

SPICE workshop 'Dissipative Phases of
Entangled Quantum Matter'
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Mainz, Germany (zoom)



Measurement Induced Phases and Phase Transitions in Fermion Chains

Sebastian Diehl

Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of Cologne

work with

Ori Alberton, Michael Buchhold, SD

PRL 126, 170602 (2021)

Michael Buchhold, Yuri Minoguchi, Alex Altland, SD

arXiv:2102.08381

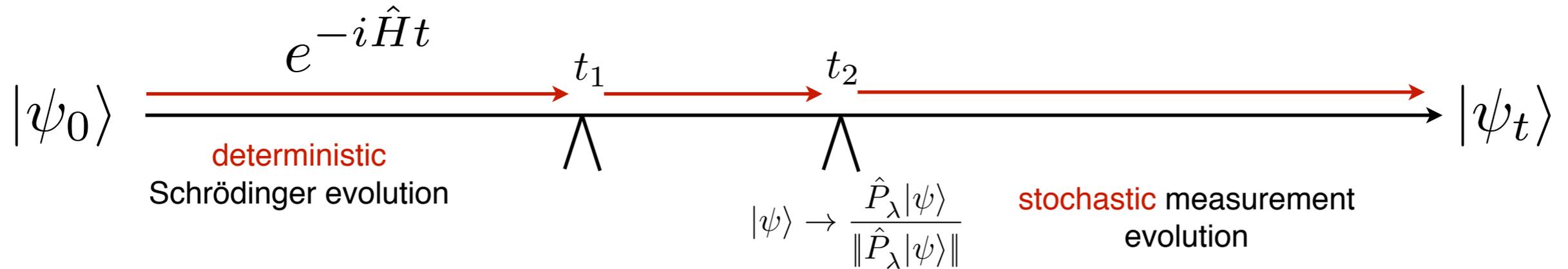


European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

Introduction

Small quantum systems: Measurements

- two types of quantum dynamics



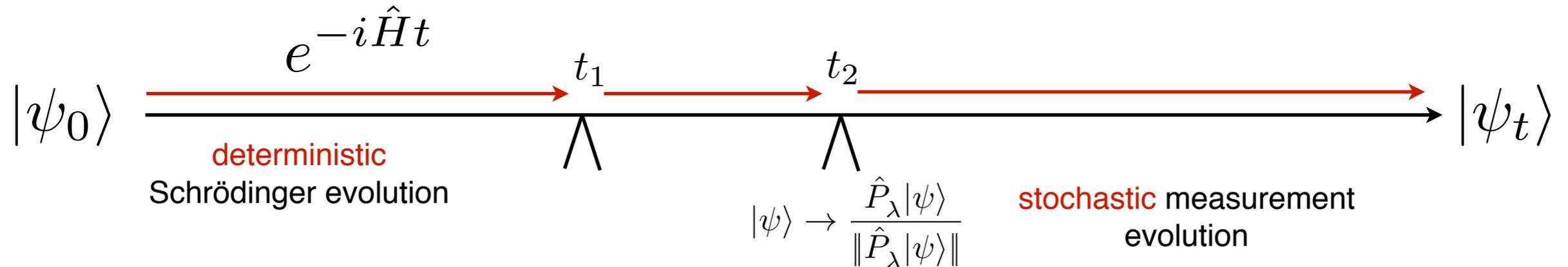
for measurement observable $\hat{M} = \sum_{\lambda} m_{\lambda} |\lambda\rangle\langle\lambda| \equiv \sum_{\lambda} m_{\lambda} \hat{P}_{\lambda}$

- dynamics non-trivial (eigenstates not shared) once $[\hat{H}, \hat{M}] \neq 0$

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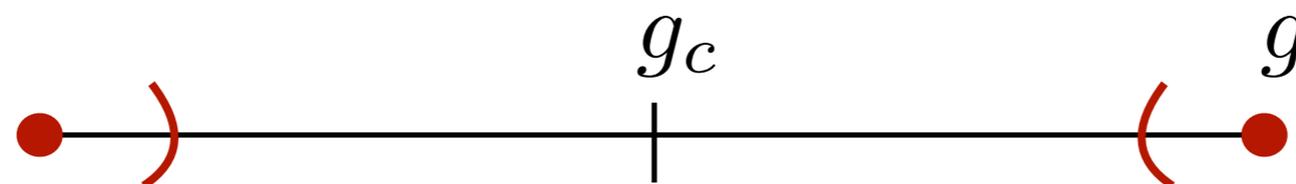
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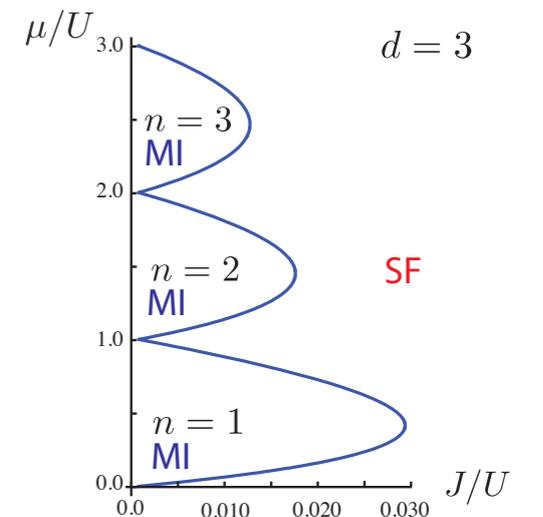
Many-body systems: Phase transitions

- non-commuting operators lead to (quantum) phase transitions

$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_1 + g\hat{H}_2 \quad [\hat{H}_1, \hat{H}_2] \neq 0$$



→ combine measurement and many particles: similar scenario?

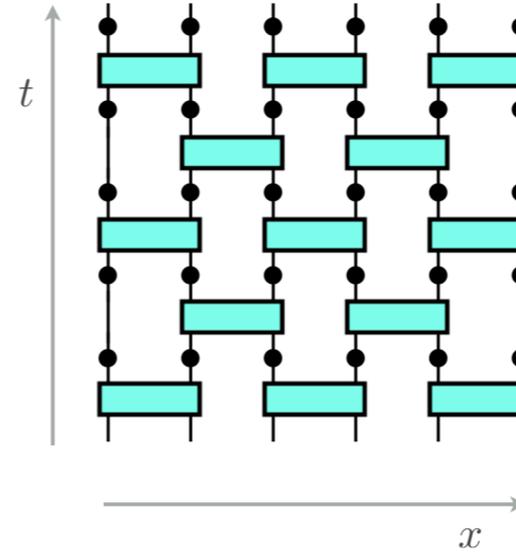


e.g. Mott-insulator to superfluid transition in cold atoms

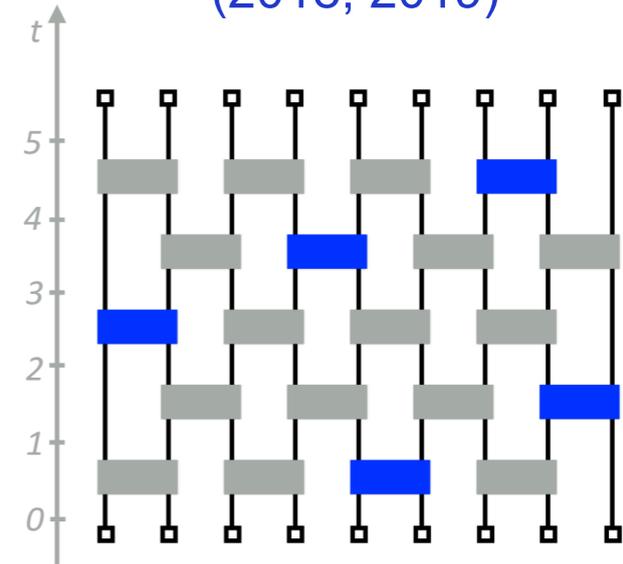
Entanglement Phase Transitions in Random Circuits

- model and key ingredients:
 - randomly chosen local entangling unitary gates
 - projective local measurement of non-commuting observables

Skinner, Ruhman, Nahum
PRX (2019)



Li, Chen, Fisher, PRB
(2018, 2019)

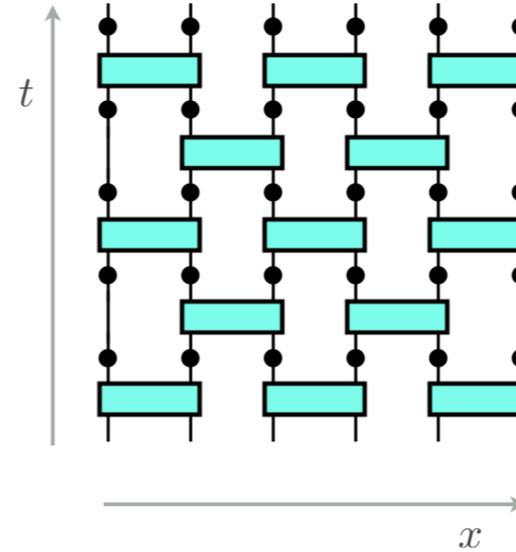


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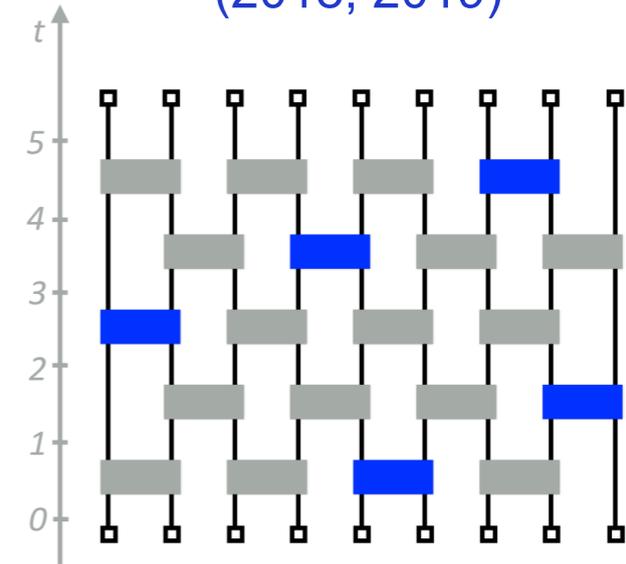
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- basic picture: competition in many-body context (measure σ_i^z)

$g = 0$
chaotic dynamics

➔ volume law entanglement growth

$g^{-1} = 0$

product state $\prod_i |\sigma_i\rangle$ $\sigma_i = \uparrow, \downarrow$

➔ area law entanglement growth

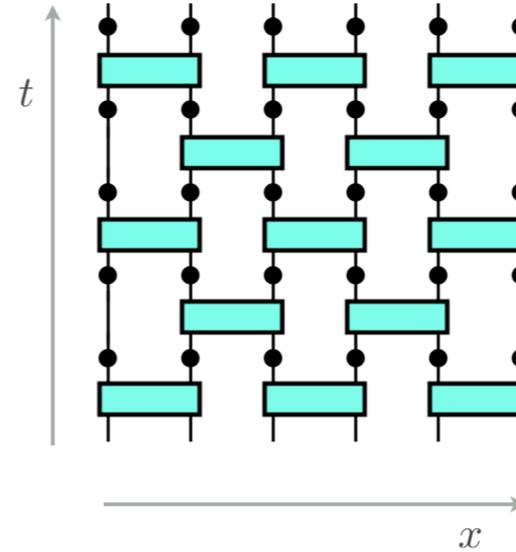
$$g = \frac{\# \text{ measurements/time}}{\# \text{ unitaries/time}}$$

Entanglement Phase Transitions in Random Circuits

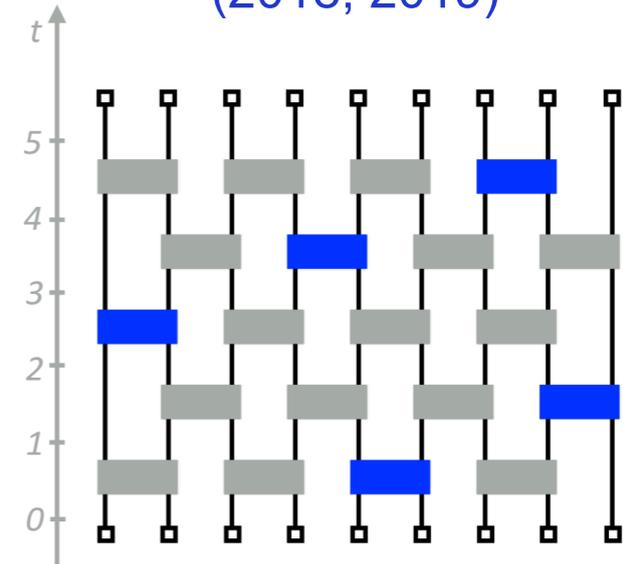
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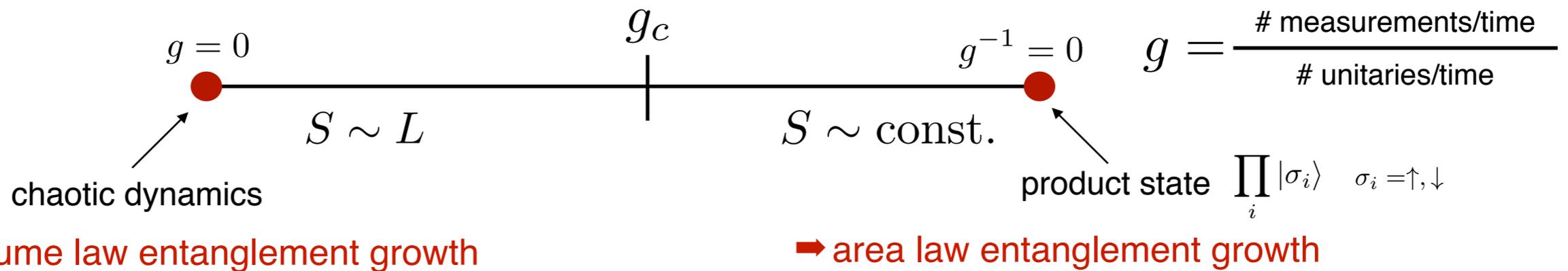
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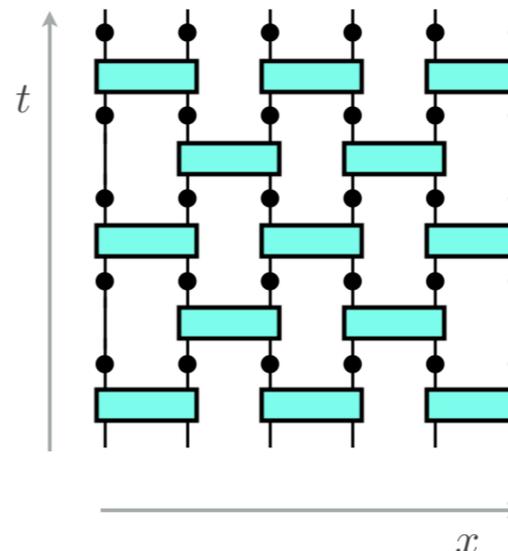
\Rightarrow Phase transition in entanglement growth at **finite** competition ratio g

Entanglement Phase Transitions in Random Circuits

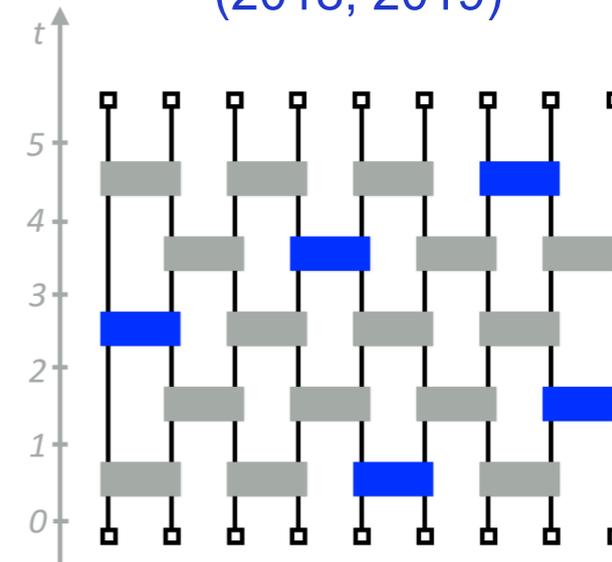
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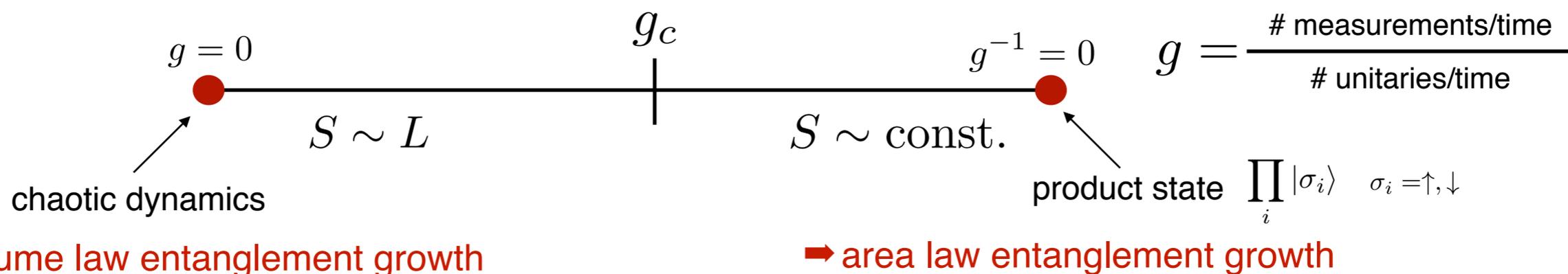
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- Physical pictures

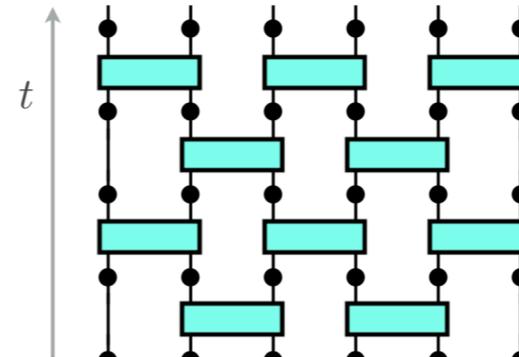
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- purification transition Gullans, Huse, PRX (2020); Gopalakrishnan, Gullans arxiv (2020)
- mapping to stat mech models Jian, You, Vasseur Ludwig, PRB (2020), Nahum et al., PRX Quantum (2021)

➔ Phase transition in entanglement growth at **finite** competition ratio g

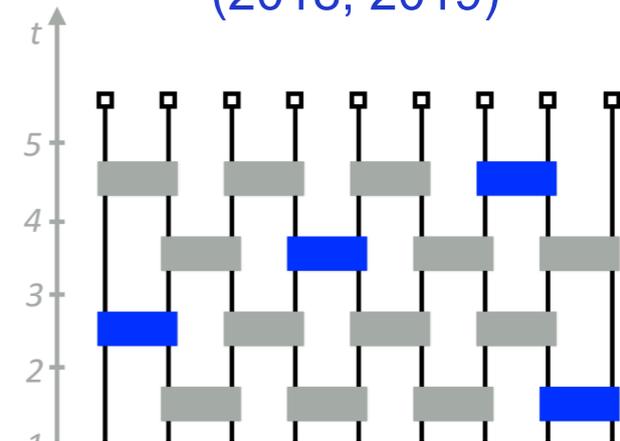
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Outline

- Model: monitored fermion chain
- New entanglement transition from log scaling to area law
- Effective field theory for measured Dirac fermions

➔ volume law entanglement growth

➔ area law entanglement growth

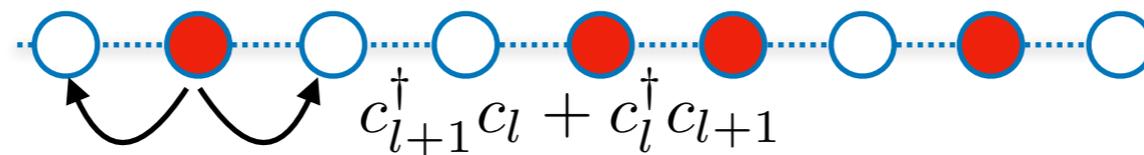
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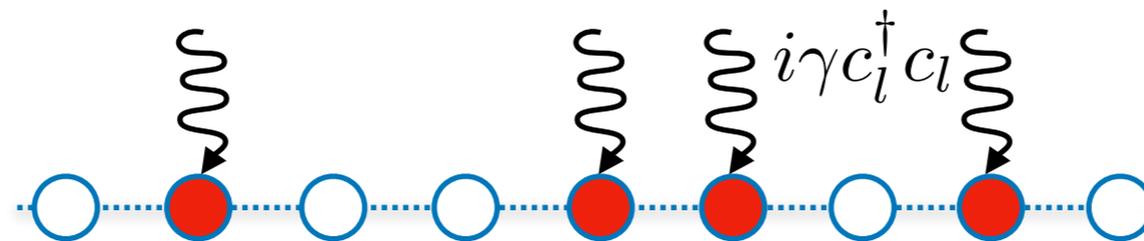
Entanglement Phase Transition in a Monitored Fermion Chain

Hamiltonian:

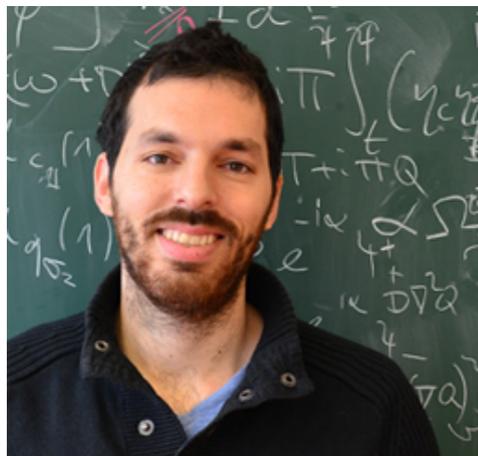


entanglement growth

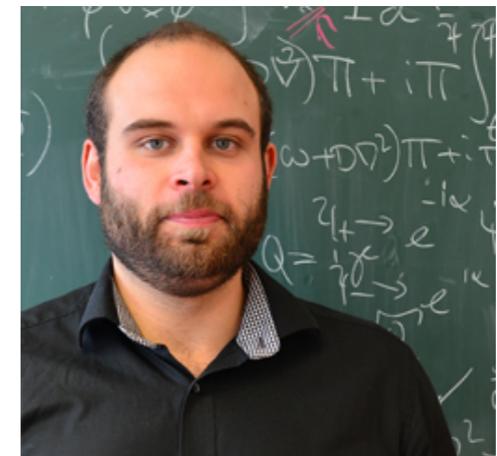
Monitoring:



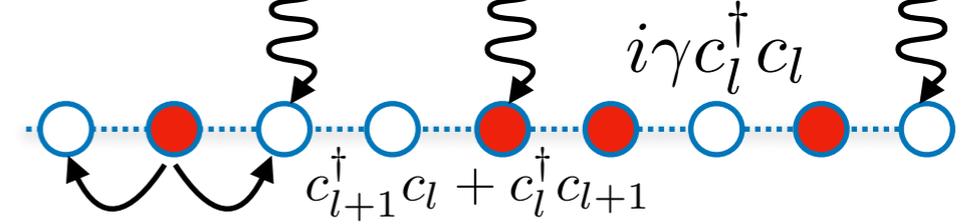
entanglement saturation



O. Alberton, M. Buchhold, SD,
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Monitored Fermion Dynamics



Belavkin (1987); Gisin, Percival (1993)

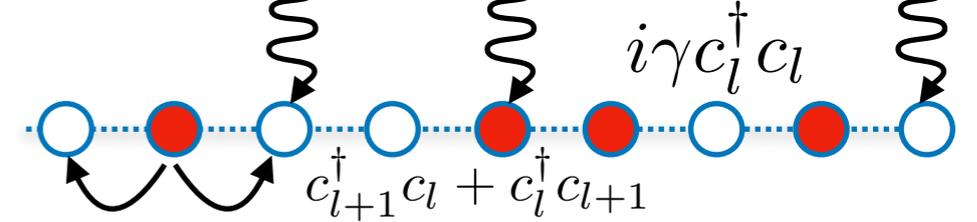
Review: Jacobs, Steck,
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Szyniszewski, Romito,
Schomerus, PRB (2019)

- Weak continuous measurements: **Quantum state diffusion**

$$d|\psi_t\rangle = dt(-i\hat{H} - \frac{\gamma}{2} \sum_l \hat{M}_l^2 |\psi_t\rangle + \sum_l \underbrace{dW_l \hat{M}_l}_{\text{Gaussian white noise}} |\psi_t\rangle$$

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Gaussian white noise

g

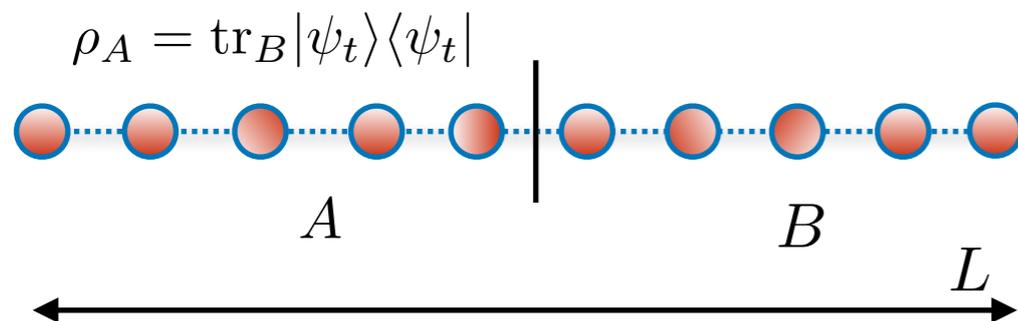
- competition: $g = \frac{\gamma}{J}$ ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

- unitary dynamics: hopping

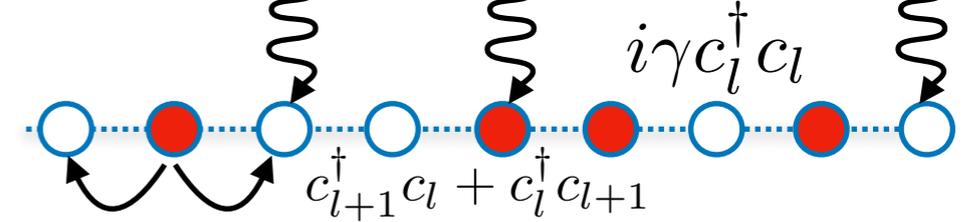
$$H = -J \sum_l (c_l^\dagger c_{l+1} + c_{l+1}^\dagger c_l)$$

- volume law entanglement entropy

$$S_{vN}(L/2, L) = \text{tr} \rho_A \log(\rho_A) \stackrel{t \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} L$$



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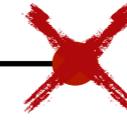
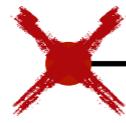
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- $H = 0$: **continuous collapse into dark state**

$$H = -J \sum_l (c_l^\dagger c_{l+1} + c_{l+1}^\dagger c_l)$$

$$\hat{M}_l |\psi_t\rangle = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad \hat{n}_l |\psi_t\rangle = n_l |\psi_t\rangle$$

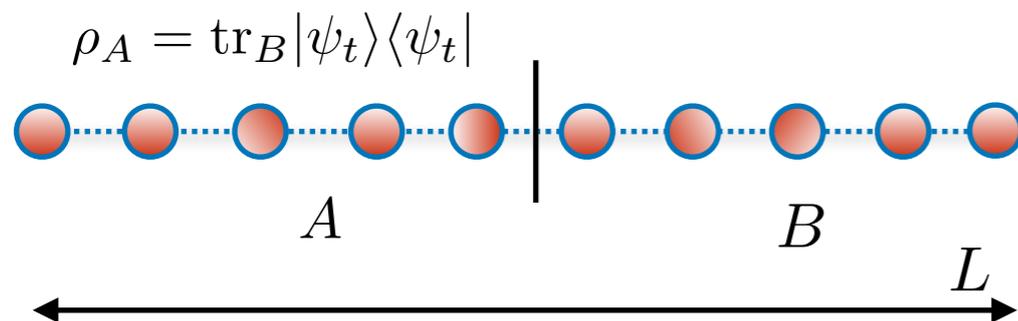
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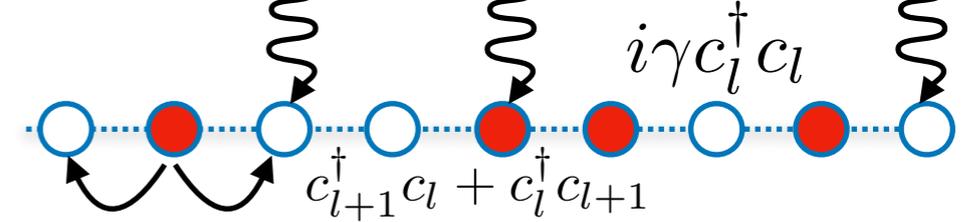
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Monitored Fermion Dynamics



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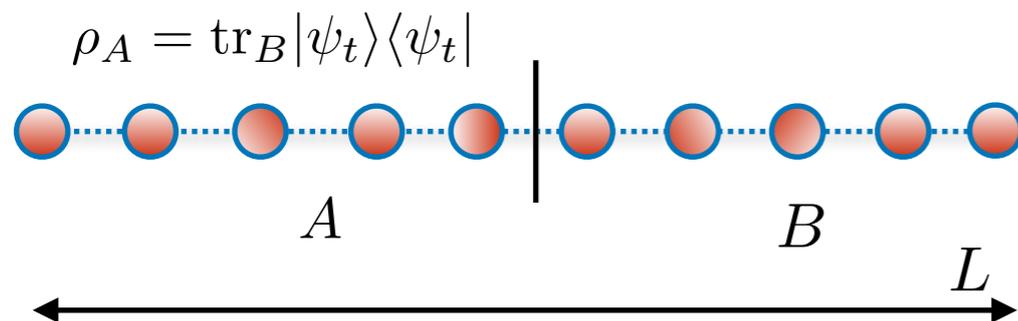
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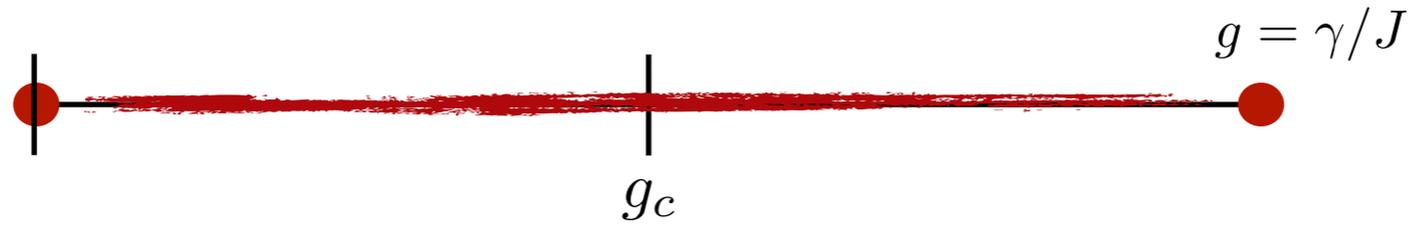
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- caveat: $|\psi_{t \rightarrow \infty}\rangle$ is a random variable

- consider trajectory ensemble to extract information

Monitored Fermion Dynamics: Extracting Information



- usual observables:

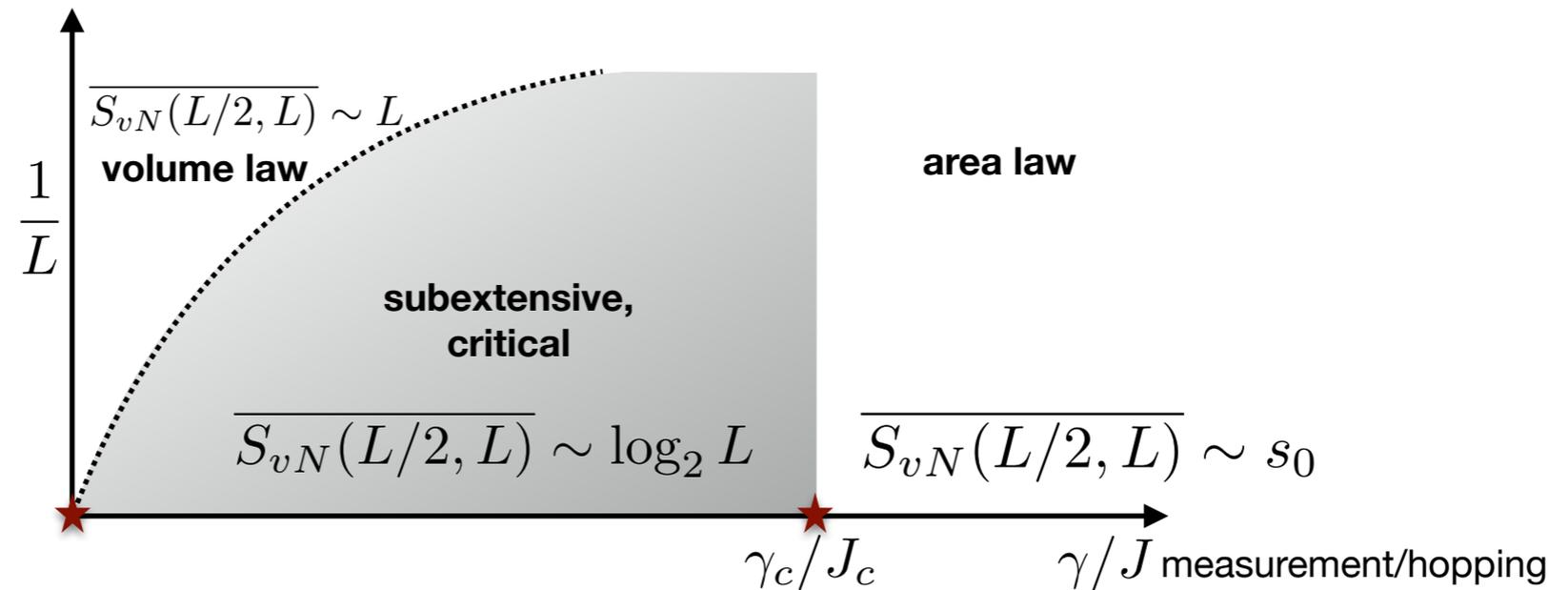
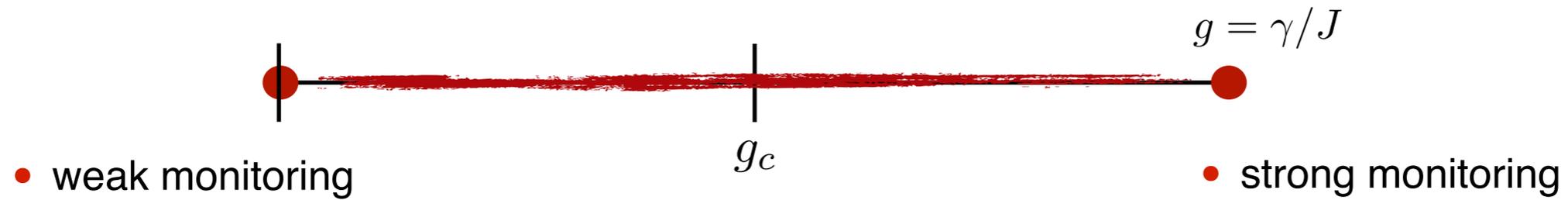
$$\langle \hat{A} \rangle = \langle \psi_t | \hat{A} | \psi_t \rangle \xrightarrow[\text{e.g. trajectories}]{\text{statistical average}} \overline{\langle \hat{A} \rangle} = \overline{\langle \psi_t | \hat{A} | \psi_t \rangle} = \text{tr}[\hat{A} \overline{\hat{\rho}_t}] \quad \hat{\rho}_t = |\psi_t\rangle \langle \psi_t|$$

quantum average

↑
state projector

- Problem: Hermitian measurement operators $\Rightarrow \overline{\hat{\rho}_t} \sim \mathbf{1}$

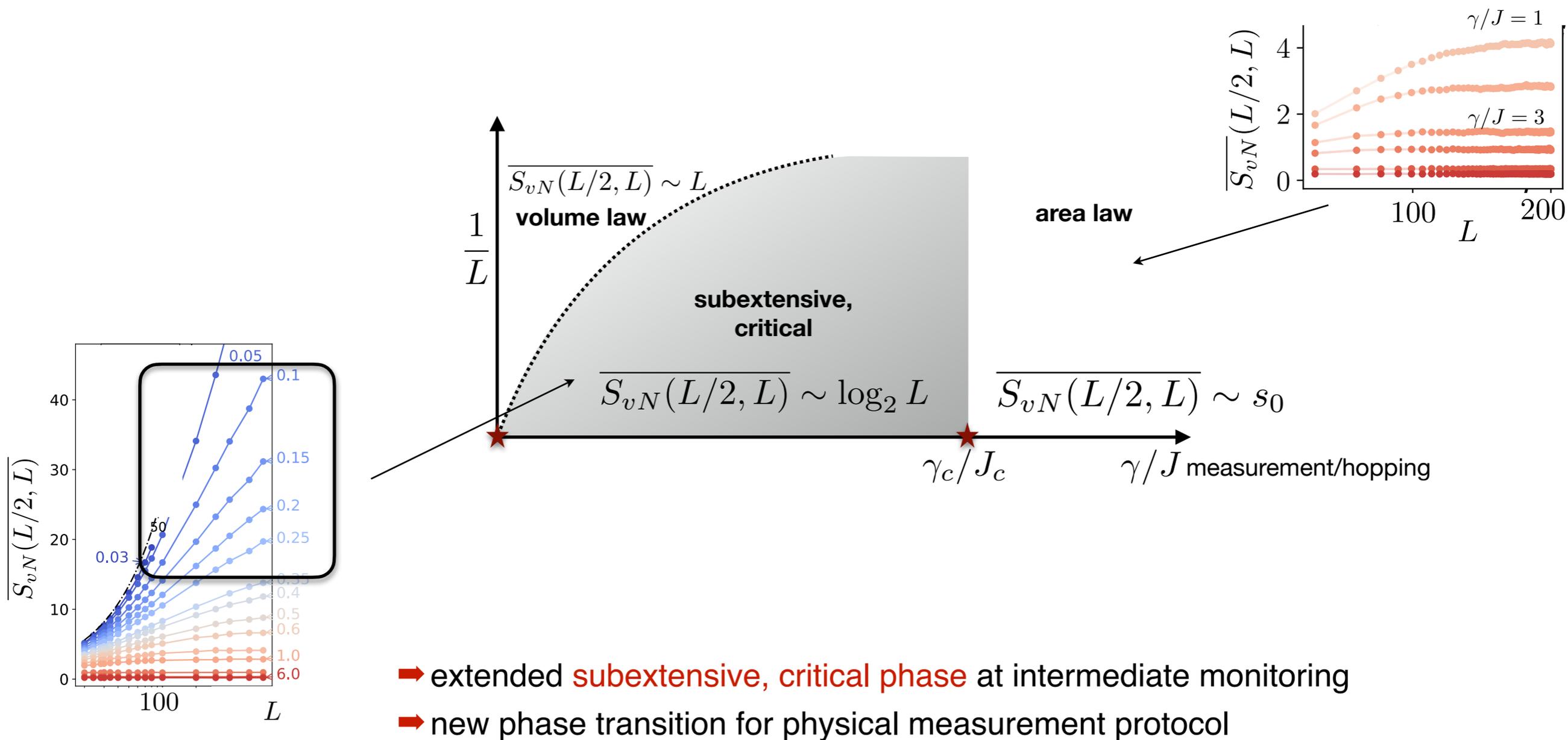
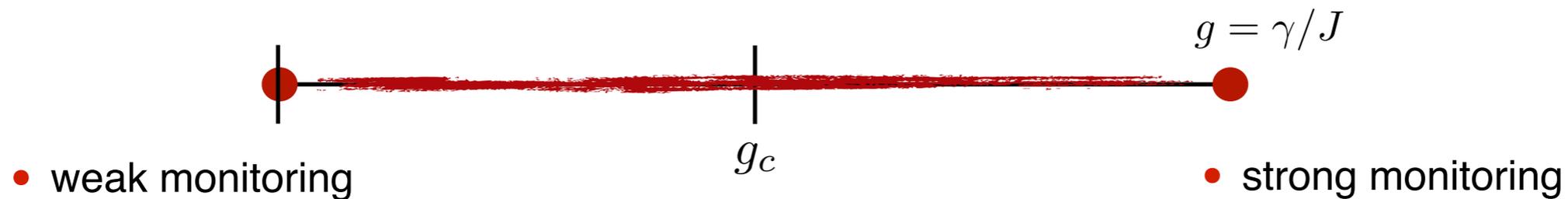
Trajectory Ensemble Phase Diagram



- ➔ extended **subextensive, critical phase** at intermediate monitoring
- ➔ new phase transition for physical measurement protocol

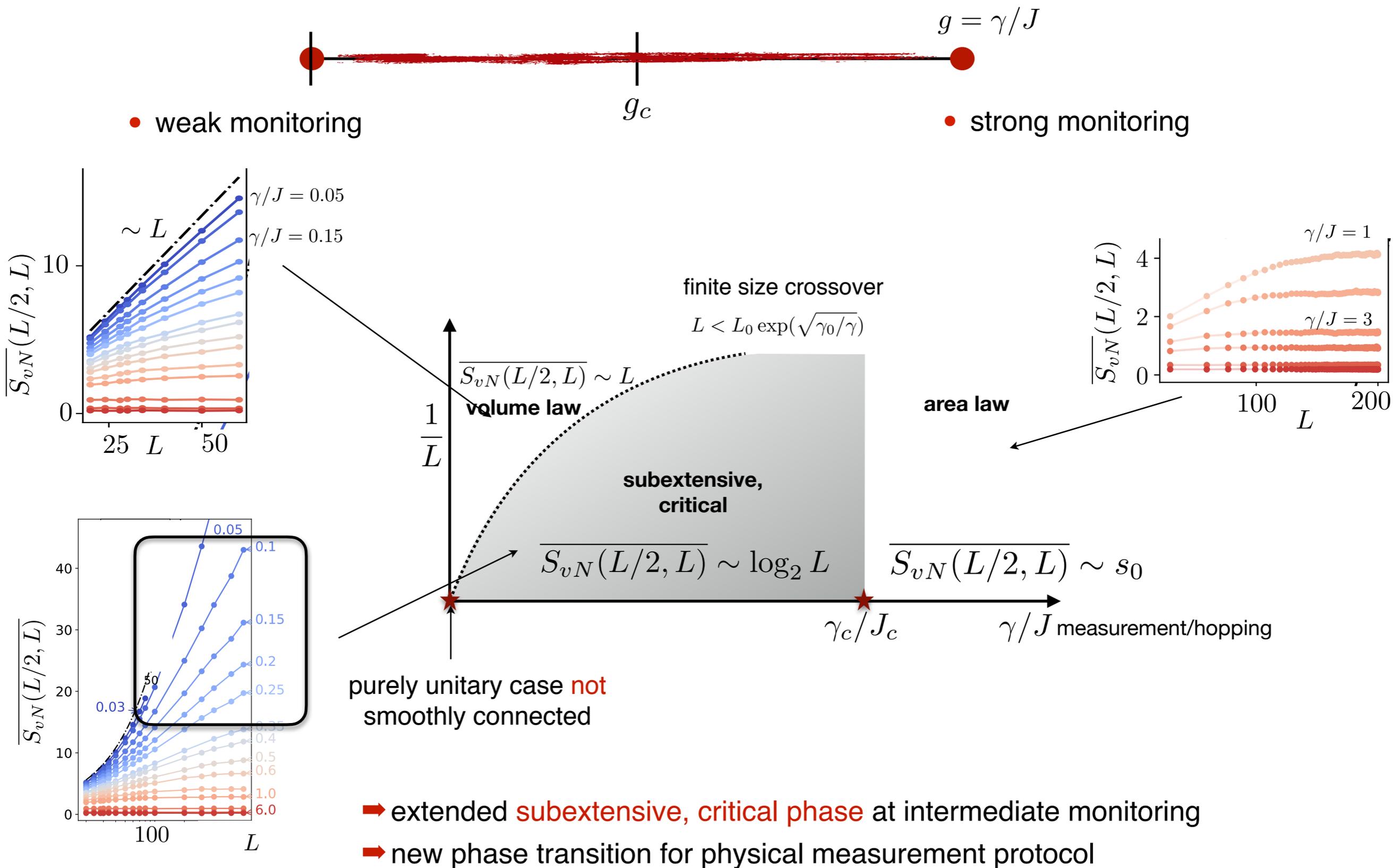
critical phase but no transition for non-unitary circuits: Chen, Li, Fisher, Lucas PRR (2020)

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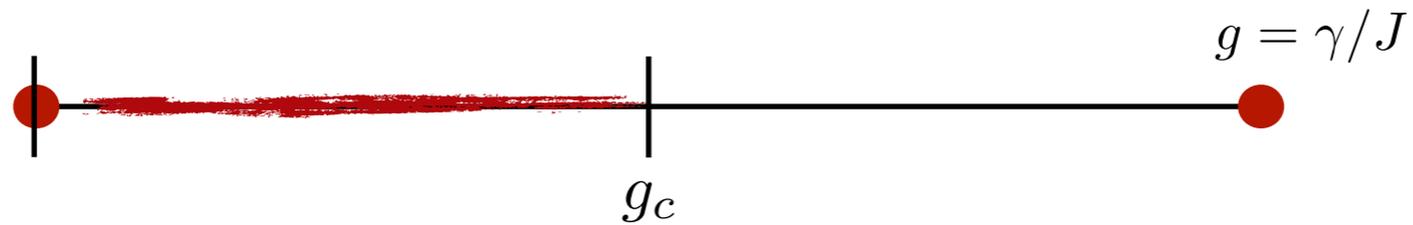
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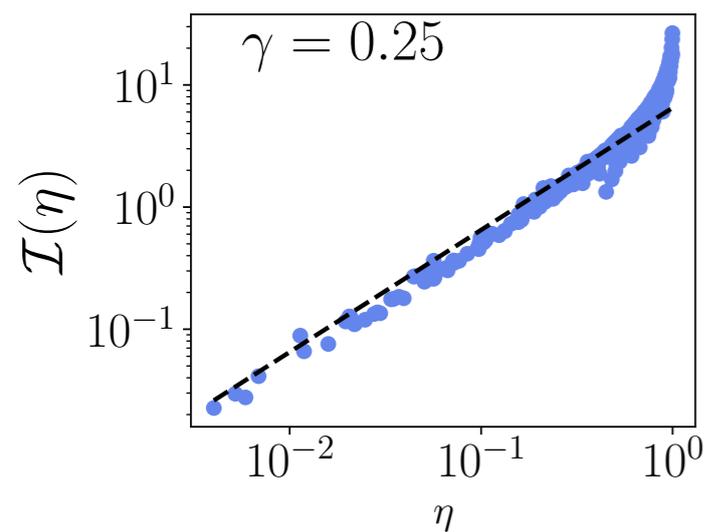
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Characterizing the Weak Monitoring Phase & Phase Transition



- Mutual information

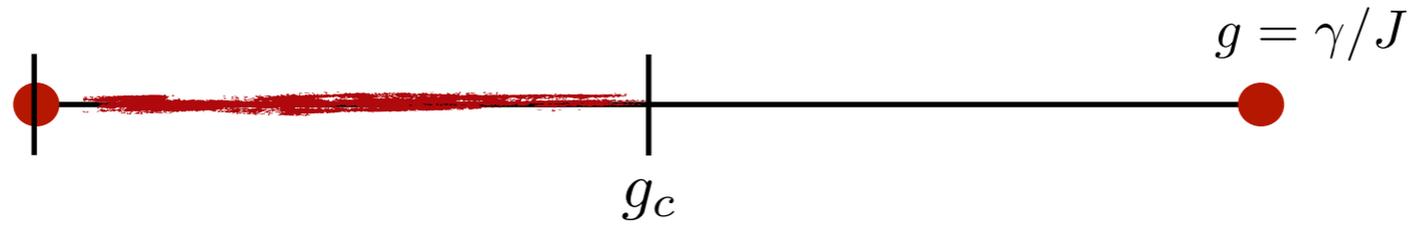
$$\mathcal{I}(A, B) = \overline{S_{vN}(A)} + \overline{S_{vN}(A)} + \overline{S_{vN}(A \cup B)}$$



conformally invariant critical point:
Nahum et al. PRX (2019); Li Chen Fisher
PRB (2019); Jian et al. PRB (2020);

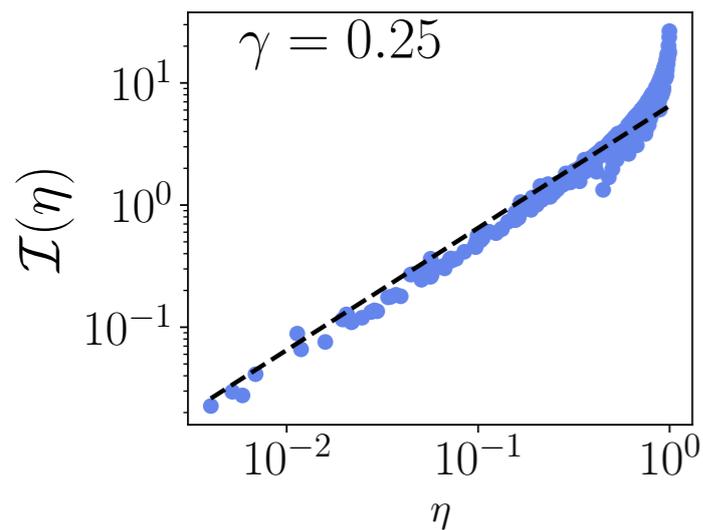
➔ emergent conformality

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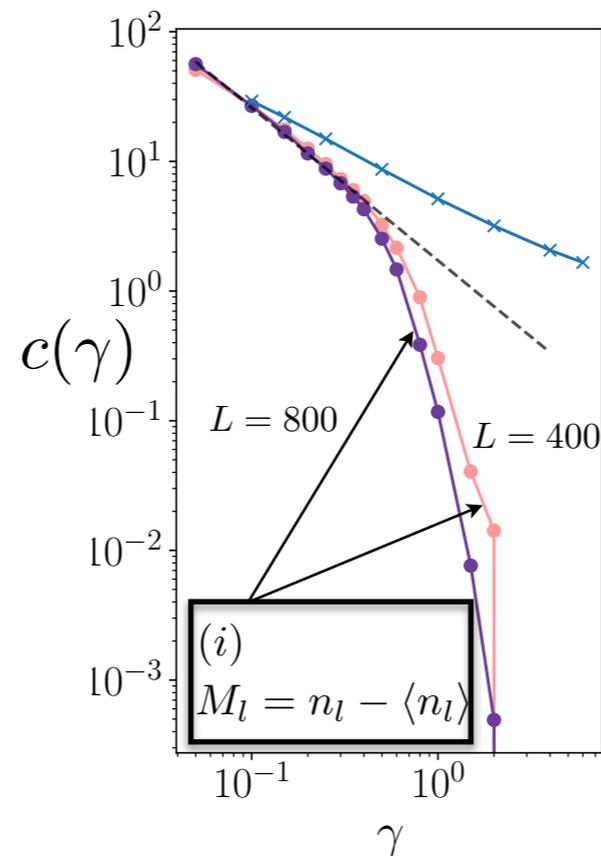


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➔ emergent conformality

- effective central charge $c(\gamma)$

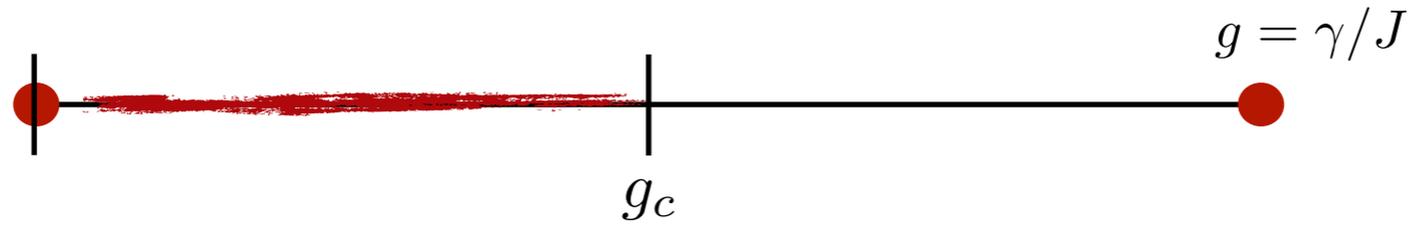
$$\overline{S_{vN}(l, L)} = \frac{c(\gamma)}{3} \log_2 \left[\frac{L}{\pi} \sin \left(\frac{\pi l}{L} \right) \right] + s(\gamma)$$



parameter dependent c
random systems: Cardy Jacobsen PRL
(1997); Refael, Moore PRL (2004)

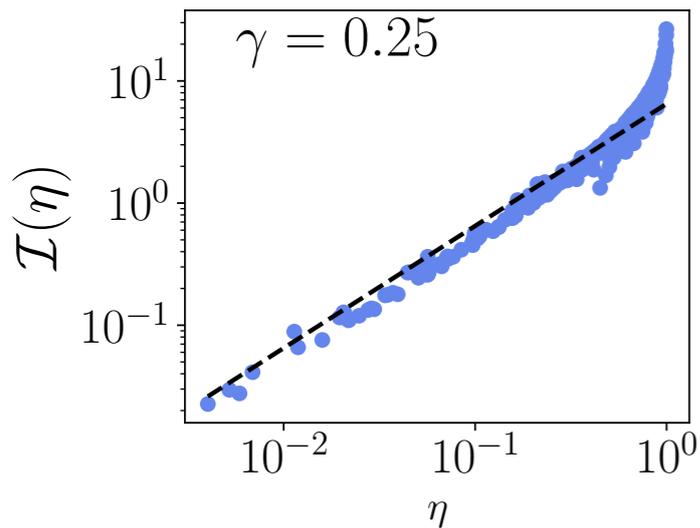
➔ sudden jump reminiscent of BKT

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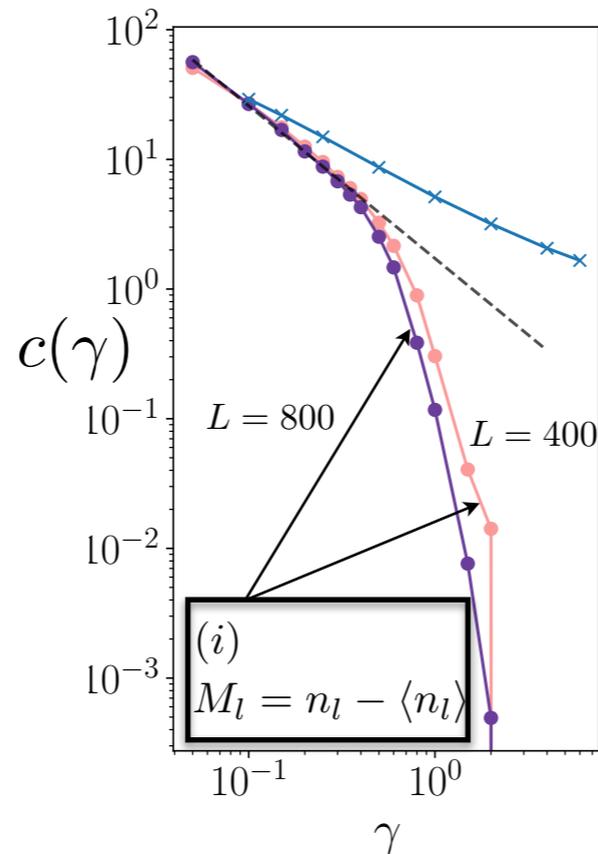


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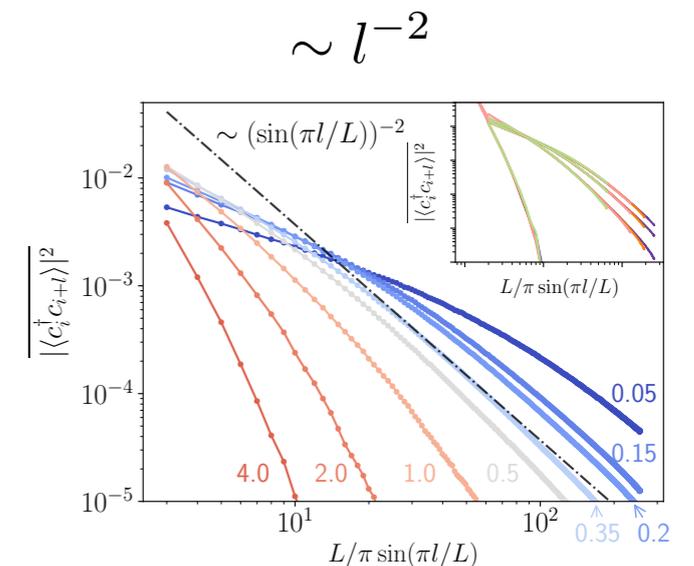


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→ sudden jump reminiscent of BKT

- extended criticality: **Connected correlation function**

$$C_{i, i+l} = \overline{\langle \hat{n}_i \rangle \langle \hat{n}_{i+l} \rangle} - \overline{\langle \hat{n}_i \hat{n}_{i+l} \rangle}$$

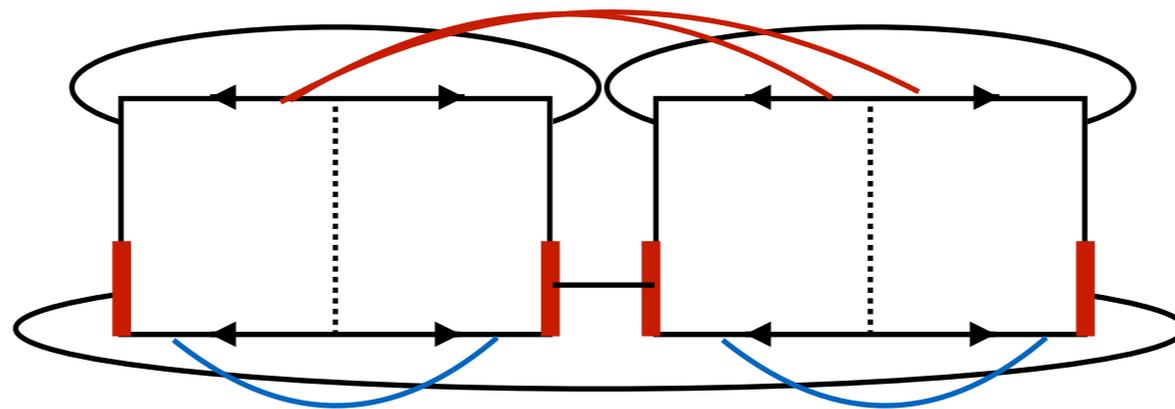


$$C_{i, i+l} \sim \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } H = 0 \\ \exp(-l/\xi) & \text{for } \gamma \gg J \\ l^{-2} & \text{for } \gamma \ll J \\ l^{-1} & \text{for } \gamma = 0 \end{cases}$$

→ correlation functions equally characterize the transition

→ further: measurement protocol dependence, trajectory entanglement distribution as probe of transition...

Replica Field Theory Approach to Measurement Induced Phase Transitions



M. Buchhold, Y. Minoguchi, A. Altland, SD, arxiv:2102.08381

related work (random circuits): Y. Bao, S. Choi, and E. Altman, arXiv:2102.09164

microphysics



macrophysics

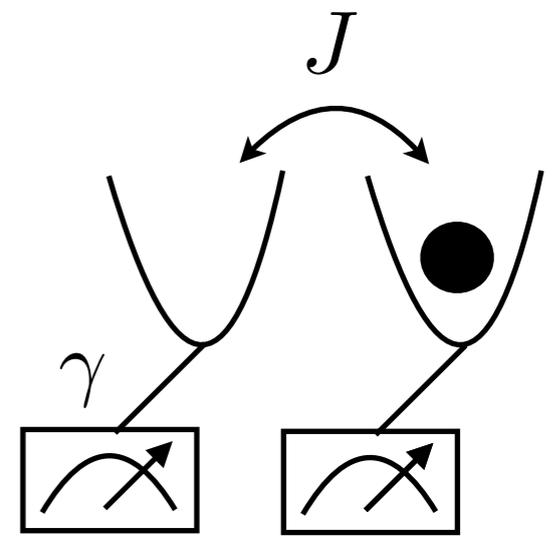
Pinning picture: Toy model

- toy model: trajectory evolution of single fermion on two sites

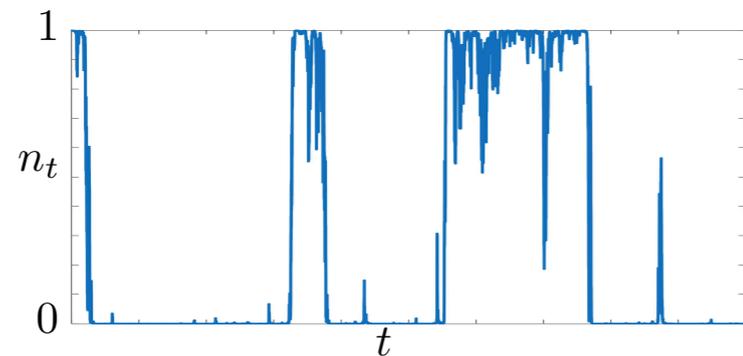
$$|\psi_{t+dt}\rangle = |\psi_t\rangle - idt\hat{H}_{\text{eff}}|\psi_t\rangle + \sum_{l=1}^2 dW_l (\hat{n}_l - \langle \hat{n}_l \rangle_t) |\psi_t\rangle$$

$$\hat{H}_{\text{eff}} = \hat{H} - i\hat{K} \quad \hat{H} = -J(c_1^\dagger c_2 + h.c.) \quad \hat{K} = \frac{\gamma}{2} \sum_{l=1}^2 (\hat{n}_l - \langle \hat{n}_l \rangle_t)^2$$

→ $H=0$: collapse into **dark state** at long times $\hat{n}_l|\psi_t\rangle = \langle \hat{n}_l \rangle |\psi_t\rangle \implies n_l = 0, 1$

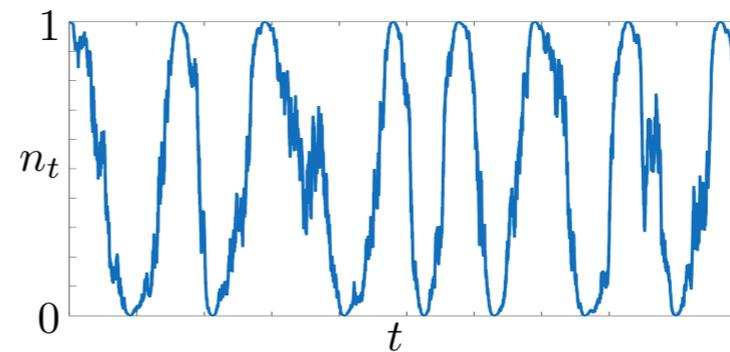


- strong monitoring $J/\gamma \ll 1$



→ pinning to measurement eigenstate

- weak monitoring $J/\gamma \gg 1$



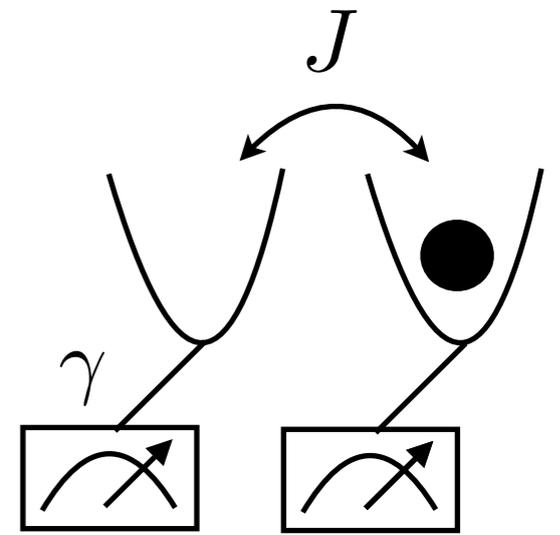
→ vanishing time spent in eigenstate

Pinning picture: Toy model

- toy model: trajectory evolution of single fermion on two sites

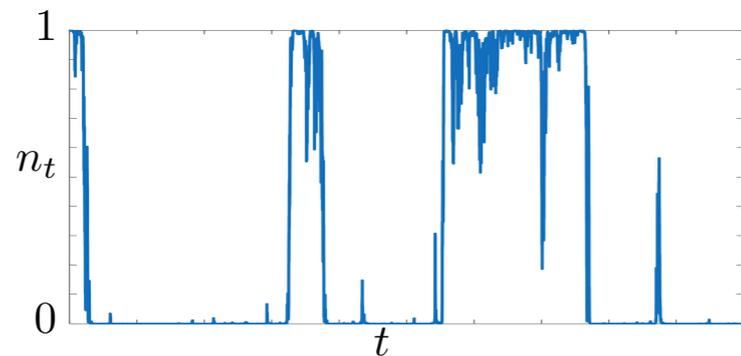
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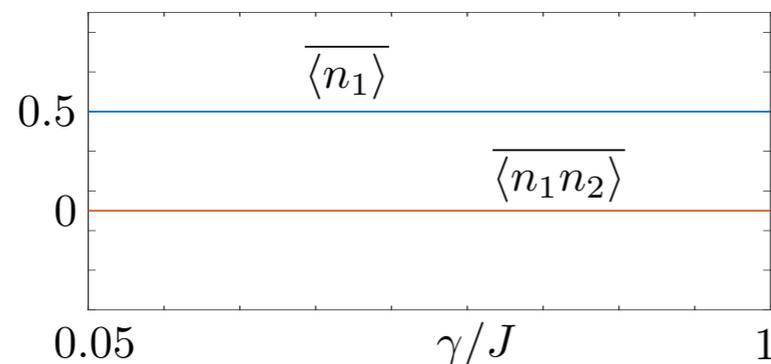
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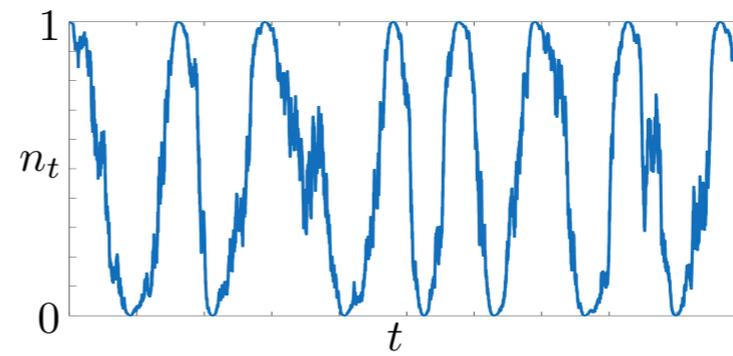


→ pinning to measurement eigenstate

- invisible in linear averages

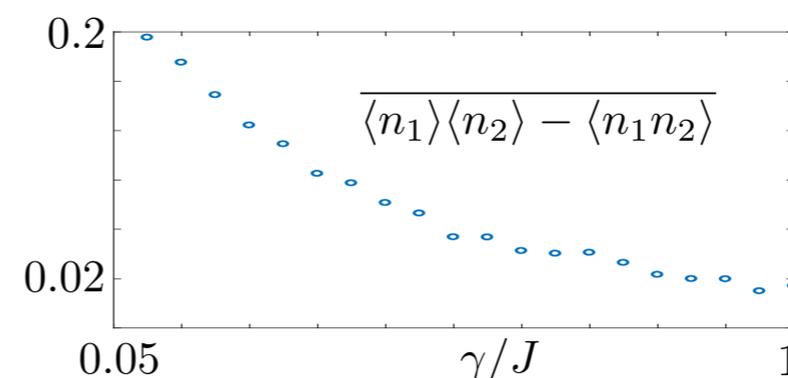


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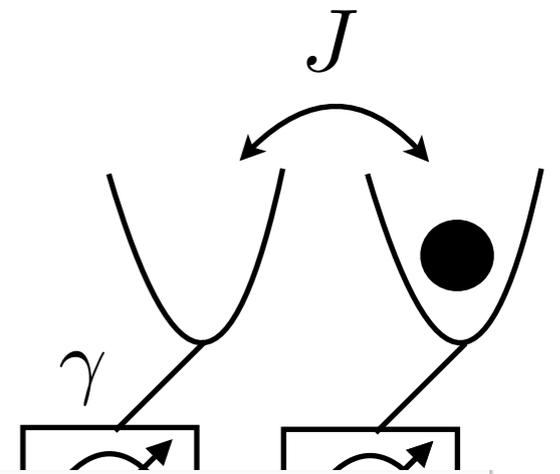
- seen in **averaged trajectory covariance matrix**



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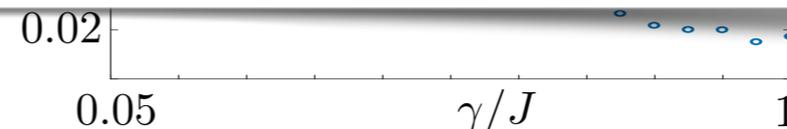
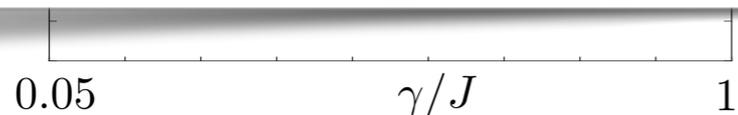


guiding picture and practical approach:

- thermodynamic limit: pinning quantum phase transition may happen at sharply defined point
 - ➔ Minimal continuum model in (1+1) dimensions)
- signalled in state dependent ‘observable’, like the covariance matrix
 - ➔ Replica construction (no disorder here!)

main insight:

- ➔ Replica degrees of freedom host non-Hermitian Sine-Gordon model => Pinning transition in BKT universality class



Continuum (1+1) dimensional Model

- preface: model obtains from naive continuum limit and bosonization of lattice fermion model

fermionic variant



bosonized variant

- Hamiltonian: massless Dirac fermions $\hat{\Psi}_x = (\hat{\psi}_{R,x}, \hat{\psi}_{L,x})^T$

Luttinger liquid

$$\hat{H} = iv \int_x \hat{\Psi}_x^\dagger \sigma_z \partial_x \hat{\Psi}_x$$



$$\hat{H} = \frac{v}{2\pi} \int_x [(\partial_x \hat{\theta}_x)^2 + (\partial_x \hat{\phi}_x)^2]$$

phase density

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phase density

- measurement operators: current and vertex operators

rate γ_1 : $\hat{O}_{1,x} = \Psi_x^\dagger \Psi_x = \hat{J}_x^{(0)}$



$\hat{O}_{1,x} = -\frac{1}{\pi} \partial_x \hat{\phi}_x$ linear gapless

rate γ_2 : $\hat{O}_{2,x} = \Psi_x^\dagger \sigma_x \Psi_x$



$\hat{O}_{2,x} = m \cos(2\hat{\phi}_x)$ nonlinear
↙
 $\mathcal{O}(1)$

common eigenstates: $\hat{\phi}_x |\Psi_D\rangle = \phi_x |\Psi_D\rangle$

- stabilize product dark states: exactly local
- realize competition: do not commute with H (phase fluctuations)

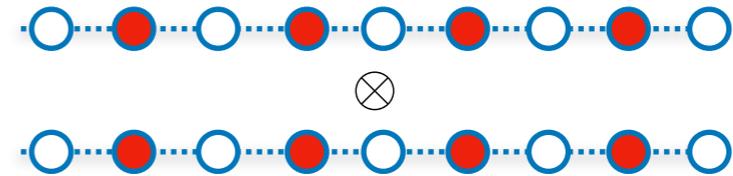
Replica Approach (n=2)

- Access state-dependent observables, e.g. covariance matrix

$$C_{xy} = \overline{\langle \hat{n}_x \hat{n}_y \rangle} - \overline{\langle \hat{n}_x \rangle} \overline{\langle \hat{n}_y \rangle}$$

- Introduce replicas in Hilbert space

$$|\Psi_t\rangle = |\psi_t^{(1)}\rangle \otimes |\psi_t^{(2)}\rangle =$$



- All quadratic-in-state observables encoded in

$$\rho^{2R} = \overline{|\Psi_t\rangle\langle\Psi_t|}$$

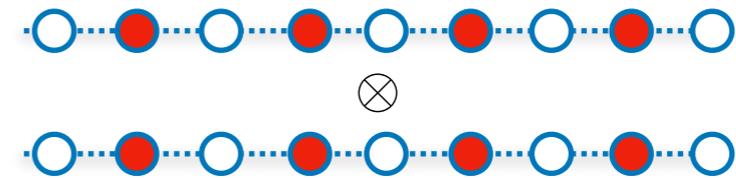
➔ **linear** statistical average of replica density matrix

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- Quantum master equation (truncate coupling to ρ^{3R})

$$\partial_t \rho^{2R} =$$

+

+

$$\gamma \{ \hat{M}_x^{(1)}, \{ \hat{M}_x^{(2)}, \rho^{2R} \} \}$$

replica coupling

$$i[\rho^{2R}, H^{(\alpha)}] - \frac{\gamma}{2} [\hat{M}_x^{(\alpha)}, [\hat{M}_x^{(\alpha)}, \rho^{2R}]]$$

individual heating Lindbladians

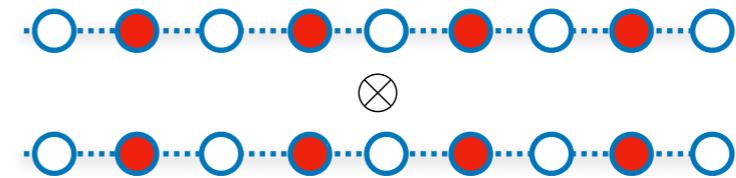
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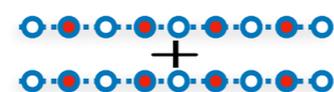
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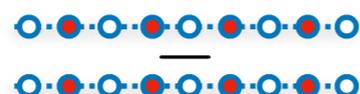
replica coupling

- New degrees of freedom



$$: \hat{\phi}^{(a)} = \hat{\phi}^{(1)} + \hat{\phi}^{(2)}$$

average coordinate

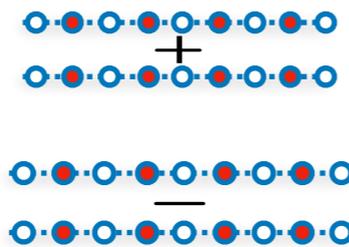


$$: \hat{\phi}^{(r)} = \hat{\phi}^{(1)} - \hat{\phi}^{(2)}$$

replica fluctuations

Boson Replica Quantum Master Equation

- New degrees of freedom



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$$: \hat{\phi}^{(r)} = \hat{\phi}^{(1)} - \hat{\phi}^{(2)} \quad \text{replica fluctuations}$$

→ Master equation becomes **separable** (exact for Gaussian dynamics, useful more generally)

- Average coordinate: **heating** to infinite temperature

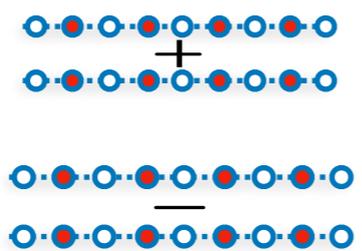
$$\partial_t \rho^{(a)} = i[\rho^{(a)}, H^{(a)}] + \frac{2\gamma}{\pi} \sum_l \left(\partial_x \hat{\phi}^{(a)} - \overline{\langle \partial_x \hat{\phi}^{(a)} \rangle} \right) \rho^{(a)} \left(\partial_x \hat{\phi}^{(a)} - \overline{\langle \partial_x \hat{\phi}^{(a)} \rangle} \right) \quad \leftarrow \text{only jump term!}$$

- Relative coordinate: **cooling/damping** into dark state

$$\partial_t \rho^{(r)} = i[\rho^{(r)}, H^{(r)}] - \frac{\gamma}{\pi} \sum_l \left\{ (\partial_x \hat{\phi}^{(r)})^2, \rho^{(r)} \right\} \quad \leftarrow \text{no jump term!}$$

Boson Replica Quantum Master Equation

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- Non-Hermitian Schrödinger equation for relative coordinate

$$\partial_t |\psi_t^{(r)}\rangle = -i H_{\text{eff}} |\psi_t^{(r)}\rangle \quad \rightarrow \text{cooling into dark state}$$

$$H_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\nu}{2\pi} \int_x (\partial_x \hat{\theta})^2 + (1 - i\eta^2) (\partial_x \hat{\phi})^2 - i \frac{\gamma m}{\pi} \int_x [1 - \cos(\sqrt{8} \hat{\phi}_x)]$$

effect of non-linearity

→ non-Hermitian Sine-Gordon: pinning via cos term, depinning via theta term

→ extract physics in path integral approach

Phase diagram

→ Sine-Gordon action with complex coefficients

Fendley, Saleur, Zamolodchikov,
International Journal of Modern Physics (1993)

$$S = \int_{t,x} \left\{ \frac{K}{16\pi} \left[\frac{1}{\eta} (\partial_t \phi)^2 - \eta (\partial_x \phi)^2 \right] - i\lambda \cos(\phi) \right\}$$

• 'Wick rotation' brings free part to standard Euclidean (2+0) dimensional form $(x, t) \rightarrow (\eta^{\frac{1}{2}} x, i\eta^{-\frac{1}{2}} t)$

→ RG flow: standard KT flow with **complex** K, λ

• UV flow modified

→ shift of phase border

• IR flow reaches standard KT flow

→ same long wavelength properties

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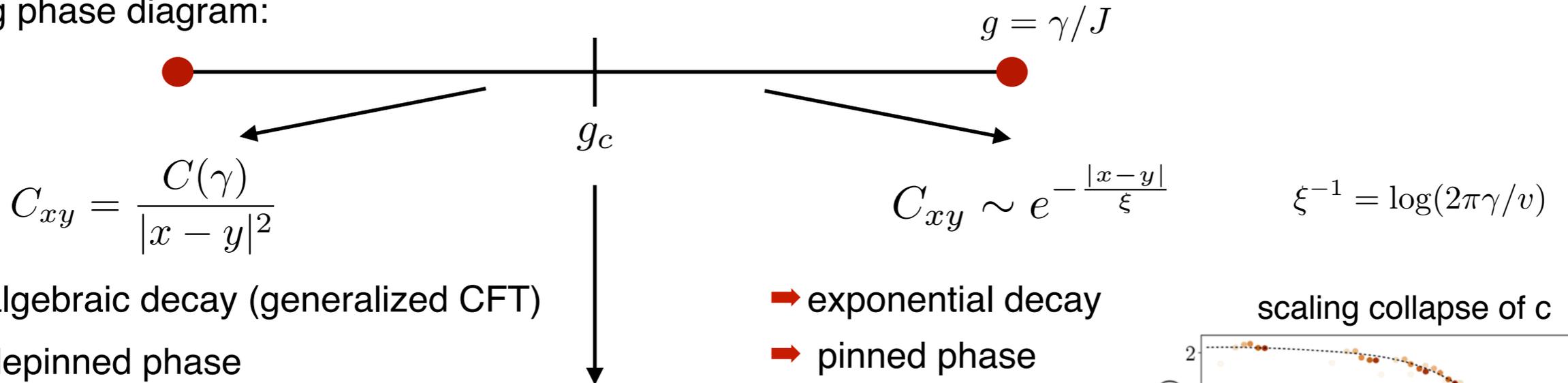
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• resulting phase diagram:



→ algebraic decay (generalized CFT)

→ depinned phase

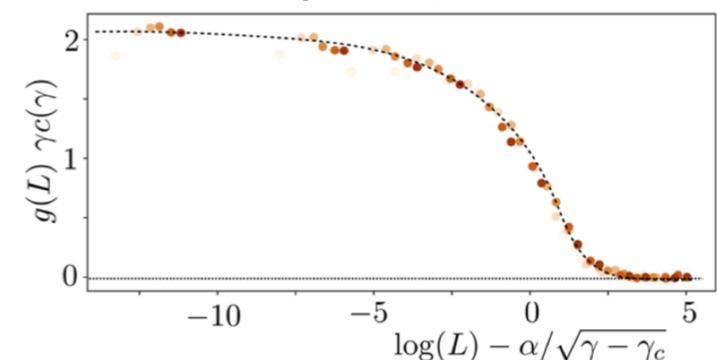
→ exponential decay

→ pinned phase

→ phase transition in the BKT universality class

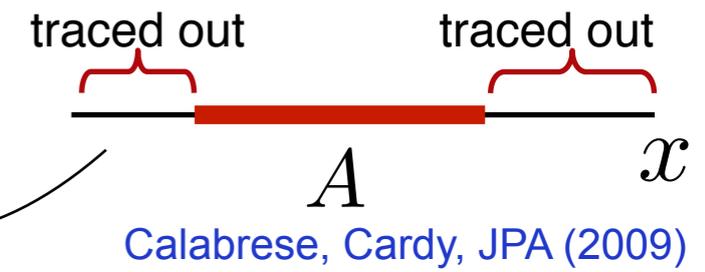
→ all in line with numerics for lattice fermions

scaling collapse of c



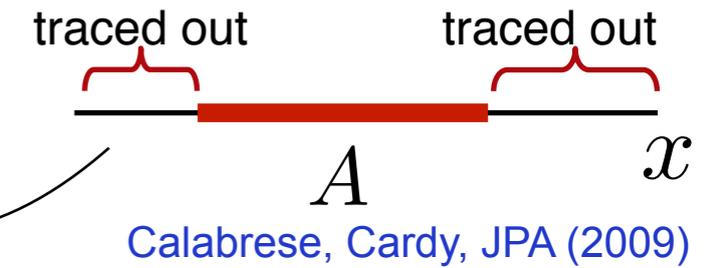
Entanglement Entropies: n-Replica Keldysh approach

- Rényi entropy $S_n(L) = \frac{1}{1-n} \overline{\log Z_A(n, \{dW\})}$, $Z_A(n, \{dW\}) \equiv \text{tr}[(\hat{\rho}_A^{(c)})^n]$
- von Neumann entropy: $n \rightarrow 1$



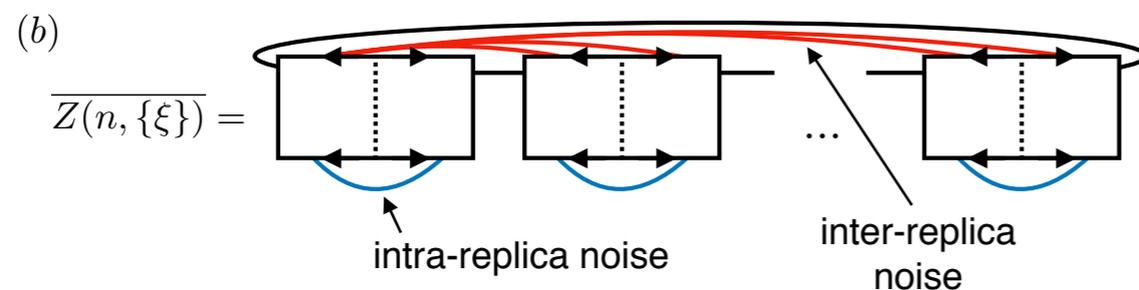
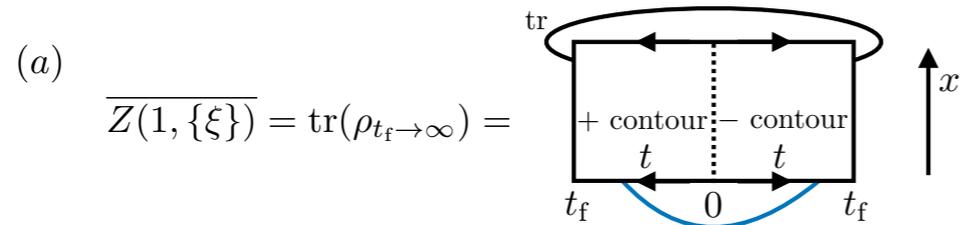
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- Approach: Keldysh replica field theory for n replicas

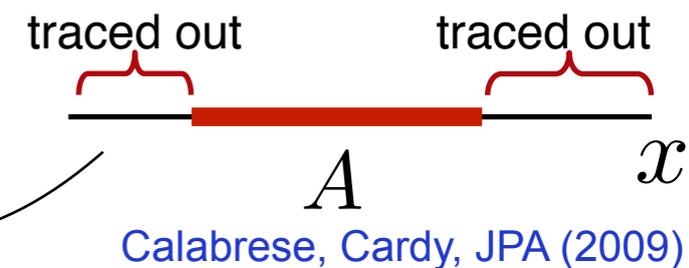
$$Z(n) = \overline{Z(n, dW)} = \int \mathcal{D}[\{\bar{\Psi}_X, \Psi_X\}] e^{i\mathcal{S}_n[\Psi]}$$



- 1 mode heats up (noisy)
- n-1 modes cool down (noiseless)

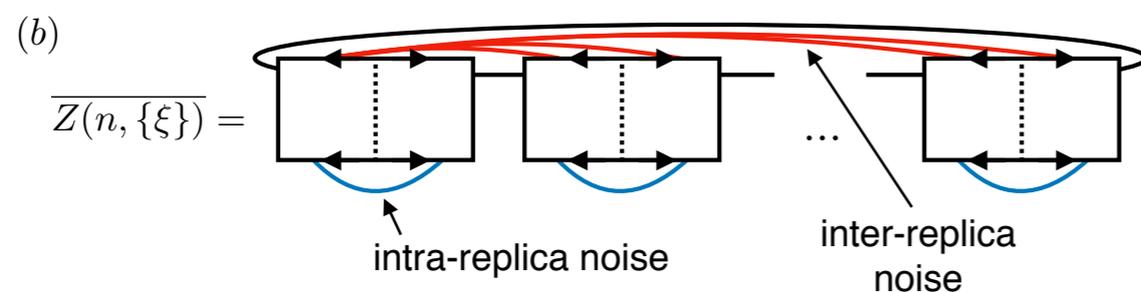
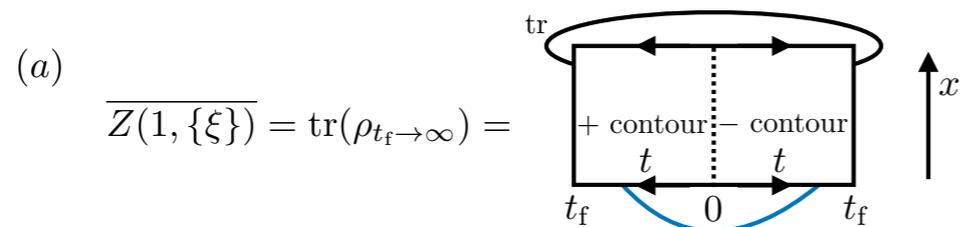
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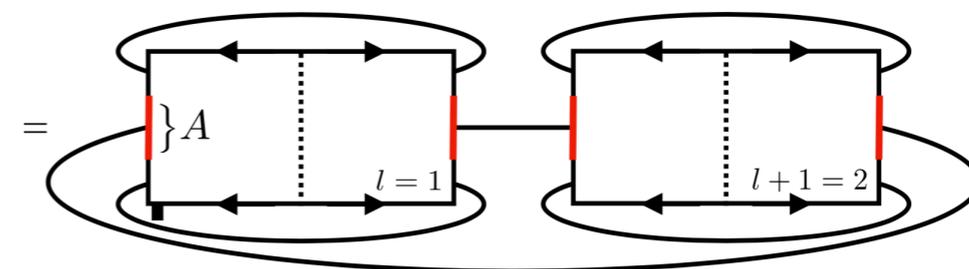
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- For entropies: modified boundary conditions

e.g. $Z_A(2) = \overline{\text{tr} \rho_A^2}$



- 1 mode heats up (noisy)
- n-1 modes cool down (noiseless)

- noisy contribution A independent
- all A dependence in noiseless modes!

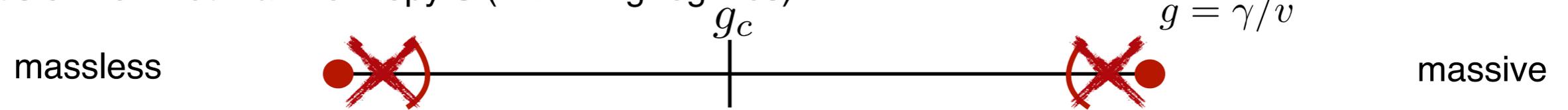
Replica-Keldysh in other contexts:
 Aleiner, Faoro, Ioffe, AoP (2016);
 Ansari, Nazarov, JETP (2016)

➔ Rényi entropy calculation as for ground states

e.g. Peschel, Eisler, JPA (2009)

Entanglement Transition from Replica Approach

- focus on von Neumann entropy S (in limiting regimes)

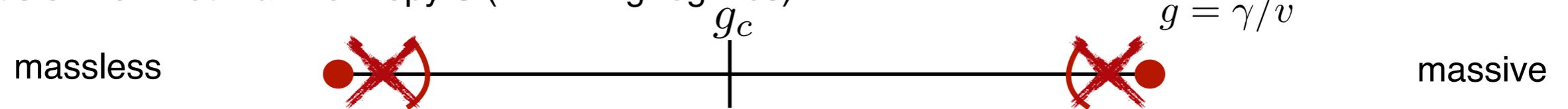


$$S = \frac{1}{3}c(\gamma) \log(m^{-1}) \sim L^0$$

- saturation to area law

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↙

$$S = \frac{1}{3}c(\gamma) \log(L)$$

↘

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- sub-volume log-law

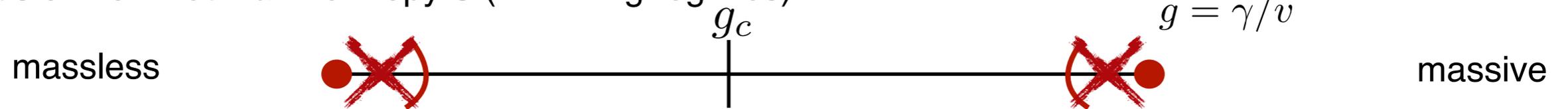
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➔ ground state entropy of massless Dirac

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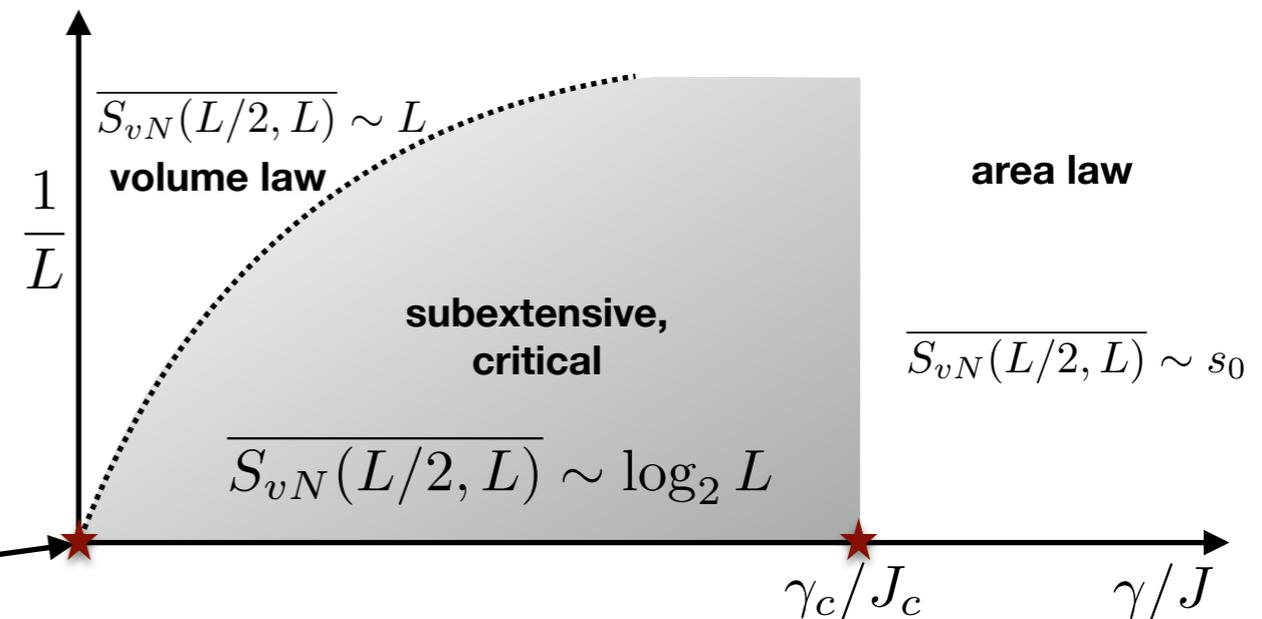
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➔ ground state entropy of massless Dirac

- non-commuting limit: $\gamma = 0$
finite temperature initial state

$$S \sim L$$

➔ volume law \leftrightarrow finite temperature massless Dirac



➔ underpins entanglement transition at finite critical g

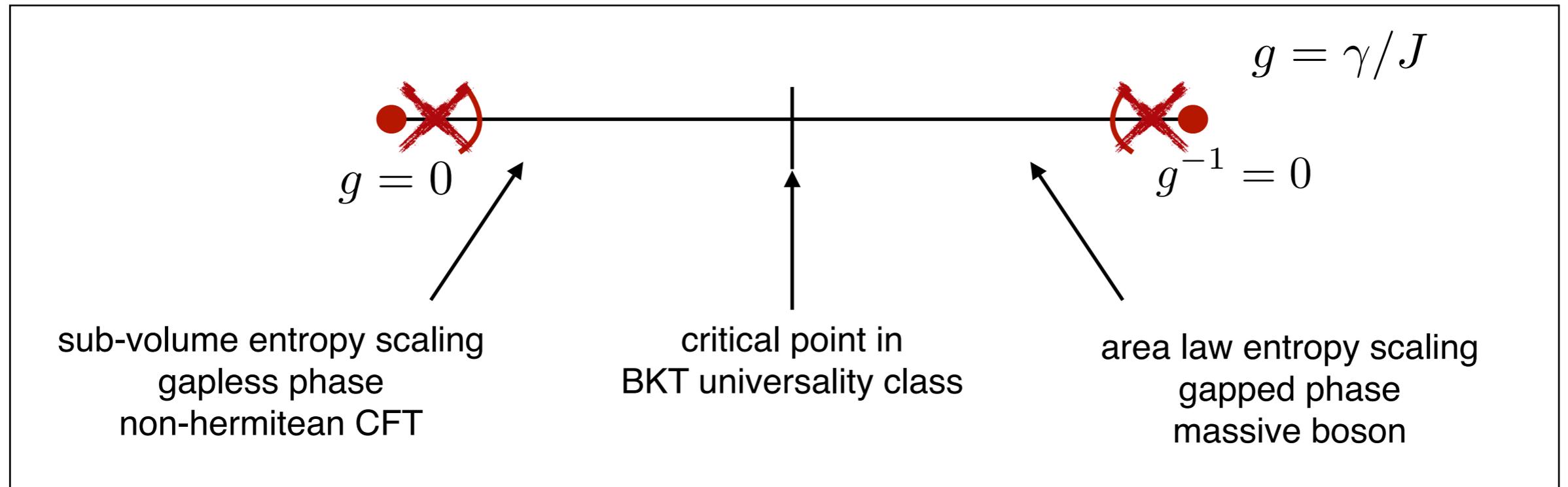
➔ picture qualitatively (not fully quantitatively) in line with numerics

Conclusions & Outlook

O.Alberton, M.Buchhold, SD, PRL 126, 170602 (2021)

M. Buchhold, Y. Minoguchi, A. Altland, SD, arXiv:2102.08381

- **monitored fermions**: new type of measurement induced phase transition



- quantum phase transition in trajectory wavefunction witnessed by **state-dependent 'observables'** beyond entanglement entropy
- **'hot' and 'cold' modes** as relevant degrees of freedom for the transition
- physical picture: transition induced by **pinning/localization** into measurement operator eigenstates

Even more directions:

- area-to-volume law transitions as incomplete decoupling of 'hot' and 'cold' modes? [integrability vs. non-integrability: O. Lunt, A. Pal, PRR \(2020\)](#)
- relation to no-click evolutions [Biella, Schiro, arxiv:2011.11620 \(2020\); Gopalakrishnan Gullans, arxiv:2012.01435 \(2020\)](#)
[Turkeshi et al. arxiv:2103.09138 \(2021\)](#)