LDQCM-15 Workshop July 03 2015 Amsterdam, Netherlands



Topology by Dissipation in Atomic Fermion Systems: Dissipative Chern Insulators

Sebastian Diehl

Institute for Theoretical Physics, Technical University Dresden

Collaborations: J. C. Budich, M. A. Baranov, P. Zoller (Innsbruck)



Motivation



Bose-Einstein Condensate (1995)



Vortices

(1999)

Many-body physics with cold atoms

...



Mott Insulator (2002)



Fermion superfluid (2003)

Common theme:



- closed system (isolated from environment)
- stationary states in thermodynamic equilibrium

- thermalization/equilibration (PennState, Berkeley, Chicago, ...)
- sweep and quench many-body dynamics (Munich, Vienna)
- metastable excited many-body states (Innsbruck, MIT, ...)

Motivation



Bose-Einstein Condensate (1995)



Vortices

(1999)

Many-body physics with cold atoms



Mott Insulator (2002)



Fermion superfluid (2003)

Common theme:



- closed system (isolated from environment)
- stationary states in thermodynamic equilibrium

Novel Situation: Cold atoms as open many-body systems



Motivation: Topology by Dissipation

Basic Setting: Thinning out a density matrix to a pure state ("cooling")



Key Questions:

- Is topological order an exclusive feature of Hamiltonian ground states, or pure states? related: Kitagawa, Berg, Rudner, Demler, PRB (2010); Lindner, Refael, Galitski, Nature Phys. (2011). Kapit, Hafezi, Simon, PRX (2014).
- Which topological states be reached by a targeted, dissipative cooling process?
- What are proper microscopic, experimentally realizable models?
- What are the parallels and differences to the equilibrium (ground state) scenario?

Outline



Dissipative Chern insulators

Many-Body Physics with Dissipation: Description

• Many-body master equations



- extend notion of Hamiltonian engineering to dissipative sector
- microscopically well controlled non-equilibrium many-body quantum systems
- here: focus on H = 0
- Important concept: Dark states

$$\begin{split} L_i |D\rangle &= 0 \quad \forall i \\ \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}[|D\rangle \langle D|] &= 0 \end{split} \end{split}$$
 time evolution stops when $\rho = |D\rangle \langle D|$

Many-Body Physics with Dissipation: Description

• Many-Body master equations



• Interesting situation: unique dark state solution



dissipation increases purity (entropy pump)

Paired Fermionic Dark States: Mechanism

- proximity of magnetic and superconducting order in fermion ground states
- Antiferromagnetic Neel state (half filling)





magnetic dark state based on Fermi statistics

• Superconducting state: delocalized Neel order

→ Lindblad operators: $L_i^+ = \ell_{i,+}^+ + \ell_{i,-}^+ = (c_{i+1,\uparrow}^\dagger + c_{i-1,\uparrow}^\dagger)c_{i,\downarrow}$

➡ sc dark state based on additional phase locking

Combine fermionic Pauli blocking with phase locking

Dissipative Pairing: Set of Lindblad Operators

• The full set of Lindblad operators is found from

$$[L_i^{\alpha}, G^{\dagger}] = 0 \quad \forall i, \alpha \qquad |D(N)\rangle \sim G^{\dagger N} |\text{vac}\rangle$$



Fixed Number vs. Fixed Phase Lindblad Operators

- spinless fermions for simplicity
- fixed number Lindblad operators

$$L_i = C_i^{\dagger} A_i$$

resulting dark state

$$BCS, N\rangle = G^{\dagger N} |vac\rangle$$

• fixed phase Lindblad operators

$$\ell_i = C_i^\dagger + r e^{\mathrm{i}\theta} A_i$$

• resulting dark state (with $\Delta N \sim 1/\sqrt{N}$

$$|BCS,\theta\rangle = \exp(re^{i\theta}G^{\dagger})|vac\rangle$$

requirements

translation invariant creation and annihilation part

antisymmetry

$$C_{i}^{\dagger} = \sum_{j} v_{i-j} a_{j}^{\dagger} \qquad C_{k}^{\dagger} = v_{k} a_{k}^{\dagger} \qquad \varphi_{k} = \frac{v_{k}}{u_{k}} = -\varphi_{-k}$$
$$A_{i} = \sum_{j} u_{i-j} a_{j} \qquad A_{k} = u_{k} a_{k} \qquad G^{\dagger} = \sum_{k} \varphi_{k} c_{-k}^{\dagger} c_{k}^{\dagger}$$

• comment: construct exactly solvable interacting Hubbard models with parent Hamiltonian exact number conserving Majorana wavefunction: Iemini, Mazza, Rossini, SD, Fazio, arxiv (2015)

$$H = \sum_{i} L_{i}^{\dagger} L_{i} \qquad \qquad L_{i} |D\rangle = 0 \,\forall i$$

Spontaneous Symmetry Breaking and Dissipative Gap

- use equivalence of fixed number and fixed phase states in thdyn limit
- use exact knowledge of stationary state: linearized long time evolution

$$\mathcal{L}[\rho] = \kappa \sum_{i} \left[\ell_{i} \rho \ell_{i}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2} \{\ell_{i}^{\dagger} \ell_{i}, \rho\}\right] = \sum_{\mathbf{q}} \kappa_{\mathbf{q}} \left[\ell_{\mathbf{q}} \rho \ell_{\mathbf{q}}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2} \{\ell_{\mathbf{q}}^{\dagger} \ell_{\mathbf{q}}, \rho\}\right]$$

• properties

• effective fermionic quasiparticle operators

 $\ell_{\mathbf{q}}|BCS, \theta
angle = 0\;$; fulfill Dirac algebra -> uniqueness

• dissipative gap in the damping rate

$$\kappa_{\mathbf{q}} = \kappa_0 \int_{\mathrm{BZ}} \frac{d^2 \mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{|u_{\mathbf{k}} v_{\mathbf{k}}|^2}{|u_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 + |\alpha v_{\mathbf{k}}|^2} (|u_{\mathbf{q}}^2| + |v_{\mathbf{q}}^2|) \ge \kappa_0 n$$

¹⁰

damping rate κ_q

- Scale generated in long time evolution ; exponentially fast approach of steady state
- Robustness of prepared state against perturbations

Topology by Dissipation: Dissipative Kitaev Wire



SD, E. Rico, M. A. Baranov, P. Zoller, Nat. Phys. 7, 971 (2011)

Kitaev's quantum wire (Hamiltonian scenario)

• spinless superconducting fermions on a lattice Kitaev (2001)



Dissipative Majorana Quantum Wire



• Kitaev's Bogoliubov operators as Lindblad operators $\tilde{a}_i = \frac{1}{2}(a_{i+1} + a_{i+1}^{\dagger} - a_i + a_i^{\dagger})$ quasilocal

$$L_i = \tilde{a}_i$$

• master equation

$$\dot{\rho} = \kappa \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \left(\tilde{a}_i \rho \tilde{a}_i^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2} \tilde{a}_i^{\dagger} \tilde{a}_i \rho - \rho \frac{1}{2} \tilde{a}_i^{\dagger} \tilde{a}_i \right)$$

bulk driven to pure steady state: Kitaev's ground state

 $\tilde{a}_i |\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{wave}\rangle = 0 \ (i = 1, \dots, N-1)$

dark state = topological p-wave

$$\{\tilde{a}_i, \tilde{a}_j\} = 0 \quad \{\tilde{a}_i^{\dagger}, \tilde{a}_j\} = \delta_{ij}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{ dark state unique}$$

$$\text{Hilbert space dark state}$$



• Kitaev's Bogoliubov operators as Lindblad operators $\tilde{a}_i = \frac{1}{2}(a_{i+1} + a_{i+1}^{\dagger} - a_i + a_i^{\dagger})$ quasilocal

$$L_i = \tilde{a}_i$$

• master equation

$$\dot{\rho} = \kappa \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \left(\tilde{a}_i \rho \tilde{a}_i^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2} \tilde{a}_i^{\dagger} \tilde{a}_i \rho - \rho \frac{1}{2} \tilde{a}_i^{\dagger} \tilde{a}_i \right)$$

bulk driven to pure steady state: Kitaev's ground state

 $\tilde{a}_i |\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{wave}\rangle = 0 \ (i = 1, \dots, N-1)$

dark state = topological p-wave

Majorana edge modes decoupled from dissipation

$$|0
angle, |1
angle = ilde{a}_N^{\dagger} |0
angle$$

non-local decoherence free subspace



Implementation with Fermionic Atoms

• We propose microscopically

$$J_i = (a_i^{\dagger} + a_{i+1}^{\dagger})(a_i - a_{i+1})$$

m

by immersion of driven system into BEC reservoir

(i) Drive: coherent coupling to auxiliary system with double wavelength Raman laser



Implementation with Fermionic Atoms

• We propose microscopically

$$J_{i} = (a_{i}^{\dagger} + a_{i+1}^{\dagger})(a_{i} - a_{i+1})$$

mint

by immersion of driven system into BEC reservoir





Implementation with Fermionic Atoms

• We propose microscopically

$$J_i = (a_i^{\dagger} + a_{i+1}^{\dagger})(a_i - a_{i+1})$$







Topology by Dissipation: Dissipative Chern Insulators



J. C. Budich, P. Zoller, SD, PRA (2015)

Dissipative Chern Insulators (BdG Superfluids/-conductors)

- Q: How general is the concept of "Topology by Dissipation"?
- recipe for pure dissipative topological states (so far)
 - Bogoliubov eigenoperators as Lindblad operators

$$H_{\text{parent}} = \sum_{i} L_{i}^{\dagger} L_{i} \quad L_{i} |G\rangle = 0 \forall i$$

- Hamiltonian ground state as dissipative dark state |D
 angle=|G
 angle
- quasi-locality of Wannier functions key requirement for physical realization

$$L_i = \sum_j u_{j-i}a_j + v_{j-i}a_j^{\dagger}$$

- fundamental caveat:
 - no exponentially localized Wannier functions exist for states with non-vanishing Chern number
 - Landau levels: Wannier functions decay $\sim r^{-2}$ D. J. Thouless, J. Phys. C (1984);
 - general band structures
 C. Brouder et al. PRL (2007)
 - topology interferes with natural locality of the Lindblad operators

Model

- Strategy: combine
 - critical (topological) quasi-local Lindblad operators
 - non-topological Lindblad stabilizing critical point
- Lindblad operators generating dissipative dynamics:
 - starting point: interacting Liouvillian with $L_i = C_i^{\dagger}A_i$ & long time linearization

- e.g. half filling
$$~~L_i = C_i^\dagger + A_i$$

• creation part

$$C_i^{\dagger} = \beta \, a_i^{\dagger} + (a_{i_1}^{\dagger} + a_{i_2}^{\dagger} + a_{i_3}^{\dagger} + a_{i_4}^{\dagger})$$

s-wave symmetric creation part

• annihilation part

$$A_i = (a_{i_1} + ia_{i_2} - a_{i_3} - ia_{i_4})$$
 local circulation
= $abla_{i,x}a_i + i
abla_{i,y}a_i$ p-wave symmetric annihilation



part

Observations

- pure stationary state: $\{L_i, L_j\} = 0, \ \{L_i, L_j^{\dagger}\} \neq 0 \ \forall i, j$
- standard 2D diagnostics via first Chern number

$$\mathcal{C} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^2 k \, \vec{n}_{\mathbf{k}} (\partial_{k_1} \vec{n}_{\mathbf{k}} \times \partial_{k_2} \vec{n}_{\mathbf{k}})$$

• $\vec{n}_{\mathbf{k}}$ characterizes the pure Gaussian state

$$\begin{pmatrix} \langle [a_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger}, a_{\mathbf{k}}] \rangle & \langle [a_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger}, a_{-\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger}] \rangle \\ \langle [a_{-\mathbf{k}}, a_{\mathbf{k}}] \rangle & \langle [a_{-\mathbf{k}}, a_{-\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger}] \rangle \end{pmatrix} = \vec{n}_{\mathbf{k}} \vec{\sigma} \\ |\vec{n}_{\mathbf{k}}| = 1 \quad \text{pure state}$$

- Chern number vanishes except for special points
- special points are critical: closing of damping gap

but: Lindblad operators local, how can C be nonzero?



Physics at the dissipative critical point

momentum space Lindblad operators

$$L_{\mathbf{k}} = \tilde{u}_{\mathbf{k}} a_{\mathbf{k}} + \tilde{v}_{\mathbf{k}} a_{-\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger}$$
$$B_{\mathbf{k}} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{u}_{\mathbf{k}} \\ \tilde{v}_{\mathbf{k}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2i \left(\sin(k_x) + i \sin(k_y) \right) \\ \beta + 2(\cos(k_x) + \cos(k_y)) \end{pmatrix}$$

- critical point eta=-4: there is one point ${f k}_*=0$ where

$$L_{\mathbf{k}_*} = 0$$



E. Rashba, L. Zhukov, A. Efros, PRB (1997)

• implies damping gap closing:

$$\kappa_{\mathbf{k}_{*}} = \{L_{\mathbf{k}_{*}}^{\dagger}, L_{\mathbf{k}_{*}}\} = 0$$

quasilocal Lindblad operators can support critical Chern states only



Stabilization of the critical point

• Chern number decomposition: sum of winding numbers around TRI points λ within "electron region" ${\cal E}$, where $\,\hat{n}_{3,{\bf k}}>0\,$

$$\mathcal{C} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^2 \mathbf{k} \, \hat{\vec{n}}_{\mathbf{k}} (\partial_{k_1} \hat{\vec{n}}_{\mathbf{k}} \times \partial_{k_2} \hat{\vec{n}}_{\mathbf{k}}) = \sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{E}} \nu_\lambda \qquad \qquad \hat{\vec{n}}_k = \frac{\vec{n}_k}{|\vec{n}_k|}$$
$$\nu_\lambda = \frac{1}{2\pi} \oint_{\mathcal{F}_\lambda} \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} \theta_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot d\mathbf{k}$$



vector field:

$$\left(\begin{array}{c}n_{1,\mathbf{k}}\\n_{2,\mathbf{k}}\end{array}\right) = r_{\mathbf{k}} \left(\begin{array}{c}\sin\theta_{\mathbf{k}}\\\cos\theta_{\mathbf{k}}\end{array}\right)$$

fermion occ.

height function:

$$\hat{n}_{3,\mathbf{k}} = 1 - 2n(\mathbf{k})$$

Stabilization of the critical point

• Chern number decomposition: sum of winding numbers around TRI points λ within "electron region" \mathcal{E} , where $\hat{n}_{3,\mathbf{k}} > 0$

non-critical

critical

near critical

0		$\mathbf{\Omega}$
U	=	U

 $\mathcal{C} = -1$

 $\mathcal{C} = 0$

need to "plug the hole" (here, near k=0)

Dissipative Hole Plugging

• minimal solution: add momentum selectively non-topological Lindblad operators

$$L^A_{\mathbf{k}} = \sqrt{g}e^{-\mathbf{k}^2d^2}a_{\mathbf{k}}$$



dissipative stabilization of a critical topological point into a phase

Nature of the Dissipative Topological Phase Transition

- Topological stability requires additional "purity gap" for mixed density matrix
- A Gaussian translationally invariant state is completely characterized by:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \langle [a_k^{\dagger}, a_k] \rangle & \langle [a_k^{\dagger}, a_{-k}^{\dagger}] \rangle \\ \langle [a_{-k}, a_k] \rangle & \langle [a_{-k}, a_{-k}^{\dagger}] \rangle \end{pmatrix} = \vec{n}_k \vec{\sigma} = Q_k \quad |\vec{n}_k| \le 1 \quad \forall k \in (-\pi, \pi]$$

mapping circle to circle (chiral symmetry)

$$ec{n}_k:S^1 o S^1$$
 (pure states, $ec{n}_kec{}=1$)





Winding number topological invariant

$$W = \frac{1}{4\pi \mathrm{i}} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dk \operatorname{tr}(\Sigma Q_k^{-1} \partial_k Q_k) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dk \vec{a} \cdot \left(\hat{\vec{n}}_k \times \partial_k \hat{\vec{n}}_k\right)$$

Topological invariant for mixed density matrices

• Winding number:
$$W = \frac{1}{4\pi i} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dk \operatorname{tr}(\Sigma Q_k^{-1} \partial_k Q_k) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dk \vec{a} \cdot \left(\hat{\vec{n}}_k \times \partial_k \hat{\vec{n}}_k\right)$$

• pure states: $\forall k : |\vec{n}_k| = 1$
 $\hat{\vec{n}}_k = \frac{\vec{n}_k}{|\vec{n}_k|}$

defined if topology of circle is preserved

 $\forall k: \, |\vec{n}_k| > 0$

i.e. mixed states with "purity gap"

 $\bigcirc \frown \bigcirc$

• circle collapses to line:

$$\exists k_0: |\vec{n}_{k_0}| = 0$$

modes k_0 completely mixed "purity gap" closes

as long as the purity gap is finite, smoothly deform to a pure state

rationalization: J. C. Budich, S. Diehl, PRB (2015)

$$ec{n}_k
ightarrow \hat{ec{n}}_k$$
 for $|ec{n}_k| > 0$ find the function of t

finite purity gap

- in this case, topological invariant well defined
 - two gaps required for topological stability: damping and purity gap

Nature of the Dissipative Topological Phase Transition



topological phase transition by purity gap closing (non-critical)

Microscopic Model

• combine critical Lindblad operators with momentum selective pumping



SD, E. Rico, M. Baranov, P. Zoller, Nat. Phys. (2011); C. Bardyn et al. NJP (2013)

$$\ell^C_i = C^C_i{}^\dagger A^C_i$$

$$C_i^{C\,\dagger} = \sum_j v_{j-i}^C \psi_j^\dagger, \quad A_i^C = \sum_j u_{j-i}^C \psi_j$$

quasi-local near critical p-wave operators

 self-consistent mean field theory for weak perturbation from exactly known pair state





$$\tilde{\ell}_k^A = \sum_q \tilde{C}_{q-k}^A \overset{\dagger}{}_A \tilde{A}_q^A$$
$$\tilde{C}_k^A \overset{\dagger}{}_= g_v \sum_i e^{(k-\pi_i)^2/d_v^2} a_k^\dagger \quad \tilde{A}_k^A = g_u \sum_i e^{-k^2/d_u^2} a_k$$

de-populating the low momentum modes



full qualitative agreement with general analysis of quadratic master equation

Summary: Topology by Dissipation

Tailored dissipation opens new perspectives for many-body physics with cold atom systems

- Targeting cooling of conventionally and topologically ordered quantum states
- 1D dissipative Kitaev chain: parallels Hamiltonian case

- 2D dissipative Chern insulator/superfluid: Harness intrinsic open system properties:
 - Competition of Topology and Locality in 2D
 - Critical Chern states require fine tuning
 - Stabilization of critical point into extended phase via hole plugging mechanism



