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Summer School on Novel Quantum Phases and Non-Equilibrium Phenomena in Cold Atomic Gases

27 August - 7 September, 2007

Tutorial on DMRG and applications to cold atoms out-of-equilibrium

Ulrich Schollwoeck RWTH Aachen Tutorial on DMRG & applications to cold atoms out-of-equilibrium

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the physics: condensed matter meets atomic optics

approximations in solids

fundamental electronic Hamiltonian

$$H = \sum_{j=1}^{e^-} \frac{\vec{p}_j^2}{2m_e} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j}^{e^-} \frac{e^2}{\left|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j\right|} + \sum_{j=1}^{e^-} V_{eff}(\vec{r}_j)$$

problem: electron-electron interactions



why strong correlations?

0 dimensions



magnetic impurity physics

quantum dots

I dimension



spin chains & ladders

Luttinger liquid

3 dimensions



realistic modelling:

transition metal, rare earth compounds

2 dimensions



doping

frustrated magnets

high-T_c superconductors

cold atomic gases in optical lattices

 ultra-cold bosonic atoms form Bose-Einstein condensate (Boulder & MIT groups, 1995)





standing waves from laser superimpose an optical lattice

Greiner et al (Munich group), Nature '02

very well described by bosonic Hubbard model





the methods: classical simulations of quantum systems

compression of information

compression of information necessary and desirable

- diverging number of degrees of freedom
- emergent macroscopic quantities: temperature, pressure, ...

classical spins

 \square thermodynamic limit: $N \rightarrow \infty$ 2N degrees of freedom (linear)

quantum spins

superposition of states

 \Box thermodynamic limit: $N
ightarrow \infty 2^N$ degrees of freedom (exponential)

classical computers and simulators

large-scale quantum computers and simulators far away

what can we do with classical computers?

exact diagonalizations

limited to small lattice sizes: 40 (spins), 20 (electrons)

stochastic sampling of state space

quantum Monte Carlo techniques

negative sign problem for fermionic and frustrated spin systems

physically driven selection of subspace: decimation

variational methods

renormalization group methods

how do we find the good selection?









matrix product states

 $A_{L-1}[\sigma_{L-1}]A_L[\sigma_L]$

 $-\frac{M}{\alpha} A \frac{M}{\beta} A \frac{M}{\gamma} A \frac{M}{\delta} A \frac{M}{s} A \frac{M}{s} A \frac{M}{s}$

recursion through all system sizes

total system wave functions

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{\sigma_1...\sigma_L} (A_1[\sigma_1]...A_L[\sigma_L]) |\sigma_1...\sigma_L\rangle$$

scalar coefficient: ~ matrix product

matrix product state (MPS): generic structure for decimation

control parameter: matrix dimension M

A-matrices determined by decimation prescription

ground states: DMRG

 \Box optimal: find ($M \times M$) A-matrices minimizing

 $\langle \psi | \hat{H} | \psi
angle$ highly non-linear

density-matrix renormalization group (DMRG) does the job linearly (White, PRL '92)

□ start from some set of A-matrices ("warm-up")

 \Box sequentially choose one A to minimize $\langle \psi | \hat{H} | \psi \rangle$ constraining all others

variational method, typically reaches energy minimum: optimal!

Takasaki, Hikihara, Nishino, J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. 68, 1537 (99); Verstraete, Porras, Cirac, PRL (04)

how good is optimal?

- \square is the optimal $M \times M$ MPS close to the true ground state?
- empirical evidence:

one-dimensional ground state physics & thermodynamics at unprecedented precision (US, RMP **77**, 259 (2005))

- \Box up to O(1000) lattice sites
- no sign problem: fermions!
- \square extrapolations in *M* (up to 10,000)
- almost machine precision: chains of spins M 200-500, fermions 500-1000



structure function of a spin chain (US)

modest results in 2D

QIT: entanglement scaling!

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entanglement scaling: critical systems

ID: logarithmic correction

 $S_L = \frac{c + \overline{c}}{6} \log_2 L \qquad \qquad \text{central charges}$

 $M > L^k$ $k = (c + \overline{c})/6$ k is small: DMRG works quite well

2D: rich scaling behaviour, DMRG still fails

Barthel, Chung, US, PRA 74, 022329 (2006)

Latorre, Rico, Vidal, Ouant. Inf. Comp.

4,48 (2004)



fermionic systems

ID Fermi surface: logarithmic correction $S \sim c(\mu) L \log_2 L$ c = surface length

0D Fermi surface (not shown): sub-log diverging correction

bosonic systems: no logarithmic correction

tunability: can we go beyond ID statics? time-dependence in strongly correlated systems





quantum dynamics far from equilibrium

dynamics far from equilibrium

prepare ferromagnetic domains in an S=1/2 antiferromagnet far from equilibrium state

antiferromagnetic dynamics dissolves domain wall

XY chain

Heisenberg chain

shock fronts, magnetization carriers?

ballistic or non-ballistic (diffusive) magnetization transport?

Gobert, Kollath, US, Schütz, PRE 71, 036102 ('05)





error analysis



Trotter decomposition error:

 (Δt)ⁿ × (T/Δt) ∝ T
 ultimately irrelevant

 Lieb-Robinson propagation error:

exponential in T Hastings, Osborne (04)

numbers of states increases exponentially in time: will we hit the wall before the physics happens? can we go beyond ID? 0D, 2D, 3D




DMRG meets NRG

Verstraete, Weichselbaum, US, Cirac, v Delft '05

 \square NRG and DMRG: ($M \times M$) matrix product states

DMRG variationally optimal

apply DMRG to NRG-type Hamiltonian: improves NRG









DMRG & applications to cold atoms out-of-equilibrium

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application: spin-charge separation in ultracold atom gases in an optical lattice

spin-charge separation

- what do repulsive interactions do to an electron gas?
- 3D: Fermi liquid theory
 - fermionic quasi-particles
- ID: Luttinger liquid theory
 - collective modes of spin and charge
 - spin-charge separation



















SC separation in two-species bosons

Kleine, Kollath, McCulloch, Giamarchi, US, arXiv:0706.0709

"spin"-"charge" separation: low-energy separation of symmetric and antisymmetric combination of two flavours

SU(2) symmetry not essential!

two species of bosons:

charge is sum of bosonic densities

spin is difference of bosonic densities

competition: interspecies (AB) vs. intraspecies (AA,BB) repulsion

 \Box phase separation must be avoided! $U_{AB} \leq U_{AA}, U_{BB}$



SC separation in two-species bosons

Kleine, Kollath, McCulloch, Giamarchi, US, arXiv:0706.0709

- bosonization analysis: numerics for single-species LL parameters
- bosonization in good agreement with DMRG, but fails quantitatively in experimentally relevant regime $U_{AB} \approx U_{AA}, U_{BB}$



application: adiabatic construction of *d*-wave RVB states in a 2D square lattice



found path to d-wave RVB ground state (?) of doped 2D Hubbard





Toolbox II: superlattice and ramps



- a. One-dimensional optical lattice
- b. Superlattice
 - $\hfill\square$ interfere laser beams propagating at angles $\pm \theta$
 - no additional laser frequency
 - modulates hoppings and chemical potential
- c. + d. Linear ramp
 - □ from wing of laser beam

 $V(x) = V'_x \sin(k'x + \Phi)$ $k' = k \cos(\theta)$







Which path to use to tune μ , μ_{\perp} , t_{\perp} ?



Coupling of two RVB-plaquettes



- Switch on inter-plaquette hopping
- Half-filled plaquettes (4+4): large gaps, no problem
- Doped plaquettes (4+2): problem with reflection symmetry

Initial state is mixture of even and odd state

$$4\rangle|2\rangle = \frac{|4\rangle|2\rangle + |2\rangle|4\rangle}{2} + \frac{|4\rangle|2\rangle - |2\rangle|4\rangle}{2}$$

Problem: parity mixture remains throughout evolution!
 Solution: break reflection symmetry with potential ramp



doping a half-filled ladder

- doping δ : hole pairs "crystallize" $a_P = 1/\delta$
- prepare ladder segments separated by empty rungs
 - empty rungs at preferential hole locations

reduce chemical potential

- holes appear minimal particle motion
- phase coherence between ladder parts

DMRG, 2x32 ladder, 56 particles

- ramping-down speed must decrease
- 99% fidelity in 1/2 s



quantum dynamics of mixed states: finite temperature

finite-temperature dynamics

purification

density matrix of physical system: pure state of physical system plus auxiliary system

$$\hat{\rho}_{phys} = \text{Tr}_{aux} |\psi\rangle\langle\psi|$$

□ finite-temperature dynamics

evolution of pure state in enlarged state space

Verstraete, Garcia-Ripoll, Cirac, PRL '04



hardcore bosons at finite T

Barthel, McCulloch, US

hardcore bosons, grandcanonical: H = -\sum (b_i^{\dagger}b_{i+1} + b_{i+1}^{\dagger}b_i) - \mu \sum n_i
\mu = -2 : quantum phase transition at T=0

local and static quantities (thermodynamics): quasiexact
 nonlocal and static quantities (correlators):





retarded Green's function at finite T

 $\langle \psi | b_i^{\dagger}(t) b_j(0) | \psi \rangle = \langle \psi | e^{+iHt} b_i^{\dagger} e^{-iHt} b_j | \psi \rangle = \langle \psi(t) | b_i^{\dagger} | \phi(t) \rangle \quad |\phi \rangle = b_j | \psi \rangle$





structure function: momentum-frequency







$$\beta = 10$$
 $t_{max} = 35$

relative error < 0.01

reachable time scales with inverse temperature: low T easier
