

Strongly correlated quantum dot out of equilibrium

A variational cluster approach

Martin Nuss ¹

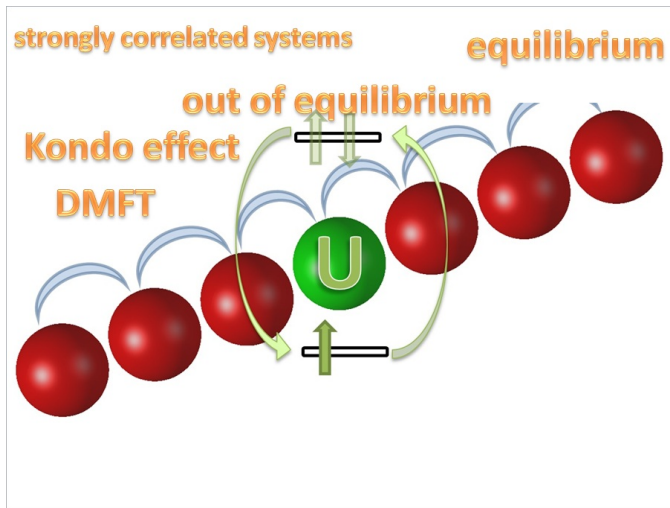
Institute of Theoretical and Computational Physics, Graz University of Technology, Austria

April 11, 2012

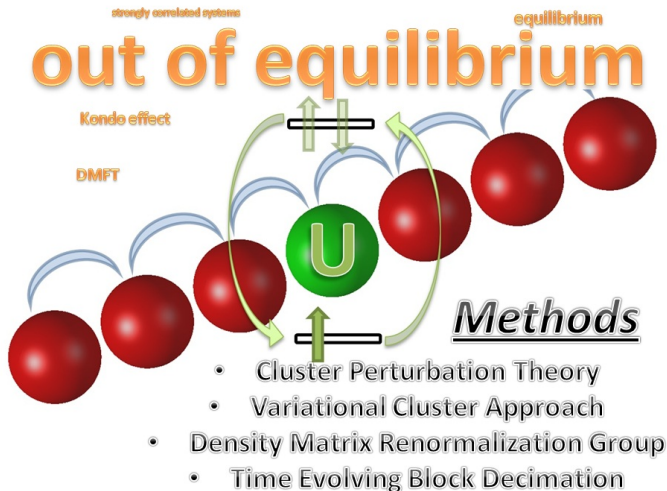


¹cooperation of ViCoM P03 and P04

Single quantum impurity model



Single quantum impurity model



Non-equilibrium Group at Technical University Graz



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 - Setup
 - Steady state current density
 - Non-equilibrium density of states

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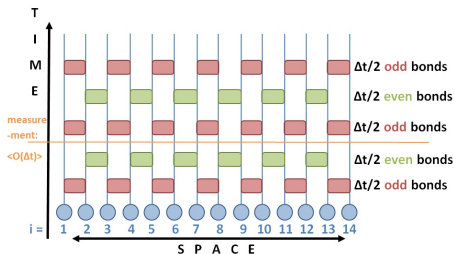
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Generic lattice model

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\mathcal{H}} &= \sum_{ij} t_{ij} c_i^\dagger c_j + \sum_{ijkl} U_{ijkl} c_i^\dagger c_j^\dagger c_k c_l \\ &= \hat{\mathcal{H}}_I(t) + \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{II}(U)\end{aligned}$$

Time Evolution using Matrix Product States

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\Psi\rangle &= \sum_{\{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_L\}} c_{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_L} |s_1, s_2, \dots, s_L\rangle \\
 &= \sum_{\{s_1, \dots, s_L\}} \sum_{\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_L\}} A_{\alpha_1}^{[1]s_1} A_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}^{[2]s_2} \dots A_{\alpha_{L-2} \alpha_{L-1}}^{[L-1]s_{L-1}} A_{\alpha_{L-1}}^{[L]s_L} |s_1, \dots, s_L\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$



1

$$\text{DMRG}(\hat{\mathcal{H}}(t_0)) \Rightarrow |\Psi\rangle_0$$

2

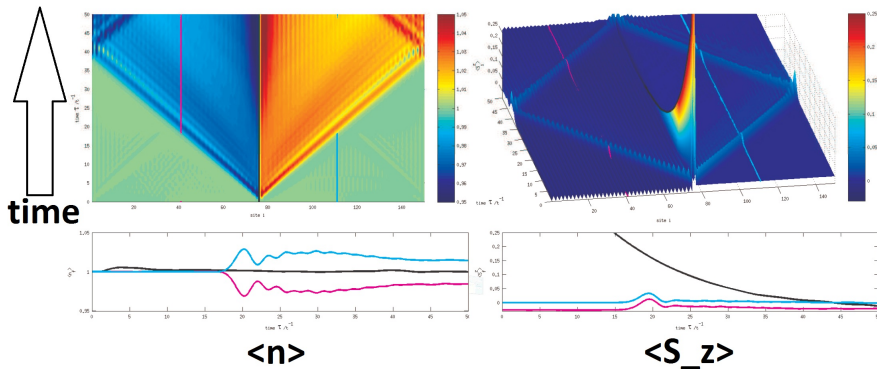
quench

3

evolve $|\Psi\rangle_0$ with $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(t > 0)$ by TEBD

Short time TEBD dynamics: particle number and spin

$$L = 150, U = 20\Delta, V_{\text{bias}} = 14\Delta$$



- established, quasi-exact method in 1 dimension
- dynamic quantities are more difficult to obtain

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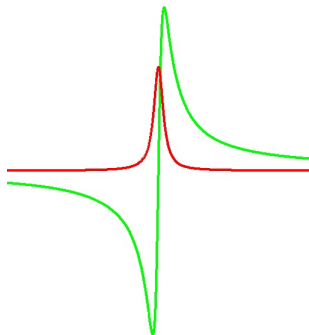
Generic lattice model

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To apply a perturbative method one has to expand in some parameter. Usually the **hopping (strong coupling)** or the **interaction (weak coupling)** are considered.

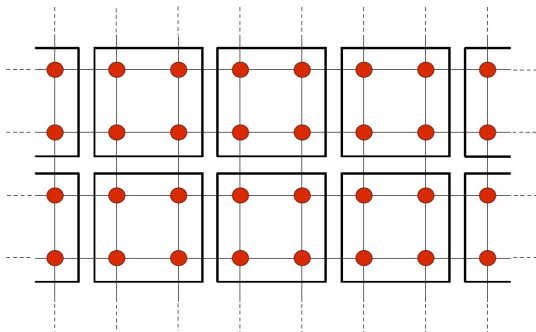
Atomic limit

$$G(z; t, U) = \left\langle \frac{1}{z - \hat{\mathcal{H}}(t, U)} \right\rangle$$



- strong coupling perturbation theory (in hopping t)
- consider $G(t = 0)$ as starting point

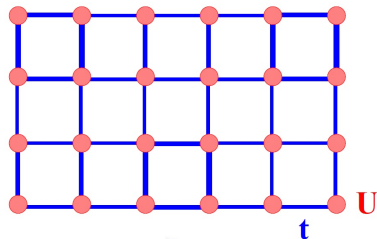
Manybody Cluster Methods



Extrapolate cluster to thermodynamic limit:

- Cluster Perturbation Theory (**CPT**)
- Variational Cluster Approach (**VCA**)
- Cluster/Cellular Dynamical Mean-Field Theory (**CDMFT**)
- Dynamical Cluster Approximation (**DCA**)

Correlated lattice model



given: Hamiltonian e.g.
Hubbard model

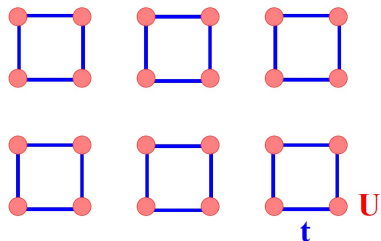
$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}$$

ask for: Green's function

$$G = ?$$

in general intractable ... :(

Cluster Tiling



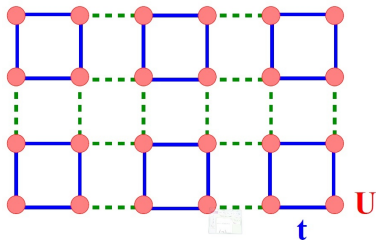
$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{cluster}}$$

$$\mathbf{G}^{-1} = \mathbf{G}_{\text{cluster}}^{-1}$$

(numerically) exactly solvable ... :)

... but isn't this quite different from original system ... :(

Cluster Perturbation Theory^{2 3}



$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{cluster}} + \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{inter-cluster}}$$

$$G_{\text{CPT}}^{-1}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = G_{\text{cluster}}^{-1}(\omega) - \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{k})$$

First order result for the lattice Green function G

- G_{cluster} = exact Green's function of the **cluster**
- $\mathbf{T}$ = **inter-cluster** off diagonal one particle terms (i.e. hopping)

²C. Gros and R. Valenti, Phys. Rev. B 48, 418 (1993)

³D. Sénéchal, D. Perez, and M. Pioro-Ladrière, Phys. Rev. Lett. 84, 522 (2000)

Approximation - Limits

Approximation: take **self-energy of the cluster** $\Sigma = \Sigma_{cluster}$

CPT is exact for

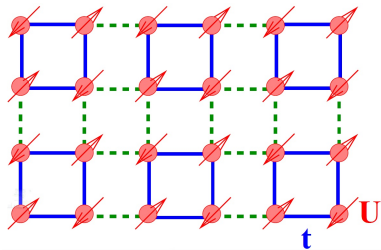
- $t \rightarrow 0$,
- $U \rightarrow 0$,
- $L \rightarrow \infty$.

CPT captures **short-range correlations** exactly, long-range correlations are neglected.

CPT is usually improved not by considering higher order expansions in the inter-cluster hopping but by **increasing the cluster size**.

Illustration of the Variational Cluster Approach

VCA⁴ = Variational CPT: **Optimize the initial state**



$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = \hat{\mathcal{H}}'_{\text{cluster}} + \hat{\mathcal{H}}'_{\text{inter-cluster}}$$

$$\mathbf{G}_{\text{CPT}}^{-1}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = \mathbf{G}'^{-1}_{\text{cluster}}(\omega) - \mathbf{T}'(\mathbf{k})$$

Variational aspect: Add **virtual field** to cluster Hamiltonian

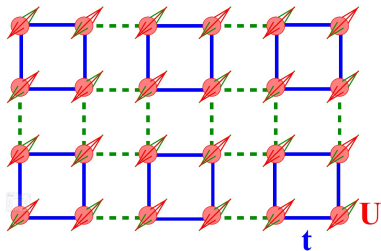
$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}'_{\text{cluster}} = \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{cluster}} + \hat{h}_{\text{field}}$$

field: **any single particle terms** of original Hamiltonian + bath sites

⁴M. Potthoff, M. Aichhorn, and C. Dahnken, Phys. Rev. Lett. 91, 206402 (2003)

Illustration of the Variational Cluster Approach

Adding and subtracting single-particle terms



$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = \hat{\mathcal{H}}'_{\text{cluster}} + \hat{\mathcal{H}}'_{\text{inter-cluster}}$$

$$\mathbf{G}_{\text{CPT}}^{-1}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = \mathbf{G}'^{-1}_{\text{cluster}}(\omega) - \mathbf{T}'(\mathbf{k})$$

Variational aspect: Add **virtual** field to cluster Hamiltonian

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}'_{\text{cluster}} = \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{cluster}} + \hat{h}_{\text{field}}$$

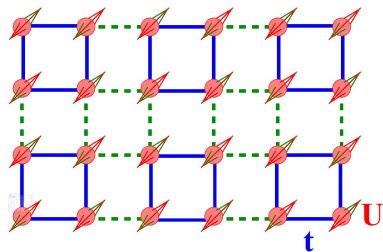
subtract field again via CPT

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}'_{\text{inter-cluster}} = \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{inter-cluster}} - \hat{h}_{\text{field}}$$

field: any single particle terms of original Hamiltonian + bath sites

Illustration of the Variational Cluster Approach

How is $\hat{h}_{\text{field}}$ determined?



$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = \hat{\mathcal{H}}'_{\text{cluster}} + \hat{\mathcal{H}}'_{\text{inter-cluster}}$$

$$\mathbf{G}_{\text{CPT}}^{-1}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = \mathbf{G}'^{-1}_{\text{cluster}}(\omega) - \mathbf{T}'(\mathbf{k})$$

The self energy functional approach (SFA)⁵ provides a variational principle:

Stationary point of the grand potential:

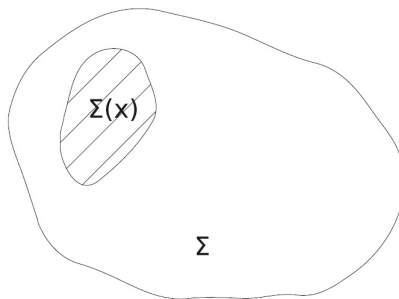
$$\frac{\delta \Omega}{\delta h_{\text{field}}} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

VCA = CPT + variational principle

⁵M. Potthoff, Eur. Phys. J. B 32, 429 (2003), M. Potthoff, Eur. Phys. J. B 36, 335 (2003)

Restriction of self-energies

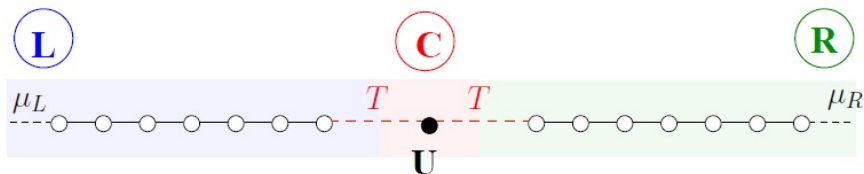
Self-energy $\Sigma(x)$ = self-energy of the reference system $\Sigma(x')$
 x = single particle parameters, **restricting the space of available self-energies.**



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Interacting quantum dot

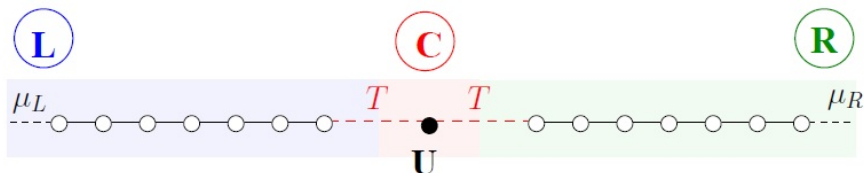


- $g = \text{diag}(\mathbf{g}_{LL}, \mathbf{g}_{CC}, \mathbf{g}_{RR})$ of **decoupled** system evaluated exactly
- at time t_0 coupling T is switched on
- non equilibrium situation $\rightarrow$ **Keldysh Green's functions**

$$\tilde{g}(r, r'; t, t') = \begin{pmatrix} g^R & g^K \\ 0 & g^A \end{pmatrix}$$

notation from Rammer+Smith '86

Interacting quantum dot

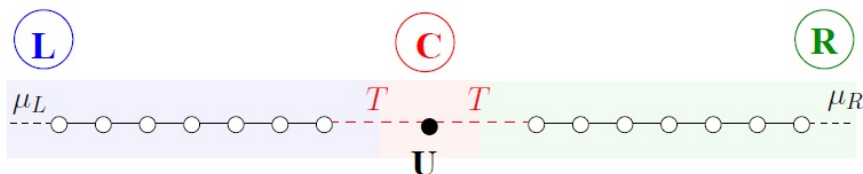


- at $t \rightarrow \infty$ system reaches **steady state**
time translationally invariant
→ **Fourier transform** to ω
- **Interacting** system: Dyson Equation

$$G = g + g \circ (T + \Delta\Sigma) \circ G$$

2x2 Keldysh matrices

CPT approximation

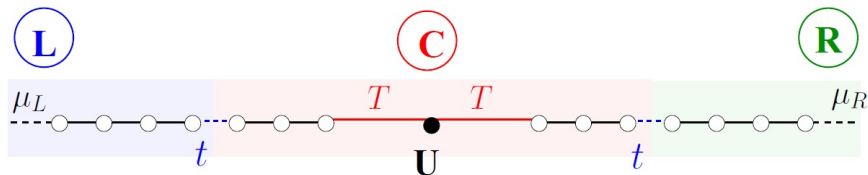


CPT interacting system: Dyson Equation

$$G = g + g \circ (T + \Delta\Sigma) \circ G$$

Lowest-order strong-coupling expansion (in T) consists in neglecting $\Delta\Sigma$ (Hubbard I approximation)

Applying CPT



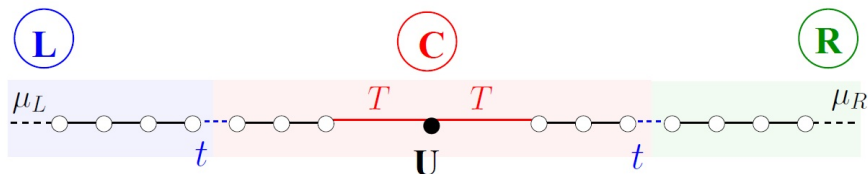
take **larger central region** and solve larger cluster exactly
 treat inter-cluster hopping (t) perturbatively

$$G = g + g \circ (\hat{t}) \circ G$$

cf. short time dynamics by Balzer+Potthoff '11

short times Δt : perturbation due to coupling to leads $\propto \Delta t \cdot T$,
 accounted for in first order perturbation theory, **but long time behavior ???**

Adding a single-particle field



non equilibrium **Variational Cluster Approach (VCA)**

$$G = g + g \circ (\hat{t} - \Delta \hat{T}) \circ G$$

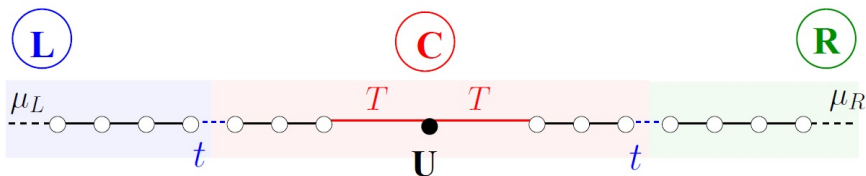
start from better initial state at $t < t_0 \rightarrow$ variational optimization:

minimize difference between initial and final state

by adding $\hat{h}_{\text{field}}$ (here ΔT) at $t < t_0$

and subtract it again for $t > t_0$

Subtracting a single-particle field



$$G = g + g \circ (\hat{t} - \Delta \hat{T}) \circ G$$

start from better initial state at $t < t_0 \rightarrow$ variational optimization:

minimize difference between initial and final state

(Exact) steady state should not depend on $\hat{h}_{\text{field}}$

due to the CPT approximation, results do depend on $\hat{h}_{\text{field}}$

Non-equilibrium self-consistency condition

New optimization criterion in non-equilibrium:

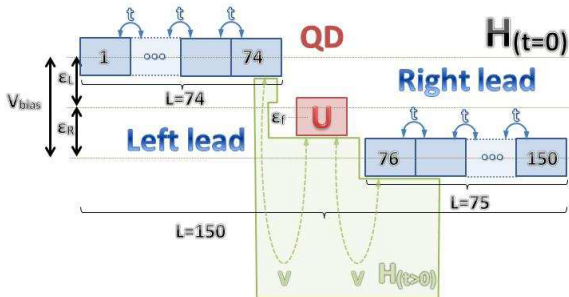
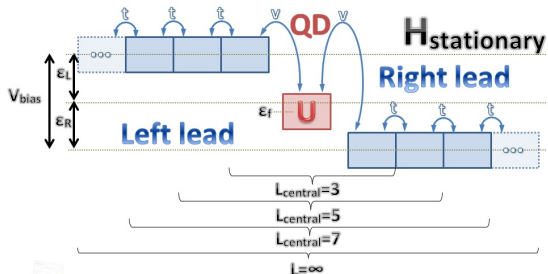
$$\left\langle \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \Delta T} \right\rangle_{t < t_0} \stackrel{!}{=} \left\langle \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \Delta T} \right\rangle_{t \rightarrow \infty}$$

achieved by requiring **single-particle expectations** values in **initial** state to match those in **final** state

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Model within nCPT/nVCA and DMRG/TEBD



Tests for quasi steady state behavior of TEBD

- checked convergence in: system size L , trotter time step δt , TEBD matrix size χ (**truncated weight**), ...
- investigated **various quenches** all leading to the same results in the steady state
- checked vs. **analytically** available $U = 0$ results

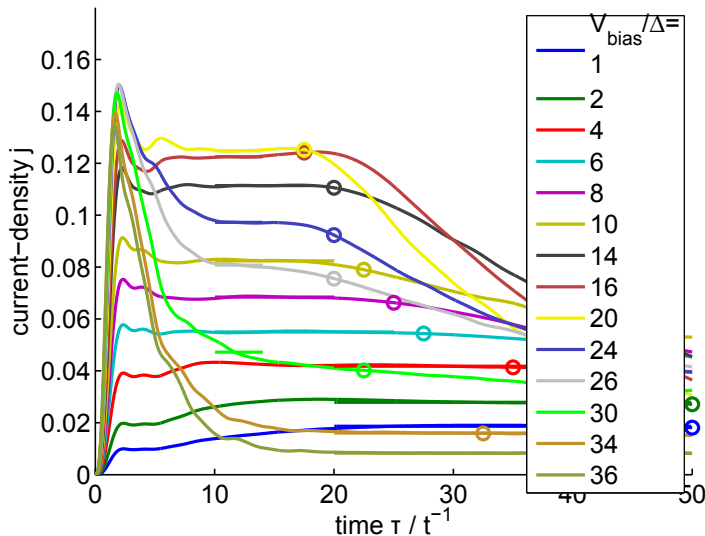
Results in equilibrium by CPT/VCA

- **VCA** $\gg$ CPT
- **Hubbard bands** (position + width)
- **all parameter regions** (pinning of Kondo resonance)
- **Kondo peak** + exponential scale in U (although wrong prefactor)

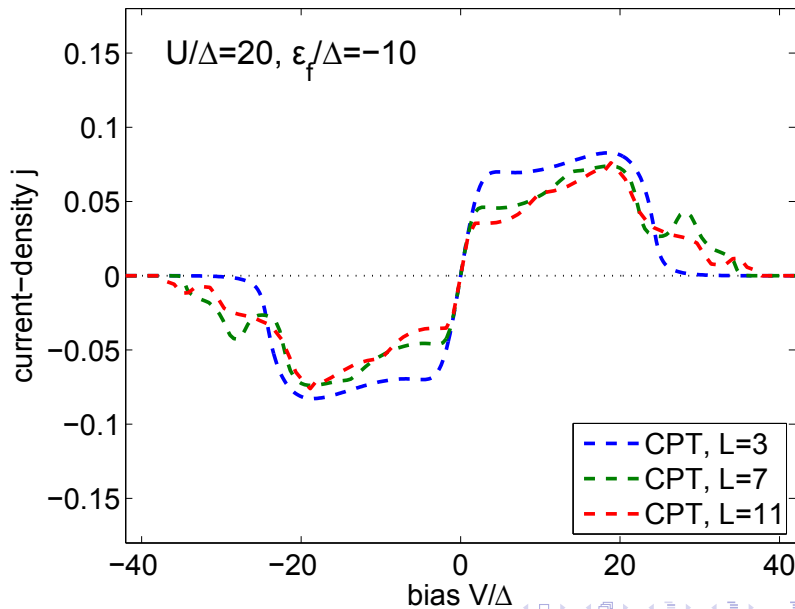
M. Nuss, E. Arrigoni, M. Aichhorn and W. von der Linden, [arXiv:1110.4533](https://arxiv.org/abs/1110.4533) (2011)

TEBD quasi-stationary-state current density

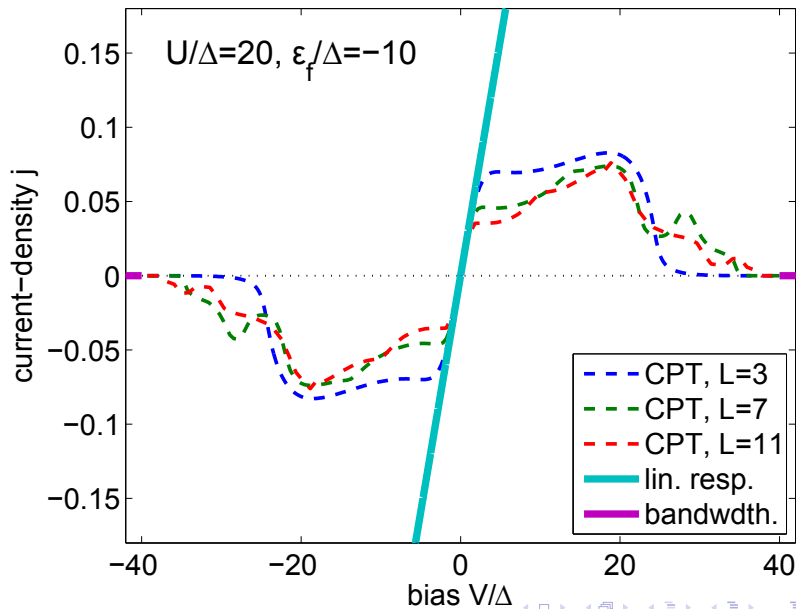
$$L = 150, U = 12\Delta$$



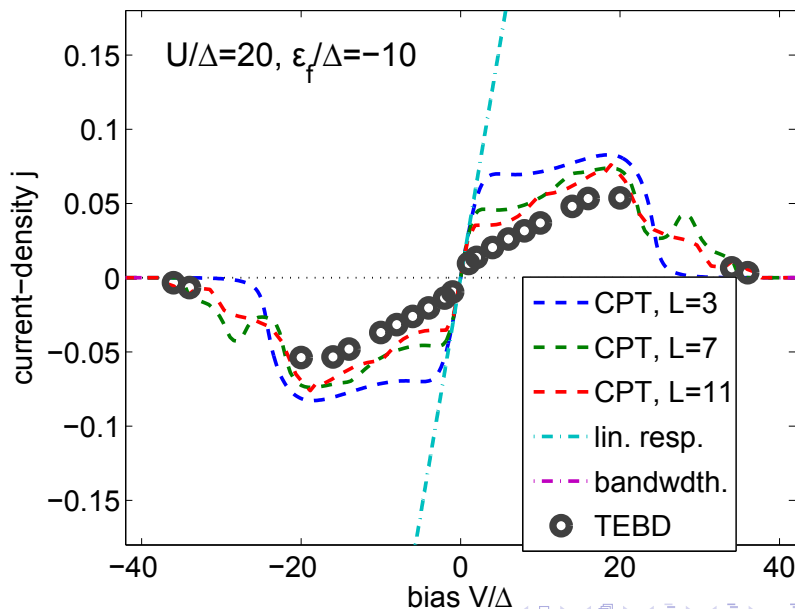
Non equilibrium cluster perturbation theory



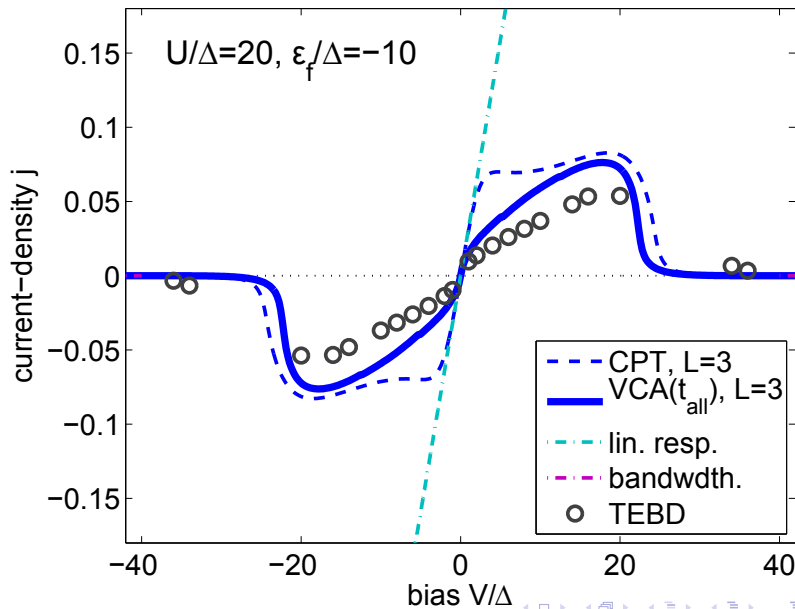
Exact limits



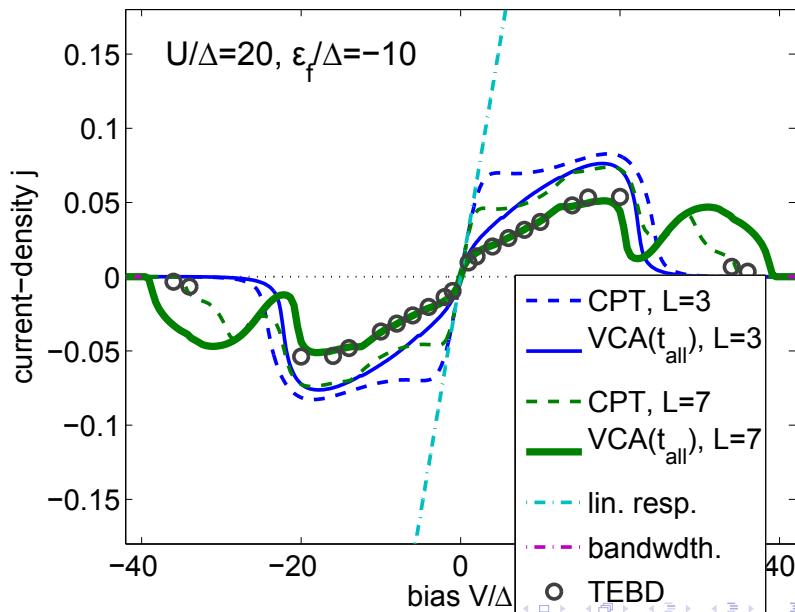
Quasi stationary state of exact time evolution



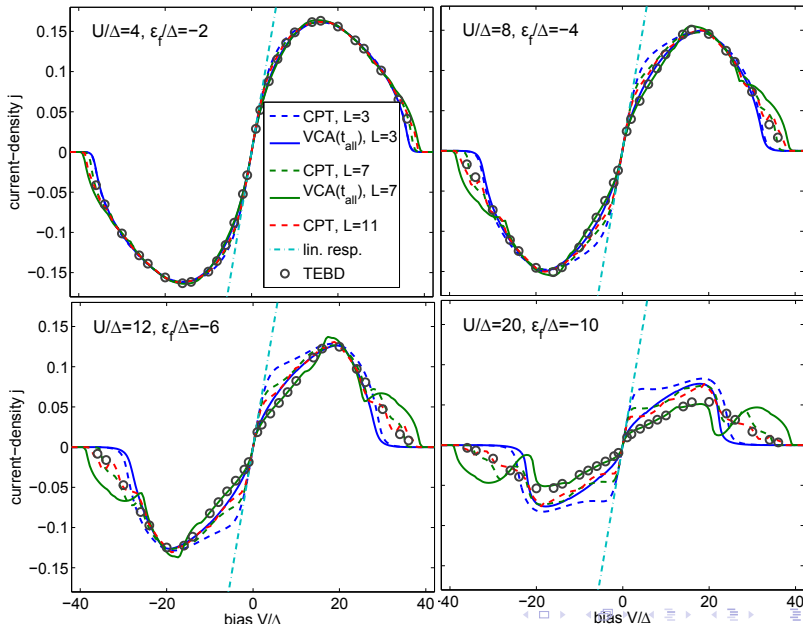
Non equilibrium Variational cluster approach



Non equilibrium Variational cluster approach



Results for various interaction strength

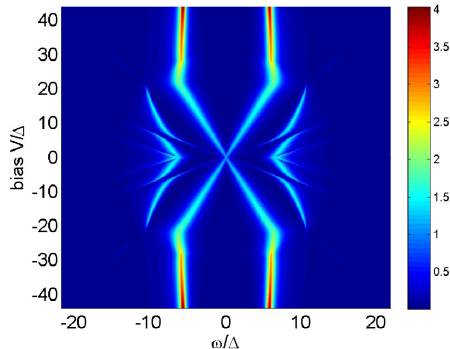
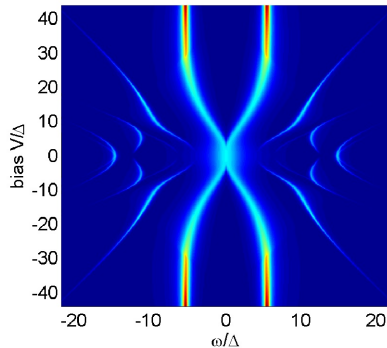


Non-equilibrium density of states

$$L = 3, \frac{U}{\Delta} = 12$$

CPT

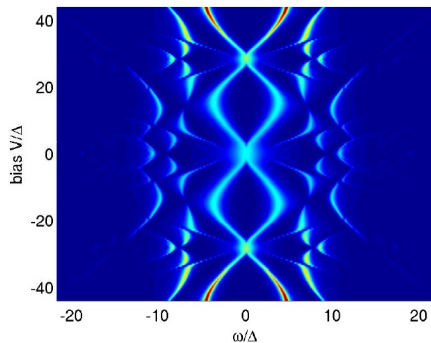
VCA



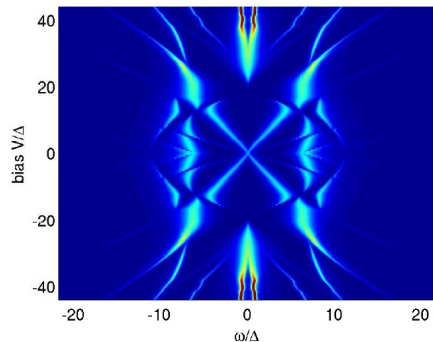
Non-equilibrium density of states

$$L = 7, \frac{U}{\Delta} = 12$$

CPT



VCA



Conclusion

- non-linear steady state current available in **all parameter regions**
- nCPT and nVCA as well as DMRG/TEBD respect the **low bias** lin. resp. result and the **high bias** band cutoff and the reproduce the non-interacting results
- low U : **nCPT** and **nVCA** perform excellently (benchmarked vs DMRG/TEBD)
- high U : **nVCA** $\gg$ **nCPT** (self-consistent feedback critical!)
- VCA: linear (U) dependent **splitting of Kondo resonance** in LDOS

Open issues and future challenges

- Finding the most suitable, best performing **optimization condition** for nCPT/nVCA.
- **Application** to multi-impurity systems.
- Combination with ab-initio methods for real materials.
- **Regime of high bias/interaction strength.**
- **Comparison** to other methods.

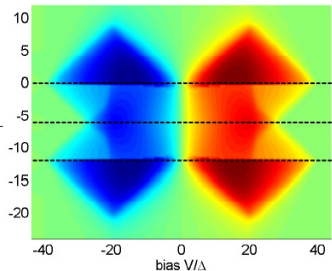
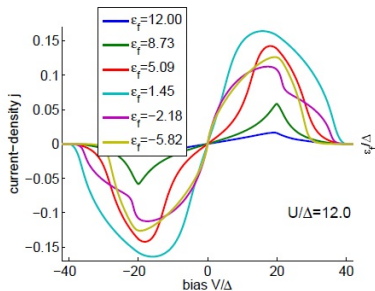
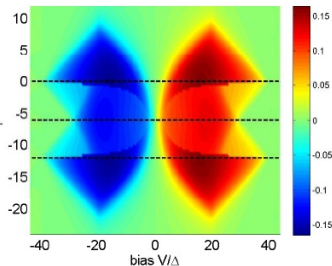
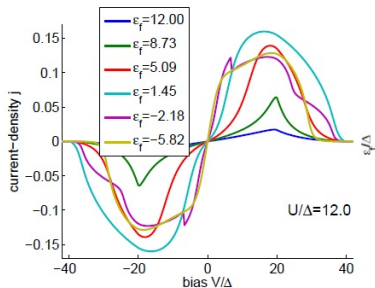
Thank You!

Thank you for your attention!

contact: martin.nuss@student.tugraz.at

We acknowledge financial support from ViCoM, the
Förderungsstipendium of the TU Graz and the Austrian Science Fund
(FWF) P24081-N16 and P18551-N16.
Part of the numerical work has been performed on the Vienna scientific
cluster (VSC-I and VSC-II).

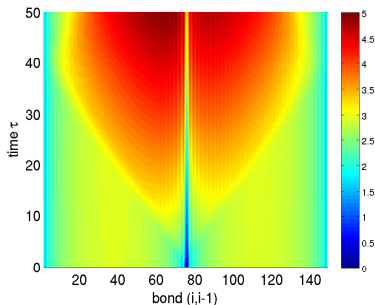
Results away from particle hole symmetry



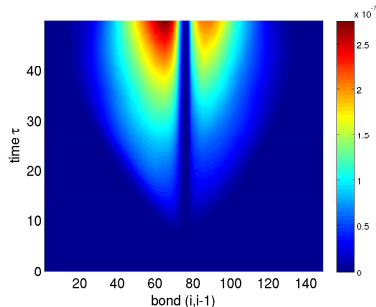
Short time TEBD dynamics: entanglement

$$L = 150, U = 20\Delta, V_{\text{bias}} = 2\Delta$$

entanglement entropy



truncated weight



Evaluating physical quantities

The steady-state current density is obtained via the Keldysh part of the Green's function

$$j_{ij} = \frac{t_{ij}}{2} \sum_{\sigma} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \Re \left(G_{ij}^{K\sigma}(\omega) - G_{ji}^{K\sigma}(\omega) \right) ,$$

non-equilibrium (local) density of states (nLDOS) of the dot:

$$\rho_f^{\sigma}(\omega) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \Im \left(G_{ff}^{R\sigma}(\omega) \right)$$