

Quantum Systems: Dynamics and Control¹

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- 2 Driven and damped harmonic oscillator
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The Lindblad master differential equation (finite dimensional case)

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = -\frac{i}{\hbar}[\mathbf{H}, \rho] + \sum_{\nu} \mathbf{L}_{\nu}\rho\mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger}\mathbf{L}_{\nu}\rho + \rho\mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger}\mathbf{L}_{\nu}) \triangleq \mathcal{L}(\rho)$$

where

- \mathbf{H} is the Hamiltonian that could depend on t (Hermitian operator on the underlying Hilbert space \mathcal{H})
- the \mathbf{L}_{ν} 's are operators on \mathcal{H} that are not necessarily Hermitian.
- **Structure invariance under a time-varying change of frame** $\tilde{\rho} = \mathbf{U}_t^{\dagger}\rho\mathbf{U}_t$ with \mathbf{U}_t **unitary**: the new density operator $\tilde{\rho}$ obeys to a similar SME where $\tilde{\mathbf{H}} = \mathbf{U}_t^{\dagger}\mathbf{H}\mathbf{U}_t + i\mathbf{U}_t^{\dagger}\left(\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{U}_t\right)$ and $\tilde{\mathbf{L}}_{\nu} = \mathbf{U}_t^{\dagger}\mathbf{L}_{\nu}\mathbf{U}_t$.
- **Qualitative properties**:
 - 1 **Positivity and trace conservation**: if ρ_0 is a density operator, then $\rho(t)$ remains a density operator for all $t > 0$.
 - 2 For any $t \geq 0$, the propagator $e^{t\mathcal{L}}$ is a Kraus map: exists a collection of operators $(M_{\mu,t})$ such that $\sum_{\mu} M_{\mu,t}^{\dagger}M_{\mu,t} = I$ with $e^{t\mathcal{L}}(\rho) = \sum_{\mu} M_{\mu,t}\rho M_{\mu,t}^{\dagger}$ (Kraus theorem characterizing completely positive linear maps).
 - 3 **Contraction** for many distances such as **the nuclear distance**: take two trajectories ρ and ρ' ; for any $0 \leq t_1 \leq t_2$,

$$\text{Tr}(|\rho(t_2) - \rho'(t_2)|) \leq \text{Tr}(|\rho(t_1) - \rho'(t_1)|)$$

where for any Hermitian operator A , $|A| = \sqrt{A^2}$ and $\text{Tr}(|A|)$ corresponds to the sum of the absolute values of its eigenvalues.

$$\rho_{k+1} = \sum_{\mu} \mathbf{M}_{\mu} \rho_k \mathbf{M}_{\mu}^{\dagger} \quad \text{with} \quad \sum_{\mu} \mathbf{M}_{\mu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{M}_{\mu} = \mathbf{I}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \rho = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\mathbf{H}, \rho] + \sum_{\nu} \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho + \rho \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{L}_{\nu})$$

Take $dt > 0$ small. Set

$$\mathbf{M}_{dt,0} = \mathbf{I} - dt \left(\frac{i}{\hbar} \mathbf{H} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\nu} \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \right), \quad \mathbf{M}_{dt,\nu} = \sqrt{dt} \mathbf{L}_{\nu}.$$

Since $\rho(t + dt) = \rho(t) + dt \left(\frac{d}{dt} \rho(t) \right) + O(dt^2)$, we have

$$\rho(t + dt) = \mathbf{M}_{dt,0} \rho(t) \mathbf{M}_{dt,0}^{\dagger} + \sum_{\nu} \mathbf{M}_{dt,\nu} \rho(t) \mathbf{M}_{dt,\nu}^{\dagger} + O(dt^2).$$

Since $\mathbf{M}_{dt,0}^{\dagger} \mathbf{M}_{dt,0} + \sum_{\nu} \mathbf{M}_{dt,\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{M}_{dt,\nu} = \mathbf{I} + O(dt^2)$ the super-operator

$$\rho \mapsto \mathbf{M}_{dt,0} \rho \mathbf{M}_{dt,0}^{\dagger} + \sum_{\nu} \mathbf{M}_{dt,\nu} \rho \mathbf{M}_{dt,\nu}^{\dagger}$$

can be seen as an **infinitesimal Kraus map**.

- 1 Unitary invariance: for any unitary operator U ($U^\dagger U = I$), $D(U\rho U^\dagger, U\rho' U^\dagger) = D(\rho, \rho')$.
- 2 For any density operators ρ and ρ' ,

$$D(\rho, \rho') = \max_{\substack{P \text{ such that} \\ 0 \leq P = P^\dagger \leq I}} \text{Tr}(P(\rho - \rho')).$$

- 3 Triangular inequality: for any density operators ρ , ρ' and ρ''

$$D(\rho, \rho'') \leq D(\rho, \rho') + D(\rho', \rho'').$$

For any Kraus map $\rho \mapsto \mathbf{K}(\rho) = \sum_{\mu} M_{\mu} \rho M_{\mu}^{\dagger}$ ($\sum_{\mu} M_{\mu}^{\dagger} M_{\mu} = I$)
 $d(\mathbf{K}(\rho), \mathbf{K}(\sigma)) \leq d(\rho, \sigma)$ with

- trace distance: $d_{tr}(\rho, \sigma) = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(|\rho - \sigma|)$.
- Bures distance: $d_B(\rho, \sigma) = \sqrt{1 - F(\rho, \sigma)}$ with fidelity
 $F(\rho, \sigma) = \text{Tr}(\sqrt{\sqrt{\rho}\sigma\sqrt{\rho}})$.
- Chernoff distance: $d_C(\rho, \sigma) = \sqrt{1 - Q(\rho, \sigma)}$ where
 $Q(\rho, \sigma) = \min_{0 \leq s \leq 1} \text{Tr}(\rho^s \sigma^{1-s})$.
- Relative entropy: $d_S(\rho, \sigma) = \sqrt{\text{Tr}(\rho(\log \rho - \log \sigma))}$.
- χ^2 -divergence: $d_{\chi^2}(\rho, \sigma) = \sqrt{\text{Tr}((\rho - \sigma)\sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}}(\rho - \sigma)\sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}})}$.
- Hilbert's projective metric: if $\text{supp}(\rho) = \text{supp}(\sigma)$
 $d_h(\rho, \sigma) = \log\left(\left\|\rho^{-\frac{1}{2}}\sigma\rho^{-\frac{1}{2}}\right\|_{\infty} \left\|\sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}}\rho\sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}}\right\|_{\infty}\right)$
otherwise $d_h(\rho, \sigma) = +\infty$.

⁵A good summary in M.J. Kastoryano PhD thesis: Quantum Markov Chain Mixing and Dissipative Engineering. University of Copenhagen, December 2011.

The Schrödinger approach $d_h(\rho, \sigma) = \log \left(\left\| \rho^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sigma \rho^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right\|_{\infty} \left\| \sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \rho \sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right\|_{\infty} \right)$

$$\mathbf{K}(\rho) = \sum M_{\mu} \rho M_{\mu}^{\dagger}, \quad \sum M_{\mu}^{\dagger} M_{\mu} = I$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \rho = -i[H, \rho] + \sum L_{\mu} \rho L_{\mu}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2} L_{\mu}^{\dagger} L_{\mu} \rho - \frac{1}{2} \rho L_{\mu}^{\dagger} L_{\mu}$$

Contraction ratio: $\tanh \left(\frac{\Delta(\mathbf{K})}{4} \right)$ with $\Delta(\mathbf{K}) = \max_{\rho, \sigma > 0} d_h(\mathbf{K}(\rho), \mathbf{K}(\sigma))$

The Heisenberg approach (dual of Schrödinger approach):

$$\mathbf{K}^*(A) = \sum M_{\mu}^{\dagger} A M_{\mu}, \quad \mathbf{K}^*(I) = I$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} A = i[H, A] + \sum L_{\mu}^{\dagger} A L_{\mu} - \frac{1}{2} L_{\mu}^{\dagger} L_{\mu} A - \frac{1}{2} A L_{\mu}^{\dagger} L_{\mu}, \quad A = I \text{ steady-state.}$$

"Contraction of the spectrum":

$$\lambda_{\min}(A) \leq \lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{K}^*(A)) \leq \lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{K}^*(A)) \leq \lambda_{\max}(A).$$

⁶R. Sepulchre et al.: Consensus in non-commutative spaces. CDC 2010.

⁷D. Reeb et al.: Hilbert's projective metric in quantum information theory. J. Math. Phys. 52, 082201 (2011).

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The driven and damped classical oscillator

Dynamics in the (x', p') phase plane with $\omega \gg \kappa$, $\sqrt{u_1^2 + u_2^2}$:

$$\frac{d}{dt}x' = \omega p', \quad \frac{d}{dt}p' = -\omega x' - \kappa p' - 2u_1 \sin(\omega t) + 2u_2 \cos(\omega t)$$

Define the frame rotating at ω by $(x', p') \mapsto (x, p)$ with

$$x' = \cos(\omega t)x + \sin(\omega t)p, \quad p' = -\sin(\omega t)x + \cos(\omega t)p.$$

Removing highly oscillating terms (rotating wave approximation), from

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}x &= -\kappa \sin^2(\omega t)x + 2u_1 \sin^2(\omega t) + (\kappa p - 2u_2) \sin(\omega t) \cos(\omega t) \\ \frac{d}{dt}p &= -\kappa \cos^2(\omega t)p + 2u_2 \cos^2(\omega t) + (\kappa x - 2u_1) \sin(\omega t) \cos(\omega t) \end{aligned}$$

we get, with $\alpha = x + ip$ and $u = u_1 + iu_2$:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\alpha = -\frac{\kappa}{2}\alpha + u.$$

With $x' + ip' = \alpha' = e^{-i\omega t}\alpha$, we have $\frac{d}{dt}\alpha' = -(\frac{\kappa}{2} + i\omega)\alpha' + ue^{-i\omega t}$

- The Lindblad master equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = [u\mathbf{a}^\dagger - u^*\mathbf{a}, \rho] + \kappa (\mathbf{a}\rho\mathbf{a}^\dagger - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}^\dagger\mathbf{a}\rho - \frac{1}{2}\rho\mathbf{a}^\dagger\mathbf{a}).$$

- Consider $\rho = \mathbf{D}_{\bar{\alpha}}\xi\mathbf{D}_{-\bar{\alpha}}$ with $\bar{\alpha} = 2u/\kappa$ and $\mathbf{D}_{\bar{\alpha}} = e^{\bar{\alpha}\mathbf{a}^\dagger - \bar{\alpha}^*\mathbf{a}}$. We get

$$\frac{d}{dt}\xi = \kappa (\mathbf{a}\xi\mathbf{a}^\dagger - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}^\dagger\mathbf{a}\xi - \frac{1}{2}\xi\mathbf{a}^\dagger\mathbf{a})$$

since $\mathbf{D}_{-\bar{\alpha}}\mathbf{a}\mathbf{D}_{\bar{\alpha}} = \mathbf{a} + \bar{\alpha}$.

- Informal convergence proof with the strict Lyapunov function $V(\xi) = \text{Tr}(\xi\mathbf{N})$:

$$\frac{d}{dt}V(\xi) = -\kappa V(\xi) \Rightarrow V(\xi(t)) = V(\xi_0)e^{-\kappa t}.$$

Since $\xi(t)$ is Hermitian and non-negative, $\xi(t)$ tends to $|0\rangle\langle 0|$ when $t \mapsto +\infty$.

Theorem

Consider with $u \in \mathbb{C}$, $\kappa > 0$, the following Cauchy problem

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = [u\mathbf{a}^\dagger - u^*\mathbf{a}, \rho] + \kappa (\mathbf{a}\rho\mathbf{a}^\dagger - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}^\dagger\mathbf{a}\rho - \frac{1}{2}\rho\mathbf{a}^\dagger\mathbf{a}), \quad \rho(0) = \rho_0.$$

Assume that the initial state ρ_0 is a density operator with finite energy $\text{Tr}(\rho_0\mathbf{N}) < +\infty$. Then exists a unique solution to the Cauchy problem in the Banach space $\mathcal{K}^1(\mathcal{H})$, the set of trace class operators on \mathcal{H} . It is defined for all $t > 0$ with $\rho(t)$ a density operator (Hermitian, non-negative and trace-class) that remains in the domain of the Lindblad super-operator

$$\rho \mapsto [u\mathbf{a}^\dagger - u^*\mathbf{a}, \rho] + \kappa (\mathbf{a}\rho\mathbf{a}^\dagger - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}^\dagger\mathbf{a}\rho - \frac{1}{2}\rho\mathbf{a}^\dagger\mathbf{a}).$$

This means that $t \mapsto \rho(t)$ is differentiable in the Banach space $\mathcal{K}^1(\mathcal{H})$. Moreover $\rho(t)$ converges for the trace-norm towards $|\bar{\alpha}\rangle\langle\bar{\alpha}|$ when t tends to $+\infty$, where $|\bar{\alpha}\rangle$ is the coherent state of complex amplitude $\bar{\alpha} = \frac{2u}{\kappa}$.

Lemma

Consider with $u \in \mathbb{C}$, $\kappa > 0$, the following Cauchy problem

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = [u\mathbf{a}^\dagger - u^*\mathbf{a}, \rho] + \kappa (\mathbf{a}\rho\mathbf{a}^\dagger - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}^\dagger\mathbf{a}\rho - \frac{1}{2}\rho\mathbf{a}^\dagger\mathbf{a}), \quad \rho(0) = \rho_0.$$

- 1 for any initial density operator ρ_0 with $\text{Tr}(\rho_0\mathbf{N}) < +\infty$, we have $\frac{d}{dt}\alpha = -\frac{\kappa}{2}(\alpha - \bar{\alpha})$ where $\alpha = \text{Tr}(\rho\mathbf{a})$ and $\bar{\alpha} = \frac{2u}{\kappa}$.
- 2 Assume that $\rho_0 = |\beta_0\rangle\langle\beta_0|$ where β_0 is some complex amplitude. Then for all $t \geq 0$, $\rho(t) = |\beta(t)\rangle\langle\beta(t)|$ remains a coherent state of amplitude $\beta(t)$ solution of the following equation:
 $\frac{d}{dt}\beta = -\frac{\kappa}{2}(\beta - \bar{\alpha})$ with $\beta(0) = \beta_0$.

Statement 2 relies on:

$$\mathbf{a}|\beta\rangle = \beta|\beta\rangle, \quad |\beta\rangle = e^{-\frac{\beta\beta^*}{2}} e^{\beta\mathbf{a}^\dagger} |0\rangle \quad \frac{d}{dt}|\beta\rangle = \left(-\frac{1}{2}(\beta^*\dot{\beta} + \beta\dot{\beta}^*) + \dot{\beta}\mathbf{a}^\dagger\right) |\beta\rangle.$$

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Driven and damped quantum oscillator with thermal photon(s)

Parameters $\omega \gg \kappa$, $|u|$ and $n_{\text{th}} > 0$:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}\rho = & [u\mathbf{a}^\dagger - u^*\mathbf{a}, \rho] + (1 + n_{\text{th}})\kappa (\mathbf{a}\rho\mathbf{a}^\dagger - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}^\dagger\mathbf{a}\rho - \frac{1}{2}\rho\mathbf{a}^\dagger\mathbf{a}) \\ & + n_{\text{th}}\kappa (\mathbf{a}^\dagger\rho\mathbf{a} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}\mathbf{a}^\dagger\rho - \frac{1}{2}\rho\mathbf{a}\mathbf{a}^\dagger). \end{aligned}$$

Key issue: $\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \rho(t) = ?$.

With $\bar{\alpha} = 2u/k$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}\rho = & (1 + n_{\text{th}})\kappa ((\mathbf{a} - \bar{\alpha})\rho(\mathbf{a} - \bar{\alpha})^\dagger - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{a} - \bar{\alpha})^\dagger(\mathbf{a} - \bar{\alpha})\rho - \frac{1}{2}\rho(\mathbf{a} - \bar{\alpha})^\dagger(\mathbf{a} - \bar{\alpha})) \\ & + n_{\text{th}}\kappa ((\mathbf{a} - \bar{\alpha})^\dagger\rho(\mathbf{a} - \bar{\alpha}) - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{a} - \bar{\alpha})(\mathbf{a} - \bar{\alpha})^\dagger\rho - \frac{1}{2}\rho(\mathbf{a} - \bar{\alpha})(\mathbf{a} - \bar{\alpha})^\dagger). \end{aligned}$$

Using the **unitary change of frame** $\xi = \mathbf{D}_{-\bar{\alpha}}\rho\mathbf{D}_{\bar{\alpha}}$ based on the displacement $\mathbf{D}_{\bar{\alpha}} = e^{\bar{\alpha}\mathbf{a}^\dagger - \bar{\alpha}^\dagger\mathbf{a}}$, we get the following dynamics on ξ

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}\xi = & (1 + n_{\text{th}})\kappa (\mathbf{a}\xi\mathbf{a}^\dagger - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}^\dagger\mathbf{a}\xi - \frac{1}{2}\xi\mathbf{a}^\dagger\mathbf{a}) \\ & + n_{\text{th}}\kappa (\mathbf{a}^\dagger\xi\mathbf{a} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}\mathbf{a}^\dagger\xi - \frac{1}{2}\xi\mathbf{a}\mathbf{a}^\dagger) \end{aligned}$$

since $\mathbf{a} + \bar{\alpha} = \mathbf{D}_{-\bar{\alpha}}\mathbf{a}\mathbf{D}_{\bar{\alpha}}$.

The thermal mixed state $\xi_{\text{th}} = \frac{1}{1+n_{\text{th}}} \left(\frac{n_{\text{th}}}{1+n_{\text{th}}} \right)^{\mathbf{N}}$ is an equilibrium of

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \xi = & \kappa(1+n_{\text{th}}) (\mathbf{a} \xi \mathbf{a}^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a}^\dagger \mathbf{a} \xi - \frac{1}{2} \xi \mathbf{a}^\dagger \mathbf{a}) \\ & + \kappa n_{\text{th}} (\mathbf{a}^\dagger \xi \mathbf{a} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a} \mathbf{a}^\dagger \xi - \frac{1}{2} \xi \mathbf{a} \mathbf{a}^\dagger) \end{aligned}$$

with $\text{Tr}(\mathbf{N} \xi_{\text{th}}) = n_{\text{th}}$. Following ⁸, set ζ the solution of the **Sylvester equation**: $\xi_{\text{th}} \zeta + \zeta \xi_{\text{th}} = \xi - \xi_{\text{th}}$. Then $V(\xi) = \text{Tr}(\xi_{\text{th}} \zeta^2)$ is a **strict Lyapunov function**. It is based on the following computations that can be made rigorous with an adapted Banach space for ξ :

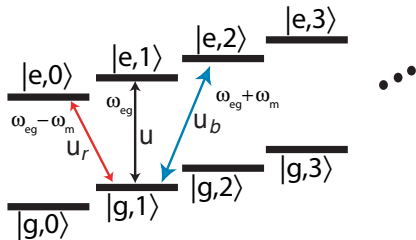
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} V(\xi) = & -\kappa(1+n_{\text{th}}) \text{Tr}([\zeta, \mathbf{a}] \xi_{\text{th}} [\zeta, \mathbf{a}]^\dagger) \\ & - \kappa n_{\text{th}} \text{Tr}([\zeta, \mathbf{a}^\dagger] \xi_{\text{th}} [\zeta, \mathbf{a}^\dagger]^\dagger) \leq 0. \end{aligned}$$

When $\frac{d}{dt} V = 0$, ζ commutes with \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{a}^\dagger and \mathbf{N} . It is thus a constant function of \mathbf{N} . Since $\xi_{\text{th}} \zeta + \zeta \xi_{\text{th}} = \xi - \xi_{\text{th}}$, we get $\xi = \xi_{\text{th}}$.

⁸PR and A. Sarlette: Contraction and stability analysis of steady-states for open quantum systems described by Lindblad differential equations. Decision and Control (CDC), 2013 IEEE 52nd Annual Conference on, 10-13 Dec. 2013, 6568-6573.

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The Law-Eberly Hamiltonian (cf. lect no 5)



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{H}{\hbar} &= u|g\rangle\langle e| + u^*|e\rangle\langle g| \\ &+ \bar{u}_b|g\rangle\langle e|a + \bar{u}_b^*|e\rangle\langle g|a^\dagger \\ &+ \bar{u}_r|g\rangle\langle e|a^\dagger + \bar{u}_r^*|e\rangle\langle g|a \end{aligned}$$

Take $\bar{u} = \bar{u}_b = 0$ and $\mathbb{C} \ni \bar{u}_r \neq 0$ constant with the dissipation channel $\sigma = |g\rangle\langle e|$ with inverse qubit life time κ . The Lindblad equation reads:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}\rho &= -i\left[\bar{u}_r|g\rangle\langle e|a^\dagger + \bar{u}_r^*|e\rangle\langle g|a, \rho\right] \\ &+ \kappa\left(|g\rangle\langle e| \rho |e\rangle\langle g| - \frac{1}{2}\left(|e\rangle\langle e| \rho + \rho |e\rangle\langle e|\right)\right). \end{aligned}$$

Then $\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \rho(t) = |g\rangle\langle g| \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0| = |g0\rangle\langle g0|$.

Proof based on the fact that for any integer \bar{n} .

$$\frac{d}{dt} \text{Tr} \left(\left(|g\bar{n}\rangle\langle g\bar{n}| + \sum_{0 \leq n \leq \bar{n}-1} |n\rangle\langle n| \right) \rho \right) = \kappa \langle e\bar{n} | \rho | e\bar{n} \rangle \geq 0$$