

# Quantum adiabaticity in many-body systems

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# Quantum Adiabatic Theorem

**Quantum Adiabatic Theorem (QAT)** – colloquially:

A system evolving under a time-dependent Hamiltonian can be kept arbitrarily close to the Hamiltonian's instantaneous ground state provided that the parameters of the Hamiltonian vary *slowly enough*.

**Key question:** What is the exact meaning of “*slowly enough*”?

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- quasi-Bloch oscillations of a mobile impurity in a 1D fluid
- Quantum Field Theory
- *etc*

# Notations and definitions

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- Use  $\lambda$  instead of  $t$  as the evolution parameter. Schrodinger equation:

$$i\Gamma \frac{\partial}{\partial\lambda} \Psi_\lambda = \hat{H}_\lambda \Psi_\lambda.$$

## Notations and definitions

- Define the *instantaneous* ground state of the system,  $\Phi_\lambda$ :

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- One calls the evolution adiabatic as long as  $\Psi_\lambda$  remains close to  $\Phi_\lambda$ , or in other words if the fidelity

$$\mathcal{F}(\lambda) = |\langle \Phi_\lambda | \Psi_\lambda \rangle|^2$$

is close to one.



# QAT – rigorously

**QAT – rigorously:** For however small  $\varepsilon > 0$  and arbitrary target  $\lambda$  there exists  $\Gamma$  small enough that

$$1 - \mathcal{F}(\lambda) < \varepsilon.$$

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**Q1.** For a given driving rate  $\Gamma$ , how long the adiabaticity can be maintained with a given accuracy  $\varepsilon$ ?

**Q2.** How small should the driving rate  $\Gamma$  be for a given target  $\lambda$  and a given accuracy  $\varepsilon$ ?

# Orthogonality catastrophe

## Orthogonality catastrophe – colloquially:

Given a many-body Hamiltonian  $\hat{H}_\lambda$ , two ground states corresponding to slightly different  $\lambda$ 's can become nearly orthogonal with growing size of the system,  $N$  [Anderson, 1967].

# Orthogonality catastrophe

**Orthogonality catastrophe – rigorously.** *Orthogonality overlap* in the leading order in  $\lambda$ :

$$\mathcal{C}(\lambda) \equiv |\langle \Phi_\lambda | \Phi_0 \rangle|^2 = e^{-C_N \lambda^2}.$$

The orthogonality catastrophe takes place whenever  $C_N \rightarrow \infty$  in the thermodynamic limit (TL),  $N \rightarrow \infty$ . The behavior of  $C_N$  is determined by the type of driving and the gap.

# Orthogonality catastrophe: scaling

$$C(\lambda) \equiv |\langle \Phi_\lambda | \Phi_0 \rangle|^2 = e^{-C_N \lambda^2}.$$

	Local driving	Bulk driving
gapless systems	$C_N \sim \log N$	$C_N \sim N$
gapped systems	$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} C_N$ is finite	$C_N \sim N$

# Key idea

In a many-body system subject to orthogonality catastrophe

$$\mathcal{F}(\lambda) \simeq \mathcal{C}(\lambda)$$

up to times sufficiently long for the adiabaticity to completely break down.

# Central result

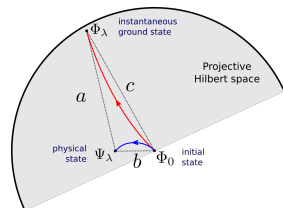
$$|\mathcal{F}(\lambda) - \mathcal{C}(\lambda)| \leq \mathcal{R}_\lambda$$

$$\mathcal{R}_\lambda \equiv \Gamma^{-1} \int_0^\lambda \sqrt{\langle \hat{H}_{\lambda'}^2 \rangle_0 - \langle \hat{H}_{\lambda'} \rangle_0^2} d\lambda',$$

where  $\langle \dots \rangle_0 \equiv \langle \Psi_0 | \dots | \Psi_0 \rangle$ .

For  $\hat{H}_\lambda = \hat{H}_0 + \lambda \hat{V}$ , one gets a simplified  $\mathcal{R}_\lambda$ :

$$\mathcal{R}_\lambda = \lambda^2 \delta V_N / (2\Gamma) \quad \text{with} \quad \delta V_N \equiv \sqrt{\langle \hat{V}^2 \rangle_0 - \langle \hat{V} \rangle_0^2}.$$



OL, O. Gamayun, V. Cheianov  
PRL 119, 200401 (2017)



# Adiabaticity breakdown time (Question 1)

Define the adiabaticity breakdown time  $t_*$  and parameter  $\lambda_* \equiv \lambda(t_*)$ :

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Relation between adiabaticity and orthogonality catastrophe implies

$$\lambda_* = 1/\sqrt{C_N}$$

up to small corrections, as long as  $\mathcal{R}(C_N^{-1/2}) \ll 1$ . The latter is guaranteed for sufficiently large system since

$$\frac{\delta V_N}{C_N} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{for} \quad N \rightarrow \infty.$$

## Necessary condition for many-body adiabaticity (Q 2)

If the orthogonality catastrophe is present, the adiabaticity can be maintained for finite systems only as long as  $\mathcal{R}(\lambda_*)$  is large enough to make inequality

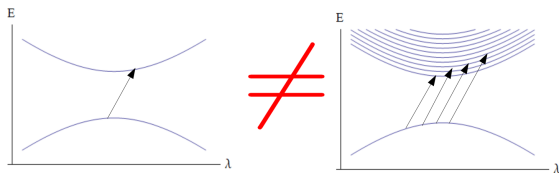
$$|\mathcal{F}(\lambda) - \mathcal{C}(\lambda)| \leq \mathcal{R}_\lambda$$

trivial.

This entails a **necessary adiabatic condition**:

$$\Gamma_N < \frac{\delta V_N}{2C_N} \frac{1}{1 - e^{-1} - \varepsilon}.$$

# Adiabaticity and a gap



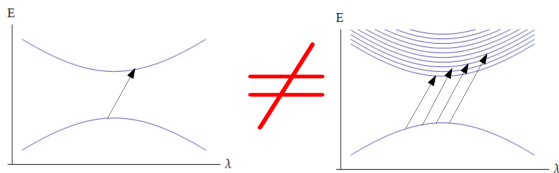
In a two-level system adiabaticity is governed by the gap (Landau-Zener). The adiabatic condition:

$$\Gamma \ll \Delta E_{\min}.$$

A Landau-Zener-type guess is typically **completely wrong** for bulk driven many-body systems! The adiabatic condition:

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Relevant for transport quantization in the Thouless pump [OL, O. Gamayun, V. Cheianov PRL 119, 200401 (2017)]

# Take-home message

Maintaining adiabaticity in a many-body system is challenging.

More challenging than one may assume based on naive considerations employing energy gap.

## Application to Grover adiabatic search

Applying our necessary adiabatic condition to the Grover adiabatic search algorithm gives a lower bound for the run time  $\sim \sqrt{N}$  ( $N$  – number of database elements)

This scaling reproduces the scaling of the explicitly known optimal run time.

OL, Journal of Russian Laser Research 2018

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Genuine many-body adiabaticity is a *sufficient* condition for a plethora of "adiabatic" phenomena (quantized transport, quasi-Bloch oscillations, adiabatic quantum computation *etc*).

But is it really *necessary*?

# Thermodynamic adiabaticity

Thermodynamic adiabaticity (see e.g. Polkovnikov, Gritsev, Nature Phys. 2008):

energy gaps between levels  $\ll \Gamma \ll$  all intensive energy scales

# Thermodynamic vs genuine adiabaticity

For gapped spin systems *thermodynamic adiabaticity* is enough for expectation values of local operators to stay close to their ground state values (theorem by Bachmann, De Roeck, Fraas PRL 2017), even if the *genuine adiabaticity* is already broken.

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Can it be that the genuine adiabaticity is completely irrelevant in the many-body setting?

This is not always the case!

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In fact, whether the thermodynamic adiabaticity is enough for an “adiabatic” phenomenon to occur, or a genuine many-body adiabaticity is necessary, is a tricky question.



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We consider two examples:

- An impurity in a 1D quantum fluid
- Adiabatic Thouless pump

## Mobile impurity in a 1D fluid

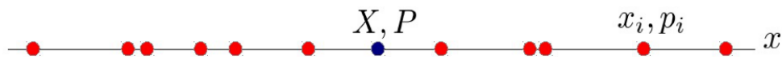
A mobile impurity particle in a translation-invariant 1D gas of  $N$  fermions



$$\hat{H}_t = \frac{P^2}{2m} + \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{p_n^2}{2m} + g_t \sum_{i=1}^N \delta(x_i - x)$$

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Coupling is slowly switched on up to a value  $g$ :

$$g_t = \Gamma t (k_F/m), \quad t \in [0, \tau], \quad g_\tau \equiv g$$

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Genuine many-body adiabaticity:

$$\Gamma \ll \Delta E \lesssim E_F/N$$

Thermodynamic adiabaticity:

$$E_F/N \ll \Gamma \ll E_F$$

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Will the local physical observables at  $t \gg \tau$  differ?

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Local observable:  $v_\infty$  (velocity of the impurity at  $t = \infty$ ).



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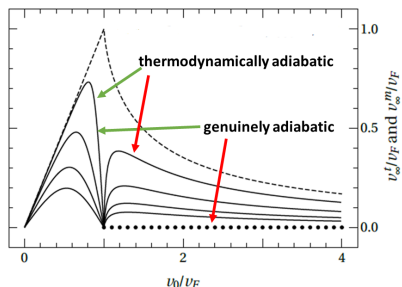
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$$v_0 < v_F:$$

$$v_\infty^{\text{thermodynamic}} = v_\infty^{\text{genuine}}$$

$$v_0 > v_F:$$

$$v_\infty^{\text{genuine}} = 0$$

$$v_\infty^{\text{thermodynamic}} > 0$$

Gamayun, OL *et al* PRL 2018

# Quantized transport in Thouless adiabatic pump

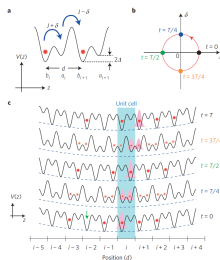


Figure from [Nakajima 2016]

Rice-Mele model:  $N$  fermions in a time-dependent tight-binding lattice:

$$H_{\text{RM}} = \sum_{j=1}^N \left[ -(J + \delta) a_j^\dagger b_j - (J - \delta) a_j^\dagger b_{j+1} + \text{h.c.} \right] + \sum_{j=1}^N \Delta (a_j^\dagger a_j - b_j^\dagger b_j).$$

$$\Delta(\lambda) = \Delta_{\text{max}} \cos \lambda, \quad \delta(\lambda) = \delta_{\text{max}} \sin \lambda$$

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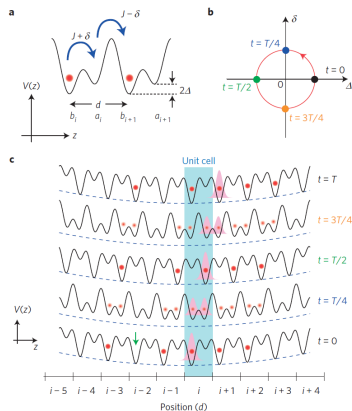


Figure from [Nakajima 2016]

# Genuine many-body adiabaticity in the Thouless pump

At the point  $\lambda = \pi/4$

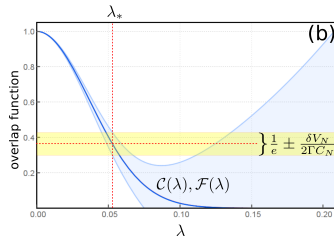
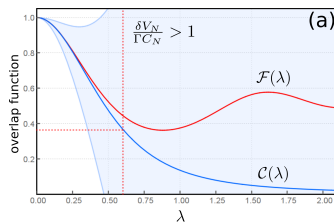
$$C_N = \frac{N\Delta^2}{16J\delta}, \quad \delta V_N^{\text{RM}} = \sqrt{N}\Delta.$$

Adiabaticity breakdown time:

$$t_* = \frac{1}{\Gamma\sqrt{N}} \frac{4\sqrt{J\delta}}{\Delta}$$

Necessary adiabatic condition:

$$\Gamma_N < \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \frac{16J\delta}{\Delta}$$



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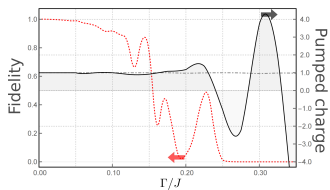
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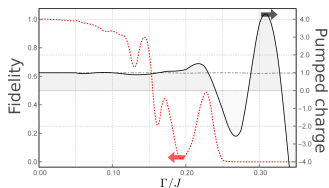
The answer depends on the mode of operation of the pump.

- **Transient mode.** A single cycle is performed, the transferred charge is measured immediately after the cycle is over. Genuine many-body adiabaticity is *not required*. Thermodynamic adiabaticity is likely enough.
- **Continuous mode.** Pump is operated continuously (one cycle after another) in a stationary state, charge transferred per cycle is measured. Many-body quantum adiabaticity is *indispensable*.

# Two modes of operation of the Thouless pump

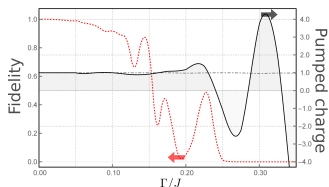


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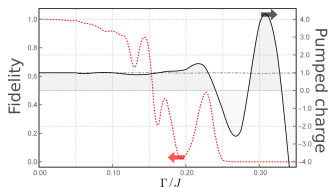
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- **Continuous mode.** In a stationary state number of excitations which leave the pump per cycle is equal to the number of excitations created per cycle due to driving,  $\delta N \sim \sqrt{N}$ . Their effect *diverges* in the thermodynamic limit.

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- Contrary to the common belief, whenever driving is of bulk type, **even a finite gap is not able to protect adiabaticity in the thermodynamic limit!**
- Necessary adiabatic condition for finite systems derived – the most stringent to date, to the best of our knowledge!

## Summary and outlook II

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- For some "adiabatic" phenomena genuine many-body adiabaticity is not actually required. Instead, thermodynamic adiabaticity is sufficient.
- For others, genuine many-body adiabaticity is strictly necessary.
- The discrimination between the two scenarios is subtle and is currently done on the case-by-case basis. General theoretical understanding is lacking!

## Published in:

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O. Lychkovskiy, O. Gamayun, V. Cheianov, *Quantum Many-Body Adiabaticity, Topological Thouless Pump and Driven Impurity in a One-Dimensional Quantum Fluid*, AIP Conf. Proc. 1936, 020024 (2018).

O. Lychkovskiy, A necessary condition for quantum adiabaticity applied to the adiabatic Grover search, to appear in Journal of Russian Laser Research, arXiv 1802.06011.

O. Gamayun, O. Lychkovskiy, E. Burovski, M. Malcomson, V. Cheianov, M. Zvonarev, *Impact of the injection protocol on an impurity's stationary state*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 220605 (2018).

Thank you for your attention!