Interacting quantum walk on graphs: thermalization and entanglement

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We extend quantum walks by introducing an interaction of the particle degrees of freedom with local spins sitting on the nodes of a graph. This system allows us to investigate, in an isolated quantum system, the appearance of a thermal state and its entanglement properties. A modification of the model, in which the spins are on the network edges, exhibit a rich dynamical behavior in simple lattices, including oscillations, relaxation and localization of states.

Introduction

Node spin model: entanglement and thermalization

Edge spin model: dynamics

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- Entanglement and thermalization of an isolated system
- Structure of the thermal state and eigenstate thermalization hypothesis
- Entanglement dynamics in spin networks induced by an itinerant particle

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Edge spin model: dynamics

Conclusion

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Node spin model: thermalization

A walker jumps between the nodes of a graph of interacting spins; the particle color interacts with the local spin favoring entanglement along graph paths



Hilbert space $|xcs\rangle = |x\rangle \otimes |c\rangle \otimes |s_0s_1 \dots s_{N-1}\rangle$ Coin operator C

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x'c's' | \operatorname{GR} | xcs \rangle &= \left(\frac{2}{d_x} - \delta_{c,c'}\right) \delta_{x,x'} \delta_{s,s'} \\ \langle x'c's' | \operatorname{FT} | xcs \rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{d_x}} \exp(\mathrm{i}2\pi cc'/d_x) \delta_{x,x'} \delta_{s,s'} \end{aligned}$$

Motion operator

$$M |xc_y s\rangle = |yc_x s\rangle, \quad (x, y) \in E$$

Node spin model: thermalization

Interaction operator: spin-particle (color)

$$X |x, 0, \dots s_x = 1 \dots \rangle = |x, 1, \dots 0 \dots \rangle$$
$$X |x, 1, \dots s_x = 0 \dots \rangle = |x, 0, \dots 1 \dots \rangle$$

Interaction operator: spin-spin (Ising type)

$$Z |xc, s = \dots s_x \dots s_y \dots \rangle = \begin{cases} -|xcs\rangle & \text{if } s_x = s_y = 1\\ |xcs\rangle & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



Walk operator U = ZXMC, $|\psi(t+1)\rangle = U |\psi(t)\rangle$.

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Isolated many-body system with hamiltonian H,

$$H\left|n\right\rangle = E_{n}\left|n\right\rangle$$

in a *chaotic* sate $|\psi\rangle$

The (local) observable O satisfies

$$\langle \psi | O | \psi \rangle \approx \langle n | O | n \rangle \approx \operatorname{Tr} \rho_{MC} O(E)$$

for $E \approx E_n$.

We say that $|\psi\rangle$ is a *thermal* state: most observables satisfy ETH.

Eigenstate thermalization

Position distribution in a random graph (Fourier coin):

$$\rho(t) = |\psi(t)\rangle \langle \psi(t)|, \quad |\psi(t)\rangle = \sum_{xcs} \langle t \rangle \psi_{xcs} |xcs\rangle$$



Eigenstate thermalization

Shannon entropy:

$$S(n) = -\sum_{xcs} |v_n(xcs)|^2 \log |v_n(xcs)|^2, \ v_n(xcs) = \langle xcs|n \rangle$$



Gaussian unitary ensemble distribution of eigenvalues spacing s:

$$p(s) = \frac{32s^2}{\pi^2} e^{-4s^2/\pi}$$

Thermal state structure

The particle color-spin interaction favors one dimensional paths drown on the graph. We show that the von Neumann entropy

$$S_l(t) = -\operatorname{Tr} \rho_l(t) \log \rho_l(t) \le \log D_l - \frac{D_l^2}{2D \ln(2)}$$

 $(l = \{x, c, s\})$ is related with the *minimal cycle basis* entropy:

$$S_s \approx S_C = \log \left[\sum_{n=1}^{|B^\star|} \operatorname{len}(b_n^\star)\right]$$

where $b_n^{\star} \in B_C$ stands for the minimal length cycle basis of the graph G cycle space, B_C .

Remark: cycle basis

The cycle space B_C of a graph have a structure of vector space over the field $\{0,1\}$; one may thus define a basis of this space whose elements b_n are cycles.

$$B = \{b_n \in B_C, \ n = 1, \dots, |B| = |E| - |V| + 1\}$$

Among these basis sets one has minimal length:

The graph on the left has a cycle basis of dimension 2, a rectangle and a triangle; a linear combination of the two basis cycles gives another cycle in the set of cycles in G.

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Thermal state structure



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Edge spin model: dynamics

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Hilbert space $|xcs\rangle = |x\rangle \otimes |c\rangle \otimes |s_0 \dots s_{|E|-1}\rangle \in \mathcal{H}_G$



Spin–color interaction on edge e = (x, y):

$$S(J) = \exp(-\mathrm{i}H), \ H = -\frac{J}{4}\boldsymbol{\tau}\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma}$$

Quantum walk step operator:

U = SMC

One dimensional lattice walk with a rotation coin $R(\theta) = \exp(i\sigma_y \theta)$. In the free case (J = 0) a change of topology arises at $\theta = \pi/2$.

We introduce an interface at the center of the lattice separating a left and right regions with different coin angles. In the trivial case θ_L , $\theta_R < \pi/2$ and in the topological case $\theta_L < \pi/2 < \theta_R$.

Topology driven edge states



Topology driven edge states, entanglement



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The interacting quantum walk allows us to investigate, within a simple framework, fundamental physical mechanisms arising in condensed matter.

References:

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