

Erez Berg
Weizmann Institute of Science

Title: What does the Wiedemann-Franz law tell us about strange metals?

Abstract: The Wiedemann-Franz (WF) law, stating that the Lorenz ratio $L = \frac{\kappa}{T\sigma}$ between the electronic thermal and electrical conductivities in a metal approaches a universal constant at low temperatures, is often taken to be a signature of fermionic Landau quasi-particles. In contrast, we show that various models of weakly disordered non-Fermi liquids, where the fermionic quasi-particles are either marginally defined or ill-defined, also obey the WF law at $T \rightarrow 0$. Instead, we argue that the behavior of the leading correction to the WF law at low temperature distinguishes different types of strange metals. In particular, in a solvable model of a marginal Fermi liquid, we find that the leading correction scales as T , in contrast to a Fermi liquid where it is proportional to T^2 .