

# General bounds on shot noise in the absence of currents: charge and heat transport

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KITP conference on "Transport and Efficient Energy Conversion in Quantum Systems", 31st of August 2021

- ▶ **Short introduction:** – Charge and heat currents and noise.

J. Eriksson, M. Acciai, L. Tesser, J. Splettstoesser: arXiv:2102.12988 (2021); accepted for publication in Phys. Rev. Lett.

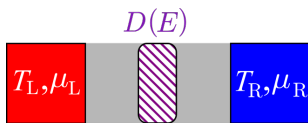
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- ▶ Example for a concrete conductor.

## **Introduction – Charge and heat currents and noise**

## Charge and heat transport



- Thermoelectrics
- Transport spectroscopy

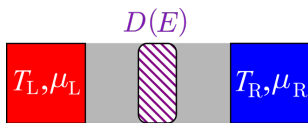
### Charge current:

$$I_L = -\frac{2e}{h} \int dE D(E) [f_L(E) - f_R(E)]$$

### Heat current:

$$J_L = \frac{2}{h} \int dE (E - \mu_L) D(E) [f_L(E) - f_R(E)]$$

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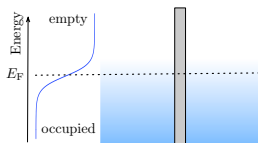
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G. Benenti, G. Casati, K. Saito, R. S. Whitney: Phys. Rep. 694, 1 (2017)

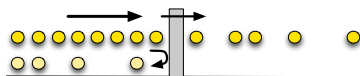
## Noise

- Further spectroscopy
- Important for "non-macroscopic" thermodynamics
- TUR, FR, ...

### Thermal noise



### Shot noise = partition noise



Ya. M. Blanter, M. Büttiker: Phys. Rep. 336, 1 (2000)



## Introduction: Shot noise (in the absence of currents)

Shot and thermal noise:

$$S_{\text{th}}^X = \int dE \frac{4x^2}{h} D(E) \sum_{\alpha=L,R} f_{\alpha}(E)[1 - f_{\alpha}(E)] \Rightarrow \text{Persists at equilibrium}$$

$$S_{\text{sh}}^X = \int dE \frac{4x^2}{h} D(E)[1 - D(E)][f_L(E) - f_R(E)]^2 \Rightarrow \text{Nonequilibrium effect!}$$

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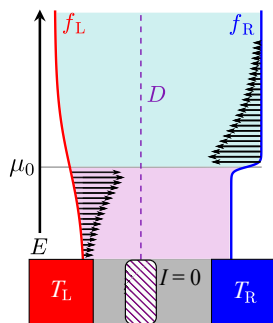
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- **Delta-T-noise**

E. V. Sukhorukov, D. Loss: Phys. Rev. B **59**, 13054 (1999)

- **Recently measured!!**

O. S. Lumbroso, L. Simine, A. Nitzan, D. Segal, O. Tal: Nature **562**, 240 (2018)

E. Sivre, H. Duprez, A. Anthore, A. Aassime, F. D. Parmentier, A. Cavanna, A. Ouerghi, U. Gennser, F. Pierre: Nat. Commun. **10**, 1 (2019)

- **Limit for  $T_L \gg T_R \approx 0$**

$$S_{\text{sh}}^I / S_{\text{th}}^I \rightarrow (1 - D^0) (2 \ln 2 - 1)$$

S. Larocque, E. Pinsolle, C. Lupien, B. Reulet: Phys. Rev. Lett. **125**, 106801 (2020)

## Challenge to address

### Generalize to:

- ▶ Arbitrary energy-dependent transmission probabilities
- ▶ Generic nonequilibrium conditions
- ▶ Other types of currents: heat

Charge shot noise

$S_{\text{sh}}^J$   
at thermovoltage  $\mu_I$

Heat shot noise

$S_{\text{sh}}^J$   
with  $J = 0$  at  $\mu_J$

⇒ Find general statements on shot noise at zero currents

⇒ Particularly interesting for thermoelectrics

**Zero-current charge and **heat** shot noise in  
constant-transmission conductors**

# Zero-current charge and heat shot noise at constant transmission



## Charge transport:

### Delta-T-noise

$\Delta T \neq 0$  and  $\Delta\mu \equiv 0$ :

$\Rightarrow I = 0$ , but  $S_{\text{sh}}^I \neq 0$

## Heat transport:

Heat conduction  $\rightarrow$  voltage required

$$J_L = D \frac{\Delta\mu^2}{2h} - D \frac{\pi^2 k_B^2}{6h} [T_L^2 - T_R^2]$$

### Heat current NOT conserved!

Consider vanishing zero-current heat shot noise in contact L...

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$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{S_{\text{sh}}^I}{S_{\text{th}}^I} \right|_{I=0} &= R_I \rightarrow R_I^0 \\ &= (1 - D)(2 \ln 2 - 1) \approx 0.4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{S_{\text{sh}}^J}{S_{\text{th}}^J} \right|_{J=0} &= R_J \rightarrow R_J^0 \\ &= 3(1 - D)A(\pi/\sqrt{3})/\pi^2 \approx 0.45 \end{aligned}$$

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**Can not be exceeded at any temperature difference if  $D = \text{const}$ .**



## **General bounds on zero-current charge and heat shot noise**

# General bounds??

Charge transport    Which  $D(E)$  maximizes  $S_{\text{sh}}^I$ ?

$$S_{\text{sh}}^I = \frac{4e^2}{h} \int dE D(E)[1 - D(E)][f_{\text{L}}(E) - f_{\text{R}}(E)]^2$$

Maximal at constant transmission  $D = 1/2$  — even if  $I \equiv 0$  imposed!

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Which  $D(E)$  maximizes  $R_I$ ? Can the bound be reached?

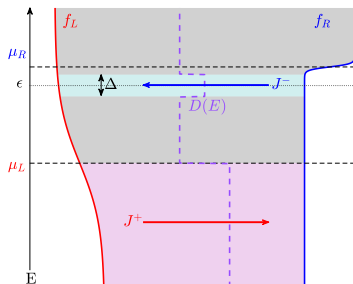
$$R_I \lesssim 1$$

**Any**  $D(E) \neq 0$  within an energy interval  $\delta$ , with  $\max(T_{\text{L}}, T_{\text{R}}) \gg \delta/k_{\text{B}} \gg \min(T_{\text{L}}, T_{\text{R}})$  and  $D(E) \ll 1$ .

# General bounds??

Heat shot noise is not bounded with respect to heat thermal noise!

Counter example:

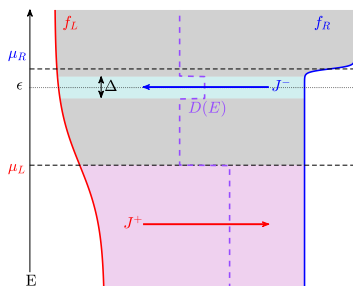


- Counter example with finite transmission in **separate** energy intervalls!  
⇒ Major contributions to shot and thermal noise can be separately tuned!
- Different transport channels  $\Leftrightarrow$  different energy!

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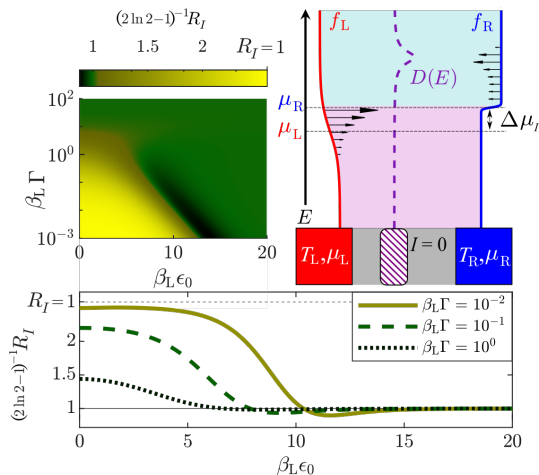
$$R_J = \left. \frac{S_{\text{sh}}^J}{S_{\text{th}}^J} \right|_{J=0} \text{ can become arbitrarily large!}$$

**Concrete example: Conductor with resonant  
(Lorentzian-shaped) transmission**

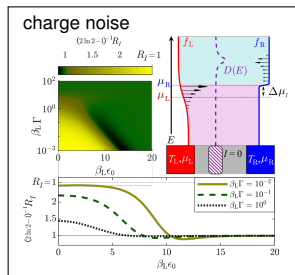


# Concrete example: Lorentzian transmission

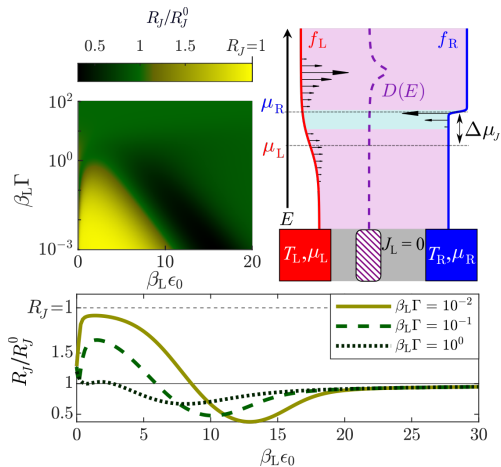
Zero-current charge noise ratio:



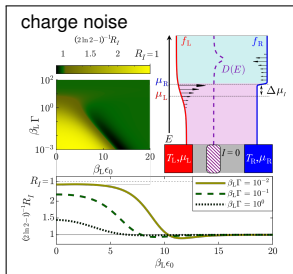
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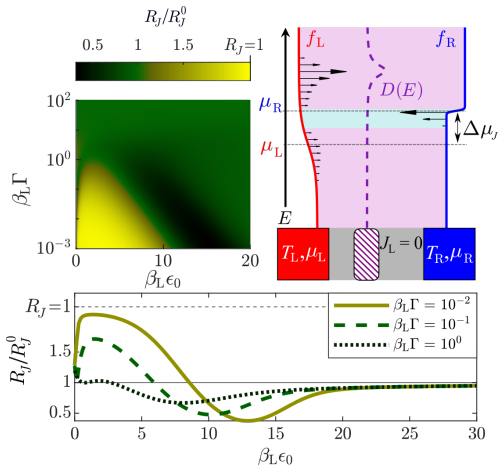


$R_J \leq 1$  for this specific transmission probability!

Test more complex transmissions to reach  $R_J \geq 1$ !

e.g. F. Hajiloo, P. T. Alonso, N. Dashti, L. Arrachea, J. Splettstoesser: Phys. Rev. B **102**, 155434 (2020)

Zero-current heat noise ratio:



# Conclusions

- **Zero-current shot noise extended to heat transport!**  
Generic nonequilibrium conditions (beyond  $\Delta T$  noise), arbitrary transmission probabilities
- **Simple expressions for limits of  $R = S_{\text{sh}}/S_{\text{th}}$  at constant  $D$**
- **General bounds on shot noise to thermal noise ratio at zero current**  
Zero-current charge shot noise bounded by thermal noise; heat shot noise behaves fundamentally differently!!
- **Lorentzian transmission as example**

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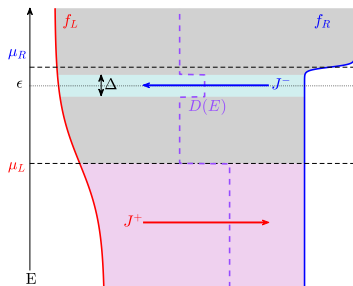
## Outlook

- Many relevant cases in quantum thermoelectrics where  $I, J = 0$  but  $S_I, S_J \neq 0$   
R. Sánchez, J. Splettstoesser, R. S. Whitney: Nonequilibrium System as a Demon. Phys. Rev. Lett. **123**, 216801 (2019)
- Fluctuation dissipation theorem out of equilibrium?  
B. Altaner, M. Polettini, M. Esposito: Fluctuation-Dissipation Relations Far from Equilibrium. Phys. Rev. Lett. **117**, 180601 (2016)

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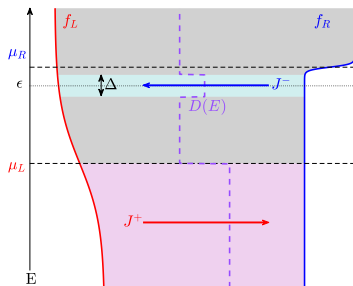
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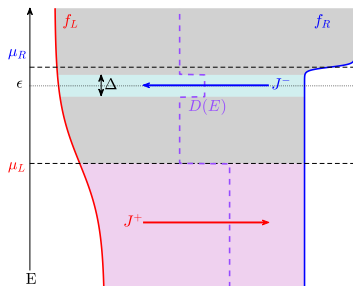
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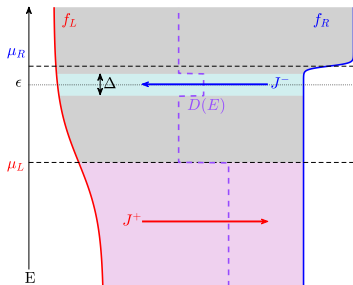
$$S_{\text{Sh}}^J = \frac{1}{h} \int_{\epsilon - \Delta/2}^{\epsilon + \Delta/2} dE E^2 [f_L - f_R]^2$$
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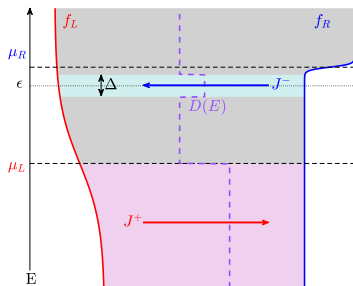
- Thermal noise contribution from **lower part**: **Independent of  $\epsilon$ !!**

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**$R_J$  can become arbitrarily large!**