Open PhD position:

Quasi(un)particle spectroscopy in strange metals

Allan lab, Leiden Institute of Physics

We are looking for a PhD student for our research group at Leiden University. Our overarching goal is to understand quantum materials, including unconventional superconductors, quantum-critical compounds, strange metals, and topological materials. Our group has recently published our first result (Battisti, Bastiaans et al., Nature Physics, AOP) and received new funding; we are now looking for new group members with passion, talent, and grit!

This project concentrates on what might be the most mysterious quantum matter: the strange metal phase from which high-temperature superconductivity emerges. Strange metals, as their name suggests, do not conform to the standard models of metallic behavior. They have an electrical resistivity that grows linearly with temperature $T$ right up to their melting point and a mean free path that diminishes to a fraction of the interatomic distance. These striking anomalies are as simple to describe as they are difficult to explain.

The advent of AdS/CFT, however, has changed the theoretical landscape and captured the imagination of theorists and experimentalists alike, to the point where testable predictions are now beginning to emerge. This PhD project is embedded a broad consortium with leading condensed matter theory and string theory physicists (Zaanen, Schalm, Stoof and Vandoren) as well as with leading experimentalist on complementary probes (Hussey, Golden, vHeumen), and the successful candidate will be in close contact to these groups and the other PhD students hired by the consortium.

**Additional information (see also allanlab.org):**

➢ **Location:** We are a small, dynamic group, currently consisting of three PhD students and the PI. We are located at Leiden University, the birthplace of superconductivity and home to Kamerlingh Onnes, Lorentz, Huygens, Einstein, de Sitter, and others (see e.g. the wall of signatures from Ehrenfest lecturers). We exchange ideas with our neighbors from Quantum Matter & Optics as well as with the colleagues from our world-class theory section. The successful candidate will be part of the Casimir Graduate School (together with TU Delft) with opportunities to take classes if desired.

➢ **Timeline:** We start reviewing applications immediately and until the position is filled (we’ll mention this on allanlab.org). The starting date is flexible, and the PhD program in the Netherlands takes 4 years.

➢ **Application:** Please send inquiries / applications to allan@physics.leidenuniv.nl with the reference 'Application postdoc. Attach a motivation letter (max one page) on why you would like to join our group and about your research interests. Also attach a CV, including information about the grades you had as an undergraduate. No need for certificates at this point.