

# One, two, and three fermions with one-body parity-violating ‘spin-orbit’ coupling

Thomas Luu<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*N Section, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, CA 94551.*

(Dated: March 26, 2012)

## Abstract

I present my notes on various fermionic systems undergoing some type of external parity-violating interaction in different dimensions.

---

\*[tluu@llnl.gov](mailto:tluu@llnl.gov)

## Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| I. Problem Setup  | 3  |
| II. $\vec{k} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$ in a 3-dimensional oscillator well | 3  |
| A. 1-particle spectrum  | 3  |
| 1. Basis states   | 4  |
| 2. Matrix elements of $\alpha \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$           | 4  |
| 3. Spectrum   | 5  |
| B. 2-particle spectrum <i>without</i> relative interaction          | 6  |
| 1. Basis states   | 7  |
| 2. Matrix Elements  | 8  |
| C. 2-particle spectrum <i>with</i> relative interaction             | 11 |
| D. 3-particle spectrum  | 15 |
| References  | 15 |

## I. PROBLEM SETUP

In these notes I consider particles undergoing a one-body, parity-violating interaction of the type

$$\alpha \vec{k} \cdot \vec{\sigma} \quad (1)$$

$$\alpha_R (\sigma_x k_y - \sigma_y k_x) \quad \text{Rashba} \quad (2)$$

$$-\alpha_{D1} (\sigma_x k_x - \sigma_y k_y) \quad \text{Dresselhaus (linear)} \quad (3)$$

$$\alpha_{D3} (\sigma_x k_x k_y^2 - \sigma_y k_x^2 k_y) \quad \text{Dresselhaus (cubic)}. \quad (4)$$

I consider the particles interacting in free space as well as within an oscillator well, both for 2D and 3D systems. I also consider the case where the particles interact via a short-ranged (contact), s-wave interaction,

$$\frac{4\pi a(\Lambda)}{m} \delta^R |\vec{k}_1; \vec{k}_2\rangle = \frac{4\pi a(\Lambda)}{m} f(|\vec{k}_1 - \vec{k}_2|/\Lambda) |\vec{k}_1; \vec{k}_2\rangle \quad (5)$$

where  $f(x)$  refers to some regulator and  $a(\Lambda)$  is tuned to produce the s-wave scattering length and is dependent on the form of the regulator  $f(x)$ .

## II. $\vec{k} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$ IN A 3-DIMENSIONAL OSCILLATOR WELL

### A. 1-particle spectrum

The one-body Hamiltonian is<sup>1</sup>

$$H = \frac{\vec{k}^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 r^2 + \alpha \vec{k} \cdot \vec{\sigma} \quad (6)$$

$$= H_0 + \alpha \vec{k} \cdot \vec{\sigma} . \quad (7)$$

Using the following definitions,

$$\vec{q} = b \vec{k} \quad (8)$$

$$\vec{x} = \vec{r}/b \quad (9)$$

$$b = \frac{1}{\sqrt{m\omega}} , \quad (10)$$

we can express eq. 6 as

$$H = \omega \left[ \frac{\vec{q}^2}{2} + \frac{\vec{x}^2}{2} + \tilde{\alpha} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} \right] \quad (11)$$

$$= \omega [h_0 + \tilde{\alpha} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma}] , \quad (12)$$

and  $\tilde{\alpha} = \alpha \sqrt{m/\omega}$  is dimensionless. In fact, the only dimensional term in the equation above is  $\omega$ .

---

<sup>1</sup> I set  $\hbar = c = 1$ .

### 1. Basis states

We know the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions for  $h_0$ —they correspond to the harmonic oscillator and are given by

$$h_0|n(ls)j j\rangle = |n(ls)j j_z\rangle (2n + l + 3/2) , \quad (13)$$

where  $s$  is the spin of the particle and I have chosen to work in a basis where I couple orbital angular momentum  $l$  with spin  $s$  to make total angular momentum  $j$ , i.e.

$$|(ls)j j_z\rangle \equiv \sum_{l_z, s_z} \langle l, l_z ; s, s_z || j j_z \rangle |l l_z\rangle |s s_z\rangle , \quad (14)$$

where the first term on the right-hand side is a Clebsch-Gordan coefficient.

### 2. Matrix elements of $\alpha \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$

To solve for the one-body spectrum of this Hamiltonian, I will simply do a brute force large matrix diagonalization to get at the eigenvalues. For this calculation I need to know the following matrix elements:

$$\langle n'(l's')j'j'_z | \alpha \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} | n(ls)jj_z \rangle . \quad (15)$$

There are many *classic* (i.e. old) textbooks on angular momentum that explain how to calculate matrix elements of this form. I use Edmonds [1], and in particular, chapter 7 of Edmonds. Equation 15 becomes

$$\langle n'(l's')j'j'_z | \alpha \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} | n(ls)jj_z \rangle = \alpha \delta_{j,j'} \delta_{j_z,j'_z} \delta_{s,s'} (-)^{l+s'+j} \begin{Bmatrix} j & s' & l' \\ 1 & l & s \end{Bmatrix} \langle n'l' || q || nl \rangle \langle s || \sigma || s \rangle , \quad (16)$$

where  $\langle n'l' || q || nl \rangle$  and  $\langle s || \sigma || s \rangle$  are reduced matrix elements. Equation 16 shows that this matrix element is diagonal in total angular momentum  $j$  (as it should be since  $\vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$  is a rank 0 object) and is also diagonal in spin  $s$  of the particle. For the time being, I will set  $s = 1/2$ , and from Edmonds eq. 5.4.4, we have

$$\langle \frac{1}{2} || \sigma || \frac{1}{2} \rangle = 2\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} . \quad (17)$$

Also note that eq. 16, in addition to being diagonal in  $j_z$ , is independent of  $j_z$ . This is also due to the fact that this matrix element is a rank 0 object. Furthermore, this implies that for a given  $j$ , the spectrum is  $2j + 1$  degenerate. Since the spectrum does not depend on  $j_z$ , I will omit this term within expressions from now on.

Taking the above points into account, eq. 16 becomes

$$\langle n' \left( l' \frac{1}{2} \right) j | \alpha \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} | n \left( l \frac{1}{2} \right) j \rangle = (-)^{l+1/2+j} \sqrt{6} \alpha \begin{Bmatrix} j & \frac{1}{2} & l' \\ 1 & l & \frac{1}{2} \end{Bmatrix} \langle n'l' || q || nl \rangle \quad (18)$$

As I show in app. ??, the remaining reduced matrix element is

$$\langle n'l' || q || nl \rangle = \begin{cases} (-)^{l'} \sqrt{(2l' + 1)(2l + 1)} \begin{pmatrix} l' & 1 & l \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Gamma(n', l'; n, l) & \text{if } |l' - l| = 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} , \quad (19)$$

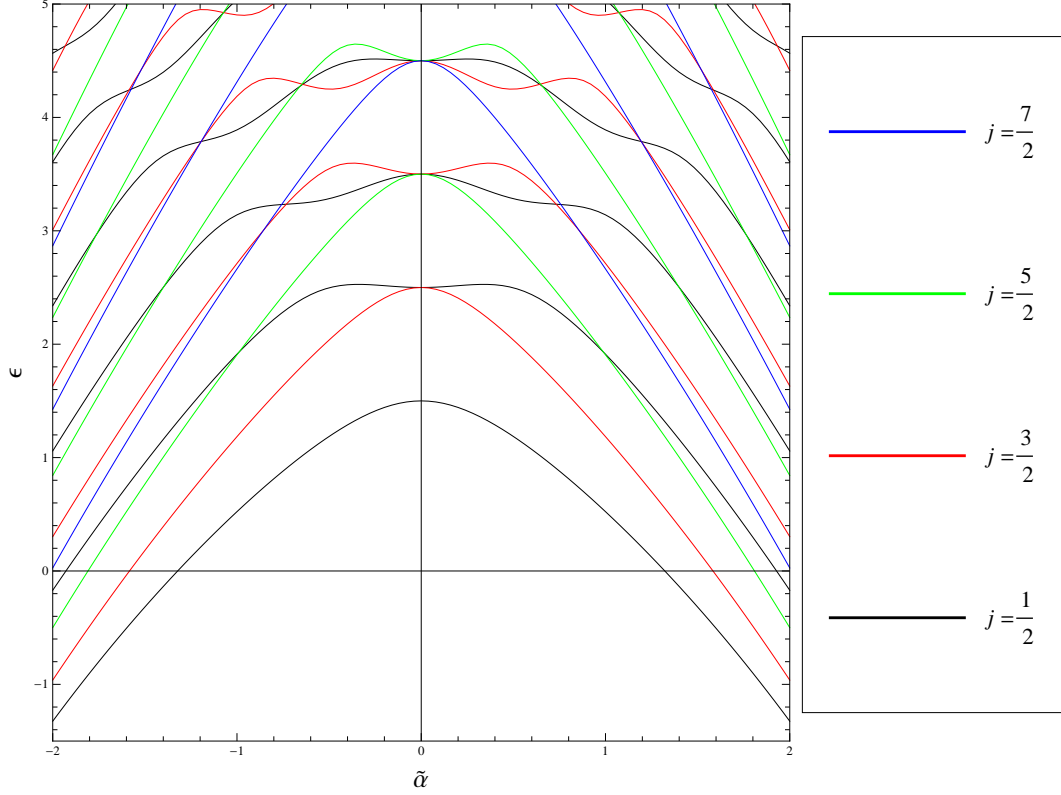


FIG. 1: (Color online) The one-body spectrum of spin-1/2 fermion in HO well with parity violating operator  $\tilde{\alpha}\vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$ . Here  $\epsilon = E/\omega$ . For each  $j$ , the spectrum is  $2j + 1$  degenerate. Note that for  $\tilde{\alpha} = 0$ , the HO spectrum (and its degeneracies) is recovered.

and  $\Gamma(n', l'; n, l)$  is an expression (given in app. ??) that depends on an integral over the HO radial wavefunctions  $R_{nl}(q)$  and  $R_{n'l'}(q)$ . Not surprisingly, eq. 19 shows that this matrix element couples angular momentum of different parities.

### 3. Spectrum

Inserting eq. 19 into eq. 18, and using the explicit formulas for the  $6j$ - and  $3j$ -symbols (found for example, using Mathematica), eq. 18 undergoes a large amount of simplification:

$$\langle n' \left( l' \frac{1}{2} \right) j | \tilde{\alpha} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} | n \left( l \frac{1}{2} \right) j \rangle = \begin{cases} -\tilde{\alpha} \Gamma(n', l'; n, l) & \text{if } |l' - l| = 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}. \quad (20)$$

Therefore the matrix elements of the total Hamiltonian are

$$\langle n' \left( l' \frac{1}{2} \right) j | h_0 + \tilde{\alpha} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} | n \left( l \frac{1}{2} \right) j \rangle = \begin{cases} 2n + l + 3/2 & \text{if } n' = n \text{ and } l' = l \\ -\tilde{\alpha} \Gamma(n', l'; n, l) & \text{if } |l' - l| = 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}. \quad (21)$$

I have coded up eq. 21 and calculated the spectrum for different angular momenta  $j$ .

The results are shown in fig. 1. The calculation was done for a large  $N_{max}=50$  cutoff<sup>2</sup>, where I determined that the lowest eigenvalues (shown in fig. 1) had converged to the sixth significant digit (or higher).

I note that given the one-body spectrum in fig. 1, the spectrum of *many* non-interacting fermions can be deduced. In particular, for total angular momentum  $J = 0$  cases, one needs only fill in all degenerate states to make a closed shell, and the energy per particle is simply

$$\frac{E_{J=0}(\alpha)}{N} = \frac{\sum_{j_{\text{shell}}} g_j E(\alpha)_j}{\sum_{j_{\text{shell}}} g_j} \quad (22)$$

where  $g_j$  is the degeneracy of the  $j^{\text{th}}$  shell and  $N = \sum g_j$ . Relevant for the next section is the ground state energy of two non-interacting spin-1/2 fermions, which is simply twice the lowest energy in fig. 1:

$$\frac{E_{J=0}(\alpha)}{\omega} = 2\epsilon_{j=1/2}(\alpha) . \quad (23)$$

## B. 2-particle spectrum *without* relative interaction

As a check of eq. 23, I now solve explicitly the case of two equal mass  $m$ , non-interacting spin-1/2 fermions confined to a HO well with the  $\alpha \vec{k} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$  external interaction. The Hamiltonian in this case is simply the sum of the one-body Hamiltonian for each particle,

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^2 \left[ \frac{\vec{k}_i^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 r_i^2 + \alpha \vec{k}_i \cdot \vec{\sigma}_i \right] \quad (24)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^2 \left[ H_{0,i} + \alpha \vec{k}_i \cdot \vec{\sigma}_i \right] . \quad (25)$$

I now employ the standard trick of recasting the single-particle basis into relative (Jacobi) and center-of-mass (CM) coordinates, using the following transformations:

$$\vec{K} = \frac{\vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2}{\sqrt{2}} \quad (26)$$

$$\vec{k} = \frac{\vec{k}_1 - \vec{k}_2}{\sqrt{2}} , \quad (27)$$

for the CM and relative momenta, and

$$\vec{R} = \frac{\vec{r}_1 + \vec{r}_2}{\sqrt{2}} \quad (28)$$

$$\vec{r} = \frac{\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2}{\sqrt{2}} , \quad (29)$$

for the CM and relative positions. Equation 24 can be expressed in terms of these coordinates,

$$H = \frac{1}{2m} \left( \vec{k}^2 + \vec{K}^2 \right) + \frac{m\omega^2}{2} \left( \vec{r}^2 + \vec{R}^2 \right) + \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \vec{k} \cdot \vec{\sigma} + \vec{K} \cdot \vec{\Sigma} \right) , \quad (30)$$

---

<sup>2</sup> For a given  $N_{max}$  cutoff, I only use HO states  $|n(ls)j\rangle$  such that  $2n + l \leq N_{max}$ .

where I have made the following definitions:

$$\vec{\sigma} = \vec{\sigma}_1 - \vec{\sigma}_2 \quad (31)$$

$$\vec{\Sigma} = \vec{\sigma}_1 + \vec{\sigma}_2 . \quad (32)$$

I now move to dimensionless variables,

$$\vec{q} = b\vec{k} \quad (33)$$

$$\vec{Q} = b\vec{K} \quad (34)$$

$$\vec{x} = \vec{r}/b \quad (35)$$

$$\vec{X} = \vec{R}/b \quad (36)$$

$$\tilde{\alpha} = \alpha \sqrt{\frac{m}{\omega}} \quad (37)$$

$$b = \frac{1}{\sqrt{m\omega}} . \quad (38)$$

The Hamiltonian now becomes

$$H = \omega \left( h_{0,\text{rel}} + \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} \right) + \omega \left( h_{0,\text{CM}} + \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{Q} \cdot \vec{\Sigma} \right) , \quad (39)$$

where

$$h_{0,\text{rel}} = \frac{1}{2} (\vec{q}^2 + \vec{x}^2) \quad (40)$$

$$h_{0,\text{CM}} = \frac{1}{2} (\vec{Q}^2 + \vec{X}^2) . \quad (41)$$

### 1. Basis states

There are many possible combinations of complete basis states to choose from. I use

$$|n(ls)j; NL; (jL)J\rangle ,$$

where  $\{nl\}$  correspond to the relative HO quantum numbers, and  $\{NL\}$  the CM HO quantum numbers. The total spin of the two fermions is denoted by  $s$  ( $= s_1 + s_2$ ). For two spin-1/2 particles,  $s$  can be either 0 or 1. The spin  $s$  is coupled with  $l$  to make angular momentum  $j$ . Angular momentum  $j$  and the CM angular momentum  $L$  are then coupled to make a state of total angular momentum  $J$ . For the same reasons as stated in the previous section, the interaction is independent of  $J_z$ , and so I omit this quantum number. There is another restriction due to Pauli exclusion, which states that  $l + s$  must be even to enforce antisymmetry under exchange of particle 1 and 2.

As in the previous section, I do a simple brute force diagonalization to arrive at the two-body spectrum. Since all terms in the Hamiltonian are rank 0 tensors, the total angular momentum  $J$  is conserved. For a particular  $J$ , I enumerate all basis states up to  $N_{\text{max}}$  such that  $2n + l + 2N + L \leq N_{\text{max}}$ , under the proviso that  $l + s$  is even and the angular momentum couplings are realizable. As an example, I give all basis states for a (very small)  $N_{\text{max}} = 3$  calculation for the  $J = 0$  case in tab. I. Note that I include states of both parities, as I

TABLE I: Enumeration of two-body basis states  $|i\rangle$  with total angular momentum  $J = 0$  up to  $N_{shell} = 3$ , where  $N_{shell} = 2n + l + 2N + L$ . The parity of the state is given by  $(-1)^{l+L}$ .

| $ i\rangle$ | $ n(ls)j; NL; (jL)J\rangle$ | $N_{shell}$ | Parity |
|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------|--------|
| $ 1\rangle$ | $ 0(00)0; 00; (00)0\rangle$ | 0           | +      |
| $ 2\rangle$ | $ 0(11)0; 00; (00)0\rangle$ | 1           | −      |
| $ 3\rangle$ | $ 0(11)1; 01; (11)0\rangle$ | 2           | +      |
| $ 4\rangle$ | $ 0(00)0; 10; (00)0\rangle$ | 2           | +      |
| $ 5\rangle$ | $ 1(00)0; 00; (00)0\rangle$ | 2           | +      |
| $ 6\rangle$ | $ 0(11)2; 02; (22)0\rangle$ | 3           | −      |
| $ 7\rangle$ | $ 0(11)0; 10; (00)0\rangle$ | 3           | −      |
| $ 8\rangle$ | $ 1(11)0; 00; (00)0\rangle$ | 3           | −      |

expect the matrix elements (derived below) to couple states of different parities. It is simple to devise an algorithm that will enumerate all basis states up to some  $N_{max}$  for a given  $J$  (I did it in Mathematica). I note that the dimensionality of the problem grows very fast with increasing  $N_{max}$ .

## 2. Matrix Elements

The matrix element of the oscillator part of the Hamiltonian is trivial,

$$\langle n'(l's')j'; N'L'; (j'L')J | h_{0,\text{rel}} + h_{0,\text{CM}} | n(ls)j; NL; (jL)J \rangle = \delta_{j,j'} \delta_{n,n'} \delta_{l,l'} \delta_{N,N'} \delta_{L,L'} \delta_{s,s'} (2n + l + 3/2 + 2N + L + 3/2) . \quad (42)$$

Let me now consider the matrix element

$$\langle n'(l's')j'; N'L'; (j'L')J | \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} | n(ls)j; NL; (jL)J \rangle .$$

Again using Edmonds, I find that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle n'(l's')j'; N'L'; (j'L')J | \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} | n(ls)j; NL; (jL)J \rangle = \\ \delta_{N,N'} \delta_{L,L'} \delta_{j,j'} \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} (-1)^{l+s'+j} \begin{Bmatrix} j & s' & l' \\ 1 & l & s \end{Bmatrix} \langle n'l' || q || nl \rangle \langle s' || \sigma || s \rangle . \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

We already know the form of  $\langle n'l' || q || nl \rangle$  which is given in eq. 19. Recall that this operator mixes states of different parity, essentially changing the angular momentum  $l$  to  $l \pm 1$ . For



$\langle s' || \sigma || s \rangle$ , standard ‘*Racah*’ algebra gives

$$\begin{aligned} \langle s' || \sigma || s \rangle &= \left\langle \left( \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \right) s' || \sigma_1 - \sigma_2 || \left( \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \right) s \right\rangle \\ &= \left[ (-1)^s - (-1)^{s'} \right] \sqrt{6(2s+1)(2s'+1)} \begin{Bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & s' & \frac{1}{2} \\ s & \frac{1}{2} & 1 \end{Bmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

$$= \begin{cases} 2\sqrt{3} & \text{for } s' = 1, s = 0 \\ -2\sqrt{3} & \text{for } s' = 0, s = 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} . \quad (45)$$

The equation above shows that this interaction flips the total spin of the two particles. This is a reassuring result for the following reason: our interaction respects the underlying symmetry of the two particles, i.e. two-particle wavefunctions that are antisymmetric remain antisymmetric (the same is true for symmetric wavefunctions). As mentioned earlier, antisymmetric wavefunctions must satisfy the condition that  $l + s$  is even. Since this interaction changes parity of the system by making  $l \rightarrow l \pm 1$ , then to maintain the antisymmetric condition, the spin  $s$  must flip, which is evident in eq. 45.

Combining eqs. 19, 44, and 43, I have for the full matrix element of  $\tilde{\alpha} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} / \sqrt{2}$  to be

$$\begin{aligned} \langle n'(l's')j; NL; (jL)J | \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} | n(ls)j; NL; (jL)J \rangle &= (-1)^{l+l'+s'+j} \times \\ 3\tilde{\alpha} \begin{Bmatrix} j & s' & l' \\ 1 & l & s \end{Bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} l' & 1 & l \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & s' & \frac{1}{2} \\ s & \frac{1}{2} & 1 \end{Bmatrix} \sqrt{(2l'+1)(2l+1)} \left[ (-1)^s - (-1)^{s'} \right] \Gamma(n', l'; n, l) , \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

and I have used the fact that  $|s - s'| = 1$  for the matrix element to be non-vanishing. As an example, eq. 46 shows that the non-vanishing matrix elements using the basis states given in tab. I to be  $\langle 1 | \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} | 2 \rangle$ ,  $\langle 1 | \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} | 8 \rangle$ ,  $\langle 2 | \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} | 5 \rangle$ ,  $\langle 4 | \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} | 7 \rangle$ , and  $\langle 5 | \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} | 8 \rangle$  (as well as their hermitian conjugates)<sup>3</sup>.

Next I will consider the matrix element

$$\langle n'(l's')j'; N'L'; (j'L')J | \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{Q} \cdot \vec{\Sigma} | n(ls)j; NL; (jL)J \rangle .$$

In this case it is convenient to expand the basis states in the following manner:

$$\begin{aligned} |n(ls)j; NL; (jL)J \rangle &= \\ (-1)^{l+J} \sqrt{2j+1} \sum_{\mathcal{J}} (-1)^{\mathcal{J}} \sqrt{2\mathcal{J}+1} \begin{Bmatrix} l & s & j \\ L & J & \mathcal{J} \end{Bmatrix} |nl; N(Ls)\mathcal{J}; (l\mathcal{J})J \rangle . \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

As the interaction only acts on the CM coordinates and total spin  $s$ , it is diagonal in the relative quantum numbers  $\{n, l\}$ . And since it is a rank 0 tensor, it is also diagonal in  $\mathcal{J}$

---

<sup>3</sup> Turns out that  $\langle 1 | \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} | 8 \rangle = 0$  since  $\Gamma(1, 1; 0, 0) = 0$ .

and  $J$ . With these constraints, the matrix element is therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle n(ls')j'; N'L'; (j'L')J | \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{Q} \cdot \vec{\Sigma} | n(ls)j; NL; (jL)J \rangle &= \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{(2j'+1)(2j+1)} \times \\
\sum_{\mathcal{J}} (2\mathcal{J}+1) \left\{ \begin{matrix} l & s' & j' \\ L & J & \mathcal{J} \end{matrix} \right\} \left\{ \begin{matrix} l & s & j \\ L & J & \mathcal{J} \end{matrix} \right\} \langle nl; N'(L's')\mathcal{J}; (l\mathcal{J})J | \vec{Q} \cdot \vec{\Sigma} | nl; N(Ls)\mathcal{J}; (l\mathcal{J})J \rangle &= \\
\frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{(2j'+1)(2j+1)} (-1)^{L+s} \langle N'L' || Q || NL \rangle \langle s' || \Sigma || s \rangle \times & \\
\left[ \sum_{\mathcal{J}} (-1)^{\mathcal{J}} (2\mathcal{J}+1) \left\{ \begin{matrix} l & s' & j' \\ L' & J & \mathcal{J} \end{matrix} \right\} \left\{ \begin{matrix} l & s & j \\ L & J & \mathcal{J} \end{matrix} \right\} \left\{ \begin{matrix} \mathcal{J} & s' & L' \\ 1 & L & s \end{matrix} \right\} \right] & . \quad (48)
\end{aligned}$$

Now we know the form of the reduced matrix element  $\langle N'L' || Q || NL \rangle$  already. The reduced matrix element  $\langle s' || \Sigma || s \rangle$  is slightly different from the previous section,

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle s' || \Sigma || s \rangle &= \left\langle \left( \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \right) s' || \sigma_1 + \sigma_2 || \left( \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \right) s \right\rangle \\
&= \left[ (-1)^s + (-1)^{s'} \right] \sqrt{6(2s+1)(2s'+1)} \left\{ \begin{matrix} \frac{1}{2} & s' & \frac{1}{2} \\ s & \frac{1}{2} & 1 \end{matrix} \right\} \quad (49)
\end{aligned}$$

$$= \begin{cases} 2\sqrt{6} & \text{for } s' = s = 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} . \quad (50)$$

In this case, the interaction is non-trivial for only the case when  $s' = s = 1$ . In other words, the interaction only occurs with maximal spin  $s = 1$ . The fact that the spin does *not* flip is a consequence of this interaction *not* changing  $l$ , but rather only  $L \rightarrow L \pm 1$ . The antisymmetric condition on the relative wavefunction is therefore respected. Only the parity of the CM angular momentum  $L$  is changed, which has no conditions placed on it.

Assuming  $s' = s = 1$ , the matrix element can be reduced further to

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle n(ls)j'; N'L'; (j'L')J | \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{Q} \cdot \vec{\Sigma} | n(ls)j; NL; (jL)J \rangle &= (-1)^{L+L'+1} \sqrt{3} \tilde{\alpha} \times \\
\sqrt{(2j'+1)(2j+1)(2L'+1)(2L+1)} \begin{pmatrix} L' & 1 & L \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Gamma(N', L'; N, L) \times & \\
\left[ \sum_{\mathcal{J}} (-1)^{\mathcal{J}} (2\mathcal{J}+1) \left\{ \begin{matrix} l & s & j' \\ L' & J & \mathcal{J} \end{matrix} \right\} \left\{ \begin{matrix} l & s & j \\ L & J & \mathcal{J} \end{matrix} \right\} \left\{ \begin{matrix} \mathcal{J} & s & L' \\ 1 & L & s \end{matrix} \right\} \right] & . \quad (51)
\end{aligned}$$

Again using the basis states of tab. I as an example, the non-vanishing matrix elements in this case are  $\langle 2 | \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{Q} \cdot \vec{\Sigma} | 3 \rangle$ ,  $\langle 3 | \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{Q} \cdot \vec{\Sigma} | 6 \rangle$ , and  $\langle 3 | \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{Q} \cdot \vec{\Sigma} | 7 \rangle$  (and their hermitian conjugates).

The spectrum of the  $J = 0$  system calculated using the matrix elements derived above is shown in fig. 2 by (blue) dots. The (red) lines in fig. 2 come from using two  $j = 1/2$  single-particle spectra in fig. 1 to determine the  $J = 0$  spectrum. Dots that do not have overlapping lines correspond to two fermion states with other  $j$  quantum numbers (e.g. two  $j = 7/2$  single-particles, etc. . .). See caption that accompanies fig. 2 for more description.

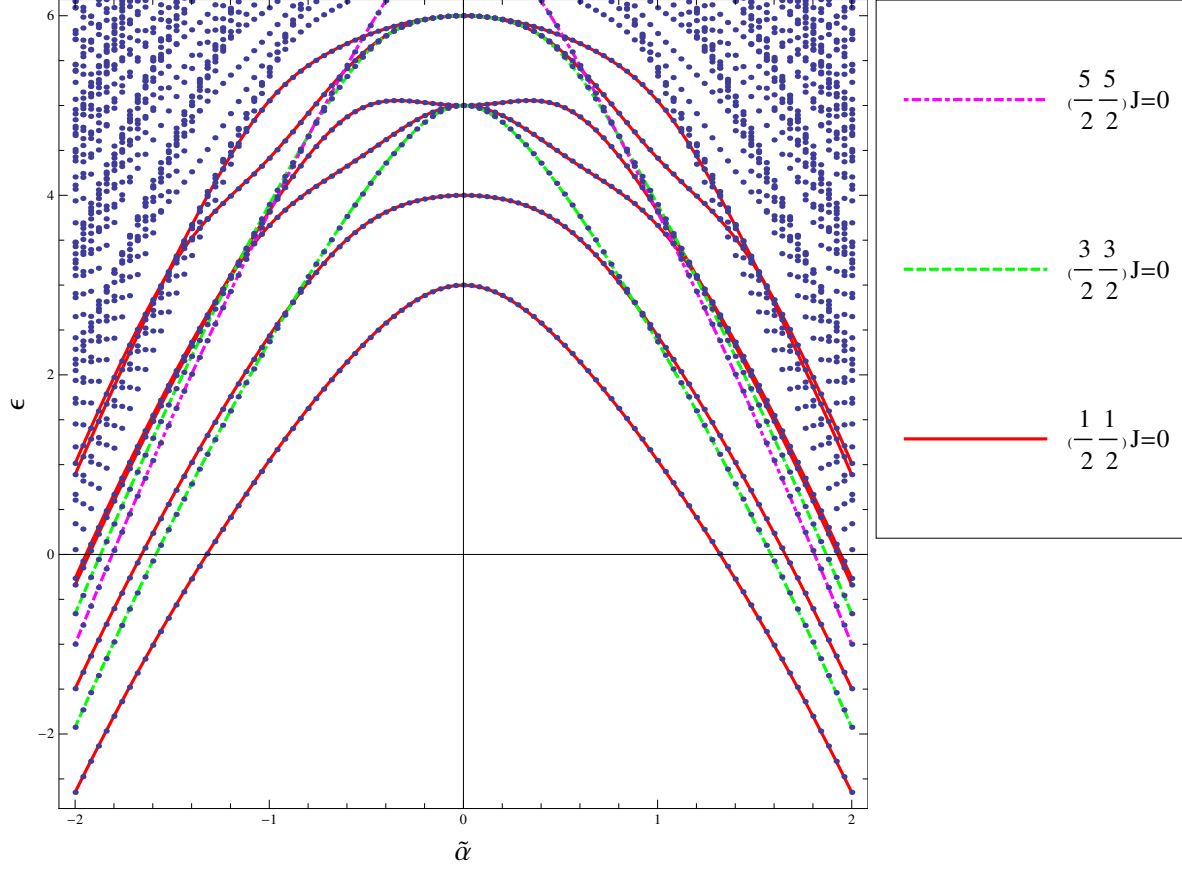


FIG. 2: (Color online) The  $J = 0$  spectrum for two spin-1/2 fermions in an HO well with external parity violating interaction  $\alpha \vec{k} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$ . The (blue) dots correspond to numerical calculations described in sect. II B. The (red) lines are determined using the  $j = 1/2$  single particle energies shown in fig. 1. The (green) dashed line corresponds to two  $j = 3/2$  single particles, taken from fig. 1. The (purple) dot-dashed line corresponds to two  $j = 5/2$  single particles.

### C. 2-particle spectrum *with* relative interaction

The Hamiltonian in consideration in this case is

$$H = \omega \left( h_{0,\text{rel}} + \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} + \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \tilde{a} \delta^\Lambda(\vec{x}) \right) + \omega \left( h_{0,\text{CM}} + \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \vec{Q} \cdot \vec{\Sigma} \right), \quad (52)$$

where  $\tilde{a} = a/b$  and  $a$  is some constant with dimensions of length<sup>4</sup>. The superscript  $\Lambda$  in the delta function indicates that some form of regulator is to be applied to this interaction. Lastly, this interaction only acts in the relative coordinates.

The strategy I employ in solving this system utilizes the fact that the solution for this system *without* the external parity-violating interaction (i.e.  $\tilde{\alpha} = 0$ ) has been determined

<sup>4</sup> In free space this variable is the scattering length.

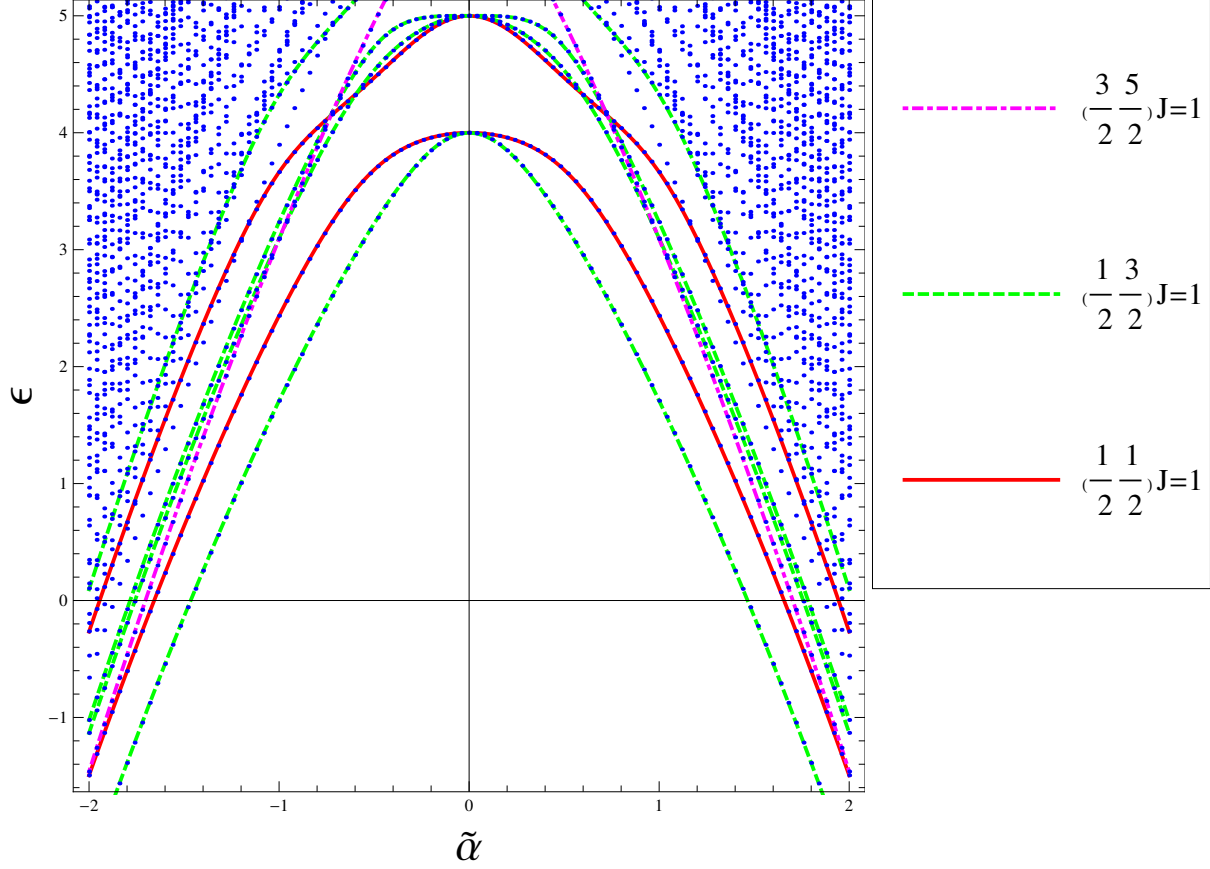


FIG. 3: (Color online) Same as in fig. 2, but with  $J = 1$ .

exactly by Busch et al. [2]. The eigenvalue equation I want to solve is

$$\frac{1}{\epsilon - h_{0,\text{rel}} - h_{0,\text{CM}} - \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi}\tilde{a}\delta^\Lambda(\vec{x})} \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} + \vec{Q} \cdot \vec{\Sigma} \right) |\Psi\rangle = \lambda |\Psi\rangle. \quad (53)$$

Given input values for  $\tilde{a}$  and  $\tilde{\alpha}$ , one finds the value(s) of  $\epsilon$  such that  $\lambda = 1^5$ . It can be shown that the values of  $\{\epsilon, \tilde{a}, \tilde{\alpha}\}$  that satisfy this condition will also satisfy the eigenvalue equation using the Hamiltonian in eq. 52. The benefit of this method comes from the fact that matrix elements

$$\langle n'(l's')j'; N'L'; (j'L')J' | \frac{1}{\epsilon - h_{0,\text{rel}} - h_{0,\text{CM}} - \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi}\tilde{a}\delta^\Lambda(\vec{x})} | n(ls)j; NL; (jL)J \rangle$$

are known analytically for any  $\Lambda$ , and in particular  $\Lambda = \infty$ , due to Busch et al. [2]. This

<sup>5</sup> Actually, it is much easier to determine  $\tilde{\alpha}$  given input values for  $\epsilon$  and  $\tilde{a}$ .

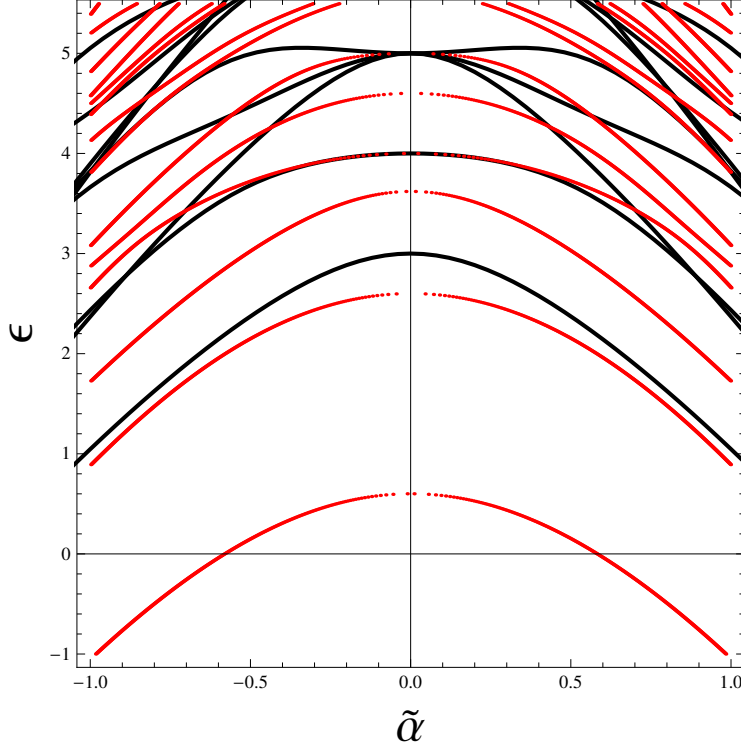


FIG. 4: (Color online) The  $J = 0$  spectrum for two spin-1/2 fermions in an HO well with external parity violating interaction  $\alpha \vec{k} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$  and contact interaction  $2\sqrt{2}\tilde{a}/\pi\delta(x)$ . The (black) lines correspond to numerical calculations with  $\tilde{a} = 0$ . The (red) lines are calculations with  $\tilde{a} = 1$ .

can be seen by rearranging this operator in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\epsilon - h_{0,\text{rel}} - h_{0,\text{CM}} - \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi}\tilde{a}\delta^\Lambda(\vec{x})} &= \frac{1}{\epsilon - h_{0,\text{rel}} - h_{0,\text{CM}}} + \\ &\quad \frac{1}{\epsilon - h_{0,\text{rel}} - h_{0,\text{CM}}} T_\delta(\epsilon) \frac{1}{\epsilon - h_{0,\text{rel}} - h_{0,\text{CM}}} \\ &= G_0(\epsilon) + G_0(\epsilon) T_\delta(\epsilon) G_0(\epsilon) , \end{aligned} \quad (54)$$

where

$$G_0(\epsilon) = \frac{1}{\epsilon - h_{0,\text{rel}} - h_{0,\text{CM}}} \quad (55)$$

and

$$T_\delta(\epsilon) = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi}\tilde{a}\delta^\Lambda(\vec{x}) + G_0(\epsilon) \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi}\tilde{a}\delta^\Lambda(\vec{x}) G_0(\epsilon) + \dots \quad (56)$$

is an infinite sum. Note that  $G_0(\epsilon)$  is diagonal in all quantum numbers, and its matrix elements are trivial. Furthermore, since  $\delta$  only acts on relative coordinates, it is diagonal in the CM quantum numbers  $\{N, L\}$ . Because of this,  $T_\delta$  is also diagonal in the CM quantum numbers. Further,  $\delta$ , and by extension  $T_\delta$ , only acts on s-wave, and therefore  $l$  and  $s$  must be 0.

The separability of the  $\delta$  interaction allows  $T_\delta$  to be summed geometrically. As outlined

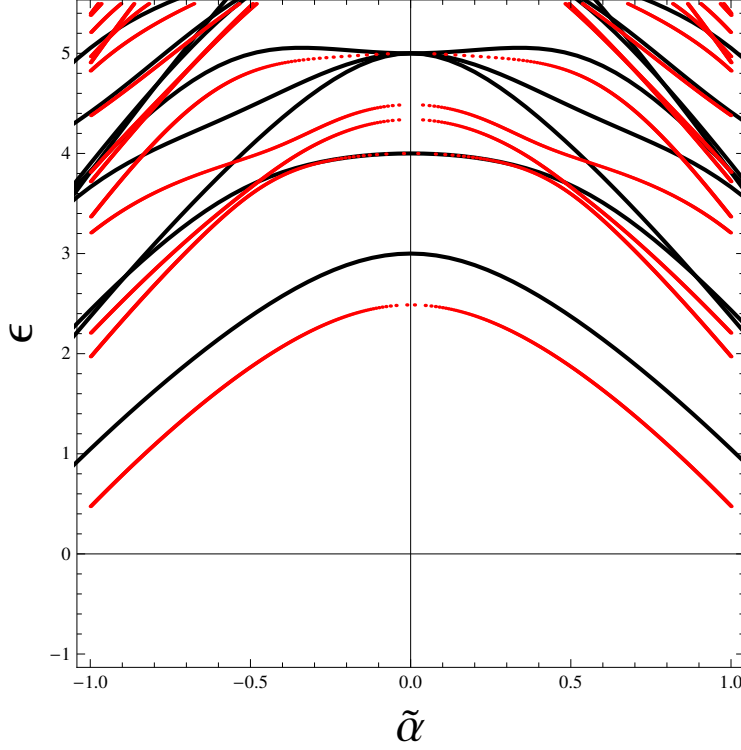


FIG. 5: (Color online) The  $J = 0$  spectrum for two spin-1/2 fermions in an HO well with external parity violating interaction  $\alpha \vec{k} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$  and contact interaction  $2\sqrt{2}\tilde{a}/\pi\delta(x)$ . The (black) lines correspond to numerical calculations with  $\tilde{a} = 0$ . The (red) lines are calculations with  $\tilde{a} = -1$ .

(someday) in the appendix, the matrix elements of  $T_\delta(\epsilon)$  are analytically known

$$\langle n'(l's')j'; N'L'; (j'L')J' | T_\delta(\epsilon) | n(ls)j; NL; (jL)J \rangle = \delta_{N',N} \delta_{L',L} \delta_{s',s} \delta_{s,0} \delta_{l',l} \delta_{l,0} \delta_{j',j} \delta_{J',J} \frac{\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \sqrt{\frac{\Gamma(n'+\frac{3}{2})\Gamma(n+\frac{3}{2})}{\Gamma(n'+1)\Gamma(n+1)}}}{\frac{1}{\tilde{a}} - \sqrt{2} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{3}{4} - \frac{\epsilon - 2N - L - 3/2}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{\epsilon - 2N - L - 3/2}{2})}} \quad (57)$$

Busch et al.'s [2] solution should be apparent in the equation above.

These results, and the derivations from earlier sections, allow me to determine the matrix elements of

$$\left[ \frac{1}{\epsilon - h_{0,\text{rel}} - h_{0,\text{CM}} - \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \tilde{a} \delta^\Lambda(\vec{x})} \right]$$

and

$$\left[ \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} + \vec{Q} \cdot \vec{\Sigma} \right) \right],$$

which in turn allow me to determine the spectrum of two fermions under the influence of an external parity violating interaction with relative contact interaction. In figs. 4-6 I show my results, as a function of  $\tilde{\alpha}$ , for the cases of  $\tilde{a} = +1$ ,  $-1$ , and  $\infty$ , respectively (as red points). In all figures I compare to the case when  $\tilde{a} = 0$ , given by the (black) lines.

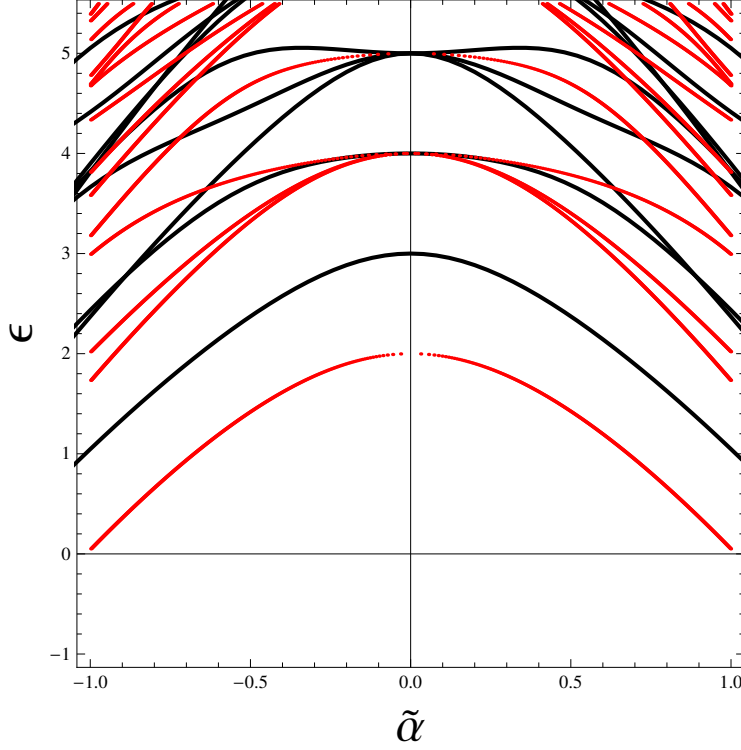


FIG. 6: (Color online) The  $J = 0$  spectrum for two spin-1/2 fermions in an HO well with external parity violating interaction  $\alpha \vec{k} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$  and contact interaction  $2\sqrt{2}\tilde{a}/\pi\delta(x)$ . The (black) lines correspond to numerical calculations with  $\tilde{a} = 0$ . The (red) lines are calculations with  $\tilde{a} = \infty$ .

#### D. 3-particle spectrum

- 
- [1] A. R. Edmonds, *Angular Momentum in Quantum Mechanics* (Princeton University Press, 1957).
  - [2] T. Busch, B.-G. Englert, K. Rzazewski, and M. Wilkens, *Foundations of Physics* **28**, 549 (1998).