# Irreversibility and symmetry in quantum theory

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#### Outline

- Motivations.
- Limitations of traditional accounts.
- Conservation laws and asymmetry.
- Coherence in thermodynamics.
- Irreversibility & non-commutativity

#### Traditional Thermodynamics

 $E_{\rm in} = E_{\rm out}$ 

1st Law: "Energy is conserved microscopically."

2nd Law: "Order is non-decreasing in time."



# 2nd Law of Thermodynamics

- "It is impossible to construct a device who's sole effect is the extraction of work from heat."
- "It is impossible to construct a device who's sole effect is the erasure of a bit."
- "It is impossible to see inside a furnace, solely by the light of the furnace."





## Limitations of existing thermodynamics







#### The Thermodynamic Limit



• "Thermodynamics means the thermodynamic limit."

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- "Thermodynamics means the thermodynamic limit."
- (Except it doesn't)



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Figure 7-37 Biological Science, 2/e

#### Motivation

- Active work to develop nanoscale thermodynamic machines.
- Nanotechnology ~\$6 billion (currently)





#### Motivation

Q: What thermodynamic laws operate at micro/nano/pico/... scales?

Q: How do coherent superpositions extend thermodynamic processes?





What laws describe irreversibility beyond the thermodynamic limit?



## Axiomatic Analysis

- "Heat", "temperature" ambiguous/complex/ indirect.
- **Giles (1964)**: thermodynamics ultimately concerns the accessibility/inaccessibility of one physical state from another.

#### "processes = primitives"

\*"The mathematical foundations of thermodynamics", R. Giles (1964)

## Ordering of States



#### Theorem (Lieb & Ingvason 1999):

A unique additive entropy exists if and only if the following 7 conditions hold:

 $\rho \to \rho$ Reflexivity  $\rho \to \sigma \text{ and } \sigma \to \tau \text{ implies } \rho \to \tau$ Transitivity  $\rho_1 \to \sigma_1$  and  $\rho_2 \to \sigma_2$  then  $(\rho_1, \rho_2) \to (\sigma_1, \sigma_2)$ Consistency  $\rho \to \sigma$  then  $\rho^{\otimes t} \to \sigma^{\otimes t}$  for  $t \ge 0$ Scale invariance  $\rho \leftrightarrow (\rho^{\otimes t}, \rho^{\otimes (1-t)})$ Splitting  $(\rho, \epsilon_1) \to (\sigma, \epsilon_2)$  then  $\rho \to \sigma$ **Stability** if  $\alpha \to \rho$  and  $\beta \to \rho$  then  $\alpha \to \beta$  or  $\beta \to \alpha$ Comparability

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#### Extreme Regimes



 Determine the thermodynamics of highly entangled quantum systems in extreme regimes.

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 Determine the thermodynamics of highly entangled quantum systems in extreme regimes.

 $\langle H \rangle$  and "ensemble of microstates": No!

#### Fluctuation Theorems?

- Arbitrarily violent dynamics on thermal state.
- Sharpening of 2nd Law to an equality.

Core structure:  $\mathcal{P}_{\gamma_*}(x) = e^{-\beta x} \mathcal{P}_{\gamma}(-x)$ 

Distribution for backward process

Distribution for forward process

 $\beta = \frac{1}{kT}$ 

#### Fluctuation Theorems=Classical

$$\mathcal{P}_{\gamma_*}(x) = e^{-\beta x} \mathcal{P}_{\gamma}(-x)$$

The pairing of  $\gamma$  and  $\gamma_*$  forces us into a **classical** regime.

Poorly suited to handling **coherence** and **entanglement**.

#### Thermodynamics

maximally ordered states



maximally disordered states



ANDERSON





#### Resource formulation



- Entanglement defined by what it's not.
- Local algebra of observables at **A** and **B**.

Define a set of "free quantum operations":

Local Operations + Classical Communications





LOCC = "Local operations + Classical Communications"

#### LOCC Examples



• **Resource state**  $\rho_{AB}$ : anything that **cannot** be created under LOCC.

E.g. 
$$|\psi^-\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|01\rangle - |10\rangle)$$

LOCC induces **partial order** on set of all quantum states.



Maximally Entangled states

 $\mathcal{E}$ 

Separable states

 $\sum_k p_k \, \sigma_k \otimes 
ho_k$ 

**Free states** 

 $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H})$ 



 $M(\rho) \ge M(\sigma)$ 

# Resource formulation of thermodynamics

#### Recent developments

- L. del Rio et al, Nature 474 (2011)
- I. Marvian, R. Spekkens, Nature Comm 5 (2014)
- Toyabe et al, Nature Physics, (2010)
- M. Horodecki, Oppenheim, Nature Comm 4 (2013)
- F. Brandao et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 111 (2014)
- F. Brandao et al, Nature Phys. (2014)
- J. Aberg, Nature Comm (2013)
- F. Brandao, M. Plenio, Nature Physics (2010)

- 1. Lostaglio, DJ, Rudolph, Nature Communications (2015)
- 2. Lostaglio, Korzekwa, DJ, Rudolph, Physical Review X (2015)
- 3. Korzekwa, Lostaglio, Oppenheim, DJ, New Journal of Physics (2015)
- 4. Cirstoiu, DJ (soon!)

## Resource Theory of Thermodynamics



#### Thermal Examples



Thermalization



Thermalization

Work Extraction

#### Information-Theoretic Components



#### Ordering of States?





Q: Does the ordering of states admit an entropic formulation?

# The Second Laws of Thermodynamics

**Theorem**: For zero coherence states, the transformation  $\rho \rightarrow \sigma$  is possible

if and only if

$$F_{\alpha}(\rho) \ge F_{\alpha}(\sigma)$$

**Renyi-divergences:** 
$$D_{\alpha}(\rho||\sigma) = \frac{1}{\alpha - 1} \log [\operatorname{tr}(\sigma^{\kappa} \rho \sigma^{\kappa})^{\alpha})]$$
  $\kappa = \frac{1 - \alpha}{2\alpha}$   
 $F_{\alpha}(\rho) := D_{\alpha}(\rho||\gamma)$ 

\* Brandao et al, PNAS (2015)

 $\forall \alpha$
# Rough ingredients

- 1. "Essentially classical states"
- 2. Thermal operations —> bistochastic maps
- 3. Bistochastic maps —> majorization relation
- 4. Majorization relations <---> entropic measures

1. 
$$\rho = \operatorname{diag}(\boldsymbol{x})$$
  
2. 
$$y_k = \sum_j A_{kj} x_j$$
  
3. 
$$x \prec y$$
  
4. 
$$\begin{cases} x \prec y \\ \Leftrightarrow \\ \{S_\alpha(x) \leq S_\alpha(y)\}_\alpha \end{cases}$$





\* Lostaglio, DJ, Rudolph, Nature Comm. (2015)

Korzekwa, Lostaglio, DJ, Rudolph, Phys. Rev. X (2015)

# Symmetry & the 1st Law of Thermodynamics

- Traditional form: dE = dQ + dW
- Microscopic energy conservation (system+bath).

Quantum Mechanical Symmetry:  $[U, H_{tot}] = 0$  $t \mapsto e^{-itH_{tot}}$ 

Constrains **non-conservation** of **two** quantities:

(a) System energy(b) System "coherence"

#### When is A is more asymmetric than B?



- \* I. Marvian, R. Spekkens Phys. Rev. A 90, (2014)
- \* I. Marvian, R. Spekkens, New J. Phys. 15, (2013)
- \* M. Ahmadi, DJ, T. Rudolph, New. J. Phys. 15 (2013)
- \* Bartlett et al Rev. Mod. Phys. 79, (2007)

• "Group-theoretic Anna Karenina Principle":

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*"all symmetric objects are alike; each asymmetric object can be asymmetric in its own way."* 

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#### Asymmetry Examples, G = SU(2)

#### Rotationally invariant states

# Pointy/Asymmetric states

$$|\psi^-\rangle, \rho_s = \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{I}$$

$$\rho_s = |\uparrow\uparrow\rangle, \quad \frac{1}{3}|l,l\rangle\langle l,l| + \frac{2}{3}|l,0\rangle\langle l,0|,$$





• Symmetry group, with unitary  $U: G \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ representation on  $\mathcal{H}$ .  $\mathcal{U}_q(\rho) = U(g)\rho U(g)^{\dagger}$ 

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 $\rho$  is more asymmetric than  $\sigma$  if  $\sigma = \mathcal{E}(\rho)$  for some covariant  $\mathcal{E}$ 



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#### Examples:





# Use of resources: asymmetry



Spatial Rotation

 $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H})$ 

Maximally asymmetric states

 $\mathcal{E}$ 

Symmetric states

# Application: the WAY-theorem

#### Application: the WAY theorem.

Theorem (Wigner-Araki-Yanase, 1952):
 Observable P (e.g. momentum) conserved globally.
 If [X, P] ≠ 0
 Then X cannot be sharply measured.





#### No Conservation Law.

#### **Conservation Law present.**

### WAY-theorem: QI-view

• Define group action:  $U(\theta) = e^{-i\theta P}$  on  $\mathcal{H}$ 

 $10(\alpha l)$ 

Covariant CPTP maps

$$\mathcal{E}: \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$$
$$\mathcal{E}(U\rho U^{\dagger}) = U\mathcal{E}(\rho)U^{\dagger}$$

10(0)

Measurement of X under conservation law



State discrimination of eigenstates of X, under covariance.

\* M. Ahmadi, DJ, T. Rudolph NJP 15 (2013)

### Proof:

State discrimination State discrimination of eigenstates  $\{\rho_1, \rho_2, \dots\}$   $\longleftrightarrow$  State discrimination of  $\{\mathcal{G}[\rho_1], \mathcal{G}[\rho_2], \dots\}$ under covariance. with **no constraint**.

# State discrimination

$$\mathcal{G}(\rho) = \int d\theta U(\theta) \rho U(\theta)^{\dagger}$$

 $\{\mathcal{G}[\rho_k]\}\$  Perfectly  $\Leftrightarrow$  pairwise orthogonal supports

 $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{G}[\rho_k] = \operatorname{rank-1} \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{G}[\rho_k] = \int d\theta U(\theta) \rho_k U(\theta)^{\dagger} = |\varphi_k\rangle \langle \varphi_k| = \rho_k$  $\Leftrightarrow [P, \rho_k] = 0 \iff [P, X] = 0 \quad \blacksquare$ 

#### Asymmetric resource states

• Asymmetric  $\sigma_R$  state  $\longrightarrow$  can "simulate" a conservation-violating operation  $\tilde{\mathcal{E}}$ 



# Symmetry & the 1st Law of Thermodynamics

- Traditional form: dE = dQ + dW
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Constrains **non-conservation** of **two** quantities:

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U(1)-asymmetry



\*M. Lostaglio, DJ, T. Rudolph, Nature Comm. (2015) (Covariant Stinespring), M. Keyl, R. Werner J. Math. Phys. 40 (1999)

#### **Applications of Framework:**

- The insufficiency of free energy relations.
- Coherence "work-locking".
- General thermodynamic bounds on coherence.
- Intrinsically-quantum 2nd law constraints.

\*M. Lostaglio, DJ, T. Rudolph, Nature Comm. (2015) M. Lostaglio, K. Korzekwa, DJ, T. Rudolph, Phys. Rev. X (2015)

M. Lostaglio, K. Korzekwa, J. Oppenheim, DJ, NJP (~2015)

#### (1). Insufficiency of free energies in thermodynamics.

Consider any set of functions  $\{D_{\alpha}(\cdot)\}_{\alpha}$  that **"behave like free energies"**:

If 
$$\rho \to \sigma$$
 then we have  $\{D_{\alpha}(\rho) \leq D_{\alpha}(\sigma)\}_{\alpha}$   
and  $D_{\alpha}(\rho) \geq c ||\rho - \gamma||$ 

Then  $\{D_{\alpha}(\cdot)\}_{\alpha}$  cannot provide a complete set of thermodynamic constraints.

#### (1). Insufficiency of free energies in thermodynamics.

#### **Proof**:

 $D_{\alpha}$  say "get closer to  $\gamma$ ." Symmetry says: "asymmetry non-increasing."

 $H = |1\rangle\langle 1| \qquad \gamma \bullet \sigma$ 

Symmetric/incoherent states  $\rho$ 

$$\sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0\\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}$$



## Work / Ordered Energy

 $\sigma(x)$ 

Ŵ

#### **Broad work definition:**

*"raising a weight up a ladder by height W"* 

#### $W := \sup\{\mathbf{x} : \mathcal{E} \text{ thermal } \& \text{ sends } \rho \otimes \sigma(0) \to \sigma(\mathbf{x})\}$

#### (2). Work-locked in coherence

Theorem:  
if 
$$\rho \to W$$
 then  $\mathcal{D}(\rho) \to W$ 

where

$$\mathcal{D}(\rho) = \mathcal{G}_H(\rho) = \int dt e^{-itH} \rho e^{itH}$$

Follows directly from

$$[\mathcal{E},\mathcal{U}_t] = 0 \Rightarrow [\mathcal{E},\mathcal{D}] = 0$$



\* M. Lostaglio, DJ, T. Rudolph, Nature Comm. (2015)

### Szilard and coherence

Pure state  $|\gamma\rangle$  $\mathcal{D}(|\gamma\rangle\langle\gamma|) = \gamma$ 

 $\Rightarrow \text{ No work } \text{can be extracted} \\ \text{from } |\gamma\rangle \text{ on its own.}$ 



Value of a qubit ? Non-trivial. Requires "resource counting".

# Unlocking coherence for work.

• Must use additional coherent resources:  $\mathcal{D}(|\gamma\rangle\langle\gamma|) = \gamma \qquad (relational \\ \mathcal{D}(|\gamma\rangle\langle\gamma|\otimes\sigma_R) \neq \mathcal{D}(|\gamma\rangle\langle\gamma|)\otimes\mathcal{D}(\sigma_R) \qquad (relational \\ coherence \\ protected) \qquad (relational \\ protected) \qquad (relationa$ 

 $\sigma_R$  acts as quantum reference frame for  $|\gamma\rangle$ 

E.g. 
$$|\gamma\rangle \otimes |\gamma\rangle \to W \leq Z^{-1}e^{-\frac{E}{kT}}(E - 2kT\ln Z)$$
  
=  $kT\ln 2$  (for  $E = 0$ )

### A fully quantum Szilard engine

 Result: it is only for a particular "classical" regime that we can associate the free energy to every qubit state.

$$|\Psi\rangle \longrightarrow W = -\Delta F$$





*M. Lostaglio, K. Korzekwa, J. Oppenheim, DJ,* "Extracting work from quantum coherence" NJP (2015)

## Bounding Coherence

### Mode operators

• Apply harmonic analysis to operators: irreps of group action.

$$\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) = \bigoplus_{\nu} V_{\nu}$$
$$U(t)\rho^{(\nu)}U(t)^{\dagger} = e^{-i\nu t}\rho^{(\nu)}$$

$$\rho = \sum_{\nu = -d}^{d} \rho^{(\nu)}$$

Thermal  $[\mathcal{E}(\rho)]^{(\nu)} = \mathcal{E}(\rho^{(\nu)})$ operations  $||\mathcal{E}(\rho)^{(\nu)}||_1 \le ||\rho^{(\nu)}||_1$ 

\*M. Lostaglio, K. Korzekwa, DJ, T. Rudolph, Phys. Rev. X (2015)

#### State structure



#### (3). General Bounds on Coherence



 $|\sigma_{nm}| \le |\rho_{nm}| \sqrt{p_{n|n} p_{m|m}}$ 

\* Cwiklinski, Studzinski, Horodecki, Oppenheim, arxiv (2014)
## (4). The full thermodynamic ordering of states?





Q: Does the ordering of states admit an entropic formulation?

#### Thermodynamic structure

- Entanglement theory ~ non-local resources.
- Asymmetry theory ~ asymmetry resources.





# (4). Necessary entropic constraints

**Theorem**: For arbitrary quantum states, the thermodynamic transformation  $\rho \rightarrow \sigma$  is possible provided

 $F_{\alpha}(\rho) \ge F_{\alpha}(\sigma) \qquad \forall \alpha \ge 0$  $A_{\alpha}(\rho) \ge A_{\alpha}(\sigma)$ 

Monotones:  $A_{\alpha}(\rho) := D_{\alpha}(\rho || \mathcal{G}(\rho))$ 

 $\mathcal{G}(\rho) = \int_C dg \ U(g) \rho U(g)^{\dagger}$ 

\* M. Lostaglio, DJ, T. Rudolph, Nature Comm. (2015).



#### Macroscopic regime

**Theorem:** for any  $\rho \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  we have  $\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} \begin{bmatrix} F_{\alpha}(\rho^{\otimes n}) \\ A_{\alpha}(\rho^{\otimes n}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} F(\rho) - F(\gamma) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ 



$$F = \langle H \rangle - TS$$



#### Current perspective



Essentially unique entropy.  $\rho \rightarrow \sigma \Leftrightarrow S(\rho) \leq S(\sigma)$ 



$$\langle e^{-\beta(W-\Delta F)} \rangle = 1$$
 (incomplete)  
 $\rho \to \sigma \Leftrightarrow D_{\alpha}(\rho || \gamma) \le D_{\alpha}(\sigma || \gamma)$ 





Beyond Thermodynamics — Irreversibility & noncommutativity



## Gauge (field) theories

Global symmetry  $\psi(x) \rightarrow e^{i\theta}\psi(x)$ 



Local symmetry  $\psi(x) \rightarrow e^{i\theta(x)}\psi(x)$ 

Gauge field A(x)

(QED, QCD, Standard Model)

## Irreversibility in gauge degrees of freedom



Global conservation law

Global monotonicity

#### Local quantum resources



Local group actions Global covariance

How do local operations couple to obey Global covariance?

### Traditional Physics

Lagrangian ~ Kinetic energy - Potential energy

$$L = \frac{1}{2}\dot{x}^2 - \frac{1}{2}x^2$$

Dynamics:  $\ddot{x} + x = 0$ 

Encode symmetries in L, e.g.  $L = \psi(x)(i\gamma^{\mu}\partial_{\mu} - m)\psi(x)$ 



Rigidity

#### **CPTP** maps?

#### Core structure

**Theorem:** The space of bipartite covariant maps is spanned by  $\Phi_{\Theta}: \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B) \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_{\tilde{A}} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\tilde{B}})$ 

$$\Theta \equiv (a, \tilde{a}) \stackrel{\lambda}{\to} (b, \tilde{b})$$



$$\Phi_{\Theta} = \sum_{k} \Phi_{A,(-\lambda)}^{k} \otimes \Phi_{B,(+\lambda)}^{k}$$

\* Cristina Cirstoiu, DJ arxiv:015.xx (2015)

(irrep labels)



Temporal/casual aspect: some irreps ruled out.

Traditional observables (energy, charge, density...) insufficient.

Asymmetry modes: gauge degrees of freedom.

\* Cristina Cirstoiu, DJ arxiv:015.xx (2015)



#### **Multipartite irreversible asymmetry**



### Outlook

Analysis of general processes (causal, quantum switches...)

Tool-kit for quantum operations

QI techniques to traditional gauge theory topics

Interplay of energetic + quantum properties.

#### For more see...

