# Quantum Information Processing in Non-Markovian Quantum Complex Systems

Francesco Buscemi<sup>1</sup> Nagoya–Freiburg Joint Project Kick-Off Meeting Institute of Physics, Freiburg University, 14 May 2018

<sup>1</sup>Dept. of Mathematical Informatics, Nagoya University, buscemi@i.nagoya-u.ac.jp

#### Classical Markov chains: some nomenclature

Time convention:  $t_N \ge \cdots \ge t_1 \ge t_0$ .

• classical Markov chain:

$$P(x_{t_N}, x_{t_{N-1}}, \dots, x_{t_0}) = P(x_{t_N} | x_{t_{N-1}}) \cdots P(x_{t_1} | x_{t_0}) P(x_{t_0})$$

- keywords: memorylessness, Markovianity, divisibility
- physical divisibility (Markov equation):  $P(\boldsymbol{x}_{t_k}, \boldsymbol{x}_{t_j}, \boldsymbol{x}_{t_i}) = P(\boldsymbol{x}_{t_k} | \boldsymbol{x}_{t_j}) P(\boldsymbol{x}_{t_j} | \boldsymbol{x}_{t_i}) P(\boldsymbol{x}_{t_i}), \text{ for any } k \ge j \ge i$
- stochastic divisibility (Chapman-Kolmogorov equation):  $P(\boldsymbol{x}_{t_k}|\boldsymbol{x}_{t_i}) = \sum_{\boldsymbol{x}_{t_i}} P(\boldsymbol{x}_{t_k}|\boldsymbol{x}_{t_i}) P(\boldsymbol{x}_{t_i}|\boldsymbol{x}_{t_i})$ , for any  $k \ge j \ge i$

physical divisibility 
$$\implies$$
 stochastic divisibility  $\Leftarrow$ 

#### The problem with quantum systems

Quantum stochastic processes are like sealed black boxes: an observation at time  $t_1$  can "spoil" the process and any subsequent observation at later times  $t_2 \ge t_1$ .



**Figure 1:** Here  $t_0$  is an initial time, at which the quantum system can be prepared (fully controlled). There is no *direct* quantum analogue of the *N*-time joint distribution  $P(\boldsymbol{x}_{t_N}, \ldots, \boldsymbol{x}_{t_0})$ .

How to describe quantum stochastic processes then?

- time convention:  $t_N \ge \cdots \ge t_1 \ge t_0$
- open quantum systems formalism:  $\rho_S(t_i) := \operatorname{Tr}_E \left\{ U_{t_0 \to t_i} \left[ \rho_S(0) \otimes \rho_E(0) \right] U_{t_0 \to t_i}^{\dagger} \right\}$
- if the system is fully controlled at  $t_0$ , we obtain a sequence of CPTP linear maps by discarding the bath:  $\Phi_i(\cdot) := \operatorname{Tr}_E \left\{ U_{t_0 \to t_i} \left[ \cdot \otimes \rho_E(0) \right] U_{t_0 \to t_i}^{\dagger} \right\}$

#### Definition

A quantum dynamical mapping (QDM) is a sequence of CPTP linear maps  $(\Phi_i)_{0 \le i \le N}$  satisfying  $\Phi_0 = id_S$  (consistency condition).

• **Global (extrinsic) picture**: Markovianity is a property of the whole system+bath compound (like, e.g., singular coupling regime, approximate factorizability, etc)

• **Reduced (intrinsic) picture**: Markovianity is a property of the resulting quantum dynamical mapping alone (like, e.g., information decrease, divisibility, etc)

### A "Zoo" of Quantum Markovianities

From: Li Li, Michael J. W. Hall, Howard M. Wiseman. *Concepts of quantum non-Markovianity: a hierarchy.* (arXiv:1712.08879 [quant-ph])



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#### Decreasing System Distinguishability (DSD)

- introduced in [Breuer, Laine, Piilo; PRL 2009], it provides the bridge between physical and information-theoretic Markovianity
- for any pair of possible initial states of the system, say,  $\rho_S^1(0)$  and  $\rho_S^2(0)$ , consider the same pair evolved at later times  $t_i > t_0$ :

$$\rho_S^{1,2}(t_i) := \Phi_i \Big[ \rho_S^{1,2}(0) \Big]$$

• DSD condition:

$$\|\rho_S^1(t_i) - \rho_S^2(t_i)\|_1 \ge \|\rho_S^1(t_j) - \rho_S^2(t_j)\|_1, \quad \forall i \le j$$

interpretation: revival of distinguishability ⇒ back-flow of information ⇒ non-Markovianity

## Divisibility (DIV)

- extends the idea of dynamical semigroups:  $t\mapsto \Phi_t$  such that  $\Phi_s\circ \Phi_t=\Phi_{t+s}$
- a QDM  $(\Phi_i)_i$  is CPTP divisible if there exist CPTP linear maps  $(\mathcal{E}_{i \to j})_{i \leq j}$ , which we call propagators, such that  $\Phi_j = \mathcal{E}_{i \to j} \circ \Phi_i$ , for all  $0 \leq i \leq j \leq N$



• DIV constitutes a quantum analogue of the Chapman-Kolmogorov equation (i.e., stochastic divisibility)



## can we make these equivalent?

### Strengthening DSD

- both DSD and DIV play an important role in information theory under the names of data-processing inequality and degradability, respectively
- reverse data-processing theorems: various generalizations of DSD that become equivalent to DIV (sometimes, however, bijectivity of all  $\Phi_i$ 's is required)

#### A recent result (FB, 2018)

Given a bipartite state  $\omega_{RS}$ , define its singlet fraction given S as

$$\mathscr{F}(\omega|S) := \sup_{\mathcal{D}:\mathsf{CPTP}} \langle \Phi_{RS}^+ | (\mathsf{id}_R \otimes \mathcal{D}_S)(\omega_{RS}) | \Phi_{RS}^+ \rangle .$$

Denote  $\omega_i := (\mathrm{id}_R \otimes \Phi_i)(\omega_{RS})$ . A QDM  $(\Phi_i)_i$  satisfies DIV if and only if  $\mathscr{F}(\omega_i|S) \geq \mathscr{F}(\omega_j|S)$ , for all  $j \geq i$  and all **separable** bipartite states  $\omega_{RS}$ .

#### Visualizing the condition



• The thickness of the green lines depict the singlet fractions at any time:

$$\mathscr{F}(\omega_i|S) := \sup_{\mathcal{D}:\mathsf{CPTP}} \langle \Phi_{RS}^+ | (\mathsf{id}_R \otimes \mathcal{D}_S \circ \Phi_i)(\omega_{RS}) | \Phi_{RS}^+ \rangle .$$

• A QDM  $(\Phi_i)_i$  satisfies DIV iff  $\mathscr{F}(\omega_i|S) \ge \mathscr{F}(\omega_j|S)$  for all initial separable states  $\omega_{RS}$ .

## Meaning of DIV

#### Why the propagators $(\mathcal{E}_{i \rightarrow j})_{i \leq j}$ are assumed to be CPTP?



Hence, CP-divisibility is equivalent to saying that the open evolution is "collisional," in the sense that it can be realized by summoning a "fresh environment" at each time step.

#### To strengthen DSD or to relax DIV?

- But do the propagators  $(\mathcal{E}_{i \rightarrow j})_{i \leq j}$  really need to be linear CPTP?
  - linearity is necessary (QDMs are linear)
  - trace-preservation (a linear constraint) also
  - instead, CP perhaps not: propagators could be just P or even less (e.g., statistical morphisms), and yet be related to important physical/computational/thermodynamical properties (like, e.g., the "locality" or "causality" of the evolution)

#### A recent result (FB, 2018)

A QDM  $(\Phi_i)$  satisfies P-DIV if and only if  $\mathscr{F}(\omega_i|S) \ge \mathscr{F}(\omega_j|S)$ , for all  $j \ge i$  and all classical-quantum bipartite states  $\omega_{RS}$ .

**Remark.** Classical-quantum states have the form  $\omega_{RS} = \sum_k p_k |k\rangle \langle k|_R \otimes \omega_S^k$ .

#### CP-DIV, P-DIV, and non-increasing singlet fractions



**Figure 2:** The varying thickness of the green lines depict the singlet fraction at any time.

- The QDM is **CP-divisible** iff  $\mathscr{F}(\omega_i|S) \geq \mathscr{F}(\omega_j|S)$  for all initial separable states.
- The QDM is P-divisible iff 𝔅(ω<sub>i</sub>|S) ≥ 𝔅(ω<sub>j</sub>|S) for all initial classical-quantum states.

#### Possible ideas in this direction

- to witness P-indivisibility, *classical correlations* are enough; for CP-indivisibility, *separable non-classical* states are required. **Discord**, anyone?
- it is known that CP-DIV can be decided by SDP: way to design efficient tests?
- to impose extra properties to DIV, e.g., **thermality or group-covariance**
- to understand P-DIV in a **generalized circuit formalism** (no extension possible, however no problem, because not in the black-box picture)
- relation to causality/time-locality? For example: can a-causal (time-nonlocal) processes arise in regimes of extreme non-Markovianity?
- to understand the information-theoretic and computational capabilities of such generalized circuit models, e.g., data-processing inequalities, computational/thermodynamical aspects, etc