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Transport anomaly at the ordering transition for adatoms on graphene

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We analyze a manifestation of the partial ordering transition of adatoms on graphene in resistivity measurements. We find that Kekulé mosaic ordering of adatoms increases sheet resistance of graphene, due to a gap opening in its spectrum, and that critical fluctuations of the order parameter lead to a non-monotonic temperature dependence of resistivity, with a cusp-like minimum at $T = T_c$.

Impurities in metals experience a long-range RKKY interaction due to polarization of the electron Fermi sea (Friedel oscillations) [1]. For surface adsorbents such an interaction may result in their structural ordering, repeating the pattern of the Friedel oscillations of electron density [2]. In particular, a dilute ensemble of adatoms on graphene may undergo a partial ordering transition [3–6].

Unlike other materials, the RKKY interaction between adatoms on graphene exists even at zero carrier density, with a characteristic long-range $1/r^3$ dependence, and it exhibits the Friedel oscillations which are commensurate with the underlying honeycomb lattice. For adatoms residing above the centers of the honeycombs, the intervalley scattering of the electrons by adatoms leads to Friedel oscillations that resemble a $\sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3}$ charge-density wave superlattice. Positions of each individual adatom relative to such superlattice can be characterized by one of three vectors, $\mathbf{u} = (\cos \frac{2\pi m}{3}, \sin \frac{2\pi m}{3})$, with m = -1, 0, 1. The transition of an ensemble of adatoms into a "Kekulé mosaic" ordered state [3], characterized by the order parameter $\overline{\mathbf{u}}$, falls in the symmetry class of 3-state Potts models [7].

In this paper we analyze how partial "Kekulé" ordering of adatoms on graphene affects its resistivity, ρ , in the regime of low coverage $n_i a^2 \ll 1$ (n_i is the concentration of adatoms, a is the lattice constant). The behaviour of the temperature dependent resistivity correction $\delta \rho(T) = \rho(T) - \rho(\infty)$ is sketched in Fig. 1. At $T \ll T_c$ (region I) the temperature dependence of the resistivity is dominated by a non-vanishing order parameter $\overline{\mathbf{u}}$ causing the amplified intervalley mixing and opening a gap $\Delta \propto \overline{\mathbf{u}} \sim (T_c - T)^{\beta}$ in the corners of the Brillouin zone. As the temperature increases from T = 0to $T = T_c$ the resistivity correction monotonically decreases as $(T_c - T)^{2\beta}$. At $T > T_c$, critical fluctuations of the order parameter, characterized by the correlation length $\xi \propto |T - T_c|^{-\nu}$, preceding formation of the ordered phase lead to a non-monotonic feature in $\delta \rho(T)$. At high temperature $T \gtrsim T_c$ (region III), the constructive interference of electron waves, scattered by adatoms within ordered clusters of size ξ , enhances resistivity. The effect, which becomes stronger upon approaching T_c , is similar to the critical opalescence [8] in materials undergoing structural phase transition or resistivity anomaly in bulk metals with magnetic impurities undergoing ferromagnetic transition [9]. This enhancement saturates



FIG. 1: The predicted anomaly in the temperature-dependent resistivity of graphene decorated with adatoms in the vicinity of the Kekulé ordering transition. The inset illustrates the Kekulé mosaic ordered state and the assignment of Potts "spin" m = -1, 0, 1 to various hexagons in the $\sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3}$ superlattice.

when ξ becomes comparable to the electron wavelength λ_F , $\lambda_F \approx \xi$. In the region II of temperatures $T \to T_c + 0$, where $\xi \gg \lambda_F$, scattering of electrons is affected only by the gradient of the fluctuating order parameter $\overline{\mathbf{u}}$. The resistivity is thus reduced and a cusp-shape minimum at $T = T_c$ should be expected.

In the following we assume that the electron concentration $n_e = 4\pi/\lambda_F^2$ is not high, $n_e \ll n_i$, but the electron Fermi wavelength is shorter than its mean free path, $\lambda_F \ll l$. This assumption also implies that in the ordered phase $k_B T, \Delta \ll \varepsilon_F$.

The electrons are described by a four-component Dirac-like spinor $\Psi = [\psi_{K,A}, \psi_{K,B}, \psi_{K',B}, \psi_{K',A}]$ with the components corresponding to different valleys (K, K') and sublattices (A, B) [10]. In the absence of adatoms, quasiparticles are characterized by the linear spectrum $|\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}}| = \hbar vp$ and plane wave states (for $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}} > 0$)

$$|K\mathbf{p}\rangle = \frac{e^{i\mathbf{pr}}}{\sqrt{2S}} \begin{pmatrix} 1\\ e^{i\varphi_{\mathbf{p}}}\\ 0\\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad |K'\mathbf{p}\rangle = \frac{e^{i\mathbf{pr}}}{\sqrt{2S}} \begin{pmatrix} 0\\ 0\\ 1\\ -e^{i\varphi_{\mathbf{p}}} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here S is the area of the graphene sheet and $\mathbf{p} = (p \cos \varphi_{\mathbf{p}}, p \sin \varphi_{\mathbf{p}})$ is the electron wave vector.

$$\hat{H} = \hbar v(\mathbf{p}\mathbf{\Sigma}) + \hat{U}(\mathbf{r}) + \hat{V}(\mathbf{r}); \qquad (1)$$
$$\hat{U} = \sum_{l} \hat{I}w(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_{l}); \quad \hat{V} = \hbar \lambda v a \sum_{l} \Sigma_{z}(\mathbf{u}_{l}\mathbf{\Lambda})\delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_{l}).$$

We assume that the dimensionless impurity potential λ is small ($\lambda \leq 1$) and will treat the electron-adatom interaction perturbatively. We use the set [2, 11] of 4×4 "sublattice" and "valley" matrices $\Sigma_{x,y,z}$ and $\Lambda_{x,y,z}$

$$\Sigma_x = \Pi_z \otimes \sigma_x, \Sigma_y = \Pi_z \otimes \sigma_y, \Sigma_z = \Pi_0 \otimes \sigma_z, \Lambda_x = \Pi_x \otimes \sigma_z, \Lambda_y = \Pi_y \otimes \sigma_z, \Lambda_z = \Pi_z \otimes \sigma_0,$$

where σ_i and Π_j are Pauli matrices in sublattice (AB) and valley (KK') spaces.

The form of the electron-adatom interaction in Eq. (1) is prescribed by the highly symmetric position of adatoms at the centers of hexagons. The \hat{U} -term does not violate the AB sublattice symmetry and scatters electrons without changing their valley state. The \hat{V} -term [2–4] is responsible for the intervalley scattering of electrons. The sensitivity of the scattering phase of an electron to the position of the adatom in the $\sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3}$ superlattice manifests itself by the Potts parameter **u** in the intervalley term.

Each adatom creates Friedel oscillations of the electron density leading to the RKKY-type interaction between adatoms. The contribution of the \hat{U} -term, Eq. 1, to such an interaction is a $1/r^3$ repulsion independent on the Potts spins. At the same time the symmetry-breaking coupling leads to 3-state Potts model with a long-range interaction $-\mathbf{u}_j \cdot \mathbf{u}_l/r_{il}^3$ [3].

To minimize the interaction energy adatoms have to take equivalent positions within the $\sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3}$ superlattice unit cells. A Monte Carlo simulation of the corresponding $1/r^3$ random-bond Potts model [3] has revealed such an ordered phase below the transition temperature $T_c \approx 0.6\lambda^2 (n_i a^2)^{3/2} \hbar v/a$.

The effects of adatoms ordering on the electron transport are encoded in the correlation function,

$$\overline{u^{\alpha}(\mathbf{r})u^{\beta}(\mathbf{r}')} - \overline{u^{\alpha}(\mathbf{r})} \ \overline{u^{\beta}(\mathbf{r}')} = \delta_{\alpha\beta}g(|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|),$$

for which the theory of critical phenomena predicts the scaling form [12]

$$g(r) = \frac{\kappa(r/\xi)}{(\sqrt{n_i}r)^{\eta}}, \quad \kappa(y) = \kappa_1(y) + y^{\frac{1-\alpha}{\nu}}\kappa_2(y).$$
(2)

Here, $\xi \sim n_i^{-1/2} |(T - T_c)/T_c|^{-\nu}$ is the correlation length, and α , η and ν are critical exponents. It has been shown [7] that for the 3-state Potts model on a square lattice $\eta = 4/15$, however, the value of η for random-bond Potts models with a long-range interaction is still unknown [13, 14]. In the critical region $r \ll \xi$, the correlation function has essentially $r^{-\eta}$ behaviour, with a correction (second term) related to the specific heat anomaly $C \sim |T - T_c|^{-\alpha}$ [7]. At large distances, $r \gg \xi$, g(r) decays exponentially, according to the Ornstein-Zernike theory [12, 16]. Overall, for $T > T_c$ the scaling functions $\kappa_{1,2}(y)$ have the following asymptotics:

$$\kappa_1(y \ll 1) \approx c_1, \quad \kappa_2(y \ll 1) \approx -c_2 \quad (c_1, c_2 \sim 1);$$

$$\kappa_1(y \gg 1) \propto \frac{e^{-y}}{y^{1/2-\eta}}, \quad \kappa_2(y \gg 1) \sim e^{-y}, \quad (3)$$

whereas for $T < T_c$,

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa_1(y \ll 1) &\approx c_1, \quad \kappa_2(y \ll 1) \approx c_2; \\ \kappa_1(y \gg 1) \propto \frac{e^{-y}}{y^{2-\eta}}, \quad \kappa_2(y \gg 1) \sim e^{-y}. \end{aligned}$$

At $T < T_c$, the order parameter also acquires a homogenious average $\overline{\mathbf{u}} \propto (T_c - T)^{\beta}$. As long as $\overline{\mathbf{u}}$ exceeds fluctuations of \mathbf{u} (i.e. far enough from T_c), the electron states, which wavelength is larger than the distance between adatoms $n_i^{-1/2}$, are described by the effective mean-field Hamiltonian,

$$\hat{H} = \hbar v \mathbf{p} \mathbf{\Sigma} + n_i \hbar \lambda v a \Sigma_z(\mathbf{\overline{u}} \Lambda).$$

Accordingly the spectrum $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}}^2 = (\hbar v p)^2 + \Delta^2$ acquires a gap,

$$\Delta(T) \approx n_i \hbar \lambda v a (1 - T/T_c)^{\beta}, \qquad (4)$$

such that $\Delta(0) \gg T_c$. The plane wave eigenstates of \hat{H} are mixed between the two valleys and take the form (for $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}} > 0$)

$$|\pm 1, \mathbf{p}\rangle = \frac{e^{i\mathbf{p}\mathbf{r}}}{\sqrt{4S}} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\frac{\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}} \pm \Delta}{\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}}}} \\ \sqrt{\frac{\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}} \mp \Delta}{\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}}}} e^{i\varphi_{\mathbf{p}}} \\ \pm \sqrt{\frac{\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}} \pm \Delta}{\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}}}} e^{i\theta} \\ \mp \sqrt{\frac{\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}} \mp \Delta}{\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}}}} e^{i(\varphi_{\mathbf{p}}+\theta)} \end{pmatrix}, \overline{u_x} + i\overline{u_y} = ue^{i\theta}.$$

Intravalley and intervalley scattering determined by $\hat{U}(\mathbf{r})$ and $\hat{V}(\mathbf{r})$ in Eq. (1) respectively do not interfere with each other. Hence, the total momentum relaxation rate is the sum of the two electron scattering rates,

$$\tau^{-1} = \tau_0^{-1} + \tau_i^{-1}, \tag{5}$$

where τ_0 and τ_i stand for intravalley and intervalley momentum relaxation times. For the temperaturedependent Drude resistivity of graphene sheet (recall that $k_BT, \Delta \ll \varepsilon_F$) we thus have

$$\rho(T) = \frac{2}{e^2} \frac{1}{v_F^2 \tau \nu},\tag{6}$$

where $v_F = \hbar v^2 p_F / \varepsilon_F$ is the Fermi velocity, $\nu = 2\varepsilon_F / (\pi \hbar^2 v^2)$ is the density of states, and the Fermi energy and momentum are related to the electron density as $p_F = \sqrt{\pi n_e}$ and $\varepsilon_F = \sqrt{\pi \hbar^2 v^2 n_e + \Delta^2}$.

The temperature dependence $\rho(T)$ at $T \lesssim T_c$ is dominated by the effect of the order parameter $\bar{\mathbf{u}}$ on the chiral plane wave functions and thus on the scattering rates, in particular τ_0^{-1} . In the Born approximation

$$\frac{1}{\tau_0} = \frac{n_i p_F^2}{\hbar \varepsilon_F} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\varphi}{2\pi} \tilde{w}^2 \left(2p_F \sin\frac{\varphi}{2}\right) (1 - \cos\varphi) r_0(\varphi), (7)$$
$$r_0(\varphi) = \cos^2\frac{\varphi}{2} + \frac{\Delta^2(T)}{(\hbar v p_F)^2},$$

where $\tilde{w}(k) = \int d\mathbf{r} e^{i\mathbf{k}\mathbf{r}} w(r)$ and φ is the scattering angle. The form-factor $r_0(\varphi)$ arises from the overlap integral between plane wave states and reflects the absence of the backscattering for $\Delta = 0$. Thus, for $T \leq T_c$, we find

$$\frac{\delta\rho(T)}{\rho(\infty)} \approx \frac{4\Delta^2(T)}{\pi n_e \hbar^2 v^2} \frac{\int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi \,\tilde{w}^2 \left(2p_F \sin\frac{\varphi}{2}\right) \sin^2\frac{\varphi}{2}}{\int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi \,\tilde{w}^2 \left(2p_F \sin\frac{\varphi}{2}\right) \sin^2\varphi}.$$
 (8)

The temperature dependence $\rho(T)$ at $T > T_c$ is determined by the effect of the ordering of adatoms on the intervalley scattering. Consider the scattering amplitude

$$\langle K' \mathbf{p}' | \hat{V} | K \mathbf{p} \rangle = \frac{\hbar \lambda v a}{2iS} \sin \frac{\varphi_{\mathbf{p}} + \varphi_{\mathbf{p}'}}{2} \sum_{l} e^{i\theta_{l}}, \qquad (9)$$
$$\theta_{l} = \frac{2\pi m_{l}}{3} + (\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}') \mathbf{r}_{l}.$$

At temperatures far from T_c , $T \gg T_c$, adatom positions on the superlattice are random so that m_l take values -1,0 and 1 with equal probabilities. As a result, the absolute value of scattering amplitude can be estimated as $|\langle K'\mathbf{p}'|\hat{V}|K\mathbf{p}\rangle| \sim \sqrt{n_i\lambda_F^2}$. Upon approaching T_c from above, clusters of ordered adatoms with a characteristic size $\xi \gg n_i^{-1/2}$ start appearing. In the sum (9) such a cluster generates constructive interference between terms with the same value of m_l provided that $\xi \lesssim \lambda_F$. This increases the scattering amplitude, $|\langle K'\mathbf{p}'|\hat{V}|K\mathbf{p}\rangle| \sim n_i\xi\lambda_F$. A further increase of the correlation length, $\xi > \lambda_F$, has an opposite effect on scattering: electrons get scattered only by the gradients in the smoothly fluctuating field $\overline{\mathbf{u}}$.

The intervalley momentum relaxation rate (both at $T < T_c$ and $T > T_c$) [17] τ_i^{-1} can be expressed in terms of the Fourier transform of the correlation function, $\tilde{g}(k) = \int d\mathbf{r} \, e^{i\mathbf{k}\mathbf{r}} g(r)$,

$$\frac{1}{\tau_i} = \frac{\hbar v^2 p_F^2 n_i \lambda^2 a^2}{2\varepsilon_F} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\varphi}{2\pi} (1 - \cos\varphi) r_i(\varphi), \quad (10)$$
$$r_i(\varphi) = \left[1 + n_i \tilde{g} \left(2p_F \sin\frac{\varphi}{2}\right)\right] \left[2\sin^2\frac{\varphi}{2} + \frac{\Delta^2(T)}{(\hbar v p_F)^2}\right].$$

At $T > T_c$ ($\Delta = 0$) temperature dependence $\rho(T)$ comes from the correlation function $\tilde{g}(k)$ in Eq. (10). Far from the phase transition, $|T - T_c| \sim T_c$, where $\xi < \lambda_F$ (region III in Fig. 1), electrons are effectively scattered by small clusters of ordered adatoms. In this region we approximate $\tilde{g}(k) \approx \tilde{g}(0) \propto (\sqrt{n_i}\xi)^{2-\eta}$ and find that

$$\delta\rho(T) \approx C \frac{\Delta^2(0)}{e^2 v^2 \hbar n_i^{\eta/2}} \xi^{2-\eta} \propto \frac{n_i^{2-\eta/2}}{(T-T_c)^{(2-\eta)\nu}}, \qquad (11)$$

where $C = (3\pi^2/2) \int_0^{+\infty} dy \, y^{1-\eta} \kappa(y)$ is a dimensionless constant.

In the vicinity of the critical point, such that $\lambda_F < \xi$ (region II in Fig. 1), electrons experience multiple scatterings within one cluster with a small wave vector transfer, $\sim \xi^{-1}$. This makes $\rho(T)$ sensitive to the critical behaviour of the correlation function at $r < \xi$. This region is easier to analyze by performing the angular integration in Eq. (10) and expressing τ_i^{-1} in terms of the function $\kappa(y)$ defined in Eq. (2):

$$\frac{1}{\tau_i} = \frac{\Delta^2(0)}{\hbar^2 v} \left[\frac{3p_F}{4n_i} + \frac{2\xi}{(\sqrt{n_i}\xi)^\eta} \int_0^{+\infty} dy \, \frac{\kappa(y)}{y^\eta} f(p_F \xi y) \right].$$
(12)

Here, f can be expressed in terms of Bessel functions as

$$f(x) = \frac{\pi}{x} [x^2 J_0^2(x) - x^2 J_1^2(x) + J_1^2(x) - x J_0(x) J_1(x)].$$

To evaluate the integral in Eq. (12) we divide the integration interval $[0, \infty]$ into two parts, $[0, y_0]$ and $[y_0, \infty]$, where $1 \gg y_0 \gg 1/p_F \xi \to 0$. For the interval $[y_0, \infty]$, we use the fact that $f(p_F \xi y)$ is a fast oscillating function, $f(x \gg 1) \approx 2\sin(2x) + 3\cos(2x)/(2x)$, and that

$$\int_{y_0}^{+\infty} F(y) \sin(Ay) dy = \frac{F(y_0) \cos(Ay_0)}{A} + O\left(\frac{1}{A^2}\right),$$

for $A \gg 1$ and $F(\infty) = 0$. For the interval $[0, y_0]$ in the leading order in $1/p_F\xi$, the result is determined by the values of $\kappa_1(0)$ and $\kappa_2(0)$ in Eq. (3). For this, we expand κ_1 and κ_2 (which vary at the scale of $y \sim 1$) into Taylor series, evaluate the corresponding integrals in the leading orders in $y_0 \ll 1$, and combine with the contribution from the interval $[y_0, \infty]$. As a result, the term with κ_1 in Eq. (12) produces a finite contribution when $p_F \xi \to \infty$, and we find that

$$\rho(T_c) - \rho(\infty) = \frac{c_1 \pi^{\frac{3}{2}} \Delta^2(0)}{e^2 v^2 \hbar n_i} B(\eta) \left(\frac{n_i}{\pi n_e}\right)^{1 - \eta/2}, \quad (13)$$

where $B(x) = x\Gamma\left(\frac{3+x}{2}\right)\Gamma\left(1-\frac{x}{2}\right)/\Gamma\left(1+\frac{x}{2}\right)\Gamma\left(2+\frac{x}{2}\right)$. If $(1-\alpha)/\nu < 1$, the next term in the expansion $\kappa_1(y) = \kappa_1(0) + y\kappa'_1(0) + \ldots$ generates a contribution $O(1/p_F\xi)$, which, for $T \to T_c$, is less relevant than a more singular $(T-T_c)$ -dependent [14] contribution from the κ_2 term in Eq. (12). Following to same steps, we find that the latter term gives rise to the cusp in the $\rho(T)$ dependence in the region II near T_c in Fig. 1,

$$\frac{\rho(T) - \rho(T_c)}{\rho(T_c) - \rho(\infty)} = -\frac{c_2 B(\eta - 2\gamma)}{c_1 B(\eta) (\pi n_e \xi^2)^{\gamma}} \propto (T - T_c)^{1 - \alpha},$$
(14)

where $\gamma = (1 - \alpha)/2\nu$, which is assumed to be $\gamma < 1/2$ for Eq. (14) to be applicable. Otherwise (for $\gamma > 1/2$) one should use

$$\frac{\rho(T) - \rho(T_c)}{\rho(T_c) - \rho(\infty)} = -\frac{\kappa_1'(0)B(\eta - 1)}{c_1 B(\eta)(\pi n_e \xi^2)^{1/2}} \propto (T - T_c)^{\nu}.$$
 (15)

The sign of the result Eqs. (14, 15) is determined by the sign of c_2 (or $\kappa'_1(0) < 0$) and values of critical exponents, where c_2 depends on the particular form of correlation function g(r) and is known to be positive for the exact solution of 2D Ising model on square lattice [12]. The factor $B(\eta - 2\gamma)/B(\eta)$ has the same sign as $(\eta - 2\gamma)$ and happens to be negative for three-state Potts model on a square lattice. Notice that Eqs. (14, 15) are applicable only in a very close vicinity of T_c ($\xi \gg \lambda_F$) and do not influence the overall tendency that resistance dips in the region II.

The behaviour of $\delta\rho(T)$ at $T < T_c$ (region I in Fig. 1) is determined by two contributions. One part, $\delta\rho_1/\rho \propto (T_c - T)^{\min\{1-\alpha,\nu\}}$, is related to the specific heat anomaly correction to the correlation function and can be obtained the same way as Eq. (14). The other contribution, $\delta\rho_2/\rho \propto (T_c - T)^{2\beta}$, is due to the formation of a nonzero order parameter in the Kekulé-ordered phase. The second correction dominates when $2\beta < \min\{1-\alpha,\nu\}$, which is the case for the expected values of critical expo-

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nents [14]. As a result, we attribute the rise of resistivity at $T < T_c$ near the cusp at $T = T_c$ to the formation of a spectral gap in graphene due to the Kekulé mosaic ordering. The qualitative behaviour of resistivity correction as a function of temperature for all three regimes is plotted in Fig. 1 for $\varepsilon_F = 0.4v\sqrt{n_i}$, $n_i\lambda^2a^2 = 0.005$ [14], where we used the values $c_1 = 0.5$, $c_2 = 0.15$ (calculating the exact values of these coefficients is outside the scope of this paper).

In conclusion, we investigated electron transport in graphene covered by a dilute ensemble of adatoms residing over the centers of hexagons. We calculated the temperature dependence of the resistivity $\rho(T)$, which appears to be non-monotonic and has a non-analytic cusp at $T = T_c$. Since the form of the cusp depends on the critical indices α and β of the phase transition, experimental observation of such anomaly may facilitate their measurements. The form of $\rho(T)$ shown in Fig. 1 appears to be generic for partially ordered dilute ensembles of adatoms with alternative positioning on the honeycomb lattice, such as over carbon-carbon bonds [4], since this also falls 3 value Potts model.

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- [14] Critical exponents, satisfying the relations $2\nu = 2 \alpha$, $2\beta = \nu\eta$, are unknown for disordered Potts model. So that we use the exponents of three-state Potts model on a square lattice as a reference: $\alpha = 1/3$, $\beta = 1/9$, $\nu = 5/6$, $\eta = 4/15$ [7]. The small universal corrections to these values due to weak disorder were derived by Dotsenko [13]. To mention, 3-state Potts model with $1/r^3$ interaction in 2D without disorder features a first-order phase transition, however, disorder makes it the second order transition [15].
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$$\Delta(L) = \hbar n_i \lambda v a \sqrt{\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{r})\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{r}')}_L \sim \frac{\hbar \sqrt{n_i} \lambda v a}{L} (\sqrt{n_i} \min\{\xi, L\})^{1-\eta},$$

so that $\min\{\xi, \lambda_F\} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{n_i}} \left(\frac{4\pi^2}{n_i \lambda^2 a^2}\right)^{1/(2-\eta)}$, which coincides with the inequality $vp_F \tau_i \gg 1$, that is, if graphene resistivity is smaller than h/e^2 .