Full counting statistics and cumulant evolution in infinite temperature quantum spin chains

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Spin transfer in S-1/2 anisotropic Heisenberg (XXZ) chain



$$\mathcal{H}_{\rm XXZ} = J \sum_{i} \left(S_i^x S_i^x \right)$$



symmetries

U(1) symmetry: conservation of S^z (charge)

SU(2) symmetry: conservation of S² — at Δ =1, isotropic point

integrability

extensive set of conserved quantities: strongly impact dynamics



- $X_{i+1}^{x} + S_{i}^{y}S_{i+1}^{y} + \Delta S_{i}^{z}S_{i+1}^{z}$
- drives dynamics correlates spins

prototypical model (not exotic)

real-life realization e.g.: KCuF3, SrCuO2, ...

Spin transfer in S-1/2 anisotropic Heisenberg (XXZ) chain





spin transfer across interface

 $\Gamma\longleftrightarrow\Delta S$

full counting statistics

 $P(\Gamma)$

probability distribution: characterizes the spin-transfer processes

infinite temperature state

$$\rho = \frac{1}{2^L} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{\otimes L}$$

$$\langle \Delta S \rangle = 0$$

 $(\Delta S)^2 \rangle \neq 0$

Spin transport

naïve expectation for **conserved quantities**

quantum quench protocol

$$\rho = \frac{1}{(1+\mu^2)^L} \bigotimes_{i=1}^{L/2} \begin{pmatrix} 1+\mu & 0\\ 0 & 1-\mu \end{pmatrix} \bigotimes_{i=L/2+1}^L \begin{pmatrix} 1-\mu & 0\\ 0 & 1+\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

probe **spin correlations** from spin profile $\langle S^{z}(x,t)S^{z}(0,0)\rangle = -\lim_{\mu\to 0}\frac{1}{\mu}\delta_{x}S^{z}$

Anomalous diffusion

key observation: (numerical evidence) charge across interface

$$Q(t) = \int_0^t d\tau \ j(L/2,\tau) \propto t^{1/z}$$

z = 3/2

Ljubotina et al., Nat. Comm 8 (2017); PRL 122 (2019)



0.2 $\left(\right)$ -0.2-0.4-0.6

- 0.4

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naïve expectation for **conserved quantities**

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superdiffusion with dynamical exponent:

z = 3/2

Ljubotina et al., Nat. Comm 8 (2017); PRL 122 (2019)





- 0.4

- 0.2

Spin transport regimes: S-1/2 XXZ chain





Experimental evidence

neutron scattering

Tennant



cold atoms setup

Bloch

quantum simulators

Google Quantum AI / Prosen

Wei et al., Science **376** (2022)

Rosenberg et al., Science **384** (2024)



Kardar-Parisi-Zhang (KPZ) universality class

stochastic non-linear differential equation

$$\partial_t h = D \partial_x^2 h + \lambda (\partial_x h)^2 + \eta$$

 $\int \int \int \delta$ -correlated noise diffusion non-linear

describe interface growth of **classical** processes



coffee stains



tumor cell

- burning paper,
- fire spread in a forest
- ice on a windscreen
- polymerization
- traffic
- ...

i.i.d. waiting times $\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$



- linear growth speed
- lack of spatial correlations

Gaussian fluctuations $h(x,t) \sim t + \gamma t^{1/2}$

i.i.d. waiting times $\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$



- linear growth speed
- height correlated transversally
 over long distances

Tracy-Widom fluctuations

 $h(x,t) \sim \gamma_0 t + \gamma_{1/3} t^{1/3} F_1$

time : space : fluctuations scaling like 3 : 2 : 1

Corwin NAMS **63** (2016)



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Why is anomalous transport in quantum spin chains surprising?

concept of universality in processes far from equilibrium

KPZ processes: preferred direction in time

classical systems

robust (universal) feature



quantum systems

"fragile" i.e., it depends on microscopic details:

integrability

non-abelian symmetry - e.g. SU(2)

Wei et al., Science **376** (2022)

Higher-order correlation functions

$$P(\Gamma) = \frac{1}{(2S+1)^L} \sum_{s,s'} \delta$$



Quantum trajectories

Schmidt decomposition of the time-evolution operator

• access **directly** full counting statistics

 $|\psi(t)\rangle$

• MPS bond dimension grows exponentially — **short timescales**

Generating function

MPO representation of spin on one side of the interface

$$R(\lambda) = e^{-i\lambda\Sigma} = \prod_{j < L/2} e^{-i\lambda S_j^z}$$

$$G(\lambda, t) = \frac{1}{(2S+1)^L} \langle R(\lambda, t) R^{\dagger}(\lambda^*, 0) \rangle$$

evaluate cumulants:

$$\kappa_n(t) = \left. \frac{\partial^n}{\partial \lambda^n} \underbrace{\log G(\lambda, t)}_{F(\lambda, t)} \right|_{\lambda=0}$$

truncated Taylor expansion

$$F_{\phi}(\lambda,t) = -\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2k!} \lambda^{2k} e^{i2k\phi} \kappa_{2k}(t)$$

- MPO bond dimension grows slowly unprecedentedly-long timescales
- access full counting statistics **indirectly** through moments/cumulants

Google experiment

Sycamore is a **transmon** superconducting quantum processor



$$U = \prod_{j \in \text{even}} \text{fSim}_j(\theta, \phi) \prod_{j \in \text{odd}} \text{fSim}_j(\theta, \phi)$$
$$\text{fSim}(\theta, \phi) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\phi/2} & 0 & 0 & 0\\ 0 & \cos(\theta) & i\sin(\theta) & 0\\ 0 & i\sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & e^{-i\phi/2} \end{pmatrix}$$

higher-order correlation functions incompatible with KPZ



Rosenberg et al., Science **384** (2024)

Transport regimes: integrable S-1/2 XXZ chain

2. cumulant (variance)

$$\left\langle \left(\Gamma - \left\langle \Gamma \right\rangle \right)^2 \right\rangle = \kappa_2(t) \sim t^{1/z}$$

dynamic exponent

$$z^{-1} = \frac{d}{d\log t}\log\kappa_2(t)$$



- $z = \begin{cases} 1 & \Delta < 1 \text{ (easy-plane)} \\ 3/2 & \Delta = 1 \text{ (isotropic)} \\ 2 & \Delta > 1 \text{ (easy-axis)} \end{cases}$

easy-plane — XX limit

Del Vecchio² & Doyon, J. Stat. Mech. (2022)

SU(2) isotropic point

 $\gamma_4 \rightarrow 0?$ OR $\rightarrow \text{const.}?$

SU(2) isotropic point

Floquet time evolution

$$fSim(\theta,\phi) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\phi/2} & 0 & 0 & 0\\ 0 & \cos(\theta) & i\sin(\theta) & 0\\ 0 & i\sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & e^{-i\phi/2} \end{pmatrix}$$
$$T = I = I = J$$
$$J = \delta t J = \phi$$

Floquet dynamical exponent

Take-home

XXZ chain: superdiffusion with KPZ-like dynamical exponent:

- integrability
- non-abelian symmetry

nature of **fluctuations unclear**

NEW MPO METHOD

full counting statistics through cumulants

skewness and kurtosis seem incompatible with KPZ

Thank you for your attention!

unprecedentedly-long time scale

Backup

generating function – XX limit

QGF: low bond dimension sufficient whereas MCS breaks down at

 $t_{\max} = t(M, \delta t)$

Valli et al., preprint (soon)

generating function – XX limit

quantum trajectories simulations degrade at longer timescales

 $t_{\rm max} J \approx 25$

Valli et al., preprint (soon)

generating function – XXZ isotropic point

Valli et al., preprint (soon)

higher-order cumulants

Non-integrable quantum spin chain S = 1

KPZ-like scaling from second cumulant κ_2

numerics suggests **near-integrability**

Popkov et al., PNAS **112** (2015)

quantum quench protocol

$$\rho = \frac{1}{(1+\mu^2)^L} \bigotimes_{i=1}^{L/2} \begin{pmatrix} 1+\mu \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

 $\langle S^z(x,t)S^z(0,0)\rangle$

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