Nonequilibrium phase transition in an optically driven 2D Heisenberg antiferromagnet

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Phase transitions occurring in a non-equilibrium steady state



Nonequilibrium phase transition in the antiferromagnetic phase of the driven Hubbard model [N. Walldorf *et al* Phys. Rev. B **100**, 121110(R) (2019)]

Floquet-driven Antiferromagnet



[N. Walldorf et al Phys. Rev. B 100, 121110(R) (2019)]

- $\rightarrow\,$ Superthermal magnons at large driving amplitudes
- \rightarrow Nonequilibrium Phase Transition



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Limitations of the calculation

- Mean Field + one loop calculation (non-interacting magnon approximation)
- The transition is driven by the **external drive** and the magnon-relaxation into the **bath**, magnon-magnon scattering is not included.

Question

Does this Nonequilibrium phase transition persist in an interacting theory?



Magnon Interactions in a 2d Heisenberg antiferromagnet

$$\mathcal{H}_{XXZ} = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \left(S_i^+ S_j^- + S_i^- S_j^+ \right) + \Delta S_i^z S_j^z \right\} \to \underbrace{\mathcal{H} = E_0 + H_0 + V}_{\mathcal{H} = E_0 + H_0 + V}$$

Magnon expansion around ordered ground state

$$E_0 =$$
Ground State Energy
 $H_0 = \hbar \sum_{k} \omega_k \left(\alpha_k^{\dagger} \alpha_k + \beta_k^{\dagger} \beta_k \right) =$ Bilinear Hamiltoniar







 \rightarrow Use Boltzmann Formalism to include magnon interactions (perturbative, leading order $\frac{1}{S})$

The Driven-Dissipative System without interactions

[N. Walldorf et al Phys. Rev. B 100, 121110(R) (2019)]

$$\partial_t n = g_{\rm in}(1+n) - \gamma_{\rm out} \left(n + \left(\frac{n}{n_{\tilde{T}}(\omega)} \right)^2 \right) \quad {\rm with} \quad g = \frac{g_{\rm in}}{\gamma_{\rm out}}$$

Dynamical Critical Point g = 1

- $g>1 \rightarrow n\left(\omega
 ight)$ diverges faster than $1/\omega$
- $g < 1 \rightarrow n\left(\omega\right)$ is finite for all ω
- g = 1 Thermal Distribution at temperature \tilde{T}

The driven-dissipative system with magnon-interactions



The transition survives the inclusion of interactions

g < 1: Magnons get shifted to lower frequencies, but there is no fundamental change in behavior.

g>1: Interactions drive system towards a thermal distribution plus a δ -Function at $\omega=0$



Static and dynamic criticality



- $d\mathcal{N}_{\rm m}/dg$ develops singularity that moves closer to g=1 as $\ell \to \infty$
- Decay Rate goes to zero as $\ell \to \infty$ \downarrow Time scale diverges as $\ell \to \infty$
- · Characteristic scaling behavior

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Summary

Does the nonequilibrium phase transition persist in an interacting theory? Yes: Superthermal magnons \rightarrow thermal distribution + δ -function