

# Magnetic transport: from Heisenberg to Kitaev chains

Wolfram Brenig

Rev. Lett. 112, 120601 (2014)  
Phys. Rev. B 91, 104404 (2015)  
arXiv:1503.03871



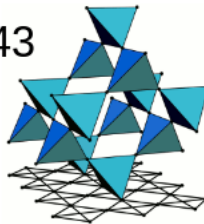
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TUBS → UOS



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UOS

Thanks to: X. Zotos UoC, J. Herbrych UoC, C. Karrasch UCB, F. Heidrich-Meisner LMU

SFB 1143



## Transport what

• spin

$$S_m^\alpha$$

spin current

$$j_{\text{Spin}} \sim \sum_{lm} J_{lm} \vec{S}_l \times \vec{S}_m$$

• energy

$$E_m \sim \sum_{n, \alpha\beta} J_{mn}^{\alpha\beta} S_m^\alpha S_n^\beta$$

energy current

$$j_{\text{Energy}} \sim \sum_{lmn} J_{lm} J_{mn} \vec{S}_l \cdot (\vec{S}_m \times \vec{S}_n)$$

( magnetothermal

$$j = j_{\text{Energy}} - \hbar \cdot j_{\text{Spin}} )$$

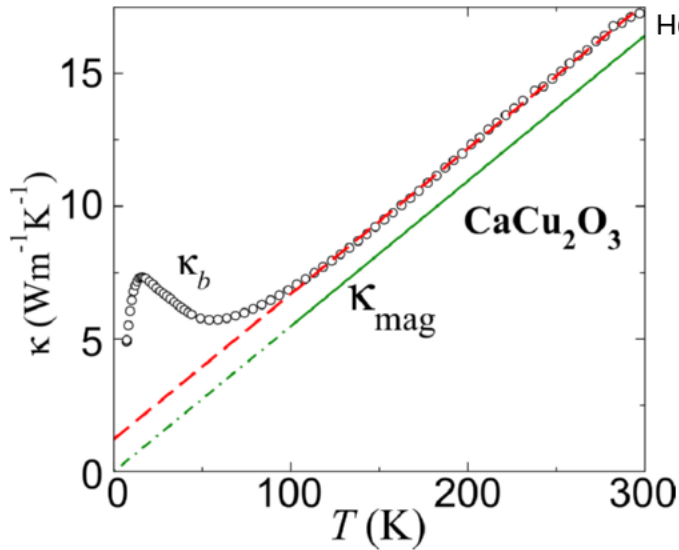
## Transport why

• Energy / heat conductivity: kinetic approach

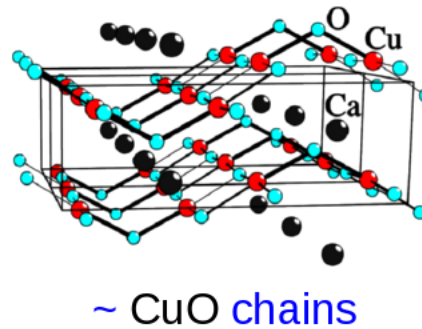
$$\kappa_{\text{mag}} \sim C_{\text{mag}} V_{\text{QP}} l_{\text{mag}}$$

elementary excitations
scattering

# Elementary Excitations in Heat Transport

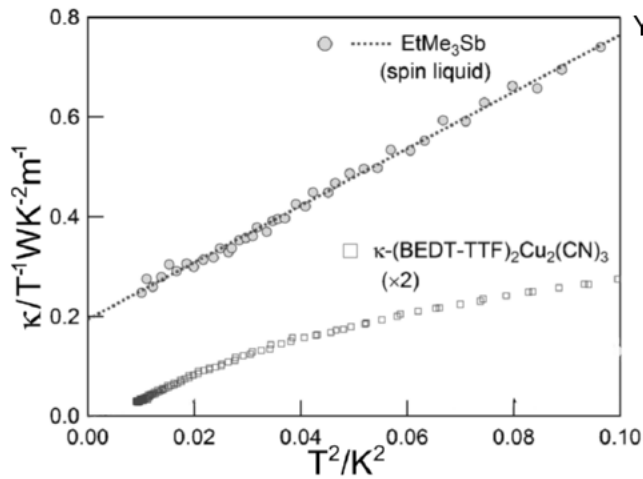


Hess, Büchner, WB, et al., PRL 98, 027201 (07)

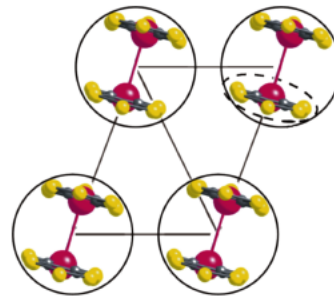


$$\kappa_{\text{mag}} \sim T$$

spinons



Yamashita, Nakata, Kasahara, et al., Nature Phys. 5, 44 (09)



U(1)-liquid, spinons:  $\sim T^{3/2}$   
+ impurities:  $\sim T$

Nave, Lee, PRB 76, 235124 (07)

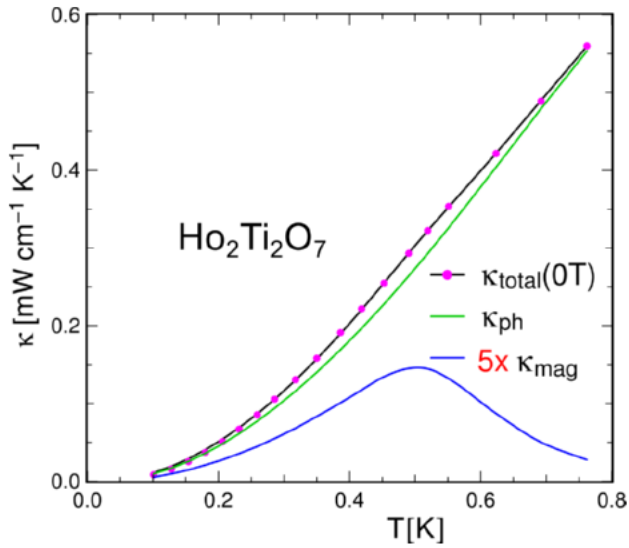
nodal- $Z_2$  d-wave, spinons:  $\sim T$

Grover, Trivedi, Senthil, et al.  
PRB 81, 245121 (10)

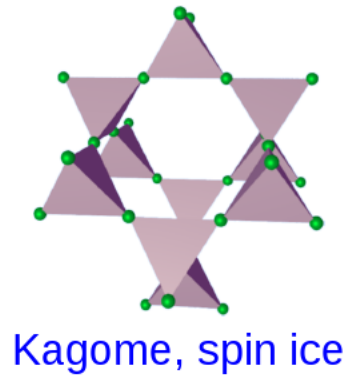
$Z_2$ -liquid, visons:  $\sim e^{-\Delta/T}$

Qi, Xu, Sachdev, PRL 102, 176401 (09)

# Elementary Excitations in Heat Transport



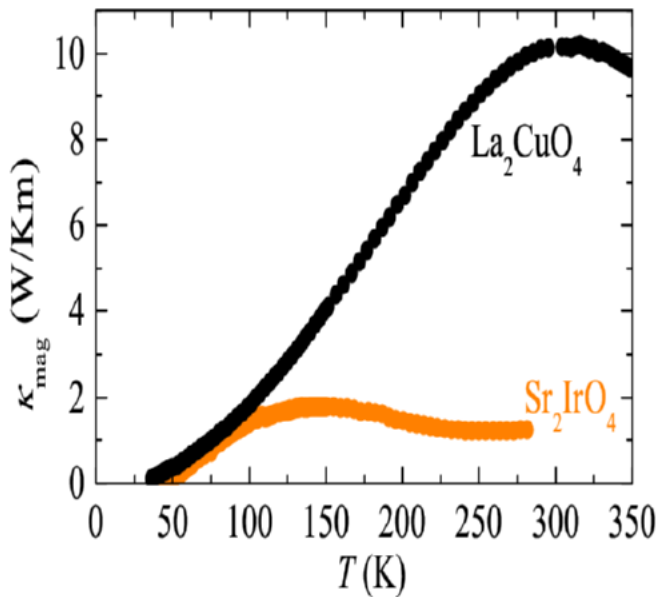
Kolland, Breunig, Valldor, et al. PRB 86, 060402(R) (12)  
 Toews, Zhang, Ross, et al., PRL 110, 217209 (13)



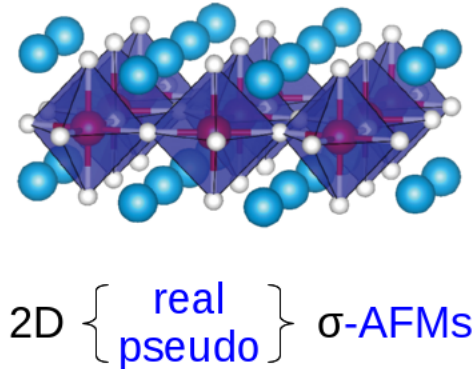
$$\kappa_{\text{mag}} \sim T^2 / [c_1 + c_2 e^{-\Delta/T}]$$

gap

monopoles



Hess, et al. PRL 90, 197002 (2003),  
 Steckel, Tagaki, Hess, et al., arXiv:1507.04252



$$\kappa_{\text{mag}} \sim T^2$$

magnons

# Beyond Kinetic Approaches

## correlation functions

$$C_{S|E}(t) = \text{Re} \langle j_{S|E}(t) j_{S|E} \rangle$$

## Drude weight & regular conductivity

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{S|E}(\omega) &= \beta^{1/2} \int_0^\infty dt C_{S|E}(t) e^{i\omega t} \\ &= \beta^{1/2} \bar{C}_{S|E} \delta(\omega) + \kappa_{S|E}(\omega) \end{aligned}$$

## $\bar{C}_{S|E}$ finite $\rightarrow$ perfect conductor

$$H = J \sum_l (S_l^x S_{l+1}^x + S_l^y S_{l+1}^y + \Delta S_l^z S_{l+1}^z)$$

$$[H, j_E] = 0$$

XXZ: infinite heat conductivity

## Tools

ED:  $tJ$  arbitrary, but  $N \sim 20$

tDMRG:  $N \sim 200$  but  $tJ \lesssim 15$

Quantum Typicality:  $tJ$  arbitrary &  $N \sim 36\dots$

(... QMC, TMRG, perturbation theory)

$$\bar{C}_{S|E} \geq \frac{\sum_{Q_{\text{cons}}} \langle j_{S|E} Q_{\text{cons}} \rangle^2}{\langle Q_{\text{cons}}^2 \rangle}$$

Mazur, Physica 43, 533 (69)

but spin Drude weight nontrivial



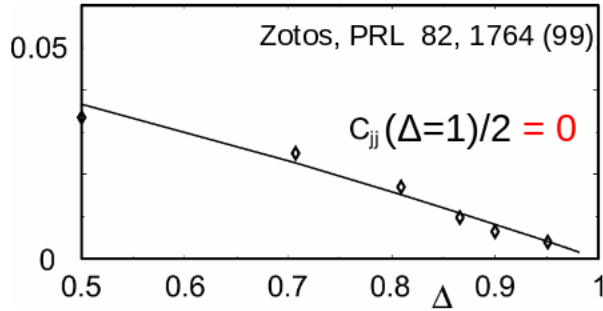
# Spin Drude Weight

- Bethe A  $T=0$  ✓

Shastry, Sutherland, PRL 65, 243 (90)

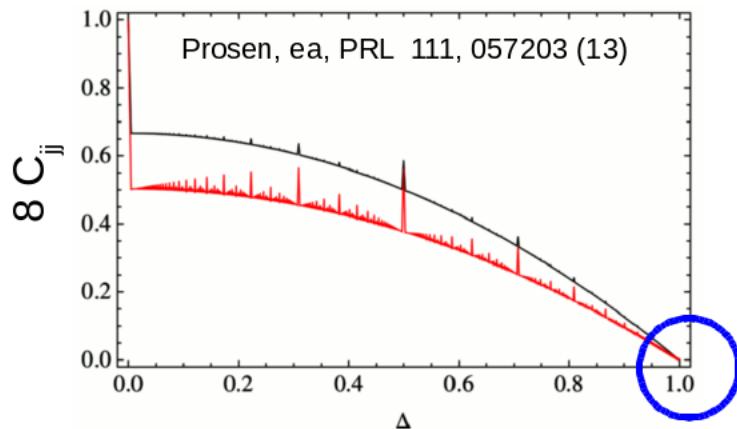


# High-T Spin Drude Weight



Benz, ea, JPSJ 74, 181 (05)

$$C_{jj} = \frac{\Delta^2 + 2}{32} \neq 0$$



- Bethe A  $T=0$  ✓  
 $\Delta=1$   $T \neq 0$  ✗
- NEES bounds
- ED
- QMC
- tDMRG
- Master eqn
- Bosonization

$C_{jj}(\Delta=1) = \text{zero / non-zero} \sim 50 / 50$

Shastry, Sutherland, PRL 65, 243 (90)  
Zotos, PRL 82, 1764 (99)  
Benz, ea, JPSJ 74, 181 (05)

Prosen, PRL 106, 217206 (11)  
Prosen, ea, PRL 111, 057203 (13)  
Carmelo, ea, arXiv:1407.0732 (14)

Narozhny, ea, PRB 58, 2921R (98)  
Fabricius, ea, PRB 57, 8340 (98)  
Heidrich-Meisner, WB, ea, PRB 68, 134436 (03)  
Heidrich-Meisner, WB, et al. EPJ 151, 135 (07)  
Steinigeweg, ea, PRB 80, 184402 (09)  
Herbrych, ea, PRB 84, 155125 (11)  
Steinigeweg, WB, PRL 107, 250602 (11)  
Steinigeweg, ea, PRE 87, 012118 (13)

Alvarez, ea, PRL 88, 077203 (02)  
Heidarian, ea, PRB 75, 241104R (07)  
Grossjohann, WB, PRB 81, 012404 (10)

Langer, ea, PRB 79, 214409 (09)  
Prosen, ea, JSM (09), P02035.  
Jesenko, ea, PRB 84, 174438 (11)  
Karrasch, ea, PRL 108, 227206 (12)  
Karrasch, ea, PRB 87, 245128 (13)  
Huang, ea, PRB 88, 115126 (13)  
Karrasch, ea, PRB 88, 195129 (13)  
Karrasch, ea, PRB 89, 075139 (14)  
Karrasch, ea, PRB 90, 155104 (14)

Bonfim, ea, PRL 69, 367 (92); PRL 70, 249 (93)  
Znidaric, PRL 106, 220601 (11)

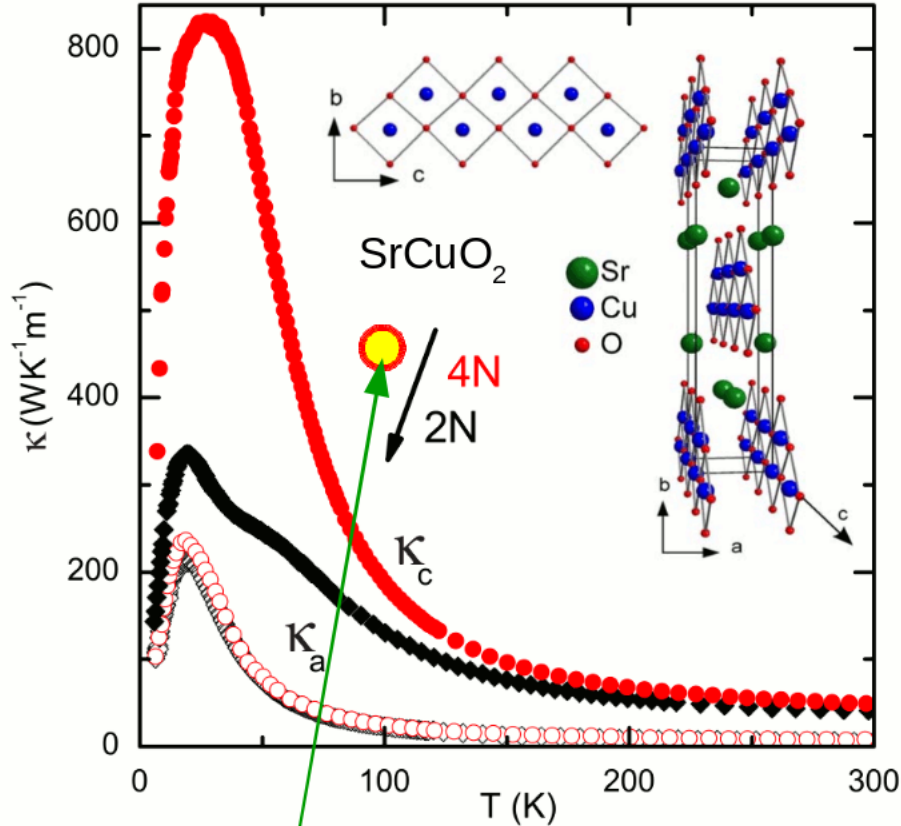
Sirker, ea, PRL 103, 216602 (09)  
Sirker, ea, PRB 83, 035115 (11)

incomplete: ~ X3



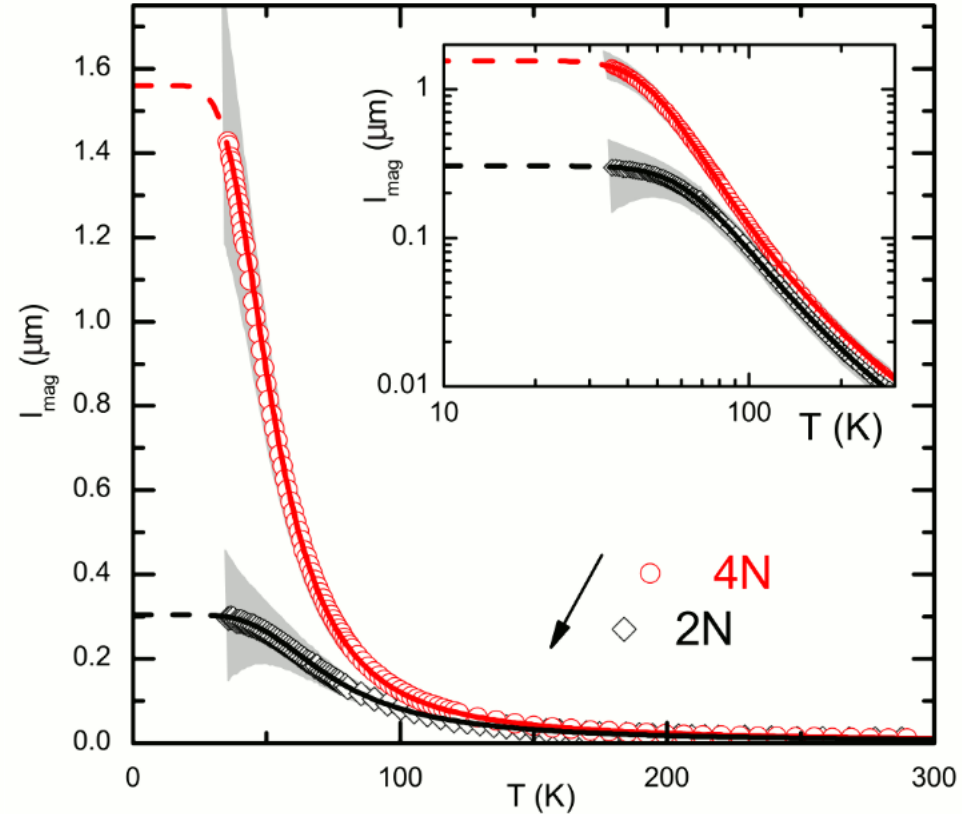
# Heat Transport in Heisenberg Chains: Large Mean Free Paths

N. Hlubek, C. Hess, et al. PRB **81**, 020405R (2010)



~simple metals:  
Cu, Ag @ 100K

Purely magnetic mean free path

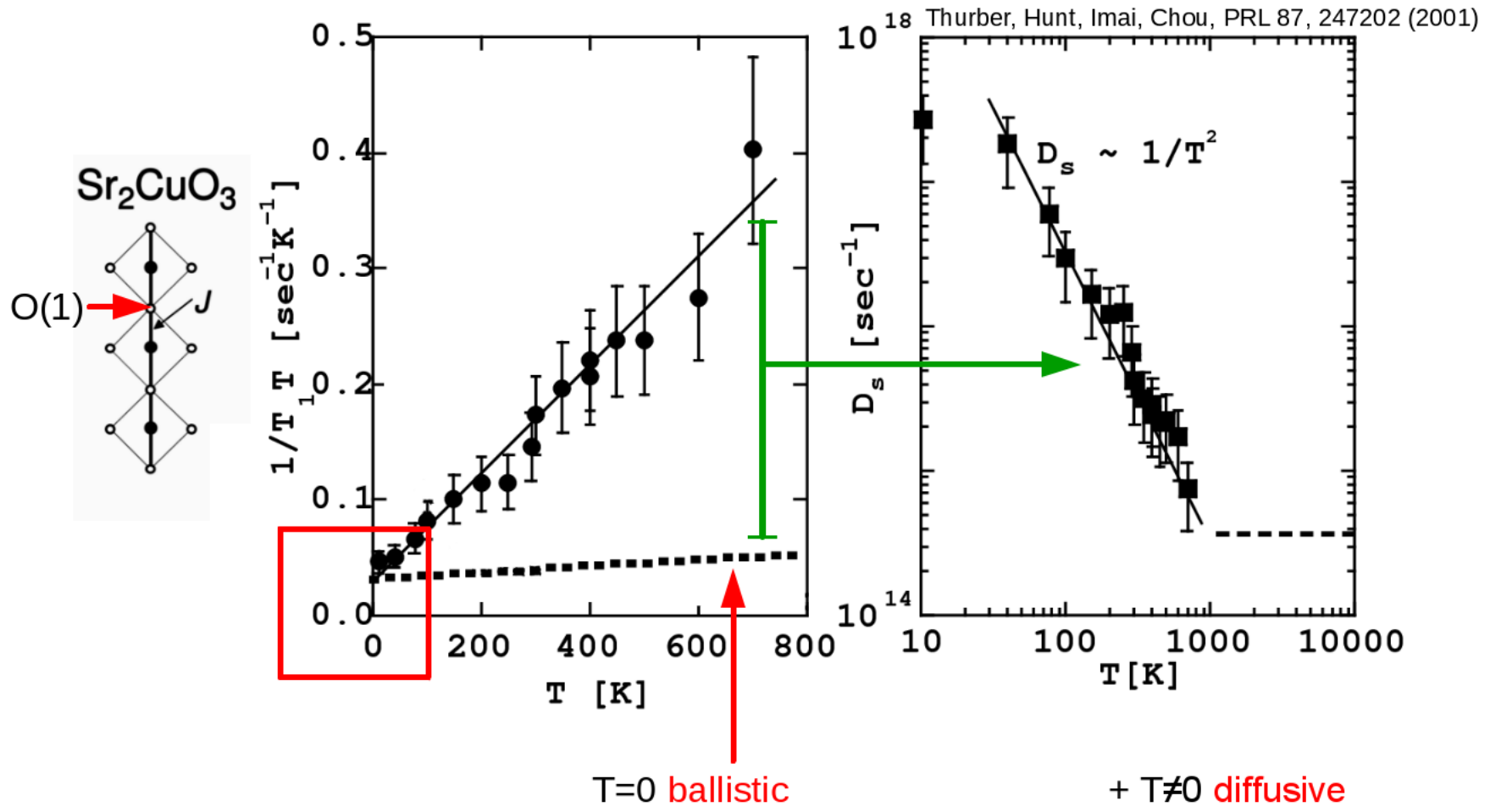


ballistic



# Spin Transport in Heisenberg chains: indirect

- Indirect access of spin-current correlations: O(1)-NMR on  $\text{Sr}_2\text{CuO}_3$



....., Sachdev, PRB 50, 13 006 (94), .....

## Outline

break  
integrability

- Magnetic transport in spin chains
- Quantum typicality
- High-T spin-Drude weight of the XXZ-chain
- Energy dissipation in the XXZ-chain: staggered fields
- Kitaev-XXZ-chain: connecting integrable points



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break  
integrability



- Concept: “properties” of a **single** pure state  
 = “properties” of the full statistical **ensemble**

$$\begin{aligned}
 C(t) = \langle j(t)j \rangle &= \frac{\text{Tr}\{e^{-\beta H} j(t)j\}}{\text{Tr}\{e^{-\beta H}\}} = \frac{\sum_n \langle n|e^{-\beta H} j(t)j|n \rangle}{\sum_n \langle n|e^{-\beta H}|n \rangle} \\
 &= \frac{\langle \psi|e^{-\beta H/2} j(t)j e^{-\beta H/2}|\psi \rangle}{\langle \psi|e^{-\beta H}|\psi \rangle} + E(|\psi \rangle)
 \end{aligned}$$

**random**  
 pure state  $|\psi\rangle$

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{k=1}^{\text{dim}} a_k |k\rangle$$

$$P(|a_k|^2) = N e^{-N|a_k|^2}$$

unitarily invariant distribution  
 ~equipartition dim.-sphere surface

phase random  $\in [0, 2\pi)$



$$E(|\psi\rangle) = O\left(\frac{\sqrt{\langle |j(t)j|^2 \rangle}}{\sqrt{\text{Tr}\{e^{-\beta(H-E_0)}\}}}\right)$$

$\sqrt{d_{\text{eff}}}$  : effective dimension  
 $\beta \rightarrow \infty$  :  $d_{\text{eff}} = 2^N$

**Controlled**

- draw several states
- increase dimension

## Quantum Typicality II

### ● Rewrite

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{1st pure state: } |\Phi_\beta(t)\rangle = e^{-iHt - \beta H/2} |\psi\rangle \\ \text{2nd pure state: } |\varphi_\beta(t)\rangle = e^{-iHt} j e^{-\beta H/2} |\psi\rangle \end{array} \right\} C(t) = \frac{\langle \Phi_\beta(t) | j | \varphi_\beta(t) \rangle}{\langle \Phi_\beta(0) | \Phi_\beta(0) \rangle} + E$$

### ● Numerical gain

- exact diagonalization unnecessary
- time & temperature dependence generated by eg. Runge-Kutta
- memory required for only 2 states and  $j$ ,  $H$  sparse matrices

increase Hilbert-space dimensions

- by several orders of magnitude w.r.t ED
- without restrictions

current dim  $\sim 10^{10} = \sim 33 \dots 36$  spins  
increase  $\sim 10^4$

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● ... in pursuit since 1990<sup>1</sup>: is  $\bar{C}_S(\beta=0)$

for the isotropic Heisenberg chain finite?

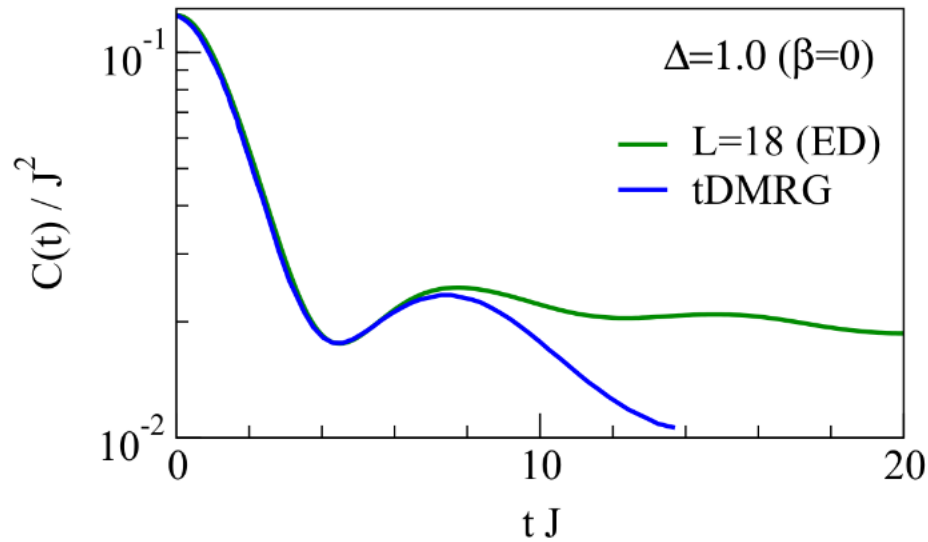
[1] Shastry, Sutherland, PRL 65, 243 (90)  
+ ~85 papers up to 2015

$$H = J \sum_l (S_l^x S_{l+1}^x + S_l^y S_{l+1}^y + \Delta S_l^z S_{l+1}^z)$$

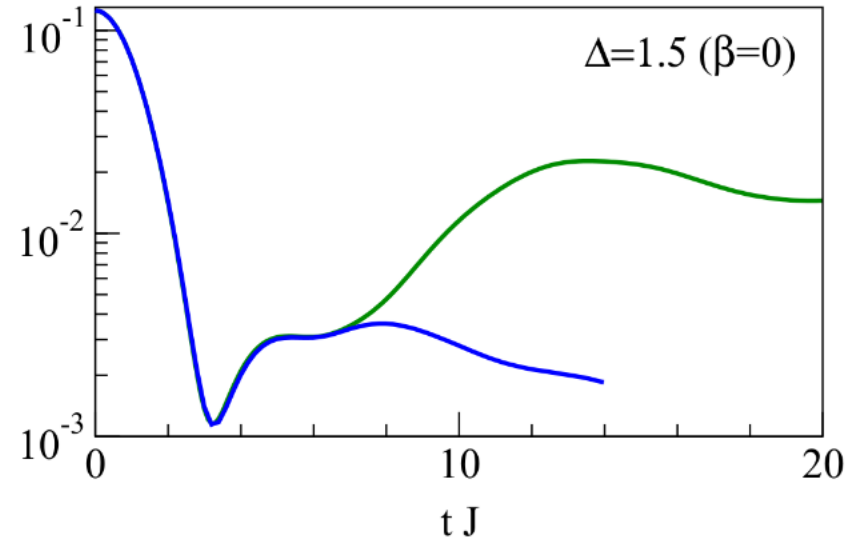
BA  $\swarrow$  ED  $\swarrow$  tDMRG  $\swarrow$  QMC...

# Quantum typical way

isotropic point



above isotropic point

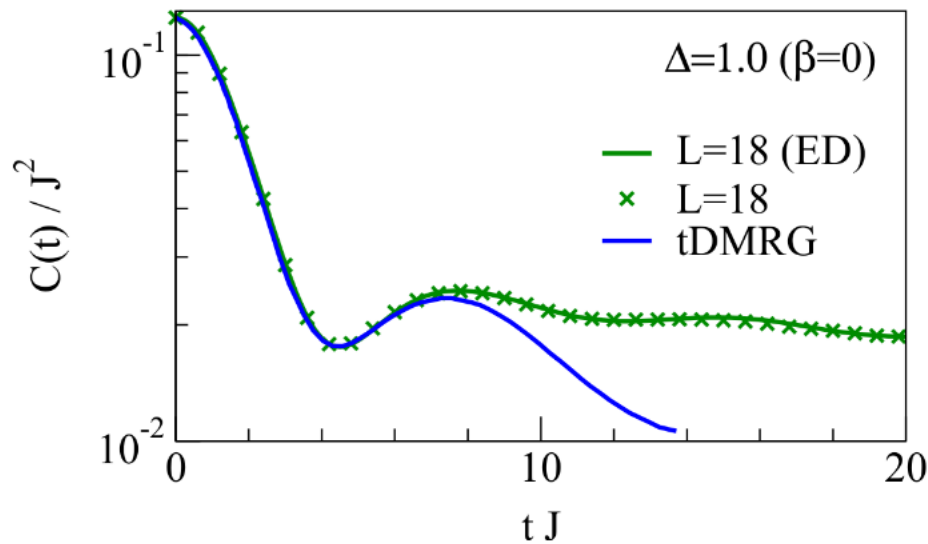


- ED cannot reproduce tDMRG

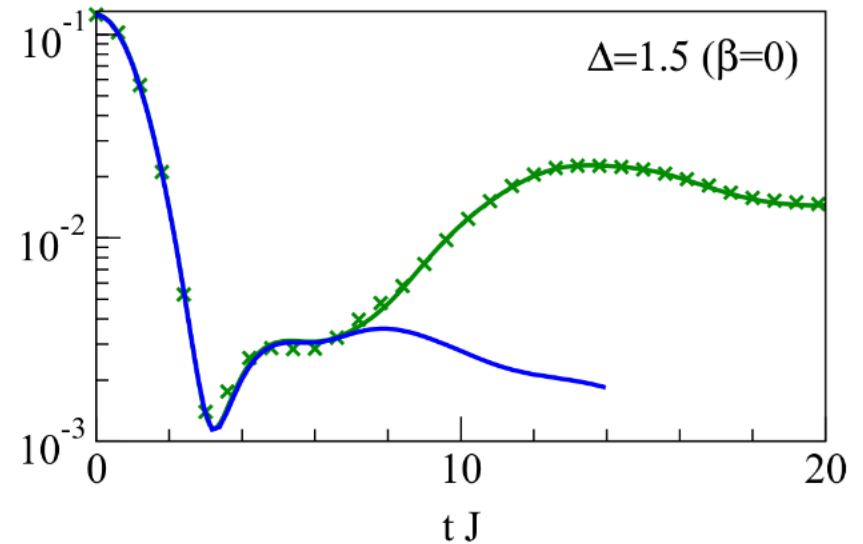
tDMRG data: courtesy of Karrasch, Heidrich-Meisner, Moore, et al. PRL 108, 227206 (12), PRB 87, 245128 (13), 89, 075139 (14)

# Quantum typical way

isotropic point



above isotropic point

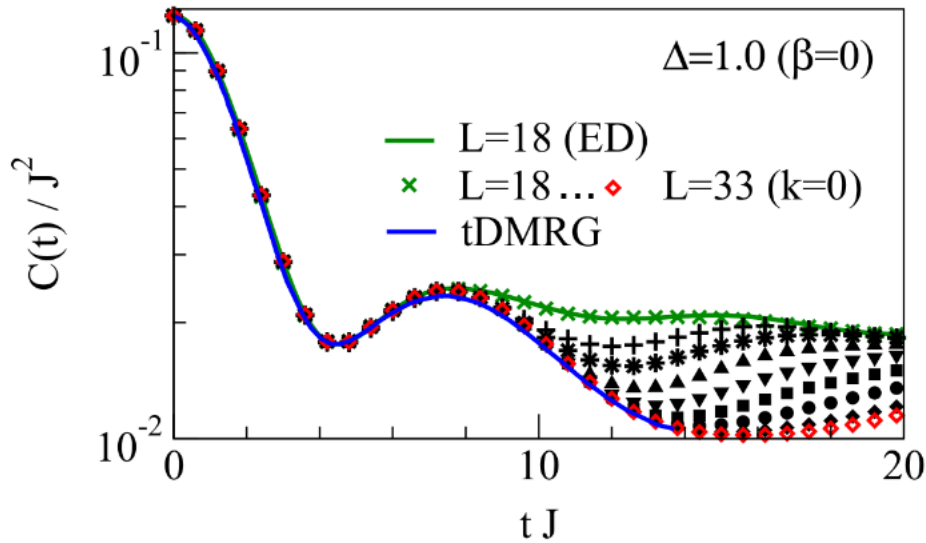


- single pure state reproduces ED
- need 'small' systems to observe error
- less interaction  $\leftrightarrow$  larger error
- ( ● error can be reduced by average over small number of pure states )

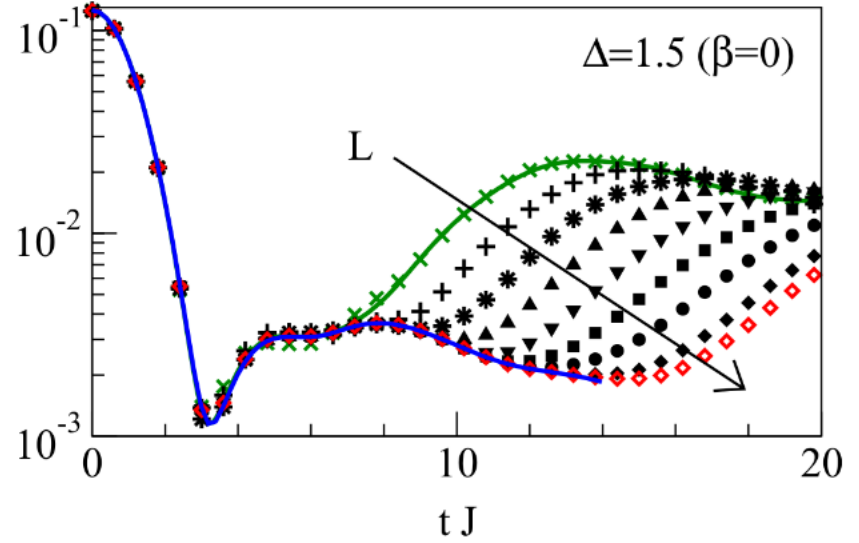


# Quantum typical way

isotropic point



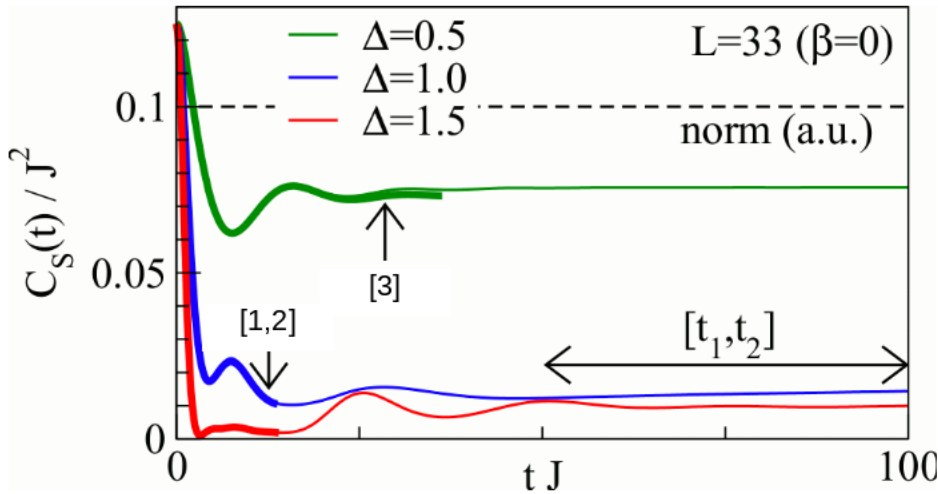
above isotropic point



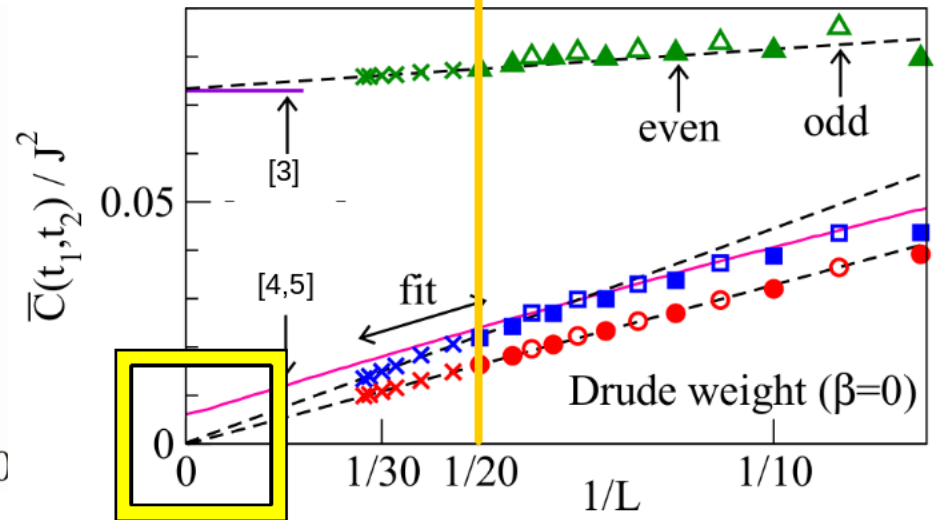
- single pure state reproduces tDMRG
- proof of concept for QTY
- note log scale

# Long Time Limit

below and above isotropic point



Drude weight: finite size scaling



- norm = const. → RK4 works
- long time limit: not reached by tDMRG
- long time limit: finite size controlled
- define Drude weight

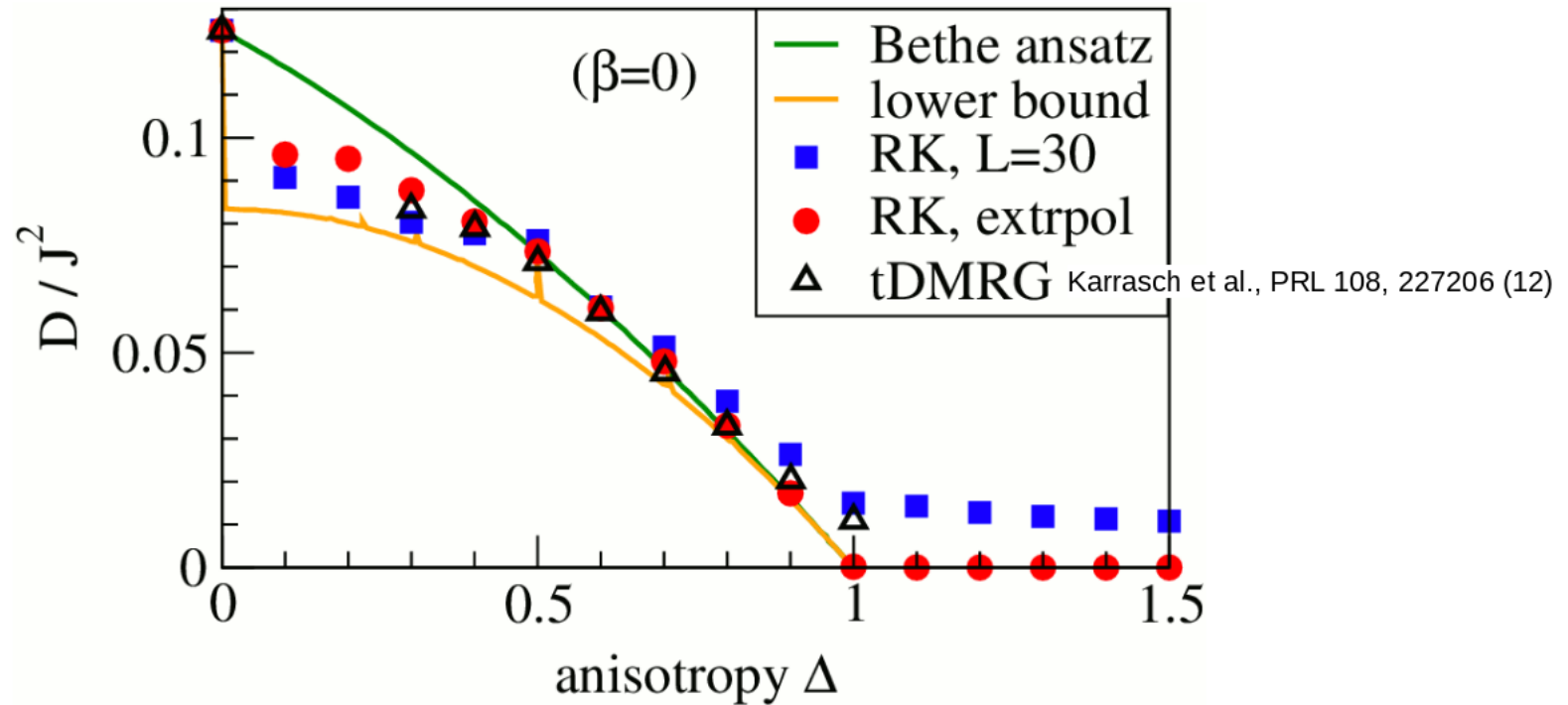
$$D := \frac{1}{t_2 - t_1} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} C(t) dt = \bar{C}(t_1, t_2)$$

- D for  $L \leq 20$ , full  $\rho$ ; for  $L > 20$  single state
- $1/L$  fits to  $20 \leq L \leq 33$
- $\Delta=1.0$  the odd-site fit  $L \leq 19$  [4,5]
- $\Delta=0.5$  analytic lower bound [3]

[1] Karrasch, et al., PRL 108, 227206 (12)  
 [2] " PRB 89, 075139 (14)  
 [3] Karrasch, et al. PRB 90, 155104 (14)

[3] Prosen, et al., PRL 106, 217206 (11)  
 " ibid. 111, 057203 (13)  
 [4] Heidrich-Meisner, WB, et al. PRB 68, 134436 (03)  
 [5] Karrasch, et al., PRB 87, 245128 (13)

## Drude Weight vs. Anisotropy

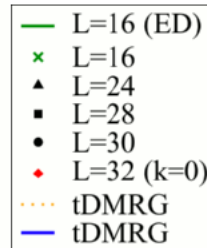
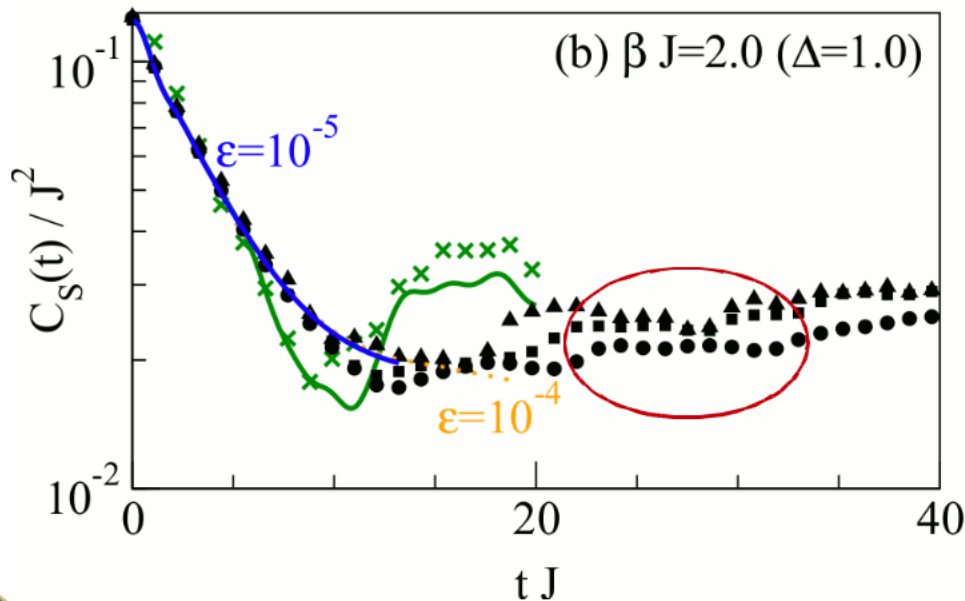
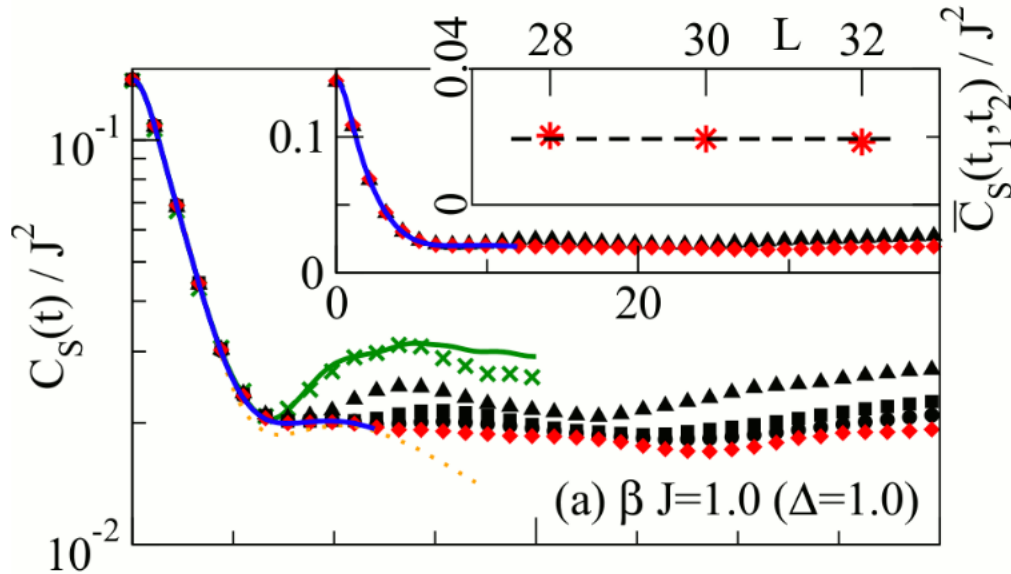


- All extrapolated values above rigorous lower bound
- $0.4 \lesssim \Delta \leq 1.5$ : agree with Bethe-ansatz
- $\Delta \lesssim 0.4$ : still above lower bound but below Bethe-ansatz  
 $\leftrightarrow$  high degeneracy at small  $\Delta$

Prosen, et al., PRL 106, 217206 (11);  
 ibid. 111, 057203 (13)

Zotos, PRL 82, 1764 (99)

# Lower Temperatures



● limiting condition:

$$1 \ll d_{\text{eff}} = e^{-\beta(H-E_0)} \propto 2^L$$

● single pure state reproduces intermediate temperature

tDMRG ... if  $T \gtrsim J$

● finite  $\bar{C}_S(\beta=1)$  consistent with upper bounds from

Carmelo, et al., arXiv:1407.0732 (14)

● Lower T potentially require pure state averaging

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• Case of energy current dissipation: study dc conductivities

$$H = J \sum_l (S_l^x S_{l+1}^x + S_l^y S_{l+1}^y + \Delta S_l^z S_{l+1}^z) + B \sum_l (-)^l S_l^z$$

$$[j_E, H] \neq 0$$

tDMRG avail.

Huang, et al., PRB 88 115126 (13)  
Karrasch, et al., PRB 88 195129 (13)

• Perturbation theory DC rates: memory functions

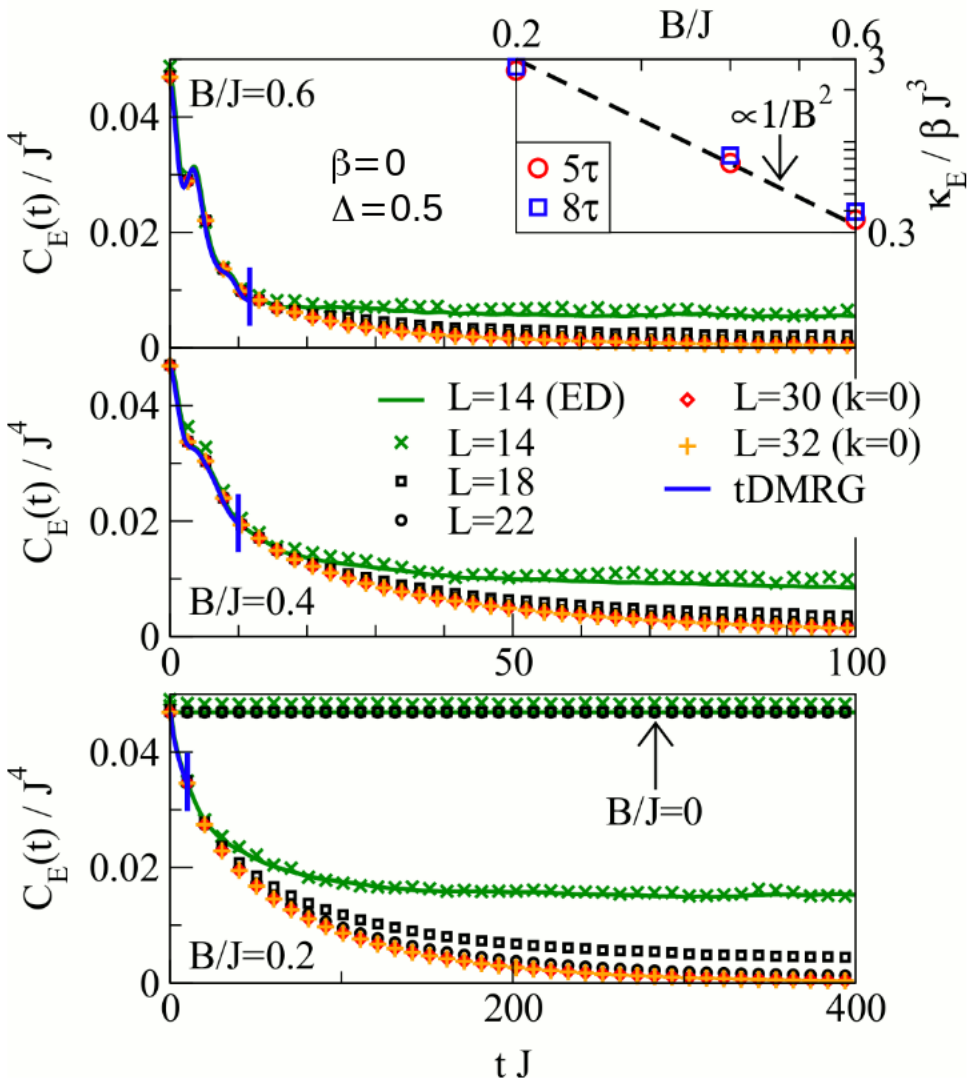
$$T_{KE}(z) = \frac{i\chi}{z - \underbrace{M(z)/\chi}_{=\gamma(z) \text{ relaxation rate}}}$$

•  $\gamma(z)$ :  $z \rightarrow 0$  (Markov),  $B \ll 1, \Delta$ , and  $T \gg 1, \Delta, B$

$$\gamma = \underbrace{\frac{1}{\langle j_E^2 \rangle}}_{\propto (1+2\Delta^2)} \int_0^\infty dt \underbrace{\langle i[j_E, H_B](t) i[j_E, H_B] \rangle}_{\propto \Delta B} \propto \frac{(\Delta B)^2}{1+2\Delta^2}$$

force-force correlation

# Energy Current Decay at $\beta=0$



$j_E$  not conserved:  $[j_E, H] \sim \Delta B$

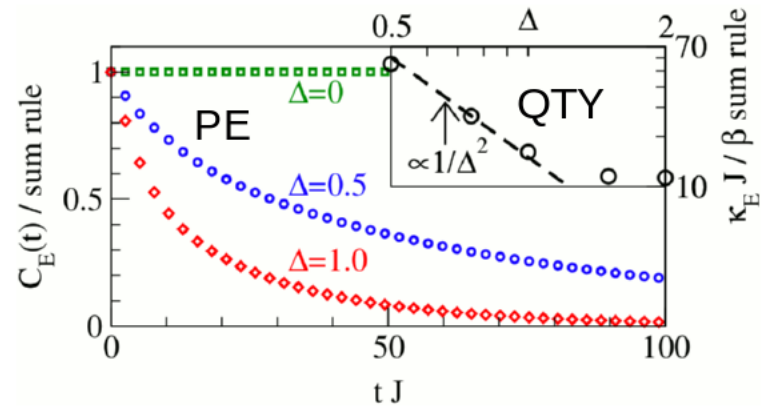
$\rightarrow \kappa_E$  finite. Perturbation

theory:  $\kappa_E \propto (1 + 2\Delta^2) / (B\Delta)^2$

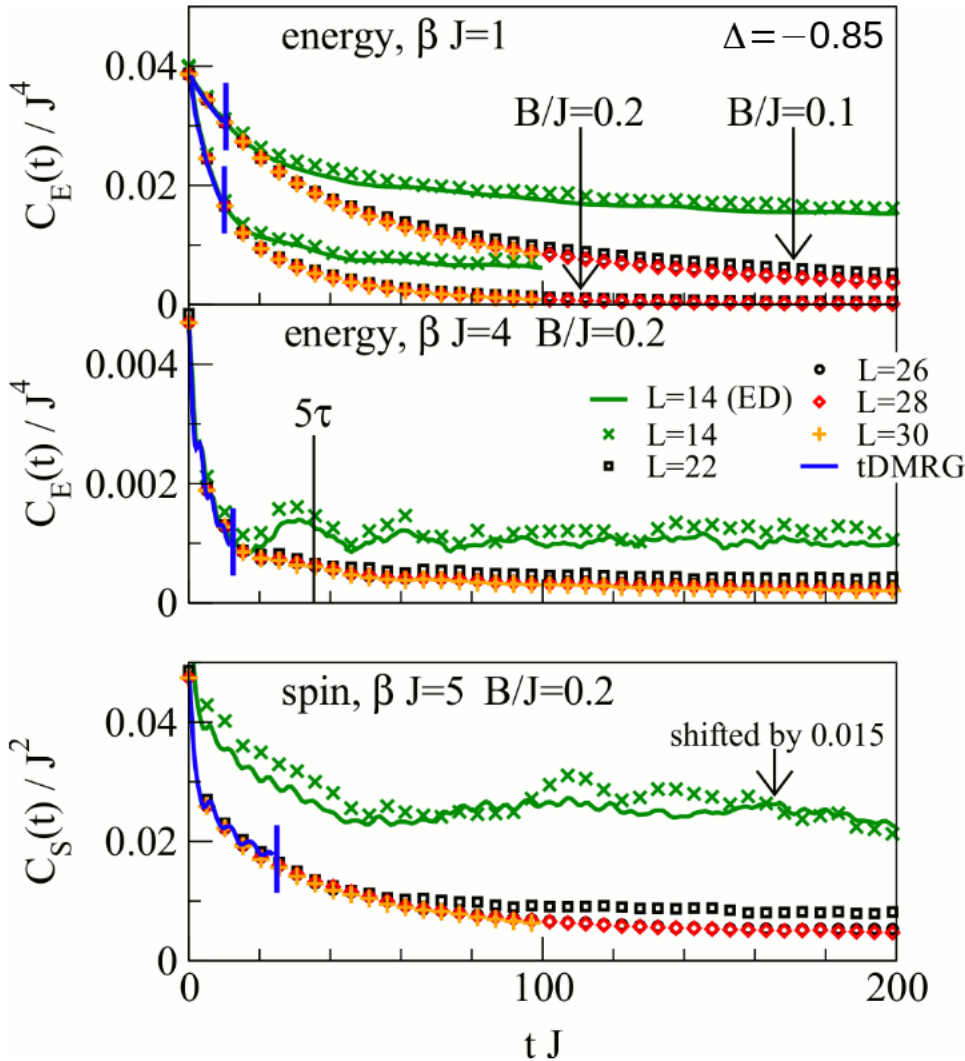
ED agrees well with QTY

QTY: ~no finite size effects  $N > 22$   
cut-off  $t$  sufficient

tDMRG available only up to short  
times: agrees with ED & QTY



# Spin and Energy Current Decay at finite T



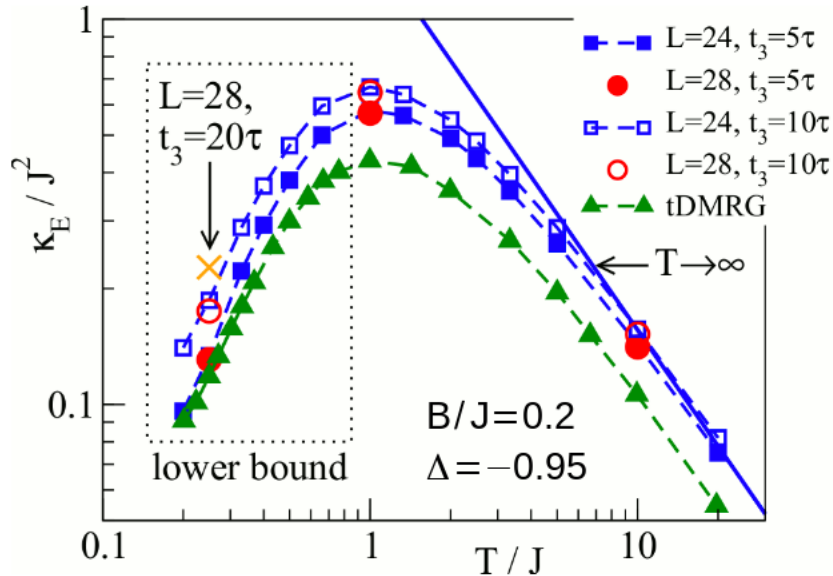
- even for rather small T, QTY for small L=14 still ~ED
- Again: ED & QTY reproduce tDMRG already for L=14 & T>0.2
- Again: QTY ~no finite size effects N>22, & cut-off t sufficient



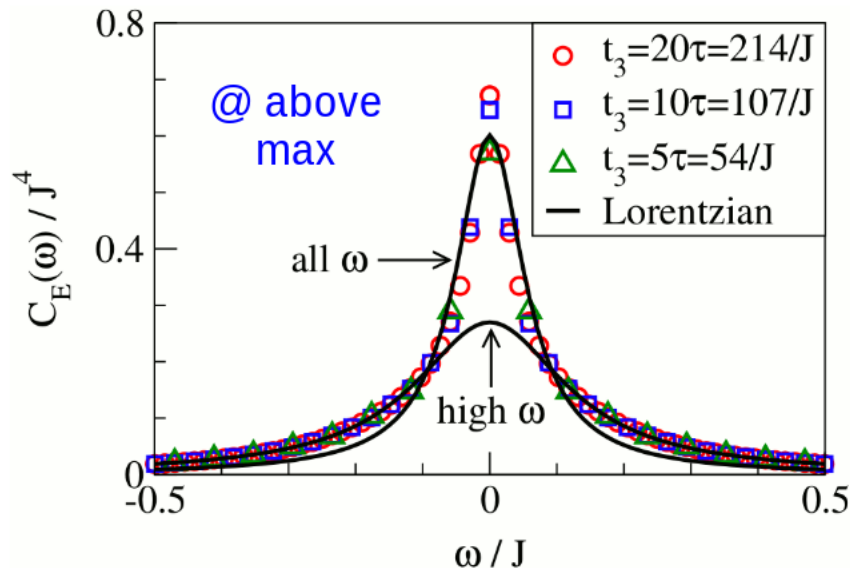
Extract finite-T dc conductivities



# T-Dependence of dc Energy Conductivity



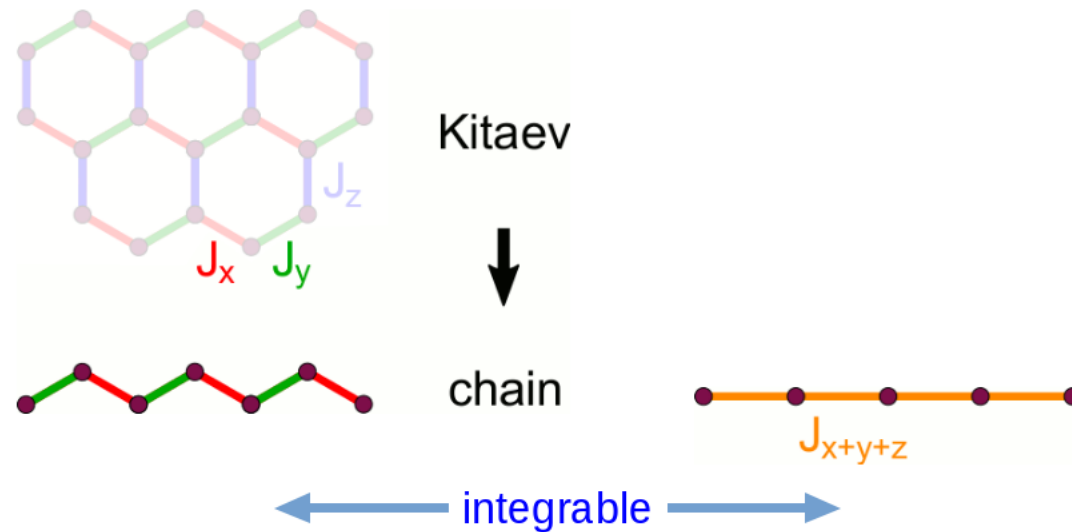
- trivially for  $T \gg J$ :  $\kappa_E \sim 1/T$
- broad max at  $T \sim J$
- for  $T \lesssim J$ : cut-off  $t$  cannot be reached  
 $\kappa_{E,fig.} =$  lower bound
- at  $T \ll J$ : power law?, exponent  $\lesssim 1.4$  ?
- tDMRG underestimate = no finite size effect: cut-off  $t$  too small



- frequency domain
- low- $\omega$  sensitive to cut-off  $t$
- line shape not Lorentzian: no simple Drude behavior

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# Kitaev chain

$$H = \sum_{l=1}^{L/2} (J_1 S_{2l-1}^x S_{2l}^x + J_2 S_{2l}^y S_{2l+1}^y)$$

$$S_{2l}^z S_{2l+1}^z \quad Z_2 \text{ invar.}$$

Saket, ea, PRB 87, 174414 (2013)

$$J_1 \neq J_2 \quad \text{SOP}$$

Feng, ea, PRL 98, 087204 (07)

● spectrum at Kitaev point: p-wave SC

$$H = \sum_{k=0}^{\pi/2} (\epsilon_{k,+} c_k^+ c_k + \epsilon_{k,-} d_k^+ d_k)$$

$$\epsilon_{k\pm} = \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{J_1^2 + J_2^2 + 2 J_1 J_2 \cos 2k}$$

# Kitaev chain

$$H = \sum_{l=1}^{L/2} (J_1 S_{2l-1}^x S_{2l}^x + J_2 S_{2l}^y S_{2l+1}^y)$$

$$= \sum_{l=1}^{L/2} h_l$$

two-site  
energy density

energy (no spin) current

$$q J_q = [H, h_q]$$

• Infinite temperature energy-current autocorrelation of bare Kitaev chain

$$C_{J_1=J_2}(\omega) = \frac{J_1^4}{128} \delta(\omega) + \frac{J_1^3}{32\pi} \left(\frac{\omega}{2J_1}\right)^2 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{\omega}{2J_1}\right)^2}$$

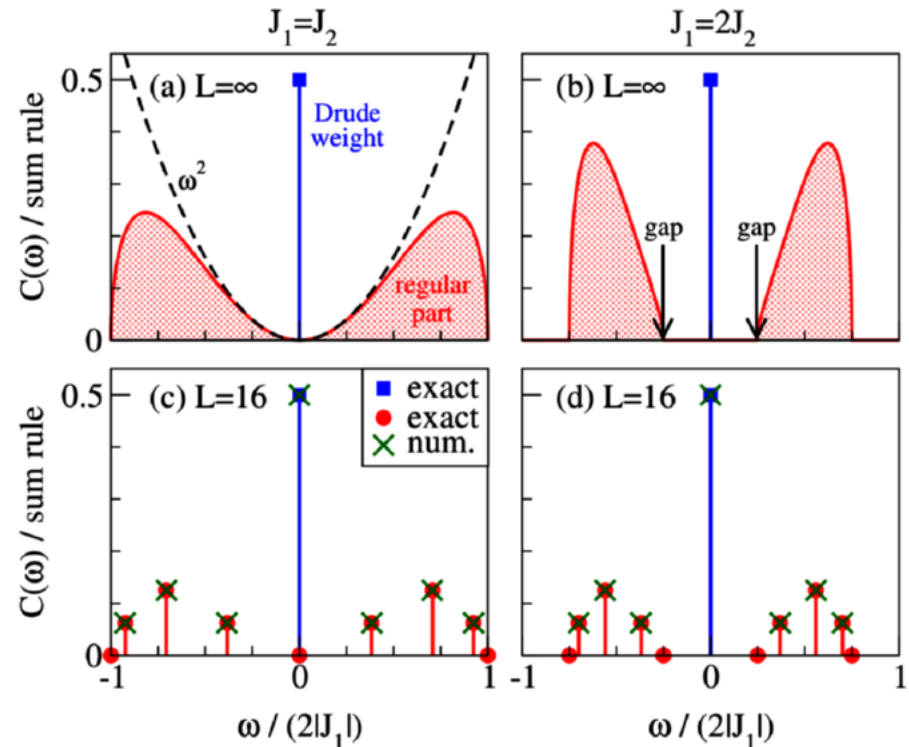
Drude weight

regular part  $\sim \omega^2$

• spectrum at Kitaev point: p-wave SC

$$H = \sum_{k=0}^{\pi/2} (\epsilon_{k,+} c_k^+ c_k + \epsilon_{k,-} d_k^+ d_k)$$

$$\epsilon_{k\pm} = \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{J_1^2 + J_2^2 + 2J_1 J_2 \cos 2k}$$



# Kitaev-Heisenberg chain

## 4 parameter model

$$H = \sum_{l=1}^{L/2} (J_1 S_{2l-1}^x S_{2l}^x + J_2 S_{2l}^y S_{2l+1}^y) + H_{\text{HSB}}(J_3, \Delta) + B \sum_l S_l^z = \sum_{l=1}^{L/2} h_l$$

two-site  
energy density

energy (no spin) current

$$q_{J_q} = [H, h_q]$$

## Infinite temperature energy-current autocorrelation of bare Kitaev chain

$$C_{J_1=J_2}(\omega) = \frac{J_1^4}{128} \delta(\omega) + \frac{J_1^3}{32\pi} \left(\frac{\omega}{2J_1}\right)^2 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{\omega}{2J_1}\right)^2}$$

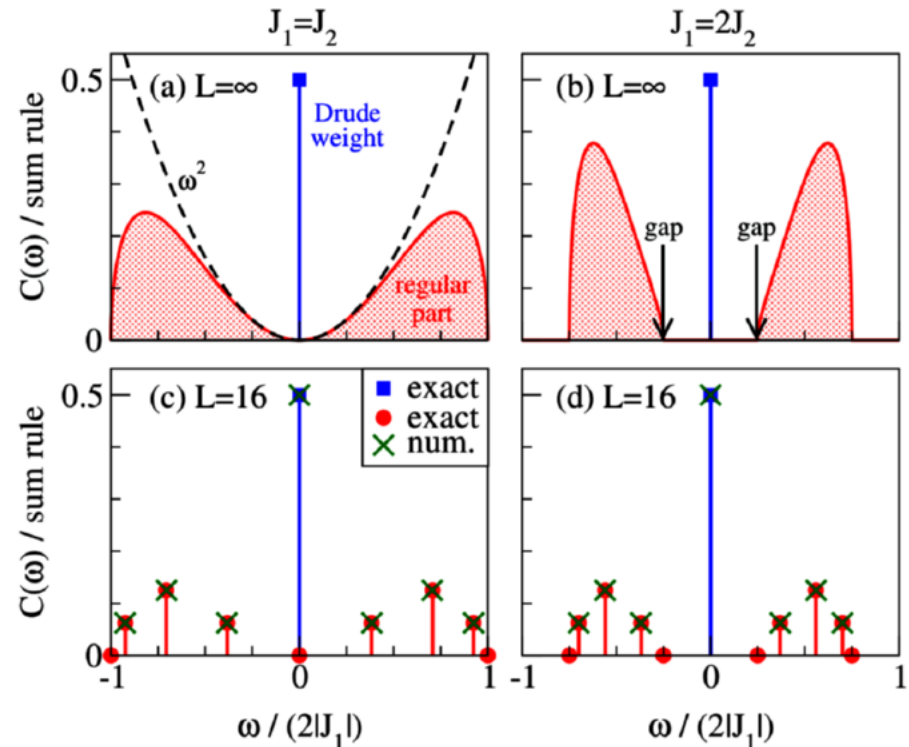
Drude weight

regular part  $\sim \omega^2$

## spectrum at Kitaev point: p-wave SC

$$H = \sum_{k=0}^{\pi/2} (\epsilon_{k,+} c_k^+ c_k + \epsilon_{k,-} d_k^+ d_k)$$

$$\epsilon_{k\pm} = \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{J_1^2 + J_2^2 + 2J_1 J_2 \cos 2k}$$



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## Two addtl. integrable points

$$J_1=J_2=0, \quad J_1=J_2=-2J_3$$

Chaloupka, Jackeli, Khaliullin,  
PRL 105, 027204 (10)

spectra agree

## Suppression of low- $\omega$ weight at all integrable points

$$C(\omega \rightarrow 0) \sim \omega^2$$

Herbrych, et al. PRB 86,  
115106 (12)

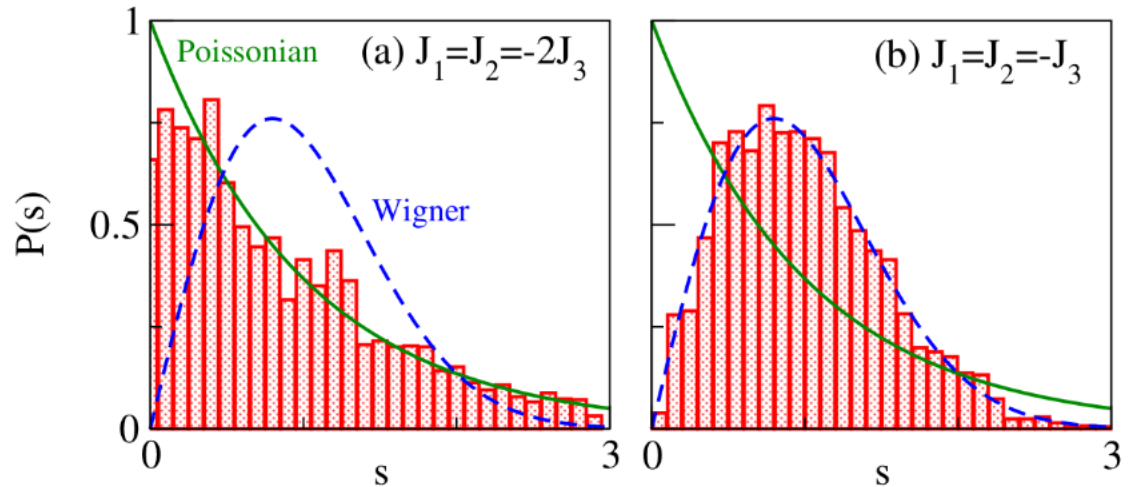
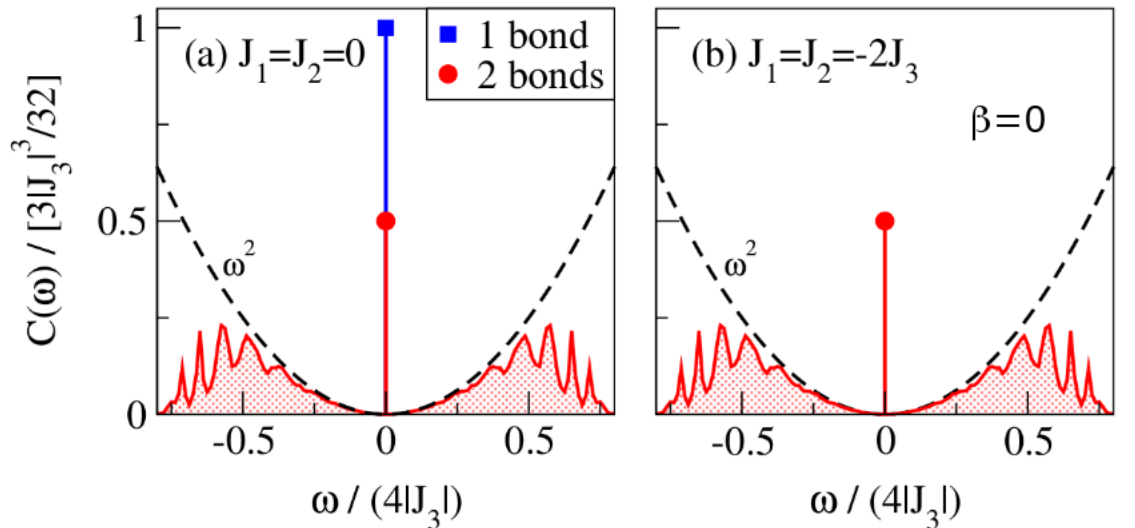
**!** 1 vs. 2 site unit cell

## Integrable points and quantum chaotic regions

level-spacing distribution

**Poisson** @ integrable vs.  
**Wigner** @ non-integrable

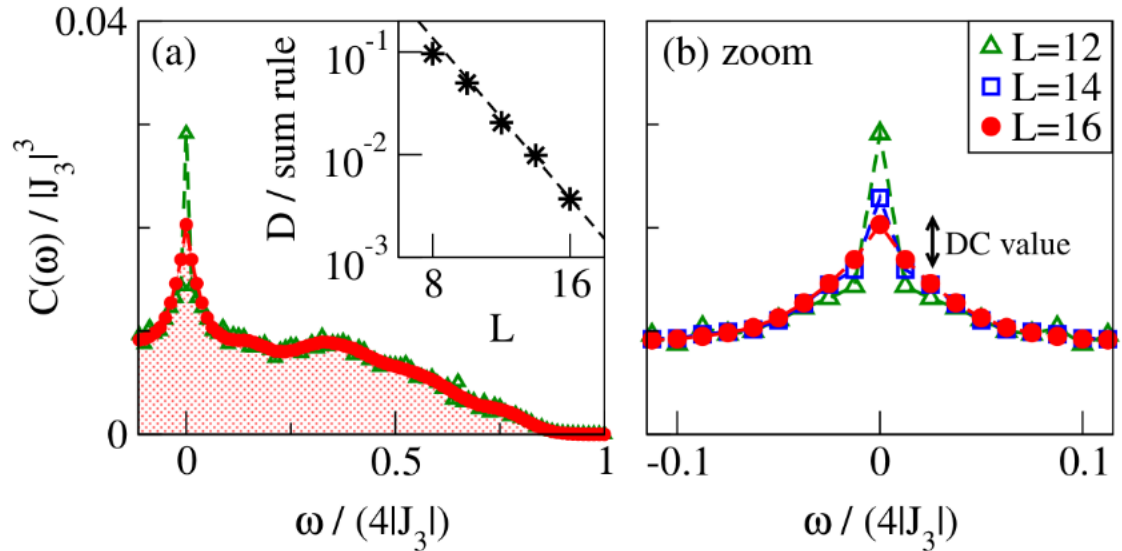
Rabson, ea, PRB 69, 054403 (04)  
Modak, ea, PRB 90, 075152 (14)



# Kitaev-Heisenberg chain

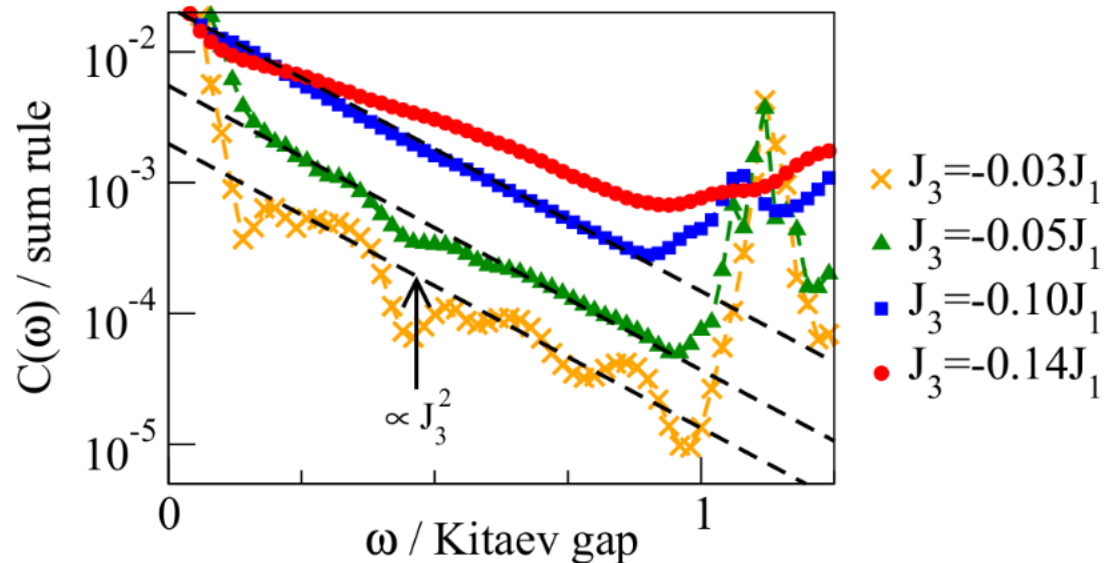
## Off integrability $J_1=J_2=-J_3$

- $\omega \neq 0$ :  $C(\omega) \neq f(L)$
- $\omega = 0$ :  $D \sim e^{-L}$
- peak at  $\sim 0$ : broadened Drude (width  $\nearrow$  with  $\Delta$ )
- weak remnants of  $\sim \omega^2$



## Off integrability $J_1=2J_2$

- signatures of topological gap even at  $\beta=0$
- for  $-J_3 \gtrsim 0.14 J_1$  high-T in-gap excits.  $\sim J_3^2$   
 $\leftrightarrow$  perturb. theor.

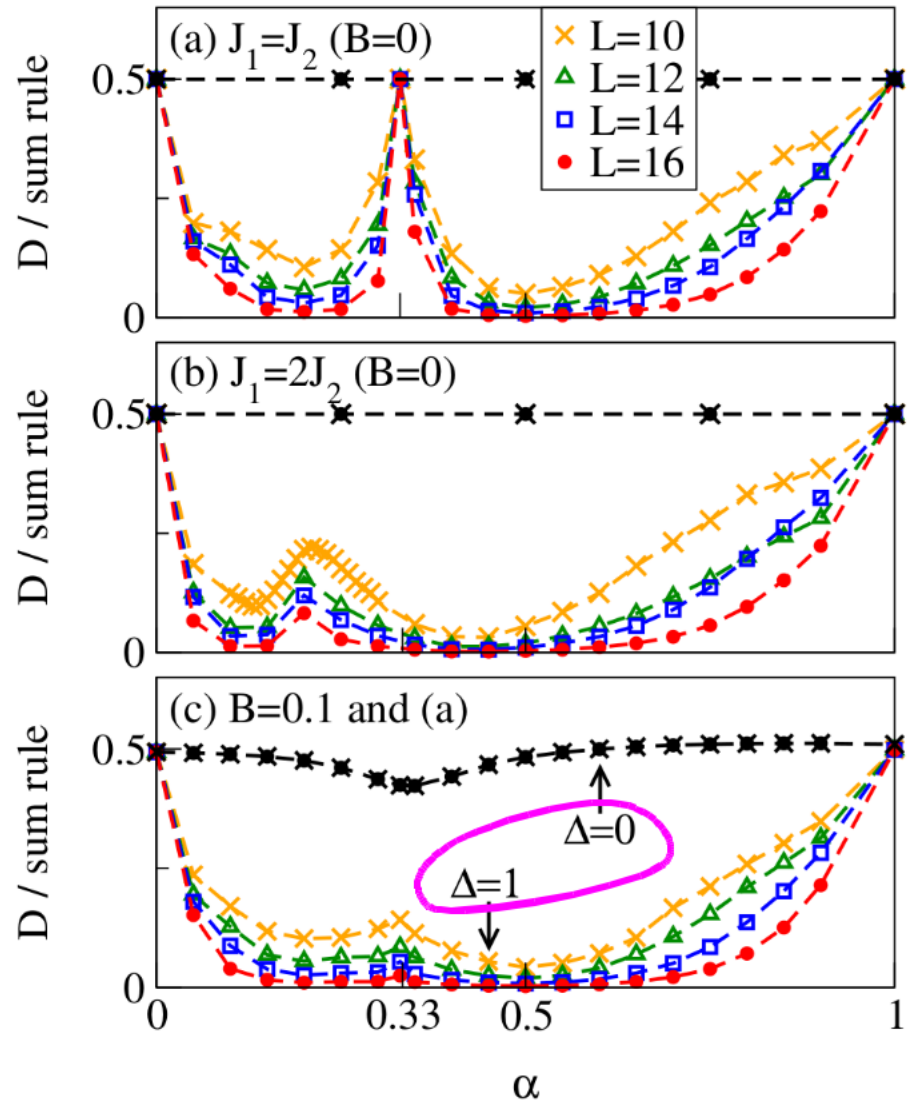


# Drude weight survey

●  $J_3 = \alpha$ ,  $J_1 = \alpha - 1$  and  $J_2 = J_1 (/2)$

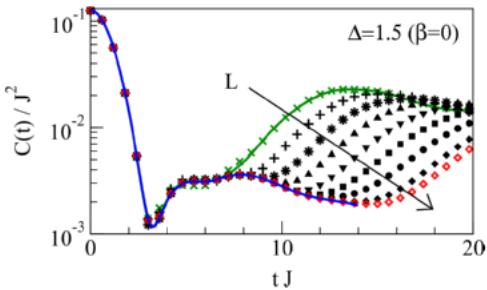
- $J_2 = J_1$  Kitaev  $\alpha = 0$
- Heisenberg  $\alpha = 1$
- 3<sup>rd</sup> intgr. pt.  $\alpha = 1/3$

- for  $\Delta = 0$  interpolate between free Majorana and free XY fermions
- for  $0.4 \lesssim \alpha \lesssim 0.7$  and  $0.1 \lesssim \alpha \lesssim 0.2$  clearly  $D \rightarrow 0$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$
- D smallest at  $\alpha = 1/2$
- $\alpha = 1/3$  pt. shifted at  $J_1 \neq J_2$
- $\alpha = 1/3$  extremely sensitive to magnetic fields

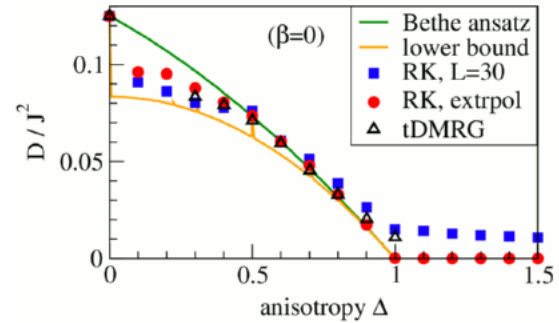




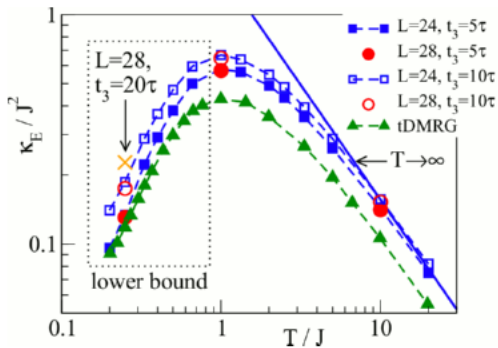
# Conclusions



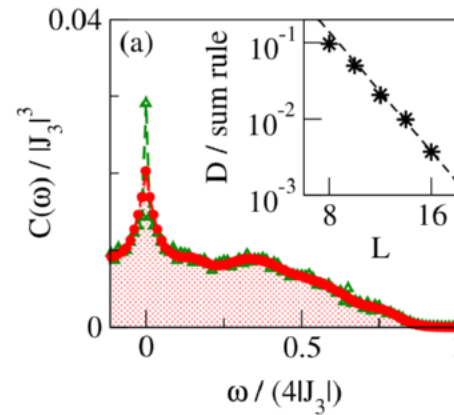
new numerical tool: QTY



XXZ:  $D(\Delta=1, \beta=0)=0$



low-T XXZ stagg. fields:  $\kappa_E \propto T^{-1.4}$



Kitaev-XXZ: dissipative, pseudogap