

INTRODUCTION TO MANY BODY PHYSICS: 620. Fall 2024

Answers to Questions 4. Monday, Nov 18th

1. (a) If we take the expression for the Free energy

$$F(\lambda) = -T \ln Z(\lambda) = -T \ln \text{Tr}[e^{-\beta[H_o + \lambda V]}] \quad (1)$$

and differentiate it, we obtain

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \lambda} = -\frac{T}{Z} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial \lambda}. \quad (2)$$

Now

$$\frac{\partial Z}{\partial \lambda} = \text{Tr}\left[\frac{\partial e^{-\beta[H_o + \lambda V]}}{\partial \lambda}\right] = -\beta \text{Tr}[V e^{-\beta[H_o + \lambda V]}] \quad (3)$$

so that

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \lambda} = \frac{\text{Tr}[V e^{-\beta[H_o + \lambda V]}]}{Z} = \langle V \rangle = \langle V_{int} \rangle / \lambda. \quad (4)$$

- (b) By integrating the result of part (a) over λ , we obtain

$$\Delta F = \int_0^1 d\lambda \frac{\partial F}{\partial \lambda} = \int_0^1 \frac{d\lambda}{\lambda} \langle V_{int}(\lambda) \rangle \quad (5)$$

- (c) If the interaction energy has an expansion $\langle V_{int}(\lambda) \rangle = \lambda V_1 + \lambda^2 V_2 + \lambda^3 V_3 + \dots$, then

$$\Delta E = \int_0^1 \frac{d\lambda}{\lambda} \langle \phi | V_{int}(\lambda) | \phi \rangle = V_1 + \frac{1}{2} V_2 + \frac{1}{3} V_3 + \dots \quad (6)$$

- (d) When we turn on the interaction, the change in the ground-state energy involves the contributions from both the change in the Hamiltonian and the change in the ground-state. The factors of $\frac{1}{n}$ appearing in front of the n-th order terms reflect the fact that the ground-state relaxes in response to the change in hamiltonian, so that the change in the ground-state energy from each term is less than the corresponding change in the expectation value of the interaction.

2. (a) The crosses represent the scattering amplitude $V_{k,k'}$ and the lines represent the propagators.

- (b) Diagrammatically, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \Rightarrow &= \longrightarrow + \longrightarrow \times \longrightarrow + \longrightarrow \times \longrightarrow \times \longrightarrow + \dots \\ &= \longrightarrow + \longrightarrow \bullet \longrightarrow \end{aligned}$$

or

$$G_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'}(E) = G_{\mathbf{k}}^{(0)}(E) \delta_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'} + G_{\mathbf{k}}^{(0)}(E) t_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'}(E) G_{\mathbf{k}'}^{(0)}(E) \quad (7)$$

where the “blob” is the t-matrix, represented by the following sum of diagrams

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bullet &= \times + \times \rightarrow \times + \times \rightarrow \times \rightarrow \times + \dots \\
 &= \times + \times \rightarrow \bullet
 \end{aligned}$$

Written algebraically, this becomes

$$t_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'}(E) = U(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}') + \int \frac{d^d q}{2\pi} \frac{U(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{q})}{E - E(q) + i\delta} t_{\mathbf{q},\mathbf{k}'}(E) \quad (8)$$

where we assume that the Fermi surface is empty (i.e $\mu = 0$, so that $\delta_{\mathbf{k}} = \delta$ for all states.)

- (c) If $U(x) = U\delta^{(d)}(x)$, then $U(q) = U$ and the t-matrix is now momentum independent. We may immediately solve (8) to obtain

$$t(\omega) = \frac{U}{1 - UF(\omega)} \quad (9)$$

where

$$F(\omega) = \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} G^{(0)}(k, \omega)$$

- (d) Let us examine how the integral in the denominator of the t-matrix scales with energy at low energies. We take the case of a “drained Fermi sea”, in which the chemical potential $\mu = 0$, so that for $\omega < 0$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(\omega) &= \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} G^{(0)}(k, \omega) \propto \int d\epsilon \epsilon^{(\frac{d}{2}-1)} \frac{1}{\omega - \epsilon + i\delta} \\
 &\propto -(-\omega)^{(\frac{d}{2}-1)} \\
 &\propto -\ln\left(\frac{\Lambda}{-\omega}\right), \quad (d = 2).
 \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Thus in dimensions $d \leq 2$, if $U < 0$, the denominator of the t-matrix

$$1 - UF(\omega) = 1 + |U|F(\omega) \sim 1 - \frac{|U|}{(-\omega)^{(2-d)/2}}$$

will pass through zero at some small $\omega = -\omega^* \propto |U|^{2/(2-d)}$, for arbitrarily small $|U|$, giving rise to a pole in the t-matrix. To see that this means the development of a bound-state, consider the density of one-particle states

$$\rho(\omega) = \sum_{\lambda} \delta(\omega - E_{\lambda}) \quad (11)$$

where E_{λ} is the energy of the eigenstate $|\lambda\rangle$. We may rewrite this in the form

$$\rho(\omega) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} \sum_{\lambda} \frac{1}{(\omega - E_{\lambda} + i\delta)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} \sum_{\lambda} \langle \lambda | \hat{G}(\omega) | \lambda \rangle \\
&= -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} \text{Tr} \left[\hat{G}(\omega) \right],
\end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

where $\hat{G}(\omega) = (\omega - H + i\delta)^{-1}$. We may also take the trace by summing over the momentum eigenstates, rather than energy eigenstates, so that

$$\begin{aligned}
\rho(\omega) &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \text{Im} \langle \mathbf{k} | \hat{G}(\omega) | \mathbf{k} \rangle \\
&= -\frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \text{Im} G_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}}(\omega)
\end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

Writing the Green-function in terms of the t-matrix, the change in the density of states due to scattering is then

$$\Delta\rho(\omega) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} \left[\left(\int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} G^{(0)}(k, \omega) \right)^2 t(\omega) \right] \tag{14}$$

Near the pole at negative energies, we may write this in the form

$$\Delta\rho(\omega) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} [F(\omega)^2 t(\omega)] = -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} \left[\left(\frac{1}{U} - \frac{1}{t(\omega)} \right)^2 t(\omega) \right] \approx -\frac{1}{U^2 \pi} \text{Im} [t(\omega)] \tag{15}$$

Thus a pole in $t(\omega)$ implies a pole at negative energies in the density of states, indicating a bound-state.