Exploration

Two Objections Against p-adic Thermodynamics & Their Resolution

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Abstract

There are two basic objections against p-adic thermodynamics. The mass calculations require the presence of states with negative conformal weights giving rise to tachyons. Furthermore, by conformal invariance, L_0 should annihilate physical states so that all states should have vanishing mass squared! In this article a resolution of these objections is discussed. The solution is based on the very definition of thermodynamics and on number theoretic vision predicting quark states with discretized tachyonic mass, which are counterparts for virtual states in QFTs.

Physical states for the entire Universe would be indeed massless but for subsystems such as elementary particles the thermal expectation of the mass squared is non-vanishing. This conforms with the formula of blackhole entropy stating that it is proportional to the mass square of the blackhole and vanishes for a vanishing mass: this would indeed correspond to a pure state.

1 Introduction

Number theoretic physics involves the combination of real and various p-adic physics to adelic physics [6, 7], and classical number fields [5]. p-Adic mass calculations is a rather successful application of p-adic thermodynamics for the mass squared operator identified as conformal scaling generator L_0. p-Adic thermodynamics can be also understood as a constraint on a real thermodynamics for the mass squared from the condition that it can be also regarded as a p-adic thermodynamics.

The motivation for p-adicization came from p-adic mass calculations [2, 1].

1. p-Adic thermodynamics for mass squared operator M^2 proportional to scaling generator L_0 of Virasoro algebra. Mass squared thermal mass from the mixing of massless states with states with mass of order CP_2 mass.

2. $exp(-E/T) \rightarrow p^{L_0/T_p}$, $T_p = 1/n$. Partition function p^{L_0/T_p}. p-Adic valued mass squared mapped to a real number by canonical identification $\sum x_n p^n \rightarrow \sum x_n p^{-n}$. Eigenvalues of L_0 must be integers for the Boltzmann weights to exist. Conformal invariance guarantees this.

3. p-adic length scale $L_p \propto \sqrt{p}$ from Uncertainty Principle ($M \propto 1/\sqrt{p}$). p-Adic length scale hypothesis states that p-adic primes characterizing particles are near to a power of 2: $p \simeq 2^k$. For instance, for an electron one has $p = M^{127} - 1$, Mersenne prime. This is the largest not completely super-astrophysical length scale.

   Also Gaussian Mersenne primes $M_{G,n} = (1 + i)^n - 1$ seem to be realized (nuclear length scale, and 4 biological length scales in the biologically important range 10 nm,2.5 μm).

4. p-Adic physics [3] is interpreted as a correlate for cognition. Motivation comes from the observation that piecewise constant functions depending on a finite number of pinary digits have a vanishing derivative. Therefore they appear as integration constants in p-adic differential equations. This could provide a classical correlate for the non-determinism of imagination.

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Unlike the Higgs mechanism, p-adic thermodynamics provides a universal description of massivation involving no other assumptions about dynamics except super-conformal symmetry, which guarantees the existence of p-adic Boltzmann weights.

There are two basic objections against p-adic thermodynamics. The mass calculations require the presence of states with negative conformal weights giving rise to tachyons. Furthermore, by conformal invariance L_0 should annihilate physical states so that all states should have vanishing mass squared! In this article a resolution of these objections, based on the very definition of thermodynamics and on number theoretic vision predicting quark states with discretized tachyonic mass, which are counterparts for virtual states in QFTs, is discussed.

Physical states for the entire Universe would be indeed massless but for subsystems such as elementary particles the thermal expectation of the mass squared is non-vanishing. This conforms with the formula of blackhole entropy stating that it is proportional to the mass square of blackhole and vanishes for vanishing mass: this would indeed correspond to apure state.

2 Objections and their resolution

The number theoretic picture leads to a deeper understanding of a long standing objection against p-adic thermodynamics [2] as a thermodynamics for the scaling generator L_0 of Super Virasoro algebra.

If one requires super-Virasoro symmetry and identifies mass squared with a scaling generator L_0, one can argue that only massless states are possible since L_0 must annihilate these states! All states of the theory would be massless, not only those of fundamental particles as in conformally invariant theories to which twistor approach applies! This looks extremely beautiful mathematically but seems to be in conflict with reality already at single particle level!

The resolution of the objection is that *thermodynamics* is indeed in question.

1. Thermodynamics replaces the state of the entire system with the density matrix for the subsystem and describes approximately the interaction with the environment inducing the entanglement of the particle with it. To be precise, actually a "square root" of p-adic thermodynamics could be in question, with probabilities being replaced with their square roots having also phase factors. The excited states of the entire system indeed are massless [15].

2. The entangling interaction gives rise to a superposition of products of single particle massive states with the states of environment and the entire mass squared would remain vanishing. The massless ground state configuration dominates and the probabilities of the thermal excitations are of order $O(1/p)$ and extremely small. For instance, for the electron one has $p = M_{127} = 2^{127} - 1 \sim 10^{38}$.

3. In the p-adic mass calculations [2, 1], the effective environment for quarks and leptons would in a good approximation consist of a wormhole contact (wormhole contacts for gauge bosons and Higgs and hadrons). The many-quark state many-quark state associated with the wormhole throat (single quark state for quarks and 3-quark-state for leptons [10].

4. In M^8 picture [8, 9], tachyonicity is unavoidable since the real part of the mass squared as a root of a polynomial P can be negative. Also tachyonic real but algebraic mass squared values are possible. At the H level, tachyonicity corresponds to the Euclidean signature of the induced metric for a wormhole contact.

   Tachyonicity is also necessary: otherwise one does not obtain massless states. The super-symplectic states of quarks would entangle with the tachyonic states of the wormhole contacts by Galois confinement.

5. The massless ground state for a particle corresponds to a state constructed from a massive single state of a single particle super-symplectic representation (CP_2 mass characterizes the mass scale)

obtained by adding tachyons to guarantee masslessness. Galois confinement is satisfied. The tachyonic mass squared is assigned with wormhole contacts with the Euclidean signature of the induced metric, whose throats in turn carry the fermions so that the wormhole contact would form the nearby environment.

The entangled state is in a good approximation a superposition of pairs of massive single-particle states with the wormhole contact(s). The lowest state remains massless and massive single particle states receive a compensating negative mass squared from the wormhole contact. Thermal mass squared corresponds to a single particle mass squared and does not take into account the contribution of wormhole contacts except for the ground state.

6. There is a further delicate number theoretic element involved [11, 12]. The choice of $M^4 \subset M^8$ for the system is not unique. Since M^4 momentum is an M^4 projection of a massless M^8 momentum, it is massless by a suitable choice of $M^4 \subset M^8$. This choice must be made for the environment so that both the state of the environment and the single particle ground state are massless. For the excited states, the choice of M^4 must remain the same, which forces the massivation of the single particle excitations and p-adic massivation.

These arguments strongly suggest that pure states, in particular the state of the entire Universe, are massless. Mass would reflect the statistical description of entanglement using the density matrix. The proportionality between p-adic thermal mass squared (mappable to real mass squared by canonical identification) and the entropy for the entanglement of the subsystem-environment pair is therefore natural. This proportionality conforms with the formula for the blackhole entropy, which states that the blackhole entropy is proportional to mass squared. Also p-adic mass calculations inspired the notion of blackhole-elementary particle analogy [4] but without a deeper understanding of its origin.

One implication is that virtual particles are much more real in the TGD framework than in QFTs since they would be building bricks of physical states. A virtual particle with algebraic value of mass squared would have a discrete mass squared spectrum given by the roots of a rational, possibly monic, polynomial and $M^8 - H$ duality suggests an association to an Euclidean wormhole contact as the "inner" world of an elementary particle. Galois confinement, universally responsible for the formation of bound states, analogous to color confinement and possibly explaining it, would make these virtual states invisible [13, 14].

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