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> Phys. Rev. B **100**, 075123 — Published 12 August 2019 DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevB.100.075123

#### Magnetic Susceptibility and Simulated Neutron Signal in the 2D Hubbard Model

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(Dated: July 24, 2019)

We compute dynamic spin susceptibilities in the two-dimensional Hubbard model using the method of Dual Fermions and provide comparison to lattice Monte Carlo and cluster dynamical mean field theory. We examine the energy dispersion identified by peaks in  $\text{Im}\chi(\omega, q)$  which define spin modes and compare the exchange scale and magnon dispersion to neutron experiments on the parent La<sub>2</sub>CuO<sub>4</sub> cuprate. We present the evolution of the spin excitations as a function of Hubbard interaction strengths and doping and explore the particle-hole asymmetry of the spin excitations. We also study the correlation lengths and the spin excitation dispersion peak structure and find a 'Y'-shaped dispersion similar to neutron results on doped HgBa<sub>2</sub>CuO<sub>4+ $\delta$ </sub>.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The interplay between charge, spin and superconducting fluctuations in the cuprate high-temperature superconductors has been experimentally documented with nuclear magnetic resonance  $(NMR)^1$ , inelastic neutron scattering  $(INS)^{2-5}$ , resonant ultrasound spectroscopy  $(RUS)^{6,7}$ , thermal probes<sup>8,9</sup>, resonant inelastic X-ray scattering  $(RIXS)^{10,11}$ , as well as Raman<sup>12</sup> and optical spectroscopies.<sup>13</sup> All together, they paint a picture of a complex phase diagram comprised of many competing states where antiferromagnetic spin fluctuations play a crucial role.

Providing a theoretical description of even the normal high-temperature state of the cuprates has proven to be a formidable challenge. Much has been understood on the level of single particle properties including the pseudogap in cluster DMFT studies of the Hubbard model<sup>14–29</sup> and its interplay with superconductivity.<sup>30–41</sup> However, making a direct connection to many experimental measurements requires the knowledge of two-particle susceptibilities in addition to single-particle quantities. Among these, magnetic excitation effects have been a central focus.

The theoretical understanding of magnetic excitations remains an ongoing challenge.<sup>29,39,42</sup> In the case of the insulating high-T<sub>c</sub> parent compounds, experimental data has primarily been fit using a linear spin-wave theory in the Heisenberg limit at zero temperature.<sup>2,43</sup> This has allowed for a qualitative description of the excitations in terms of spin models and the determination of the strength of the exchange J/t. However, spin models do not describe itinerant fermion systems, such as the doped compounds. In addition, the Heisenberg parameters determined via spin model fits lie outside the regime where spin-models are a valid low-energy approximation of the Hubbard model. What is known to date about the magnetic excitations of the Hubbard model and how they connect to experimental measurements on the cuprates<sup>44–46</sup> comes from numerical studies of finite size systems. These methods accurately resolve shortrange correlations but are limited in their temperature, doping, and momentum resolution and their ability to resolve long-ranged low-energy spin excitations.

In this paper we address this deficiency. We perform calculations on the Hubbard model in two dimensions using the technique of Dual Fermions,<sup>47</sup> which is an approximate extension of the non-perturbative dynamical mean field theory<sup>48</sup> and is believed to be accurate at high temperature.<sup>49</sup> The method's primary advantage is that it can recover continuous momentum dependence, and therefore that it does not suffer from the finite system size effects that limit determinantal lattice quantum Monte Carlo or cluster dynamical mean field theory results. In addition, the computational time is not substantially greater than that of single-site dynamical mean field theory, allowing us to probe the entire phase diagram with reasonable computational expense. We validate our results by comparing to cluster dynamical mean field theory in the dynamical cluster approximation variant and lattice Monte Carlo in areas of parameter space that are accessible to those methods. We show that for a certain interaction strength, the dispersion of spin-waves closely resembles that observed experimentally at high temperatures (300K) in  $La_2CuO_4$ <sup>2</sup> We further examine the effects of both electron and hole doping, providing a complete picture of the particle-hole asymmetry of spin excitations in the model.

The remainder of this paper proceeds as follows. In Section II we discuss the Dual Fermion method and provide comparisons to other methods. Section III contains our main results from the Dual Fermion method while section IV concludes.

#### II. METHODS

We study the single orbital Hubbard model in two dimensions on a square lattice.<sup>50,51</sup> The Hamiltonian is

$$H = \sum_{k,\sigma} \left( \epsilon_k - \mu \right) c_{k\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{k\sigma} + U \sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}, \qquad (1)$$

where  $\mu$  is the chemical potential, k is momentum, *i* labels sites in real-space, U is the onsite Coulumb interaction, and the dispersion is given by  $\epsilon_k = -2t \left[\cos(k_x) + \cos(k_y)\right] - 4t' \cos(k_x) \cos(k_y)$ , in which tand t' are the nearest and next-nearest neighbor hopping integrals.

#### A. Dual Fermions

We solve Eq. 1 in the Dual Fermion approximation  $^{47}$ using the open source Dual Fermion code of Ref. 52. This method treats all local correlations in a non-perturbative manner and perturbatively includes non-local correlations. In our implementation, self-consistent ladder diagrams for the non-local ('dual') self energy are summed in the charge and spin channels.<sup>53</sup> This method is accurate at high temperature,<sup>51</sup> at weak coupling and for very strong interactions, but uncontrolled, in the sense that contributions from higher order vertices and nonladder diagrams are not included.<sup>49</sup> Results must therefore be carefully benchmarked against other techniques, both for single- and for two-particle properties. To this end, in this section we present high temperature results from dynamical cluster approximation<sup>49,51,54</sup> and from determinantal quantum Monte Carlo. $^{55}$ 

The Dual Fermion approximation is based on the solution of a quantum impurity model, which we solve with a continuous-time auxiliary field impurity solver<sup>56,57</sup> with submatrix updates<sup>58</sup>. This algorithm is the method of choice for susceptibilities and vertex functions of single-orbital impurity problems at an interaction strength of  $U \leq 12.^{26}$ 

The quantity of interest is the spin susceptibility  $\chi(q,\omega)$  on the real frequency axis, defined as the analytic continuation of the Matsubara suceptibility

$$\chi_m(q,i\nu_n) = \int_0^\beta d\tau e^{i\nu_n\tau} \langle S_q(\tau)S_{-q}(0)\rangle, \qquad (2)$$

where  $S_q(\tau) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i e^{iqr_i} (n_{i\uparrow}(\tau) - n_{i\downarrow}(\tau))$ . First, we numerically compute spin susceptibilities on the Matsubara axis as a function of transfer momentum q and bosonic Matsubara frequency  $i\nu_n = 2\pi i nT$ . Representative simulation data obtained for a half-filled system at intermediate interaction U/t = 8, temperature T/t = 0.2, and next-nearest neighbor hopping strength t'/t = -0.3 are shown in the inset of Fig. 1. Different curves denote susceptibilities at the momentum points indicated along a path from  $X(\pi, 0)$  to  $M(\pi, \pi)$  in the Brillouin

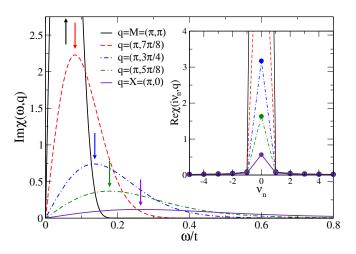


Figure 1. Dual Fermion results for the imaginary part of the Mabsubara axis susceptibility  $\text{Im}_{\chi}(\omega, q)$  as a function of real frequency  $\omega$  for U/t = 8.0 at T/t = 0.2 with t'/t =-0.3 at several q vectors between the M and X points. Inset: Real part of the Matsubara axis susceptibility  $\text{Re}_{\chi}(i\nu_n, q)$  as a function of bosonic Matsubara frequency  $\nu_n$  for the momenta q indicated. Error bars much smaller than symbol size.

zone. Symmetry properties imply that only the real part of the susceptibility,  $\operatorname{Re}\chi(i\nu_n,q)$ , is non-zero. Conversion of  $i\nu_n$  to the real frequency,  $\omega$ , is needed to obtain the frequency- and momentum-dependent susceptibility  $\operatorname{Im}\chi(\omega,q)$ . This process relies on numerical methods of analytical continuation. Those results can be seen in the main panel of Fig. 1.  $\operatorname{Im}\chi(\omega,q)$  shows a single peak indicated by arrows. Its amplitude is largest at  $q = (\pi,\pi)$ and quickly decays away from this point, while its peak position moves to higher frequencies. In the spirit of other works that examine spin structure factors and susceptibilities we define the frequency for this peak at each q-vector to be the spin-wave dispersion,  $\omega_s(q)$ .<sup>44,45</sup>

Analytic continuation of bosonic spectral functions, here based on the  $ALPS^{59}$  open source maximum entropy  $code^{60}$  with a Gaussian default model, is required to obtain the spin-wave dispersion. The analytic continuation is numerically ill posed, in the sense that many bosonic spectral functions will yield the same bosonic Matsubara response within error bars. We believe continuation uncertainties to be larger than any finite size error or stochastic uncertainty. These uncertainties are independent of the approximation error of the self-consistent ladder Dual Fermion method, which we analyze in detail below. As analytical continuation uncertainties are difficult to assess, we present continued data without 'error bars'.

### B. Comparison to the dynamical cluster approximation

We first consider the accuracy of the Dual Fermion method for single-particle quantities. Fig. 2 compares

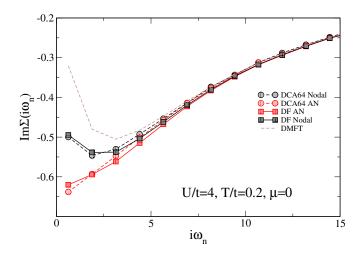


Figure 2. Data from 64-site dynamical cluster approximation (dashed) and Dual Fermion (solid) for the imaginary part of the self energy  $\text{Im}\Sigma(\mathbf{k}, i\omega_n)$  at nodal (grey) and antinodal (red) points for U/t = 4, T/t = 0.2, t'/t = 0, and half filling.

results for the single-particle self-energy to dynamical cluster approximation calculations on an  $8 \times 8$  cluster for the nodal  $(k = (\pi/2, \pi/2))$  and antinodal  $(k = (\pi, 0))$  points. The Dual Fermion result provides the majority of the momentum dependent contribution and is, at these temperatures and interaction strengths, comparable to the dynamical cluster approximation at a small fraction of the computational expense.

In Fig. 3 we compare the local spin susceptibility on the Matsubara axis for the lowest and first Matsubara frequencies obtained from Dual Fermions to those obtained in 8-site dynamical cluster approximation clusters.<sup>29</sup> Since the dynamical cluster approximation is limited in k-space resolution and computationally limited to small clusters when computing two-particle observables we compare only the local susceptibility  $\chi_{loc}$ . We see agreement at high temperature where the spin susceptibility is expected to be unstructured and the dynamical cluster approximation result is close to the dynamical mean field result upon which the Dual Fermion treatment is built.

As temperature is lowered, the lowest Matsubara frequency for Dual Fermions is consistently larger than dynamical cluster approximation data until around T/t =0.2, below which it declines at T/t = 0.18 and 0.19. At even lower T/t the self-consistent ladder summation fails to converge. For this reason we consider T = 0.2t to be the lowest accessible temperature at n = 1, U/t = 6, and present results at this T in section III.

#### C. Comparison to lattice Monte Carlo

At high temperature, we can compare the dynamical spin susceptibility  $\chi(q,\omega)$  on the real frequency axis obtained from Dual Fermions to those obtained from lat-

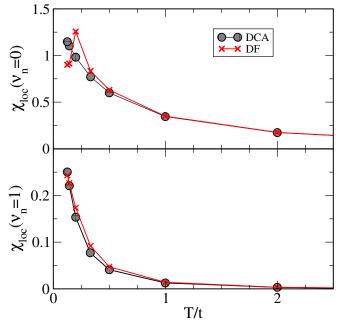


Figure 3. Data from 8-site dynamical cluster approximation (black) and Dual Fermions (red) for the local susceptibility at the lowest and first bosonic Matsubara frequencies, top and bottom frames respectively. Data is for U/t = 6, t'/t = -0.1 at  $\mu = 0$ . These calculations are for fixed  $\mu$ , not fixed density and some particle-hole asymmetry may be responsible for some variation in density with temperature between the two methods.

tice Monte Carlo calculations with periodic boundary conditions. In Fig. 4 we plot the peak energy  $\omega_s(q)$ of  $\text{Im}\chi(q,\omega)$  determined as in Fig. 1 as a function of momentum for various charge densities. The momenta, along high symmetry cuts in the Brillouin zone, start from  $(\pi/2, \pi/2)$  and move diagonally to the *M*-point at  $(\pi,\pi)$ , via  $X = (\pi,0)$  and  $(\pi/2,\pi/2)$  to  $\Gamma$  and back to X. Here, the parameters are set as U/t = 8, T/t = 1/3, and t' = -0.3. Dual Fermion calculations are evaluated on a  $16 \times 16$  grid (solid symbols), and lattice Monte Carlo calculations are performed on the  $8 \times 8$  cluster (open symbols). Both of these calculations are converged in their k-space discretization. At the lowest density (n = 0.6), Dual Fermion results are consistent with lattice Monte Carlo results. As we increase the density towards halffilling the spin excitation energy from Dual Fermion calculations are systematically lower than those from lattice Monte Carlo, but the momentum dependence is the same. To illustrate this, we show in magenta on each panel the lattice Monte Carlo curve rescaled by the factor r needed to match  $\omega_s^{DF}$  at  $q = (\pi/2, \pi/2)$  and quote the value of r in each case. After rescaling, we see that the overall structure of  $\omega_s(q)$  is remarkably similar and that the approximate Dual Fermion method is qualitatively correct within a single prefactor for each of the parameters examined, except near the  $\Gamma$  point, as we comment on in section IID.

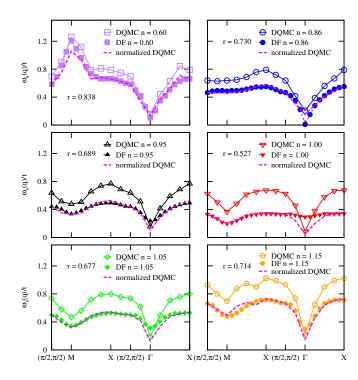


Figure 4. Dual Fermions (closed symbols) and lattice Monte Carlo (open symbols) results of the peak energy of the spin susceptibility,  $\omega_s(q)/t$ , extracted from  $\text{Im}\chi(\omega, q)$  for high symmetry cuts in  $(q_x, q_y)$ . Also shown (dotted lines) are lattice Monte Carlo results scaled by the factor r given in each frame. U/t = 8, T/t = 1/3, and t'/t = -0.3 illustrated for different doping  $\langle n \rangle$ .

Continuing to increase charge density to n = 1.15, the spin dispersion around the  $\Gamma$  point becomes identical, while the spin excitation at other momenta in Dual Fermion calculations has lower energy. We perform a similar analysis in Fig. 5 at fixed density, n = 1, for variation in U/t. We find that for small values of U/tagain the lattice Monte Carlo and Dual Fermions are quantitatively in agreement while for other values they have a distinct energy scale with the Dual Fermion result again systematically lower than the lattice Monte Carlo result but with the same momentum dependence. The agreement in both highly doped and weak coupling cases but disagreement for larger interactions near half filling suggests that the method works best where the physics is close to that of the underlying DMFT approximation but may not be able to correctly represent momentumdependent phenomena such as the pseudogap.

To further analyze these conclusions, we plot the normalized magnetic susceptibility on the imaginary time axis,  $\operatorname{Re}\chi(q,\tau)$ , for both calculations in Fig. 6. These data do not suffer from continuation errors. Panel (a) shows  $\operatorname{Re}\chi(q,\tau)$  at n = 0.6 and q = X. It is found that  $\operatorname{Re}\chi(q,\tau)$  for both calculations are the same, resulting in the same  $\omega_s(q)/t$  in Fig. 4 after analytic continuation. Panel (b) shows  $\operatorname{Re}\chi(q,\tau)$  at n = 1.0 and q = X where the two methods deviate. To assess the finite lattice size

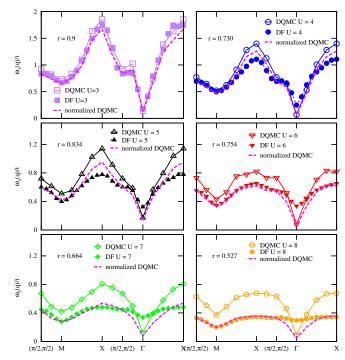


Figure 5. Dual Fermions and lattice Monte Carlo results of the peak energy of the spin susceptibility,  $\omega_s(q)/t$ , extracted from  $\text{Im}\chi(\omega,q)$  for high symmetry cuts in  $(q_x, q_y)$ . The parameters are T/t = 1/3, and t' = -0.3 for  $\langle n \rangle = 1$  illustrated for variation in interaction strength. The scaling of lattice Monte Carlo to Dual Fermion data invokes a ratio, r, quoted in each frame.

effects in lattice Monte Carlo, we show results for two cluster sizes  $(4 \times 4 \text{ and } 8 \times 8)$ .

Figs. 4 - 5 together indicate that, at the high temperature tested here, the Dual Fermion and lattice Monte Carlo are qualitatively the same. They differ quantitatively by a momentum independent prefactor that depends on both doping and interaction strength,  $r \equiv r(U,\mu)$ . As doped results from the dynamical cluster approximation or lattice Monte Carlo are difficult to obtain at lower temperature because of the fermion sign problem, we leave the temperature dependence of r for future study. We continue under the assumption that the  $\omega_s(q)$ from Dual Fermions is correct up to an overall doping-, temperature-, and interaction dependent prefactor. This holds for all momenta except for the area near the  $\Gamma$ point, which we address next.

#### **D.** Discrepancy at $\Gamma$ point

Figure 4 shows that  $\omega_s(q = \Gamma)$  at n = 1 does not touch to zero in Dual Fermion calculations. However, since the spin operator commutes with the Hamiltonian, the spin susceptibility on the real frequency at the  $\Gamma$  point should be uniformly zero, *i.e.*  $\chi(q = \Gamma, \omega) = 0$  for all values of  $\omega$ . On the Matsubara axis, this condition enforcing a

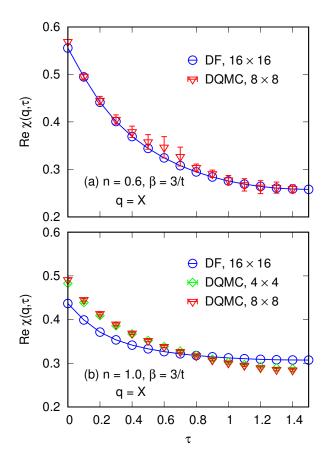


Figure 6. Spin susceptibilities  $\text{Re}\chi(q,\tau)$  as a function of the imaginary time  $\tau$  at n = 0.6 (a) and n = 1.0 (b).

spin excitation at zero frequency is that  $\chi(q = \Gamma, i\Omega_0)$  is a constant while  $\chi(q = \Gamma, i\Omega_n) = 0$  as  $n \neq 0$ . To understand why Dual Fermion results violate this condition, we plot spin susceptibility  $\chi(q,\Omega_n)$  and its dressed bubble (GG) and vertex terms in Fig. 7. The spin susceptibility equals the sum of the GG and the vertex terms. The right panel of Fig. 7 shows that vertex contribution does not exactly cancel the bubble contribution at  $i\Omega_n$  for  $n \neq 0$ . Other methods of restoration exist.<sup>61,62</sup> The magnitude of this violation is temperature dependent. As temperature increases, the value of the first Matsubara frequency decreases, see Fig. 8, and at high temperature (T/t = 0.5) becomes essentially uniformly zero, satisfying the expectation that  $\chi(q = \Gamma, \omega) = 0$  for  $\omega = 0$ .

The violation of this cancellation is induced by the approximate nature of the Dual Fermion procedure, which is based on a vertex function expansion of an auxiliary Anderson impurity coupled to a bath,<sup>47</sup> a problem for which spin is not conserved. While the exact summation of all contributions to all orders<sup>49</sup> would restore this symmetry, the perturbative ladder Dual Fermion vertex only partially cancels the *GG* bubble contribution. We expect  $\omega_s(0,0)$  to decrease in energy as the system becomes metallic. This is reflected in both our high temperature and doped data.

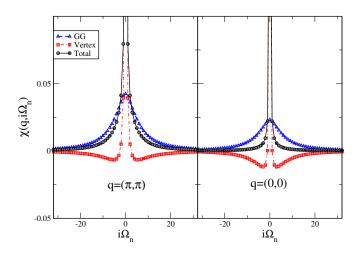


Figure 7. Re $\chi(i\Omega_n, q)$  for  $q = (\pi, \pi)$  (left) and q = (0, 0) (right) at U/t = 8, T/t = 0.2, t'/t = -0.3, and n = 1. The total susceptibility (black) is decomposed into contributions from the dressed polarization bubble, GG, shown in blue and the vertex contributions shown in red.

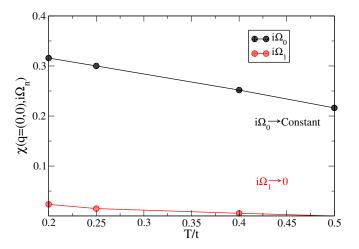


Figure 8.  $\chi$  for the zeroth and first bosonic Matsubara frequencies as a function of T/t. The other parameters are the same as in Fig. 7

#### III. RESULTS

We present Dual Fermion results for the dynamical spin susceptibility of the single band Hubbard model obtained in the intermediate interaction strength regime where both weak coupling perturbative methods and strong coupling expansions fail. We have shown that the Dual Fermion results are qualitatively correct at high temperatures and note that our calculations have the advantage of a fine-grained momentum resolution of up to  $64 \times 64 = 4096$  points in the Brillouin zone.

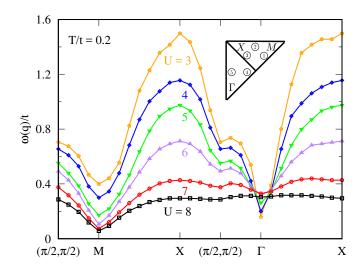


Figure 9. Dual Fermion results for  $\omega_s(q)/t$  with increasing  $U/t = 3 \rightarrow 8$ , at T/t = 0.2, t'/t = -0.3, and n = 1. Inset: path in the Brillouin zone.

#### A. Spin-wave dispersion at half filling

Fig. 9 shows the momentum dependence of the spin wave dispersion  $\omega_s(q)$  from the Dual Fermion method of the half-filled system along high symmetry paths in the first Brillouin zone (see inset), for interaction strengths ranging from U/t = 3 to U/t = 8. Results are obtained at temperature T/t = 0.2 and next-nearest neighbor hopping t'/t = -0.3. At weak interaction U/t = 3 (orange circles), the spin mode,  $\omega_s(q)$ , at M and X points is at higher energy than other interaction strengths. Increasing the interaction towards U/t = 8 results in a decrease in  $\omega_s(q)$  at these two points. This reduction in energy is accompanied by an increase in amplitude of the susceptibility, indicating strong low-energy spin fluctuations.

We compare our numerical data to the experimental spin susceptibilities obtained on  $\text{LaCuO}_4^2$  (black points, right axis, see also Ref. 63) in the upper panel of Fig. 10. Also shown is a linear spin-wave fit with parameters determined by Coldea *et al.*<sup>2</sup> Our simulations were obtained for U/t = 7.6 and t'/t = -0.3. Ref. 2 fitted the linear spin-wave results by a set of nearest and further Heisenberg exchange constants, J, J', J'' as well as a substantial ring exchange  $J_c$ , and found J = 138meV, J' = J'' = 2meV and  $J_c = 40$ meV.

From a comparison between the overall shape of the spin excitation dispersion in experiment, Fig. 10, and calculation, and in particular from the behavior between M, X, and  $(\pi/2, \pi/2)$ , we can conclude that an appropriate Hubbard interaction strength for modeling the data should be between U = 7t and U = 8t. Specifically, the weak momentum dependence observed along the M-X- $(\pi/2, \pi/2)$  lines is inconsistent with an interaction strength much less than U = 7t.

The lower panel of Fig. 10 shows calculated and experimental data for the imaginary part of the suscepti-

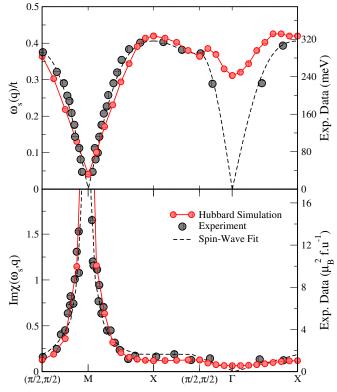


Figure 10. Top: Dual Fermion simulation results of  $\omega_s(q)/t$  for U/t = 7.6 at T/t = 0.2 with t'/t = -0.3 at  $\langle n \rangle = 1$ . Dashed line and filled grey circles are linear spin-wave fit and experimental data from Coldea et al.<sup>2</sup>. Left (theory) and right (experiment) axes differ by a prefactor of 2.36. Bottom: Dual Fermion results for  $\text{Im}\chi(\omega_s(q))$  and experimental curves rescaled to the Hubbard model. Right hand axis is scale of original neutron data from Coldea *et al.*<sup>2</sup>.

bility at its maximum point  $\omega_s(q)$ . Spin excitations in both calculation and experiment are dominated by the strong low-energy excitation near  $(\pi, \pi)$  and proportional to each other.

An obvious point of disagreement between our data for  $\omega_s(q)$  and the experimental results is the overall magitude of the spin-wave dispersion. For generally accepted values of  $U/t \sim 7-8$ , and using a value of  $t \sim 0.35 eV$ ,<sup>64</sup> we find that  $\omega_s(q = (\pi/2, \pi/2)) = 0.4t = 142 m eV$ . This value is a factor of 2.36 below the experimental value. Since we expect the Dual Fermion method to be correct only up to a prefactor (see Fig. 4 where  $1/r \approx 2$  at the higher T/t = 1/3) this scaling factor is consistent.

#### B. Doping dependence of the spin-wave dispersion

The spin-wave dispersion is highly doping dependent (Fig. 11), and data shows a pronounced difference between electron and hole doping, with the spin wave energy increasing much faster for electron than for hole doping, except very near the M point. The interpretation of Dual Fermion data is complicated by the fact that the

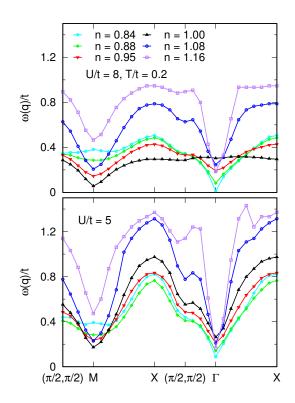


Figure 11. Momentum dependence of spin-wave dispersion  $\omega_s(q)/t$  for densities indicated, for U/t = 8 (upper panel) and U/t = 5 (lower panel) at T/t = 0.2 and t'/t = -0.3.

rescaling prefactor is strongly doping and interaction dependent (Fig. 4). Also, the temperature dependence of the rescaling factors is unknown (data is only available down to T/t = 1/3). We show our results without rescaling r, but we expect the general conclusions we draw here to be robust based on r at higher temperature. At both intermediate (U/t = 5) and strong (U/t = 8) interaction strength,  $\omega_s(q)$  near  $(\pi, \pi)$  quickly increases with doping. At the X point, hole doping reduces  $\omega_s$  and electron doping increases  $\omega_s$  at intermediate interaction, whereas for strong coupling electron doping leads to a sharp increase and only a moderate increase and eventual saturation for hole doping. No change is visible upon hole doping at  $(\pi/2, \pi/2)$ , whereas electron doping increases  $\omega_s(q)$  by a factor of at least two.

Fig. 12 shows a detailed dependence of the spin-wave dispersion on doping, plotted as a function of occupation, n, for U/t = 8 (left panel) and U/t = 5 (right panel). In particular a strong difference between electron (n > 1) and hole (n < 1) doping is visible in the data at  $(3\pi/4, 0)$  and  $(\pi, 0)$ , which shows no doping dependence on the hole-doped side but a rather strong momentum dependence on the electron-doped side. The data shown here are not rescaled to lattice Monte Carlo data. This result is qualitatively consistent with determinant quantum Monte Carlo calculations at higher temperature,<sup>44</sup> and with LSCO data from Dean *et al.*<sup>65</sup> (see also Ref. 44). At  $q = (\pi, \pi)$  both electron and hole doping increase  $\omega_s$  shown in blue squares, which rises to higher energy for

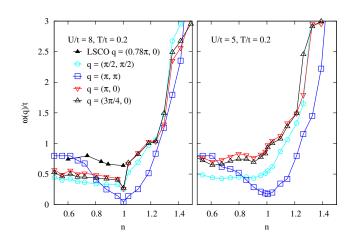


Figure 12. Spin-wave dispersion  $\omega_s(q)$  for interaction strengths U/t = 8 and U/t = 5 at fixed q values and T/t = 0.2. Also shown is experimental RIXS data on LSCO from Dean *et al.*<sup>65</sup>.

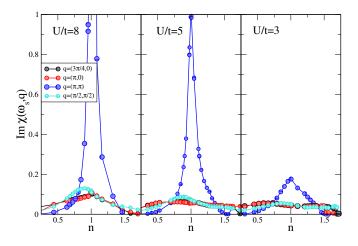


Figure 13. Amplitude of  $\text{Im}\chi(\omega_s, \mathbf{q})$  for fixed q as a function of density for U/t = 8, 5 and 3, at t'/t = -0.3 and T/t = 0.2.

doping in each direction.

Finally, as interaction strength decreases from U/t = 8 to 5 we see that  $q = (\pi, \pi)$  maintains a minimal value near n = 1 but the mode energy increases; and that  $q = (\pi, 0)$  and  $(3\pi/4, 0)$  continues to show little change in hole doping and increases upon electron doping.

Fig. 13 shows the amplitude of  $\text{Im}\chi(\omega, \mathbf{q})$  for fixed q as a function of density for U/t = 8, 5, and 3. The amplitudes of  $\text{Im}\chi(\omega, \mathbf{q})$  at  $(3\pi/4, 0)$ ,  $(\pi, 0)$ , and  $(\pi, \pi)$  are suppressed by both hole and electron dopings. For  $q = (\pi/2, \pi/2)$ , the amplitude of  $\text{Im}\chi(\omega, \mathbf{q})$  is enhanced by initial hole doping and then suppressed by doping more holes; on the electron doping side, the amplitude of  $\text{Im}\chi(\omega, \mathbf{q})$  is suppressed monotonically by electron doping at  $q = (\pi/2, \pi/2)$ .

#### C. Spin excitation dispersion near M point

The left panel of Fig. 14 shows a simulated spin excitation dispersion near  $(\pi, \pi)$  for momenta  $q = (\pi - \delta, \pi)$  and interaction strengths U/t = 8 at half filling (black) and n = 0.95 (red). At low frequencies, the dispersion peaks are located at  $\delta = 0$ . At higher frequencies, the dispersions become incommensurate and begin to disperse at a characteristic frequency  $\omega_c$ , creating a 'Y'-shape. As the system is hole doped from n = 1 to n = 0.95,  $\omega_c$  increases substantially.

Data are consistent with a resolution effect, where a single peak at the  $(\pi, \pi)$  point (for  $\omega = 0$ ) with a constant width disperses linearly away from  $(\pi, \pi)$  for higher frequencies. Uncertainties of the analytical continuation procedure and the dual fermion approximation make it difficult to rule out alternative explanations.

For comparison, the right panel of Fig. 14 shows experimental data reproduced from Ref. 66. A  $t = 460 \text{ meV}^{67,68}$  allows us to establish the right hand axis of the left hand frame in Fig. 14. We can see that  $\omega_c = 40 \text{ meV}$  for n = 1 is smaller than the experimental observation of  $\omega_c = 60 \text{ meV}$  while n = 0.95 is much larger with  $\omega_c = 150 \text{ meV}$ .

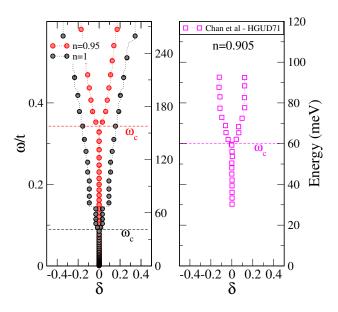


Figure 14. Left: Peaks in the spin excitation dispersion cuts of Im $\chi$  at fixed frequency for U/t = 8, t'/t = -0.3, T/t = 0.2 for densities n = 1, 0.94 and 0.86. Right: Data from Chan *et al.*<sup>66</sup>, their Fig. 4(a), showing data for HGUD71 (n = 0.905). The x-axis  $\delta$  in both frames denotes the deviation from  $(\pi, \pi)$  in reciprocal lattice units.

To further examine the spin excitation spectrum around the  $(\pi,\pi)$  region, we extract the correlation length  $\xi$  by fitting the peak structure along the  $(\pi,\delta)$ direction, see Fig. 15, at T/t = 0.2 as a function of doping for U/t = 8, 5, and 3. We observe that a reduction in interaction strength or doping in either direction causes a sharp decrease of the correlation length, which in turn

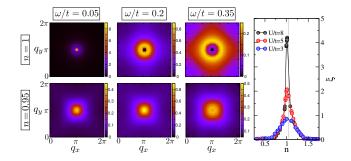


Figure 15. Left: Simulation results for  $\text{Im}\chi(\omega, \mathbf{q})$  at U/t = 8, t'/t = -0.3 and T/t = 0.2 at n = 1 (top row) and n = 0.95 (bottom row) for fixed frequencies in the  $q_x$  and  $q_y$  plane. Right: Doping dependence of the antiferromagnetic correlation length,  $\xi$ , for several interaction strengths U, obtained from a fit of  $\chi$  along the direction  $(q_x, q_y) = (q_x, \pi)$  with the function  $f(q_x, \xi) = A/((q_x - \pi)^2 + \xi^{-2})$ .<sup>69,70</sup>

results in a broadening of the spin structures at low energies.  $\xi$  is marginally larger on the electron doped side (a result of the broken particle-hole symmetry) and this difference increases with the interaction strength U/t.

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

In summary, we have presented results from the Dual Fermion approximation for the spin excitation spectrum in the Hubbard model. The results show striking qualitative similarities with experiments in cuprate materials. The Dual Fermion results have been crosschecked both against the dynamical cluster approximation and against lattice Monte Carlo results at high temperature. Away from the  $\Gamma$  point, the spectrum is believed to be accurate up to a momentum-independent prefactor and has a precise momentum resolution. As the prefactor is doping, interaction, and presumably temperature dependent, and as control calculations from the dynamical cluster approximation and lattice Monte Carlo are restricted to small systems or high temperature, a precise quantitative comparison between numerics and experimental spin excitations is not possible at this time. In addition, a quantitative comparison near the  $\Gamma$  point requires a solution that respects spin conservation.

Nevertheless, from the overall shape of the spin excitation dispersion and in particular the behavior between M, X, and  $(\pi/2, \pi/2)$ , we can conclude that an appropriate Hubbard interaction strength for modeling experimental data should be between U/t = 7 and U/t = 8.

The existing literature shows that, on the energetic and single-particle level, agreement between model systems calculations on Hubbard models and experiment is remarkable and is often not just qualitative but quantitative, despite the difficulty of deriving this model rigorously from ab-initio Hamiltonians.<sup>71,72</sup> Dynamical Cluster calculations, for instance, have revealed pseudogaps<sup>19,24,73</sup> caused by short-ranged antiferromagnetic correlations<sup>19,28</sup> and d-wave superconductivity<sup>34,74</sup> with consistent energetic behavior.<sup>33</sup>

On the two-particle level, similar progress has been made primarily for quantities that are either local (such as the NMR probe<sup>29</sup>), static,<sup>39</sup> or contain a slowly vary-ing matrix element. One important exception is the work by Jia and collaborators<sup>44</sup> on simulations of the resonant X-ray scattering cross section. These authors presented  $\chi''(q,\omega)$  obtained from lattice Monte Carlo calculations for the Hubbard model with U = 8t and t'/t = -0.3at the temperature  $T = t/3 \sim 1200K$ , and reported quantitative agreement with magnetic neutron scattering measurements. Our lattice Monte Carlo results at these parameters are in quantitative agreement, as are our Dual Fermion results (up to a rescaling); our studies of other U values reinforce the conclusion that the Hubbard model with  $U \sim 7 - 8t$  is a good description of cuprate physics. The continuous momentum resolution of the Dual Fermion technique now shows that, in

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addition, many of the momentum and energy dependent features seen in experiment are also observed in calculations.

#### V. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank T. Devereaux and A.-M. Tremblay for fruitful discussions. Dual Fermion methods development has been supported by the Simons collaboration on the many-electron problem, application to susceptibilities and neutron spectroscopy by NSF-DMR-1606348. JPFL acknowledges the support of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), RGPIN-2017-04253. Computational resources were provided by TG-DMR130036, ACENET and Compute Canada.

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