



1. Iterative diagonalization

Consider spin-1/2 chain:
$$\hat{H}^N = \sum_{l=1}^N \hat{S}_l \cdot \vec{h}_l + J \sum_{l=2}^N \hat{S}_l \cdot \hat{S}_{l-1} \quad (1)$$

For later convenience, we write the spin-spin interaction in covariant (up/down index) notation. Define

$$\hat{S}_z \equiv \hat{S}^{\dagger z} = \hat{S}_z, \quad \hat{S}_{\pm} \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\hat{S}_x \pm i\hat{S}_y), \quad \hat{S}^{\dagger \pm} \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\hat{S}_x \mp i\hat{S}_y) \quad (= \hat{S}_{\mp}^{\dagger}) \quad (2)$$

and the operator triplet
$$\hat{S}_a \in \{\hat{S}_+, \hat{S}_-, \hat{S}_z\}, \quad \hat{S}^{\dagger a} \in \{\hat{S}^{\dagger +}, \hat{S}^{\dagger -}, \hat{S}^{\dagger z}\} \quad (3)$$

$$a \in \{+, -, z\}$$

$\begin{matrix} \hat{S}_+ & \hat{S}_- & \hat{S}_z \\ \hline \hat{S}^{\dagger -} & \hat{S}^{\dagger +} & \hat{S}^{\dagger z} \end{matrix}$

Then
$$\hat{S}_l \cdot \hat{S}_{l-1} = \hat{S}_l^x \hat{S}_{l-1}^x + \hat{S}_l^y \hat{S}_{l-1}^y + \hat{S}_l^z \hat{S}_{l-1}^z$$

$$= \hat{S}_l^{\dagger +} \hat{S}_{l-1}^+ + \hat{S}_l^{\dagger -} \hat{S}_{l-1}^- + \hat{S}_l^z \hat{S}_{l-1}^z = \hat{S}_l^{\dagger a} \hat{S}_{l-1}^a \quad (4)$$

covariant index combination, sum on a implied!

In the basis $\{|\vec{\sigma}\rangle_N\} = \{|\sigma_1\rangle \dots |\sigma_2\rangle \dots |\sigma_l\rangle \dots |\sigma_N\rangle\}$, the Hamiltonian can be expressed as

$$\hat{H}^N = |\vec{\sigma}\rangle_N \hat{H}^{\vec{\sigma}}_{\vec{\sigma}'} \langle \vec{\sigma}'| \quad (5)$$

'no hat' means 'matrix representation'

$\hat{H}^{\vec{\sigma}}_{\vec{\sigma}'}$ is a linear map acting on a direct product space: $V^{\otimes N} \equiv V_1 \otimes V_2 \otimes \dots \otimes V_N$

where V_l is the 2-dimensional representation space of site l . $|\uparrow\rangle \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $|\downarrow\rangle \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

\hat{H}^N is a sum of single-site and two-site terms.

On-site terms:
$$\hat{S}_{al} = |\sigma'_l\rangle (S_a)^{\sigma'_l \sigma_l} \langle \sigma_l| \quad (6)$$

Matrix representation in V_l :
$$(S_a)^{\sigma'_l \sigma_l} = \langle \sigma'_l | \hat{S}_{al} | \sigma_l \rangle = \begin{pmatrix} (S_a)^{\uparrow \uparrow} & (S_a)^{\uparrow \downarrow} \\ (S_a)^{\downarrow \uparrow} & (S_a)^{\downarrow \downarrow} \end{pmatrix} \quad (7)$$

$$S_+ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad S_- = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad S_z = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

Nearest-neighbor interactions, acting on direct product space, $|\sigma_l\rangle \otimes |\sigma_{l-1}\rangle$:

$$\hat{S}_{l-1}^{\dagger a} \otimes \hat{S}_l^a = |\sigma'_{l-1}\rangle |\sigma'_l\rangle (S_a)^{\sigma'_{l-1} \sigma_{l-1}} (\hat{S}^{\dagger a})^{\sigma'_l \sigma_l} \langle \sigma_{l-1} | \langle \sigma_l | \quad (9)$$

Matrix representation in $V_{l-1} \otimes V_l$:

We define the 3-leg tensors S, S^{\dagger} with index placements matching those of A tensors for wavefunctions: incoming upstairs, outgoing downstairs (fly in, roll out), with a (by convention) as middle index.

Diagonalize site 1

Matrix acting on V_1 : $H_1 = S_{a_1}^\dagger \cdot h_1^a = U_1 D_1 U_1^\dagger$ (10)

$D_1 = U_1^\dagger H_1 U_1$ is diagonal, with matrix elements (11)

$$(D_1)_{\alpha'\alpha} = (U_1^\dagger)_{\sigma_1'}^{\alpha'} (H_1)_{\sigma_1}^{\sigma_1'} (U_1)_{\sigma_1}^{\alpha}$$

Eigenvectors of the matrix H_1 are given by column vectors of the matrix $(U_1)_{\sigma_1}^{\alpha}$:

Eigenstates of operator \hat{H}_1 are given by: $|\alpha\rangle = |\sigma_1\rangle (U_1)_{\sigma_1}^{\alpha}$ (13)

Add site 2

Diagonalize \hat{H}_2 in enlarged Hilbert space, $\mathcal{H}_{(2)} = \text{span}\{|\sigma_2\rangle|\sigma_1\rangle\}$ (14)

chain of length 2

Matrix acting on $V_1 \otimes V_2$: $H_2 = \underbrace{\vec{S}_1 \cdot \vec{h}_1}_{H_1^{loc}} \otimes \mathbb{1}_2 + \mathbb{1}_1 \otimes \underbrace{\vec{S}_2 \cdot \vec{h}_2}_{H_2^{loc}} + \underbrace{J S_{a_1} \otimes S_{a_2}^\dagger}_{H^{loc}}$ (15)

Matrix representation in $V_1 \otimes V_2$ corresponding to 'local' basis, $\{|\sigma_2\rangle|\sigma_1\rangle\}$:

$$H_2^{\sigma_1'\sigma_2', \sigma_1\sigma_2} = H_1^{loc} \otimes \mathbb{1}_2 + \mathbb{1}_1 \otimes H_2^{loc} + JS_1 \otimes S_2^\dagger \equiv H_2$$
(16)

We seek matrix representation in $V_1 \otimes V_2$ corresponding to enlarged, 'site-1-diagonal' basis, defined as

$$|\tilde{\alpha}\rangle \equiv |\alpha \sigma_2\rangle \equiv |\sigma_2\rangle |\alpha\rangle = |\sigma_2\rangle |\sigma_1\rangle U_1^{\sigma_1}{}_{\alpha}$$

$$\alpha \rightarrow \mathbb{1} \rightarrow \tilde{\alpha}_2 = x \frac{U_1 \alpha \mathbb{1}}{\sigma_1 \sigma_2}$$
 (17)

To this end, attach U_1^\dagger, U_1 to in/out legs of site 1, and $\mathbb{1}, \mathbb{1}$ to in/out legs of site 2:

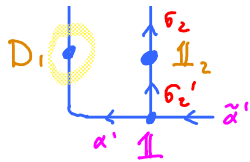
First term is already diagonal. But other terms are not.

(18)

$$\hat{H} = |\tilde{\sigma}\rangle H_{\sigma}^{\sigma'} \langle \tilde{\sigma} | \tilde{\alpha}\rangle \langle \tilde{\alpha}' |$$

$$|\tilde{\alpha}'\rangle \langle \tilde{\alpha}' |$$

$$= |\tilde{\alpha}'\rangle H^{\alpha'\alpha} \langle \alpha |$$

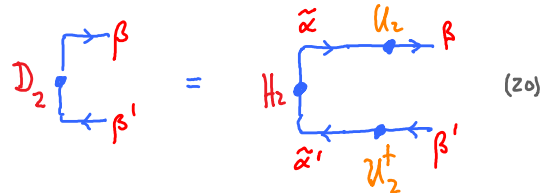


First term is already diagonal. But other terms are not.

Now diagonalize H_2 in this enlarged basis: $H_2 = U_2 D_2 U_2^\dagger$ (19)

$D_2 = U_2^\dagger H_2 U_2$ is diagonal, with matrix elements

$$D_2^{\beta' \beta} = (U_2^\dagger)^{\beta' \tilde{\alpha}'} (H_2)^{\tilde{\alpha} \tilde{\alpha}'} (U_2)^{\tilde{\alpha} \beta}$$



Eigenvectors of matrix H_2 are given by column vectors of the matrix $(U_2)^{\tilde{\alpha} \beta} = (U_2)^{\alpha \sigma_2 \beta}$:

Eigenstates of the operator \hat{H}_2 :

$$|\beta\rangle = |\tilde{\alpha}\rangle (U_2)^{\tilde{\alpha} \beta} = |\sigma_2\rangle |\alpha\rangle (U_2)^{\alpha \sigma_2 \beta} = |\sigma_2\rangle |\sigma_1\rangle (U_1)^{\sigma_1 \alpha} (U_2)^{\alpha \sigma_2 \beta} \quad (20)$$

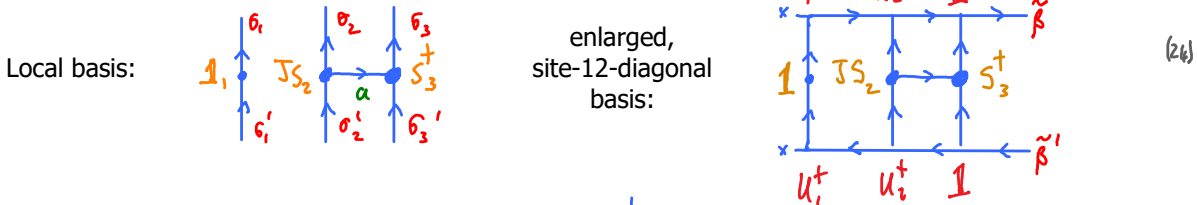
$$\rightarrow \beta = \alpha \xrightarrow{\sigma_2} \beta = \alpha \xrightarrow{\sigma_1} \beta \quad (22)$$

Add site 3

Transform each term involving new site into the 'enlarged, site-12-diagonal basis', defined as

$$|\tilde{\beta}\rangle \equiv |\beta \sigma_3\rangle \equiv |\sigma_3\rangle |\beta\rangle \quad \beta \xrightarrow{\sigma_3} \tilde{\beta} = \alpha \xrightarrow{\sigma_1} \beta \xrightarrow{\sigma_2} \tilde{\beta} \quad (23)$$

For example, spin-spin interaction, H_{32}^{int} :



Then diagonalize in this basis: $H_3 = U_3 D_3 U_3^\dagger$, etc. (25)

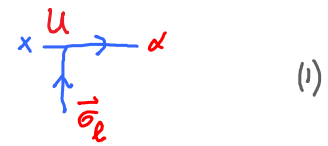
At each iteration, Hilbert space grows by a factor of 2. Eventually, truncations will be needed...!

2. Graphical notation for basis change

It is useful to have a graphical depiction for basis changes.

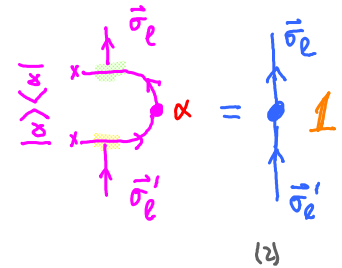
Consider a unitary transformation defined on chain of length l , spanned by basis $\{|\bar{\sigma}_l\rangle\}$:

$$|\alpha\rangle = |\bar{\sigma}_l\rangle U_{\bar{\sigma}_l}^{\alpha}$$



Unitarity guarantees resolution of identity on this subspace:

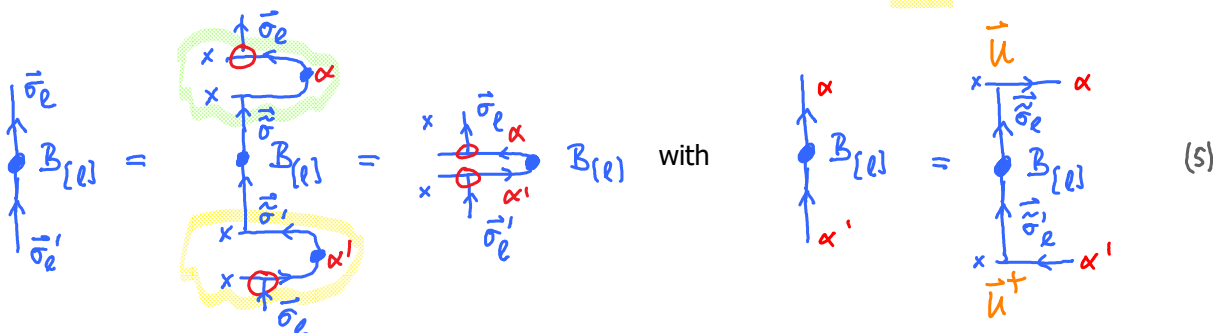
$$\hat{1} = \sum_{\alpha} |\alpha\rangle \langle \alpha| = |\bar{\sigma}_l'\rangle U_{\bar{\sigma}_l'}^{\alpha} U_{\bar{\sigma}_l}^{\alpha\dagger} \langle \bar{\sigma}_l| = \sum_{\bar{\sigma}_l'} |\bar{\sigma}_l'\rangle \hat{1}_{\bar{\sigma}_l'} \langle \bar{\sigma}_l|$$



Transformation of an operator defined on this subspace:

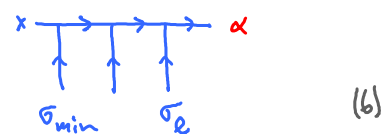
$$\hat{B} = |\bar{\sigma}_l'\rangle B_{\bar{\sigma}_l'}^{\bar{\sigma}_l} \langle \bar{\sigma}_l| = |\alpha'\rangle \langle \alpha| \underbrace{B_{\bar{\sigma}_l'}^{\bar{\sigma}_l}}_{B_{\alpha'}^{\alpha}} = |\alpha'\rangle B_{\alpha'}^{\alpha} \langle \alpha| \quad (3)$$

Matrix elements: $B_{\alpha'}^{\alpha} = \langle \alpha' | \bar{\sigma}_l' \rangle B_{\bar{\sigma}_l'}^{\bar{\sigma}_l} \langle \bar{\sigma}_l | \alpha \rangle = U_{\bar{\sigma}_l'}^{\alpha'} B_{\bar{\sigma}_l'}^{\bar{\sigma}_l} U_{\bar{\sigma}_l}^{\alpha} \quad (4)$



If the states $|\alpha\rangle$ are MPS:

$$|\alpha\rangle = |\bar{\sigma}_l\rangle \dots |\bar{\sigma}_{\min}\rangle (A^{\bar{\sigma}_{\min}} \dots A^{\bar{\sigma}_l})'_{\alpha}$$

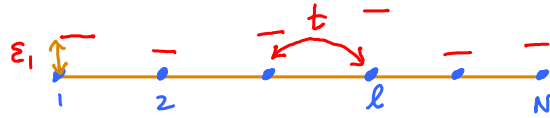


$$\hat{1} = \begin{matrix} \bar{\sigma}_{\min} \\ | \\ \bar{\sigma}_{\min}' \end{matrix} \hat{1} \otimes \begin{matrix} \bar{\sigma}_l \\ | \\ \bar{\sigma}_l' \end{matrix} \hat{1} = \begin{matrix} \bar{\sigma}_{\min} & \bar{\sigma}_l \\ | & | \\ \bar{\sigma}_{\min}' & \bar{\sigma}_l' \end{matrix} \hat{1} \equiv \begin{matrix} \bar{\sigma}_l \\ | \\ \bar{\sigma}_l' \end{matrix} \hat{1} \quad \text{shorthand for unit matrix} \quad (7)$$

$$\hat{B} = \begin{matrix} \sigma_1 & \sigma_2 & \sigma_3 \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ \boxed{B_{rel}} \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ \sigma_1' & \sigma_2' & \sigma_3' \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ | & | & | \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \end{matrix} \hat{1} \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{matrix} \alpha \\ | \\ \alpha' \end{matrix} B_{rel} = \begin{matrix} \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ | & | & | \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \end{matrix} \boxed{B_{rel}} \quad (8)$$

3. Spinless fermions

Consider tight-binding chain of spinless fermions:



$$\hat{H} = \sum_{l=1}^N \epsilon_l \hat{c}_l^\dagger \hat{c}_l + \sum_{l=2}^N t_l (\hat{c}_l^\dagger \hat{c}_{l-1} + \hat{c}_{l-1}^\dagger \hat{c}_l) \quad (1)$$

Goal: find matrix representation for this Hamiltonian, acting in direct product space $V_1 \otimes V_2 \otimes \dots \otimes V_N$, while respecting fermionic minus signs:

$$\{\hat{c}_l, \hat{c}_{l'}\} = 0, \quad \{\hat{c}_l^\dagger, \hat{c}_{l'}^\dagger\} = 0, \quad \{\hat{c}_l^\dagger, \hat{c}_{l'}\} = \delta_{ll'} \quad (2)$$

$c_l c_{l'} = -c_{l'} c_l$

First consider a single site (dropping the site index l):

Hilbert space: $\text{span}\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$, local index: $n = \sigma \in \{0, 1\}$ (local occupancy)

$$\text{Operator action: } \hat{c}^\dagger |0\rangle = |1\rangle, \quad \hat{c}^\dagger |1\rangle = 0 \quad (3a)$$

$$\hat{c} |0\rangle = 0, \quad \hat{c} |1\rangle = |0\rangle \quad (3b)$$

The operators $\hat{c}^\dagger = |1\rangle\langle 0|$ and $\hat{c} = |0\rangle\langle 1|$

have matrix representations in V : $c^{\dagger \sigma' \sigma} = \langle \sigma' | \hat{c}^\dagger | \sigma \rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ $c^{\dagger \uparrow \downarrow}$ (4a)

$$c^{\sigma' \sigma} = \langle \sigma' | \hat{c} | \sigma \rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 $c^{\uparrow \downarrow}$ (4b)

Shorthand: we write $\hat{c}^\dagger \doteq C^\dagger$, $\hat{c} \doteq C$ where \doteq means 'is represented by'

lower case denotes operator in Fock space upper case denotes matrix in 2-dim space V

Check: $C^\dagger C + C C^\dagger = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbb{1}$ ✓ (5)

$$C^\dagger C^\dagger = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \checkmark, \quad C C = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \checkmark \quad (6)$$

For the number operator, $\hat{n} \equiv \hat{c}^\dagger \hat{c}$ the matrix representation in V reads:

$$n \equiv C^\dagger C = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2}(1 - Z) \quad (7)$$

where $Z \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ is representation of $\hat{z} = 1 - 2\hat{n} = (-1)^{\hat{n}}$ (8)

Useful relations: $\hat{c} \hat{z} = -\hat{z} \hat{c}, \quad \hat{c}^\dagger \hat{z} = -\hat{z} \hat{c}^\dagger$ (9)

'commuting \hat{c} or \hat{c}^\dagger past \hat{z} produces a sign'

[exercise: check this algebraically, using matrix representations!]

Intuitive reason: \hat{c} and \hat{c}^\dagger both change \hat{n} -eigenvalue by one, hence change sign of $(-1)^{\hat{n}}$.

For example:
$$\hat{c}^\dagger (-1)^{\hat{n}} = \hat{c}^\dagger = -(-1)^{\hat{n}} \hat{c}^\dagger \quad (10a)$$
 non-zero only when acting on $|0\rangle = (-1)^0 = 1$ $= (-1)^1 = -1$

Similarly:
$$\hat{c} (-1)^{\hat{n}} = -\hat{c} = -(-1)^{\hat{n}} \hat{c} \quad (10b)$$
 non-zero only when acting on $|1\rangle = (-1)^1 = -1$ $= (-1)^0 = 1$

Now consider a chain of spinless fermions:

Complication: fermionic operators on different sites anticommute: $c_l c_{l'}^\dagger = -c_{l'}^\dagger c_l$ for $l \neq l'$

Hilbert space:
$$\text{span} \{ |\vec{n}\rangle_N = |n_1, n_2, \dots, n_N\rangle \} \quad (11)$$

Define canonical ordering for fully filled state:

$$|n_1=1, n_2=1, \dots, n_N=1\rangle = c_N^\dagger \dots c_2^\dagger c_1^\dagger |Vac\rangle \quad (12)$$
 $|\sigma_N\rangle \dots |\sigma_2\rangle |\sigma_1\rangle$

Now consider:

$$\hat{c}_1^\dagger |n_1=0, n_2=1\rangle = c_1^\dagger \hat{c}_2^\dagger |Vac\rangle = -\hat{c}_2^\dagger c_1^\dagger |Vac\rangle = -|n_1=1, n_2=1\rangle \quad (13)$$

To keep track of such signs, matrix representations in $V_1 \otimes V_2$ need extra 'sign counters', tracking fermion numbers:

$$\hat{c}_1^\dagger = c_1^\dagger \otimes (-1)^{n_2} = c_1^\dagger \otimes z_2 \quad (14)$$
 $\begin{matrix} c_1^\dagger \uparrow \\ z_2 \uparrow \end{matrix}$

$$\hat{c}_2^\dagger = \mathbb{1}_1 \otimes c_2^\dagger = c_2^\dagger \quad (15)$$
 $\begin{matrix} \mathbb{1}_1 \uparrow \\ c_2^\dagger \uparrow \end{matrix}$

subscripts denote site numbers (shorthand: omit unity)

Here \otimes denotes a direct product operation; the order (space 1, space 2, ...) matches that of the indices on the corresponding tensors: $A^{G_1 G_2 \dots}$

Check whether
$$\hat{c}_1^\dagger \hat{c}_2^\dagger = -\hat{c}_2^\dagger \hat{c}_1^\dagger \quad ? \quad (16)$$

$$\begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \downarrow \end{matrix} \hat{c}_1^\dagger = \begin{matrix} \mathbb{1}_1 \uparrow & c_2^\dagger \uparrow \\ c_1^\dagger \uparrow & z_2 \uparrow \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} c_1^\dagger \uparrow & -z_2 \uparrow \\ \mathbb{1}_1 \uparrow & c_2^\dagger \uparrow \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \downarrow \end{matrix} \hat{c}_2^\dagger \quad \checkmark \quad (17)$$

Algebraically:

$$\dots \dots \dots (14) \quad \dots \dots \dots (9) \quad \dots \dots \dots$$

Algebraically:

$$\hat{c}_1^\dagger \hat{c}_2 = (C_1^\dagger \otimes Z_2) (\mathbb{1}_1 \otimes C_2) \stackrel{(14)}{=} C_1^\dagger \mathbb{1} \otimes (Z_2 C_2) \stackrel{(9)}{=} -\mathbb{1} C_1^\dagger \otimes C_2 Z_2 \quad (18)$$

$$= -(\mathbb{1}_1 \otimes C_2)(C_1^\dagger \otimes Z_2) = -\hat{c}_2 \hat{c}_1^\dagger \quad \checkmark \quad (19)$$

Similarly:

$$\hat{n}_1 = \hat{c}_1^\dagger \hat{c}_1 = \begin{array}{c} C_1 \uparrow \\ \vdots \\ C_1^\dagger \uparrow \end{array} \begin{array}{c} z_2 \uparrow \\ \vdots \\ z_2 \uparrow \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} C_1 \uparrow \\ \vdots \\ C_1^\dagger \uparrow \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \mathbb{1}_2 \uparrow \\ \vdots \\ \mathbb{1}_2 \uparrow \end{array} = C_1^\dagger C_1 \otimes \mathbb{1}_z \quad (20)$$

More generally: each \hat{c}_l or \hat{c}_l^\dagger must produce sign change when moved past any $\hat{c}_{l'}$ or $\hat{c}_{l'}^\dagger$, with $l' > l$. So, define the following matrix representations in $V^{\otimes N} = V_1 \otimes V_2 \otimes \dots \otimes V_N$:

$$\hat{c}_l^\dagger = \mathbb{1}_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbb{1}_{l-1} \otimes C_l^\dagger \otimes z_{l+1} \otimes \dots \otimes z_N = C_l^\dagger Z_l^> \quad (21)$$

$$\hat{c}_l = \mathbb{1}_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbb{1}_{l-1} \otimes C_l \otimes z_{l+1} \otimes \dots \otimes z_N = C_l Z_l^> \quad (22)$$

'Jordan-Wigner transformation'

with $Z_l^> \equiv \prod_{l' > l} z_{l'}$ 'Z-string' (23)

Exercise: verify graphically that $\hat{c}_{l'}^\dagger \hat{c}_l = -\hat{c}_l \hat{c}_{l'}^\dagger$ for $l' > l$.

Solution:

$$\hat{c}_{l'}^\dagger \hat{c}_l = \begin{array}{cccccccccccc} & 1 & & l-1 & & l & & l+1 & & l'-1 & & l' & & l'+1 & & N \\ \hat{c}_{l'}^\dagger & \uparrow & \dots & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \hat{c}_l & \uparrow & \dots & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ & \mathbb{1} & & \mathbb{1} & & C & & z & & \dots & & z & & z & & z \\ & \mathbb{1} & & \mathbb{1} & & \mathbb{1} & & \mathbb{1} & & \dots & & C^\dagger & & z & & z \end{array} \quad (24)$$

$$= \begin{array}{cccccccccccc} & 1 & & l-1 & & l & & l+1 & & l'-1 & & l' & & l'+1 & & N \\ \hat{c}_l & \uparrow & \dots & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \hat{c}_{l'}^\dagger & \uparrow & \dots & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ & \mathbb{1} & & \mathbb{1} & & \mathbb{1} & & \dots & & \mathbb{1} & & C^\dagger & & z & & z \\ & \mathbb{1} & & \mathbb{1} & & C & & \dots & & z & & -z & & z & & z \end{array} \quad (25)$$

extra sign!

In bilinear combinations, all(!) of the Z 's cancel. Example: hopping term, $\hat{c}_l^\dagger \hat{c}_{l-1}$:

$$\hat{c}_l^\dagger \hat{c}_{l-1} = \begin{array}{cccccccc} & 1 & & 2 & & l-2 & & l-1 & & l & & l+1 & & N \\ \hat{c}_l^\dagger & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \hat{c}_{l-1} & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ & \mathbb{1} & & \mathbb{1} & & \dots & & \mathbb{1} & & C & & z & & z \\ & \mathbb{1} & & \mathbb{1} & & \dots & & \mathbb{1} & & \mathbb{1} & & C^\dagger & & z \end{array} \quad (26)$$

$$= \begin{array}{cccccccc} & 1 & & 2 & & l-2 & & l-1 & & l & & l+1 & & N \\ & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ & \mathbb{1} & & \mathbb{1} & & \dots & & \mathbb{1} & & C & & C^\dagger & & \mathbb{1} \\ & \mathbb{1} & & \mathbb{1} & & \dots & & \mathbb{1} & & \mathbb{1} & & \dots & & \mathbb{1} \end{array} \quad (27)$$

$$= \mathbb{1} \uparrow \mathbb{1} \uparrow \dots \mathbb{1} \uparrow c \uparrow c^\dagger \uparrow \mathbb{1} \uparrow \dots \mathbb{1} \uparrow \quad (27)$$

since at site l we have $Z_l Z_l = 1$, $\overset{(10a)}{c_l^\dagger Z_l = c_l^\dagger}$, (28)

non-zero only when acting on $|\dots, n_l = 0, \dots\rangle$,
and in this subspace, $Z_l = 1$

Conclusion: $\hat{c}_l^\dagger c_{l-1} \doteq c_l^\dagger c_{l-1}$ and similarly, $\hat{c}_{l-1}^\dagger \hat{c}_l \doteq c_{l-1}^\dagger c_l$ (29)
[using (10b)]

Hence, the hopping terms end up looking as though fermions carry no signs at all.

For spinful fermions, this will be different.

4. Spinful fermions

MPS-III.4

Consider chain of spinful fermions. Site index: $\ell = 1, \dots, N$, spin index: $s \in \{\uparrow, \downarrow\} \equiv \{+, -\}$

$$\{\hat{c}_{\ell s}, \hat{c}_{\ell' s'}\} = 0 \quad , \quad \{\hat{c}_{\ell s}^\dagger, \hat{c}_{\ell' s'}^\dagger\} = 0 \quad , \quad \{\hat{c}_{\ell s}^\dagger, \hat{c}_{\ell' s'}\} = \delta_{\ell \ell'} \delta_{ss'} \quad (1)$$

Define canonical order for fully filled state: $\hat{c}_{N\downarrow}^\dagger \hat{c}_{N\uparrow}^\dagger \dots \hat{c}_{2\downarrow}^\dagger \hat{c}_{2\uparrow}^\dagger \hat{c}_{1\downarrow}^\dagger \hat{c}_{1\uparrow}^\dagger |Vac\rangle$ (2)

First consider a single site (dropping the index ℓ):

Hilbert space: $= \text{span}\{|0\rangle, |\downarrow\rangle, |\uparrow\rangle, |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle\}$, local index: $\sigma \in \{0, \downarrow, \uparrow, \uparrow\downarrow\}$ (3)

constructed via: $|0\rangle \equiv |Vac\rangle$, $|\downarrow\rangle \equiv \hat{c}_\downarrow^\dagger |0\rangle$, (4)

$$|\uparrow\rangle \equiv \hat{c}_\uparrow^\dagger |0\rangle, \quad |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle \equiv \hat{c}_\downarrow^\dagger \hat{c}_\uparrow^\dagger |0\rangle = \hat{c}_\downarrow^\dagger |\uparrow\rangle = -\hat{c}_\uparrow^\dagger |\downarrow\rangle$$
 (5)

To deal minus signs, introduce $\hat{z}_s = (-1)^{\hat{N}_s} = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \hat{N}_s)$ $s \in \{\uparrow, \downarrow\}$ (6)

We seek a matrix representation of $\hat{c}_s^\dagger, \hat{c}_s, \hat{z}_s$ in direct product space $\tilde{V} \equiv V_\uparrow \otimes V_\downarrow$. (7)
(Matrices acting in this space will carry tildes.)

$$\hat{z}_\uparrow \doteq z_\uparrow \otimes \mathbb{1}_\downarrow = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \tilde{z}_\uparrow$$
 (8)

$$\hat{z}_\downarrow \doteq \mathbb{1}_\uparrow \otimes z_\downarrow = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \tilde{z}_\downarrow$$
 (9)

$$\hat{z}_\uparrow \hat{z}_\downarrow \doteq z_\uparrow \otimes z_\downarrow = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \tilde{z}$$
 (10)

$$\hat{c}_\uparrow^\dagger \doteq c_\uparrow^\dagger \otimes z_\downarrow = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \tilde{c}_\uparrow^\dagger$$

$$\hat{c}_\uparrow \doteq c_\uparrow \otimes z_\downarrow = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \tilde{c}_\uparrow$$
 (11)

$$\hat{c}_\downarrow^\dagger \doteq \mathbb{1}_\uparrow \otimes c_\downarrow^\dagger = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \tilde{c}_\downarrow^\dagger$$
 (12)

$$\hat{c}_\downarrow \doteq \mathbb{1}_\uparrow \otimes c_\downarrow = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \tilde{c}_\downarrow$$
 (12)

