

Time Crystals

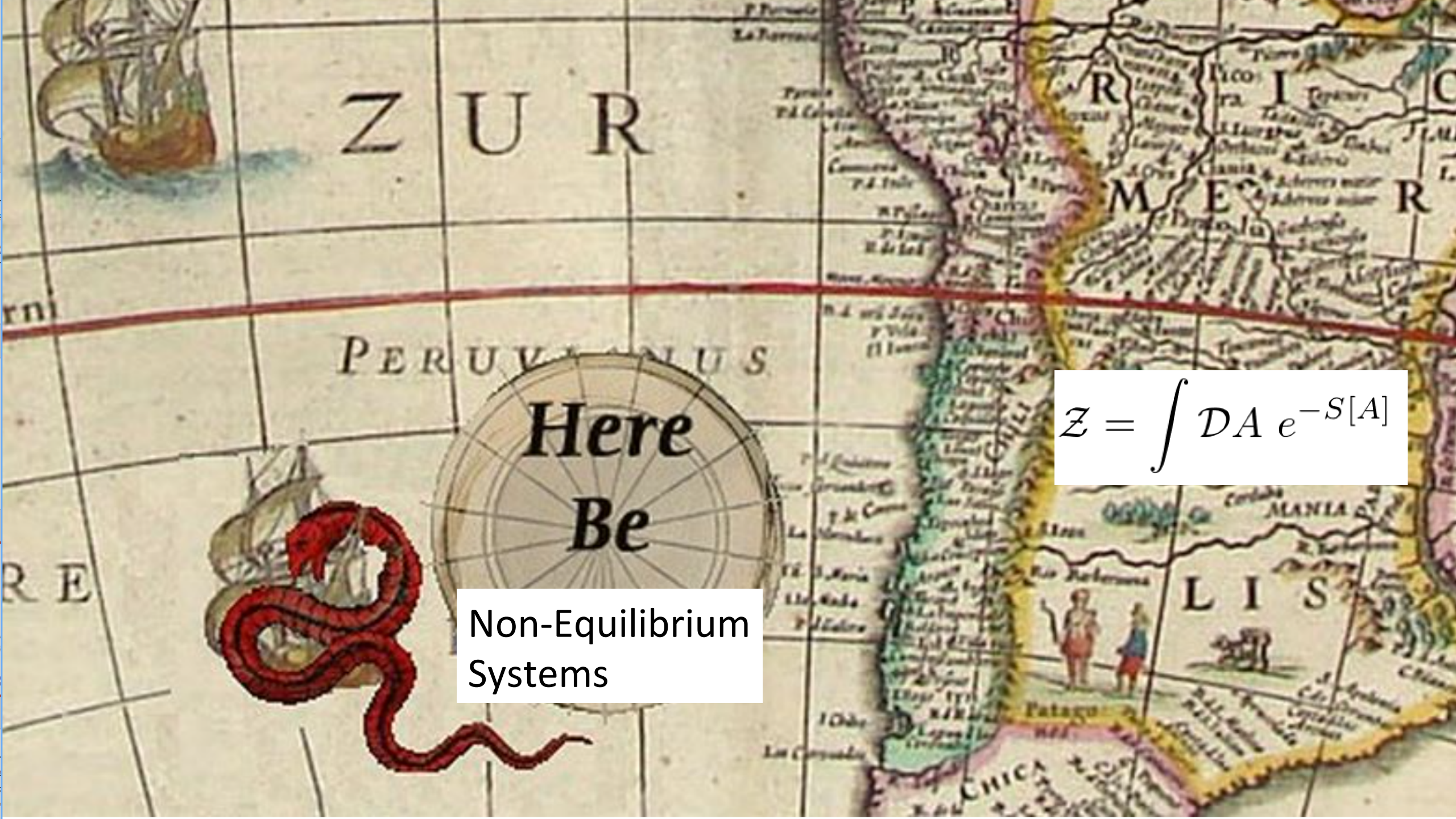
D. Else, B. Bauer, C. Nayak

Microsoft Station Q and UCSB

Dominic Else, Bela Bauer, C.N., arXiv:1607.05277

Dominic Else, Bela Bauer, C.N., PRL **117**, 090402 (2016).

Dominic Else, C.N., PRB **93**, 201103 (2016) .



ZUR

PERUVIANUS

Here
Be

Non-Equilibrium
Systems

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}A e^{-S[A]}$$

Universal Non-Equilibrium Quantum Phenomena

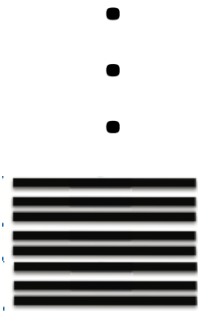
- Floquet Topological Phases/SPTs
- Stable Gapless Edge Modes
- Broken-Symmetry Phases
- ***Time Crystals***

Many-Body Localization
can stabilize.

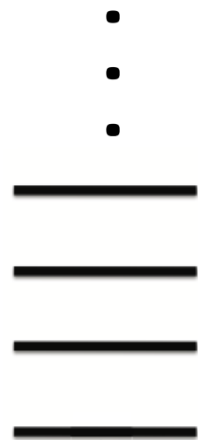
But not necessary.

Chandran and Sondhi '16
Khemani et al. '16; von Keyserlingk and Sondhi '16
von Keyserlingk and Sondhi '16; Potter et al. '16
Roy and Harper '16; Von Keyserlingk et al. '16
Po et al. '16; Potter and Morimoto '16

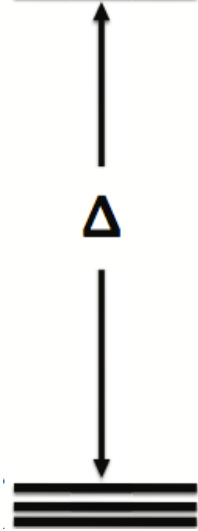
generic states



low-lying excited states



ground state(s)



Periodically-Driven Systems

TTS: Hamiltonian $H(t)=H(t+T)$

← period of the drive

$$i\frac{d|\psi(t)\rangle}{dt} = H(t)|\psi(t)\rangle \xrightarrow{\text{time-translation operator}} U(t_2, t_1) \equiv \mathcal{T} \exp(-i\int_{t_1}^{t_2} dt H(t))$$

Floquet Operator:

$$U_f \equiv U(T, 0)$$

Floquet Eigenstates:
(eigenstates of $U(T,0)$)

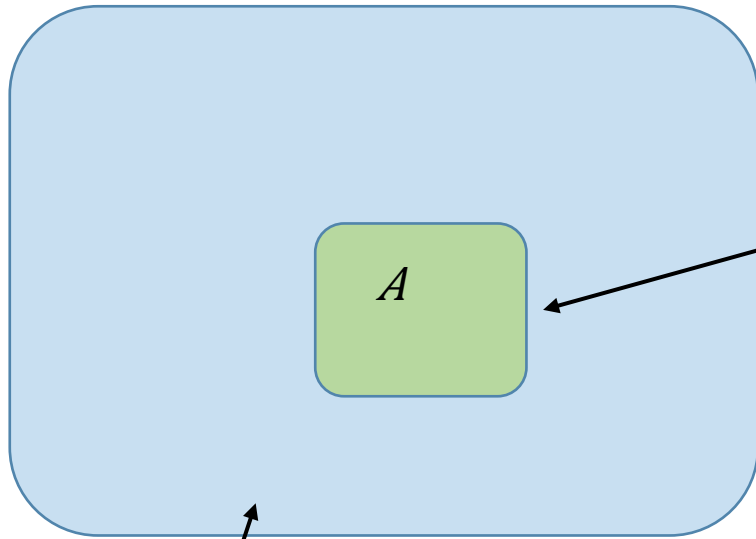
$$|\psi_\alpha(t)\rangle = e^{-i\epsilon_\alpha t} |\phi_\alpha(t)\rangle$$

Floquet Eigenvalues:
“quasienergies”

$$\epsilon_\alpha \equiv \epsilon_\alpha + 2\pi/T$$

$$|\phi_\alpha(t)\rangle = |\phi_\alpha(t+T)\rangle$$

Properties of Generic Energy/Floquet Eigenstates



large but smaller than whole (isolated) system

generic Energy/Floquet eigenstate $|\varepsilon\rangle$

Reduced Density Matrix:

$$\rho_{\downarrow A} \equiv \text{tr}_{\uparrow A} |\varepsilon\rangle\langle\varepsilon|$$

Entanglement Entropy:

$$S_{\downarrow A} \equiv -\text{tr} \rho_{\downarrow A} \ln \rho_{\downarrow A}$$

	Eigenstate Thermalization Hypothesis (ETH)	Many-Body Localization (MBL)
Static Systems		
Floquet Systems		



What are Time Crystals?

Wilczek '12, Shapere and Wilczek '12: *Spontaneously-Broken Time-Translation Symmetry*

P. Bruno '13; Nozieres '13: *proposals not in ground state; will radiate energy*

Ground State: One-point function: ~~$\langle 0 | \Phi(x, t) | 0 \rangle = f(t)$~~ $|0\rangle \rightarrow e^{iE_0 t} |0\rangle$

Two-point function: ~~$\langle 0 | \Phi(x, t) \Phi(0, 0) | 0 \rangle \rightarrow f(t)$~~

Thermal Equilibrium: ~~$\text{tr}(\Phi(x, t) \Phi(0, 0) e^{-\beta H}) = f(t)$~~ 15

Watanabe and Oshikawa

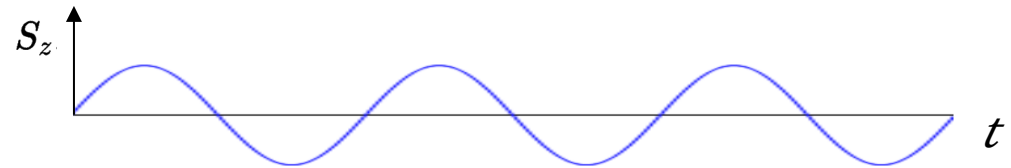
'No Go' theorem is a challenge

What are Time Crystals?

- Some part of the definition may be too restrictive \rightarrow *assumption of ground state/thermal equilibrium*
- Out of equilibrium, it's too easy to get time dependence



Rabi oscillations: $H = -\gamma S_z B$



Pendulum:



Time Crystal 'piggybacks' on some other broken symmetry

Explicitly break other symmetry, Time Crystal gone



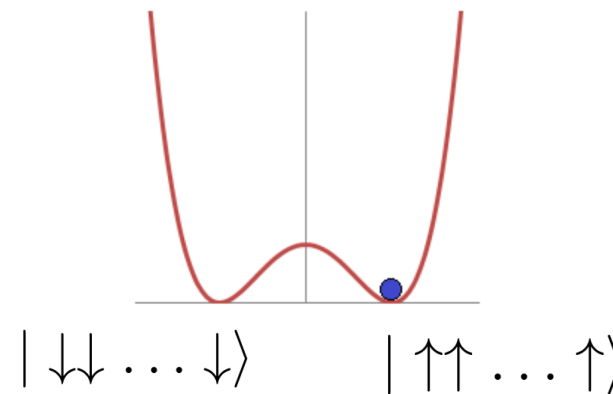
Borderline cases: AC Josephson effect, driven BEC

K. Sacha '14

'Ordinary' Spontaneously-Broken Symmetry

$$H = - \sum_{i=1}^L (h\sigma_i^x + J\sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1}^z) - \tilde{h}\sigma_1^z$$

$$\langle \sigma_i^z \rangle \neq 0$$

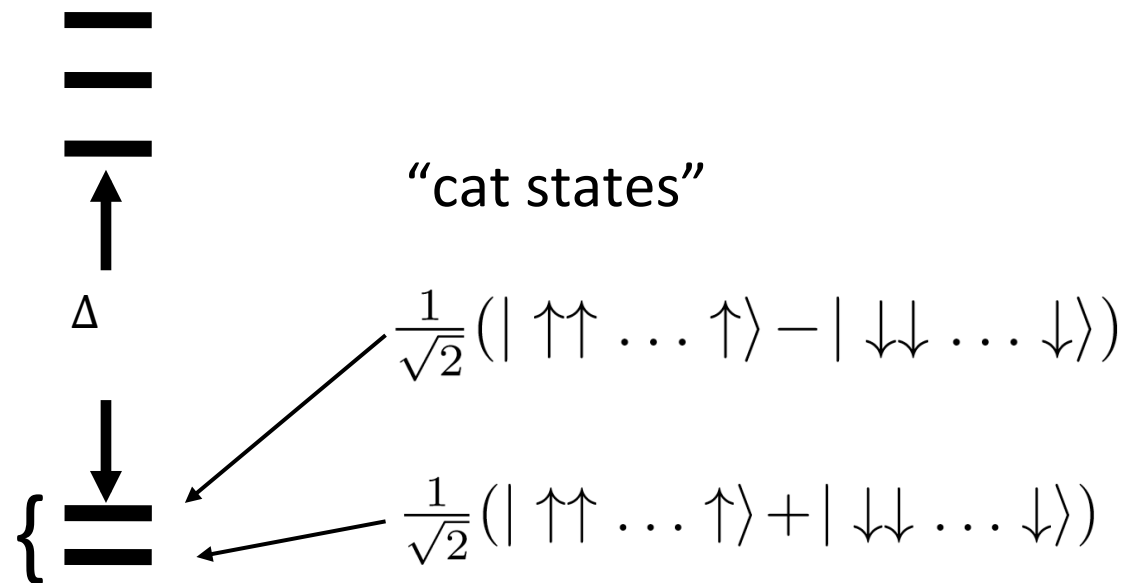


$$H = - \sum_{i=1}^L (h\sigma_i^x + J\sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1}^z)$$

spectrum →

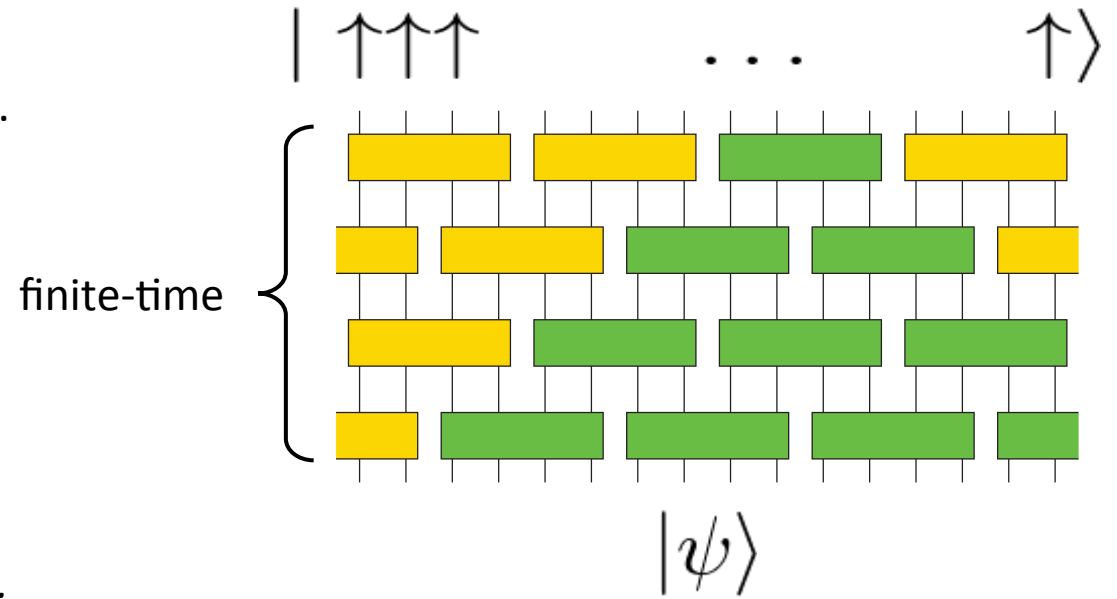
Low-lying eigenstates of g and H must be "cat states".

$$O(e^{-L/\xi})$$



Short-Range vs. Long-Range Correlated (“Cat”) States

- SRC: states such as $|\uparrow\uparrow \dots \uparrow\rangle$ and states obtained from it in finite time, starting from initial product state.
Can be prepared in experiments.



- LRC: states such as $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\uparrow \dots \uparrow\rangle + |\downarrow\downarrow \dots \downarrow\rangle)$
Cannot be prepared in finite time from a product state.
Will decohere rapidly, if coupled to environment.

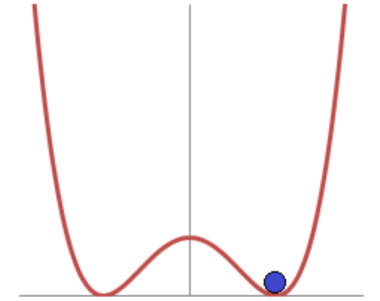
short-range correlated: $\langle\psi|\Phi(x)\Phi(x')|\psi\rangle - \langle\psi|\Phi(x)|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|\Phi(x')|\psi\rangle \rightarrow 0$

cluster decomposition holds

$$|x - x'| \rightarrow \infty$$

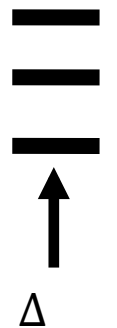
Definition of Time-Transl. Symm.-Breaking (TTSB)

TTSB-1: TTSB occurs if for each $t \downarrow 1$, and for every short-range correlated $|\psi(t \downarrow 1)\rangle$, there exists an operator Φ such that $\psi(t+T)\Phi\psi(t+T) \neq \psi(t)\Phi\psi(t)$ for all t .



TTSB-2: TTSB occurs if the eigenstates of $U(T,0)$ cannot be short-range correlated.

(no other symmetries assumed)



Note: no restriction to the ground state/low-lying states at this stage

“cat states” { 

Discrete TTSB

- TTS by T spontaneously broken down to TTS by nT

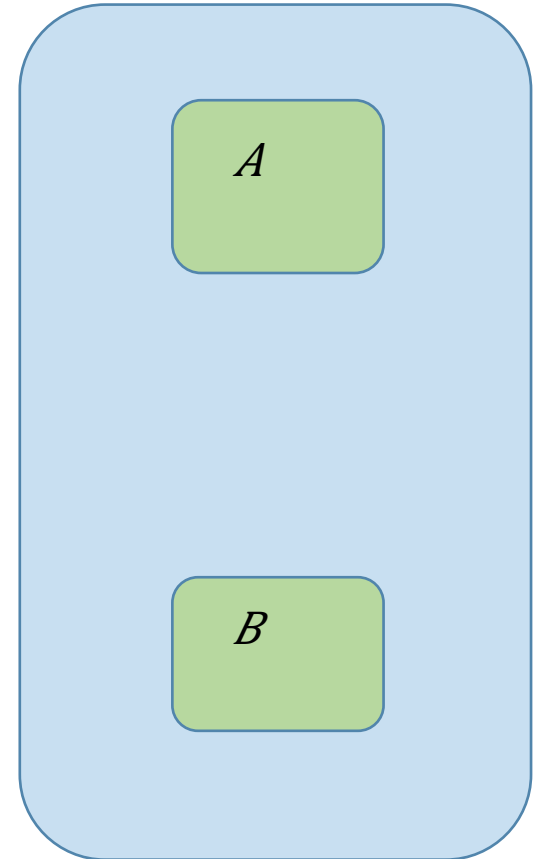
- Some observables will oscillate with period nT
harmonics, not higher harmonics

- Mutual Information: $I(A, B) \equiv S_A + S_B - S_{AB}$

in Floquet eigenstates: $I(A, B) \rightarrow \ln n$

measures violation of cluster decomposition

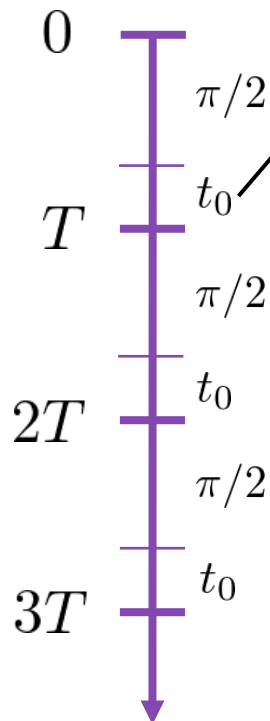
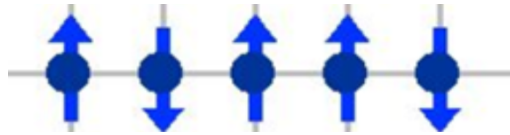
lower



signatures

Soluble Model of Discrete TTSB

Chain of Ising Spins



$$U_f = \exp(-it_0 H_{\text{MBL}}) \exp\left(i\frac{\pi}{2} \sum_i \sigma_i^x\right)$$

$$H_{\text{MBL}} = \sum_i (J_i \sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1}^z + h_i^z \sigma_i^z + h_i^x \sigma_i^x)$$

$$J_i \in [\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}], h_i^z \in [0, 1], h_i^x \in [0, h]$$

See also: Prosen '98; Alessio and Rigol '14;
 Ponte et al. '15; Iadecola et al. '15;
 L. Jiang et al. '11; M. Thakurathi et al. '13
 Khemani et al. '15; von Keyserlingk and Sondhi '16

Soluble Model of Discrete TTSB

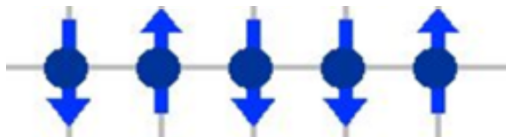
$\hbar=0$ limit: $H_{\text{MBL}} = \sum_i (J_i \sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1}^z + h_i^z \sigma_i^z)$

$H \not\downarrow \text{MBL}$ eigenstates: $\sigma_k^z |\{s_i\}\rangle = s_k |\{s_i\}\rangle$

$H \not\downarrow \text{MBL}$ eigenvalues: $E^+(\{s_i\}) + E^-(\{s_i\})$

$$\begin{cases} E^+(\{s_i\}) = \sum_i (J_i s_i s_{i+1}) \\ E^-(\{s_i\}) = \sum_i (h_i^z s_i) \end{cases}$$

$$U_f = \exp(-it_0 H_{\text{MBL}}) \exp\left(i\frac{\pi}{2} \sum_i \sigma_i^x\right)$$

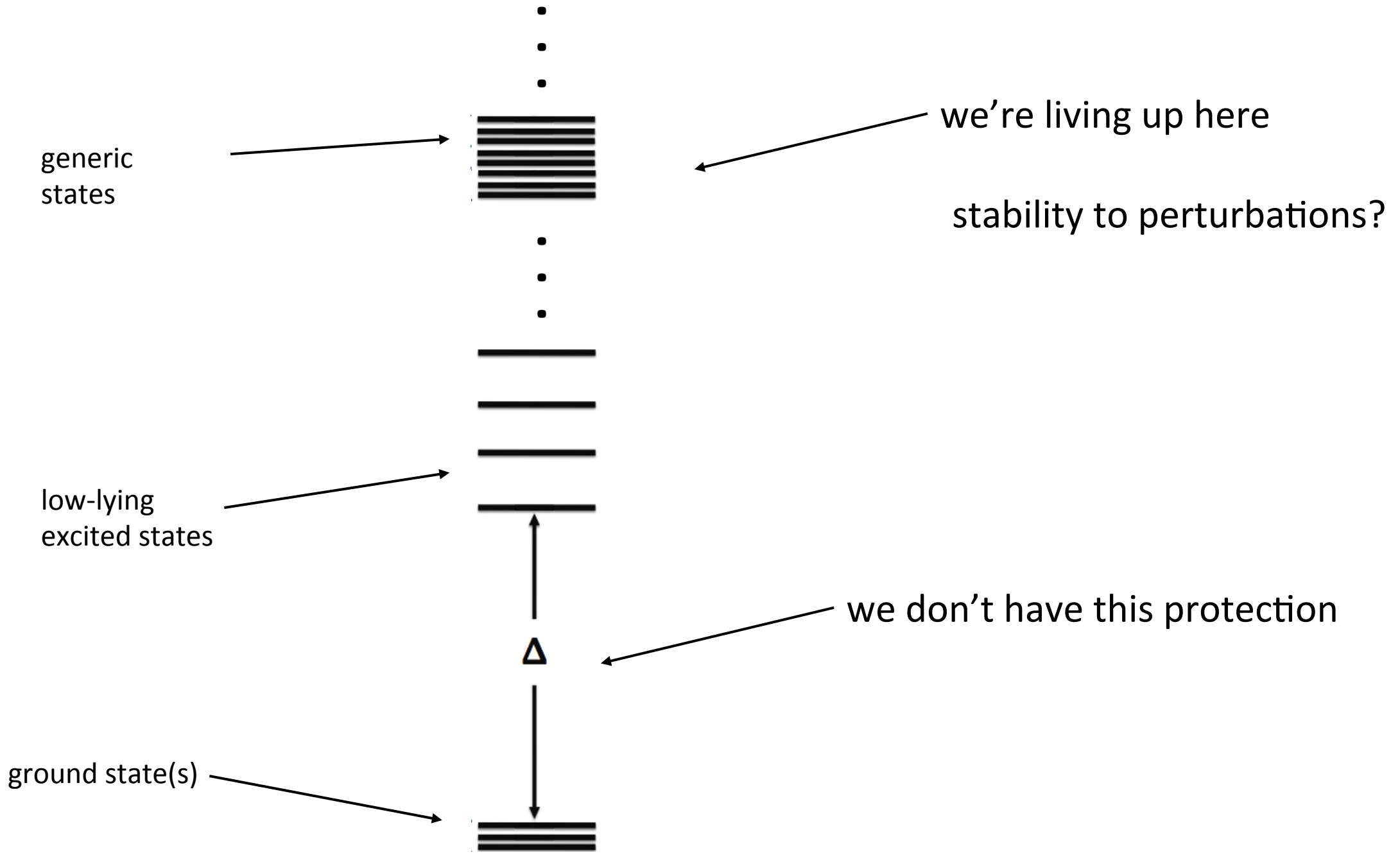


eigenstates of U_f :
eigenvalues of U_f :

$$e^{i\frac{t_0}{2} E^-(\{s_i\})} |\{s_i\}\rangle \pm e^{-i\frac{t_0}{2} E^-(\{s_i\})} |\{-s_i\}\rangle$$

$$\pm \exp(it_0 E^+(\{s_i\}))$$

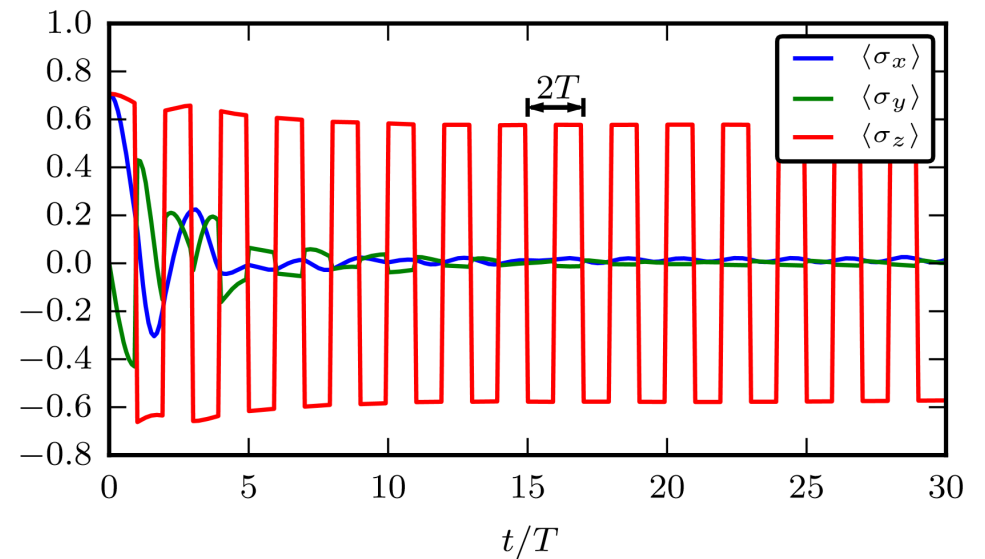
“cat states”



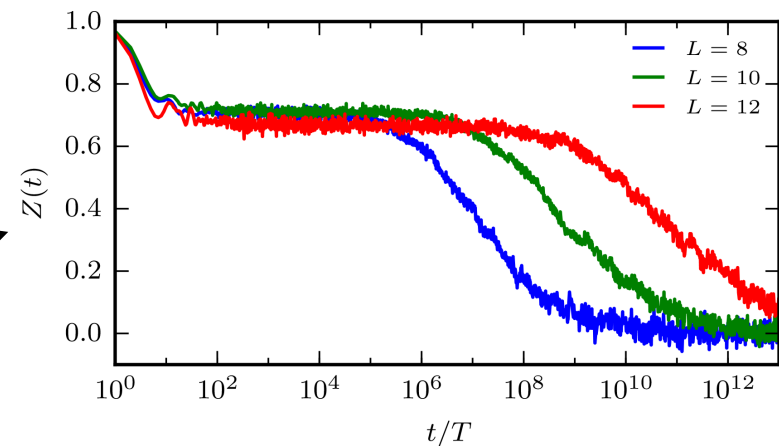
Stability of TTSB -- Numerics

Compute $U\downarrow f(nT)|\psi(0)\rangle$ by
TEBD (large systems, shorter times)
and *ED* (smaller systems, longer times)

transient decay, followed
by *persistent oscillations*



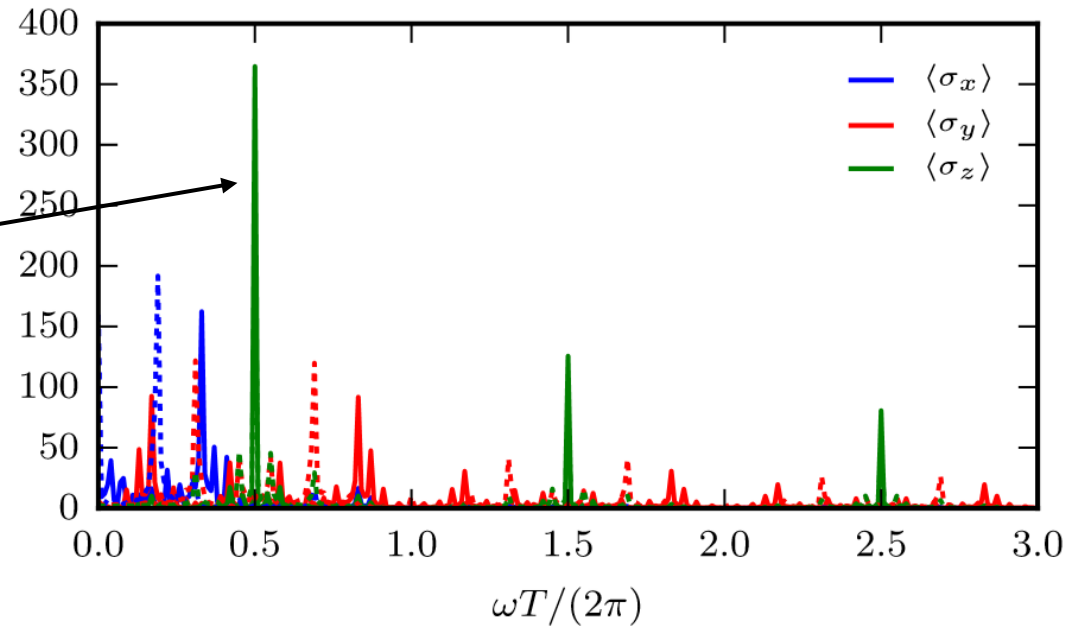
log scale
oscillations persist until time $\sim O(e^{\uparrow aL})$



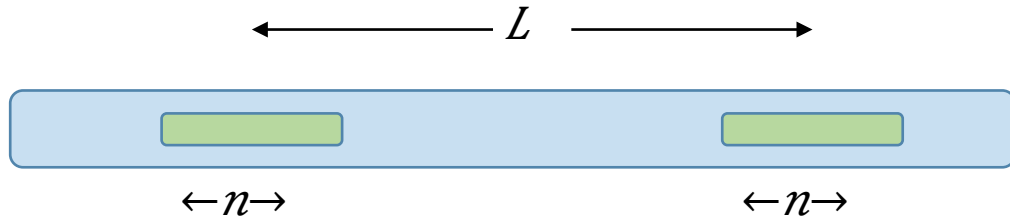
Stability of TTSB -- Numerics

TEBD: single realization

persistent oscillations,
together with noise



Stability of TTSB -- Numerics



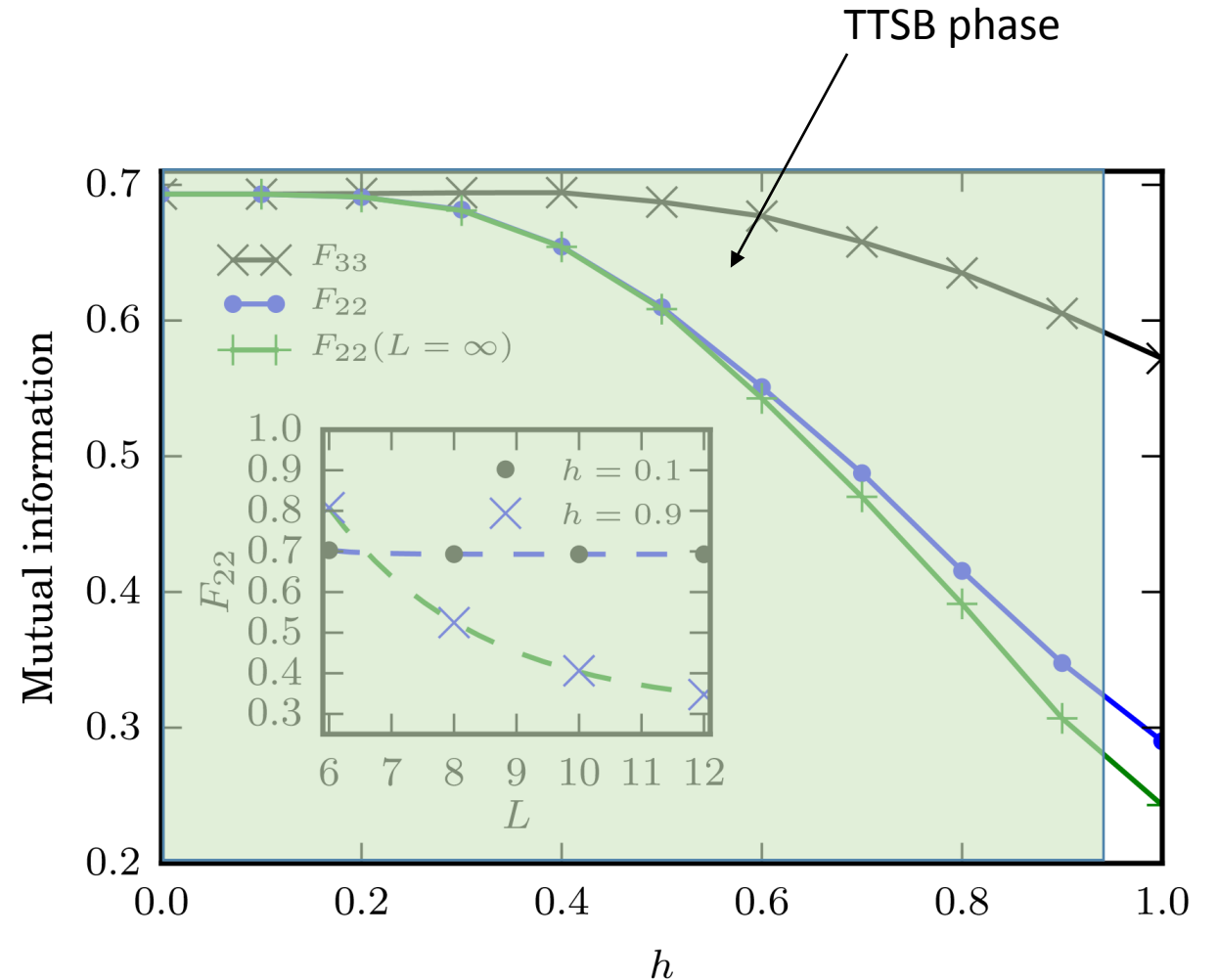
Mutual Information between Green Regions:

$$F_{nn}(h, L) = F_{nn}(g, \infty) + c_n \exp(-L/\xi(h))$$

$\neq 0$ in TTSB phase

$$F_{nn}(g, \infty) \rightarrow \ln 2 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

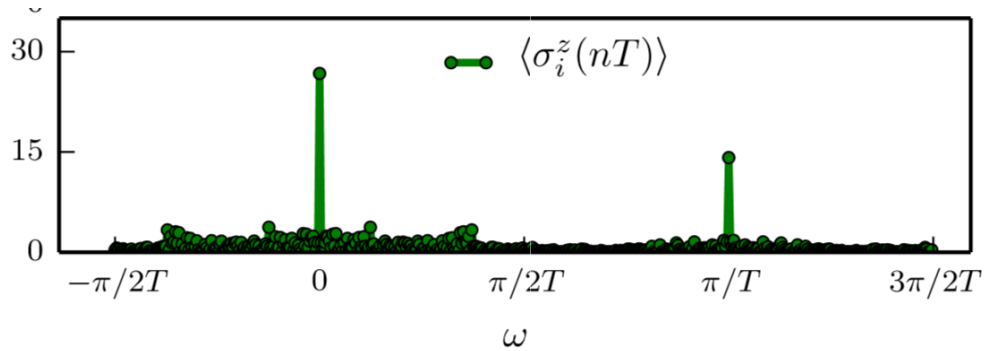
Eigenstates



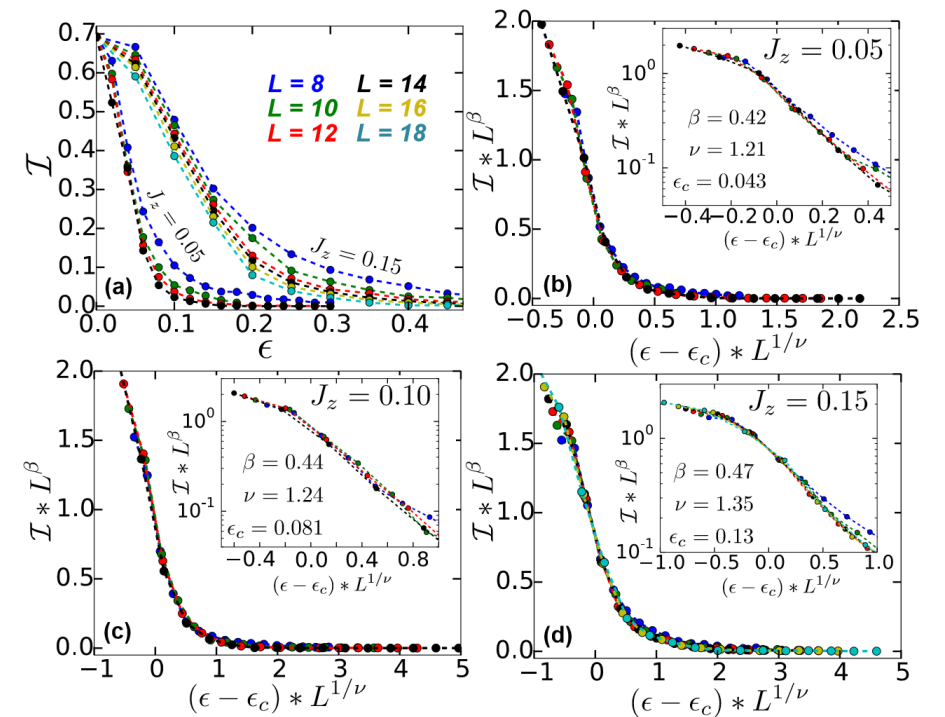
Further Investigations of Floquet Time Crystals

N. Yao et al. arXiv: 1608.02589

von Keyserlingk et al. arXiv: 1605.00639



noise decays as power-law

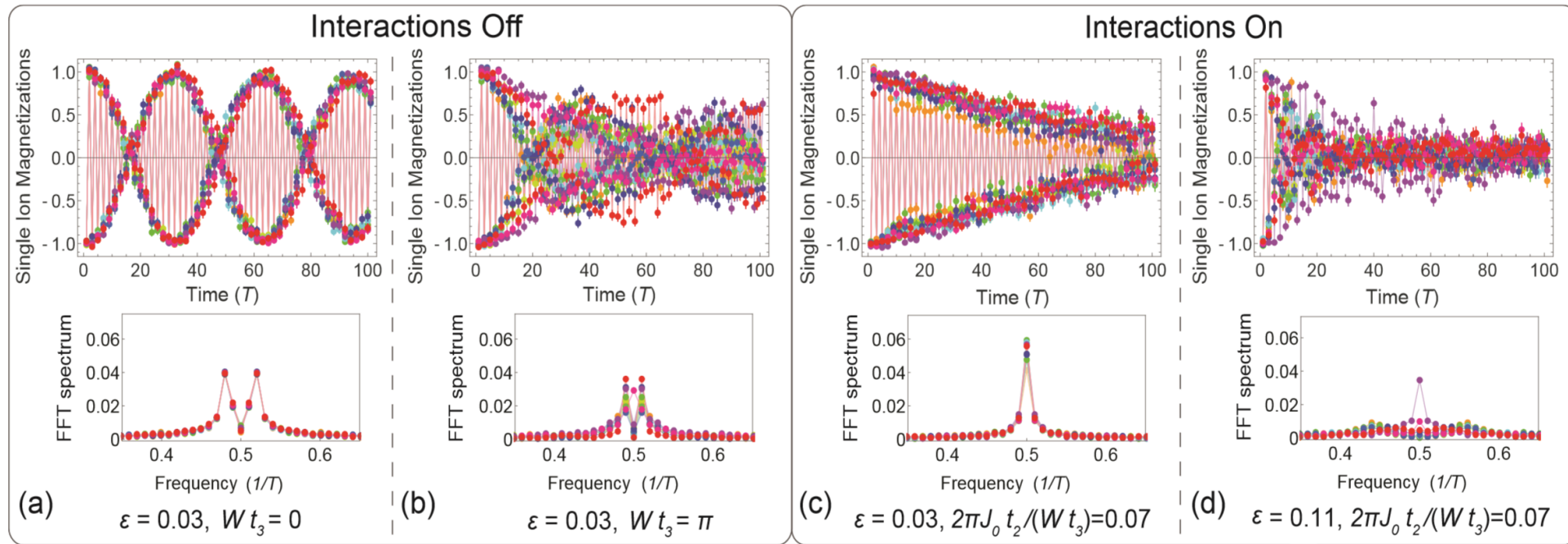


Transition out of Floquet time crystal:
random Ising transition

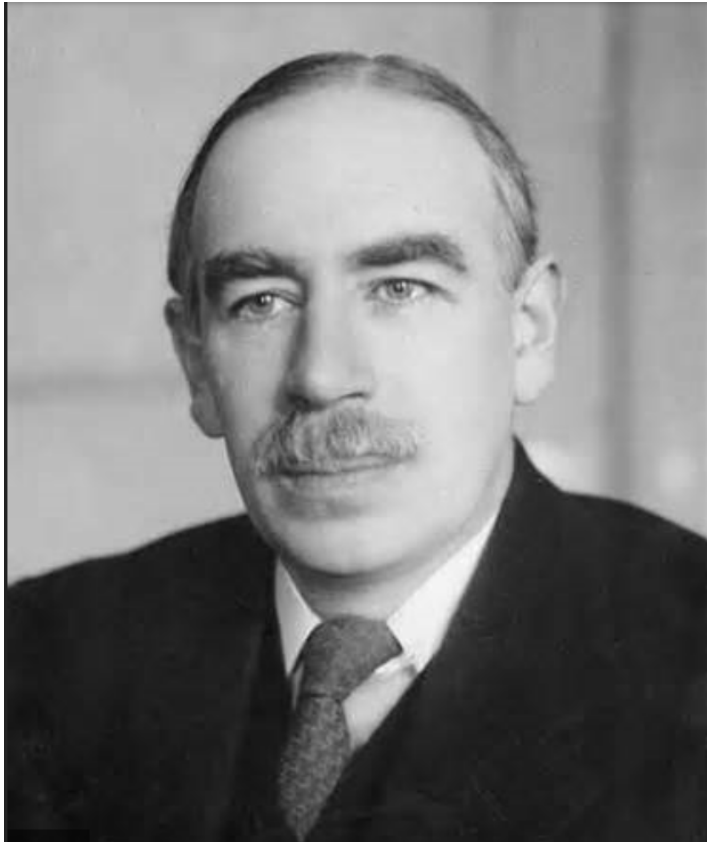
Experimental Obs. of Floquet Time Crystals

$$H = \begin{cases} H_1 = g(1 - \varepsilon) \sum_i \sigma_i^y, & \text{time } t_1 \\ H_2 = \sum_i J_{ij} \sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x, & \text{time } t_2 \\ H_3 = \sum_i D_i \sigma_i^x & \text{time } t_3. \end{cases}$$

J. Zhang *et al.* arXiv: 1609.08684



	Eigenstate Thermalization Hypothesis (ETH)	Many-Body Localization (MBL)
Static Systems	<p>generic excited energy eigenstate, non-zero energy density</p> $\rho_{\downarrow A} \approx e^{-\beta H_{\downarrow A}}$	$S_{\downarrow A} \propto \partial A $
Floquet Systems	<p>ETH at $T=\infty$:</p> $\rho_{\downarrow A} \approx \mathbf{1}$	<p>doesn't heat up to $T=\infty$,</p> $S_{\downarrow A} \propto \partial A $



Keynes: “In the long run, we are all dead.”

ADHD Theorems

D. Abanin, De Roeck, W.-W. Ho, F. Huveneers arXiv:1509.05386

~~D. Abanin, De Roeck, W.-W. Ho, F. Huveneers arXiv:1607.05277~~

$$U_f = \mathcal{T} \exp \left(-i \int_0^T H(t) dt \right) \quad \text{for small } \|H\|_{\text{loc}} \cdot T$$

$$\exists \mathcal{U} \quad \mathcal{U} U_f \mathcal{U}^\dagger = e^{iDT} + \text{exponentially-small stuff}$$

ADHD Theorems

$$U_f = \mathcal{T} \exp \left(-i \int_0^T H(t) dt \right) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} H(t) = H_0(t) + V(t) \\ X \equiv U_0(0, T) \quad X^N = 1 \\ \text{for small } \|V\|_{\text{loc}} \cdot T \end{array} \right.$$

$$\exists \mathcal{U} \quad \mathcal{U} U_f \mathcal{U}^\dagger = X e^{iDT} + \text{exponentially-small stuff}$$

$$\text{where } [D, X] = 0$$

pre-thermal Hamiltonian
 rapid thermalization with respect to it

Equilibrium for $D =$ non-equil. steady-state for $H(t)$
 Universal phenomena: phases, phase transitions, ...

ADHD Theorems

Theorem 1. Consider a periodically-driven system with Floquet operator:

$$U_f = \mathcal{T} \exp \left(-i \int_0^T H(t) dt \right) \quad (3)$$

where $H(t) = H_0(t) + V(t)$, and $X \equiv U_0(0, T)$ satisfies $X^N = 1$ for some integer N . We assume that $H_0(t)$ can be written as a sum $H_0(t) = \sum_i h_i(t)$ of terms acting only on single sites i . Define $\lambda \equiv \|V\|_1$. Assume that

$$\lambda T \leq \frac{\gamma \kappa_1^2}{N+3}, \quad \gamma \approx 0.14. \quad (4)$$

Then there exists a (time-independent) unitary \mathcal{U} such that

$$\mathcal{U} U_f \mathcal{U}^\dagger = X \mathcal{T} \exp \left(-i \int_0^T [D + E + V(t)] dt \right) \quad (5)$$

where D is local and $[D, X] = 0$; D, E are independent of time; and

where:

$$\|V\|_{n_*} \leq \lambda \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^{n_*} \quad (6)$$

$$\|E\|_{n_*} \leq \lambda \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^{n_*} \quad (7)$$

The exponent n_* is given by

$$n_* = \frac{\lambda_0 / \lambda}{[1 + \log(\lambda_0 / \lambda)]^3}, \quad \lambda_0 = \frac{(\kappa_1)^2}{72(N+3)(N+4)T} \quad (8)$$

“pre-thermal Hamiltonian”

Pre-thermal Time Crystals: Example

$$H(t) = H_0(t) + V, \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} H_0(t) = - \sum_i h^x(t) \sigma_i^x \\ V = -J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z - h^z \sum_i \sigma_i^z, \end{array} \right.$$

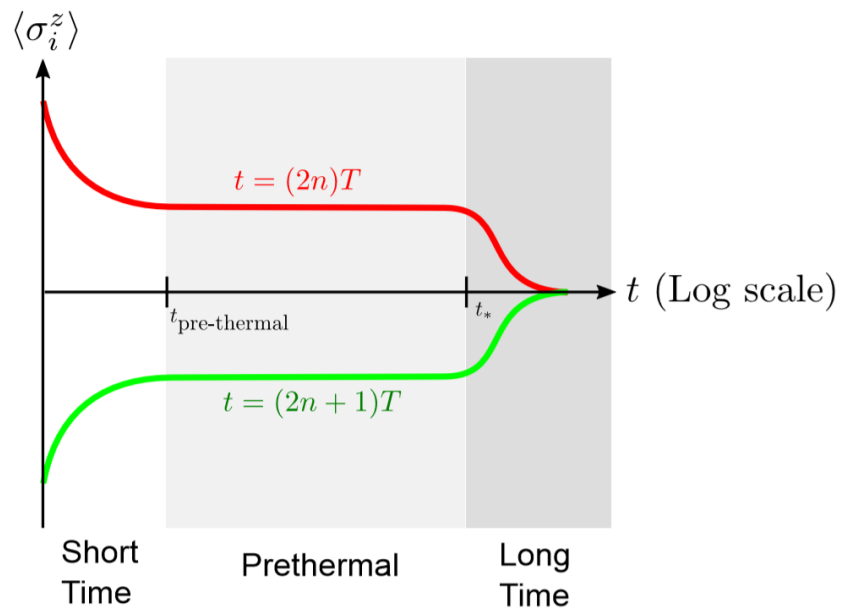
performs a π -pulse $\longrightarrow \int_0^T h^x(t) dt = \frac{\pi}{2}$

Pre-thermal Time Crystals: Example

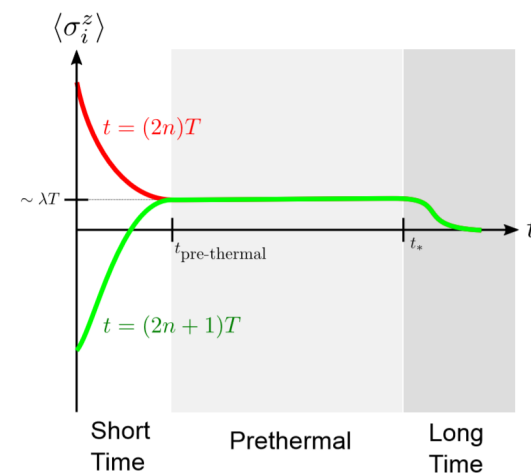
$$h^x(t) = \frac{\pi}{2} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t - kT) \quad \Rightarrow \quad D = -J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z + \dots$$

determines intermediate time-evol

(a) Time crystal



(b) Non-time crystal



Pre-thermal Time Crystals: Effective Field Theory

$$U_f \approx \mathcal{U}(X e^{-iDT}) \mathcal{U}^\dagger \quad \longrightarrow \quad \langle \psi_f | (U_f)^m | \psi_i \rangle = \langle \psi_f | \mathcal{U}(X e^{-iDT})^m \mathcal{U}^\dagger | \psi_i \rangle \\ = \langle \tilde{\psi}_f | e^{-iDmT} | \tilde{\psi}_i \rangle$$

$$\langle \psi | \hat{O}(x, kT) \hat{O}(0, kT) | \psi \rangle \equiv \langle \psi | (U_f)^{-k} \hat{O}(x, 0) \hat{O}(0, 0) (U_f)^k | \psi \rangle \\ = \text{tr}(e^{-\beta D} \hat{O}(x) \hat{O}(0)) \\ = \int \mathcal{D}\varphi e^{-\int d^d x d\tau \left[\frac{1}{2} K (\partial_\tau \varphi)^2 + \frac{v^2}{2} K (\nabla \varphi)^2 + U(\varphi) \right]}$$

Universal prop. of phases and transition (in the rotated basis) \cong equilibrium Ising model.

Discrete TTS and Its Consequences

$$\int \mathcal{D}\varphi e^{-\int d^d x d\tau \left[\frac{1}{2} K (\partial_\tau \varphi)^2 + \frac{v^2}{2} K (\nabla \varphi)^2 + U(\varphi) \right]}$$

ADHD: $[D, X] = 0$

Discrete TTS by \mathcal{T} : $\varphi \rightarrow -\varphi$

Symm. gen. by X : $\varphi \rightarrow -\varphi$

analogous to AF: $\mathbb{Z}_{\text{TTS}} \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$

Not a symmetry of $H(t)$.
 A symmetry of $U \downarrow f$.
 Generated by $U^\dagger X U$

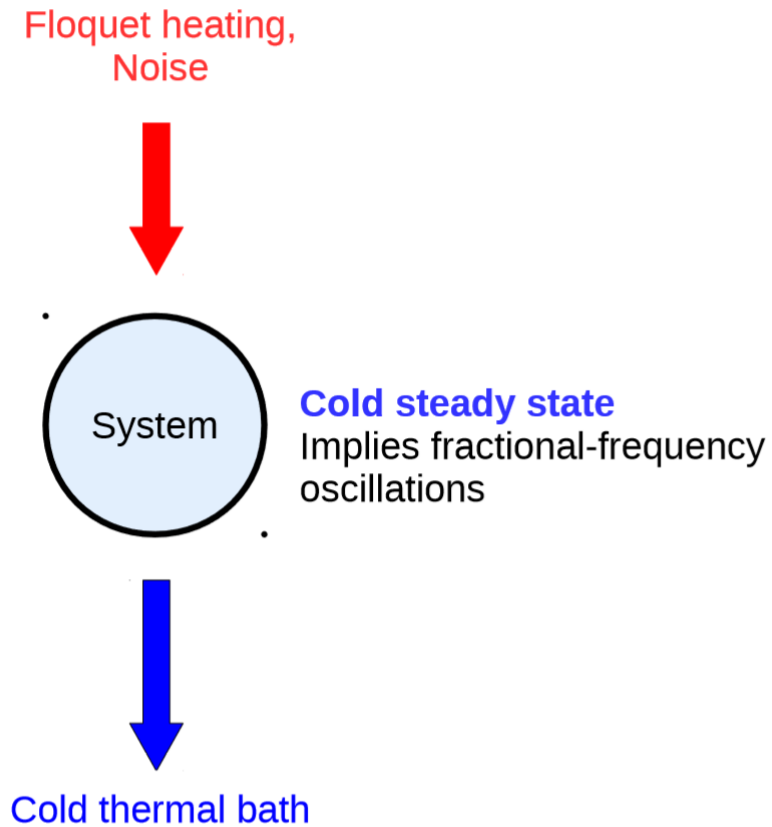
But: the symm. gen. by $U^\dagger X U$ is a *consequence* of TTS
 always present if TTS is present
 not present if TTS is not present.

Protected by Time-Translation Symmetry

Summary and Future Directions

- Floquet Time Crystals are systems exhibiting TTSB.
- Possibly observed in trapped ions ... other driven systems
- Floquet SPTs and Floquet Topological Phases.

Pre-thermal Time Crystals: Open Systems



Pre-thermalization in *Undriven* Systems

$$H = -uL + V \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} u \text{ large} \\ e^{i2\pi Li} = 1 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\mathcal{U}H\mathcal{U}^\dagger = -uL + D + \hat{V}$$

pre-thermal Hamiltonian

where $[D, L] = 0$ and $\hat{V} \sim \lambda e^{-O([\log \lambda T]^3 / [\lambda T])}$

Pre-thermalization in *Undriven* Systems

large

$$H = -h^z \sum_i S_i^z - h^x \sum_i S_i^x - \sum_{i,j} [J_{ij}^x S_i^x S_j^x + J_{ij}^y S_i^y S_j^y + J_{ij}^z S_i^z S_j^z]$$

$$\begin{cases} J_{ij}^x = J + \delta J \\ J_{ij}^y = J_y + \delta J \\ J_{ij}^z = J^z \end{cases}$$

$$D = - \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} [J(S_i^x S_j^x + S_i^y S_j^y) + J^z S_i^z S_j^z] + \frac{1}{T} O(\lambda/h^z)^2$$

Pre-thermalization in *Undriven* Systems

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \psi_0 | e^{-i(-uL+D)t} \Phi e^{i(-uL+D)t} | \psi_0 \rangle &= \text{tr} \left(\left[e^{-i(-uL+D)t} \Phi e^{i(-uL+D)t} \right] e^{-\beta(D-\mu L)} \right) \\ &= e^{i(\mu-u)t} \text{tr} \left(\left[e^{-i(-\mu L+D)t} \Phi e^{i(-\mu L+D)t} \right] e^{-\beta(D-\mu L)} \right) \end{aligned}$$

pre-thermalization
↙

$$\dot{\phi} \sim (S_x + iS_y) e^{i(\mu-u)t}$$

$$\phi(t) \rightarrow e^{i(\mu-u)a} \phi(t+a)$$

$$S_{\text{eff}} = \int d^d x d\tau \left[\phi^* \partial_\tau \phi - \mu \phi^* \phi + g(\phi^* \phi)^2 + \dots \right]$$

Re-Interpreting Previous Work in terms of TTSB

Floquet SPTs: Classified by $H\hat{d}+1(G \times \mathbb{Z}, U(1)) = H\hat{d}+1(G, U(1)) \times H\hat{d}(G, U(1))$

von Keyserlingk and Sondhi '16
Else and Nayak '16
Potter, Morimoto, and Vishwanath '16
Roy and Harper '16

stationary classification

in each Floquet cycle, a (d-1)-dim.
SPT is "pumped" to the edge

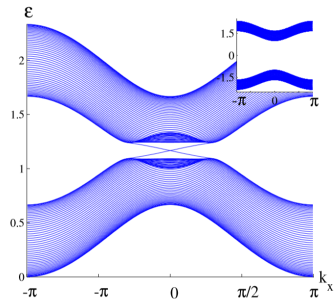
e.g. $U = e^{iHT} V(\mathbb{T})$

Hamiltonian of stationary MBL system
with symmetry group $\mathbb{Z} \downarrow n \times G$

symmetry generator

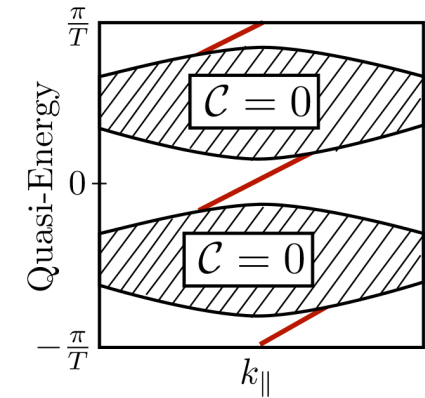
also SETs

Exception to ETH: Non-Interacting Floquet Systems



An ordinary insulator can become a topological insulator when driven.

Lindner et al. '11

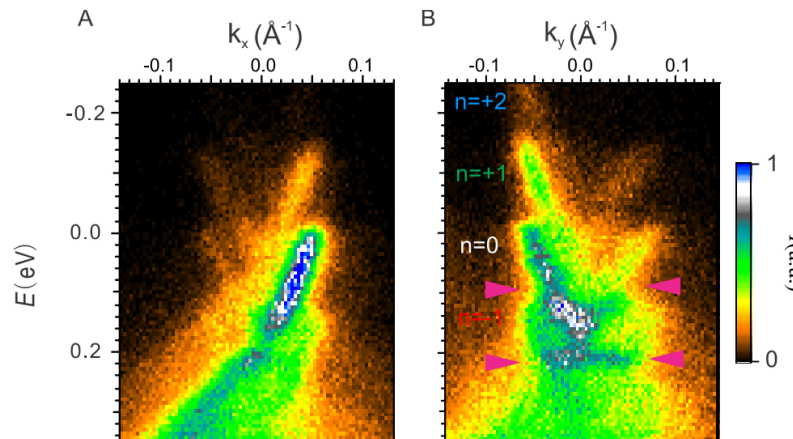


Bands with vanishing Chern number can have gapless chiral edge states.

Rudner et al. '14

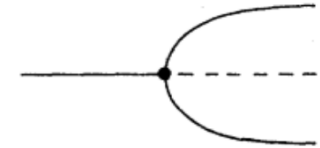
High-intensity MIR radiation opens gap at surface of TI:

Wang et al. '14



Examples of Systems that Don't Have TTSB

- Classical Period-Doubling Bifurcation: $x_{j+1} = -x_j(1 + \mu - x_j^2)$

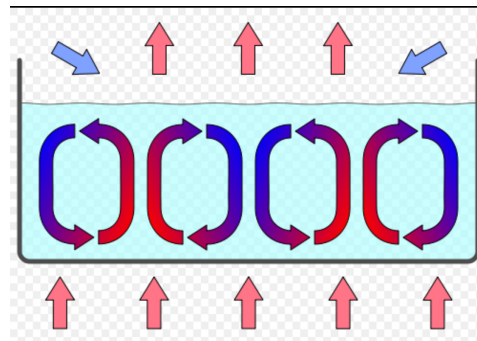


steady state: oscillates between $x = \pm \sqrt{\mu}$

Doubling is the only generic possibility.

Floquet Time Crystals can occur with stable period-doubled, tripled, quadrupled, ... phases

- Rayleigh-Benard Flow:

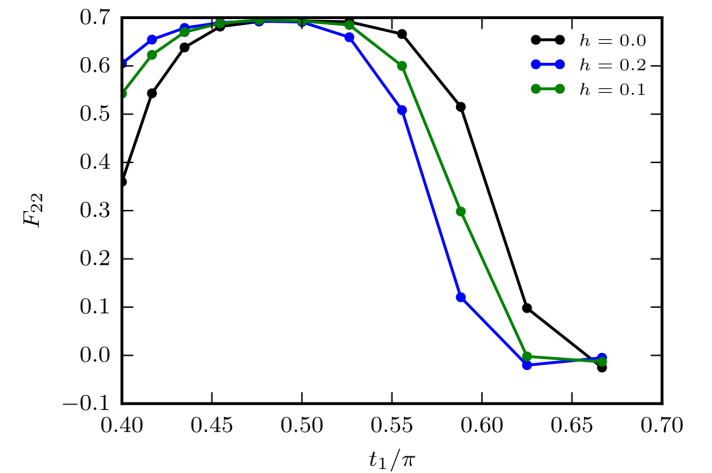
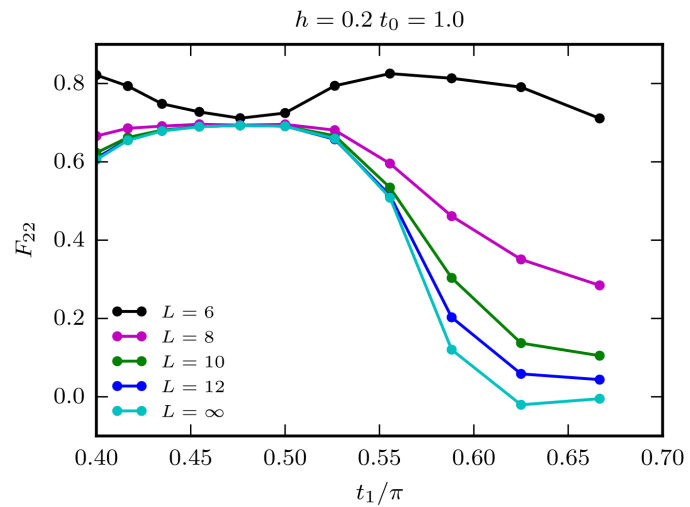
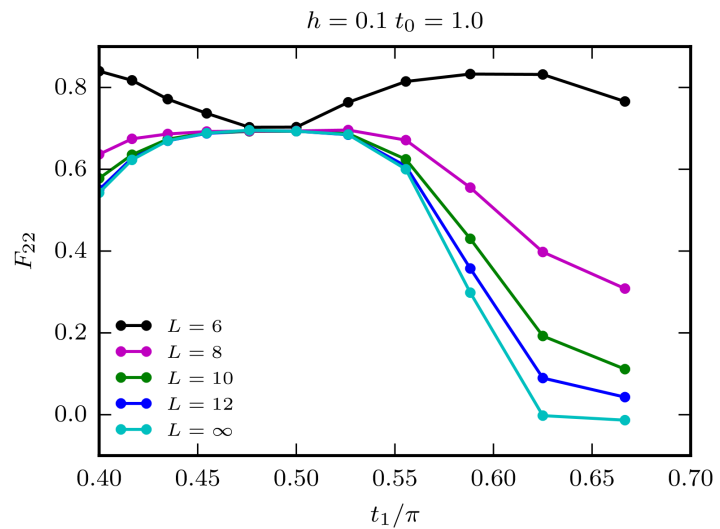


Require dissipation. Occur only in open systems. *Not protected by any generalized rigidity.*

Stability of TTSB -- Numerics

$$U_f = \exp(-it_0 H_{\text{MBL}}) \exp\left(i\frac{\pi}{2} \sum_i \sigma_i^x\right)$$

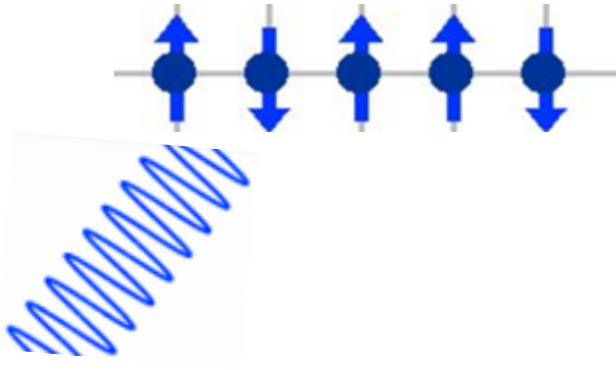
what if this isn't exactly $\pi/2$?



Floquet Eigenstates exhibit TTSB

Radiation from a Floquet Time Crystal

$$U_f = \exp(-it_0 H_{\text{MBL}}) \exp\left(i\frac{\pi}{2} \sum_i \sigma_i^x\right)$$



$$H_1 = g \sum_i \sigma_i^z (a + a^\dagger)$$

$$A_{m,n} = \frac{2\pi}{T} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta\left(\omega + \left[k + \frac{1}{2}\right]\Omega\right) \int_0^T ds e^{i(\Omega/2)s} \langle n | U_0^\dagger(s, 0) V U_0(s, 0) | m \rangle$$

$$|\{s_i\}\rangle = (|+\rangle \pm |-\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

only a phase change when emitting radiation at freq. $\Omega/2$

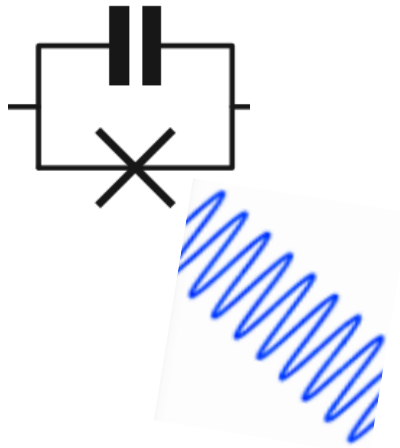
quasienergy conserved

Floquet eigenstates

$$A_{+-} = A_{-+} \propto -\frac{2\pi igN}{T} \delta(0)$$

transition amplitude between Floquet eigenstates

Similarity between TTSB and AC Josephson Effect



$$H = \omega_J N + \frac{N^2}{2C} - J \cos \theta$$

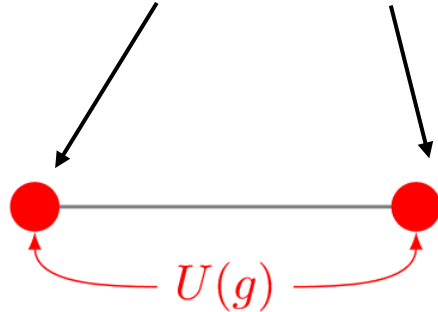
ground state is not a θ eigenstate;
not short-range correlated

- Physical initial states are not eigenstates of H
- Junction will radiate, decay into ground state except in open systems (e.g. constant current source)

Classification of Stationary SPTs

1D:

$$U(g) = U_a(g) \otimes U_b(g)$$



$$U(g_1)U(g_2) = U(g_1g_2) \Rightarrow U_a(g_1)U_a(g_2) = \omega(g_1, g_2)U_a(g_1g_2)$$

$$[U_a(g_1)U_a(g_2)]U_a(g_3) = U_a(g_1)[U_a(g_2)U_a(g_3)]$$

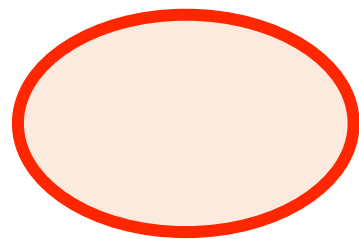
\Downarrow

$$\omega(g_1, g_2)\omega(g_1g_2, g_3) = \omega(g_2, g_3)\omega(g_1, g_2g_3).$$

\Downarrow

$$H^2(G, U(1))$$

2D:



$$U(g)$$

restrict



$$U_M(g)$$

\Downarrow



$$\Omega(g_1, g_2)$$

$$U_M(g_1)U_M(g_2) = \Omega(g_1, g_2)U_M(g_1g_2)$$

$$\Omega_a(g_1, g_2)\Omega_a(g_1g_2, g_3) = \omega(g_1, g_2, g_3)U_M(g_1)\Omega_a(g_2, g_3)\Omega_a(g_1, g_2g_3)$$



$$\Omega_a(g_1, g_2)$$

\Downarrow

$$H^3(G, U(1))$$

recover classification of
X. Chen et al.'12