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Thermal equilibrium states in quantum field theories

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I review the approaches to descriptions of thermal equilibrium states in both quantum mechanics and quantum field theory. I argue, that the description via (Gibbs) density functionals is not sufficient to describe thermal equilibrium states in generic situations. I show a generalization of Gibbs states, the so-called KMS-states, and their application to quantum field theory.

Primary author: Mr LINDNER, Falk (II. Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of Hamburg)

Presenter: Mr LINDNER, Falk (II. Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of Hamburg)

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