



复旦大学物理系 Colloquium

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Excitations, Spin-Charge Separation, and Quantum Phase Transition

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Abstract: Quasi-particles play important role in condensed matter physics and result in many emergent novel phenomena. In this talk, we discuss collective excitations in one-dimension as exemplified by antiferromagnetic Heisenberg model and δ -function interacting Fermi gas (Yang-Gaudin model). Using the thermodynamic Bethe ansatz (TBA) formalism, we analytically derive universal properties of the models with arbitrary interaction strength, and present a rigorous understanding of spin-charge separation, a unique feature predicted by the Tomonaga-Luttinger liquid (TLL) theory. Spinon, as an elementary spin excitation, is responsible for the TLL. We show that a dimensionless quantity, the Wilson ratio (RW), elegantly characterizes quantum liquid phase diagram. For the TLL phase, $RW = 4Ks$ remains almost temperature independent, where Ks is the Luttinger parameter. RW can be used to identify quantum phase transitions for a wide variety of materials. Based on the exact low-lying excitation spectra, we further evaluate the spin and charge dynamical structure factors (DSFs). The peaks of the DSFs exhibit distinguishable propagating velocities of spin and charge as functions of interaction strength, which can be observed by Bragg spectroscopy with ultracold atoms.

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