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Characterizing a Mott Insulator by Dynamically Generating Double Occupancy

arXiv:0808.2350



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cold atoms

- cold atoms in artificial lattices
- single bands realizable
- interactions tunable
- filling tunable



Greiner et al., Nature **415**, 39 (2002) Jördens et al., Nature **455**, 204 (2008)

Fermions

$$H = -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle,\sigma} \left(c_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{j\sigma} + \text{h.c.} \right) + U \sum_{i} c_{i\uparrow}^{\dagger} c_{i\uparrow} c_{i\downarrow}^{\dagger} c_{i\downarrow}$$

⁴⁰K filling between 1-2 per site in the hyperfine states:

$$\bigcirc |\downarrow\rangle \rightarrow |m_F = -9/2\rangle$$

$$\bullet |\uparrow\rangle \to |m_F = -5/2\rangle$$

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ground state

spectral measurement



Greiner et al., Nature **415**, 39 (2002) Jördens et al., Nature **455**, 204 (2008)





$$K = \delta t \cos(\omega \tau) \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} c_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{j\sigma} + \text{h.e.}$$
DGDO, experiment
$$D = \sum_{i} n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$$



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Kollath et al., PRA **74**, 041604(R) (2006) Jördens et al., Nature **455**, 204 (2008)

results





Jördens et al., Nature **455**, 204 (2008)

$$\delta \mathcal{D}(\omega) = \sum_{n} \langle \langle n | D | n \rangle \rangle | \langle n | K | 0 \rangle |^{2} \delta(\hbar \omega - \hbar \omega_{n0})$$

$$\delta \mathcal{D}_{tot} = \frac{2}{Nz} \int d\omega \, \delta \mathcal{D}(\omega) \quad \text{total DGDO}$$

temperature $k_{B}T$
$$\frac{2}{2} \text{ filling } \rho \quad \text{hopping } t/U$$



- non-interacting -trivial
- at high temperatures, $k_{\rm B}T > t$, we solve the atomic limit (t = 0)
- at low filling $\rho < 1$ we solve the two particle problem
- at half filling: Mott transition, captured within slave-spin scheme



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temperature $k_{\text{B}}T$
$$\sum_{n=1}^{2} \text{filling } \rho \quad \text{hopping } t/U$$



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how filling hopping t/U



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$$\frac{\text{atomic limit}}{2\pi} \int \frac{1}{|I|} \int \frac{1}{|I$$



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repulsively bound pair



low density



1.5

atomic limit

- single site problem solvable
- response reduces to probability to find singly occupied sites

$$\delta \mathcal{D}(\omega) = \sum_{n>m} \frac{e^{-\beta E_m}}{Z} (\langle n|D|n \rangle - \langle m|D|m \rangle) |\langle n|K|m \rangle|^2 \delta(\hbar\omega - \hbar\omega_{nm})$$



Bari et al., PRB 6, 4623 (1972)



$$H_{\text{TIM}} = -J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} S_i^x S_j^x + h \sum_i S_i^z$$
$$J = 4t \sum_{\sigma} (\langle f_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} f_{j\sigma} \rangle + \text{c.c}) \qquad h = U/2$$

transverse-field Ising model, displaying phase transition

half-filling

- product wave function in different sectors
- "static" quantities link the two sectors
- renormalized Fermi surface
- transverse Ising model for the spins





Kotliar and Ruckenstein, PRL **57,** 1362 (1986) de'Medici et al., PRB **72**, 205124 (2005)



DGDO processes I

- No transitions within Gutzwiller band
- Transition from the coherent peak to the upper Hubbard band at $\omega = U_c/2$
- Transition between the preformed Hubbard bands at $\omega = U_c$





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DGDO processes II

- Transition between the Hubbard bands at *ω=U*
- No coherent feature





DGDO at half-filling



- Transition between the Hubbard bands at $\omega = U_{(c)}$
- No coherent feature for the Mott insulator
- Coherent peak disappears at the transition





summarizing



S.D. Huber and A. Rüegg, arXiv:0808.2350

conclusions/outlook

• a "new" probing tool

• DGDO measures spectral properties, biased with the double-occupancy character of the excited states

• what can one learn from it?

- at high temperatures: no clear distinction between the half-filled and a doped situation
- density dependent saturation value
- at low temperatures: disappearance of the quasiparticles visible at intermediate energies --> signature for Mott transition

• slave spins

- preformed Hubbard bands
- "correct" Hubbard gap and bandwidth of the doublon

• where do we go from here?

- AFM order?
- full trapping potential --> line shapes

