

# From quantum fields to ecosystems

## Dynamics on extended phase-spaces

P. D. Drummond

ACQAO COE, University of Queensland

Moyal medal lecture, 2007

# Outline

- 1 Exponential complexity
  - Many-body systems
  - Classical phase-space
  
- 2 Extended phase-space
  - Quantum theory: +P and friends
  - Genetics on phase-space

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ULTRALOW temperatures down to  $1nK$

## TESTS QUANTUM THEORY IN NEW REGIMES!

- Bose-Einstein condensates: atom 'photons'
- Atom lasers, atomic diffraction, interferometers..
- Quantum superfluid fermions: atom 'electrons'
- **Universality**: Strongly interacting fermions
- **Superchemistry**: Stimulated molecule formation
- **Color Superfluids**: Multi-species fermi gases

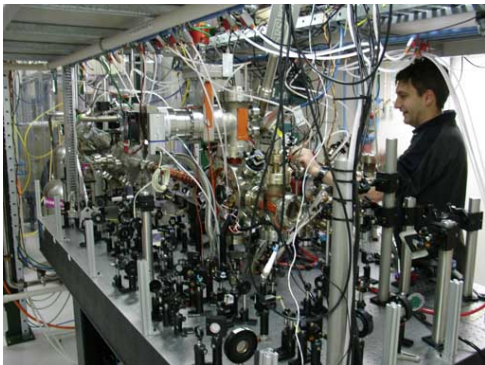
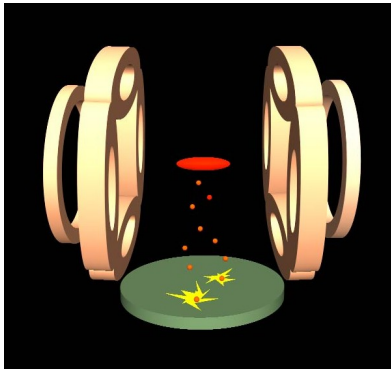
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# Typical experiment (Orsay, ANU)



# Problem: quantum theory is exponentially complex!

Quantum many-body states are **too large to store**.

- consider  $n$  particles distributed among  $m$  modes
  - take  $n \simeq m \simeq 500,000$ :
  - Number of quantum states:  $N_s = 2^{2n} = 2^{1,000,000}$
- More basis states than atoms in the universe
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**intractable for  $\gtrsim 5$  particles**
- operator factorization  
**not applicable for strong correlations**
- perturbation theory  
**diverges at strong couplings**
- exact solutions  
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- rate equation method  
**ignores fluctuations**
- quasi-species theory  
**not applicable to population dynamics**
- 'brute force' matrix method  
**only works for small genetic diversity and populations**
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**very slow for large populations**

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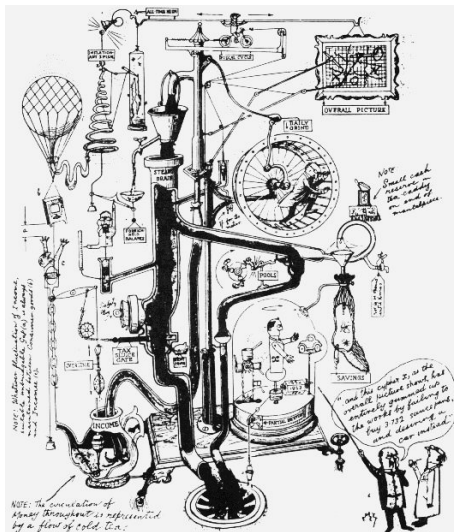
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# Dedicated, special purpose computers?



This computer solves the problems of economics: a Howard/Rudd Xmas present!

Special-purpose computers have been proposed to solve exponential complexity. These include quantum computers, DNA computers, and adiabatic computers.

**Problem:**  
still under development.

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# Quantum theory in Wigner/Moyal phase-space

$$\hat{\rho} = \int P(\alpha) \hat{\Lambda}(\alpha) d^2\alpha$$

## Properties of Wigner/Moyal phase-space

- Maps quantum states into **classical phase-space**  $\alpha = p + ix$
- **Wigner published the idea in statistical mechanics**
- Moyal: **theory is equivalent to quantum mechanics**
- **Advantage:** complexity grows linearly with mode number!

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# Moyal arriving at ANU



# Classical phase-space time-evolution

## Moyal showed how to calculate time-evolution!

- Moyal brackets map quantum operators to differential equations
- Famous correspondence with Dirac (who initially prevented publication)
- Widely used in many areas of physics and elsewhere

## Dirac's criticism: *probabilities can't have negative values*

- Later work of Husimi, Glauber, Sudarshan, Agarwal, Lax.

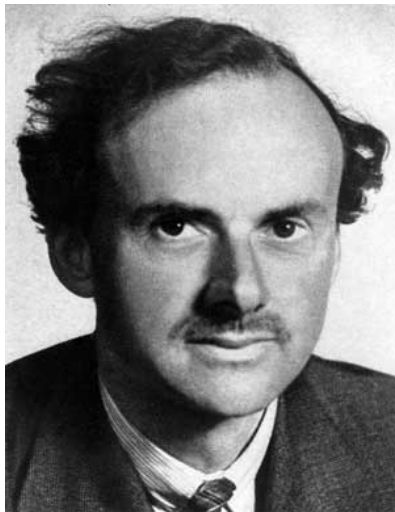
## Classical phase-space time-evolution

9-1-46

Dear Moyal,

I heard from Bartlett that you would be willing to talk about your quantum theory work at our colloquium, and I think it would be a good idea to have it discussed if you do not mind possible heavy criticism. Would Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> Jan at 3 pm suit you? If this does not leave you sufficient time we could make it a week later. If you cannot conveniently deal with it all in one afternoon there is no objection to your carrying on the following week.

Yours sincerely,  
P. A. M. Dirac.



# Coherence theory, lasers and phase-space



## 2005 Nobel Prize in Physics

- one half to Roy J. Glauber
  - *for his contribution to the quantum theory of optical coherence*
- one half to Ted Haensch and Jan Hall
  - **for their contributions to the development of laser-based precision spectroscopy**

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# +P PHASE-SPACE METHODS

$$\hat{\rho} = \int P(\alpha, \beta) \frac{|\alpha\rangle\langle\beta|}{\langle\beta|\alpha\rangle} d^2\alpha d^2\beta$$

Enlarged phase-space allows positive probabilities!

- Maps quantum states into  $4M$  real coordinates:  $\alpha, \beta = p + ix, p' + ix'$
- **A positive distribution always exists**
- **Advantage:** Time-evolution obeys a diffusion equation!
- Maps into a stochastic equation which can be randomly sampled



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# General phase-space approach

$$\hat{\rho} = \int P(\vec{\lambda}) \hat{\Lambda}(\vec{\lambda}) d\vec{\lambda}$$

Phase-space may be larger still!

- Here  $\hat{\Lambda}(\vec{\lambda})$  must be complete
- Quantum dynamics  $\rightarrow$  Trajectories in  $\vec{\lambda}$ .
- Different basis choice  $\hat{\Lambda}(\vec{\lambda}) \rightarrow$  different representation
- Eg, positive P-representation:  $\hat{\Lambda}(\vec{\lambda}) = |\alpha\rangle \langle \beta| / \langle \beta | \alpha \rangle$

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## Trade-offs: distribution vs basis

$$\rho = P \otimes \Lambda$$
$$\sigma_\rho \sim \sigma_P + \sigma_\Lambda$$

# Gaussian operator

$$\hat{\Lambda}(\vec{\lambda}) = \frac{\Omega}{\sqrt{|\underline{\sigma}|}} : \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \delta \hat{\underline{a}}^\dagger \underline{\sigma}^{-1} \delta \hat{\underline{a}} \right] : .$$

Quantum phase-space:  $\vec{\lambda} = (\Omega, \underline{\alpha}, \underline{\sigma})$ .

- Exponential of a quadratic form in the mode operator  $\delta \hat{\underline{a}} = (\hat{\underline{a}}, \hat{\underline{a}}^\dagger) - \underline{\alpha}$ ,
- $\underline{\alpha}$  is a mean displacement
- $\hat{\underline{a}}$  is the vector of mode operators
- treats either bosons (eg, photons) or fermions (eg, electrons)

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# Stochastic gauge equations

$$d\Omega/\partial t = \Omega[U + \mathbf{g} \cdot \boldsymbol{\zeta}]$$
$$d\boldsymbol{\alpha}/\partial t = \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}(\boldsymbol{\zeta} - \mathbf{g})$$

Exponential quantum problems  $\rightarrow$  tractable stochastic equations

- Can be used for fermions AND bosons
- Many trajectories needed to control growing sampling errors
- $\mathbf{g}$  is a gauge chosen to stabilize trajectories
- Careful choice of basis, gauge and stochastic method!

# Stochastic gauge equations

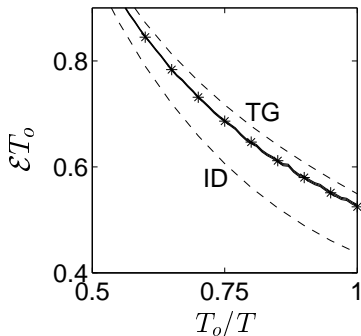
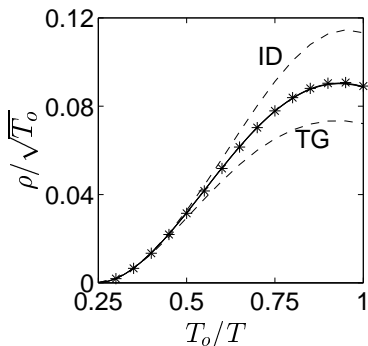
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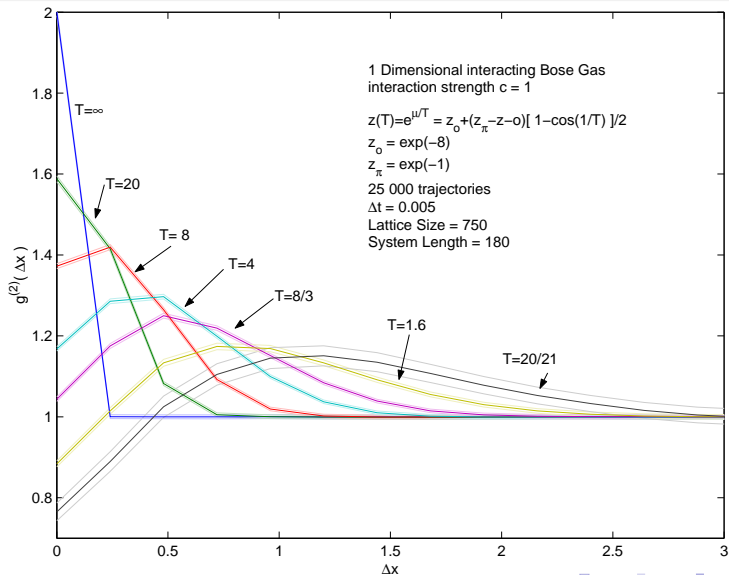


## ONE-DIMENSIONAL BEC



*Agreement of simulations with exact solutions*

## Predicts: anomalous spatial correlations



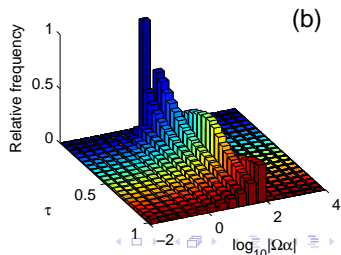
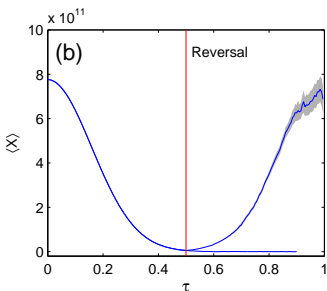
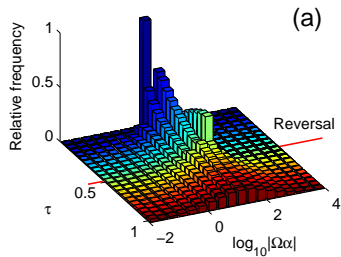
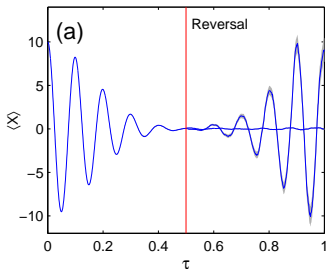
## BEC QUANTUM DYNAMICS, SINGLE WELL (BLOCH)

Single-mode case:

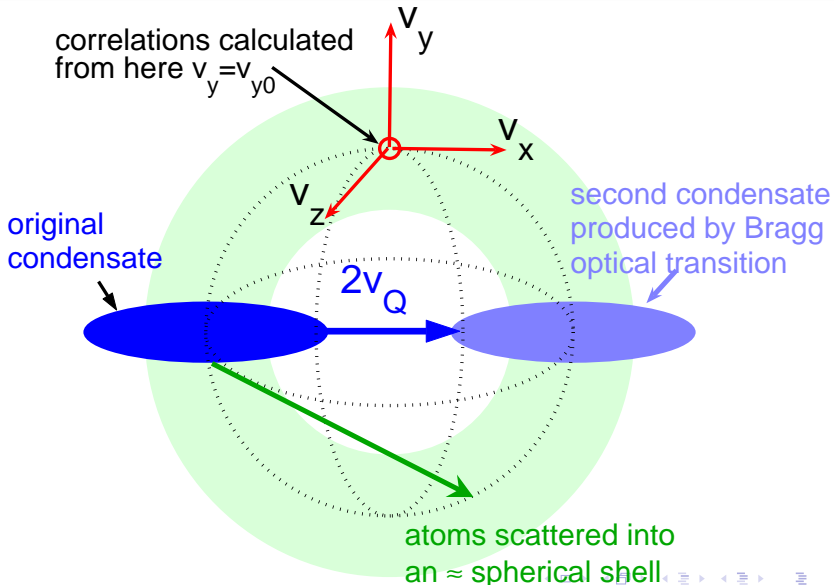
$$i \frac{d\alpha}{d\tau} = \left[ |\alpha\beta^*| + \omega + \sqrt{i}\zeta_1(\tau) \right] \alpha$$
$$i \frac{d\beta}{d\tau} = \left[ |\alpha\beta^*| + \omega + \sqrt{i}\zeta_2(\tau) \right] \beta$$
$$\frac{d\Omega}{d\tau} = \Omega g_i \zeta_i(\tau)$$

- Unitary evolution of  $10^{23}$  interacting bosons

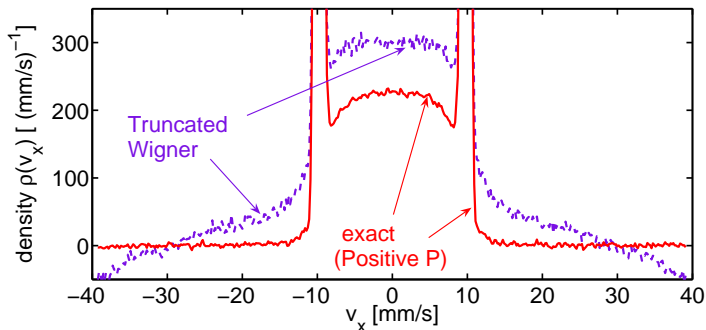
# Time-reversal test of unitary evolution



# BEC collision of 150,000 atoms (Ketterle, Aspect)



## Positive-P vs Truncated Wigner Moyal



Quantum collisions of 150,000 atoms, two million modes -  
Phys Rev Letts Editors Award, 2007

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## Why *simulate* genetics using physics tools?

The goal of theoretical science is to make testable predictions.

### *Central problem of modern theoretical biology!*

- Gene sequencing now can generate data on a scale rivalling any physics experiment
- Populations of micro-organisms - like viruses - evolve rapidly, and involve numbers of order  $10^9$  or more.
- How can we model the evolution of large natural populations with enormous genotype variation?



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## POPULATION DYNAMICS



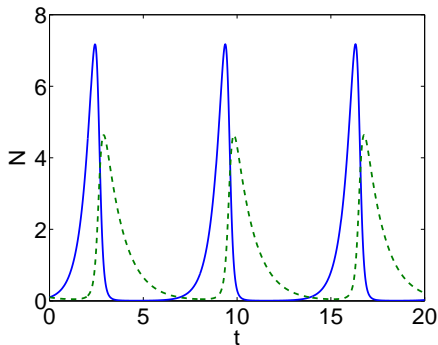
Malthus (1798) developed the model of exponential population growth.

$$\dot{N} = gN$$

Refined by Verhulst (1838) to give the logistic equation:

$$\dot{N} = gN - kN^2$$

## Predator-Prey dynamics: Lotka-Volterra



Prey (solid line)

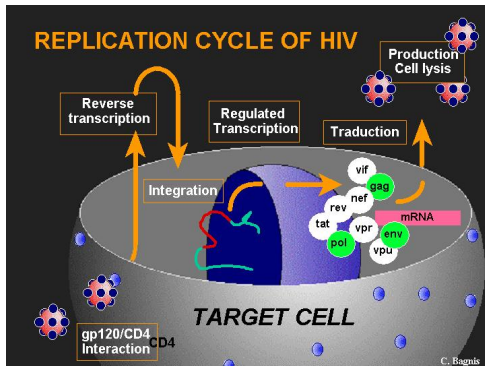
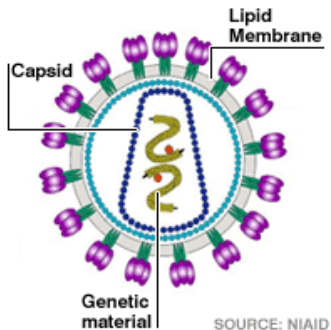
$$\dot{N}_1 = N_1 (G_1 - C_{12} N_2)$$

Predator (dotted line):

$$\dot{N}_2 = -N_2 (G_2 - C_{12} N_1)$$

# Human HIV virus lifecycle:

## Organisation of the HIV-1 Viron



## Viral infection models

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial N_1}{\partial t} &= S_1 + N_1 G_1 - C_{12} N_1 N_2 && \textit{Uninfected cells} \\ \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial t} &= G_{23} N_3 + N_2 G_2 - C_{12} N_1 N_2 && \textit{Free viruses} \\ \frac{\partial N_3}{\partial t} &= N_3 G_3 + C_{21} N_1 N_2 && \textit{Infected cells}\end{aligned}$$

# MUTATION

Natural populations are heterogenous and stochastic!

There is enormous genetic variety everywhere!

- Even simple reproduction is a random event
- Rapid mutation occurs with RNA viruses
- Interactions mean that growth is NOT independent
- $N^M$  possibilities, for  $M = 4^B$  mutations over  $B$  bases.

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# RNA Viruses

- HIV, Ebola, SARS, Influenza, Dengue, Hepatitis C .
- Gene: ribonucleic acid (RNA),  $\sim 10^4$  nucleotide bases
- RNA viruses have very high mutation rates:
- HIV:  $\sim 10^9 - 10^{10}$  virions every day, per person,
  - $3 \times 10^{-5}$  mutations per nucleotide per replication cycle
  - $6 \times 10^6$  new infections/ year,  $3 \times 10^6$  deaths



## Stochastic Genetics



Fisher (1930) introduced the idea of genetic correlations and probability in analysing inherited characteristics.

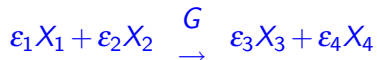
# Poisson Representation

- Master Equation:  $\frac{d}{dt}P(\mathbf{N}) = \sum_{\mathbf{N}'} \mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{N}\mathbf{N}'} P(\mathbf{N}')$
- Poisson Expansion:  $P(\mathbf{N}) = \int d[\vec{\alpha}] f(\vec{\alpha}) P(\mathbf{N}; \vec{\alpha})$ ,
- Here  $P(\mathbf{N}|\vec{\alpha})$  is the Poisson distribution, with:

$$P(\mathbf{N}; \vec{\alpha}) = \Omega \prod_i \frac{e^{-\alpha_i} (\alpha_i)^{N_i}}{N_i!}.$$

# Genetic phase-space equations

Consider the most general kinetic equation, which is:



Equivalent Fokker-Planck equation (where  $\partial_i = \partial / \partial \alpha_i$ ):

$$\frac{df}{dt} = \mathcal{L}f = G \left[ (1 - \partial_3)^{\varepsilon_3} (1 - \partial_4)^{\varepsilon_4} - (1 - \partial_1)^{\varepsilon_1} (1 - \partial_2)^{\varepsilon_2} \right] \alpha_1^{\varepsilon_1} \alpha_2^{\varepsilon_2} f$$

## Random birth, death, mutation

Need to calculate the time-evolution of probabilities  $P(\mathbf{N})$ , for finding the total number of individuals of each type equal to  $\mathbf{N} = (N_1, \dots, N_d)$ , for

$$X_i \xrightarrow{G_{ji}^B} X_i + X_j,$$

$$X_i \xrightarrow{\phi_i} 0.$$

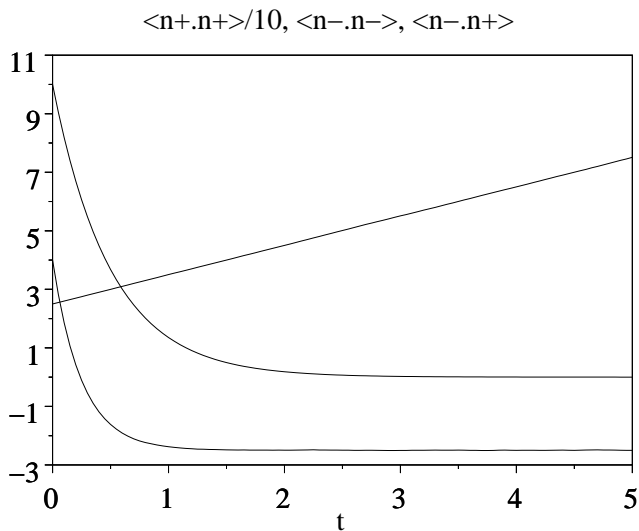
## Two-species case: exact stochastic equations

Suppose that mutations always occur, so  $G_{11}^B = G_{22}^B = 0$ , and it is symmetric, so  $G_{12}^B = G_{21}^B = k_m$ . This can be simplified further, on introducing  $n^\pm = (\alpha_1 \pm \alpha_2)$ :

$$\frac{dn^+}{dt} = (k_m - \phi)n^+ + \sqrt{2k_m n^+} \zeta_1(t)$$

$$\frac{dn^-}{dt} = -(k_m + \phi)n^- + i\sqrt{2k_m n^+} \zeta_2(t).$$

## Simulated vs Exact Correlations - indistinguishable!



# SUMMARY

Phase-space representation methods have many applications

Enlarged phase-space makes them true probabilities!

- Maps **quantum field evolution** into a stochastic equation
- Can also be used to treat genetics and population dynamics
- **Advantage:** No exponential complexity issues!
- **'Best available method for strongly-interacting fermions'**
- Mathematical challenge:
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