#### Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg



# Converse Unruh effect: Wedge-modular inclusions and thermal states

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## Unruh Effect in (Free) QFT: set up





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Suppose we have some Free (Bosonic) field Theory on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ :  $\mathcal{H}_1$  is the one-particle space,  $\mathcal{H} := \mathcal{F}_+(\mathcal{H}_1)$ , and

$$\mathcal{A} := \{ \exp(i\phi(f)) : f \in C_c^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^2) \} \subset B(\mathcal{H}).$$

Additionally, we consider localized fields

 $\mathcal{A}(W) := \{ \exp(i\phi(f)) : f \in C^\infty_c(W) \} \subset \mathcal{A}$ 

We consider the free time evolution  $\alpha_t(\phi(\vec{x})) = \phi(\vec{x} + (t, 0))$ , or  $\alpha_t(X) = e^{itH}Xe^{-itH}$ . The vacuum state  $\Omega \in \mathcal{H}$  is a ground state for H.

# Unruh Effect in (Free) QFT: thermal state



• A KMS/thermal state  $\omega_{\beta}$  at inverse temperature  $\beta$ with respect to a time evolution  $\sigma_t$  means: for  $A, B \in \mathcal{A}$ , we have

$$\omega_{\beta}(A\sigma_t(B)) = \omega_{\beta}(\sigma_{t+i\beta}(B)A).$$

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- The Unruh effect can be formulated as follows (Sewell 1982): on  $\mathcal{A}(W)$ , the state  $A \mapsto \langle \Omega, A\Omega \rangle$ agrees with a **thermal state**  $\omega_{\beta}$  which is in equilibrium with respect to a **different** time evolution  $\sigma_t$ .
- In this specific case, this new time evolution is given by  $\sigma_t(\phi(\vec{x})) = \phi(\Lambda_t \vec{x})$  (the Lorentz boost).

### More general: Modular Theory



• Suppose  $\mathcal{A} \subset B(\mathcal{H})$ , and let  $\Omega \in \mathcal{H}$  be cyclic and separating ( $\overline{\mathcal{A}\Omega} = \mathcal{H}$  and  $A\Omega = 0 \Rightarrow A = 0$ ).

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• Let  $\sigma_t(A) := \Delta^{it} A \Delta^{-it}$ . It turns out that  $\sigma_t(A) = A$ , so this defines a 'time evolution'. It turns out:  $A \mapsto \langle \Omega, A\Omega \rangle$  is KMS for  $\sigma_t$ ! (but in general it won't be clear what  $\sigma_t$  actually looks like)

#### Converse





• Now suppose we have a thermal vector  $\Omega_{\beta}$  for  $\mathcal{A}$ with respect to a time evolution  $\sigma_t(A) = e^{itH}Ae^{-itH}$ . Can we (formally) do the converse: find a time evolution  $\alpha_t$  such that  $\Omega_{\beta}$  is a ground state?

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- As we saw before, probably cannot preserve the algebra A, it will be "moving off to infinity" in finite time. Also, the trivial representation does the job; but with a wedge-like subalgebra we can construct a nontrivial representation.
- Original question: what is the modular time evolution in  $\mathcal{A}(W)$ ?





• An example calculated by Borchers and Yngvason (1999): a 2-dimensional free chiral theory, so  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_L \otimes \mathcal{A}_R$  where  $\mathcal{A}_L$  and  $\mathcal{A}_R$ consist of fields existing on the Left and Right light ray.





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- If we consider the thermal state at temperature β then the evolution we get is given by

$$\gamma_t^{(R)}(x_R) = \frac{\beta}{2\pi} \ln\left(e^{2\pi x_R/\beta} - t\right)$$
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• We can generalize this further to the following situation: let  $N_i \subset M_i \subset B(\mathcal{H}_i)$  be Von Neumann algebras with  $\Omega_i \in \mathcal{H}_i$  standard for  $N_i$  and  $M_i$  (i = 1, 2). In addition, assume that

$$\sigma_t^{(1)}(N_1) \subset N_1$$
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In this situation, we have two unitary one-parameter groups  $U_i$  on  $\mathcal{H}_i$  with a positive generator such that

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• This means that  $\vec{x} \mapsto U_1(x_0 - x_1) \otimes U_2(x_0 + x_1)$ is a positive energy representation! Can we generalize this further?

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