

Non-equilibrium, quantum fluctuations of work

Armen Allahverdyan
(Yerevan Physics Institute)

- Work fluctuations for non-equilibrium states
- Why not to apply existing definitions
- Another definition (PRE, '14)
- Fluctuation theorem applicable to any initial state

Work

Unitary dynamics

$$U_\tau = \overleftarrow{\exp} \left[-\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_0^\tau dt H(t) \right],$$

Initial and final
Hamiltonians

$$H_I \equiv H(0), \quad H_F = U_\tau^\dagger H(\tau) U_\tau,$$

Average work is always well-defined
energy conservation

$$W = \text{tr}[\rho(H_F - H_I)],$$

Non-equilibrium state
(non-stationary)

$$[\rho, H_I] \neq 0$$

Two energy measurements

eigenvalues of

$$H_I, H_F$$

eigenprojectors

$$\varepsilon_l^{[F]} - \varepsilon_k^{[I]}$$

$$\tilde{p}_{kl} = \text{tr}(\Pi_l^{[F]} \Pi_k^{[I]} \rho \Pi_k^{[I]} \Pi_l^{[F]})$$

probabilities

$$\tilde{W} = \sum_{kl} \tilde{p}_{kl} (\varepsilon_l^{[F]} - \varepsilon_k^{[I]}) = \text{tr}(\tilde{\rho} (H_F - H_I))$$

$$\tilde{\rho} = \sum_k \Pi_k^{[I]} \rho \Pi_k^{[I]}$$

diagonal

$$\widetilde{W} \neq W$$

Average is not the average work

Operator of work

Heisenberg operator of work = $H_{\text{F}} - H_{\text{I}}$

Does not fully relate to energy.
Non-equilibrium example:

$$H(0) = H(t)$$



$$(H_{\text{F}} - H_{\text{I}})|0\rangle = 0,$$

$$[H_{\text{F}}, H_{\text{I}}] \neq 0$$

$$\langle 0|H_{\text{F}}^m|0\rangle \neq \langle 0|H_{\text{I}}^m|0\rangle \text{ for } m > 2.$$

"Work" is strictly zero (together with fluctuations),
but energy does change

Two *necessary* conditions for any definition of fluctuating work

Zero work -->

Zero energy exchange

$$\text{tr}(\rho H_I^m) = \text{tr}(\rho H_F^m)$$

$$m \geq 1$$

Average =

= Average work

Quasi-probability

$$\mathcal{E}_l^{[F]} - \mathcal{E}_k^{[I]}$$

$$p_{kl} = \text{tr}\left(\rho \frac{\Pi_k^{[I]} \Pi_l^{[F]} + \Pi_k^{[F]} \Pi_l^{[I]}}{2}\right)$$

● $\sum_k p_{kl} = \sum_l p_{kl} = 1 \longrightarrow \text{average} = W$

● $p_{k \neq l} = 0 \longrightarrow \text{tr}(\rho H_I^m) = \text{tr}(\rho H_F^m)$

*Kirkwood ('33), Terletsky ('37), Dirac ('45),
Barut ('57), Margenau & Hill ('61)
experiments: Bamber, PRL '14*

$$p_{kl} = \text{tr}(\rho \frac{\Pi_k^{[I]} \Pi_l^{[F]} + \Pi_l^{[F]} \Pi_k^{[I]}}{2}) \geq 0$$

applicability condition

$$[\Pi_k^{[I]}, \Pi_l^{[F]}] \neq 0 \longrightarrow$$

$$-\frac{1}{8} \leq \frac{\Pi_k^{[I]} \Pi_l^{[F]} + \Pi_k^{[F]} \Pi_l^{[I]}}{2}$$

negative eigenvalue(s)

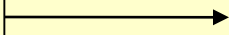
$$[\rho, \Pi_l^{[F]}] = 0, \text{ or} \\ [\Pi_k^{[I]}, \rho] = 0 \longrightarrow$$

previous definition

Fluctuation theorem

reference equilibrium states

$$H_I, H_F$$



$$\sigma_I \propto e^{-\beta H_I}$$

$$\sigma_F \propto e^{-\beta H_F}$$

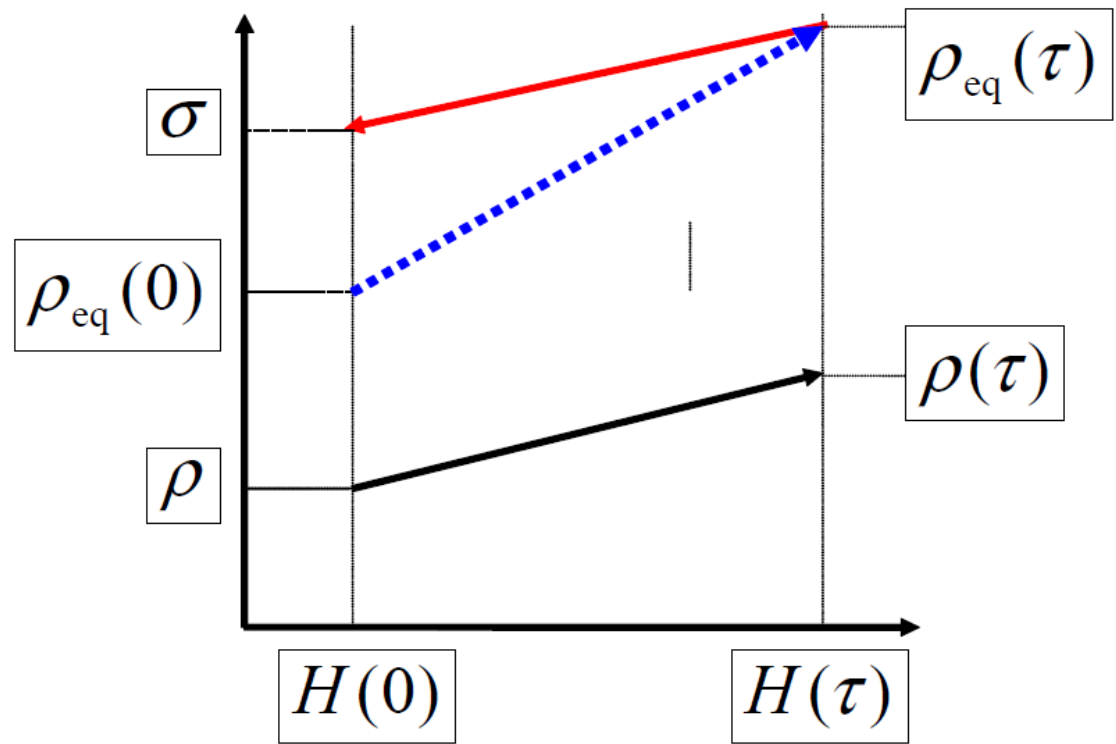
$$\left\langle e^{-\beta(w - \Delta\Phi)} \right\rangle = \text{Re tr}(\sigma_F \sigma_I^{-1} \rho)$$

holds always

$$\beta$$

is free parameter

Fluctuation theorem



$$\langle e^{-\beta(w - \Delta\mathcal{F})} \rangle = \text{Re tr} (\sigma \rho_{\text{eq}}^{-1}(0) \rho)$$

$$\rho_{\text{eq}}(t) \equiv e^{-\beta H(t)} / \text{tr}(e^{-\beta H(t)})$$

$$\sigma \equiv U_{\tau}^{\dagger} \rho_{\text{eq}}(\tau) U_{\tau}$$

Summary

The existing definitions do not apply

Two necessary conditions for any definition

Fluctuation theorem for non-equilibrium states