Zeno Dynamics in Quantum Statistical Mechanics

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by

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and

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Reviews:

- H Nakazato, M Namiki, S Pascazio (1996) Internat. J. Modern Phys. B 10 247.
- M A B Whitaker (2000) Progress in Quantum Electronics 24 1-106.

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A Mach–Zehnder interferometer can be used to detect the presence of a black sample ($\tau = 0$), without absorbing the probing particle, if it is prepared to be in the Zeno channel (Z), and detected after L rounds in the interferometer, in the limit $L \rightarrow \infty$, see P Facchi *et al.* (2002) Phys. Rev. A **66** 012110 (pictures courtesy of S. Pascazio).

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FIG. 5. Comparison of standard and Zeno tomographic techniques. In each frame, top left = reconstruction by standard technique; top right = misinterpreted pixels by the standard technique; center left = reconstruction by Zeno technique with L=10; center right = misinterpreted pixels by the Zeno technique with L=10; bottom left = reconstruction by Zeno technique with L=165; bottom right = misinterpreted pixels by the Zeno technique with L=165. The mean number of absorbed particles per pixel (irradiation) is $N_a=1.7$, 2.3, 4, and 13 for frames (a), (b), (c), and (d), respectively. The total number of particles N (total energy) scales approximately as $3N_a$, $1.8N_a$, and $6.5N_a$ for top, center, and bottom reconstructions, respectively. We used $\tau_w=0.99$, $\tau_g=0.96$, and $\tau_b=0.8$. The sample consists of 10 000 (=100×100) pixels, where white, gray, and black occur with frequencies $\alpha_w=0.02$, $\alpha_g=0.07$, and $\alpha_b=0.91$, respectively. The number of misinterpreted pixels are (top to bottom) (a) 968, 786, 315; (b) 942, 596, 212; (c) 717, 382, 68; (d) 205, 69, 0.

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- Allows to identify the Zeno subspace to which the evolution will be (approximately) confined.
- The Zeno dynamics is identified as ordinary quantum dynamics with boundary conditions [Facchi, Pascazio, Scardicchio, Schulman (2001) Phys. Rev. A **65**].

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 $\beta > 0$ is the **inverse temperature**. Paradigm: **Gibbs states**

$$\omega_{\beta}(A) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{\text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}}(e^{-\beta H}A)}{\text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}}(e^{-\beta H})}, \quad \text{for } A \in \mathcal{A}, \ \dim \mathcal{H} < \infty.$$
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Sectorial Semigroups (Kato 1978): For semigroups e^{-zA}, holomorphic in a sector Σ = {C ∋ z ≠ 0 | |arg z| < θ, 0 < θ ≤ π/2}, the Zeno limit always exists in the interior of Σ, for every orthogonal projection E on the Hilbert space.



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An Existence Theorem for Zeno Dynamics

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Theorem. Let $(\mathcal{A}, \tau, \omega, \beta > 0, \pi_{\omega}, \mathcal{H}, \Omega, U, E)$ as above. Assume that (U, E) satisfies (AZC) for \mathcal{A} :

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is valid for ζ with $|\zeta| < r_0$ for some fixed $r_0 > 0$ and $\text{Im } \zeta \ge 0$. Then

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- *ii)* form a strongly continuous group of unitary operators on the Zeno subspace $\mathcal{H}_E \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \overline{\mathcal{A}_E \Omega} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \overline{E\mathcal{A}E\Omega} \subset E\mathcal{H},$
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 - The (AZC) renders applicable the methods of perturbation theory!

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- \implies This effect generalizes to projections onto τ^P -invariant subspaces ($\tau^P(E) = E$).

Context: A lattice $\mathbb{X} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{Z}^d$, local Hilbert spaces $\mathcal{H}_X \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigotimes_{x \in X} \mathcal{H}_x$, dim $\mathcal{H}_x = D < \infty$;

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From perturbation theory follows the uniform estimate

$$U_{\Lambda'}(t) = U_{\Lambda' \setminus \Lambda}(t)U_{\Lambda}(t) + \int_0^t U_{\Lambda' \setminus \Lambda}(\tau)U_{\Lambda}(\tau)W_{\Phi}(\Lambda;\Lambda')d\tau + O(t^2).$$
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Choose an arbitrary vector state $\Phi_{\Lambda} \in \mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}$. Let φ_{Λ} be the associated pure state. Define the projector $E_{\varphi_{\Lambda};\Lambda'} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{1}_{\Lambda' \setminus \Lambda} \otimes P_{\Phi_{\Lambda}}$, on $\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda'} = \mathcal{H}_{\Lambda' \setminus \Lambda} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}$,

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is bounded, then the local Zeno limits $n \to \infty$ are uniform in Λ' , and therefore

$$W_{\varphi_{\Lambda}}(t) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \left[E_{\varphi_{\Lambda}} U(t/n) E_{\varphi_{\Lambda}} \right]^n = \lim_{\Lambda' \to \infty} W_{\varphi_{\Lambda};\Lambda'}(t),$$

where $\overline{E_{\varphi_{\Lambda}}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lim_{\Lambda' \to \infty} E_{\varphi_{\Lambda}} = \mathbb{1}_{\Lambda^c} \otimes P_{\Phi_{\Lambda}},$ and $U(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lim_{\Lambda' \to \infty} U_{\Lambda'}(t)$ is the global dynamics.

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$$(AZC) \Longrightarrow U_E(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} e^{itEHE} = \lim_{n \to \infty} \left[E e^{it/nH} E \right]^n \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} W(t) \text{ on } \mathcal{H}_E.$$

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In the QM case (\mathcal{H} separable, H self-adjoint & semibounded, E orthogonal projection), a recent result (P Exner, T Ichinose math-ph/0302060) uses properties of the Zeno generator as a criterion for the existence of Zeno dynamics.

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Let $H_E \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (H^{1/2}E)^* (H^{1/2}E)$ be the self-adjoint operator associated with the quadratic form $H^{1/2}E$ on the form domain $D(H^{1/2}E)$. H_E is a self-adjoint extension of the (generally non-closed) operator EHE. H_E is defined, and acts nontrivially, on a closed subspace of $E\mathcal{H}$.

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Theorem. If H_E is densely defined on the whole space \mathcal{H} then

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Although only applicable to semibounded Hamiltonians, this result yields a much sharper condition for the existence of Zeno dynamics than AZC, and a more general characterization of the Zeno dynamics: We had to pose (besides AZC) the stronger condition that $\mathcal{A}_E \Omega$ contains a dense set of analytic elements for *the original Hamiltonian H*.

Gibbs Equilibria for Zeno Dynamics
Corollary. If (U, E) satisfies (AZC) for A, then, for every $\beta > 0$, the set of (τ^E, β) -KMS states of A_E coincides with the set of $(\hat{\tau}^E, \beta)$ -KMS states, where $\hat{\tau}^E$ is induced by U_E .

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$$\omega_{\Lambda}(A) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{\operatorname{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}}\left(e^{-\beta H(\Lambda)}A\right)}{\operatorname{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}}\left(e^{-\beta H(\Lambda)}\right)}$$

Corollary. If (U, E) satisfies (AZC) for \mathcal{A} , then, for every $\beta > 0$, the set of (τ^E, β) -KMS states of \mathcal{A}_E coincides with the set of $(\hat{\tau}^E, \beta)$ -KMS states, where $\hat{\tau}^E$ is induced by U_E .

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Corollary. Let $\beta > 0$. Let $\Lambda_{\alpha} \to \infty$ be such that the local dynamics converges uniformly, and the net of local Gibbs states $\omega_{\Lambda_{\alpha}}$ has a thermodynamic limit point. If $E_{\Lambda_{\alpha}}$ converges in norm to a projection E in \mathcal{A} satisfying (AZC), then $\omega_E(A_E) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lim_{\alpha} \omega_{E_{\Lambda_{\alpha}}}^G(A_E)$ is a (τ^E, β) -KMS state on \mathcal{A}_E .

Let the interaction be such that the conditions of the Corollary are satisfied. The local projections were $E_{\varphi_{\Lambda};\Lambda'} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{1}_{\Lambda' \setminus \Lambda} \otimes P_{\Phi_{\Lambda}}, \Phi_{\Lambda} \in \mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}.$

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This state is also the strong coupling $(\lambda \to \infty)$ limit of the Gibbs equilibria for $H_{\lambda} = H + \lambda \mathbb{1}_{\Lambda^c} \otimes P_{\Phi_{\Lambda}}$ [M Fannes, R F Werner (1995) Helv. Phys. Acta **68** 635]

A spin chain over $\mathbb{X} = \mathbb{Z}$, with $\mathcal{H}_x = \mathbb{C}^2$, with observable algebras $\mathcal{A}_{[n,m]}$, $n \leq m \in \mathbb{Z}$ generated by creation and annihilation operators $a_x, a_x^*, n \leq x \leq m$, satisfying CAR $[a_x, a_y] = 0 = [a_x, a_y^*], x \neq y, \quad \{a_x, a_x^*\} = 1, \{a_x, a_x\} = 0.$

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The interaction range is one, and E_{ρ_0} acts local \implies the Zeno dynamics $\tau^{E_{\rho_0}}$ exists.

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The scalar factor $e^{-\beta H_0^{\rho_0}}$ cancels out in the definition of the Gibbs states

$$\Longrightarrow \omega_{\rho_0,\beta}(A_{E_{\rho_0}}) = \sum_{i} \rho_0(A_{0,i}) \omega_{\rho_0,\beta}^-(A_{-,i}) \omega_{\rho_0,\beta}^+(A_{+,i}),$$

that is, $\omega_{\rho_0,\beta} = \omega_{\rho_0,\beta}^- \otimes \rho_0 \otimes \omega_{\rho_0,\beta}^+$ on $\mathcal{A}_{E_{\rho_0}}$ is the Zeno-Gibbs equilibrium.

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- $\implies (\text{Return to equilibrium}) \text{ The system prepared in the } (\tau, \beta)\text{-KMS state} \\ \text{will evolve to the Zeno equilibrium } \omega_{\rho_0,\beta}, \text{ under } \tau^{E_{\rho_0}}.$

- $\implies \omega_{\rho_0,\beta}$ is the unique $(\tau^{E_{\rho_0}},\beta)$ -KMS state on $\mathcal{A}_{E_{\rho_0}}$.
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- $\implies H_{\pm}^{\rho_0} \text{ are averaged Hamiltonians w.r.t. } \rho_0 \implies \text{the Zeno dynamics}$ imposes **boundary conditions** on the lateral subchains, parametrized by the single complex number $\rho_0(a_0)$
- \implies The difference $H E_{\rho_0} H E_{\rho_0}$ is a finite combination of $a_x, a_x^*, x = 0, \pm 1$.
- $\implies H E_{\rho_0} H E_{\rho_0}$ is bounded, and moreover entire analytic for $\tau^{E_{\rho_0}}$.
- $\implies (\text{Return to equilibrium}) \text{ The system prepared in the } (\tau, \beta) \text{-KMS state} \\ \text{will evolve to the Zeno equilibrium } \omega_{\rho_0,\beta}, \text{ under } \tau^{E_{\rho_0}}.$
- \implies Observation of the state of a single lattice site changes the global equilibrium.

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