Frozen relaxation dynamics in the presence of breathers

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Collaborators:

see at the end

The 1d Discrete NonLinear Schrödinger (DNLS) Equation

$$i\dot{z}_n = -2|z_n|^2 z_n - \gamma(z_{n+1} + z_{n-1})$$



Micromagnetic dynamics

$$z_n = \frac{M_x^n - iM_y^n}{\sqrt{2M_s(M_s + M_z^n)}}$$

Arrays of optical waveguides with Kerr nonlinearity



Discrete optical solitons (H.S. Eisenberg et al 1998) (F. Lederer et al 2008)



TB approximation $z_n =$ wave function in the n-th well The DNLS equation: $i\dot{z}_n = -2|z_n|^2 z_n - \gamma(z_{n+1} + z_{n-1})$ is Hamiltonian (and not integrable)

$$\dot{z}_n = \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial (-iz_n^*)} \qquad \mathcal{H} = \sum_{n=1}^N \left(|z_n|^4 + \gamma (z_n^* z_{n+1} + z_n z_{n+1}^*) \right) \qquad A = \sum_n |z_n|^2$$
$$z_n = \sqrt{a_n} e^{i\varphi_n} \qquad \mathcal{H} = \sum_{n=1}^N \left(a_n^2 + 2\gamma \sqrt{a_n a_{n+1}} \cos(\varphi_n - \varphi_{n+1}) \right) \qquad A = \sum_n a_n$$

Equilibrium phase diagram



$$h = \mathcal{H}/N \qquad a = A/N$$
$$h > 2a^2 \qquad (T < 0)$$

Condensation phenomenon

A breather is localized and oscillates with time ($\omega = 2b$)

What is the (sole) effect of having two conservation laws (no coupling) ?

$$\gamma = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad i\dot{z}_n = -2|z_n|^2 z_n \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{cases} a_n \equiv \text{constant} \\ \varphi_n(t) = 2a_n t \end{cases}$$



Purely stochastic model

$$A = \sum_{n} a_n$$

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{n} a_n^2$$

 $a_n \ge 0 \quad \forall n$

Conservation laws with stochastic dynamics (MMC)

400

200



$$h = \mathcal{H}/N$$
 $a = A/N$

$$h > 2a^2 \qquad (T < 0)$$

Condensation phenomenon



When do breathers appear? (In the full DNLS model)



They can be choosen as initial condition at T > 0We study this relaxation process





- Laminar regimes are characterized by an exponentially small diffusion/drift
- Jumps are mainly due to exponentially rare bound states between the breather and a neighbour

Qualitatively: $b(0) \uparrow \Rightarrow \omega \uparrow \Rightarrow$ breather-backgroud coupling \downarrow

Laminar regime (when $|z_{\pm 1}|$ are small)

Laminar regimes are quasi-stationary with no apparent drift: what is the diffusion coefficient? b(t) is too noisy so we use PCA analysis.

PCA analysis on the triplet:



$$Q \simeq E_b^{1/2}$$
 $E_b = |z_0|^4 + \frac{1}{2}[z_0^*(z_1 + z_{-1}) + c.c.]$



Interpretation of the quasistationary regime



The hypothesis that $|z_{\pm 1}|$ are small is not always satisfied:

what does it happen when it is not?



Dimer formation: $\sqrt{a_1} = \sqrt{b} - \sqrt{2}$

Dimer formation and hopping





Relaxation at different temperatures



Conclusions/Discussion

- Two regimes:
 - Laminar regime ($a_{\pm 1} \ll b$) with an exponentially small diffusion/drift
 - Jump regime $(a_{\pm 1} \simeq b)$ with an exponentially small rate

Are they distinct relaxation channels?

• Why is dynamics frozen?

We have proposed the existence of an adiabatic invariant, but a perturbative approach to determine it does not work

T < 0 regime: ensemble equivalence breaks (Gradenigo et al, 2019)
Dynamics ?

Ongoing collaboration:





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Thermal bath attached to site 1

Langevin-type thermal bath (*H* is not separable) $i\dot{z}_1 = (1 + i\Gamma)[\text{det. term}] + i\Gamma\mu z_1 + \sqrt{\Gamma T}\eta(t)$

Monte Carlo thermal bath $z_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(p_1 + iq_1), \qquad p_1 \to p_1 + \delta p \qquad q_1 \to q_1 + \delta q$

 $t \in [t_{min}, t_{max}], \quad \delta p, \, \delta q \in [-R, R],$ Metropolis algorithm, $e^{-(\Delta H - \mu \Delta A)/T}$



Why do breathers appear?



What is the origin of the coarsening dynamics?

Evolution of a triplet with a breather:

$$\delta(b^2) = 2b\,\delta b \sim g^2 \Longrightarrow \delta b \sim \frac{1}{b}$$

- The typical variation of breather mass depends on its mass
- The typical variation of breather energy is constant

We can interpret dynamics as as exchange of energy between neighbouring breathers, mediated by the background

Why is dynamics frozen? (Simple answer)

Tall breather (mass b)

 \downarrow

High rotational frequency ($\omega = 2b$)

 \downarrow

Weak coupling between sites



(simple answer is wrong)



The adiabatic invariant

One degree of freedom

Klein Gordon lattice

[Carati & Maiocchi (2012)]

$$H(q, p, \lambda), \qquad \lambda = \lambda_T(t)$$

$$I(E,\lambda) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \oint p dq$$

$$(\Delta I)_T = \begin{cases} \alpha \exp(-\beta T) & \lambda(t) \in \mathcal{C}^{\infty} \\ \\ \alpha T^{-(m+1)} & \lambda(t) \in \mathcal{C}^m \end{cases}$$

$$H = \sum_{i} \left[\left(\frac{q_i^2 + p_i^2}{2} \right) + \epsilon \left(q_i q_{i+1} + q_i^4 \right) \right]$$

I is obtained recursively

$$\frac{||[I,H]||}{\sigma_I} \le \exp(-\beta/\epsilon)$$

Weakly nonergodic dynamics

[Mithun, Kati, Danieli & Flach (2018)]



K. Ø. Rasmussen et al. (PRL 2000)



Change of curvature of $\ln p(A)$, i.e. change of sign of β

