#### Numerical & variational methods for open quantum systems: toy-model example

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## **Quantum phase transitions**



# Quantum phase transitions in a dissipative framework?

#### **Criticality**: a different paradigm?

- $\longrightarrow$  the system may want to reach a steady state ( $t \rightarrow \infty$ )
- \_\_\_\_ ordering, if exists, has a <u>dynamical origin</u>
- \_\_\_\_ short-range correlations could be important

## A spin-system toy model

We consider a spin-1/2 XYZ anisotropic Heisenberg model

$$H = \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} (J_x \sigma_i^x \sigma_j^y + J_y \sigma_i^y \sigma_j^y + J_z \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z)$$

in the presence of incoherent dissipative spin-flips (z axis)

$$\partial_t \rho = -i[H,\rho] + \gamma \sum_i \left( \sigma_i^- \rho \sigma_i^+ - \frac{1}{2} \{ \sigma_i^+ \sigma_i^-, \rho \} \right)$$

- <u>x-y Hamiltonian anisotropy</u> generates a **competition** between coherent dynamics & dissipative effects
- experimentally implementable with trapped ions
- The master equation has a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  symmetry  $\sigma_j^x, \sigma_j^y \to -\sigma_j^x, -\sigma_j^y$  which may **spontaneously break** in *ordered phases*

(e.g.: the paramagnetic / ferromagnetic transition in the Ising model)

The master equation has a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  symmetry  $\sigma_j^x, \sigma_j^y \to -\sigma_j^x, -\sigma_j^y$ 

which may spontaneously break in ordered phases

(e.g.: paramagnetic / ferromagnetic transition in the Ising model)



## **Physical mechanism**

#### importance of short-range correlations

J. Jin, A. Biella, O. Viyuela, L. Mazza, J. Keeling, R. Fazio, DR, PRX 6, 031011 (2016)

## The 1 x 1 mean-field



• the <u>ferromagnet</u> extends over a **semi-infinite range of**  $J_y$ • for  $J_y \to +\infty$  the magnetization vanishes (PM) • progressive deterioration of the purity  $\mathcal{P} = \text{Tr}[\rho_{ss}^2]$ :

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{PM} \textcircled{@} J_y < J_y^c \\ \textit{pure state} \\ \textit{(fully polarized along z)} \end{array}$ 

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{PM} \textcircled{@} J_y \to +\infty \\ \textit{fully mixed state} \\ \textit{(unpolarized)} \end{array}$ 

## The 2 x 1 cluster mean-field



the <u>ferromagnet</u> extends over a *finite range of J<sub>y</sub>* the PM at J<sub>y</sub> → +∞ stabilizes over an <u>extended region</u>
 different nature of the two PM regions (purity):

PM @  $J_y < J_y^{c_1}$ nearly pure state (fully polarized along z)  $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{PM} \textcircled{@} J_y > J_y^{c_2} \\ \textit{nearly fully mixed state} \\ (unpolarized) \end{array}$ 

## The 2 x 1 cluster mean-field @ large $J_v$

$$\partial_t \langle \sigma_j^\beta \rangle = -2 \sum_{\alpha = x, y, z} J_\alpha \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \begin{bmatrix} \langle \sigma_j^\gamma \rangle \langle \sigma_{j+1}^\alpha \rangle + \boxed{\langle \sigma_j^\gamma \sigma_{j+1}^\alpha \rangle} \end{bmatrix} - \frac{\gamma}{2} \begin{bmatrix} \langle \sigma_j^\beta \rangle + \delta_{\beta z} (\langle \sigma_j^\beta \rangle + 2) \end{bmatrix}$$
  
coherent part dissipative part

The steady state for  $J_y > J_y^{c_2}$  is almost fully mixed:  $\rho_{SS}^{[2 \times 1]} \approx \rho^{[1]} \otimes \rho^{[2]}$  $\implies \langle \sigma_j^{\gamma} \sigma_{j+1}^{\alpha} \rangle = \langle \sigma_j^{\gamma} \rangle \langle \sigma_{j+1}^{\alpha} \rangle + \langle \Sigma_{j,j+1}^{\gamma,\alpha} \rangle \quad \text{where} \quad |\langle \Sigma_{j,j+1}^{\gamma,\alpha} \rangle| \ll 1$ 

therefore 
$$\partial_t \langle \sigma_j^\beta \rangle = \mathcal{L}_{[1 \times 1]}^\beta - 2 \sum_{\alpha} J_{\alpha} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \langle \Sigma_{j,j+1}^{\gamma,\alpha} \rangle$$

 $\odot$  correlations  $\Sigma_{j,j+1}^{\gamma,\alpha}$  drastically modify the steady-state structure for  $t \to +\infty$  $\odot$  dynamically-induced purity reduction

#### dynamical suppression of ferromagnetic ordering

#### The 2 x 1 cluster mean-field @ large $J_v$



# **Results for different dimensionalities**

Due to extremely reduced dimensionality, <u>mean field should fail</u>
 *Reminiscence* of features predicted by mean field
 *Presumably* <u>no phase transition</u>





6<sup>-1</sup>



What is the **fate** of mean field?

Presumably there is a phase transition (existence of a symmetry-broken phase)



Cluster mean-field on a 2D square lattice

Extension of the <u>symmetry-broken phase</u> drastically reduced

Boundaries & topology of the phase diagram change a lot



FM phase seems to survive in the thermodynamic limit
on revival @ large J observed for larger clusters



#### **Corner-space renormalization**



#### **Corner-space renormalization**

Von Neumann entropy:  $S = -\text{Tr}(\rho \log \rho)$ 

$$\max\left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial J_y}\right) \propto L^{\lambda}$$
$$\lambda = 1.6 \pm 0.2$$

The behavior of the S vs.  $J_y$  resembles that of the entropy vs. temperature in 2nd order thermal phase transitions

Contrary to conventional transition (where the FM phase has a lower entropy), here the ferromagnetic phase has larger entropy than the paramagnetic one.



#### **Numerical linked cluster expansions**



A. Biella, J. Jin, O. Viyuela, C. Ciuti, R. Fazio, DR, PRB 97 035103 (2018)

It is also possible to extrapolate the *critical exponent* associated to the phase transition  $\rightarrow$  Padé analysis

$$\chi_{\rm av} \sim |J_y - J_y^{\rm (c)}|^{-\gamma}$$

#### **Projected pair entangled operators (PEPOs)**



A. Kshetrimayum, H. Weimer, R. Orus, Nat. Commun. 8, 1291 (2017)

## **Gutzwiller MC approach**



W. Casteels, R. M. Wilson, M. Wouters, PRA 97, 062107 (2018)

#### **Variational MC with neural networks**



A. Nagy, V. Savona, PRL 122, 250501 (2019)