

Extractable Work in Quantum Electromechanics



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Summary

- We model a nano-electromechanical device as a flywheel converting electrical to mechanical work.
- Self sustained oscillations are observed with high bias and energy dependent spectral densities; qualitatively matching recent experiments ^[1].
- The Ergotropy was found to be a good order parameter for this self sustained oscillation transition.

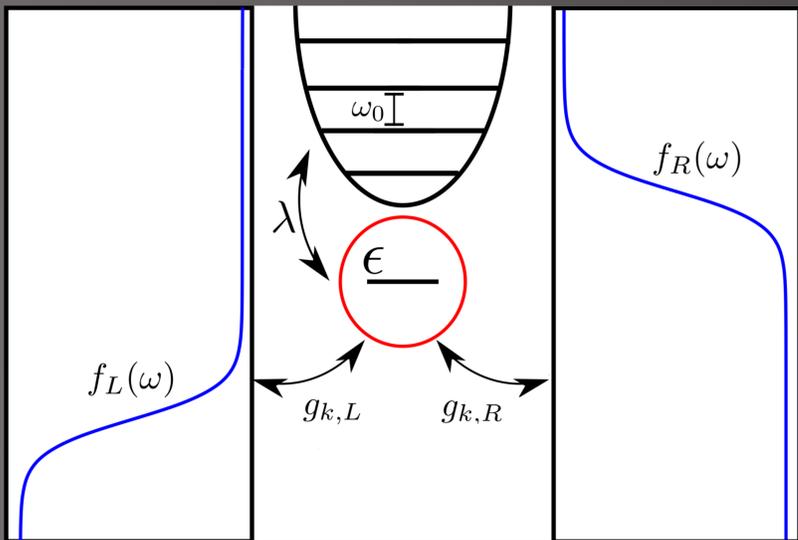


Figure 1: Schematic diagram of a quantum dot is coupled to two electrodes, with temperature T_L and T_R and chemical potential μ_L and μ_R respectively. The quantum dot is also coupled to a harmonic oscillator. The effect of the oscillator is to alter the energy of the quantum dot.

Oscillator Equation of Motion

- System Hamiltonian:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{H}_S &= \epsilon \hat{c}^\dagger \hat{c} \\ \hat{H}_B &= \sum_k (\Omega_{kL} \hat{d}_{kL}^\dagger \hat{d}_{kL} + \Omega_{kR} \hat{d}_{kR}^\dagger \hat{d}_{kR}) \\ \hat{H}_I &= \sum_k (g_{kL} (\hat{c}^\dagger \hat{d}_{kL} + \hat{d}_{kL}^\dagger \hat{c}) + g_{kR} (\hat{c}^\dagger \hat{d}_{kR} + \hat{d}_{kR}^\dagger \hat{c})) \\ \hat{H}_V &= \omega_0 \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} - F \hat{c}^\dagger \hat{c} \hat{x}\end{aligned}$$

- Using the quasi-adiabatic approximation

$$k_B T, \Gamma \gg \omega_0, F$$

- Langevin Equation describing the oscillator

$$m \ddot{x} + m \gamma_x \dot{x} + m \omega_0^2 x = F \langle \hat{n} \rangle_x + \delta F_x(t)$$

- The dissipation and fluctuation terms are given by the noise spectrum

$$D(x) = S_x(0) \quad \gamma(x) = \frac{1}{m} \left. \frac{dS_x(\omega)}{d\omega} \right|_{\omega=0}$$

$$S_x(\omega) = F^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{i\omega t} \langle \delta \hat{n}(t) \delta \hat{n}(0) \rangle_x$$

Steady-State Oscillator

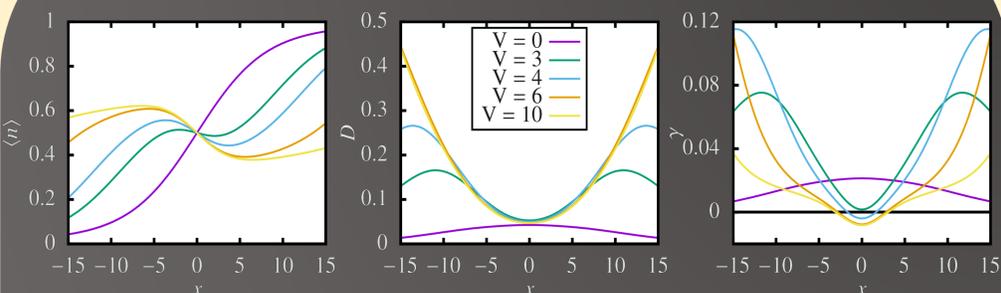


Figure 2: The excess dot occupation, fluctuation and dissipation at various biases. At large bias the damping becomes negative.

- The spectral density is given by a Lorentzian curve

$$\kappa(\omega) = \frac{\Gamma \delta}{(\omega - \omega_\alpha)^2 + \delta^2}$$

- With large applied bias and energy dependent spectral densities one finds negative damping

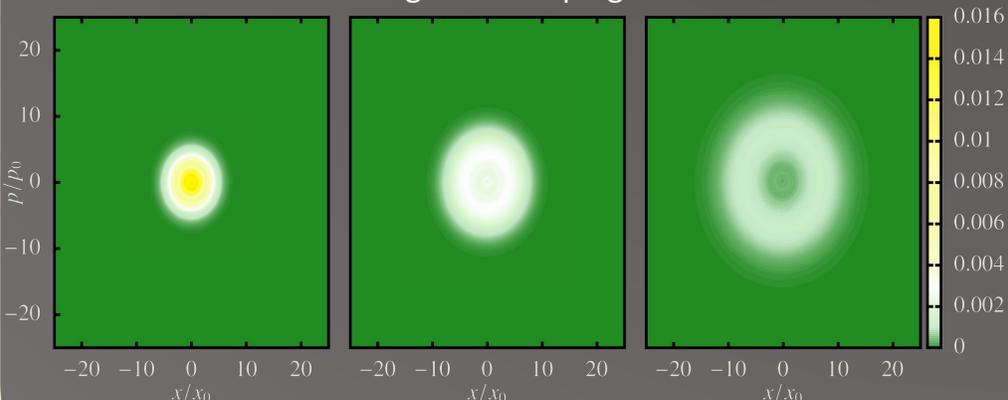


Figure 3: The Wigner Function of the system at various biases. The Wigner function moves from a thermal blob to an annulus shape highlighting the transition to self-sustained oscillations

Ergotropy

- The ergotropy of the oscillator is given by

$$\mathcal{W} = \sum_{j,k} r_j \epsilon_k (|\langle r_j | \epsilon_k \rangle|^2 - \delta_{jk})$$

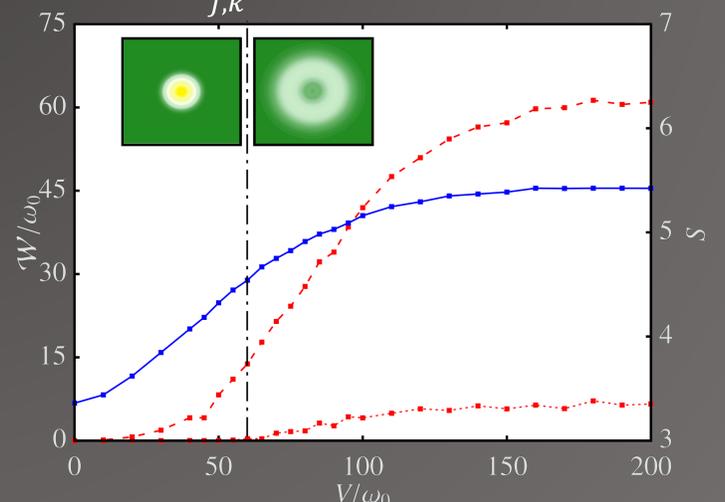


Figure 2: The maximal work extractable under a unitary operation (red, dotted), thermal operation (red, dashed) and the entropy (blue)

Outlook

- Explore the electronic properties of the system – using the self sustained oscillations as a quantum clock.
- Use different systems in the central region of the model.
- Apply a thermal bias and explore the effects of the oscillator.

Further Reading

Culhane O et al arXiv:2201.07819
^[1]Wen Y et al Nature Physics 2019; 16:75-82
Clerk A, Bennett S New Journal of Physics 2005;7:238-238
Bennett S, Clerk A, Physical Review B 2016 201301

