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TITULO: Shortcuts to adiabaticity in many-body systems

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ABSTRACT

This talk is a "tapas selection", reviewing recent advances in the design of shortcuts to adiabaticity in many-body systems.

- Adiabatic invariants, and the inversion of dynamical scaling laws, will be applied to trapped ultracold gases [1-3]. In particular, a proposal will be discussed to drive controlled expansions in which quantum correlations are preserved, essentially realizing a quantum dynamical microscope [2,3].
- Controlling the dynamics through a quantum phase transition implies an additional challenge: to prevent the formation of excitations in spite of the critical slowing down in the neighborhood of the critical point. According to the Kibble-Zurek mechanism, in inhomogeneous systems with a spatially varying critical point, whenever the speed of the spatial front crossing the transition is lower than the sound velocity excitations can be completely suppressed [4,5]. Experimentally, this scenario has recently been demonstrated in ion Coulomb crystals [6].
- An alternative approach in quantum critical systems exploits recent advances in the simulation of coherent N -body interactions and transitionless quantum driving [7]. This method is ideally suited to access the ground state manifold in quantum simulators.

- Finally, a generalized time-energy uncertainty relation will be introduced, applicable to both isolated and open quantum systems. This relation constitutes a fundamental quantum speed limit for any dynamical process [8].

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