

Spin-flip scattering

1964 Kondo :

Ferromagnetism in metals (Zener)
 Ref.: "Theory of magnetism" Yoshida
Springer

Model Hamiltonian

Magnetic impurity with spin S' (here spin $\frac{1}{2}$)
coupled to a gas of free electrons.

Impurity creation operators d_{σ}^{\dagger} , $\sigma = \uparrow, \downarrow$

Imp. Spin operators

$$S^z = \frac{1}{2} (d_{\uparrow}^{\dagger} d_{\uparrow} - d_{\downarrow}^{\dagger} d_{\downarrow})$$

$$S^+ = d_{\uparrow}^{\dagger} d_{\downarrow}, \quad S^- = d_{\downarrow}^{\dagger} d_{\uparrow}$$

$$S^x = \frac{1}{2} (S^+ + S^-), \quad S^y = \frac{1}{2i} (S^+ - S^-)$$

$$H_B = \sum_{\underline{k}, \sigma} (\varepsilon_{\underline{k}} - \mu) a_{\underline{k}\sigma}^{\dagger} a_{\underline{k}\sigma}$$

μ : chem. Potential

Impurity at $\underline{x} = 0$. Pauli electron spin operators

$$S_0^z \equiv \Psi_{\uparrow}^{\dagger}(x=0) \Psi_{\downarrow}(x=0)$$

$\Psi_{\uparrow, \downarrow}$
electron field
operators

$$= \frac{1}{(\sqrt{\Omega})^2} \sum_{\underline{k}, \underline{k}'} a_{\underline{k}\uparrow}^{\dagger} a_{\underline{k}'\downarrow}$$

(expansion into
plane waves)

Ω : Volume

The total Kondo Hamiltonian, H_K

$$H_K = H_B + 2J \hat{S} \cdot \hat{S}_0$$

careful

J : coupling
 $J < 0$: ferromagnetic exchange coupling
 $J > 0$: anti ferromagnetic coupling

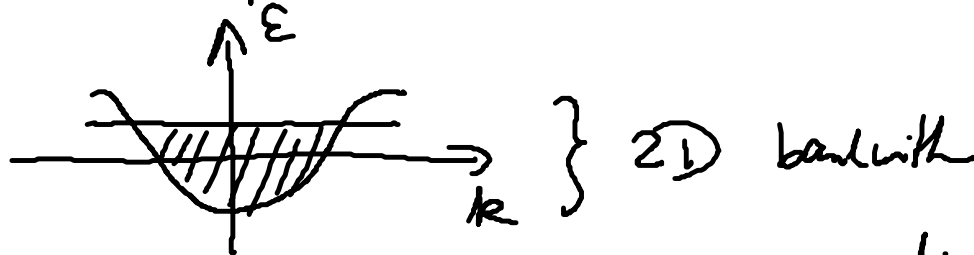
Exchange interaction: QM of molecules
 Statistical Mechanics⁴
 by R. Feynman.

$$\underline{S} \cdot \underline{S}_0 = S^z S_0^z + \frac{1}{2} (S^+ S_0^- + S^- S_0^+) \quad (\text{UA})$$

$$H_K = \sum_{\underline{k} \in \sigma} (\epsilon_{\underline{k}} - \mu) a_{\underline{k}\sigma}^\dagger a_{\underline{k}\sigma} + H_{s-d}$$

$$H_{s-d} = + \frac{J}{\Omega} \sum_{\underline{k}, \underline{k}'} \left[S^z (a_{\underline{k}\uparrow}^\dagger a_{\underline{k}'\uparrow} - a_{\underline{k}\downarrow}^\dagger a_{\underline{k}'\downarrow}) \right. \\ \left. + S^+ a_{\underline{k}\downarrow}^\dagger a_{\underline{k}'\uparrow} + S^- a_{\underline{k}\uparrow}^\dagger a_{\underline{k}'\downarrow} \right]$$

all momenta \underline{k} within the band are coupled to the impurity

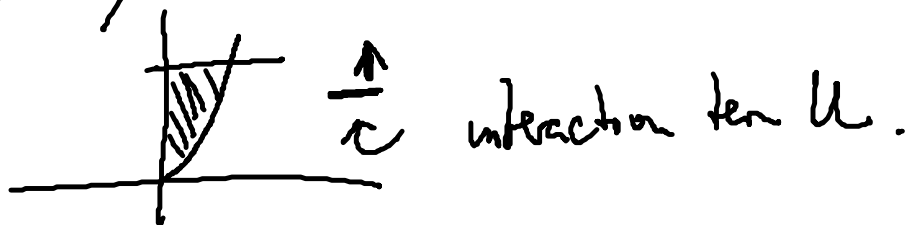


all energies couple to the magnetic impurity.

- Sign convention $-2J S s_0$
 $+2J S s_0$

"s-d" Hamiltonian

- Kondo Model can be derived from the SIAM (Single Impurity Anderson Model) by Schrieffer-Wolff.



Kondo Hamiltonian + Many-Body Physics

Why is it difficult?

The impurity forces us to study the band electrons as a many-body problem.

Example: two electrons with spin \uparrow scatter at impurity (spin \downarrow)

1st electron scatters, but then second can't spin-flip scatter.

An exact numerical diagonalisation is impossible:

- Hilbert space is too large
- too many single particle states
- too many electrons.

Key ideas: 1) Find a (very) good basis of single particle states in which to diagonalise.

Usual plane-wave basis is not suitable here.

Instead we use a basis similar to Wannier functions: this emphasises the interaction between the impurity and the band electrons.

- first state has strong overlap with the impurity



"onion-like" shell structure : Kondo basis

2) Strategy:

- First solve impurity coupled to the first Kondo state \Rightarrow a few eigenvalues
- Add the second layer, solve combined problem
- Numerical problem: $n=0$: $2^3 = 8$ states
(8×8 matrix)

2nd: 2^{3+2n} : becomes very big!
(each onion shell has $|0\rangle$, $|\uparrow\rangle$, $|\downarrow\rangle$, $|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle$)

Procedure: Renormalisation group "language"

within one step (adding one shell)
one moves from H_N to H_{N+1}

$$\text{RG-step} \quad H_{N+1} = R[H_N]$$

R : renorm. group transformation

Details:

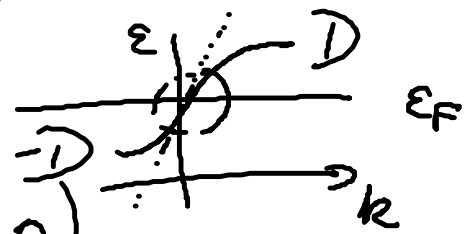
Spherical symmetry : Expand $\psi_{\uparrow}^{\dagger}(0)$ $\psi_{\downarrow}(0)$
into $Y_{lm}(\varphi, \theta)$.

The impurity only couples to s-waves.

$$\text{Energies } \underline{\epsilon}_{\underline{k}} = \epsilon |\underline{k}| \quad \rangle$$

We write $\epsilon_{\underline{k}} = \epsilon_F + (k - k_F) \frac{\partial \epsilon_k}{\partial k} + \dots$

Energies counted from ϵ_F ,
re-defining units



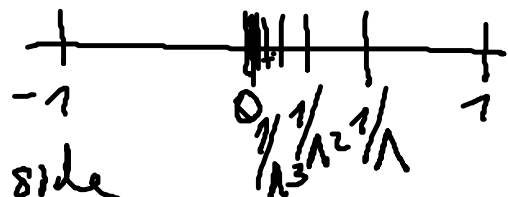
$\epsilon_{\underline{k}} = k = \epsilon$ (Check)

$H_K = \sum_{\sigma} \int_{-D}^D d\epsilon \epsilon a_{\epsilon\sigma}^\dagger a_{\epsilon\sigma} + (2\vec{J} \cdot \hat{S} \hat{S}_0)$

Wilson: • Divide energy band into discrete intervals.

$D = 1$
 \wedge

• logarithmic discretisation $k \rightarrow$



both on positive + negative side

e.g. $\Lambda = 2$

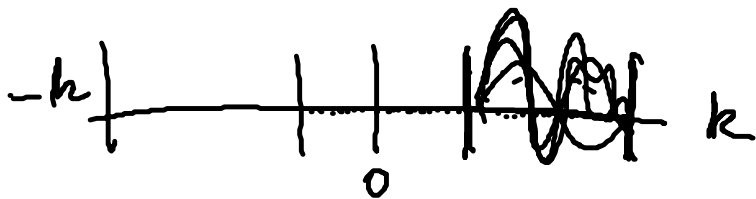
intervals in the energy band:

$[-\Lambda^{-n}, -\Lambda^{-(n+1)}]$; $[\Lambda^{-(n+1)}, \Lambda^{-n}]$

$n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

Transformation from $a_{\epsilon\sigma}^\dagger \rightarrow$ discrete index

$$\varepsilon = k$$



For each interval, introduce a basis
for a Fourier series, introduce
functions

$$\Psi_{np}^{\pm}(\varepsilon) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{d_n}} e^{\pm i\omega_n p \varepsilon} & \Lambda^{-(n+1)} < \pm \varepsilon < \Lambda^{-n} \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$p = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2 \quad \omega_n = 2\pi/d_n$$

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



Expand the electron operator

$$a_{\varepsilon\sigma} = \sum_{np} \left[a_{np\sigma} \Psi_{np}^{+}(\varepsilon) + b_{np\sigma} \Psi_{np}^{-}(\varepsilon) \right]$$