

Local Fluctuations and  
non-Fermi Liquid Properties  
in Quantum Critical Metals

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# Heavy fermions as prototype QC metals:

- QCPs explicitly identified
  - mostly ( $T=0$ ) transition from a paramagnetic metal to an AF metal
- Stoichiometric/nearly stoichiometric systems:  
YbRh<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>, CeCu<sub>6-x</sub>Au<sub>x</sub>, CePd<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>, CeIn<sub>3</sub>,  
...
- Non-Fermi liquid behavior in the QC regime:
  - Resistivity anomalous (e.g., linear in  $T$ )
  - Specific heat anomalous – two classes:
    - \*  $C_v/T$  singular (e.g.,  $\ln \frac{T_0}{T}$ )
    - \*  $C_v/T$  non-analytic ( $\gamma_0 - \gamma_1 T^\beta$ )
- Fermi liquid behavior recovered away from the QCP



## Traditional picture

Consider AF case, ordering wavevector  $\mathbf{Q} \neq 0$

- $T = 0$  SDW transition (Hertz '76, Millis, Moriya, Lonzarich, Continentino, Lavagna ...)

– Critical d.o.f: long-wavelength fluctuations of the order parameter  $\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{q} \sim \mathbf{Q}, \omega \sim 0)$  (paramagnons)

- $\phi^4$  theory with  $D_{eff} = D + z \geq 4$

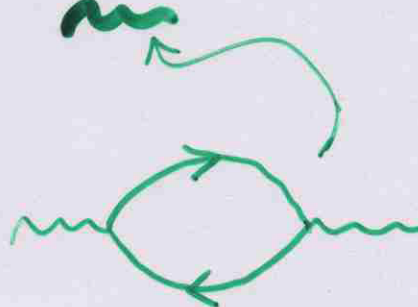
$\Rightarrow$  Gaussian fixed point

- mixed* {
- statics:  $\xi \rightarrow \infty$
  - (quantum) dynamics:  $\xi_\tau \sim \xi^z \rightarrow \infty$

dynamic  
exponent  
 $z = 2$

- Expected dynamical spin susceptibility

$$\chi(\mathbf{q}, \omega) = \frac{1}{a (\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{Q})^2 - i \omega}$$



## Some key puzzles from heavy fermions

- Anomalous exponent  $\alpha < 1$  &  $\omega/T$  scaling:
  - implying non-Gaussian fixed point
- The same  $\alpha$  seen essentially everywhere in the Brillouin zone:
  - suggesting new local physics

A new class of QCP, beyond  $\phi^4$  theory

## Remainder of the talk:

- Microscopic model & comparison w/ expts
- Beyond microscopics

Cf. also Coleman *et al.*; Sachdev *et al.*

## Revisiting on the $T = 0$ SDW picture:

- $\phi^4$  theory appears internally consistent
  - cf. however, Chubukov *et al.*; Belitz & Kirkpatrick
- fermions are by-standers



## Fermions and local moments

- “Kondo-logy” (single local moment)
  - Kondo temperature  $T_K^0$
  - Kondo singlet  $\frac{1}{2} (| \uparrow \rangle_f | \downarrow \rangle_c - | \downarrow \rangle_f | \uparrow \rangle_c )$
  - Kondo resonance
- Heavy fermions: a lattice of local moments in a conduction electron sea

Q: Do “heavy fermions” remain as by-standers at QCP?

- Kondo lattice:

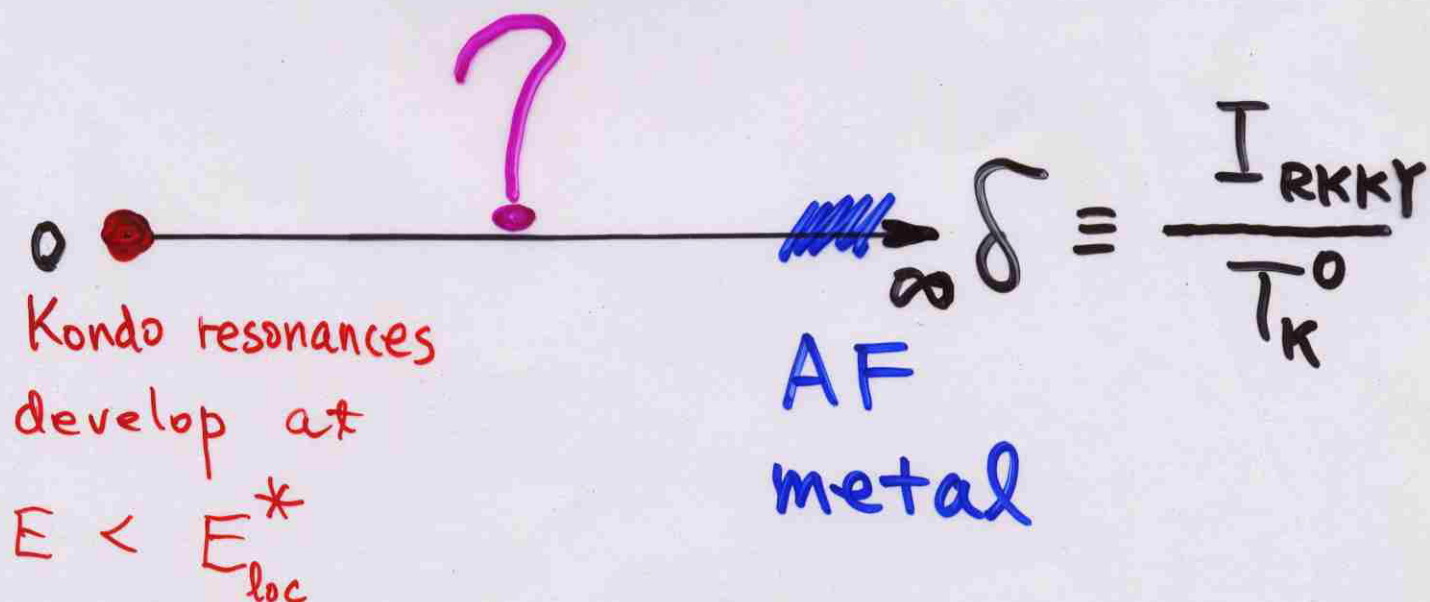
$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{ij, \sigma} t_{ij} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + \sum_i J_K \underline{S_i \cdot s_{c,i}} + \sum_{ij} I_{ij} \underline{S_i \cdot S_j}$$

away from half-filling

local  
moments

- Kondo vs. RKKY

- When  $\delta \equiv \frac{I_{\text{RKKY}}}{T_K^0}$  is small: Kondo resonance develops  
 $\Rightarrow$  paramagnetic metal with heavy quasiparticles  
 (Doniach, Varma, ...)
- When  $\delta$  is very large: AF metal





# Extended-DMFT\* of Kondo lattice

(\* Smith & QS; Chitra & Kotliar)

- Mapping to a Bose-Fermi Kondo model

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{imp}} = J_K \underline{\mathbf{S}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{s}}_c + \sum_{p,\sigma} E_p \underline{c}_{p\sigma}^\dagger \underline{c}_{p\sigma}$$

$$+ g \underline{\mathbf{S}} \cdot \sum_p (\underline{\vec{\phi}}_p + \underline{\vec{\phi}}_{-p}^\dagger) + \sum_p w_p \underline{\vec{\phi}}_p^\dagger \cdot \underline{\vec{\phi}}_p$$

+ self-consistency conditions

fermion bath

$J_K$

fluctuating magnetic field

$g$

local moment  
 $\vec{S}$

- The effective impurity problem determines

– electron self-energy  $\Sigma(\omega)$

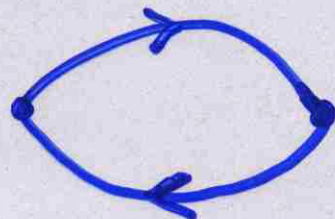
– “spin self-energy”  $M(\omega)$

- Dynamical spin susceptibility

$$\chi(\mathbf{q}, \omega) = \frac{1}{M(\omega) + I_{\mathbf{q}}}$$

Cf. Contrast to RPA:

$M_{\text{RPA}}^{-1}$



$\sim \text{const} - i\omega$

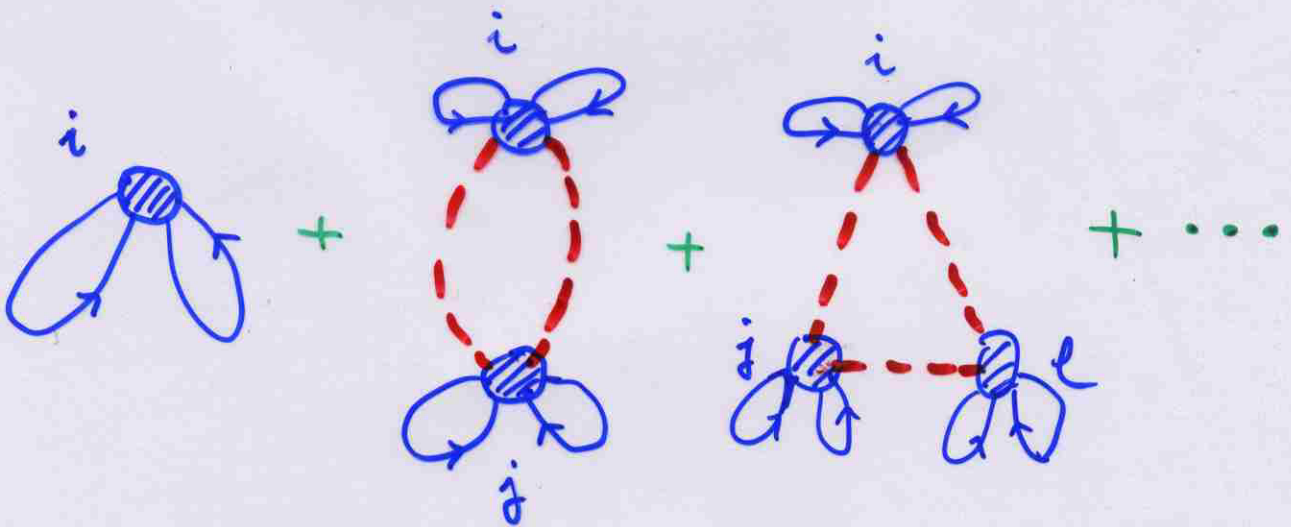


## Extended DMFT

Take Kondo lattice as an example:

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{ij,\sigma} t_{ij} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + \sum_i J_K \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{s}_{c,i} \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} \underline{I_{ij}} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j$$

- Conserving resummation of diagrams:



## Dynamical susceptibility

- The effective impurity problem determines
  - electron self-energy  $\Sigma(\omega)$
  - “spin self-energy”  $M(\omega)$ :

$$M(\omega) = \chi_0^{-1}(\omega) + \frac{1}{\chi_{loc}(\omega)}$$

- Lattice dynamical spin susceptibility

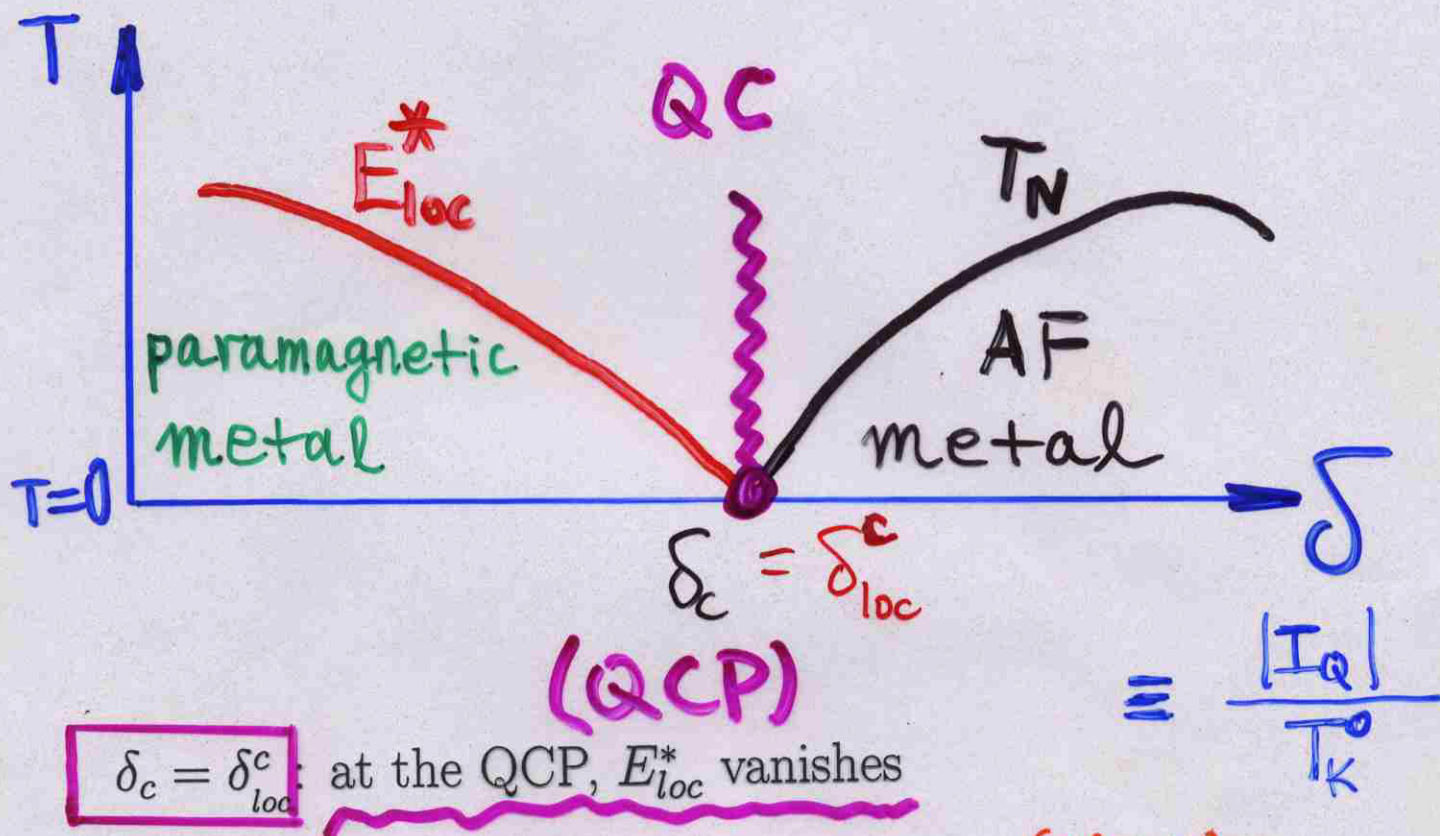
$$\chi(\mathbf{q}, \omega) = \frac{1}{M(\omega) + I_{\mathbf{q}}}$$

## Self-consistency equations

$$\langle G(\mathbf{k}, \omega) \rangle_{\mathbf{k}} = G_{loc}(\omega)$$

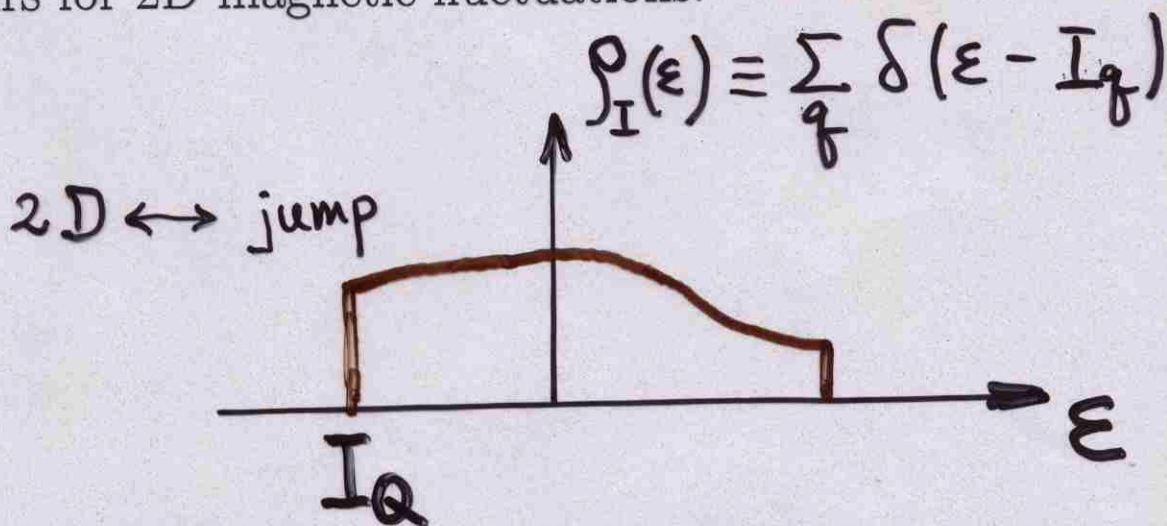
$$\langle \chi(\mathbf{q}, \omega) \rangle_{\mathbf{q}} = \chi_{loc}(\omega)$$

# Locally quantum critical point



This occurs for 2D magnetic fluctuations:

(cf: 3D)



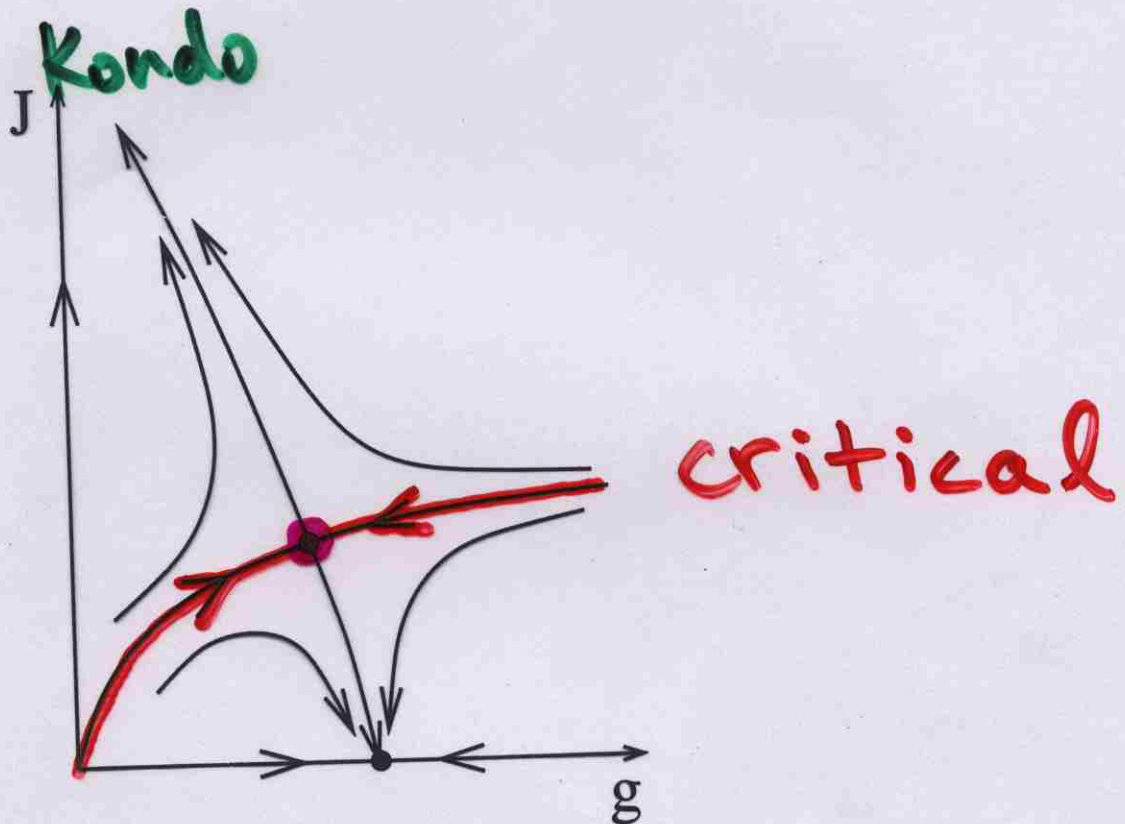
QS, S. Rabello, K. Ingersent, & J. L. Smith, Nature, '01 ;

— — —, cond-mat/0202414 (containing the details)



$\epsilon (\equiv 1 - \gamma)$  expansion of the Bose-Fermi Kondo model

$$\sum_p [\delta(\omega - w_p) - \delta(\omega + w_p)] \sim |\omega|^\gamma \text{sgn} \omega$$



order  $\epsilon$ :

J. L. Smith & QS '97

A. M. Sengupta '97

higher orders:

L. Zhu & QS '02

G. Zarand & E. Demler '02

$J = 0$ :

S. Sachdev & J. Ye '93 (large  $N$ )

M. Vojta, C. Buragohain, & S. Sachdev '00

## At the QCP:

- Local susceptibility

$$\chi_{loc}(\omega) = \frac{1}{2\Lambda} \ln \frac{\Lambda}{-i\omega}$$

where  $\Lambda \approx T_K^0$

- “spin self-energy”

$$M(\omega) \approx -I_{\mathbf{Q}} + A (-i\omega)^\alpha$$

with

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{2\rho_I(I_{\mathbf{Q}})\Lambda} \sim \frac{1}{2}$$

# Numerical identification of LCP

(D. Grempel & QS, cond-mat/0207493)

- Anisotropic Kondo lattice:

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{ij,\sigma} t_{ij} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + \sum_i J_K \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{s}_{c,i} \\ + \sum_{ij} \frac{I_{ij}}{2} S_i^z S_j^z$$

- EDMFT  $\Rightarrow$

$$Z_{\text{imp}} \sim \int \mathcal{D}n \int d\lambda \exp[-\int_0^\beta d\tau \mathcal{L}/2]$$

where

$$\mathcal{L} = i\lambda(n^2 - \frac{1}{4}) + \frac{1}{g}(\partial_\tau n)^2 - \int d\tau' n(\tau)n(\tau') \times \\ \times [\chi_0^{-1}(\tau - \tau') - \mathcal{K}_c(\tau - \tau')]$$

and self-consistency conditions

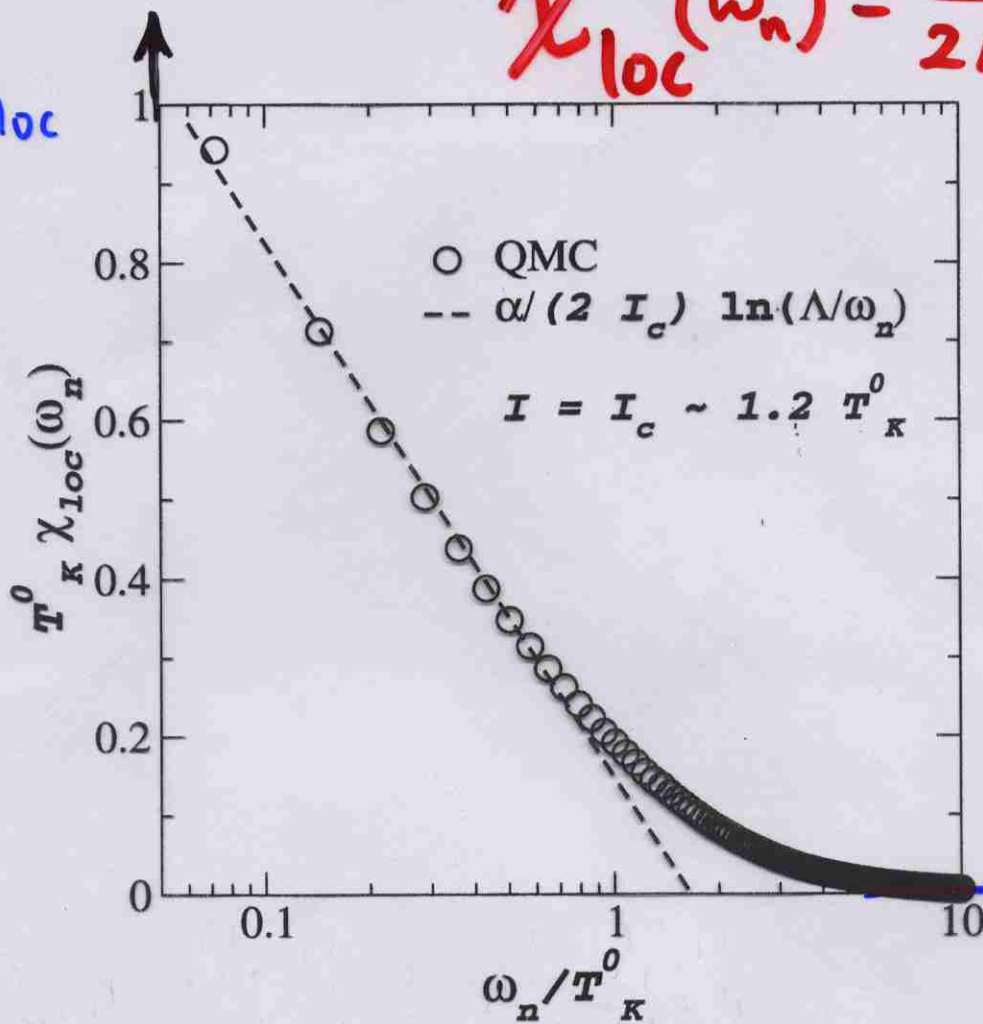
- QMC (Grempel & Rozenberg)
- Large N limit (Ye, Sachdev & Read; Sengupta & Georges)



- Local susceptibility at  $I = I_c$ :

$T_K^0 \chi_{loc}$

$$\chi_{loc}(\omega_n) = \frac{1}{2\Lambda} \ln \frac{\Lambda}{|\omega_n|}$$

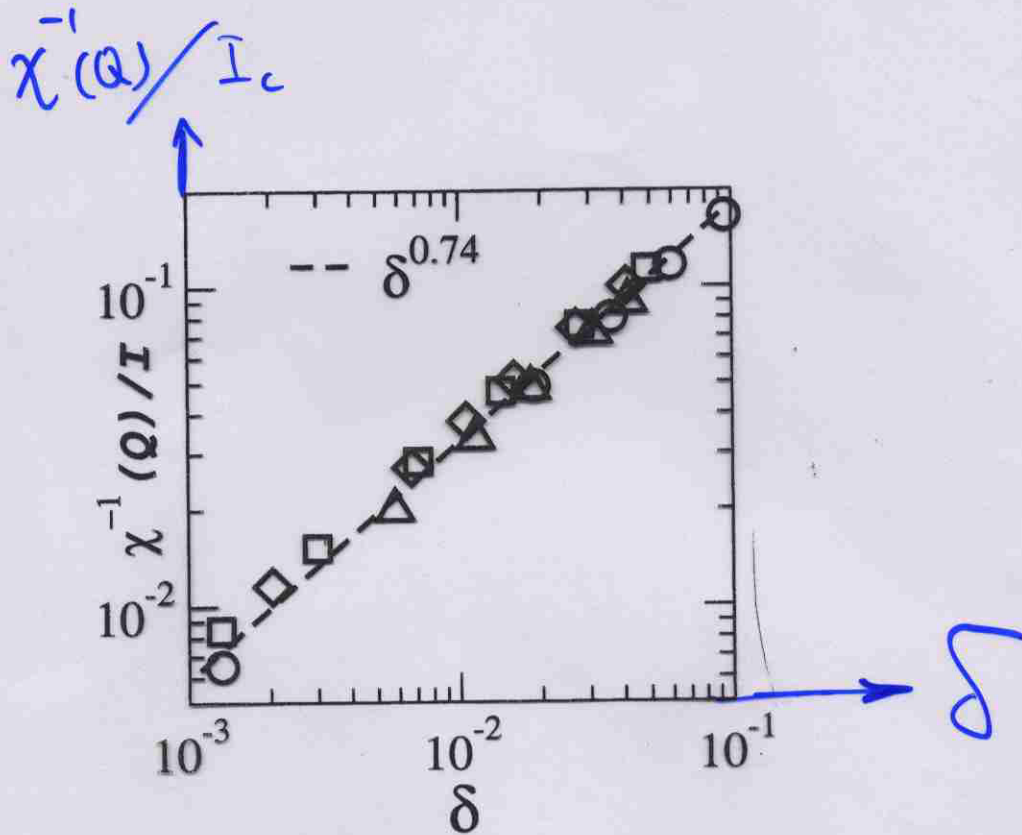


$\omega_n / T_K^0$

$$T = 0.01 T_K^0$$

- also consistent with large N saddle-point results

- Inverse peak susceptibility at  $I \sim I_c$



$$\chi^{-1}(Q, \omega=0) \sim \delta^{\alpha}$$

$$\bullet \delta(T=0) \propto (I_c - I) \quad \cancel{\psi} \quad \alpha \approx 0.7$$

$$\bullet \delta(T, I_c) \propto T$$

- Importance of treating both Kondo and RKKY (unstable fixed point of  $H_{\text{imp}}$ ):

- Locally critical solution is numerically stable to  $T=0$

- Spin-isotropic case: numerical algorithms capable of treating both Kondo and RKKY are yet to be developed

- Cf. complementary results from S. Burdin, M. Grilli, and D. R. Grempel, cond-mat/0206174

- \* EDMFT w/ RKKY alone (stable fixed point of  $H_{\text{imp}}$ ):

- \* solution for the spin-liquid phase develops instability at  $T < T_{\text{inst}}$

## Spin dynamics at the locally QCP:

- Dynamical spin susceptibility

$$\chi(\mathbf{q}, \omega) = \frac{1}{(I_{\mathbf{q}} - I_{\mathbf{Q}}) + A \underbrace{(-i\omega)^{\alpha}} \mathcal{M}(\omega/T)}$$

- Static uniform spin susceptibility

$$\chi(T) = \frac{1}{\Theta + B \underbrace{T^{\alpha}}}$$

- NMR relaxation rate:

$$\frac{1}{T_1} \sim A_{hf}^2 \frac{\pi}{8\Lambda}$$



## Scaling function

- “spin self-energy”

$$M(\omega) \approx -I_{\mathbf{Q}} + C T^{\alpha} \mathcal{M}(\omega/T)$$

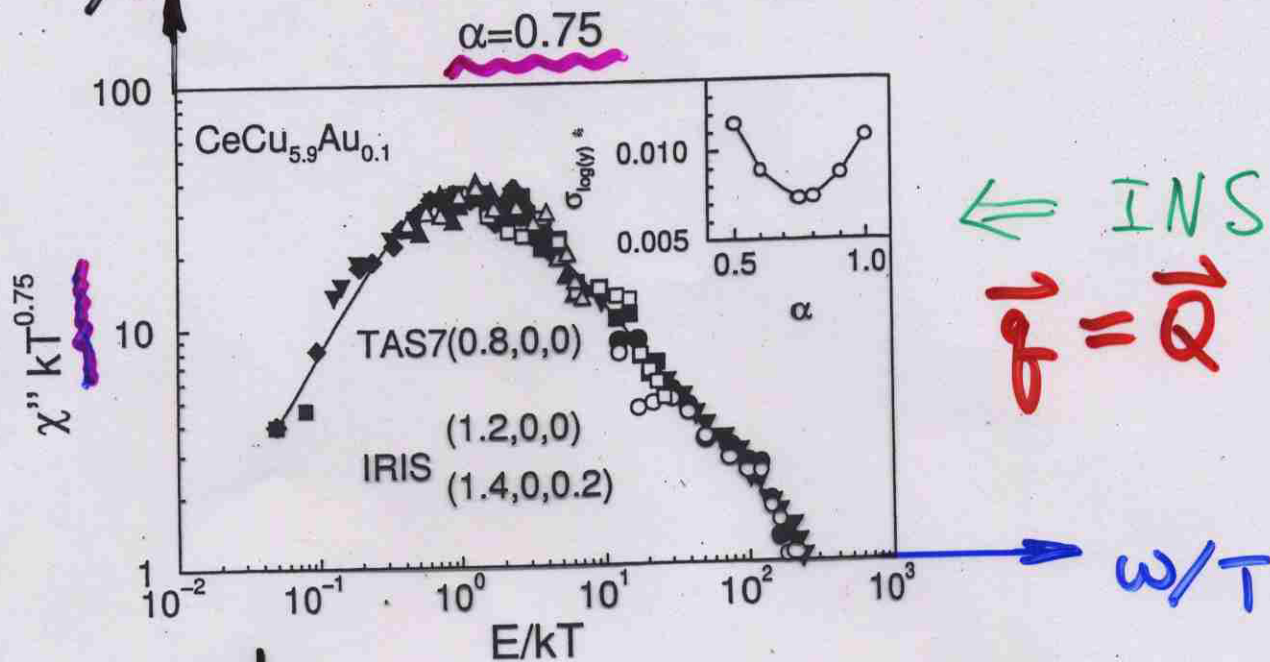
where

$$\mathcal{M}(\omega/T) = \exp[\alpha \psi(1/2 - i\omega/2\pi T)]$$

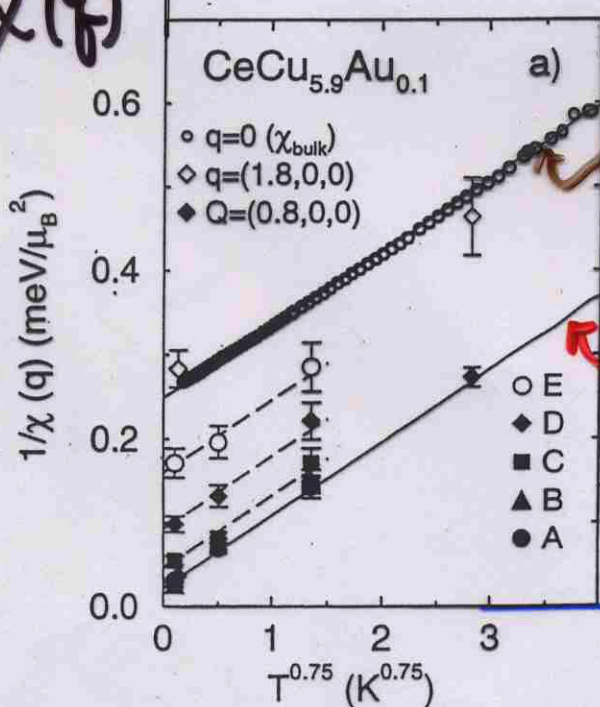
- at the peak wavevector:

$$\chi(\mathbf{Q}, \omega, T) \propto \frac{1}{T^{\alpha}} \frac{1}{\mathcal{M}(\omega/T)}$$

$$T^{0.75} \chi''(Q, \omega, T)$$



$$\frac{1}{\chi(q)}$$



INS  $\Rightarrow$

M/H  $\Rightarrow$

$$\vec{q} = 0$$

$$\vec{q} = \vec{Q}$$

$$T^{0.75}$$

A. Schröder *et al.*, Nature '00; A. Schröder, G. Aeppli, E. Bucher,  
 R. Ramazashvili, & P. Coleman, PRL '98 ; O. Stockert, H. v.  
 Löhneysen, A. Rosch, N. Pyka, & M. Loewenhaupt, PRL '98

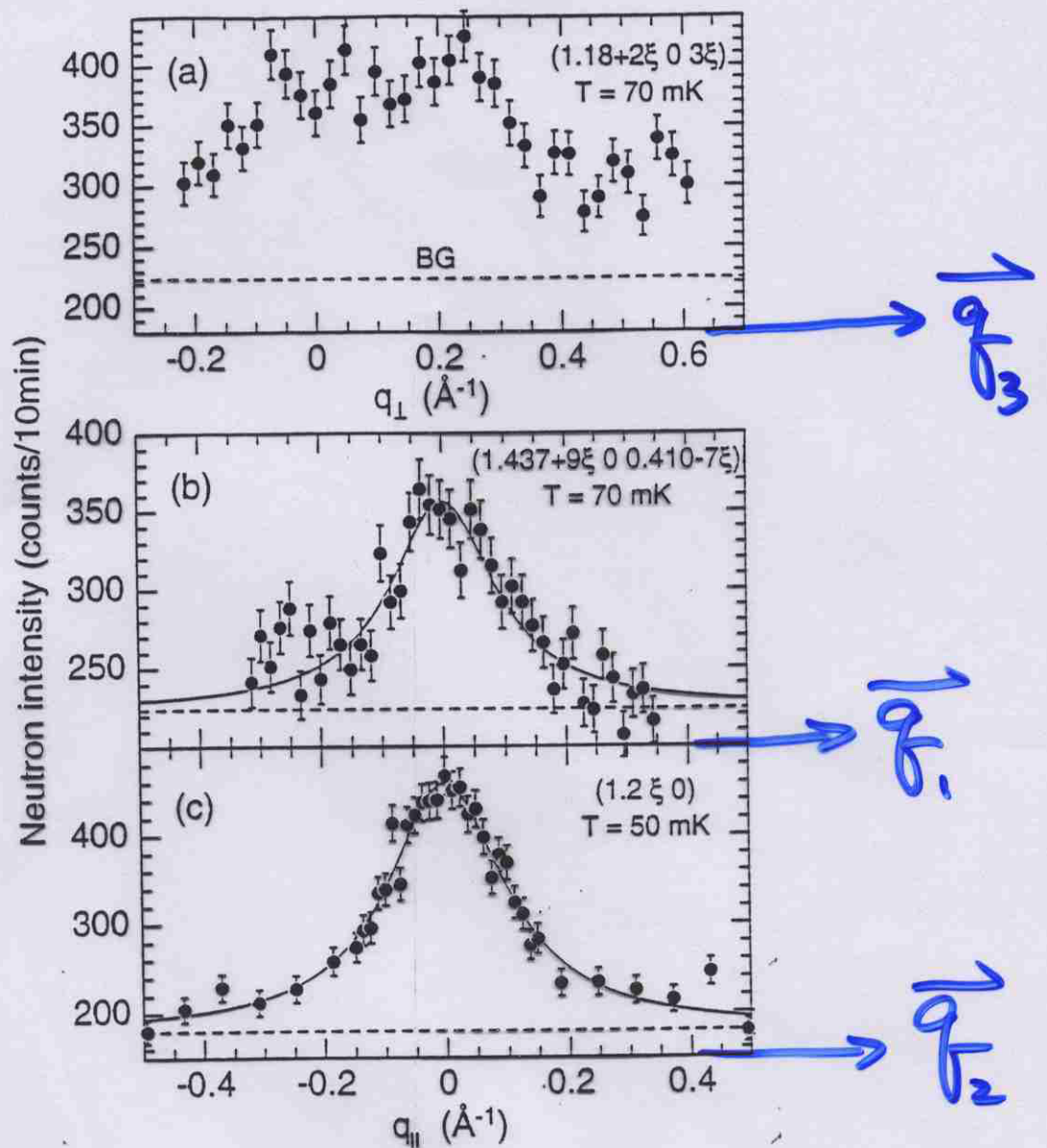
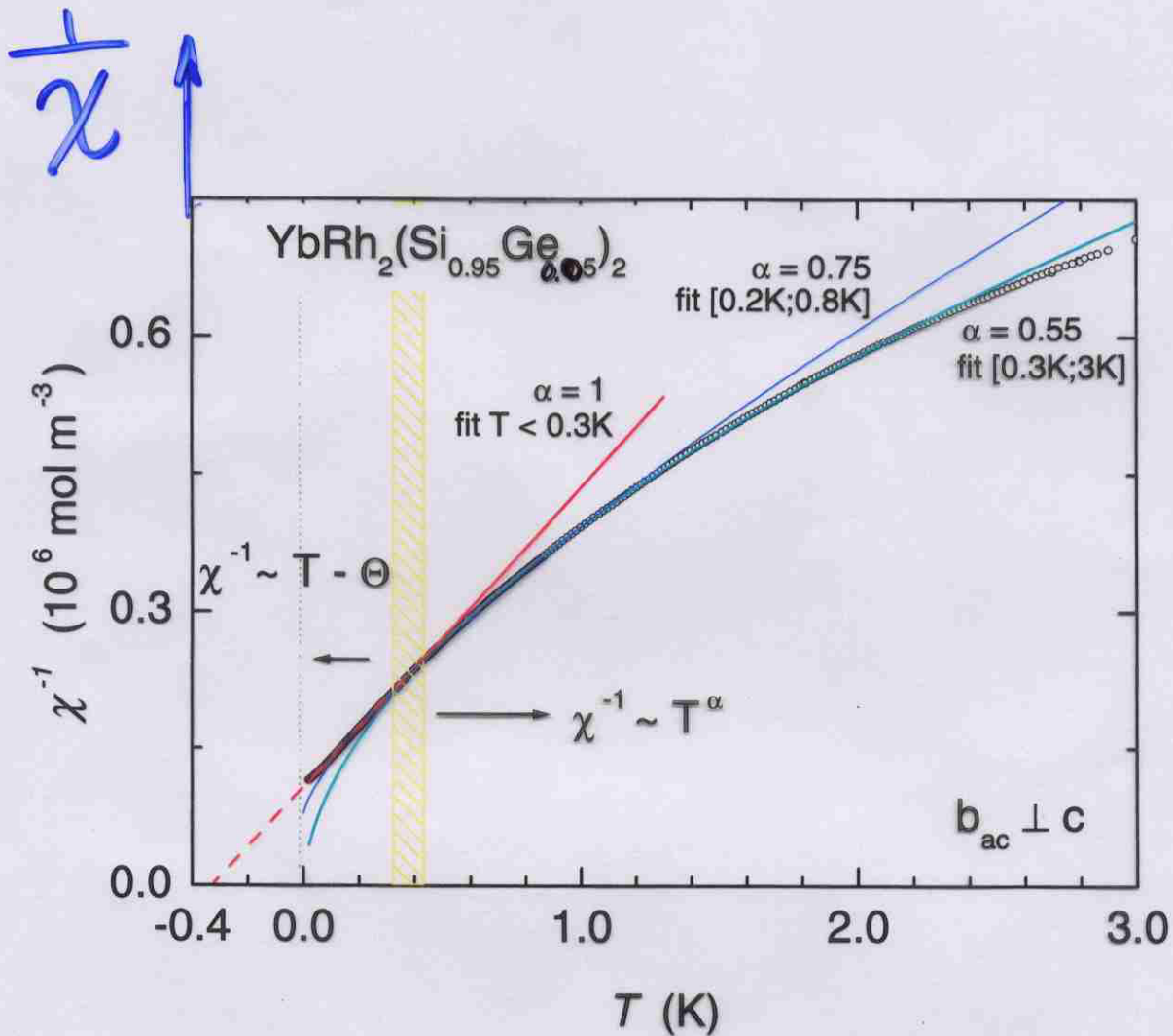


FIG. 3.  $q$  scans along (a) and across [(b) and (c)] the rodlike feature in  $\text{CeCu}_{5.9}\text{Au}_{0.1}$  for  $\hbar\omega = 0.1$  meV and  $k_f = 1.15 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  ( $T = 50/70$  mK). There is only a weak  $q$  dependence along the rods, while transverse scans show peaks with nearly the same linewidth.

A. Rosch, A. Schröder, O. Stockert, and H. v. Lohneysen, PRL '97;

O. Stockert *et al.*, PRL '98; A. Schröder *et al.*, Nature '00

# susceptibility in $\text{YbRh}_2(\text{Si}_{0.95}\text{Ge}_{0.05})_2$



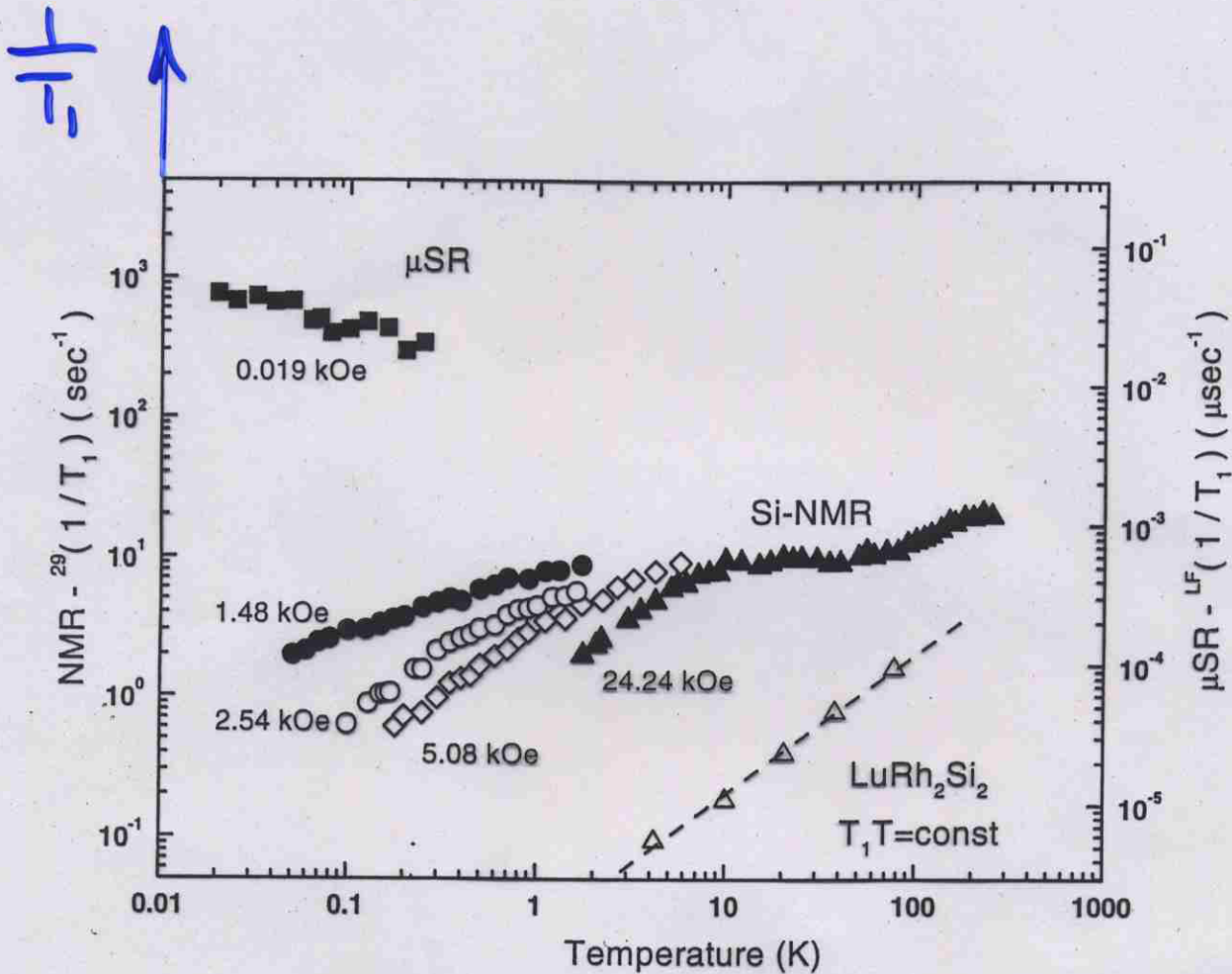
P. Gegenwart, J. Custers, T. Tayama, K. Tenya, C. Geibel, O. Trovarelli, F. Steglich, & K. Neumeier, '02;

O. Trovarelli, C. Geibel, S. Mederle, C. Langhammer, F. M. Grosche,

P. Gegenwart, M. Lang, G. Sparn, & F. Steglich, PRL '00



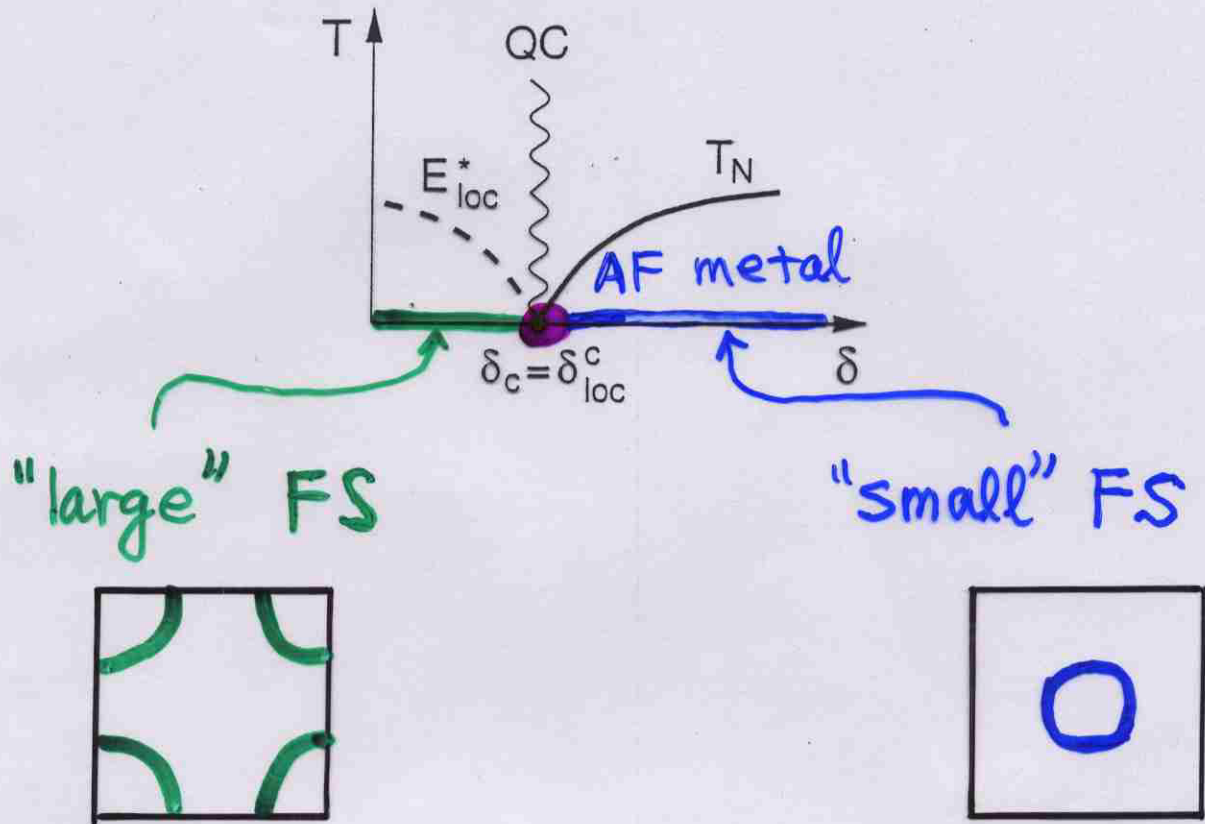
# NMR & $\mu$ SR in $\text{YbRh}_2\text{Si}_2$



NMR: K. Ishida, K. Okamoto, Y. Kawasaki, Y. Kitaoka, O. Trovarelli, C. Geibel, & F. Steglich, PRL '02;

$\mu$ SR: K. Ishida, D. E. MacLaughlin, O. O. Bernal, R. H. Heffner, G. J. Nieuwenhuys, O. Trovarelli, C. Geibel, & F. Steglich, '02

## • Fermi surface evolution



## • Fermi surface probes

### – Hall coefficient expected to jump

\* P. Coleman, C. Pépin, QS, & R. Ramazashvili, JPCM '01

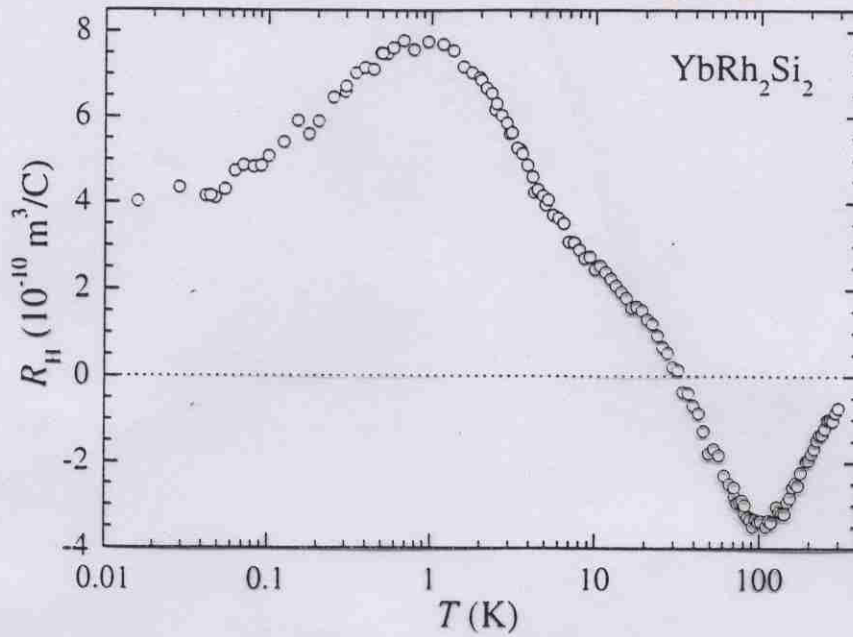
\* QS, S. Rabello, K. Ingersent, & J. L. Smith, cond-mat/0202414

\* for  $\text{Cr}_{1-x}\text{V}_x$ : A. Yeh, Y. A. Soh, J. Brooke, G. Aeppli, T. F. Rosenbaum, & S. M. Hayden '02

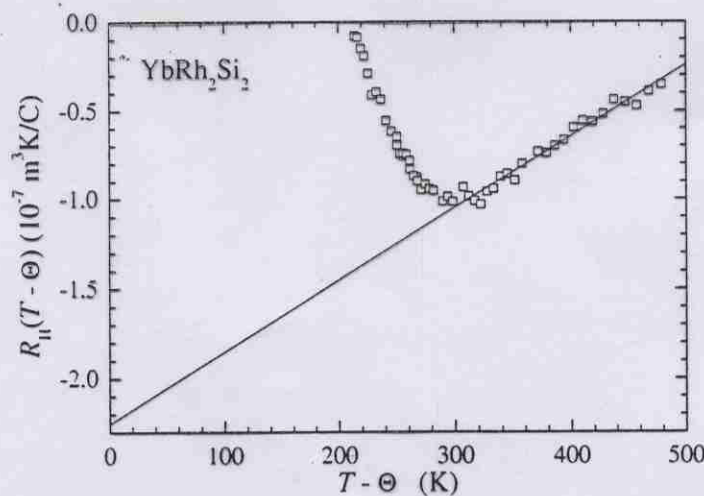
– de Haas-van Alphen

– Residual resistivity vs.  $\delta$

S. Paschen et al.  
SCES '02



$$R_H(T \rightarrow 0) \approx R_{\text{cond}}$$



$$R_H(T) = R_0 + R_s \chi(T)$$

presumably  
 $R_0 \approx R_{\text{cond}}$

Fig. 2. Hall coefficient  $R_H$  multiplied by the difference of temperature  $T$  and paramagnetic Weiss temperature  $\Theta$  vs  $T - \Theta$ . The linear behaviour above 120 K allows for the separation of  $R_H$  into a normal and an anomalous contribution.



## Outlook

- More Local probes and Fermi surface studies
- Dimensionality *and frustration*:

cf.  $\text{Ce}_{1-x}\text{La}_x\text{Ru}_2\text{Si}_2$  is 3D and appears to be Gaussian:  
S. Raymond *et al.* '01

- The effect of disorder *and frustration*:

cf.  $\text{UCu}_{5-x}\text{Pd}_x$ :

- Neutron scattering:  $\omega/T$  scaling  
(M. Aronson *et al.* '95)
- $\mu\text{SR}$ :  $T$ -independent relaxation rate  
(D. MacLaughlin *et al.* '01)
- Cu-site NMR:  $1/T_1 \sim T$  (J. L. Gavilano *et al.* '97;  
N. Büttgen *et al.* '00)



## Beyond microscopics

### Weak-coupling indications for local criticality

- Gaussian theory

$$\chi^G(\mathbf{q}, \omega) = \frac{1}{a (\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{Q})^2 - i \omega}$$

$\Rightarrow$  in 2D, the local (i.e.,  $\mathbf{q}$ -averaged) susceptibility at the Gaussian level is singular:

$$\chi_{loc}^G \sim \ln \frac{1}{-i\omega}$$

- This singularity can lead to important non-linear effects in the dynamics of local degrees of freedom — such as local moments in heavy fermion metals.

## Robustness of the locally critical point

- GL action:

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{LCP}} = \mathcal{S}_{lw} [\phi(\mathbf{q} \sim \mathbf{Q}, \omega)] + \mathcal{S}_{loc} + \mathcal{S}_{mix}$$

- For  $\alpha < 1$ , the long-wavelength part is Gaussian:  $D + z > 4$

– yields a contribution to the spin self-energy with a non-singular  $\mathbf{q}$ -dependence

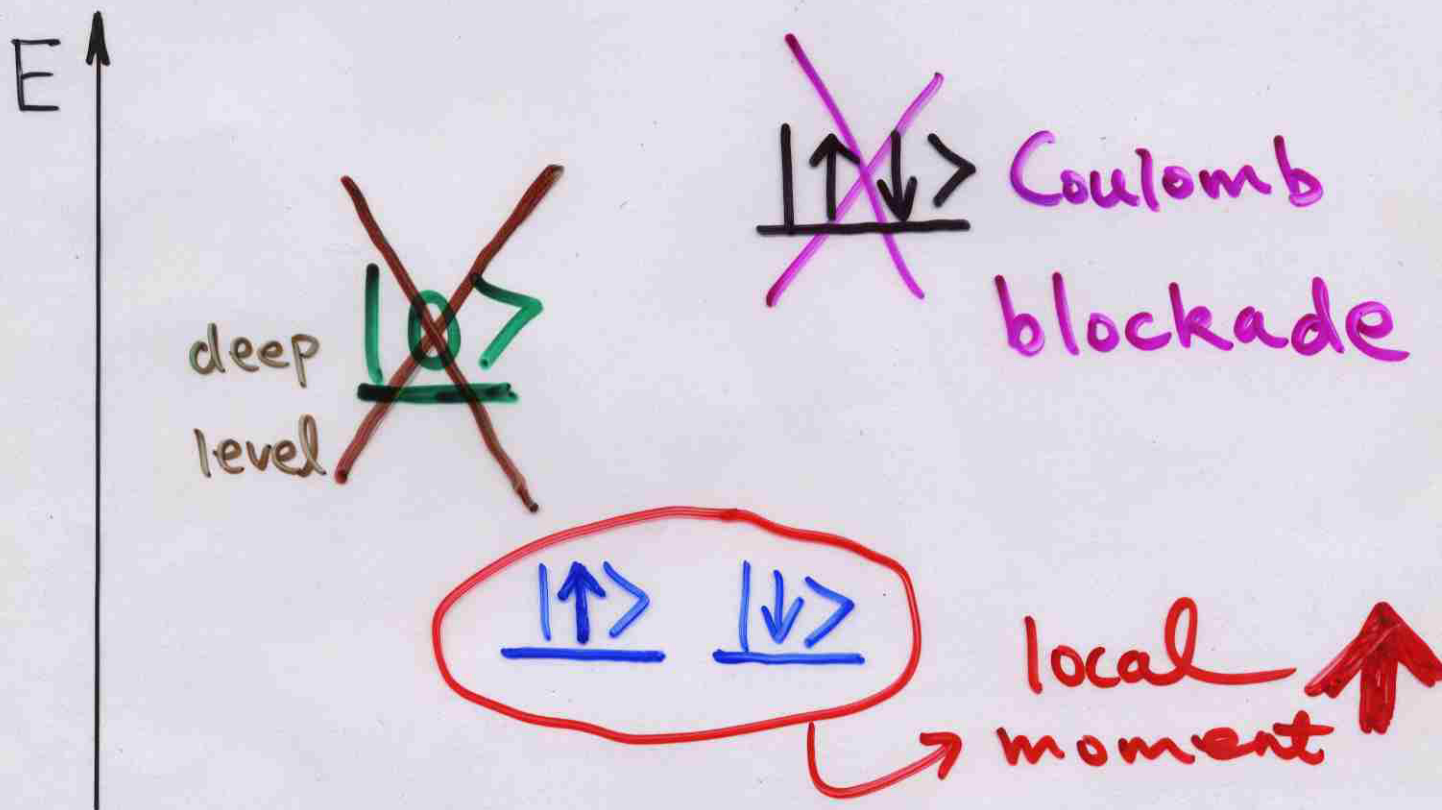
- The contribution to the spin self-energy from the coupling to the local modes should also have a smooth  $\mathbf{q}$ -dependence

- $\Rightarrow$  The spatial anomalous dimension  $\eta = 0$ ,  
 $\chi(\mathbf{q} \sim \mathbf{Q}) \sim 1/|\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{Q}|^2$

- $\Rightarrow$  Singular  $\chi_{loc}$  is robust, so is local criticality

## Broader implications

- What is a local moment anyway?



- Local physics in Mott-Hubbard systems

QC in

- Ruthenates [Grigera *et al.* '01] and (?) Cuprates

## Summary

- Experiments: non-Gaussian QC metals
- Two types of quantum phase transitions
  - $T=0$  SDW transition (Gaussian)
  - Locally critical: local critical modes co-exist with long-wavelength fluctuations of the order parameter (interacting)
- The locally critical picture provides a natural understanding of some outstanding puzzles in heavy fermion metals
- A jump in the Hall coefficient is predicted
- Broader implications of local criticality