Exotic quantum holonomy in Hamiltonian systems

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Abstract

We study the evolution of quantum eigenstates in the presence of level crossing under adiabatic cyclic change of environmental parameters. We find that exotic holonomies, indicated by exchange of the eigenstates after a single cyclic evolution, can arise from non-Abelian gauge potentials among non-degenerate levels. We illustrate our arguments with solvable two and three level models.

Key words: geometric phase, non-Abelian gauge potential, adiabatic quantum control

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1. Introduction

Berry phase phenomena are known to be wide-spread, intriguing, and useful in controlling quantum systems [1,2]. The Wilczek-Zee variation, in which different eigenstates sharing a degeneracy are turned into each other after the cyclic variation of environmental parameter [3], is found particularly useful, since it supplies the basis for so-called holonomic quantum computing [4]. Whether such state transformations require the existence of degeneracy throughout the parameter variation, is a matter in need of further analysis, although it has been the wide-spread assumption.

The exotic holonomies are defined as exchange of eigenstates after one period of cyclic parametric evolution without any relevant degeneracy. They have been found in time-periodic systems [5,6] and in singular systems [7,8], but not in finite Hamiltonian systems up to now. One obvious reason is that the two real numbers in a real axis cannot be continuously exchanged without colliding with each other, i.e. degeneracy. Note that in a time periodic system described by a unitary matrix, its eigenvalues are complex number on the unit circle in the complex plane so that the eigenvalues smoothly exchange their position without crossing over each other. Once level crossing is allowed during the variation of environmental parameter, even in Hamiltonian system there is a possibility of the eigenlevels being exchanged after the cyclic parameter variation even among non-degenerate levels, which would be instrumental in enlarging the resource for holonomic quantum control.

It appears that this is related to a myth that adiabatic parameter variation excludes level crossing, and therefore, there is no possibility for exotic quantum holonomies for non-singular Hamiltonian system. An argument often raised against systems with level crossing is that it is not generic, and it represents a set of measure zero in parameter space of all systems. However, systems of our interest often lives in a world with some symmetry, exact or approximate. Under certain circumstances, a system can always pass through the point of symmetry when an environmental parameter is varied along a circular path. Then, the level crossing become a common feature rather than an exception.

Surprisingly, it has been known for quite sometime that the adiabatic theorem is extendable to the case of crossing levels [9]. The eigenstates change smoothly as functions of environmental parameter even when the level crossing takes place, and this opens up the possibility for eigenvalue holonomy for non-singular Hamiltonian systems. In this article, we explicitly construct such models, which seem to have immediate extension to $N$ level cases. The solvability of our model allows us to examine the analytic structure of the gauge potentials, which is known to be the mathematical origin behind the existence of exotic holonomy [10,11].

2. Adiabatic level crossing and exotic holonomy

Consider a Hamiltonian system with an environmental parameter, which we call $\theta$. We assume, for the moment, that the eigenvalues $E_n(\theta)$ and eigenstates $\Psi_n(\theta)$ are non-degenerate for all possible values of the parameter. Let us suppose two levels

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.5\textwidth]{adiabatic_level_crossing.png}
\caption{Schematic diagram showing adiabatic level-crossing. $\Delta$ and $D$ represent energy gaps.}
\end{figure}
very closely approach each other at a certain value of the parameter, which can be thought of as an avoided crossing with the closest energy gap Δ. Let us further assume that the two levels are separated apart from the next closest level (See Fig. 1) by D. Consider a smooth cyclic variation of θ(t) with a period τ, namely, θ(t) = θ(0). Specifically, we require that θ(t) starts smoothly at the beginning t = 0 and stops gently at t = τ \[\frac{\pi}{2}\] to ensure the applicability of the Landau-Zener formula \[13\] [14].

Let us assume that we have inequalities,

\[
\frac{1}{D} \ll \tau \ll \frac{1}{\Delta}.
\]

The period τ is small enough compared with the inverse of the energy gap Δ so that the levels completely cross over the gap during the parametric variation, while it is large enough to ignore any transition among levels except the interacting two levels considered here, which is the reason why we call this process adiabatic. The situation remains intact even when the levels do cross according to some exact symmetry, Δ = 0, instead of showing avoided crossing. In fact, although a tiny avoided crossing caused by a slight symmetry-breaking takes place, the afore mentioned adiabatic level cross-over is robust irrespective of small parametric perturbation. This is the physics behind the so-called adiabatic level crossing \[9\].

Once such an adiabatic level crossing occurs, there is no reason to assume that each quantum eigenstate should come back to the corresponding initial state after a cyclic parametric variation. Only requirement is that the entire set of eigenstates are separated apart from the next closest level (See Fig. 1) during the parametric variation, while it is large enough to ignore any transition among levels except the interacting two levels.

\[\text{Consider a two level quantum system described by a parametric Hamiltonian:} \]

\[
H(\theta) = R(\theta) \left[ \cos \frac{\theta}{2} Z^{(2)} + \nu \sin \frac{\theta}{2} F^{(2)} \right]
\]

with a real number \(\nu\),

\[
Z^{(2)} = \sigma_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad F^{(2)} = f^{(2)} + \sigma_x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},
\]

and anti-periodic function \(R(\theta)\) with period \(2\pi\),

\[
R(\theta + 2\pi) = -R(\theta).
\]

A convenient choice we adopt in the numerical examples is \(R(\theta) = \cos \frac{\theta}{2}\). The system thus becomes \(2\pi\) periodic:

\[
H(\theta + 2\pi) = H(\theta),
\]

and the parameter \(\theta \in [0, 2\pi]\) forms a ring, \(S^1\). Note that if \(\theta\) is written in the form \(H(x, y) = x Z^{(2)} + y F^{(2)}\), the parametric evolution \(\theta : 0 \rightarrow 2\pi\) represents a circle on \((x, y)\) plane with its center shifted by the radius into \(x\) axis, namely \(x = 1 + \cos \theta\) and \(y = \sin \theta\), so that it touches the origin. If we were to vary \(R \in (-\infty, \infty)\) and \(\theta \in [0, 2\pi]\) independently, the entire plane \((x, y)\) is covered.

The eigenvalue equation

\[
H(\theta)\Psi_n(\theta) = E_n(\theta)\Psi_n(\theta)
\]

is analytically solvable with eigenvalues given by

\[
E_n(\theta) = R(\theta) \cos \frac{\theta}{2} P_n(\theta),
\]

and eigenstates

\[
\Psi_n(\theta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2P_n(\theta)^2 + 2}} \left( P_n(\theta) + 1 \middle| P_n(\theta) - 1 \right),
\]

for \(n = 1, 2\), with

\[
P_n(\theta) = \nu \tan \frac{\theta}{2} + (-)^n \text{sgn} \left[ \nu \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \right] \sqrt{1 + \nu^2 \tan^2 \frac{\theta}{2}}.
\]

Energy eigenvalues as a function of \(\theta\) are shown in Fig.2, in which the most notable feature is the occurrence of degeneracy at \(\theta = \pi\) and the related exchange of eigenvalues. It guarantees that the set of eigenvalues at \(\theta = 0\) is equivalent to that at \(\theta = 2\pi\), which is a direct result of \(H(0)\) being identical to \(H(2\pi)\).

The degeneracy of eigenvalues at \(\theta = \pi\) is a direct consequence of vanishing Hamiltonian, \(H(\pi) = 0\).

We denote that \(P_n(\theta)\) is \(4\pi\)-periodic. Moreover, we have \(P_1(\theta + 2\pi) = P_2(\theta)\) and \(P_2(\theta + 2\pi) = P_1(\theta)\), which leads to the appearance of exotic holonomy, i.e.,

\[
E_1(\theta + 2\pi) = E_2(\theta), \quad E_2(\theta + 2\pi) = E_1(\theta),
\]

Manini-Pistolesi off-diagonal phases \[17\] [18] for each non-zero elements. Namely, there is only a single non-zero entry to each raw and each column, and the absolute value of this entry is one.
Figure 2: Energy eigenvalues $E_n(\theta)$ of the model (6) as a function of $\theta$ with $v = 1/3$.

and also, $\Psi_1(\theta + 2\pi) \propto \Psi_2(\theta)$ and $\Psi_2(\theta + 2\pi) \propto \Psi_1(\theta)$.

The structure of the eigenstates becomes clearer with the re-parameterization of $P_n(\theta)$ with new angle variable $\chi = \chi(\theta)$, which we define as

$$P_\nu(\chi) = \tan \frac{\chi + (2n - 3)\pi}{4},$$

(15)

namely, $P_1(\chi) = \tan \frac{\chi - \pi}{4}$ and $P_2(\chi) = \tan \frac{\chi + \pi}{4}$. The monotonously increasing function $\chi(\theta)$ maps $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$ to $\chi \in [0, 2\pi)$. The eigenstates is written, with the new angle parameter $\chi$, as

$$\Psi_\nu(\chi) = \begin{pmatrix} \sin \frac{\chi - (2n - 6)\pi}{4} \\ -\cos \frac{\chi - (2n - 6)\pi}{4} \end{pmatrix},$$

(16)

namely

$$\Psi_1(\chi) = \begin{pmatrix} -\sin \frac{\chi}{2} \\ \cos \frac{\chi}{2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Psi_2(\chi) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{\chi}{2} \\ \sin \frac{\chi}{2} \end{pmatrix}.$$  (17)

Note that $\Psi_\nu(\theta)$ is $8\pi$-periodic, with anti-periodicity of period $4\pi$. This is not immediately evident from the expression (12) which is in fact discontinuous at several values of $\theta = n\pi$, and had to be amended with factor $-\text{sign}(\sin \frac{\theta - \nu\pi}{4})$ to turn into (16). A numerical example of eigenstates as functions of $\theta$ is depicted in Fig. 3.

![Figure 3: Eigenstates $\Psi_1(\theta)$ (bottom) and $\Psi_2(\theta)$ (top) of the model (6) with $R(\theta) = \cos \frac{\theta}{2}$, and $v = 1/3$. The solid and dashed lines represent the upper and lower component of the eigenvectors, respectively, both of which are chosen to be real. The range indicated by thick lines represents a single period $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$. The values outside of this range are shown to display the periodicities and mutual relations of $\Psi_1(\theta)$ and $\Psi_2(\theta)$.

Adiabatic change of eigenstates are determined by the gauge potential $A_{\text{rel}}(\theta)$ given by

$$A(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{bmatrix} f(\theta),$$

(18)

where

$$f(\theta) = \frac{1}{4} \frac{\partial \chi(\theta)}{\partial \theta}.$$  (19)

In Fig. 4, we depicts two examples of function $f(\theta)$. Obviously, we have $\int_0^{2\pi} d\theta f(\theta) = \frac{\pi}{4}$, and we obtain the holonomy matrix

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(20)

showing the exotic holonomy with Manini-Pistolesi phase $(-1)^\nu$.

![Figure 4: Functional form of gauge potential $f(\theta)$ of the model (6) with $v = 1/3$.

Nontrivial holonomy is known to be related to the analytic structure of the gauge potential $A(\theta)$ in the complex $\theta$ plane [10], specifically, its singularities. These singularities can arise at the exceptional points $\theta^*$, which is defined as the point where two complex energy coincide, $E_\nu(\theta^*) - E_\nu(\theta^*) = 0$. In our example,

$$R(\theta^*) \cos \frac{\theta^*}{2} \left( P_2(\theta^*) - P_1(\theta^*) \right) = 0$$

(21)

which yields

$$\theta^* = \pi, \quad \theta^*_\pm = 2\text{arccot}(\mp iv),$$

(22)

where the first one coming from $R(\theta^*) \cos \frac{\theta^*}{2} = 0$, and the $\theta^*_\pm$ from $P_2(\theta^*) - P_1(\theta^*) = 0$. The exceptional points coming from $R(\theta^*) \cos \frac{\theta^*}{2} = 0$ has obviously no bearing on the singularity of $A(\theta)$, while at $\theta^*\pm$ we have the poles of $A(\theta)$ in the form

$$A_{12}(\theta) = -A_{21}(\theta) \approx \mp \frac{1}{4 \theta - \theta^*} \quad (\theta \to \theta^*).$$

(23)

The existence of the poles explains the non-vanishing values of $\oint d\theta A_{12}(\theta)$ and $\oint d\theta A_{12}(\theta)$ around the real axis, i.e. $M_{12}$.
Let us now consider a three level quantum system described by a parametric Hamiltonian

\[ H(\theta) = R(\theta) \left[ \cos \frac{\theta}{2} Z^{(3)} + \sin \frac{\theta}{2} F^{(3)} \right] \]

(24)

where \( v \) is real,

\[ Z^{(3)} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad F^{(3)} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \]

(25)

and \( R(\theta) \) is anti-periodic with period \( 2\pi \), i.e.

\[ R(\theta + 2\pi) = -R(\theta). \]

(26)

As before, in the numerical examples, we adopt \( R(\theta) = \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \).

The system then becomes periodic;

\[ H(\theta + 2\pi) = H(\theta), \]

(27)

and the parameter \( \theta \in [0, 2\pi) \) forms a ring, \( S^1 \).

The eigenvalue equation

\[ H(\theta)\Psi_n(\theta) = E_n(\theta)\Psi_n(\theta) \]

(28)

is analytically solvable with eigenvalues given by

\[ E_n(\theta) = R(\theta) \cos \frac{\theta}{2} Q_n(\theta), \]

(29)

and eigenstates

\[ \Psi_n(\theta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3Q_n(\theta)^2 + 1}} \left( \frac{Q_n(\theta)(Q_n(\theta) + 1)}{Q_n(\theta)^2 - 1} \right), \]

(30)

for \( n = 1, 2, 3, \) with

\[ Q_n(\theta) = \frac{\text{sgn}(\cos \frac{\theta}{2})}{\sqrt{3(1 - \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2})}} \left[ 6 \left( \frac{\theta}{2} - 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{2} - 2\eta_n \right) \right], \]

(31)

in which the angle \( \eta(\theta) \) is defined by

\[ \eta(\theta) = 2 \arcsin \left[ \sqrt{\frac{3v^2 \tan^2 \frac{\theta}{2}}{1 + 3v^2 \tan^2 \frac{\theta}{2}}} \right], \]

(32)

and the state dependent shift \( \eta_n = (2n - 4)\pi \). The function \( \eta(\theta) \) is monotonically increasing and maps \( \theta \in [0, 2\pi) \) to \( \eta \in [0, 2\pi) \).

One example of the energy eigenvalues as a function of environmental parameter \( \theta \) is shown in Fig. 6. All eigenvalues are degenerate at \( \theta = \pi \), as a consequence of vanishing Hamiltonian \( H(\theta) = 0 \).

We note that \( Q_0(\theta) \) is \( 6\pi \)-periodic. Moreover, we have \( Q_0(\theta + 2\pi) = Q_{n+1}(\theta) \), where the subscripts are to be understood in the sense of modulo three, which clearly signifies the existence of exotic holonomy,

\[ E_n(\theta + 2\pi) = E_{n+1}(\theta), \quad (n = 1, 2, 3). \]

(33)

The functions \( R_\text{t}, R_\text{s} \) and \( R_\text{c} \) are analytic on a single sheet complex \( \theta \) plane in contrast to \( \sqrt{\tan \xi}, \sqrt{\sin \xi} \) and \( \sqrt{\cos \xi} \), respectively, which are analytic on a double sheet \( \theta \) plane. The
monotonously increasing function $\xi(\theta)$ maps $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$ to $\xi \in [0, 2\pi)$. The eigenstates is written, with the new angle parameter $\xi$, as

$$\Psi_\xi(\xi) = \begin{cases} \frac{R_s e^{i \xi/n}}{6} (Re e^{i \xi/n} - Re e^{i \xi/n}) \\
\frac{R_s e^{i \xi/n}}{6} (Re e^{i \xi/n} - Re e^{i \xi/n}) \\
\frac{R_s e^{i \xi/n}}{6} (Re e^{i \xi/n} - Re e^{i \xi/n}) \end{cases}$$

(37)

From this, we see that $\Psi_\xi(\theta)$ is 6$\pi$-periodic.

The gauge potential $A_{ad}(\theta)$, which determines the adiabatic variation of eigenstates, is given by

$$A(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -i & 0 \\
i & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} g(\theta + 2\pi)$$

(38)

$$- \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & -i \\
i & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} g(\theta) + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\
i & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} g(\theta - 2\pi),$$

where $g(\theta)$ is defined by

$$g(\theta) = \frac{1}{6} \frac{d^2 \xi(\theta)}{d\theta^2} (\Psi_1(\xi(\theta))) i\partial \xi(\Psi_3(\xi(\theta))) .$$

(39)

The calculation of the holonomy matrix involves fully ordered matrix integral, thus no simple analytical calculation can be performed. However, we can deduce from (37), that it is given by

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 \\
1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(40)

showing the spiral type exotic holonomy with Manini-Pistolesi phase 1 for all states.

Figure 8: Functional form of gauge potential $g(\theta)$ (solid line), $g(\theta - 2\pi)$ (dashed line) and $g(\theta + 2\pi)$ (dotted line) of the model (24) with $v = 1$.

As in the two level case, we examine exceptional points $\theta^*$ where two complex energies coalesce, $E_{\pm}(\theta^*) = E_{\pm}(\theta^*) = 0$. We find

$$\theta^* = \pi, \quad \theta^{(12)}_\pm, \quad \theta^{(23)}_\pm,$$

(41)

where the first solution comes from $\cos \frac{\pi}{4} = 0$, while $\theta^{(12)}_\pm$ and $\theta^{(23)}_\pm$ are obtained from $P_2(\theta^*) - P_1(\theta^*) = 0$ and $P_3(\theta^*) - P_2(\theta^*) = 0$, respectively. We then immediately obtain

$$\theta^{(12)}_\pm = -2 \arccot \left( \frac{3(e^{i\pi/2} - 1)i}{e^{i\pi/2} - 1} \right),$$

$$\theta^{(23)}_\pm = 2 \arccot \left( \frac{3(e^{i\pi/2} - 1)i}{e^{i\pi/2} - 1} \right).$$

(42)

Near the exceptional points, $A(\theta)$'s are approximated as

$$A_{jk}(\theta) = -A_{jk}(\theta) \approx \pm \frac{i}{4} \frac{1}{\theta^* - \theta^{(jk)}_\pm} \quad (\theta \to \theta^{(jk)}_\pm).$$

(43)

The existence of the poles explain the non-vanishing values of $M_{12}, M_{23}$, and $M_{31}$, implying the existence of exotic holonomy. Fig. 9 shows the locations of poles and branching structure of energy surface $E_n(\theta)$ in Mercator representation of the complex parameter plane $\theta$.

Figure 9: Exceptional points on the Mercator projection of the complex $\theta$ plane of system described by (24). The filled crosses represent the exceptional points that are the poles of gauge potential $A(\theta)$, while the unfilled cross is the point of eigenvalue degeneracy having no effect on the singular behavior of $A(\theta)$. The solid and the dashed lines represent the branch cuts satisfying $Re(E_3 - E_2) = 0$ and $Re(E_2 - E_1) = 0$, respectively.

All the results obtained here do not depend on the specific choice of the matrices (35). In fact, we can enlarge our model by replacing the two matrices $Z^{(3)}$ and $F^{(3)}$ by

$$Z^{(3)} = \Sigma_4 + c_3 \Sigma_5, \quad F^{(3)} = F^{(3)} + c_1 \Sigma_1 + c_2 \Sigma_2 + c_3 \Sigma_3,$$

(44)

where $c_j$ are real numbers, $I^{(3)}$ three-dimensional unit matrix and $\Sigma_j$ given by

$$\Sigma_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Sigma_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Sigma_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\Sigma_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Sigma_5 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & -2 \\
0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(45)

If we were to make independent choice of six parameters, $R \in (-\infty, \infty), \theta \in [0, 2\pi)$, $c_j \in (-\infty, \infty), (j = 1, 3, 4, 5)$, the Hamiltonian (24) is the most general real symmetric three-by-three matrix. By fixing $c_1$ and $c_2$ and binding $R$ and $\theta$ by $R(\theta) = \cos \frac{\pi}{4}$, we go back to the same game of considering the system as a function of a single parameter $\theta$ which forms a ring $S^1$. It can be checked numerically, that the exotic holonomy characterized by (40), or equivalently, the eigenvalue flow $[1, 2, 3] \rightarrow [2, 3, 1]$, in obvious notation, is a common characteristics of system with $c_1 = c_2 = c_3$. Here, we have made an assumption that the unperturbed spectrum is not much different from the original model, $|c_3| \ll 1$. All possible patterns of eigenvalue flow are obtained with suitable choice of $c_j$. Specifically, $c_1 \neq 0, c_2 = c_3 = 0$ results in $[1, 2, 3] \rightarrow [2, 1, 3], c_2 \neq 0, c_3 = c_1 = 0$ in $[1, 2, 3] \rightarrow [3, 2, 1]$, and $c_3 \neq 0, c_1 = c_2 = 0$ in $[1, 2, 3] \rightarrow [1, 3, 2]$. Generic case $c_1 \neq c_2 \neq c_3$ also produces the second pattern, $[1, 2, 3] \rightarrow [3, 2, 1]$. It is now clear, that there is finite subset of parameter space, in which exotic holonomies of various types arise after cyclic variation of the parameter $\theta$. 

5. Outlook

Our results obtained in the two and three level cases can be extended to \( N \) levels \((N \leq 4)\) in a straightforward way. It is possible to prove the existence of the exotic holonomy for systems described by the Hamiltonian

\[
H(\theta) = \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \left[ \cos \frac{\theta}{2} Z^{(N)} + v \sin \frac{\theta}{2} |w^{(N)} \rangle \langle w^{(N)}| \right],
\]

where \(|w^{(N)}\rangle\) is a normalized \( N \)-dimensional vector and \(Z^{(N)}\) is an \( N \times N \) Hermitian matrix, as long as all eigenvectors of \(Z^{(N)}\) have non-zero overlap with \(|w^{(N)}\rangle\).

The Hamiltonian exotic holonomy shares a common feature with the Wilczek-Zee holonomy of having \(SU(N)\) non-Abelian gauge potential at their base. However, they are distinct in that, in the former, \( N \) eigenstates are exchanged among themselves with their internal dynamics, while, in the latter, involvement in the former, \(|N\rangle\) eigenstates is to be mapped to itself after the cyclic variation of environmental parameter.

The exotic holonomy also seems to have resemblance to the off-diagonal holonomy of Manini and Pistolesi. It is important to point out that the eigenstates are obtained independently from the choice of envelope function \( R(\theta) \). If we make the choice \( R(\theta) = 1 \), the Hamiltonian becomes anti-periodic, \(H(\theta + 2\pi) = -H(\theta)\), so that new period is now \(4\pi\). The eigenstate holonomy, occurring now at the midpoint of the new full cycle \( \theta \in [0, 4\pi] \), is nothing but the off-diagonal holonomy discussed by Manini and Pistolesi. In the off-diagonal holonomy, the set of eigenstates at the starting value of environmental parameter “accidentally” coincides with that at another value of parameter in a midpoint of cyclic evolution. In general, such coincidence is highly unlikely, and it is often a result of the same Hamiltonian multiplied by different numbers appearing at different value of environmental parameter. In such a case, with the introduction of new envelope function and reinterpretation of the period of parameter variation, a system with off-diagonal holonomy can be mapped to another one with exotic holonomy. In this instance, the Manini-Pistolesi holonomy is the exotic holonomy in disguise.

\(H(\theta) = \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \left[ \cos \frac{\theta}{2} Z^{(N)} + v \sin \frac{\theta}{2} |w^{(N)} \rangle \langle w^{(N)}| \right],\)

parameter space, whose connected apices of two cones represent Berry’s diabolical point. When the parameters are varied along a circle that surrounds the diabolical point, Berry phase arises (Fig. 10 left). We can ask a question: what will happen when the circle touches the diabolical point. Obviously, the trajectory on the energy surface should be “smooth”, and it wanders both cones. With a cyclic variation of parameters, the trajectory moves from one cone to the other. This is exactly the Hamiltonian exotic holonomy (Fig. 10 right). This process is fully described by holonomy matrix given in terms of the path-ordered integral of the gauge potential just as in the case of Berry phase. The gauge potential now has singularities in complexified parameter space, not on the diabolical point itself.

The Hamiltonian exotic holonomy can be viewed as an extension of, and a natural complement to the Berry phase, and it forms an integral part of physics of adiabatic quantum control. The general equation for quantum holonomy (3) is just a very natural expression of the basic requirement that the entire set of eigenstates is to be mapped to itself after the cyclic variation of environmental parameter.

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Figure 10: Two types of Hamiltonian holonomy in the presence of a diabolical point (cross surrounded by small circle) on energy surface standing on a parameter plane. The picture on the left represents circular parameter variation that results in the Berry and Wilczek-Zee holonomies, while the picture on the right depicts the one leading to the exotic holonomy.

Our findings can be placed in context by considering a standard double-cone structure of energy surface standing on the