

# Quantum impurity problems (QIP) and numerical renormalization group (NRG): quick introduction

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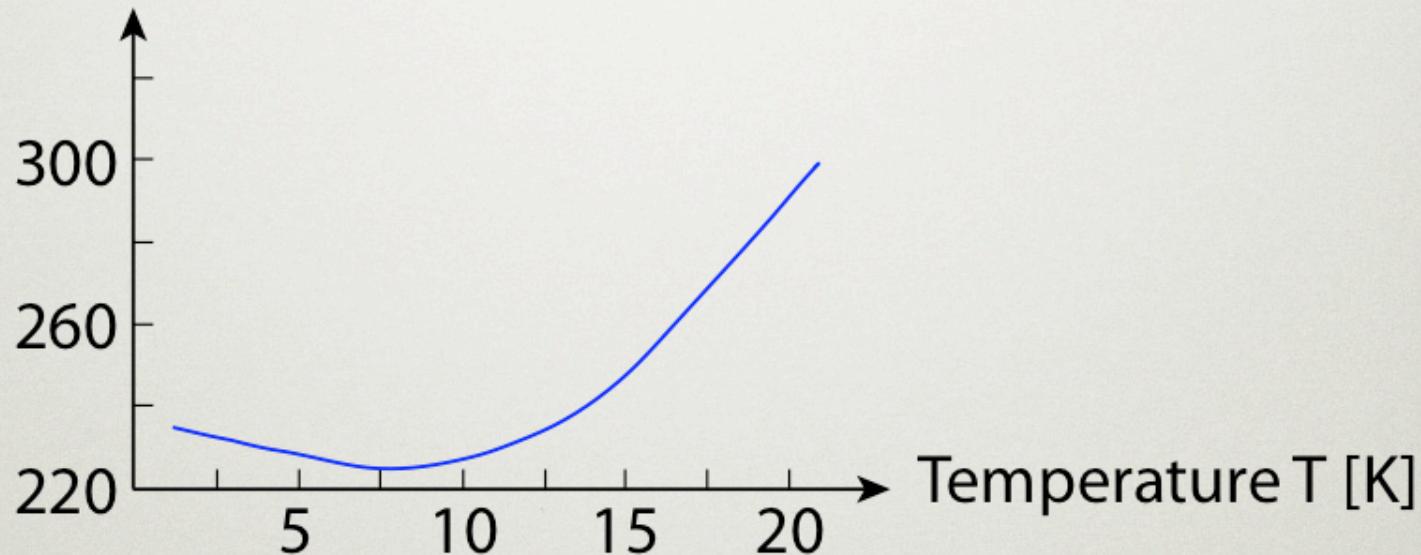
June 2013, SISSA, Trieste, Italy

# MAGNETIC IMPURITIES IN METAL HOSTS

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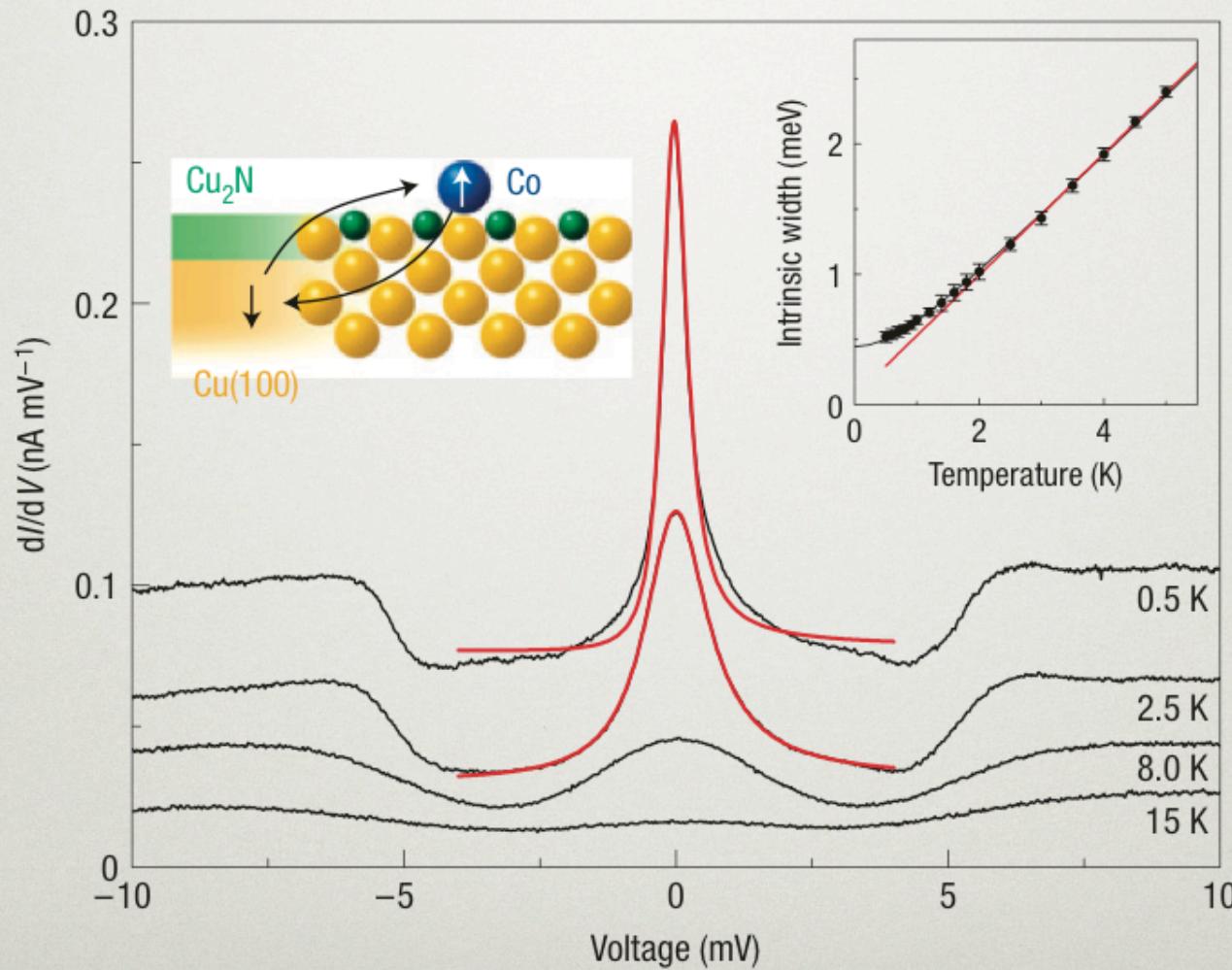
Low-temperature resistance of Au

Resistance [a.u.]

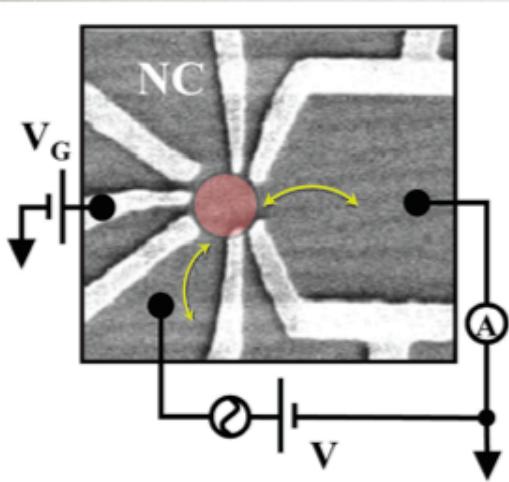


resistance minimum at finite temperature

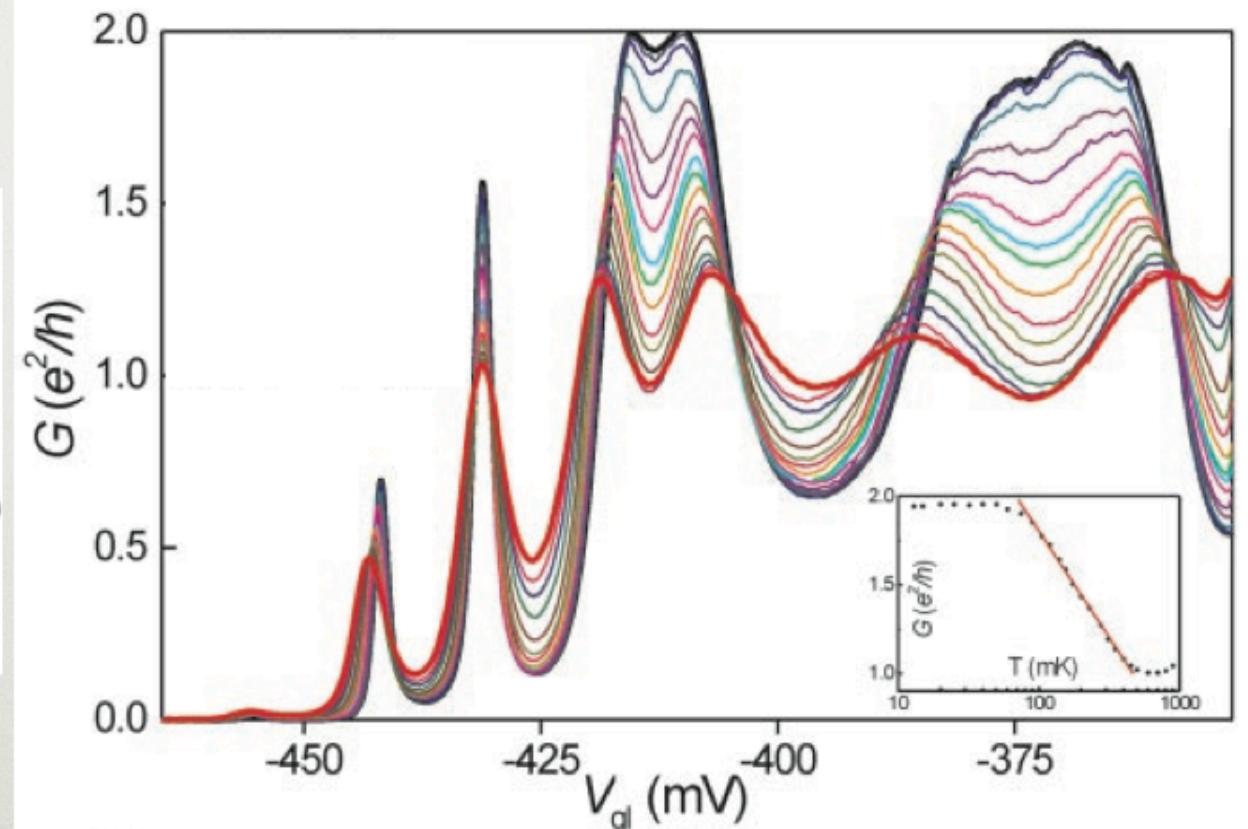
# MAGNETIC ADATOMS ON METAL SURFACES



# SEMICONDUCTOR QUANTUM DOTS



Grobis et al., PRL 100, 246601 (2008)

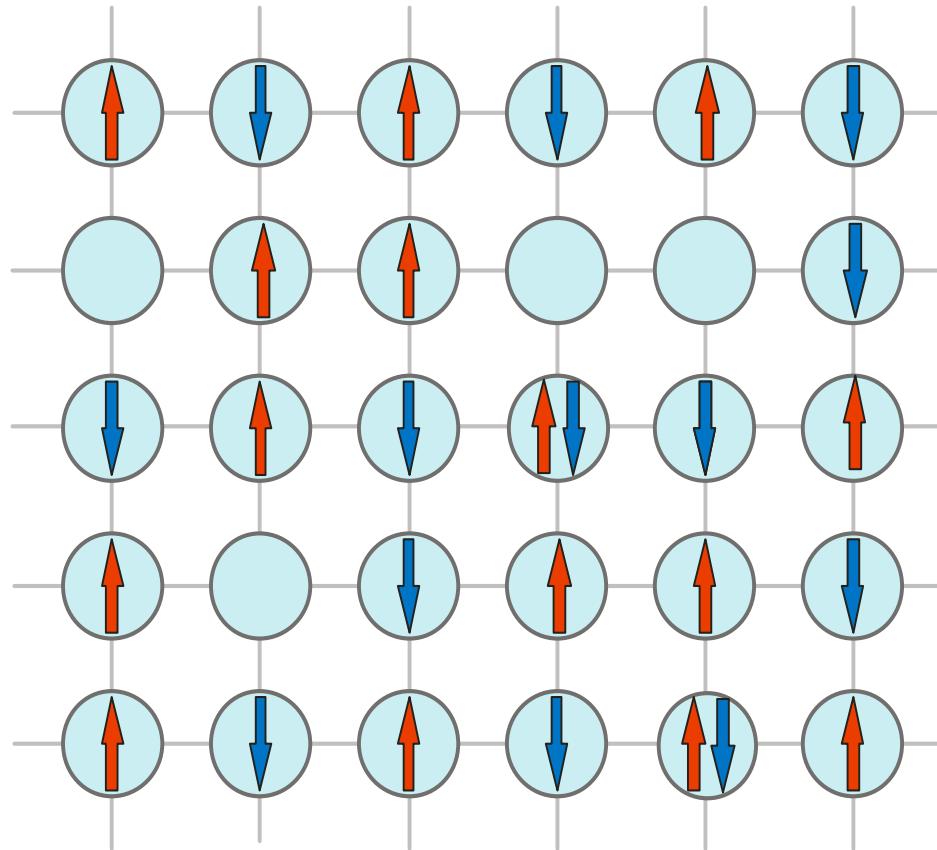


$$G = \frac{dI}{dV} \Big|_{V=0}$$

unitary conductance:  $G=G_0=2e^2/h$

W. G. van der Wiel et al., Science 289, 2105 (2000)

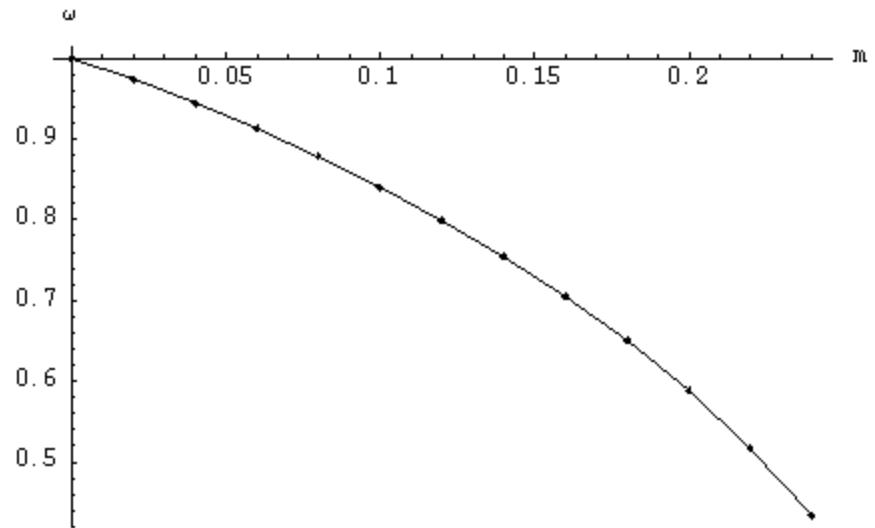
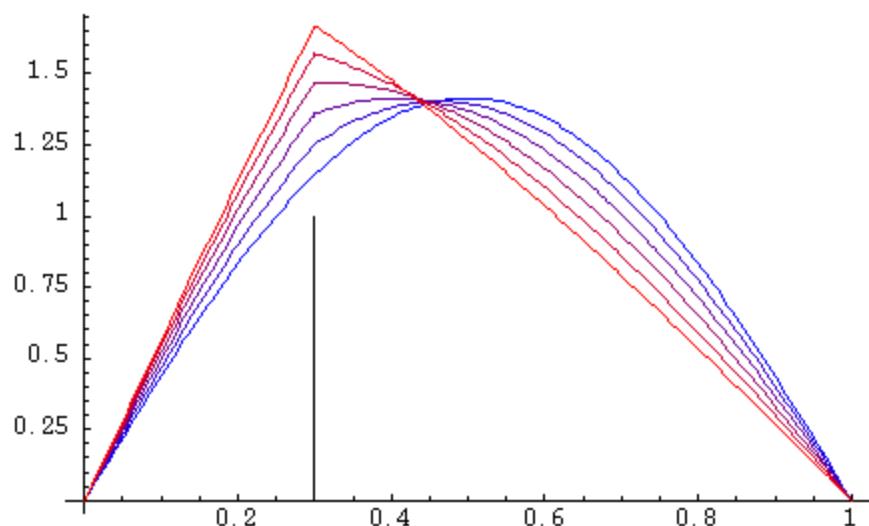
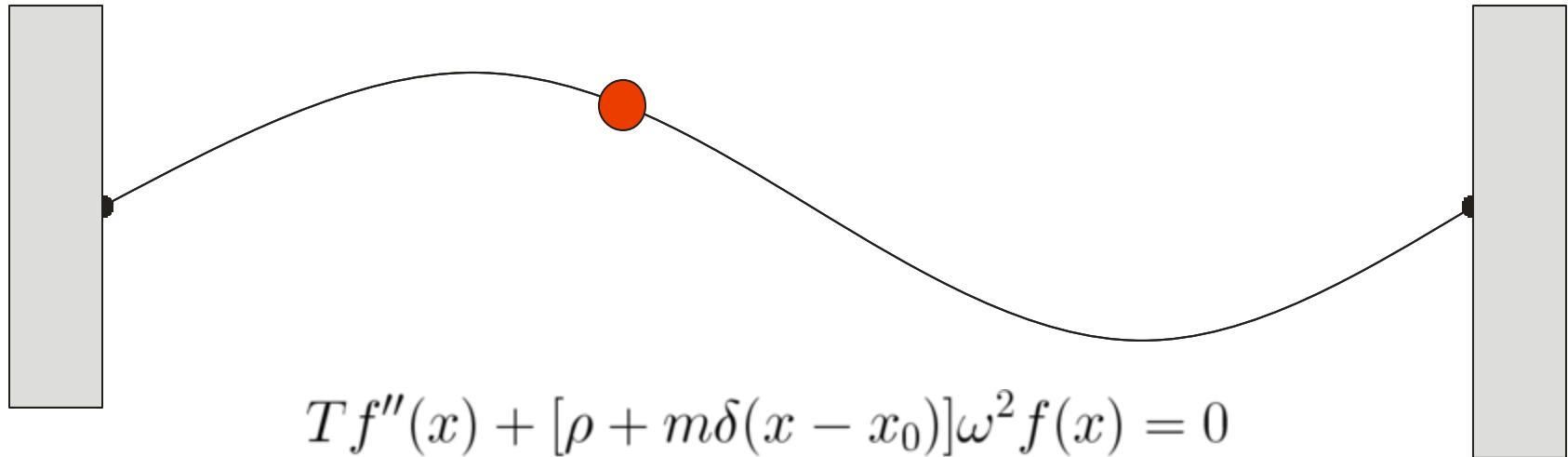
# Dynamical mean-field theory



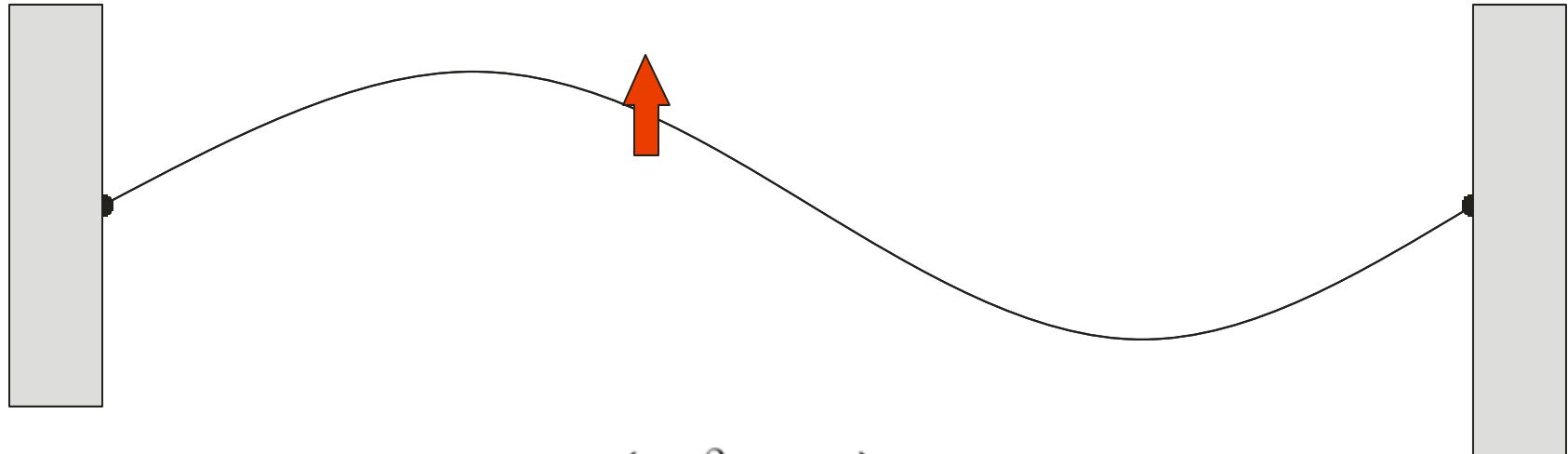
Hubbard model

$$H = -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} - \mu \sum_i n_i + U \sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$$

# “Classical impurity” (potential scattering)



# “Quantum impurity” (exchange scattering)



$$H = \sum_i \left( \frac{K_i^2}{2m} - \mu \right) + J \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{s}(x_0)$$

$$\mathbf{s}(x_0) = \sum_i \sum_{\mu\mu'} \psi_{i\mu}^*(x_0) \left( \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mu\mu'} \right) \psi_{i\mu'}(x_0)$$

This is the Kondo model!

# KONDO MODEL

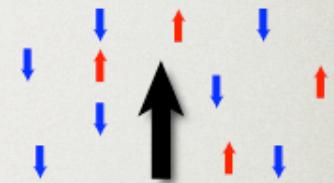
$$H = H_{\text{band}} + H_{\text{exch}}$$

$$H_{\text{band}} = \sum_{\mathbf{k},\sigma} \epsilon_k c_{\mathbf{k},\sigma}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{k},\sigma}$$

Fermi sea: gas of  
non-interacting electrons

$$H_{\text{exch}} = J \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{s}$$

exchange  
coupling



$$\mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \quad \text{quantum-mechanical spin operator}$$

$$\mathbf{s} = \sum_{\mathbf{k},\alpha,\beta} c_{\mathbf{k},\alpha}^\dagger \left( \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta} \right) c_{\mathbf{k},\beta} \quad \text{spin-density (at } \mathbf{r}=0\text{)}$$

# Nonperturbative behaviour

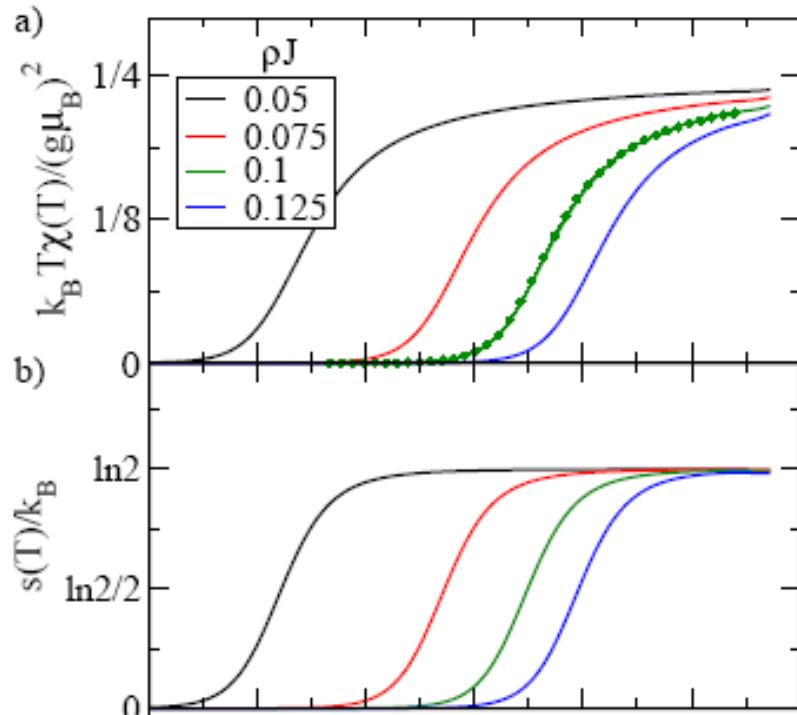
$$M_{\text{imp}}(H) = g\mu_B (\langle S_z + S_{z,\text{band}} \rangle - \langle S_{z,\text{band}} \rangle_0)$$

$$\chi_{\text{imp}}(T) = \frac{(g\mu_B)^2}{k_B T} \frac{1}{4}$$

The perturbation theory fails for arbitrarily small  $J$  !

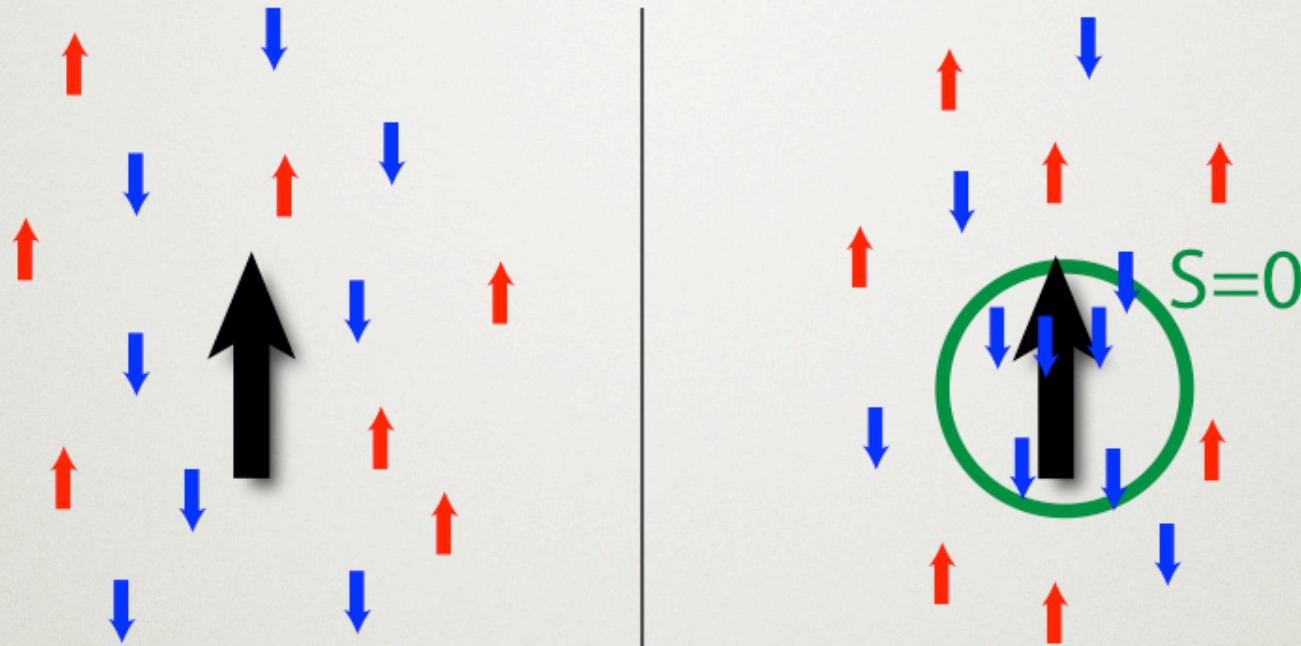
$$k_B T_K \sim D e^{-1/\rho J}$$

# Screening of the magnetic moment



Kondo effect!

# KONDO EFFECT



$$T_K = D \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\rho J}\right)$$

$T \gg T_K$   
asymptotic freedom

$T \ll T_K$   
infrared slavery

Kondo  
singlet

# SINGLE-IMPURITY ANDERSON MODEL

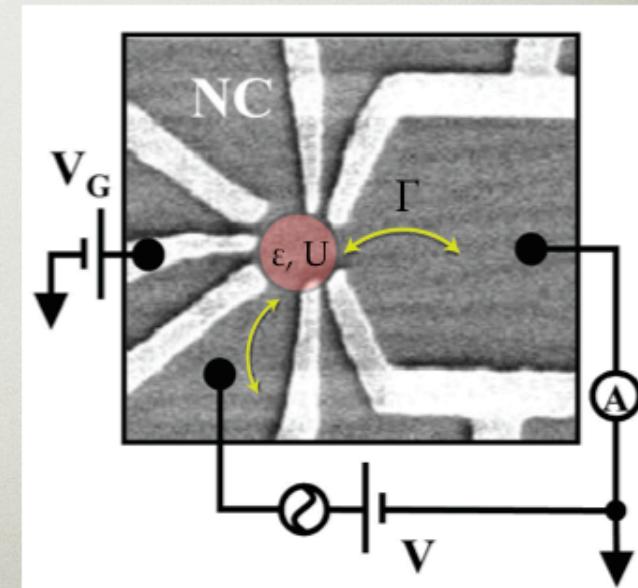
$$H = H_{\text{imp}} + H_{\text{band}} + H_{\text{hyb}}$$

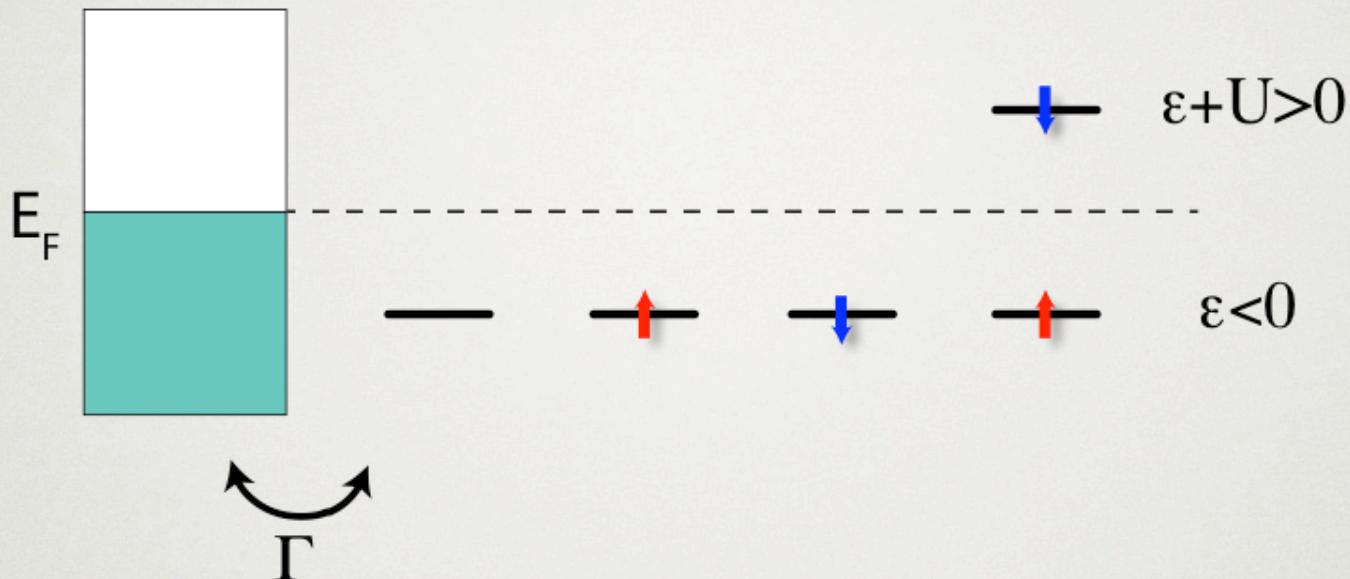
$$H_{\text{imp}} = \sum_{\sigma} [\epsilon] n_{\sigma} + [U] n_{\uparrow} n_{\downarrow} \quad n_{\sigma} = d_{\sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma}$$

$$H_{\text{band}} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \sigma} \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} c_{\mathbf{k}, \sigma}^{\dagger} c_{\mathbf{k}, \sigma}$$

$$H_{\text{hyb}} = \sum_{k, \sigma} \left( V_k c_{k, \sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma} + \text{H.c.} \right)$$

$$\Delta(\omega) = \sum_k \frac{|V_k|^2}{\omega - \epsilon_k} \approx i[\Gamma]$$

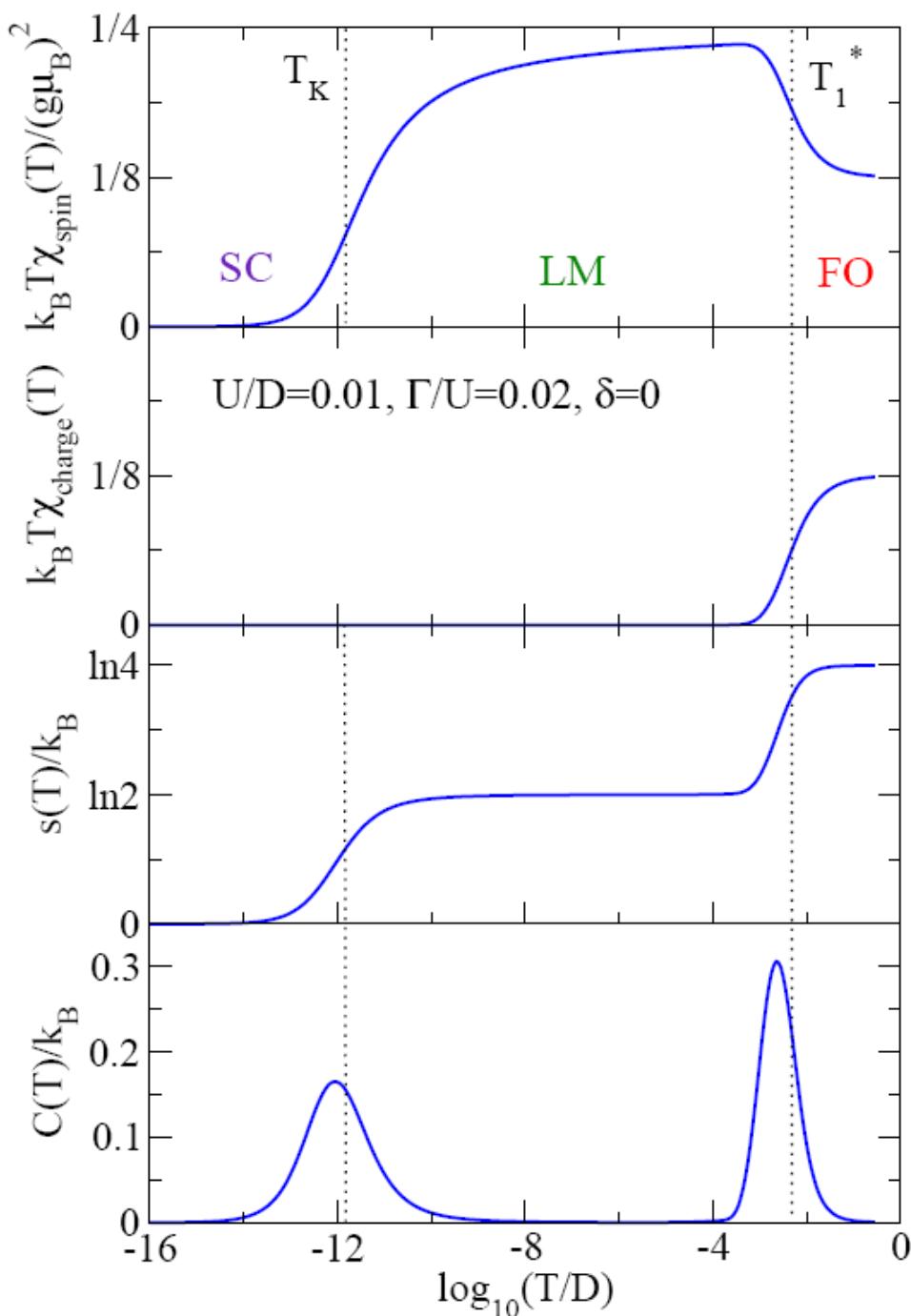




$$|\delta| = \epsilon + U/2$$

$\delta=0$  is a special “particle-hole symmetric point” with  $\langle n \rangle = 1$

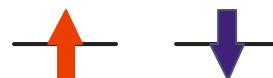
$$\rho J = \frac{8U}{\pi\Gamma} \quad \text{Schrieffer-Wolff transformation}$$



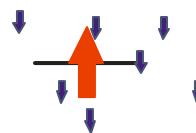
FO: free orbital



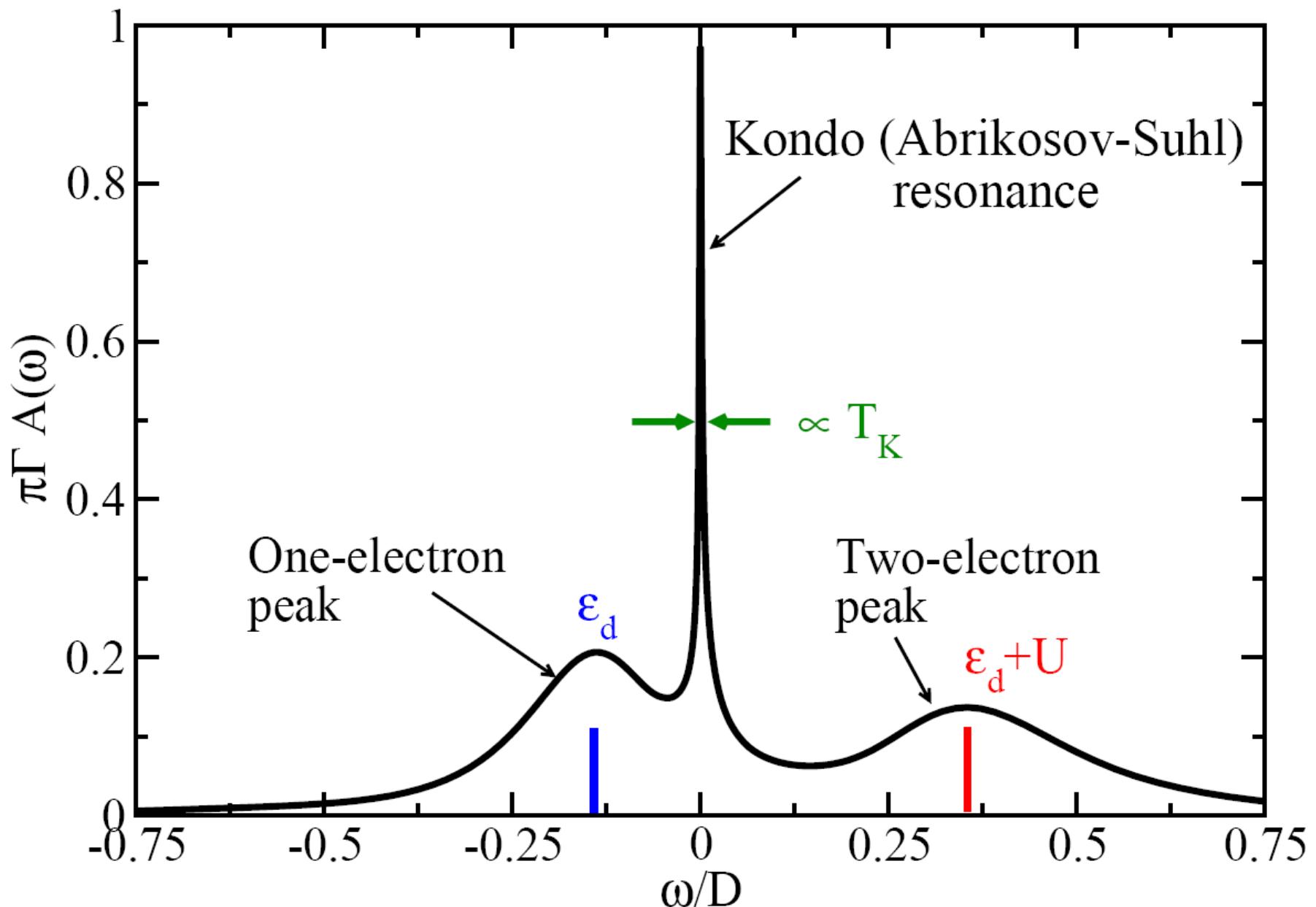
LM: local moment



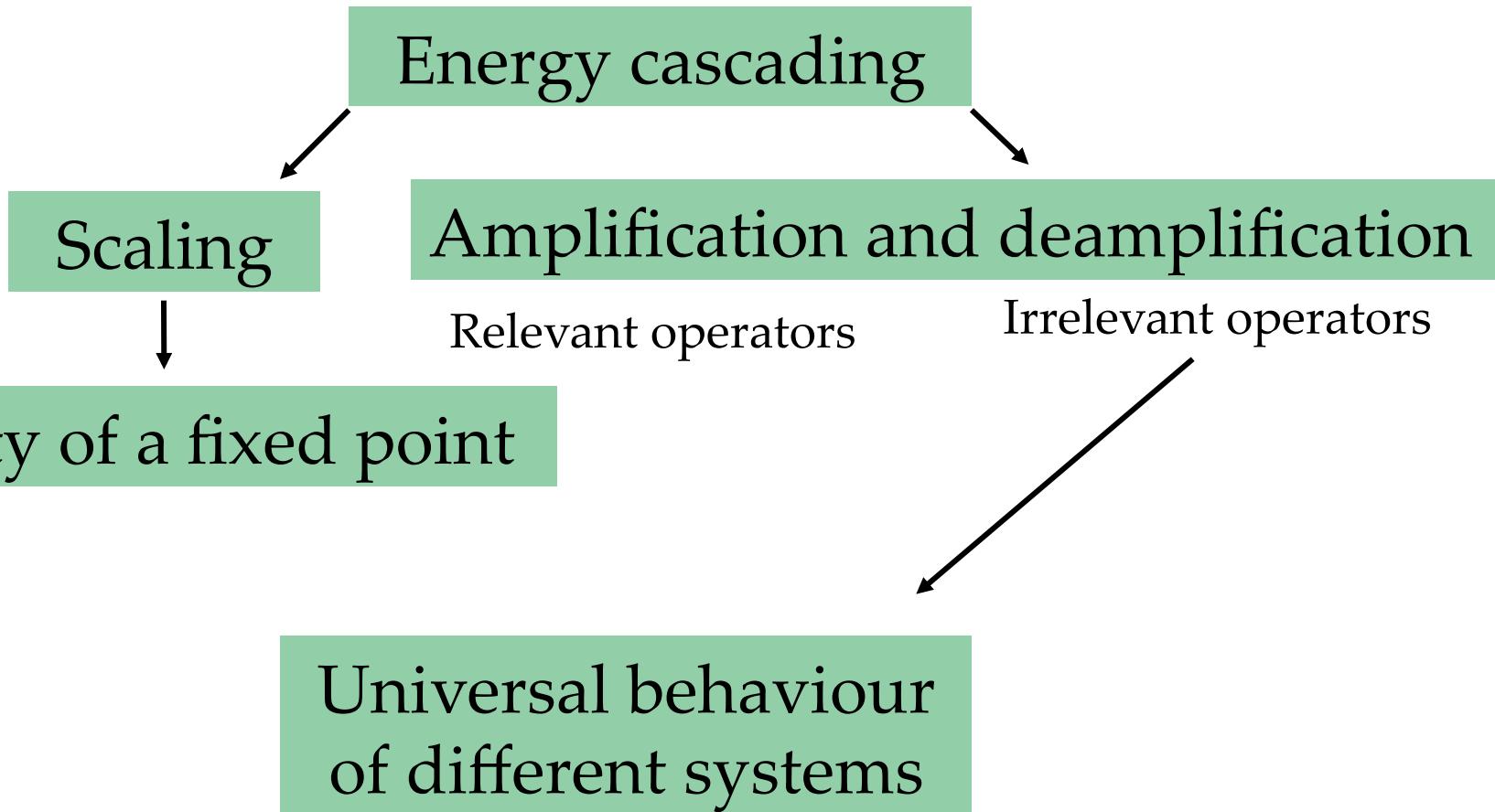
SC: strong coupling



Krishnamurthy, Wilkins, Wilson,  
PRB **21**, 1003 (1980)



# Renormalization group theory

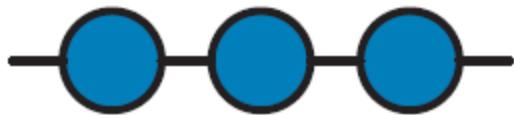


RG explains the universality of critical phenomena in continuous phase transitions. K. G. Wilson, Nobel prize 1982.

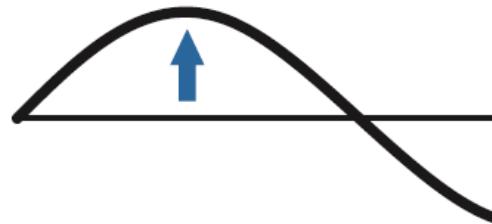
# Renormalization group



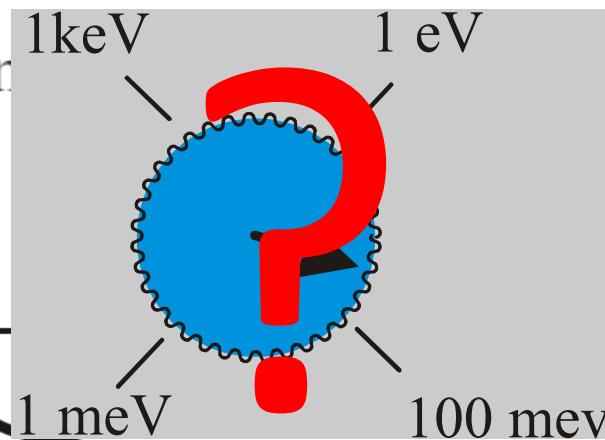
a) Microscopic Hartree-Fock



(Hubbard model  
binding lattice)



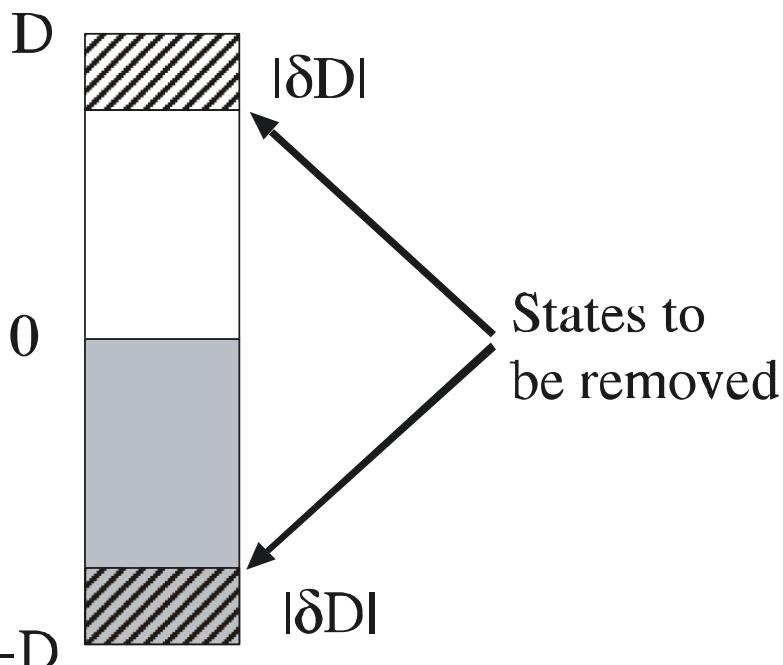
d) Effective model describing  
spin density waves



c) Heisenberg model  
(spin lattice)



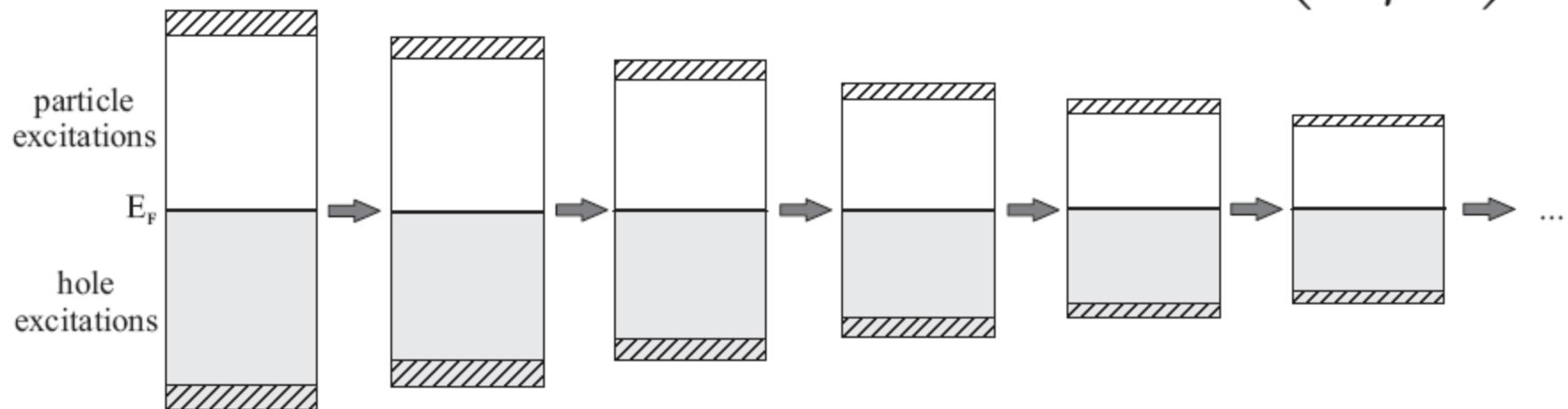
# Cutoff renormalization



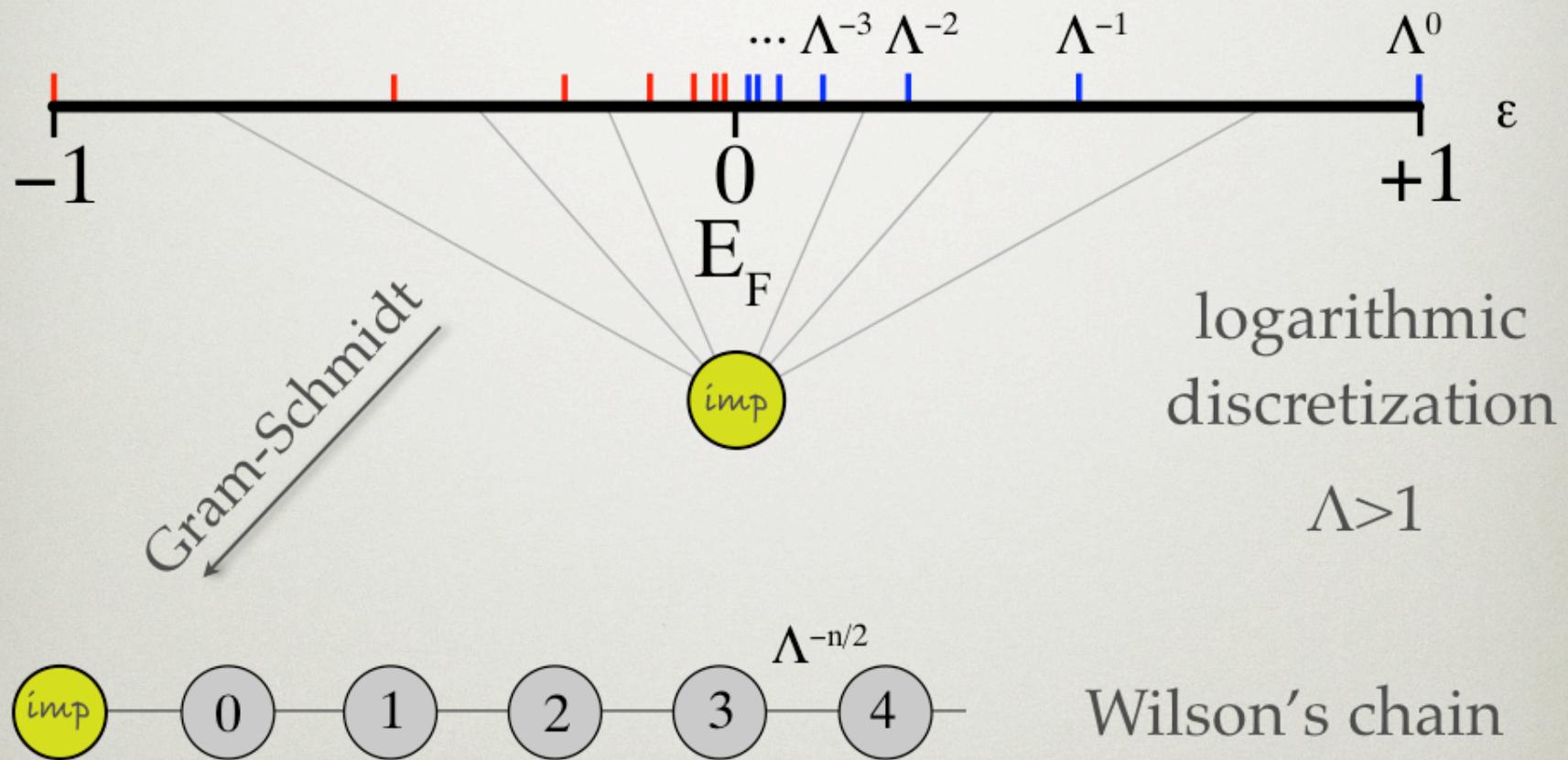
$$\frac{d\mathcal{J}}{d \ln \mathcal{D}} = -\rho \mathcal{J}^2$$

$$\mathcal{J}(\mathcal{D}) = \frac{J}{1 - J\rho \ln(\mathcal{D}/D)}$$

$$T_K \sim D \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\rho J}\right)$$



# NUMERICAL RENORMALIZATION GROUP



# Discretization schemes

$\rho(\epsilon)$  = density of states in the band

1) Conventional scheme

$$\mathcal{E}_j^z = \frac{\int_{I_j} \rho(\epsilon) \epsilon d\epsilon}{\int_{I_j} \rho(\epsilon) d\epsilon}$$

Chen, Jayaprakash, JPCM **7**, L491 (1995);  
Ingersent, PRB **54**, 11936 (1996); Bulla, Pruschke,  
Hewson, JPCM **9**, 10463 (1997).

2) Campo-Oliveira scheme

$$\mathcal{E}_j^z = \frac{\int_{I_j} \rho(\epsilon) d\epsilon}{\int_{I_j} \rho(\epsilon)/\epsilon d\epsilon}$$

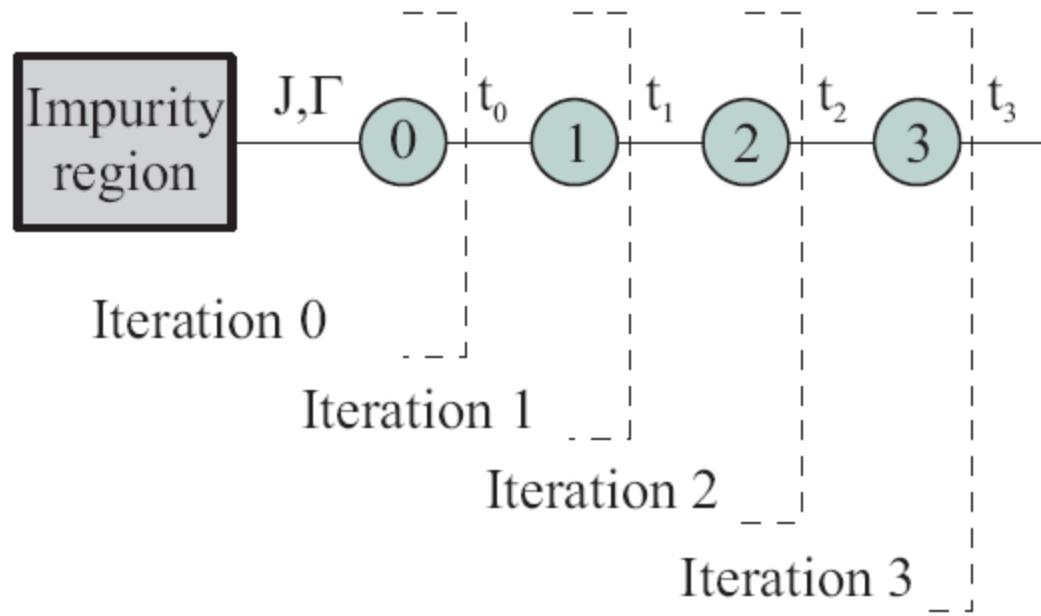
Campo, Oliveira, PRB **72**,  
104432 (2005).

3) Scheme without artifacts

R. Žitko, Th. Pruschke, PRB **79**, 085106 (2009)  
R. Žitko, Comput. Phys. Comm. **180**, 1271 (2009)

$$A_{f_0}(\omega) = \rho(\omega)$$

# Iterative diagonalization

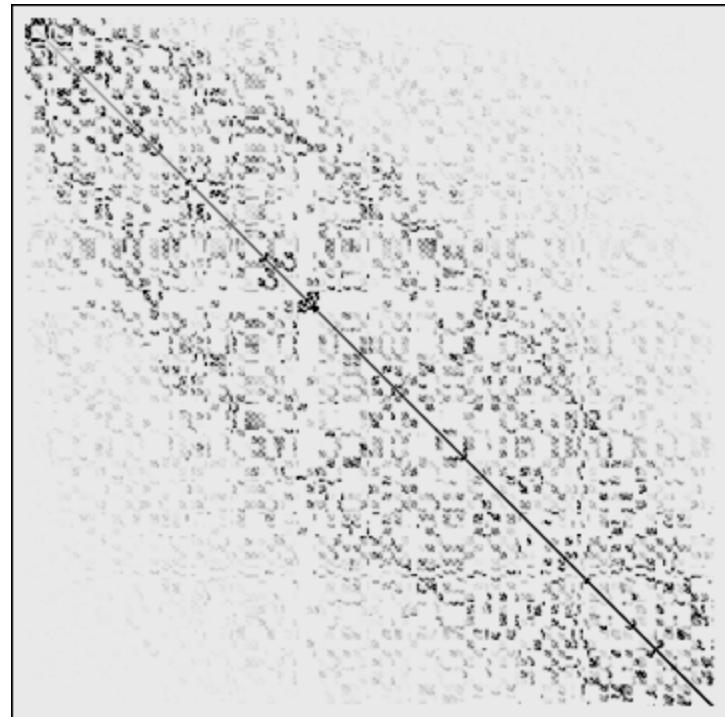
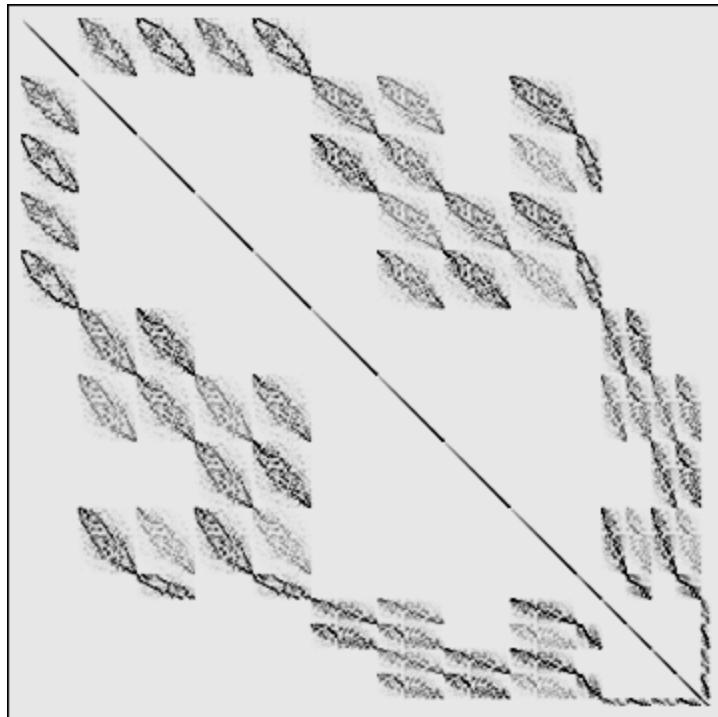


**Recursion relation:**

$$H_{N+1} = T[H_N]$$

$$H_{N+1} = \Lambda^{-1/2} H_N + \xi_N (f_{N+1,\sigma}^\dagger f_{N,\sigma} + f_{N,\sigma}^\dagger f_{N+1,\sigma})$$

# Energy-scale separation





- Extremely fast (for single-orbital problems)
- Arbitrarily low temperatures
- Real-frequency spectral functions
- Arbitrary local Hamiltonian / hybridization function

# Dynamic quantities

We're interested in correlators such as

$$C(t) = \langle T[A(t)B(0)] \rangle$$

or their Fourier transforms

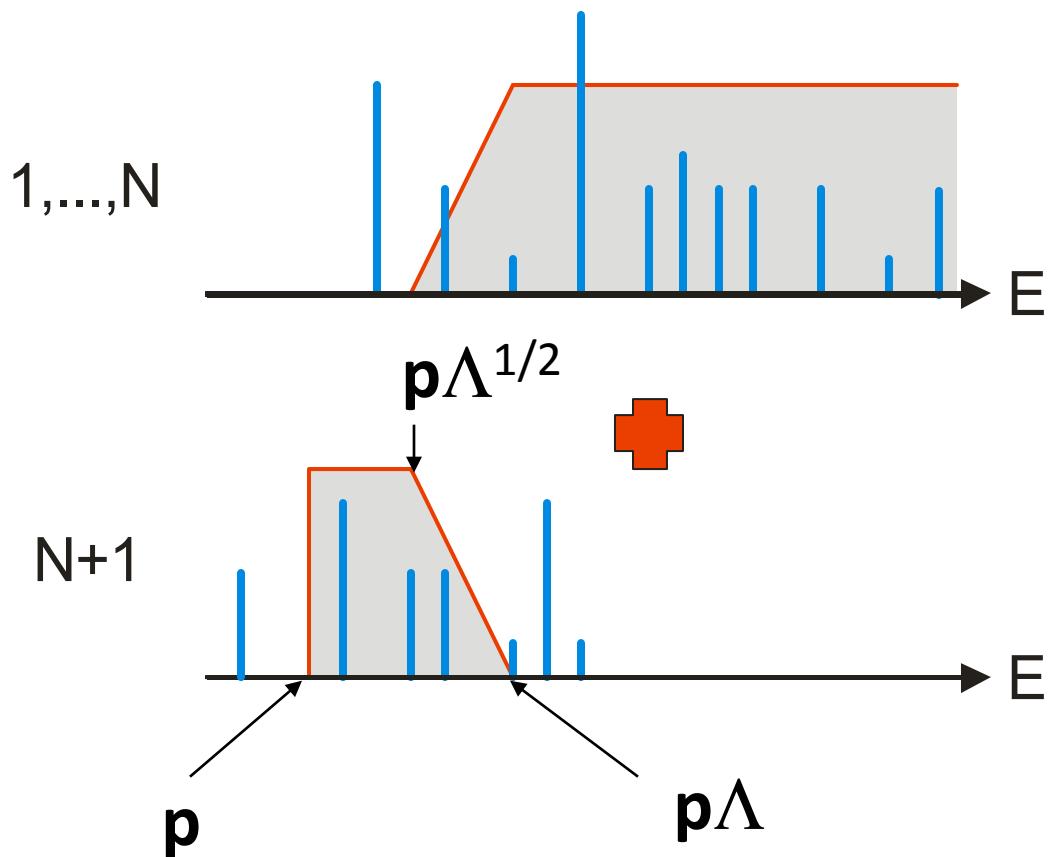
$$C(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{i\omega t} \langle T[A(t)B(0)] \rangle dt$$

Spectral decomposition (Lehmann representation):

$$C^R(\omega) = \frac{1}{\sum_n e^{-\beta E_n}} \sum_{n,m} \langle m | A | n \rangle^* \langle m | B | n \rangle \frac{e^{-\beta E_n} + e^{-\beta E_m}}{\omega + E_n - E_m + i\delta}$$

Frota, Oliveira, PRB **33**, 7871 (1986); Sakai, Shimizu, Kasuya, JPSJ **58**, 3666 (1989);  
Costi, Hewson, Zlatić, JPCM **6**, 2519 (1994); Hofstetter, PRL **85**, 1508 (2000).

# Patching



$p$ : patching parameter  
(in units of the energy scale at  $N+1$ -th iteration)

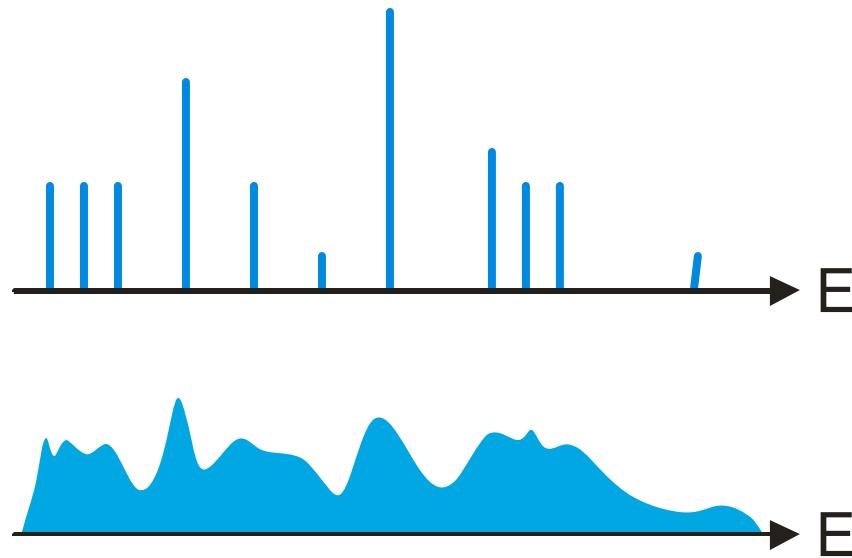
Bulla, Costi, Vollhardt,  
PRB **64**, 045103 (2001).

Alternatively: **complete Fock space approach.**

Peters, Pruschke, Anders, PRB **74**, 245114 (2006)

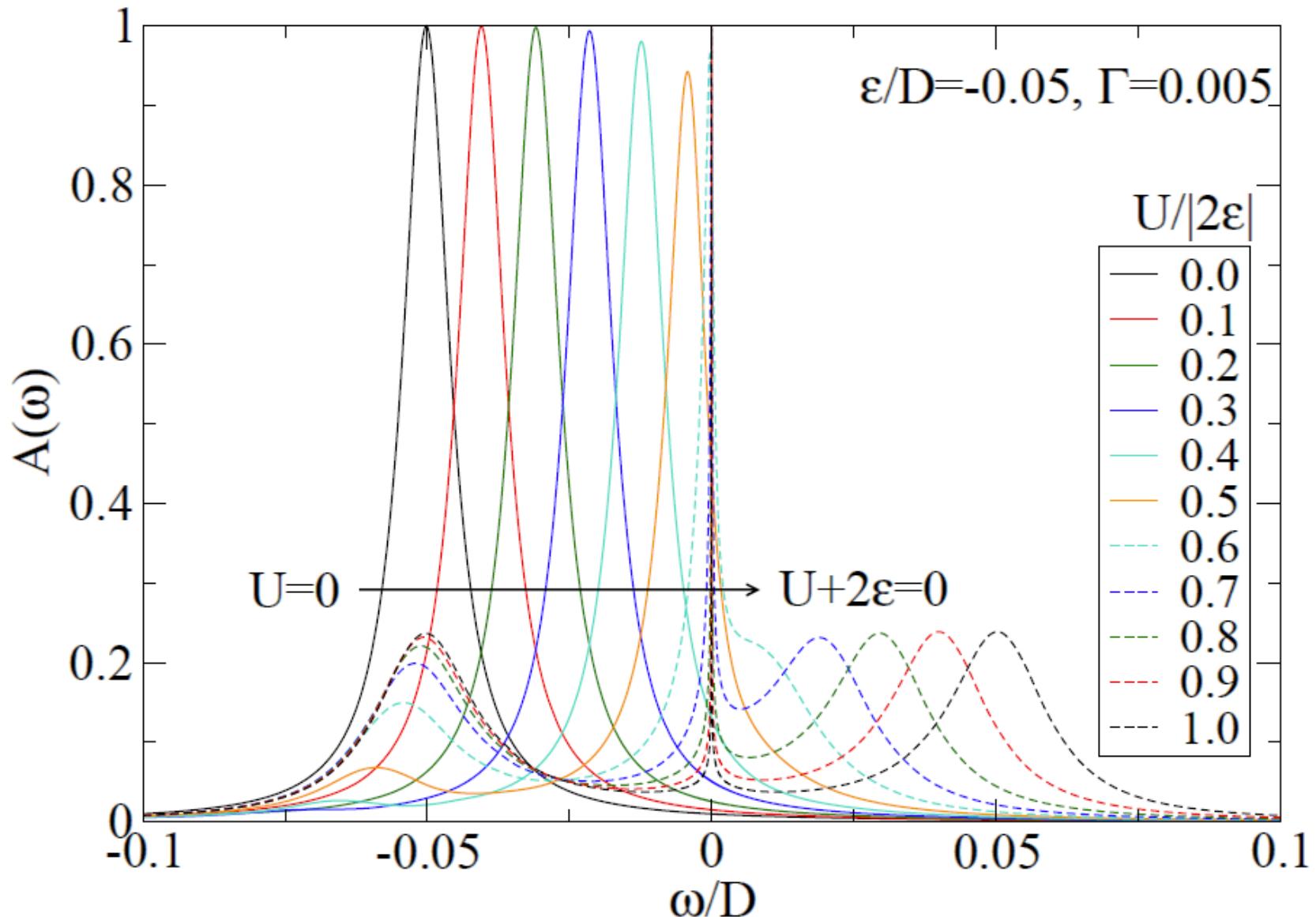
Weichselbaum, von Delft, PRL **99**, 076402 (2007).

# Broadening

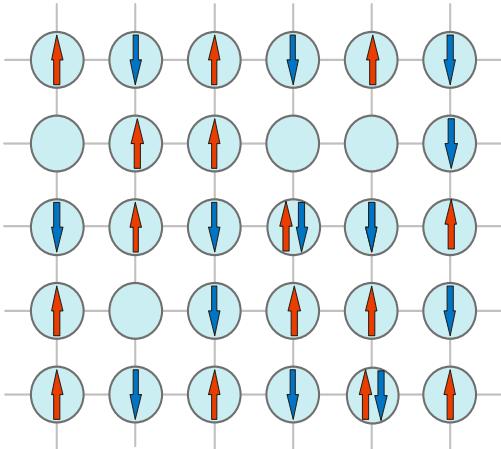


$$P(\omega, E) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\eta_E} e^{-\frac{(\omega-E)^2}{2\eta_E^2}} \quad \eta_E = \eta |E|$$

# High-resolution spectral functions



# Dynamical mean-field theory



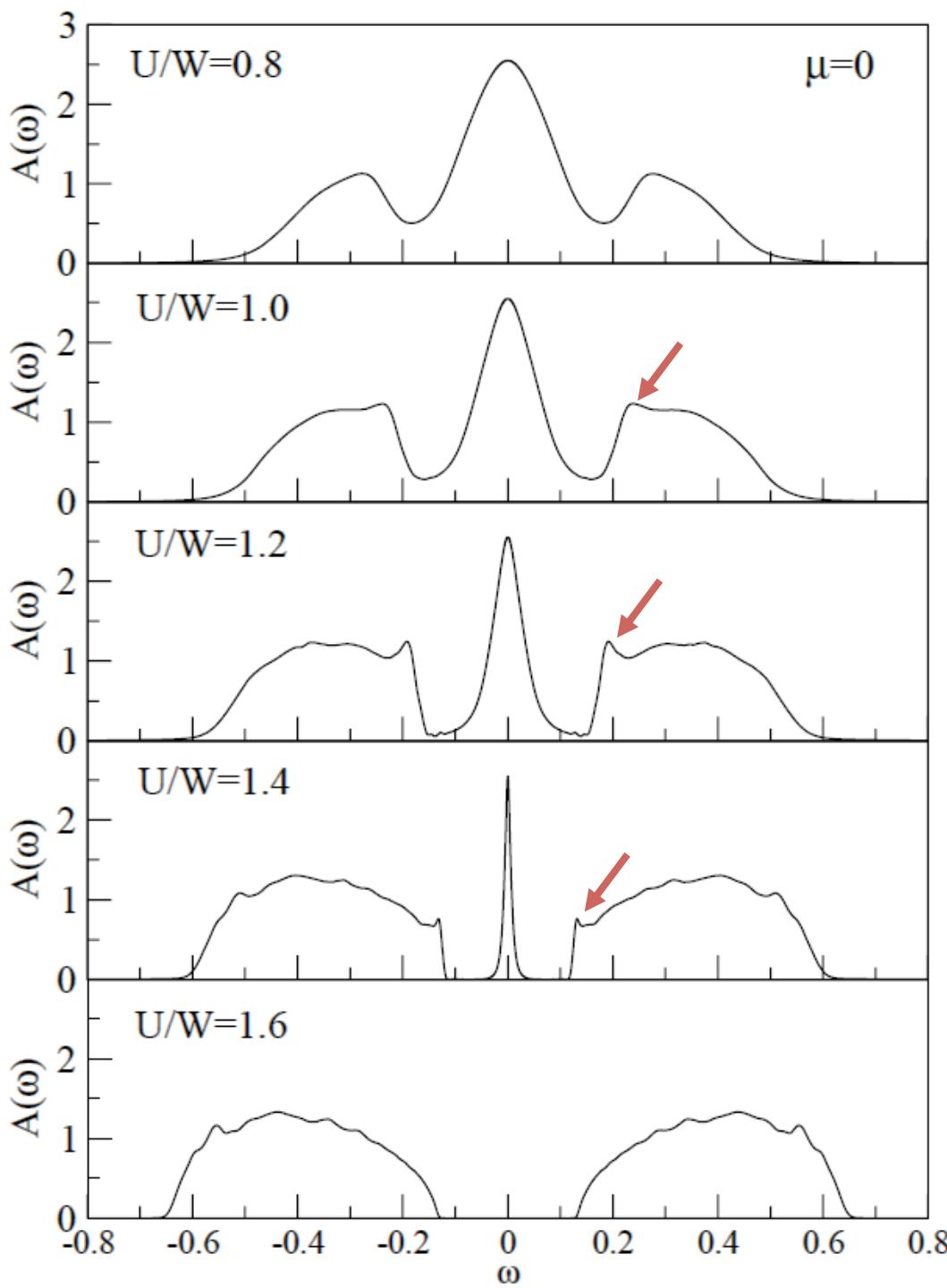
Hubbard model

$$H = -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} - \mu \sum_i n_i + U \sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$$

$$G_{\text{latt}}(\mathbf{k}, \omega) = \frac{1}{\omega + \mu - \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} - \Sigma_{\text{latt}}(\mathbf{k}, \omega)}$$

$$\Sigma_{\text{latt}} = \Sigma(\omega)$$

$$\mathcal{G} = \frac{1}{G^{-1} + \Sigma} = \frac{1}{z - \Delta(z)}$$



Hubbard model on  
the Bethe lattice,  
PM phase

inner band-edge  
features

See also DMRG study,  
Karski, Raas, Uhrig,  
PRB **72**, 113110 (2005).

# Tools: SNEG and NRG Ljubljana

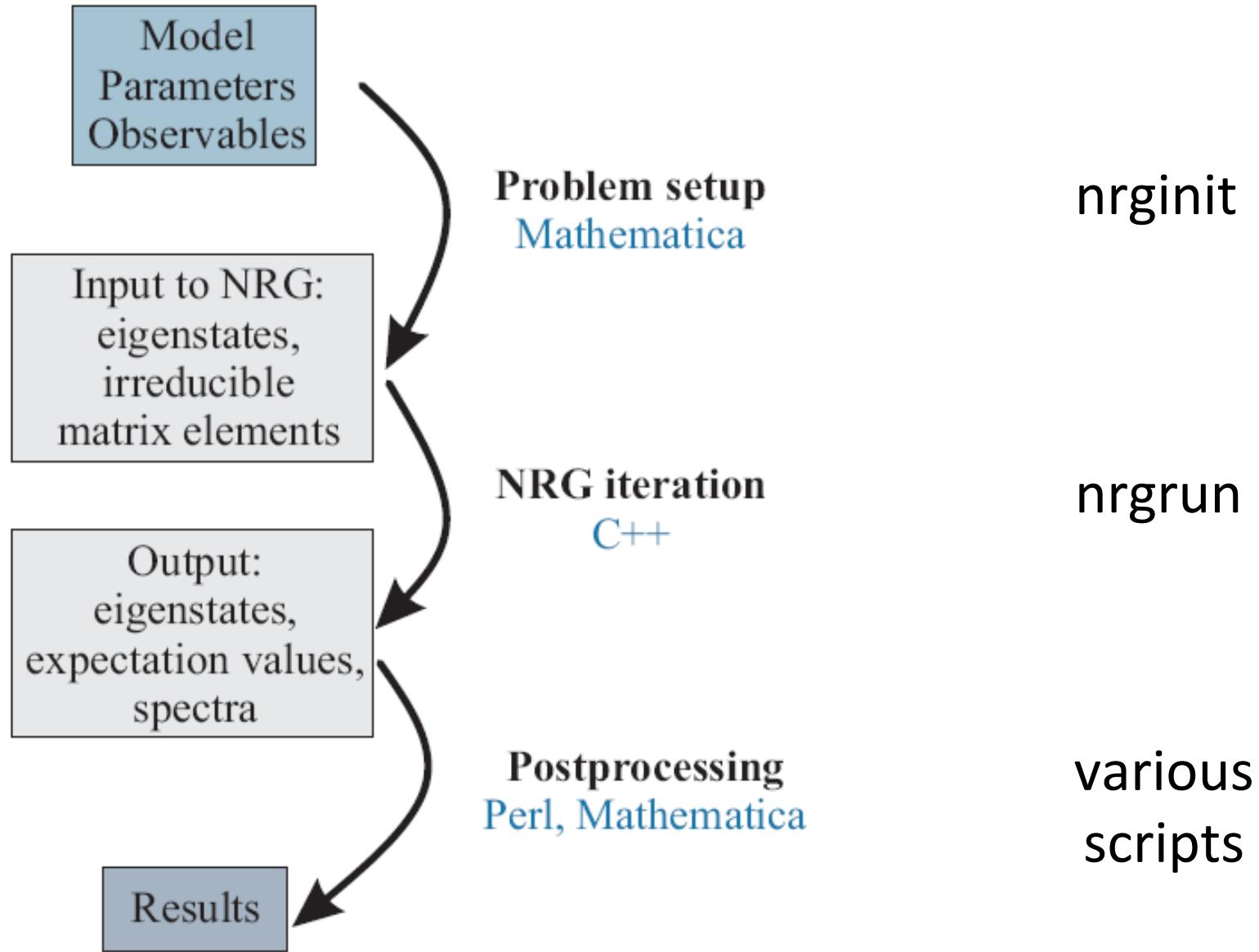
Add-on package for the computer algebra system Mathematica for performing calculations involving **non-commuting operators**

Efficient general purpose **numerical renormalization group** code

- flexible and adaptable
- highly optimized (partially parallelized)
- easy to use

Both are **freely available** under the GPL licence:

<http://nrgljubljana.ijs.si/>



# Lectures plan

- 1a. Introduction to QIP and NRG
- 1b. Discretization, z-averaging, thermodynamics, flow diagrams
- 2a. Implementing NRG, handling second quantization expressions, parallelization issues
- 2b. **Tutorial:** getting the code to run, basic calculations
- 3a. Spectral function calculations, self-energy trick, DMNRG, patching, complex Fock space basis approaches
- 3b. **Tutorial:** thermodynamics and flow diagrams for Kondo model and SIAM
- 4a. More on spectral functions: systematic errors, broadening issues
- 4b. **Tutorial:** spectral function for SIAM, T matrix for Kondo model

- 5a. Transport properties
- 5b. **Tutorial:** Kondo peak splitting in magnetic field, transport properties, conductance and thermopower in SIAM
- 6a. NRG as impurity solver in dynamical mean-field theory, self-consistency, Broyden mixing
- 6b. **Tutorial:** Hubbard model, MIT at half-filling, bad metal behavior
- 7a. Underscreening, overscreening, (singular,regular,non)-Fermi liquids
- 7b. **Tutorial:**  $S=1$  Kondo model, two-channel Kondo model
- Optional: phonons, impurities in superconductors, multi-impurity models

# Reference works

- Wilson, RMP 1975
- Krishnamurthy, Wilkins, Wilson, 2xPRB 1980
- Hofstetter, PRL 2000
- Anders, Schiller, Peters, Pruschke,  
Weichselbaum, von Delft, several papers,  
2005-2008
- Bulla, Costi, Pruschke, RMP 2008