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Momentum-Space Cluster Dual Fermion Method

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Recent years have seen the development of two types of non-local extensions to the single-site dynamical mean field theory. On one hand, cluster approximations, such as the dynamical cluster approximation, recover short-range momentum-dependent correlations non-perturbatively. On the other hand, diagrammatic extensions, such as the dual fermion theory, recover long ranged corrections perturbatively. The correct treatment of both strong short-ranged and weak long-ranged correlations within the same framework is therefore expected to lead to a quick convergence of results, and offers the potential of obtaining smooth self-energies in non-perturbative regimes of phase space. In this paper, we present an exact cluster dual fermion method based on an expansion around the dynamical cluster approximation. Unlike previous formulations, our method does not employ a coarse graining approximation to the interaction, which we show to be the leading source of error at high temperature, and converges to the exact result independent of the size of the underlying cluster. We illustrate the power of the method with results for the second-order cluster dual fermion approximation to the single-particle self-energies and double occupancies.

I. INTRODUCTION

The complexity of the exact numerical solution of fermionic lattice model systems such as the two-dimensional Hubbard model¹ is generally believed to scale exponentially as a function of system size. There is therefore a need for approximations that capture the salient aspects of these models while remaining computationally affordable, such that routine simulations of large parameter spaces can be performed.

In particular, there is a need for reliable approximations to single- and two-particle response functions for ‘correlated’ systems at intermediate-to-large interaction strengths and at finite temperature, as these correspond to the quantities measured in experiments such as angle-resolved photoemission spectroscopy,² scanning tunneling microscopy,³ electronic Raman scattering,⁴ nuclear magnetic resonance,⁵ or resonant inelastic X-ray scattering.⁶ In this regime, electronic correlations tend to be long ranged, non-perturbative, and strongly momentum dependent.¹

The dynamical mean field approximation (DMFT),^{7–10} originally developed as an exact theory for the Hubbard model in the infinite dimensional limit, has evolved into a popular approximation for simulating strongly correlated lattice models. It is based on the realization that, if correlations and interactions are approximated as local in space, the numerically intractable lattice system can be mapped onto an effective impurity embedded in a self-consistently determined medium. The impurity problem can then be solved efficiently using numerical impurity solver algorithms.¹¹ However, the approximation of a local self-energy is often severe, and momentum dependent effects such as the pseudogap state or d-wave superconductivity in the Hubbard model¹² are missed entirely.

Two types of extensions to address these shortcomings have been proposed. On one hand, cluster methods¹³ (formulated in real space, such as the cellular dynamical

mean field theory^{14,15}, or in k-space, such as the dynamical cluster approximation^{16–18} (DCA)) systematically enlarge the size of the impurity or ‘cluster’ and recover the exact solution in the infinite cluster size limit.^{1,19–22} These methods are particularly well adapted to study parameter regimes with strong short-ranged correlations but generally miss correlations on length scales beyond the cluster size. On the other hand, methods that combine perturbative diagrammatic expansions with a non-perturbative solution of a confined problem, such as the Dual Fermion (DF) method,²³ the dynamical vertex approximation,²⁴ trilex,²⁵ quadrilex²⁶ or – in the case of non-local interactions – the self-energy embedding theory,^{27,28} dual bosons,²⁹ or EDMFT+GW,^{30,31} typically capture some correlations on all length scales but neglect diagrams that may be important in a strongly correlated regime. While several of these extensions can in principle be made exact by varying a control parameter (such as cluster size or the perturbation expansion order), the convergence to the exact limit deep in the correlated regime is often too slow to be practical.

The combination of cluster methods with diagrammatic extensions is therefore desirable, as the exact treatment of short-range correlation in combination with a diagrammatic treatment of long-range correlations promises a faster convergence to the thermodynamic limit. Two such methods have been presented before: the combination of the DF method with real-space cluster dynamical mean field theory³² and exact diagonalization of isolated clusters³³; and a combination of the k-space dynamical cluster approximation with the DF method.³⁴

In this paper we show that the method presented in Ref. 34 contains an additional coarse-graining approximation and becomes exact only in the limit of cluster size $N_c \rightarrow \infty$ in which the underlying DCA cluster method converges itself and dual fermion corrections disappear, whereas the methods of Refs. 32 and 33 become prohibitively expensive for large clusters. We then present

a momentum-space dual fermion cluster method which utilizes an *exact* mapping to the dual fermion variables, avoiding the coarse graining approximation. We show that the coarse graining approximation used in Ref. 34 is the dominant approximation in practice, and that it can be avoided by breaking translational symmetry in the solution of the dual fermion problem, leading to a method that is exact for any cluster size.

Our results for self-energies and double occupancies of the Hubbard model obtained on four-site clusters show that there is a substantial improvement of dual fermion cluster results over single site DF results, both in single-particle and in two-particle quantities. We also demonstrate that basing the method on a translationally invariant impurity problem leads to a manageable scaling of the impurity vertex functions, offering the possibility to perform simulations on clusters large enough to exhibit a clear pseudogap and superconducting state.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: In Sec. II we introduce the the model, derive the dynamical cluster dual fermion method of Ref. 34, and show how the coarse graining approximation can be avoided by breaking translational invariance. In Sec. III we show results from our method and compare them to various other methods, including finite cluster DCA and DF; We conclude and summarize in Sec. IV.

II. METHOD

In this paper, we limit ourselves to studying the Hubbard model on a two-dimensional square lattice with nearest neighbor hopping t , chemical potential μ , and on-site interaction U ,

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle \sigma} t_{ij} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + U \sum_{\mathbf{i}} n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow} - \mu \sum_{\mathbf{i}\sigma} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{i\sigma}. \quad (1)$$

The operators $c_i^{(\dagger)}$ annihilate (create) a particle at lattice site \mathbf{i} , and $n_i = c_i^\dagger c_i$ denotes the particle number at site \mathbf{i} .

To start the derivation of cluster methods, we approximate the infinite lattice problem by a finite (but large) number of sites N_{tot} , which we divide into V clusters of size N_c each, such that $N_{tot} = VN_c$. We will refer to the lattice formed by the V clusters as the ‘super-lattice’. The position i of a coordinate in the original lattice is then given as the pair of $\mathbf{I}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}$, where $\tilde{\mathbf{i}} = \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_V$ denotes the position of a cluster in the lattice and $\mathbf{I} = \mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_{N_c}$ labels sites within each cluster, such that $\mathbf{i} = \tilde{\mathbf{i}} + \mathbf{I}$.¹³ Eq. 1 then reads:

$$H = \sum_{\langle \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \tilde{\mathbf{j}} \rangle \sigma} t_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \tilde{\mathbf{j}} + \tilde{\mathbf{j}}} c_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}} \sigma}^\dagger c_{\tilde{\mathbf{j}} + \tilde{\mathbf{j}} \sigma} + U \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} c_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}} \uparrow}^\dagger c_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}} \uparrow} c_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}} \downarrow}^\dagger c_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}} \downarrow} - \mu \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}} \sigma} c_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}} \sigma}^\dagger c_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}} \sigma}. \quad (2)$$

The corresponding reciprocal k -space is split into N_c cells labeled by momentum \mathbf{K} with V momenta $\tilde{\mathbf{k}}$ inside each cell. Operators in reciprocal space and in real space are related by the Fourier transforms

$$c_{\mathbf{I} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{VN_c}} \sum_{\mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{k}}} c_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma} e^{i(\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}})(\mathbf{I} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}})}; \quad (3a)$$

$$c_{\mathbf{I} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma}^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{VN_c}} \sum_{\mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{k}}} c_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^\dagger e^{-i(\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}})(\mathbf{I} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}})}; \quad (3b)$$

$$c_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{VN_c}} \sum_{\mathbf{I}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}} c_{\mathbf{I} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma} e^{-i(\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}})(\mathbf{I} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}})}; \quad (3c)$$

$$c_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{VN_c}} \sum_{\mathbf{I}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}} c_{\mathbf{I} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma}^\dagger e^{i(\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}})(\mathbf{I} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}})}. \quad (3d)$$

Fourier transforming the Hamiltonian of Eq. 2 to reciprocal k -space according to Eq. 3 results in

$$H = \sum_{\mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{k}} \sigma} \epsilon_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}} c_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma} - \mu \sum_{\mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{k}} \sigma} c_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma} + \frac{U}{N_c^2 V^2} \sum_{\substack{\mathbf{K}_1, \mathbf{K}_2, \mathbf{K}_3, \mathbf{K}_4 \\ \mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3, \mathbf{k}_4}} c_{\mathbf{K}_1 + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_1 \uparrow}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{K}_2 + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_2 \uparrow} c_{\mathbf{K}_3 + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_3 \downarrow}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{K}_4 + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_4 \downarrow} \Lambda, \quad (4)$$

where $\epsilon_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}} = \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \tilde{\mathbf{j}}} t_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \tilde{\mathbf{j}} + \tilde{\mathbf{j}}} e^{i(\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}})(\mathbf{I} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}} - \mathbf{J} - \tilde{\mathbf{j}})}$ is the lattice dispersion and

$$\Lambda = \sum_{\mathbf{I}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}} e^{-i(\mathbf{K}_1 + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_1 + \mathbf{K}_3 + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_3 - \mathbf{K}_2 - \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_2 - \mathbf{K}_4 - \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_4)(\mathbf{I} + \tilde{\mathbf{i}})} \quad (5)$$

is the ‘Laue function’¹³ which stems from the Fourier transform defined in Eq. 3 and guarantees momentum conservation of the interaction.

For the derivation of the DF formalism (presented in Sec. II A) it is convenient to switch to an action formulation and Grassmann variables. The action corresponding to Eq. 4 can be expressed as

$$S = S^{(int)} + \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} \int d\tau \sum_{\mathbf{K}, \sigma} c_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^*(\tau) ((\partial_\tau - \mu) + \epsilon_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}}) c_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}(\tau), \quad (6)$$

where $c_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}(\tau)$ is a fermionic Grassmann variable, and $S^{(int)}$ is the interacting part of the Hubbard action, defined as

$$S^{(int)} = \frac{U}{N_c^2 V^2} \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{k}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_2, \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_3, \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_4} \int d\tau \sum_{\mathbf{K}_1, \mathbf{K}_2, \mathbf{K}_3, \mathbf{K}_4} c_{\mathbf{K}_1 + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_1 \uparrow}^*(\tau) c_{\mathbf{K}_2 + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_2 \uparrow}(\tau) \times c_{\mathbf{K}_3 + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_3 \downarrow}^*(\tau) c_{\mathbf{K}_4 + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_4 \downarrow}(\tau) \Lambda. \quad (7)$$

Next, we employ a Fourier transform from imaginary

time τ to Matsubara frequency $w_n = (2n + 1)\pi T$, with

$$c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\beta}} \int c_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}(\tau) e^{-i\tau\omega_n} d\tau; \quad (8a)$$

$$c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^* = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\beta}} \int c_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^*(\tau) e^{i\tau\omega_n} d\tau. \quad (8b)$$

The resulting Hubbard model action in reciprocal space and Matsubara frequencies then reads

$$S = - \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\sigma} c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^* (i\omega_n + \mu - \epsilon_{\mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}}) c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma} + \frac{U}{N_c^2 V^2 \beta} \sum_{\substack{n, m, l \\ \mathbf{K}_1 \mathbf{K}_2 \mathbf{K}_3 \mathbf{K}_4 \\ \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_1 \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_2 \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_3 \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_4}} c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}_1 + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_1, \uparrow} c_{\omega_n + \Omega_l, \mathbf{K}_2 + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_2, \uparrow} c_{\omega_m + \Omega_l, \mathbf{K}_3 + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_3, \downarrow}^* c_{\omega_m, \mathbf{K}_4 + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}_4, \downarrow} \Lambda, \quad (9)$$

with bosonic transfer frequency $\Omega_n = \frac{2n\pi}{\beta}$. Eq. 9 is the starting point for the cluster DF derivations presented in following sections.

A. Dual Fermion method

In this section, we give a short overview of the single site DF method.²³ A detailed discussion of the formalism can be found in Ref. 35. The DF method aims to use DMFT as a starting point and reintroduce all non-local correlation effects via a diagrammatic perturbation series around DMFT.

The construction of the DF approximation is typically done in two steps. First, a DMFT impurity model that describes local correlations is constructed and solved self-consistently using numerical impurity solvers.¹¹ Second, at the cost of the introduction of new fermionic operators, a perturbation theory of the original lattice model in terms of local quantities is formulated. In this construction, the DMFT is a zeroth-order approximation, and non-local correlations are obtained by a diagrammatic perturbation series of the DF problem. The DF method utilizes a formally exact mapping from the original lattice problem to so-called ‘dual’ variables, and is formulated in terms of a hierarchy of (two-particle, three-particle, etc) impurity vertices and modified ‘dual’ propagators. In practical implementation of the DF method, the hierarchy of impurity vertices is then usually truncated to the two-particle vertex, and only second order or ladder-type diagrams of the perturbation series are considered.

The dual fermion method has provided important insights to electron correlation effects in the Hubbard model^{35–38} and in disordered lattice systems.³⁹ It has also found applications in the study of the Falicov-Kimball model,^{40–42} where the equations can be solved exactly.

Unfortunately, strong non-local fluctuations, such as those present near half-filling in the two-dimensional Hubbard model, render the local DMFT approximation less suitable as a starting point for DF perturbation expansion. For this reason, starting points that include non-local correlations³² are needed to get an accurate representation of the model system at low DF expansion order. Developing such a starting point is the topic of the present paper.

B. DCA method and DCA approximation

Both Ref. 34 and our momentum-space cluster DF method employ the DCA as a zeroth order approximation around which the DF perturbation expansion is performed. In this section, we briefly review dynamical cluster approximation itself. While we only outlined the main ideas used in the DCA construction, a more detailed description of the DCA method can be found in Ref. 13.

DCA is based on an approximation of the infinite, intractable lattice model by a periodic cluster of size N_c embedded in a self-consistently determined host defined by hybridization function $\Delta_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}}$. Conceptually, this is done by partitioning the lattice with N sites into clusters containing N_c sites which, in reciprocal space, is equivalent to the division of the Brillouin zone of the underlying lattice into clusters with N_c cells centered at the reciprocal sub-lattice vectors \mathbf{K} . The clusters are subject to periodic boundary conditions.

In its construction, the DCA employs two approximations. First, DCA assumes that the self-energy of the original lattice and of the cluster are related by $\Sigma(\mathbf{k}, \omega) \approx \Sigma_c(\mathbf{K}, \omega)$, where $\Sigma(\mathbf{k}, \omega)$ denotes the lattice self-energy and $\Sigma_c(\mathbf{K}, \omega)$ the cluster self-energy, and $\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{K} + \tilde{\mathbf{k}}$. In other words, the self-energy is assumed to be con-

stant within each cluster ‘cell’. Second, DCA assumes that each cluster is indistinguishable in the super-lattice and that momentum is only conserved within the cluster. This is equivalent to the approximation of momentum conservation at each vertex by neglecting the phase factors $e^{i\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}$ and $e^{i\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\mathbf{I}}$, respectively, in Eq. 5. This second approximation, sometimes called the ‘coarse-graining’ of the interaction term, results in replacing the Hubbard model Laue function (ensuring momentum conservation on a lattice) with the DCA Laue function

$$\Lambda \approx \Lambda_{DCA} = \sum_{\mathbf{I}} e^{-i(\mathbf{K}_1+\mathbf{K}_3-\mathbf{K}_2-\mathbf{K}_4)\mathbf{I}} \quad (10)$$

(which ensures momentum conservation within a cluster).^{13,43}

The standard DCA derivation then approximates Eq. 9 by a cluster action of the form¹³

$$S_c = - \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\sigma} c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \sigma}^* G_c^0(\omega_n)^{-1} c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \sigma} + S_{int}^{(c)}. \quad (11)$$

In this equation, $S_{int}^{(c)}$ is the interacting part of the cluster action defined as

$$S_{int}^{(c)} = \frac{U}{N_c^2 \beta} \sum_{\substack{n, m, l \\ \mathbf{K}_1 \mathbf{K}_2 \mathbf{K}_3 \mathbf{K}_4}} c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}_1, \uparrow}^* c_{\omega_n + \Omega_l, \mathbf{K}_2, \uparrow} \times \\ \times c_{\omega_m + \Omega_l, \mathbf{K}_3, \downarrow}^* c_{\omega_m, \mathbf{K}_4, \downarrow} \Lambda_{DCA}, \quad (12)$$

and $G_c^0(\mathbf{K}, \omega_n) = (i\omega_n + \mu - \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} - \Delta_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}})^{-1}$ is the bare cluster Green’s function, with level energies $\bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}}$ and hybridization function $\Delta_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}}$ chosen such that $\Sigma(\mathbf{k}) = \Sigma_c(\mathbf{K})$.¹³ A solution is typically obtained iteratively, starting from some initial guess for $\Delta_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}}$, until the convergence criterion $\Sigma(\mathbf{k}) = \Sigma_c(\mathbf{K})$ is satisfied.

C. DCA dual fermion methods

In this section, we derive two cluster dual fermion methods that use the dynamical cluster approximation as a starting point. In Sec. II C 1 we show that, if the Laue function approximations of Sec. II B is kept, the approximate method of Ref. 34 is obtained. Subsequently, in Sec. II C 2, we show how our momentum-space cluster DF method avoids this approximation.

DCA dual fermion methods aim to perform a dual fermion expansion around cluster problems solved by the dynamical cluster approximation. To this end, Eq. 9 is expressed in terms of DCA cluster actions, Eq. 11, with additional inter-cluster correction terms to systematically recover the approximations introduced within the DCA framework.

1. DCA dual fermions with Laue approximation

As we have shown in Sec. II B, in addition to restricting the self-energy dependence to the cluster momenta

$\Sigma(\mathbf{K}, \omega_n)$ only, the DCA utilizes the coarse-graining of the interaction term approximation, resulting in neglecting of $e^{i\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}$ and $e^{i\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\mathbf{I}}$ phase factors in the lattice Laue function. In this section, we show a method that will allow the construction of a fully momentum dependent self energy $\Sigma(\mathbf{k}, \omega_n)$. However, the DF mapping used will remain approximate. In particular, we will include the phase factor $e^{i\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}$, but keep the approximation for the phase factor $e^{i\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\mathbf{I}}$ to have cluster momentum conservation inside the cluster.

To start the construction, we rewrite the lattice action, Eq. 9, in terms of a sum of DCA cluster actions with additional non-local correction terms. To make the clusters translationally invariant, we set $e^{i\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\mathbf{I}} = 1$ in the lattice Laue function, Eq. 5, resulting in

$$\Lambda \approx \sum_{\mathbf{I}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}} e^{-i(\mathbf{K}_1+\mathbf{K}_3-\mathbf{K}_2-\mathbf{K}_4)\mathbf{I}} e^{-i(\tilde{\mathbf{k}}_1+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}_3-\tilde{\mathbf{k}}_2-\tilde{\mathbf{k}}_4)\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} = \\ = \Lambda_{DCA} \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} e^{-i(\tilde{\mathbf{k}}_1+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}_3-\tilde{\mathbf{k}}_2-\tilde{\mathbf{k}}_4)\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}. \quad (13)$$

This allows us to define the annihilation operator at (real-space) cluster position $\tilde{\mathbf{i}}$ and (cluster reciprocal coordinate) \mathbf{K} using Eq. 3 to approximate the interacting part of the lattice action while keeping the kinetic part exact

$$c_{\mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_c}} \sum_{\mathbf{I}} c_{\mathbf{I}+\tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma} e^{-i\mathbf{K}\mathbf{I}}, \quad (14)$$

and to rewrite the lattice action of Eq. 9 as

$$S = - \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\sigma} c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^* (i\omega_n + \mu - \epsilon_{\mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}) c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma} + \\ + \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} S_{int}^{(\tilde{\mathbf{i}})}, \quad (15)$$

where $S_{int}^{(\tilde{\mathbf{i}})}$ is the interacting part of the action

$$S_{int}^{(\tilde{\mathbf{i}})} = \frac{U}{N_c^2 \beta} \sum_{\substack{n, m, l \\ \mathbf{K}_1 \mathbf{K}_2 \mathbf{K}_3 \mathbf{K}_4}} c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \uparrow}^* c_{\omega_n + \Omega_l, \mathbf{K}_2, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \uparrow} \times \\ \times c_{\omega_m + \Omega_l, \mathbf{K}_3, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \downarrow}^* c_{\omega_m, \mathbf{K}_4, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \downarrow} \Lambda_{DCA}, \quad (16)$$

which is equivalent to the definition of the interacting part of the DCA effective action of. Eq. 12 for each cluster at position $\tilde{\mathbf{i}}$ in the super-lattice.

Following the DF construction, now we can map approximated lattice action, Eq. 15, to a set of DCA cluster actions, Eq. 11, with additional inter-cluster corrections. For this we add and subtract $\sum_{n\mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{i}}\sigma} c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma}^* (\bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} +$

$\Delta_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}}) c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma}$ into the lattice action of Eq. 15,

$$S = - \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\sigma} c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^* (i\omega_n + \mu - \epsilon_{\mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}) c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma} + \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} S_{int}^{(\tilde{\mathbf{i}})} + \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{i}}\sigma} c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma}^* (\bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} + \Delta_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}}) c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma} - \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{i}}\sigma} c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma}^* (\bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} + \Delta_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}}) c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma}. \quad (17)$$

Since the cluster patch density obeys $\sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma}^* c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma} = \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^* c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}$, we can transform the last term in the super-lattice reciprocal space:

$$S = - \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{i}}\sigma} c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma}^* (i\omega_n + \mu - \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} - \Delta_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}}) c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma} + \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} S_{int}^{(\tilde{\mathbf{i}})} - \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\sigma} c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^* (\Delta_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}} + \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} - \epsilon_{\mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}) c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}. \quad (18)$$

Or

$$S = \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} S_c^{(\tilde{\mathbf{i}})} - \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\sigma} c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^* (\Delta_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}} + \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} - \epsilon_{\mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}) c_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}. \quad (19)$$

So far, we have rewritten our lattice action in terms of the set of cluster actions $S_c^{(\tilde{\mathbf{i}})}$ plus the last terms, which describe the coupling between the super-sites.

Next, we introduce the dual fermion variables (ξ^*, ξ) by performing a Hubbard-Stratonovich transformation in the last term for each inter-cluster momenta $\tilde{\mathbf{k}}$, choosing $\alpha = \{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{k}}\}$, $\beta = \{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}', \tilde{\mathbf{k}}\}$, $a_{\alpha\beta} = [(\Delta_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}} + \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} - \epsilon_{\mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}) \delta_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'}]^{-1}$ and b as an arbitrary function of ω_n, \mathbf{K} and σ :

$$e^{c_{\alpha}^* a_{\alpha\beta}^{-1} c_{\beta}} = \frac{1}{\det(b_{\alpha} a_{\alpha\beta} b_{\beta})} \int e^{-\xi_{\alpha}^* b_{\alpha} a_{\alpha\beta} b_{\beta} \xi_{\beta} + \xi_{\alpha}^* b_{\alpha} c_{\alpha} + c_{\alpha}^* b_{\alpha} \xi_{\alpha}} \mathcal{D}[\xi^*, \xi], \quad (20)$$

such that

$$S = \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} S_c^{(\tilde{\mathbf{i}})} + \sum_{K\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} \xi_{K\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}^* b_K \frac{1}{(\Delta_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}} + \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} - \epsilon_{\mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}})} b_K \xi_{K\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} - \sum_{K\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} (\xi_{K\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}^* b_K c_{K\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} + c_{K\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}^* b_K \xi_{K\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}). \quad (21)$$

Here $K = \{\omega_n \mathbf{K} \sigma\}$ is composite index for shorthand notation, and we choose $b(K) = -G_K^{(c)-1}$. Since $b(K)$ is independent of $\tilde{\mathbf{k}}$ we can Fourier transform the last term in above Eq. to the super-lattice real space, i.e. $\sum_{K\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} (\xi_{K\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}^* b_K c_{K\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} + c_{K\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}^* b_K \xi_{K\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}) = \sum_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} (\xi_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^* b_K c_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} +$

$c_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^* b_K \xi_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}})$. Eq. 21 then reads

$$S = \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} S_c^{(\tilde{\mathbf{i}})} - \sum_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} (\xi_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^* b_K c_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} + c_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^* b_K \xi_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}) + \sum_{K\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} \xi_{K\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}^* b_K \frac{1}{(\Delta_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}} + \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} - \epsilon_{\mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}})} b_K \xi_{K\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}. \quad (22)$$

This allows us to complete the mapping to the DF lattice by integrating out the lattice fermionic Grassmann variables $c_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^*, c_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}$ for each super-lattice site $\tilde{\mathbf{i}}$ separately:

$$\int e^{-S_c^{(\tilde{\mathbf{i}})}} e^{-\sum_K (\xi_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^* G_K^{(c)-1} c_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} + c_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^* G_K^{(c)-1} \xi_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}})} \mathcal{D}[c_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^*, c_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}] = \mathcal{Z}_c \left\langle e^{-\sum_K (\xi_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^* G_K^{(c)-1} c_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} + c_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^* G_K^{(c)-1} \xi_{K\tilde{\mathbf{i}}})} \right\rangle_c, \quad (23)$$

where $\langle \dots \rangle_c$ corresponds to averaging in terms of DCA cluster action. The original lattice action problem can then be expressed using only dual operators and cluster observables:

$$S[\xi^*, \xi] = \sum_{n, \mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma} \xi_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^* G_K^{(c)-1} \times \left((\Delta_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}} + \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} - \epsilon_{\mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}})^{-1} G_K^{(c)-1} \xi_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma} + \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} \left(\sum_{n\mathbf{K}\sigma} \xi_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma}^* G_K^{(c)-1} \xi_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma} + V[\xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^*, \xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}] \right) \right) = - \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\sigma} \xi_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^* \tilde{G}_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\sigma}^{(0)-1} \xi_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma} + \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} V[\xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^*, \xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}] . \quad (24)$$

Here $\tilde{G}_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\sigma}^{(0)} = -\frac{G_K^{(c)} G_K^{(c)}}{G_K^{(c)} + (\Delta_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}} + \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} - \epsilon_{\mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}})^{-1}}$ is a bare dual Green's function, and $V[\xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^*, \xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}]$ is the dual interaction term

$$V[\xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^*, \xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}] = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{(n!)^2} \sum_{K_1 \dots K_{2n}} \gamma_{c, K_1 \dots K_{2n}}^{(2n)} \times \left[\prod_{m=0}^{n-1} \xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}, K_{mn+1}}^* \xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}, K_{mn+2}} \right] \delta_{\sum_{i \in \text{odd}} K_i, \sum_{j \in \text{even}} K_j}. \quad (25)$$

Here $\gamma_c^{(2n)}$ is the antisymmetrized n -particle reducible cluster vertex function. This derivation matches the previously published results.³⁴ Note, however, that it intrinsically relies on the approximation to Λ , Eq. 13. While this approximation becomes exact in the limit of $N_c \rightarrow \infty$ (where DCA becomes exact and all dual fermion corrections disappear), the method is approximate for any finite cluster size. This is very different from single site dual fermions or the real-space cluster methods, which recover the exact result provided that all dual corrections are summed. In Sec. III, we will show that – at least for the parameter regime studied – the effect of this Laue approximation is considerable.

2. Momentum-Space Cluster Dual Fermion Method

In this section we present a cluster DF method which avoids the approximation to the Laue function. As a consequence, the dual fermion mapping will be exact for any cluster size, meaning that if all dual fermion diagrams to all orders are summed, the exact result will be recovered independent of the quality of the underlying DCA approximation.

To preserve the lattice momentum conservation and express the lattice action of Eq. 7 in terms of DCA cluster actions, we separately define Fourier transforms for intra-

(I) and inter ($\tilde{\mathbf{i}}$)-cluster momenta:

$$c_{\mathbf{I},\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\sigma} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{V}} \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} c_{\mathbf{I},\tilde{\mathbf{k}},\sigma} e^{i\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}; \quad (26a)$$

$$c_{\mathbf{I},\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\sigma} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_c}} \sum_{\mathbf{K}} c_{\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\sigma} e^{i\mathbf{K}\mathbf{I}}; \quad (26b)$$

$$c_{\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{k}},\sigma} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{V}} \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} c_{\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\sigma} e^{-i\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}; \quad (26c)$$

$$c_{\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{k}},\sigma} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_c}} \sum_{\mathbf{I}} c_{\mathbf{I},\tilde{\mathbf{k}},\sigma} e^{-i\mathbf{K}\mathbf{I}}. \quad (26d)$$

In this case the lattice action is

$$\begin{aligned} S = & - \sum_{n,\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} \sum_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\sigma} c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{k}},\sigma}^* ((i\omega_n + \mu)\delta_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'} - \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}) c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K}',\tilde{\mathbf{k}},\sigma} + \\ & + \frac{U}{N_c V \beta} \sum_{n,m,l} \sum_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\mathbf{Q}} c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{k}},\uparrow}^* c_{\omega_n+\Omega_l,\mathbf{K}+\mathbf{Q},\tilde{\mathbf{k}}+\tilde{\mathbf{q}},\uparrow} c_{\omega_m+\Omega_l,\mathbf{K}'+\mathbf{Q},\tilde{\mathbf{k}}'+\tilde{\mathbf{q}},\downarrow} c_{\omega_m,\mathbf{K}',\tilde{\mathbf{k}}',\downarrow}. \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

Here $\hat{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}$ is the reciprocal space representation of the hopping term. This hopping term becomes non-diagonal in reciprocal cluster vectors \mathbf{K} and \mathbf{K}' due to the breaking of the translational invariance.

$$\hat{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} = \frac{1}{N_c} \sum_{\mathbf{I}\mathbf{J}\tilde{\mathbf{j}}} t_{\mathbf{I}+\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\mathbf{J}+\tilde{\mathbf{j}}} e^{i(\mathbf{K}\mathbf{I}-\mathbf{K}'\mathbf{J}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}(\tilde{\mathbf{i}}-\tilde{\mathbf{j}}))}. \quad (28)$$

In order to express our lattice action in terms of the translationally invariant DCA cluster action, first we need to express interaction term in super-lattice real-space as

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{U}{N_c V \beta} \sum_{n,m,l} \sum_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\mathbf{Q}} c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{k}},\uparrow}^* c_{\omega_n+\Omega_l,\mathbf{K}+\mathbf{Q},\tilde{\mathbf{k}}+\tilde{\mathbf{q}},\uparrow} \times \\ & \quad \times c_{\omega_m+\Omega_l,\mathbf{K}'+\mathbf{Q},\tilde{\mathbf{k}}'+\tilde{\mathbf{q}},\downarrow} c_{\omega_m,\mathbf{K}',\tilde{\mathbf{k}}',\downarrow} = \\ & = \frac{U}{N_c \beta} \sum_{n,m,l} \sum_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\mathbf{Q}} c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\uparrow}^* c_{\omega_n+\Omega_l,\mathbf{K}+\mathbf{Q},\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\uparrow} \times \\ & \quad \times c_{\omega_m+\Omega_l,\mathbf{K}'+\mathbf{Q},\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\downarrow} c_{\omega_m,\mathbf{K}',\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\downarrow}. \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

To express Eq. 27 in terms of the DCA cluster action of Eq. 11, we now add and subtract $\sum_{n,\mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{i}}\sigma} c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\sigma}^* (\bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} + \Delta_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K}}) c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\sigma}$ into lattice action term:

$$\begin{aligned} S = & - \sum_{\substack{n \\ \mathbf{K},\mathbf{K}' \\ \tilde{\mathbf{k}},\sigma}} c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{k}},\sigma}^* ((i\omega_n + \mu)\delta_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'} - \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}) c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K}',\tilde{\mathbf{k}},\sigma} + \\ & + \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} S_{int}^{(\tilde{\mathbf{i}})} + \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{i}}\sigma} c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\sigma}^* (\bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} + \Delta_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K}}) c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\sigma} - \\ & - \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{i}}\sigma} c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\sigma}^* (\bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} + \Delta_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K}}) c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\sigma}. \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

Since the DCA cluster quantities $\bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}}$ and $\Delta_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K}}$ are independent of cluster position in the super lattice, we transform the last term into super-lattice reciprocal space ($\tilde{\mathbf{k}}$):

$$\begin{aligned} S = & - \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{i}}\sigma} c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\sigma}^* (i\omega_n + \mu - \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} - \Delta_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K}}) c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{i}},\sigma} + \\ & + \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} S_{int}^{(\tilde{\mathbf{i}})} - \\ & - \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\sigma} c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{k}},\sigma}^* ((\Delta_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K}} + \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}})\delta_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'} - \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}) c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K}',\tilde{\mathbf{k}},\sigma}. \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

Or, using the Eq. 11 for the cluster action,

$$\begin{aligned} S = & \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} S_c^{(\tilde{\mathbf{i}})} - \\ & - \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\sigma} c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{k}},\sigma}^* ((\Delta_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K}} + \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}})\delta_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'} - \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}) c_{\omega_n,\mathbf{K}',\tilde{\mathbf{k}},\sigma}. \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

Next, we introduce dual fermions via a Hubbard-Stratonovich transformation, Eq. 20, choosing $a_{\alpha\beta} = (\Delta_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}} + \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}} - \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}})^{-1}$, and b as an arbitrary function of ω_n , \mathbf{K} and σ . This expresses the lattice action in terms of the cluster action and dual Grassman variables:

$$\begin{aligned}
S &= \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} S_c^{(\tilde{\mathbf{i}})} + \\
&+ \sum_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} \xi_{\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}^* b_{\mathbf{K}}((\Delta_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}} + \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}})_{\delta_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'}} - \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}})^{-1} b_{\mathbf{K}'} \xi_{\mathbf{K}',\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} - \\
&- \sum_{\mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} (\xi_{\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}^* b_{\mathbf{K}} c_{\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} + c_{\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}^* b_{\mathbf{K}} \xi_{\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}) = \\
&= \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} S_c^{(\tilde{\mathbf{i}})} - \sum_{\mathbf{K}\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} (\xi_{\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^* b_{\mathbf{K}} c_{\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} + c_{\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^* b_{\mathbf{K}} \xi_{\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}) + \\
&+ \sum_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} \xi_{\mathbf{K},\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}^* b_{\mathbf{K}}((\Delta_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}} + \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}})_{\delta_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'}} - \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}})^{-1} b_{\mathbf{K}'} \xi_{\mathbf{K}',\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}, \tag{33}
\end{aligned}$$

where K and K' have been introduced as shorthand notation for $K = \{\mathbf{K}, \omega_n, \sigma\}$ and $K' = \{\mathbf{K}', \omega_n, \sigma\}$ respectively.

Considering the first two terms in the last equation, we can now complete the mapping to the DF lattice by integrating out the lattice fermion Grassmann variables for each super-lattice site $\tilde{\mathbf{i}}$ separately and express the original lattice action via dual fermion Grassmann variables ξ^* and ξ only, choosing $b = -G_K^{(c)-1}$:

$$\begin{aligned}
S[\xi^*, \xi] &= \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\sigma} \xi_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^* \times \\
&\times G_K^{(c)-1} [((\Delta_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}} + \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}})_{\delta_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'}} - \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}})^{-1} G_{K'}^{(c)-1} \xi_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}', \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma} + \\
&+ \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} \left(\sum_{n\mathbf{K}\sigma} \xi_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma}^* G_K^{(c)-1} \xi_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{i}}, \sigma} + V[\xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^*, \xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}] \right) = \\
&= - \sum_{n\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\sigma} \xi_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}, \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma}^* \tilde{G}_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\sigma}^{(0)-1} \xi_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}', \tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \sigma} + \\
&+ \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}} V[\xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^*, \xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}], \tag{34}
\end{aligned}$$

where $\tilde{G}_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\sigma}^{(0)} = -G_K^{(c)} [G_{K'}^{(c)} + ((\Delta_{\omega_n, \mathbf{K}} + \bar{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}})_{\delta_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'}} - \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}})^{-1}]^{-1} G_{K'}^{(c)}$ is a bare dual Green's function and the dual potential, $V[\xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}^*, \xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{i}}}]$, remains the same as in Eq. 25. Detailed derivations of the dual fermion potential construction are given in the supplement.⁴⁴

Once the DF perturbation expansion around the DCA problem is performed, it yields correction to the DCA self-energy. The relation between the dual self-energy $\tilde{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}$ and the lattice self-energy $\Sigma_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}$ is the (see Supplementary material for the detailed derivation)⁴⁴

$$\Sigma_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} = \Sigma_{\mathbf{K}}^{(c)} \delta_{\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{K}'} + \left(1 + \Sigma_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}^{(c)} G_{K'}^{(c)} \right)^{-1} \tilde{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}, \tag{35}$$

where $\Sigma_{\mathbf{K}}^{(c)}$ is the DCA cluster self-energy.

Since in an exact solution of the dual equations we recover the exact, translationally invariant lattice self-energy, we can now transform $\Sigma_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}$ into real space separately for intra- and inter-cluster momenta and then perform a regular Fourier transform to obtain the lattice self-energy

$$\Sigma_{\mathbf{I}, \mathbf{J}, \tilde{\mathbf{k}}} = \frac{1}{N_c^2} \sum_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} \Sigma_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} e^{-i(\mathbf{I}\mathbf{K} - \mathbf{J}\mathbf{K}')}; \tag{36}$$

$$\Sigma_{\mathbf{k}} = \Sigma_{\mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} = \sum_{\mathbf{I}, \mathbf{J}} \Sigma_{\mathbf{I}, \mathbf{J}, \tilde{\mathbf{k}}} e^{i(\mathbf{I}-\mathbf{J})(\mathbf{K}+\tilde{\mathbf{k}})}. \tag{37}$$

As is evident from Eq. 28 and Eq. 34, the cluster dispersion $\hat{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}$ and the dual quantities $\tilde{G}_{\omega_n \mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}\sigma}^{(0)}$ and $\tilde{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}$ are not translationally invariant in cluster momenta. The method can therefore be considered as a hybrid between the dual fermion expansion of cluster DMFT³² (where both cluster and DF quantities break translational symmetry) and the DCA DF method of Ref. 34 and Sec. II C 1, where neither does, at the cost of introducing an additional approximation to momentum conservation.

In practice, an approximate solution of the dual fermion equations (e.g. by only considering low-order or ladder diagrams, or by neglecting any higher order vertices) will result in offdiagonal elements, which can be used to assess the quality of the dual fermion solution.

Similar to the original DF method and the CDMFT DF expansion of Ref. 32 but unlike the method of Ref. 34, our momentum space cluster DF method presented in this section recovers the exact solution if all dual diagrams are summed up to all orders, irrespective of the quality of the underlying DCA solution or the size of the underlying cluster. However, if the underlying DCA solution already captures the salient aspects of the solution, dual corrections are expected to be small and perturbative, such that the dual series converges quickly.

In the following, we briefly describe the numerical procedure we use to perform the momentum-space cluster DF analysis, as well as the numerical scaling. The calculation of this approximation consists of four parts. First, we obtain the converged DCA solution of the problem. Second, we extract the DCA vertex from the DCA four-point correlation function; Third, we perform the DF perturbation expansion and obtain the dual self-energies. Finally, we calculate the lattice self-energies. The numerically expensive part is the second part, where a strongly correlated many-body problem needs to be solved, typically using quantum Monte Carlo methods, and a vertex function has to be extracted. Away from certain high-symmetry points, all cluster solvers scale exponentially in system size, making access to large cluster sizes difficult. Measuring the two-particle vertex functions for enough frequencies that reliable dual fermion calculations can be performed, and for all momenta triples in the cluster, dominates the time to solution. Reducing the scaling from $\mathcal{O}(N_c^4)$ for a translational symmetry breaking cluster to $\mathcal{O}(N_c^3)$ for a DCA cluster is therefore a crucial per-

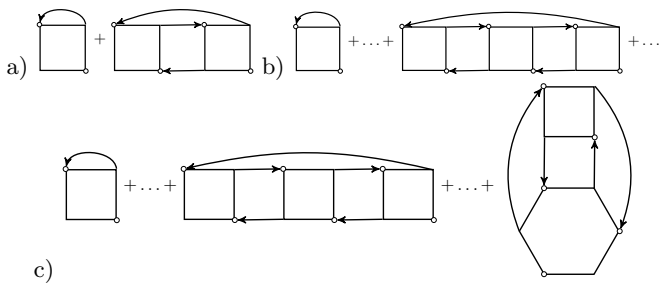


Figure 1. The diagram types for the dual self-energy with major contribution. The white squares and hexagons correspond to two- and three-particle impurity vertex respectively. Lines correspond to the bare dual Green's function.

formance advantage that makes calculations on clusters beyond four sites possible. The cost of the translational symmetry breaking of the DF equations introduced in Sec. II C 2, in comparison to the translationally invariant formalism of Sec. II C 1, and the necessity to work with $\tilde{G}_{\omega_n \mathbf{K} \mathbf{K}' \tilde{\mathbf{k}} \sigma}^{(0)}$ and $\tilde{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{K} \mathbf{K}' \tilde{\mathbf{k}}}$ is negligible.

The exact dual fermion equations contain not just two-particle but general n -particle DCA cluster vertex functions. Computing these is achieved by a two-dimensional fast Fourier transform of complexity $\mathcal{O}(N_c^2 \log(N_c^2))$, following by the assembly of vertex function for each unique momentum point at a complexity of $\mathcal{O}(N_c^{2n-1})$. The overall computational cost of a DCA cluster n -particle vertex function scales therefore as $\mathcal{O}(N_c^{2n-1})$. Each diagrammatic order with n -particle vertex functions gives an additional order of $\mathcal{O}(N_c^{n-1})$ numerical complexity. The memory complexity is order of $\mathcal{O}(N_c^{2n-1})$ for both DCA and DCA DF methods. This illustrates why this method is advantageous to the dual fermion expansion around real-space cluster DMFT, which scales with $\mathcal{O}(N_c^{2n})$ complexity for memory requirements and an additional $\mathcal{O}(N_c^{2n})$ of computational complexity at each diagrammatic order. In practice, with present-day algorithms, only two- and three-particle vertices can be computed for clusters of $N_c \leq 8$, and only two-particle vertices for clusters with size $N_c \leq 16$.

III. RESULTS

In this section we present results from the methods discussed in the preceding sections. In particular, we present results obtained by the single-site DF method,²³ by DCA of clusters of size $N_c = 4$ and $N_c = 64$, and by the two cluster DF methods described in this paper: DCA DF of Sec. II C 1 and momentum-space cluster DF method of Sec. II C 2. We choose a single set of parameters; $U/t = 4.0$, $T/t = 0.5$ and half-filling. In this regime, the self-energy shows momentum dependence that can be resolved accurately by large cluster DCA and several other numerical methods.^{45,46} Data for this point is also available in the Hubbard model benchmark.¹

Our DCA code uses the continuous-time auxiliary field^{11,47,48} (CT-AUX) method with an adaptation of nonequidistant fast Fourier transforms^{49,50} to compute vertex functions. The implementation is based on the core libraries⁵¹ of the open source ALPS⁵² package; self-consistent ladder single-site DF calculations were performed by open-source OpenDF code.⁵³

In our cluster DF analysis, we employed three different flavors of the dual fermion approximation; all of them are in common use. First, a second-order summation of the dual diagram. In this approach, all terms to second order in the cluster impurity two-particle vertex are included, but both higher order terms with two-particle vertices and any contribution from higher order vertices (three-particle, four-particle, etc) are neglected. The dual self-energy diagram of this method is illustrated in Fig. 1a. Second, we employed a ladder summation of the dual particle-hole ladder, which contains an infinite number of diagrams of two-particle vertex functions but neglects some of the diagrams with three (or more) two-particle vertices as well as any diagram with higher order vertices. These diagrams are illustrated in Fig. 1b. Finally, we computed the three-particle vertex (a quantity of five momenta and frequencies) and the lowest order contribution from this diagram. For an illustration see Fig. 1c.

A. Dual Fermions with DCA Laue approximation

Fig. 2 shows results from 64-site DCA, 4-site DCA, single-site dual fermions in the ladder and second-order approximation, and 4-site DCA DF with the Laue approximation as originally derived in Ref. 34 and described in Sec. II C 1. Shown are the real $Re\Sigma(\omega_0)$ and imaginary $Im\Sigma(\omega_0)$ parts of the Matsubara self-energy at the lowest Matsubara frequency $\omega_0 = \pi T i$. At this point the data exhibit the largest momentum variation. The large cluster DCA result ($N_c = 64$, open square symbols) is essentially a coarse-grained version of the exact self-energy, and single-site DF and DCA for 64 sites agree reasonably well for the real part of the self-energy.

There is a small deviation of the single-site ladder DF results from the $N_c = 64$ cluster results in the imaginary part of self-energy. It is caused, as shown by Ribic *et al.*⁵⁴, by three- and more particle correlations, in particular by the diagram shown in Fig. 1.c. The DCA approximation for $N_c = 4$ shows qualitatively similar trends, but the rough k-space discretization does not allow to resolve details of the self-energies. Methods like cumulant, self-energy, or Green's function interpolation could be used to obtain smoother data.^{18,55-57} Four-site ladder DF (based on the four-site DCA results) of Sec. II C 1 show only small deviations from the 4-site DCA results, and while these results exhibit some additional features (see in particular the real part near X point), the accuracy of the solution, as compared to the large cluster results, is generally worse than what is found in the single-site dual fermion approximation. Thus, we

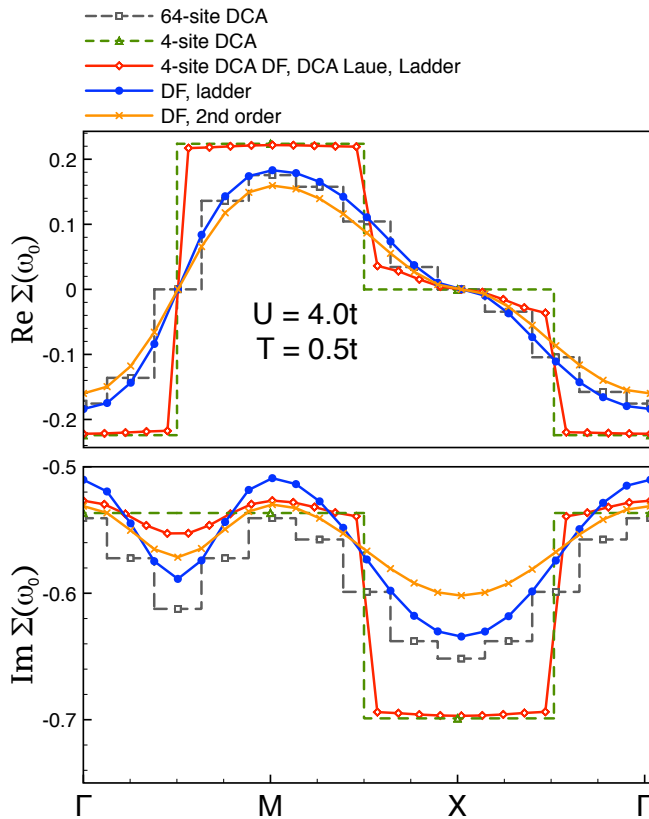


Figure 2. Comparison of the real (top panel) and imaginary (bottom panel) part of the self-energy at the lowest Matsubara frequency obtained from the different approaches. Red line with open diamonds: 4-site DCA cluster ladder DF approximation with the Laue approximation of Sec. II C 1 (DCA DF, DCA Laue, Ladder). Blue line with closed circles: single-site Ladder DF. Orange line: single-site second order DF. Dashed green line: $N_c = 4$ DCA. Dashed gray line: $N_c = 64$ DCA.

find that for $N_c = 4$ the cluster DF method with Laue approximation of Sec. II C 1 does not provide significant corrections to the DCA results.

B. Approximations in DCA DF

The lack of precision of the results in Fig. 2, obtained by the DCA DF method with Laue approximation of Sec II C 1, is due to at least one of the three approximations performed in that version of cluster dual fermions. First, the truncation of the dual self-energy $\tilde{\Sigma}$ to an infinite series of bare ladder diagrams. Second, the neglect of diagrams with higher order vertices. And third, the approximation of the Laue function.

For the parameters considered, the difference between geometrically summed ladder and second-order diagrams is small. This is shown in Fig. 3 as the difference between the red (long dashed) and (solid) blue lines. Two-particle

diagrams that are neither of second-order nor contained in the ladder series may in principle contribute. However, our experience with diagrammatic Monte Carlo for dual fermions⁵⁸ (for later related work see also Ref. 59) shows that in that case, deviations between ladder and second order results are usually visible. This leads us to believe that the majority of the discrepancy comes from a source other than diagrams with two-particle vertices.

The grey (short-dashed) line in Fig. 3 shows that contributions of the leading order three-particle vertex diagram (of Fig. 1.c) are also small. With techniques described in Ref. 54, it has recently become possible to compute these corrections. Calculations employ a CT-AUX⁴⁷ solver with sub-matrix updates⁴⁸, using a two-particle formalism developed for Raman⁵⁰, NMR⁶⁰, and other susceptibility measurements.⁶¹ While such calculations are still very expensive and only possible for clusters up to size 8, they are accurate enough to exclude 3-particle vertex contributions as the dominant correction to the exact result.

This implies that, at least for the small cluster studied here, the Laue approximation is the dominant source of deviations of the method of Sec. II C 1 from the exact result. This can be explained by the fact that DCA Laue approximation neglects the inter-cluster momentum transfer, thereby truncating the correlation length. Since anti-ferromagnetic fluctuations in this weak coupling regime are rather long ranged, this approximation does not recover them accurately.

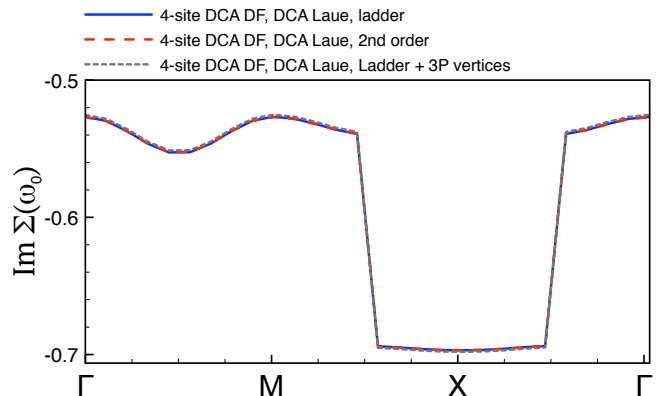


Figure 3. Comparison of the different diagram topologies contribution into the imaginary part of the self-energy at the lowest Matsubara frequency. Solid blue line corresponds to 4-site DCA cluster ladder DF results with the DCA Laue approximation, the short dashed gray line shows additional corrections by including three particle vertex function, the long dashed red line corresponds to 2nd-order DF with the DCA Laue approximation.

C. Approximation-free Dual fermion DCA results

Section II C 2 describes our formulation of DCA dual fermions, which avoids the Laue approximation altogether, at the cost of breaking translational invariance. Thus, if all diagrams to infinite order are summed, the method converges to the exact result.

To apply this method to the four-site cluster we start from the definition of the non-interacting Hamiltonian. Since the dispersion is no longer diagonal in the cluster reciprocal space, we first introduce the cluster hopping matrix in real-space cluster indices \mathbf{I}, \mathbf{J} and momentum-space superlattice indices $\tilde{\mathbf{k}}$:

$$t_{\mathbf{I}\mathbf{J},\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} = t \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 + e^{-2i\tilde{k}_x} & 1 + e^{-2i\tilde{k}_y} & 0 \\ 1 + e^{2i\tilde{k}_x} & 0 & 0 & 1 + e^{-2i\tilde{k}_y} \\ 1 + e^{2i\tilde{k}_y} & 0 & 0 & 1 + e^{-2i\tilde{k}_x} \\ 0 & 1 + e^{2i\tilde{k}_y} & 1 + e^{2i\tilde{k}_x} & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (38)$$

Here, \tilde{k}_x, \tilde{k}_y are the longitudinal and transverse part of the momentum vector $\tilde{\mathbf{k}}$ respectively. The lattice dispersion can now be determined by Fourier transform of the hopping matrix (38) and is used to construct the bare dual Green's function matrix. Using Eq. 34 we construct the perturbation series to compute the dual self-energy to second order. We then obtain the lattice self-energy using Eq. 35 and Eq. 37, respectively. The size of the off-diagonal components of the self-energy $\Sigma_{\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}'\tilde{\mathbf{k}}}$ (which would be zero if all diagrams were summed to all orders) is less than 0.5% of the average diagonal element.

Fig. 4 shows the results obtained with our method of Sec. II C 2 in addition to results from the methods shown in Fig. 2. Our momentum space DCA DF results are obtained for the second order approximation to the dual fermion self-energy for of Fig. 1.a and use a minimal cluster of size $N_c = 4$ as the DCA solution. Even at the second order approximation, our cluster dual fermion method of Sec. II C 2 improves significantly on the 4-site cluster DCA results. In particular, the imaginary part of the local self-energy is substantially modified and much closer to the large cluster ($N_c = 64$) result. This shows that basing the DF approximation on an expansion around a cluster, which has a better representation of short range physics than a single site, makes it possible to efficiently capture correlations that would otherwise only be contained in higher-order vertex corrections.

In Fig. 5, we show the results for the double occupancy from our momentum space cluster DF DCA method of Sec. II C 2 and compare them with single-site DF (2nd order) results, results from the method of Sec. II C 1, and data from Ref. 1. The double occupancy is a two-particle quantity and directly related to the interaction energy. DCA extrapolated to the thermodynamic limit from a large number of clusters (dashed line) are the best reference results available and are, within error bars, consistent with DiagMC.¹

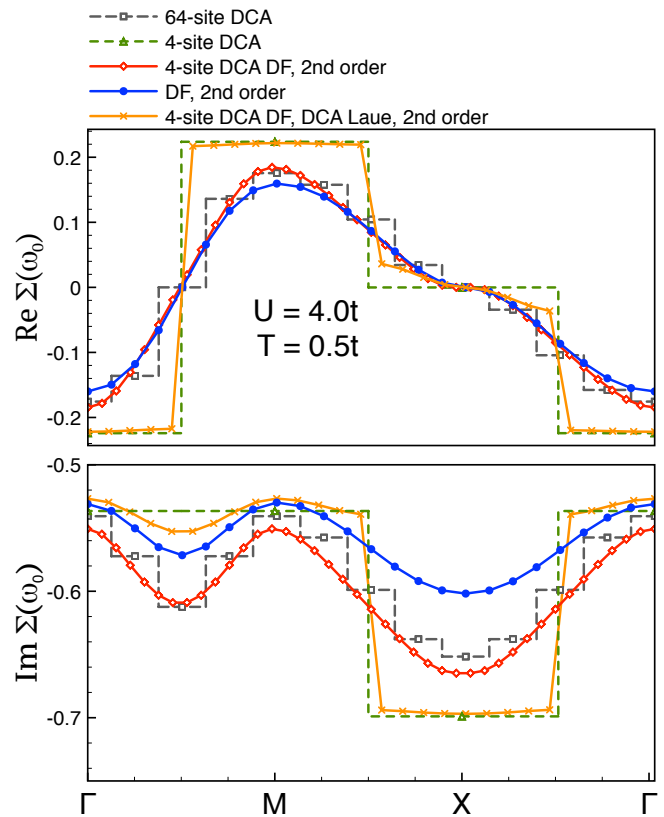


Figure 4. Comparison of the real (top panel) and imaginary (bottom panel) parts of the self-energy at the lowest Matsubara frequency. Solid red line: 4-site DCA cluster second order Dual Fermion approximation. Solid blue line: single-site second order Dual Fermions. Solid orange line: 4-site DCA cluster second order Dual Fermion approximation with the DCA Laue approximation. Dashed green line: 4-site DCA results. Dashed gray line: 64-site DCA results.

At the second order approximation shown here, DCA DF of Sec. II C 2 improves the single-site DF results by a factor of three and the 4-site DCA data by a factor of two. The remaining discrepancy indicates that system exhibits non-local non-perturbative correlations beyond those nearest neighbor correlations captured by the 4-site DCA cluster. Larger clusters and/or additional dual fermion diagrams will be needed to obtain systematic convergence to the exact result.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, we present a momentum-space cluster dual fermion expansion which uses the dynamical cluster approximation as a starting point. Our method is free of approximations, as it is based on exact mapping from the original lattice model to the DF system, and converges to the exact result if all diagrams in the dual fermion perturbation series are summed to infinite order. As a

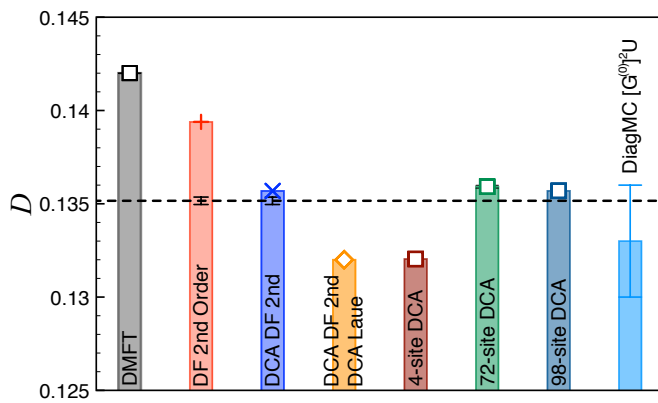


Figure 5. Comparison of the double occupancy $\langle n_i n_i \rangle$ calculation obtained from DF DCA method (blue cross) in comparison to the single-site DMFT (black square), single-site Dual Fermion method (red cross), DF DCA method with DCA Laue approximation (orange diamond) and data from the 2D Hubbard benchmark,¹ the dashed black line corresponds to DCA results extrapolated to thermodynamic limit. The symbol size for the DCA results corresponds to the stochastic error-bars.

proof of principle, we show results for the second-order DF self-energy around a four-site DCA cluster at the half-filling and demonstrate that this method is in good agreement with reference data, and in particular provides large non-local corrections to the imaginary part of the self-energy. The avoidance of the Laue approximation leads to a smooth convergence of the dual self-energies.

While we restrict our calculations to second-order perturbation theory in the DF diagrams, methods such as

diagrammatic Monte Carlo⁵⁸ could be applied to recover contributions from higher order diagrams. Whether it is more advantageous in practice to consider these contributions or to extend the simulations to larger cluster sizes is currently under investigation.

Our DF dual fermion perturbation theory builds a bridge between cluster methods (which are non-perturbative and contain all short-range correlations) and DF methods (which are based on a perturbative summation of the non-local corrections). It will find applications wherever the underlying DCA approximation reveals a strong momentum dependence of the self-energy. The capability of the DF formalism to yield continuous k -dependence for the self-energies and the vertices at affordable numerical cost will allow to make connections to experimentally measured k -dependent phenomena such as transport and optical conductivities, where the discrete momentum structure of the DCA leads to discontinuities in the vertex correction terms.⁶² It will also allow to study the evolution of Fermi surfaces and the competition between long-wavelength phenomena (such as anti-ferromagnetic nesting) with the strong short-range correlations that seem to be responsible for the pseudogap^{63,64} and superconductivity¹² in the two-dimensional Hubbard model.

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