

**Numerical methods for quantum impurity models**  
**DRSTP (9-20 March 2015. Doorn, Netherlands)**  
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## Exercise 1: Schrieffer-Wolff transformation

The Anderson impurity model (AIM) describes a single interacting quantum level, locally tunnel-coupled to non-interacting conduction electrons of a continuum bath. Its Hamiltonian, in second-quantized notation, is given by  $H_{\text{AIM}} = H_{\text{bath}} + H_{\text{imp}} + H_{\text{hyb}}$ , where,

$$H_{\text{bath}} = \sum_{\sigma,k} \epsilon_k c_{\sigma k}^\dagger c_{\sigma k}, \quad (1a)$$

$$H_{\text{imp}} = \epsilon_d \left( d_\uparrow^\dagger d_\uparrow + d_\downarrow^\dagger d_\downarrow \right) + U \left( d_\uparrow^\dagger d_\uparrow d_\downarrow^\dagger d_\downarrow \right), \quad (1b)$$

$$H_{\text{hyb}} = \sum_{\sigma,k} \left( V_k d_\sigma^\dagger c_{\sigma k} + \text{H.c.} \right), \quad (1c)$$

where  $c_{\sigma k}^\dagger$  creates a conduction electron with spin  $\sigma = \uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$  and momentum  $k$ ; while  $d_\sigma^\dagger$  creates a spin- $\sigma$  electron on the *impurity* site.

The Kondo model (KM) describes a single spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  impurity, exchange coupled locally to conduction electrons. Its Hamiltonian is given by,

$$H_{\text{KM}} = H_{\text{bath}} + \sum_{k,k'} \left[ J_{kk'} \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{s}_{kk'} + K_{kk'} \sum_{\sigma} c_{\sigma k}^\dagger c_{\sigma k'} \right], \quad (2)$$

where  $\mathbf{S}$  is a spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  operator for the impurity and  $\mathbf{s}_{kk'} = \sum_{\sigma,\sigma'} c_{\sigma k}^\dagger \vec{\sigma}_{\sigma\sigma'} c_{\sigma k'}$  is the conduction electron spin density (here  $\vec{\sigma}$  is a vector of Pauli matrices).

The Kondo model can be derived perturbatively from the Anderson model in a regime where the impurity is *singly-occupied*, and therefore hosts a spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  local moment corresponding to an electron with either up or down spin. When  $V_k = 0$  (the ‘atomic limit’ of an isolated impurity), the impurity is single-occupied for  $-U < \epsilon_d < 0$ . When  $\sum_k |V_k|^2/U \ll 1$ , we may project onto the singly-occupied manifold of AIM impurity states, eliminating perturbatively virtual excitations to empty or doubly-occupied impurity states to second-order in  $H_{\text{hyb}}$ . This is the Schrieffer-Wolff transformation.

The Brillouin-Wigner perturbation expansion,

$$H_{\text{eff}} = \hat{1}_{so} H_0 \hat{1}_{so} + \hat{1}_{so} H_1 \hat{1}_{so} + \hat{1}_{so} \left[ H_1 (E_0 - H_0)^{-1} \hat{P}_{ex} H_1 \right] \hat{1}_{so} + \dots \quad (3)$$

can be used to find the low-energy effective Kondo Hamiltonian by setting  $H_0 = H_{\text{bath}} + H_{\text{imp}}$  and  $H_1 = H_{\text{hyb}}$ . Here,  $\hat{1}_{so}$  is a projector onto the singly-occupied impurity manifold, while  $\hat{P}_{ex} = \hat{1}_{tot} - \hat{1}_{so}$  projects onto the excited impurity manifold (empty or doubly-occupied).  $E_0$  is the energy of states of  $H_0$ , i.e.,  $H_0|\Psi_0\rangle = E_0|\Psi_0\rangle$ . Ultimately we can assume that  $U + \epsilon_d$  and  $-\epsilon_d$  are  $\gg |\epsilon_k - \epsilon_{k'}|$  at low temperatures/energies.

Find expressions for  $J_{kk'}$  and  $K_{kk'}$  appearing in Eq. 2, in terms of  $\epsilon_d$ ,  $U$ , and  $V_k$  appearing in Eq. 1.

From Eq. 1c, it can be seen that the impurity couples to a single localized bath orbital,  $f_\sigma \propto \sum_k V_k c_{\sigma k}$ . Express the Kondo model, Eq. 2, in terms of this localized orbital.