Path integral approach to heat in quantum thermodynamics

Ken Funo\textsuperscript{1} and H. T. Quan\textsuperscript{1,2}\textsuperscript{1,2,1,2,1,2}

\textsuperscript{1}School of Physics, Peking University, Beijing 100871, China
\textsuperscript{2}Collaborative Innovation Center of Quantum Matter, Beijing 100871, China
(Dated: July 17, 2018)

We study the heat statistics of a quantum Brownian motion described by the Caldeira-Leggett model. By using the path integral approach, we introduce a novel concept of the quantum heat functional along every pair of Feynman paths. This approach has an advantage of improving our understanding about heat in quantum systems. First, we demonstrate the microscopic reversibility of the system by connecting the heat functional to the forward and its time-reversed probabilities. Second, we analytically prove the quantum-classical correspondence of the heat functional and their statistics, which allows us to obtain better intuitions about the difference between classical and quantum heat.

I. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, techniques for controlling various quantum systems have been put forward. Also, measurement techniques for the thermal and quantum fluctuations in small quantum systems have been significantly improved. It is now at the stage of using those techniques for the experimental studies of the nonequilibrium statistical mechanics \cite{1,2}. These attempts are not just limited to verifying the fundamental relations in nonequilibrium statistical mechanics known as fluctuation theorems and the Jarzynski equality, but also as a starting point to apply nonequilibrium statistical mechanics for designing efficient heat transferring quantum devices. Therefore, quantum thermodynamics, which has been studied since 1950s \cite{3}, has received renewed interest as the frontier of nonequilibrium statistical mechanics, quantum information theory and nanoscopic physics \cite{4–10}.

Our understandings about work and heat in small systems have been significantly improved in the past two decades, known as classical stochastic thermodynamics \cite{11–14}. On the contrary, the framework of quantum stochastic thermodynamics \cite{4,5,15,16,17,18} is far from being well established. In the weak-coupling, Markovian and rotating-wave approximation (RWA) regime, a framework based on the quantum jump method has been established \cite{18,19}. However, a connection to the well established framework of classical stochastic thermodynamics is lacking, and how to identify the genuine quantum effect in quantum thermodynamics is not straightforward. Also, there are limitations on the time variation of the Hamiltonian of the system, i.e., time variation should be either periodic, near adiabatic, or treated as a weak perturbation \cite{20}. In Ref. \cite{21}, we have introduced the work functional along individual Feynman path and studied the work statistics by using the path integral methods for a quantum Brownian motion model \cite{22,23}. We note that this model is applicable to strong-coupling, non-Markovian and non-RWA regime, and the time variation of the Hamiltonian can be arbitrary. Moreover, this approach has an advantage of connecting the classical and quantum work through $\hbar$ expansions.

In this paper, we extend the path integral approach developed in Ref. \cite{21} and study the heat statistics in a quantum Brownian motion model. Relevant studies can be found in Refs. \cite{24–27}. In order to avoid subtleties about defining the heat in the strong-coupling regime \cite{28}, we limit ourselves to the weak-coupling case. We would like to point out that the usual settings in the classical stochastic thermodynamics \cite{11,12} assumes weak-coupling (see Ref. \cite{28,30} for the strong-coupling case), and thus it is natural to consider the same regime in studying the quantum heat as a first step. From the previous studies for the path integral expression for the heat statistics \cite{31–33}, we introduce the quantum heat functional along every pair of Feynman paths, and study its properties. In particular, we show the microscopic reversibility \cite{20} using the heat functional. This result connects the heat functional and the probabilities of the forward and the time-reversed paths, and is the most fundamental principle underlying various types of the fluctuation theorem. We further show the quantum-classical correspondence of the quantum heat functional and its statistics.

This article is organized as follows. In Sec. \textsuperscript{III}, we briefly explain the setup of the paper by introducing the Caldeira-Leggett model, and introduce the heat and its statistics based on two-point measurement. In Sec. \textsuperscript{IV} we introduce the heat functional along every pair of Feynman paths and its expansion. In Sec. \textsuperscript{V} we show the microscopic reversibility and Jarzynski’s equality. In Sec. \textsuperscript{VI} we take the classical limit of the heat functional and prove the quantum-classical correspondence of the heat functional and its statistics. We summarize our result in Sec. \textsuperscript{VI}.

*htquan@pku.edu.cn
II. HEAT AND HEAT STATISTICS IN QUANTUM BROWNIAN MOTION

A. Caldeira-Leggett model

We consider the quantum Brownian motion described by the Caldeira-Leggett model \cite{22}, where the Hamiltonian of the composite system is given by \( H_{\text{tot}}(\lambda_t) = H_S(\lambda_t) + H_B + H_{SB} \), with

\[
H_S(\lambda_t) = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2M} + V(\lambda_t, \hat{x}), \quad H_B = \sum_k \left( \frac{\hat{p}_k^2}{2m_k} + \frac{m_k \omega_k^2}{2} \hat{q}_k^2 \right),
\]

\[
H_{SB} = -\hat{x} \otimes \sum_k c_k \hat{q}_k + \sum_k \frac{c_k^2}{2m_k \omega_k^2} \hat{x}^2,
\]

where \( p, M, \) and \( x \) denote the momentum, the mass and the position of the particle; \( p_k, m_k, \) and \( x_k \) denote the momentum, the mass and the position of the \( k \)-th degree of freedom of the heat bath; \( \lambda_t \) and \( V(\lambda_t, x) \) denote the externally controlled work parameter and the potential of the particle; \( \omega_k \) and \( c_k \) denote the frequency of and the coupling strength to the \( k \)-th degree of freedom of the heat bath. Because we assume a linear coupling between the system and the heat bath in \( H_{SB} \), we can analytically trace out the bath degrees of freedom, which brings important insights to the understanding of heat in open quantum systems. The classical limit of this model reproduces the Langevin equation, which is a prototypical model used in stochastic thermodynamics.

We assume a weak-coupling between the system and the bath and thus consider the following initial state

\[
\rho(0) = \rho_S(0) \otimes \rho_B^G.
\]

Here, \( \rho_S(0) \) is an arbitrary state of the system, \( \rho_B^G = e^{-\beta H_B}/Z_B \), \( \beta \) and \( Z_B \) are the Gibbs distribution, inverse temperature and the partition function of the bath, respectively. The reduced density matrix of the system at time \( \tau \) is given by \( \rho_S(\tau) = \text{Tr}_B[U_{SB} \rho(0) U_{SB}^\dagger] \), where \( U_{SB} = \tilde{T}[\exp(-\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_0^\tau dt H_{\text{tot}}(\lambda_t))] \) is the unitary time-evolution operator for the composite system. The path integral expression of \( \rho_S(\tau) \) takes the form \( \rho_S(\tau) \propto \int [dx, dy] e^{i\mathcal{L}[x, y] + S_B[\rho_S]} \),

\[
\rho_S(\tau) = \int [dx, dy] e^{i\mathcal{L}[x, y] + S_B[\rho_S]} \int [x(0) = x_i, \int x(t) = x_f, \int y(0) = y_i] \int \int \left[ e^{iS_B[\rho_S]} F_{\text{FV}}[x, y|\rho_S(x_i, y_i)] \right],
\]

where

\[
F_{\text{FV}}[x, y] := \exp \left[ \frac{1}{\hbar} \int_0^\tau dt \int_0^\tau ds \text{L}(s-t) x(t)y(s) \right]
\]

\[
- \frac{1}{\hbar} \int_0^\tau dt \int_0^\tau ds \text{L}(t-s) x(t)x(s) - \frac{1}{\hbar} \int_0^\tau dt \int_0^\tau ds \text{L}(s-t) y(t)y(s) - \frac{i\mu}{\hbar} \int_0^\tau dt (x^2(t) - y^2(t))
\]

is the Feynman-Vernon influence functional \( \mathcal{S} \),

\[
L(t) := \sum_k \frac{\hat{c}_k^2}{2m_k \omega_k^2} \left( \coth \frac{\hbar \omega_k}{2} \cos \omega_k t - i \sin \omega_k t \right)
\]

is the complex bath correlation function, \( \mu := \sum_k \frac{\hat{c}_k^2}{2m_k \omega_k^2} \), and \( x(t), y(t) \) are the forward and backward coordinates. In Eq. (3), we use the position representation of the initial density matrix \( \rho_S(x_i, y_i) := \langle x_i | \rho_S(0) | y_i \rangle \) and the action of the system \( S[x] = \int_0^\tau dt \mathcal{L}[\lambda(t), x(t)] \), where \( \mathcal{L}[\lambda(t), x(t)] := \frac{\hbar}{2} \hat{x}^2(t) - V(\lambda(t), x(t)) \) is the Lagrangian. We note that the usual path integral expression for a pure state requires only a single Feynman path \( x(t) \). However, for a mixed state, we need a pair of Feynman paths \( \{x(t), y(s)\} \) to describe the time evolution as shown in Eq. (3).

For later convenience, we define the path probability of the system conditioned on \( \{x_i, y_i\} \) as follows:

\[
P[x(t), y(s)|x_i, y_i] := e^{i(S[x] - S[y])} F_{\text{FV}}[x, y].
\]

Here, the boundary conditions for the forward and backward coordinates are given by \( x(0) = x_i, y(0) = y_i, x(\tau) = x_f \) and \( y(\tau) = y_f \). We note that Eq. (6) satisfies the usual normalization condition for the conditional probability:

\[
\int dx f dy \delta(x_f - y_f) \int DxDy P[x(t), y(s)|x_i, y_i] = 1.
\]

Using this path probability (6), the reduced density matrix of the system at time \( \tau \) can be obtained as follows:

\[
\langle x_f | \rho_S(\tau) | y_f \rangle = \int dx_i dy_i \int DxDy P[x(t), y(s)|x_i, y_i] \rho_S(x_i, y_i).
\]

B. Two-point measurement based definition of heat functional and its statistics

We adopt the two-point measurement definition and measure the energy of the bath twice at time \( t = 0 \) and \( t = \tau \) and obtain \( E_B(m) \) and \( E_B(m') \), respectively. In the weak coupling regime, we can neglect the interaction energy when defining the heat. We thus define the fluctuating heat as the difference in the measured energies of the bath:

\[
Q_{m,m'} := E_B(m) - E_B(m').
\]

Here, the probability of obtaining the outcomes \( m \) and \( m' \) is given by

\[
p(m, m') := \text{Tr}_{SB}[P^m_{SB} U_{SB} \rho(0) \otimes \rho^m_{SB}] e^{-\beta E_B(m)} Z_B,
\]

where \( P^m_{SB} \) is a projection operator for the measurement result \( m \), and \( Z_B \) is the partition function of the bath.
where \( P_m^m := |E_B(m)\rangle\langle E_B(m)| \) is the projection operator using the energy eigenstate \( |E_B(m)\rangle \). The heat probability distribution \( P(Q) \) is then defined as

\[
P(Q) := \sum_{m,m'} \delta(Q - Q_{m,m'})p(m,m'). \tag{11}
\]

By taking the Fourier transformation of \( P(Q) \), we obtain the characteristic function of heat \( \chi_Q(\nu) \) as follows:

\[
\chi_Q(\nu) = \text{Tr}\left[U_{SB}e^{i\nu H_B}(\rho_S(0) \otimes \rho_B)U_{SB}^\dagger e^{-i\nu H_B}\right]. \tag{12}
\]

From Eq. (12), the \( n \)-th moment of the heat distribution can be obtained from the formula

\[
\langle Q^n \rangle = (-i)^n \partial^{\nu}_n \chi_Q(\nu)|_{\nu=0}. \tag{13}
\]

III. FEYNMAN PATH BASED DEFINITION OF HEAT FUNCTIONAL AND ITS STATISTICS

In this section, we use the path integral formalism and rewrite the characteristic function of heat. Though the characteristic function of heat based on Feynman path [13] is equivalent to that based on the two-point measurement [12], we will show in the following that the Feynman path-based definition of heat functional brings more insights to the understanding of heat in open quantum systems.

We now use the path integral technique and integrate out the bath degrees of freedom in Eq. (12) and express \( \chi_Q(\nu) \) by using only the degrees of freedom of the system. The path integral expression for the characteristic function of heat is now given by [31] [32] (see Appendix A for the derivation)

\[
\chi_Q(\nu) = \int dx f dy f dx i dy i \delta(x_f - y_f) \int Dx \int Dy \exp\left(S[x]-S[y]\right)F_{PV}[x,y]\rho_S(x_i,y_i)e^{i\nu Q_\nu[x,y]}. \tag{14}
\]

Here, the heat functional \( Q_\nu[x,y] \) is defined along every pair of Feynman paths \( \{x(t), y(s)\} \)

\[
Q_\nu[x,y] := -\frac{i}{\hbar \nu} \int_0^\tau dt \int_0^\tau ds \left(L(s-t+h\nu) - L(s-t)\right)x(t)y(s). \tag{15}
\]

Using the formula (15), the path integral expression for the \( n \)-th moment of the heat distribution is given by

\[
\langle Q^n \rangle = \int \mathcal{P}[x,y|x_i,y_i]\rho_S(x_i,y_i)(-i)^n \partial^{\nu}_n e^{i\nu Q_\nu[x,y]}|_{\nu=0}, \tag{16}
\]

where the integration should be done over \( \int dx f dy f dx i dy i \delta(x_f - y_f) \int Dx \int Dy \). When applying the formula (16), it is convenient to expand \( i\nu Q_\nu[x,y] \) in terms of \( \nu \) as follows:

\[
i\nu Q_\nu[x,y] = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(i\nu)^n}{n!} Q^{(n)}[x,y], \tag{17}
\]

with

\[
Q^{(n)}[x,y] := (-i)^n \hbar^{n-1} \int_0^\tau dt \int_0^\tau ds \left(\partial^{\nu}_n L(s-t)\right)x(t)y(s). \tag{18}
\]

We then find that the first moment of the heat distribution is given by

\[
\langle Q \rangle = \int \mathcal{P}[x,y|x_i,y_i]\rho_S(x_i,y_i)\left\{\langle Q^{(1)}[x,y]\rangle^2 + Q^{(2)}[x,y]\right\}. \tag{19}
\]

However, from the noncommutativity in quantum mechanics, the second moment of the heat distribution deviates from the path-integral average of \( \langle Q^{(1)}[x,y]\rangle^2 \) as follows:

\[
\langle Q^2 \rangle = \int \mathcal{P}[x,y|x_i,y_i]\rho_S(x_i,y_i)\left\{\langle Q^{(1)}[x,y]\rangle^2 + Q^{(2)}[x,y]\right\}. \tag{20}
\]

We would like to emphasize that the heat functional is a trajectory-dependent quantity, and it cannot be expressed as an observable of a single operator [37]. Therefore, the second term on the right-hand side of Eq. (20) describes the effect of the noncommutativity between operators. Similarly, \( Q^{(n)} \) is not equal to the path integral average of \( \langle Q^{(1)}[x,y]\rangle^n \). There are additional terms due to the noncommutativity, and they are contained in the \( \nu \)-dependence of \( Q_\nu[x,y] \).

By taking \( \nu = -i\beta \), we have

\[
Q_\beta[x,y] = \frac{1}{\hbar \beta} \int_0^\tau dt \int_0^\tau ds \left(L(t-s) - L(s-t)\right)x(t)y(s). \tag{21}
\]

Here, we use the property of the bath correlation function: \( L(t - i\beta) = L^*(t) = L(-t) \). Because the heat functional is related to the time-asymmetric part of the two-point bath correlation function, Eq. (21) is related to the ratio of the forward and the time-reversed path probabilities through the microscopic reversibility as we will show in Eq. (20).

IV. MICROSCOPIC REVERSIBILITY AND JARZYNSKI’S EQUALITY IN QUANTUM BROWNIAN MOTION MODEL

We now show our first main result, the microscopic reversibility of the system by utilizing the heat functional introduced in Eq. (21). We then utilize the microscopic reversibility relation and show the path integral derivation of Jarzynski’s equality.

A. Microscopic reversibility

We now consider the probability of the time-reversed path. We define the time-reversed time \( t := \tau - t \) and the time-reversed position of the system \( \tilde{x}(\tilde{t}) := x(t) \).
Now the time-reversal of the Feynman-Vernon influence functional can be related to the heat functional as follows:

\[
\tilde{F}_{\text{PV}}[\tilde{x}, \tilde{y}] := \exp \left[ + \frac{1}{\hbar} \int_{0}^{\tau} dt \int_{0}^{t} d\tilde{s} L(\tilde{s} - \tilde{t}) \tilde{z}(\tilde{t}) \tilde{y}(\tilde{t}) - \frac{1}{\hbar} \int_{0}^{\tau} dt \int_{0}^{t} d\tilde{s} L(\tilde{s} - \tilde{t}) \tilde{z}(\tilde{t}) \tilde{y}(\tilde{t}) - \frac{1}{\hbar} \int_{0}^{\tau} dt \int_{0}^{t} d\tilde{s} L^*(\tilde{s} - \tilde{t}) \tilde{y}(\tilde{t}) \tilde{z}(\tilde{t}) - \frac{i\mu}{\hbar} \int_{0}^{\tau} dt \int_{0}^{t} d\tilde{s} (\tilde{x}^2(\tilde{t}) - \tilde{y}^2(\tilde{t})) \right] = \exp \left[ + \frac{1}{\hbar} \int_{0}^{\tau} dt \int_{0}^{t} d\tilde{s} L(s - t)x(t)y(s) - \frac{1}{\hbar} \int_{0}^{\tau} dt \int_{0}^{t} d\tilde{s} L(s - t)x(t)x(s) - \frac{1}{\hbar} \int_{0}^{\tau} dt \int_{0}^{t} d\tilde{s} L^*(s - t)y(t)y(s) - \frac{i\mu}{\hbar} \int_{0}^{\tau} dt \int_{0}^{t} d\tilde{s} (x^2(t) - y^2(t)) \right] = F_{\text{PV}}[x, y] \exp(\beta Q_\beta[x, y]).
\]

(22)

Note that the last three terms inside the exponent of \( F_{\text{PV}}[x, y] \) are time-symmetric, but the first term

\[
\hbar^{-1} \int_{0}^{\tau} dt \int_{0}^{t} d\tilde{s} L(s - t)x(t)y(s)
\]

is time-asymmetric. Since the difference between Eq. (23) and its time-reversed one is found to be equal to \( \beta Q_\beta[x, y] \), we obtain the last equality in Eq. (22).

Similarly, the time-reversed action is given by

\[
\tilde{S}[\tilde{x}] := -\int_{0}^{\tau} d\tilde{s} \left( \frac{M}{2} \dot{\tilde{x}}^2(\tilde{s}) - V(\tilde{x}(\tilde{s})) \right) = S[x].
\]

(24)

Here, \( \tilde{x} \) := \( x \)\( \rightarrow \)\( y \). By defining the time-reversed path probability conditioned on \( (x_f, y_f) \) as

\[
\tilde{P}[\tilde{x}(\tilde{t}), \tilde{y}(\tilde{s})|x_f, y_f] := e^{\frac{1}{\hbar} \left( \tilde{S}[\tilde{x}] - S[\tilde{y}] \right)} \tilde{F}_{\text{PV}}[\tilde{x}, \tilde{y}],
\]

(25)

we obtain the following microscopic reversibility relation (detailed balance relation)

\[
\frac{\tilde{P}[\tilde{x}(\tilde{t}), \tilde{y}(\tilde{s})|x_f, y_f]}{P[x(t), y(s)|x_i, y_i]} = e^{\beta Q_\beta[x, y]},
\]

(26)

connecting the ratio of the conditional forward and time-reversed probabilities and the heat functional. Therefore, we have shown that the heat functional \( \tilde{F}_{\text{PV}}[\tilde{x}, \tilde{y}] = F_{\text{PV}}[x, y] = 1 \) is related to the time-reversal symmetry of the system along every pair of Feynman paths \( \{x(t), y(s)\} \). For isolated systems, \( \tilde{F}_{\text{PV}}[\tilde{x}, \tilde{y}] = F_{\text{PV}}[x, y] = 1 \), so we have \( Q_\beta[x, y] = 0 \), which agrees with our intuitions.

![FIG. 1. Contour used in the path integral formalism to define the internal energy functional and the heat functional. Here, \( \tilde{x}_0(u) \) is the imaginary time coordinate of the system at \( t = 0 \), which is used to define the initial energy functional \( E_{\beta}[\tilde{x}_0, \lambda_0] \). Similarly, we define the final energy functional \( E_{\beta}[\tilde{x}_r, \lambda_r] \) by using \( \tilde{x}_r(u') \). The heat functional \( Q_\beta[x, y] \) is defined as the time-asymmetric part of the two-point bath correlation function connecting the forward \( x(t) \) and backward \( y(s) \) coordinates.](image)

B. Path integral derivation of Jarzynski’s equality

Having established a connection between the heat functional and the ratio of the conditional forward and time-reversed path probabilities \( \tilde{F}_{\text{PV}}[\tilde{x}, \tilde{y}] \), we derive Jarzynski’s equality based on path integral formalism. See also Refs. 21, 38 for the derivation of Jarzynski’s equality using different methods. Let us assume that the initial state of the system is given by the canonical distribution, i.e., \( \rho_0(0) = \exp(-\beta H_0(\lambda_0))/Z_0(\lambda_0) \). Then, we can use the imaginary time integral and express the matrix element of the initial density matrix as

\[
\langle x_i | \rho_0(0) | y_i \rangle = \frac{1}{Z_0(\lambda_0)} \int_{\tilde{x}_0(0)=u_i}^{\tilde{x}_0(\beta)=x_i} D\tilde{x}_0 e^{-\frac{1}{\hbar} S_\beta[\tilde{x}_0, \lambda_0]},
\]

(27)

where

\[
S_\beta[\tilde{x}_0, \lambda_0] := \int_{0}^{\hbar \beta} du \left( \frac{M}{2} [\tilde{x}_0(u)]^2 + V(\lambda_0, \tilde{x}_0(u)) \right)
\]

(28)

is the Euclidian action, and \( \tilde{x}_0 \) is the imaginary time-coordinate of the system.

We now define the initial energy functional of the syst-
tem as
\[ E_\beta[\bar{x}_0, \lambda_0] := \frac{1}{\hbar \beta} S^E[\bar{x}_0, \lambda_0]. \] (29)

We note that Eq. (29) reproduces the initial energy statistics of the system, as shown in Appendix D. Similar to Eq. (29), we introduce another imaginary time-coordinate \( \bar{x}_\tau \) connecting \( x_f \) and \( y_f \) (see Fig. 1), and define the final energy functional of the system as
\[ E_\beta[\bar{x}_\tau, \lambda_\tau] := \frac{1}{\hbar \beta} S^E[\bar{x}_\tau, \lambda_\tau]. \]
Now the energy difference of the system is defined as
\[ \Delta E_\beta[\bar{x}_0, \bar{x}_\tau] := E_\beta[\bar{x}_\tau, \lambda_\tau] - E_\beta[\bar{x}_0, \lambda_0], \] (30)
and we define the work functional by utilizing the first law of thermodynamics:
\[ W_\beta[\bar{x}_0, x, y, \bar{x}_\tau] := \Delta E_\beta[\bar{x}_0, \bar{x}_\tau] - Q_\beta[x, y]. \] (31)

By using Eq. (31), we calculate the path integral average of the exponentiated work (see Fig. 1 for the contour we use for the path integral)
\[ \langle e^{-\beta W_\beta} \rangle := \int dx_f dy_f dx_i dy_i \int D\bar{x}_\tau Dxdy D\bar{x}_0 \]
\[ \times P[x(t), y(s)|x_i, y_i] e^{-\frac{1}{\hbar \beta} S^E[\bar{x}_0, \lambda_0]} e^{-\beta W_\beta[\bar{x}_0, x, y, \bar{x}_\tau]} \]
\[ = \frac{Z_S(\lambda_\tau)}{Z_S(\lambda_0)} \] (33)
where we have used the normalization condition of the time-reversed path probability
\[ 1 = \int dx_f dy_f dx_i dy_i \int D\bar{x}_\tau Dxdy D\bar{x}_0 \]
\[ \times \tilde{P}[\bar{x}(\bar{t}), \bar{y}(\bar{s})|x_f, y_f] e^{-\frac{1}{\hbar \beta} S^E[\bar{x}_\tau, \lambda_\tau]} \]
\[ = \frac{Z_S(\lambda_\tau)}{Z_S(\lambda_0)} \] (34)
and derive the last line in Eq. (33). Therefore, we derive Jarzynski's equality based on the microscopic reversibility of the system \[ \langle e^{-\beta(W_\beta - \Delta E_\beta)} \rangle = 1. \] (35)

V. QUANTUM CLASSICAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HEAT FUNCTIONAL AND ITS STATISTICS

We show our second main result in this section by proving the quantum-classical correspondence of the heat statistics for the Caldeira-Leggett model.

Let us first consider the classical limit of the heat functional by expanding Eq. (39) in terms of \( \hbar \):
\[ Q_\nu[x, y] = -i \int_0^\tau dt \int_0^\tau ds \dot{L}(s-t)x(t)y(s) + O(\hbar). \] (36)

We now use the notation \( X(t) = (x(t) + y(t))/2 \) and \( \xi(t) = x(t) - y(t) \). We note that when \( \hbar \to 0 \), we have \( \xi = O(\hbar) \) and \( X = x + O(\hbar) = y + O(\hbar) \). Therefore, \( X \) behaves as the classical trajectory of the system and \( \xi \) describes quantum fluctuations. We now introduce the noise function
\[ \Omega(t) := i \int_0^\tau ds L_{Re}(t-s)\xi(s), \] (37)
with \( L_{Re}(t) := \text{Re}[L(t)] \), satisfying the following properties:
\[ \langle \Omega(t) \rangle = 0, \]
\[ \langle \Omega(t)\Omega(s) \rangle = h L_{Re}(t-s) = \beta^{-1} K(t-s) + O(\beta), \] (39)
where the average over the noise is defined by \( \langle f[\Omega(t)] \rangle := \int d\Omega P[\Omega] f[\Omega(t)] \) and
\[ P[\Omega] := C^{-1} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2h} \int_0^\tau dt \int_0^\tau ds \Omega(t)L^{-1}_{Re}(t-s)\Omega(s) \right], \] (40)
is the weight function with the normalization constant \( C \). In Eq. (39), we use the classical bath correlation function
\[ K(t-s) := \sum_k \frac{e^{2\pi k^2}}{mk^2} \cos \omega_k(t-s). \] (41)

Therefore, in the high temperature limit \( \beta \to 0 \), \( \Omega(t) \) satisfies the property of the classical noise \[ 39].

Using the noise functional \[ 37 \] and the classical trajectory of the system \( X(t) \), we finally obtain (see Appendix C for details)
\[ Q_\nu[x, y] = Q_{cl}[X, \Omega] + Q_{int}[X, \Omega] + Q_{slip}[X, \Omega] + O(h), \] (42)
where
\[ Q_{cl}[X, \Omega] = \int_0^\tau dt \dot{X}(t) (\Omega(t) - \int_0^t ds K(t-s) \dot{X}(s)) \] (43)
is the classical trajectory heat for the non-Markovian dynamics [Eq. (D18)],
\[ Q_{int}[X, \Omega] := X(0)X(\tau)K(\tau) - \frac{1}{2} \left( X^2(0) + X^2(\tau) \right) K(0) \]
\[ + \frac{1}{2} X(\tau) \int_0^\tau dt \dot{X}(t) K(t-t) - X(\tau)\Omega(\tau) + X(0)\Omega(0), \] (44)
is equal to the change of the interaction energy \( \Delta H_{SB} \) for the classical Brownian motion model [Eq. (D19)], and
\[ Q_{slip}[X, \Omega] := -X(0) \int_0^\tau dt K(t) \dot{X}(t) \] (45)
is the heat generated by a fast relaxation (initial slippage) of the bath to the conditional canonical distribution for a given initial state \(X(0)\). In the weak coupling regime, we can neglect the interaction energy \(\Delta H_{SB}\) and also the initial slippage effect \(Q_{\text{slip}}[X, \Omega]\) (see Appendix D for details). Therefore we have

\[
Q_{cl}[x, y] = Q_{cl}[X, \Omega] + O(\hbar, \beta),
\]

(46)

and the quantum heat functional converges to the classical trajectory heat in the weak coupling regime and \(\hbar \to 0\) and \(\beta \to 0\) limit. We note that for an Ohmic spectrum of the heat bath

\[
J(\omega) = \pi \sum_k \frac{e^2}{2m\omega_k} \delta(\omega - \omega_k) = \gamma \omega,
\]

(47)

the classical bath correlation function satisfies \(K(t) = 2\gamma T(t)\) with \(\gamma\) being the friction coefficient, and the classical trajectory heat reproduces the fluctuating heat defined by Sekimoto \[11\]

\[
Q_{cl}[X, \Omega] = -\frac{\gamma}{M^2} \int_0^T dt P^2(t) + \int_0^T dt \frac{P(t)}{M} \Omega(t),
\]

(48)

where \(P(t) := M \dot{X}(t)\) is the classical momentum.

We next take the classical limit of Eq. (14). By taking \(\hbar \to 0\), we can use the standard treatment for the stationary phase approximation. We also note that the quantum heat functional converges to the classical fluctuating heat \[13\]. We introduce the Wigner function

\[
p_S(X_i, P_i) := \int d\xi e^{iP_i\xi} \rho_S(X_i, \xi),
\]

(49)

with \(P_i := M \dot{X}_i\), which converges to the corresponding classical phase space distribution in the \(\hbar \to 0\) limit. Now Eq. (13) becomes (see Appendix C for details)

\[
\chi_Q(\nu) = \int dX(0)d\lambda e^{i\nu\nu_F} \int dx d\Omega \delta(\mathcal{M}[X, \Omega]) p_S(X_i, P_i)e^{i\nu Q_{cl}[X, \Omega]} + O(\hbar, \beta),
\]

(50)

with

\[
\mathcal{M}[X, \Omega] := M \dot{X}(t) + V[\lambda(t), X(t)] + \int_0^t ds K(t - s) \dot{X}(s) + K(t)X_0 - \Omega(t).
\]

(51)

Here, \(\mathcal{M}[X, \Omega] = 0\) is the classical non-Markovian Langevin equation \[28\] for a product initial state \(\rho_S\). This implies that the delta function \(\delta(\mathcal{M}[X, \Omega])\) in Eq. (50) restricts the trajectory \(X(t)\) of the system to a classical trajectory satisfying the Langevin equation. Therefore, from Eq. (21), the classical limit of the characteristic function of heat converges to its classical counterpart, i.e.,

\[
\chi_Q(\nu) = \langle \nu Q_{cl}\rangle_{\text{cl-path}} + O(\hbar, \beta),
\]

(52)

where \(\langle \bullet \rangle_{\text{cl-path}}\) means average over all classical paths. This completes the proof of the quantum-classical correspondence of the heat statistics.

We note that the quantum-classical correspondence of the work statistics has been shown in isolated \[33, 10\] and open \[21\] systems.

VI. CONCLUSION

We study the heat statistics for the Caldeira-Leggett model by using the path integral formulation of quantum mechanics. By integrating out the bath degrees of freedom, we introduce the heat functional \[Eq. (13)\] along every pair of Feynman paths of the system. We show the microscopic reversibility between the heat functional and the ratio of the path probabilities \[Eq. (20)\], which is useful to improve our understandings about heat in open quantum systems. We further show that the obtained heat functional reproduces the classical trajectory heat in the classical \((\hbar \to 0\) and \(\beta \to 0\) limit). In addition, we show the quantum-classical correspondence of the heat statistics. This allows us to establish connections between the classical and quantum stochastic thermodynamics based on the Brownian motion model. It is left for future study for obtaining \(\hbar\) corrections to the classical fluctuating heat. The obtained path integral formalism to study quantum heat in the Caldeira-Leggett model can handle non-Markovian and non rotating wave approximation regime and also for arbitrary time-variation of the Hamiltonian of the system. Therefore, we expect that the path integral approach discussed in this paper would contribute to future works about quantum thermodynamics in this interesting regimes.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work was supported by the National Science Foundation of China under Grants No. 11775001 and 11534002, and The Recruitment Program of Global Youth Experts of China.

Appendix A: Derivation of the Feynman path based heat functional and the characteristic function of heat

In this section, we derive the path-integral expression of the characteristic function of heat \[14\]. Note that we can start from Eq. (12) and integrate out the bath degrees of freedom explicitly as done in Ref. \[22\]. However, we utilize a different technique used in Ref. \[14\] to obtain Eq. (13). For convenience, let us introduce an operator

\[
\rho_\nu(\tau) := e^{-\frac{\tau}{2}H_B} \rho_S(0) \otimes \rho_B^{G, i\nu H_B} U_{SB} e^{-\frac{\tau}{2}H_B},
\]

(14)

which satisfies \(\chi_Q(\nu) = \text{Tr}[\rho_\nu(\tau)]\) and \(\rho_\nu(0) = \rho_S(0) \otimes \rho_B^i\). We move to the interaction picture \(\rho^i_\nu(t) = \rho_\nu(e^{i\nu t})\)
\[U_0^\dagger(t)\rho(t)U_0(t)\]

\[U_0(t) := \hat{T}\exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar}\int_0^t ds\left(H_S(\lambda_s) + \mu\hat{x}_s^2\right)\right] \exp^{-\hat{H}_{\text{at}}}.\]

Here, for technical simplicity, we include the counter term \(\mu\hat{x}_s^2\) into the system Hamiltonian and define Eq. \(A2\).

Then, the evolution equation for \(\rho^s(t)\) takes the form

\[
\frac{d}{dt}\rho^s(t) = \frac{i}{\hbar}\left[\hat{x}_s^2(t)\hat{B}^s(t) - \frac{\hbar\nu}{2}\rho^s(t) - \rho^s(t)\hat{x}_s^2(t)\hat{B}^s(t) + \frac{\hbar\nu}{2}\right],
\]

where \(\hat{B}^s(t) := \sum_k c_k \hat{q}_k^s(t)\). We integrate Eq. \(A3\) and obtain

\[
\chi_Q(\nu) = \text{Tr} [\hat{T}\exp\left(\frac{i}{\hbar}\hat{\chi}\right)\rho^0(0) \rho^0_B]\]

\[= \text{Tr} [\hat{T}\exp(-\frac{1}{2\hbar^2}\text{Tr}_B(\hat{T}\hat{\chi}^2 \rho^0_B))],\] (A4)

Here, we use the identity following Ref. [41] and derive the second line, and \(\hat{\chi}\) is defined by

\[
\hat{\chi} := \int_0^t dt \left[\hat{x}_L^2(t)\hat{B}_L^s(t) - \frac{\hbar\nu}{2} - \hat{x}_R^2(t)\hat{B}_R^s(t) + \frac{\hbar\nu}{2}\right],
\]

where the subscripts \(L\) and \(R\) denote the operators acting on \(\rho^2_R(t)\) from the left and right, respectively [41]. By using the bath correlation function \(L(t) = \text{Tr}_B[\hat{B}^s(0)\hat{B}^s(0)\rho^0_B]\) given in Eq. [50], we obtain

\[
\text{Tr}_B[\hat{T}\hat{\chi}^2 \rho^0_B] = -2\int_0^t dt \int_0^t ds L_S(s-t + \hbar\nu)\hat{x}_L^2(t)\hat{x}_R^2(s) + 2\int_0^t dt \int_0^t ds L_S(t-s)(\hat{x}_L^2(t)\hat{x}_R^2(s) + \hat{x}_R^2(t)\hat{x}_L^2(s)).\] (A5)

We combine Eqs. \(A3\) and \(A6\) and move to the path integral expression [note that \(\hat{x}_L^2(t) \rightarrow x(t)\) and \(\hat{x}_R^2(s) \rightarrow y(s)\)], and finally obtain the characteristic function of heat \([14]\).

Now let us briefly show that Eq. \([13]\) agrees with the result obtained in Ref. [32]. Note that our notation is slightly different from the one used in Ref. [32]. In particular, we use the opposite sign convention for the definition of the heat \(Q\) and thus \(\nu\) as well. Let us introduce the following functions \([32]\)

\[
L_1^s(t) := -\sum_k \frac{c_k^2}{2m_k\omega_k} \sin \frac{\omega_k t}{2} \sin \frac{\omega_k(\beta - \nu)}{2} \cos \omega_k t
\]

\[
L_2^s(t) := \frac{i}{2}\sum_k \frac{c_k^2}{2m_k\omega_k} \sin \frac{\omega_k t}{2} \cos \frac{\omega_k(\beta - \nu)}{2} \sin \omega_k t.
\]

Then, the following relation holds:

\[
2iL_1^s(t) + 2iL_2^s(t) = L(t + \hbar\nu) - L(t).\] (A7)

Now let us compare \(i\Delta\Phi^{(\nu)}\) introduced in Ref. [32] and \(\nu Q_\nu\) [see Eq. \([15]\)] as follows:

\[
i\Delta\Phi^{(\nu)} := i \int_0^t dt \int_0^t ds \left\{\eta(t)\xi(s) - \xi(t)\eta(s)\right\} L_1^s(t - s)
\]

\[= i \int_0^t dt \int_0^t ds \left\{\eta(t)\xi(s) - \xi(t)\eta(s)\right\} L_1^s(t - s)
\]

\[= 2i \int_0^t dt \int_0^t ds (L_1^s(t - s) + L_1^s(s - t))x(t)y(s)
\]

\[= \nu Q_\nu[x,y].\] (A8)

Here, \(\eta(t) = x(t) + y(t)\) and \(\xi(t) = x(t) - y(t)\), and we use Eq. \([A7]\) and obtain the last equality. Therefore, the characteristic function of heat distribution \([14]\) agrees with that obtained in Ref. [32].

### Appendix B: Some properties of the energy functional

In this section, we discuss some properties of the initial energy distribution introduced in Eq. [29].

First, the characteristic function of the initial energy distribution can be expressed as follows:

\[
\chi_{\nu}(E_S(\lambda_0)) := \frac{1}{Z_S(\lambda_0)} \int dx dy \delta(x_i - y_i) \int_{\hat{x}(0) = x_i}^{\hat{x}(0) = y_i} D\hat{x}_0 \times e^{-\frac{\hat{h}}{2S_S[\hat{x}_0,\lambda_0] + E_{\text{sys}}[\hat{x}_0,\lambda_0]}}.
\]

(B1)

Second, in the classical limit \((\hbar \to 0)\), the initial energy functional reproduces the classical internal energy of the system:

\[
E_{\beta}[\hat{x}_0,\lambda_0] = \frac{M}{2} |\hat{x}(0)|^2 + V[\hat{x}(0),\lambda_0] + O(\hbar).
\]

(B3)

where \(\hat{x}(0)\) and \(\hat{x}(0)\) are the classical velocity and position of the system at \(t = 0\), respectively.

### Appendix C: Some details of the classical limit of the characteristic function of the heat

In this section, we derive Eq. \([12]\). We start by performing integration by parts in Eq. \([50]\) and obtain

\[
Q_\nu[x,y] = \int_0^t dt \int_0^t ds \hat{x}(t)\hat{y}(s)K(t - s)
\]

\[+ \frac{1}{2}\left(x_iy_f + y_ix_f\right)K(t) - \frac{1}{2}\left(x_iy_i + x_fy_f\right)K(0)
\]

\[+ \frac{1}{2}\int_0^t dt \left(x_f\hat{y}(t) + y_f\hat{x}(t)\right)K(t) - \frac{1}{2}\int_0^t dt \left(x_i\hat{y}(t) + y_i\hat{x}(t)\right)K(t) + O(\hbar).\] (C1)
Here, we use the relation $\partial_\tau K(t) = 2\text{Im}[L(t)]$ and derive Eq. (C1). We note that $\xi(t)$ and $\xi(t)$ describe quantum fluctuations from the classical coordinates $X(t)$ and $X(t)$. Therefore, we shall neglect the terms proportional to $\xi(t)$ and $\xi(t)$ in Eq. (C1) in the classical limit. This procedure is essentially replacing $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ by $X(t)$ in Eq. (C1). After some simplification, we obtain Eq. (12).

Next, we give details of the derivation of Eq. (50). We first expand the potential energy as $V(x) - V(y) = V(X + \xi/2) - V(X - \xi/2) = \xi V'(X) + O(\xi^3)$ and obtain the lowest order terms of the forward and backward actions:

$$i\hbar S[x] - i\hbar S[y] = -i\hbar \int_0^\tau dt\xi(t) \left( M \dot{X} + V'(X) \right) - i\hbar M \xi_i \dot{X}_i + O(\xi^3). \quad (C2)$$

Next, we perform integration by parts in the Feynman-Vernon influence functional (4) and obtain the classical limit of the characteristic function of heat is given by

$$\chi_Q(\nu) = \int dX_1 dX_i \int d\xi_1 \int DX \int D\xi \int D\Omega P[\xi] e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} M X_1 \xi_1 \rho(X_1, \xi_1) e^{i\nu Q_0}[X]} \times \exp \left[ -i\hbar \int_0^\tau dt\xi(t) \left( M \dot{X}(t) + V'[X(t)] + \int_0^t dt K(t - s) \dot{X}(s) + K(t) X_i - \Omega(t) \right) \right] + O(h, \beta). \quad (C4)$$

Here, we assume the weak coupling regime and use the classical limit of the heat functional [18] in Eq. (C4). We finally obtain Eq. (50) by performing the integral $\int D\xi$ [which gives $\delta(M[X, \Omega])$] and introducing the Wigner function [19].

### Appendix D: Derivations of the classical trajectory heat in the classical Brownian motion model

In what follows, we derive the classical heat in the classical Brownian motion model. The obtained expression is used to show the quantum-classical correspondence of the heat functional and its statistics.

1. **Derivation of the underdamped Langevin equation from the Hamiltonian of the composite system**

We start from the composite system modeled by the classical Brownian motion model and derive the underdamped Langevin equation, which describes the reduced dynamics of the system [12, 13]. This technique is utilized to relate the energy change of the heat bath with the classical heat in stochastic thermodynamics.
\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{d}{dt}\Delta_p \Omega(t) & = \sum_k \frac{c_k^2}{2m_k \omega_k^2} (X^2(\tau) - X^2(0)) \\
& = -\frac{1}{2} \left( X^2(\tau) - X^2(0) \right) K(0) - X(\tau) X(0) K(0) \\
& \quad - X(\tau) \int_0^\tau dt \frac{K(\tau - t) P(t)}{M}.
\end{align*}
\]

Also, the energy change of the heat bath takes the form
\[
\Delta H_B = \sum_k \left( \frac{\rho_k^2(\tau) - \rho_k^2(0)}{2m_k} + \frac{m_k \omega_k^2}{2} \left( q_k^2(\tau) - q_k^2(0) \right) \right)
\]

The last term in Eq. (D17) is related to the initial slippage term \( K(t) X(0) \) in the Langevin equation (D8), and it describes the heat generated by the fast relaxation of the heat bath to the conditional canonical distribution. By assuming the Ohmic spectrum \( \Omega(t) \), we reproduce the stochastic heat for the classical Markovian dynamics of the system:

\[
Q = -\frac{\gamma}{M^2} \int_0^\tau dt \int_0^t ds P(s) K(t - s) + \int_0^\tau dt \int_0^t ds P(s) K(t - s).
\]

We now define heat by the change in the energy of the heat bath \( \Delta H_B \). Because we can neglect the interaction energy in the weak coupling regime, we have

\[
\begin{align*}
Q & = -\frac{1}{M^2} \int_0^\tau dt \int_0^t ds P(t) P(s) K(t - s) \\
& \quad + \int_0^\tau dt \int_0^t ds P(t) K(t - s).
\end{align*}
\]

The term \( K(t) X(0) \) is referred to as the initial slippage term which describes a fast relaxation of the bath to the canonical distribution conditioned on the initial state \( X(0) \) of the system. Here,

\[
\Omega(t) = \sum_k c_k \left( q_k(0) \cos \omega_k t + \frac{p_k(0)}{m_k \omega_k} \sin \omega_k t \right),
\]

is the noise and \( K(t - s) \) defined in Eq. (41) is the classical bath correlation function. We interpret the initial random preparation of the bath coordinates and momenta as the source of the noise. Therefore, the noise average is defined by

\[
\left\langle f[\Omega(t)] \right\rangle = \int \prod_k dq_k(0) dp_k(0) \frac{\exp(-\beta H_B(0))}{Z_B} f[\Omega(t)],
\]

where \( f[\Omega(t)] \) is an arbitrary function of the noise. We can show that the noise satisfies the following properties:

\[
\begin{align*}
\left\langle \Omega(t) \right\rangle & = 0, \\
\left\langle \Omega(t) \Omega(s) \right\rangle & = \beta^{-1} K(t - s).
\end{align*}
\]

Next, we consider a Markovian dynamics of the system by taking the Ohmic spectrum \( \Omega(t) \). Then, the noise becomes the Gaussian white noise

\[
\left\langle \Omega(t) \Omega(s) \right\rangle = 2kT \gamma \delta(t - s).
\]

Now the equation of motion (D8) becomes the Markovian Langevin equation with inertia terms

\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{P}(t) + \frac{\partial}{\partial X} V(\lambda_t, X) + \frac{\gamma}{M} P(t) + 2\gamma \delta(t) X(0) & = \Omega(t).
\end{align*}
\]

2. Derivation of the fluctuating heat

We now derive the expression for the fluctuating heat from the energy change of the heat bath plus the interaction. Using Eqs. (D6) and (D7), the change of the interaction energy can be expressed as

\[
\Delta H_{SB} = -\sum_k c_k \left( X(\tau) q_k(\tau) - X(0) q_k(0) \right)
\]

\[
+ \sum_k \frac{c_k^2}{2m_k \omega_k^2} (X^2(\tau) - X^2(0))
\]

\[
= -\frac{1}{2} \left( X^2(\tau) - X^2(0) \right) K(0) - X(\tau) X(0) K(0) \\
+ X(\tau) \int_0^\tau dt \frac{K(\tau - t) P(t)}{M}.
\]

Because we can approximate Eq. (D19) by Eq. (D1), in the weak coupling regime, it is reasonable to neglect the
associated with the fast relaxation of the system described by the initial slippage term in the weak coupling regime.

[1] J. P. Pekola, *Towards quantum thermodynamics in electronic circuits*, Nat. Phys. 11, 118 (2015).
[2] S. An, J.-N. Zhang, M. Um, D. Lv, Y. Lu, J. Zhang, Z.-Q. Yin, H. T. Quan and K. Kim, *Experimental test of the quantum Jarzynski equality with a trapped-ion system*, Nature Phys. 11, 193 (2015).
[3] H. E. D. Scovil and E. O. Schulz-DuBois, *Three-level masers as heat engines*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 2, 262 (1959).
[4] P. Strasberg, G. Schaller, T. Brandes, and M. Esposito, *Stochastic Energetics*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 99, 180601 (2007).
[5] E. Aurell and R. Eichhorn, *New. J. Phys. 17*, 065007 (2015).
[6] A. Kato and Y. Tanimura, *Quantum heat current under non-perturbative and non-Markovian conditions: Applications to heat machines*, J. Chem. Phys. 145, 224105 (2016).
[7] E. Aurell, *On work and heat in time-dependent strong coupling*, [arXiv:1705.07811](https://arxiv.org/abs/1705.07811).
[8] P. Talkner and P. H"anggi, *Open system trajectories specify fluctuating work but not heat*, Phys. Rev. E 94, 022143 (2016).
[9] U. Seifert, *First and Second Law of Thermodynamics at Strong Coupling*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 020601 (2016).
[10] C. Jarzynski, *Stochastic and Macroscopic Thermodynamics of Strongly Coupled Systems*, Phys. Rev. X 7, 011008 (2017).
[11] M. Ueda, *Transmission spectrum of a tunneling particle interacting with dynamical fields: Real-time functional-integral approach*, Phys. Rev. B 54, 8676 (1996).
[12] M. Carrega, P. Solinas, A. Braggio, M. Sassetti and U. Weiss, *Functional integral approach to time-dependent heat exchange in open quantum systems: general method and applications*, New. J. Phys. 17, 045030 (2015).
[13] M. Carrega, P. Solinas, M. Sassetti and U. Weiss, *Energy Exchange in Driven Open Quantum Systems at Strong Coupling*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 240403 (2016).
[14] A. O. Caldeira and A. J. Leggett, *Path Integral Approach to Quantum Brownian Motion*, Physica A 121, 587 (1983).
[15] M. R. Parrondo, J. M. Horowitz, and T. Sagawa, *Thermodynamics of information*, Nat. Phys. 11, 131 (2015).
[16] R. P. Feynman and F. L. Vernon, Jr., *Ann. Phys. (N. Y.) 24*, 118 (1963).
[17] P. Talkner, P. Solinas, M. Sassetti and U. Weiss, *Energy Exchange in Driven Open Quantum Systems at Strong Coupling*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 240403 (2016).
[18] A. O. Caldeira and A. J. Leggett, *Path Integral Approach to Quantum Brownian Motion*, Physica A 121, 587 (1983).
[19] M. Carrega, P. Solinas, M. Sassetti and U. Weiss, *Energy Exchange in Driven Open Quantum Systems at Strong Coupling*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 240403 (2016).
[20] C. Jarzynski, *Stochastic and Macroscopic Thermodynamics of Strongly Coupled Systems*, Phys. Rev. X 7, 011008 (2017).
[21] M. Ueda, *Transmission spectrum of a tunneling particle interacting with dynamical fields: Real-time functional-integral approach*, Phys. Rev. B 54, 8676 (1996).
[22] A. O. Caldeira, *An Introduction to Macroscopic Quantum Phenomena and Quantum Dissipation*, (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, 2014).
[23] P. Hanggi and G.-L. Ingold, *Fundamental Aspects of Quantum Brownian Motion*, Chaos 15, 026105 (2005).
[24] K. Saito and A. Dhar, *Fluctuation Theorem in Quantum Brownian Motion*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 020601 (2016).
[25] E. Aurell, *First and Second Law of Thermodynamics at Strong Coupling*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 020601 (2016).
[26] C. Jarzynski, *Stochastic and Macroscopic Thermodynamics of Strongly Coupled Systems*, Phys. Rev. X 7, 011008 (2017).
[27] M. Ueda, *Transmission spectrum of a tunneling particle interacting with dynamical fields: Real-time functional-integral approach*, Phys. Rev. B 54, 8676 (1996).
[28] M. Carrega, P. Solinas, A. Braggio, M. Sassetti and U. Weiss, *Functional integral approach to time-dependent heat exchange in open quantum systems: general method and applications*, New. J. Phys. 17, 045030 (2015).
[29] M. Carrega, P. Solinas, M. Sassetti and U. Weiss, *Energy Exchange in Driven Open Quantum Systems at Strong Coupling*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 240403 (2016).
[30] A. O. Caldeira and A. J. Leggett, *Path Integral Approach to Quantum Brownian Motion*, Physica A 121, 587 (1983).
[31] M. Carrega, P. Solinas, M. Sassetti and U. Weiss, *Energy Exchange in Driven Open Quantum Systems at Strong Coupling*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 240403 (2016).
[32] A. O. Caldeira and A. J. Leggett, *Path Integral Approach to Quantum Brownian Motion*, Physica A 121, 587 (1983).
Stat. Phys. 9, 215 (1973).

[43] K. Lindenberg and B. J. West, *The Nonequilibrium Statistical Mechanics of Open and Closed Systems*.