

# Monitoring quantum systems

speed limits and symmetry breaking

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DIPC

Engineering Quantum Open Systems

Workshop EQOS2019

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# Quantum Science & Technology group @ UMass Boston





# Quantum Science & Technology group @ UMass Boston



Luis Pedro García-Pintos

Diego Tielas

(La Plata)



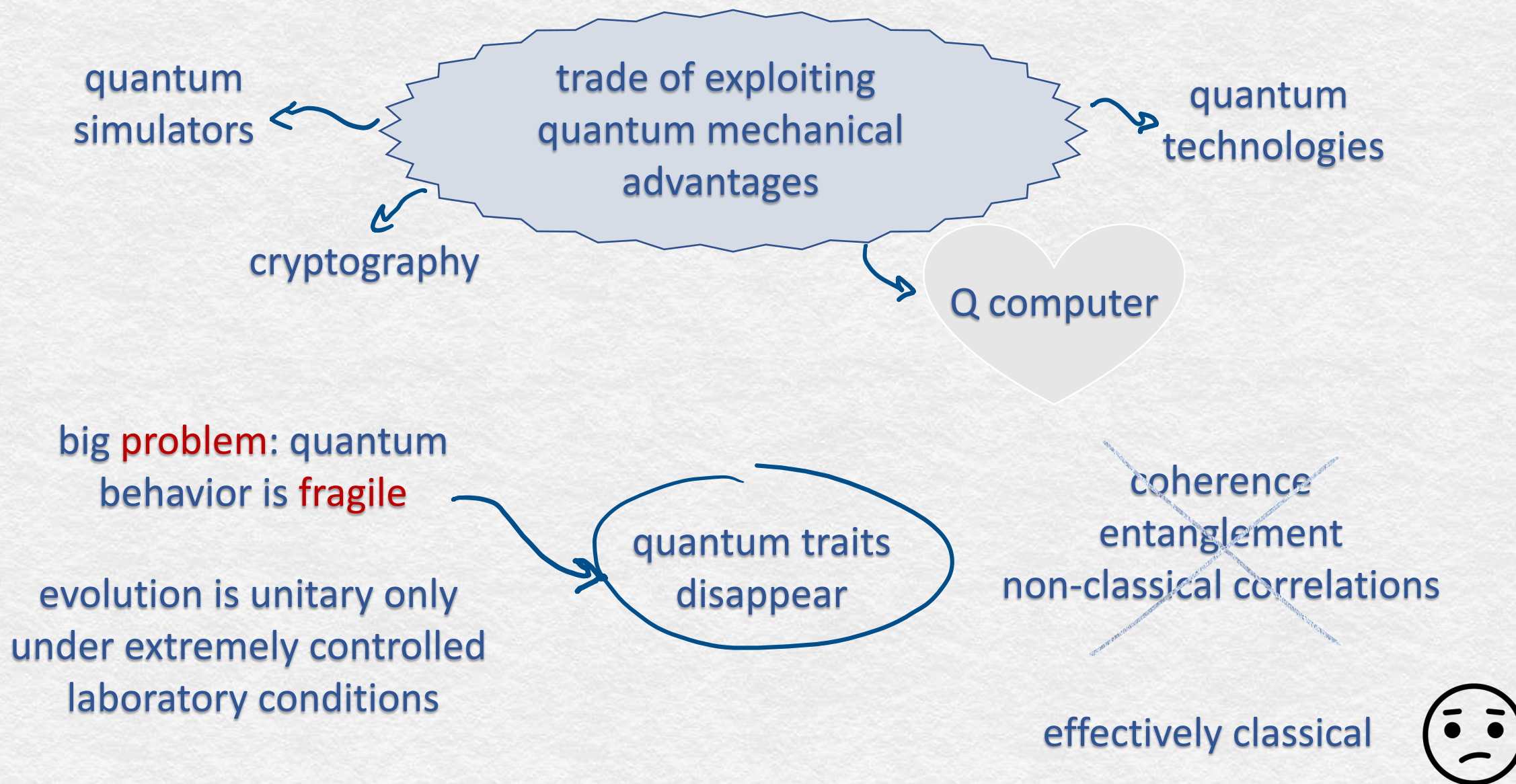


# Quantum Science & Technology group @ DIPC & UPV-EHU





# Dynamics of open systems





# Dynamics of open systems

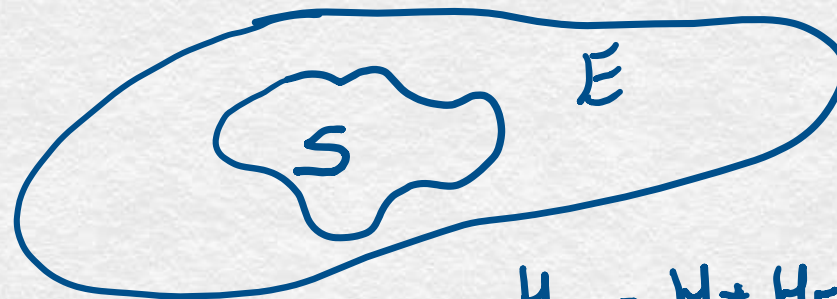
We'd like

$$\frac{d\rho_t}{dt} = -i[H, \rho_t]$$

instead, forced to deal  
with non-unitary dynamics

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\rho_t}{dt} &= -i[H, \rho_t] + \mathcal{D}[\rho_t] \equiv L[\rho_t] \\ &= -i[H, \rho_t] - \kappa[A, [A, \rho_t]]\end{aligned}$$

but, another situation can lead to identical dynamics:  
system being monitored by an observer



$$\begin{aligned}H_{\text{Tot}} &= H + H_E + H_{\text{int}} \\ \rho_t &= \text{Tr}_E(\rho_{\text{Tot}}(t))\end{aligned}$$

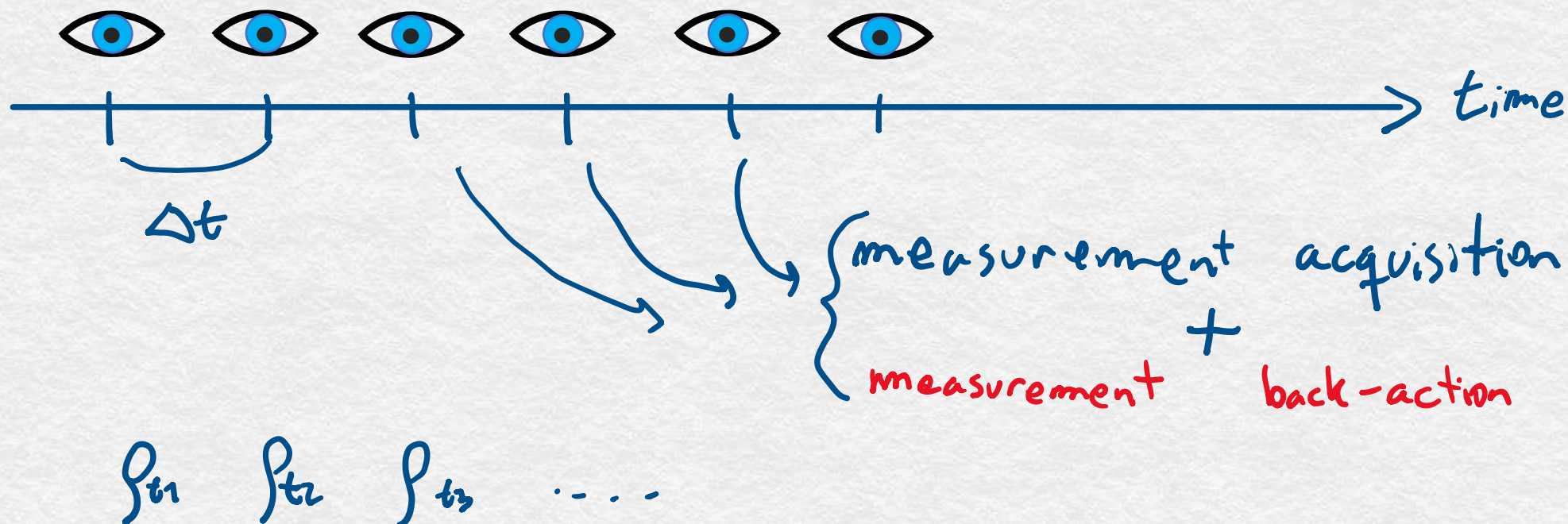
Environmental decoherence

...  
fluctuating Hamiltonians,  
uncontrolled sources of noise,  
uncertainties in the model...



# Monitored quantum systems

System on which observable “A” is consecutively measured



Infinitesimally weak measurements – continuous quantum measurement



# Monitored quantum systems

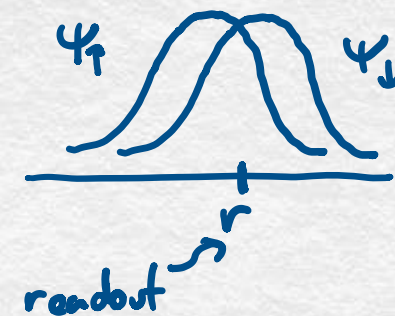
Weak measurement

$$A = \sigma_z$$

$$\underbrace{(a|\uparrow\rangle + b|\downarrow\rangle)}_{\text{measured system}} \underbrace{|\text{ready}\rangle}_{\text{apparatus}} \xrightarrow{t} (a|\uparrow\rangle |\psi_\uparrow\rangle + b|\downarrow\rangle |\psi_\downarrow\rangle)$$

measurement does  
not fully discriminate

$$|\langle \psi_\uparrow | \psi_\downarrow \rangle| \approx 1$$



measurement readout

Observing outcome “r” gives information of post-measurement state

Conditioning on “r” can be modeled by

$$\rho \rightarrow \frac{\mathcal{M}_r \rho \mathcal{M}_r^\dagger}{\text{Tr}[\mathcal{M}_r \rho \mathcal{M}_r^\dagger]}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_r = \sum_{m=\pm 1} \left( \frac{4\kappa dt}{\pi} \right)^{1/4} e^{-2\kappa dt(r-m)^2} |m\rangle\langle m|$$

Gaussian  
measurements

“Quantum Measurement Theory and its Applications” K. Jacobs

“Quantum Measurement and Control” Wiseman and Milburn



# Monitored quantum systems

Equivalent master equation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 d\rho_t^{\mathcal{C}} &= -i[H, \rho_t^{\mathcal{C}}]dt + \mathcal{D}[\rho_t^{\mathcal{C}}]dt + \overbrace{I[\rho_t^{\mathcal{C}}]dW_t}^{\text{information acquisition}} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{purifies} \\ \text{back-action} \\ \text{non-linear} \end{array} \right. \\
 &= -i[H, \rho_t^{\mathcal{C}}]dt - \kappa \left[ A, [A, \rho_t^{\mathcal{C}}] \right] dt - \underbrace{\sqrt{2\kappa}(\{A, \rho_t^{\mathcal{C}}\} - 2 \text{Tr}[A\rho_t^{\mathcal{C}}]\rho_t^{\mathcal{C}})}_{\text{}}dW_t
 \end{aligned}$$

$\rho_t^{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow$  conditioned state

$dW_t \rightarrow$  white noise:  $\langle dW_t \rangle = 0;$   
 $\langle dW_{t_1} dW_{t_2} \rangle = \delta_{\{t_1, t_2\}} dt$

$\kappa \rightarrow$  measurement strength – backaction and timescale of information acquisition

measurement output: observable masked by noise

$$\underbrace{r_t dt}_{\text{}} = \text{Tr}(\rho_t A) dt + \frac{1}{\sqrt{8\kappa}} \underbrace{dW_t}_{\text{}} \quad \rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{output tracks expectation} \\ \text{value of observable} \end{array}$$



# Monitored quantum systems

measurement output:  
observable cloaked by noise

$$r_t dt = \text{Tr}(\underbrace{\rho_t^c}_\text{blue} A) dt + \frac{1}{\sqrt{8\kappa}} d\underbrace{W_t}_\text{red}$$

$$\left( \rho \rightarrow \frac{\mathcal{M}_r \rho \mathcal{M}_r^\dagger}{\text{Tr}[\mathcal{M}_r \rho \mathcal{M}_r^\dagger]} \right)$$

QUANTUM PHYSICS

## Watching the wavefunction

The continuous random path of a superconducting quantum bit has been tracked as the state changes during measurement, revealing the possibility of steering quantum systems into desired states.

ANDREW N. JORDAN

SU

ST

Murch, Weber, Macklin, and Siddiqi; Nature 2013  
Weber et. al.; Comptes Rendus Physique 2016

## LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature12539

### Observing single quantum trajectories of a superconducting quantum bit

K. W. Murch<sup>1,2</sup>, S. J. Weber<sup>1</sup>, C. Macklin<sup>1</sup> & I. Siddiqi<sup>1</sup>

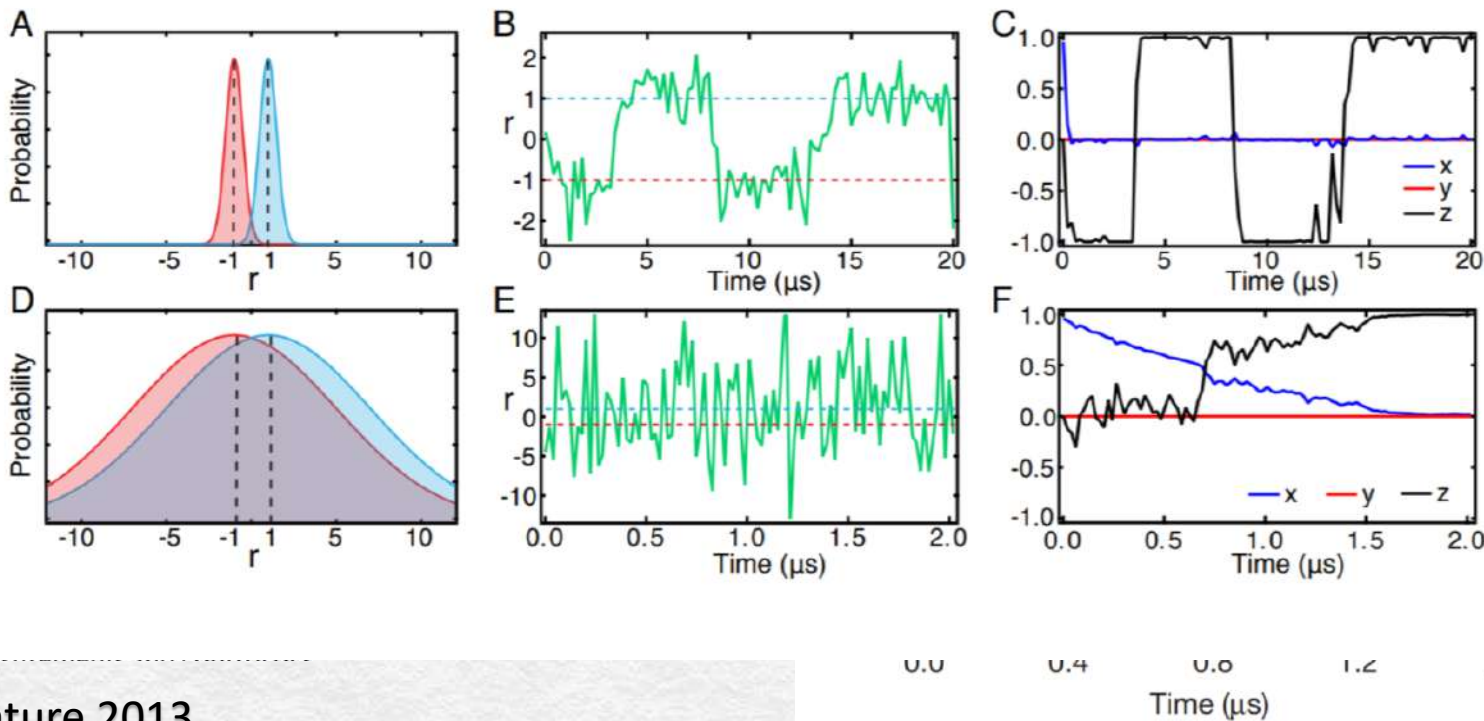


Figure 3 | Quantum trajectories. a, b, Individual mea



# Monitored quantum systems

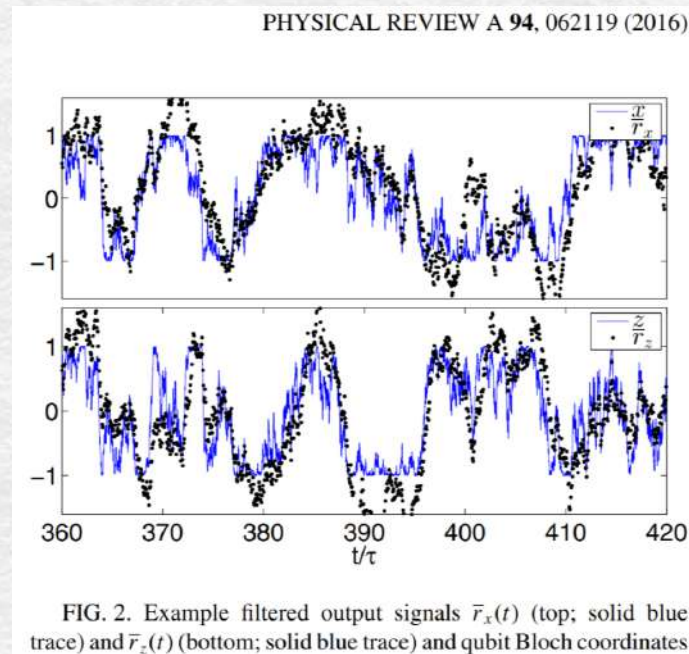
measurement output:  
observable cloaked by noise

$$r_t dt = \text{Tr}(\underbrace{\rho_t^c}_\text{blue wavy} A) dt + \frac{1}{\sqrt{8\kappa}} \underbrace{dW_t}_\text{red wavy}$$

$$\left( \rho \rightarrow \frac{\mathcal{M}_r \rho \mathcal{M}_r^\dagger}{\text{Tr}[\mathcal{M}_r \rho \mathcal{M}_r^\dagger]} \right)$$

filtering

path reconstruction

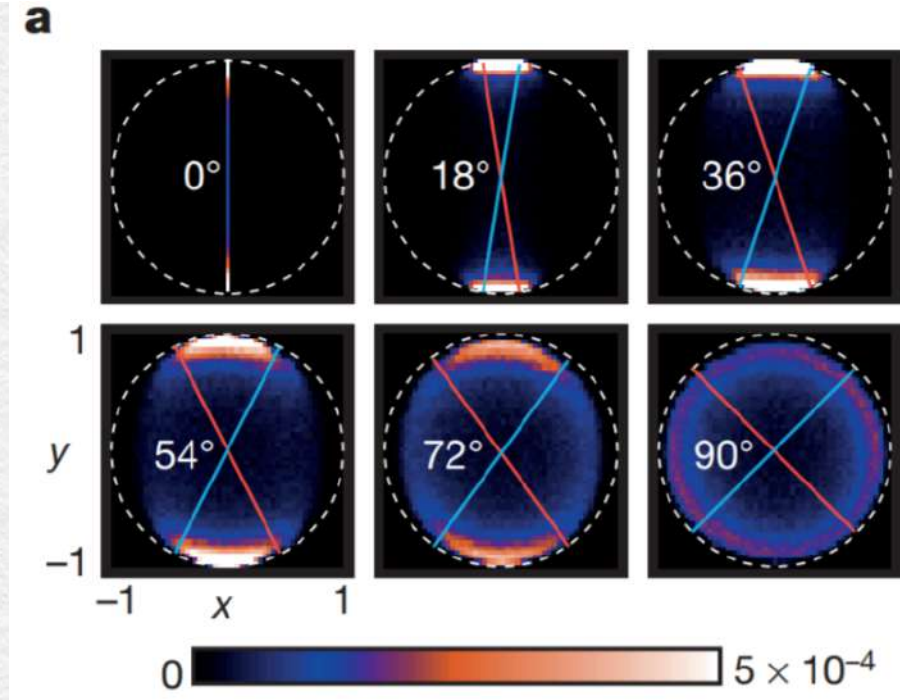


## LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature19762

### Quantum dynamics of simultaneously measured non-commuting observables

Shay Hacoen-Gourgy<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Leigh S. Martin<sup>1,2,3\*</sup>, Emmanuel Flurin<sup>1,2</sup>, Vinay V. Ramasesh<sup>1,2</sup>, K. Birgitta Whaley<sup>3,4</sup> & Irfan Siddiqi<sup>1,2</sup>





# Monitored quantum systems

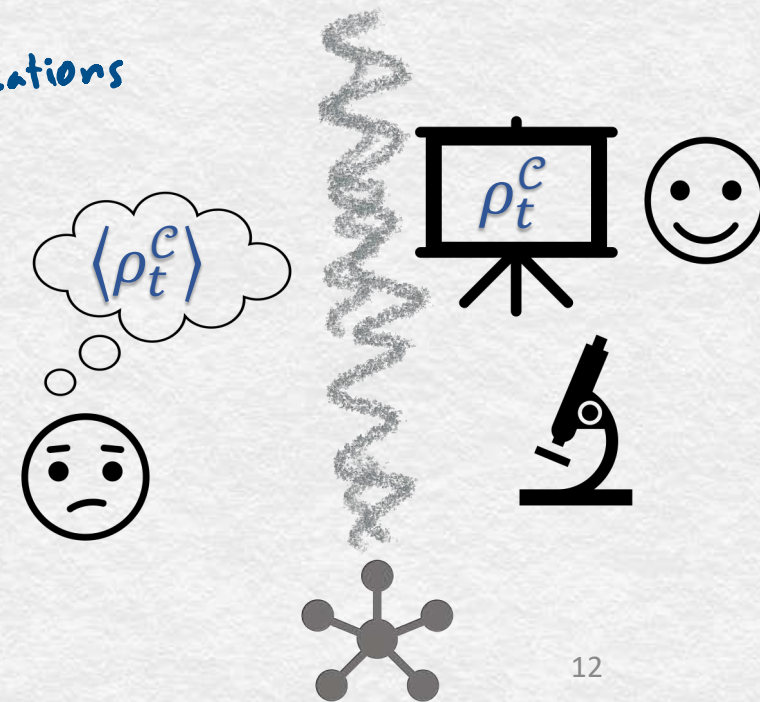
Observer with access to outcomes describes system by

$$d\rho_t^c = -i[H, \rho_t^c]dt + \mathcal{D}[\rho_t^c]dt + I[\rho_t^c]dW_t = L[\rho_t^c]dt + I[\rho_t^c]dW_t$$

In contrast, agent without access describes system by  $\rho_t \equiv \langle \rho_t^c \rangle$ , averaging out the unknown random results

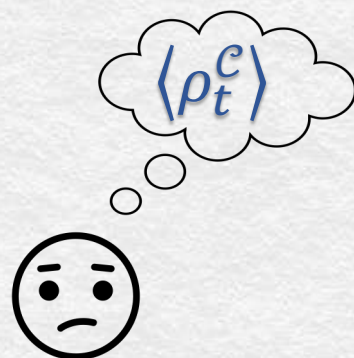
$$\begin{aligned} d\rho_t &= \langle d\rho_t^c \rangle = -i[H, \langle \rho_t^c \rangle]dt + \mathcal{D}[\langle \rho_t^c \rangle]dt + \underbrace{\langle I[\rho_t^c]dW_t \rangle}_{=0} \quad \rightarrow \text{average over realizations} \\ &= -i[H, \rho_t]dt + \mathcal{D}[\rho_t]dt \\ &= L[\rho_t]dt \end{aligned}$$

identical to open system dynamics!

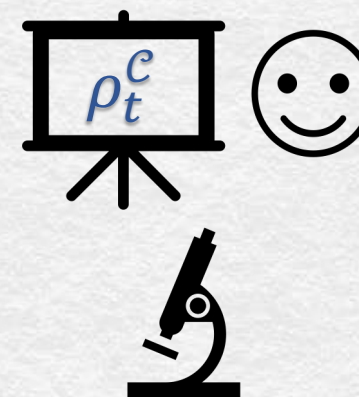


# Monitored quantum systems

$$\begin{aligned}d\rho_t &= \langle d\rho_t^c \rangle = -i[H, \rho_t]dt + \mathcal{D}[\rho_t]dt \\ &= L[\rho_t]dt\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}d\rho_t^c &= -i[H, \rho_t^c]dt + \mathcal{D}[\rho_t^c]dt + I[\rho_t^c]dW_t \\ &= L[\rho_t^c]dt + I[\rho_t^c]dW_t\end{aligned}$$



*Our motivation: study difference between conclusions from both descriptions*



## *Speed of evolution and Quantum Speed Limits*

joint with Luis Pedro Garcia-Pintos,  
arXiv: 1804.01600 (2018)

# Quantum Speed Limits



*Courtesy of Guy Chenu*



# Quantum Speed Limits

## Beautiful history

Passage time: Minimum time required for a state to reach an orthogonal state

Landau



Krylov

1945 Mandelstam and Tamm “MT”

1967 Fleming

1990 Anandan, Aharonov

1992 Vaidman, Uhlman

1993 Uffink

1998 Margolus & Levitin “ML”

2000 Lloyd

2003 Giovannetti, Lloyd, Maccone: MT & ML unified

2003 Bender: no bounds in PT-symmetric QM

2009 Levitin, Toffoli

2013      2013 Bound for open (as well as unitary) system dynamics!



# Speed of evolution

## Limits to the speed of evolution

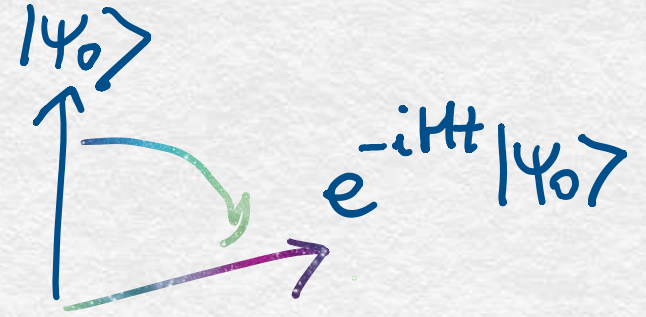
### Mandelstam Tamm

$$\left| \frac{d\text{Tr}(A\rho_t)}{dt} \right| \leq \Delta_{\rho_0} H \Delta_{\rho_0} A$$

$$\langle \psi_0 | e^{iHt} A e^{-iHt} | \psi_0 \rangle$$


### Margolus Levitin

$$\tau_T \geq \frac{1}{2\text{Tr}(\rho_0 H)}$$



## Fundamental limits for systems evolving unitarily

## Extensions to open systems governed by Lindbladian dynamics

$$\frac{d\rho_t}{dt} = -i[H, \rho_t] + \mathcal{D}[\rho_t]$$

Mandelstam and Tamm, J. Phys. (USSR) 1945  
Aharonov and Bohm, Phys. Rev. 1961  
Margolus and Levitin, Phys. D 1998

Taddei, Escher, Davidovich, de Matos Filho; PRL 2013  
del Campo, Egusquiza, Plenio, S. F. Huelga; PRL 2013  
Deffner and Lutz; PRL 2013



# Limits to the speed of evolution

consider Fidelity  
quantify deviation  
from (pure) initial state

$$F(t) = \text{Tr}[\rho_0 \rho_t]$$

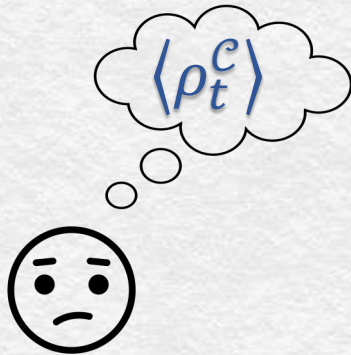
Fidelity change after  $\tau$

$$\Delta F = \int_0^\tau \dot{F}(t) dt = \int_0^\tau \text{Tr}[\rho_0 \dot{\rho}_t] dt = -\tau \mathcal{V}$$

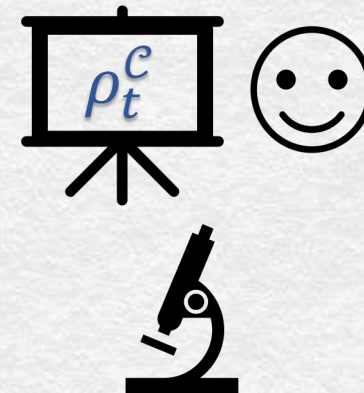
with the *velocity*

$$\mathcal{V} \equiv -\frac{1}{\tau} \int_0^\tau \text{Tr}[\rho_0 \dot{\rho}_t] dt$$

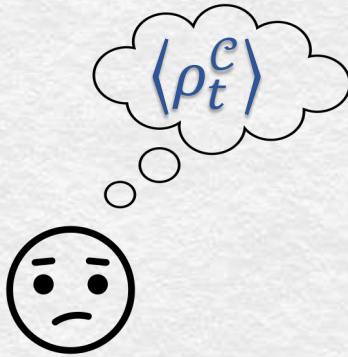
$$d\rho_t = \langle d\rho_t^c \rangle = -i[H, \rho_t]dt + \mathcal{D}[\rho_t]dt$$



$$d\rho_t^c = -i[H, \rho_t^c]dt + \mathcal{D}[\rho_t^c]dt + I[\rho_t^c]dW_t$$



# Limits to the speed of evolution



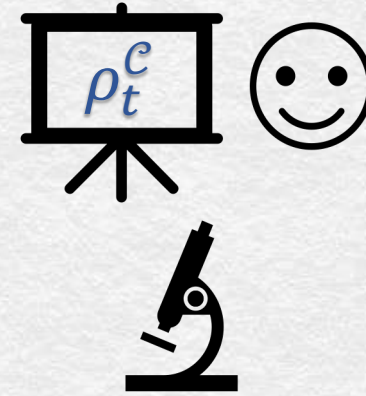
$$d\rho_t = \langle d\rho_t^c \rangle = L[\rho_t]dt$$

*velocity*  $\mathcal{V} \equiv -\frac{1}{\tau} \int_0^\tau \text{Tr}[\rho_0 \langle d\rho_t^c \rangle]$

Ignorant agent thus expects  $\mathcal{V} \leq \mathcal{V}_{QSL}$

$$\mathcal{V}_{QSL} = \frac{1}{\tau} \int_0^\tau \|L(\rho_t)\| dt$$

*traditional bound on speed  
studied in literature*



$$d\rho_t^c = L[\rho_t^c]dt + I[\rho_t^c]dW_t$$



Agent with outcomes knows better:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{V}_c &\equiv -\frac{1}{\tau} \int_0^\tau \text{Tr}[\rho_0 L[\rho_t^c]] dt \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{\tau} \int_0^\tau \text{Tr}[\rho_0 I[\rho_t^c]] dW_t \end{aligned}$$



# Limits to the speed of evolution

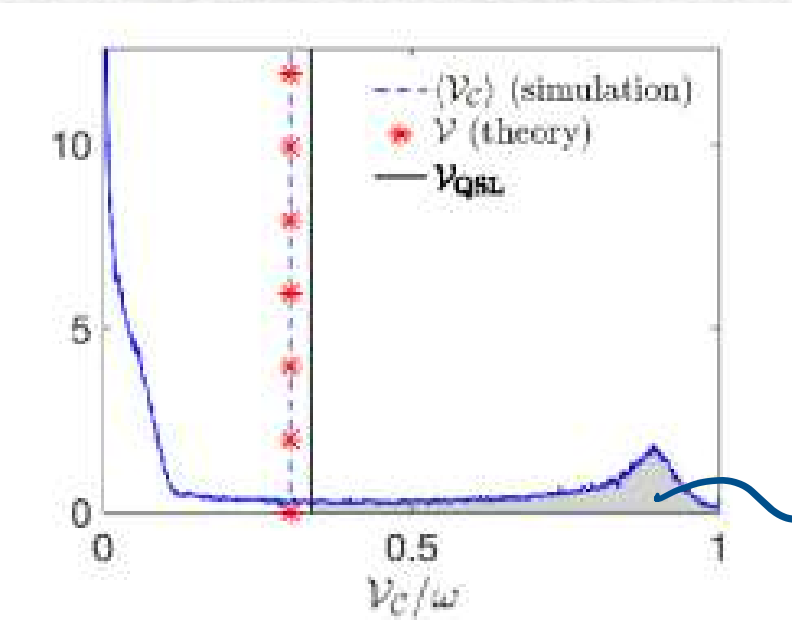
Agent with access to outcomes finds

$\langle \mathcal{V}_c \rangle = \mathcal{V}$        $\langle \mathcal{V}_c^2 \rangle \neq 0$  *velocity is a random variable!*

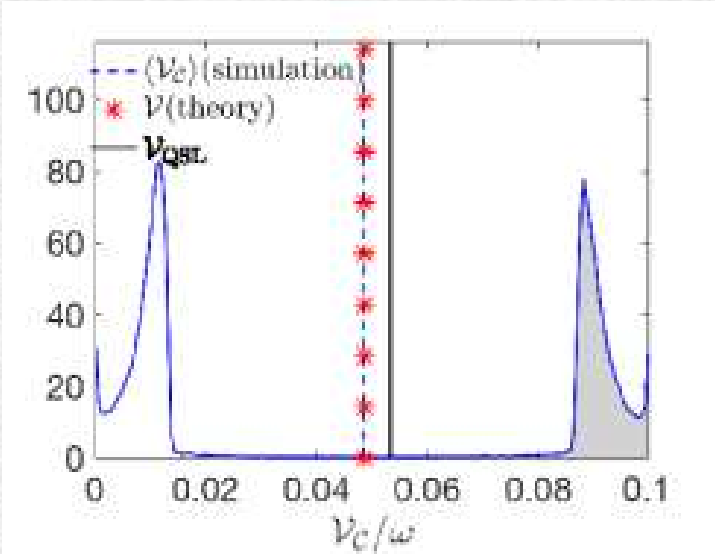
$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mathcal{V}_c^2 \rangle = & \left\langle \overline{\text{Tr}(\rho_0 L[\rho_t^c])}^2 \right\rangle \\ & + \frac{2}{\tau} \left\langle \overline{\text{Tr}(\rho_0 L[\rho_{t_1}^c])} \int_0^\tau \text{Tr}(\rho_0 I[\rho_{t_2}^c]) dW_{t_2} \right\rangle \\ & + \frac{1}{\tau^2} \left\langle \int_0^\tau \int_0^\tau \text{Tr}(\rho_0 I[\rho_{t_1}^c]) \text{Tr}(\rho_0 I[\rho_{t_2}^c]) dW_{t_1} dW_{t_2} \right\rangle. \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

Example on qubit, monitoring of  $\sigma_z$        $H = \frac{\omega}{2} \sigma_y$

*Velocity distribution*

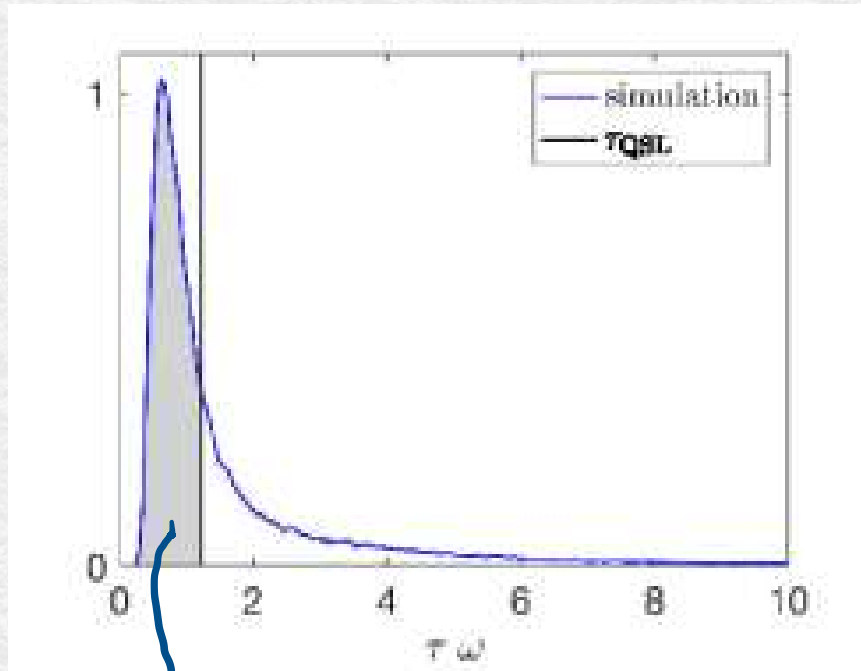


*trajectories violating VQSL*

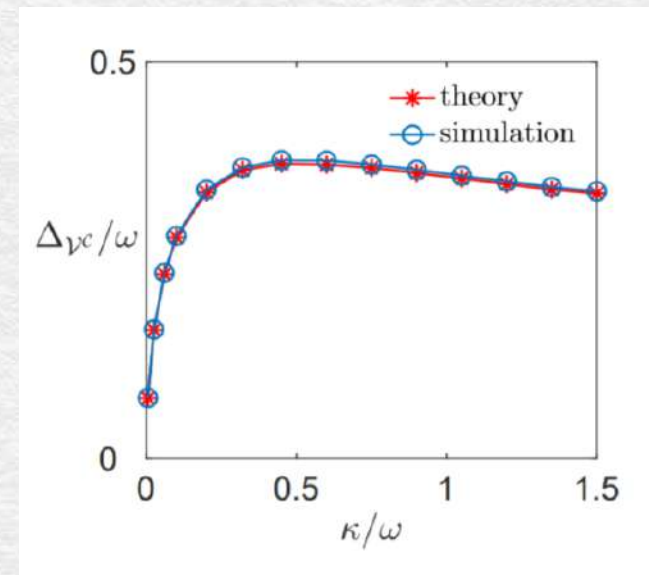
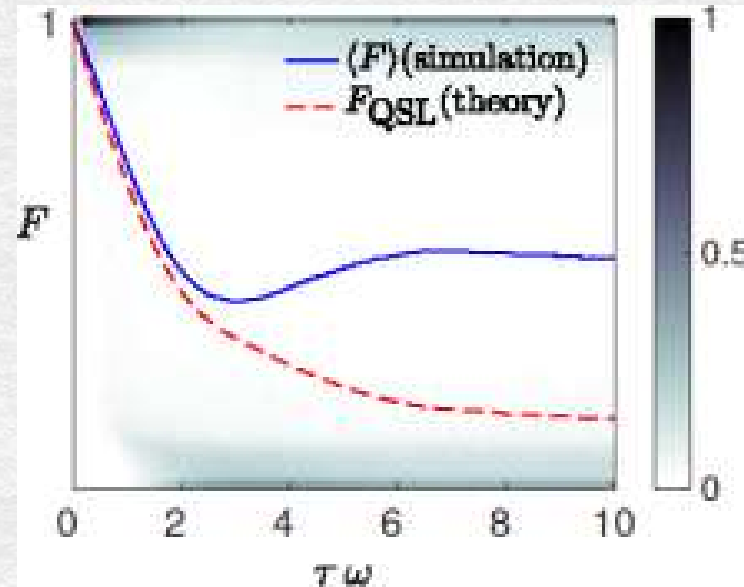


# Speed limits

Distribution of travel times  
to a target Fidelity



↙  
faster trajectories





# Speed limits

Traditional derivations of speed limits had focused on

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\rho_t}{dt} &= -i[H, \rho_t] + \mathcal{D}[\rho_t] \\ &= -i[H, \rho_t] - \kappa[A, [A, \rho_t]]\end{aligned}$$

Extended to monitored systems, dynamics non-linear in state

$$\begin{aligned}d\rho_t^c &= -i[H, \rho_t^c]dt + \mathcal{D}[\rho_t^c]dt + I[\rho_t^c]dW_t \\ &= -i[H, \rho_t^c]dt - \kappa[A, [A, \rho_t^c]]dt - \sqrt{2\kappa}(\{A, \rho_t^c\} - 2\text{Tr}[A\rho_t^c]\rho_t^c)dW_t\end{aligned}$$

Velocity becomes stochastic, with trajectories traveling faster than what an agent ignorant of measurement outcomes would expect

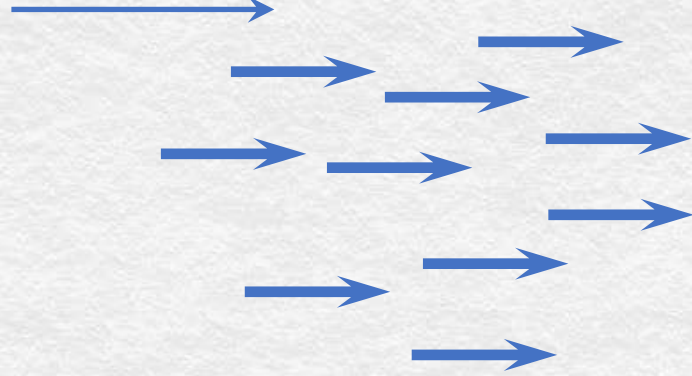
*Monitoring of a many-body system:  
symmetry breaking*

joint with Luis Pedro Garcia-Pintos and Diego Tielas  
arXiv:1808.08343 (2018)



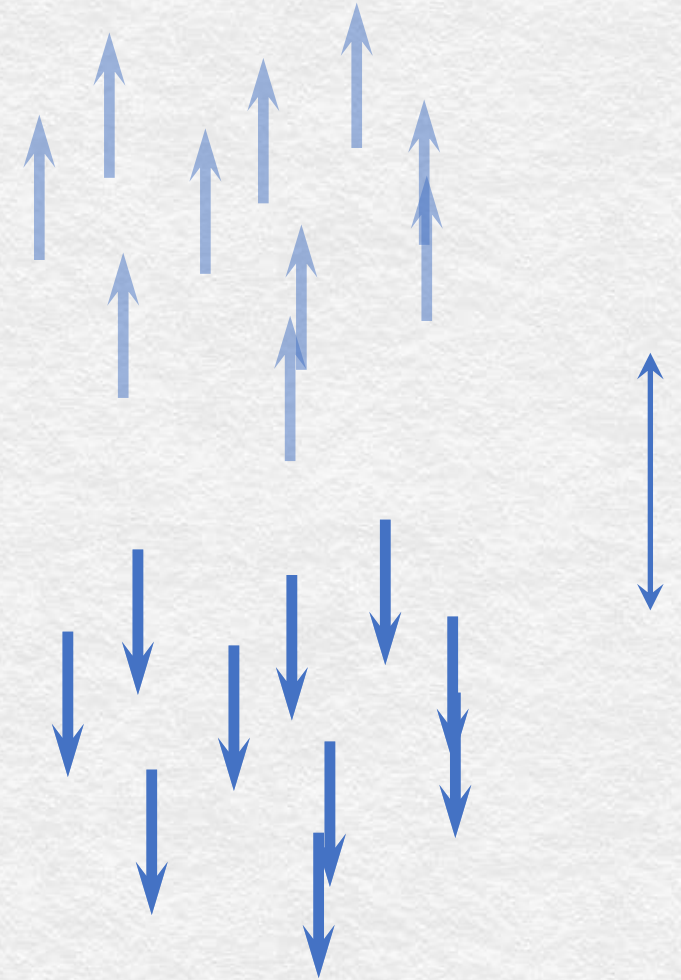
# Symmetry breaking

$$H_0 \propto \sum_j \sigma_j^x$$



quench to Hamiltonian  
with degenerate  
ground state

$$H \propto \sum_j \sigma_j^z \sigma_{j+1}^z$$

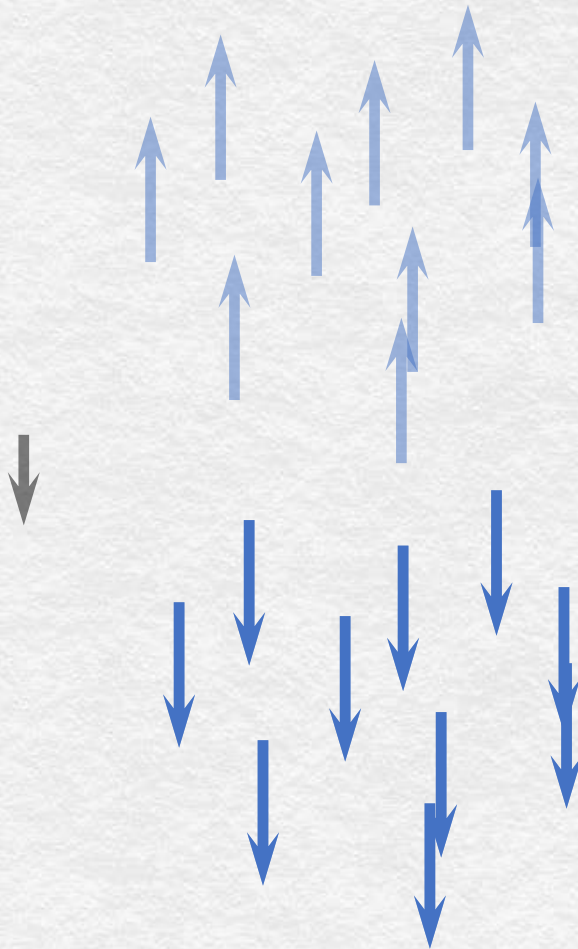


Spontaneous symmetry breaking:  
process by which one state is singled out,  
out of a set indistinguishable by the dynamics

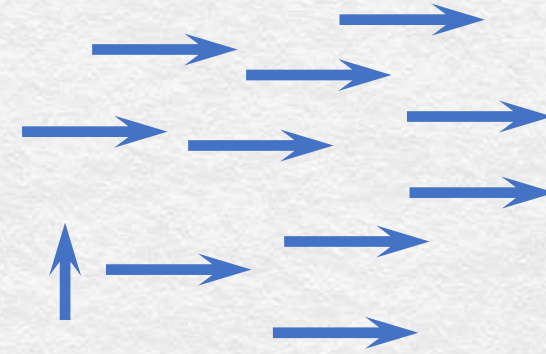
# Symmetry breaking

Usual ways to explain it:

tiny perturbation to Hamiltonian



tiny perturbation to state



*we consider: quantum monitoring  
as cause of symmetry breaking*



# Symmetry breaking

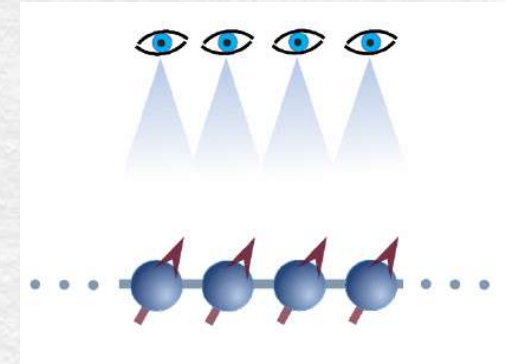
spin chain, initially

$$|\Psi(0)\rangle = \bigotimes_{j=1}^N |\rightarrow\rangle_j$$

quenched to Hamiltonian

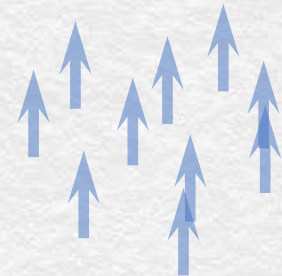
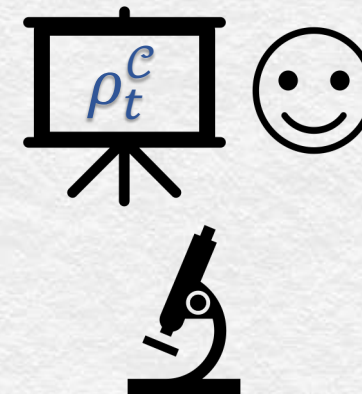
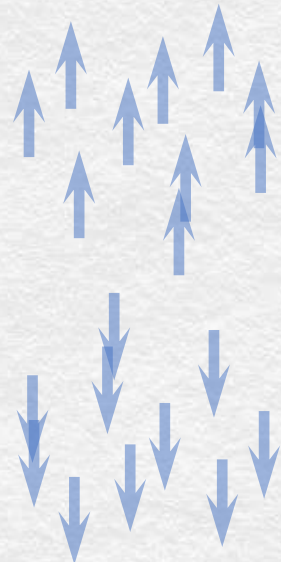
$$H = \Delta \sum_j \sigma_j^z \sigma_{j+1}^z$$

monitoring of individual spins



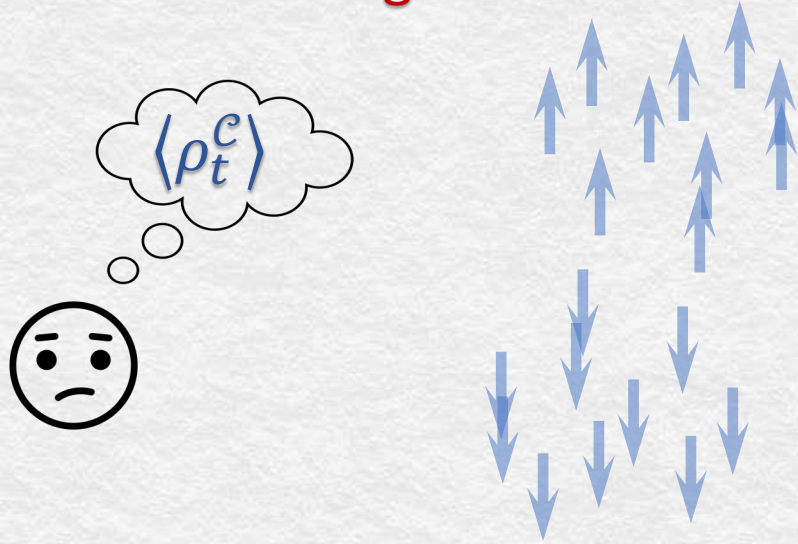
$$d\rho_t = \langle d\rho_t^c \rangle = L[\rho_t]dt$$

$$d\rho_t^c = L[\rho_t^c]dt + \sum_j I_j[\rho_t^c] dW_t^j$$



# Symmetry breaking

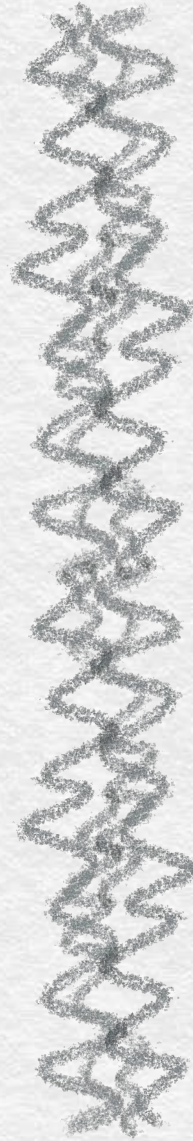
evolution expected by ignorant agent  
does not distinguish states!



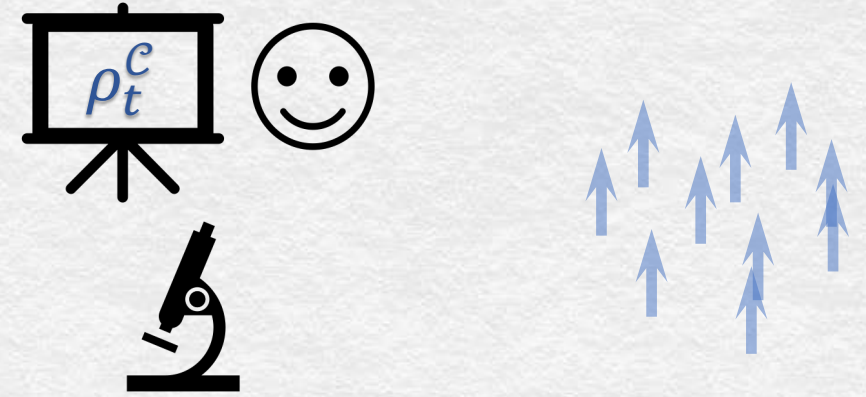
$$d\rho_t = \langle d\rho_t^c \rangle = L[\rho_t]dt$$

$$L[\rho_t] = -i[H, \rho_t] - \kappa \sum_j [\sigma_j^z, [\sigma_j^z, \rho_t]]$$

↳ dephasing operators  $[H, \sigma_j^z] = 0$   
do not break symmetry



monitoring term singles out a direction



$$d\rho_t^c = L[\rho_t^c]dt + \sum_j I_j[\rho_t^c] dW_t^j$$

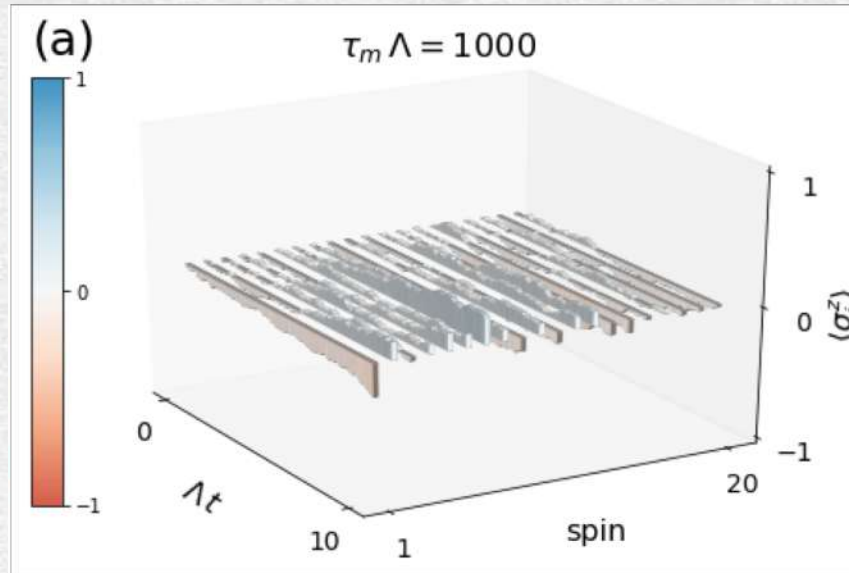
$$I_j[\rho_t^c] = \sqrt{2\kappa}(\{\sigma_j^z, \rho_t^c\} - 2\text{Tr}[\sigma_j^z \rho_t^c] \rho_t^c)$$

$$d\text{Tr}[\sigma_j^z \rho_t^c] = -\sqrt{8\kappa} \text{var}(\sigma_j^z, \rho_t^c) dW_t^j$$

↳ fixed states  $|\uparrow\rangle$  or  $|\downarrow\rangle$  !

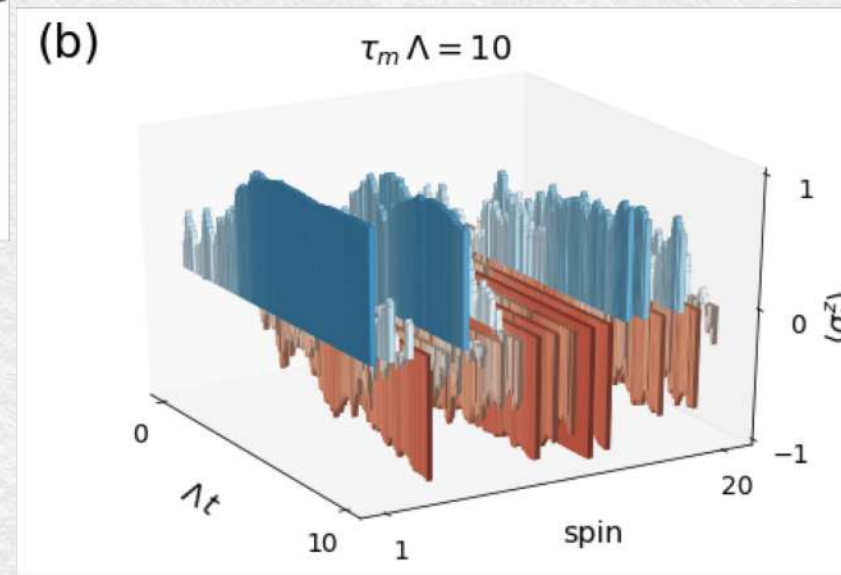


# Symmetry breaking

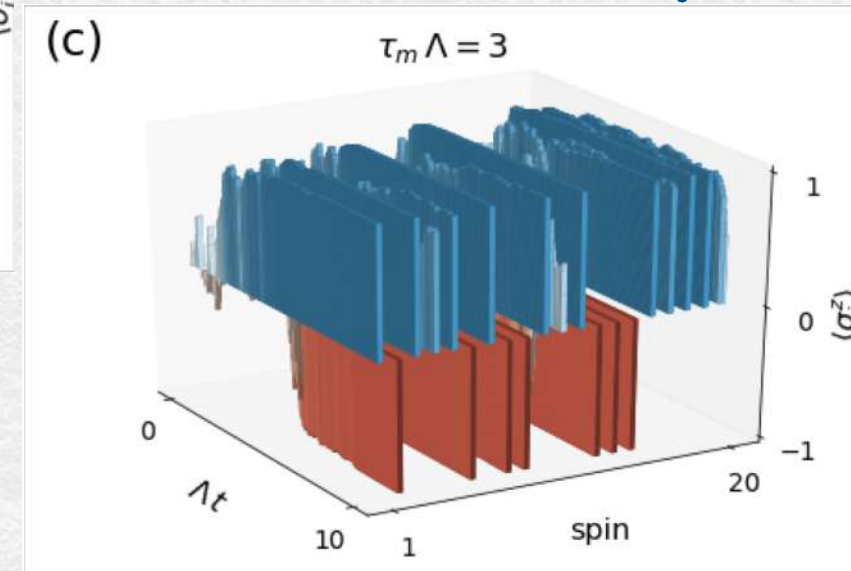


weak probing

intermediate

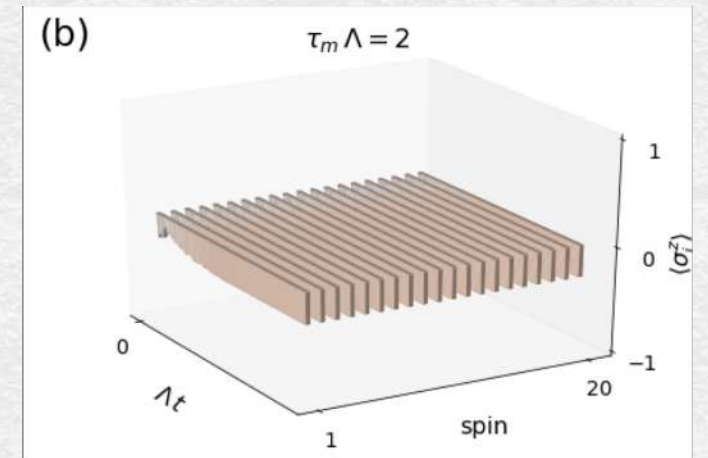
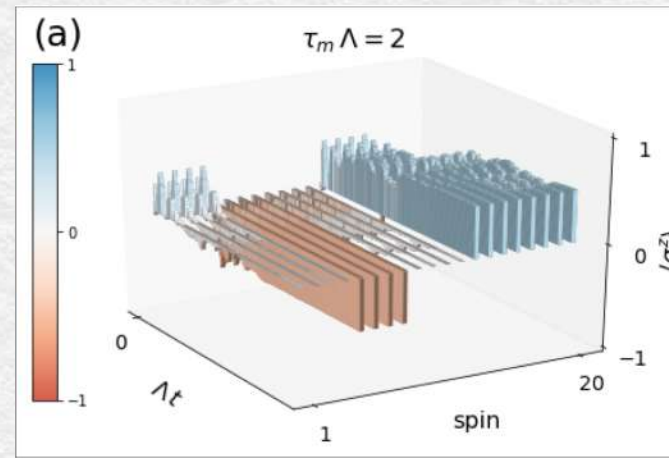
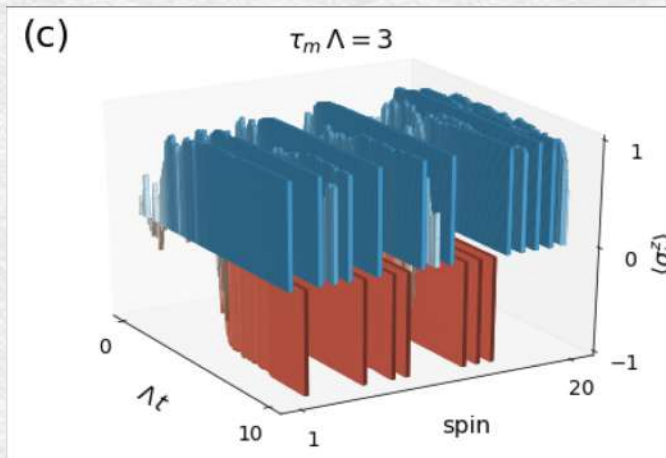
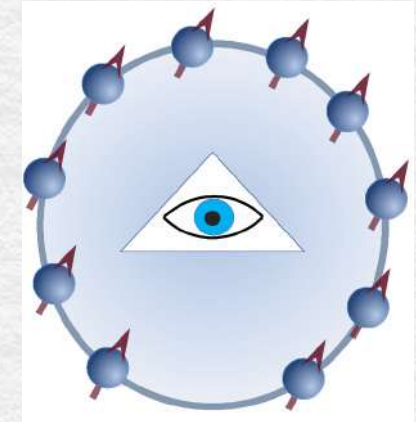
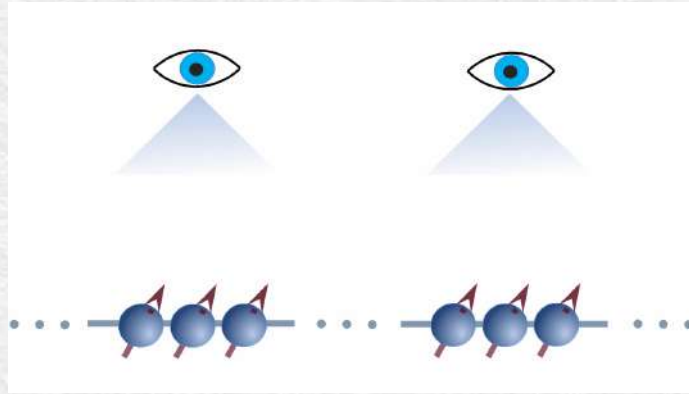
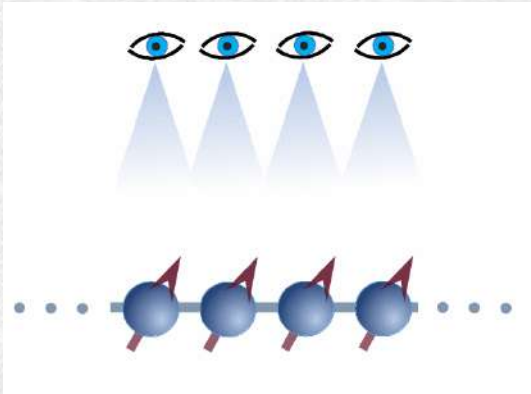


strong probing



# Symmetry breaking – effect of measurements

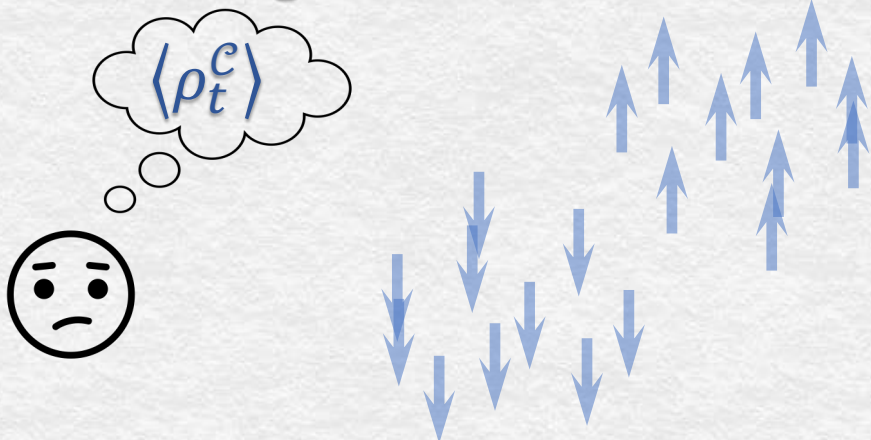
## *Coarse grained measurements*



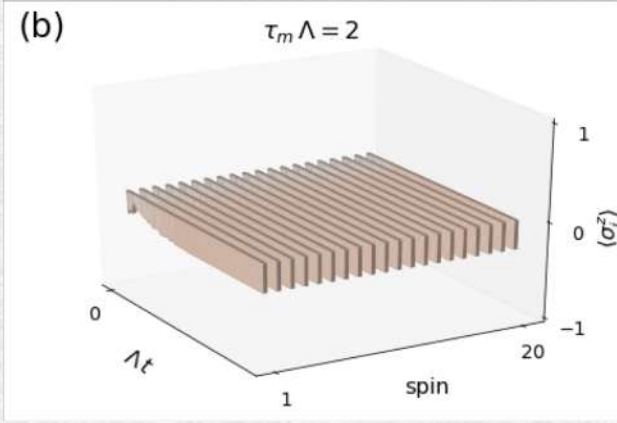
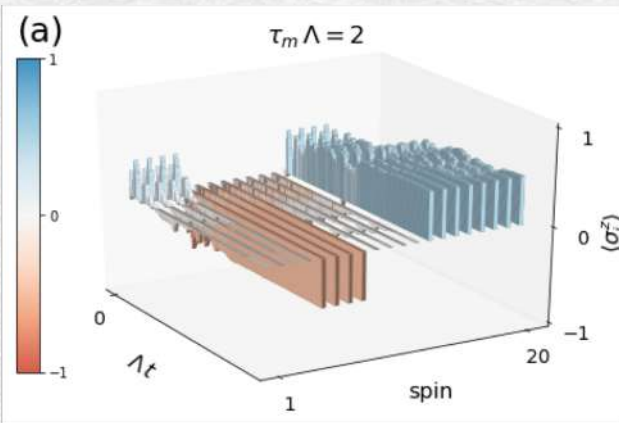
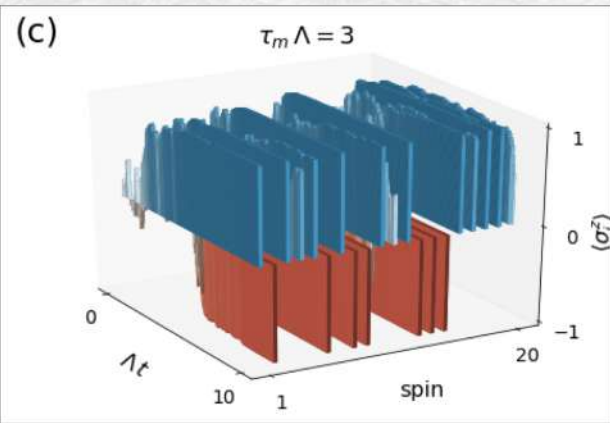
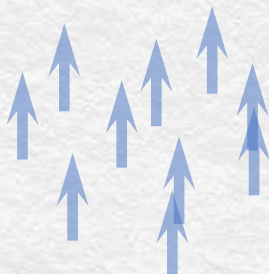
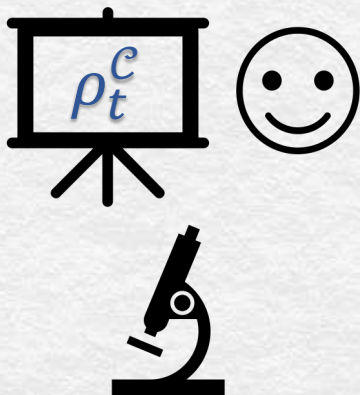


# Symmetry breaking

evolution expected by ignorant agent  
does not distinguish states!



monitoring breaks symmetry in each realization



*Monitoring agent can  
influence properties of  
symmetry-broken state*

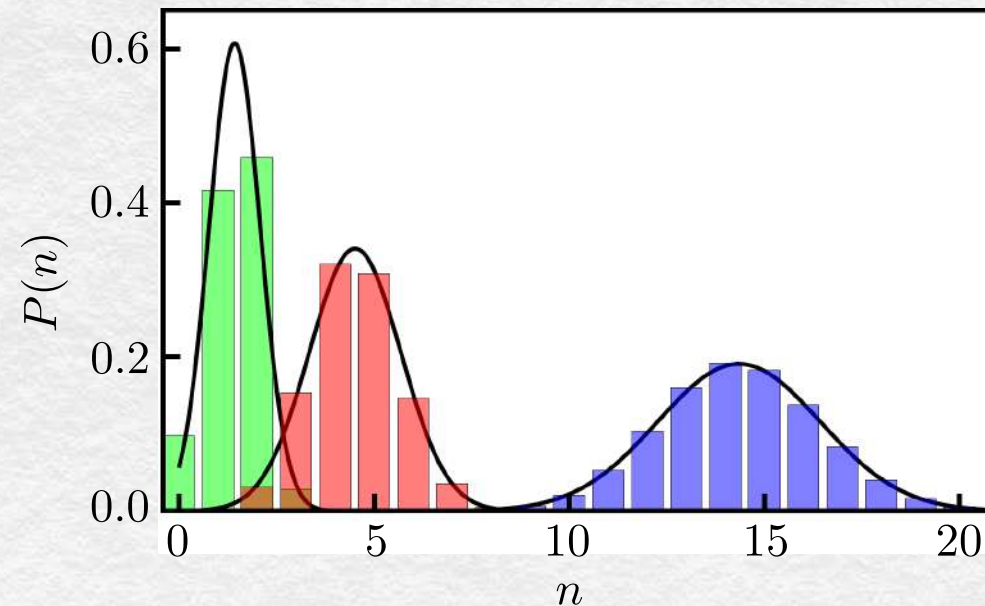


# Outlook: Phase transitions in finite time: Defect suppression

SO FAR: ISOLATED SYSTEMS, NO MONITORING

What is known: Kibble-Zurek mechanism (KZM) predicts mean density of topological defects

News beyond KZM:  
Full counting statistics of topological defects





Thank you!

“Quantum speed limits under continuous quantum measurements”,  
Luis Pedro García-Pintos and Adolfo del Campo,  
arXiv:1804.01600 (2018)

“Spontaneous symmetry breaking induced by quantum monitoring”,  
Luis Pedro García-Pintos, Diego Tielas, and Adolfo del Campo,  
arXiv:1808.08343 (2018)

“Universal Statistics of Topological Defects Formed in a Quantum Phase Transition”  
AdC, Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 200601 (2018)