



Special Issue Reprint

## Dynamics of Open Quantum Systems: Quantum Fluctuations, Decoherence and Emergent Phenomena

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All real-world quantum systems interact with their surrounding environment to some extent. No matter how weak the coupling that prevents the system from being isolated, the evolution of an open quantum system is eventually plagued by non-unitary features, such as decoherence and dissipation. Decoherence is a quantum effect where the system loses its ability to exhibit coherent behavior. Nowadays, decoherence stands as a serious obstacle in quantum information processing. As the manipulation of quantum coherence in experiments has progressed, the need to better understand, control, and utilize dissipative non-equilibrium dynamics of quantum systems has grown in importance. This has ranged from fundamental questions associated with the quantum-to-classical transition and quantum thermodynamics innovation in quantum optics and cavity/circuit quantum electrodynamics. Current studies of many-body dynamics, ultracold atoms in optical lattices, trapped ions, superconducting systems, nanoelectro-mechanical systems, and quantum fields under the influence of external conditions offer new challenges to address questions regarding quantum systems far from equilibrium. On the theoretical side, quantum trajectory-based methods could be the key to both quantum nanodevice design and exploration of new regimes of quantum mechanics and quantum measurement, as well as applications to various quantum technologies.



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