I. INTRODUCTION

Understanding the effect of fluctuations and dissipation in non-equilibrium settings is essential for an ultimate control of quantum systems. Dissipation is on one hand unavoidable in realistic systems, and known to play an important role in their dynamics — a paradigm is the exponential suppression of quantum tunneling out of a metastable state as modeled by Caldeira and Leggett — while non-equilibrium can provide new levels of tunability. This is a topic of renewed interest in view of current experiments which explore the possibility of quantum information processing, by embedding a qubit degree of freedom in a mesoscopic system.  

In this context, the quantum Loschmidt echo, also known as fidelity, is a useful quantity that indicates the sensitivity of the system to small perturbations. In its generalization to many-body systems, the Loschmidt echo corresponds to the off-diagonal element (norm-squared) of the reduced density matrix for the qubit degree of freedom, and its decay in time characterizes the environment-induced decoherence. For a fermionic environment, this decay is directly related to the Anderson orthogonality catastrophe, which describes the response of the fermionic system to a sudden perturbation. In his seminal work, Anderson showed that the many-body ground state of a fermionic system is, in the thermodynamic limit, orthogonal to that of the same system in which a local scattering potential is introduced. More precisely, the overlap of the two states decays as a power-law with the system size, with an orthogonality exponent characterized by the scattering phase shift produced by the scattering potential. The orthogonality catastrophe plays an essential role in describing the so-called “impurity problems” in which a local degree of freedom interacts with a fermionic environment.

A class of impurity problems is that of a “heavy particle” embedded in a quantum environment. The impurity in this case is heavy compared to those particles comprising the environment, and can be treated as a classical degree of freedom with semiclassical dynamics dictated by the back-action of the environment. This dynamics can be described in terms of a Langevin equation, which is a stochastic equation of motion that describes at an effective, macroscopic level, the effects of dissipation and fluctuations induced by the environment on the heavy particle. An interesting question is how the dynamics of the heavy particle and orthogonality effects of its environment are related. For a quantum environment in equilibrium, the Anderson orthogonality catastrophe exponent was conjectured by Sols and Guinea to be proportional to the dissipation coefficient a heavy particle experiences when moving in a metallic environment. This relation was later proved to be valid, in the small-distance limit, for a heavy particle moving in a quantum environment at zero temperature. For non-equilibrium fermionic systems this problem has been studied in the context of concrete models.

Motivated by these findings, in this work we calculate the Loschmidt echo for small changes of a scattering potential, in a fermionic open system which is taken out of equilibrium by imposing a voltage bias. With the aim of exploring the relation between the orthogonality exponent and the dissipation coefficient in this case, we express the decay in time of the Loschmidt echo in terms of the coefficients of the corresponding Langevin equation - in particular in terms of the dissipation and noise coefficients. To this effect we make use of the recent developed formalism that describes the effective forces in the Langevin equation in terms of scattering theory. Our results apply generally to systems for which changes...
in the scattering potential can be treated pertubatively.

The manuscript is organized as follows. We start in section Sec. II by presenting the Langevin equation in terms of current-induced forces, and the associated force-force noise correlator. In Sec. III we perform a perturbative expansion of the Loschmidt echo and show that it can be expressed in terms of the noise correlator, and discuss different quench protocols. In Sec. IV we make use of the results of Secs. II and III to show that, in equilibrium and for zero temperature, the decay of the Loschmidt echo is a powerlaw with an exponent dictated by the dissipation coefficient a heavy particle experiences in the fermionic environment, in agreement with the known orthogonality results. Finite temperatures however render the decay exponential. In Sec. V we turn to the non-equilibrium case for which we calculate the decay of the Loschmidt echo within linear response in the applied bias. This case we show that the decay of the Loschmidt echo cannot be expressed solely in terms of the dissipation coefficient, providing a general expression for the decay in terms of the macroscopic Langevin parameters. We then discuss different time scales for which the results can be cast in a simple form. In Sec. VII we apply our results to a simple example and check the limits of validity of our approximations, while we list our main conclusions in Sec. VII. Quite a few calculations in this work are rather lengthy. To improve readability, and at the same time to make this paper self contained, we have included some details of these calculations in the Appendices.

II. LANGEVIN EQUATION AND NOISE CORRELATOR

In this section we briefly review the elements of the Langevin equation that governs the stochastic dynamics of a heavy particle in an open quantum environment. Throughout this paper we will consider a fermionic quantum environment that can be taken out of equilibrium by a difference of chemical potential in the leads as illustrated in Fig. 1. In a concrete example, the heavy particle can represent the classical vibrational degrees of freedom of a molecule or suspended carbon nanotube connected to conducting leads. The heavy particle is represented through classical degrees of freedom which are coupled to the quantum environment, and disturb it as they evolve in time. The back-action of this disturbance onto the heavy particle gives rise to reaction forces also called current-induced forces in a quantum transport setup. In the adiabatic limit, for which the dynamics of the heavy particle is much slower than that of the quantum environment, this effect is well described semiclassically at the level of a Langevin equation obtained by tracing out the quantum environment. If we denote the degrees of freedom of the heavy particle by $X(t)$, the Langevin equation reads (in what follows we omit the time dependence for notational simplicity)

$$\hat{P}_\alpha - F^{cl}_\alpha(X) = F_\alpha(X) - \sum_\beta \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}(X)\dot{X}_\beta + \xi_\alpha(X). \quad (1)$$

On the left hand side, $P_\alpha$ denotes the canonical momentum of coordinate $X_\alpha$ ($\alpha = 1, \ldots, N$), and we have included the possibility of an external classical force $F^{cl}(X)$ (throughout the text we will indicate matrices and vectors in the space spanned by the $X_\alpha$ with bold letters). The right hand side of Eq. (1) contains the forces due to the quantum environment. $F(X)$ is the usual Born-Oppenheimer force, while the symmetric and antisymmetric parts of the tensor $\Gamma(X)$ represent a dissipative and Lorentz-like (and therefore non-dissipative) force, respectively. Fluctuations due to shot and thermal noise are taken into account by the stochastic Langevin force $\xi(X)$.

When the fermionic system is taken out of equilibrium, the current-induced forces present qualitative differences with respect to the equilibrium situation. The Born-Oppenheimer force $F$ is non-conservative in this case, and therefore provides a way of exchanging energy between the classical field and the quantum environment which is non-dissipative. The tensor $\Gamma$ constitutes the first order correction in an adiabatic expansion to the Born-Oppenheimer force. It can be split into symmetric and antisymmetric components. The antisymmetric component is a Lorentz-like term, which can be interpreted as an effective magnetic field acting on the space spanned by $X$ — this term is not relevant for the Loschmidt echo (which involves only symmetric components as we will see below) and hence will be not dealt further with within this work. We denote the symmetric dissipative term of $\Gamma$ by $\gamma$. It is convenient to express the latter as $\gamma = \gamma^eq + \gamma^neq$, where $\gamma^neq$ represents a pure non-equilibrium contribution while $\gamma^eq$ is a straightforward generalization of the equilibrium contribution evaluated in an non-equilibrium environment. Explicit expressions for these quantities are given in App. B. According to our definition, $\gamma^eq$ connects to the equilibrium
results, but it also contains non-equilibrium terms for finite bias. The pure non-equilibrium term \( \gamma_{\text{eq}} \) can take negative values and, moreover, render the full dissipative term negative.

Of particular importance for the following discussion is the stochastic component \( \xi \), characterized by the force-force noise correlator. We will see in the next section that the Loschmidt echo can be, perturbatively for small displacements \( \delta X \), written in terms of the noise correlator

\[
D_{\alpha \beta}(t, t') = \{[\hat{\xi}_\alpha(t), \hat{\xi}_\beta(t')]\}_s, \tag{2}
\]

where \( M_{\alpha \beta} = (M_{\alpha \gamma} + M_{\beta \gamma})/2 \) indicates the symmetric component of a generic matrix \( M \). To give a concrete expression for this noise correlator we consider a generic, albeit non-interacting many-body Hamiltonian which depends parametrically on time \( \dot{v}_\chi, H_\chi = H_0 + v_\chi \). This potential represents the coupling between the heavy particle and the fermionic environment. The current-induced force operator is given by

\[
\mathcal{F}(t) = -\nabla X H_X(t). \tag{3}
\]

The Langevin Eq. (1) is obtained by calculating the quantum-statistical average \( \langle \mathcal{F}(t) \rangle \) within an adiabatic expansion to linear order in the velocity \( \dot{X} \), together with the quantum and thermal fluctuations given by

\[
\hat{\xi}(t) = \mathcal{F}(t) - \langle \mathcal{F}(t) \rangle. \tag{4}
\]

The coefficients of this expansion are instantaneous: the noise is assumed to be delta correlated \( D(t, t') \rightarrow D(X) \delta(t - t') \), and there is no retardation kernel for the dissipative term \( \gamma(X) \). These are the zero-frequency limit, respectively, of the force-force correlator (2) and force susceptibility

\[
\chi_{\alpha \beta}^{FF}(t, t') = -i \theta(t - t') \langle [F_\alpha(t), F_\beta(t')] \rangle \tag{5}
\]

where \( \theta(t) \) is the usual step function. In equilibrium and assuming steady state, so the time dependence in the relevant quantities is through the time difference \( t - t' \), we have

\[
\gamma_{\alpha \beta}^{eq}(\omega) = -\frac{\text{Im} \chi_{\alpha \beta}^{FF}(\omega)}{\omega}. \tag{6}
\]

where \( \gamma_{\alpha \beta}^{eq}(\omega) \) denotes the Fourier transform of the friction Kernel \( \gamma_{\alpha \beta}(t-t') \). The correlator of the fluctuating Langevin force and the friction tensor are related in equilibrium via the finite frequency fluctuation-dissipation theorem \( \Theta^1 \)

\[
D(\omega) = \omega \coth \left( \frac{\omega}{2T} \right) \gamma_{\text{eq}}(\omega). \tag{7}
\]

(we take the Boltzmann constant \( k_B = 1 \)), where \( D(\omega) \) is the real part of the Fourier transform of the fluctuating force correlator in Eq. (2). In the limit \( \omega \ll T \) Eq. (7) reduces to the classical identity

\[
D_{\text{cl}} = 2T \gamma_{\text{eq}}, \tag{8}
\]

where \( \gamma_{\text{eq}} \) is evaluated at zero frequency, while for \( \omega \gg T \)

\[
D_q(\omega) = |\omega| \gamma_{\text{eq}}(\omega). \tag{9}
\]

Out of equilibrium the fluctuation-dissipation relation Eq. (7) does not hold. However within linear response in the applied bias \( \Delta \mu \) (we consider two leads and without loss of generality \( \Delta \mu > 0 \)), we can write an expression relating the noise correlator and the dissipative matrix \( \gamma \) that generalizes Eq. (7) in the limit of low frequencies (as compared to the characteristic energy scales of the quantum environment, this statement will be made more precise in the following sections). We state here the result which will be proven later in the text

\[
D(\omega) = \omega \coth \left( \frac{\omega}{2T} \right) \left( \gamma_{\text{eq}} - \frac{D_{[0, \Delta \mu]}}{\Delta \mu} \right) \tag{10}
\]

where we defined \( \omega_{\pm} = \omega \pm \Delta \mu \), and all remaining quantities are evaluated at zero frequency and to linear order in the applied bias. In general the noise correlator depends on both temperature and bias, which at zero frequency we denote by \( D_{[T, \Delta \mu]} \). It is easy to see that for \( \Delta \mu = 0 \) Eq. (10) reduces to the equilibrium identity (7), and in particular \( D_{[T, 0]} = D_{\text{cl}} \). For zero temperature but finite bias accordingly we obtain

\[
D(\omega) = \begin{cases} D_{[0, \Delta \mu]} + |\omega| \left( \gamma_{\text{eq}} - \frac{D_{[0, \Delta \mu]}}{\Delta \mu} \right), & |\omega| \ll \Delta \mu \ , \\ |\omega| \gamma_{\text{eq}} & , & |\omega| \gg \Delta \mu \ . \end{cases} \tag{11}
\]

The explicit expression for \( D_{[0, \Delta \mu]} \) is given later in the text in Eq. (11). One should note the similarities and subtle differences between the finite temperature expressions, Eqs. (5), (10), and finite bias Eqs. (11) in the respective limits of high and low bias and temperatures when identifying \( \Delta \mu \leftrightarrow 2T \). All these expressions are evaluated to first order in \( \omega \). From this we note that the first correction to Eq. (5) is of order \( \mathcal{O}(\omega^2) \). That the linear term in \( \omega \) vanishes in equilibrium is easy to see by looking at the corresponding finite bias result and identifying \( D_{[0, \Delta \mu]} \Delta \mu \leftrightarrow D_{[T, 0]} / 2T = \gamma_{\text{eq}} \) in the first line of Eq. (11).

In the next section we show that the Loschmidt echo, within a perturbative expansion in the change of the scattering potential, is directly related to the noise correlator of Eq. (2).
III. LOSCHMIDT ECHO: GENERAL RESULTS FOR SMALL DISPLACEMENTS

The Loschmidt echo in quantum systems is given by the (squared) overlap of eigenstates of an initial system which evolved in time with two different many-body Hamiltonians. Alternatively, it can be seen as measure of how close to a given initial state a system comes back to, when the evolution on the time reversed path is determined by a different Hamiltonian from the forward evolution one. This can be generalized for initial states which are a quantum statistical mixture. Denoting the Loschmidt echo by the function $\mathcal{L}(\tau)$, this is given by $\mathcal{L}(\tau) = |A(\tau)|^2$, with

$$A(\tau) = \langle e^{i\mathcal{H}_i \tau} e^{-i\mathcal{H}_f \tau} \rangle,$$

where $\langle \ldots \rangle$ is the quantum statistical average characterized by the initial Hamiltonian $\mathcal{H}_i$ ($h = 1$) and $\mathcal{H}_f$ denotes the perturbed Hamiltonian. The overlap $A(\tau)$ is denominated fidelity amplitude.

The relation between the Loschmidt echo and the orthogonality catastrophe is seen by treating Anderson’s orthogonality as a dynamical process. In the problem of X-ray absorption spectrum of a metal, the creation of a deep hole produces a “shake up” of the Fermi sea that causes a suppression of Mahan’s powerlaw divergence at threshold frequency (known as the Fermi edge or X-ray singularity) with an exponent that can be identified directly with Anderson’s orthogonality exponent. This is captured by the hole propagator which can be calculated by evaluating the overlap of the fermionic ground state evolved with a Hamiltonian including the core hole, with that of the ground state evolved without the hole. This is therefore nothing else than the Loschmidt echo where the two Hamiltonians $\mathcal{H}_i, \mathcal{H}_f$ correspond to considering the system with or without the potential of the core hole. Beyond the original problem of the Fermi edge singularity in metals, different problems in which some local, time varying degree of freedom interacts with a fermionic environment, can be treated with the same methodology and hence some incarnation of the fidelity amplitude and Loschmidt echo appears naturally. Examples include the absorption spectrum of Luttinger liquids and beyond the single channel Kondo problem or time-dependent impurities in cold atom systems.

In order to make the connection with the Langevin equation discussed above, in this section we obtain an expression for the Loschmidt echo via a perturbative expansion for small changes in the potential $\mathcal{V}_X$, by considering $\mathcal{H}_i = \mathcal{H}_0 + \mathcal{V}_X$ and $\mathcal{H}_f = \mathcal{H}_0 + \mathcal{V}_X + \delta \mathcal{H}_X$, cf. Fig. [1] with $\delta \mathcal{H}_X = \mathcal{V}_X + \delta \mathcal{H}_X$ small with respect to $\mathcal{H}_i$. An important factor to determine the time dependence of the Loschmidt echo, is how rapidly the change in the coupling potential occurs. This rapidity is determined by what is called the “quench protocol”. Here we consider this is given externally by an arbitrary function $g(t)$ such that

$$\mathcal{H}(t) = \mathcal{H}_0 + \mathcal{V}_X + g(t) \delta \mathcal{H}_X$$

Initially, $g(0) = 0$ so that we obtain $\mathcal{H}_i$. We impose the quench is completed at some time $\tau$ by setting $g(\tau) = 1$. We consider an open quantum system in which the electrons spend on average some finite time $\tau_D$ in the scattering region. $\tau_D$ is referred to as the “dwell time” and we consider it to be the smallest time scale in the system, in the spirit of the Born-Oppenheimer approximation. This defines the time scale for the quench. In particular in this work we will study two complementary protocols: sudden and adiabatic quenches. In the sudden quench, the scattering potential is changed suddenly, which is realized by a step-function shape such that $g(t) = 1$ for $t > 0$. For the adiabatic quench instead, the potential is ramped up slowly, where slow refers to the dwell time. For the adiabatic quench, we choose a linear ramping protocol $g(t) = t/\tau$. We show in Appendix A that, in the limit $\tau \gg \tau_D$, our results in equilibrium are independent of this choice, while for an imposed bias our results are characterized by coefficients that depend on the specifics of the adiabatic protocol. In what follows we will treat in parallel both abovementioned protocols, we list in Table I the protocol-dependent parameters as used in the text. The Hamiltonian defined in Eq. (13) is time dependent through $g(t)$. To treat this time dependence we write the fidelity amplitude in terms of evolution operators

$$A(\tau) = \langle U^\dagger_{\mathcal{H}_0}(\tau, 0) U(\tau, 0) \rangle.$$  

The operator $U_0$ is the time-evolution operator of the (constant) initial Hamiltonian $\mathcal{H}_0 + \mathcal{V}_X$ and $U$ that of the (time-dependent) Hamiltonian $\mathcal{H}(t)$. In the case of a sudden quench, we recover the usual expression Eq. (12). We introduce now the interaction picture with respect to the initial Hamiltonian. This allows us to write

$$A(\tau) = \langle \hat{T} \exp \left( -i \int_0^\tau dt\ g(t) \delta \mathcal{H}_X(t) \right) \rangle$$

with time-ordering operator $\hat{T}$ and $\delta \mathcal{H}_X(t) = e^{i\mathcal{H}_i(t)} \delta \mathcal{H}_X(t) e^{-i\mathcal{H}_i(t)}$. The expression given in Eq. (15) is the starting point for the perturbative expansion given be-
We therefore obtain
\[ \delta H_X = \sum_\alpha \partial_\alpha V_X \delta X_\alpha = \sum_\alpha \partial_\alpha H_X \delta X_\alpha. \]  
(16)

We therefore obtain
\[ \ln A(\tau) = -i \int_0^\tau dt \langle \delta H_X(t) \rangle \]
\[ - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\tau dt \int_0^\tau dt' g(t) g(t') D_{\alpha\beta}(t, t') \delta X_\alpha \delta X_\beta, \]
(17)
where \( D_{\alpha\beta}(t, t') \) is the noise correlator given in Eq. (2) and we have used Eqs. (3) and (1). As anticipated in the previous section, due to the sum over the indices \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \), only the symmetric component of the noise correlator is relevant. The second term in Eq. (17) is a real quantity, while the first order term is purely imaginary and hence contributes as an overall phase. This phase \( \lambda_A \) is directly related to the infinitesimal work made by the Born-Oppenheimer force, which is consistent with the shift in the dynamical phase of the system’s eigenstates which is acquired due to the change in the potential \( \delta H_X \).

This can be seen by expressing the quantum statistical average \( \langle \delta H_X \rangle \) in terms of scattering states. For the adiabatic \( (P = A) \) and sudden \( (P = S) \) quenches we obtain
\[ A_P(\tau) = e^{i \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} F(\tau) \cdot \delta X} |A_P(\tau)|, \]
(18)
with \( \lambda_A = 2 \) and \( \lambda_S = 1 \), where the reduction by a factor of 2 of the adiabatic fidelity phase with respect to the sudden quench results from integrating over the linear ramp-up of the potential.

The Loschmidt echo, in turn, is given solely in terms of the integrated two-time noise correlation function
\[ \ln \mathcal{L}(\tau) = -\int_0^\tau dt \int_0^\tau dt' g(t) g(t') \delta X^\dagger \cdot D(t, t') \cdot \delta X, \]
(19)
where the function \( g(t) \) enters as a weight factor. We note that assuming Gaussian white noise, where \( D(t, t') \) is delta-correlated in time, it immediately follows from Eq. (19) that the Loschmidt echo decays exponentially with a strength proportional to \( \delta X^\dagger \cdot D(X) \cdot \delta X \) in the large time limit. For now we keep the results general and discuss the regime of applicability for the white noise limit later. Expressing the fluctuating force correlator by its Fourier transform we readily observe that the decay of the Loschmidt echo is determined by the symmetric noise correlator \( D(\omega) \).

\[ \ln \mathcal{L}(\tau) = -\int_0^\infty \frac{d\omega}{\pi} \left| \int_0^\tau dt g(t) e^{i\omega t} \right|^2 \delta X^\dagger \cdot D(\omega) \cdot \delta X. \]
(20)

The time integral above can be performed once the quench dynamics \( g(t) \) is specified
\[ \ln \mathcal{L}_P(\tau) = -\int_0^\infty \frac{d\omega}{\pi} B_P(\omega, \tau) \delta X^\dagger \cdot D(\omega) \cdot \delta X, \]
(21)
where the function \( B_P(\omega, \tau) \) is protocol-dependent
\[ B_S(\omega, \tau) = 2 \frac{1 - \cos(\omega \tau)}{\omega^2}, \]
\[ B_A(\omega, \tau) = 2 \left[ 1 - \cos(\omega \tau) - \omega \tau \sin(\omega \tau) \right] + \omega^2 \tau^2. \]
(22)
The dwell time \( \tau_D \) is a characteristic time scale for the scattering of the fast (electronic) degrees of freedom and provides a high energy cutoff \( 1/\tau_D \) for the energy integrals in Eq. (21). At the same time, the function \( B_P(\omega, \tau) \) selects frequencies \( \omega \lesssim 1/\tau \). This allows us, in the limit of large \( \tau \gg \tau_D \), to neglect the dynamics of the fast degrees of freedom and evaluate the fluctuating force correlator \( D(\omega) \) in Eq. (21) in the limit of small frequencies, \( \omega \sim 1/\tau \sim 0 \) — we will use this fact in the next sections.

The expressions obtained in this section are, within the limit of validity of the perturbative approach, quite general. In particular, they hold for out-of-equilibrium situations. To investigate these results we start in the next section with the equilibrium case, for which we can straightforwardly apply the fluctuation-dissipation theorem as given in Eq. (7). The out-of-equilibrium regime is treated later in Sec. IV.

**IV. EQUILIBRIUM**

We consider here the equilibrium case for which all leads are kept at a same chemical potential denoted by \( \mu \). In equilibrium the Anderson orthogonality exponent has been shown in Ref. [21] to be proportional to the friction coefficient of the noninteracting fermionic environment for finite systems. This corresponds to the \( \tau \rightarrow \infty \) limit of the Loschmidt echo. We generalize this result here to the case of an open system with a continuous energy spectrum by calculating the decay of the Loschmidt echo for finite times \( \tau \).

We continue with evaluating Eq. (21) at \( T = 0 \) and we discuss the effect of finite temperature later. We can therefore use the fluctuation-dissipation theorem as given...
in Eq. (9). We conclude that, to leading order in $\tau/\tau_D$,
\[
\ln \mathcal{L}_P(\tau) = -\frac{1}{\tau} \int_0^{1/\tau_D} \omega \, d\omega \, B_P(\omega, \tau) \delta X^\dagger \cdot \gamma^{eq} \cdot \delta X,
\]
where $\gamma^{eq}$ is the equilibrium friction coefficient evaluated at zero frequency. We see therefore that, as expected, in equilibrium the Loschmidt echo is closely related to dissipation. We obtain
\[
\ln \mathcal{L}_P(\tau) = -\frac{\alpha_P}{\tau} \left[ \ln \left( \frac{\tau}{\tau_D} \right) + \gamma_e \right] \delta X^\dagger \cdot \gamma^{eq}(X) \cdot \delta X,
\]
where $\alpha_P$ is protocol dependent, with $\alpha_S = 2$, $\alpha_A = 1$ for the sudden and adiabatic quenches respectively, and $\gamma_e = 0.5772$ is the Euler-Mascheroni constant. We show in App. A that the value $\alpha_A = 1$ is independent of the assumption of linearity for the adiabatic quench protocol. Therefore,
\[
\mathcal{L}_P(\tau) \propto \left( \frac{\tau}{\tau_D} \right)^{-\alpha_P \gamma_e} \delta X^\dagger \cdot \gamma^{eq}(X) \cdot \delta X,
\]
so that the decay of the Loschmidt echo in equilibrium, both in the sudden and adiabatic quench scenarios, is a powerlaw controlled by the friction coefficient of the fermionic system. The powerlaw decay of the Loschmidt echo is consistent with known literature results and reflects the Anderson orthogonality catastrophe. For a finite system the $\tau \to \infty$ limit of the Loschmidt echo can be obtained, up to prefactors, by replacing $\tau/\tau_D$ by the number of particles of the system and the powerlaw takes the usual Anderson’s form. This is justified since the ratio $\tau/\tau_D$ can be taken as an estimate of how many particles have been scattered up to time $\tau$ — for $\tau \to \infty$, all particles in the system have participated in the scattering.

Note that the powerlaw decay of the Loschmidt echo is inconsistent with a delta-correlated noise — recall that white noise implies an exponential decay of the Loschmidt echo. The powerlaw decay signals the breakdown of the Markovian, semi-classical Langevin equation in equilibrium and at zero temperature, for which case the classical noise correlator is zero. In other words, the system loses its memory as a powerlaw in time instead of exponentially, which renders the Markovian approximation inapplicable. An exponential decay of the Loschmidt echo is recovered either by imposing finite temperature or a finite bias voltage. In the following we comment on the finite temperature case, and we reserve the next section for out-of-equilibrium effects.

For temperatures such that $T \gg 1/\tau$, we can use the classical version of the fluctuation-dissipation theorem Eq. (8) in Eq. (19) to obtain
\[
\ln \mathcal{L}_P(\tau) = -2 \beta_P \tau T \delta X^\dagger \cdot \gamma^{eq} \cdot \delta X,
\]
and therefore we recover, for $\tau \gg \tau_D$, an exponential decay governed by the thermal noise
\[
\mathcal{L}_P(\tau) = e^{-\tau \beta_P \delta X^\dagger \cdot D(\tau) \cdot \delta X}
\]
where $\beta_P$ is protocol dependent, with $\beta_S = 1$, $\beta_A = 1/3$ for the sudden and adiabatic (linear) quench respectively. Note that in this case the coefficient $\beta_A$ depends on the nature of the adiabatic protocol.

As a last remark of this section, we observe that in equilibrium and zero temperature the adiabatic and sudden Loschmidt echo are related by a simple exponent. For zero temperature, from Eq. (24) we obtain
\[
\mathcal{L}_S(\tau) = \mathcal{L}_A(\tau)^2.
\]
As pointed out before, $\alpha_A = 1$ is independent of the adiabatic protocol, and therefore Eq. (28) holds generally. The relation given by Eq. (25) has been recently pointed out for particular examples in Refs. 33 and 44 for infinite $\tau$ in finite systems, and argued to be valid in more general situations. 33 For finite temperatures we obtain instead from Eq. (27)
\[
\mathcal{L}_S(\tau) = \mathcal{L}_A(\tau)^{1/\beta_A},
\]
which is valid to leading order in $\tau_D/\tau$.

\section{V. Out-of-Equilibrium}

In this section we take a step further and allow for the presence of an applied bias voltage, represented by different chemical potentials in the leads. For clarity we consider only two leads which are kept at a chemical potential difference $\Delta \mu > 0$. We obtain the decay of the Loschmidt echo in the limit of linear response, for which the applied bias is small as defined by the condition $\Delta \mu \tau_D \ll 1$. By evaluating Eq. (21) with the out-of-equilibrium noise correlator given in Eq. (10), we can obtain closed expressions for the time dependence of the Loschmidt echo in terms of the macroscopic coefficients appearing in the Langevin Eq. (1). These expressions are valid for all times longer than the dwell time, as detailed below. The derivation is lengthy and therefore we summarize here the main results and give a sketch of the calculation in the next subsections, while the details can be found in the corresponding appendices as listed.

It is instructive to consider the long- and short-time dynamics of the Loschmidt echo as compared with the timescale determined by the inverse of the imposed bias, since in these limits the expressions simplify considerably. We state here the results for zero temperature. The case of short-time dynamics (but still large times compared with the dwell time) is given by the condition $\Delta \mu \tau \ll 1$. For these short times the system is being probed at high energies and it is not sensitive to the applied bias. We
therefore recover the equilibrium result
\[ \mathcal{L}_P(\tau) \propto \left( \frac{\tau}{\tau_D} \right)^{-\frac{N_F}{\mu} \delta X^\dagger \gamma \delta X}, \]
(30)

Here \( \gamma \) is the full dissipation matrix evaluated to first order in the bias. Ignoring this first order correction due to the bias we recover exactly the equilibrium result obtained previously in Eq. (24).

In the opposite limit of long-time dynamics, \( \Delta \mu \tau \gg 1 \), the system is more sensitive to the non-equilibrium imposed by the bias which results in a different qualitative behavior. The major effect due to bringing the system out of equilibrium is an exponential suppression of the Loschmidt echo in the long-time dynamics, compared with the equilibrium power-law decay in Eq. (24). We obtain
\[ \mathcal{L}_P(\tau) \propto e^{-\frac{\mu}{\tau_D} \delta X^\dagger \gamma \delta X} \left( \frac{\tau}{\tau_D} \right)^{\frac{N_F}{\mu} \delta X^\dagger \frac{D_{[0,\Delta \mu]}}{\Delta \mu} \delta X}, \]
(31)

where the dissipation matrix and noise correlators are evaluated to first order in the bias. The exponential suppression of the Loschmidt echo is dictated by the shot-noise fluctuations in the system given by the noise correlator \( D_{[0,\Delta \mu]} \) to first order in the bias.\(^\dagger\) Note that this exponential decay is completely analogous to that for equilibrium and finite temperatures in the long-time limit \( T \tau \gg 1 \) given in Eq. (27), which is dominated by the thermal noise.

The exponential decay in Eq. (31) comes on top of a powerlaw behavior, with an exponent that is also modified from equilibrium showing a competition between fluctuations and dissipation, and with the possibility of a change of sign in the exponent. This powerlaw correction is absent in the complementary case of equilibrium and finite temperatures given in Eq. (27), due to the vanishing of the linear order in frequency correction for the thermal noise correlator in Eq. (8). Note that the out-of-equilibrium powerlaw crosses over to the equilibrium one at a time \( \tau \approx 1/\Delta \mu \) as expected.

We proceed now with the derivation of these results.

A. Out-of-equilibrium noise correlator

We see from Eq. (19) that the force-force noise correlator is crucial to determine the behavior of the Loschmidt echo. In this section we derive the expression given in Eq. (10) for the noise correlator within a scattering approach which highlights the connection to the current-induced forces in the Langevin Eq. (1). An equivalent derivation in terms of Keldysh Green’s functions is given, for completeness, in App. D. Alternatively, the correlator can be calculated within a Feynman Vernon influence functional approach.\(^\dagger\)

We now proceed with evaluating \( D(t,t') \) as given in Eq. (2) in terms of single-particle scattering states. For this we introduce the notation
\[ \partial_\alpha V_{nX}(\epsilon, \epsilon') = \langle \psi_k^{X+}(\epsilon) | \partial_\alpha V_{nX} | \psi_k^{X+}(\epsilon') \rangle \]
(32)

for the matrix elements of the representation of \( \nabla V_X \) in the scattering basis — cf. App. [3] Here \( | \psi_n^{X+}(\epsilon) \rangle \) is the single-particle retarded scattering state with combined channel-lead index \( n \) and energy \( \epsilon \). For notational convenience in what follows, we further define the function
\[ K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\epsilon, \epsilon') = \{ \partial_\alpha V_{nX}(\epsilon, \epsilon') \partial_\beta V_{nX}(\epsilon', \epsilon') \}. \]
(33)

Using Eq. (B.1) to evaluate the quantum statistical expectation values appearing in the noise correlator \( \mathcal{D} \) we obtain
\[ D(t,t') = \int \frac{d\epsilon}{2\pi} \int \frac{d\epsilon'}{2\pi} \sum_{kn} f_k(\epsilon) \left[ 1 - f_n(\epsilon') \right] e^{i(\epsilon - \epsilon')(t-t')} K_{kn}(\epsilon, \epsilon'). \]
(34)

After Fourier transforming we obtain a general expression for the force-force noise correlator as a function of frequencies,\(^\dagger\)
\[ D(\omega) = \int \frac{d\epsilon}{2\pi} \sum_{kn} f_k \left( \frac{\epsilon - \omega}{2} \right) \left[ 1 - f_n \left( \frac{\epsilon + \omega}{2} \right) \right] \times K_{kn} \left( \frac{\epsilon - \omega}{2}, \frac{\epsilon + \omega}{2} \right). \]
(35)

We observe that the function \( K_{kn}(\epsilon, \epsilon') \) contains overlaps of scattering states which are are associated with scattering events including an energy transfer \( \omega = \epsilon - \epsilon' \). We expect these overlaps to vary within energies up to the inverse dwell time \( 1/\tau_D \). We can expect our description of the Loschmidt echo in terms of scattering states to be valid in the limit \( \tau \gg \tau_D \) — a description on microscopic time scales smaller than \( \tau_D \) is beyond an adiabatic scattering formulation. Hence in the following we restrict our calculations to this limit, and evaluate \( K_{kn}(\epsilon, \epsilon') \) to first order in \( \omega \ll 1/\tau_D \). We will see later in the text that this is enough to capture the leading behavior of the Loschmidt echo as a function of time. It is also convenient to define the function
\[ K_{kn}(\epsilon) = K_{kn}(\epsilon, \epsilon). \]
(36)

We note that the function \( K_{kn}(\epsilon) \) is closely related to the dissipation matrix in equilibrium. At zero temperature and taking all leads to be at an equal chemical potential \( \mu \), as we show in Appendix [C] it takes the simple form
\[ \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{kn} K_{kn}(\mu) = \gamma \epsilon^{eq}, \]
(37)
in agreement with the result found previously by use of
the fluctuation-dissipation theorem.

The second contribution to Eq. (35) is given by the product of Fermi functions $f_k(\varepsilon)[1-f_n(\varepsilon')]$. Due to this product, the average energy $\bar{\varepsilon} = (\varepsilon + \varepsilon')/2$ is limited to a region of size $\Delta \mu_{kn} = \mu_k - \mu_n$, around the respective average chemical potential $\bar{\varepsilon}_{kn} = 1/2(\mu_k + \mu_n)$. To make analytical progress, we limit our results to the linear response regime $\Delta \mu_{kn} \tau_D \ll 1$, which allows a perturbative treatment of the function $K_{kn}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon')$ for small deviations of $\bar{\varepsilon}$ around $\bar{\varepsilon}_{kn}$.

Given these considerations, we calculate Eq. (35) to leading order in $\tau_D/\tau$, in the linear response regime (linear order in $\Delta \mu/\tau_D$). Expanding $K_{kn}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon')$ to first order in $\omega$ and $\bar{\varepsilon} - \bar{\varepsilon}_{kn}$ we obtain

$$K_{kn}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = K_{kn}(\bar{\varepsilon}_{kn}) + 2(\bar{\varepsilon} - \bar{\varepsilon}_{kn}) \partial^s \varepsilon K_{kn}(\bar{\varepsilon}_{kn}) + \omega \partial^\omega K_{kn}(\bar{\varepsilon}_{kn}),$$

where we have introduced

$$\partial^{s/\omega} K_{kn}(x) = \frac{1}{2} (\partial \varepsilon \pm \partial \varepsilon') K_{kn}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon'),$$

which describes the symmetric and antisymmetric energy derivatives of $K_{kn}$. We note in passing the following useful properties: $K_{kn}(\varepsilon) = K_{nn}(\varepsilon)$, $\partial^s \varepsilon K_{kn}(\varepsilon) = \partial^s \varepsilon K_{nn}(\varepsilon)$ and $\partial^\omega K_{kn}(\varepsilon) = -\partial^\omega K_{nn}(\varepsilon)$. Substituting Eq. (35) into Eq. (35), the energy integral can be performed to obtain

$$D(\omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_k \frac{\omega + \Delta \mu_{kn}}{\varepsilon(\omega + \Delta \mu_{kn})/T - 1} \times e^{(\omega + \Delta \mu_{kn})/T} [K_{kn}(\bar{\varepsilon}_{kn}) - \omega \partial^\omega K_{kn}(\bar{\varepsilon}_{kn})],$$

(40)

To be consistent with the linear response approximation, the functions $K_{kn}$ and $\partial^{s/\omega} K_{kn}$ have to be evaluated to first order in $\Delta \mu/\tau_D$. We proceed with this expansion below for the case of two leads, for which the expressions are more transparent. The indices $k, n$ describe hereafter (the two) lead indices only, where we implicitly assume a summation over the channel index. A generalization to an arbitrary number of leads is straightforward. Without loss of generality we write $\mu_k = \mu - \Delta \mu/2$, $\mu_L = \mu + \Delta \mu/2$ with $\Delta \mu > 0$. Explicitly, $K_{k0L}(\mu_L) = K_{k0LL}(\mu) + \Delta \mu \partial^s \varepsilon K_{kLR}(\mu)$ and $K_{k0RR}(\mu_R) = K_{k0LR}(\mu) - \Delta \mu \partial^s \varepsilon K_{kRR}(\mu)$. Hence, within linear response we obtain (with $\omega_\pm = \omega \pm \Delta \mu$)

\[ \begin{align*}
D(\omega) &= \frac{1}{4\pi} \coth \left( \frac{\omega}{2T} \right) \left[ K_{k0LL}(\mu) + K_{k0LR}(\mu) + \Delta \mu \left( \partial^{\omega} K_{k0LL}(\mu) - \partial^{s} K_{k0LR}(\mu) \right) \right] \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ \omega_+ \coth \left( \frac{\omega_+}{2T} \right) + \omega_- \coth \left( \frac{\omega_-}{2T} \right) \right] K_{k0LR}(\mu) \\
&\quad + \frac{\omega}{4\pi} \left[ -\omega_+ \coth \left( \frac{\omega_+}{2T} \right) + \omega_- \coth \left( \frac{\omega_-}{2T} \right) \right] \partial^s K_{k0LR}(\mu).
\end{align*} \]

(41)

(42)

(43)

Plugging in these identities in Eq. (41) we obtain the anticipated result stated in Eq. (10).

In order to be sensitive to non-equilibrium effects, we need to impose temperatures smaller than the bias. We therefore take the zero temperature limit of the noise correlator given in Eq. (10). For $|\omega| < \Delta \mu$ we then obtain

$$D(\omega) = D_{[0, \Delta \mu]} + |\omega| \left( \gamma^eq - \frac{D_{[0, \Delta \mu]}}{\Delta \mu} \right) + \frac{\omega^2}{2} \gamma^neq \frac{\Delta \mu}{\Delta \mu},$$

(48)

while for $|\omega| > \Delta \mu$ we have

$$D(\omega) = |\omega| \gamma,$$

(49)

where we have used that $\lim_{x \to \pm \infty} \coth x = \pm 1$.

### B. Short- and long-time dynamics

Inserting Eqs. (48) - (49) into Eq. (21) we can express the decay of the Loschmidt echo in terms of the meso-
scopic coefficients that control the Langevin dynamics of a heavy particle embedded in the fermionic environment, cf. Eq. (1). We obtain

\[ \ln L_P (\tau) = - \frac{\alpha_p}{\pi} \left[ \gamma_e + \ln \left( \frac{\tau}{\tau_D} \right) \right] \delta X^\dagger \cdot \gamma \cdot \delta X^\dagger \]

\[ + \frac{\alpha_p}{\pi} \left[ \gamma_e + \ln (\Delta \mu) \right] \delta X^\dagger \cdot \left( \frac{D_{[0,\Delta \mu]}}{\Delta \mu} + \gamma_{\text{eq}} \right) \cdot \delta X \]

\[ - \beta_p \frac{\tau}{\pi} \delta X^\dagger \cdot D_{[0,\Delta \mu]} \cdot \delta X \]

\[ - \frac{\Delta \mu}{\pi} \cdot \gamma_{\text{eq}} \cdot \delta X \]

\[ + \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \alpha_p - 2 \beta_p \cos (\Delta \mu \tau) \right) \delta X^\dagger \cdot \frac{D_{[0,\Delta \mu]}}{\Delta \mu} \cdot \delta X. \]

(50)

with \( \delta_S = 2 \), \( \delta_A = 1/2 \). Eq. (50) gives the behavior of the Loschmidt echo at arbitrary times larger than the dwell time, up to quadratic order in \( \delta X \). In the following we further investigate different timescale regimes.

The short-time dynamics is given by the limit \( \Delta \mu \tau \ll 1 \) — “short times” here should be considered as short with respect to the inverse bias time scale but long compared to the dwell time \( \tau_D \). In this regime we conclude

\[ \ln L_P (\tau) = - \frac{\alpha_p}{\pi} \left[ \gamma_e + \ln \left( \frac{\tau}{\tau_D} \right) \right] \delta X^\dagger \cdot \gamma \cdot \delta X^\dagger, \]

(51)

which yields Eq. (30). Note that the equilibrium friction term given by \( \gamma_{\text{eq}} \) constitutes the dominant contribution for the decay, and the full friction matrix \( \gamma \) is restricted to positive values for small \( \Delta \mu \tau_D \ll 1 \), which ensures that \( L_{PQ} (\tau) \leq 1 \) for all times \( \tau \).

We turn now to evaluating Eq. (50) in the long-time limit \( \Delta \mu \tau \gg 1 \). Writing \( \ln (\tau/\tau_D) = \ln (\Delta \mu \tau/(\Delta \mu \tau_D)) \) and observing that \( \Delta \mu \tau_D \ln (\Delta \mu \tau_D) \) goes to zero for \( \Delta \mu \tau_D \ll 1 \) we obtain

\[ \ln L_P (\tau) = - \beta_p \frac{\tau}{\pi} \delta X^\dagger \cdot D_{[0,\Delta \mu]} \cdot \delta X \]

\[ - \frac{\alpha_p}{\pi} \left[ \gamma_e + \ln (\Delta \mu \tau) \right] \delta X^\dagger \cdot \left( \gamma_{\text{eq}} - \frac{D_{[0,\Delta \mu]}}{\Delta \mu} \right) \cdot \delta X \]

\[ + \frac{\alpha_p}{\pi} \ln (\Delta \mu \tau_D) \delta X^\dagger \cdot \gamma_{\text{eq}} \cdot \delta X \]

\[ - \frac{\Delta \mu}{\pi} \delta X^\dagger \cdot \gamma_{\text{eq}} \cdot \delta X \]

\[ + \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \alpha_p - 2 \beta_p \cos (\Delta \mu \tau) \right) \delta X^\dagger \cdot \frac{D_{[0,\Delta \mu]}}{\Delta \mu} \cdot \delta X. \]

(52)

from which we obtain Eq. (31) by keeping the dominant terms in large \( \tau \). The exponential suppression of the Loschmidt echo is dictated by the shot-noise fluctuations in the system (note that \( D_{[0,\Delta \mu]} \) is positive definite) and it is consistent with a leading behavior of Gaussian white noise for the fluctuating force correlator \( D(t',t) \) in Eq. (2). Furthermore, the exponent of the powerlaw shows a competition between fluctuations and dissipation, which is a clear signature of the departure from equilibrium — as remarked before, the corresponding powerlaw is absent in the equilibrium, finite temperature case. Since \( \gamma_{\text{eq}} = D_{[0,T,0]}/(2T) \) for zero bias, the sign of the exponent \( - \delta X^\dagger \cdot \left[ \gamma_{\text{eq}} - D_{[0,\Delta \mu]}/(\Delta \mu) \right] \cdot \delta X \) depends on the asymmetry between shot and Nyquist noise in the linear response regime. In fact, this exponent can be positive for finite bias, which leads to an enhancement of the powerlaw instead of the usual decay, which has been dubbed as “anti-orthogonality” [29]. We note however that \( - \delta X^\dagger \cdot \left[ \gamma_{\text{eq}} - D_{[0,\Delta \mu]}/(\Delta \mu) \right] \cdot \delta X \) is always negative (see Eqs. (47) and (C.4)). The sign change of the exponent happens when the leading order \( K_{RL} (\mu) \approx - K_{LL} (\mu) \) cancels out, such that the linear order correction \( \gamma_{\text{eq}} \) in the bias becomes dominant, which can then lead to a change of the sign of the exponent.

Since the out-of-equilibrium short-time dynamics is essentially the equilibrium one, the identity \( L_S (\tau) = L_A (\tau)^2 \) is still fulfilled in this limit, as can be seen directly from Eq. (51). On the other hand, in the large-time regime, we conclude from Eq. (52) that this identity is violated due to the factor \( \beta_p \) in the exponential. This difference, attributed to the structure of \( g(t) \), can already be obtained by looking at Eq. (19). Assuming white noise, we immediately deduce from Eq. (19) an exponential decay of the Loschmidt echo with an exponent \( - \beta_p \delta X^\dagger \cdot D_{[0,\Delta \mu]} \cdot \delta X \tau \). The powerlaw decay in Eq. (52) constitutes minor correction terms to the white noise assumption, and therefore to leading order in \( \tau_D/\tau \) we obtain \( L_S (\tau) = L_A (\tau)^{1/\beta_A} \) as in the equilibrium, finite temperature case given in Eq. (29).

In Sec. VI we study these results for a specific example of a two-level model coupled to one vibrational mode.

VI. EXAMPLE: TWO-LEVEL MODEL WITH ONE VIBRATIONAL MODE

In this section we analyze the sudden quench Loschmidt echo for the example of a system with one classical degree of freedom connected to two leads. This serves as an toy model to illustrate the above results. The “heavy” classical degree of freedom \( X = X(t) \) corresponds to a mechanical vibrational mode of the system. Accordingly we consider the Hamiltonian

\[ \mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_X + \mathcal{H}_L + \mathcal{H}_D + \mathcal{H}_T \]

(53)
where the different terms are specified as

$$H_X = \frac{P^2}{2M} + U(X)$$  \hspace{1cm} (54)

$$H_L = \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \sum \eta \left( \varepsilon - \mu_\eta \right) c_\eta^\dagger(\varepsilon)c_\eta(\varepsilon)$$  \hspace{1cm} (55)

$$H_D = \sum_{mm'} d_m^d [h_0(X)]_{mm'} d_{m'}$$  \hspace{1cm} (56)

$$H_T = \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \sum \eta \epsilon_m(\varepsilon) W_{\eta m}(\varepsilon) d_m + h.c.$$  \hspace{1cm} (57)

Here, the operator $c_\eta^\dagger(\varepsilon)$ [$c_\eta(\varepsilon)$] creates [annihilates] electronic states $|\phi_\eta(\varepsilon)\rangle$, which are approaching the scattering region from lead $\eta = L, R$ with chemical potential $\mu_L \geq \mu_R$. $H_X$ describes the evolution of the parameter $X$ with potential $U(X)$, mass $M$ and frequency $\omega_0$. $H_D$ models the two-level system (quantum dot) with states $|m\rangle$, created (annihilated) by the operators $d_m^d$ ($d_m^\dagger$). $H_T$ represents tunneling between the leads and the system with tunneling amplitudes $W_{\eta m}(\varepsilon) = \langle \phi_\eta(\varepsilon) | W | m \rangle / \sqrt{2\pi}$. The coupling of the mechanical degree of freedom and the electrons in the dot is described by the matrix $h_0(X)$.

We consider a two-level system with degenerate energy levels $\varepsilon_0$. The single oscillator mode $X$ is assumed to couple to the difference in the energy level occupation with a strength given by $\lambda$. Hence we write

$$h_0(X) = \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_+ & t \\ t & \varepsilon_- \end{pmatrix}$$  \hspace{1cm} (58)

with interdot tunneling amplitude $t$ and $\varepsilon_{\pm} = \varepsilon_0 \pm \lambda X$. Tunneling from the left (right) lead to the two-level system and back is described by the amplitudes $\Gamma_L$ ($\Gamma_R$) which for simplicity we take as $\Gamma_L = \Gamma_R = \Gamma/2$. In the wide-band approximation these amplitudes are assumed to be energy independent. With these definitions, the coupling matrix $W_{\eta m}$ reads

$$W = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\Gamma/2\pi} & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{\Gamma/2\pi} \end{pmatrix}$$  \hspace{1cm} (59)

and the frozen retarded Green’s function takes the form

$$G^R_X(\varepsilon) = \frac{1}{\Delta_X(\varepsilon)} \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon - \varepsilon_- + i\Gamma/2 & t \\ t & \varepsilon - \varepsilon_+ + i\Gamma/2 \end{pmatrix}$$  \hspace{1cm} (60)

with $\Delta_X(\varepsilon) = (\varepsilon - \varepsilon_- + i\Gamma/2)(\varepsilon - \varepsilon_+ + i\Gamma/2) - t^2$. This model was studied in Ref. 29 in the context of current-induced forces. The frozen scattering matrix $S$ and its first order non-adiabatic correction $A$ are given by

$$S_X(\varepsilon) = 1 - \frac{i\Gamma}{L_X(\varepsilon)} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$  \hspace{1cm} (61)

![FIG. 2. Sudden quench Loschmidt echo as given in Eq. (50) and comparison to the short- and long-time behavior Eqs. (30), (31) (with the corresponding proportionality coefficients), for the example of a two-level system coupled to one vibrational mode with $\Gamma = t = 0.48$, $\tau_D = 1/\Gamma = 2.08$, $\varepsilon_0 = 0$, $\Delta\mu = 0.04$, $\delta X = 0.15$, $X = 0.4$, $T = 0$. All energies (and inverse times) are in units of $\lambda^2/(M\omega_0^2)$ and distances in units of $\lambda/(M\omega_0^2)$.](image)

![FIG. 3. Linear response solution of the sudden Loschmidt echo — Eq. (50), vs. general solution [i.e. Eq. (35) inserted into Eq. (21)] at different bias voltages, (a) $\Delta\mu = 0.04$, (b) $\Delta\mu = 0.4$; others parameters as in Fig. 2](image)

$$A_X(\varepsilon) = \frac{\lambda \Gamma t}{\Delta_X(\varepsilon)^2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$  \hspace{1cm} (62)

where $L_X(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon - \varepsilon_+ + i\Gamma$. With the expression of the S-matrix and the A-matrix, we can determine all the mesoscopic coefficients appearing in the Langevin Eq. (1), which determine the behavior of the Loschmidt echo. This is depicted for arbitrary times $\tau > \tau_D$ in Fig. 2 according to Eq. (50), and compared to the small and large time regimes expressions in Eqs. (30), (31). The dwell time enters in this example as a timescale which is of the order of the inverse tunneling amplitudes.

The considered model allows us to analyze the Loschmidt echo also outside of the linear response regime, by directly evaluating the colored noise-noise correlator as given in Eq. (35). The matrix $\partial_\varepsilon V_X(\varepsilon, \varepsilon')$ [see Eq. (32)]
This result allowed us to study Anderson orthogonality effects for the open quantum system. In the particular case of equilibrium and zero temperature, the decay of the Loschmidt echo is a power law controlled by the dissipation coefficient of the heavy particle, in agreement with the results found in Ref. [21] in which the exponent of the Anderson orthogonality was related to the dissipation of a heavy particle moving in a finite-sized quantum environment. For finite temperatures, in the limit of long times we recovered an exponential decay which reflects the classical version of the fluctuation-dissipation theorem.

When a small bias is imposed, we showed that in the long-time dynamics (as compared to the energy scale given by the bias), the Loschmidt echo is dictated by an exponential decay with a strength given by the shot-noise fluctuations. The exponential decay is consistent with a white-noise spectrum to leading order. As a correction term to white noise, the Loschmidt echo shows an algebraic behavior with a powerlaw exponent given by a competition between fluctuations and dissipation. This competition can give rise to changes in the sign of the powerlaw exponent. The powerlaw correction to the exponential decay is characteristic of non-equilibrium effects and is absent in equilibrium at finite temperatures. In the case of short-time dynamics, the system is mostly insensitive to the applied bias and the Loschmidt echo still presents a powerlaw decay, controlled by the full non-equilibrium dissipation coefficient.

The results summarized above are independent of the quench scenario. In particular we studied the complementary cases of sudden and slow quenches, and showed that in equilibrium the sudden quench Loschmidt echo is the square of the Loschmidt echo for the slow quench, independent of the functional form of the slow quench. This relation generalizes the relation found for finite quantum systems at infinite times in Ref. [43] and [44] where a Luttinger liquid model which is subject to a linear slow quench was studied. We find that this correspondence breaks down out of equilibrium or for finite temperatures. To leading order however we can still establish a simple relation involving a non-universal exponent.

VII. SUMMARY

In this paper we calculated perturbatively the decay of the Loschmidt echo for an open non-interacting fermionic system in the presence of an external bias, which is subject to a scattering potential quench. We expressed our results in terms of the mesoscopic quantities describing the complementary problem of a heavy particle moving in a quantum environment, and showed that the Loschmidt echo decay is controlled by the noise correlator of the heavy particle.

This result allowed us to study Anderson orthogonality effects for the open quantum system. In the particular case of equilibrium and zero temperature, the decay of the Loschmidt echo is a power law controlled by the dissipation coefficient of the heavy particle, in agreement with the results found in Ref. [21] in which the exponent of the Anderson orthogonality was related to the dissipation of a heavy particle moving in a finite-sized quantum environment. For finite temperatures, in the limit of long times we recovered an exponential decay which reflects the classical version of the fluctuation-dissipation theorem.

When a small bias is imposed, we showed that in the long-time dynamics (as compared to the energy scale given by the bias), the Loschmidt echo is dictated by an exponential decay with a strength given by the shot-noise fluctuations. The exponential decay is consistent with a white-noise spectrum to leading order. As a correction term to white noise, the Loschmidt echo shows an algebraic behavior with a powerlaw exponent given by a competition between fluctuations and dissipation. This competition can give rise to changes in the sign of the powerlaw exponent. The powerlaw correction to the exponential decay is characteristic of non-equilibrium effects and is absent in equilibrium at finite temperatures. In the case of short-time dynamics, the system is mostly insensitive to the applied bias and the Loschmidt echo still presents a powerlaw decay, controlled by the full non-equilibrium dissipation coefficient.

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Appendix A  ADIABATIC PROTOCOLS

In this appendix we show that Eq. (25) is independent of the adiabatic quenching protocol. In particular we show that for any function \( g(t) \) which grows as a powerlaw to its maximal value on a timescale much larger than \( \tau_D \), we obtain a powerlaw decay of the Loschmidt echo as in Eq. (25) for \( \alpha_p = 1 \). We are interested in the equilibrium behaviour at zero temperature. Equation (23) is valid for any quenching protocol with \( g(0) = 0 \) and \( g(\tau) = 1 \). Specifying the quench dynamics to \( g(t) = \left( \frac{t}{\tau} \right)^n \) with \( n \geq 1 \) integer we read off

\[
\ln \mathcal{L}_{AQ}(\tau) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{1/\tau_D} d\omega \omega \left| \int_0^\tau dt \left( \frac{t}{\tau} \right)^n e^{i\omega t} \right|^2 \delta\mathbf{X}^\dagger \cdot \gamma^{eq}(\mathbf{X}) \cdot \delta\mathbf{X}.
\]  

(A.1)

We split the integral with respect to \( \omega \) into a part \( \omega \leq 1/\tau \) and \( \omega \geq 1/\tau \). Since the integral where \( \omega \leq 1/\tau \) gives only a constant (which depends on the value of \( n \)), it is irrelevant at large \( \tau/\tau_D \gg 1 \). We are thus left with

\[
\ln \mathcal{L}_{AQ}(\tau) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{1/\tau_D} d\omega \omega \left| \int_0^\tau dt \left( \frac{t}{\tau} \right)^n e^{i\omega t} \right|^2 \delta\mathbf{X}^\dagger \cdot \gamma^{eq}(\mathbf{X}) \cdot \delta\mathbf{X}.
\]

(A.2)

We perform an integration by parts to evaluate the integral in the absolute square values. For large \( \tau/\tau_D \) we approximate to leading order

\[
\int_0^\tau dt \left( \frac{t}{\tau} \right)^n e^{i\omega t} = e^{i\omega\tau/(n\omega)}.
\]

(A.3)

Inserting this into Eq. (A.1) we conclude that

\[
\ln \mathcal{L}_{AQ}(\tau) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{\alpha\beta} \ln \left( \frac{\tau}{\tau_D} \right) \delta\mathbf{X}^\dagger \cdot \gamma^{eq}(\mathbf{X}) \cdot \delta\mathbf{X}
\]

(A.4)

up to an irrelevant constant for all \( g(t) = \left( \frac{t}{\tau} \right)^n \) with \( n \geq 1 \) integer. Comparing to the large time behaviour of the Loschmidt echo for the sudden quench scenario we readily deduce the validity of Eq. (25) independent of the adiabatic quenching protocol.

Appendix B  ADIABATIC SCATTERING THEORY

In this appendix we outline the elements of scattering theory used in the main text. For \( \mathcal{H}_X = \mathcal{H}_0 + V_X \) assuming non-interacting particles, we can write

\[
\mathcal{H}_X = \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \int \frac{d\varepsilon'}{2\pi} \sum_{kn} [H_X]_{kn}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') a_k^X\dagger(\varepsilon) a_n^X(\varepsilon'),
\]

(B.1)

with the single-particle Hamiltonian \( H_X = \mathcal{H}_0 + V_X \). The operators \( a^X_k(\varepsilon) \) and \( a^X_k(\varepsilon) \) annihilate and create, respectively, the retarded single-particle scattering states \( |\psi^{X+}_m(\varepsilon)\rangle \) of the Hamiltonian \( H_X \) with energy \( \varepsilon \) and combined channel and lead index \( m \), hence it follows

\[
[H_X]_{kn}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = \langle \psi^{X+}_k(\varepsilon)|H_X|\psi^{X+}_n(\varepsilon')\rangle.
\]

(B.2)

The corresponding advanced scattering states are indicated with the superscript \((-)\), that is \( |\psi^{X-}_m(\varepsilon)\rangle \). These scattering states are solutions of the time-independent Schrödinger equation at every time \( t \) [note that we consider \( X = X(t) \)], and obey the Lippmann-Schwinger equation. The retarded and advanced scattering states are defined by their boundary conditions: \( |\psi^{X+}_m(\varepsilon)\rangle \) has incoming (outgoing) waves only in channel/lead \( m \), and evolved from the free states \( |\phi_m(\varepsilon)\rangle \) at \( t \rightarrow \pm\infty \), which fulfill \( H_0|\phi_m(\varepsilon)\rangle = \varepsilon |\phi_m(\varepsilon)\rangle \) with energy \( \varepsilon \). We normalize the scattering states to unit
flux. The overlap between retarded and advanced scattering states then defines the S-matrix as

\[ S^m_X(\varepsilon) 2\pi \delta(\varepsilon - \varepsilon') = \langle \psi^+_m(\varepsilon) | \psi^-_m(\varepsilon') \rangle. \]  

(B.3)

From this definition it follows that \( S^m_X(\varepsilon) S_X(\varepsilon) = 1 \), because of the scattering states’ normalization to unit flux.

For a Hamiltonian which parametrically depends on time via the classical parameter \( X \), Eq. (B.3) gives the frozen S-matrix of the system: the solution of the time-independent scattering problem at time \( t \). The exact S-matrix \( S(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') \) is defined through the overlap of retarded and advanced scattering states solution of the full time-dependent problem. In this context, “slowly varying” means that the dynamics of \( X \) are much slower than the electronic time scales. To first order in the adiabatic expansion we can write, in the Wigner representation, \( A^{m,\alpha}(\varepsilon) = \sum_k A_k^X(\varepsilon) \dot{X}_k \). The zeroth order is given by the frozen S-matrix. The first nonadiabatic correction to the S-matrix is given by \(^{22}\)

\[ A^{m,\alpha}(\varepsilon) = \frac{1}{2} \langle \partial_\varepsilon \psi_m^-(\varepsilon) | \partial_\alpha V_X | \psi_m^+(\varepsilon) \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \langle \psi_m^-(\varepsilon) | \partial_\alpha V_X | \partial_\varepsilon \psi_m^+(\varepsilon) \rangle. \]  

(B.4)

with \( \partial_\alpha = \partial/\partial X_\alpha \) and \( \partial_\varepsilon \psi_m^{\pm}(\varepsilon) \equiv \partial_\varepsilon | \psi_m^{\pm}(\varepsilon) \rangle \). Note that throughout the manuscript we work in the Heisenberg picture, so that there is no explicit time dependence on the states. Due to unitarity, the S and A matrix fulfill \(^{22}\)

\[ \langle \psi_n^- | \partial_\varepsilon V | \psi_k^+ \rangle = i \partial_\varepsilon S_{nk}(\varepsilon), \]  

(B.5)

\[ \langle \psi_n^- | \partial_\alpha V | \partial_\varepsilon \psi_k^+ \rangle = -A_{nk}^\alpha(\varepsilon) + \frac{i}{2} \partial_\varepsilon \partial_\alpha S_{nk}(\varepsilon). \]  

(B.6)

These relations will be used in the next appendix.

We can express the reaction forces in the Langevin Eq. (1) in terms of Eqs. (B.3) and (B.4), which we list here for completeness. \(^{22,25,26}\) The Born-Oppenheimer force is given by

\[ F_\alpha(X) = \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi i} \sum_n f_n(\varepsilon) \text{tr} \left\{ \Pi_n S^m_X(\varepsilon) \partial_\alpha S_X(\varepsilon) \right\}, \]  

(B.7)

where \( \text{tr}\{\ldots\} \) denotes a trace over scattering channels, \( f_n(\varepsilon) = [\exp((\varepsilon - \mu_{n})/T + 1)]^{-1} \) is the fermionic distribution function in lead \( n \) with chemical potential \( \mu_n \), and \( \partial_\alpha = \partial/\partial X_\alpha \), \( \Pi_n \) is a projector onto channel \( n \). The two contributions to the dissipative force as discussed in the main text are in turn given by

\[ \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{eq}}(X) = -\sum_n \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{4\pi} \partial_\varepsilon [f_n(\varepsilon)] \text{tr} \left\{ \Pi_n \partial_\alpha S^m_X(\varepsilon) \partial_{\beta} S_X(\varepsilon) \right\} \]  

(B.8)

\[ \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{neq}}(X) = \sum_n \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi i} f_n(\varepsilon) \text{tr} \left\{ \Pi_n \left[ \partial_\alpha S^\dagger_X(\varepsilon) A_k^X(\varepsilon) - A_k^X(\varepsilon) \partial_{\alpha} S_X(\varepsilon) \right] \right\}. \]  

(B.9)

The white-noise fluctuating force correlator is given by

\[ D_{\alpha\beta}(X) = \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \sum_{k,m} f_m(\varepsilon) \left[ 1 \mp f_k(\varepsilon) \right] \text{tr} \left\{ \Pi_m \left[ S^\dagger_X(\varepsilon) \partial_\alpha S_X(\varepsilon) \right] \partial_{\beta} S_X(\varepsilon) \right\}. \]  

(B.10)

In equilibrium it is connected to the friction coefficient via \( D_{\alpha\beta} = 2k_B T \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{eq}}, \) where \( \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{eq}} \) is evaluated in equilibrium. This agrees with the fluctuation-dissipation theorem in Eq. (7) in the classical limit \( \omega \ll T \).

**Appendix C  IDENTIFICATION OF FRICTION AND NOISE WITHIN SCATTERING THEORY**

Below we derive, within the framework of scattering theory, Eqs. (37) and (44) - (46) of the main text, which give the connection of the Loschmidt echo to fluctuations and dissipation. The friction tensor and the noise correlator are
given in Eqs. (B.8) - (B.10). In linear response these quantities read

\[
(\gamma_0^{eq})_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \text{tr} \left\{ \partial_\alpha S^\dagger \frac{1}{\mu} \partial_\beta S_\mu \right\}_s
\]

(C.1)

\[
(\gamma_1^{eq})_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{\Delta \mu}{8\pi} \left\{ \partial_\varepsilon \left[ \left( \partial_\alpha S^\dagger_\varepsilon \right) \cdot \partial_\beta S_\varepsilon \right]_{LL} - \left( \partial_\alpha S^\dagger_\varepsilon \right) \cdot \partial_\beta S_\varepsilon \right\}_{RR, \varepsilon = \mu}
\]

(C.2)

\[
(\gamma_1^{eq})_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{\Delta \mu}{4\pi} \left\{ \left( \partial_\alpha S^\dagger_\varepsilon \right) \cdot \partial_\beta S_\varepsilon \right\}_s
\]

(C.3)

We begin by expressing the function \(K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon)\), defined in the main text in Eq. (33), in terms of the S-matrix. By twice inserting the complete set of advanced scattering states \(1 = \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \sum_{nl} |\psi^+_n(\varepsilon)\rangle\langle\psi^-_n(\varepsilon)|\) we conclude from Eqs. (32) and (33) that

\[
K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) = \left\{ \langle \psi_{kn}^+(\varepsilon) | \partial_\alpha \psi_{kn}^+ | \partial_\beta \psi_{kn}^+ \rangle \right\}_s
\]

(C.4)

Because of the unitarity of the scattering matrix it readily follows that

\[
\frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{kn} K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\mu) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \text{tr} \left\{ \partial_\alpha S^\dagger_\mu \cdot \partial_\beta S_\mu \right\}_s = (\gamma_0^{eq})_{\alpha\beta}
\]

(C.5)

at \(T \to 0\) by referring to Eq. (C.1). We thus have proven Eq. (37). We continue with the derivation of Eq. (44). Here we note that \(\partial_\varepsilon^2 K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\varepsilon K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon)\) and \(\partial_\varepsilon^2 K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) = \partial_\varepsilon^2 K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon)\). The latter property follows immediately from the relation \(K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) = K_{nk}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon)\) and due to the symmetric summation in the indices \(\alpha\) and \(\beta\). Hence we get

\[
\frac{\Delta \mu}{4\pi} \left[ \partial_\varepsilon^2 K_{LL}^{\alpha\beta}(\mu) - \partial_\varepsilon^2 K_{RR}^{\alpha\beta}(\mu) \right] = \frac{\Delta \mu}{8\pi} \sum_{n=L,R} \partial_\varepsilon \left[ \left( K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) - K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) \right)_{\varepsilon = \mu} \right]
\]

\[
= \frac{\Delta \mu}{4\pi} \partial_\varepsilon \left\{ \left( \partial_\alpha S^\dagger_\varepsilon \right) \cdot \partial_\beta S_\varepsilon \right\}_s
\]

(C.6)

by referring to Eq. (C.2) in the last step which proves Eq. (44). In order to derive the relation in Eq. (45) we first observe that \(\partial_\varepsilon K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon)\) can be written in terms of the S- and A-matrix. Again, inserting two complete sets of advanced scattering states, we find

\[
\partial_\varepsilon K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \partial_\varepsilon - \partial_\varepsilon' \right) K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon')_{\varepsilon' = \varepsilon}
\]

\[
= \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \left( \partial_\varepsilon \psi_{kn}^+(\varepsilon) \right) \partial_\alpha \psi_{kn}^+ \langle \psi_{kn}^+(\varepsilon) | \partial_\beta \psi_{kn}^+ \right\}
\]

\[
+ \langle \psi_{kn}^+(\varepsilon) | \partial_\alpha \psi_{kn}^+ \partial_\varepsilon \left( \psi_{kn}^+(\varepsilon) \right) \partial_\beta \psi_{kn}^+ \rangle
\]

\[
- \langle \psi_{kn}^+(\varepsilon) | \partial_\alpha \psi_{kn}^+ \partial_\varepsilon \left( \psi_{kn}^+(\varepsilon) \right) \partial_\beta \psi_{kn}^+ \rangle
\]

\[
= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ml} \left\{ \left( \partial_\alpha S^\dagger_\varepsilon \right) \cdot \partial_\beta S_\varepsilon \right\}_s
\]

\[
- \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ml} \left\{ A^\dagger_\varepsilon \right\}_s
\]

(C.7)

In order to identify the pure nonequilibrium friction tensor in linear response [cf. Eq. (C.3)], we observe that \(\partial_\varepsilon K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) = -\partial_\varepsilon K_{nk}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon)\), where we stress that \(\partial_\varepsilon K_{nn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) = 0\). Restricting to two leads \(k, n = L, R\) we thus con-
\[ \frac{\Delta \mu}{4\pi} \left[ \partial_\varepsilon K_{RL}^{\alpha\beta}(\mu) - \partial_\varepsilon K_{LR}^{\alpha\beta}(\mu) \right] = \frac{\Delta \mu}{4\pi} \sum_{n=L,R} \left[ \partial_\varepsilon K_{Rn}^{\alpha\beta}(\mu) - \partial_\varepsilon K_{Ln}^{\alpha\beta}(\mu) \right] \]

\[ = \frac{\Delta \mu}{4\pi} \left\{ \left( \partial_\varepsilon S_t^\dagger(\mu) \cdot A_t^\alpha(\mu) - A_t^\beta(\mu) \cdot \partial_\varepsilon S_t(\mu) \right)_{LL} \right. \]

\[ - \left. \left( \partial_\varepsilon S_t^\dagger(\mu) \cdot A_t^\beta(\mu) - A_t^\alpha(\mu) \cdot \partial_\varepsilon S_t(\mu) \right)_{RR} \right\} \]

\[ = (\gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{neq}})_\alpha \beta . \quad (C.8) \]

Here we made use of \( \text{tr} \left\{ \partial_\varepsilon S_t^\dagger A_t^\beta - A_t^\beta \partial_\varepsilon S_t \right\} = 0 \) to realize that the equilibrium contribution in \( \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{neq}} \) vanishes. We conclude with Eq. (45). Finally, we show Eq. (46). For two leads, we write the correlator of the fluctuating force \[ \langle \cdots \rangle \]

\[ D_{\alpha\beta}(X) = \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \sum_{k,m=L,R} f_m(\varepsilon) \left[ 1 - f_k(\varepsilon) \right] K_{mk}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) . \quad (C.9) \]

Making use of \( f_k(\varepsilon) \left[ 1 - f_k(\varepsilon) \right] = -T \partial_\varepsilon f_k(\varepsilon) = T \delta(\varepsilon - \mu_k) \) for small \( T \), we can express the correlator in linear response to first order in the applied bias voltage as

\[ D_{\alpha\beta}(X) = \frac{T}{2\pi} \left( \sum_{k,m=L,R} \frac{\Delta \mu}{2} \left[ \partial_\varepsilon K_{LL}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) - \partial_\varepsilon K_{RR}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) \right]_{\varepsilon = \mu} + \frac{\Delta \mu}{4\pi} \left[ K_{LR}^{\alpha\beta}(\mu) + K_{RL}^{\alpha\beta}(\mu) \right] \right) \]

\[ \text{since } K_{km}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) = K_{mk}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) . \]

With \( \frac{1}{2} \partial_\varepsilon = \partial_\varepsilon^2 \) we identify the equilibrium friction tensor in Eq. (C.1) and its non-equilibrium correction in Eq. (C.2) in the above expression for the correlator. For \( T \rightarrow 0 \) we then obtain Eq. (46).

**Appendix D ALTERNATIVE KELDYSH APPROACH**

This appendix presents an alternative derivation of the results in the main text by using Keldysh’s Green’s functions technique. We consider the generic Hamiltonian given in Eq. (53) and we define the *time-dependent* Green functions of the dot

\[ \mathcal{G}_m^{\mathrm{R}(t,t')} = -i \theta(t - t') \langle \{ d_m(t), d_m^\dagger(t') \} \rangle \]

\[ \mathcal{G}_m^{\mathrm{A}(t,t')} = i \theta(t' - t) \langle \{ d_m(t), d_m^\dagger(t') \} \rangle \]

\[ \mathcal{G}_m^{\mathrm{>}(t,t')} = -i \langle d_m(t) d_m^\dagger(t') \rangle \]

\[ \mathcal{G}_m^{\mathrm{<}(t,t')} = i \langle d_m^\dagger(t') d_m(t) \rangle \]

where the curly brackets \( \langle \ldots \rangle \) denote the anti-commutator operation. We assume stationary states throughout this section so that the above defined Green’s functions depend on the difference of the time arguments. With these definitions the noise correlator defined in Eq. (2) reads

\[ D_{\alpha\beta}(t - t') = \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \int \frac{d\varepsilon'}{2\pi} e^{i(\varepsilon - \varepsilon')(t - t')} \text{tr} \left\{ \Lambda_\alpha \mathcal{G}^\rangle(\varepsilon) \Lambda_\beta \mathcal{G}^\langle(\varepsilon') \right\} . \quad (D.5) \]

with \( \Lambda_\alpha = \partial_{\chi_\alpha} h_0(X) \). The functions \( \mathcal{G}^\rangle(\varepsilon) \) and \( \mathcal{G}^\langle(\varepsilon') \) represent the Fourier transforms of the greater and lesser functions. It is sufficient to evaluate the noise correlator in the adiabatic limit as this already guarantees that the fluctuation-dissipation theorem is fulfilled. Here we introduce the Fourier transform of the adiabatic lesser and greater Green functions \( G^\rangle(\varepsilon) \) and \( G^\langle(\varepsilon') \) with respect to a frozen configuration \( X \) and conclude for the Fourier transform of the fluctuating force

\[ D_{\alpha\beta}(\omega) = \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \text{tr} \left\{ \Lambda_\alpha G^\rangle(\varepsilon - \omega) \Lambda_\beta G^\langle(\varepsilon + \omega) \right\} . \quad (D.6) \]
Analogously we introduce the adiabatic retarded and advanced Green functions. Using Langreth rule, we can express the greater and the lesser Green function, respectively as

\[ G^<(\varepsilon) = G^R(\varepsilon) \Sigma^<(\varepsilon) G^A(\varepsilon) \]  

\[ G^>(\varepsilon) = G^R(\varepsilon) \Sigma^>(\varepsilon) G^A(\varepsilon) \]  

with greater and lesser self-energies

\[ \Sigma^<(\varepsilon) = i \sum_k f_k(\varepsilon) W^\dagger(\varepsilon) \Pi_k(\varepsilon) W(\varepsilon) \]  

\[ \Sigma^>(\varepsilon) = -i \sum_k (1 - f_k(\varepsilon)) W^\dagger(\varepsilon) \Pi_k(\varepsilon) W(\varepsilon) \]  

where \( \Pi_k(\varepsilon) = |\phi_k(\varepsilon)\rangle\langle\phi_k(\varepsilon)| \) is a projector onto lead space and the coupling matrix \( W \) is defined via the Hamiltonian in Eq. (57).

Plugging Eqs. (D.7) and (D.8) into Eq. (D.6) we can write the noise correlator as

\[ D_{\alpha\beta}(\omega) = \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \sum_k f_k(\varepsilon) \left( \frac{\varepsilon - \omega}{2} \right) \left( 1 - f_n(\varepsilon + \frac{\omega}{2}) \right) \tilde{K}_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon - \frac{\omega}{2}, \varepsilon + \frac{\omega}{2}) \]  

where we defined the function \( \tilde{K}_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') \) as

\[ \tilde{K}_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = \text{tr} \left\{ \Lambda_\alpha G^R(\varepsilon) W^\dagger(\varepsilon) \Pi_k(\varepsilon) W(\varepsilon) G^A(\varepsilon) \Lambda_\beta G^R(\varepsilon') W^\dagger(\varepsilon') \Pi_n(\varepsilon') W(\varepsilon') G^A(\varepsilon') \right\}_S. \]  

The expression in Eq. (D.11) has the same structure as the expression in the main text in Eq. (35). Here we proceed with the analogous steps to get to the result for the noise correlator in Eqs. (48) and (49) with all its consequences for the Loschmidt echo and the fidelity amplitude. In order to show their equivalence we are thus left with identifying the coefficients

\[ (\gamma_0^{\text{eq}})_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{kn} \tilde{K}_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\mu) \]  

\[ (\gamma_1^{\text{eq}})_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{\Delta\mu}{4\pi} \left( \partial^2 \tilde{K}_{LL}^{\alpha\beta}(\mu) + \partial^2 \tilde{K}_{RL}^{\alpha\beta}(\mu) \right) \]  

\[ (\gamma_1^{\text{neg}})_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{\Delta\mu}{4\pi} \left( \partial^2 \tilde{K}_{RL}^{\alpha\beta}(\mu) - \partial^2 \tilde{K}_{LL}^{\alpha\beta}(\mu) \right) \]  

\[ \left( \frac{D}{\Delta\mu} \right)_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left( \tilde{K}_{LL}^{\alpha\beta}(\mu) + \tilde{K}_{RL}^{\alpha\beta}(\mu) \right) \]  

for two leads under symmetric summation with respect to the indices \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \) in linear response at zero temperature [cf. Eqs. (37), (38) and (39)]. We defined \( \tilde{K}_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) = \tilde{K}_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \).

We begin with the identification of the friction tensor. We take the expression of the friction tensor in terms of the adiabatic Green functions from Refs. [42, 43]

\[ \gamma_{\alpha\beta} = \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \text{tr} \left\{ \Lambda_\alpha G^>(\varepsilon) \Lambda_\beta \partial_\varepsilon G^<(\varepsilon) \right\}_S. \]  

We immediately conclude for the friction tensor in equilibrium that

\[ (\gamma_0^0)_{\alpha\beta} = \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{4\pi} \sum_{kn=L,R} \text{tr} \left\{ \Lambda_\alpha G^R(\varepsilon) W^\dagger(\mu) \Pi_k(\mu) W(\mu) G^A(\mu) \Lambda_\beta G^R(\mu) W^\dagger(\mu) \Pi_n(\mu) W(\mu) G^A(\mu) \right\}_S \]  

since \( f_k(\varepsilon) (1 - f_k(\varepsilon)) = -T \partial_\varepsilon f_k(\varepsilon) = 0 \) for \( T \rightarrow 0 \) as well as \( f(\mu) = \frac{1}{2} \) and \( -\partial_\varepsilon f(\varepsilon) = \delta(\varepsilon - \mu) \). A comparison to the definition in Eq. (D.12) readily results in Eq. (D.13).

Next we address Eqs. (D.14) and (D.15). Hereto we write the Fermi functions of the left and right lead as \( f_{L/R}(\varepsilon) = \frac{1}{2} \).
\[ f(\varepsilon) + \frac{\Delta \mu}{\pi} \partial_\varepsilon f(\varepsilon). \]

Keeping only terms linear in \( \Delta \mu \) we conclude after performing an integration by parts

\[ (\gamma_1^q + \gamma_1^{neq})_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{\Delta \mu}{8\pi} \partial_\varepsilon \left( K_{LL}(\mu, \varepsilon) + K_{LR}(\varepsilon, \mu) \right)_{\varepsilon=\mu} - \frac{\Delta \mu}{8\pi} \partial_\varepsilon \left( K_{RL}(\mu, \varepsilon) + K_{RR}(\varepsilon, \mu) \right)_{\varepsilon=\mu} \]

(D.19)

+ \frac{\Delta \mu}{8\pi} \partial_\varepsilon \left( K_{LL}(\mu, \varepsilon) + K_{LR}(\varepsilon, \mu) \right)_{\varepsilon=\mu} - \frac{\Delta \mu}{8\pi} \partial_\varepsilon \left( K_{RL}(\mu, \varepsilon) + K_{RR}(\varepsilon, \mu) \right)_{\varepsilon=\mu}

+ \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} [\partial_\varepsilon f(\varepsilon)]^2 \left( K_{LL}(\varepsilon) + K_{LR}(\varepsilon) - K_{RL}(\varepsilon) - K_{RR}(\varepsilon) \right) K_{LR}(\varepsilon).

The last terms vanish due to the symmetric summation over \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \) and since \( K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) = K_{nk}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) \). This yields Eqs. (D.14) and (D.15).

Finally we identify the delta-correlated noise and prove Eq. (D.16) in linear response. We rely on the expression

\[ D_{\alpha\beta}(\omega) = \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \text{tr}\{A_\alpha G^>(\varepsilon) A_\beta G^< (\varepsilon)\} \]

(D.20)

obtained in the literature in terms of the Green functions of the dot. Using Eqs. (D.7) and (D.8) we immediately identify

\[ D_{\alpha\beta}(\omega) = \int \frac{d\varepsilon}{2\pi} \sum_{kn=LR} f_k(\varepsilon) (1 - f_n(\varepsilon)) K_{LR}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) \]

(D.21)

To linear response we find Eq. (D.16) by using \( K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) = K_{nk}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) \) and the above stated relations for the Fermi functions.

We end this appendix by showing the direct equivalence between the function \( K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') \) defined in Eq. (D.12) and \( K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon) \) defined in Eq. (33), that is

\[ K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = \left\{ \langle \psi_k^X|\partial_\alpha H_X|\psi_n^X(\varepsilon')\rangle \langle \psi_n^X(\varepsilon')|\partial_\beta H_X|\psi_k^X(\varepsilon)\rangle \right\}_s \]

(D.22)

since \( \partial_\alpha H_X = \partial_\alpha V_X \). We note that we can relate the Green function of the dot and the scattering states via the Lippmann-Schwinger equation

\[ \Pi_D |\psi_n^X(\varepsilon)\rangle = G_R(\varepsilon) W^{\dagger} |\phi_0(\varepsilon)\rangle \]

(D.23)

where \( \Pi_D \) denotes a projector onto the space of the dot. With the aid of \( \partial_\alpha H_X = \Pi_D \partial_\alpha h_0(X) \Pi_D \) and the Lippmann-Schwinger equation projected onto the dot’s space in Eq. (D.23) we have

\[ K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = \left\{ \langle \phi_k(\varepsilon)|W(\varepsilon) G^A(\varepsilon) \partial_\alpha H_X G_R(\varepsilon') W^{\dagger}(\varepsilon') |\phi_n(\varepsilon')\rangle \langle \phi_n(\varepsilon')|W(\varepsilon') G^A(\varepsilon') \partial_\beta H_X G_R(\varepsilon) W^{\dagger}(\varepsilon) |\phi_k(\varepsilon)\rangle \right\}_s \]

(D.24)

Due to symmetric summation under exchanging the indices \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \) and using that \( \Pi_n(\varepsilon') = |\phi_n(\varepsilon')\rangle \langle \phi_n(\varepsilon')| \) we conclude that

\[ K_{kn}^{\alpha\beta}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = \text{tr} \left\{ \partial_\alpha H_X G_R(\varepsilon') W^{\dagger}(\varepsilon') \Pi_n(\varepsilon') W(\varepsilon') G^A(\varepsilon') \partial_\beta H_X G_R(\varepsilon) W^{\dagger}(\varepsilon) \Pi_k(\varepsilon) W(\varepsilon) G^A(\varepsilon) \right\}_s \]

(D.25)

This shows explicitly the equivalence to the scattering states approach.

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