

Quantum Systems: Dynamics and Control¹

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- 1 Quantum systems and almost periodic control
- 2 Single-frequency averaging and Kapitza's pendulum
- 3 Multi-frequency averaging for quantum systems: 1st and 2nd order Rotating Wave Approximations (RWA)
- 4 Resonant control of a qubit

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$$i \frac{d}{dt} |\psi\rangle = (\mathbf{H}_0 + u(t)\mathbf{H}_1) |\psi\rangle,$$

- $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ the system's wavefunction with $\| |\psi\rangle \|_{\mathcal{H}} = 1$;
- the free Hamiltonian, \mathbf{H}_0 , and the control Hamiltonian, \mathbf{H}_1 , are Hermitian operators on \mathcal{H} ;
- the control $u(t) : \mathbb{R}^+ \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ is a scalar control.

Two key examples:

- Qubit: $\mathbf{H}_0 + u(t)\mathbf{H}_1 = \frac{\omega_{\text{eg}}}{2} \sigma_z + \frac{u(t)}{2} \sigma_x$.
- Quantum harmonic oscillator:
 $\mathbf{H}_0 + u(t)\mathbf{H}_1 = \omega_c (\mathbf{a}^\dagger \mathbf{a} + \frac{1}{2}) + u(t)(\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{a}^\dagger)$.

We consider the controls of the form

$$u(t) = \epsilon \left(\sum_{j=1}^r u_j e^{i\omega_j t} + u_j^* e^{-i\omega_j t} \right)$$

- $\epsilon > 0$ is a small parameter;
- ϵu_j is the constant complex amplitude associated to the frequency $\omega_j \geq 0$;
- r stands for the number of independent frequencies ($\omega_j \neq \omega_k$ for $j \neq k$).

We are interested in approximations, for ϵ tending to 0^+ , of trajectories $t \mapsto |\psi_\epsilon\rangle_t$ of

$$\frac{d}{dt} |\psi_\epsilon\rangle = \left(\mathbf{A}_0 + \epsilon \left(\sum_{j=1}^r u_j e^{i\omega_j t} + u_j^* e^{-i\omega_j t} \right) \mathbf{A}_1 \right) |\psi_\epsilon\rangle$$

where $\mathbf{A}_0 = -i\mathbf{H}_0$ and $\mathbf{A}_1 = -i\mathbf{H}_1$ are skew-Hermitian.

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Time-periodic non-linear systems

We consider a non-linear ODE of the form:

$$\frac{d}{dt}x = \epsilon f(x, t), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad \epsilon \ll 1,$$

where f is T -periodic in t and depends smoothly on x .

We will see how its solution is well-approximated by the solution of the time-independent system, **the averaged system**:

$$\frac{d}{dt}z = \bar{\epsilon}f(z)$$

where $\bar{f}(z) = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T f(z, t) dt$.

The Averaging Theorem

Consider $\frac{d}{dt}x = \epsilon f(x, t)$ with $x \in U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, $0 \leq \epsilon \ll 1$, and $f : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ smooth and period $T > 0$ in t . Also assume U to be bounded.

- If z is the solution of $\frac{d}{dt}z = \bar{\epsilon} \bar{f}(z)$ with the initial condition z_0 , and assuming $|x_0 - z_0| = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$, we have $|x(t) - z(t)| = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$ on a time-scale $t \sim 1/\epsilon$.
- If \bar{z} is a hyperbolic fixed point of the **averaged system** then there exists $\epsilon_0 > 0$ such that, for all $0 < \epsilon \leq \epsilon_0$, the **main system** possesses a unique hyperbolic periodic orbit $\gamma_\epsilon(t) = \bar{z} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$ of the same stability type as \bar{z} .

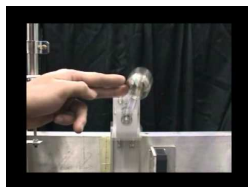
J. Guckenheimer and P. Holmes, Nonlinear oscillations, Dynamical systems and Bifurcation of Vector Fields, Springer, 1983.

Fixed suspension point:

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2}\theta = \frac{g}{l} \sin \theta$$

g : free fall acceleration, l : pendulum's length, θ : angle to the vertical;
 $\theta = \pi$ stable and $\theta = 0$ unstable equilibrium.

Suspension point in vertical oscillation:



Dynamics of the suspension point: $z = \frac{v}{\Omega} \cos(\Omega t)$ ($a = v/\Omega > 0$
amplitude and Ω frequency).

Pendulum's dynamics: replace acceleration g by $g + \ddot{z} = g - v\Omega \cos(\Omega t)$,

$$\frac{d}{dt}\theta = \omega, \quad \frac{d}{dt}\omega = \frac{g - v\Omega \cos(\Omega t)}{l} \sin \theta.$$

Replacing the velocity ω by the momentum $p_\theta = \omega + \frac{v \sin(\Omega t)}{l} \sin \theta$:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}\theta &= p_\theta - \frac{v \sin(\Omega t)}{l} \sin \theta, \\ \frac{d}{dt}p_\theta &= \left(\frac{g}{l} - \frac{v^2 \sin^2(\Omega t)}{l^2} \cos \theta \right) \sin \theta + \frac{v \sin(\Omega t)}{l} p_\theta \cos \theta. \end{aligned}$$

For large enough Ω , we can average these time-periodic dynamics over $[t - \pi/\Omega, t + \pi/\Omega]$:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\theta = p_\theta, \quad \frac{d}{dt}p_\theta = \left(\frac{g}{l} - \frac{v^2}{2l^2} \cos \theta \right) \sin \theta.$$

Around $\theta = 0$ the approximation of small angles gives $\frac{d^2}{dt^2}\theta = \frac{g-v^2/2l}{l}\theta$.
If $v^2/2l > g$ then the system becomes stable around $\theta = 0$.

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Un-measured quantum system \rightarrow **Bilinear Schrödinger equation**

$$i\frac{d}{dt}|\psi\rangle = (\mathbf{H}_0 + u(t)\mathbf{H}_1)|\psi\rangle,$$

- $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ the system's wavefunction with $\| |\psi\rangle \|_{\mathcal{H}} = 1$;
- the free Hamiltonian, \mathbf{H}_0 , is a Hermitian operator defined on \mathcal{H} ;
- the control Hamiltonian, \mathbf{H}_1 , is a Hermitian operator defined on \mathcal{H} ;
- the control $u(t) : \mathbb{R}^+ \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ is a scalar control.

Here we consider the case of finite dimensional \mathcal{H}

Almost periodic control

We consider the controls of the form

$$u(t) = \epsilon \left(\sum_{j=1}^r \mathbf{u}_j e^{i\omega_j t} + \mathbf{u}_j^* e^{-i\omega_j t} \right)$$

- $\epsilon > 0$ is a small parameter;
- $\epsilon \mathbf{u}_j$ is the constant complex amplitude associated to the pulsation $\omega_j \geq 0$;
- r stands for the number of independent frequencies ($\omega_j \neq \omega_k$ for $j \neq k$).

We are interested in approximations, for ϵ tending to 0^+ , of trajectories $t \mapsto |\psi_\epsilon\rangle_t$ of

$$\frac{d}{dt} |\psi_\epsilon\rangle = \left(\mathbf{A}_0 + \epsilon \left(\sum_{j=1}^r \mathbf{u}_j e^{i\omega_j t} + \mathbf{u}_j^* e^{-i\omega_j t} \right) \mathbf{A}_1 \right) |\psi_\epsilon\rangle$$

where $\mathbf{A}_0 = -i\mathbf{H}_0$ and $\mathbf{A}_1 = -i\mathbf{H}_1$ are skew-Hermitian.

Rotating frame

Consider the following change of variables

$$|\psi_\epsilon\rangle_t = e^{\mathbf{A}_0 t} |\phi_\epsilon\rangle_t.$$

The resulting system is said to be in the “interaction frame”

$$\frac{d}{dt} |\phi_\epsilon\rangle = \epsilon \mathbf{B}(t) |\phi_\epsilon\rangle$$

where $\mathbf{B}(t)$ is a skew-Hermitian operator whose time-dependence is almost periodic:

$$B(t) = \sum_{j=1}^r \mathbf{u}_j e^{i\omega_j t} e^{-\mathbf{A}_0 t} \mathbf{A}_1 e^{\mathbf{A}_0 t} + \mathbf{u}_j^* e^{-i\omega_j t} e^{-\mathbf{A}_0 t} \mathbf{A}_1 e^{\mathbf{A}_0 t}.$$

Main idea

We can write

$$\mathbf{B}(t) = \bar{\mathbf{B}} + \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{\mathbf{B}}(t),$$

where $\bar{\mathbf{B}}$ is a constant skew-Hermitian matrix and $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}(t)$ is a bounded almost periodic skew-Hermitian matrix.

Multi-frequency averaging: first order

Consider the two systems

$$\frac{d}{dt}|\phi_\epsilon\rangle = \epsilon \left(\bar{\mathbf{B}} + \frac{d}{dt}\tilde{\mathbf{B}}(t) \right) |\phi_\epsilon\rangle,$$

and

$$\frac{d}{dt}|\phi_\epsilon^{1\text{st}}\rangle = \epsilon \bar{\mathbf{B}} |\phi_\epsilon^{1\text{st}}\rangle,$$

initialized at the same state $|\phi_\epsilon^{1\text{st}}\rangle_0 = |\phi_\epsilon\rangle_0$.

Theorem: first order approximation (Rotating Wave Approximation)

Consider the functions $|\phi_\epsilon\rangle$ and $|\phi_\epsilon^{1\text{st}}\rangle$ initialized at the same state and following the above dynamics. Then, there exist $M > 0$ and $\eta > 0$ such that for all $\epsilon \in]0, \eta[$ we have

$$\max_{t \in \left[0, \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right]} \left\| |\phi_\epsilon\rangle_t - |\phi_\epsilon^{1\text{st}}\rangle_t \right\| \leq M\epsilon$$

Proof's idea

Almost periodic change of variables:

$$|\chi_\epsilon\rangle = (1 - \epsilon \tilde{\mathbf{B}}(t))|\phi_\epsilon\rangle$$

well-defined for $\epsilon > 0$ sufficiently small.

The dynamics can be written as

$$\frac{d}{dt}|\chi_\epsilon\rangle = (\epsilon \bar{\mathbf{B}} + \epsilon^2 \mathbf{F}(\epsilon, t))|\chi_\epsilon\rangle$$

where $\mathbf{F}(\epsilon, t)$ is uniformly bounded in time.

Multi-frequency averaging: second order

More precisely, the dynamics of $|\chi_\epsilon\rangle$ is given by

$$\frac{d}{dt}|\chi_\epsilon\rangle = \left(\epsilon \bar{\mathbf{B}} + \epsilon^2 [\bar{\mathbf{B}}, \tilde{\mathbf{B}}(t)] - \epsilon^2 \tilde{\mathbf{B}}(t) \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{\mathbf{B}}(t) + \epsilon^3 \mathbf{E}(\epsilon, t) \right) |\chi_\epsilon\rangle$$

- $\mathbf{E}(\epsilon, t)$ is still almost periodic but its entries are no more linear combinations of time-exponentials;
- $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}(t) \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{\mathbf{B}}(t)$ is an almost periodic operator whose entries are linear combinations of oscillating time-exponentials.

We can write

$$\tilde{\mathbf{B}}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{\mathbf{C}}(t) \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\mathbf{B}}(t) \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{\mathbf{B}}(t) = \bar{\mathbf{D}} + \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{\mathbf{D}}(t)$$

where $\tilde{\mathbf{C}}(t)$ and $\tilde{\mathbf{D}}(t)$ are almost periodic. We have

$$\frac{d}{dt}|\chi_\epsilon\rangle = \left(\epsilon \bar{\mathbf{B}} - \epsilon^2 \bar{\mathbf{D}} + \epsilon^2 \frac{d}{dt} \left([\bar{\mathbf{B}}, \tilde{\mathbf{C}}(t)] - \tilde{\mathbf{D}}(t) \right) + \epsilon^3 \mathbf{E}(\epsilon, t) \right) |\chi_\epsilon\rangle$$

where the skew-Hermitian operators $\bar{\mathbf{B}}$ and $\bar{\mathbf{D}}$ are constants and the other ones $\tilde{\mathbf{C}}$, $\tilde{\mathbf{D}}$, and \mathbf{E} are almost periodic.

Multi-frequency averaging: second order

Consider the two systems

$$\frac{d}{dt}|\phi_\epsilon\rangle = \epsilon \left(\bar{\mathbf{B}} + \frac{d}{dt}\tilde{\mathbf{B}}(t) \right) |\phi_\epsilon\rangle,$$

and

$$\frac{d}{dt}|\phi_\epsilon^{2\text{nd}}\rangle = (\epsilon\bar{\mathbf{B}} - \epsilon^2\bar{\mathbf{D}})|\phi_\epsilon^{2\text{nd}}\rangle,$$

initialized at $|\phi_\epsilon\rangle_0$ and $|\phi_\epsilon^{2\text{nd}}\rangle_0 = (I - \epsilon\tilde{\mathbf{B}}(0))|\phi_\epsilon\rangle_0$.

Theorem: second order approximation

Consider $|\phi_\epsilon\rangle_t$ and $|\phi_\epsilon^{2\text{nd}}\rangle_t$ solutions of the above dynamics. Then, there exist $M > 0$ and $\eta > 0$ such that for all $\epsilon \in]0, \eta]$ we have

$$\max_{t \in \left[0, \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right]} \left\| |\phi_\epsilon\rangle_t - (I + \epsilon\tilde{\mathbf{B}}(t))|\phi_\epsilon^{2\text{nd}}\rangle_t \right\| \leq M\epsilon^2$$

$$\max_{t \in \left[0, \frac{1}{\epsilon^2}\right]} \left\| |\phi_\epsilon\rangle_t - |\phi_\epsilon^{2\text{nd}}\rangle_t \right\| \leq M\epsilon$$

Proof's idea

Another almost periodic change of variables

$$|\xi_\epsilon\rangle = \left(I - \epsilon^2 \left([\bar{\mathbf{B}}, \tilde{\mathbf{C}}(t)] - \tilde{\mathbf{D}}(t) \right) \right) |\chi_\epsilon\rangle.$$

The dynamics can be written as

$$\frac{d}{dt} |\xi_\epsilon\rangle = \left(\epsilon \bar{\mathbf{B}} - \epsilon^2 \bar{\mathbf{D}} + \epsilon^3 \mathbf{F}(\epsilon, t) \right) |\xi_\epsilon\rangle$$

where $\epsilon \bar{\mathbf{B}} - \epsilon^2 \bar{\mathbf{D}}$ is skew Hermitian and \mathbf{F} is almost periodic and therefore uniformly bounded in time.

The Rotating Wave Approximation (RWA) recipes

Schrödinger dynamics $i\frac{d}{dt}|\psi\rangle = \mathbf{H}(t)|\psi\rangle$, with

$$\mathbf{H}(t) = \mathbf{H}_0 + \sum_{k=1}^m u_k(t)\mathbf{H}_k, \quad u_k(t) = \sum_{j=1}^r \mathbf{u}_{k,j}e^{i\omega_j t} + \mathbf{u}_{k,j}^*e^{-i\omega_j t}.$$

The Hamiltonian in interaction frame

$$\mathbf{H}_{\text{int}}(t) = \sum_{k,j} (\mathbf{u}_{k,j}e^{i\omega_j t} + \mathbf{u}_{k,j}^*e^{-i\omega_j t}) e^{i\mathbf{H}_0 t} \mathbf{H}_k e^{-i\mathbf{H}_0 t}$$

We define the **first order Hamiltonian**

$$\mathbf{H}_{\text{rwa}}^{1\text{st}} = \overline{\mathbf{H}_{\text{int}}} = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \mathbf{H}_{\text{int}}(t) dt,$$

and the **second order Hamiltonian**

$$\mathbf{H}_{\text{rwa}}^{2\text{nd}} = \mathbf{H}_{\text{rwa}}^{1\text{st}} - i \overline{(\mathbf{H}_{\text{int}} - \overline{\mathbf{H}_{\text{int}}}) \left(\int_t (\mathbf{H}_{\text{int}} - \overline{\mathbf{H}_{\text{int}}}) \right)}$$

Choose the amplitudes $\mathbf{u}_{k,j}$ and the frequencies ω_j such that the propagators of $\mathbf{H}_{\text{rwa}}^{1\text{st}}$ or $\mathbf{H}_{\text{rwa}}^{2\text{nd}}$ admit simple explicit forms that are used to find $t \mapsto u(t)$ steering $|\psi\rangle$ from one location to another one.

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RWA and resonant control

In $i\frac{d}{dt}|\psi\rangle = \left(\frac{\omega_{eg}}{2}\sigma_z + \frac{u(t)}{2}\sigma_x\right)|\psi\rangle$, take a resonant control

$u(t) = \mathbf{u}e^{i\omega_{eg}t} + \mathbf{u}^*e^{-i\omega_{eg}t}$ with \mathbf{u} slowly varying complex amplitude
 $|\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{u}| \ll \omega_{eg}|\mathbf{u}|$. Set $H_0 = \frac{\omega_{eg}}{2}\sigma_z$ and $\epsilon H_1 = \frac{u}{2}\sigma_x$ and consider

$|\psi\rangle = e^{-\frac{i\omega_{eg}t}{2}\sigma_z}|\phi\rangle$ to eliminate the drift H_0 and to get the **Hamiltonian in the interaction frame**:

$$i\frac{d}{dt}|\phi\rangle = \frac{u(t)}{2}e^{\frac{i\omega_{eg}t}{2}\sigma_z}\sigma_x e^{-\frac{i\omega_{eg}t}{2}\sigma_z}|\phi\rangle = \mathbf{H}_{int}|\phi\rangle$$

$$\text{with } \mathbf{H}_{int} = \frac{u}{2}e^{i\omega_{eg}t} \overbrace{\frac{\sigma_x + i\sigma_y}{2}}^{\sigma_+ = |e\rangle\langle g|} + \frac{u}{2}e^{-i\omega_{eg}t} \overbrace{\frac{\sigma_x - i\sigma_y}{2}}^{\sigma_- = |g\rangle\langle e|}$$

The RWA consists in neglecting the oscillating terms at frequency $2\omega_{eg}$ when $|\mathbf{u}| \ll \omega_{eg}$:

$$H_{int} = \left(\frac{\mathbf{u}e^{2i\omega_{eg}t} + \mathbf{u}^*}{2}\right)\sigma_+ + \left(\frac{\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u}^*e^{-2i\omega_{eg}t}}{2}\right)\sigma_-.$$

Thus

$$\overline{H_{int}} = \frac{\mathbf{u}^*\sigma_+ + \mathbf{u}\sigma_-}{2}.$$

Second order approximation and Bloch-Siegert shift

The decomposition of \mathbf{H}_{int} ,

$$\mathbf{H}_{\text{int}} = \underbrace{\frac{u^*}{2} \sigma_+ + \frac{u}{2} \sigma_-}_{\overline{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{int}}} + \underbrace{\frac{ue^{2i\omega_{\text{eg}}t}}{2} \sigma_+ + \frac{u^*e^{-2i\omega_{\text{eg}}t}}{2} \sigma_-}_{\mathbf{H}_{\text{int}} - \overline{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{int}}}$$

provides the **first order approximation** (RWA)

$\mathbf{H}_{\text{rwa}}^{1\text{st}} = \overline{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{int}} = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \mathbf{H}_{\text{int}}(t) dt$, and also the second order

approximation $\mathbf{H}_{\text{rwa}}^{2\text{nd}} = \mathbf{H}_{\text{rwa}}^{1\text{st}} - i \overline{(\mathbf{H}_{\text{int}} - \overline{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{int}}) \left(\int_t (\mathbf{H}_{\text{int}} - \overline{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{int}}) \right)}$. Since

$\int_t \mathbf{H}_{\text{int}} - \overline{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{int}} = \frac{ue^{2i\omega_{\text{eg}}t}}{4i\omega_{\text{eg}}} \sigma_+ - \frac{u^*e^{-2i\omega_{\text{eg}}t}}{4i\omega_{\text{eg}}} \sigma_-$, we have

$$\overline{(\mathbf{H}_{\text{int}} - \overline{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{int}}) \left(\int_t (\mathbf{H}_{\text{int}} - \overline{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{int}}) \right)} = -\frac{|u|^2}{8i\omega_{\text{eg}}} \sigma_z$$

(use $\sigma_+^2 = \sigma_-^2 = 0$ and $\sigma_z = \sigma_+ \sigma_- - \sigma_- \sigma_+$).

The **second order approximation** reads:

$$\mathbf{H}_{\text{rwa}}^{2\text{nd}} = \mathbf{H}_{\text{rwa}}^{1\text{st}} + \left(\frac{|u|^2}{8\omega_{\text{eg}}} \right) \sigma_z = \frac{u^*}{2} \sigma_+ + \frac{u}{2} \sigma_- + \left(\frac{|u|^2}{8\omega_{\text{eg}}} \right) \sigma_z.$$

The 2nd order correction $\frac{|u|^2}{4\omega_{\text{eg}}} (\sigma_z/2)$ is called the **Bloch-Siegert shift**.

Take the first order approximation

$$(\Sigma) \quad i \frac{d}{dt} |\phi\rangle = \frac{(\mathbf{u}^* \sigma_+ + \mathbf{u} \sigma_-)}{2} |\phi\rangle = \frac{(\mathbf{u}^* |e\rangle \langle g| + \mathbf{u} |g\rangle \langle e|)}{2} |\phi\rangle$$

with control $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{C}$.

- 1 Take constant control $\mathbf{u}(t) = \Omega_r e^{i\theta}$ for $t \in [0, T]$, $T > 0$. Show that $i \frac{d}{dt} |\phi\rangle = \frac{\Omega_r (\cos \theta \sigma_x + \sin \theta \sigma_y)}{2} |\phi\rangle$.
- 2 Set $\Theta_r = \frac{\Omega_r}{2} T$. Show that the solution at T of the propagator $\mathbf{U}_t \in SU(2)$, $i \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{U} = \frac{\Omega_r (\cos \theta \sigma_x + \sin \theta \sigma_y)}{2} \mathbf{U}$, $\mathbf{U}_0 = \mathbf{I}$ is given by

$$\mathbf{U}_T = \cos \Theta_r \mathbf{I} - i \sin \Theta_r (\cos \theta \sigma_x + \sin \theta \sigma_y),$$

- 3 Take a wave function $|\bar{\phi}\rangle$. Show that exist Ω_r and θ such that $\mathbf{U}_T |g\rangle = e^{i\alpha} |\bar{\phi}\rangle$, where α is some global phase.
- 4 Prove that for any given two wave functions $|\phi_a\rangle$ and $|\phi_b\rangle$ exists a piece-wise constant control $[0, 2T] \ni t \mapsto \mathbf{u}(t) \in \mathbb{C}$ such that the solution of (Σ) with $|\phi\rangle_0 = |\phi_a\rangle$ satisfies $|\phi\rangle_T = e^{i\beta} |\phi_b\rangle$ for some global phase β .