

Out-of-Equilibrium Fluctuation-Dissipation Bounds

Ludovico Tesser

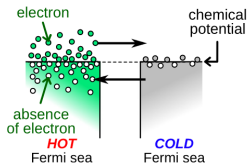
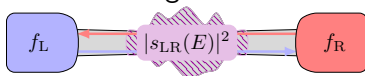
Phys. Rev. Lett. 132, 186304 (2024)



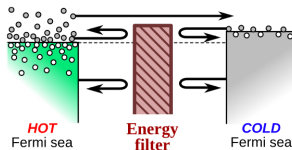
July 12th 2024, Kyoto

Thermal engines at the nanoscale

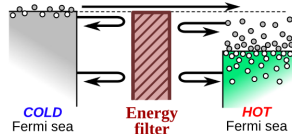
Steady-state thermoelectric heat engines:



(a) Direct contact – no energy filter.



(b) Energy-filter as heat-engine.



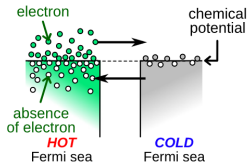
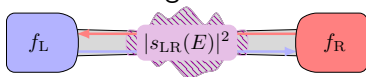
(c) Energy-filter as refrigerator.

$\Delta T \neq 0, \Delta\mu = 0$
Electron-hole symmetry
 \Downarrow
No average current

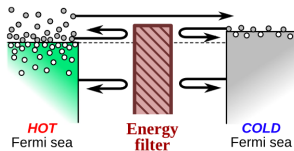
G. Benenti, G. Casati, K. Saito, R. S. Whitney: Phys. Rep. **694**, 1 (2017)

Thermal engines at the nanoscale

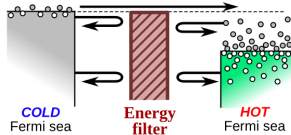
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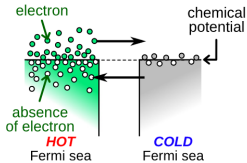
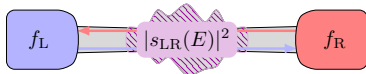
$\Delta T \neq 0, \Delta\mu = 0$
 Electron-hole symmetry
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$\Delta T \neq 0, \Delta\mu \neq 0$
 Current driven *against*
 $\Delta\mu$
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 Power production

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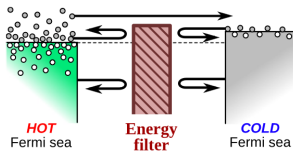
Thermal engines at the nanoscale

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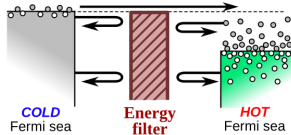
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 Current driven *against*
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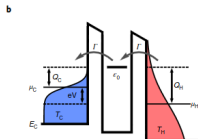
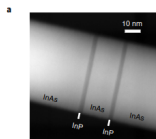


(c) Energy-filter as refrigerator.

$\Delta T \neq 0, \Delta\mu \neq 0$
 Heat flowing from cold
 to hot
 \Downarrow
 Refrigeration

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

Thermal engines at the nanoscale



Power output: $P \sim 1$ fW

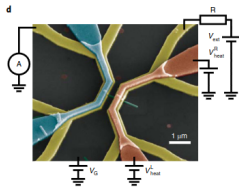
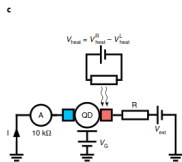
Efficiency: $\eta \sim 0.5\eta_{\text{Carnot}}$

Temperatures: $T \sim 0.5 - 2$ K

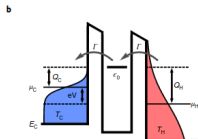
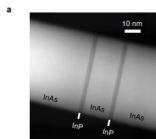
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Nat. Nanotechnol. 13, 920 (2018)

It is possible to make nanoscale heat engines!

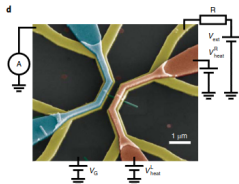
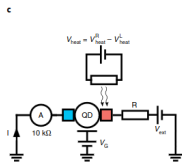


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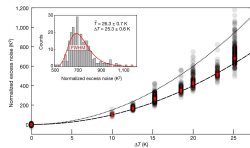
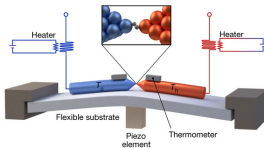
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It is possible to make nanoscale heat engines!

It is also possible to measure the noise!



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

Thermodynamic Uncertainty Relation (TUR)

$$\frac{I^2}{S^I} \leq \frac{\dot{\sigma}}{2k_B}$$

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Does not hold for *coherent scatterers*

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Can we still find a trade-off relation between *noise* and *current* for coherent scatterers?

Yes, **but** not a TUR

- 1 Scattering theory
- 2 Fluctuation-dissipation relation
- 3 Out-of-equilibrium fluctuation-dissipation bound
 - Constraints on the noise
 - Constraints between output power and noise
- 4 Conclusions

We consider *coherent* transport with *negligible* electron-electron interactions

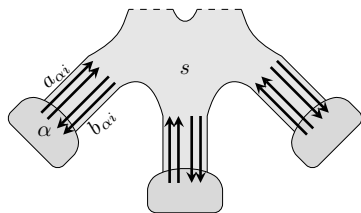
→ Scattering approach!

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

Scattering theory

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The scattering matrix s determines how incoming states $a_{\alpha i}$ propagate into outgoing states $b_{\alpha i}$.

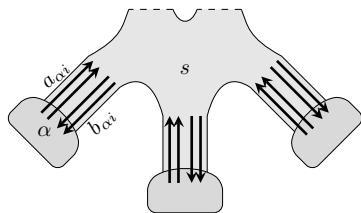
The average charge current reads

$$I_{\alpha} = \langle \hat{I}_{\alpha} \rangle = \frac{q}{h} \int dE \sum_{\beta, i} |s_{\alpha\beta, i}(E)|^2 (f_{\beta} - f_{\alpha})$$

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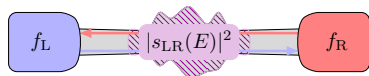
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Can we find relations that do not rely on explicit knowledge of the scattering matrix s ?

Charge current and fluctuation-dissipation theorem



The current is

$$I = \langle \hat{I} \rangle = \frac{q}{h} \int dE |s_{LR}(E)|^2 (f_L - f_R)$$

The zero-frequency noise is

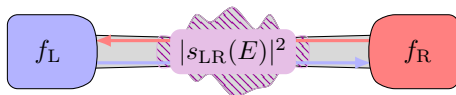
$$S^I = \int \langle \delta \hat{I}(t) \delta \hat{I}(0) \rangle dt$$

At equilibrium the noise (Johnson-Nyquist) is given by

$$S^I = 2qk_B T \left. \frac{\partial I}{\partial \Delta\mu} \right|_{\Delta\mu=0}$$

→ **Fluctuation-dissipation theorem**

Fluctuation-dissipation relations



$$\Gamma_{\rightarrow} = \frac{1}{\hbar} \int dE |s_{LR}|^2 [f_L(1 - f_R)] \quad \rightarrow \text{Tunneling rates}$$

$$\Gamma_{\leftarrow} = \frac{1}{\hbar} \int dE |s_{LR}|^2 [f_R(1 - f_L)]$$

The current satisfies

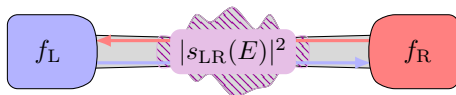
$$I = q(\Gamma_{\rightarrow} - \Gamma_{\leftarrow})$$

D. Rogovin, D. J. Scalapino: Ann. Phys. **86**, 1 (1974)

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In the **tunneling regime** ($|s_{LR}|^2 \ll 1$) the noise satisfies

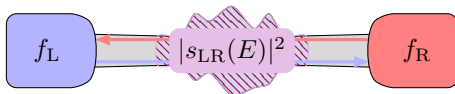
$$S^I = q^2(\Gamma_{\rightarrow} + \Gamma_{\leftarrow})$$

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When $\Delta T = 0$: Generalization of fluctuation-dissipation theorem

$$S^I = -qI \coth\left(\frac{\Delta\mu}{2k_B T}\right)$$

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Generalization of the Fluctuation-dissipation theorem at finite $\Delta\mu$.

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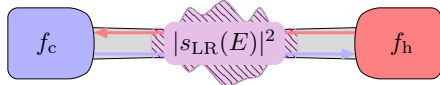
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What happens to the noise far from the tunneling regime or if ΔT is not negligible?

Out-of-equilibrium fluctuation-dissipation bounds

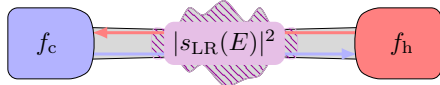
Out-of-equilibrium



- Average current: $I \neq 0$
- Out-of-equilibrium noise: S^I

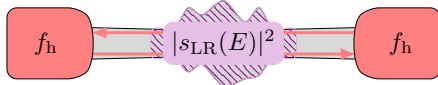
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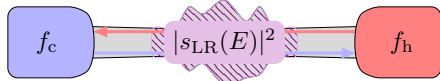
Hot equilibrium



- Average current: $I = 0$
- Equilibrium noise: S'_{eq}
→ Thermal noise

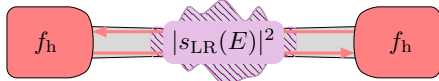
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$$\tilde{\Gamma}_{\rightarrow} = \frac{1}{h} \int dE |s_{\text{LR}}|^2 [f_c(1 - f_h) - f_h(1 - f_h)]$$
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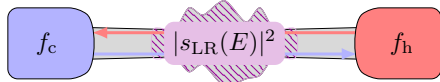
The current satisfies

$$I = q (\tilde{\Gamma}_{\rightarrow} - \tilde{\Gamma}_{\leftarrow})$$

→ Excess tunneling rates

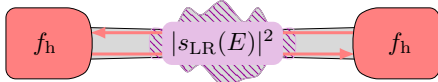
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Out-of-equilibrium



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→ Excess tunneling rates

The current satisfies

$$I = q (\tilde{\Gamma}_{\rightarrow} - \tilde{\Gamma}_{\leftarrow})$$

and the excess noise obeys

$$S^I - S_{\text{eq}}^I \leq q^2 (\tilde{\Gamma}_{\rightarrow} + \tilde{\Gamma}_{\leftarrow}) \leq -qI \tanh \left(\frac{\Delta\mu}{2k_B \Delta T} \right)$$

→ It can be generalized to the multi-terminal case!

L. Tesser, J. Splettstoesser: Phys. Rev. Lett. 132, 186304 (2024)

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$$S^I = -qI \coth \left(\frac{\Delta\mu}{2k_B T} \right)$$

- ✗ Requires *tunneling regime*
- ✗ Requires $\Delta T = 0$

$$S^I - S_{\text{eq}}^I \leq -qI \tanh \left(\frac{\Delta\mu}{2k_B \Delta T} \right)$$

- ✓ Satisfied for any scattering matrix
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L. Tesser, J. Splettstoesser: Phys. Rev. Lett. **132**, 186304

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✗ Requires *tunneling regime*

✗ Requires $\Delta T = 0$

✓ Satisfied in the presence of interactions

✓ In the limit $\Delta\mu \ll k_B T$ recovers Fluctuation-dissipation theorem

D. Rogovin, D. J. Scalapino: Ann. Phys. **86**, 1 (1974)

L. S. Levitov, M. Reznikov: Phys. Rev. B **70**, 115305 (2004)

B. Roussel, P. Degiovanni, I. Safi: Phys. Rev. B **93**, 045102 (2016)

$$S^I - S_{\text{eq}}^I \leq -qI \tanh \left(\frac{\Delta\mu}{2k_B \Delta T} \right)$$

✓ Satisfied for any scattering matrix

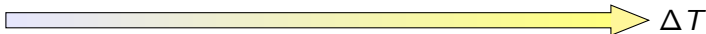
✓ Satisfied at any $\Delta T, \Delta\mu$

✗ Requires negligible interactions

• Approaches equality in tunneling regime and for ΔT largest energy scale

L. Tesser, J. Splettstoesser: Phys. Rev. Lett. **132**, 186304

(2024)



Out-of-equilibrium fluctuation-dissipation bounds

$$S^I - S_{\text{eq}}^I \leq -qI \tanh\left(\frac{\Delta\mu}{2k_B\Delta T}\right)$$

Connection with power output $P = I \frac{\Delta\mu}{q}$:

For $k_B\Delta T \gg |\Delta\mu|$

$$S^I - S_{\text{eq}}^I \leq -\frac{q^2}{2k_B} \frac{P}{\Delta T}$$

L. Tesser, J. Splettstoesser: Phys. Rev. Lett. 132, 186304 (2024)

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Power is *produced*:

$$P > 0$$



Out-of-equilibrium noise is *smaller*
than equilibrium noise

Power is *dissipated*:

$$P < 0$$



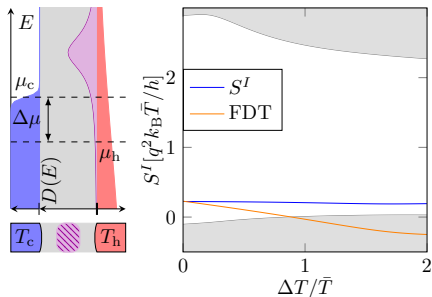
Out-of-equilibrium noise can be
larger than equilibrium noise

L. Tesser, J. Splettstoesser: Phys. Rev. Lett. 132, 186304 (2024)

Constraints on the noise

The fluctuation-dissipation bounds implies constraints on the out-of-equilibrium noise S^I :

$$qI \tanh\left(\frac{\Delta\mu}{2k_B\Delta T}\right) \leq S^I$$

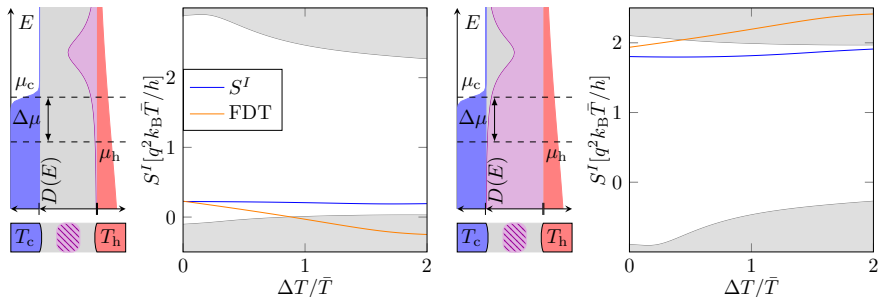


L. Tesser, J. Splettstoesser: Phys. Rev. Lett. 132, 186304 (2024)

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$$ql \tanh\left(\frac{\Delta\mu}{2k_B\Delta T}\right) \leq S^I \leq \frac{q^2}{h} k_B(T_c + T_h) + \left(ql + \frac{q^2\Delta\mu}{h}\right) \tanh\left(\frac{\Delta\mu}{2k_B\Delta T}\right)$$



L. Tesser, J. Splettstoesser: Phys. Rev. Lett. 132, 186304 (2024)

Constraints between output power and noise

Output power $P = I \frac{\Delta\mu}{q}$. Noise of the power $S^P = \left(\frac{\Delta\mu}{q}\right)^2 S^I$

Thermodynamic uncertainty relation
(TUR)

A. C. Barato, U. Seifert: Phys. Rev. Lett. **114**, 158101 (2015)

$$S^P \geq S_{\text{TUR}}^P \equiv 2 \frac{k_B P^2}{\dot{\sigma}}$$

Does not hold in coherent scatterers!

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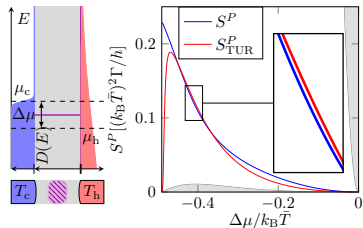
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L. Tesser, J. Splettstoesser: Phys. Rev. Lett. 132, 186304 (2024)

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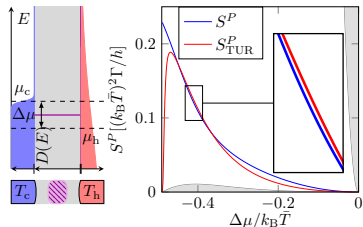
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Fluctuation-dissipation bounds



$$S^P \geq P \Delta\mu \tanh\left(\frac{\Delta\mu}{2k_B \Delta \bar{T}}\right)$$

Holds for arbitrary $\Delta\mu, \Delta T$, scattering matrix $s(E)$

L. Tesser, J. Splettstoesser: Phys. Rev. Lett. 132, 186304 (2024)

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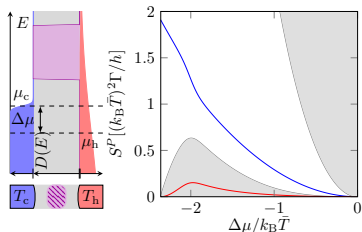
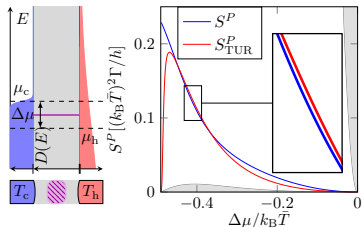
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L. Tesser, J. Splettstoesser: Phys. Rev. Lett. 132, 186304 (2024)

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L. Tesser, J. Splettstoesser: Phys. Rev. Lett. 132, 186304 (2024)

———— • Questions are welcome • —————

- Classical noise contribution

$$S_{\text{cl}}^I \equiv \frac{q^2}{h} \int dE |s_{\text{LR}}|^2 [f_{\text{L}}(1 - f_{\text{R}}) + f_{\text{R}}(1 - f_{\text{L}})]$$

- Single-electron process contribution
- Finite at equilibrium
- Satisfies Fluctuation-dissipation theorem (Johnson-Nyquist noise)

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

EXTRA: Charge noise

- Classical noise contribution

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- Single-electron process contribution
- Finite at equilibrium
- Satisfies Fluctuation-dissipation theorem (Johnson-Nyquist noise)

- Quantum noise contribution

$$S_{\text{qu}}^I \equiv -\frac{q^2}{h} \int dE \left[|s_{\text{LR}}|^2 (f_{\text{L}} - f_{\text{R}}) \right]^2$$

- Two-electron process contribution
- At equilibrium vanishes!
- Always negative
- Negligible in the tunneling regime ($|s_{\text{LR}}|^2 \ll 1$)

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

Calling h the *hottest* reservoir, we have

$$S'_{hh} - S'_{hh,eq} \leq -\frac{q^2}{h} \sum_{\alpha \neq h} \tanh \left(\frac{1}{2} \frac{\mu_h - \mu_\alpha}{k_B(T_h - T_\alpha)} \right) \int dE \sum_{i=1}^{N_h} D_{h\alpha,i} [f_\alpha - f_h],$$