Self-consistent screening in graphene

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NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE SINGAPORE

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Showing NUS physicists and collaborators... (not shown: chemists, engineers, people at NTU etc.)

Theory colleagues



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Research Group



Postdoctoral Research Fellows



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The perfect 2DEG



Graphene is all surface and no bulk



Figure from G. Rutter

"God made the bulk; surfaces were invented by the devil" – Wolfgang Pauli

Delicate interplay between disorder, interactions and quantum effects

Most experiments are in the regime, where all these effects are relevant, but not dominant! E^{\uparrow}



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Semi-classical picture





Figure from M. Wayne

Map to classical percolation



Disorder



Unlike conventional 2DEGs, graphene remains metallic even for strong disorder



M. Isichenko, Rev. Mod. Phys. (1992)

Dirac materials: interaction strength and density tuned independently



C. Juang, S. Adam, J-H. Chen, E. D. Williams, S. Das Sarma, and M. S. Fuhrer, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **101**, 146805 (2008).



Fermi liquid away from DP



Weak Interactions = Screening



$$\varepsilon(q) = 1 + \frac{2\pi e^2}{\kappa q} \Pi(q)$$

Screening is "metallic" on distances larger than the Fermi wavelength
Screening is like a dielectric "insulator" on shorter distances
Long-range nature of coulomb tail can not be screened

What about the Dirac point?



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Divergent Fermi velocity





V. Kotov, B. Uchoa, V. Pereira, A. H. Castro Neto and F. Guinea, *Rev. Mod. Phys.* (2012)



G(k+q)

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V(q)

 $\varepsilon(q)$

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No consistent picture at DP



1. Renormalization Group [e.g. Sachdev (1998) / Guinea (1997)]



2. Diagrammatic perturbation approaches [e.g. Das Sarma et al. (2007)]

"marginal Fermi liquid"

Hubbard model on a honeycomb lattice (semi-metal to AFM Mott transition occurs at interaction strengths outside the experimental window) e.g. Sorella, Assaad, Katsnelson (2012-2014).
 "qualitatively similar to a Fermi liquid"



4. Lattice Monte Carlo applied to Dirac fermions with momentum cut-off e.g. Drut and Lahde (2009-2014). "chiral symmetry breaking insulating state for suspended graphene"

Perfect transmission





Universal ballistic σ_{min}





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Scaling theory of localization



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No Anderson localization Yale



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Example of Thomas-Fermi screening:

$$V_{screened} = \frac{V_{bare}}{\varepsilon[q]}$$

Interactions + Disorder



$$V_{screened} = \frac{V_{bare}}{\varepsilon[q]}$$

Regular 2DEG:
$$\epsilon(q) = 1 + \frac{2e^2}{\hbar^2} \frac{m_e}{q}$$



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Dirac electrons:
$$\epsilon(q) = 1 + \frac{e^2}{\hbar v_F} \frac{\sqrt{\pi n}}{q}$$





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$$v_{\rm F} \xrightarrow{2{\rm DEG}} \frac{\hbar\sqrt{\pi n}}{2m}$$





$$V_{screened} = \frac{V_{bare}}{\varepsilon[q]}$$

Regular 2DEG:
$$\epsilon(q) = 1 + \frac{2e^2}{\hbar^2} \frac{m_e}{q}$$

Dirac electrons:
$$\epsilon(q) = 1 + \frac{e^2}{\hbar v_F} \frac{\sqrt{\pi n}}{q}$$

Inhomogeneous Dirac:
$$\epsilon(q) = 1 + \frac{e^2}{\hbar v_{\rm F}} \frac{\sqrt{\pi n_{\rm rms}}}{\sqrt{3}q}$$







What is n_{rms}(n_{imp})?





Statistical properties of density fluctuations and the Dirac point

Any physical observable could then be calculated

250 nm x 250 nm

1. Histogram of the carrier density (distribution function):

2. Screened potential correlation function:



What is n_{rms}(n_{imp})?





Statistical properties of density fluctuations and the Dirac point

Any physical observable could then be calculated

Calculate dimensionless quantity:

$$\frac{n_{rms}}{n_{imp}} = ?$$

250 nm x 250 nm

1. Histogram of the carrier density (distribution function):

2. Screened potential correlation function:





$$\varepsilon(q) = \text{const} \quad (\text{dielectric})$$

$$\varepsilon(q) = 1 + \frac{q_{\text{TF}}}{q} \quad (\text{metal})$$

$$\varepsilon(q, k_F, r_s) = \begin{cases} 1 + \frac{r_s \pi}{2}; \quad q << 2k_F \\ 1 + \frac{4k_F r_s}{q}; \quad q >> 2k_F \end{cases} \quad (\text{Dirac})$$





 $\varepsilon(q, r_s, P[n]) \rightarrow \varepsilon(q, r_s, \langle n^2 \rangle, \langle n^3 \rangle, ...)$





 $\varepsilon(q, r_s, P[n]) \rightarrow \varepsilon(q, r_s, \langle n^2 \rangle, \langle n^2 \rangle,$





 $\mathcal{E}(q, r_s, P[n]) \approx \mathcal{E}(q, r_s, \langle n^2 \rangle)$



	$\phi_{scr}(q) \approx \frac{\phi_{bare}(q)}{\varepsilon(q, r_s, n_{rms})}$
$\frac{n_{rms}}{n_{imp}} =$	$2r_s^2 C_0[r_s, d\sqrt{n_{rms}}]$

S. Adam, E. H. Hwang, V. M. Galitski and S. Das Sarma *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA* **104**, 18392 (2007).



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Local screening vs. global screening





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E. Rossi, S. Adam and S. Das Sarma, PRB **79**, 245423 (2009)

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S. Adam, E. H. Hwang, V. Galitski, S. Das Sarma, Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA **104**, 18392 (2007).



Numerical verification





Puddle Formation





Agreement with experiments [1]





Agreement with experiments [1]



