

Accuracy of downfolding based on the constrained random-phase approximation

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We study the reliability of the constrained random-phase approximation (cRPA) method for the calculation of low-energy effective Hamiltonians by considering multiorbital lattice models with one strongly correlated “target” band and two weakly correlated “screening” bands. The full multiorbital system and the effective model are solved within dynamical mean-field theory (DMFT) in a consistent way. By comparing the quasiparticle weights for the correlated bands, we examine how accurately the effective model describes the low-energy properties of the multiband system. We show that the violation of the Pauli principle in the cRPA method leads to overscreening effects when the interorbital interaction is small. This problem can be overcome by using a variant of the cRPA method which restores the Pauli principle.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Strongly correlated electron systems attract much attention because they exhibit remarkable many-body phenomena. Establishing a first-principles theoretical framework for describing the electronic properties of this class of materials is a great challenge. Methods based on density functional theory (DFT) [1,2] have been successfully used to understand and predict the properties of weakly correlated materials such as elemental metals. Although the DFT formalism is exact in principle, the density functionals used in calculations are approximate, e.g., based on the local density approximation (LDA) [2], because the exact form of the functional is unknown. The result is a static mean-field description of the electronic structure. Applying this approach to strongly correlated materials misses fundamental aspects, such as quantum fluctuations and Mott physics.

On the other hand, a variety of sophisticated numerical methods have been developed to treat effective models of strongly correlated electrons in lattice systems such as the Hubbard model. Examples include quantum Monte Carlo methods [3], dynamical mean-field theory (DMFT) [4], the variational Monte Carlo method [5], density-matrix renormalization-group [6], and tensor network methods. These methods take into account correlation effects beyond the static mean-field level. However, they cannot be directly applied to real materials, which are typically characterized by a complex and hierarchical electronic structure. In most transition-metal oxides, there are only a few correlated bands near the Fermi level, which are typically of d character, and in the simplest situation these bands are well separated in energy from the higher- and lower-lying bands (which we will collectively denote as “high-energy bands”). Although high-energy bands are usually less correlated, they can substantially affect the low-energy electrons through the screening of the Coulomb interaction. Thus, we cannot simply neglect the high-energy degrees of freedom in realistic calculations. A similar structure is found also in lanthanide or actinide oxides and organic compounds.

In recent years much effort has been devoted to establishing reliable first-principles methods for strongly correlated materials which exploit this hierarchical structure [7]. The strategy is to construct an effective low-energy lattice model, which contains only a few degrees of freedom, by eliminating the high-energy degrees of freedom in a systematic manner. In

practice, we compute effective Coulomb interactions in the low-energy model by taking into account the screening effects by the high-energy bands using a first-principles calculation based on DFT. Then, this strongly correlated effective model is solved accurately by quantum Monte Carlo methods or DMFT. The procedure which leads to the low-energy effective model is called downfolding. One widely used method for computing screening effects is the constrained random-phase approximation (cRPA) [8]. It has been applied to a variety of transition-metal oxides [9–12] and organic compounds [13–16] to investigate metal-insulator transitions, magnetism, and superconductivity.

While the logic behind the cRPA method is compelling, it is at the present stage a recipe whose accuracy and limitations have not been established. To the best of our knowledge, no systematic effort has yet been made to clarify under which circumstances and to what extent cRPA is reliable. An obvious difficulty is that an accurate numerical solution of the original multiband problem is in general not possible. For this reason we address the issue in a simple model context where the accuracy of the cRPA downfolding scheme can be tested systematically. We consider multiorbital Hubbard models in three dimensions and derive effective low-energy models by the cRPA downfolding scheme. Then, we solve both the full model and the effective model using a DMFT or extended DMFT approximation. By comparing quantities such as mass enhancements, we can determine the parameter regions in which the effective model provides an accurate description of the low-energy properties of the original multiband model. It is generally expected that cRPA works best if the screening bands are at high energies [7]. However, this ideal situation is not realized in many relevant materials such as high- T_c cuprates [17] and correlated organic compounds [13,14]. In order to understand the limitations of the cRPA method, we will focus in this study on models with a few screening bands which are close in energy to the target band.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In Sec. II, we introduce the model used in this study. In Sec. III, we explain the cRPA downfolding procedure. Section IV describes the details of the DMFT calculations. We discuss results of the downfolding and DMFT calculations in Sec. V. Section VI contains the conclusions and a brief outlook.

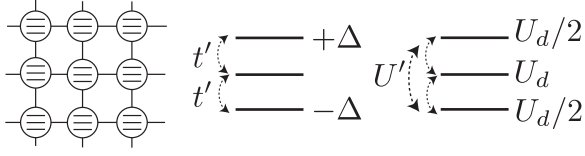


FIG. 1. Three-orbital model on a cubic lattice. The three levels are split by orbital dependent on-site energies. We include an orbital off-diagonal transfer t' , but the highest and lowest orbitals are not connected by a hopping term. The on-site repulsion for the target orbital is denoted by U_d , while the highest and lowest orbitals are less correlated with an on-site repulsion of $U_d/2$. The interorbital repulsion U' acts between all pairs of orbitals.

II. MODEL

To test the accuracy of downfolding, we consider a three-orbital Hubbard model on a cubic lattice with orbital-diagonal transfer $t = 1$ between nearest-neighbor sites. Its Hamiltonian is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H} = & - \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \sum_{\alpha\sigma} \hat{c}_{i\alpha\sigma}^\dagger \hat{c}_{j\alpha\sigma} + \sum_i \sum_{\alpha} (E_{\alpha} + E_{\alpha}^{\text{dc}} - \mu) \hat{n}_{i\alpha} \\ & - t' \sum_i \sum_{\sigma} \sum_{\beta \neq 2} (\hat{c}_{i2\sigma}^\dagger \hat{c}_{i\beta\sigma} + \hat{c}_{i\beta\sigma}^\dagger \hat{c}_{i2\sigma}) \\ & + \sum_{i\alpha} U_{\alpha} \hat{n}_{i\alpha\uparrow} \hat{n}_{i\alpha\downarrow} + \sum_i \sum_{\alpha < \beta} U' \hat{n}_{i\alpha} \hat{n}_{i\beta}, \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where i and j are site indices, while α and β are orbital indices. We consider only density-density interactions. The on-site repulsion U_{α} is taken to be $U_{\alpha} = U_d/2, U_d, U_d/2$ for $\alpha = 1, 2, 3$, respectively ($U_d > 0$), because screening bands are usually less correlated than target bands in real materials (see illustration in Fig. 1). We also include interorbital interactions U' . The chemical potential μ is adjusted in the DMFT self-consistent procedure such that the number of electrons is 3 (half filling). The orbital potentials E_{α} are given by $-\Delta, 0, \Delta$ for $\alpha = 1, 2, 3$. $\Delta > 0$ produces gaps between the target- and screening-band manifolds. We show the noninteracting band structure for $\Delta = 10$ and $t' = 4$ in Fig. 2. The half-filled target band is sandwiched between two high-energy bands. Although the target band and the screening bands are separated by a direct gap at each k point, the indirect gap is negative. The Coulomb interaction breaks the particle-hole symmetry

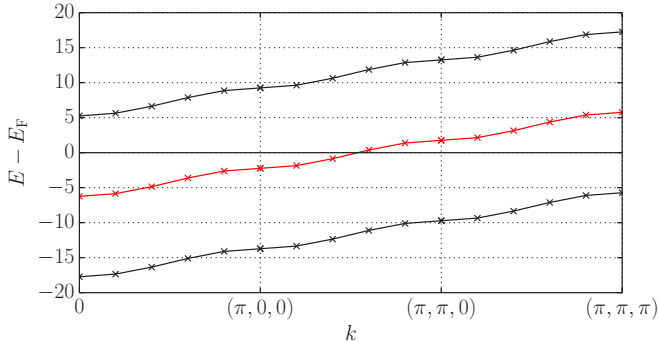


FIG. 2. (Color online) Noninteracting band structure of the three-orbital model for $\Delta = 10$ and $t' = 4$. The half-filled target band is shown in red.

because it induces orbital-dependent mean fields. To recover this symmetry in the limit of $t' = 0$, we take $E_{\alpha}^{\text{dc}} = U', 0, -U' + U_d/2$ for $\alpha = 1, 2, 3$. For more details, we refer to Appendix A. Indeed, the Hartree-Fock band structure remains almost symmetric in the parameter regime considered in this paper. As we will explain later, the polarization function is computed using the Hartree-Fock band structure in the cRPA downfolding procedure.

III. CONSTRAINED RANDOM-PHASE APPROXIMATION (cRPA)

In this section, we describe the details of the cRPA formalism used in this study. In Sec. III A, we review the spin-independent formalism, which is usually used for first-principle calculations. We start from a real-space formalism, and derive the cRPA equation in a tight-binding form. Section III B describes the extension to a spin-dependent formalism, where the spin dependence of the intraorbital interactions is taken into account.

A. Spin-independent formalism

We start by considering the Hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{H} = H^0 + V, \quad (2)$$

$$H^0 = \sum_{n=1}^N h^0(r_n) = \sum_{n=1}^N \left[-\frac{1}{2} \nabla_n^2 + V_{\text{ext}}(r_n) \right], \quad (3)$$

$$V = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} v(r_i - r_j), \quad (4)$$

where r_n is a combined index for the position and spin of an electron, i.e., $r_n \equiv (\mathbf{r}_n, \sigma_n)$, and assume that $v(r_i - r_j)$ is a spin-independent two-body Coulomb interaction.

In second quantization, this Hamiltonian reads

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{ij} t_{ij} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + \hat{V}, \quad (5)$$

where i and j are indices of an orthonormal single-particle basis $\{\phi_{i\sigma}\}$, and σ denotes the spin. For convenience, we assume that $\phi_{i\sigma}$ has nonzero elements only in the spin sector σ . The Coulomb interaction has the form

$$\hat{V} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ijkl} \sum_{\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3\sigma_4} V_{ijkl}^{\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3\sigma_4} c_{i\sigma_1}^\dagger c_{j\sigma_2}^\dagger c_{k\sigma_3} c_{l\sigma_4}, \quad (6)$$

with

$$V_{ijkl}^{\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3\sigma_4} = \int d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' \phi_{i\sigma_1}^*(\mathbf{r}) \phi_{j\sigma_2}^*(\mathbf{r}') v(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \phi_{k\sigma_3}(\mathbf{r}') \phi_{l\sigma_4}(\mathbf{r}) \quad (7)$$

and $c_{i\sigma}$ and $c_{i\sigma}^\dagger$ the annihilation and creation operators for the single-particle basis, respectively. In practice, we consider density-density terms. For example, the on-site repulsion U_{α} and the interorbital interaction U' are given by

$$U_{\alpha} = \int d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' \phi_{i\alpha}^2(\mathbf{r}) v(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \phi_{i\alpha}^2(\mathbf{r}'), \quad (8)$$

$$U' = \int d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' \phi_{i\alpha}^2(\mathbf{r}) v(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \phi_{i\beta}^2(\mathbf{r}') (\alpha \neq \beta). \quad (9)$$

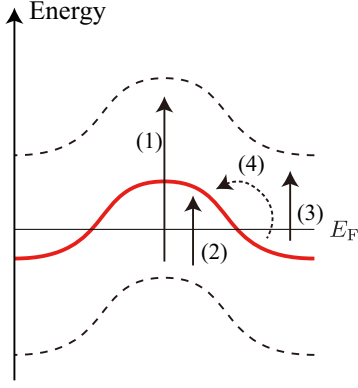


FIG. 3. (Color online) Schematic band structure. The solid line denotes the low-energy band in the target manifold of the low-energy model, while screening bands are denoted by broken lines. Solid and broken arrows show possible contributions to the polarization: excitations between (1) occupied screening bands and unoccupied screening bands, (2) occupied screening bands and unoccupied target bands, (3) occupied target bands and unoccupied screening bands, (4) occupied target bands and unoccupied target bands. In the cRPA method, we exclude the contribution (4) because this should be taken into account in solving the low-energy effective model.

Now, let us consider a noninteracting band structure in which only a few bands are crossing the Fermi level and these low-energy target bands are sandwiched by high-energy screening bands. Figure 3 illustrates a simple example, which has one target band and two screening bands. In the downfolding, we derive an effective model for the target manifold by integrating out the high-energy screening bands. The effective model has the form

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{ij} \tilde{t}_{ij} d_{i\sigma}^\dagger d_{j\sigma} + \hat{W}, \quad (10)$$

where we introduced a new single-particle basis $\{\tilde{\phi}_{i\sigma}\}$ and hopping parameters \tilde{t}_{ij} to describe the band structure in the target manifold. The annihilation and creation operators of $\{\tilde{\phi}_{i\sigma}\}$ are given by $d_{i\sigma}$ and $d_{i\sigma}^\dagger$, respectively. We usually take $\tilde{\phi}$ to be localized in real space so that the effective interaction is as short-ranged as possible. In first-principles calculations based on a plane-wave basis, the maximally localized Wannier functions [18,19] are a common choice.

The screened interaction $w(r, r')$ is given by

$$w(r, r') = v(r, r') + \int dr_1 dr_2 v(r, r_1) P(r_1, r_2) w(r_2, r'), \quad (11)$$

where the polarization P is calculated within the bubble approximation (neglecting vertex corrections) as [8]

$$P(r, r'; \omega) = \sum'_{n,m} f(\epsilon_n) [1 - f(\epsilon_m)] \times \left(\frac{A_{n,m}(r, r')}{\omega - (\epsilon_m - \epsilon_n) + i\delta} - \frac{A_{n,m}^*(r, r')}{\omega + (\epsilon_m - \epsilon_n) - i\delta} \right), \quad (12)$$

with

$$A_{n,m}(r, r') = \Psi_n^*(r) \Psi_n(r') \Psi_m(r) \Psi_m^*(r'). \quad (13)$$

Here, Ψ_n is the n th eigenstate of H^0 and f is the Fermi function. In Fig. 3, we show possible contributions to the sum in Eq. (12). Since the contribution to the polarization from transitions within the target subspace will be treated more accurately by solving the effective model, the contribution denoted by (4) in Fig. 3 is excluded in the sum in Eq. (12). (The symbol \sum' means that these contributions are excluded.)

Since P is spin diagonal and v is spin independent, Eq. (11) reads

$$\begin{aligned} w(\mathbf{r}\sigma, \mathbf{r}'\sigma') &= v(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') + \int d\mathbf{r}_1 d\mathbf{r}_2 \sum_{\sigma_1, \sigma_2} v(\mathbf{r}\sigma, \mathbf{r}_1\sigma_1) \delta_{\sigma_1\sigma_2} P(\mathbf{r}_1\sigma_1, \mathbf{r}_2\sigma_2) \\ &\quad \times w(\mathbf{r}_2\sigma_2, \mathbf{r}'\sigma') \\ &= v(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') + 2 \int d\mathbf{r}_1 d\mathbf{r}_2 v(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_1) P(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) w(\mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}'). \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

The factor of 2 in the last line comes from the sum over two screening processes involving different spin sectors of P , i.e., $P(\uparrow, \uparrow)$ and $P(\downarrow, \downarrow)$.

Once the screened two-body interaction has been computed, the screened interaction is projected onto the basis of the target manifold. Replacing $v(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')$ with $w(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')$ in Eq. (7), the screened interaction is given by

$$\hat{W}(\omega) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ijkl} \sum_{\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3\sigma_4} W_{ijkl}^{\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3\sigma_4}(\omega) d_{i\sigma_1}^\dagger d_{j\sigma_2}^\dagger d_{k\sigma_3} d_{l\sigma_4}. \quad (15)$$

Here, $d_{i\sigma}$ and $d_{i\sigma}^\dagger$ are the annihilation and creation operators corresponding to Wannier orbitals of the target manifold, which will be constructed below. The matrix \mathbf{W} is given by

$$W_{ijkl}^{\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3\sigma_4}(\omega) = \int d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' \bar{\phi}_{i\sigma_1}^*(\mathbf{r}) \bar{\phi}_{j\sigma_2}^*(\mathbf{r}') w(\omega, \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \times \bar{\phi}_{k\sigma_3}(\mathbf{r}') \bar{\phi}_{l\sigma_4}(\mathbf{r}). \quad (16)$$

The ω dependence of W can be accounted for in the solution of the effective model.

A convenient way to solve the cRPA equation is to introduce the so-called product basis [20]. Assuming that the orthonormal localized basis ϕ_i is real, that is, $\phi_i^*(\mathbf{r}) = \phi_i(\mathbf{r})$, the product basis is defined by

$$\{B_{ij}(\mathbf{r})\} = \{\phi_i(\mathbf{r})\phi_j(\mathbf{r})\}. \quad (17)$$

Note that the product basis is not orthonormal. In the following, we use I and I' to refer to the index of the product basis, that is, $I \equiv (ij)$. We expand $P(r, r')$ in terms of the product basis as

$$\begin{aligned} P(r, r') &= \delta_{\sigma\sigma'} P(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \\ &= \delta_{\sigma\sigma'} \sum_{I, I'} P_{II'} B_I(\mathbf{r}) B_{I'}(\mathbf{r}'). \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

Then, Eqs. (14) and (16) lead to

$$\begin{aligned}
 W_{ijkl} &= W_{II'} \\
 &= \int d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' B_I(\mathbf{r}) W(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') B_{I'}(\mathbf{r}') \\
 &= \int d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' B_I(\mathbf{r}) V(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') B_{I'}(\mathbf{r}') \\
 &\quad + 2P_{I_1 I_2} \int d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}_1 B_I(\mathbf{r}) V(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_1) B_{I_1}(\mathbf{r}_1) \\
 &\quad \times \int d\mathbf{r}_2 d\mathbf{r}' B_{I_2}(\mathbf{r}_2) W(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}') B_{I'}(\mathbf{r}') \\
 &= V_{II'} + 2 \sum_{I_1 I_2} V_{II_1} P_{I_1 I_2} W_{I_2 I'}, \quad (19)
 \end{aligned}$$

where we take $I = (ik)$ and $I' = (jl)$. This equation can be written in matrix representation as

$$W = V + 2VPW = (I - 2VP)^{-1}V. \quad (20)$$

We do not need to consider the spin degrees of freedom in Eq. (20) since Eq. (14) is already spin independent.

For our model, the product basis is given by

$$\{B_I\} = \{\phi_{ia}^2\}, \quad (21)$$

since we include only density-density interactions. In other words, the integral in Eq. (7) vanishes whenever terms like $\phi_{ia}(\mathbf{r})\phi_{jb}(\mathbf{r})$ ($i \neq j$ or $a \neq b$) appear. The index a denotes the orbital and does not include spin.

We define the Fourier transformations of the bare Coulomb interaction V and the polarization P as

$$V_{ab}(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_i U_{ij}^{ab} e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j)}, \quad (22)$$

$$P_{ab}(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_i P_{ij}^{ab} e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j)}. \quad (23)$$

Diagonalizing the Fourier transformation of the one-body Hamiltonian, one obtains Bloch wave functions:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Psi_{kn}(\mathbf{r}) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_k}} \sum_{ia} c_{kn,a} \phi_{ia}(\mathbf{r}) e^{ikR_i}, \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_k}} \sum_i \begin{pmatrix} c_{kn,1} \\ c_{kn,2} \\ \vdots \\ c_{kn,N} \end{pmatrix} e^{ikR_i}, \quad (24)
 \end{aligned}$$

where n is the band index. Substituting this equation into Eq. (13), and using

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(r, r'; \omega) &= \sum_{n,m}' f(\epsilon_n) [1 - f(\epsilon_m)] \\
 &\quad \times \left(\frac{A(r, r')}{\omega - (\epsilon_m - \epsilon_n) + i\delta} - \frac{A^*(r, r')}{\omega + (\epsilon_m - \epsilon_n) - i\delta} \right), \quad (25)
 \end{aligned}$$

we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_{ab}(\mathbf{q}; \omega) &= \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{knn'}' f(\epsilon_{k,n}) [1 - f(\epsilon_{k+q,n'})] \\
 &\quad \times \left[\frac{c_{kn}^*(a) c_{k+qn'}(a) c_{kn}(b) c_{k+qn'}^*(b)}{\omega - (\epsilon_{k+q,n'} - \epsilon_{k,n}) + i\delta} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \frac{c_{kn}(a) c_{k+qn'}^*(a) c_{kn}^*(b) c_{k+qn'}(b)}{\omega + (\epsilon_{k+q,n'} - \epsilon_{k,n}) - i\delta} \right], \quad (26)
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\epsilon_{k,n}$ is the n th eigenvalue at wave vector k .

In reciprocal space, the cRPA equation reads

$$W_{ab}(\mathbf{q}) = V(\mathbf{q})_{ab} + 2 \sum_{cd} V_{ac}(\mathbf{q}) P_{cd}(\mathbf{q}) W_{db}(\mathbf{q}), \quad (27)$$

where a, b, c, d are orbital indices. This can be rewritten in matrix form as

$$W(\mathbf{q}) = [I - 2V(\mathbf{q})P(\mathbf{q})]^{-1}V(\mathbf{q}). \quad (28)$$

Next, $W(\mathbf{q})$ is projected onto a localized basis for the target band(s). A set of Wannier functions localized in the unit cell \mathbf{R}_i is defined by

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\mathbf{R}_i n\rangle &= \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_k \left(\sum_m \mathcal{U}_{mn}^k e^{-ik \cdot \mathbf{R}} |\Psi_{mk}\rangle \right) \\
 &= \sum_{ja} \alpha_{ija}^n \phi_{ja}(\mathbf{r}), \quad (29)
 \end{aligned}$$

where $n = 1, \dots, N_{\text{band}}$ is the index of the Wannier function in a unit cell (N_{band} is the number of target bands). The symbol a denotes the orbital index in the unit cell j . When we construct maximally localized Wannier functions [18,19] from Bloch wave functions obtained by first-principles calculations, the gauge matrix \mathcal{U}_{mn}^k is chosen so that the Wannier functions are localized in real space.

To obtain \mathcal{U}_{mn}^k we write the noninteracting part of the Hamiltonian of our model as

$$\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{k}) = -2t[\cos(k_x) + \cos(k_y) + \cos(k_z)]\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{H}_0, \quad (30)$$

where

$$\mathbf{H}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} -\Delta & -t' & 0 \\ -t' & 0 & -t' \\ 0 & -t' & \Delta \end{pmatrix}. \quad (31)$$

Since the Bloch wave function is independent of wave vector, we can take a unitary matrix $\mathcal{U} = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\}$ that diagonalizes \mathbf{H}_0 , and denote the eigenvalues by $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \epsilon_3$. This also diagonalizes the full noninteracting Hamiltonian and the eigenvalues are $-2t \cos(\mathbf{k}) + \epsilon_1, -2t \cos(\mathbf{k}) + \epsilon_2, -2t \cos(\mathbf{k}) + \epsilon_3$. Taking the gauge matrix $\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{k}) = \mathbf{I}$, the Wannier function for the target band localized at site i_0 becomes

$$|i; i_0\rangle = \delta_{ii_0} \mathbf{u}_2, \quad (32)$$

where i is the site index.

Next we project the screened interactions onto the Wannier basis of the target band. The matrix elements in Eq. (15) have nonzero values only when ($i = l$ and $j = k$) and ($\sigma_2 = \sigma_3$ and

$\sigma_1 = \sigma_4$). From Eq. (15), we obtain

$$\hat{W} = U \sum_i \hat{n}_{i\uparrow} \hat{n}_{i\downarrow} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} V_{ij} \hat{n}_i \hat{n}_j, \quad (33)$$

where

$$U = \sum_{ab} W(\mathbf{R} = 0)_{ab} |u_2(a)|^2 |u_2(b)|^2, \quad (34)$$

$$V_{ij} = \sum_{ab} W(\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j)_{ab} |u_2(a)|^2 |u_2(b)|^2. \quad (35)$$

Exchange integrals vanish since the orbitals ϕ_{ia} are taken to be δ functions in our model.

B. Pauli principle and spin-dependent formalism

The RPA method violates the Pauli principle for a Hubbard-like model because its diagrammatic expansion contains self-interactions between same-spin electrons. To remove diagrams violating the Pauli principle, we introduce a spin-dependent formalism. This idea is similar to the self-interaction correction for the *GW* method [21]. Restricting ourselves to density-density interactions, we consider the product basis

$$\{B_{I\sigma}\} = \{\phi_{ia\sigma}(r)\}, \quad (36)$$

similarly to Eq. (17). Here σ is the spin quantum number and r is the composite index of spin and position. Note that $B_{I\sigma}(r)$ is nonzero only for the spin sector σ . The bare Coulomb matrix V is given by

$$V_{I\sigma, I'\sigma'} = \int dr dr' B_{I\sigma}(r) V(r - r') B_{I'\sigma'}(r'). \quad (37)$$

Following the Pauli principle, the Coulomb matrix is now taken to be spin dependent. In other words, $V_{I\sigma, I'\sigma'} = 0$ for $I = I'$ and $\sigma = \sigma'$.

After Fourier transformation, the cRPA equation reads

$$W(\mathbf{q}) = [\mathbf{I} - V(\mathbf{q})\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{q})]^{-1} V(\mathbf{q}). \quad (38)$$

Note that the factor of 2 in front of the V in Eq. (20) is no more needed for the spin-dependent formalism because the summation over spin is taken into account by the matrix formalism. The polarization function \mathbf{P} is spin diagonal and spin independent, and its matrix elements are given by Eq. (18).

To see how the two formalisms give different results for on-site repulsions, let us consider a simplified version of the three-orbital model introduced in Sec. II. We take $U_1 = U_3 = 0$. For the spin-independent formalism, the bare Coulomb matrix is a 3×3 matrix defined as

$$V(\mathbf{q}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & U_d & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (39)$$

Expanding the cRPA equation with respect to U_d , we obtain the screened interaction projected on the orbital 2 as

$$W_{22}(\mathbf{q}) = V_{22} + 2V_{22}P_{22}(\mathbf{q})V_{22} + O(P^2) \quad (40)$$

$$= U_d + 2U_dP_{22}(\mathbf{q})U_d + O(P^2). \quad (41)$$

However, the second term in the last line should not exist due to the Pauli principle. In other words, the expansion must

start from the second-order term, i.e., $O(P^2)$ because the on-site repulsion acts only between the up-spin and down-spin sectors. This constraint is missing in the spin-independent cRPA procedure.

On the other hand, in the spin-dependent formalism, the Coulomb matrix is a 6×6 matrix of the form

$$V(\mathbf{q}) = \begin{pmatrix} V_{\uparrow\uparrow} & V_{\uparrow\downarrow} \\ V_{\downarrow\uparrow} & V_{\downarrow\downarrow} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (42)$$

where

$$V_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\mathbf{q}) = V_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\mathbf{q}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (43)$$

$$V_{\uparrow\downarrow}(\mathbf{q}) = V_{\downarrow\uparrow}(\mathbf{q}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & U_d & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (44)$$

The screened interaction projected on the orbital 2 is now

$$W_{2\uparrow 2\downarrow}(\mathbf{q}) = V_{2\uparrow 2\downarrow} + V_{2\uparrow 2\downarrow} P_{22}(\mathbf{q}) V_{2\downarrow 2\uparrow} P_{22}(\mathbf{q}) V_{2\uparrow 2\downarrow} + O(P^4) \quad (45)$$

$$= U_d + U_d^3 P_{22}^2(\mathbf{q}) + O(P^4). \quad (46)$$

Comparing Eqs. (41) and (46), we immediately see that the Pauli principle is restored in the spin-dependent cRPA formalism. This difference can be substantial if the target manifold is strongly correlated.

A drawback is that this formalism breaks the SU(2) symmetry of the full model because we ignore transverse spin susceptibilities. Restoring this symmetry within the RPA formalism is nontrivial and will not be attempted here.

IV. DYNAMICAL MEAN-FIELD THEORY

We use variants of the dynamical mean-field theory to analyze the full multiorbital model and the effective one-band model in a consistent way. We use multiorbital DMFT for the full model. The effective model is solved using the extended DMFT framework which can treat off-site interactions within a single-impurity description.

A. Multiorbital DMFT

In order to solve the full multiorbital model, we use DMFT. Its self-consistency loop is given by

$$\Sigma(i\omega_n) = \mathcal{G}(i\omega_n)^{-1} - \mathbf{G}_{\text{imp}}^{-1}(i\omega_n), \quad (47)$$

$$\mathbf{G}_{\text{loc}}(i\omega_n) = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_k \frac{1}{i\omega_n + \mu - \mathcal{H}_0(k) - \Sigma(i\omega_n)}, \quad (48)$$

$$\mathcal{G}(i\omega_n)^{-1} = \mathbf{G}_{\text{loc}}^{-1}(i\omega_n) + \Sigma(i\omega_n), \quad (49)$$

where $\mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{k})$ is the Fourier transform of the one-body part of the Hamiltonian. Σ , \mathbf{G}_{loc} , and \mathcal{G} are the self-energy, local Green's function, and the Weiss function, respectively. Since we consider the paramagnetic case, they are $N_{\text{orb}} \times N_{\text{orb}}$ matrices.

After obtaining \mathcal{G} in Eq. (49), we solve the multiorbital quantum impurity problem given by the action

$$S = - \sum_{ab\sigma} \int_0^\beta d\tau d\tau' c_{a\sigma}^\dagger(\tau) \mathcal{G}_{ab}^{-1}(\tau - \tau') c_{b\sigma}(\tau') + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ab} \int_0^\beta d\tau U_{ab} n_a(\tau) n_b(\tau), \quad (50)$$

where U_{ab} is the on-site part of the density-density interaction. We employ a continuous-time quantum Monte Carlo impurity solver based on the hybridization expansion and the matrix formalism [22,23]. The sign problem is reduced by rotating the basis of the hybridization function. We refer to Appendix B for details.

After computing \mathbf{G} , Σ is updated using Eq. (47) and the self-consistency loop is repeated until a converged solution is obtained.

In our analyses, we project the Green's function $\mathbf{G}(i\omega_n)$ onto the basis that diagonalizes $\langle H(k) \rangle_k$ as

$$G_m(i\omega_n) = \mathbf{u}_m^\dagger \mathbf{G}(i\omega_n) \mathbf{u}_m, \quad (51)$$

where \mathbf{u}_m is the m th eigenvector of $\langle H(k) \rangle_k$. The Green's function is defined by

$$\mathbf{G}_{ab}(\tau) = -\langle T_\tau c_a(\tau) c_b^\dagger(0) \rangle, \quad (52)$$

$$\mathbf{G}_{ab}(i\omega_n) = \int_0^\beta d\tau e^{i\omega_n \tau} \mathbf{G}(\tau), \quad (53)$$

where T_τ denotes imaginary-time ordering and $\omega_n = (2n + 1)\pi/\beta$. We call this basis the “band basis.” The renormalization factor Z is computed by using the approximation

$$Z = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{\partial \Sigma_m(\omega)}{\partial \omega}} \approx \frac{1}{1 - \frac{\text{Im} \Sigma_m(i\omega_0)}{\pi/\beta}}, \quad (54)$$

where m is the index of the target band.

B. EDMFT

To solve the effective one-band model with dynamical on-site and off-site interactions, we use extended DMFT (EDMFT) [24–28]. This formalism can treat off-site interactions, even though it is based on a single-site impurity construction. In the present study, we consider only dynamical nearest-neighbor interactions. In the EDMFT calculation, we have to solve the impurity problem $[n(\tau) = n_\uparrow(\tau) + n_\downarrow(\tau)]$

$$S = - \sum_\sigma \int_0^\beta d\tau d\tau' c_\sigma^\dagger(\tau) \mathcal{G}^{-1}(\tau - \tau') c_\sigma(\tau') + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\beta d\tau d\tau' n(\tau) U(\tau - \tau') n(\tau'). \quad (55)$$

The retarded interaction $U(\tau)$ is determined by the following self-consistency equations, which are similar to Eqs. (47)

and (48):

$$W_{\text{imp}}(i\nu_n) = \mathcal{U}(i\nu_n) - \mathcal{U}(i\nu_n) \chi_{\text{imp}}(i\nu_n) \mathcal{U}(i\nu_n), \quad (56)$$

$$\Pi(i\nu_n) = U(i\nu_n)^{-1} - W_{\text{imp}}^{-1}(i\nu_n), \quad (57)$$

$$W_{\text{loc}}(i\nu_n) = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_k \frac{1}{v_k^{-1}(i\nu_n) - \Pi(i\nu_n)}, \quad (58)$$

$$U(i\nu_n)^{-1} = W_{\text{loc}}^{-1}(i\nu_n) + \Pi(i\nu_n), \quad (59)$$

where

$$v_k(i\nu_n) = \sum_i v_i(i\nu) e^{i r_i k}, \quad (60)$$

$$\chi_{\text{imp}}(\tau) = \langle n(\tau) n(0) \rangle - \langle n \rangle^2. \quad (61)$$

This impurity problem with retarded density-density interaction is also solved by the hybridization expansion method [22,23,29,30]. Note that the dynamical nature of the screened interactions causes a renormalization of the kinetic energy and bandwidth [31]. This effect will be taken into account in solving our low-energy models by treating the frequency dependence of the screened interactions explicitly within the EDMFT framework. For the effective model obtained by the spin-cRPA method, we take into account only retarded on-site interaction and ignore longer ranged interactions. This point will be discussed again in Sec. V A.

V. RESULTS

A. Downfolded models

We now derive low-energy effective models for the three-orbital model using the cRPA method. Figures 4(a) and 4(b) compare the screened interactions computed by the charge-cRPA and spin-cRPA methods. We show the on-site interaction $U(\omega)$ and nearest-neighbor interaction $V_{\text{nn}}(\omega)$ for $U_d = 10$ and typical values of U' . These parameter sets correspond to the correlated metal phase (see the phase diagram in Fig. 10). Let us first look at the results by the charge-cRPA method. For all the values of U'/U_d considered here, $\text{Im}U(\omega)$ exhibits two negative peaks located around $\omega = 15$ and $\omega = 25$. Below these energy scales, the on-site interaction is reduced from the instantaneous value $U(\omega = \infty)$. Those two energy scales correspond to transitions between the target band and the screening bands, and those between the lower and upper screening bands, respectively. The peak at the smaller ω is higher than the other one, indicating that the former contribution dominates the screening effects. We also note that $U(\omega = \infty)$ is smaller than U_d because the Wannier function extends to the less correlated screening orbitals. Although the full model has only on-site interactions, a dynamic nearest-neighbor interaction $V_{\text{nn}}(\omega)$ is generated. This interaction is substantially smaller than the on-site interaction, and almost vanishes at low frequencies. The full ω dependence of the nearest-neighbor interaction is taken into account in the following EDMFT calculations.

We now move to the results obtained by the spin-cRPA method, which are displayed in Fig. 4(b). One immediately

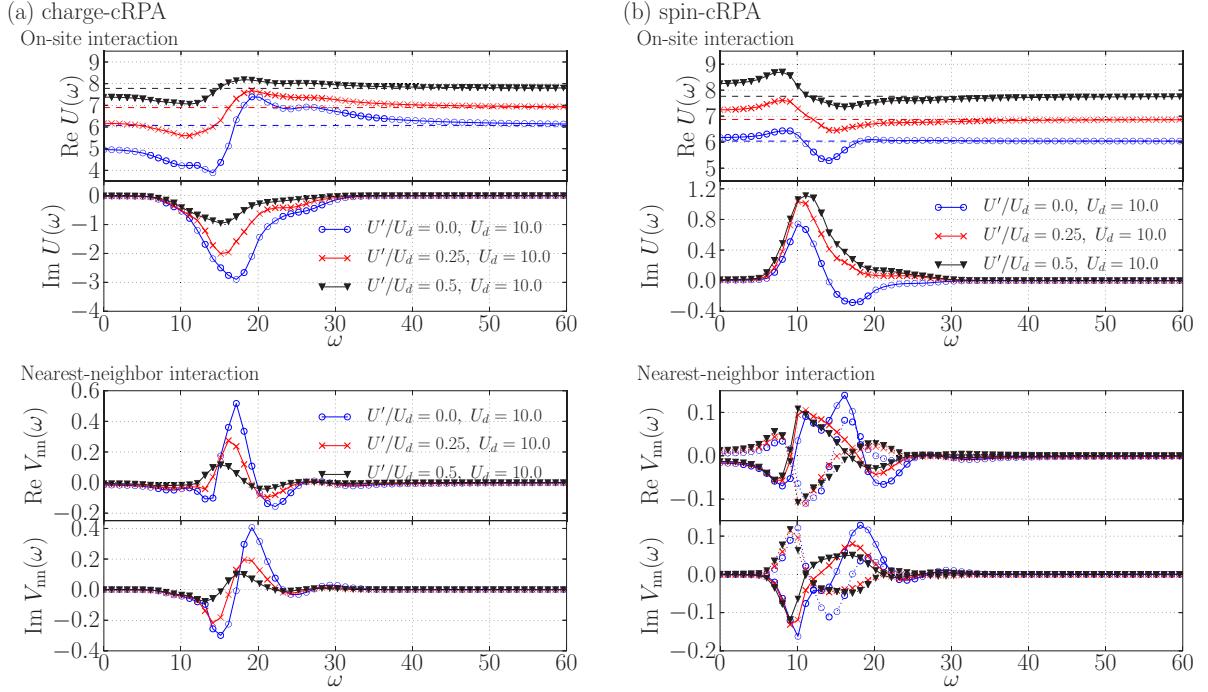


FIG. 4. (Color online) Screened interactions obtained by the charge-cRPA (a) and the spin-cRPA (b) for the three-orbital model ($\Delta = 10$ and $t' = 4$). We show the on-site interaction $U(\omega)$ and nearest-neighbor interaction $V_{nn}(\omega)$. The bare on-site interaction $U(\omega = \infty)$ is represented by a dashed solid line. For the nearest-neighbor interactions computed by the spin-cRPA (b), the solid and broken lines represent the spin-diagonal element of the interaction [$V_{nn}^{\uparrow\uparrow}(=V_{nn}^{\downarrow\downarrow})$] and the spin off-diagonal one ($V_{nn}^{\uparrow\downarrow}$), respectively.

sees that the ω dependence of $U(\omega)$ is qualitatively different from the result obtained by the charge-cRPA method. The two-peak structure in $\text{Im}U(\omega)$ is more apparent, and the screening frequencies are lower. A more substantial difference is that the first peak, which is associated with transitions between the target and screening bands, is positive in the case of the spin-cRPA method. This contribution dominates over the other one, producing an antiscreening effect. The nearest-neighbor interaction is now spin dependent and has spin-diagonal and spin off-diagonal elements. Although they have different ω dependences, the peaks in $\text{Im}V_{nn}$ are substantially smaller than those in $\text{Im}U(\omega)$. The spin dependence of V_{nn} arises because the spin-cRPA method breaks the $SU(2)$ symmetry. To avoid this problem, we take into account only the on-site interaction in the DMFT calculations for the effective model obtained by the spin-cRPA method.

To quantify the strength of the screening of the on-site interaction, we evaluate

$$\Lambda \equiv 1 - \frac{\text{Re}U(\omega = 0)}{\text{Re}U(\omega = \infty)} \quad (62)$$

for different U' and U_d . $\Lambda > 0$ corresponds to a situation where the static interaction is screened. The result obtained by the charge-cRPA method is shown in Fig. 5(a) as a function of U_d . Two notable trends are discernible. First, Λ becomes larger in the strongly correlated regime, that is, as U_d increases. Second, Λ increases if U'/U_d decreases. The results obtained by the spin-cRPA are presented in Fig. 5(b). In this case, one always finds an antiscreening effect in the parameter regime considered. The antiscreening effects are enhanced as U' is increased.

B. DMFT results

We analyze the three-orbital full model and the downfolded models within the DMFT or EDMFT framework. In particular, we compare DMFT solutions of the following models:

- (i) single-band model (charge cRPA),
- (ii) single-band model (spin cRPA),
- (iii) single-band model with bare interactions $U(\omega) = U(\omega = \infty)$, $V_{nn}(\omega) = V_{nn}(\omega = \infty)$,
- (iv) single-band model (spin cRPA) with renormalized bandwidth (following Ref. [31]) and static interactions $U(\omega) = U(\omega = 0)$,
- (v) full three-orbital model.

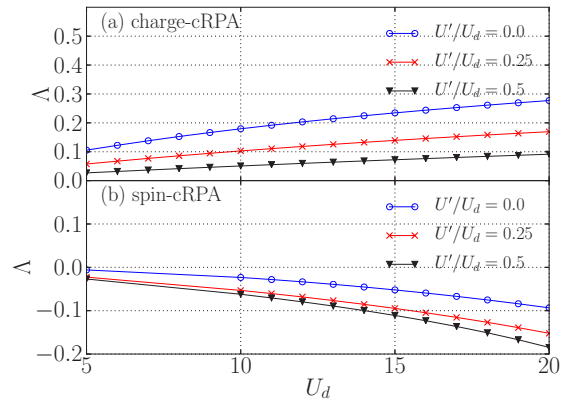


FIG. 5. (Color online) Strength of the screening effect for the on-site interaction Λ computed by the charge-cRPA (a) and spin-cRPA (b) methods for the three-orbital model. The definition of Λ is given in Eq. (62).

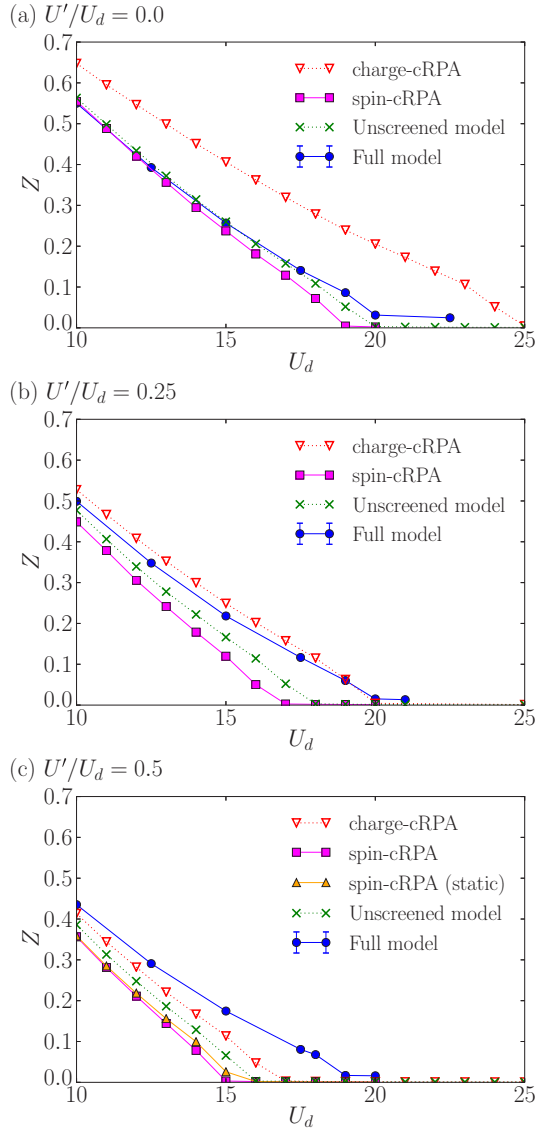


FIG. 6. (Color online) Quasiparticle weights computed for the three-orbital model with $\Delta = 10$ and $t' = 4$. We compare the results of the effective models downfolded by the charge-cRPA and spin-cRPA methods, the unscreened model, and the full model.

In the following, we will refer to these models as the *charge-cRPA/spin-cRPA model*, the *unscreened model*, the *full model*, and the *spin-cRPA static model*, respectively. The simulations are carried out at $\beta = 15$ unless otherwise stated. We confirmed that this temperature is low enough to see ground-state behavior, i.e., the quasiparticle weights are essentially converged to the ground-state values.

First, we investigate the metal-insulator transition by changing U_d for fixed U'/U_d . We compare the quasiparticle weights of the four models in Fig. 6. Let us first look at the results for $U'/U_d = 0.0$ in Fig. 6(a). The full model exhibits a metal-insulator transition at $U_d \simeq 20$. In the metallic phase, we see that the quasiparticle weight of the full model and the unscreened model are almost identical, which indicates small screening effects. The spin-cRPA model well reproduces the quasiparticle weights in the metallic phase

as well as the critical value of the transition. On the other hand, the quasiparticle weights are substantially overestimated by the charge-cRPA model in the metallic phase. Furthermore, the critical value of the transition is overestimated by about 25% by the charge-cRPA model.

As shown in Figs. 6(b) and 6(c), in the metallic phase, the quasiparticle weights of the full model become considerably larger than those of the unscreened model. This clearly illustrates the enhancement of screening effects by U' . This trend is not reproduced by the spin-cRPA model, which still produces an antiscreening effect. For $U'/U_d = 0.25$, the charge-cRPA method gives a better agreement with the full model compared to the spin-cRPA method. This agreement is just accidental because the quasiparticle weights of the

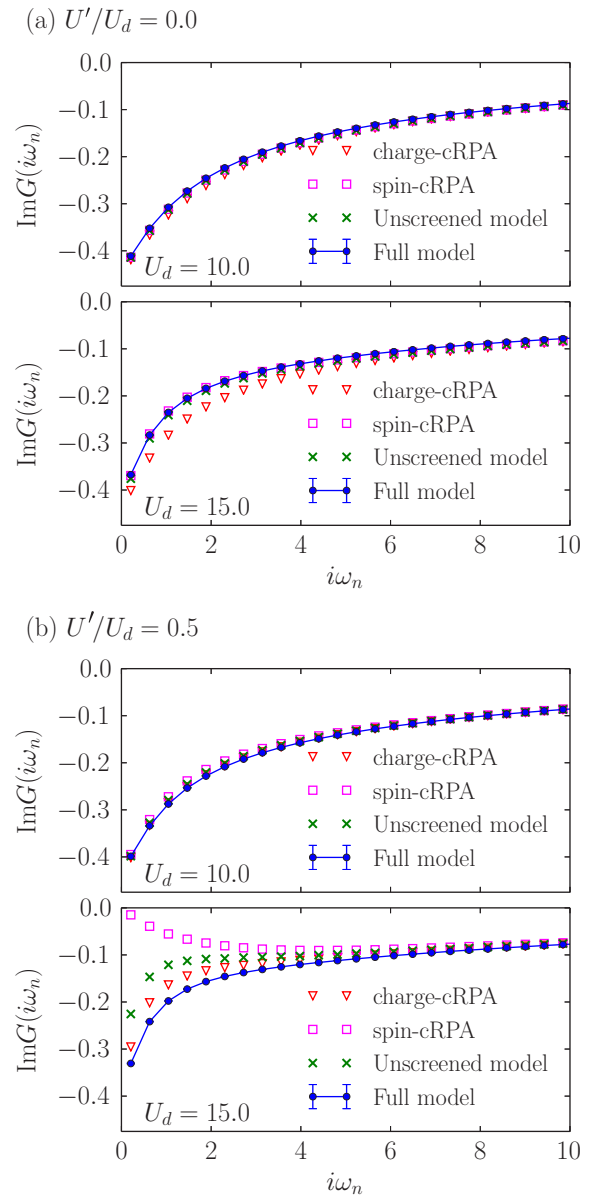


FIG. 7. (Color online) Comparison of the local Green's function for the three-orbital model with $\Delta = 10$ and $t' = 4$ ($\beta = 15$). The triangles, squares, crosses and filled circles denote the data obtained by solving the charge-cRPA model, the spin-cRPA model, the unscreened model, and the full model, respectively.

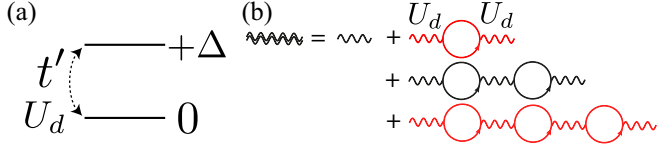


FIG. 8. (Color online) (a) Two-orbital model with a lower target band and an upper screening band. (b) First four diagrams in the charge-cRPA series for the two-orbital model. The red diagrams with an even number of interaction lines violate the Pauli principle.

charge-cRPA model overshoot those of the full model as U'/U_d increases: The charge-cRPA method underestimates the quasiparticle weights for $U'/U_d = 0.5$. For $U'/U_d = 0.5$, we also show the results obtained by the spin-cRPA static model. This static model reproduces the results of the spin-cRPA model with the dynamical U even near the Mott transition.

We see a similar trend when looking at the Green's function on the Matsubara axis (Fig. 7). For $U'/U_d = 0$, the data obtained by all the models almost fall on the same curve at $U_d = 0$, where the screening effects are small. However, as U_d increases, the data for the charge-cRPA model show a more metallic behavior compared to the full model. This is consistent with the trend in the quasiparticle weights in Fig. 6(a). For $U'/U_d = 0.5$, the Green's function for the full model is substantially more metallic compared to the unscreened model. However, this is neither correctly captured by the spin-cRPA nor by the charge-cRPA low-energy models.

We next look at how the violation of the Pauli principle leads to the overscreening effects for small U'/U_d . For this, we consider the dispersionless two-orbital model illustrated in Fig. 8(a). The Hamiltonian reads

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{\alpha} E_{\alpha} \hat{n}_{\alpha} - t' \sum_{\sigma} (\hat{c}_{1\sigma}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{2\sigma} + \hat{c}_{2\sigma}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{1\sigma}) + \sum_{\alpha} U_{\alpha} \hat{n}_{\alpha\uparrow} \hat{n}_{\alpha\downarrow}. \quad (63)$$

We assume that the system contains one electron (canonical ensemble). We show the first few diagrams in the charge-cRPA expansion for the on-site interaction on the target band schematically in Fig. 8(b). Considering that U_d acts between different spins and each interaction line flips the spin, the expansion must contain only odd-order diagrams, e.g., $O(U_d)$ and $O(U_d^3)$. The unphysical $O(U_d^2)$ diagram gives the following contribution to the screened interaction on the target band:

$$U(\omega = 0) - U(\omega = \infty) = \left\{ -\frac{2t'^2}{\Delta^3} + O(t'^3) \right\} U^2 + O(t'^4 U^3), \quad (64)$$

which amounts to a screening effect. This is essentially the origin of the overscreening seen for the three-orbital model.

Next, we have a look at the spectral function to see if the Hartree-Fock basis is an appropriate choice (see Fig. 9). The spectral function is computed by using the maximum-entropy analytical continuation method [32]. As seen in the data for $U_d = 10$, the Coulomb interactions substantially change the relative position of the screening bands from those of the noninteracting band structure. Note that the noninteracting

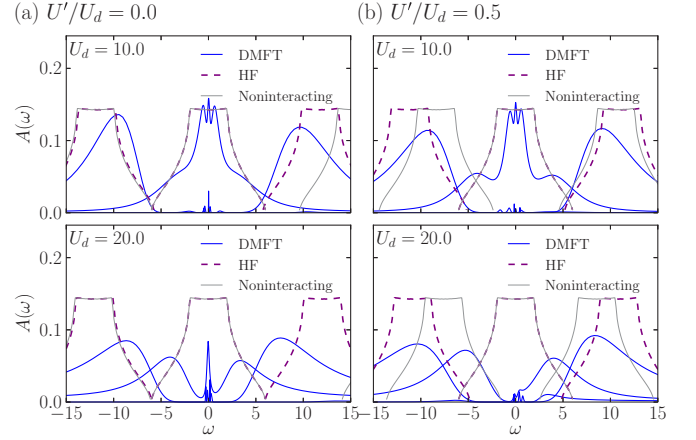


FIG. 9. (Color online) Spectral functions projected on the band basis. The data were obtained by solving the three-orbital model with $\Delta = 10$ and $t' = 4$ at $\beta = 15$. The solid thick lines denote the spectral function obtained by analytical continuation of the DMFT data. The Hartree-Fock and noninteracting band structures are shown by broken lines and thin gray lines, respectively.

band structure is not particle-hole symmetric for $U_d > 0$ due to E_{α}^{dc} in Eq. (1). The positions of the screening bands are however well reproduced by the Hartree-Fock calculations in the metallic phase, i.e., $U_d = 10$. The agreement becomes worse as we get close to the Mott transition for $U'/U_d = 0$, where the band shifts by the Coulomb interaction are large. This indicates that the Hartree-Fock basis might not be an appropriate basis near the Mott transition.

We summarize our results in a phase diagram shown in Fig. 10. The Mott transition is identified by the vanishing of the quasiparticle weight. The critical value of the Mott transition is overestimated by the charge-cRPA model for $U'/U_d = 0$. Although we see a rather good agreement between the cRPA model and the full model at $U'/U_d = 0.25$, this appears to be accidental because the U'/U_d dependence is

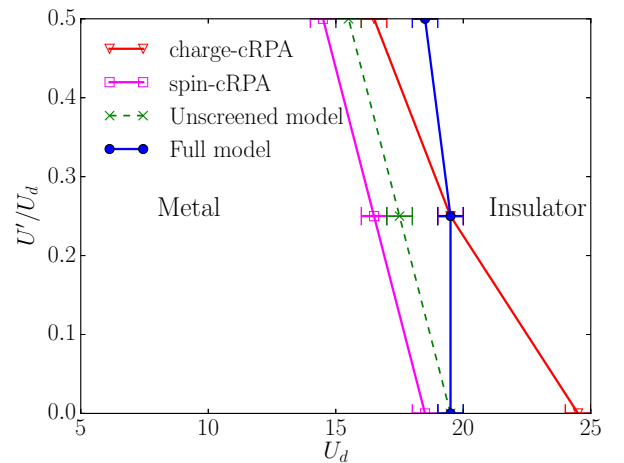


FIG. 10. (Color online) Phase diagram of the three-orbital model for $\Delta = 10$ and $t' = 4$ at $\beta = 15$. The solid lines denote the Mott-transition lines for the charge-cRPA (triangle), spin-cRPA (square), unscreend (cross), and full models (filled circle).

not correctly captured by the charge-cRPA model. On the other hand, the spin-cRPA model successfully removes the overscreening effects by the violation of the Pauli principle at $U'/U_d = 0$. However, the U'/U_d dependence is not correctly reproduced.

VI. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

We compared the low-energy properties for the three-orbital model and the corresponding downfolded models obtained by two variants of the cRPA method (charge-cRPA and spin-cRPA). The screened Coulomb interactions were projected onto the target band near the Fermi level in a Hartree-Fock band structure. We have found that the charge-cRPA method shows overscreening in the parameter region where the intraorbital repulsion U' is small. Analyzing a simplified dispersionless two-orbital model, the origin can be ascribed to the violation of the Pauli principle in the diagrammatic expansion. We have shown that the spin-cRPA method successfully removes this overscreening. However, the spin-cRPA method does not correctly reproduce the U' dependence of the Mott-transition point for the full three-orbital model. In particular, the spin-cRPA method shows a small antiscreening effect, while the full model exhibits substantial screening effects when U'/U_d is large. We furthermore found a good agreement between the positions of the screening bands in the DMFT spectral function and those obtained by the Hartree-Fock approximation which was used for constructing the Wannier function. However, this agreement becomes worse near the Mott insulator.

Let us briefly discuss possible origins of the disagreement between the full model and the spin-cRPA model for large U'/U_d . First, the RPA diagrams are not generally the most dominant ones at each expansion order [33,34] since our model contains only short-ranged interactions. Thus, the RPA method could miss diagrams which substantially contribute to the screening. Another issue is the choice of the target manifold. In the present study, we computed the polarization function and constructed the Wannier functions based on the Hartree-Fock band structure. This mean-field basis might not be accurate enough, especially near the Mott transition. In the present study, we ignore the renormalization of the kinetic energy by the downfolding, as is done in first-principles calculations. More elaborate schemes such as the *GW* method [35] could capture at least some of the correlation-induced shifts and renormalizations of the target and screening bands.

Before closing this paper, we discuss possible future studies. For the present three-orbital model, we observed antiscreening effects in the parameter regime considered. To realize a large screening effect, we may have to increase the number of screening bands. A five-orbital setup has already been considered but these results were similar to those shown here for the three-orbital case [36]. Treating a substantially larger number of screening bands may not be feasible for three-dimensional models, because the computational complexity of solving the quantum impurity problem scales exponentially in the number of orbitals. A possible future direction is testing the downfolding scheme for one-dimensional problems, where a full model with many screening bands could be solved exactly by lattice quantum Monte Carlo. In this setup, one may also be able to examine the role of long-range Coulomb interactions.

A recently proposed generalization of the cRPA scheme is the Wick-ordered constrained functional renormalization group (cfRG) method [33,34]. This scheme has been tested for one- and two-dimensional models with a few screening bands and one target band [33,34], which is similar to our setup. The cfRG calculations revealed relevant and qualitative corrections to the effective interactions beyond cRPA. A more extensive test of this method will be worthwhile. It will furthermore be interesting to examine to what extent the violation of the Pauli principle affects the screened interactions computed for real compounds. For example, in the case of high- T_c cuprates, there are p bands close to the Fermi level, a situation which resembles the configuration of the few-orbital model with narrow gaps considered in this study.

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APPENDIX A: ORBITAL-DEPENDENT MEAN FIELDS

Our model given in Eq. (1) breaks the particle-hole symmetry for nonzero interaction. As a consequence, orbital-dependent mean fields change the relative position of the screening bands. The orbital-dependent chemical potentials E_α^{dc} in Eq. (1) are introduced to cancel this band shift in the atomic limit, i.e., for $t' = 0$ and $t = 0$. In the ground state, the three orbitals are filled, half filled, and empty, respectively [see illustration in Fig. 11(a)]. First, we remove a spin from the lowest orbital [see Fig. 11(b)]. This excitation costs

$$\Delta E_{\text{hole}} = -U_r - U' + \mu + \Delta = U' + \Delta, \quad (\text{A1})$$

where $\mu (= U_d/2 + 2U')$ is the chemical potential and $U_r (= U_d/2)$ is the on-site Coulomb interaction on the screening orbitals. On the other hand, putting an electron into the highest orbital results in the excited state shown in Fig. 11(c). The excitation energy is given by

$$\Delta E_{\text{electron}} = 3U' - \mu + \Delta = U' - \frac{U_d}{2} + \Delta. \quad (\text{A2})$$

ΔE_{hole} and $\Delta E_{\text{electron}}$ correspond to the positions of the lower and upper screening bands in the spectral function,

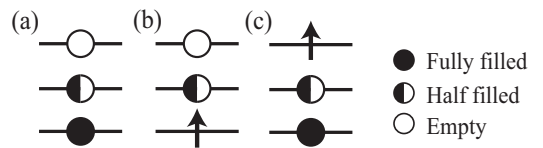


FIG. 11. Single-particle excitations in the atomic limit: (a) the ground state, (b) the excited state with an additional hole in the lowest orbital, and (c) the excited state with an additional spin in the highest orbital. We assume that half-filled target orbitals are paramagnetic.

respectively. When we increase U_d with U'/U_d fixed, ΔE_{hole} increases linearly with U_d . On the electron side, $\Delta E_{\text{electron}}$ stays constant for $U' = U_d/2$ or decreases for $U' < U_d/2$ as U_d increases. To cancel out this band shift, we take $E_{\alpha}^{\text{dc}} = U', 0, -U' + U_d/2$ for $\alpha = 1, 2, 3$.

APPENDIX B: ROTATING THE SINGLE-PARTICLE BASIS WHEN SOLVING A MULTIORBITAL IMPURITY PROBLEM

We consider a multiorbital quantum impurity problem given by the action

$$S = S_{\text{imp}} + \sum_{ab} \int_0^{\beta} d\tau d\tau' \Delta_{ab}(\tau' - \tau) c_a^{\dagger}(\tau') c_b(\tau), \quad (\text{B1})$$

where Δ is the hybridization function, which satisfies $\Delta_{ab}(\tau) = \Delta_{ba}^*(\tau)$. S_{imp} is the local impurity action.

One expands the partition function Z as

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= \text{Tr}[e^{-\beta\mathcal{H}}] \\ &= Z_{\text{bath}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!^2} \sum_{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n} \sum_{\alpha'_1, \dots, \alpha'_n} \\ &\quad \times \int_0^{\beta} d\tau_1 d\tau'_1 \cdots \int_0^{\beta} d\tau_n d\tau'_n \\ &\quad \times \text{Tr}_{\text{loc}}[e^{-\beta\mathcal{H}_{\text{loc}}} T c_{\alpha_n}(\tau_n) c_{\alpha'_n}^{\dagger}(\tau'_n) \cdots c_{\alpha_1}(\tau_1) c_{\alpha'_1}^{\dagger}(\tau'_1)] \\ &\quad \times \det \mathbf{M}^{-1}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B2})$$

where \mathcal{H} is the Hamiltonian of the whole system including the impurity and the bath. \mathcal{H}_{loc} is the local Hamiltonian corresponding to S_{imp} . The matrix elements of \mathbf{M}^{-1} at (i, j) are given by the hybridization function $\Delta_{\alpha'_i, \alpha_j}(\tau'_i - \tau_j)$.

When Δ has nonvanishing off-diagonal elements Δ_{ab} ($a \neq b$), the Monte Carlo sampling according to Eq. (B2) suffers

from a negative sign problem. To reduce this sign problem, we rewrite the action Eq. (B1) as

$$S = S_{\text{imp}} + \sum_{ab} \int_0^{\beta} d\tau d\tau' \bar{\Delta}(\tau' - \tau) d_a^{\dagger}(\tau') d_b(\tau), \quad (\text{B3})$$

where

$$c_a(\tau) = \sum_b U_{ab} d_b(\tau), \quad (\text{B4})$$

$$c_a^{\dagger}(\tau) = \sum_b (U_{ab})^* d_b^{\dagger}(\tau), \quad (\text{B5})$$

$$\bar{\Delta}_{ab}(\tau) = \sum_{cd} (U^{\dagger})_{ac} \Delta_{cd}(\tau) U_{db}, \quad (\text{B6})$$

and U_{ab} is a unitary matrix. We choose the unitary matrix U such that the off-diagonal elements of $\bar{\Delta}$ become smaller. In the present study, we choose the single-particle basis that diagonalizes the noninteracting part of \mathcal{H}_{imp} because this diagonalizes the hybridization function at all τ in the noninteracting limit, i.e., $U_d = U' = 0$.

The partition function is then expanded in terms of this new basis as

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= Z_{\text{bath}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!^2} \sum_{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n} \sum_{\alpha'_1, \dots, \alpha'_n} \\ &\quad \times \int_0^{\beta} d\tau_1 d\tau'_1 \cdots \int_0^{\beta} d\tau_n d\tau'_n \\ &\quad \times \text{Tr}_{\text{loc}}[e^{-\beta\mathcal{H}_{\text{loc}}} T d_{\alpha_n}(\tau_n) d_{\alpha'_n}^{\dagger}(\tau'_n) \cdots d_{\alpha_1}(\tau_1) d_{\alpha'_1}^{\dagger}(\tau'_1)] \\ &\quad \times \det \bar{\mathbf{M}}^{-1}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B7})$$

where the matrix elements of $\bar{\mathbf{M}}^{-1}$ are now given by the rotated hybridization function $\bar{\Delta}$. In the matrix formalism, the trace in Eq. (B7) is evaluated in the eigenbasis of \mathcal{H}_{loc} . Thus, we do not have to transform S_{imp} to the new single-particle basis. On the other hand, in the Krylov method [38], the trace can be evaluated by performing an imaginary time evolution in the occupation number basis of the original single-particle basis.

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