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# Part II. Principles of key numerical methods

### Exact diagonalization, use of symmetries

- 1D, 2D examples

### Matrix- and tensor-product states

- very brief intro, some examples of recent use

### **Quantum Monte Carlo methods**

- brief review of classical MC
- path integrals, stochastic series expansion
- fermion determinant QMC

# **Exact Diagonalization**

### Using basis states incorporating conservation laws (symmetries)

- magnetization conservation, momentum states, parity, spin inversion
- 1D systems, discussion without group theory
  - only basic quantum mechanics and common sense needed

### Lanczos diagonalization

ground state, low excitations

### **Characterization of different ground states**

- critical ground state of the Heisenberg chain
- quantum phase transition to a valence-bond solid in a  $J_1$ - $J_2$  chain
- 2D Néel order, Anderson tower of rotor states

# **Computational basis states**

Using example: the Heisenberg S=1/2 chain

$$H = J \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbf{S}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1} = J \sum_{i=1}^{N} [S_{i}^{x} S_{i+1}^{x} + S_{i}^{y} S_{i+1}^{y} + S_{i}^{z} S_{i+1}^{z}],$$
  
$$= J \sum_{i=1}^{N} [S_{i}^{z} S_{i+1}^{z} + \frac{1}{2} (S_{i}^{+} S_{i+1}^{-} + S_{i}^{-} S_{i+1}^{+})]$$

Most efficient way computationally; enumerate the states

• construct the hamiltonian matrix using **bit-representation** of integers

$$\begin{aligned} |0\rangle &= |\downarrow,\downarrow,\downarrow,\downarrow,\ldots,\downarrow\rangle & (=0\ldots000) \\ |1\rangle &= |\uparrow,\downarrow,\downarrow,\ldots,\downarrow\rangle & (=0\ldots001) & H_{ij} = \langle i|H|j\rangle \\ |2\rangle &= |\downarrow,\uparrow,\downarrow,\ldots,\downarrow\rangle & (=0\ldots010) & i,j = 0,\ldots,2^N - 1 \\ |3\rangle &= |\uparrow,\uparrow,\downarrow,\ldots,\downarrow\rangle & (=0\ldots011) \end{aligned}$$

bit representation perfect for S=1/2 systems, integer i represents a state

- use >1 bit/spin for S>1/2, or integer vector
- construct H by examining/flipping bits

Alternative: use array state(1:N) with values 0,1, along with

- function statelabel(state) to produce the index i
- function makestate(i), to create array state for given state label i

# Diagonalizing the hamiltonian matrix

- on the computer
- gives the eigenvalues and eigenvectors

If U is the matrix whose columns are the eigenvectors of H, then

 $\langle n|A|n\rangle = [U^{T*}AU]_{nn}$ 

is the expectation value of some operator A in the n:th eigenstate

**Problem**: Matrix size M=2<sup>N</sup> becomes too large quickly

- maximum number of spins in practice; N≈20
- $M^2$  matrix elements to store, time to diagonalize  ${}_{\sim}M^3$

# Using conservation laws (symmetries) for block-diagonalization

We can choose the basis in such a way that the H becomes block-diagonal



- the blocks can be diagonalized individually
- we can reach larger N (but not much larger, N≈40 is max)

### Simplest example; magnetization conservation

$$m_z = \sum_{i=1}^N S_i^z$$

- blocks correspond to fixed values of m<sub>z</sub>
- no H matrix elements between states of different mz
- A block contains states with a given mz
  - corresponds to ordering the states in a particular way

Number of states in the largest block  $(m_z = 0)$ :  $N!/[(N/2)!]^2$ 



Other symmetries (conserved quantum numbers)

- can be used to further split the blocks
- but more complicated
  - basis states have to be constructed to obey symmetries
  - e.g., momentum states (using translational invariance)

### Example

N=4, m=0

- s<sub>1</sub>=3 (0011)
- s<sub>2</sub>=5 (0101)
- s<sub>3</sub>=6 (0110)
- S<sub>4</sub>=9 (1001)
- $s_5=10$  (1010)  $s_6=12$  (1100)

# Momentum states (translationally invariant systems)

A periodic chain (ring), translationally invariant

• the eigenstates have a momentum (crystal momentum ) k

$$T|n\rangle = \mathrm{e}^{ik}|n\rangle$$
  $k = m\frac{2\pi}{N}, m = 0, \dots, N-1,$ 

The operator T translates the state by one lattice spacing

• for a spin basis state

 $T|S_1^z, S_2^z, \dots, S_N^z\rangle = |S_N^z, S_1^z, \dots, S_{N-1}^z\rangle$ 

 $[T,H]=0 \rightarrow$  momentum blocks of H

• can use eigenstates of T with given k as basis (H blocks labeled by k)

A momentum state can be constructed from any representative state

$$|a(k)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{-ikr} T^r |a\rangle,$$

Construct ordered list of representatives If Ia> and Ib> are representatives, then

$$T^r |a\rangle \neq |b\rangle \ r \in \{1, \dots, N-1\}$$

<u>4-site examples</u>
(0011)→(0110),(1100),(1001)
(0101)→(1010)

 $|a\rangle = |S_1^z, \dots, S_N^z\rangle$ 

**Convention:** the representative is the one corresponding to the smallest integer



$$|a(k)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{-ikr} T^r |a\rangle, \quad |a\rangle = |S_1^z, \dots, S_N^z\rangle \qquad k = m \frac{2\pi}{N}$$

The sum can contain several copies of the same state

- if  $T^R |a\rangle = |a\rangle$  for some R < N
- the total weight for this component is

 $1 + e^{-ikR} + e^{-i2kR} + \dots + e^{-ik(N-R)}$ 

- vanishes (state incompatible with k and not in k block) unless  $kR=n2\pi$
- the total weight of the representative is then N/R

$$kR = n2\pi \rightarrow \frac{mR}{N} = n \rightarrow m = n\frac{N}{R} \rightarrow \text{mod}(m, N/R) = 0$$

**Normalization** of a state  $|a(k)\rangle$  with periodicity  $R_a$ 

$$\langle a(k)|a(k)\rangle = \frac{1}{N_a} \times R_a \times \left(\frac{N}{R_a}\right)^2 = 1 \to N_a = \frac{N^2}{R_a}$$

Basis construction: find all allowed representatives and their periodicities

(a<sub>1</sub>, a<sub>2</sub>, a<sub>3</sub>, ..., a<sub>M</sub>) (R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, ..., R<sub>M</sub>) The block size **M** is initially not known

- approximately 1/N of total size of fixed m<sub>z</sub> block
- depends on the periodicity constraint for given k

The Hamiltonian matrix. Write S = 1/2 chain hamiltonian as

$$H_0 = \sum_{j=1}^N S_j^z S_{j+1}^z, \quad H_j = \frac{1}{2} (S_j^+ S_{j+1}^- + S_j^+ S_{j+1}^-), \quad j = 1, \dots, N$$

Act with H on a momentum state

$$H|a(k)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{-ikr} T^r H|a\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{j=0}^{N} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{-ikr} T^r H_j|a\rangle,$$

H<sub>j</sub>la> is related to some representative:  $H_j |a\rangle = h_a^j T^{-l_j} |b_j\rangle$ 

$$H|a(k)\rangle = \sum_{j=0}^{N} \frac{h_{a}^{j}}{\sqrt{N_{a}}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{-ikr} T^{(r-l_{j})}|b_{j}\rangle$$

Shift summation index r and use definition of momentum state

$$\begin{aligned} H|a(k)\rangle &= \sum_{j=0}^{N} h_{a}^{j} e^{-ikl_{j}} \sqrt{\frac{N_{b_{j}}}{N_{a}}} |b_{j}(k)\rangle & \rightarrow \text{matrix elements} \\ \langle a(k)|H_{0}|a(k)\rangle &= \sum_{j=1}^{N} S_{j}^{z} S_{j}^{z}, \\ \langle b_{j}(k)|H_{j>0}|a(k)\rangle &= e^{-ikl_{j}} \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{R_{a}}{R_{b_{j}}}}, \quad |b_{j}\rangle \propto T^{-l_{j}} H_{j}|a\rangle, \end{aligned}$$

**Reflection symmetry (parity)** Define a reflection (parity) operator

$$P|S_1^z, S_2^z, \dots, S_N^z\rangle = |S_N^z, \dots, S_2^z, S_1^z\rangle$$

Consider a hamiltonian for which [H,P]=0 and [H,T]=0; but note that  $[P,T]\neq 0$ 

Can we still exploit both P and T at the same time? Consider the state

$$|a(k,p)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{-ikr} T^r (1+pP) |a\rangle, \quad p=\pm 1$$

This state has momentum k, but does it have parity p? Act with P

$$P|a(k,p)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{-ikr} T^{-r} (P+p)|a\rangle \qquad PT^r = T^{-r} P$$
$$= p \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{ikr} T^r (1+pP)|a\rangle = p|a(k,p)\rangle \text{ if } k = 0 \text{ or } k = \pi$$

#### k=0,π momentum blocks are split into p=+1 and p=-1 sub-blocks

- [T,P]=0 in the k=0, $\pi$  blocks
- physically clear because -k=k on the lattice for k=0,π
- we can exploit parity in a different way for other k → real basis (semi-momentum states, will not discuss here)

# **Spin-inversion symmetry**

Spin inversion operator:  $Z|S_1^z, S_2^z, \dots, S_N^z\rangle = |-S_1^z, -S_2^z, \dots, -S_N^z\rangle$ 

In the magnetization block  $m^z=0$  we can use eigenstates of Z

$$|\alpha(k, p, z)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{-ikr} T^r (1+pP)(1+zZ) |a\rangle$$
$$Z|\alpha(k, p, z)\rangle = z|\alpha(k, p, z)\rangle, \quad z = \pm 1$$

### **Example: block sizes**

m<sub>z</sub>=0, k=0 (largest momentum block)

$(p=\pm 1, z=\pm 1)$				
N	(+1, +1)	(+1, -1)	(-1,+1)	(-1, -1)
8	7	1	0	2
12	35	15	9	21
16	257	183	158	212
20	2518	2234	2136	2364
24	28968	27854	27482	28416
28	361270	356876	355458	359256
32	4707969	4690551	4685150	4700500

### **Total spin S conservation**

- difficult to exploit
- complicated basis states

$$\mathbf{S}^{2} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \mathbf{S}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{j}$$
$$= 2 \sum_{i < j} \mathbf{S}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{j} + \frac{3}{4} N$$

# **The Lanczos method**

If we need only the ground state and a small number of excitations

- can use "Krylov space" methods, which work for much larger matrices
- basis states with 10<sup>7</sup> states or more can be easily handled (30-40 spins)

## The Krylov space and "projecting out" the ground state

Start with an arbitrary state  $|\psi\rangle$ 

• it has an expansion in eigenstates of H; act with a high power  $\Lambda$  of H

$$H^{\Lambda}|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{n} c_{n} E_{n}^{\Lambda}|n\rangle = E_{0}^{\Lambda} \left(c_{0}|0\rangle + c_{1} \left(\frac{E_{1}}{E_{0}}\right)^{\Lambda}|1\rangle + \ldots\right)$$

For large  $\Lambda$ , if the state with largest  $|E_n|$  dominates the sum

• one may have to subtract a constant, using H-C, to ensure ground state

• even better to use linear combination of states generated for different  $\Lambda$ 

$$|\psi_a\rangle = \sum_{m=0}^{\Lambda} \psi_a(m) H^m |\Psi\rangle, \quad a = 0, \dots, \Lambda$$

• diagonalize H in this basis

In the Lanczos basis, H is tridiagonal, convenient to generate and use

• Normally M=50-200 basis states is enough; easy to diagonalize H

#### **Constructing the Lanczos basis**

First: construct orthogonal but not normalized basis {fm}. Define

 $N_m = \langle f_m | f_m \rangle, \quad H_{mm} = \langle f_m | H | f_m \rangle$ 

The first state **If**<sub>0</sub>> is arbitrary, e.g., random. The next one is

 $|f_1\rangle = H|f_0\rangle - a_0|f_0\rangle$ 

Demand orthogonality

 $\langle f_1 | f_0 \rangle = \langle f_0 | H | f_0 \rangle - a_0 \langle f_0 | f_0 \rangle = H_{00} - a_0 N_0 \quad \rightarrow \quad a_0 = H_{00} / N_0$ 

All subsequent states are constructed according to

$$|f_{m+1}\rangle = H|f_m\rangle - a_m|f_m\rangle - b_{m-1}|f_{m-1}\rangle$$
  
 $a_m = H_{mm}/N_m, \quad b_{m-1} = N_m/N_{m-1}$ 

Easy to prove orthogonality of all these states ( $< f_{m+1} | f_m > = 0$  is enough)

# The hamiltonian in the Lanczos basis

Rewrite the state generation formula

$$H|f_m\rangle = |f_{m+1}\rangle + a_m|f_m\rangle + b_{m-1}|f_{m-1}\rangle$$

Because of the orthogonality, the only non-0 matrix elements are

$$\langle f_{m-1} | H | f_m \rangle = b_{m-1} N_{m-1} = N_m$$

$$\langle f_m | H | f_m \rangle = a_m N_m$$

$$\langle f_{m+1} | H | f_m \rangle = N_{m+1}$$

But the f-states or not normalized. The normalized states are:

$$|\phi_m\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_m}}|f_m\rangle$$

In this basis the Hamiltonian matrix is

$$\langle \phi_{m-1} | H | \phi_m \rangle = \sqrt{b_{m-1}}$$

$$\langle \phi_m | H | \phi_m \rangle = a_m$$

$$\langle \phi_{m+1} | H | \phi_m \rangle = \sqrt{b_m}$$

### **Operator expectation values**

Diagonalizing the tri-diagonal matrix  $\rightarrow$  eigenstates in the Lanczos basis

- eigenvectors **v**<sub>n</sub>, energies **E**<sub>n</sub>
- only some number of low-energy states ( $<< \Lambda$ ) are correct eigenstates of H

To compute expectation values we go back to the original basis

$$\psi_n(a) = \sum_{m=0}^{\Lambda} v_n(m)\phi_m(a), \quad a = 1, \dots, M$$

#### **Convergence properties of the Lanczos method**



Ground state converges first, then successively excited states

### **Break-down of orthogonality**

- will eventually happen for large m
- causes artificial degeneracies
- cured by re-orthogonalization
- all states have to be stored

# Explicit re-orthogonalization

- at each Lanczos step

$$egin{aligned} |\phi_{m+1}
angle &
ightarrow rac{|\phi_{m+1}
angle - q|\phi_i
angle}{1-q^2} \ q &= \langle \phi_i |\phi_{m+1}
angle \end{aligned}$$

