

Exercise Sheet No. 6

“Computational Condensed Matter Theory”

14 Density Matrix Renormalization Group method (DMRG)

Consider a 1D chain of spinless hard-core bosons with nearest-neighbor hopping t and nearest-neighbor interaction U :

$$\hat{H} = -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} (\hat{c}_i^\dagger \hat{c}_j + \text{h.c.}) + U \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{n}_i \hat{n}_j - U \sum_i \hat{n}_i, \quad (1)$$

where $\hat{c}_i^\dagger$ denotes the creation operator at site i , $\hat{n}_i$ the density at site i . The last term in the Hamiltonian is included to make the interaction particle-hole symmetric. The creation and annihilation operators $\hat{c}^\dagger$ and $\hat{c}$ for hard-core bosons obey bosonic commutation relations, but only the single occupation of a state is allowed, i.e. $\hat{c}^\dagger |1\rangle = 0$ and thus a suitable basis for a single site is given by $\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$.

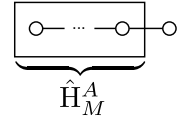
a) Initial System: Two Sites

At first consider a system of 2 sites with hard wall boundary conditions. Write the operators $\hat{c}_1$, $\hat{c}_2$, $\hat{n}_1$ and $\hat{c}_2$, which in this case are represented as 4×4 matrices.

Using these operators, construct the Hamiltonian (Eq. 1) for the 2-site system. This Hamiltonian describing the initial block A shall be denoted by $\hat{H}_2^A$.

b) DMRG Iteration Step 1: Add a Site

Now increase the size of the block A by adding an additional site, which results in a larger basis $\{|\tilde{\lambda}\rangle_{M+1}^A\} = \{|\lambda\rangle_M^A\} \otimes \{|n\rangle\}$. Given the Hamiltonian $\hat{H}_M^A$ (for M sites) the new Hamiltonian in this basis, $\hat{H}_{M+1}^A$, is obtained by



$$\tilde{H}_{M+1}^A = \hat{H}_M^A \otimes \mathbb{1} - t(\hat{c}_M^\dagger \otimes \hat{c} + \hat{c}_M \otimes \hat{c}^\dagger) + U(\hat{n}_M^\dagger \otimes \hat{n}) - U(\mathbb{1} \otimes \hat{n}). \quad (2)$$

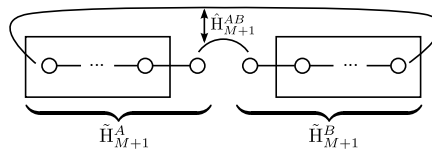
Save the operators $\hat{n}_{M+1} = \mathbb{1} \otimes \hat{n}$ and $\hat{c}_{M+1} = \mathbb{1} \otimes \hat{c}$.

c) DMRG Step 2: Double the System

Consider a block B , which in our case is a copy of block A , thus $\hat{H}_{M+1}^B = \hat{H}_{M+1}^A$.

The combined system of both blocks may be described in a basis $\{|\tilde{\lambda}\rangle_{M+1}^{AB}\} = \{|\tilde{\lambda}\rangle_{M+1}^A\} \otimes \{|\tilde{\lambda}\rangle_{M+1}^B\}$. Construct the Hamiltonian $\hat{H}_{M+1}^{AB}$, which connects both blocks at the respective sites $M+1$, and for periodic boundary conditions also at the respective sites 1. Thus,

$$\hat{H}_{M+1}^{AB} = -t(\hat{c}_{M+1}^\dagger \otimes \hat{c}_{M+1} + \hat{c}_{M+1} \otimes \hat{c}_{M+1}^\dagger) - t(\hat{c}_1^\dagger \otimes \hat{c}_1 + \hat{c}_1 \otimes \hat{c}_1^\dagger) + U(\hat{n}_1 \otimes \hat{n}_1 + \hat{n}_{M+1} \otimes \hat{n}_{M+1}). \quad (3)$$



The total Hamiltonian for the combined system of $2M+2$ sites is therefore given by

$$\bar{H}_{2M+2} = \tilde{H}_{M+1}^A \otimes \mathbb{1} + \mathbb{1} \otimes \tilde{H}_{M+1}^B + \hat{H}_{M+1}^{AB}. \quad (4)$$

Hint: Use `kron(sparse(mat1), sparse(mat2))` to create a sparse Kronecker product.

d) DMRG Step 3: Diagonalize the Total Hamiltonian

Calculate the ground state energy $E_0(2M+2)$ and wavefunction Ψ_0 of the Hamiltonian $\bar{H}_{2M+2}$.

Hint: Matlab's `eigs` function can be used to efficiently calculate only one eigenvector with the lowest eigenvalue. (Use the option "smallest real part" to achieve this.)

e) DMRG Step 4: Calculate the Reduced Density Matrix

Consider the density matrix for this ground state, $\hat{\rho} = |\Psi_0\rangle \langle \Psi_0|$. Trace out all degrees of freedom from block B to obtain the reduced density matrix ρ^A ,

$$\hat{\rho}_{il}^A = (\text{tr}^B \hat{\rho})_{il} = \sum_{j \in B} \hat{\rho}_{(i,j),(l,j)},$$

where the notation (i, j) denotes a single index of the density matrix ρ , where i is the index belonging to the subspace of block A and j the index belonging to the subspace B .

Hint: An efficient way to calculate the reduced density matrix in Matlab without first constructing the full density matrix is given by the following code:

```
psi_R = reshape(psi_0, dim_B, dim_A); rho_A = psi_R' * psi_R;
```

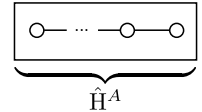
Here `dim_A` is the dimension of the subspace A and `dim_B` the dimension of subspace B .

f) DMRG Step 5: Projection on Subspace

Fully diagonalize the reduced density matrix ρ^A . Now use the eigenvectors corresponding to the largest N_{states} eigenvalues as a new basis. Project and store the operators (for block A) $\hat{c}_1, \hat{c}_{M+1}, \hat{n}_1, \hat{n}_{M+1}$.

As a final step project $\tilde{H}_{M+1}^A$ to obtain a new $\hat{H}^A$ as input for the next iteration.

Repeat DMRG steps 1 to 5 until the system size $2M+2$ reaches a chosen value.



f) Luttinger-Liquid Behavior

For three different values of $U = 0, -\sqrt{3}t, \sqrt{3}t$, perform a DMRG calculation up to a system size of L_{max} . Extract the system-size dependence of the ground state energy $E(L)$. Choose $N_{\text{states}} = 50$ and $L_{\text{max}} = 70$.

As can be shown analytically the lowest-order finite size corrections for the ground state energy per site e_L for this model are given by

$$e_L = \frac{E(L)}{L} = e_{\infty}(U) - v(U) \frac{\pi}{6} \frac{1}{L^2}, \quad (5)$$

where v is the velocity of lowest-lying excitations in the system. By analyzing your data, extract e_{∞} and v for the given values of U and plot $E(L)/L$ versus $1/L^2$. Discuss the behavior of $v(U)$ with decreasing U . **Hint:** For $U = 0$ the analytics yield $v = 2$ and $e_{\infty} = -2/\pi$.

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Performance Optimization

The use of the full Hamiltonian $\bar{H}_{2M+2}$ can become very expensive. But for Krylov methods it is sufficient to know the result of the application of the operator to a given vector. `eigs` uses a Krylov space method, so it is possible to forego the explicit construction of $\bar{H}_{2M+2}$. With the help of `psi_mat = reshape(psi, dim_B, dim_A)`; one can rewrite any vector in the full tensor product space as a matrix. Then, the following relation holds for the application of operators on this vector:

$$\Phi = (O^A \otimes O^B) \Psi \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \Phi_{\text{Mat}} = O^B \Psi_{\text{Mat}} (O^A)^T$$

Write a function that takes a column vector Ψ as input and returns $\bar{H}_{2M+2} \Psi$ without explicitly constructing the full Hamiltonian. Use this function to optimize DMRG step 3. Repeat the calculation of exercise 14f) for larger N_{states} and L_{max} . Compare your results.

Hint: `eigs(matrix, ...) ⇔ eigs(@function, dim_A * dim_B, ...)`.