

# Classifying quantum dynamical maps: an approach from Past-Future Correlations

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Workshop: Celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
of Sudarshan's paper on dynamical maps

# Stochastic Dynamics of Quantum-Mechanical Systems

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The most general dynamical law for a quantum mechanical system with a finite number of levels is formulated. A fundamental role is played by the so-called “dynamical matrix” whose properties are stated in a sequence of theorems. A necessary and sufficient criterion for distinguishing dynamical matrices corresponding to a Hamiltonian time-dependence is formulated. The non-Hamiltonian case is discussed in detail and the application to paramagnetic relaxation is outlined.

$$\rho_0 \rightarrow \rho_t = \mathcal{A}[\rho_0] \quad (1)$$

- Central ingredients of the theory of open quantum systems are there!
- Conditions on the “dynamical matrix”  $\mathcal{A}$  that guaranty physical evolutions; Unitary evolutions; (statistical) mixture of dynamics; Relaxation :
- Classification of quantum dynamical maps



# Classification of quantum dynamical maps

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- A completely positive condition guarantees mapping a density matrix into a density matrix (start to be defined in Sudarshan et. al. paper)
- Quantum Markovian maps vs. Quantum Non-Markovian maps (?)
- *If non-Markovian, is there any*  
environment-to-system backflow of information?
- The previous questions has been a research topic in the last ten years.
- Non-operational approaches: only rely on the dynamical map properties
- Operational approaches: in addition, the system is measured at different times
- Goal of the talk: to answer the previous questions about maps classification with an operational based approach.





# Markovianity and non-Markovianity

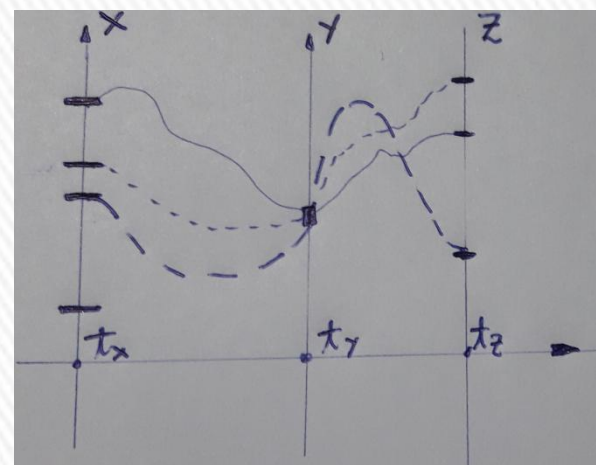
## ➤ Markovianity (conditional probabilities)

$$P(X_n | X_{n-1}, \dots, X_2, X_1) = P(X_n | X_{n-1}) \quad (2)$$

- How this property can be tested?
- Which is the statistical relation between past events (X) and future ones (Z) when conditioned to a fixed intermediate state (Y)?

**MARKOV: CONDITIONAL PAST-FUTURE  
STATISTICAL INDEPENDENCE**

Via Bayes rule:



past      present      future

$$(3) \quad P(z, x | y) = P(z | y) P(x | y)$$

Markovian

$$(4) \quad P(z, x | y) = P(z | y, x) P(x | y)$$

Non-Markovian

memory effects



can be detected with three measurements

# Environment-to-system back flow of information

- The definition must be valid in classical and quantum domains
- Information stored in the environment influence the system at later times



- Given system (s) and environment (e), with density matrix  $\rho_{se}(t)$

$$(5) \quad \rho_s(t) = \text{Tr}_e[\rho_{se}(t)]$$

$$(6) \quad \rho_e(t) = \text{Tr}_s[\rho_{se}(t)]$$

➤ **Definition:** If  $\rho_e(t)$  [and  $\frac{d\rho_e(t)}{dt}$ ] **does not depend on the system degrees of freedom, there is not a “physical” environment-to-system backflow of information.**

Bidirectional information flows imply that the environment density matrix must depend on the system degrees of freedom.

(\*) For classical noisy environments there is not any bidirectional flow



# System Projective measurements

➤ Which experimental procedure allows to detect the previous properties?

➤ A projective system measurement (projector,  $|y\rangle\langle y|$ ) implies

$$\rho_{se} \rightarrow |y\rangle\langle y| \otimes \frac{\langle y|\rho_{se}|y\rangle}{\text{Tr}_{se}[|y\rangle\langle y|\rho_{se}]} \quad (7)$$

➤ If the post-measurement bath state depends on the previous system history: one must to detect memory non-Markovian effects.

(8)

➤ After the measurement, introduce the random system change  $|y\rangle\langle y| \rightarrow |\check{y}\rangle\langle\check{y}|$  and disregard the outcomes  $y$ :

$$\rho_{se} \rightarrow |\check{y}\rangle\langle\check{y}| \otimes \sum_y \langle y|\rho_{se}|y\rangle = |\check{y}\rangle\langle\check{y}| \otimes \text{Tr}_s[\rho_{se}]. \quad (9)$$

If the environment does not depend on the system, memory on the system history has been deleted: (none back flow information) => (memoryless)

➤ These properties allows to establishing an experimental procedure for detecting the previous definitions of memory and information flows.

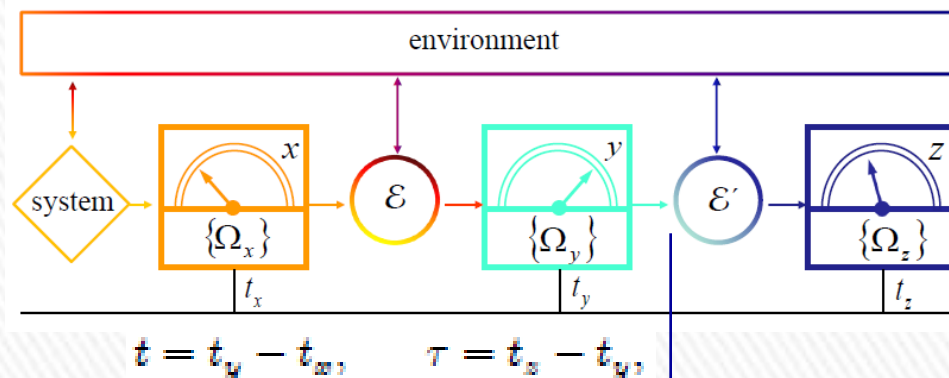
# Conditional Past-Future (CPF) Correlation

Measurement operators

$$\{\Omega_x\}, \{\Omega_y\}, \{\Omega_z\}$$

**Dynamical maps**  $\mathcal{E}$

(the same as in Sudarshan et. al. paper)



$$C_{pf}(t, \tau)|_y = \sum_{z, x} (z \ x) [P(z, x|y) - P(z|y)P(x|y)] \quad (10)$$

$$C_{pf} = 0$$

$\Leftarrow$

Markovian

$$C_{pf} \neq 0$$

$\Rightarrow$

Non-Markovian

Deterministic scheme

(11)

$$C_{pf} = 0 \Leftarrow$$

Absence of Bidirectional information flows

$$C_{pf} \neq 0 \Rightarrow$$

Presence of Bidirectional information flows

$$|y\rangle\langle y| \rightarrow |\check{y}\rangle\langle\check{y}|$$

Random scheme

(12)





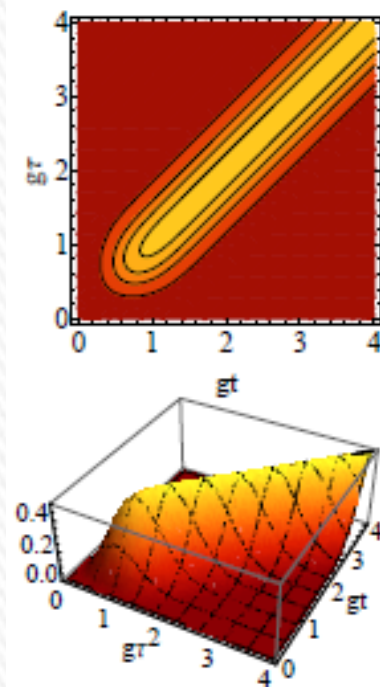
# Memory effects in the dephasing of a qubit

$$H_T = \sigma_{\hat{z}} \otimes \sum_{k=1}^N g_k \sigma_{\hat{z}}^{(k)} \quad (13)$$

$$C_{pf}(t, \tau) = f(t, \tau) - f(t)f(\tau) \quad (14)$$

$f(t)$  Coherence decay

$$f(t, \tau) = f(t + \tau) + f(t - \tau)$$



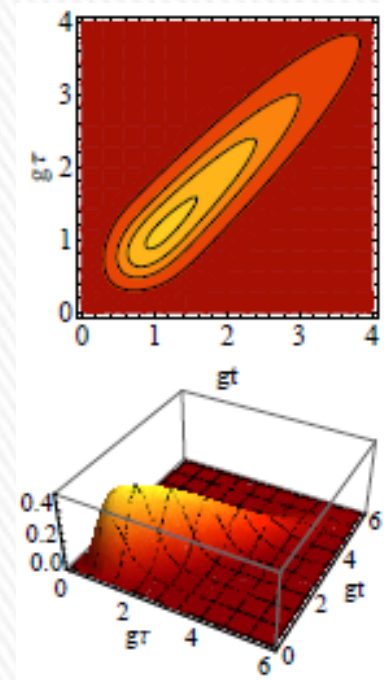
Spin bath  
Model

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} C_{pf}(t, t) \neq 0$$

Infinite  
bath-correlation-time

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} C_{pf}(t, t) = 0$$

Finite  
bath-correlation-time

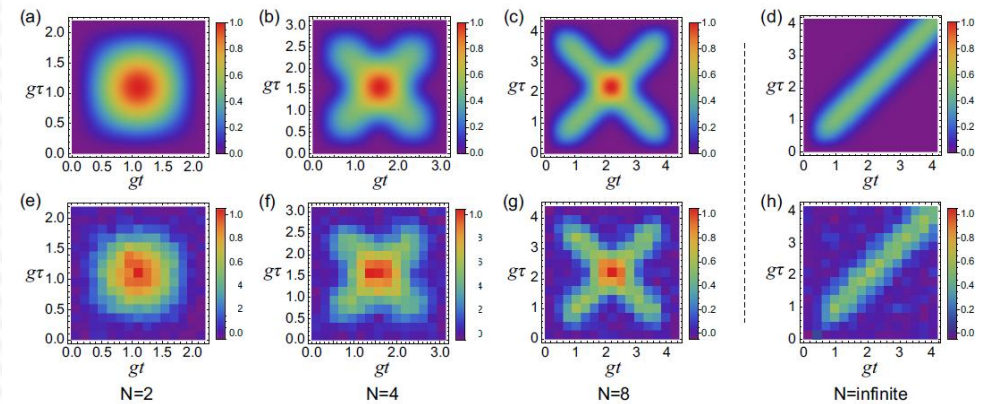
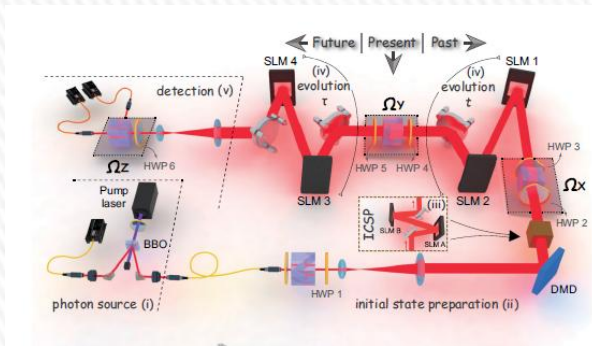


Hamiltonian  
Noise model

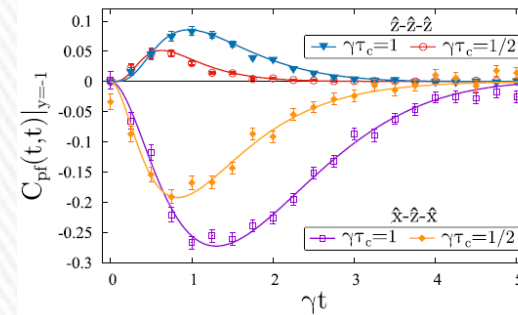
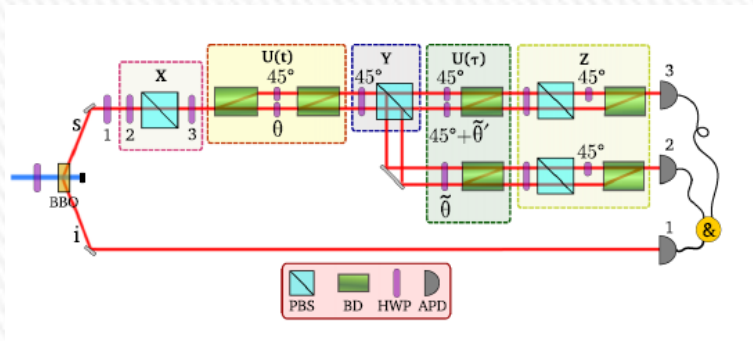
PRL (2018)



# Experimental quantum-optical implementations



Hefei (China) quantum optics group\_PRA 100 (2019): **The CPF** allows to detect initial system –environment correlations



Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) quantum optics group\_PRA 101 (2020): **Detection of memory effects close to the validity of Born-Markov approximation** (two-level system with a bosonic bath Temp=0)

# Absence of bidirectional system-information flows

(15)

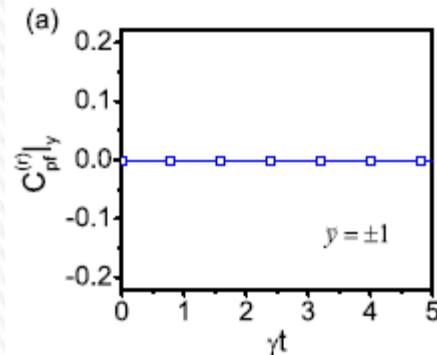
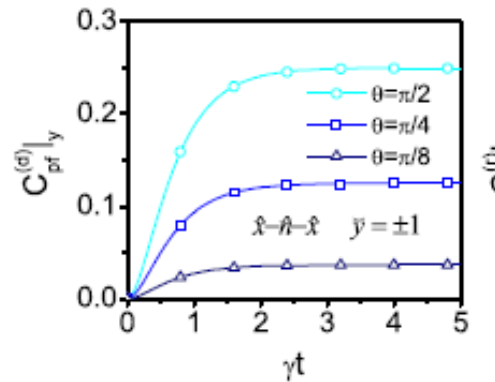
$$\frac{d\rho_t}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha=\hat{x},\hat{y},\hat{z}} \gamma_{\alpha}(t)(\sigma_{\alpha}\rho_t\sigma_{\alpha} - \rho_t),$$

**Eternal non-Markovian evolution: one rates is always negative**

Relies on a random superposition of Markovian dynamics

(same as in Sudarshan et. al. paper)

CPF detects memory effects



After randomizing the intermediate post-measurement state, CPF=0  
There is not bidirectional information flows

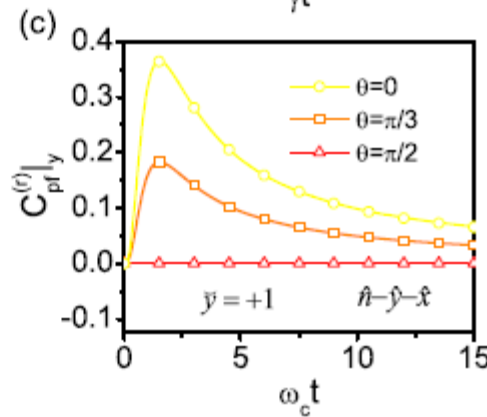
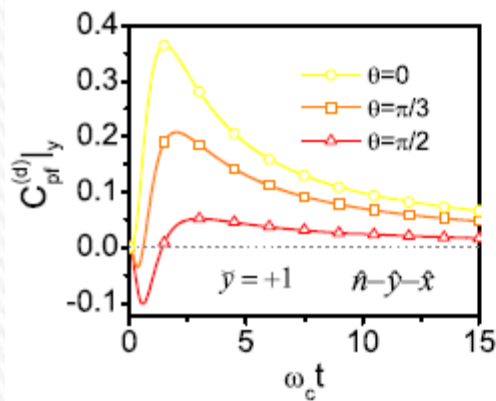
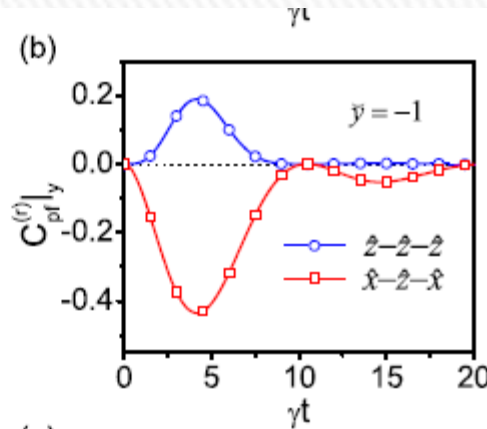
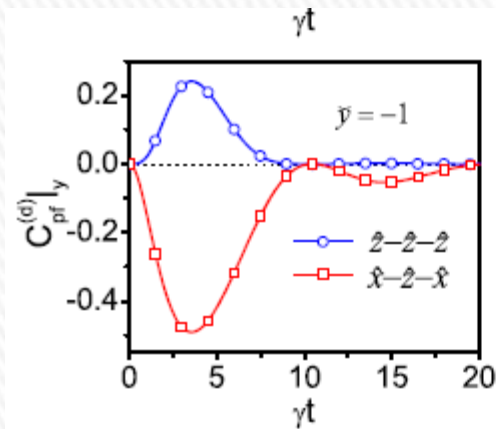
PRA (2021)



# Presence of bidirectional system-information flows

Standard CPF

CPF with random post-measurement state



Dephasing coupling

Dissipative coupling

The system is a two-level model coupled to a bosonic bath at zero temperature

# Conclusions

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- A scheme for classifying dynamical map was established:
  - \*Markovian Vs non-Markovian
  - \*System-environment bidirectional information flows
- The proposal relies on a quantum extension of a conditional past-future independence valid for classical Markovian process
- The conditional past-future correlation (CPF) relies on a minimal set of three quantum measurements (and post-selection)
- Experimental implementations has been performed in quantum optics
- An experimental procedure for detecting of bidirectional information flows is established
- Analysis on different possible “dynamical maps” under work