# From spin chains to real-time thermal field theory using tensor networks 

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## Introduction and Motivation

- the understanding of quantum many-body systems is of central interest in condensed matter and high-energy physics
- collective phases of QCD matter are probed in heavy-ion collisions: relaxation from non-equilibrium to QGP

- Tensor Networks (TNs) are representations of quantum many-body states in a tensor product basis
- They capture relevant entanglement properties and allow efficient time simulation
$\Rightarrow$ explore thermal quenches of 1D Ising spin chain to extract real-time QFT dynamics


## The quantity we are interested in...

- dynamics in linear response theory:

$$
\delta\langle\mathcal{O}(t, x)\rangle=\int d \tilde{t} d \tilde{x} G_{R}(t-\tilde{t}, x-\tilde{x}) \delta J(\tilde{t}, \tilde{x})
$$

 source of Hamiltonian $H$ retarded 2-point function at non-zero temperature $T=1 / \beta$

$$
\begin{gathered}
\downarrow \\
G_{R}(t-\tilde{t}, x-\tilde{x})=i \theta(t-\tilde{t}) \operatorname{Tr}\left(Z_{\beta}^{-1} e^{-\beta H}[\mathcal{O}(t, x), \mathcal{O}(\tilde{t}, \tilde{x})]\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

- in Fourier space, time response is governed by structure of $G_{R}(\omega, p)$ in complex $\omega$ plane:

$$
\delta\langle\mathcal{O}(t, p)\rangle=\frac{1}{\sqrt{2 \pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d \omega G_{R}(\omega, p) \delta J(-\omega,-p) e^{-i \omega t}
$$

## The quantum Ising model

$$
H=-J\left(\sum_{j=1}^{N-1} \sigma_{z}^{j} \sigma_{z}^{j+1}+h \sum_{j=1}^{N} \sigma_{x}^{j}+g \sum_{j=1}^{N} \sigma_{z}^{j}\right)
$$

longitudinal field


## The quantum Ising model

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- the full scaling Ising field theory Hamiltonian in presence of transverse and longitudinal perturbations has the form [Rakovszky et al. 2016]:

$$
H=\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d x\left\{\frac{1}{2 \pi}\left[\frac{i}{2}\left(\psi(x) \partial_{x} \psi(x)-\bar{\psi}(x) \partial_{x} \bar{\psi}(x)\right)-i M_{h} \bar{\psi}(x) \psi(x)\right]+\bar{g} \sigma(x)\right\}
$$

continuum limit:

$$
\begin{aligned}
M_{h} & =2 J|1-h| \quad \beta \omega=F\left[\beta J, \beta M_{h}, \beta M_{\bar{g}}\right] \\
\bar{g} & =\frac{2}{\bar{s}} J^{15 / 8} g, M_{\bar{g}}=\bar{\eta}|\bar{g}|^{8 / 15}
\end{aligned}
$$

$N \rightarrow \infty, \beta J \gg 1$

## Tensor Networks

- the Hilbert space of a generic quantum state is huge:

$$
\begin{aligned}
&|\Psi\rangle=\sum_{i_{1}, i_{2}, \ldots, i_{N}} \psi_{i_{1}, i_{2}, \ldots, i_{N}}\left|i_{1}\right\rangle\left|i_{2}\right\rangle \cdots\left|i_{N}\right\rangle, \quad i_{n}=1 \ldots d \\
& \begin{array}{l}
\text { N-legged tensor: } \\
\text { exponentially many coefficients } \\
\text { in N-body Hilbert space: } d^{N}
\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$

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$$



- ground states of local gapped Hamiltonians satisfy Area law for entanglement entropy [Hastings 2007]:

$$
S(L) \sim L^{D-1}
$$

- Matrix Product States (MPS) as ansätze satisfy this by construction [Schollwöck 2011]:

> advantages and properties of MPS as TN states:
+ efficient description of wave function for large (!) quantum systems
+ no sign problem $\Rightarrow$ application to gauge theories
+ non-perturbative for Hamiltonian systems
+ quantum phases, connection to holography and RG, topological order, higher dimensions...
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+ quantum phases, connection to holography and RG, topological order, higher dimensions...
> time evolution:
We use the TEBD algorithm (time-evolving block decimation [Vidal 2004]) to construct thermal states and perform real-time evolution.
Trotter decomposition: $\quad H=\sum_{i=1}^{N-1} h_{i, i+1} \quad e^{-\tau H}=e^{-\tau H_{\text {odd }}} e^{-\tau H_{\text {even }}}+\mathcal{O}\left(\tau^{2}\right)$
Expectation values are calculated as:

$$
\left\langle O_{2}^{\left[n_{2}\right]}(t) O_{1}^{\left[n_{1}\right]}(0)\right\rangle_{\beta}=\operatorname{Tr}\left[U^{\dagger}(t) O_{2}^{\left[n_{2}\right]} U(t) O_{1}^{\left[n_{1}\right]} \rho(\beta)\right]
$$

for Pauli matrices $O_{j}^{\left[n_{j}\right]}=\sigma_{x, z}^{n_{j}}, \quad \rho(\beta)=e^{-\beta H}, \quad U(t)=e^{-i t H}$

## CFT results for correlators

- (1+1)D CFT: $\omega= \pm p-i 2 \pi T(\Delta+2 n)$ for $n \in\{0,1,2, \ldots\}$

$$
\Delta_{\bar{\psi} \psi}=1 \quad \Delta_{\sigma}=\frac{1}{8}
$$

- massive free fermions (transverse Ising model at zero momentum):
$\Rightarrow$ two equivalent representations


+ branch points at physical mass $M=2 M_{h}$, lattice UV scale at $8 J-M$
+ complex structures govern relaxation behavior
+ lowest decaying pole sets thermalization scale
$\Rightarrow$ holographic interpretation as BH quasi normal modes [Sachs et al. 2002]


## Numerics with MPS

- retarded thermal 2-point function:

$$
G_{R}(t-\tilde{t}, x-\tilde{x})=i \theta(t-\tilde{t}) \operatorname{Tr}\left(Z_{\beta}^{-1} e^{-\beta H}[\mathcal{O}(t, x), \mathcal{O}(\tilde{t}, \tilde{x})]\right)
$$

for operators $\sigma_{x, z}^{N / 2}(t)$ and $\sigma_{x}(0)$ (global transverse perturbation at zero momentum)


transverse vs. longitudinal response function

- transverse magnetization follows from convolution:

$$
\left\langle\sigma_{x}^{N / 2}\right\rangle(t)=\int_{0}^{t} d t^{\prime} G_{R}\left(t^{\prime}\right) h\left(t^{\prime}\right)
$$

## Signal analysis with Prony

- represent function as sum of complex exponentials:

$$
G(t)=\sum_{k=1}^{M} c_{k} e^{\omega_{k} t} \quad c_{k}, \omega_{k} \in \mathbb{C}
$$

1. Determine $\omega_{k}$ independent of $c_{k}$ (ESPRIT)
2. Fit $c_{k}$ by least squares

$\Rightarrow$ estimation of stability and uncertainty of poles from parameter variation in Prony and time-shifted analysis window

## The integrable QFT limit: MPS results

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \beta M_{h}=0.2 \text { (ferromagnetic) }, \quad \beta M_{\bar{g}}=0, \quad \beta J=\{2,4,8,12,16,32\} \\
& N=100, \quad t=0 \ldots 10
\end{aligned}
$$

free fermion calculation




MPS simulation
$\operatorname{Re}(\omega) \beta / 2 \pi$


| 7.5 | 8. | 8.5 | 9 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |Jt

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MPS simulation



| 7.5 | 8. | 8.5 | 9. | 9.5 | 10. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0. | 0.5 | 1. | 1.5 | 2. | 2.5 |

> extracted decaying thermodynamic poles:


> extracted decaying thermodynamic poles:



+ good agreement with analytical result for first pole
+ second pole partially identifiable
> residues consistent with analytical result in continuum limit:




## The non-integrable OFT limit: MPS predictions

$$
\beta M_{h}=0.5, \quad \beta J=\{6,8,10\}, \quad N=100, \quad t=0 \ldots 10
$$


$\Rightarrow$ no movement of poles visible within uncertainties
(zero momentum)
> cross-checks in QFT regime:
identification of nontrivial meson / particle masses and their decay rates of perturbed Ising CFT in different vacuum phases
[Zamolodchikov 2006, 2013; Delfino et al. 2006]
ferromagnetic

(finite size effect)
continuum threshold $2 M_{1}$
paramagnetic

> temperature dependence of residues of meson states:

$\beta J=16, \beta M_{h}=2, \beta M_{\bar{g}}=21.7$

- $\beta J=4, \beta M_{h}=0.5, \beta M_{\bar{g}}=5.42$
* $\beta J=2, \beta M_{h}=0.25, \beta M_{\bar{g}}=2.71$
- temperature dependence of residues of meson states:



## SUMMARY

- Tensor network techniques can be used to extract nontrivial real-time thermal field theory dynamics.
- Prony method can be used to numerically evaluate structure of retarded 2point function in frequency plane
$\Rightarrow$ agreement with CFT result / free fermions in integrable regime
$\Rightarrow$ no movement of first decaying thermodynamic pole for non-integrable perturbations
$\Rightarrow$ meson / particle masses and decay rates match predictions from Ising QFT

Outlook:

- residues of transients in non-integrable regime
- finite momentum calculations easily possible
$\Rightarrow$ possible change of frequency structure


## BACKUP

> TNs conventions:

$$
a \bigcirc \quad a, \text { number }
$$

$$
A \oint_{j}^{i} A_{i j}, \text { matrix }
$$

$$
v \bigcap_{j} v_{j}, \text { vector } \quad T \overbrace{j_{1}} T_{j_{1} j_{2} \cdots j_{N}} \text {, rank-N tensor }
$$

$$
w \oint=A\} \quad \text { contraction, } \quad w_{j}=\sum_{k} v_{k} A_{k j}
$$

> other types of TN states:

> time evolution:


$$
\begin{aligned}
& H=\sum_{i=1}^{N-1} h_{i, i+1} \quad \text { Trotter decomposition: } \\
& e^{-\tau H}=e^{-\tau h_{1,2}} e^{-\tau h_{2,3}} \cdots e^{-\tau h_{N-1, N}}+\mathcal{O}\left(\tau^{2}\right) \\
& \quad e^{-\tau H}=e^{-\tau H_{\text {odd }}} e^{-\tau H_{\text {even }}}+\mathcal{O}\left(\tau^{2}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

MPS


MPO


MPO: Matrix Product Operator
$\Rightarrow$ operator representation in tensor product basis

- TEBD algorithm to construct thermal states and real-time evolution: [Vidal 2004]

$$
\begin{aligned}
\rho_{0} & \equiv e^{-\beta H}=e^{-\beta / 2 H} \mathbb{1} \cdot \mathbb{1} e^{-\beta / 2 H} \\
\rho(t) & =e^{-i t H(t)} \rho_{0} e^{i t H(t)} \quad\left\langle O_{2}^{\left[n_{2}\right]}(t) O_{1}^{\left[n_{1}\right]}(0)\right\rangle_{\beta}=\operatorname{Tr}\left[U^{\dagger}(t) O_{2}^{\left[n_{2}\right]} U(t) O_{1}^{\left[n_{1}\right]} \rho(\beta)\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

## Signal analysis with Prony

- examples of Prony analyses of the retarded transverse 2-point correlator (from numerical evaluation of integral):



large mass


- mapping of the integrable transverse field Ising model to massive free fermions:

$$
\begin{gathered}
H=\sum_{k} \varepsilon_{k}\left(\gamma_{k}^{\dagger} \gamma_{k}-1 / 2\right) \\
\varepsilon_{k}=2 \sqrt{J^{2}\left(1+h^{2}-2 h \cos k\right)}
\end{gathered}
$$

- retarded correlator:

$$
G(t, p=0)=\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d k \frac{\sin \left(2 \varepsilon_{k} t\right)}{e^{\beta \varepsilon_{k}}+1} f(k)
$$

## (other) Things to do with TNs...


nonlinear behavior in thermal quantum quenches, relaxation, thermalization...

spatial correlations

meson studies


## (other) Things to do with TNs...


nonlinear behavior in thermal quantum quenches, relaxation, thermalization...

spatial correlations


QFT regime


