

## Appendix A

# Zero temperature Greens function in frequency domain

The impurity retarded Green's function (assuming the Hamiltonian to be time-independent, which it is) is defined as

$$G_{dd}^\sigma(t) = -i\theta(t) \left\langle \left\{ \mathcal{O}_\sigma(t), \mathcal{O}_\sigma^\dagger \right\} \right\rangle \quad (\text{A.0.1})$$

where the average  $\langle \rangle$  is over a canonical ensemble at temperature  $T$ , and  $\mathcal{O}_\sigma = c_{d\sigma} + S_d^- c_{0\bar{\sigma}} + S_d^z c_{0\sigma}$  is the excitation whose spectral function we are interested in. The excitations defined in  $\mathcal{O}$  incorporates both single-particle excitations brought about by the hybridisation as well as two-particle spin excitations brought about by the spin-exchange term. What follows is a standard calculation where we write the Green's function in the Lehmann representation. The ensemble average for an arbitrary operator  $\hat{M}$  can be written in terms of the exact eigenstates of the fixed point Hamiltonian:

$$H^* |n\rangle = E_n^* |n\rangle, \quad \langle \hat{M} \rangle \equiv \frac{1}{Z} \sum_n \langle n | \hat{M} | n \rangle e^{-\beta E_n^*} \quad (\text{A.0.2})$$

where  $Z = \sum_n e^{-\beta E_n^*}$  is the fixed point partition function and  $\{|n\rangle\}$  is the set of eigenfunctions of the fixed point Hamiltonian. We can therefore write

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\langle \left\{ \mathcal{O}_\sigma(t), \mathcal{O}_\sigma^\dagger \right\} \right\rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{Z} \sum_m e^{-\beta E_m} \langle m | \left\{ \mathcal{O}_\sigma(t), \mathcal{O}_\sigma^\dagger \right\} | m \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{m,n} e^{-\beta E_m} \langle m | \left( \mathcal{O}_\sigma(t) | n \rangle \langle n | \mathcal{O}_\sigma^\dagger + \mathcal{O}_\sigma^\dagger | n \rangle \langle n | \mathcal{O}_\sigma(t) \right) | m \rangle \quad \left[ \sum_n |n\rangle \langle n| = 1 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{m,n} e^{-\beta E_m} \langle m | \left( e^{iH^*t} \mathcal{O}_\sigma e^{-iH^*t} | n \rangle \langle n | \mathcal{O}_\sigma^\dagger + \mathcal{O}_\sigma^\dagger | n \rangle \langle n | e^{iH^*t} \mathcal{O}_\sigma e^{-iH^*t} \right) | m \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{m,n} e^{-\beta E_m} \left( e^{i(E_m - E_n)t} \langle m | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | n \rangle \langle n | \mathcal{O}_\sigma^\dagger | m \rangle + e^{i(E_n - E_m)t} \langle m | \mathcal{O}_\sigma^\dagger | n \rangle \langle n | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | m \rangle \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{m,n} e^{i(E_m - E_n)t} \|\langle m | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | n \rangle\|^2 \left( e^{-\beta E_m} + e^{-\beta E_n} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.0.3})$$

The time-domain impurity Green's function can thus be written as (this is the so-called Lehmann representation)

$$G_{dd}^\sigma = -i\theta(t) \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{m,n} e^{i(E_m - E_n)t} \|\langle m | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | n \rangle\|^2 \left( e^{-\beta E_m} + e^{-\beta E_n} \right) \quad (\text{A.0.4})$$

We are interested in the frequency domain form.

$$\begin{aligned} G_{dd}^\sigma(\omega) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{i\omega t} G_{dd}^\sigma(t) \\ &= \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{m,n} ||\langle m | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | n \rangle||^2 \left( e^{-\beta E_m} + e^{-\beta E_n} \right) (-i) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \theta(t) e^{i(\omega + E_m - E_n)t} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.0.5})$$

To evaluate the time-integral, we will use the integral representation of the Heaviside function:

$$\theta(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{x - i\eta} e^{ixt} dx \quad (\text{A.0.6})$$

With this definition, the integral in  $G_{dd}^\sigma(\omega)$  becomes

$$\begin{aligned} (-i) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \theta(t) e^{i(\omega + E_m - E_n)t} &= (-i) \frac{1}{2\pi i} \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \frac{1}{x - i\eta} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{i(\omega + E_m - E_n + x)t} \\ &= (-i) \frac{1}{2\pi i} \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \frac{1}{x - i\eta} 2\pi \delta(\omega + E_m - E_n + x) \\ &= (-i) \frac{1}{i} \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{-1}{\omega + E_m - E_n - i\eta} \\ &= \frac{1}{\omega + E_m - E_n} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.0.7})$$

The frequency-domain Green's function is thus

$$G_{dd}^\sigma(\omega) = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{m,n} ||\langle m | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | n \rangle||^2 \left( e^{-\beta E_m} + e^{-\beta E_n} \right) \frac{1}{\omega + E_m - E_n} \quad (\text{A.0.8})$$

The zero temperature Green's function is obtained by taking the limit of  $\beta \rightarrow \infty$ . In both the partition function as well as inside the summation, the only term that will survive is the exponential of the ground state energy  $E_0$ .

$$Z \equiv \sum_m e^{-\beta E_m} \implies \lim_{\beta \rightarrow \infty} Z = d_0 e^{-\beta E_0}, \quad E_0 \equiv \min \{E_n\}$$

where  $d_0$  is the degeneracy of the ground state. The Greens function then simplifies to

$$\begin{aligned} G_{dd}^\sigma(\omega, \beta \rightarrow \infty) &= \frac{1}{d_0 e^{-\beta E_0}} \sum_{m,n} ||\langle m | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | n \rangle||^2 \left[ e^{-\beta E_m} \delta_{E_m, E_0} + e^{-\beta E_n} \delta_{E_n, E_0} \right] \frac{1}{\omega + E_m - E_n} \\ &= \frac{1}{d_0} \sum_{n,0} \left[ ||\langle 0 | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | n \rangle||^2 \frac{1}{\omega + E_0 - E_n} + ||\langle n | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | 0 \rangle||^2 \frac{1}{\omega - E_0 + E_n} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.0.9})$$

The label 0 sums over all states  $|0\rangle$  with energy  $E_0$ . The spectral function is the imaginary part of this Green's function. To extract the imaginary part, we insert an infinitesimal imaginary part in the denominator:

$$G_{dd}^\sigma(\omega, \eta) = \frac{1}{d_0} \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0^-} \sum_{n,0} \left[ ||\langle 0 | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | n \rangle||^2 \frac{1}{\omega + E_0 - E_n + i\eta} + ||\langle n | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | 0 \rangle||^2 \frac{1}{\omega - E_0 + E_n + i\eta} \right] \quad (\text{A.0.10})$$

The spectral function at zero temperature can then be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{A}(\omega) &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} [G_{dd}^\sigma(\omega)] \\
&= \frac{1}{d_0} \frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} \left[ \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0^-} \sum_{n,0} \left( \frac{-i\eta ||\langle 0 | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | n \rangle ||^2}{(\omega + E_0 - E_n)^2 + \eta^2} + \frac{-i\eta ||\langle n | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | 0 \rangle ||^2}{(\omega - E_0 + E_n)^2 + \eta^2} \right) \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{d_0} \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{n,0} \left[ ||\langle 0 | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | n \rangle ||^2 \pi \delta(\omega + E_0 - E_n) + ||\langle n | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | 0 \rangle ||^2 \pi \delta(\omega - E_0 + E_n) \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{d_0} \sum_{n,0} \left[ ||\langle 0 | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | n \rangle ||^2 \delta(\omega + E_0 - E_n) + ||\langle n | \mathcal{O}_\sigma | 0 \rangle ||^2 \delta(\omega - E_0 + E_n) \right]
\end{aligned} \tag{A.0.11}$$