

# *Effective field theory methods for chiral plasmas*

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# Outline

1. Real vs imaginary time formalism.
2. Propagators in real time.
3. Hard thermal loops (HTL).
4. Chiral On-Shell Effective Field Theory (COSEFT).
5. Polarization tensor.
6. Chiral magnetic effect (CME).

# 01

Special Relativity +  
Thermodynamics +  
Quantum Mechanics =  
QTFT.

# 02

Allowed to understand the  
Electro-Weak phase  
transition in the Standard  
Model and later the phase  
transition in Quantum  
Chromodynamics from  
hadrons to quark-gluon  
plasma.

# 03

The techniques of QTFT  
can be applied to any  
quantum field theory, in  
particular QED.

What is quantum thermal field theory?



## 1. Real vs Imaginary time formalism.

### 1) **IMAGINARY TIME FORMALISM:**

- Perform a Wick-Rotation to imaginary time.
- Integrals in energy become sums over Matsubara frequencies.

### 2) **REAL TIME FORMALISM:**

- Use real time (Integrals in energy).
- Has a big problem: pinch singularities.
- Better if we want to apply EFT techniques.
- Non-equilibrium situation.

## 2. Propagators in real time.

$$\Delta^{T=0}(x, y) = \langle 0 | \mathcal{T} \phi(x) \phi(y) | 0 \rangle \longrightarrow \Delta^{T \neq 0}(x, y) = \langle \mathcal{T} \phi(x) \phi(y) \rangle_{\beta}$$

**Vacuum expectation value.**

**Thermal Average.**

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Time ordering



$$\langle A \rangle_{\beta} = \text{tr}(\rho A) \quad \rho = \frac{e^{-\beta H}}{Z} \quad \longrightarrow \text{Density matrix.}$$

Trace

$$Z = \text{tr}(e^{-\beta H}) \quad \text{Partition function.}$$

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Introduce a solution in terms of creation and annihilation operators.

$$\phi(x) = \int \frac{d^3 p}{\sqrt{2(2\pi)^3 \omega_p}} (a(\mathbf{p}) e^{-ipx} + a^{\dagger}(\mathbf{p}) e^{ipx})$$

## 2. Propagators in real time.

To get: 
$$i\Delta(k) = \frac{i}{k^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon} + 2\pi n_B(k_0)\delta(k^2 - m^2)$$



Bose-Einstein.

$$\curvearrowright n_B(k_0) = \frac{1}{e^{\beta|k_0|} - 1}.$$

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Off-Shell



On-Shell

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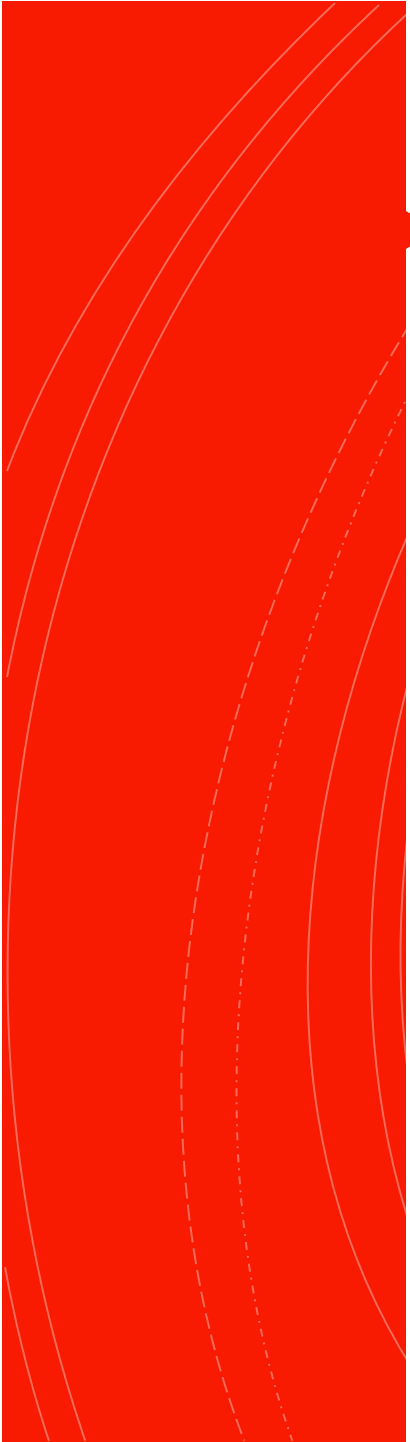
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Perform the same process with a fermionic field.

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And find: 
$$iS(k) = (\not{k} + m) \left[ \frac{i}{k^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon} - 2\pi n_F(k_0) \delta(k^2 - m^2) \right]$$



Fermi-Dirac:  $n_F(k_0) = \frac{1}{e^{\beta|k_0|} + 1}$

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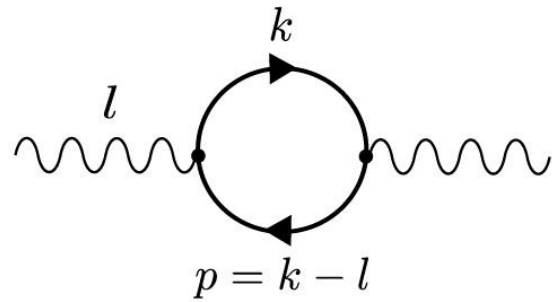


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Photon self-energy:

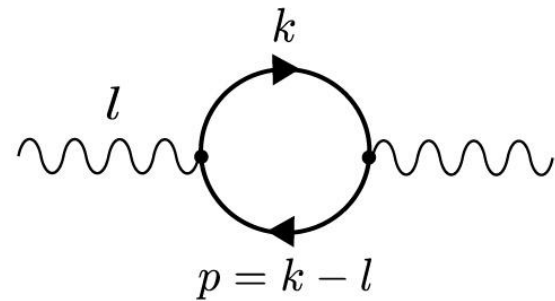


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$$\sim [\delta(k^2 - m^2)]^2 \sim \delta(0) \rightarrow \infty. \quad \text{!}$$

Pinch singularity.

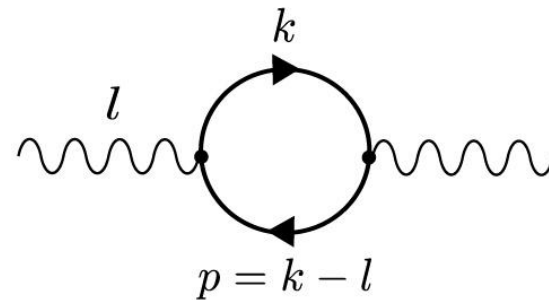
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Based on KMS relation.  $D(t_1, t_2) = D(t_2, t_1 + i\beta)$





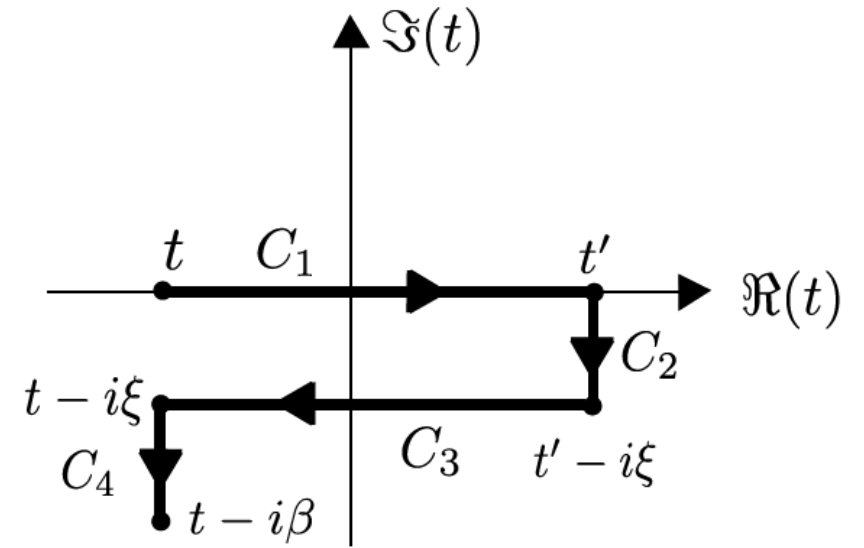
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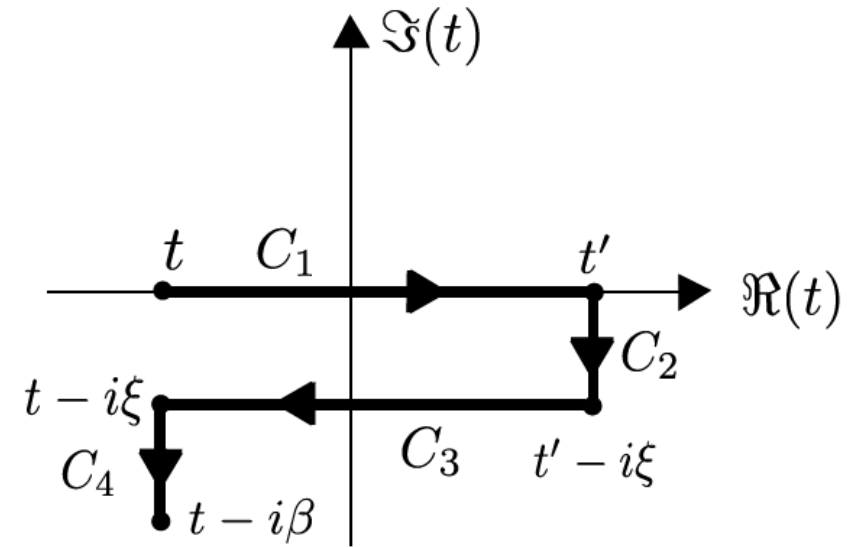
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Then the propagator becomes a 2x2 matrix in the space spanned by particle/thermal ghosts.

$$S(q) = (\not{q} + m) \left[ \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{q^2 + i\epsilon} & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{q^2 - i\epsilon} \end{pmatrix} + i2\pi\delta(q^2) \begin{pmatrix} -n_F(q_0) & \theta(-q_0) - n_F(q_0) \\ \theta(q_0) - n_F(q_0) & -n_F(q_0) \end{pmatrix} \right]$$



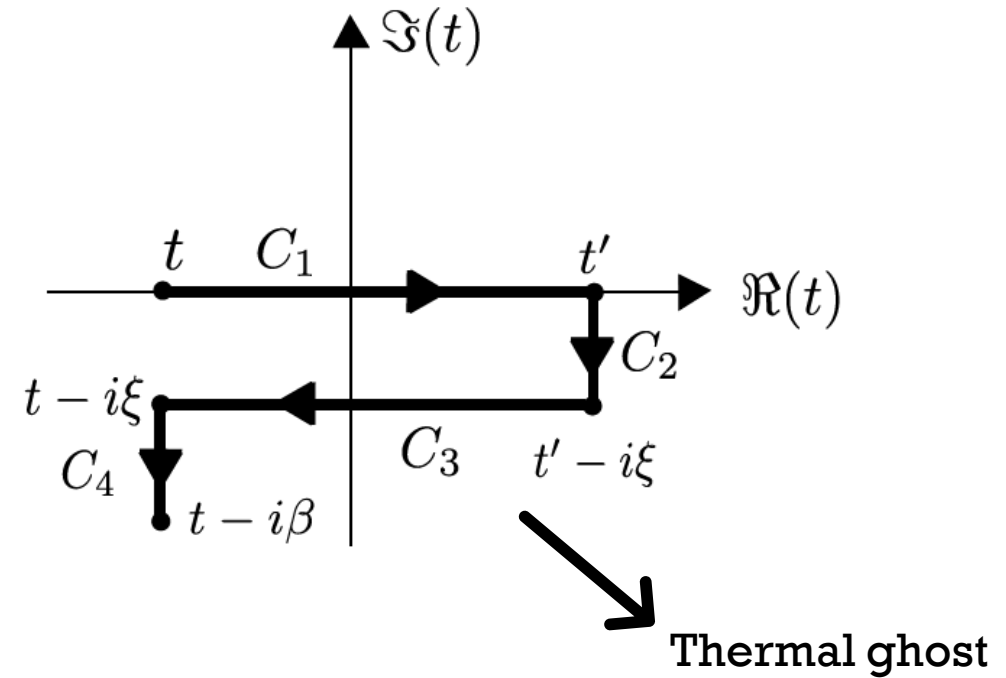
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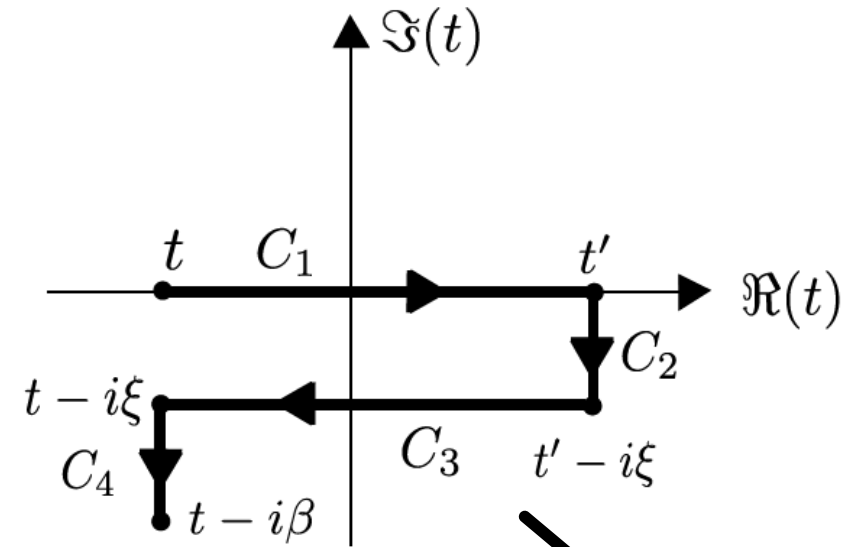


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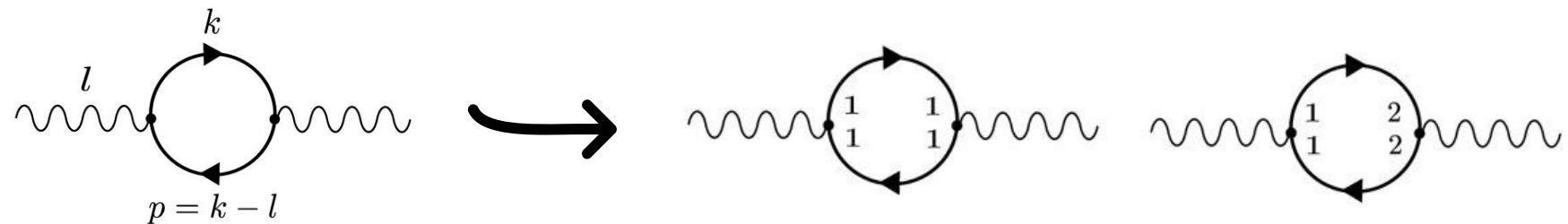
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Thermal ghost

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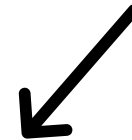
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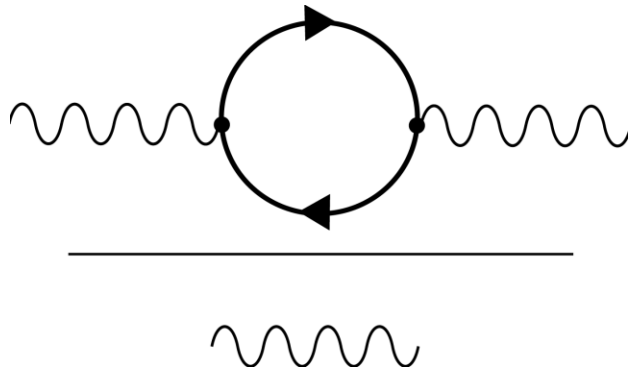
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The physical is the retarded self-energy.

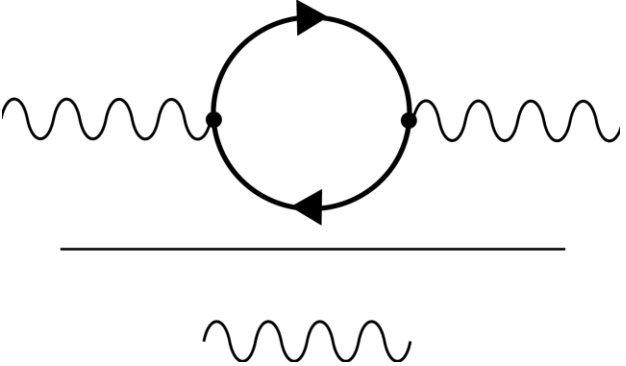
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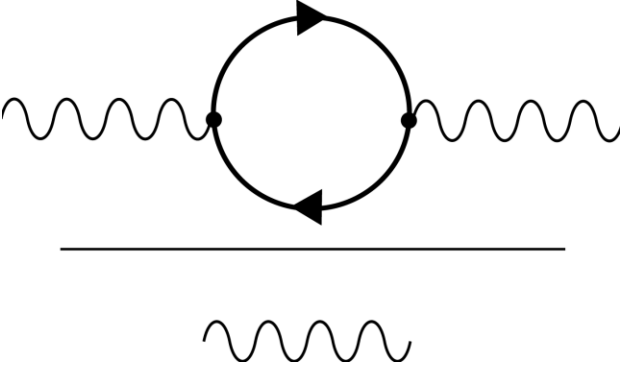


The diagram shows a fermion loop (a circle with two arrows) connected to two external wavy lines (representing photons or gluons). Below the loop is a horizontal line with a wavy line underneath it, representing a propagator. The diagram is followed by an approximation symbol and the expression  $\frac{e^2 T^2}{l^2}$ .

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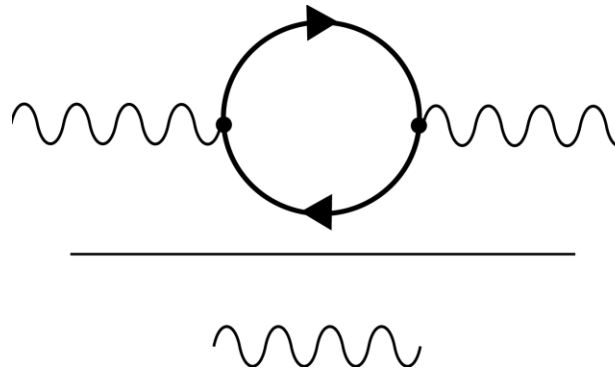


The diagram shows a fermion loop (a circle with two arrows) connected to two external wavy lines (representing photons or gluons) and one internal wavy line (representing a fermion). The loop is connected to the external lines at two vertices. The internal wavy line is connected to the loop at two vertices. The diagram is followed by the expression  $\sim \frac{e^2 T^2}{l^2} \sim 1$  if  $l \sim eT$ .

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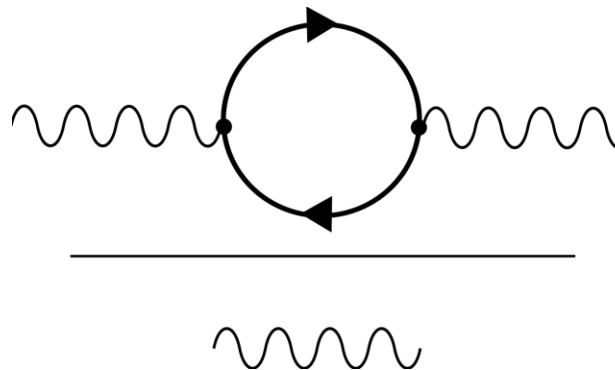
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$$\frac{\text{Diagram}}{\text{Diagram}} \sim \frac{e^2 T^2}{l^2} \sim 1 \quad \text{if} \quad l \sim eT$$

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It turns out that in a hot plasma of massless weakly interacting particles:

$$e \ll 1 \quad T \uparrow \quad \begin{cases} T & \text{Hard} \\ eT & \text{Soft} \end{cases} \rightarrow \text{Scales}$$



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$$l_0, |\mathbf{l}| \ll |\mathbf{k}| \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{l_0}{|\mathbf{k}|}, \frac{|\mathbf{l}|}{|\mathbf{k}|} \ll 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{l}{|\mathbf{k}|} \ll 1$$

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**Result:**

$$\Pi_R^{00}(l) = \Pi_R^L(l) \quad \Pi_R^{0i}(l) = \frac{l_0 l^i}{|\mathbf{l}|^2} \Pi_R^L(l)$$

$$\Pi_R^{ij}(l) = \left( \delta^{ij} - \frac{l^i l^j}{|\mathbf{l}|^2} \right) \Pi_R^T(l) + \frac{l^i l^j}{|\mathbf{l}|^2} \frac{l_0^2}{|\mathbf{l}|^2} \Pi_R^L(l) \quad \Pi_R^T(l) = m_D^2 \frac{l_0^2}{2|\mathbf{l}|^2} \left[ 1 - \left( 1 - \frac{|\mathbf{l}|^2}{l_0^2} \right) \frac{l_0}{2|\mathbf{l}|} \left( \ln \left| \frac{l_0 + |\mathbf{l}|}{l_0 - |\mathbf{l}|} \right| - i\pi\theta(l^2 - l_0^2) \right) \right]$$

$$\Pi_R^L(l) = -m_D^2 \left[ 1 - \frac{l_0}{2|\mathbf{l}|} \left( \ln \left| \frac{l_0 + |\mathbf{l}|}{l_0 - |\mathbf{l}|} \right| - i\pi\theta(l^2 - l_0^2) \right) \right]$$

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$$m_D^2 = \frac{e^2 T^2}{3}$$

Debye mass

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## 4.Chiral on-shell effective field theory. (COSEFT)

### Motivation:

- Exploit hierarchy of scales in a hot plasma of massless weakly interacting particles.
- The fact that HTL are dominated by almost on-shell degrees of freedom.
- Reproduce the HTL contributions easily.
- Go beyond HTL.
- Study the consequences of chiral imbalance.
- Derive kinetic theory.

## 4.Chiral on-shell effective field theory. (COSEFT)

The momentum of a nearly on-shell fermion with chemical potential may be written as:

$$q_{\chi}^{\mu} = p_{\chi}^{\mu} + k^{\mu} \quad \text{where} \quad p_{\chi}^{\mu} = (-\mu_{\chi} + |\mathbf{p}|)v^{\mu} + \mu_{\chi}\delta_j^{\mu}v^j \quad j \in \{1, 3\}$$
$$\chi = R(+1), L(-1)$$

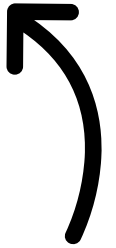
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Then the dependence on hard momenta in the Dirac field can be factored out:

$$\psi_\chi(x) = e^{-ip_\chi \cdot x} \left( P_v \chi_v^\chi + P_{\tilde{v}} H_{\tilde{v}}^{(1),\chi} \right) + e^{-i\tilde{p}_\chi \cdot x} \left( P_{\tilde{v}} \xi_{\tilde{v}}^\chi + P_v H_v^{(2),\chi} \right)$$



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Residual

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Particle/antiparticle projectors:

$$P_v = \frac{\psi \gamma^0}{2} \quad P_{\tilde{v}} = \frac{\tilde{\psi} \gamma^0}{2}.$$

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And after tedious algebra, we get:

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## 4.Chiral on-shell effective field theory. (COSEFT)

Now, take the expression for the Dirac field and plug it into the chiral QED Lagrangian.

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$$\not{D}_\perp = P_\perp^{\mu\nu} \gamma_\mu D_\nu$$



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Now we use E.O.M to integrate out the fields.



$$H_v^{(1),\chi}, H_v^{(2),\chi}$$

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So finally we get the COSEFT Lagrangian:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_\chi &= \bar{\chi}_v^\chi \gamma^0 \left( i v \cdot D + i \not{D}_\perp \frac{1}{2|\mathbf{p}| + i\tilde{v} \cdot D} i \not{D}_\perp \right) \chi_v^\chi \\ &+ \bar{\xi}_{\tilde{v}}^\chi \gamma^0 \left( i \tilde{v} \cdot D + i \not{D}_\perp \frac{1}{-2|\mathbf{p}| + i v \cdot D} i \not{D}_\perp \right) \xi_{\tilde{v}}^\chi.\end{aligned}$$



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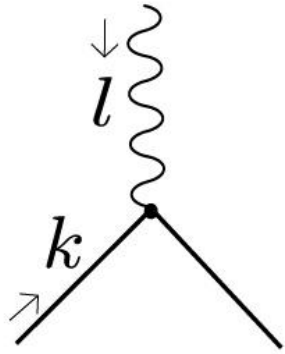
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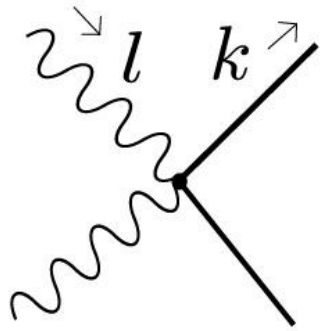
Expand in powers of  $1/p$ .

Then we can derive vertices,  
propagators... up to the desired  
order in the energy expansion.

#### 4.Chiral on-shell effective field theory. (COSEFT)



Vertex	Feynman rule
$V_{(0)}^\mu(k, l)$	$ev^\mu\gamma^0$
$V_{(1)}^\mu(k, l)$	$\frac{e\gamma^0}{ \mathbf{p} } \left( k_\perp^\mu + \frac{l_\perp^\mu}{2} - \frac{i}{2}\sigma_\perp^{\mu\nu}l_\nu \right)$

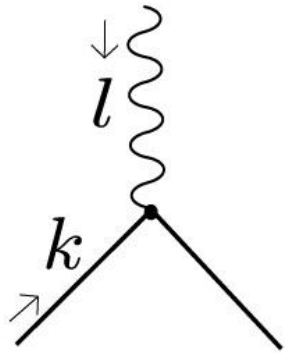


Vertex	Feynman rule
$W_{<(0)}^{\mu\nu}(k, l)$	$-$
$W_{<(1)}^{\mu\nu}(k, l)$	$\frac{ie^2\gamma^0}{ \mathbf{p} } P_\perp^{\mu\nu}$
$W_{<(2)}^{\mu\nu}(k, l)$	$-\frac{ie^2\gamma^0}{8 \mathbf{p} ^2} \left\{ \left[ \sigma_\perp^{\mu\alpha}\tilde{V}^\nu - \sigma_\perp^{\nu\alpha}\tilde{V}^\mu - 2v^i (\sigma_\perp^{\mu\alpha}\delta_i^\nu - \sigma_\perp^{\nu\alpha}\delta_i^\mu) \right] l_\alpha - 2(\tilde{v} \cdot l)\sigma_\perp^{\mu\nu} \right\}$

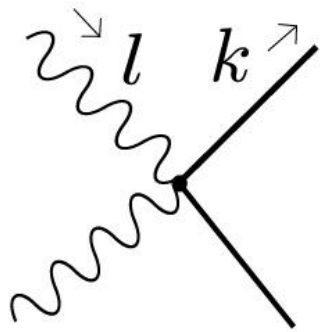
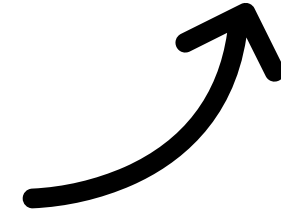
#### 4. Chiral on-shell effective field theory. (COSEFT)

$$\tilde{V}^\mu = \delta_0^\mu - v^i \delta_i^\mu$$

$$\sigma_\perp^{\mu\nu} = P_\perp^{\mu\alpha} P_\perp^{\nu\beta} \sigma_{\alpha\beta}$$



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Chiral projector

$$f(\mathbf{k}) = k_{\parallel} + \frac{\mathbf{k}_{\perp}^2}{2|\mathbf{p}|} \longrightarrow k_{\perp}^2 = P_{\perp}^{\mu\alpha} P_{\perp\nu\alpha} k_{\mu} k_{\nu} = -\mathbf{k}_{\perp}^2$$

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Now we need to turn on the temperature (DDF) !

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Finally the propagators in the Keldysh representation read:

$$S_{A,R}^{\chi}(k) = \frac{P_{\chi}P_v\gamma^0}{k_0 - f(\mathbf{k}) \mp i\epsilon}$$

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Where now the Fermi-Dirac distributions read:

Fermion:

$$n_{\chi}(q_0) = \frac{1}{e^{\beta(|q_0| - \chi\mu_{\chi})} + 1}$$

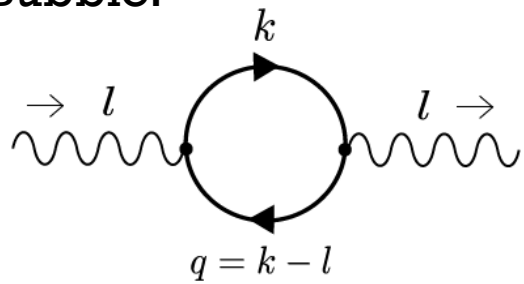
Antifermions:

$$\tilde{n}_{\chi}(q_0) = \frac{1}{e^{\beta(|q_0| + \chi\mu_{\chi})} + 1}.$$

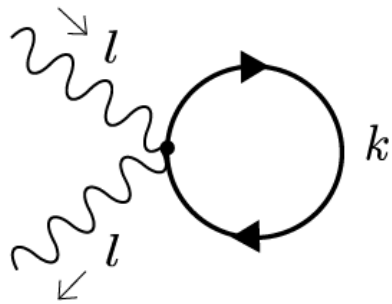
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There are two diagrams that contribute to the self-energy tensor:

**Bubble:**



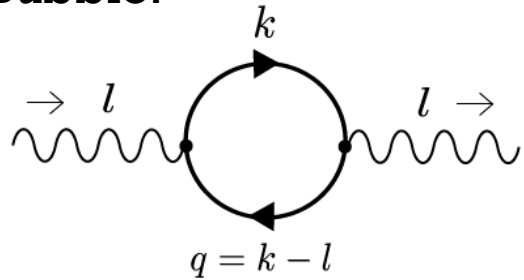
**Tadpole:**



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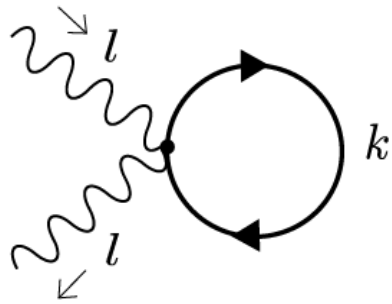
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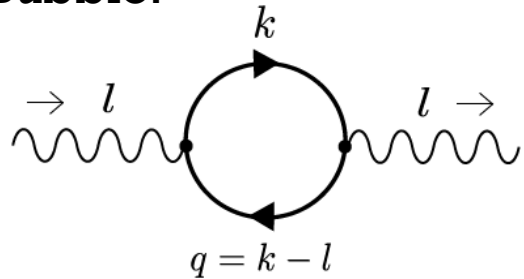


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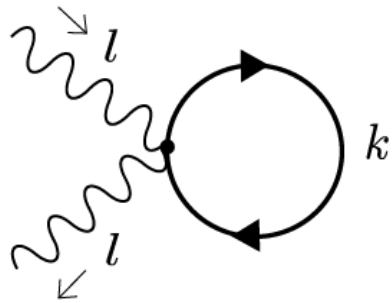
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Antiparticles

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$$\Pi_T^{\mu\nu} = \Pi_{b,T}^{\mu\nu} + \Pi_{t,T}^{\mu\nu}$$



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Angular integration  
gives exactly HTL. **!**

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$$\Pi_T^{00}(l) = 0 \quad \Pi_T^{0i}(l) = 0$$

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Symmetric !

Anti-symmetric !

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Only in chiral  
imbalance!

Parallel to  $\mathbf{B}$  !



## Summary:

- Learn the techniques of QTFT.
- Differences between real and imaginary time formalism.
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The background features several sets of curved lines in the top-left and bottom-right corners. Some lines are solid and light gray, while others are dashed. A large red speech bubble is positioned on the left side of the slide.

## Future work and applications:

- Compute the chiral anomaly using the COSEFT.
- CME in Weyl semi-metals.
- Searches for the CME in heavy-ion collisions.
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