

Non-linearities in quantum circuits

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"A gentle journey into not-so-gentle quantum many-body problems"

[:] Non-linearities in quantum circuits

Organization of the lectures

Superconducting nanocircuits

- Lecture 1 : i) General circuitry; ii) From Josephson junctions chains to spin-boson model
- Lecture 2 : i) Scattering theory with dynamical emitter; ii) Frequency conversion beyond RWA; iii) Renormalization from many-body entanglement; iv) Many-body inelastic scattering theory

Metallic nanocircuits

- Lecture 3 : i) Anderson and Kondo models ; ii) DC Transport ;
 iii) Non Fermi liquid extensions
- Lecture 4 (closing the loop) : i) Boson-fermion connection in first quantization (using quantum optics concepts); ii) Insights into the Kondo wave-function; iii) Emergent Majorana fermions

Various quantum dot systems



Rules of the game

What kind of experimental system does one need?

- 1. Good tunability
- 2. Reasonable energy scales



<u>Reminder</u> : Helium dilution fridges work for $T \gtrsim 20$ mK (1K $\simeq 0.1$ meV $\simeq 20$ GHz)

Semiconducting quantum dots

- System : 2D electron gas (GaAs, InAs, S, Ge...)
- ++ great tunability and scalability by electric gates
- -- small charging (Coulomb) energy :
 - U = 40K for spin qbit experiments
 - U < 10K for Kondo experiments Ultra-small Kondo temperature $\implies T_K < 300$ mK







Carbon nanotube quantum dots

- System : 1D carbon molecule with gates on top
- ++ tunable & hydrid : metal, ferro or superconducting leads
- + intermediate charging energy U = 10K 100K
- \pm orbital degeneracy : SU(4) vs SU(2) physics



Molecular devices

- System : nanometer size molecule inbetween metal contacts
- limited tunability (no local gates, but some surprises...)
- ++ more tunability from chemistry
- ▶ -- lack of reproducibility
- ++ very large energy scales U = 1000K 10000K
 - \implies good playground for Kondo physics!



Molecular electronics HOWTO : electromigration Basic idea :

- E-beam lithography cannot reach single molecule size
- Solution : open a metal junction via electromigration
- Back gate : molecular transistor



Molecular electronics HOWTO : break junctions Basic idea :

- Solution : open mechanically a metal junction
- No back gate, but strain changes tunnel couplings



[D. Ralph (Cornell)]

Overview of regular (screened) Kondo effect

Kondo chronology

Textbook stuff in solid state physics :

- ▶ 1934 : observation of resistance anomalies in metals
- 1964 : Kondo proposes his model
- 1975 : Wilson solves the "Kondo problem"

The Kondo revival :

- 1988 : Glazman-Raikh & Ng-Lee predict Kondo anomalies in quantum dots
- ▶ 1998 : First observation by Goldhaber-Gordon & Kouwenhoven
- Now : it is routinely observed in all kinds of nanostructures !

Some good references to dig deeper :

- ► Coleman : "Heavy electron systems" cond-mat/0206003
- Glazman&Pustilnik : "Les Houches 2004" cond-mat/0501007

The essence of the Kondo problem

<u>Question</u> : what becomes a magnetic atom in a metal ? Experimental fact : magnetic impurities not always show a moment

Simplified atom : $H_U = \epsilon_d (n_{d\uparrow} + n_{d\downarrow}) + U n_{d\uparrow} n_{d\downarrow}$ \Rightarrow Moment stabilized by U, high energy excitations

<u>Resonant level</u>: $H_t = \sum_{k\sigma} [\epsilon_k c^{\dagger}_{k\sigma} c_{k\sigma} + t d^{\dagger}_{\sigma} c_{k\sigma} + h.c]$ \Rightarrow No moment, resonant level at low energy

<u>Anderson model</u> : $H = H_U + H_t$ \Rightarrow Competition localized/delocalized

Captures the physics between the two above limits

On the board : Atomic limit t = 0

Local moment formation : $t \neq 0$ ($\epsilon_d = -U/2$ here)

 $\frac{\text{Mean field theory [Anderson 1950]}:}{\text{Assumes a frozen moment } \mu = \langle n_{d\uparrow} - n_{d\downarrow} \rangle}$



Results :

- Local moment $\mu \neq 0$ for $U > \pi \Gamma = \pi t^2 \rho_0$
 - \Rightarrow need relatively closed quantum dot
- ▶ Broadened high energy features (Hubbard bands ⇔ Coulomb blockade edges)

Coulomb blockade : weakly open quantum dot

Conductance vs. gate :



- Charging energy dominates : $H = \frac{U}{2} (Q_{\text{dot}} \alpha e V_g / U)^2$
- Frozen charge fluctuations : transport suppressed
- Conductance has peaks at charge degeneracy

Coulomb blockade : weakly open quantum dot

Conductance vs. gate and bias :



- Coulomb diamonds with low conductance
- Totally generic observation !
- Single charge transistor

Coulomb blockade suppression : Kondo anomaly

Moderately open quantum dot : [data from Goldhaber-Gordon group]



Zero-bias transport is restored for odd charge

Physical origin of Kondo effect

- General idea : lifting of a degeneracy by a Fermi sea through exchange interaction
- Odd charge quantum dots : resonant spin flip processes









- Resonant binding of electrons near Fermi level
- Open channel for transport

Theory : Glazman&Raikh, Ng&Lee (1988)

Experiment : Goldhaber-Gordon, Kouwenhoven (1998)

On the board : perturbation at order U^2

Fermi liquid description [Langreth, Nozières, Yosida,...]

Small U : perturbation theory in U well-behaved

 \Rightarrow Self-energy : $\Sigma_d(\omega) = (1-Z^{-1})\omega + iA\omega^2$ for $\omega o 0$

 $\Rightarrow \text{ Effective width}: T_{\mathcal{K}} = Z\Gamma \text{ Renormalized quasiparticles}$ Conductance from linear-response : Landauer-like

$$G(T) = \frac{2e^2}{h} \frac{4t_L^2 t_R^2}{(t_L^2 + t_R^2)^2} \int d\omega \, n_F'(\omega) \, \pi \Gamma \operatorname{Im}[G(\omega)]$$

<u>Friedel sum rule</u>: Im[G(0)] = $\frac{1}{\Gamma}$ at T = 0 and $\epsilon_d = -U/2$ $\Rightarrow G(T = 0) = \frac{2e^2}{h}$ for symmetric barriers

 $\frac{\text{Key question :}}{\text{does that remain true for } U \gg \Gamma ?} \quad {}_{\Gamma \rho_d(\omega) \, 0.2}$



On the board : Schrieffer-Wolff transformation

On the board : Schrieffer-Wolff transformation

<u>Schrieffer-Wolff transformation</u>: keep only spin states at large $U \Rightarrow$ Antiferromagnetic coupling $J_K = 8 \frac{t^2}{U}$ to the Fermi sea



Kondo model :

$$H = \sum_{k\sigma} \epsilon_k c^{\dagger}_{k\sigma} c_{k\sigma} + J \vec{S} \cdot \sum_{kk'\sigma\sigma'} c^{\dagger}_{k\sigma} \frac{\vec{\tau}_{\sigma\sigma'}}{2} c_{k'\sigma'}$$

$$H = \sum_{k\sigma} \epsilon_k c^{\dagger}_{k\sigma} c_{k\sigma} + J\vec{S} \cdot \sum_{\sigma\sigma'} c^{\dagger}_{\sigma}(x=0) \frac{\vec{\tau}_{\sigma\sigma'}}{2} c_{\sigma'}(x=0)$$

Kondo logarithms [Abrikosov, Suhl, Nagaoka, Kondo, Anderson...]

Perturbation in j = J/D: logarithmic divergent at low T

$$\chi_{spin}(T) = rac{3}{4T} \left[1 - j - j^2 \log rac{D}{T} + \ldots
ight] \simeq rac{3}{4T} \left[1 - j_R(T) + \ldots
ight]$$

$$G(T) = rac{2e^2}{h} rac{3\pi^2}{16} \left[j^2 + j^3 \log rac{D}{T} + \ldots
ight] \simeq rac{2e^2}{h} rac{3\pi^2}{16} \left[j_R^2(T) + \ldots
ight]$$

- Kondo temperature : $T_{K} = De^{-D/J} = De^{-\pi U/8\Gamma}$
- Renormalized coupling : $j_R(T) = \frac{1}{R + 1} (T(R))$

$$= \frac{1}{\log(T/T_{K})}$$
 grows



Solution of the Kondo problem : an NRG primer

Algorithm : [Wilson (1975)]

- Logarithmic discretization of the Fermi sea : [Λ^{-k-1},Λ^k]
- Mapping of a chain with exponential vanishing couplings
- Iterative solution : diagonalize + truncate Hilbert space



<u>Remarks :</u>

- Resolves low energy features (Kondo peak)
- Stability requires scale separation : $\Lambda > 2$
- Discretization errors $\simeq e^{-\pi^2/\log(\Lambda)} \rightarrow \text{small }!$

Illustration of the universal crossover

Curie constant and entropy from NRG calculations :

• Three large values of U/Γ



Back to the experiments

- Conductance is large at $T \lesssim T_K$: Kondo prevails
- Coulomb blockade is recovered at $T \gg T_K$



<u>General Friedel sum rule at T=0:</u>

$$G = rac{2e^2}{h} rac{4t_L^2 t_R^2}{(t_L^2 + t_R^2)^2} \sin^2\left(rac{\pi}{2} Q_{
m dot}
ight)$$

: Non-linearities in quantum circuits

Testing the theory with experiments : G(B) and G(T)



Successful fit of G(T) and G(B) with consistent $T_K \simeq 10K$

Non-Fermi liquid extensions

Spin S = 1 : screening versus underscreening

Two screening channels : full quenching \implies regular Kondo effect

$$\int_{---S_{eff}}^{\infty} S=1$$

One screening channel : residual spin \implies anomalous Kondo effect

$$\int_{-}^{+} S = 1$$

Under screening : Nozières-Blandin argument

Spin S = 1 and single screening channel :



- Effective spin $S_{eff} = 1/2$ (residual entropy)
- ► Effective Kondo coupling $J_{eff} \propto -t^2/J$: ferromagnetic! ⇒ temperature dependence: $J_{eff}(T) \propto \frac{1}{-\frac{D}{J_{eff}} + \log(T/T_0)}$ ⇒ $J_{eff}(T)$ vanishes at low T

Transport : logarithmic approach to unitarity

$$\overline{G(T)} = \frac{2e^2}{h} \left[1 - \frac{c}{\log^2(T/T_{\kappa})} \right]$$

First experimental evidence of underscreening

C₆₀ device : [Roch *et al.*, Nature (2008)] (Grenoble)



Surprising gate effect on the singlet-triplet gapAll transport signatures now well-understood

A second experiment : break junction device

Cobalt in a "cage" : [Parks et al. cond-mat (2010)] (Cornell)



Underscreened Kondo anomaly : clearly logarithmic below T_K

Two-channel Kondo effect

Spin S = 1/2 but two independent Fermi seas (m=1,2) :

$$H = H_1 + H_2 + \sum_{kk'} \sum_{\sigma\sigma'} \sum_m J_m c^{\dagger}_{k\sigma m} \frac{\vec{\tau}_{\sigma\sigma'}}{2} c_{k'\sigma' m} \cdot \vec{S}$$

Strong coupling argument : at $J_1 = J_2$ large



- Effective spin $S_{eff} = 1/2$ (residual entropy)
- ► Effective Kondo coupling J_{eff} ∝ +t²/J : antiferromagnetic ! ⇒ strong coupling fixed point is unstable !

Quick status of 2CK : theory and experiment

Some theoretical facts : (NRG, CFT, Bosonization...)

• $S(T=0) = \log(\sqrt{2}) = \log(2)/2$: emergent Majorana !

•
$$\chi(T) \propto \log(T_K/T)$$

•
$$G(T)/G_0 \simeq 1 - a\sqrt{T/T_K}$$
 : non Fermi liquid

Several experimental studies : (discussion beyond this course)

[Potok *et al.* Nature 2007; Keller *et al.* Nature 2015] (Stanford) [Mebrahtu *et al.* Nature 2012 & Nature Physics 2013] (Duke) [Ifthikar *et al.* Nature 2015] (LPN)

Extra slides

Nice illustration with "real" and "fake" spin 1/2

Even charge CNT quantum dot : [Nygard et al., Nature (2000)]

 Magnetic-field induced degeneracy by crossing of singlet and lowest triplet





Another illustration with "fake" spin

Charge states in double dot setup : [Goldhaber-Gordon group (2012)]



- Pseudospin : (1,0) $\Leftrightarrow \uparrow$ and (0,1) $\Leftrightarrow \downarrow$
- Kondo process takes place



Consequence : only in the Kondo regime

► single parameter scaling of physical quantities Zero-bias Conductance : G(T) = G₀ * f(T/T_K) + G₁

Question for experiments : how to quantify the universal regime ?

Precise condition to be universal

<u>Wilson ratio</u> : $R = \frac{\chi}{\gamma} * \frac{\gamma}{\chi}_{|U=0}$

- Zero T spin susceptibility (screening) : $\chi(T) \propto \frac{1}{T_{\kappa}}$
- Low T specific heat (Fermi liquid) : $C(T) = \gamma T \propto \frac{T}{T_{\nu}}$



► 3% deviation to universality : $U \gtrsim 2\pi\Gamma \implies T_K \lesssim U/40$

Also constraints on level spacing

Testing the theory with experiments : G(T)

Semiconducting quantum dots : [van der Wiel et al. Nature (2000)]



Sizable deviations to scaling due to too small U/T_K

Molecular quantum dots : [Roch et al. PRL (2009)]



 $T_K = 4K, U > 600K$ conditions are met !

Testing the theory with experiments : G(B)

Magnetotransport data in molecular quantum dot :



Fit of the Zeeman splitting :

• Kondo peak splits at $B_c = k_B T_K / (2g\mu_B) \Rightarrow T_K = 4.8K$ OK!

Testing the theory with experiments : G(B)

Attempt at scaling analysis : (InAs nanowire, Mahalu's group)



- G(T) and G(B) are different universal scaling functions
- ▶ The *T_K* and *B_K* scales are not consistent !
- The experiment is quantitatively not fully conclusive...

Out of equilibrium scaling

Finite-bias conductance G(V) :

- Main physical effect : enhanced scattering from large current density kills the Kondo resonance
- Tough problem for many-body theory
- Reliable experimental data are needed also



Deviations to scaling (semiconducting dot)

Checking Fermi Liquid Theory

At low energy:
$$T \ll T_K$$
 and $eV/k_B \ll T_K$
$$G(T, V) = G_0 \left[1 - c_T \left(\frac{\pi T}{T_K} \right)^2 - c_V \left(\frac{eV}{k_B T_K} \right)^2 \right]$$

Out of equilibrium Fermi Liquid theory : [Oguri JPS (2004)]

$$\alpha \equiv \frac{c_V}{\pi^2 c_T} = \frac{3}{4\pi^2} \frac{1 + 5(R - 1)^2}{1 + 2(R - 1)^2}$$
$$= \frac{3}{2\pi^2} \simeq 0.16 \,[\text{Kondo regime} \, (R = 2)]$$
$$= \frac{3}{4\pi^2} \simeq 0.08 \,[\text{uncorrelated} \, (R = 1)]$$

<u>Note</u> : α depends on Γ_L/Γ_R in general but not any more in the R = 2 limit (universality again !)

Hunt for α : 2DEG quantum dot data



Fermi liquid coefficients :



Nice systematics !

▶ 0.1 < α < 0.15 : signature of intermediate correlations ? !</p>

Hunt for α : molecular quantum dot data



Illustration : whole crossover in diluted alloy



Scaling on 4 orders of magnitude !!

Disgression : Kondo anomalies in $Ag_{1-x}Fe_x$ and $Au_{1-x}Fe_x$

Resistance of wires : [Costi et al. PRL 2009]

► LDA predicts spin S = 3/2 for Fe and 3 orbitals involved in screening process



- Data compatible with full screening (no underscreening!)
- Theory cannot distinguish the spin value S

Disgression : Kondo anomalies in wires



Inelastic contribution to the resistivity :

- This allows to discriminate the spin value : $\implies S = 3/2$ and 3 orbital involved !
- This systems is thus not underscreened...

Identifying the spin states : gate voltage scan at B = 3T



- Zeeman effect agrees with spin 0 or spin 1 ground state
- Gate-induced magnetic splitting (tunable Hund's rule!)

Origin for the gating effect : phenomenology

<u>Role of the leads</u>: energy gain by charge fluctuations Hopping from level 1 or $2 \implies \delta E_{1,2} = -\frac{t_{1,2}^2}{E_{add}}$ Hypothesis: hopping asymmetry $t_1 \gg t_2$ explains data



Crucial observation : single screening channel !!

Second evidence for single screening channel

Magnetic field effect :

No Kondo anomaly at the singlet-triplet degeneracy point !





• Kondo coupling : $J_K \propto rac{t_1 t_2}{E_c}$ small as $t_1 \gg t_2$

Modelization the gating effect

Generalized two-orbital Anderson model :

$$H = \sum_{i\sigma} E_i n_{i\sigma} + \sum_i U_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow} + U_{12} n_1 n_2 - J_H \mathbf{s}_1 \mathbf{s}_2 + \sum_{\nu k\sigma} \epsilon_{\nu k} c^{\dagger}_{\nu k\sigma} c_{\nu k\sigma} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_k}} \sum_{i\nu k\sigma} (t_{\nu i} c^{\dagger}_{\nu k\sigma} d_{i\sigma} + \text{h.c.})$$

with $E_2 - E_1 \simeq J_H/2$ (small bare singlet-triplet gap) and $t_1 \simeq 2 * t_2$ (moderate hopping asymmetry) Scenario confirmed by NRG : [Florens *et al.*, JPCM (2011)]



Testing the underscreened Kondo scenario



• Agreement with S = 1 NRG clearly better

... but tough experiment !!

•
$$\frac{dG(T)}{dT}$$
 shows two logarithmic regimes

Magnetic field effect : smoking gun ! Comparing S = 1/2 and S = 1 Kondo anomalies :



• Splitting occurs at lower magnetic fields for S = 1!

<u>NRG calculations</u> : S = 1 Kondo resonance very sensitive to field



Analysis of the transition

- Far on the singlet side : spin gap
- Far on the triplet side : underscreened Kondo
- ► Nature of QCP : one free spin S = 1/2 ⊕ one screened spin S = 1/2



Around the quantum critical point



- For T ≫ |E_T − E_S| (on both sides) : broad spin S = 1/2 Kondo anomaly
- Sharp antiresonance (Friedel !) on the singlet side at low T ⇒ second-stage of Kondo screening

Unexpected effect

Stretching the molecule : splits the Kondo resonance !



Interpretation : strain induced magnetic anisotropy ?



Putting the $\left|1,0\right\rangle$ state down : kills underscreened Kondo effect

Where are we in parameter space?



A third experiment : semiconducting dots

Obvious way to tune QPT : just change the charge!

- S = 1/2: Fermi liquid, sum rule sin²($\pi Q/2$)
- ▶ S = 1 : non Fermi liquid, sum rule $\cos^2(\pi Q/2)$ [Pustilnik&Borda PRB 2006; Logan et al. PRB 2009; Kogan et al. PRB 2003]



QPT signaled by conductance jump at T = 0

Channel anisotropy kills 2CK

Weak coupling RG : with $J_1 \neq J_2$



- $\blacktriangleright \implies$ fine tuning needed !
- but can one realize such Hamiltonian with quantum dots?

Why 2 leads experiments give only 1 channel?



 $\underline{\mathsf{Matrix of couplings}:J_{\alpha,\alpha'}\propto \frac{t_\alpha t_\alpha'}{U}} \text{ has only one non-zero eigenvalue}$

$$\implies H = H_{+} + H_{-} + 8\frac{t_{L}^{2} + t_{R}^{2}}{U} \sum_{\sigma\sigma'} c_{\sigma+}^{\dagger} \frac{\vec{\tau}_{\sigma\sigma'}}{2} c_{\sigma'+} \cdot \vec{S}$$

One channel only

Goldhaber-Gordon/Oreg proposal



- Charge transfert between leads L/R and island I is suppressed below E^I_c
- Tough contraint : $\Delta E_{\rm I} \ll T \ll E_c^{\rm I}$

Experimental observation

[Potok et al. Nature (2007)]

e)_{0.8}-12mK 2CK scaling 1CK scaling g (e²/h) 0.6-200 g(0, T)-g(V_{ds}, ⁷ T)-g(V, 20.5 0.8 0.4 100 0.4 0.2-. '0)B 0.0 0 -100 -50 -10 0 10 -2 50 100 -1 0 $\left(\frac{eV}{kT}\right)^{0.5}$ (eV) $V_{ds}(\mu V)$

- some evidence for scaling
- issues in the absence of complete quantitative comparison
- is there a better system ?