

What Really the Decoherence Theory is About?

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Introduction

Decoherence theory

Decoherence in System-Bath Interferometry

Master Equation

A Simple Example

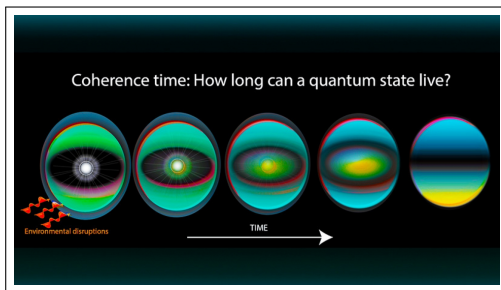
Quantum Thermodynamic Program

Decoherence in System-Bath Interferometry

Conclusion

Conclusion

Decoherence Theory



- ▶ Decoherence theory based on a system-environment interaction.
- ▶ Quantum characteristics decay as $e^{-\Gamma t}$ because of coupling with environment and the system shows classical behaviour. (does it?!)

¹H. P. Breuer and F. Petruccione, The Theory of Open Quantum Systems Oxford University Press (2002).

Decoherence Theory

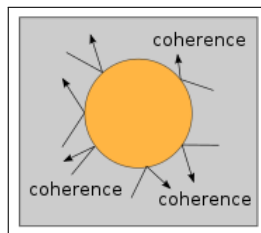
$$\hat{\rho}_{\text{particle}} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_{1,1} & \rho_{1,2} \\ \rho_{2,1} & \rho_{2,2} \end{pmatrix}$$

↓ Environment monitoring

$$\hat{\rho}_{\text{particle}} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho'_{1,1}(t) & \rho'_{1,2}e^{-\Gamma t} \\ \rho'_{2,1}e^{-\Gamma t} & \rho'_{2,2}(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

↓ Decoherence process is complete

$$\hat{\rho}_{\text{particle}} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho'_{1,1}(t \rightarrow \infty) & 0 \\ 0 & \rho'_{2,2}(t \rightarrow \infty) \end{pmatrix}$$



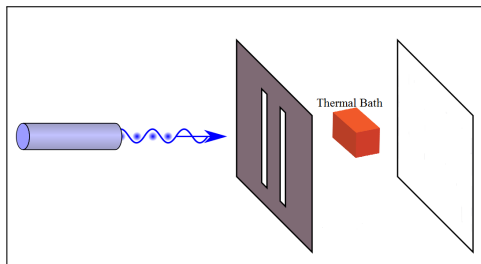
Quantum Brownian Motion Lindblad Master Equation

$$\frac{d}{dt}\hat{\rho}_s(t) = \hat{\mathcal{L}}[\hat{\rho}_s(t)] = \underbrace{-i[\hat{H}'_s, \hat{\rho}_s(t)]}_{\text{unitary evolution}} + \underbrace{\hat{\mathcal{D}}[\hat{\rho}_s(t)]}_{\text{decoherence}}$$

- ▶ Born Approximation: The density operator remains at all times in a product form of system and environment and the changes in the environment is negligible.
- ▶ Markov Approximation: The environment memory effect is negligible.
- ▶ Secular Approximation: Discarding fast oscillating terms.
- ▶ Lindblad Master Equation: Ensure the positivity of reduced density matrix.

¹S. Maniscalco, J. Piilo, F. Intravaia, F. Petruccione and A. Messina, Phys. Rev. A **70**, 032113 (2004).

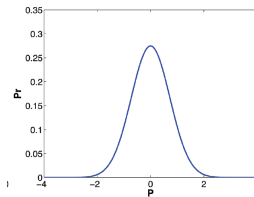
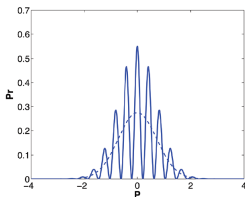
A Simple Example



$$\hat{\rho}_s = \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & -i/2 \\ i/2 & 1/2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{Thermal Bath}} \hat{\rho}_s = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2(\bar{n}+1)-\eta^2}{2(2\bar{n}+1)} & \frac{-i\eta}{2} \\ \frac{i\eta}{2} & \frac{2\bar{n}+\eta^2}{2(2\bar{n}+1)} \end{pmatrix}$$

A Simple Example

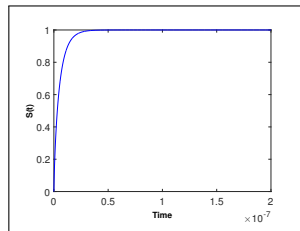
$$\hat{\rho}_s = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2(\bar{n}+1)-\eta^2}{2(2\bar{n}+1)} & \frac{-i\eta}{2} \\ \frac{i\eta}{2} & \frac{2\bar{n}+\eta^2}{2(2\bar{n}+1)} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\eta \rightarrow 0} \hat{\rho}_s = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2(\bar{n}+1)}{2(2\bar{n}+1)} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{2\bar{n}}{2(2\bar{n}+1)} \end{pmatrix}$$



$$S(t \rightarrow \infty) = -\frac{\bar{n}+1}{2\bar{n}+1} \log_2 \frac{\bar{n}+1}{2\bar{n}+1} - \frac{\bar{n}}{2\bar{n}+1} \log_2 \frac{\bar{n}}{2\bar{n}+1}.$$

Quantum Thermodynamic Program

- ▶ Hatano-Sasa inequality (for CPTP map): $\Delta S \geq -\text{tr}[\{M(\rho) - \rho\} \log(\xi)]$
For Lindblad master equation¹: $\Delta S \geq 0$
- ▶ $\delta W = 0$ and δQ depends on the changes of $\langle X^2 \rangle$ and $\langle P^2 \rangle$ through time^{2,3}, which is zero.
Clausius inequality: $\Delta S \geq 0$

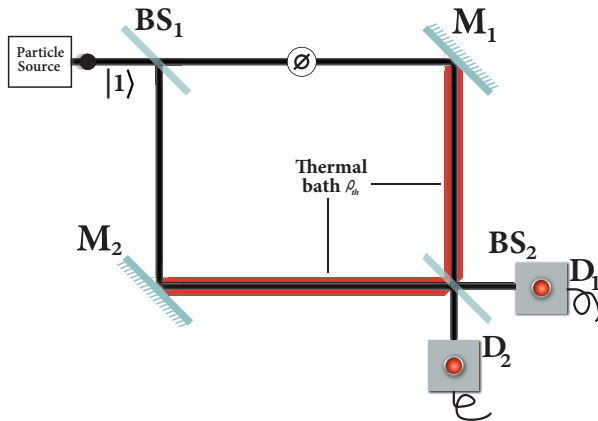


¹F. Binder, S. Vinjanampathy, K. Modi and J. Goold, Phys. Rev. E 91, 032119 (2015).

²A. E. Allahverdyan and T. M. Nieuwenhuizen, Phys. Rev. Lett. 85, 1799 (2000).

³T. M. Nieuwenhuizen and A. E. Allahverdyan, Phys. Rev. E 66, 036102 (2002).

Decoherence in System-Bath Interferometry



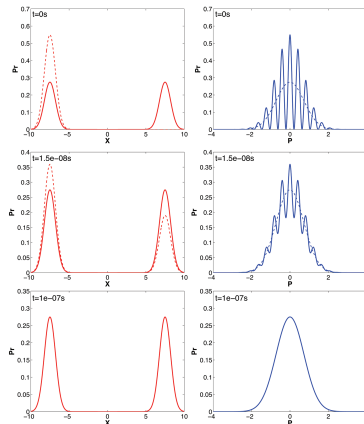
Decoherence in System-Bath Interferometry

$$\Pr(P) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\Omega\pi}} e^{-\frac{P^2}{\Omega}} \left[1 + \frac{\eta^2 - 1}{2\bar{n} + 1} \sin(Pd) + \eta \sin \phi \cos(Pd) \right],$$

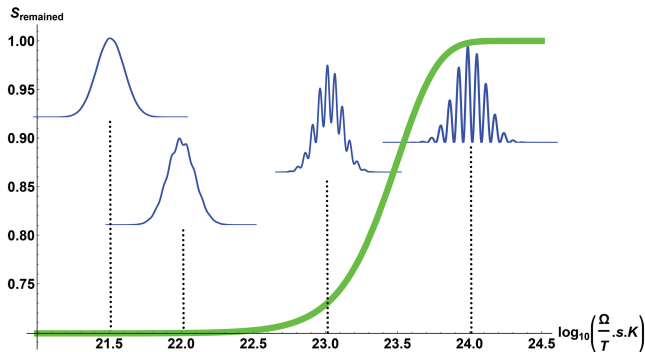
► $\eta \sin \phi \cos(Pd)$

► $\frac{\eta^2 - 1}{2\bar{n} + 1} \sin(Pd)$

$$\bar{n} = (e^{\Omega/kT} - 1)^{-1}$$



Decoherence in System-Bath Interferometry



$$S_{\text{rem}} := S_{\text{cm}} - S(t \rightarrow \infty)$$

Conclusion

- ▶ Oops!... The decoherence theory is no longer an acceptable explanation for quantum to classical transition. Had it been so?
- ▶ The decoherence theory is about that a quantum system reaches to the maximum possible entropy. Does it necessarily mean that a classical situation is attained?
- ▶ A measure introduced. The greater the amount of the remained entropy is the more quantum properties the system shows.
- ▶ A quantum system, whenever created, it never completely lose its quantum properties. However, they are not easy to observe.

THANK YOU

