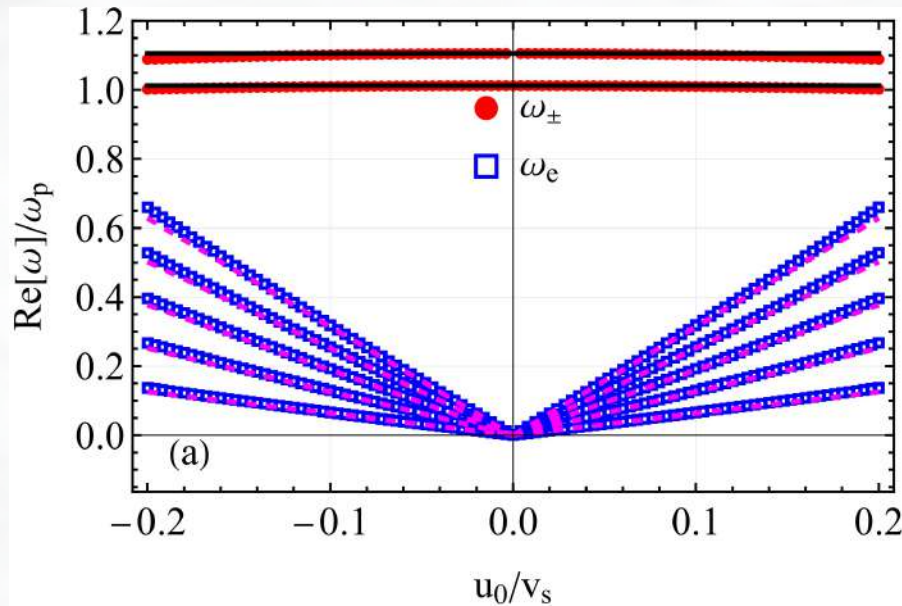
$$\omega_{\pm}^{3D} \approx \pm \sqrt{\omega_p^2 + \left[ v_s \frac{\pi}{L} \left( l + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right]^2} + i \frac{2u_0}{3L} (3 - 2\Lambda_p^2) \quad \leftarrow \text{Plasmon instability}$$

$$\omega_e^{3D} \approx \frac{2\pi l}{L} u_0 - i \frac{u_0 \omega_p}{v_s} - i \frac{u_0}{L} \ln \left[ \frac{3}{8} \frac{v_s^2}{u_0^2 (1 - \Lambda_p^2)} \right] \quad \leftarrow \text{Entropy wave instability}$$

$$l = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

$$\Lambda_p = \omega_p / (v_s q_{\text{TF}}) < 1, \quad \lim_{T \rightarrow 0} \Lambda_p = 1.$$

# Instability in 3D (numerical)



- Plasmon modes:  $\text{Re}(\omega_{DS}) \simeq \omega_P$
- Entropy waves:  $\text{Re}(\omega_{EW}) \propto u_0$

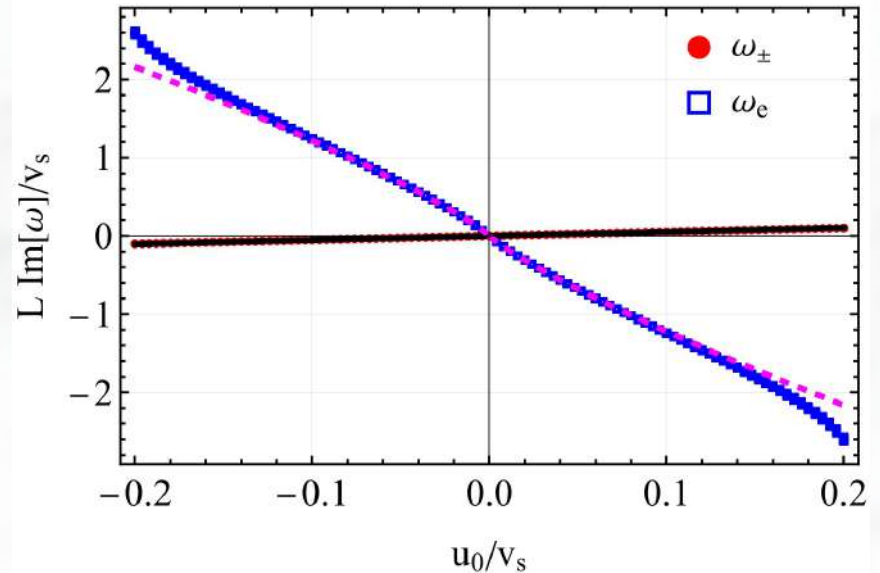
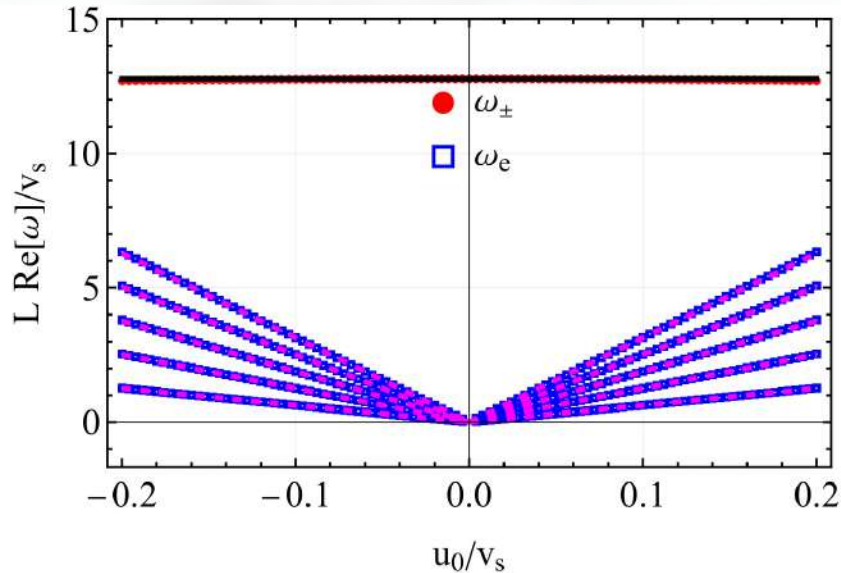
- $\text{Im}(\omega_{EW}) \gg \text{Im}(\omega_{DS})$
- DSI and EWI occur for opposite  $\text{sign}(u_0)$



# Instability in 2D (numerical)

[Tomadin, Polini, Phys. Rev. B **88**, 205426 (2013);  
 Svintsov, et al., Phys. Rev. B **88**, 245444 (2013);  
 Koseki, et al., Phys. Rev. B **93**, 245408 (2016)]

$$\omega_{\pm}^{2D} \approx \pm v_p \frac{\pi}{L} \left( l + \frac{1}{2} \right) + i \frac{u_0}{2L} (4 - 3\Lambda_p^2)$$



$$\omega_e^{2D} \approx \frac{2\pi l}{L} u_0 - i \frac{u_0}{L} \ln \left[ \frac{2}{3} \frac{v_p^2}{u_0^2 (1 - \Lambda_p^2)} \right]$$

- Electron hydrodynamics in Dirac/Weyl semimetals is chiral (if realized)
- Chern-Simon currents/densities appear and play role  
[Gorbar, Miransky, Shovkovy, Sukhachov, Phys. Rev. B **97**, 121105(R) (2018)]
- New anomalous hydrodynamic modes are expected  
[Sukhachov, Gorbar, Shovkovy, Miransky, J. Phys. Cond. Matt. **30**, 275601 (2018)]
- Convection is impossible due to strong Coulomb effects (3D) and impurities (2D)  
[Sukhachov, Gorbar, Shovkovy, Phys. Rev. B **104**, 121113 (2021)]
- Entropy wave instability can develop (signature of relativistic-like nature)  
[Sukhachov, Gorbar, Shovkovy, Phys. Rev. Lett. **127**, 176602 (2021)]