## Bethe-Salpeter Equation Time-dependent approach







The equation of motion of the response function

$$\mathrm{i}\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\rho(t)=\ldots$$

The electron-hole interaction





The Bethe-Salpeter equation



Knowledge of the electronic system => Description of its excitations => Predictive theoretical spectroscopy



Abs Optical absorption



From Fermi's golden rule we know that:

Abs
$$(\omega) \propto \sum D_{cvk}^2 \,\delta(\omega - [E_{ck} - E_{vk}])$$

cvk Optical strength Electronic transitions

Lithium fluoride



Let's do a DFT+GW calculation:





Energy [eV]





Especially relevant to layered/2D materials



8

Especially relevant to layered/2D materials

7.5

8



#### How can we derive the BSE?



#### How can we derive the BSE?



## Choosing a description for the electronic system



Single-particle Hamiltonian from Hartree-Fock

$$\hat{H}^{0} = \hat{T}_{e} + V_{e-N} + \hat{V}^{H}[\rho^{0}] + \hat{\Sigma}^{x}[\rho^{0}]$$

We may also build the Hamiltonian from DFT (Kohn-Sham), DFT +  $G_0W_0$ , etc.

for the electronic system

Single-particle Hamiltonian from Hartree-Fock

$$\hat{H}^{0} = \hat{T}_{e} + V_{e-N} + \hat{V}^{H}[\rho^{0}] + \hat{\Sigma}^{x}[\rho^{0}]$$

 $\hat{H}^{0}\left|n
ight
angle=E_{n}\left|n
ight
angle$  Single-particle energies

 $\langle {f r} | n 
angle = arphi_n({f r})$  Bloch function





Choosing a description for the electronic system



Single-particle Hamiltonian from Hartree-Fock

$$\hat{H}^{0} = \hat{T}_{e} + V_{e-N} + \hat{V}^{H}[\rho^{0}] + \hat{\Sigma}^{x}[\rho^{0}]$$

Equilibrium particle density

$$\hat{\rho}^{0}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{n} |\varphi_{n}(\mathbf{r})|^{2} \hat{c}_{n}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{n}$$

$$\rho^{0}(\mathbf{r}) = \langle \hat{\rho}^{0}(\mathbf{r}) \rangle = \sum_{n} |\varphi_{n}(\mathbf{r})|^{2} \underbrace{f_{n}}_{\text{State occupations}}$$
State occupations

zero T and for semiconductors either 0 or 1]

### Time-dependent Hamiltonian and density matrix



$$\hat{H}(t) = \hat{H}^{0} + \underbrace{U(t)}_{V} + \Delta \hat{V}^{H}[\rho(t)] + \Delta \hat{\Sigma}^{x}[\rho(t)]$$

External field



### Time-dependent Hamiltonian and density matrix

**Full Hamiltonian** 

$$\hat{H}(t) = \hat{H}^0 + U(t) + \Delta \hat{V}^H[\rho(t)] + \Delta \hat{\Sigma}^x[\rho(t)]$$

$$\Delta \hat{V}^{H}[\rho(t)] = \hat{V}^{H}[\rho(t)] - \hat{V}^{H}[\rho^{0}]$$
$$\Delta \hat{\Sigma}^{x}[\rho(t)] = \hat{\Sigma}^{x}[\rho(t)] - \hat{\Sigma}^{x}[\rho^{0}]$$

If the density changes, its functionals also change





**Full Hamiltonian** 

$$\hat{H}(t) = \hat{H}^0 + U(t) + \Delta \hat{V}^H[\rho(t)] + \Delta \hat{\Sigma}^x[\rho(t)]$$

Density matrix out of equilibrium

$$\hat{\rho}(\mathbf{r},t) = -i \lim_{t' \to t} \hat{G}(\mathbf{r},t,t') = \sum_{n_1 n_2} \varphi_{n_1}(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_{n_2}^*(\mathbf{r}) \hat{\rho}_{n_2 n_1}(t)$$
$$\hat{\rho}_{n_2 n_1}(t) = \hat{c}_{n_2}^{\dagger}(t) \hat{c}_{n_1}(t)$$

#### Linear response function

As we have seen in a previous lecture (Kubo / Linear response):

$$\chi(\mathbf{r}t, \mathbf{r}'t') = \frac{\delta\rho(\mathbf{r}t)}{\delta U(\mathbf{r}'t')}\Big|_{U=0}$$

#### Linear response function

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$$\chi(\mathbf{r}t, \mathbf{r}'t') = \frac{\delta\rho(\mathbf{r}t)}{\delta U(\mathbf{r}'t')}\Big|_{U=0}$$

with

$$\chi(\mathbf{r}t, \mathbf{r}'t') = \sum_{\substack{n_1 n_2 \\ n_3 n_4}} \varphi_{n_1}(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_{n_2}^*(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_{n_3}^*(\mathbf{r}') \varphi_{n_4}(\mathbf{r}') \chi_{\substack{n_1 n_2 \\ n_3 n_4}}^R(t, t')$$

#### Linear response function

As we have seen in a previous lecture (Kubo / Linear response):

$$\chi(\mathbf{r}t, \mathbf{r}'t') = \frac{\delta\rho(\mathbf{r}t)}{\delta U(\mathbf{r}'t')}\Big|_{U=0}$$

with

$$\chi(\mathbf{r}t, \mathbf{r}'t') = \sum_{\substack{n_1 n_2 \\ n_3 n_4}} \varphi_{n_1}(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_{n_2}^*(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_{n_3}^*(\mathbf{r}') \varphi_{n_4}(\mathbf{r}') \chi_{n_3 n_4}^{R}(t, t')$$
And then
$$\chi_{n_1 n_2}^{n_1 n_2}(t, t') = \frac{\delta \rho_{n_1 n_2}(t)}{\delta U_{n_3 n_4}(t')} \Big|_{U=0}$$

the ambo team

We need to find the equation of motion for the response function!

## Equation of motion



For the density matrix (for more info attend Real Time lecture):

$$\mathbf{i}\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\rho_{n_1n_2}(t) = \left[\hat{H}(t), \hat{\rho}(t)\right]_{n_1n_2}$$



### Equation of motion

For the density matrix (for more info attend Real Time lecture):

$$\mathbf{i}\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\rho_{n_1n_2}(t) = \left[\hat{H}(t), \hat{\rho}(t)\right]_{n_1n_2}$$

For the response function (taking the functional derivative of the above):

$$i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\chi_{n_3n_4}^{n_1n_2}(t,t') = \frac{\delta}{\delta U_{n_3n_4}(t')} \left[\hat{H}(t),\hat{\rho}(t)\right]_{n_1n_2}$$

The solution of this equation will yield the BSE!



Rewriting the density functionals

 $\Delta V^H_{n_1 n_2}[\rho(t)]$ 



Rewriting the density functionals

$$\Delta V_{n_1 n_2}^H[\rho(t)] = \sum_{m_1 m_2} \int d\bar{\bar{t}} \ \frac{\delta V_{n_1 n_2}^H[\rho(t)]}{\delta U_{m_1 m_2}(\bar{\bar{t}})} \ \delta U_{m_1 m_2}(\bar{\bar{t}})$$





Rewriting the density functionals

$$\begin{split} \Delta V_{n_1 n_2}^H[\rho(t)] &= \sum_{m_1 m_2} \int d\bar{\bar{t}} \ \frac{\delta V_{n_1 n_2}^H[\rho(t)]}{\delta U_{m_1 m_2}(\bar{\bar{t}})} \ \delta U_{m_1 m_2}(\bar{\bar{t}}) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{m_1 m_2 \\ m_2 m_4}} \int d\bar{\bar{t}} d\bar{\bar{t}} \ \frac{\delta V_{n_1 n_2}^H[\rho(t)]}{\delta \rho_{m_3 m_4}(\bar{\bar{t}})} \ \underbrace{\delta \rho_{m_3 m_4}[\rho(\bar{\bar{t}})]}_{\delta U_{m_1 m_2}(\bar{\bar{t}})} \ \delta U_{m_1 m_2}(\bar{\bar{t}}) \end{split}$$



Rewriting the density functionals

$$\begin{split} \Delta V_{n_{1}n_{2}}^{H}[\rho(t)] &= \sum_{m_{1}m_{2}} \int \mathrm{d}\bar{\bar{t}} \ \frac{\delta V_{n_{1}n_{2}}^{H}[\rho(t)]}{\delta U_{m_{1}m_{2}}(\bar{\bar{t}})} \ \delta U_{m_{1}m_{2}}(\bar{\bar{t}}) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{m_{1}m_{2}\\m_{2}m_{4}}} \int \mathrm{d}\bar{\bar{t}} \mathrm{d}\bar{t} \ \frac{\delta V_{n_{1}n_{2}}^{H}[\rho(t)]}{\delta \rho_{m_{3}m_{4}}(\bar{t})} \ \underbrace{\delta \rho_{m_{3}m_{4}}[\rho(\bar{t})]}_{\delta U_{m_{1}m_{2}}(\bar{\bar{t}})} \ \delta U_{m_{1}m_{2}}(\bar{\bar{t}}) \end{split}$$

By doing the same for  $\Delta \Sigma^x$  we obtain:



Rewriting the density functionals



In order to proceed we will write down explicitly  $V_{n_1n_2}^H$  and  $\Sigma_{n_1n_2}^x$  and then compute the derivatives

$$V_{n_1n_2}^H(t) = \langle i | \int d^3 r' \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}'t)}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} | j \rangle =$$
$$= \int d^3 r \, d^3 r' \, \varphi_{n_1}^*(\mathbf{r}) \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}'t)}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} \varphi_{n_2}(\mathbf{r})$$

$$v(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r'}) = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r'}|}$$



$$V_{n_1n_2}^H(t) = \langle i | \int d^3 r' \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}'t)}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} | j \rangle =$$
$$= \int d^3 r \, d^3 r' \, \varphi_{n_1}^*(\mathbf{r}) \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}'t)}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} \varphi_{n_2}(\mathbf{r})$$

We insert the expansion of the time-dependent density

$$v(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}$$



$$V_{n_{1}n_{2}}^{H}(t) = 2 \sum_{l_{1}l_{2}} \rho_{l_{1}l_{2}}(t) \int d^{3}r \, d^{3}r' \, \varphi_{n_{1}}^{*}(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_{l_{1}}(\mathbf{r}') \varphi_{l_{2}}(\mathbf{r}') \varphi_{n_{2}}(\mathbf{r}) \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}$$

$$\equiv 2 \sum_{l_{1}l_{2}} \rho_{l_{1}l_{2}}(t) \, V_{n_{1}n_{2}}_{l_{1}l_{2}}$$

$$\rho$$

$$\mathbf{r}'_{l_{1} \mid l_{2}}$$

$$n_{1} \mid n_{2}$$

r

$$V_{n_1n_2}^H(t) = 2\sum_{l_1l_2} \rho_{l_1l_2}(t) \int d^3r \, d^3r' \, \varphi_{n_1}^*(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_{l_1}^*(\mathbf{r}') \varphi_{l_2}(\mathbf{r}') \varphi_{n_2}(\mathbf{r}) \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}$$
$$\equiv 2\sum_{l_1l_2} \rho_{l_1l_2}(t) \, V_{n_1n_2}_{l_1l_2}$$

Momentum conservation implies that  $V^H$  does not carry an internal momentum





$$V_{n_1 n_2}^H(t) = 2 \sum_{l_1 l_2} \rho_{l_1 l_2}(t) \left[ V^{q_v = 0} \right]_{\substack{n_1 n_2 \\ l_1 l_2}}$$



$$V_{n_1n_2}^H(t) = 2\sum_{l_1l_2} \rho_{l_1l_2}(t) \left[ V^{q_v=0} \right]_{\substack{n_1n_2\\l_1l_2}}^{n_1n_2}$$

$$\frac{\delta V_{n_1 n_2}^H(t)}{\delta \rho_{m_3 m_4}(\bar{t})} = 2 \left[ V^{q_v = 0} \right]_{\substack{n_1 n_2 \\ m_3 m_4}} \delta(t - \bar{t})$$



Time-dependent exchange

$$\Sigma^{x}(\mathbf{r}t, \mathbf{r}'t) = \mathrm{i}G^{0}(\mathbf{r}t, \mathbf{r}'t)v(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$$
$$= -\rho(\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}', t)v(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$$





$$\Sigma^{x}(\mathbf{r}t, \mathbf{r}'t) = iG^{0}(\mathbf{r}t, \mathbf{r}'t)v(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$$

$$= -\rho(\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}', t)v(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$$

$$l_{2}\mathbf{r} \rho \mathbf{r}' n_{2}$$

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$$\Sigma_{n_1 n_2}^x(t) = -\sum_{l_1 l_2} \rho_{l_1 l_2}(t) \int d^3 r \, d^3 r' \, \varphi_{l_1}^*(\mathbf{r}') \varphi_{l_2}(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_{n_1}^*(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_{n_2}(\mathbf{r}') v(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}')$$

**ISSUE:** the **unscreened** Coulomb interaction overbinds electron and holes, giving wrong optical spectra.

Time-dependent SEX

$$W(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r'}) = \int \mathrm{d}^3 r'' \varepsilon_{RPA}^{-1}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r''}) v(\mathbf{r''},\mathbf{r})$$

**SOLUTION:** we replace the Fock term with the statically screened **ex**change (SEX)

$$\mathbf{r}$$
  $n_1$   $\mathcal{r}$   $\rho$   $\mathbf{r}' n_2$ 

$$\Sigma_{n_1n_2}^{\mathbf{SEX}}(t) = -\sum_{l_1l_2} \rho_{l_1l_2}(t) \int \mathrm{d}^3 r \, \mathrm{d}^3 r' \, \varphi_{l_1}^*(\mathbf{r}') \varphi_{l_2}(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_{n_1}^*(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_{n_2}(\mathbf{r}') W(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}')$$



$$W(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r'}) = \int \mathrm{d}^3 r'' \varepsilon_{RPA}^{-1}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r''}) v(\mathbf{r''},\mathbf{r})$$

**SOLUTION:** we replace the Fock term with the statically screened **ex**change (SEX)



$$\Sigma_{n_1n_2}^{\mathbf{SEX}}(t) = -\sum_{l_1l_2} \rho_{l_1l_2}(t) \int \mathrm{d}^3 r \, \mathrm{d}^3 r' \, \varphi_{l_1}^*(\mathbf{r}') \varphi_{l_2}(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_{n_1}^*(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_{n_2}(\mathbf{r}') W(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}')$$



Time-dependent SEX

$$\Sigma_{n_1 n_2}^{\text{SEX}}(t) = -\sum_{l_1 l_2} \rho_{l_1 l_2}(t) W_{n_1 l_2}_{l_1 n_2}$$



Time-dependent SEX

$$\Sigma_{n_1 n_2}^{\text{SEX}}(t) = -\sum_{l_1 l_2} \rho_{l_1 l_2}(t) W_{n_1 l_2}_{l_1 n_2}$$

$$\frac{\delta \Sigma_{n_1 n_2}^{\text{SEX}}(t)}{\delta \rho_{m_3 m_4}(\bar{t})} = -W_{n_1 m_2} \,\,\delta(t - \bar{t}) \qquad \longrightarrow \qquad \frac{\delta W}{\delta \rho}$$

NEGLECTED! (Higher order in the interaction)





Computing the commutators...

$$\mathbf{A} \left[ \begin{bmatrix} \hat{H}^{0}, \hat{\rho}(t) \end{bmatrix}_{n_{1}n_{2}} = \langle n_{1} | \hat{H}^{0} \hat{\rho}(t) | n_{2} \rangle - \langle n_{1} | \hat{\rho}(t) \hat{H}^{0} | n_{2} \rangle \\ = (E_{n_{1}} - E_{n_{2}}) \rho_{n_{1}n_{2}}(t)$$



the **d** 

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{A} & \left[ \hat{H}^{0}, \hat{\rho}(t) \right]_{n_{1}n_{2}} = \langle n_{1} | \, \hat{H}^{0} \hat{\rho}(t) \, | n_{2} \rangle - \langle n_{1} | \, \hat{\rho}(t) \hat{H}^{0} \, | n_{2} \rangle \\ &= (E_{n_{1}} - E_{n_{2}}) \rho_{n_{1}n_{2}}(t) \\ \\ \mathbf{B} & \left[ \hat{U}(t), \hat{\rho}(t) \right]_{n_{1}n_{2}} = \left[ \hat{U}(t), \hat{\rho}^{0} \right]_{n_{1}n_{2}} \xrightarrow{\text{We stay at}}_{1^{\text{st}} \text{ order in U}} \\ &= (f_{n_{2}} - f_{n_{1}}) U_{n_{1}n_{2}}(t) \end{split}$$



$$\mathbf{A} \left[ \hat{H}^{0}, \hat{\rho}(t) \right]_{n_{1}n_{2}} = \langle n_{1} | \hat{H}^{0} \hat{\rho}(t) | n_{2} \rangle - \langle n_{1} | \hat{\rho}(t) \hat{H}^{0} | n_{2} \rangle \\
= (E_{n_{1}} - E_{n_{2}}) \rho_{n_{1}n_{2}}(t)$$



the



Computing the derivative...

$$i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\chi_{n_{3}n_{4}}^{n_{1}n_{2}}(t-t') = (E_{n_{1}} - E_{n_{2}})\chi_{n_{3}n_{4}}^{n_{1}n_{2}}(t-t') + i(f_{n_{2}} - f_{n_{1}}) \left[ -i\delta_{n_{1}n_{3}}\delta_{n_{2}n_{4}} + \sum_{m_{3}m_{4}} K_{m_{3}m_{4}}^{n_{1}n_{2}}\chi_{m_{3}m_{4}}^{m_{3}m_{4}}(t-t') \right]$$





Computing the derivative...

$$i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\chi_{n_{3}n_{4}}^{n_{1}n_{2}}(t-t') = (E_{n_{1}} - E_{n_{2}})\chi_{n_{3}n_{4}}^{n_{1}n_{2}}(t-t') + i(f_{n_{2}} - f_{n_{1}}) \left[ -i\delta_{n_{1}n_{3}}\delta_{n_{2}n_{4}} + \sum_{m_{3}m_{4}} K_{m_{3}m_{4}}^{n_{1}n_{2}}\chi_{m_{3}m_{4}}^{m_{3}m_{4}}(t-t') \right]$$

e-h pair created at time *t* and recombined ad time *t*'

$$\chi(t,t') = \chi(t-t')$$



Computing the derivative...

$$i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\chi_{n_{3}n_{4}}^{n_{1}n_{2}}(t-t') = (E_{n_{1}} - E_{n_{2}})\chi_{n_{3}n_{4}}^{n_{1}n_{2}}(t-t') + i(f_{n_{2}} - f_{n_{1}}) \left[ -i\delta_{n_{1}n_{3}}\delta_{n_{2}n_{4}} + \sum_{m_{3}m_{4}} K_{m_{3}m_{4}}^{n_{1}n_{2}}\chi_{m_{3}m_{4}}^{m_{3}m_{4}}(t-t') \right]$$

e-h pair created at time t and recombined ad time t'  $\chi(t,t') = \chi(t-t')$ 

Electron-hole interaction kernel  

$$-iK_{\substack{n_1n_2\\m_3m_4}} = W_{\substack{n_1m_4\\m_3n_2}} - 2\left[V^{q_v=0}\right]_{\substack{n_1n_2\\m_3m_4}}$$



Computing the derivative...

$$i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\chi_{n_{3}n_{4}}^{n_{1}n_{2}}(t-t') = (E_{n_{1}} - E_{n_{2}})\chi_{n_{3}n_{4}}^{n_{1}n_{2}}(t-t') + i(f_{n_{2}} - f_{n_{1}}) \left[ -i\delta_{n_{1}n_{3}}\delta_{n_{2}n_{4}} + \sum_{m_{3}m_{4}} K_{m_{3}m_{4}}^{n_{1}n_{2}}\chi_{m_{3}m_{4}}^{m_{3}m_{4}}(t-t') \right]$$

e-h pair created at time t and recombined at time t'  $\chi(t, t') = \chi(t, t')$ 

$$\chi(t,t') = \chi(t-t')$$



Switching to the transition basis...

A basis of electron-hole transitions  $\langle \mathbf{r} | n_1 n_2 \rangle = \varphi_{n_1}^*(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_{n_2}(\mathbf{r})$  $| n_1 n_2 \rangle = | \mathcal{K} \rangle$ 





Switching to the transition basis...

A basis of electron-hole transitions  $\langle \mathbf{r} | n_1 n_2 \rangle = \varphi_{n_1}^*(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_{n_2}(\mathbf{r})$  $| n_1 n_2 \rangle = | \mathcal{K} \rangle$ 



$$i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\chi_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'}(t-t') = \Delta E_{\mathcal{K}} \ \chi_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'}(t-t') + if_{\mathcal{K}} \left[ -i\delta_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'} + \sum_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}} K_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} \ \chi_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}\mathcal{K}'}(t-t') \right]$$



Taking the Fourier transform...

the

$$(\omega - \Delta E_{\mathcal{K}}) \ \chi_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'}(\omega) = \mathrm{i}f_{\mathcal{K}} \left[ -\mathrm{i}\delta_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'} + \sum_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}} K_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} \ \chi_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}\mathcal{K}'}(\omega) \right]$$



$$(\omega - \Delta E_{\mathcal{K}}) \ \chi_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'}(\omega) = \mathrm{i}f_{\mathcal{K}} \left[ -\mathrm{i}\delta_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'} + \sum_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}} K_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} \ \chi_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}\mathcal{K}'}(\omega) \right]$$

If K=0, we obtain the independent-particle response. It is diagonal in the transition basis!

$$\chi^0_{\mathcal{K}}(\omega) = \frac{f_{\mathcal{K}}}{\omega - \Delta E_{\mathcal{K}}}$$



#### **Bethe-Salpeter equation**

(As Dyson-like equation)

$$\chi_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'}(\omega) = \chi^{0}_{\mathcal{K}}(\omega) + \chi^{0}_{\mathcal{K}}(\omega) \sum_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}} K_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} \ \chi_{\overline{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'}}(\omega)$$

#### **Bethe-Salpeter equation**

(As Dyson-like equation)





We isolate the response function on the left hand side

$$\sum_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}} \left[ (\omega - \Delta E_{\mathcal{K}}) \delta_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} - \mathrm{i} f_{\mathcal{K}} K_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} \right] \chi_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}\mathcal{K}'}(\omega) = f_{\mathcal{K}} \delta_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'}$$





We isolate the response function on the left hand side

$$\sum_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}} \left[ (\omega - \Delta E_{\mathcal{K}}) \delta_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} - \mathrm{i} f_{\mathcal{K}} K_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} \right] \chi_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}\mathcal{K}'}(\omega) = f_{\mathcal{K}} \delta_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'}$$

... and recognize a two-particle Hamiltonian

$$\sum_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}} \left[ \omega \delta_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} - \left( \Delta E_{\mathcal{K}} \delta_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} + \mathrm{i} f_{\mathcal{K}} K_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} \right) \right] \chi_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}\mathcal{K}'}(\omega) = f_{\mathcal{K}'}$$



We isolate the response function on the left hand side

$$\sum_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}} \left[ (\omega - \Delta E_{\mathcal{K}}) \delta_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} - \mathrm{i} f_{\mathcal{K}} K_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} \right] \chi_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}\mathcal{K}'}(\omega) = f_{\mathcal{K}} \delta_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'}$$

... and recognize a two-particle Hamiltonian

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$$\sum_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}} \left[ \omega \delta_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} - \left( \Delta E_{\mathcal{K}} \delta_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} + \mathrm{i} f_{\mathcal{K}} K_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} \right) \right] \chi_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}\mathcal{K}'}(\omega) = f_{\mathcal{K}'}$$
$$\sum_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}} \left[ \omega \delta_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}} - H_{\mathcal{K}\overline{\mathcal{K}}}^{2p} \right] \chi_{\overline{\mathcal{K}}\mathcal{K}'}(\omega) = f_{\mathcal{K}'}$$



In matrix form we have

$$\left[\mathbb{1}\omega - \hat{H^{2p}}\right] \cdot \hat{\chi} = \vec{f}$$

And after performing matrix inversion

$$\hat{\chi} = \left[\mathbb{1}\omega - \hat{H}^{2p}\right]^{-1} \cdot \vec{f}$$

This indeed looks like a two-particle propagator

If we diagonalize the excitonic Hamiltonian



 $E_{\lambda}$ 

Then the equation for the response function can be finally written in terms of the **excitonic basis** 

If we diagonalize the excitonic Hamiltonian

$$\hat{H}^{2p} \left| \lambda \right\rangle = \underbrace{E_{\lambda} \left| \lambda \right\rangle}_{\text{Exciton energies}} \overset{\text{Exciton coefficients}}{\overset{\text{Exciton co$$

 $E_{\lambda}$ 

Then the equation for the response function can be finally written in terms of the **excitonic basis** 

$$\hat{\chi} = \left[\mathbb{1}\omega - \hat{H}^{2p}\right]^{-1} \cdot \vec{f}$$

If we diagonalize the excitonic Hamiltonian





Then the equation for the response function can be finally written in terms of the **excitonic basis** 

$$\hat{\chi} = \sum_{\lambda} \frac{\left|\lambda\right\rangle \left\langle\lambda\right|}{\omega - E_{\lambda}} \cdot \vec{f}$$



If we diagonalize the excitonic Hamiltonian

$$\hat{H}^{2p} \left| \lambda \right\rangle = \underbrace{E_{\lambda} \left| \lambda \right\rangle}_{\text{Exciton energies}} \overset{\text{Exciton coefficients}}{\overset{\text{Exciton coefficients}}{\overset{\text{Exciton coefficients}}{\overset{\text{Exciton coefficients}}{\overset{\text{Exciton coefficients}}{\overset{\text{Exciton coefficients}}}}$$



Then the equation for the response function can be finally written in terms of the **excitonic basis** 

$$\chi_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'}(\omega) = \left[\frac{\delta\rho}{\delta U}\right]_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'}(\omega) = \sum_{\lambda} \frac{A_{\lambda}^{\mathcal{K}}\left(A_{\lambda}^{\mathcal{K}'}\right)^{*}}{\omega - E_{\lambda}}$$

[v->c transitions]

### **Excitonic Hamiltonian**

In the end, the problem of the **correlated propagation of particles and holes**, i.e., the **spectroscopy of neutral excitations**, can be reduced to the diagonalization of an effective two-particle Hamiltonian

$$H^{2p}_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'} = \Delta E_{\mathcal{K}}\delta_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'} + \mathrm{i}f_{\mathcal{K}}K_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'}$$

### **Excitonic Hamiltonian**

In the end, the problem of the **correlated propagation of particles and holes**, i.e., the **spectroscopy of neutral excitations**, can be reduced to the diagonalization of an effective two-particle Hamiltonian

$$H^{2p}_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'} = \Delta E_{\mathcal{K}} \delta_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'} + \mathrm{i} f_{\mathcal{K}} K_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'}$$

Screened interaction and mixing of electronic transitions:

$$K_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'} = \mathrm{i} \left[ W_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'} - 2V_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'} \right]$$



### **Excitonic Hamiltonian**

In the end, the problem of the **correlated propagation of particles and holes**, i.e., the **spectroscopy of neutral excitations**, can be reduced to the diagonalization of an effective two-particle Hamiltonian

$$H^{2p}_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'} = \Delta E_{\mathcal{K}} \delta_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'} + \mathrm{i} f_{\mathcal{K}} K_{\mathcal{K}\mathcal{K}'}$$

Ingredients:



### Take-home message



Independent-particle picture fails to reproduce key spectral features due to lack of electron-hole interaction

The equation of motion for the response function reduces to the diagonalization of an effective two-particle Hamiltonian in the basis of electronic transitions

The electron-hole interaction can be accounted for in the dynamics of the excited electronic system

This yields the optical absorption in the excitonic picture

