Problem 6.1: Self-energy diagram in fermi liquid theory

ID: ex_self_energy_fermi_liquid:qft25

Learning objective

In this exercise you will investigate one of the lowest-order diagrams that contributes to the imaginary part of the fermionic self-energy. This is particularly important in Fermi Liquid theory, for example, where the inverse of the imaginary part of the self-energy is related to the lifetime of quasiparticles.

The diagram

plays a central role in the microscopic theory of Fermi liquids. Here, the straight line represents the fermionic single-particle Green's function which we take to be of the form

$$G(i\omega_n, \mathbf{k}) = \frac{Z_k}{i\omega_n - \epsilon_k}, \qquad 0 < Z_k \le 1.$$
(1)

Naturally, the retarded and advanced expressions are then given by

$$G^{\mathsf{R}}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = \frac{Z_{\mathbf{k}}}{\omega + i0^{+} - \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}} \quad \text{and} \quad G^{\mathsf{A}}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = \frac{Z_{\mathbf{k}}}{\omega - i0^{+} - \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}}.$$
(2)

For simplicity, you can assume the dispersion to be parabolic, $\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} = \mathbf{k}^2/(2m)$, although this is not necessary to solve the following problems. Furthermore, the four-vector notation $k = (i\omega_n, \mathbf{k})$ (fermionic) and $q = (i\Omega_n, \mathbf{q})$ (bosonic) combines Matsubara frequencies and momenta. The wiggly lines in the diagram refer to the four-fermion-interaction amplitude U_q that in general depends on the transferred momentum \mathbf{q} .

a) In order to understand the physical meaning of Z_k , often referred to as "quasiparticle residue" ¹, ^{1pt(s)} calculate the spectral function and the occupation number from

$$A(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \operatorname{Im} G^{\mathsf{R}}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) \quad \text{and} \quad n_{\mathbf{k}} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega A(\omega, \mathbf{k}) n_{F}(\omega).$$
(3)

with $n_F(\omega)$ representing the Fermi-Dirac distribution. How do you interpret these quantities?



[**Oral** | 6 pt(s)]

May 15th, 2025

SS 2025

¹Note: This quantity can be obtained experimentally with angle-resolved photoemission spectroscopy (ARPES). See, e.g., Chang, Johan, et al. "Anisotropic breakdown of Fermi liquid quasiparticle excitations in overdoped $La_{2-x}Sr_xCuO_4$." Nature communications 4.1 (2013): 2559.

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b) Following the Feynman rules discussed in the lecture, argue why the analytical form (in Matsub- 1^{pt(s)} ara formalism) for the self-energy is given by

$$\Sigma(i\omega_n, \boldsymbol{k}) = T \sum_{\Omega_m} \int \frac{d^d \boldsymbol{q}}{(2\pi)^d} U_{\boldsymbol{q}}^2 G(i\omega_n + i\Omega_m, \boldsymbol{k} + \boldsymbol{q}) \Pi(i\Omega_m, \boldsymbol{q}), \qquad (4)$$

where *d* is the dimensionality of the system. Likewise, write the analytical form (also in the Matsubara formalism) of the particle-hole bubble $\Pi(i\Omega_n, q)$ in terms of Eq. (1).²

For the following two tasks, remember that

$$2T = \begin{cases} \operatorname{Res}\left[\operatorname{coth}(\beta z/2), z = i\Omega_n\right], & \Omega_n = 2\pi nT \text{ (Bosons)} \\ \operatorname{Res}\left[\operatorname{tanh}(\beta z/2), z = i\omega_n\right], & \omega_n = 2\pi (n+1)T \text{ (Fermions)} \end{cases}, \tag{5}$$

for $n\in\mathbb{Z},$ and consider the contours from the following figures:



c) Using the residue theorem (according to (5)), the contour in the complex plane shown above, and subsequent analytic continuation $i\omega_n \rightarrow \omega + i0^+$ to the real axis, show that the (retarded) particle-hole bubble expression can be rewritten as

$$\Pi^{R}(\Omega, \boldsymbol{q}) = 2 \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^{d} \boldsymbol{k}}{(2\pi)^{d}} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}\omega}{2\pi} \left[\tanh\left(\frac{\omega}{2T}\right) G^{R}(\omega + \Omega, \boldsymbol{k} + \boldsymbol{q}) \operatorname{Im} G^{R}(\omega, \boldsymbol{k}) + \tanh\left(\frac{\omega + \Omega}{2T}\right) G^{A}(\omega, \boldsymbol{k}) \operatorname{Im} G^{R}(\omega + \Omega, \boldsymbol{k} + \boldsymbol{q}) \right]$$
(6)

Hint: The results we obtained in Problem 3.2a) will be helpful here :)

d) Similarly, considering the second contour from the image above and the definition Eq. (4), show ^{2^{pt(s)}} that the (retarded) self-energy expression can be rewritten as

$$\Sigma^{R}(\omega, \boldsymbol{k}) = \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^{d}\boldsymbol{q}}{(2\pi)^{d}} U_{\boldsymbol{q}}^{2} \left[\mathcal{P} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}\Omega}{2\pi} \operatorname{coth}\left(\frac{\Omega}{2T}\right) G^{R}(\omega + \Omega, \boldsymbol{k} + \boldsymbol{q}) \operatorname{Im}\Pi^{R}(\Omega, \boldsymbol{q}) \right. \\ \left. + \int \frac{\mathrm{d}\Omega}{2\pi} \operatorname{tanh}\left(\frac{\Omega + \omega}{2T}\right) \Pi^{A}(\Omega, \boldsymbol{q}) \operatorname{Im}G^{R}(\omega + \Omega, \boldsymbol{k} + \boldsymbol{q}) \right],$$
(7)

²There is a factor of 2 here coming from the summation over the spin.

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with $\mathcal{P}\int$ denoting the principle value integral, since there is a pole at z = 0.

Problem 6.2: Self-energy diagram in fermi liquid theory II [Written | 4 pt(s)]

ID: ex_self_energy_fermi_liquid_written:qft25

Learning objective

This is the written continuation from the previous exercise.

a) Let us now focus on the imaginary part of $\Sigma^R(\omega, \mathbf{k})$. First, the particle-hole bubble $\Pi^R(\Omega, \mathbf{q}) = 2^{\operatorname{pt}(s)}$ contribution comes only from its imaginary part $\operatorname{Im}\Pi^R(\Omega, \mathbf{q})$ (why?).

Focusing on small T and ω (compared to the Fermi energy E_F), which allows neglecting ω and Ω in the delta functions appearing in the expression for Im $\Pi^R(\Omega, \mathbf{q})$, show that

$$\mathrm{Im}\Pi^{R}(\Omega, \boldsymbol{q}) \sim A_{\boldsymbol{q}}\,\Omega\tag{8}$$

and that the explicit form of the prefactor A_q is given in terms of the quasiparticle residues as

$$A_{\boldsymbol{q}} = -\frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d-1}} \oint dS_{\boldsymbol{k}_F} Z_{\boldsymbol{k}_F} Z_{\boldsymbol{k}_F + \boldsymbol{q}} \delta\left(\varepsilon_{\boldsymbol{k}_F + \boldsymbol{q}}\right) \Big|_{\varepsilon_{\boldsymbol{k}} = 0},$$
(9)

where dS_k is a Fermi surface element.

Hint: To obtain Eq. (8) you can take the density of states to be independent of the direction normal to the Fermi surface. Additionally, note that

$$\operatorname{coth}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) = 2n_B(x) + 1 \text{ and } \tanh\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) = 1 - 2n_F(x), \tag{10}$$

where the Fermi-Dirac ($\zeta = +1$) and Bose-Einstein ($\zeta = -1$) distributions are given by $n_{\zeta}(x) = \frac{1}{e^x + \zeta}$.

b) Using this result, obtain

$$\mathrm{Im}\Sigma^{R}(\omega, \boldsymbol{k}) \sim B_{\boldsymbol{k}} \left(\omega^{2} + \pi^{2}T^{2}\right)$$
(11)

for $\omega, T \ll E_F$. This is the typical behavior of a Fermi liquid. Show that the prefactor B_k is defined in terms of the quasiparticle residues as

$$B_{\boldsymbol{k}} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d-1}} \int \frac{d^d \boldsymbol{q}}{(2\pi)^d} U_{\boldsymbol{q}}^2 \oint dS_{\boldsymbol{k}'_F} Z_{\boldsymbol{k}'_F} Z_{\boldsymbol{k}'_F + \boldsymbol{q}} Z_{\boldsymbol{k}_F + \boldsymbol{q}} \delta\left(\varepsilon_{\boldsymbol{k}'_F + \boldsymbol{q}}\right) \delta\left(\varepsilon_{\boldsymbol{k}_F + \boldsymbol{q}}\right).$$
(12)

2pt(s)