# Spin and charge correlations in quantum dots: The effect of level statistics

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July 11, 2011 1 / 33

# Motivation

- Transport through quantum dots (QDs)
  - ▶ metalic grains, e.g. Al, Au, Pd, with diameter 1 10 nm
  - large molecules
  - $\blacktriangleright$  regions of confinement for electrons in 2DEG with typical size  $1\,\mu m$



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#### Motivation / Coulomb blockade

Charging energy  $E_c=e^2/L\approx 10K$  for  $L=1\mu m$ 

$$\frac{(Q-q)^2}{2C} \Longrightarrow \qquad \hat{H} = E_c(\hat{n}-q)^2, \qquad q \equiv N_0 = C_g V_g/e$$



Periodic dependence on  $V_g$ 

Coulomb blockade at  $N_0 \neq k + 1/2$ 

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#### Motivation / Conductance vs gate voltage



Possible explanation: the effect of single-particle level fluctuations

July 11, 2011 4 / 33

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# Parameters of QDs

- $E_{\rm Th}$  Thouless energy
- $E_c$  charging energy
- T temperature
- $\delta$  mean level spacing
- J exchange energy
- $g_{l,r}$  left/right tunnel conductances
- $N_0$  external charge

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Thouless conductance} & g_{\rm Th} = E_{\rm Th}/\delta \gg 1 \\ \mbox{Low temperatures:} & T \ll E_{\rm Th}, E_c \end{array}$ 

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#### Motivation / Effect of exchange interaction J



#### Motivation / Mesoscopic Stoner instability (T = 0)



- Nearly ferromagnetic materials
  - Pd  $J/\delta = 0.9$
  - ▶ YFe<sub>2</sub>Zn<sub>20</sub>  $J/\delta = 0.94$  Jia, Bud'ko, Samolyuk, Canfield, Nat Phys (2007)

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- Can we find signatures of exchange J in physical observables, e.g. conductance, tunneling DOS, spin susceptibility, at  $T \gg \delta$ , J?
- How the single-particle level statistics affects results, in particular, the mesoscopic Stoner instability, at  $T \gg \delta$ , J?

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# Universal Hamiltonian

#### • Hamitonian

Kurland, Aleiner, Altshuler PRB (2000); Aleiner, Brouwer, Glazman, Phys Rep (2002)

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{\alpha,\sigma} \epsilon_{\alpha,\sigma} a^{\dagger}_{\alpha,\sigma} a_{\alpha,\sigma} + E_{c} \left( \hat{N} - N_{0} \right)^{2} - J \hat{S}^{\dagger}$$

 $\epsilon_{\alpha,\sigma} = \epsilon_{\alpha} + b\sigma/2$ single particle spectrum in the presence of Zeeman splitting  $b = g\mu_B B$ 

$$\hat{N} = \sum_{\alpha,\sigma} a^{\dagger}_{\alpha,\sigma} a_{\alpha,\sigma}$$
 – particle number operator

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{S}}_{\sigma\sigma'} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha,\sigma} a^{\dagger}_{\alpha,\sigma} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\sigma\sigma'} a_{\alpha,\sigma'} - \text{spin operator}$$

Spin susceptibility

$$\chi = T \frac{\partial^2}{\partial b^2} \ln \operatorname{Tr} \exp\left(-\beta \mathcal{H}\right)$$

Tunneling DOS ۹

$$\nu(\varepsilon) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \operatorname{Im} \sum_{\alpha,\sigma} \mathcal{G}^{R}_{\alpha\sigma;\alpha\sigma}(\varepsilon), \quad \mathcal{G}^{R}_{\alpha_{1}\sigma_{1};\alpha_{2}\sigma_{2}}(t_{1},t_{2}) = -i\theta(t_{1}-t_{2}) \left\langle \left\{ a_{\alpha_{1}\sigma_{1}}(t_{1}), a^{\dagger}_{\alpha_{2}\sigma_{2}}(t_{2}) \right\} \right\rangle_{\alpha,\alpha}$$

$$= -i\theta(t_{1}-t_{2}) \left\langle \left\{ a_{\alpha_{1}\sigma_{1}}(t_{2}), a^{\dagger}_{\alpha_{2}\sigma_{2}}(t_{2}) \right\} \right\rangle_{\alpha}$$

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# Standard approach

• Non-Abelian action in imaginary time after Hubbard-Stratonovich transformation

$$S = \int_0^\beta d\tau \left[ \sum_{\alpha,\sigma,\sigma'} \overline{a}_{\alpha,\sigma} \left[ \partial_\tau - \epsilon_{\alpha,\sigma} + \mu + i\phi + \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta}}{2} \right]_{\sigma\sigma'} a_{\alpha,\sigma'} + \frac{\boldsymbol{\theta}^2}{4J} + \frac{\phi^2}{4E_c} - iN_0\phi \right]$$

•  $\phi$ -field can be removed by gauge U(1) transformation

Ambegaokar, Eckern, Schoen (1982), ..., Kamenev, Gefen (1996), Efetov, Tschersich (2003),

Sedlmayr, Yurkevich, Lerner (2006)

- $\theta$ -field can be removed only in the Ising case by U(1) transformation Kiselev, Gefen (2006)
- In general SU(2) case,  $\theta$ -field cannot be removed by gauge transformation.

The standard trick does not apply for SU(2) case!

# Spin problem

• The Hubbard-Stratonovich transformation of evolution operator

$$e^{\mp itJ\hat{\boldsymbol{s}}^2} = \prod_{\alpha} \int \mathcal{D}[\boldsymbol{\theta}] \ e^{\pm \frac{i}{4J} \int_0^t dt' \ \boldsymbol{\theta}^2} \mathcal{T} e^{i \int_0^t dt' \ \boldsymbol{\theta} \hat{\boldsymbol{s}}_{\alpha}}$$

Time-ordering  $\mathcal{T}$  due to noncommutativity of the spin operators!

#### • Wei-Norman-Kolokolov transformation

Wei, Norman, J. Math. Phys. (1963), Kolokolov, Ann. Phys. (1990)

$$\mathcal{T}e^{i\int_{0}^{t}dt'\,\theta\hat{s}} = e^{\hat{s}_{-}\psi_{+}(t)}e^{i\hat{s}_{z}\int_{0}^{t}dt'\rho(t')}\exp\left[i\hat{s}_{+}\int_{0}^{t}dt'\psi_{-}(t')e^{-i\int_{0}^{t'}d\tau\rho(\tau)}dt'\right]$$

$$\theta_z = \rho - 2\psi_+\psi_-, \qquad \frac{\theta_x - i\theta_y}{2} = \psi_-, \qquad \frac{\theta_x + i\theta_y}{2} = -i\dot{\psi}_+ + \rho\psi_+ - \psi_-\psi_+^2$$

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# Exact results/ Grand partition function

$$Z = \sum_{n_{\uparrow,\downarrow} \in \mathbb{Z}} Z_{n_{\uparrow}} Z_{n_{\downarrow}} \frac{\sinh(\beta \boldsymbol{b}(2m+1)/2)}{\sinh(\beta \boldsymbol{b}/2)} \exp\left[-\beta \boldsymbol{E}_{\boldsymbol{c}}(n-N_0)^2 + \beta \boldsymbol{J} m(m+1)\right]$$

where  $n = n_{\uparrow} + n_{\downarrow}$ ,  $m = (n_{\uparrow} - n_{\downarrow})/2$  and the partition function for n electrons

$$Z_n = \oint_{|z|=1} \frac{dz}{2\pi i} z^{-n-1} \prod_{\gamma} \left( 1 + z e^{-\beta \epsilon_{\gamma}} \right)$$

N.B.: At b = 0 it coincides with Alhassid&Rupp (2003)

# Exact results/ TDOS

$$\begin{split} \nu_{\sigma}(\varepsilon) &= \frac{1 + e^{-\beta\varepsilon}}{2Z} \sum_{\alpha, n_{\uparrow,\downarrow} \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{-\beta [E_{c}(n-N_{0})^{2} - Jm(m+1)]} \\ &\times \delta \Big( \varepsilon - \epsilon_{\alpha\sigma} - E_{c}(2n-2N_{0}+1) - J(m+1/4) \Big) \\ &\times \left\{ e^{\beta b\sigma/2} Y(\beta b\sigma/2, 2m+1) \Big[ Z_{n_{\uparrow}}(\epsilon_{\alpha}) Z_{n_{\downarrow}} - Z_{n_{\uparrow}+1} Z_{n_{\downarrow}-1}(\epsilon_{\alpha}) \Big] \\ &- Y(-\beta b\sigma/2, -2m) \Big[ Z_{n_{\uparrow}} Z_{n_{\downarrow}}(\epsilon_{\alpha}) - Z_{n_{\uparrow}}(\epsilon_{\alpha}) Z_{n_{\downarrow}} \Big] \right\} \end{split}$$

where

$$Y(z,x) = \frac{e^{(x-1)z}}{\sinh z} - \frac{\sinh(xz)}{x\sinh^2 z}, \quad Z_n(\epsilon_\alpha) = \oint_{|z|=1} \frac{dz}{2\pi i} z^{-n-1} \prod_{\gamma \neq \alpha} \left(1 + z \, e^{-\beta \epsilon_\gamma}\right)$$

N.B.: TDOS coincides with result of Sedlmayr, Yurkevich, Lerner (2006) at J = b = 0

Spin susceptibility / No fluctuations of single-particle levels

$$\chi(\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{b}) = \frac{1}{2(\delta - J)} - \frac{\delta^2}{4\mathbf{T}(\delta - J)^2} \sinh^{-2}\left(\frac{\delta \mathbf{b}}{2\mathbf{T}(\delta - J)}\right) + \frac{1}{4\mathbf{T}} \sinh^{-2}\left(\frac{\mathbf{b}}{2\mathbf{T}}\right)$$

• Emergence of new energy scale: renormalized exchange energy

$$J_{\star} = \frac{J}{1 - J/\delta} \gg \delta, J$$
 at  $\delta - J \ll \delta$ 



#### Fluctuations of single-particle levels

• Fluctuations of single-particle thermodynamic density of states  $(dn/d\mu)$ 

Dyson (1962), Mehta, Dyson (1963), Efetov (1982)

$$\langle \Delta \nu_0(E) \Delta \nu_0(E+\omega) \rangle = \frac{1}{\delta^2} \left[ \delta(\omega/\delta) - R_{U/O}(\pi\omega/\delta) \right]$$
  
Unitary ensemble :  $R_U(x) = \frac{\sin^2 x}{x^2}$   
Orthogonal ensemble :  $R_O(x) = \frac{\sin^2 x}{x^2} + \left(\frac{d}{dx}\frac{\sin x}{x}\right) \int_x^\infty \frac{\sin t}{t} dt$ 

Fluctuations of level spacing at  $T \gg \delta$ :

$$\overline{\frac{(\Delta-\delta)^2}{\delta^2}} = \frac{c\delta^2}{\beta_{U/O}T^2} \ll 1, \qquad c \approx 0.02, \qquad \beta_U = 2\beta_O = 2$$

Common wisdom: Fluctuations of single-particle levels are not important at  $T \gg \delta$ 

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#### Fluctuations of single-particle levels near Stoner instability

Renormalized exchange energy  $\mathcal{J}$ :

$$\frac{1}{\mathcal{J}} = \frac{1}{J} - \frac{1}{\Delta}$$

Fluctuations of  $\Delta$  can lead to  $\mathcal{J} < 0$  (Stoner instability)

$$\frac{\overline{(\Delta-\delta)^2}}{\delta^4} \ll \frac{1}{J_*^2} \equiv \left(\frac{1}{J} - \frac{1}{\delta}\right)^2, \qquad \Longrightarrow \qquad J_* \ll T$$

Near Stoner instability level fluctuations are not important at  $T \gg J_* \gg \delta, J$ 

# Spin susceptibility in region I: $J_* \max\{1, b^2/J^2\} \ll T$



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# Spin susceptibility in region I: $J_* \max\{1, b^2/J^2\} \ll T$

Spin susceptibility for a given realization of levels:

$$\chi(T,b) = \frac{\mathcal{J}}{2J\delta} \left[ 1 + \frac{\mathcal{J}}{6T} - \frac{\mathcal{J}^3 b^2}{120T^3 J^2} \right]$$

Averaged spin susceptibility:

$$\overline{\chi(T,b)} = \frac{J_{\star}}{2J\delta} \left\{ 1 + \frac{J_{\star}}{6T} + \frac{c}{\beta_A} \frac{J_{\star}^2}{T^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{J_{\star}}{2T} \right] - \frac{J_{\star}^3 b^2}{120 T^3 J^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{10c}{\beta_A} \frac{J_{\star}^2}{T^2} \right] \right\}$$

where  $c \approx 0.02$ ,  $\beta_A = 2(1)$  for unitary (orthogonal) ensemble.

Averaged spin susceptibility is Fermi-liquid like:  $\overline{\chi(T,b)} = [2(\delta - J)]^{-1} + \dots$ 

### Spin-susceptibility in region II: $T \ll J_*$ and $b \ll J$



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July 11, 2011 19 / 33

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### Spin-susceptibility in region II: $T \ll J_*$ and $b \ll J$

Averaged spin susceptibility:

$$\overline{\chi(T, b=0)} = \frac{1}{3T} \left(\frac{J_*}{2J}\right)^2 \left[1 + \frac{2}{\beta_A \pi^2} \left(\ln \frac{J_*}{2T} + c_2\right)\right], \qquad c_2 \approx 1.43$$



Points are numerical simulations from Kurland, Aleiner, Altshuler (2000)

## At $T \ll J_*$ , $b \ll J$ level fluctuations are important but numerically small

# Mesoscopic Stoner instability (T = 0): / Effect of level statistics



$$E_{S+1} - E_S \equiv (2S+1)\delta + \Delta E = J(2S+2), \qquad \Delta E = \Delta n_{2S}\delta$$
$$S \equiv \overline{S} + \Delta S = \frac{J_*}{2J} \left[ 1 - \Delta n_{2S} \right] \implies \overline{S}^2 = \left(\frac{J_*}{2J}\right)^2 \left[ 1 + \overline{(\Delta n_{2S})^2} \right]$$
$$\overline{\chi} = \frac{\overline{S}^2}{3T}, \qquad \overline{(\Delta n_{2S})^2} = \frac{2}{\beta_A \pi^2} \left( \ln \frac{J_*}{J} + \text{const} \right)$$

July 11, 2011 21 / 33

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# Spin-susceptibility in region III: $J \max\{1, \sqrt{T/J_*}\} \ll b$



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July 11, 2011 22 / 33

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Spin-susceptibility in region III:  $J \max\{1, \sqrt{T/J_*}\} \ll b$ 

Averaged spin susceptibility:

$$\overline{\chi(T,b)} = \frac{J_*}{2J^2} \left\{ 1 + \frac{2TJ^2}{J_*b^2} \left[ 1 - \frac{2}{\beta_A \pi^2} \frac{J_*}{T} \right] \right\}$$

At  $J \max\{1, \sqrt{T/J_*}\} \ll b$  level fluctuations are suppressed by magnetic field

Averaged spin susceptibility is Fermi-liquid like:  $\overline{\chi(T,b)} = [2(\delta - J)]^{-1} + \dots$ 

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# Mesoscopic Stoner instability (T = 0): / Effect of magnetic field



$$E_{S+1} - E_S \equiv (2S+1)\delta - b + \Delta E = J(2S+2), \qquad \Delta E = \Delta n_{2S}\delta$$
$$S \equiv \overline{S} + \Delta S = \frac{b - \delta \Delta n_{2S}}{2(\delta - J)} \implies \overline{\Delta S^2} = \frac{\delta^2}{b^2} (\overline{S})^2 \overline{(\Delta n_{2\overline{S}})^2}$$
$$\overline{\chi} = \frac{\partial \overline{S}}{\partial b} = \frac{1}{2(\delta - J)}, \qquad \overline{(\Delta n_{2S})^2} = \frac{2}{\beta_A \pi^2} \left( \ln \frac{J_*}{J} + \text{const} \right)$$

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#### Charge and spin separation

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{\alpha,\sigma} \varepsilon_{\alpha} a^{\dagger}_{\alpha,\sigma} a_{\alpha,\sigma} + E_c \left( \hat{N} - N_0 \right)^2 - J \hat{S}^2,$$
$$\hat{N} = \sum_{\alpha,\sigma} a^{\dagger}_{\alpha,\sigma} a_{\alpha,\sigma}, \quad \hat{S}_{\sigma\sigma'} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha,\sigma} a^{\dagger}_{\alpha,\sigma} \vec{\sigma}_{\sigma\sigma'} a_{\alpha,\sigma'}$$

- Functional integral in imaginary time
- Decoupling Coulomb interaction  $E_c(\hat{N} N_0)^2$  by the Hubbard-Stratonovich field  $\phi$

$$Z = \int_{-\pi T}^{\pi T} d\phi_0 \, \mathcal{D}(\tau_1, \tau_1 | \phi_0) \tilde{Z}(\phi_0)$$

Charge problem:

$$\mathcal{D}(\tau_1,\tau_2|\phi_0) = \sum_{m\in\mathbb{Z}} \int_{\mathcal{D}} [\tilde{\phi}] e^{-\int_0^\beta d\tau \frac{\tilde{\phi}^2(\tau)}{4E_c} - i\int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} d\tau \tilde{\phi}(\tau) - \frac{\pi^2 T}{E_c} (m + \frac{\beta\phi_0}{2\pi})^2 + 2\pi i N_0 (m + \frac{\beta\phi_0}{2\pi}) - i2\pi m T(\tau_1 - \tau_2)}$$

Spin problem:

$$\tilde{Z}(\phi_0) = \operatorname{Tr} e^{-\beta \mathcal{H}_J}, \qquad \mathcal{H}_J = \sum_{\alpha,\sigma} \tilde{\varepsilon}_{\alpha} a^{\dagger}_{\alpha,\sigma} a_{\alpha,\sigma} - J \hat{S}^2 \qquad \tilde{\varepsilon}_{\alpha} = \varepsilon_{\alpha} - i\phi_0$$

N.B.: Charge and spin are entangled due to integration over  $\phi_0 \downarrow_{\rightarrow}$   $( \bigcirc )$   $( \cap )$   $( \cap$ 

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July 11, 2011 25 / 33

# Spin problem

• The Hubbard-Stratonovich transformation of exchange interaction:

$$e^{\mp itJ\hat{\boldsymbol{S}}^{2}} = \lim_{N \to \infty} \prod_{\alpha} \prod_{n=1}^{N} \int d\boldsymbol{\theta}_{n} \ e^{\pm \frac{i}{4J} t \boldsymbol{\theta}_{n}^{2}/N} e^{it\boldsymbol{\theta}_{n}\hat{\boldsymbol{s}}_{\alpha}/N} = \prod_{\alpha} \int \mathcal{D}[\boldsymbol{\theta}] \ e^{\pm \frac{i}{4J} \int_{0}^{t} dt' \ \boldsymbol{\theta}^{2}} \mathcal{T} e^{i \int_{0}^{t} dt' \ \boldsymbol{\theta}_{\alpha}^{2}}$$

Time-ordering  $\mathcal{T}$  due to noncommutativity of the spin operators!

Wei-Norman-Kolokolov transformation

$$\mathcal{T}e^{i\int_{0}^{t}dt'\,\boldsymbol{\theta}\hat{\mathbf{S}}} = e^{\pm\hat{\mathbf{S}}_{\mp}\,\boldsymbol{\psi}_{\pm}(t)}e^{i\hat{\mathbf{S}}_{z}}\int_{0}^{t}dt'\rho(t')}\exp\left[i\hat{\mathbf{S}}_{\pm}\int_{0}^{t}dt'\boldsymbol{\psi}_{\mp}(t')e^{\mp i\int_{0}^{t'}d\tau\rho(\tau)}dt'\right]e^{\mp\hat{\mathbf{S}}_{\mp}\,\boldsymbol{\psi}_{\pm}(0)}$$
$$\theta_{z} = \rho - 2\psi_{+}\psi_{-}, \ \frac{\theta_{x}\pm i\theta_{y}}{2} = \psi_{\mp}, \ \frac{\theta_{x}\pm i\theta_{y}}{2} = \mp i\dot{\psi}_{\pm} + \rho\psi_{\pm} - \psi_{\mp}\psi_{\pm}^{2}, \ \boldsymbol{\theta}^{2} = \rho^{2} \mp 4i\psi_{\mp}\dot{\psi}_{\pm}$$

N.B.: The Jacobian of transformation from  $\theta$  to  $\rho$ ,  $\psi_{\pm}$  is  $\mathcal{J} = \exp\left[\frac{i}{2}\int_{0}^{t} dt' \rho(t')\right]$ Initially,  $\theta_{x,y,z}$  are real variables, but now  $(\theta_x - i\theta_y)^* \neq \theta_x + i\theta_y$ We impose constraints  $\psi_+ = \psi_-^*$  and  $\rho = -\rho^*$ 

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# From spin problem to quantum mechanics

• Two sets of variables:  $\theta_{1,2} \implies$  two sets of new variables  $\rho_{1,2}$  and  $\psi_{1,2}^{\pm}$ 

• We choose initial condition 
$$\psi_1^+(0) = \psi_2^-(0) = 0$$

• Exact integration over  $\psi_{1,2}^{\pm}$ 

• New variables:  $\rho_{1,2}(t) = \mp i \dot{\xi}_{1,2}, \ \xi_1(0) = \xi_2(0), \ \xi_1(t_1) + \xi_2(t_2) = 0,$ 

$$\tilde{Z}[\phi_0] = \prod_{\gamma} \left( -\oint_{|z|=1} \frac{dz_{\gamma}}{2\pi i z_{\gamma}^2} e^{-z\gamma \left[1+e^{-2\beta\tilde{\varepsilon}\gamma}\right]} \right) \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{dy}{4yd} e^{-y} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\xi_1 d\xi_2 \prod_{\gamma} e^{-2z_{\gamma}e^{-\beta\tilde{\varepsilon}\gamma} \cosh\frac{\xi_1-\xi_2}{2}} \\ \times \delta \left( \xi_1 + \xi_2 + 2\ln\left[4y\sum_{\gamma} z_{\gamma}e^{-\beta\tilde{\varepsilon}\gamma}\right] \right) \langle \xi_1 | e^{-i\mathcal{H}_0 t_1} e^{-\xi} e^{i\mathcal{H}_0 (t_1+i\beta)} | \xi_2 \rangle$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{0} = -J\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial\xi^{2}} + \frac{J}{4}e^{-\xi}, \quad E_{\nu} = J\nu^{2}, \quad \Psi_{\nu}(\xi) = \frac{2}{\pi}\sqrt{\nu\sinh 2\pi\nu}K_{2i\nu}(e^{-\xi/2})$$

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# The final step

$$\tilde{Z}[\phi_0] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dh \, h \sinh(\beta h) e^{-\beta h^2/J} \prod_{\gamma} \left( 1 + e^{-\beta(\tilde{\varepsilon}_{\gamma} + h)} \right) \left( 1 + e^{-\beta(\tilde{\varepsilon}_{\gamma} - h)} \right)$$

• The grand partition function

$$Z = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi\beta J}} e^{-\beta J/4} e^{-\beta b^2/4J} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{-\beta E_c(n-N_0)^2} \int_{-\pi T}^{\pi T} \frac{d\phi_0}{2\pi T} e^{i\beta\phi_0 n}$$
$$\times \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dh \sinh(h) \frac{\sinh(bh/J)}{\sinh(\beta b/2)} e^{-Th^2/J} \prod_{\sigma=\pm} e^{-\beta\Omega_0(\mu-i\phi_0+Th\sigma)}$$
$$e^{-\beta\Omega_0(\mu)} = \prod_{\alpha} \left(1 + e^{-\beta(\varepsilon_\alpha - \mu)}\right)$$

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- Partition function  $Z = Z_C Z_S$
- Charging sector

$$Z_C = \sqrt{\frac{\Delta}{4\pi T}} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{-\beta [E_c(n-N_0)^2 - (\tilde{\mu} - \mu)n + 2\Omega_0(\tilde{\mu})]}$$

• Spin sector 
$$(b=0)$$

$$Z_S = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi} (\beta J)^{3/2}} e^{-\beta J/4} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dh \, h \sinh(h) \, e^{-Th^2/J_* - F(h)}$$

where the Gaussian random function

$$F(h) = -\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dE \,\Delta\nu_0(E) \,\ln\left[1 + \frac{\cosh h - 1}{2\cosh^2(E/2T)}\right]$$

• Averaged spin susceptibility:

$$\overline{\chi(T, b=0)} = \frac{1}{3} \frac{\partial \overline{\ln Z_S}}{\partial J}$$

In the absence of F(h) the typical value of h is of the order of  $\gamma = J_*/T \gg 1$ 

July 11, 2011 29 / 33

• Averaged free energy:

$$\overline{\ln Z_S} = \overline{\ln \int_0^\infty dh \, h \, \exp[\gamma f(h)]} \quad , \qquad f(h) = h - h^2 - \frac{1}{\gamma} F(\gamma h)$$

• Saddle-point approximation is justified by  $\gamma \gg 1$ :

$$\overline{\ln Z_S} = \gamma \overline{f(h_*)}, \qquad f'(h_*) = 1 - 2h_* - F'(\gamma h_*) = 0$$

• Approximate solution (small shift of  $h_*$  from 1/2)

$$\overline{f(h_*)} = \frac{1}{4} \left\{ 1 + \overline{F'^2(\gamma/2)} + \frac{\gamma^2}{12} \frac{d}{dz} \overline{F''(z)F'^3(z)} \Big|_{z=\gamma/2} + \dots \right\}$$

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• Two-point correlation function

$$C_{ab}(h_1, h_2) = \frac{d^{a+b}}{dh_1^a dh_2^b} \overline{F(h_1)F(h_2)}$$

• For  $T \gg \delta$  and  $|h| \gg 1$ :

$$\begin{split} C_{00}(h,h) &= \frac{4\ln 2}{\beta_A \pi^2} h^2 \\ C_{11}(h,h) &= \frac{2}{\beta_A \pi^2} \Big[ \ln |h| + c_1 \Big], \quad c_1 = -\int_0^1 \frac{d\omega}{\omega^2} [1 - \omega \coth \omega] + \int_1^\infty \frac{d\omega \ln \omega}{\sinh^2 \omega} \approx 0.43 \\ C_{01}(h,h) &= \frac{4\ln 2}{\beta_A \pi^2} |h| \\ C_{12}(h,h) &= \frac{1}{\beta_A \pi^2 |h|} \\ C_{02}(h,h) &= \frac{4\ln 2}{\beta_A \pi^2} - C_{11}(h,h) \end{split}$$

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$$\overline{f(h_*)} = \frac{1}{4} \left\{ 1 + C_{11}(\gamma/2) + \frac{\gamma^2}{4} \frac{d}{dz} C_{12}(z) C_{11}(z) \Big|_{z=\gamma/2} + \dots \right\}$$

$$\overline{f(h_*)} = \frac{1}{4} \left\{ 1 + \frac{2}{\beta_A \pi^2} \left[ a_1 \ln \frac{\gamma}{2} + a_2 \right] \right\},\$$
$$a_1 = 1 - \frac{1}{\beta_A \pi^2} + \dots$$
$$a_2 = c_1 - \frac{c_1 - 1}{\beta_A \pi^2} \dots$$

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July 11, 2011 32 / 33

### Conclusions

- Exact analytical results for the spin susceptibility and TDOS in a QD with direct Coulomb and exchange interactions in the presence of Zeeman splitting
- Level fluctuations enhance the spin susceptibility at  $\,T\ll J_*\,$
- Magnetic field  $b \gg J$  suppresses the effect of level fluctuations

#### • Future work:

- Anisotropic exchange  $H_J = -J_{\perp}(\hat{S}_x^2 + \hat{S}_y^2) J_z \hat{S}_z^2$
- Interaction in the Cooper channel
- ▶ Dynamic spin susceptibility
- I(V) curve in the co-tunneling approximation
- Analysis at low temperatures  $T \lesssim \delta$

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