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Imaginary-time methods for finding ground states of fermion atomic gases JOCHEN WACHTER, JILA, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0440, USA, MURRAY HOLLAND, JILA, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0440, USA, MARILU CHIOFALO, Università di Pisa, I-56126 Pisa, Italy — Steepest descent methods using imaginary-time propagation of the Gross-Pitaevskii equation have been extremely useful for finding ground states in Bose-Einstein condensed systems. We have extended these methods to treat interacting fermion gases. In particular, we can find zero-temperature ground states for density matrix equations. We apply this method to the BCS theory of superconductivity and the two-channel model of the Bose-Fermi crossover problem.

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