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Quantum Monte Carlo methods as an exact route to correlated regimes in 1D systems.

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Why exact? No sign problem!

- Diffusion Monte Carlo (DMC) (Reynolds *et al.*, JCP **77**, 5593 (1982)) and Lattice Regularized Diffusion Monte Carlo (LRDMC) (Casula *et al.*, PRL **95**, 100201(2005))
- Wave function projection using imaginary time propagator

$$\left|\psi(\tau+\delta\tau)\right\rangle = e^{-\hat{H}\delta\tau} \left|\psi(\tau)\right\rangle = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} c_i e^{-\varepsilon_i \delta\tau} \left|\phi_i\right\rangle$$

 Initial state (trial wave function) product of a determinant of plane waves and a 2-body Jastrow factor

$$\left|\Psi_{T}\right\rangle = D^{\uparrow}D^{\downarrow}\exp(-\sum_{i < j}u(x_{ij})) \qquad D^{\sigma} = \prod_{1 \le i < j \le N^{\sigma}}\sin(G(x_{i}^{\sigma} - x_{j}^{\sigma})/2)$$

- Fermion sign problem: constrain the diffusion within the nodal pockets of the trial wave function
 - In 1D the nodes are known exactly and given by $\chi_i^{\sigma} = \chi_i^{\sigma}$
 - Ground state properties can be computed without bias in 1D (the only error comes from statistical fluctuations of the sampling)

Outline

Properties of the 1D homogeneous electron gas (1DEG)

- Onset of long-range charge order in the 1DEG: localization transition in experiments and liquid-to-quasi-crystal crossover
- *Effect of screening* on the onset of crystal-like correlations
- Spin and charge velocities in quantum wires
- Properties of a trapped Gaudin gas
 - Experimental realization of the model
 - Phase diagram from Thomas-Fermi approximation
 - Zero and finite temperature results from QMC

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Ground state and thermodynamic properties of the 1DEG



Long-range charge order in 1D

- Condition for the presence of charge order in 1D electron gas depending on the long distance behavior of the interparticle potential¹: V(r) ∝ 1/rⁿ
 - \circ n < 1 \rightarrow crystallization is possible
 - \circ n = 1 \rightarrow ? (border line difficult case)
 - \circ n > 1 \rightarrow no long-range order
- ▶ n = 1

Luttinger liquids with long range 1/r interactions have **<u>quasi</u>** longrange correlations²

$$\left\langle \rho(x)\rho(0)\right\rangle = A_1 \cos(2k_F x) \exp(-c_2 \sqrt{\ln x}) / x + A_2 \cos(4k_F x) \exp(-4c_2 \sqrt{\ln x}) + \cdots$$
$$S\left(k = 4k_F\right) = \int_a^L dx \exp(-4ik_F x) \left\langle \rho(x)\rho(0)\right\rangle = aL \exp(-4c \sqrt{\ln L}) + b$$

¹Mermin, PR **176**, 250 (1968) ²Schulz, PRL **71**, 1864 (1993) $4k_F$ periodicity of mean interparticle distance in case of unpolarized Fermi system

Long-range charge order in 1D

The strength of the effective interaction is set by r_s
 (Wigner-Seitz radius: 2 r_sa₀ mean interparticle distance)
 r_s= potential energy / kinetic energy
 What is the role of the density in the stabilization of the quasi Wigner order? (in the Luttinger picture is left undetermined)

Are the 4k_F correlations always present as soon as the interaction is switched on? Is there any crossover density?

In 1D strong quantum fluctuations

What is the role of quantum fluctuations in the stabilization of the long-range order and what is the interplay with the range of the interaction?

Localization Transition in Experiments Auslaender et al. Auslaender et al.

- Parallel quantum wires with tunable density in upper wire realized with cleaved edge overgrowth of GaAs
- Electrons localize at low density (below 20 μm⁻¹) tunneling changes character
- Extended tunneling in momentum space implies localization in real space; at the same density the conductance in the wire drops down
- Questions to be resolved: Is the observed effect due to disorder or intrinsic correlations? What is the role of screening?

Auslaender *et al.* Science **295**, 825 (2002) Auslaender *et al.* Science **308**, 88 (2005) Steinberg *et al.* PRB **73**, 113307 (2006)



Spin-charge separation

Tunneling when Fermi point from one wire coincides with unoccupied states in the other Zulicke, Science **295**, 810 (2002)





Strong renormalization of charge and spin velocities due to the interaction (for spin it is larger then expected)



Our model for the 1D homogeneous electron gas

Strictly 1D electrons in a neutralizing homogeneous background

$$\hat{H} = -\sum_{i} \frac{\nabla_i^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{e^2}{\varepsilon} \sum_{i \neq j} V(x_i - x_j) + \hat{H}_{e-b}$$

 Effective 1D interparticle potential derived by assuming harmonic confinement in the transverse direction

$$V_{\text{transverse}}(r_{\perp}) = \frac{r_{\perp}^2}{4b^4}$$
 b is the thickness of the wire

and **single subband approximation** (only the lowest subband is occupied)

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Model interactions



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Quasi Wigner crystal



• **Sub-linear scaling** of $4k_F$ component of S(k) with particle number indicates presence of quasi Wigner crystal.

- Agrees with Luttinger liquid theory predictions in the Wigner phase[:] $S(k = 4k_F) = aL \exp\left(-4c\sqrt{\log L}\right) + b$
- There is a **crossover density** $r_s^* = r_s^*(b)$ above which the system has only $2k_F$ correlations (no $4k_F$ peak)

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Screening effects

- Gate screening (V(x) $\propto 1/x^3$) destroys the quasi-order
- Quasi long-range order replaced by strong $4k_F$ correlations



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Wire screening

- Electrons are confined to the wires by harmonic potentials as before
- Correlations are treated explicitly in one of the wires with the other wire treated as a screening medium
- Response of second wire is calculated using linear response with an RPA density-density response function
- GaAs parameters: $m^* = 0.067 m_e$ $\epsilon = 13.1$ $a_0 \sim 10 nm$ b = 0.707 b' = 1.061(radial root mean square equal to the lithographic thickness)



$$V_b(k,R) = V_b(k) + V_{int}(k,R)\chi(k)V_{int}(k,R)$$

$$\chi_{RPA} = \frac{\chi_0(k)}{1 - V_{b'}(k)\chi_0(k)}$$

$$\chi_0(k) = \frac{1}{\pi k} \ln \left| \frac{k - 2k_F}{k + 2k_F} \right|$$

Crossover with wire screening



• Unpolarized wire with screening coming from another parallel wire

•Crossover region is r_s = 1.9-2.2 in the unpolarized wire

• In the experiment the wire is in a quite strong magnetic field, which might induce a polarization. We study the effect of the spin polarization in the crossover

• Crossover region is the same in the wire with polarization 0.75

• 2k_F-to-4k_F crossover density is insensitive to the polarization in this regime

Localization in finite wire



 Number of peaks per electron doubles as average density decreases (onset of 4k_F correlations and broken translational invariance joint together)

Localization in finite wire

 Appearance of feature at 4k_F at same density as density profile changes

• Transition occurs between $r_s = 2.0$ and $r_s = 2.3$ giving a transition density of 22 μ m⁻¹

• Remarkable agreement with experimental transition at 20 μm^{-1}

• The soft confinement does not change much the critical density for the crossover.



Correlations play a strong role in the localization transition

Momentum resolved excitation energies

- Trial wave function $\Psi_T(q) = \sum_i e^{iqr_j} \Psi_0$ best for small k (Feynman's ansatz)
- Slope of excitation spectrum at small q gives charge and spin velocities
- Excitation energy is gapless at $2nk_F$ due to continuous translational invariance



Reference for the method: D. M. Ceperley and B. Bernu, JCP 89, 6316 (1988)

Spin and Charge Velocities



• Points from Auslaender *et al.*, Science **308**, 88 (2005), dispersion of the system with two parallel quantum wires

- Upper wire charge velocity in good agreement with the experimental data
- Upper wire spin velocity strongly dependent on the screening (spin sector very sensitive to the microscopic model)

Quasi Wigner Crystal to Impenetrable Particles Crossover

- Pair correlation function g(r) exponentially approaches 0 for r=0
- In low density limit g(r) becomes independent of spin → like spinless fermions

- For screened interactions, approach to noninteracting spinless fermion limit
- Structure factor goes to the non interacting spinless with 2k_f-to-4k_f mapping

Relation to Tonks-Girardeau

- Tonks and Girardeau physics of strongly interacting particles mapped into non interacting spinless fermions
 - Contact interactions assumed
 - Particles become impenetrable
 - \circ v_c→2v_F (spinless non interacting physics)
- As screening shortens range of interaction, electrons act as noninteracting spinless fermions
- To get a Tonks-Girardeau behavior we need:
- 1. small thikness (small b)
- 2. strong coupling (large r_s)
- 3. large screening (small R)

$$b \ll 1 \quad r_s \gg 8R^2 / \pi$$

Assymptotic value of v_c / v_f at b = 0.0001

Summary

- Performed exact quantum Monte Carlo calculations of 1D electron gas
 - Onset of quasi Wigner crystal correlations as density decreases
 - \circ Screening destroys long range correlations
- Developed model to study parallel wire experiments
 - Localization transition in quantitative agreement with experiment
 - Velocities of spin and charge excitations computed in QMC

Some reference:

M. Casula, S. Sorella, and G. Senatore, PRB 74, 245427 (2006)
L. Shulenburger, M. Casula, G. Senatore, and R. M. Martin, PRB 78, 165303 (2008)
L. Shulenburger, M. Casula, G. Senatore, and R. M. Martin, J. Phys. A: Math.
Theor. 42, Issue 21, 214021 (2009)
Güçlü, Umrigar, Jiang, Baranger, arXiv:0807.4292

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Ground state and thermodynamic properties of a trapped Gaudin gas

Realizing a 1D Fermi gas

Going on experiment by Randy Hulet at Rice University

Ultracold ⁶Li atoms trapped in an optical lattice created by orthogonal laser beams Total number of atoms: 500,000

- Elliptically focused crossed beam trap (aspect ratio ~ 6:1)
- Produces an array of long narrow tubes (tube size $\sim 0.5 \ \mu m \ x \ 300 \ \mu m$)
- Central tubes contain ~300 atoms

1D Fermions with attractive contact interaction

For a <u>single tube</u>, with a single subband occupied (large transverse frequency), the Hamiltonian is

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \sum_{i} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} - \sum_{(i,\uparrow)(j,\downarrow)} g \,\delta(x_i^{\uparrow} - x_j^{\downarrow}) + \sum_{i} \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 x_i^2$$

We use units $\hbar = m = \omega = 1$

The pair binding energy is $\frac{g^2}{4}$ Fermi level $\mu_{\uparrow} = N_{\uparrow}$ Ratio gives effective coupling $\frac{g}{2\sqrt{N}}$ July 28 2010, QMC in the Apuan Alps

Thomas-Fermi phase diagram

Local density approximation based on the Bethe ansatz

solution for the homogeneus system

G. Orso, Phys. Rev. Lett. 98, 070402 (2007)

Phase separation experimentally detectable by imaging the cloud

"Critical" polarization (T=0)

G. Orso, Phys. Rev. Lett. 98, 070402 (2007)

Trial wave function for VMC and DMC Slater-Jastrow form $\Psi = D^{\uparrow}D^{\downarrow}J$

Antisymmetric product of Hermite polynomials

$$D^{\sigma} = \det(H_i(x_j^{\sigma})) = \prod_{1 \le i < j \le N^{\sigma}} (x_i^{\sigma} - x_j^{\sigma})$$

one-body, two-body, and three-body Jastrow factor J

delta function potential handled with **cusp conditions** $V(x = x_1^{\uparrow} - x_2^{\downarrow}) = -g \ \delta(x) \implies \left. \frac{d}{dx} J^{\uparrow\downarrow}(|x|) \right|_{x=0} = -\frac{g}{4}$

30 independent variational parameters **Stochastic reconfiguration** method to minimize the energy

distance from the center of the trap

distance from the center of the trap

distance from the center of the trap

Spin density profile

total spin density, N=100, g=5

Dependence on N

Dependence on g

Spin imbalance 4% N=200

Finite temperature simulations (PIMC)

Thermal density matrix $\rho = \rho_{harmonic} \rho_{Fermi} \rho_{interaction}$

$$\rho_{\text{harmonic}}(x,x') = (4\pi\lambda\tau)^{-N/2} \exp\left(-\sum \frac{(x_i - x_i')^2}{4\lambda\tau}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{\tau}{2}\sum (x_i^2 + x_i'^2)\right)$$

with $\lambda = \hbar^2/2m$

$$\rho_{\text{Fermi}}(x,x') = \prod_{i=2}^{N} \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{(x_i - x_{i-1})(x'_i - x'_{i-1})}{\tau}\right) \right]$$

$$\rho_{\text{interaction}}(x,x') = \prod_{i,j} \left[1 - f(x_i, x_j, x'_i, x'_j) \right]$$

See Bernard Gaveau and Lawrence Schulman, J. Phys. A, **19** 1833-1846 (1986)

Dependence on T

g=8 N=200 P=4%

Dependence on T

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Pair momentum distribution

Pair two-body density matrix N=200, g=20, P=0.10%

Summary

• Weak coupling (g ~ 8, N=200)

spin density profile shows a beating structure reminiscent of the non interacting behavior

phase separation is between fully polarized wings and a FFLO state in the central part of the cloud

Intermediate coupling (g ~ 16, N=200)

polarization with P=4% shows clearly fully paired wings

pairing mechanism seems to involve only one or few particles at the edge of the cloud

▶ **Strong coupling** (g ~ 50, N=200)

both polarizations with P=4% and P=10% feature fully paired wings LDA overestimates the extension of the fully paired region, particularly for a small number of particles

Some reference

Casula, Ceperley, Mueller, PRA **78**, 033607 (2009) Batrouni, Huntley, Rousseau, Scalettar, Phys Rev Lett **100**, 116405 (2008)

Very recent developments

Outcome of the Hulet experiment: arXiv:0912.0092

Figure 2

DMRG study of the wings (up to N=160 with some difficulty...) arXiv:1001.4720: F. Heidrich-Meisner, G. Orso, and A.E. Feiguin

General conclusions

- QMC gives benchmark results useful to model and understand the experiment.
- Ideal tool to study one dimensional systems (no sign problem) and go beyond the mean field methods or the low energy models like the Luttinger liquid.
- Non homogeneous and finite size effects can be consistently taken into account.
- Static correlation functions easily accessible.
- Some limitations

<u>Dynamic correlation functions</u> difficult to compute (analitic continuation is necessary)

Ergodicity problems at strong coupling in QMC simulations

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Onset of 4k_F correlations

 Presence of peak in structure factor signals onset of 4k_F correlations
 Crossover density seems "robust" in the thermodynamic limit (finite size scaling analysis necessary because in QMC one works with a finite number of particles in periodic boundary conditions)

 $\Psi_T(q) = \sum e^{iqr_j} \Psi_0$

Momentum Resolved Excitation Energies

- A trial wavefunction for the excited state with a given momentum is projected in imaginary time
- The Feynman ansatz is used for the trial wavefunction
- Results are upper bounds on the excitation energies
- Sign problem causes infinite variance at large projection times
- Excitations with q small converge quickly due to more accurate trial wavefunction

Reference for the method: D. M. Ceperley and B. Bernu, JCP 89, 6316 (1988)

July 28 2010, QMC in the Apuan Alps **Momentum Resolved Excitation Energies**

- Transient Estimate $S(k,\tau) = \frac{\left\langle \Psi_T | \rho(k,0) e^{-\tau H} \rho(-k,0) | \Psi_0 \right\rangle}{\left\langle \Psi_T | e^{-\tau H} | \Psi_0 \right\rangle}$
- Use forward walking to calculate the matrix element
- S(k, τ) can be expanded in terms of energy eigenstates $S(k, \tau) = \sum_{i} a_{i}e^{-\epsilon_{k}^{i}\tau}$
- At large τ an upper bound for the energy given by the imaginary time derivative

$$\frac{d\ln S(k,\tau)}{d\tau} > \epsilon_k^0$$

- Correlation Function Monte Carlo $E(k,\tau) = \frac{1}{S(k,\tau)} \frac{\langle \Psi_T | \rho(k,0) e^{-\tau H} H \rho(-k,0) | \Psi_0 \rangle}{\langle \Psi_T | e^{-\tau H} | \Psi_0 \rangle}$
 - More accurate energies by considering the matrix element of the Hamiltonian

$$\frac{\int \mathrm{d}r_1 \mathrm{d}r_2 \ \rho(-k) G(r_1, r_2, \tau) E_L(k, r_2) \rho(k) P(r_2)}{\int \mathrm{d}r_1 \mathrm{d}r_2 \ \rho(-k) G(r_1, r_2, \tau) \rho(k) P(r_2)}$$

where

$$E_L(k,r) = \frac{H\rho(k)\Psi_T(r)}{\rho(k)\Psi_T(r)}$$

Charge Compressibility

• Sum rules relate long wavelength excitations to charge compressibility (A. Gold and L. Calmels, PRB **58**, 3497 (1998))

$$\lim_{q \to 0} \omega_c(q) = v_F |q| \sqrt{\rho_F V(q) + \frac{\chi_0}{\chi_c}}$$

- Compressibility from ground state energy $1/\frac{\partial^2 \varepsilon}{\partial r_s^2} = \frac{\chi_0}{\chi_c}$
- Parametrization of energy from Casula *et al.*, PRB **74**, 245427 (2006)
- Finite size effects much smaller in excitation energies due to cancellation of errors

• Charge compressibilities for unpolarized and polarized systems merge in the dilute limit

Spin Susceptibility

 Sum rules relate long wavelength excitations to the spin susceptibility (A. Gold and L. Calmels, PRB 58, 3497 (1998))

$$\lim_{q\to 0} \omega_s(q) = v_F |q| \sqrt{\frac{\chi_0}{\chi_s}}$$

- Spin susceptibility increases exponentially as density decreases (it is proportional to 1/J²)
- The blow up of the spin scusceptibility in the large r_s is the signature of the onset of a spinless (or quasi spinless) regime

July 28 2010, QMC in the Apuan Alps Ergodicity problem

- At strong coupling, it is hard for an unpaired atom to pass through pairs.
- Is this a physically observable effect?
- DMC seems to be more efficient than PIMC (trial wave functon helps)
- Need of better moves in PIMC

g=15 Nup=33, Ndown=27, T=0.5

Quasi 1D effects on the phase diagram

Meera M. Parish, Stefan K. Baur, Erich J. Mueller, David A. Huse, Phys. Rev. Lett. 99, 250403 (2007)

Methods: Quantum Monte Carlo

- Diffusion Monte Carlo (DMC) and Lattice Regularized Diffusion Monte Carlo (LRDMC)
 - Determine ground state of Hamiltonian by projecting trial wave function in imaginary time

$$\left|\psi\left(\tau+\delta\tau\right)\right\rangle = e^{-\hat{H}\delta\tau}\left|\psi\left(\tau\right)\right\rangle = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} c_{i}e^{-\varepsilon_{i}\delta\tau}\left|\phi_{i}\right\rangle$$

 $\circ \text{ Recast projection as an integral} \\ \left| \psi(\mathbf{R}', \tau + \delta \tau) \right\rangle = \int d\mathbf{R} G(\mathbf{R}', \mathbf{R}, \tau) \left| \psi(\mathbf{R}, \tau) \right\rangle$

where
$$G(\mathbf{R}',\mathbf{R},\tau) = \langle \mathbf{R}' | e^{-\tau(\hat{H}-E_T)} | \mathbf{R} \rangle$$

 The two methods principally differ in how they sample the Green's function

Methods: Quantum Monte Carlo

- Diffusion Monte Carlo
 - Observables are now calculated as:

$$\left\langle \psi_{T} \left| O \right| \psi_{0} \right\rangle = \frac{\int \Psi_{T}(\mathbf{R}) \Psi_{0}(\mathbf{R}) \frac{O(\mathbf{R}) \Psi_{T}(\mathbf{R})}{\Psi_{T}(\mathbf{R})} d\mathbf{R}}{\int \Psi_{T}(\mathbf{R}) \Psi_{0}(\mathbf{R}) d\mathbf{R}}$$

- The distribution sampled must be positive or the denominator will be 0, leading to exponentially large fluctuations
- Fixed node approximation:
 - Use zero's of the trial wave function to restrict random walk
 - Exact nodes make this approximation exact
 - Nodes are known in 1D!