



**Stanford**  
University

# **Out-of-equilibrium phases of monitored circuits**

## **From measurement-only to measurement-free**

**Matteo Ippoliti (Stanford University)**

9/20/2021, KITP, “INFOVERSALITY 21”

# Phase structure out of equilibrium

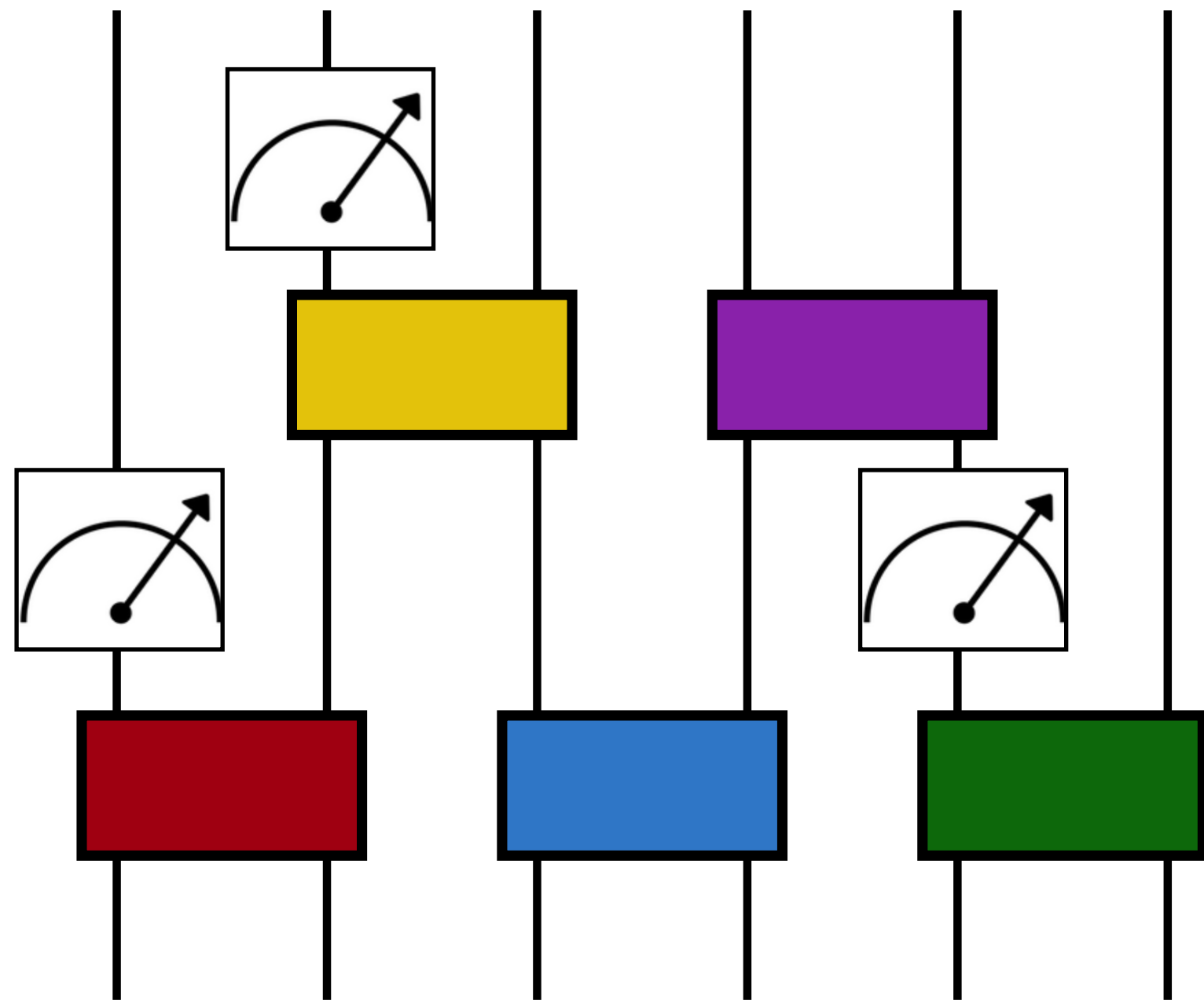
- Expanding ideas of **order, phases, & universality** to new domains
- Non-equilibrium systems like to return to equilibrium
  - **Quantum thermalization** — foundations of stat-mech, chaos, hydrodynamics...
- Some ways around thermalization:
  - Driven/dissipative systems
  - Many-body localization (MBL)
  - **Monitored circuits**



# Monitored circuits

Two fundamental processes in quantum mechanics:

- **unitary** time evolution  $-i\partial_t|\psi\rangle = H|\psi\rangle$
- measurement — “wavefunction **collapse**”  $|\psi\rangle \mapsto \frac{P|\psi\rangle}{\|P|\psi\rangle\|}$



“**Monitored circuits**”:

unitary dynamics + measurements\*

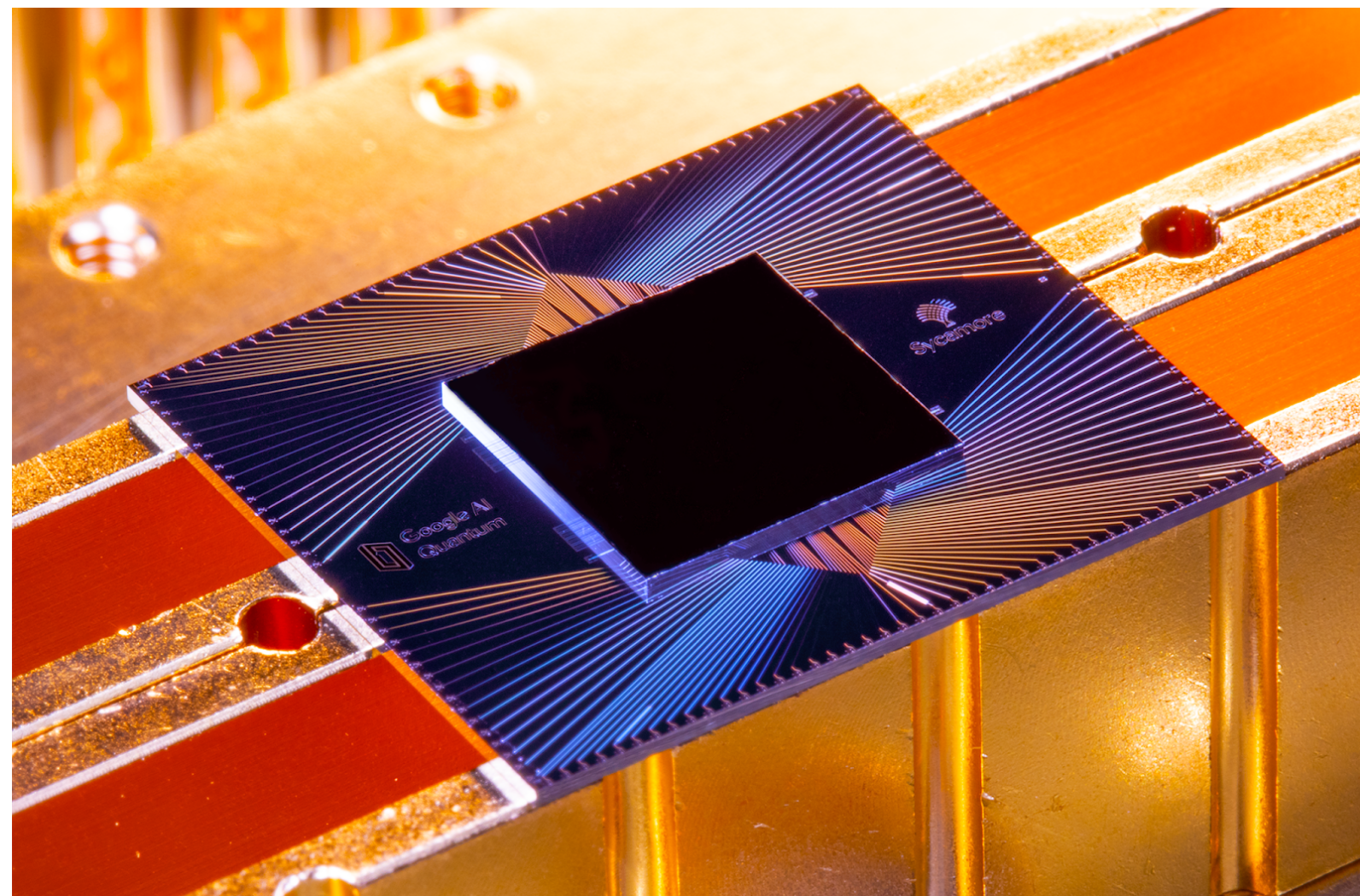
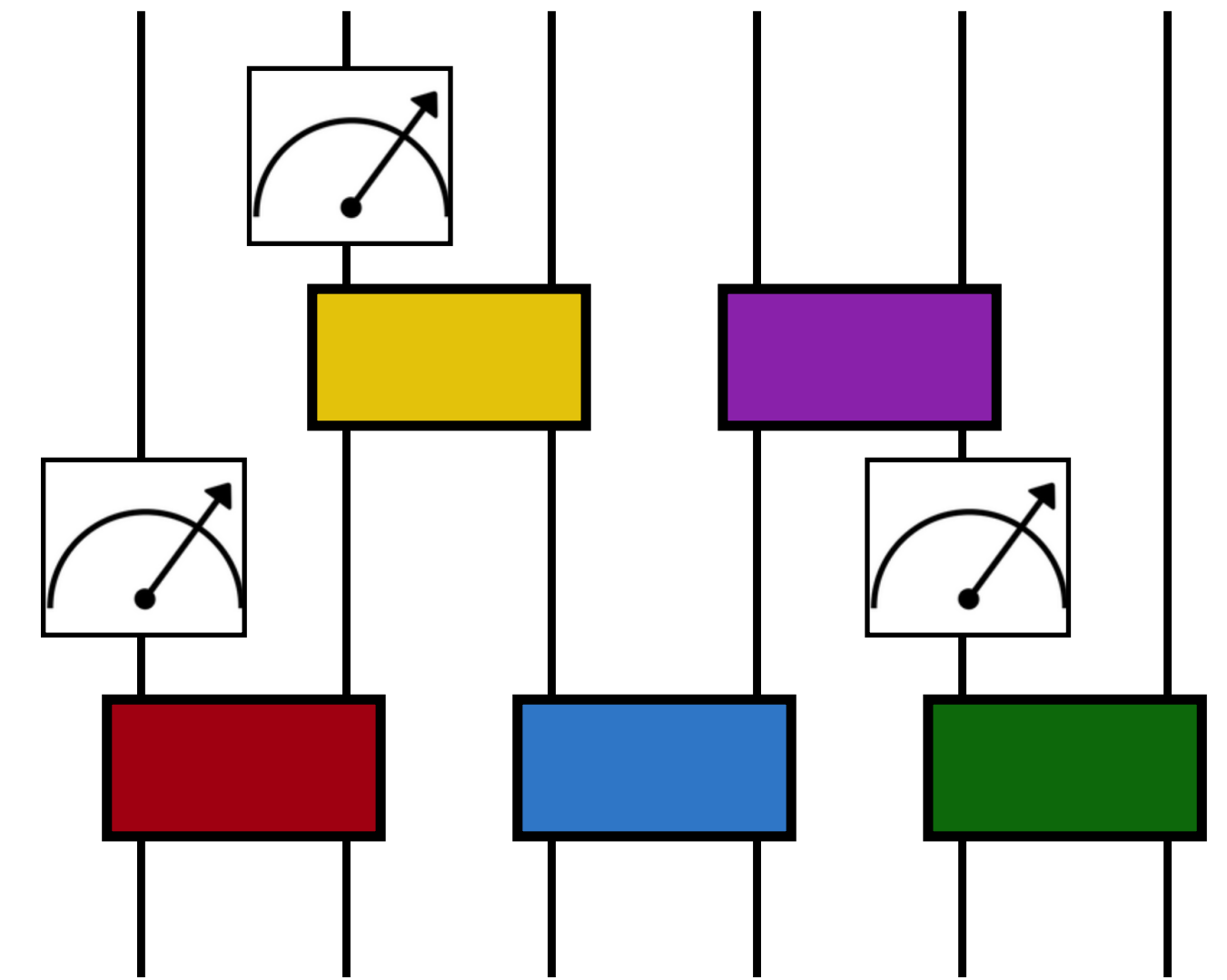
(\*postselected: **pure** quantum trajectories)

[Li, Chen, Fisher PRB 2018; Nahum, Ruhman, Skinner PRX 2019]

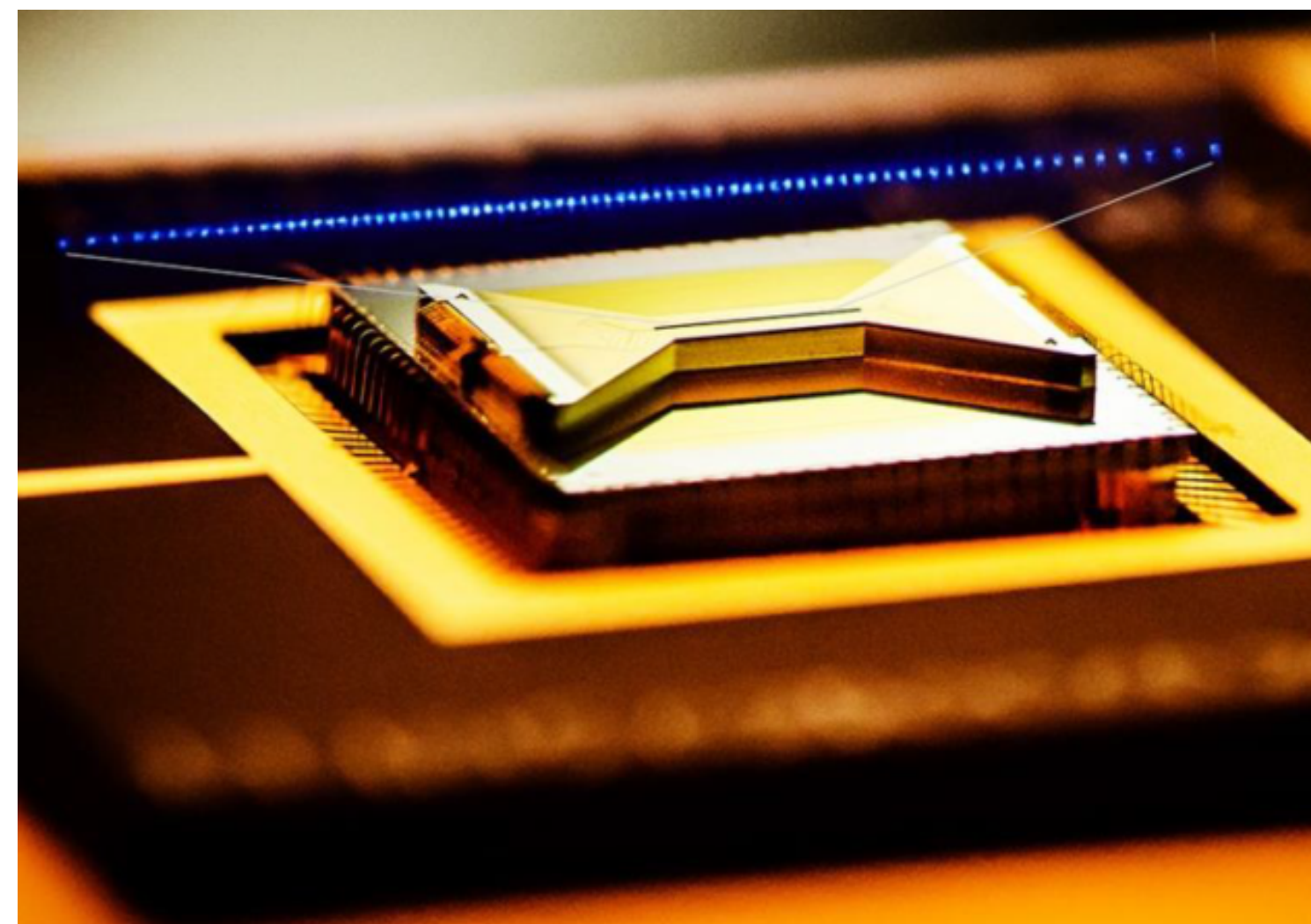


# Monitored circuits

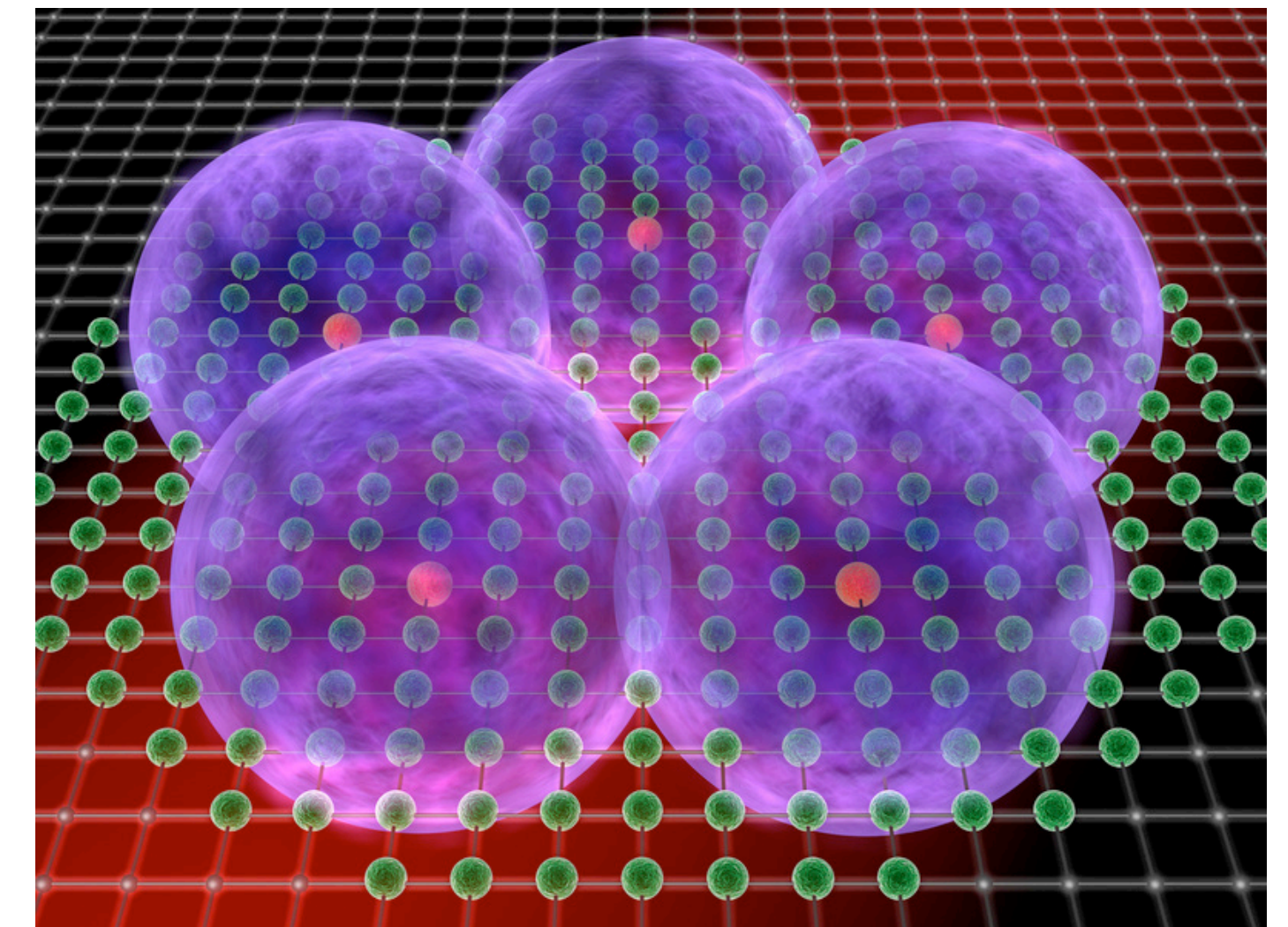
- Experimentally motivated by advent of NISQ devices
- New capabilities for **control** and **measurement**
- Ideal for exploring **nonequilibrium phenomena** in **many-body** setting



Superconducting qubits (Google AI Quantum)



Trapped ions (IonQ)

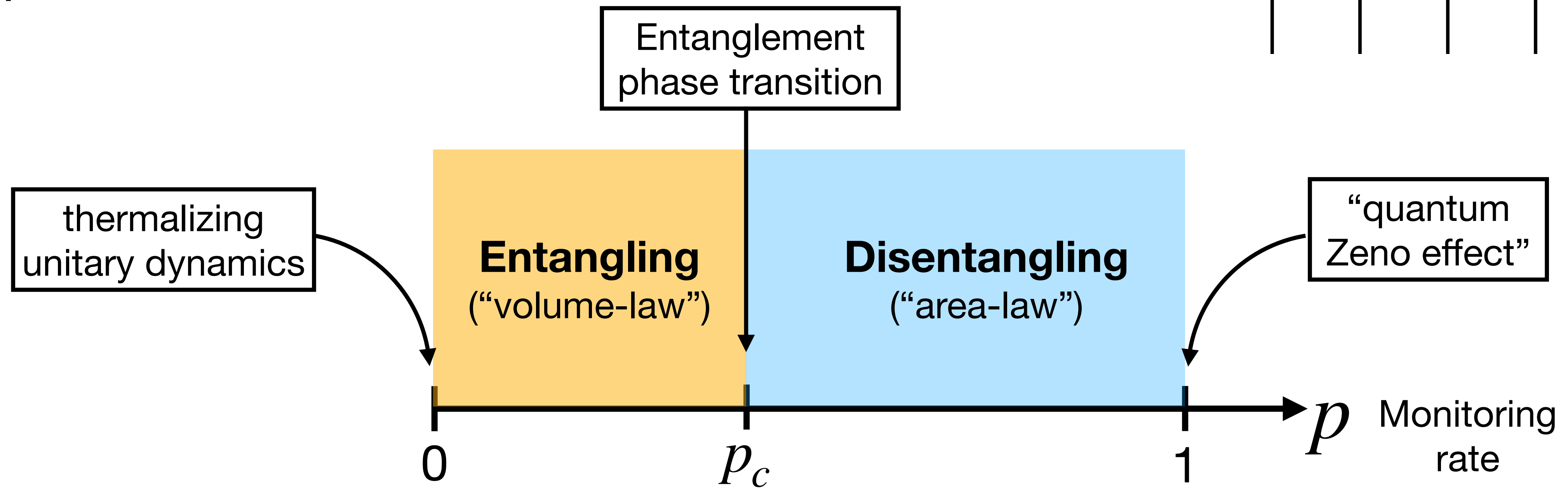
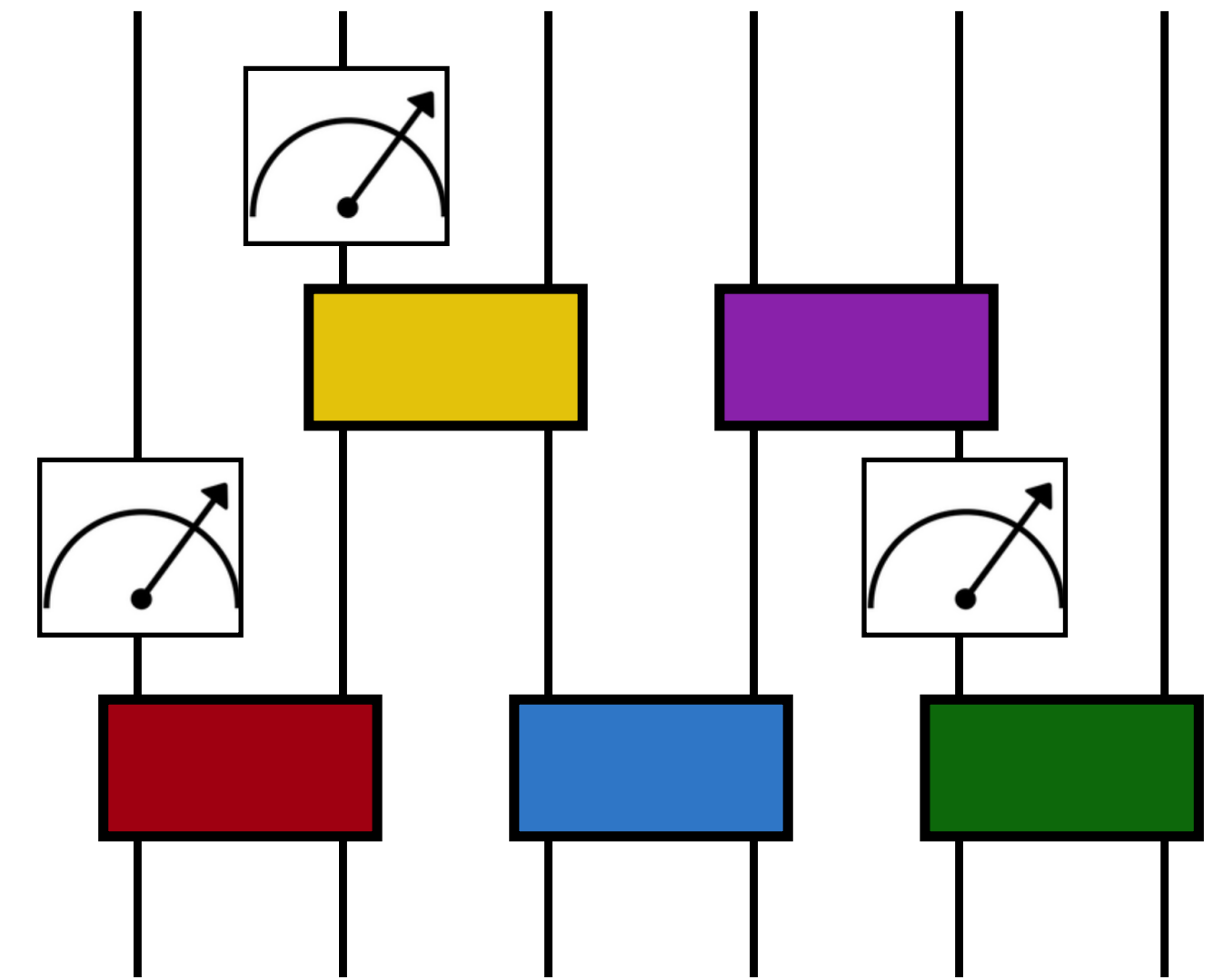


Rydberg atoms (Bloch lab, Munich)

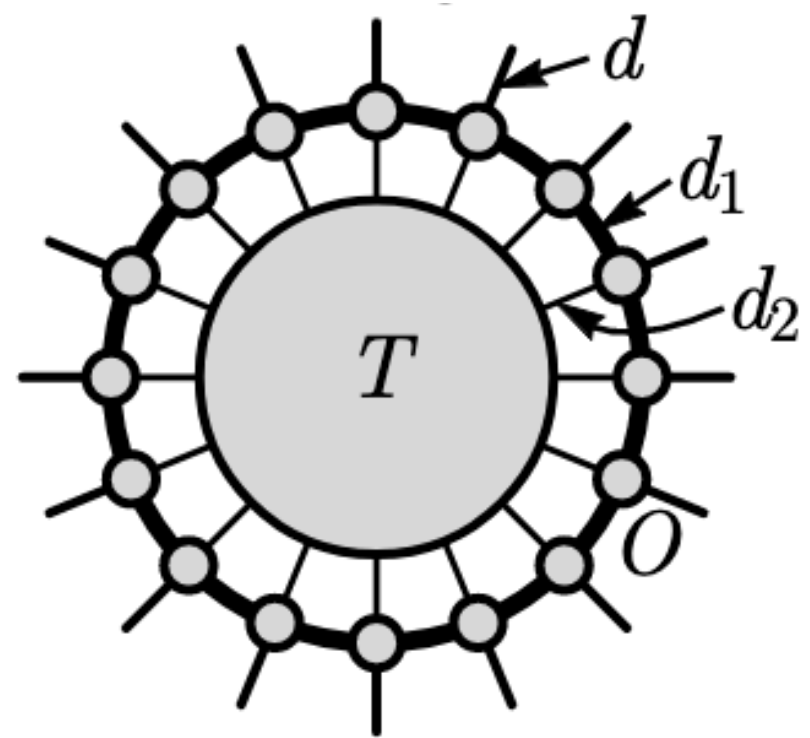
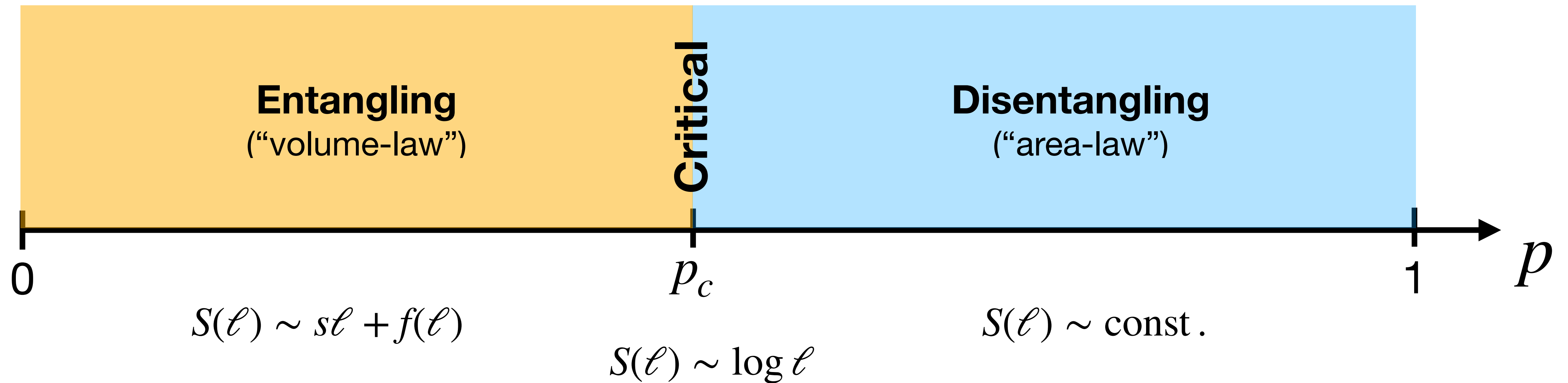


# Monitored circuits

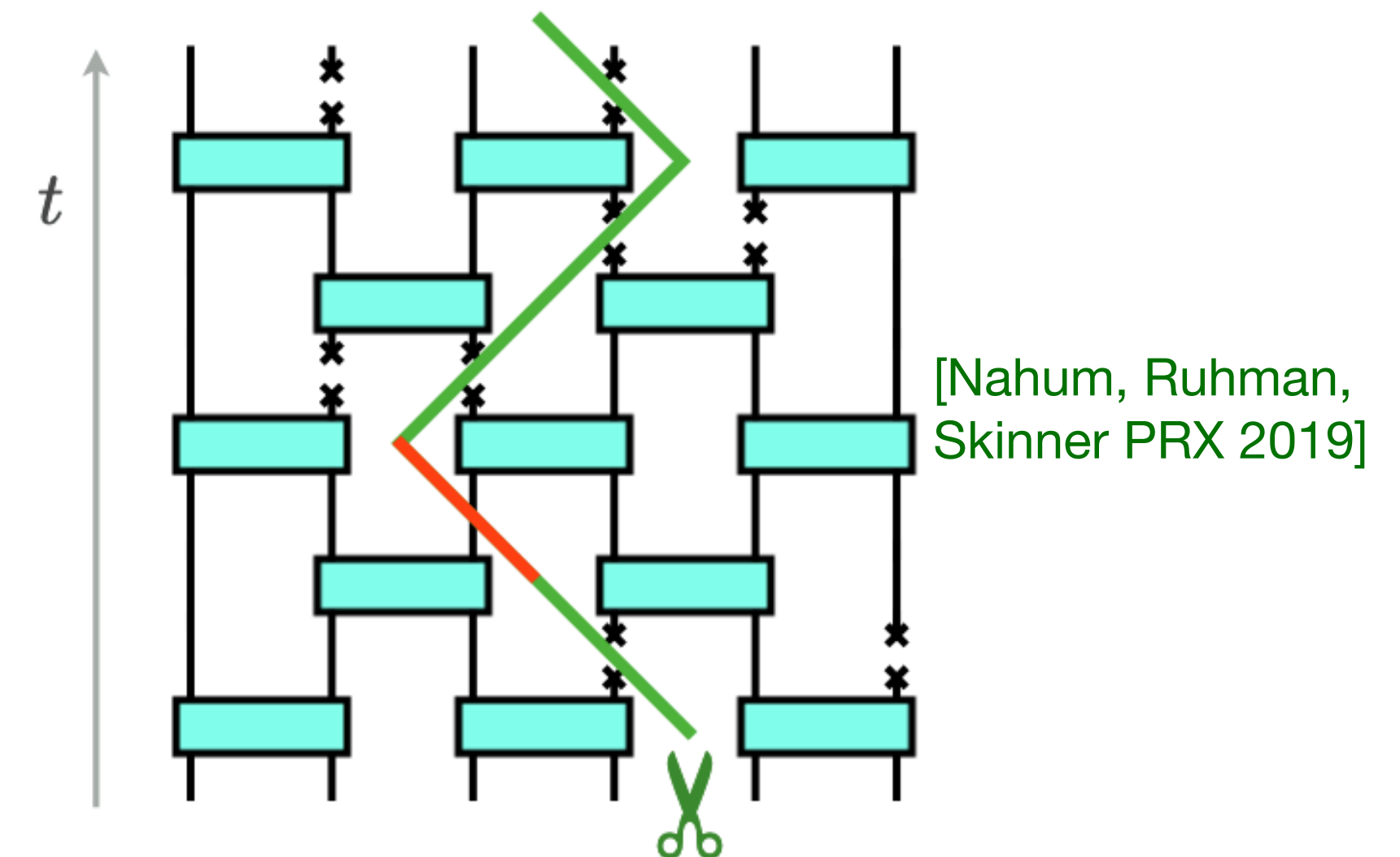
- New **entanglement phase transition**
- New arena for **out-of-equilibrium universality** & phase structure



# Entanglement phases & transitions

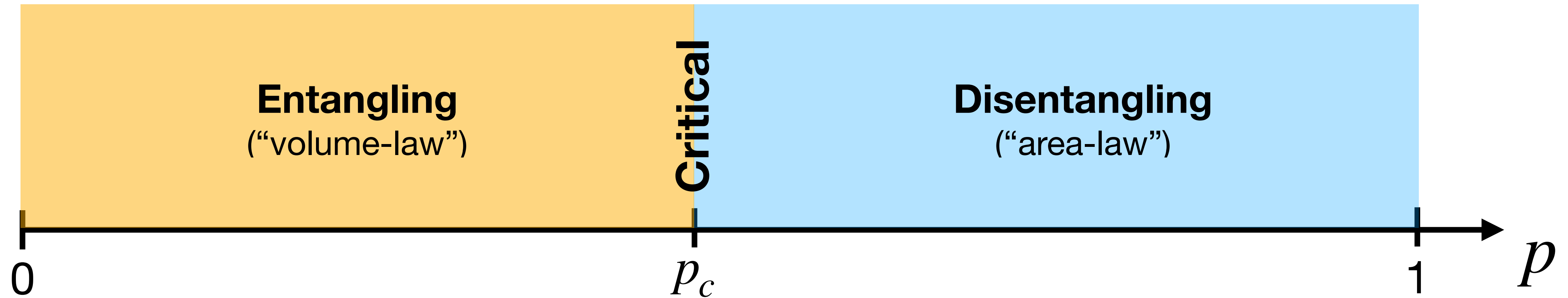


Scrambling unitaries form **quantum code**, hide info from measurements





# Entanglement phases & transitions



## Questions:

- Nature of the phase?
- Connections to active QEC?
- What is the CFT?
- Interplay with quantum order?
- **Experimental access?** Limiting “postselection overhead” / “decoding complexity”?

# Part 1: Measurement-Only

PHYSICAL REVIEW X **11**, 011030 (2021)

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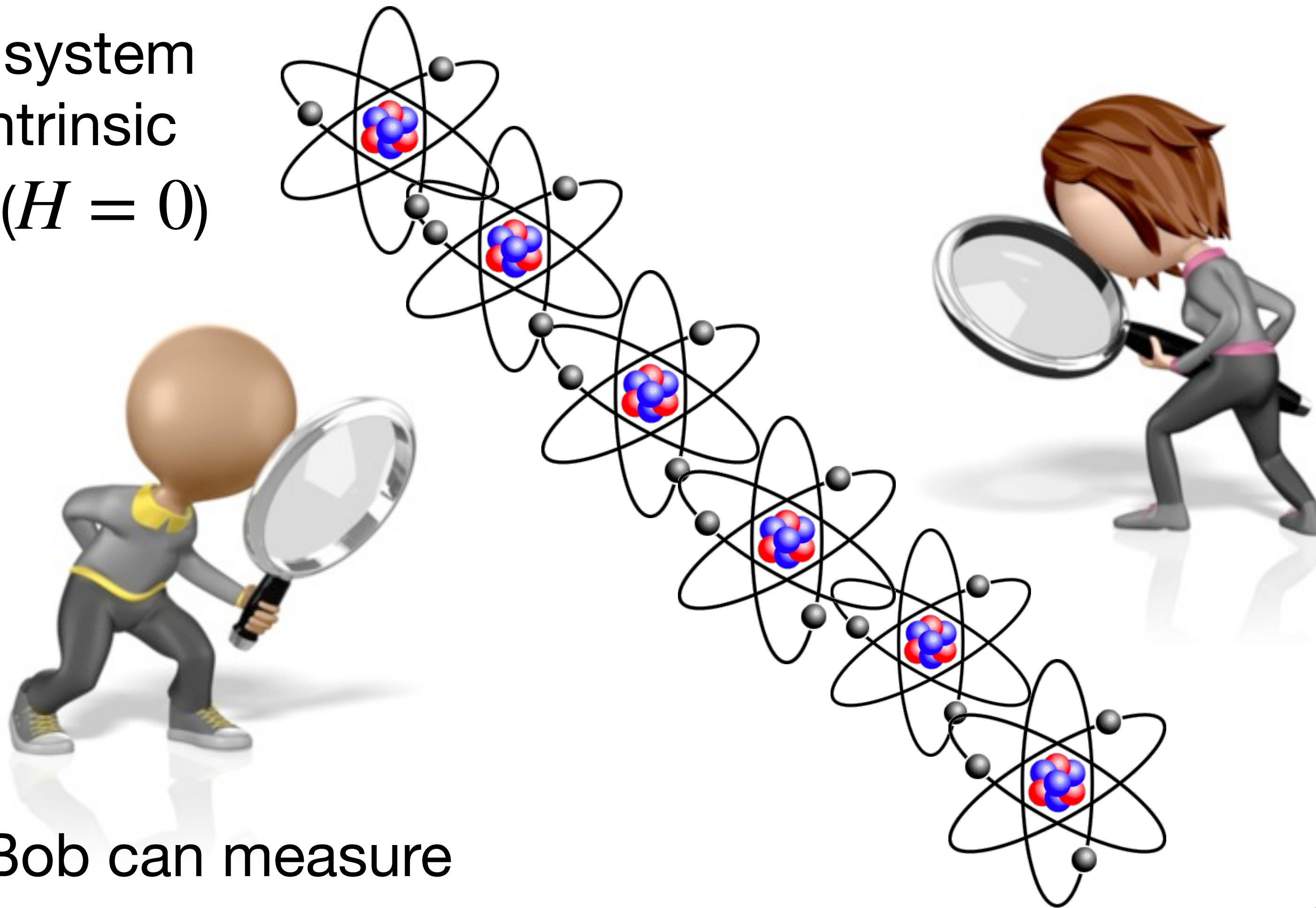
## Entanglement Phase Transitions in Measurement-Only Dynamics

Matteo Ippoliti<sup>1</sup>, Michael J. Gullans<sup>2</sup>, Sarang Gopalakrishnan<sup>3,4,5</sup>, David A. Huse<sup>2,6</sup> and Vedika Khemani<sup>1</sup>



# Measurement-only dynamics

Quantum system  
with no intrinsic  
dynamics ( $H = 0$ )



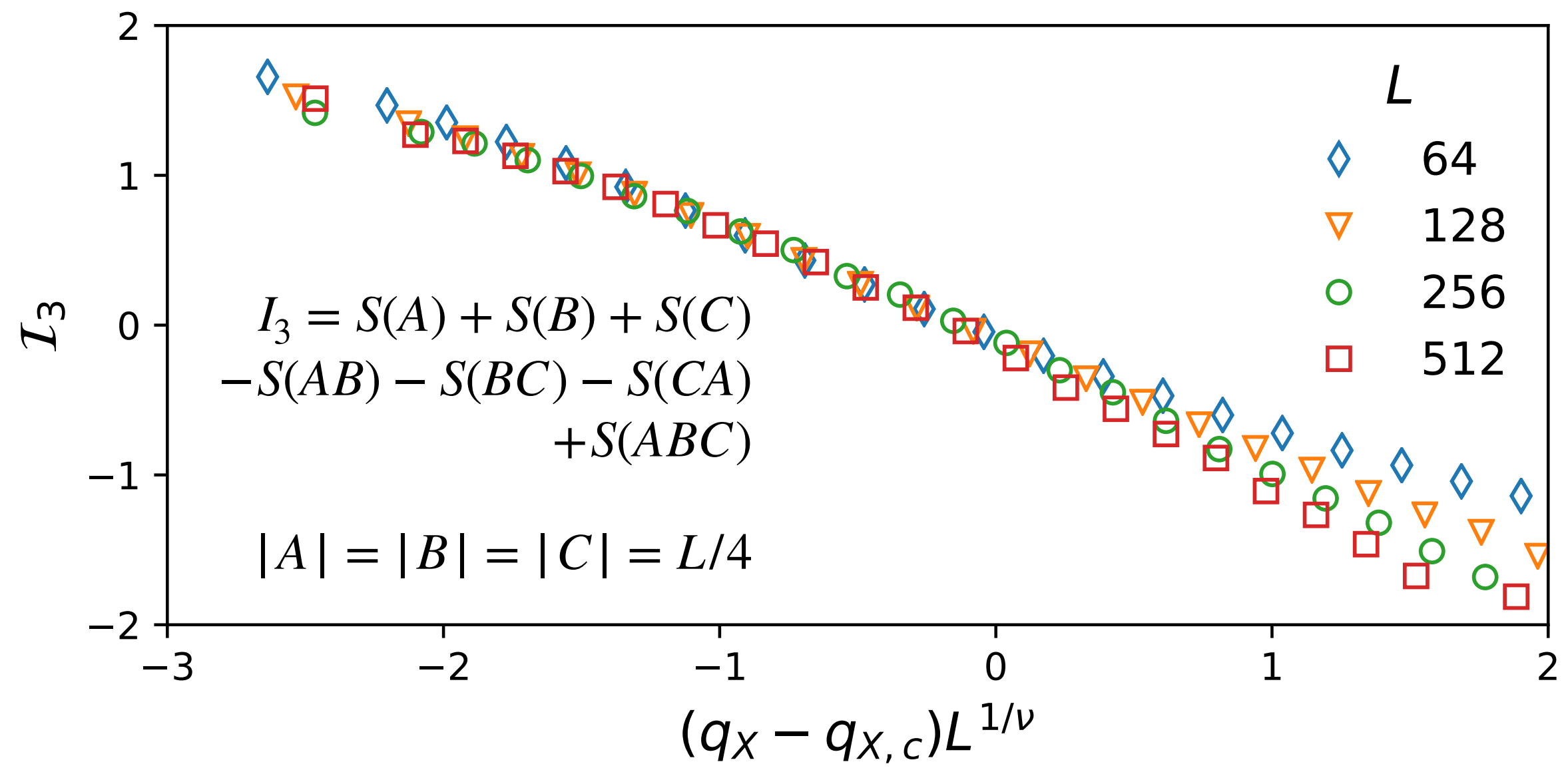
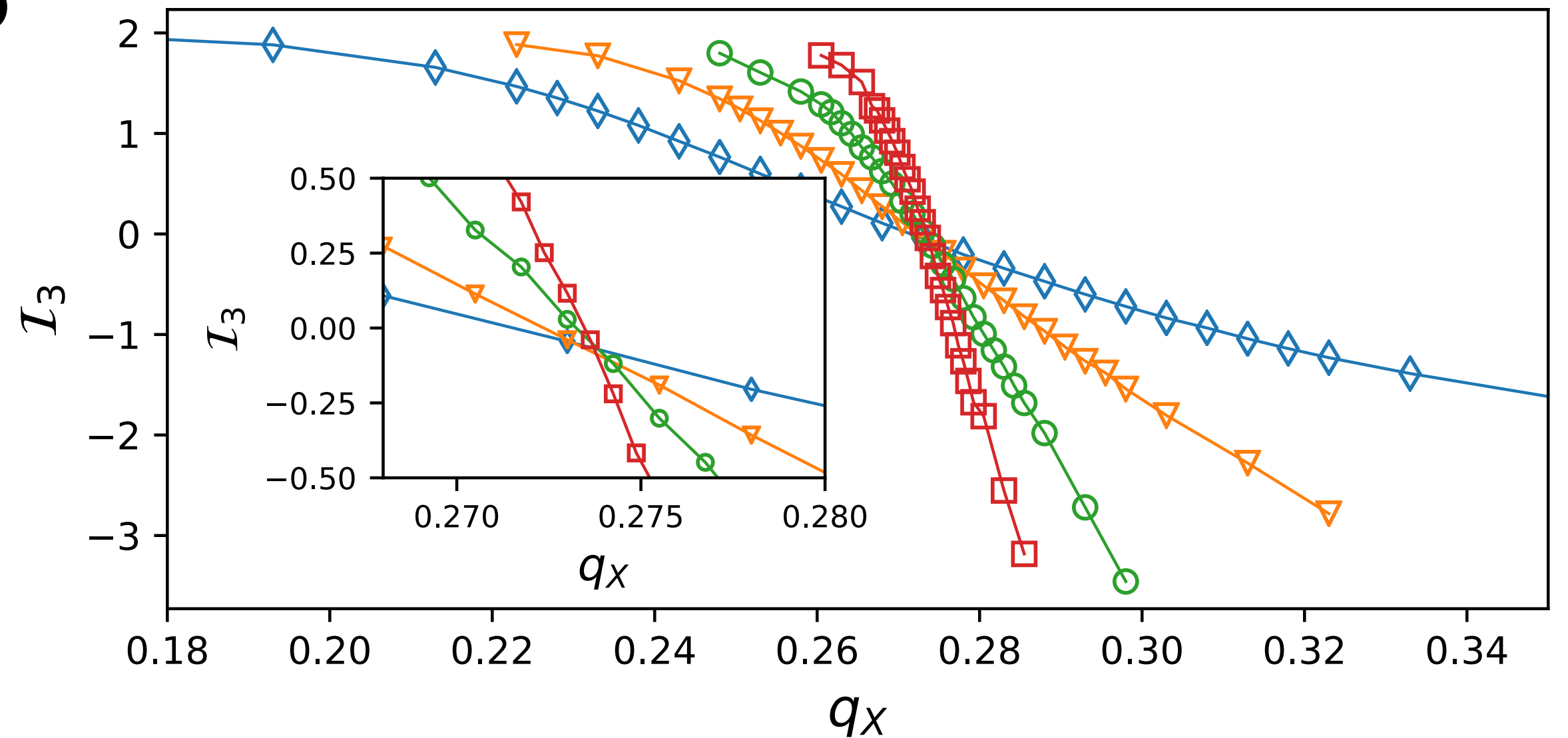
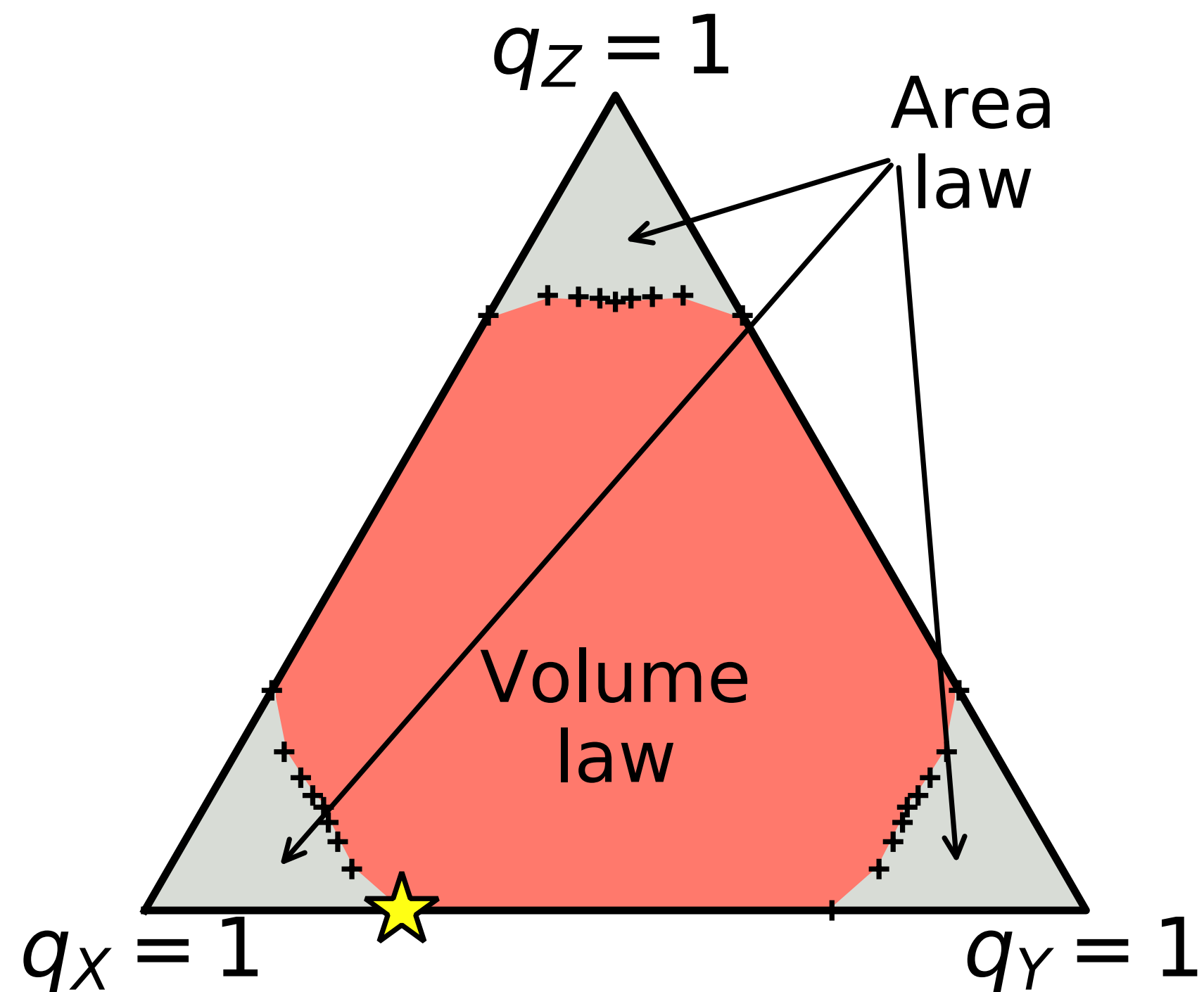
Bob can measure  
operators  $\{B\}$

Alice can measure  
operators  $\{A\}$

**Steady-state  
entanglement  
in the system?**

# Entanglement phases

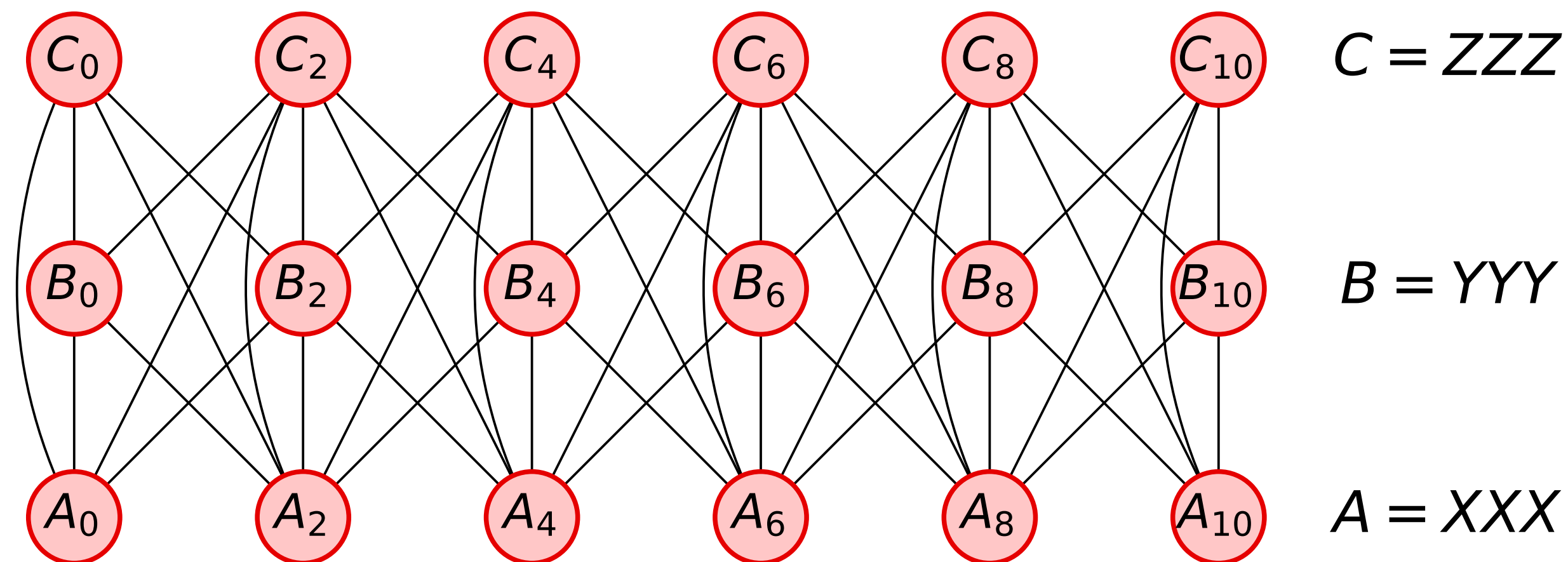
- Example: measure  $\{XXX, XXY, \dots ZZZ\}$  (27 operators: generic model)
- $\text{Prob}(\sigma^a \sigma^b \sigma^c) = q_a q_b q_c$
- Entanglement phase diagram vs probabilities  $q_X, q_Y, q_Z$ :





# A different mechanism for the EPT

- No scrambling unitaries: entangling phase is surprising
- What drives the entanglement phase transition?
- **“Measurement frustration”** — competition between incompatible measurements



## “Frustration graph”

node = operator

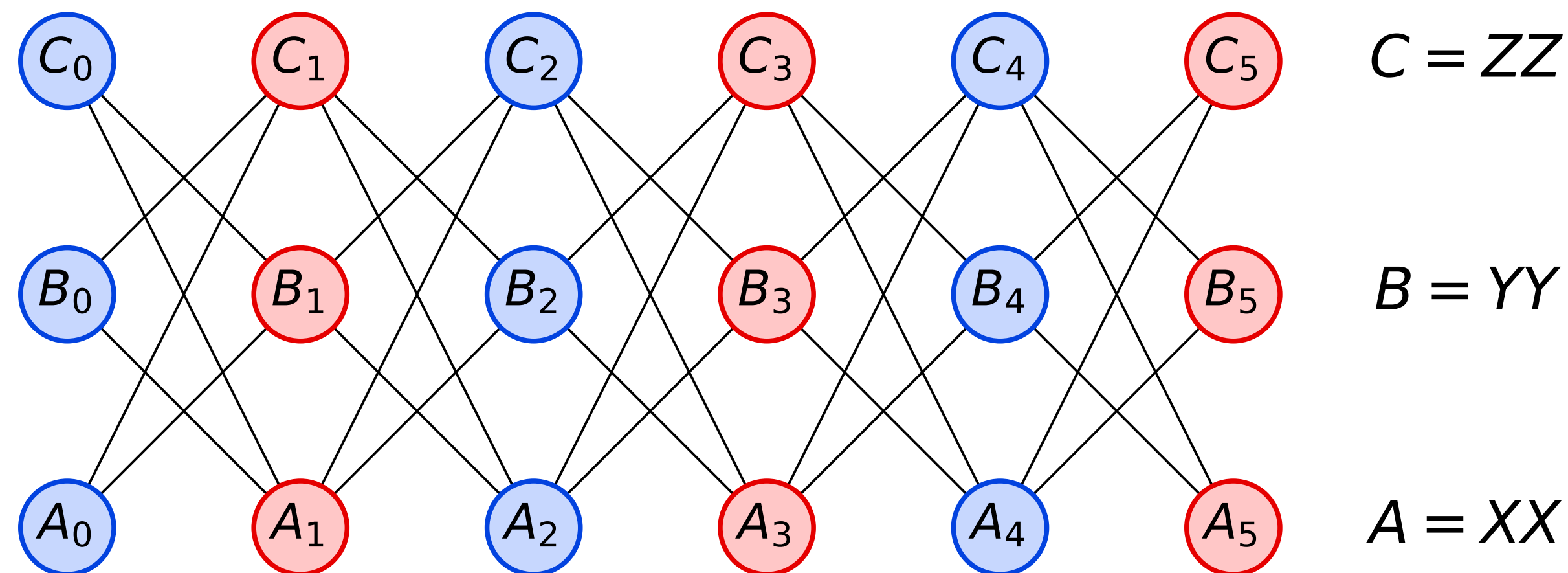
edge = anticommutation

Can reveal interesting hidden structure, e.g. free fermions

[Chapman, Flammia, Quantum 4, 278 (2020)]

# A different mechanism for the EPT

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## “Frustration graph”

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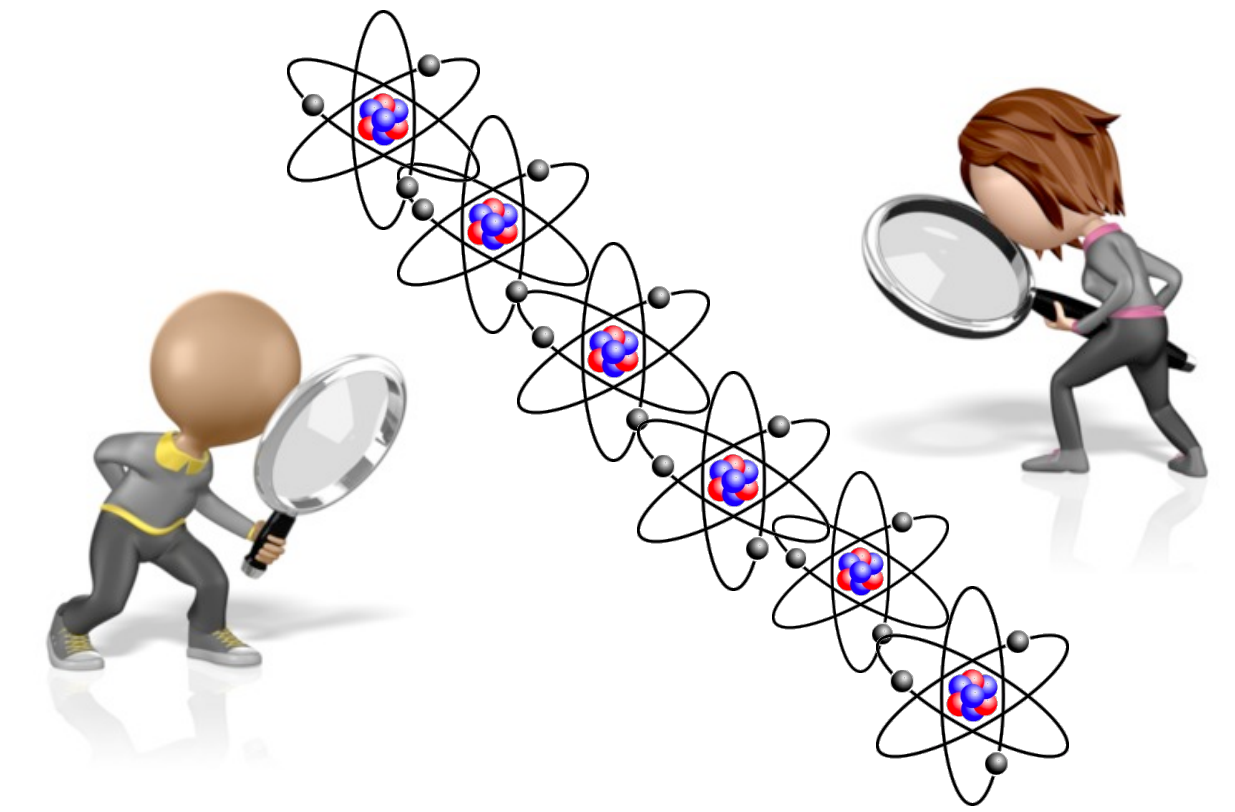
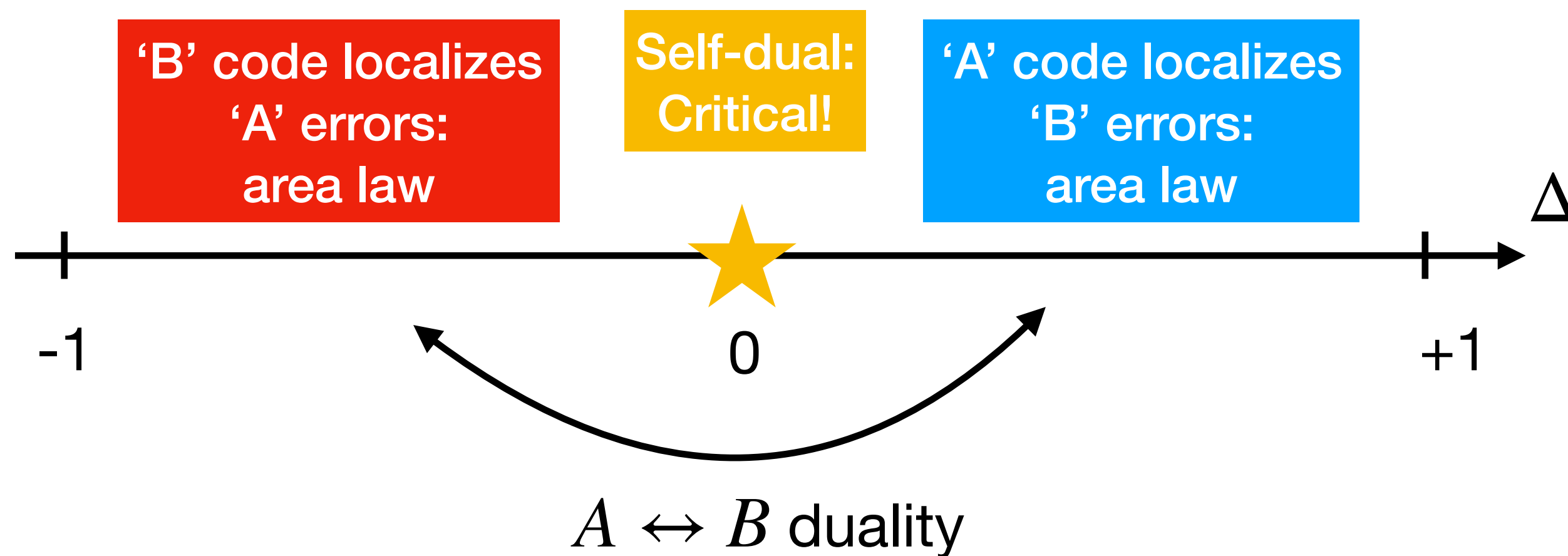
**Bipartition** of the frustration graph obstructs volume-law phase

Can reveal interesting hidden structure, e.g. free fermions

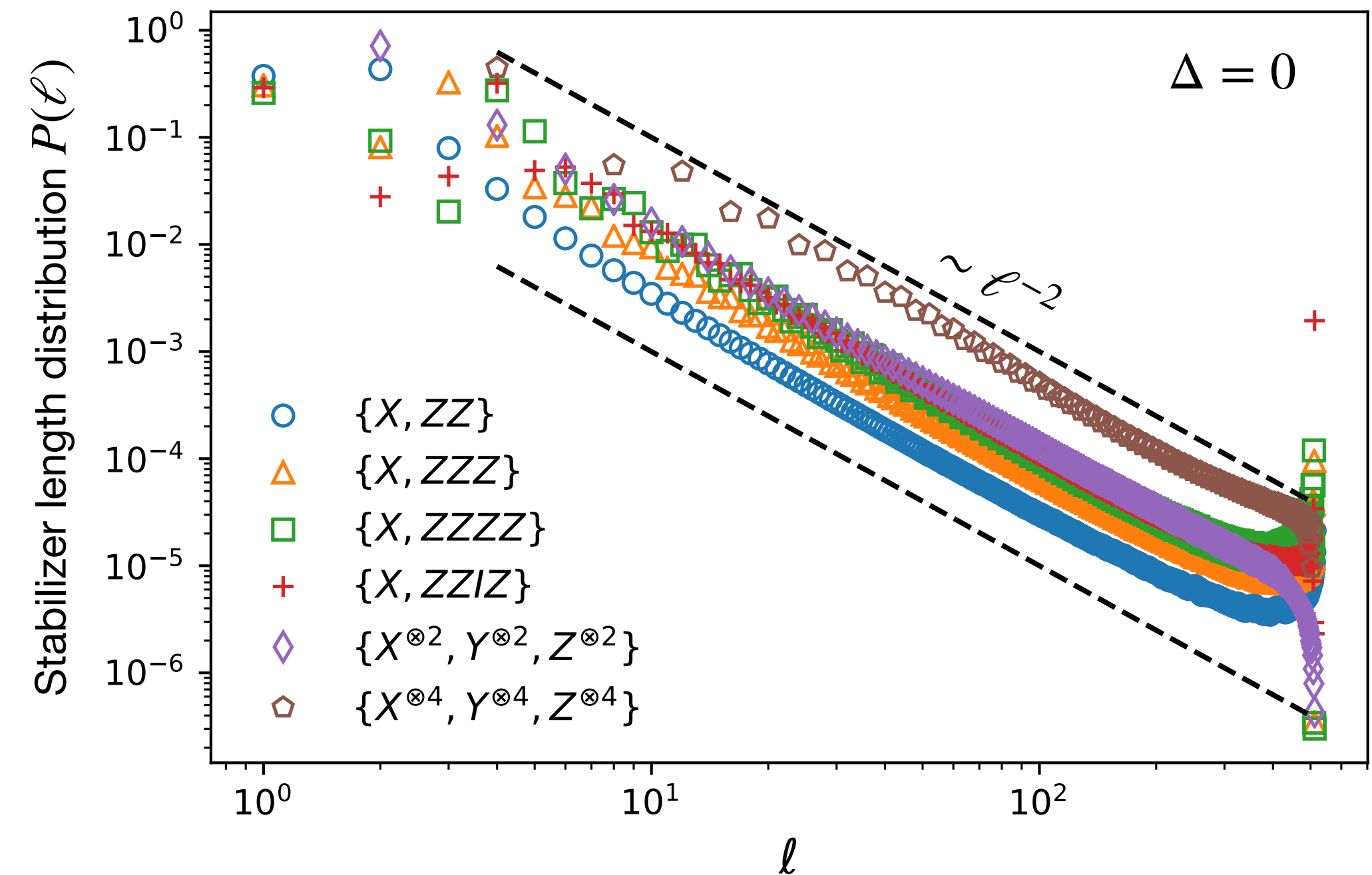
[Chapman, Flammia, Quantum 4, 278 (2020)]

# Ordered phases & dualities

- Consider two sets of **identical commuting operators**, e.g.  $\{A=XX, B=ZZ\}$  or  $\{A=XXX, B=ZZZ\}$
- Phase diagram parametrized by  $\Delta = P_A - P_B$ 
  - Symmetric around  $\Delta = 0$  (duality)
  - Area-law at  $\Delta = \pm 1$  (fully un-frustrated)
  - In between?

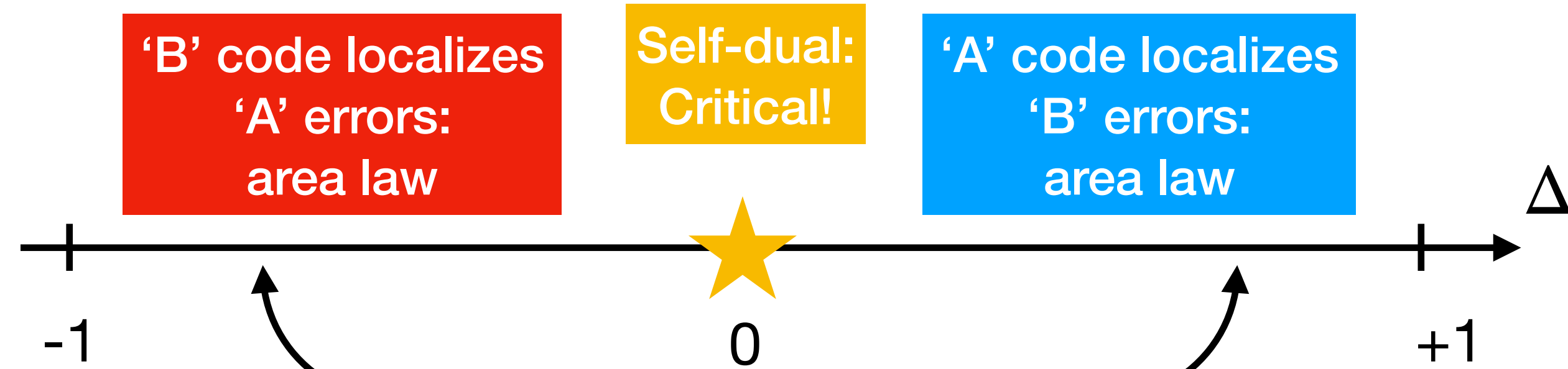


Same phenomenology for all symmetric, **bipartite** frustration graphs:





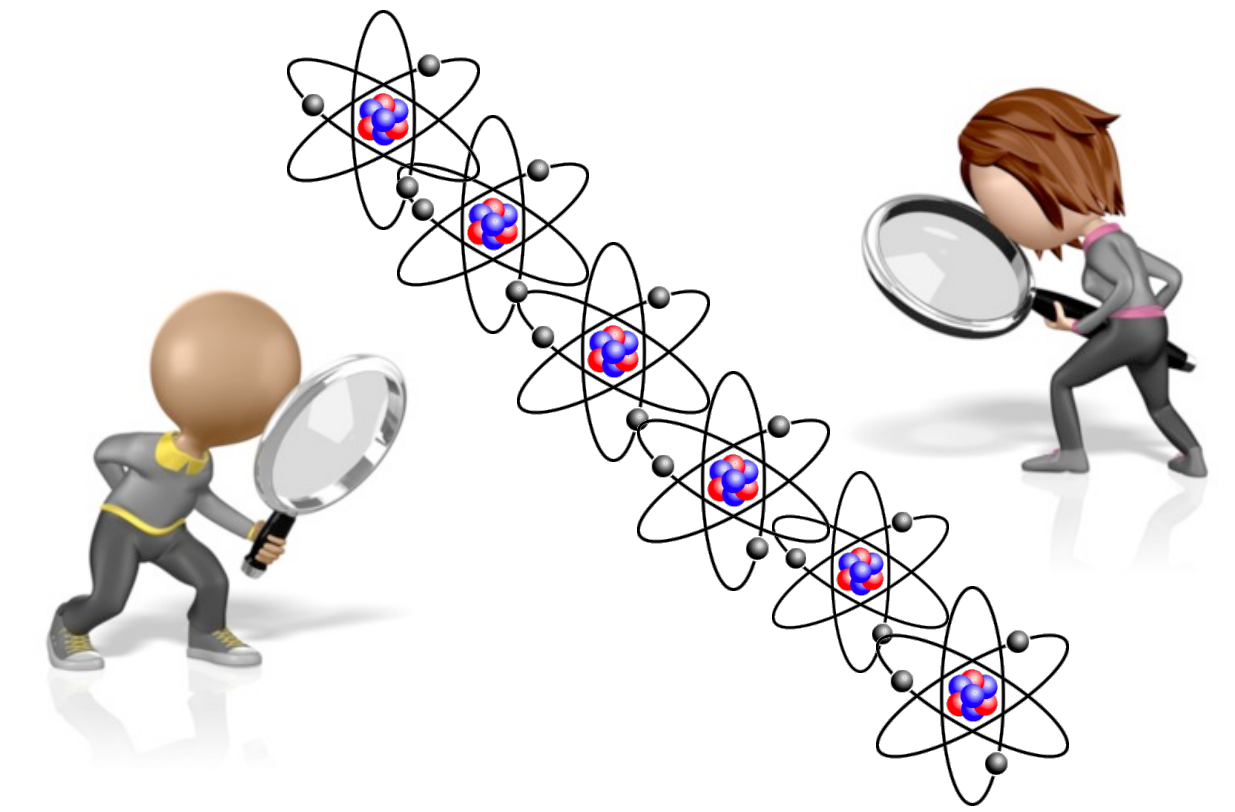
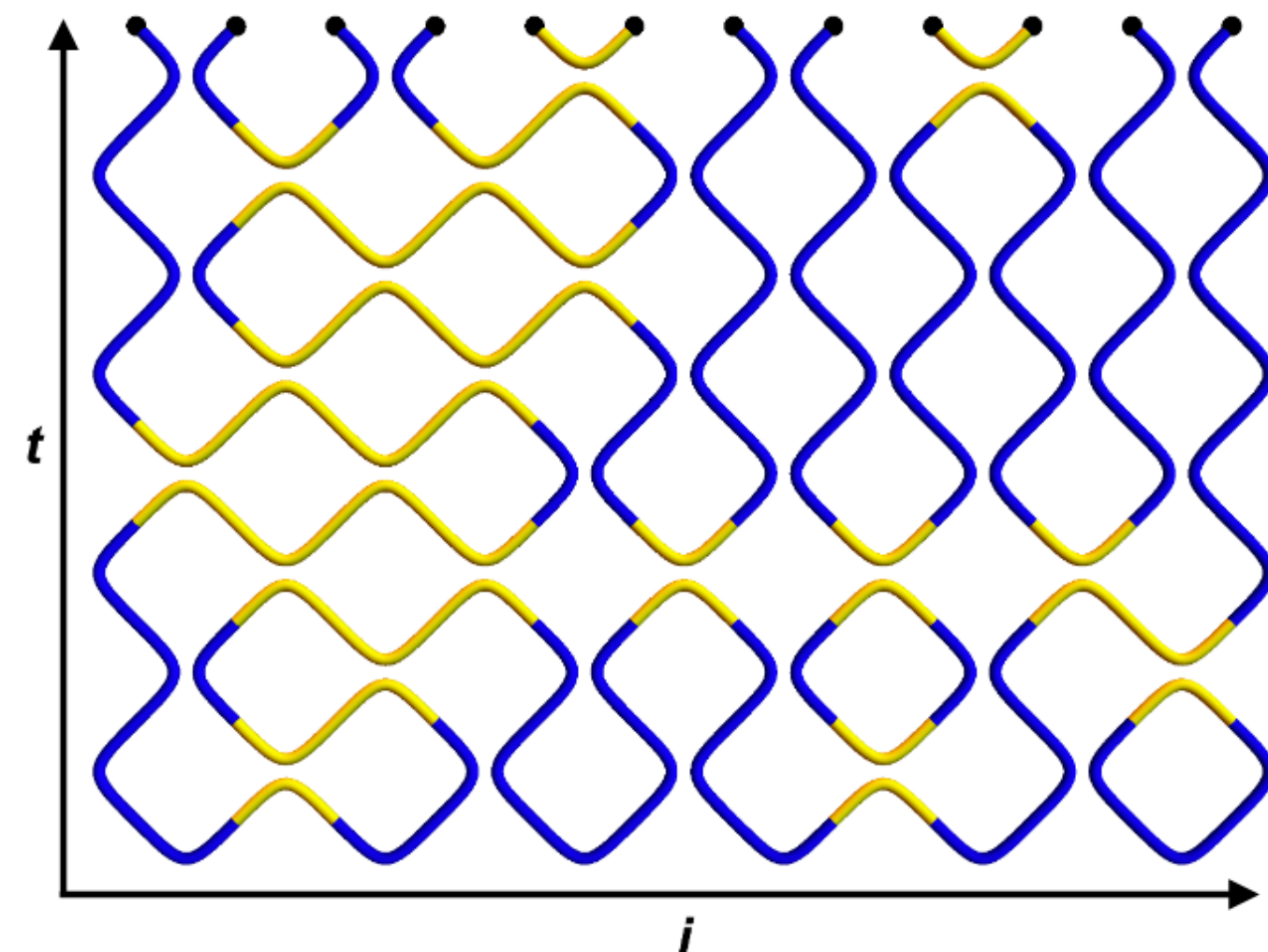
# Ordered phases & dualities



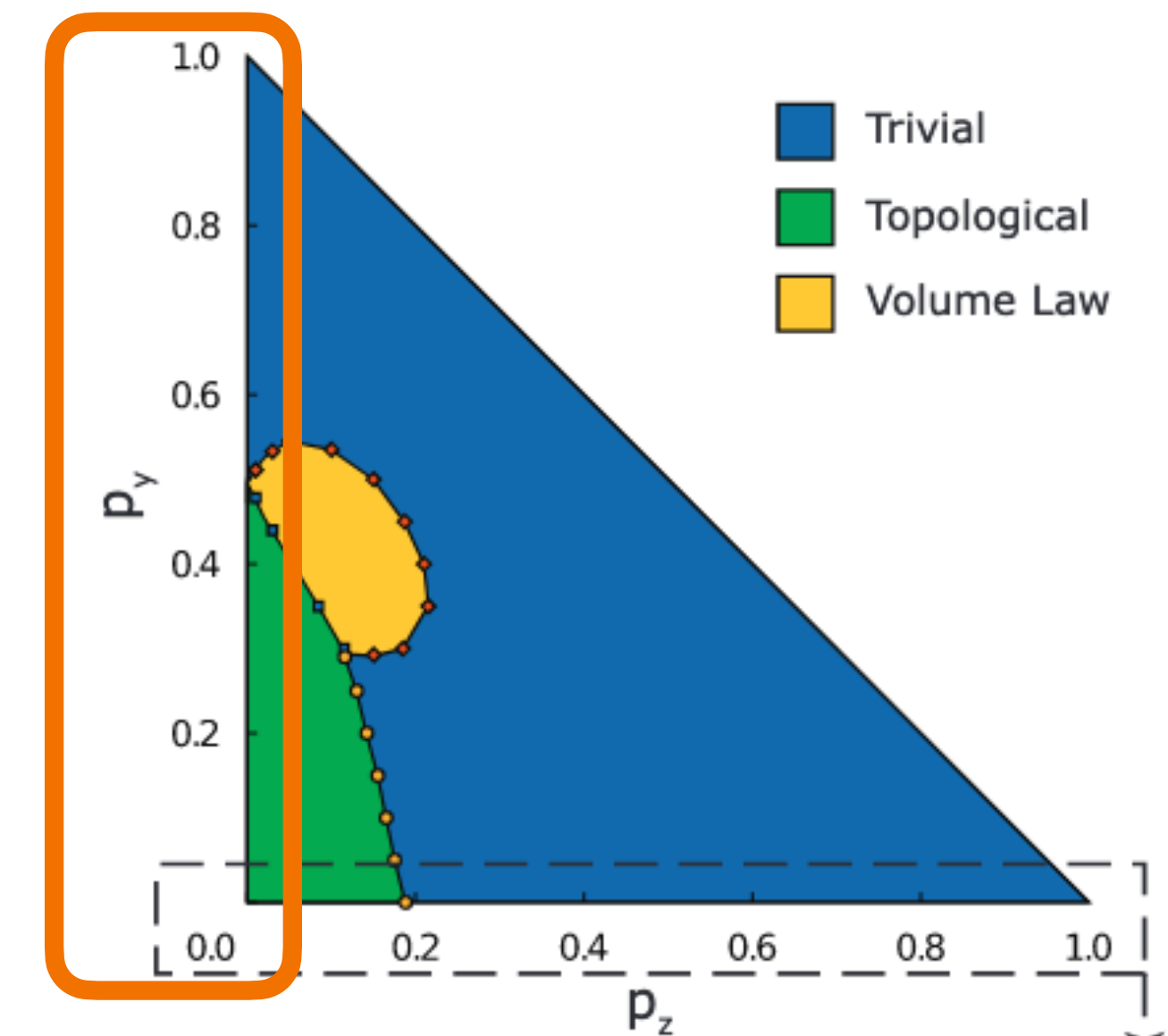
Protected “logical qubits”:  
(topological) **order parameters**

Ising case  $\{X, ZZ\}$ :  
free Majoranas, maps  
to loop percolation

[Nahum, Skinner, PRR (2020);  
Lavasani, Alavirad, Barkeshli,  
Nat Phys (2021);  
Sang, Hsieh, PRR (2021);  
Bao, Choi, Altman, arXiv:2102;  
Li, Fisher, arXiv:2108]



**Duality:**  $A = \{\text{toric code}\}$ ,  $B = \{Y \text{ errors}\}$   
 $\{Z \text{ errors}\}$  break bipartition  $\rightarrow$  vol. law phase



[Lavasan, Alavirad, Barkeshli,  
arXiv:2011.06595]

# Part 2: Measurement-Free

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 126, 060501 (2021)

Editors' Suggestion

## Postselection-Free Entanglement Dynamics via Spacetime Duality

Matteo Ippoliti<sup>1</sup> and Vedika Khemani

*Department of Physics, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305, USA*

[arXiv.org](#) > [quant-ph](#) > [arXiv:2103.06873](#)

Quantum Physics

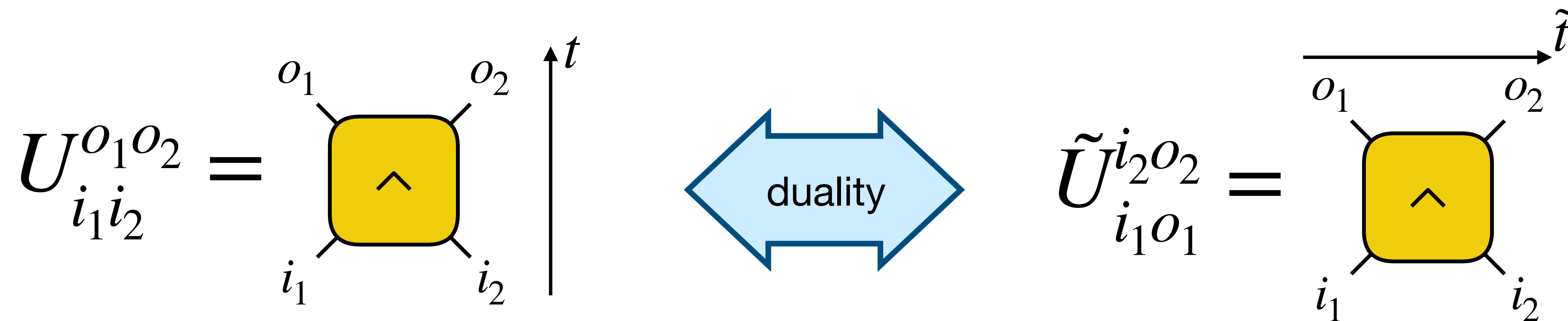
*[Submitted on 11 Mar 2021 (v1), last revised 24 May 2021 (this version, v2)]*

**Fractal, logarithmic and volume-law entangled non-thermal steady states via spacetime duality**

[Matteo Ippoliti](#), [Tibor Rakovszky](#), [Vedika Khemani](#)

# Spacetime duality

- Exchange the roles of **space** and **time**
  - Map every unitary gate  $U$  to a dual matrix  $\tilde{U}$



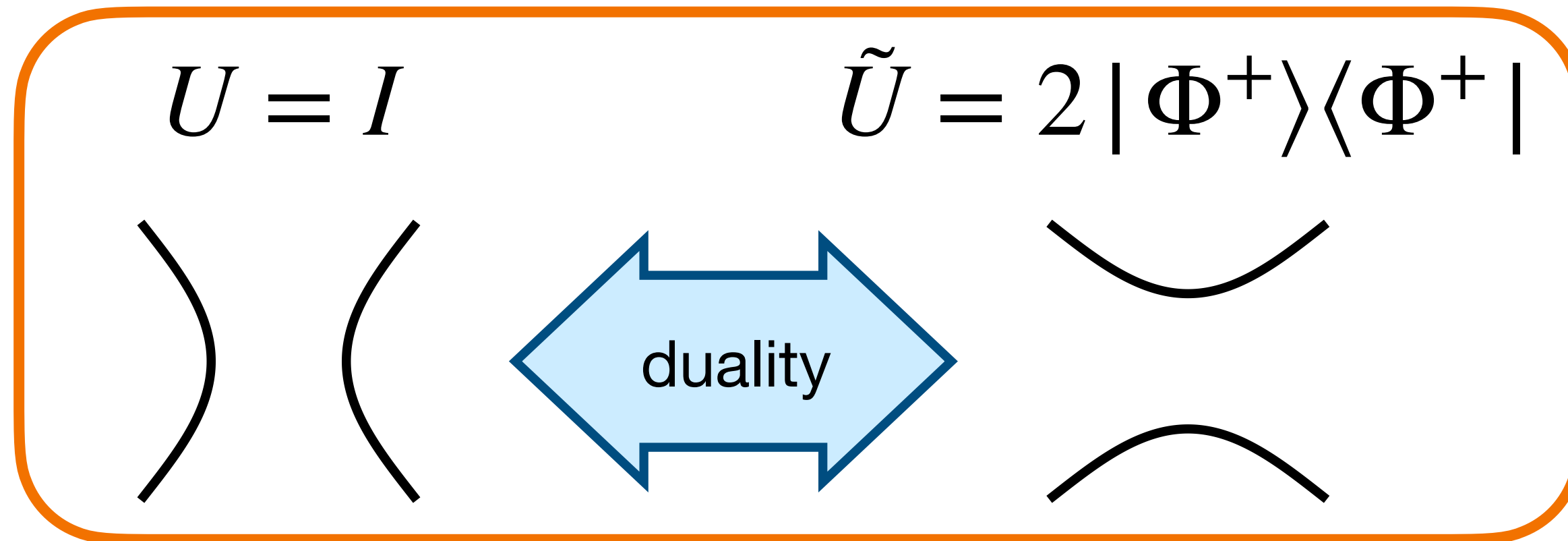
- **Dual-unitary** gate:  $U$  &  $\tilde{U}$  both unitary
- Fine-tuned condition: generically,  $\tilde{U}$  is **not unitary**
  - $\tilde{U} = 2VH$ ,  $V$  unitary,  $H$  Hermitian  $\rightarrow$  deterministic (postselected) measurement
- Use this to **simulate monitoring?** Avoid **postselection?**

[Bertini, Kos, Prosen 2018-21;  
Gopalakrishnan, Lamacraft 2019; ...]



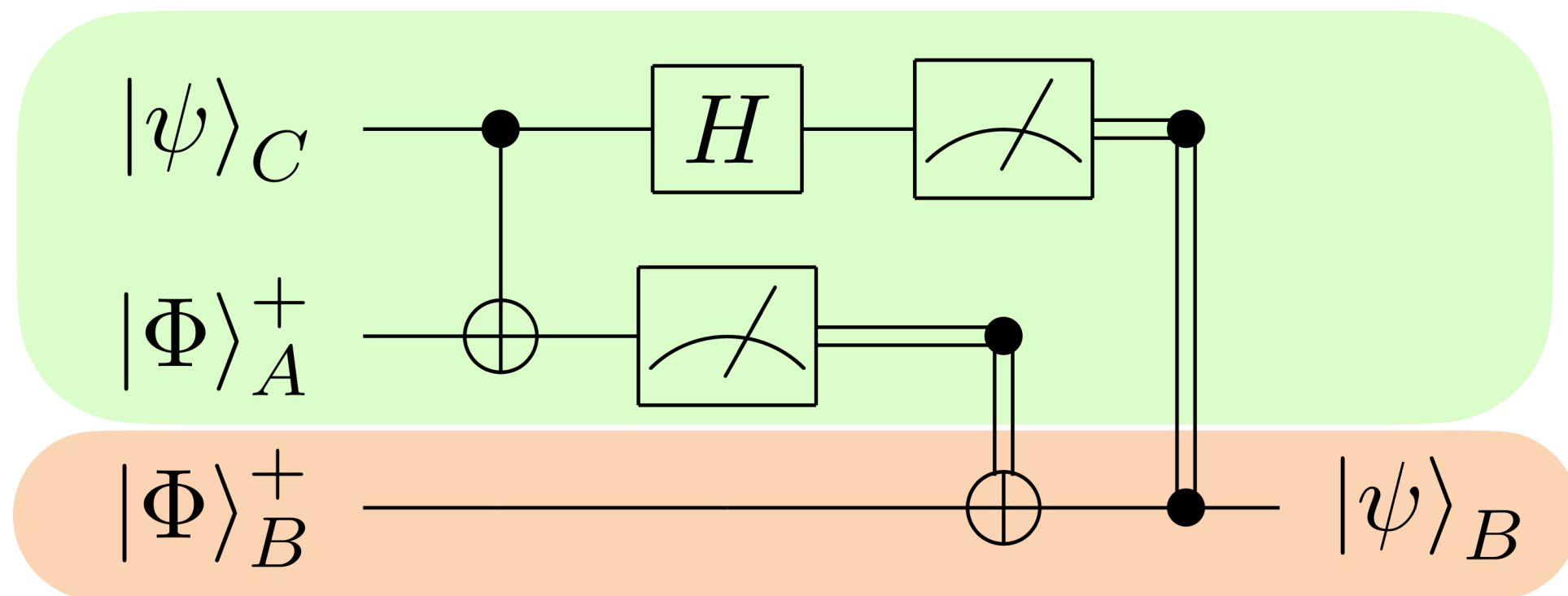
# Spacetime duality

Example:



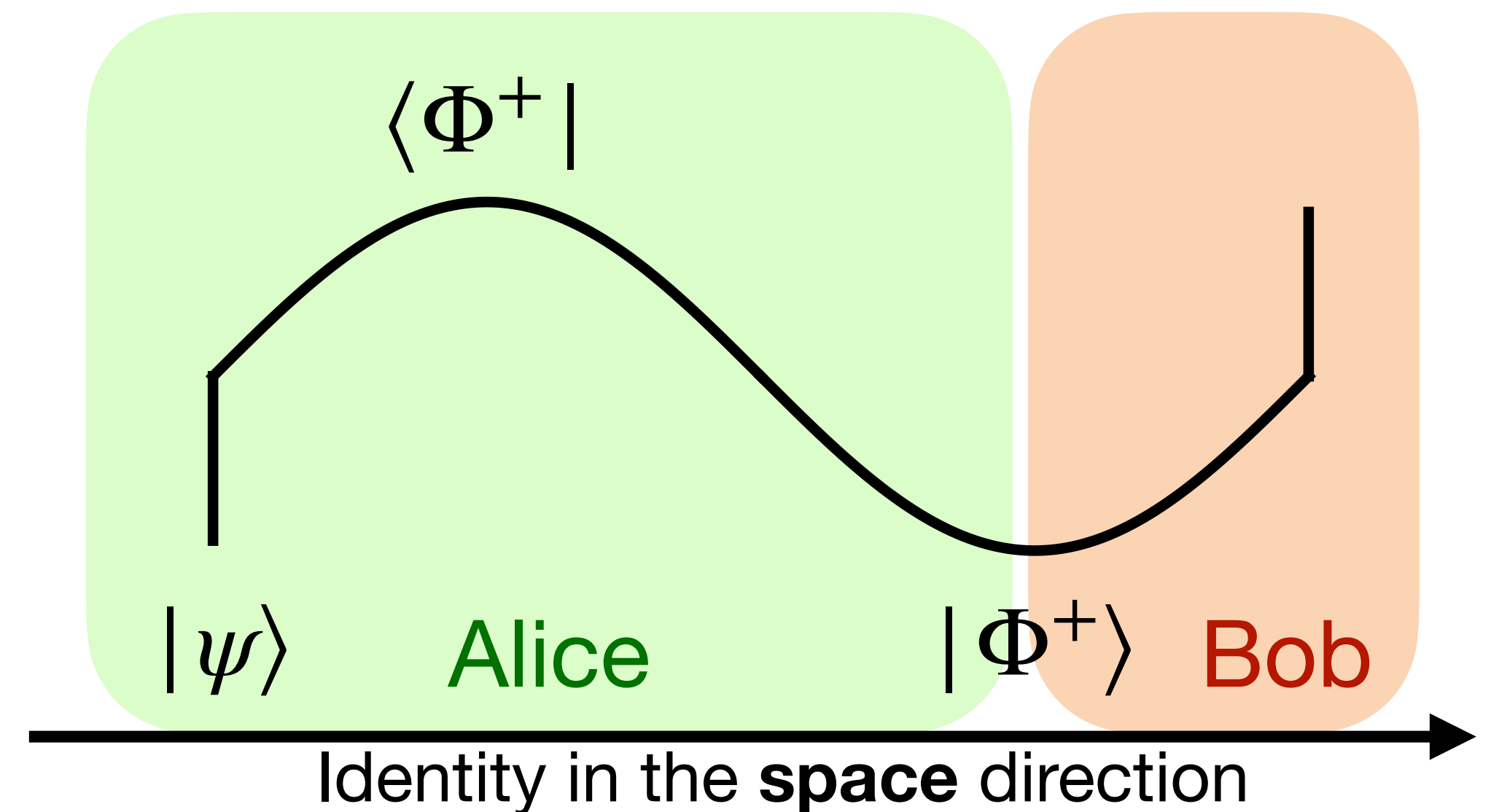
Bell pair state  
 $|\Phi^+\rangle \propto |00\rangle + |11\rangle$   
 $\Phi_{ij}^+ \propto \delta_{ij}$

## Aside: quantum teleportation

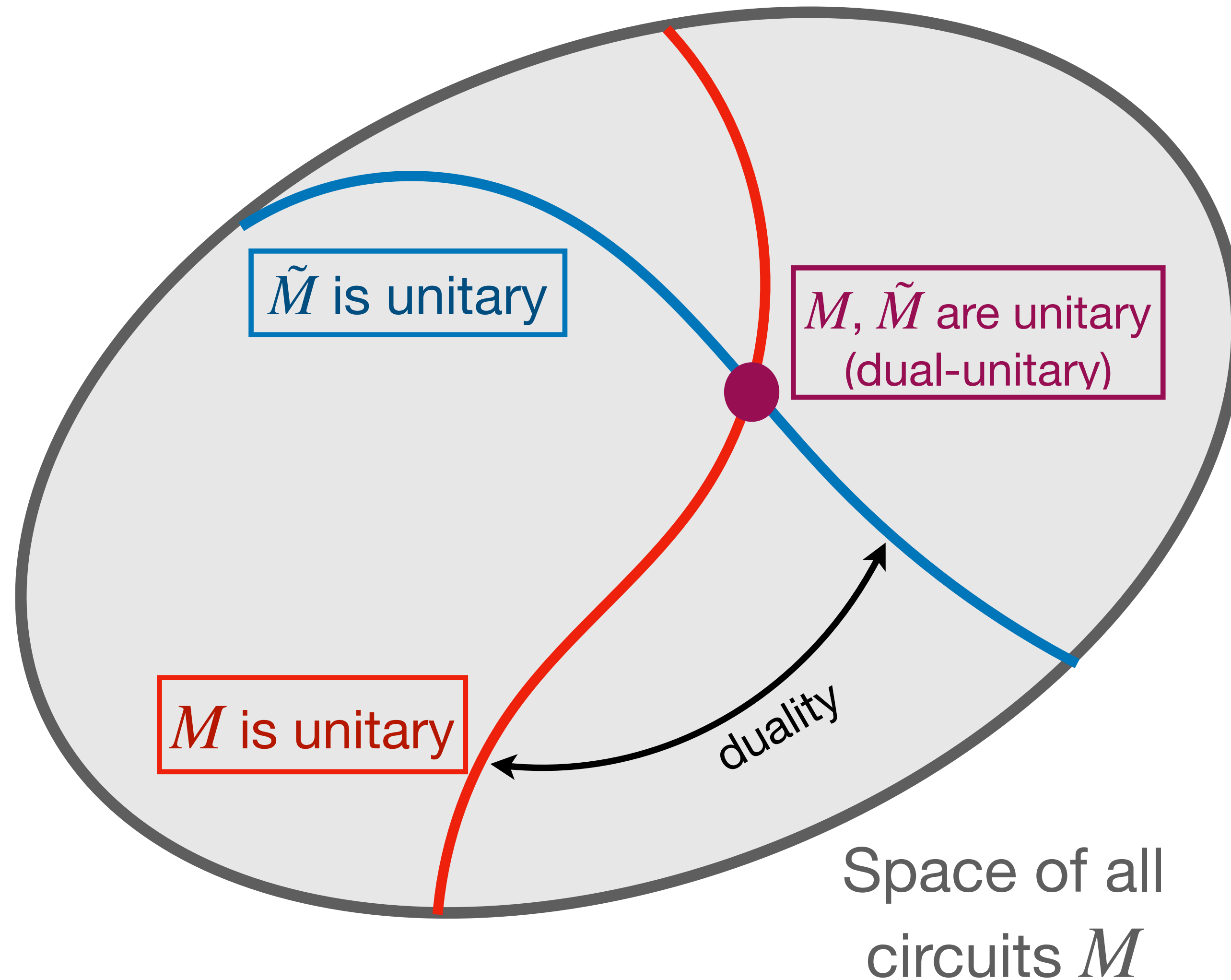


[from Wikipedia]

Via spacetime duality:



# Monitored circuits & spacetime duality

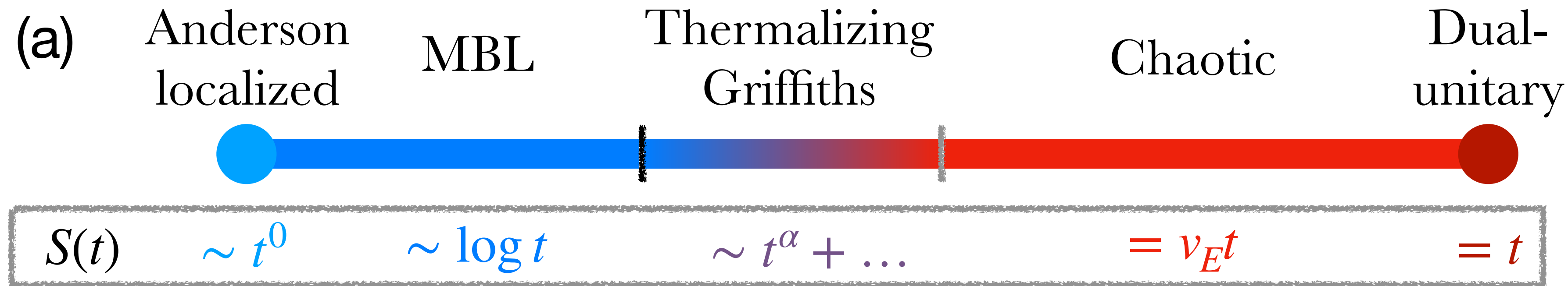


Submanifold of  
**analytically tractable,  
experimentally feasible  
monitored circuits**

# Entanglement in spacetime-dual circuits

Relationship between

- **growth** of entanglement in **unitary** dynamics,  $S(t)$
- **spatial scaling** of entanglement in **non-unitary** steady states,  $\tilde{S}_\infty(\tilde{\ell})$



Example: “kicked Ising”,

$$U = e^{-i \sum_n g_n X_n} e^{-i \sum_n J_n Z_n Z_{n+1} + h_n Z_n}$$

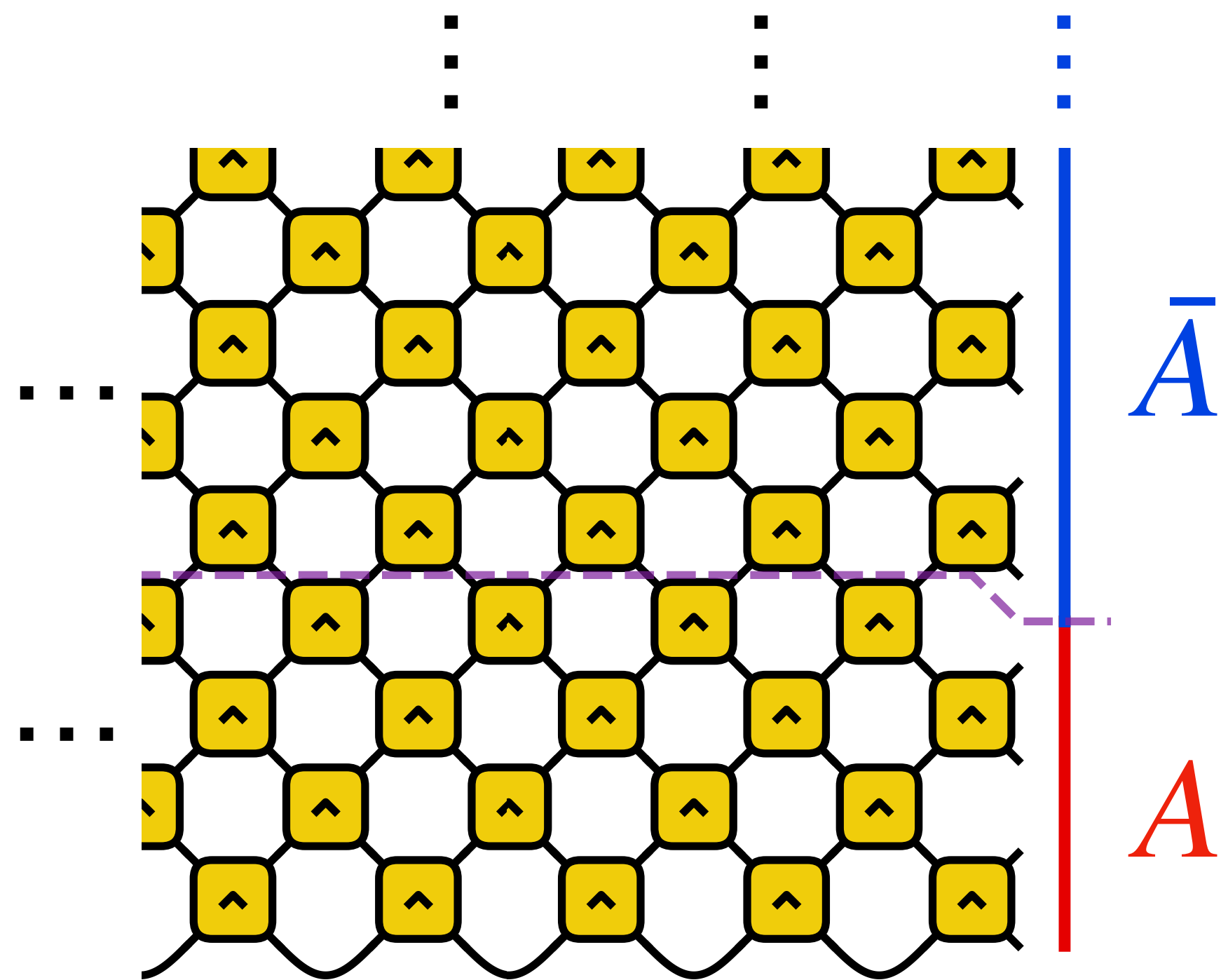


# Entanglement in spacetime-dual circuits

spacetime-dual circuit  $\tilde{U}$ ,  
late-time state,  
subsystem of size  $|A| \equiv \tilde{\ell}$

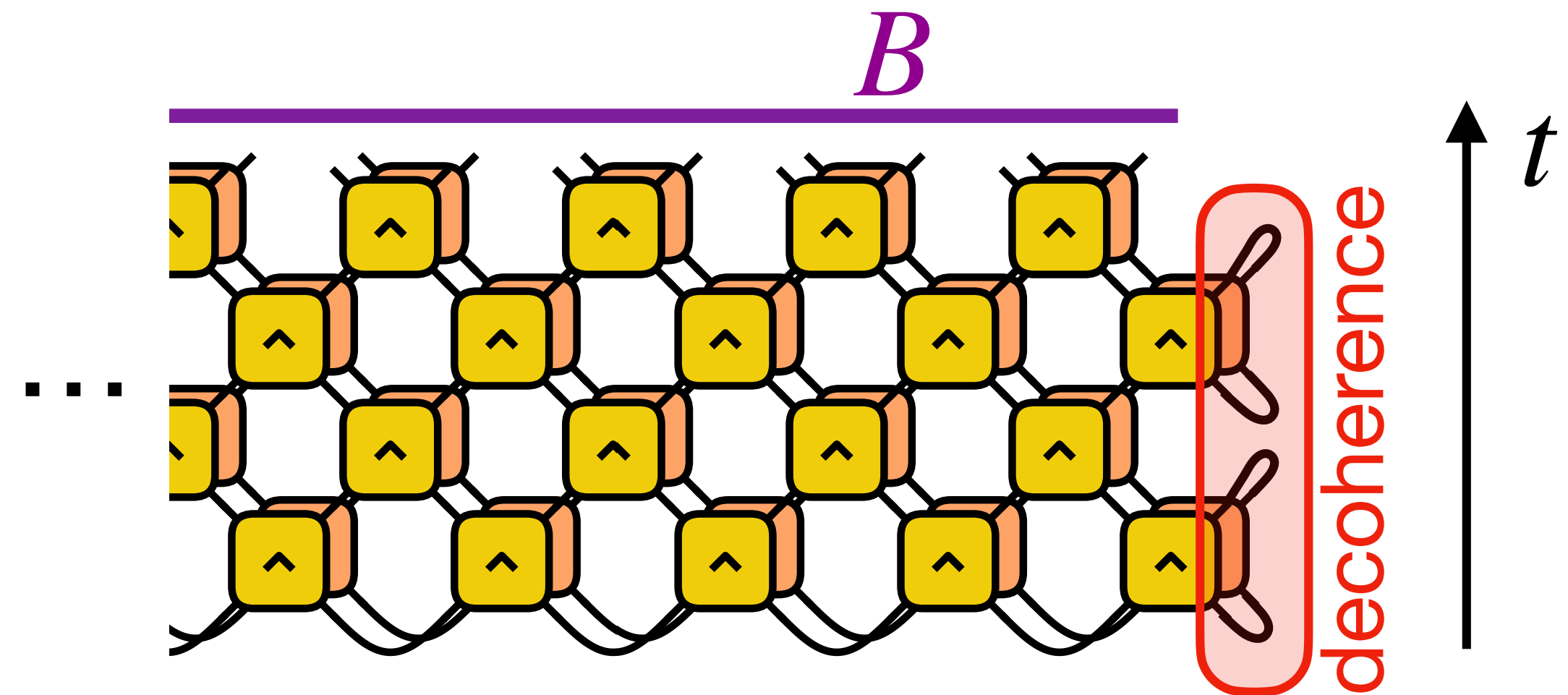
Key technical result:  
 $\tilde{S}_\infty(\tilde{\ell}) = S_{\text{dec}}(t = \tilde{\ell})$

unitary circuit  $U$  +  
edge decoherence,  
depth  $\tilde{\ell}$ ,  
semi-infinite chain



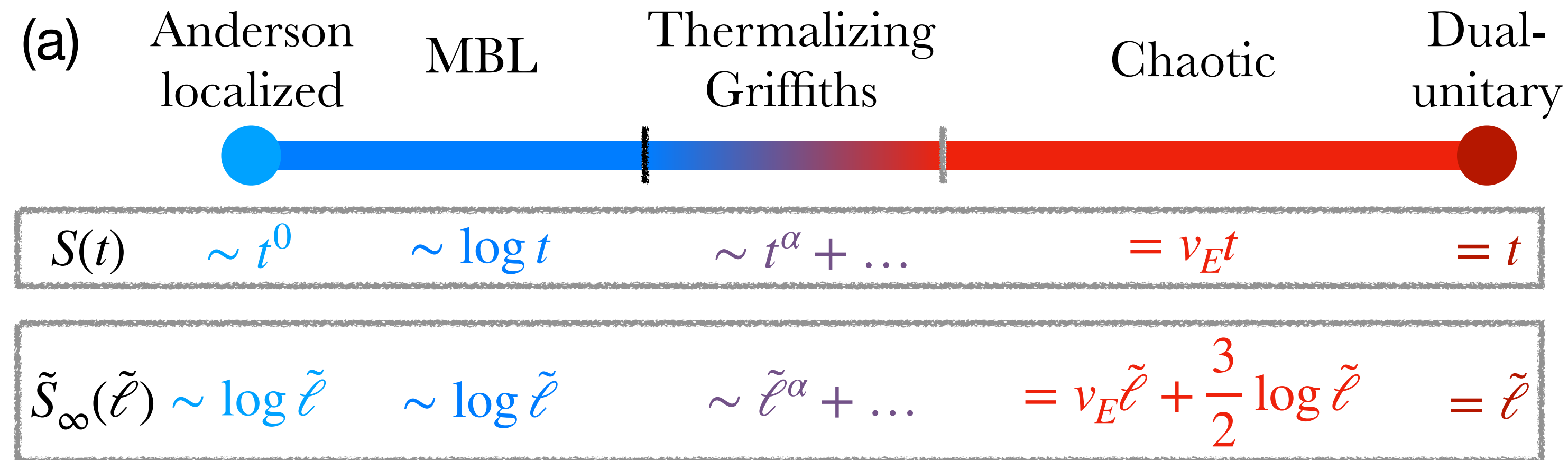
infinite depth (steady state)

$$S_{\text{dec}}(t) = S[\rho_B(t)]$$



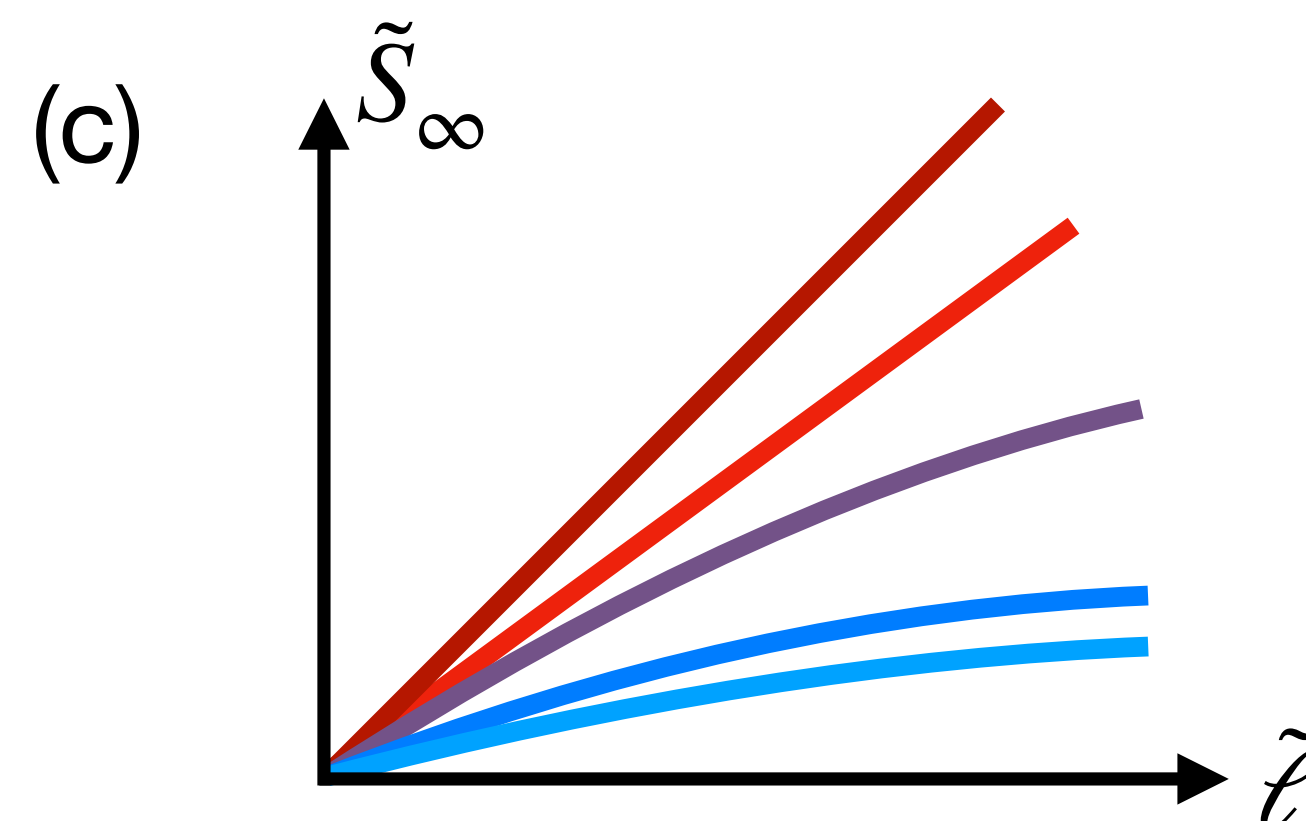
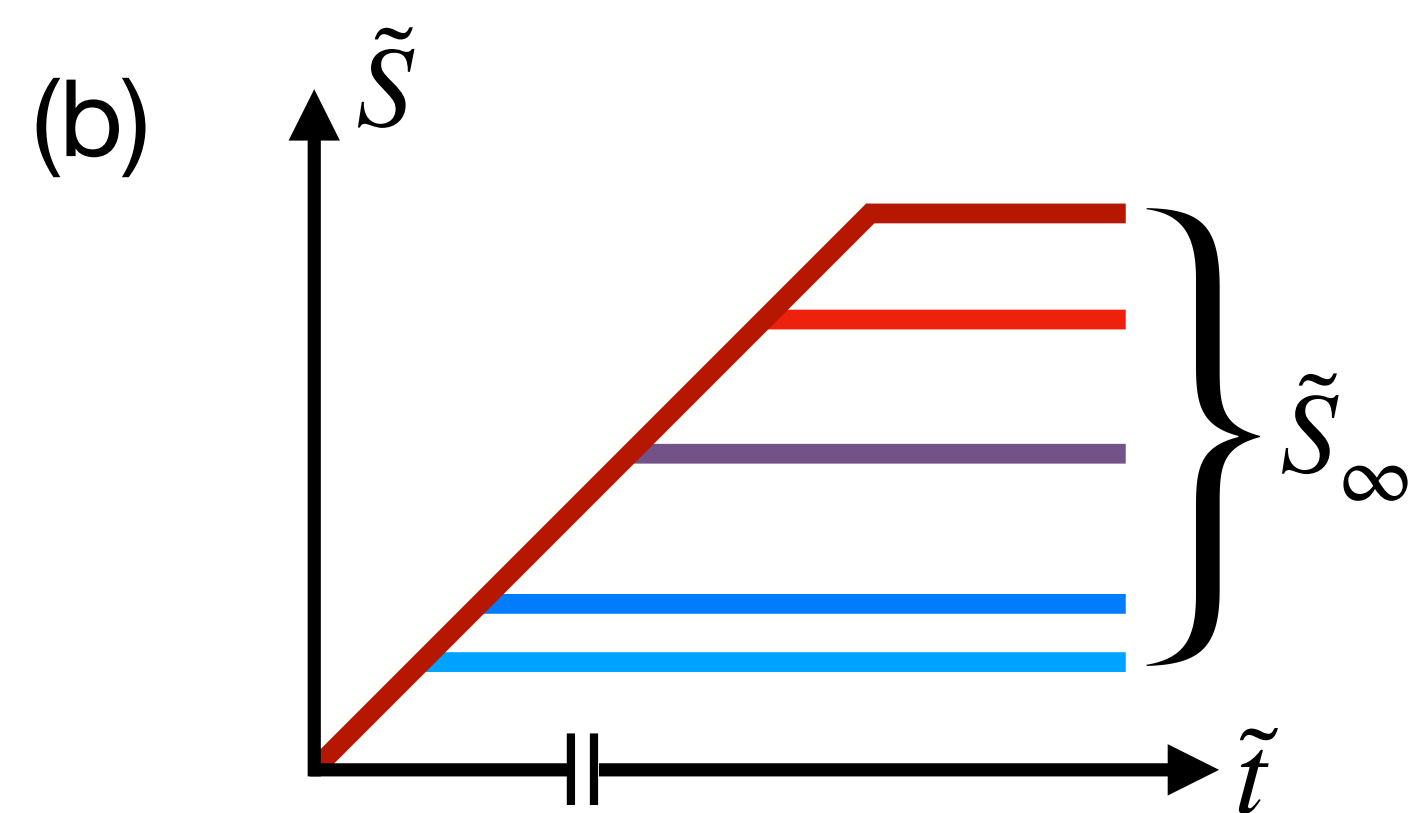
# Entanglement in spacetime-dual circuits

Idea: relate **growth** of entanglement in **unitary** dynamics,  $S(t)$ , to **spatial scaling** of entanglement in **non-unitary** steady states,  $\tilde{S}_\infty(\tilde{\ell})$



## Results:

- New steady states with **fractal entanglement**  
 $\sim \tilde{\ell}^\alpha, 0 < \alpha < 1$
- Absence of **area-law** steady states
- Log **corrections** from edge decoherence (leading or subleading)



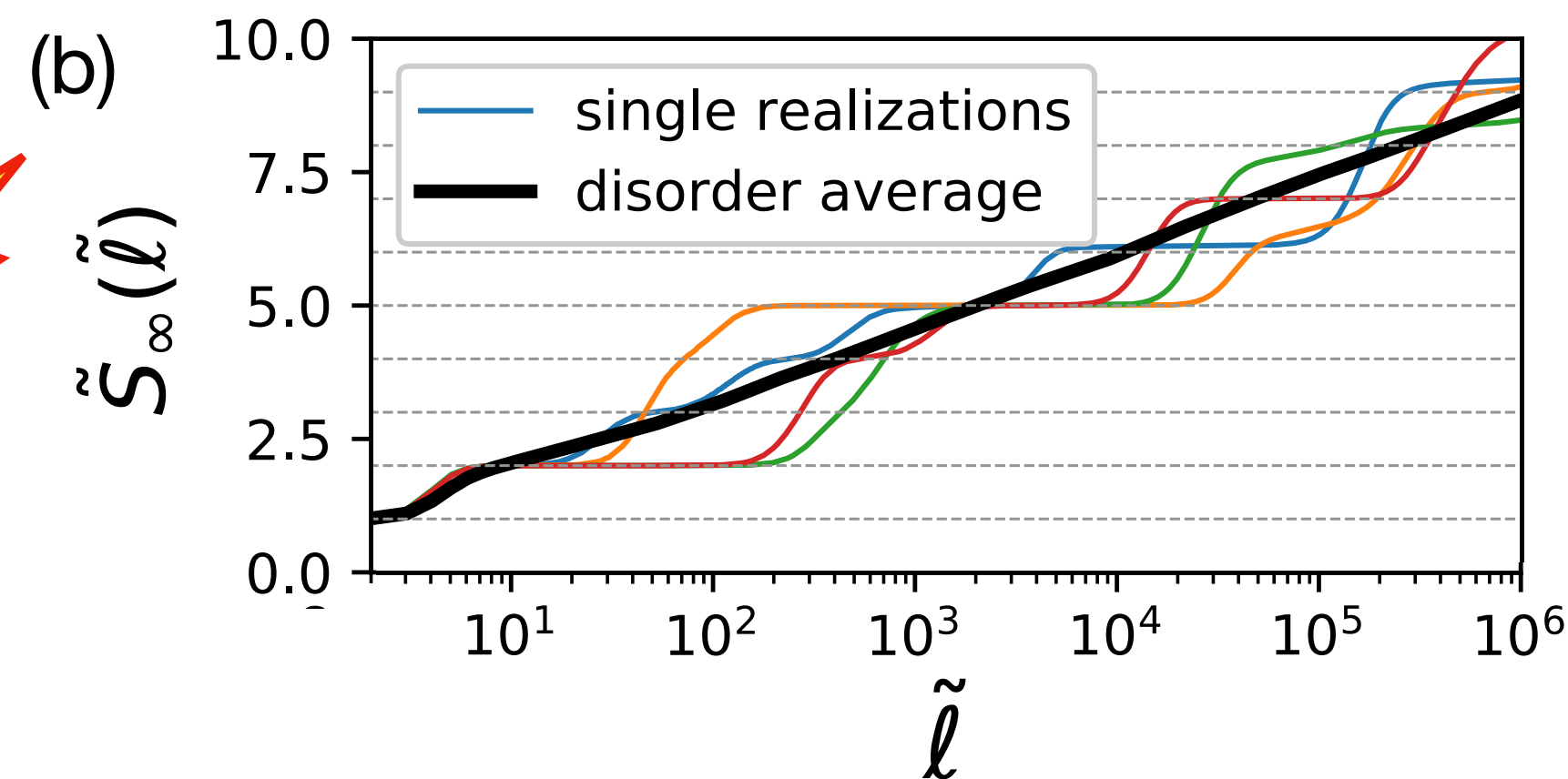
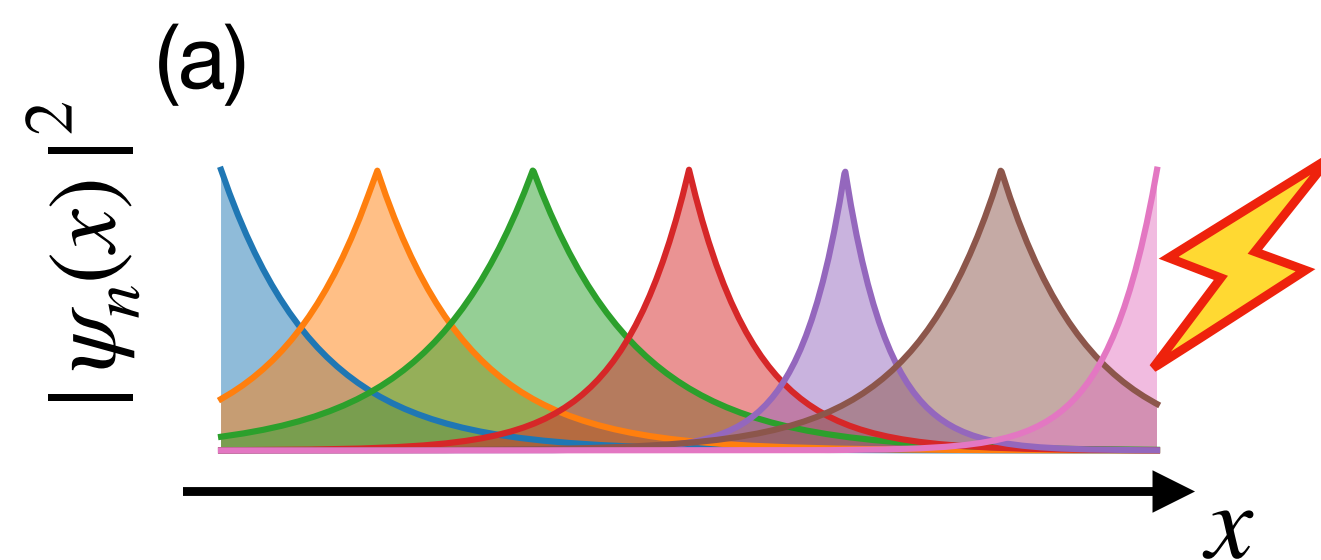
# Duals of localized circuits



Disordered free-fermion circuits: **Floquet-Anderson localization**,  $\psi_n(x) \sim e^{-|x-n|/\xi}$

$S(t)$  saturates to an **area-law**. Effect of edge decoherence?

- Orbital  $\psi_n$  decoheres in time  $\tau_n \sim e^{n/\xi}$  [overlap w/ edge], contributes 1 bit to  $S_{\text{dec}}$

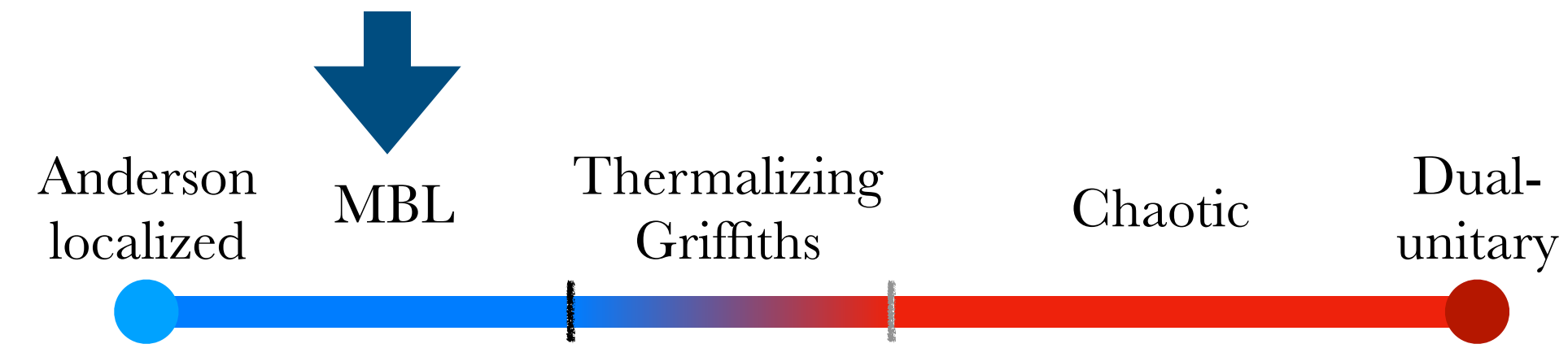


Result:  $\tilde{S}_\infty(\tilde{l}) \sim \xi \log(\tilde{l})$

← Decoherence of Anderson orbitals visible in each realization



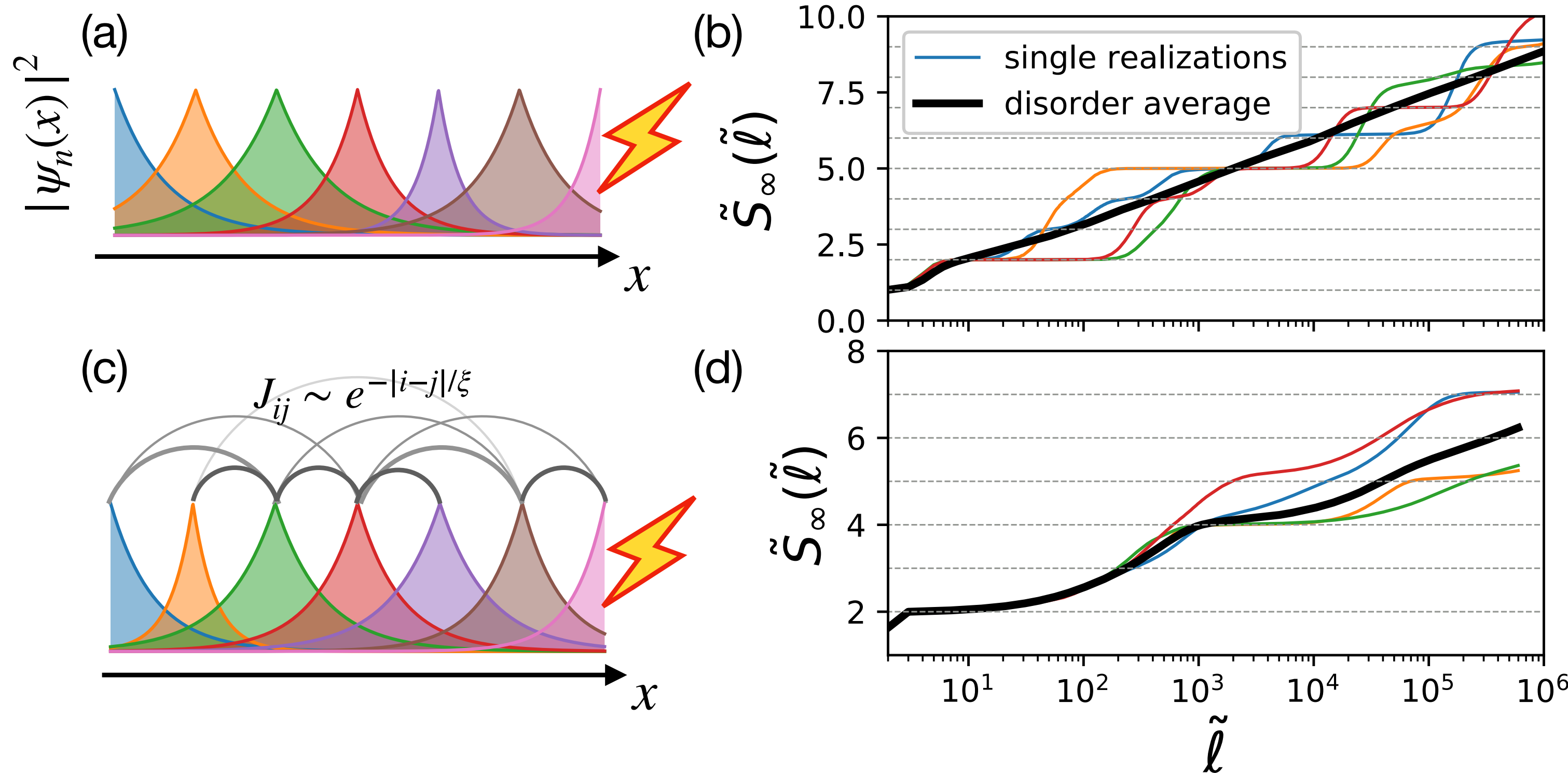
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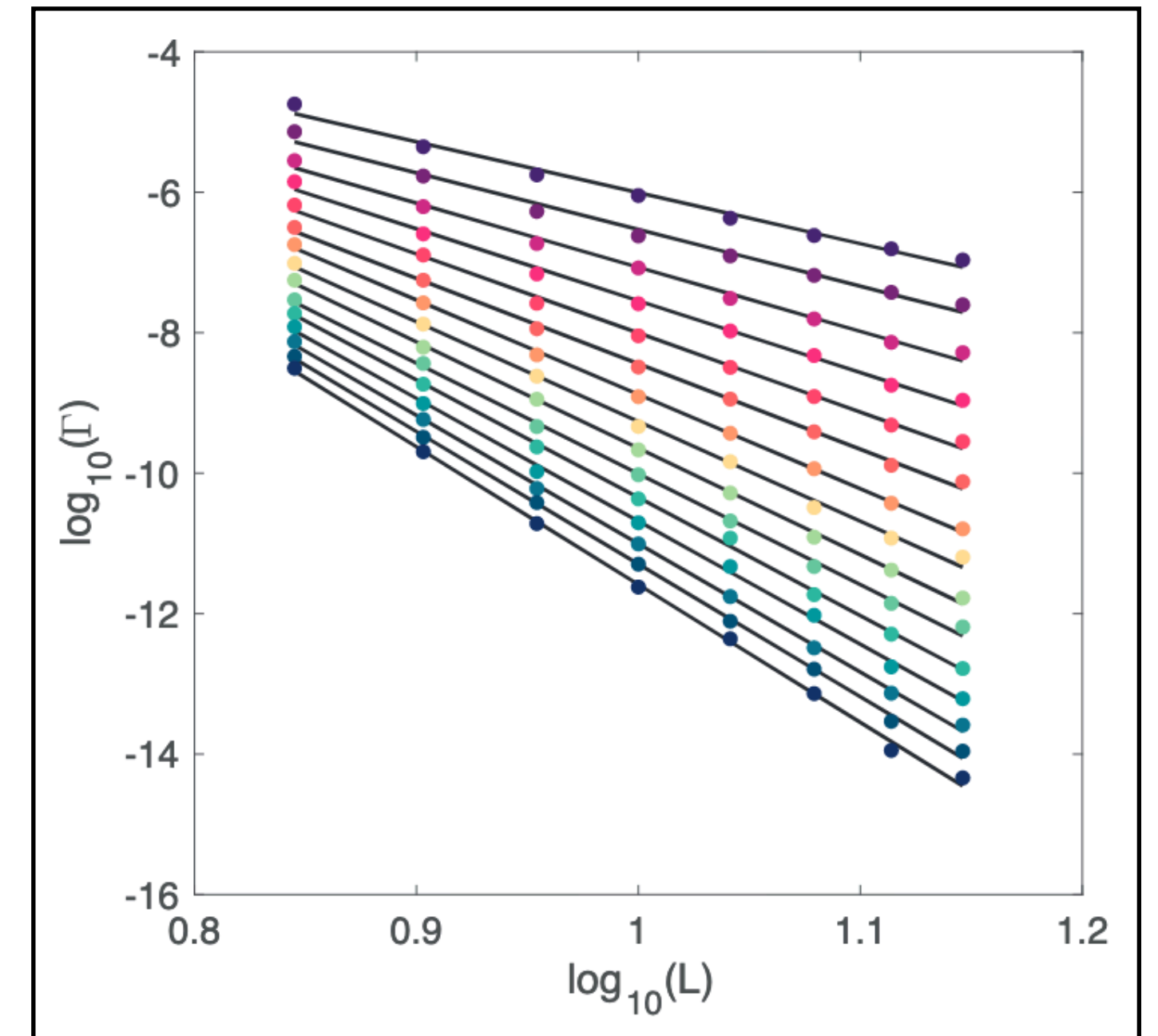
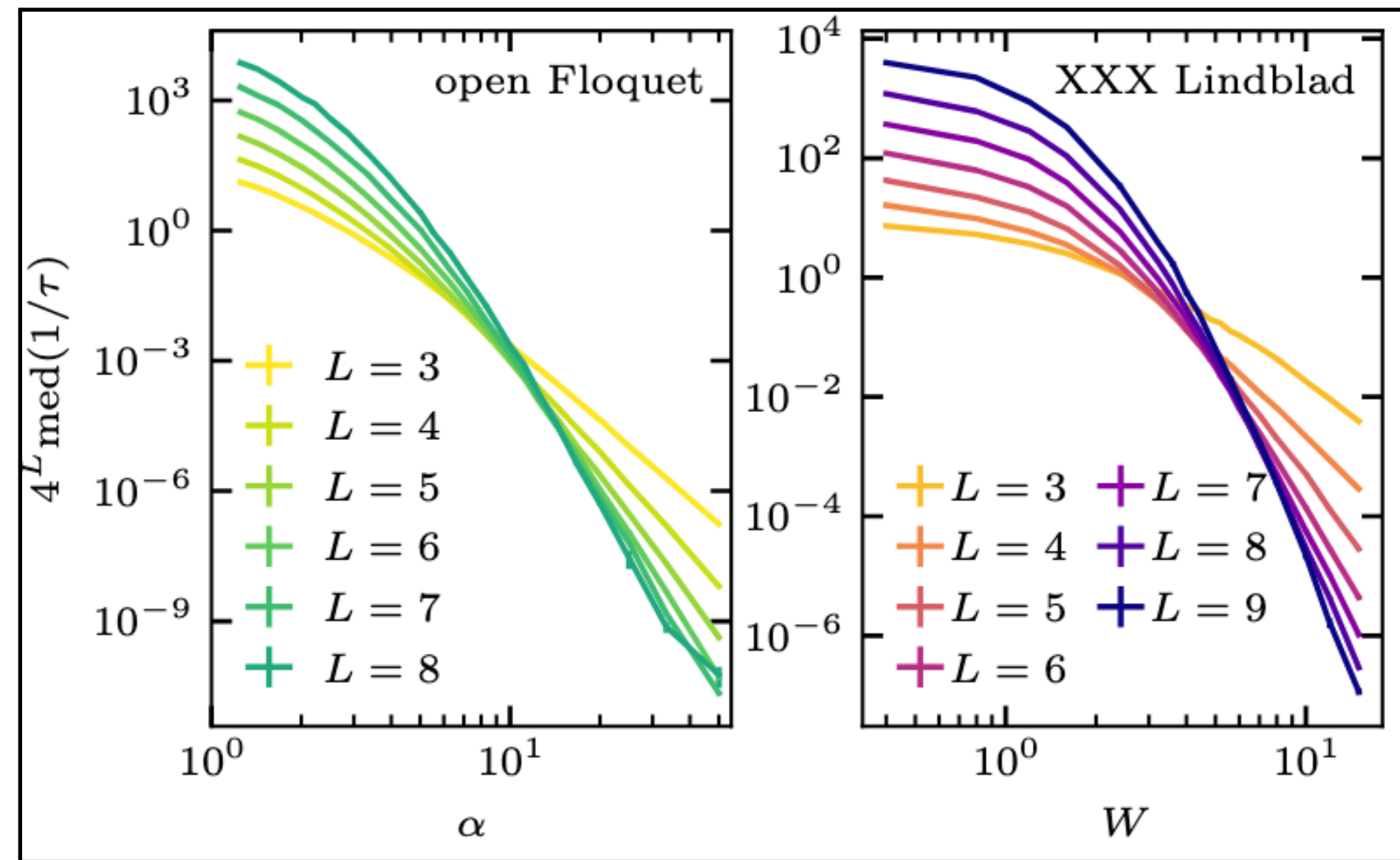
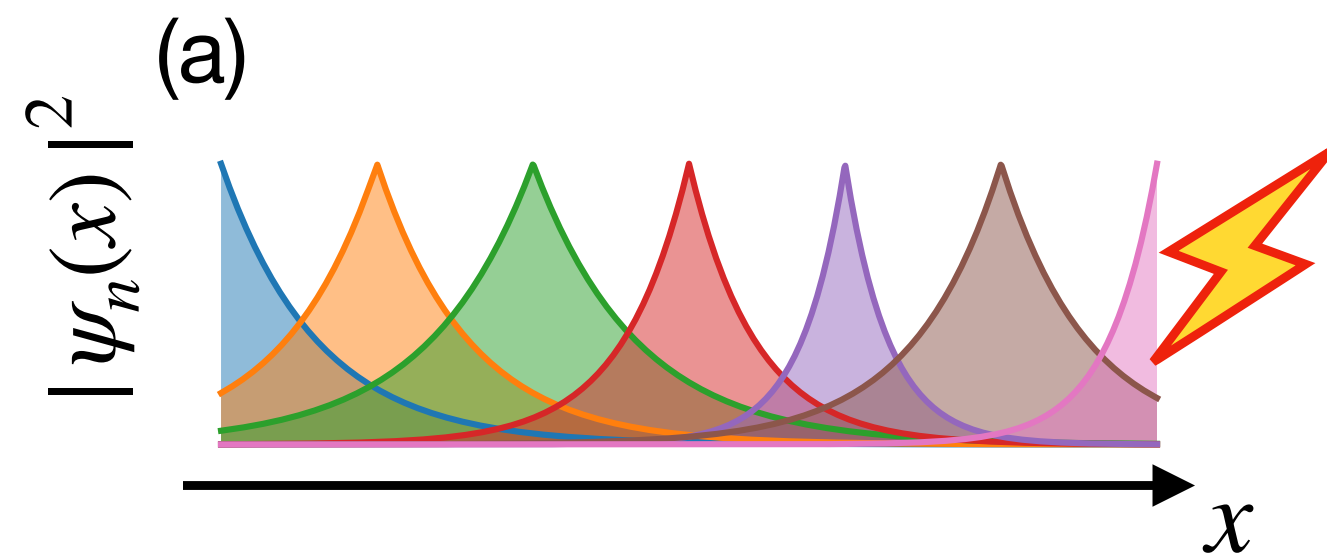


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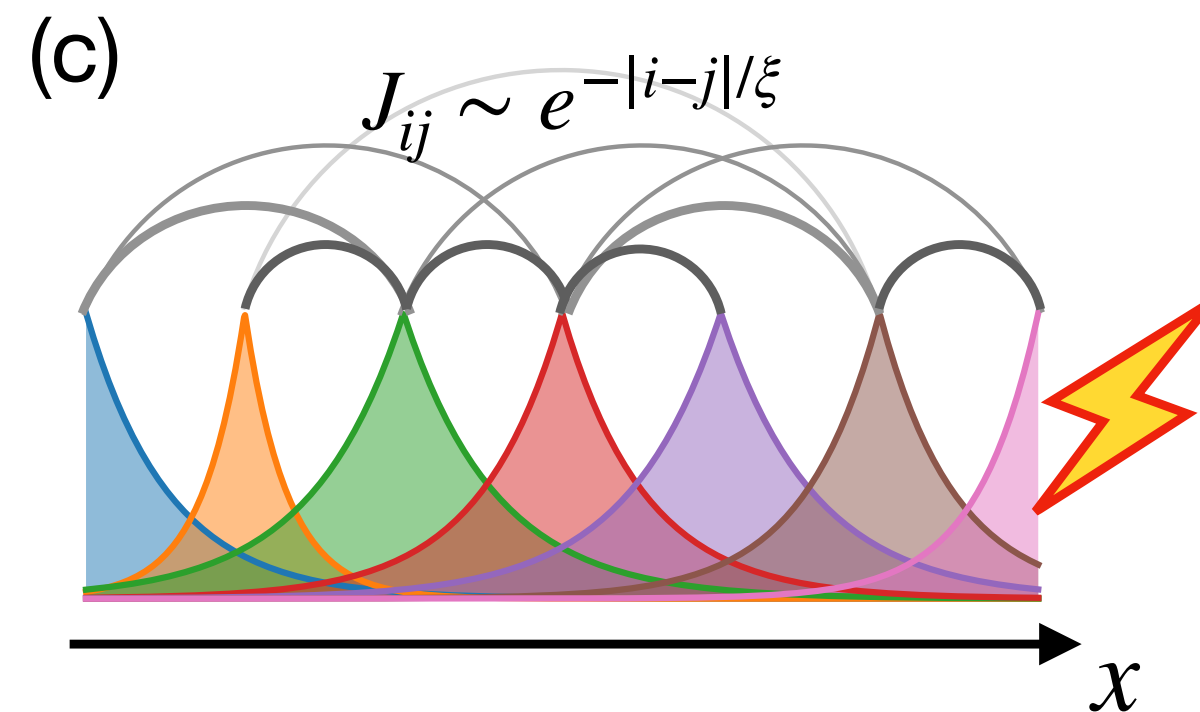
**MBL:** Same picture, Anderson orbitals  $\mapsto$  'Local integrals of motion' [LIOMS / lbits]

# Duals of localized circuits



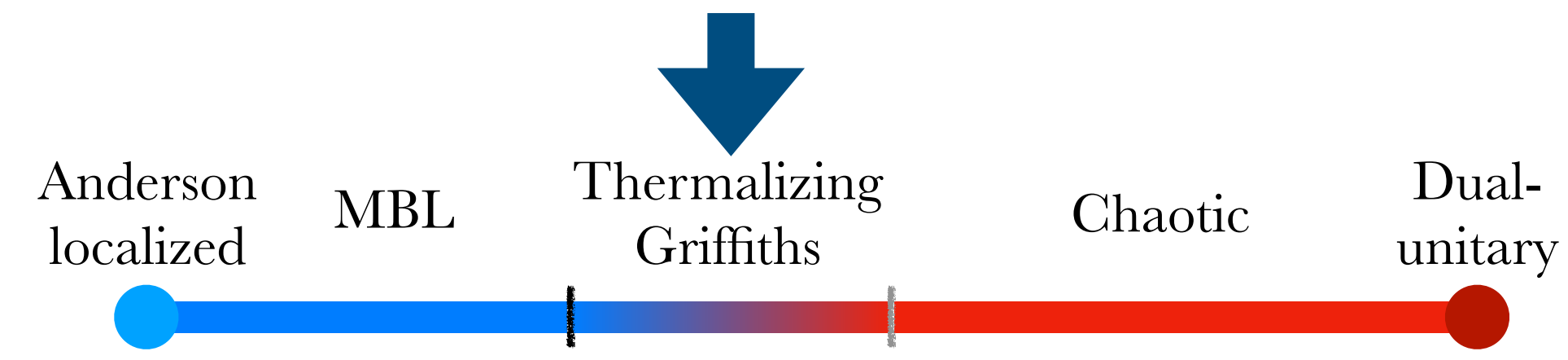
[Morningstar, ... Huse, arXiv:2107.05642]

[Sels, arXiv:2108.10796]

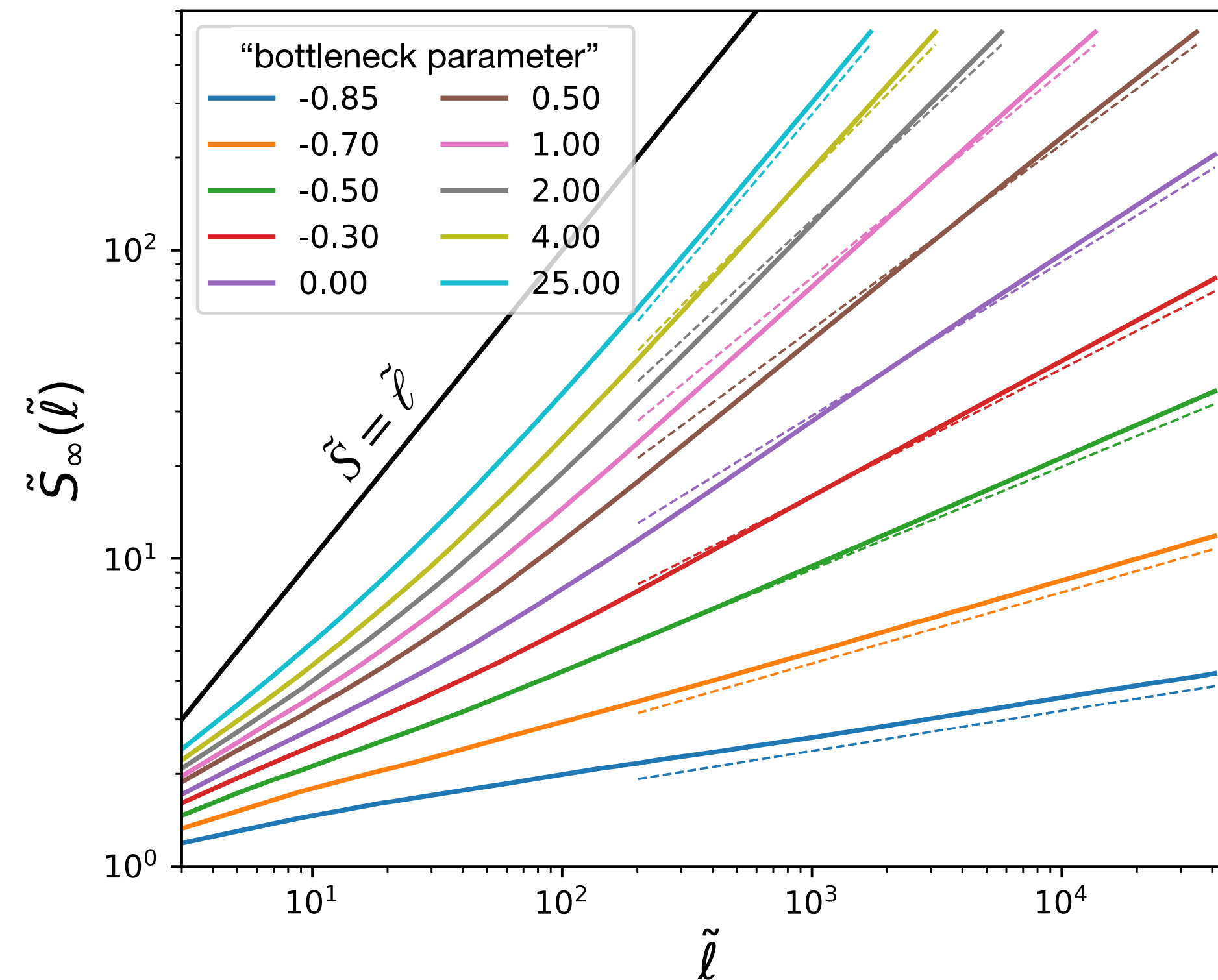
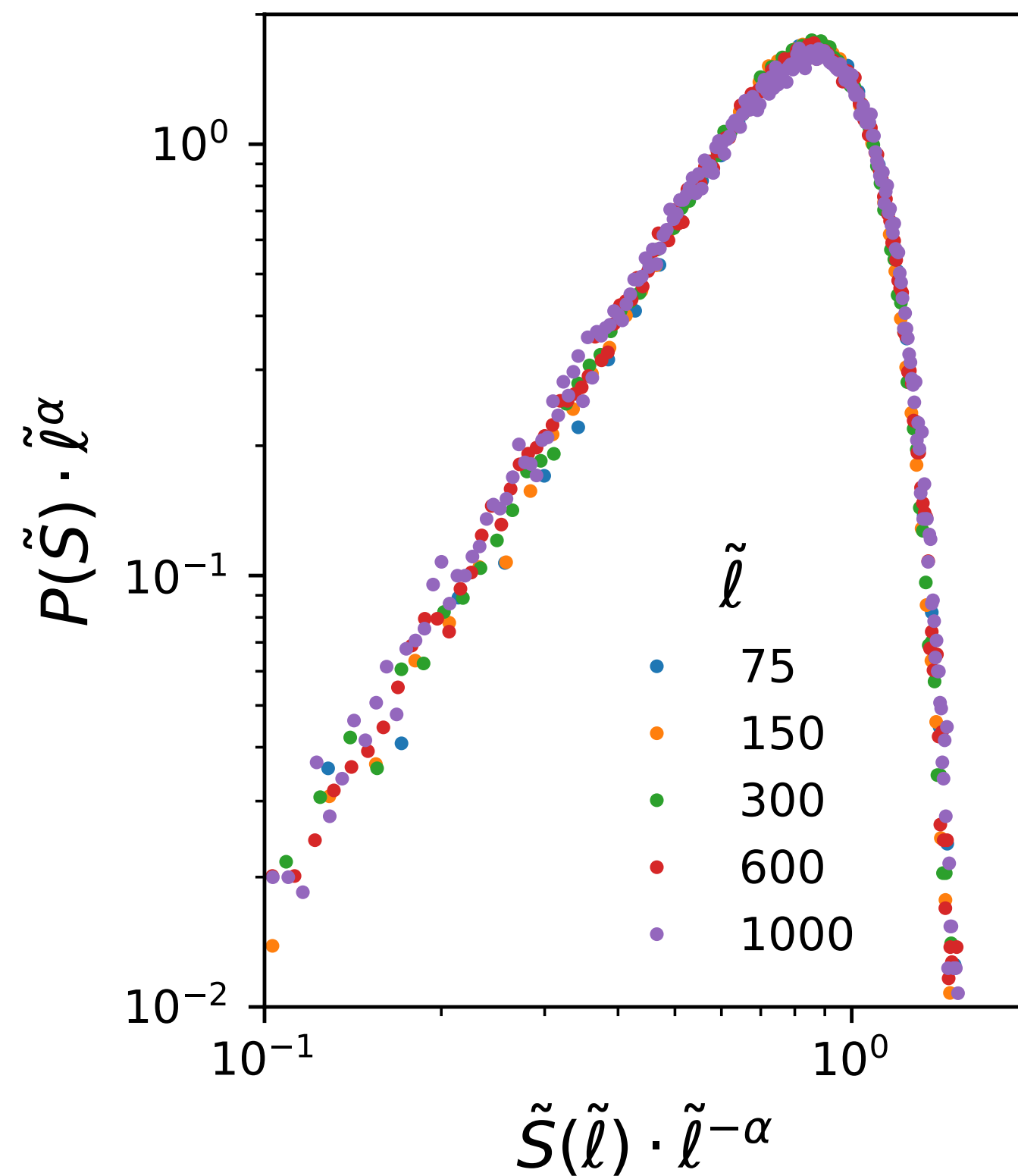


Edge decoherence as a probe of **MBL (in)stability**

# Duals of “Griffiths” circuits



- Circuit model of “rare region effects” [Nahum, Ruhman, Huse, PRB **98**, 035118 (2018)]
- Entire **distribution** of  $\tilde{S}_\infty$  (not just mean!) collapses onto power-law ansatz
- Statistically self-similar over all length scales: “**fractal**” entanglement



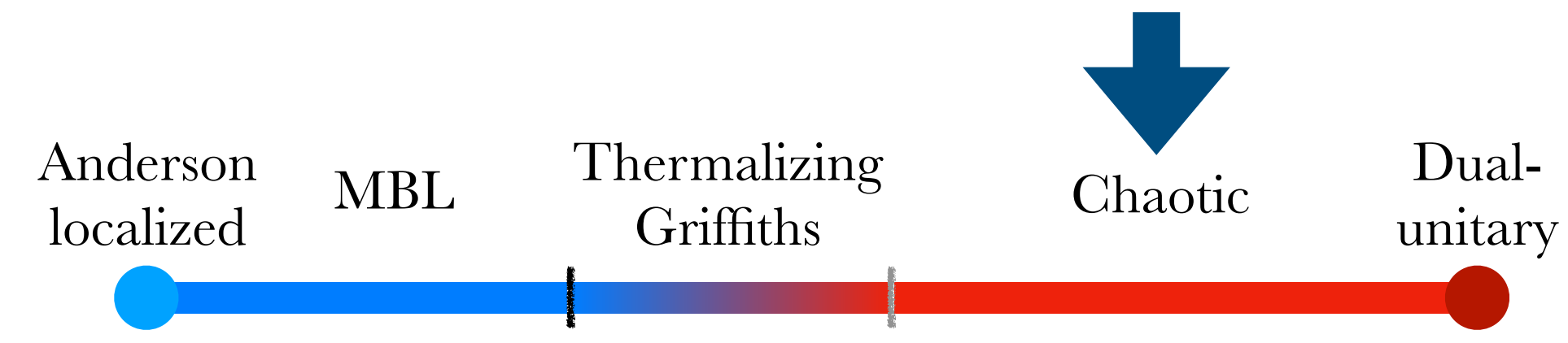
Beyond the **area/log/volume**-“laws” of (generic) many-body unitary dynamics

Examples in unitary dynamics (free or fine-tuned):

- Marginally Anderson-localized eigenstates [Nandkishore Potter 14]
- Motzkin chains [Movassagh Shor 16]
- Free fermions w/ long-range hopping & fractal Fermi sea [Gori...Trombettoni 14]



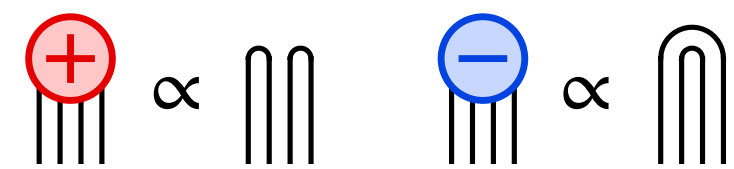
# Duals of chaotic circuits



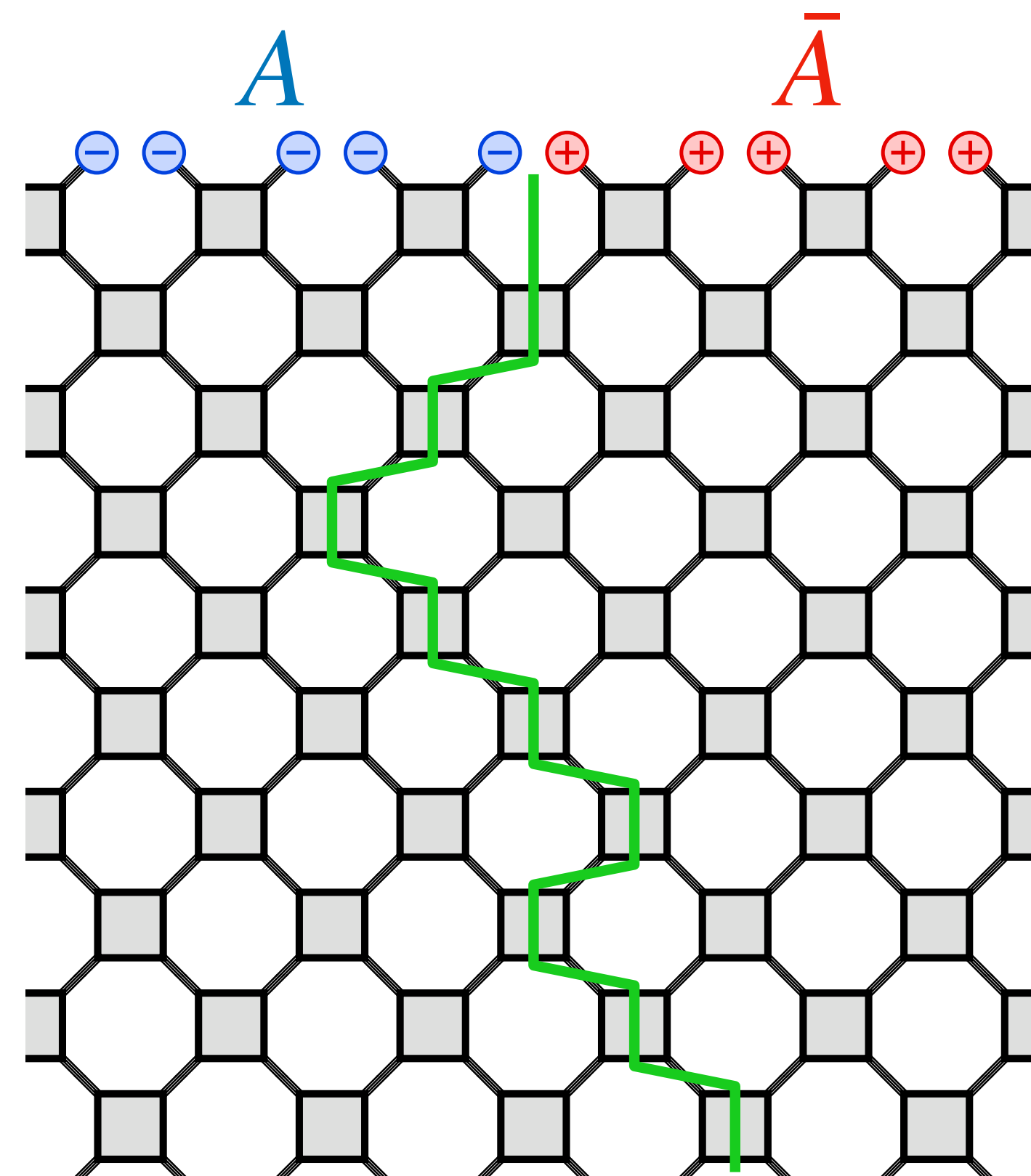
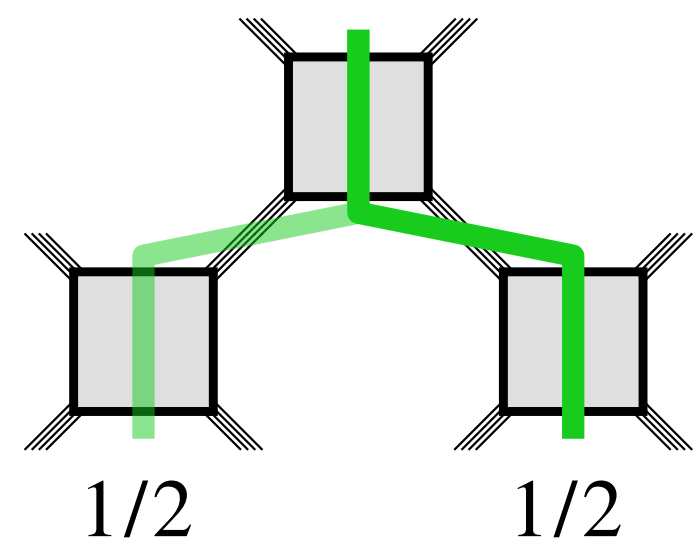
- Helpful toy model: **Haar-random circuits**

- All gates I.I.D. with Haar measure in unitary group  $U(q)$  [ $q$ : on-site qudit dimension]
- Analytical techniques to evaluate **purity**  $\mathbb{E}[\text{Tr}\rho^2] \equiv q^{-S_2^{(a)}}$  (“annealed average” of entropy)

$$\square = \mathbb{E}_{U(q^2)} \left[ \text{cube} \right]$$



Random walk step



Entanglement growth in the unitary circuit: mapping to **random walk**,

$$\mathbb{E}[\text{Tr}(\rho^2)] = q^{-v_E t}$$

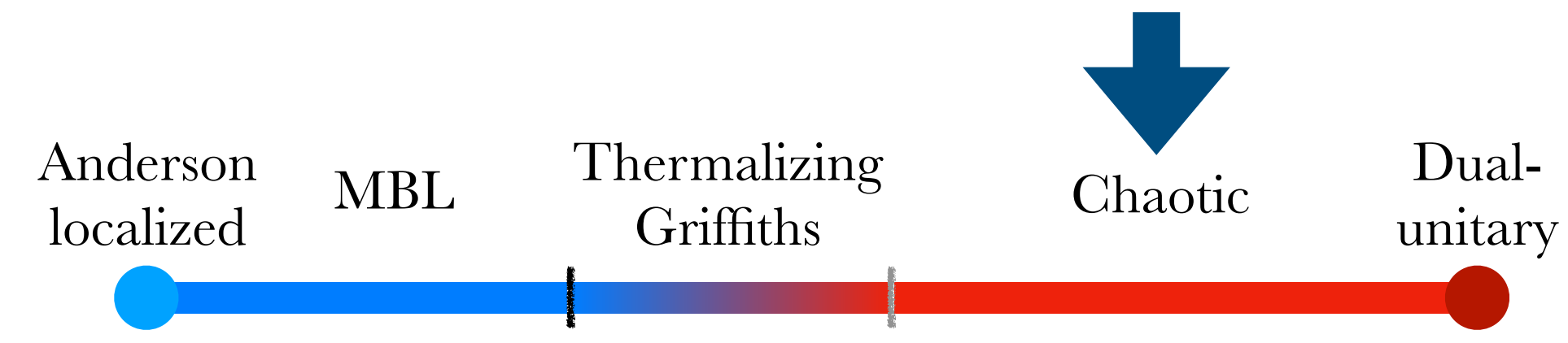
$$S_2^{(a)} = v_E t$$

(entanglement velocity  $v_E = \log_q[(q + q^{-1})/2]$ )

[Nahum, Vijay, Haah 17;  
von Keyserlingk, Rakovszky,  
Pollmann, Sondhi 17]

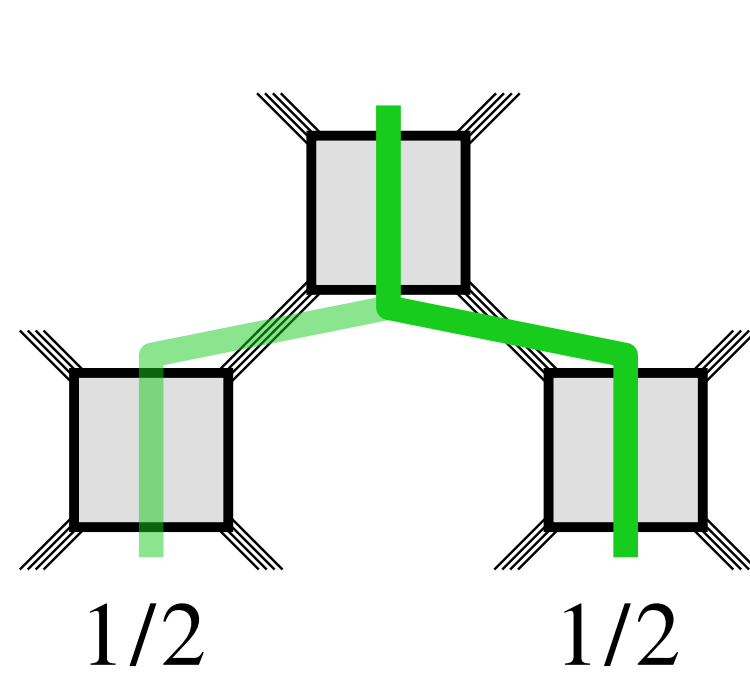
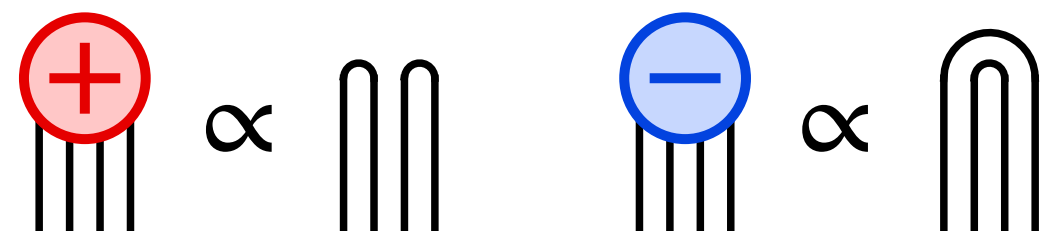


# Duals of chaotic circuits

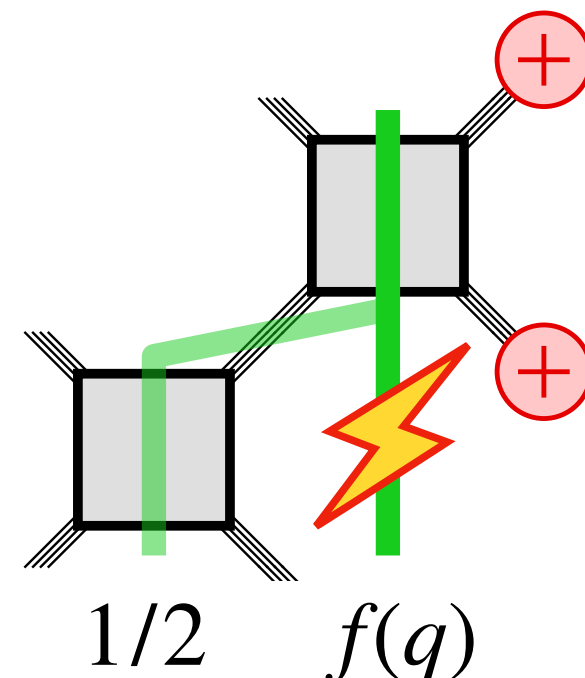


- Spacetime duality → **edge decoherence**
- Modifies random walk problem: **partially absorbing boundary**

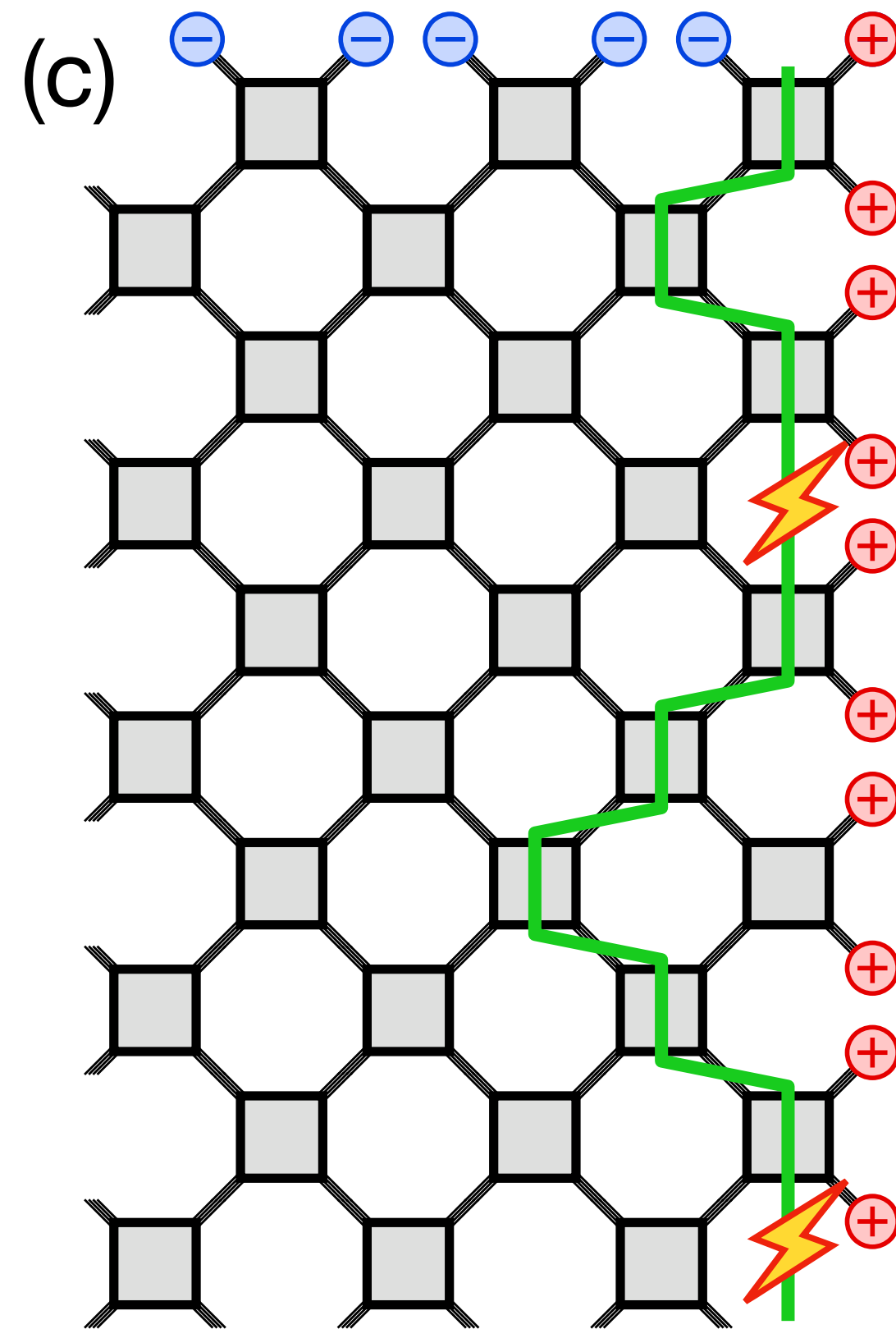
$$\square = \mathbb{E}_{U(q^2)} \left[ \text{stack of squares} \right]$$



RW step (bulk)



RW step (edge)



RW survival probability:  
universal correction to purity,  
 $\mathbb{E}[\text{Tr}(\rho^2)] \sim q^{-v_E t} / \sqrt{t}$

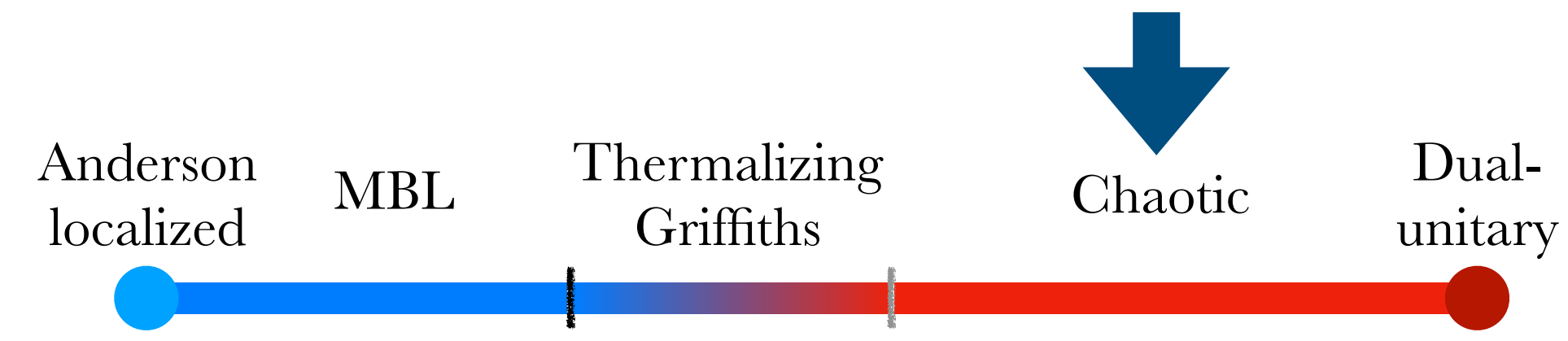
Entropy:

$$\tilde{S}_2^{(a)} = v_E \tilde{\ell} + (1/2) \log \tilde{\ell}$$

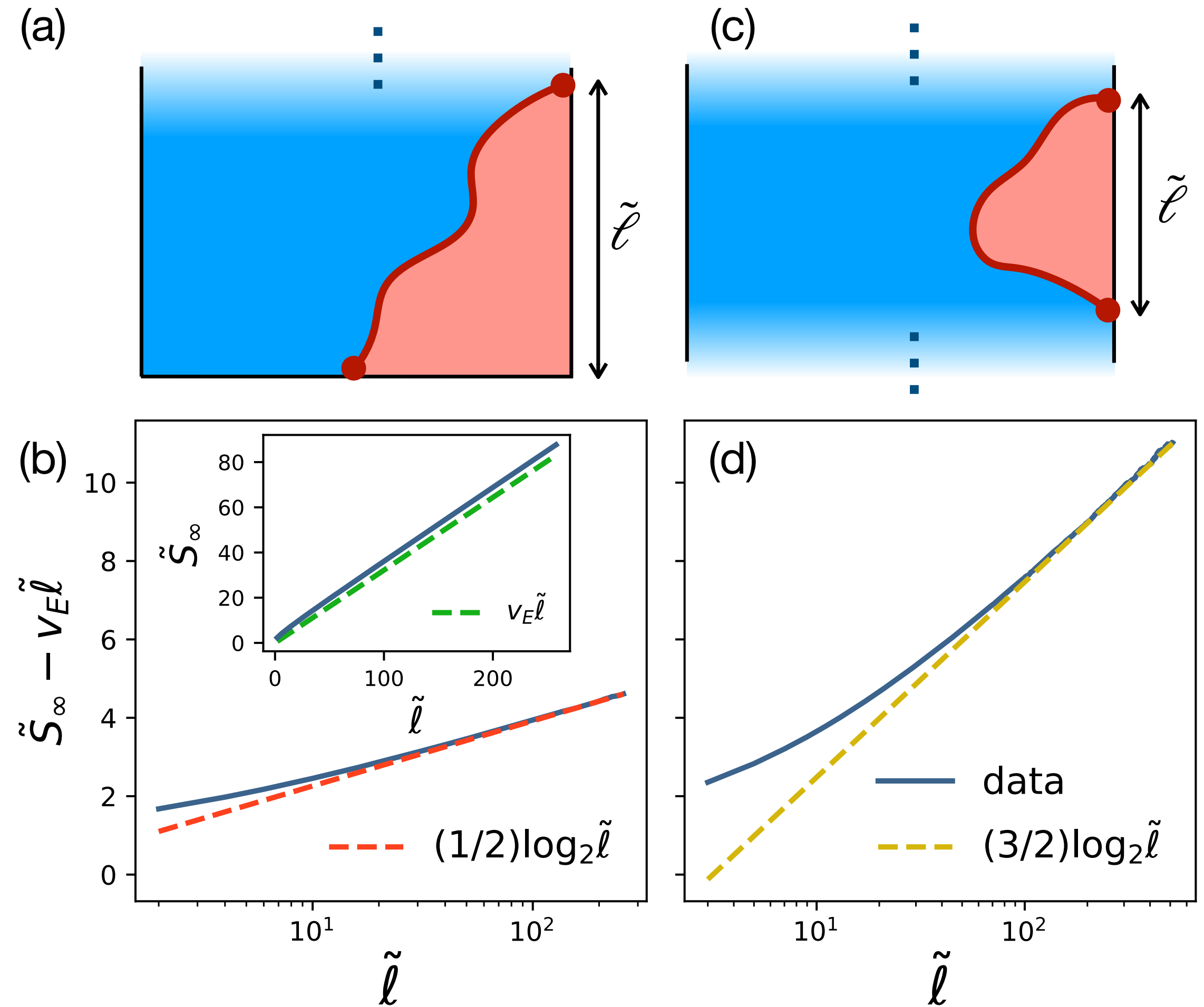
volume-law term  
(velocity ↔ density)

non-thermal  
correction

# Duals of chaotic circuits



- Subsystem near the edge of semi-infinite system:  
 $\tilde{S}(\tilde{\ell}) = v_E \tilde{\ell} + (1/2) \log \tilde{\ell}$
- In the bulk of infinite system:  
 $\tilde{S}(\tilde{\ell}) = v_E \tilde{\ell} + (3/2) \log \tilde{\ell}$
- **Same subleading correction as in generic monitored circuits** [Fan, Vijay, Vishwanath, You PRB 2021; Li, Fisher PRB 2021]



# Duals of chaotic circuits

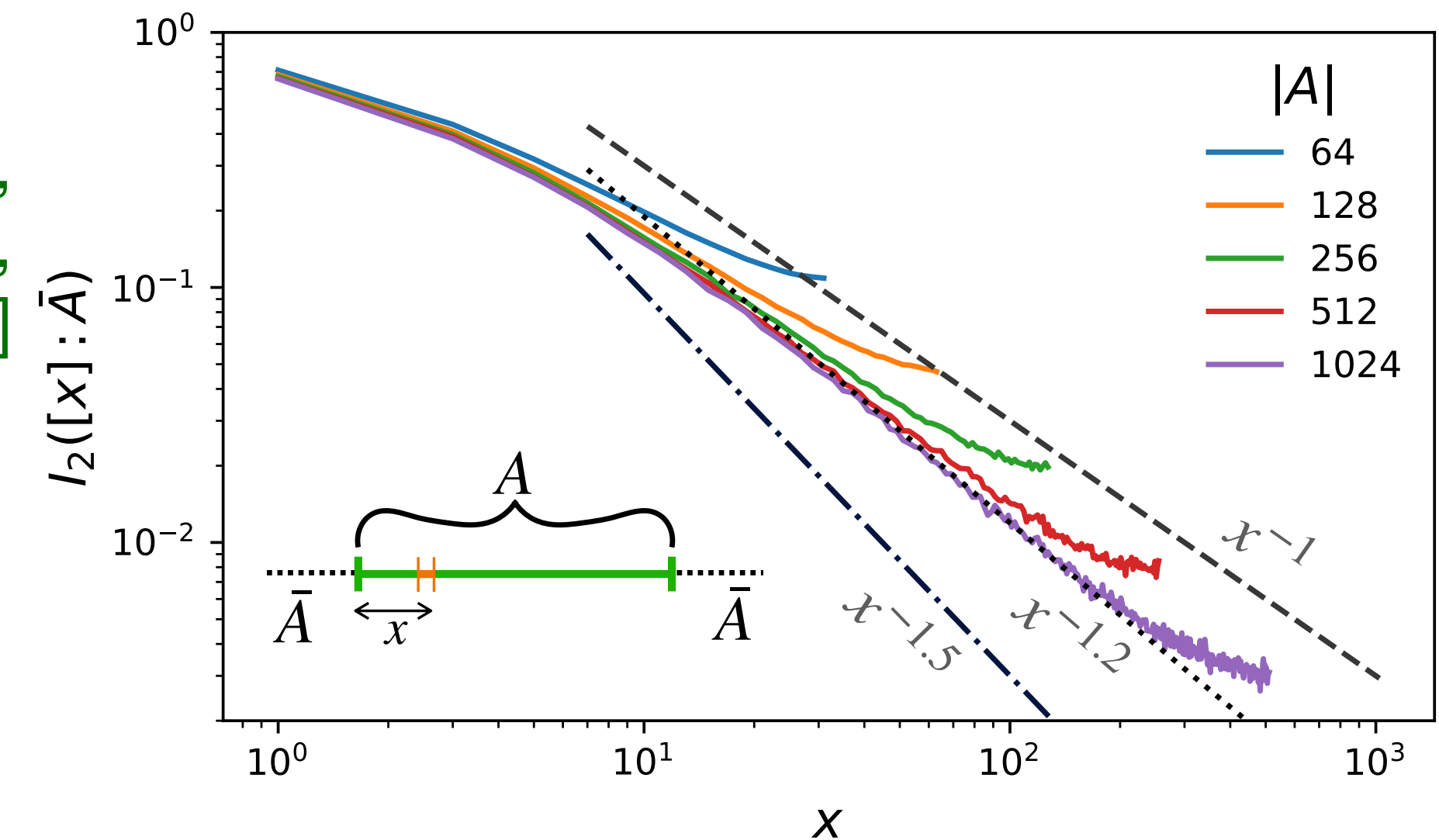
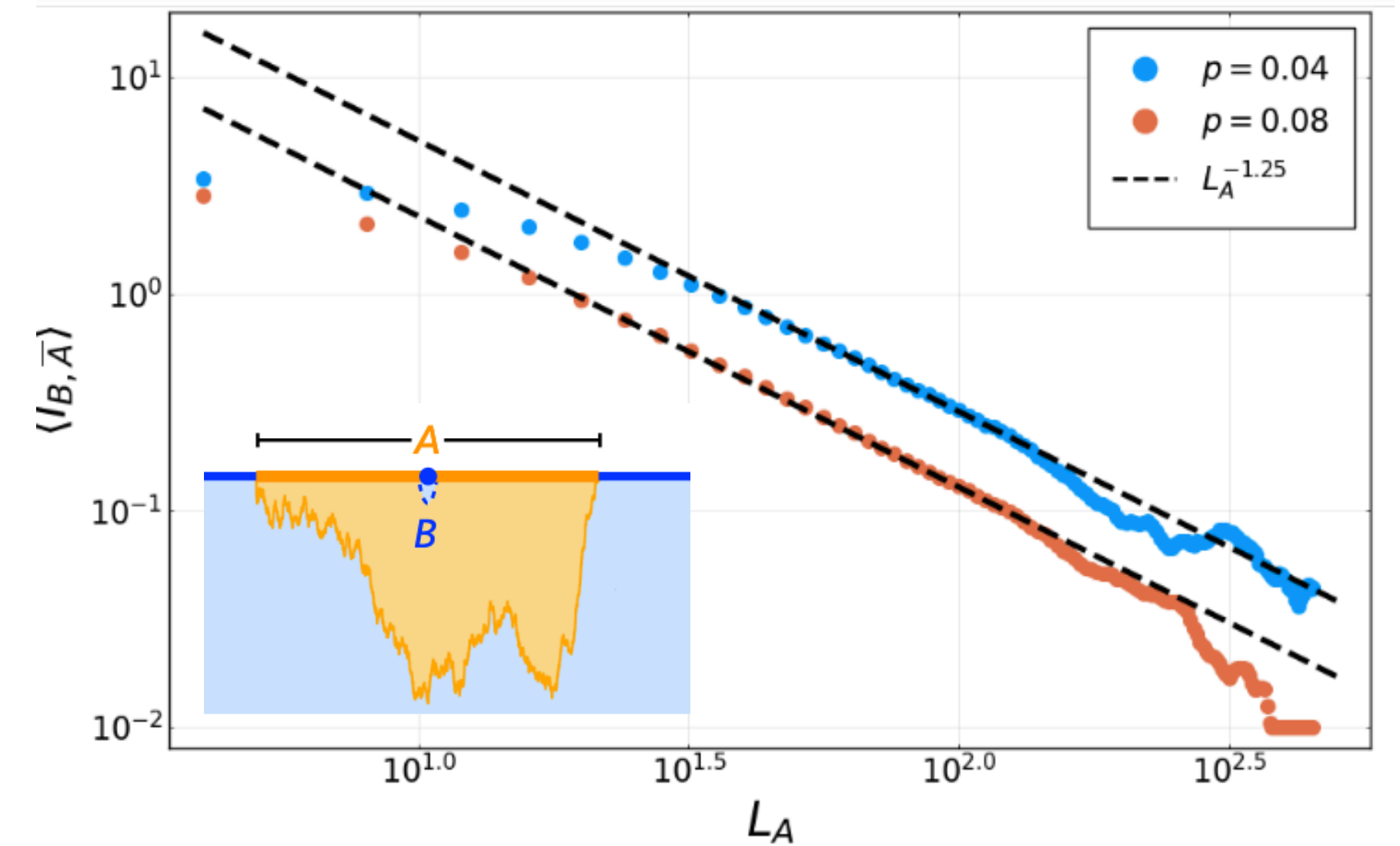
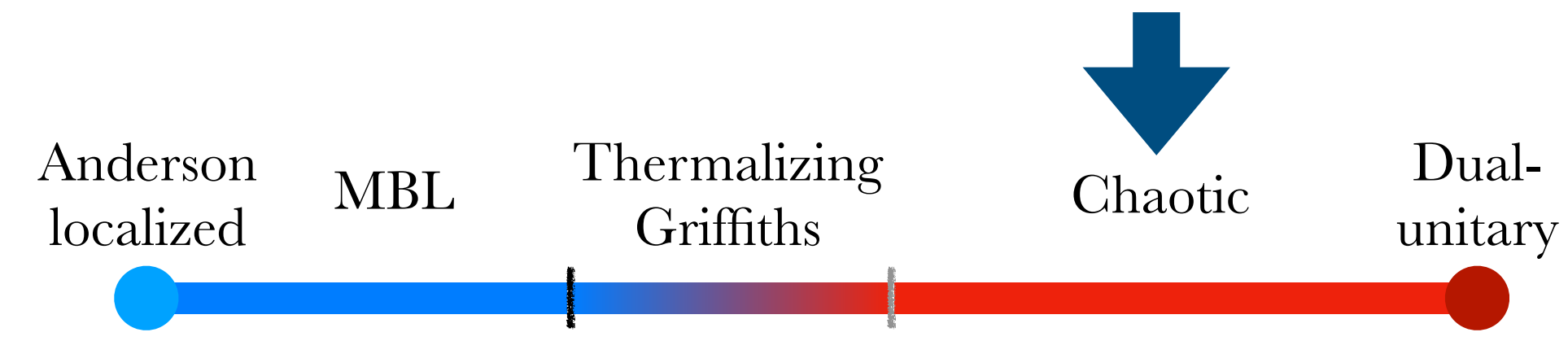
- Subsystem near the edge of semi-infinite system:  
 $\tilde{S}(\tilde{\ell}) = v_E \tilde{\ell} + (1/2) \log \tilde{\ell}$
- In the bulk of infinite system:  
 $\tilde{S}(\tilde{\ell}) = v_E \tilde{\ell} + (3/2) \log \tilde{\ell}$
- **Same subleading correction** as in generic monitored circuits [Fan, Vijay, Vishwanath, You PRB 2021; Li, Fisher PRB 2021]
- **Same scaling** of “qubit-environment” mutual information ( $\sim x^{-1.25}$ )

[Li, Vijay, Fisher, arXiv:2105.13352]

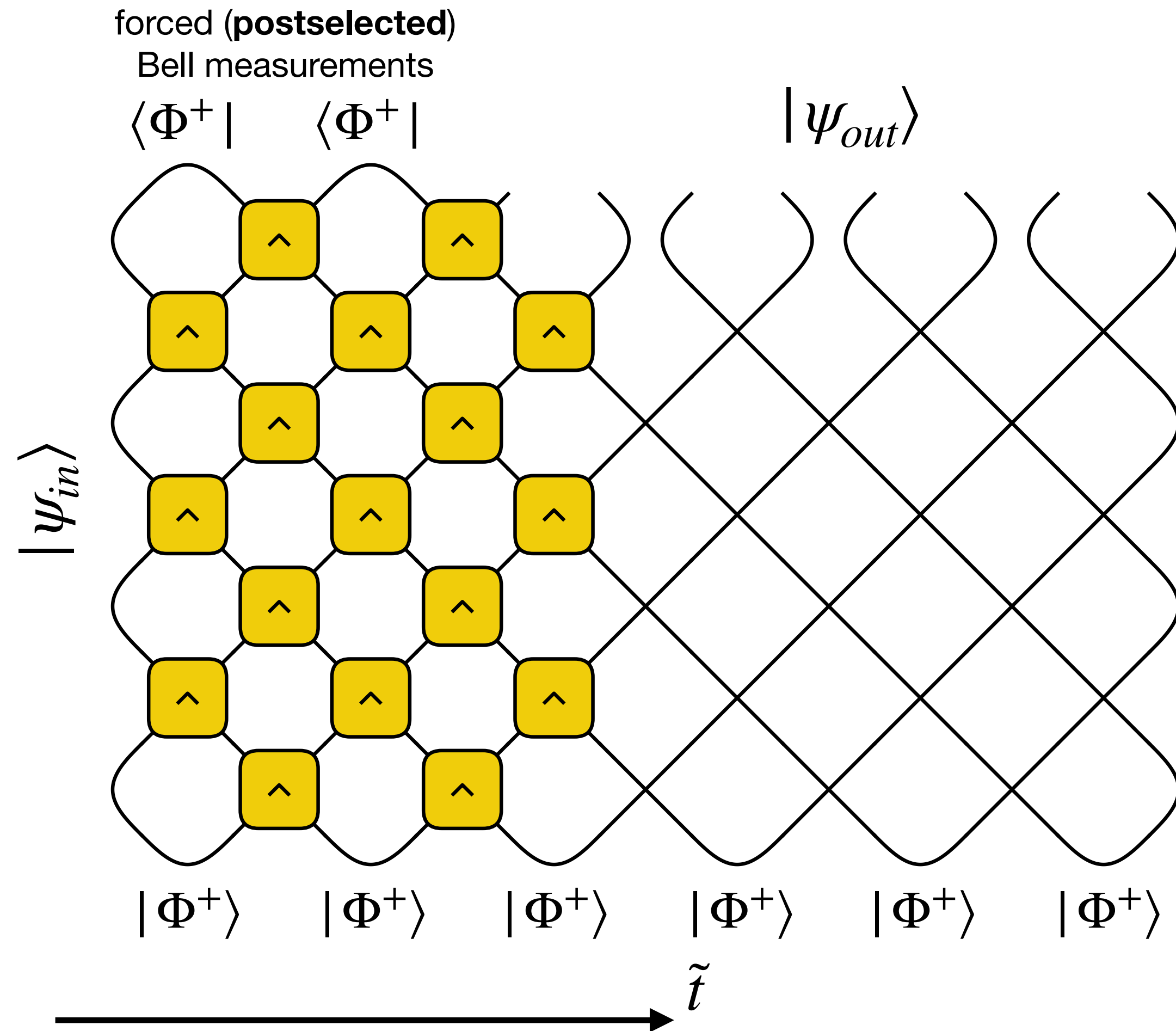
[MI, Rakovszky, Khemani, arXiv:2103.06873]

**Conjecture:**

**Same non thermal volume-law phase**



# Spacetime duality in the lab

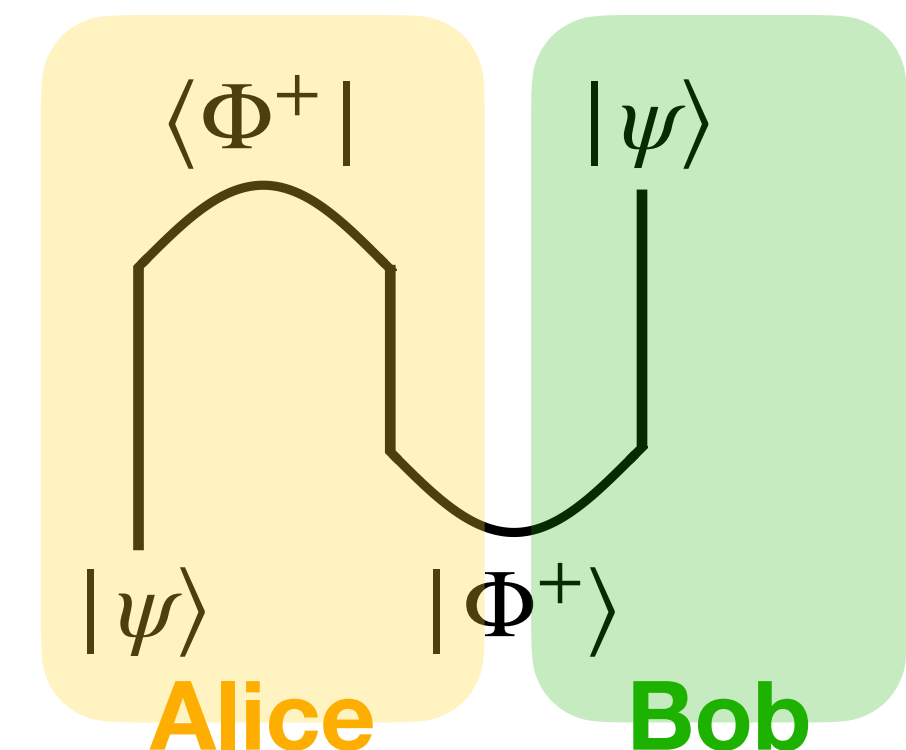


Implements  $\tilde{U}$  with:

- 2-qubit unitary gates
  - ancilla qubits
  - $O(L)$  postselected measurements
- [Cf. generic unitary-measurement circuits:  
 $O(LT)$  measurements]

Many-body quantum teleportation

cf. single-qubit  
protocol:

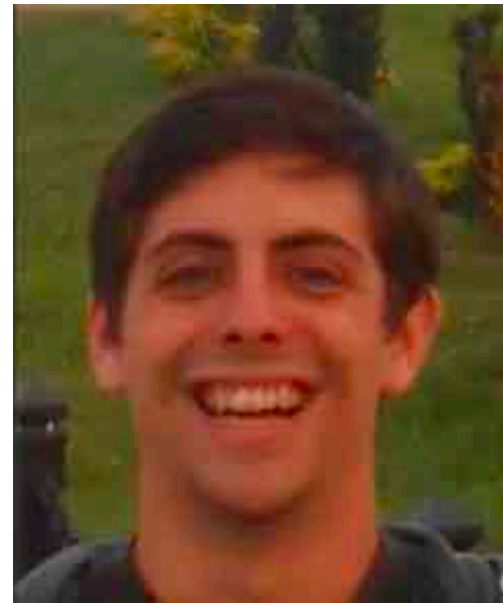




# Conclusion

- **Monitored circuits**
  - New arena for universality out of equilibrium
- **Measurement-only circuits**
  - Beyond the “unitary vs measurement” paradigm
  - Interplay of entanglement phases & ordered phases
- **Spacetime-dual circuits**
  - Analytically tractable, postselection-free
  - Universal phases (non-thermal volume-law)
  - New phases (fractally entangled)

# Thank you!



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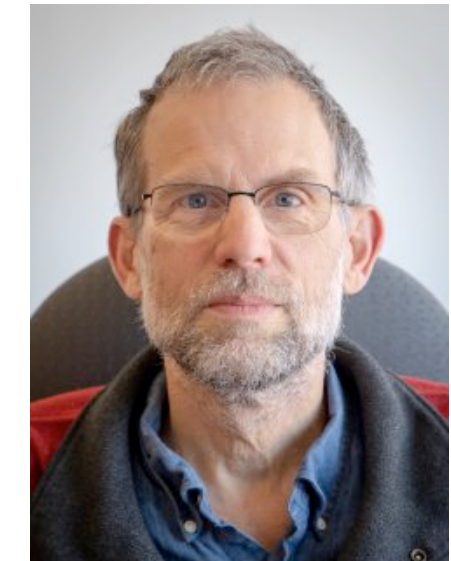
Vedika Khemani  
(Stanford)



Sarang  
Gopalakrishnan  
(Penn State)



Michael Gullans  
(UMD, NIST)



David Huse  
(Princeton)

MI, M. Gullans, S. Gopalakrishnan, D. Huse, V.  
Khemani, [PRX 11, 011030 \(2021\)](#)

MI, V. Khemani, [PRL 126, 060501 \(2021\)](#)

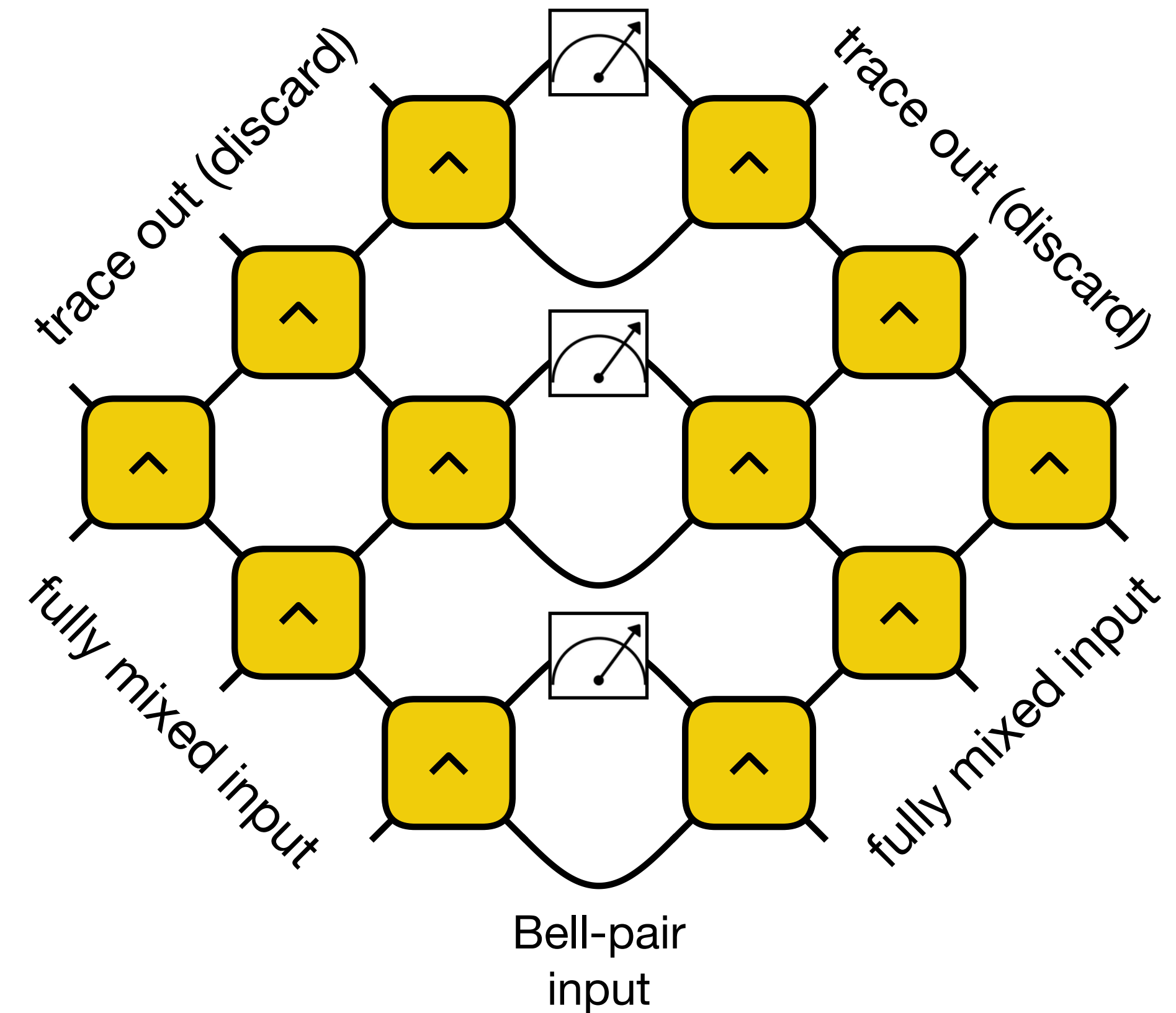
MI, T. Rakovszky, V. Khemani, [arXiv:2103.06873](#)

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# Postselection-free purification dynamics

## Operational protocol

- Initialize  $\mathbb{1} \otimes |B^+\rangle\langle B^+| \otimes \mathbb{1}$
- Evolve:
  - Bell measurement on middle bond
  - Unitary gates everywhere else
- If Bell measurement yields “**wrong**” outcome ( $\neq |B^+\rangle$ ), **stop** and record a **failure**; else continue
- When  $T$  consecutive Bell measurements yield “**right**” outcome ( $= |B^+\rangle$ ), record a **success**



If  $N_{\text{tot}}$  trials, of which  $N_+(T)$  successful:

$$N_+(T)/N_{\text{tot}} = \text{Tr}(\rho^2) = e^{-S_2}$$

If  $N_+(T) \sim N_{\text{tot}} e^{-T/\tau}$ , **entropy density** measurable as decay time constant:  $s = (2\tau)^{-1}$