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# Perturbation Expansions in Quantum Statistical Mechanics

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(26. IX. 74)

*Abstract.* The perturbation expansion introduced by C. Bloch and C. de Dominicis [1, 2] for the reduced density matrix (RDM) is investigated for multi-time-temperature complex variables for  $T > 0$ . A uniform upper bound is found for the truncated RDM, and in the Euclidean case lower bounds are derived for potentials of one sign. It is found that, for a bounded number of particles in any intermediate state, the partial expansion defines an entire function of the coupling constant. At least in the case of bosons, however, the complete expansion diverges.

## Introduction

We investigate, in this paper, thermodynamic perturbation expansions in quantum statistical mechanics for finite non-zero temperatures. More precisely, we study such expansions in the form introduced by C. Bloch and C. de Dominicis [1, 2].

We consider a system of identical, spinless, non-relativistic particles, interacting through a two-body potential in a cube of volume  $V = L^3$ . We set  $m = 1/2$ ,  $\hbar = 1$ . The particles are either bosons or fermions with  $c_V(\mathbf{k})$  as the annihilation operator for a particle of momentum  $\mathbf{k}$ , and with  $c_V^*(\mathbf{k})$  as the respective creation operator. These operators satisfy the usual commutation relations. The Hamiltonian of the system is given by

$$H_V = H_V^0 + U_V, \quad (\text{I.1})$$

where

$$H_V^0 = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} E_{\mathbf{k}} c_V^*(\mathbf{k}) c_V(\mathbf{k}) \quad (\text{I.2})$$

is the free particle Hamiltonian and

$$U_V = \frac{1}{2V} \sum_{\mathbf{k}_1, \dots, \mathbf{k}_4} (\mathbf{k}_1 \mathbf{k}_2 | U | \mathbf{k}_3 \mathbf{k}_4) c_V^*(\mathbf{k}_1) c_V^*(\mathbf{k}_2) c_V(\mathbf{k}_4) c_V(\mathbf{k}_3) \quad (\text{I.3})$$

describes the interaction. The momenta in these sums run over the allowed values in a box  $V = L^3$ , and  $E_{\mathbf{k}} = \mathbf{k}^2$  is the energy of a particle of momentum  $\mathbf{k}$ . The potential

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function in (I.3) satisfies

$$(\mathbf{k}_1 \mathbf{k}_2 | U | \mathbf{k}_3 \mathbf{k}_4) = (\mathbf{k}_2 \mathbf{k}_1 | U | \mathbf{k}_4 \mathbf{k}_3) = U(\mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_4) \delta(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3 + \mathbf{k}_4), \quad (\text{I.4})$$

$$U(\mathbf{k}) = U(-\mathbf{k}) = U^*(\mathbf{k}), \quad (\text{I.4a})$$

where the Kronecker  $\delta$  expresses the conservation of momentum.

We investigate the Bloch perturbation expansion for the reduced density matrix (RDM), which is defined as the thermodynamic expectation value in the grand canonical ensemble

$$P_V = \exp[\beta(R_V - H_V + \mu N_V)] \quad (\text{I.5})$$

of a product of operators (I.7) given below. Here  $\beta = 1/kT$  is the inverse temperature ( $T =$  temperature,  $k =$  Boltzmann constant) of the system,  $\mu$  the chemical potential,  $N_V$  the particle number operator, and the thermodynamic potential  $R_V$  is determined from condition  $\text{Tr } P_V = 1$ . We choose as fixed thermodynamic parameters  $\beta$  and  $\mu$ , restricted to values  $0 < \beta < \infty$ ,  $-\infty < \mu < +\infty$  for fermions and  $\mu < 0$  for bosons.

Let  $\tau_1, \tau_2, \dots, \tau_{2n}$  be a set of complex quantities ( $\text{Re } \tau =$  inverse temperature and  $\text{Im } \tau =$  time) satisfying

$$\text{Re } \tau_1 \geq \dots \geq \text{Re } \tau_{2n}; \quad \text{Re}(\tau_1 - \tau_{2n}) \leq \beta. \quad (\text{I.6})$$

Define operators

$$c_V^\#(\mathbf{k}_i, \tau_i) = \exp[\tau_i(H_V - \mu N_V)] c_V^\#(\mathbf{k}_i) \exp[-\tau_i(H_V - \mu N_V)], \quad (\text{I.7})$$

where symbol  $\#$  in  $c_V^\#(\mathbf{k}_i)$  means that it can be either a creation or an annihilation operator. Then the RDM is defined as

$$\text{RDM} = V^n \langle\langle c_V^\#(\mathbf{k}_1, \tau_1) \cdots c_V^\#(\mathbf{k}_{2n}, \tau_{2n}) \rangle\rangle_V, \quad (\text{I.8})$$

where  $\langle\langle A \rangle\rangle_V = \text{Tr}(A P_V)$ . In order that (I.8) be non-trivial, it must contain  $n$  creators and  $n$  annihilators.

To obtain the Bloch perturbation expansion for (I.8), one considers [2] the 'time' evolution operator

$$U(\tau, \tau') = \exp(\tau H_V^0) \exp[-(\tau - \tau') H_V] \exp(-\tau H_V^0) \quad (\text{I.9})$$

with complex  $\tau$  as described above. This quantity satisfies the Bloch equation, which for  $\text{Re } \tau = 0$  is identical with the equation of motion in the interaction picture. Consequently, the Bloch equation can be treated formally as in ordinary quantum mechanics. This leads to the Dyson expansion for  $U(\tau, \tau')$ , which is then used in (I.8) to obtain a perturbation expansion. This expansion is discussed further in Section 1, where we write down the final perturbation expansion for the truncated RDM.

In Section 2 we prove three theorems. In Theorem 2.1 we find a majorization for our expansion, and Theorems 2.2 and 2.3 give minorizations for the Euclidean truncated RDM.

In Section 3 we turn to convergence questions. We find that for potential  $U_1$  (given by (2.1) below) the partial sum over graphs with less than  $N$  (a finite integer) particles in any intermediate state yields an entire function in the coupling constant  $\lambda$ . In Theorems 3.2 and 3.3 we find that, for potentials  $U_2$  and  $U_3$  (given by (2.2) and (2.3) below), the truncated RDM expansion is not analytic in  $\lambda$  at  $\lambda = 0$ . The expansion clearly diverges, at least in the case of bosons.

### 1. The Perturbation Expansion

In this section we shall write down the Bloch interaction expansion for the truncated RDM.

As explained in the Introduction, one uses the Dyson expansion for  $U(\tau, \tau')$  to get a perturbation expansion for (I.8). The expansion thus obtained is then developed further with the aid of the Wick–Bloch–de Dominicis Theorem [1–5] to obtain the expansion in a form in which each term corresponds to a graph. The Linked Cluster Theorem [6, 7] yields then the result

$$\text{RDM} = \sum_A G_{l_1} \cdot G_{l_2} \cdots G_{l_r}, \tag{1.1}$$

in which  $G_{l_i} (i = 1, \dots, r)$  are connected graphs each containing at least one pair of external vertices; each external vertex appears in one and only one  $G_{l_i}$ . The sum is over all possible products with  $1 \leq r \leq n$ . The procedure to arrive at (1.1) is well known; we refer to the book by Mills [8], in which this derivation is given in detail for  $n = 1$ .

We now define recursively [9] a truncated RDM, which we denote by the superscript  $T$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle\langle c_V^\#(\mathbf{k}_1, \tau_1) c_V^\#(\mathbf{k}_2, \tau_2) \rangle\rangle_V^T &= \langle\langle c_V^\#(\mathbf{k}_1, \tau_1) c_V^\#(\mathbf{k}_2, \tau_2) \rangle\rangle_V \\ \langle\langle c_1^\# c_2^\# \cdots c_{2n}^\# \rangle\rangle_V^T &= \langle\langle c_1^\# c_2^\# \cdots c_{2n}^\# \rangle\rangle_V \\ &\quad - \sum_{\text{Part}} \epsilon^P \langle\langle c_{P_{11}}^\# c_{P_{12}}^\# \cdots c_{P_{1s(1)}}^\# \rangle\rangle_V^T \cdots \langle\langle c_{P_{r1}}^\# c_{P_{r2}}^\# \cdots c_{P_{rs(r)}}^\# \rangle\rangle_V^T, \end{aligned} \tag{1.2}$$

where  $\sum_{\text{Part}}$  extends over all partitions

$$\{P_{11}, P_{12}, \dots, P_{1s(1)}\} \{P_{21}, P_{22}, \dots, P_{2s(2)}\} \cdots \{P_{r1}, P_{r2}, \dots, P_{rs(r)}\}$$

of  $\{1, 2, \dots, 2n\}$  with  $r > 1$  and

$$P_{11} < P_{12} < \cdots < P_{1s(1)}; \dots; P_{r1} < P_{r2} < \cdots < P_{rs(r)}.$$

$\epsilon = 1$  for bosons and  $\epsilon = -1$  for fermions. In  $\epsilon^P$  we have  $P = 0$  for an even and  $P = 1$  for an odd permutation from  $1, 2, \dots, 2n$  to  $P_{11}, P_{12}, \dots, P_{rs(r)}$ . With this definition we arrive at

$$V^n \langle\langle c_V^\#(\mathbf{k}_1, \tau_1) \cdots c_V^\#(\mathbf{k}_{2n}, \tau_{2n}) \rangle\rangle_V^T = \sum_{m=n-1}^{\infty} \sum_{r=1}^{r(m)} G_r^{(m)}(\mathbf{k}_1^\#, \tau_1; \dots; \mathbf{k}_{2n}^\#, \tau_{2n})_V \tag{1.3}$$

which is a sum over all connected graphs containing all external vertices. For each graph we have two indices,  $m$  and  $r$ .  $m$  is the number of interaction lines in the graph

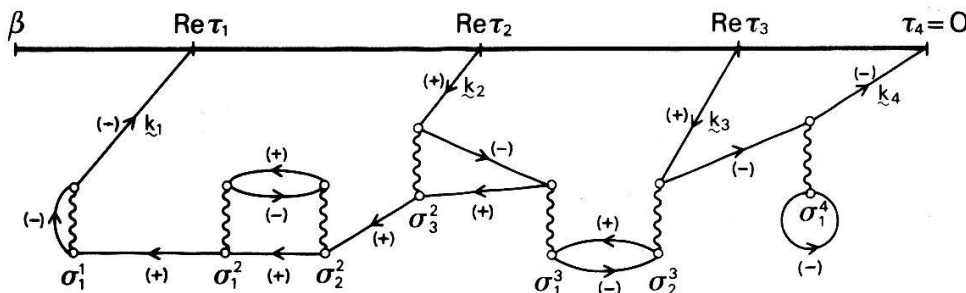


Figure 1.1

and is called the *order* of the graph. There are, in general, a large number of different graphs having the same order. These we have distinguished with the additional index  $r$ . The analytic expression corresponding to a graph  $G_r^{(m)}$  is

$$G_r^{(m)} = (-1)^m \epsilon^{L+S+C} \prod_{i=1}^{2n} \left( \int_{\tau_i}^{\tau_{i-1}} d\sigma_1^i \int_{\tau_i}^{\sigma_1^i} d\sigma_2^i \cdots \int_{\tau_i}^{\sigma_{m_i-1}^i} d\sigma_{m_i}^i \right) \sum_{\mathbf{k}_{11}, \dots, \mathbf{k}_{m_{2n}4}^{2n}} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^{2n} \exp[\pm \tau_i (E_i - \mu)] \prod_{j=1}^{m_i} (\mathbf{k}_{j1}^i \mathbf{k}_{j2}^i | U | \mathbf{k}_{j3}^i \mathbf{k}_{j4}^i) \exp[\sigma_j^i (E_{j1}^i + E_{j2}^i - E_{j3}^i - E_{j4}^i)] \prod_{\nu=1}^{2m+n} \delta(\mathbf{1}_\nu, \mathbf{1}_\nu^*) f_\epsilon^\pm(\mathbf{1}_\nu) \right]. \tag{1.4}$$

An example of a graph is given in Figure 1.1. At each interaction line we have two incoming and two outgoing particle lines as shown in Figure 1.2. The integration path in (1.4) for the complex  $\sigma$ -integrals must be chosen so that  $\text{Re } \sigma$  increases along the

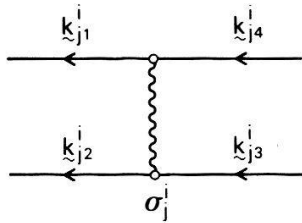


Figure 1.2

path of integration [2]. In  $\exp[\pm \tau_i (E_i - \mu)]$  we have (+)-sign for a created and (-)-sign for an annihilated external particle. The integer  $m_i$  gives the number of interaction lines in interval  $(\tau_{i-1}, \tau_i)$ . We have  $\sum m_i = m$ . Further we have denoted  $E_{js}^i = (\mathbf{k}_{js}^i)^2$ . In the last product in (1.4)  $\mathbf{1}_\nu$  and  $\mathbf{1}_\nu^*$  are the incoming and outgoing particle lines, which are connected to produce particle line  $\mathbf{1}_\nu$  in the graph. Each particle line in the graph gives rise to a factor  $f_\epsilon^\pm(\mathbf{1}_\nu)$ , where

$$f_\epsilon^+(\mathbf{1}_\nu) = \frac{1}{1 - \epsilon \exp[\beta(\mu - \mathbf{1}_\nu^2)]} \tag{1.5}$$

corresponds to a particle line going from right to left, and

$$f_\epsilon^-(\mathbf{1}_\nu) = \frac{1}{\exp[\beta(\mathbf{1}_\nu^2 - \mu)] - \epsilon} \tag{1.6}$$

corresponds to a particle line going from left to right. The former are called (+)-lines and the latter (-)-lines.  $\epsilon = 1$  for bosons and  $\epsilon = -1$  for fermions.

Then we still have the sign factor in front of (1.4). To find the sign of the graph in the case of fermions, we proceed as follows. We complete the graph with extra particle lines connecting the external vertices pairwise with dotted lines as indicated in the special example shown in Fig. 1.3.  $L$  is then the number of closed loops and  $S$  the number of (-)-lines in the completed graph.  $C$  is the number of crossings among the completion lines. In Figure 1.3 we have  $L = 3$ ,  $S = 5$  and  $C = 1$ .

There are  $m$   $\delta$ -functions in (1.4) coming from (I.4) and  $2m + n$   $\delta$ -functions appearing in the last product. These reduce the number of independent momenta. One of the former  $\delta$ -functions reduces to  $\delta(\Sigma \pm \mathbf{k}_i)$ , in which created and annihilated particles appear with opposite signs. Thus we have  $m - n + 1$  independent momenta. If we write

$$G_r^{(m)}(\mathbf{k}^\#, \tau)_V = V \delta(\sum \pm \mathbf{k}_i) \bar{G}_r^{(m)}(\mathbf{k}^\#, \tau)_V, \tag{1.7}$$

then  $\bar{G}_r^{(m)}$  is independent of volume in the limit  $V \rightarrow \infty$ .

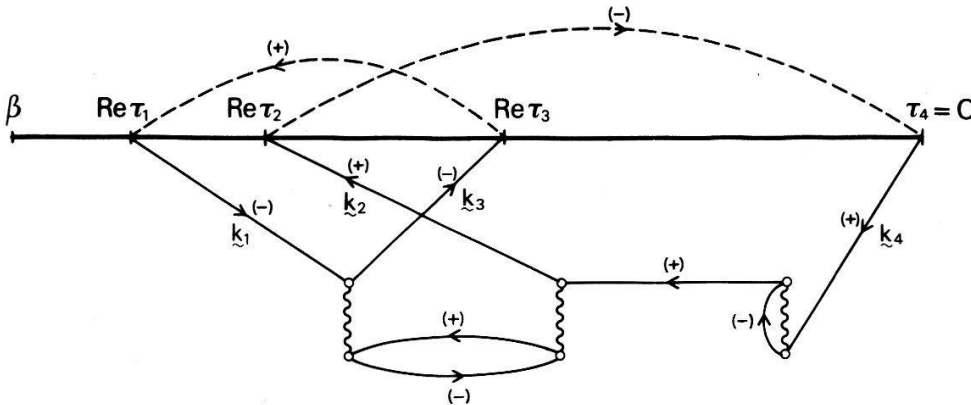


Figure 1.3

The grand partition function can be obtained as a special case of the RDM, and it is given by [2]

$$\log Z_V = \log Z_V^0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{S_k} G_k, \tag{1.8}$$

where  $Z_V^0$  is for non-interacting system,  $S_k$  is the symmetry number of graph  $G_k$ , and the sum runs over all connected graphs containing no external vertices. The pressure is then given by

$$P_V = - \frac{1}{V} R_V = \frac{1}{\beta V} \log Z_V. \tag{1.9}$$

The thermodynamic limit exists also for pressure.

Our description differs somewhat from the conventional one (see, for instance [6, 8]). We have definite signs for the particle lines in the graph. This is not the case in the description normally used. One usually takes the  $\sigma$ -integrals from 0 to  $\beta$  and replaces the last product in (1.4) by a more complicated expression

$$\prod_{v=1}^{2m+n} \delta(\mathbf{1}_v, \mathbf{1}'_v) [\Theta(\sigma'_v - \sigma_v) f_\varepsilon^+(\mathbf{1}_v) + \epsilon \Theta(\sigma_v - \sigma'_v) f_\varepsilon^-(\mathbf{1}_v)] \tag{1.10}$$

to take care of the different possibilities for (+)- and (-)-particle-lines. Here

$$\Theta(\sigma) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{for } \sigma > 0 \\ 0 & \text{for } \sigma < 0 \end{cases} \tag{1.11}$$

$\sigma_v$  is the complex ‘time’ at which  $\mathbf{l}_v$  is annihilated and  $\sigma'_v$  is that for the creation of  $\mathbf{l}'_v$ . Thus in the usual description all such graphs are identical, in which only the directions of the particle lines are varied. If we expand the analytical expression of such graph by taking explicitly account of the  $\Theta$ -functions in the  $\sigma$ -integrals, we get a sum of terms in which each term corresponds to a distinct graph in our representation.

### 2. Uniform Bounds for Diagrams at $T > 0$

We consider the thermodynamic perturbation expansion for grand canonical pressure and multi-time-temperature RDM at  $T > 0$ . In this section we shall derive uniform upper bounds for every term (characterized by a diagram) in such expansions. Uniform lower bounds will then be established for positive (or negative) potentials for the pressure and the Euclidean RDM.

Without striving at the utmost generality we investigate a system of identical non-relativistic spinless particles with mass  $1/2$ , interacting through a two-body potential  $U(\mathbf{x})$  in three-dimensional space. We set  $\hbar = 1$ . Let  $V = L^3$  be a cube

$$\{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3; |\mathbf{x}_i| < L/2\}$$

and  $\Gamma = \Gamma(V)$  the set of lattice points  $\mathbf{k} = 2\pi\mathbf{n}/L$  with  $\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^3$ . The two-body potentials  $U(\mathbf{x})$  with Fourier transform  $U(\mathbf{k})$  are assumed to belong to one of the following classes:

$U_1$ : The potential function is continuous and satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} U(\mathbf{k}) &= U(-\mathbf{k}) = U^*(\mathbf{k}), \\ \|U\|_\infty &= \sup_{\mathbf{k}} |U(\mathbf{k})| < \infty, \\ \|U\|_{\bar{1}} &= \sup_L \frac{1}{V} \sum_{\mathbf{k} \in \Gamma} |U(\mathbf{k})| = \sup_L \|U\|_{1,L} < \infty. \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

$U_2$ :

$$U \in U_1, \quad U(\mathbf{k}) \geq 0, \quad U(0) > 0. \tag{2.2}$$

$U_3$ :

$$U \in U_1, \quad U(\mathbf{k}) \geq a e^{-bk^2} \text{ for some } a > 0, b < \infty. \tag{2.3}$$

Obviously  $U(\mathbf{x}) \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)$ , if  $U \in U_1$ .

*Theorem 2.1:* Assume  $U \in U_1$ ,  $0 < \beta < \infty$ ,  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^1$  ( $\mu < 0$  for bosons) and  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Then there exist constants  $A, B < \infty$  such that every term in expansion (1.3) with (1.7) satisfies

$$|\bar{G}_r^{(m)}(\mathbf{k}_1^\#, \tau_1; \dots; \mathbf{k}_{2m}, \tau_{2n})_V| < AB^m \prod_{i=1}^{2n} \frac{|\tau_{i-1} - \tau_i|^{m_i}}{m_i!} \tag{2.4}$$

where the  $\tau$ 's satisfy (I.6),  $\tau_0 = \beta$ ,  $\tau_{2n} = 0$ ,  $0 < V < \infty$  and  $\sum \pm \mathbf{k}_i = 0$ .

*Proof:* The whole  $\sigma$ - and  $\tau$ -dependence of  $G_r^{(m)}(\mathbf{k}^\#, \tau)_V$  is in the exponent of (1.4) and can be easily estimated. We write

$$E_j^i = E_{j_3}^i + E_{j_4}^i - E_{j_1}^i - E_{j_2}^i \tag{2.5}$$

and obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \exp\left\{-\sum_{i=1}^{2n} [\sigma_j^i E_j \mp \tau_i E_i]\right\} \\ &= \exp\left\{-\sum_{i=1}^{2n} \left[ (\tau_{i-1} - \sigma_1^i) \mathcal{E}_0^i + \sum_{j=1}^{m_i-1} (\sigma_j^i - \sigma_{j+1}^i) \mathcal{E}_j^i + (\sigma_{m_i}^i - \tau_i) \mathcal{E}_{m_i}^i \right]\right\}, \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{E}_0^i = \sum_{a=1}^{i-1} \left[ \mp E_a + \sum_{b=1}^{m_a} E_b^a \right], \\ \mathcal{E}_j^i = \mathcal{E}_0^i + \sum_{b=1}^j E_b^i, \end{cases} \tag{2.7}$$

where  $E_a$  appears with a (-)-sign for a created and with a (+)-sign for an annihilated external particle. The energies  $\mathcal{E}_j^i$  can be read off directly from the graph: for  $\mathcal{E}_0^i$  one has to cut the graph vertically between  $\tau_{i-1}$  and  $\sigma_1^i$ , and for  $\mathcal{E}_j^i (j \geq 1)$  a similar cut after  $\sigma_j^i$ . Then  $\mathcal{E}_j^i$  is the sum of the energies of the cut (+)-lines minus the sum of the energies of the cut (-)-lines. The cut (+)-lines and (-)-lines define an 'intermediate state' of the graph.

The absolute value of (2.6) is smaller than

$$\exp\left\{-\min_{i,j}(\mathcal{E}_j^i) \beta\right\} \leq \sum_{i=1}^{2n} \sum_{j=0}^{m_i} \exp\{-\mathcal{E}_j^i \beta\}, \tag{2.8}$$

since

$$\text{Re} \sum_{i=1}^{2n} \left[ (\tau_{i-1} - \sigma_1^i) + \sum_{j=1}^{m_i-1} (\sigma_j^i - \sigma_{j+1}^i) + (\sigma_{m_i}^i - \tau_i) \right] = \beta.$$

When  $0 < \beta < \infty$ ,  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^1$  and  $\mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , we have from (1.5) for bosons

$$1 < f^+(\mathbf{k}) < \frac{1}{1 - \exp(-\beta|\mu|)} \quad (\mu < 0)$$

and for fermions

$$0 < f^+(\mathbf{k}) < 1.$$

Consequently,

$$0 < f_\varepsilon^-(\mathbf{k}) < C \exp[-\beta(\mathbf{k}^2 - \mu)],$$

where the constant satisfies  $C > 1$  for bosons and  $C = 1$  for fermions. Thus the absolute value of  $G_r^{(m)}(\mathbf{k}^\#, \tau)_V (V \leq \infty)$  is smaller than

$$\begin{aligned} & V^{n-m} C^{2m+n} \prod_{i=1}^{2n} \frac{|\tau_{i-1} - \tau_i|^{m_i}}{m_i!} \sum_{\mathbf{k}_{11}^1, \dots, \mathbf{k}_{2n4}^{2n}} \prod_{i=1}^{2n} \prod_{j=1}^{m_i} |(\mathbf{k}_{j1}^i \mathbf{k}_{j2}^i | U | \mathbf{k}_{j3}^i \mathbf{k}_{j4}^i)| \\ & \prod_{i=1}^{2m+n} \delta(\mathbf{1}_i^*, \mathbf{1}_i) \sum_{i=1}^{2n} \sum_{j=0}^{m_i} \exp\left\{-\beta \left[ \mathcal{E}_j^i + \sum_{\nu} (1_\nu^* - \mu) \right]\right\}, \end{aligned} \tag{2.9}$$















