Anomalous Mesoscopic Fluctuations of Transport Coefficients above the Critical Temperature

Fei Zhou¹ and Cristiano Biagini²

¹Physics Department, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey 08544 ²INFM, Unita'di Napoli, Mostra d'Oltremare, Padiglione 19, 80125, Napoli, Italia (Received 29 June 1998)

We show in this Letter that above the critical temperature of superconductor-metal phase transition both the longitudinal and the Hall conductivity exhibit strong temperature dependent mesoscopic fluctuations, with amplitudes much larger than the mesoscopic fluctuations in noninteracting normal metals. Such an enhancement of the mesoscopic fluctuations arises from pairing correlations and is strongly dependent on dimensions. [S0031-9007(98)07724-2]

PACS numbers: 74.40.+k, 71.30.+h, 73.23.Ps

It is well known that the conductance of a normal metal exhibits mesoscopic fluctuations if the sample size L is smaller than the dephasing length L_{ϕ} [1–3]. At zero temperature, the amplitude of the mesoscopic fluctuations is of order e^2/\hbar , independent of the dimensionality of the sample. These mesoscopic fluctuations originate from quantum interference of electrons and are sensitive to changes in external magnetic fields, impurity configurations, or gate voltages.

Universal conductance fluctuations (UCF), of order e^2/\hbar , are closely connected with the universality of Wigner-Dyson statistics of *single* electron levels in disordered metals. For a normal metal, the conductance is equal to e^2/\hbar times N, the number of single electron levels inside an energy band of the width of the Thouless energy E_T centered at the Fermi surface. The Thouless energy is the inverse of the time required for an electron to diffuse across the sample [4]. While the average number of levels within such an energy band depends on the dimensionality, δN the fluctuation of the number of single electron levels within such a band is universally of an order of 1 [5]. This leads to UCF.

At finite temperature, the transport currents are carried by the quasiparticle excitations of energy of order kT. While the total number of electron levels involved is NT/E_T , the amplitude of the fluctuation of the number of levels is $(L/L_T)^{d/2} = (T/E_T)^{d/4}$, due to the fact that the mesoscopic fluctuations of the density of states are correlated at a length scale $L_T \ll L$ and contributions from different blocks should be summed up randomly [5]. Here, $L_T = \sqrt{D/T}$ is the normal metal coherence length at temperature T, and D is the diffusion constant. The relative amplitude of the fluctuation of the number of levels decreases as the temperature is increased. Therefore the amplitude of the conductance fluctuation is smaller than e^2/\hbar when the temperature is higher than E_T [5].

The above statement about mesoscopic fluctuations of the conductance remains true in weakly correlated electron systems. For instance, the electron-electron interaction in normal metals barely affects universal conductance fluctuations. For strongly correlated systems (could be fractional quantum Hall systems), or quantum dots in the Coulomb blockade regime, the amplitude of the conductance fluctuation is also of the order of or less than e^2/\hbar .

In this paper we study the effect of pairing correlations on the mesoscopic fluctuations of the conductance. We show that above the critical temperature, in the presence of pairing correlations, mesoscopic fluctuations of conductance can greatly exceed e^2/\hbar of UCF. Such an effect increases when the critical temperature is approached. It also strongly depends on dimensionalities of samples, originating from the fact that pairing correlations due to thermal fluctuations strongly depend on dimensionalities.

The qualitative mechanism for this phenomenon is as follows. Above T_c the critical temperature of superconductor-metal phase transitions, there is a finite amplitude for electrons to form superconducting pairs with a certain relaxation time. Thus transport coefficients in normal metals can be written as a sum of classical Drude conductivities and contributions arising from pairing correlations. The amplitude of thermal fluctuations of superconducting pairs is determined by a competition between the entropy and the condensation energy and becomes divergent when the temperature approaches T_c from above. The typical relaxation time is given as the time scale for pairs to diffuse over the Landau-Ginzburg length scale and is also divergent when the critical temperature is approached. As a result, the conductivity is enhanced via

$$\frac{\delta\sigma}{\sigma} \propto \int \frac{d^d \mathbf{Q}}{(2\pi)^d} \Delta_{\mathbf{Q}} \Delta_{\mathbf{Q}} \tau_{\mathbf{Q}} = \frac{1}{g_d} \left(\frac{T}{T-T}\right)^{(4-d)/2}$$
$$\Delta_{\mathbf{Q}} \Delta_{\mathbf{Q}} = \nu^{-1} \left(\frac{T-T_c}{T} + \frac{DQ^2}{T}\right)^{-1}, \qquad (1)$$
$$\tau_{\mathbf{Q}} = \frac{1}{DQ^2 + T - T_c},$$

where ν is the density of states in normal metals, g_d is the dimensionless conductance of the size of L_T , and dis the dimensionality. The dimensionless conductance in each dimension is $g_3 = 2\pi^2 \hbar \sigma L_T/e^2$, $g_2 = 4\pi \hbar \sigma t/e^2$, and $g_1 = 6\pi \hbar \sigma a^2/L_T e^2$; t is the film thickness in 2D and a is the diameter in 1D. $\sigma = e^2 \nu D$ is the Drude conductivity. Integral $\int d^d \mathbf{Q}/(2\pi)^d$ is $\int d^3 \mathbf{Q}/(2\pi)^3$ in 3D, $(1/t) \int d^2 \mathbf{Q}/(2\pi)^2$ in 2D, and $(1/a^2) \int d\mathbf{Q}/2\pi$ in 1D. Equation (1) is valid as long as the correction is small, i.e., $\delta\sigma/\sigma \ll 1$.

However, the condensation energy has mesoscopic fluctuations, as emphasized in Ref. [6]. The fluctuation amplitude is $1/g_d$ and its correlation length is $\min\{L_T, \xi_0\}$. Here, $\xi_0 = \sqrt{\hbar D/T_c}$ is the coherence length of superconductors at zero temperature. This effectively leads to mesoscopic fluctuations of the critical temperature $\delta T_c/T_c \propto g_d^{-1}(\xi_0/L)^{4-d/2}$, where we take into account that $L \gg \xi_0$ and fluctuations from different blocks of the size of ξ_0 should be summed up randomly. Therefore the pairing amplitude calculated in Eq. (1) develops giant mesoscopic fluctuations $\delta \Delta_{\mathbf{Q}}^M \delta \Delta_{\mathbf{Q}}^M$ near the critical point

$$\frac{\delta \Delta_{\mathbf{Q}}^{M} \delta \Delta_{\mathbf{Q}}^{M}}{\Delta_{\mathbf{Q}} \Delta_{\mathbf{Q}}} \propto \left(\frac{1}{g_{d}}\right) \left(\frac{\xi_{0}}{L}\right)^{4-d/2} \left(\frac{T}{T-T_{c}+DQ^{2}}\right).$$
(2)

Substituting Eq. (2) into $\delta \sigma$ in Eq. (1), we obtain an estimate of mesoscopic fluctuations of the conductance, of the same order as that given in Eq. (8). Mesoscopic fluctuations of the conductance in this regime are therefore determined by mesoscopic fluctuations of pairing correlations. This results in anomalous mesoscopic fluctuations of transport coefficients in such systems.

Furthermore, we express the conductivity of a given sample above T_c as $\sigma_{xx} = \sigma + \delta \sigma + \delta \sigma_{xx}^M$. $\delta \sigma$ represents the contributions from Aslamazov-Larkin and Maki-Thompson corrections due to thermal fluctuations, studied in Refs. [7,8]. It is divergent as the temperature approaches T_c , as shown in Eq. (1). The mesoscopic fluctuations of the conductivity $\delta \sigma_{xx}^M$ as a function of gate voltage V_g are given in terms of diagrams in Fig. 1(a):

$$\langle \delta \sigma_{xx}^{M}(V_{g1}) \delta \sigma_{xx}^{M}(V_{g2}) \rangle = \langle \delta \sigma_{AL}^{M}(V_{g2}) \delta \sigma_{AL}^{M}(V_{g2}) \rangle + \langle \delta \sigma_{MT}^{M}(V_{g1}) \delta \sigma_{MT}^{M}(V_{g2}) \rangle,$$

$$\langle \delta \sigma_{AL}^{M}(V_{g1}) \delta \sigma_{AL}^{M}(V_{g2}) \rangle = \left(\frac{4e^{2}}{\hbar\pi}\right)^{2} \left(\frac{\pi D}{8T_{c}}\right)^{4} \int \frac{d^{d}\mathbf{Q}_{1}}{(2\pi)^{d}} \frac{d^{d}\mathbf{Q}_{2}}{(2\pi)^{d}} Q_{1}^{2} Q_{2}^{2} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} d\omega_{1} d\omega_{2} \coth\left(\frac{\omega_{1}}{2T}\right) \coth\left(\frac{\omega_{2}}{2T}\right)$$

$$\times \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial\omega_{1}\partial\omega_{2}} \{\operatorname{Im} L^{R}(\omega_{1},Q_{1}^{2}) \operatorname{Im} L^{R}(\omega_{2},Q_{2}^{2}) \langle \operatorname{Im} \delta L^{R}(\omega_{1},Q_{1}^{2}) \operatorname{Im} \delta L^{R}(\omega_{2},Q_{2}^{2}) \rangle\},$$

$$\langle \delta \sigma_{MT}^{M}(V_{g1}) \delta \sigma_{MT}^{M}(V_{g2}) \rangle = \left(\frac{4e^{2}}{\hbar\pi}\right)^{2} D^{2} \int \frac{d^{d}\mathbf{Q}_{1}}{(2\pi)^{d}} \frac{d^{d}\mathbf{Q}_{2}}{(2\pi)^{d}} C_{0}(Q_{1}^{2}) C_{0}(Q_{2}^{2}) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega_{1} d\omega_{2} \coth\left(\frac{\omega_{1}}{2T}\right) \coth\left(\frac{\omega_{2}}{2T}\right)$$

$$\times \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial\omega_{1}\partial\omega_{2}} \left\{ \operatorname{Im} \Psi\left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{i\omega_{1}}{4\pi T}\right) \operatorname{Im} \Psi\left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{i\omega_{2}}{4\pi T}\right) \langle \operatorname{Im} \delta L^{R}(\omega_{1},Q_{1}^{2}) \operatorname{Im} \delta L^{R}(\omega_{2},Q_{2}^{2}) \rangle \right\},$$

$$(3)$$

Here the subscript AL and MT represent mesoscopic fluctuations of Aslamazov-Larkin and Maki-Thompson corrections to the conductivity, respectively. We neglect mesoscopic fluctuations of conductivities associated with normal quasiparticles as the temperature is close to T_c . $\langle \cdots \rangle$ denote the average over impurity scattering potentials. Ψ is the digamma function. Im $\delta L^R = (\delta L^R - \delta L^A)/2i$. The propagators $L^{R,A}$, $\delta L^{R,A}$ are defined as

$$L^{R,A}(\omega, Q^{2}) = \left(\frac{T - T_{c}}{T} + \frac{\pi}{8} \frac{DQ^{2} \pm i\omega}{T} + \frac{\omega}{2} \frac{\partial \ln T_{c}}{\partial \epsilon_{F}}\right)^{-1},$$

$$\delta L^{R,A}(\omega, Q^{2}) = L^{R,A}(\omega, Q^{2})^{2} \int d\epsilon \tanh\left(\frac{\epsilon}{2kT}\right) \frac{1}{\nu V} \int d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}'$$

$$\times \exp[i\mathbf{Q} \cdot (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')] \{G^{R}_{\epsilon+\omega}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')G^{A}_{-\epsilon}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') - \langle G^{R}_{\epsilon+\omega}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')G^{A}_{-\epsilon}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \rangle\},$$
(4)

where V is the volume of the sample. $G^{R,A}$ are the exact retarded and advanced Green functions in the presence of disorder. $\delta L^{R,A}(\omega_1, Q_1^2), \delta L^{R,A}(\omega_2, Q_2^2)$ are evaluated in the presence of gate voltages V_{g1} and V_{g2} , respectively. $\langle \delta L^{R,A} \rangle = 0$, and the correlation function is given as

$$\langle \delta L^{R,A}(\omega_1, Q_1^2) \delta L^{R,A}(\omega_2, Q_2^2) \rangle = L^{R,A}(\omega_1, Q_1^2)^2 L^{R,A}(\omega_2, Q_2^2)^2 \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} d\epsilon \, d\epsilon' \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \frac{1}{2\epsilon'} \tanh\left(\frac{\epsilon}{2T}\right) \tanh\left(\frac{\epsilon'}{2T}\right) \frac{1}{\nu^2 V^2} \int d\mathbf{r} \, d\mathbf{r}' \\ \times \{ \operatorname{Re} C^2_{\epsilon-\epsilon'}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') + \operatorname{Re} \mathcal{D}^2_{\epsilon-\epsilon'}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \}$$

$$(5)$$

in the leading order of $T - T_c/T_c$. $\mathcal{D}_{\epsilon-\epsilon'}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') = \nu^{-1} \langle G_{\epsilon}^R(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') G_{\epsilon'}^A(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') \rangle$ and $C_{\epsilon-\epsilon'}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') = \nu^{-1} \langle G_{\epsilon}^R(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') \times G_{\epsilon'}^A(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') \rangle$ are the diffusions and cooperons. Generally, they satisfy

$$\left\{i\omega + ie\phi_1(\mathbf{r}) - ie\phi_2(\mathbf{r}) + D\left(i\hbar\nabla - \frac{e}{c}\mathbf{A}_1(\mathbf{r}) \pm \frac{e}{c}\mathbf{A}_2(\mathbf{r})\right)^2\right\}\mathcal{D}(C)_{\omega}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') = \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'), \quad (6)$$

and $\mathcal{D} = C = 0$ at the boundary for open geometry samples [1,2]. $\phi_{1(2)}$ is the electrical potential induced via the gate voltage $V_{g1(2)}$, and $\mathbf{A}_{1(2)}$ is the vector potential in the presence of a magnetic field. $C_0(Q^2)$ in Eq. (3) is the Fourier transformation of $C_0(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$. The last term in the expression of $L^{R,A}$ in Eq. (4) is from the dependence of the Fermi energy,



FIG. 1. Diagrams for anomalous mesoscopic fluctuations of transport coefficients above the critical temperature. (a),(b) The solid lines represent electron Green functions and the wavy lines represent propagator $L^{R,A}$; the wavy lines with shaded boxes represent $\langle \delta L^{R,A} \delta L^{R,A} \rangle$, given in Eq. (5). (b), The arrows represent external magnetic field vertices. Triangles stand for current vertices and external electrical field vertices.

 ϵ_F , of the critical temperature T_c and is inversely proportional to ϵ_F . It is important only when the Hall conductivity is concerned [9,10].

At $V_{g1} = V_{g2}$ in the absence of magnetic fields, Eq. (5) yields

$$\langle \delta L^{R,A}(\omega_1, Q_1^2) \delta L^{R,A}(\omega_2, Q_2^2) \rangle$$

= $L^{R,A}(\omega_1, Q_1^2)^2 L^{R,A}(\omega_2, Q_2^2)^2 \frac{\alpha_d}{g_d^2} \left(\frac{L_T}{L}\right)^{4-d}.$ (7)

Here α_d are the constants dependent on the geometry and the dimensionality of the sample. When $\xi(T) = \sqrt{D/(T - T_c)} \gg L$, in the open geometry in which we are interested, the most divergent contribution to the Aslamaov-Larkin and the Maki-Thompson corrections to the conductivity is determined by the fluctuations with $Q = \pi/L$, i.e., $L^R(\omega, Q = \pi/L)$. Substituting Eq. (7) into Eq. (3), we obtain the amplitude of mesoscopic fluctuations of the conductivity above the critical temperature,

$$\frac{\langle (\delta \sigma_{xx}^M)^2 \rangle}{\sigma^2} = \frac{\beta_d}{g_d^4} \left(\frac{T}{T - T_c} \right)^{(8-d)/2} \left(\frac{\xi(T)}{L} \right)^{4-d} \tag{8}$$

when $L \gg \xi(T)$, and saturates as

$$\frac{\langle (\delta \sigma_{xx}^M)^2 \rangle}{\sigma^2} = \frac{\beta_d}{g_d^4} \left(\frac{T}{E_T}\right)^{(8-d)/2} \tag{9}$$

when $L \gg \xi(T)$. Here $\beta_3 \propto 1$, $\beta_2 \propto \max\{\ln[L/\xi(T)], 1\}$, and $\beta_1 \propto \max\{L/\xi(T), 1\}$. We want to emphasize that the mesoscopic fluctuations discussed here strongly depend on the dimensionality of a sample, which is in contrast to the theory of UCF. This is a direct consequence of mesoscopic fluctuations of pairing correlations.

Equations (8) and (9) are valid as far as $\delta \sigma_{xx}^M < \delta \sigma < \sigma$. Following Eqs. (8) and (9), mesoscopic fluctuations of

conductances can be much larger than e^2/\hbar . For instance, for a 2D film of the size of $\xi(T)$, at the temperature $T - T_c \sim T_c/g_2$ when $\delta\sigma/\sigma \sim 1$,

$$\sqrt{\langle (\delta \sigma_{xx}^M)^2 \rangle} \propto \frac{e_t^2}{t\hbar} \sqrt{g_2}$$
 (10)

is parametrically larger than UCF in normal metals.

The anomalous fluctuations can be probed in experiments where resistances are measured at different gate voltages. Let us consider a 2D film where a gate voltage is applied to the top of the film with capacitance *C*. The electric field induced by the gate is normal to the film and is screened over a Debye screening length $r_0 = (e^2\nu)^{-1/2}$. Substituting Eqs. (5) and (6) at $\mathbf{A}_1 = \mathbf{A}_2 = 0$ into Eq. (3), we obtain the gate voltage dependence of the mesoscopic fluctuations,

$$\begin{split} \left[\delta \sigma_{xx}^{M}(V_{g1}) - \delta \sigma_{xx}^{M}(V_{g2}) \right\rangle \\ &= \langle (\delta \sigma_{xx}^{M})^{2} \rangle F\left(\frac{|V_{g1} - V_{g2}|Cr_{0}^{2}}{\epsilon_{0}tL^{2}T} \right), \quad (11) \end{split}$$

where

$$F(x) \propto \begin{cases} x, & x \ll 1\\ 1, & x \gg 1 \end{cases}$$
(12)

Following Eq. (11), in this case, the characteristic gate voltage V_g , at which $\delta \sigma_{xx}^M(V_g)$ are correlated, is $\epsilon^0 T L^2 t/er_0^2 C$. The mesoscopic fluctuations discussed here are also sensitive to external magnetic fields. At $E_T = D/L^2 \ll DH \ll T - T_c$, we can neglect the magnetic field dependence of $L^{R,A}$ in the leading order of $DH/(T - T_c)$. As a result, the correlation of conductance fluctuations as a function of magnetic field is determined by Eq. (3), with $\langle \text{Im } \delta L^R(V_{g1}) \text{Im } \delta L^R(V_{g2}) \rangle$ replaced with $\langle \text{Im } \delta L^R(\mathbf{H}) \text{Im } \delta L^R(0) \rangle$. Taking into account Eqs. (5) and (6) at $\phi_1 = \phi_2$, we obtain conductance fluctuations of a 2D film as functions of a magnetic field \mathbf{H} perpendicular to the film,

$$\frac{\langle [\delta \sigma_{xx}^{M}(\mathbf{H}) - \delta \sigma_{xx}^{M}(0)]^{2} \rangle}{\langle \delta \sigma_{xx}^{M} \delta \sigma_{xx}^{M} \rangle} \propto \frac{DH}{T}.$$
 (13)

Equation (13) is valid when $E_T \ll DH \ll T - T_c$ and saturates when $DH \gg T - T_c$. Equation (13) shows that $\sigma(H)$ diffuses in H space, with diffusion constant $\langle (\delta \sigma_{xx}^M)^2 \rangle L_T^2 / \Phi_0$, and the mean free time $\Phi_0 L^{-2}$, $\Phi_0 = \hbar c/e$, is the flux quantum. However, the average pairing correlation is also suppressed in the presence of external fields [7–10], with the characteristic magnetic field corresponding to one flux per area of the size $\xi^2(T)$. Thus, in conductivity measurements, the dependence of mesoscopic fluctuations on magnetic fields should be differentiated from the average magnetoresistance. The other possibility for observing the anomalous mesoscopic fluctuations of transport coefficients is to measure the conductance during different thermal cycles.

Fig. 1(b),

$$L^{R}(\omega, Q^{2}) \frac{De\mathbf{A}_{H} \cdot \mathbf{Q}}{T} L^{R}(\omega, Q^{2}), \qquad (14)$$

Let us now turn to mesoscopic fluctuations of the Hall conductivity. Again, one can write, for a given sample, $\sigma_{xy} = \tau \Omega_c \sigma + \delta \sigma_{xy} + \delta \sigma_{xy}^M$. The first term is the Hall conductivity obtained from the classical Boltzmann transport equation, where $\Omega_c = eH/mc$ is the cyclotron frequency. The second term is the correction to the classical result due to pairing correlations above T_c , $\delta \sigma_{xy} \propto \tau \Omega_c \sigma/g_d (T/T - T_c)^{(6-d)/2}$, as calculated in Refs. [9,10]. $\delta \sigma_{xy}^M$ represents mesoscopic fluctuations of the Hall conductivity. The propagator in the presence of an external magnetic field is determined by diagrams in

proportional to $\mathbf{A}_H \cdot \mathbf{Q}$. This leads to one more $L^R(\omega, Q^2)$ in the expression for Hall conductivity than in Eq. (3) and yields a more divergent temperature dependence of $\delta \sigma_{xy}^M$ as T_c is approached. Here, \mathbf{A}_H is the vector potential of the external magnetic field $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{q} \times \mathbf{A}_H$; \mathbf{E} is the electrical field. Noticing that $\mathbf{A}_H \cdot \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{q}\mathbf{Q} = Q^2\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}$, and taking into account the gradient of T_c at the Fermi surface in the fluctuation propagators, as shown in Eq. (4), in the leading order of T_c/ϵ_F , we obtain mesoscopic fluctuations of the Hall conductivity,

$$\langle (\delta \sigma_{xy}^{M})^{2} \rangle = (\tau \Omega_{c})^{2} \frac{e^{4}}{\hbar^{2}} \left(\frac{\pi D}{8T^{2}} \right)^{4} \int \frac{d^{d} \mathbf{Q}_{1}}{(2\pi)^{d}} \frac{d^{d} \mathbf{Q}_{2}}{(2\pi)^{d}} Q_{1}^{2} Q_{2}^{2} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} d\omega_{1} d\omega_{2} \frac{\omega_{1} \omega_{2}}{\sinh^{2}(\omega_{1}/2T) \sinh^{2}(\omega_{2}/2T)} \\ \times \{ \operatorname{Im} L^{R}(\omega_{1}, Q_{1}^{2})]^{3} [\operatorname{Im} L^{R}(\omega_{2}, Q_{2}^{2})]^{3} \langle \operatorname{Re} \delta L^{R}(\omega_{1}, Q_{1}^{2}) \operatorname{Re} \delta L^{R}(\omega_{2}, Q_{2}^{2}) \rangle \\ + 9 [\operatorname{Im} L^{R}(\omega_{1}, Q_{1}^{2})]^{2} [\operatorname{Im} L^{R}(\omega_{2}, Q_{2}^{2})]^{2} \operatorname{Re} L^{R}(\omega_{1}, Q_{1}^{2}) \operatorname{Re} L^{R}(\omega_{2}, Q_{2}^{2}) \\ \times \langle \operatorname{Im} \delta L^{R}(\omega_{1}, Q_{1}^{2}) \operatorname{Im} \delta L^{R}(\omega_{2}, Q_{2}^{2}) \rangle \}.$$

$$(15)$$

We neglect the Maki-Thompson contribution to the Hall conductivity because it is less divergent than the result in Eq. (15). Note that the diagrams in Fig. 1(a) do not contribute to $\langle (\delta \sigma_{xy}^M)^2 \rangle$.

Substituting Eq. (5) into Eq. (15), we obtain

$$\frac{\langle (\delta \sigma_{xy}^M)^2 \rangle}{\sigma^2} = (\tau \Omega_c)^2 \frac{\gamma_d}{g_d^4} \left(\frac{T}{T - T_c} \right)^{(12-d)/2} \left(\frac{\xi(T)}{L} \right)^{4-d},$$
(16)

when $L \gg \xi(T)$; when $L \ll \xi(T)$,

$$\frac{\langle (\delta \sigma_{xy}^M)^2 \rangle}{\sigma^2} = (\tau \Omega_c)^2 \frac{\gamma_d}{g_d^4} \left(\frac{T}{E_T}\right)^{(12-d)/2}.$$
 (17)

Here γ_d is a constant of order of unity, dependent on dimensionalities of samples. Equations (16) and (17) are valid when $\delta \sigma_{xy} \ll \tau \Omega_c \sigma$, i.e., $T - T_c \gg T_c / g_d^{2/(6-d)}$. For a 2D sample of the size of order of $\xi(T)$, at the temperature $T - T_c \sim T_c / g_2^{1/2}$,

$$\sqrt{\langle (\delta \sigma_{xy}^M)^2 \rangle} \propto \tau \Omega_c \, \frac{e^2}{t\hbar} \, g_2^{1/4} \,.$$
 (18)

Generally speaking, in a disordered mesoscopic sample, mesoscopic fluctuations of the transverse conductivity are nonzero even in the absence of an external magnetic field [3]. However, those contributions are small in the limit when normal metal coherence length L_T is much smaller than the sample size L, due to thermal smearing effects. Close to T_c , the most important contribution is determined by Eq. (15). As usual, by reversing directions of external magnetic fields, one can measure the Hall conductivity and its mesoscopic fluctuations as the asymmetrical part of $\sigma_{xy}(\mathbf{H})$.

In conclusion, we would like to point out that in a few recent experiments giant mesoscopic fluctuations of conductance have been found in granular superconductors above their critical temperatures [11,12]. We believe that the mechanism discussed in this paper is relevant for those phenomena. At zero temperature, it was shown that mesoscopic fluctuations of the condensation energy could lead to a superconducting glass state [6].

F.Z. thanks Aviad Frydman for sending him the preprint of his group's work and Y. Liu for showing him unpublished data. We acknowledge illuminating discussions with B. Altshuler, B. Spivak, and A.A. Varlamov. F.Z. is supported by ARO under contract No. DAAG 55-98-1-0270. C.B. is supported in part by PRA97-QTMD in Italy. We also thank NEC Research Institute for its hospitality.

- P.A. Lee and A.D. Stone, Phys. Rev. Lett. 55, 1622 (1985).
- [2] B. I. Altshuler, Pisma Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz. 42, 530 (1985)
 [JETP Lett. 41, 648 (1985)].
- [3] Mesoscopic Phenomena in Solids, edited by B. Altshuler, P. Lee, and R. Webb (Elsevier, New York, 1991).
- [4] D. Thouless, Phys. Rev. Lett. 39, 1167 (1977).
- [5] B.L. Altshuler and B.I. Shklovskii, Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz. 91, 220 (1986) [Sov. Phys. JETP 64, 127 (1986)].
- [6] B. Spivak and F. Zhou, Phys. Rev. Lett. 74, 2800 (1995);
 F. Zhou, B. Spivak, Phys. Rev. Lett. 80, 5647 (1998).
- [7] L.G. Aslamazov and A.I. Larkin, Fiz. Tverd. Tela 10, 1104 (1968) [Sov. Phys. Solid. State 10, 975 (1968)].
- [8] K. Maki, Prog. Theor. Phys. 39, 387 (1968); R.S. Thompson, Phys. Rev. B 1, 327 (1970).
- [9] H. Fukuyama, H. Ebisawa, and T. Tsuzuki, Prog. Theor. Phys. 46, 1028 (1971).
- [10] A. G. Aronov, S. Hikami, and A. I. Larkin, Phys. Rev. B 51, 3880 (1995).
- [11] A. Frydman, E.P. Price, and R.C. Dynes, (to be published).
- [12] Y. Liu (unpublished).