

# **Kondo-Majorana coupling in Double Quantum Dots.**

by

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# Chapter 1

## Abstract

In the last decades the interest in the “search of Majorana fermions” in condensed matter systems [1] has increased due to their potential applications in quantum computing. As recently as 2012, experimental works reporting the detection of such quasiparticles [2, 3]. Later works [4, 5, 6, 7], including a recent paper published by the advisor of this dissertation and collaborators [8], set out to explore the interplay of such Majorana zero-modes with strongly interacting systems such as semiconductor quantum dots, which can be readily integrated in the device. This research project aims to expand this idea using the numerical renormalization group to study the model of a double quantum dot coupled to metallic leads and to a topological superconductor supporting edge Majorana zero modes. This simple model allows the manipulation of the majorana modes bringing possible applications to braiding procedures . In addition, we will study the interplay of Kondo correlations, exchange interactions and Majorana physics.

# Chapter 2

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# Chapter 3

## Theory and Methods

### 3.1 Ballistic transport

The Green function  $G$  of a Hamiltonian  $H$  is the operator that satisfies the homogenous equation

$$\left( i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - H \right) G(t - t') = \delta(t - t'). \quad (3.1)$$

This type of differential equations are solved taking the Fourier transform

$$G_H(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(t - t') e^{i\omega(t - t')/\hbar} \delta(t - t') \quad (3.2)$$

In this new space the solution of the equation is

$$(\omega + is - H)G_\omega(\omega) = I.$$

The term  $+is$  in the previous hamiltonian is part of a mathematical trick quite common in this theory. During the whole procedure, the Green function acts on the complex field. But when we need to obtain a physical interpretation we will take the limit  $s \rightarrow 0$  to obtain the result for real energies. The next step is to decompose  $G_H(\omega)$  in the eigenbase of the Hamiltonian  $\{|\alpha\rangle\}$  by

$$G_{\alpha,\alpha'}(\omega) = \langle \alpha | G_H(\omega) | \alpha' \rangle = \frac{\delta_{\alpha\alpha'}}{\omega - is - \epsilon_\alpha} = \frac{\delta_{\alpha\alpha'}(\omega + is - \epsilon_\alpha)}{(\omega - \epsilon_\alpha)^2 + s^2}. \quad (3.3)$$

From the famous formula

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{s}{(\omega - \epsilon_\alpha)^2 + s^2} = \pi \delta(\omega - \epsilon_\alpha) \quad (3.4)$$

we obtain

$$Im[G_{\alpha,\alpha'}(\omega)] = \pi \delta(\omega - \epsilon_\alpha) \delta_{\alpha,\alpha'}. \quad (3.5)$$

Note that the sum of  $Im[G_{\alpha,\alpha}(\omega)]$  over all the eigenstates of  $H$  is simply the  $\pi$  times the Density of States:

$$\rho(\omega) = -\frac{1}{\pi} Im [G_{\alpha,\alpha}(\omega)^\dagger]. \quad (3.6)$$

An extended definition of the Green function can be given in terms of fermionic operators in second quantization. The time-green function for two fermionic operators  $A$  and  $B$  is

$$G_{A,B}(t-t') = \mathcal{T}[\{A(t), B(t')\}]. \quad (3.7)$$

Here, causality is important, which is the reason why we use the time-order operator  $\mathcal{T}$ . Again, it is possible to define the green-functions in the energy space applying a Fourier transform. The evolution of these Green functions will be determined by the Schrodinger equation. At the end, the result will be

The equation above receives the name of transport equation. This will be our leading method to compute the green functions of the system. In addition we can define the Density of States associated to an operator  $A$  to be

$$\rho_{A,A^\dagger} = -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} [G_{A,A^\dagger}(\omega)]. \quad (3.8)$$

This density of states contains important physical information related to operator  $A$ . In our case, operator  $A^\dagger$  will be related to the creation operator of a quantum dot  $d^\dagger$ . Our mean purpose will be to compute the density of states of a quantum dot  $\rho_{d,d^\dagger}$ . This that allows us to obtain other transport

### 3.1.1 Using graph theory to solve the transport equations

Solving the transport equations involves dealing with a set of linear equations where all the possible variables including  $\omega$ , and the Hamiltonian parameters are assumed to be constant. This can be done by Gauss-Jordan elimination, noting that after each elimination process we need to carry on the account in terms of these variables. The solution will be a polynomial fraction with the variable given by these parameters. When the number of operators in the Hamiltonian increases the number of terms in the polynomial grows-up exponentially. This reveals the importance of exploring new methods that could simplify the solution.

The method presented here uses graph theory algorithms that provide a shortcut to Gauss-Jordan elimination [15]. To probe this method we solve here the transport equations for a non-interacting ( $U = 0$ ) DQD connected to one lead. According to the Anderson model the Hamiltonian for this system looks like

$$H = t_{dots} d_1^\dagger d_2 + t_{dots}^* d_2^\dagger d_1 + \sum_{i=1}^2 \epsilon_{di} d_i^\dagger d_i + \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \left( V_i d_i^\dagger c_{\mathbf{k}} + V_i^* c_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger d_i \right) + \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} c_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{k}}. \quad (3.9)$$

Since the system is non-interacting we ignore the spin-degeneracy of this Hamiltonian. The only new parameter here is the term  $t_{dots}$ , which represents the tunneling between both quantum dots. Using equation (??) with  $B = d_1^\dagger$  and  $A$  shifting among other operators we compute the

following transport equations

$$(\omega - \varepsilon_1) G_{d_1, d_1^\dagger}(\omega) = 1 + t_{dots} G_{d_2, d_1^\dagger}(\omega) + V_1^* \sum_{\mathbf{k}} G_{c_{\mathbf{k}}, d_1^\dagger}(\omega) \quad (3.10)$$

$$(\omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}) G_{c_{\mathbf{k}}, d_1^\dagger}(\omega) = V_1 G_{d_1, d_1^\dagger}(\omega) + V_2 G_{d_2, d_1^\dagger}(\omega) \quad (3.11)$$

$$(\omega - \varepsilon_2) G_{d_2, d_1^\dagger}(\omega) = t_{dots} G_{d_1, d_1^\dagger}(\omega) + V_2^* \sum_{\mathbf{k}} G_{c_{\mathbf{k}}, d_1^\dagger}(\omega) \quad (3.12)$$

This system is already closed which means that we don't need any other equation to find the solution. The matrix form takes the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} \omega - \varepsilon_2 & -V_2 & -t_{dots} \\ -V_2^* & \omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} & -V_1 \\ -t_{dots}^* & -V_1^* & \omega - \varepsilon_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} G_{c_{\mathbf{k}}, d_1^\dagger}(\omega) \\ G_{d_2, d_1^\dagger}(\omega) \\ G_{d_1, d_1^\dagger}(\omega) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (3.13)$$

By convenience we changed the order of the rows in the matrix and we removed the sum over  $k$  ( $\sum_{\mathbf{k}}$ ) to simplify the terms in the matrix. We will intert these terms back in the equations at the end of the procedure.

Although this matrix is not Laplacian, the procedure in [15] can still be applied with the downside of loosing part of the speed-up of the algorithm. We still preserve some of the advantages using graphs, such as the possibility of taking minimal cuttings and the relation between Gauss-Jordan elimination and random walks [15]. Both advantages simplify the complexity of the solution.

Now, our objective is to compute the green function  $G_{d_{1\downarrow}, d_{1\downarrow}^\dagger}(\omega)$ . For this we take the graph  $\mathcal{G}_{d_1 d_2}$  associated to the matrix (3.13). See Figure 3.1.a). The vertexes of this graph are the operators in the first site of the of the green functions ( $d_{1\downarrow}, d_2, c_k, d_1^\dagger$ ).  $d_1^\dagger$  is not included since it only appears in the second sub-index of the green functions. The edges are given by the non-diagonal sites in the matrix. In addition, an energy parameter is assigned to each vertex, according to the corresponding term in the diagonal. These energies can also be thought as the magnitude of edges connecting each vertex with itself. The plot of the energy parameters in this algorithm is quite important, hence we prefer to keep this name to differentiate them from the other couplings.

The algorithm consists in the following. Each step of Gauss-Jordan elimination leads to a new graph with different energies and couplings. The elimination of a row and column is equivalent to pop the corresponding vertex in the graph. For instance, lets eliminate the first row and column of the matrix in (3.13). For it we just need to subtract the rank-1 matrix with the same first row and first column

$$\begin{bmatrix} \omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} & -V_2 & -V_1 \\ -V_2^* & \omega - \varepsilon_2 & -t_{dots} \\ -V_1^* & -t_{dots}^* & \omega - \varepsilon_1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} & -V_2 & -V_1 \\ -V_2^* & \frac{V_2^* V_2}{\omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}} & \frac{V_2^* V_1}{\omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}} \\ -V_1^* & \frac{V_2 V_1^*}{\omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}} & \frac{V_1^* V_1}{\omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \omega - \varepsilon_2 - \frac{V_2^* V_2}{\omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}} & -t_{dots} - \frac{V_2^* V_1}{\omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}} \\ 0 & -t_{dots}^* - \frac{V_2 V_1^*}{\omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}} & \omega - \varepsilon_1 - \frac{V_1^* V_1}{\omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}} \end{bmatrix} \quad (3.14)$$

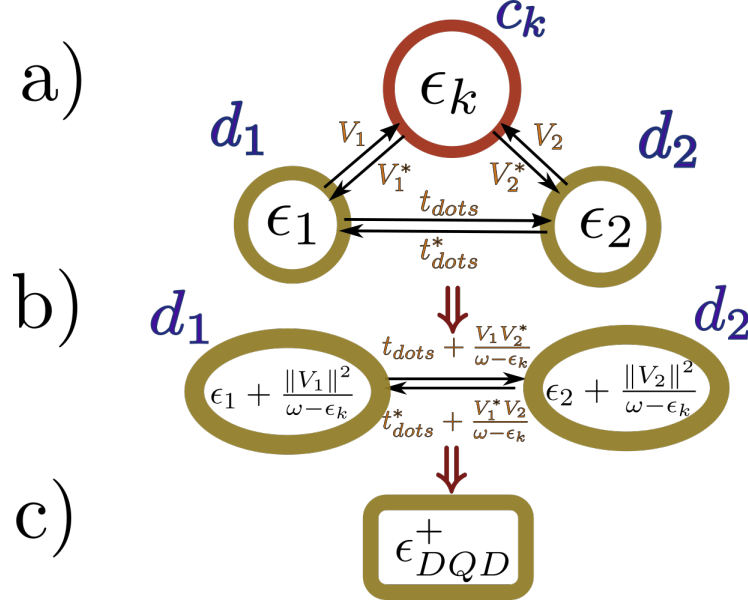


Figure 3.1: Graph representation of Gauss-Jordan elimination a) Graph  $\mathcal{G}_{d_1 d_2}$  b) After the elimination of vertex  $c_k$ , the energies of dots  $d_1$  and  $d_2$ , and the coupling parameter are changed. c) After Gaussian elimination of dot 2 the energy of the remaining dot  $\epsilon_{DQD}^+$  represents the transport information through  $d_1$  of the entire DQD.

Source: By the author.

The graph associated to this matrix can be observed in Figure 3.1.b) where operator  $c_k$  has been popped out of the graph. It is possible to associate the correction to the energies and couplings to the possible walks passing through the vertex  $c_k$ . For instance  $d_1$ 's energy  $\epsilon_1$  receives an extra-term  $\frac{V_1^* V_1}{\omega - \epsilon_k}$  representing an additional walk from  $d_1$  to  $d_1$  passing through  $c_k$ . The same logic can be applied to the other terms coupling terms. The correction to  $t_{dots}$  is  $\frac{V_1^* V_2}{\omega - \epsilon_k}$  which corresponds to a path from  $d_1$  to  $d_2$  passing through the popped vertex  $c_k$ . Note that this term includes the multiplication both couplings with the vertex divided by the difference of  $\omega$  with the energy of the vertex. This correspondence between the energy correction and eliminated paths through the graph makes the "popping" process an straightforward task.

We now proceed to pop vertex  $d_2$  which leaves just a single vertex as shown in Figure 3.1.c). The energy of it can be readily computed with the previous path elimination idea which gives

$$\epsilon_{DQD}^+ = \epsilon_1 + \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{V_1 V_1^*}{\omega - \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}} + \frac{\left\| t_{dots} + \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{V_1 V_2^*}{\omega - \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}} \right\|^2}{\omega - \epsilon_2 - \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{V_2 V_2^*}{\omega - \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}}}, \quad (3.15)$$

where we selectively included the  $\sum_{\mathbf{k}}$ -terms in the places where  $k$  appeared.

As a result of Gauss-Jordan elimination the linear equation in 3.13 has evolved into the trivial form

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \omega - \varepsilon_{DQD}^+ \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} G_{c_k, d_1^\dagger}(\omega) \\ G_{d_2, d_1^\dagger}(\omega) \\ G_{d_1, d_1^\dagger}(\omega) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (3.16)$$

The Green function is then

$$G_{d_1, d_1^\dagger}(\omega) = \frac{1}{\omega - \varepsilon_{DQD}^+} = \left[ \left( \omega - \varepsilon_1 - \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{V_1 V_1^*}{\omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}} \right) - \frac{\left( t_{dots} + \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{V_1 V_2^*}{\omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}} \right) \left( t_{dots} + \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{V_1 V_2^*}{\omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}} \right)^*}{\omega - \varepsilon_2 - \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{V_2 V_2^*}{\omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}}} \right]^{-1}. \quad (3.17)$$

This Green function will be very important in the following chapters where we will compare its behavior with the green function of a Majorana mode.

### 3.1.2 Graph Algorithm

In this part we summarize the steps of the graph algorithm in order to apply them later to more complicated systems:

1. Computing the transport equations with the second term fixed in the creation operator of  $d^\dagger$ .
2. Writing the graph associated to the transport system. The vertexes are the operators in the first site of the of the green functions. Energies and couplings are associated to the vertex and edge numbers of the graphs respectively.
3. Popping the vertexes of the graph. Each vertex popping involves the following steps.
  - (a) Computing the extra-terms in the energies and couplings based on the walks passing through the popped vertex.
  - (b) Eliminating this vertex from the graph.
  - (c) Iterating till there is only the vertex  $d$ .
4. The energy in the remaining vertex  $d$  is  $\varepsilon_d = \frac{1}{\omega - G_{d, d^\dagger}(\omega)}$ .

This algorithm will be our main method to find the green function and therefore the density of states of any interacting system.



### 3.1.3 Ballistic transport in a double quantum dot

In this subsection we describe the remaining steps to extract the density of states of the double quantum dot from the Green function 3.17. We will plot the results and observe the evolution of the DOS while tuning the parameters of the model.

First note that equation (3.17) depends on the term  $\sum_k \frac{V_i^* V_j}{\omega - \epsilon_k}$  which describes the broadening of the DOS when the QD enters in contact with the lead. This broadening is usually named  $\Gamma_i = V_i^* V_i$  (Or  $\Delta$  depending on the text book). In general  $V_i$  is a function of  $\mathbf{k}$ . However, in the limit of flat-band we can assume that  $V_i$  is constant. Therefore, it is enough to integrate

$$\sum_k \frac{1}{\omega - \epsilon_k + is} = \int_{-D}^D \frac{d\epsilon_k}{\omega - \epsilon_k + is} = -\ln \left( \frac{D - \epsilon_k + is}{-D - \epsilon_k + is} \right) \xrightarrow{D \rightarrow \infty} -i, \quad (3.18)$$

where we assumed that there is a maximum energy cutoff  $D$  going to infinity in the wide-band limit. Hence

$$-i\Gamma_i = \sum_k \frac{V_i^* V_i}{\omega - \epsilon_k}. \quad (3.19)$$

We can replace this in equation (3.17) to obtain the real expression for the green function  $G_{d_1, d_1^\dagger}(\omega)$ . The terms of the form  $V_1 V_2^*$  can be replaced for  $\sqrt{\Gamma_1 \Gamma_2}$ , supposing there is no additional complex phase.

Now, remember from (3.8) that the DOS  $\rho$  depends on the imaginary factor of the Green Function  $G_{d_1, d_1^\dagger}(\omega)$ . This term depends in the broadening  $\Gamma$ . If  $\Gamma = 0$  the density of states will be 0 as well. At any other case, one of the dots should be attached to the lead. Let  $\Gamma_1$  be the broadening of this dot. We will take  $\Gamma_1$  as our natural unit for the rest of this thesis. In Figure 3.2 we can observe the evolution of the Density of States under certain processes. Each plot includes an inset showing the model applied to the figure. The coupling in purple indicates the tuning variable. We set  $e_1 = e_2 = 0$  so that both dots satisfy PHS. The primary results are the

1. **Coupling QD2. Figure 3.2(a)(b):** At  $\Gamma_2 = 0$  the second dot is decoupled, hence the first dot's DOS is the same of a single dot case. The maximum height is achieved at  $\rho \pi \Gamma_1 = 1$  and the width of this peak is about  $\Gamma_1$ , just as in Figure ???. When the second dot is attached  $\Gamma_2 > 0$  the density of states is divided between both dots. At  $\Gamma_1 = \Gamma_2$  the DOS at the Fermi energy is equal to  $\frac{1}{4\pi\Gamma}$  for both dots. For higher values of  $\Gamma_2$  the DOS in the second dot is higher than in the first one.

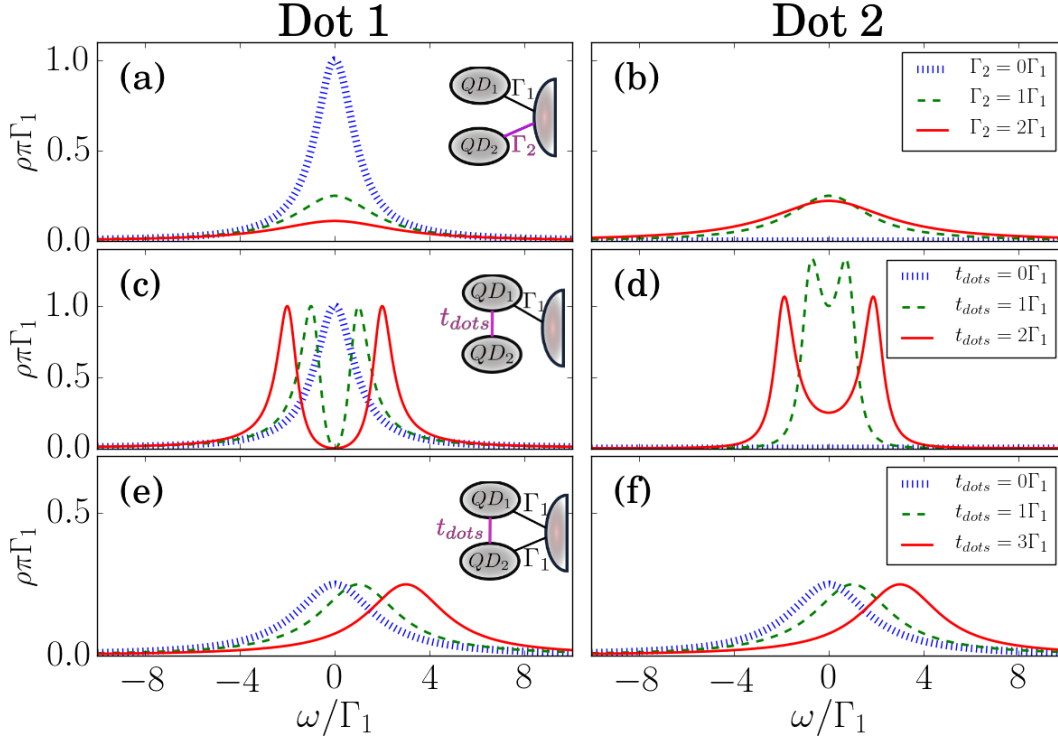


Figure 3.2: Evolution of the density of states at each QD (Left: dot 1, Right: dot 2) at three distinct arrangements of DQD-lead coupling. The inset at the first column depicts the type of coupling. The purple line represents the tuning variable. The energy unit is  $\Gamma_1$ .  $e_1 = e_2 = 0$  in all arrangements. (a),(b) The lead is connected to both QDs. Tuning variable:  $\Gamma_2$ . (c)(d) Indirect coupling of the second dot through dot one. Tuning variable:  $t_{dots}$ . (e)(f) Triangular coupling. Tuning variable:  $t_{dots}$ .

Source: By the Author

2. **Indirect Coupling of QD2. Figure 3.2(c)(d):** This is case is interesting. When the second dot is connected indirectly through the first dot, quantum inference splits the central peak in two new states. We will observe later that in the interacting case this procedure can also destroy the Kondo signature. Note that the higher the coupling  $t_{dots}$  is, the greater is the gap between the states. We will usually take  $t_{dots} = 2\Gamma_1$  to make these gap more visible in the NRG simulations.
3. **Breaking Particle Hole Symmetry. Figure 3.2(e)(f):** Suppose we have  $\Gamma_2 = \Gamma_1$ . The "triangular connections" break Particle Hole Symmetry. The central peak is displaced to the positive part of the spectrum. We will avoid this situation during this project, because because PHS-breaking will prevent the Majorana to tunnel inside the DQD. Hence, this

model won't lead to any interesting result on Majorana manipulation.

### 3.2 The Numerical Renormalization Group (NRG)

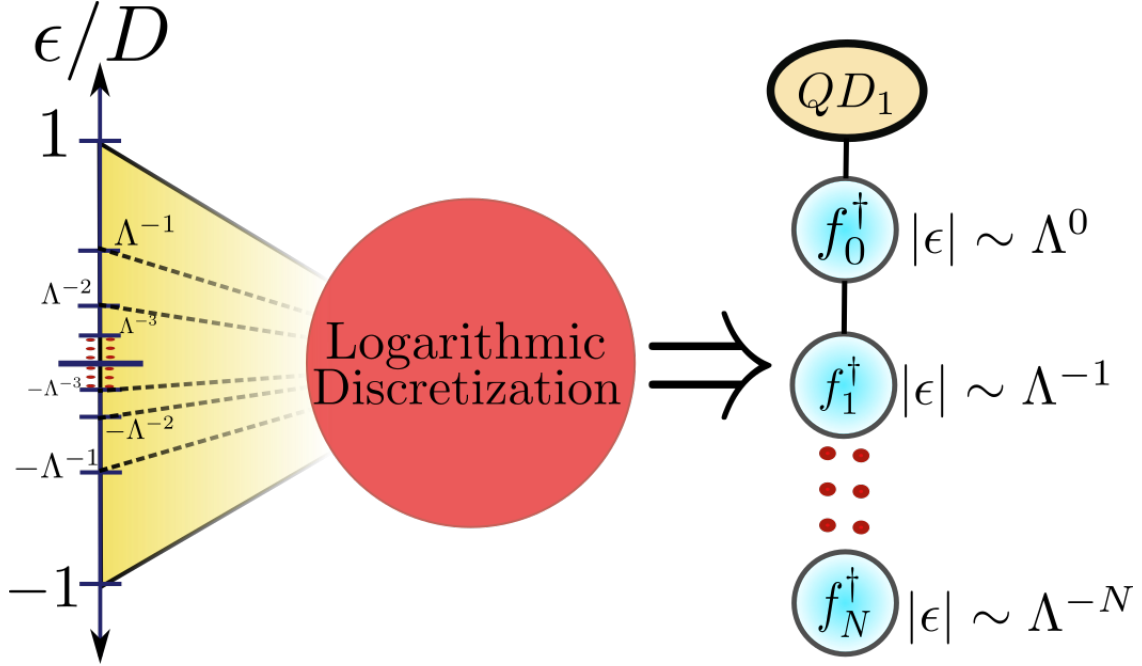


Figure 3.3: . Energy interval discretization. Source: By the Author

The divergent logarithmic term in the resistivity predicted by Kondo is a clear signal of interesting low energy physics occurring at quantum impurity systems. The real meaning of this logarithm is that important contributions at low energy scales caused by the strong quantum correlations in the system are being neglected by perturbation theory. This problem can be solved by introducing ideas from renormalization group theory. A renormalization approach is more adequate for this type of problem since it assigns an appropriate effective Hamiltonian to each scale of temperature. This provides a more accurate representation of the increasing density of correlated states appearing close the Fermi energy.

In renormalization group theory, the Hamiltonian transformations are performed by an operator  $T$  that represents an endomorphism in the space of operators.  $T$  generates the semigroup  $\{1, T, T^2, \dots\}$ , that defines a complete set of transformations

$$T[H_0] = H_1, T[H_1] = H_2, \dots, T[H_N] = H_{N+1}, \dots$$

If  $T$  is a contracting map<sup>1</sup> then it is known that this set of operations should eventually lead to a fix point  $T^N[H] \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} H^*$  such that  $T[H^*] = H^*$ . In numerical simulations,  $N$  will only increase up to a value where  $H_N$  is close enough to the fix point  $H^*$  so that no new significant contributions to the Hamiltonian are obtained. For the purposes of this project, taking  $N = 51$  will be enough for the NRG code to converge.

In the 1970's G.Wilson used this theory to create the famous Numerical Renormalization Group (NRG) [16, 17, 18]. His main idea was to perform a logarithmic discretization of the conduction band in the lead as shown in Figure 3.3.(a). Taking into account that the leading contributions to the conductance occur at states close to the Fermi energy  $\omega = 0$ , we can define a cut-off ( $|\omega| < D$ ) so that the rest at higher contributions are not relevant. Then we use  $D$  to rescale the energy interval. As you can observe in the figure, the QD is coupled to all these energy states at the same time. The logarithmic discretization gives more relevance to the low energy scales by assigning a different Hamiltonian coupling to each one of them. To complete this idea, the NRG code maps the Hamiltonian of the QD-lead system to the Wilson's chain shown in Figure 3.3(b). A detailed description of this map is included in the Appendix section A.1.

After these steps we obtain a chain Hamiltonian of the form

$$H = H_d + D \sum_{\sigma} \left[ \sqrt{\frac{2\Gamma}{\pi D}} \left( d_{\sigma}^{\dagger} f_{0\sigma} + f_{0\sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma} \right) + \frac{1}{2} (1 + \Lambda^{-1}) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \Lambda^{-\frac{n}{2}} \xi_n \left( f_{n\sigma}^{\dagger} f_{n+1,\sigma} + f_{n+1\sigma}^{\dagger} f_{n\sigma} \right) \right]. \quad (3.20)$$

In the flat-band approximation the parameters  $\xi_n$  can be obtained analytically [16]

$$\xi_n = \frac{1 - \Lambda^{-n-1}}{(1 - \Lambda^{-2n-1})^{\frac{1}{2}} (1 - \Lambda^{-2n-3})^{\frac{1}{2}}}.$$

From equation (A.12) we define the following set of Hamiltonians

$$H_{N+1} = T[H_N] = \Lambda^{-\frac{1}{2}} H_N + \xi_N \left( f_{N+1,\sigma}^{\dagger} f_{N,\sigma} + f_{N,\sigma}^{\dagger} f_{N+1,\sigma} \right), \quad (3.21)$$

with

$$H_{-1} := \frac{2H_d}{1 + \Lambda^{-1}}. \quad (3.22)$$

The Renormalization Group transformation  $T$  can be defined as

$$T^N H_{-1} = \frac{1 + \Lambda^{-1}}{2} \Lambda^{\frac{N-1}{2}} H_N$$

---

<sup>1</sup>Let  $\mathcal{O}$  be a set of operators, then  $T$  is a contracting map if  $T[\mathcal{O}'] \subset \mathcal{O}'$  for every  $\mathcal{O}' \subset \mathcal{O}$ .

Note that in the limit  $\xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty}$  we should recover the initial Anderson Hamiltonian. In addition, note that the leading coefficients of the contributions to each Hamiltonian  $H_N$  are given by

$$\Lambda^{\frac{-N}{2}} \xi_N \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Lambda^{\frac{-N}{2}} (1 - \Lambda^{-N})}{1 - \Lambda^{-2N}} \sim \frac{\Lambda^{\frac{-N}{2}}}{1 + \Lambda^{-N}},$$

which decays exponentially with the length of the chain. Therefore, we may think that at some point these new contributions will be so small that the map  $T$  will eventually converge. Formally the theory regarding the NRG convergence is too complex for this thesis. However the results show that the operator that truly converges is  $T^2$  and not  $T$ [18]. This has important consequences, for instance the convergence of the code has to be analyzed on odd and even values of  $N$  separately.

To this point the expression (A.12) and the derived limit of  $H_N$  to the Anderson Hamiltonian are exact. The first approximations arrive in the following step which include an iterative diagonalization of the Hamiltonian.

#### 3.2.1 Iterative Diagonalization

This diagonalization starts with the impurity/dot Hamiltonian  $H_{-1}$ , which must be written in matrix form according to a defined basis. The other steps can be defined by induction. Suppose that the spectrum of  $H_N$  is diagonal on a given basis. Then the NRG code performs each of the following steps:

1. Rescaling the spectrum of  $H_N$  by  $\Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}}$  as defined in A.12. Figure 3.4 (a)→(b).
2. Adding the next step of the chain to form  $H_{N+1}$  and diagonalizing the new Hamiltonian such that  $H_{N+1} = U_{N+1}^\dagger D_{N+1} U_{N+1}$ . After this step, each of the eigenstates of  $H_N$  will split in up to 4 new energy states (probably degenerate) determined by the new coupling with the  $N+1$  site basis  $|0\rangle, |\uparrow\rangle, |\downarrow\rangle, |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle$ . Figure 3.4 (b)→(c).
3. Shifting the spectrum by a certain dephase factor such that the 0 of energy is always the ground state. Figure 3.4 (c)→(d).
4. Numerical cutting: If the number of states in the system exceeds a definite number (1000 in this thesis) the exceeding higher energy states are neglected.<sup>2</sup> Figure 3.4 (c)→(d).
5. Rotating operators  $f_{N,\sigma}$  by  $U_N f_{N,\sigma} U_N^\dagger$  to start the next operation

It consists of three basic steps :

1. To perform a numerical discretization of the energy spectrum in logarithmic intervals.

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<sup>2</sup>This step must be performed carefully to preserve the symmetries of the system. If two states are entangled and one of them is eliminated and the other is not, the program could lead to misleading results. Further discussions to solve this problem are presented in the symmetry subsection.

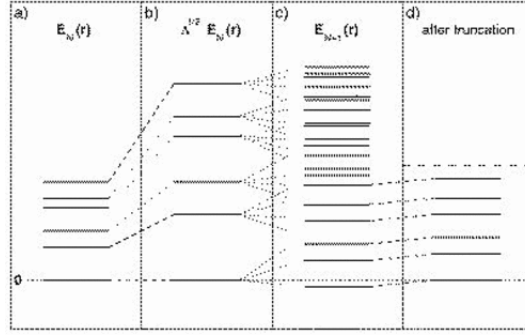


Figure 3.4: Iterative diagonalization process. Source: By the Author

2. To map the discretized model onto a semi-infinity chain Hamiltonian.
3. To diagonalize iteratively the chain hamiltonian .

The final result will be the spectrum of the Hamiltonian. Other important properties of the material such as density of states, conductivity, specific heat, susceptibility can also be computed. On this project we are mainly interested in the Density of States (DOS). The method used to compute the DOS is the Density Matrix numerical renormalization Group (DM-NRG). A complete description of this algorithm will be given in the following sections.

For now, we proceed to describe how the NRG is applied to solve the Anderson model in a QD:

Note *I still need to do a long revision to this section. Probably I will send most of the computations to the abstract and leave a summary of NRG and its advantages in the main text.*

### Iterative Diagonalization in a Single QD process

Now that we have an iterative representation of the Anderson Model Hamiltonian (A.12), lets take a look to how the NRG code would work for a QD. We start with the dot hamiltonian. (Since the  $D$  term is always present as a normalizing factor, we are going to avoid this term in future computations and suppose that we are working with unit-less variables  $\epsilon_d$ ,  $U$  and  $\Gamma' := \sqrt{\frac{2\Gamma}{\pi D}}$  ).

$$H_d = \frac{1}{D} \left( \epsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} \right) d_\sigma^\dagger d_\sigma + \frac{U}{2D} (d_\sigma^\dagger d_\sigma - 1)^2. \quad (3.23)$$

Now observe that hamiltonian 3.23 already has a diagonal form in the base  $\{|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle, |\uparrow\rangle, |\downarrow\rangle, |0\rangle\}$

$$H_d = \frac{1}{D} \begin{bmatrix} 2\varepsilon_d + \frac{3U}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{U}{2} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Lets define  $H_{-1} = \Lambda^{\frac{-1}{2}} H_d$ . Adding the first chain interaction to  $H_d$  we obtain a new hamiltonian of the form

$$H_0 = \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}} H_{-1} + \Gamma' (d_{\sigma}^{\dagger} f_{0\sigma} + f_{0\sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma}). \quad (3.24)$$

The Hilbert space for this hamiltonian has to be extended to include the 4 degrees of freedom of the  $f_{0\sigma}^{\dagger}$  particles which are also given by  $\{|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle, |\uparrow\rangle, |\downarrow\rangle, |0\rangle\}$ . Therefore the total Hilbert space for  $H_0$  is given by a base of the form

$$|s_1\rangle|s_2\rangle := |s_1\rangle \otimes |s_2\rangle \text{ with } |s_{1,2}\rangle \in \{|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle, |\uparrow\rangle, |\downarrow\rangle, |0\rangle\}.$$

We obtain an space of dimension  $4 \times 4 = 16$ . Now before adventuring to write the Hamiltonian for  $H_0$  as a  $16 \times 16$ -matrix note that  $H_0$  preserves particle number  $N$  and the total spin  $S$ . Therefore we can use  $N$  and  $S$  as quantum numbers and generate the Hamiltonian  $H_0$  in blocks. We will observe that the terms in the diagonal will correspond to the eigenvalues of  $H_{-1}$  for the first space. The non-diagonal terms are the result of the hopping interactions with the first site.

$$H_{N=0, S=0} :$$

$$|0\rangle|0\rangle \rightarrow \left[ \frac{U}{2} \right]$$

$$H_{N=4, S=0} :$$

$$|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle \rightarrow \left[ 2\varepsilon_d + \frac{3U}{2} \right]$$

$$H_{N=1, S=\frac{1}{2}} :$$

$$\begin{array}{l} |\uparrow\rangle|0\rangle \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} & \Gamma' \\ \Gamma' & \frac{U}{2} \end{array} \right] \\ |0\rangle|\uparrow\rangle \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} & \Gamma' \\ \Gamma' & \frac{U}{2} \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

$$H_{N=1, S=-\frac{1}{2}} :$$

$$\begin{array}{l} |\uparrow\rangle|0\rangle \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} & \Gamma' \\ \Gamma' & \frac{U}{2} \end{array} \right] \\ |0\rangle|\uparrow\rangle \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} & \Gamma' \\ \Gamma' & \frac{U}{2} \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

$$H_{N=2, S=-1} :$$

$$|\downarrow\rangle|\downarrow\rangle \rightarrow \left[ \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} \right]$$

$$H_{N=2, S=1} :$$

$$|\uparrow\rangle|\uparrow\rangle \rightarrow \left[ \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} \right]$$

$$H_{N=2, S=0} :$$

$$\begin{array}{l} |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle|0\rangle \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} 2\varepsilon_d + \frac{3U}{2} & \Gamma & -\Gamma & 0 \\ \Gamma & \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} & 0 & \Gamma \\ -\Gamma & 0 & \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} & -\Gamma \\ 0 & \Gamma & -\Gamma & \frac{U}{2} \end{array} \right] \\ |\uparrow\rangle|\downarrow\rangle \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} 2\varepsilon_d + \frac{3U}{2} & \Gamma & -\Gamma & 0 \\ \Gamma & \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} & 0 & \Gamma \\ -\Gamma & 0 & \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} & -\Gamma \\ 0 & \Gamma & -\Gamma & \frac{U}{2} \end{array} \right] \\ |\downarrow\rangle|\uparrow\rangle \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} 2\varepsilon_d + \frac{3U}{2} & \Gamma & -\Gamma & 0 \\ \Gamma & \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} & 0 & \Gamma \\ -\Gamma & 0 & \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} & -\Gamma \\ 0 & \Gamma & -\Gamma & \frac{U}{2} \end{array} \right] \\ |0\rangle|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} 2\varepsilon_d + \frac{3U}{2} & \Gamma & -\Gamma & 0 \\ \Gamma & \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} & 0 & \Gamma \\ -\Gamma & 0 & \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} & -\Gamma \\ 0 & \Gamma & -\Gamma & \frac{U}{2} \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

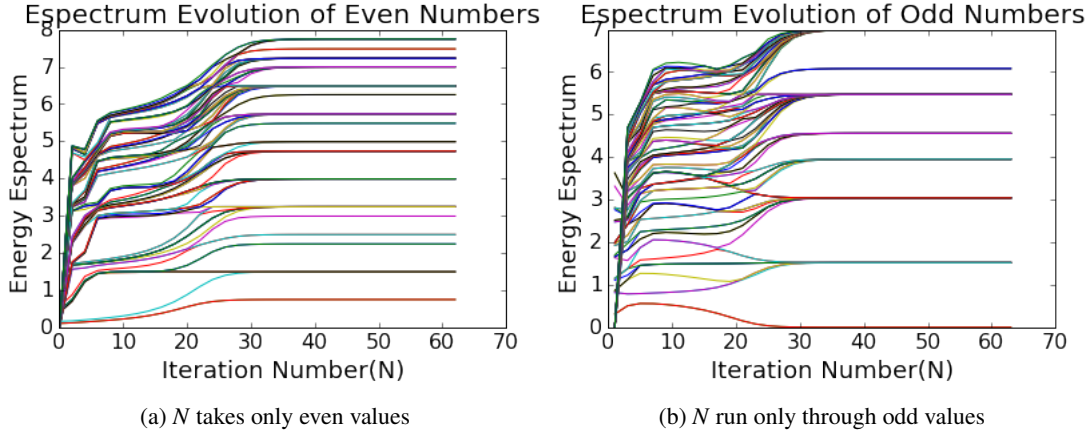


Figure 3.5: Evolution of the QD-spectrum vs number of iterations of the code for  $U = 0.5$ ,  $e_d = -0.25$ ,  $\Gamma = 2.82 \times 10^{-2}$ .

$$H_{N=3, S=\frac{1}{2}} :$$

$$\begin{array}{l} |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle|\uparrow\rangle \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \epsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} & -\Gamma' \\ -\Gamma' & \frac{U}{2} \end{array} \right] \\ |\uparrow\rangle|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle \rightarrow \end{array}$$

$$H_{N=3, S=-\frac{1}{2}} :$$

$$\begin{array}{l} |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle|\downarrow\rangle \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \epsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} & -\Gamma' \\ -\Gamma' & \frac{U}{2} \end{array} \right] \\ |\downarrow\rangle|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle \rightarrow \end{array}$$

Finally, we proceed to diagonalize  $H_0$  by blocks  $H_{N,S}$ . The resulting eigenvectors will be characterized by both quantum numbers so that we can write them in the form  $|N, S, i\rangle$  with  $i$  takes as many values as the degeneracy of its block. For higher values of  $N$ , the general formula for equation (3.24) looks as

$$H_{N+1} = \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[ H_N + \frac{1}{2} (1 + \Lambda^{-1}) \xi_N \left( f_{N\sigma}^\dagger f_{N+1,\sigma} + f_{N+1\sigma}^\dagger f_{N\sigma} \right) \right]. \quad (3.25)$$

We now proceed by induction supposing that for each  $N$  the Hamiltonian  $H_N$  is already diagonalized and the eigenvectors are organized in states with labels  $|N, S, i\rangle$ . The next step will be to add the 4-Hilbert space corresponding to  $f_{N+1,\sigma}$  organized the eigenvectors according to the quantum numbers  $|N', S', i\rangle$  and proceed to diagonalize by blocks the new Hamiltonian. Apart of it, the code must have a cutoff to the number of states.

This NRG code was previously implemented in C++ language by the advisor of this thesis. In Figure 3.5 we observe the evolution of the spectrum of the Hamiltonian according to the number of iterations of the code. As we can appreciate, this evolution converges for even and odd number around  $N = 30$ .



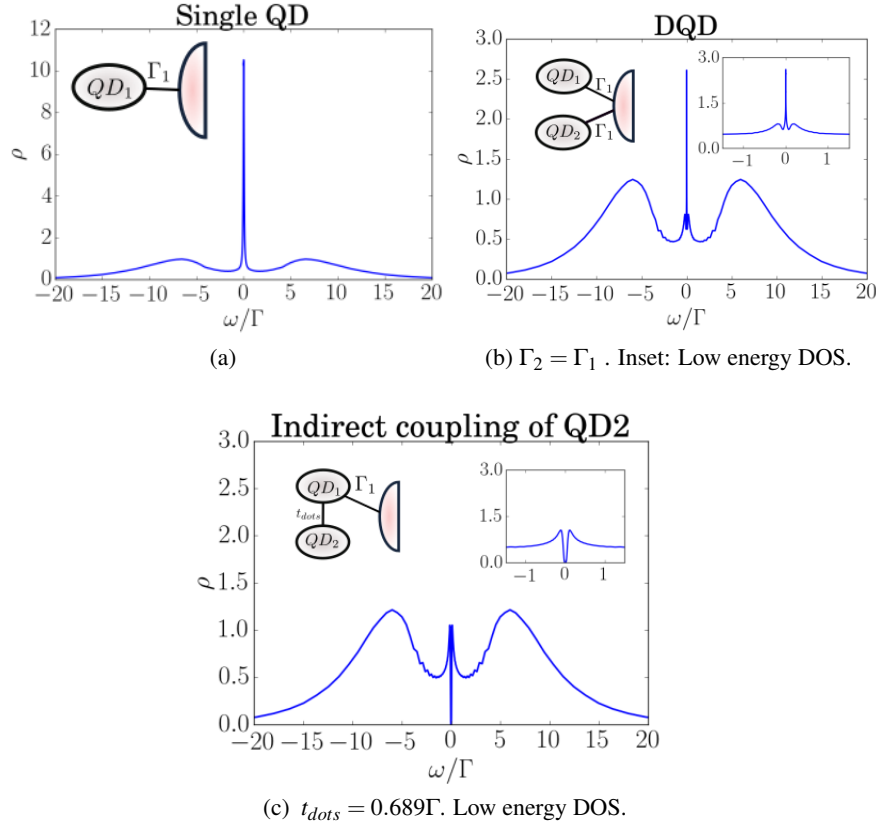


Figure 3.6: Density of states in QD1 predicted by NRG at each case. The insets show the. Note that figure a) is in a different scale due to a major central peak ..

Source: By the Author

### 3.2.2 Density Matrix Renormalization Group (DM-NRG)

To compute dynamical quantities [19] like the density of states we used the density matrix renormalization group approach DMNRG [20].

### 3.2.3 NRG for a double quantum dot

The initial Hamiltonian for the double quantum dot model has initial dimension of 16. While the symmetries in this Hamiltonian are exactly the same than the ones in the single QD case that we presented in the last section, we decided to use another model to solve this system. This system was simulated using the code for a DQD-Majorana coupling presented on ?? by setting the Majorana couplings to  $t_1 = t_2 = 0$ . The viability of these result and its correspondence with previous works is an important test that supports the conclusions of our code.

We ran the NRG code for the DQD with the coulomb term fixed at

$$U_1 = U_2 = 17.7305 \quad (3.26)$$

and are set up to emulate the same configurations in Figure 3.2.

The single QD attached to a metallic lead is a particular case of the double quantum dot model, where the second dot is not attached  $\Gamma_2 = t_{dots} = 0$ . Figure 3.6 shows the NRG results for this case. The three plots show the external Coulomb peaks at  $e_1 = \frac{U}{2} \sim 8.62\Gamma_1$ , which represent the DOS of the energy levels. In addition Figure 3.6a shows a central peak at the Fermi energy. **This is the Kondo Peak.**

In Figure 3.6b we observe the DOS when the two QDs are symmetrically attached. At low energies, the inset shows the appearance of two satellite peaks representing the Ruderman-Kittel-Kasuya-Yosida (RKKY) interaction. This is an anti-ferromagnetic coupling that appears in the interacting case due to the strong correlations between both dots. A detailed explanation of the appearance of these new states is included in section Appendix B.

The most interesting case is in Figure 3.6c. As we already observed in the non-interacting case, the interference with the second dot completely destroys the Kondo peak. This effect is observed at low energies closed to  $t_{dots} = 0.689\Gamma$ . The paper describing this result was a central part of one of my advisor's project. This result encouraged me to formulate the following question. What happens if we attached a Majorana mode to one of these dots?. Would it be destroyed by interference or it will survive to it. Answering this question is one of the main objectives of chapter ??.

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# Appendix A

## Appendix

### A.1 From the logarithmic discretization to the Wilson's chain.

#### Logarithmic Discretization:

We start with an Anderson model Hamiltonian such as the one in (??) without magnetic field

$$H = \frac{U}{2} + \sum_{\sigma} \left[ \left( \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} \right) d_{\sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma} + \frac{U}{2} (d_{\sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma} - 1)^2 + \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} c_{\mathbf{k}\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{\mathbf{k}\sigma} + V_{\mathbf{k}} d_{\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{\mathbf{k}\sigma} + V_{\mathbf{k}}^* c_{\mathbf{k}\sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma} \right]. \quad (\text{A.1})$$

At low-energies we can assume that QD couples only to s-wave states in the leads[18]. This implies that the Fermi surface is contained in a single, isotropic conduction band extending inside some fixed cutoffs  $-D$  and  $D$ . Thus,  $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}$  only depends on  $|\mathbf{k}|$ . This makes possible to transform the sum over  $\mathbf{k}$  in equation A.1 into an integral over  $\varepsilon$  between the energy cutoffs

$$H = \sum_{\sigma} \left[ \left( \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} \right) d_{\sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma} + \frac{U}{2} (d_{\sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma} - 1)^2 + \int_{-D}^D d\varepsilon \varepsilon c_{\varepsilon\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{\varepsilon\sigma} + \int_{-D}^D \sqrt{\rho_{\sigma}(\varepsilon)} d\varepsilon V_{\varepsilon} d_{\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{\varepsilon\sigma} + V_{\varepsilon}^* c_{\varepsilon\sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma} \right]. \quad (\text{A.2})$$

Here  $c_{\varepsilon\sigma}^{\dagger}$  creates an electron with energy  $\varepsilon$  and  $\rho_{\sigma}(\varepsilon)$  is the density of states of the system per spin, which appears in the integral due to the change of variable from  $\mathbf{k}$  to  $\varepsilon \propto |\mathbf{k}|^2$ . Finally, we ignore the energy dependence of  $\rho$  and  $V_d$  and we replace them by their values in the Fermi energy (This approximation has no great relevance which is justified in [18]) and we renormalize the energy band doing the replacements  $k = \frac{\varepsilon}{D}$  and  $c_{k\sigma} := \sqrt{D} c_{\varepsilon\sigma}$  so that (A.2) becomes

$$H = D \sum_{\sigma} \left[ \frac{1}{D} \left( \varepsilon_d + \frac{U}{2} \right) d_{\sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma} + \frac{U}{2D} (d_{\sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma} - 1)^2 + \int_{-1}^1 dk \, k c_{k\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{k\sigma} \right. \\ \left. + \sqrt{\frac{\Gamma}{\pi D}} \int_{-1}^1 dk \, d_{\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{k\sigma} + c_{k\sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma} \right] \quad (\text{A.3})$$

$$= H_d + D \sum_{\sigma} \left[ \int_{-1}^1 dk \, k c_{k\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{k\sigma} + \sqrt{\frac{\Gamma}{\pi D}} \int_{-1}^1 dk \, d_{\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{k\sigma} + c_{k\sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma} \right], \quad (\text{A.4})$$

where  $\Gamma = \pi \rho V^2$  is associated to the lever-width [11, (3.5)]. At this point we have our model dependent of three unit-less constants  $\frac{\varepsilon_d}{D}$ ,  $\frac{U}{2D}$  and  $\frac{\Gamma}{\pi D}$ . The logarithmic discretization starts by defining an scaling parameter  $\Lambda \geq 1$  in diving the energy domain  $[-1, 1]$  into an array of intervals of the form  $\{[\pm\Lambda^{-(n+1)}, \pm\Lambda^n]\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , as we can observe in ???. Note that the width of these intervals is decreasing exponentially by

$$d_n = \Lambda^{-n} (1 - \Lambda^{-1}).$$

Then inside of these energy intervals we can define a set of orthonormal Fourier series of the form

$$\phi_{np}^{\pm}(\varepsilon) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{d_n}} e^{\pm i \omega_n p \varepsilon} & \varepsilon \in [\pm\Lambda^{-(n+1)}, \pm\Lambda^n] \\ 0 & \text{a.o.c.} \end{cases} \quad (\text{A.5})$$

with  $\omega_n := \frac{2\pi}{d_n}$  so that  $\phi_{np}^{\pm}(\pm\Lambda^{-(n+1)}) = \phi_{np}^{\pm}(\pm\Lambda^{-n})$ . Then we can decompose the creation operators  $c_k^{\dagger}$  into their interval-Fourier contributions as

$$c_{k\sigma}^{\dagger} = \sum_{np} \phi_{np}^{+}(k) c_{np\sigma}^{+\dagger} + \phi_{np}^{-}(k) c_{np\sigma}^{-\dagger} \quad (\text{A.6})$$

with the new creation operators defined as

$$c_{np\sigma}^{\pm\dagger} := (c_{np\sigma}^{\pm})^{\dagger} = \int_{-1}^1 d\varepsilon \, [\phi_{np}^{+}(\varepsilon)]^{*} c_{\varepsilon\sigma}^{\dagger}.$$

This decomposition (A.6) is a simple consequence of the orthonormality of the functions defined in (A.5). In addition we can readily proof that  $c_{np\sigma}^{\pm\dagger}$ -operators satisfy the anti-commutation relations, so that they are rightful fermionic creation operators.

We can now use (A.6) to replace the  $k$ -dependent terms in hamiltonian (A.3). Then we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{-1}^1 dk c_{k\sigma}^\dagger d_\sigma &= \int_{-1}^1 dk \left( \sum_{np} \phi_{np}^+(k) c_{np\sigma}^{+\dagger} + \phi_{np}^-(k) c_{np\sigma}^{-\dagger} \right) d_\sigma \\
&= \left( \sum_{np} \left( \int_{-1}^1 dk \phi_{np}^+(k) \right) c_{np\sigma}^{+\dagger} + \left( \int_{-1}^1 dk \phi_{np}^-(k) \right) c_{np\sigma}^{-\dagger} \right) d_\sigma \\
&= \left( \sum_{np} \left( \int_{\Lambda^{-(n+1)}}^{\Lambda^{-n}} dk \frac{e^{i\omega_n p k}}{\sqrt{d_n}} \right) c_{np\sigma}^{+\dagger} + \left( \int_{-\Lambda^{-n}}^{-\Lambda^{-(n+1)}} dk \frac{e^{-i\omega_n p k}}{\sqrt{d_n}} \right) c_{np\sigma}^{-\dagger} \right) d_\sigma \\
&= \left( \sum_{np} \sqrt{d_n} \delta_p c_{np\sigma}^{+\dagger} + \sqrt{d_n} \delta_p c_{np\sigma}^{-\dagger} \right) d_\sigma \\
&= \sqrt{1 - \Lambda^{-1}} \sum_n \Lambda^{-\frac{n}{2}} (c_{np\sigma}^{+\dagger} + c_{np\sigma}^{-\dagger}) d_\sigma.
\end{aligned} \tag{A.7}$$

And

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{-1}^1 dk k c_{k\sigma}^\dagger c_{k\sigma} &= \sum_{n,n',p,p'} \sum_{s,s'=\pm} \left( \int_{-1}^1 k dk \phi_{np}^s(k) \left( \phi_{n'p'}^{s'}(k) \right)^* \right) c_{np\sigma}^{s\dagger} c_{n'p'\sigma}^s \\
&= \sum_{n,n',p,p'} \sum_{s,s'=\pm} \left( \frac{\delta_{nn'} \delta_{ss'}}{d_n} \int_{\Lambda^{-(n+1)}}^{\Lambda^{-n}} k dk e^{is\omega_n k(p-p')} \right) c_{np\sigma}^{s\dagger} c_{n'p'\sigma}^s \\
&= \sum_{np,p'} \sum_{s=\pm} \left( \frac{s}{2} \Lambda^{-2n} (1 - \Lambda^{-2}) \delta_{pp'} + \frac{1 - \delta_{pp'}}{is\omega_n (p-p')} \left[ k e^{is\omega_n k(p-p')} \right]_{\Lambda^{-(n+1)}}^{\Lambda^{-n}} \right) \frac{c_{np\sigma}^{s\dagger} c_{n'p'\sigma}^s}{d_n} \\
&= \frac{1}{2} (1 + \Lambda^{-1}) \sum_{np} \Lambda^{-n} (c_{np\sigma}^{+\dagger} c_{np\sigma}^+ - c_{np\sigma}^{-\dagger} c_{np\sigma}^-) \\
&\quad + \sum_n \sum_{p \neq p'} \frac{1 - \Lambda^{-1}}{2i\pi (p' - p)} \left( c_{np\sigma}^{+\dagger} c_{n'p'\sigma}^+ - c_{n'p'\sigma}^{-\dagger} c_{np\sigma}^- \right) e^{\frac{2i\pi(p-p')}{1-\Lambda^{-1}}}.
\end{aligned} \tag{A.8}$$

Thus, if we replace (A.7) and (A.8) into (A.3) we will obtain a logarithmic discretization of the hamiltonian. The next part will be to map this discretization to an iterative process that is worth for a numerical computations.

### Mapping the Anderson model to a Chain-Hamiltonian

We are looking for a model just like the one we have in the right part of Figure 3.3. This is because a Chain-Hamiltonian will give an iterative approximation of the Anderson model with an increasing (but still controllable) number of degrees of freedom. This will provide the rightful structure for a numerical diagonalization of the hamiltonian.



To do this, observe from equations (A.7),(A.8) that the QD ( $d_\sigma$ ) couples directly only to the operators with  $p = 0$  ( $c_{n0\sigma}^{\pm\dagger}$ ). The  $p \neq 0$  terms will appear in the hamiltonian only because they are coupled to  $c_{np\sigma}^{\pm\dagger}$  in Equation (A.8). Thus, as a first approximation we can neglect all terms in (A.8) with  $p \neq 0$ . This leaves only the first part of (A.8), so that we can define  $c_{n\sigma}^{\pm\dagger} := c_{np\sigma}^{\pm\dagger}$ . Let

$$f_{0\sigma}^\dagger = \sqrt{\frac{1-\Lambda^{-1}}{2}} \sum_n \Lambda^{-\frac{n}{2}} (c_{n\sigma}^{+\dagger} + c_{n\sigma}^{-\dagger}), \text{ so that } \sqrt{2} f_{0\sigma}^\dagger d_\sigma = \int_{-1}^1 dk c_{k\sigma}^\dagger d_\sigma. \quad (\text{A.9})$$

Note  $\{f_{0\sigma}^\dagger, f_{0\sigma}\} = \frac{1-\Lambda^{-1}}{2} \sum_n 2\Lambda^{-n} = 1$ . Replacing this in (A.3) we get

$$H = H_d + D \sum_\sigma \left[ \sqrt{\frac{2\Gamma}{\pi D}} (d_\sigma^\dagger f_{0\sigma} + f_{0\sigma}^\dagger d_\sigma) + \frac{1}{2} (1 + \Lambda^{-1}) \sum_n \Lambda^{-n} (c_{n\sigma}^{+\dagger} c_{n\sigma}^+ - c_{n\sigma}^{-\dagger} c_{n\sigma}^-) \right].$$

$f_0^\dagger$  will represent the first site of the chain-hamiltonian in ?? since no other term is coupled to the dot hamiltonian. We also have the coupling term  $\xi_0 = \sqrt{\frac{2\Gamma}{\pi D}}$ . It is possible to obtain the following  $f_m^\dagger$ -operators by supposing a solution of the form

$$f_{m\sigma}^\dagger = \sum_n a_{mn}^+ c_{n\sigma}^{+\dagger} + a_{mn}^- c_{n\sigma}^{-\dagger} = \sum_n \sum_{s=\pm} a_{mn}^s c_{n\sigma}^{s\dagger}, \quad (\text{A.10})$$

such that they satisfy the anti-commutation relations

$$\{f_{m\sigma}^\dagger, f_{m\sigma}\} = \delta_{mm'} \delta_{\sigma\sigma'}, \quad \{f_{m\sigma}^\dagger, f_{m'\sigma'}^\dagger\} = \{f_{m\sigma}, f_{m'\sigma'}\} = 0$$

and

$$\frac{1}{2} (1 + \Lambda^{-1}) \sum_n \Lambda^{-n} (c_{n\sigma}^{+\dagger} c_{n\sigma}^+ - c_{n\sigma}^{-\dagger} c_{n\sigma}^-) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \Lambda^{-\frac{m}{2}} \xi_m (f_{m\sigma}^\dagger f_{m+1,\sigma} + f_{m+1,\sigma}^\dagger f_{m\sigma}). \quad (\text{A.11})$$

It is possible to find a solution for this system using the formula of the right part of equation A.11. Since the relation is only given between consecutive terms  $m, m+1$  and we already have the coefficients for  $m = 0$  ( $a_{0n}^s = \sqrt{\frac{1-\Lambda^{-1}}{2}} \Lambda^{-\frac{n}{2}}$ ). Then it is possible to determine the upper coefficients in a recursive way starting from  $m = 0$ . Supposing we can obtain the  $m^{\text{th}}$ -coefficients ( $a_{mn}^s$ ) and then finding iteratively the coefficients of  $m+1$  ( $a_{m+1,n}^s$ ) using the relation given by equation (A.11). This provides a numerical way for obtaining the  $f_{m\sigma}^\dagger$  operators. In fact in our case, where we actually did important assumptions, the problem can be solved analytically obtaining that the final Hamiltonian is given by

$$H = H_d + D \sum_\sigma \left[ \sqrt{\frac{2\Gamma}{\pi D}} (d_\sigma^\dagger f_{0\sigma} + f_{0\sigma}^\dagger d_\sigma) + \frac{1}{2} (1 + \Lambda^{-1}) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \Lambda^{-\frac{n}{2}} \xi_n (f_{n\sigma}^\dagger f_{n+1,\sigma} + f_{n+1,\sigma}^\dagger f_{n\sigma}) \right]. \quad (\text{A.12})$$

with

$$\xi_n = \frac{1 - \Lambda^{-n-1}}{(1 - \Lambda^{-2n-1})^{\frac{1}{2}} (1 - \Lambda^{-2n-3})^{\frac{1}{2}}}.$$

The formal recursive-solution of this problem can be found in [16] . Note that equation (A.12) describes the chain hamiltonian model that we where looking for in ?? . Note that in the limit when  $n \longrightarrow \infty$

$$\Lambda^{\frac{-n}{2}} \xi_n \longrightarrow \frac{\Lambda^{\frac{-n}{2}} (1 - \Lambda^{-n})}{1 - \Lambda^{-2n}} \sim \frac{\Lambda^{\frac{-n}{2}}}{1 + \Lambda^{-n}},$$

which implies an exponential decaying of the hopping term in the chain.

## Appendix B

# Three peak appearance in the Double Quantum Dot model.

The DQD model is characterized by the formation of a new state that entangles the two Quantum dots through the leads. This produces an anti-ferromagnetic interaction between the QDs, commonly known as Ruderman-Kittel-Kasuya-Yosida (RKKY) interaction [23, 24]. As consequence, two satellite peaks will emerge in the Density of States.

To explain this phenomenon we will take a symmetric version of Hamiltonian (??) with  $2e_i = U_i = U$ ,  $t_i = t$  and  $t_{dots} = 0$  for  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ .

$$H = \sum_{i,k,\sigma} \frac{U_i}{2} (d_{i\sigma}^\dagger d_{i\sigma} - 1)^2 + t(d_{+,\downarrow} + d_{+,\uparrow}^\dagger) \gamma_1 + \Gamma_i (d_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{k\sigma} + c_{k\sigma}^\dagger d_{i\sigma}). \quad (\text{B.1})$$

The symmetry of the previous Hamiltonian is suitable to apply a base change of the form

$$d_{+,\sigma} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(d_{1\sigma} + d_{2\sigma}), \quad d_{-,\sigma} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(d_{1\sigma} - d_{2\sigma}).$$

These new operators satisfy the fermionic anti-commutation relations

$$\{d_{\pm,\sigma}, d_{\pm,\sigma}^\dagger\} = 1, \quad \{d_{\pm,\sigma}, d_{\mp,\sigma}^\dagger\} = 0,$$

so that they may be considered as fermion operators. All lineal terms in (B.1) are trivially adapted to the new base. The repulsion potential

$$\sum_i (\sum_\sigma d_{i\sigma}^\dagger d_{i\sigma} - 1)^2 = (\sum_\sigma d_{1\sigma}^\dagger d_{1\sigma} - 1)^2 + (\sum_\sigma d_{2\sigma}^\dagger d_{2\sigma} - 1)^2.$$

gives rise to a non-trivial interaction between the new states. To find this interaction we define the particle number operator

$$\hat{n}_{i,\sigma} := d_{i,\sigma}^\dagger d_{i,\sigma}.$$

So that

$$\hat{n}_{1,\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} (\hat{n}_{+,\sigma} + \hat{n}_{-,\sigma} + d_{+,\sigma}^\dagger d_{-,\sigma} + d_{-,\sigma}^\dagger d_{+,\sigma}) = \frac{1}{2} (\hat{N}_\sigma + \hat{E}_\sigma),$$

with  $\hat{N} = \hat{n}_{+,\sigma} + \hat{n}_{-,\sigma}$  and  $\hat{E}_\sigma = d_{+,\sigma}^\dagger d_{-,\sigma} + d_{-,\sigma}^\dagger d_{+,\sigma}$ . Similarly

$$\hat{n}_{2,\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} (\hat{N}_\sigma - \hat{E}_\sigma).$$

Hence

$$\sum_i \left( \sum_\sigma d_{i\sigma}^\dagger d_{i\sigma} - 1 \right)^2 = \left( \frac{\hat{N} + \hat{E}}{2} - 1 \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\hat{N} - \hat{E}}{2} - 1 \right)^2 = \frac{(\hat{N} - 2)^2 - \hat{E}^2}{2},$$

with  $\hat{N} = \sum_\sigma \hat{N}_\sigma$ ,  $\hat{E} = \sum_\sigma \hat{E}_\sigma$ . Note that operator  $\hat{N}$  represents the total occupation number inside both dots. If this occupation is different than 2 there is an imbalance between particles and dots that is punished by this term. The term  $E^2$  is much more interesting since this one is the responsible for the emergence of satellite peaks in the DOS. To understand what it makes it is simple to observe its results when applied to a based ordered by  $|+, -\rangle$ .

$$\hat{E}^2 |\uparrow, 0\rangle = \hat{E} |0, \uparrow\rangle = |\uparrow, 0\rangle$$

$$\hat{E}^2 |\uparrow, \downarrow\rangle = \hat{E} (|0, \uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\uparrow\downarrow, 0\rangle) = 2|\uparrow, \downarrow\rangle - 2|\downarrow, \uparrow\rangle$$

The new Hamiltonian

$$H = \sum_\sigma \frac{U}{4} \left( (\hat{N} - 2)^2 - \hat{E}^2 \right) + \frac{t}{\sqrt{2}} (d_{+, \downarrow} + d_{+, \downarrow}^\dagger) \gamma_1 + \frac{\Gamma}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_k (d_{+, \sigma}^\dagger c_{k\sigma} + c_{k\sigma}^\dagger d_{+, \sigma}) \quad (\text{B.2})$$

is represented in ??

We can explain this three-peak as the result of a new strong coupling interaction characterized by the spin exchange between both dots.

In addition, the spin-up DOS at the Fermi energy grows faster than the spin-down DOS, breaking the initial spin-symmetry when  $t_1 = t_2 = 0$ . At  $t_1 = t_2 = 0.02D$  the spin-up DOS at the fermi energy doubles the spin-down DOS which implies that the Majorana signature is present in both dots. Indeed ?? shows that the relation  $\frac{\rho_\uparrow(0)}{\rho_\uparrow(0)}$  increases continuously from 1 to 2. Note that the Majorana is completely attached when the coupling  $t_1$  reaches the order of  $0.01D$ .

## B.1 Initial DQD-Majorana Hamiltonian.

$H_{N_\uparrow=0, P_\downarrow=-1}$  :

$$\begin{aligned} |\downarrow, \downarrow, \downarrow\rangle &\rightarrow \\ |0, 0, \downarrow\rangle &\rightarrow \\ |0, \downarrow, 0\rangle &\rightarrow \\ |\downarrow, 0, 0\rangle &\rightarrow \end{aligned} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} \epsilon_d^+ + \frac{U^+}{2} - 2h + \epsilon_m & 0 & -\tilde{t}_{+1} & \tilde{t}_{+2} \\ 0 & \frac{U^+}{2} + \epsilon_m & \tilde{t}_{-2}^* & \tilde{t}_{-1}^* \\ -\tilde{t}_{+1}^* & \tilde{t}_{-2} & \epsilon_{d_2} + \frac{U^+}{2} - h - \epsilon_m & t \\ \tilde{t}_{+2}^* & \tilde{t}_{-1} & t^* & \epsilon_{d_1} + \frac{U^+}{2} - h - \epsilon_m \end{array} \right]$$

### B.1. Initial DQD-Majorana Hamiltonian.

$H_{N_\uparrow=0, P_\downarrow=1} :$

$$\begin{aligned} |0, 0, 0\rangle &\rightarrow \\ |\downarrow, \downarrow, 0\rangle &\rightarrow \\ |\downarrow, 0, \downarrow\rangle &\rightarrow \\ |0, \downarrow, \downarrow\rangle &\rightarrow \end{aligned} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} \frac{U^+}{2} - \epsilon_m & 0 & \tilde{t}_{+1} & \tilde{t}_{+2} \\ 0 & \epsilon_d^+ + \frac{U^+}{2} - 2h - \epsilon_m & \tilde{t}_{-2}^* & -\tilde{t}_{-1}^* \\ \tilde{t}_{+1}^* & \tilde{t}_{-2} & \epsilon_{d_1} + \frac{U^+}{2} - h + \epsilon_m & t \\ \tilde{t}_{+2}^* & -\tilde{t}_{-1} & t^* & \epsilon_{d_2} + \frac{U^+}{2} - h + \epsilon_m \end{array} \right]$$

$H_{N_\uparrow=2, P_\downarrow=-1} :$

$$\begin{aligned} |\uparrow\downarrow, \uparrow\downarrow, \downarrow\rangle &\rightarrow \\ |\uparrow, \uparrow, \downarrow\rangle &\rightarrow \\ |\uparrow, \uparrow\downarrow, 0\rangle &\rightarrow \\ |\uparrow\downarrow, \uparrow, 0\rangle &\rightarrow \end{aligned} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} 2\epsilon_d^+ + \frac{3U^+}{2} + \epsilon_m & 0 & \tilde{t}_{+1} & \tilde{t}_{+2} \\ 0 & \epsilon_d^+ + \frac{U^+}{2} + 2h + \epsilon_m & \tilde{t}_{-2}^* & -\tilde{t}_{-1}^* \\ \tilde{t}_{+1}^* & \tilde{t}_{-2} & f(d_1, d_2) + h - \epsilon_m & -t \\ \tilde{t}_{+2}^* & -\tilde{t}_{-1} & -t^* & f(d_2, d_1) + h - \epsilon_m \end{array} \right]$$

with  $f(d_i, d_j) = \epsilon_{d_i} + \frac{U_i}{2} + 2\epsilon_{d_j} + \frac{3U_j}{2}$ .

$H_{N_\uparrow=2, P_\downarrow=1} :$

$$\begin{aligned} |\uparrow, \uparrow, 0\rangle &\rightarrow \\ |\uparrow\downarrow, \uparrow\downarrow, 0\rangle &\rightarrow \\ |\uparrow\downarrow, \uparrow, \downarrow\rangle &\rightarrow \\ |\uparrow, \uparrow\downarrow, \downarrow\rangle &\rightarrow \end{aligned} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} \epsilon_d^+ + \frac{U^+}{2} + 2h - \epsilon_m & 0 & -\tilde{t}_{+1} & \tilde{t}_{+2} \\ 0 & 2\epsilon_d^+ + \frac{3U^+}{2} - \epsilon_m & \tilde{t}_{-2}^* & \tilde{t}_{-1}^* \\ -\tilde{t}_{+1}^* & \tilde{t}_{-2} & f(d_2, d_1) + h + \epsilon_m & -t \\ \tilde{t}_{+2}^* & \tilde{t}_{-1} & -t^* & f(d_1, d_2) + h + \epsilon_m \end{array} \right]$$